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FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



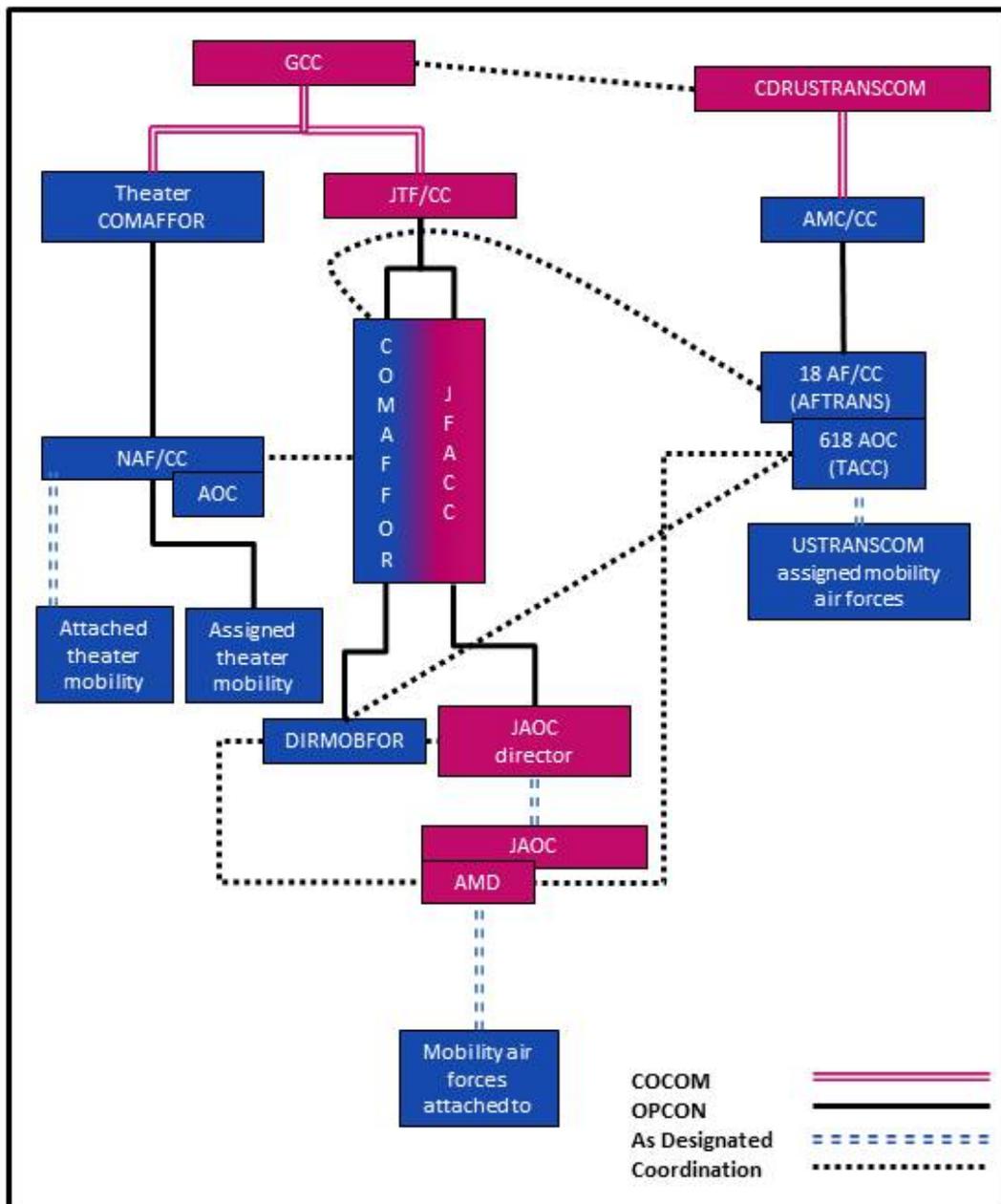
ANNEX 3-17 AIR MOBILITY OPERATIONS

COMMAND RELATIONSHIPS

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Air mobility serves all [combatant commanders](#) as well as other government agencies and is thus normally optimized functionally across geographic commands. In some instances the nature of the operation may require a transfer of mobility air forces (MAF) to the geographic combatant commander (GCC) to enhance unity of effort and responsiveness of air mobility forces in theater. See [Annex 3-30](#) for further discussion on transfer of functional forces to a geographic command. When functional forces participate in operations across multiple area of responsibilities (AOR), a supporting/supported relationship normally exists between the functional component commander (FCC [supporting]) and the GCC (supported). To advise on the FCC's supporting relationship during operations, the commander, Air Force forces (COMAFFOR) may request a [director of mobility forces](#) (DIRMOBFOR). The DIRMOBFOR is under the command of the COMAFFOR. Unless the COMAFFOR requests a DIRMOBFOR, the theater's air operations center (AOC) air mobility division Chief fulfills the DIRMOBFOR duties during daily operations. See [Annex 3-30](#), [Command and Control](#), for a more detailed discussion of organization and command relationships.

Air Mobility Command (AMC) is the air component to US Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) and is also its component major command, making the AMC/CC the COMAFFOR to the commander, USTRANSCOM (CDRUSTRANSCOM). CDRUSTRANSCOM normally delegates [operational control](#) (OPCON) to AMC/CC, who normally further delegates OPCON to the commander, Eighteenth Air Force (18 AF/CC) for day-to-day execution. 18 AF is USTRANSCOM's designated component numbered Air Force and is known as Air Forces Transportation (AFTRANS). 18 AF (AFTRANS)/CC delegates [tactical control](#) to the [618th Air Operations Center \(AOC\) \(Tanker Airlift Control Center \[TACC\]\)](#) commander for day-to-day operations. For an illustration of these possible command relationships see the figure "Sample Command Arrangements for Mobility Air Forces".



AFTRANS- Air Forces Transportation	DIRMOBFOR- director of mobility forces
AMC/CC- commander, Air Mobility Command	GCC- geographic combatant commander
AMD- air mobility division	JAOC- joint air operations center
AOC- air operations center	JFACC- joint force air component commander
CC- commander	JTF- joint task force
CDRUSTRANSCOM- commander, US Transportation Command	NAF- numbered Air Force
COCOM- combatant command	OPCON- operational control
COMAFFOR- commander, Air Force forces	TACC- tanker/airlift control center

Sample Command Relationships for Mobility Air Forces