



CURTIS E. LEMAY CENTER

FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



ANNEX 3-30 COMMAND AND CONTROL

INTEGRATING THE AIR RESERVE COMPONENTS

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The Air Force, under the Total Force construct, has a substantial part of its forces in the Air Reserve Component (ARC), which consists of the Air Force Reserve (AFR) and the Air National Guard. The ARC provides a strategic reserve and a surge capacity for the Air Force; in some instances, the ARC has unique capabilities not resident within the regular component. The Secretary of Defense may make these forces available during the planning process. While they may seamlessly operate alongside the regular Air Force, they are subject to different levels of activation and different degrees of [operational control](#) and [administrative control](#). Furthermore, differences in tour length availability pose continuity challenges for a [commander, Air Force forces](#), and planners should carefully consider such issues for any category of activation (whether by volunteerism or [mobilization](#)).

See [Appendix E](#) for more discussion on ARC organization and accessing ARC forces.