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FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



ANNEX 3-30 COMMAND AND CONTROL

APPENDIX E: THE AIR RESERVE COMPONENTS

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The Air Reserve Components (ARC) are the Air Force Reserve (AFR) and the Air National Guard of the United States (ANGUS). The ARC provides operational capabilities and strategic depth to meet US defense requirements across the range of military operations. ARC forces are normally employed to take advantage of military opportunities, cover shortfalls in regular component critical skills, and to support short duration national priorities. The importance of this factor—the part-time nature of the force—should be fully considered. When evaluating which ongoing operational missions are best suited for ARC participation, factors such as predictability, tour length, and duty location should all be considered.

The AFR consists of the [Ready Reserve](#), the [Standby Reserve](#), and the [Retired Reserve](#), which includes retirees from both the ARC and regular component. The Ready Reserve consists of the [Selected Reserve](#) and the [Individual Ready Reserve](#).

The ANGUS consists of members of the Air National Guard (ANG) who are on active duty under Title 10 USC. The ANG consist of the federally recognized organized militia of the States and Territories, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. [Administrative control](#) (ADCON) for Guardsmen not in federal status flows to their respective adjutant general and governor. When activated under Title 10 USC, ADCON is maintained through the ANG Readiness Center.

The AFR and the ANG both provide forces to the Selected Reserve, which the Air Force maintains at the same readiness level as the regular component. AFR and ANG are full partners ready to meet Air Force mission requirements at all times. This enables the ARC to provide operational capability on a continual basis.

Leveraging the ARC to provide operational capability involves a process of using both volunteer forces and/or forces mobilized as described below. The ARC provides sustainable, rotational support across numerous operational missions, such as [airlift](#), [air refueling](#), North American Air Defense Command [air sovereignty mission](#), and [combat support](#). Voluntary duty is encouraged to meet mission requirements and volunteers provide the bulk of the ARC's sustainable rotational capability to operations. ARC forces may need to be mobilized during a surge operation and for activities requiring critical skills.

Historically, ARC forces were allocated to regular component major commands (MAJCOMs) which then managed, mobilized, and presented forces to fulfill operational

requirements. With the increased operational commitment of the ARC, more of the roles and responsibilities currently performed by the regular component MAJCOMs related to generating ARC forces are shifting to the ARC.

ARC ORGANIZATION

The majority of the ARC is organized into two types of units: unit-equipped or associate. Unit-equipped units have their own organic equipment; associate units share the weapon systems of an equipped host unit and train to perform the same mission. These unit associations allow for consistent training, leveraging of resources, and familiarization between the regular component and ARC. The associate models are:

- ✦ **Classic Associate:** A host regular unit retains principal responsibility for a weapon system that it shares with one or more associate ARC units. Each component exercises ADCON of its respective members.
- ✦ **Active Associate:** A host ARC unit has principal responsibility for a weapon system which it shares with one or more associate regular units. Reserve and regular units retain separate organizational structures and chains of command.
- ✦ **ARC Associate:** An ANG and an AFR unit train and operate integrally, with one retaining principal responsibility for the weapon system as host unit. Each unit retains separate organizational structures and chains of command.

AIR FORCE RESERVE

The AFR also provides individual reservists through the [individual mobilization augmentee](#) (IMA) program and the participating individual ready reserve (PIRR) program. IMAs are trained reservists who augment regular units to support mobilization requirements, [contingency operations](#), or other specialized requirements. Their experience helps the regular component accomplish its mission by augmenting (or rounding out) the regular unit, backfilling positions that have been vacated by deploying regular component members, or performing missions at the normal duty station. IMAs perform the full range of Air Force missions. The ARC retains ADCON of IMAs and PIRR personnel.

AIR NATIONAL GUARD

National Guard Airmen can be called to long-term active duty under five different statutes, as authorized in Title 10 USC. They range from full mobilization, which requires a declaration of war or national emergency by the Congress, to reserve component volunteers, which requires consent of the individual reserve component member and consent from the governor to activate individuals in the National Guard. The various mobilization statutes determine how many reservists can be called up, to whom the call up applies, and the duration of the call up.

ACCESSING ARC FORCES

ARC forces can be activated both voluntarily and involuntarily to support national requirements. Once activated, there are different degrees of operational and administrative control applicable to ARC members. The ARC structure normally retains full ADCON; the gaining [commander, Air Force forces](#) (COMAFFOR) normally exercises specified elements of ADCON, which should be articulated in appropriate orders. OPCON transfers in accordance with SecDef orders.

- ★ **Voluntary.** Volunteers are placed on Federal active duty by the SECAF as authorized by Title 10 USC.
- ★ **Involuntary.** There are three authorities that outline the limits and requirements for involuntarily activating members of the ARC:
 - ★ ★ **Presidential Reserve Callup.** This provides the President a means to activate, without a declaration of national emergency, not more than 200,000 members of the Selected Reserve and the Individual Ready Reserve (of whom not more than 30,000 may be members of the Individual Ready Reserve), for not more than 365 days to meet the requirements of any operational mission. Members activated under this provision may not be used for disaster relief or to suppress insurrection. This authority has particular utility when used in circumstances in which the escalatory national or international signals of partial or full mobilization would be undesirable. Forces available under this authority can provide a tailored, limited-scope, deterrent, or operational response, or may be used as a precursor to any subsequent mobilization.
 - ★ ★ **Partial Mobilization.** Expansion of the active Armed Forces resulting from action by Congress (up to full mobilization) or by the President (not more than 1,000,000 for not more than 24 consecutive months) to mobilize Ready Reserve Component units, individual reservists, and the resources needed for their support to meet the requirements of a war or other national emergency involving an external threat to the national security.
 - ★ ★ **Full Mobilization.** Expansion of the active Armed Forces resulting from action by Congress and the President to mobilize all Reserve Component units and individuals in the existing approved force structure, as well as all retired military personnel, and the resources needed for their support to meet the requirements of a war or other national emergency involving an external threat to the national security. Reserve personnel can be placed on active duty for the duration of the emergency plus six months. Under full mobilization, ADCON transfers to the gaining COMAFFOR and OPCON transfers in accordance with SecDef orders.

Refer to Joint Publication 4-05, [Joint Mobilization Planning](#), for more complete discussion on mobilization of the ARC.
