



AIR OPERATIONS CENTER

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A geographic [air operations center](#) (AOC) plans, tasks, and schedules attached and assigned aircraft within and outside an area of responsibility to meet geographic combatant commander (GCC) requirements. The AOC establishes a routine battle rhythm by publishing [air operations directives \(AODs\)](#) and [air tasking orders \(ATOs\)](#) on a predetermined cycle (daily, weekly, etc.) to meet its mission requirements during normal operations, and may publish an ATO more frequently during wartime and other contingency operations.

Establishing a routine battle rhythm for air operations is essential to create successful measures of effectiveness, especially in rapidly changing conditions. These situations often require a high level of cargo and personnel throughput and the necessity of quickly constructing a routine [command and control](#) (C2) battle rhythm for air assets becomes critical to rapid global mobility.

Air Mobility Division

The air mobility division (AMD) plans, coordinates, tasks, and executes theater air mobility missions. The AMD tasks intratheater mobility air forces (MAF) through wing and unit command posts and through applicable C2 nodes deployed forward. The AMD works for the AOC commander and coordinates closely with the [director of mobility forces](#) (DIRMOBFOR). The AMD coordinates with the theater deployment and distribution operations center (DDOC) and the [618 AOC \(Tanker Airlift Control Center \[TACC\]\)](#). The DIRMOBFOR should be collocated with the AOC to facilitate coordination with the AMD and the other AOC divisions as applicable.⁵

The AMD is normally comprised of four core teams: the airlift control team (ALCT), the air refueling control team (ARCT), the air mobility control team (AMCT), and the aeromedical evacuation control team (AECT). A fifth team, the air mobility support team (AMST) may also be established if required. Major products include airlift apportionment plans and air refueling (AR) inputs to the AOC's AOD, master air attack plan, ATO,

⁵See AFTTP 3-3.AOC, [Air Operations Center](#), and JP 3-30, [Command and Control of Joint Air Operations](#), for details of AOC operations. For a listing of responsibilities, see AFI 13-1AOC, Vol 3, [Operational Procedures–Air Operations Center](#).

[airspace control order](#), and special instructions.

- ✦ **Airlift Control Team.** The ALCT provides intratheater airlift functional expertise to plan, coordinate, manage, and execute intratheater airlift operations in support of the [commander, Air Force forces](#).
 - ✦ **Air Refueling Control Team.** The ARCT coordinates AR to support ongoing air operations or to support a strategic airbridge.
 - ✦ **Air Mobility Control Team.** The AMCT directs or redirects air mobility forces in response to requirements changes, higher priorities, or immediate execution requirements.
 - ✦ **Aeromedical Evacuation Control Team.** The AECT provides mission planning, scheduling, and execution of theater aeromedical evacuation missions and position of aeromedical evacuation ground forces.
 - ✦ **Air Mobility Support Team.** The AMST may be established to facilitate reports, briefs, and analysis to the AMD chief and provide support to the four AMD teams.
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