



THE FORCE PROTECTION COMMUNITY

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Force protection (FP) is achieved through the successful execution of three related but distinct lines of effort: integrated defense, emergency management (EM), and the [critical infrastructure program](#). These lines of effort are supported by programs and activities contributing to FP through integration of multifunctional capabilities and activities. The purpose is to integrate these capabilities to achieve the desired FP effects of detect, deter, preempt, negate, and mitigate. Integration of all the programs and activities is the means to achieve successful FP.

INTEGRATED DEFENSE

Effective integrated defense helps ensure effective FP. While integrated defense is an Air Force-wide responsibility, Air Force Security Forces are the Service enterprise lead for integrated defense operations, synchronizing Air Force policy pertaining to protection and defense against all threats and hazards to Air Force installations. The defense force commander (DFC) employs Air Force Security Forces and other multidisciplinary resources and personnel to execute this operation. The DFC integrates operations with emergency management activities. Integrated defense operations protect and defend Air Force personnel, installations, activities, infrastructure, resources, and information. Integrated defense requires timely [force protection intelligence](#) (FPI). Commanders should use FPI to support decision-making for operations. Integrated defense relies on the ability of all Airmen to contribute to the defense of their installation while still fulfilling their primary functions.

Integrated defense is conducted worldwide, from mature theaters to austere regions. Air Force leadership should adapt to a variety of operational requirements. Some Air Force resources may be geographically separated from the main base. For example, communications facilities are often isolated and sited on high ground to maximize their effectiveness. Regardless of location, forces conducting integrated defense employ the basic tactics, techniques, and procedures as those employed at home station during day-to-day operations. As specific threats to base personnel and resources increase, integrated defense forces adjust tactics to counter the threat. Adjustments to operating procedures should be based on the specific threat to operations, the dynamics of operating in an international environment or the way integrated defense efforts collaborate with joint, combined, civilian, and [host nation](#) forces. Integrated defense

forces should be prepared to operate at a variety of locations and may deploy to sites without existing Air Force or host nation facilities.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The protection of Air Force personnel and resources on Air Force installations is essential to ensure successful Air Force operations. The Air Force emergency management (EM) program addresses activities across the all-hazards physical threat environment at home station or expeditionary locations to support overall FP. The figure, *Air Force Emergency Management Construct*, illustrates the Air Force's emergency management construct.



Air Force Emergency Management Program Construct

The primary mission of the Air Force EM Program is to save lives; minimize the loss or degradation of resources; and continue, sustain, and restore operational capability in an all-hazards physical threat environment at Air Force installations worldwide. The ancillary missions are to support homeland defense and defense support of civil authorities operations and to provide support to civil and host nation authorities according to DOD directives and through the appropriate combatant command. The Air Force EM program contributes to mission assurance and the continuation of mission essential functions necessary to perform the operations of the installation in support of the [National Defense Strategy](#).

These physical threats may occur at any time, with or without prior warning. Emergency management supports protection of personnel and resources through integration of

installation preparedness, response, and recovery programs aimed toward reducing the impact of these events on the installation; prepares for risks that cannot be eliminated; and prescribes actions required to deal with consequences of actual events and to recover from those events using the Air Force incident management system. Emergency management planning and response is based on National Incident Management System methodology to align with the [National Response Framework](#) as directed by Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5. See Air Force Policy Directive 10-25, [Air Force Emergency Management Program](#), and Department of Defense (DOD) Instruction 6055.17, [DOD Emergency Management \(EM\) Program](#), for more information on the installation emergency management program.

CRITICAL ASSET RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Operations in support of the *National Defense Strategy* are dependent on globally linked physical and cyber infrastructures (US and foreign, public and private sector). These interconnected infrastructures, while improving capabilities and mission effectiveness, also increase vulnerability to potential failures due to human error, natural disasters, or intentional attack. Consequently, it is important to identify and protect those infrastructures critical to mission accomplishment.

FORCE PROTECTION EFFECTS

Threats to Air Force interests occur across the range of military operations from peacetime through wartime. Commanders should recognize that any given threat may be present at any time. Commanders should also consider the effects intended to be produced by the threat, not just the nature of the threat itself. In this manner, a threat can be small in execution with large-scale effects as the outcome; threats can undermine mission capability as severely as sabotage or engagement with enemy forces. FP efforts conserve the Air Force's fighting potential by safeguarding its forces and mission capability through the achievement of predetermined effects. In all circumstances, commanders should tailor resources and capabilities to achieve, at minimum, the following FP effects:

- ✦ **Deter**—Measures should be developed to discourage adversarial actions. Vital to the effectiveness of these measures is the existence of a credible threat of unacceptable counteraction. Potential adversaries should perceive the Air Force has the capability to conduct and sustain offensive and defensive operations. This is best achieved through the possession of forces properly trained, organized, and equipped to execute base security against unconventional, [Level I and II threats, and, if required, engage Level III threats](#) and conduct a combat handover to a tactical combat force.
- ✦ **Detect**—Measures should be developed to identify the presence of an object or an event of possible military interest, whether a threat or hazard. Detection may arise through observation of the operational area or through deductions made following an analysis of the operational area.

- ★ **Preempt**—Once conclusive evidence indicating an imminent enemy attack is determined, actions should be initiated to rapidly respond and establish or gain a position of advantage to eliminate the threat. Essential to effective preemptive operations is an accurate estimate of the adversary’s capabilities and vulnerabilities. Every intelligence and counterintelligence resource available should be used to determine enemy capabilities, intentions, and probable courses of action.

 - ★ **Negate**—Measures should be taken to render a threat or hazard incapable of interfering with Air Force operations. This includes the effective employment of coordinated and synchronized offensive and defensive measures and measures to counteract hazards.

 - ★ **Mitigate**—If actions to negate are unsuccessful, measures should be taken to minimize enemy success and lessen the consequence or severity of the adversary’s actions. Likewise, measures should be taken to reduce the consequences of any hazard affecting operations.
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