HOMELAND ORGANIZATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

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- Military operations inside the United States and its Territories fall into two mission areas: homeland defense, for which DOD serves as the lead federal agency and military forces are used to conduct military operations in defense of the homeland; and civil support for which DOD serves in a supporting role to other agencies at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels.

- For most homeland scenarios, Air Force forces should be presented as an air expeditionary task force (AETF) under the operational control of a commander, Air Force forces (COMAFFOR), just as in any other theater. Air National Guard forces, whether federalized and operating in Title 10 status or remaining under state control in Title 32 or state active duty status, should still be organized and presented within an AETF or equivalent structure.

- State and federal military forces may adopt a parallel or dual status command structure. A parallel command structure exists when state and federal authorities have separate chains of command, and retain control of their deployed forces.

- Federal statute now provides the capability for a dual status command structure, in which a designated commander subordinate to a combatant commander may unify and streamline the command structure by simultaneously serving in Federal and State duty statuses while performing the separate and distinct duties of those statuses over forces in Title 32 as well as forces in Title 10. The command authority for forces in Title 32 attached to the CCDR is exercised by a dual-status commander pursuant to a CAA. Additionally, the statute requires both presidential authorization and a governor’s consent to invest a commander with dual status.

- For more detailed discussion, see Annex 3-27, Homeland Operations.