



ORGANIZATION OF INFORMATION OPERATIONS

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Air Force [information-related capability](#) (IRC) planners operating in-theater under the [operational control](#) (OPCON) of the [commander, Air Force forces](#) (COMAFFOR) are typically assigned or attached to an [air expeditionary task force](#) (AETF). Within the AETF, IRC forces are normally attached to an air expeditionary wing, group, or squadron. The COMAFFOR normally exercises command and control (C2) of the AETF through an A-staff and an [air operations center](#) (AOC). See Annex 3-30, *Command and Control*, for further discussion of [C2 mechanisms](#).

The Air Force embeds [information operations](#) (IO) and IRC expertise within the AFFOR staff, AOC IO team or the [joint force commander's](#) (JFC's) IO staff or cell to facilitate IRC integration and operations. Component staffs address component objectives and the desired effects required to achieve them. Also, the Air Force may augment other staffs with IO and IRC expertise to assist with tasking IRCs in-theater and integrating global IRCs and effects. IO planning should be coordinated during planning at the JFC and air component level, by AFFOR and AOC staffs. Planners at both levels should coordinate adaptive planning processes with supporting commands for IO.

As an example, US Air Forces Central Command's combined air operations center established a non-lethal effects team and non-lethal effects duty officer, similar to the IO team and IO duty officer. It was organized to focus primarily on integrating [electronic warfare](#), [cyberspace](#), and [space](#) effects into the JFC's operation, as opposed to integrating all non-lethal effects. The processes and organizational constructs by which non-lethal effects are integrated are based on individual commander's requirements and thus vary widely across AOCs.
