



# CURTIS E. LEMAY CENTER

FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



## ANNEX 3-30 COMMAND AND CONTROL

### TACTICAL CONTROL (TACON)

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Tactical control (TACON) is defined as “**the authority over forces that is limited to the detailed direction and control of movements or maneuvers within the operational area necessary to accomplish missions or tasks assigned.**”

TACON is able to be delegated from a lesser authority than [operational control](#) (OPCON) and may be delegated to and exercised by commanders at any echelon at or below the level of [combatant command](#) (CCMD). TACON provides sufficient authority for controlling and directing the application of force or tactical use of [combat support](#) assets within the assigned mission or task. TACON does not provide organizational authority or authoritative direction for administrative and logistic support.

An example of TACON is when the [commander, Air Force forces](#) (COMAFFOR), acting as the [joint force air component commander](#) (JFACC), produces an [air tasking order](#) that provides detailed instructions for joint air assets made available for tasking. For example, a JFACC functioning as the [area air defense commander](#) (AADC) with TACON over Army PATRIOT surface-to-air missile forces would have the authority to specify which asset/battery would be responsible for providing which portion of the air defense coverage for the joint force (exact placement of the assets/battery necessary to achieve the required coverage should normally be left to the Army component commander). The commander exercising TACON is responsible for ensuring communications with the controlled unit.