



ANNEX 4-0 COMBAT SUPPORT

ASSIST MISSION, FORCES, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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Assist mission, forces, and infrastructure sub-capabilities assist in mission generation, management, and day-to-day operations including:

- ★ **Control airfield and airspace traffic:** Provides air traffic control and airfield management personnel to sustain operations support and monitoring of the flying environment. The Air Force forces [\(AFFOR\) A3](#) usually conducts operational planning for the [commander, Air Force forces](#) (COMAFFOR), in this area with support from the AFFOR A6 and A4 for the required equipment and infrastructure.
- ★ **Provide airfield weather services, mission execution forecasts, and staff weather operations:** Provides airfield weather services to include assessment of current and future environmental conditions in support of flying operations and resource protection, collection, and dissemination of near-real time weather observations, tailored mission execution forecasts, and situational awareness to decision makers at all levels within the command and control structure. The AFFOR A3 usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Provide [spectrum management](#):** Controls the electromagnetic spectrum to serve the needs of US, allied, and coalition forces. The AFFOR A6 and the Electronic Warfare Coordination Cell usually work together to conduct operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Operate information/communications networks and equipment:** Provides operation of information and communications networks and equipment for information superiority at the right place, time, and security level. The AFFOR A3, with support from the AFFOR A6, usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Provide postal and official mail service:** Provides another avenue of communication to military and DOD personnel. The AFFOR A6 usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Finance Air Force operations:** Provides in-garrison, forward deployed, and reachback decision support and financial services, meeting regulatory and statutory requirements for appropriated, nonappropriated, and working capital fund resources. The AFFOR comptroller on the special staff usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.

- ★ **Capture history:** Allows the Air Force to write objective, classified and unclassified periodic histories of a unit's mission accomplishment by collecting, organizing, analyzing, and interpreting primary source documents, supplemented by interviews and audiovisual materials when appropriate. The AFFOR historian on the special staff usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Maintain law and order:** Provides security and protects combat-ready weapon systems from sabotage, espionage, subversion, and attack both in-garrison and at deployed locations. The AFFOR A4 usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Shape the public information environment:** Provides communication advice and counsel to commanders on the impact of operations and activities within the public information realm. Shapes the global information environment by communicating truthful and useful information about Air Force operations to internal, domestic, and international audiences. The AFFOR public affairs officer on the special staff usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Provide visual documentation:** Acquires, collects, preserves, and accesses visual information products to meet operational, informational, training, research, legal, historical, and administrative needs. The AFFOR public affairs staff usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Provide mishap prevention:** Provides a safe environment for all personnel and equipment to ensure mission accomplishment. The AFFOR safety officer on the special staff usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Capture lessons learned:** Observations of both individual and organization behaviors, attitudes, and processes that, when validated and resolved, result in an improvement in military operations or activities at the strategic, operational, or tactical level. Over the long-term, internalizing individual or organizational changes based on these observations can enhance readiness and improve operational efficiency and effectiveness. The AFFOR A9 usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Provide specialized analytical support:** Includes performing studies, analyses, and assessments needed by senior-level decision-makers for strategic planning; operational and developmental planning; requirements assessments, modernization and recapitalization of systems and programs; and the planning, programming, budgeting, and execution decision processes. The AFFOR A9 usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Maintain operating location organization:** Includes actions needed to determine, research, request, and process authorization and organization changes. The AFFOR A1 usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Execute and maintain agreements:** Provides capability to the warfighter to gain and control access to bases and overflight rights, stage bases, use host nation assets, and acquire or provide support to allies. The AFFOR staff judge advocate on the special staff and the A4 usually conduct operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
- ★ **Build partner capacity:** Enables combat support forces to engage partner nations and build their aviation, industrial, public works, or municipal enterprise. The COMAFFOR

should designate a lead agent to conduct this planning and oversight as required.

- ★ **Provide [legal services](#):** Includes advice to commanders and personnel at all levels, and in all locations, on matters ranging from disciplinary issues to operational concerns. The AFFOR staff judge advocate on the special staff usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
 - ★ **Create/maintain and dispose of official records:** Includes all actions necessary to plan, create, maintain, store, retrieve, transmit, and destroy official government records (electronic and physical) to provide proper documentation, enhance security, and support all aspects of the mission. The AFFOR A6 usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
 - ★ **Secure classified and unclassified controlled information:** Includes the Air Force information security program, ensuring unit personnel know and understand their role in protecting classified and controlled unclassified information against unauthorized disclosure. The AFFOR information protection directorate usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
 - ★ **Provide investigative and inspection services:** Allows the Air Force to assess the readiness, discipline, efficiency, and economy of the Service. The inspector general assigned to support the COMAFFOR usually conducts operational planning for the COMAFFOR in this area.
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