

**ARMY, MARINE CORPS, NAVY, AIR FORCE**



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# **JATC**

## **MULTISERVICE PROCEDURES FOR JOINT AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL**

**FM 100-104  
MCRP 3-25A  
NWP 3-56.3  
AFTTP(I) 3-2.23**

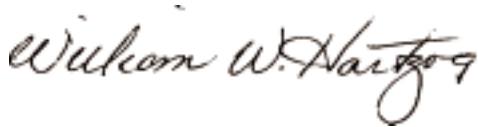
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**MULTISERVICE TACTICS, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCEDURES**

## FOREWORD

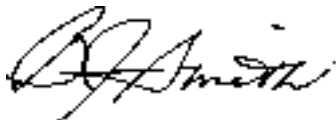
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# PREFACE

## 1. Scope

This multiservice procedures publication acts as a ready reference source for guidance on air traffic control (ATC) responsibilities, procedures, and employment in a joint environment. It discusses joint air traffic control (JATC) employment and Service relationships for initial, transition, and sustained ATC operations across the spectrum of joint operations within the theater or area of responsibility (AOR). This publication is UNCLASSIFIED and specifically addresses Service ATC doctrine, forces, capabilities, equipment, and training.

## 2. Purpose

This JATC publication meets the needs of the Services by providing procedures on JATC employment and by detailing Service relationships for initial, transition, and sustained JATC operations within the theater or AOR. It also outlines how to synchronize and integrate JATC forces and specialized ATC equipment.

## 3. Application

This publication applies to the operating forces of all Services. Although the focus of the publication is at the tactical level, it has application for planning and warfighting personnel at all levels. The target audience for this publication includes commanders, staffs, and agencies at all levels within and supporting a joint force.

## 4. Implementation Plan

Participating Service command offices of primary responsibility (OPRs) will review this publication, validate the information, and reference and incorporate it in Service manuals, regulations, and curricula as follows:

**Army.** The Army will incorporate the procedures in this publication in United States (US) Army training and doctrinal publications as directed by the commander, US Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). Distribution is in accordance with DA Form 12-99-R.

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## 5. User Information

a. The TRADOC-MCCDC-NWDC-AFDC Air Land Sea Application (ALSA) Center developed this publication with the joint participation of the approving Service commands. ALSA will review and update this publication as necessary.

b. This publication reflects current joint and Service doctrine, command and control (C2) organizations, facilities, personnel, responsibilities, and procedures. Changes in Service protocol, appropriately reflected in joint and Service publications, will likewise be incorporated in revisions to this document.

c. We encourage recommended changes for improving this publication. Key your comments to the specific page and

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## **JATC**

### **Multiservice Procedures for Joint Air Traffic Control**

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## JATC

### Multiservice Procedures for Joint Air Traffic Control

#### Overview

**This publication—**

- **Provides basic background information on JATC operations.**
- **Describes each Service's ATC doctrine, forces, capabilities, training, and equipment used to perform JATC operations.**
- **Outlines the duties, responsibilities, and command and control relationships that influence JATC operations and handover procedures.**
- **Illustrates how Service ATC forces are deployed and employed to perform ATC operations.**
- **Describes how Service ATC forces conduct ATC during initial, transition, and sustained operations.**
- **Outlines the process for synchronizing and integrating JATC forces within the theater or AOR.**
- **Explains how to integrate the Services' ATC equipment and ATC forces.**

#### Doctrine, Forces, Capabilities, Equipment, and Training

Chapter I provides details on the four Services' ATC doctrine, forces, capabilities, training, and equipment. It provides a baseline understanding of component capabilities for conducting ATC operations in a joint environment by providing a description of—

- The doctrinal framework each Service uses to execute JATC operations.
- The Service-specific ATC forces capable of deploying and executing JATC operations.
- The Service-specific equipment and systems used to control air traffic in the theater or AOR.
- The specific ATC capabilities each Service has available.
- The training each Service provides for ATC personnel.



## **Operations and Procedures**

Chapter II describes JATC operations and procedures. It outlines the duties, responsibilities, communications, and command and control relationships that influence ATC operations and handover procedures. It illustrates how ATC forces are deployed and employed to perform JATC operations. This chapter also provides a general description of how ATC forces conduct ATC during initial, transition, and sustained operations.

## **Planning Considerations for Initial, Transition, and Sustained JATC Operations**

Chapter III explains how to integrate Services' ATC equipment and uniquely trained ATC forces. It also outlines a process for synchronization and integration of ATC forces within the theater or AOR. It provides ATC-specific checklists and considerations for joint planners.

## INTRODUCTION

Although basic ATC operations throughout the Services share many commonalities, Service-unique requirements can cause operational problems if not anticipated. Improvements in JATC operations can be made by ensuring interoperable equipment; commonly accepted tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP); and application of the TTP during development of joint and multiservice doctrine, joint training, exercises, and operations.

Current Service doctrine, as well as Joint Vision 2010, asserts that operating jointly is imperative for success. To accomplish this, aviation related elements of each Service must become thoroughly familiar with the organization, capabilities, and TTP of their own Service and those of each force-providing Service or nation.

This publication provides the Service-unique information a planner requires to employ ATC services in a joint environment. Included are suggested handover considerations and checklists for use in joint planning and execution of ATC services in the progression of initial, transition, and sustained operations. A void seems to exist from the mission conclusion of special tactics (ST) forces combat controllers to the introduction of robust sustainment forces. Ways to employ appropriately equipped transition forces and a plan for timely relief of ST forces are addressed as well as the organizational and command structure differences that contribute to deployment and handover problems.

In all Services there is a lack of guidance for the transition of ATC operations from one Service to another. The only guidance provided suggests each Service consider the coordination and integration of air traffic services within their branch. In short, there are no TTP to plan the actual handover. This publication provides the TTP necessary to facilitate viable multiservice ATC operations until joint doctrine fully evolves to support JATC operations.

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## Chapter I

# DOCTRINE, FORCES, CAPABILITIES, EQUIPMENT, AND TRAINING

## 1. Background

Each Service maintains its own air traffic control (ATC) schools, which provide duplication of initial ATC training. Each trains to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards and produces knowledgeable, technically competent graduates capable of transitioning from apprentice to full-performance level air traffic controllers. These basic skills are then honed to a higher level, consistent with the level of air traffic serviced. All Service controllers start out with the same basic skills, but unique mission requirements dictate the experience level and special skills that are developed to meet mission requirements. Although each Service's advanced and sustainment ATC training and professional development is different, they meet the peacetime focus to develop the go-to-war skills required to support combat operations. This chapter details the ATC capabilities of all four Services including a snapshot of their doctrine, forces, capabilities, equipment, and training.

## 2. Army

### a. Doctrine.

Army air traffic services (ATSs) are an extremely important function in the synchronization of combat power. ATS tactical units function as an integral element of joint, multinational, and interagency forces. These units must conduct both opposed and unopposed early entry operations. As a tailored force, ATS supports the Army during all phases of operations.

ATSs are integrated with the theater airspace management structure. Army ATS

tactical units support joint operations at all echelons within the theater and operate independently of aviation brigades. ATS groups are in general support (GS) to a theater; ATS battalions and/or ATS companies are in GS to a corps. ATS companies are in direct support (DS) to a division and/or GS to a corps. See Appendix D.

### (1) ATS Tactical Units.

ATS tactical units augment the operations (G-3 and J-3) of the field Army and land component commander with Army airspace command and control (A2C2) liaisons and airspace information center (AIC) services. The units augment at echelons above corps (EAC), corps, and division, including the aviation brigade if resources are available. These A2C2 cells provide multinational or interagency interface for ATS systems throughout the theater of operations. As part of the A2C2 element, the ATS support is the Army's primary coordination link to the Theater Air Ground System (TAGS).

ATS tactical units must coordinate airspace requirements, provide an interface for airspace coordination during execution, and provide an instrument recovery capability. A2C2 elements enhance force protection by relaying real-time situational awareness, deconfliction of airspace, synchronization, and integration of combat power. This information is critical to the survival of all airspace users. ATS tactical units perform airspace control functions based on the airspace control order (ACO) and the airspace control plan (ACP). The ACO and the ACP outline approved airspace control measures and other active airspace control procedures. The airspace control authority (ACA) publishes ACOs