

HEADQUARTERS,  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

FM 100-12



**ARMY**  
**THEATER MISSILE DEFENSE**  
**OPERATIONS**



# Army Theater Missile Defense Operations

## Contents

	<b>Page</b>
<b>PREFACE</b> .....	iv
<b>Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION</b>	
General .....	1-1
Theater Missile Defense Threat Environment .....	1-3
Objectives of Joint Theater Missile Defense .....	1-4
Operational Environment .....	1-5
Theater Missile Defense Imperatives .....	1-6
Army Universal Tasks .....	1-8
Overview of the Manual .....	1-10
<b>Chapter 2 THREAT</b>	
General .....	2-1
Historical Perspective .....	2-3
Theater Missile Threat to Army Operations .....	2-3
Theater Ballistic Missiles .....	2-4
Large-Caliber and Multiple Launch Rockets .....	2-7
Cruise Missiles .....	2-7
Air-to-Surface Missiles .....	2-9
Unmanned Aerial Vehicles .....	2-10
Global Threat Environment .....	2-11

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	Transnational Threat .....	2-21
	Summary .....	2-21
<b>Chapter 3</b>	<b>THE ARMY IN JOINT THEATER MISSILE DEFENSE</b>	
	General .....	3-1
	Joint Theater Missile Defense Organization .....	3-1
	Army Theater Missile Defense Organization .....	3-3
	Army Theater Missile Defense Operations .....	3-6
	Multinational Theater Missile Defense Operations .....	3-11
<b>Chapter 4</b>	<b>COMMAND AND CONTROL</b>	
	General .....	4-1
	Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence Organization ...	4-2
	Force Projection Planning .....	4-4
	Stages I and II—Mobilization and Predeployment .....	4-6
	Stages III and IV—Deployment and Entry Operations .....	4-7
	Stage V—Decisive Operations .....	4-13
	Stages VI and VII—Redeployment and Post Conflict .....	4-14
	Stage VIII—Demobilization .....	4-15
<b>Chapter 5</b>	<b>ATTACK OPERATIONS</b>	
	General .....	5-1
	Decide, Detect, Deliver, and Assess Process .....	5-2
	Attack Operations Organization .....	5-5
	Force Projection Planning .....	5-7
	Stages I and II—Mobilization and Predeployment .....	5-8
	Stages III and IV—Deployment and Entry Operations .....	5-9
	Stage V—Decisive Operations .....	5-14
	Stages VI and VII—Redeployment and Post Conflict.....	5-15
	Stage VIII—Demobilization .....	5-15
<b>Chapter 6</b>	<b>ACTIVE DEFENSE</b>	
	General .....	6-1
	Operational Force Protection .....	6-2
	Active Defense Organization .....	6-2
	Force Projection Planning .....	6-4
	Stages I and II—Mobilization and Predeployment .....	6-5
	Stages III and IV—Deployment and Entry Operations .....	6-7
	Stage V—Decisive Operations .....	6-8

	Stages VI and VII—Redeployment and Post Conflict .....	6-9
	Stage VIII—Demobilization .....	6-9
<b>Chapter 7</b>	<b>PASSIVE DEFENSE</b>	
	General .....	7-1
	Passive Measures .....	7-1
	Passive Defense Organization .....	7-8
	Warning .....	7-9
	Force Projection Planning .....	7-16
	Stages I and II—Mobilization and Predeployment .....	7-17
	Stages III and IV—Deployment and Entry Operations .....	7-18
	Stage V—Decisive Operations .....	7-21
	Stages VI and VII—Redeployment and Post Conflict .....	7-21
	Stage VIII—Demobilization .....	7-22
	Summary .....	7-22
<b>Appendix A</b>	<b>INTELLIGENCE PREPARATION OF THE BATTLESPACE .....</b>	<b>A-1</b>
<b>Appendix B</b>	<b>AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE ANNEX .....</b>	<b>B-1</b>
<b>Appendix C</b>	<b>THEATER MISSILE DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS .....</b>	<b>C-1</b>
<b>Glossary</b>	.....	Glossary-1
<b>Bibliography</b>	.....	Bibliography-1
<b>Index</b>	.....	Index-1

## Preface

Field Manual (FM) 100-12, *Army Theater Missile Defense Operations*, establishes the Army's comprehensive doctrine to guide actions throughout the range of theater missile defense (TMD) operations. It explains the Army's contribution to joint TMD and addresses the elements necessary to insure maximum effectiveness and integration of TMD into the Joint Force Commander's (JFC's) overall concept of the operation and campaign objectives.

This manual provides the doctrinal base for integrating the US Army Air and Missile Defense Command into Army-level command and control architecture and operations. It provides information on requirements necessary for successful coordination of TMD in support of Army, joint, and multinational operations. This manual implements relevant joint doctrine, incorporates lessons learned from recent operations, conforms to the Army's keystone doctrine, and provides information on the theater missile threat to US forces and US interests.

FM 100-12 provides doctrinal guidance for commanders, staff, trainers, and leaders at all levels and is the doctrinal basis for Army Service School curriculum development. It also provides a doctrinal basis for implementation of TMD measures in all Army units. The contents apply to Army TMD worldwide.

The proponent for this manual is the US Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 directly to Commandant, US Army Air Defense Artillery School ATTN: ATSA-DOT-D, Fort Bliss, Texas 79916-3802.

Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns or pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.

## Chapter 1

# Introduction

This chapter introduces Army theater missile defense (TMD) operations in the context of joint TMD. It provides the framework in which doctrinal guidance to Army commanders at strategic, operational, and tactical levels is given.

### GENERAL

1-1. Theater missiles (TMs) are ballistic missiles (BMs), cruise missiles (CMs), and air-to-surface missiles (ASMs) whose targets are within a given theater of operation. Advanced missile technologies coupled with weapons of mass destruction (WMD) or weapons of mass effect (WME) capabilities have become proliferated among potential adversaries and provide them with potentially decisive attack capabilities. The TM threat is as much a political weapon as a military weapon.

1-2. The preferred method to counter enemy TMs is to destroy or disrupt operations prior to launch. Failing that, the capability to intercept and destroy missiles in flight is the next most desired option. The capabilities of joint force components, supporting Commanders in Chief (CINCs) and multinational forces must be integrated to achieve the common objective of neutralizing or destroying the enemy's TM capabilities. This effort must be integrated into and support the Joint Force Commander's (JFC's) overall concept of operations and campaign objectives.

### THEATER MISSILE DEFENSE

1-3. TMD encompasses all activities focused on the identification, integration, and employment of forces supported by theater and national capabilities to detect, identify, locate, track, discriminate, minimize the effects of, and destroy enemy TMs. This includes the destruction of TMs on the ground and in flight; their air, ground, or sea-based launch platforms during pre- and post-launch operations; and their supporting infrastructure.

1-4. TMD is inherently a joint mission. Successful conduct of TMD requires a coordinated joint service effort. This coordination originates in the doctrine described in Joint Publication (JP) 3-01.5 and supporting service publications. The Air Force's contribution to joint TMD is described in Air Force Doctrine Document 2-1.1 *Counterair Operations*. The Navy's contribution to joint TMD is described in Naval Warfare Publication 3-0.1. The Marine Corps' contribution to joint TMD is described in Marine Corps Warfighting Publication 3-25 *Control of Aircraft and Missiles*. The Army's role in the joint TMD fight is the focus of this manual.