ARMY, MARINE CORPS, NAVY, AIR FORCE

ICAC2

MULTISERVICE PROCEDURES FOR INTEGRATED COMBAT AIRSPACE COMMAND AND CONTROL

FM 3-100.2 (FM 100-103-1)
MCRP 3-25D
NTTP 3-52.1(A)
AFTTP(I) 3-2.16

AIR LAND SEA APPLICATION CENTER

June 2000

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MULTISERVICE TACTICS, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCEDURES

FOREWORD

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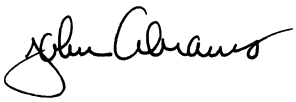

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PREFACE

1. Scope

This multiservice tactics, techniques, and procedures (MTTP) publication outlines the importance of an integrated airspace control function on the battlespace and describes the organization responsible for airspace control in joint operations. It establishes MTTP for planning, implementing, executing, and deconflicting airspace, including addressing specific airspace control issues for specialized missions. This publication also outlines the information, interfaces, and communications required for supporting the integrated airspace control function.

2. Purpose

This publication is designed to facilitate multiservice coordination, integration, and regulation of airspace during exercises, contingencies, and other operations where more than one Service component must share the airspace for operational use.

3. Applicability

The target audience for this publication is the joint force commander (JFC), the JFC's staff, the component commanders and their staffs, and all others responsible for airspace command and control management or planning. This publication provides formal training courses with reference material for teaching ICAC2 considerations to future joint force planners and operators. By providing detailed ICAC2 information, this publication responds to an identified shortfall in existing joint doctrine. This publication supplements joint doctrine by providing the warfighter the necessary MTTP needed to execute ICAC2 during exercises, contingencies, and other operations.

4. Implementation Plan

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

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5. User Information

a. TRADOC-MCCDC-NWDC-Headquarters Air Force Doctrine Center (HQ 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 of this document.

c. We encourage recommended changes for improving this publication. Key your comments to the specific page and paragraph and provide a rationale for each recommendation. Send comments and recommendations directly to—

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***FM 3-100.2** (FM 100-103-1)
***MCRP 3-25D**
***NTTP 3-52.1(A)**
***AFTTP(I) 3-2.16**

FM 3-100.2 (FM 100-103-1) — **US Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, Virginia**

MCRP 3-25D — **Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, Virginia**

NTTP 3-52.1(A) — **Navy Warfare Development Command, Newport, Rhode Island**

AFTTP(I) 3-2.16 — **Air Force Doctrine Center, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama**

30 June 2000

ICAC2

Multiservice Procedures for Integrated Combat Airspace Command and Control

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***This publication supersedes FM 100-103-1, FMFRP 5-61/MCWP 3-25.1, NDC TACNOTE 3-52.1, AFTTP(I) 3-2.16, 3 Oct 94**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Multiservice Procedures for Integrated Combat Airspace Command and Control (ICAC2)

Overview

This publication–

- **Describes the organizational concept for integrating the airspace control function.**
- **Outlines the required organizational elements with duties and responsibilities.**
- **Details the joint force commander's staff actions and options to be considered in the formulation of airspace control policy.**
- **Describes the airspace control process.**
- **Describes the decisions of the airspace control authority (ACA).**
- **Lists the considerations for development of the airspace control plan (ACP).**
- **Describes the components of an airspace control order (ACO).**
- **Describes the communications and information flow required to support airspace command and control (C2).**
- **Describes the airspace control procedures for amphibious operations, the Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS), unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), military operations other than war (MOOTW), the Tomahawk land attack missile (TLAM), and the conventional air launched cruise missile (CALCM).**

Introduction

The modern battlespace, including the airspace above it, is becoming increasingly saturated. Effectively coordinating, integrating, and deconflicting airspace used by friendly forces will be a challenge in future operations. Executing the airspace control function will require a joint effort, using Service airspace C2 systems as a framework for integration. This publication provides the methodology for planning, implementing, and executing a threat-integrated airspace control function in combat.

Concept and Organization

Successful airspace integration encompasses the spectrum of multiservice doctrine, architectures, systems, and processes to accomplish the overall objectives of ICAC2. The concept emphasizes supporting short-notice requirements in a wide variety of environments to accomplish the main objectives of ICAC2. Basic considerations highlight the authoritative nature of this MTTP, without restricting the commander's options. Fundamental principles of top-down guidance, interoperability and connectivity, and

delegation of authority should enhance the commander's organization of airspace control boundaries and command relationships.

Planning, Implementation, and Execution

Successfully planning, implementing, and executing airspace control requires the JFC, joint force air component commander (JFACC), ACA, area air defense commander (AADC), and component commanders to accomplish specific actions. Emphasis in the planning phase is on the formulation of airspace control policy by the JFC and his/her staff.

The ACA (based on JFC policy and guidance, assessment of the battle situation, and in coordination with component commanders) develops the organization, defines the airspace control process, and implements these decisions through the ACP.

Execution is accomplished via the ACO. The ACO provides specific airspace control procedures applicable for a defined period of time. While coordination and integration of airspace requirements should be accomplished at the lowest possible level, much is actually accomplished at the senior C2 elements due to required ACA approval for most airspace control measures (ACMs). Regulation of the airspace control function is decentralized to the maximum extent possible.

Missions Requiring Special Coordination

Each Service brings specialized capabilities and weapons systems to the fight, all of which require consideration when building an integrated combat airspace system. Personnel from all Services working within the airspace system should have some degree of familiarity with the structures in the other Services. ACMs are used to segregate or separate missions from each other to ensure safety and effectiveness.

MOOTW span a range of missions including peacekeeping, deterrence, and transition to armed conflict, and each can generate complex ICAC2 requirements. Effective airspace control in the MOOTW environment should be based upon utility, flexibility, and scalability.

Airspace management for UAVs requires a number of airspace management elements to facilitate operational missions, including launch and recovery sites, flight routes and altitudes, and specific mission areas. Some form of C2 also is necessary to ensure that UAV deconfliction procedures are published, disseminated, integrated, and followed by the participating Services. The UAV concepts and protocols described in this chapter provide procedures that enhance the joint task force (JTF) commander's freedom of action with a minimum of coordination.

If CALCMs are used, it is extremely important to incorporate them into the airspace planning process because it is difficult to accurately track the missile with the normal radar elements used for theater airspace control. This chapter describes the procedural ACMs used to support CALCM operations.

While modern technologies have greatly improved weapon systems, integrating their employment with existing or other new technologies often is difficult. The ATACMS is a

good example. Coordination for ATACMS employment can be time consuming and complicated. The procedures described in this chapter allow each Service to employ its weapons systems within certain allowable risks.

Naval expeditionary operations integrate ships, aircraft, weapons, and landing forces in operations against a hostile or potentially hostile shore. In amphibious operations, airspace control is a multifunctional effort, consisting of surveillance, warning, launch and engagement authority, air movement control, close air support (CAS), and communications. Close cooperation and detailed coordination among all participants is essential to the success of the operations. Procedures to effect this cooperation are detailed in this chapter.

A joint force operation may require TLAM integration into the JFC's C2 architecture and airspace deconfliction process. This chapter details TLAM C2 relationships, communications, and missile and mission management.

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Chapter I
CONCEPT AND ORGANIZATION

1. Background

Integrated combat airspace command and control (ICAC2) is a subsystem of the theater air-ground systems (TAGS). This chapter explains the operational concept for integrating the airspace control function between components. It develops the architecture for an ICAC2 system by describing the objectives the system should achieve, basic considerations and fundamental principles on which the system needs to be founded, and various scenarios in which the system must operate.

This chapter describes the airspace control organization at the component command level and above. The organization melds component capabilities into an ICAC2 system for joint operations.

2. Concept

The operational concept focuses on an ICAC2 system capable of supporting short-notice contingency operations in any type of environment. A variety of possible operating locations that might constitute the theater of operations and combined forces and host nation (HN) interface may or may not be available. This may include the need for a preplanned airspace control plan (ACP) to support contingency operations.

3. Environment

The National Military Strategy calls for flexible and selective engagement, involving a broad range of activities and capabilities to address and help shape the evolving international environment. United States (US) military forces must perform three sets of tasks to achieve the military objectives of promoting stability and thwarting aggression. These three tasks are peacetime engagement, deterrence and conflict prevention, and fighting and winning our nation's wars. Accomplishing the specific tasks of the strategy is facilitated by the two complementary strategic concepts of overseas presence and power projection. (The National Military Strategy of United States of America, 1997)

4. Objectives

To provide the required versatility and flexibility, ICAC2 must accomplish the following:

a. Maximize the combat capability of friendly forces.

b. Minimize restrictions on friendly combat operations, both surface and air.

c. Maximize commonality while retaining individual component protocol.

d. Emphasize Interservice airspace command and control (C2) linkage—the means to incorporate all component requirements—then coordinate, integrate, and regulate the airspace.