

USAFCENT AIR WARFARE CENTER: “Building Tomorrow’s Coalition Today”

Current as of 30 July 2025

HISTORY

Since the early 1990s, U.S. and coalition air forces have played a vital role in maintaining stability and countering threats within the AFCENT AOR through operations such as DESERT STORM, ENDURING FREEDOM, and INHERENT RESOLVE. The AFCENT Air Warfare Center (AAWC) builds upon this legacy as the focal point for advanced airpower training, operational testing and coalition interoperability. The AAWC demonstrates the Air Force's commitment to regional security by adapting to the evolving threat landscape while enabling U.S. and coalition air forces to deter aggression, respond to crises and maintain regional stability.

MISSION

The AFCENT AWC builds and maintains trust, increases readiness, and improves integration among valued U.S. and partner air dominance forces by forging lasting relationships and providing state-of-the-art advanced tactical training to increase regional security and prevail.

VISION

The United States and regional partners postured to defend common security interests through multilateral coalitions of competent, capable and integrated air dominance forces.

AFCENT AWC PRIORITIES

"Advance regional partner airpower & integrated air defense in coalition with the United States while enhancing AFCENT’s readiness to execute theater unique missions."

CORE FUNCTIONS

The AFCENT AWC serves as the central hub for advanced air warfare training, operational testing and coalition interoperability with regional partners. Its core functions are managed by two divisions: *Advanced Training* and *Integrated Air & Missile Defense*.

Advanced Training Division:

- **Advanced Tactical Training:** Develops and executes realistic, scenario-based training exercises to enhance aircrew leadership skills, tactical proficiency and coalition interoperability. This includes live, virtual and constructive (LVC) training environments.
- **Mobility Training and Integration:** Facilitates training and integration of mobility assets into joint and coalition air operations, ensuring effective and efficient deployment and sustainment of forces.

- **Coalition Partnership Development:** Facilitates theater security cooperation and engagement initiatives with partner nations, building enduring relationships and fostering a mutual understanding of operational procedures and capabilities.
- **Operational Support:** Offers specialized support to AFCENT and its components, including air advising and exercise support.

Integrated Air & Missile Defense (IAMD) Division:

- **IAMD Expertise:** Enhances joint and multinational IAMD capabilities, interoperability, integration and interdependence through subject matter expertise and advanced simulation.
- **Air Battle Management (ABM) Expertise:** Provides training and support in coordinating and controlling air operations, including airspace management, air defense and offensive air operations.

KEY PROGRAMS AND EXERCISES

- **Advanced Tactical Leadership Course (ATLC):** A multinational training event that trains participants as mission commanders and tactical experts, improving interoperability among coalition air forces.
- **DESERT FLAG:** A large-scale air warfare exercise that reinforces ATLC training, providing a realistic scenario with a relevant regional threat array, offering participants invaluable experience in joint and combined air operations.
- **Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD) Exercises & Seminars:** Fosters collaboration and strengthen regional air defense capabilities through HAWKEX, EAGLE RESOLVE, the Integrated Air & Missile Defense Operations Course (IAMDOC) and the Joint Air Defense Operations Course (JADOC).
- **SPEARS OF VICTORY:** A multinational air exercise hosted by the Royal Saudi Air Force (RSAF) that focuses on enhancing interoperability and cooperation between partner nations in a challenging environment to address evolving air warfare threats, including advanced electronic warfare.
- **Specialized Courses:** Courses such as Ground Control Intermediate (GCI), Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR) and Subject Matter Expert Exchanges (SMEEs) enhance the skills of airmen and joint warfighters.