



# Army Total Force Policy



# ARMY TOTAL FORCE POLICY

**Army Total Force Policy (ATFP)** directs Active Duty, Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve commanders to integrate their Soldiers and unit capabilities into pre-deployment collective training events to:

- Maintain Army readiness standards for all components
- Provide predictable, recurring and sustainable operational force capabilities
- Prepare for deployment as multicomponent expeditionary forces

## ***Forces Command's Role***

**FORSCOM ATFP Interim Guidance** prescribes implementation for AC and RC forces.

- Provide operating and generating forces
- Ensure the Total Force is organized, trained, sustained, equipped and employed
- Ensure procedures and processes for validating pre-deployment readiness of AC and RC units and Soldiers are uniform
- Integrate AC and RC forces at the tactical level (division and below) to include pre-deployment collective training

FORSCOM establishes interim Total Force implementation guidance to improve the Army's support of the National Military Strategy and Army commitments worldwide by providing tailored force packages. This guidance:

- Endorses Total Force leader development
- Supports the Total Force Partnership Program and mission alignment
- Improves the quality and responsiveness of Total Army Integrated Training
- Leverages agreed upon procedures for validating deploying forces

## ***Leader Development***

- The cornerstone of ATFP
- Leverages all training opportunities to enable leader development
- Minimizes "lost opportunities" for Mission Command while planning, preparing, executing and assessing Unified Land Operations

## ***Total Force Partnership***

- Provides a framework for alignment and partnership of AC/RC units
- Promotes informal leader development
- Supports integrated training events
- Facilitates shared learning

## ***Collective Integrated Training***

- Maximizes training resources to conduct rigorous, realistic collective training
- Initiates deliberate steps to incorporate training among and between components -- train as we fight!
- Ensures compatible ABCS systems and SOPs
- Leverages multicomponent capabilities







## ***First Army's Role***

**FORSCOM Interim Implementation Guidance for the ATRP designates First Army as the coordinating authority for implementation. First Army's unique mission and experienced cadre support Total Force readiness.**

- Ensures collective training events are effectively resourced to maximize training value
- Maintains a robust partnership with ARNG, USAR, CTCs and MCTP throughout the readiness cycle
- Partners with ARNG and USAR commanders to advise, assist and provide training support to RC formations

## What ATFP Does for the Army

- Enables RC unit readiness
- Maintains the RC as an Operational Reserve
- Provides combatant commanders with trained and ready RC forces
- Focuses on leader development and Mission Command
- Fully integrates AC, USAR and ARNG
- Provides multiechelon, relevant, dynamic, stressful training events
- Ensures collective training is integrated as a “Total Force”
- Supports RC pre-mobilization readiness and reduces post-mobilization training time
- Maximizes collective training opportunities in Decisive Action Training Environment
- Strengthens AC/RC partnerships and shares lessons learned, leader development and training opportunities
- Creates robust partnerships between AC, ARNG, USAR, CTC and MCTP

*“We no longer differentiate in an ultimate sense between Army, National Guard and Reserve Forces. Every energy . . . is bent to the development of the Army of the United States. Our purpose is to think only of the American citizen and to prepare him . . . for duties in war.”*



**GEN John J. Pershing**  
First Army's First  
Commanding General,  
1917

## **Unit Leader Observations**

ATFP enables multicomponent, integrated training for AC and RC forces.

*“The partnership with . . . 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, during our XCTC training event at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, has led to numerous other training opportunities that will benefit this brigade for years to come.”*

-- COL Darryl Darnbush, Commander, 278th ABCT, Tennessee ARNG

*“For my battalion, this was an unparalleled training opportunity. The resources, organization and synchronization that XCTC provided produced a phenomenal training event for National Guard Soldiers who were looking to minimize time away from home.”*

-- LTC Tobin Magsig, Commander, 2nd BN, 501st PIR, 25th Infantry Division

*“The staff training and feedback my brigade headquarters received during our WAREX in March and April 2014 enabled my staff to identify many sustain and improve points to focus training in the future. First Army observer coach/trainers were essential to our success.”*

-- BG Lewis Irwin, Commander, 926th Engineer Brigade, USAR



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