

ROSS DISPATCH

TACTICAL AVIATION

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this unit, the trainee will be able to:

1. Identify the purpose of creating a non-dispatch government organization of type 'tanker base'.
2. Identify the purpose of designating a catalog item as a 'tactical aircraft'.
3. Identify the purpose of designating a 'dispatched by' organization for a reload base.
4. Identify the purpose of designating 'record manager only' for a tactical aircraft.
5. Identify the purpose of designating a 'current operating base' for a tactical aircraft.
6. Designate frequencies as 'tactical' when creating an incident.
7. Designate the maximum and minimum elevation of an incident.
8. Ferry a resource to another tanker base.
9. Quick fill assign a tactical aircraft.
10. Quick fill divert a tactical aircraft.
11. Release a tactical aircraft.
12. Fill a tactical aircraft request.
13. Reassign a tactical aircraft.
14. Divert a tactical aircraft.

Summary.

- 'Tactical Aviation' functionality in ROSS refers to use of aircraft resources that:
 - Can be designated as 'tactical'.
 - Can be assigned to multiple incidents each day without being reassigned or released.
 - Might not have a permanent home dispatch, and are instead dispatched by their 'current operating base'.
- Though tactical aircraft dispatching is managed on 'Tactical Aviation' screen, functionality affects many other ROSS screens.
- Course focuses on specifics of dispatching tactical aircraft – common dispatch functionality not addressed here.

I. 'OVERVIEW OF TACTICAL AVIATION'

A. Tanker Base Organizations.

- Non-dispatch government organization of type 'Tanker Base' can be created on 'Organization' screen.

- An airport, also of type 'Tanker Base', must then be designated for tanker base organization.
- Can use tanker base organization to enter and manage information such as coordinates, address, contacts, and frequencies for tanker base.
- Tanker base organizations are not resource providers and do not have Unit IDs.

B. Reload Bases.

- On Reload Bases tab of 'Organization' screen, can associate reload bases to your dispatch.
- One reload base can be set as 'default' for creating tactical aircraft requests.
- Each reload base can have a 'Managed By' dispatch that manages non-dispatch government organization associated with airport, if applicable.
- Each reload base must have a designated 'Dispatched By' dispatch authorized to dispatch tactical aircraft located at base.
- One or more reload bases may be associated with a dispatch, but only one office may dispatch for a given reload base.

- Only current 'Dispatched By' dispatch can remove their designation as 'Dispatched By'.
- 'Clear Dispatched By' button.
- 'Set Dispatched By' button – Sets your dispatch as 'Dispatched By' dispatch of a base that does not currently have one.
- Reload bases from 'Reload Bases' tab on Organization screen added to each incident your dispatch creates.

C. Catalog Items.

- Catalog Manager at NICC can assign 'Tactical Aircraft' and 'Require Tanker Base' designations to an aircraft catalog item.
- 'Tactical Aircraft' – Indicates item will be handled within ROSS as a tactical aircraft, with special processing applied when requested and assigned.
- 'Requires Tanker Base' – Applicable only to items designated as 'Tactical Aircraft'. Indicates resource must use an airport of type 'tanker base'.

D. Resources.

- Tactical aircraft can have a 'Record Manager Only' (RMO) designation, identifying resource as not having a permanent home dispatch (e.g., national airtankers).

- Unit that statuses and dispatches the aircraft is determined by resource's Current Operating Base (COB), which may change frequently.
 - NICC sets initial current operating base via 'Locations' tab on Resource Item screen.

 - Once set, current operating base is updated based on where aircraft is assigned or released.

- RMO not designated if aircraft has home dispatch responsible for its statusing and dispatching.

- Resource released from a tactical aviation request becomes Available when demob ETA is met (no Returned From Assignment).

E. Resource Statusing.

For RMO tactical aircraft, following statusing must be performed on Tactical Aviation screen:

- Setting Availability (i.e., Available or Unavailable).

- Setting Unavailability Periods.

II. 'NEW INITIAL REPORT OR INCIDENT' SCREEN

- 'Radio Frequencies' Section of screen – Frequencies can be designated as 'tactical' as incident being created.
- Radio Frequencies' Table – Displays frequencies associated with selected host marked as 'Primary'.
- 'Set Air Tactical' button.
- Click again to remove 'tactical' designation.

III. 'INCIDENT' SCREEN

- 'Incident Details' section of the screen – Displays two tactical aviation related fields: Minimum and Maximum Elevation (ft).
- 'Frequencies' Tab.
 - Yes/No indicates if 'tactical'.
 - To set as tactical, click 'Edit' button then 'Air Tactical' check box.
- 'Airports' Tab – Adding (or removing) airport of type 'Tanker Base' on Airport tab does not add (or remove) airport from Reload Bases tab (and vice-versa).

- 'Reload Bases' Tab.
 - For reload bases of type 'Tanker Base', displays 'Dispatched By' center.
 - Reload base cannot be removed from an incident once it has been used on a request.

IV. 'NEW REQUEST' SCREEN

A. Reload Base field – Only visible for tactical aircraft catalog items.

- Used to designate reload base from which tactical aircraft used to fill request will operate.
- Required field if tanker base required.
- Defaults to your dispatch's default reload base.
- 'Pick' button.
- 'Pick Reload Base' dialog box can contain up to three tabs: Airports, Incident, and Locations.
 - a. Airports tab.

- Used to select an airport as reload base for request.
- 'Set Search for Airports' section of dialog box.

Criteria of note:

- Reload Bases Dispatched by [Unit-ID] Radio Button – Select to display only reload bases you dispatch tactical aircraft for.
- All Airports Radio Button – Select to display all airports (however, if tanker base is required, results limited to only tanker bases.

b. Incident tab.

- Used to select incident location as reload base for request.
- Only visible if tanker base not required.

c. Locations tab.

- Used to select existing location, or create new location, as reload base for request.

- Only visible if tanker base not required.
- 'Set Search for Locations' section of dialog box.
- 'New' button and 'Location Details' section.

B. Pilot 'incident information' message.

V. **'TACTICAL AVIATION' SCREEN**

- Accessible via 'Resource' menu or toolbar button (icon of an airplane).
- Visible only if you have user role of 'Aircraft Dispatcher'.
- Used to status, assign, reassign, divert, and release tactical aircraft.
- Provides centralized location for managing tactical aviation resources and requests.

A. **Tactical Aviation screen – 'Resources' tab.**

1. Used to view and take action on tactical aircraft currently accessible by your dispatch.

2. Fills and reassignments performed on Resources tab are quick fills, so no travel options can be selected. Exception is the 'Ferry' functionality.

3. 'Set Filter for Tactical Aviation Resources' section of screen.

4. 'Tactical Aviation Resources' table.

- Following aircraft (non-RMO) can display:

- Unassigned resources for which you are home dispatch.
- Assigned resources for which you are current dispatch.

- Following RMO aircraft can display:

- Unassigned resources for which you dispatch for resource's COB.
- Assigned resources for which you are incident dispatch.
- Assigned resources on incidents using a reload base that is dispatched by you.

Columns of note:

- Current Base – Airport or location that is COB for resource.

- # Pending – Number of requests currently pending with your dispatch for primary classification of resource.

- Release Authorization – ‘Hold’, ‘Authorized’, or ‘N/A’.

5. Buttons below table.

- a. **‘FERRY’ Button** – Used to ferry (transfer) resource from tanker base you dispatch for to another tanker base.

Applicable only if selected resource is Record Manager Only and currently not assigned (including preposition).

- Ferry scenario:
 - GACC informs Gunnison Dispatch to ferry NICC Airtanker #6, currently at Walker Field (‘Dispatched By’ Gunnison) to Fort Collins-Loveland Muni (‘Dispatched By’ Grand Junction).
 - GACC creates ‘Ferry Incident’ (of type ‘Other Support’).
 - Gunnison Dispatch:
 - Selects NICC Airtanker #6 on Resources tab.
 - Clicks Ferry button.
 - In ‘Ferry Resource’ dialog box, clicks ‘Ferry to Base’ Pick button.
 - In ‘Pick Airport’ dialog box, selects ferry-to airport.
 - Selects ‘Ferry Incident’ from open incidents of type ‘Other’.
 - Sets travel.

- Request created on GACC Ferry Incident, and is filled with NICC Airtanker #6.
- Reload base on request, and COB of NICC Airtanker #6, set to Fort Collins-Loveland Muni.
- When mobilization ETA passes, request automatically closed.

b. 'View' Button.

c. 'Print' Button.

6. 'Set Filter for Incidents' section of screen.

7. 'Incidents' table.

- Displays incidents to which tactical aircraft can be assigned.
- Following incidents can be displayed:
 - All open, local incidents.
 - All open non-local incidents for which:

- Your dispatch has filled a request on current day, AND
 - Requested item of filled request matches one of tactical aircraft classifications of resource selected in 'Tactical Aviation Resources' table.
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- 'View Details' button.

 - 'Go To' Button – Incident: Incident screen opens in context of selected local incident.
8. **'ASSIGN' button** – Use to assign resource to incident.
- 'Tactical Aviation Resources' table.

 - 'Incidents' table.

 - 'Assign' button:
 - Assign.

 - Assign (Add Roster Later) – Fills group resource as single resource, but indicates intent to add assignment roster later. Not applicable to reassignments.

- Assign with Master Roster –Assignment roster built based on resource’s master roster. Not applicable to reassignments.

- If local incident and resource has multiple tactical aircraft classifications, ‘Select Classification’ dialog box displays.

- If non-local incident selected, and your dispatch filled requests on incident during current day for more than one tactical aircraft classification of selected resource, ‘Select Classification’ dialog box displays.

- If local incident and resource is being assigned as classification requiring a tanker base, and your dispatch does not have any reload bases defined, ‘Pick Reload Base’ dialog box displays.

- If prepositioned resource is being assigned to a non-local non-prepo incident, ‘Select Release Option’ dialog box displays.
 - Release to Home.

 - Release to Preposition.

- Resource is quick-filled to selected incident.
 - System creates request using aircraft catalog system default request block.

- If reassigning, reassign-from request:
 - Becomes pending with your dispatch if resource was Mob En Route.
 - Is closed if resource had already reached incident.

 - Travel is set to ATD / ETE option, with ATD of current time and ETE of 0.

 - Reassigning a resource removes ability to add assignment roster to reassign-from request.

 - Disposition of Support Requests (DOSR) dialog box displays if assignment results in un-filling of request having local support requests (or non-local support requests for which the Incident Dispatch has 'control').
9. **'DIVERT' button** – Use to reassign a resource to an incident:
- Only allowed if:
 - Resource is Mob En Route.
 - Divert-from and divert-to incidents are non-preposition.

 - Select resource.

 - Select new incident.

- Click 'Divert' button.

- Resource diverted (via quick fill) to new incident.
 - System creates new request using aircraft catalog system default request block.

 - Resource reassigned to new request.

 - Travel set to ATD of current time and ETE of 0.

 - Diverted-from request becomes pending with_dispatch that originally filled it.

- Diverting a resource removes ability to add assignment roster to divert-from request.

- If divert parent, the position order and subordinate request number suffixes are carried over to reassign-to assignment roster.

- DOSR might display.

10. **'AVAILABILITY' section** of screen.

- If RMO resource, can only status:
 - On Tactical Aviation screen.
 - If you are 'Dispatched By' center for COB of resource.

- If not RMO resource, can only status if you are home dispatch.

- Only enabled when resource is not assigned to a non-preposition request.

11. **'RELEASE' button.**

- Used to release tactical aviation resources.

- In order to release from a local incident:
 - Resource must be Mob En Route or At Incident, AND

 - Your dispatch must be either:
 - Current dispatch.
 - 'Dispatched By' center for COB of resource (RMO only).

- In order to release from non-local incident:
 - Resource must be Mob En Route, At Incident, Available on Preposition, or Tentative Released, AND
 - Your dispatch must be 'Managing Dispatch' of resource.

- Release Authorization.
 - Can release from requests for which release authorization not required.

 - Can release from requests for which release authorization required and:
 - Resource status of 'Tentative Released', AND

 - Release authorization received from parent of incident dispatch.

 - Cannot release resources with authorization status of 'Hold'.

- 'Release Date'.

- 'Release To Base'.

- Visible (and required) only for RMO.

- ‘Pick’ button – Select tanker base to which resource will be released.

- ‘Pick Release To Base’ dialog box.

- ‘Enter Documentation’.

- Travel Options.
 - ‘Travel to be Arranged’.
 - ‘ATD / ETE’.
 - ‘Travel Itinerary’.

- ‘Release’ button.

- No multi-select release for:
 - RMO resources (so Release To Base can be selected).
 - Prepositioned resources.

- If prepositioned resource is being released from a non-preposition local incident, ‘Select Release Option’ dialog box displays.

- DOSR displays when:
 - Resource released from request having local support requests, or
 - Parent is released, and parent or any subs have local support requests.

- 'Cancel' Button.
 - Cancels release of tactical aviation resource.

 - Only enabled when:
 - Resource is assigned to Tentative Released request, or resource has status of Demob En Route or Released (At Incident).
 - Your dispatch is resource's current dispatch or dispatches for COB.

B. **Tactical Aviation screen – 'Requests' tab.**

1. Used to:
 - View requests for tactical aircraft pending with your dispatch.

 - View tactical aircraft resources available to fill requests.

- Take actions on requests as appropriate.
2. Functionality of tab similar to Pending Request.
 3. 'Select Incident' section of screen.
 - Dispatch must be in ordering chain of an open tactical aircraft request on incident.
 - 'View Tactical Aircraft Incident Information' button.
 4. 'Set Filter for Pending Tactical Aircraft Requests' section of screen.
 5. 'Pending Tactical Aircraft Requests' table.
 - a. **'ACTION' button.**
 - (1) Cancel Request.
 - (2) UTF Request.
 - (3) Cancel UTF Request.

(4) Edit Request – Differences for tactical aircraft requests discussed later.

(5) Create Support Request – Discussed later.

(6) Add Documentation.

(7) Place Request Up – Places request to parent dispatch. Must have user role with Place Up function.

(8) Place Request.

- Tactical Aviation Resources table also functions like Other Resources tab on Pending Request screen – used to select place-to dispatch.

- For non-CWN/AGR resources, Place Request:
 - Enabled if current or home dispatch of resource is selection area or sub dispatch.
 - Resource must be Available or Reserved.
 - Places request to home or current dispatch.

- For CWN/AGR resources, enabled when current dispatch has direct access to or manages at least one of resource's 'active' contracts.

- However can still place toward resource if one of following has direct access/manages:
 - Your subs (at any level).
 - Your Selection Area dispatches.
 - Subs (at any level) of your Selection Area dispatches.

- To place to selection area member:
 - Request not received via direct order affiliation.

 - You do not have direct order affiliation with place-to dispatch covering requested item.

 - Place-to dispatch not in request's ordering chain.

 - You have selection area ordering authorization with place-to dispatch that:
 - Covers requested item (which is not removed).

 - Is designated as 'Active'.

- Has 'Placed Down Reqs' designated if you received request from your parent.

 - Has 'SA Placed Reqs' designated if you received request via selection area.
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- If placing toward non-contracted resource, or resource on CWN/AGR with single dispatch confirmation message displays.

 - If resource on CWN/AGR contracts(s) with multiple dispatches, 'Place Request' dialog box displays.
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- Place To Organization table:
 - Dispatch must manage at least one directly accessible contract.

 - When request is placed down to a sub, sub's selection area members and subs of selection area members are not available to be 'place to' dispatch, even if they have direct access to contract. Only subs (any level) of a dispatch that received a 'placed-down' request display.
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- Place Towards Contracts table:
 - Displays CWN/AGRs, that resource is on, that selected dispatch has direct access to.

- Globally accessible contracts do not display.
- If resource on both globally accessible contract and direct access contract, can only place towards direct access contract.

Remaining options under **'Action' button**:

(9) Continue Assignment Roster.

(10) Cancel Assignment Roster.

b. 'Go To' Button.

c. 'View' Button.

d. 'Print' Button.

6. 'Tactical Aviation Resources' table

- a. Displays resources qualified to fill request and that meet one of two sets of conditions.

b. Set of Conditions # 1

- Your dispatch:
 - Has selection area ordering authorization with resource's current dispatch covering requested item.
 - Did not receive request via direct order.
 - Does not have direct order affiliation with resource's current dispatch covering requested item.
- And one of following must be true for resource:
 - If resource is assigned, or is unassigned non-RMO, current dispatch must be:
 - One of your dispatch's selection area members, or
 - Dispatch below one of your dispatch's selection area members.
 - If resource is unassigned RMO, COB must be dispatched by:
 - One of your dispatch's selection area members, or
 - A dispatch below one of your dispatch's selection area members.

- Resource is Available on at least one CWN/AGR contract accessible to one of current dispatch's:
 - Subordinates,
 - Selection area members, or
 - Sub of selection area member.

c. Set of Conditions # 2

One of following must be true:

- Your dispatch:
 - Is resource's home dispatch, or
 - Dispatches for resource's COB (RMO only).

- Resource is assigned and your dispatch:
 - Is resource's current dispatch.
 - Is incident dispatch (RMO only).
 - Dispatches for resource's incident reload base (RMO only).
 - Is in ordering chain (if resource prepositioned, can be either prepo or non-prepo request).
 - Is in filling chain of resource's current request (only if Mob En Route).

- Is in home chain of resource's current request (only if Demob En Route).
 - Is parent dispatch of incident dispatch of resource's current request.
- Resource is not assigned and one of following is true:
 - Resource's current dispatch is below your dispatch in hierarchy.
 - Resource's COB is dispatched by dispatch below your dispatch (RMO only).
 - Resource is on active CWN/AGR with status of Available, and your dispatch has access to contract.
- d. Only resources with an Available To Area of GACC or National display.
- e. Table columns.

Columns of note:

- Current Base – Airport or location that is COB for resource.
 - Distance – Distance from resource to incident of selected request, in miles.
- f. Radio buttons – Select 'All', 'Government Controlled', or 'CWN/Agreement'.

- Government Controlled – Government owned resources, either not on a contract or on an EXU contract.
 - Call When Needed/Agreement – Vendor owned resources.
- g. 'Query' button– Table does not automatically re-query when request selected or radio button applied.
- h. 'View' Button.
- i. 'Print' Button.
7. 'Assign Tactical Aircraft' section of screen.
- a. Used to assign, reassign, or divert selected resource to selected request.
- b. Reload Base – To select a different reload base click 'Pick' button, which brings up 'Pick Reload Base' dialog box.
- c. **'FILL' button** – Used to assign a resource to a request.
- (1) 'Pending Tactical Aircraft Requests' table.

(2) 'Tactical Aviation Resources' table.

- Resource must be Available or Reserved.
- If not RMO, your dispatch must be current dispatch.
- If RMO, your dispatch must be 'Dispatched By' for resource's COB.

(3) CWN/AGR Resources.

- Fill enabled when current dispatch has direct access to or manages one of resource's 'active' contracts.
- However can still fill if one of following has direct access or manages:
 - Your subs (at any level).
 - Your Selection Area dispatches.
 - Subs (at any level) of your Selection Area dispatches.
- Can fill with a resource having a globally accessible contract.

(4) 'Assign Tactical Aviation Resource' section.

(5) 'FILL' button.

For non-configuration requests only:

- Fill.

For configuration requests only:

- Fill with Single Resource.
- Fill with Single Resource (Add Roster Later).
- Fill with Assignment Roster using Master Roster.
- Fill with Assignment Roster using Configuration.
- Fill with Assignment Roster (build from scratch).
- Fill with Assignment Roster for Selected Items.
- Fill with Prepositioned Roster.

(6) If prepositioned resource being assigned to non-local incident, Select Release Option dialog box displays.

(7) DOSR might display.

(8) If resource is parent, is Reserved, and a sub request has local support request, subs are deleted and support requests must be handled individually.

d. **'REASSIGN' button.**

- Enabled if resource is:
 - Mob En Route.
 - At Incident.
 - Released (At Incident).
 - Tentative Released.
 - Reassigned (At Incident), or
 - Demob En Route.

- Select request.

- Select resource.

- Complete fields.

- 'Reassign' button.

- If prepositioned resource is being reassigned from a non-prepo to a non-local non-prepo, 'Select Release Option' dialog box displays.

- Reassign-from request:
 - Becomes pending with your dispatch if resource was Mob En Route.

 - Is closed if resource had already reached incident.

- Reassigning parent removes ability to add assignment roster to reassign-from request.

- DOSR might display.

- e. **'DIVERT' button** – Used to divert a resource to an existing request.
 - Select request. Not applicable if request is for a preposition incident.

 - Select resource with status of Mob En Route.

 - 'Assign Tactical Aviation Resource' section.

- 'Divert' button.
- If prepositioned resource is being diverted from a non-prepo to a non-local non-prepo, 'Select Release Option' dialog box displays.
- Selected resource reassigned to selected request.
- Diverting a parent removes ability to add assignment roster to reassign-from request.
- Divert-from request becomes pending with dispatch that originally filled it.
- DOSR might display.

VI. 'TRAVEL' SCREEN

- A. 'Option' column in 'Select Incident Resources' table – For tactical aircraft requests with a travel option of Travel ATD/ETE, code displayed is 'ATD/ETE'.
- B. 'Action' button.
 - 1. 'Set No Travel' – Not applicable to tactical aircraft.

2. 'Set Travel ATD/ETE' – Applicable only to tactical aircraft.
 - Used to switch travel option to ATD/ETE and set dates/times.
 - Use 'Edit Travel ATD/ETE' action item if travel option already ATD/ETE.
 - 'Set Travel ATD/ETE' dialog box.
3. 'Edit Travel ATD/ETE'.

VII. ADDITIONAL TOPICS

- A. **'Edit Request'** dialog box – Reload Base field:
 - Only applicable to tactical aircraft.
 - Displays base from which aircraft will operate.
 - Required field if catalog item requires tanker base.
 - If editing multiple requests, must be from same incident

B. **'Edit Assignment'** dialog box.

- Reload Base field.

- Mobilization & Demobilization fields in 'Travel Information' section display ATD/ETE.

- Call Sign Prefix – Displays call sign prefix for parent catalog item. Visible only if a subordinate request requiring a call sign.
 - Some Aircraft configurations contain an Overhead catalog item that requires a call sign.

 - The Overhead catalog item is designated on 'Call Sign Required for' field on Special Processing tab of Catalog screen, and a 'Call Sign Prefix' must be specified for its parent.

- Call Sign – Enter rest of call sign as a number from 0-999. Visible only if subordinate request requiring a call sign.

C. **'Fill Request'** dialog box.

- Reload Base field.

- Call Sign – Visible only if request being filled with assignment roster and a sub requires a call sign (unless prepositioned group is being assigned and call sign is already set).

D. **‘Reassign Resource’** dialog box.

- Reload Base field.
- Call Sign.

E. **‘Assignment Roster’** and **‘Reassign Roster’** dialog boxes.

- When configuration filled or reassigned, must pick reload base for each tactical aircraft position on assignment/reassign roster.
- Reload Base columns in Assignment/Reassign Roster table:
 - Reload Base – Name of reload base (airport, incident, or location) for position.
 - Required – Displays by ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ if position requires a reload base.
- Reload base for each tactical aircraft position defaults to default reload base of your dispatch.
- ‘Action’ button ‘Pick Reload Base’ option.

F. **'Quick Fill'** screen – 'Assign' Action button option.

- Reload Base – If quick fill qualification of resource requires tanker base, a reload base must be set for request ROSS will create.
 - If your dispatch has any reload bases on Reload Bases tab of Organization screen, one is automatically used.
 - If your dispatch has no reload bases designated, 'Pick Reload Base' dialog box displays and you must select a reload base.
- Call Sign – If quick filling an aircraft using a configuration qualification, and an Overhead position on assignment/reassign roster requires a call sign, 'Quick Fill Call Sign' dialog box displays.

G. **'Release Resource'** dialog box (from IR and Resources (Nonlocal Incident) screens)

- 'Release To Location' field – Not visible for RMO.
- 'Release To Base' field – Only visible for RMO. Click Pick.

H. **'Create Support Request'** dialog box.

- Reload Base field – Only visible when requested catalog item is a tactical aircraft.

 - A tactical aircraft catalog item cannot be the requested item of a support request.
- I. **'Add Subordinate Request'** dialog box – Reload Base field. Only visible when requested catalog item is a tactical aircraft.
- J. 'Reports' screen – A Kneeboard report is available for pilots.