



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION C  
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SUBJECT: Change to Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) Baseline

To more effectively meet today's global demands on our Air Expeditionary Force, I have decided to change the AEF baseline for the Active Component to 179 days (6 months) (Tempo Band "B"). Air Reserve Component volunteers may continue using alternate tour lengths with combatant commander approval. Our deploy-to-dwell (D2D) goal is 1:4, but when that cannot be sustained, we will implement a higher tempo using existing tempo band rule sets.

We made this decision based on a number of factors, including an increase in the number of Airmen deploying for 120 days. Airmen in AEF Tempo Band "A" expected to deploy for 120 days, but were frequently tasked for 179-day deployments. Consequently, the 120-day baseline offered little in terms of predictability and stability.

We also wanted to increase continuity in the AOR, while preserving home station continuity and maximizing available training time. Under the 120-day, 1:4 baseline, Airmen could expect to deploy for four months and remain at home for 16 months. With the revised 179-day baseline, Airmen can expect to deploy for 6 months, but remain at home for 24 months, thereby providing greater opportunity for commanders to reset their units.

This change to the AEF construct affects only the baseline. All other tenets of the AEF remain unchanged. I expect all Airmen to be deployment-ready for the duration of their vulnerability window.

Effective September 2010, the Combat Air Force forces will transition to the new baseline which will remain in effect until the conclusion of Operation Enduring Freedom. In December 2010, ECS capabilities operating in Tempo Band "A" (120 days, 1:4 D2D) will begin their transition to the 179-day baseline (Tempo Band "B") with full implementation expected by October 2012.

For additional information, please call Colonel Howard Ward, AF/A5XW, DSN 225-9060.

  
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