Army National Guard and Army Reserve

The Enhanced Reserve Component Foreign Area Officer Program

Headquarters
Department of the Army
Washington, DC
05 April 91

Unclassified

SUMMARY of CHANGE

AR 135–11
The Enhanced Reserve Component Foreign Area Officer Program

This revision--

o Incorporates changes to the Army Reserve Component Foreign Area Officer
   Program as directed by the Chief of Staff, Army.

o Aligns with and complements the Active Army Foreign Area Officer Program.

o Rescinds DA Form 5285-R, February 1984.

Headquarters
Department of the Army
Washington, DC
05 April 91

*Army Regulation 135–11

Effective 05 May 91

Army National Guard and Army Reserve

The Enhanced Reserve Component Foreign Area Officer Program

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:
CARL E. VUONO
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff
Official:

MILTON H. HAMILTON
Administrative Assistant to the
Secretary of the Army

History. This UPDATE printing publishes a revision of this publication. Because the publication has been extensively revised, the changed portions have not been highlighted.

Summary. This regulation, which establishes policies and procedures for selection, assignment, and development of Army Reserve Component Foreign Area officers, has been revised. It includes required and voluntary training for continuation in Functional Area 48.

Applicability. This regulation applies to U. S. Army Reserve (USAR) officers in the Selected Reserve and in Ready Reserve control groups, and officers in the Army National Guard of the United States (ARNGUS) as outlined in paragraph 6. It does not apply to officers in the Inactive National Guard, Active Guard Reserve (AGR), Standby Reserve, USAR Control Group (Dual Component), or Retired Reserve.

Proponent and exception authority. Not applicable.

Mobilization. During mobilization, this regulation is superseded by AR 611–101.

Army management control process. This regulation is not subject to the requirements of AR 11–2. It does not contain internal control provisions.

Supplementation. Supplementation of this regulation and establishment of command and local forms are prohibited without prior approval from HQDA (DAMO–SSF), WASH DC 20310–0420.

Interim changes. Interim changes to this regulation are not official unless they are authenticated by the Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army. Users will destroy interim changes on their expiration dates unless sooner superseded or rescinded.

Suggested Improvements. The proponent agency of this regulation is the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans (ODCSOPS). Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to HQDA (DAMO–SSF), WASH DC 20310–0420.

Distribution. Distribution of this publication is made in accordance with the requirements on DA Form 12–09–E, block number 3120, intended for command level C for Active Army, D for Army National Guard, and C for U.S. Army Reserve.

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*This regulation supersedes AR 135–11, 15 July 1984, and rescinds DA Form 5285–R, February 1984.

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1. Purpose

a. This regulation establishes the Enhanced Reserve Component Foreign Area Officer (RC–FAO) Program for commissioned officers. It sets policies and describes procedures for selecting, developing, and assigning qualified Reserve commissioned officers to RC–FAO positions.

b. The RC–FAO Program supplements the Active Army FAO (AA–FAO) Program, Functional Area (FA) 48 (see AR 611–101 and DA Pam 600–3). Unless specifically stated otherwise, AR 611–101 and DA Pam 600–3 also apply to the RC–FAO Program. In the event of full mobilization, this regulation will be superseded and AR 611–101 and DA Pam 600–3 will apply.

c. The RC–FAO Program is designed to establish a personnel pool of Reserve commissioned officers who are qualified regional specialists proficient in a foreign language of their region.

2. References

a. Required publications

(1) AR 140–45, Individual Mobilization Augmentation (IMA) Program. (Cited in para 6.)

(2) AR 570–4, Manpower Management. (Cited in para 4.)

(3) AR 611–101, Personnel Selection and Classification, Commissioned Officer Classification System. (Cited in para 1.)

(4) DA Pam 600–3, Commissioned Officer Professional Development and Utilization. (Cited in para 1.)

b. Related publication. AR 135–18, The Active Guard/Reserve (AGR) Program, is merely a source of additional information. The user does not have to read it to understand this regulation.

c. Referenced form. DA Form 2976–R (Application for Individual Mobilization Augmentation Program Assignment) is a referenced form in this regulation.

3. Explanation of abbreviations and terms

Abbreviations and special terms used in this regulation are explained in the glossary.

4. Responsibilities

a. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans (DCSOPS), Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA), has proponency for the RC–FAO Program. The FAO proponent team (DAMO–SSF), Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans (ODCSOPS), serves as executive agent for both the AA–FAO Program and the RC–FAO Program.

b. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence (DCSINT) at HQDA will—

(1) Coordinate the designation of Army Reserve Component Assistant Army Attache (AARMA) positions and staff positions within the intelligence community.

(2) Monitor AARMA positions under the mobilization table of distribution and allowances (MOBTDA) to ensure soldiers are properly trained and utilized.

(3) Receive applications from the Commanding General (CG), U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Center (ARPERCEN), for assignment of officers to AARMA MOBTDA positions. After verifying the applicants' qualifications and security clearances, the DCSINT will forward nominations to the appropriate agency for assignment consideration.

(4) Coordinate proposed MOBTDA revisions with user agencies, ODCSOPS, ATTN: DAMO–SSF, and ARPERCEN. After coordination, official requests to change authorization documents will be submitted to U.S. Army Forces Integration Support Agency per AR 570–4.

c. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics (DCSLOG), through the director for Security Assistance (DALO–SAC), will—

(1) Coordinate the designation of Army Reserve Component security assistance MOBTDA positions with the Defense Security Assistance Agency (DSAA) and ARPERCEN.

(2) Monitor security assistance positions under the MOBTDA to ensure soldiers are properly trained and utilized.

(3) Receive applications from the CG, ARPERCEN, for assignment of officers to MOBTDA positions. After verifying the applicants' qualifications and security clearances, the DCSLOG will forward nominations to the appropriate agency for assignment consideration.

(4) Coordinate proposed MOBTDA revisions with user agencies, ODCSOPS, ATTN: DAMO–SSF, and ARPERCEN. After coordination, official requests to change authorization documents will be submitted to U.S. Army Forces Integration Support Agency per AR 570–4.

d. Major Army command (MACOM) commanders and heads of other staffs and agencies will—

(1) Coordinate the designation of Army Reserve Component FAO MOBTDA positions with ARPERCEN.

(2) Monitor FAO positions under the MOBTDA to ensure soldiers are properly trained and utilized.

(3) Receive applications from the Commander, ARPERCEN, for assignment of officers to FAO MOBTDA positions. After verifying the applicants' qualifications and security clearances, nominations will be forwarded to the user for assignment consideration.

(4) Coordinate proposed MOBTDA revisions with user agencies, ODCSOPS, ATTN: DAMO–SSF, and ARPERCEN. After coordination, official requests to change authorization documents will be submitted to U.S. Army Forces Integration Support Agency per AR 570–4.

e. The CG, ARPERCEN, has operational responsibility for the RC–FAO Program through the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve (OCAR), and will—

(1) Apply DCSOPS, HQDA criteria to select, develop, educate, assign, and retain officers in FA 48 (FAO).

(2) Evaluate applicants and select the best qualified officers from all basic branches for the RC–FAO Program.

(3) Direct the RC–FAO participants' career development.

(4) Provide training opportunities and assignments to support FAO development.

(5) Authorize the award of FA Code 48 to officers meeting all RC–FAO eligibility requirements.

(6) Coordinate with HQDA, DCSOPS (DAMO–SSF), on all FAO policies.

5. FAO eligibility, application, and entrance requirements

a. In order to be eligible for the Enhanced RC–FAO Program, each officer must be—

(1) a volunteer.

(2) A field grade officer.

(3) A regional expert with a graduate degree in an area studies program. (Officers without this advanced degree or a master's degree in another discipline will be considered if they have proven regional expertise.)

(4) Fluent in a foreign language, verified by a current Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) with a minimum score of 2 listening/2 reading (2L/2R). (Some officers with a lower score may be considered based on the needs of the Army; these officers must attain 2L/2R within 2 years after selection.) RC–FAO Attache positions in English speaking countries are excepted from foreign language requirements.

(5) Branch qualified (completed officer advanced course) and able to demonstrate promotion potential.

(6) Have completed 50 percent of Command and General Staff College (CGSC).

(7) Eligible for top secret/special compartmented intelligence clearance. (Officers must apply for special background investigation (SBI) upon selection for RC–FAO.)

b. Officers assigned to sensitive MOBTDA positions may be required to pass a counterintelligence polygraph examination.

c. Based on the needs of the Army, one or more of the criteria for selected officers may be waived by Commander, ARPERCEN, with the concurrence of HQDA, ODCSOPS (DAMO–SSF).

6. Application Procedures for the Enhanced RC–FAO Program

a. Officers applying for the Enhanced RC–FAO Program must send the following information through command channels to CG, ARPERCEN, ATTN: DARP–ZB–PM, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132–5200:

(1) Updated Officer Record Brief (ORB).

(2) Current DLPT score (not older than 1 year).

(3) DA Form 2976–R. A blank copy of DA Form 2976–R for reproduction purposes is located at the back of AR 140–145.

(4) Copy of college or university transcripts.

b. Army National Guard of the United States (ARNGUS) officers may volunteer for entry into the RC–FAO Program on assignment to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR).

(1) ARNGUS officers are not eligible to participate in the RC–FAO Program while assigned to Army National Guard (ARNG) units, unless they have the approval of the State Adjutant General and the Chief, National Guard Bureau (NGB).

(2) ARNGUS officer applications must be processed through ARNG channels, the appropriate State Adjutant General, and the Chief, NGB, to the address shown in a. above.

7. Initial entry into the Enhanced RC–FAO Program

a. The CG, ARPERCEN, and HQDA, ODCSOPS (DAMO–SSF), will review applicants' records and select officers as RC–FAOs.

b. The RC–FAO personnel management officer (PMO), ARPERCEN, will screen applicants against requirements. Selected individuals will be managed intensively by the PMO.

c. Selected officers will be assigned by ARPERCEN to specific individual mobilization augmentee (IMA) positions based on background and qualifications.

d. Qualified officers who are not assigned to IMA positions will be tracked by the RC–FAO PMO to fill IMA vacancies or new requirements.

e. Designated FAOs will be included on the FAO newsletter mailing list, become eligible to receive nonresident material from the Defense Language Institute (DLI), and undergo an SBI.

8. FAO assignments

In contrast to the requirements that AA–FAOs dual–track (alternating basic branch assignments with specific assignments), RC–FAOs will single–track in FA 48.

9. Assignment to IMA positions

Selected officers will be assigned by ARPERCEN, with DAMO–SSF concurrence, to specific IMA positions based on their background qualifications.

10. Future IMA assignments

Qualified officers who are not assigned to IMA positions will be tracked by the RC–FAO PMO to provide a future pool to fill IMA vacancies or increased requirements.

11. RC–FAO acquisition and maintenance training

a. Selected officers will attend the FAO Orientation Course (FAOOC) at the DLI, Monterey, California.

b. Officers previously enrolled in the nonresident course at the JFK Special Warfare Center and School, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, will receive credit for work completed. They may not be required to attend the FAO orientation at the discretion of ARPERCEN.

c. Officers will have 2 years after selection into the RC–FAO Program to attain a minimum language proficiency level of 2L/2R. Failure to attain this level within 2 years could result in the loss of FA 48 designation and elimination from the RC–FAO Program.

d. In addition to the required training discussed in paragraph 4–2, an additional 2–week tour for foreign language refresher training is encouraged, but not mandatory, subject to funding availability.

12. Required annual training

a. RC–FAOs assigned to IMA positions will perform IMA training tours with their proponent agencies per AR 140–145.

b. FAOs assigned to positions requiring 3 Listening/3 Reading (3L/3R) language proficiency may be required to complete language refresher training in addition to the annual IMA training tour.

Glossary

Section I
Abbreviations

AA–FAO
Active Army Foreign Area Officer

AARMA
Assistant Army Attache

AGR
Active Guard Reserve

ARNG
Army National Guard

ARNGUS
Army National Guard of the United States

ARPERCEN
U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Center

CG
Commanding General

CGSC
Command and General Staff College

DCSINT
Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence

DCSLOG
Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics

DCSOPS
Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans

DLI
Defense Language Institute

DLPT
Defense Language Proficiency Test

DOD
Department of Defense

DSAA
Defense Security Assistance Agency

FA
Functional Area

FAOOC
Foreign Area Officer Orientation Course

HQDA
Headquarters, Department of the Army

IMA
Individual Mobilization Augmentee or Individual Mobilization Augmentation

IRR
Individual Ready Reserve

2L/2R
2 Listening/2 Reading

3L/3R
3 Listening/3 Reading

MACOM
major Army command

MOBTDA
mobilization table of distribution and allowances

NGB
National Guard Bureau

OCAR
Office of the Chief, Army Reserve

ODCSOPS
Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans

ORB
Officer Record Brief

PMO
Personnel Management Officer

RC–FAO
Reserve Component–Foreign Area Officer

SBI
special background investigation

USAR
U.S. Army Reserve

Section II
Terms

Foreign Area Officer
The Army's "soldier–statesman," combining regional expertise, politico–military awareness, foreign language proficiency, and professional military skills.

Foreign Language
The spoken languages of a country other than English

RC–FAO–FA
Reserve Component Foreign Area Officer Functional Area. A functional area that encompasses positions where Army officers apply their regional expertise, language skills, knowledge of U.S. and foreign politico–military relationships, and professional military skills and knowledge. In key Army and Department of Defense (DOD) positions these skills are utilized in politico–military analysis, the development of politico–military plans and policy, and the execution of those plans and policy.

RC–FAO position
A position identified on a personnel authorization document (The Army Authorization Document System) by area of concentration, skill code, and language identifier code.

Section III
Special Abbreviations and Terms

This section contains no entries.

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This index is organized alphabetically by topic and subtopic. Topics and subtopics are identified by paragraph number.

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