

## **AEROSPACE CONTROL ALERT MISSION**

## Highlights:

- The Aerospace Control Alert mission consists of a national network of fully loaded aircraft, ready to protect the country at a moment's notice.
- ACA is a 24/7 mission, capable of activating at any time and under any weather conditions in response to airborne threats or aggression.
- The ACA network provides comprehensive coverage of the Continental United States, as far north as the Canadian border and as far south as the Mexican border, as well as Alaska and Hawaii.
- Jets are able to launch immediately after receiving a scramble order from Command and Control.
- As airborne threats evolve, so does the ACA mission.



**MISSION**: The Aerospace Control Alert Mission is a national network of fully loaded aircraft ready to protect the country on a moment's notice. Aircraft, aircrew and launch personnel diligently ensure the immediate capability to intercept, inspect, influence and, if necessary, defeat a potential airborne threat.

**OVERVIEW:** The Aerospace Control Alert mission began at Buckley AFB almost immediately after the 9/11 attacks. This mission provides NORAD (North American Aerospace Defense Command) a means to quickly request air assistance for security patrols or to react to acts of terrorism or other potentially harmful airborne threats. NORAD provides the 'big picture' of the North American airspace and detects, identifies, and monitors all airborne aircraft over the country. When necessary, NORAD calls upon one of the alert sites to respond to potential airborne threats and aggression.

ACA is a 24/7 mission, capable of launching F-16s at any time and under any weather conditions. The Colorado Air National Guard jets are tasked with protecting anything west of the Mississippi river, as far north as the Canadian border and as far south as the Mexican border. This unit is one of several ACA sites around the country, working as a network to provide elite security for the Nation.

Furthermore, in times of unconventional warfare and as potential airborne threats evolve, the ACA mission continues to advance in order to stay a step ahead of the adversary.

Learn More: <a href="http://co.ng.mil">http://co.ng.mil</a>
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