

Incident Command System and How Utilities Interface within the Command Structure

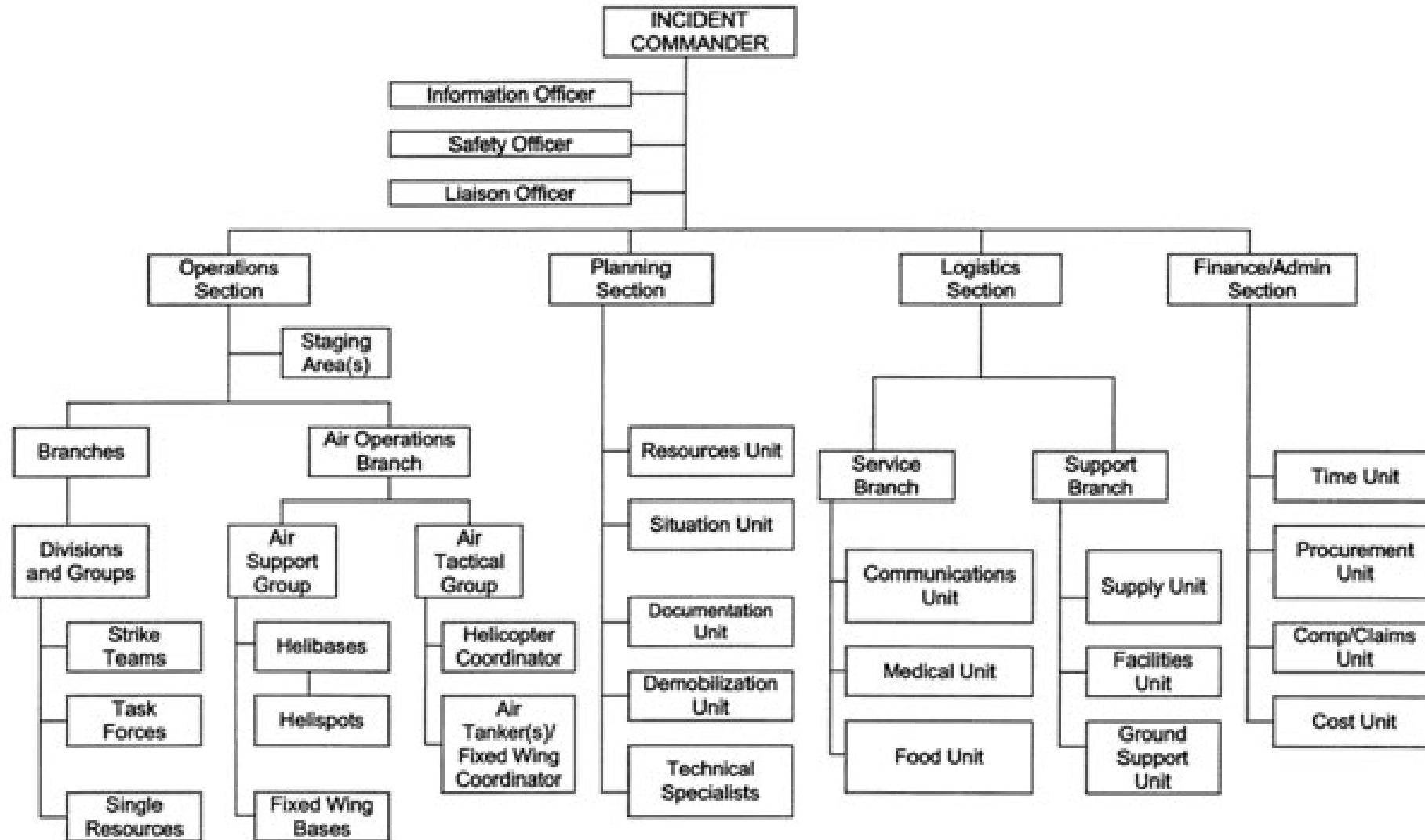


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FULLY ACTIVATED INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM ORGANIZATION CHART



Incident Commander (IC) and Liaison Officer

- The **Incident Commander** needs to be focused on the management of the incident through the Command and General Staff (as well as participating in operational and media briefings, etc.)
 - When the IC can no longer provide the time for individual coordination with each Agency Representative, or there is little time available to speak with everyone who wants to speak with them, the **Liaison Officer** position is established.
- The **Liaison Officer** is the contact for **Agency Representatives (AREP)** assigned to the incident by assisting or cooperating agencies. They have a direct line to the IC. The Liaison Officer may have one or more Assistants, as needed.

Liaison Officer and Agency Representative (AREP)

- The **Liaison Officer** is the point of contact for representatives of other governmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and/or private entities.
- An **Agency Representative** is an individual assigned to an incident from an assisting or cooperating agency who has been delegated **full authority** to make decisions on all matters affecting that agency's participation at the incident. Agency Representatives report to the Liaison Officer.
 - Each of these groups may have legitimate reasons to be interfacing with the incident management organization, and the Liaison Officer is the one they should be working with.