

## Air Force



The Air Force, together with Land Forces, represents the main combat element of any armed forces. The principal task of the Air Force is to secure the integrity of the Czech Republic's airspace. This mission is fulfilled within NATO Integrated Air Defence System (NATINADS) and, if necessary, by means of the national reinforced air defence system of the Czech Republic. In addition, the Air Force performs tasks associated with transportation of troops and material.

The Air Force has to be built up in order to gradually achieve interoperability with an integrated system of air defence and, at the same time, to be able to perform other missions enhancing operational capabilities of Land Forces of both coalition and non-coalition forces as well as the capabilities of intended task forces of own ground forces.

Enhancement of total operational capabilities of the Air Force requires procurement of new equipment as well as substantial upgrade of the existing one.

### Structure:

- 21st Tactical Air Force Base at Caslav
- 22nd Air Force Base at Namest nad Oslavou
- 23rd Helicopter Base at Prerov
- 24th Air Transportation Base at Prague - Kbely
- 25th Air Defence Missile Brigade at Strakonice
- 26th Air Command, Control and Surveillance Brigade at Stara Boleslav
- Pardubice Airfield Authority
- Air Maintenance Base at Ceske Budejovice

Resource: <http://www.army.cz/scripts/detail.php?id=6821>

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## GLOSSARY

**procurement** /prəkjʊə(r)mənt/ (N, uncountable) - the process of buying supplies or equipment for government department or company

**surveillance** /sə(r)veɪləns/ (N, uncountable) - the process of carefully watching a person or place that may be involved in criminal activity

### Glossary Source

Macmillan Dictionary [online]. URL:

<<http://www.macmillandictionary.com/dictionary/british/ration>> [Accessed 2011–12–12].

Dictionary, Encyclopedia and Thesaurus – The Free Dictionary [online]. URL:

<<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/>> [Accessed 2011–12–12].

### Exercises:

#### Fill the gaps in the following text.

decisive      fulfilling      readiness      operational  
accession      carry out      airspace      formations

The Czech Republic Air Defence system is in permanent \_\_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_\_ to ensure the sovereignty of the country \_\_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_\_. Since 12 March, 1999, on the \_\_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_\_ of the Czech Republic to NATO defence structures, the Air Force has been the first ACR component to begin \_\_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_\_ this task within the Integrated Air Defence System of the North Atlantic Alliance countries.

The \_\_\_\_\_5\_\_\_\_\_ level of command directly controlling the Air Forces units and formations is the Air Force Headquarters. The subordinate Air Force bases, units and \_\_\_\_\_6\_\_\_\_\_ of the Anti-aircraft Missile Troops and Signal Troops are prepared to meet operational and tactical tasks. At the same time, though, they are the \_\_\_\_\_7\_\_\_\_\_ striking force of the ACR Air Force. The combat units and formations \_\_\_\_\_8\_\_\_\_\_ training of pilots, crews, signal and anti-aircraft missile troops, and support personnel

Key: 1 readiness, 2 airspace. 3 accession; 4 fulfilling; 5 operational; 6 formations; 7 decisive; 8 carry out