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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HQ AREOSPACE RESCUE AND RECOVERY SERVICE (MAC)
SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILLINOIS 62225

Chap 10
ARRS REGULATION 3-1

31 August 1983

Operations

COMBAT TACTICS

This regulation provides a quick reference combat tactics guide for ARRS combat aircrews and operations planning staff members. This regulation applies to ARF except for paragraph 1-4b(1).

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INTRODUCTION

1. (U) This regulation lists tactics alternatives, recommended evasive maneuvers, and the baseline threat assessments against which these tactics were developed. It also lists factors which will influence the choice of tactics to be used.

2. (U) These tactics must be practiced if they are to be effective. The maneuvers involved require maximum performance from both aircraft and crews.

3. (U) The user must be aware of the advantages and disadvantages of each tactical option, as well as the threats against which specific defensive actions and systems are designed.

4. (U) The selection and use of tactics is a four step process: know the tactics, assess the situation, select the optimum tactics, and

perform it. This regulation is the first step.

5. (U) The most important thing that the aircrew can do to become combat ready is to minimize the number of decisions that must be made in the combat environment. This regulation provides a small number of decisions, made in the safety of the office, which no longer must be made in combat. Mission planning continues the decision-making process until only YES-NO options remain for in-flight selection. Every ARRS crewmember is responsible for all applicable material in this regulation.

6. (U) Experience has shown that physical and psychological problems often render an evader/survivor unable to reliably participate in the recovery. Do not task a survivor to do complicated or unnecessary tasks during the recovery process.

Chapter 10

PARARESCUE TACTICAL EMPLOYMENT

10-1. (U) PURPOSE. This chapter describes the pararescue role and tasks required to support the combat rescue mission. It contains employment and operating criteria, concepts of employment and operations, methods of conducting the operations, and operational capabilities and limitations necessary to support the role and tasks. Rescue Special Operations Low Level (R-SOLL) additive information is contained in this chapter.

10-2. (U) SCOPE. All commanders, operations officers and aircrew members tasked with managing or performing combat rescue or R-SOLL missions are responsible for the information contained in this chapter.

10-3. (U) TASKING. Combat rescue forces are tasked to recover personnel from threat environments throughout the world. Combat Rescue forces must maintain the capability to recover personnel from these areas. Pararescue personnel are assigned to ARRS units to assist with the accomplishment of each operation as an aircrew member extension of the ARRS aircraft. OPLANS, CONPLANS and OPORDS may task R-SOLL forces to infiltrate friendly forces and secure/exfiltrate SAR objective from threat environments throughout the world. These missions may be flown from forward operating locations. The time between notification of customer requirements and R-SOLL force arrival is critical to the SAR objective recovery. R-SOLL forces must maintain the capability to quickly recover the SAR objective from these hostile areas. R-SOLL designated aircrew members will support each tasked operation on a priority basis. Pararescue personnel are assigned to R-SOLL tasked units to assist in recovering the SAR objective and to provide the aircraft an added dimension of organic medical, E&E and physical security assistance.

10-4. (U) ASSUMPTIONS. The following assumptions are critical to the justification for the tactical employment of pararescue personnel in both the air and surface components of the combat rescue operation.

a. (U) Pararescue personnel are qualified to conduct day and night rescue and recovery operations within hostile or denied territory. R-SOLL pararescue personnel employed as aircrew members on ARRS fixed and rotary wing aircraft can be utilized as an extension of any type aircraft identified within the joint operations contingency.

b. (U) Mission analysis and planning procedures, policies, materials and responsibilities are established for pararescue employment.

c. (U) Objective area intelligence and EEI are available for mission assessment and planning.

d. (U) Pararescue aircrew and skill level qualifications meet the published MANFOR

requirements.

e. (U) Pararescue personnel may be temporarily detailed or detached to support rescue or recovery operations requiring employment from any suitable type aircraft. They may also be employed in surface operations approved by the commander exercising operational control over assigned ARRS units.

10-5. (U) COMBAT ROLE. Pararescue personnel perform a dual role as ARRS aircrew members, and evader assistance elements. These roles span both the air and surface components of Combat Rescue as it pertains to survivor recovery activities on the ground and water, within hostile or contested environment.

a. (U) In the aircrew role, pararescuemen perform as scanners, gunners, emergency medical technicians, and assist in providing a defensive capability for the ARRS aircraft and aircrew.

b. (U) While assisting survivors, pararescuemen provide surface command, control and communications for the purpose of locating, identifying, contacting, securing and assisting the survivor to a Designated Area for Recovery (DAR) site. This capability is dependent on combat skills and tasked support aircraft for active physical security.

c. (U) While assisting ground operators, R-SOLL pararescuemen augment primary mission personnel to assist in surface control signals for the purpose of establishing LZ, rapid refueling point/terminal operations area(s) security and to provide medical assistance.

10-6. (U) COMBAT TASKS. Pararescue personnel perform numerous tasks during the execution of their assigned role in the combat rescue operation and in a night environment in the execution of their assigned role within the rescue special operations low level mission area.

a. (U) General.

(1) (U) Plan mission activities applicable to pararescue.

(2) (U) Prepare pararescue mission equipment.

(3) (U) Use Night Vision Devices.

(4) (U) Perform medical diagnosis and treatment of injured personnel.

(5) (U) Conduct chemical warfare defensive procedures.

(6) (U) Debrief pararescue specific mission actions and activities.

(7) (U) Perform other tasks within the capability of assigned pararescue personnel as approved by the Commander of the employed ARRS units.

b. (U) Air Component.

(1) (U) Suppress surface threat with aircraft armament systems.

(2) (U) Operate aircraft defensive systems.

(3) (U) Perform flight-following

duties.

(4) (U) Confirm way-point passage and objective area arrival.

(5) (U) Perform flight/ground formation area scanning and clearing duties.

(6) (U) Perform personnel load-out and load-in duties.

(7) (U) Operate aircraft hoist (emergency).

(8) (U) Attach external helicopter loads.

(9) (U) Conduct aircraft equipment configuration.

(10) (U) Perform pararescue insertion and extraction procedures.

(11) (U) Use aircraft rescue devices.

(12) (U) Perform inter-aircraft signals.

c. (U) Surface Components.

(1) (U) Infiltrate objective area.

(2) (U) Perform tactical evasive movement.

(3) (U) Execute immediate actions upon enemy contact.

(4) (U) Perform aircraft/personnel/area defensive duties.

(5) (U) Perform discrete surface-to-air communications and signaling activities.

(6) (U) Execute survivor/evader contact plans.

(7) (U) Execute contingency Survival, Evasion, Resistance, Escape and Recovery (SERER) actions and activities.

(8) (U) Operate munitions and individual issue small arms.

(9) (U) Call for, adjust, and control support fire.

(10) (U) Perform fire movement and maneuver.

(11) (U) Perform survivor identification and authentication procedures.

(12) (U) Exfiltrate the objective area.

(13) (U) Provide survivor/evader security during assisted evasion.

10-7. (U) OPERATING CAPABILITIES. In addition to performing the tasks identified in para 10-6, pararescue personnel have the following capabilities:

a. (U) Perform specified aircrew duties on fixed or rotary wing aircraft, or both.

b. (U) Load out of aircraft by:

(1) (U) Airlanding

(2) (U) Rappelling

(3) (U) Freefall swimmer

(4) (U) Hoist

(5) (U) Rope ladder

(6) (U) Parachute

c. (U) Load into aircraft by:

(1) (U) Airlanding

(2) (U) Rope (STABO)

(3) (U) Hoist

(4) (U) Rope Ladder

d. (U) Conduct radio communications/secure UHF/FM communications with mission air-

craft or conduct preplanned comm out procedure.

e. (U) Function individually or in teams of two or more personnel.

f. (U) Provide security and evasion assistance for evader(s).

g. (U) Medically stabilize injured survivor(s).

h. (U) Conduct sustained surface operations during the day (R-SOLL).

10-8. (U) OPERATING LIMITATIONS. The following limitations to pararescue CR operations are imposed by reason of logistics, resources, operational necessity or other significant factors. For planning purposes, pararescuemen do not:

a. (U) Provide security for a ratio of more than one (1) survivor or evader per two (2) pararescuemen employed (R-SOLL - three evaders per one pararescueman employed).

b. (U) Operate without available electronic communications.

c. (U) Operate without knowing the relative position of the survivor (within the objective area).

d. (U) Operate without knowing the relative condition of the survivor (mobile or immobile).

e. (U) Operate without immediate recovery capability (within one (1) hour of initiating recall or withdraw action).

f. (U) Operate without protective fire support capability.

g. (U) Operate in elements larger than six (6) men.

h. (U) Operate outside of training or experience levels (as verified by official training records).

10-9. (U) EMPLOYMENT CRITERIA. The following criteria are the minimum that should be considered for the tactical employment of pararescue personnel:

a. (U) The number of pararescue personnel employed in a single CR air or surface scenario will be determined by the ARRS Mission Commander as authorized by ARRS directives and with the advice of the pararescue NCOIC.

b. (U) Planned employment of pararescue will give priority consideration to the rapid extraction of individuals detected or otherwise seriously threatened by hostile forces.

c. (U) Pararescue personnel employed in the surface component of a rescue operation will maintain a capability to communicate (receive and transmit) with support aircraft.

10-10. (U) CONCEPTS OF EMPLOYMENT. The following fundamental concepts of employing R-SOLL forces, and specifically pararescue personnel, apply to R-SOLL operations:

a. (U) The general concept of employing R-SOLL forces is to assist in infiltrating and securing/exfiltrating the SAR objective.

b. (U) The concept of operations for employment of pararescue in support of R-SOLL activities can generally be divided into two

areas:

(1) (U) The first concept is as an integrated crewmember on rotary-wing aircraft for missions of opportunity or preplanned missions that require limited involvement beyond the capabilities of the aircraft.

(2) (U) Additionally, R-SOLL forces have the capability to expeditiously insert a highly trained pararescue element possessing small arms firepower, communications, advanced tactical and survival skills and specialized medical treatment capabilities to assist in securing, positioning and preparing SAR objective for rapid extraction.

(a) (U) Pararescue elements can be inserted by rotary-wing aircraft (including airlanding, hoist, parachute, rappelling and free-fall swimmer delivery) or fixed wing aircraft (including airlanding and parachute delivery).

(b) (U) Extraction of pararescue teams and SAR objective may be accomplished by helicopter and fixed wing aircraft.

10-11. (U) OPERATING CRITERIA. The following criteria will be given priority consideration and be strictly enforced when conducting air and surface combat rescue operations.

a. (U) Pararescue personnel will plan so as to be inserted by aircraft to a specific target or impact point (LZ/DZ) located within the OA. All planned surface operations should be conducted within the OA.

b. (U) All pararescue surface activity conducted outside the OA will be considered evasive action and a necessary alternative to the primary mission plan.

c. (U) Pararescue surface operations will be planned to be conducted within protective fire support capability.

d. (U) Pararescue personnel involved in a surface CR scenario will move as quickly as the tactical situation permits, but will not be bound by mission plan to move faster than a rate of one (1) kilometer per two (2) hours. The mission commander retains the authority to initiate a recall at any time during an R-SOLL surface operation.

e. (U) Pararescue personnel may plan surface activities to include moving immobile survivor(s) a maximum distance of one (1) kilometer (six-man team).

f. (U) Pararescue personnel may plan to sustain day surface operations for a maximum period of six (6) hours from time of insertion.

g. (U) Pararescue personnel may plan to sustain night surface operations for a maximum period of 30 minutes before last light to 30 minutes after first light.

h. (U) All phases of combat recovery operations must be controlled situations. When either the aircraft commander or a surface employed pararescueman senses an impending loss of control, a recall will be initiated. Orderly withdrawals must be planned actions and must be executed expeditiously. Both the aircraft commander and the team leader must monitor the com-

bat situation to insure timely recall procedures.

i. (U) Both the aircraft commander and team leader retain the authority to initiate a planned recall at any time during the surface operation. When either initiates a recall, an orderly withdrawal will be completed.

10-12. (U) CONCEPTS OF OPERATION. The following fundamental concepts of combat rescue operations apply to pararescue employment.

a. (U) Fixed Wing. Pararescue personnel will function as scanners, provide emergency medical care, and aircraft defensive system operation during airborne operations. They will serve as an extension of the aircraft when employed in the OA via airland or parachute methods to locate, contact, secure, assist and recover the survivor(s).

b. (U) Rotary Wing. Pararescue personnel will function as armament systems operators, scanners and provide emergency medical care during airborne operations. They will serve as an extension of the aircraft by being employed in the OA via airland, low hover, rope insertion/extraction, hoist, free-fall swimmer or parachute insertion methods to locate, contact, secure, assist and recover survivor(s).

10-13. (U) CONDUCT OF OPERATIONS. The following information describes typical methods of conducting combat rescue operations. It is intended to be used as guidance for planning and executing CR operations.

a. (U) General. After notification of a CR operation, pararescue personnel will initiate mission planning and equipment preparation activities as directed by the ARRS Mission Commander, Aircraft Commander, and/or pararescue NCOIC. Upon receipt of the execution order, pararescue personnel will assist with aircraft equipment upload as directed and authorized by the Aircraft Commander (AC). Respective aircrew (assigned weapon) positions will be configured as briefed. Medical supplies, individual equipment and pararescue section equipment will be loaded and positioned IAW ARRS and unit directives. Individual issue small arms, munitions and pyrotechnics will be inspected and determined safe and serviceable. Insertion/extraction equipment will be inspected, determined serviceable and rigged as required.

b. (U) Air Operations. Immediately after aircraft launch, and during the ingress/egress of the OA, pararescue personnel will follow route progress of the aircraft on designated, sanitized maps and confirm waypoint passage as applicable. They will scan the sky and surface for the presence of any air-to-air and ground-to-air threat. Suspected threats will be called out to the aircrew. Pararescue personnel will continue to visually monitor the location and actions of the suspected threat until it is confirmed "friendly", or a "no threat" condition is determined. A confirmed threat will be reacted to by IRCM activation or taken under fire by helicopter armament IAW ROE and/or at the direction of the AC or fire direction controller.

Pararescue personnel will prepare for surface employment at the planned time or as directed by the AC. Authorization will be obtained from the AC prior to leaving the armament position and/or terminating duties as armament operator or scanner. Upon arrival at the OA, the AC and pararescue team leader (TL) will make a mutual operational and technical assessment of the tactical situation. The designated dropmaster or jumpmaster will commence duties as planned or directed by the AC. Pararescue insertion procedures will commence as planned or as directed by the AC and TL. After physical contact with the survivor, expeditious extraction will be given priority. Recall or abort situations prior to evader contact will give priority to pararescue extraction. Pararescue extraction procedures will commence as planned or as directed by the AC and TL. The TL or his designated representative will conduct a head count immediately after boarding the aircraft and confirm the presence of all personnel with the AC or a designated crewmember. After extraction by the inserting aircraft, surface employed pararescue personnel will resume aircrew duties as planned or as authorized by the AC. Any unmanned aircraft armament or scanning positions will be reported immediately to the AC. After extraction by other than the inserting aircraft, surface employed pararescue personnel will be quickly positioned and secured aboard the aircraft and transported to the planned or directed recovery base/location. In this situation aircrew and/or medical duties will not be performed except as directed or authorized by the AC or TL.

c. (U) Surface Operations. During surface operations employment, pararescue personnel will use authorized small arms and munitions as necessary to provide security for themselves and the evader. They will conduct discrete communications and signalling as planned or directed by the TL. All pararescue personnel will rally at a designated location immediately after insertion. A head-count and assessment of the team's tactical integrity will be conducted. The area threat situation will be assessed by the TL. Tactical evasive movement to the objective will be undertaken by all personnel. Movement formations, point and area reconnaissance, navigation and mantracking requirements will be performed as planned or as directed by the TL. Visual contact with hostile forces which threatens to compromise the security of pararescue personnel will result in immediate initiation of recall procedures at the discretion of either the AC or TL. Aerial surveillance and fire suppression will be available. In the event of chance contact with hostile forces, pararescue personnel will initiate planned immediate actions, direct close-in fire suppression or close air support, break contact with the threat, exfiltrate to a planned extraction point and initiate the appropriate extraction plan. Physical contact with the survivor will be accomplished as planned or as directed by the TL. Medical treatment, security and other assistance will be

provided at the discretion of the TL. Upon completion of the contact plan and survivor identification and authentication, the pararescue personnel will exfiltrate the survivor to the primary or alternate extraction zone. After area reconnaissance is conducted, area security and discrete communications or signalling will be established. Preparations for extraction will be completed, and the extraction plan will be executed as planned or as directed by the AC and TL. Landing zone authentication will be conducted by the pararescue personnel prior to commitment of the aircraft. Pararescue personnel will control and provide cover fire during the withdrawal to the aircraft and onload/extraction of all personnel.

10-14. (U) OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.

a. (U) When airborne, overlapping scanning responsibilities will be assigned to all crewmembers. Specific weapons manning requirements and fields of fire will be assigned during mission planning. Scanning and fields of fire assignments should overlap, specifically when operating within the objective area. The ability to recognize, accurately acquire, and neutralize a target must be maintained by all aircrew members. This applies to aircraft armament systems and individual small arms operations. When pararescue personnel are deployed out of the aircraft, available aircraft firepower is reduced and areas around the aircraft are not provided with cover fire. Mission planning must reflect those considerations, and alternative actions will be developed to minimize the vulnerability of the aircraft and aircrew.

b. (U) It is essential to minimize time in the objective area in order to reduce aircraft/aircrew vulnerability. Pararescue surface employment is a tactic used to decrease time in the objective area by expediting survivor preparation and extraction. Pararescue personnel provide a reliable command, control and communications link between the rescue aircrew and survivor.

c. (U) Pararescue personnel must be capable of surface operations across the full spectrum of weather and ambient light conditions in which the rescue aircraft can operate. Clandestine conduct of the recovery operation significantly enhances the tactical advantages of speed, surprise, camouflage, cover, concealment and deception. Coordinated surface movement and fire suppression coordination is a necessity. Movement should be limited to the terrain within the geographical perimeter of the objective area which provides the greatest amount of cover and concealment for recovery and defensive or evasion actions.

d. (U) Survivors must be authenticated prior to extraction from a tactical environment in order to prevent enemy infiltration of the recovery operation. When reliable visual or verbal authentication techniques are not expected to be available, a physical contact plan must be developed to assure authentication

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of the objective. Contact plans will be based on the known position or location of the objective, or the use of a predesignated contact point. Contact plans will be afforded appropriate security protection in accordance with theater or higher headquarters guidance.

e. (U) Since rescue aircraft may be forced off scene by hostile fire while pararescue personnel are on the ground, all employed pararescue personnel must be equipped for and capable of unassisted escape and evasion.

f. (U) Evading pararescue personnel will attempt to avoid enemy contact in the surface environment. In the event of chance contact, they will suppress enemy fire to the extent required, evade the enemy, and withdraw or revert to the avoidance tactic.

10-15. (U) TACTICAL TRAINING. To support the Combat Rescue mission, pararescuemen must receive training and achieve knowledge and task performance levels commensurate with combat mission requirements.

a. (U) Training in the following skill areas is required.

- (1) (U) Aircrew duties
- (2) (U) Aircraft armament operation
- (3) (U) Basic combat techniques
- (4) (U) Small arms employment skills
- (5) (U) Munitions employment
- (6) (U) Escape and evasion
- (7) (U) Emergency medical treatment
- (8) (U) Threat recognition
- (9) (U) Counter threat systems and

procedures

- 10) (U) Recovery devices
- (11) (U) Insertion/extraction systems and procedures

(12) (U) CW defensive operations
b. (U) The unit commander is responsible for providing required pararescue combat training. The pararescue NCOIC is responsible for implementing higher headquarters directed training and the development of the unit's training program.

c. (U) Tactical training with UW-oriented elements of sister services is encouraged and is an acceptable means of acquiring a tactical capability.

(1) (U) Training managers will ensure that proper roles and tasks of all participants are understood.

(2) (U) Pararescue participation will be concurrent with ARRS employment policy during the conduct of joint services exercises.

10-16. (U) SUMMARY. Pararescue personnel may be inserted from fixed and/or rotary wing aircraft to be used in surface combat rescue operations. To support the requirement of speed and secrecy during planning and execution of a combat rescue operation, coordination among all aircrew members is essential throughout. On-scene decisions must be timely, easily understood, and result in workable plans. These plans must be understood by all crewmembers and should include alternate actions for unplanned eventualities.