

Army Regulation 750–32

Maintenance of Supplies and Equipment

**Airdrop,
Parachute
Recovery, and
Aircraft
Personnel
Escape
Systems**

**Headquarters
Department of the Army
Washington, DC
18 June 2008**

UNCLASSIFIED

SUMMARY of CHANGE

AR 750-32

Airdrop, Parachute Recovery, and Aircraft Personnel Escape Systems

This major revision, dated 18 June 2008--

- o Directs the U.S. Army Special Operations Command to develop and maintain a premeditated parachuting program and an authorized U.S. Army Southern Command authorized use list (para 2-5a).
- o Renews reference to nonstandard parachute systems (paras 2-5a, 2-5d, 2-6a, 2-6b, 2-10g(2)(a), 2-10i(2)).
- o Mandates all personnel who pack, repair, or maintain nonstandard parachute systems do so in accordance with the manufacture's technical manuals or appropriate Federal Aviation Administration guidelines (para 2-5d(1)).
- o Mandates all personnel who pack, maintain, or repair nonstandard parachute systems possess a current Federal Aviation Agency senior or master parachute rigger certificate (para 2-5d(2)).
- o Clarifies the training of nonstandard parachute equipment rigger personnel (para 2-5d(3)).
- o Mandates the additional skill identifier of W8/4X and a waiver process, if required, for parachute riggers performing pack-in-process inspector duties for the Ram Air Personnel Parachute Systems (para 2-5k).
- o Clarifies the definition of a military free fall instructor (para 2-5l).
- o Adds the responsibilities of the U.S. Army Research Development and Engineering Command (para 2-6).
- o Transfers responsibilities of the U.S. Army Soldier Biological and Chemical Command to the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command-Life Cycle Management Command (para 2-7).
- o Transfers responsibilities of the U.S. Army Safety Center to the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center (para 2-9).
- o Establishes 921As and 92Rs as the subject matter experts on logistical matters to commanders of nonparachute rigger organizations (para 2-10d).
- o Establishes 921As and other authorized unit supervisors as the subject matter experts for all matters pertaining to airdrop (para 2-10e).
- o Establishes a pack-in-process inspector-to-parachute packer ratio of 1 to 4 (para 2-10f(2)).
- o Introduces nonstandard parachute systems under Ram Air Personnel Parachute System (para 2-10g(2)).

- o Replaces references to the automatic ripcord release with the electronic automatic actuation device (para 2-10g(2)(c)).
- o Mandates U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School training for Department of Defense civilians engaged in the initial inspection and repair of the Ram Air Personnel Parachute System (para 2-10h(2)).
- o Authorizes Army parachute riggers to jump other Services type-classified standard parachutes provided they receive the required training (para 2-10i(1)).
- o Authorizes Army parachute riggers to pack, repair, and inspect nonstandard parachute systems providing they have the necessary Federal Aviation Agency parachute rigger certifications and the required training (para 2-10i(2)).
- o Clarifies the outcome of personnel planning to become or are in the process of becoming 92Rs (initial entry training, reclassification, and/or re-entry) if they have been identified as alcohol or drug abusers (para 2-10j).
- o Provides steps to eliminate Department of Defense civilians who have been identified as drug or alcohol abusers (para 2-10k).
- o Clarifies that drop testing troop-type personnel parachutes will be jumped by test parachutist qualified personnel and Army parachute riggers only (para 2-10l(b)).
- o Clarifies sustained proficiency and institutes qualification/re-qualification standards for parachute packers, pack-in-process inspectors, and inspector-testers (para 2-10o).
- o Mandates the 921A or authorized unit supervisor to perform monthly quality assurance inspections of parachutes certified by the pack-in-process inspector (para 2-10o(3)(d)).

Effective 18 July 2008


Maintenance of Supplies and Equipment

Airdrop, Parachute Recovery, and Aircraft Personnel Escape Systems

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

GEORGE W. CASEY, JR.
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

Official:


JOYCE E. MORROW
Administrative Assistant to the
Secretary of the Army

History. This publication is a major revision.

Summary. This regulation establishes and clarifies qualification requirements and designates responsibilities for personnel maintaining and packing parachutes.

Applicability. This regulation applies to the Active Army, the Army National Guard/Army National Guard of the United States, and the U.S. Army Reserve, unless otherwise stated. During mobilization the

proponent may modify policies contained in this regulation.

Proponent and exception authority.

The proponent of this regulation is the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–4. The proponent has the authority to approve exceptions or waivers to this regulation that are consistent with controlling law and regulations. The proponent may delegate this approval authority, in writing, to a division chief within the proponent agency or its direct reporting unit or field operating agency, in the grade of colonel or the civilian equivalent. Activities may request a waiver to this regulation by providing justification that includes a full analysis of the expected benefits and must include formal review by the activity’s senior legal officer. All waiver requests will be endorsed by the commander or senior leader of the requesting activity and forwarded through their higher headquarters to the policy proponent. Refer to AR 25–30 for specific guidance.

Army management control process.

This regulation contains management control provisions in accordance with AR 11–2, but it does not identify key management controls that must be evaluated.

Supplementation. Supplementation of this regulation and establishment of command and local forms are prohibited without prior approval from Deputy Chief of Staff, G–4 (DALO–SUT).

Suggested improvements. Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–4, ATTN: DALO–SUT, 500 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310–0500.

Distribution. This publication is available in electronic media only and is intended for command levels A, B, C, D, and E for the Active Army, the Army National Guard/Army National Guard of the United States, and the U.S. Army Reserve.

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Glossary

Chapter 1 General

1–1. Purpose

This regulation prescribes responsibilities for the support of airdrop, parachute recovery, cargo, and personnel parachute systems and increases emphasis on training, safety, and logistics support of these increasingly complex systems and their peculiar support requirements.

1–2. References

Required and related publications and prescribed and referenced forms are listed in appendix A.

1–3. Explanation of abbreviations and terms

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

1–4. Responsibilities

Responsibilities are listed in chapter 2.

Chapter 2 Responsibilities

2–1. Deputy Chief of Staff, G–4

The Deputy Chief Staff, G–4 will provide oversight of this Department of the Army policy concerning Airdrop, Parachute Recovery, and Aircraft Personnel Escape Systems.

2–2. Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3/5/7

The Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3/5/7 will—

- a.* Approve the Army force structure requirements and authorizations necessary to provide sufficient specialized area of concentration code/military occupational specialty (AOC/MOS) personnel and equipment to adequately support airdrop, parachute recovery, cargo and personnel parachute systems.
- b.* Respond to U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) requests for review and evaluation of the aerial delivery support (ADS) function in accordance with AR 71–32.

2–3. Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command

The Commanding General (CG), U.S. Army Materiel Command will—

- a.* Monitor the cargo and personnel parachute systems, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems and support thereof.
- b.* Provide depot support, supply and maintenance, and customer assistance for all cargo and personnel parachute systems, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- c.* Ensure sustained proficiency of all technicians performing depot maintenance and inspection of cargo and personnel parachute systems, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.

2–4. Commanding General, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command

The CG, TRADOC will—

- a.* Provide specialized training for personnel who will maintain cargo and personnel parachute systems, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- b.* Review ADS organizational concepts and designs pertinent to ADS in accordance with the capabilities needs assessment process.
- c.* Review and monitor requirement development processes (for example, Force Design Update, Army requirements and resourcing board, organizational requirements document approval briefing, force feasibility review, force validation committee, documentation assistance review team, command plan, total Army analysis, manpower requirements criteria, acquisition plans, manpower estimate reviews, and other activities).
- d.* Assist in the manpower and equipment requirements determination process through data collection, facilitating onsite visits, and by providing subject matter experts (SMEs) to evaluation panels.
- e.* Develop and publish required rigging procedures for supplies and equipment to be airdropped.

2–5. Commanding General, U.S. Army Special Operations Command

The CG, U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) will—

- a.* Develop and maintain a premeditated parachuting program (P3) and an authorized for USASOC use list (AUUL) identifying type-classified standard and nonstandard parachute systems, including all ancillary items.

b. Ensure that all parachute systems and ancillary items on the P3 AUUL are packed, repaired, maintained, and secured under the direct supervision of a qualified parachute rigger in accordance with paragraph 2-10e of this regulation.

c. Ensure that parachute riggers receive appropriate training/certification to pack, repair, and maintain parachute systems and ancillary items on the P3 AUUL.

d. Ensure—

(1) Nonstandard parachute systems are packed, repaired, and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's technical manual and appropriate Federal Aviation Regulations (Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 65 and 105 (14 CFR 65, 105)).

(2) All Department of Defense (DOD) personnel engaged in packing and maintaining nonstandard parachute equipment possess and maintain at a minimum, a current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) senior parachute rigger certificate for that type of personnel parachute being packed or maintained.

(3) All DOD personnel performing repairs on nonstandard parachute equipment possess and maintain a current FAA master parachute rigger certificate or, if only senior rated, perform the repairs under the direct supervision of a FAA master parachute rigger.

e. Provide the necessary equipment to the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School (USAQMCS), Aerial Delivery and Field Services Department (ADFSD) to facilitate any and all specialized training/certification.

f. Ensure—

(1) The USAQMCS provides pack-in-process inspector training/certification procedures necessary to ensure safe packing of the Army type-classified standard main parachute of the Ram Air Personnel Parachute Systems (RAPPS) by nonparachute riggers, if they are military personnel assigned as instructors at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School (USAJFKSWCS) Military Free Fall Parachutist Course (MFFPC) and Military Free Fall Jumpmaster Course (MFFJMC) within the program of instruction (POI).

(2) The USAQMCS issues qualification records, which will be maintained by the unit.

g. Ensure—

(1) The USAQMCS provides the training/certification procedures necessary to ensure safe packing of the Army type-classified standard main parachute of the RAPPS by nonparachute riggers, if they are military personnel assigned as instructors and/or students at the USAJFKSWCS MFFPC/MFFJMC within the POI.

(2) Only those military personnel who have satisfactorily completed or are assigned to the USAJFKSWCS MFFPC/MFFJMC using the RAPPS participate in this training/certification.

(3) The USAQMCS issues qualification records, which will be maintained by the unit.

h. Ensure—

(1) The assigned Army Airdrop Systems Technician (MOS 921A) or other authorized unit supervisor, in accordance with paragraph 2-10e, provides training/certification procedures necessary to ensure safe packing of the Army type-classified standard main parachute of the RAPPS by nonparachute riggers if they are military personnel that are MFF qualified, or military personnel performing RAPPS operations regardless of deployment method.

(2) Qualification records are issued by the certifying unit in accordance with USASOC regulations and maintained by the unit.

i. Ensure the nonparachute rigger pack-in-process inspectors, nonparachute riggers packing the main parachute of the RAPPS, and the 921A or other authorized unit supervisor, in accordance with paragraph 2-10e, adhere to the packing and maintenance compliance standards of the RAPPS in accordance with the training/certification program.

j. Ensure the sustained proficiency of all nonparachute rigger personnel packing the RAPPS main parachute as identified in paragraph 2-5f.

k. Ensure that an Army parachute rigger, minimum grade of E-5 (MOS 92R2P), with an additional skill identifier (ASI) of W8/4X and who fully meets the requirements of paragraphs 2-10c and 2-10g and has satisfactorily completed the USAQMCS RAPPS certification course, performs the duties of the parachute pack-in-process inspector for the RAPPS. Certain circumstances may dictate that personnel without an ASI of W8/4X be temporarily authorized, by waiver, to perform pack-in-process inspector duties.

(1) Waivers are for periods not to exceed 180 days; those in excess of 180 days require Army Command (ACOM)/Army Service Component Command (ASCC)/Direct Reporting Unit (DRU) approval.

(2) Waivers may be granted by the first 0-6 in the chain of command, but only after—

(a) Careful consideration of the urgency of the situation and alternatives.

(b) Recommendation by the 921A in charge or other authorized unit supervisor in accordance with paragraph 2-10e.

Note. When granting waivers, safety will be the foremost consideration.

l. Ensure that all military free fall (MFF) instructors assigned or attached to USAJFKSWCS have satisfactorily completed the USAJFKSWCS MFF Instructor Training Course, which includes USAQMCS ADFSD instruction on the RAPPS main parachute canopy pack-in-process inspection procedures, prior to performing duties of the parachute pack-in-process inspector. Qualified MFF instructors may perform duties as the pack-in-process inspector only while instructing during a USAJFKSWCS MFFPC or MFFJM POI and under the supervision of the Army parachute rigger

meeting the requirements of paragraph 2–5k.

Note. MFF instructors are qualified DOD personnel, which include Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and DOD civilian personnel (DOD civilian personnel are not authorized to participate in type-classified RAPPS nonparachute rigger training/certification), but does not include civilian personnel contracted by DOD.

m. Ensure that all applicable technical manuals (TM) for type-classified standard and nonstandard RAPPS are on hand or readily available and prescribe rigger/instructor checks to ensure quality control.

n. Ensure that only qualified pack-in-process inspectors conduct the pack-in-process rigger/instructor checks as prescribed in the applicable TMs for each type-classified standard and/or nonstandard RAPPS.

o. Ensure the applicable reference material/manuals are available during all parachute pack operations.

p. Ensure only a qualified Army parachute rigger, under the proper supervision, inspects, packs, and maintains type-classified standard RAPPS reserve parachutes.

q. Develop, publish, and implement procedures for nonparachute rigger qualified MFF qualified personnel, USAJFKSWCS assigned MFF instructors, and MFFPC/MFFJM students operating under this paragraph.

2–6. Commanding General, U.S. Army Research Development and Engineering Command

The CG, U.S. Army Research Development and Engineering Command will—

a. Provide engineering assessment and analysis for type-classified standard and nonstandard parachute systems and ancillary items as requested by the military services.

b. Provide engineering assessment and analysis for type-classified standard and nonstandard parachute systems, cargo parachutes, airdrop systems and ancillary items involved in a parachute malfunction/serious incident as requested by the military services.

2–7. Commanding General, U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command Life Cycle Management Command

The CG, U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command Life Cycle Management Command will—

a. Provide logistical functions, as prescribed in AR 700–127, AR 70–47, and AR 750–1, for all cargo and personnel parachute systems, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems, and related components, with the exception of cartridge actuated device (CAD)/propellant actuated device (PAD) components.

b. Develop and publish the required supply, operational maintenance, and safety instructions pertinent to the operations and maintenance of cargo and personnel parachute systems, parachute recovery, airdrop systems, and related components, except CAD/PAD (unless granted by exception).

c. Maintain coordination with the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC), U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center (USACRC), and Departments of the Navy and Air Force on studies, research, development, test, and evaluation projects pertinent to cargo and personnel parachute systems, parachute recovery, airdrop systems, and related components.

d. Engineer evaluations on items relating to personnel, cargo and airdrop systems and review records of all personnel, cargo and airdrop equipment involved in airdrop malfunctions for the purpose of identifying equipment that may need possible modifications or improvement.

2–8. Commanding General, U.S. Army Field Support Command

The CG, U.S. Army Field Support Command will—

a. Ensure an adequate supply of all munitions (CAD/PAD), components of cargo and personnel parachute systems, parachute recovery, airdrop systems, and related components.

b. Prepare publications detailing the required supply, maintenance, disposal, and safety instructions pertinent to munitions components of cargo and personnel parachute systems, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems, and related components.

c. Provide and maintain records and investigation of all malfunctions involving munitions (CAD/PAD) that will be reported in accordance with AR 59–4.

2–9. Commander, U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

The Commander, USACRC will maintain a record of intentional and unintentional malfunctions/incidents that involve Army aircraft used for cargo and personnel airdrop. Accidents of U.S. Army aircraft will be investigated, reported, and recorded in accordance with AR 385–40 and DA Pam 385–40.

2–10. Command and unit commanders

Commanding generals of ACOMs/ASCCs/DRUs not previously listed will—

a. Recommend for approval the tables of organizations and equipment (TOE) and tables of distribution (TDA) that authorize sufficient specialized MOS personnel to adequately support cargo and personnel parachute systems, parachute recovery, airdrop systems, and related components.

b. Ensure that an adequate airdrop force structure to support current airdrop doctrine is identified through the Total Army Analysis (TAA) Process.

c. Ensure that individuals serving as parachute riggers are formally trained and properly certified by the USAQMCS, Fort Lee, VA; are on paid parachute duty status (current and qualified); and possess a primary AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, or 92R series. Army parachute riggers will not be relieved of their duties or have their parachute-duty status terminated unless it is required by paragraph 2-10j.

Note. Army National Guard (ARNG) and U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) personnel meeting the above requirements are considered qualified to pack, inspect, and repair parachutes as civilian technicians.

d. Ensure that only qualified and properly coded 921A and 92R personnel as described in paragraph 2-10e serve as SMEs while supporting airdrop logistical operations for nonparachute rigger organizations.

e. Ensure that only qualified parachute riggers are assigned as supervisors of airdrop support activities engaged in airdrop rigging, parachute maintenance, or parachute packing and meet the following prerequisites:

(1) Qualified parachute riggers are Active Army, ARNG, or USAR personnel who—

(a) Possess a primary AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, 92R5P, or 92R4P series.

(b) Are assigned and occupy an authorized TOE/TDA parachute rigger position.

(c) Are on paid parachute-duty status (qualified and current).

(2) Qualified personnel who possess MOS 92R3P may be authorized to supervise airdrop support activities. Certain circumstances may dictate that such personnel be temporarily detailed to supervisory positions for limited periods of time. In such cases, waivers may be granted by the ACOM/ASCC/DRU, but only after—

(a) Careful consideration of the urgency of the situation and alternatives.

(b) Evaluation by the appropriate commander(s) of the selected individual's qualifications, including technical and leadership experience.

(c) Evaluation by the appropriate commander(s) that the selected individual has demonstrated the ability to operate independently from his or her chain of command.

Note. When granting waivers, safety shall be the foremost consideration. Note that waivers are granted for periods not to exceed 180 days. Waivers in excess of 180 days require DA approval.

(3) The supervisor will be the individual charged with the control or direction of the airdrop support activity. Temporary absence of the supervisor (such as appointments or leave) from the work facility does not dictate that all activities cease; however, activities will cease if the parachute packing and maintenance requirements cannot be met because of the supervisor's permanent absence.

f. Ensure the 921A or other authorized unit supervisor, in accordance with paragraph 2-10e, acts as the commander's senior airdrop advisor and SME for—

(1) Matters pertaining to the security, storage, transportation, packing, and repairing of cargo and personnel parachute systems and other related components within the command.

(2) Ensuring that one pack-in-process inspector supervises no more than four parachute packers at any given time regardless of parachute type.

g. Ensure performance for Personnel Parachute Airdrop Systems (troop-type), as described below:

(1) *Static line deployed parachute (excluding Ram Air Personnel Parachute System).*

(a) Packing, maintenance, and inspection (technical/rigger-type, pack-in-process, routine, and in-storage) of parachutes and associated ancillary equipment will be performed only by qualified parachute rigger personnel, as identified in paragraph 2-10c.

(b) Pack-in-process inspection will be performed by a 92R possessing the following qualifications:

1. Grade of E-5 or above.

2. Minimum 2 years of parachute experience as a 92R.

3. Is on paid parachute duty status (qualified and current).

4. Has packed, under the direct supervision of a certified pack-in-process inspector, a minimum number of qualifying parachutes in accordance with paragraph 2-10o. Qualifications will be verified by the assigned 921A or other authorized unit supervisor, in accordance with paragraph 2-10e.

Note. Qualifications may be waived to allow a 92R1P (E-4 promotable) with a minimum of 2 years parachute pack experience when recommended by the 921A or other authorized unit supervisor of that section and approved by the first O-5 in the chain of command.

(c) DOD civilian personnel may be engaged in the repair and initial inspection of static line parachutes if they—

1. Have been trained by the USAQMCS, Fort Lee, VA.

2. Have performed such duties under the supervision of a qualified parachute rigger, as defined in paragraph 2-10g.

(2) *Ram Air personnel parachute systems.*

(a) All type-classified standard and nonstandard parachute systems will be packed, repaired, and maintained under the direct supervision of an Army parachute rigger as prescribed in paragraphs 2-5d (nonstandard) and 2-5k (standard).

Note. Only nonstandard equipment listed on the P3 AUUL is authorized for use.

(b) Pack-in-process inspections will be performed only by authorized parachute riggers, as identified in paragraph 2–5k (for waivers, also see para 2–5k).

(c) Personnel performing maintenance, inspection, and testing (if applicable) of the approved Army type-classified electronic automatic actuation device (EAAD) will be school-trained personnel and have received specific training/certification from the USAQMCS, Fort Lee, VA.

(d) DOD civilian personnel may be engaged in the initial inspection and repair of RAPPS if they—

1. Have been trained by the USAQMCS, Fort Lee, VA.
2. Possess and maintain a current senior or master parachute rigger certificate issued by the FAA for the specific parachute being processed in accordance with paragraph 2–5d.

3. Perform such duties under the supervision of a qualified Army parachute rigger, as defined in paragraphs 2–5d and 2–10g.

h. Ensure performance for cargo and personnel parachutes and extraction parachute airdrop systems.

(1) Military personnel (other than MOS 92R) may pack cargo and extraction-type parachutes; however, they must perform these duties under the supervision of an Army-qualified parachute rigger, as defined in paragraph 2–10g.

(2) DOD civilian personnel may engage in the initial inspection, repair, and packing of cargo and extraction-type parachutes if they—

(a) Have been trained by the USAQMCS, Fort Lee, VA.

(b) Perform such duties under the supervision of an Army-qualified Army parachute rigger, as defined in paragraph 2–10g.

i. Ensure that all parachutes packed by AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, and 92R are certified/type classified standard U.S. Army parachutes or authorized U.S. Army nonstandard parachutes.

(1) Army parachute riggers may pack and jump parachutes that have been type-classified standard by other Services if they have received training/certification from either the manufacturer or designated representative, or the USAQMCS, Fort Lee, VA, on the specific parachute being packed.

(2) Army parachute rigger personnel (AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, and 92R) may engage in the packing, repair, and inspection of nonstandard parachute systems if they possess and maintain a current FAA senior or master parachute rigger certificate and have received training/certification from the manufacturer or designated representatives of the manufacturer.

j. Ensure personnel (initial entry training, reclassification and/or re-entry) planning to serve in positions requiring AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, or 92R are denied access to or relieved of all parachute rigger AOC/MOS related duties when—

(1) They have been identified as drug or alcohol abusers. For the purpose of this regulation, any persons planning to serve in positions identified in paragraph 2–10j who have been given a diagnosis of alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or dependency by medical authority will be considered medically unfit for parachute rigger duty and will be administratively separated in accordance with AR 600–85. AR 600–85 defines both alcohol and drug abuse as follows:

(a) *Alcohol abuse.* Any irresponsible use of an alcoholic beverage that leads to misconduct, unacceptable social behavior, or impairment of an individual’s performance of duty, physical or mental health, financial responsibility, or personal relationships.

(b) *Drug abuse.* The use or possession of controlled substances or illegal drugs, or the nonmedical or improper use of other drugs (for example, prescription and over the counter) that are packaged with a recommended safe dosage. This includes the use of substances for other than their intended use, for example, glue and gasoline fume sniffing or steroid use for other than that specifically prescribed by competent medical authority.

(2) Parachute duty status is terminated, whether voluntarily, for medical reasons, or for cause.

(a) Exceptions will be granted to personnel on profiles and/or pregnancy. These individuals will retain their MOS and continue performing duties within the limitations of their profile and this regulation.

(b) However, these personnel will not pack personnel parachutes or perform the duties of pack-in-process inspector. Commanders will consider all others for reclassification as soon as possible.

k. Ensure DOD civilian personnel planning to serve or are already in positions requiring parachute rigger related duties are relieved of all duties when—

(1) They have been identified as drug or alcohol abusers.

(2) Their parachute duty status is terminated (if applicable), whether voluntarily, for medical reasons, or for cause.

l. Ensure performance for drop testing.

(1) Drop testing of all airdrop equipment is performed under the supervision of qualified Army parachute riggers who meet the supervisory requirements in paragraph 2–10e.

(a) Drop testing (including airdrop load rigging) will be conducted only by an activity responsible for the packing, maintenance, and inspection of airdrop equipment. Drop testing of airdrop equipment consists of physically dropping

an item from an aircraft in flight. It is used as a means of proving serviceability of an item or checking parachute rigger proficiency.

(b) Drop tests of troop-type personnel parachutes or any other ancillary airdrop items will be jumped by a current and qualified Army parachute rigger or test parachutist assigned to the ATEC who has successfully completed the Test Parachutist Certification Program (in accordance with CG, ATEC approval) and who is qualified on the type of parachute being tested. Emergency-type or reserve personnel parachutes will be drop tested through the use of a dummy only.

(c) Records of drop testing will be processed in accordance with TM 10-1670-201-23.

(2) Drop testing by other than certified test agencies (ATEC, Airborne and Special Operations Test Directorate, and the Airborne Test Force, Yuma Proving Ground) will be specifically limited to only type-classified standard, P3 AUUL, or in-service air items and be under current published airdrop procedures authorized by TOE or TDA.

m. Provide maintenance (other than depot level) and storage for assigned cargo and personnel parachute systems, parachute recovery, airdrop systems, and related components.

n. Ensure that active Army, ARNG, and USAR units that are not authorized to perform higher levels of maintenance on parachutes are limited to the care and preservation of parachutes only. Support will be provided by authorized supply and maintenance units on a "repair and return to user" basis.

o. Ensure sustained proficiency and qualification/requalification of all personnel performing pack, maintenance, and inspection on airdrop, parachute recovery, and personnel parachute systems. Ensure sustained proficiency and qualification/requalification as follows:

(1) Qualified parachute riggers will periodically demonstrate their personnel parachute proficiency by physically jumping a parachute they are qualified to pack and jump from an aircraft in flight.

(2) Requalification standards for parachute packers are as follows:

(a) Newly assigned parachute riggers directly from the Parachute Rigger Course (860-92R10), USAQMCS, Fort Lee, VA, will—

1. Review parachute pack procedures in accordance with the applicable TM.

2. Review rigger checks required for the qualifying parachute and demonstrate proficiency by packing five parachutes.

(b) Newly assigned parachute riggers from another unit who left a parachute pack facility and have not packed parachutes from 0 to 3 months will—

1. Review parachute pack procedures in accordance with the applicable TM.

2. Review rigger checks required for the qualifying parachute and demonstrate proficiency by packing two parachutes.

(c) Newly assigned parachute riggers who have not packed parachutes for 3 months or more will—

(1) Review parachute pack procedures in accordance with the applicable TM.

(2) Review rigger checks required for the qualifying parachute and demonstrate proficiency by packing five parachutes.

(3) Qualification standards for pack-in-process inspectors are as follows:

(a) Those newly promoted to E-5 from a parachute pack facility will—

1. Thoroughly review, understand, and demonstrate proficiency in identifying all rigger checks of the qualifying parachute.

2. Perform the duties of an assistant pack-in-process inspector for a period of 5 days to demonstrate proficiency.

(b) Those newly assigned from another section or unit will—

1. Thoroughly review, understand, and demonstrate proficiency in identifying all rigger checks of the qualifying parachute.

2. Pack 5 of the qualifying parachutes to demonstrate pack proficiency.

3. Perform the duties of an assistant pack-in-process inspector for a period of 5 days to demonstrate proficiency.

(c) Any absence of a qualified pack-in-process inspector from their duties for more than 179 consecutive days will require requalification.

(d) The certifying 921A or authorized unit supervisor in accordance with paragraph 2-10e will perform monthly quality assurance inspections (parachute pull-down) on a random sample of parachutes certified by any pack-in-process inspector.

(4) Qualification standards for inspector-testers (normally assigned to a maintenance facility) are as follows:

(a) Be in grade of E-5 or above.

(b) Those newly promoted to E-5 from a maintenance section will—

1. Thoroughly review, understand, and demonstrate different types of maintenance procedures and their purpose.

2. Thoroughly review, understand, and demonstrate different types of inspection procedures and their purpose.

3. Receive on-the-job training with a qualified inspector-tester for a period of 30 days to demonstrate proficiency.

(c) Those newly assigned from another section or unit will—

1. Thoroughly review, understand, and demonstrate different types of maintenance procedures and their purpose.
2. Thoroughly review, understand, and demonstrate different types of inspection procedures and their purpose.
3. Receive on-the-job training with a qualified inspector-tester for a period of 30 days to demonstrate proficiency. This proficiency will entail the repair of different types of parachutes.

(5) Ensure that proficiency and qualification/requalification standards are verified by the assigned 921A or other authorized unit supervisor, in accordance with paragraph 2-10e.

(6) Ensure qualification/requalification records are created by each unit and maintained at the assigned section (pack and maintenance).

p. Ensure the proper handling and storage of explosive components of airdrop systems.

q. Ensure all applicable safety procedures are strictly adhered to, as prescribed in AR 385-40 and AR 59-4 , and as otherwise appropriate.

r. Ensure strict compliance to standards for maintenance, inspection, and packing of cargo and personnel parachute systems in accordance with applicable TMs.

s. Ensure all cross-Service agreements and contracts negotiated for the purpose of maintenance or modification of personnel, cargo, extraction-type parachutes, and ancillary equipment incorporate Department of the Army applicable repair or modification procedures and meet the personnel requirements in accordance with paragraph 2-10.

Appendix A References

Section I Required Publications

AR 59-4/AFR 55-40/OPNAVINST 4630.24D/MCO 13480.1C

Joint Airdrop Inspection Records, Malfunction/Investigations, and Activity Reporting (Cited in paras 2-8c, 2-10q.)

AR 70-47

Engineering for Transportability (Cited in para 2-7a.)

AR 385-40

Accident Reporting and Records (Cited in paras 2-9, 2-10q.)

AR 71-32

Force Development and Documentation-Consolidated Policies (Cited in para 2-2b.)

AR 700-127

Integrated Logistic Support (Cited in para 2-7a.)

AR 750-1

Army Material Maintenance Policy (Cited in para 2-7a.)

DA Pam 385-40

Army Accident Investigation and Reporting (Cited in para 2-9.)

Section II Related Publications

A related publication is a source of additional information. The user does not have to read it to understand this regulation.

AR 600-85

Army Substance Abuse Program

FM 3-05.211

Special Forces Military Free-Fall Operations

TM 10-1670-201-23

Organizational and Direct Support Maintenance Manual for General Maintenance of Parachutes and Other Airdrop Equipment (Available at <http://www.logsa.army.mil/etms>.)

TM 10-1670-287-23&P

Unit and Direct Support Maintenance Manual (Including Repair Parts and Special Tools List) for MC-4 Ram Air Personnel Parachute System

TM 10-1670-300-20&P

Unit and Direct Support Maintenance Manual Including Repair Parts and Special Tools List for Ancillary Equipment for Military Free-Fall System, Helmet, Free-Fall, Parachutists, Type I Helmet, Free-Fall Parachutist Type II

TM 10-1670-305-23&P

Unit and Intermediate Direct Support Maintenance Manual (Including Repair Parts and Special Tool Lists) for Automatic Ripcord Release, AR2, Model 451 Test Chamber Assembly, AR2, Model 452, Electronic Test Chamber Assembly, AR2, Model 453 (Available at <http://www.logsa.army.mil/etms>.)

14 CFR 65

Certification: Airmen other than flight crewmembers (Available at <http://gpoaccess.gov>.)

14 CFR 105

Parachute operations (Available at <http://gpoaccess.gov>.)

Section III
Prescribed Forms

This section contains no entries.

Section IV
Referenced Forms

This section contains no entries.

Glossary

Section I Abbreviations

ACOM

Army Command

ADFSD

Aerial Delivery and Field Services Department

ADS

aerial delivery support

AOC

area of concentration

AR

Army regulation

ARNG

Army National Guard

ASCC

Army Service Component Command

ASI

additional skill identifier

ATEC

Army Test and Evaluation Command

AUUL

authorized for USASOC use list

CAD

cartridge-activated device

CFR

Code of Federal Regulations

CG

commanding general

DA

Department of the Army

DOD

Department of Defense

DRU

Direct Reporting Unit

EAAD

electronic automatic actuation device

FAA

Federal Aviation Administration

MFF

military free fall

MFFJMC

Military Free Fall Jumpmaster Course

MFFPC

Military Free Fall Parachute Course

MOS

military occupational specialty

P3

Premeditated Parachuting Program

PAD

propellant-actuated device

POI

program of instruction

RAPPS

Ram Air Personnel Parachute System

SME

subject matter expert

TAA

Total Army analysis

TDA

tables of distribution and allowances

TM

technical manual

TOE

table of organization and equipment

TRADOC

Training and Doctrine Command

USACRC

U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

USAJFKSWCS

U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School

USAQMCS

U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School

USAR

U.S. Army Reserve

USASOC

U.S. Army Special Operations Command

Section II

Terms

Aircraft personnel escape system

A system designed to facilitate the emergency escape of personnel from an aircraft. Assisted escape systems incorporate cartridge/propellant-actuated devices and automatically deployed parachutes. Unassisted escape systems are composed of either back, chest, or seat-type manually deployed emergency parachutes.

Airdrop system

A system designed to facilitate the premeditated delivery of personnel, supplies and equipment from aircraft in flight. These systems are usually composed of such items as troop-type parachutes (static line deployed and free fall type systems), cargo-type parachutes, airdrop containers, platforms, tie-downs, and related items.

Cartridge actuated device/propellant actuated device (CAD-PAD)

A cartridge/propellant actuated device is a compact, self-contained package that uses the energy generated by the rapid burning of a charge to actuate such equipment as assisted personnel escape systems, reefing line cutters, parachute ejectors, and similar types of items.

Parachute recovery system

A system designed to recover an object (missile, drone, and so on) from flight and to land it safely. These systems may be composed of parachutes, controls, or activating devices for land and/or flotation devices.

Section III

Special Abbreviations and Terms

This section contains no entries.

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