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**EMPLOYMENT
OF THE
MEDICAL COMPANY
(AIR AMBULANCE)**

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

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EMPLOYMENT OF THE MEDICAL COMPANY (AIR AMBULANCE)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
PREFACE	vi
CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION	.....	1-1
1-1.	America’s Army Today	1-1
1-2.	Threat Environment	1-1
1-3.	Health Threat Assessment	1-2
1-4.	Medical Evacuation	1-4
1-5.	Aeromedical Evacuation	1-4
1-6.	Evacuation History	1-5
CHAPTER 2. ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS	.....	2-1
2-1.	Assignment and Allocation	2-1
2-2.	Mission and Capabilities	2-1
2-3.	Limitations and Support Requirements	2-2
2-4.	Unit Organization and Functions	2-3
CHAPTER 3. COMMAND, CONTROL, AND COMMUNICATIONS	.....	3-1
3-1.	Command and Control	3-1
3-2.	Air Ambulance Company Command and Control Infrastructure	3-1
3-3.	Command and Control Facilities	3-3
3-4.	Communications	3-5
CHAPTER 4. EMPLOYMENT	.....	4-1
4-1.	Scope of Combat Health Support Operations	4-1
4-2.	Mobilization	4-2
4-3.	Deployment	4-3
4-4.	Planning Considerations	4-3
4-5.	Synchronization of Aeromedical Evacuation Assets	4-4
4-6.	Command and Support Relationships	4-5
4-7.	Employment Planning and Execution	4-6

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		Page
	4-8. Offensive Operations	4-8
	4-9. Defensive Operations	4-9
	4-10. Retrograde Operations	4-10
	4-11. Withdrawal Operations	4-11
	4-12. Delaying Operations	4-12
	4-13. Retirement Operations	4-13
	4-14. Air Assault Operations	4-13
	4-15. Peacekeeping Operations	4-18
	4-16. Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Operations	4-21
CHAPTER	5. GARRISON OPERATIONS	5-1
	5-1. Garrison Mission	5-1
	5-2. Garrison Mission Scheduling	5-1
	5-3. Flight Planning Area	5-2
	5-4. Aircrew Training	5-3
	5-5. Flight Records	5-3
	5-6. Operations Training and Evaluation	5-4
	5-7. Communications	5-4
	5-8. Aircraft Servicing	5-4
	5-9. Training	5-4
	5-10. Aircraft/Vehicle Maintenance	5-7
	5-11. Supply	5-7
	5-12. Alert Notification and Procedures	5-7
	5-13. Remote Site Support	5-8
APPENDIX	A. TACTICAL STANDING OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR AIR AMBULANCE COMPANY OPERATIONS	A-1
	A-1. Tactical Standing Operating Procedure	A-1
	A-2. Purpose of the Tactical Standing Operating Procedure	A-1
	A-3. Format for the Tactical Standing Operating Procedure	A-1
	A-4. Sample Tactical Standing Operating Procedure (Sections)	A-2
	A-5. Sample Tactical Standing Operating Procedure (Annexes)	A-4
APPENDIX	B. THE FORWARD SUPPORT MEDICAL EVACUATION TEAM LEADER'S GUIDE	B-1
	B-1. General	B-1
	B-2. Capabilities	B-1
	B-3. Location of the Forward Support Medical Evacuation Team	B-1
	B-4. Command and Control Relationships	B-2
	B-5. Medical Evacuation Support	B-3
	B-6. Aeromedical Evacuation Requests	B-5
	B-7. Nondivisional Aviation Intermediate Maintenance	B-6
	B-8. Army Airspace Command and Control	B-6

		Page
	B-9.	Risk Management B-8
APPENDIX	C.	LIAISON OFFICER CHECKLIST AND BRIEFING C-1
	C-1.	Purpose C-1
	C-2.	Suggested Format for the Liaison Officer Checklist C-1
	C-3.	Suggested Format for the Liaison Officer Briefing C-3
APPENDIX	D.	COMMANDERS' CHECKLIST D-1
Section	I.	Personnel Checklist—Mobilization D-1
	D-1.	Personnel and Administration D-1
	D-2.	Finance D-2
	D-3.	Medical D-2
	D-4.	Discipline, Law, and Order D-3
	D-5.	Religion D-3
	D-6.	Legal D-4
	D-7.	Public Affairs D-4
Section	II.	Operations Checklist—Mobilization D-5
	D-8.	Operations D-5
	D-9.	Security and Intelligence D-5
	D-10.	Training D-7
Section	III.	Logistics Checklist—Mobilization D-8
	D-11.	Subsistence D-8
	D-12.	Supplies and Equipment D-8
	D-13.	Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants D-9
	D-14.	Ammunition D-10
	D-15.	Major End Items D-10
	D-16.	Medical Supplies and Equipment D-10
	D-17.	Prescribed Load List D-10
	D-18.	Maintenance D-11
	D-19.	Laundry D-11
	D-20.	Transportation D-11
	D-21.	Miscellaneous Logistics D-13
	D-22.	Engineer D-13
	D-23.	Contracting D-14
Section	IV.	Personnel Checklist—Deployment D-14
	D-24.	Personnel and Administration D-14
	D-25.	Medical D-15
	D-26.	Discipline, Law, and Order D-16
	D-27.	Religion D-16
	D-28.	Legal D-16
	D-29.	Public Affairs D-16
Section	V.	Operations Checklist—Deployment D-17
	D-30.	Operations D-17

		Page
	D-31. Security and Intelligence	D-17
Section	VI. Logistics Checklist—Deployment	D-19
	D-32. Subsistence	D-19
	D-33. Supplies	D-19
	D-34. Ammunition	D-20
	D-35. Major End Items	D-20
	D-36. Medical Items	D-20
	D-37. Repair Parts	D-20
	D-38. Maintenance	D-21
	D-39. Transportation	D-21
	D-40. Miscellaneous Logistics	D-22
	D-41. Engineer	D-23
APPENDIX	E. THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS	E-1
	E-1. Historical Perspectives of the Law of War	E-1
	E-2. Protected Personnel and Geneva—Wounded and Sick Emblems	E-1
	E-3. Medical Aircraft	E-3
	E-4. Self-Defense	E-4
	E-5. Captured United States Medical Personnel	E-4
	E-6. Captured Medical Supplies and Equipment	E-4
	E-7. Medical Treatment for Enemy Prisoners of War and Civilians	E-4
	E-8. Geneva—Wounded and Sick Violations and Possible Consequences	E-5
	E-9. The 1977 Protocols to the Geneva Conventions	E-6
APPENDIX	F. RISK MANAGEMENT	F-1
	F-1. Command Responsibility	F-1
	F-2. Risk Assessment Procedures	F-1
APPENDIX	G. AVIATION COUNTERMEASURE TECHNIQUES AND SURVIVABILITY EQUIPMENT	G-1
Section	I. Air Countermeasure Techniques	G-1
	G-1. Countermeasure Techniques Suppression	G-1
	G-2. Terrain Flight Techniques	G-1
	G-3. Ground Passive Defense Initiatives	G-3
Section	II. Aviation Survivability Equipment	G-6
	G-4. Radar Warning Receivers	G-7
	G-5. Radar Jammers	G-7
	G-6. Chaff and Decoy Systems	G-7
	G-7. High-Energy Laser Coatings	G-7
	G-8. Expandable Jammers	G-8
	G-9. Infrared Jammers	G-8
	G-10. Infrared Suppression	G-8

		Page
★ APPENDIX	H. PATIENT MOVEMENT ITEMS SYSTEM	H-1
	H-1. General	H-1
	H-2. Patient Movement Items	H-1
	H-3. Mission	H-1
	H-4. Responsibilities	H-2
★ APPENDIX	I. MEDICAL SUPPORT TO COMBAT SEARCH AND RESCUE	I-1
	I-1. Introduction	I-1
	I-2. Operations	I-1
	I-3. Training	I-2
	I-4. Suggested Checklist	I-3
★ APPENDIX	J. RECOMMENDED MEDICAL CARE GUIDELINES FOR 91W FLIGHT MEDICAL AIDMEN	J-1
	J-1. General	J-1
	J-2. Core Competencies of the 91W	J-1
	J-3. Medical Training	J-3
	J-4. Documentation of Health Care	J-9
	J-5. Semiannual Combat Medic Skills Validation Test	J-9
GLOSSARY	.....	Glossary-1
REFERENCES	.....	References-1
INDEX	.....	Index-1

PREFACE

The purpose of this publication is to provide doctrinal guidance for the employment of the medical company, air ambulance (AA). (In this publication, the medical company, AA will be referred to as the AA company.) In addition, this publication describes the tactics needed for implementation of its combat service support (CSS) role on the modern battlefield. This publication also provides the doctrinal requisites to support the Army's Concept Based Requirements System processes for determining the Army Medical Department's (AMEDD's) aviation requirements.

This publication is primarily intended for the medical company, AA commander, his section leaders, and assigned personnel. Further, the medical command (MEDCOM), medical brigade, and medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) battalion commanders and their staffs will use this publication in planning combat health support (CHS). This publication is also applicable for use by the Army aviation community, to include members of the allied, coalition, and special operations forces, or contingency force operations that require AMEDD aviation support.

This publication embodies doctrine based on the L-edition Table of Organization and Equipment (TOE) 08447L200. The staffing and organizational structure presented in this publication reflects those established in the L-edition TOE, effective as of this publication date. However, such staffing is subject to change to comply with Manpower Requirements Criteria outlined in Army Regulation (AR) 71-32 and can be subsequently modified by your modification TOE (MTOE).

The proponent of this publication is the United States (US) Army Medical Department Center and School (AMEDDC&S). Send comments and recommendations on Department of the Army (DA) Form 2028 directly to **Commander, AMEDDC&S, ATTN: MCCS-FCD-L, 1400 East Grayson Street, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234-6175.**

This publication implements the following North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) International Standardization Agreements (STANAGs) and American, British, Canadian, and Australian (ABCA) Quadripartite Standardization Agreement (QSTAG), and air standards (AIR STDs):

Title	STANAG	QSTAG	AIR STD
Marking of Military Vehicles	2027	512	
Medical Employment of Air Transport in the Forward Area	2087	529	
Orders for the Camouflage of the Red Cross and Red Crescent on Land in Tactical Operations	2931		
Aeromedical Evacuation	3204		
Aeromedical Evacuation by Helicopter			44/36A

Title	STANAG	QSTAG	AIR STD
Selection, Priorities, and Classes of Conditions for Aeromedical Evacuation			61/71

Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.

Use of trade or brand names in this publication is for illustrative purposes only and does not imply endorsement by the Department of Defense (DOD).

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION**1-1. America's Army Today**

a. America's Army has proudly served the Nation for over two centuries, providing for the common defense and serving in countless other ways. It is a unique institution bound closely to American society and culture. The Army's focus has changed from a Cold War, forward-deployed force, to a mostly US-based, power projection force. Although smaller now than at any time since before World War II (WWII), the Army is being called upon for an increasing number of diverse missions around the world. This accelerated pace has meant more frequent and longer deployments for America's soldiers. At the same time, constraints on resources devoted to defense make it more challenging to balance operational requirements, readiness, modernization, and quality of life.

b. The Army is an integrated, cohesive organization of the Active Component (AC) (Regular Army), Reserve Components (RC) (Army National Guard and Army Reserves) and civilian employees of the Army.

- The Regular Army provides the forces to support the forward presence; it also provides the initial forces for rapid deployment worldwide.

- The Army National Guard and Army Reserves provide trained units and individuals for active duty in time of war and provide reinforcements for contingency operations.

c. The Army is generally organized into combat, combat support (CS), and CSS units. The combat organization of the Army includes corps headquarters, divisions, separate brigades/regiments, artillery, air defense and aviation brigades, and special forces groups. A variety of CS and CSS units provide logistical, chemical, civil affairs, intelligence, communications, medical, transportation, supply, maintenance, and other types of support essential to the conduct of combat and stability operations and support operations.

d. The Army's goal is to be able to put the lead brigade of a contingency force on the ground in an operational area in four days; a division in 12 days; and two armored or mechanized divisions in 30 days; and a five-division corps within 75 days.

e. The fundamental mission of the Army remains the same: to deter war and, failing that, to fight and win wars quickly and decisively with minimum casualties.

1-2. Threat Environment

a. Ethnic, religious, territorial, and economic tensions, held in check by the pressures of bipolar global competition, erupted when Cold War constraints dissolved. The world has entered a period of radical and often violent change. The threats today are more diverse, yet less predictable, than during any other period in our history; they are, however, just as real.

b. The US faces no immediate threat to its national survival. Still, our worldwide interests require that we remain engaged in the world. The National Military Strategy notes four principal dangers