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Command Policy

7 AF OPERATIONAL READINESS EXERCISE

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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OPR: 7 AF/CVI (Lt Col Richard Pierce)

Certified by: 7 AF/CV
(Maj General Dennis Larsen)

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This instruction establishes procedures for planning, conducting, and assessing Operational Readiness Exercises in 7 AF. It outlines responsibilities and, implements AFDPO 90-2, *Inspector General -- The Inspection System*, AFI 90-201, *Inspector General Activities*, and PACAFI 90-201, *PACAF Inspector General Inspection Activities*. It applies to all organizations assigned to 7th Air Force.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This document is substantially revised and must be completely reviewed.

1. General. Operational Readiness Exercises (OREs) are conducted to practice wartime missions, roles and tasks. OREs consist of Initial Response Readiness Exercises (IRREs), Wing-specific Combat Employment Readiness Exercises (CEREs), and Peninsula-wide Combat Employment Readiness Exercises (PENCEREs). PENCEREs are the principal exercises within the 7 AF ORE program. A PENCERE may incorporate an IRRE within its scenario, testing Wing-level combat generation procedures along with the employment readiness of the peninsula. Additionally, a Rapid Thunder exercise, which can also be merged with a PENCERE, provides a “road to war” scenario which assesses the capability of 7 AF and Wing Staffs to implement detailed crisis action operating procedures. This instruction applies to 7 AF, 8 FW and 51 FW. All references to “7 AF” imply the Numbered Air Force (NAF) Commander’s specialized staff, and the NAF assigned Air Force Forces (AFFOR). Assigned AFFOR include Air Operations Group, Air Support Operations Group, Air Intelligence Group, Air Support Group, 51st Communications Group, and RED HORSE Squadron. References to the assigned operational wings will be made according to their number designation.

2. Responsibilities.

2.1. Vice Commander (7 AF/CV) will:

- 2.1.1. Provide command direction and guidance for planning and executing 7 AF OREs.
- 2.1.2. Coordinate with HQ PACAF/IG as trusted agent for 7 AF Operational Readiness Inspections (ORIs).
- 2.1.3. Review 7 AF exercise and inspection schedules, concepts and objectives for 7 AF/CC approval.
- 2.1.4. Appoint personnel to perform 7 AF Chief, Combat Readiness Assessment duties (7 AF/CVI).

2.2. Chief, Combat Readiness Assessment (7 AF/CVI) will:

- 2.2.1. Coordinate with 7 AF/CV, ACC/PJ, 8 FW/IGI and 51 FW/IGI in the scheduling, planning, and execution of peninsula-wide OREs (e.g., PENCEREs).
- 2.2.2. Publish and maintain the 7 AF Combat Employment Readiness Exercise Directive to support PENCERE activities. This document will contain general exercise and evaluation planning guidance, 7 AF training objectives, simulation/exemption procedures, and letters of instruction (LOI) in support of PENCEREs and PACAF ORIs. Review and revise as necessary.
- 2.2.3. Coordinate with HQ PACAF/IG staff for ORIs conducted on 7 AF.
- 2.2.4. Establish and train the 7 AF Exercise Evaluation Team (EET), and direct exercise control activities of EET members.
- 2.2.5. Publish 7 AF PENCERE evaluation reports, and coordinate responses to formal "Findings".
- 2.2.6. Coordinate 7 AF responses to HQ PACAF/IG Inspection Report "Findings" for 7 AF/CV approval and submission to HQ PACAF/IGI.
- 2.2.7. Coordinate with the Fighter Wings to ensure 7 AF/CV has the opportunity to examine Wing-level "Finding" replies from PACAF ORIs prior to Wings submitting the replies to PACAF IG.
- 2.2.8. Act as the OPR for this instruction, and conduct annual reviews.
- 2.2.9. Ensure 7 AF organizations publish exercise conduct information in a timely manner (e.g., exercise telephone directory and recall rosters).

2.3. Assigned AFFOR Commanders and Specialized Staff Directors will:

- 2.3.1. Organize, train and equip personnel to conduct evaluations outlined in this instruction, prepare units for combat readiness exercises, and in so doing, increase readiness for combat.
- 2.3.2. Appoint personnel highly qualified in their areas of operational expertise as members of the 7 AF EET Team; address appointment letters to 7 AF/CVI and designate an EET team chief. Designate POCs (e.g., Trusted Agents), as required, to coordinate exercise support issues such as Intelligence scenario development, airspace requests, C2 support, and SPITL (Single Prioritized Integrated Target List) and ITO (Integrated Tasking Order) production.
- 2.3.3. Assist development of 7 AF evaluation objectives; establish organizational exercise objectives for evaluation by 7 AF EET.

2.3.4. Establish evaluation criteria to measure combat effectiveness and readiness in their mission areas, associated processes, and 7 AF objectives.

2.3.5. Ensure compliance with evaluation plans, directives and LOIs for both in-garrison and deployed operations.

2.3.6. Review unit manning status to minimize leave/TDY that could affect mission accomplishment during scheduled 7 AF OREs and PACAF ORIs.

2.3.7. Provide exercise injects to 7 AF/CVI during ORE planning stages to be incorporated into the Master Scenario Events List (MSEL).

2.4. 8th and 51st Fighter Wing IGI will:

2.4.1. Plan and coordinate integration of assigned forces into 7 AF OREs with 7 AF/CV, 7 AF/CVI, and ACC/PJ.

2.4.2. Develop evaluation objectives to support unique unit requirements and 7 AF/CC ORE objectives.

2.4.3. Coordinate ORE execution with 7 AF/CV, 7 AF/CVI, and ACC/PJ.

2.4.4. Forward responses to HQ PACAF inspection "Findings" to PACAF/IGI, unless the IG directs otherwise. Prior to submitting these responses to PACAF, ensure 7 AF/CV has had the opportunity to review and comment on the responses. When 7 AF/CV determines "Findings" resolution requires NAF involvement, coordinate through 7 AF/CV and 7 AF/CVI for resolution.

2.5. 8 FW and 51 FW Operations Groups will ensure flying missions scheduled to support higher headquarters exercises/events are flown regardless of local activities/exercises. 607 AOG/CC is approval authority to cancel HHQ directed flying missions.

3. Policies. 7 AF/CVI is the OPR for 7 AF OREs, and directs activity of the 7 AF EET. The 7 AF/CC approves all exercises for which 7 AF/CVI is OPR.

3.1. 7 AF/CC intends to schedule and conduct four 7 AF PENCEREs annually, which may incorporate IRREs, Rapid Thunder exercises, or both. Exercise schedules will be approved by 7 AF/CC. Dates for PENCEREs will be announced in advance, and will be coordinated with commanders giving them the opportunity to integrate their training requirements into the exercises through their POCs and 7 AF EET members. PENCEREs are also pre-announced so that leaves/TDY may be deconflicted. PENCERE results will normally be documented in a formal report with a rating for each mission area or element (see para 5.).

3.2. 7 AF/CVI will publish and maintain the 7 AF Combat Employment Readiness Exercise Directive to support PENCERE activities. The objective is to provide centralized, "off the shelf" guidance for exercise conduct. The primary audience for this guidance is 7 AF. The 8 FW and 51 FW have coordinating responsibilities associated with scheduling and conducting Wing-specific CEREs and PENCEREs.

3.3. 607 AIG will develop and maintain the 7 AF ORE intelligence scenario. The objective is to provide for an "off the shelf" capability for 7 AF readiness exercises. Intelligence reports will be a primary vehicle used in the planning and execution of OREs.

3.4. 607 AOG will develop and maintain the databases necessary to support 7 AF ORE flying operations. The objective is to provide for an “off the shelf” capability for 7 AF readiness exercises. Air space requests, target data base/SPITL production, ITO generation, and MSEL development will be additional vehicles used in the planning and execution of OREs.

3.5. Unit exercise scenarios will be designed to present realistic challenges that provide maximum training opportunities for tasked units and personnel. Unit scenarios should test significant options and contingencies including, but not limited to:

3.5.1. Command and control.

3.5.2. Mission support.

3.5.3. Primary and back-up systems/procedures.

3.5.4. Internal/external communications, coordination, information exchange, and reporting procedures.

3.5.5. Ability to survive and operate (ATSO).

3.6. OREs will be exercised in accordance with AFI 90-201, PACAFI 90-201, this instruction, and the 7 AF Combat Employment Readiness Exercise Directive. IRREs may be announced or unannounced. Communications-out recall events will be practiced.

3.7. All 7 AF personnel must wear Field and MOPP Gear, and respond to attacks during OREs as described in the 7 AF Combat Employment Readiness Exercise Directive. Refer to the document’s Letters Of Instruction (LOIs) for detailed exercise ground rules for response actions during 7 AF OREs, 51 FW exercises, and defined exercise participation categories. 7 AF/CV is the exemption authority. AFFOR commanders and staff directors may not waive this participation. They do have exemption authority, during 51 FW exercises, to grant travel for mission essential purposes, under Alarm Blue or Black conditions.

4. Procedures:

4.1. 7 AF/CVI will coordinate peninsula-wide exercise schedules with 8 FW/IGI, 51 FW/IGI, and ACC/PJ based upon 7 AF/CV guidance. 7 AF/CVI will schedule an initial airspace coordination meeting with Wing exercise planners, ACC/PJ, and 607 CPS/DOJA no later than 30 days prior to the start of the exercise. For Wing-only readiness exercises, Wing exercise planners will develop their exercise flying schedules and airspace requests and will coordinate these requests with 607 CPS/DOJA no later than 30 days prior to the start of the exercise. Additionally, C2 support should be coordinated with 607 ASOG/XP and 621 ACS/DO.

4.2. Each 7 AF organization will develop exercise objectives and air base attack scenario inputs. 7 AF/CVI will consolidate inputs, and integrate them with 8 FW and 51 FW for inclusion in the Master Scenario Event List (MSEL). Organizations will limit “in house” scenarios, and make every effort to ensure unit events have no impact on other evaluation activity. Attendance by 7 AF EET Team Chiefs at the 51 FW/IGI scripting meetings is mandatory to ensure MSEL integration and deconfliction.

4.3. 7 AF/CVI will publish and maintain the 7 AF Combat Employment Readiness Exercise Directive to support ORE activities. 7 AF organizations will submit exercise simulations and exemptions to 7 AF/CVI for review and approval by 7 AF/CV. 7 AF/CVI will advise 51 FW/CC, through 51 FW/IGI, of approved exemptions (e.g., travel in Alarm Black conditions).

4.4. 7 AF/CVI will establish 7 AF ORE timelines to include (but not limited to) the following actions:

- 4.4.1. Update specific 7 AF/CC approved objectives.
- 4.4.2. Coordinate unique exercise requirements for the ORE intelligence scenario.
- 4.4.3. Coordinate unique exercise requirements concerning airspace request, C2 support, target data base/SPITL development, and ITO production.
- 4.4.4. Coordinate unique exercise requirements for the ORE MSEL and associated ATSO script.
- 4.4.5. Schedule 7 AF EET Team Chief meetings.
- 4.4.6. Review and update 7 AF LOIs.
- 4.4.7. Coordinate simulation and exemption approvals.

4.5. 7 AF/CVI is responsible for establishing a White Cell and commissioning Trusted Agents for exercise planning and control. This White Cell shall consist of 7 AF, and where applicable, 51 FW personnel. White Cell individuals will assist in exercise planning and execution, performing the role of required external agencies not participating during the exercise. Trusted Agents will assist in exercise planning and execution in their areas of expertise.

5. Reports. 7 AF EET Team Chiefs will debrief their commanders on their units' exercise performance, and provide written report inputs to 7 AF/CVI in a timely manner, not to exceed 14 calendar days unless otherwise coordinated. Inputs should include, as a minimum, the items listed in paragraph 5.2. below. All "Findings" must be validated with the responsible organization commander prior to submission. 7 AF/CVI will facilitate an exercise "hotwash" debrief with 7 AF commanders, and forward the final report to 7 AF/CV for approval. 7 AF/CVI will publish exercise reports, and distribute to all participating agencies.

5.1. Reports will include an overall rating and ratings for major areas. Specific comments will be provided for ratings lower than Satisfactory. An OPR will be assigned for each formal finding.

5.2. General Format:

5.2.1. The report will contain summaries of each evaluated area to include *Strengths*, *AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENTS*, *Observations*, and *FINDINGS*, as appropriate.

5.2.2. *FINDINGS* will include a reference to applicable guidance, and the OPR for corrective action. Recommendations for corrective action may be included.

5.2.3. Unit inputs must include responses to applicable "Open Findings" with recommendations to either remain "Open", with an appropriate estimated closeout date (ECD), or change the status to "Closed."

5.2.4. The report may include a list of outstanding performers and teams.

5.2.4.1. Outstanding Performance must meet "Outstanding" criteria; e.g., far exceeds mission requirements; carried out in a far superior manner; few, if any deficiencies exist.

5.2.4.2. Validate the performance with the individual/teams commander.

5.2.4.3. Rank eligibility; enlisted ranks, Technical Sergeant and below; officer ranks, Captain and below.

5.3. OPRs will prepare "Findings" replies, and submit them to 7 AF/CVI. Replies will indicate specific actions taken, or planned, to correct the deficiency cause and prevent reoccurrence. Each statement of corrective action will include the recommended open/closed status, and include an ECD. OPRs will provide monthly updates on open "Findings" to 7 AF/CVI for 7 AF/CV review.

LANCE L. SMITH, Lieutenant General, USAF
Commander