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SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

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Supplement 1**

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Security

**ARMING AND USE OF FORCE BY AIR FORCE
PERSONNEL**

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This instruction implements Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 31-2, *Law Enforcement*, and AFPD 16-8, *Arming of Aircrew, Mobility, and Overseas Personnel*. It gives war and peacetime requirements for arming USAF personnel and the use of deadly force. It applies to military, civilian, Air National Guard, and contract personnel as well as military personnel from other US military branches assigned or attached to Air Force units. Air Force personnel assigned to other US military services may follow the weapons qualification and use of force policies of that branch of service. Persons subject to the *Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)* who violate the procedures in paragraphs **1.2.1.**, **2.9.**, and **2.12.** are subject to punishment under Article 92, UCMJ. The Air Force may take administrative disciplinary action against civilian employees who violate these regulations. This instruction frequently refers to ‘officer’ or ‘reasonable officer’ which are defined as: Any officer, non-commissioned officer, airman, civilian or contract employee performing security, law enforcement, military police, or guard duties under Air Force control. Paragraphs **1.2.** through **1.3.**, as well as **attachment 7** of this instruction include copyrighted material developed by Professor Gregory Connor, 1997, University of Illinois Police Training Institute, used with the author’s permission. Submit recommended changes, conflicts, or suggestions through publishing channels to HQ AFSFC/SFOP, 1720 Patrick Street, Lackland AFB, TX 78236-5226. **Records Disposition.** Maintain and dispose of records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication in accordance with AFMAN 37-139, *Records Disposition Schedule*.

(AFRC) The OPR for this supplement is HQ AFRC/SFOT (CMSgt Simonton). This supplement implements and extends the guidance of Air Force Instruction (AFI) 31-207, 1 August 1999. It applies to Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) military, civilian and contract personnel, as well as military personnel from other US military branches assigned or attached to AFRC units. The AFI is printed word-for-word without editorial review. AFRC supplementary material is indicated by “(AFRC)” in boldface type. This

supplement describes AFRC procedures to be used in conjunction with the basic instruction. Upon receipt of this integrated supplement discard the Air Force basic.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This document is substantially revised and must be completely reviewed.

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This instruction supersedes previous directive guidance on arming and use of force by Air Force Personnel. This revision identifies contingencies when this instruction does not apply; identifies Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction (CJCSI) 3121.01, *Standing Rules for Engagement for US Forces*, as providing use of force guidance during contingency operations (paragraph 1.1.1.); establishes fourth amendment ‘objective reasonableness’ standard as criteria for use of force and deletes reference to “intent, opportunity, and capability” criteria (paragraph 1.2.1.1. - 1.2.1.2. and attachment 2); aligns use of deadly force situations with DoDD 5210.56, *Use of Deadly Force and the Carrying of Firearms by DoD Personnel in Law Enforcement and Security Duties*, (paragraphs 1.4.1. - 1.4.6.); deletes the kneeling search; permits security forces commanders to authorize the wear and use of concealed weapons (paragraph 2.1.2.3.); clarifies the role of the “armed driver” (paragraphs 2.3. and 2.9.4.); requires withdrawal of authority to bear firearms for persons convicted of domestic violence (paragraph 2.6.); deletes the requirement for commanders to provide immediate written notification for temporary withdrawal of firearms authority (paragraph 2.6.5.), recognizes the AFOSI credentials as written authorization to bear firearms (paragraph 2.7.1.); establishes guidance for firearms qualification extensions (paragraph 2.11.); requires child safety locks for weapons stored at a residence or non-government location (paragraph 2.12.8.); provides information on arming suitability factors (attachment 3 and attachment 4); clarifies response procedures (attachment 5); changes the **Peacetime Government Firearms Discharge Report** to a lessons learned format (attachment 6); and moves all USAF standardized weapons handling and issuing procedures to AFMAN 31-229, *USAF Weapons Handling Manual*. A bar (|) indicates revisions from the previous edition.

| (AFRC) This supplement has been substantially revised and must be completely reviewed.

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Chapter 1

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

1.1. Purpose. This instruction establishes the professional philosophy and practices of the USAF relative to proper force utilization in maintaining order in the community and in securing vital national defense resources.

1.1.1. This instruction does not apply to USAF personnel engaged in military operations and subject to authorized rules of engagement, or assigned to duty in the following areas or situations, as defined by an executive order or a DoD directive:

1.1.1.1. In a combat zone in time of war.

1.1.1.2. In a designated hostile fire area when rules of engagement apply, or when the combatant commander issues operations orders setting forth different criteria.

1.1.1.3. Under the operational control of another service or federal agency carrying firearms in support of the mission, subject to the approval and requirements of both the federal agency and the DoD component.

1.1.1.4. Civil disturbance mission area. See Appendix 1 to Annex C, DoD Civil Disturbance Plan "Garden Plot."

1.1.1.5. Military services personnel performing training missions.

1.1.1.6. During certain contingency operations.

Note: Refer to Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction (CJCSI) 3121.01, *Standing Rules of Engagement for US Forces*, and the rules of engagement for the applicable unified command for additional guidance on use of force rules.

1.2. USAF Use of Force Policy. Air Force personnel engaged in force protection duties will use only that force which is reasonably necessary in conformity with the statutes and constitution of the United States. They must avoid the use of force where it's not essential to carrying out assigned responsibilities

1.2.1. In cases warranting the use of force, you must use only that force reasonably necessary to reach your objective. You must tailor the type and level of force to its necessity. You must base your use of force option on the actions of the individual(s) with whom you are in contact. Once a particular level of force is no longer required, you must discontinue its use despite the fact a suspect's efforts to thwart or evade a seizure may arouse normal passions of anger, fear, or frustration. You shall not use excessive force in discharging your assigned responsibilities. Use of excessive force may result in administrative or disciplinary proceedings and for military members constitutes a violation of Article 92, Uniformed Code of Military Justice. Use of excessive force by civilian employees may result in administrative disciplinary action without regard to otherwise applicable criminal or civil sanctions for violations of related laws.

1.2.1.1. The fourth amendment to the US Constitution sets the limits for the use of force by personnel engaged in effecting arrests or other seizures of persons. In *Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386 (1989), the US Supreme Court established the fourth amendment standard of "objective reasonableness" as the appropriate standard for assessing the use of force in the context of making an arrest or other seizure of a person. It explained its application in these terms:

[T]he question is whether the officers' actions are 'objectively reasonable' in light of the facts and circumstances confronting them..... The reasonableness of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight. ...the 'reasonableness' inquiry...is an objective one...."

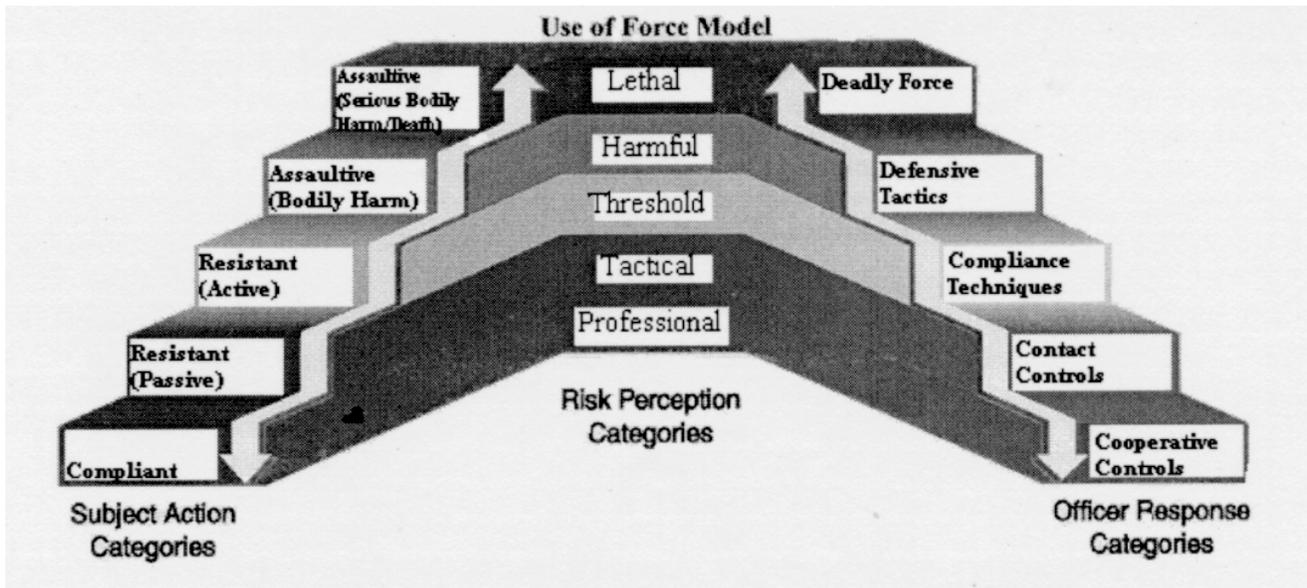
1.2.1.2. The Supreme Court recognized in *Graham v. Connor* that law enforcement and security personnel have to make "split-second judgments" concerning the use of force under "circumstances that are tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving..." The US Supreme Court has held that reasonableness under the fourth amendment does not require you to choose the least intrusive alternative, only a reasonable one. In effecting a seizure, individuals performing law enforcement or security duties draw from a reservoir of options, ranging from simple displays of authority, to the application of various levels of non-deadly force, to the use of deadly force itself. Facts dictate the appropriate response, and those facts--as well as the choice of response--are subject to close scrutiny.

1.2.2. The criteria supporting "objective reasonableness" is provided from three essential areas within the confrontational environment: the subject(s) action(s), the risk perception, and the officer response initiated in order to gain compliance and control.

1.3. Use of Force Introduction. Force, and its proper utilization is perhaps the most critical concern of those engaged in the protection of personnel and resources. Air Force personnel performing these duties must have a thorough understanding of the philosophy and process of force utilization. This AFI discusses the elements of the Use of Force Model (UFM), and the tools and tactics available within the USAF. *The UFM (**figure 1.1.**) is adopted from the "Integrated Force Management – Use of Force Model" first developed in 1991, by the Professor Gregory J. Connor, University of Illinois Police Training Institute and staff of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. Material presented in this instruction was copyrighted by Professor Conner in 1997 and is used with his permission.¹

¹The Use of Force Model (UFM) is adopted from the "Integrated Force Management – Use of Force Model" first developed in 1991, by the Professor Gregory J. Connor, University of Illinois Police Training Institute and staff of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. Material presented in this instruction was copyrighted " by Professor Conner in 1997 and is used with his permission.

Figure 1.1. Use of Force Model.¹



1.3.1. The UFM is a three-sided, five-tiered structure. It is the basis by which discussions and questions will be addressed as to how much force is appropriate for a variety of situations with which you may be faced during training exercises and real world situations.¹

1.3.2. The UFM describes the progression or de-escalation of force based upon the demonstrated level of compliance or resistance. Ideally, each encounter flows in a logical and legal sequence of cause and effect based upon reasonable perception of risk, causing you to escalate, de-escalate, or maintain a level of appropriate force to gain or maintain control of the subject.¹

1.3.3. The elements involved in the use of force are integrated in the Use of Force Model. Each component; "subject's action", "risk perception", and "officer's response" is essential for a balanced use of force.¹

1.3.3.1. Subject Action - the action (s) perceived by the "reasonable officer" that place the subject in one or more of the Model's compliant/non-compliant categories.¹

1.3.3.2. Risk Perception - the situations that are perceived by the "reasonable officer" within a confrontational environment which present a risk or potential risk to officer safety. Issues including the nature and severity of the crime, degree of subject non-compliance, knowledge of the subject's previous actions, etc., can act as a test for reasonableness and a criteria for placement in one or more of the perception categories on the UFM.¹

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1.3.3.3. “Officer Response” - the “balanced” response the reasonable officer could and/or would select from the UFM’s identified categories, in order to maintain or re-gain subject compliance and control.¹

1.3.3.4. To enhance its retention, color has been selected as an essential medium for the message. The elements involved in the use of force, the five categories of the Use of Force Model, and their color correlation are listed in Table 1-1.¹

Table 1.1. Use of Force Elements.¹

SUBJECT ACTIONS	RISK PERCEPTION	OFFICER RESPONSE
Compliant: Represents the vast majority of officer/subject encounters. Cooperation is achieved through verbalization skills and contemporary acceptance. (Represented by the blue baseline of the UFM.)	Professional: The officer is engaged in duties with an occupationally produced perception of responsibilities and risks.	Cooperative Controls: Communication skills.
Resistant (Passive): Preliminary level of non-compliance. However, the subject offers no physical or mechanical enhancement toward the resistance effort, other than sheer unresponsiveness. (Depicted by the color green in the UFM.)	Tactical: Here the officer perceives an increase in the risk within the confrontational environment.	Contact Controls: Includes resistant countermeasures and restraint applications designed to guide or direct the non-compliant subject. First physical contact with subject.
Resistant (Active): The subject’s non-compliance is increased in scope and/or intensity. The non-compliance now includes energy enhanced physical or mechanical defiance. (Uses the color yellow in the UFM.)	Threshold: An activated level of alertness, where specific risks are identified by the officer.	Compliance Techniques: Includes resistant countermeasures designed to counter the subject’s degree of resistance. These tactics include pain compliance applications, chemical irritants, etc.
Assaultive (Bodily Harm): The officer’s attempt to gain lawful compliance has culminated in the perception of an attack or the potential for such an attack on the officer or others. The officer makes the reasonable assessment that such actions by the subject would NOT result in the officer’s or others death or serious bodily harm. (Denoted by the color orange in the UFM.)	Harmful: An accelerated perception of danger and a more directed focus on officer safety and defense.	Defensive Tactics: Includes assaultive countermeasures designed to cease the subject’s non-lethal assault on the officer or others, regain control, and ensure continued compliance. These tactics include baton strikes, escape techniques, blocking defenses, etc.

<p>Assaultive (Serious Bodily Harm/Death): The officer makes the reasonable assessment that he/she is facing conditions of extreme necessity, when all lesser means of force aren't feasible or have failed, and one or more of the circumstances in paragraph 1.4.1., 1.4.2., 1.4.3., 1.4.4., 1.4.5., or 1.4.6. exist. (Correlates to the most intense color in the light spectrum, red.)</p>	<p>Lethal: A perception of a potentially lethal degree of risk. Decisive action is critical for officer safety and security or protection of assets vital to national security.</p>	<p>Deadly Force: Assaultive countermeasures designed to cease the subject's lethal assault on the officer or others. Tactics include the use of a firearm, lethal strikes, etc.</p>
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1.3.3.5. The double-headed assessment/selection arrows indicate the dynamic and fluid nature of the processing of information toward proper decision-making during a confrontation. The principle incorporated into proper compliance and control is that of tactical transition, which includes escalation, stabilization, and/or de-escalation in force applications. The properly trained member will be conditioned to flow with the circumstances of the specific situation to properly control the confrontation.¹

1.3.3.6. Each arrow is bordered with the survival shadow in red. This color enhancement is provided to indicate and maintain the constant retention of lethal risk perception, inherent in any officer/subject confrontation.¹

1.3.3.7. The UFM supports the widely accepted premise and practice of progressive application of force. This simply implies the process of appropriate selection of force options in response to reasonable assessment of risks presented in the confrontation; the level of compliance or degrees of non-compliance from the individual to be controlled; and proper selection of an objectively reasonable response. Each officer/citizen confrontation should flow in a logical and legal sequence of cause and effect. The member's tactical transition must be capable of escalation or engagement, stabilization of the situation, or de-escalation or disengagement within the context of the confrontation toward the eventual goal of compliance and control.¹

1.3.3.8. Progressive Application of Force encompasses three main elements of action and assessment: tools, tactics, and timing.¹

1.3.3.8.1. Tools include the two broad forms of subject control; mental manipulation (verbal skills, body language, officer presence, etc.) and physical manipulation (weaponless controls, weapons, restraints, etc.).¹

1.3.3.8.2. The **tactics** encompass the actual application of these tools into actual strategies deemed necessary and viable in the confrontational setting.¹

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1.3.3.8.3. Timing is demonstrated by the degree of actual force deemed necessary; based upon the “reasonable officer’s” ongoing assessment of risks, the “reasonable officer’s” perceived actions of the subject, and the available options of control; measured in terms of reasonableness.¹

1.3.4. Apply force with the appropriate tool.¹

1.3.4.1. Tools available at the first level (Cooperative Controls) would include:¹

1.3.4.1.1. Mental Preparation: Perception skills, risk assessment, and survival orientation.¹

1.3.4.1.2. Spatial Positioning: Stance, body language, and relative positioning.¹

1.3.4.1.3. Verbal Controls: Communication skills, interviewing, and behavioral assessment.¹

1.3.4.1.4. Individual searching techniques: Frisk techniques, opposite sex searches, position (standing, prone).¹

1.3.4.1.5. Apprehension Tactics: Single/Dual subject, escort controls and transport controls.¹

1.3.4.1.6. Military working dog presence.¹

1.3.4.2. Tools available at the second level (Compliance Techniques) include those in the first level and:¹

1.3.4.2.1. Verbal Manipulation Techniques: Targeted towards changing the behavior of an individual (basic conflict management) or of a group of individuals (basic crisis management).¹

1.3.4.2.2. Handcuffing Techniques: Standing, and prone¹

1.3.4.2.3. Wrist elbow position¹

1.3.4.2.4. Hand rotation position¹

1.3.4.3. Tools available at the third level (Compliance Techniques) besides those available in the first and second include:¹

1.3.4.3.1. Neuromuscular controls¹

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1.3.4.3.2. Chemical irritant application.¹

1.3.4.3.2. (AFRC) The use of pepper spray is authorized for AFRC SF personnel. Thorough training and adherence to state law in the use of pepper spray is critical and required. Generally, you can expect to use pepper spray when the subject's actions are located within the Resistant (Active) portion of the Use of Force Model. Units will report discharge of pepper spray using the format included in Attachment 6.

1.3.4.3.3. Baton used as leverage devices or in pain compliance role (non-striking)¹

1.3.4.3.3. (AFRC) The use of the baton is authorized for AFRC SF personnel. Thorough training in the use of the baton is critical and required. Generally, you can expect to use the baton against a subject whose actions place him/her within the Assaultive (bodily harm) portion of the Use of Force Model.

1.3.4.3.4. MWD (off leash).¹

1.3.4.4. Tools available at the fourth level (Defensive Tactic) include those from the three levels below and:¹

1.3.4.4.1. Escape Techniques: For use in escape from grabs and chokes.¹

1.3.4.4.2. Assault defenses: To include use of head, hands, elbows, feet and knees in warding off or countering the subject assault.¹

1.3.4.4.3. Impact Weapons: To include the baton or riot stick as well as anything at hand for use in fending off or gaining control of the subject. Blocks, strikes, and jabs to non-lethal areas would be justified.¹

1.3.4.4.4. Weapon retention.¹

1.3.4.5. Tools available at the fifth level (Deadly Force) include those formerly outlined in Levels I-IV and Firearms.¹

1.3.5. Three tactical issues should be noted.¹

1.3.5.1. The principle strategic focus in the enforcement environment is to continue to promote and practice the confrontation equation; which by definition is simply the officer remaining in a constant position of recognizable advantage within any confrontation, while the subject stays in a continued position of recognizable disadvantage. One vivid and viable illustration of this tactical equation is the practice of the 2 on 1 advantage ratio of officers to subject, as the rule, rather than the exception.¹

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1.3.5.2. The focus toward the confrontation should be primarily placed upon the "actions" of the subject, rather than the important, but secondary attributes of the "actor" in the situation. Certainly the "who" involved is of concern (e.g., past actions, previous history of violence, the subject's size/strength, etc.), but primary focus needs to be directed toward "what" is happening at the time - what the subject is doing. The "reasonable officer" must guard against being lulled into complacency by past knowledge of the subject, or placing himself in crisis by pre-judging a mode of force utilization based upon previous contact, not present at this point in time.¹

1.3.5.3. When placed into a confrontation, the "reasonable officer" must expand his/her perspective from the common practice of "reaction" into a more strategic confrontational conduct of an action initiated response.¹

1.3.5.3.1. This response should be pro-active, drawn upon the expertise and experience with the actual subject and situations, or other similar participants and incidents. The officer should remain free of the pressure to pre-judge the actions of the subject, and gain the enhanced ability to more properly perceive the actual and/or potential actions of the subject in question.¹

1.3.5.3.2. Ideally, the officer should practice anticipatory behavior (stress reduction techniques, conflict avoidance/resolution tactics, fear management skills, etc.) to attempt to prevent potential non-compliant confrontations. Or, if a conflict is perceived as inevitable, he/she should initiate procedures to provide sufficient systems (strategic planning, team tactics, etc.) to maximize the status of safety for himself/herself, others, and the actual subject.¹

1.3.5.3.3. The response must be active, in that the controlling tactics the officer initiates will accomplish the re-control of the subject with a high degree of effectiveness and safety to the officer and to others. In this manner, the confrontation can be controlled as efficiently as possible, thus avoiding the selection of higher levels of force utilization with the inherent risks of greater potential injury to the officer, the subject, or others.¹

1.3.5.3.4. And finally, the response must be based on the officer's experience and training, directing the officer's actions toward a mode of prevention via the tactical application of "Lesson's Learned", or response based research. Most confrontations are not unique or remain isolated in time, their components will re-occur at other times with other subjects. If a safe, successful solution evolves, the officer should follow that course of response in the future. If the solution is not found, the officer should use the past experience as a catalyst to seek a safe, strategic, future solution.¹

1.3.5.3.5. This principled, status of safety, can only be maintained if the officer strategically and systematically anticipates, assesses, and acts within the effective and accepted parameters of the situation. The officer must understand that this process, and its products exist in an environment that is ever changing in definition, direction, and depth.¹

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1.4. Use of Deadly Force. The use of deadly force must meet the 'objective reasonableness' standard. Use deadly force only when facing conditions of extreme necessity, when all lesser means of force aren't feasible or have failed, and only under one or more of these circumstances as set forth in DoD Directive 5210.56.

1.4.1. You may use force, including deadly force, when you reasonably believe yourself or others to be in imminent danger of death or serious bodily harm.

1.4.2. You may use force, including deadly force, to protect DoD assets designated as vital to the national security. The DoD designates its assets as "vital to the national security" only when their loss, damage, or compromise would seriously jeopardize the fulfillment of a national defense mission. This normally includes priority A, B, or C assets as defined in AFI 31-101, *The Air Force Physical Security Program*. Installation commanders must identify the resources specifically designated as vital to national security, and the procedures they will use to inform armed personnel of such specifically designated property in their installation security instruction.

1.4.3. You may use force, to include deadly force, to protect DoD assets not involving the national security but inherently dangerous to others. Designate these resources as such if their theft or sabotage would present a substantial danger of death or serious bodily harm to others. This category includes weapons, ammunition, missiles, rockets, explosives, chemical agents, and special nuclear material. Installation commanders must identify the resources specifically designated as inherently dangerous to others and the procedures they will use to inform armed personnel of such specifically designated property in their installation security instruction or installation resources protection plan. These assets include, but are not limited to, Hamlet, Redeye, Stinger, Dragon, Viper, and other anti-armor nonnuclear ready-to-fire missiles; light automatic firearms; heavy machine guns; mortars; grenade launchers; flame throwers; handguns, rifles, and shotguns; recoilless rifles; explosive and incendiary hand grenades; explosive mines; high explosives such as TNT, dynamite, and C-4 plastic; high explosive fuses and detonation cord; blasting caps, bulk riot control agents; and associated ammunition for the above firearms.

1.4.4. You may use force, including deadly force, to prevent the commission of a serious offense involving violence and threatening death or serious bodily harm.

1.4.5. You may use force; to include deadly force, when it reasonably appears necessary to detain, apprehend, or prevent the escape of a person suspected of committing an offense of the nature specified in paragraphs **1.4.1.**, **1.4.2.**, **1.4.3.**, and **1.4.4.**, and it reasonably appears that the suspect presents an immediate danger to you or to others.

1.4.6. You may use force, to include deadly force, when it appears reasonably necessary to prevent the escape of a prisoner who threatens serious bodily harm or death to escorting personnel or other persons. During an escape attempt, you must have probable cause to believe the prisoner is attempting to escape and that the escaping prisoner poses a threat of serious bodily harm either to yourself or others.

1.4.7. You may use your weapon as a signaling device as a last resort when all other means of communication have failed or are unavailable, and you are involved in a life-threatening situation. This is done by firing three rounds in rapid succession straight into the air away from resources or populated areas.

1.5. Special Considerations for the Use of Deadly Force. Fire shots only with due regard for the safety of innocent bystanders. Do not fire shots if they are likely to endanger innocent bystanders. When possible, give an order to "HALT" before discharging a firearm to prevent death or serious bodily harm to others.

1.5.1. When you are under hostile attack in protection and recovery operations involving nuclear weapons or lethal chemical agents, the presence of innocent bystanders or hostages must not deter you from stopping the attack through all means at your disposal.

1.5.2. When you discharge a firearm, fire it with the intent of rendering the targeted person or persons incapable of continuing the activity or course of behavior that led you to shoot. Rendering incapable may not require death in every circumstance. Do not fire shots as a warning to suspects except as otherwise provided by overseas theater directives.

1.5.3. Commanders may impose further restrictions on the use of deadly force to comply with local and host-nation laws. Such restrictions must not unduly compromise the security interests of the United States. Commanders must list restrictions imposed by local or host-nation laws in their local guidance implementing instruction.

Chapter 2

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

2.1. Authorization To Bear Arms . Before authorizing people to bear firearms, they must fulfill the training requirements under paragraph 2.10.. They must not bear privately owned firearms while performing official military duty, except as authorized in paragraph 2.8.. Issue an authorization to carry firearms only when you have reason or evidence to believe that life or property may be in jeopardy if you don't authorize the individual to carry a weapon. Before issuing authorizations, you must consider the duty assignment (paragraph 2.3.), suitability rules (paragraph 2.6.), and the possible consequences of accidental or indiscriminate use of firearms.

2.1.1. The following individuals may authorize people to openly bear and use firearms:

2.1.1.1. Installation, center, squadron, and numbered flight commanders, including geographically separated unit (GSU) commanders.

2.1.1.2. Numbered Air Force (NAF), major command (MAJCOM), and wing commanders.

2.1.1.3. Principal appointees of squadron, installation, GSU, wing, NAF, MAJCOM, division, and center commanders when specifically authorized in their respective MAJCOM supplements to this instruction.

2.1.1.4. Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) commanders according to AFPD 71-1, *Criminal Investigations and Counterintelligence*.

2.1.1.5. (Added-AFRC) Squadron commanders may appoint other persons, including civilian personnel, as their principle designees to authorize persons in their organizations to openly bear and use firearms. Units maintaining weapons in the Security Force (SF) armory will forward a copy of the arming authorization letter to the SF before issuance of weapons

2.1.2. Only installation commanders (or equivalents), a higher authority, or their designated representatives, may authorize their people to bear and use concealed firearms. Exceptions to this rule are

2.1.2.1. AFOSI commanders, according to AFPD 71-1.

2.1.2.2. Assigned or gained flying squadron commanders of aircrews armed specifically for preventing hijacks.

2.1.2.3. Security forces commanders may authorize security forces personnel to bear concealed firearms to meet certain mission requirements such as support of AFOSI operations, SF investigations, protection of distinguished visitors, etc.

2.1.2.3. (AFRC) Includes authorization for personnel assigned to aircraft mission security teams (MST) to carry concealed firearms when it is warranted due to the sensitivities of openly bearing firearms at enroute stops, provided that concealed firearms are not prohibited by the foreign clearance guide or the host nation.

2.2. Arming Plans. Commanders must develop plans that specifically identify who may bear firearms and when they may use them. Plans must contain command and control provisions and explain how the installation will arm selected personnel during specific defense conditions (DEFCON), terrorist threat conditions (THREATCON), and other military contingencies. Installation commanders must incorporate

these plans into their existing programs for installation security. The commander must insure that those persons convicted of domestic violence are not armed.

2.2.1. This instruction applies mainly to peacetime operations. During periods of conflict (declared or undeclared war), theater commanders may impose rules of engagement to replace these policies on deadly force. Commanders must ensure all armed personnel thoroughly understand the rules of engagement. When feasible, publish these rules of engagement in a MAJCOM or local contingency plan.

2.2.2. Local commanders must develop criteria consistent with this instruction as well as:

2.2.2.1. DoD Directive 5210.56, *Use of Deadly Force and the Carrying of Firearms by DoD Personnel Engaged in Law Enforcement and Security Duties*.

2.2.2.2. Local laws for carrying firearms and using deadly force by contract security forces.

2.3. People Authorized to Bear and Use Firearms. People authorized to bear and use firearms include:

2.3.1. Military, civilian, and contract security forces members armed with Government-owned firearms assigned to US Air Force units.

2.3.2. AFOSI special agents.

2.3.3. Military aircrews armed to prevent hijacks and protect resources.

2.3.4. Pararescue members requiring arms in support of antihijacking missions and operational deployments.

2.3.5. Military command post and operations center controllers.

2.3.6. Military missile combat crews.

2.3.7. Military munitions maintenance people.

2.3.8. Military resource augmentation duty (READY) program security forces augmentees and selectively armed members.

2.3.9. All drivers for senior USAF officials.

2.3.10. (Added-AFRC) Military, civilian, and contract civilian personnel with owner/user security requirements of AFRC resources and assets.

2.3.11. (Added-AFRC) Personnel engaged in bird control, with other than blank ammunition, are considered armed.

2.4. Arming Groups. All USAF people eligible to bear arms belong to one or more of three arming groups:

2.4.1. Group A consists of security forces, AFOSI special agents, and people serving in an Air Force specialty (AFS) that specifies qualification to bear firearms as a mandatory requirement (Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2105, *Officer Classification*; or AFMAN 36-2108, *Airman Classification*, for entry, award, and retention of the Air Force specialty code (AFSC). Group A also includes people who have a high potential to be in armed conflict, such as members of pararescue units, the Tactical Air Control Party, the Air Support Operations Center, and the Special Operations Weather Team Tactical Element.

2.4.2. Group B consists of individuals other than those in Group A who arm in peacetime for protection of Air Force assets and people. It also includes members who have the potential of engaging in armed conflict as part of their wartime operational mission. These would include:

2.4.2.1. Aircrew members armed for air operations security (i.e. antihijacking).

2.4.2.1. (AFRC) Within AFRC, these aircrew members are considered Group C personnel.

2.4.2.2. Primary nuclear airlift force (PNAF) and emergency nuclear airlift force (ENAF) aircrews.

2.4.2.3. Command-post entry controllers.

2.4.2.4. Couriers.

2.4.2.5. Designated munitions maintenance personnel.

2.4.2.6. Weapon custodians.

2.4.2.7. Armed personnel selected by the commander for peacetime owner/user security.

2.4.2.8. Explosive ordnance disposal personnel.

2.4.2.9. Mobile aerial port squadron and flight personnel.

2.4.2.10. Deployable combat logistics support squadron personnel.

2.4.2.10. (AFRC) Within AFRC, CLSS personnel are Group B but qualify every two years.

2.4.2.11. Combat control teams.

2.4.2.12. Special operations command special tactics personnel.

2.4.2.13. RED HORSE and PRIME BEEF personnel.

2.4.2.14. Weather people supporting US Army forces.

2.4.2.15. Combat communications units deployable or overseas in-place.

2.4.2.16. Human intelligence (HUMINT) personnel assigned to unit type code (UTC) PFJIT, Intelligence Main Operating Base (MOB) Interrogation Team, and PFJCT, HUMINT Collection teams.

2.4.3. Group C consists of members who carry arms in a combat area during wartime, in designated hostile fire areas not during wartime, or during an air base defense emergency. It includes Air Force personnel other than Group A or B, including all medical staff required to maintain firearms qualification or complete firearms training. It also includes MAJCOM-identified overseas in-place personnel (who are not part of Group A or B) and personnel assigned to mobility positions.

2.5. Arming Deployable (Mobility) Forces. Commanders may arm deployable forces to support contingency, wartime, or training operations. A command contingency plan or tasking message provides the arming requirements for deploying personnel.

2.5.1. The contingency plan or tasking message describes the type of firearms required, the arming mission, the anticipated tasks armed members will perform, and the command and control elements.

2.5.2. Supported commands develop guidance and procedures on selectively arming and using these people.

2.6. Monitoring Suitability to Bear Firearms.

2.6.1. Commanders must select people for armed duty with great care and continually monitor the suitability of their people for armed duty. Commanders must temporarily withdraw the authority to bear arms from people who are:

2.6.1.1. Identified substance abusers.

2.6.1.2. Emotionally unstable or whose behavior suggests they're incapable of using firearms with care.

2.6.1.3. Determined by medical authority to be suffering from alcohol abuse (K2) or dependence (K3).

2.6.1.4. Taking prescription medication that will impair their ability to use firearms with care. Commanders must consult with the responsible physician when medication such as Prozac is prescribed. The use of prescription medication does not necessarily mean the person cannot bear firearms. The physician has to make a determination regarding the individual's access to firearms. If the physician determines that the individual should not have access to firearms, this will be documented IAW AFI 48-123, *Profiles and Duty Limitations*.

2.6.1.5. Relieved of duty for disciplinary reasons.

2.6.2. Everyone has a special responsibility to stay alert for behavioral signs that arming someone is not suitable. If you have information or evidence of impairment of a member's mental or physical ability to arm, notify that person's commander immediately. Individuals under the influence of intoxicants will not be armed.

2.6.3. Commanders must evaluate the information and if necessary take immediate action to temporarily withdraw the affected person's authority to bear a firearm. If warranted, commanders must also deny the person access to any Government-owned or privately owned firearm and associated ammunition stored in a Government firearm storage facility. Commanders must follow the procedures in AFI 44-109, *Mental Health and Military Law*, in referring individuals for a mental health evaluation.

2.6.4. The individual's commander, in consultation with the social actions officer and proper medical authorities, reviews the temporary status every 180-calendar days to either reaffirm that status or take other appropriate action. Commanders may file extensions on a case-by-case basis and normally only when their investigation is incomplete, or the member is undergoing medical treatment.

2.6.5. Commander must not deny assignments, promotions, and reenlistment solely because of the temporary withdrawal of the person's authorization to bear a firearm.

2.6.6. Commanders deciding to withdraw a person's authorization to bear arms for more than 72 hours must notify the individual in writing of the withdrawal action. Provide a brief synopsis of circumstances that form the basis for the withdrawal. Have the individual acknowledge the withdrawal action by endorsement on the notification letter. Provide a copy to the affected person and the servicing armory. Commanders may withdraw authority to bear arms for less than 72 hours by oral notification to the affected person and the servicing armory. The servicing armory will take appropriate action to insure a weapon is not issued to a person who's authority has been withdrawn.

2.6.6.1. (Added-AFRC) For suspensions and/or temporary withdrawal to bear firearms, use guidance identified in paragraph 2.6.6. (that is, less than 72 hours, oral notification is authorized; beyond 72 hours, written notification required). When oral notification is used, it is imperative

that unit commanders develop procedures to ensure all armorers are informed when an individual's authority to bear firearms has been removed. Mere pass-on is insufficient.

2.6.7. Unit commanders may reinstate a person's authorization upon receiving a favorable report of a completed investigation, corrective action, or medical evaluation. Notify the individual and servicing armory in writing of the reinstatement. File all correspondence dealing with the withdrawal and/or reinstatement in the unit's personnel information file for 12 months or until the affected person's transfer, retraining, separation, or retirement, whichever comes first.

2.6.8. Unit commanders or an equivalent authority who believe it's appropriate to permanently withdraw a member's authorization to bear firearms must first review the person's duty performance; and medical and disciplinary records to ensure warranting of this decision. They should also consult their chief of personnel, staff judge advocate, social actions officer, hospital commander, and Chief of Security Forces (CSF) before taking this action.

2.6.8.1. When the person's AFSC specialty description in AFI 36-2105, *Officer Classification*, or AFI 36-2108, *Airman Classification*, requires qualification to bear firearms, commanders must take action according to AFI 36-2101, *Classifying Military Personnel (Officers and Airmen)*; or AFI 36-704, *Discipline and Adverse Actions*.

2.6.8.2. When issuing the permanent withdrawal of authority to bear firearms to a military member, commanders submit a copy of the written withdrawal action to the military personnel flight along with those documents withdrawing the affected person's AFSC. **NOTE:** Follow the same process to reinstate an individual's authority to bear a firearm.

2.6.8.3. The decision to withdraw a person's authority to bear a firearm does not solely justify an administrative separation. However, the affected person may need to undergo retraining if he or she no longer meets the AFSC requirements outlined in AFI 36-2105 or AFI 36-2108. Commanders review the reason for the withdrawal to determine whether to take disciplinary or administrative action.

2.6.9. People whose peacetime authority to bear firearms has been permanently withdrawn may bear firearms in wartime or situations requiring immediate action to protect life or property. Commanders must weigh the benefits against the possible adverse effects of arming such personnel.

2.6.10. Persons convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence are prohibited by the Gun Control Act of 1968 (18 U.S.C. 922) from shipping, transporting, possessing, or receiving firearms or ammunition. Furthermore, it is a felony for anyone to sell or otherwise dispose of a firearm to any person so convicted.

2.6.10.1. Commanders will take appropriate measures to insure that DoD personnel do not issue government owned and privately owned firearms or ammunition to anyone they have reasonable cause to believe has ever been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence. Commanders will initiate an appropriate investigation to confirm suspected convictions of domestic violence.

2.6.10.2. For personnel found to have a qualifying conviction, the commander will retrieve immediately all issued firearms and ammunition, withdraw their authority to possess firearms or ammunition, and advise them to dispose of their privately-owned firearms and ammunition lawfully.

2.7. Documenting the Authorization To Bear Firearms. The appropriate authorizing official must sign written authorization to carry firearms except in situations requiring immediate action to protect life or property. Do not issue firearms to anyone who has not successfully completed their required weapons qualification training as specified in AFI 36-2226, *Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) Program*.

2.7.1. Uniformed personnel may be authorized to bear firearms for a continuing period, providing they maintain required qualification and get annual use of force training. The written authorization may be issued as a single multiple-listing letter, computerized roster, aircrew orders, or other group documents. Identify the individual by name, social security number, firearm type, and last qualification date (for that weapon). Send the original authorization letter, roster, aircrew orders, etc., to the organization's servicing arms room or armory. AFOSI special agent's badge and credentials serve as written authorization for AFOSI personnel to carry firearms.

2.7.2. Besides getting written authorization, personnel not in uniform who have to openly bear firearms when performing official military duties must:

2.7.2.1. Obtain an AF Form 523, *USAF Authorization To Bear Firearms*.

2.7.2.2. Carry the AF Form 523 when armed.

2.7.2.3. Surrender the form to the issuing authority when you complete the duties requiring you to bear a firearm.

2.7.3. Standardize AF Form 523 permit numbers. For example, 37SFS 98-0012 refers to the 12th permit issued in 1998 at by the 37th Security Forces Squadron at Lackland AFB, Texas.

2.7.4. AF Forms 523 issued for off-base operations require full face photographs. All others contain the statement "VALID ON (INSTALLATION NAME) ONLY."

2.8. Exemptions. Uniformed military members performing an operational mission in a combat or hostile-fire zone; or in situations requiring immediate action to protect life or property don't require written authorization to bear firearms.

2.8.1. Civilian contract police may bear privately owned firearms if so stated in their Air Force contract.

2.8.2. Those performing honor guard duties who use firearms for ceremonial purposes (i.e., no live ammunition) need only comply with paragraphs **2.14.** - **2.16.** of this instruction and with handling instructions for the M1 rifle found in AFMAN 31-229, *USAF Weapons Loading Procedures*

2.9. Carrying Concealed Firearms. The Air Force prohibits all military, civilian, and contract employees from carrying concealed firearms on duty except when specifically authorized in writing by a firearms-issuing authority and only while performing an official military duty. **NOTE:** Official aircrew orders, specifying the USAF member carry a concealed firearm, satisfy the written authorization requirement. Military members who violate this provision prohibiting the carrying of a concealed weapon without written authorization are subject to administrative or disciplinary proceedings under Article 92, Uniformed Code of Military Justice. Civilian employees who violate this provision are subject to administrative or disciplinary action without regard to otherwise applicable criminal or civil sanctions for violations of related laws.

2.9.1. Except when it might compromise your mission, always carry AF Form 523 while bearing concealed firearms. In those cases, the issuing authority retains the form. The permit number on AF Form 523 includes the heading "CONCEALED." (These procedures help ensure compatibility between US Air Force authorizations to bear concealed firearms and other jurisdictional requirements.)

2.9.2. MAJCOMs, including the Air National Guard, may authorize personnel to retain an AF Form 523 when missions require those members to bear a concealed firearm on a regular basis (for example, assigned and gained aircrews armed specifically for antihijack purposes).

2.9.3. AFOSI special agent's badge and credentials authorize the carry of concealed firearms in place of the AF Form 523.

2.9.4. Armed drivers for designated senior Air Force leaders must meet all qualification and training requirements established for Arming Group A personnel. They must comply with all provisions of this instruction with close attention paid to paragraphs 2.7.2., 2.7.4., and 2.9.1.. They must be knowledgeable of the Posse Comitatus Act and/or local SOFA agreements as they apply to the carry and use of firearms. All drivers will inform the installation security forces, AFOSI detachment, and appropriate local civil authorities of their arming authorization. Their commander must ensure these individuals understand their role is that of an "armed driver," not as a security escort. The USAF protective service function belongs solely to AFOSI.

2.10. Training Requirements.

2.10.1. All armed personnel must meet the level of firearms qualification required by the arming group to which they belong as specified in AFI 36-2226, *Combat Arms Program*. Only tasked certified combat arms instructors (3POX1B/SEI 312, or civilian equivalent) are authorized to conduct the weapons qualification programs identified in AFI 36-2226. Document this training in a manner that records the name of the individual trained, the date of training, and the name and rank of the individual responsible for giving the training. AFSC Functional Managers can impose additional firearms proficiency training policies once personnel are weapons qualified in accordance with AFI 36-2226. In addition:

2.10.1. (AFRC) Document use of force training on an approved automated data system with a backup on an AF Form 797, Job Qualification Standard Continuation/Command JQS.

2.10.1.1. Unit commanders must ensure individuals in Arming Group A receive use of force training at least once every 12 months.

2.10.1.2. Unit commanders must ensure individuals in Arming Group B receive use of force training before issuance of a firearm. Once given, this training is good for 12 months. **NOTE:** Each unit will be responsible for conducting use-of-force training for assigned personnel.

2.10.1.3. Unit commanders must ensure Arming Group C individuals receive a briefing on the applicable theater rules of engagement before arming for any wartime mission.

2.10.2. All MAJCOM identified Air Force personnel receive small arms training before stationing overseas according to AFI 36-2226. All personnel assigned to a mobility position receive small arms training as prescribed by the qualification group to which they belong.

2.11. Firearm Qualification Extensions.

2.11.1. Squadron Commander Extensions. The arming authority for the unit may grant one-time qualification extensions of up to 120 calendar days. Unit training sections ensure qualification extensions are posted to the individual's AF Form 522. Provide the installation Security Forces commander with a courtesy copy of the extension letter. **Note: Do not grant qualification extensions to personnel who are identified for deployment to a critical threat area. Their firearms qualification (live-fire) must be current through out the tour length.**

2.11.2. Installation-Level Extensions. Installation commanders and senior-level tenant US Air Force Reserves (USAFR) and Air National Guard (ANG) offices may grant one-time qualification extensions of up to 12 continuous months. Qualification extensions significantly decrease an individual's minimum skill proficiency level. For this reason, the below items should be considered before granting lengthy extensions.

2.11.2. (AFRC) Security Forces commanders may authorize retention of the AF Form 523 by members assigned to enroute aircraft security details (MST) and who may be alerted or recalled on short notice to deploy with an aircraft.

2.11.2.1. Impact on the Force Protection mission.

2.11.2.2. Identify the number of individuals, by organization, that the extension effects and what their specific arming requirements are (i.e., peacetime or contingency arming.)

2.11.2.3. Identify compensatory measures should personnel be required to deploy to a critical threat area. Firearms qualification (live-fire) must be current through out the tour length for deploying personnel.

2.11.2.4. Identify the reason for the extension, corrective action, and get well date.

2.11.3. Notify the Security Forces commander when qualification extensions are approved for installation personnel. The granting authority informs each unit of the types of firearms, courses of training, duration of extensions, and authorizing documents. Each unit training section ensures qualification extensions are posted to the individual's Air Force Form 522.

2.11.4. MAJCOM Extensions. Qualification extensions required beyond 12 continuous months must be approved by the MAJCOM arming authority. Document these extensions by letter format, ensuring the type(s) of firearm(s), courses of training, and duration of extension are listed in the letter.

2.11.4. (AFRC) Within Air Force Reserve Command, the MAJCOM arming authority is HQ AFRC/SF.

2.12. Firearms Safety. Draw or aim firearms only when you believe the lawful use of deadly force *reasonably* appears necessary unless you are using your weapon as a signaling device as authorized by paragraph 1.4.7. Military members who violate this prohibition are subject to administrative or disciplinary proceedings under Article 92, Uniformed Code of Military Justice. Civilian employees who violate this provision are subject to administrative or disciplinary action without regard to otherwise applicable criminal or civil sanctions for violations of related laws.

2.12.1. Remember that when responding to an *actual* incident or exercise situation where you could *reasonably* expect to meet an armed adversary, respond with your firearms ready according to **attachment 5**. You must base any decision to chamber a round of ammunition in a firearm that's not normally carried with a round chambered, or to draw a pistol from the holster, on the circumstances

you're facing and the threat present. AFOSI special agents follow the guidance set forth by their functional managers.

2.12.1. (AFRC) If a round is chambered during response to an actual incident, ensure the weapon is properly cleared upon termination of the response.

2.12.2. Note that tactical exercises using multiple integrated laser engagement system (MILES) equipment or blank ammunition are exempt from the paragraph 2.11. provisions. Field operating agencies (FOAs) and/or MAJCOMs must specify the safety requirements for using blank ammunition.

2.12.2. (AFRC) Weapon T.O.s specify the safety requirements and safe distances for using blank ammunition.

2.12.2.1. (Added-AFRC) Store blank ammunition in separate containers from live ammunition. To ensure appropriate segregation and storage, blank ammunition and live ammunition will not be stored side-by-side.

2.12.2.2. (Added-AFRC) During any exercise where blank ammunition is used, an officer and/or NCO will:

2.12.2.2.1. (Added-AFRC) Physically inspect all exercise participants to ensure they are not carrying live ammunition.

2.12.2.2.2. (Added-AFRC) Account for and collect all unused blank ammunition at the end of the exercise.

2.12.3. Do not load firearms when stored. **EXCEPTION:** Aircrew members performing anti-hijack missions and military personnel involved in actual combat.

2.12.4. Do *not* consume any form of alcohol or use other drugs or medications that could impair your ability to handle a firearm while on duty, or within 8 hours before duty/training.

2.12.4. (AFRC) The blood alcohol content (BAC) standard for AFRC personnel bearing firearms is **ZERO**. No person is allowed to bear firearms when any measurable alcohol is present in the body.

2.12.5. Use standardized weapons handling procedures as set forth in AFMAN 31-229, *USAF Weapons Loading Procedures*, when armed with a US Air Force owned weapon. HQ AFSFC/SFO must approve any deviations to these procedures before MAJCOMs or units implement them.

2.12.6. Clear firearms for duty only under the supervision of a trained clearing barrel attendant who has access to a clearing barrel. Clearing barrel attendants must know the clearing procedures for all firearms loaded and unloaded at their clearing area. **EXCEPTIONS:**

2.12.6.1. Personnel engaged in combat, weapons qualification training, or training exercises simulating combat.

2.12.6.2. AFOSI personnel will follow guidelines specified in AFOSI Instruction 71-110, *Arming and Use of Force for the Air Force Office of Special Investigations*.

2.12.7. You may use a firearm as an **emergency** signaling device when no other means of communication is available to sound an alarm or when available communication means have failed. To signal, fire three shots in rapid succession straight up into the air, while considering that the fired round will come down somewhere. Do not fire shots indoors or when you might endanger innocent bystanders or nearby property.

2.12.8. When personnel are required to store government-issued firearms at a residence or non-government location, they will use child safety lock devices. Safety locks and instructions for their proper use are to be provided with all issued government firearms by the agency that issues the firearm.

2.12.9. (Added-AFRC) Installation CSF will develop and implement written guidelines for firearms safety tailored specifically to SF exercises/training. In doing so, they must, at a minimum:

2.12.9.1. (Added-AFRC) Establish local procedures for conducting exercises/training with blank ammunition with or without MILES equipment attached.

2.12.9.2. (Added-AFRC) Establish local procedures for conducting exercises/training with live ammunition.

2.12.9.3. (Added-AFRC) Address procedures for clearing/emptying weapons prior to leaving the play box upon completion of any exercise scenario.

2.12.9.4. (Added-AFRC) Address emergency action procedures should an accident/incident occur.

2.12.9.5. (Added-AFRC) Establish notification procedures prior to exercise STARTEX, including at a minimum:

2.12.9.5.1. (Added-AFRC) OIC or Superintendent of Operations Branch or Training and Resources Branch.

2.12.9.6. (Added-AFRC) Establish weapons/ammunition disposition procedures in the event an exercise participant becomes injured, sick, or incapacitated for any reason.

2.12.9.7. (Added-AFRC) Establish local procedures ensuring 100% accountability of exercise/training ammunition.

2.12.9.8. (Added-AFRC) Establish a training and qualification program for exercise/training supervisors.

2.12.9.9. (Added-AFRC) Ensure radio contact is maintained with the SF control center or range control during all exercises.

2.12.9.10. (Added-AFRC) Ensure personnel deploying to exercises and training centers conduct detailed inspections of their persons and equipment to detect live munitions prior to departing home station.

2.12.9.11. (Added-AFRC) Obtain consent of the installation commander and coordinate with the SJA and the installation safety office before any non-military, non-DOD personnel are given USAF weapons or ammunition or are allowed to participate in military exercises/training/demonstrations. **NOTE:** Reservists not in military status are civilians and their participation should be scrutinized.

2.13. Peacetime Firearms Discharges. Commanders must investigate all peacetime accidental and deliberate firearm discharges. You must immediately report peacetime discharges to your commander, the commander of the person who discharged the firearm (if different), and the security forces. Failing to report these incidents is a violation of Article 92, UCMJ.

2.13.1. The commander of the person who discharged a firearm:

2.13.1.1. Immediately begins an investigation of the incident or contacts the security forces for investigative assistance.

2.13.1.2. Immediately withdraws (temporarily) the person's authorization to bear a firearm until the completion of the investigation and, if necessary, until the person completes a remedial fire-arms training course.

2.13.1.3. Takes immediate corrective action, including applicable administrative or disciplinary action, if the investigation reveals the person used the firearm negligently or has a training deficiency.

2.13.1.4. Immediately returns the affected person to duty if the investigation or other conclusive evidence shows the person discharged the firearm according to established policy.

2.13.2. If a US military member, contract employee, or a civilian employed by the US military discharges a Government-owned firearm and the incident involves an injury, fatality, or possible adverse publicity, the installation commander:

2.13.2. (AFRC) Report **ALL** firearms discharges, accidental or deliberate and regardless of fatality, injury, or possible adverse publicity, to HQ AFRC/SF within 24 hours. For discharges not involving fatality, injury or adverse publicity, use the report format in, Attachment 6, Incident Summary, only.

2.13.2.1. Reports the incident using the OPREP-3/BEELINE message format.

2.13.2.2. Sends the message to HQ USAF/SF and HQ AFSFC/SFO within 24 hours of the incident. Report Control Symbol HAF-XOO(AR)7118 covers this report. It is designated emergency status code C1. Continue reporting during emergency conditions. Priority. Continue reporting during MINIMIZE.

2.13.2.3. Sends information copies to the HQ USAF or FOA headquarters functional manager of the unit involved, and to the intermediate security forces headquarters (Field Operating Agency, MAJCOM, and/or NAF) staff and functional manager of the unit involved.

2.13.2.4. Sends a written follow-up report in a lesson learned format (**attachment 6**) within 45 calendar days of the discharge to all original addressees. Criminal investigations by security forces investigations or AFOSI into the shooting do not alleviate the need for this report. (When unauthorized firearm discharges don't involve an injury, fatality, or possible adverse publicity, report the incidents according to MAJCOM or FOA instructions. Forward information on incidents from which we can learn significant lessons to HQ AFSFC/SFOP.)

2.14. Arming Senior Military and Civilian Officials. The heads of the DoD components, or their designees, may authorize senior military and civilian officials to carry firearms in overseas areas. Theater commanders issue authorization for Air Force personnel in overseas areas. Arm only for personal protection in high-threat overseas areas in which intelligence analysis identifies a credible threat against US personnel. Issue authorizations to carry firearms on a case-by-case basis for a specified assignment.

2.14.1. Before issuing authorizations to carry firearms for personal protection, commanders must weigh:

2.14.1.1. The likelihood of the threat in a particular location.

2.14.1.2. The adequacies of DoD protective personnel support.

2.14.1.3. The adequacy of host-nation protection.

2.14.1.4. The effectiveness of other means to avoid personal attacks.

2.14.2. Individuals authorized to carry a weapon for personal protection must complete annual weapons qualification and use of force training before carrying their firearm.

2.14.3. General officers may transport their assigned weapons to off-base firing ranges, consistent with host-nation law and status-of-forces agreements governing transportation and carrying of weapons.

2.14.4. Commanders must ensure compliance with host-nation law and applicable status-of-forces agreements (SOFA).

2.15. Carrying Firearms as a Passenger aboard Aircraft. US Air Force military, civilian, and contract personnel may bear Government firearms aboard military or commercial aircraft while performing official military duties if the mission requires you to carry a firearm during the flight. All personnel carrying weapons aboard commercial aircraft will comply with Federal Aviation Administration guidelines and training requirements. All personnel carrying firearms aboard military aircraft will notify the aircraft commander prior to flight.

2.15.1. You must possess written authorization to carry firearms, that is, letter of authorization, credentials, etc. Official aircrew orders, along with a current AF Form 523, will suffice to meet the written authorization requirements for aircrew personnel aboard military aircraft.

2.15.2. See DoDD 5210.56 for additional requirements.

2.16. Carrying Firearms in a US Air Force Medical Facility. Only people performing official military duties (i.e. on-duty security forces personnel) requiring arming may bear a firearm in an Air Force medical treatment facility.

2.16. (AFRC) An on-duty Security Forces (SF) member (military and civilian) performing official military duties may bear firearms in an Air Force medical treatment facility. SF personnel seeking medical treatment should be relieved of duty and turn in their firearm prior to going to the medical facility. However, in emergency circumstances, firearms are relinquished to another SF member who turns it in to the armory according to proper weapons handling procedures.

2.17. Local Civilian and Host-Nation Restrictions. Only Air Force theater commanders may authorize personnel to bear arms in any foreign country for other than routine law enforcement and security duties. Commanders may impose restrictions not contained in this instruction based on host-nation laws. MAJCOMs list any additional restrictions in a supplement to this instruction or in a foreign clearance guide when a supplement isn't feasible.

2.18. Forms Prescribed. AF Form 523, *USAF Authorization To Bear Firearms*.

MARVIN R. ESMOND, Lt General, USAF
DCS, Air and Space Operations

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction (CJCSI) 3121.01, *Standing Rules of Engagement for US Forces*

DoD Directive 5210.56, *Use of Deadly Force and the Carrying of Firearms by DoD Personnel Engaged in Law Enforcement and Security Duties*, February 25, 1992.

DoD Civil Disturbance Plan “Garden Plot” (unnumbered).

AFPD 71-1, *Criminal Investigations and Counterintelligence*

AFI 31-101, *Air Force Physical Security Program*

AFMAN 31-222, *The Air Force Use of Force Manual*

AFMAN 31-229, *USAF Weapons Loading Procedures*

AFI 36-2101, *Classifying Military Personnel (Officers and Airmen)*

AFI 36-704, *Discipline and Adverse Actions*.

AFI 36-2226, *Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) Program*

AFI 44-109, *Mental Health and Military Law*

AFMAN 36-2105, *Officer Classification*.

AFMAN 36-2108, *Airman Classification*

AFOSI Instruction 71-110, *Arming and Use of Force for the Air Force Office of Special Investigations*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFCAT—Air Force Catalog

AFI—Air Force Instruction

AFMAN—Air Force Manual

AFOSI—Air Force Office of Special Investigations

AFPD—Air Force Policy Directive

AFS—Air Force Specialty

AFSC—Air Force Specialty Code

CATM—Combat Arms, Training and Maintenance

CSF—Chief, Security Forces

DEFCON—Defense Conditions

DoD—Department of Defense

DoDD—DoD Directive

ENAF—Emergency Nuclear Airlift Force

FOA—Field Operating Agency

GSU—Geographically Separated Unit

MAJCOM—Major Command

MILES—Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System

NAF—Numbered Air Force

PNAF—Primary Nuclear Airlift Force

READY—Resource Augmentation Duty

SOFA—Status of Forces Agreement

THREATCON—Threat Conditions

UCMJ—Uniform Code of Military Justice

Terms

Aggravated Assault—An attack, attempted attack, or violent threat to another person, with or without a weapon, which would probably result in death or serious bodily harm.

Armed—Equipped with a loaded firearm.

Armed Robbery—The taking or attempted taking of a person's property by the actual or threatened use of a weapon, which could result in death or serious bodily harm.

Concealed Firearm—A firearm that isn't clearly visible on the outermost garment worn.

Deadly Force—Force that causes, or that you know has a substantial risk of causing, death or serious bodily harm.

Firearm—Any weapon designed to expel a projectile through a barrel by the action of a propellant or one that you can readily convert to this purpose. The frame or receiver group of any such weapon, any firearm muffler or silencer, and starter guns are firearms.

Firearm Locking Device—A device that when installed on a firearm and secured by means of a key or mechanically, electronically, or electro-mechanically operated combination lock prevents the firearm from being discharged without first deactivating or removing the device by means of a key or mechanically, electronically, or electro-mechanically operated combination lock; **or** A mechanical, electrical, or electro-mechanical locking mechanism incorporated into the design of the firearm that prevents discharge of the weapon by anyone not having access to the key or other device designed to unlock and allow discharge of the firearm.

Functional Manager—The office of primary responsibility for a particular Air Force specialty. Examples: HQ USAF/XOF for security forces; HQ USAF/ILE for civil engineers; AF/DP for personnel, and education and training specialists.

Hostile Act—An overt or clandestine attempt to gain unauthorized entry to a restricted area, to gain unauthorized access to a priority resource in air or ground transport status, or to engage in an overt attack against such areas or resources, or against personnel protecting such resources or areas.

Installation Commander—An officer who commands a host wing, host-support unit, or higher-level host unit, and who administrative order or command directive identifies as an "installation commander."

| **Objective Reasonableness**—Fourth Amendment standard established by Supreme Court in determining if individuals involved in law enforcement or security duties employed appropriate level of force in dealing with all persons. The Supreme Court defined police use of force as a "seizure" under the Fourth Amendment to the US Constitution. The "reasonableness" of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable airman on the scene, rather than with the 20/20 vision of hindsight.

| **Reasonable Officer**—Any officer, non-commissioned officer, airman, civilian or contract employee performing security, law enforcement, military police, or guard duties under Air Force control who acts with the same degree of caution as an ordinary prudent person would exercise under the same or similar circumstances.

Probable Cause (Reasonable Grounds)—Evidence that leads a reasonable person to believe that a specific offense has occurred, that a certain person has committed or is engaged in an offense, that the instruments or fruits of an offense are in a specific place, or all the above.

Rules of Engagement—Directives issued by competent military authority that delineate the circumstances and limitations under which US forces will initiate or continue combat engagement with other forces.

Serious Bodily Harm—Includes fractured or dislocated bones, deep cuts, torn members of the body, serious damage to the internal organs, and other life-threatening injuries. Does not include minor injuries such as a black eye or bloody nose.

Unauthorized Firearms Discharge—Intentionally or accidentally discharging a firearm without authorization.

| **Unit Commander**—An officer who commands a designated unit assigned, attached, or tenant to an installation and whom administrative orders identify as a "commander."

Attachment 2**SPECIALIZED RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF USAF PRIORITY A, B, AND C RESOURCES**

A2.1. When faced with a hostile attempt to penetrate a restricted area boundary or to gain access to a Priority A, B, or C resource and you encounter no hostile weapons fire, you must challenge, detain, and identify all intruders or suspected intruders.

A2.1.1. If the suspects are compliant on the use of force model and obey the challenge, turn them over to appropriate security forces.

A2.1.2. If the intruders or suspects are resistant, on the use of force model, and do not obey the challenge, and penetrate a restricted area boundary or are inside a restricted area and do not endanger a Priority A, B, or C resource, use compliance techniques to isolate the intruders and physically apprehend them. You must base the level of force you employ on your perception of risk to the assets.

A2.2. When faced with an apparent hostile attempt to penetrate a restricted area boundary, to gain access to a Priority A, B, or C resource, or to steal, damage, or destroy such areas or resources, and hostile weapons fire is involved **or weapons are displayed**, you may use deadly force, on the use of force model, if necessary to stop the hostile act. You must base the level of force you employ on your perception of risk to the assets.

A2.3. When faced with a hostile attempt to seize a nuclear asset, you must take all possible actions, including the use of deadly force, on the use of force model, to stop such an act. If hostages are involved, their safety and welfare must not deter you from taking prompt, decisive, and effective action, including the use of deadly force, to prevent the unauthorized access to, removal of, or recovery of a nuclear weapon.

Attachment 3

PERSONALITY AND BEHAVIOR FACTORS THAT MAY AFFECT SUITABILITY TO BEAR FIREARMS

A3.1. The personality and behavioral factors below are presented in categories so they may be more easily recognized. There is no magic number of these factors that suggests a personality or behavioral disorder. Rather, it is the extent to which the noted factor(s) is a change; that is, different from what is considered "normal" that makes a factor important. Finally, it is the **duration** (how long the factor has been present/how long it lasts), the **frequency** (how often it happens), and the **intensity** (strength) of the factor that suggest the severity of the personality or behavioral trait.

A3.1.1. Factors Relating to Thinking and Attitude:

A3.1.1.1. Suspiciousness. Individual seems unable to trust others, is jealous, complains of plots against him or her, and sees hidden meanings in personal slights.

A3.1.1.2. Arrogance. Individual assumes or presumes the possession of superior or unique ideas or abilities.

A3.1.1.3. Lack of Humor. Especially the inability to laugh at one's self, at one's mistakes, or one's weaknesses.

A3.1.1.4. Inflexibility. Especially in accepting new ideas originating among others.

A3.1.1.5. Preoccupation. Sticking to one idea to the exclusion of almost all other thoughts so those relationships with others are strained and ranges of interests are severely narrowed.

A3.1.1.6. Sensitivity. Particularly concerning status, where the individual is overly concerned with being left out, ignored, ridiculed, or talked about.

A3.1.1.7. Arguing. When accompanied by the development of a personal logic to support unusual or unrealistic ideas.

A3.1.2. Factors Related to Behavior or Activity:

A3.1.2.1. Impulsiveness. Acts without considering the consequences, is easily distracted, seeks enjoyment of the moment to the exclusion of long-range goals, craves excitement, and may talk about disasters, violence, or destruction.

A3.1.2.2. Destructiveness. May involve impulsive damage to military equipment.

A3.1.2.3. Temper Tantrums. Childish outbursts of anger, sulking, or pouting over minor disappointments.

A3.1.2.4. Agitation. Excessive restlessness due to emotional tension.

A3.1.2.5. Excessive Talking. Particularly when no logical thought is communicated to the listener.

A3.1.2.6. Decreased Talking. Usually accompanied by boredom, listlessness, and apparent disinterest.

A3.1.2.7. Accident Prone. May show apparent disregard for safety procedures.

A3.1.3. Factors Related to Awareness or Level of Consciousness:

A3.1.3.1. Alcohol and Drug Intoxication. May cause loss of inhibitions, poor judgment, or physical impairment.

A3.1.3.2. Fainting Spells. May have both physical and emotional causes.

A3.1.3.3. Sleep Attacks (Narcolepsy). Uncontrollable episodes of sleeping that may interfere with functional reliability.

A3.1.3.4. Seizures (Epilepsy). May have convulsions, with or without complete loss of consciousness; trance-like states; attacks of inappropriate rage or repetitive, stereotyped behavior.

A3.1.3.5. Sleepwalking. Individual may injure themselves or damage property while apparently asleep.

A3.1.3.6. Daydreaming. Individual preoccupied with internal thoughts and fantasies with lack of attention to current tasks.

A3.1.3.7. Amnesia. Loss of memory due to brain disease and injury or emotional conflicts.

A3.1.4. Factors Related to Mood and Feeling.

A3.1.4.1. Unusual Happiness. Particularly when no apparent reason for elation exists. May be accompanied by excessive physical activity, lack of sleep, excitement, and excessive talking.

A3.1.4.2. Unusual Sadness. May indicate significant depression, particularly when accompanied by hopelessness, self-condemnation, dejection, feelings of guilt, pessimism, poor sleep, fatigue, loss of appetite, slow physical activity, or loss of interest in job and family.

A3.1.4.3. Attempted Suicide. Particularly significant when attempted through the deliberate use of a firearm. Factors predictive of suicide include a history of previous suicide attempts, suicidal threats, depression, serious physical illness, alcoholism, loss of a loved one through death or divorce, financial or job reversals with loss of self-esteem, and apparent preparations for death, such as an unusual interest in wills and life insurance.

A3.1.4.4. Suicide Gestures. May represent significant emotional disorder and require medical evaluation.

A3.1.4.5. Hypochondria. Imagined illness. Disagreements with doctors who are pictured as not understanding.

A3.1.4.6. Complaints of headaches, back pain, or abdominal pains without evidence of physical illness or medical evaluation.

A3.1.4.7. Hostility. Particularly expressions of hostility towards one's country.

A3.1.4.8. Legal Controversies. Threats of lawsuit and other reprisals over minor or nonexistent wrongs.

Attachment 4

INDICATOR OF DIFFICULTY IN COPING EARLY WARNING SIGNS

A4.1. The stress reactions below are presented in categories so that they may be more easily recognized and understood. There is no magic number of these symptoms that suggests difficulty in coping, rather it is the extent to which the noted reaction is a **change** that is different from a person's normal condition that makes a reaction potentially important. It is the combined presence of symptoms that determines the potency of the problem. Indicators may be isolated reactions or combinations among the three categories listed below. Finally, it is their **duration** (how long the symptoms have been present/how long they last), the **frequency** of such incidents (how often they happen), and the **intensity** (strength) with which they are present that suggest the severity of the difficulty of coping.

A4.1.1. Emotional Indicators

A4.1.1.1. Apathy:

A4.1.1.1.1. The "blahs"/Sad

A4.1.1.1.2. Recreation no longer pleasurable

A4.1.1.2. Anxiety:

A4.1.1.2.1. Restless/Agitated

A4.1.1.2.2. Insecure/ Feelings of worthlessness

A4.1.1.3. Irritability:

A4.1.1.3.1. Overly sensitive/Defensive

A4.1.1.3.2. Arrogant/argumentative

A4.1.1.3.3. Insubordinate/hostile

A4.1.1.4. Mental Fatigue:

A4.1.1.4.1. Preoccupied/Inflexible

A4.1.1.4.2. Difficulty concentrating

A4.1.1.5. Overcompensation (Denial):

A4.1.1.5.1. Exaggerate/grandiose

A4.1.1.5.2. Overworks to exhaustion

A4.1.1.5.3. Denies problems/symptoms

A4.1.1.5.4. Suspicious/paranoid

A4.1.2. Behavioral Indicators

A4.1.2.1. Withdrawal (Avoidance):

A4.1.2.1.1. Social isolation

A4.1.2.1.2. Work-related withdrawal

A4.1.2.1.3. Reluctance to accept responsibilities

A4.1.2.1.4. Neglecting responsibilities

A4.1.2.2. Acting out:

A4.1.2.2.1. Alcohol abuse; Promiscuity

A4.1.2.2.2. Gambling/Spending spree

A4.1.2.3. Desperate acting out (Getting Attention):

A4.1.2.3.1. Cry for help

A4.1.2.3.2. Administrative infractions such as tardy for work, poor appearance, poor personal hygiene, accident prone, etc.

A4.1.2.3.3. Legal infractions such as traffic tickets, indebtedness, shoplifting, etc.

A4.1.2.3.4. Fights and/or Child/spouse abuse

A4.1.3. Physical Indicators:

A4.1.3.1. Preoccupation with illness (intolerant of/dwelling on minor ailments)

A4.1.3.2. Frequent illness (actually sick)

A4.1.3.3. Use of self-medication

A4.1.3.4. Somatic indicators:

A4.1.3.4.1. Headaches

A4.1.3.4.2. Insomnia:

A4.1.3.4.3. Change in appetite:

A4.1.3.4.4. Weight gain/Weight loss

A4.1.3.4.5. Digestion problems

A4.1.3.4.6. Nausea/Vomiting

A4.1.3.4.7. Diarrhea/Constipation

A4.1.3.4.8. Sexual difficulties

Attachment 5**EMERGENCY RESPONSES WITH FIREARMS**

A5.1. When responding to an *actual* incident where you can *reasonably* expect to meet an armed adversary, respond with firearms ready as follows:

A5.1.1. When armed with the M16 rifle or the GAU-5A, GAU-5A/A, or GUU-5P, carry it at "port arms," a round in the chamber, safety selector on "SAFE," and the finger *not* in the trigger guard.

A5.1.2. When armed with the M870, M12 or M500 shotgun, carry it at "port arms," safety selector on "ON," a round in the chamber, and finger **not** in the trigger guard.

A5.1.3. When armed with the M9 (9mm) pistol (except AFOSI special agents), carry it in its holster at "ready pistol," flap open, shooting hand on the pistol grip, hammer *not* cocked, and finger *not* in the trigger guard.

A5.1.4. AFOSI special agents will follow guidance set forth in AFOSI Instruction 71-110, *Arming and Use of Force for the Air Force Office of Special Investigations*.

A5.1.5. When armed with the M203 grenade launcher attached to a M16 rifle, follow the instructions for the M16 rifle (A5.1.1). You will chamber a 40mm round only when use is deemed necessary.

A5.1.6. When armed with the M79 grenade launcher, carry it at "port-arms," chamber empty, safety selector on "SAFE," and the finger not in the trigger guard. You will chamber a round only when the use of a 40mm round is deemed appropriate.

A5.1.7. When armed with the M60 machine gun, carry it at "port arms, "half loaded" or "full loaded" depending upon MAJCOM directives, safety lever on "SAFE," and finger *not* in the trigger guard.

A5.1.8. When armed with other firearms (UZI submachine gun, H&K MP5 submachine gun, and so on) follow the guidance set forth by the Air Staff functional manager or MAJCOM.

A5.1.9. When armed with the M249 automatic rifle, carry it at "port arms", "fully loaded" depending on MAJCOM directive, selector lever on "Safe", and finger not in the trigger guard.

Attachment 6**PEACETIME GOVERNMENT FIREARMS DISCHARGE REPORT**

A6.1. Installation commanders must use this report when providing the follow-up firearms discharge report specified by paragraph **2.13.**:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON SUBJECT

1. FULL NAME AND GRADE
2. SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBER (EMPLOYEE NUMBER WHEN SUBJECT DOES NOT HAVE A SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBER)
3. DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH
4. MAJCOM/SOA/FOA OF ASSIGNMENT
5. UNIT AND INSTALLATION OF ASSIGNMENT
6. DATE ASSIGNED PRESENT UNIT
7. PRIMARY AFSC

INCIDENT SUMMARY

1. DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT
2. TYPE AND SERIAL NUMBER OF FIREARM
3. TYPE OF INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE
4. PUBLICITY RECEIVED
5. BRIEF SUMMARY OF INCIDENT

LESSONS LEARNED

1. Submitted by: Usually the CSF or squadron commander of the individual who discharged the firearm.
2. Operation/Event Name: The formal name of the military operation or a brief description of the event: RESTORE HOPE in Somalia from 5 August to December 1993 or Use of Deadly Force, Andrews AFB, MD, 1990.
3. Keywords: Critical terms specific enough to facilitate a subject matter automated search. Example: Law enforcement, use of deadly force.
4. Title: Name of the incident. Example: Murder of a SF Member/Robbery.
5. Observation: A precise, factual description of the entire incident in narrative format. This section should include background information on the subject.
6. Discussion: A critical review of the procedures used and actions accomplished during the incident. The intent is to highlight potential problem areas so readers can prevent similar mistakes or to prompt a review of appropriate policy or procedures.

7. Lessons Learned: A synopsis of a “better way” or a “best business practice” that may be more effective in the future.

8. Recommended Action: Use this section to outline suggested review actions by higher headquarters.

9. OPR Comments: This is an open area designed for the OPR to add any additional appropriate comments.

Air Force Security Forces Center

Operations Division

Lackland AFB, TX 78236-5226

AIR FORCE USE OF FORCE PROGRAM

USE OF FORCE LESSON PLAN

OPR: HQ AFSFC/SFOP PHONE: DSN 473-0900

PRESCRIBING DIRECTIVE: AFI 31-207 and AFMAN 31-222

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: Lecture/Demonstration/Performance.

TIME: 30 minutes to one hour, remedial as required.

OBJECTIVES: Each student will know:

1. Use of Force Policy
2. Use of Force Model
3. Use of Deadly Force
4. Special Considerations for the Use of Deadly Force

INSTRUCTIONAL AIDS:

1. Use of Force Model (AFVA 31-217)
2. Training Guide

VISUAL AIDS:

1. Chalkboard
2. Flip chart
3. Overhead projector
4. Slide projector
5. Student handout material.

Attachment 7

USAF USE OF FORCE PROGRAM TRAINING GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

ATTENTION STEP: (INSTRUCTOR'S CHOICE)

MOTIVATION: (INSTRUCTOR'S CHOICE)

OVERVIEW: This interval will cover:

1. The USAF Use of Force Policy
2. Use of Force Model
3. Use of Deadly Force
4. Special Considerations for the Use of Deadly Force

DEVELOPMENT

PRESENTATION INSTRUCTOR'S NOTES

Lesson Objective: Identify basic facts and/or principles about the Use of Force Policy.

Use of Force Policy - Governing Directives (AFI 31-207 and AFMAN 31-222.).

Introduction: Air Force personnel use only that force which is reasonably necessary. Avoid the use of force not essential to carrying out assigned responsibilities.

- Tailor the type and level of force to its necessity. You must base your use of force option on the actions of the individual(s) with whom you are in contact.

- Once a particular level of force is no longer required, you must discontinue its use despite the fact a suspect's efforts to thwart or evade a seizure may arouse normal passions of anger, fear, or frustration.

- If you use excessive force in discharging your assigned responsibilities, you are subject to administrative or judicial action.
- Authority for such action is in the UCMJ, Article 92; or United States, local, or host-nation laws.

Lesson Objective: Identify the principles and practices of the Use of Force Model.

Introduction: The USAF Use of Force Program: The proactive management of use of force is critical to mission effectiveness. The risk of liability or bad publicity from the excessive use of force is indeed an ever-present issue in today's society. The following information is designed to prepare Air Force personnel to more effectively apply and explain their application of force. As the information is presented, keep these two main principles in mind:

- Force: any effort or energy to detain or control.
- Force can be used when objectively reasonable.

Use of Force Model - Designed to assist you in the overall knowledge, understanding, and application of proper force management. The Model replaces all reference to intent, opportunity, and capability.

a. A consolidated effort to educate and train Air Force members in Use of Force issues begins with the use of a visual aid to facilitate learning of the various levels of force and the appropriate responses. The UFM is a three-sided, five-tier structure. It is the basis by which discussions and questions will be addressed as to how much force is appropriate for a variety of situations with which you may be faced during training exercises and real world situations.

b. The UFM describes the progression or de-escalation of force based upon the demonstrated level of compliance or resistance. Ideally, each encounter flows in a logical and legal sequence of cause and effect based upon reasonable perception of risk, causing you to escalate, de-escalate, or maintain a level of appropriate force to gain or maintain control of the subject.

c. The elements involved in the use of force; risk perception, subject action, and "officer response" is essential for a balanced use of force.

(1) Subject Action - the action (s) perceived by the “reasonable officer” that place the subject in one or more of the Model’s compliant / non-compliant categories.

(2) Risk Perception - the situations that are perceived by the “reasonable officer” within a confrontational environment which present a risk or potential risk to officer safety. Issues including the severity of the crime, degree of subject non-compliance, knowledge of the subject’s previous actions, etc., can act as a test for reasonableness and a criteria for placement in one or more of the perception categories on the UFM

(3) “Officer Response” - the “balanced” response the reasonable officer could and/or would select from the UFM’s identified categories, in order to maintain or re-gain subject compliance and control.

d. Each of these elements are integrated in a tri-facet, five tier, color enhanced structure: the Use of Force Model. The proper perception and assessment of risk is the core consideration in the decision-making process toward proper force utilization. It is the functional foundation for the two other major model categories and integral to their understanding and application. To enhance this role and its retention, color has been selected as an essential medium for the message. These five categories and their color correlation include:

- **PROFESSIONAL** - the broad foundation of the UFM represented by the blue baseline of the risk perception spectrum. Here the officer is engaged in duties with occupationally produced perception of responsibilities and risks.

- **TACTICAL** - the second category on the UFM is depicted by the color green. At this level the officer perceives an increase of risk within the confrontational environment and safety strategies are deployed.

- **THRESHOLD** - the third category on the UFM utilizes the color yellow to indicate an activated degree of alertness, where specific risks are identified by the officer. (Many times this category represents the most critical intervening level or phase within a confrontation. If the officer assesses the subject's actions properly he may be able to stabilize the degree of non-compliance at a resistant level before it escalates to an actual assault on the officer or others. Here, a tactical plan of action must be developed and deployed to gain compliance and control. This advanced degree of risk potential should motivate the officer to increase the level of receptiveness more formally away from the actor and more directly toward the actions of the subject and others present.)

- **HARMFUL** - at this category on the UFM the color orange denotes an accelerated perception of danger and a more directed focus on officer/citizen safety and defense.

- **LETHAL** - the highest category of risk on the Model correlates to the most intense color in the light spectrum, red. This potentially lethal category of risk is the most infrequent and yet the most crucial for officer/citizen.

e. Subject Action consists of five categories of perceived subject actions, potentially providing the additional foundational focus for an appropriate, "balanced" response of controlling force. Note that absolute definitions and/or demarcations of human conduct are in reality difficult, if not impossible, to identify with great specificity. However, the "reasonable officer's" perceptions of the subject's action (s) are a necessary portion of the officer's decision-making process toward proper force utilization. The five categories of subject action include:

- **COMPLIANT** - within the normal realm of interaction, the vast majority of officer/subject encounters are positive and co-operative. The officer maintains or gains compliance to desired directives via options of tradition, time, communication skills, etc.

- **RESISTANT (Passive)** - in some confrontational contacts, the subject may offer a preliminary level of non-compliance. Here the subject's degree of non-compliance is free of physical or mechanical enhancement, other than sheer unresponsiveness.

- **RESISTANT (Active)** - at this level, the subject's non-compliance has become more active in scope and intensity. The indifference to control has increased to a level of energy enhanced physical or mechanical defiance.

- **ASSAULTIVE (Bodily Harm)** - the officer's attempt to gain lawful compliance has met with active, non-compliance culminating in an actual attack upon the officer or others. Here, the scope and severity of the attack, **would not** support the reasonable officer's assessment of death or serious bodily harm to occur to the officer or others.

- **ASSAULTIVE (Serious Bodily Harm/Death)** - this category represents the least encountered, yet most serious risk to officer safety. Here the reasonable officer could conclude that the officer or another, **is** subject to death or great bodily harm as a result of the subject's actions.

f. Officer Response facet of the UFM consists of the five categories of officer initiated response, "balanced" in regard to the officer's reasonable assessment of risk and subject action.

- **COOPERATIVE CONTROLS** - includes the fundamentals of professional training capitalizing upon the acceptance of authority by the use of a variety of controls including; communication skills, common tactics, body language, etc.

- **CONTACT CONTROLS** - in this first instance of non-compliance the officer must deploy tactical talents to proportionately gain control and cooperation through "hands on" techniques designed primarily to guide or direct the subject. The primary force component at this level could be transitional tactics, non-pain compliance techniques, etc., under the heading of **RESISTANT (Passive) COUNTER-MEASURES**.

- **COMPLIANCE TECHNIQUES** - tactical procedures at this level now must address the non-compliant subject who has begun to use physical or mechanical energy to enhance non-compliance. The officer deploys "balanced" force to overcome this non-compliance, while remaining increasingly vigilant for more aggressive behavior from the subject. At this stage the force forms could include elements of pain compliance, chemical irritants, joint restraints, etc. under the heading of **RESISTANT (Active) COUNTER-MEASURES**.

- **DEFENSIVE TACTICS** - at this stage in the confrontation, the non-compliant subject now directs an assaultive act toward the officer or others. The officer is justified in taking appropriate steps to immediately cease the assaultive action and to gain compliance and maintain control of the subject. Forms of force could include weapon strikes under the heading of **ASSAULTIVE (Bodily Harm) COUNTERMEASURES**.

- **DEADLY FORCE** - the officer is now confronted with an assaultive situation that reaches the ultimate degree of danger. Absolute and immediate tactics must be deployed to stop the lethal risk and secure conclusive compliance and control. Force options could include those leading to permanent debilitation or even death, and are identified under the heading of **ASSAULTIVE (Serious Bodily Harm/Death) COUNTERMEASURES**.

g. Within each level of the UFM, the intensity of the color increases as we move from the Subject Action Categories, through the categories of Risk Perception, and to the Officer Response Categories. In each application, the intensity of the color is always superior at the correlated Officer Response Category. This visualization of color intensity is used to enhance the understanding and maintain the principle that the officer must maintain constant, controlled superiority over the subject's degree of non-compliance at a "balanced" level of objectively reasonable force utilization.

h. The double headed assessment/selection arrows indicate the dynamic and fluid nature of the processing of information toward proper decision-making during a confrontation. The principle incorporated into proper compliance and control is that of tactical transition, which includes escalation, stabilization, and/or de-escalation in force applications. The properly trained member will be conditioned to flow with the circumstances of the specific situation to properly control the confrontation. The center portion of each of the arrows is presented in white to indicate that each incident must be primarily based on the information currently being presented and not unduly influenced by previous contacts with the subject or the situation, either positive or negative.

i. Each arrow is bordered with the survival shadow in red. This color enhancement is provided to indicate and maintain the constant retention of lethal risk perception, inherent in any officer/subject confrontation.

j. The UFM supports the widely accepted premise and practice of progressive application of force. This simply implies the process of appropriate selection of force options in response to reasonable assessment of risks presented in the confrontation; the level of compliance or degrees of non-compliance from the individual to be controlled; and proper selection of an objectively reasonable response. Each officer/citizen confrontation should flow in a logical and legal sequence of cause and effect. The member's tactical transition must be capable of escalation or engagement, stabilization of the situation, or de-escalation or disengagement within the context of the confrontation toward the eventual goal of compliance and control.

k. Progressive Application of Force encompasses three main elements of action and assessment: tools, tactics, and timing.

- **Tools** include the two broad forms of subject control; mental manipulation (verbal skills, body language, officer presence, etc.) and physical manipulation (weaponless controls, weapons, restraints, etc.).

- The **tactics** encompass the actual application of these tools into actual strategies deemed necessary and viable in the confrontational setting.

- **Timing** is demonstrated by the degree of actual force deemed necessary; based upon the "reasonable officer's" ongoing assessment of risks, the "reasonable officer's" perceived actions of the subject, and the available options of control; measured in terms of reasonableness.

l. Apply force with the appropriate tool.

(*l*) Tools available at the first level (Cooperative Controls) would include:

- **Mental Preparation:** Perception skills, risk assessment, and survival orientation.

- **Spatial Positioning:** Stance, body language, and relative positioning.

- **Verbal Controls:** Communication skills, interviewing, and behavioral assessment.

- **Individual searching techniques:** Frisk techniques, opposite sex searches, position (standing, prone).

- **Apprehension Tactics:** Single/Dual subject, escort controls and transport controls.

- Military work dog presence.

(2) Tools available at the second level (Compliance Techniques) include those in the first level and:

- Verbal Manipulation Techniques: Targeted towards changing the behavior of an individual (basic conflict management) or of a group of individuals (basic crisis management).

- Handcuffing Techniques: Standing and prone

- Wrist elbow position

- Hand rotation position

(3) Tools available at the third level (Compliance Techniques) besides those available in the first and second include:

- Neuromuscular controls

- Chemical irritant application.

- Baton used as leverage devices or in pain compliance role (non-striking)

- K-9 (off leash).

(4) Tools available at the fourth level (Defensive Tactic) include those from the three levels below and:

- Escape Techniques: For use in escape from grabs and chokes.

- Assault defenses: To include use of head, hands, elbows, feet and knees in warding off or countering the subject assault.

- Impact Weapons: To include the baton or riot stick as well as anything at hand for use in fending off or gaining control of the subject. Blocks, strikes, and jabs to non-lethal areas would be justified.

- Weapon retention.

(5) Tools available at Level V (Deadly Force) include those formerly outlined in Levels I-IV and Firearms.

m. Three tactical issues should be noted.

(1) The principle strategic focus in the enforcement environment is to continue to promote and practice the confrontation equation; which by definition is simply the officer remaining in a constant position of recognizable advantage within any confrontation, while the subject stays in a continued position of recognizable disadvantage. One vivid and viable illustration of this tactical equation is the practice of the 2 on 1 advantage ratio of officers to subject, as the rule, rather than the exception.

(2) The focus toward the confrontation should be primarily placed upon the "actions" of the subject, rather than the important, but secondary attributes of the "actor" in the situation. Certainly the "who" involved is of concern (i.e. past actions, previous history of violence, the subject's size/strength, etc.), but primary focus needs to be directed toward "what" is happening at the time - what the subject is doing. The "reasonable officer" must guard against being lulled into complacency by past knowledge of the subject, or placing himself in crisis by pre-judging a mode of force utilization based upon previous contact, not present at this point in time.

(3) When placed into a confrontation, the "reasonable officer" must expand his perspective from the common practice of "reaction" into a more strategic confrontational conduct of an action initiated response.

- This response should be pro-active, drawn upon the expertise and experience with the actual subject and situations, or other similar participants and incidents. The officer should remain free of the pressure to pre-judge the actions of the subject, and gain the enhanced ability to more properly perceive the actual and/or potential actions of the subject in question.

- Ideally, the officer should practice anticipatory behavior (stress reduction techniques, conflict avoidance/resolution tactics, fear management skills, etc.) to attempt to prevent potential non-compliant confrontations. Or, if a conflict is perceived as inevitable, he should initiate procedures to provide sufficient systems (strategic planning, team tactics, etc.) to maximize the status of safety for himself, others, and the actual subject.

- The response must be active, in that the controlling tactics the officer initiates will accomplish the re-control of the subject with a high degree of effectiveness and safety to the officer and to others. In this manner, the confrontation can be controlled as efficiently as possible, thus avoiding the selection of higher levels of force utilization with the inherent risks of greater potential injury to the officer, the subject, or others.

- And finally, the response must be re-active, directing the officer's actions toward a mode of prevention via the tactical application of "Lesson's Learned", or response based research. Most confrontations are not unique or remain isolated in time, their components will re-occur at other times with other subjects. If a safe, successful solution evolves, the officer should follow that course of response in the future. If the solution is not found, the officer should use the past experience as a catalyst to seek a safe, strategic, future solution.

- This principled, status of safety, can only be maintained if the officer strategically and systematically anticipates, assesses, and acts within the effective and accepted parameters of the situation. The officer must understand that this process, and its products exist in an environment that is ever changing in definition, direction, and depth.

Lesson Objective: Identify the principles and practices of the Use of Deadly Force. The use of deadly force must meet the 'objective reasonableness' standard. Use deadly force only when facing conditions of extreme necessity, when all lesser means of force aren't feasible or have failed, and only under one or more of these circumstances as set forth in DoD Directive 5210.56.

a. You may use force, including deadly force, when you reasonably believe yourself or others to be in imminent danger of death or serious bodily harm.

b. You may use force, including deadly force, to protect DoD assets designated as vital to the national security. The DoD designates its assets as "vital to the national security" only when their loss, damage, or compromise would seriously jeopardize the fulfillment of a national defense mission. This normally includes priority A, B, or C assets as defined in AFI 31-101, *Air Force Physical Security Program*. Installation commanders must identify the resources specifically designated as vital to national security, or the procedures they will use to inform armed personnel of such specifically designated property in their installation security plan.

c. You may use force, to include deadly force, to protect DoD assets not involving the national security but inherently dangerous to others. Designate these resources as such if their theft or sabotage would present a substantial danger of death or serious bodily harm to others. This category includes weapons, ammunition, missiles, rockets, explosives, chemical agents, and special nuclear material. Installation commanders must identify the resources specifically designated as inherently dangerous to others or the procedures they will use to inform armed personnel of such specifically designated property in their installation security plan and installation resources protection plan. These assets include, but are not limited to, Hamlet, Redeye, Stinger, Dragon, Viper, and other anti-armor nonnuclear ready-to-fire missiles; light automatic firearms; heavy machine guns; mortars; grenade launchers; flame throwers; handguns, rifles, and shotguns; recoilless rifles; explosive and incendiary hand grenades; explosive mines; high explosives such as TNT, dynamite, and C-4 plastic; high explosive fuses and detonation cord; blasting caps, bulk riot control agents; and associated ammunition for the above firearms.

d. You may use force, including deadly force, to prevent the commission of a serious offense involving violence and threatening death or serious bodily harm.

e. You may use force; to include deadly force, when it reasonably appears necessary to arrest, apprehend, or prevent the escape of a person suspected of committing an offense of the nature specified in paragraphs [1.3.1.](#) [1.3.2.](#), [1.3.3.](#), and [1.3.4.](#).

f. You may use force, to include deadly force, when it appears reasonably necessary to prevent the escape of a prisoner who threatens serious bodily harm or death to escorting personnel or other persons. During an escape attempt, you must have probable cause to believe the prisoner is attempting to escape and that the escaping prisoner poses a threat of serious bodily harm either to yourself or others.

Lesson Objective: Identify Special Considerations for the Use of Deadly Force. Fire shots only with due regard for the safety of innocent bystanders. Do not fire shots if they are likely to endanger innocent bystanders. When possible, give an order to "HALT" before discharging a firearm to prevent death or serious bodily harm to others.

a. When you are under hostile attack in protection and recovery operations involving nuclear weapons or lethal chemical agents, the presence of innocent bystanders or hostages must not deter you from stopping the attack through all means at your disposal.

b. When you discharge a firearm, fire it with the intent of rendering the targeted person or persons incapable of continuing the activity or course of behavior that led you to shoot. Rendering incapable may not require death in every circumstance. Do not fire shots as a warning to suspects except as otherwise provided by overseas theater directives.

c. Commanders may impose further restrictions on the use of deadly force to comply with local and host-nation laws. Such restrictions must not unduly compromise the security interests of the United States. MAJCOMs must list restrictions imposed by local or host-nation laws in their supplements to this instruction.

CONCLUSION: Use of Force Model can and should become a mechanism for use in understanding the dynamics of force utilization. Its implied principles can and must be transmitted from the classroom to the street.

The Use of Force Model provides an additional degree of clarity and focus to this critical topic of contemporary law enforcement. Remember, the Model and its implementation is your responsibility.

Placed in Use of Force training scenarios, evaluate the situations and take appropriate deadly/less than deadly force action IAW locally developed student progress checklist.

APPLICATION

Use student progress checklist as a guide during the application phase. Observe and critique student performance.

EVALUATION

Students will be evaluated utilizing Student Progress Checklist.

SUMMARY

Using the elements of summary, re-motivation and closure,
conclude the lesson.