

14 JUNE 2002

Transportation

PACAF COMBAT MOBILITY ELEMENTS



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Certified by: HQ PACAF/LG (Col Ted A. Brewer)
Pages: 9
Distribution: F

This instruction is implemented by AFD 24-1, *Personnel Movement*. It outlines responsibilities and provides guidance for the operation of PACAF Combat Mobility Elements (CME). It applies to personnel administratively assigned to base level Transportation Squadrons in support of theater airland/airdrop operations. This publication does not apply to Air National Guard (ANG) or Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) units and members.

1. Responsibilities. USCINCPAC exercises combatant command of all theater assigned and attached airlift assets. Control of these assets is exercised by the Commander, Pacific Air Forces (COMPACAF). HQ PACAF has primary responsibility to support C-130 tactical airlift operations in the Pacific Theater. HQ PACAF will exercise operational planning in conjunction with its Numbered Air Forces: 5th Air Force, Yokota AB, Japan; 7th Air Force Air Force, Osan AB, Korea; 11th Air Force, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; and 13th Air Force, Andersen AB, Guam. HQ AMC is responsible for providing resources required to meet USTRANSCOM and theater CINC airlift and tanker requirements in accordance with DoD mission priority system.

1.1. Combat Mobility Elements (CMEs) are highly trained, self-sufficient, mobile teams that provide limited aerial port airland/airdrop support capability. One of the primary functions of the CME is to establish and operate non-fixed air terminals at employment sites where no permanent air terminal organization exists. The limited amount of CME personnel in the command does not allow the CME to participate in long-term sustainment operations. If a situation exists where long-term sustainment appears to be immanent, HQ PACAF/LGTR will look to the Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) Office for relief.

1.1.1. CMEs are wartime tasked to provide quick response capability within theater, upon Operational Plan (OPLAN) execution. To that end, CME personnel must not be involved in home station issues that have any chance whatsoever of occurring simultaneously with OPLAN execution, as the CME resources will no longer be available for use. This includes wing deployment processes or base augmentation programs.

1.2. While deployed in the theater during peacetime, responsibilities include support of real world contingencies, JCS/PACAF exercises, PACAF C-130 Special Assignment Airlift Missions (SAAMs), and humanitarian mission support.

1.3. At home station during peacetime, CMEs are responsible to support PACAF C-130 unilateral training.

1.3.1. CME will prepare, rig, and inspect Air Force supplies and equipment for PACAF assigned airdrop missions and unilateral airdrop training. Current Rigging T.O.s will be available and used in load rigging/buildup areas.

1.3.2. CME will inspect, repair, and repack unit assigned cargo parachutes and rigging equipment.

1.3.3. CME will recover unilateral airdrop training loads, bundles, and associated equipment from the drop zone (DZ). Airdrop training loads must be recovered from the DZ as soon as possible following each training mission to reduce the risk of loss or damage. Note: CME can coordinate with the user to have bundles recovered by the Drop Zone Control Officer (DZCO)/Combat Control Team (CCT), or a designated representative.

1.3.4. Assigned personnel who have completed the Joint Airdrop Certification Course or Fabrication of Aerial Delivery Loads Course are authorized, IAW AFI 36-2903, the wear of the parachute rigger patch and badge while assigned to the unit and perform parachute packing and/or rigging duties.

1.4. PACAF Combat Mobility Elements are administratively assigned to the 3rd Transportation Squadron, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska; 18th Transportation Squadron, Kadena AB, Japan; and 374th Transportation Squadron, Yokota AB, Japan.

1.4.1. CME personnel will be located and administratively assigned to the supporting Wing Transportation Squadron under the Combat Readiness and Resources Flight.

1.4.2. In FY 94, COMPACAF/CC approved the budget for initial issue of supplies and equipment. All subsequent supplies and equipment will be procured by the respective Transportation Squadron Commanders through normal Base Operating Support funding procedures.

1.4.3. 374 TRNS and 3 TRNS commanders will provide CME support to wing unilateral airdrop training operations.

1.5. PACAF bases or commands will identify to HQ PACAF/LGT the support required and the need for AMC augmentation in the Pacific theater to support deployments/receptions and exercises IAW AFI 10-403, DoD 4500.9-R, Part 3, and the local host base deployment/reception plan(s).

1.6. HQ AMC may request to use PACAF CMEs for JCS exercises within the Pacific AOR when AMC and PACAF agree to do so in terms of mission effectiveness and cost. In peacetime the AMC Tanker Airlift Control Center (TACC) will coordinate directly with PACAF/LGT for availability planning. These elements will only be sourced by HQ PACAF/LGT.

1.7. PACAF CMEs can operate with and without a Tanker Airlift Control Element (TALCE). When deployed with a TALCE they will fall under the operational control of that TALCE, regardless of MAJCOM affiliation.

1.8. Historical data about the CME can be found in [Attachment 1](#).

2. Execution. The primary mission of the PACAF CME is limited rapid response airland/airdrop support to USPACOM forces. All are OPLAN tasked, responsible for the initial air transportation reception (stand-up) at various Collocated Operating Bases (COBs) on the Korean peninsula.

2.1. CMEs are a theater resource and as such tasking authority for specific missions remains resident at HQ PACAF/LGT.

2.2. During peacetime CMEs will respond to theater short notice deployment requirements (contingency or other), at the direction of HQ PACAF/LGT only.

2.2.1. While deployed, PACAF CMEs will support strategic and tactical airlift operations, including PACAF C-130 unilateral training IAW DoD mission and/or theater CINC priorities.

2.2.2. During periods of low visibility or darkness, while conducting peace-time operations, all personnel working on the flight line or the DZ will wear reflective vests or other reflective material.

2.3. CME personnel are required to provide a quick response capability within the theater during peacetime, and upon OPLAN execution. This requires travel via military and/or commercial means. Due to the scope of their mission, and the vast geographical area of responsibility they are required to support, official passports are essential to ensure uninterrupted support and mission accomplishment.

2.4. CMEs will be trained, equipped and qualified to capture Intransit Visibility (ITV) data for deployed cargo and passengers.

3. Administration and Logistics.

3.1. Though administratively assigned to a home station wing, CME personnel will not be tied / committed to any base deployment process or augmentee program.

3.2. IAW PACAF Sup 11-401, Attachment 2, CME personnel may be authorized Mission Essential Ground Personnel (MEGP) status.

3.3. CME personnel will monitor current and projected TDY requirements for impact on training and provide HQ PACAF/LGT a monthly status report (RCS: PAF-LGT(M)0202) NLT the 10th day of each month IAW [Attachment 3](#).

3.4. CME personnel, by virtue of their command directed mission, are authorized access and non-reimbursable use of WRM vehicles and MHE, as required, to comply with their taskings.

4. Funding.

4.1. Funding for per diem and travel will be centrally managed by HQ PACAF/LGTR and distributed as valid requirements occur. PACAF/LGTR will prioritize requests against valid requirements and fund accordingly. If travel and/or per diem costs are projected to be incurred as a result of off station requirements, coordination will take place with HQ PACAF/LGTR before the mission commences.

4.1.1. A funds request letter as outlined in [Attachment 2](#) of this instruction must be faxed to HQ PACAF/LGTR and returned to the requesting CME before any funds are obligated to fill theater requirements. Funds not authorized for use in advance by HQ PACAF/LGTR, will not be reimbursed.

4.1.2. This funding does not include equipment and supplies. It also does not include per diem and travel to support PACAF or JCS exercises, which are paid for by the exercise supported.

4.1.3. Exercises where personnel notification is passed to the tasked unit by their local Personnel Readiness Unit (PRU) fit this criteria.

5. Training. Each squadron commander exercising administrative command of CME personnel will ensure their mission readiness by:

5.1. Maintaining oversight of OJT and formal training.

5.2. Ensuring local host base tenant support agreements are continually updated to incorporate 2T2X1 core tasks and critical wartime training requirements as identified in the Career Field Education and Training Plan (CFETP) with tenant Air Mobility Support Squadron (Aerial Port) capabilities.

6. Deployed Survivability for Combat Mobility Elements.

6.1. The ability to deploy Combat Mobility Element assets, establish airlift support operations, and sustain those operations in any type of environment, whether it be military operations other than war (MOOTW) or war itself, is critically important to the mission of all CME units. Training in deployed survivability and force protection are essential to the success of operations in austere or potentially hostile locations where little or no security forces are present.

6.2. The Combat Mobility Element at Kadena AB, Japan is responsible for training all PACAF CMEs in the CME specific Air Base Ground Defense course named "Cope Viper." This is done to enhance the OPLAN tasking efficiency of all PACAF CMEs while deployed to austere locations. Training will be limited to a defensive ground combat capability only. Cope Viper will be conducted two times per calendar year. Completion of Cope Viper will be a bi-annual requirement for all personnel assigned to CME.

6.3. Training will be tailored to the following defensive objectives:

6.3.1. Field Hygiene/Sanitation

6.3.2. Combat First Aid

6.3.3. Barriers, Obstacles, and Wire (BOW)

6.3.4. Range Card and Sector Sketch Familiarization

6.3.5. Defensive Fighting Positions

6.3.6. Priorities of Work

6.3.7. Individual Tactical Movement

6.3.8. Tactical Vehicle Employment and Convoy Operations

6.3.9. Tactical Communications

6.3.10. Force Protection (DoD 2000.12-H)

6.3.11. Camouflage, Cover, and Concealment Techniques

6.3.12. Map Reading and Compass Use

6.3.13. Area of Operation Security

6.4. All Cope Viper training will be treated as formal training and documented on AF Form 1098, Special Task Certification and Recurring Training.

7. Communications.

7.1. Mobility Land Mobile Radios. In order to carry out their wartime function, all CMEs will have land mobile radio sets in their deployment inventory. Although these radios will primarily be used for exercises and contingencies, they may also be used on a daily basis for training. These radios must be continually maintained and ready for deployment at all times.

7.2. Frequencies. Units must coordinate with their local frequency managers before they can operate any radio (UHF/VHF/FM/HF, etc.). For deployed locations, coordinate with the deployed Communications personnel and/or the responsible TALCE for deployed operations.

8. Physical Fitness Program.

8.1. CME superintendents will establish in-house physical fitness programs to be conducted at a minimum three times a week for all assigned personnel. Each exercise should begin at the basic level and increase as needed.

8.2. A higher level of physical fitness is essential to sustain airlift support operations in austere locations and keep pace with an increasing OPSTEMPO. Personnel typically are required to work sustained 12-hour shifts while deployed. Personnel must also be capable of sustained ops in chemical warfare equipment and/or body armor.

8.3. Each unit should consult with appropriate base medical staff to assist with developing their program. Physical Fitness assessments may be conducted IAW AFI 40-501, The Air Force Fitness Program.

A. B. MORRILL III, Brig Gen, USAF
Director of Logistics

Attachment 1

HISTORY OF THE COMBAT MOBILITY ELEMENT(CME)

A1.1. Situation.

A1.1.1. Background.

A1.1.1.1. Theater force reductions in C-130 aircraft, aircrews, and ground support personnel have been on-going since 1989. Yokota based C-130s were reduced by one airlift squadron (12 PAA) in 1989 and again reduced by 4 PAA in 1993 to a 16 PAA squadron. The 8th Mobile Aerial Port Squadron was returned to the CONUS in 1991 and AMC transferred USPACOM-based C-130s to PACAF in 1992. AMC's Global Reach Laydown Plan changed theater en-route ground support capability by designating East and West coast Air Mobility Operations Groups, designed to provide an on-call response for theater airlift support. Establishment of the AMOG resulted in elimination of deployment/mobility capability from the enroute system in PACOM. Due to the geographical magnitude of the USPACOM AOR, the time required to get ground support in-place often determines logistics feasibility of airlift operations.

A1.1.2. Implementation.

A1.1.2.1. PACAF/CC approved CME manning and beddown locations on 1 April 94.

A1.1.2.2. HQ PACAF XPM/DPR loaded manpower on Unit Manning Documents (UMD) and allocated personnel to authorizations.

A1.1.2.3. The first CME unit (Yokota) officially stood up on 1 October 1994. Subsequent units were stood up at Osan AB, Korea, Kadena AB, Japan, and Elmendorf AFB, Alaska.

A1.1.3. General Background.

A1.1.3.1. PACAF aerial port ground support is an integral part of theater airlift readiness and capability. Assignment of these personnel and equipment resources represents a logical evolutionary shift in conventional thinking regarding PACAF OPCON of USCINCPAC's theater C-130s. Previously, only the aircraft and aircrews came under USCINCPAC's COCOM. Transfer of the C-130s to PACAF was accompanied by operations, aircraft maintenance, and aerial port ground support personnel. Assigning "back-end" support to the theater commander is now seen as an integral requirement to ensure effective employment of theater assigned C-130s.

Attachment 2

FUNDS REQUEST LETTER SAMPLE

MEMORANDUM FOR 3 TRANS/LGTR

12 Sep 2000

FROM: HQ PACAF/LGTR

SUBJECT: Fund Cite Authority

1. Funds are approved for (4) 3rd Transportation Squadron/Combat Mobility Element personnel to travel from Elmendorf AFB, AK to Kadena AB, Japan to attend Cope Viper (Air Base Ground Defense Training). Personnel will depart Elmendorf on or about 14 Sep 2000 and return on or about 30 Sep 2000. Per Diem for this area is \$41.00 per day on-base, and lodging will be \$12 per day on-base. Billeting on base is available during this period. Proportionate meals rate will be used. This fund cite **is not** authorized to be used for a rental car. Total Per Diem is anticipated to be \$ 0000.00 and travel expenses is approximately \$ 0000.00.

2. Please use ESP: **XX RC/CC: XXXXXX** to capture the cost of this TDY. POC at HQ PACAF/LGTR is CMSgt Covington or SMSgt Brown at DSN 448-1274.

ALAN J. BROWN, SMSgt, USAF
Command, Transportation Readiness
and Resources Superintendent

Attachment 3

SAMPLE OF MONTHLY STATUS REPORT (RCS: PAF-LGT(M)0202)

MONTHLY STATION TRAFFIC REPORT						
MONTH AND YEAR		STATION		CODE		
XXX XX		XXXXXXXX XXXXX		XXXX		
LOADS RIGGED FOR AERIAL DELIVERY						
TYPE LOAD	RIGGED	REHANDLE D	TOTAL	MALFUNCTIONS		
HEAVY	0	0	0	0		
CDS	0	0	0	0		
SATB	0	0	0	0		
MHE STATUS						
TYPE VEHICLE	AUTHORIZED	ASSIGNED	AVAILABLE	MX STATUS		
10K AT	2	2	2			
25K AC LDR	2	2	2			
OTHER MHE	0	0	0			
AIRCRAFT HANDLED BY TYPE						
TYPE AC	ARRIVE	DEPART	SUB TOTAL	REHANDLED	CANX/DIVERT	
C-130	0	0	0	0	3	
C-141	0	0	0	0	0	
C-5	0	0	0	0	0	
C-17	0	0	0	0	0	
KC-10	0	0	0	0	0	
COMM	0	0	0	0	0	
OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	
PERSONNEL						
	MILITARY	US CIVILIAN	FOREIGN NATIONAL		TOTAL	
AUTHORIZED	XX	0	0		XX	
ASSIGNED	XX	0	0		XX	
OVERTIME	0	0	0		0	
RIGGER QUAL	XX	0	0		XX	
JI QUALIFIED	XX	0	0		XX	
AUGMENTATION						
	TDY	CIV. OVERTIME	ALCE	ARF		
MANDAYS	0	0	0	0		
TDY						
	OPERATIONAL	TRAINING	DZ RECOVERY ON STATION			

MANDAYS	80	44	0			
DETAILS						
	<i>SQUADRON</i>	<i>BASE</i>				
MANDAYS	0	0				
REMARKS						
1-CME Tdy to ATCO McGuire						
2- CME Tdy to Korea						
AUTHENTICATION						
<i>PREPARER</i>			<i>REVIEWER</i>			
XXXXXX, SSgt, USAF						
1-Jul-99						