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Personnel

COMBAT ARMS PROGRAM



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AFI 36-2226, 26 February 2003, is supplemented as follows: This supplement establishes policy and guidance to ensure command standardization of combat arms training and maintenance programs. This supplement applies to all United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) and tenant units affected by USAFE operational directives. The use of the name or mark of any specific manufacturer, commercial product, commodity, or service in this publication does not imply endorsement by the United States Air Force (USAF). Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with AFMAN 37-123, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the *Air Force Records Disposition Schedule* (RDS).

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This document is substantially revised and must be completely reviewed.

This revision updates Combat Arms (CA) and Weapons Maintenance Programs. Provides guidance to allow CA sections remain open during exercises or real-world deployments (1.13.6). It establishes training utilization program (1.13.10). This supplement is revised to address requirements for initial 10-meter qualifications for M60 machine-gun, M240 machine-gun and M249 automatic rifle (2.5.1). Allows supported units to document revised arming groups for unit personnel (2.7). Sets forth procedure for firearms qualification exemption requests (2.9.4), firearms simulator approval requests (2.12.10), firearms simulator qualification requests (2.12.10.1), other service firearm training requests (2.16.2), night fire familiarization and qualification waivers (2.16.3), CA proficiency training (3.6), ammunition brass and residue turn-in procedures (5.2.4.2), ammunition forecast procedures (5.2.8), non-USAF personnel range use policies (5.3.1), certification of Non-USAF ranges (5.3.1.1), CA personnel safety equipment (5.4.11.4), and requests for nonstandard commercially purchased items (6.1).

1.13.1. Coordinates all major range projects with the Directorate of Security Forces (USAFE/SF).

1.13.10. The USAFE range utilization rate is 90 percent.

1.13.14. Whenever possible, ensure the CA section remains open to conduct ground weapons training and weapon repair services during inspections, contingency exercises or real-world deployments, unless the installation commander or their designate directs their closure.

1.13.16. (Added) The Security Forces (SF) commander provides a Combat Arms task priority list for review, approval and endorsement by the installation commander. The priority listing should include, as a minimum, weapons training, inspection and repair tasks to meet minimum AEF (Aerospace Expeditionary Force) requirements and force protection requirements during normal and increased range operations. Closures, instructor shortages or contingency deployments may require modification of the base's Combat Arms training program.

1.14.1. Noncommissioned officers in charge (NCOIC) must ensure continuity folders are developed and maintained for all programs managed by CA personnel.

1.14.5. Combat Arms (CA) sections must maintain a current copy of the plotted Surface Danger Zone (SDZ) and Vertical Danger Zone (VDZ) for firing range facilities they maintain. This applies to USAFE-owned and -operated firing range facilities only. Units are not required to maintain SDZ and VDZ for host-nation ranges or ranges they periodically operate.

1.14.6. Evaluations will be posted in AF Form 623, **Individual Training Records**.

1.14.9. Will track replacement of parts used on weapons deployed in support of contingency operations as a valid incremental cost and reimbursable with contingency funding. Parts used will be tracked by correct Emergency and Special Program (ESP) code and reported to the unit resource advisor for possible reimbursement.

1.14.14. When unit show rates fall below the USAFE standard of 90 percent, submit the training attendance statistics through the SF commander to the respective unit commander. An individual is considered a no-show if the unit fails to notify CA at least 2 duty days prior to scheduled training. Bona fide emergencies and operational requirements verified by the unit are not considered no-shows.

1.14.19. Submit Combat Arms reports (RCS: HAF-SF A & SA 9371, *Combat Arms Program Reports*) via e-mail, message, or memorandum to USAFE/SFXR, Combat Arms Program Manager, no later than **10 October**.

1.14.19.1. (Added) USAFE Quarterly Ammunition Expenditure Reports are due to USAFE/SFXR, Combat Arms Program Manager, see **Table 1.1. (Added)** for report due dates. Ensure expenditure reports are coordinated, reviewed and approved by SF Commander. Submit reports via e-mail and maintain a file copy.

Table 1.1. (Added) HQ USAFE Quarterly Ammunition Report Suspense Table

Fiscal Year Quarter	FY Q1 1 Oct-31 Dec	FY Q2 1 Jan-31 Mar	FY Q3 1 Apr-30 Jun	FY Q4 1 Jul-30 Sep
Date Report Due	10 January	10 April	10 July	10 October

1.14.21. NCOICs will establish a complete "cradle-to-grave" paper trail for each gauge. The paper trail should include emails and other documentation pertaining to trouble gauges, copies of all issue and disposal documentation, copies of DA Form 3023, **Gage Record**, showing inspection information, USAF

and, or Army Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratories paperwork, and original copies of initial Army gauge packaging.

1.14.22. Units need to ensure ammunition was forecasted for Excellence-In-Competition (EIC) matches prior to submitting requests. SF commanders will request approval to conduct EIC matches from USAFE/SFX. The request will include as a minimum, ammunition allocation, number of competitors, approval from HQ AFSVA/SFPAF, and date of projected matches.

1.14.30. Submit task priority listing to SF commander for review, approval and forwarding to the Installation Commander for endorsement.

2.1. Conduct unit and squadron schedulers meetings at least semi-annually. As a minimum, brief responsibilities, weapon qualification polices and standards as addressed in AFI 36-2226, chapter 2, chapter 4, and local operating instructions and policies. Document attendance and keep in section files. A locally developed Combat Arms scheduler's continuity handout should be developed and implemented for unit scheduler's managing weapons training requirements.

2.1.1. Nonessential qualification training is prohibited in USAFE. USAFE training ammunition is used for completion of USAF weapon courses of fire. Weapons training requested to support North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) or Inspector General (IG) Inspections are considered nonessential qualification training. Ammunition must be forecasted, maintained, and provided by NATO or IG Inspection team to satisfy this requirement. Weapons training to comply with higher headquarters inspections (USAFE and, or USAF only) may require evaluation of Combat Arms instructors to ensure compliance with intermediate training objectives. Only personnel whose weapon qualification expiration dates have been validated will receive training. CA personnel will not use training ammunition for NATO TAC Evals or IG Inspections unless approved and directed by USAFE/SF.

2.1.2.2. Personnel identified as alternates are not required to be weapons qualified based solely on the possibility of filling a primary slot. As an exception, commanders have the option of qualifying up to 10 percent above the actual Unit Type Code required. This will ensure a small number of alternates are fully trained and prepared to deploy. If an alternate is selected to fill a primary position within the 90-day window prior to deployment, unit schedulers must contact CA to make arrangements to qualify the individual.

2.1.8. (Added) Personnel participating in competitions, such as USAFE Defender Challenge must be qualified with the weapons they intend to live fire during the competition. Firing the M-203 using smokes, flares or practice rounds is considered "live fire." Exceptions to this rule are USAF sponsored EIC (Excellence-In-Competition) rifle and pistol matches. Personnel competing in EIC matches must be given a briefing to include as a minimum, weapons safety, loading, clearing, reloading, and course of fire.

2.5.1. Submit requests for initial 10-meter qualifications with the M60 machine-gun, M240 machine-gun and M249 automatic rifle with a signed request from the SF commander to USAFE/SF. Provide justification on why full-distance live-fire qualification can not be accomplished, impact on force protection or contingency mission, and requested duration of the 10-meter course.

2.5.3. The Directorate of Security Forces (HQ USAFE/SF) and Air Forces South (AFSOUTH [Naples, IT]) staff personnel are Group B.

2.7. When arming groups change for USAFE personnel, CA sections may authorize supported units to accomplish changes on unit AF Form 522s, USAF **Ground Weapons Training Data**. Follow guidance listed in AFI 36-2226, [2.7](#).

2.7.1.8. USAFE Group A personnel will follow standardized training cycle below:

2.7.1.8.1. (Added) Conduct advanced and specialized course training during calendar year (CY) quarters 4 and 1 (1 October through 31 March), and AFQC (Air Force Qualification Course) or TRQC (Tactical Rifle Qualification Course, when approved by HQ AFSFC) during CY quarters 2 and 3 (1 April through 30 September). Personnel who are unable to qualify on their appropriate specialized course before 31 March become unqualified. Do not attempt to qualify on the specialized course after 1 April; individuals must then qualify on the AFQC or TRQC (when approved by HQ AFSFC)

2.7.1.8.2. (Added) Additional TRQC information.

2.7.1.8.3. (Added) 1 Oct through 31 March, personnel will fire both day and night fire portions of the TRQC.

2.7.1.8.4. (Added) 1 Apr through 30 September, personnel will fire day fire only portion of the TRQC

2.9.4. The SF Commander will submit firearms qualification exemption requests HQ USAFE/SF. Include justification on why training can not be accomplished, impact on force protection and contingency mission, and requested duration of the exemption.

2.12.10. The SF Commander will submit firearms simulator approval requests HQ USAFE/SF. Include justification, specifications, (i.e. laser, cordless, capable of advanced marksmanship training objectives, etc.) manufacturer, quantity, price unit, how the firearms simulator will be utilized (i.e. READY Augmentee, force-on-force, judgmental training, etc.). Include the impact on force protection or contingency mission and ensure compliance with requirements listed in AFI 36-2226, paragraph 2.12.10. As a minimum submit requests through the e-mail system.

2.12.10.1. The SF Commander will submit firearms simulator requests for qualification purposes of Group B and C personnel to HQ USAFE/SF. Include the impact on force protection and contingency mission, range problems, lack of adequate Non-USAF range availability (i.e. US Army, host-nation, etc) or ammunition shortfalls. Ensure compliance with specific details listed in AFI 36-2226, Table 2.1, *Qualification Guidance for Active Duty Air Force Personnel*.

2.15.2. Forward all copies of temporary facility criteria deviations to HQ USAFE/SFXR, Combat Arms Program Manager via the e-mail system.

2.16.2. All USAFE personnel assigned to sister services (Army, Navy, Marine Corps) may receive weapons qualification training from that service as long as:

2.16.2.1. (Added) AF unit commander validates that the course of fire meets or exceeds AF standards.

2.16.2.2. (Added) The training is covered by support agreements with their host unit.

2.16.2.3. (Added) Sister service instructors conducting the training must use approved courses of fire. Sister service instructors must conduct the complete academic and live-fire courses. No portions of this training may be delegated back to AF personnel, unless they are certified 3P0X1B or SEI 312 personnel.

2.16.2.4. (Added) Training is documented on an AF Form 522 as a record of qualification.

2.16.2.5. (Added) Remarks section for the AF Forms 522 will be annotated reflecting the sister service course of fire used, governing directive used, and that it is approved per this supplement.

2.16.3. SF commanders submit night fire familiarization and qualification waivers to HQ USAFE/SF for approval. Include justification for non-compliance (host-nation restriction, range limitations, mandatory quiet hours, etc.).

2.16.5. Submit requests for Combat Arms facility waivers to HQ USAFE/SF for approval. Ensure the request has been coordinated through base level safety, civil engineers, and other base agencies prior to submitting to HQ USAFE/SF.

3.6. NCOICs will develop a policy letter providing specific guidance on Combat Arms proficiency training. Ensure all assigned Combat Arms "B" shred and SEI 312 personnel are familiar with and follow the established policy.

3.6.1. (Added) The NCOIC must ensure at least one day per month is scheduled for weapon proficiency, instructor on-the-job training (OJT), weapons maintenance training, and other required in-house training. Document results of the training day and keep in section files.

4.6. CA sections will only use current Air Force approved lesson plans. HQ USAFE/SFXR must approve all locally developed lesson plans for weapons or courses of fire prior to use.

4.7. NCOICs should use LCD projectors to enhance the augment weapon training classes. Development of student handout material is also an excellent means to enhance the classroom environment.

4.9. NCOICs should develop standardized student evaluation checklists, using AF Form 2519, All Purpose Checklist, for weapons that do not have USAF-approved GO/NO-GO checklists. Use the checklists during the academic portion of training.

4.11.1. Use an AF Form 710, **Combat Arms Training Record**, for each class trained. The chief range instructor will sign the certificate of expenditure block. When students do not fire the correct amount of ammunition (e.g., three additional rounds used for zero) for the course of fire, include a brief explanation in the remarks block.

5.2.2. The Combat Arms Program Measurement report is due to HQ USAFE/SFXR not later than 10 October. Prepare RCS HAF-SF (A & SA) 9371, *Combat Arms Program Report*, Parts I through III format using attachment 2 in AFI 36-2226. The report covers the entire FY (fiscal year) period and is completed with information from 1 Oct through 30 Sep. Ensure reports are coordinated through the Security Forces commander.

5.2.5. Combat Arms unfunded requirements (example: spare parts, Bullet Trap, baffle repair, etc.) should be submitted to the unit Resource Advisor and SF commander. Continuous follow-up may be necessary to ensure requirements receive priority placement in the unit's financial plan.

5.2.8. CA sections submit FY ammunition forecasts to HQ USAFE/SFXR, Combat Arms Program Manager, not later than 1 December of each calendar year. Include detailed justification letters of any increases in requirements, mission changes, new missions, etc. CA sections are the main points of contact for the entire SF organization's ammunition forecast. Armories, Training, Mobility, and Military Working Dog sections will provide ammunition requirements to CA. CA will ensure the SF commander signs ammunition forecasts and justification letters before compiling the entire forecast and submitting it to HQ USAFE/SFXR, Combat Arms Program Manager.

5.2.11. Conduct 100 percent inventory of weapon spare parts semi-annually. Inventory results will be documented and maintained within the CA section.

5.3.1. When USAFE firing ranges are used by other military services or agencies, NCOIC's must develop range pre-inspection and post-inspection checklists, using AF Form 2519, **All Purpose Checklist**. The checklists will include, as a minimum, time in and out, weapon type, ammunition type, rounds used, name of Chief Range Official, names of Range Block Officials, communications check (Telephone, PA system,

etc.), equipment check, backstop and bullet trap, ventilation system operational, range damage, cleanliness, etc. Maintain range inspection checklists in files at the Combat Arms section. Dispose of records in accordance with AFMAN 37-123, *Management of Records*. When determined by NCOIC, Combat Arms personnel may be used to supervise Non-USAF agencies during live-fire weapons training.

5.3.1.1. Certification of non-USAF ranges for weapons qualification or proficiency will be accomplished to ensure facilities meet the intent of USAF training program and do not expose AF personnel to unsafe conditions or endanger others. Use AFI 36-2226, 5.7. as guidance to conduct the range certification. Contact USAFE/SFXR for the most current range criteria and guidance from HQ AFCEA (Air Force Civil Engineering Support Agency). Ensure a copy of the NON-USAF certification is provided to HQ USAFE/SFXR, Combat Arms Program Manager.

5.4.11.4. Range officials will wear a red baseball style hat with 1-inch letters across the front with the wording "Combat Arms" while performing range duties. On indoor ranges NCOIC's may determine if headgear is required.

5.6.1. NCOICs will develop standardized prefire briefings for all weapons and courses of fire conducted. The prefire briefings will be presented to students prior to live-fire qualification. NCOIC's must ensure full accounting of magazines and ammunition. Brief that only magazines and ammunition issued by Combat Arms personnel may be used. Magazines and ammunition not issued is forbidden on all USAF approved firing ranges. A copy of this briefing will be maintained on all ranges Combat Arms maintains. This also applies to Non-USAF-approved firing ranges. (Maintain in range continuity folder.)

5.8.1. NCOICs will include at least one day per month for maintenance of firing range and support facilities. If necessary, this day could be combined with the scheduled monthly weapon repair day. Do not combine this day with the scheduled Combat Arms Instructor training day. Document range maintenance accomplishments and maintain in section files.

5.9. SF Commander submits range closure reports to HQ USAFE/SF via memorandum, e-mail, or message. Ensure specific details are provided as listed in AFI 36-2226, paragraph 5.9.

6.1. Prior to procurement, submit requests for non-standard commercially purchased items (weapon parts, gauges, services, grips, slings, lights, etc.) to HQ USAFE/SFXR, Combat Arms Program Manager. (Normally, these items are not specifically identified for use in applicable USAF Technical Orders.) HQ USAFE/SFXR will review, approve, and forward the request to HQ AFSFC/SFW.

6.1.1. (Added) NCOICs should develop a weapon custodian continuity handout to assist custodians with program management. Conduct weapon custodian meetings at least annually. As minimum, brief responsibilities, weapon inspection criteria and standards covered in AFI 36-2226, Chapter 6. Document attendance and keep in the section files.

6.3.4. To ensure weapons are mission ready, weapons cleaning, to include frequency, must be performed in accordance with weapon USAF Technical Orders and Operators Manuals on all assigned in-use weapons. Units may increase cleaning frequency if local conditions warrant more frequent cleaning.

6.4. NCOICs ensure at least one day per month is scheduled to perform repairs and maintenance on installation weapons supported. This day could be combined with the scheduled monthly range maintenance day.

6.5. USAF Technical Orders for weapons being inspected must be physically on-hand and must be used when performing all weapon inspections. Standardized weapon inspection checklists are an excellent means to augment USAF Technical Orders.

6.5.6. Pre-embarkation inspections are not required for home-station training exercises (i.e. North Atlantic Treaty Organization [NATO] Tac Evals, ORIs, NSIs, etc.); however, they may be conducted to evaluate the CA weapons inspection capabilities during base-wide exercises or when required by local or higher headquarters inspection teams. CA personnel are not authorized to inspect or repair air-frame-mounted weapons.

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