

**Army Regulation 750–32**

**Maintenance of Supplies and Equipment**

**Airdrop,  
Parachute  
Recovery, and  
Aircraft  
Personnel  
Escape  
Systems**

**Headquarters  
Department of the Army  
Washington, DC  
5 September 2003**

**UNCLASSIFIED**

# ***SUMMARY of CHANGE***

AR 750-32

Airdrop, Parachute Recovery, and Aircraft Personnel Escape Systems

This revision --

- o Deletes the reference to the MT1-XX parachute (para 2-4).
- o Requires Department of the Army approval of a waiver allowing 92R3P as noncommissioned officer in charge for more than 180 days (para 2-8).
- o Deletes the reference to nonstandard parachutes (para 2-8).
- o Establishes that area of concentration code 92D and military occupational specialties 921A and 92R are authorized to pack only those parachutes for which they have received formal training and certification (para 2-8).

Maintenance of Supplies and Equipment

Airdrop, Parachute Recovery, and Aircraft Personnel Escape Systems

By order of the Secretary of the Army:

PETER J. SCHOOMAKER  
General, United States Army  
Chief of Staff

Official:



JOEL B. HUDSON  
Administrative Assistant to the  
Secretary of the Army

(USAR) units are engaged in or in logistics support of airborne and air delivery operations. During mobilization the proponent may modify policies contained in this regulation.

**Proponent and exception authority.**

The proponent of this regulation is Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, Headquarters, Department of the Army. The DCS, G-4 has the authority to approve exceptions to this regulation that are consistent with controlling law and regulation. The DCS, G-4 may delegate the approval authority, in writing, to a division chief within the proponent agency in the grade of colonel or the civilian equivalent.

**Army management control process.**

This regulation contains management control provisions in accordance with AR 11-2, but it does not identify key management controls that must be identified.

**Supplementation.** Supplementation of this regulation and establishment of command and local forms are prohibited without prior approval from Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, ATTN: DALO-SMT, 500 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-0500.

**Suggested improvements.** Users are

invited to submit comments and suggested improvements to this regulation. Internet users may submit their comments and suggested improvements through the electronic DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) found within the individual Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, regulation and pamphlet. Anyone without Internet access should submit their comments and suggested improvements on a DA Form 2028 directly to DCS, G-4, ATTN: DALO-SMT, 500 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-0500.

**Distribution.** This publication is available in electronic media only and is intended for command levels A, B, C, D and E for Active Army, Army National Guard of the United States (ARNGUS), and the U.S. Army Reserve.

**History.** This publication is a major revision.

**Summary.** This regulation establishes and clarifies qualification requirements for personnel maintaining and packing parachutes and states responsibilities under current Army organizations.

**Applicability.** This regulation applies to Active Army, Army National Guard of the United States (ARNGUS), including periods when members of the Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve

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\*This regulation supersedes AR 750-32, 26 September 1997.

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## **Chapter 1 General**

### **1–1. Purpose**

This regulation prescribes responsibilities for the support of airdrop, parachute recovery, and aircraft personnel parachute escape systems and increases the emphasis on training, safety, and logistics support of these increasingly complex systems and their peculiar support requirements.

### **1–2. References**

Required and related publications and prescribed and referenced forms are listed in appendix A.

### **1–3. Explanation of abbreviations and terms**

Abbreviations and special terms in this regulation are explained in the glossary.

## **Chapter 2 Responsibilities**

### **2–1. Deputy Chief of Staff, G–4**

The Deputy Chief Staff, G–4 is the proponent for this DA policy concerning subject systems.

### **2–2. Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command**

The Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command (CG, USAMC) will—

- a.* Monitor the aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems and support thereof.
- b.* Provide depot support, supply and maintenance, and customer assistance for all aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- c.* Ensure sustained proficiency of all technicians performing depot maintenance and inspection of aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.

### **2–3. Commanding General, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command**

The Commanding General, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (CG, TRADOC) will—

- a.* Provide specialized training for personnel who will maintain aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- b.* Ensure that tables of organization and equipment (TOE) and tables of distribution and allowances (TDA), as applicable, authorize sufficient specialized area of concentration code/military occupational specialty (AOC/MOS) personnel to adequately support aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.
- c.* Develop manpower requirements criteria (MARC) for AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, and 92R and update them at 3-year intervals, as required by AR 71–32.
- d.* Develop and publish required rigging procedures for supplies and equipment to be airdropped.

### **2–4. Commanding General, U.S. Army Special Operations Command**

The Commanding General, U.S. Army Special Operations Command (CG, USASOC) will—

- a.* Provide and ensure specific training/certification procedures necessary to ensure safe packing of the MC–4 Ram Air Personnel Parachute Systems (MC–4 RAPPS) main parachute by non-parachute rigger qualified military free fall (MFF) qualified personnel and personnel assigned as students to the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School (USAJFKSWCS) Military Free Fall Parachutist Course (MFFPC) and MFF Jumpmaster Course (MFFJMC) program of instruction (POI). This applies to the use and packing of the MC–4 RAPPS main parachute by units of USASOC performing MFF operations.
- b.* Ensure that only soldiers who have satisfactorily completed or are assigned to the USAJFKSWCS MFFPC/MFFJMC using the MC–4 RAPS will participate in this training/certification.
- c.* Ensure sustained proficiency of all non-rigger MFF qualified soldiers and USAJFKSWCS assigned MFFPC/MFFJMC students performing MC–4 RAPPS main parachute packing.
- d.* Ensure the Army airdrop systems technician (MOS 921A) or other authorized unit supervisors, in accordance with paragraph 2–8*d*, adhere to the maintenance compliance standards of the MC–4 RAPPS and administer the training/certification program.
- e.* Ensure that an Army parachute rigger with the minimum grade of E–5 (MOS 92R2P), who fully meets the requirements of paragraph 2–8*c* and has satisfactorily completed the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School (USAQMCS) MC–4 RAPPS Certification Course, performs the duties of the parachute pack-in-process inspector.
- f.* Ensure that all USAJFKSWCS assigned or attached MFF instructors have satisfactorily completed the

USAJFKSWCS MFF Instructor Training Course that includes instruction on the MC-4 RAPPs main parachute canopy pack-in-process inspection procedures prior to performing duties of the parachute pack-in-process inspector. Qualified MFF instructors may perform duties as the pack-in-process inspector only while instructing during a USAJFKSWCS MFFPC or MFFJM POI and under the supervision of the Army parachute rigger meeting the requirements of paragraph 2-4e.

g. Ensure the Army parachute rigger inspector, meeting the requirements in paragraph 2-4e, or USAJFKSWCS assigned and qualified MFF instructors, meeting the requirements in paragraph 2-4 and 2-8e(2)(c), perform pack-in-process inspections at prescribed intervals to ensure the MC-4 RAPPs main parachute canopy is packed in accordance with TM 10-1670-287-23&P.

h. Ensure the following reference material/manuals will be available during all parachute pack operations: AR 750-32, AR 59-4, FM 31-19, TM 10-1670-201-23, TM 10-1670-264-13&P, TM 10-1670-300-20&P, and TM 10-1670-305-23&P.

i. Ensure the Army parachute rigger packs and maintains RAPS MC-4 reserve parachutes.

j. Develop, publish, and implement procedures for non-rigger qualified MFF qualified personnel, USAJFKSWCS assigned MFF instructors, and MFFPC/MFFJM students operating under this paragraph.

## **2-5. Commanding General, U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command**

The Commanding General, U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command (CG, SBCCOM) will—

a. Provide logistical functions, as prescribed in AR 700-127, AR 70-47, and AR 750-1, for all aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems, and related components, with the exception of cartridge actuated device/propellant actuated device (CAD/PAD) components.

b. Develop and publish the required supply, operational maintenance, and safety instructions pertinent to the operations and maintenance of aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, airdrop systems, and related components, except CAD/PAD (unless granted by exception).

c. Maintain coordination with the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC), U.S. Army Safety Center (USASC), and the Departments of the Navy and Air Force on studies, research, development, test, and evaluation projects pertinent to aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, airdrop systems, and related components.

d. Engineer evaluations on items relating to airdrop systems and review records of all airdrop equipment involved in airdrop malfunctions for the purpose of identifying equipment that may need possible modifications or improvement.

## **2-6. Commanding General, U.S. Army Field Support Command**

The Commanding General, U.S. Army Field Support Command (CG, FSC) will—

a. Ensure an adequate supply of all munitions (CAD/PAD), components of aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.

b. Prepare publications detailing the required supply, maintenance, disposal, and safety instructions pertinent to munitions components of aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.

c. Provide and maintain records and investigation of all malfunctions involving munitions (CAD/PAD) that will be reported in accordance with AR 59-4.

## **2-7. Commander, U.S. Army Safety Center**

The Commander, U.S. Army Safety Center (USASC) will maintain a record of intentional and unintentional escape experiences that involve Army aircraft equipped with personnel parachute escape systems. Accidents of U.S. Army aircraft will be investigated, reported, and recorded in accordance with AR 385-40 and DA PAM 385-40.

## **2-8. Other MACOM commanders**

Commanding generals of major Army commands not previously listed will—

a. Recommend for approval the tables of organizations and equipment (TOE) and tables of distribution (TDA) that authorize sufficient specialized military occupational specialty (MOS) personnel to adequately support assigned aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.

b. Ensure that an adequate airdrop force structure to support current airdrop doctrine is identified through the Total Army Analysis (TAA) process.

c. Ensure that individuals serving as parachute riggers are formally trained and properly certified by the USA Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA; are on parachute duty status; and possess a primary AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, or 92R series. Army parachute riggers will not be relieved of their duties or have their parachute duty status terminated unless it is required by paragraph 2-8h.

*Note.* Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve personnel meeting the above requirements are considered qualified to pack, inspect, and repair parachutes as civilian technicians.

d. Ensure that only qualified riggers are assigned as supervisors of airdrop support units engaged in airdrop rigging, parachute maintenance, or parachute packing.

- (1) Qualified riggers are Active Army, Army National Guard, or U.S. Army Reserve personnel who
  - (a) Possess a primary AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, 92R5P, or 92R4P series,
  - (b) Are assigned to an authorized TOE/TDA parachute rigger position, and
  - (c) Are on parachute duty status.
- (2) Qualified personnel who possess MOS 92R3P may be authorized to supervise such units. Certain circumstances may dictate that such personnel be temporarily detailed to supervisory positions for limited periods of time. In such cases, waivers (for periods not to exceed 180 days) may be granted by the MACOM, but only after—
  - (a) Careful consideration of the urgency of the situation and alternatives.
  - (b) Evaluation by the appropriate commander(s) of the selected individual's qualifications, including technical and leadership experience.
  - (c) Evaluation by the appropriate commander(s) that the selected individual has demonstrated the ability to operate independently from his or her chain of command.

*Note.* When granting waivers, safety must be the foremost consideration.

- (d) Waivers in excess of 180 days require DA approval.
- (3) The supervisor is/will be the individual charged with the control or direction of the airdrop support unit. Absence of the supervisor from the work facility does not dictate that all activities cease; however, activities will cease if the parachute packing and maintenance requirements cannot be met because of the supervisor's absence.
  - e. Ensure performance for Aircraft Personnel Parachute Airdrop Systems (troop-type).
    - (1) Static line deployed parachute.
      - (a) Packing, maintenance, and inspection (technical/rigger-type, pack-in process, routine, and in-storage) of parachutes and associated ancillary equipment are performed only by qualified rigger personnel, as identified in paragraph 2–8c.
      - (b) Pack-in-process inspection is performed by a 92R possessing the following qualifications:
        - 1. Grade of E–5 or above and
        - 2. Minimum 2 years of parachute experience.

*Note.* Qualifications may be waived to allow a 92R1P (E–4 promotable) when recommended by the warrant officer in charge of that section and approved by the first O–6 in the chain of command.

- (c) Department of Defense civilian employees may be engaged in the repair and inspection of static line parachutes if they
  - 1. Have been trained by the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA, and
  - 2. Perform such duties under the supervision of a qualified rigger, as defined in paragraph 2–8c.
- (2) Free-fall parachutes.
  - (a) Packing, maintenance, and inspection (technical/rigger type, pack-in-process, routine, and in-storage) of parachutes and associated ancillary equipment is performed only by qualified rigger personnel, as identified in paragraph 2–8c. (For exceptions, see paragraph 2–4a.)
  - (b) Pack-in-process inspections are performed only by authorized riggers, as identified in paragraph 2–8e(1)(b). (For exceptions, see paragraph 2–4f.)
  - (c) Personnel packing and/or performing the duties of the pack-in-process inspector receive specific packing and inspection training/certification from the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA.
  - (d) Personnel performing maintenance, inspection, and testing of the Automatic Ripcord Release (AR2 ) are school-trained riggers, as identified in paragraph 2–8c, and have received specific training/certification from the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA.
  - (e) Department of Defense civilian personnel may be engaged in the inspection and repair of free-fall parachutes if they—
    - 1. Possess and maintain a current parachute rigger certificate issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the specific parachute being processed.
    - 2. Perform such duties under the supervision of a qualified Army rigger, as defined in paragraph 2–8c.
- f. Ensure performance for Aircraft Cargo and Extraction Parachute Airdrop Systems.
  - (1) Military personnel (other than MOS 92R) may perform the duties of packing cargo and extraction-type parachutes; however, they must perform these duties under the supervision of an Army-qualified rigger, as defined in paragraph 2–8c.
  - (2) Department of Defense civilian personnel may be engaged in the inspection, repair, and packing of cargo and extraction-type parachutes if they—
    - (a) Have been trained at the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA, and
    - (b) Perform such duties under the supervision of a Army qualified rigger, as defined in paragraph 2–8c.
- g. Ensure that all parachutes packed by AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, and 92R are certified/type classified U.S. Army standard parachutes. (Army riggers may pack parachutes that have been type classified by other Services if they have

received training/certification from the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, VA, on the specific parachute being packed.)

*h.* Ensure personnel serving in positions requiring AOC/MOS 92D, 921A, or 92R are relieved of all parachute rigger AOC/MOS related duties when—

(1) They have been identified as potential drug or alcohol abusers.

(2) Their parachute duty status is terminated, whether voluntarily, medically, or for cause.

*(a)* Exceptions will be granted to personnel on temporary profiles and/or pregnancy. These individuals will retain their MOS and continue performing duties within the limitations.

*(b)* However, these personnel will not pack personnel parachutes or perform the duties of pack-in-process inspector. Commanders should consider all others for reclassification as soon as possible.

*i.* Ensure performance for drop testing.

(1) Drop testing of all airdrop equipment is performed under the supervision of qualified Army riggers who meet the supervisory requirements in paragraph 2–8*d*.

*(a)* Drop testing (including airdrop load rigging) will only be conducted by an activity responsible for the packing, maintenance, and inspection of airdrop equipment. Drop testing of airdrop equipment consists of physically dropping an item from an aircraft in flight. It is used as a means of proving serviceability of an item or checking rigger proficiency.

*(b)* Drop tests of a troop-type personnel parachute will be jumped by an Army parachute rigger, qualified on the type of parachute being tested. Emergency-type or reserve personnel parachutes will be drop tested through the use of a dummy only.

*(c)* Records of drop testing will be processed in accordance with TM 10–1670–201–23.

(2) Drop testing by other than certified test agencies (U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, Airborne and Special Operations Test Directorate, and Materiel Test Directorate, Yuma Proving Ground) will be specifically limited to only type-classified, in-service air items and be under current published airdrop procedures authorized by TOE or TDA.

*j.* Provide maintenance (other than depot level) and storage for assigned aircraft personnel escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems.

*k.* Ensure that Army aviation, all Army National Guard, and U.S. Army Reserve units that are not authorized to perform unit or higher levels of maintenance on parachutes are limited to the care and preservation of parachutes only. Support will be provided by authorized supply and maintenance units on a “repair and return to user” basis.

*l.* Ensure sustained proficiency of all personnel performing pack, maintenance, and inspection on airdrop, parachute recovery, and aircraft personnel parachute escape systems.

*m.* Ensure aircrew member training and aircraft transition training provides for full familiarization with operation and safety procedures related to aircraft personnel parachute escape, parachute recovery, and airdrop systems. Aircrew member training will be provided to all pilots, observers, and aircrew personnel.

*n.* Ensure the proper handling and storage of explosive components of airdrop systems.

*o.* Ensure all applicable safety procedures are strictly adhered to, as prescribed in AR 385–40 and AR 59–4, and as otherwise appropriate.

*p.* Ensure strict compliance to standards for maintenance, inspection, and packing of airdrop, parachute recovery, and aircraft personnel parachute escape systems in accordance with applicable technical manuals.

*q.* Ensure all cross-service agreements and commercial contracts negotiated for the purpose of maintenance or modification of cargo and extraction-type parachutes incorporate Department of the Army applicable repair or modification procedures and requirements.

## **Appendix A References**

### **Section I Required Publications**

#### **AR 59-4/AFR 55-40/OPNAVINST 4630.24B/MCO 13480.1B**

Joint Airdrop Inspection Records, Malfunction Investigations and Activity Reporting. (Cited in paras 2-4*h*, 2-6*c*, and 2-8*o*.)

#### **AR 70-47**

Engineering for Transportability. (Cited in para 2-5*a*.)

#### **AR 385-40**

Accident Reporting and Records. (Cited in paras 2-7 and 2-8*o*.)

#### **AR 71-32**

Force Development and Documentation-Consolidated Policies. (Cited in para 2-3*c*.)

#### **AR 700-127**

Integrated Logistic Support. (Cited in para 2-5*a*.)

#### **AR 750-1**

Army Material Maintenance Policy and Retail Maintenance Operations. (Cited in para 2-5*a*.)

#### **DA PAM 385-40**

Army Accident Investigation and Reporting. (Cited in para 2-7.)

### **Section II Related Publications**

A related publication is merely a source of additional information. The user does not have to read it to understand this regulation.

#### **FM 31-10**

Military Free-Fall Parachuting Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures

#### **TM 10-1670-201-23**

Organizational and Direct Support Maintenance Manual for General Maintenance of Parachutes and Other Airdrop Equipment

#### **TM 10-1670-264-13&P**

Organizational and Direct Support Maintenance Including Repair Parts and Special Tools List for Mcj-3 Free-Fall Personnel Parachute System

#### **TM 10-1670-300-20&P**

Unit and Direct Support Maintenance Manual Including Repair Parts and Special Tools List for Ancillary Equipment for Military Free-Fall System, Helmet, Free-Fall, Parachutists, Type I Helmet, Free-Fall Parachutist Type II

#### **TM 10-1670-305-23&P**

Unit and Direct Support Maintenance Manual (Including Repair Parts and Special Tool Lists) for Automatic Ripcord Release, AR2, Model 451 Test Chamber Assembly, AR2, Model 452, Electronic Test Chamber Assembly, AR2, Model 453

### **Section III Prescribed Forms**

This section contains no entries.

### **Section IV Referenced Forms**

This section contains no entries.

## **Glossary**

### **Section I Abbreviations**

#### **AMC**

U.S. Army Material Command

#### **AOC**

area of concentration code

#### **ARNG**

Army National Guard

#### **CAD**

cartridge activated device

#### **CG**

commanding general

#### **DCS, G-4**

Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4

#### **DOD**

Department of Defense

#### **FAA**

Federal Aviation Administration

#### **HQDA**

Headquarters, Department of the Army

#### **MACOM**

major Army command

#### **MARC**

manpower requirements criteria

#### **MFF**

military free fall

#### **MFFJMC**

Military Free Fall Jumpmaster Course

#### **MFFPC**

Military Free Fall Parachute Course

#### **MOS**

military occupational specialty

#### **PAD**

propellant actuated device

#### **POI**

program of instruction

#### **SBCCOM**

U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command

#### **TAA**

total Army analysis

**TDA**

tables of distribution and allowances

**TECOM**

U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command

**TM**

technical manual

**TOE**

tables of organization and equipment

**TRADOC**

U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command

**USAJFKWCS**

U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School

**USAMC**

U.S. Army Materiel Command

**USAR**

U.S. Army Reserve

**USASC**

U.S. Army Safety Center

**USASOC**

U.S. Army Special Operations Command

**Section II****Terms****Aircraft personnel escape system**

A system designed to facilitate the emergency escape of personnel from an aircraft. Assisted escape systems incorporate cartridge/propellant-actuated devices and automatically deployed parachutes. Unassisted escape systems are composed of either back, chest, or seat-type manually deployed emergency parachutes.

**Airdrop system**

A system designed to facilitate the premeditated delivery of personnel, supplies and equipment from aircraft in flight. These systems are usually composed of such items as troop-type parachutes (static line deployed and free-fall type systems), cargo-type parachutes, airdrop containers, platforms, tie-downs, and related items.

**Cartridge actuated device/propellant actuated device (CAD-PAD)**

A cartridge/propellant actuated device is a compact, self-contained package that uses the energy generated by the rapid burning of a charge to actuate such equipment as assisted personnel escape systems, reefing line cutters, parachute ejectors, and similar types of items.

**Parachute recovery system**

A system designed to recover an object (missile, drone) from flight and to land it safely. These systems may be composed of parachutes, controls, or activating devices for land and/or flotation devices.

**Section III****Special Abbreviations and Terms**

This section contains no entries.

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