

1-507th PIR



Hunters from the Sky

# I-507th PIR Airborne

Volume II, Issue I

January 29, 2014

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**Please see page 4 for useful and important links regarding safety, information, and the new TC 3-21.220.**



## Commander's Corner

Happy New Year fellow paratroopers. During the next year, the I-507th will incorporate several initiatives into our courses. This news letter is intended to keep the Airborne forces updated on those changes and initiatives as we move forward in 2014. In the BAC we have recently released the new TC 3-21.220. We have also incorporated the flexed arm hang assessment into the BAC.

Last, we have asked for some additional testing on the T-11 with the mass exit technique and revised emergency procedures. More to follow as we learn more. In Pathfinder we are revising sling load training and testing and increasing rigor with the FTX. The Jumpmaster Course will improve DZSO training by incorporating training and testing on anemometers. Until next time, Blue Skies!



**LTC Carl L. Bergmann  
Commander, I-507 PIR**

## JMPI Changes and Pertinent Information

With the publication of the new TC 3-21.220 and evolving tactical requirements, Jumpmasters can expect changes to both the JMPI sequence for the new Universal Parachutist Kit Bag (UPKB) and incorporation of anemometers into the JM Course.

1. The JMPI sequence for the UPKB incorporates several additions and changes when using a T-11 parachute system compared to the old T-10 system. The new sequence focuses on the leg strap retainers as they connect to the Quick Fit "V" Ring. Also ensure that the leg strap retainers are not twisted or frayed. Please see the links on page 4 for more

information and the exact sequence. A great topic for JM Breakfast or refresher.

2. The United States Army Jumpmaster School trains NCOs and officers across DoD on jumpmaster specific duties. The training revolves largely around nomenclature, JMPI, and PWAC. There are two classes taught during the JM course that relate to DZSO duties. One is the DZSO Duties and Responsibilities Class, the other is the Calculated Air Release Point (CARP) Class. In the CARP class, all students are introduced to the anemometers that are authorized for use IAW TC 3-21.220. Those anemometers are the DIC, DIC3, Turbometer, and AN/

PMQ 3A. The TC clearly states the authorized anemometers and the expediency checks of those particular systems. The JM course will include a formal block of instruction and practical exercise on the expediency checks of authorized anemometers. It is still the unit's responsibility to ensure their DZSOs and DZSTLs are trained, certified and current, IAW with the TC 3-21.220 and the unit's Airborne SOP. Links on page 4 further explain the approved anemometers.

3. For further information on the correct JMPI sequence for the UPKB, the new TC 3-21.220, and helpful Pathfinder and Jumpmaster Apps for your smart device, please follow the links on page 4.

## Basic Airborne Course FAH and Minimum Weight Requirements

ALL BAC students are now required to perform a Flexed Arm Hang (FAH) to demonstrate the ability to pull and hold a slip with the T-11 Advanced Tactical Parachute System and T-10 parachute. This assessment has been put in place as a risk mitigation measure. The FAH will start from the "hang free" position on a standard chin up bar. The student will then pull up and hold at chest/name tag level for 20 seconds, keeping the chin and head above the bar for the entire 20 seconds. This assessment is conducted on Day 1 of the Basic Airborne Course. Failure of the FAH on Day 1 will not result in a student drop or recycle. The student will continue training in the Basic Airborne Class that he or she is in. The student who fails the initial assessment will get a daily assessment for the next two weeks and a final assessment on

the last day of Tower Week. If the student fails the final assessment, a recommendation of "allow to jump," "drop from the course," or "recycle" will be made to the ARTB Commander the Infantry Commandant. Recommendations for students are made on a case-by-case basis. If the student is recommended for recycle, the student will receive a one-time recycle through Tower Week. A follow up assessment will be conducted at the end of Tower Week.

The minimum weight requirement to enter the BAC is now 105 lbs. due to the recommendations of the Safety Center and NATICK. Army regulations state that, once rigged, a jumper must meet a minimum weight of 160 lbs. Subtracting Hollywood equipment, a jumper must be a minimum weight of 105 lbs in service uniform to ensure they are in compliance with Army safety message recommendations.



<— Free Hang (start) Position

Up (execution) position—>

Held for 20 seconds



## Fatality Investigation and Recommendations from the Basic Airborne Course

The investigation findings attribute the cause of this accident to human error. The accident occurred due to a high-altitude collision between a higher jumper and a lower jumper. The higher jumper failed to execute his third point of performance and react in a timely manner to avoid the lower jumper's canopy and maintain at least 25 feet of separation between himself and his fellow jumper. The higher jumper drifted directly above the lower jumper, causing the higher jumper's canopy to lose lift capability. This caused him to fall at a faster rate than the lower jumper and fall on top of lower jumper's main canopy. This in turn, caused the higher jumper's main canopy to completely collapse on the higher jumper. The higher jumper then became entangled in his own canopy while in a prone position in the center of the

lower jumper's canopy. The lower jumper's canopy began to collapse as a result of the higher jumper's weight and position on the lower jumper's canopy. After the lower jumper activated his reserve, the higher jumper fell free from the lower jumper's canopy. The higher jumper was unable to activate his reserve parachute after falling free due to the entanglement in his own canopy. Recommendations from the incident:

1. Develop formal emergency procedures for high altitude collision/entanglement.
2. Maintain 1/2 second dispersion for mass exits.
3. Establish a measurable performance standard to simulate the ability to perform a two-riser slip utilizing a T-11 parachute (Flex Arm Hang).

4. Establish a minimum weight limit of 105lbs to enter the BAC and jump the T-11 ATPS.

5. Increase Instructor strength or decrease student load to maintain a safe student to instructor ratio IAW the POI.

6. Temporarily suspend the mass exit technique with T-11 ATPS for BAC students. BAC students will conduct at least one mass exit with the T-10 system.





### Pathfinder Way Ahead

In the past fiscal year, the 101st and 82nd Airborne collected feedback from their Pathfinder Companies. We have also received feedback from the force regarding pathfinder required skill sets in a combat environment. Last, we held a PF conference on 10-11 SEP 13 at FBGA which included representatives from FCKY Sabalauski Air Assault/ Pathfinder School, Warrior Training Center and the Infantry Commandants office. We reviewed our mission and our PF POI and as a result, we will incorporate some changes over the course of fiscal year 14. The purpose is to

make the current Program of Instruction more relevant for the Pathfinder required skill set and mission. The "Pathfinder Way Ahead" initiative includes some of the following improvements and changes. Implement a realistic approach to standard sling load training and testing. Add training on sling load theory and non-standard sling loads, which was the largest request from the force. Remove Medical Evacuation procedures from the course as it is currently taught at most entry level courses. Integrate Air Traffic Control and Map Markings into the Helicopter Landing Zones and Air Assault Planning lessons. Make the Field Training Exercise a culminating graded event where students are evaluated using Situational Training Exercises over a 72 hour period. The FTX and STXs focus on scenarios that combine a joint force

entry capability with fast paced missions to evaluate the students in a more rigorous practical application environment. The course outcomes for each Pathfinder Student are: to demonstrate fundamental skills in the establishment and operation of multi-ship helicopter landing and pickup zones, facilitate the integration of rotary and fixed wing aircraft during joint operations, apply fundamental knowledge of external rotary wing load preparation into the inspection process, and integrate knowledge of certified sling load preparation into the preparation of unique or non-standard sling loads. Lastly, students will demonstrate fundamental skills in the selection, establishment, and operation of drop zones.



## Want to be a Black Hat?



**Are you interested in becoming an Airborne School Instructor?**

Come join the 507th PIR team and become a member of the prestigious Airborne School!

Looking for Airborne Qualified E-5's, E-6's, and E-7's; any MOS; any Branch!

#### Military School Opportunities

You WILL receive the opportunity to attend

Jumpmaster School

Pathfinder School

Ranger School

Silver Wings Demonstration Freefall Team



If interested in joining the 507th Team, or if you have any questions please contact S3 NCOIC at **706-545-6262**.



### Useful and Important Links

- Please visit <http://www.benning.army.mil/infantry/rtb/1-507th/jumpmaster/> for jumpmaster safety information and videos.
- The new TC 3-21.220, Static Line Parachuting Techniques and Training is released for units to abide by: <http://www.benning.army.mil/infantry/rtb/1-507th/>
- Please visit [https://www.benning.army.mil/training/rtb/1-507th/content/pdf/SC\\_Universal%20Parachutist%20Kit%20Bag%20\(UPKB\)\\_6%20Jun%2012\\_FOUO.pdf](https://www.benning.army.mil/training/rtb/1-507th/content/pdf/SC_Universal%20Parachutist%20Kit%20Bag%20(UPKB)_6%20Jun%2012_FOUO.pdf) for safety practices regarding the Universal Parachutist Kit Bag (UPKB)
- Link to the Pathfinder App: <http://www.benning.army.mil/infantry/rtb/1-507th/pathfinder/Current.html>
- Link to the Jumpmaster App: <http://www.benning.army.mil/infantry/rtb/1-507th/Jumpmaster/Current.html>



## 1-507th PIR Hunters From the Sky

### Evidence Collection Procedures for a Suspected Parachute Malfunction/Incident

During all Parachute Operations there must be a Malfunction Officer (MO) on the site; IAW AR 59-4 (Joint Airdrop Inspection Records, Malfunction/Incident Investigations, and Activity Reporting). A MO is a Parachute Rigger Qualified NCO (92R/E-5 or above), WO (921A / Airdrop Systems Technician) or Officer (92D with AD-MOC) and certified as a Pack-In-Process inspector for the system/systems being dropped.

In the event of an incident on the Drop Zone (DZ), the MO will receive the highest priority, secondary only to medical aid. Depending on the seriousness of the incident, the MO may have to notify the Drop Zone Safety Officer (DZSO) to cease all other activities on the DZ as he/she initiates an onsite investigation. Video and pictures will be taken with assigned equipment and are only released to the Senior Airdrop Systems Technician; this is to ensure that the best interests of the Department of Defense and possibly injured Soldier(s) are preserved. The only exception to release any media is for additional investigators, such as the Criminal Investigation Division or the US Army Safety Center.

tion and only released by a 921A.

Sworn statements will be taken from personnel involved (if possible) and anyone that may have knowledge as to what may have happened. It is important to remember that "Incidents" and "Malfunctions" are two different categories. The MO can only categorize a parachute mishap as an Incident; an investigation packet will then be sent to Ft Lee, VA. At the Quartermaster School and Center, a panel of SME (Subject Matter Experts / E-7 or above Rigger) will analyze the evidence and they will determine if the mishap was a Malfunction or Incident, during the Tri-Annual Malfunction Review Board.



The parachute(s) on the ground should remain in an undisturbed state until the MO completes his/her initial inspection. If possible, the canopy release assembly should not be activated and any equipment cut or removed should be annotated by video/picture and written statements. Care must be taken in removing the parachute from the DZ and taken to the Parachute Maintenance facility for a more in-depth Technical Rigger Inspec-

