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**Operations Support**



***SURVIVAL, EVASION, RESISTANCE, AND  
ESCAPE (SERE)***

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This AFD implements DoD Directive 1300.7, *Training and Education Measures Necessary to Support the Code of Conduct (CoC)* and DoD Directive 2310.2, *Personnel Recovery*. The USAF SERE Program prepares Low to High Risk of Capture (LRC)/(HRC) personnel to return with honor in direct support of DOD and Air Force Personnel Recovery (PR) directives. Ensuring SERE operations and training are a normalized part of USAF Personnel Recovery plans and programs provides for a well prepared, mission oriented and motivated force who are confident in their ability to survive and return with honor. To accomplish this, the Air Force requires a robust SERE program managed by a SERE Specialist at the MAJCOM level and conducted by a well trained, fully manned SERE Specialist force at the formal schools and select operational units. This directive establishes policies for the conduct of the USAF SERE program and identifies the capabilities of SERE Specialists.

**1.** The USAF SERE program is an integral part of PR. SERE operations and training are designed to prepare and enable combat aircrews and other HRC personnel to survive and return with honor. Initial, advanced, and recurring SERE training programs provide essential skills and knowledge in support of the Code of Conduct for all low to high risk of capture personnel. Unit level SERE Code of Conduct Continuation Training (CoCCT) and Evasion and Recovery (E&R) operations support programs must provide a clear and continual link between initial formal training and actual operations throughout a member's career.

**2.** SERE Specialists are a critical component of PR and Aircrew Protection programs responsible for preparing designated personnel to survive, evade, resist and escape, ultimately resulting in the recovery of isolated personnel. SERE Specialists develop SERE Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTP) in support of operational tasking for theater and Joint Forces Commanders. Air Force SERE Specialists are the only DoD specialty specifically recruited, trained and employed to conduct SERE operations support and Code of Conduct Training (CoCT) for the duration of their career. SERE Specialists conduct CoCT and CoCCT in support of DoD Directive 1300.7, *Training and Education Measures Necessary to Support the Code of Conduct*. SERE Specialists are qualified in principles of PR, and uniquely qualified in global SERE TTP and equipment enabling them to function as subject matter experts (SME) during contingency, wartime and military operations other than war (MOOTW). SERE Specialist capabilities include but are not lim-

ited to: SME on impact of conditions effecting survival, evasion, conduct after capture and resistance to exploitation, escape from captivity; wilderness emergency medical technician (EMT); PR Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTP); operational testing support and use of SERE related equipment; basic, advanced and emergency military parachuting; controller/observer, evader/evader escort during PR exercises.

**3. SERE Program requirements are based on the following guidelines:**

3.1. The USAF SERE Program will be conducted IAW DoD Directive 1300.7, *Training and Education Measures Necessary to Support the Code of Conduct*, DoD Directive 2310.2, *Personnel Recovery (PR)*, and CJCSI 3270.01, *Personnel Recovery within the Department of Defense*. Cooperation between SERE, Pararescue, Intelligence, Aircrew Life Support, Egress, Survival Equipment, Aerospace Physiology, and legal programs will ensure the success of the USAF SERE Program. Additionally, the SERE program management should be a coordinated effort facilitated by a 1TOX1, SERE Specialist qualified in accordance with AFMAN 36-2108.

3.2. SERE Specialists will be qualified as a worldwide deployable resource capable of supporting operations in any theater as a SME in support of PR/SERE operations.

**4. The following responsibilities and authorities are established:**

4.1. The Secretary of the Air Force establishes policy for the SERE Program. HQ USAF/XO has functional oversight responsibility for the SERE Program and SERE Specialist career field management. Specifically, HQ USAF/XO will establish and approve guidance pertaining to SERE operations and training and the employment of SERE Specialists. Additionally, HQ USAF/XO will coordinate Mission Essential Task Listings and measures to meet SERE Specialist validated requirements and update the SERE Specialist Career Field Education and Training Plan.

4.2. MAJCOMs, FOAs, and DRUs, will organize, train and equip aircrew and other identified personnel for SERE operations, normalized at both the initial formal training and operational unit levels. Additionally, SERE Specialists will be trained and equipped as required to meet worldwide deployment taskings and meet qualifications IAW AFI 16-1301, *USAF SERE Program*.

**5. Gaining (supported) commands/units will direct by contingency plan or tasking message, the Unit Type Code (UTC) requirements for deploying SERE Specialists.**

**6. This policy applies to all military and civilian Air Force personnel and members of the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard involved in PR/SERE activities and planning. SERE Specialists are not currently integrated into the unit manning positions of the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard. Specific management of the SERE program and associated activities will be addressed in the SERE AFI 16-1301.**

**7. See Attachment 1 for a Glossary of References and Supporting Information.**

- 8.** See Attachment 2 for measures used to comply with this policy.

F. WHITTEN PETERS  
Secretary of the Air Force

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

DOD Directive 1300.7, *Training and Education Measures Necessary to Support the Code of Conduct (CoC)*

DOD Directive 2310.2, *Personnel Recovery (PR)*

CJCSI 3270.01(S), *Personnel Recovery within the Department of Defense*

JP 3-50.2, *Doctrine for Joint Search and Rescue*

JP 3-50.21, *Joint Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures For Combat Search and Rescue*

JP 3-50.3, *Joint Doctrine for Evasion and Recovery*

AFPD 11-3, *Life Support*

AFPD 14-1, *Air Force Intelligence Planning And Operations*

AFPD 16-12, *Pararescue*

AFPD 31-1, *Physical Security*

AFDD 2-1.6, *Combat Search and Rescue Operations*

AFI 11-301, *Aircrew Life Support (ALS) Program*

AFI 14-105, *Unit Intelligence Mission and Responsibilities*

AFI 16-1301, *Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) Program*

AFMAN 36-2108, *Airman Classification*

AFI 36-2209, *Survival and Code of Conduct Training*

**Attachment 2****MEASURING AND DISPLAYING COMPLIANCE WITH POLICY**

**A2.1.** Compliance with Air Force SERE policy will be assessed in three areas: formal initial SERE training, recurring SERE CoCCT, and SERE operational support programs. These three areas will be evaluated during MAJCOM Operational Readiness Inspections (ORI), MAJCOM specific Inspector General Inspections, MAJCOM Unit Compliance Inspections (UCI), or Functional Inspections. These events will measure the effectiveness of SERE training and operational support programs. A review of SERE initial training, continuation training and operational mission support will indicate compliance with policies. The reporting requirements in paragraph A2.1.1. through A2.1.4. of this directive are exempt from licensing in accordance with paragraph 2.11.12 of AFI 37-124, The Information Collection and Reports Management Program; Controlling Internal, Public and Interagency Air Force Information Collection.

A2.1.1. Initial SERE Training Programs. HQ AETC will report all results of ORI evaluations (figure A2.1) of courses S-V80-A, S-V84-A, S-V86-A, S-V87-A, S-V90-A, MT-220, and USAFSAM/SERE to HQ USAF/XOOP. These evaluations will be conducted at least biennially.

A2.1.2. Initial SERE Training Programs. The Joint Personnel Recovery Agency (JPRA) will report results of all Executive Agent Instruction (EAI) formal evaluations of course S-V80-A to HQ USAF/XOOP.

A2.1.3. SERE CoCCT Programs. MAJCOM SERE Functional Managers will compile an annual report of MAJCOM evaluations involving SERE CoCCT programs and forward to HQ USAF/XOOP.

A2.1.4. SERE Operational Support Programs. MAJCOM SERE Functional Managers will compile an annual report of MAJCOM evaluations of SERE Operational Support Programs and forward to HQ USAF/XOOP.

Figure A2.1. Sample Metric of Aircrew Completion of S-V80-A.

