



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF INSTRUCTION

J-3
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CJCSI 3440.01D
31 August 2011

NASA HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT SUPPORT OPERATIONS

Reference(s):

- a. "Unified Command Plan 2011," 6 April 2011
- b. DoDD 3002.01E, 16 April 2009, "Personnel Recovery in the Department of Defense"
- c. Joint Publication 1-02 series, 8 November 2010 amended 15 May 2011, "DOD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms"
- d. United Nations Treaty, 3 December 1968, "Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts, and the Return of Objects Launched Into Outer Space"

1. Purpose. To provide instruction and delineate responsibilities for human space flight support operations involving land, maritime, and air assets.

2. Cancellation. CJCSI 3440.01C, 10 June 2005, is cancelled.

3. Applicability. This instruction applies to the Military Departments (including the Coast Guard when operating as a Military Service in the Department of the Navy), the Joint Staff, and the combatant commands.

4. Policy

a. Human space flight systems of the United States are national assets that serve both civil and defense users consistent with national space policy directives, statutes, and executive orders. The Department of Defense (DOD) will provide operational support resources requested by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and validated by the DOD Manager for Human Space Flight Operations. The intent is for the Department of Defense to support NASA by providing unique capabilities as requested by NASA without adversely impacting the accomplishment of principle DOD missions.

b. The Commander, U.S. Strategic Command (CDRUSSTRATCOM) is designated as the DOD Manager for Human Space Flight Support Operations (reference a) and has all responsibilities and authorities as the supported commander for this role. To facilitate effective use of DOD resources in supporting NASA, CDRUSSTRATCOM and staff will coordinate directly with necessary elements of the Military Departments, combatant commands, DOD agencies, and other appropriate departments and agencies of the U.S. government (USG).

c. It is DOD policy (reference b) that when requested and directed by the President of the United States or the Secretary of Defense, the Department of Defense shall provide personnel recovery, including search and rescue (SAR), to other governments, agencies, and organizations, in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and memoranda of agreement or understanding. As a crucial element of human space flight support operations for NASA, the enclosure contains general guidance to facilitate an expeditious SAR response for astronauts and to recover the space shuttle, future space vehicles, and/or their payload from the continental United States (CONUS), foreign territories, or international areas.

5. Definitions. Terms used in this instruction are defined in reference c, except as noted below:

a. Human Space Flight Support Operations. Operations including SAR of astronauts; pre-positioning of forces; landing site support at DOD installations and other locations; payload security and support; medical support; news media support; abort site weather support; orbiter ferry flights; unique communications activities; and coordination of airlift, sealift and salvage support. The Department of Defense may provide other unique capabilities to NASA as required by the situation when such support is coordinated and approved through proper command channels.

b. Human Space Operations Contingency. A generic term associated with human space operations used to describe an operational event requiring termination of a pre-launch, flight, or landing operation, which may result in substantial damage to or loss of the space vehicle and/or injury to personnel or has the potential to do so.

6. Responsibilities

a. The Joint Staff/J-3, Deputy Directorate for Global Operations (J-3/DDGO), is the Joint Staff point of contact tasked with supporting the combatant commands in implementing and executing this instruction. J-3/DDGO also serves as the Joint Staff point of contact for instruction corrections, updates, and revisions.

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b. CDRUSSTRATCOM is the DOD Manager for Human Space Flight Support Operations. Specific responsibilities of the DOD manager include, but are not limited to those prescribed in subparagraphs 6.b.(1) to 6.b.(7). CDRUSSTRATCOM has designated the DOD Human Space Flight Support Office (Det 3, 45th OG) as the office of primary responsibility to carry out CDRUSSTRATCOM assigned responsibilities for human space flight support operations. As the primary support staff to the DOD manager, Det 3, 45th OG is the principle DOD liaison for manned space flight support operations. CDRUSSTRATCOM (the DOD manager) shall:

(1) Coordinate and direct development of functional and/or operational plans and develop requirements for human space flight support operations involving the use of DOD resources. CDRUSSTRATCOM will approve final plans after formal coordination is completed with combatant commands and other supporting government agencies.

(2) Coordinate unique support requirements with the Combatant Commanders and the Military Departments responsible for providing services, equipment, personnel, and facilities to support human space flight support operations.

(3) Coordinate with supporting DOD forces, other DOD agencies, and other USG agencies, facilities, and assets that are committed to and actively participate in human space flight support operations.

(4) Support and coordinate with appropriate Combatant Commanders in recovering astronauts or the space shuttle and/or its payload (as required) including in the event overt interference is anticipated or the use of force is required.

(5) If SAR operations for astronauts or recovery operations for the space shuttle and/or its payload are required within U.S. territories and territorial waters, provide support to the designated principal agency and the supported combatant command, as required.

(6) Ensure financial arrangements associated with the DOD manned space flight support conform to the applicable directives and agreements on interagency support.

(7) Ensure public affairs aspects of DOD participation in manned space flight support operations conform to the policies and procedures of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs) and agreements between NASA and the Department of Defense.

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c. Combatant Commanders are responsible for planning for, supporting and conducting the recovery of astronauts and space vehicles within the Combatant Commander's area of responsibility (AOR), as directed.

(1) Coordinate on functional and/or operational plans developed by CDRUSSTRATCOM regarding manned space flight support operations.

(2) Develop appropriate supporting plans for manned space flight support operations or integrate support requirements into existing plans, as appropriate.

(3) Designate offices of primary responsibility within the command to coordinate all manned space flight support operations matters and notify USSTRATCOM and Det 3, 45th OG of the offices designated.

(4) Coordinate with CDRUSSTRATCOM on unique support requirements regarding forces and facilities necessary to participate in manned space flight support operations.

(5) Conduct and/or coordinate search and rescue operations for the astronauts and provide support to recover the space shuttle and/or its payload.

(6) When directed, function as the supported combatant command in support of consequence management operations.

7. Summary of Changes. This instruction provides updated references and more thoroughly describes the responsibilities of the Joint Staff, the DOD manager, and other combatant commands for human space flight support operations.

8. Releasability. This instruction is approved for public release; distribution is unlimited. DOD components (to include the combatant commands), other federal agencies, and the public may obtain copies of this instruction through the Internet from the CJCS Directives Home Page--
http://www.dtic.mil/cjcs_directives.

9. Effective Date. This Document is effective upon receipt.

For the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. E. Gortney', with a horizontal line drawn through the bottom of the signature.

WILLIAM E. GORTNEY
VADM, USN
Director, Joint Staff

Enclosure:

A -- Guidance for DOD Search and Rescue Operations for Astronauts and
Human Space Vehicle Recovery

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DISTRIBUTION

Distribution A, B, C, and J plus the following:

	<u>Copies</u>
DOD Human Space Flight Support Office	2

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ENCLOSURE

GUIDANCE FOR DOD SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS FOR
ASTRONAUTS AND HUMAN SPACE VEHICLE RECOVERY

1. Introduction. This enclosure provides guidance to assist the Joint Staff and Combatant Commanders to respond and coordinate in the event of an accident, distress, or emergency landing of human space vehicles in foreign or domestic territories, in permissive, uncertain, or hostile environments. It is not intended to supersede those processes and procedures utilized by combatant commands where immediate response is necessary in emergency situations or in response to DOD contingencies, where use of force is required or authorized. All actions undertaken shall be consistent with U.S. law and U.S. obligations under international law, including treaty obligations.

2. Agreement on the Rescue and Return of Astronauts. This is a multilateral international agreement (reference e) entered into force on 3 December 1968. Among other things, ratifying parties have agreed to:
 - a. Take immediate steps to rescue astronauts landing in their territory and render them necessary assistance.

 - b. Cooperate with the launching authority and notify the Secretary-General of the United Nations of steps being taken to rescue the astronauts and the progress of those efforts.

 - c. Provide assistance for SAR operations if the astronauts bailout or land in international areas.

3. Human Space Vehicle Contingencies in a Permissive Environment. Future Human Space Vehicles should land at designated CONUS locations or at selected emergency and/or alternate landing locations in CONUS and outside CONUS where overt interference is not anticipated. Astronaut SAR and human space vehicle recovery operations may nevertheless be required. CDRUSSTRATCOM maintains specific plans and procedures for responding to such events on a joint and/or interagency level. These include a postured response using pre-designated and/or pre-coordinated SAR capabilities at specific locations, in coordination with Combatant Commanders in their designated AORs. If SAR operations for the astronauts or recovery operations for human space vehicles and/or their payload are required within U.S. territories and territorial waters, CDRUSSTRATCOM will provide support to the designated principal agency and the supported combatant command, as required.

4. Human Space Vehicle Contingencies in Uncertain or Hostile Environments.

A space vehicle contingency could force an unplanned landing or bailout in other than U.S. territories or territorial waters where interference or non-cooperation is probable. In such cases, the Combatant Commander in whose AOR the astronauts and/or space vehicle land will be the supported commander. The supported Combatant Commander, the Joint Staff, the Department of State, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the DOD manager, and other appropriate USG agencies will work in concert to affect the return of the astronauts. If a foreign country attempts to interfere with recovery operations, the supported Combatant Commander must be prepared, as directed by the President or Secretary of Defense, to render assistance to the astronauts and to effect recovery. U.S. recovery forces will not enter the airspace, territory, or territorial waters of countries that do not maintain diplomatic relations with the United States without the express authorization of the President or Secretary of Defense. The supported Combatant Commander will keep the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and CDRUSSTRATCOM informed at all times.

5. Reporting Instructions. Commanders will make maximum use of the Joint Reporting Structure and existing Service reports.