

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER
AIR FORCE GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND**

AIR FORCE INSTRUCTION 13-217



**AIR FORCE GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND
SUPPLEMENT**

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Space, Missile, Command, and Control

**DROP ZONE AND LANDING
ZONE OPERATIONS**

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This supplement implements and extends the guidance of AFI 13-217, *Drop Zone and Landing Zone Operations*, 10 May 2007. This supplement describes procedures for use in conjunction with the basic AFI. This supplement establishes Drop Zone and Landing Zone Procedures for AFGSC UH-1N flying activities. This publication applies to all AFGSC units with UH-1N assets. This supplement does not apply to Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve Command Units.

Ensure that all records created as a result of the processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with Air Force Records Information Management System (AFRIMS) Records Disposition Schedule (RDS) located at <https://www.my.af.mil/gcss-af61a/afirms/afirms/>. The OPR for this supplement is HQ AFGSC/A3TV. Submit suggested improvements to this instruction on AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*, through standardization and evaluation channels, to Headquarters Air Force Global Strike Command, (HQ AFGSC/A3T), 841 Fairchild Ave, Suite 223, Barksdale AFB, LA 71110.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This supplement is new, but identical to the AFSPC supplement except it has been changed to reflect the move of UH-1Ns from AFSPC to AFGSC.

1.3. Deviations and waivers. Waiver authority for this AFI and supplement is delegated to AFGSC/A3T. The Air Component Commander (ACC) for AFGSC is the Operations Group Commander (OG/CC). Exception: when assigned under a mission commander (MC) as outlined

in AFI 11-2UH-1N Vol 3, *UH-1N Helicopter Operations Procedures*, the MC will designate the ACC.

3.15. General. Approved operational sites are not considered HLZs and not governed by this publication. Follow AFI 11-2UH-1NV3 guidance for operational sites.

3.16. Helicopter Landing Zone Selection. Selecting the HLZ location is also the responsibility of the HS/CC.

3.18. Helicopter Landing Zone Survey Requirements. All references and responsibilities assigned to group tactics will be conducted by the HS/DO or designee. Exception: for HHQ conducted training or exercises all references and responsibilities assigned to group tactics will be conducted by 20 AF/A3H or designee.

3.18.1.1. Host nation (HN) HLZ Surveys. The physical inspection of the HLZ may be accomplished utilizing an airborne asset. In this instance the crew will perform a full remote reconnaissance. The initial approach will be conducted to a hover to visually inspect the area below the helicopter prior to landing. When conducting HLZ surveys, Alternate Insertion/Extraction (AIE) considerations will be included on the AF IMT 4303, *Helicopter Landing Zone Survey*.

3.18.1.2. Portable Flight Planning Software (PFPS) generated maps are authorized for AFGSC.

3.18.3. Tactical HLZ Surveys. The tactical HLZ survey process is an expedited survey process to meet specific commander's objectives. It does not denote the particular flight profile of the aircrew. Aircrews may or may not be flying tactically and may or may not perform a full unprepared landing area high/low reconnaissance depending on the situation.

3.18.3.2. The ACC may grant blanket authorization to use the tactical HLZ survey process for group level and higher exercises and HHQ training or exercises. If the ACC changes, a new blanket authorization must be obtained.

3.18.3.2.1. (Added) This authorization may be for defined geographic boundaries (i.e. all group level or higher exercises conducted within the missile complex, or HHQ training or exercises in the Camp Guernsey range complex) or grant a specific time frame authorization, usually associated with a specific exercise (i.e. during Road Warrior).

3.18.3.2.2. (Added) These areas may only be designated after a thorough survey and any exclusions are documented. Prior to conducting operations in the designated area, the applicable information from the survey will be made available to the aircrew(s) for mission planning.

3.18.3.2.3. (Added) Multiple possible landing areas within the boundaries may be utilized at the discretion of the aircraft commander.

3.19.1. Missile Alert Facilities (MAFs) (including the access road and helipad), and Launch Facilities (LFs) (including the area within the fenced boundary and access road) are considered operational sites. LFs will be treated as an unprepared landing area for evaluation of the landing site. Follow AFI 11-2UH-1NV3 guidance for high/low reconnaissance procedures.

3.19.2. The primary reviewer is the HS/DO or 20 AF/A3H as appropriate.

3.19.4. The HS/DO or 20 AF/A3H (as appropriate) will determine where HLZ surveys are maintained. Surveys will be accessible to aircrews for use in pre-mission planning.

3.20. Helicopter Landing Zone Survey Updates. For MAFs and LFs follow AFI11-2UH-1NV3 guidance.

4.8. (Added) Adopted Forms:

4.8.1. (Added) AF IMT 4303, *Helicopter Landing Zone Survey*

4.8.2. (Added) AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

Attachment 1 (Added)

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

AFI 11-2UH-1N Vol 3, *UH-1N Helicopter Operations Procedures*, 27 Dec 2006

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIE—Alternate Insertion/Extraction

MC—Mission Commander

LF—Launch Facility

MAF—Missile Alert Facilities

PFPS—Portable Flight Planning Software

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