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Operations

**COUNTER-NUCLEAR, BIOLOGICAL, AND
CHEMICAL OPERATIONAL PREPAREDNESS**

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This directive establishes the Air Force Counter-Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (C-NBC) Operational Preparedness Program and outlines policy to ensure the Air Force plans, organizes, trains, and equips personnel to be able to complete assigned missions under threat or attack of NBC weapons. Guidance for this AFPD is found in Air Force Doctrine Document (AFDD) 2-1.8, Counter Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) Operations.

1. An adversary's use of chemical weapons is a likely condition of war and is not isolated to a specific theater of operations. Likewise, biological and radiological weapons are becoming increasingly plausible as battlefield and terrorist weapons. Many adversaries have the ability to develop and use nuclear weapons against USAF forces. Forward operating bases, continental United States (CONUS) bases, and outside of the continental United States (OCONUS) transit hubs all represent power projection nodes, which may be targeted by an adversary using NBC weapons as an asymmetric response to U.S. conventional superiority. Since no base is immune from the threat, the USAF must prepare to fight through an NBC attack and sustain operations worldwide. In addition to the advantages of force protection, preparation increases deterrence by making potential NBC targets less lucrative, thereby reducing the temptation to employ such asymmetrical measures.
2. This policy directive defines the USAF contribution to DoD's multi-tiered C-NBC response. DoD's multi-tiered C-NBC response seeks to deter and deny adversary acquisition, possession and use of NBC weapons, while ensuring that the U.S. will prevail in any conflict in which an adversary possesses or uses these weapons. USAF preparedness to conduct and sustain operations in an NBC environment arises from aggressive application and improvement of capabilities in four key C-NBC functional components: proliferation prevention, counterforce, active defense, and passive defense, as well as two cross-cutting elements: command, control, communications, computer and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR) and countering NBC terrorism.
3. The Air Force will establish, maintain and improve the following activities to ensure preparedness to conduct C-NBC operations:

3.1. Develop measurable operational and enabling standards in order to determine the equipment, training, manpower, and resources needed to conduct and sustain C-NBC operations.

3.1.1. Revise units' wartime and military operations other than war (MOOTW) tasking statements to reflect requirements for units to sustain operations in an NBC environment based on criteria developed in the operational standards.

3.1.2. Ensure appropriate Air Force inspections/assessments include an evaluation of a unit's capability to conduct and sustain C-NBC operations.

3.1.3. Develop an integrated, base-wide C-NBC exercise program to test the ability to execute assigned missions in an NBC environment.

3.1.4. Revise and maintain the existing reporting system to improve visibility, accountability, and standardization of C-NBC preparedness to ensure the availability of required Chemical-Biological Warfare Defense Equipment (CBWDE), and to provide an accurate assessment of a unit's capability to conduct and sustain C-NBC operations.

3.2. Incorporate C-NBC considerations into appropriate Concepts of Operations (CONOPS) and other procedural guidance.

3.3. Identify and provide military, DoD civilian, DoD dependents, and contractor personnel appropriate individual and team C-NBC training.

3.3.1. Train supervisors, individuals and teams to perform mission essential tasks while wearing NBC and conventional individual protective equipment.

3.3.2. Incorporate appropriate C-NBC training and education into accession programs, formal training courses and Professional Military Education courses.

3.4. Plan, program, and budget for C-NBC preparedness in the areas of training, exercises, evaluation, manpower and equipment, including medical requirements (IAW Title XVII of Public Law 103-160, dated 1994).

3.5. Incorporate C-NBC preparedness into expeditionary operations.

4. The following outlines authorities and responsibilities.

4.1. Commanders at all levels will:

4.1.1. Be responsible for planning and implementing C-NBC preparedness.

4.1.2. Organize, train, and equip to conduct and sustain C-NBC operations.

4.2. AF/XO will:

4.2.1. Establish and integrate policies and procedures for all aspects of C-NBC operational preparedness; incorporate C-NBC considerations into all applicable plans, programs, requirements, and budgets; change service reporting requirements; revise security and force protection requirements; incorporate C-NBC preparedness into expeditionary operations.

4.2.2. Ensure inspection criteria is developed to assess a unit's capability to sustain operations in an NBC environment and conduct C-NBC operations and coordinate with SAF/IG to ensure criteria are compatible with inspection policy.

- 4.3. AF/XP will ensure Air Force strategic plans and the Air Force program incorporate an effective C-NBC preparedness program, as supported and funded by the Air Force Corporate Structure (IAW Title XVII of Public Law 103-160, dated 1994).
- 4.4. AF/IL will incorporate C-NBC considerations into all applicable plans, programs, requirements, and budgets; provide NBC defense expertise in development of USAF and MAJCOM policies, procedures, CONOPS, equipment, and training programs.
- 4.5. AF/SG will incorporate C-NBC considerations into all applicable plans, programs, requirements, and budgets; prioritize medical C-NBC detection and defense requirements; provide medical NBC expertise in the development of USAF and MAJCOM policies and procedures; and develop C-NBC casualty treatment, disease early-warning and force health protection programs.
- 4.6. AFOSI will incorporate C-NBC considerations into counterintelligence and support to force protection programs and vulnerability assessments.
- 4.7. SAF/AQ and HQ AFMC, in conjunction with user MAJCOMs, will investigate technologies to detect and counter NBC weapons and incorporate C-NBC requirements into research, development, and acquisition programs.
- 4.8. SAF/IA will incorporate C-NBC considerations into military-to-military contact and foreign military sales/assistance programs.
- 4.9. MAJCOMs, ANG and FOAs will develop plans, policies, procedures, and CONOPS, and will program and budget resources to organize, train and equip forces in support of the USAF C-NBC Operational Preparedness Program.
- 4.10. Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center (AFOTEC) will plan, participate in or conduct OT&E activities in support of the USAF C-NBC Operational Preparedness Program as required.

F. WHITTEN PETERS
Secretary of the Air Force

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFDD—Air Force Doctrine Document

AFOTEC—Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center

AFPD—Air Force Policy Directive

AF/IL—Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Installations and Logistics

AFOSI—Air Force Office of Special Investigations

AF/SG—Air Force Surgeon General

AF/XO—Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations

AF/XP—Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Programs

ANG—Air National Guard

C4ISR—Command, Control, Communications, Computer and Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance

C-NBC—Counter-Nuclear, Biological and Chemical
CONOPS—Concepts of Operations
CONUS—Continental United States
CBWDE—Chemical Warfare Defense Equipment
FOAs—Field Operating Agencies
HQ AFMC—Headquarters United States Air Force Material Command
MAJCOM—Major Command
MOOTW—Military Operations Other Than War
NBC—Nuclear, Biological and Chemical
OCONUS—Outside the Continental United States
OT&E—Operational Test and Evaluation
SAF—Secretary of the Air Force
SAF/AQ—SAF/Office of the Assistant Secretary for Acquisition
SAF/IA—SAF/ Deputy Under Secretary for International Affairs
USAF—United States Air Force

Terms

Active defense—To detect, divert, or destroy enemy NBC weapons and delivery means while en route to their targets through the use of:

Active aerospace defense—: Direct defensive action taken to nullify or reduce the effectiveness of hostile air action. It includes such measures as the use of aircraft, aerospace defense weapons, weapons not used primarily in an air defense role, and electronic warfare;

Active force protection—Measures to defend against or counter a perceived or actual threat and, if necessary, to deny, defeat, or destroy hostile forces in the act of targeting Air Force assets.

C4ISR—command, control, communications, and computer systems (C4), intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR)—Integrated systems of doctrine, procedures, and resources designed to collect, process, exploit, and disseminate accurate and timely strategic and operational information, and to support a commander's exercise of command and control across the spectrum of operations.

Counterforce—Operations that are intended to divert, deny, degrade, or destroy an adversary's NBC capability and its supporting infrastructure before it can be used against friendly forces.

Countering NBC terrorism—To protect military and civilian personnel, facilities, and logistical/mobilization nodes from paramilitary, covert delivery and terrorist NBC threats and manage the consequences of these threats both in the U.S. and abroad.

NBC environment—A condition of warfare in which an adversary possesses and/or uses nuclear, radiological, biological and/or chemical weapons or their by-products, infrastructure and associated delivery methods.

Passive defense—To protect U.S., allied, and coalition forces against NBC effects, including measures to

detect and identify NBC agents, individual and collective protection equipment, NBC medical response, vaccines for BW defense, and NBC decontamination capabilities.

Proliferation prevention—Deny attempts by would-be proliferants to acquire or expand their NBC capabilities by: providing inspection, monitoring, verification, and enforcement support for nonproliferation treaties and NBC arms control regimes; supporting export control activities; assisting in the identification of potential proliferants before they can acquire or expand their NBC capabilities; and, if so directed by the National Command Authority, planning and conducting denial operations.