

Chapter 2

Organization, Responsibilities, and Equipment

2-1. This chapter lists the fire-fighting organizational chain of command and its responsibilities. The composition and makeup of the fire-fighting teams are also addressed. With this information, a commander in a TO will know what his fire-fighting resources are and how to use them.

ORGANIZATIONS

2-2. The agencies listed below provide regulatory guidance (doctrine, directives, policies, and so forth), command and supervision, quality control, logistics, and training guidance for all units needing this information.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

2-3. DA supervises the fire-protection program by—

- Developing, reviewing, and publishing directives, procedures, standards, and policies.
- Conducting staff visits to major and intermediate commands and selected representative bases.
- Reviewing and analyzing fire-incident reports from the installations.

ENGINEER BRANCH

2-4. The chief of engineers coordinates the training of fire-protection units and provides a link with other DA agencies, Air Force civil engineers, and the Navy Bureau of Yards and Docks. The USAES is responsible for doctrine, combat development, new equipment, training, and military fire-fighting-personnel issues. The Air Force is the executive agency for fire-fighting training conducted at the Department of Defense's (DOD's) Fire Protection School at Goodfellow AFB, TX.

MAJOR COMMAND

2-5. Each commander is responsible for the fire-protection program on his installation. If an installation has two or more commands, the host command is responsible for the program. The command supervises the fire-protection program by using directives from higher headquarters (HQ) and by using command-channel communications. Fire-protection operational-readiness inspections (FPORIs) are conducted no less than every 36 months, unless special problems arise. An installation's fire marshal—

- Is the staff officer responsible for carrying out an installation's fire-protection program.
- Is responsible for staff supervision over an installation's fire-protection organizations.

- Coordinates fire-protection matters with all other activities on an installation.

FIRE-PREVENTION/-PROTECTION PROGRAMS

2-6. Fire-prevention personnel establish standards and practices for preventing accidental fires. They use surveys and inspections to monitor compliance to these standards and recommend corrective action or penalties for noncompliance. The fire-protection personnel perform fire-rescue/crash-rescue operations, HAZMAT operations, and fire-suppression operations.

FIRE-FIGHTING TEAMS

2-7. Personnel in these teams provide fire-prevention and fire-protection services for deployed forces in stability operations and support operations. The teams are used when host nation (HN) fire-protection support cannot provide adequate protection or is nonexistent. The teams protect internal and external (HN and other US services) Army assets. They maintain fire-protection equipment, advise the higher commanders of fire-defense plans, and train auxiliary firefighters as required. The fire-fighting teams are LA, LB, LC. They are designed to provide task-oriented support, depending on the tactical and logistical considerations involved. See Chapter 3 for more information on these teams.

TEAM LA, FIRE-PROTECTION HQ

2-8. This team provides C²/administrative support. One LA team can control three to seven fire-fighting teams (LB or LC). A team commander serves as the fire marshal of an installation/a facility or within his area of responsibility. An LA team's missions are to—

- Plan for fire defense on an installation.
- Conduct fire-prevention inspections.
- Conduct fire investigations.
- Establish a fire-department communications network between the HQ, the military police (MP), the airfield, and the fire-fighting teams.
- Command the fire-fighting teams.
- Maintain and refill fire extinguishers.
- Make minor repairs to fire hoses.
- Inspect and maintain fixed fire-protection systems on an installation/ in an AO.
- Coordinate the resupply of fire-fighting assets, agents, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) air, and fuel.
- Coordinate mutual aid with other services/HN fire-protection assets.

TEAM LB, FIRE TRUCK

2-9. This team provides fire protection, administers first aid, provides an initial response to HAZMAT incidents, and implements a fire-prevention

program. A commander's primary task list determines the team's assignments. An LB team's missions are to—

- Provide crash/rescue support for MEDEVAC and normal flight or maintenance standbys.
- Conduct fire-prevention inspections on an installation or airfield.
- Provide C² of the non-fire-fighting assets used to support natural-cover fire-fighting operations (heavy equipment, personnel).
- Conduct fire-fighting operations (structural, crash/rescue, and natural cover) on an installation/in an AO.
- Provide emergency medical assistance to victims.
- Conduct an initial response to HAZMAT incidents.
- Conduct the training of unit-level fire brigades.
- Assist with medical resources during mass casualty incidents.
- Assist in HN support (HNS), as a commander requires.

TEAM LC, WATER TRUCK

2-10. This team transports water to resupply fire-fighting teams when a fixed water supply is not in place. It also supplies manpower to fire-fighting teams. One LC team is assigned to each LB team. An LC team's missions are to—

- Conduct water-resupply support to the fire-fighting teams.
- Provide additional manpower support to the fire-fighting teams.
- Conduct reconnaissance of the water-resupply points.
- Maintain the emergency water-supply points.
- Assist in HNS, as a commander requires.

FIRE-PROTECTION PERSONNEL

2-11. An installation's fire department employs military and civilian personnel. Manpower resources and Army manpower policies determine the number of military and civilian personnel assigned to a fire department. The duties and responsibilities for military firefighters are outlined in Army Regulation (AR) 611-201 and for civilian firefighters in *Handbook of Occupational Groups and Series*.

FIRE-FIGHTING DRILLS

2-12. Firefighters practice hose, ladder, and pump drills, under simulated conditions, to achieve a high proficiency level. The drills must be varied so that the firefighters use all the fire-protection equipment. In each drill, firefighters have a series of assignments that they must execute quickly and precisely. These assignments involve laying out hose lines, putting a pump into operation, and erecting ladders on buildings. Firefighters should conduct these drills during peacetime and when operating in secured areas during deployment. They must conduct the drills to become familiar with the new

equipment and operations that they may need when they deploy to or with units that require their support apart from normal missions. AR 420-90 outlines refresher drills for firefighters.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

2-13. All firefighters deploying to a TO must have the required PPE to perform their assigned duties safely and effectively. A detachment's sergeant (SGT) must ensure that—

- All firefighters have all of their required PPE in serviceable condition.
- Any shortages and unserviceable PPE are reported to the commander and replaced before deploying.
- All commanders are aware of every item of PPE that is required for normal performance of the firefighters' duties, to include special protective clothing that they may need for a mission (HAZMAT suits, for example).

2-14. At a minimum, firefighters are authorized one set of structural turnouts and one set of aluminized proximity gear. They should have both sets when they deploy. (The aluminized proximity gear does not absorb chemicals and would be better than structural gear if they encounter HAZMAT situations.) The following items constitute a full set of personal protective clothing:

- Structural—fire-fighting helmet with (w/) shield; NOMEX or PBI/kevlar hood, turnout coat, and turnout trousers w/suspenders; leather fire-fighting gloves; rubber fire-fighting boots; positive-pressure SCBA; and personal alert safety system (PASS).
- Crash—aluminized proximity helmet w/tinted shield, aluminized proximity coat and trousers w/suspenders, aluminized proximity gloves, rubber fire-fighting boots, positive-pressure SCBA, and PASS.

NOTES:

1. Never use structural or proximity gear as a replacement for the proper HAZMAT protective gear. Many chemicals can be lethal if absorbed or inhaled in very small quantities. If you cannot positively identify a HAZMAT, do not compromise your crew's safety with inadequate protective clothing.

2. All personal protective clothing must meet the current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards for that particular item.

FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

2-15. Fire-fighting tools and equipment (such as fire trucks, water tankers, aerial ladders, hoist tools, hose, and pike poles) have been specifically designed for use in fire-fighting operations. The type of fire station, the primary mission of the fire department, or any unusual requirements of an installation or surrounding community will generally dictate the type of tools and equipment that a fire station should have. Training and practice drills encompassing all facets of fire-fighting operations should be conducted,

emphasizing that firefighters gain proficiency with the different tools and equipment available at their particular fire station.

FIRE TRUCKS

2-16. Fire departments use several types of fire trucks. The pumping capacities of these trucks range from 500 to 1,000 gallons per minute (GPM). Fire-department personnel must consider the location, construction, population, property value, existing safeguards, and availability of outside fire-protection assistance when selecting the types of trucks needed on an installation.

MODEL 2500L MILITARY-ADAPTED COMMERCIAL ITEM (MACI) FIRE TRUCK

2-17. This truck is the standard issue for the LB team and is designed for fire-fighting operations such as structural, crash, fuel, and brush fires on military installations. The rugged suspension and four-wheel-drive capability provide traction in all terrain conditions. The MACI can be driven on or off a C-130 and a C-141 aircraft without being dismantled, or it can be air-lifted by helicopter.

2-18. The MACI is equipped with a midship-mounted pump with a flow rate up to 1,000 GPM at 150 pounds per square inch (psi) of pressure. It is equipped with a 660-gallon water tank and 72-gallon foam tank. The foam system provides up to 6,000 US gallons (USG) of expanded foam with a 10:1 expansion ratio. At aircraft fires, the foam is pumped from the roof-mounted turret at 500 GPM or from the bumper turret at 250 GPM. The pump can be engaged at speeds of up to 30 miles per hour (mph) and will function at full capacity while the vehicle is maneuvered.

2-19. An on-board auxiliary power unit (APU) provides electrical power and drives a recirculating pump in temperatures below 60 degrees Fahrenheit (°F). A diesel-fired water heater provides heated fluid, which is circulated through heat exchangers in the water tank, foam tank, drive engine's cooling system, fuel tank, and cab's heating system. The truck has removable equipment to fight structural and brush fires and to handle crash/rescue emergencies. See Technical Manual (TM) 5-4210-220-12 for more information on the MACI.

MODEL A/S230-19 CRASH TRUCK

2-20. This truck is designed primarily for aircraft crash/rescue operations; however, it can be used to fight natural-cover and structural fires. The truck has a 1,000-gallon water tank and a 130-gallon foam tank. The P-19 has a Hale (50 FO-P), single-stage centrifugal pump that delivers 950 GPM at 200 psi. The fire pump is powered by an air-operated power divider and has an in-cab selector for either the water- or the foam-operating mode. The P-19 is also equipped with a Halon system that has a 500-pound agent tank (Halon 1211), a 110-cubic-foot nitrogen cylinder, a pressure regulator, four control valves and associated piping, and a 100-foot hose with a Halon nozzle.

2-21. The truck is powered by an in-line, six-cylinder, four-cycle diesel engine. This unit is equipped with a turbocharger and an after cooler for smooth, powerful operation. The P-19 is designed to operate on various types of terrain

and obstacles. See TM 5-4210-219-10 for more information on operating this truck.

TACTICAL TANKER TRUCK

2-22. This truck is standard issue for the LC team. It consists of an M916 tractor and a 6,000-gallon water distributor tank trailer. The trailer is equipped with an auxiliary engine and a water pump with a rated capacity of 600 GPM. It can equip a 1- to 1 1/2-inch hand line.

COMMERCIAL STRUCTURAL PUMPER TRUCK

2-23. This truck is mounted on a 4-by-2 chassis. It is designed for combating structural fires on continental US (CONUS) installations. The truck has a midship-mounted pump that delivers 1,000 GPM at 150 psi. It has a 400-gallon water tank, a 55-gallon aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) tank, and a complete set of fire-fighting equipment. See the operator's manual for more information on this truck.

MINI-PUMP TRUCK

2-24. This truck is mounted on a 4-by-4 chassis. It has a 300-gallon water tank and a power take-off (PTO) pump that delivers 250 GPM. The truck is designed for an initial attack on structural, natural-cover, and small fires. See the operator's manual for more information on this truck.

COMMERCIAL TANKER

2-25. This tanker is mounted on a 4-by-4 chassis. It is equipped with a 1,000-gallon water tank and a PTO pump that delivers 250 GPM. This tanker is used in all fire emergencies and supplies water for the other trucks. See the operator's manual for more information on this tanker.

SKID-MOUNTED PUMPING UNIT

2-26. This unit is self-contained and has a power plant and pump that delivers 500 GPM. It has a water tank mounted on skids. When mounted on a standard Army 5-ton truck, the unit is used to combat brush fires in areas that are inaccessible to fire trucks. This unit can draft water from ponds, lakes, rivers, and streams or from erected folding water tanks that tankers supply.

OTHER VEHICLES

2-27. Other vehicles used in fire fighting may include transportation-motor-pool (TMP) vehicles, jeeps, helicopters, sedans, carry-all vans, and HAZMAT vehicles.

MAINTENANCE

2-28. To keep a fire truck in good working order, frequent inspections and preventive maintenance must be performed. Guidelines on inspections and maintenance are found in the appropriate TMs or operator's manuals. Maintenance inspections are performed daily and after each emergency. Maintenance will be done quarterly. The status of a vehicle and any deficiencies are recorded on DA Forms 5379-R and 2404. Annually, each truck

will be flow-tested. Each truck's pump capacity must meet the standards set by the manufacturer. The guidelines for flow testing are in IFSTA Manual 106.

