



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF INSTRUCTION

J-4
DISTRIBUTION: A, B, C

CJCSI 4120.02D
22 July 2015

LIST OF PRIORITIES -- DOD TRANSPORTATION MOVEMENT PRIORITY SYSTEM

Reference(s):

- a. CJCSI 4110.01 Series, "Uniform Materiel Movement and Issue Priority System-Force/Activity Designators"
- b. DoDD 4500.09E, 11 September 2007, "Transportation and Traffic Management"
- c. JP 4-01, 6 June 2013, "Joint Doctrine for the Defense Transportation System (DTS)"

1. Purpose. This instruction establishes policy and provides guidance on the methods to be used to prioritize DoD transportation in support of the National Military Strategy in accordance with references a and b.

2. Superseded/Cancellation. CJCSI 4120.02C, 22 December 2011, is superseded.

3. Applicability. This document applies to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Services, Combatant Commands, and Defense agencies.

4. Policy

a. The effective use of DoD resources to move passengers and cargo and conduct air refueling (AR) operations requires movement and mobility priorities. These assigned priorities enable logistics managers and air refueling planners to best utilize mobility resources to support both peacetime and wartime requirements as described in reference a. The enclosures address the transportation priorities assigned for cargo, passenger, and AR requirements that require movement via common-user airlift, air-refueling, and sealift resources under the DoD Transportation Movement Priority System.

b. This instruction supersedes the guidance set forth in reference c to account for the importance of U.S. homeland-related security requirements. It places deployment of assets in support of homeland defense and civil support

in response to an actual attack or catastrophic incident, including assets for force protection and consequence management, under the 1A3 priority code that includes programs approved by the President for top national priority.

5. Definitions. See Glossary.

6. Responsibilities. Per reference b, subparagraph 5.4, the Chairman shall prescribe a transportation movement priority system to allocate transportation resources among the competing elements when requirements exceed transportation system capacity. The Chairman may adjust and direct priorities based on mission requirements, except where otherwise directed by higher authority.

7. Summary of Changes

a. Enclosure A made administrative changes and added Priority 1A3(i): Deployment of assets in support of NASA human space flight missions and time-sensitive response to a catastrophic incident involving NASA-sponsored astronauts including assets required for force protection.

b. Enclosure B made administrative changes, expanded paragraph 2 to include air refueling request below priority 1A procedures, and added priority 1A3(i) as stated in enclosure A above.

c. Glossary Part 1 -- Updated abbreviations and acronyms.

d. Glossary Part II -- Updated terms and definitions.

8. Releasability. UNRESTRICTED. This directive is approved for public release; distribution is unlimited on NIPRNET. DoD Components (to include the Combatant Commands), other Federal agencies, and the public, may obtain copies of this directive through the Internet from the CJCS Directives Electronic Library at: (http://www.dtic.mil/cjcs_directives/). JS activities may also obtain access via the SIPR Directives Electronic Library Websites.

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

For the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff:


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Enclosures

A - List of Priorities -- DoD Transportation Movement Priority System

B - List of Priorities -- DoD Air Refueling Support Priority System

GL - Glossary

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ENCLOSURE A

LIST OF PRIORITIES -- DoD TRANSPORTATION MOVEMENT PRIORITY
SYSTEM

1. This enclosure defines the relative criticality of cargo and passenger movement requirements to prioritize DoD common-user airlift and sealift resources. An urgency of need or the existence of valid circumstances to use a priority other than normal channel lift must be established by appropriate authority before these priorities can be used.

2. The following list of priorities is in descending order. When requirements for lift exceed capability, lift managers should apply available airlift and sealift resources to the highest priority category first. All movement requirements will be categorized into one of the following.

a. Priority 1A. Covers requirements in support of the following:

(1) 1A1 -- Presidentially-directed missions including support to the NAOC when operating in direct support of the President.

(2) 1A2 -- U.S. forces and/or foreign forces or activities in combat in accordance with applicable Secretary of Defense guidance.

(3) 1A3 -- Programs approved by the President for top national priority including:

(a) Real-world contingency deployment operations supporting special operations.

(b) Deployment of special category overseas law enforcement missions (this priority would also include redeployment of such missions, if the return of the aircraft to the United States were considered integral to mission accomplishment).

(c) Deployment of HA/DR capabilities, to include designated search and rescue teams, when directed by the Secretary of Defense. This priority shall only be assigned to missions when the immediate deployment could result in the saving of human lives. This is not intended to provide blanket 1A3 priority to all HA/DR missions.

(d) Deployment of assets in support of homeland defense and civil support in response to an actual attack, an anticipated imminent attack, or

time-sensitive response to a catastrophic incident including assets required for force protection and consequence management.

(e) Special weapons.

(f) Movement of forces in support of national C2 capabilities.

(g) Time-sensitive deployments of Secretary of Defense-directed ISR GRF and TITAN airborne reconnaissance missions.

(h) Secretary of Defense-directed deployments in support of the GRF EXORD.

(i) Deployment of assets in support of NASA human space flight missions and time-sensitive response to a catastrophic incident involving NASA-sponsored astronauts including assets required for force protection.

b. Priority 1B. Covers requirements in support of the following:

(1) 1B1-- Missions specially directed by the Secretary of Defense including:

(a) Urgent contingency deployments (this priority is intended for deployment of forces supporting contingency operations of a sudden, time-sensitive nature and is not intended for routine, planned rotations of forces into/out of theater).

(b) Redeployment of forces conducting real-world operations in support of contingency plans for special operations (this priority is assigned as a result of the stringent reconstitution requirements placed on these assets).

(c) Routine law enforcement deployment missions.

(d) NAOC operations when not in support of the President.

(e) Validated contingency channels.

(f) Patients requiring urgent or priority aeromedical evacuation; also Critical Care/Medical Specialty Teams and Aeromedical Evacuation Crews returning to in-theater point of origin after transporting patients to locations outside assigned area of operations (includes all associated medical equipment and supplies).

(g) Deployment of special operations forces for real-world counterdrug and joint combined exchange training (JCET) missions.

(2) 1B2 -- Units, projects, or plans specially approved for implementation by the Secretary of Defense or the Chairman including steady-state contingency deployments. This priority is intended for deployment or rotation of forces supporting contingency operations of an enduring nature (including planned rotations of aircraft squadrons, air expeditionary forces, missile battery equipment and personnel, communications support, and security forces).

(3) 1B3 -- Covers requirements in support of the following:

(a) All contingency redeployments, regardless of whether the deployment was urgent or steady state (except for forces deployed for routine aeromedical evacuation missions).

(b) Redeployment of special operations forces from real-world counterdrug and JCET missions.

(c) Validated distribution channels.

c. Priority 2A. Covers requirements in support of the following:

(1) 2A1 -- U.S. and/or foreign forces or activities deploying or positioned and maintained in a state of readiness for immediate combat, combat support, or combat service support missions, including CONUS-based units for exercise and training events directly related to special operations.

(2) 2A2 -- Industrial production activities engaged in repair, modification, or manufacture of primary weapons, equipment, and supplies to prevent an impending work stoppage or to reinstitute production in the event a stoppage has already occurred or when the material is required to accomplish emergency or controlling jobs and movement of aircraft in support of Foreign Military Sales (FMS).

d. Priority 2B. Covers requirements (including redeployments from exercises, if the redeployment is considered integral to exercise accomplishment) in support of:

(1) 2B1 -- CJCS-sponsored exercises (under CJCS Exercise Program).

(2) 2B2 -- Combatant Commander-sponsored exercises (under CJCS Exercise Program).

e. Priority 3A. Covers requirements in support of the following:

(1) 3A1 -- Readiness or evaluation tests when airlift is required in support of the unit inspection or evaluation tests including deployment

missions for major command (MAJCOM) (or equivalent)-directed exercises or operations. (U. S. Air Force: numbered Air Forces (NAF); U.S. Marine Corps: Marine Forces commands).

Note: MAJCOM equivalent for the Navy is COMPACFLT or COMUSFLTFORCOM. MAJCOM equivalent for the Marines is MARFORPAC or MARFORCOM. MAJCOM equivalent for the Army is MACOM.

(2) 3A2 -- U.S. and/or foreign forces or activities that are maintained in a state of readiness to deploy for combat and other activities essential to combat forces.

f. Priority 3B. Covers requirements in support of joint airborne/air transportability training (JA/ATT), including:

(1) 3B1 -- Service training when airborne operations or air mobility support is integral to combat readiness (e.g., field training exercise, proficiency airdrop, and air assault).

(2) 3B2 -- Requirements in support of missions).

(a) Combat support training (e.g., flare drops and special operations

(b) Counterdrug training missions other than JCET (deployment and redeployment).

(3) 3B3 -- Service schools requiring airborne, airdrop, or air transportability training as part of the program of instruction.

(4) 3B4 -- Airdrop and/or air transportability or aircraft certification of new or modified equipment.

g. Priority 4A. Covers requirements in support of the following:

(1) 4A1 -- U.S. and/or foreign forces or activities tasked for employment in support of approved war plans and support activities essential to such forces.

(2) 4A2 -- Static loading exercises for those units specifically tasked to perform air transportability missions.

h. Priority 4B. Covers requirements in support of the following:

(1) 4B1 -- Other U.S. and/or foreign forces or activities.

(2) 4B2 -- Other non-DoD activities that cannot be accommodated by commercial airlift.

(3) 4B3 -- Static display for public and military events.

3. As described in Appendix B of reference c, the Joint Transportation Board will convene when necessary to adjudicate competing requirements for intertheater mobility lift assets or to resolve other issues that impact the Defense Transportation System and which USTRANSCOM and the supported Combatant Commander(s) are unable to resolve.

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ENCLOSURE B

LIST OF PRIORITIES -- DoD AIR REFUELING SUPPORT PRIORITY SYSTEM

1. This enclosure defines the relative criticality of air refueling (AR) requirements to prioritize DoD AR resources. USTRANSCOM is assigned AR validation and management of deployment, redeployment, employment, and sustainment of mobility forces through the Unified Command Plan (UCP). Priority 1 and 2 missions will be validated by USTRANSCOM J3-WR and will be supported to the limit of global capacity. Priority 3 and below will normally be validated, allocated, and supported at the appropriate component command. Air Mobility Command and 618 TACC may request USTRANSCOM validation of priority 3 missions. Submission timelines will be in accordance with AFI 11-221.
2. All requests for AR support must be submitted through the Air Refueling Management System (ARMS) for validation and allocation of support. Any AR request below priority 1A where the Air Refueling Control Time (ARCT) falls inside of 96 hours (based on the time/date of MAJCOM validation in ARMS) will require USTRANSCOM J3 approval. The requesting units will provide MAJCOM General Officer/Flag Officer contact information to include rank, name, phone number, and email address. A brief justification shall be provided. This information will be entered as the last line(s) in the "Requester Comments" within ARMS. Inside 96-hour requests that do not provide this information will not be validated. Validated missions will be categorized for support predicated upon the following criteria.
3. AR assets without an AR mission or used only to move cargo and/or passengers will use the movement priority codes in Enclosure A. AR assets with a refueling mission will use the same priority as the receiver aircraft. See priorities below for AR missions that are not covered under Enclosure A.
4. Fighter units should request a Coronet movement when missions require extended over water legs outside of communication/navigation range (e.g., extended flights over water). Missions that do not meet this criterion will be evaluated by USTRANSCOM J3-WR on a case-by-case basis prior to validation.
5. Coronet missions requesting dual role AR and cargo movement: Dual role cargo is not guaranteed movement in conjunction with an associated AR mission, and essential cargo should be secured movement via Special Assignment Airlift Mission (SAAM). Dual role requests that require an extra leg or an extra aircraft to secure cargo movement will not be approved without a waiver and may be charged a SAAM rate. Procedures for dual role requests can be found in AMCI 11-208, Chapter 1.

6. Specific AR mission priority codes:

a. Priority 1A. Covers requirements in support of the following:

(1) 1A1 -- Presidentially-directed missions including support to the NAOC when operating in direct support of the President.

(2) 1A2 -- U.S. forces and/or foreign forces or activities in combat in accordance with applicable Secretary of Defense guidance.

(3) 1A3 -- Programs approved by the President for top national priority including:

(a) Real-world contingency deployment operations supporting special operations.

(b) Deployment of special category overseas law enforcement missions (this priority would also include redeployment of such missions, if the return of the aircraft to the United States were considered integral to mission accomplishment).

(c) Deployment of HA/DR capabilities, to include designated search and rescue teams, when directed by the Secretary of Defense. This priority shall only be assigned to missions when the immediate deployment could result in the saving of human lives. This is not intended to provide blanket 1A3 priority to all HA/DR missions.

(d) Deployment of assets in support of homeland defense and civil support in response to an actual attack, an anticipated imminent attack, or time-sensitive response to a catastrophic incident including assets required for force protection and consequence management.

(e) Special weapons.

(f) Movement of forces in support of national C2 capabilities.

(g) Time-sensitive deployments of Secretary of Defense-directed ISR GRF and TITAN airborne reconnaissance missions.

(h) Secretary of Defense-directed deployments in support of the GRF EXORD.

(i) Deployment of assets in support of NASA human space flight missions and time-sensitive response to a catastrophic incident involving NASA-sponsored astronauts including assets required for force protection.

(4) Priority 1A AR missions are eligible for spare tanker aircraft or 24-hour slip capability. Eligibility does not guarantee a spare tanker will be allocated; mission risk assessment and cost efficiency will be considered.

b. Priority 1B. Covers requirements in support of the following:

(1) 1B1 -- Missions specially directed by the Secretary of Defense. AR support of directed Combatant Commander, Secretary of Defense, or CJCS missions.

(2) 1B2 -- Units, projects, or plans specially approved for implementation by the Secretary of Defense and/or Chairman including steady-state contingency deployments of an enduring nature.

(a) Planned deployment of aircraft, squadrons, and air expeditionary forces, including deploying Coronet rotations.

(b) Missile battery, communications and security force equipment, and/or personnel.

(3) 1B3 -- Covers requirements in support of redeploying Coronet missions.

c. Priority 2A. Covers requirements in support of 2A1 -- Coronets supporting deployments and redeployments of Unit Deployment Programs (UDPs) or AEF rotations to a theater not currently engaged in combat operations.

d. Priority 2B. Covers requirements (including redeployments from exercises, if the redeployment is considered integral to exercise accomplishment) in support of the following:

(1) 2B1 -- CJCS-sponsored exercises (under CJCS Exercise Program).

(a) Coronet movement deploying and redeploying to CJCS-sponsored exercises.

(b) Routine or non-time critical contract delivery of FMS (see priority 2A2 for emergency movement of FMS aircraft). All other FMS movement will be assigned a priority code commensurate with the exercise/operation in which it is participating or per the normal delivery schedule.

(2) 2B2 -- Combatant Commander-sponsored exercises (under the CJCS Exercise Program)

(a) Coronet movements deploying and redeploying to Combatant Commander sponsored exercises (under the CJCS Exercise Program).

(b) AR support of flight testing and evaluation and platform test operations.

e. Priority 2C. Covers requirements in support of the following: 2C1 -- U.S. forces and/or foreign forces or activities that are maintained in a state of readiness to deploy for combat and are not required to maintain AR currency, to include predeployment qualification training.

Note: Includes USN and USMC units that need AR currency to deploy but that have 11-series training requirements to maintain currency year-round, boat workups, and pre-UDP training.

f. Priority 3A. Covers requirements in support of the following:

(1) 3A1 -- Readiness or evaluation tests when airlift is required in support of the unit inspection or evaluation tests including deployment missions for major command (or equivalent)-directed exercises or operations.

Note: MAJCOM equivalent for the Navy is COMPACFLT or CDR, USFLTFORCOM. MAJCOM equivalent for the Marines is MARFORPAC or MARFORCOM. MAJCOM equivalent for the Army is MACOM.

(2) 3A2 -- U.S. and/or foreign forces or activities that are maintained in a state of readiness to deploy for combat and other activities essential to combat forces.

g. Priority 3B. Covers requirements in support of joint airborne/air transportability training (JA/ATT) including the following:

(1) 3B1 -- Service training when airborne operations or air mobility support is integral to combat readiness (e.g., field training exercise, proficiency airdrop, and air assault).

(a) Formal Training Unit (FTU), Replacement Training Unit (RTU), requalification training, and upgrade training when AR training is accomplished during the mission.

(b) AR and Coronet support for movement of the USAF Thunderbirds and the USN Blue Angels.

(2) 3B2 -- Combat support training. Readiness or evaluation tests when AR is required in support of the unit inspection or evaluation tests

including deployment missions for wing-directed exercises or operations and/or numbered Air Force (NAF)-directed exercises and inspections.

Note: Wing equivalent for the Navy is Carrier Air Wing. Wing equivalent for the Marines is Marine Expeditionary Brigade. NAF equivalent for the Navy is COMNAVAIRFOR. NAF equivalent for the Marines is Marine Expeditionary Force.

(3) 3B3 -- AR support to service schools requiring airborne, airdrop, or air transportability training as part of the program of instruction.

h. Priority 3C. Covers requirements in support of the following: Priority 3C1 -- AR support required to move aircraft to or from an airshow, to include Coronet movements of fighter aircraft in support of an airshow, not inclusive of USAF Thunderbirds and USN Blue Angels (see priority 3.b.1). AR in support of CAPSTONE missions.

i. Priority 4A. Covers requirements in support of the following:

(1) 4A1 -- Training support for U.S. forces and foreign forces or activities tasked for employment in support of approved war plans and support activities essential to such forces.

(2) Support of U.S. Air Force and other DoD agency training requirements.

(3) Missions launched to satisfy U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, and other DoD agency training requirements.

Note: Priority 4 sortie requests must show the number of tanker sorties needed to support training requirements specified by the appropriate training publication.

7. As described in Appendix B of reference c, the Joint Transportation Board will convene when necessary to adjudicate competing requirements for intertheater mobility lift assets or to resolve other issues that impact the Defense Transportation System and which U.S. Transportation Command and the supported Combatant Commander(s) are unable to resolve.

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GLOSSARY

PART I-ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Items marked with an asterisk () have definitions in PART II*

AR	Air Refueling
ARCT	Air Refueling Control Time
ARMS	Air Refueling Management System
CJCS	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
CJCSI	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction
COMUSFLTFORCOM	Commander U.S. Fleet Forces Command
CONUS	Continental United States
DoD	Department of Defense
FMS	Foreign Military Sales
JA/ATT	Joint Airborne/Air Transportability
JCET	Joint \Combined Exchange Training
JP	Joint Publication
MAJCOM	Major Command
MARFORCOM	U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command
MARFORPAC	Marines Forces Pacific
NAOC	National Airborne Operations Center
OSA	Operational Support Airlift
UCP	Unified Command Plan
USTRANSCOM	U.S. Transportation Command

PART II-DEFINITIONS

Air Mobility -- The rapid movement of personnel, materiel, and forces to and from or within a theater by air. This includes both airlift and AR. (JP 1-02)

Air Mobility Command (AMC) -- The Air Force component command of the U.S. Transportation Command. (JP 3-17)

CAPSTONE -- Newly selected flag and general officers travel extensively visiting key U.S. military commands in the United States and abroad, where they meet with commanders, U.S. ambassadors and embassy personnel, and the senior political and military leaders of foreign governments. Usually done on KC-135s or KC-10s; occasionally done on C-17s. (AMCI 24-101)

Catastrophic Event -- Any natural or manmade incident, including terrorism that results in extraordinary levels of mass casualties, damage, or disruption severely affecting the population, infrastructure, environment, economy, national morale, and/or governmental functions. (National Response Framework, January 2008)

Channel Airlift -- Provides regularly scheduled airlift for movement of sustainment cargo, depending upon volume of workload, between designated aerial ports of embarkation and seaports of debarkation over validated contingency or distribution channel routes. (JP 3-17)

Common Use -- Services, materiel, or facilities provided by a DoD agency or a Military Department on a common basis for two or more DoD agencies, elements, or other organizations as directed. (JP 1-02)

Common-User Airlift Service -- The airlift service provided on a common basis for all DoD agencies and, as authorized, for other agencies of the U.S. government. (JP 1-02)

Contingency Channel -- Supports sustainment operations of a Joint Chiefs of Staff-designated contingency. Combatant commands or Service headquarters (in conjunction with the affected geographic Combatant Commands) identify contingency airlift channels for USTRANSCOM validation. Contingency channels, once established, will be periodically reviewed to ensure priority codes are still warranted.

CONUS -- United States territory including the adjacent territorial waters located within North America between Canada and Mexico.

Coronet -- Movement of air assets, usually fighter aircraft in support of contingencies, rotations, and exercises, or aircraft movements for logistics

purposes.

Defense Transportation System (DTS) -- That portion of the Nation's transportation infrastructure that supports DoD common-user transportation needs across the range of military operations. It consists of those common-user military and commercial assets, services, and systems organic to, contracted for, or controlled by the Department of Defense. (JP 4-01)

Distribution -- 1. The arrangement of troops for any purpose, such as a battle, march, or maneuver. 2. A planned pattern of projectiles about a point. 3. A planned spread of fire to cover a desired frontage or depth. 4. An official delivery of anything, such as orders or supplies. 5. The operational process of synchronizing all elements of the logistics system to deliver the "right things" to the "right place" at the "right time" to support the geographic Combatant Commander. 6. The process of assigning military personnel to activities, units, or billets. (JP 4-0)

Distribution Channel -- A Combatant Command- or Service headquarters (in conjunction with the affected geographic Combatant Commands)- requested common-user channel route validated through USTRANSCOM, based on justification provided and transportation support feasibility.

Distribution System -- That complex of facilities, installations, methods, and procedures designed to receive, store, maintain, distribute, and control the flow of military materiel between the point of receipt into the military system and the point of issue to using activities and units. (JP 4-09)

Dual Role -- Dual Role missions are where both AR and airlift are provided to the user. Primary mission role is normally AR. Missions where cargo movement is primary require a dedicated funded special assignment airlift mission (SAAM). (AMCI 11-208)

Joint Transportation Board (JTB) -- Responsible to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Joint Transportation Board ensures that common-user transportation resources assigned or available to the Department of Defense are allocated to achieve maximum benefit in meeting DoD objectives. See also common-user transportation. (JP 4-01)

Major Command (MAJCOM) – U.S. Navy: Fleet Commanders; U. S. Army: Major Army commands (e.g. ACOM, ASCC, DRU); U.S. Air Force: Major Air Force commands (e. g. Air Mobility Command, United States Air Force Europe, Air Combat Command); U.S. Marine Corps: Marine Forces Command

Special Assignment Airlift Mission (SAAM). All domestic requirements and those requiring special pickup or delivery by the Air Mobility Command at points other than those within the established Air Mobility Command route

pattern, or requirements for movement within this pattern that require special consideration because of the number of passengers involved, the weight or size of the cargo, or other special factor (Defense Transportation Regulation – Part VII)—

Theater -- The geographical area outside the continental United States for which a commander of a Combatant Command has been assigned responsibility. (JP 1)

Transportation Priorities -- Indicators assigned to eligible traffic that establish its movement precedence. Appropriate priority systems apply to the movement of traffic by sea and air. In times of emergency, priorities may be applicable to continental United States movements by land, water, or air. (JP 4-09)

Transportation System -- All the land, water, and air routes and transportation assets engaged in the movement of U.S. forces and their supplies across the range of military operations, involving both mature and immature theaters and at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels of war. (JP 4-0)

U.S. Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) -- The unified command with the mission to provide strategic air, land, and sea transportation and common- user port management for the Department of Defense across the range of military operations. (JP 4-01)