

APPENDIX A

CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING PRIORITIES FOR SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT AIRLIFT MISSION (SAAM) JOINT AIRBORNE AND AIR TRANSPORTABILITY TRAINING (JA/ATT) OR EXERCISES

NOTE: An urgency of need or the existence of valid circumstances other than those for which channel airlift normally would be used must be established by competent authority before these priorities can be used. Eligible traffic will conform to the following priorities.

A. PRIORITY 1A

Priority 1A covers requirements in support of the following:

1. 1A1—Presidential-directed missions: including support to the National Airborne Operations Center (NAOC) when operating in direct support of the President.
2. 1A2—United States (U.S.) forces and other forces or activities in combat designated by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) in accordance with Secretary of Defense (SecDef) guidance.
3. 1A3—Programs approved by the President for top national priority, including:
 - a. Real-world contingency deployment operations supporting Concept Plans (CONPLANS) for 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 designated search and rescue teams when directed by the SecDef. This priority will only be assigned to missions in which the immediate deployment could result in the saving of human lives.
4. 1A4—Special weapons.

B. PRIORITY 1B

Priority 1B covers requirements in support of the following:

1. 1B1 — Missions specially directed by the SecDef, 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 theater.)
 - b. Redeployment of forces conducting real-world operations in support of CONPLANS 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. Time-sensitive deployment of Joint Strategic Reconnaissance Office directed air missions.
 - e. NAOC operations when not in support of the President.

- f. Validated minimal frequency channels.
 - g. Patients requiring urgent or priority aeromedical evacuation.
2. 1B2—Units, projects, or plans specially approved for implementation by the SecDef or the CJCS including steady-state contingency deployments. This priority is intended for deployment or rotation of forces supporting contingency operations of an enduring nature (including, for example, planned rotations of aircraft squadrons, air expeditionary forces, missile battery equipment and personnel, communications support, and security forces). Also includes real-world counterdrug deployments.
 3. 1B3—Covers requirements in support of all contingency redeployments, regardless of whether the deployment was urgent or steady state (except for forces deployed for routine aeromedical evacuation missions).

C. PRIORITY 2A

Priority 2A covers requirements in support of the following:

1. 2A1—U.S. forces or activities and 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 Continental United States (CONUS)-based units for exercise and training events directly related to CONPLANs for 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 re-institute 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.

D. PRIORITY 2B

Priority 2B covers requirements in support of the following:

1. 2B1—CJCS-sponsored exercises (under the CJCS Exercise Program)
2. 2B2—Combatant commander-sponsored exercises (under the CJCS Exercise Program).

E. PRIORITY 3A

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 (fleet commanders for Navy, major Army commands for Army and Marine Forces, Pacific and Marine Forces, and Atlantic for Marines)
2. 3A2—U.S. forces or activities and foreign forces or activities that are maintained in a state of readiness to deploy for combat and other activities essential to combat forces.
3. 3A3—Approved requirements channels.

F. PRIORITY 3B

Priority 3B covers requirements in support of 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:
 - a. Combat support training (e.g., flare drops and special operations missions)
 - b. Counterdrug training missions (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.

NOTE: Two special provisions exist for JA/ATT requirements:

- (1) The CJCS has authorized a JA/ATT priority of 2A1 to CONUS-based units for exercise and training events directly related to CONPLANS for special operations.
- (2) JA/ATT will be removed from this priority system and protected with the same criteria extended to Air Mobility Command (AMC) unilateral training when AMC publishes the JA/ATT Monthly Operations Tasking, Appendix 1, Annex C, HQ AMC OPORD 17-76 (30 days prior to the month of execution). Higher-priority users who submit their requirements before Annex C is published will be supported per the usual priorities.

G. PRIORITY 4A

Priority 4A covers requirements in support of the following:

1. 4A1—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. 4A2—Static loading exercises for those units specifically tasked to perform air transportability missions.

H. PRIORITY 4B

Priority 4B covers requirements in support of the following:

1. 4B1—Other U.S. forces or activities and 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.

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