1. Policy.

1.1. Preserving the lives and well-being of Department of the Air Force military, DOD civilian and DOD contractor personnel placed in danger of being isolated, detained, captured or having to evade while participating in a U.S.-sponsored activity or mission is one of the highest priorities of the Air Force. The Department of the Air Force has primary responsibility for recovering Air Force personnel who become isolated in uncertain or hostile environments. All Airmen (military and civilian) must
have a firm understanding of the Code of Conduct and commanders must ensure their personnel are prepared to respond to an isolating event.

1.2. The Air Force has a moral obligation to reintegrate personnel who become isolated (evaders, Prisoners of War, hostages, or peacetime governmental detainees). When such individuals are returned to United States control, the Air Force will provide the appropriate support to accomplish a successful reintegration.

2. Responsibilities:

2.1. The Air Force shall establish a global Air Force PR capability with three critical components:

2.1.1. Well-equipped, fully-manned, and dedicated PR forces. This includes dedicated USAF Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR) forces, as well as USAF forces that provide PR support capabilities, such as command, control, communications, computers, and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (C4ISR) and combat air forces aircraft and PR support personnel.

2.1.2. Commanders and staffs educated and trained to manage PR programs and support PR mission execution.

2.1.3. Air Force personnel trained, prepared, and equipped for potential isolation and recovery.

2.2. Specifically, HQ USAF/A3/5 and its designated OPR are responsible for the AF Personnel Recovery Program, and will:

2.2.1. Establish and approve policies pertaining to the minimum PR training for all Airmen to include the training and employment of PR forces.

2.2.2. Coordinate Mission Essential Tasks (MET) and measures to meet validated PR requirements.

2.2.3. Publish and update PR policies and guidance to comply with applicable DOD directives, instructions, and other applicable guidance.

2.2.4. Ensure PR capabilities (facilities, equipment, training, personnel) are developed, programmed, and budgeted to accommodate Air Force PR requirements.

2.2.5. Provide the appropriate level of Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) training to Air Force military, civilian, and contractor personnel identified as at risk of capture.

2.2.6. Ensure policies and procedures are in place to identify and track personnel who are trained or experienced in PR operations in accordance with DOD Instruction 1300.21, *Code of Conduct (CoC) Training and Education*, 8 Jan 2001, DOD Instruction 1300.23, *Isolated Personnel Training for DOD Civilian and Contractors*, 20 Aug 2003, and geographic combatant command theater entry requirements.

2.3. MAJCOMS, NAFs and Warfighting Headquarters shall establish and designate a personnel recovery office of primary responsibility (OPR) to coordinate with HQ USAF/A3OS and the PR lead command on implementation of applicable PR policy and training of commanders, staffs and potential isolated personnel.

2.4. HQ/ACC, as the lead command for PR, will:

2.4.1. Advocate for PR policies and strategic guidance and assist with determining PR forces requirements.
2.4.2. Advocate for adequate programming, standards and policies that foster both interoperability and enhanced PR capabilities.

2.4.3. Advocate for training, standards, and requirements to maintain an effective PR command and control (C2) architecture.

2.4.3.1. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with AFMAN 37-123, *Management of Records*, 31 Aug 1994, and disposed of in accordance with the *Air Force Records Disposition Schedule* (RDS) located at: https://afrims.amc.af.mil/.

3. See *Attachment 1* for a listing of publications with related policies and procedures.

Michael W. Wynne
Secretary of the Air Force
Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

Section 1501 of Title 10, USC, “Missing Persons Act” (para 6b)

DOD Directive 1300.7, Training and Education Measures Necessary to Support the Code of Conduct, 8 Dec 2000


DOD Instruction 1300.21, Code of Conduct (CoC) Training and Education, 8 Jan 2001

DOD Instruction 1300.23, Isolated Personnel Training for DOD Civilian and Contractors, 20 Aug 2003

DOD Instruction 2310.3, Personnel Recovery Response Cell Procedures, 6 Jun 1997

DOD Instruction 2310.4, Repatriation of Prisoners of War (POW), Hostages, Peacetime Government Detainees and other missing or Isolated Personnel, 21 Nov 2000

DOD Instruction 2310.5, Accounting for Missing Persons, 31 Jan 2000

DOD Instruction 2310.6, Non Conventional Assisted Recovery, 13 Oct 2000

Joint Publication (JP) 1-02, DOD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms, 12 Apr 2001

JP 3-50.2, Doctrine for Joint Combat Search and Rescue, 26 Jan 1996

JP 3-50.3, Joint Doctrine of Evasion and Recovery, 6 Sep 1996


CJCSM 1600.01, Joint Manpower Program Procedures, 30 Apr 1998


AFPD 16-12, Pararescue, 1 Jul 1998

AFPD 16-13, SERE, 1 Mar 2000

AFPD 31-1, Physical Security, 1 Aug 1995

AFPD 90-1, Policy Formulation, 8 Aug 2003

AFDD 2-1.6, Personnel Recovery Operations, 15 Jul 2000

AFDD 2-7, Special Operations, Jul 1999


AFI 10-403, Deployment Planning and Execution, 5 Aug 2005

AFI 13-208, Personnel Recovery Coordination Cell Operating Procedures, 1 Jan 1996

AFI 16-1203, Pararescue Training and Evaluation Program, 1 Aug 1999

AFI 16-1202, Pararescue Operations, Techniques, and Procedures, 3 May 2001

Air Force Records Information Management System, (AFRIMS)

*Abbreviations and Acronyms*

ACC—Air Combat Command

AETC—Air Education and Training Command

AFDD—Air Force Doctrine Document

AFRIMS—Air Force Records Information Management System

Airman—Any US Air Force member (officer and enlisted; regular, reserve, guard and Department of the Air Force civilians) who supports and defends the Constitution of the United States

C4ISR—Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, & Reconnaissance

CoC—Code of Conduct

CONUS—Continental United States

DOD—Department of Defense

DODD—Department of Defense Directive

DODI—Department of Defense Instruction

HQ—Headquarters

JPRA—Joint Personnel Recovery Agency

MAJCOM—Major Command

MET—Mission Essential Task

METL—Mission Essential Task List

NAF—Numbered Air Force

OCONUS—Outside Continental United States

PR—Personnel Recovery

RDS—Records Disposition Schedule

USC—United States Code