MCWP 3-34.1

Military Police in Support of the MAGTF

U.S. Marine Corps

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FOREWORD

Marine Corps Warfighting Publication (MCWP) 3-34.1, *Military Police in Support of the MAGTF*, provides the doctrinal basis for employment of military police in support of Marine air-ground task force (MAGTF) operations. This publication addresses military police missions, functions, objectives, and capabilities in peace, crisis, and war. MCWP 3-34.1 also describes how military police serve as a MAGTF force multiplier by interacting and supporting tactical-level expeditionary activities.

This publication is designed for commanders and staff planners responsible for conduct of military police activities in support of expeditionary operations and operations other than war. MCWP 3-34.1 provides information for consideration in planning and execution of military police operations regarding area security, force protection, enemy prisoner of war and civilian internee control, maneuver and mobility support operations, military law enforcement, and nonlethal weapons employment. It also details logistic requirements, physical security, customs, and military working dog employment.

MCWP 3-34.1 supersedes Fleet Marine Force Manual (FMFM) 3-5, *Employment of Military Police in Combat*.

Reviewed and approved this date.

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MILITARY POLICE IN SUPPORT OF THE MAGTF

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CHAPTER 1. OVERVIEW

Military police support Marine air-ground task force (MAGTF) operations during peace, conflict, and war. Employed as a MAGTF force multiplier, military police operate across the force continuum to support training in nonlethal weapons use, antiterrorism/force protection (AT/FP) operations, noncombatant evacuation operations, civil unrest, and other security operations.

During joint and multinational operations, military police perform specialized functions in areas of accident investigations, criminal investigations, employment of military working dogs, physical security, and corrections. In addition, military police enhance interoperability through liaison and coordination with joint, combined, host nation (HN) and nongovernmental organizations. To maximize the limited available military police (MP) assets, commanders must prioritize support requirements.

Mission and Support Capabilities

The MP mission and capabilities include support for AT/FP operations, maneuver and mobility support operations, area security, law and order, and internment operations. Excluding the manpower intensive temporary internment operations, military police can normally conduct these missions simultaneously.

Antiterrorism/Force Protection Operations Support

The inherent MP capabilities contribute to improving a unit's AT/FP posture. With the ever-changing enemy and environmental situation, military police advise the commander of the probable impact a course of action has in regards to AT/FP. Military police conduct vulnerability assessments to identify command areas that are vulnerable to terrorist attack. These assessments and the criminal and tactical information gathered by the military police, criminal investigation division (CID), and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) assist in the development of a MAGTF AT/FP plan that is dedicated to safeguarding property and personnel. Military police also function as a training cadre to provide necessary and required AT/FP training. Support for AT/FP operations is discussed further in chapter 2.

Maneuver and Mobility Support Operations

At tactical levels, effective use of the road network is a key component of the movement function. Military units and HN civilians will compete for space along limited and congested roadways. Stragglers and refugees may further exacerbate this roadway congestion. To ensure maximum use of sparse road networks, military police perform maneuver and mobility support operations as specified by the commander and movement control elements. Military police assist in the identification of primary and alternate routes, monitor route conditions, and keep routes clear for vital military movements. Maneuver and mobility support operations are discussed further in chapter 3.

Military police support maneuver, mobility, and survivability by expediting forward, lateral, and rear movement of combat, combat support, and combat service support resources and by conducting the following security missions.

Route Reconnaissance and Surveillance

When conducting route reconnaissance and surveillance missions, military police continually monitor the condition of main supply routes (MSR) by identifying restrictions on terrain, effects of weather on routes, damage to routes, nuclear, biological, and chemical (NBC) contamination, and the presence of the enemy. Military police also identify alternate MSRs. In addition, police report observations, maintain surveillance, and develop the enemy situation. Mobile MP teams also gather information on friendly and enemy activity.

MSR Regulation and Enforcement

Military police enforce the MAGTF commander's MSR regulations and traffic circulation plans to keep MSRs free for priority military movement. To expedite traffic on MSRs, military police use patrolling, traffic control points (TCPs), roadblocks, checkpoints, holding areas, defiles at critical points, and temporary route signs. Effective and efficient employment of traffic control measures move military traffic, stragglers, and refugees through or around potential congestion points.