

ARMY, MARINE CORPS, NAVY, AIR FORCE



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CENTER**

COMCAM

***MULTI-SERVICE
TACTICS,
TECHNIQUES, AND
PROCEDURES FOR
COMBAT CAMERA
OPERATIONS***

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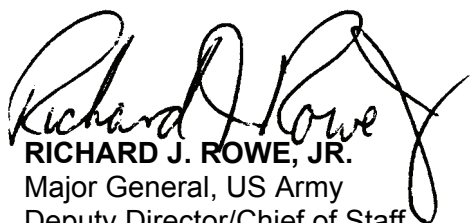
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MULTI-SERVICE TACTICS, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCEDURES

FOREWORD

This publication has been prepared under our direction for use by our respective commands and other commands as appropriate.



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PREFACE

1. Purpose

Multi-Service Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (MTTP) for Combat Camera (COMCAM) Operations provides commanders and staffs at all echelons essential information to effectively employ COMCAM capabilities.

2. Scope

This publication details procedures to integrate and synchronize tactical and operational COMCAM support for military operations. It is designed for planners and commanders at all levels and details methods to fully integrate visual imagery documentation capabilities with warfighting staffs.

3. Applicability

This publication provides guidance for planning, employing, and integrating COMCAM forces. Use of this publication ensures synchronized COMCAM capabilities and visual imagery documentation support by tailored COMCAM force packages.

4. Implementation Plan

Participating Service command offices of primary responsibility (OPRs) will review this publication, validate the information and, where appropriate, reference and incorporate it in Service manuals, regulations, and curricula as follows:

Army. Upon approval and authentication, this publication incorporates the procedures contained herein into the US Army Doctrine and Training Literature Program as directed by the Commander, US Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). This publication will be distributed via electronic means only.

Marine Corps.* The Marine Corps will incorporate the procedures in this publication in US Marine Corps training and doctrine publications as directed by the Commanding General, US Marine Corps Combat Development Command (MCCDC). Distribution is in accordance with the Marine Corps Publication Distribution System (MCPDS).

Navy. The Navy will incorporate these procedures in US Navy training and doctrine publications as directed by the Commander, Navy Warfare Development Command (NWDC)[N5]. Distribution is in accordance with Military Standard Requisition and Issue Procedure Desk Guide (MILSTRIP Desk Guide) Navy Supplement Publication-409 (NAVSUP P-409).

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* Marine Corps PCN: 144 000132 00

5. User Information

a. TRADOC, MCCDC, NWDC, Headquarters Air Force Doctrine Center (AFDC), and the Air Land Sea Application (ALSA) Center developed this publication with the joint participation of the approving Service commands. ALSA will review and update this publication as necessary.

b. This publication reflects current joint and Service doctrine, command and control organizations, facilities, personnel, responsibilities, and procedures. Changes in Service protocol, appropriately reflected in joint and Service publications, will likewise be incorporated in revisions to this document.

c. We encourage recommended changes for improving this publication. Key your comments to the specific page and paragraph and provide a rationale for each recommendation. Send comments and recommendations directly to—

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COMCAM

MULTI-SERVICE TACTICS, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCEDURES FOR COMBAT CAMERA OPERATIONS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COMCAM

Multi-Service Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Combat Camera Operations

Overview of Combat Camera

Chapter I. COMCAM supports the joint force commander (JFC) by acquiring, processing, and distributing classified and unclassified still and motion imagery collected during ongoing military operations. Comprehensive visual information documentation (VIDOC) ensures an accurate historical record of military operations.

Roles and Responsibilities

Chapter II. Integrated COMCAM assets provide commanders a unique first hand account of tactical actions. Each Service has dedicated COMCAM units, which receive specialized training (advanced field training and weapons qualifications) to effectively integrate with any combat unit in austere and hostile environments.

Combat Camera Operations

Chapter III. COMCAM forces are tasked, deployed, and employed as an integral part of operations to ensure VIDOC of US military activities during wartime, worldwide crises, contingencies, joint exercises, and other events of significant national interest involving the Department of Defense (DOD).

Appendices

Appendix A – Service-level COMCAM Units and Capabilities

Appendix B – Joint COMCAM Tasking Matrices

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Chapter I

OVERVIEW OF COMCAM CAMERA OPERATIONS

1. Overview

COMCAM operations provide the JFC with classified and unclassified still and motion VIDOC support. Each Service's COMCAM organizations provide Service-unique VIDOC capabilities.

2. Mission

a. The mission of COMCAM forces is to provide Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS), the Military Departments, combatant commands, and joint task forces (JTFs) with a directed imagery capability in support of operational and planning requirements during wartime operations, worldwide crises, contingencies, and joint exercises.

b. COMCAM VIDOC enhances the commander's situational awareness and establishes a historical operations record. When operationally deployed COMCAM forces are under the direct control of the J-39 staff officer. While their efforts and products routinely support the intelligence and public affairs missions, COMCAM forces exist as a separate and distinct operational entity with a clearly defined documentation mission.

c. COMCAM forces perform unique and highly specialized missions with VIDOC capabilities supporting the full range of military operations in all operational environments. COMCAM personnel maintain qualifications enabling them to operate with airborne forces, special operations forces (SOF), and military divers. Their capabilities range from aerial photography to underwater photography.

3. Impact

In an increasingly media-driven world and global information environment, the ability to exploit VIDOC has enabled the warfighter to gain a battlespace advantage. COMCAM forces provide commanders with visual information (VI) that directly supports their decision making and operational assessment. During recent operations, daily imagery usage included: battle briefings, targeting, operational assessment, force protection, battlespace orientation, airfield qualification, public affairs, operational awareness, information operations, psychological operations, and battle damage assessment.