

**FM 4-20.07(FM 42-424)**

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**QUARTERMASTER FORCE PROVIDER  
COMPANY**

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**Headquarters, Department of the Army**

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# QUARTERMASTER FORCE PROVIDER COMPANY

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## Preface

Field manual (FM) 4-20.07 provides insight, general data and operational information for the commanders, supervisors, and personnel assigned or attached to a Quartermaster (QM) Force Provider Company. This manual also serves as a guide for commanders, supervisors, and other personnel concerned with Force Provider operations in general. It addresses the key aspects of performing the company's critical wartime mission to "Provide Force Provider Support" and accomplishing the unit's mission essential task list (METL). The METL consists of tasks categorized into the following missions:

- Deploy unit
- Establish unit area
- Defend assigned area
- Conduct Force Provider operations
- Relocate unit
- Redeploy unit

Detailed information concerning the METL, as well as collective and individual training, required to accomplish the unit's METL is available in Army Training and Evaluation Program (ARTEP) 42-424-30-MTP.

This publication applies to the Active Army, Reserve Component QM Force Provider company commanders, supervisors and Soldiers, the Army National Guard (ARNG)/Army National Guard of the United States (ARNGUS), and the United States Army Reserve (USAR) unless otherwise stated. The focus is on the organization of the Force Provider Company, Force Provider modules, responsibilities, deployment, redeployment, and operations.

The proponent for this publication is Headquarters (HQ) United States Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). Send comments and recommended changes directly to Commander, United States Combined Arms Support Command (USACASCOM), Concepts and Doctrine (C&D) Directorate, ATTN: ATCL-FC-D, Fort Lee, VA 23801-1723. Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns or pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.

# Introduction

Commanders must bear in mind the stressful effects of combat as they plan and conduct operations. The pressures that battlefield chaos and destruction place on Soldiers have always been great. Unit discipline, realistic field training, deliberately fostered unit cohesion, and solid bonding between leaders and subordinates can reduce the effects of this stress in part, but nothing can eliminate it. The commander who understands this and protects his Soldiers through strong, positive, and caring leadership, proper mental, physical and training preparation, and simple decisive plans will win (FM 3-0). The purpose of the Force Provider program is to improve the quality of life for deployed Soldiers by reducing the stressors of combat. Under force health protection (FHP), combat and operational stress control (COSC) training is provided to assist Soldiers in preventing combat and operational stress reactions (COSRs) and other stress related illnesses. The Force Provider system also enables the reduction of stress.

During Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, the Army realized that it could do more to improve the quality of life for the deployed Soldier. Many Soldiers used makeshift and field expedient latrines and showers. The Army recognized the importance of combating stress and sleep deprivation, while offsetting COSR and conserving fighting strength. Its answer was to set up the Force Provider program. The concept of Force Provider was initially tested in the Bosnia area of operations. Doctrine, training, and system requirements were then developed as a result of lessons learned to improve the quality of life for the deployed Soldier. In addition to this FM, ARTEP 42-424-30-MTP has been developed and is available through normal distribution. Training and evaluation outlines (T&EOs) for unit training (Chapter 5, ARTEP 42-424-30-MTP) are also available in the Army Systems Approach to Training (ASAT) program. The Force Provider Product Manager office at Soldier System Command (SSCOM), maintains a homepage for related issues.

Force Provider units are expected to be an essential component of joint, multinational, and expeditionary operations - fully capable of responding to requirements along its entire operational mission continuum: Soldier sustainment, humanitarian and civic assistance, disaster relief, and non-combatant evacuation operations. Future Force Provider operations must provide scalable and modular base camps to support operations such as combat (forward operating bases/FOBs), reception, staging, onward movement, and integration (RSOI), rest and refit, intermediate staging bases (ISB), redeployment, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, homeland defense, and peacekeeping/enforcement.



## Chapter 1

# Force Provider Overview

### SECTION I – INTRODUCTION TO THE FORCE PROVIDER CONCEPT

#### FORCE PROVIDER AND THE QM FORCE PROVIDER COMPANY

1-1. The Force Provider system represents the Army's premier life support base camp. The concept was born in 1991 as a result of the challenging living conditions experienced by our Soldiers during Operation Desert Shield/Storm. The Army therefore developed Force Provider, a containerized and highly deployable "tent city". Force Provider system modules consist of military and commercial equipment which produce climate-controlled billeting, quality food preparation and dining facilities, hygiene services, and morale, welfare and recreation facilities sufficient to support 550 tenant soldiers and the system operators. This field manual describes the system and the Quartermaster (QM) unit that operates it. The Force Provider QM Company (TOE 42420L000) and the Force Provider module itself are separate entities which are linked up in the theater of operations or another specifically designated area. The QM Force Provider Company's organic assets can transport its unit personnel, maintain organic equipment, defend against a Level I threat, and maintain communications. The Force Provider modules are not currently organic to the QM Force Provider Company and until requisitioned, are maintained as part of the Army Materiel Command (AMC) owned Army pre-positioned stocks (APS). Using units request Force Provider support through command channels via memorandum to the Department of the Army staff. Future plans call for each Force Provider company to maintain one module on hand at the unit at all times for training purposes.

#### FORCE PROVIDER MISSIONS

1-2. Force Provider missions were originally designed to complement theater reception bases, intermediate staging bases (ISB), rest and refit, redeployment and base camps for stability operations such as humanitarian aid and disaster relief, peace keeping/enforcement, or other designated locations in support of an operation. The system is currently being deployed with forward operating bases (FOBs) and may also provide support to Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) contingency support teams and deployable distribution depot (DDX) teams. Force Provider was developed to improve the Soldier's combat readiness. It provides the front-line Soldier a brief rest from combat. The system enhances the areas of health, welfare, and morale of Soldiers. It provides feeding, showering, and laundry support. It also provides areas for sleep, rest, and relaxation. Also, Force Provider can be used with theater reception and staging bases when deployed to an underdeveloped or war-ravaged theater. It can also be used as a rest stop or base for staging Soldiers and vehicles passing through as they deploy or redeploy. Besides its military missions, the QM Force Provider Company and the Force Provider module may also be employed to support humanitarian aid and disaster relief, as well as noncombatant evacuation operations (NEO).

#### QM FORCE PROVIDER COMPANY EMPLOYMENT

1-3. The QM Force Provider Company may be employed to meet any of the missions stated above. When used for its primary mission, the company will normally be organized in accordance with its current TOE. The unit will be issued Force Provider modules from APS and normally assigned to an appropriate element of the Army service component command's (ASCC) theater sustainment command (TSC). In some instances, Force Provider modules, platoons or companies may be assigned to a joint task force (JTF), a sustainment brigade, a combat sustainment support battalion (CSSB), or for very limited operations the system may be assigned to a brigade support battalion (BSB).