AIRDROP OF SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT:

Humanitarian Airdrop

NOVEMBER 2003

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AIRDROP OF SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT:

HUMANITARIAN AIRDROP

This change adds the rigging procedures for low-velocity Low Cost Aerial Delivery System.

FM 4-20.147/TO 13C7-37-31, 28 November 2003, is changed as follows:

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* This publication supersedes FM 10-547/TO 13C7-37-31, dated 29 September 1980
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Preface

This manual tells and shows how to prepare and rig the following configurations of Humanitarian loads, Extended Tri-Wall Airdrop System (TRIADS), Low Cost High Velocity Container Delivery System (LCADS), Double A-22 Cargo Bag for High Velocity Airdrop and Quadruple A-22 Cargo Bag for High Velocity Airdrop from a C-17 and C-130 aircraft.

User Information

The proponent of this publication is HQ TRADOC. You are encouraged to report any errors or omissions and to suggest ways of making this a better manual.

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   USA Quartermaster Center and School
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   Fort Lee, Virginia 23801-1502

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Chapter 1

General Rigging Information Humanitarian Airdrop Loads

SECTION I - DESCRIPTION OF HUMANITARIAN LOADS

HUMANITARIAN AIRDROP METHODS

1-1. Humanitarian airdrop utilizes the Container Delivery System (CDS), some variation of that system, or TRIADS, a special method of free drop. Many factors can influence the delivery method used.

a. EXTENDED TRI-WALL AERIAL DELIVERY SYSTEM (TRIADS). The TRIADS system is a corrugated tri-wall box rigged for static line deployment off the ramp of an aircraft using CDS procedures. Typical loads include loose Meals Ready-to-Eat (MREs) or Humanitarian Daily Rations (HDRs). Following deployment the caps of the box separate from the sleeve allowing the container’s content to scatter and freefall to the ground. TRIADS has a 1,375 pound load capacity. Chapter Two of this manual covers rigging TRIADS for airdrop.

b. LOW-COST AERIAL DELIVERY SYSTEM (LCADS). LCADS is a modified, lightweight A-22 system with no scuff pad, cover, or friction adapters on the lateral bands. It is rigged like a high-velocity A-22 load, but uses one of several special parachutes. LCADS is used for high-volume delivery of nonfragile items where airdrop equipment is not recoverable. LCADS has a 2,200 pound load capacity. Chapter Three of this manual covers rigging LCADS for airdrop.

c. DOUBLE A-22 CONTAINER. The double A-22 container consists of two A-22 sling assemblies. The covers may or may not be used. Only six of the suspension webs are used. The double A-22 cargo bag has a 3,375 pound load capacity. Chapter Four of this manual covers rigging the double A-22 cargo bag.

d. QUADRUPLE A-22 CONTAINER. The quadruple A-22 container consists of four standard A-22 sling assemblies which can be laced together to form one large container, or can be individually rigged and then configured side-by-side for unitized delivery of four loads. The quadruple A-22 cargo bag has a 4,375 pound load capacity. Chapter Five of this manual covers rigging the quadruple A-22 container.