

**FM 42-424**  
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**QUARTERMASTER  
FORCE PROVIDER  
COMPANY**

**HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

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# Quartermaster Force Provider Company

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## Preface

This manual is a guide for commanders, supervisors, and other personnel concerned with the concepts and operation of Force Provider.

FM 24-424 provides insight, general data and operational information for the commanders, supervisors, and personnel assigned or attached to a QM FP company. It addresses the key aspects of performing the QM FP Company's critical wartime mission to "Provide FP Support" and accomplishing the unit's METL. The METL consists of 79 tasks categorized into the following four missions:

- Conduct strategic deployment
- Conduct FP operations
- Defend assigned area
- Conduct strategic redeployment

Detailed information concerning the METL, as well as collective and individual training, needed to do the unit's METL is available in ARTEP 42-424-30-MTP.

The primary audiences for FM 24-424 are RC QM FP company commanders and supervisors. The focus is on the organization of the FP Company, FP modules, responsibilities, deployment, redeployment, and operations.

The proponent for this publication is HQ TRADOC. Send comments and recommended changes directly to Commander, USACASCOM, Training Directorate, ATTN: ATCL-AQ, Fort Lee, VA 23801-1713.

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 placed on soldiers have always been very great. Unit discipline, realistic field training, deliberately fostered unit cohesion, and solid bonding between leader and led can reduce the effects of this stress in part, but nothing can get rid of 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 100-5).

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 were using makeshift and field expedient latrines and showers. The Army wanted to do a better job of providing for its soldiers; however, the equipment, plans, and doctrine to do so were not in place before the conflict. The Army recognized the importance of combating stress and sleep deprivation, while offsetting battle fatigue and conserving fighting strength. It then set up the FP program. The concept of FP was initially tested in Bosnia. Doctrine, training, and system requirements were then developed as a result of lessons learned to improve the quality of life for the deployed soldier.

An *Informational Overview* of FP Operations is available on CD-ROM (CD 101-12). It can be ordered through normal distribution at Joint Visual Information Activity, Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA, or from the CASCOM CD web site at [http://www.cascom.army.mil/cgi-win/polyform.exe/cd-rom\\_catalog](http://www.cascom.army.mil/cgi-win/polyform.exe/cd-rom_catalog). Besides this FM, ARTEP 42-424-30 MTP has been developed and is available through normal distribution. T&EOs for unit training (Chapter 5, ARTEP 42-424-30 MTP) are also available ASAT program. The FP PM office at SSCOM, maintains a homepage at [www.sscm.army.mil/pm-fp/index.html](http://www.sscm.army.mil/pm-fp/index.html).

## Chapter 1

# FP Overview

### SECTION I – INTRODUCTION TO THE FP CONCEPT

#### QM FP COMPANY

1-1. The QM Company (FP) and the FP module are separate entities joined together in the theater or other designated area of operation. The FP module is not organic to the QM FP Company and until requisitioned, is part of the AMC. The QM FP Company's organic assets can transport themselves, maintain organic equipment, defend against a Level I threat, and maintain communications.

#### FP TOE MISSION

1-2. FP was developed to improve the soldier's combat readiness. It provides the front-line soldier a brief rest from combat. The FP system helps in 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, FP can be used as a theater reception and staging base when deployed to an underdeveloped or war-ravaged theater. It can also be used as a rest stop or base for reconstitution for soldiers and vehicles passing through as they deploy/redeploy. Besides its military missions, the QM FP Company and FP module may also be used to support humanitarian aid and disaster relief, as well as to NEO. Assistance to U.S. Civil Authorities will be IAW FM 100-19.

#### QM FP COMPANY EMPLOYMENT

1-3. The QM FP Company may be used to meet any of the missions stated above. When used for its primary mission, QM FP Company will normally be organized according to TOE 42424L000. A sample TOE is included in Appendix A. The unit will be issued FP module(s) from Army prepositioned stock and assigned to an appropriate element of a TAACOM, COSCOM, or DISCOM. In some instances, FP may be assigned to a JTF.

- **Theater Army Area Command.** When assigned to TAACOM, the FP mission most closely matches that of an ASG BSB, TOE 63636L. As alternatives, it could also be attached to an ASB or an S&S Battalion. Refer to FM 54-40.
- **Corps Support Command.** If assigned to COSCOM, FP may be attached to CSG, BSB, or CSB. Refer to FM 63-3.