



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK
6661 WARRIOR TRAIL, BUILDING 360
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5339

AFZX-GT

MAY 04 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Policy Memorandum G3-05 – Fort Polk's Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC) Mission Approval and Launch Approval

1. Purpose. To identify the commanding general's guidance on MEDEVAC Mission Approval versus Launch Authority.
2. Fort Polk's United States Army Air Ambulance Detachment's primary mission is to provide aero-medical evacuation support to the Soldiers, Families and Civilians that support the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) and Fort Polk.
3. All military, dependent, retired, DA, DoD, GS, and Civilian (life, limb, or eyesight) patient transport requests that meet the criteria outlined in AR 95-1, 3-3 (3) on and off post, within the MEDEVAC coverage area, are automatically Mission Approval (mission acceptance) from the Chief of Staff, JRTC and Fort Polk. The 5th Aviation Commander will determine Launch Approval to support any mission based on risk and operational considerations.
4. In accordance with Army Regulation 95-1, paragraph 3-3 (3) states:
 - a. Civilian personnel and those not covered in paragraphs 3-3n (1) and (2) may be provided aero-medical transportation to the nearest medical facility where immediate treatment is available.
 - b. This will be done only when there is an emergency involving immediate threat to life, limb, or sight, and when suitable commercial services (air taxi, charter air ambulance, and aero-medical evacuation configured commercial aircraft) are not available, feasible, or are inadequate.
 - c. Installation/senior mission commanders in coordination with the Aviation Brigade or separate Army aero-medical evacuation unit commanders will develop written policies that establish specific procedures for notification, mission acceptance, and Launch Approval.
5. Fort Polk's MEDEVAC procedures currently require the Chief of Staff or designee's Mission Approval to transport Civilian patients from a civilian medical treatment facility to civilian medical treatment facility as long as the requirements are met outlined in

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AR 95-1, paragraph 3-3 (3). The Fort Polk Installation Operations Center (IOC) will provide the following information to the Chief of Staff and/or designee:

- a. Is there an immediate danger of loss of life, limb, or eyesight?
- b. Are air assets the most appropriate evacuation method; civilian ground/air transport is not available, feasible, or adequate?
- c. Is the patient being transported to the nearest, most appropriate medical facility where treatment is available?

If answered yes to all three questions, the Chief of Staff and/or designee will provide Mission Approval. The 5th Aviation Commander or designee holds the Launch Approval to launch all aircraft.

6. Mission Approval and Launch Approval are defined as:

- a. Mission Approval (mission acceptance) – The authentication of a medical evacuation request, validating that the evacuation request meets the requirements to be evacuated with military air assets due to the medical conditions and non-availability of civilian assets.
- b. Launch Approval – The authority to launch aircraft on a mission based on risk and operational considerations.

7. In the event Launch Approval from the 5th Aviation Commander is not given to support aero-medical evacuation, a situation report will be provided to the IOC outlining why the mission did not meet launch criteria.

8. The point of contact for this memorandum is the JRTC and Fort Polk, ACofS, G3 at (337) 531-1736.



GARY M. BRITO
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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