

POLICY OR PRECEDENT

SUBJECT:
Pre-CDQC Training Program

DATE: OCT 16 2017

POLICY NUMBER: 17-53
ORIGINATING SECTION: AOSO-GC
ORIGINATOR: MSG Witt
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APPROVED BY: 
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SYNOPSIS:

1. PURPOSE: To establish command policy on the Maritime Assessment Course (MAC) as the only authorized Pre-Combat Diver Qualification Course (Pre-CDQC) Training Program approved to prepare Special Forces Soldiers for attendance to the USAJFKSWCS (SWC), Special Forces Underwater Operations (SFUWO) School, Combat Diver Qualification Course, Key West, Florida.

2. SCOPE: This policy applies to HQ, 1st SFC(A) and CSUs.

3. GENERAL:

a. Pre-CDQC is a pre-requisite for all personnel planning to attend CDQC and is the responsibility of the parent unit. The MAC is established to provide 1st SFC(A) units a safe, standardized and comprehensive Pre-CDQC that promotes the maximum potential for successful completion of the current USAJFKSWCS, SFUWO, Combat Diver Qualification Course, Key West, Florida.

b. All units assigned to 1st SFC(A) (Active and National Guard) must strictly adhere to the MAC training POI. Instructors shall abide by the evaluation criteria established in the POI without exceeding or inflating them. The focus of the Pre-CDQC program is to train the Soldier to execute required tasks to standard and foster overall adaptability and comfort level in the water. The only authorized training events are those specified in the MAC POI. Units will not place their Soldiers on compressed gas and will not exceed the established parameters for any event. Emergency MEDEVAC must be planned and rehearsed prior to all training events. The Command Diving Officer (CDO) at each SFG(A) is the Maritime Operations Detachment (MOD) OIC (Dive Supervisor, E-7 or above). The MOD OIC will be responsible at the unit level to conduct, supervise, and validate Pre-CDQC training IAW the SFUWO approved MAC POI and this policy.

PRESCRIBING DIRECTIVE: AR 611-75, Management of Army Divers, 16 October 2015; USASOC 350-20, USASOC Dive Program, 03 January 10

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OTHER POLICIES AFFECTED:
Spsd Policy 350-01-16, 24 AUG 2016

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c. The SFG(A) Divers Life Support Maintenance Facility MODs are the only units authorized to conduct the MAC, Pre-CDQC training program. Commanders will ensure unit MODs are assigned the necessary personnel required to effectively and safely conduct the MAC training program.

d. The MOD OIC/ NCOIC or their designees must provide, at a minimum, the MAC Primary Instructor (PI), Alternate Instructor (AI), and a dry Dive Medical Technician (DMT). The PI and AI must be qualified combat dive supervisors and a MAC validated instructor. All additional instructors will be qualified Combat Divers and a MAC validated instructor. Instructor validation will consist of personal observation and shadowing of a SFUWO CDQC instructor during CDQC pool training and testing or receive train-the-trainer instruction provided by a current MOD validated instructor. Instructor validation shall be recorded by Memorandum for Record (MFR) and submitted to the 1st SFC(A) G3, Maritime Operations Program Manager (MOPM). MFRs will be posted on the 1st SFC(A) G3 Training, MAROPS Portal page and shall be reviewed prior to training.

e. Prior to the commencement of a MAC, every candidate will be required to have successfully completed a Class II Physical Examination (FLIGHT/MFF/CDQC) meeting the standards listed in AR 40-501, Standards of Medical Fitness, Chapter 5, paragraph 5-9 to include reference to USASOC policy letter on Long QT Syndrome. Medical Fitness Standards for initial selection for Marine Diving Training (Special Forces and Ranger Combat Diving). The unit DMO/HMO/Flight Surgeon will personally review and approve the physical. This physical for divers is good for 2 years and must not expire prior to completion of the students targeted CDQC.

f. Hypoxic Loss of Consciousness: Every effort should be made to prevent a student from reaching the level of a Hypoxic Loss of Consciousness (HLOC). If during training a Soldier suffers a HLOC, shallow water blackout or near loss of consciousness, that Soldier will immediately be removed from training and the first 0-5 in the Soldier's chain of command will be notified. Near loss of consciousness is demonstrated by a student whom an instructor perceives as unable to save himself or who fails to respond coherently. Soldiers must be medically cleared by a Dive Medical Officer (DMO) or Hyperbaric Medical Officer (HMO) in order to return to training after suffering HLOC.

g. Risk Assessments: Safety and Risk Management are critical elements of training. Units should not exceed the parameters established for any event. Emergency MEDEVAC must be planned and rehearsed for all training events. The SFUWO specific Risk Assessments have been posted at the 1st SFC(A) MAROPS website for comparable adaptation to unit training resources. A qualified Dive Medical Technician and safety swimmers must be present for training with the appropriate

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equipment. Units will not place their Soldiers on compressed gas during Pre-CDQC. Adherence to the Risk

Assessment is the contract which allows you to conduct high risk training. Do not violate it.

h. The MAC Training Schedule: The MAC training schedule will consist of a 10-day program of instruction. It is highly recommended that CDQC students be afforded no less than one week for recovery following MAC training. Successful completion of a properly conducted MAC Pre-CDQC program will enhance the likelihood of the Soldier passing CDQC.

i. Each MOD will notify 1st SFC(A) G3 Training, Maritime Operations Program Manager (MOPM), via email, of their intent to schedule and conduct MAC training. MAC training schedules will be published on the 1st SFC(A) G3, MAROPS Portal page to allow all SFG(A)s an opportunity to view the posted schedules and plan for potential candidates to attend.

j. While graduation from an approved Pre-CDQC program is valid for up to 12 months, MODs must provide each CDQC candidate the CDQC Pre-Requisite Validation Memorandum dated within 30 days of the student's scheduled CDQC date. An example of the CDQC Pre-requisite Validation Memorandum is posted on the 1st SFC(A) G3 Training, MAROPS Portal page.

k. Each memorandum will be signed by the MOD OIC/NCOIC and submitted to 1st SFC(A) G3 Training, MOPM in order to compare names on ATTRS with candidates listed on each memorandum. Names listed in ATTRS and not verified by memorandum will be removed and the unit notified. The 1st SFC(A) MOPM will then forward a consolidated list of candidates to USAJFKSWCS, SFUWO, Key West, Florida for verification. Pre-CDQC Validation Memorandums are a prerequisite for all candidates attending CDQC and must be provided to SFUWO during in-processing.