



## CHAPTER 11

## JUMPMAS-TER RESPONSIBILITIES AND CURRENCY QUALIFICATIONS

*This chapter establishes the procedures and techniques that jumpmasters use in MFF parachute operations. It delineates duties and responsibilities, regardless of unit, location, and mission. Units may have to supplement this guidance with SOPs to perform certain missions. See FM 57-220 for further discussion on the jumpmaster's responsibilities during airborne operations.*

### Responsibilities

The airborne commander appoints a jumpmaster for each aircraft. This individual is delegated command authority over, and is responsible for, all airborne personnel and equipment in the aircraft. Assistant jumpmasters and designated safety personnel help him. He assigns them tasks. The jumpmaster can delegate authority but cannot delegate responsibility. Figure 11-1 lists his responsibilities.

### Qualifications

For appointment by the airborne commander as either a jumpmaster or assistant jumpmaster for an airborne operation, the individual must be a graduate of the MFF Jumpmaster Course. (See note below.) He must have performed jumpmaster duties within the previous 6 months or attended MFF jumpmaster refresher training. An assistant jumpmaster must have performed assistant jumpmaster duties at least twice before being designated as a jumpmaster.

NOTE: The Commandant, United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, is the proponent for the conduct of MFF courses of instruction. Only graduates of a USAJFKSWCS

recognized MFF jumpmaster course may perform duties as an MFF jumpmaster. The only recognized Navy MFF jumpmasters are those who hold a Navy MFF jumpmaster graduation certificate dated before 16 June 1989 and those who graduated from the USAJFKSWCS MFF Jumpmaster Course. The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) has directed that Navy personnel will follow this manual and undergo training at USAJFKSWCS. The only recognized Air Force MFF jumpmasters are those who have graduated from the USAJFKSWCS MFF Jumpmaster Course and those previously qualified Air Force free-fall jumpmasters who have undergone an MFF jumpmaster upgrade certification using USAJFKSWCS criteria.

### Cardinal Rules

General rules stress that the jumpmaster must—

- Never sacrifice safety for any reason.
- Rehearse jumpmaster procedures on the ground.
- Arm his ARR before opening the jump door(s) or the ramp.
- Face the open jump door when in flight.

- Maintain a firm handhold on the aircraft when working in or close to an open jump door or ramp.
- **Never** allow anyone in or near an open jump door or ramp who is not wearing a helmet and safety harness or parachute. The helmet requirement may be waived for intentional water jumps.

## Currency and Requalification Requirements

An MFF jumpmaster must be USAJFKSWCS trained or have formally undergone transitional training in a proponent-recognized school environment from the MC-3 system to the RAPS. He must have performed primary or assistant jumpmaster duties within the last 6 months where parachutists actually exited the aircraft while using a jumpmaster-directed release.

Previously qualified MFF jumpmasters who do not

meet proficiency and currency requirements will meet the following requalification requirements:

- Undergo MFF parachutist refresher training outlined in Appendix C.
- Receive jumpmaster personnel inspection training for the primary MFF parachute system used in his parent unit.
- Receive refresher training in wind drift (HARP) calculation for MFF mission profiles.
- Receive oxygen equipment refresher training.
- Perform assistant jumpmaster duties for one MFF jump.
- Execute under canopy navigation techniques specific to the navigation aids unique to the parent unit.

An MFF jumpmaster who meets the currency criteria on this page will conduct the requalification and refresher training.

NOTE: Whenever possible, use a jumpmaster-directed release to enhance MFF jumpmaster skills.

<p><b>AT THE UNIT AREA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Receives the operations officer briefing.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Receives weather decision or mission abort criteria from airborne troop commander.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Checks the manifest (DA Form 1306).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Organizes the planeload.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Appoints assistant(s) and/or safety personnel.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Briefs the personnel.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Inspects the personnel and equipment.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conducts prejump training.</li> </ul> <p><b>AT THE DEPARTURE AIRFIELD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Coordinates with the departure airfield commander.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Makes weather decision.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Issues the parachutes.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Inspects the personnel (see Appendix E).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Inspects the equipment.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Inspects the aircraft (see Appendix F).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Attends the jumpmaster and aircrew briefing (see Appendix G).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Gives the planeside briefing, as appropriate.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Announces the station time to the personnel.</li> </ul> <p><b>IN FLIGHT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Remains ground oriented.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Constantly checks the personnel.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Enforces the flight rules and regulations.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Issues time warnings.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Oversees the preparation, placement, and dropping of free-fall bundles.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Gives the heading corrections to the flight crew (when using jumpmaster release).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Performs outside safety checks of the aircraft and DZ prior to the personnel jump.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Issues the jump commands.</li> </ul> <p><b>ON THE DROP ZONE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Accounts for the personnel and equipment.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Oversees the care and evacuation of injured personnel.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Turns in air items.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Reports to the DZSO (peacetime).</li> </ul>
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Figure 11-1. Sample jumpmaster responsibilities checklist.