

CHAPTER 3 NBC TEAMS DECONTAMINATION SECTIONS AND EQUIPMENT

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Section I — NBC TEAM

An NBC team is a specially trained and equipped unit capable of responding to any accident/incident involving agent release or exposure. This team may also be designated the NBC Alpha Team when given the additional capability and responsibility for alpha monitoring.

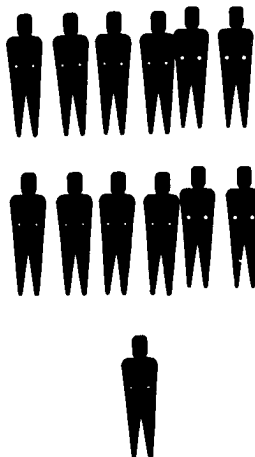
Mission

The mission of the NBC team is to–

- Assist technical escort teams.
- Determine the extent of the hazard.
- Identify the chemical agent involved.
- Direct the survey, mark and record the contaminated area, and take samples of biological material.
- Recommend procedures for controlling movement of personnel and equipment into and out of the contaminated area.
- Decontaminate personnel, equipment, structures, and land surfaces as directed.

The NBC team chief, in conjunction with technical representatives from DARCOM and other government agencies as appropriate, will advise the Chemical Accident/ Incident Control Officer (CAICO) when the hazard has been sufficiently reduced to allow unprotected personnel to enter the area.

Organization



The NBC team should consist of a minimum of one officer and eight enlisted personnel when the team does not have an area decontamination responsibility. When the NBC team is assigned an area decontamination responsibility, it should be augmented with at least four additional enlisted personnel to form a decontamination section. The personnel of the NBC team should be assigned duties as follows:

- **Team Leader.** The team leader is responsible for the operation of the team and will be located in a position most advantageous for the successful completion of the team mission.
- **Assistant Team Leader.** The senior enlisted person will be assigned duties as the assistant team leader and must be capable of assuming the team leader's responsibility when necessary. In addition, the assistant team leader is responsible for operating the team command post and for "supervising personnel of the decontamination station, the detection teams, and the decontamination section, as required.

- **Personnel Decontamination Station (PDS) Operators.** At least two PDS operators should be assigned to set up and maintain the personnel decontamination station. They will inspect personnel entering the exclusion area for the proper uniform. They will assist personnel to insure that proper undressing and decontaminating procedures are followed on leaving the contaminated area. PDS operators will insure that all equipment leaving the contaminated area is decontaminated prior to crossing the hot line (equipment operators can assist in the decontamination before going through the PDS themselves). The uniform for the PDS operators will be, as a minimum (since gross contamination is not anticipated), the field uniform, protective mask w/hood, and impermeable accessory items (boot covers, apron, and gloves).

- **Detection Parties.** Two detection parties with at least two people each will be assigned to perform detection, identification, and survey of the contaminated area. One detection party will be composed of the party leader or assistant party leader and one other party member. The protective clothing for the detection party members will be designated by the NBC team leader. As the minimum, each detection party will carry detection and or sampling equipment, appropriate first-aid material, marking equipment, and a means of communication. A small amount of general purpose decontaminant may be carried by the parties, or if the nature of hazardous material is known, the specific decontaminant may be selected.

When the NBC team is given an area decontamination capability and augmented with additional personnel, a decontamination section should be formed. At least four people will be assigned to perform decontamination of equipment, structures, and land surfaces under the supervision of the assistant NBC team leader. The section members will operate and maintain the decontaminating equipment on hand and perform the recheck of the contaminated area. The uniform for decontamination operations will be designated by the NBC team leader. Duties of the individual members are described later in this chapter.

All team members will be qualified in the detection and identification of chemical agents; in the sampling of biological material; and in the decontamination of personnel, equipment, and material. At least four enlisted personnel should be qualified as drivers and as radio operators. All members will be cross-trained to perform any task assigned. The team leader will coordinate the activities of the NBC team with other emergency teams at the accident site and furnish advice to personnel on chemical detection, biological sampling, survey procedures, and emergency decontamination measures.

Individual team members will be trained at an NBC school conducted at installation, brigade, or higher level.

Training

Team training will be conducted in conjunction with the training of other emergency teams. A suggested training program is summarized in Table 1. A formal training course for the CAICO, the Senior Chemical Accident/Incident Control Officer, 2E-F43 (4 days) is taught at USAMMCS, Redstone Arsenal, AL.

Suggested Training for NBC Team and Decontamination Team

ACTIVITY	REFERENCES
Orientation. Definition of terms; description of chemical accident/incident control basic plan (CAIC).	FM 3-21; CAICP of pertinent Army basic plan, AR 50-6, AR 385-40.
Chemical (Biological) Material and First Aid Procedures. Types of chemical and biological material that may be encountered; hazards and first aid for these types of material.	FM 3-9, FM 9-15, FM 21-11, FM 21-40, FM 21-41, FM 21-48, TM 3-216, TM 8-285.
Detection, Identification, and Sampling. Procedures and techniques in detection and identification of chemical material; sampling of biological material.	FM 3-9, FM 3-21, FM 9-15, TM 3-216, TM 3-220, TM 3-6665-253-12, TM 3-6665-254-12, TM 3-6665-268-10.
Protection. Protection and protective clothing required for CB hazards.	FM 3-21, FM 21-40, FM 9-15, TM 3-216, TM 10-277.
Decontamination. Procedures and techniques of decontaminating areas and equipment.	FM 3-21, TM 3-220, TM 3-250.
Operation and Maintenance of Power-Driven Decontaminating Apparatus (PDDA). The operation and organization maintenance of a PDDA.	ASubjScd 3-2; ASubjScd 3-54B20. PDDA FMs on hand.
Radio/Telephone Procedures. Military radio/telephone procedures and operation of communications equipment on hand.	FM 24-18; TMs for equipment on hand.
Practical Exercise. Practical application of all previous instructions in a simulated accident/incident. Exercise should be conducted in connection with other emergency response teams and simulations kept at a minimum.	All above

Table 1

Utilization

Major commands with area chemical/biological accident control responsibilities will organize and train NBC teams, as necessary. Commands must insure arrival of a team at the scene of a chemical accident as soon as possible after being notified.

Upon arrival at the accident site, the NBC team leader will report to the CAICO and coordinate with other emergency teams present, i.e., explosive ordnance disposal (EOD), fire, or medical. If the NBC team is the first to arrive at the site, and the technical escort leader is not present, the team leader will assume responsibility for emergency actions until properly relieved. The team leader will also insure that the command post location is checked for contamination and that the initial hazard area is established. These functions will normally be accomplished by EOD personnel.

After coordination with other emergency teams, the NBC team will:

- Assume responsibility for the operation of the Emergency PDS, if established by the EOD team. This action will be coordinated with the EOD, CP supervisor. The Emergency PDS will normally be expanded into a Personnel Decontamination Station as shown in Figure 6.
- Move into the area to identify the hazard and locate areas of contamination.
- Mark all areas of contamination conspicuously.
- Assist in the decontamination of personnel and equipment found in the contaminated area.
- Within its capability, decontaminate the area or advise and assist as directed by the CAICO.

When dealing with civilian personnel, team members should not alarm or frighten them unnecessarily. Assistance of the civil authorities should be used, especially for controlling civilian personnel in the area.

Relationship with news media personnel is prescribed in AR 360-5. No news releases will be made except through CAICO.

Section II — DECONTAMINATION TEAM

Major commanders with area chemical accident/incident control responsibilities may desire to organize and train decontamination teams in lieu of assigning the NBC teams an area decontamination responsibility.

The mission of the decontamination team is to:

- Decontaminate personnel, equipment, structures, and land surfaces.
- Recheck areas for completeness of decontamination. The assistance of a technical advisor from the Chemical Systems Laboratory at Aberdeen P. G., MD, may be required.
- Perform other duties as assigned by the CAICO.

The decontamination team should consist of a minimum of one officer and six enlisted personnel. Personnel should have the same qualifications as those of the NBC team. At least two of the enlisted personnel should be qualified drivers and decontamination equipment operators. All personnel should be cross-trained to perform any task assigned in the team. The decontamination team leader will coordinate the actions of the team with other emergency teams at the accident site and furnish advice on decontamination procedures and additional support requirements. The NBC team leader will assume this function when the team has the area decontamination responsibility.

Mission

Organization



The personnel of the decontamination team are assigned duties as follows:

- **Team Leader.** The Team Leader (TL) is responsible for accomplishing the decontamination mission and will be located in a position most advantageous for controlling the team. The TL will also designate the protective clothing to be worn by each team member.

- **Assistant Team Leader.** The senior enlisted person is assigned duties as the Assistant Team Leader (ATL) and must be capable of assuming the responsibilities of the team leader. The ATL should be able to make a reconnaissance of the contaminated area to evaluate the situation; devise a plan for the decontamination of personnel, equipment, structures, and land surfaces; supervise the operation and maintenance of decontaminating equipment; and assist in the recheck of the area. The ATL will also be able to assume the duties of the drivers and equipment operators, and be able to operate the sprayers.

- **Personnel Decontamination Station Operators.** Duties of the PDS operators are as cited under Section I – NBC Teams.

- **Driver/Equipment Operator.** At least two people will be assigned as the decontaminating equipment operator and vehicle driver. They will operate decontaminating equipment and insure that the proper mixing procedures are followed.

- **Sprayers.** At least two people will be assigned as sprayers when a power-driven decontaminating apparatus is used. In addition, they will assist in the recheck of the area and be used in other capacities as directed.

Training

The individual members of the decontamination team will be trained the same as are those of the NBC team. Team training will also follow that of the NBC team and the suggested training program (Table 1) is applicable.

Utilization

Response times for the decontamination teams are designated by the commander having area CAIC responsibility.

Upon arrival at the accident site, the team leader will report to the CAICO. Coordination should then be made with other emergency teams.

After coordination with other emergency teams, the decontamination team will:

- Assume control of the PDS.
- With the NBC team leader, make a reconnaissance of the contaminated area and devise a plan for decontamination.
- Advise the CAICO of procedures recommended and additional support requirements.
- Conduct decontamination operations as necessary to eliminate hazards.
- After decontamination, conduct a recheck of formerly contaminated equipment and surfaces and decontaminate as required.

Release of information is prescribed in AR 360-5. No news releases will be made except through the CAICO.

Section III — EQUIPMENT

The equipment listed in Table 2 represents essential items for the accomplishment of the assigned missions of the NBC team and the decontamination team. For extended or massive operations, both teams will require additional support which will be requested from the nearest military installation by the CAICO. The equipment list should be kept as small as possible, consistent with accomplishment of team missions.

Both the NBC team and the decontamination team should be provided transportation to maintain a high degree of mobility. The most expeditious mode of transportation will be used to move the teams to the accident site.

Based on team strengths cited in this manual:

- NBC teams with alpha monitoring responsibility may have items of equipment listed in FM 3-15. Only those items not duplicated should be procured.
- The AN/PRC-77 radio/transmitter set is safe to use in the vicinity Of explosives. Commercial hand held radios may also be used.
- The M12A1 decontaminating apparatus requires vehicular support for mobile operations.
- TAP outfit as listed in TM 10-277. Individual and unit clothing and equipment cited are for technical mission use.
- Standard A, AMCTC item No. 8097.
- Personal clothing and sundry requirements should support team members for 72 hours.
- Toll tickets and Bell system and POL credit cards are recommended where feasible.
- Do not store or use DS2 with either STB or HTH as a spontaneous fire could result.

Suggested Equipment for NBC Team and Decontamination Team

EQUIPMENT	ITEM	QUANTITY	
		NBC TEAM	DECON TEAM
A. Detection and Identification on Equipment	1. Kit, chemical agent detector, ABC-M18A2	2	1/team
	2. Kit, sampling, CBR agent, M34	2	1/team
	3. Paper, detector, ABC-M8	4	2/team
B. Communications Equipment	4. Radio/transmitter, AN/PRC-77	3	2/team
	5. M8 chemical agent automatic alarm w/M229 refill kit	2	0/team
C. Decontaminating Equipment	6. Power-driven decontaminating apparatus		1/team
	7. Personnel decontamination station	1	1/team
	8. Decontaminating apparatus, portable, ABC-M11	4	4/team
D. Protective Equipment	9. Clothing, outfit, cml, protective liner (line 40710)	1/mbr	1/mbr
	10. Ensemble, toxicological agents protective (TAP)	1/mbr	1/mbr
	11. Apron, TAP (line A87412)	1/mbr	1/mbr
	12. Coveralls, cloth, pr explosive handlers or field clothing	2/mbr	2/mbr
	13. Gloves, autopsy, pr	2/mbr	2/mbr
	14. Canvas/leather gloves	2/mbr	2/mbr
	15. Mask, protective, field, ABC-M17 series (or equivalent)	1/mbr	1/mbr
	16. Mask, protective, special purpose, M9A1	1/TAP Outfit	1/TAP Outfit
	17. Hood, field protective mask, M6A2	1/mbr	1/mbr
	18. Hood TAP or M3	1/TAP Outfit	1/TAP Outfit
E. Individual Equipment	19. Atropine automatic injector or nerve agent antidote	3/mbr	3/mbr
	20. Individual decontaminating and reimpregnating kit, M13	1/mbr	1/mbr
	21. First aid packet, individual	1/mbr	1/mbr
	22. Lensatic compass	2/team	1/team
	23. Canteen w/cup	1/mbr	1/mbr
	24. Pistol belt	1/mbr	1/mbr
	25. Poncho	1/mbr	1/mbr
	26. Flashlight w/batteries	1/mbr	1/mbr
	27. Entrenching tool	1/team	1/team
	28. Individual skin decontamination kit, M258	1/mbr	1/mbr
F. Marking Equipment	29. Tape, textile, white, herringbone weave (engineer), 3/4-inch wide, ft	5,000	
	30. Chemical and biological hazard marking signs w/stakes	As rqr	
G. Decontaminants	31. Supertropical bleach	50 lb	As rqr for PDDA on hand
	32. Antiset		As rqr for PDDA on hand
	33. DS2	5 gal	20 gal
	34. Sodium Carbonate	50 lb	As rqr for PDDA on hand
	35. Calcium Hypochlorite (HTH)	50 lb	As rqr for PDDA on hand
H. Administrative and Maintenance Equipment and Supplies	36. Notebook; road maps of area of responsibility	As rqr	As rqr
	37. Paper; pencils; acetate; grease pencils; tape, masking, 1-2-3 in. rolls; plastic bags, large, medium, small; foot lockers; spare batteries for radios and flashlights; rakes; shovels; brooms	As rqr	As rqr