



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
COMMAND ELEMENT
II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
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3302

G-3

FEB 06 2017

POLICY LETTER 1-17

From: Commanding General
To: Distribution List

Subj: II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE (II MEF) OFF-INSTALLATION SECURITY
POLICY

- Ref:
- (a) MEFO 3302, II MEF Mission Assurance Order
 - (b) MCO 5530.14A, Marine Corps Physical Security Manual
 - (c) MARADMIN 599-15, Policy, Authorities, and Procedures Relative to Augmenting Security and Arming Personnel in the Performance of Security Duties
 - (d) DODI 5200.08, Security of DoD Installations and Resources and the DoD Physical Security Review Board
 - (e) DODD 5210.56, Carrying of Firearms and the Use of Force by DoD Personnel Engaged in Security, Law and Order, or Counterintelligence Activities
 - (f) MCO 5500.6H, Arming of Law Enforcement and Security Personnel and the Use of Force
 - (g) MCO 3574.2L, Marine Corps Combat Marksmanship Programs
 - (h) Title 18 United States Code, Section 1385, Posse Comitatus Act
 - (i) Title 10 United States Code, Section 375, Posse Comitatus Act
 - (j) DOD 4500.9-R, "Defense Transportation Regulations," Part 1, May 2016
 - (k) DOD 4500.9-R, "Defense Transportation Regulations," Part III, June 2016
 - (l) MARADMIN 323-16, Weapons conditions for Personnel Performing Law Enforcement and Security Duties
 - (m) MCO 3058.1, Marine Corps Mission Assurance

1. Situation. Since 2000, there have been over 160 incidents of domestic terrorism in the United States. There was an average of 11.4 incidents annually between 2000 and 2015. "Lone Wolves" or small leaderless groups have carried out the majority of these incidents. Incidents have included terrorist attacks, extremist plots, and active shooter incidents. As a result, II MEF conducted an in-depth review of current off-installation security measures being employed to determine what measures can be implemented to better protect our personnel and property. All Marine Corps personnel must continue to exercise enhanced vigilance and situational awareness.

2. Mission. II MEF units will conduct planning and management of off-installation force protection measures encompassing the appropriate use and employment of Marines trained and assigned as a security force prior to executing off-installation activities in order to maintain mission integrity and force protection.

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3. Execution

a. Commander's Intent

(1) Purpose. Implement guidance to reduce risk to our personnel and safeguard property during off-installation activities.

(2) Method. In accordance with references (a) through (m), all II MEF units will conduct planning and management of off-installation force protection measures encompassing the appropriate use and employment of Marines trained and assigned in the performance of official duties, for security purposes prior to conducting official off-installation activities.

(3) Endstate. Reduce the possibility of a successful attack. Every Marine is a rifleman and our first line of defense.

b. Concept of Operations. Commanders exercising special and general court-martial convening authorities are authorized to arm personnel for security purposes according to the provisions and requirements in references (c) through (f). Any off-installation employment of armed Marines performing security duties must be coordinated with local law enforcement. Training requirements for Marines routinely assigned to perform security duties include firearms familiarization, firearms qualification, and use of force training every 12 months. The following list includes but is not limited to off-installation events that may require armed security personnel (Guardian Angels): convoys, military training, static displays, ceremonies, and parades. These events fall within the purview of the responsible commander's authorities to protect the force. Commanders will utilize risk management, reference (m), to determine the appropriate posture for these events. These events are within the scope and intent of normal operations. Any off base arming will be strictly for the security and force protection of II MEF personnel and equipment. Per reference (c), arming of security personnel outside of normal operations based on specific threat reporting or assessment of an elevated threat requires OPREP-3 reporting to HQMC Operations Center.

c. Tasks

(1) Units will coordinate with G-2/S-2 and/or ATO for current threat/hazard information.

(2) Units will obtain contact information for law enforcement along planned routes.

(3) Transporting firearms aboard aircraft will be in compliance with Defense Transportation Regulation.

(4) Security personnel will only carry weapons off-base while engaged in official duties.

(5) Units will develop policy for the arming of security personnel.

(6) All persons designated to carry firearms for security duties will be screened by the command.

(7) Units will enforce strict security, accountability, storage, and transportation requirements for weapons and ammunition.

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(8) Unit policy will specify weapons condition for personnel performing security duties.

(9) Security personnel will be trained in the use of deadly force prior to being armed.

(10) Security personnel will be trained and familiar with the continuum of force.

(11) Security personnel will use the minimum force necessary to counter the threat.

(12) Security personnel will give the threatening force the opportunity to cease the threatening action if circumstances permit.

Coordinating Instructions

(1) Commanders authorized to arm personnel for security purposes will take into account the following:

(a) A current assessment of the probability of the threat at a particular location.

(b) The timeliness and adequacy of protection already provided by federal, state, and local law enforcement.

(c) The timeliness and adequacy of armed responses by federal, state, and local law enforcement/security.

(d) The adequacy of existing security measures to detect, delay, deter, and deny criminal and terrorist threats from conducting attacks on personnel and property.

(2) Per reference (f), deadly force is to be used only when all lesser means have failed or cannot reasonably be employed. Deadly force is authorized under the following circumstances:

(a) Inherent Right of Self-Defense. Deadly force is authorized when DoD unit commanders reasonably believe that a person poses an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm to DoD forces. Unit self-defense includes the defense of other DoD forces in the vicinity. Unless otherwise directed by a unit commander, service members can exercise individual self-defense in response to a hostile act or demonstrated hostile intent. When individuals are assigned and acting as part of a unit, individual self-defense should be considered a subset of unit self-defense. As such, unit commanders may limit individual self-defense by members of their unit.

(b) Defense of Others. Deadly force is authorized when in defense of non-DoD persons in the vicinity when directly related to the assigned activity or mission.

(c) Assets Vital to National Security. Deadly force is authorized when deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the actual theft or sabotage of assets vital to national security. For the purposes of DoD operations, defined as President-designated non-DoD and/or DoD property, that actual theft or sabotage of which the President determines would seriously jeopardize the fulfillment of a national defense mission and

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would create an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm. Examples may include, but are not limited to, nuclear weapons; nuclear command and control facilities; and designated restricted areas containing strategic operational assets, sensitive codes or special access programs.

(d) Inherently Dangerous Property. Deadly force is authorized when deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the actual theft or sabotage of inherently dangerous property. Inherently dangerous property is defined as property that if, in the hands of an unauthorized individual, it would create an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm. Examples may include, but are not limited to: portable missiles, rockets, arms, ammunition, explosives, chemical agents and special nuclear materials. On-scene DoD commanders are authorized to classify property as inherently dangerous.

(e) National Critical Infrastructure. Deadly force is authorized when that force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the sabotage of national critical infrastructure. National critical infrastructure is President-designated public utilities, or similar critical infrastructure, vital to public health or safety, the damage to which the President determines would create an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm. If and when tasked, national critical infrastructure assets will be clearly identified prior to the assumption of protection responsibilities. Upon being tasked with protecting national critical infrastructure, commanders will issue necessary instruction for the protection and security of personnel and infrastructure under their charge.

(3) Additionally, when directly related to the assigned mission, deadly force is authorized under the following circumstances:

(a) Serious Offenses Against Persons. Deadly force is authorized when deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the commission of a serious offense that involves imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm (for example, setting fire to an inhabited dwelling or sniping), including the defense of other persons, where deadly force is directly against the person threatening to commit the offense. Examples include murder, armed robbery, and aggravated assault.

(b) Escape. Deadly force is authorized when deadly force reasonably appears to be necessary to prevent the escape of a prisoner, provided there is probable cause to believe that such person(s) have committed or attempted to commit a serious offense, that is, one that involves imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm, and would pose an imminent threat of death or serious bodily harm to DoD forces or others in the vicinity.

(c) Arrest or Apprehension. Deadly force is authorized when deadly force reasonably appears necessary to arrest or apprehend a person who, there is probable cause to believe, has committed a serious offense (as indicated in subparagraph 3d(2) above.

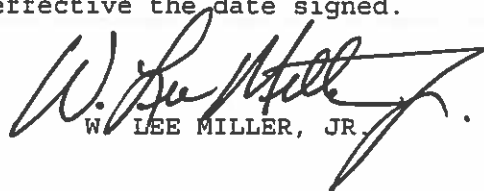
(4) Pursuant to the Posse Comitatus Act (PCA) (references (h) and (i)), service members will not engage in civilian law enforcement. The PCA generally prohibits U.S. military personnel from direct participation in law enforcement activities.

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4. Command and Signal

a. Command. The Policy Letter is applicable to all II MEF commands.

b. Signal. This policy is effective the date signed.



W. LEE MILLER, JR.

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