



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR COMBAT COMMAND
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, VIRGINIA

9 April 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR HQ USAF/SGO
ALMAJCOM/SG
EMEDS OIC AAR CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

FROM: HQ ACC/SG

SUBJECT: ACC EMEDS OIF AAR Conference Report

1. The following report pertains to the ACC EMEDS Operation IRAQI FREEDOM After-Action Report Conference held 9-13 February 2004 at Langley AFB. Air Combat Command hosted the conference with the intent of addressing the EMEDS portion of the more than 1,200 after-action items which were documented during Operation ENDURING FREEDOM and Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. Deployed EMEDS Commanders and their support staff were invited in an effort to solve issues ranging from initial deployment to redeployment of Unit Type Codes (UTCs). The main topics of discussion were C2, IM/IT, personnel/education and training, logistics, deployment issues and modernization. A synopsis of the outcomes of this conference is provided in this document. Please refer to Atch 1 for a full listing of conference issues.

a. C2: Several command and control issues were identified which are currently under review for potential implementation by ACC. The issues ranged from EMEDS Commander qualifications, EMEDS command organizational structures, and separating pax/equipment UTCs for better in-transit visibility. All current initiatives (i.e., adding a Superintendent to the FFEP2, creation of a dental UTC) were validated by the conference attendees and will be sent out to the MAJCOM Surgeons for their coordination.

b. IM/IT: The conference identified numerous action items which ACC/SGSI will staff through the medical and line-of-the-Air Force community to provide a resolution. The list--although extensive--can be categorized into equipment, clinical and administrative application development/support; system administrator and end-user training; local area network and wide area network connectivity; records management and telephone/radio management. A deliberate effort was also undertaken to identify bare base-unique issues versus a sustained base where the IM/IT infrastructure is in place and operational.

c. Personnel/Education and Training: A myriad of personnel and training issues were brought to light during the conference, ranging from UTC personnel make-up to the EMEDS Formal Training Course. We addressed observations made in the OEF/OIF After-Action Reports and validated suggested solutions and/or recommendations to those issues (i.e., UTC personnel substitution rules need to be reviewed, new PAM team adjustments, the substitution of untrained individuals prior to deployment by units and C-STARS course potentially being unnecessary for surgeons.)

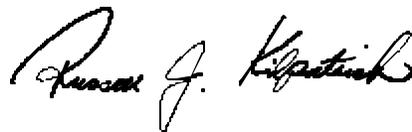
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d. Logistics: Focused on pre-deployment, initial deployment, containment and capabilities. Pre-deployment issues revolved around poor inventory management of UTCs with outdated/missing material and dysfunctional medical/ground equipment. Initial deployment centered on man-portable UTCs, as well as the unique challenges associated with bare-base operations in a joint environment. Containment operations addressed the struggle to bring on line the Single Integrated Medical Logistics Manager (SIMLM) and the effect of Air Force “reach back.”

e. Deployment Issues: Many of the deployment issues were standard deployment checklist discrepancies (i.e., inadequate PPE, government credit card issues, etc.), as well as problems created by discrepancies between reporting instructions and line remarks. Medical/dental clearance procedures for contractors, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard personnel are another major issue requiring attention. Deploying EMEDS/CCs require more in-depth situational awareness-type training. Attendees also noted a paucity of information on redeployment. Lastly, there was much heated discussion regarding need for more frequent and realistic weapons training for medics.

f. Modernization: Many short-term and some long-term “modernization” issues were discussed throughout the conference in the various breakout groups. The modernization capability challenges identified were grouped into six areas: Information Management/ Information Technology (IM/IT), Laboratory Services, Public Health and Bioenvironmental Engineering, Infection Control, Training, and Miscellaneous. IM/IT and Laboratory Services identified the need to bring more capability without sacrificing reliability and ease of use. Please refer to Atch 2 for a complete listing of modernization capabilities that were discussed.

2. The HQ/ACC EMEDS OIF AAR Conference was very productive, addressing many of the concerns of OEF and OIF. The issues discussed during the conference will significantly enhance EMEDS capabilities in the future. There is still much work to be done and ACC will continue to lead the way by improving Air Force ground medical capabilities at every opportunity. The complete database of issues covered at the conference will be posted on the ACC/SGX Website at <https://www.sg.langley.af.mil> and updated monthly. If you have any questions pertaining to this report, please contact Mr. Vern Heyward, ACC/SGXO, at DSN 575-0726, or e-mail: acc.sgx@langley.af.mil.



RUSSELL J. KILPATRICK
Brigadier General, USAF, MC, CFS
Command Surgeon

2 Attachments:

1. Conference AAR Issues
2. Modernization Initiatives