

NATO STANDARD

AMedP-1.2

MINIMUM ESSENTIAL MEDICAL AND SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT FOR LIFE RAFTS INCLUDING GUIDELINES FOR SURVIVAL AT SEA

Edition A, Version 3

JANUARY 2022



NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

ALLIED MEDICAL PUBLICATION

Published by the
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NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION (NATO)

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NATO LETTER OF PROMULGATION

12 January 2022

1. The enclosed Allied Medical Publication AMedP-1.2, Edition A, Version 3, MINIMUM ESSENTIAL MEDICAL AND SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT FOR LIFE RAFTS INCLUDING GUIDELINES FOR SURVIVAL AT SEA, which has been approved by the nations in the Medical Committee Medical Standardization Board, is promulgated herewith. The agreement of nations to use this publication is recorded in STANAG 1185.
2. AMedP-1.2, Edition A, Version 3, is effective upon receipt and supersedes AMedP-1.2, Edition A, Version 2, which shall be destroyed in accordance with the local procedure for the destruction of documents.
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4. This publication shall be handled in accordance with C-M(2002)60.



Dimitrios SIGOULAKIS
Major General, GRC (A)
Director, NATO Standardization Office

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RECORD OF SPECIFIC RESERVATIONS

[nation]	[detail of reservation]
DEU	<p>Attorney Naval office</p> <p>Equipment of the life-buoys with medicaments is in accordance with national publications respecting prescription and giving.</p> <p>Attorney central medical service</p> <p>Previous STANAG 1185 was, due to STAMIS-Database, considered as nationally not obligatory. Independent of an eventually future binding character, there should be a closer look on the list of enclosure B regarding stored medicaments (the enlisted medicaments of ATC Code N 02B can also contain opiates):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If the list of enclosure B, when applied by DEU, is closer to be specified - If obtainable medicaments on prescription (up to opiates) may be contained - And if so, special national conditions(law, ordinance) must be considered in respect to storage, use and giving - As conclusion a national reservation should be considered.
FRA	<p>France will not apply all the requirements listed in Annex B to AMedP-1.2(A).</p> <p>Indeed, while the list of drugs and medical items available on the national Navy's life rafts is generally in line with Annex B recommendations (Minimum list of essential medical equipment), as far as drugs are concerned, some active principles and quantities could differ.</p>
GBR	<p>Notwithstanding Annex A: item 12. The UK do not issue fishing kits as essential items within survival and rescue equipment for life rafts at sea. NCHQ will implement 6 months after promulgation.</p>
NLD	<p>The Netherlands will not implement Annexes A, C, D, E and F due to minor differences in the drills.</p>
TUR	<p>Life rafts supply maintenance is done according to SOLAS 1974 rules and STANAG 1185 Amendment A. But because of wide variety of equipment small changes can be seen in STANAG 1185 Amendment A,C,D,E and F.</p>
USA	<p>These reservations have been forwarded to the NATO Medical Naval Panel Chairman, Secretary and USA Head of Delegation. Recommendations for correction of misspelled words have not been included as the Secretary accepted the corrections and informs that he will make the corrections to the text. The following reservations are those which need to be specified with the USA recommendation for Ratification with Reservations.</p>

	<p>a. Reference Annex A. 9, the USA recommends that users should include extra batteries as part of the Recommended Essential Items list.</p> <p>b. Reference Annex B., the USA recommends the following additions to the Minimum List of Essential Medical Equipment for First-Aid Outfit:</p> <p>11; Anti-Chap Lipstick/Balm; 4ea</p> <p>12; Petroleum Gauze</p> <p>13; Sunscreen SPF 40 or greater; 2 bottles, 6oz ea</p> <p>14;Surgical sponge gauze 4x4; 6ea; individually wrapped</p> <p>15; Bandage scissors</p> <p>16; Exam gloves; 3 Pair</p> <p>17; Eye, first aid kit (Ziploc polyethylene bag 3 5/8 inch w x 5 3/4 inch long, cotton eye dressing pad 2 inch diameter (4 ea), Surgical Porous adhesive tape, non-woven, 1inch wide x 8 inch long (e ea), Eye irrigation solution (saline); 1ea</p> <p>18; Poy-iodine solution</p>
<p>Note: The reservations listed on this page include only those that were recorded at time of promulgation and may not be complete. Refer to the NATO Standardization Document Database for the complete list of existing reservations.</p>	

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CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
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1.1 MINIMUM ESSENTIAL MEDICAL AND SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT FOR SHIP LIFE RAFTS INCLUDING GUIDELINES FOR SURVIVAL AT SEA

1. The aim of this document is to standardize on a minimum list of essential items as components of the first-aid medical equipment for ship life rafts of the navies of NATO nations and to recommend a list of additional items for survival and rescue. This document also contains recommended guidelines to be followed for survival.

2. Participating nations are strongly encouraged to utilize the guidelines and recommendations included herein in providing survival equipment for life rafts. The guidelines should be available in ships and ship life rafts.

1.2 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATED TERMS

1. Life raft - for purposes of this publication by this name we generally mean all vessels designed for saving shipwreck survivors:

- life boat (LB)
- life raft (LR)
- combined life and rescue boat (LB/RB)
- rescue boat (RB), including fast rescue boat

2. IMO - International Maritime Organization

3. LSA Code - IMO international Life-Saving Appliance Code [IMO Res. MSC. 48(66)]

4. SOLAS - International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended by IMO Res. MSC.47(66).

5. ATC - Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical Classification System

1.3 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. Many analyses of naval disasters have revealed that despite many technological developments in survival aids there are very limited chances of survival in extreme conditions, in the absence of adequate preparedness. Thus proper knowledge and careful pre-planning are mandatory for safety of everybody onboard. All people onboard ship should be instructed on how to behave in case of emergency abandoning the ship.

2. The biggest stress should be laid on protection from the hazards of the environment. As experience has shown, cold is the most life threatening hazard to the shipwreck survivor.
3. Water supply has a higher priority than nutrition, as there are studies showing that man can survive without food for a few weeks and only a very few days without water.

**ANNEX A RECOMMENDED ESSENTIAL ITEMS FOR SURVIVAL
AND RESCUE**

	Item	Type of a life raft
1	Bailer	LR, LB, RB
2	Bilge pump (manual)	LB, LB/RB
3	Boat hook	LB, RB
4	Bucket	LB, RB
5	Compass	LB, RB
6	Container, liferaft equipment	LR
7	Dipper	LB
8	Drinking vessel (cup)	LR, LB
9	Electric torch	LR, LB, RB
10	Fire-extinguishing equipment, portable (fire extinguishers)	LB, RB
11	First aid outfit	LR, LB, RB
12	Fishing kit (set of fishing tackle) [including minimum: container, fishing instructions, hooks, lures, weights, fishing line, line holder(winder)]	LR, LB
13	Flare, hand red	LR, LB
14	Flare rocket parachute	LR, LB
15	Handholds/lifelines	LB, RB
16	Hatchet	LB rigid, RB(optional)
17	Instructions for immediate action	LR
18	Jack-knife	LR(optional), LB, rigid; RB(optional)
19	Knife, buoyant (non-folding safety type)	LR, RB
20	Ladder	Rigid LR, LB

	Item	Type of a life raft
21	Lighting system	LR, LB, RB
22	Mirror, signaling, daylight	LR, LB
23	Oars or paddles	LB, RB
24	Oarlocks or equivalent devices for all lifeboats and rescue boats carrying boats	LB, RB
25	Paddle	LB, RB
26	Painter	LR
27	Pump	LR, RB
28	Radar reflector	LR, LB, RB
29	Rainwater collection equipment for lifeboats	LB
30	Rations, food (not less than 10,000 kJ {2,400 kcal} for each person, recommended composition: Salt (NaCl): Maximum 0.2%, Carbohydrates: 60-70% weight = 50-60% energy, Fat: 18-23% weight = 33-43% energy, Protein: 6-10% weight = 5-8% energy)	LR, LB
31	Repair kit	LR, RB
32	Rescue quoit	LR, LB, RB
33	Scissors	LR
34	Sea anchor	LR, LB, RB
35	Searchlight	LB, RB
36	Seasickness kit (anti-seasickness medicine and seasickness bag) Sufficient for 48h for each person (ATC-A04A)	LR, LB
37	Smoke signal, buoyant	LR, LB, RB
38	Sponge	LR, LB
39	Survival instructions or manual	LR, LB
40	Table of lifesaving signals	LR, LB
41	Thermal protective aid	LR, LB, RB
42	Tin (can) opener	LR, LB
43	Tool kit	LB
44	Tow line	RB
45	Water (1.5 liter of fresh water for each person the life raft is permitted to accommodate, of which either 0.5 / per person may be replaced by a de-salting apparatus capable of producing an equal amount of fresh water in 2 days or 1 / per person may be replaced by a manually powered reverse osmosis desalinator, capable of producing an equal amount of fresh water in 2 days)	LR, LB
46	Whistle (or equivalent sound signal)	LR, LB, RB

**ANNEX B MINIMUM LIST OF ESSENTIAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR
FIRST-AID OUTFIT**

	Item	Remarks	ATC
1	Waterproof container	possible reclosure	
2	First-aid instructions	in national language and in one of the official languages of IMO	
3	Analgesic medication	48 doses minimum	N02B, M01A
4	Antiseptic preparations	10 applications minimum	D08A
5	Burn preparations	12 applications minimum	V20
6	Adhesive plasters	20 minimum in assorted sizes	V20
7	Sterile compression bandage	10 minimum in assorted sizes	V20
8	Elastic bandages	4m minimum	V20
9	Sterile gauze compresses	2 minimum	V20
10	Triangular bandages	2 minimum	V20
11	CAT tourniquets	2 minimum	V20
12	Combat gauze	4 minimum	V20

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ANNEX C INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING TO ABANDON THE SHIP

1. Don as much clothes as possible (including gloves and head protection) preferably with waterproof outer layer.
2. Don life-preserver and ensure that it is correctly adjusted and inflated according to instructions.
3. Launch life-rafts and pull static line.
4. If possible board life-raft dry.
5. If obliged to jump, do so ahead of the life-raft in order to drift back on it.
When jumping keep elbows to side, pinch nose with hand and keep the other firmly over lower portion of life-preserver so that hand holds opposite elbow.
6. Any movement will increase body heat loss, so avoid swimming except to life-raft or other refuge.
7. In the water huddle in as large group as possible, forming a ring facing inwards - keeping look out.
8. If time and circumstances permits, load raft with location aids and supplies, especially blankets.

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ANNEX D INSTRUCTIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION IN A LIFERAFT

Do the following Actions as soon as possible:

1. Assist other survivors into raft.
2. Cut painter and get clear of ship.
3. Look for and pick up other survivors.
4. Secure to other rafts in vicinity. Rafts may be manoeuvred by drogue.
5. Ensure sea anchor streamed when clear of ship
6. Close raft apertures if ambient temperature is low or sea state high
7. Read survival instructions.

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<p>ANNEX E INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO SURVIVE IN A LIFERAFT</p>
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1. Identify person in charge of life raft.
2. Post a lookout. Lookouts should safeguard against frostbite or sunburn by covering all exposed skin.
3. Open equipment pack. Ensure all survival gear is securely stowed to prevent loss during possible capsizing.
4. Issue anti-seasickness medicine and seasickness bags.
5. Dry life raft floor and inflate, if appropriate.
6. Protect against heat, cold and wet conditions.
 - In hot climates deflate floor during day and inflate at night. Keep clothing damp during the day. Wetting the outside of canopy reduces inside temperature.
 - To prevent "immersion foot" keep feet as dry as possible, elevate and move toes and feet at regular intervals. Ring out wet clothing and if possible replace with woolen clothing to skin. Take off vapour barrier garments and use to increase floor and overall covering of survivors. Take off shoes and keep feet warm by tucking them into each others clothes
7. Administer first aid if appropriate.
 - Maintain a clear airway in the unconscious.
 - Treat all wounds. Clean all wounds, cover and keep them as dry as possible.
 - Give painkillers when necessary.
8. Manoeuvre towards other life rafts, secure life rafts together and distribute survivors and equipment between survival craft.
9. Arrange watches and duties.
10. Check life raft for correct operation and any damage and repair as appropriate (ventilate if CO₂ leaking into life raft).
11. Check functioning of canopy light and if possible conserve power during daylight.

12. Adjust canopy openings to give protection from weather or to ventilate the life raft as appropriate.
13. Prepare and use detection equipment including radio equipment.
 - Activate electronic devices, radar reflectors and light at night
 - Conserve flares and rockets until there is a reasonable chance of them being seen.
 - Nominate one individual to use them.
 - On sighting ship or aircraft do not release all flares at once.
14. Collect all flotsam; The most unlikely objects are useful in survival situations. Clothes etc. should be removed from dead bodies for use.
15. Decide on food and water rations.
 - Only injured and sick persons have water within the first 24 hours.
 - Remove salt crystals on rain catchment area before collecting rain water.
 - Conserve body water by reducing unnecessary body movement. Prevent sweating by wetting clothes in day time and sheltering from sun.
 - Ration water stringently. Half a litre per person per day, given in numerous divided doses, with main portion in evenings. Rinse mouth before swallowing.
 - Never drink sea water or urine.
 - Do not eat anything other than sweets and survival rations, unless plenty of fresh water is available.
16. Take measures to maintain morale.
17. Make sanitary arrangements to keep life raft habitable.
18. Maintain life raft including topping up of buoyancy tubes and canopy supports.
19. Prepare action for
 - Arrival of rescue units
 - Being taken in tow
 - Rescue by helicopter; and
 - landing and beaching

The order in which the above instructions are followed will depend on the particular circumstances of the situation at the time.

ANNEX F RELATED DOCUMENTS AND STANDARDS
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The following documents should be considered whenever considering implementation of AMedP-1.2 in the multinational NATO environment:

1. International Maritime Organisation Resolution A.657(16)
2. ISO 18813:2006 Ships and marine technology – Survival equipment for survival craft and rescue boats.

AMedP-1.2(A)(3)