

READY OR NOT

Travis prepares for major inspection in October



During a past Travis exercise, personnel were put through the test in self aid, buddy care.

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Maj. Steve Lipscomb, wing lead for IR inspection preparation.

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60th AMW Public Affairs

An Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection Initial Response exercise will be conducted here Oct. 15 to 23 to evaluate the efficiency, effectiveness and combat readiness of Travis units with a wartime or contingency mission. During a simulated, basewide deployment to a forward operating location, an Air Mobility Command Inspector General team will assess units according to established criteria and guidelines.

"The IR phase is the transition from peacetime to wartime operations and is simply the 'get out of town' phase of the old ORI," said Maj. Steve Lipscomb, wing lead for IR inspection preparation. "The 349th Air Mobility Wing, 615th Air Mobility Operations Group and 60th AMW are working together to prove to the inspectors that Travis exceeds the standard!"

The exercise will simulate a realistic scenario from the wing receiving notification through message traffic, through deployment processing and up to, but not including, engine startup. IR is one of four major graded areas of an EORI. The other three graded areas are employment, mission support and ability to survive and operate.

"The IR inspection will validate that upon notification, Travis can deploy the right units anywhere in the world within pre-established time constraints while maintaining in-transit visibility. An effort of this magnitude requires the expertise and teamwork of nearly every organization on base," Lipscomb said.

Inspectors apply Common Core Readiness Criteria to evaluate each major area and subarea. The CCRC incorporate five basic readiness standards: threat, safety, security, communications and information and training. These criteria are used to grade the major areas and overall wing performance on a five-tier rating system ranging from outstanding, excellent, satisfactory, marginal and unsatisfactory.

The IR exercise will involve about 1,175 Travis people, representing a broad range of functional areas such as medical personnel, aircrews, communications specialists and maintainers. About 800 short tons of cargo, which equals 1.6 million pounds, will be prepared and 100 percent of aircraft on the Travis ramp must be ready to deploy for the exercise.

In preparation for the IR exercise,

Travis is conducting a cargo-buildup exercise called "Cargo Rodeo" from July 8 to Aug. 2. All Travis groups, the 615th AMOG, wing staff agencies and all other units will assemble and organize various, unit-specific pallets during scheduled intervals to practice cargo preparation. The base is also conducting dry run exercises Aug. 15 to 18 and Sept. 19 to 22.

"Individuals will get directions from their supervisors on preparation requirements. Maintaining a great attitude and sense of urgency will go far in helping Team Travis do well on the inspection," Lipscomb said.

The 60th AMW Plans office is presenting deployment briefings to 60th AMW squadron leaders and providing deployment assistance visits at the squadron level to refresh Unit Deployment Managers about the process.

"The most critical personnel of this exercise are the UDMs. They facilitate everything about the deployment. The UDMs are the folks who ensure their unit is ready to deploy at any particular time," said Capt. Jeff Bond, installation deployment officer.

Base officials stress that all deployable personnel need to complete all pre-deployment actions and items on AF Form 4005, "Individual Deployment Requirements." Inspectors will randomly check individual deployment requirements during the exercise.

The Travis AFB Installation Deployment Plan, which provides guidance for deployment planning and execution of Travis units, will be implemented during the IR exercise. The IDP establishes procedures to ensure 60th AMW forces are able to deploy personnel and equipment in support of taskings by National Command Authorities. The plan contains general information, identifies deployment organizations and outlines concepts and policies. Specific responsibilities of commanders and staff functions supporting deployment operations are identified as well.

Go to the 60th AMW Plans homepage at: <http://w3.travis.af.mil/xp/wingplans/XPI/xpi.htm> for more information. The Web site contains IR inspection reports for other wings, AMC Pamphlet 90-202 (Inspection Guide), Air Force Instruction 90-201 (Inspector General Activities) and a draft of the IDP.

The last Operational Readiness Inspection at Travis was conducted in 1995. Travis received an outstanding rating.



(Above) Cargo preparation will be a big part of the Cargo Rodeo later this month. (Top right) All facets of Travis' readiness will be tested during the exercise in October.



Upcoming exercises

July= Cargo Rodeo

Cargo assembly and joint inspection process training:
LG July 8-12;
OG/AMOG=July 15-19;
SPTG/MDG July 22-26; Wing Staff=July 29-31

August= preliminary exercise heading towards EORI IR countdown

Dates: Aug. 15-18

September= dress rehearsal for the ORI (predeployment exercise, formerly known as Phase 1 exercises)

Dates: Sept. 19-22

October= ORI, the real deal inspection

Dates: Oct. 15-20