

PERSONNEL

DYING WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY

1. PURPOSE: The purpose of this regulation is to establish a sound, uniform, military procedure for dying. We of the Air Training Command are proud people, and rightfully so. Sometime ago our Commander sent forth a Morbidity, Vulnerability Survey team to compute data on dying procedures at other Major Air Commands within the Continental United States. This team of experts has recently returned and formally reported on the SLOVENLY, HAPHAZARD MANNER in which personnel of MATS, SAC, ARDC, AMC, AND PARTICULARLY ATC ARE DYING. Some SAC personnel have the audacity to die while on alert status; or maximum effort. Several MATS people were out of uniform while dropping dead. One Major expired without official permission, while attending a staff meeting. Practices such as these cannot be condoned within the Air Training Command. Remember the words; "PRACTICE PREVENTION OR PERMISSIVE POSTERITY."
2. SCOPE: The standards set forth in these procedures are applicable to all personnel assigned, and/or attached to the installation of Reese Air Force Base.
 - a. It is directed that no commissioned or enlisted personnel die without first obtaining official permission from the Officer or NCO In Charge Of Dying at Reese Air Force Base.
 - b. Permission from the Officer or NCO is granted on MED Form 160-9 or 160-9A (eight copies per corpse) which are obsolete but may be used until present stock is exhausted.
 - c. MED Form 160-9 and 160-9A will not be issued to personnel holding a 70 skill level, without prior approval from this Headquarters. Under no circumstances will personnel holding a critical skill AFSC be allowed to die.
3. PROCEDURE: Upon receipt of MED Form 160-9 or 160-9A, the applicant will immediately cancel all outstanding financial obligations so as not to suffer embarrassment upon his beneficiaries, if any, or the USAF. On the morning of the scheduled expiration date, the applicant will get a haircut, shave, don a neat Class "A" uniform (complete with shoes shined), and present himself and all copies of the completed MED Form 160-9 or 160-9A to his immediate Commander. (NOTE: Incomplete or erroneous and/or disapproved MED Form 160-9 or 160-9A will not be accepted. The applicant must present completely correct and approved forms at this time or be forced to reschedule his expiration date.) The applicant and Commander will then come to the position of attention, after which they will recite the Air Force song (singing is optional) in a firm, clear voice. The Commander may then give the order, "Drop Dead!" The applicant will do so in a military manner by the numbers as follows:
 - a. Count of One: The applicant will smartly backstep three (3) paces while turning a greyish color (69). At this time, the eyeballs will be rolled to a position where only the whites are visible; the protruding of the tongue at a 25 degree angle is optional.

b. Count of Two: The applicant will sink slowly to the floor in a military manner, arms dangling, thumbs pointed "in", palms "out". (NOTE: Officers are permitted to have the floor swept prior to the ceremony.) Upon assuming a prone position, the applicant will raise legs to attain a 70 degree angle, and click heels smartly.

c. Count of Three: The applicant will be allowed to utter one low moan (death rattles will not be used except at ceremonial dying). Rigor Mortis will then set in. This completes the ceremony, and the honored applicant is now deceased. The unit morning clerk will now be notified.

NOTE:

1. Immediately upon completion of death struggles, the applicant (hereafter referred to as Angel Third Class, Staff Angel, etc) will proceed post-haste to the Angelic Material Depot, 3rd Angel Replacement Squadron, APO X4, Earth, reporting smartly. Each Angelic Recruit will be issued the following items on Angelic Form 62:

- a. Wings, silvery M-1, one pair
- b. Halo, gold (without braid), one each
- c. Harp, brass, one each
- d. Cloud, cumulous, fleecy, two each (1 summer and 1 winter)
- e. Map, Heaven Angelic type, one each

2. Harps will be polished with a blitz cloth at all times; cloud water for summer and cloud alcohol for anti-freeze in winter, will be issued. CLOUD ALCOHOL WILL NOT BE DRUNK WHILE IN HEAVEN. Maps showing the most direct route to Heaven will be issued. The practice of issuing to NCO's maps marked "Direct to Hell" will cease at once. NCO'S DO NOT GO TO HELL.

3. It is the firm belief of the undersigned that the semi-ceremonial procedures for dying are clearly defined herein. You have just departed from your Heaven on Earth, and we of the Air Training Command bid you a pleasant journey. Good Luck, and remember, you have not conquered Heaven, you have merely liberated it.

FOR THE COMMANDER

CHARLES S. MANGAN, LT COLONEL, USAF
Director of Administrative Services

