

C/NO  
0421

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From: Area Commander, Forward Area.  
To: All Staff in the Forward Area During the Firing Phase.  
Date: 24th April, 1958  
Ref: AWRE/E11/FC

Personnel Safety Plan - Forward Area

A copy of the Personnel Safety Plan is attached for the guidance of A.W.R.E. and Service Officers. This gives the broad outline of the necessary arrangements to ensure the safety of all personnel on Christmas Island.

Particular aspects that concern the Forward Area only are explained in the attached annexes, copies of which are attached for all Forward Area personnel present during the firing phase:-

- Annexe 1 - Timetable of Events
- Annexe 2 - Protection of Personnel in the Forward Area.

  
Forward Area Commander

RG 194 XXXII

Personnel Safety PlanTimetable of Main Events

D = Day of Drop

X = Hour of Take-off

H = Hour of Burst

<u>Item</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
1	D-1	1200	Control of movements in and out of the Forward Area starts.
2	D-1	1230	D-1 day confirmed and final preparations commence.
3	D-1	1400	Final check of nominal rolls by Area Commander and Mustering Officers.
4	D-1	1400	Final check of transport availability by Area Commander and TS Group Leader
5	D-1	1400	Communications in Shelter S1 open up.
6	D-1	2359	Tactical HQ manned.
7	D	X-2	[REDACTED] report to Area Commander all Category C Military clear of Forward Area.
8	D	X-60 mins	M.T check. [REDACTED] reports to Area Commander
9	D	X-55	Communications check with all shelters and with J.O.C.
10	D	X-45	Personnel assemble at their allotted shelters.
11	D	X-40	Roll-calls by Mustering Officers.
12	D	X-35	Mustering Officers interrogated by Area Commander.
13	D	X-25	Roll-call report to HQ Ground Control.
14	D	X-20	Evacuation route notified by HQ Ground Control.
15	D	X+5 mins approx	"All Clear" notified by HQ Ground Control but if PIED PIPER announced see item 24 below.
16	D	X+25	Personnel assemble in allotted shelters which are then sealed. Roll-calls by Mustering Officers.
17	D	X+30	Mustering Officers interrogated by Area Commander.
18	D	X+35	Roll-call report to HQ Ground Control.
19	D	H-40 secs	Control orders "Close Eyes" (Mustering officers ensure safety of personnel).
20	D	H+40 secs approx	Control warns "Standby for blast".
21	D	H + 2 Mins.	Permission given by Control to open shelters and move into the open.

<u>IV</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
22	D	H + 10 approx	Damage Control Officer reports damage to Area Commander.
23	D	H + 20 approx	Damage report to Damage Control Centre, J.O.C.
24	D	PIED PIPER	Category 'B' personnel embus in allotted transport. [REDACTED] and A.W.R.E. drivers check passenger lists. Check transport available for Category 'A' personnel. Await orders to move off on evacuation route

Notes on the above Timetable

Items 1 and 5

To ensure that personnel do not become accidentally stranded in dangerous parts of the Forward Area an overall check on movements in and out starts on D-1. All movements of personnel, MT, and helicopters shall be recorded at C Site Road Barrier under the direction of [REDACTED]. This control will cease at X - 60 minutes and outstanding items notified to the Area Commander.

Communications at Forward Control in S1 will be manned on a rota basis to provide communication to each Landrover and Shelter and deal with emergencies. Other items, such as reporting in to A.W.R.E. Control, will be recorded.

Soon after Tactical Headquarters operates, the Area Commander will make an overall check of the situation and will check all movement reports made as required by the A.W.R.E. D-1/D day Forward Area Movements Schedule.

Items 10 and 16

Mustering Officers are responsible for ensuring that personnel are correctly dressed, shelters safely sealed and personnel are in safe positions.

Item 22

[REDACTED] is Damage Control Officer and will use resources at his own discretion.

Item 24

[REDACTED] has a nominal roll of military personnel who will evacuate in military transport.

A.W.R.E. transport is allocated by a forthcoming schedule; the driver of each vehicle is responsible for checking that he has the correct passengers.

All vehicles will await the Area Commanders order to move off.

Other Notes

1. Before going to his shelter the telephone exchange operator will connect both S1 phones to J.O.C., and Extension 805 to Extension 803.
2. First aid kits are available at most Scientific shelters in the Forward Area and during the trial [REDACTED] will be at C Site from approximately 0500 hours on D-day.
3. The Re-entry Movement Schedule will normally follow the above series of events.

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Personnel Safety Plan

Protection of Personnel in the Forward Area

1. Personnel who will be at C Site during the live trial will be in flash and blast proof shelters during the take-off and during the explosion. For this reason steel helmets, anti-flash suits and other protective clothing will not be required.
2. Personnel will however, be required to wear slacks, long sleeved shirts and hats as protection against sunburn in the event of prolonged exposure during a Pied Piper evacuation.
3. Every shelter will be fitted with an Intercom. All personnel will be kept informed of the progress of the trial and Mustering Officers (see para 8) can call Control in an emergency.
4. Personnel will assemble in their allotted shelters 45 minutes before take-off for a roll-call by the Mustering Officer for each shelter and will remain near it until notified on the Intercom network just after take-off. Steel shelter doors need not be closed during this period. Mustering Officers will report the results of their roll-calls when interrogated by Control 40 minutes before take-off.
5. Personnel will again assemble in the shelters 25 minutes after take-off for another roll call and will remain there until notified by Control after the explosion. Mustering Officers will be responsible for ensuring that steel shelter doors are properly sealed.

In the underground shelter each person will sit facing away from the entrance and on the command "Close Eyes" from Control will close his eyes and cover them with his hands. Sunglasses, spectacles, goggles or similar optical aids must not be worn. The "Close Eyes" order will be given just after the weapon starts to fall. Eyes must remain closed and covered until the order "Open Eyes" is given by Control.

6. Personnel will be warned by Control when the blast wave is due at C Site. The message will be "Standby for blast".
7. Personnel must remain in shelters until the blast wave has passed C Site i.e. until Control announces "You may now leave your shelters".
8. The following Mustering Officers are nominated and each will receive his nominal roll in due course. In some cases different nominal rolls will be required for the 1st and 2nd roll calls:-

Shelter S1	-	
Shelter S2	-	
Shelter S3	-	
Shelter S8	-	
Shelter S12	-	
Underground Shelter	-	

9. The above procedure will be rehearsed during the Operational Rehearsal.