



Headquarters  
Department of the Army  
Washington, DC  
17 July 2023

**\*Army Regulation 75–1**

**Effective 17 August 2023**

## **Explosives**

# **Malfunctions Involving Ammunition and Explosives Policy**

---

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

**JAMES C. MCCONVILLE**  
*General, United States Army*  
*Chief of Staff*

Official:

**MARK F. AVERILL**  
*Administrative Assistant to the*  
*Secretary of the Army*

---

**History.** This publication is a major revision. The portions affected by this major revision are listed in the summary of change.

**Authorities.** This regulation implements DoDD 6055.09E, DoDI 6055.07, and DESR 6055.09.

**Applicability.** This regulation applies to the Regular Army, the Army National Guard/Army National Guard of the United States, and the U.S. Army Reserve, unless otherwise stated.

**Proponent and exception authority.** The proponent of this regulation is the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–4. The proponent has the authority to approve exceptions or waivers to this regulation that are consistent with applicable law and regulations. The proponent may delegate this approval authority, in writing, to a division chief within the proponent agency or its direct reporting unit or field operating agency in the grade of colonel or the civilian equivalent. Activities may request a waiver to this regulation by providing justification that includes a full analysis of the expected benefits and must include formal review by the activity's senior legal officer. All waiver requests will be endorsed by the commander or senior leader of the requesting activity and forwarded through the activity headquarters to the policy proponent. Refer to AR 25–30 for specific requirements.

**Army internal control process.** This regulation contains internal control provisions in accordance with AR 11–2 and identifies key internal controls that must be evaluated (see appendix B).

**Suggested improvements.** Users are invited to send comments and suggested improvements on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to [usarmy.pentagon.hqda-dcs-g-4.mbx.publications@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.pentagon.hqda-dcs-g-4.mbx.publications@mail.mil).

**Distribution.** This publication is available in electronic media only and is intended for the Regular Army, the Army National Guard/Army National Guard of the United States, and the U.S. Army Reserve.

---

\*This regulation supersedes AR 75–1, dated 9 February 2017.

---

**Contents** (Listed by chapter and page number)

**Chapter 1**

**Introduction**, *page 1*

**Chapter 2**

**Support of Department of the Army Investigation Team for Malfunctions**, *page 3*

**Appendixes**

**A.** References, *page 5*

**B.** Internal Control Evaluation, *page 6*

**Glossary of Terms**

**Summary of Change**

## Chapter 1 Introduction

### 1–1. Purpose

This regulation prescribes policy, responsibilities, and procedures for investigating and reporting malfunctions of ammunition and explosives (AE) and for suspending and restricting AE based on malfunctions. This regulation applies to standard and nonstandard munitions, including commercial and foreign munitions, approved by the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3/5/7 (DCS, G–3/5/7) for use by U.S. Forces. This includes: munitions used with developmental or experimental munitions (for example, a charge used to propel experimental projectiles); munitions issued for comparison purposes during research, developmental, or test phases of new AE; munitions used for seating, warming, spotting, or other purposes during AE testing; being evaluated for lot acceptance purposes or for fly-to-buy contracts (guided missiles and large rockets only).

### 1–2. References, forms, and explanation of abbreviations

See appendix A. The abbreviations, brevity codes, and acronyms (ABCAs) used in this electronic publication are defined when you hover over them. All ABCAs are listed in the ABCA database located at <https://armypubs.army.mil/abca>/<https://armypubs.army.mil/abca/>.

### 1–3. Associated publications

Procedures associated with this regulation are found in DA Pam 75–1.

### 1–4. Responsibilities

*a. Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3/5/7.* The DCS, G–3/5/7 will—

- (1) Assess the operational and readiness impact of each AE type, block, or serious impact suspension or restriction.
- (2) Coordinate, as required, integrated resourcing solutions with the Army Staff and other responsible entities to mitigate negative impacts to operational readiness, impacts of AE suspensions or restrictions, and enhance readiness.

*b. Deputy Chief of Staff, G–4.* The DCS, G–4 will—

- (1) Provide the final decision on AE type, block, or serious-impact suspensions or restrictions affecting Army readiness.
- (2) Notify the DCS, G–3/5/7 of every AE type, block, or serious-impact suspension or restriction.
- (3) Recommend resourcing solutions to the DCS, G–3/5/7 to support munitions requirements affected by the suspension of munitions.
- (4) Provide a final resolution or disposition decision for AE suspensions and restrictions.

*c. Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command.* The CG, AMC will—

- (1) Manage the Army's AE Malfunction Investigation Program as the responsible official for the Department of the Army (DA).
- (2) Manage the Army's AE Suspension and Release Program for the DA.
- (3) Budget and manage the Army's AE Malfunction Investigation Program, Suspension Program, and Release Program.
- (4) Review AE type, block, or serious-impact suspensions and restrictions recommended by the Commander, Joint Munitions Command (JMC) or by the Commander, Aviation and Missile Life Cycle Management Command (AMCOM LCMC).
- (5) Approve the type, block, serious-impact suspensions or restrictions, if the readiness of the Army is not affected, and notify the DCS, G–4.
- (6) Notify the DCS, G–4, by the quickest means available, for a decision, if it is determined that any suspension will affect the Army's readiness.
- (7) In conjunction with DCS, G–4, recommend resourcing solutions to the DCS, G–3/5/7 to support munitions requirements affected by the suspension of munitions.
- (8) Through the Commander, JMC:
  - (a) Issue suspension or restriction notices for individual lots of standard AE and nonstandard munitions approved for use and purchased by the Army.

(b) Issue temporary notices for type, block, or serious-impact suspensions or restrictions of standard AE including nonstandard munitions approved for use and purchased by the Army that were referred to AMC for approval. Referrals for approval will be submitted to Commander, AMC. These referrals will include stockpile impact (training and war reserve); substitute AE when applicable; the production status of AE; security assistance (SA) recipients who have received AE for the last 7 years.

(c) Monitor individual and accumulated AE suspensions or restrictions. Assess the effects on readiness at the wholesale-level and at the retail-level, if possible.

(d) Notify AMC when a significant readiness impact is identified or when a serious mission impact statement received from an Army command (ACOM), Army service component command (ASCC), and/or direct reporting unit (DRU) indicates an impact on Army readiness at the retail-level.

(e) Investigate malfunctions involving standard AE including nonstandard munitions approved for use and purchased by the Army; identify requirements for on-site investigations; and conduct a DA Investigation Team for Malfunctions (DAITM) investigation, if required. An AE malfunction investigation file will be initiated to manage AE malfunction investigation information; identified as Class A, Class B, Class C, or Class X (see the glossary); listed in an official DA-level publication and the Munitions History Program (MHP) database, Class V lots and or serial numbers that are suspended or restricted. MHP can be accessed using a common access card at <https://mhp.redstone.army.mil/>. The MHP database is updated daily. Suspension and restriction actions will be issued by an interim message system and will reference the governing suspension and restriction publication for inclusion, change, or deletion as appropriate.

(f) Coordinate quarterly with the DCS, G-3/5/7's Total Ammunition Management Information System Office to ensure that unexploded ordnance (UXO) (also known as duds) reported through that system have been considered for inclusion in the Army's AE malfunction notification and analysis process, as necessary.

(9) Through the Commander, AMCOM LCMC will—

(a) Issue suspension or restriction notices for individual lots of guided missiles and large rockets.

(b) Issue temporary notices for type, block, or serious-impact suspensions or restrictions of AE that are guided missiles or large rockets. Referrals for approval will be submitted to AMC. These referrals include stockpile impact (training and war reserve); substitute AE, when applicable; the production status of AE; and SA recipients for the last 7 years.

(c) Monitor individual and accumulated AE suspensions or restrictions. Assess the effect on readiness at the wholesale-level and at the retail-level.

(d) Notify Commander, AMC when a significant impact is identified or a serious mission impact statement received from a Commander of an ACOM, ASCC, and/or DRU indicates an impact on Army readiness at the wholesale or retail-level.

(e) Investigate reported AE malfunctions that involve guided missiles and large rockets, identify requirements for on-site AE malfunction investigation, and conduct a DAITM AE malfunction investigation, if required.

(f) Update the MHP automated database with AMCOM-managed Class V (lots, and/or serial numbers) that are suspended or restricted. Suspension and restriction actions or releases will be issued by an interim message system referencing the MHP automated program database.

d. *Commander, Training and Doctrine Command.* The Commander, TRADOC will (through the Director, U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosives Safety (USATCES)—

(1) Notify the Commander, U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center (USACRC) when notified of an AE malfunction.

(2) Provide technical assistance for AE mishaps to a DA centralized accident investigation (CAI) team board when requested by Commander, USACRC.

e. *Commanders of Army commands, Army service component commands, or direct reporting units.* Commanders of ACOMs, ASCCs, or DRUs will—

(1) Ensure that potentially affected units within their command are notified, upon receipt of suspension or restriction notices from JMC or AMCOM.

(2) Receive, coordinate, or initiate actions on each report of serious mission impacts resulting from the suspension or restrictions of command AE stocks.

(3) Notify Commander, JMC and Commander, AMCOM LCMC of serious mission impacts that are not within the ability of the ACOM, ASCC, or DRU to correct.

(4) Support the DAITM during on-site AE malfunctions investigations (see chap 2).

### **1–5. Records management (recordkeeping) requirements**

The records management requirement for all record numbers, associated forms, and reports required by this publication are addressed in the Records Retention Schedule—Army (RRS–A). Detailed information for all related record numbers, forms, and reports are located in Army Records Information Management System (ARIMS)/RRS–A at <https://www.arims.army.mil/> [https://www.arims.army.mil.](https://www.arims.army.mil/) If any record numbers, forms, and reports are not current, addressed, and/or published correctly in ARIMS/RRS–A, see DA Pam 25–403 for guidance.

### **1–6. Standards and mandatory procedures**

Standards and mandatory procedures for investigations, reporting, notifications, restrictions, and suspensions for malfunctions involving AE are prescribed in DA Pam 75–1.

## **Chapter 2**

### **Support of Department of the Army Investigation Team for Malfunctions**

#### **2–1. General**

a. The DAITM is authorized to perform comprehensive, first-hand inquiries on-site, directed toward establishing conditions and the chain-of-events leading to the malfunction. The DA investigation is designed to determine the probable cause and initiate appropriate corrective action Armywide.

b. Subject to U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command jurisdiction according to AR 195–2, the CAI team will exercise coordination control of the mishap investigation actions and access to the mishap site.

c. In conducting the malfunction investigation, if there is a CAI, the DAITM will coordinate on-site requirements with the CAI team and will provide the CAI team a technical advisor upon request.

d. Common source factual information will be freely exchanged between the CAI team and the DAITM.

e. Names of witnesses interviewed may be shared among the CAI team, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, and the DAITM. Contents of the interview statements will not be released between the investigatory bodies or to any other investigatory bodies, although each body may conduct separate interviews with the witnesses. Privileged mishap and safety information may be shared only as provided by DoDI 6055.07.

f. Commanders of AMC commodity commands (JMC, AMCOM LCMC, or tactical command, as appropriate) will—

(1) Initiate and perform DA investigations as authorized, which may include an on-site investigation of Class A and Class B malfunctions, and Class C malfunctions as required, involving standard and non-standard AE.

(2) Determine within 24 hours of receipt of a preliminary malfunction report whether an on-site investigation by DAITM is required and advise the reporting organization immediately by priority message. Tactical commanders must notify JMC and AMCOM commanders that an on-site DAITM is required.

(3) Direct shipment of samples and malfunction residue, as required.

(4) Ensure the DAITM provides exit briefing as required by the ACOM, ASCC, and/or DRU concerned.

g. Commanders of ACOMs, ASCCs, and/or DRUs experiencing a malfunction will—

(1) Designate a senior point of contact (POC) for subsequent inquiries and coordination of collateral investigations involving the reported malfunction. The designated POC will ensure that information gathered by collateral investigations is provided to the DAITM as authorized (see DoDI 6055.07).

(2) Coordinate shipment of samples or malfunction residue as directed by the DAITM or AMC commodity command, in support of the malfunction investigation.

(3) Ensure personnel of subordinate organizations involved in the malfunction are available to the DAITM for interviews.

(4) Coordinate with the senior commander or garrison commander to ensure explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) support is available. EOD units are specifically trained and equipped to conduct post-blast investigations of AE incidents, including fragmentation and crater analysis.

h. Commanders will—

(1) Ensure that units adhere to range safety as directed by AR 385–63.

(2) Preserve the Class A or Class B AE malfunction site intact until the DAITM conducts an investigation or advises the commander that the DAITM will not conduct an on-site investigation. This does not preclude maintaining the necessary safety and security at the AE malfunction site.

(3) If the AE malfunction site must be disturbed, ensure photographs of the weapon and/or AE involved, and munitions' and weapon's debris, AE packaging, and other related material that are present are taken prior to movement; and prepare a map of their location. Photos and maps will be used during DAITM AE malfunction investigation.

(4) If an on-site DAITM AE malfunction investigation is not conducted, ensure a local investigation is conducted and include results in a detailed AE malfunction report (see DA Pam 75–1).

(5) Provide liaison to the DAITM. The liaison will act as initial POC for the installation, arrange local transportation, and provide other local support, as requested.

(6) Obtain local EOD support, if requested by the DAITM. This may involve personnel, x-ray equipment, metal detectors for fragment searches, and cameras.

(7) Coordinate with the commander of the unit experiencing the AE malfunction and arrange for interviews of personnel (for example, range safety officer, forward observers, witnesses, gun crew, the supporting EOD unit) who the DAITM team requests.

(8) Arrange for the expeditious shipment of samples and/or residue (for example, AE, weapon) from the malfunction site, as requested.

i. The Director, USATCES will provide a team member or technical assistance upon JMC's or AMCOM's request.

## **2–2. On-site ammunition and explosive malfunction investigations**

During the on-site AE malfunction investigation, the DAITM—

a. Interviews witnesses and other involved personnel.

b. Examines the AE malfunction site. This includes:

(1) Examining and measuring craters caused by the malfunctions.

(2) Measuring the size of weapon or munitions debris and the distance such were thrown from point of the malfunction.

(3) Examining the weapon involved in the malfunction and/or damage the malfunction caused to the weapon.

*Note.* When possible, the team will document the location of thrown debris with a global positioning system. The team may also require photographs of the site of the AE malfunction, materiel, and other related subjects.

c. Examines storage facilities, and review records for the AE lots involved in the malfunction.

d. Examines the condition of the AE lots involved that remain at the site of use, or in storage.

e. Reviews the weapon and/or missile logbook.

f. Searches for fragments.

g. Reviews other materiel as dictated by circumstances of the AE malfunction.

## **2–3. Points of contact outside the continental United States**

Coordination of the DAITM's travel schedule outside the continental United States (OCONUS) will be made with the following offices, if the senior POC designated by the ACOM, ASCC, and/or DRU cannot be reached:

a. Europe: AMC–Europe (AMXEU–LA).

b. Far East: AMC–Far East (AMXLA–FE).

c. U.S. Army Pacific: LAO–Pacific (AMXLA–C–P).

d. U.S. Army South: LAO–USARSO (ARSO–LG).

e. Alaska: LAO–Alaska (AMXLA–C–W–AK).

## **Appendix A**

### **References**

#### **Section I**

##### **Required Publications**

Unless otherwise indicated, all Army publications are available on the Army Publishing Directorate website at <https://armypubs.army.mil/><https://armypubs.army.mil>.

##### **AR 195–2**

Criminal Investigation Activities (Cited in para 2–1*b*.)

##### **AR 385–63**

Range Safety (Cited in para 2–1*h*(1).)

##### **DA Pam 75–1**

Malfunctions Involving Ammunition and Explosives Procedures (Cited in para 1–3.)

##### **DESR 6055.09**

Defense Explosives Safety Regulation (Cited in the title page.) (Available at <https://denix.osd.mil/ddes/home/>.)

##### **DoDI 6055.07**

Mishap Notification, Investigation, Reporting, and Record Keeping (Cited in title page.)

#### **Section II**

##### **Prescribed Forms**

This section contains no entries.

## **Appendix B**

### **Internal Control Evaluation**

#### **B-1. Purpose**

The purpose of this evaluation is to help ammunition senior managers evaluate the key internal controls listed. It is not intended to cover all controls.

#### **B-2. Function**

The function of this evaluation is to provide guidance for the conduct of the management of the Malfunctions Involving AE Program.

#### **B-3. Instructions**

Answers must be based on the actual testing of controls (for example document analysis, direct observation, interviewing, sampling, and/or others). Answers that indicate deficiencies must be explained and the corrective action indicated in the supporting documentation. These internal controls must be evaluated at least once every 5 years and then certified on DA Form 11-2 (Internal Control Evaluation Certification).

#### **B-4. Test questions**

- a. Did AMC ensure the ammunition stockpile meets the established performance, explosives safety, readiness, quality, and reliability requirements?
- b. Did AMC review type, block, or serious-impact suspensions recommended by JMC LCMC and the AMCOM LCMC?
- c. Did AMC notify the DCS, G-4 when test and analysis of an ammunition item has resulted in a recommendation for shelf life nonextension that will significantly impact the Army's inventory of a weapon system?
- d. Did TRADOC ensure that units and Soldiers were properly trained on handling, storage, and use of AE to prevent mishaps, incidents, and malfunctions?
- e. Did investigation reveal need to adjust training or operator instructions, to preclude repeat occurrence of malfunction?
- f. Did unit properly report, in an accurate and timely manner, the malfunction?

#### **B-5. Supersession**

This evaluation replaces the evaluation to assess management of the Malfunctions Involving AE Program, previously published in AR 75-1, dated 9 February 2017.

#### **B-6. Comments**

Help make this a better tool for evaluating management controls. Submit comments to <mailto:usarmy.pentagon.hqda-dcs-g-4.mbx.publications@mail.mil> usarmy.pentagon.hqda-dcs-g-4.mbx.publications@mail.mil.

## **Glossary of Terms**

### **Ammunition and explosives**

Includes, but is not necessarily limited to, all items of U.S. titled (such as, owned by the Government through the DoD components) ammunition; propellants, liquid and solid; pyrotechnics; high explosives; guided missiles; warheads; devices; and chemical agent substances, devices, and components presenting real or potential hazards to life, property, and the environment. Excluded are wholly inert items and nuclear warheads and devices, except for considerations of storage and stowage compatibility, blast, fire, and nonnuclear fragment hazards associated with the explosives (see DESR 6055.09). Conventional ammunition includes the following: Grenades, cartridges, projectiles, mines, pyrotechnics, bombs, warheads with all type fillers (for example, high explosives or chemical), simulated nuclear weapons, bulk explosives, demolition materiel, and rockets without nuclear capability; propellant and cartridge-actuated devices, as well as airdrop and air crew escape systems components (for example, line cutters, delay cartridges ejection seats, and extraction systems); missile parachute airdrop and recovery systems; chemical ammunition, and other special purpose munitions.

### **Dud**

See unexploded ordnance.

### **Guided missiles and large rockets**

All guided missiles and large rockets with nonnuclear or chemical capability either in complete round configuration or in separately packaged items for issue in a complete round assembly, solid and liquid propellants, and explosive components.

### **Malfunction**

Failure of an ammunition item to function as expected when fired or launched and explosive items that fail to function. Malfunctions include hang fires, misfires, duds, abnormal functioning, and premature functioning of explosive ammunition items under normal handling, maintenance, storage, transportation, and tactical deployment. Malfunctions do not include mishaps or incidents that result solely from negligence, malpractice, or situations such as vehicle mishaps or fires. ACOMs, ASCCs, and DRUs divide malfunctions into four classes: Class A, Class B, Class C, and Class X. Class A malfunctions result in death or lost-time injury, are similar to previous malfunctions that have resulted in death or lost-time injury, are judged as having had an appreciable probability of causing death or lost-time injury, or have adverse political implications. Class B malfunctions result in damage to major equipment that cannot be repaired at the unit level of maintenance or result in an ammunition suspension that significantly impacts readiness or training. Class C malfunctions involve any other performance incident not covered above. Class X malfunctions involved any other nonperformance incidents (visual defects).

### **Military munitions**

Military munitions means all ammunition and explosive products and components produced for or used by the armed forces for national defense and security, including ammunition products or components under the control of the DoD, the Coast Guard, the Department of Energy, and the National Guard. The term includes confined gaseous, liquid, and solid propellants; explosives, pyrotechnics, chemical and riot control agents, smokes, and incendiaries, including bulk explosives and chemical warfare agents; chemical munitions, rockets, guided and ballistic missiles, bombs, warheads, mortar rounds, artillery ammunition, small arms ammunition, grenades, mines, torpedoes, depth charges, cluster munitions and dispensers, and demolition charges; and devices and components of any item thereof. The term does not include wholly inert items, improvised explosive devices, and nuclear weapons, nuclear devices, and nuclear components, other than nonnuclear components of nuclear devices that are managed under the nuclear weapons program of the Department of Energy after all required sanitization operations under 42 USC 2011 (The Atomic Energy Act of 1954) have been completed (see 10 USC 101(e)(4)).

### **Nonstandard munitions**

AE (munitions) that have not completed safety-type classification, do not have a national stock number or DoD identification code, and are not available for procurement through DoD's military munitions supply system. Such munitions include, but may not be limited to foreign munitions, commercial munitions, and munitions modified or that are prototypes developed for test and evaluation purposes.

**Release**

An order that rescinds a previously imposed suspension or restriction and restores the materiel to serviceable status. This includes munitions that are released with a restriction.

**Suspension or restriction**

An administrative procedure used to identify all munitions that have been withdrawn from issue or use, with or without qualifications, because of a an unsafe, or suspected unsafe, condition, or munitions that cannot be expected to meet required performance under all conditions, but may be issued and used with qualifications on their use. Suspensions and restrictions may be categorized by type, block, or serious impact: *Type suspension or restriction*. A suspension or restriction applied to all lots of one model number, including all modifications or variations produced (for example, cartridge 105 millimeter high explosive plastic tracer M393A2 series). *Block suspension or restriction*. A suspension or restriction applied to all lots of one particular modification or variation of a model number (for example, cartridge 105 millimeter high explosive plastic tracer M393A2 series). *Serious-impact suspension or restriction*. A suspension or restriction that results in reducing serviceable assets of a munitions item to less than 50 percent of the stockpile or 50 percent impact criteria at the OCONUS ACOMs, ASCCs, or DRUs is determined to have a significant impact on Army readiness irrespective of percentage of stockpile affected, or prevents a unit from meeting its operational commitment. *Specific suspension or restriction*. A suspension or restriction may also be applied to a specific lot, group of lots, or serial numbered items without being categorized as defined above.

**Unexploded ordnance**

UXO means military munitions that: (1) have been primed, fused, armed, or otherwise prepared for action; (2) have been fired, dropped, launched, projected, or placed in such a manner as to constitute a hazard to operations, installations, personnel, or material; and (3) remain unexploded, whether by malfunction, design, or any other cause (see 10 USC 101). Also referred to as duds.

# ***SUMMARY of CHANGE***

AR 75–1

Malfunctions Involving Ammunition and Explosives Policy

This major revision, dated 17 July 2023—

- Corrects and updates offices of responsibility (para 1–4).
- Moves procedures for malfunction investigation and reporting, notification of defects, suspension, and restriction of ammunition and explosives, and duds and misfire notification to DA Pam 75–1 (throughout).
- Implements administrative formatting changes (throughout).

**UNCLASSIFIED**

**PIN 004470-000**