



Combat Search and Rescue

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INTRODUCTION

There are several options to recover IP but combat search and rescue (CSAR) is the Air Force's preferred method. The Air Force organizes, trains, and equips unique forces that focus specifically on PR. When PR assets cannot avoid the threat on their own, other assets can be employed to protect the recovery forces thereby permitting PR to proceed with the best chance of success. CSAR represents the Air Force's tactic of choice for PR in both denied or hostile environments.

COMPONENTS OF CSAR

There are three CSAR components: command and control, recovery forces and isolated personnel (IP). As an element assigned to the Commander, Air Force forces, the personnel recovery coordination cell (PRCC) provides command/control and coordinates PR force activities with the joint personnel recovery center (JPRC) and other components.

The second component represents the dedicated Air Force assets that organize, train, and perform personnel recovery operations (PR) and are the most likely assets that often augment PR forces. The Air Force normally employs recovery forces under the CSAR task force (CSARTF) concept, explained later in this chapter. Although the CSARTF is not limited to the Air Force assets only, this publication's scope is authoritative only to Air Force personnel. The final component of CSAR is the most vital element of the PR system: IP.

In short, the following sections describe CSAR capabilities, the Air Force's preferred mechanism for PR. CSAR is the primary recovery mechanism employed by the Air Force to accomplish the "recover" task of the joint execution tasks. Combining the proper mix of air and ground PR elements, the Air Force is well postured to recover any IP in a variety of environments.
