

ARMY, MARINE CORPS, NAVY, AIR FORCE



# AMPHIBIOUS EMBARKATION AND DEBARKATION STUDY

LAND  
TEAM STUDY

JANUARY 2018

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A: Approved for public release;  
distribution is unlimited.

MULTI-SERVICE TACTICS, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCEDURES



17 January 2018

**AMPHIBIOUS EMBARKATION AND DEBARKATION STUDY**  
**LAND TEAM STUDY**

**CHAPTER I OVERVIEW..... 1**

- 1. Purpose ..... 1
- 2. Scope..... 1
- 3. Background/History..... 1
- 4. Methodology ..... 2

**CHAPTER II FINDINGS..... 3**

- 1. Existing Doctrine and Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures Analysis..... 3
- 2. ALSA MOA ..... 3
- 3. Other Findings ..... 4

**CHAPTER III CONCLUSION..... 5**

- Recommendation..... 5

**REFERENCES..... 7**

**GLOSSARY ..... 9**

**This page intentionally left blank.**

## Chapter I OVERVIEW

### 1. Purpose

a. Air Land Sea Application (ALSA) Center action officers conducted this study of JP 3-02.1, *Amphibious Embarkation and Debarkation* to determine if a multi-Service tactics, techniques, and procedures (MTTP) gap exists across the Services, and the JP is suitable for conversion to an ALSA MTTP. It was requested by J7 and directed by the ALSA Director.

b. J7 was directed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff to reduce the number of joint publications (JPs). After a review of current JPs they proposed that ALSA adopt existing JPs into our publication hierarchy.

### 2. Scope

Determine whether there is a gap in amphibious embarkation and debarkation and whether it is appropriate for ALSA to absorb JP 3-02.1.

### 3. Background/History

a. During Joint Action Steering Committee (JASC) meeting 17-1 on 27 Apr 17, J7, represented by COL Van Cleave, discussed a desired collaboration between ALSA, the Services and the joint staff to separate strategic, operational, and tactical information in joint publications. The “collaboration had not been previously discussed with ALSA before being briefed at the JASC. Their proposal was that the joint publications would continue to hold the strategic and operational level information and the tactical portions of select JPs (i.e., JP 3-04 and JP 3-02.1, but potential for more) would relocate to an ALSA or Service publication.

### *Desired Collaborative Effort*

Joint Doctrine has identified two JPs; JP 3-04, *Joint Shipboard Helicopter and Tiltrotor Aircraft* and JP 3-02.1, *Amphibious Embarkation and Debarkation* for potential removal from the JP hierarchy. Joint Doctrine will incorporate the strategic/operational content into its hierarchy and requests that ALSA adopt the tactical/MTTP content into its publication hierarchy.

(1) COL Van Cleave provided additional information on the same subject to support the separation of the tactical level information from the strategic and operational level, as seen in the above slide.

(2) Col Kensick asked a question about the Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff Instruction (CJCSI) 5120.02, *Joint Doctrine Development System*, and if it will be

rewritten as the current version allows the inclusion of tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP). COL Van Cleave said that it was scheduled for an update and will be ready for signature around January 2018. It will include the guidelines for adaptive doctrine and will include priorities from the combatant commands as part of the efforts to keep publications current and relevant. Col Kensick asked about other publications that have TTP in them currently and what was the plan for those. COL Van Cleave responded that there were potentially other publications that would be suitable to transfer from the joint publications elsewhere and that they would work closely with ALSA to make sure that all parties are abreast of the way ahead.

(3) Col Kensick stated that there would not be a vote on the two publications recommended for ALSA to potentially take on since the J7 slides were not made available to the joint doctrine directors to brief the primary JASC members on before the meeting. He stated there would be discussions at future Council of Colonels (CoC) meetings about these publications and potentially a vote on it at the next JASC, if required.

(4) COL Van Cleave clarified that the J7 is only talking about content, not entire publications. So that content may just be included into existing publications.

(5) Col Kensick recommended that ALSA conduct the analysis on the publications that the J7 wants ALSA to absorb with the intent to discuss at the next Council of Colonels. At that point, the Services would be able to determine if it is a good fit for ALSA and prepare for a vote at the next JASC, if required.

b. No subsequent CoC discussion or directive from the JASC or Joint Doctrine Directorates to execute this study could be found. However, on 30 May 17 it was tasked to Land Branch by the ALSA Deputy Director via email as a “study”, and appeared as a “due-out” in the Sep 17 CoC brief.

c. The next JASC discussion on the topic occurred on 9 November 2017 during JASC 17-2, when J7 pitched the concept again.

(1) MG Mingus rejected J7’s blanket premise that JPs should not be JPs if they can’t be directly linked with the National Military Strategy, and asserted that their definition and criteria for screening JPs for removal was too narrowly scoped.

(2) MG Mingus highlighted that it is more important to ask where the proponenty for the publication lies, not whether it should be transferred to ALSA. He also pointed out that that determination is a joint staff role.

(3) MG Rothstein stated that we would need to reimagine ALSA if we want to go this direction because it is not ALSA’s charter.

#### **4. Methodology**

a. The Action Officer (AO) reviewed JP 3-02.1, JP 3-02, *Amphibious Operations*, CJCSI 5120.02, *Joint Doctrine Development System*, relevant service publications, the ALSA charter, and the minutes of the 2017 JASC and CoC meetings.

b. Lt Col Ian Boyd, Land Branch, was the AO responsible for this study.

## Chapter II FINDINGS

### 1. Existing Doctrine and Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures Analysis

- a. CJCSI 5120.02 states joint doctrine:
  - (1) Consists of fundamental principles that guide the employment of United States military forces in coordinated action toward a common objective and may include terms, tactics, techniques, and procedures.
  - (2) May include terms, tactics, techniques, and procedures.
  - (3) Is authoritative.
  - (4) Provides a basis for inter-organizational coordination during joint operations.
  - (5) Takes precedence over service doctrine.
  - (6) Should not include: detail that is more appropriate in regulations and instructions; Service doctrine; standard operating procedures; Service and multi-Service TTP; plans; or other publications.
- b. JP 3-02.1 *Amphibious Embarkation and Debarkation*.
  - (1) Addresses the Task Force level.
  - (2) Content is detailed, but mainly procedural and organizational at the operational level of employment.
  - (3) Combines important elements of Navy tactics, techniques, and procedures (NTTP) 3-02.1M/Marine Corps Tactical Publication (MCTP) 13-10E, *Ship-to-Shore Movement*, and NTTP 3-02.3M/MCTP 13-10D, *Maritime Prepositioning Force Operations*, into one publication.
  - (4) The JP is easily accessible to all Services.
- c. Army. No related Army publications were found to exist.
- d. Air Force. No related Air Force publications we found to exist.
- e. Multi-Service. NTTP 3-02.1M/MCTP 13-10E and NTTP 3-02.3M/MCTP 13-10D. These publications are much more detailed and tactical than JP 3-02.1.

### 2. ALSA MOA

The following is an examination from the perspective of ALSA's mission and procedures, as outlined by the MOA.

- a. ALSA MISSION. ALSA will rapidly and responsively develop multi-Service tactics, techniques, and procedures publications, studies, periodicals and other like solutions across the entire military spectrum to meet the immediate needs of the warfighter. These projects will provide solutions that address interoperability issues to meet the immediate needs of operating forces or to fill gaps in existing tactics, techniques, and procedures. ALSA provides a unique capability, tailored to the warfighters' needs, to develop products that coordinate TTP between the Services and complement other efforts of government, joint, and Service staffs.

b. With regard to JP 3-02.1 and the ALSA Mission, the AO found no existing interoperability or doctrinal gap. Current JP meet the existing requirement. Subject matter is already addressed by JP 3-02, JP 3-02.1, and existing Service publications.

c. Per the MOA, the JASC votes on, and directs, ALSA studies. Although the JASC did not formally task ALSA with this current study, ALSA went forward with it on a time-permitting basis to help J7 find an appropriate solution.

### 3. Other Findings

a. ALSA finds no precedent wherein a JP or Service manual was transitioned into an ALSA MTTP. ALSA's mission is to do exactly the opposite—to address emerging tactical gaps, with the goal of the TTP being absorbed into Service doctrine and manuals. Ultimately, ALSA will rescind MTTP when the material is no longer valid, no longer needed, or is absorbed into Joint or other Service doctrine.

b. *Who are the potential audience and users of an Amphibious Embarkation and Debarkation MTTP?* Combat and support forces that may be required to participate in amphibious assaults/landings, primarily Marine and Army units.

c. *Is there a requirement for "authoritative" doctrine with this publication?* Possibly.

(1) If Army and Marine personnel are required to participate in amphibious assaults/landings aboard Navy ships, it is reasonable that the Navy require authoritative agreement between Services. If the Services agree that the information contained within requires mandatory Service compliance, then it must remain a JP, as Service MTTP do not carry the same authority of a JP.

(2) The current proponent for JP 3-02.1 is the Marine Corps. If the Chairman or Director of the Joint Staff determines that there is no requirement for the information to remain an "authoritative" Joint publication, ALSA recommends the Marine Corps take custody of the information.

d. The content of JP 3-02.1 does not require ALSAs 3-year update cycle.



## **Chapter III CONCLUSION**

### **Recommendation**

ALSA recommends to the JASC that JP 3-02.1 remain a JP. Converting JP 3-02.1 to an MTTP is not an appropriate course of action, and falls outside ALSA's chartered mission.

**This page intentionally left blank.**

## REFERENCES

### JOINT PUBLICATIONS

*CJCSI 5120.02, Joint Doctrine Development System, 5 January 2015*

*JP 3-02, Amphibious Operations, 18 July 2014*

*JP 3-02.1, Amphibious Embarkation and Debarkation, 25 November 2014*

*JP 3-18, Joint Forcible Entry Operations, 11 May 2017*

*JP 3-32, Command and Control for Joint Maritime Operations, 7 August 2013*

*JP 4-01.2, Sealift Support to Joint Operations, 29 December 2015*

*JP 4-01.6, Joint Logistics Over-the-Shore, 3 February 2017*

### MULTI-SERVICE PUBLICATIONS

*NTTP 3-02.1M/ MCTP 13-10E [MCWP 3-31.5], Ship-to-Shore Movement, May 2007*

*NTTP 3-02.3M/ MCTP 13-10D [MCWP 3-32], Maritime Prepositioning Force Operations, 21 November 2011 (incorporating erratum dated 2 May 2016)*

### OTHER

*Memorandum of Agreement Between Headquarters Us Army Training and Doctrine Command, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Navy Warfare Development Command, and Air University, 20 February 2015*

**This page intentionally left blank.**

## **GLOSSARY**

### **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

#### **A, B**

**ALSA** Air Land Sea Application [Center]

#### **C, D, E, F, G, H, I**

**CJCSI** Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff Instruction

**CoC** Council of Colonels

#### **J, K, L**

**JASC** Joint Action Steering Committee

**JP** joint publication

#### **M**

**MCTP** Marine Corps Tactical Publication

**MTTP** multi-Service tactics, techniques, and procedures

#### **N, O, P, Q, R, S**

**NTTP** Navy tactics, techniques, and procedures

#### **T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z**

**TTP** tactics, techniques, and procedures