

Paracargo Operations Safety

- Mark the target area with a large X using visible flagging in an open or cleared area.
- The drop site should be roughly an acre in size, depending on terrain and vegetation. Most helispots, ridge tops, and meadows work well.
- Camps should be at least 600' from target area.
- All persons, vehicles, and animals should be cleared from the drop site prior to arrival of the cargo aircraft.
- An individual should be in charge at the drop site.
- The individual in charge should relay the following information to the cargo aircraft:
 - Confirm drop location.
 - Winds at ground level.
 - Any specific hazards in the area.
 - Individuals on the ground are clear and ready to receive cargo.
- The individual in charge should alert all personnel around the drop site that cargo operations are about to begin.
- All personnel in the vicinity should be heads up in the rare event that a parachute doesn't open.
- All personnel should remain clear of the drop site until paracargo operations are complete.
- Treat cargo parachutes with care and return them to their respective bases at the earliest convenience.