

**METRIC**

**A-A-20247**

**September 10, 1996**

## **COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION**

### **FOOD PACKET, SURVIVAL, ABANDON SHIP**

**The U.S. Department of Agriculture has authorized the use of this Commercial Item Description as a replacement for Military Specification MIL-F-16895.**

#### **1. SCOPE.**

**1.1** This Commercial Item Description (CID) covers food packet, survival, abandon ship, packed in commercially-acceptable containers suitable for use by the Federal Government. The food packet, survival, abandon ship is intended to provide survivors in inflatable life rafts adequate nutrition for 3 days.

#### **2. SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.**

**2.1 Processing:** The survival food packet shall be prepared from clean, sound, wholesome ingredients.

**2.2 Raw ingredients:** The survival food packet shall contain flour, shortening, sweeteners, and natural or artificial flavorings. The survival food packet may contain thickening agents, water, salt, coconut, almond paste, artificial colors, and preservatives.

**2.2.1 Food Chemicals Codex purity:** The ingredients listed in the Food Chemicals Codex shall comply with the purity standards of the Food Chemicals Codex.

**2.2.2 Fortification:** The survival food packet may be fortified with Vitamin A (Palmitate), Vitamin B<sub>1</sub> (Thiamin), Vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (Riboflavin), Vitamin B<sub>6</sub> (Pyridoxine), Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, Vitamin C, Vitamin D, Vitamin E, Niacin, Calcium, Iron, and Minerals.

**Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc., and any data which may improve this document should be sent to: Commander, Defense Personnel Support Center, 2800 South 20th Street, ATTN: DPSC-HSL, Philadelphia, PA 19145-5099 or FAX (215) 737-2963.**

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

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**2.3 Finished product:** The survival food packet shall consist of components that do not provoke thirst while maintaining the following characteristics.

**2.3.1 Caloric content:** The survival food packet shall have a minimum of 10,000 kJ (2,400 calories) food content.

**2.3.2 Odor and flavor:** The survival food packet shall have no off-odors or off-flavors and shall have a flavor typical of its kind.

**2.3.3 Physical characteristics:** In addition to the U.S. Coast Guard Regulations Governing Emergency Provisions for Lifeboats and Liferrafts, the survival food packet shall not exceed 600 m<sup>3</sup> (36.6 inches<sup>3</sup>) volume and 510 g (16.4 ounces) weight. The survival food packet shall have a minimum of 6 equally-shaped individually-wrapped portions.

**2.3.4 Foreign material:** There shall be no evidence of foreign material in the product.

**2.4 Age requirement:** Unless otherwise specified, the survival food packet shall be processed and packaged not more than 90 days prior to shipment and shall meet the 5 year shelf life requirement as stated in U.S. Coast Guard Regulations Governing Emergency Provisions for Lifeboats and Liferrafts.

**2.5 Palatability:** When specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, the finished product shall be equal to the approved product sample in palatability and overall appearance.

**2.6 Analytical requirements:** Unless otherwise specified, analytical requirements for the survival food packet shall be tested for protein, salt, and carbohydrate content. The food energy content shall not exceed 8.0 percent for protein and 0.5 percent by weight for salt, (NaCl). The food energy content for carbohydrates shall be at least 54.0 percent.

**2.6.1 Analytical procedure:** One unit of product shall be selected at random regardless of the lot size.

**2.6.2 Analytical testing:** Analysis shall be in accordance with the following Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC International.

<b><u>Test</u></b>	<b><u>Method</u></b>
Protein	981.10
Salt (NaCl)	935.47 <b>1/</b>
Carbohydrates	977.20

**1/** Not with ether.

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**2.6.3 Test results:** The test results shall be reported to the nearest 0.01 percent for salt and to the nearest 0.1 percent for protein and carbohydrate. Any result not conforming to the finished product requirements, as indicated by USDA test results, shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

### **3. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.**

**3.1** The delivered survival food packet shall meet the regulations of Emergency Provisions for Lifeboats and Liferrafts, and must be approved by the U.S. Coast Guard. The delivered survival food packet shall comply with all applicable Federal and State mandatory requirements and regulations relating to the preparation, packaging, labeling, storage, distribution, and sale of the product in the commercial marketplace. Delivered survival food packet shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and regulations promulgated thereunder.

### **4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS.**

**4.1 Product conformance.** The survival food packet provided shall meet the salient characteristics of this CID, conform to the producer's own specifications, standards, and quality assurance practices, and be the same survival food packet offered for sale in the commercial market. The Government reserves the right to require proof of such conformance.

**4.2 Quality assurance.** When required in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order, that product quality or acceptability or both be determined, the Processed Products Branch (PPB), Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, shall be the certifying activity and shall make the determination in accordance with applicable PPB procedures. The survival food packet, shall be examined or analyzed or both in accordance with applicable provisions in this CID, solicitation, contract, or purchase order, and, when applicable, the United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers in effect on the date of the solicitation.

**4.3 Product sample.** When specified in Department of Defense solicitations, contracts, or purchase orders, six units of product that the contractor proposes to furnish, packaged in accordance with the document requirements, shall be submitted to the contracting officer who will forward them to the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Command, Natick Research, Development, and Engineering Center, (ATTN: SSCNC-WRE), Natick, MA 01760-5018 for product sample evaluation. Six duplicate units of product shall be submitted to the contracting officer, and shall be used as approved reference samples for determining the acceptability of deliveries, as concerns palatability. Product samples must meet all document requirements prior to being submitted for evaluation of palatability and overall appearance. The approval of any product sample for palatability and overall appearance will not constitute approval of the sample as meeting the other requirements of this document.

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**5. PACKAGING.**

**5.1 Preservation, packaging, packing, labeling, and marking.** The survival food packet shall be preserved, packaged, packed, labeled, and case marked as specified in the solicitation, contract, or purchase order.

**6. NOTES.**

**6.1 Purchasers shall specify:**

- Labeling, packaging, and case marking requirements if different from normal commercial practice.
- When a product sample is required.
- When USDA quality assurance shall be performed.

**6.2 Sources of documents:**

**6.2.1 Sources of information for nongovernmental documents are as follows:**

Copies of the Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC International may be obtained from: **AOAC International, 481 North Frederick Avenue, Suite 500, Gaithersburg, MD 20877.**

Copies of the Food Chemicals Codex may be purchased from: **National Academy Press, 2101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20418.**

**6.2.2 Sources of information for governmental documents are as follows:**

Applicable provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act are contained in 21 CFR Parts 1 to 199. This document set may be purchased from: **Superintendent of Documents, ATTN: New Orders, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954.** Credit card (MasterCard or Visa) purchases may be made by calling the Superintendent of Documents at (202) 512-1800.

Copies of the United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers are available from: **Chairperson, Condition of Container Committee, STOP 0243, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-0243.**

Copies of the Regulations Governing Emergency Provisions for Lifeboats and Liferrafts may be obtained from: **U.S. Coast Guard, Survival Systems Branch, 2100 Second Street SW, Washington DC 20593-0001.**

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Civil agencies and other interested parties may obtain copies of this CID from: **General Services Administration, Federal Supply Service Bureau, Specifications Section, Suite 8100, 470 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Washington, DC 20407.**

Military activities should submit request for copies of this CID to: **Standardization Documents Order Desk, Building 4, Section D, 700 Robbins Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094.**

**MILITARY INTERESTS:**

**Custodians**

Army - GL  
Navy - SA  
Air Force - 35

**Review Activities**

Army - GL, MD, QM  
Navy - MC

**CIVIL AGENCY COORDINATING ACTIVITIES:**

USDA - FV  
USCG - CG, CGCT

**PREPARING ACTIVITY:**

DLA - SS

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