

TMC'09 – HISTORIC MILITARY VEHICLE OPERATION SOP



TMC'09 HMV Operations and Vehicle Safety

Standing Operating Procedures, Revised 05 – 09 - 09

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to outline policy and procedure for Vehicle Operations of all Historic Military Vehicles (HMVs) on the MVPA 2009 Transcontinental Motor Convoy (TMC'09) taking place in the summer of 2009.

This document is being presented as a guide to those MVPA Members who not only will be a part of the Coast-to-Coast convoy, but also to those members desiring to accompany the convoy for shorter periods of time.

All Historic Military Vehicles registered for the Convoy shall be in good working order and should be capable of being driven from Washington, D.C. to San Francisco, California, during the summer months of 2009, with minimal problems.

**KEEP THIS SOP in your
HISTORIC MILITARY VEHICLE AT
ALL TIMES!**

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Details

1. Perform daily pre-operational HMV safety check. Document results.
2. If your HMV is equipped with seatbelts, wear them.
3. Maintain a 4 second vehicle spacing to minimize the potential for rear end collisions.
4. Hearing protection as required by HMV occupants.
5. During TMC operations, all windshields shall be in the upright position. Drivers must wear goggles if their HMV has the windshield canted open. Windshields may be lowered during parades, static displays or while moving on private property.
6. Have appropriate size and type of fire extinguisher attached to your HMV and immediately available to the driver. (Five pound ABC type or equivalent extinguisher recommended.)
7. No smoking while fueling or in convoy formation.
8. HMV drivers, there will be no consumption of alcoholic beverages within 12 hours of scheduled departure.
9. Check all critical vehicle items and condition during stops. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - (a) Tires, wheels, and fasteners
 - (b) Brakes and hubs
 - (c) Lights and other electrical items
 - (d) Any coupling devices or connections to trailers
 - (e) Cargo and load securement
10. When changing tires, follow appropriate safety procedures. Flat tires occurring on split rim wheels will need to be repaired by authorized convoy personnel with appropriate safety devices or professional tire shops to insure strict safety protocol.
11. Use chock blocks on all HMVs when parked or when maintenance is performed.
12. Prevent exposure to the elements:
 - (a.) Wear long-sleeved, lightweight, light colored, cotton shirts during hot, sunny days.
 - (b.) Wear sunglasses with a high UV rating to avoid eye strain.
 - (c.) Wear a wide brimmed hat to protect your face, ears, and neck from direct sunlight.
 - (d.) Use a high numbered sunscreen on all exposed body parts.
13. Get a good nights rest prior to convoy departure each day.

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14. Stay hydrated! Whether you think you need it or not... drink plenty of water and/or Gatorade. Avoid soft drinks and caffeinated drinks. Once the convoy has passed Central Nebraska, this will become critical!
15. All accidents must be reported immediately regardless of their severity. For accident scene protocol, see “Accident on the road, involving HMV(s)” in the TMC 09 SOP.
16. All members involved in activities outside of vehicles and immediately adjacent to active roadways will wear the prescribed safety vest provided in your packet.
17. Spotters (guides) will be used while backing all vehicles in close quarters and in addition, will “walk” all 2 ½ ton and larger vehicles while moving in close quarters.
18. Use a high numbered sunscreen on all exposed body parts.
19. Wear a wide brimmed hat.
20. Wear sunglasses with a high UV number.
21. Wear a long sleeved, light weight, light colored, cotton shirt on hot, sunny days.
22. Have a highway warning kit in your HMV. (DOT Triangles preferred)
23. Know where the Yellow “SEND HELP” Flag is in your HMV.

Yellow “SEND HELP” Flag:

One of the items in the packet will be an emergency Yellow Flag. The purpose of the Yellow Flag will be to alert TMC Support Personnel that you are in need of help. **Keep the Yellow Flag WITH the HMV at all times.**

When needed, attach the Yellow Flag on the street side of your HMV and on a high point so that it can be easily seen and word passed to support personnel.

Communications:

Radio communications can be maintained between you and your march unit leader.

Each march unit leader will maintain radio communications between:

- The “tail-gunner” of your march unit.
- All other march units and the Convoy Commander.
- Designated Convoy MEDICAL personnel.
- Designated Convoy HMV Maintenance personnel.

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Accidents, involving an HMV(s):

In case of an accident involving injuries:

1. **Call 911** by any means possible; be prepared to give location of accident.
2. Give aid and comfort to the victims.
3. If a fire or explosion has occurred or is a distinct possibility, get injured personnel out of the vehicle and moved to safety.
4. Make every attempt to keep others away.
5. If a member of the TMC is injured and requires hospitalization, find out from emergency personnel where the victim is being taken.
6. Notify TMC Leadership ASAP.
7. Notify your insurance carrier.

In case of an accident involving no injuries:

1. Notify TMC leadership ASAP.
2. Notify law enforcement if required.
3. Notify your insurance carrier if required.

Depending on the amount of damage sustained to the HMV(s), a determination will be made on the best plan of action to take.