

Section V

**CARGO PARACHUTES**

**2-12. Use**

Cargo parachutes, also called recovery parachutes, are used to slow the descent of a low-velocity platform load. Table 2-5 lists the weight limitations for the cargo parachutes used with airdrop platform loads. Cargo parachutes are not used on LAPE loads.

**2-13. Types**

The following cargo parachutes are used when loads are rigged for low-velocity airdrop.

*a. G-11B Cargo Parachute.* This parachute has a 100-foot-diameter canopy. It has 120 suspension lines (35-foot, type III nylon cord). The bridle loop has been pulled down with a 95-foot or 100-foot, type V nylon webbing center line. When packed, the assembly weighs 250 pounds. The parachute has four 2-second cutters and a 60-foot reefing line.

**CAUTION**

**Do NOT use the M-1 cargo parachute release with four G-11B cargo parachutes. The M-2 cargo parachute release MUST be used.**

*b. G-11C Cargo Parachute.* This is the same parachute as the G-11B, except the bridle loop has been pulled down with a 100-foot, type V

nylon webbing center line. The parachute also has two 2-second cutters with a reusable reefing line. The total reefing line length is 20 feet. Eight parachutes are used with some 42,000-pound loads.

*c. G-12E Cargo Parachute.* This parachute has a 64-foot-diameter canopy. It has sixty-four 51-foot, type IV braided nylon cord suspension lines. The bridle loop has been pulled down with a 57-foot, type V nylon webbing centering line. When packed, the assembly weighs 125 pounds.

**Note: G-12E cargo parachutes MUST NOT be used on US Army platform loads unless authorized in an individual rigging manual.**

Table 2-5. General weight limitations for cargo parachutes

## Suspended Weight in Pounds\*

| Parachutes   | Minimum | Maximum |
|--------------|---------|---------|
| <b>G-11B</b> |         |         |
| 1            | 2,270   | 5,000   |
| 2            | 5,001   | 10,000  |
| 3            | 10,001  | 15,000  |
| 4            | 15,001  | 20,000  |
| <b>G-11C</b> |         |         |
| 5            | 20,001  | 25,000  |
| 6            | 25,001  | 30,000  |
| 7            | 30,001  | 35,000  |
| 8            | 35,001  | 40,000  |
| <b>G-12E</b> |         |         |
| 2            | 2,270   | 3,500   |
| 3            | 2,145   | 3,500   |

\* Suspended weight in pounds is the total rigged weight less the weight of the cargo parachutes.

**2-14. Riser Extensions**

Cargo parachutes are used singularly or in a cluster. When parachutes are used in a cluster, the risers of each parachute are lengthened so that the canopies remain almost vertical as they come down to increase the effectiveness of each

canopy. The length of a riser extension and the number of stows used in stowing the extensions are given in Table 2-6. When 20-foot slings are used as the extension, the slings are joined with type IV link assemblies. These links are covered with a link cover.

*Table 2-6. Riser requirements for G-11B, G-11C, and G-12E cargo parachute cluster*

| Number of Parachutes in Cluster | Length of Riser Extension (Feet) | Number of Extension Stows |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2                               | *20                              | 2                         |
| 3                               | *40                              | 5                         |
| 4                               | **60                             | 8                         |
| 5                               | ***80                            | 11                        |
| 6                               | ****120                          | 16                        |
| 7                               | ****120                          | 16                        |
| 8                               | ****120                          | 16                        |

**Notes:** 1. Riser extensions may be assembled mixing 2-loop with 3-loop slings. However, all must have identical riser extensions and each must be of the same length and the same type of material (all type X or all type XXVI).

2. For proper stowing procedures, see Figure 3-20 for G-12E and Figures 3-21 and 3-22 for G-11B and G-11C parachutes.

\*Use 20-foot (3-loop), type X or 20-foot (2-loop), type XXVI nylon webbing cargo slings.

\*\*Use 60-foot (3-loop), type XXVI nylon webbing cargo slings. Three 20-foot (3-loop), type X or three 20-foot (2-loop), type XXVI nylon webbing cargo slings may be substituted.

\*\*\*Use 60-foot (3-loop), type XXVI and one 20-foot (2-loop), type XXVI nylon webbing cargo slings. Four 20-foot (3-loop), type X or four 20-foot (2-loop) type XXVI nylon webbing cargo slings may be substituted.

\*\*\*\*Use continuous 120-foot (3-loop), type X or continuous 120-foot (2-loop), type XXVI nylon webbing riser extensions.