

## **Pad, Arming and Disarming. FAC: 1131**

CATCODE: 116661

OPR: AF/A4L

OCR: AFCEC/COS

1.1. **Description.** Pads are relatively small paved areas that serve specific functions such as dangerous cargo loading, helicopter parking, aircraft power check, and aircraft warm-up and holding. Consideration should be given to containment of runoff of potential spills; however, design pads to promote positive drainage. See apron grading criteria in Chapter 6 of UFC 3-260-01, *Airfield and Heliport Planning and Design*.

### **1.2. Requirements Determination.**

1.2.1. **Tactical Fighter or Tactical Combat Crew Training Missions.** Bases having tactical fighter or tactical combat crew training missions require arm/disarm pads; one near each end of each runway. The pads are used for arming aircraft immediately before take off and for disarming (safing) weapons retained or not expended after the aircraft's return. The pads are sited so that armed aircraft head in the direction of least populated areas or toward revetments.

1.2.2. **Personnel Shelter.** A personnel shelter is necessary for weapons loaders and quick check crews stationed at the pad. This requirement is described further under Aircraft Organizational Maintenance Shop (**CATCODE 211154**).

1.2.3. **Special Operations Aircraft.** Bases with Special Operations Aircraft require arm/disarm pads. The pads are used for munitions upload prior to a mission and disarming (safing) guns which malfunction.

1.3. **Scope Determination.** The pad size and location is based on an analysis of the base and aircraft assigned and validated by the MAJCOM. The allowable scope is the minimum necessary for aircraft parking and access. For further guidance, see paragraph 6-10 of UFC 3-260-01.

1.4. **Dimensions.** Each pad is capable of servicing four to six aircraft at a time. The dimensions of the pad vary with length and wingspan of the aircraft to be served. See UFC 3-260-01 for applicable dimensions and separations.

1.5. **Design Considerations.** Pads are built of heavy, medium, or light-load pavement. Shoulders are constructed of existing soils and thoroughly compacted and covered with turf or a soil binder. Paved Shoulders (**CATCODE 116642**) are authorized in areas receiving jet blast. Locate pads to satisfy explosives safety standards found in AFMAN 91-201.