



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION 507<sup>TH</sup> PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT  
7481 RIORDON STREET  
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905-4405

ATSH-TPP

15 May 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Commander's Intent

1. **Basic Airborne Course (BAC) Mission / Commander's Intent.** The Basic Airborne Course is designed to safely produce Paratroopers for the United States Armed Forces. We must do our best to instill the Paratrooper Spirit/Pride in them in a short period of time. Discipline, physical fitness, mental toughness, competence, and courage have been the attributes of Paratroopers for over 50 years. The Paratroopers we produce will carry on the airborne tradition for years to come. Understanding this, we must treat all the future Paratroopers (students) with dignity and respect, just as we expect as current Airborne leaders. As leaders, we will epitomize professionalism, discipline, and standards in all that we do; lead by actions, not words.

2. **Purpose.** This document does NOT take the place of leader initiative, sound judgment or decisions in the execution of the BAC Program of Instruction (POI). The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to clearly set out the standards of performance for cadre and students of the Basic Airborne Course. This SOP covers the essential details of conducting the BAC, and serves as a common point of reference for coordination between units and individuals involved in training.

3. **Scope.** This SOP deals only with the BAC. Other operations of the 1-507 PIR are not detailed in this SOP. This SOP is not intended to take the place of the Program of Instruction (POI) derived lesson plans that specify in detail the tasks, conditions, and standards of performance for the individual classes, small-group instruction, and practical exercises of our training.

4. **Responsibilities.**

a. Every member of the Battalion has a responsibility to be familiar with the contents of this BACSOP.

b. Every cadre member who is tasked to carry out a specific duty covered in this SOP (for example, the Recovery NCO) will review the applicable section from the SOP before starting those duties each day. The NCO tasked for such a duty will have with them, during that duty, the relevant section from the SOP and any associated checklists to help him/her carry out his tasks.

c. The Battalion Commander, Command Sergeant Major, Battalion Staff, Company Commanders, First Sergeants, and the Master Trainers will annually review this SOP and make any necessary updates.

d. The Battalion S-3 Technical Writer will maintain electronic and paper copies of this SOP.

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e. Ground Branch Master Trainer will ensure that newly assigned or reassigned Instructors read this SOP within one week of assignment to the unit. First Sergeants and Platoon Sergeants will also ensure that instructors read the SOP quarterly, and make specific note of fulfilling this requirement on the instructors' DA 4856 counseling forms.

**5. Safety.** 1<sup>st</sup> BN, 507<sup>th</sup> PIR will incorporate risk management and risk mitigating techniques into all aspects of the Basic Airborne Course both on and off duty. Our BAC POI and the experience of our population make us the highest risk training battalion in TRADOC. Knowing that, I am charging each of you, the cadre and leaders of the 507<sup>th</sup>, as a Safety Officer. Decisions made for the sake of safety will NOT be questioned by this command. Safety is paramount in everything we do, and we must police each other. It is my intent that all cadre review the Deliberate Risk Assessment Worksheets for their class prior to the training event. Company leadership and Master Trainers will conduct a daily risk assessment on a FB Form 385-E, based on environmental and physical conditions, prior to training.

a. Medical coverage.

(1) Companies maintain a currently certified Combat Lifesaver (CLS), with a fully stocked CLS bag, present in the training areas for all training. CLS personnel are not authorized to administer intravenous (IV) fluids or EVAC a Soldier via vehicle to either the MACH ER or CTMC. Companies will utilize E-911 for all life/limb/eyesight MEDEVAC situations.

(2) Companies call Emergency Medical Services in the event of evacuation for serious injuries or suspected heat injuries to the hospital.

(3) Instructors closely evaluate and observe any student who hits his/her head during any training event. If the instructor has any reason to suspect the student has sustained an injury, the instructor will remove the student from training and take appropriate action.

b. Hot Weather Safety (1 April – 31 September [T]).

(1) Commanders and First Sergeants will modify the uniform to fit the weather conditions and training requirements.

(2) In the event of high temperature, companies schedule split training so students spend only half a day in the full sun. For instance, platoons train on the 34-foot tower in the morning, but spend the afternoon in the shade of the PLF pit conducting PLF training. Companies modify their training tempo to allow for more frequent breaks. Instructors supervise student water consumption to ensure students properly hydrate.

(3) The Master Trainers are responsible for monitoring heat categories in their respective training areas. Upon identification of heat category V, the Master Trainers in Ground, Tower, and Jump branches raise the black flag in the training areas and verbally notify Commanders and First Sergeants. The Master Trainers will notify the Battalion S-3

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telephonically in order for operations to disseminate throughout the Battalion and monitor training activities.

(4) Cadre.

(a) To prevent potential heat injuries during training, each company maintains: ice sheets, thermoscans, arm immersion kits and cold water while in the training area.

(b) Ensure students are drinking Cera-Sport after each physical event – at least once daily.

c. Cold Weather Safety (1 October – 31 March [T]).

(1) Commanders and First Sergeants modify the uniform to fit the weather conditions and training requirements.

(2) Students are authorized to wear gloves in the training area based on First Sergeants' and Commanders' guidance, except when training on any apparatus or jumping.

**6. Student Counseling and Corrective Training.** One of the tests of a good leader is to determine correctly which measure or combination of measures is appropriate for a particular Soldier at a particular time. All students will be treated with dignity and respect while assigned to the BAC; Period! Profanity, regardless of intent, will not be used to communicate a point or gain the attention of a student. Credibility is lost with foul language or actions not in line with the Army Values. We are leaders within the Airborne community and hence the first role models of the Airborne spirit and pride we are instilling into our future Paratroopers. In order to do this, I am authorizing two methods of corrective action IAW TRAOC Regulation 350-6: Counseling and Corrective Training. These tools can be used as tools to display our professionalism and develop the Soldiers.

a. Counseling.

(1) The purpose of counseling (verbal and/or written) is for the instructor to clearly identify where a student fails to meet a standard and for the student to correct their deficiency and demonstrate the ability to perform to standard.

(2) Counseling should be short and focused on specific deficiencies. Cadre members cannot let corrections become an excuse for exercising power, venting emotions, or furthering personal gains.

(3) Cadre members must view counseling as a series of steps. The counseling begins with simple "on-the-spot" corrections, followed by formal written counseling, and then progressing potentially to punitive actions under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

b. Corrective Training. Used for Soldiers who have demonstrated that they need, and would benefit from, additional instruction or practice in a particular skill. Corrective training should be DIRECTLY RELATED to the military skill that the Soldier is deficient in, and assist them in

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meeting the standard. Corrective training is ONLY used as a motivational tool to immediately address deficiencies in performance or conduct, and to reinforce required standards. "Beating Boots" is a form of corrective training but repetitions must be limited to PRT standards outlined IAW TC 3-22.220. Any corrective training administered by a Cadre member to a student must also be performed by that Cadre member IAW MCoE Hazing Policy. No Exceptions.

SCOTT BRANNON  
LTC, IN  
Commanding