

1-507th PIR



Hunters from the Sky

1-507th PIR Airborne News

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Special points of interest:

- Survey to the Force

Inside this issue:

Basic Airborne Course application of the T-11	1
Corner Vent Entanglements	2
Main Curve Pin	2
Survey Link to the Force	2
Pathfinder new Distance Learning	3

1st Issue of 1-507th Airborne News

This is the first edition of a quarterly newsletter from the 1st Battalion, 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

The intent of this newsletter is to share important lessons learned from the Basic Airborne, Jumpmaster, and Pathfinder Courses with the Airborne Community. Our initial focus is on the fielding and operation of the T-11 ATPS. In March 2013 we began a deliberate transition

to four jumps of the T-11 ATPS system and one jump of the T-10D for our Basic Airborne Course. With approximately 4,800 T-11 ATPS openings a month we have gained some lessons that we believe are worth sharing. Thank you for taking time to read this and we welcome your input to make this a better product in the future.



LTC Carl L. Bergmann
Commander of the 1-507 PIR

Integration of the T-11 ATPS



All airborne training begins at Ground Branch which lays the foundation for what every paratrooper will apply throughout their airborne career. The first thing that students are taught is the proper wear of the parachute harness. Extra attention is given on how to properly size and adjust the T-11's main lift web tuck tab assembly, backstrap adjuster,

and sizing channels. When fitted properly the canopy release assemblies of the T-11 should sit in the pocket of the jumper's shoulder; not on top of the shoulder. During the second week of training the student is taught how to properly slip into the wind on the suspended harness apparatus using the slip assist loops and slip assist tabs of the T-11 risers. This training is reinforced through the use of the Improved Swing Landing Trainer with two out of three parachute landing falls successfully performed utilizing the proper risers via the slip assist loop/tabs.



T-11 Corner Vent Entanglements



Corner vent entanglements with the T-11 at the Basic Airborne Course are becoming a common occurrence when conducting the mass exit technique. Part of the issue is due to improper one-second interval spacing and staggering. Another more common reason is individual jumpers not

maintaining situational awareness of their canopies during the third point of performance. To counter this, we stress proper rehearsals during mock door training and jumpmaster/safety control of jumpers during exit to maintain a one second exit interval. Attention to these two points has shown a reduction in the frequency of corner vent entanglements.

The leadership and Jumpmasters are also in constant contact with PEO-Soldier to look for ways to correct this design in the T-11 canopy. One suggestion is to sew mesh into the corner vents to prevent this type of entanglement.

Until designs are approved, jumpmasters, safeties and leaders must emphasize all points of performance but especially the third in an effort to avoid corner vent entanglements with the T-11 ATPS.



Corner Vent Entanglement between two Students with an activated T-11 Reserve

T-11/ MC-6 Main Curved Pin

When inspecting the main curved pin at the end of the USLM (Universal Static Line Modified) ensure the main curved pin's end is facing the jumpers right side. When a Rigger packs the T-11 and MC-6 main parachute they confirm that the main curved pin is routed from left to right and that the main curve pin's end is facing the jumpers right side. The rigger should also ensure that there is no tension on the USLM where it connects with the main curved pin. Storage of T-11 and MC-6 can cause a shift in the positioning of the main curved pin. Parachute riggers should have a good rotation plan of stored parachutes in an effort

to reduce this issue. Always ensure jumpmasters are checking these pins during JMPLI for proper seating.



Main Curve Pin of an T-11 ATPS with the pin in the improper position.

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Please take our BAC
Leaders Survey

<http://www.benning.army.mil/infantry/199th/1-507th/airborne/>



Pathfinder Distance Learning

This is a look ahead into the pilot program for Pathfinder School in the very near future. The school is conducting at least two pilot classes in 4th QTR to assess the feasibility of placing general knowledge and "rote" memorization material to an online forum. Students are required to know this material prior to attending.

The intent is to use the online material in a practical way upon arrival and thus allow more time for the Pathfinder Student to get hands on training in practical exercise scenarios. The online forum is a self-paced learning envi-

ronment. The student is required to conduct the course individually and a Day 1 check on learning of the materials is planned as part of the entrance to the resident course. If a Soldier fails to achieve a 70% on the check on learning, the Soldier cannot proceed into the resident phase of the course. Some of the items that we are looking to place on "DL" include but are not limited to: Sling Loads-cargo hook capacities, weights, basic knowledge of equipment; HLZ/AAP/PE-TDP sizes, landing configurations, slope calculation, and LZ set up; ATC/MEDEVAC - 9 Line MEDEVAC, Aircraft configuration, some ATC

Portions and DZ selection factors, formulas, and how they are used.

All of the material is memorization work that is best suited for online training and we believe will prepare and improve the student's success at the resident course. The 1-507th will work through the Infantry Commandant's office to ensure notification of start dates for the pilot programs. The endstate of this training modification is to return a better trained, prepared and qualified pathfinder to the units.



Want to be a Black Hat?



Are you interested in becoming an Airborne School Instructor?

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Military School Opportunities

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Jumpmaster School

Pathfinder School

Ranger School

Silver Wings Demonstration Freefall Team



If interested in joining the 507th Team, or if you have any questions please contact MSG Reese or SFC Wright at **706-545-6262**.