

***United States Army
Reconnaissance and
Surveillance Leaders Course
(RSLC)***

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Section I

FORWARD

Unit and individual Ranger/LRRP actions have contributed many courageous and daring exploits to the pages of American history. The story is a recurring one, depicting outstanding leadership coupled with the highest applications of the skills used in the art of combat, reconnaissance, surveillance, and communications

Throughout the 20th century, LRRP units have been formed when needed and have accomplished their purpose with great credit. The American RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE LEADERS COURSE (RSLC) member will build on the tradition and experience of Rangers and Special Forces of the past and present.

The RSLC is taught using the most current doctrine. Additionally, emphasis is placed on developing military skills in the planning and conduct of dismounted patrolling, airborne, air assault, and special insertion/extraction operations.

The RSLC affords the leader the opportunity, by practical application, to develop and improve himself in a rugged course of instruction. It is stress oriented and develops within the RSLC student the ability to lead and command

under heavy mental and physical pressure. The emphasis is on practical, realistic, and strenuous field exercises using the 6 man team as the training vehicle to accomplish this development. The RSLC is not a mini Ranger Course, but is dedicated to the specific needs all reconnaissance and surveillance leaders.

Section II

THE RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE LEADERS COURSE

A. PURPOSE:

The RSLC develops the technical, tactical, and leadership skills of selected officers, non-commissioned officers, and enlisted personnel assigned to Long Range Surveillance, Special Forces, Ranger, and scout/reconnaissance platoons of heavy and light units. Students must perform specific hands-on tasks to standard, as well as several written examinations to test comprehension. The RSLC student performs as a team member in a realistic tactical environment under mental and physical stress, approaching that found in combat. It provides the student the opportunity to refine his leadership and tactical skills to a high degree of proficiency so that he may return to his unit and train his team members.

B. SCOPE:

1. The course length is 26 days, divided into 2 distinct training phases: Phase I (Day1-13), which is predominately classroom and field oriented skills training, and Phase II (day 14-26) which is focused on field training and evaluation.

Section III

STUDENT ORIENTATION

A. GENERAL: The following information is provided to aid a student in preparing to attend the RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE LEADERS COURSE (RSLC):

1. The instruction is prepared by RSLC instructors from company D, 4th Ranger Training Battalion. The emphasis is placed on developing the ability of each student to train his soldiers in reconnaissance and surveillance skills and to meet the rigid performance standards of Reconnaissance and Surveillance Units.

2. During the first 13 days, heavy emphasis is placed on the "bread and butter" of the mission: physical training, intelligence, High Frequency communications, planning, patrolling, operational techniques, and survival. During the next 13 days the students are instructed and evaluated on a cadre assisted non-graded training exercise and a graded field training exercise.

B. PREREQUISITES:

1. Officers, non-commissioned officers, and enlisted soldiers may apply by submitting a DA Form 4187 through their units. RSLC allocations are managed at Department of the Army through the Army Training Requirements Resource System (ATRRS).
2. **Administrative Records/Documents** you must have in your possession upon reporting for school:
 - 10 x copies of TDY orders (**DA 1610**)
 - TDY orders must state that hazardous duty is authorized.
 - International students must show proof of completion of Airborne School and hazardous duty authorization.
 - Complete Medical Records, including but not limited to;
 - **Ranger approved physical examination (DD 2807-1, DD 2808), and copies of all laboratory or specialized consultations, dated within 18 MONTHS of course start date. Physical examination standards are IAW AR 40-501, Chapter 2, and 5-3. Examination performed as per Chapter 8 upon reporting for RSLC.**
 - **A medical doctor, not a Physicians Assistant, must sign your medical exam.**
 - Physical category must be a PULHES 111111. Exception will be granted for a 2 in eyesight.
 - LASIK, PRK, RK eye surgery (if applicable).
 - Surgery must be performed a minimum of 3 months prior to reporting for RSLC.
 - **Waiver memorandum signed by the practicing Optometrist, clearing the soldier for training at RSLC. [Waiver Data Sheet](#).**
 - **ALL** Lab work results, to include a current HIV and sickle cell test.
 - Complete Dental Records with a current Panorex **OR** a memorandum signed by the unit commander stating that a current Panorex is on file.
 - Personnel over the age of 40 must have an "Over-40" physical.

- Personnel with any physical profiles prohibiting them from participating in physical training or high-risk training will not be enrolled.
3. Applicants should take the Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) within 30 days of application. The APFT is administered on Day 1 of the RSLC. Failure to pass APFT will result in the soldier being dropped from the course. The APFT is conducted IAW FM 21-20. U.S. Army APFT Standard will be enforced for each event (push-up, sit-up, 2 mile run and pull ups). Students must meet these standards for attendance to the RSLC. (Uniform for the APFT is the seasonal PT Uniform).
 4. Students must also possess a strong knowledge of land navigation, both day and night. A soldier must pass a basic map reading examination and a challenging day/night land navigation practical exercise, on day 2 of the RSLC. The course does not teach land navigation. Failure to pass land Nav will result in a drop from the course.
 5. The soldier must have a record of good duty performance with no history of alcohol or drug abuse.

C. SPECIAL INFORMATION:

1. All applicants planning to attend the RSLC should be briefed by an NCO or officer who has recently attended the RSLC prior to making an application.
2. All commanders should ensure that applicants are in top physical condition when reporting to the RSLC and meet height and weight standards IAW AR 600-9. Applicants should work on improving upper body strength; foot marching in properly fitted boots with a full rucksack (50 lb.) for distances up to 12 miles.

D. REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION:

1. Students must successfully complete the following to standard:
 - Pass the Army Physical Fitness Test (70% in each event in the 17-21 age group).
 - Pass Land Navigation. (Written and PE)
 - Achieve 70% on each examination (Communications, Vehicle/Equipment ID).

- Cannot miss more than 72 hours of training due to injury or illness.
 - Pass 50% of all graded leadership positions during the FTX.
 - Receive no more than three major-minus spot reports.
2. Spot reports are an integral part of the RSLC. They are used as a management tool similar to the Ranger course. Major and minor (plus and minus) spot reports are used.
 3. The honor code is in effect in the RSLC. Students neither lie, cheat, or steal, nor do they tolerate those who do. ANY student who violates the honor code will be given a Special Observation Report (SOR) and be released from the course. This includes comparing notes/ answer sheets during the land navigation PE or any other test. Integrity is in effect, always!

E. GRADUATION HONORS:

1. Honor Graduate: The student who distinguishes himself by attaining 90% or above on all graded exercises, receives a first time "GO" on all requirements and passes 50% of his graded leadership positions. In the event of a tie, the student whose performance is better on patrols as well as his performance on quizzes given periodically will be the distinguished honor graduate.
2. APFT Recipient: A Ranger Training Battalion Certificate of Achievement will also be given to the student who scores the highest (90% or better) on the APFT.
3. Land Navigation Recipient: Additionally, a land navigation award is given to the student who scores the highest on all land navigation events: the written examination, day/night land navigation PE.

F. UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

The following uniforms and equipment are minimum quantities required for all students:

- Army PT Uniform complete. Uniform for physical training is **your service's** PT uniform, T-shirt, shorts, all white socks, reflective belt or vest, and running shoes (sweat top, bottom, watch cap, and gloves from

October to April). USMC, NAVY personnel will wear their service issued PT uniform

- White socks (ankle or calf length; **absolutely no logos**) - 4 pair
- ACU's -4 sets minimum, 6 sets recommended. They must have all minimum required patches (U.S. Army/Name tapes, Unit Patch, Rank, and American Flag). Sterile uniforms authorized for field use only. Sleeves are down at all times. Other services will wear authorized complete seasonal Utility uniform.
- Boots -2 pairs, all boots will be broken in prior to attending RSLC. **NO GORETEX BOOTS ARE ALLOWED** during the warm-weather season (April - October). Insulated boots are authorized for wear during the winter season only (October - April). Modified boot soles are **UNAUTHORIZED** for FRIES operations. All boots must have a pronounced heel for safety purposes. Tan boots will be worn with ACU's.
- Socks, cushion sole - 6 pair
- Undershirt - 6 each
- Underwear, wool or polypropylene (or military RFI issued equivalent) (Oct – April) -2 pair
- ACU patrol cap - 2 each, with subdued rank insignia (officers included) and name tape
- Boonie cap (for field use only) (optional)
- Waist belt/ Rigger Belt/Safety belt, tan with buckle - 2 each (no cargo straps)
- Gloves, black leather shell - 1 pair (subdued Gore-Tex gloves are authorized for wear during the winter season)
- Army issue green or tan wool glove inserts - 2 pair
- Nomex flight gloves or similar type subdued gloves for patrolling operations – 1 pair
- Gore-Tex parka - 1 each (winter)
- Pocket size notebooks, Pens, pencils (it is recommended that students bring a small hard covered notebook to take notes throughout the course)
- Weapons cleaning kit (to include: CLP, 4 cleaning rods, bore brush, patches, and Q-tips etc.)

- 550 cord (100 ft)
- Duffel bag
- Combination lock - 2 each
- Eyeglasses (military issue) - 2 pair (Contact lens are not authorized)
- Black or grey (ACU) watch cap
- Wristwatch - 1 each
- Multi Tool with knife blade - 1 each (not to exceed 6 in)
- Plastic waterproof bags (zip-lock 1 gallon 20 each)
- Map case - 1 each (optional)
- Sewing kit - 1 each (optional)
- OD duct tape (100 mph) - 1 each (recommended)
- Plastic protractor - 2 each (military issue only)
- Civilian GPS (optional)
- Flashlight - 1 each (extra batteries) w/ red lens filter (white/red light Head lamps are highly encouraged)
- Alcohol markers (assorted colors)
- LCE/FLC or Unit equivalent (tactical tailor, etc **is** authorized), complete: (pistol belt, suspenders, 2 ammo pouches, 2 one quart canteens, w/covers, first aid pouch w/dressing, compass w/pouch--military issue only, butt pack is optional)
- Entrenching tool w/cover - 1 each
- Two quart canteen w/cover and strap - 2 each
- Camel Back (optional)
- Rain parka/trousers - 1 each (Gore-Tex authorized)
- Large Alice/MOLLE Pack w/frame (modified rucksacks such as Blackhawk and tactical tailor are authorized as long as they are able to be rigged for airborne operations) - 1 each
- Assault Pack - 1 each
- Sleeping bag w/ cover and compression bag (1 Oct - 30 Apr)

- Air mattress/insulated Pad (optional) - 1 each
- Waterproof bag - 2 each
- Poncho - 1 each
- Poncho liner - 1 each
- ACH or Kevlar helmet (all 7 issued pads for the ACH, foam impact pad or modified foam impact pad and parachutist retention straps for the ballistic helmet)
- Work gloves (white, leather) **SERVICEABLE** - 1 pair *
- Shirt, sleeping (or military equivalent) - 1 each
- Camouflage stick - 1 each
- Insect repellent - 1 each
- 30 round magazine - 7 each *
- Blank adapter -1 each (for M4 carbine) *
- Hide/Surveillance construction material (i.e. folding saw, pruning shears) (optional, but very useful and highly recommended) *
- Eye protection MILSPEC or military approved only*
- Whistle
- Laptop Computer (optional)

G. REPORTING INFORMATION:

- RSLC report time: 1200hrs on Sunday (the day prior to the course's official start date)
- LOCATION: the parking lot across from BLDG P4932 on the RSLC compound. Inbound students, DON'T BE LATE!
- Directional signs to the Ranger Training Brigade are located on post and highway 27, south of Columbus. The RSLC compound is less than a mile up the road on Hourglass road from 4th RTB.
- Incoming personnel will have in their possession at the time of in-processing all items previously listed.

H. TRANSPORTATION:

1. Regardless of how a student travels to Ft Benning, he will pass through or close by Columbus, Georgia. Downtown Columbus is 8 miles from Ft Benning, and is a city with a population of approximately 200,000. Major airlines and 7 major highways serve Columbus.
2. There are 2 inner-city bus lines that operate in and out of Columbus daily.
3. If the student arrives in Columbus by plane, he may travel to post by city bus (MARTA) or taxi.
4. There is parking on the RSLC compound where students may park their POV for the duration of the course.
5. Vehicles may be used during off duty hours. Students will receive further instructions regarding POVs during inprocessing.
6. Due to increased security on Fort Benning, ensure students have current drivers license and proof of insurance and registration.

I. QUARTERS:

1. Students will be billeted in the RSLC barracks. Students should arrive at Ft Benning on the day prior (Sunday) to the start of the course. Personnel stationed at Ft Benning must reside on the RSLC compound.
2. Because of the limited off duty time available, students are cautioned to bring only a minimum amount of civilian clothing.
3. RSLC student billets are arranged in a uniform manner. Cleanliness and security, of government and personal property are primary concerns. The student chain of command is responsible for ensuring the billets are ready for inspection at all times.

J. DINING FACILITIES:

1. All students eat in the Ranger Training Battalion dining facility while in garrison. During field training an MRE is provided.

K. PAY:

1. The student's parent unit finance office administers all financial matters to include monthly, travel, and Per diem pay. Ft Benning only will handle emergencies.
2. Students should bring sufficient funds to defray initial expenses for food, laundry, and incidentals.
3. The purchase of traveler's checks prior to arrival at Ft Benning is recommended. Personal check cashing is available at Ft Benning but is limited.
4. Company D does not provide a safe for valuables.
5. Cash collection of statement of charges is used to pay for any government equipment lost or damaged by students prior to graduation.

L. MAIL:

1. The following is the correct mailing address for the RSLC:

Rank/Name
10805 Schneider Rd
Co D, 4th RTBn (RSLC)
Class _____
Fort Benning, GA 31905

M. TELEPHONE SERVICE:

- Pay telephones are available at the 4th Ranger Training Battalion area. Telephone service is available through Company, D (RSLC) for emergency use only.
- During non-duty hours the Brigade SDNCO number is (706) 544-6980 or DSN 784-6980.

N. LAUNDRY FACILITIES:

- A limited number of washers, dryers, and hand washing facilities are available in the Student Barracks. Commercial laundries may also be used during off duty time.

O. Questions concerning the RSLC should be directed to:

COMMANDER
Co D, 4th RTBn
10850Schneider Rd
ATTN: RSLC
Fort Benning, GA 31905

COMM: (706) 544 6034/6018

DSN: 784-6034/6018

FAX: XXX-6082

SECTION IV

RSLC TRAINING REFERENCE

The following is a list of publications pertinent to RSLC training. Although not all inclusive, it is adequate to plan and conduct LRS training at the unit level:

- FM 3-55.93 Long Range Surveillance Unit Operations
- FM 3-55.93 MTP Mission Training Plan for LRSU
- FM 3-07 Stability Operations and Support Operations
- FM 3-21.10 The Infantry Rifle Company
- FM 3-21.92 The Infantry Reconnaissance Platoon and Squad
- FM 3-21.220 Static Line Parachuting Techniques and Training
- FM 3-24 Counterinsurgency
- FM 6-30 Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Observed Fire
- FM 3-21.8 Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad
- FM 3-21.38 Pathfinder Operations
- FM 3-22.10 Sniper Training and Operations
- FM 3-25.26 Map Reading and Land Navigation
- FM 5-0 Army Planning and Orders Production
- FM 5-0.1 The Operations Process
- FM 5-33 Terrain Analysis
- FM 90-4 Air Assault Operations
- SH 21-76 Ranger Handbook
- USSOCOM Manual. 350-6 Special Operations Infiltration/Exfiltration Operations