



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OL-B, 342 TRAINING SQUADRON
FORT BENNING, GA 31905

11JULY 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: OL-B, 342 TRS SUPERINTENDENT/RANGER INSTRUCTOR

SUBJECT: Ranger Assessment and Selection (RAS) mandatory attendance by USAF personnel

1. United States Army Ranger School is a 62 day physically and mentally challenging course with unique experiences such as operating in squad to platoon sized elements conducting combat operations within enemy lines with very little food or sleep in the most austere conditions. These conditions lend to all sorts of leadership challenges from which a Ranger student is then evaluated on while attending the course. Therefore all U.S. Air Force (USAF) must attend a validated USAF Ranger Assessment and Selection course or Army Pre Ranger equivalent. Attending RAS or Pre ranger will not guarantee your success, but it will greatly enhance your chances of success at Ranger school.
2. The RAS course must be a minimum of 12 days in length no more than 15 days (USAF only). Course layout, instructor uniforms, classes, assessments and other intangibles will be examples of the Ranger course, specifically the Fort Benning phase; ensuring all are standardized and have adequate facilities and materials to train students and support as necessary (i.e. medical, vehicles, ammo, ranges, lodging etc...). The class load will not go below five and no more than one instructor per organized squad of trainees. It will evaluate the students professionalism, discipline, core values and it must also asses:
 - a. Ranger Physical Fitness Test (RPFT) (IAW 4th RTBn standards)
 1. 49 pushups in 2:00 minutes (strict form)
 2. 59 sit ups in 2:00 minutes (strict form)
 3. 5 mile run in 40:00 minutes or less over rolling terrain
 4. 6 pull ups from a dead hang with no swinging palms in (strict form)
 - b. Combat Water Survival Assessment
 1. Removal of load bearing equipment (LBE/FLC) with rifle in at least 10ft deep body of water (not submerged) immediately followed by a 15 meter swim (any stroke except on back) in complete uniform with head out of the water. No signs of fear or panic may be present. Failure to complete or show fear results in a No Go for this event.
 - c. Land Navigation using a map and lensatic compass; must have four out of five points in 4 hours with two hours being in darkness. One re-test maybe accomplished, no later than 24 hours later. One land navigation lane should be approximately 5500 meters in total distance.

- d. Instruction on all battle drills with sketches, actions on ambush, actions on recon, warning order, operations order, troop leading procedures, and bay planning allowing time for practical exercises in the format of teach it, demonstrate, practice and finally evaluation; normally conducted during a graded field problem.
 - e. 16 mile foot march with LBE complete, large frame military ruck sack (Molle ruck) and M-4 weapons system. Must be packed with a standard packing list equaling 55 pound without water source inside. Evaluation is Cadre led at a 17-20 minute/mile pace over rolling terrain and uneven ground.
 - f. Cadre assisted patrol where the Ranger qualified Cadre guide the students through a mirror image patrol day mimicking an actual graded patrol day.
 - g. Field problem consisting of at least days of simulated combat patrols where the students are expected to plan, prepare and execute ambush and recon combat patrols using all the information taught the first week of the course. The student must pass at least one graded patrol.
3. In order to be accepted into Ranger school the prospective student must have successfully passed a validated USAF RAS/Pre Ranger course or Army equivalent within 12 months of attendance to the Ranger course (deployments do not count towards time). Upon in processing you must be able to present your successful completion certificate and memorandum to the USAF Ranger instructor/LNO located at Fort Benning, Georgia. This can also be faxed NLT three days to your Ranger course start date. Additional requirements must be met outlined by the 4th Ranger Training Brigade located at: www.benning.army.mil/infantry/rtb
U.S. Air Force reporting instructions:
<https://www.benning.army.mil/mcoe/airforce/courses.htm>
 4. Additionally the course must address all 27 tasks outlined by the 4th RTB and all appropriate commanders validation letters must be provided at the time of entrance into the designated RAS/Pre Ranger course. Examples of these letters are located at the above listed web page.
 5. The current Ranger Assessment and Selection courses (formerly Pre Ranger) are:
 - a. 820th SFG at Moody AFB, GA. Contact their training POC at DSN 460-8230
 - b. 435th SFS located at Sembach AB, Germany. Contact Capt Barton at ryan.barton@ramstein.af.mil.

6. The need is ever growing for training today to meet tomorrow's challenges. To ensure we meet the requirements at these prestigious schools such as Ranger, we need to take extra care in getting our Airmen ready for its challenges. Thus the Ranger Assessment and Selection course/Pre Ranger is the only way to proceed. If your unit has Ranger qualified personnel and would like to put together a RAS course it must be validated by the current USAF Ranger instructor LNO located at Fort Benning, GA at your units expense. If you have any questions regarding the available RAS/Pre Ranger courses or the need exists to validate any new courses please feel free to contact the Air Force office at Fort Benning at DSN 835-8350

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