

top, leaving the snaplinks exposed. Secure the top flap of the bag with tape.

This bag proved so successful that the JOTC now requires the troops that come from the United States to use it for all their jungle rappel missions. In the JOTC program of instruction, each soldier must be able to attach climbing ropes to the bag and S-fold them so that no folds are sticking out of the sides of the bag. They

have to pack, roll, and tape the bag in 10 minutes.

Because of the effectiveness and ease of packing, transporting, and employing rappelling ropes with this system, many units in the United States, including the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), have adopted it for all of their rappelling missions, regardless of the terrain.

Anyone who has experienced rope entanglements during a rappelling

operation should try this system. It is worth the small cost in time and money.



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CD Training

LIEUTENANT KENNETH W. ARNOLD

Unlike most of the Army's infantry brigades, the 193d Infantry Brigade in the Republic of Panama has the additional mission of protecting American citizens and key installations in the event of civil unrest in its area of responsibility. This additional mission challenges the leadership of the Brigade's various organizations, and particularly that of its infantry companies.

Like other infantry missions, successful civil disturbance (CD) operations result from organized training and practice. The Brigade's CD training program, therefore, has been designed to build on the basic soldiering skills, beginning with the individual soldier and concluding with the company organization. Other types of units as well might find a similar program useful.

In the first phase of the program, individual soldiers, instructed by their squad leaders, learn the three uses of the riot baton: rest, defense, and

offense. They also learn how to care for and use CD equipment, from flak vests to face shields, which are invaluable aids to a unit during an actual CD operation.

Once the soldiers have mastered the use of the riot baton, the squad leaders teach them how to use the M16A1 rifle, with and without a bayonet, in CD situations. Great emphasis is placed on this aspect of the training program, for rifles are used in a CD operation only when the greatest possible force is required.

When a squad leader determines that his soldiers have mastered their individual skills, and with his platoon leader's permission, he begins training at the squad level. This second phase of training builds on the soldiers' individual skills to develop an effective maneuver force that can use the three key CD formations — squad time, squad echelon right (left), and squad wedge.

Because of the fluid nature of most

CD operations, it is important for a squad to be able to change its formations rapidly while remaining under the full control of its leader. And because a CD operation can start at any time, a squad leader must train his soldiers in those tasks that will enable them to react quickly and effectively. These include practicing alert procedures, inspecting personnel and equipment frequently, issuing orders, and conducting rehearsals.

The third phase of training moves from the squad to the platoon level. At this stage, the basic formations are the platoon line; the platoon line with general, close, or lateral support; platoon echelon right (left); platoon echelon right (left) with general, close, or lateral support; platoon wedge; and platoon wedge with general, close, or lateral support. Great stress is placed on coordinating the squads as they move through the various formations.

In addition, the platoons are

trained to establish observation posts, to conduct patrols in built-up areas, to integrate civil authorities into the operations, to evacuate casualties, and to react properly to sniper fire and to bomb threats.

Emphasis is also placed on the strict discipline that will be needed by all of the soldiers if they are committed to a CD operation. This training cannot be geared toward one operation; it must be a continuation of the discipline that has already been developed in garrison. A unit cannot be controlled in a CD situation unless it is a disciplined unit, responsive to the control of its leader.

The final phase of training develops the coordination that will be needed between the platoons and the various other elements of the company that will support them in CD

operations. Platoon coordination is developed by using six company formations: company line in depth; company line in mass; company line with general or lateral support; company echelon right (left) with general or lateral support; company echelon right (left) in depth with general or lateral support; and company echelon right (left) in mass with general support.

In addition, all of the company's elements must be trained to construct and emplace barricades and road-blocks, in particular on erecting triple concertina personnel barriers. This can be done if each squad is trained to lay wire, and it also gives the company commander the flexibility to lay wire at several different locations at the same time.

With positive leadership, the many

aspects of CD training can be combined to form a cohesive force. As a result, this force can be used effectively in a CD operation that calls for an organization capable of reacting quickly and efficiently to changing situations.



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Advance Party

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS STEVE L. OVERHOLSER

During the past few years I have had an opportunity to observe and evaluate many mortar platoons both in training and in testing. Of all the ARTEP tasks, the methods of emplacement used by the various platoons seem to vary the most. What is standard operating procedure for one platoon seems taboo for another, and our current field manuals have little to say about standardization. This is probably good in a way, for it allows experience and imagination to dictate method. But there are certain techniques, including the proper use of an advance party, that can be used to

save time during the emplacement of a platoon's mortars.

The purpose of an advance party is to locate, secure, and prepare mortar positions for the platoon so that when the latter arrives at a selected position it can emplace its mortars with little difficulty. The advance party's actions often determine how successful the platoon will be in occupying a position. And through its level of proficiency, the advance party can provide a degree of momentum that is essential either during an ARTEP or on a battlefield.

To do its job properly, therefore,

the members of an advance party must be well trained in their responsibilities. Their training should include such things as the proper size and depth of a baseplate hole for ground-mounted mortars, the use of directional stakes, the laying of wire (preferably a hot-loop), positioning and preparing the aiming circle, and security.

Our current doctrine calls for the advance party to consist of at least one man from each squad, one man from the fire direction center (FDC), and either the platoon leader or the platoon sergeant. From experience,