

Back in the rear with his black brigade, Colonel Bouton saw that the main Union force had been beaten and was being pursued by the Confederates. He found General Sturgis and pleaded with him to commit the blacks so that a defensive line could be established and the Union force reorganized. Instead of granting any such permission, Sturgis ordered Bouton to join in the retreat. He was by this time so agitated and panicked by the turn of events that in stifling Bouton's argument he said, "If Mr. Forrest will let me alone, I will let him alone . . . Save yourselves."

General Forrest had determined

when, where, and under what conditions he would fight. Having therefore gained the initiative, he did not surrender this "independence of action" until his enemy had been decisively beaten and put to headlong flight.

The concept of initiative, according to Field Manual 100-5, "implies an offensive spirit in the conduct of all operations; it means that the underlying purpose of an encounter with the enemy is to gain and hold an independence of action with the understanding that this requires risk taking and an atmosphere that supports it."

Forrest accepted the risks; Sturgis did not. The result, as usual, favored

the risk taker. As it was on that battlefield of the past, so it will be on the battlefield of the future — the leader who seizes and holds the initiative will win the battle.



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## Improved Standards The Standard

HARRY IKNER

For an infantryman, the expert infantryman's badge (EIB) traditionally has been a mark of excellence. Some infantrymen have said, however, that the badge's image has become tarnished because the EIB test is no longer tough enough.

As EIB proponent, the Infantry School recently studied the present test standards and concluded that, while the test is still a tough one to pass, some additional toughening was in order. The result is a new, improved EIB program and a test that will clearly distinguish the highest caliber infantrymen from the typical high-quality performers. Both the program and the test are outlined in detail in a revised Army Regulation 672-12, Expert Infantryman Badge, and in DA Pamphlet 672-12, Decorations, Awards and Honors, Expert Infantryman Badge. These publications will be

distributed to the field in April 1985, with an effective date of 1 August 1985. (Both publications will be printed in the new "update" format.) Units can use the four months between the publication and implementation dates to review the new test requirements and prepare for the test.

### HIGHER STANDARDS

The current test has 16 subject areas with 27 tasks; the new test will have 20 subject areas with 41 tasks. The tasks will still come from the Soldier's Manual of Common Tasks (Field Manual 21-2) and from the Soldier's Manuals (STP 7-11B, Skill Levels 1 and 2), but the standards and performance measures will be higher than those in the manuals. EIB candidates will now be retested by tasks rather

than by subject areas. A candidate can fail no more than two tasks and can be retested only once on each task he failed. Thus, a candidate who fails more than two tasks will be disqualified and will have to take the entire test during his unit's next annual test period.

In addition to the changes in the number of events and in the standards (shown in the accompanying matrix), two items are worthy of note: There is now an SQT for officers, and a standardization committee has been created. Officers must take the 11B Skill Level 4 SQT and score 80 percent or higher on it. And the function of the EIB Standardization Committee, in the Infantry School's Directorate of Training and Doctrine, will be to approve or disapprove requested modifications to the training program and test; to monitor EIB training pro-

# FORUM & FEATURES

## NEW EIB QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

<u>Prerequisites</u>	<u>Current Requirements</u>	<u>New Requirements</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
M16A1 Skill Qualification Test (SQT)	Expert — Can retest — Cdr certifies. None.	Expert — No retest — Cdr certifies. Enlisted soldier must have scored 80% on his last SQT. Officer must take SQT 11B4 and score 80% or higher.	Use last qualification score. No retest — Officers will be administered the test at local TSO.
<b>Tasks</b>			
APRT Land Navigation	Prerequisite — 180 minimum — Cdr certifies. Prerequisite — Cdr certifies.	240 minimum — At least 60 per event. Daylight course lengthened to 4,000 meters with 4 direction changes, 5 legs; 3-hour time limit. Night course lengthened to 2,000 meters with 2 direction changes, 3 legs; 2-hour time limit.	Tested by EIB Committee. Tested by EIB Committee. Increased difficulty by including terrain association and having candidate identify the terrain feature at each point.
12-mile Foot March and Weapon Proficiency Test	Prerequisite — Cdr certifies.	Task must be started within one minute after crossing finish line of 12-mile foot march. Candidate will disassemble, reassemble, and perform malfunction check on M16A1 rifle within four minutes.	Tested by EIB Committee.
First Aid	Apply pressure dressings.	Perform CPR (one-man method), apply pressure dressing, apply a tourniquet, and treat for shock.	Increased difficulty and added 3 tasks.
NBC	Decontaminate skin.	Mask with hood within 15 seconds, name 7 of 8 symptoms of nerve agent, administer nerve agent antidote (self-aid), decontaminate skin, put on and wear protective clothing (MOPP-4).	Increased tasks and difficulty.
Survival Techniques Basic Individual Techniques .	Camouflage yourself and equipment — 15 minutes. Use visual signals — Demonstrate 6 signals. Call for and adjust fire.	Reduced time to 10 minutes. Move under direct fire, estimate range, use visual signals; demonstrate 15 signals; locate a target by shift from known point; call for and adjust fire; construct individual fighting position.	Decreased time. Increased tasks and difficulty within tasks.
Communications	Operate radio set AN/PRC-77 or AN/PRC-25.	Operate as a station in a radio net using CEOI and KTC 600-D.	Must use proper RTO procedures, authenticate to enter and leave net, encode and decode 5 words using KTC 600-D.
Map Reading	Intersection, grid coordinates, and determine azimuths.	Using 8-digit coordinates, plot and identify 5 terrain features. Determine two enemy locations using 8-digit coordinates.	Increased difficulty.
M16A1 Rifle	Disassemble and assemble, load, reduce a stoppage, and clear; mount and dismount AN/PVS-4.	Load, reduce a stoppage, and clear.	Decreased time from 40 to 30 seconds.
Hand Grenades	Engage troops in open.	Engage troops in open, troops dug-in with overhead cover, and troops dug-in without overhead cover.	Increased difficulty. Must engage all three targets using only 5 grenades.
Mines	Install and fire M18A1, and install M16 antipersonnel mine.	Install and recover mechanical ambush. Install and remove M21 antitank mine.	New tasks.

Security and Intelligence	None.	Process known or suspected enemy personnel, documents, equipment. Collect and report information (SALUTE).	New tasks.
Perform Operator Maintenance on an M203 Grenade Launcher	None.	Dissassemble, assemble, and identify four 40-mm rounds.	New tasks.
Prepare an M72A2 LAW for firing and apply immediate action to correct malfunction. M60 Machinegun	Prepare LAW for firing and restore to carrying configuration. Perform operator maintenance, load, reduce a stoppage, and clear.	Prepare LAW for firing and apply immediate action for combat misfire. Added — Prepare a range card.	30 seconds to prepare LAW for firing; 20 seconds to perform immediate action. Reduced time from 8 to 6 minutes on operator maintenance.
Cal .50 Machinegun	Load, reduce a stoppage, and clear. Set head space and timing.	No change.	Reduced time from 10 to 8 minutes.
Dragon	None.	Prepare a Dragon for firing within 30 seconds. Prepare a Dragon range card.	This task will be used only by units not having Cal .50 MG as part of TOE or MTOE.

grams and tests; and to visit 50 percent of the test units during their test periods to observe and to facilitate feedback.

Commanders must notify the Infantry School six months in advance of their EIB test periods and must submit an after-action report to the School within 15 days after their units

have completed the test. The report must include the number of soldiers tested by task, the number of soldiers who passed each task, and the number of soldiers awarded the EIB. The School will use this data to study possible future changes to the EIB program and test and to determine which tasks, if any, need to be revised.

Inquiries should be sent to the Director, DOTD, USAIS, ATTN: ATSH-I-V-T-M, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5593.

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