

ship are not easy to hide.)

As for the battalion staff, each member becomes more proficient in his own area of responsibility. He acts to correct functional areas before they become repeated 2404 gigs highlighted in a series of platoon rollouts. In other words, the benefits accrue across the board as the other platoons improve their readiness posture and the battalion staff rapidly matures in subject matter expertise.

Although placing a constant command interest in one specific program has a cost, this one is worth that cost. The

"ramp up" approach of announced inspections has been replaced by a program that demands true "band of excellence" performance based on valid combat readiness standards. The platoon rollout program is a great way to reach and sustain a state of total combat readiness.

In summary, this program offers an affordable method of regularly checking the combat readiness of platoons; its demands are well within a battalion's capabilities. It provides healthy competition to clear standards. All become winners in the program.

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SWAP SHOP



TRAINING STANDARD FOR KY-57 VINSON DEVICE

The following is a proposed training standard for using the KY-57 VINSON device with the AN/PRC-77 radio. I wrote it for the training SOP of the 1st Battalion, 327th Infantry, 101st Airborne Division, while I was assigned there. If it exists elsewhere in the Army's training literature, I have not been able to find it.

TASK: Install and operate the KY-57 VINSON device with the AN/PRC-77 radio.

CONDITIONS: Given the following resources:

- A complete, disassembled AN/PRC-77 with battery.
- A complete, disassembled, keyed KY-57 with radio cable and battery.
- A distant station keyed with the same variable.
- An assigned frequency and call sign.

STANDARDS:

1. Within two minutes, install the equipment in accordance with these standards:
 - Install the battery in the AN/PRC-77 and close the latches on the battery box.
 - Attach the short whip antenna to the AN/PRC-77.
 - Install the battery in the KY-57 and close the latches on the battery box.
 - Connect the radio cable between the POWER connection on the radio and the RADIO connection on the KY-57.
 - Connect the handset to the AUDIO connection on the KY-57.
 - Set the KY-57 fill switch to 1.
 - Set the KY-57 mode switch to C.
 - Set the radio to the assigned frequency.

2. Within two minutes, pass secure and nonsecure radio traffic in accordance with these standards:

- Turn the function switch of the radio to SQUELCH.
- Turn the function switch of the KY-57 to ON.
- Press the push-to-talk switch once to clear the KY-57 alarm.
 - Make a radio check and pass a message to the distant station.
 - On order from the distant station to go nonsecure, turn the function switch of the KY-57 to OFF. Do not change any other switch settings or cable connections. Make a radio check and pass a message to the distant station.
 - On order from the distant station to return to secure operation, turn the function switch of the KY-57 to ON. Press the push-to-talk switch once to clear the KY-57 alarm. Make a radio check and pass a message to the distant station.

The time standards above will produce a basically proficient soldier. Experienced soldiers can do these tasks much faster. The most common mistake in installing the equipment is to attach the handset to the radio instead of to the KY-57.

To go nonsecure, the mode switch of the KY-57 can be set to P, but there is a risk of pulling the switch off its mounting, as has been documented repeatedly in *PS Magazine*. The preferred method is to turn the KY-57 off as described.

In addition, the basic radio procedures that are covered in many common training references cannot be overlooked.

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