

INFANTRY NEWS



THE DISMOUNTED BATTLESPACE Battle Laboratory, at Fort Benning, has the job of ensuring that the soldiers of Force XXI "own the night." This job includes taking the lead in selecting and developing technology for the combat arms as well as for combat support (CS) and combat service support (CSS) forces.

As a first step in this effort, the Battle Lab has developed a nightfighting capabilities concept to establish the requirements for fighting and winning on the battlefield of the future. The goal is to provide U.S. combat soldiers with night vision equipment that will enable them to see enemy forces first and then effectively engage them with a full range of weapons.

The Battle Lab is working with industry and the Army's procurement system to obtain the latest night vision equipment. For example, it is currently testing Belgian-made goggles. The Belgian goggles—designated HNV-1 for their holographic technology, similar to a heads-up display—offer better peripheral vision because the sides and bottom are open. The Battle Lab is attempting to learn whether this technology will increase the soldier's capabilities.

In addition to goggles, nightfighting systems for soldiers include laser target designators mounted on rifles, machine-guns, and TOW missile launchers that enable soldiers to see the laser beams with their goggles and aim their weapons; infrared flares, flashlights, and markers that are visible through goggles; and lasers for visual communication with air crews flying close air support.

The lab is also working with combat forces to develop TTP (tactics, techniques, and procedures) manuals on how to fight at night. Units conduct local training with nightfighting devices, and some—the 82d Airborne

Division, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), the 25th Infantry Division, and the 75th Ranger Regiment—have participated in advanced warfighting experiments (AWE) and night fire demonstrations. As a result, the 82d Division will soon produce a draft small-unit TTP manual. All combat commanders will be given an opportunity to comment on the manual before it is distributed.

The leaders who will train soldiers to fight at night will be trained in a sophis-



ticated training center at Fort Benning. The plan is that all officers and senior noncommissioned officers in their respective basic and advanced courses at Fort Benning will go through the Night Fighting Training Facility.

The course includes classes on how the eye works at night, how to train soldiers to use the equipment, and how to use lasers at night. One phase teaches boresighting weapons with laser target designators, and another trains soldiers to drive wearing goggles.

The most intricate part of the training consists of special indoor "lanes"—built to look like a forest, a desert, a jungle, an urban setting, a cave, and a climbing

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wall—that students must negotiate using their goggles. The different environments teach them what to look for in danger spots at night.

The Battle Lab has support teams at both the Armor Center and the Aviation Center to ensure that night vision equipment is adapted across the combat arms branches. The lab also helps CS and CSS soldiers apply night vision technology to their missions.

Nightfighters will be put to the test during an AWE in November 1995 at the Joint Readiness Training Center, at Fort Polk. The AWE will be a test of infantry outfitted with the latest nightfighting tools and digital battlefield communication systems against a conventionally equipped opposing force. It will be a follow-on to an experiment that was conducted with digitized armor units at the National Training Center in April 1994.

The Dismounted Battlespace Battle Lab is one of seven U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command laboratories (see *INFANTRY*, November-December 1994, page 8). Its contribution to our warfighting skills will ensure that the U.S. Army continues to own the night well into the 21st century.

THE U.S. ARMY Physical Fitness School (USAPFS)—located at Fort Benning, Georgia—is seeking applications from individuals who are interested in assignments to the school.

The USAPFS is the Army's proponent for physical fitness training and doctrine. The school also teaches several Master Fitness Trainer classes throughout the year, which gives assigned personnel numerous opportunities to instruct.

The school has several positions for officers (in the rank of captain or major),

noncommissioned officers (in the rank of sergeant and above), and Department of Defense civilians (GS-6 through GS-12).

Anyone who is interested must submit a complete application that includes the following items:

- Department of the Army photo (or similar photo for civilian applicants).
- Last three officer or NCO evaluation reports or civilian performance appraisals.
- Officer Record Brief for an officer and Department of the Army Forms 2 and 2-1 for an NCO.
- Three letters of recommendation from the applicant's chain of command.
- A one-page letter or memorandum from the applicant expressing why he wants to be assigned to the school.
- Any other pertinent recommendations, transcripts, evaluations, certifications, or diplomas.

An applicant cannot be considered for a position until his application packet is complete. Upon acceptance to the school, an individual must serve at least 24 months.

Applications must be mailed to the Commandant, U.S. Army Physical Fitness School, ATTN: ATZB-PF (CPT Chancey), Building 468, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5000. Further inquiries or questions may be addressed by memorandum to the same address. All correspondence must include applicant's full

name, rank, Social Security number, unit, address, and daytime telephone number.

A NEW ARMY FIELD MANUAL produced by the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) spells out the principles of peacekeeping operations. Field Manual (FM) 100-23, *Peace Operations*, will be used as the basis for training soldiers and leaders to carry out various peace missions around the world.

Like all capstone doctrine produced by TRADOC, the manual is a guide for commanders to use and adapt to existing situations.

Although it describes three types of missions—support of diplomacy, peacekeeping, and peace enforcement—it is primarily concerned with the last two of these.

The fundamental difference between peacekeeping and peace enforcement is the use of applied military power. Peacekeeping troops are generally concerned with maintaining truces. Peace enforcement involves more heavily armed troops who may have to use force or the threat of force to establish conditions in which peace between warring factions may be achieved. In both cases, U.S. troops must operate under a mandate set by a legitimate authority, such

as the United Nations or a coalition of forces.

The manual is based on principles contained in Chapter 13 ("Operations Other Than War") of Field Manual 100-5, *Operations*, the Army's chief warfighting doctrinal publication.

Although most of the principles can also apply to war, two of them—restraint and legitimacy—are particularly applicable to peace operations. These deal with limiting the use of military power to protect civilians and with treating all factions in a dispute fairly and impartially.

The new manual has been used to develop training scenarios at the Joint Readiness Training Center. It suggests that commanders develop and follow a campaign plan to help maintain the focus of operations. Considerations include the mandate, clearly defined objectives, and plans for turning operations over to other forces such as coalition partners or native organizations.

In developing FM 100-23, doctrine writers have used lessons learned from recent operations, such as PROVIDE COMFORT in Iraq and RESTORE HOPE in Somalia. But they have also used historical cases from such conflicts as the Boxer Rebellion in China in 1900, the U.N. operations in the Congo in 1960, and even the American Revolutionary War.

