

INFANTRY NEWS



THE LONG-RANGE Surveillance Leader Course is presented in two phases. Phase One consists of 37 correspondence sub-courses while Phase Two is a 15-day resident course at Fort Benning. U.S. Army Reserve and Army National Guard personnel must complete Phase One before attending the resident phase.

TRADOC (U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command) Pamphlet 351-20, *Army Correspondence Course Program Catalog*, April 1995, reflects a correspondence course phase only. That information was correct at the time of revision, but circumstances have changed to permit continuation of the two-phase course, especially for Reserve Component personnel.

THE BATTLEFIELD Distribution System (BDS) is aimed at eliminating choke points that have plagued the Army in its efforts to get critical supplies and equipment to its soldiers on the front lines.

When American forces deployed to Cuba in 1898, their supplies and equipment sat on the docks of Havana until logistics personnel could open crates and identify the contents. Nearly 100 years later, the docks of Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, were clogged with unidentified materiel needed by U.S. soldiers fighting in Operation DESERT STORM.

The new system was created by the Combat Service Support Battlefield Laboratory, Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOM).

With technology used by the transportation industry for several years, Army logisticians will be able to track supplies from the warehouse to the theater of operations to the combat soldiers. The supply distribution system in theater will also be changed.

Logistic operations will be included in the sophisticated communications network of the Army of the future, Force XXI. Army logisticians will also have their own communications channels through which to order, manifest, track, and log the dispatch and receipt of supplies. Laser cards attached to large containers will identify the contents. Hand-held or remote monitors will read the information on the cards



and write new data on them so they can be reused. Bar codes will identify individual items as well as crates of supplies.

The supply support activity (SSA) in the theater can track shipments of supplies moving from the United States to the theater. The manifest or packing list will already be logged into an automated manifest system so the SSA will know what is in the shipment.

When supplies are unloaded at the port of entry, laser cards will reveal the contents of containers and the units that ordered them. Reading the cards will automatically enter the information into the data base for the total asset visibility/in-transit visibility (TAV/ITV), eliminating the laborious

process of manually logging receipt of supplies.

Laser cards and radio frequency tags can easily be made for equipment being sent to various users. This simultaneously creates an automated record of when and how the supplies were dispersed. The supplies can then be loaded quickly and sent on their way.

Another aspect of BDS is the creation of a single distribution manager at each level of theater command who will be responsible for transportation, supplies, maintenance, and other support functions currently handled by different individuals.

While the CSS Battle Lab works to refine battlefield distribution, an effort is under way to properly size the Class IX authorized stockage list (ASL). The ASL will provide 90 percent of the supplies a force-projection Army needs when it is deployed to a combat theater. An accurate ASL is critical to the supply system's ability to activate the procurement and supply system, from factory to port of debarkation to arrival in theater.

The BDS will rely heavily on the Reserve Components (RC) for its success. During combat operations overseas, RC units will operate both the U.S. ports of debarkation and the theater ports of entry.

A SELF SERVE LAUNDRY (SSL) facility for the field has been produced as a quality of life improvement for soldiers in the field. The facility was produced by the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Command (SSCOM), U.S. Army Natick Research, Development, and Engineering Center.

The facility was demonstrated and used in an Advanced Warfighting Exercise in September 1994, and the occupation of Haiti in October presented a

real-time opportunity to test the equipment in the field.

SSCOM sent personnel to Haiti to deliver, set up, and train troops on the SSL. From that time on, it was in use 24 hours a day until the battalion pulled out.

Word of the new SSL then spread to other troops deployed to the Caribbean, most notably to Guantanamo Bay. As a result, instead of being returned to SSCOM as planned, the facility was diverted to Cuba where it was set up for use by soldiers and airmen at Camp

Philip, a refugee holding camp.

The soldiers who used the SSL said it was much more effective than earlier field laundry systems. They also commented that they liked the idea of doing their own laundry and making sure all items were cleaned to their satisfaction.

BRADLEY CORNER

The Army and the infantry are moving toward Force XXI, which includes a broad range of missions, severely limited resources, 21st century technology, and short planning and reaction times.

Gunnery doctrine must support whatever future fight our Bradley-equipped infantry units may face. Our soldiers must still be able to acquire, identify, hit, and kill targets with all of their weapon systems. Both gunnery and warfighting skills must be interwoven to produce platoons that can fight and win on the future battlefield. A revision of Field Manual 23-1, *Bradley Fighting Vehicle Gunnery*, supports this goal.

As a result of intensive field input, the revision's initial draft addresses recent and upcoming events that affect the Bradley community. These include the fielding of the M2/M3A2 Operation DESERT STORM (ODS) vehicle, the precision gunnery system, Thru-Sight Video, and the advent of Bradley-equipped air defense artillery (ADA) units. The manual also incorporates Training Circular 23-5, *Bradley Training Devices*.

The revised manual features a two-part design. Part I, the "Crew Member's Handbook," contains vehicle, weapon, and crew-member information. Part II, "Training Manager's Handbook," contains information training managers and master gunners need to plan, prepare, and execute Bradley gunnery and war-

fighting training.

Training objectives traditionally found in basic gunnery have been moved to preliminary gunnery, and device gunnery has taken the position of basic gunnery in the training strategy. Device gunnery will train crews, squads/sections, and platoons in device-based environments. The integration of the mounted and dismounted elements at this stage provides training that is missing from the current manual. In addition, crew and battle drill training is emphasized.

In the revision process, challenging crew gunnery tasks were identified and crew gunnery exercises developed to ensure that tasks are trained and evaluated with little redundancy between engagements or exercises. The end result is an increase in multiple, commander, and coaxial machinegun engagements. In addition, manual engagements are introduced. Crew gunnery exercises and qualification are assessed using a T-P-U (Trained-Practice-Untrained) system. Engagements tasks are rated T-P-U on the basis of GO/NO-GO standards. Standards are developed for engagement tasks, critical subtasks, and non-critical subtasks. This allows a more detailed assessment of crew duties and provides an evaluation system that can be applied to present and future Bradley variants.

The manual also introduces a change in exercise developments. It maintains a threat-based standard while giving division commands the latitude to tailor

engagements on the basis of contingency mission profiles. Division commands determine specific target types and engagement distances based on threat and terrain analysis. FM 23-1 will identify crew task conditions and establish threat-based kill standards.

Platoon gunnery is designed to support mission training plan (MTP) evaluations. This is achieved by developing "penalty matrixes" based on target situation and vehicle and personnel posture at the end of an engagement. These penalties assess realistic vehicle and personnel losses. This is a change from the existing method, which attempts to provide gunnery tasks and standards for every possible situation. The senior evaluators can assess additional penalties based on their observations.

Appendix D of the revised manual contains a sample dismounted training program. This program begins with individual training, progresses through squad and platoon situational training exercises, and culminates in live fire dismount platoon qualification.

The revised manual is smaller and hole-punched to allow use of the green TM binders or the small black binders. This enables soldiers to build their own manuals according to their particular missions—Bradley crew evaluator, Bradley gunnery skills test, range setup, ADA, or cavalry gunnery.

The revision is expected to be completed in June 1995.