



Soldiers To Get Side Protection for Body Armor, New Helmet, Other Items

Deployed troops will soon start getting side protection for their Interceptor Body Armor (IBA), thanks to the efforts of Program Executive Office (PEO) Soldier.

The IBA Deltoid Extension will add about another five pounds to the 16-pound armor to protect the sides of the ribcage and shoulders.

However, the extra protection comes with a price for the Soldier. Brigadier General James Moran, PEO Soldier executive officer, explained that it can limit movement and block air from circulating under the body armor — decreasing the Soldier's ability to cool off in a hot environment.

"Everything we do is a balance," Moran said. "We want all Soldiers to come back without any injuries. At the same time, we want them to be combat effective. Nothing can be made to be indestructible."

Despite the increased weight and movement limitations, Moran said he has no doubt that the new body armor has saved lives. In the past 18 months, the Army has purchased about 300,000 full sets of IBA.

The current Army budget buys 50,000 Deltoid Extension sets this fiscal year, all of which will be shipped to selected troops by the end of September, according to Colonel John Norwood, program manager for PEO Soldier—Equipment. The Army plans to request enough funding in next year's budget to equip all 132,000 Soldiers in the Central Command area of operations with the extension.

All Soldiers in Iraq will also be issued another 14 pieces of new Army equipment from the Rapid Fielding Initiative (RFI). Additional RFI equipment is provided to brigade combat teams based on their missions.

RFI is a system set up by PEO. Thanks



U.S. Army photo

The Advanced Combat Helmet is one of the 14 RFI items deploying Soldiers will receive.

to the development of RFI, Soldiers no longer have to purchase or face long delays before receiving new equipment. Charles Rash, acting deputy of PEO Soldier, said the turnaround time has also improved, to provide Soldiers with state-of-the-art weapons, clothing and equipment before they leave for operational deployment.

RFI is fielding a total of 49 state-of-the-art equipment types in the categories of force protection/mobility, lethality, soldier mission essential equipment, and individual weapons/optics. Some of the RFI equipment issued to all Soldiers includes:

- * The Advanced Combat Helmet, or ACH, has replaced the old Kevlar helmet. The ACH is 3.5 pounds lighter than the old model and is cushioned on the inside, which sits more comfortably on a Soldier's head. It also has a different suspension system inside which allows a Soldier to fight more effectively when wearing body armor.

- * The Infantry Combat Boot Type II has replaced the older model boots, and are designed to be much more comfortable and durable. The boots are available only through RFI and do not need to be polished.

- * Wiley X Goggles are a popular item

among Soldiers according to officials.

New weapons in the testing stage include a Remote Operated Weapon Station to be installed inside the HMMWVs. These new weapon stations will allow Soldiers to fire at targets without exposing themselves.

With help from those who were serving in Afghanistan, the RFI program was able to get input from Soldiers based on what improvements were needed on equipment and what equipment should be issued to each Soldier for an increased combative effectiveness, said Rash.

When RFI found that their Wiley X goggles were not lasting as long as expected, Soldiers suggested issuing them a hard case instead of soft cases to store the goggles in.

A main concern when fielding new products is to reduce the weight Soldiers must carry, yet provide them with the capability they need, said Rash.

The Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, leads the effort in deciding what makes it on the RFI list and what does not. All requests for RFI equipment are funneled through the Infantry School. It tests the product, gets feedback from the Army, and eventually makes the decision if a product should be included in RFI or not.

RFI has set up a section on their website where Soldiers can go to make comments or suggestions on equipment. There is also a team that travels to units to gather feedback and suggestions. "We have had great feedback from the Soldiers," said Rash.

For more information on new equipment, check out the PEO Soldier Website <https://peosoldier.army.mil/default.asp>.

(This article was compiled from two Army News Service releases by Joe Burlas and Jacqueline Garrelts.)

SOLDIERS TO COMPETE IN OLYMPICS

Eight Soldiers from the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit (USAMU) at Fort Benning, Georgia, have been selected to the 2004 U.S. Olympic Team.



Sergeant First Class Charles P. Gartland, a USAMU gunsmith, was chosen by USA Shooting to be the official gunsmith for the 2004 Olympic Games. USA Shooting is the national governing body for Olympic shooting sports in the United States.

The following seven USAMU shooters will compete in 10 Olympic shooting events: **Major Michael E. Anti**, Men's Prone Rifle and Three Position Rifle; **Sergeant First Class Bret E. Erickson**, Men's Trap and Double Trap; **Sergeant First Class Daryl L. Szarenski**, Men's Air Pistol and Free Pistol; **Sergeant First Class Shawn C. Duloher**, Men's Skeet; **Sergeant First Class James "Todd" Graves**, Men's Skeet; **Sergeant First Class Jason A. Parker**, Men's Air Rifle; and **Specialist Hattie J. Johnson**, Women's Air Rifle.

For Anti, 39, this will be his third Olympics. The infantry officer finished in 9th Place in 2000 in the Three-Position Rifle competition and in 18th Place in 1992 in the Prone Rifle event.

Parker will be competing for the second time in the Olympics in Men's Air Rifle. The infantryman finished in fifth place in the 2000 Olympics.

This is the third time Graves will be shooting in the Olympics. In 2000, he won a Bronze Medal in Skeet.

For Szarenski, this will be his second trip to the Olympics but his first time competing in Air Pistol; he will also compete in Free Pistol.

Duloher will compete in Skeet in the 2004 Games. This will be the first Olympics for the infantry Soldier who won the 2001 Skeet World Championship in Cairo, Egypt.

Troops can get reimbursed for 2003 R&R travel

JOE BURLAS, ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Thousands of troops who participated in the early phases of Central Command's Rest and Recuperation Program last year may soon see some extra money in their wallets.

About 32,000 Soldiers who arrived at the Baltimore-Washington International Airport or the Frankfurt Airport in Germany on daily military contract flights between September 26 and December 18 now qualify for reimbursement of out-of-pocket travel airline costs to and from their R&R leave addresses.

When the first R&R military contract flight departed Kuwait City September 25, about 250 Soldiers traveled free of charge either to Frankfurt or BWI. However, they were responsible to pay for "onward travel" costs to and from their leave addresses.

The Army is using a variety of means to inform Soldiers eligible for the reimbursement about how to apply for it, including internal and civilian media news stories, an Army Knowledge Online mass e-mail, and in the cases of recently discharged Soldiers, letters to last known home-of-record addresses.

The Army knows the names of each of the 32,000 Soldiers eligible for the R&R travel reimbursement, said Lieutenant Colonel Bobbie Sanders, deputy chief for G1's R&R Task Force.

Soldiers eligible for reimbursement should file a claim through their servicing finance office. Eligible discharged Soldiers should file a claim directly

through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, via e-mail, dfas-inr&leave@dfas.mil, or regular mail, DFAS-IN, Contingency Travel Operations, Department 3900, ATTN: R&R Leave, 8899 East 56th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46249-3900.

Travel claim documentation should include:

- A completed Department of Defense Form 1351-2, Travel Voucher.

- A copy of leave documentation (DA Form 31 or R&R leave order) containing a fund cite.

- A copy of the airline ticket, ticket receipt or airline travel itinerary that shows the Soldier — not an Army fund cite — paid for the ticket

Soldiers who no longer have copies of their airline ticket or ticket receipt are encouraged to contact the airlines from which they bought their onward travel connecting flight tickets.

Soldiers who have lost copies and are unable to get other copies of required documentation can submit a lost documentation statement with their travel voucher. That statement must contain the eligible Soldier's name, social security number, leave dates, the name of the onward travel airline used, final destination airport name and the cost of the ticket.

For more information on the program, visit www.armyg1.army.mil/wellbeing/rleave/index.htm.

Correction

In the Jan-Feb 2004 issue of *Infantry Magazine*, in the article titled "New Stryker Defense Proven in Combat" on page 6, the author states that the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division is also called Task Force Olympia, and that the brigade's commander is Brigadier General Carter Ham. This information is not correct.

The 3rd Brigade is called simply the Stryker Brigade Combat Team or Arrowhead Brigade Combat Team, and our commander is Colonel Michael Rounds.

General Ham is the commander of Task Force Olympia (TFO) which is a division-level headquarters that is responsible for all the multinational coalition forces operating in northern Iraq. 3rd Brigade is a subordinate element of TFO.

— CAPTAIN MATTHEW PIKE

Assistant S-3, 1-23 IN, 3/2 SBCT, Mosul, Iraq

Reconnaissance and Surveillance Leader Course

The Long Range Surveillance Leader Course located at Fort Benning, Georgia, was developed in 1986 to fill a void that existed in Ranger training when Long Range Surveillance Units (LRSUs) were reactivated that same year. To fulfill this requirement, the course was designed to emphasize the mission essential tasks drawn from lessons learned from previous Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) operations in the jungles of Southeast Asia. During the Vietnam Conflict, LRRP units received training and instruction from the Recondo Course. The course was taught in country and culminated with a live patrol in enemy territory.

The intent of the course is to produce reconnaissance and surveillance leaders by teaching and reinforcing reconnaissance and surveillance technical, tactical, and operational skills, enabling them to train and lead their units. In July 2002, the Long Range Surveillance Leaders Course was renamed the Reconnaissance and Surveillance Leader Course (RSLC). Today, the mission of the Reconnaissance and Surveillance Leader Course is to further develop the combat arms related functional skills of officers, NCOs, and enlisted volunteers eligible for assignment to units whose primary mission is to conduct surveillance, reconnaissance operations, target acquisition, and combat assessment.

In general, there are five courses a year held at Fort Benning with a maximum student load of 36. The course is 33 days long, and all students must have a Ranger School physical within the last 18 months that will carry them through the course. The prerequisites for attendance to the RSLC are limited to Soldiers assigned or possess potential to be assigned to a LRSU, Special Operations, Scout, or Reconnaissance unit. It is recommended that the Soldier be an E-5/sergeant or above, or have spent one year in a Surveillance/Reconnaissance unit and be Ranger or Special Forces qualified with an airborne background. Students should be able to perform basic infantry skills (10 level),



have an understanding of infantry battle drills, and possess basic knowledge of the Army warning order and operations order. They should be skilled in land navigation, be able to swim, and have a working knowledge of Army communications equipment. Soldiers from any branch of service that meet the prerequisites may attend the course. Most classes have a good balance of Army LRS Soldiers, Scouts, and Recon Marines.

Soldiers will receive instruction and execute practical exercises in communications, vehicle and equipment identification, methods of insertion and extraction, operational techniques, and intelligence. Graduation requirements include passing an Army Physical Fitness Test, land navigation written exam and course, communications written and hands-on exams, vehicle identification exam, intelligence exam, and the ability to pass 50 percent of graded patrols during the FTX.

Course Outline

Communications

- Introduction to long range communications
- Radio wave propagation
- Antenna theory & construction
- EWF & reporting procedures
- Common R&S equipment (PRC-150, 138,119, Toughbooks, KL-43)
- Data transmissions
- 2 x COMMEX
- Commo written exam
- Commo hands-on exam

Operational Techniques

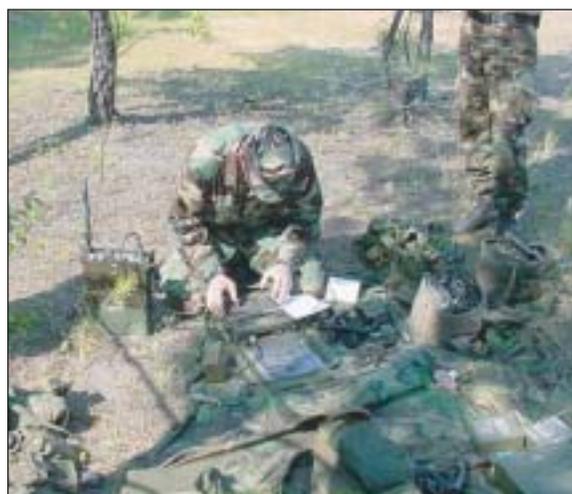
- Target acquisition
- Damage assessment
- Tracking/counter-tracking
- Survival
- Evasion and recovery
- Battle drills
- Surveillance ops
- Reconnaissance ops
- Hide/surveillance sites
- Land navigation
- Caches
- Graded patrols

Intelligence

- Organization of the G2
- Mission folder development
- Imagery
- Debriefing
- Stability and support operations
- ACM TTPs & lessons learned
- Contemporary operating environment
- Military symbology
- IPB
- Intel exam
- Intel retest

Insertion and Extraction Training

- Airborne ops (x2)
- Over the ramp
- C-130
- MC-1C



4th RTB photos

A RSLC student employs HF communications equipment in order to send a data burst transmission during the week one COMMEX.



RSLC students receive SPIES training and certification prior to the FTX and patrolling phase of the course.

- Infiltration/exfiltration techniques class
- Special patrol insertion and extraction system (SPIES)
 - * certification day
 - * extraction from FTX
- Fast rope insertion and extraction system (FRIES)
 - * certification process
 - * insertion into FTX

Vehicle/Equipment ID

- * Battle tanks
 - * APCs
 - * Artillery
 - * Aircraft
 - * NBC
 - * Recon
 - * Radar
 - * C2
 - * ADA
 - * Engineer
 - 141 combine vehicles
 - Vehicle/equip. ID exam
 - Vehicle/equip. ID retest
- Throughout the year, Delta Company, 4th Ranger Training Battalion, also executes mobile training teams (MTTs). Some examples include:
- Vehicle ID MTT – SEAL Tm 8;
 - Full Course MTT – 2nd

- Infantry Division, Korea;
- Fast Rope MTT – 1st Cavalry Division;
- Full Course MTT – 101st Airborne Division, while deployed in Iraq; and
- Urban Surveillance MTT – Rhode Island National Guard LRS.

Course instructors also provide observer/controller (OC) support for LRS rotations at the Joint Readiness Training Center, and unit-run EXEVALs. Units can request MTT and OC support through the U.S. Army Infantry Center’s Directorate of Training at Fort Benning.

Delta Company is also charged with being the proponent for LRS doctrine. This year, that included drafting the new LRS manual FM 3-5.93 (LRS Unit Operations), and hosting the LRS Symposium. Based on lessons learned from Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, we are working on the following initiatives:

- **Increased mobility,**
- **Increased direct fire capabilities,**
- **Internal or attached service and support capabilities (Medical, Rigger, Mechanic), and**
- **Unity of effort in Force Modernization and compatible equipment between different LRSUs.**

Increased mobility may include the table of organization and equipment (TO&E) addition of GMVs/HMMWVs at the company level and 6x6 ATVs at the team level. Over the last two years of operations,

this issue has been substantiated in the need for LRSUs to have their own vehicle platforms for internal quick reaction forces (QRF), self insertion or extraction, mobile and flexible command and control, and service and support operations.

The need for increased direct fire capabilities has been proven, as some LRSUs were out-ranged and out-gunned while in contact in Iraq. Proposals for sniper weapon systems and light machine guns at the team level and heavier machine guns at the company level are being considered.

Service and support and force modernization issues are being addressed under the new force structure changes.

Army Force structure changes are underway with the implementation of Units of Action (UA) and Units of Execution (UEX). The RSLC cadre are working with the Infantry Center to develop the best course of action for LRS under these new configurations. LRS units will not go away and the need for Surveillance and Reconnaissance units has increased with the Global War on Terror. But the current LRS detachments and companies may not exist as we now know them. Multiple courses of action are being considered. This includes the possibility of a LRSU in select UEX Recon, Surveillance, and Target Acquisition units (RSTAs), or LRSUs consolidated under one Headquarters which would provide LRSUs to UEXs and UAs as needed.

This next year will no doubt bring about many changes to Reconnaissance and Surveillance units at all levels of the force as we continue the fight against terror. The Reconnaissance and Surveillance Leader Course will remain ready and flexible to train and support all units with this mission, producing skilled, competent, and confident leaders to employ these force multipliers on the battlefield as the “All Weather — All Thinking — Anytime — Anywhere – Collector.”

For more information, contact D Company (RSLC), 4th RTB, 10850 Schneider Road, Fort Benning, GA 31905, (706) 544-6216/6831, www.benning.army.mil/rtb/new_lrs/c/default.htm.



An RSLC instructor conducts an AAR with students after executing a battle drill during an MTT in northern Iraq.

STRYKER NETT TRAINS SOLDIERS



SERGEANT FIRST CLASS LANCE RATZEL

The Stryker New Equipment Training Team completed training the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team) and the 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (SBCT). The 3rd Brigade is currently conducting operations in Iraq. Both brigades were trained on the following vehicles:

- ◆ Infantry Carrier Vehicle
- ◆ Command Vehicle
- ◆ Engineer Squad Vehicle
- ◆ Reconnaissance/Scout Vehicle
- ◆ Mortar Carrier Vehicle
- ◆ Medical Evacuation Vehicle
- ◆ Anti-Tank Guided Missile Vehicle
- ◆ Fire Support Vehicle

The Stryker NETT is currently training Soldiers from the 172nd Infantry Brigade in Alaska. They will receive training on all the Stryker variants. The NETT will also conduct training on the new Stryker Embedded Trainer. The Stryker Embedded Trainer will allow Soldiers to simulate gunner skills on their Strykers with the help of computer-aided graphics. The NETT should complete this training by May 2005.

Currently at Fort Benning, the 1st Battalion, 29th Infantry has four Infantry Carrier Vehicles, one Anti-Tank Guided Missile Vehicle, and one Command Vehicle. Additionally, 2nd Battalion, 29th Infantry just received a Mortar Carrier Vehicle (version B). The Stryker NET Team will be training on the Mortar Carrier Vehicle in the near future.

The Stryker NETT sent two Soldiers to Detroit, Michigan, to validate the Stryker Technical Manual (TM). This validation consisted of performing all procedures in the TM to ensure that the tasks could be performed as stated.

The next mission that the Stryker NETT will undertake is training the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Polk, Louisiana. The 2nd ACR will receive training on all the Stryker variants. Training is expected to be completed by mid 2006.

STRYKER PROPONENCY OFFICE

The Stryker Proponency Office has been involved in many Stryker-related tasks. The main focus has been the new Stryker

Gunnery Manual. This manual is currently being written and is approximately 80 percent complete. This manual establishes guidelines for commanders to train Stryker Brigade Combat Teams in gunnery skills required for combat operations.

The Stryker Proponency Office completed testing of the gunnery tables for the manual on Ruth Range. The testing was a great success and much was learned to ensure Stryker Soldiers have the best training available to them. All four Stryker crews from the 1st Battalion, 29th Infantry qualified on these new tables. They were the first Soldiers to qualify on a Stryker to Infantry School standards in the Army.

The tables were broken down into practice and qualification tables. Each table was shot during the day and night using an M2 .50 cal. machine gun and the MK19 grenade machine gun.

Additionally, much work has been done in developing training devices for the Stryker. Currently, the embedded training device is being fielded on Strykers. This device will train Soldiers on basic gunnery skills using a portable desktop computer. The Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System is also being tested and fielded for the Stryker equipped units. The Stryker Proponency Office played a key role in testing this system to ensure Soldiers have the best training devices available.



Sergeant Jeremiah Johnson

Soldiers from the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team) are currently conducting operations in Iraq.