FIELD MANUAL
HEADQUARTERS
No. 23-65
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Washington, DC, 19 June 1991

BROWNING MACHINE GUN
CALIBER .50 HB, M2

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* **GLOSSARY**

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This manual provides technical information, training techniques, and guidance on the caliber .50 HB machine gun, M2. Unit leaders and designated gunners will use this information to successfully integrate the weapon into combat operations. They can instruct on the range or at concurrent training stations.

The material applies as is to both nuclear and conventional warfare.

Trainers must ensure that everyone observes safety procedures at all times. Commanders, trainers, and individual students must remember that safety is everyone's responsibility. Leaders will conduct all training as though each weapon were fully loaded. At no time during training will anyone allow the desire for speed or accuracy to override the requirement to follow safety procedures. Safe training is good training.

The proponent of this publication is US Army Infantry School. Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to the Commandant, US Army Infantry School, ATTN: ATSH-INB-O, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5594 or lusanoh@benning.army.mil.

Unless otherwise stated, the masculine gender refers to both men and women.
The procedures and methods used in Army machine gun marksmanship are based on the concept that soldiers must be skilled gunners who can effectively apply their firing skills in combat. The basic firing skills and exercises outlined in this manual must be a part of every unit's machine gun training program. The soldiers' proficiency depends on proper training and application of basic gunnery fundamental, which are taught in a progressive program to prepare gunners for combat.

1-1. TRAINING STRATEGY
Training strategy is the overall concept for integrating resources into a program to train individual and collective skills needed to perform a unit's wartime mission.

a. Training strategies for marksmanship are implemented in TRADOC institutions (NCOES, basic and advanced officer's courses) and in units. The overall training strategy is multifaceted and is inclusive of the specific strategies used in institution and unit programs. Also included are the supporting strategies that use resources such as publications, ranges, ammunition, training aids, devices, simulators, and simulations. These strategies focus on developing critical soldier skills, and on leader skills that are required for the intended outcome.

b. Two primary components compose the training strategies: initial training and sustainment training. Both may include individual and collective skills. Initial training is critical because a task that is taught correctly and learned well is retained longer. Well-trained skills can be more quickly regained and sustained if an interim of nonuse occurs. The more difficult and complex the task, the harder it is to sustain the skill. Personnel turnover is a main factor in decay of collective skills, since the loss of critical team members requires retraining to regain proficiency. If a long period elapses between initial and sustainment training sessions or training doctrine is altered, retraining maybe required.

c. The training strategy for caliber .50 MG marksmanship begins in selected resident training and continues in the unit. An example of this overall process is illustrated in Figure 1-1 and provides a concept of the