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BRIGADE AND BATTALION INTELLIGENCE AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE OPERATIONS

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PREFACE

Intelligence and electronic warfare (IEW) support is critical to the success of the divisional brigades and battalions conduct of close operations. Commanders at these tactical echelons require accurate intelligence to plan the battle and timely combat information to win it. Counterintelligence (CI) support to battlefield deception and operations security (OPSEC) ensures the critical element of surprise and helps sustain the effective combat power of tactical forces. Electronic warfare (EW) provides combat information and targeting data for both maneuver and fire support units, protects friendly command, control, and communications (C^3) systems, and augments maneuver and fires to suppress, neutralize, and destroy enemy C^3 facilities.

FM 34-80 is intended primarily for use by the intelligence staff officer (S2) and his section at the maneuver battalion and brigade levels. It describes the IEW tasks for which the S2 has responsibility and how the S2 operations are integrated into the command and staff process at the battalion and brigade levels. This manual may also be used by commanders, other staff officers, and military intelligence personnel within the division to gain a better understanding of the IEW system and IEW tasks applicable to brigade and battalion operations. For a more thorough understanding of tactical IEW doctrine, the reader should review FMs 34-1 and 34-10. FMs 71-3 and 71-2J should be reviewed for general doctrinal guidance for maneuver operations at the brigade and task force levels.

Information contained within FM 34-80 is applicable to division- and corps-based units organized according to (Army 86) tables of organization and equipment (TOE). Appendix D, Army of Excellence (AOE) points out those organizational and operational areas that have been changed in one way or another by the current restructuring of IEW resources under the AOE force design. FM 34-80 describes how various elements of the IEW system extending from battalion to corps are best used in support of brigade and battalion combat operations. Essential IEW functions, performed in peacetime, are also described in sufficient detail to ensure the combat readiness of IEW resources and the maneuver units they support.

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Provisions of this manual are subject to international standardization agreements (STANAGs) 1059,2003,2008,2014, 2033,2044,2082,2084, 2097,2113,2844,2868, 2936,3277, and 6004. Provisions of this manual are in compliance with quadripartite agreements 101-3, 170, 295, 311, 321, 492, 502, 506, 511, 523, 528, and 593. When amendment, revision, or cancellation of this publication is proposed that will affect or violate the agreement concerned, the preparing activity will take proper action through international standardization channels.

When used in this publication, “he”, “him”, “his”, and “men” represent both masculine and feminine genders unless otherwise stated.

CHAPTER 1

THE MISSION

Brigade and battalion commanders plan and direct the close operations on the air-land battlefield against enemy battalions and companies of first-echelon regiments. They must also be prepared to engage follow-on forces and first-echelon sustainers located within or entering their assigned areas of operations (AO).

Successful close operations depend on the ability of the combined arms team to find, fix, fight, and finish enemy forces through a combination of offensive and defensive operations. IEW resources, to include the S2, the S3, and all reconnaissance, surveillance, and target acquisition (RSTA) assets are members of the combined arms team. Their mission is to provide brigade and battalion commanders the accurate, timely, and effective intelligence, counterintelligence, and electronic warfare support necessary to plan, direct, and conduct successful combat operations.

INTELLIGENCE

Intelligence impacts directly on the effects of maneuver, firepower, protection, and leadership—the components of combat power. Accurate intelligence is critical to the brigade and battalion commander's decisions regarding when, where, and how to employ maneuver and firepower. It provides the information necessary to select appropriate protective measures essential to the security of the command. It also provides the knowledge which enables leaders to lead and win. Historically, commanders who have possessed superior knowledge of the enemy, weather, and terrain—intelligence—have proven victorious in battle. Their success, the result of avoiding enemy strengths while exploiting weaknesses and the element of surprise, depended on their knowledge of the area in which they fought.

Today, brigade and battalion commanders consider the battlefield in terms of the time and space necessary to defeat or bypass an enemy force before it can reactor be reinforced. They are concerned about an area of operations in which they need to see and fight by means of maneuver and fire support; and an area of interest about which they seek and receive information regarding the enemy, weather, and terrain.

AREA OF OPERATIONS

An area of operations is defined as that portion of an area of conflict necessary for military operations (JCS Pub 1). Areas of operations are geographical areas assigned to commanders for which they have responsibility and in which they have authority to conduct military operations. The assigned area of operations is based on the factors of METT-T and must be of sufficient size to allow completion of the assigned mission. Commanders at each level are normally assigned areas of operations which extend beyond the FLOT or attack objectives a distance commensurate with the planning horizons shown on page 1-1. They rely on the next higher echelon and adjacent units for information pertaining to enemy forces located beyond the limits of their respective AO and within their areas of interest.

AREA OF INTEREST

An area of interest is not assigned by a higher headquarters and is not delineated