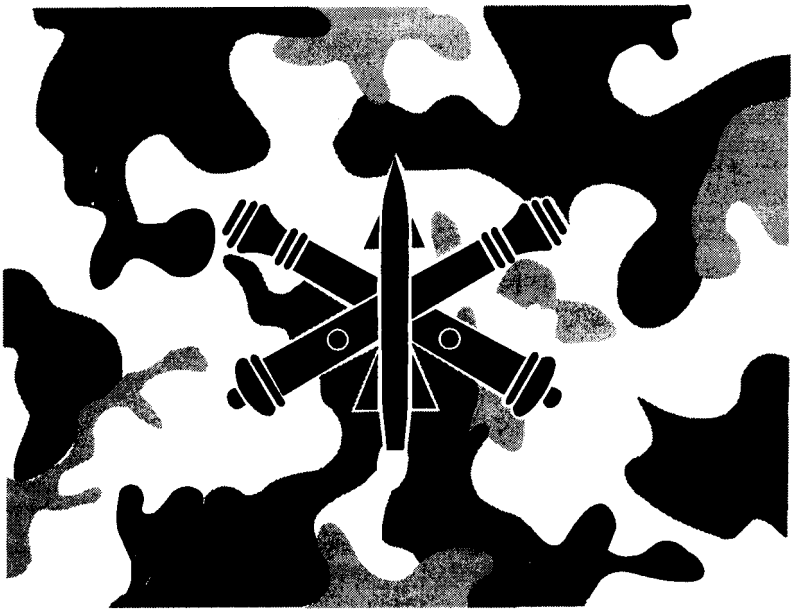


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No. 44-44

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Headquarters
Department of the Army
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AVENGER PLATOON, SECTION, AND SQUAD OPERATIONS



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Preface

The mission of air defense artillery is to protect the force and selected geopolitical assets from aerial attack, missile attack, and surveillance. FM 44-44 is the doctrinal forward area air defense (FAAD) manual for the Avenger platoon, section, and squad. It explains how Avenger provides air defense for the force and survives on the battlefield.

This manual also details tactics, techniques, and procedures used by the Avenger platoon when engaged in decisive offensive and defensive operations. Most importantly, it describes how Avenger platoons, sections, and squads protect deploying or deployed forces and critical assets by preventing enemy aerial platforms (unmanned, rotary, and fixed wing) and missiles from locating, striking, and destroying them.

This manual is required reading for commanders, platoon leaders, platoon sergeants, and section and squad leaders who will direct and supervise the employment of Avenger weapon systems. Other recommended essential reading includes—

- FM 7-8 Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad
- FM 7-20 The Infantry Battalion
- FM 7-30 Infantry, Airborne, and Air Assault Brigade Operations
- FM 44-43 Bradley Stinger Fighting Vehicle Platoon and Squad Operations
- FM 44-64 FAAD Battalion and Battery Operations (TBP)
- FM 44-100 US Army Air Defense Operations
- FM 71-1-1 Tank and Mechanized Infantry Company Team
- FM 71-2 The Tank and Mechanized Infantry Battalion Task Force
- FM 71-3 Armored and Mechanized Infantry Brigade
- FM 71-123 Tactics and Techniques for Combined Arms Heavy Forces: Armored Brigade, Battalion/Task Force, and Company/Team

FM 44-44 is unclassified. Therefore, threat information contained in the publication is general in nature. Where detailed and current information is required, consult authoritative threat sources. Classified information pertaining to Avenger capabilities, limitations, and AD planning is found in (S)FM 44-100A(U)(TBP).

This publication implements the following international standardization agreements (STANAGs):

STANAG	TITLE	EDITION
2014	Operation Orders, Warning Orders, and Administrative/Logistics Orders	7
2019	Military Symbols for Land Based Systems (APP-6)	3
2034	Land Forces Procedures for Allied Supply Transactions	4
2041	Operations Orders, Tables and Graphs for Road Movement	4
3700	NATO Tactical Air Doctrine—ATP-33 (B)	4
3736	Offensive Air Support Operations—ATP-27 (B)	8
3805	Doctrine & Procedures for Airspace Control in Times of Crisis and War—ATP40 (A)	4
3880	Counter Air Operations—ATP-42 (B)	2

The proponent of this publication is the United States Army Air Defense Artillery School. Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 directly to Commandant, US Army Air Defense Artillery School, ATTN: ATSA-TAC-D, Fort Bliss, TX 79916-3802.

Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.

CHAPTER 1
**AVENGER PLATOON OPERATIONS
AND ORGANIZATION**

This chapter discusses missions, capabilities, organization, and roles of the Avenger platoon. The Avenger plays an integral role in the combined arms team, especially with winning the information war. The Avenger missions are to counter enemy RISTA efforts and to provide low-altitude air defense to the force and its critical assets.

The Army ADA mission is to protect the force and selected geopolitical assets from aerial and missile attack and surveillance. The Avenger platoon leader must understand Army operations doctrine so that the platoon's employment is synchronized with the supported force's main effort. The FAAD mission is to provide low-altitude air defense protection to the force and its critical assets. FAAD contributes to force-protection operations by countering threat RISTA and lethal aerial platforms. FAAD weapon systems ensure the force has the freedom to maneuver during combat operations.

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