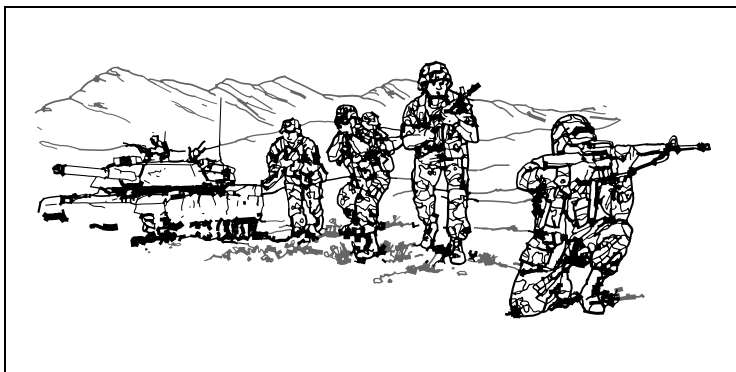


FM 5-10

This reprint contains
Change 1.

Combat Engineer Platoon



HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

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Field Manual
No. 5-10

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Combat Engineer Platoon

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PREFACE

Field Manual (FM) 5-10 is designed as a companion manual for *FM 5-34* and is structured using the following Battlefield Operating Systems (BOS) as a framework:

- Intelligence.
- Maneuver.
- Mobility and survivability.
- Fire support (FS).
- Air defense (AD).
- Combat service support (CSS).
- Command and control (C²).

Each BOS is not discussed in detail. Instead, they are used to outline considerations for how the engineer platoon supports the total combined-arms (CA) effort. The bulk of the platoon's missions concentrates on mobility, countermobility, and survivability operations in support of the mobility and survivability BOS. However, the platoon leader and sergeant must have an understanding of the role their platoon plays in supporting all the BOS. More importantly, the platoon leader and sergeant must understand the impact of all the BOS on platoon planning, preparation, and execution.

This FM also has three appendices: *Appendix A* covers basic formations, movement techniques, and hand-and-arm signals; *Appendix B* contains checklists for security, precombat, and packing; and *Appendix C* covers case studies for mounted and dismounted breaching.

The proponent of this publication is Headquarters (HQ), United States (US) Army Engineer School. Send comments and recommendations on *Department of the Army (DA) Form 2028* directly to Commander, US Army Engineer School, ATTN: ATSE-T-PD-PM, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri 65473-6650.

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

CHAPTER 1

Intelligence

Intelligence is the key for preparing for the next battle. The analysis of intelligence, in detail, determines the impact of the enemy, weather, and terrain on operations. It is a continuous process that supports the planning for and execution of all operations. It is imperative that the platoon leader understand the intelligence process and his part in that process.

THREAT

The threat facing the US Army has gone through a quantum change with the breakup of the Warsaw Pact and the former Soviet Union. However, the majority of the forces we will face in mid- to high-intensity conflicts will use the "Soviet" model for their operations. *Figures 1-1 and 1-2, pages 1-2 and 1-3, provide templates for the Soviet-style platoon and company defense as well as movement formations. A detailed analysis of threat mine-warfare capabilities and tactics can be found in FM 90-13-1, Appendix A, and FM 20-32, Appendix C.*

RECONNAISSANCE

Reconnaissance is critical to the engineer. During offensive operations, the engineer must see the battlefield to plan breaching operations. History has proven that when a unit conducts CA rehearsals and obstacle reconnaissance it has greater success. The platoon leader should organize his platoon based on the reconnaissance mission the commander gives him. This frequently means providing expert engineers to assist the task force (TF) scouts. The platoon leader may also organize all or part of his platoon for a reconnaissance mission if there is a critical requirement for engineer-specific intelligence. If at all possible, the engineers who conduct the reconnaissance should be trained in this task as well as cross trained with the maneuver unit's scout platoon. The platoon leader must ensure that his designated reconnaissance element links up with the scout platoon.

TYPES

The general types of engineer reconnaissance missions are—

- Technical, which—
 - Is conducted to collect engineer-specific technical data.