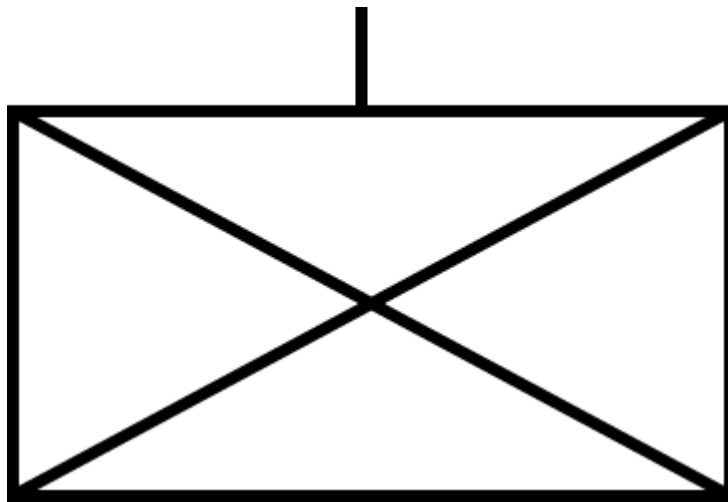


THE INFANTRY RIFLE COMPANY



US NATIONAL POLICY ON ANTIPERSONNEL LAND MINES

On 16 May 96, The President of the United States announced a national policy that eliminates or restricts the use of antipersonnel land mines, beginning with those that do not self-destruct but eventually including all types. This policy is in effect now. It applies to all Infantry units either engaged in, or training for, operations worldwide.

Current US policy allows the use of non-self-destructing antipersonnel land mines only along internationally recognized national borders or in established demilitarized zones, specifically for the defense of Korea. Such mines must be within an area having a clearly marked perimeter. They must be monitored by military personnel and protected by adequate means to ensure the exclusion of civilians.

US national policy also forbids US forces from using standard or improvised explosive devices as booby traps.

Except for units in Korea or units going there for a designated exercise, this policy specifically forbids all training on or actual employment of inert M14 and M16 antipersonnel land mines either at the unit's home station or at a Combat Training Center except in the context of countermine or de-mining training. No training with live M14 mines is authorized, and training with live M16 mines is authorized only for soldiers actually on Korean soil.

This policy does not affect the standard use of antivehicular mines. It does not affect training and use of the M18 Claymore mine in the command detonated mode.

For the immediate future, units may still use self-destructing antipersonnel mines, such as the ADAM, when authorized by the appropriate commander. Under proper command authority, units may still emplace mixed minefields containing self-destructing antipersonnel land mines used to protect antivehicular land mines, for example, MOPMS or Volcano.

Users of this manual should consider all references to antipersonnel mines and the employment of minefields in the light of the national policy limiting the use of non-self-destructing antipersonnel land mines.

Readers should not construe any uses of the terms mines, antipersonnel obstacle, protective minefield, or minefield contained in this manual to mean an obstacle that contains non-self-destructing antipersonnel land mines, or booby traps.

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"Look at your mission, see what you have to do it with, and then work out the most sensible (which may frequently be the most unusual and most audacious) way of doing it—and let fly. Use your brain, your imagination, your initiative."

GENERAL HAMILTON H. HOWZE

PREFACE

This manual provides doctrine, tactics, techniques, and procedures on how all infantry rifle companies fight. Infantry rifle companies include light infantry companies, air assault, airborne, ranger, and H-series infantry (Reserve Component). This manual is aligned with the Army's AirLand Battle doctrine and is not intended to be a stand-alone publication. An understanding of FM 7-8 and FM 7-20 is essential. Also, the references section provides publications that users of this manual must be familiar with.

The primary audiences for this manual are the rifle company commander; his executive officer, first sergeant, and platoon leaders; instructors in TRADOC schools; and writers of infantry training literature. The secondary audiences include other infantry company commanders (HHC and antiarmor), infantry battalion staff officers, service schools, and ROTC and military academy instructors.

Tough, realistic training is inherently dangerous; therefore, commanders and leaders must instill an awareness of individual and unit safety and always consider the welfare of their soldiers. All soldiers must be alert to potential risks and safety violations. The specifics of how to train the company are explained in ARTEP 7-10 MTP, requiring users to understand the TTP discussed in this manual.

This manual does not present the tactical solution to all tactical situations. Infantry leaders are expected to use the doctrine, tactics, techniques, and procedures discussed in this manual as part of a detailed estimate of the situation. They can then develop an effective plan to accomplish the assigned mission.

This publication implements the following international agreement:

**STANAG 2017/QSTAG 508
(Edition 3)**

**Orders to the Demolition Guard,
Commander and Demolition Firing
Party Commander**

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 Commandant, US Army Infantry School, ATTN: ATSH-ATD, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905-5410.

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

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

In operations in which light forces predominate, airborne, air assault, or other light infantry lead the combined arms attack, and all other arms support the infantry.

FM 100-5, May 1986

The infantry company is organized to fight anywhere in the world and win. The basic fighting doctrine for the US Army is called AirLand Battle. AirLand Battle at the company level equates to maneuver warfare. This requires bold, aggressive leaders who are willing to accept known risks in pursuit of mission accomplishment. Infantry leaders on the modern battlefield must be capable of using their initiative and making rapid decisions to take advantage of unexpected opportunities. Infantry companies must be aggressive, physically fit, disciplined, and well-trained organizations. The inherent strategic mobility of infantry units dictates a need to be prepared for rapid deployment into combat. The potential locations and possible enemy threats that an infantry company may face require infantry companies to maintain a high state of readiness.

Section I. PREPARATION FOR WAR

The infantry rifle company is organized and equipped to close with the enemy to kill him, destroy his equipment, and shatter his will to resist. This close personal fight requires combat-ready units composed of skilled soldiers and resourceful leaders. These units are the result of a tough, thorough, and demanding training program conducted by leaders who understand the effective employment of infantry forces.

1-1. THE SOLDIER

Our infantrymen must be proficient in marksmanship, close combat, and fieldcraft. They should be proficient with other weapons in the unit as well as their own. They should also be familiar with foreign-made weapons they are apt to meet in battle. In the close fight, our infantrymen must be skilled in the employment of all weapons (rifles, bayonets, LAWs/AT4s, grenades, mines, and even their bare hands). They must be totally confident in their ability to fight with these weapons. These infantrymen must be highly skilled in land navigation, camouflage, and tracking and stalking techniques. Each soldier must be capable of moving undetected in close proximity to enemy soldiers for reconnaissance, for infiltration, and for achieving surprise in all operations. Our infantrymen must have the skill and the will—not to just participate in the close fight, but to dominate it.

1-2. THE LEADER

Our infantry leaders must be the most capable soldiers in the unit. Their leadership will determine the unit's success or failure in battle. They must be tactically and technically proficient. They must be proficient at land navigation and have a thorough appreciation for terrain. For a foot soldier, the terrain is both protector and ally. When properly