

Field Manual
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**EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL SERVICE
AND UNIT OPERATIONS**

CONTENTS

	Page
PREFACE	iv
Chapter 1 THE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL CHALLENGE	1-1
The Threat	1-1
Army Operations Tenets	1-1
Combat Power	1-2
The EOD Mission	1-4
EOD Functions	1-4
EOD Organizations and Structures	1-5
EOD Limitations	1-8
EOD Command and Control	1-8
EOD Planning	1-9
Chapter 2 COORDINATED COUNTER-UXO OPERATIONS	2-1
Scenarios	2-1
EOD Responsibilities	2-1
Supported and Supporting Unit Responsibilities	2-1
Typical Incident Procedures	2-2
Chapter 3 EOD NBC OPERATIONS, IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES, AND TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE	3-1
EOD NBC Operations	3-1
Improvised Explosive Devices	3-2
Technical Intelligence	3-2
Chapter 4 OPERATIONS OTHER THAN WAR	4-1
Overview	4-1
EOD Role	4-2
Command and Control	4-2
IED Incidents	4-2
Formerly Used Defense Sites	4-3
Posse Comitatus Act	4-4
EPA and OSHA Considerations in EOD	4-4
Chapter 5 EOD UNIT OPERATIONS	5-1
Section I General Considerations	5-1
Force Projection	5-1
EOD and Force Projection	5-1

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Readiness	5-1
Training	5-2
Response Team Development	5-2
METL	5-2
Safety	5-2
Command Post Setup	5-4
Section II The EOD Response	5-4
Accident/Incident Defined	5-4
Response Planning	5-4
RSP Tactics and Planning	5-5
Multiple UXO Response	5-5
Chapter 6 AREA CLEARANCE AND ROBOTICS	6-1
Section I Area Clearance	6-1
Definition	6-1
Planning Considerations	6-1
Response Procedures	6-2
Section II Robotics	6-2
Remote Attack Philosophy	6-2
Assessment Techniques	6-2
Questioning Techniques	6-3
Limitations	6-4
Chapter 7 NBC OPERATIONS	7-1
Section I Nuclear Incidents	7-1
Overall Responsibilities	7-1
EOD Officer Responsibilities	7-1
Command Post Setup and Responsibilities	7-2
IEP/WP Functions and Responsibilities	7-3
ECCS Setup and Operations	7-5
Depleted Uranium Incidents	7-5
Section II Chemical and Biological Incidents	7-7
Overall Responsibilities	7-7
Command Post Setup and Responsibilities	7-8
IEP Responsibilities	7-10
Work Party Responsibilities	7-12
Emergency Personnel Decontamination Station	7-14
Appendix A ORGANIZATION, STRUCTURE, AND MISSIONS OF EOD UNITS	A-1
Appendix B MARKING OF CONTAMINATED OR DANGEROUS LAND	B-1
Appendix C US MUNITIONS	C-1
Appendix D EOD CANDIDATE ACCEPTANCE GUIDE	D-1
Appendix E ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORTING	E-1
GLOSSARY	Glossary-1

REFERENCES References-1

INDEX Index-1

PREFACE

This FM prescribes EOD doctrine for conducting EOD operations during war and OOTW. It develops and defines the EOD perspective on the Army's keystone warfighting doctrine described in FM 100-5. This manual identifies the EOD mission, organization, roles, capabilities, and employment to support national security strategy. It serves as a guide for commanders and staff who will use EOD support for operations on conventional, chemical, nuclear, and improvised explosive ordnance. It also provides the EOD unit commander, staff, and personnel general and technical guidance for conducting EOD unit operations.

FM 9-15 discusses several doctrinal changes: the implementation of the heavy and light EOD response team concept, the effect on EOD of the removal of the Army's tactical nuclear weapons from its inventories, and the role of Army EOD in the postnuclear Army. The contents of this manual are consistent with FM 100-5.

This publication implements the following STANAGs:

STANAG 2002, *Warning Signs for the Marking of Contaminated or Dangerous Land Areas, Complete Equipment, Supplies, and Stores*, Edition 7.

STANAG 2079, *Rear Area Security and Rear Area Damage Control*, Edition 4.

STANAG 2143, *Explosive Ordnance Reconnaissance/Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOR/EOD)*, Edition 4.

STANAG 2389, *Minimum Standards of Proficiency for Trained Explosive Ordnance Disposal Personnel*, Edition 1.

STANAG 2834, *The Operation of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technical Information Center (EODTIC)*, Edition 2.

STANAG 2929, *Airfield Damage Repair (ADR)*, Edition 4.

STANAG 2957, *International System (SI) used by Armed Forces in the Nuclear Field*, Edition 3.

The proponent of this publication is HQ, TRADOC. Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 (or in 2028 format) directly to Commander, USACASCOM&FL, Training Directorate, Attn: ATCL-AM, 801 Lee Avenue, Fort Lee, VA 23801-1713.

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

CHAPTER 1

THE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL CHALLENGE

This chapter implements STANAGs 2079, 2389, and 2929.

EOD service helps preserve the commander's combat power. It enables the commander to integrate and coordinate a variety of functions to prevent degeneration of combat power at the operational and tactical levels. The challenge for EOD is to help maintain the maneuver, firepower, sustainment, and protection functions across the full range of Army operations.

THE THREAT

The strategic environment, even after the Cold War, is both dangerous and ambiguous. Increased instability in the world has resulted in regional conflicts, civil wars, insurgences, terrorist attacks, drug trafficking, and a variety of attempts at intimidation. These challenges arise even during times of relative peace. With this threat, UXO and IEDs will reduce the commander's combat power and national political, economic, military, and informational power during OOTW.

Because of this threat, commanders at all levels must incorporate EOD support into their planning process. This will ensure commanders will be able to respond to these worldwide strategic challenges across a full range of operations as part of a joint team.

The continuing development of foreign and US high-technology munitions that disperse numerous submunitions and area denial ordnance has led to the proliferation of UXO. These munitions are available for a range of weapon systems, including artillery, ballistic and cruise missiles, rockets, and bombs. On the battlefield, UXO can be conventional HE; chemical, biological, or nuclear ordnance; or IEDs. UXO limits battlefield mobility, denies the use of critical assets, and threatens to injure or kill soldiers at levels unprecedented in past wars. The vast amounts of UXO found in Iraq and Kuwait during and after Operation Desert Storm testify to the increased proliferation.

All units in the Army must be able to cope with UXO on the battlefield. This calls for awareness training for all soldiers and for procedures that limit the effects of UXO on operations. Refer to FM 21-16 for more information on the UXO problem. At

times, EOD units will operate jointly with other non-EOD units, other services, or allied EOD units to perform counter-UXO operations.

ARMY OPERATIONS TENETS

Five tenets of Army operations are described in FM 100-5: initiative, agility, depth, synchronization, and versatility. How EOD relates to each is described below.

Initiative

Initiative sets or changes the terms of battle by action. It implies an offensive spirit in conducting all operations. Applied to the force as a whole, it requires a constant effort to force the enemy to conform to *our* operational purpose and tempo while keeping our own freedom of action. Applied to individual soldiers and leaders, it requires a willingness and ability to act independently within the framework of the higher commander's intent. As in the past, EOD must excel at independent action to provide time-critical support across the entire spectrum of Army operations. EOD must anticipate requirements and act *before* the needs are identified at higher echelons.

Agility

Agility is friendly forces acting faster than the enemy. It is a prerequisite for seizing and holding the initiative. Such greater quickness permits the rapid concentration of friendly strength against enemy vulnerabilities. EOD is task-organized to ensure a rapid and focused response.

Depth

Depth is the extension of operations in space, time, and resources. High technology weapons and the enemy's capability to deliver them require EOD