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TRAINING OBJECTIVES FOR TANK PLATOON LEADERS
COVERING TASKS PERFORMED DURING FOUR ARMOR OPERATIONS

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FOREWORD

Training objectives are used by the developers of training programs to guide them in the design of the programs. These objectives are important because they are based on specific job requirements and ensure that training is relevant to the job. They generally specify the conditions under which a task is performed, the steps that must be followed when performing the task, and the standards that must be met. While this format is adequate for tasks that are procedural in nature, it is not suitable for preparing training objectives for tactical leadership tasks. This is because the specific job requirements for tactical leadership cannot be described in this format. Tactical leadership tasks require leaders to make decisions that are based on the specific situation in which a unit is operating during combat. Decisions that are appropriate in some situations may be entirely inappropriate in other situations. Complicating the problem is the likelihood that several decisions may be appropriate in the same situation. It is also important that training objectives for tactical tasks allow for unique and innovative decisions that reflect the ingenuity of the commander.

This report describes a new format that has been developed for the preparation of training objectives for tactical leadership tasks. The format is unique in that it contains a detailed description of the role of a task in combat and separate sections for the different components of tactical leadership tasks. The decision component contains a list of the conditions that affect the decision to conduct the task and/or how to conduct the task, information that must be considered by the commander when making decisions, and principles for determining the adequacy of the decisions. The command component lists the information that must be contained in the initial command and in any subsequent commands. The execution component pertains to decisions that the commander must make during the execution of the task stemming from the initial command. The report also contains training objectives for tactical leadership tasks that are performed by tank platoon leaders during selected phases of two offensive and two defensive combat missions.

The new format described in this report is useful to analysts who must prepare training objectives for tactical leadership tasks. The training objectives for tasks performed by tank platoon leaders are useful to training developers in determining requirements for tactical training devices and in training program development.



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INTRODUCTION

This report contains training objectives for a sample of tactical leadership tasks performed in combat by platoon leaders of tank platoons. The tasks are those performed during the following platoon operations:

1. Conduct Fire and Maneuver. This platoon operation is performed during the Fire and Maneuver Phase of a Hasty Attack.
2. Immediate Action. This platoon operation is performed during the Action on Contact Phase of Movement to Contact.
3. Initiate Direct Fires in Platoon Sector. This platoon operation is performed during the Direct Fire Phase of Defend Battle Position.
4. Organize Platoon Battle Position. This platoon operation is performed during the Occupy and Organize Battle Position Phase of Occupy Battle Position.

SELECTION OF PLATOON LEADER TASKS

The following three-step procedure was used to select the tasks for which training objectives were prepared.

Step 1. Two offensive missions and two defensive missions were first selected. These were the two offensive and the two defensive missions (a) whose outcomes were most affected by the actions of the platoon leader and (b) that would most require the use of enemy forces and/or coordinating friendly forces when training platoon leaders. This information was obtained from a survey of staff members at the Command, Staff, and Doctrine Department of the U.S. Army Armor School. The respondents in the survey rank ordered tank team missions on these two dimensions. They also rank ordered the phases of each mission on the same dimensions. The two offensive missions that were selected from the survey results were Movement to Contact and Hasty Attack, while the two defensive missions that were selected were Occupy Battle Position and Defend Battle Position.

Step 2. One phase was then selected from each of the two offensive and two defensive missions using the results of the same survey. The mission phases were the Action on Contact Phase of Movement to Contact, the Fire and Maneuver Phase of the Hasty Attack, the Occupy and Organize Battle Position Phase of Occupy Battle Position, and the Direct Fire Phase of Defend Battle Position.

Step 3. One or two platoon operations were then selected from each of the four mission phases based on the criticality of the tasks performed during each platoon operation. This information was obtained from a survey of students enrolled in the Armor Officer Advance Course. The respondents rated the criticality of the tasks performed during each platoon operation for the different mission phases. Scenarios were used to describe the context in which each task was performed. A different scenario was used for each mission from which the phases were selected. The rating scales required

the respondents to rate the effect of the performance of each platoon leader task on the successful accomplishment of the team mission. Both the decision making and action components of the task were to be considered. The mean criticality rating for the tasks performed during each platoon operation was then obtained. The training objectives presented in this report are for the tasks that are performed during the platoon operation that received the highest mean rating within each of the four mission phases.

TRAINING OBJECTIVE COMPONENTS

The training objectives are contained in Appendices A through D. Appendix A contains the objectives for the platoon leader tasks performed during the platoon operation Conduct Fire and Maneuver. Appendix B contains the objectives for the platoon leader tasks performed during the platoon operation Immediate Action. Appendix C contains the objectives for the platoon leader tasks performed during the platoon operation Initiate Direct Fires in Platoon Sector. Appendix D contains the objectives for the platoon leader tasks performed during the platoon operation Organize Platoon Battle Position.

Components of Training Objectives for Platoon Leader Tasks That Require a Command

The training objectives for tasks that require the platoon leader to issue a command to the platoon contain information pertaining to three task components--the decision, the command, and the execution. The decision component of a task refers to the decision of whether or not to perform the task and to the decision of how to perform the task. The command component refers to the method used by the platoon leader to *communicate* the results of the decision to the soldiers who must execute it. The execution component refers to the leadership actions taken by the platoon leader during the execution of the platoon task resulting from the original command. These actions may involve the decision to continue the task as originally commanded, the decision to modify the execution of the task, or the decision to terminate the performance of the task.

The following is a description of the information that is contained in each section of the training objectives for tasks that require the platoon leader to issue a command:

1. TASK. This is a statement of the task title. A single title is used to depict all three components of the task.
2. DESCRIPTION. This section contains a description of the task and the context in which it is normally performed. The section tells when the task is performed during combat, the role of the task during combat, and when the task begins and ends.
3. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED. This section contains three lists of ARTEP tasks during which the platoon leader task is likely to be performed. The three lists correspond to the ARTEP missions Move, Attack, and Defend. The ARTEP number for each task is also presented.

4. **CONDITIONS.** This section contains a list of the combat conditions that must be present for the performance of the platoon task that is initiated by the command. Unless otherwise specified, all the conditions that are listed must be present for the platoon task to occur.
5. **DECISION COMPONENT.** Information pertaining to the decision component of the task is contained in this section. There are three parts--Conditions, Information Required and Sources, and Decision Principles.
 - a. **Conditions.** This section contains a list of the combat conditions that affect the decision to conduct the task or the decision of how to conduct the task. The conditions represent the situational cues to which the platoon leader must respond during the decision making portion of the task.
 - b. **Information Required and Sources.** This section lists the information that the platoon leader must consider when making decisions involved in the performance of the task. It also lists the sources for this information. The information listed in this section is organized according to the METTTS model. That is, separate portions are contained for the Mission, the Enemy, Terrain and Weather, Troops Available, Time Considerations, and Space Considerations.
 - c. **Decision Principles.** The adequacy of a tactical decision is determined at least in part by the situation in which the decision is made. A decision that is appropriate in one situation may be inappropriate in another. It is therefore difficult to present performance standards for tactical leadership tasks. Adding to this difficulty is the fact that several different decisions may be appropriate within the same situation. Decision principles are contained in this section in lieu of performance standards. These principles state how the information contained in the above subsection should be used by the platoon leader when making a decision pertaining to the performance of the task.
6. **COMMAND COMPONENT.** This section of the training objectives pertains to the command given the platoon that results from a decision. It will contain the information that should be presented in the initial command and during any subsequent commands that are issued during the execution of the command by the platoon. The information presented within parentheses adjacent to the section title specifies the mode by which the command should be issued.
7. **EXECUTION COMPONENT.** This portion of the training objective deals with the leadership actions of the platoon leader during the execution of the command by the platoon. It is similar to the Decision Component since it pertains to decisions made by platoon leaders based on factors in the combat environment. In this section,

however, the decision pertains to the possible need to modify the execution of the platoon task after the initial command is given. The subsections are identical to those contained in the Decision Component portion of the training objective.

Components of Training Objectives for Platoon Leader Tasks That Do Not Require a Command

The training objectives for tasks that do not require the platoon leader to issue a command contain information pertaining to only two task components--the decision and the action. The decision component is identical to the decision component of platoon leader tasks that do require a command. That is, it refers both to the decision of whether or not to perform the task and the decision of how to perform the task. The action component replaces the command component and pertains to any action that the platoon leader takes as a result of the decision. The training objectives for tasks that do not require a command do not have an execution component since the tasks are terminated with the performance of the action by the platoon leader.

The following is a description of the information that is contained in each section of the training objectives for tasks that do not require the platoon leader to issue a command:

1. TASK. Same as before.
2. DESCRIPTION. Same as before.
3. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED. Same as before.
4. CONDITIONS. This section contains a list of the combat conditions that must be present for the performance of the action that results from the decision. Unless otherwise specified, all the conditions that are listed must be present for the action to occur.
5. DECISION COMPONENT. Same as before.
6. ACTION COMPONENT. This section of the training objective pertains to the action that results from the decision made by the platoon leader. The nature of the information that will be contained in this section will depend upon the specific action that the platoon leader must take. For example, if the action involves a request (e.g., Requests Indirect Fire), it will contain a list of the steps that are involved in making the request; if the action involves submitting a report (e.g., Submits SPOTREP), it will list the type of information that should be contained in the report.

APPENDIX A

Tank Platoon Leader "Training Objectives for Tactical Leadership Tasks"

for

Company/Team Mission - HASTY ATTACK

Company/Team Mission Phase - FIRE AND MANEUVER

Tank Platoon Operation - CONDUCT FIRE AND MANEUVER

Tank Platoon Leader Tasks

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.Directs Movement Into Attack Position.	A-6
.Directs Movement Into Attack Formation	A-10
.Directs Movement Out of Attack Position.	A-13
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I. TASK: Platoon Leader Issues Frag Order

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to give a frag order in response to a company/team frag order or in response to a situation not covered in a company/team operation order or frag order. A frag order is a combat order containing information of immediate concern to specified subordinate units. It may omit elements normally found in a complete combat order that: 1) have not been changed since the issuance of the last complete order, 2) are not essential to the performance of the mission, 3) might delay or complicate trans-missions, and 4) are unavailable or incomplete at the time of the issue. The frag order must be concise, but not at the expense of clarity or omission of essential information. Its content follows the same sequence as a complete order. The frag order is usually given by radio, although it may be given orally if radios are not functioning or if security requirements preclude the use of radios. If conditions permit, the frag order should be given after halting the platoon and assembling the tank commanders. The platoon leader should give the frag order as soon as the situation dictates such action, and the order must be acknowledged by each tank commander. The frag order may be used at any time and during any tactical operation. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when: 1) he receives a frag order from the company/team commander, 2) the platoon encounters unexpected enemy reaction to a platoon action, 3) the platoon is confronted with unforeseen terrain or weather conditions, or 4) platoon operations have not met or have exceeded time requirements. His responsibility for this task ends when all tank commanders acknowledge the frag order.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY ISSUING A FRAG ORDER

A. Move

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct a Tactical Road March | (3-IV-1-5) |
| 2. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 3. Move in Traveling | (3-IV-1-7) |
| 4. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 5. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 6. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 3. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 4. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 5. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 6. Breach Minefields and Obstacles | (3-IV-2-10) |
| 7. Bypass | (3-IV-2-12) |
| 8. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Occupy Battle Position | (3-IV-3-2) |
| 3. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 4. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 5. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING A FRAG ORDER

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. One of the following conditions is present:
1. Receipt of a company/team frag order.
 2. Unexpected enemy reaction to a platoon action.
 3. Unforeseen terrain or weather conditions.
 4. Time requirements not met or exceeded.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions affecting decisions involved in issuing frag order

1. Receipt of a company/team frag order.
2. Unexpected enemy reaction to a platoon action.
3. Unforeseen terrain or weather conditions.
4. Time requirements not met or exceeded.

B. Information required and sources

1. Mission

What changes does the company/team frag order make in the original company/team operation order?

Sources: Original company/team operation order and the company/team frag order.

2. Enemy

Will the unexpected enemy reaction jeopardize mission accomplishment?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, TC reports, and personal observation and judgment.

3. Terrain and Weather

Will unforeseen terrain and weather conditions jeopardize mission accomplishment?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, TC reports, and personal observation and judgment.

4. Time

Will time constraints jeopardize mission accomplishment?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order and personal judgment.

C. Decision Principles

Issue a frag order when one of the following conditions is present:

- a. Receipt of a company/team frag order.
- b. Unexpected enemy reaction to a platoon action jeopardizes mission accomplishment.
- c. Unforeseen terrain or weather conditions jeopardize mission accomplishment.
- d. Time constraints jeopardize mission accomplishment.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. The frag order should contain the following information:

1. New directions to the tank commanders for those elements of the platoon operation order that require a change as the result of a company/team frag order or as the result of a change in the battlefield environment.
2. Paragraphs and sub-paragraphs of a platoon operation order which are normally changed to accommodate a company/team frag order or a change in the battlefield environment are listed below:
 - a. Situation
 - (1) Enemy forces.
 - (2) Friendly forces.
 - b. Mission
 - c. Execution
 - (1) Concept of operation.
 - (2) Platoon task.
 - (3) Coordinating instructions.

B. The frag order will be given by radio when:

1. The platoon leader has radio contact with all tank commanders.

2. One of the following conditions is present:
 - a. The platoon must keep moving.
 - b. The enemy is aware of the platoon's presence.
- C. The frag order will be given orally when one of the following conditions is present:
 1. The platoon leader does not have radio contact with all tank commanders.
 2. The platoon is halted.
 3. The enemy is not aware of the platoon's presence.
 4. Time constraints do not preclude halting the platoon.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Movement Into the Attack Position

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to move his platoon into an attack position. The attack position is a designated area into which units deploy when directed to lead an attack. An attack position: 1) provides cover from enemy direct fire, 2) is trafficable, 3) provides adequate space to deploy the platoon into an attack formation, and 4) is close enough to the line of departure so that units can maintain attack formations without becoming disorganized before crossing the line of departure. The platoon will remain in an attack position only long enough to deploy into an attack formation and to insure the simultaneous departure of all attack elements from the attack position. The company/team commander designates the attack position, the platoon area in the attack position, the order of march to the attack position, and the route to the attack position to include: the start point (location and time), lanes for passage of lines (location), and the release point (location and time). The attack position is normally used in a deliberate attack. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when the platoon reaches the release point and ends when the platoon enters the attack position.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY MOVE INTO ATTACK POSITION

A. Move

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Cross Start Point | (3-IV-1-3) |
| 2. Maintain Local Security | (3-IV-1-4) |
| 3. Conduct a Tactical Road March | (3-IV-1-5) |
| 4. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 5. Move in Traveling | (3-IV-1-7) |
| 6. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 7. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
| 2. Conduct a Passage of Lines (Forward) | (3-IV-2-2) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING MOVEMENT INTO AN ATTACK POSITION

- A. A tank platoon participating in a deliberate attack.
- B. A designated release point.
- C. A designated platoon area in the attack position.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

- A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Directing Movement Into the Attack Position

1. A designated release point.
2. A designated time to cross the release point.
3. A designated platoon area within the attack position.
4. A designated time for the platoon to close into the attack position.
5. Vulnerable areas between the release point and the platoon area in the attack position.
6. Difficult areas between the release point and the platoon area in the attack position.
7. Acceptable routes from the release point to the platoon area in the attack position.
8. Time and distance factors from the release point to the platoon area in the attack position.

B. Information Required and Sources.

1. Mission

- a. What is the location of the release point?

Sources: Company/team operation order and maps.

- b. What is the location of the platoon area in the attack position?

Sources: Company/team operation order and maps.

2. Enemy

Where are the vulnerable areas between the release point and the platoon areas in the attack position?

Sources: Company/team operation order, maps, friendly units, and personal observation.

3. Terrain and Weather

- a. Where are the difficult areas between the release point and the platoon area in the attack position?

Sources: Maps, friendly units, and personal observation.

- b. Where are the acceptable routes from the release point to the platoon area in the attack position?

Sources: Maps, friendly units, and personal observation.

4. Time

- a. What is the designated time for the platoon to cross the release point?

Source: Company/team operation order.

- b. What is the designated time for the platoon to close into the platoon area in the attack position?

Source: Company/team operation order.

- c. What are the time and distance factors from the release point to the platoon area in the attack position?

Sources: Maps and personal computation.

C. Decision Principles

Move into the platoon area in the attack position when both of the following conditions are present or known:

- a. The platoon has crossed the release point.
- b. The platoon area in the attack position is known.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (GIVE VISUAL SIGNALS)

A. Initial signal should contain the following information:

- 1. Movement formation (if a change is required).
- 2. Direction from the release point to the platoon area in the attack position.

B. Subsequent signals should contain the following information:

- 1. Signal to speed up or slow down movement.
- 2. Signal to change the movement formation when encountering vulnerable or difficult areas.
- 3. Signal for special security precautions when encountering vulnerable areas.
- 4. Signal for correcting movement formation errors.
- 5. Signal for correcting formation security errors.

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Movement Into the Attack Position

- 1. Vulnerable areas along the route to the platoon area in the attack position.
- 2. Difficult areas along the route to the platoon area in the attack position.
- 3. Movement formation errors.
- 4. Movement security errors.
- 5. Rate of march and time to close into the platoon area in the attack position.

B. Information Required and Sources

- 1. Mission

a. What movement formation is being executed?

Source: Personal observation.

b. What movement formation errors are occurring?

Source: Personal observation.

c. What movement security errors are occurring?

Source: Personal observation.

d. Is the rate of march adequate for closing into the platoon area of the attack position at the designated time?

Sources: Company/team operation order, personal computations, and personal observation.

2. Enemy

What precautions must be taken when approaching vulnerable areas along the route to the platoon area in the attack position?

Sources: Company/team operation order and personal knowledge.

3. Terrain and Weather

What changes must be made in the movement formation when approaching difficult areas along the route to the platoon area in the attack position?

Sources: Company/team operation order, maps, and personal knowledge.

C. Execution Principles

1. Cross the release point on schedule.
2. Follow the most acceptable route.
3. Employ the appropriate movement formation.
4. Change the movement formation to accommodate terrain and enemy conditions.
5. Correct movement formation errors.
6. Correct movement security errors.
7. Apply appropriate special security measures when crossing vulnerable areas.
8. Adjust movement rate of march to insure closing into the platoon area of the attack position on schedule.
9. Close into the platoon area of the attack position on schedule.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Movement Into the Attack Formation

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to move his platoon into an attack formation. The attack formation, designated by the company/team commander, is normally some form of the combat wedge formation. The attack formation is employed by the platoon from the attack position to the assault position during a deliberate attack. The platoon, upon entering the attack position will move into the attack formation without halting. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when the platoon enters the attack position and he signals the attack formation. His responsibility for this task ends when the platoon has deployed into the attack formation and all formation and security errors have been corrected.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY MOVE INTO THE ATTACK FORMATION

Attack

Move

(3-IV-2-1)

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING MOVEMENT INTO ATTACK FORMATION

- A. A tank platoon participating in a deliberate attack.
- B. A designated attack formation:
- C. A tank platoon moving into a platoon area of an attack position.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Directing Movement Into the Attack Formation

- 1. A designated platoon attack formation.
- 2. A platoon moving into the platoon area of an attack position.

B. Information Required and Sources

Mission

- a. What is the designated attack formation?

Source: Company/team operation order.

- b. Is the formation in which the platoon is moving into the platoon area of the attack position the same as the designated attack formation?

Sources: Company/team operation order and personal observation.

C. Decision Principles

Move into the attack formation when both of the following conditions are present:

- a. The platoon is in the attack position.
- b. The platoon is in a formation different than the attack formation.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (GIVE VISUAL SIGNALS)

A. Initial signal should contain the following information:

The designated attack formation if different from the movement formation.

B. Subsequent signals should contain the following information:

1. Signal to correct formation errors.
2. Signal to correct security errors.

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Movement Into an Attack Formation

1. A platoon moving into the platoon area of an attack position.
2. A platoon entering the platoon area of an attack position in a formation other than the designated attack formation.
3. Attack formation errors.
4. Attack formation security errors.

B. Information Required and Sources

Mission

- a. Is the platoon moving into the platoon area of the attack position?

Source: Personal observation.

- b. Is the formation in which the platoon moves into the platoon area of the attack position different from the designated attack formation?

Sources: Company/team operation order and personal observation.

- c. Did the platoon halt after moving into the platoon area in the attack position before moving into the designated attack formation?

Source: Personal observation.

d. What attack formation errors are occurring?

Source: Personal observation.

e. What attack formation security errors are occurring?

Source: Personal observation.

C. Execution Principles

1. Move into the designated attack formation without halting.
2. If necessary change the movement formation to the attack formation.
3. Correct attack formation errors.
4. Correct attack formation security errors.

- I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Movement Out Of the Attack Position
- II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to move his platoon out of an attack position. Movement out of the attack position, at a time or signal designated by the company/team commander, initiates the attack and exposes the attacking elements to enemy direct fire. The platoon moves out of the attack position simultaneously with other attacking elements and in a designated company/team attack formation. This task is part of a company/team deliberate attack. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he signals the platoon to move out of the attack position and ends when all platoon elements have departed the attack position.
- III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY MOVE OUT OF ATTACK POSITION
- | | |
|--------|------------|
| Attack | |
| Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
- IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING MOVEMENT OUT OF THE ATTACK POSITION
- A. A tank platoon participating in a deliberate attack.
 - B. A designated time or signal for departing the attack position.
 - C. A tank platoon in an attack formation within an attack position.
- V. DECISION COMPONENT
- A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Directing Movement Out of the Attack Position
 - 1. Time or signal for departing the attack position.
 - 2. Company/team attack formation for departing the attack position.
 - 3. Platoon alignment in the company/team attack formation.
 - B. Information Required and Sources
 - 1. Mission
 - a. What is the company/team attack formation for moving out of the attack position?

Source: Company/team operation order.
 - b. What is the platoon's position in the company/team attack formation when departing the attack position?

Source: Company/team operation order.

2. Time

What is the time or signal for departing the attack position?

Source: Company/team operation order.

C. Decision Principles

Move out of the attack position when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. The company/team attack formation for departing the attack position is known.
- b. The platoon's position in the company/team attack formation is known.
- c. The scheduled time or designated signal has arrived or been given.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (GIVE VISUAL SIGNALS)

A. The initial signal should contain the following information:

The order or signal to move out of the attack position.

B. Subsequent signals should contain the following information:

1. Signal to speed up or slow down movement.
2. Signal to correct formation errors.
3. Signal to correct security errors.
4. Signal to maintain designated positions in the company/team attack formation.

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Movement Out of the Attack Position

1. Time or signal for departing the attack position.
2. Company/team attack formation.
3. Designated position in the company/team attack formation.
4. Attack formation errors.
5. Attack formation security errors.
6. Platoon alignment errors in the company/team attack formation.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

- a. Is the platoon moving in the company/team attack formation?

Sources: Company/team operation order and personal observation.

- b. Is the platoon moving in the designated position within the company/team attack formation?

Sources: Company/team operation order and personal observation.

- c. What formation errors are occurring?

Source: Personal observation.

- d. What formation security errors are occurring?

Source: Personal observation.

- e. What platoon alignment errors in the company/team attack formation are occurring?

Source: Personal observation.

2. Time

Is the platoon moving out of the attack position at the designated time or signal?

Sources: Company/team operation order and personal observation.

C. Execution Principles

1. Depart the attack position at designated time or signal.
2. Depart the attack position in the designated attack formation.
3. Depart the attack position in the designated alignment within the company/team attack formation.
4. Correct attack formation errors.
5. Correct attack formation security errors.
6. Correct attack formation alignment errors.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Requests Indirect Fire

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to request indirect fire support. This fire support is provided by artillery units and the battalion mortar platoon. Artillery fires are used primarily to suppress or destroy enemy direct fire weapons which are beyond the range of the tank platoon. Mortar fires are used primarily for obscuration or screening smoke missions, although mortars may also deliver high explosives. At the company/team level a fire support team (FIST) provides fire support coordination for the company/team commander. Duties of the FIST are: 1) locate targets and request and adjust fire support, 2) plan fires, 3) coordinate fire support, 4) report battlefield information, and 5) provide emergency control of close air support. When the platoon leader requires indirect fire support, he first contacts the FIST on the company/team command net to announce that he has a fire mission. He then switches to the FIST net and submits a request for indirect fire. A request for indirect fire support may occur during a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or during the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he has located a target appropriate for indirect fires and ends when he completes his request for indirect fire to the FIST.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY REQUEST INDIRECT FIRE

A. Move

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 2. Move in Traveling | (3-IV-1-7) |
| 3. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 4. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 5. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-2-4) |
| 2. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 3. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 4. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 5. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 6. Breach Minefields and Obstacles | (3-IV-2-10) |
| 7. Bypass | (3-IV-2-12) |
| 8. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |
| 9. Consolidate | (3-IV-2-14) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Prepare Battle Position | (3-IV-3-3) |
| 2. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-3-5) |
| 3. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |
| 5. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING INDIRECT FIRE

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. One of the following conditions is present:
 - 1. Enemy direct fire that threatens the platoon.
 - 2. Enemy direct fire weapons in defilade positions.
 - 3. Terrain that exposes the platoon during fire and maneuver.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Requesting Indirect Fire

- 1. Availability of direct suppressive fires.
- 2. Effectiveness of direct suppressive fires.
- 3. Effectiveness of platoon fires.
- 4. Effectiveness of enemy direct fires.
- 5. Availability of supporting fires.
- 6. Effectiveness of supporting fires.
- 7. Availability of cover and concealment.
- 8. Communication with the FIST.
- 9. Wind speed and direction.
- 10. Protection of enemy direct fire weapons.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

Are the platoon's fires effective?

Sources: Company/team reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

2. Enemy

a. Are enemy direct fires effective?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

b. Are enemy direct fire weapons dug in or in defilade?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, TC reports, and personal observation.

c. Does the enemy have tank defeating weapons, and if so, what type, how many, and where?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, TC reports, and personal observation.

3. Terrain and Weather

- a. Are cover and concealment adequate for maneuver?

Sources: Maps, TC reports, and personal observation.

- b. What is the wind speed and direction?

Source: Personal estimation.

4. Troops available

- a. Are direct suppressive fires available?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order and the suppressive fire platoon.

- b. Are direct suppressive fires effective?

Sources: Suppressive fire platoon, TC reports, and personal observations.

- c. Are supporting fires available?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order and the FIST.

- d. Will supporting fires be effective against the target?

Sources: The FIST and personal knowledge.

- e. Are communications with the FIST functioning?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Request supporting fires from the FIST when there are communications with the FIST and one or more of the following conditions are present:

- a. Direct suppressive fires are not available.
- b. Direct suppressive fires are not effective.
- c. The platoon's overwatch section cannot suppress enemy direct fires and direct suppressive fires are not effective or are not available.
- d. Supporting fires are available.
- e. Enemy direct fire is effective.
- f. Enemy direct fire weapons are dug in or in defilade.
- g. Cover and concealment are insufficient for maneuver.

- h. Wind conditions are suitable for obscuration or screening smoke missions when direct suppressive fires are not effective or cover and concealment are insufficient for maneuver.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

The request for indirect fire consists of three steps:

1. Determining where the target is.
2. Contacting the FIST and transmitting a call for fire.
3. Adjusting the fire onto the target. (See Training Objective, "Adjust Indirect Fire".)
 - a. Step 1. Determine the target location by one of the following methods:
 - (1) Coordinate (six-digit).
 - (2) Polar plot (direction and distance).
 - (3) Shift from a known point (deflection and range).
 - b. Step 2. Contact the FIST and transmit the call for fire.
 - (1) Identification of the observer (e.g., "This is X3G07").
 - (2) Warning order (e.g., "Adjust Fire").
 - (3) Target location (e.g., "Grid 115813").
 - (4) Description of target (e.g., "Two BMPs With Sappers, in Tree Line").
 - (5) Method of engagement (e.g., "VT in Effect").
 - (6) Method of fire control (e.g., "At My Command").
 - c. Step 3. Adjust fire onto the target. (See Training Objective, "Adjust Indirect Fire").

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Requests Indirect Fire be Adjusted

- II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to request indirect fire be adjusted. After the platoon leader has requested indirect fire to destroy, suppress, or obscure the enemy or to screen the platoon's maneuver, and fire has arrived in the target area, the platoon leader's next step for getting fire accurately on the target is to adjust the fire. Artillery and mortar rounds approach the target at a large angle and frequently miss the target. The platoon leader's task as a forward observer is to report to the FIST the deflection and range errors of the round in relation to the target. The request that indirect fires be adjusted will occur whenever the platoon leader requests indirect fire and the first round has landed in the target area. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he observes the impact of the first indirect fire round and ends when he reports the results of the fire-for-effect order to the FIST.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY REQUEST INDIRECT FIRE BE ADJUSTED

A. Move

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 2. Move in Traveling | (3-IV-1-7) |
| 3. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 4. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 5. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-2-4) |
| 2. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 3. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 4. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 5. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 6. Breach Minefields and Obstacle | (3-IV-2-10) |
| 7. Bypass | (3-IV-2-12) |
| 8. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |
| 9. Consolidate | (3-IV-2-14) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Prepare Battle Position | (3-IV-3-3) |
| 2. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-3-5) |
| 3. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |
| 5. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING ADJUSTMENTS IN INDIRECT FIRE

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, or attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.

- B. A fire request submitted to the FIST.
- C. A supporting fire round impacting in the target area.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Requesting Indirect Fires be Adjusted

- 1. Impact of a supporting fire round.
- 2. Relationship of the impact of the supporting fire round to the target.
- 3. Wind speed and direction.
- 4. Communications with the FIST.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Terrain and Weather

- (a) What is the effect of wind speed and direction on obscuration and screening smoke?

Source: Personal estimation.

- (b) Can firing adjustments be made to accommodate the effect of wind speed and direction on obscuration and screening smoke?

Source: Personal estimation.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Was the impact of the supporting fire round seen?

Sources: Personal observation and TC reports.

- (b) What was the relationship of the impact of the supporting fire round to the target in regards to range and deflection?

Sources: Personal observation and TC reports.

- (c) Are communications with the FIST functioning?

Source: Personal knowledge.

3. Decision Principles

Request supporting fires be adjusted when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. The platoon leader sees the impact of the initial supporting fire round and subsequent rounds.

- b. The platoon leader can determine the range and deflection relationship of the impact of the supporting fire rounds to the target.
- c. Communications with the FIST are functioning.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

The adjustment of indirect fires consist of three steps:

- 1. Determining deflection error.
- 2. Determining range error.
- 3. Reporting corrections to the FIST.

a. Step 1. Determine deflection error.

- (1) Measure horizontal range in mils (mils between OT and target).
- (2) Determine the observer target (OT) factor (range to target 1000).
- (3) Complete the shift (horizontal angle X OT factor equal mils adjustment required).

b. Step 2. Determine range error.

Estimate distance between target and impact point.

c. Step 3. Report corrections to the FIST.

- (1) Report deflection error (e.g., "Right 100").
- (2) Report range error (e.g., "Drop 400").

(Repeat the process until the round impacts within 50 meters of the target.)

- (3) Report deflection error (e.g., "None").
- (4) Report range error. (e.g., "Add 50, Fire for Effect").

(If the initial round hits the target the adjustment is "Fire for Effect". When fire for effect has been completed, the platoon leader reports the fire mission results to the FIST.)

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Targets of Opportunity be Engaged

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to direct that targets of opportunity be engaged. These targets are usually scattered single targets within the platoon's sector of responsibility which do not warrant engagement by a platoon fire command. The engagement of scattered single targets may be by individual tanks or a section of tanks. When single scattered targets exceed the platoon's engagement capability, tank commanders and section leaders will engage the most dangerous targets first. If a highly dangerous single multiple target array is acquired, the platoon leader will change the method of engagement (e.g., single engagement of targets of opportunity to a platoon engagement) by giving a platoon fire command. This task may be required during a tactical movement, an attack upon an objective, or when defending a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he acquires a target array of single scattered targets and ends when all targets have been destroyed or a highly dangerous single multiple target array is acquired.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY BE ENGAGED

Attack

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 2. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 3. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 4. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 5. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 6. Breach Minefields and Obstacles | (3-IV-2-10) |
| 7. Assault | (3-IV-2-11) |
| 8. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING ENGAGEMENTS OF TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. Scattered, single targets within the platoon's sector of responsibility.
- C. The absence of a single highly dangerous multiple target array within the platoon's sector of responsibility.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

- A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Directing that Target of Opportunity be Engaged
 - 1. Scattered single target array.
 - 2. Single targets within range of the platoon's weapons.

3. No single highly dangerous multiple target array.
4. Functioning intra-platoon communications.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Enemy

- (a) Are there single scattered targets within the platoon's sector of responsibility?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (b) Are single scattered targets within the range of platoon weapons?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (c) Is there a single highly dangerous multiple target array in the platoon's sector of responsibility?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

b. Troops Available

Are intra-platoon communications functioning?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Engage targets of opportunity when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Scattered single targets within the platoon's sector of responsibility.
- b. Scattered single targets within range of the platoon's weapons.
- c. No single highly dangerous multiple target array in the platoon's sector of responsibility.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (GIVE RADIO ORDER)

A. Initial order should contain the following information:

Direction to the tank commanders to engage targets of opportunity.

B. Subsequent orders should contain the following information:

1. Reminder to the tank commanders to engage the most dangerous targets first.

2. Reminder to the tank commanders to be alert for single highly dangerous multiple target arrays.
3. Guidance to the tank commander to reinforce, by target engagement, other tank commanders as necessary.

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Engagement of Targets of Opportunity

1. Scattered single targets.
2. Single targets within range of the platoon's weapon.
3. No single highly dangerous multiple target array.
4. Unequal ratio of targets to individual tank commander's sector of responsibility.
5. Functioning intra-platoon communications.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Enemy

- (a) Are single scattered targets within the platoon sector of responsibility?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (b) Are single scattered targets within range of platoon weapons?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (c) Is there a single highly dangerous multiple target array in the platoon's sector of responsibility?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (d) Is there a significant unequal ratio of single targets to individual tank commander sector of responsibility?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

2. Troops Available

Are intra-platoon communications functioning?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Execution Principles

1. Direct targets of opportunity be engaged when:

- (a) There are scattered single targets within the platoon's responsibility.

- (b) There are scattered single targets within range of platoon weapons.
 - (c) There is no single highly dangerous multiple target array in the platoon's sector of responsibility.
2. Direct tank commanders who have no targets or only non-lethal targets in their sector of responsibility to reinforce the fires of tank commanders who have several dangerous targets in their sector of responsibility.
 3. Maintain sector surveillance to rapidly acquire single highly dangerous multiple target arrays.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Fire and Maneuver to be Conducted

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to direct that fire and maneuver be conducted. Fire and maneuver is a technique for moving against an enemy force that constitutes a threat to the platoon. This movement technique can be performed during a deliberate attack, a counterattack, or during the defense of a battle position. When it is performed during an attack or during a counterattack, the platoon would be moving toward an objective as part of a company/team operation. During the operation, part of the company/team would provide direct fire on the objective from an overwatch position; indirect fires, such as artillery or mortar, would also be provided. The platoon leader would direct that fire and maneuver be conducted if during the movement toward the objective enemy direct fire could not be suppressed by suppressive or supporting fires. Once fire and maneuver has begun, it should be maintained until the enemy is no longer a threat or until the assault position is reached. During the defense of a position, the platoon would conduct fire and maneuver to move to better firing positions or to occupy a flank firing position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he decides that fire and maneuver must be conducted. His responsibility for this task ends when the enemy is no longer a threat or when the platoon reaches the assault position or a flank firing position.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY FIRE AND MANEUVER

A. Attack

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 2. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-2-4) |
| 3. React to Indirect Fire | (3-IV-2-5) |
| 4. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 5. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 6. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |

B. Defend

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-3-5) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 3. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING FIRE AND MANEUVER

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. Enemy fire that is a threat to the platoon.
- C. Terrain that is negotiable to the platoon, contains overwatch positions, and provides cover and concealment.

D. Visibility sufficient for intra-platoon control.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Directing Fire and Maneuver be Conducted

1. Availability of supporting fire.
2. Effectiveness of supporting fire.
3. Availability of suppressive fire.
4. Effectiveness of suppressive fire.
5. Effectiveness of enemy direct fire.
6. Availability of cover and concealment.
7. Trafficability.
8. Visibility.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Enemy

(a) Is the enemy direct fire effective?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

(b) Does the enemy have tank defeating weapons, and if so, what type, how many, and where?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, TC reports, and personal observation.

2. Terrain and Weather

(a) Are cover and concealment adequate for fire and maneuver?

Sources: Maps, TC reports, and personal observation.

(b) Is the terrain sufficiently trafficable?

Sources: Maps, TC reports, and personal observation.

(c) Is visibility adequate for intra-platoon control?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

3. Troops Available

(a) Are supporting fires effective?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

(b) Are supporting fires available?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order and the FIST.

(c) Are suppressive fires effective?

Sources: Suppressive fire platoon, TC reports, and personal observation.

(d) Are suppressive fires available?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order and suppressive fire platoon.

C. Decision Principles

Conduct fire and maneuver when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Enemy direct fires are effective.
- b. Cover and concealment are sufficient.
- c. Overwatch positions are available.
- d. Visibility is sufficient for intra-platoon control.
- e. Terrain is sufficiently trafficable for fire and maneuver.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (GIVE VISUAL SIGNALS OR RADIO ORDER)

A. Initial signal or order should contain the following information:

1. The platoon section that will provide support by fire initially.
2. The platoon section that will maneuver initially.
3. The subsequent overwatch position for the maneuver section.
4. The command for the platoon support by fire section to suppress enemy fire.
5. The command for the platoon maneuver section to move to the subsequent overwatch position.

B. Subsequent signals or orders should contain the following information:

The subsequent overwatch positions.

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Execution of Fire and Maneuver

1. Trafficability.
2. Obscuration.
3. Effectiveness of enemy direct fire.
4. Effectiveness of enemy indirect fire.
5. Unexpected obstacles.
6. Tank losses.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Enemy

(a) Is enemy direct fire effective?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

(b) Is enemy indirect fire effective?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

2. Terrain and Weather

(a) Is the terrain trafficable for fire and maneuver?

Sources: Maps, TC reports, and personal observation.

(b) Does obscuration significantly affect fire and maneuver?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

(c) What obstacles have been encountered?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

3. Troops Available

What tank losses have occurred?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

C. Execution Principles

1. Use shorter bounds as trafficability decreases.
2. Stop fire and maneuver if obscuration prevents intra-platoon control.
3. Stop fire and maneuver if enemy indirect fire is highly effective.
4. When the maneuvering section is receiving heavy direct fire, the platoon requests additional fire support and the maneuvering section continues to the overwatch position.
5. When the maneuvering section is stopped by direct fire, when the maneuvering section has only one operational tank, or when it is confronted with an unexpected obstacle, the section should occupy a defilade position and engage the enemy. The platoon leader should then order the support by fire section to maneuver to a designated overwatch position.
6. When neither section can maneuver or suppress the enemy the platoon leader should reassess the situation and submit a SITREP.

APPENDIX B

Tank Platoon Leader "Training Objectives for Tactical Leadership Tasks"

for

Company/Team Mission - MOVEMENT TO CONTACT

Company/Team Mission Phase - ACTION ON CONTACT

Tank Platoon Operation - IMMEDIATE ACTION

Tank Platoon Leader Tasks

	<u>Page</u>
.Directs Smoke be Popped.	B-2
.Directs Movement into Defilade Position.	B-6
.Submits SPOTREP.	B-11
.Directs Enemy be Engaged	B-15
.Requests Indirect Fire (See Appendix A).	A-16
.Requests Indirect Fire be Adjusted (See Appendix A).	A-20

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Smoke Be Popped

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to direct that smoke be popped. The M1 tank is equipped with two smoke producing systems that enable the crews to create immediate smoke screens to conceal their movement to covered and concealed positions. The M250 grenade launcher consists of two six-barreled dischargers wired for two six-grenade volleys or one 12 grenade salvo of red phosphorus smoke grenades. The second system, the vehicle engine exhaust smoke system (VEESS), generates smoke by the injection of fuel onto the hot engine exhaust system. The smoke screen generated by VEESS is used to compliment the M250 smoke grenade system by reinforcing and sustaining the screen created by the M250 system. The purpose of the smoke producing systems is to make it more difficult for enemy gunners to effectively engage tanks. When tanks are surprised in the open by enemy anti-tank guns or missiles, and covered and concealed positions are farther away than ten seconds, the M250 system will be fired and, if necessary, be complimented by the VEESS. Upon being engaged by an enemy threat, tank crews will close all hatches, traverse the main gun toward the center of the enemy position, fire six or twelve rounds from the grenade launcher, activate the VEESS if necessary, and move rapidly while taking evasive action to covered and concealed positions. Crews in overwatch positions will engage the enemy to cover the move of the threatened crews. The need for a tank platoon to pop smoke may occur during a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he becomes aware of a threat and ends when the threatened elements of the platoon are in covered and concealed positions.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY POPPING SMOKE

A. Move

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 2. Move in Traveling | (3-IV-1-7) |
| 3. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 4. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 5. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 3. Take Action on Conduct | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 5. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 6. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 7. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 3. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |
| 5. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING SMOKE BE POPPED

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. Enemy anti-tank or missile fire that threatens the platoon.
- C. Operational smoke producing systems on the platoon tanks.
- D. Covered and concealed positions more than ten seconds away from the platoon when the threat was acquired.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions

- 1. Effectiveness of enemy anti-tank fire.
- 2. Threat of enemy missile.
- 3. Operable on-board tank smoke producing systems.
- 4. Covered and concealed positions farther than 10 seconds from the platoon.
- 6. Trafficable routes to covered and concealed positions.
- 7. Conservation of smoke grenades.
- 8. Level of vehicle fuel supply.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Enemy

- (a) Have enemy anti-tank gun rounds impacted in the platoon area?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (b) Has the enemy fired a missile against the platoon?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

2. Terrain and Weather

- (a) Are covered and concealed position farther than ten seconds from the platoon?

Source: Personal observation.

(b) Are routes to covered and concealed positions trafficable?

Source: Personal observation.

3. Troops Available

(a) Are on-board tank smoke producing systems operable?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(b) What is the platoon's vehicle fuel supply?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(c) What is the standard operating procedure policy for conserving smoke grenades?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Pop smoke when either set of conditions is present:

a. Enemy anti-tank gun threat

- (1) On-board tank smoke producing systems are operable.
- (2) On board tank fuel supply is adequate for movement and generating smoke.
- (3) Enemy anti-tank rounds are impacting in the platoon area.

b. Enemy missile threat

- (1) On-board tank smoke producing systems are operable.
- (2) On-board tank fuel supply is adequate for movement and generating smoke.
- (3) Enemy missiles have been fired against the platoon.
- (4) Covered and concealed positions are not within ten seconds of the platoon.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (GIVE RADIO ORDER)

A. Initial order should contain the following information:

1. Alert to the platoon of the anti-tank gun or missile threat.
2. Alert to a specific TC, more than one TC, or the platoon to pop smoke.
3. A direction of movement toward covered and concealed positions.

B. Subsequent orders should contain the following information:

1. Subsequent movement directions to accommodate the affect of wind on the smoke.
2. Any required additional smoke screening efforts.

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Popping Smoke

1. Operable on-board tank smoke producing systems.
2. Operational supply of smoke grenades.
3. Adequate on-board tank fuel supply for movement and producing smoke.
4. Wind speed and direction.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Terrain and Weather

What affect will wind speed and direction have on the use of smoke?

Sources: Wind speed and direction estimate and personal knowledge.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Are on-board tank smoke producing systems operable, and if so, which ones and to what extent?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Is there an on-board tank operational supply of smoke grenades?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (c) Is there an adequate on-board tank fuel supply for movement, for producing smoke, or for both?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Execution Principles

1. Use smoke grenades when covered and concealed positions are more than ten seconds away from the platoon, for screening the platoon from a missile threat.
2. Use smoke grenades to screen the platoon from an anti-tank gun threat.
3. Augment smoke grenades with the vehicle engine exhaust smoke system if necessary.
4. Traverse the main gun toward the center of the enemy threat position before firing smoke grenades.
5. Consider the prevailing wind conditions before using smoke.
6. Close hatches prior to firing smoke grenades.
7. Maintain smoke between the platoon and the enemy while moving in an evasive manner to covered and concealed positions.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Movement Into Defilade Position

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to direct movement into a defilade position. This type of a position protects the platoon from detection, direct fire, and air attack. The position must provide for trafficability, cover and concealment, rear entrances and exits, firing positions, and must be large enough for each tank to have primary, alternate, and supplementary firing positions. A defilade position, may be designated by the company/team commander or it may be selected by the platoon leader. While the platoon is moving into a defilade position the platoon leader will designate general locations of the firing position for each tank. As time permits he will check the positions of each tank. When designating firing positions the platoon leader will consider: cover and concealment, fields of fire, interlocking sectors of fire, specific target areas, routes between primary, alternate, and supplementary positions, and withdrawal routes. When moving into a defilade position each tank commander will initially move his tank into turret defilade. In this position the entire tank is protected from direct fire, but the tank commander can observe over the position and acquire targets. When a target has been acquired and the tank commander has decided to engage it, he commands the driver to move the tank forward until the main gun clears the crest of the position and the gunner is able to lay the main gun on the target. When the tank is in this position, the driver and the hull of the tank are protected from direct fire. The movement into a defilade position may be conducted during a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or in the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he directs the platoon to move into a defilade and ends when he has checked and approved each tank's firing positions, the routes between positions, and withdrawal routes.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY MOVE INTO DEFILADE POSITION

A. Move

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 2. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 3. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 4. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 3. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 5. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 6. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 7. Breach Minefield and Obstacle | (3-IV-2-10) |
| 8. Consolidate | (3-IV-2-14) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Occupy Battle Position | (3-IV-3-2) |
| 3. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 4. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 5. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING MOVEMENT INTO DEFILADE POSITION

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. A designated or selected defilade position which provides cover and concealment, trafficability, firing positions, and rear entrances and exits.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Decision to Move Into a Defilade Position

- 1. A company/team order to move into a defilade position.
- 2. Enemy action requiring movement into a defilade position.
- 3. A designated or selected defilade position.
- 4. Suitable trafficability in the defilade position.
- 5. Suitable rear entrances and exits in the defilade position.
- 6. Suitable cover and concealment in the defilade position.
- 7. Suitable firing positions in the defilade position.
- 8. Suitable routes between firing positions in the defilade position.
- 9. Adequate time to reach the defilade position.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

Did the company/team operation order or frag order designate a defilade position?

Source: Company/team operation order or frag order.

2. Enemy

- (a) Does enemy action threaten the platoon?

Sources: Company/team frag order, TC reports and personal observation.

- (b) Can the enemy prevent the platoon from reaching a designated or selected defilade position?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, maps, TC reports, and personal observation.

3. Terrain and Weather

- (a) Does the selected or designated defilade position have suitable trafficability?

Sources: Maps and personal knowledge of weather conditions.

- (b) Does the selected or designated defilade position have suitable rear entrances and exits?

Source: Maps.

- (c) Does the selected or designated firing position have suitable cover and concealment?

Source: Maps.

- (d) Does the selected or designated defilade position have suitable firing positions?

Source: Maps.

- (e) Does the selected or designated defilade position have suitable routes between firing positions?

Source: Maps.

4. Time

- (a) Does the company/team operation order or frag order designate a time for the platoon to occupy the defilade position?

Sources: Company/team operation or frag order.

- (b) Is there adequate time to reach a defilade position when the platoon is threatened by enemy action?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, TC reports, and personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Move to a defilade position when one or more of the following conditions are present:

1. Company/team operation order or frag order designates a platoon defilade position.
2. Enemy action threatens platoon survival.
3. The selected defilade position provides rear entrance and exits, cover and concealment, firing positions, trafficability, and routes between firing positions.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (GIVE VISUAL SIGNALS)

A. Initial signal should contain the following information:

The signal to move into the defilade position.

B. Subsequent signals should contain the following information:

1. Signal to speed up or slow down the movement.
2. Signal designating the general location of each tank's initial firing position.
3. Signal to select alternate and supplementary firing positions.
4. Request for suppressive or supporting fires when moving into a defilade position while under heavy enemy pressure.

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Movement Into Defilade Position

1. Enemy reaction during movement to a defilade position.
2. Enemy reaction during movement into a defilade position.
3. Unsuitable characteristics of a designated or selected defilade position.
4. Inadequate time to reach a designated defilade position.

B. Information Required and Sources Sought

1. Enemy

- (a) Is enemy action interrupting movement to the defilade position?

Source: Personal observation.

- (b) Is enemy action interrupting movement into the defilade position?

Source: Personal observation.

2. Terrain and Weather

Is the designated or selected defilade position unsuitable?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

3. Time

- (a) Is there adequate time to reach the designated or selected defilade position?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order and personal knowledge.

C. Execution Principles

1. When enemy action interrupts movement into a defilade position, request suppressive or supporting fires to degrade the enemy action and report the situation to the company/team commander.
2. When enemy action prevents the occupation of a designated or selected defilade position and threatens the destruction of the platoon, screen the platoon's movement to the nearest defilade position with smoke, request suppressive or supporting fires, and report the situation to the company/team commander.
3. If a designated defilade position is found to be unsuitable, report the situation to the company/team commander and recommend a new defilade position.
4. If a selected position is found to be unsuitable, select a new defilade position.
5. Move into a designated defilade position on schedule and without halting.
6. If there is inadequate time to reach a designated defilade position, report the situation to the company/team commander and announce when you expect to be in the position.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Submits SPOTREP

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to submit a SPOTREP (spot report). The SPOTREP is used for reporting by radio information of the enemy and the area of operation. It is designed to be used by any element that can report or relay such information. There are four types of SPOTREPs: 1) SPOTREP for a Bridge, Overpass, Culvert, or Causeway; 2) SPOTREP for a Highway, Road, Trail, or Cross-Country; 3) SPOTREP for a Ford, Ferry, or other Crossing Site, and 4) SPOTREP for Enemy Information. The platoon leader should send a SPOTREP as soon as the situation permits him to do so. The SPOTREP is used during any tactical operation in which enemy activity or the area of operation is involved. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he has enemy or area information which must be sent to his higher headquarters and ends when his message has been acknowledged by the receiving station.

III. ARTEP MISSION AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY SUBMITTING A SPOTREP

A. Move

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Maintain Local Security | (3-IV-1-4) |
| 2. Conduct a Tactical Road March | (3-IV-1-5) |
| 3. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 4. Move in Traveling | (3-IV-1-7) |
| 5. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 6. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 7. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 3. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-2-4) |
| 4. React to Indirect Fire | (3-IV-2-5) |
| 5. Take Action on Conduct | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 6. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 7. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 8. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 9. Breach Minefields And Obstacles | (3-IV-2-10) |
| 10. Assault | (3-IV-2-11) |
| 11. Bypass | (3-IV-2-12) |
| 12. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |
| 13. Consolidate | (3-IV-2-14) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Occupy Battle Position | (3-IV-3-2) |
| 3. Prepare Battle Position | (3-IV-3-3) |
| 4. React to Indirect Fire | (3-IV-3-4) |
| 5. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-3-5) |

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 6. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 7. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 8. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |
| 9. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING SUBMISSION OF A SPOTREP

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, on attack on an objective, or in the defense of a position.
- B. Operable communications with higher headquarters.
- C. One of the following conditions is present:
 - 1. Enemy information.
 - 2. Area information.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Decision to Submit a SPOTREP

- 1. The acquisition of enemy information.
- 2. The acquisition of area information.
- 3. The acquisition of specifically sought enemy or area information.
- 4. The significance of enemy or area information acquired.
- 5. The best available communications to transmit the SPOTREP.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

Does the enemy and/or area information acquired significantly impact upon the platoon or company/team current operations or future operations?

Source: Company/team operation order or frag order.

2. Enemy

Enemy information regarding: What, How Many, How Equipped, Where, When, and Doing What?

Sources: Prisoners of war, enemy documents, TC reports and personal observation.

3. Terrain and Weather

Area information regarding: Bridges, Overpasses, Culverts, Causeways, Highways, Roads, Trails, Cross-Country Routes, Fords, Ferrys, and other Water Crossing Sites.

Sources: Maps, prisoners of war, enemy documents, TC reports, and personal observation.

4. Enemy/Terrain and Weather

What enemy and area information has higher headquarters specifically requested?

Source: Battalion/task force or company/team request.

5. Troops Available

What is the best available means of communications to transmit the SPOTREP?

Sources: Communications Electronic Operating Instructions (CEOI) and personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Issue a SPOTREP when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Enemy and/or area information has been acquired.
- b. The impact upon current and future operations have been determined to be crucial.
- c. The best available means of communication have been determined.

VII. ACTION COMPONENT

A. The SPOTREP should contain the following information relative to the situation being reported:

1. SPOTREP for a Bridge, Overpass, Culvert, or Causeway

- . ALPHA - Who is the observer or source?*
- . BRAVO - What? Overall length? Width of Roadway? Type of Material? Spans (numbers and length)? Class (compute)? Clearance (overhead and horizontal)?
- . CHARLIE - Where and When?*
- . DELTA - Condition? Bypass (add complete report if required)?
- . ECHO - What are you doing?

2. SPOTREP for a Highway, Road, Trail, or Cross-Country

- . ALPHA - Who is the observer or source?*
- . BRAVO - What? Distance? Surface Material? Alignment (bad curves or grades)? Foundation (stable or unstable)?
- . CHARLIE - Where and When?*
- . DELTA - Condition (of surface, shoulders, and drainage)?
- . ECHO - What are you doing?

3. SPOTREP for a Ford, Ferry or other Crossing

- . ALPHA - Who is observer or source?*
- . BRAVO - What? Length of Crossing? Width (usable)? Bottom material? Depth of water level (present, maximum, minimum)? Speed of current? Banks or approaches (material, height, and slope)? Vessels and facilities (capacity, etc)?
- . CHARLIE - Where and when?*
- . DELTA - Condition (of bottom, banks, etc)? Bypass (add complete report if required)?
- . ECHO - What are you doing?

NOTE: For SPOTREPS 1, 2 and 3. *Mandatory; **Actual time initial sighting, not when report received.

4. SPOTREP for Enemy Information

- . ALPHA - Who is the observer or source?*
- . BRAVO - What? How many? How equipped?
- . CHARLIE - Where and when?
- . DELTA - Doing what (if moving, direction, speed, and attitude)?
- . ECHO - What are you doing?

NOTE: For SPOTREP 4. *Source: The actual origin from which information is obtained, such as prisoners of war, local civilians, documents, etc.
**Where: Include from to for route or trace of an area; enemy locations sent in grid coordinates in the clear except behind-friendly-lines information locating friendly units or activities in code.

B. SPOTREPs will normally be transmitted by radio, and enemy information should be sent in the clear. However, information contained in other types of SPOTREPS (area information) should be encoded when such information involves behind-lines-friendly information locating friendly units or activities in code. When critical information or specifically sought enemy or area information cannot be sent to higher headquarters by radio, every effort should be taken to transmit the information by other communications means.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Enemy Be Engaged

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to direct the platoon to engage the enemy. This task usually occurs at the start of an action on contact, at a pre-designated time or signal when the platoon is providing suppressive fires during a company/team attack, during the defense of a battle position when the enemy comes within range of the platoon's main guns, or at the start of an ambush when maximum shock effort and destruction of the enemy is desired. This task may be conducted during a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins at a pre-designated time or signal, when the enemy comes within range of the platoon's main guns, at the time when maximum shock effect and destruction of the enemy is essential, or upon initial enemy contact when there is no definitive platoon target. His responsibility or this task ends when he directs "Cease Fire."

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY DIRECT ENEMY BE ENGAGED

A. Move

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct a Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 2. Move in Traveling | (3-IV-1-7) |
| 3. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 4. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 5. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 3. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 5. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 6. Breach Minefield and Obstacle | (3-IV-2-10) |
| 7. Assault | (3-IV-2-11) |
| 8. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |
| 9. Consolidate | (3-IV-2-14) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 3. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |
| 5. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING ENGAGEMENT OF THE ENEMY

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, on attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. A company/team operation order or frag order.
- C. Enemy targets.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Decision to Engage the Enemy

- 1. Company/team operation order or frag order.
- 2. Enemy direct fire weapons.
- 3. Enemy anti-tank rounds impacting in the platoon area.
- 4. Enemy missiles launched against the platoon.
- 5. Operable intra-platoon communications.
- 6. Operable intra-company/team communications.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

Does the company/team operation order indicate a target area or specific targets to be destroyed or suppressed?

Source: Company/team operation order or frag order.

2. Enemy

- (a) Does the enemy have tank defeating weapons, and if so, what type, how many, and where?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, TC reports, and personal observation.

- (b) Are enemy anti-tank rounds impacting in the platoon area?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (c) Have enemy missiles been launched against the platoon?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

3. Troops Available

- (a) Are intra-platoon communications operable?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(b) Are intra-company/team communications operable?

Source: Personal knowledge.

4. Time

Does the company/team operation order or frag order specify a time or signal to open fire and if so what is that time or signal?

Source: Company/team operation order or frag order.

C. Decision Principles

Direct the enemy be engaged when the following conditions are present:

- a. Intra-platoon communications are operable.
- b. One of the following conditions is present:
 - (1) A company/team operation order or frag order which designates a time or signal for engaging the enemy.
 - (2) Enemy direct fire weapons threatens the platoon.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (GIVE RADIO ORDER)

A. Initial order should contain the following information:

1. All pertinent elements of a platoon fire command, but withholding the execution element by saying "At my Command" when 1) providing suppressive fires (to comply with a designated time or signal), 2) when defending a position (to insure targets are within range), or 3) when ambushing the enemy (to achieve maximum shock effort and destruction).
2. Direction to the tank commanders to "Engage Targets of Opportunity," when there is initial confusion caused by a sudden enemy attack or there is no clearly defined platoon fire command target.

B. Subsequent orders should contain the following information:

1. Platoon fire command corrections.
2. Guidance to tank commanders to reinforce, by target engagement, other tank commanders as necessary.

C. The procedure that the platoon leader will follow when directing that the enemy be engaged depends upon the results desired. When conducting suppressive fires, defense of a battle position, and an ambush, and when timing, shock affect, and maximum enemy destruction are essential and desired, the platoon leader gives a platoon fire

command, withholding the execution element by saying, "At My Command," and then completes the fire command at the appropriate time or signal by saying "FIRE." In the action on contact situation, initially there is often confusion and the lack of a clear definitive platoon fire command target. In this situation, when the platoon leader recognizes the need to rapidly control the situation and to place fire on the enemy, he directs the platoon to "Engage Targets of Opportunity."

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Engagement of the Enemy

1. Time or signal to open fire.
2. Enemy target area or enemy direct fire weapons.
3. Surprise enemy direct fire.
4. Operable intra-company/team communications.
5. Operable intra-platoon communications.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Enemy

- (a) What is the enemy target area?

Source: Company/team operation order or frag order.

- (b) Where are the enemy direct fire weapons?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, TC reports, and personal observation.

- (c) Has surprise enemy direct fire caused confusion in the platoon?

Source: Personal observation.

- (d) Was the surprise enemy fire from scattered single targets or a single highly dangerous multiple target?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Are intra-company/team communications operable?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Are intra-platoon communications operable?

Source: Personal knowledge.

3. Time

Has the time arrived or the signal been given to open fire?

Source: Company/team operation order or frag order or personal observation.

C. Execution Principles

1. To meet time or signal requirements, to insure the enemy is within engagement range, or to achieve maximum shock effect and enemy destruction:
 - (a) For single scattered targets. Direct the platoon to engage targets of opportunity "At My Command."
 - (b) For an area target or a single highly dangerous multiple target. Give a platoon fire command but, withhold the execution element by saying "At My Command."
2. To reduce confusion resulting from surprise enemy direct fire, and to gain control of the platoon:
 - (a) Initially. Direct the platoon to engage targets of opportunity.
 - (b) Subsequently. If a single highly dangerous multiple target is acquired, give a platoon fire command.
3. When there is a significant unequal ratio of single targets to an individual tank commander's sector of responsibility reinforce that tank commander by assigning additional engagement responsibilities to other tank commanders.

APPENDIX C

Tank Platoon Leader "Training Objectives for Tactical Leadership Tasks"

for

Company/Team Mission - DEFEND BATTLE POSITION

Company/Team Mission Phase - DIRECT FIRE

Tank Platoon Operation - INITIATE DIRECT FIRES IN PLATOON SECTOR

Tank Platoon Leader Tasks

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.Designates Targets to TOW Section.	C-2
.Monitors TOWs.	C-5
.Submits SPOTREP (See Appendix B)	B-11
.Directs Targets be Engaged with TIS.	C-8
.Directs Enemy be Engaged (See Appendix B).	B-15
.Requests Indirect Fires (See Appendix A)	A-16
.Requests Indirect Fires be Adjusted (See Appendix A)	A-20
.Requests TOW Section Reinforce Platoon Fire.	C-12
.Submits STAREP	C-15

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Designates Targets to TOW Section

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to designate targets to a supporting TOW unit. This may occur when TOWs are placed in support of or in the vicinity of the tank platoon. The TOW weapon system is highly effective against enemy armored vehicles out to its maximum effective range of 3750 meters, and it has less signature at long ranges than a tank. The TOW is employed to provide overwatch fires of tank units during tactical movement and during an attack on an objective. During the defense of a battle position, TOWs engage targets which are beyond the range of tank weapons. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he has acquired targets beyond the range of tank weapons and ends when the TOW unit commander acknowledges the acquisition of targets designated.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY DESIGNATING TARGETS TO THE TOW SECTION

A. Move

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 2. Move in Traveling | (3-IV-1-7) |
| 3. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 4. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 5. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 3. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 4. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 5. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 6. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |
| 7. Consolidate | (3-IV-2-14) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 3. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 4. Disengage | (3-IV-3-8) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING DESIGNATING TARGETS TO TOW SECTION

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. A TOW unit in the platoon area.
- C. Enemy targets beyond the range of tank weapons.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Decision to Designate Targets to the TOW Section

1. Availability of a TOW unit.
2. Operable communications with the TOW unit.
3. Range to enemy targets.
4. Range of tank weapons.
5. Ability to acquire enemy targets by TOW unit.
6. Visibility for TOW engagement.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Enemy

- (a) Are enemy targets within range of the TOW unit?

Sources: TOW unit commander, personal observation, and personal knowledge.

- (b) Are enemy targets beyond the range of tank weapons?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (c) What is the number, type, and location of enemy targets?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

2. Terrain and Weather

Does visibility conditions restrict the engagement of enemy targets by the TOW unit?

Source: TOW unit commander

3. Troops Available

- (a) Is a TOW unit available to engage enemy targets?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order and TOW unit commander.

- (b) Can the TOW unit acquire the enemy targets?

Source: TOW unit commander.

- (c) Are there operable communication with the TOW unit?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Designate targets to the TOW section when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. A TOW unit is available and in the platoon area.
- b. Enemy targets are in range of the TOW unit but are beyond the range of tank weapons.
- c. Enemy targets can be acquired by the TOW unit.
- d. Communications with the TOW unit are operable.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

1. Initial request should contain the following information: .

Specific target engagement and priority of target engagement.

2. Subsequent request should contain the following information:

Changes in target priorities.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Monitors TOWS

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to monitor TOW engagements. After the platoon leader has designated enemy targets to the TOW unit commander, the platoon leader will provide the TOW unit commander, during target engagements, engagement results and new target data. At the same time, the platoon leader will analyze the effects of TOW fires on the total enemy target array to determine the degree of target array degradation and its affect upon the platoon's current operations. The key question from this analysis is--"Did the TOW fires degrade the enemy to such a degree as to significantly enhance the success of the platoon's current operation?" Operations during which the platoon leader may be required to monitor TOW fires are: a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when the first TOW fires and ends when a TOW fires its last engagement.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY MONITORS TOWS

A. Move

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 2. Move in Traveling | (3-IV-1-7) |
| 3. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 4. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 5. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 3. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 4. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 5. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 6. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |
| 7. Consolidate | (3-IV-2-14) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 3. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 4. Disengage | (3-IV-3-8) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING TOWS TO BE MONITORED

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, or attack on an objective, or in the defense of a position.
- B. A TOW unit engaging enemy targets designated by the platoon leader.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Decision to Monitor TOWs.

1. TOW units engaging enemy targets in the platoon area.
2. Enemy targets that can be observed by the platoon leader.
3. Operable communications with the TOW unit.
4. Distance to the TOW unit.
5. Time available and situation suitable to monitor TOW engagements.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Enemy

- (a) Can enemy targets being engaged by the TOW unit be observed?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (b) Are there new targets in that platoon area that have not been reported to the TOW unit commander?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Is the TOW unit engaging targets designated by the platoon leader?

Source: TOW unit commander.

- (b) Are communications with the TOW unit operable?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (c) What is the distance to the TOW unit commander?

Source: Personal estimate.

- (d) Does the current situation permit the platoon leader to monitor TOW engagements?

Source: Personal knowledge.

3. Time

Is there available time to monitor TOW engagements?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Monitor TOW engagements when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. TOW units are engaging platoon leader designated enemy targets.
- b. Enemy targets can be observed by the platoon leader.
- c. Platoon leader has operable communications with the TOW unit.
- d. Available time and the tactical situation permits monitoring.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. Initial monitoring should include the following:

Engagement results.

B. Subsequent monitoring should include the following:

- 1. Requests for new target engagements.
- 2. Engagement results.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Targets Be Engaged With TIS

- II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to direct that targets be engaged with TIS. The M1 tank is equipped with a thermal imaging system (TIS). With this system the tank commander and the gunner can acquire and engage enemy targets during periods of limited visibility, (i.e., at night, during fog, rain, or snow, and through smoke). Although the tank commander's and gunner's day sights are normally used to acquire and engage targets during periods of good visibility, there are occasions during these periods when these crewmembers should use the TIS to acquire and engage targets. If the platoon is participating in an attack on an objective or in the defense of a position, it can use smoke from supporting fires to degrade the enemy threat by reducing its firing effectiveness and creating confusion in its movement and formation. When the enemy has been smoked, the platoon can effectively engage enemy targets by switching from day sights to the thermal imaging system. During nighttime, or when in fog, rain, or snow, M1 crews will normally use TIS to acquire and engage targets. However, during daytime operations (when crews have been routinely using day sights), they should be reminded to use the TIS when the situation dictates its use. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he becomes aware that the enemy will be smoked and ends when each tank commander acknowledges the platoon leader's order.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY ENGAGING TARGETS WITH TIS

A. Move

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct a Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 2. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 2. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-2-4) |
| 3. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 5. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 6. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 7. Breach Minefields and Obstacles | (3-IV-2-10) |
| 8. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-3-5) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 3. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING TARGETS TO BE ENGAGED WITH TIS

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or in the defense of a position.
- B. An enemy target array within tank weapons range.
- C. Visibility conditions which restrict the use of day sights.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Decision to Engage Targets With TIS

- 1. Enemy direct fire weapons within range of tank weapons.
- 2. Enemy direct fire weapons obscured by smoke.
- 3. Ability to acquire targets with day sights.
- 4. Operable thermal imaging systems.
- 5. Operable intra-platoon communications.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Enemy

- (a) Are enemy direct fire weapons within range of tank weapons?

Sources: TC reports and personal observations.

- (b) Is the enemy target array obscured by smoke?

Sources: TC reports and personal knowledge.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Can enemy targets be acquired with day sights?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (b) Are thermal imaging systems operable?

Sources: TC reports and personal knowledge.

- (c) Are intra-platoon communications operable?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Direct targets be engaged with thermal imaging systems (TIS) when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Enemy direct fire weapons are within range of tank weapons.
- b. Enemy direct fire weapons cannot be acquired with day sights.

- c. Thermal imaging systems are operable.
- d. Intra-platoon communications are operable.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (GIVE RADIO ORDER)

A. Initial order should contain the following information:

- 1. Instruction to the platoon to switch from day sights to thermal imaging systems.
- 2. Direction to engage targets of opportunity or a platoon fire command.

B. Subsequent orders should contain the following information:

- 1. Changes in sector or target priorities
or
- 2. Subsequent platoon fire command

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Engagement of Targets With TIS

- 1. Enemy direct fire weapons within range of tank weapons.
- 2. Enemy direct fire weapons obscured by smoke.
- 3. Operable thermal imaging systems.
- 4. Operable intra-platoon communications.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Enemy

- (a) Are enemy direct fire weapons within range of tank weapons?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (b) Are enemy direct fire weapons obscured by smoke?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (c) Can enemy direct fire weapons, obscured by smoke, be acquired with thermal imaging systems?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Are thermal imaging systems operable?

Sources: TC reports and personal knowledge.

(b) Are intra-platoon communications operable?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Execution Principle

Direct enemy targets be engaged with thermal imaging systems (TIS) when they are obscured by smoke or other environmental conditions and are within tank weapons range.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Requests TOW Section Reinforce Platoon Fire

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to request that the TOW section reinforce the platoon fires. This task is required when the number of enemy targets in the area exceed the platoon's ability to engage all the targets simultaneously, the enemy targets constitute a definite threat to mission accomplishment, and there is a TOW unit in the platoon area. The reinforcement of platoon fires by a TOW unit normally occurs during the defense of a battle position. However, it may also be required during an action on contact phase of a movement to contact operation or during an attack on an objective. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he recognizes an enemy target array which is beyond the capability of the platoon to engage all elements simultaneously. It ends when the TOW unit acknowledges the request.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY REQUESTING TOW SECTION REINFORCE PLATOON FIRE

A. Move

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 2. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 2. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 3. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 4. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 5. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 2. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 3. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING TOW SECTION TO REINFORCE PLATOON FIRE

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or in the defense of a position.
- B. An enemy target array whose number of targets exceeds the platoon's ability to simultaneously engage all targets.
- C. An enemy target array which constitutes a definite threat to mission accomplishment.
- D. A TOW unit is in the platoon area.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Decision to Request TOW Section to Reinforce Platoon Fire

1. Availability of a TOW unit.
2. Operable communications with the TOW unit.
3. Ability to acquire enemy targets by TOW unit.
4. Visibility for TOW units.
5. Distance to the TOW unit.
6. Time available and situations suitable for requesting TOW support.
7. Large number of enemy targets.
8. An enemy target array which constitutes a definite threat to mission accomplishment.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

Does the enemy target array constitute a definite threat to mission accomplishment?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order and personal observation.

2. Enemy

Do the number of enemy targets in the platoon area exceed the platoon's ability to simultaneously engage all targets?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

3. Terrain and Weather

Does visibility conditions restrict the engagement of enemy targets by the TOW unit?

Source: TOW unit commander.

4. Troops Available

- (a) Is there a TOW unit in the platoon area?

Source: Company/team operation order or frag order.

- (b) If there is a TOW unit in the platoon area is it available to reinforce the platoon fires?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order and the TOW unit commander.

- (c) Are communications with the TOW unit operable?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(d) Can the TOW unit acquire enemy targets?

Source: TOW unit commander.

(e) What is the distance to the TOW unit commander?

Source: Personal estimate.

(f) Does the current situation permit the platoon leader to contact the TOW unit commander?

Source: Personal knowledge.

5. Time

Is there available time to request TOW reinforce platoon fires?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Request the TOW section reinforce platoon fires when the following conditions are present:

1. A TOW unit is in the platoon area and is available to reinforce the platoon fires.
2. Communications with the TOW unit are operable.
3. The TOW unit is able to acquire enemy targets.
4. The number of enemy targets in the platoon area exceeds the ability of the platoon to engage simultaneously all targets.
5. The enemy target array in the platoon area is a definite threat to mission accomplishment.
6. The distance to the TOW unit and the tactical situation is such that if radio communications are inoperable, the platoon leader can dismount and contact the TOW unit commander.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. Initial request should contain the following information:

Specific target engagements and priority of target engagement.

B. Subsequent request should contain the following information.

1. Changes in target priorities.
2. Total TOW unit engagement results (from TOW unit).

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Submits STAREP

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to submit a STAREP. A situation/status report (STAREP) is a report on the platoon's tactical situation and status. It is submitted after significant events or as otherwise specified in the tactical standard operating procedure. A fragmentary report is submitted when the entire report is not required. Due to the sensitive nature of the information which it conveys, this report will be transmitted by secure means or, at least, the numbers will be encoded. The STAREP may be transmitted during all combat operations. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when a significant platoon event occurs or at a time designated in the tactical standard operating procedures. His responsibility for this task ends when the company/team acknowledges receipt of the report.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY SUBMITTING A SITREP

A. Move

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct a Tactical Road March | (3-IV-1-5) |
| 2. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 3. Move in Traveling | (3-IV-1-7) |
| 4. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 5. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 6. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 3. React to Indirect Fire | (3-IV-2-5) |
| 4. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 5. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 6. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 7. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 8. Breach Minefields and Obstacles | (3-IV-2-10) |
| 9. Bypass | (3-IV-2-12) |
| 10. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |
| 11. Consolidate | (3-IV-2-14) |
| 12. Reorganize | (3-IV-2-15) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Occupy Battle Position | (3-IV-3-2) |
| 3. Prepare Battle Position | (3-IV-3-3) |
| 4. React to Indirect Fire | (3-IV-3-4) |
| 5. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 6. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 7. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |
| 8. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |
| 9. Reorganize | (3-IV-3-11) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING A STAREP TO BE SUBMITTED

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, the defense of a position, or any other tactical operation.
- B. A significant tactical event requiring the submission of a STAREP.
- C. A designated time requiring the submission of a STAREP.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Decision to Submit a STAREP

- 1. A tactical event which may affect the conduct of the mission.
- 2. A designated time requiring the submission of a STAREP.
- 3. Operable intra-company/team communications.
- 4. A secure means for transmitting sensitive information.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

Has a significant tactical event occurred of which the company/team commander should beware?

Sources: Captured prisoners of war, enemy documents, TC reports, and personal knowledge.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Is there a secure means available for transmitting sensitive information?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Are codes available for encoding numbers?

Source: Communications Electronic Operating Instructions (CEOI)

3. Time

- (a) What are the designated times for transmitting a STAREP?

Source: Tactical standard operating procedure.

- (b) Has the designated time arrived for transmitting a STAREP?

Sources: Tactical standard operating procedure and personal knowledge.

3. Decision Principles

Submit a STAREP when both of the following conditions are present:

- a. A significant tactical event has occurred of which the company/team commander should be aware.

or

It is time, designated in the tactical standard operating procedure, to submit a STAREP.

- b. A secure means is available for transmitting sensitive information.

or

Codes are available for encoding numbers.

IV. ACTION COMPONENT

- A. The following example is one format of the STAREP. Local tactical standard operating procedures may reflect different formats. However, the information required in a STAREP is the same.

Report as of (DTG)

ALPHA* -REPORTING UNIT (call sign)

BRAVO* -LOCATION(s)
Center of mass or front line trace, and observation post location

CHARLIE* -ACTIVITY
Brief summary of activity since last report.

DELTA -PERSONNEL

Losses since (DTG) (in code)

DELTA ONE - Killed in action.
DELTA TWO - Wounded in action.
DELTA THREE - Missing in action.
DELTA FOUR - Captured.
DELTA FIVE - Nonbattle casualties.
DELTA SIX - Administrative losses.

ECHO - AMMUNITION
Total ammunition required to replenish basic load (in code).

FOXTROT - FUEL
Total fuel required in gallons by type (in code).

GOLF - EQUIPMENT

Tactical vehicles and designated major items short; include all items not immediately available for action (in code).

HOTEL - REMARKS

Any additional information required to complete the situation/status picture. Omit if not required.

NOTES: * These items are mandatory.

- b. STAREPS will normally be submitted by a secure means of communications. When secure means of communications are not available, numbers should be encoded.

APPENDIX D

Tank Platoon Leader "Training Objectives for Tactical Leadership Tasks"

for

Company/Team Mission - OCCUPY BATTLE POSITION

Company/Team Mission Phase - OCCUPY AND ORGANIZE BATTLE POSITION

Tank Platoon Operation - ORGANIZE PLATOON BATTLE POSITION

Tank Platoon Leader Tasks

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.Checks Positions for Suitability	D-11
.Directs Tanks Move to Good Fields of Fire.	D-14
.Assigns Area for Supplementary Positions	D-17
.Directs Range Cards be Prepared.	D-20
.Directs Chemical Alarms be Emplaced.	D-24
.Directs Obstacles, Mines, and Flares be Installed.	D-27
.Coordinates With FIST Leader	D-32
.Coordinates with TOW Section Leader.	D-35
.Coordinates with Adjacent Platoon Leaders.	D-38
.Prepares a Fire Plan	D-42
.Reconnoiters Area for Supplementary Positions	D-46
.Selects and Announces Withdrawal Routes.	D-49
.Plans Displacement	D-52
.Requests Company/Team Fire Plan.	D-57
.Requests Wire Communications be Installed.	D-59

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Designates Sectors of Fire

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to designate sectors of fire. When organizing the defense of a battle position, he will designate to the tank commanders sectors of fire which are consistent with the company/team defensive plan. This action ensures that enemy avenues of approach are covered, that tank commanders' sectors of fire overlap to prevent gaps in the defense, and that flank tank commander's sectors overlap the sectors of flank elements of adjacent units. When providing suppressive fires for an attack, the platoon leader will designate to the tank commanders sectors of fire which are consistent with the company/team attack plan. This action ensures complete coverage of the objective and complete coverage of adjacent areas when fires are shifted. If the platoon is in an overwatch position, sectors of fire are designated to degrade the enemy's fire on maneuvering or moving elements. Lastly, sectors of fire are designated during the consolidation phase, on the objective, to reduce the enemy's counterattack affects. When assigning sectors of fire, the platoon leader considers how he will employ platoon fires during defensive, offensive, and tactical movement operations. These fires may be one of several platoon fire techniques (i.e., frontal fire, cross fire, flank fire, and random fire). The technique selected is dependent upon the target array and the terrain. In all techniques of platoon fires, individual tank commanders engage the most dangerous target first within their assigned sector. During engagements, the platoon leader may be required to redesignate sectors of fire to accommodate specific threats. This may be done for individual tank commanders or for the entire platoon. The designation of sectors of fire will occur during offensive, defensive, and tactical movement operations. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins during the organization or the defense of a battle position, during the planning or execution of suppressive fires on an objective, during the attack or the assault on an objective, when occupying an overwatch position during a tactical movement, and when consolidating on an objective. It ends when the defense of a battle position has ended, when an objective has been secured, or when the platoon moves off of an overwatch position during a tactical movement.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY DESIGNATE SECTORS OF FIRE

A. Move

1. Provide Overwatch (3-IV-1-10)

B. Attack

1. Employ Direct Fire (3-IV-2-3)
2. Conduct Fire and Maneuver (3-IV-2-7)
3. Conduct a Hasty Attack (3-IV-2-8)
4. Support/Attack by Fire (3-IV-2-9)
5. Assault (3-IV-2-11)
6. Disengage (3-IV-2-13)
7. Consolidate (3-IV-2-14)

C. Defend

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Occupy Battle Position | (3-IV-3-2) |
| 2. Prepare Battle Position | (3-IV-3-3) |
| 3. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 4. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 5. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |
| 6. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING SECTORS OF FIRE BE DESIGNATED

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. A platoon battle position.
- C. A company/team objective.
- D. A suppressive fire position.
- E. An overwatch position.
- F. An enemy target array.
- G. Functioning intra-platoon communications.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decision Involved in Designating Sectors of Fire

- 1. Company/team defensive fire plan.
- 2. Company/team offensive fire plan.
- 3. Avenues of approach into the battle position.
- 4. Friendly units on the flanks of the battle position.
- 5. Suspected enemy position.
- 6. Enemy defensive target array.
- 7. Enemy offensive target array.
- 8. Personnel and equipment losses.
- 9. Functioning intra-platoon communications.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

- (a) Does the company/team defensive fire plan designate the platoon sector?

Source: Company/team defensive fire plan.

- (b) Does the company/team defensive fire plan designate platoon engagement areas (EAs)?

Source: Company/team defensive fire plan.

- (c) Does the company/team defensive fire plan designate platoon target reference points (TRPs)?

Source: Company/team defensive fire plan.

- (d) Does the company/team defensive fire plan indicate sectors of flanking fire with adjacent units?

Source: Company/team defensive fire plan.

- (e) Does the company/team offensive fire plan indicate suppressive fire target coverage on the objective?

Source: Company/team offensive fire plan.

- (f) Does the company/team offensive fire plan indicate the area to cover when shifting suppressive fires from the objective?

Source: Company/team offensive fire plan.

2. Enemy

- (a) Is the enemy approaching the battle position, and if so, what type, how many, and where?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, unit reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

- (b) What is the enemy target array on the objective?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, unit reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

- (c) Is the enemy firing on the maneuvering elements, and if so, what type, how many, and where?

Sources: Company/team frag order, unit reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

- (d) Is the enemy firing on the moving units, and if so, what type, how many, and where?

Sources: Company/team frag order, unit reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

- (e) Where are the suspected enemy positions?

Sources: Company/team frag order, unit reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

3. Terrain

Where are the avenues of approach leading into the battle position?

Source: Maps and personal observation.

4. Troops Available

(a) Where are the friendly units located on the flanks of the battle position?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag orders, unit reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

(b) Are there any personnel or equipment losses?

Sources: TC reports and personal knowledge.

(c) Are intra-platoon communications functioning?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principle

Designate sectors of fire when one or more of the following conditions are present:

- a. Platoon requirements indicated in the company/team defensive fire plan.
- b. Platoon requirements indicated in the company/team offensive fire plan.
- c. Avenues of approach leading into the battle position have been identified.
- d. The location of friendly units on the flank of the battle position have been identified.
- e. Suspected enemy positions have been identified.
- f. Enemy defensive target array has been identified.
- g. Enemy offensive target array has been identified.
- h. Personnel and equipment losses are known.
- i. Intra-platoon communications are functioning.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. Initial designation should contain the following information:

1. The sector of fire for the platoon.
2. The sector of fire for each tank commander.
3. The overlapping sectors of fire between flank tanks and adjacent units.
4. The location of platoon engagement areas (EAs).
5. The location of platoon target reference points (TRPs).

B. Subsequent designation should contain the following information:

1. The redesignation of sectors of fire to accommodate a threat from an unexpected direction.
2. The redesignation of sectors of fire to accommodate a geographically unbalanced target array.
3. The sectors of fire to accommodate a threat firing on the maneuvering elements.
4. The sectors of fire to accommodate a threat firing on the moving elements.
5. The redesignation of sectors of fire to accommodate a new target area when shifting fires.
6. The redesignation of sectors of fire to accommodate a new company/team frag order.
7. The redesignation of factors of fire to accommodate personnel and/or equipment losses.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Designates Tank Targets

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to designate tank targets. When engaging the enemy he will usually perform the task by giving a fire command to an individual tank commander, a tank section, or to the platoon. However, battlefield circumstances may dictate that he perform the task by giving informal directions to subordinate elements. This situation could occur when the platoon leader is too busy to give a fire command or when a fire command is not appropriate for the target array. When designating tank targets by informal directions, only the target description, target location, and the desired engagement results are given. When appropriate, directions should reference predesignated engagement areas (EAs) and target reference points (TRPs). The purpose of designating tank targets by informal directions is to ensure that the most dangerous targets (e.g., command vehicles, major threat vehicles, major threat concentrations, and major threats appearing from an unexpected direction) are engaged. The platoon leader will also designate targets by informal directions when preparing to defend a battle position, when preparing to provide suppressive fires on an objective, or when preparing to fire on a suspected enemy position. The task will occur during the preparation and the defense of a battle position, during the preparation for an attack and during the attack on an objective, and with the acquisition of a threat during a tactical movement. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins in the preparation for and during the defense of a position or in the preparation for and during an attack on an objective, or upon acquiring a target during a tactical movement. His responsibility for this task ends when the preparation for the defense of a battle position or an attack on an objective has been completed, or when a threat has been destroyed, neutralized, or withdrawn from the battlefield.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY DESIGNATES TANK TARGETS

A. Move

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct a Tactical Road March | (3-IV-1-5) |
| 2. Conduct a Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 3. Move in Traveling | (3-IV-1-7) |
| 4. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 5. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 6. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-2-3) |
| 3. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 5. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 6. Support/Attack by Fire | (3-IV-2-9) |
| 7. Breach Minefields and Obstacles | (3-IV-2-10) |

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 8. Assault | (3-IV-2-11) |
| 9. Bypass | (3-IV-2-12) |
| 10. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |
| 11. Consolidate | (3-IV-2-14) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Prepare the Battle Position | (3-IV-3-3) |
| 3. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 4. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 5. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |
| 6. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING DESIGNATION OF TANK TARGETS

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. Functioning intra-platoon communications.
- C. One or more of the following conditions are present:
 - 1. Suspected future locations for enemy vehicles.
 - 2. Suspected future locations for enemy concentrations.
 - 3. Actual location of enemy vehicles.
 - 4. Actual locations of enemy concentrations.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Designating Tank Targets

- 1. Suspected future locations of enemy vehicles.
- 2. Suspected future locations of enemy concentrations.
- 3. The appearance of enemy command vehicles.
- 4. The appearance of enemy major threat vehicles.
- 5. The appearance of a concentration of enemy major threat vehicles.
- 6. The appearance of an enemy force from an unexpected direction.
- 7. Functioning intra-platoon communications.
- 8. The platoon leader too busy to give a fire command.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Enemy

- (a) Where are the suspected future locations of enemy vehicles?

Sources: Personal terrain evaluation and knowledge of enemy tactics.

- (b) Where are the suspected future locations of enemy concentrations?

Sources: Personnel terrain evaluation and knowledge of enemy tactics.

- (c) Have enemy command vehicles been acquired, and if so, what type, how many, and where?

Sources: Unit reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

- (d) Have enemy major threat vehicles been acquired, and if so, what type, how many, and where?

Sources: Unit reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

- (e) Has a concentration of enemy major threat vehicles been acquired, and if so, where is it located and what is its composition?

Sources: Unit reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

- (f) Has an enemy force, approaching from an unexpected direction, been acquired?

Sources: Unit reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Can the enemy be engaged by giving a fire command?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Can the enemy be engaged by giving informal directions?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (c) Is the platoon leader too busy to give a fire command?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (d) Are intra-platoon communications functioning?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

1. Designate tank targets by informal directions when the following conditions are present:

- a. The platoon leader is too busy to give a fire command.

or

A fire command is not appropriate for the target array.

- b. Intra-platoon communications are functioning.
2. Designate tank targets by informal directions when the above conditions are present and any of the following occur:
 - a. Suspected future locations of enemy vehicles have been identified.
 - b. Suspected future locations of enemy concentrations have been identified.
 - c. Enemy command vehicles have been acquired.
 - d. Enemy major threat vehicles have been acquired.
 - e. Enemy concentrations have been acquired.
 - f. An enemy force appearing from an unexpected direction has been acquired.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

- A. Initial designation should contain the following information:
 1. For suspected future enemy locations
 - (a) Where the enemy will be engaged.
 - (b) Who will engage the enemy.
 - (c) What are the desired engagement results.
 2. For actual target acquisitions
 - (a) The alert (who will engage the target).
 - (b) The target description.
 - (c) The target location.
 - (d) The desired engagement results.
- B. Subsequent designation should contain the following information:
 1. Corrections for initial engagements.
 2. Redesignation of tank targets.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Checks Positions for Suitability

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to check tank positions for suitability. When occupying a defensive position, the platoon leader points out to the tank commanders the general locations for primary and supplementary positions. Each tank commander selects his own primary, alternate, and supplementary position. (A primary position is a tanks main firing position to cover the assigned target area or most likely enemy avenues of approach. An alternate position covers the same target area and enemy avenues of approach; it is used when the primary position is receiving intensive fire, and it confuses the enemy as to the exact location of each tank. The supplementary position covers target areas or enemy routes of advance that cannot be engaged from the primary or alternate positions - usually flanks or rear.) When the preparation of the platoon leader's primary position has been initiated the platoon leader checks each tank commander's primary and alternate position for suitability, designates the general location of supplementary positions, and checks the tank commander's selection of supplementary positions for suitability. A chronology of platoon leader and tank commander actions for this task is as follows:

A. Platoon Leader

1. Assign general location of primary position.
2. Occupy temporary primary position.
3. Select and occupy primary position.
4. Direct crew to start preparation of primary position.
5. Select alternate position.
6. Check each tank commander's primary position.
7. Check each tank commander's alternate position.
8. Assemble tank commanders and assign general location of supplementary positions.
9. Select supplementary position.
10. Check each tank commander's supplementary position.
11. Return to the crew and complete preparation of primary position

B. Tank Commanders

1. Occupy temporary primary position.
2. Select and occupy primary position.
3. Direct crew to start preparation of primary position.
4. Select alternate position.
5. Select supplementary position.
6. Return to crew and complete preparation of primary position.

When checking positions for suitability, the platoon leader looks at or checks:

- A. The turret defilade position.
- B. The hull defilade position.

- C. The ability of the tank to move rapidly from the turret defilade position to the hull defilade position.
- D. The ability of the main gun to cover target areas and avenues of approach.
- E. Good fields of fire for the main gun.
- F. The ability of the tank to provide interlocking fire with adjacent tanks.
- G. Concealment from ground and air observation.
- H. Withdrawal routes from the positions.
- I. Routes between positions.

The checking of positions for suitability occurs during the preparation for the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when the tank commanders have prepared their primary positions and ends when all deficiencies found at the positions have been corrected.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY CHECK POSITIONS FOR SUITABILITY

Defend

- a. Occupy Battle Position (3-IV-3-2)
- b. Prepare Battle Position (3-IV-3-3)

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING CHECKING POSITIONS FOR SUITABILITY

- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position.
- B. The preparation of primary positions completed.
- C. The selection of alternate positions completed.
- D. The selection of supplementary positions completed.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

- A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Checking Positions for Suitability
 - 1. Primary tank position prepared.
 - 2. Alternate tank position selected.
 - 3. Supplementary tank positions selected.
- B. Information Required and Sources

Mission

- (a) Have the primary tank positions been prepared?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

(b) Have alternate tank positions been selected?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

(c) Have supplementary tank positions been selected?

Sources: TC reports and personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Check primary, alternate, and supplementary positions for suitability when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Primary tank positions have been prepared.
- b. Alternate tank positions have been selected.
- c. Supplementary tank positions have been selected.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. Initial check should include the following:

1. Turret defilade.
2. Hull defilade.
 - a. Main gun covers avenues of approach.
 - b. Main gun provides interlocking fire with adjacent tanks.
 - c. Main gun has good fields of fire.
3. Concealment.
4. Withdrawal routes.
5. Routes between tank positions.

B. Subsequent check should include the following:

Corrective actions for deficiencies found during the initial check.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Tanks to Move to Good Fields of Fire

- II. DIRECTIONS: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to direct that tanks be moved to good fields of fire. When preparing the defense of a battle position, he will check each tank position (primary, alternate, and supplementary) for suitability. One part of this check is to determine if each tank position provides good fields of fire for the main gun. Characteristics of good fields of fire are: 1) allows engagement at maximum effective range, 2) permits interlocking fire with adjacent tank, 3) minimizes dead space within assigned sector, and 4) denies the enemy the ability to close on the battle position over covered and concealed routes. If a tank position does not include these characteristics, the platoon leader will direct the tank commander to select another position which has the characteristics. (If there is no position that has all of these characteristics within the tank commander's sector of responsibility, he will select the position which includes the most characteristics.) Good fields of fire are determined from the hull defilade position, to the left and right sector boundaries, and out to the maximum effective range of the tank main gun. Directing that tanks be moved to good fields of fire occurs during the preparation for the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he checks tank positions for suitability and notices that a tank does not have good fields of fire. It ends when all of his tanks are in positions from which they have good fields of fire.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY DIRECT TANKS TO MOVE TO GOOD FIELDS OF FIRE

Defend

Prepare Battle Positions

(3-IV-3-3)

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING TANKS TO MOVE TO GOOD FIELDS OF FIRE

- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position.
- B. Tanks are in primary positions.
- C. Alternate and supplementary positions have been selected.
- D. Suitability checks of positions have revealed deficient fields of fire.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

- A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Directing Tanks to Move to Good Fields of Fire
 - 1. Tanks in primary positions do not have good field of fire.
 - 2. Selected alternate positions do not have good fields of fire.
 - 3. Selected supplementary positions do not have good fields of fire.

B. Information Required and Sources

Troops Available

- (a) Do all tanks in primary positions have good fields of fire?

Source: Personal check.

- (b) Do all selected alternate positions have good fields of fire?

Source: Personal check.

- (c) Do all selected supplementary positions have good fields of fire?

Source: Personal check.

C. Decision Principles

1. Direct tanks be moved to good fields of fire when one or more of the following conditions are present:
 - a. Fields of fire do not allow engagement at maximum effective range.
 - b. Fields of fire do not permit interlocking fire with adjacent tanks.
 - c. Fields of fire do not minimize dead space in the assigned sector.
 - d. Fields of fire do not deny the enemy the ability to close on the battle position over covered and concealed routes.
2. Direct new alternate and supplementary positions be selected when one or more of the following conditions are present:
 - a. Fields of fire do not allow engagement at maximum effective range.
 - b. Fields of fire do not permit interlocking fire with adjacent tanks.
 - c. Fields of fire do not minimize dead space in the assigned sector.
 - d. Fields of fire do not deny the enemy the ability to close on the battle position over covered and concealed routes.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (PERSONAL ORDER)

A. Initial order should contain the following information:

1. Order to move the tanks to positions having good fields of fire.
2. Order to change alternate and supplementary positions to those having good fields of fire.

B. Subsequent orders should contain the following information:

Corrective measures of deficiencies regarding fields of fire found during suitability checks.

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Moving Tanks to Good Fields of Fire

1. Tanks moved to new primary positions.
2. New alternate and supplementary positions selected.

B. Information Required and Sources

Mission

- (1) Do the tanks have good fields of fire in the new primary position?

Source: Personal observation.

- (2) Do the new alternate and supplementary positions have good fields of fire?

Source: Personal observation.

C. Execution Principle

1. When tanks are moved to new primary positions the following conditions must be present?
 - a. Positions permit engagement at maximum effective range.
 - b. Positions permit interlocking fire with adjacent tanks.
 - c. Positions minimize dead space in assigned sectors.
 - d. Positions will prevent the enemy from closing on to the battle position over covered and concealed routes.
2. When new alternate and supplementary positions are selected, the above characteristics must be present.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Assigns Area for Supplementary Positions

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to assign supplementary positions. When occupying a defensive position and after primary and alternate positions have been checked for suitability, the platoon leader assembles the tank commanders and points out to them the general area for supplementary positions. After the tank commanders have selected their supplementary positions, the platoon leader checks the positions for suitability. The purpose of supplementary positions is to cover target areas and enemy routes of advance that cannot be engaged from the primary and alternate positions--usually flanks and rear. The supplementary positions are an integral part of the platoon's plan to defend a position. The location of these positions and the subsequent occupation of them enables the platoon to rapidly confront enemy flanking and enveloping moves. The assignment of supplementary positions occurs during the preparation for the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for the task begins when he has completed his check of primary and alternate positions and ends when he has completed his check of the tank commander selected supplementary positions.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY ASSIGNS SUPPLEMENTARY POSITIONS

Defend

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| a. Occupy Battle Position | (3-IV-3-2) |
| b. Defend Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING ASSIGNMENT OF AREA FOR SUPPLEMENTARY POSITIONS

- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position.
- B. A platoon battle position.
- C. Avenues of approach leading into the battle position.
- D. Suitability checks of primary and alternate position completed.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

- A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involving the Assignment of an Area for Supplementary Positions
 - 1. Company/team defensive fire plan.
 - 2. Company/team operation order or frag order.
 - 3. Avenues of approach leading into the battle position.
- B. Information Required and Sources
 - 1. Mission

- (a) Does the company/team operation order, frag order, or defensive fire plan provide for the defense against flank or rear enemy attack?

Sources: Company/team operation order, or frag order, or defensive fire plan.

- (b) Does the company/team defensive fire plan designate flank or rear target areas?

Source: Company/team defensive fire plan.

2. Terrain

- (a) Where are the avenues of approach leading into the flanks of the battle position?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

- (b) Where are the avenues of approach leading into the rear of the battle position?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

C. Decision Principles

Assign an area for supplementary positions when one or more of the following conditions are present:

- a. Company/team operation order, frag order, or defensive fire plan directs the provision of supplementary positions.
- b. An avenue of approach leads into the flank of the battle position.
- c. An avenue of approach leads into the rear of the battle position.
- d. The area selected:
 - (1) Allows engagement at maximum effective range.
 - (2) Permits interlocking fire with platoon tanks.
 - (3) Minimizes dead space in the sector.
 - (4) Provides cover and concealment from ground and air observation.
 - (5) Covers avenues of approach into the sector.
 - (6) Provides good entrances and withdrawal routes.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. Initial assignment should contain the following information:

1. The sector of fire for the platoon to cover flank or rear avenues of approach.
2. The individual tank commanders' sectors of fire within the platoon sector of fire.

3. The order to select supplementary positions.

B. Subsequent assignment should contain the following information:

Corrective measures for deficiencies found during subsequent suitability checks.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Range Cards be Prepared

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to direct that range cards be prepared. When organizing the defense of a battle position, the platoon leader will direct the tank commanders to prepare range cards for their primary, alternate and supplementary positions. Each range card will cover the tank commander's assigned sector of fire. The purpose of a range card is to allow the tank crew to rapidly engage specific targets during all conditions of visibility. After individual tank range cards are completed, the platoon leader checks them for accuracy and uses the information on them to help develop the platoon fire plan. Each range card contains the following information:

- A. Range Card Identification. A letter in the upper right hand corner (P for primary, A for alternate, and S for supplementary) identifies the firing position for which the card was prepared.
- B. Sector Responsibility. Double lines drawn to targets on the range card represent right and left sectors of responsibility.
- C. Range Card Reference Point. A terrain feature or a man-made object seen through the direct fire sight and serving as the starting point in determining deflection to all targets is labelled the range card reference point. It must
 - 1. Be in the center of the assigned sector.
 - 2. Not be a target.
 - 3. Not be easily destroyed by fire.
 - 4. Have a readily defined vertical angle on which the gunner can lay his sight.
- D. Target Reference Point Information. For the range card reference point and each target reference point plotted on the range card, four essential elements of information must be recorded.
 - 1. Target Identification. A brief word or symbol description of the target. Target reference points are given in alphanumeric coding (e.g., T48 or T49).
 - 2. Deflection. Given as a general direction for M1 tanks. Measured right or left from the range card reference point (0) on the azimuth indicator for M60 series tanks.
 - 3. Range. Measured using the rangefinder or estimated using one of the range estimation techniques.
 - 4. Quadrant Elevation. Omitted for M1 tanks. For the M60 series tank, an angle of elevation (+) or depression (-) measured using the elevation quadrant, when the gun is on the target reference point and the bubble is vertical.

The direction that range cards be prepared will occur during the preparation of the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for the task begins when he has approved each tank commander's selection of primary, alternate and supplementary positions. It ends when he approves each range card.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY DIRECT RANGE CARDS BE PREPARED.

Defend

Prepare Battle Positions

(3-IV-3-3)

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING PREPARATION OF RANGE CARDS

- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position. .
- B. Primary, alternate, and supplementary positions have been selected.
- C. Sectors of fire have been assigned to each tank commander.
- D. Suitability checks of primary, alternate and supplementary positions have been completed.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Preparing Range Cards

- 1. Preparation of primary positions initiated.
- 2. Selection of alternate and supplementary positions completed.
- 3. Visibility sufficient for preparing range cards.
- 4. Clearly defined range card reference point in each tank commander's sector.
- 5. Clearly defined targets in each tank commander's sector.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Terrain

- (a) Is visibility adequate for preparing range cards?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (b) Is there a clearly defined terrain feature or manmade objective which can serve as the range card reference point in each tank commander's sector?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

- (c) Are there clearly defined targets in each tank commander's sector?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

3. Troops Available

- (a) Has the preparation of primary positions been initiated?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

(b) Have alternate positions been selected?

Sources: TC reports.

(c) Have supplementary positions been selected?

Sources: TC reports.

C. Decision Principles

Direct range cards be prepared when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. The preparation of primary positions have been initiated.
- b. The selection of alternate and supplementary positions have been completed.
- c. Visibility is sufficient to prepare range cards.
- d. A clearly defined range card reference point is in each tank commander's sector.
- e. Clearly defined targets are in the tank commander's sector.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (PERSONAL ORDER)

A. Initial order should contain the following information:

Prepare range cards for primary, alternate, and supplementary positions.

B. Subsequent orders should contain the following information:

Corrective measures for incorrect preparation of range cards.

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Preparation of Range Cards

1. Preparation of primary positions have been initiated
2. Selection of alternate and supplementary positions completed
3. Visibility sufficient for preparing range cards

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Terrain

Is visibility adequate for preparing range cards?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

2. Troops Available

(a) Has the preparation of primary positions been initiated?

Sources: TC reports and personal observation.

(b) Have alternate positions been selected?

Source: TC reports

C. Execution Principle

1. Direct range cards be prepared for primary position when the preparation of primary positions have been initiated.
2. Direct range cards be prepared for alternate and supplementary positions when they have been selected.
3. Direct range cards be prepared for defensive positions when visibility is sufficient to prepare range cards.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Chemical Alarms be Emplaced

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to direct chemical alarms be emplaced. This task occurs during the preparation of the defense of a position. The automatic chemical agent alarm consists of three components: 1) the M43 Detector Unit, 2) the M42 Alarm Unit, and 3) the M10 Power Supply. The detector unit continuously samples the air at its location and indicates the presence of (G or V-type) agents, choking agents, and blood agents by an adjustable low level audio signal. The alarm unit provides an audio and visual (or visual only) warning signal (a horn and a red light). Power to the alarm can be obtained from a rechargeable dry battery, from the electrical system of a military vehicle, or from electrical generators. The M10 power supply allows the alarm to be operated from an AC power supply of either 110 or 220 volts. The M10 power supply converts the AC voltage to 30 VDC. To employ the system, the detector unit is placed upwind of the platoon (not to exceed 400 meters) and connected to the alarm unit by WD-1 field wire, and to the power supply by the power supply cable. If the wind shifts more than 20 degrees after the detector unit has been emplaced, the detector unit must be repositioned to accommodate the new wind direction. There are two automatic chemical agent alarms in the tank platoon. One alarm is usually located in the platoon leader's tank and the other in a tank designated by the platoon leader. After range cards have been prepared, the platoon leader will direct one crewman from each tank having an automatic chemical agent alarm to emplace the alarms at designated locations upwind from the platoon's primary positions. When the task has been completed, the crewmen report this fact to the platoon leader. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he selects the initial position for the alarms and ends when the crewmen emplacing the alarms report to the platoon leader that the task has been accomplished. (For subsequent emplacement of automatic chemical agent alarms, the platoon leader's responsibility for the task begins when he determines a wind direction change in excess of 20 degrees and ends when the alarms have been repositioned to accommodate the wind change.)

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY DIRECT CREWMAN ALARMS BE EMPLACED

Defend

Prepare Battle Positions

(3-IV-3-3)

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING EMPLACEMENT OF CHEMICAL ALARMS

- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position.
- B. A platoon battle position.
- C. Operable automatic chemical agent alarms.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involving Emplacement of Chemical Alarms

1. Tank commander range cards completed.
2. Operable automatic chemical agent alarms.
3. Location of tank primary positions.
4. Wind direction.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

Where are the locations of tank primary positions?

Source: Personal knowledge.

2. Terrain

What is the present wind direction?

Source: Personal knowledge.

3. Troops Available

- (a) Are tank commander range cards prepared?

Sources: TC reports and personal knowledge.

- (b) Are automatic chemical agent alarms operable?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Direct automatic chemical agent alarms be emplaced when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Tank commander range cards have been prepared.
- b. Chemical agent alarms are operable.
- c. The location of tank primary positions are known.
- d. The wind direction is known.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (PERSONAL ORDER)

A. Initial order should contain the following information:

Location for the emplacement of automatic chemical agent alarms.

B. Subsequent order should contain the following information:

Location for repositioning automatic chemical agent alarms.

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Emplacement of Chemical Alarms

1. Maximum distance from primary positions from which automatic chemical agent alarms are effective.
2. Location of tank primary positions.
3. Wind direction at the time of initial emplacement of automatic chemical agent alarms.
4. Changes in wind direction since the initial emplacement of automatic chemical agent alarms.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

- (a) What is the location of tank primary positions?

Source: Personal knowledge.

2. Terrain

- (a) What is the current wind direction?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Has the wind direction shifted over twenty degrees since emplacing the automatic chemical agent alarms?

Source: Personal knowledge.

3. Troops Available

What is the maximum distance from the primary positions that automatic chemical agent alarms are effective?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Execution Principles

1. Emplace automatic chemical agent alarms upwind of tank primary positions.
2. Emplace automatic chemical agent alarms within 400 meters of tank primary positions.
3. Reposition automatic chemical agent alarms whenever the wind shifts more than 20 degrees.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Directs Obstacles, Mines, and Flares be Installed

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to direct that obstacles, mines, and flares be installed. The purpose of installing obstacles, mines and flares is to degrade an enemy attack by canalizing, restricting, delaying and diverting enemy movement. When considering the defense of a position, the platoon leader looks at existing natural and manmade obstacles. Then he considers armor and dismounted avenues of approach into the defensive position and determines how he can create obstacles which will impede the enemy's movement. The platoon's capability for emplacing obstacles is generally limited to hasty protective minefields, concertina wire (provided by the engineers), and trip flares. (Constructing abates, log cribs, and anti-tank ditches require considerable time and effort and are usually done by supporting engineers.) Next the platoon leader coordinates with the supporting engineer to determine how the company/team obstacle plan will strengthen the defense of the position. At this time the platoon leader requests that the engineer emplace specific obstacles to cover avenues of approach which the company/team obstacles plan or the platoon obstacle plan will not cover. The platoon leader then completes the platoon obstacle plan, assembles the tank commanders, and directs them to install hasty protective minefields, concertina, and trip flares. This task is conducted while preparing the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he makes a terrain evaluation and identifies existing obstacles and avenues of approach into the defensive position. It ends when all obstacles and trip flares have been emplaced and their locations reported to the company/team command post.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY DIRECT OBSTACLES, MINES, AND FLARES BE INSTALLED.

Defend

Prepare Battle Position

(3-IV-3-3)

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING THE INSTALLATION OF OBSTACLES, MINES, AND FLARES

- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position.
- B. A platoon battle position.
- C. A platoon basic load of mines and trip flares.
- D. Avenues of approach leading into the defensive position.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

- A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Directing the Installation of Obstacles, Mines, and Flares

1. Primary positions prepared and checked for suitability.
2. Alternate and supplementary positions selected and checked for suitability.
3. Natural and manmade obstacles in the area.
4. Avenues of approach leading into the defensive position.
5. Supporting engineer in the area.
6. Company/team obstacle plan.
7. Platoon basic load of mines and trip flares.
8. Time to complete emplacement of mines and trip flares.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

- (a) Have all primary positions been prepared and checked for suitability?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Have all alternate and supplementary positions been selected and checked for suitability?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (c) What company/team obstacles are planned for the platoon defensive position?

Sources: Company/team obstacle plan and supporting engineer.

- (d) Where are the locations for the planned company/team obstacles for the platoon defensive position?

Sources: Company/team obstacle plan, maps, and supporting engineer.

- (e) When will the emplaced company/team obstacles be in position?

Source: Supporting engineer.

2. Terrain

- (a) Are the natural and manmade obstacles in the area, and if so, where and what type?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

- (b) Are there avenues of approach leading into the defensive position, and if so, where are they?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

3. Troops Available

- (a) Does the platoon have a basic load of mines and trip flares, and if so, how many and what type?

Sources: TC reports and personal knowledge.

- (b) Is the supporting engineer in the platoon area?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (c) Can the supporting engineer provide the platoon concertina to cover dismounted avenues of approach?

Source: Supporting engineer.

4. Time

How much time is available to emplace platoon hasty protective minefields, concertina, and trip flares?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order.

C. Decision Principles

Direct obstacles, mines, and trip flares be installed when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Primary positions have been prepared and checked for suitability.
- b. Alternate and supplementary positions have been selected and checked for suitability.
- c. Natural and manmade obstacles in the area have been identified.
- d. Avenues of approach into the battle position have been identified.
- e. The location and type of company/team obstacles to be placed in the platoon area are known.
- f. The platoon basic load of mines and trip flares is available and the contents are known.
- g. The amount of obstacle material available from the supporting engineers is known.
- h. The time available to install obstacles is sufficient.

VI. COMMAND COMPONENT (PERSONAL ORDER)

A. Initial order should include the following information:

1. Who is to install obstacles, and where.
2. Who is to install trip flares, and where.
3. When the installation of obstacles and trip flares must be completed.

4. Where and when the obstacle matrical will be available.
5. A report as to the location and scope of each obstacle after installation.

B. Subsequent order should include the following information:

1. Directions for replacement of expended trip flares.
2. Directions for repair of concertina wire.
3. Directions for replacement of expended mines.
4. Directions for the installation of additional obstacles and trip flares.

VII. EXECUTION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting the Installation of Obstacles, Mines, and Flares

1. Armor avenues of approach into the defensive position.
2. Dismounted avenues of approach into the position.
3. Natural manmade obstacles in the area.
4. Company/team obstacles in the platoon area.
5. Availability of concertina, mines, and flares.
6. Time to install obstacles and flares.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Terrain

- (a) Where are the armor avenues of approach leading into the defensive position?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

- (b) Where are the dismounted avenues of approach leading into the defensive position?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

- (c) Where are the natural and manmade obstacles?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

- (d) Where should hasty minefields be located to cover armor avenues of approach?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

- (e) Where should concertina be located to cover dismounted avenues of approach?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

(f) Where should flares be located?

Sources: Maps and personal knowledge.

2. Troops Available

(a) Do the platoon obstacles and hasty minefields cover gaps in the defense that are not covered by the company/team obstacle plan?

Sources: Company/team obstacle plan, maps, and personal observation.

(b) Do the additional engineer installed obstacles (requested by the platoon leader) and the platoon obstacles cover avenues of approach gaps not covered by the company/team obstacle plan?

Sources: Company/team obstacle plan, supporting engineer maps, and personal knowledge.

(c) Was the available concertina, mines, and flares adequate for the platoon obstacle needs?

Source: Personal knowledge.

3. Time

Has the assignment of obstacle installation been divided among tank commanders to maximize available time?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Execution Principles

1. Install hasty protective minefields to cover armor avenues of approach.
2. Install concertina to cover dismounted avenues of approach.
3. Install trip flares to cover dismounted avenues of approach.
4. Install obstacles to tie-in with natural and manmade obstacle.
5. Install obstacle to compliment the company/team obstacle plan.
6. Divide obstacle installation to maximize available times.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Coordinates with FIST Leader

- II. DESCRIPTION:** During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to coordinate with the FIST leader. When organizing the defense of a position or preparing to attack an objective or to conduct a tactical movement, the platoon leader will coordinate with the FIST leader. For the defense of a position he will ask the FIST leader what indirect fire support is planned for his sector and what can he expect in indirect fire support once the battle starts. In addition he will ask for indirect fire support to cover "dead" areas in his sector and open flank areas, if this support is not indicated in the company/team defensive fire plan. Prior to an attack on an objective, the platoon leader will coordinate with the FIST leader and request indirect fire support information pertaining to preplanned fires on the objectives, the shifting of preplanned fires, and the availability of indirect fires for engaging targets of opportunity. The platoon leader will also coordinate with the FIST leader before conducting a tactical movement. In this situation he will want to know what indirect fire support is available when he makes contact with the enemy and how rapidly can he expect to receive the fire support. The purpose of coordinating with the FIST leader is to ensure that all available indirect fire support capabilities are brought to bear on the enemy. The coordination with the FIST leader occurs during the preparation for the defense of a position, an attack on an objective, or the conduct of a tactical movement. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he meets the FIST leader prior to a planned operation and ends when he has gotten all the needed indirect fire support information from the FIST leader.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY COORDINATES WITH FIST LEADER

A. Move

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Prepare for Operations | (3-IV-1-1) |
| 2. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-2-4) |
| 2. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 3. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 4. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 5. Breach Minefield and Obstacle | (3-IV-2-10) |
| 6. Assault | (3-IV-2-11) |
| 7. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |
| 8. Consolidate | (3-IV-2-14) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Prepare Battle Positions | (3-IV-3-3) |
| 2. Employ Supporting Fire | (3-IV-3-5) |
| 3. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |

4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver
5. Disengage

(3-IV-3-8)
(3-IV-3-9)

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING COORDINATION WITH FIST LEADER

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. A FIST leader at the company/team command post or in the platoon area.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decision Involved in Coordination With FIST Leader

1. Planning for an attack on an objective.
2. Planning for conducting a tactical movement.
3. Preparing for the defense of a position.
4. FIST leader at the company/team command post.
5. FIST leader in the platoon area.
6. Additional indirect fire support information required.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

- (a) Is an attack on an objective being planned?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Is a tactical movement being planned?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (c) Is the defense of a position being prepared?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (d) What additional indirect fire support information is required?

Source: Personal knowledge.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Was the FIST leader at the company/team command post when the operation order was given?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(b) Is the FIST leader in the platoon area?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Coordinate with the FIST leader when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. The platoon is planning or preparing for an operation
- b. The FIST leader is available
- c. Additional indirect support information is required

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. Initial coordination should include the following questions:

1. For the defense of a position

- (a) What indirect fire support is planned for the platoon sector?
- (b) What can be expected regarding indirect fire support once the battle starts?
- (c) What indirect fire support is available to cover "dead" areas in the platoon sector?
- (d) What indirect fire support is available to cover open flank areas?

2. For an attack on an objective

- (a) What indirect fire support is planned for the attack on the objective?
- (b) What is the plan to shift indirect fire from the objective?
- (c) What will be the availability of indirect fires for engaging targets of opportunity?

3. For the conduct of a tactical movement

- (a) What indirect fire support will be available when making contact with the enemy?
- (b) How rapidly can the indirect fire support be expected after making contact with the enemy?

B. Subsequent coordination should include questions relating to the following:

Additional indirect fire support information required for planning the defense of a position, an attack on an objective, or the conduct of a tactical movement.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Coordinates With TOW Section Leader

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to coordinate with the TOW section leader. When organizing the defense of a position, preparing to attack an objective, or preparing to conduct a tactical movement, the platoon leader will coordinate with the TOW section leader. For the defense of a position he will ask the TOW section leader the location of TOW firing units, their target reference points, and communication procedures with the TOW section. He will also suggest engagement areas for future TOW targets. Prior to an attack on an objective the platoon leader will coordinate with the TOW section leader and request information regarding preplanned fire, shifting fire, engagement of targets of opportunity, and providing on-call fire. The platoon leader also coordinates with the TOW section leader before conducting a tactical movement. In this situation he wants to know what TOW fires will be available when he makes contact with the enemy and how rapidly he can expect the fire to be delivered. The purpose of coordinating with the TOW section leader is to ensure that available TOW fires are brought to bear on the enemy. The coordination with the TOW section leader occurs during the preparation for the defense of a position, an attack on an objective, or the conduct of a tactical movement. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he meets the TOW section leader prior to a planned operation and ends when he has gotten all the needed TOW fire support information from the TOW section leader.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY COORDINATE WITH TOW SECTION LEADER

A. Move

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Prepare for Operations | (3-IV-1-1) |
| 2. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-2-1) |
| 2. Take Action on Contact | (3-IV-2-6) |
| 3. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-2-7) |
| 4. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 5. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |
| 6. Consolidate | (3-IV-2-14) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Prepare Battle Position | (3-IV-3-3) |
| 3. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |
| 5. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING COORDINATION WITH TOW SECTION LEADER

- A. Tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. A TOW section leader at the company/team command post or in the platoon area.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involving Coordination With TOW Section Leader

- 1. Planning for an attack on an objective.
- 2. Planning for conducting a tactical movement.
- 3. Planning for the defense of a position.
- 4. TOW section leader at the company/team command post.
- 5. TOW section leader in the platoon area.
- 6. Additional TOW fire support information required.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

- (a) Is an attack on an objective being planned?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Is a tactical movement being planned?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (c) Is the defense of a position being prepared?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (d) What additional TOW fire support information is required?

Source: Personal knowledge.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Was the TOW section leader at the company/team command post when the operation order was given?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Is the TOW section leader in the platoon area?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Coordinate with the TOW section leader when the following conditions are present:

- a. The platoon is planning or preparing for an operation
- b. The TOW section leader is available
- c. Additional TOW fire support information is required

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. Initial coordination should include the following questions:

1. For the defense of a position

- (a) What TOW fire support is planned for the platoon sector?
- (b) What can be expected regarding TOW fire support once the battle starts?
- (c) What TOW fire support will be available for on-call missions?

2. For the attack on an objective

- (a) What TOW fire support is planned for the attack on the objective?
- (b) What is the plan to shift TOW fire from the objective?
- (c) What TOW fire support will be available for engaging targets of opportunity?

3. For the conduct of a tactical movement

- (a) What TOW fire support will be available when making contact with the enemy.
- (b) How rapidly can TOW fire support be expected after making contact with the enemy?

B. Subsequent coordination should include questions relating to the following:

Additional TOW fire support information required for planning the defense of a position, an attack on an objective, or the conduct of a tactical movement.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Coordinates with Adjacent Platoon Leaders

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to coordinate with adjacent platoon leaders when organizing the defense of a position, preparing to attack an objective, or preparing to conduct a tactical movement.

- A. For the defense of a position, he will ask adjacent platoon leaders for a copy of their left (or right) flank element range card and ask the location of their right (or left) flank supplementary positions.
- B. Prior to an attack on an objective, the platoon leader will ask adjacent platoon leaders in the maneuvering force their initial movement formation, how they will accommodate an open flank, and where they plan to start the assault. The platoon leader will also coordinate with the suppressive fire platoon leader as to the initiation and shifting of suppressive fire.
- C. When planning to conduct a tactical movement, the platoon leader will coordinate with other platoon leaders regarding their position in the company/team formation and their planned response upon enemy contact in relationship to their position in the company/team formation.

The purpose of coordinating with adjacent platoon leaders is to ensure a complete understanding of each other's actions when the battle starts and to assist in anticipating actions by other platoon leaders. The coordination with adjacent platoon leaders occurs during the preparation for the defense of a position, an attack on objectives, or the conduct of a tactical movement. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he meets adjacent platoon leaders prior to a planned operation. His responsibility for this task ends when he has gotten all the needed inter-platoon coordination information from the adjacent platoon leaders.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY COORDINATES WITH ADJACENT PLATOON LEADERS

A. Move

- 1. Prepare for Operations (3-IV-1-1)
- 2. Conduct a Tactical Movement (3-IV-1-6)

B. Attack

- 1. Employ Direct Fire (3-IV-2-3)
- 2. Take Action on Contact (3-IV-2-6)
- 3. Conduct Fire and Maneuver (3-IV-2-7)
- 4. Conduct a Hasty Attack (3-IV-2-8)
- 5. Support/Attack by Fire (3-IV-2-9)
- 6. Disengage (3-IV-2-13)
- 7. Consolidate (3-IV-2-14)

C. Defend

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Prepare Battle Position | (3-IV-3-3) |
| 2. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 3. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 4. Conduct Fire and Maneuver | (3-IV-3-8) |
| 5. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING COORDINATION WITH ADJACENT PLATOON LEADERS.

- A. A tank platoon participating in a tactical movement, an attack on an objective, or the defense of a position.
- B. Adjacent platoon leaders at the company/team command post or in the platoon area.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decision Involving Coordination With Adjacent Platoon Leaders

- 1. Planning for an attack on an objective.
- 2. Planning for conducting a tactical movement.
- 3. Preparing for the defense of a position.
- 4. Adjacent platoon leaders in the company/team command post.
- 5. Adjacent platoon leaders in the platoon area.
- 6. Additional inter-platoon coordination information required.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

- (a) Is an attack on an objective being planned?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Is the defense of a position being planned?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (c) Is a tactical movement being planned?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (d) What inter-platoon coordination information is required?

Source: Personal knowledge.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Were the adjacent platoon leaders at the company/team command post when the operation order was given?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Are the adjacent platoon leaders in the platoon area?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (c) Is information about range cards of flank tanks available for exchange between adjacent platoon leaders?

Sources: Personal knowledge and adjacent platoon leaders.

- (d) What is the location of supplementary positions of adjacent platoons?

Source: Adjacent platoon leaders.

- (e) Where will maneuvering platoons initiate the assault on the objective?

Source: Maneuvering platoon leaders.

- (f) When will suppressive fires be shifted and to where?

Source: Suppressive fire platoon leader.

- (g) What is the planned response upon enemy contact of other platoons, when in the lead or following positions, during a tactical movement?

Source: Other platoon leaders.

C. Decision Principles

Coordinate with adjacent platoon leaders when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. The platoon is planning or preparing for an operation.
- b. Adjacent platoon leaders are available.
- c. Inter-platoon coordination information is required.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

- A. Initial coordination should include the following questions or obtain information about the following:

1. For the defense of a position

- (a) Range card information for left (or right) flank elements of adjacent platoons.
- (b) Where are the supplementary positions for left (or right) flanks?

2. For an attack on an objective

- (a) What will be the formation of adjacent platoons in the maneuvering force?
- (b) How will adjacent platoons accommodate an open flank?
- (c) Where do adjacent platoons plan to start the assault?
- (d) When will the suppressive fire platoon initiate suppressive fire?
- (e) When will the suppressive fire platoon shift suppressive fire?
- (f) Where will the suppressive fire platoon shift suppressive fire?

3. For the conduct of a tactical movement.

- (a) Where will the other platoons be in the company/team formation?
- (b) What is the planned response of the other platoons upon enemy contact regarding their position in the company/team formation?

B. Subsequent coordination should include questions or obtain information relating to the following:

Additional inter-platoon coordination information required for planning the defense of a position, an attack on an objective, or the conduct of a tactical movement.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Prepares a Fire Plan

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to prepare a fire plan. When organizing the defense of a battle position he will prepare a fire plan based upon information received from tank commander's range cards, company/team defensive fire plan, and coordination with the FIST leader, the TOW section leader, and adjacent platoon leaders.

- A. The platoon leader first takes the tank commanders range cards and superimposes the information on them onto a sketch initial fire plan. The range cards provide the location of individual tank sectors, target reference points, and targets.
- B. Next the platoon leader takes the company/team defensive fire plan and extracts information from it that is pertinent to the platoon sector and enters the information on the initial platoon fire plan. The company/team defensive fire plan provides the location of target reference points, engagement areas, and the location of pre-planned indirect fire targets.
- C. Lastly the platoon leader coordinates his plan of defense with the FIST leader, the TOW section leader, and adjacent platoon leaders. This coordination provides information regarding indirect fires to cover "dead" areas in the sector, identification of additional fire missions for the sector, the location of TOW firing units and their target reference points, communications with the TOW section, future targets for TOW firing units, the location of adjacent platoons, and interlocking fires between platoon sectors. Pertinent information acquired during the coordination is entered on the initial platoon fire plan which now becomes the completed platoon fire plan.

The preparation of a platoon fire plan occurs during the preparation for the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when the tank commanders give him their range cards and ends when he has entered pertinent information from 1) the range cards, 2) the company/team defensive fire plan, and 3) the coordination with the FIST leader, the TOW section leader, and adjacent platoon leaders on the platoon fire plan sketch.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY PREPARING A FIRE PLAN

Defend

Prepare Battle Position

(3-IV-3-3)

IV. CONDITIONS

- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position.

- B. A platoon battle position.
- C. Tank commander range cards.
- D. Company/team defensive fire plan.
- E. Supporting and adjacent units defensive plans.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involving Preparing a Fire Plan

- 1. Company/team operation order or frag order.
- 2. Company/team defensive fire plan.
- 3. Tank commander range cards.
- 4. FIST leader.
- 5. TOW section leader.
- 6. Adjacent platoon leaders.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

- (a) What is the platoon sector of fire?

Source: Company/team operation order, frag order, or defensive fire plan.

- (b) Does the company/team defensive fire plan indicate for the platoon sector — target reference points, engagement areas, and preplanned indirect fire targets?

Source: Company/team defensive fire plan.

- (c) Does the company/team defensive fire plan indicate for an exposed flank — target reference points, engagement areas, and preplanned indirect fire targets?

Source: Company/team defensive fire plan.

2. Troops Available

- (a) Have tank commander range cards been received?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Do the tank commander range cards indicate — sectors of fire, target reference points, direct fire targets, and indirect fire targets?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(c) Has coordination with the FIST leader been made?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(d) Did the coordination with the FIST leader resolve questions regarding indirect fire coverage of "dead" areas in the platoon sector and the identification of additional fire missions for the sector?

Source: FIST leader.

(e) Has coordination with the TOW section leader been made?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(f) Did the coordination with the TOW section leader resolve questions regarding the location of TOW firing units and their target reference points, communications with the TOW section, and future targets for the TOW section?

Source: TOW section leader.

(g) Has coordination with adjacent platoon leaders been made?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(h) Did the coordination with adjacent platoon leaders resolve questions regarding the location of adjacent platoons and interlocking fires between platoon sectors.

Source: Adjacent platoon leaders.

C. Decision Principles

Prepare a fire plan when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Platoon sector of fire is known.
- b. Company/team defensive fire plan information for the platoon sector is known.
- c. Tank commander range cards have been received.
- d. Coordination with the FIST leader has been made.
- e. Coordination with the TOW section leader has been made.
- f. Coordination with adjacent platoon leaders have been made.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. Initial preparation should include the following steps:

1. Draw a sketch of the platoon sector.
2. Superimpose tank commander range card data onto the sketch.
3. Superimpose on the sketch company/team defensive fire plan, data that pertains to the platoon sector.

4. Enter pertinent data resulting from the FIST leader coordination onto the sketch.
5. Enter pertinent data resulting from the TOW section leader onto the sketch.
6. Enter pertinent data resulting from the adjacent platoon leader coordination onto the sketch.
7. Label the sketch as the completed platoon fire plan.
8. Forward a copy of the completed platoon fire plan to the company/team commander.

B. Subsequent action should include the following:

Upgrade platoon fire plan to accommodate tactical changes or as new information from supporting units is received.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Reconnoiters Area for Supplementary Positions

- II. DESCRIPTION:** During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to reconnoiter for supplementary positions. When occupying a defensive position, and after primary and alternate positions have been checked for suitability, the platoon leader reconnoiters the general area for supplementary positions. Supplementary positions cover target areas or enemy routes of advance that cannot be covered from the primary or alternate positions - usually flanks or rear. When the platoon leader is satisfied with the general location of supplementary positions, he assembles the tank commanders and directs them to select their own positions. After the tank commanders have selected their positions, the platoon leader checks them for suitability.

When the platoon leader reconnoiters for a general area for supplementary positions, he considers:

- A. Defilade.
- B. Target areas and avenues of approach.
- C. Fields of fire.
- D. Concealment.
- E. Routes from primary and alternate positions to supplementary positions.
- F. Withdrawal routes.

This task occurs during the preparation of the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he has completed suitability checks of primary and alternate positions and ends when he has assigned to tank commanders the general areas for supplementary positions.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY RECONNOITERS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY POSITIONS

Defend

- 1. Occupy Battle Position (3-IV-3-2)
- 2. Prepare Battle Position (3-IV-3-3)

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING RECONNOITERING AREA FOR SUPPLEMENTARY POSITIONS

- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position.
- B. Suitability checks of primary and alternate positions completed.

V. DECISION COMPONENTS

- A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involving Reconnoitering Area for Supplementary Positions

1. Suitability checks of primary and alternate positions completed.
2. Avenues of approach leading into the flank of the defensive position.
3. Avenues of approach leading into the rear of the defensive position.
4. Open flank to the defensive position.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

Have suitability checks of primary and alternate positions been completed?

Source: Personal knowledge.

2. Terrain

- (a) Are there avenues of approach leading into the flank of the defensive position?

Sources: Maps, unit reports, TC reports, and personal observations.

- (b) Are there avenues of approach leading into the rear of the defensive position?

Sources: Maps, unit reports, TC reports, and personal observations.

3. Troops Available

Is there an open flank to the defensive position?

Sources: Company/team operations order or frag order, unit reports, TC reports, and personal observation.

C. Decision Principles

Reconnoiter for supplementary positions when the following conditions are present:

- a. Suitability checks of primary and supplementary positions completed.
- b. One of the following conditions is present:
 - (1) Avenues of approach lead into the flank of the defensive position.
 - (2) Avenues of approach lead into the rear of the defensive position.
 - (3) One or both flanks of the defensive position is open.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. Initial reconnaissance should look for the following:

1. General area for supplementary positions to cover flank avenues of approach into the defensive position.
2. General area for supplementary positions to cover rear avenues of approach into the defensive position.
3. General area for supplementary positions to cover an open flank.
4. Covered and concealed routes from the primary and alternate positions to the supplementary positions.
5. Covered and concealed withdrawal routes.

B. Subsequent reconnaissance should look for the following:

General area for supplementary positions to accommodate an unforeseen threat situation.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Selects and Announces Withdrawal Routes

- II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to select and announce withdrawal routes. The purpose of selecting and announcing withdrawal routes is to enable the platoon to withdraw orderly from a battle position or a delay position to a subsequent battle position or a subsequent delay position without exposing the platoon to enemy observation and fire. This will ensure that all tank commanders know the routes of withdrawal when they are ordered to withdraw. Tank commanders initially withdraw by section, covered by another sector or by platoon, to a platoon assembly point approximately one terrain feature to the rear of the initial position. From the assembly point the platoon withdraws to the subsequent battle position or delay position, initially using the reverse bounding overwatch technique. As enemy pressure decreases the platoon changes to the traveling overwatch to rapidly close into the subsequent position. Routes of withdrawal must be trafficable, provide cover and concealment, and be recognizable. This task is conducted during the defense of a position when the platoon is conducting a defense or a delay. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when the platoon has selected and prepared positions, completed range cards and the platoon fire plan, and has installed obstacles and trip flares. His responsibility for this task ends when the platoon leader has announced withdrawal routes to the tank commanders.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY SELECTS AND ANNOUNCES WITHDRAWAL ROUTES

A. Move

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 2. Move in Traveling Overwatch | (3-IV-1-8) |
| 3. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |

B. Attack

Disengage	(3-IV-2-13)
-----------	-------------

C. Defend

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Prepare Battle Positions | (3-IV-3-3) |
| 3. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING SELECTING AND ANNOUNCING WITHDRAWAL ROUTES

- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position.
- B. A platoon battle position.
- C. A platoon delay position.

D. A subsequent platoon battle position.

E. A subsequent platoon delay position.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Selecting and Announcing Withdrawal Routes

1. Positions selected and prepared.
2. Range cards and platoon fire plan prepared.
3. Obstacles installed.
4. Acceptable withdrawal routes.
5. Subsequent platoon battle position.
6. Subsequent platoon delay position.

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

- (a) Have the primary positions been prepared?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) Have alternate and supplementary positions been selected and approved?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (c) Have range cards and the platoon fire plan been completed?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (d) Have obstacles been installed?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (e) Where is the subsequent platoon battle position?

Sources: Company/team operation plan for frag order, maps, and personal knowledge.

- (f) Where is the subsequent platoon delay position?

Sources: Company/team operation order or frag order, maps, and personal knowledge.

2. Terrain

- (a) Are there withdrawal routes which are trafficable?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

(b) Are there withdrawal routes with cover and concealment?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

(c) Are there withdrawal routes that are recognizable?

Sources: Maps and personal observation.

C. Decision Principles

Select and announce withdrawal routes when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Primary positions have been prepared.
- b. Alternate and supplementary positions have been selected and approved.
- c. Range cards and the platoon fire plan have been prepared.
- d. Obstacles have been installed.
- e. Acceptable withdrawal routes are available
- f. Subsequent platoon battle position is known.
- g. Subsequent platoon delay position is known.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. Initial announcement should contain the following information:

1. Location of tank withdrawal routes to the platoon assembly point.
2. Location of the platoon assembly point.
3. Location of the platoon route to the subsequent platoon battle position.
4. Location of the platoon route to the subsequent platoon delay position.

B. Subsequent announcement should contain the following announcement:

1. Changes in withdrawal routes to accommodate changing tactical situations.
2. Changes in the platoon assembly point to accommodate changing tactical situations.

I. TASK: Platoon Leader Plans Displacement

II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to plan displacement. The purpose of planning displacement is to ensure the orderly and secure movement of the platoon, or part of the platoon, from one location on a defensive position to another location on a defensive position. It also ensures the orderly and secure movement of the platoon from a defensive position to a subsequent platoon battle position or to a subsequent platoon delay position. Displacement of the platoon is triggered by enemy action, a time schedule, or a company/team order.

A. When enemy action forces an adjacent unit off of its position and threatens the flank of the platoon, the platoon should disengage from primary positions and displace to supplementary positions. If there is no enemy frontal pressure, the platoon should withdraw all tanks simultaneously from the primary positions and displace over pre-selected routes to the supplementary positions. If there is enemy frontal pressure, one section may provide covering fire from the primary positions while the other section displaces over preselected routes to the supplementary positions.

B. When an enemy attack is prevented from crossing a predesignated line for a predesignated time, and there is no enemy pressure, the enemy is engaged by indirect fires while the platoon withdraws all tanks simultaneously from the defensive position and displaces over individual tank preselected routes to a platoon assembly point to the rear of the defensive position; it then continues displacement along a platoon withdrawal route to a subsequent platoon battle position or to a subsequent platoon delay position. When there is enemy pressure, there are two techniques which could be employed to disengage.

1. Using the first technique (a company/team operation), the platoon disengages while a second platoon provides covering fire. The disengaging platoon moves to a hull defilade position to the rear of the defensive position and provides covering fire for the disengagement of the covering fire platoon. This action is supported by indirect fires and possibly by smoke. The reverse bounding overwatch movement technique by platoons is continued along a predesignated route of withdrawal until enemy contact is broken or until the platoon arrives at a subsequent battle position or a subsequent delay position.

2. When using the second technique, the platoon disengages by sections. One section disengages while the other provides covering fire. The disengaging section moves to a hull defilade position to the rear of the defensive position and provides covering fire for the disengagement of the covering fire section. This technique is also supported by indirect fires and possibly smoke. The reverse bounding overwatch movement techniques by sections is continued along a predesignated route of withdrawal until enemy contact is broken or until the platoon arrives at a subsequent battle position or at a subsequent delay position.

C. When the company/team orders displacement, the platoon displaces using the technique ordered; if a technique is not designated the platoon displaces by using the technique most appropriate to the tactical situation.

1. If there is no enemy pressure, tanks are withdrawn simultaneously from their position to a platoon assembly point to the rear of the defensive position. From the assembly point the platoon withdraws over a predesignated route to a subsequent battle position or to a subsequent delay position.
2. If there is enemy pressure the platoon displaces to a subsequent battle position or to a subsequent delay position by employing the reverse bounding overwatch movement technique by platoons or the reverse bounding overwatch movement technique by sections.

When planning displacement, the platoon leader must consider: 1) when to displace (situation, time or order), 2) how to displace (technique), and 3) where to displace to (supplementary positions, subsequent battle position, or subsequent delay position). In addition he must consider control measures, tank withdrawal routes, a platoon withdrawal route, supplementary positions, and subsequent battle or delay positions.

This task is conducted during the defense of a position, an attack or a delay. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he has selected withdrawal routes and ends when he has completed his plan for displacement.

III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY PLAN DISPLACEMENT

A. Move

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct Tactical Movement | (3-IV-1-6) |
| 2. Move in Bounding Overwatch | (3-IV-1-9) |
| 3. Provide Overwatch | (3-IV-1-10) |

B. Attack

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Conduct a Hasty Attack | (3-IV-2-8) |
| 2. Disengage | (3-IV-2-13) |

C. Defend

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Move | (3-IV-3-1) |
| 2. Prepare Battle Position | (3-IV-3-3) |
| 3. Employ Direct Fire | (3-IV-3-6) |
| 4. Defend a Battle Position | (3-IV-3-7) |
| 5. Disengage | (3-IV-3-9) |

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING PLANNING DISPLACEMENT

- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position
(and)
- B. A platoon in a battle position
(and)
- C. A subsequent battle position
(or)
- D. A platoon in a delay position
(and)
- E. Subsequent delay position

V. DECISION COMPONENT

A. Conditions Affecting Decision Involved in Planning Displacement

- 1. Supplementary positions
- 2. Route from primary and alternate positions to supplementary positions
- 3. Withdrawal routes to platoon assembly point
- 4. Platoon assembly point
- 5. Withdrawal route to subsequent position
- 6. Subsequent battle position
- 7. Subsequent delay position
- 8. Trigger for initiating displacement
- 9. Signal for initiating displacement

B. Information Required and Sources

1. Mission

- (a) Where are the supplementary positions?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (b) How long will it take the platoon to move from primary or alternate positions to supplementary positions?

Source: Personal estimate.

- (c) Where are the routes from the primary and alternate positions to the supplementary positions?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (d) Where are the routes to the platoon assembly point?

Source: Personal knowledge.

- (e) How long will it take the platoon to move from primary, alternate, or supplementary positions to the platoon assembly point?

Source: Personal estimation.

(f) Where is the withdrawal route to the subsequent position?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(g) Where is the subsequent battle position?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(h) Where is the subsequent delay position?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(i) What is the signal for displacement?

Source: Company/team operation order or frag order, company/team SOP, or personal decision.

2. Mission and Enemy

What will trigger the need for displacement?

Source: Company/team operation order or frag order or enemy threat.

C. Decision Principles

Plan displacement when the following conditions are present:

a. To supplementary positions

1. The location of supplementary positions is known.
2. Routes from primary and alternate positions to supplementary positions are known.

b. To a subsequent battle position

1. Withdrawal route to the platoon assembly point is known.
2. The location of the platoon assembly point is known.
3. Withdrawal route to subsequent battle position is known.
4. The location of the subsequent battle position is known.

c. To a subsequent delay position

1. Withdrawal route to the platoon assembly point is known.
2. The location of the platoon assembly point is known.
3. Withdrawal route to subsequent delay position is known.
4. The location of the subsequent delay position is known.

d. Causes which could trigger displacement are known.

e. The signal for displacement is known.

ACTION COMPONENT

A. Initial plan should contain the following information:

1. When to displace
2. How to displace (technique)
3. Where to displace to (supplementary positions or subsequent position)
4. Signal for displacement

B. Subsequent plans should contain the following information:

Changes in planned displacement because of changes in the situation.

- I. TASK: Platoon Leader Requests Company/Team Fire Plan
- II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to request the company team fire plan. The purpose for requesting the company/team fire plan is to enable the platoon leader to complete the platoon sketch defensive fire plan. The company/team fire plan is normally sent to the platoon leader from the company/team command post or the information pertaining to it is provided to the platoon leader during the FIST leader coordination visit. The platoon leader extracts information from the company/team fire plan that pertains to his platoon sector of fire and enters it on the platoon sketch defensive fire plan. This information includes: engagement areas, target reference points, pre-planned indirect fires, and obstacles. If the platoon leader has not received the company/team fire plan or has not been visited by the FIST leader by the time he receives the tank commander range cards, he will send a runner to the company/team command post to request the fire plan. The task is conducted during the preparation of the defense of a position. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he has received the tank commander's range cards and has not received the company team fire plan. His responsibility for this task ends when he receives the company/team fire plan.
- III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY REQUEST COMPANY/TEAM FIRE PLAN
- Defend
- Prepare Battle Position (3-IV-3-3)
- IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING REQUESTING COMPANY/TEAM FIRE PLAN
- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position.
- B. A platoon battle position.
- C. A company/team fire plan.
- V. DECISION COMPONENT
- A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Requesting Company/Team Fire Plan
1. Tank commanders range cards.
2. Company/team fire plan.
3. FIST leader.
- B. Information Required and Sources
- Troops Available

(a) Have range cards been received from tank commanders?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(b) Has the company/team fire plan been received?

Source: Personal knowledge.

(c) Has the FIST leader arrived in the platoon area?

Source: Personal knowledge.

C. Decision Principles

Request company/team fire plan when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Tank commander range cards have been received by the platoon leader.
- b. The company/team fire plan has not been received.
- c. The FIST leader has not made a coordination visit with the platoon leader.

VI. ACTION COMPONENT

A. The initial request should ask for the following:

A copy of the company/team fire plan or a request that the FIST leader be sent to the platoon area for fire support coordination.

B. The subsequent request should ask the following:

The time when the platoon can get a copy of the company/team fire plan.

- I. TASK: Platoon Leader Requests Wire Communications Be Installed
- II. DESCRIPTION: During combat operations the platoon leader may be required to request that wire communications be installed. The purpose for installing wire communications is to establish an intra-company/team communication system that is not generally susceptible to enemy intercept. Wire communications are used in initial defensive positions, night laagers, and in other static situations. The company/team commander is responsible for establishing wire communications with the platoon. Company/team communications personnel string wire from the company/team command post SB22 switchboard to the AN-1780 amplifier on the platoon command tank. When the platoon's command tank main power switch is on, the AN-1780 amplifier switch is in the intercom only position, and the CVC helmet control switch is centered, the platoon leader can receive messages from the command post. When the CVC helmet control switch is in the transmit position, the platoon leader can send messages to the command post. (The platoon leader will establish a similar intra-platoon communications system by installing a platoon hot loop. This system allows each tank commander to communicate within the platoon without using the radio.) When the platoon occupies a static position, it should soon be wired into the company/team wire net. If this is not done, the platoon leader should send a runner to the command post and request that wire communications to the platoon be installed. This task is conducted when preparing the defense of a position, when conducting an overnight bivouac or assembly area, or during any other static situation. The platoon leader's responsibility for this task begins when he believes the company/team commander has had sufficient time to install wire communications and ends when wire communications are installed.
- III. ARTEP MISSIONS AND TASKS SUPPORTED BY REQUEST WIRE COMMUNICATIONS BE INSTALLED
- A. Move
1. Conduct a Tactical Road March (3-IV-1-5)
 2. Conduct a Tactical Movement (3-IV-1-6)
- B. Attack
1. Move (3-IV-2-1)
 2. Reorganize (3-IV-2-15)
3. Defend
1. Move (3-IV-3-1)
 2. Occupy Battle Position (3-IV-3-2)
 3. Prepare Battle Positions (3-IV-3-3)
 4. Reorganize (3-IV-3-11)

IV. CONDITIONS REQUIRING INSTALLING WIRE COMMUNICATIONS

- A. A tank platoon participating in the defense of a position or a movement.
- B. One of the following:
 - 1. A platoon battle position.
 - 2. A platoon assembly area.
 - 3. A platoon static position other than 1 or 2 above.

V. DECISION COMPONENT

- A. Conditions Affecting Decisions Involved in Requesting Wire Communications be Installed
 - 1. Positions have been prepared and checked for suitability.
 - 2. Range cards and the platoon defensive fire plan have been completed.
 - 3. Displacement has been planned and announced.
 - 4. Time to install wire communications from the company/team command post to the platoon command tank.
- B. Information Required and Sources
 - 1. Mission
 - (a) Have the primary positions been prepared and checked for suitability?
Source: Personal knowledge.
 - (b) Have the alternate and supplementary positions been selected and checked for suitability?
Source: Personal knowledge.
 - (c) Has displacement been planned and announced?
Source: Personal knowledge.
 - 2. Troops Available
 - Have range cards and the platoon defensive fire plan been completed?
Source: Personal knowledge.
 - 3. Time
 - Has there been adequate time for wire communications to have been installed to the platoon?
Source: Personal estimate.

C. Decision Principles

Request wire communications be installed when all of the following conditions are present:

- a. Primary positions have been prepared and checked for suitability.
- b. Alternate and supplementary positions have been selected and checked for suitability.
- c. Range cards and the platoon defensive fire plan have been completed.
- d. Displacement has been planned and announced.
- e. Adequate time has passed for the company/team commander to have installed wire communications to the platoon command tank.

V. ACTION COMPONENT

- A. The initial request should ask for the following:

That wire communications be installed to the platoon command tank.

- B. The subsequent request should ask the following:

That malfunctioning wire communications to the command tank be repaired.