

TRADOC PAMPHLET 525-5, FORCE XXI OPERATIONS, AUGUST 1994

Proponent

The proponent for this document is Headquarters, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

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Definition

Force XXI - "The transformed Army of the 21st century - in its entirety. The central and essential feature of this Army will be its ability to exploit information." (Force XXI, America's Army of the 21st Century, 15 January 1995)

OOTW - Operations other than war - "Military activities during peacetime and conflict that do not necessarily involve armed clashes between two organized forces." (TRADOC Pamphlet 525-5, Force XXI Operations, 1 August 1994)

US Army - "The US Army is defined in this concept as the active Army, Army Reserve, Army National Guard, and Department of Army Civilians." (TRADOC Pamphlet 525-5, Force XXI Operations, 1 August 1994)

Synopsis

This document provides a vision of the future and describes how the Army must change. It highlights the future strategic and technological challenges that the Army must prepare for; it describes how change must occur from the battlefield to the factory. It presents the elements of instability characteristic in the world's geopolitical environment, highlighting that the world will continue to undergo dramatic restructuring, accompanied by a wide array of economic, technical, societal, religious, cultural, and physical alterations. Changes of this scope, scale, and pace increase global tension and disorder. It continues by describing the characteristics of future armies, the face of the future battle, and future threats, and how the future Army must fight.

While it focuses primarily on the operational force, it is intended for the institutional force as well. It discusses how early entry forces will likely have a sizable reserve component and a civilian/contractor contingent from the Institutional Force especially in operations other than war.



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It provides a framework for experiments and doctrinal debates. It describes the five characteristics of Force XXI, which are:

- ◆ doctrinal flexibility - ability to apply doctrinal principles regardless of scenario;
- ◆ strategic mobility - being in the right place at the right time with the right capabilities;
- ◆ tailorability and modularity - forces must be modular to facilitate tailoring to meet each contingency because limits exist on the number and types of units in the Army;
- ◆ joint, multinational, and interagency connectivity - ability to coordinate, cooperate, and communicate with the other services, allies, federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and private voluntary organizations to accomplish the mission; and
- ◆ versatility in war and OOTW - units must be trained and ready to win wars and transition to OOTW missions.

What Does This Mean for Military Public Health?

The concepts presented in this document open the door for innovative thinking within the preventive medicine community. We are challenged to:

- ◆ “think outside the box”;
- ◆ re-evaluate what we are currently doing;
- ◆ determine what we should be doing in the future;
- ◆ determine what capabilities will be required; and
- ◆ address required changes to doctrine, training, leadership and organization, materiel, and soldier concerns.