CENTER FOR ARMY LESSONS LEARNED

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KS









Newsletter APRIL 2012





IBCT/SBCT



Company and Battalion Mortars

Mortars are the Infantry company and battalion's most responsive, indirect fire asset. The ability to provide accurate fires in support of the same is directly related to the proficiency of the crew's ability to employ the weapon. A key and essential task is to register mortars in combat. This simple brief is provided as a hip-pocket class to aid leaders at the section and platoon level to ensure this skill is maintained.

Cavalry Operations: The Lost Art of Doctrine



Last fall, the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana, conducted a full spectrum operation (FSO) situational training exercise (STX) validation and FSO Rotation 11-01. Part of the observation and lesson collection focused on areas that can be resolved either at the junior noncommissioned officer (NCO) level or by the platoon-level leadership. All areas observed were evaluated against the fundamentals of reconnaissance as listed in Field Manual (FM) 3-90, Tactics. The effort provided a glimpse of the challenges the Army can expect in training for FSO. At the junior NCO level, the units that participated in the rotation had very little experience in offensive or defensive operations. Although the Soldiers and leaders were seasoned war veterans their unfamiliarity with FSO made the training quite

challenging. This article presents a number of observations and lessons from that rotation pertaining to the skills required of Soldiers and junior leaders in the conduct of reconnaissance/cavalry missions.

Security Force Assistance



This manuscript describes "a way" how U.S. military advisors have prepared for and conducted operations in war. Through two separate yearlong combat tours as a military advisor in Iraq, the author brings true vignettes into modern military strategy and operational art. Further, the author provides multiple perspectives in command relationships. Through years of personal experience, direct interviews, and warfighting knowledge, the author challenges conventionally accepted truths and establishes a new standard for understanding the impact of American advisors on the modern battleground.

HBCT



Improving Tactical Reconnaissance – Back to Basics

Observations at the National Training Center (NTC), Fort Irwin, California, indicate our task force scout platoons have lost some basic skills that must be retrained and regained in order to ensure the Army's continued success in combat. This article provides specific observations and insights garnered from more than 20 brigade combat team rotations at the NTC with subsequent recommendations.



Weapon Manuals in Pashtu and Dari

The Maneuver Team is collecting hundreds of files on foreign weapons from the Center for Army Lessons Learned database featuring the entire gamut of infantry-type weapons and artillery. This collection is primarily oriented toward security force assistance (SFA) training; it features a few manuals in Pashtu and Dari. The collection can be accessed on ALLIS in the SFA Foreign Weapons Training and Familiarization binder by clicking the title link.

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A New Way to Stop Bleeding

Article from The Prism magazine

Uncontrolled bleeding is the leading cause of trauma death on the battlefield. Traditional methods to halt bleeding, such as tourniquets, are not suitable for the neck and many other parts of the body. In recent years, researchers have tried alternative approaches, all of which have some disadvantages. Massachusetts Institute of Technology engineers and researchers have developed a biological coating of thrombin and tannic acid that can halt bleeding nearly instantaneously, an advance that could dramatically improve survival rates for those injured in battle.

Aviation

Army Aviation Logistics on the Battlefield



P5T6 (problem, plan, people, parts, pubs, time, TI, training, test pilot, transportation) is the methodology used in all efficient aviation maintenance organizations. The acronym "P" in this "checklist" stands for PARTS. Moving aviation repair parts across the battlefield to support Aviation Task Forces (ATF) in a timely and efficient manner is a logistical challenge for most Aviation Support Battalions (ASB). In Regional Command-East (RC-E), the 82D CAB supported more than 200 helicopters consisting of five different aircraft models on five separate forward operating bases. Keeping these helicopters in flying condition is very maintenance intensive, and getting parts and supplies to the helicopter

maintainers quickly and efficiently is critical to the success of the CJTF. The 82nd CAB has worked out a solution to the battlefield logistics challenges that is proving to be very successful.

SOF

SOF – CF Interdependence



Special Operations Forces (SOF) - Conventional Forces (CF) Interdependence is currently an area of interest in looking ahead to future military operations. A working group has been created at the Irregular Warfare Fusion Cell at Fort Leavenworth to examine the way ahead in DOTMLPF to improve the working relationship between SOF and CF. A community of practice (COP) has been created on ALLIS where information related to the subject and the working group (click the title to view).

To subscribe to the CALL Movement and Maneuver Warfighting Function Team monthly newsletter, click here and send a blank e-mail message.

LTC Rick Correz Team Chief 913-684-9573 George Mordica
Deputy Team Chief
913-684-9503

Rick Averna Infantry Analyst 913-684-3591 Milt Hileman Armor Analyst 913-684-7391

Aviation Analyst 913-684-5978 Michael S. Hartmayer Special Operations Analyst 913-684-5978

richard.correz@us.army.mil george.j.mordica2.civ@mail.mi Richard.b.averna.civ@mail.mil milton.m.hileman.civ@mail.mil michael.s.hartmayer.civ@mail.mil michael.s.hartmayer.civ@mail.mil michael.s.hartmayer.civ@mail.mil