C A S

501

GERONIMO

CoIST MISSION

- The mission of CoISTs is to describe the effects of the weather, enemy, terrain, and local population on friendly operations to reduce uncertainty and aid in decision making.

RECOMMENDED QUALITIES

- Security Requirements
  - Must have SECRET Clearance
  - Must be able to attain a TS
- Personal
  - GT score of 110
  - No permanent profiles
    - Must have passing PT score within the last 6 months
  - Proficient in basic computer operation
- Professional
  - Must demonstrate ability to operate with little to no supervision
  - Must be able to complete tasks on time and to standard
  - Must be able to demonstrate ability to think critically and analytically
  - Must be retainable through OEF deployment

CoIST Assessment and Selection

- PHASE   I : Team Core Selection
- PHASE   II: S2 evaluation
- PHASE III: Training and team integration
- PHASE IV: Sustainment training
- PHASE   V: Team backfill

- PHASES I & II:

  Company leadership selects an individual who, along with the assigned S2 analyst, will form the core of that unit's CoIST team. This individual should possesses the recommended qualities, which will be evaluated by the S2 shop during Phase III.

CoIST Assessment and Selection

- PHASES III and IV:

  The S2 shop conducts a week long, workshop to provide the CoIST core their initial training. Upon completion of the training, the CoISTs will meet weekly for sustainment training.

- PHASE V:

  The companies provide the remaining two individuals to the CoIST training, as they become available.

CoIST TRAINING

Basic Intelligence Training will comprise the following:

1. Advanced software capabilities of PPT, Word, Excel, Google Earth, etc.
2. Data mining – critical analysis of data sets
3. Analytical Platforms – TIGRNet and Google Earth
4. Essential Intel products – baseball cards, patrol debriefs, database and info management, etc.
5. Basics of patterns and enemy trends analysis
6. AF/PAK Cultural Overview
7. Product standards – how to create products to standard with relevant information and timely/accurate reporting
8. Basics of battlefield ISR

S2 Augmentee Selection

PHASE Ⅰ: Company Selection

Co Commanders and 1SGs will select their candidates for the S2 Augmentee program. Selectees will complete the following tasks before they arrive for the initial interview:

1. Proof of SECRET clearance
2. ERB (for GT Score)
3. Letter from the soldier stating why they think they are qualified for the CoIST program, what they think the impact of the program will be for them and the unit their representing, as well as any strengths they perceive they bring to the table. (This is a writing sample to show soldier's ability to write professionally.)

PHASE II : Initial Interview

Soldiers packet will be reviewed by CoIST board.

- Board members will be:

    S2 OIC

    AS2

    S2 NCOIC

Interview questions will encompass at least the following:

- What the soldier perceives the CoIST mission is
- Importance/relevance of the CoIST mission
- Personal experience, and qualifications
- Current affairs and what they think is going on around them in the news
- Perceptions of the BDE's upcoming mission in Afghanistan

PHASE III : Assessment

The Assessment is a test of basic abilities that are the foundations to analytic work.

1. Computer Skills Assessment
   1. Basic functions
   2. Word
   3. Excel
   4. Power Point

2. Critical Thinking

   Soldier will be given current news articles pertaining to one topic. Soldier will produce a written essay on what the articles are about, the impact the topic has, and how the topic will affect a given subject.

3. Analysis

   Soldier will be given a data set and will be expected to analyze the information for patterns. Soldier will then produce a written essay with logical deductions from his analysis.

PHASE IV : Selection and Backfill

Candidates that don't pass the selection process will be returned to their companies, at which point the companies will have the opportunity to present another candidate. It may be advisable for companies to have more than one candidate in mind for the selection process.

Final Notes

1. CoISTs will become mini S2 shops, dedicated to their units missions; therefore, the training for CoISTs, S2 analysts and the S2 augmentees is essentially the same.

2. The faster we can identify the permanent individuals to fill these slots, the more prepared we are going to be for our deployment, as the more training these soldiers will receive.

3. Once the selection is made and confirmed, the individual will not be pulled out of their assigned slot, as it causes waste of training and break up of the team.

4. CoIST is not a dumping ground for the units troublemakers. You will get out of it, what you invest into it. The rule of thumb is: "If losing him doesn't hurt, then he is probably not the right guy for the CoIST."

-CoIST Handbook

Questions