



# SQUAD: FOUNDATION OF THE DECISIVE FORCE

17 - 21 September 2012

UPDATE



## SFDF Involves ALL Dismounted Elements

### INFORMATION PAPER

*Review and Comparison of Pre-9/11 Infantry Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course (BNCOC) and current Infantry Advanced Leader Course (ALC) Programs of Instruction (POIs).*

**Executive Summary:** The review and comparison of the Pre and Post-9/11 Infantry POIs was conducted to determine what significant changes had been made that reduced ALC 81.5 academic hours, when compared to the Pre-9/11 BNCOC. The review showed two clear observations in that: all 122 hours of Situational Training Exercises (STXs) were removed when compared to the Infantry ALC curriculum; and that ALC academic hours were reduced 30% when compared to BNCOC. BNCOC consisted of 277 academic hours and ALC currently consists of 195.5 academic hours. The information paper provides background, facts and findings of the review and comparison. ([Information Paper](#))

**Purpose:** to inform leadership at all levels how the Infantry Squad Leader Noncommissioned Officer Education System (NCOES) has been impacted since the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq; and to promote discussion with those who have a vested interest in determining what will be taught in future ALC classes

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **Training and Leader Development:**
  - ✓ Army Revamps Ranger School, Leadership Courses.
  - ✓ Advanced Situational Awareness Training (ASAT): from Soldier and Squad Systems Review (S3R)
- **Lethality: from S3R**
  - ✓ XM25 Counter Defilade Target Engagement System
  - ✓ Modular Handgun System (MHS)
  - ✓ Lethal Miniature Aerial Munition System (LMAMS)
  - ✓ Article, XM25 Counter Defilade Target Engagement (CDTE) System.
- **Mission Command: from S3R**
  - ✓ Nett Warrior Radio (NW-R) (Secret and Below)
  - ✓ Rifleman Radio (RR) AN/PRC-154
- **SFDF Team Upcoming Events**
  - ✓ Bold Quest Experimentation 24 Sep – 19 Oct 2012.

## TRAINING &amp; LEADER DEVELOPMENT

- **Information Paper: Review and Comparison of Pre-9/11 Infantry Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course (BNCOC) and current Infantry Advanced Leader Course (ALC) Programs of Instruction (POIs).** The purpose of the information paper is to inform leadership at all levels how the Infantry Squad Leader Noncommissioned Officer Education System (NCOES) has been impacted since the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq; and to promote discussion with those who have a vested interest in determining what will be taught in future ALC classes; this will require input from experienced small unit leaders, senior NCOs and commanders at all tactical and operational levels. ([Information Paper](#))
- **Army Revamps Ranger School, Leadership Courses.** (20 Sep 2012, [Article](#))
  - **Ranger School:** The Ranger Training Brigade recently overhauled the graded, combat patrol portion of Ranger School to make it less predictable and force students to adapt to a rapidly changing mission.
  - **Training:** One of the newest training concepts Ft Benning officials have stressed it's what's known as Advanced Situational Awareness Training (ASAT). "Essentially, this will give them a blue-collar PhD in human behavior."
  - **Leader Training:** Infantry Officer Basic Course (IBOLC) has featured combined-arms live fires with "infantry platoons doing live fires with an armored tank section...This is a dramatic step forward in the IBOLC program."
- **Advanced Situational Awareness Training (ASAT) (extracted from S3R).** *GAP: Squad lacks the ability and training to influence and understand the enemy and civilian populations to leverage information as a weapon system.* Focused science and technology efforts include human, individual training to tactical tasks, mature artificial intelligence and distributive simulations. Current solutions included ASAT and DSTS. JIEEDO has approved funding for training ASAT to cover the gap (Feb 13 – Sep 14) until the Programs of Instruction (POIs) are approved for implementation in Oct 14. ([S3R Document](#))
- **Dismounted Soldier Training System (DSTS)**

## LETHALITY

- **XM25 Counter Defilade Target Engagement (CDTE) System from S3R.** *GAP: defeat out to 500 meters enemy combatants, their equipment and thin skinned targets in defilade positions.* There is no current solution in place. Focused science and technology efforts include extended range munitions and sensors, small arms fire control, reduced size, weight and power with an increase in performance. How the DOTMLPF is affected: new Tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs) affect doctrine; New Equipment Training (NET) provided by TACOM and units are responsible for sustainment training; incorporate training into leader development courses; and new targetry required will affect facilities. ([S3R Document](#))
- **Modular Handgun System (MHS) from S3R.** *GAP: reliability, durability, fire control-enablers suppressors.* Current solutions in place are the M9 and M11 pistols. This requirement is in staffing to meet program schedule and achieve portfolio strategy. The MHS is intended to replace M9 with increased terminal performance, modularity, accuracy, target acquisition.
- **Lethal Miniature Aerial Munition System (LMAMS) from S3R.** *GAP: Preemptive Protection and organic indirect fire support.* Current solutions in place are the M203, 320 Grenade Launcher and Javelin Weapon System Inc I. Focused science and technology efforts include improved and affordable loitering precision munitions. The requirement has been identified and in development, expected to compete for funding within the 15-19 POM time frame. ([S3R Document](#))

- **Article, XM25 Counter Defilade Target Engagement (CDTE) System.** An article titled XM25 'Punisher' Finds Home in Infantry Squads identifies positive and negative comments on the 25mm airburst weapon system. The XM25 has created a lot of excitement in the infantry community, but it has also attracted its share of criticism from door-kickers that the five-shot, 14-pound weapon system is more of a burden than a benefit to combat units. The article also includes comments from the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment and the MCoE CSM. The XM25 has undergone a 14 month battlefield assessment in Afghanistan. More than 100 improvements to the ergonomics and reliability have been made to the XM 25 with the soldier provided feedback. The boxy, futuristic-looking XM25 recently completed a 14-month battlefield assessment and is on its way to earning a permanent position in the infantry squad beginning in 2014, Army weapons officials said. (21 Sep 2012, [Article](#))

## MISSION COMMAND

- **Nett Warrior Radio (NW-R) (Secret and Below).** *GAP: Leaders not connected to the network.* Current solution is the Multiband Inter/Intra Team Radio (MBITR). Focused science and technology efforts include command & control (C2) planning and decision making tools, secure communications capability and a self generating network. The requirement is approved and funded in accordance with program schedule to achieve portfolio strategy. ([S3R Document](#))
- **Rifleman Radio (RR) AN/PRC-154.** *GAP: Soldiers not connected to the network.* There is no current solution in place. Focused science and technology efforts include secure communications capability, a self generating network, C2 planning and decision making tools. ([S3R Document](#))

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE SFDF TEAM

- **Bold Quest (BQ) Experimentation:** attend select BQ events 24 Sep – 19 Oct 2012.

SFDF Portal

---

### SFDF Team

**SAIC** - Program Manager: [Mr. Russ Kern](#), 706-545-4367  
**SAIC** - Information Manager: [Mr. Joe Parker](#), 706-545-8831  
*Maneuver Center of Excellence, Fort Benning, GA*