



SQUAD: FOUNDATION OF THE DECISIVE FORCE

June 2014
UPDATE



SFDF is Dedicated to All Dismounted Elements

SFDF Updates

- ***Maneuver and Fires Integrated Exercise (MFI):*** MCoE is collaborating with FCoE to conduct MFI that will focus on Counter-UAS, Fires, Situational Awareness, Protection and Power (energy). Phase I was completed at Fort Sill in May-Jun 2014 and Phase II at Fort Benning is scheduled for Aug-Sep 2014.
- ***Squad Overmatch Study 16-27 June:*** The SFDF team is monitoring this study and its execution. The purpose of the study is to collect and analyze feedback from 4 Squads on gaming, virtual, and live training devices and technologies, training scenarios, and after action reviews.

ARTICLES

- **Article: From Close Air Support to Fire Suppression, DARPA:** In the heat of battle, lives can depend on being able to coordinate troop positions safely while directing aircraft to provide close air support for ground forces. DARPA's Persistent Close Air Support (PCAS) program aims to help overcome those challenges by providing warfighters with advanced digital tools for situational awareness and targeting in place of legacy communications systems and traditional paper maps. ([View Article](#))
- **Article: In the Palm of Your Hand (ES14E4), Janes:** Norway's Prox Dynamics AS (Hall 6, Stand F308) has chosen Eurosatory to launch its PD-100 Black Hornet Block II Personal Reconnaissance System (PRS), the world's smallest operational unmanned air system (UAS). Hailed as a "game-changer" and "life-saver" by NATO forces, the PD-100 has proved its capability and value on operations around the world, providing users with "immediate situational awareness from the palm of their hand". ([View Article](#))
- **A Drone For Dangerous Missions, Popular Science:** As early as next year, the Department of Defense will test-fly an entirely new type of combat drone. The craft is called Ares, for Aerial Reconfigurable Embedded System, and it's designed to take off and land vertically. Unlike airplane-esque drones, which are cumbersome to launch and land, Ares could drop into a tight spot, unload supplies or rescue soldiers, and then zip up and away. ([View Article](#))

- **Article: Engineer Center Demonstrates Scalable/Selectable Breacher:** The SSB allows the dismounted Soldier mission flexibility by providing a single system that can successfully breach a wide range of urban wall types and has the potential to enhance operational maneuverability and save lives. ([View Article](#))
- **Article: Leaders: Network, Cyber Key to Force 2025:** Networks and cyber are "the commander's business" today -- and will be fundamental to executing the vision of Force 2025, Army senior leaders said. From standing up a rapid acquisition cell for cyber capabilities to creating a standard network common operating environment, the Army is tackling the challenges of this evolving technical and operational landscape, while working closely with joint and industry partners to close capability gaps. ([View Article](#))
- **Article: Sophisticated Simulations Help Provide Improved Weapons Faster, Cheaper:** As engineers design new weapons or modify existing ones, reducing time and money on development can be critical in providing Soldiers with improved weapons without undue delay. A new sight may be planned for the M4 rifle, but how well does a prototype design work, and where would be the best place to mount it for the best accuracy and ease of use? ([View Article](#))
- **Article: Natick studies how fatigue affects Soldiers:** A new collaborative study at Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center looks at biomechanics and cognitive responses simultaneously to help determine how fatigue affects both the mind and body of Soldiers. ([View Article](#))

SFDF WAY AHEAD

- **SFDF Goal.** Collaborate and integrate at Brigade Combat Team (BCT) level and below. This supports TRADOC Commander's effort to broaden the approach to involve more of the Army in the experimentation and exercise business.

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