



SQUAD: FOUNDATION OF THE DECISIVE FORCE

May - June 2013

UPDATE



28 June 2013

SFDF IS DEDICATED TO ALL DISMOUNTED ELEMENTS

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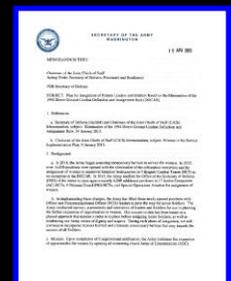
- **SFDF Integrated Capabilities Development Team (ICDT) Update:**
 - **Executive Summary:** SFDF-ICDT Update held on 16 May 2013.
 - **SFDF- Dismounted Non-Network Enabled-Limited Objective Experiment (DNNE -LOE):** Experiment to take place AUG-SEP 2013 to assess a dismounted Squad for 72 hours with a 2013 baseline capability followed by a 72 hour assessment of the Squad enhanced with capabilities for comparison of overmatch, in a non-networked environment.
- **Army: Women in Service Implementation Plan.** Female integration into closed MOS' due to the elimination of the 1994 Direct Ground Combat Definition and Assignment Rule.
- **Defense Advanced Research Projects (DARPA):**
 - Article: DARPA Seeks Technology to Radically Improve Dismounted Squad Situational Awareness.
 - Persistent Close Air Support (PCAS) aims to enable ground forces and combat crews to employ precision-guided weapons from airborne platforms.
- **Leader Development:**
 - POI development for 25th ID Lightning Academy.
 - Army Leader Development Strategy 2013.
- **Training:**
 - Squad Overmatch integration of Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness (CSF2) into technology.
- **Articles:**
 - **Army Announces Force Structure and Stationing Decisions.** Based on extensive analysis, the lessons of a dozen years of combat and the need to increase operational capability and flexibility, the Army will make the following changes to its force structure.
 - Maneuver, Aviation Captains Fight Virtual Battle.
 - General Atomics Sells Predator XP Abroad.
 - Raytheon's Future Trooper Has Killer Monocle.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - SFDF-Limited Objective Experiment (LOE)
 - SFDF-ICDT Update, 14 November 2013, 1000-12000 EDT.

SFDF ICDT UPDATE

- **SFDF-Integrated Capabilities Development Team (ICDT) Update:** On 16 May 2013, the SFDF-ICDT Fire Teams (Training, Leader Development, Materiel and Measures of Effectiveness (MOE)) provided their updates to the Chairman and how they mitigate the Squad Capabilities Based Assessment (CBA) Gaps. Linked is the SFDF-ICDT Executive Summary. [EXSUM](#)
- **SFDF-DNNE-LOE:** SFDF-DNNE-LOE will be carried out in August-September 2013. The task will be to utilize Soldiers to employ a baseline 2013 capability followed by enhanced capabilities for comparison of overmatch in a non-networked environment up to 72 hours. Fourteen materiel capabilities will be assessed against required capabilities and 15 Squad CBA Gaps. The required capabilities are #1 fire, maneuver and survive in close combat and #4 determine friendly, enemy, neutral, and non-combatant identification in phase 1 of the LOE. Phase 2 (Aug-Sep 2014) will include required capability #7 generate power. New equipment training is incorporating tactical application of all systems being assessed.
 - Includes New Equipment Training (NET).
 - Consist of data collection of a platoon being deployed in a forced entry conflict training scenario for 72 hours with the 2013 current baseline equipment, conducting tasks of occupy patrol base, seize key terrain, conduct reconnaissance, contact with an IED, and conduct an attack. The second iteration of the scenario will be conducted with enhanced capabilities to reduce or mitigate Squad CBA gaps.

WOMEN IN SERVICE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

- **Integration of Female Leaders and Soldiers on the Elimination of the 1994 Direct Ground Combat Definition and Assignment Rule (DGCAR):** Upon completion of Congressional notification, the Army continues the expansion of opportunities for women by opening all remaining closed Areas of Concentration (AOC), Military Occupational Specialties, units and positions as expeditiously as possible, but no later than 1 January 2016.
 - [Transcript](#) of the 18 June 2013, DoD News Briefing on Implementing Women into Previously Closed Positions.



DARPA

- **Persistent Close Air Support (PCAS).** PCAS aims to enable ground forces and combat aircrews to jointly select and employ precision-guided weapons from a diverse set of airborne platforms. The program seeks to leverage advances in computing and communications technologies to fundamentally increase CAS effectiveness, as well as improve the speed and survivability of ground forces engaged with enemy forces. [\(Link\)](#)



- **DARPA Seeks Technology to Radically Improve Dismounted Squad Situational Awareness.** Success on the battlefield requires warfighters to know as much as possible about themselves, their surrounding environment and the potential threats around them. Dismounted infantry squads in particular risk surprise and loss of tactical advantage over opponents when over opponents when information is lacking. The current piecemeal approach doesn't provide the integrated, real-time situational awareness needed for individual warfighters and squad leaders to anticipate situations and effectively maneuver to positions of advantage. [Article](#)

LEADER DEVELOPMENT

- **25 IN DIV POIs Request (On-Going):** Assisting the 25th Infantry Division in developing 7 POIs in support of the Division's Lightning Academy. Official TRADOC TASKORD is pending. (DOTD Update 27 May – 5 Jun 2013)
- **Army Leader Development Strategy (ALDS) 2013:** The ALDS outlines the Army senior leaders' vision and strategy for leader development of all Army professionals through lifelong training, education and experiences acquired through opportunities in the operational, institutional and self-development domains. [Link](#)

TRAINING

- **Squad Overmatch integration of CSF2 into technology:** A comprehensive physical and psychological program for training the Soldier – to recognize situations that cause psychological stress, to have the soldier apply learned techniques to manage the stress, and to provide an environment where situations that cause stress can be regulated, replayed, and reviewed – promises to be key to strengthening a Soldier's resilience and overall human performance. This approach will begin a new era of training the squad--one focused on developing the full spectrum of skills to include those in the human dimension, thereby reducing a Soldier's vulnerability to PTSD and suicide, both necessary conditions to achieve an overmatch capability. (DOTD Update 27 May – 5 Jun 2013)

REPORTS

- **Making the Squad Decisive on the Future Battlefields:** The focus of this study was achieving decisive overmatch for the dismounted Soldier and tactical small unit (TSU) on future battlefields. In particular, the committee was asked to determine the elements of overmatch capabilities necessary to achieve decisiveness, identify technical requirements for optimizing Soldiers and small units, identify near-, mid-, and far-term technologies for investment, and determine the relative importance of such investments. [Report](#)

ARTICLES

- **Army Announces Force Structure and Stationing Decisions.** Based on extensive analysis, the lessons of a dozen years of combat and the need to increase operational capability and flexibility, the Army will make the following changes to its force structure.
 - Reorganize infantry and armor brigade combat teams (BCTs) to restore the third maneuver battalion and increase engineer and fires capability.

- Reduce active component BCTs from 45 modular to 33 reorganized BCTs.
- Continue growth in aviation, special operations, and missile defense and cyber capabilities. [U.S. DoD](#)
- **Maneuver, Aviation Captains Fight Virtual Battle:** Students in the Maneuver Captains Career Course got a chance last week to collaborate with students in the Aviation Captains Career Course to retake a captured police station in downtown Columbus and return it to the government – all without leaving their seats. [Article](#)
- **General Atomics Sells Predator XP Abroad:** Drone maker General Atomics will sell an unarmed version of its Predator unmanned system to the United Arab Emirates and other countries in the middle east as part of a plan to boost international sales. [Article](#)
- **Raytheon's Future Trooper Has Killer Monocle:** A system was pitched at the Paris Air Show by Raytheon called the Advanced Warfighter Awareness for Real-time Engagement (AWARE), a futuristic new uniform system featuring a helmet-mounted monocle that would let troops target air strikes simple by moving their head and pressing a button. [Article](#)

“Live training costs a lot and with the fiscal uncertainty the Army is facing, we’re encouraging these future company commanders to use simulations to bridge that gap.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **SFDF- DNNE-LOE: August-September 2013.**
- **SFDF ICDT VTC/TELECON Update: 14 November 2013, 1000-1200 hrs, more information to follow.**

[SFDF Portal](#)

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