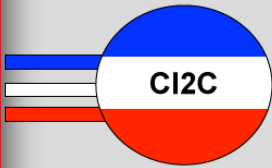




Company Intel Support Team (COIST) Newsletter



COIST/March 2012

“A company intelligence support team is an organization formed at the company level to perform intelligence tasks as directed by the commander.”
TC 2-19.63
Paragraph 1-1

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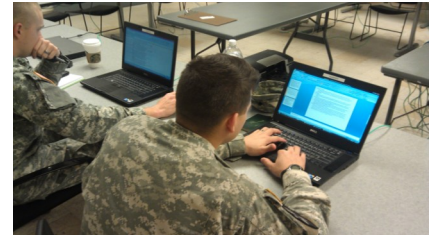
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Counter IED Integration Cell (CI2C)

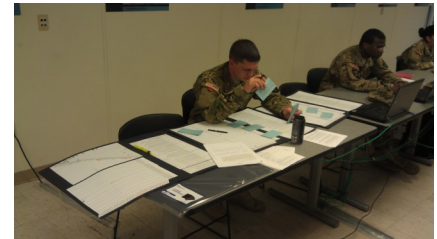
Issue 1

COIST

The COIST capability is part of FORSCOM's Counter Improvised Explosive Device Integration Cell (CI2C) program, which focuses on empowering NCOs through training and leader development. The CI2C enables NCOs to be the primary instructors for individual and small unit collective training to enhance unit training capabilities during situational and field training exercises (STX/FTX). The CI2C provides senior commanders with a Home Station Training Capability (HSTC) at their installations as well as at First Army Mobilization Training Centers (MTCs) that offers initial and sustainment training as well as over-the-shoulder coaching in a garrison and field environment tailored to local commander training objectives.



Soldiers conducting analysis during COIST Training at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.



Knowing the Difference: COIST and the Battalion S2

By: Grant DeHaven, COIST Trainer, Fort Knox

As an all-source analytical shop, the battalion S2 section is responsible for utilizing all available intelligence assets, databases, and traffic to construct the threat puzzle in the unit's area of operation (AO). This is done in order to develop actionable intelligence to eliminate a threat or react to one. Primarily, this effort is performed to enable the battalion commander to steer operations. One crucial function of a COIST is to replicate this process at a lower level and within a smaller AO. The team's ability to act as an analytical multiplier for the S2 has been found to be extremely beneficial in enhancing the precision of company-level situational awareness and intelligence operations. The ability of the COIST to assist in answering and refining priority intelligence requirements (PIR) for the battalion S2 is critical in understanding the threat environment, conducting targeting, and pursuing additional information collection.

By means of serving as a direct liaison for the battalion S2, the COIST is able to reach down to the lowest ranks to harbor Every Soldier A Sensor (ES2) methodology. The COIST will utilize S2 products and also company-level assessments to brief personnel and patrols prior to mission execution. This results in all personnel understanding specific information requirements (SIR) and indicators that benefit the collective battalion intelligence effort. By means of debriefing, the COIST can extract information from the observers immediately after a mission and eliminate lapses in memory or dissemination timeliness. However, the COIST is not only important in relation to threat information exchange and analysis. The S2 is largely dependent on company-level efforts in order to understand the operational environment.

The company commander should still expect interaction with the battalion S2 in relation to battalion-wide threat analysis, product creation, and targeting support. However, the COIST ultimately works for the company commander and is chartered to keep company leadership informed of the enemy threat picture. The company commander should engage with their COIST, assess effectiveness, request adjustments based on his/her intent, and facilitate the team's ability to support the company and battalion in relation to intelligence analysis and operational enhancement.

Intelligence Electronic Warfare Tactical Proficiency Trainer (IEWTPT) Integration

By: Katherine Wade, COIST Trainer, Fort Bliss

There are many other types of intelligence training that can be incorporated into or in addition to the current 40 hour block of instruction on COIST. One of the additional types of intelligence training available on most installations is the Intelligence Electronic Warfare Tactical Proficiency Trainer (IEWTPT). The mission of the IEWTPT is to stimulate real world Reconnaissance and Surveillance assets for operator and analyst sustainment and collective training. The realistic simulation allows commanders and battle staff to exercise all intelligence capabilities and how to utilize assets more effectively. Part of the IEWTPT system is the HUMINT Control Cell (HCC). The IEWTPT HCC system is a computer based virtual reality trainer that simulates interaction with host nation populace. The trainer was intended for HUMINT personnel to sharpen and maintain their questioning skills but it also allows patrol leaders and all soldiers to practice tactical questioning and the use of an interpreter. The IEWTPT HCC system has several scenarios that are specifically designed for COIST personnel. It is possible to work with your IEWTPT HCC trainers to create your own COIST scenarios.

Incorporating and scheduling your IEWTPT HCC trainers will give students hands-on training that quickly identifies weaknesses in their questioning skills. It also allows them to demonstrate that they understand the intricacy of questioning and how to avoid common mistakes. IEWTPT HCC trainer is a fairly new system and there are still glitches within the system. If possible it is highly encouraged to have the unit's leaders or NCOIC of the COIST available during the training. This will allow the leaders understand the weaknesses of their team as well as their strengths and also ensure that the soldiers will stay on task even when there are system set-backs. The IEWTPT HCC system offers a new innovative approach to training which complements current COIST training.

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