



SQUAD: FOUNDATION OF THE DECISIVE FORCE

July 2013
UPDATE



7 August 2013

SFDF IS DEDICATED TO ALL DISMOUNTED ELEMENTS

This update includes highlights on:

- The SFDF, Dismounted Non-Network Enabled, Limited Objective Experiment (DNNE-LOE)
- Training: MCoE C-IED Training; Dismounted Soldier Training System (DSTS); and Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness (CSF2)
- Leader Development: NCO Corner adds features to train Soldiers, develop leaders; and Maneuver Leader Self Study Program (MSSP)
- Shoulder Launched Munitions (SLM) Review
- Articles: TRADOC leads review of MOS standards, gender integration; Powering Warfighters; MCoE Prepares Soldier to be Effective; and The Pipe Dream of Easy War.
- Upcoming Events

MCoE Five Key Areas

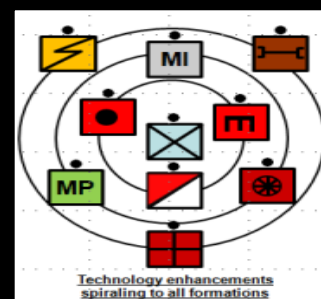
*“The **first** is leader development and education, and that’s one of the Chief of Staff of the Army’s top priorities, and it’s our top priority... **Second** is training: ensuring our Soldiers have the skills necessary, and train under tough, realistic conditions to build the confidence and competence necessary to fight and win against our adversaries... **Third** is doctrine; we are rewriting all of our doctrine... **Fourth** is combat development, to ensure that our maneuver forces have every capability to overmatch the enemy under all conditions of combat. Finally, we’re working continually to make Fort Benning a better installation.”*

-- MCoE CG, MG McMaster --

SFDF - DNNE - LOE

- **SFDF, Dismounted Non-Network Enabled, Limited Objective Experiment (SFDF-DNNE-LOE):**
 - This effort will shore up the framework for Army maneuver Squads to support Combined Arms Maneuver (CAM) and Wide Area Security (WAS) in Unified Land Operations. This framework will verify the Army Squads' required capabilities to gain situational advantage across the range of military operations. The strategy to improve the future Squad as a formation vice individual weapons and systems allows the Army to meet the challenges of future operational environments.
 - The DNNE LOE will direct its experimental focus 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. The dismounted Squads will be fighting as part of larger force conducting decentralized operations.
 - The dismounted Squad will face reduced access to real time intelligence and advanced situational awareness of the friendly and enemy situation.
 - The initiative to improve the basic building blocks of the Army fighting force through non-materiel and materiel solutions will not only improve the dismounted Infantry Squad, but also improve the effectiveness of all other echelons within the Brigade Combat Team (BCT), this is known as the ripple effect and falls in line with the MCoE number one priority: *Improve combat effectiveness of brigades through the Squad Foundation of the Decisive Force (SFDF) initiative, BCT 2020 organization changes, the Combat Vehicle Modernization Strategy, and the development of other capabilities that address the Maneuver Warfighting Challenges.*
- **Key Dates:**
 - SFDF DNNE-LOE Phase 1, 5 August - 20 Sep 2013.
 - SFDF-DNNE-LOE, Senior Leader Seminar, 24 Sep 2013

The Ripple Effect of The Squad



LEADER DEVELOPMENT

- **NCO Corner adds features to train Soldiers, develop leaders:** NCO Corner is on the Army Training Network (ATN) web site, a computer access card-enabled site that links to the Army Career Tracker, Army Training Help Desk, Army Learning Management System and other sites. *"We have an inherent responsibility to steward our profession and professionally develop our Soldiers, our organizations and our Army," said Command Sgt. Maj. Joe Parson. "The improvements on NCO Corner will help us fulfill those responsibilities."* (23 July 2013) [Link](#)
- **Maneuver Leader Self-Study Program (MSSP):** The MSSP working group met 25 July 2013 and agreed to adjust the pilot program strategy. A public facing website is the MSSP way ahead; it will be tested with students from two of the six classes that are already scheduled for the pilot. This will push the program parameters for errors that can be fixed before unveiling the program to the Army at large during the Maneuver Conference. The selected classes are ALC 1-14 (starting in October) and MCCC 7-17 (starting in September). Another adjustment is to send an advance e-mail on the self-study to the incoming students to start their collaboration and build rapport early before showing up to class. Next

Milestone: Update MSSP FRAGO and Charter – currently under MCoE staffing via Ft Benning Form 25. (Training Development Division/DOTD). ([DOTD Bi-Weekly Update](#))

TRAINING

- **MCoE Counter-IED (C-IED) Program:**
 - Continues to submit C-IED related comments/suggested C-IED text and graphic for FM 90-5 Jungle Operations revision and course development. Instructor teams are conducting the Dismounted C-IED Training Master Trainer (DCT-MT) course to develop leader skills in C-IED tactics for the contemporary operating environment. DCT-MT Course Instructors are assisting the Design and Evaluation Team in the development of the Instructional Curriculum, Course Materials, and Evaluation Plan to support C-IED relevancy that addresses availability of relevant training within a budget restricted environment.
 - The C-IED Doctrine Team is providing TCM-Recon with R&S CBA support as requested by CG to nest C-IED activities within R&S tasks; ongoing process . The DCT-MT Course is being taught to mitigate the existing training gaps in dismounted operations in the range of military operations. The Course develops Counter IED Master Trainers at the unit level to conduct unit and sustainment training on how to employ the Counter IED enablers.
- **Dismounted Soldier Training System (DSTS):** Army Research Institute (ARI) in coordination with DOTD Systems Training Branch assessed survey results and will report findings to CG, MCoE at the next DOTD update tentatively scheduled for 13 AUG 13. Final results will be shared with MCoE stakeholders, and subsequently communicated to TCM-V and PM-CATT for action. The Leader Survey was established to help the Army identify shortcomings and new requirements, as well as to gather Soldier feedback in regard to the overall training effectiveness of the system.
- **Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness (CSF2):** Ranger Assessment and Selection Phase (RASP) FY 13 graduation rate = 61% (to date 3 Aug), 575 new Rangers in first seven classes projected 825 new Rangers in FY 13 which is an increase of 33% since adding CSF2 instruction into course. ([DOTD Bi-Weekly Update](#))

SHOULDER LAUNCHED MUNITIONS (SLM) REVIEW

- **TRADOC Analysis Center (TRAC) White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) presented interim results from their SLM Strategy Review on 17 July 2013.** The SLM review concluded : (1) No single existing SLM systems can mitigate all capability gaps; (2) No combination of existing SLM systems can mitigate all capability gaps; (3) Development of a single SLM with the capability of engage all intended target sets within the specified conditions would ensure squad the greatest level of tactical flexibility.
 - TRAC WSMR requested Maneuver Battle Lab (MBL) administer a survey to collect Infantry Soldier opinions/preferences regarding SLM gaps and attributes. TRAC WSMR agreed to develop the survey and MBL agreed to administer the survey to Soldiers during the SFDF DNNE LOE. MBL will return completed surveys to TRAC WSMR for analysis.
 - 4th Quarter FY 13: Army Systems Analysis Activity (AMSAA) will visit MCoE to discuss potential Infantry Warrior Simulation (IWARS) study topics with the SFDF Team. AMSAA is considering a

study focused on the Individual Assault Munition (IAM) or the Lethal Miniature Aerial Munition (LMAMS). An internal (Soldier Division) discussion is slated for 12 Aug 2013.

ARTICLES

- **TRADOC leads review of MOS standards, gender integration.** TRADOC is currently leading two efforts, part of what is collectively called "Soldier 2020." The first examines the physical demands of specific military occupational specialties, or MOSs, starting with those currently closed to women. The second studies the cultural and institutional effects of integrating women into those previously closed occupations and units. (2 July 2013) [Link](#)
- **Powering Warfighters:** All the new electric gadgets infantrymen carry dramatically increase effectiveness in combat and save U.S. lives. But enhanced capabilities require more power, which has meant more batteries, more weight, more complexity and more logistic burdens. Planners are now trying to lighten the load and simplify systems, for both individual soldiers and the forward bases that keep them charged. Publication also covers question and answer session with MCoE CG; Tactical Weapons Displays. (Ground Combat Technology, July 2013) [Link](#)
- **MCoE Prepares Soldiers to be Effective Warriors:** Questions and answers with the MCoE Commanding General. Some topics include: Institutionalizing lessons learned from past 12 years of combat; Simulations in Training; Cost Savings Initiatives; Airborne Training; IED; Smart Phones; Communications; Safety; and Emphasizing five key areas at the Maneuver Center. (Ground Combat Technology, July 2013) [Link](#)
- **The Pipe Dream of Easy War by MCoE CG:** Three age-old truths about war and how our experiences in Afghanistan and Iraq validated their importance – War is political; human; and uncertain. (New York Times, 20 July 2013) [Link](#)

"The hard-learned lesson: Defense concepts must consider social, economic and historical factors that constitute the human dimension of war."

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **SFDF SharePoint (SP) 2007 migration to SP 2010 is ongoing.**
 - SFDF SP 2010 on TRADOC Knowledge Environment (TKE): https://portal.tradoc.army.mil/sites/mcoe/cdid/cdid/_MBL/SFDF/SitePages/Home.aspx
 - SFDF SP 2010 through AKO: https://ako.portal.tradoc.army.mil/sites/mcoe/cdid/cdid/_MBL/SFDF/SitePages/Home.aspx
- **SFDF- DNNE-LOE: 5 August – 20 September 2013.**
- **SFDF ICDT VTC/TELECON Update: 14 November 2013, 1000-1200 hrs, more information to follow.**
- **AEWE Spiral-I: Feb 2014**

[SFDF Portal](#)

[SFDF Portal through AKO](#)

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