



ORT
INF PLATOON
SCOUT DOG

3-8-68
S.F.S.S.

8-10 JULY 1967

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 1ST BATTALION, 29TH INFANTRY
197TH INFANTRY BRIGADE
Fort Benning, Georgia 31905

▲JIIB-1-29

SUBJECT: Operational Readiness Test Directive (Infantry Platoon Scout Dog)

TO: See Distribution

1. Purpose: This letter outlines the administrative requirements and general conduct of the operational readiness test.

2. General description: This Operational Readiness Test has no precedent. Currently, there is no training test prescribed for testing the Infantry Platoon (Scout Dog). This test was developed to supplant the usual ATT conducted and prescribed for majority of Army units. The duration of the test will be approximately 56 hours. The scheduled test dates and units are as indicated below. Fort Benning training area N-1 & N-2 will be used as the primary test site and area

Test Dates: 8 July 67 to 10 July 67

Units to be tested: 43rd and 45th IPSD.

3. Objectives:

a. To determine the combat readiness of each tested scout dog platoon.

b. To provide the commanders concerned with an objective evaluation of the state of training of these scout dog platoons.

c. To provide a realistic training exercise for the participating units and personnel making maximum use of limited tactical training area.

4. Concept:

a. The test will be conducted at the Fort Benning Military Reservation utilizing training area N-1 thru N-3 and available mock-up Vietnamese villages.

b. The conduct of the test will be based upon the following assumptions:

(1) Friendly forces have air superiority.

(2) Both Aggressor and Friendly forces have CBR capabilities.

(3) There will be live aggressor play; represented on the ground on a one-for-one basis

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(4) Medical evacuation of simulated casualties can be made by helicopter only at cleared landing sites.

(5) The tested units and supporting troops participating as friendly forces will be required to operate tactically throughout the entire test.

c. Platoon leaders, platoon sergeants, and squad leaders will be allowed sufficient time for troop leading procedures.

d. Each tested platoon will undergo the following:

- (1) Combat preparedness checks of personnel and equipment
- (2) Scouting and patrolling
- (3) Ambush and counter-ambush exercises
- (4) Search and Clear operations
- (5) Perimeter defense
- (6) Air assault via helicopter
- (7) Armored Personnel Carrier familiarization

e. Ratings: Each scout dog platoon will be judged to be either 'Combat Ready' or 'Not Combat Ready', in accordance with the following:

- (1) The overall demonstrated performance of the platoon to conduct its TOE mission.
- (2) Control and troop leading procedures of unit leaders.
- (3) Camouflage, concealment and security.
- (4) Reaction to CRR situations.
- (5) Demonstrated health and field sanitation practices.
- (6) Evaluation of the individual scout dogs and handlers

f. Critique: The critique will be scheduled for the morning immediately following the conclusion of the test. A written report will be provided to the platoon leader at a later date.

5. Administrative/Logistical

a. Actual and simulated intelligence will be played.

b. Medical personnel with an M-170 ambulance will be required throughout the test.

c. Real casualties will be reported to the OIC immediately and evacuated to Martin Army Hospital, if required.

d. Requests for supply of POL, blank ammo, etc., will be processed through control HQ. Vehicles will be refueled daily.

e. Supporting troop, friendly and aggressor, will be fed by their parent units; the unit providing the preponderance of personnel will be responsible to coordinate on issuance of rations - only on mess line will

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be operated in either the friendly and agressor force area. Control personnel will feed with the friendly force. Combat rations will be used for the noon meals.

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f. Vehicle transportation will be by organic vehicles or as supplied in accordance with Annex E, Administrative Requirements.

g. Blank ammunition, simulators and other pyrotechnics will be issued as available.

h. Control headquarters will act as all higher headquarters for friendly forces problem play, ie, forward observers, company headquarters etc.

i. Uniform for the tested platoons and friendly forces will be fatigues with field gear and weapons.

j. ALL TOE equipment issued to the tested platoons will be with the platoons during the period of the test.

6. Communications:

a. A field telephone will be installed by communications personnel of the 1/29 Infantry to provide telephonic communications between the control group operations center and the Ft Benning telephone System.

b. Details of control net are given in Annex C.

c. Communications for the friendly force and aggressor force will be by radios provided by supporting units; see Annex E.

d. Radio frequencies will be assigned in accordance with Appendix 1 to Annex C.

ANNEXES: A - Scenario
B - Control Plan w/overlays
C - General Plan
D - Instructions for Aggressor Forces
E - Administration and Support Requirements
F - Orientation and Critique
G - Evaluation Sheets
H - Critique Note - Outline

DISTRIBUTION: Special

ANNEX B (Control Plan) to ORT Directive (Infantry Platoon Scout Dog)

GENERAL SITUATION

FIRST DAY-7 July 1967

1400 Departs by M151
1430 Ambush of Dog Units
1500 Establishment of Tactical Base Camp
1600 Orientation and briefing of friendly forces and Dog units. Pre-Combat check - blank ammo issued (80 rounds-3 per man)
1730 Tactical feeding in FF perimeter.
200 FF CO issued warning order of 2nd day operations.

SECOND DAY-8 July 1967

EMNT Stand To
0600 Tactical Feeding in FF perimeter
0630 FF CO issues orders to patrol leaders
0900 Group A patrols depart bivouac area for evaluation areas.
1100 Group B patrols depart bivouac area for evaluation areas.
1400 Group A & C patrols move to evaluation areas.
1800 Tactical feeding in FF perimeter
1830 Group A patrols move to Night Patrol Areas.
1930 FF CO issued orders for 3d day operations.
2300 Patrols return to bivouac area.
2400 Aggressor probes FF perimeter.

THIRD DAY-9 July 1967

EMNT Stand To
0600 Tactical Feeding in FF perimeter
0630 FF CO issues orders to patrol leaders
0900 Group B patrols depart bivouac area for evaluation areas.

ANNEX B (Control Plan) (Con't)

1100 Group C patrols move to evaluation areas.
1400 Group A & B patrols move to evaluation areas.
1800 Tactical feeding in FF perimeter.
1830 Group B patrols move to Night Patrol Areas.
1930 FF CO issued orders for 4th day operations.
2300 Patrol return to bivouac area.
2400 Aggressor probes FF perimeter

FOURTH DAY-10 July 1967

EMNT Stand To
1200 Police of all evaluation areas. ORT completed.
 All Groups return to Company Area.

NOTE:

1. FF organized into three groups, (A, B and C); each group further organized into 8 patrols each. Aggressor divided into equal groups each dispersed in evaluation.

ANNEX C (General Plan) to ORT Directive (Inf Platoon Scout Dog)

1. Planning Concepts. a. The organization of the friendly forces (FF) should be such that unit integrity and control are enhanced. In this connection, the officers and enlisted personnel should all be from the same base unit. The inherent results will become obvious during the conduct of the ORT. Additionally, participation as the friendly force in the ORT is an excellent opportunity for personnel of the 1/29 Inf to receive tactical unit level training.

b. The FF base camp is required to be tactical in every respect. No civilian cars are permitted. Rations and blank ammunition supplies are maintained at the control CI.

c. The control CI is located Vic 033989. It is separated from the sphere of activity of the entire ORT operations in an attempt to keep the problem area realistic and void of administrative matters. It is an administrative CI operated with the minimum personnel. This control CI maintains radio contact with both FF and Aggressor and has a drop (telephone) line into the main post switchboard.

d. The evaluators are in the same uniform as the FF except for shoulder harness and weapons. This aids to keep the patrols as close to realistic as possible. The evaluators are all provided by the 26th Scout Dog Training Unit. They do not interfere whatsoever, except in emergencies, in the conduct of the patrol or tactical operations. They should remain as obscure as possible.

2. Control Signals. a. Aside from voice and radio control over actions during the ORT, two visual signals are utilized to halt the action in emergency situation:

1. Daylight hours - RED SMOKE GRENADE - CAUTION, GRASS FIRES MAY RESULT.

2. Darkness hours - WHITE STAR CLUSTER " " " " " "

b. These pyrotechnics are issued to all evaluators and control personnel (OIC, Asst OIC, FF Comd, and Aggressor OIC).

c. Anyone seeing or sensing a dangerous or unsafe situation is authorized to call a halt to the action.

3. Organization of Patrols. a. Initially, the FF including the tested Scout Dog platoons, are organized into 3 combat elements (A,B,C). This organization will permit the maximum number of dogs to be gainfully employed and evaluated. Each dog team will receive five (5) evaluations during the testing phase as well as a number of platoon level combat situations.

APPENDIX

- 1 - Aggressor Forces and Control Net - SOI
- 2 - Friendly Forces - SOI

Appendix 2 (Friendly Forces - SOI) to Annex C to ORT Directive
(Inf Plat Scout Dog)

FRIENDLY FORCES SIGNAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

"SOI" will be drawn from the 1st Battalion 29th Infantry Signal Officer prior to units deployment to exercise area".

INSTRUCTORS FOR AGGRESSOR FORCES

1. Composition and organization:

a. The aggressor force will be composed of 1 officer-in-charge, (11), 6 NCO's and 44 other enlisted personnel.

b. The aggressor force will be organized into 3 teams for day operations, 1 NCO, 5PM; 2 NCO, 10 EM; 3 NCO, 30 EM. For night operations 10 four man groups.

2. The aggressor force will have radio communications with each team with all teams operating on the same frequency. The control headquarters will also operate one radio on this frequency. Call signs and frequency will be provided at coordination meeting.

3. The aggressor personnel will wear the aggressor uniform, be armed with the M16 rifle w/blank adapter (except M60 machine gunners), and wear web equipment with the first aid pouch and canteen. Approx 20 aggressor personnel should be in civilian clothing w/weapons.

4. Transportation will be provided by parent unit.

5. Organic unit will be responsible to feed aggressors. In accordance with par 9 & 10, below, aggressor forces will require 3 meals in the field for 2 day period for the entire force and 2 meals for the entire force the last day.

6. Reconnaissance and briefings for aggressor OIC and team leaders will be as scheduled by senior OIC, 1/29th Infantry.

7. The senior OIC is responsible for safety throughout the test, however the aggressor commanders must insure that all safety requirements are strictly adhered to by their forces. The following requirements will apply:

a. No physical contact will be made with the friendly forces.

b. Blank ammo will not be fired at personnel within 30 yards of the firer.

c. No tampering with any blanks, simulators or pyrotechnics.

d. After each evaluation situation and prior to the release of any aggressors from the test site, a shakedown and turn-in of any remaining blanks, simulators and pyrotechnics will be made by each team chief. The aggressor OIC will then turn in the unused items to control headquarters prior to requesting release of his personnel.

e. Any accidents or incidents will be reported without delay to the control headquarters. The aggressor radio frequency may be used for this purpose.

8. When the aggressor force is deployed within the evaluation site, it is imperative that all personnel do their best to carry out the mission. Nothing should be injected into the problem play that will detract from realism of the test; initiative in adding realism to the test is wholeheartedly welcome.

ANNEX D (Instructions for Aggressor Forces) to ORF Directive (Inf Flat
SD)

9. The aggressor force will be required to stay in the field overnight, and the provisions of par 7e, above, will apply prior to its release from the test area.

10. The aggressor bivouac area is designated as VIC 033989 for the entire exercise period.

11. Special equipment for aggressor forces, provided by parent unit.

a. 6 radios, AN/PRC-10. (must be operational)

b. Flashlights, as required - for administrative use only.

c. 8 MGO MG

d. Lister Bag or extra water cans.

e. Insect repellent, as required.

12. Medical coverage and blank ammunition will be provided by 1/29th
Inf.

ANNEX E (Administrative and Support Requirements) to ORT Directive
(Infantry Platoon Scout Dog)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

NOTE: The requirements indicated within this Annex are based upon the testing of two scout dog platoons with the equivalent of four squads each. (8 squads total)

1. Friendly force troop and equipment requirements.
 - a. 1 Officer, 6 MJO's (squad leaders and asst sq leaders); 24 other enlisted. These personnel will remain in the field with the test units for the entire test period.
 - b. Four 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton trucks for transportation to test site only and pick up upon completion of test period.
 - c. 8 AN/PRC-10 radios (include 1 spare).
 - d. 8 compasses (one per squad ldr)
 - e. 10 maps or aerial photos of test area
 - f. 4 APC M-113 w/mounted M60 MG
 - g. Helicopters, 1 CH 47 or 5 HUID
 - h. Blank adapters for all M14s & M60 MGs.
 - i. One water trailer
 - j. One $\frac{1}{2}$ ton truck w/VRC-10 radio
 - k. 2 M170 Ambulances w/medics (1 to be used at control CP)
2. Aggressor forces troop and equipment requirements - see Annex D. Additionally:
3. Control group personnel and equipment requirements.
 - a. 2 Officers - OIC and Asst OIC
 - b. 3 NCOs - Operate CP on 24 hr basis
 - c. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ton truck w/VRC-10 radio each and drivers
 - d. S-3 Operations Van w/driver
 - e. 1 admin vehicle, 3/4 ton truck w/trailer and driver (trailer for blank ammunition pick-up and storage).

ANNEX E (Administrative and Support Requirements) to ORT Directive (Infantry Platoon Scout Dog)

f. One water trailer - for control group personnel & aggressor force.

g. Field telephone - drop line into main post

h. Min Of 16 scout dog evaluators - provided by the 26th IPSD.

4. Training Areas and Facilities.

a. VC Village (Requested in accordance w/USAIC Cir 350-1) for the 3d day of the ORT.

b. Area N1, N2 Ft Benning, Military Reservation for entire 3 days of the ORT.

5. Blank ammunition and Pyrotechnics - for entire ORT and including all forces.

a. 22,000 7.62mm blank ammo, in cartons

b. 12,000 7.62mm blank, linked

c. 40 grenade, hand, smoke, red.

d. 40 grenade, hand, smoke, yellow, M18

e. 50 flares, trip

f. 200 booby traps, whistle M119

g. 200 simulators, grenade, hand

h. 20 flares, cluster, hand held.

i. 100 booby traps, illuminating M118

j. 400 booby traps, flash M117

NOTE: The 26th IPSD is responsible to submit the request for the blank ammunition and pyrotechnics in sufficient time prior to the test.

APPENDIX 1 (Control Group Material) to ANNEX E ORT Directive (Infantry
Platoon Scout Dog)

LIST OF EXPENDABLE ITEMS

<u>NOMENCLATURE</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>
Folding Tables	2 Each
Folding Chairs	6 Each
A-Frame	1 Each
Map Boards	2 Each
Acetate	1 Roll
Envelopes, Large	20 Each
Thumb Tacks	1 Box
Pencils	2 Dozen
Grease Pencils, Red, Blue, Black	1 Dozen Each
Scotch Tape	1 Roll
Engineer Tape	1 Roll
Masking Tape	1 Roll
Colored Tape, Red, Black	1 Roll Each
Tablets, Lined	2 Each
Paper Clips	1 Box
3 x 5 Cards & Index Markers	1 Set
Stapler	1 Each
Staples	1 Box
Message Form Books	3 Each
Rags	2 Each
CP Tent	1 Each
Water Trailer	1 Each
Latrine Box	1 Each
Toilet Paper	10 Rolls
Shovel	1 Each
Pick, Mattock	1 Each
Axe	1 Each

ANNEX F (Orientation and Critique) to ORT Directive (Infantry Platoon Scout Dog)

ORIENTATION AND CRITIQUE

1. The tested platoons will be oriented on the test by the senior OIC prior to the beginning of the test. The time and location of this briefing will be announced at a later date. A critique of the entire test will be made the day following the termination of the test. All control and evaluation personnel will be present.

2. The initial orientation will include as a minimum:

a. General description of the test to include the test objectives and concept of test operation.

b. The evaluation system to be utilized and ratings to be determined.

c. Specific safety measures applicable to the test (include prevention of heat injuries).

d. Identification of aggressors.

e. Control measures to be in effect, (include comment regarding cutting of trees, etc).

3. The oral critique will cover all phases of the test. Generally, comments will be confined to major strengths and weaknesses observed by the various evaluators and control personnel. The tested platoons will receive "Combat Ready" or "Not Combat Ready" ratings for their overall demonstrated performance.

ANNEX G (Evaluation Sheets) to ORT Directive (Infantry Platoon Scout Dog)

1. Attached as appendixes to this Annex are the various evaluation sheets to be utilized in preparing the ratings awarded each platoon at the conclusion of the operational readiness test. The use of each sheet is described below.

2. Individual Operational Readiness Check (Appendix 1):

These sheets are completed by the scout dog evaluator prior to the beginning and during the tactical operations involved with the test. At the completion of each day all sheets are given to ORT OIC for tabulation.

3. Platoon Operational Readiness Check (Appendix 2):

This form is compiled by the PF OIC in conjunction with scout dog evaluators based upon observations throughout the 3 day exercise.

4. Scout Dog Evaluation (Appendix 3):

This form is prepared for each segment of each Phase by the scout dog evaluator. The form is prepared only for those dogs and handlers actually employed during the ORT situation.

5. Handlers After Action Report (Appendix 4):

This form is completed by the scout dog handler after each situation has ended. These reports are made only if the dog handler team was used during the Phase. These reports provide the evaluator with some insight as to the proficiency of the handlers individual capabilities. These reports will be given to the Platoon Leader upon completion of the evaluation period.

Appendix 1 to Annex G to ORT Directive (Infantry Platoon Scout Dog)

INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONAL READINESS CHECK

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>SATISFACTORY</u>	
	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
1. Was individual wearing the prescribed uniform?	_____	_____
2. Was uniform clean and servicable?	_____	_____
3. First Aid Pouch and packet being worn?	_____	_____
4. Canteen filled with water?	_____	_____
5. Was personal hygiene supervised and required?	_____	_____
6. Was the individual weapon present; clean and operational?	_____	_____
7. Were sufficient ^{AMMO} magazines carried by the individual?	_____	_____
8. Was the individual properly oriented regarding his duties and mission?	_____	_____
9. Did the individual know the current password & countersign?	_____	_____
10. Individual's gas mask been properly fitted; inserts for glasses	_____	_____
11. Any extra material carried in the gas mask case?	_____	_____
12. Battlesight zero fixed on the individual's rifle?	_____	_____
13. Was a shelter half or poncho available to the soldier?	_____	_____
14. Did the individual leave any equip behind that would preclude his sustained operation in the field?	_____	_____
15. Items pertaining to the execution phase:		
a. Did the individual maintain himself and his dog?	_____	_____
b. Was maintenance performed on his individual wpns/Equip?	_____	_____
c. Did he notify his squad leader of resupply needs?	_____	_____
d. Was he aware of the current mission? His mission?	_____	_____
e. Was individual aware of medical evacuation procedures in the event he became a casualty; his dog?	_____	_____
f. Did individual dispose of "C" rations waste properly?	_____	_____
16. Additional comments use reverse side.		

INDIVIDUAL INSPECTED _____ EVALUATOR _____

APPENDIX 2 to ANNEX G to ORT Directive (Infantry Platoon Scout Dog)

SCOUT DOG PLATOON OPERATIONAL READINESS CHECK

ITEM	SATISFACTORY	
	YES	NO
1. Was all TOE equipment with the platoon?	_____	_____
2. Was the platoon TA Equipment serviceable?	_____	_____
3. Was the platoon prepared for sustained operations in the field?	_____	_____
4. Were vehicles operational?	_____	_____
5. Were vehicles topped off and have proper oil level?	_____	_____
6. Was OVM complete, stored and free from rust and dirt?	_____	_____
7. Were vehicles' log books maintained properly?	_____	_____
8. Were metasopes on hand and operational?	_____	_____
9. Did platoon personnel properly brief patrol leader on the employment of Scout Dogs?	_____	_____
10. Did the platoon leader check the readiness of his element prior to assigning them to the patrol/mission?	_____	_____
11. Did the platoon leader debrief his personnel as to their effectiveness on assigned mission?	_____	_____
12. Was maintenance of the individual, dogs, and equipment properly supervised, planned and effected within the plat?	_____	_____
13. Were adequate steps constantly being taken to prepare the plat for the next operation or mission?	_____	_____
14. Was re-supply of rations, water, and ammunition, etc, timely and adequate?	_____	_____
15. Were adequate dispersion, concealment, and cover used?	_____	_____
16. Were strength and casualty report submitted by the platoon?	_____	_____
17. Were proper field sanitation practices adhered to?	_____	_____
18. Were meals fed tactically?	_____	_____
19. Was adequate security maintained with specific attention to mounted movements, during feeding, darkness, and perimeter (unit defense).	_____	_____
20. Platoon Field SOP: Does it exist? Is it Adequate? Complete?	_____	_____
21. Were Scout Dogs rotated on assignments?	_____	_____
22. Other comments (see reverse side) PLATOON EVALUATED _____ EVALUATOR _____		

Appendix 3 to Annex G to JRT Directive (Infantry Platoon Scout Dog)

EVALUATION INFORMATION SHEET

Student _____ Rank _____ SN _____
Name

Flat _____ Lqd _____ Dog _____ Brand # _____

Instructors of student _____

How long has student been with platoon? _____

How long has he trained with dog being tested? _____

Area _____

Lane _____

NUMBERS OF LANE:

	# placed	# found	type alert/wind	distance
Pungii	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mines:	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Personnel:	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Wire:	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____

* Scents=s1, sight=s2, sound=s3

Time _____

Weather _____

Terrain _____

Comments _____

Evaluator: _____

ANNEX H (Critique Note Outline) to ORT Directive (Infantry Platoon S-

PHASE I

1. Pre-Combat checks:

2. Heliborne Techniques:

3. Reaction to Ambush:

4. Conduct of Patrols:

5. Conduct of Road Clearing Operations:

6. Conduct of Sweeps:

7. Conduct of Night Patrols:

8. Perimeter Defense:

PHASE II

9. Heliborne Techniques:

10. Search and Operations in VC Village:

OVERALL COMMENTS

11. Major Strength:

12. Major Weaknesses:

13. Recommended Future Training:

14. Rating: (Combat Ready) (Not Combat Ready):

EVALUATOR