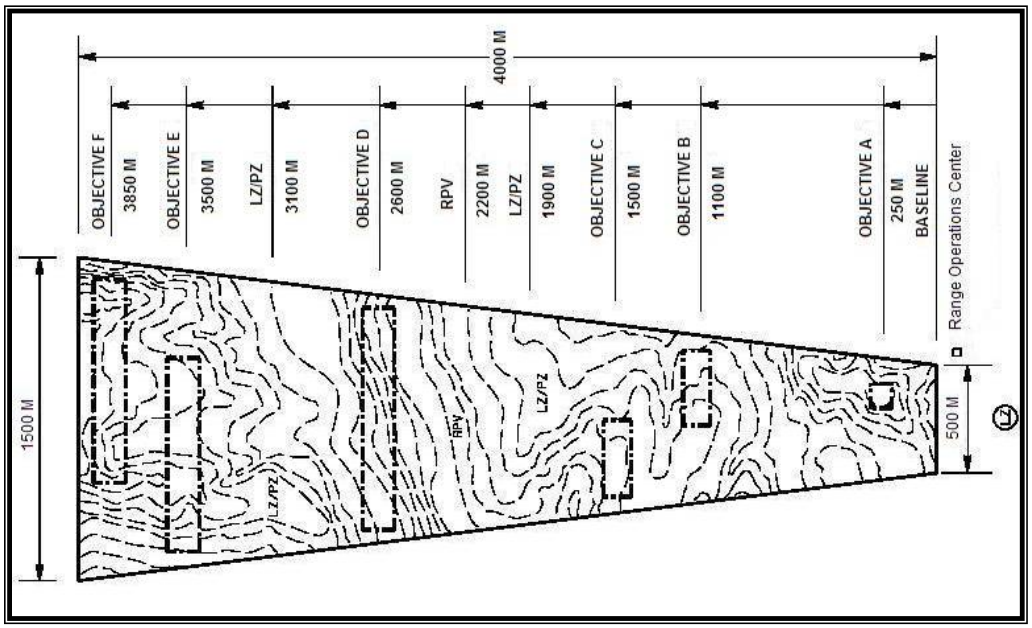
INFANTRY PLATOON BATTLE COURSE (IPBC)
NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION



Purpose: The information in this document is based on TC 25-8 Training Ranges dated 5 April 2004, FCC 17897. The IPBC is used to train and test infantry platoons, either mounted or dismounted, on the skills necessary to conduct tactical movement techniques, detect, identify, engage and defeat stationary and moving infantry and stationary and moving armor targets in a tactical array.

The dismounted platoon has an area to practice the critical training maneuvers of:

Ambush
Movement to contact
Attack
Raid
Retrograde
Defend
Reconnaissance/security

The platoon can conduct individual maneuvers as well as collective maneuvers (battle drills).

The IPBC is not designed to accommodate aerial gunnery support activities.

The training exercises can be performed with live fire only when all safety aspects can be met. Exercises are typically conducted under non-live fire conditions which include dry fire, MILES (laser), and blanks prior to live fire.

Installation Requirements: It is critical that each IPBC be tailored to the requirements set by the installation's training requirements and specific site terrain features. The strategies for the final range layout will be based on the following criteria:

Training directives, priorities, and guidance established by the installation's Chain of Command.
Platoon battle tasks
Platoon mission-essential task list
Platoon training priorities
Training resources and availability
Terrain availability

Siting: Terrain is a critical element to be considered when selecting a suitable location for a battle course. The site's terrain features should support the user's training requirements as well as the critical training maneuvers.

Although one site may not support all the critical training maneuvers, careful site selection and terrain use will greatly increase battle course training capabilities. Another siting consideration is locating helicopter landing areas to support aerial insertion and extraction of the squad/platoon.

The various objectives should be sited in a tactically correct layout for the terrain chosen. As an example, do not site Objective A, the Observation Post, in low ground where it cannot observe the maneuver platoon when there is a more tactically correct high ground nearby.

Due to the depth of the IPBC, Command and Control must also be considered when deciding where the IPBC will be located. As the platoon moves further down range, terrain becomes a factor. If the platoon cannot be seen from the ROC due to terrain then Observer/Controllers must maneuver with the platoon as a safety measure.

Course Objectives: The IPBC drawings show the defensive enemy battle positions described below. Note that the distances cited pertain only to the nonsite-specific layouts presented in this manual. Specific target and objective layouts must be coordinated with the installation trainer and based upon the type of weapons and ammunition to be used. All trenches, bunkers and target emplacements must simulate typical threat scenarios.

Mortar Simulation Device emplacements are located in areas where enemy mortar fire is to be simulated.

Distances are notional, and can be adjusted due to terrain availability. Ideally, they should be close to the standard, but more importantly, provide the training objective with use of terrain.

Primary features include:

6 Stationary Armor Targets (SAT)
1 Moving Armor Targets (MAT)
43 Stationary Infantry Targets (SIT)
14 Moving Infantry Targets (MIT)
9 Machine Gun Bunkers (MGB)
1 Trench Obstacles
8 Mortar Simulation Devices (MSD)
1 Assault/Defend House
2 Landing Zones (LZ)

Layout: The IPBC occupies an area of ground approximately 1500 meters wide by 4000 meters deep. This area does not include the ROCA facilities. Refer to the Layout Details in the Appendix of this document for a typical IPBC layout.

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1 Moving Armor Targets (MAT)
43 Stationary Infantry Targets (SIT)
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General. The IPBC occupies an area of ground approximately 1500 meters wide by 4000 meters deep. This area does not include the ROCA facilities. Refer to the Layout Details in the Appendix of this document for a typical IPBC layout.

Targetry. All targets are fully automated, utilizing event-specific, computer-driven target scenarios and scoring. Targets receive and transmit digital data from the range operations center. The captured data is compiled and is available to the unit for use during the after action review (AAR).

The targetry on the IPBC is placed in a tactical array that supports the current Infantry Platoon training standards. Targets are emplaced based on line of sight from firing points throughout the course.

Consideration should be given to dig-in the targetry rather than to use the standard design target berms. This will allow a more realistic battlefield and cause the training soldiers to look for the enemy rather than the target berms.

There are 6 Stationary Armor Targets (SAT). Each SAT has a Battle Effects Simulator (BES).

The Moving Armor Target (MAT) has a movement capability of 350 meters and are also capable of evasive movement techniques. There is a Battle Effects Simulator on the MAT target carrier.

There are 43 Stationary Infantry Targets (SITs). The SITs will be sited throughout the course objectives individually and in groups. The SITs will tie in with the primary purpose of each objective.

There are 14 Moving Infantry Targets (MITS). Each MIT will have a 15 meter movement capability. The MITs will be sited throughout the course objectives. The MITs will tie in with the primary purpose of each objective.

There are 9 Machine Gun Bunkers located throughout the course. 2 Machine Gun Bunkers will be used to protect the trench. Each bunker will be equipped with a Sound Effects Simulator (SES).

There are 8 Mortar Simulation Devices located throughout the course.

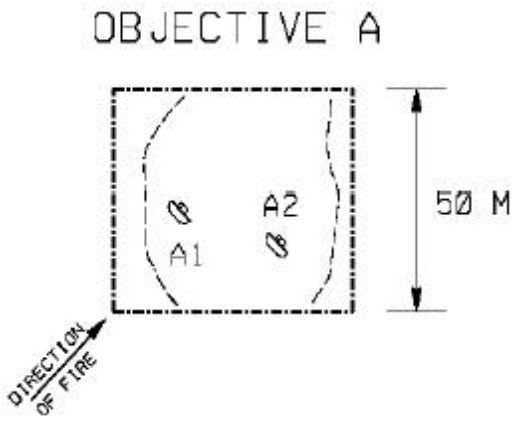
There is 1 Assault/Defend House. This house will have the capability to have SITs emplaced in the windows and doors.

The IPBC has 1 trench protected by 2 machine gun bunkers. The trench systems are used to train and evaluate dismounted clearing techniques.

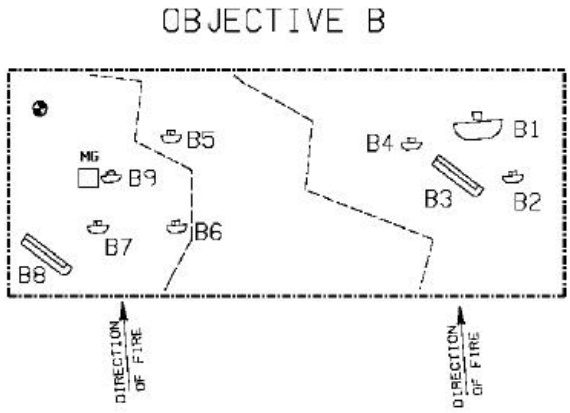
There are 2 helicopter landing zones. These will be sited in areas approved by the Installation Safety Office.

Refer to the Civil Details in the Appendix of this document for detailed information of the targetry on the IPBC.

Objective A. This objective simulates an enemy Objective A should be sited about 250 meters downrange on a ridge line or other strategic area that can be engaged from a frontal suppressing posture and a lateral (flanking) defeating posture. Objective A consists of two SITs.

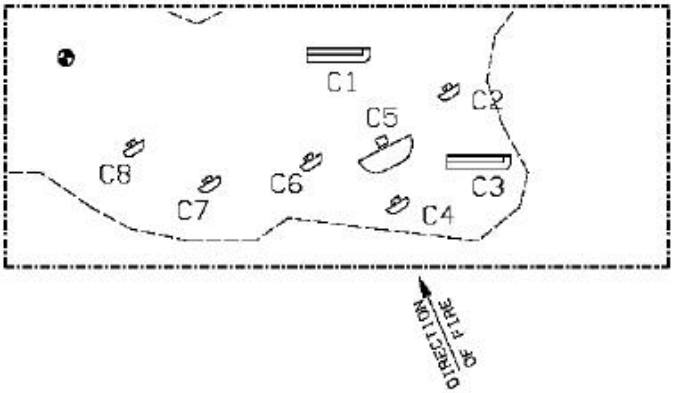


Objective B. This objective is an interim platoon objective. This objective should be sited within visual distance from Objective C. This will allow the training platoon to place suppressive fires on Objective C while a maneuver force moves to engage and secure Objective C. Objective B should be sited about 1,100 meters from the baseline. Objective B has two groups of targets. Group one consists of four SITs, one MIT, and one MGB. Group two consists of two SITs, one MIT, and one SAT. The course also requires one MSD.



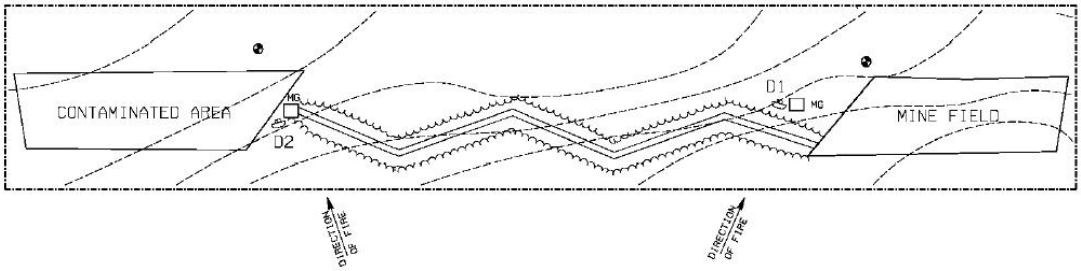
Objective C. This objective simulates an enemy counterattack force. Objective C should be sited within visual distance of Objective B to allow the training platoon to place suppressive fires from Objective B onto Objective C while a maneuver force moves to engage and secure Objective C. Objective C should be sited about 1,500 meters from the baseline. Objective C consists of five SITs, two MITs, one SAT, and one MSD.

OBJECTIVE C

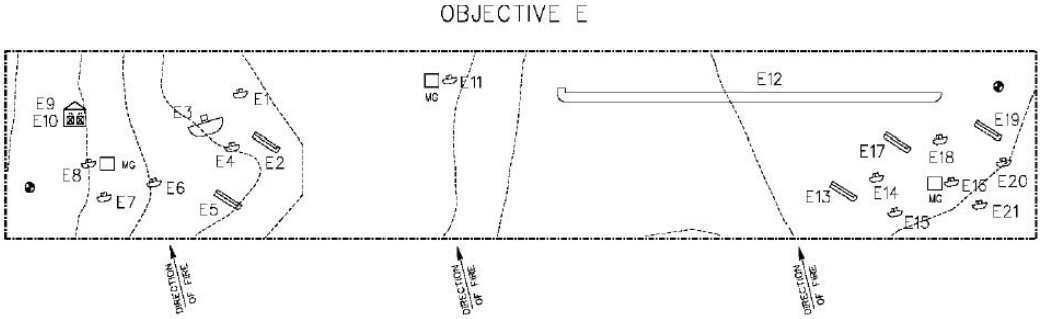


Objective D. This objective is an enemy obstacle. The objective should be sited in a location where the terrain forces the platoon to negotiate the obstacle. There should be sufficient distance from Objective C to allow the platoon to tactically maneuver to a location where they can observe the obstacle then maneuver to conduct their breaching exercise. A minefield and/or an impassable contaminated area that will channel troops toward the trench will be placed on either end of the trench. Objective D should be sited about 2,600 meters from the baseline. Objective D consists of a trench with a MGB, a SIT, and a MSD at each end.

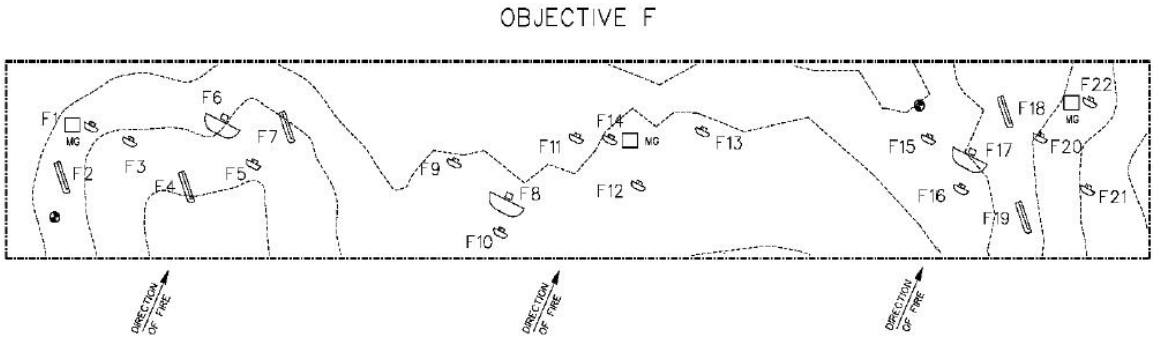
OBJECTIVE D



Objective E. This objective is the platoon's final objective. Objective E should be sited about 3,500 meters from the baseline. Objective E has three groups of targets. The first group contains seven SITs (two located in the assault\defend house), two MITs, one SAT, one MGB, and one MSD. The second group contains one MGB and one SIT. The third group contains six SITs, three MITs, one MAT, one MGB, and one MSD.



Objective F. This objective simulates an enemy counterattack force. This area must be sited within visual distance of Objective E to allow the training platoon to place suppressive fires from Objective E onto Objective F while a maneuver force moves to engage and secure Objective F. Objective F should be sited about 3,850 meters from the baseline. Objective F has three groups of targets. The first group contains three SITs, three MITs, one SAT, one MGB, and one MSD. The second group contains six SITs, one SAT, and one MGB. The third group contains five SITs, two MIT's, one SAT, one MGB, and one MSD.



Danger Area. A danger area is any area void of a protective cover that could aid in the concealment of the platoon during movement exercises. The danger area is not a mandatory feature for all IPBCs, but could be incorporated into the range layout, depending upon specific training needs. The design features of each course depend upon the type of training desired for each range.

Associated Range Operations and Control facilities:

Standard Small Arms ROCA Facilities

Site the Range Operations Center 15-50 meters behind the baseline in an area that will provide an unobstructed view of the baseline. Site the ROCA approximately 250 meters behind the baseline. Both the ROC and the ROCA should be located to one side of the baseline in order to provide an unobstructed assembly and advancement area for the soldiers training on this facility.

Requirement Document:

FM 3-20.8 Scout Gunnery
FM 3-22.1 Bradley Gunnery
FM 7-8 Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad
ARTEP 7-8-Drill Battle Drills for the Infantry Platoon and Squad
ARTEP 7-8-MTP Mission Training Plan for the Rifle Platoon and Squad
TC 7-9 Infantry Live Fire Training

Additional Information: Target locations are site adapted. All must be located in areas that support desired tactics and the user's training requirements. All trenches, bunkers, and target emplacements must simulate typical threat scenarios. Mortar simulation device emplacements are located in areas from which enemy mortar fire is to be simulated. Helicopter landing zone (LZ), designed for heavy use should be located to support aerial insertion and extraction of the platoon.