1-1-1997

Battlefield Visualization Seminar

Robert J. Bunker
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Leadership and Management Course remained a 14-week program of study but changed to 12 weeks in residence. Prior to arrival, students must devote an equivalent of two weeks of study to fulfilling reading and writing requirements, taking a diagnostic test and completing self-assessment forms. Accomplishing these tasks beforehand develops a common base line of knowledge among students.

There will be little change to the program's content, but changes to the methodology have taken place. Students will engage in more small-group seminar activity, research and writing. The recharged curriculum emphasizes knowledge of Army missions, organizations and functions raised through a front-loaded pre-AMSC package. This offers two advantages: it meets Army overall goals to save money by shortening time in residence; and it allows students to share program insights with their supervisors, co-workers and subordinates. Force XXI topics addressed include: generating requirements; generating the force; developing and resourcing the force; sustaining the force; and decision making in action.

Interested candidates should contact their local Civilian Personnel Office for application deadlines and information, or call the AMSC Registrar Office at (703) 805-4756/4757 or DSN 655-4756/4757.

Upcoming AMSC Classes
97-2: 20 May 97 to 8 Aug 97
97-3: 23 Sep 97 to 12 Dec 97
98-1: 12 Jan 98 to 3 Apr 98

Senior Officer Logistics Management Course

The Senior Officer Logistics Management Course (SOLMC) is specifically designed to update battalion and brigade commanders, primary staff officers and Department of the Army civilians (DACs) working in the logistics field. The course encompasses maintenance, supply, readiness and transportation, as well as hands-on experience with vehicles, unit-level logistics and computer, ammunition, medical, communication, NBC, missile and quartermaster equipment. The course is open to all branch officers in the rank of major or above in the Active, Reserve or National Guard components, US Marine Corps and allied nations. DACs in the grade of GS-11 or above are also eligible to enroll. This one week course is conducted 10 times each fiscal year at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Class quotas may be obtained through normal US Army Training and Doctrine Command channels. Any problems encountered obtaining class quotas, or for more information about the course, should be directed to the SOLMC Branch Chief, DSN 464-8152/3411 or Commercial (502) 624-8152/3411. Scheduled classes for the balance of Fiscal Year 1997 are shown below. For more information, call either Captain Greg Nicholls or Chief Warrant Officer John Bingle at (502) 624-8152/3411 or DSN 464-8152/3411.

SOLMC Classes
97-06: 12-16 May 97
97-07: 16-20 Jun 97
97-08: 21-25 Jul 97
97-09: 18-22 Aug 97
97-10: 15-19 Sep 97

Battlefield Visualization Seminar

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Technology Training Corporation's "Battlefield Visualization" seminar was held last fall in San Diego, California, and was attended by 20 representatives from the US and Canadian armies, industry and academia. This informative seminar was conducted by retired Lieutenant General Ronald L. Watts, US Army, former VII Corps commander and 2003 Board and Army Science Board member.

Central seminar themes focused on: Battlefield Visualization Master Plan requirements, managing battlefield information, terrain mapping, improving mission planning and simulation, and analysis of operational needs. The presentation was based primarily on a combination of Force XXI documents, US Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Pamphlet (PAM) 525-5, `Force XXI Operations`, and TRADOC PAM 525-70, `Battlefield Visualization Concept`, and Watts' notional projection of early 21st-century warfighting needs and requirements.

`Battlefield visualization` refers to "The process whereby the commander develops a clear understanding of the current state with relation to the enemy and the environment, envisions a desired end state which represents mission accomplishment and then subsequently visualizes the sequence of activity that moves the commander's force from its current state to the end state." Dominant concepts and perceptions raised during this seminar included:

- The view that the revolution in military affairs (RMA) is principally a revolution in battle command. Commanders at all echelons can have a near real-time, relevant common picture (RCP) of the battlespace via internetted information.
- Dominant future battlefield components will include battle command, extended battlespace, deep and simultaneous attack, spectrum supremacy and challenges to our modern rules of war.
- Future battle command operational requirements will center on empowering commanders to concentrate effects not forces, increasing lethality and survivability, controlling increased operation tempo, providing an RCP, adapting to commander's style and situation and ensuring joint interoperability.
- An "electronic staff" will likely be created to aid future commanders. It will be composed of a "knowledge bank" consisting of several data processing technologies such as information storage sites in the form of digital data bases or text, data transmission networks connecting the storage sites, advanced search and retrieval software to obtain needed data and expert system and artificial intelligence routines to translate the data retrieved.
- Battlefield Visualization System Requirements may likely be based upon the display of "3-D" map data modified by an overlay of weather/environmental effects, the acceptance of near real-time imagery products and updates, an integrated mission planning system and mission rehearsal capability.
- Data fusion, correlation and updates will initially pose an immense obstacle to seamless battlefield information integration. Specific sensors will report to their own battalion, brigade and division commands, which will result in target location and sighting time discrepancies. Data base adjustment/management will become a crucial means of ensuring that warfighters are provided with accurate information.
- Force XXI will likely be moving away from contour to profile plot maps. These maps will become increasingly digital and will be supported by "John Madden" light pens for ease of mission planning and rehearsal. Holographic maps will provide a 360- degree view of the full-dimensional battlefield as technology progresses.

Battlefield visualization has been ranked by the Joint Requirement Oversight Council as its primary candidate for an Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration during Fiscal Year 1997. The 4th Infantry Division's "Experimental Force," Fort Hood, Texas, employed battlefield visualization in its

advanced warfighting experiment conducted during March 1997. MR

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