

# Combating Terrorism

## A New Mission

By Mike Sheheane and LTC (Ret) Randy Bartley

*There have been many actions related to combating terrorism, antiterrorism/force protection (AT/FP) and weapons of mass destruction (WMD) both in the press and discussed in detail on our doctrine net. Our intent is to provide the latest information concerning FP WMD. We invite you to obtain and read the key documents indicated in the following paragraphs.*

Department of Defense (DOD) guidance on combating terrorism is contained in the 2000-series of Directives and Instructions. DODI 2000.14 delineates the DOD policy of "Protecting DOD personnel and their families, facilities, and other material resources from terrorist acts and, in the event of a terrorist attack, to respond with properly trained, organized, and equipped personnel . . ." DODI 2000.16 delineates 36 standards required to implement DOD policy to include standards for training and for protecting against terrorist use of WMD.

A recent AT/FP assessment conducted by DAMO-ODL found that "Overall, the Army is ill prepared to adequately respond to the terrorist WMD threat." The Joint Service Installation Vulnerability Assessment (JSIVA) overseen by the Joint Staff (J34) and conducted by the Defense Special Weapons Agency found similar problems in the WMD area across the services. Both assessments conclude that the key to success in providing protection from a WMD attack is command emphasis, coupled with a complete vulnerability analysis, mitigation of those vulnerabilities identified, planning, and training. There are many studies that indicate our vulnerability to terrorist use of WMD, including the 2010/Foss study published in October 1997.

As the Joint NBC Defense Training Center, the US Army Chemical School is in the process of implementing several initiatives to resolve the training shortfalls noted in the assessments. As an initial effort in FY 98, the Level I (awareness) and Level II (unit/installation FP advisors as inserts into existing US Army Military Police School courses), training programs of each service will be assessed for WMD sufficiency and, when found lacking, material developed to eliminate the deficiencies. The USACMLS will also conduct an assessment of the Domestic Preparedness Training Materials developed by the US Army Soldier Chemical, Biological and Defense Command (SCBDCOM, provisional) to determine their potential for use in support of AT/FP training requirements. And finally, USACMLS will participate in a joint effort with CBDCOM to develop an interactive WMD AT/FP training tool for installation commanders and staffs. In FY99 we are pursuing funding to complete training assessment and development for initial entry soldiers (OSUT and officers), levels III and IV (commanders), and for first responders.

The long-term solution to many deficiencies noted in the assessments would be the implementation of training programs that provide all installation com-

manders, staffs and emergency response agencies with training in preparing for and responding to WMD incidents. Law enforcement, fire and emergency medical personnel should receive appropriate training to ensure they possess the skills and knowledge necessary to adequately respond to WMD incidents. Unit and force protection advisors should attend training at the US Army Military Police School, read and understand the AT/FP WMD guidance, and implement corrective measures to reduce our vulnerability.

Two separate but related AT/FP WMD actions are also being worked by the National Guard Bureau (NGB) and the Bureau of Justice Affairs (BOJA), Department of Justice. The NGB will stand up 10 rapid assessment and identification detachments (RAID) in FY99, each station in regions closely aligned with the Federal

Emergency Management Agency. These RAID units will have a chemical mission, include chemical officers and NCOs from the National Guard, and it is anticipated that fielding will be initiated in the first quarter FY99 for the first RAID. The BOJA has established here at Fort McClellan the National Center for Domestic Preparedness (NCDP), with a mission of training scheduled to start later this year for WMD responders, incident commanders, and other personnel. Initially, the NCDP training will include 50-person classes of 1-week duration, and will include our Chemical Defense Training Facility.

Combating terrorism is a new mission. We are working many of these issues very hard as well as maintaining existing training loads.

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### Distinctive Unit Designations

Did you know that your company or battalion can obtain, from the Center of Military History, a certificate, that grants your unit a distinctive or traditional designation? An official nickname!

A *distinctive designation* is one that the unit has used or been known by for less than 30 years. A *traditional designation* is one that the unit has used for more than 30 years; but, in order to obtain a traditional designation certificate, you must be able to document the use of the designation for that period of time. The distinctive designation does not require documentation.

Currently, there is only one chemical unit in the US Army that has a distinctive designation—the 84th Chemical Company, known as the “Smoke Dragons.” If your unit wants to develop its own distinctive designation, consult AR 870-5, *Military History: Responsibilities, Policies, and Procedures*, Chapter 6, paragraph 3. That paragraph will tell you how to go about obtaining a distinctive designation for your unit. If you have an official one, *you can make it official*.

Contact Mr. Edward Bedessem at the Center for Military History. Call him at (202) 761-5413, DSN 763-5413. His FAX number is (202) 761-5390 or DSN 763-5390. His e-mail is [bedessem@cmh-smtp.army.mil](mailto:bedessem@cmh-smtp.army.mil). If you have access to the World Wide Web, the address is: <http://army.mil/cmp-pg>. His mailing address is: US Army Center of Military History, 1099 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005-3402.

It will take a while to obtain the official certificate because it has to be signed by the Secretary of the Army, but the wait will be worth it! **DO IT NOW.**

If you have any questions, contact Dr. Burton Wright III, Command Historian, US Army Chemical School. Call him at (256) 848-5722, DSN 865-5722. His e-mail address is [wrightb@mccllellan-cmls.army.mil](mailto:wrightb@mccllellan-cmls.army.mil).

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