

Vol 1. No. 3 Thursday, 16th April, 1998

Editorial Comment

Ah, the defence. A few days in the line, a few days in reserve, and then a few behind the lines enjoying the estaminets of ... uh, wrong war.

So how hard can it be, we won every engagement over those pesky Granovians in Blueland and in Ganonoque. The old "two up" still applies, the ratio flips from 3:1 to 1:3 and off we go to slam in a few shellscrapes and dodge the DAG flavoured steel rain. Before you know it, we've got a line of trenches crossing Blueland from Switzerland to the North Sea.

Enfilade fire from defilade positions, or is it defilade from enfilade. Damn, now I'm really confused.

Interlocking? Overlapping? What's the difference? Is there a difference? Does it matter?

And now we have to make the defence look manoeuvrist (Put your surfaces in front of the enemy's schwerpunkt.) - ah, it hearkens back to The Great War:

"Am I offensive enough?"

January 27, 1918 (Sunday) Ronssoy

"Am I Offensive enough?" is one of the questions laid down in a pamphlet that reaches us from an Army school some 30 miles behind the line. It is for the subaltern to ask himself each morning as he rises from his bed. Most laudable! But, as the Lewis Gun Officer remarked to-day, it is one of the paradoxes of war that the further you get from the battle line the more 'offensive' are the people you meet. - Rowland Feilding, War Letters to a Wife, France and Flanders, 1915-1919, 1930

Price: 10¢, Granovian Occupation Army Scrip



The Fortress Times Vol 1, No. 3,

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor of the Frontenac Times

Dear Sir.

I'm am writing in response to an allegation that was made in the issue of the Frontenac Times directed at my ability to destroy Audio Visual equipment. I am a victim of a nefarious conspiracy spearheaded by a member of the Armour Corps. I ask you, who has had 4 monitors, 3 CPUs and a variety of other electronic equipment mysteriously malfunction while on course here at the college. Who was also present at most of the alleged incidents of AV destruction? Our Course Senior, Capt Daryld Cross is the individual whose actions should be examined more closely when any electronic equipment self-destructs and should be forced to wear a sign stating "Daryld the Destructor of Electronics". I wish a full retraction of the "Annihilator Anne" comment and an apology to my family, my dog and anyone else I can think of.

Sincerely, Anne

Dear Editor,

I understand that a very senior infantry officer was reminiscing that he used to have the fire... Please inform said infantry officer that the engineers can solve his problem. In addition to having given birth to the signals corps, the flying corps and the tank corps (or aborted as the case may be), we still to this proud day include the fire-fighters amongst our ranks. They may be able to restart the fire! Alas, I hope he can find the fire.

Chimol











The Whine List:

I don't have *that* map. Our DS didn't cover that. My room is so *tiny*. We want cookies at Normandy with our coffee. It's too cold for a TEWT. How do three sub-syndicates fit two vehicles?

I don't *have* a purple marker.

We didn't cover that in the first tutorial.



THE GOLDEN RULE OF ASSUMPTIONS.

DON'T ASSUME PROBLEMS FOR YOURSELF, ASSUME PROBLEMS AWAY.

The mission verb "To take care of" What does this mean? Should I feed and clothe them?



Things We want to Know:

- Who's been nicknamed the "hamster-boy"? 1.
- 2. Which member of the playfully lubricated drunken-gruppen (PLDG) claimed that the editor "spilled the beans" to the DS in the editorial comment of No. 2. ("It was just a recce, The Toucan was my assigned NAI!")
- Where are all the PPCLI? 3.
- 4 If #171 comes back next January, will he get a larger room? Could he get a smaller one?
- Why do the free kegs always have to be beer? 5. How about a keg of rum?
- Which Captain of the Royal Canadian 6. Armoured Corps was observed completing the Tim Horton's colouring contest entry during the last TEWT?
- 7. How many officers FLOCARKed all six mapsheets before the offensive estimate?

Pre-emption; to neutralize the enemy's initiative – This occurs while the DS debriefs the sub-syndicate ahead of you, he clearly implies that your plan won't work → "At least you didn't . . . "

Dislocation; attack the enemy where he is weak – Critique the infanteer's CSS plan, the gunner's infantry-tank cooperation concepts, the tanker's logic .

Disruption; create panic – Issue the wrong maps in insufficient quantity, provide 1:100,000 overlays for 1:50,000 estimate problems.



The Canadian Land Force Staff Course marking guide:

В	=	A
C+	=	В
High C	=	C
C	=	D
Low C	=	E
C-	=	p.1.s.c.?

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The 10 Second O Gp:

"Situation – no change

Mission – confirmed

Execution - SOP

Service Support – SOP

Command and Signals – I am the commander. Read the damn CEOI.

There will be no questions?

Move Now. Out"



[Mis]Uses for Pioneers:

Rear security.

Flank security.

As an extra infantry platoon.

As strikingly handsome doormen at the BG Mess Dinner.

As a feint [faint?] force.

To guard the B ech.

And lastly, most absolutely lastly – as a trained and capable element able to provide limited mobility and countermobility support. (We'd rather pull those engineers off the Main Effort to tidy up the BG rear area, anyway.) Besides, they're just too unruly and hairy to make a decent fascine.

From one of the 24A's:

Fact: The Granovians have tanks. Deduction: Canada should buy some.

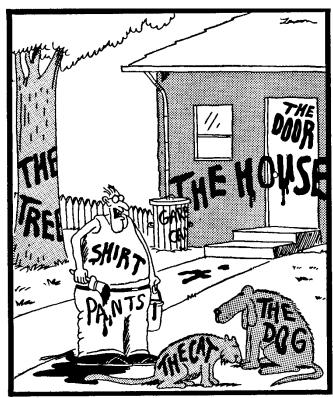


Using a doctrinal template to evolve a situational template works . . . but only if the enemy fights by his own doctrine.



"Since 1950, no serving Canadian Forces officer above the rank of colonel has written anything beyond descriptive articles and none that challenged even mildly the extant views of strategy in NATO, NORAD, or the UN or made anything but safe recommendations for national policy. The paucity of intellectual activity in their chosen profession paints the canadian officer corps as a body that is either thoroughly cowed, completely lacking in imagination, or uninterested in its profession." – Douglas Bland, Chiefs of Defence: Government and the Unified Command of the Canadian Armed

CHRISTENING THE GROUND CAN BE VERY IMPORTANT TO MINIMIZE CONFUSION:



"Now! That should clear up a few things around here!"

My main effort will be:

The MLBU.

The feint.

The confirmatory notes.

Making it to AJ's four nights weekly.

A solid "C", and damn proud of my p.l.s.c.

More cheese!!!!

From the net:

Communications Problem (Ontological?)

--"In managing the DoD there are many unexpected communications problems: For instance, when the Marines are ordered to "secure a building", they form a landing party and assault it. On the other hand, the same instructions will lead the Army to occupy the building with a troop of infantry, and the Navy will characteristically respond by sending a yeoman to assure that the building lights are turned out. When the Air Force acts on these instructions, what results is a 'three year lease with option to purchase'."

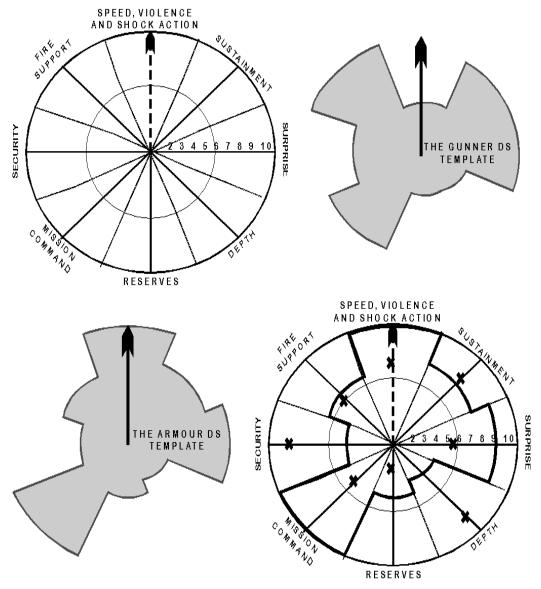
Situationally Templating Your Plan

HAVE YOU WONDERED WHERE THE WEAK AREAS OF YOUR PLAN ARE?

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW YOUR DS WILL ASSESS YOUR PLAN?

FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW TO CREATE THE NECESSARY DOCTRINAL DS TEMPLATE

AND THE PLAN SITUATIONAL TEMPLATE FOR COMPARISON.



STEP 1: TEMPLATE YOUR

DS – Using the standard polar characteristic array at top LEFT of the diagram, establish the template for your DS against each of the comparison criteria. use the example doctrinal gunner and armour templates provided at top RIGHT and bottom LEFT as a guide.

STEP 2: CREATE THE SITUATIONAL TEMPLATE FOR YOUR PLAN – Plot the characteristics of your plan on the polar characteristic array. Be brutal, you expect the DS will be. mark each radial line with the relative score (from 1 - 10) for that characteristic.)

FIND THE WEAKNESSES IN **YOUR** PLAN - Overlay your DS doctrinal template over the plot your plan's situational template. Exposed marks on the radial lines meet or exceed your DS' preferences. Hidden marks may not survive his assessment. Using this, trade off combat power needlessly expended in weak areas to fill gaps in others. Reassess your deductions, balance your plan to match your DS.

ON A MORE SERIOUS NOTE:

The next free keg night is being planned for 24 Apr 98, the friday night of the weekend we leave for Fort Riley, Kansas. This will be our first attempt at a "Theme Night" - Beer Call Quebecoise. The party will include 2 free kegs of beer and quebecois bar food including chicken wings and poutine.

The principle organiser is and and are planning games and les activites amusantes. If you would like to help, please see one of them.

The DS will be invited to this one, right Daryld? Our special guests will be the students on the CO's Course, which will be in house during that period. This may be a perfect time to impress your new boss, right Jason!

Enjoy!

Captain Paul - L'atelier 2/Syndicate