



The BULLETIN BRAVO is a publication for the members of Company B, 2nd Bn, Michigan Volunteer Defense Force and is intended to convey information relative to the development of the company and its members. Information that may be of interest and value to the members of the unit is to be submitted through either CPT Trublowski, or 1SG Kasprzyk, for their approval prior to inclusion by the Company Clerk in the BULLETIN BRAVO.

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MICHIGAN VOLUNTEER DEFENSE FORCE - 2ND BN - B CO

BULLETIN BRAVO

Announcements

B Company welcomes Captain Trublowski as new commanding officer.

New members:

PVT Mark Jones

PVT Kurt Moilanen

Promotions:

January, 2012

SPC Ron Mesic promoted to SGT

Recruiting

- Recruiting remains a key focus for the unit. Please consider bringing a guest to an upcoming Unit Training Assembly.
- See your Co Clerk if you require brochures.
- SGT Mesic is looking for persons interested in contributing towards a bulk purchase of professionally printed MIVDF Business Cards.

What is a QRF?

MIVDF has been requested to support a full scale exercise of the Michigan National Guard QRF and RRF - the Quick Reaction Force and Rapid Reaction Force.

Quick Reaction Force or (QRF) is a military unit, generally platoon-sized in the United States Military combat arms, that is capable of rapid response to developing situations. They are to have equipment ready, to respond to any type of emergency, typically within ten minutes or less, although this is based on unit Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Cavalry Army units are frequently postured as quick reaction forces, with a main mission of security and reconnaissance.

The QRF is a modern military reserve, and belongs directly to the commander of the unit it is created from. QRF forces are commonly found in Maneuver Battalion-level Task Forces and above, in addition to many Operating Bases having their own dedicated QRF to react to threats on or immediately around the base.

A Rapid Reaction Force (RRF) is a military or police unit designed to

respond in very short time frames to emergencies. Rapid reaction forces are designed to intervene quickly as a spearhead to gain and hold ground in quickly unfolding combat or in rather low intensity conflicts, such as uprisings that necessitate the evacuation of foreign embassies. Because they are usually transported by air, such military units are usually lightly armed, but often extremely well trained to compensate for their lower caliber weapons and lack of heavy equipment like tanks.

(source: Wikipedia)



Preparedness Corner - Field Authentication

Select a "Safe Word" to use with your circle of friends and family for authentication of messages.

This can be used to confirm your condition report is accurate and not coerced, or as a token of trust.

If you had to send someone to pick up a child or transfer an item, the safe word could be provided as a confirmation. Teach children "never get into a car with a stranger unless they know the safe word - and then ask them a challenge question"... something like "if daddy sent you, what's daddy's name?"

The Safe Word should be easy to remember as well as easy to work into conversation. "Silver" might be a good safe word whereas "Constantinople" would not.

One method to convey a "silent alarm" is via an Unsafe Word - for example, calling someone you

know well by the wrong name. If you are at a restaurant with your wife Sally and you say "Carol, we need to get to the meeting"... Sally should trigger on the silent alarm and say "Right, let's go" and not "What meeting are you talking about? We just got here!" In order for this to work when needed, it must be practiced periodically.

A group can use a unique Authentication Number during an exercise - any number may be issued as the challenge, but to authenticate the reply must indicate the difference between the challenge number and the authentication number. If the authentication number is 12, and a sentry tells you 15 then your correct response is 3. A benefit of the authentication number method is the ease of changing the code for each operational period.

Communications

SALUTE report includes:

Size / Activity / Unit (or Uniform) / Time / Equipment

Consider setting filters on e-mail to highlight incoming messages that have "FRAGO / WARNO / MSG / MIVDF / MiVDF" in the 'subject' field or a commanding officer's e-mail in the 'from' field to ensure important notices are not missed.

NCODP

1) What does NCODP stand for?

Non commissioned Officer Development Program

2) What is the goal of NCODP?

Overarching Army Non commissioned Officer Professional Development Program.

3) As with all leader training and leader development, who is responsible for NCODP?

The command.

4) NCODP is typically managed by whom?

The CSM or Senior NCO in the organization.

5) What are some objectives of NCODP?

- Develop and strengthen the skills, knowledge, and abilities to train, deploy, and lead soldiers in combat through battle focused training.
- Develop NCOs who are self-aware, adaptive, competent, and confident.
- Realize the full potential of the NCO support

channel.

- Foster a unit environment that enhances continued NCO leader development and encourages self-development as part of a lifelong learning process.

6) What Army Regulation covers NCODP?

AR 350-1 Chap 4

7) What is the purpose of AR 350-1? This regulation prescribes policies, procedures, and responsibilities for developing, managing, and conducting Army training and leader development.

8) In order to accomplish battle-focused NCO development, commanders and unit NCOs should follow what procedures?

- Link NCO development to the current skill level and duty assignments
- Establish a viable unit level NCODP using unit METL as the vehicle to incorporate the following into each NCO's daily activities.

BULLETIN BRAVO

- Synchronize battle-focused NCO DP as a component of operational assignments (experience) with the other two pillars of leader development (institutional training and self-development)
 - Establish a systematic and continuous program
 - Integrate the use of leader books (FM 25-101, app B) to track individual NCO progress
 - Emphasize coaching to achieve commitment to excellence in performance
- 9) A successful NCO DP will result in NCOs who can what?
- Demonstrate the skills of current skill level and duty position per AR 611-21 and DA Pam 600-25.

- Accept the duties and responsibilities of current rank and duty position per AR 600-20, AR 611-21, and FM 7-22.7.
- Enhance combat performance for the current and next higher rank and duty position per AR 600-20 and FM 22-100 (being revised as FM 6-22).
- Enhance combat leadership competencies for the current and next higher rank per FM 22-100 (being revised as FM 6-22).
- Train themselves and subordinates to be proficient in METL tasks and associated critical tasks per FM 7-0, FM 7-1, and FM 7-22.7.
- Coach subordinates to be totally committed to U.S. Army professional ethics, Warrior Ethos, and the Soldier's Creed per FM 22-100 (being revised as FM 6-22).

Commander's Comments

During the last three months, as the newly assigned commander of Company B, I have had the opportunity to observe and talk to all of you. We have shared our goals, for both ourselves, and for the unit.

I believe that we have the potential to grow our unit into the largest and finest in the battalion/brigade. I cannot do this. You, as members of

Company B, are the ones who can accomplish this. Your recruitment of motivated, qualified individuals are the key to our success. I wish for us all, success in our endeavor. I am proud to have been assigned as the commander of Company B, 2nd Bn, Michigan Volunteer Defense Force.

CPT Trublowski

Call for Articles

Your input is welcome! Please consider submitting an article or an idea for an article in an upcoming newsletter.

Topics may include suitable for personal development and education of Battalion members.

Corkboard

Need something? Selling something? Have an upcoming event? Share info with the unit here by letting your Co Clerk know!

PVT Washburn is coordinating another order for MIVDF branded merchandise. Please let him know if you are interested in a purchase.



**Michigan Volunteer
Defense Force**

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Mission

The Michigan Volunteer Defense Force (MIVDF) at the direction of the Adjutant General provides reliable personnel support to local and State agencies during declared emergencies.

Essential Tasks

- **Support MI's Receipt, Store and Stage (RSS) of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)**
- **Support MI with certified Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)**
- **Support the MING with county Liaison Officers (LNO)**
- **Support the MING with Joint Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration (JRSOI) staffing**
- **Support the MING with Cyber Network Defense staffing**

Ever Ready!

Gear

UVPaqLite, Tooblite and Scooblite from www.uvpaqlite.com

These products produce luminescent glow significantly superior to familiar non-Tritium glow-in-the-dark products. Available in two tube designs (one replicates a glow-stick, the other is a smaller version intended for key ring or similar use) a foldable / roll able flat sheet and small stick-on dots.

Products provide functional light for at least 8 hours after charging and continue to glow for 48 hours or longer - suitable as a marker.

From the manufacturer's website:

Q: How do they work?

A: They are glow-in-the-dark lights. Our products utilize a

specialty formulated non-toxic- glow-in-the-dark crystal called Strontium Aluminate. Their unique jagged shape allows them to absorb light from nearly all angles which maximizes that light absorption. The absorbed light is then stored inside the crystals and when taken

into a dark environment, they glow!

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Boye Knives - Advanced Metallurgy for the Saltwater Environment

Extreme cutting and edge holding - Total resistance to saltwater corrosion - Fast sharpening on an ordinary whetstone - Compass safe

Boye Dendritic Cobalt is a super-performing, non-rusting cobalt-based alloy that excels on tough fibers such as hi-tech rigging line, deck line, and net. Not a steel, it is a mixture of cobalt, chrome, nickel, tungsten, silicon, iron, and carbon. It cuts aggressively and keeps cutting. It is completely impervious to seawater corrosion, and is non-magnetic.

At the cutting edge, carbide crystals produce micro-serrations, which help the edge keep its shape and integrity over time (i.e. exceptional edge-holding) and enhance its penetrating power, for deep cutting action.

[www.boyeknives.com](http://www.boyeknives.com)

