UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
FIELD MEDICAL TRAINING BATTALION
Camp Lejeune, NC 28542-0042

FMST 209

Five Paragraph Order

TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVE

1. Given an operational environment and a Commander's order, **utilize operation orders** to provide adequate medical support for the mission. (8404-HSS-2001)

ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVE(S)

1. Without the aid of reference, given a description or list, **identify the components of a five paragraph order**, within 80% accuracy, in accordance with MCWP 3-11.2 Marine Rifle Squad. (8404-HSS-2001a)

2. Without the aid of reference, given a description or list, **identify the components of a warning order**, within 80% accuracy, in accordance with MCWP 3-11.2 Marine Rifle Squad. (8404-HSS-2001b)

3. Without the aid of reference, given a description or list, **identify the components of a fragmentary order**, within 80% accuracy, in accordance with MCWP 3-11.2 Marine Rifle Squad. (8404-HSS-2001c)

1. **FIVE PARAGRAPH ORDER**

    a. Orders generally adhere to the five paragraph format though each will differ due to time and information available or required.

    b. **Order Writing Process** – The development of the combat order within **BAMCIS** begins at the receipt of the mission. It does not end with combat, but continues throughout and after the fight in anticipation of the next mission. It includes the techniques by which orders and instructions are organized, sequenced, and transmitted from leaders to subordinates. The combat order is a continuing process with accomplishment of the mission as its main goal. There are many types of orders, however we will discuss the three basic types of orders.

        (1) **BAMCIS** – Six (6) troop leading steps by which a leader receives, plans, and executes his mission. Troop leading steps are a logical and orderly process for making the best use of time, facilities, and personnel in preparing for and executing an assigned mission. It can be viewed as elements of planning and decision making cycle.

            (a) **B**egin Planning

            (b) **A**rrange for Reconnaissance and Coordination

            (c) **M**ake Reconnaissance

            (d) **C**omplete Plan

            (e) **I**ssue Order

            (f) **S**upervise

    c. **FIVE PARAGRAPH ORDER FORMAT**
The purpose of the five-paragraph order is to issue an order in a clear and concise manner by a thorough orientation of the area of operations. A five-paragraph order gives subordinates the essential information needed to carry out the operation. The order converts the leader's plan into action, gives direction to the efforts of his unit, and provides specific instructions to subordinate elements. At the rifle company level and below, orders are most commonly issued orally with the aid of a terrain model.

        (1) **SMEAC** The acronym used for the five-paragraph order format.

            (a) Orientation **-** Prior to issuing an order, the unit leader orients his subordinate leaders to the planned area of operation using a terrain model, map, or when possible, the area of operation. Keep the orientation simple and brief.

            (b) Situation **-** The situation paragraph contains information on the overall status and disposition of both friendly and enemy forces. The situation paragraph contains three subparagraphs.

1. <u>Enemy Forces</u> - This subparagraph contains essential information concerning the enemy's composition, disposition, and strength based on its size, activity, location, unit, time, and equipment. While focusing on enemy forces there are two (2) acronyms that will assist you with the information you must recall.

    a. **SALUTE** This acronym is an established method to remember how and what to report about the enemy. The purpose of SALUTE is to focus thinking about identifying and locating enemy weaknesses that can be exploited.

        (1) <u>S</u>ize – Enemy squad, platoon...

        (2) <u>A</u>ctivity – Enemy digging in, bivouacking

        (3) <u>L</u>ocation – Six-digit grid if possible

        (4) <u>U</u>nit – Type and designation

        (5) <u>T</u>ime – When the enemy was last observed

        (6) <u>E</u>quipment – Equipment they possess

    b. **DRAW-D** - This acronym use to assist the leader in determining the enemy's capabilities and limitations.

        (1) <u>D</u>efend

        (2) <u>R</u>einforce

        (3) <u>A</u>ttack

        (4) <u>W</u>ithdraw

        (5) <u>D</u>elay

2. <u>Friendly Forces</u> - Contains essential information concerning the mission of the next *higher* unit, location and mission of *adjacent* units, and mission of non-organic *supporting* units. Information in this subparagraph can be remembered with the acronym **HAS:**

    a. **H**igher

    b. **A**djacent

    c. **S**upporting

    d. <u>Attachments and Detachments</u> - Units attached or detached from a squad by higher headquarters, including the effective time of attachment or detachment.

(b) <u>Mission</u> **-** Provides a clear and concise statement of what the unit must accomplish. The mission statement is the heart of the order and should answer the following five (5) questions:

<u>1</u>. **W**ho

<u>2</u>. **W**hat

<u>3</u>. **W**hen

<u>4</u>. **W**here

<u>5</u>. **W**hy

(c) <u>Execution</u> **-** Contains the "how to" information needed to conduct the operation. The paragraph is divided into three subparagraphs:

<u>1</u>. <u>Concept of Operations</u> - This is a general explanation of the tactical plan; includes a brief scheme of maneuver from start to conclusion, type of attack and fire support plan.

<u>2</u>. <u>Tasks</u> - The specific mission to be accomplished by each subordinate element of the unit will be listed in a separate numbered subparagraph. It is the subordinate's unit mission statement.

<u>3</u>. <u>Coordinating Instructions</u> - The specific instructions and tasks that apply to two or more units; includes order of movement, planned combat formations, tactical and fire control measures (i.e. phase lines and checkpoints) and any other tasks that pertain to the mission.

(d) <u>Administration and Logistics</u> - This paragraph contains information or instructions pertaining to rations and ammunition, location of the distribution point, corpsman, aid station, handling of prisoners of war, other administrative and supply matters. This is also known as the four (4) **B's**.

<u>1</u>. **B**eans

<u>2</u>. **B**ullets

<u>3</u>. **B**and-Aids

<u>4</u>. **B**ad Guys

(d) <u>Command and Signal</u> - This paragraph contains instructions and information relating to command and communication functions. It contains two (2) subparagraphs:

<u>1</u>. <u>Command</u> - Identifies the chain of command and their location before, during, and after the operation.

2. Signal - Gives signal instructions for the operation such as frequencies, call signs, pyrotechnics, emergency signals, radio procedures, brevity codes, challenge and password.

2. **WARNING ORDER**

a. **Warning Order** - Warning orders give advance notice of an order or action.

(1) Purpose - to provide subordinates with maximum time available to prepare for an operation or action. Warning orders are either oral or written and must adhere as closely as possible at battalion and company level.

(2) Information - The format below contains the minimum items of information for inclusion in the warning order.

(a) Situation – A brief statement of the situation.

(b) Mission – Mission of the patrol.

(c) General Instructions

1. General and special organization. General tasks are assigned to units and teams. Specific details of tasks are given in the patrol leader's order.

2. Uniform and equipment common to all. The patrol leader specifies camouflage measures to be taken and the identification to carried.

3. Weapons, ammunition, and equipment. These items are assigned to units and teams. Subordinate leaders make further assignments to teams and individuals.

4. Chain of command. A chain of command is established when the patrol includes personnel from outside the squad.

5. A time schedule for the patrol's guidance. The patrol leader addresses all events from the present until the patrol departs. He also designates the place and uniform for receiving the patrol order, conducting inspections, and rehearsals.

(d) Specific Instructions

1. To subordinate leaders. The patrol leader gives out all information concerning the drawing of ammunition, equipment, ordnance, water, and rations; identifies the personnel he wants to accompany him on his reconnaissance; and gives guidance on any special preparation he believes will be necessary during the conduct of the mission, such as practicing stream crossings.

        <u>2</u>. To special purpose teams or key individuals. The patrol leader should address requirements of designated personnel or teams, such as having point men, pacers, and navigators make a thorough map study and check their equipment.

3. **<u>Fragmentation Order</u>**

   a. Fragmentation orders are issued when the time element precludes issuance of a complete order.

   b. <u>Purpose</u> - to ensure continuous action as a situation develops or as decisions are made. Fragmentation orders omit elements found in a complete order that have not changed since the order was given or the order is unavailable or incomplete at the time of issuance.

   c. <u>Information</u> - Fragmentation orders follow the sequence of the related standard order. At a minimum, they contain two (2) paragraphs from the five paragraph order format.

     (1) <u>M</u>ission Statement – the second paragraph of the five paragraph order format. This will include the same kind of information as if you were preparing the whole order.

     (2) <u>E</u>xecution Statement – This is the HOW of the operation and should be as descriptive as possible given time constraints.

   d. The commander uses the fragmentation order extensively in fast moving situations. Fragmentation orders are supplemented by visits, messages, and other fragmentation orders until the action is completed or a complete order is issued.

REFERENCES:
MCWP 3-11.2

ACRONYMS

BEGIN PLANNING
  PLAN USE OF AVAILABLE TIME
  INITIAL ESTIMATE OF THE SITUATION
      MISSION
      ENEMY   **S**IZE   **D**EFEND
                       ACTIVITY   **R**EINFORCE
                       LOCATION   **A**TTACK
                       UNIT   **W**IITHDRAW
                       TIME   **D**ELAY
                       EQUIPMENT

      TERRAIN AND WEATHER: **K**EY TERRAIN
                               OBSERVATION AND FIELDS OF FIRE
                               COVER AND CONCEALMENT
                               OBSTACLES
                               AVENUES OF APPROACH

      TROOPS AND FIRE SUPPORT AVAILABLE
          PRELIMINARY PLAN   DECIDE **P**OINT
                                         OF
                                         MAIN
                                         EFFORT

ARRANGE FOR

MAKE RECONNAISSANCE AND COORDINATION

COMPLETE PLAN

ISSUE ORDER
    ORIENTATION
    SITUATION
                A. GENERAL
                B. ENEMY FORCES (SALUTE/DRAWD)
                C. FRIENDLY FORCE: **H**igher
                                       ADJACENT
                                       SUPPORTING
                D. ATTACHMENTS AND DETACHMENTS
                E. ASSUMPTIONS

    MISSION: WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY
    EXECUTION: GIVE TASKS AND POINT OF MAIN EFFORT
    ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS:
                BEANS, BULLETS, BANDAGES, BAD GUYS
    COMMAND AND SIGNAL
SUPERVISE

FIVE PARAGRAPH OPERATION ORDER

1. SITUATION
    a. Enemy Forces: Situation, capabilities, Indications
    b. Friendly Forces: Mission and location of higher, adjacent and supporting units. State the higher units POME
    c. Mission of units in direct support
    d. Attachments and Detachments: Units attached to or detached from your unit by higher headquarters, and effective time

2. MISION
    Simply state the mission

3. EXECUTION
    In the first subparagraph give general summary of the tactical plan or operational concept
    In succeeding subparagraph assign missions to each organic and   attached unit
    In the next to last subparagraph designate and assign missions to reserve (not normally used at platoon level)
    Assign a POME

4. ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICS
    Supply, evacuation, transportation, service, personnel and miscellaneous

5. COMMAND AND SIGNALS
    a. Signal Instructions and information
    b. Command posts, location of commander

5 Paragraph Order Review

1. A warning order must consist of how many paragraphs? What are they?

2. Define the acronym SMEAC?

3.   What questions should be answered in the "M" portion of SMEAC?

4. Under which paragraph would you find information about medical support?