



The Warning Order



A warning order is "a preliminary notice of an order or action which is to follow." It is issued by the commander at the outset of receipt of an order from higher. The warning order is issued prior to beginning the planning process in order to allow subordinate leaders and units to maximize their preparation time. If you are receiving this message you are currently in your preparation time for TBS. This monthly warning order will provide you with information to help focus your efforts prior to checking in.

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PRE-COMBAT CHECKS

Brilliance in the basics includes conducting PCCs: the process of verifying you have the gear you need to complete the mission. However, not all gear is created equal. In order to step up from the basics to varsity level it is important to ensure you have the right gear for the mission for sustaining yourself in the field. This is not to say that you should go out and spend money on the top of the line tactical equipment. In fact, most of the gear issued to you will be sufficient for your needs when used correctly. There are a few inexpensive upgrades you can make to ensure you thrive in the field rather than just survive. For example, investing in a few good pairs of socks can help reduce your chance of developing blisters, keep your feet warm, and keep the sweat off your feet.

CONTACT US

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Mentor & Questions

If you would like a TBS Officer to help prepare you for the program of instruction, please contact us:

TBS Student Liaison Officers@usmc.mil

Follow us @TheBasicSchool



The October Issue of the *Warning Order* continues to build on cold weather education with four basic principles for wearing clothing in the cold. Additionally, check out this issue's tips on financial planning with the Blended Retirement System. As you begin or continue your study into the profession of arms, check out the book of the month, *Fighter Pilot* by Robin Olds. Ensure that you have set up your MarineNet account prior to checking-in to TBS in order to access all student handouts, resources, and quizzes. If you have not done so already please visit the following website and create your account: www.marinenet.usmc.mil

As mentioned in our "Contact Us" section, if you have any questions or would like a TBS mentor, please send your question or request to Student Liaison Officers@USMC.mil.



Soaring through the Obstacle Course.



MV-22's inbound: students awaiting an air insert.

Operating in the Cold Weather Environment

The weather in Quantico can vary significantly, however, in the coming winter months it's best characterized as cold, wet, and windy. As you begin to think about the cold here are four basic principles for properly wearing cold weather clothing through the acronym *COLD* from Marine Corps Reference Publication (MCRP) 3-35.1A, *Small Unit Leader's Guide to Mountain Warfare Operations*.

C is for **Clean**— Keep clothing clean: Clothing keeps the body warm by trapping warm air between the body and the fabric. If the fabric is filled with dirt, grim, and sweat it is not able to work properly.

O is for **Overheating**—The appropriate amount of clothing should be worn such that, when combined with body heat and the environment you stay cool enough to prevent overheating. Think comfortably cool.

L is for **Loose and Layered**— Clothing should be comfortably loose. If it is too tight it may restrict blood flow to the extremities, causing the limbs to get cold. Several thin layers working together will work better than one thick layer working alone. Layers should be removed at the first sensation of sweating.

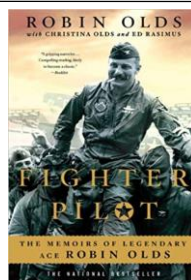
D is for **Dry**— Wet clothing is less effective than dry, so it is important to put on a shell/protective layer during wet conditions or when walking through wet snow.

-MCRP 3-35.1A, p14-1

FAMILY READINESS

Ensure you're looking out for "future you" by contributing to the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) in the Blended Retirement System (BRS). The BRS is part defined benefit plan and part defined contribution plan. After two years of service the government will match your contributions up to 5% of your base pay. If you don't contribute, you won't get the match, and you would be leaving money on the table that could be working for you and your future goals. Visit the below website to learn more:

<https://militarypay.defense.gov/blendedretirement/>



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Book of the month: Every USMC aviator attends The Basic School. "Fighter Pilot" tells the story of an American military hero, the legendary Robin Olds. From a double ace in WWII to being the mastermind of Operation Bolo in Vietnam, the story of Robin Olds' transition from football star to military leader will resonate with any future aviator. *Operation Bolo* was a successful operational ruse and resulted in the downing of 1/2 of the North Vietnamese Air Force's frontline MiG-21 fighter aircraft, planned by Col. Robin Olds

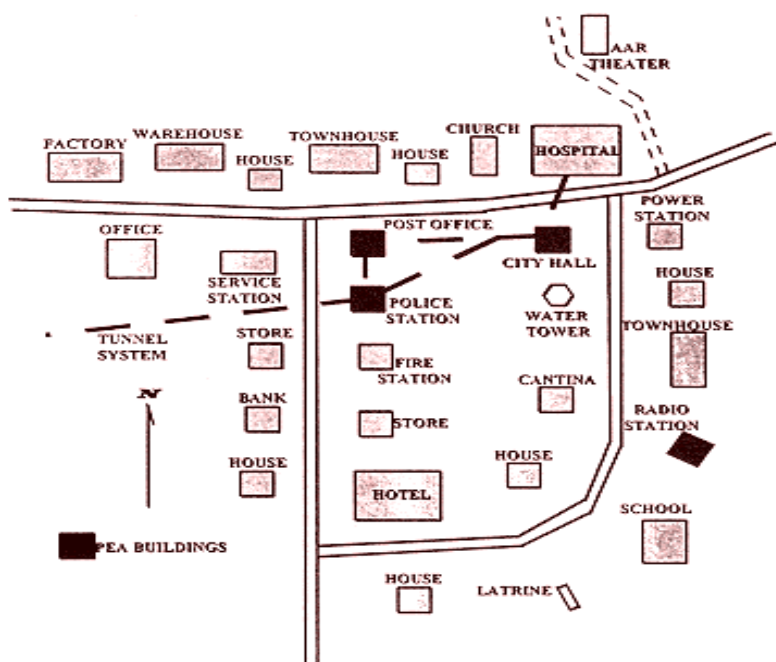


Figure 2. Shughart-Gordon Village

Situation:

You are the 1st squad leader in 3rd platoon, 1st Battalion, 8th Marines. Your unit has been in the country of Cortina for the past four weeks as part of a Joint Task Force providing security for humanitarian relief efforts. You are equipped with US style small arms and have 3x automatic weapons in your squad. Cortina is a Third World Country in the midst of a very active insurgency. The result has been a near total breakdown of law and order as well as a serious degradation of the urban infrastructure. To date, there are at least three different factions fighting for control of the country. Enemy infantry forces have infiltrated and are occupying defensive positions around Shughart-Gordon Village (political and economic heart of an important coastal Department). The enemy's focus of effort is to take control of Shughart-Gordon in order to secure a power base for further political and military actions against the Cortinian government. 1st Battalion 8th Marines has been given the mission to retake control and return rightful control of the Village back to the government's military/police forces. Most of the civilian populace has fled the city. However, some government workers remain and there is a strong possibility that these civilians may be used as "human shields". As your company approaches Shughart-Gordon from the south, your squad comes under sporadic fire coming from the Hotel as well as the house just East of it.

Mission: At 0800, conduct a squad assault upon the school in order to secure a foothold for follow on forces.

TBS GUNNER

Marine Gunners (MOS 0306) are Chief Warrant Officers with the title "Infantry Weapons Officer". The TBS Gunner will speak with all Students during Phase 1 of the Basic Officer Course, audit weapons classes and attend all live fire ranges. I will provide you with a CD that has Technical Manuals, Infantry Training and Readiness Manual, and squad through platoon publications. Utilize these to understand your issued equipment and hone your warfighting craft while at TBS. Your new profession requires you to understand the publications and technical Manuals associated to the equipment your Marines will employ. Lastly, come to TBS with the mindset of a student and trainer. The training you receive will aid you in your development of the training for your unit when you reach the Fleet Marine Force. Do not leave TBS without the knowledge to successfully lead and conduct small unit training.



MIKE COMPANY PRO-TIPS

Pro-Tip: A Marine Corps Officer is a public figure who must carry themselves as a professional 24/7. You are no longer in college, where performance on exams is all that matters. Starting at TBS, and continuing throughout your career, you will constantly be evaluated. After you depart TBS, you will be evaluated daily by your Marines and chain of command. Building a habit of professionalism begins now. It is not a light switch you can simply turn on. Further, you are not at OCS anymore, where constant intensity can compensate for or mask lack of preparation. Decisiveness and aggression are necessary, but not solely sufficient for success in the Basic Officer Course. Use this time wisely to cultivate your full potential as a leader. The transition from TBS student to Platoon Commander will be more difficult if you do not commit to professional excellence from day one.

LEADERSHIP

Colonel John Boyd (USAF Ret.) was a brilliant thinker and strategist who helped the Marine Corps develop our Warfighting doctrine and is also credited with creating the OODA Loop, a system in which we can examine our decision making. In his theory of Maneuver Warfare, Col Boyd described three characteristics of war: The physical, the mental and the moral. He believed that the moral level was the most challenging to accomplish, with the physical being the easiest and the mental being in between the two. This is not dissimilar from how one can view levels of leadership as well. It is relatively easy to get into physical shape, from which to lead by example and it is more challenging to develop decision making abilities, judgment and wisdom to guide your Marines. But the hardest challenge of leadership is always doing the right thing for the right reason in the most difficult of situations. Moral behavior is the bedrock of officership, as we establish and sustain standards of conduct in our future commands. As you prepare for TBS, never cut corners on your daily preparation as a means of building a habit of moral discipline, which we will continue to develop upon your arrival at Camp Barrett.

TBS CHAPLAIN

Myth: Seeking help from the chaplain will stigmatize me or jeopardize my career.

Fact: Too many Marines, oftentimes leaders, shy away from seeking help for their own stresses and/or mental health issues because they fear negative professional consequences. Because all communications with the chaplain are privileged, meaning the chaplain cannot report anything shared with them, they're a good place to reach out to when you have nowhere else to turn.

The Marine Corps wants leaders that recognize problems and seek solutions. You can't lead if you're not healthy; your Marines will take all their cues from what they see you do, not what they hear you say! For more info contact the TBS Chaplain, LCDR Andrew Brod, andrew.brod@usmc.mil or 931.279.1750