

III. Operational Experience Opportunities*

Title: Orientation Visit

Location: National Training Center (NTC), Fort Irwin, CA

Duration: 2 days

Program Description: This 2-day visit will educate participants and give them the opportunity to gain first-hand experience of how the Army operates in a field environment. The NTC offers realistic and demanding training for acquisition personnel who will be provided unfiltered insight into the support of Army systems and equipment. Orientation visits include overview briefs and an NTC tour. Available for up to 7 people in a group, this experience provides an opportunity to observe warfighting exercises close up and personal.

Web site: www.irwin.army.mil

POCs: King Colley (NTC), (760) 380-3000, E-mail: Coyote9@irwin.army.mil or Dorothea Daggett, U.S. Army Forces Command (404) 464-5039, E-mail: dorothea.daggett@us.army.mil

To Apply: Submit a memorandum requesting authorization to visit and include: names of people; grades; duty position; purpose of visit; primary and alternate dates. Fax the memo to (404) 464-6328. Turnaround time for each request is 60 days or more. You will be notified about one month prior to your scheduled visit.

Title: The Greening Course

Location: Fort Monmouth, NJ

Duration: 1 week

Program Description: The Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center (CERDEC) released a newly designed learning concept called "The Greening Course." Programmed to ensure teambuilding and a sense of camaraderie among civilian members of the total Army team, the course also provides a basic understanding of the Army through informal classroom instruction and hands-on, face-to-face experience with Soldiers. The intent is to spend a typical "Army" day receiving instruction in combat arms, night vision, combat support and special operations, as well as weapon familiarization, map reading and learning the responsibilities of receiving orders from Noncommissioned Officers (NCOs) and disseminating them to the rest of the

Program Description: The AMC Greening Course is programmed to ensure teambuilding and a sense of camaraderie among civilian and military members of the total Army team. The course also provides a basic understanding of the Army through informal classroom instruction and hands-on, face-to-face experience with Soldiers. A collaborative effort between APG and the instructors of the Army Research Laboratory, attendees receive instruction in combat arms, night vision, combat support and special operations. Additional training includes weapons familiarization, map reading and learning the responsibilities of receiving orders from NCOs and disseminating them to the rest of the "platoon."

- Other activities include:**
- Tour Ordnance Museum to emphasize the significance of military history.
 - Tour Physical Fitness Center to learn about the importance of physical fitness.
 - Sample MREs.
 - Take a helicopter ride.

POC: SSG Reuben Murphy (301) 394-1256, DSN: 290-1256,
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**Note: There is no central funding available for these programs. Individuals expressing interest in one of the courses must seek financing from their activity. Reasonable accommodations will be made for people with severe handicaps.*

“platoon.” Further, to effectively execute the orders, leaders are required to familiarize themselves with each person and are responsible for out-briefing the class and the staff of the CERDEC Human Resources Office at the conclusion of the course.

- Other activities include:**
- Tour Signal Museum to emphasize the significance of military history.
 - Tour Physical Fitness Center to learn about the importance of physical fitness.
 - Participate in simulations such as shooting targets with an M16 rifle at the Fort Dix Battle Lab.
 - Sample Meals, Ready-to-Eat (MREs).
 - Take a helicopter ride.

POCs: Dwayne Davis, CERDEC (732) 427- 4172, DSN: 987- 4172, e-mail: dwayne.davis@us.army.mil or Addie Graham Rogers, CERDEC (732) 427- 5524, DSN: 987- 5524, e-mail: addiegrahamrogers@us.army.mil

Title: **U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC) Scientists and Engineers Field Experience with Soldiers Program Observer Assignment**

Location: CONUS Military Bases and Combat Training Centers (CTCs)

Duration: 5-15 days

Program Description: This assignment will provide participants an opportunity to gain first-hand experience of how the Army’s warfighters operate. Participants may be assigned to a Brigade Combat Team unit operating in a field-training environment. Participants will interact with Soldiers and their equipment observing unit exercises and/or qualifications. Participants will also observe units recovering after completion of field training exercise After Action Reviews.

Notes: Major emphasis will be placed on an individual’s knowledge and experience of the Operational Army. For example, participants must have a level of understanding that provides the member with the basic insights into the Army, roles and basic tactical doctrines. Another determining factor includes an understanding of real-world sustainment and how the Army fights as a joint/combined team.

Web site: www.amc-fast.army.mil

POC: John Grills, Deputy Director, AMC Field Assistance in Science & Technology Activity, 5985 Wilson Rd, STE-100, Fort Belvoir, VA 22301, (703) 704 -1486, Cell: 571- 215-8025, DSN: 654 -1486; e-mail: john.grills@belvoir.army.mil

Title: Natick Soldier Center (NSC) Greening Program

Location: Various locations to include the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, LA, and Fort Benning, GA.

Duration: Up to 5 days (group of 5 people — this is tailored according to the audience).

Program Description: This assignment provides participants an opportunity to gain first-hand experience about operational units in a field environment. The program offers a real-life Soldier experience at the squad and platoon levels, and an overnight bivouac with the host unit. Visits to the training areas under the NSC Program cover a 5-day period of time. It includes a first day 2-mile patrol and the issuance of CTA-50 field equipment. Days 2-5 offer a link-up with the host training unit and various exercises in the field and return from the field.

Notes: Major emphasis will be placed on an individual's knowledge and experience of the Operational Army. For example, participants must have a level of understanding that provides the member with the basic insights into the Army, roles and basic tactical doctrines. Another determining factor includes an understanding of real-world sustainment and how the Army fights as a joint/combined team.

NSC personnel are involved in the research, development and engineering of practically anything the Soldier wears, carries, consumes, airdrops and uses for shelter and protection in combat. It is therefore very important that NSC employees are in-touch with the users of the products they are developing for — the military population of the U.S. Armed Forces. NSC's Operational Forces Interface Group (OFIG) is the primary coordinator, supervisor and trainer for NSC's Greening Program, which affords materiel developers from the NSC the opportunity to experience the Soldier's training and combat environment.

The program is designed to allow NSC employees to experience the environmental conditions, for a short, condensed training period, in which their products must function. While experiencing these conditions, employees have the opportunity to talk to Soldiers about clothing, equipment and the environmental conditions that affect them, as Soldiers and NSC personnel operate simultaneously in a simulated combat environment.

This program was generated from OFIG's liaison with the various operational units in the Army and the excellent relationships it maintains. The training is designed to be concurrent with rotational training at the CTCs or unit training at various installations to maximize the benefit of interaction with Soldiers. Upon arrival at the training location, participants are given classes on assembly and packing of CTA-50 items they will use for the exercise, consisting of environmental protective clothing; rations and water; M40 series protective mask; load-bearing equipment; and a mock M16 rifle (if available at the installation). Upon linkup with the unit, participants observe training, interact with Soldiers and receive classes on basic small-unit operations, field craft and

experience several environmental conditions in which Soldiers fight. Participants bivouac in the field with the unit, eat combat rations and conduct a 4-mile road march with a 35 lb. rucksack and previously mentioned items. Participants must complete the road-march portion to receive training credit.

Web site: www.natick.army.mil/soldier/ofig/index.htm

POC: SFC Rick Haddad, Senior Enlisted Advisor, OFIG, NSC (508) 233-5351, DSN: 256-5351, E-mail: richard.haddad@natick.army.mil

Title: **The U.S. Army Tactics and Weapons Employment Course (TWEC)**

Location: Picatinny, NJ

Duration: 5 days

Program Description: The U.S. Army TWEC is intended to provide the participant with a solid familiarization of his/her warfighter customers' environment. In addition to teaching critical military skills, weapon systems and tactics, TWEC is designed to help the armaments design-engineer and scientist develop an appreciation for the importance of staying abreast of changes within the military and how vital it is to continuously learn about the customer's warfighting environment.

The TWEC course uses a multi-faceted approach to learning:

- Traditional instruction.
- Hands-on activities.
- Field training.
- Small team exercises.

This course is used to satisfy the mandatory Army Greening training requirement for newly hired research, development and engineering employees.

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Title: **AMC Greening Course**

Location: Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), MD

Duration: 3 days