



STAND-TO!

Stand-To: n. Procedures prior to first light to enhance unit security
A daily compendium of news, information, and context for Army leaders.

I WILL ALWAYS PLACE THE MISSION FIRST ★ I WILL NEVER ACCEPT DEFEAT ★ I WILL NEVER QUIT ★ I WILL NEVER LEAVE A FALLEN COMRADE

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SENIOR LEADERS ARE SAYING

"Customarily, we train and function in the counterterrorism role. We had to figure out what our place was. It's too easy to suddenly think, 'Let's go fill sandbags,' when you have a highly specialized group of trained individuals."

-Lt. Col. Timothy Glynn, civil support team commander from the Iowa Army National Guard, who used his Soldiers' skills of locating weapons of mass destruction to assist in finding hazardous materials in flooded areas of the Midwest

[Iowa Guard civil support team pulls poisons from flood waters](#)

TODAY'S FOCUS

Forward Operational Assessment Teams

What is it?

Forward Operational Assessment (FOA) teams are comprised of approximately 24 Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians and contractors who deploy to the Middle East to research, collect data and conduct surveys on new systems and equipment under consideration for acquisition. These teams are under the command of the Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC), Alexandria, Va.

What has ATEC done?

Since 2003, 10 FOA teams have deployed to Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan, with FOA Team X currently in theater. FOA Team XI will deploy in September 2008. Since 2005, they have embedded with units in combat to collect data on critical systems being used by the warfighter. This is accomplished by deploying a trained data collection team consisting of personnel from across ATEC with a variety of skills and technical backgrounds to conduct one-on-one interviews with Soldiers, maintainers and leaders in a combat environment. Rotating every six months, these teams have a two-part mission: they collect capability and limitation data in an operational environment that will assist Army leadership in determining acquisition actions; and they help Soldiers understand how to employ and maintain their equipment.

What have the FOA teams tested?

Equipment and systems tested by the FOA teams include the Joint Network Node-Network; Command Post of the Future; Counter-Rockets, Artillery and Mortars; Backstop; Fido Packbot; Mini-Green; Kiddle-Automated Fire Extinguishing System; High Mobility Multi-Purpose Wheeled Vehicle up-armored modifications, Task Force Odin components, Lightweight Counter Mortar Radar and Mine Resistant Ambush Protective vehicles.

Why is this important to the Army?

The war on terrorism's ever-changing battlefield often requires rapid

NEWS ABOUT THE ARMY

- **Soldier first**, citizen at last ([BS](#))
- **Army veteran tired** but 'resolute' ([HC](#))
- **Nine receive Purple Heart** at Walter Reed ([ARNews](#))
- **Fort Hood wins** best antiterrorism program award, runner-up in remaining three categories ([ARNews](#))
- **Fort Ritchie** has storied history ([HM](#))
- **Army, EPA clash** on how to handle Fort Meade cleanup ([EX](#))
- **National Guard** to help fight northern California wildfires ([LAT](#))
- **Slideshow:** 401st Army Field Support Brigade, week in photos, June 23 - 29, 2008 ([ARNews](#))

WAR ON TERROR NEWS

- **U.S. spies on Iraqi army**, sources say ([LAT](#))
- **Deal lets U.S. drones** strike bin Laden ([WT](#))
- **The toll of war in Iraq:** U.S. casualties and civilian deaths ([NPR](#))
- **Military death toll rises** in Afghanistan ([NYT](#))
- **Iraq closeup:** The Army looks inward ([NYT](#))
- **U.S. embassy cites** progress in Iraq ([WP](#))
- **Audio:** Nuclear preparedness? Yawn... ([NPR](#))

OF INTEREST

- **Pentagon to alter** recruit waiver process ([SDT](#))
- **Chemical weapons' transport** plan draws fire ([USA](#))
- **U.S. agrees to lift immunity** for contractors in Iraq ([NYT](#))
- **New policy aims** to help prevent loss of leave ([ARNews](#))
- **China inspired interrogations** at Guantánamo ([NYT](#))
- **Med school** is asked to stop animal use ([WP](#))
- **Veteran's story:** Mansfield Soldier was one of few to escape Anzio bloodbath ([MFJ](#))
- **Army general** to oversee league officiating ([BS](#))

WORLD VIEW

deployment of equipment and systems before they are completely tested. Combat situations provide the most realistic conditions and environment possible to perform assessments. As long as there are units in combat, Army testers and evaluators will deploy and the FOA mission will continue.

Resources:

For additional information, visit : [Army Test and Evaluation Command Web site](#)

INFORMATION YOU CAN USE

- [2008 Strategic Communication Guide](#) - Read the 2008 Army Strategic Communication Guide for key messages and updates
- [Strategic Communication Coordination Group \(SCCG\) Workspace](#)
- [Army Public Affairs Portal](#)
- [Stories of Valor](#)
- [Speaker's Toolkit](#)

A CULTURE OF ENGAGEMENT

[The Army Community Relations Calendar](#)

[Bloggers Roundtable](#)

[DOD, Department of Education sign agreement](#)

[Best care anywhere](#)

[Sears Holdings Corporation signs statement of support for military](#)

[SFC Jamie Buckley performs at Country USA in Oshkosh, WI.](#)

CALENDAR

May- July 4, 2008: [Season of Remembrance](#)

June 24- May 12, 2008: [60th Anniversary of Berlin Airlift](#)

July 1-3, 2008: [Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg](#)

July 13, 2008: [Army National Guard concert band performance](#)

July 26, 2008: [60th Anniversary- Integration of the Armed Forces](#)

ARMY MEDIA

- [Army Media Player](#)
- [Flickr: Army images](#)
- [YouTube: Army videos](#)
- [Twitter: Army updates](#)
- [del.icio.us: Army links](#)

- [Al-Qaeda finds three safe havens](#) for terror training ([TO](#) | [Story](#))
- [French army chief quits](#) over shooting at military show ([GRD](#) | [Story](#))
- [Hezbollah said](#) to train Shiite militiamen in Iraq ([IHT](#) | [Story](#))
- [Softer tone](#) from Iran has experts guessing ([IHT](#) | [Story](#))
- [U.S. helicopter](#) downed near Kabul ([BBC](#) | [Story](#))
- [Israel resumes](#) Gaza goods transfer ([AJ](#) | [Story](#))

WHAT'S BEING SAID IN BLOGS

- *Related to article under Interest:* [Nothing is wrong in the NBA](#), so here comes the Army ([SR](#))
- [In the rear view mirror](#) ([N2G](#))
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- **Book review:** [I will not be broken](#), by Jerry White ([SM](#))

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