

CHAPTER 7

INFORMATION FOR INSTRUCTORS

This chapter provides information to aid instructors in training MK 19 crews to become skilled teams.

7-1. PREPARATION

To present instruction in the time allotted, the instructor must be prepared and rehearsed. Assistant instructors and demonstrators must also be trained and rehearsed so that they can conduct demonstrations using training aids that clearly illustrate the information. Use public address sets if the group is larger than a platoon.

a. Organization. Divide the soldiers into groups of appropriate size, considering the phase of instruction and the facilities available. If enough assistant instructors are available, assign one to each crew. Otherwise, position the assistant instructors so that they can closely supervise the crew.

b. Presentation. Explain and demonstrate each portion of the instruction, following with closely supervised practical work. Emphasize practice throughout training in order to develop skill and teamwork. Secure and critique all MK 19 firing during training.

c. Examination. Ensure that soldiers make good progress throughout each period of instruction. Those who do not progress well must receive more instruction under close supervision. Give a formal or informal participation-type examination following each phase of instruction to measure effectiveness of instruction.

7-2. MECHANICAL TRAINING

During this phase of training, the gun is mounted on the M3 mount, or installed on a table. Nomenclature charts (or mats) help the crew members learn the names of parts. If possible, assign one assistant instructor for each crew. Present a brief history of the gun. Stress its combat role and assigned mission. Emphasize the purpose, scope, and importance of the instruction to be presented. Be sure to clearly define the term stoppage during the introduction, and emphasize the need for correct care and cleaning procedures.

a. Organization. Organize the class.

b. Presentation. The following table can be used as a guide in presenting instruction in stoppages and immediate action. Stress precision in detecting the cause and reducing stoppages. As the soldiers progress, concentrate on speed in applying immediate action and other methods of reducing a a stoppage. Train the crew to function as a team.

STOPPAGES	INSTRUCTION PREPARATION
Misfire due to defective primer.	Place a dummy cartridge in the belt.
Short round.	Place a short round in the belt.
Bulged round.	Insert a bulged round the belt.
Belt improperly loaded.	Pull a cartridge partially out of the belt.
Battered or thick-rimmed cartridge.	Place a battered or thick-rimmed cartridge in the belt.
Failure to remove a round from the chamber.	Place a dummy cartridge, with the rim filed off, in the chamber.
Separated case which is removed from the chamber by the new round when the bolt is pulled to the rear.	Drive the front portion of a cartridge securely on a dummy cartridge. Pull the bolt to the rear and place the cartridge properly on the face of the bolt. Ease the bolt forward.

Table 7-1. Preparation for instructing stoppages and immediate action.

7-3. CREW DRILLS

The demonstration crew must be well-trained and equipment must be complete. Issue equipment for each crew: use basic TOE equipment and distinctive helmet liners that identify each crew member according to his duties, and normal individual equipment.

a. Organization. Present initial instruction and demonstration to one crew. For practical work, divide the class into crews of four men per MK 19. To aid in control and supervision, mark off equipment with engineer tape or wire, and line up the crew members behind their equipment.

b. Presentation. Stress the facts that the crew drill is the first step in developing teamwork, and that precision is required of every member for the crew to function smoothly. During initial practice periods, work on precision; talk each soldier through his duties as a crew member. Require the soldiers to do each operation when directed, and precisely as directed. Once they can, work on speed.

c. Advanced Training. In advance training, use a speed drill to create interest and stimulate competition. This also furthers teamwork and test individual crew performance. A well-trained crew should be able to place the gun into action, or take it out of action, in 25 seconds without error.

7-4. MARKSMANSHIP

The instructor will arrange for a demonstration crew, with gun and mount, to be available; he will have a sighting bar, an illustration of a correct sight picture, a sighting target (panel with holder), a stopwatch, control flags, cleaning rods, and patches.

a. Organization.

(1) Organize each crew with four members, if possible.

(2) Use a centralized area, preferably with bleachers, for conferences and demonstrations. The area should be fairly level, and large enough for the guns to be placed 10 meters from the targets.

b. Presentation.

(1) Make sure that the soldiers know that the marksmanship basics must be learned and practiced during the preparatory phase of marksmanship training, in order for the soldiers to be able to fire the marksmanship course satisfactorily.

(2) With the help of coaches and assistant instructors, ensure that steps are done correctly during the preparatory phase of marksmanship.

(3) Give a brief description of the operation, general data, and exterior nomenclature of the MK 19.

(4) Assistant instructors should disassemble and assemble the MK 19 as the instructor explains the procedure.

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(5) Assistant instructors should disassemble and assemble the MK 19 as the instructor explains the procedure.

NOTE: When the crews can skillfully disassemble and assemble the gun, demonstrate this phase of instruction to them blindfolded, using an assistant. Doing this encourages crews to practice during their free time, and develops individual skill and initiative.

Stress that this is not done against time, because of the danger of damaging parts of the gun.

c. Operation. Each crew requires an MK 19 mounted on an M3 mount and a belt of five dummy rounds.

(1) Explain and demonstrate the proper method of loading, unloading, and clearing the MK 19. Stress the safety factors involved.

(2) Point out how the feed throat must be attached before loading the MK 19.

(3) Demonstrate the method of letting the bolt go forward.

d. Functioning. Training aids are useful if the class is platoon-sized; otherwise, training aids may be used for study and discussion during breaks. Use one gun per crew, as in previous mechanical training instruction.

(1) Divide functioning into six phases (Chapter 2).

(2) Explain and demonstrate each phase of functioning. Assistant instructors should duplicate each demonstration on the guns within each crew. With these setups at the guns, each crew member can see how the parts work. Setups may be used for each phase of functioning.