

# Mountain Warfare School

## Command Briefing

**DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF for OPERATIONS**

*COL GARY VARNEY*

**COMMANDER**

*LTC Terry Lambert*

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# SQI “E”

## Program of Instruction

The purpose of the Skill Qualification Identifier, SQI “E” Course, “Military Mountaineer” is to train soldiers in the specialized skills required for operating in mountainous terrain, under **all** climatic conditions, day and night.

These courses teach soldiers how to use adverse terrain and weather conditions to their advantage as a combat multiplier. This aids in preserving the unit strength and combat power to achieve mission success.

Our ultimate objective is to teach ***MOBILITY***.



# History

- US Army Leadership Realized the Need for Mountain and Cold Weather Training-Mountain Warfare School was established in 1983
- Approved Program of Instruction (POI) by the Dept. of the Army in 1986
- Designated Sole Producer of “Military Mountaineer” by the Dept. of the Army in 1994



# Mountain Program of Instruction

## Summer

- 14 Days in Length
- 15 Hour Days
- Combat Arms Oriented
- Academic Hours - 130
- Mountain Navigation - 14 hrs
- Mountain Ops - 92 hrs
- Sustaining Mountain Skills - 6 hrs
- Small Unit Mountain Ops - 16 hrs
- Comprehensive Exam - 2 hrs

## Winter

- 14 Days in Length
- 15 Hour Days
- Combat Arms Oriented
- Academic Hours - 162
- Winter Mountain Navigation - 13.5 hrs
- Winter Operations - 63 hrs
- Winter Sustainment Skills - 61.5 hrs
- Winter Mountain Warfare - 24hrs



# Mountain Program of Instruction

## Summer & Winter

- **Map Reading in Areas of Significant Relief**
- **Map Interpretation, Terrain Analysis**
- **Use of Altimeter-Barometer**
- **Altimeter Navigation Course**
- **Knot Tying**
- **Methods of Throwing, Coiling & Carrying Rope**
- **Mountain Safety**
- **Rappelling**
- **Anchors**
- **Fixed Ropes**
- **Patient Management**
- **Maintenance & Inspection of Climbing Equipment**
- **Prevention & Care of Blisters**
- **Physiology of Night Vision**
- **Small Unit Mountain Operations**
- **Receive Operations Order**
- **Conduct Summer or Winter Bivouac**
- **Prusik Ascents**



# MWS STRENGTHS

- Cadre experience and abilities unparalleled
- Specialize in Mountain and Cold Weather Operations, specifically Mountain Mobility
- Can Conduct Mobile Training Teams (MTTs) and Level II Instruction (Assault Climber Course)
- We Train the Entire Army (Active, National Guard and Reserve). Most students are from Mountain Infantry, Light Infantry, Special Forces & Rangers



# Mountain Program of Instruction

## Summer & Winter

### Summer Only

- **Survival Shelters**
- **A-Frame Construction**
- **Suspension Traverse**
- **Vertical Haul Lines**
- **Cliff Evacuation**
- **Mountain River Crossing**
- **Mountain Walking**
- **Balance Climbing**
- **Z-Pulley System**
- **Field Expedient Antennas**

### Winter Only

- **Glacial Movement, Operations**
- **Winter Mountaineering Safety**
- **Avalanche Hazards & Rescue**
- **Crevasse Rescue Systems**
- **Skijoring**
- **Cold Weather Clothing**
- **Cold Weather Injuries**
- **Care & Use of Ski Equipment**
- **Care & Use of Ice Climbing Equipment**
- **Ahkie/Tent/Stove Group**
- **Effects of Cold Weather on Weapons**
- **Bivouac Considerations**

