

Field Manual
No. 23-14

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Washington, DC, 26 January 1994

M249 LIGHT MACHINE GUN IN THE AUTOMATIC RIFLE ROLE

CONTENTS

	Page
PREFACE	v
CHAPTER 1. DESCRIPTION AND COMPONENTS	
1-1. Description	1-1
1-2. Components	1-1
1-3. Ammunition	1-6
1-4. Blank Firing Attachment	1-9
CHAPTER 2. MAINTENANCE	
2-1. Clearing Procedures	2-1
2-2. General Disassembly	2-4
2-3. Inspection	2-11
2-4. Cleaning, Lubrication, and Preventive Maintenance	2-12
2-5. General Assembly	2-17
2-6. Function Check	2-21
2-7. Maintenance Procedures	2-21
2-8. Maintenance During NBC Conditions	2-22
CHAPTER 3. OPERATION AND FUNCTION	
3-1. Operation	3-1
3-2. Loading	3-1
3-3. Unloading	3-3
3-4. Cycle of Functioning	3-3
3-5. Sight Settings and Corrections	3-5
3-6. Bipod Positioning	3-7

DISTRIBUTION RESTRICTION: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

*This publication supersedes FM 23-14, 10 December 1985; and rescinds

DA Form 5503-R, December 1985.

	Page
CHAPTER 4. PERFORMANCE PROBLEMS AND DESTRUCTION	
4-1. Malfunctions	4-1
4-2. Stoppages	4-2
4-3. Immediate Action	4-3
4-4. Remedial Action	4-4
4-5. Destruction Procedures	4-4
CHAPTER 5. MARKSMANSHIP TRAINING	
Section 1. Introduction to Marksmanship	5-1
5-1. Objectives	5-1
5-2. Training Phases	5-1
5-3. Training Strategy	5-2
5-4. Training for Combat Conditions	5-5
Section II. Preliminary Marksmanship Training	5-5
5-5. Fundamentals, Marksmanship	5-5
5-6. Fundamentals, Firing Positions	5-7
5-7. Fundamentals, Night Firing	5-9
5-8. Fundamentals: Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical	5-10
5-9. Fundamentals, Moving Targets	5-11
5-10. Fundamentals, Traverse and Search	5-14
5-11. Direct Lay	5-14
5-12. Application of Fire	5-14
5-13. Adjustment of Fire	5-14
5-14. Effects of Wind	5-16
5-15. Fire Commands	5-18
5-16. Dry-Fire Exercises	5-19
5-17. Multipurpose Machine Gun Range Layout	5-21
5-18. Basic Machine Gun Target	5-23
5-19. Target Analysis	5-26
5-20. 10-Meter Scoring Procedures	5-26
Section III. Basic Marksmanship, Live-Fire Exercises	5-27
5-21. Zeroing	5-27
5-22. Field Zeroing	5-29
5-23. 10-Meter Firing	5-30
5-24. 10-Meter Conduct of Fire	5-31
5-25. 10-Meter Firing, Qualification	5-36
5-26. Transition Firing	5-37
5-27. Transition Conduct of Fire	5-38

	Page
5-28. Transition Firing, Limited Visibility	5-42
5-29. Zeroing the AN/PVS-4	5-43
5-30. Qualification Standards	5-50
 CHAPTER 6. COMBAT TECHNIQUES OF FIRE	
Section I. Introduction . . . . .	.6-1
6-1. Characteristics of Fire . . . . .	.6-1
6-2. Classes of Fire . . . . .	.6-2
Section II. Application of Fire . . . . .	.6-5
6-3. Types of Targets . . . . .	.6-6
6-4. Distribution, Concentration, and Rate of Fire . . . . .	.6-7
6-5. Target Engagement . . . . .	.6-8
6-6. Target Engagement During Limited Visibility	6-14
Section III. Predetermined Fires	6-14
6-7. Terminology	6-14
6-8. Range Card	6-16
Section IV. Fire Control	6-22
6-9. Methods of Fire Control	6-22
6-10. Fire Commands	6-24
Section V. Range Determination	6-30
6-11. Range Estimation	6-30
6-12. Lateral Distance Measurement	6-34
Section VI. Advanced Automatic Rifle Marksmanship	6-34
6-13. Field Firing Exercise	6-34
6-14. Alternate Firing Positions	6-36
6-15. Movement, Speed, and Alignment	6-39
6-16. Reloading	6-39
6-17. Alternate Firing Position Exercises	6-40
 CHAPTER 7. TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAM	
Section I. Organization . . . . .	.7-1
7-1. Objectives . . . . .	.7-1
7-2. Mission-Essential Task List . . . . .	.7-1
7-3. Trainer Assessment . . . . .	.7-1
7-4. Cadre Coaches . . . . .	.7-2
7-5. Command Benefits . . . . .	.7-3
7-6. Program Phases . . . . .	.7-4

		Page
Section II.	Training Tasks	7-4
7-7.	Phase I, Preliminary Marksmanship Training	7-5
7-8.	Phase II, Basic Marksmanship Training	7-7
7-9.	Phase III, Advanced Marksmanship Training	7-9
Section III.	Trainer Certification Program	7-10
7-10.	Training Base	7-10
7-11.	Certification Program Outline	7-11
APPENDIX A.	UNIT TRAINING PROGRAM	A-1
APPENDIX B.	PROFICIENCY (PERFORMANCE) EXAMINATION	B-1
APPENDIX C.	M249 AUTOMATIC RIFLE IN AIR DEFENSE	C-1
APPENDIX D.	RANGE SAFETY	D-1
APPENDIX E.	EMPLOYMENT	E-1
GLOSSARY		Glossary-1
REFERENCES		References-1
INDEX		Index-1