

## Preface

### SCOPE

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This manual outlines the Department of the Army (DA) doctrine for combined arms breaching operations. Fighting as a combined arms team is imperative to breaching success and is the centerpiece of the manual. The manual begins with a discussion of the breaching challenges facing the commander on a modern battlefield where maintaining freedom to maneuver is mission-essential. The theory behind breaching operations is then outlined to equip the commander with the fundamentals needed to integrate a breach into his tactical planning, preparation, and execution. Subsequent chapters discuss in detail the various types of breaching operations available to the commander: in-stride, deliberate, assault, and covert. The focus of these chapters is what drives the commander to decide what type of breach to plan and prepare for and to execute based on mission, enemy, terrain, troops, and time available (METT-T). Breach training is vital to our Army's preparedness for combat. Therefore, an entire chapter is devoted to integrating breach training into unit training plans. Lastly, this manual provides supplemental information on Soviet obstacle warfare, intelligence preparation of the battlefield (IPB), and obstacle reduction techniques.

### PURPOSE

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This manual provides combined arms commanders, from company to brigade, and their staffs with the doctrine, tactics, and techniques needed to successfully overcome obstacles. It provides the commander with breaching fundamentals and information for planning, preparing, and executing the in-stride, deliberate, assault, and covert breaches. This manual gives the coordinating and special staff officer a basis for synchronizing all combat multipliers during a breach. This manual serves as a source of information for non-DA planners who may be involved in operating with ground forces conducting offensive operations.

### USER INFORMATION

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The proponent of this publication is HQ TRADOC. Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to Commandant, US Army Engineer School, ATTN: ATSE-TDM-P, Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473-6650.

This publication implements the following international agreement: STANAG 2889, *Marking of Hazardous Areas and Routes Through Them, Edition 3*.

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***Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.***