

Preface

This manual sets forth the principles associated with battlefield deception operations and explains how to plan and execute such operations at the operational and tactical levels of war. It is designed for use by commanders and staffs who plan, direct, and conduct combat operations at echelons above corps (EAC) and echelons corps and below (ECB).

The US Army's initial efforts to revitalize a battlefield deception capability will manifest itself in terms of doctrine, training, force structure, and materiel during fiscal year 1988. The information presented in this manual is evolutionary in nature and is subject to substantial field experimentation and verification during the fiscal year 1988-1990 time period.

Historically, military deception has proven to be of considerable value in the attainment of national security objectives, and a fundamental consideration in the development and implementation of military strategy and tactics. Deception has been used to enhance, exaggerate, minimize, or distort capabilities and intentions; to mask deficiencies; and to otherwise cause desired appreciations where conventional military activities and security measures were unable to achieve the desired result. The development of a deception organization and the exploitation of deception opportunities are considered to be vital to national security. To develop deception capabilities, including procedures and techniques for deception staff components, it is essential that deception receive continuous command emphasis in military exercises, command post exercises, and in training operations.

--JCS Memorandum of Policy (MOP) 116

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Unless otherwise stated, whenever the masculine gender is used, both men and women are included.

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