



FA 57 ► SIMULATION OPERATIONS

IMPACT

SOLDIERS' LIVES

**YOUR EXPERIENCE IS
OUR ADVANTAGE**

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IMPACT

...the Army

SIMULATION OPERATIONS

The art and science of applying live, virtual and constructive simulation technologies in support of military operations, training and acquisition activities which include, testing, experimentation and analysis. (Battle Command Training Strategy, 2010)

Becoming an FA57 means making a difference in soldiers' lives. FA57 officers provide the Army with unique capabilities in three focused areas:

- Modeling and Simulation Operations
- Battle Command System Integration
- Operational Knowledge Management

We create environments that enable knowledge creation for Warfighters. We provide Commanders with the tools they need to be successful on and off the battlefield.

"FA57 personnel are right at the beginning of a blossoming era. They're going to find their contributions more and more important in the future in all sorts of different areas, some of which we conceive of now in combat developments, acquisition and training, but also in other areas that we really can't conceive of just yet."

*LTG Robert Lennox
Deputy Chief of Staff, Army G-8*





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...Your Career

Around the World

FA57s serve with units located throughout the world including Europe, Asia, the Pacific and the U.S. You'll use and enhance your operational and technical skills while serving in positions in BCTs through the Joint Staff in both the operating and generating forces.

- **Initial assignments** are usually at the brigade and division levels where you'll gain experience as an FA57.
- **Follow-on assignments** include Joint/Unified Combatant Commands; Headquarters Department of the Army; Army Commands; Army Service Component Commands; Direct Reporting Units; Combined Training Centers; Battle Command Training Centers; the National Simulation Center; the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation; and other acquisition, testing and experimentation organizations.

In the Classroom

FA57 training and education are among the best available in the Army:

- All FA57s attend the **Simulation Operations Course** which trains students on what simulations are and how best to utilize them in support of any organization.
- All FA57s attend the **Battle Command Officer Integration Course (BCOIC)** which provides students with hands-on instruction on the Army's Battle Command Systems (ABCS). Students learn the inputs, outputs and architecture of this "system of systems" and how best to employ it during both training and operations in support of the Commander.
- **Army Knowledge Management Qualification Course** introduces students to KM basic tools and techniques that they may apply in their units.
- **School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS)**, where an officer's planning skills are honed to perfection. SAMS graduates are given a special skill identifier and required to commit to at least one payback tour as a planner within a military headquarters upon graduation.
- **Training with Industry (TWI)** sends officers to work and train with an industry partner in the M&S field for up to one year.

- All FA57s attend the **Advanced Simulation Course** which introduces senior FA57 officers to cutting edge topics in the Modeling and Simulation career field. This course engages students on how to think and manage current and future challenges that await them as senior leaders of the FA57 functional area.
- All FA57s attend resident **Intermediate Level Education (ILE)** and the **Advanced Operations Warfighting Course (AOWC)** at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. ILE prepares field grade officers with a warrior ethos and warfighting focus for leadership in Army and Joint, Interagency, Intergovernmental and Multinational (JIIM) organizations executing full spectrum operations. AOWC is designed to enhance students' understanding and skills in the Art of War and Battle Command.
- All FA57s are eligible to compete for fully funded **Advanced Civil Schooling**, which provides officers the opportunity to pursue a master's degree or Ph.D. from one of several universities, including the Naval Post Graduate School, Old Dominion University and the University of Central Florida.

In the Army

A career in Simulation Operations offers outstanding opportunities for advancement. Historically, our officers are promoted to Major, Lieutenant Colonel and Colonel at rates equal to or higher than the Army average.

After the Army

The FA57 skill set is highly regarded. Civilians with these skills are sought after in the fields of defense, academia, homeland security, business, science and technology.

CRITICAL TECHNOLOGY

In July 2007, Congress passed Resolution 487 declaring Modeling and Simulation to be a National Critical Technology. For over a decade, the use of modeling and simulation has enhanced military readiness, private sector innovations and health care.



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...Your Knowledge

Designing, Implementing and Integrating Simulations

We positively impact Soldiers and units with our ability to create the training environments that realistically mirror the reality of present and future battlefields. Every FA57 is trained to:

- Develop and integrate Live, Virtual, Constructive (LVC) and Game-supported simulation training strategies.
- Crosswalk training requirements and objectives with available Training Aids, Devices, Simulators and Simulations (TADSS) to identify and implement the right tools in the training environment.
- Design, Execute and Monitor LVC and Game-supported training at all echelons of command.
- Integrate Army Battle Command Systems (ABCS), TADSS and Operational Knowledge Management tools into LVC simulation and Game-supported training environments.
- Monitor and analyze Live, Virtual and Constructive simulation use within units.

THE OPERATIONAL ADVANTAGE

All FA57 Officers are required to command at the company level. We bring that operational experience to the table.

"Functional Area 57s are the professionals in providing realistic training environments. They are the interface between the Soldier and the simulation. Those guys make the training happen."

*BG Paul Funk
Deputy Commanding General,
Combined Arms Center-Training (CAC-T)*



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...Warfighter Skills

Design. Integrate. Execute.

The role of FA57s is multi-faceted. We create simulation environments that support leaders. We are...

Designers who create exercises based on the Commander's training objectives and requirements. Using the skills gained through our operational experience and specialized training, we design, schedule and manage training events.

Integrators who assemble the various available Army Battle Command, Operational Knowledge Management and Information Management systems with simulations to build a holistic training environment in support of the commander.

Executors who orchestrate training events behind the scenes working with technical support elements and the unit's chain of command to ensure every aspect of the training runs smoothly.

Live. Virtual. Constructive.

FA57s showcase their unique abilities daily by capitalizing on the use of live, virtual and constructive simulations and games to enhance training while simultaneously optimizing resources. This results in increased training opportunities, fidelity and realism that leads to expanded Warfighter experience which is the key to success on today's complex and multi-faceted battlefield.

Live – Real soldiers operating real systems at locations like the National Training Center (NTC) at Fort Irwin.

Virtual – Real soldiers operating simulated systems like the Close Combat Tactical Trainer (CCTT), Aviation CCTT or the Virtual Combat Convoy Trainer (VCCT)

Constructive – Simulated soldiers operating simulated systems; computer simulations like WARSIM, OneSAF and JCATS, which are used to stimulate staff training and to conduct experimentation with new ideas and equipment.

"An FA57 is a person who wants to take technology and get the best human use out of it in a military setting. To do that you've got to be a people person, but you also have to be able to embrace the latest in technology. This is for people who like to take a bold step forward."

*LTG Daniel Bolger,
Deputy Chief of Staff, Army G-3/5/7*





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...Mission Success

Bridging the Gap Between Technology and Warfighters

As the unit Battle Command Officer (BCO), FA57 officers are integral to mission success.

FA57s work with the Commander to integrate his Army Battle Command and Operational Knowledge Management systems into a seamless command and control environment enhancing his situational understanding of the battlefield.

FA57s directly support the unit staff so that they can take advantage of their available Army Battle Command and Operational Knowledge Management systems to provide the Commander with the right information in the right format at the right time.

Our understanding of the People, Process and Technology paradigm of Knowledge Management, coupled with our operational experience and technical training, places us in a unique position to **develop and refine the unit's collective knowledge-sharing environment.**

UNIQUE ABILITIES

Modeling, Simulation, Battle Command System Integration and Operational Knowledge Management: Critical skills that are in high demand by today's net-centric Warfighters.

"One of the issues that we have today is a proliferation of different Battle Command Systems. Given the proper operational experience, it'll be an FA57 that will be able to recommend to the Commander how to pull those different pictures—that different amount of knowledge—together and provide the most coherent picture for his chain of command."

GEN Pete Chiarelli
Vice Chief of Staff of the Army





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