

OKW

Oberkommando der Wehrmacht

Field Training Guide  
Manual 5  
Revision 0

## **OKW Training Document Field Training Guide - Manual 5**

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## 5 Day-Training Officers Outline

### **General Introduction:**

This manual is written with the purpose of giving Field Commanders a guideline by which to train newly assigned Officers, affiliated Reserve Officers, & Officer Candidates. This is not intended to be a “written in stone” document, so *some* amount of deviation can be made. However, it is imperative that the Trainer runs the Trainee through every possible scenario (based on situational availability) to ensure that the Trainee is ready to assume Field Command. It is understood that it is not possible to teach our Trainees everything, but the emphasis here is to ensure that the Trainee is capable, motivated, & deals with adversity well.

Without exceptions to types of exercises or orders, Field training will occur two to three hours nightly. The Trainee will undergo approximately one hour of dynamic training during which the Commander will actively work with the Trainee on specific topics or objectives. This is to be a period of compressed activity and evaluation but should not be overly difficult to accomplish if the Trainees are well versed on the topics outlined below. In **ALL** cases, the Trainee will be accompanied by his/her Trainer during these exercises.

The remainder of each evening should be used to observe the Trainee & to evaluate player interaction and communication skills. If necessary, the Trainers can be flexible on the training time. Throughout the week, it should be remembered that the purpose of the Trainer is to evaluate the Trainer on the practical execution of their assigned operations & to ensure that the Trainee possesses the necessary knowledge required of an OKA Officer. The Trainers should also allow the Trainees an opportunity to lead troops in real game situations. If severe weaknesses are identified regarding the basics of the Trainees Basic Officer Training (IKW OCS), field training will be put on hold until the Trainee can be brought up to speed in the weak areas. Any area of previous training (IKW & OKW), or field experience, is fair game in these training situations (which will also include in-the-field training evaluations).

Example: As the Trainees are performing an attack on a FB the field trainer can ask them to explain what they would do if a subordinate officer disagreed with the way the mission was being executed. The Trainee would be expected to cover the various clauses of the AOC that are appropriate.

## **Day 1 - Trainee Orientation:**

Information - Officer Trainees must gain a firm knowledge of Armees chat channel (19/29), LW (18/28) or KM (84) as well as Division and KG channels. Evaluation is as simple as sending text messages to Trainee on the various channels especially while the Trainee is occupied with other activities. Effective use of communication skills is basic to command and should be automatic. Failure to monitor required text channels would be one of the reasons to detain the Trainee for further training in this area.

Trainees should have a basic knowledge of the division's current area of operations. This should be completed prior to day one and provided by the Trainee's OKW CoC before the Trainee begins his/her field training.

Officer Trainees should research and retain the names of division (as well as kg) Officers in order to be familiar with whom they will be working and obtain an understanding of the CoC. This should be completed prior to day one and provided by the Trainee's OKW CoC before taking the Trainee into the field.

Resource - <http://www.axishq.wwiionline.com>

Practical - \*Officer Trainees must be able to navigate the OKW TS server - locating Division as well as KG channels.

\*Officer Trainees should be able to engage, as well as understand uses for, Channel Commander Whisper.

\*It is recognized that voice communication programs are very useful and Trainees should be encouraged to use them. However, please note that use of TS is not a requirement for OKW Officers. If there are issues with the various ways that TS can be utilized, the training officer is to work with the Trainee so that they may gain a working knowledge of these concepts.

Officer Trainees must be able to communicate with fellow officers via PM as well as Luftwaffe (18/28), Armees (19/29), Division, & (where available) HC Channels.

Officer Trainees must be able to post missions with proper mission posting format.

**Day 2 - Day in the Life (of an OKW officer):**

Information - Officer Trainees should have a basic knowledge of advanced .dot commands.  
(Example .fallback, .delay, .attack)

Officer Trainees must be able to identify current OIC of their Kampfgruppe/Gruppe/  
Zerstörerflotille.

Officer Trainees should have a basic overview of the steps an Officer takes when entering  
WW2OL (.hcon, check objectives, check Attack Objective &/or Defense Objective information,  
announce presence on command channels, etc).

Practical - Officer Trainees should be able to apply basic .dot commands in the field and using  
the game map. Some of this will have to be accomplished via quizzing (considering that some  
Trainees may be in Reserve Officer status & not have access to HC dot commands). In these  
cases, the Trainees can explain how, why, and when, but will not be able to actively participate  
in the commands because some Trainees will not have .fallback, .hold, .clear, .attack, .delay, etc.  
authority until promotion to a Field Unit.

Officer Trainees must be able to deploy a fire base defense.

Officer Trainees should be able to mount a fighting withdrawal from a FB and let it fall.

Officer Trainees must be able to deploy a basic town defense.

### **Day 3 - Building the Sandbox**

Implementation - Officer Trainees will first be tasked with determining a valid attack objective or operation.

Officer Trainees will then lead this operation to its natural conclusion. Success or failure of the mission is not as important as how the Trainee handles command.

The goal is to create a fun environment for all involved Players in the area.

A secondary goal is to help develop the Officer Trainee's ability to lead in the field.

Practical - Officer Trainees should be able to lead a basic attack.

Officer Trainees must be able to organize a basic FB attack. This is a small operation and can be implemented without assistance from other KGs. It would also help to see the Trainee organize an attack on a target that has an active Attack Objective on it. All Division KGs will be used for this effort, although the Trainee may only be required to command a particular element of the operation on the first time at bat. This can occur on Day 3, 4 or 5 as the opportunity presents itself.

## **Day 4 – The wringer:**

Implementation - Officer Trainees will be assigned impossible tasks and monitored closely on how they handle them. Field Trainers should observe the Officer Trainee's strengths and weaknesses during the first three days of field training. These weaknesses will then determine which task(s) to assign during this phase.

**Suggested impossible tasks:** (Field Trainers are also encouraged to be as creative as they deem necessary for these exercises.)

### **Luftwaffe:**

Organize a flight to create and hold CAP over a heavily contested airspace around an attack or defense objective. This task must be completed without an .axis for additional pilots (3-6 pilots should be involved).

Organize a flight to create and provide CAS to a CP that has enemy control of the airspace. This task must be completed without an .axis for additional pilots (2-4 pilots should be involved)

### **Kriegsmarine:**

Officer will be tasked with getting to an enemy deep-water port, not set off EWS, monitor enemy activity, sink an enemy vessel, & return to base.

Officer will be tasked with escorting a convoy & ensuring that the convoy is intact upon arriving at their destination.

Officer will be tasked with establishing a blockade to deny enemy seagoing vessels access to an area of water around our objectives.

Officer will be tasked with the “Hellevoetsluis-Westkapelle–Breskens-Vlissingen Gauntlet” & return to base at Hellevoetsluis with a kill (without returning westward from Breskens-Vlissingen).

### **Heer:**

Officer will be tasked to destroy an enemy FB that is open to a current defense objective. A force that is used should not exceed 6-8 members. Likewise, this force should not be drawn from the defense object or frontline town. The time limit for this is one hour.

Organize JU-52 mission on a one-AB town. Attempt & accomplish a multicap. Success is determined by cap of all depots/facilities, including the spawnable and fallback facilities. This is doable, but should be extremely difficult with one JU flight.

Establish interdiction force to defend against two enemy FBs. Success is determined by the number of units prevented from attacking the town the Candidate is defending (or possibly, the number of enemy units that get to the defending town). Variation on the theme: Only one KG's players are to be used in this exercise. This limits Trainee's resources.

Assign multiple (and occasionally) conflicting orders: Ex: “Need defense established at XXX FB” and “Resupply defense town with HTs/88s”. When the Candidate requests clarification (or priority), the field trainer should tell him he is in charge & to use his best judgment.

Variation on the theme: Once officer Trainee begins to implement his missions, order an abort and issue another set of conflicting orders.

Positive evaluation of the tasks should not be directly tied with tactical success of the given objective. Officer Trainees should be judged on how they conduct themselves, primarily the ability to retain composure and communication throughout the exercise.

### **Day 5 - The Division:**

Implementation - Officer Trainees will be assigned supervised control of the entire Division/ Jägdgeschwader/ Kampfgeschwader/ Angriffsdivision. This will include all tasks typically carried out by OICs of these units. Such tasks should include determination of theatre risks and opportunities within the division Area of operations (situational assessment), The Trainee should also display the ability to obtain orders from Korps/ Fliegerkorps/ Kriegsschiffgruppe (optional - could receive from field trainer). The Trainee should also meet with Kampfgruppe/ Jägdgeschwader/ Kampfgeschwader/ Angriffsdivision Officers to receive briefs and then delegating officers to tasks as needed. Lastly, the Trainee should and 4) Monitoring and adjusting the division deployment in a fluid manner.

**Evaluation Format for Officer Candidates in Field Training:**

After an Officer Candidate passes through their time in OCS, they will need to be field trained (& evaluated) by the Officers of his new command. This evaluation is a crucial part of their training & provides needed information on the new Officer's abilities in the field. This evaluation should be sent to the Division/Jägdgeschwader/Kampfgeschwader/Zerstörerflotille CO, of the Training Officer's Chain-of-Command. If there are no new Officers to be trained that week, then that Unit CO should provide that information, as well. The moving of information in this area is one of the most crucial elements needed to ensure that our Officers are properly instructed on how to conduct themselves (& command their troops) on the field.

**The preferred format for an evaluation is as follows:**

- CANDIDATE NAME: The Candidate's Ingame Handle/Name  
CANDIDATE BRANCH: Branch in which the training was done (in your case, Kriegsmarine)  
BRANCH TRAINING OFFICER: Ingame handle of the reporting field trainer  
FIELD TRAINING DATES: The dates that the training occurred  
CANDIDATE STRONG POINTS: What the Candidate does well  
CANDIDATE WEAK POINTS: What the Candidate needs to work on  
TRAINING OFFICER'S SUGGESTIONS: What the Field trainer suggests be done with the Candidate

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