



Users Guide to Cold Weather Indoctrination & Certification (CWIC)



As of 1 Oct 2014



WHY CWIC?



MITIGATE CATASTROPHIC INJURIES



Black Rapids Training Site JULY 2003



UNDERSTAND THE ENVIRONMENT



UNDERSTAND OUR EQUIPMENT

Course Purpose. To train all Soldiers within the USARAK footprint, regardless of job function, in the basic skills required to successfully train and operate in Cold Regions. Attendees will gain confidence in their cold weather clothing and equipment and their ability to care for themselves in the cold weather environment. *We train to be "effective" in extreme cold weather, not to just survive. CWIC is critical to ensuring our leaders and Soldiers are trained to fight and win in extreme cold weather conditions.*



CWIC I

Proponent - NWTC



(All USARAK Soldiers)

CWIC Level I Endstate: Soldiers have a basic understanding of environment, hazards and phenomena and how the environment affects themselves and their equipment. They have the ability to recognize cold injuries and take action. Leaders have certified that personal equipment kit is serviceable and it fits.

All Soldiers in the USARAK footprint conduct this training as common core. Conducted within two weeks of a Soldier's arrival to their unit during winter months (Oct-Apr) and annually for all other Soldiers.

- Cold Regions Terrain Analysis
- Cold Regions Weather Analysis
- Cold Weather Injury Prevention and Treatment **(This lesson also includes cold weather clothing. It is intended as a “try it on” period so Soldiers can DX if necessary.)**
- Cold Weather and Mountain Environmental Injury Prevention and Treatment
- Cold Weather Risk Management
- Planning Considerations for Over-snow Movement
- Effects of Cold on Equipment
- Physical Training in Extreme Cold Weather

*CWIC trainers must be graduates of the ,Cold Weather Orientation Course (CWOC), Aviation Cold Weather Course (ACWC), Cold Weather Leaders Course (CWLC), NWTC Master Arctic Trainer Course (MATC).



CWIC II

Proponent - NWTC



(Tactical and Units that Routinely Operate Outside)

CWIC Level II Endstate: MTOE units will be able to effectively move over snow, perform maintenance and conduct sustainment functions. Unit cold weather equipment deficiencies are identified . Soldiers gain confidence in their ability to survive in Cold Regions. Soldiers are certified to use heating systems and shelters.

- Snowshoeing/ Over Snow Mobility
- Ahkio Sled Hauling
- Tent and Stove Drill
- H-45 Heater
- Improvised Shelters – Sleep Outside
- Cold Regions Patrol Base
- Cold Weather Vehicle and Weapon Maintenance
- Individual Camouflage in a Snow Covered Environment
- Firing Techniques for Snow Covered Environment
- Fighting Positions for Frozen Ground
- Physical Fitness in Extreme cold weather

Must be completed before the end of 1st Quarter and before the first FTX of the 1st Quarter.

Summary:

- Gives Soldiers experience and confidence working in the cold weather environment using equipment and clothing issued by the Army.
- Meant for MTOE units but TDA units may elect to execute.
- Every effort should be made to conduct this phase when the temperatures are 10 degrees Fahrenheit or colder.

CWIC II training will be done in and around the unit area , must be a be planned event and will set the conditions for CWIC III and to ensure your Soldiers and unit equipment is properly prepared for the Winter.

One overnight bivouac sleeping in an unheated improvised shelter and one night in the heated shelter the unit typically uses will be conducted with a minimum of 8 hours spent outside for each.

*CWIC II trainers must be graduates of the Aviation Cold Weather Course (ACWC), Cold Weather Leaders Course (CWLC), NWTC Master Arctic Trainer Course (MATC).



CWIC III

Proponent – BDE/BN CDRs



CWIC Level III Endstate: Company and Battalion-sized units are able to safely and effectively operate and survive while in a field environment in Cold Regions utilizing unit equipment and SOPs. Units will be effective executing their METL in extreme cold weather conditions .

Command dictated field training based on unit METL. Should be designed by Battalion-level organizations to build confidence and validate equipment, training TTPs and Unit SOPs.

Brigade and Battalion Commanders Certify their units

Summary:

- Used as a certifying event where the unit exercises their METL tasks while incorporating their Cold Weather skills learned in CWIC I and II.
- No limit of time or tasks. The requirement to complete in the 1st Quarter remains.
- Upon completion the unit should know that tested systems are in place to mitigate risk and allow the safe and efficient execution of large unit operations in the cold.
- CWIC III is a Battalion/Brigade-level unit certification/qualification program, that certifies units cannot just survive but thrive in extreme cold weather while executing their specific METL tasks.

Examples Tasks Include:

- Over snow movement- 5 km with fighting load, approach load
- Mounted movement (chains, recovery, drivers TNG)
- Land Navigation (dismounted)
- AVN Environmental Qualification
- Assembly Area/Patrol Base considerations
- Arctic Fighting positions
- Camouflage individual and equipment
- Weapons considerations/Crew drills
- Cold Regions effects on communications and digital systems
- LOGPAC considerations
- Howitzer Operations in Cold Weather

Questions?

***You can find the CWIC course
management plan and other helpful
publications at :***

<http://www.wainwright.army.mil/nwtc/cwic.htm>