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DEFENCE RESEARCH
ESTABLISHMENT

Mechanised Warfare in Urban Terrain

Presentation at the 17th ISMOR
30 August 2000

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World War II

"We relied on firepower wherever possible. For example, if we could drive a tank up to a window and poke the main gun through the window and fire the gun inside the house, we did so. What I am trying to portray here is that we learned to bash our way through the village. There was little finesse involved... I am a firm believer in banging away with everything at hand, and the closer the range, the better:"

Lt-Gen William R. Desobry

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Background

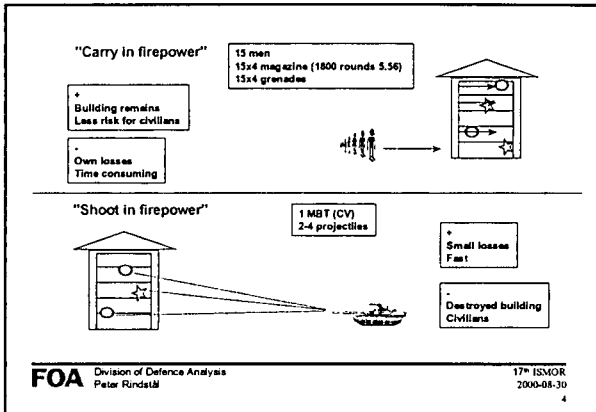
- Historically important
- The world is urbanising
- Peace enforcement operations
- Higher level of mechanisation

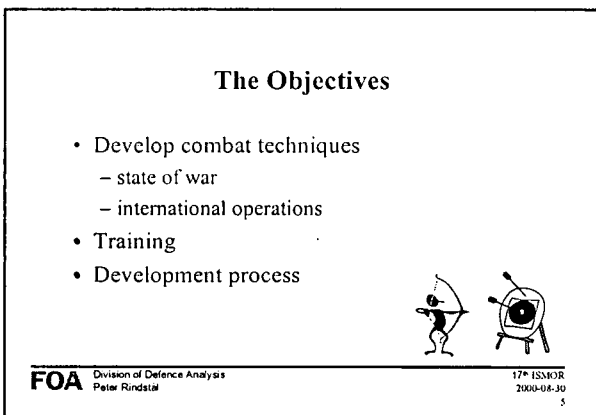


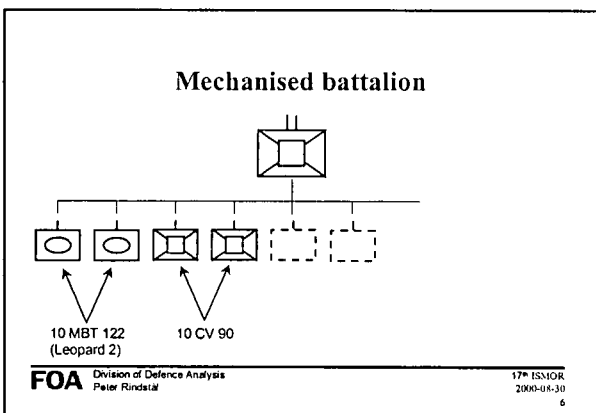
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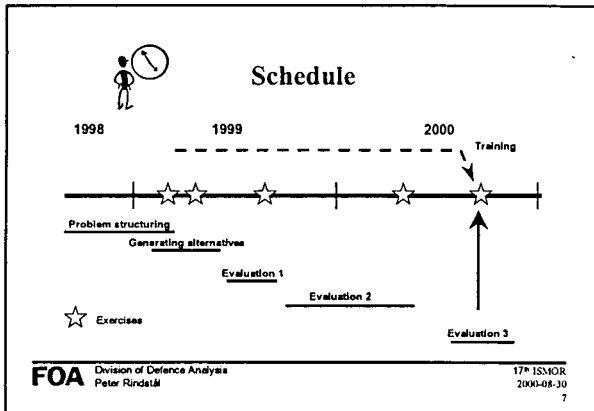


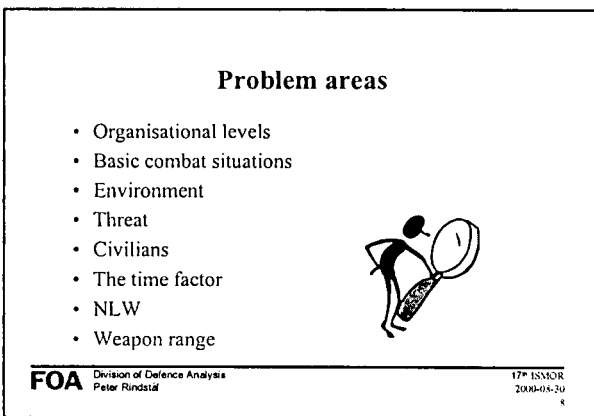


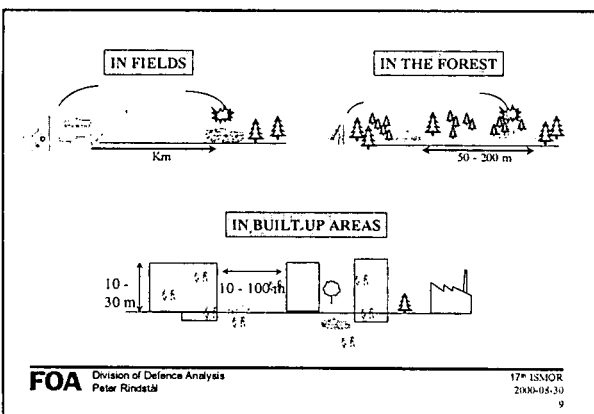


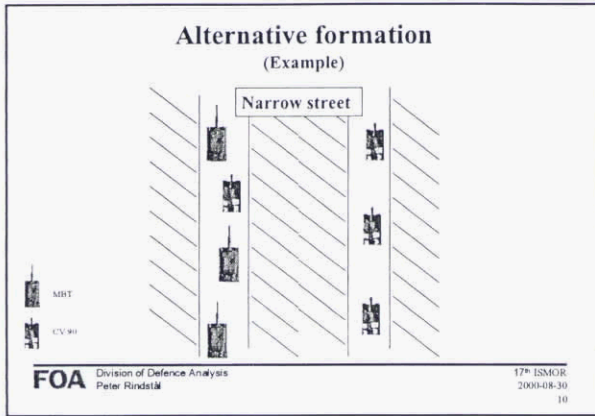


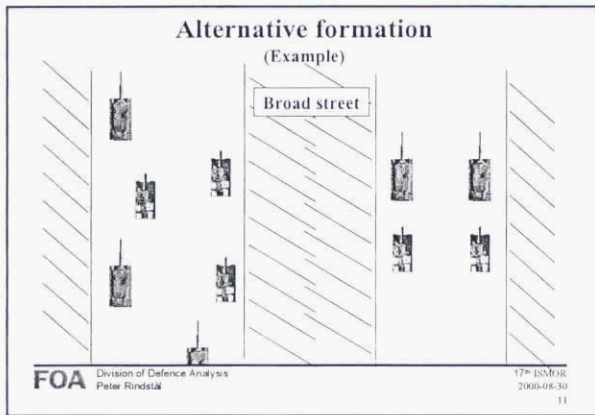












Evaluation
First step

- Firepower
- Protection
- Visual reconnaissance
- Manoeuvrability
- Fire/Movement
- Command and Control

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The evaluation section lists seven key performance indicators for tanks. To the right of the list is a detailed illustration of a modern main battle tank.

Evaluation
Second step

The "best" alternatives

Verifying in real terrain

War gaming

Scenarios

- Task
- Enemy
- Terrain
- Civilians

Networking

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Evaluation
Third step

- Field exercise (~ 80 officers)
- Theory
- Practice
- "War game"

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Summary

- Tool box
- Exercises
- Training facilities
- Few riflemen
- Reconnaissance
- Mixed combat teams
- Task organisation

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