

U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL CORPS



U.S. Army Chemical School
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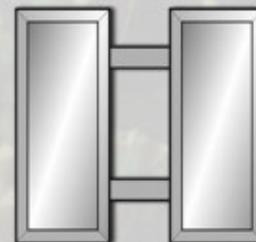
(2LT)

Chemical Officer Basic Course
Battalion Chemical Officer
Platoon Leader



(1LT)

Platoon Leader
Company Executive Officer
Battalion Staff



(CPT)

Chemical Captains Career Course
Brigade Chemical Officer
Company Commander

The Chemical Corps branch is focused primarily on warfighting operations and training in support of chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) defense; smoke and flame employment; and support of programs protecting our civilian population and military forces against weapons of mass destruction. The Chemical Branch is one of diversity, opportunity, and challenge. The chemical lieutenant can expect to perform duties such as platoon leader, company executive officer, and battalion staff officer. Chemical lieutenants provide expertise in all aspects of CBRN defense and operations to commanders and staffs at the battalion level. As a platoon leader the chemical lieutenant has the opportunity to hone leadership skills, as well as tactical and technical expertise. The role of the chemical officer is challenging and provides excellent opportunities for motivated officers.

For more information about the US Army Chemical Corps you can visit our website at <http://www.wood.army.mil/cmcareer/cadete/main.htm>

Commandant's Message

As you prepare to make one of the most important decisions of your military career, that is "which branch should I choose," I challenge you to select the U.S. Army Chemical Corps as one of your top branch choices.

The Chemical Corps is on the cutting edge of warfighting technology for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Defense and Homeland Security. It is also one of the fastest growing mission areas in the Army today. No other branch in the Army is better poised for the future and more relevant than the Chemical Corps. The Corps' capabilities provide CBRN defense for both our military fighting forces and civilian infrastructure. If you want to be part of a team that is on the fast-track in warfighting technology and that develops officers with highly marketable technical and professional skills, then the Chemical Corps is for you!

Chemical lieutenants have the opportunity to contribute to the warfight at all levels. Chemical units play vital roles in CBRN defense ranging from protection of key overseas ports and power projection facilities to the defense and protection of tactical warfighting units on the battlefield. Our lieutenants serve as Platoon Leaders or battalion/squadron chemical staff officers. As a Platoon Leader you will command one of five different platoons. As a battalion/squadron Chemical Officer, you will serve as the senior CBRN advisor in mechanized, armored, light, airborne, air assault, and special operations units across the Army.

For the lieutenant that desires to make the military a career, our promotion rates nearly always beat the Army average. For those who wish to move on and pursue civilian careers, you will be able to do that fully equipped with a set of skills that are in high demand in technical, environmental and emergency response fields. The Chemical Corps is the most relevant, dynamic branch in the Army and will give you the opportunity to serve your nation in a highly technical and challenging field.

Stanley H. Lillie
Colonel (P), USA
Commandant



Biological Integrated Detection System (BIDS) Platoon

BIDS Platoons provide commanders with an effective system to detect and presumptively identify biological warfare (BW) agents. The BIDS primary purpose is to provide information to enable commanders to limit the impact of large-area biological agent attacks. Detection and identification provided by the BIDS Platoon, when combined with theater-level intelligence, allows the force commander to make treatment decisions for his troops that can counter the effects of BW agents.

Battalion Chemical Officer

Responsible for personally advising the battalion commander on all aspects of CBRN defense and for insuring the battalion is sufficiently trained to fight and win in a contaminated environment. Being a battalion chemical officer is one of the most demanding jobs a second lieutenant will encounter. Few other lieutenants enjoy the equal status of the more senior officers on the battalion staff and personally advise the battalion commander. The battalion chemical officer must be aggressive, imaginative, a self-starter, and be able to "stand alone" as the resident expert in all aspects of CBRN defense.



Decontamination Platoon

Decontamination Platoons provide CBRN decontamination support to a brigade-sized unit or at strategic ports of embarkation and debarkation. At the tactical level, decontamination allows the US and allied forces to maintain the momentum by putting the "killing systems" back into the fight as rapidly as possible.

Other Opportunities

There are opportunities for Chemical lieutenants to serve with Special Operations units (Special Forces and Rangers) as battalion chemical officers. Those Lieutenants serving in a Ranger battalion will have the opportunity to become Ranger qualified. Lieutenants assigned to the 82d Airborne Division will have an opportunity to become Airborne qualified, those assigned to the 25th Infantry Division (Light), 10th Mountain Division (Light) or the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) will have the opportunity to become Air Assault qualified.



Smoke Generator Platoon

Comprised of either mechanized or wheeled vehicles, the platoon is responsible for providing large area smoke support, normally to a battalion-sized unit. The smoke platoon serves as a combat multiplier by reducing the vulnerability of maneuver battalions to enemy observation and fire. Other smoke missions include protection of support facilities, concealing breaching operations, and conducting deception operations.

NBC Reconnaissance Platoon

Responsible for providing NBC reconnaissance support to division and corps units. The FOX NBC Reconnaissance vehicle is a rolling laboratory that takes air, water, and ground samples and analyzes them in support of the platoon's mission to detect, identify, mark, sample, survey and report chemical and radiological contamination on the battlefield.

