

Editorial

By the laser's red glare

A senior U.S. military analyst who prefers to remain anonymous has provided *EIR* with the following account of the first visit by a group of newsmen to what the U.S. Army claims is its most advanced training base in the country.

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Camp Lewin is "the wave of the future," according to the Army's official press packet; "the first base completely devoted to the best behavioral, managerial, and budgetary techniques known to modern science."

As our Army bus drove up to the parade ground at the center of the base, I noticed a master sergeant wearing the peaked hat of a drill instructor standing before a line of bald young men. Nothing really changes, I thought to myself; another generation of recruits about to be whipped into line by their sergeant. I walked close enough to hear.

"I'm okay," yelled the sergeant.

"You're okay," yelled the recruits in unison.

"You're okay, WHAAAAT?" The sergeant was screaming, his peaked hat quivering in rage.

"You're okay, SIIIR," the bald men screamed back.

"Fifty push-ups for forgetting," said the sergeant.

I was getting confused, but a voice from behind interrupted my thoughts.

"A lot of the older noncommissioned officers are having trouble getting the hang of transactional close order drill. But we find that a lot of them are leaving and being replaced with younger blood." I turned to see Captain Calvin "Cal" Lude, Camp Lewin's information officer.

"Let's start with the rifle range, Capt. Lude," I said with some authority. "Nothing like seeing a squad practicing on the firing line."

The captain gave me a condescending smile. "Affinity groups, sir. We call them affinity groups

these days, not squads. More conducive to group-cohesive goal-oriented behaviors, you know."

"Group-cohesive whats?" I sputtered.

Capt. Lude ignored me and launched into his prepared spiel. "The old Army," he said, "used to put a premium on individual initiative, skills, and courage. The New Army understands that this does not allow the recruit to achieve his/her full human potential in a post-technetronic society. It gets in the way of maximizing the psi-forces necessary for modern combat. Do you realize that a full-strength brigade theoretically has enough karmic energy to stop a 105-millimeter shell in mid-flight?"

"What happens if the tests fail," I asked sarcastically.

"Our Kubler-Ross seminars take care of that. If a soldier is liberated from the material level, he/she is fully prepared to continue fighting on the ethereal level. As our Commanding Officer is fond of saying: 'The Army should take control of the Air Force again ... we're the only ones prepared to fight on a higher plane.' A great joker, the CO—a Sagittarius, you know."

"Captain," I said firmly, "this whole thing is insane. You're doing nothing here that will train these men how to defend their country in time of war!"

"I can see that you're on a heavy neo-imperialist trip," the officer replied, "But if that's your thing, I'll let you in on a secret. Using our techniques, the Joint Chiefs of Staff have developed the biggest breakthrough in infantry tactics since the human wave suicide assault. We've decided to turn the MX underground missile system strategy into standard operating procedure for the entire armed forces. We are setting up a system where, in the event of war, all infantrymen will board Randomly Scheduled Troop Transporters. Just like the MX missile system, these will be underground vehicles, and the enemy will know where the exits are, but they won't know when and where our troops will pop out."