



U.S. Army Asymmetric Warfare Group (AWG)

Think. Adapt. Anticipate.

Background :

◆ In October 2003, HQDA created the IED Task Force. In June 2004, the AWG was created as an off-shoot of that initial TF.

◆ In January 2006, the AWG was established as a field operating agency under the operational control of the office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7, Headquarters, Department of the Army

◆ The AWG was activated as an Army Special Mission Unit on 8 March 2006, at Fort Meade, MD.

◆ In November 2011, the AWG was headquartered under Training and Doctrine Command, directly reporting to the TRADOC commanding general. While the AWG's mission remains the same, it also functions as TRADOC's link to the operational Army.

Organization:

◆ Command Group, Staff & HHD

◆ COCOM Liaison Teams

◆ Operational Squadrons: Provides operational advisory support to the Army and Joint Force commanders to enhance Soldier survivability and combat effectiveness, and enable the defeat of current and emerging threats in support of Unified Land Operations.

◆ Training, Recruiting and Assessment Squadron: Recruits, evaluates and trains AWG members to advise the Army on emerging asymmetric threats to enhance combat effectiveness of the operating force.

◆ Concepts and Integrations Squadron: Rapidly identifies, develops and integrates non-material and supports material solution development to the Army and Joint Forces Commanders that mitigate defeat specified asymmetric threats.

Mission:

The U.S. Army Asymmetric Warfare Group provides operational advisory and solution development support globally to Army and Joint Force Commanders to enhance Soldier survivability, combat effectiveness, and enable the defeat of current and emerging asymmetric threats in support of Unified Land Operations.

AWG Core Competency: Operational Advising

Purpose:

- Enhance Soldier survivability
- Increase combat effectiveness of the force

AWG's Uniqueness:

AWG is the Army's only unit dedicated to countering current and emerging asymmetric threats. AWG does this by identifying and developing solutions for friendly capability gaps and exploiting enemy vulnerabilities.

AWG is comprised of senior active duty Soldiers, DA civilians and contractors who are seasoned warfighters and functional area experts.

Through its operational advisors' first-hand observations and its solution development process, the AWG has the ability to rapidly identify, develop, assess, and disseminate non-material and material solutions across the Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership and Education, Personnel and Facilities (DOTMLPF) spectrum in order to mitigate asymmetric gaps or vulnerabilities. This is also done in a partnership with Army organizations such as the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization (JIEDDO), Rapid Equipping Force (REF), Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL), and many others.

AWG has access to a variety of problem solvers and solution development processes, enabling it to deliver creative solutions rapidly to various theaters, to assist the force on the ground.



An Asymmetric Warfare Group operational advisor works with Soldiers in theater to help close the gap between their pre-deployment marksmanship training and combat operations.

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Operational Advisors (OA)

- ◆ AWG OAs maintains a global presence; focusing on identifying and overcoming current and emerging threats.
- ◆ Operational Advisors operate within all types of forces to quickly blend capabilities and collaborate across the Army spectrum.
- ◆ AWG OAs deploy and embed with units and at operational forces' request.
- ◆ Operational Advisors embrace concepts like Outcomes-Based Training and Education (OBT&E) to develop and encourage adaptive problem-solving which leads to Soldiers and leaders who are adaptive, more confident, agile and proactive in combat. OBT&E can be applied in all pre-deployment training, including marksmanship, first aid, and the military decision making process.
- ◆ AWG OA teams provide the brigade combat teams training experience combined with in-theater experience in order to close the gap between pre-deployment training and combat operations.
- ◆ AWG advisory teams assist leaders in developing, implementing, and integrating enablers, systems, and processes they will use in theater.

Operational Advisor Traits:

- ◆ Adaptive and mentally agile: Sees beyond rote solutions, quickly digests large amounts of information.
- ◆ Critical and creative thinkers: Ability to quickly consider second & third order effects.
- ◆ Initiative: Proactive rather than reactive, not deterred by uncertainty.
- ◆ Good Judgment: Understands use of prudent risk as a tool to gain surprise and momentum.
- ◆ Doctrinally skilled: Uses doctrine to understand implications & develop creative solutions.

AWG Attributes:

- Proximity:** AWG develops solutions through first-hand observations in combat and operational areas.
- Durations:** AWG maintains an enduring global presence, focused on indentifying and overcoming emerging threats.
- Experience:** AWG operational advisors have recent and relevant combat/ operational experience from a range of units; can quickly blend capabilities across the Army spectrum.

Key Tasks:

- ◆ Support Army and Joint Force commanders by advising and assisting pre-deployment and in-theater forces to reduce vulnerabilities to current and emerging threats.
- ◆ Deploy AWG forces worldwide to observe and assess enemy threats and friendly interaction to identify possible offensive and defensive countermeasures to defeat threats.
- ◆ Develop core competencies that identify, develop, assist, transition and disseminate non-material and material solutions to threats for full spectrum operations.
- ◆ Advance Army innovation and adaption of the operating force to be more agile, versatile, and lethal.
- ◆ Develop adaptive leaders through a continuous learning organization.

AWG Heritage



Shoulder Sleeve Insignia: The unit patch is a black circle with a red arrow positioned horizontally. The circles represent the globe and AWG's worldwide operations. The black represents the unknown nature of future threats. The arrow represents the Indian Wars, one of the first asymmetric conflicts the U.S. Army faced. The red of the arrow symbolizes aggressive action; it faces forward on the uniform when worn on either sleeve to represent forward vision, thinking, and action.

Distinctive Unit Insignia: The unit insignia is a circular, gold, metal-and-enamel device that is one inch in diameter. It consists of a gold border around a black circle with four gold rectangles in a cross-shaped position on the black circle. This cross-shaped pattern is the Native American symbol for the coyote track, used to symbolize cunning and resourcefulness. The black circle represents the world and unknown future threats. Legend suggests the coyote tricked the learner into the lesson, giving the notion that things are not as they seem until the lesson is completed, and the wisdom is gained.



Contact Us

To request AWG support or inquire about products, call 301-833-5258 (DSN: 733).

For products:

<https://newportal.awg.army.mil/SitePages/Home.aspx> (NIPR)

<https://portal.awg.army.smil.mil/SitePages/Home.aspx> (SIPR)

If you are interested in becoming a member of the AWG and would like to inquire about recruiting information, call 301-833-5366 (DSN: 733).

For general AWG information, visit us online at: www.awg.army.mil

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