

# MARINE CORPS WARFIGHTING LABORATORY

The **Night Integrated Training Environment (NITE) Facility** provides a venue for individual Marines and small units to practice tactics, techniques and procedures with night vision devices (NVD).

**Background:** During October 2000, the Lab began experimenting with an indoor NITE facility to address the challenges and deficiencies associated with current NVD field-training methods. Marine Corps infantry forces currently conduct the vast majority of initial and follow-on NVD training during field training exercises. These NVD training periods require nighttime operations, relatively good weather and are subject to the availability of training areas typically away from garrison.

The NITE Facility provides capabilities not currently available to the Operating Forces like a mission playback and debrief capability; an integrated, scored, targeting system; and varied terrain and obstacles in a controlled environment. Located in garrison, this facility allows cost-effective training to be conducted at any time of the day under a variety of artificially produced ambient-light conditions regardless of the outside weather conditions.

**Description:** The NITE facility underscores the scalable, building-block approach to NVD training. Basic and intermediate training can be accomplished before field exercises in a deliberate and controlled manner. Operational pauses can be initiated instantaneously because the training scenarios and light levels are all controlled from within the facility. Simple problems like equipment malfunctions, an improper technique or dropped gear are easily corrected. Surveillance equipment in the facility allows leaders to be omnipresent, monitor the training and critique and debrief individual and small-unit actions.

The overall improvements realized by training in this type of facility include enhanced night-combat training efficiency in low-visibility movement techniques, target detection and target engagement.

## NIGHT INTEGRATED TRAINING ENVIRONMENT

### *fact sheet*



**Deliverable Product:** As the Ground Combat Advocate, the Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies and Operations concurred with a Universal Needs Statement (UNS) for similar facilities and supports the provision of advanced NVD training facilities. Training and Education Command is assessing the possibility of incorporating similar facilities into Marine Corps night vision device training curriculums.

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