

APPENDIX D

MEDICAL LABORATORY SERVICES—MEDICAL FORCE 2000**D-1. Theater Area Medical Laboratory**

Medical Force 2000 assets will include a theater area medical laboratory (TAML), TOE 08-657L000. It will be allocated on the basis of one per theater. It will be under the command and control of the MEDCOM. This independent high-technology laboratory will be established in fixed buildings, with lines of communications and transportation to the MEDLOG battalion (rear).

a. The TAML is a 75-person unit which will provide medical laboratory procedures and data for the evaluation of environmental issues, including health of soldiers, within the theater of operations. These services will require skilled personnel and sophisticated high-technology equipment.

b. The TAML will have the ability to send specialty teams forward into the corps area to handle unique problems. It will have the capability to analyze—

- Samples to assist in definitive treatment of biological and chemical agent effects.
- Food, water, and other environmental samples and specimens from animals to assist veterinary and preventive medicine personnel in identifying and assessing NBC agents.

c. Although staffing for the TAML is austere, it will be adequate to allow for 24-hour operations.

d. The TAML will have the following limitations:

- It will be dependent upon appropriate elements of TA for health, finance, religion, mess, legal, personnel, and administrative services and for organizational, communications-electronics, and vehicle maintenance.
- It will have limited mobility. Organic vehicles will be required for day-to-day administration and logistical functions and for task organization of teams.

e. The TAML will have the capability to perform—

- Investigative biochemical and toxicological analyses.
- Microbiological identification and characterization.
- Serological testing related to disease diagnoses and prevention.
- Analyses of food items suspected of contamination.
- Detection and diagnoses of zoonotic diseases.
- Entomological analyses and limited pesticide adequacy assessments.
- Epidemiological analyses.
- Evaluation of environmental and clinical samples for NBC contamination.

f. The TAML will have the following sections:

- Headquarters section.
- Biochemistry section.
- Anatomical pathology section.
- Microbiology section.
- Veterinary laboratory section.
- Entomology section.
- Epidemiology section.

D-2. Medical Laboratory Services in Echelons Above Corps

Unlike laboratories organic to hospitals, the TAML will perform functions with a much broader scope

related to the health of the force as a whole. The TAML will perform sample analyses to determine the process of disease or to evaluate contamination from NBC agents. To accomplish these analyses, the laboratory will require high technology identification kits and monitoring devices. Because of dangers inherent in analyzing contaminated

samples, strict protection procedures will be implemented by the laboratory. Once the identification is made, samples will be forwarded to CONUS for confirmation. Samples which are beyond the analytical capabilities of the TAML will be forwarded to the appropriate higher level laboratories for more detailed analyses.