

24.Bioeffects of Selected Nonlethal Weapons

Department of the Army United States Army Intelligence and Security Command Regraded unclassified December 13, 2006 This addendum to the Nonlethal Technologies -Worldwide study addresses in summary, some of the most often asked questions of nonlethal weapons technology, the physiological responses observed in clinical settings of the biophysical coupling and susceptibility of personnel to nonlethal effects weapons. These results identify and validate some aspects of maturing nonlethal technologies that may likely be encountered or used as nonlethal effectors in the future including:

- Laser and other light phenomena
- Radiofrequency directed energy
- Aural bioeffects

The study of electromagnetic fields and their influence on biological systems is increasing rapidly. Much of this work is taking place because of health concerns. For example, increased concern has arisen regarding the effects of operator exposure to the electromagnetic fields associated with short-wave diathermy devices, highpower microwave ovens radar systems, magnetic resonance imaging units, etc. In addition, much concern has arisen about extremely low frequency (60 Hz power frequency) electric and magnetic fields that originate from high-voltage transmission lines, industrial equipment and residential appliances. Both occupational and residential long-term exposure have been the focus of epidemiological studies. The studies have suggested possible adverse effects on human health (e.g. cancer, reproduction, etc.). Laboratory research is still being pursued to identify possible mechanisms of interaction. However, other than thermal heating for microwave frequencies, there is no yet agreed-upon mechanism of action. . .

- Incapacitating Effect: Microwave Heating
- Biological Target/Normal Functions/Disease State
- Mechanism to Produce the Desired Effects
- Time to Onset
- Duration of Effect
- Tunability
- Distribution of Human Sensitivities to Desired Effects
- Possible Influence on Subjects
- Technological Status of Generator/Aiming Device
- Range

Incapacitating Effect: Disruption of Neural Control

- Biological Target/Normal Functions/Disease State
- Mechanism to Reproduce the Desired Effects . . .
- Recovery / Safety . . .
- Laser-Induced Biological Effects . .

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