PREFACE

This manual describes how the tank platoon fights. It focuses on the principles of platoon operations and the tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTP) the platoon uses to exploit its combat power and minimize its vulnerabilities while conducting move, attack, and defend operations.

FM 17-15 is for tank platoon leaders and members of M60A3, M1, M1A1, M1A2, and M8-AGS crews. Because weapons and equipment vary among units, users should adapt information to fit their specific situations. Where capabilities of the various systems differ significantly, this manual examines alternative considerations and techniques for their use.

In addition to FM 17-15, three publications are critical reference sources for the tank platoon. ARTEP 17-237-10-MTP, the mission training plan for the tank platoon, contains collective platoon tasks and outlines training procedures and exercises. The other two manuals are published as Fort Knox Supplementary Material (FKSM). FKSM 17-15-1 contains information on TTP for platoons equipped with a variety of enhanced technologies. Included are the latest updates on systems covered in FM 17-15, such as the intervehicular information system (IVIS), and on newly developed equipment like the missile countermeasure device (MCD). FKSM 17-15-3 contains a detailed example of tactical standing operating procedures (TSOP). Each tank platoon can modify the TSOP to meet its unique mission requirements. For information on obtaining FKSM publications, call (502) 624-2987/5848 (commercial) or 464-2987/5848 (DSN).

The proponent of FM 17-15 is HQ TRADOC. Record comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028, and send the form directly to Commander, 2d Squadron, 16th Cavalry Regiment, United States Army Armor School, ATTN: ATSB-SBB-D, Fort Knox, Kentucky 40121-5200.

Unless otherwise stated, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.