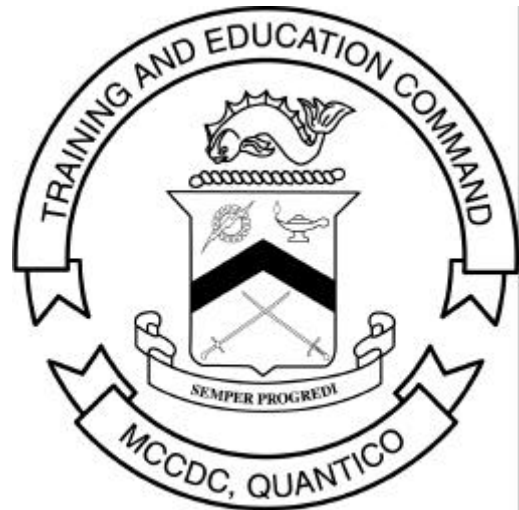


# MARINE CORPS INSTITUTE



## STABILITY AND SUPPORT OPERATIONS (SASO)

MARINE BARRACKS  
WASHINGTON, DC



## UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS INSTITUTE  
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WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20391-5680

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
1550  
Ser 2563  
1 Aug 05

From: Director  
To: Marine Corps Institute Student

Subj: STABILITY AND SUPPORT OPERATIONS (MCI 0326)

1. Purpose. The subject course is published to provide an overview, instruction, and information regarding stability and support operations (SASO).
2. Scope. This course provides the definitions and purposes of stability and support operations, an understanding of situational awareness as it relates to insurgency, terrorism, and guerilla warfare, and various tactics, techniques, and procedures in regards to firm base operations. This course also discusses checkpoint operations, recognition of explosive hazards, and convoy operation.
3. Applicability. This course is intended for instructional purposes only. It is designed for use by Marines in the ranks of private through staff sergeant, irrespective of MOS.
4. Recommendations. Comments and recommendations on the contents of the course are invited and will aid in subsequent course revisions. Please complete the course evaluation questionnaire at the end of the final examination. Return the questionnaire and the examination booklet to your proctor.

T.M. FRANUS  
By direction

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## Student Information

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<b>Number and Title</b>	MCI 0326 STABILITY AND SUPPORT OPERATIONS (SASO)
<b>Study Hours</b>	6 hours
<b>Course Materials</b>	Text
<b>Review Agency</b>	Ground Training Branch, Training and Education Command, MCCDC, Quantico, VA
<b>Reserve Retirement Credits (RRC)</b>	2
<b>ACE</b>	Not applicable to civilian training/education
<b>Assistance</b>	For administrative assistance, have your training officer or NCO log on to the MCI home page at <a href="http://www.mci.usmc.mil">www.mci.usmc.mil</a> . Marines CONUS may call toll free 1-800-MCI-USMC. Marines worldwide may call commercial (202) 685-7596 or DSN 325-7596.

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## Study Guide

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**Congratulations** Congratulations on your enrollment in a distance education course from the Distance Learning and Technologies Department (DLTD) of the Marine Corps Institute (MCI). Since 1920, the Marine Corps Institute has been helping tens of thousands of hard-charging Marines, like you, improve their technical job performance skills through distance learning. By enrolling in this course, you have shown a desire to improve the skills you have and master new skills to enhance your job performance. The distance learning course you have chosen, MCI 0326, *Stability and Support Operations (SASO)*, provides personnel in the ranks of private through staff sergeant, regardless of MOS, with an overview and information regarding SASO to include definitions and purposes of stability and support operation, tactics, techniques and procedures relating to firm base operations, and recognizing and reacting to explosive hazards.

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### **Your Personal Characteristics**

- **YOU ARE PROPERLY MOTIVATED.** You have made a positive decision to get training on your own. Self-motivation is perhaps the most important force in learning or achieving anything. Doing whatever is necessary to learn is motivation. You have it!
- **YOU SEEK TO IMPROVE YOURSELF.** You are enrolled to improve those skills you already possess, and to learn new skills. When you improve yourself, you improve the Corps!
- **YOU HAVE THE INITIATIVE TO ACT.** By acting on your own, you have shown you are a self-starter, willing to reach out for opportunities to learn and grow.
- **YOU ACCEPT CHALLENGES.** You have self-confidence and believe in your ability to acquire knowledge and skills. You have the self-confidence to set goals and the ability to achieve them, enabling you to meet every challenge.
- **YOU ARE ABLE TO SET AND ACCOMPLISH PRACTICAL GOALS.** You are willing to commit time, effort, and the resources necessary to set and accomplish your goals. These professional traits will help you successfully complete this distance learning course.

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## Study Guide, Continued

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**Beginning Your Course** Before you actually begin this course of study, read the student information page. If you find any course materials missing, notify your training officer or training NCO. If you have all the required materials, you are ready to begin.

To begin your course of study, familiarize yourself with the structure of the course text. One way to do this is to read the table of contents. Notice the table of contents covers specific areas of study and the order in which they are presented. You will find the text divided into several study units. Each study unit is comprised of two or more lessons, lesson exercises.

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**Leafing Through the Text** Leaf through the text and look at the course. Read a few lesson exercise questions to get an idea of the type of material in the course. If the course has additional study aids, such as a handbook or plotting board, familiarize yourself with them.

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**The First Study Unit** Turn to the first page of study unit 1. On this page, you will find an introduction to the study unit and generally the first study unit lesson. Study unit lessons contain learning objectives, lesson text, and exercises.

---

**Reading the Learning Objectives** Learning objectives describe in concise terms what the successful learner, you, will be able to do as a result of mastering the content of the lesson text. Read the objectives for each lesson and then read the lesson text. As you read the lesson text, make notes on the points you feel are important.

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**Completing the Exercises** To determine your mastery of the learning objectives and text, complete the exercises developed for you. Exercises are located at the end of each lesson, and at the end of each study unit. Without referring to the text, complete the exercise questions and then check your responses against those provided.

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## Study Guide, Continued

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### Continuing to March

Continue on to the next lesson, repeating the above process until you have completed all lessons in the study unit. Follow the same procedures for each study unit in the course.

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### Preparing for the Final Exam

To prepare for your final exam, you must review what you learned in the course. The following suggestions will help make the review interesting and challenging.

- **CHALLENGE YOURSELF.** Try to recall the entire learning sequence without referring to the text. Can you do it? Now look back at the text to see if you have left anything out. This review should be interesting. Undoubtedly, you'll find you were not able to recall everything. But with a little effort, you'll be able to recall a great deal of the information.
- **USE UNUSED MINUTES.** Use your spare moments to review. Read your notes or a part of a study unit, rework exercise items, review again; you can do many of these things during the unused minutes of every day.
- **APPLY WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED.** It is always best to use the skill or knowledge you've learned as soon as possible. If it isn't possible to actually use the skill or knowledge, at least try to imagine a situation in which you would apply this learning. For example make up and solve your own problems. Or, better still, make up and solve problems that use most of the elements of a study unit.
- **USE THE "SHAKEDOWN CRUISE" TECHNIQUE.** Ask another Marine to lend a hand by asking you questions about the course. Choose a particular study unit and let your buddy "fire away." This technique can be interesting and challenging for both of you!
- **MAKE REVIEWS FUN AND BENEFICIAL.** Reviews are good habits that enhance learning. They don't have to be long and tedious. In fact, some learners find short reviews conducted more often prove more beneficial.

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## Study Guide, Continued

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### **Tackling the Final Exam**

When you have completed your study of the course material and are confident with the results attained on your study unit exercises, take the sealed envelope marked “**FINAL EXAM**” to your unit training NCO or training officer. Your training NCO or officer will administer the final examination and return the examination and the answer sheet to MCI for grading. Before taking your final examination, read the directions on the DP-37 answer sheet carefully.

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### **Completing Your Course**

The sooner you complete your course, the sooner you can better yourself by applying what you’ve learned! **HOWEVER**--you do have 2 years from the date of enrollment to complete this course.

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### **Graduating!**

As a graduate of this distance education course and as a dedicated Marine, your job performance skills will improve, benefiting you, your unit, and the Marine Corps.

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*Semper Fidelis!*

# STUDY UNIT 1

## STABILITY OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT OPERATIONS

### Overview

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**Scope**

This study unit will provide you with the information and tools necessary to evaluate stability and support operations and your individual role within those operations. At the conclusion of this study unit, you should be able to define the purposes of stability and support operations (SASO), identify current trends in SASO, and state the meaning of rules of engagement.

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**In This Study Unit**

This study unit contains the following lessons:

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Page</b>
Understanding SASO	1-3
Current Trends	1-15
Rules of Engagement	1-25

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# LESSON 1

## UNDERSTANDING SASO

### Introduction

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**Scope** As a Marine, you will likely have to participate in a stability or support operation. In this lesson, you will learn the different types of operations, their purpose, and some special considerations.

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- Learning Objectives** After completing this lesson, you should be able to
- Identify the purpose of stability operations.
  - Identify the types of stability operations.
  - Identify the special considerations with stability operations.
  - Identify the purpose of support operations.
  - Identify the types of support operations.
  - Identify the special considerations with support operations.
- 

**In This Lesson** This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	1-3
Purpose of Stability Operations	1-4
Types of Stability Operations	1-5
Special Considerations with Stability Operations	1-7
Purpose of Support Operations	1-9
Types of Support Operations	1-10
Special Considerations with Support Operations	1-11
Lesson 1 Exercise	1-12

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# Purpose of Stability Operations

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## Functions

The primary purpose of stability operations is to maintain and restore order. Other functions of stability operations are listed below:

- Promote and protect U.S. national interests.
  - Influence the threat, political, and information dimensions of the operational environment.
  - Respond to crisis through a combination of peacetime developmental, cooperative activities and coercive actions.
  - Achieve objective by engagement and response.
  - Compliment or reinforce offensive, defensive, or decisive operations.
- 

## History

Stability operations are not new to the Marine Corps. What is now referred to as *stability* operations was once referred to as peace operations, small wars, counter-guerrilla operations, operations other than war, or as pacification operations.

The mission for each of these operations was all slightly different, but the main idea of stabilizing the government and the population was the same. For example, operations in Haiti from 1915 to 1934 and the Philippines from 1899 to 1904 were very similar to operations in Panama in the 1980s and Kosovo in the late 1990s.

Each stability operation conducted by the Marines and the U.S. military varied in their degree of success. There are many different types of stability operations and each operation has its own unique mission and requires specific training and equipment to accomplish that mission. The training and equipment needed to stabilize Kosovo was different than what was needed to stabilize Iraq after Operation Iraq Freedom.

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## Operational Trends

The U.S. military will be more involved in stability operations in the future than most other types of operations. Since the early 1990s, the U.S. has almost doubled the number of stability operations conducted throughout the world than all the years' prior.

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# Types of Stability Operations

## Stability Operations

Stability operations generally fall into ten broad types. The table below shows the types and descriptions of stability operations:

Type	Description
Peace Operations	Maintain peace within a nation or to support diplomatic efforts.  <u>Note:</u> After the fighting stopped in Kosovo during the 1990s, U.N. forces conducted peace operations to ensure conflict would not resume.
Foreign Internal Defense	Provides security within a foreign nation to rebuild the governmental infrastructure through indirect support, direct support, or combat operations
Security Assistance	Supports foreign government police or military to establish and maintain law and order
Humanitarian and Civic Assistance	Distributes food and water and provides disaster relief following natural or manmade disasters
Support to Insurgencies	Provides military support to groups within a nation that support U.S. national interests through unconventional or conventional warfare
Support to Counterdrug Operations	Detection and monitoring, host-nation support, intelligence, manpower and training support
Combatting Terrorism	Antiterrorism and counterterrorism
Noncombatant Evacuation Operations	Assists U.S. Embassy evacuations and evacuations of American citizens when needed
Arms Control	Inspection, protection, and destruction of nuclear or conventional weapons and munitions
Show of Force	Increased visibility, exercises, and demonstrations of force to prevent actions or demonstrate our ability to act in a decisive manner

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## **Types of Stability Operations, Continued**

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**Combination of the Types**    The types of stability operations are neither discrete nor mutually exclusive. For example, a unit that is combatting terrorism may also conduct counter drug operations and peace operations at the same time to stabilize the government.

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## Special Considerations with Stability Operations

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### Enhancement

During stability operations, it is important to

- Increase host-nation credibility by showing proper respect for the government.
- Allow host-nation's forces to take the lead in security activities.
- Improve the capabilities of security forces through training, advice, and assistance.

These special considerations leave the host-nation stronger and more capable of properly governing its people. It also shows the host-nation that the U.S. is not attempting to colonize or occupy that particular nation.

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### Unintended Consequences

The actions of individuals and units can create consequences disproportionate to the level of command. An individual's actions can even have strategic implications.

Marines that are disciplined, proficient, and knowledgeable in stability operations can reduce the possibility of unintended consequences.

The improper treatment or respect of a host-nation's religious and cultural beliefs can alienate the population and cause them to withdraw their support of the mission to stabilize the country.

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### Appropriate Level of Preparedness

Although Marines must be prepared for combat in stability operations, the level of preparedness shown must be limited so that it does not provoke potential adversaries. These limitations will be drawn out in the Rules of Engagement and through training.

For example, a unit that constantly points their weapons towards any passing host-nation civilian (for security reasons) will eventually create an air of hostility that contradicts the purpose of the unit being there.

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## Special Considerations with Stability Operations, Continued

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**Decisive Action** Stability operations require Marines to

- Act decisively at all levels to prevent escalation.
- Pursue objectives enthusiastically.
- Apply force selectively.

Decisiveness reassures allies and deters adversaries. Failure to act decisively causes a loss of respect for the stability force. This may embolden adversaries and weaken the trust of the supported population.

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**Application of Force**

Excessive force can lead to the loss of sympathy and support of local and international populations. Inadequate force may jeopardize mission accomplishment and adversely impact the local populace and domestic support. The degree of force used should be consistent with the situation and rules of engagement.

Although the degree of force used applies to all members of a given unit, each individual could be faced with a situation where he/she must determine the degree of force needed to resolve a situation. This decision must be instantaneous and correct. Planning and training for the different situations that an individual may be faced with will lessen the decision-making time.

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# Purpose of Support Operations

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## **Functions**

The primary purpose of support operations is to provide community assistance—they assist civil authorities in response to emergencies and to relieve or reduce suffering.

Support operations may occur independently. However, they may more often complement offensive, defensive, and stability operations. Support operations usually occur with offensive, defensive, and stability operations.

Support operations should last long enough for the infrastructure of the country to accomplish tasks on its own.

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## **History**

Just as with stability operations, support operations are not new to the Marine Corps. Immediately following WWII, the United States conducted wide scale support operations all over the world to meet the immediate needs of civil authorities.

During the expansion of the West in the United States, the military was used to conduct explorations, govern territories, guard national parks, make maps, and build roads and canals.

During 2005, the U.S. military was called upon to provide disaster relief to the victims of South East Asia's Tsunami disaster.

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## **Political Agenda**

Using the military to conduct support operations is not just a humanitarian mission, but also a political one. By having the U.S. military to assist civil authorities restore the basic functions of the government, the U.S. creates an air of good will, which helps to improve the political relationship between countries.

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# Types of Support Operations

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## **Domestic Support Operations**

Domestic support operations (DSO) are conducted after the President declares an emergency. However, a commander may conduct them following the findings by appropriate authorities in the chain-of-command as an immediate response to an emergency under imminently serious conditions. Domestic support operations

- Support civil agencies and volunteer agencies
- Respond with assistance for another federal agency

Within the United States, Marines have provided domestic support operations for widespread forest fires, hurricanes, floods, and other natural and manmade disasters. Domestically, the U.S. military can bring large-scale support of equipment and personnel to quickly give assistance.

The U.S. military can also be called upon to support U.S. law enforcement efforts within strict guidelines set by Congress and the Constitution. In the past, the military has assisted the U.S. Border Patrol, Drug Enforcement Agency, and the Department of Homeland Security in law enforcement assistance.

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## **Foreign Humanitarian Assistance**

Foreign humanitarian assistance (FHA) operations are used to supplement the efforts of the host-nation civil authorities or agencies by conducting activities limited in scope and duration. FHA relieves or reduces the impact of natural or manmade disasters or other endemic conditions—human pain, disease, hunger, or privation—that might seriously threaten life or result in great damage to or loss of property.

Marines may participate in FHA operations that are unilateral, multinational, or coordinated by an international organization such as the United Nations.

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# Special Considerations with Support Operations

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## **Priority of Support**

When conducting support operations, support should be provided to the largest number of people possible. Special care and attention will be made to ensure that all available resources are prioritized and used accordingly.

Sometimes, low priority missions will need to be accomplished before higher priority missions. For example, the military may have to restore limited electrical services (a low priority mission) to power hospital emergency rooms and shelters (a high priority mission).

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## **Actions with Other Agencies**

Effective coordination of actions with other agencies will allow the proper distribution of essential equipment and personnel. During support operations, the military is often in support of national or international agencies. The constant and effective coordination between these agencies and the military will allow for the proper distribution of scarce resources.

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## **Measures of Effectiveness**

The success of a support operation can be determined by establishing measures of effectiveness. Using methods to measure the effectiveness is critical; they will ensure that resources are not being used incorrectly when they could be better used elsewhere.

For example, monitoring the rate of decline in the death rate at a hospital will more accurately denote success than to measure the amount of medicine being distributed.

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## **U.S. Military Turnover**

While the U.S. military may play a lead role in a support operation or during certain phases of the operation, they should work to hand over responsibility to appropriate civilian agencies as soon as possible.

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# Lesson 1 Exercise

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**Directions** Complete items 1 through 6 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

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**Item 1** The purpose of stability operations is to maintain and

- a. restore safety.
  - b. restore order.
  - c. provide disaster relief.
  - d. provide community assistance.
- 

**Item 2** Name three types of stability operations.

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**Item 3** What special consideration in a support operation is *the ability to make decisions quickly*?

- a. The potential of unintended consequences
  - b. The ability to use force in a nonthreatening manner
  - c. The ability to apply force selectively
  - d. The need to act decisively
- 

**Item 4** The primary purpose of support operations is to

- a. provide community assistance.
  - b. provide security assistance.
  - c. establish a temporary government.
  - d. display a show of force.
- 

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## Lesson 1 Exercise, Continued

**Item 5**

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Name two types of support operations.

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**Item 6**

The best way to know if a support operation is successful is to

- a. take surveys of the population.
- b. establish measures of effectiveness.
- c. coordinate actions with other agencies.
- d. estimate the number of people needing assistance.

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## Lesson 1 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	b	1-4
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Peace Operations</li><li>• Foreign Internal Defense</li><li>• Security Assistance</li><li>• Humanitarian and Civic Assistance</li><li>• Support to Insurgencies</li><li>• Support to Counterdrug Operations</li><li>• Combatting Terrorism</li><li>• Noncombatant Evacuation Operations</li><li>• Arms Control</li><li>• Show of Force</li></ul>	1-5
3	d	1-8
4	a	1-9
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Domestic Support</li><li>• Foreign Humanitarian Assistance</li></ul>	1-10
6	b	1-11

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### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you've learned the different types of stability operations and support operations, their purposes, and the special considerations regarding support operations

In the next lesson, you will learn the elements that lead to the instability of nations, the complex and uncertain situations that affect SASO, and the information gathering operations conducted with regards to SASO.

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# LESSON 2

## CURRENT TRENDS

### Introduction

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#### Scope

The current strategic environment is complex, dynamic, and uncertain. Trends indicate the demands placed on the U.S. military to conduct stability and support operations in the 21<sup>st</sup> century will be greater than ever.

By understanding the current trends that lead to the U.S. military conducting stability and support operations, you will be able to accomplish your mission more effectively.

During this lesson, you will be introduced to the elements that lead to the instability of nations, complex and uncertain situations while operating in a SASO environment, and the different methods for gathering information during your operation.

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#### Learning Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to

- Identify the elements that lead to the instability of nations.
  - Identify complex and uncertain situations that effect SASO.
  - Identify the information gathering operations in SASO.
- 

#### In This Lesson

This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	1-15
Elements that Lead to the Instability of Nations	1-16
Effects of Complex and Uncertain Situations	1-19
Information Gathering Operations	1-20
Lesson 2 Exercise	1-22

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# Elements that Lead to the Instability of Nations

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## **Balance of Power**

Many countries throughout the world do not enjoy the benefit of having a stable government as in the United States. Those countries have many different political, economical, culture, or religious reasons for wanting substantial change within their countries' government. Sometimes outside pressures, such as globalization and international organizations, attempt to disrupt or seize control of government power and resources for their own means. Instability of these nations is caused when there are attempts to shift the balance of power from within.

From 1992 through 1994, Operation Restore Hope in Somalia was a stability and support operation conducted by a coalition of different nations to restore stability to the government from warlords. These warlords were fighting the government and each other for control of the country.

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## **Nationalism**

Nationalism is the loyalty and devotion to one's nation or culture. Generally speaking, nationalists believe that nations will benefit from acting independently rather than collectively, emphasizing national rather than international goals. Some forms of nationalism can cause instability within a country or within a region.

Many forms of nationalistic identity exist, including ethnic, religious, tribal, historical, or territorial. In some cases, these movements are closely linked to criminal organizations.

An example of a nationalistic movement is the Basque Separatists (ETA). The ETA is one of the world's oldest nationalistic/separatist groups who have fought for decades to establish an independent Basque region, an area about 100 square miles between Spain and France. They have effectively sabotaged Spanish and French tourism, electoral processes, and seem to favor attacks on nuclear power plants.

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## Elements that Lead to the Instability of Nations, Continued

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### **Clash of Cultures**

Some countries and cultures reject Western political and cultural values. In these countries, governments that support or use Western political or cultural values are under attack by regimes that are strictly opposed to these values because of religious, cultural, or tribal beliefs. As tribal, nationalist, or religious movements compete with Western models of government, instability of the nation can increase.

Prior to the U.S. and coalition invasion of Afghanistan, the ruling Taliban government was waging a war against Western societies based on cultural and ethnical values.

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### **Demographics**

Population growth, especially in the underdeveloped world, will strain the resources and social structures of the government. Because much of the world's growth occurs in areas prone to natural disasters and famine, such events can cause mass migrations.

Another important aspect of how demographics can affect the stability of a nation is with a government's attempt to manipulate or control natural population growth. For years, China has attempted to limit the growth of its population by limiting the number of children a family can have. Because families preferred male children for better employment opportunities, there was a huge population explosion of males. Sociologists are attempting to estimate what the future consequences of having such a disparity between the sexes of a nation will do for its stability. Some sociologists expect significant political, social, and economical instability in China's future as millions of males reach adulthood with limited possibility of having a traditional family future.

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## Elements that Lead to the Instability of Nations, Continued

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**Ungovernability** The inability of governments to govern effectively is an obvious element that leads to instability. A government that is unable to provide basic support and security for the people, coupled with a portion of the population ready to revolt, may lead to conflict and instability.

The South American country of Bolivia during the late 1960s is an example of a government's inability to govern its people. Increasing factionalism, open dissent, ideological differences, policy errors, and corruption weakened the government and made it impossible to establish an institutional framework for governance.

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**Environmental Risks** Natural disasters, climate changes, and degradation of the existing natural environment can ruin a local economy, possibly creating conflict over scarce resources and large population movements.

Somalia's decade long drought strangled the economy and food supply that ignited anarchy, violence, and chaos. Frustrating the United Nations' peacekeeping operation, warlords and tribal factionism have been undermining all efforts to pacify their country or to set up an effective national government since the chaos in the early 1990s.

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**Propaganda** Increased public access to information and the increased ability of various groups to manipulate the media challenge the authority of governments and may even threaten the sovereignty of some states.

Some governments prohibit the use of the Internet and foreign news services by the people for religious or cultural grounds. When the people obtain access illegally, they are able to see how other foreign governments govern countries and are more likely to challenge their own government.

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## Effects of Complex and Uncertain Situations

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**Uncertain** Stability and support operations often take place in political, military, and cultural situations that are highly fluid and dynamic. An unclear understanding or description of the SASO's mission causes uncertainty by the population and military.

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**Complex** Examples of complex situations that may need to be resolved in order to accomplish a stability and support operation are listed below:

- Troops dispersed throughout the area of operation
  - Difficulty in discriminating between combatants and noncombatants
  - Undisciplined factions that are unwilling to consent to agreements
  - Absence of basic law and order
  - Violations of human rights
  - Widespread destruction or decay of civil infrastructure
  - Environmental damage
  - Threats of disease or epidemics
  - Presence of many displaced persons
  - Involvement of nongovernmental organizations and media
- 

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# Information Gathering Operations

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## Types

Information gathering operations allow units to produce intelligence on hostile or neutral forces in the area of operations necessary to make informed decisions. The three most common information gathering operations used in SASO are listed below:

- Human intelligence
  - Counterintelligence
  - Surveillance and reconnaissance
- 

## Human Intelligence

Human intelligence provides the most useful information. Below is a list of some human intelligence information gathering techniques:

- Interpreters
  - Low-level source operations conducted by routine patrols
  - Debriefs of indigenous personnel
  - Patrolling and patrol debriefs
  - Relations with community leaders
  - Relations with local business owners
- 

## Counter-intelligence Operations

Counterintelligence operations are designed to identify and eliminate the opponent's ability to gather intelligence information on or about U.S. military forces and operations.

Counterintelligence operations are active in all stability and support operations, even if there is no well-defined threat. Adversaries will attempt to use human intelligence operations and other means to gain information about the U.S. military forces' mission and disposition. Just as we would use our relations with local business owners to gather information about the enemy, they can use the same business owner to gather information about our activities.

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## Information Gathering Operations in SASO, Continued

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### **Surveillance and Reconnaissance**

Units use surveillance and reconnaissance operations to determine the enemy's

- Disposition
- Activities
- Intentions
- Threats

Within a Marine infantry battalion, the Sniper Platoon, Reconnaissance Platoon, and other attached aviation and support units are used to conduct surveillance and reconnaissance missions.

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## Lesson 2 Exercise

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**Directions** Complete items 1 through 5 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** Which of the following would be an element that could lead to the instability of a nation because of a population explosion?

- a. Ungovernability
  - b. Propaganda
  - c. Nationalism
  - d. Demographics
- 

**Item 2** The South American country of Bolivia during the 1960s is an example of which of the following elements that led to the instability of a nation?

- a. Ungovernability
  - b. Demographics
  - c. Balance of power
  - d. Environmental risks
- 

**Item 3** Name three elements that could lead to the instability of a nation.

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**Item 4** The absence of basic law and order and the presence of many displaced persons should be considered \_\_\_\_\_ situations that \_\_\_\_\_ support operations.

- a. complex; effect stability and
  - b. normal; have no effect on stability and
  - c. complex; only effect
  - d. normal; only effect
- 

*Continued on next page*



## Lesson 2 Exercise, Continued

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**Item 5**

Of the three information gathering operations most commonly conducted in stability and support operations, which tends to provide the most useful information?

- a. Human intelligence
  - b. Counterintelligence
  - c. Surveillance and reconnaissance
  - d. Interrogation
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 2 Exercise, Continued

---

### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	d	1-17
2	a	1-18
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Balance of Power</li><li>• Nationalism</li><li>• Clash of Cultures</li><li>• Demographics</li><li>• Ungovernability</li><li>• Environmental Risks</li><li>• Propaganda</li></ul>	1-16 through 1-18
4	a	1-19
5	a	1-20

---

### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you've learned about the elements that lead to the instability of nation, the complex and uncertain situations that affect SASO, and the information gathering operations conducted with regards to SASO.

In the next lesson, you will learn the purpose, characteristics, and considerations relative to rules of engagement, as well as the elements of self-defense.

---

# LESSON 3

## RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

### Introduction

---

#### Scope

In the conduct of any type of operation, Marines are subject to certain limitations on the amount of force that may be applied to accomplish their mission. These limitations are called rules of engagement. In this lesson, you will learn the purpose and identify the considerations and characteristics of rules of engagement as well as identify the elements of self-defense.

---

#### Learning Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to

- Select the best definition of rules of engagement.
  - Identify the three considerations that rules of engagement are based upon.
  - Identify the two elements of self-defense.
  - Identify the characteristics of an effective rule of engagement.
- 

#### Contents

This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	1-25
Understanding Rules of Engagements	1-26
Three Considerations	1-27
Elements of Self Defense	1-28
Characteristics	1-29
Lesson 3 Exercise	1-30

---

# Understanding Rules of Engagement

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**Definition** Rules of engagement (ROE) are directives issued by competent military authority that delineate the circumstances and limitations under which United States forces will initiate and/or continue combat engagement with other forces encountered.

---

**Specifically** Rules of engagement will detail *when, where, against whom, and how* a unit will use force when confronted with a situation.

---

**Exception** These rules do not limit a commander's inherent authority and obligation to use all necessary means available and to take all appropriate action in self-defense of the commander's unit and other U.S. forces in the vicinity.

Note: As a standard, rules of engagement will never limit or prevent Marines from using force to protect themselves from injury or death nor will it limit a Marine from protecting other persons for the same.

---

**Situational Training** Once the rules of engagement are disseminated, Marines must conduct training to make sure they understand the ROE. Situational training is the best method for ensuring all Marines understand. Situational training can be

- Individual role playing scenarios
  - Unit role playing scenarios
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Three Considerations

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**Considerations** ROE provide guidance regarding the use of force by commanders and individuals. When developing ROE, they are based on three types of considerations:

- Operational requirements
- Policy
- Law

Properly drafted ROE help to accomplish the mission by ensuring the force is used consistently with the overall military objectives

---

**Operational Requirements** Operational requirements must support both

- Mission accomplishment
  - Force protection
- 

**Policy** ROE reflect the political will of the civilian leadership of the armed forces. Developing and training ROE to multinational allies is an inherently political process, which may require coordination with host country policy.

For example, some cultures believe that a male should never touch females unless the male is of some relation. In this example, your ROE may stipulate that males should never physically search a female.

---

**Law** ROE also reflect domestic and international law. These laws vary by time and place; what can be done under some circumstances is forbidden in others. A few examples of how law effect ROE are listed below:

- Ability to search and seize property is different in each country
  - Construction and operations of bases normally requires international consensus
  - Aircraft overflight and landing rights
  - Posse Comitatus Act – the statute that prohibits the use of military forces to enforce civil law within the U.S.
  - Type of weapons and munitions allowed for use by law
- 

*Continued on next page*

# Elements of Self-Defense

---

**Self-Defense** Nothing in a ROE can limit the inherent authority and obligation for a person to use all necessary means available and to take all appropriate action in self-defense of an individual or a member of the armed forces. In all situations, individuals and units should use force based on two elements of self-defense:

- Necessity
  - Proportionality
- 

**Necessity** Imminent danger requires the use of force when there is a hostile act or hostile intent.

- Hostile act is the actual use of force
- Hostile intent is the threat or imminent use of force

Note: Necessity requires that the threat actually has the capability to use force.

---

**Example of Necessity** While on patrol in a hostile village, an unarmed villager approaches and threatens to shoot members of your patrol with his rifle. Even though the villager made a hostile intent, this does not constitute self-defense because the villager does not have the imminent capability to use force—he is unarmed.

---

**Proportionality** In self-defense, force must be limited in duration, intensity, and magnitude to ensure the continued safety of armed forces.

---

**Graduated Response** Graduated response is a technique specifically tailored to the situation and emphasizes using the minimum necessary force to diffuse the threat.

Graduated response illustrates a technique that clearly incorporates the elements of necessity and proportionality. This technique provides planned responses to an array of hostile and nonhostile threats. It includes the ability to quickly escalate the level of force required to accomplish the mission.

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*Continued on next page*

## Characteristics

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**Tactically  
Sound**

Special care must be taken when making or following ROEs to ensure that they are tactically sound. Commanders must ensure that the mission drives the ROE and not vice versa.

---

**Comprehensive**

ROE should be written and presented in a way that all members of a unit can understand them. If one Marine does not understand the ROE because it is too complicated or confusing, he could jeopardize the entire stability and support operation.

---

**Legally  
Sufficient**

ROE comply with domestic and international laws including the body of law pertaining to armed conflict (to include stability and support operations).

Rules of engagement will never justify illegal actions.

---

**Responsive**

The development, distribution, training, and modification of ROE must be timely and responsive to a changing mission or threat.

---

## Lesson 3 Exercise

---

**Directions** Complete items 1 through 4 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** What specifies when, where, against whom, and how units can use force in a stability and support operations?

- a. Standard operating procedures
  - b. Rules of engagement
  - c. Commander's intent
  - d. Laws and rules for warfare
- 

**Item 2** Operational requirements, policy, and law are three considerations for developing

- a. the mission statement.
  - b. the training plan.
  - c. rules of engagement.
  - d. a situational understanding.
- 

**Item 3** Proportionality and necessity are two elements of

- a. self-defense.
  - b. the mission statement.
  - c. the training plan.
  - d. supply issue amounts.
- 

**Item 4** The development, distribution, training, and modification of ROE must be timely and responsive to a changing

- a. mission and threat.
  - b. situation.
  - c. battlefield.
  - d. command and threat.
- 

*Continued on next page*



## Lesson 3 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	b	1-26
2	c	1-27
3	a	1-28
4	a	1-29

---

### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned the purpose, considerations, and characteristics of rules of engagement as well as the elements of self-defense.

---

### Study Unit 1 Summary

In this first study unit, you have been provided with the information necessary to evaluate stability and support operations. You have learned the purposes of SASO, current trends with regards to SASO and overview of rules of engagement.

In the next study unit, you will be provided with information on situational understanding within stability and support operations.

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# STUDY UNIT 2

## BATTLESPACE ANALYSIS

### Overview

---

**Scope** This study unit will provide you with the information and tools necessary to identify the difference between insurgency, terrorism, and guerrilla warfare as well as identifying what situational awareness is in stability or support operations.

---

**In This Study Unit** This study unit contains the following lessons:

Topic	See Page
Insurgency, Terrorism, and Guerrilla Warfare	2-3
Situational Awareness	2-11

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# LESSON 1

## INSURGENCY, TERRORISM, AND GUERRILLA WARFARE

### Introduction

---

**Scope**

Can you identify the differences between a guerrilla war, an insurgent movement, or a terrorist act? Although the differences are quite small from a Marines perspective, understanding the differences will better prepare you for conducting a stability or support operation.

---

**Learning Objectives**

After completing this lesson, you should be able to

- State the definition of an insurgency.
  - Identify the goal of an insurgency.
  - State the definition of terrorism.
  - Identify an example of U.S. policy regarding terrorism.
  - State the definition of guerrilla warfare.
- 

**In This Lesson**

This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	2-3
Insurgency	2-4
Terrorism	2-5
Guerrilla Warfare	2-6
Lesson 1 Exercise	2-7

---

# Insurgency

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<b>Definition</b>	<p>An <i>insurgency</i> is an organized movement aimed at the overthrow of a constituted government through subversion or armed conflict.</p>
<b>Leadership</b>	<p>An insurgent movement requires strong leadership. Leadership can come in the form of a single person, single group or political party, or a group of groups.</p> <p>Leadership of an insurgent movement is both a function of organization and personality. Some organizations depend on the charismatic personality of the leadership to provide cohesion, motivation, and act as a rally point for the movement.</p> <p>Without strong leadership, most insurgent movements fail as soon as they are challenged or they break apart into smaller, less effective insurgencies.</p>
<b>Goal of Insurgency</b>	<p>The goal of an insurgency is to mobilize human and material resources to form an alternative to the state by gaining political power.</p>
<b>Ideology</b>	<p>To win, an insurgency must have a program that explains society problems and justifies the insurgent's actions. Using simple ideology, they make promises of great improvements following the overthrow of the government.</p>
<b>Examples of Insurgency</b>	<p>Following OIF I, the city of Falluja became the catalyst of an insurgent movement aimed at the overthrow of the provisional government and U.S. lead coalition forces.</p> <p>Since 1996, the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist has been conducting an insurgency against the constitutional monarchy of Nepal.</p>

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# Terrorism

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## Definition

*Terrorism* is the calculated use of unlawful violence or threat of unlawful violence to inculcate fear; intended to coerce or to intimidate governments or societies in the pursuit of goals that are generally political, religious, or ideological. Within this definition, there are three key elements:

- Violence
- Fear
- Intimidation

Each element produces fear in its victims.

---

## Policy

The United States' policy on terrorism is:

- All terrorist acts are intolerable, whatever their motivation, and should be condemned.
  - Will support all lawful measures to prevent terrorism and bring those responsible to justice.
  - No concessions will be made to terrorist.
- 

## Perspective

The line that separates what is terrorism and what is *not* is often foggy. Since 2001, the media, government leaders, and the public have used the word terrorism to describe any action or threat of violence. Describing all actions of violence as terrorism may not be accurate.

The murder of a religious leader is terrorism, but the killing of a military commander is not. But, what if the religious leader also acts as a military commander for his flock and carries out other military duties? You can see that killing a religious leader of a community is a terrorist act, but killing a religious leader that is also a military commander of an opposition force is may not be considered a terrorist act.

---

# Guerrilla Warfare

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## Definition

*Guerrilla warfare* is a military or paramilitary operation conducted in enemy held or hostile territory by irregular or predominantly indigenous forces.

Guerrilla warfare is distinctly different from conventional warfare on many different levels. This type of warfare relies on the support of the population and sometimes the support of the government to fight a “poor man’s war.” Opposite guerrilla warfare is conventional warfare.

Guerrilla warfare may start out as small battles and skirmishes within small local villages or towns under the leadership of local leaders. As the campaign gains strength, guerrillas begin to use conventional warfare. The same is true in reverse. Conventional armies that are not able to fight as a conventional force against a foe can break apart and begin an effective guerrilla warfare campaign.

---

## Legal Status of Guerrillas

For a guerrilla to be classified as legal combatants under the Geneva Convention and not as outlaws or terrorists, they must meet all four of the following criteria:

- Be commanded by a person who is responsible for his subordinates.
- Wear a fixed, distinctive sign recognizable at a distance.
- Bear arms openly.
- Conduct operations in accordance with the laws and customs of war.

So, why does this matter to you? If you capture someone that meets these criteria, you must afford him the rights of an enemy prisoner of war as guaranteed by the Geneva Convention.

---

## History

Over two thousand years ago, Mao Tse-Tung (more modernly referred to as Mao Zedong) is considered to be the founder of guerrilla warfare by many.

During the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, American Indians used guerrilla tactics during the U.S. Indian Campaigns from 1790 to 1898.

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# Lesson 1 Exercise

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**Directions** Complete items 1 through 5 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** State the definition of an insurgency.

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---

**Item 2** Whose goal is it to mobilize human and material resources to form an alternative to the state by gaining political power?

- a. Terrorist
  - b. Guerrilla
  - c. Insurgent
  - d. Communists
- 

**Item 3** State the definition of terrorism.

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**Item 4** Which of the following is an U.S. policy on terrorism?

- a. Concessions will not be made to terrorist.
  - b. The U.S. will support all unlawful measures to prevent terrorism.
  - c. Some terrorist acts are tolerable, depended on the motivation.
  - d. Ransom money will be paid only in life or death situations.
- 

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## Lesson 1 Exercise, Continued

Item 5

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State the definition of guerrilla warfare.

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*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 1 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	An organized movement aimed at the overthrow of a constituted government through the use of subversion and armed conflict.	2-4
2	c	2-4
3	The use of violence, fear, and intimidation to coerce governments or societies in the pursuit of goals that are generally political, religious, or ideological.	2-5
4	a	2-5
5	A military or paramilitary operation conducted in enemy held or hostile territory by irregular, predominantly indigenous forces.	2-6

---

### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned what an insurgent, terrorist and guerrilla are and the differences between them.

In the next lesson, you will learn situational awareness in stability and support operations.

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# LESSON 2

## SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

### Introduction

---

**Scope** For a stability or support operation to be successful, Marines must have an understanding of situational awareness. In this lesson, you will learn how to have situational awareness.

---

- Learning Objectives** After completing this lesson, you should be able to
- Identify the definition of vigilance in stability and support operations.
  - Identify the purpose of engaging locals in stability and support operations.
  - State the purpose for using a patrol log to record information in stability and support operations.
  - Identify information that should be recorded in a patrol log in a stability and support operation.
  - Identify the two purposes for analyzing information.
  - State the common indicators of surveillance activity.
- 

**In this Lesson** This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	2-11
Tactical Understanding of the Battlespace	2-12
Vigilance	2-13
Engaging the Locals	2-15
Recording Information	2-17
Analyzing and Using Information	2-18
Surveillance	2-19
Lesson 2 Exercise	2-20

---

# Tactical Understanding of the Battlespace

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## **Situational Awareness Defined**

*Situational awareness* is the constant, relentless, and thorough process of educating every member of the unit about the battlespace in which they operates. Situational awareness is acute situational awareness.

Because the enemy has a tactical advantage in his country, U.S. forces need to have a complete understanding of the culture, language, history, and day-to-day doings of the local population.

---

## **Strength and Weakness**

The U.S. military has superior technology, firepower, and mobility on a conventional battlefield. But in a stability and support operation, these same strengths become the U.S. military's weakness.

The high signature and obvious presence of U.S. military forces facilitate the enemy's targeting effort. In contrast, the enemy's low visibility and ability to blend with the local population allows him to conceal his weapons and movements—increasing his ability to gather intelligence on the U.S. military's disposition.

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## **Example of Strength and Weakness**

The M1A1 Abrams tank is a superior weapons system capable of providing superior firepower and protection for U.S. forces operating in a stability operation. With this tank, U.S. forces can control an entire area while providing maximum protection from enemy fire in any weather conditions, yet continuing to maintain superior communication with the different levels of command.

But, it also provides a huge target for the enemy. The enemy can blend with the local population and only emerge to shoot an antitank rocket or place an antitank mine. The Marines inside the tank will find it very difficult to gather intelligence from the local population because they will not be able to easily identify friend from foe in an urban environment—thus, not gaining much situational awareness.

---

# Vigilance

---

## **Definition**

In stability and support operations, the primary tools of Marines are not their weapons, but their minds. *Vigilance* is the ability to remain alert on and off duty; it is critical to mission success as well as unit and individual survival.

In stability and support operations, Marines are going to be interacting on a daily basis with the local population. Whether patrolling the streets, conducting searches of houses, or distributing food and water, Marines will interact and even socialize with the population.

While a majority of the population may support and encourage this interaction, the enemy will use this opening to attack.

---

## **Increase Vigilance**

Marines can take specific actions to increase their vigilance during an operation. Some suggested actions are listed below:

- Make frequent visits to all static posts, correcting on-site deficiencies in security procedures and alertness levels.
  - Quiz Marines about their assigned sectors:
    - Questions about houses in their sector.
    - Questions about vehicles that are normal in their sector.
    - Questions about people normally observed/interacted with in their sector.
  - Note changes in the normal routine of the local population.
  - Brief and debrief every patrol and when rotating personnel in a sector.
  - Learn the routines of commercial delivery vehicles and the daily operations of local business in their sector.
  - Task patrols with specific questions to answer.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Vigilance, Continued

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### **Example of Vigilance**

When a squad leader issues the patrol order to his fire teams, he briefs them as follows:

“Today you will be patrolling through the An Alsya neighborhood of the city. First team, count the number of buildings that line the main street and note the number of entries and exits on each building. Second team, estimate the height of each building and make a street level sketch. Third team, note the number of vehicles parked outside each building.”

As more of these questions are asked and answered, the squad will increase their situational awareness and increase their ability to be vigilant in their sector.

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# Engaging the Locals

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## Professional Interaction

Situational awareness in stability and support operations is not gained by passively observing the local population. You have to make the effort to know and understand the local populace. Interacting and communicating with the local populace can play a pivotal role in situation awareness:

- Communicate the purpose for being there.
  - Gain support for your mission.
  - Gather intelligence and information to support your mission.
- 

## Leadership Meetings

Meetings of people in leadership positions will happen at many different levels in stability and support operations. Company commanders will meet with local village or city leaders in their sector to communicate their purpose and gain support. Squad leaders may find themselves meeting with local religious or tribal leaders while conducting routine patrols through city streets. These leadership meetings will help accomplish the mission.

---

## Communicating Methods

More than likely, Marines will find themselves operating in a country where they do not speak the local language. To assist with communication, consider the methods and techniques listed in the table below:

Method	Description
Learn the Language	The most effective, but also the most time consuming. Most Marines will not have the time or assets to learn the local language before the operation.
Translators	Military personnel trained in the language and attached to your unit, or they can be civilians or contractors hired by the military.
Phrase Cards	Useful phrases written out on cards or spelled phonetically to assist in communication.
Electronic Translators	Most languages are available in civilian produced electronic translation devices.
Phrase Training	Learning to use basic directions and phrases used on a daily basis, such as “Stop” or “Hands up.”

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## Engaging the Locals, Continued

---

### **Culture Awareness**

Care must be taken to ensure culture awareness is maintained when attempting to communicate. In some cultures, it is unacceptable for a male to address a female that is not of any relation. In other cultures, it is inappropriate for a person of one religion to enter the religious place of another.

An example of this would be the stability operation that followed Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) I when U.S. forces originally were not allowed to enter or conduct searches in mosques because of Iraq cultural beliefs.

---

### **Body Language**

What may be considered appropriate body language to Marines may be very offensive in other cultures and vice versa. Men hold hands as a sign of friendship in some cultures, whereas Marines may think it is utterly repulsive. When having a conversation with another person, some cultures consider excessive hand movement and staring eye-to-eye as offensive.

Not being aware of what the culture considers appropriate body language when communicating can have adverse effect on the mission.

---

# Recording Information

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## Patrol Logs

No Marine can remember everything that happens on a daily basis, much less weekly or monthly. Patrol logs are used to capture important information to be analyzed and briefed for future operations.

Each separate element of an operation should maintain a patrol log. If a platoon is conducting security patrols out of a firm base, the firm base command post will maintain a patrol log as well as each patrol that leaves the base.

---

## Methods

There are many methods for maintaining a patrol log as shown in the table below:

Method	Description
Laptop Computer	This will allow the information to be easily recorded, organized, and easier to research information in a command post that is relatively stationary.
Voice Recorder	This will allow the patrol leader to rapidly record a lot of information without taking excessive time writing. After the foot patrol is finished, the patrol leader can transcribe the information.
Camcorder	Became very popular during OIF—patrol leaders were able to make voice and video recordings of events and review the recording later with the built-in screens.
Digital Cameras	Use to supplement patrol logs; instead of recording the license plate of a suspicious vehicle, a patrol leader can take a snap shot of the plate.

All of these methods of recording information are effective as long as the equipment is compatible and functional. Patrol leaders that choose the electronic patrol logs should plan for equipment failure and have a back-up patrol log ready for use.

---

## Information to Record

As a general rule, all events that occur in your sector should be recorded. Standing operating procedures and mission requirements of units will determine specifically what information needs to be recorded.

---

# Analyzing and Using Information

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## Analyzing Information

Recording information in patrol logs is *not sufficient* to give Marines a better situational awareness of the operation. After Marines record the information in patrol logs, the information needs to be analyzed. There are two main purposes for analyzing information from patrol logs and reports:

- Increase situational understanding and awareness.
  - Identify patterns or trends.
- 

## Example of Analyzing

Over the course of a few weeks, a patrol leader has been conducting security patrols that have been receiving frequent and sporadic sniper fire. After analyzing the patrol log for each patrol, the patrol leader was able to identify a suspicious vehicle in his sector prior to each sniper attack.

Although the suspicious vehicle may not be linked to the sniper attacks, it is a trend or pattern that the patrol leader would investigate further. Because the patrol leader recorded the information in his patrol log and analyzed the information, he has increased his situational understanding and awareness.

---

## Using Information

The purpose of recording and analyzing information is to enable Marines to act decisively and effectively with that information. There are two classes of information use:

- Actionable
  - Background
- 

## Actionable Information

Actionable information is information that requires some sort of action. The scenario above is an example of actionable information. After identifying the possible connection of the sniper fire and the suspicious vehicle, the patrol leader will act on this information by preparing for a sniper attack each time that vehicle is present.

---

## Background Information

Background information does not require any immediate action, but is useful for increasing your situational awareness. An example of background information is a sketch of a neighborhood layout with the name of each family written on each house or a list of vehicles commonly seen in the area.

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# Surveillance

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## **Enemy Surveillance**

Surveillance and reconnaissance is part of any sophisticated military operation. The enemy conducts surveillance and reconnaissance to select the target he will attack and again to gather detailed information on the selected target to increase the likelihood of success.

When the enemy conducts surveillance, they will likely expose themselves to friendly observation. In fact, this will likely be the only opportunity during stability and support operations to go on the offensive against the enemy.

---

## **Indicators of Surveillance Activity**

Enemy surveillance can be in many different forms. Identifying what is possible surveillance and what is normal activity is difficult to do. Understanding the culture and normal business routine of your sector will help in identifying possible surveillance. Some common indicators of surveillance activity are listed below:

- Repeated presence of new persons or vehicles in your sector
  - Reports from locals of persons from outside the neighborhood asking questions regarding friendly units
  - Spontaneous confrontations with patrols or checkpoints. Sometimes done to determine reaction times and procedures
  - The presence of host-nation workers in restricted areas of a friendly compound
  - Persons observing your unit while talking on a cell phone or radio
-

## Lesson 2 Exercise

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**Directions** Complete items 1 through 6 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** The ability to remain alert on and off duty during stability and support operations is an example of

- a. vigilance.
  - b. force protection.
  - c. pattern recognition.
  - d. security procedures.
- 

**Item 2** In order to gain support and inform the local population about what your mission is, Marines will have to

- a. demonstrate their resolve.
  - b. engage the locals.
  - c. identify the location of the enemy.
  - d. maintain constant surveillance.
- 

**Item 3** The purpose for using a patrol log in a SASO environment is to

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**Item 4** Which of the following types of information should be recorded in a patrol log?

- a. A list of unit members names, SSN, and blood types
  - b. The year, make, and model of all vehicles in your sector
  - c. All events that occur in your sector
  - d. Information that pertains to enemy combatants only
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 2 Exercise, Continued

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- Item 5** Analyzing information from patrol logs increases situational awareness and
- a. identifies patterns and trends.
  - b. supports the commander's intent.
  - c. improves data collection capabilities.
  - d. promotes well being among the locals.
- 

**Item 6** List two common indicators of surveillance activity.

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*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 2 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	a	2-13
2	b	2-15
3	Capture important information to be analyzed and briefed for future operations.	2-17
4	c	2-17
5	a	2-18
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The repeated presence of new persons or vehicles in your sector</li><li>• Reports from locals of persons from outside the neighborhood asking questions regarding friendly units</li><li>• Spontaneous confrontations with patrols or checkpoints. Sometimes done to determine reaction times and procedures</li><li>• The presence of host-nation workers in restricted areas of a friendly compound</li><li>• Persons observing your unit while talking on a cell phone or radio</li></ul>	2-19

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### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned what situational awareness is in stability or support operations.

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### Study Unit 2 Summary

In this study unit, you have been provided with the information and tools necessary to identify the difference between an insurgency, terrorism, and guerrilla warfare as well as what situational awareness is in stability and support operations.

In the next study unit, you will learn the unique tactics, techniques, and procedures in stability and support operations.

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# STUDY UNIT 3

## TACTICS, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCEDURES

### Overview

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**Scope** This study unit will provide the information and tools needed to identify a firm base in stability or support operations, firm base operations, and specific patrol operations unique to SASO.

---

**In This Study Unit** This study unit contains the following lessons:

Topic	See Page
Firm Base	3-3
Firm Base Operations	3-13
Patrol Operations	3-25

---

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# LESSON 1

## FIRM BASE

### Introduction

---

**Scope** The increase in stability and support operations in the urban environment and the critical need to maintain situational awareness has driven U.S. forces to conduct nearly constant noncontiguous operations—primarily patrolling—at the rifle company level.

To make this tactically feasible, rifle companies normally establish a firm base from which they operate patrols as they stabilize and support their area of operation.

---

### Learning Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to

- Identify the purpose of a firm base.
  - Identify the criteria for firm base site selection.
  - Identify an essential planning consideration regarding the occupation of a firm base.
  - Identify the active security measures taken when fortifying a firm base.
  - Identify the duties of personnel operating a firm base.
  - Identify the purpose of a battle rhythm in a firm base.
  - Identify the purpose of immediate action drills in a firm base.
- 

**In This Lesson** This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	3-3
Establishment	3-4
Operations	3-7
Lesson 1 Exercise	3-10

---

# Establishment

---

## Purpose

The main purpose of a firm base (FB) is to maintain better situational awareness and operate patrols while stabilizing the area.

Firm bases can be established in any type of terrain. If a unit is operating in an urban environment, a firm base can be established in a building or a series of buildings.

---

## Firm Base versus Patrol Base

Most characteristics of a patrol base and a firm base are similar, but there are some slight differences. The table below outlines some of the differences:

Patrol Base	Firm Base
Temporary base from which units operate patrols	Semi-permanent position from which units operate patrols
Hard defensive positions established <i>only</i> if time/mission requires	Hard defensive positions established
Occupied less than 24 hours	Occupied until mission is complete
Location and mission are held in secret from the local population and evacuated if location is detected	Location and mission should be known by the local population to assist in the stability or support operations

---

## Site Selection

The decision on where to locate the firm base comes from the company level based on the mission and enemy situation. However, the occupying unit makes the final decision based on METT-TSL, ensuring the firm base will support the mission of conducting patrols in the area. Considerations in selecting a site for a firm base are listed below:

- Adjacent to roads, trails, waterways, and LZs to facilitate re-supply and support
  - Isolated from pedestrian and vehicular traffic
  - Large enough to allow dispersion of workspace, personnel, and equipment
  - Defensible relative to the threat
  - Away from areas where enemy activity is high enough to threaten the base
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Establishment, Continued

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### **Planning Considerations**

An essential planning consideration regarding the occupation of a firm base is that U.S. forces do not deploy to occupy a firm base; U.S. forces occupy a firm base to conduct stability and support operations. When planning to occupy a firm base, some key considerations are listed below:

- Ability to support the mission(s)
  - Enemy threat in the area
  - Types and number of troops
  - Weapons
  - Fire support
  - Types of possible enemy attacks
  - Number of Marines that will operate out of the firm base
  - Types of threats enemy has presented to date
  - Rules of engagement
  - Effective, reliable communications plan
  - Indirect fire support plan
- 

### **Passive Security**

Passive security measures—provided by the environment—influence the unit's decision on where to place a firm base. Passive security measures are man made or natural obstacles that act as a natural security barrier for the base.

An example would be the use of buildings in your firm base. Instead of selecting a site out in the open in an urban environment, the unit would use a building or series of buildings to provide better protection.

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*Continued on next page*

## Establishment, Continued

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**Active Security** Just as Marines do in a conventional defensive position, active security measures increase the fortification of the firm base. Examples of active security measures to be taken in an urban firm base are listed below:

- Sandbag all structures to add support to the walls and rooftops. Sandbags absorb the shock of mortar rounds and other explosive devices that may strike the building walls.
  - Remove all glass to prevent it from becoming secondary fragmentation during an explosion. If you cannot remove the glass, tape it in place and cover it with canvas or tin to reduce the amount of secondary fragmentation.
  - Place a layer of chain-link fence or tin on the rooftops in an attempt to pre detonate any airborne explosive projectiles.
  - Cover windows with chain link or chicken wire to pre detonate RPGs or other explosive devices.
  - Utilize vehicles or heavy equipment as improvised barriers.
-

# Operations

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## Command Post Organization

The company's commanding officer is responsible for everything the unit does or fails to do while operating a firm base. Due to the many civil-military responsibilities, the commanding officer will not be able to stay in the command post to control everything. Therefore, the commanding officer delegates authority to his subordinates with specific billets unique to a firm base.

Most billets are a part of the guard platoon, which rotates on a continuing basis with the other platoons. Typical billets of a company command post are listed in the table below:

<b>Billet</b>	<b>Function</b>
Watch Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Platoon commander or platoon sergeant</li><li>• Responsible for fighting the company in the absence of the CO or XO</li></ul>
Guard Chief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Platoon guide or squad leader</li><li>• Responsible for fighting the firm base</li><li>• Inspects posts and security mostly; rarely located in company CP</li></ul>
React	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Squad or fire team from the guard platoon or the quick reaction force (QRF) during an emergency</li><li>• On less than 2-minute alerts</li></ul>
Radio Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Comes from React or QRF</li><li>• Deploys with React or QRF to optimize situational awareness</li><li>• Two radio watches or more are assigned to the CP if possible</li></ul>
Plotter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintains logs and detailed reports</li><li>• Assumes radio watch on deployment of react or QRF if needed</li></ul>

## Company Organization

Although the organization of a company is unique for each unit and for each mission required, most Marine units form a standardized organization that consists of the following elements:

- Command
- Main
- Support
- Guard
- Rest

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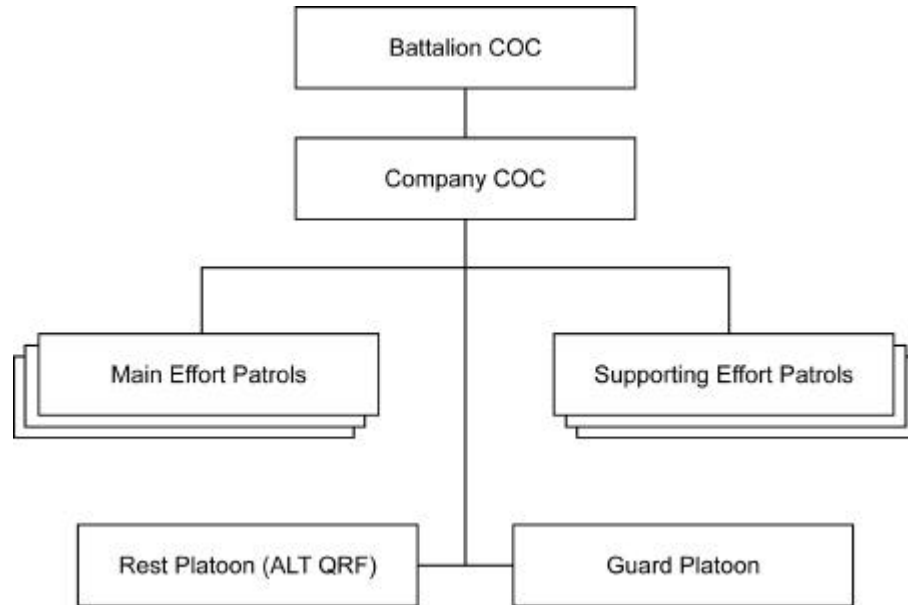
*Continued on next page*

## Operations, Continued

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### Organization Chart

The graphic below illustrates a typical organization of a firm base command:



### Battle Rhythm

Because of the continuous pace of operations in SASO, a unit will cycle its platoons or elements through the different operating elements of a firm base by establishing a battle rhythm. A battle rhythm establishes continuity and fights complacency.

The type of battle rhythm and the speed at which it is rotated will depend on the mission and unit size. The slower the rotation, the more complacent Marines may become. Having a rotation that is too fast will cause less continuity for patrols and civil projects.

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*Continued on next page*



## Operations, Continued

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### **Battle Rhythm Example**

The table below is an example of a platoon battle rhythm with four equal maneuver units covering a 7-day period:

	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>Sun</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Plt</b>	Guard	Rest	Main Effort	Supp Effort	Guard	Rest	Main Effort
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Plt</b>	Rest	Main Effort	Supp Effort	Guard	Rest	Main Effort	Supp Effort
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Plt</b>	Main Effort	Supp Effort	Guard	Rest	Main Effort	Supp Effort	Guard
<b>Wpns Plt</b>	Supp Effort	Guard	Rest	Main Effort	Supp Effort	Guard	Rest

---

### **Immediate Action Drills**

Immediate action drills are the same in a firm base as they are in a patrol base or defensive position. The purpose of immediate action drills is to maintain and improve the security posture.

The firm base, specifically the guard platoon, should conduct immediate action drills as often as possible to sharpen their ability to react correctly to any situation.

These drills should be invisible to the local population as much as possible.

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# Lesson 1 Exercise

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**Directions** Complete items 1 through 10 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

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**Item 1** State the purpose of a firm base in a stability or support operation.

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**Item 2** For a firm base to be re-supplied and receive support if needed, its site location should be adjacent to

- a. covered and concealed buildings that are isolated.
  - b. trails, roads, waterways, and LZs.
  - c. the command element and motor pool.
  - d. areas high in enemy activity.
- 

**Item 3** An essential planning consideration regarding the occupation of a firm base is that U.S. forces do not deploy to occupy a firm base; U.S. forces occupy a firm base to

- a. conduct stability and support operations.
  - b. protect American military personnel.
  - c. defend an area from enemy infiltration.
  - d. distribute food and water.
- 

**Item 4** To add support to the walls and rooftops of a building to absorb the shock of mortar rounds and other explosive devices that may strike, Marines should

- a. place a layer of chain-link fence over the windows.
  - b. utilize vehicles or heavy equipment as barriers.
  - c. remove all glass from windows.
  - d. sandbag all structures.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 1 Exercise, Continued

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**Item 5 Through  
Item 8** Matching. For items 5 through 8, match the letter of the duty in column 2 with its billet in column 1. Place your responses in the spaces provided.

**Column 1**

**Column 2**

**Billet**

**Duty**

- \_\_\_ 5. Watch officer
- \_\_\_ 6. Plotter
- \_\_\_ 7. Guard chief
- \_\_\_ 8. React

- a. Quick reaction force during emergency
  - b. Maintains logs and detailed reports
  - c. Responsible for fighting the company in absence of the CO and XO
  - d. Responsible for fighting the firm base
- 

**Item 9** To establish continuity and fight complacency while operating out of a firm base, units should establish a

- a. battle rhythm.
  - b. turn-over binder.
  - c. watch schedule.
  - d. pattern of operation.
- 

**Item 10** State the purpose for conducting immediate action drills in a firm base.

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*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 1 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	Maintain better situational awareness and operate patrols while stabilizing and supporting the area.	3-4
2	b	3-4
3	a	3-5
4	d	3-6
5	c	3-7
6	b	3-7
7	d	3-7
8	a	3-7
9	a	3-8
10	Maintain and improve the security posture of the firm base.	3-9

---

### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned the purpose of a firm base as well as how to select, plan to occupy and the duties involved in the operations of the base.

In the next lesson, you will learn the collateral duties associated with a firm base, patrol service stations, and entry control points.

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# LESSON 2

## FIRM BASE OPERATIONS

### Introduction

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#### Scope

Similar to a normal patrol base or defensive position, a firm base will need entry control points, an organized area to brief, and debrief patrols. During the operation of a firm base, Marines will be tasked with specific collateral duties.

All of these will lead to a more efficient and secure firm base that will allow patrols to more effectively stabilize and support the area of operation.

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#### Learning Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to

- Identify the purpose of a red cell in a firm base.
  - Identify when the members of a red cell should be rotated.
  - Identify the purpose for information boards in a firm base CP.
  - Identify the purpose for rotating the entry control point of a firm base.
  - Identify the definition of overwatch.
  - State a key planning consideration when establishing overwatch positions.
  - Identify the need for having dual communications in a firm base.
  - Identify the purpose of a Guardian Angel.
  - Identify the purpose of understanding geometry of friendly fires at the entry control point of a firm base.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Introduction, Continued

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### Contents

This lesson contains the following topics:

<b>Topic</b>	<b>See Page</b>
Introduction	3-13
Collateral Duties	3-15
Patrol “Service Station”	3-16
Entry Control Points	3-17
Lesson 2 Exercise	3-21

---

# Collateral Duties

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**Purpose** Within a firm base, collateral duties are important. Collateral duties keep Marines sharp and involved with the mission, as well as improve the overall moral and welfare of the base. The longer a firm base is operational, the more demanding it may become.

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**Common Billets** Collateral duties are assigned according to each firm base's needs and wants. Listed below are some common collateral duties that may be assigned in a firm base:

- Civil Action Leader
  - Guard Red Cell
  - Special Projects
  - Fun and Games Officer
- 

**Civil Action Leader** The civil action leader will process ideas, acquire and account for monies, and develop projects into missions that will be integrated into the targeting process. This Marine will also meet with many of the smaller local leaders (principals, police sergeants, etc.). The primary duty is to conceive civil action projects in support of the company's mission. This Marine will need a staff to help brainstorm and acquire assets to achieve these projects.

---

**Guard Red Cell** This Marine or group of Marines will play the enemy several times a week or as required. The purpose of the guard red cell is to think from the enemies' perspective in order to keep the firm base and patrolling routines on the cutting edge and to check and verify security. This collateral duty should be rotated as often as possible.

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**Special Projects** The company's police sergeant, who works closely with the civil action Marine, ideally holds this collateral duty. This duty acquires material, handles firm base improvements, and conducts other projects as necessary.

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**Fun and Games Officer** This collateral duty focuses on the morale and comfort improvement of the unit. This can be martial sports (shooting, running, etc.), donkey races, volleyball, chicken chasing, goat barbeque, etc. The idea is for someone to take the time to create anything that keeps the Marines proud and happy.

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# Patrol “Service Station”

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**Purpose** There should be a designated area inside each firm base for patrol preparation that will enable everyone to receive the patrol order and stage for an upcoming patrol.

This area can be used to debrief each patrol that returns, and to brief and debrief the guard platoon when there is a shift change.

---

**Organization** The patrol service station is organized and maintained by the watch officer (WO) and his staff. The WO will maintain complete situational awareness for the entire firm base and its patrols.

---

**Information Boards** To quickly pass pertinent information in the shortest amount of time, the WO should establish and maintain information boards at the service station. The different types of information to include on each information board are listed in the table below:

Wall Poster Station	Type of Information
S-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Correct Maps and Map Overlays</li><li>• Contact Reports</li><li>• Enemy TTPs</li><li>• Weather Reports</li></ul>
S-3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fire Support Planning and Execution</li><li>• Target Matrix</li><li>• Back Briefs</li><li>• Higher and Adjacent</li></ul>
S-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confirm Weapons and Equipment</li><li>• Answer Special Request</li></ul>
S-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Signal Plan</li><li>• Reporting Formats</li><li>• Sequence of Command</li><li>• PCC/Radio Check</li></ul>

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# Entry Control Points

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**Description**

The entry control point (ECP) is an important area where a Marine has to balance sound tactics and force protection with the concept that he is an ambassador of the United States in many ways.

If the local population wants to make contact with the unit, they will more than likely approach the ECP.

---

**Types**

The unit commander determines the type of ECP that will be used. There are four general categories of ECPs:

- Personnel Only
- Vehicles Only
- Personnel and Vehicles
- Military Personnel and Vehicles Only

Personnel checkpoints may have less of a signature than a vehicle checkpoint, but that does not mean they require less manpower to operate them.

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**Location**

An ECP should be set up in a location that minimizes or avoids backlogs of friendly traffic while denying the enemy a straight shot into the FB.

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**Primary and Alternate**

During OIF II, the 1<sup>st</sup> MarDiv policy was to man only one ECP at a time. Most firm bases constructed alternate ECPs that were sporadically opened and closed to enhance the deception plan.

Units should rehearse and be properly prepared to switch from the primary to the alternate ECP. Patrols that recently departed the firm base should be made aware of the planned change of ECP location in case of the need to rapidly return.

---

**Depth**

The amount of depth that an ECP has increases the decision and engagement time for the Marines manning their post to react to all types of threats at the gate. The greater the depth, the more time a Marine has to respond.

Using natural and man made obstacles similar to what is done in a conventional defensive position can increase the depth of an ECP.

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## Entry Control Points, Continued

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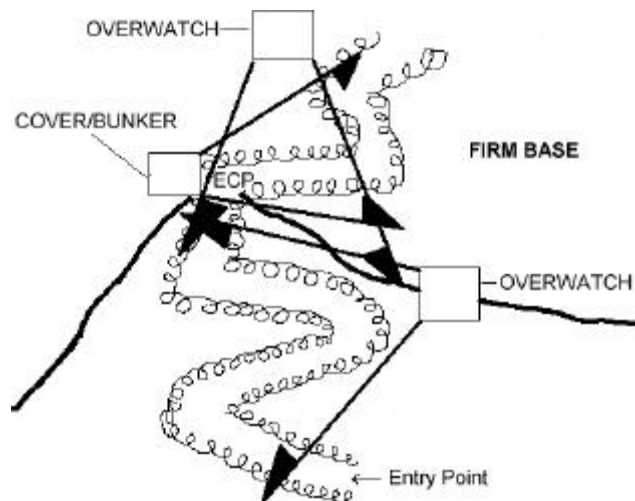
### Overwatch

Marines manning an ECP should have other Marines providing back up or overwatch. Overwatch is a tactical technique in which one element is positioned to support by fire the movement of another element by observing known or suspected enemy locations and engaging the enemy if he is visible or tries to fire on the friendly unit. This is a critical aspect of an ECP and should be rehearsed and inspected more than any other action. Some key planning considerations for overwatch positions are listed below:

- Geometry of fires should allow the ECP Marines a covered place to go so as not to be exposed to friendly fire from the overwatch.
  - Enemy action should not influence the action of the ECP and the overwatch with the same action.
  - Immediate action drills for the ECP and overwatch should be rehearsed daily—out of view of the enemy.
- 

### Example of an ECP

The graphic below shows the layout of a “Personnel Only” ECP with two overwatch positions. The overwatch positions are located outside the blast range of grenades, rockets and the typical suicide bomber. The Marines manning the ECP are in a covered position to avoid friendly fire from the overwatch positions. Wire provides depth for the ECP Marines.



*Continued on next page*

## Entry Control Points, Continued

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- Weaponeering**      Overwatch positions of an ECP should have two different weapons capabilities:
- Weapons that can stop a speeding vehicle
    - M240G or MK19 have proven effective
    - SMAW or AT-4 are less effective because they are not rapid fire and missing the target will have a greater chance of collateral damage.
  - Precision weapons that provide the least collateral damage
    - Designated marksman with M-16A2/4
    - Trained sniper
- 

- Communication**      Communication between a firm base ECP and all other elements are critical for effective operations. Failure to maintain effective communications could result in a friendly fire mishap or slow reaction time to enemy threats. Some key considerations are listed below:
- Have an alternate and dual communications plan to guarantee constant communications.
  - PRRs operate on a nonsecure net; use of brevity words should be used.
  - Maintain net discipline to ensure the net is free for vital information.
  - If a Marine has to leave the net, he should broadcast a collective call. An SOP should be in place to respond to a “Unit not answering, Reasons Unknown” situation.
  - Listen before transmitting.
  - Make sure there are rehearsed distress signals established for all Marines on the ECP and overwatch—both visual and via radios.
- 

**Guardian Angel**      All Marines should have a guardian angel. This is nothing more than the buddy system formalized. The guardian angel’s main purpose is to provide security for his buddy so that he can maintain focus on his task without being uncertain about his personal security.

This is not the same as ECP overwatch positions; rather, this is close security for the individual Marine.

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*Continued on next page*

## Entry Control Points, Continued

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**Crew Training** Presumably, all Marines will rotate through the overwatch positions. All Marines need to be constantly trained on the crew served weapons if they are not primarily assigned those weapons.

---

**Geometry of Fires** The ECP geometry of fires should allow the Marines a covered place to go so as not to be exposed to friendly fire from the overwatch.

This should be checked and inspected at each change of guard or rotation of elements into the overwatch positions.

---

## Lesson 2 Exercise

---

**Directions** Complete items 1 through 9 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** What should a unit establish to verify and check the security of a firm base?

- a. Guard Red Cell
- b. Civil Action Leader
- c. Special Projects Marines
- d. Fun and Games Officer

---

**Item 2** How often should a unit rotate the members of a firm base that compose the Guard Red Cell?

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**Item 3** What should be established in a patrol service station to quickly pass pertinent information in the shortest amount of time?

- a. Entry control point
- b. Battle rhythm
- c. Information boards
- d. Overwatch position

---

**Item 4** To enhance the deception plan of a firm base, it should

- a. restrict the movement of personnel.
- b. rotate from the primary to the alternate entry control point location.
- c. clean weapons during hours of darkness only.
- d. open several entry control points at the same time.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 2 Exercise, Continued

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**Item 5** A tactical technique in which one element is positioned to support by fire the movement of another element by observing known or suspected enemy locations is called

- a. depth.
  - b. weaponeering.
  - c. overwatch.
  - d. fire and maneuver.
- 

**Item 6** State a key planning consideration when establishing overwatch positions.

---

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**Item 7** To guarantee constant communications within a firm base, it should always have

- a. an alternate and dual communications plan.
  - b. the least amount of distance between posts.
  - c. electricity to charge the radio batteries.
  - d. night vision goggles or thermal imaging capabilities.
- 

**Item 8** The main purpose of a guardian angel is to

- a. test the firm bases' security.
  - b. maintain constant communications with higher.
  - c. provide ammo and chow as needed.
  - d. provide security for his buddy.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 2 Exercise, Continued

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**Item 9**

A Marine at an entry control point that has a covered place to go so he will not be exposed to friendly fire from the overwatch shows his understanding of

- a. geometry of friendly fires.
  - b. proper communications procedures.
  - c. proper red cell procedures.
  - d. guardian angel plans.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 2 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	a	3-15
2	As often as possible	3-15
3	c	3-16
4	b	3-17
5	c	3-18
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Geometry of fires should allow the ECP Marines a covered place to go so as not to be exposed to friendly fire from the overwatch.</li><li>• Enemy action should not influence the action of the ECP and the overwatch with the same action.</li><li>• Immediate action drills for the ECP and overwatch should be rehearsed daily, out of view of the enemy.</li></ul>	3-18
7	a	3-19
8	d	3-19
9	a	3-20

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### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned about the collateral duties, patrol service station, and entry control points used in a firm base.

In the next lesson, you will learn about entering and exiting the lines, alert tools used in a firm base, and a specific patrolling technique widely used in stability and support operations.

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# LESSON 3

## PATROL OPERATIONS

### Introduction

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#### Scope

In this lesson, you are going to learn some techniques for entering and exiting a firm base, some alert tools to use within a firm base and while on patrol, and a specific type of patrolling that is unique to stability and support operations.

This lesson is general in terms because units dictate specific standing operating procedures (SOP) to use while patrolling from a firm base. Never the less, this lesson will give you an idea of what to expect when conducting patrol operations.

---

#### Learning Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to

- Identify what the alert “Go Firm” means.
  - Identify what the alert “Stand To” means.
  - Identify what the alert “General Quarters” means.
  - Identify the purpose of presence patrols.
- 

**In This Lesson** This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	3-25
Entry/Exit Lines	3-26
Alert Tools	3-27
Patrolling	3-28
Lesson 3 Exercise	3-29

---

## Entry/Exit Lines

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### Deception

A devious deception plan is the most effective force multiplier a unit can employ while operating a firm base, especially when entering and exiting the line. A few examples of using deception is to

- Create dummy overwatch positions.
  - Camouflage critical and vulnerable areas the same as noncritical areas.
  - Change the layouts of the entry control points.
  - Test-fire weapons simultaneously.
- 

### “Bomb Burst” Technique

When exiting friendly lines, patrols can utilize the “bomb burst” technique. Marines will leave the firm base from a concealed or covered location so that an observer will not know that a patrol is preparing to depart.

Marines quickly depart the exit point in buddy teams in irregular patterns, zigzagging to a covered position. Once in position, they support the remaining buddy teams as they exit. Once the entire patrol has exited the firm base, the patrol begins its mission.

---

### Planning Considerations

Exiting or entering a firm base is a time of vulnerability just as it is for a normal patrol base. The enemy knows you will leave and eventually return to the base, so he has the advantage of setting up an ambush. The following planning guidelines will lessen the chance of an ambush or attack:

- Set detailed entry/exit procedures and rehearse them.
  - Identify who covers what sectors.
  - Select an emergency procedure for rapid re-entry of the base.
  - Establish and rehearse a communications plan.
  - QRF should be alert and ready to deploy as the situation dictates.
-

# Alert Tools

---

## Signals

Much like a Navy ship, a firm base uses different signals—based on the type of threat—to alert the entire firm base on what the security posture will be. Although each unit will establish SOP for these signals, the three most common signals are

- Go Firm
  - Stand To
  - General Quarters
- 

## Go Firm

*Go firm* is used when there is suspicious activity, a shooting, a crowd, or other confusion that may warrant a quick decision. This signal gives the sergeant of the guard or guard chief instant situational awareness on the activities in the immediate vicinity of the firm base:

- All posts and guards report actions and status in order as they cover their sectors.
  - All patrols working specifically for the firm base security *go firm* outside the firm base and report the same.
- 

## Stand To

*Stand to* is used when there is an imminent threat, to deceive a potential enemy, when there is a large action occurring outside the firm base, or for certain patrols entering or exiting the lines.

- Pre-plan and assign *stand to* positions for the security platoon.
  - All security platoon Marines go to 100 percent alert—including those sleeping, just got off post, or getting ready to come on post.
  - The internal react force is on its feet and ready to move to any spot in the firm base.
- 

## General Quarters

*General quarters'* main purpose is to account for everyone, protect everyone from a potential attack, and to ensure all units are prepared for instant receipt and execution of a Frago. The entire company goes to 100 percent alert.

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# Patrolling

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## **Presence Patrols**

Presence patrols provide security through a show of force by openly patrolling and demonstrating U.S. military forces strength and discipline while maintaining combat readiness. Stealth is not normally required or desired. Presence patrols provide a “cop on the beat” approach by using mounted and dismounted patrol techniques to accomplish tasks:

- Establish habitual relationships within sectors and communities.
  - Provide information, news, and upcoming events to the community.
  - Assist communities in requesting and receiving civil military operations projects.
  - Encourage community projects and assist when appropriate.
  - Provide quick fixes with medical or engineer assets.
  - Are honest and fair and do not take sides (they arbitrate if necessary).
  - Provide a living example of “professionalism” to the local police and military.
- 

## **Presence versus Combat Patrols**

Preparation for a presence patrol is exactly like preparation for a combat patrol. When preparing to conduct a presence patrol, members should be checking and inspecting their gear, conducting rehearsals, and planning as if they intend to make contact.

The main difference a presence patrol has over a combat patrol is the Marines want the local population to welcome the security provided as well as assist in completing the presence patrol’s mission.

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## Lesson 3 Exercise

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**Directions** Complete items 1 through 4 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** In a firm base, the alert signal to have all posts and guards report any activity in their sectors is

- a. Go Firm.
  - b. General Quarters.
  - c. Lock Down.
  - d. Stand To.
- 

**Item 2** In a firm base, the alert signal for the entire security or guard platoon to go to 100 percent alert is

- a. Red Dog.
  - b. Go Firm.
  - c. Stand To.
  - d. Guardian Angel.
- 

**Item 3** The alert signal that gives the entire firm base to go 100 percent to account for everyone, protect everyone from potential attack, and to ensure all units are prepared for instant receipt and execution of a Frago is called

\_\_\_\_\_.

---

**Item 4** State the purpose of a presence patrol.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 3 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	a	3-27
2	c	3-27
3	General Quarters	3-27
4	Provide security through a show of force by openly patrolling and demonstrating U.S. military forces strength and discipline while maintaining combat readiness.	3-28

---

### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned a technique for entering and exiting friendly lines, some alert tools, and the definition of presence patrol.

---

### Study Unit 3 Summary

In this study unit, you learned what a firm base is and some key considerations with operating in a firm base.

In the next study unit, you will be provided with information on checkpoint operations within stability and support operations.

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# STUDY UNIT 4

## CHECKPOINTS

### Overview

---

#### Scope

A unit conducts checkpoint operations to control its area of responsibility. Checkpoints deny the enemy freedom of movement while at the same time providing security for military units and for certain portions of the population.

In this study unit, you will learn how to establish and operate an effective checkpoint.

---

#### In This Study Unit

This study unit contains the following lessons:

Topic	See Page
Establishment	4-3
Operations	4-13

---

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# LESSON 1

## ESTABLISHMENT

### Introduction

---

**Scope** Well-planned checkpoints will contribute to the security of military units and portions of the local population. During OIF II, Marines consistently established checkpoints throughout Iraq to stabilize the area. Although each unit conducts a checkpoint according to their SOPs, there are some similar characteristics for establishing a checkpoint.

---

**Learning Objectives** After completing this lesson, you should be able to

- Identify the different types of checkpoints.
  - Identify a canalization zone at a checkpoint.
  - Identify the minimum distance to place warning signs for a checkpoint.
  - Identify a deceleration zone at a checkpoint.
  - Identify the different search zones at a checkpoint.
  - Identify a safe zone at a checkpoint.
- 

**In This Lesson** This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	4-3
Types	4-4
Zones	4-5
Security/Search Teams	4-8
Lesson 1 Exercise	4-9

---

# Types

---

**Characteristics** The characteristics of the three checkpoints are listed in the table below:

<b>Checkpoint</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>
Deliberate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Permanent or semi-permanent</li><li>• Employed to protect operating base or well-established MSR's</li><li>• Maximum use of natural and artificial obstacles</li><li>• Located in areas to provide greatest depth for reaction</li><li>• Established automatic and crew-served weapons positions</li></ul>
Hasty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Planned in advance</li><li>• Set for a short period of time, normally less than 24 hours</li><li>• Frequently employed during the conduct of vehicle or foot patrols</li></ul>
Snap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Little or no advance planning</li><li>• Employed for a short period of time, normally a few hours at a time</li><li>• Conducted when specific intelligence indicates it will hinder the enemy's freedom of movement at a specific time and place</li></ul>

---

**Searches** The checkpoints listed above can be used to search:

- Personnel only
  - Vehicles only
  - Personnel and vehicles
- 

**Advantages and Disadvantages** The table below lists the advantages and disadvantages of conducting a checkpoint:

<b>Advantage</b>	<b>Disadvantage</b>
Intimidating show of force	May lead to more conflicts with local nationals.
Better situational awareness	Will provide enemy the ability to gather intelligence on your disposition.
Restricts enemy movement	Will exhaust a force more rapidly.

---

# Zones

---

## Types

There are five types of checkpoint zones:

- Canalization
  - Deceleration
  - Search
  - Subordinate
  - Safe
- 

## Canalization Zone

The canalization zone uses natural and, or artificial obstacles to canalize the vehicles into the checkpoint. An effective canalization zone will not allow the checkpoint to be bypassed.

- Place warning signs out at least 100 meters forward of the checkpoint to alert drivers. Signs should be in the local language.
  - Canalize vehicles so that they have no way out until they have the consent of personnel controlling the checkpoint.
  - Encompass the area from maximum range to maximum effective range of your weapon systems.
  - Incorporate disrupting and, or turning obstacles.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Zones, Continued

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### **Deceleration Zone**

The deceleration (or turning) zone forces the driver into making a rapid decision. The vehicle can decelerate, make slow hard turns, or maintain speed and crash into the barriers. This area is set up to ensure vehicles are stopped facing an obstacle—capable of stopping a slow moving truck—or a series of improvised obstacles, which may consist of the following:

- Downed trees
  - Beirut toothpick (nails driven through lumber)
  - Caltrops placed across the road
  - Debris, rubble, large rocks
  - Abatis
  - Road cratering
  - Dragons teeth, tetrahedrons, concrete blocks
  - Mines (may not support the overall effort to stabilize the area)
  - Prepared demolitions
  - Concertina wire
- 

### **Search Zone**

The search zone is a relatively secure area where personnel and vehicles are positively identified and searched. A decision is made to confiscate weapons and contraband and detain the vehicle or allow it to pass. This area is set up with a blocking obstacle that

- Denies entry/exit without loss of life or equipment
  - Isolates the vehicle from trying to escape
  - Emplaces an overwatch position with a crew-served weapon in an elevated position to cover the vehicle
  - Obstructs the vehicle or person being searched from passer-byers to prevent the enemy from gathering intelligence on your search techniques and procedures
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Zones, Continued

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### Subordinate Zones

The search zone is further divided into three subordinate areas.

- Personal search zone—used to positively identify, search, and or detain people only. This area may include partitioned or screened areas to provide privacy, especially when searching women and children.
  - Vehicle search zone—used to positively identify, search, and or detain the vehicle.
  - Reaction force zone—located in the search zone to reinforce the checkpoint and immediately provide assistance using lethal and non-lethal force. Engineers, dog teams, and EOD personnel may be co-located here to assist as needed.
- 

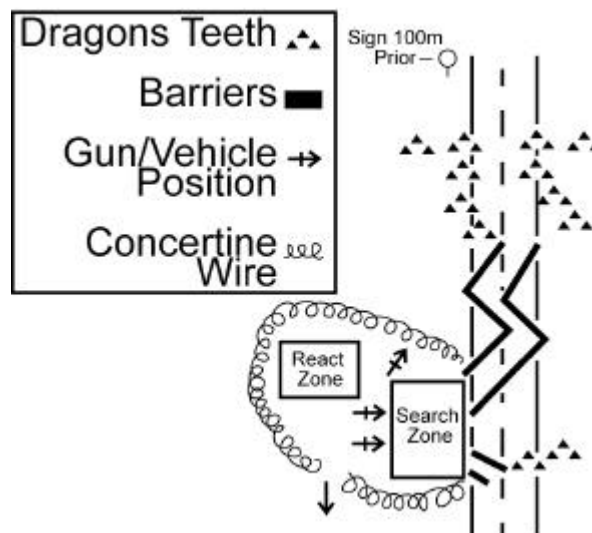
### Safe Zone

The safe zone is the assembly area for the checkpoint that allows personnel to eat, sleep, and recover in relative security.

---

### Graphic of Checkpoint Zone

The graphic below shows the different zones for a vehicle checkpoint on a main supply route.



# Security/Search Teams

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**Organization** To efficiently search vehicles and personnel that enter a checkpoint, Marines need to have well established and rehearsed security/search teams. Unit SOPs and the situation will dictate the exact organization and composition of the security/search teams.

One thing remains constant: search elements search and security elements provide security. When most units are conducting checkpoint operations, the general rule is to have one Marine provide security for each Marine conducting a search. This is especially important when conducting hasty personnel searches.

---

**Rehearsals** Prior to conducting any checkpoint operation, Marine search/security elements need to rehearse exactly how they plan to conduct the search away from the actual checkpoint position. Identify and rehearse the following:

- Who will provide security and who will search
  - The method for searching different types of vehicles—searching a small car is not as intensive as searching a commuter bus full of passengers
  - Immediate action drills for dealing with agitated or aggressive drivers and passengers
  - Immediate action drills for possible explosives or weapons
  - Communications and key phrases to use during a search
- 

**Rotating Personnel** High volume of traffic to be searched, extreme heat or cold, and the constant threat of danger can exhaust a Marine conducting a search. To fight complacency and improve the efficiency and security of the checkpoint, search personnel should be rotated on a regular basis.

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*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 1 Exercise

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**Directions** Complete items 1 through 6 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** What type of checkpoint is a permanent or semi-permanent position and employed to protect operating bases or well-established MSR's?

- a. Hasty checkpoint
  - b. Deliberate checkpoint
  - c. Snap checkpoint
  - d. Personnel checkpoint
- 

**Item 2** The canalization zone will

- a. not allow the checkpoint to be bypassed.
  - b. provide an area for personnel to eat and sleep.
  - c. provide an area for vehicles to turn-around.
  - d. not allow vehicles to slow down.
- 

**Item 3** What is the minimum distance to place a warning sign to alert drivers of an upcoming checkpoint.

- a. 10,000 meters
  - b. 5,000 meters
  - c. 1,000 meters
  - d. 100 meters
- 

**Item 4** What zone of a checkpoint forces the driver to make a rapid decision on whether to slow down in order to avoid the barriers or to crash into the barriers?

- a. Restriction zone
  - b. Limiting zone
  - c. Safe zone
  - d. Deceleration zone
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 1 Exercise, Continued

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**Item 5**

The search zone is further divided into three subordinate zones: the personal search zone, reaction force zone, and the

- a. vehicle search zone.
  - b. explosive hazard zone.
  - c. strip search zone.
  - d. barrier zone.
- 

**Item 6**

State the purpose for having a safe zone at a checkpoint.

---

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*Continued on next page*



## Lesson 1 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	b	4-4
2	a	4-5
3	d	4-5
4	d	4-6
5	a	4-7
6	Allows personnel to eat, sleep, and recover in relative security	4-7

---

### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned how to establish a checkpoint.

In the next lesson, you will learn how to operate a checkpoint.

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# LESSON 2

## OPERATIONS

### Introduction

---

**Scope** Operating a checkpoint is similar to operating an entry control point of a firm base. Utilizing SOPs and recognizing “indicators”, the search team will be able to identify possible threats and take immediate action as necessary. As a searcher, common sense is your best weapon. If something does not look or feel right, take action because it probably is not right.

---

- Learning Objectives** After completing this lesson, you should be able to
- Identify the purpose of dive pits in the search area.
  - Identify the definition of an indicator as it relates to driver/personal searches.
  - Identify who should open the compartments of a vehicle during a search.
- 

**In This Lesson** This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	4-13
Safety	4-14
Do’s and Don’ts	4-16
Driver/Personal Search Indicators	4-17
Vehicle Inspection Indicators	4-18
Unique Vehicles	4-21
Vehicle Search Technique	4-22
Lesson 2 Exercise	4-23

---

# Safety

---

## Inspection

Inspecting a vehicle for possible improved explosive devices is a dangerous task. Dive pits are utilized by search teams and close in security if an explosive hazard is found while conducting a vehicle search. To ensure unduly risk from injury, searchers need to take the following precautions:

- Always position yourself so that you are highly visible to traffic with good approach sight distance.
  - Be aware of escape routes in case of emergency and always face oncoming traffic.
  - Always know where the driver and passenger are at all times.
  - Use the team approach to searching—never search alone!
  - Know location of closest LZ if IED/VBIED is detonated.
- 

## Clothing and Apparel

The following precautions will reduce the risk of injury:

- Do not wear jewelry or other items that may become snagged on the vehicle.
  - Wear brightly colored clothing that the driver can easily recognize at a high traffic checkpoint and during times of darkness.
  - Wear coveralls, gloves, and protective goggles as provided or as needed around cargo.
  - If possible and the situation dictates, the searcher should not carry a rifle, but should always have a sidearm.
  - Do not smoke—combustible vapors may exist around vehicles.
- 

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## **Safety**, Continued

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### **Dangerous Components**

When inspecting engines, exhausts, refrigeration coils, auxiliary heaters, and other components, use the following precautions:

- Use caution when inspecting components—they may be extremely hot!
  - Do not reach through or near cooling fan blades. Cooling fans can turn on even though the engine is not running.
  - Make sure the engine is off and the parking brake is set before searching the vehicle.
  - Do not support yourself on adjustable load support poles in cargo areas.
  - Seek additional help if you are unsure of how a specific vehicle functions or of the potential risk involved with cargo.
  - If possible, have personnel from motor transport on site to recognize if something is wrong.
-

## Do's and Don'ts

---

### Do's

Things to do while conducting a search at a checkpoint:

- Present a professional and positive image.
  - Be aggressive in your questioning an individual or driver of a vehicle during your search.
  - Be aware of the current situation:
    - Threat level
    - Available military support
    - Available local support
    - Weather
    - Intelligence reports
  - Establish an inspection routine (top to bottom/bottom to top).
  - Conduct a thorough inspection to ensure that nothing has been overlooked.
  - Construct dive pits.
  - Make yourself a hard target.
- 

### Don'ts

Things not to do while conducting a search at a checkpoint:

- Do not let your guard down.
  - Do not inspect a vehicle while it is running.
  - Do not allow yourself to get into a vulnerable situation
  - Do not allow the vehicle occupants to be present if your safety is endangered. Have the occupants escorted to a safe area, if:
    - You feel something is wrong
    - A great possibility explosive devices are present
    - A possibility the subject(s) may flee
    - The subject(s) attempt to interfere or distract you from your search
  - Do not allow occupants to view you searching the vehicle
-

## Driver/Personal Search Indicators

---

### Indicators

An indicator is an item, occurrence, condition, or situation that suggests the presence of explosive materials or suggests more attention should be paid to an individual.

By recognizing indicators, a searcher can determine the likelihood of the presence of explosive devices or the need to detain an individual for possible association with the enemy force.

---

### Driver Reaction Indicators

Some driver reaction indicators are listed below:

- Yawning
  - Obvious shaking
  - Refusing to make or keep eye contact
  - Profuse sweating
  - Patting/soothing/massaging any area of the body
  - Arms or body parts can not stay still
  - Does not answer the question or responds with unrelated information
  - Rapid movement of the carotid artery (located on the side of the neck)
  - Driver inappropriately dressed/groomed for vehicle type
  - Documentation is incomplete or does not make sense
  - Driver does not know his or her purpose or it does not make sense
  - Driver does not know how to operate vehicle or equipment
  - Refusing to search vehicle when told to do so
- 

### Individual Reaction Indicators

Individual reaction indicators are much the same as driver reaction indicators. When conducting a personnel search at a checkpoint, there are some obvious indicators to watch for:

- Person observing the checkpoint for an extended period of time before approaching
  - Person recognized as coming through the checkpoint on an earlier occasion
  - Person attempting to move to the front or back of a line
  - Clothing or appearance is not similar to the majority of people coming through the checkpoint
  - Extreme agitation at having to wait in line
-

# Vehicle Inspection Indicators

---

## General

General vehicle indicators are listed below:

- Anything unusual in factory-built compartments
  - New or shiny bolts and or screws
  - Unusual scratches, possibly made by tools
  - Signs of tampering, such as broken parts or bent sheet metal
  - Areas and components cleaner or dirtier than others
  - New or broken welds
  - Fresh body work
  - Fresh undercoating, especially on older vehicles
  - New caulking found by smell or touch
  - No vehicle identification number
  - False compartments that are not part of the vehicle design
- 

## Exterior Rear

Exterior rear indicators are listed below:

- Taillights not working
  - No access to rear bumper cavity
- 

## Exterior Front

Exterior front indicators are listed below:

- Headlights not working properly
  - Front grill modified or has false compartments
  - No access to front bumper cavity
- 

## Exterior Sides

Exterior sides indicators are listed below:

- Compartments, new welds, taped items, or fresh paint in front fender wells
  - Doors feel heavy when swung
  - Compartments, new welds, taped items, or fresh paint in rear fender walls
  - Inconsistent or non-hollow sounds when tapping on vehicle sides or in fender wells
  - Foreign items in gas tank tube
- 

*Continued on next page*



## Vehicle Inspection Indicators, Continued

---

### Tires

Vehicle tires indicators are listed below:

- Sound solid
  - Strange odor from air valve
  - New
  - Unusually clean or dirty lug nuts or hubcaps compared to other wheels
- 

### Engine Compartment

Engine compartment indicators are listed below:

- Large battery box or extra battery
  - Odd and or clean wires
  - Cold spots on radiator
  - False compartment in windshield washer container or contents smell like fuel
  - Foreign objects in air filter cavity
  - Cold oil filter
  - Freshly painted areas, new welds, shiny bolts, or sheet metal work on firewalls
  - Clean engine in a dirty car
  - Hood feels heavy when opened and closed
  - False wall or modified fender compartment
  - Cleaned or wiped areas
- 

### Under Vehicle

Under vehicle indicators are listed below:

- Unusual or inconsistent sounds when tapping on fuel tank
  - New frame welds
  - Items taped or attached to frame
  - Cold oil pan
  - Cold or unusual muffler (vehicle may be loud)
  - Signs of recent installation of components such as fuel tank, muffler, etc.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Vehicle Inspection Indicators, Continued

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**Inside Vehicle**      Inside vehicle indicators are listed below:

- Dash
    - Electrical components function or LEDs are on when vehicle is powered off
    - New, damaged, or scratched screws
    - Plugged air vents
    - Broken or missing blower
  - False compartment in glove box
  - Unusual lumps or bulges in front and/or rear seats
  - Rigid front and or rear seats
  - False or modified ceiling
  - Unusually thick floor
  - Stress cracks in windshield
-

# Unique Vehicles

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## **Tankers**

Tankers, bulk fuel trucks, and septic service trucks are difficult to search due to the nature of their contents. Some tanker trucks may be carrying hazard chemicals under pressurized conditions.

Because the searcher will not be able to physically search the interior of a tanker, an area that can possibly hold a tremendous amount of explosive material, the searcher will need to focus heavily on the interview with the driver of the vehicle. Some key considerations are listed below:

- Appearance of the driver does not match the vehicle.
  - Driver does not know the delivery location or what the load contains.
  - No discharge hoses or apparatus.
  - Driver does not know how to operate the attached equipment
  - Gauges are not working or read improper measurements.
- 

## **Cargo Trucks**

Similar to tankers, cargo trucks will be difficult to inspect especially if they are fully loaded. Some considerations are listed below:

- Roof or walls appear too thick
  - Discrepancies in the number of wall ribs of interior and exterior walls
  - Misaligned or overlapped seams at the exterior roof/wall intersection
  - Level of boxed, uniform cargo not consistent from front to rear
  - Cargo is packed sloppily
  - Damage to top of cargo boxes indicating someone has walked or crawled on top of cargo
- 

## **Dump Trucks**

Dump trucks, dirt haulers, or trash trucks pose a significant hazard. The same considerations for tankers and cargo trucks apply. Additionally, the searcher may be able to use a pole to poke through the dirt or debris to find any inconsistencies.

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*Continued on next page*

# Vehicle Search Technique

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## Searching

Each unit will conduct training and develop their own SOPs for searching different vehicle types based on the mission and situation. The table below is an example of a passenger vehicle search technique:

Step	Action
1	Vehicle is identified for a search.
2	Driver moves vehicle slowly to the search area, security covers the vehicle.
3	After the vehicle has stopped, the search and security teams take their position. Instruct the driver to turn off the engine and set the parking brake. The keys should be passed to a searcher.
4	Driver is directed to slowly exit the vehicle.
5	Any passengers are directed to slowly exit the vehicle one at a time.
6	Conduct personnel searches on driver and passengers. This will be the time to question the driver for any indicators.
7	Driver and passengers are placed under security watch.
8	Exterior searcher begins his search of the vehicle.
9	Exterior searcher notifies interior searcher that his part is complete.
10	Interior searcher instructs the driver to open the engine hood.
11	Search engine compartment and front bumper.
12	Interior searcher instructs the driver to open the vehicle doors and interior compartments. Searcher closely supervises this action.
13	Search the interior of the vehicle.
14	Interior searcher instructs the driver to open the trunk.
15	Search the trunk and spare tire.
16	Search team completes search and instructs driver and passengers to enter vehicle.
17	Keys are returned and driver is instructed to slowly exit search area.
18	Security team follows vehicle out of search area. Search is complete.

## Translators

Marines will more than likely not be able to communicate the specific instructions required to search a vehicle. If a translator is used, they should be trained in the observation of indicators and search techniques.

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*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 2 Exercise

---

**Directions** Complete items 1 through 3 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** If an explosive hazard is found while conducting a vehicle search at a checkpoint, the search team should immediately react by

- a. shooting the driver and passengers.
  - b. fall back to the react zone.
  - c. utilize the dive pits.
  - d. attempting to disarm the explosive hazard.
- 

**Item 2** What term is used to describe an item, occurrence, condition, or situation that suggests the presence of explosive material or suggests more attention should be paid to an individual at a checkpoint?

- a. Indicator
  - b. Threat
  - c. Situation
  - d. Trait
- 

**Item 3** When conducting a search of a vehicle at a checkpoint, all compartments and doors should be opened by the

- a. search team.
  - b. react force.
  - c. security element.
  - d. driver.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 2 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	c	4-14
2	a	4-17
3	d	4-22

---

### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned how to identify indicators and conduct a search while operating a checkpoint.

---

### Study Unit Summary

In this study unit, you learned how to establish and operate a checkpoint.

In the next study unit, you will learn about explosive hazards that are common when conducting stability and support operations.

---

# STUDY UNIT 5

## EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS

### Overview

---

#### Scope

Numerous Marines and civilians have been killed or injured during every major conflict or operation as a direct result of handling or mishandling unexploded ordnance or improvised explosive devices.

The ability to recognize, react, and report an explosive hazard is imperative to U.S. Marines' ability to maneuver, survive, and ultimately accomplish any mission within any operational theater in the conduct of training or combat operations.

In this study unit, you will learn how to recognize, react, and report conventional and improvised explosive hazards.

---

#### In This Study Unit

This study unit contains the following lessons:

Topic	See Page
Conventional	5-3
Improvised	5-17

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# LESSON 1

## CONVENTIONAL

### Introduction

---

**Scope** Conventional explosive hazards are those munitions that are mass-produced for use by conventional military forces. Most conventional munitions become explosive hazards because of their failure to function as designed (a dud) or detonate as designed (a landmine that has not been detonated).

---

- Learning Objectives** After completing this lesson, you should be able to
- Identify the four basic types of explosives.
  - Identify the three basic steps in the immediate action to an unexploded ordnance (UXO) hazard.
  - Identify the purpose for marking unexploded ordnance (UXO).
  - Identify the purpose for the 9-line UXO spot report.
- 

**In This Lesson** This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	5-3
Recognizing	5-4
Reacting	5-11
Reporting	5-13
Lesson 1 Exercise	5-15

---

# Recognizing

---

## Types

Of the three steps in the immediate action to an UXO, the first step is to recognize the four basic types of explosives:

- Dropped
  - Projected
  - Placed
  - Thrown
- 

## Dropped

Dropped explosives are delivered by aircraft that failed to detonate or are set to detonate at a future time to deny the enemy use of an area. The table below lists the four sub-types of dropped munitions and their characteristics:

<b>Sub-Type</b>	<b>Characteristic</b>
Bombs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vary in length from 3 to 6 feet</li><li>• Vary in diameter from 5 to 36 inches</li><li>• Often have a sloped or “bullet-shaped” nose</li><li>• Fins or a type of parachute may be on the rear</li></ul>
Dispensers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Retained on aircraft or released</li><li>• Contain multiple submunitions or bomblets</li><li>• Most have the same characteristics as bombs</li><li>• May be found intact, damaged, or partially open</li></ul>
Submunitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Smaller bomblets delivered by a dispenser</li><li>• Small size does not make them any less deadly</li><li>• Come in numerous shapes and sizes</li><li>• Can resemble balls, wedges, or cylinders</li><li>• May or may not have parachutes, ribbons, fins, or strings attached</li></ul> <p><b><u>WARNING:</u></b> If encountered, leave the area the same way you came. There are probably more submunitions in the area.</p>

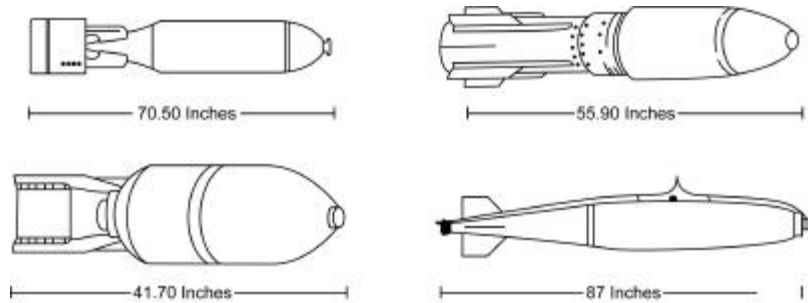
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# Recognizing, Continued

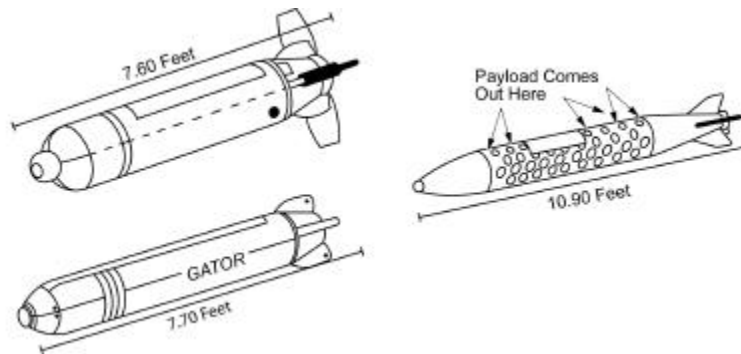
## Diagram of Bombs

A diagram of various bombs is shown below:



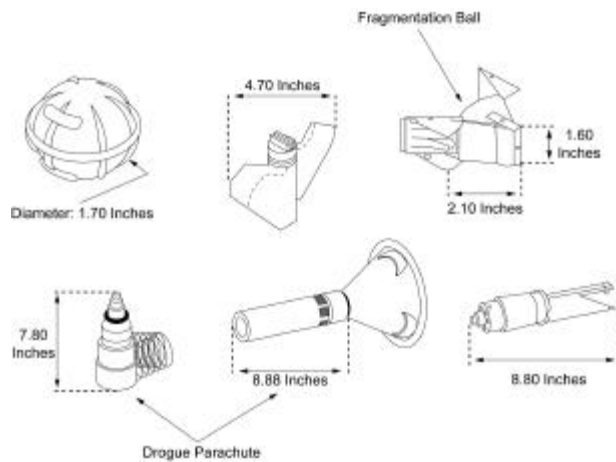
## Diagram of Dispensers

A diagram of various dispensers is shown below:



## Diagram of Submunitions

A diagram of various submunitions is shown below:



*Continued on next page*

## Recognizing, Continued

---

### Projected

The table below lists the five sub-types of projected explosives and their characteristics:

<b>Sub-Type</b>	<b>Characteristic</b>
Projectiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delivered by large machine-guns, artillery, and naval gun systems</li><li>• Range in size from 20mm up to 16 inches in diameter, and 10 to 48 inches in length</li><li>• Most resemble a “bullet” in shape with no fins</li><li>• Can contain explosives, chemical, biological, incendiary, or submunitions as fillers</li></ul>
Mortars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Most have fins and also resemble a “bullet” in shape</li><li>• Range in size from 2 inches to 7 inches in diameter and 12 to 36 inches in length</li><li>• Can contain explosive, chemical, or incendiary fillers</li><li>• Can be set for a delayed detonation</li><li>• High dud rate for older rounds or improper firing</li></ul>
Rockets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• May or may not have fins</li><li>• Range in size from 2 inches to 12 inches in diameter and can range from 12 inches to several feet in length</li><li>• Can contain explosives, chemical, incendiary fillers, or submunitions</li><li>• Will have some type of rocket motor for propulsion</li></ul>
Guided Missiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Most have fins; some are wire guided</li><li>• Similar to rockets in shape, size, and content</li></ul>
Rifle Grenades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fired from a rifle or may be launched from the shoulder</li><li>• Resemble rockets, only smaller in size</li><li>• May contain explosives or incendiary fillers</li></ul>

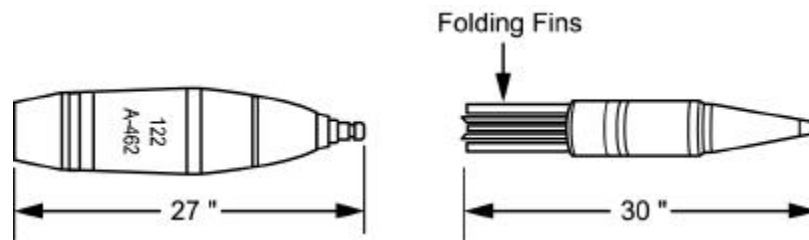
---

*Continued on next page*

## Recognizing, Continued

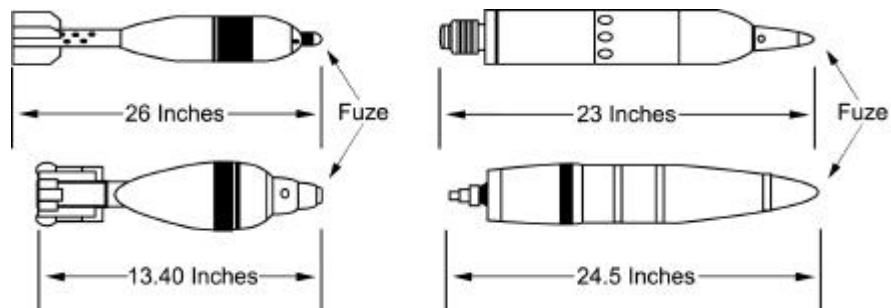
### Diagram of Projectiles

A diagram of two projectiles is shown below:



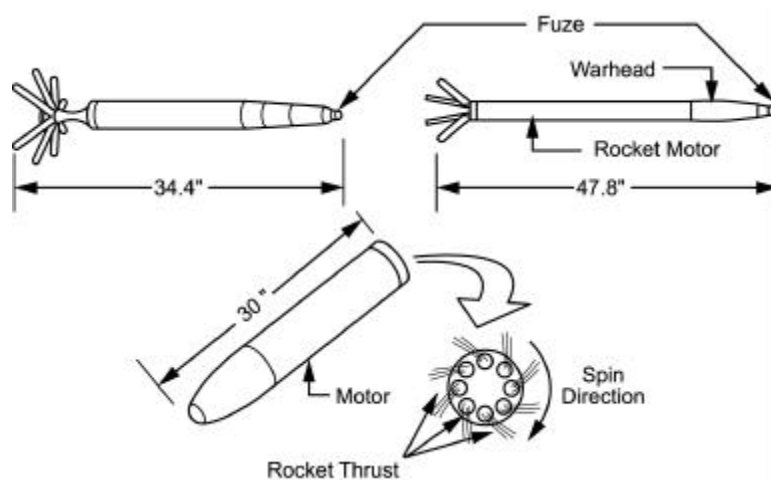
### Diagram of Mortars

A diagram of various mortars is shown below:



### Diagram of Rockets

A diagram of various rockets is shown below:



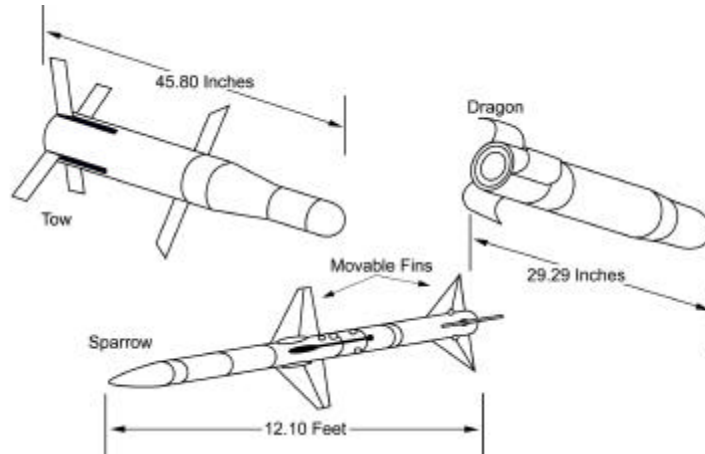
*Continued on next page*

## Recognizing, Continued

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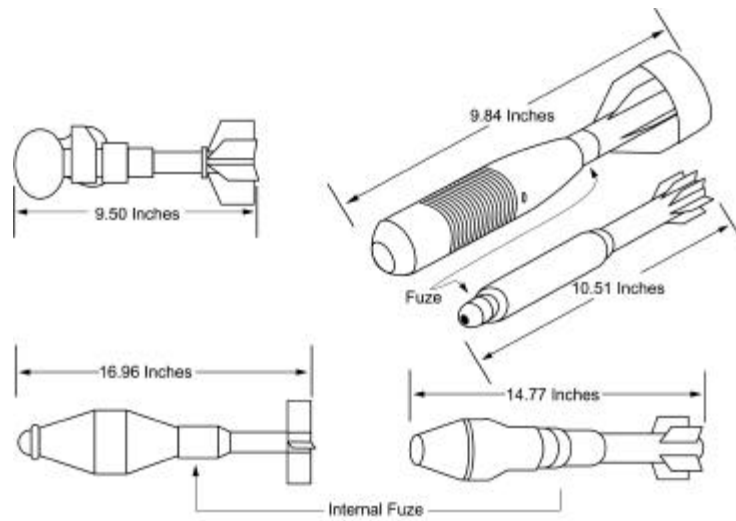
### Diagram of Missiles

A diagram of various missiles is shown below:



### Diagram of Rifle Grenades

A diagram of two rifle grenades is shown below:



*Continued on next page*

## Recognizing, Continued

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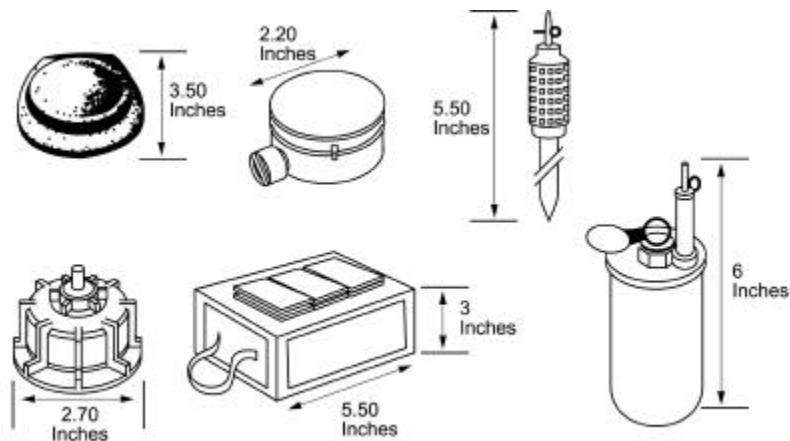
### Placed

Placed explosives come in many shapes and sizes. Not only do they include mines and booby-traps, they include a majority of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), which will be taught in the next lesson. The characteristics of placed explosive hazards are listed below:

- A variety of sizes—some as small as a battery and as large as a tire
  - Can be oval, round, square, or block/wedge shape
  - May have a protruding antenna or wire
  - Some are activated by motion, heat, or the presence of metal
  - Fuzing systems include pressure plates, tilt rods, trip wires, and electronic and magnetic sensors
  - Consider all mines to be booby-trapped or have anti-disturbance fuzing systems
- 

### Diagram of Placed Explosives

A diagram of several placed explosives is shown below:



*Continued on next page*

## Recognizing, Continued

---

### Thrown

Grenades comprise most of the thrown explosives. The characteristics of thrown explosives are listed below:

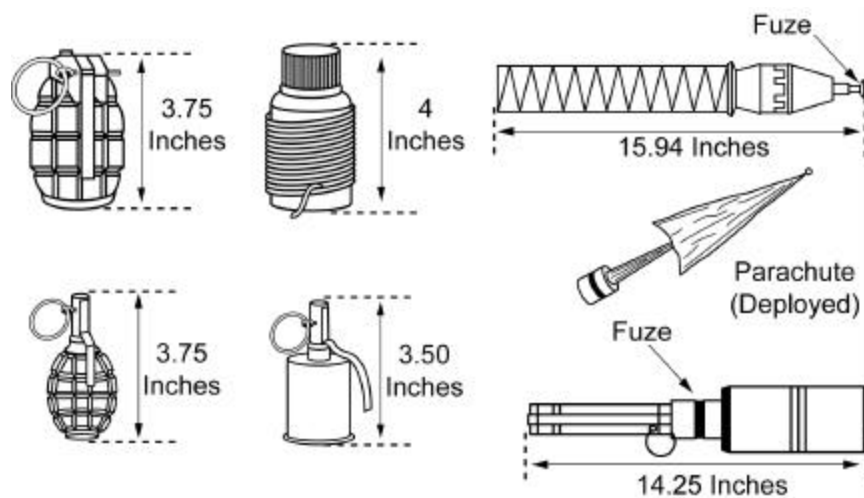
- All types of hand-delivered grenades and simulators
- Round or cylindrical in shape
- Explosive, incendiary, smoke, chemical, or noise producing fillers

**WARNING:** Do not approach a grenade that has been thrown and not detonated. Most fuzes have varying delays.

---

### Diagram of Thrown Explosives

A diagram of various thrown explosives is shown below:





# Reacting

---

## **Immediate Action**

Each unit will develop their own immediate actions for dealing with unexploded conventional ordnance based on the situation and mission. The three basic steps in the immediate action to an UXO hazard is to recognize, react, and report. Below are a few points that are common to all immediate action plans:

- Do not approach closer to an UXO once it has been identified; approaching an UXO may cause it to detonate.
  - Do not strike, move, or touch a suspect UXO.
  - Do not move or remove anything on, near, or attached to a suspected UXO.
  - Do not use radios, radar equipment, cellular phones, or any other electronic device within 100 meters of a suspected UXO.
  - Be aware of peculiar smells, liquids, or dead animals near the site of a suspected UXO. This may be the sign of chemical or biological agents.
- 

## **Mark the UXO**

Soon after the UXO has been identified, the finding unit will mark the UXO so that nobody else inadvertently approaches it.

- Mark the area similar to marking a contaminated area if possible.
  - Use easily recognizable material such as white engineers tape.
  - Place signs or markers facing out from the UXO in the direction of approaching traffic.
  - Place a marker between waist and head level. Avoid placing the marker on the ground.
  - If driving a stake in the ground, drive stakes away from the UXO.
  - If a compass is available, record the direction and approximate distance to the UXO from each marker. This will help the disposal teams to find the UXO.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Reacting, Continued

---

### Example of a Marker

The graphic below is an example of a marker. The marker is easily identifiable and the note attached contains the direction, distance, and type of hazard.



### Evacuate

Evacuation of all personnel and equipment from the area containing the UXO should begin immediately after the discovery.

- A 360-degree perimeter should be evacuated depending on the estimated effective blast area of the UXO.
  - For additional protection, if you must remain in the area, construct protective measures such as fighting holes.
-

# Reporting

---

## Information

The 9-line UXO spot report is used to report suspected UXO to higher headquarters and to request disposal team support in dealing with the hazard. Proper format is not as important as getting the information to higher headquarters or the disposal teams; however, at a minimum, the report must contain the following:

- “Who” discovered the item?
  - “What” is the item?
  - “Where” the UXO is located?
  - “When” the item was discovered?
- 

## 9-Line UXO Spot Report

The table below lists the items in the 9-line spot report:

Line	Information
1	Date time group (DTD) discovered
2	Reporting activity, location (landmarks and street names)
3	Contact method
4	Type of munition
5	NBC contamination (Yes, no, or unknown. If yes, report the type if known).
6	Resources threatened
7	Impact on mission
8	Protective measures taken by the finding unit
9	Recommended priority (immediate, indirect, minor, or no threat)

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*Continued on next page*

## Reporting, Continued

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**Sample Report** The table below shows a sample report of an UXO found on a main supply route:

<b>Line</b>	<b>Information</b>
1	121355LNOV05
2	1stBn 3 <sup>rd</sup> Marines, C-Co, grid 556695, 300 meters south of Pickeny Cross
3	HF 333.00 or via cell at 555-656-5555
4	Projected, Mortar
5	None
6	Main supply route leading to Pickeny village
7	Unit cannot conduct resupply of Pickeny village; no alternate routes available
8	Constructed sandbag barricade and marked the location; evacuated all personnel and equipment for 300 meters
9	Immediate

---

# Lesson 1 Exercise

---

**Directions** Complete items 1 through 4 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** The four basic types of explosives are projected, placed, dropped, and

- a. improvised.
- b. moving.
- c. unidentified.
- d. thrown.

---

**Item 2** State the three basic steps in the immediate action to an UXO hazard.

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**Item 3** State the purpose for marking an unexploded hazard.

---

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**Item 4** The 9-line UXO spot report is used to

- a. identify unexplained ordinance hazards.
- b. report suspected UXO to higher headquarters or disposal teams.
- c. receive information on how to move the UXO to a safer location.
- d. report the activity and disposition of enemy personnel.

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*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 1 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	d	5-4
2	Recognize, react, and report	5-11
3	So that nobody else inadvertently approaches it	5-11
4	b	5-13

---

### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned how to identify conventional UXO hazards and how to react to them.

In the next lesson, you will learn about improvised explosive devices and techniques for recognizing and reacting to them.

---

# LESSON 2

## IMPROVISED

### Introduction

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#### Scope

During Operation Iraq Freedom I and II, US and allied forces began to experience a remarkably new trend of bombings by Iraq and foreign insurgents using improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

*The IED continues to be the greatest casualty producer among our troops in the field.*

--General John P. Abizaid  
Middle East Top American Commander

In this lesson, you will learn how to recognize and detect an IED and some commonly used immediate action drills for dealing with a potential IED.

---

#### Learning Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to

- Identify the most common type of IED used against U.S. forces.
  - Identify the location most commonly used in a vehicle-borne IED (VBIED) to store the explosive material.
  - Identify the suicide bomber's purpose.
  - Identify the two most common methods of suicide bomb delivery.
- 

#### In This Lesson

This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	5-17
Placed-Type IED	5-18
Vehicle-Borne IED	5-21
Suicide Bomber	5-24
Lesson 2 Exercise	5-27

---

# Placed-Type IED

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**Characteristics** The most common type of IED used against U.S. forces is a placed-type IED. IEDs can vary in size from a ballpoint pen to a water heater and often are contained in innocuous objects to camouflage their true purpose; the type is only limited by the imagination of the enemy. IEDs come in different sizes and types, but share some common identification characteristics:

- Made of heavy metal to maximize the fragmentation effect
  - Lead/metal/PVC pipes with end caps
  - Fire extinguishers
  - Propane tanks
  - Mail-type packaging
  - Wood and metal boxes, ammo cans and crates
  - Papier-mâché or molded foam/plastic ‘rocks’ (camouflaged containers made to look like rocks, usually employed along desert roads/trails)
  - Military ordnance
- 

**Firing Systems** The method of initiating package-type IEDs varies:

- Time devices
    - Analog/digital clocks or watches
    - Electronic components
  - Command detonation
    - Electrical leads
    - Radio control
    - Cell phones
    - Garage door openers
    - Car alarms
    - Pagers
  - Booby-traps
    - Mechanical (trip wires and pressure or pull-actuated switches)
    - Electronic (passive infrared (PIR)/light or acoustic sensors are readily available at electronic stores)
- 

*Continued on next page*



## Placed-Type IED, Continued

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### Electrical Lead Firing System

The graphic below shows a command detonated IED made out of a artillery shell, utilizing an electrical lead:



### Effect Types

The IEDs' intended effect is also varied and depends on the intent and skill level of the enemy. The different effects are described in the table below:

<b>Effect</b>	<b>Description</b>
High explosive/ Fragmentation	Utilizes blast effect from the explosive and fragmentation from metal casing and/or the addition of nails, rocks, and glass to cause death or injury to personnel or the destruction of equipment
Explosive Formed Penetrator (EFP)	An imitation effect of some anti-vehicle/antitank munitions—the explosive is packed behind a concave shaped heavy metal disk and aimed in a specific direction
Shape Charge	Another imitation effect of military antitank munitions
Hoax Device	A non-hazardous item made to look like an actual IED used as a diversion or to test security force response procedures

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*Continued on next page*

## Placed-Type IED, Continued

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### High EFP Damage

The damage in the graphic below was caused by a vehicle-borne IED that unintentionally acted as a high EFP. As you can see, much of the blast energy was directed down instead of out.



## Vehicle-Borne IED

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### Description

A vehicle-borne IED (VBIED) is a device that uses a vehicle as the package or the container. The size will vary by the type of vehicles available—small sedans to large cargo trucks. Larger vehicles enable larger amounts of explosives that can be used, resulting in a greater effect.

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### Possible VBIED

The vehicle shown in the graphic below has some of the common characteristics or indicators of a possible VBIED. Notice the fuel containers stationed behind the vehicle. The fuel containers are used to increase the damage caused by the VBIED.



*Continued on next page*

## Vehicle-Borne IED, Continued

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### Indicators

VBIEDs have many of the same characteristics and indicators as placed-type IEDs. A few additional indicators are listed below:

- An auto riding low on the springs or resting low in the rear, especially if the vehicle seems empty—explosive charges can be concealed within the panels of the vehicle, distributing the weight around the rear end
- Suspicious large boxes, satchels, bags, or any type of container in plain view
- Firing system of the device sometimes found in the front (timer, switch) and the main charge, usually out of sight, most commonly found in the rear of the vehicle
- Boxes, containers, or other similar items on, under, or near the front seat in the driver's area of the vehicle
- Wires or rope-like material coming from the front of the vehicle, traversing back to the rear passenger area or disappearing into the trunk area
- Unusual or overwhelming fuel-like odors
- Driver cannot be located; driver exhibits some sort of suspicious behavior

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*Continued on next page*

## Vehicle-Borne IED, Continued

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### **VBIED Damage**

The damage in the graphic below was caused by a vehicle-borne IED:



# Suicide Bomber

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## Purpose

A suicide bomber brings a singularly difficult threat for friendly forces. The purpose of the suicide bomber is not to commit suicide, but to kill or injure as many friendly forces and civilians as possible.

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## Suicide Bomb Vest

The suicide bomb vest is shown in the graphic below:



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*Continued on next page*

## Suicide Bomber, Continued

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### Delivery Methods

Suicide bombs can be delivered in many different ways. The two basic methods of employing devices are listed in the table below:

Method	Description
Person-Borne	A suicide bomb that employs high-explosive/fragmentary effects and uses a command detonation firing system, some sort of switch or button the person activates by hand. Explosives with fragmentation can be contained in the vest, belt, or clothing specifically modified to carry concealed material.
Vehicle-Borne	A suicide bomb that employs the same methods and characteristics of other placed or vehicle bombs using a command detonated firing system

---

### Suicide Bomber Indicators

There is no true profile or indicators to spotting a potential suicide bomber. Listed below are just some vague indicators that may indicate a potential bomber:

- Can be men, women, or children of varying ages
- Attempts to blend in with the target environment
- No distinctive or identifiable clothing, including military uniforms
- Coat or jacket looks too big or bulky for the wearer and may be out of place for the climate
- Exhibits verbal or other signs of fanatical religious beliefs; praying fervently
- Males may have shaved their heads or a short haircut with no beard and may smell of perfume
- Some males may disguise themselves as women to reach their target
- If the device is carried, the person will maintain a strong grip on the bag, keeping it close to their body

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*Continued on next page*

## Suicide Bomber, Continued

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### Special Considerations

Special considerations for a potential suicide bomber are listed below:

- Will attempt to detonate their device if they believe they have been discovered
  - May not be a local national, could be a foreigner sympathetic to the enemy's cause
  - If the suspect is determined to be a suicide-bomber, deadly force is the only response option—prepare for and expect a detonation; shoot from a protected position at the greatest distance possible.
- 

### Suicide Bomb Damage

The damage in the graphic below was caused by a suicide-bomb IED:





## Lesson 2 Exercise

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**Directions** Complete items 1 through 4 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** The most common type of improvised explosive device used against U.S. military forces are

- a. placed.
  - b. suicide.
  - c. vehicle.
  - d. booby-traps.
- 

**Item 2** What area is most commonly used to store the explosive material's main charge of a VBIED?

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**Item 3** State the purpose of a suicide bomber.

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**Item 4** The two most common methods used in delivering suicide IEDs are

- a. personnel and airplane.
  - b. vehicle and airplane.
  - c. person-borne and vehicle-borne.
  - d. vehicle and booby-traps.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 2 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	a	5-18
2	The main charge, usually out of sight, is located in the rear of the vehicle.	5-22
3	Not to commit suicide, but to kill or injure as many friendly forces and civilians as possible	5-24
4	c	5-25

---

### In this Study Unit

In this study unit, you learned how to recognize, react, and report conventional and improvised explosive hazards.

In the next study unit, you will learn specific considerations of convoy operations in a stability or support operation.

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# STUDY UNIT 6

## CONVOY OPERATIONS

### Overview

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#### Scope

Since the establishment of the Marine Corps in 1775, Marines have been involved in convoy operations. One of the first missions assigned to the Marine Corps was to provide security for the delivery of U.S. mail, essentially a convoy operation.

In stability or support operations, convoys are essential to the success of the mission. In this study unit, you will learn planning and operational considerations for convoys.

---

#### In This Study Unit

This study unit contains the following lessons:

Topic	See Page
Planning	6-3
Immediate Action Drills	6-13

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# LESSON 1

## PLANNING

### Introduction

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**Scope** Convoys are planned and organized to control and protect vehicle movements. In stability and support operations, they are used for the tactical movement of combat forces and logistical equipment—an essential task to mission success.

---

- Learning Objectives** After completing this lesson, you should be able to
- Identify the purpose for establishing checklists.
  - Identify the purpose of rehearsals prior to a convoy operation.
  - Identify the organization of a convoy.
  - Identify the purpose of the four-vehicle rule option.
- 

**In This Lesson** This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	6-3
Checklists	6-4
Considerations	6-6
Organization	6-8
Multiple-Vehicle Technique	6-10
Lesson 1 Exercise	6-11

---

# Checklists

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## Purpose

A key to successful convoy operations is to make sure all personnel and equipment are properly accounted for and inspected. Every unit should have established checklists for the purpose of ensuring that nothing is overlooked or left behind prior to the convoy departing. Your unit will develop specific checklists unique to your unit and mission.

---

## Individual

An example of items to be included on an individual checklist is shown below:

- |                                                      |                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Weapon                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Kevlar                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LBE w/canteens (topped off) | <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ammo (mission load)         | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight w/batteries            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ID tags                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Military ID                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MREs                        | <input type="checkbox"/> MOPP gear                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Combat lifesaver kit        | <input type="checkbox"/> Escape and evasion (E&E) card/map |
- 

## Rucksack

An example of items to be included on a rucksack checklist is shown below:

- |                                             |                                           |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag       | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra utilities  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T-shirts           | <input type="checkbox"/> Socks            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Polypro top/bottom | <input type="checkbox"/> Hygiene kit      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gore-Tex           | <input type="checkbox"/> Wet weather gear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cold weather gear  | <input type="checkbox"/> MREs             |
- 

## Leader

An example of items to be included on a leader checklist is shown below:

- |                                                      |                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio checks            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Convoy movement order       | <input type="checkbox"/> Maps                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strip maps                  | <input type="checkbox"/> GPS                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Troop rosters and manifests | <input type="checkbox"/> Current situation brief |
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Checklists, Continued

---

### Vehicle Checklist

An example of items to be included on a vehicle checklist is shown below:

- |                                                        |                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Completed 5988E (Trip ticket) | <input type="checkbox"/> Current vehicle dispatch  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gas tank (Full)               | <input type="checkbox"/> Air panels (VS-17)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extra fuel cans               | <input type="checkbox"/> Basic load (Chow/Water)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio checks                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Snow chains/tie down      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tow bar                       | <input type="checkbox"/> All cargo secured         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Road guard belt/vest          | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maps                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Warning triangles         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire extinguishers            | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandbags                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water cans (Full)             | <input type="checkbox"/> Spare tire                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tow chain                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Marking materials for IED |
-

# Considerations

---

## **Operational Planning**

Operational planning for convoy operations, as is the case for any operation, is situationally dependant. There are some planning considerations, however, that are specific to convoy operations:

- En route recovery
  - Ambulance/medical coverage/casualty evacuation procedures
  - Dispersion of combat lifesavers throughout convoy
  - Designate responsibilities (aid and litter teams, et.)
  - Rest plan for drivers
  - Security considerations to prevent pilferage from the convoy
  - MP/Infantry or other escorts
  - Dispersion of key personnel throughout the convoy-cross load units
  - Identify convoy signal plan
  - En route target reference points and identify available fire support
  - Air cover (close-air support) and air guard
  - Deception plan
  - Closure report at destination and return
  - Reconnaissance of route if possible—air reconnaissance if available
  - Enemy threat capabilities and potential courses of action
  - Civilian considerations along the route
  - Establishment of phase lines/checkpoints
  - Immediate action drills
- 

## **Briefings**

Briefings are essential to situational awareness and should be conducted prior to each and every convoy operation. Briefings that should be conducted include

- Tactical brief—enemy/friendly situation update from S2/S3
  - Movement control brief—issuance of the convoy execution matrix and strip maps given to all drivers)
  - Safety brief
  - Downed vehicle plan brief
- 

*Continued on next page*



## Considerations, Continued

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### Rehearsals

Conducting rehearsals prior to departure will ensure that everyone knows how the convoy will react in each situation. Rehearsal examples are listed below:

- Immediate action drills – What is expected of everyone? Who does what in each situation? Examples of immediate drills include
    - React to civil disturbances
    - React to potential opposing force (blocking the route)
    - Air attack
    - Artillery/indirect fire attack
    - Sniper fire
    - Ambush
    - Mines, booby traps, and IEDs
  - Routes – Paint routes and terrain features on a large piece of canvas. This allows the “sand table” to be moved and drivers to “walk” the route prior to departure.
  - Casualty evacuation procedures – Are the aid and litter teams designated and does each member know their responsibilities? Do you know the location of the corpsman?
  - Communications – Audio, visual, and radio. Redundant means of communication is critical to mission success. What is the plan if primary communications fail? Primary and secondary frequencies?
  - Security forces – Are roles and responsibilities understood?
-

# Organization

---

**Elements** Leaders must know how to position vehicles within the convoy. All columns, serials, and march units—regardless of size—have four main elements:

- Scout
  - Head
  - Main body
  - Trail
- 

**Scout** A scout vehicle or a series of vehicles precedes the main body of the convoy by 3 to 5 minutes. The task for the scout vehicle is to ascertain road conditions and identify obstacles that may pose a threat to the convoy. However, the enemy situation may not allow the use of a scout element.

---

**Head** The head is the first vehicle of each column, serial, and march unit. The task for the head vehicle consists of

- Setting the pace of the convoy
- Keeping the convoy on the proper route
- Reporting arrival at certain checkpoints/phase lines

With the head vehicle performing these duties, the convoy commander has the flexibility to travel the column to enforce march discipline. Head vehicles should be heavy, well-protected vehicles.

---

**Main Body** The main body follows immediately after the head vehicle and consists of the majority of vehicles moving as part of the convoy. This is the part of the convoy that may be subdivided into serials and march units for ease of control.

---

**Trail** The trail is the last element of the convoy. The trail element is primarily responsible for rear security of the convoy, but is also tasked and equipped to

- Recover vehicles that are stuck or that have broken down.
  - Perform maintenance on damaged vehicles.
  - Provide medical support.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Organization, Continued

---

### **Element Responsibility**

Some units prefer to organize convoys by their element responsibilities as shown below:

- Command
  - Security
  - Support
  - Troop/Cargo
- 

### **Vehicle Placement**

Certain factors that influence the placement of vehicles in a convoy are listed in the table below:

- Vehicles carrying bulk fuel, ammo, and supplies should be tactically separated within the convoy.
  - Critical equipment and personnel should be segregated within the convoy.
  - Slower vehicles should be placed at the front of the convoy to assist in maintaining the prescribed convoy speed.
  - Command and control vehicles should be placed where they can maintain control of the convoy.
  - Maintenance and recovery vehicles should be placed at the end of the convoy.
  - If it does not compromise the security, supply trucks requiring the longest unloading time should be at the head of the convoy to achieve the fastest turnaround time.
-

# Multiple-Vehicle Technique

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**Purpose** The multiple-vehicle technique—commonly referred to as the *four-vehicle rule*—was implemented to increase the force protection and flexibility of options during a mine incident or a small-scale attack. This technique requires a minimum of four vehicles for any vehicle movements. Similar to the Guardian Angel, vehicles should be paired together to increase security.

---

**Advantages** Some multiple-vehicle advantage examples that have been realized by various units are listed below:

- Movement was conducted at platoon level. Most mechanized and armored forces base their platoons on four vehicles.
  - Regardless of the diversity of the units that conducted the movement, at least one vehicle had either a M249 SAW or a crew-served weapon system.
  - Units dedicated time and resources to plan and coordinate the movements, making sure the smallest details were considered prior to executing a convoy operation. Every movement requires staff coordination.
  - After several mine and IED strikes, the additional vehicles allowed redundant communications to call for medical assistance and evacuation; personnel and resources to conduct internal evacuation, if required; and assets to secure the area during the evacuation.
- 

**Disadvantages** Some multiple-vehicle disadvantage examples that have been realized by various units are listed below:

- Many movements, particularly those conducted by non-maneuver units, were not executed by cohesive platoon-sized elements. For example, convoys could consist of a combination of several different organizations, such as civil affairs, MPs, EOD teams, and the chaplain.
  - Limited the leaders' ability to move freely in the area of responsibility.
  - Limited vehicle assets prevented or hampered units from accomplishing the mission.
  - Mission given on short notice, the unit had to quickly coordinate three other vehicles or identify another convoy traveling to the location
-

# Lesson 1 Exercise

---

**Directions** Complete items 1 through 4 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** To ensure that nothing is overlooked or left behind prior to the convoy departure, units must establish

- a. checklists.
  - b. vehicle inspectors.
  - c. security teams.
  - d. cleaning schedules.
- 

**Item 2** State the purpose for conducting rehearsals prior to a convoy operation.

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**Item 3** A convoy is organized into four main parts: trail, main body, head, and

- a. point.
  - b. security.
  - c. command post.
  - d. scout.
- 

**Item 4** The purpose of the four-vehicle rule option is to

- a. keep vehicles in the same unit.
  - b. increase force protection and flexibility of options.
  - c. identify security hazards on roads.
  - d. limit the number of vehicles in a convoy.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 1 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	a	6-4
2	To ensure that everyone knows how the convoy will react in each situation	6-7
3	d	6-8
4	b	6-10

---

### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned convoy-planning considerations.

In the next lesson, you will learn basic immediate action drills for vehicle convoys.

---

# LESSON 2

## IMMEDIATE ACTION DRILLS

### Introduction

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#### Scope

In Bosnia, snipers were a major threat to U.N. aid convoys conducting stability and support operations. A single individual with a long-range rifle can effectively hinder a main supply route. While very few personnel were actually hit, the constant threat of attack forced drivers to mitigating measures which, when implemented, reduced the flow of supplies. In Iraq, IEDs and ambush attacks are a deadly and constant threat for U.S. personnel. Insurgents especially target convoys. U.S. forces constantly have had to adapt to the insurgents ever-changing tactics of convoy ambushes and IED attacks.

Each unit will develop, plan, and rehearse how they will conduct immediate action drills during convoy missions. In this lesson, you will learn some basic techniques that have been proven to work.

---

#### Learning Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to

- Identify the placement of critical cargo within a convoy.
  - Identify the options available to a convoy confronted with indirect fire.
- 

#### In This Lesson

This lesson contains the following topics:

Topic	See Page
Introduction	6-13
React to Convoy Attack	6-14
Air Attack	6-16
Indirect Fire	6-17
Sniper Fire	6-18
Ambush	6-19
Explosive Hazards	6-20
Lesson 2 Exercise	6-21

---

# React to Convoy Attack

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## Drivers

Reaction to a convoy attack is an essential battle drill for all drivers in a convoy. All drivers need to know what they should do when reacting to various situations. At a minimum, the planning and training should consist of the following drills:

- Conduct driver training.
- Plan for attacks on every convoy.
- Conduct pre-convoy checks and inspections.
- Conduct rehearsals prior to each convoy.

The enemy does not discriminate when firing on a convoy. All drivers must train on reaction drills constantly so that they do not require conscious thought. This includes drivers of tankers, ammunition handlers, corpsman in ambulances, and mechanics in wreckers.

Note: If drivers have to think about what to do, they will probably die in place.

---

## Night Convoys

Night convoys can be safer than daylight convoys. The advantages and disadvantages of conducting a convoy operation at night are listed in the table below:

<b>Night Convoy</b>	<b>Description</b>
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drivers with modern night vision goggles are almost as effective as drivers during the day.</li><li>• The signature of the convoy is masked by darkness if conducted with blackout conditions.</li><li>• Enemy engagement ranges are reduced and less effective.</li></ul>
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Night driving requires increased coordination, communication, and training.</li><li>• Darkness gives the enemy cover for attacks such as mines and ambushes that would otherwise be identified in daylight.</li><li>• Difficulties in navigation increase.</li></ul>

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*Continued on next page*



## React to Convoy Attack, Continued

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**Cargo** Critical cargo should be dispersed throughout the convoy. This reduces the risk that if an enemy destroys a portion of a convoy, the entire shipment may not be lost. An example would be if fuel tankers are kept together, a single tanker explosion could ignite a chain reaction.

---

**Vehicle Spacing** Maintain vehicle spacing, even at a halt. With vehicles spaced 100 meters apart, a medium size convoy would take up more than a kilometer of road space. With larger spacing, fewer convoy vehicles will get caught in a kill zone.

The larger the vehicle spacing within a convoy, the slower the reaction time. If an extremely large convoy is attacked in the center, it is possible that vehicles stopped at the end of the convoy may not know that an attack has taken place.

---

**Communication** Convoys need to establish primary and alternate means of communication. Some vehicles within a convoy may not have radios and be dispersed over large distances. A signal plan should contain visual and audible plans that carry the length of the convoy in both day and night situations.

---

**Rally Points** Convoys should have established designated rally points along the route where separated elements can gather to establish a defensive perimeter and regain accountability before continuing the mission.

---

**Alternate Route** If an ambush is discovered, convoys should have an established alternate route to use if possible.

---

**Blocked Route** A convoy can be blocked on its route for many different reasons. The enemy can intentionally block a route to spring an ambush or force the convoy to take an alternate route that is laced with mines or IEDs. A route can also be unintentionally blocked due to heavy traffic congestion in an urban area or a stalled convoy vehicle.

A key point to remember: a convoy is most vulnerable when it is stopped.

---

# Air Attack

---

## Planning

An air attack is a type of ambush. Accordingly, many of the procedures used during a ground ambush also apply to the air attack. Prior to the convoy leaving the safe area, it should plan

- Alarm signals for an air attack.
  - Actions to take when under attack.
  - Immediate action procedure rehearsals.
  - Review the procedures with all personnel in the convoy.
- 

## Active Defense

If there is a threat of air attack to a convoy, having anti-aircraft weapons or air support is the most effective active defense. Another method is to use small arms fire in volume. Some other techniques are listed below:

- Fire in volume—everyone fires.
  - Lead the aircraft according to its speed and altitude.
  - Lie on your back if caught in the open.
  - Aim mounted machineguns slightly above the nose for head-on targets.
  - Control fire so that attacking aircraft flies through it.
- 

## Passive Defense

If an air attack threat exists and few active defense measures are available, convoys should take passive defense measures. The key to an effective passive defense plan is to prevent hostile aircraft from locating and attacking the convoy. Some passive defense measures are listed below:

- Dispersion
  - Camouflage and concealment
  - Communications security
  - Air guards
- 

## Air Guards

The convoy should assign specific individuals to air guard duties throughout the convoy. Seeing the enemy first tips the odds in favor of the convoy, giving it time to react.

---

# Indirect Fire

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**Active Defense** Active defense measures against artillery or mortars are extremely limited, but must not be overlooked. Active measures include

- Directing counter-battery fire if the direction and approximate distance to the enemy artillery or mortar position can be estimated
  - Directing small arms fire or artillery fires against the enemy forward observer if he can be located
  - Coordinating air strikes against the enemy artillery or mortar positions
- 

**Passive Defense** The formation in which the convoy moves can be a type of passive defense. The convoy commander has three options when confronted with incoming artillery or mortar fire:

- Halt in place.
- Continue to march.
- Disperse quickly to concealed positions.

Regardless of the option selected, the actions to be taken and signal plan should be rehearsed.

---

**Considerations** The convoy should only be halted when the artillery concentration is ahead of the convoy. The convoy should look for an alternate route around the impact area and be prepared to move out quickly. The mission or terrain may require the convoy to continue. If this is the case, the convoy should increase speed and spread out to the maximum extent the terrain will allow. Ways to decrease casualties in these situations are listed below:

- Wear protective equipment.
  - Use the vehicle for protection.
  - Increase dispersion.
-

# Sniper Fire

---

## Locating

It is difficult to locate where enemy sniper fire is coming from during convoy operations, especially in urban areas. Convoy vehicles moving at a rapid pace and generating noise and dust can hide the sound of small arms sniper fire.

During operations in Iraq, convoys did not even realize that they came under sniper fire until they returned to their base camp and noticed gunshot holes in their vehicles. Since no personnel were hit, the sound of a round impacting a vehicle may be blended with the normal sounds of convoy operations.

In an urban area, even if sniper fire is recognized, it is often difficult to pinpoint the direction and distance to the enemy shooter.

---

## Responding

The best actions for responding to sniper fire are passive:

- Make sure all personnel wear Kevlar helmets and body armor at all times.
  - Move all vehicles through the area without stopping.
  - Deploy smoke from the front of the convoy to mask the remaining convoy.
  - Be aware that sniper fire may be an attempt to slow down a convoy to spring an ambush or IED.
  - Prevent convoy personnel from random firing by designating certain personnel to return fire.
- 

## Prevention

Besides the normal passive measures used for protection, prevention is an effective way to stop sniper attacks. A convoy can have a designated response force that is large enough to go on the offensive in a sniper attack and search for the shooter.

This element would be responsible for destroying, capturing, and driving off the sniper. A sniper will be more reluctant to shoot at a larger force if he knows that they always take the time to search for the shooter.

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# Ambush

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## **Avoid an Ambush**

No single defensive measure or combination of measures will prevent or effectively counter all the ambushes in a situation. The effectiveness of counter-ambush measures is directly related to the state of the unit's training and the leadership ability of the leaders. Take the following actions to avoid an ambush:

- Select the best route for your convoy.
  - Conduct a map reconnaissance.
  - Conduct a ground reconnaissance.
  - Obtain current intelligence information.
  - Use operational security to deny the enemy knowledge beforehand.
  - Do not present a profitable target.
  - Never schedule routine convoys or use the same routes.
- 

## **Reduce the Effectiveness**

Take the following actions to reduce the effectiveness of ambushes:

- Harden vehicles. If all vehicles can not be hardened, place the ones that can be in the front and rear of the convoy.
  - Cover loads.
  - Space prime targets throughout the convoy.
  - Wear protective clothing.
  - Use assistant drivers.
  - Carry troops and supplies.
  - Use prearranged signals to warn the convoy of ambushes.
  - Use escort vehicles or gun trucks.
  - Thoroughly brief all personnel in ambush immediate action drills.
  - Practice immediate action drills.
  - Maintain the interval between vehicles.
  - Do not stop in the kill zone.
  - Stop short of the ambush if it is discovered early.
  - Do not block the road if vehicle is disabled.
  - Aggressively return fire.
  - Counterattack if possible.
  - Call for all available support.
-

## Explosive Hazards

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### **Improvised Explosive Devices**

During operations in Iraq, convoy operations were severely hindered by IEDs. Some IEDs were used to initiate a follow-on ambush or a smaller IED was detonated prematurely to stop a convoy on a much larger IED.

Reacting to an explosive hazard was covered in study unit 4.

---

### **IED Damage**

The illustration below shows Marines in Iraq performing a medevac for a fellow Marine that was injured by an IED against his convoy:



## Lesson 2 Exercise

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**Directions** Complete items 1 through 2 by performing the action required. Check your answers against those listed at the end of this lesson.

---

**Item 1** During convoy operations, critical cargo should be

- a. placed at the rear of the convoy.
- b. dispersed throughout the convoy.
- c. separated into a different convoy that follows the first group.
- d. grouped together in the center of the convoy.

---

**Item 2** The convoy commander has three options when confronted with indirect fire. He can halt in place, continue to march, or

- a. disperse quickly to concealed positions.
- b. abandon vehicles and seek cover.
- c. drive into the impact area.
- d. establish a hasty defense.

---

*Continued on next page*

## Lesson 2 Exercise, Continued

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### Answers

The table below provides the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions, refer to the reference page listed for each item.

Item Number	Answers	Reference Page
1	b	6-15
2	a	6-17

---

### Lesson Summary

In this lesson, you learned how to conduct immediate action drills in convoy operations during stability and support operations.

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### Study Unit 6 Summary

In this study unit, you learned how to conduct convoy operations and immediate action drills in convoy operations during stability and support operations.

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# REVIEW LESSON EXAMINATION

## Review Lesson

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**Introduction** The purpose of the review lesson examination is to prepare you for your final examination. We recommend that you try to complete your review lesson examination without referring to the text. However, for those items (questions) you are unsure of, restudy the text. When you finish your review lesson and are satisfied with your responses, check your responses against the answers provided at the end of this review lesson examination.

---

**Directions** Select the ONE answer that BEST completes the statement or that answers the item. For multiple choice items, circle your response. For matching items, place the letter of your response in the space provided.

---

**Item 1** The primary purpose of stability operations is to

- a. enhance survivability.
- b. maintain or restore order.
- c. provide disaster relief.
- d. provide community assistance.

---

**Item 2 Through Item 4** Matching: In the spaces provided, place the letter of the scenario in column 2 that describes the type of stability operation in column 1.

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>
<b><u>Type of Stability Operation</u></b>	<b><u>Scenario</u></b>
___ 2. Combatting Terrorism	a. Flying attack helicopters over a city
___ 3. Arms Control	b. Training and equipping a counterterrorism team
___ 4. Show of Force	c. Evacuating U.S. Embassy personnel
	d. Destroying weapons of mass destruction

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*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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**Item 5**      Scenario: A unit has captured a building holding known enemy combatants. During the attack, the building sustained substantial damage and cannot be used by the local inhabitants. Consequently, the excessive force used by the unit led to the loss of sympathy and support of the local and international population. What special consideration regarding stability operations should the unit have considered?

- a. Application of force
  - b. Appropriate level of preparedness
  - c. Decisive action
  - d. Enhancement
- 

**Item 6**      The purpose of support operations is to

- a. provide operational security.
  - b. conduct noncombatant evacuation operations.
  - c. provide command and control structure.
  - d. provide community assistance.
- 

**Item 7**      The two types of support operations are foreign humanitarian assistance and

- a. support to counterdrug operations.
  - b. domestic support operations.
  - c. security assistance.
  - d. foreign internal defense.
- 

**Item 8**      One of the special considerations during support operations is to ensure that essential support is provided to

- a. people that support your effort only.
  - b. efforts that will be effective.
  - c. the largest number of people possible.
  - d. high priority tasks only
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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- Item 9** Which of the following would be an element that could lead to an unstable government?
- a. Nationalism
  - b. Democratic elections
  - c. Power outage
  - d. Climate changes
- 

- Item 10** Tribal, nationalist, or religious movements competing with Western models of government describe which element that could lead to an unstable government?
- a. demographics.
  - b. environmental risks.
  - c. clash of cultures.
  - d. nationalism.
- 

- Item 11** Scenario: Your unit is engaged in fighting enemy combatants in a small city. The enemy combatants do not wear uniforms. They position weapons at different points so that they do not have to carry weapons while they move around the city. Identify the complex situation that is affecting your unit?
- a. Undisciplined factions
  - b. Difficulty in discriminating between combatants and noncombatants
  - c. Interference of nongovernmental organizations
  - d. Civil infrastructure
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

**Item 12  
Through  
Item 14**

Matching: In the spaces provided, place the letter of the description in column 2 that defines the type of information gathering method in column 1.

---

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>
<b><u>Information Gathering Method</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>
___ 12. Human Intelligence	a. To eliminate the opponent's ability to gather intelligence information on U.S. forces
___ 13. Counterintelligence Operations	b. Using helicopters to search for enemy combatants
___ 14. Surveillance and Reconnaissance	c. Debriefing indigenous personnel

---

**Item 15**

From the following choices, select the best definition of rules of engagement (ROE).

- a. ROE are used to limit a unit's ability to use force against enemy combatants.
  - b. ROE specify when, where, against whom, and how units can use force.
  - c. ROE are designed for individual accountability only.
  - d. ROE are designed for unit commander accountability only.
- 

**Item 16**

The three considerations for developing rules of engagement are operational requirements, policy, and

- a. law.
  - b. mission.
  - c. situation.
  - d. necessity.
- 

**Item 17**

Two elements of self-defense are proportionality and

- a. necessity.
  - b. policy.
  - c. propriety.
  - d. understandability.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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- Item 18** Rules of engagement need to be comprehensive so that
- a. they are tactically sound.
  - b. interpreters to translate information easier.
  - c. they are understood by all members of a unit.
  - d. they are specific as possible.
- 

- Item 19** An organized movement aimed at the overthrow of a constituted government through the use of subversion and armed conflict is the definition of
- a. insurgency.
  - b. terrorism.
  - c. guerrilla warfare.
  - d. conventional warfare.
- 

- Item 20** The goal of an insurgency is to mobilize human and material resources to
- a. breakaway from their government.
  - b. train and equip terrorists.
  - c. form an alternative to the state by gaining political power.
  - d. threaten the population of the state.
- 

- Item 21** The use of violence, fear, and intimidation to coerce governments or societies in the pursuit of goals that are generally political, religious, or ideological is the definition of
- a. guerrilla warfare.
  - b. terrorism.
  - c. insurgency.
  - d. tactics.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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- Item 22** The policy of the United States regarding terrorism is that all terrorist acts are
- a. irrational and unprovoked.
  - b. motivated by greed.
  - c. committed by developing nations.
  - d. intolerable and should be condemned.
- 

- Item 23** A military or paramilitary operation conducted in enemy held or hostile territory by irregular, predominantly indigenous forces is the definition of
- a. guerrilla warfare.
  - b. terrorism.
  - c. insurgency.
  - d. tactics.
- 

- Item 24** In a SASO environment, quizzing members of your unit about the houses, vehicles, and individuals within their sector demonstrates what aspect of situational awareness?
- a. Motivation
  - b. Espri de corps
  - c. Vigilance
  - d. Risk management
- 

- Item 25** Interacting and communicating with the local populace can play a pivotal role in situation awareness because it allows your unit to
- a. show them who is in charge.
  - b. gain support for your mission.
  - c. learn a new culture.
  - d. instill a sense of fear.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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**Item 26**

Patrol logs are used to

- a. keep units vigilant and increase situational awareness.
  - b. keep the local population informed of your units activities.
  - c. create a future historical reference and document lessons learned.
  - d. capture important information to be analyzed and briefed for future operations.
- 

**Item 27**

As a general rule, which types of information should be recorded in a patrol log?

- a. All events that occur in your sectors.
  - b. Unclassified radio transmissions.
  - c. Information passed by the company COC.
  - d. Information screened by the patrol leader.
- 

**Item 28**

What are the two purposes for analyzing information from patrol logs and reports?

- a. Generate reports for higher and identify patterns.
  - b. Have better situational awareness and to identifying patterns.
  - c. Keep the local population and your superiors informed of the situation.
  - d. Maintain operational security and keep the local population informed of the situation.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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**Item 29**

Select the most common indicators of surveillance activity from the list below:

- I. The repeated presence of new persons or vehicles in your sector during supply deliveries.
  - II. Children that approach your patrol for candy or food.
  - III. Spontaneous confrontations by local nationals at a checkpoint.
  - IV. Reports from locals of persons from outside the neighborhood asking questions.
  - V. Locals close their businesses when your patrol walks down the street.
  - VI. Finding a local national in a restricted area of your compound.
- a. I, II, V, and VI
  - b. I, III, V, and VI
  - c. I, III, IV, and VI
  - d. I, II, IV, and V
- 

**Item 30**

The purposes of establishing a firm base in a stability and support operation is to

- a. provide a secure place for units to rest and establish a liaison point for the host nation.
  - b. maintain better situational awareness and operate patrols even as you stabilize the area.
  - c. establish supply points for combat patrols and provide a central location for command.
  - d. establish a presence in enemy territory and establish a liaison point for the host nation.
- 

**Item 31**

A firm base should be adjacent to roads, trails, waterways, and landing zones to

- a. control the flow of traffic.
  - b. conduct checkpoints.
  - c. facilitate re-supply and support.
  - d. blend in with the host nation.
- 

*Continued on next page*



## Review Lesson, Continued

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- Item 32** An essential planning consideration when planning the location of a firm base is to ensure that
- construction material is gathered.
  - the location supports the mission.
  - the site supports the command post.
  - it is night vision capable.
- 

- Item 33** Placing a layer of chain-link fence or tin on the roof tops and window openings will
- hide the activities of your unit from observation.
  - possibly pre-detonate airborne explosive projectiles.
  - insulate the building in bad weather.
  - identify the building as a firm base.
- 

**Item 34 Through Item 37** Matching: In the spaces provided, place the letter of the duty in column 2 that describes the billet in column 1.

**Column 1**

**Column 2**

**Billet**

**Duty**

- \_\_\_ 34. Watch Officer  
\_\_\_ 35. Plotter  
\_\_\_ 36. Guard Chief  
\_\_\_ 37. React

- Responsible for fighting the firm base
  - Responsible for fighting the company in the absence of CO and XO
  - Maintain logs and detailed reports
  - Secure the entry control points
- 

- Item 38** To establish continuity and fight complacency while operating out of a firm base, units establish a
- battle rhythm.
  - turn-over binder.
  - watch schedule.
  - pattern of operation.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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- Item 39** The purpose of conducting immediate action drills in a firm base is to
- a. maintain and improve the security posture.
  - b. demonstrate our strength to host nation personnel.
  - c. develop standardized operating procedures.
  - d. train new joins to the unit.
- 

- Item 40** The purpose of a red cell in a firm base is to
- a. have a medical team on standby at all times.
  - b. draw out enemy snipers.
  - c. search for explosive devices.
  - d. check and verify the security.
- 

- Item 41** The personnel that man the red cell should
- a. be rotated as often as possible.
  - b. remain on duty indefinitely to ensure continuity.
  - c. be cross-trained as radio operators.
  - d. always think from the friendly forces perspective.
- 

- Item 42** To quickly pass pertinent information in the shortest amount of time to personnel at the service station, the watch officer should establish and maintain
- a. classified briefing areas.
  - b. unclassified briefing areas.
  - c. visitors briefing logs.
  - d. information boards.
- 

- Item 43** Rotating the location of a firm base's entry control points will
- a. draw enemy fire.
  - b. create confusion in your unit.
  - c. restrict your units movement.
  - d. enhance your deception plan.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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**Item 44** A tactical technique in which one element is positioned to support by fire the movement of another element by observing known or suspected enemy locations is called

- a. depth.
  - b. weaponing.
  - c. overwatch.
  - d. fire and maneuver.
- 

**Item 45** An overwatch position that is providing security for an entry control point should be placed in a position that denies the enemy the ability to

- a. influence both positions with the same action.
  - b. observe both positions at the same time.
  - c. engage with small arms fire.
  - d. attack the firm base.
- 

**Item 46** During firm base operations, it is important to have dual communication stations in order to

- a. confuse the enemy.
  - b. maintain net discipline.
  - c. guarantee constant communication.
  - d. pass a lot of information at one time.
- 

**Item 47** The purpose of a guardian angel is to

- a. provide security for his buddy.
  - b. maintain constant communications with higher.
  - c. provide ammo and chow as needed.
  - d. test the firm base's security.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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**Item 48** A Marine at an entry control point that has a covered place to go so that he will not be exposed to friendly fire from the overwatch shows his understanding of

- a. geometry of friendly fires.
  - b. proper communication procedures.
  - c. proper red cell procedures.
  - d. guardian angel plans.
- 

**Item 49** In a firm base, the alert “Go Firm” means for all

- a. personnel to prepare for enemy indirect fire.
  - b. posts and guards to report actions and status in their sectors.
  - c. personnel to fall back to alternate fighting positions.
  - d. entry control points to secure.
- 

**Item 50** In a firm base, the alert “Stand to” means

- a. the whole security platoon to go to 100 percent alert.
  - b. the entire firm base go to 100 percent alert.
  - c. all clear, no imminent danger present.
  - d. all personnel to prepare for an infiltration attack.
- 

**Item 51** In a firm base, the alert “General Quarters” means

- a. all personnel to be at 100 percent alert.
  - b. the security platoon will be conducting a drill.
  - c. all sections to achieve MOPP level 2.
  - d. prepare for the arrival of VIPs.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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- Item 52** Presence patrols are visible, show strength and discipline, and are
- conducted at night.
  - conducted during the day.
  - larger than a fire team.
  - combat ready.
- 

**Item 53 Through Item 55** Matching: In the spaces provided, place the letter of the scenario in column 2 that describes the type of checkpoint in column 1.

<b>Column 1</b>	<b>Column 2</b>
<b><u>Type of Checkpoint</u></b>	<b><u>Scenario</u></b>
___ 53. Deliberate	a. Planned in advance, set for a short period of time
___ 54. Hasty	b. Permanent or semi-permanent
___ 55. Snap	c. No planning, conducted immediately

---

- Item 56** A zone at a checkpoint that limits a vehicle or persons movement at that checkpoint is a \_\_\_\_\_ zone.
- canalization
  - restriction
  - limiting
  - search
- 

- Item 57** At what minimum distance should you place warning signs to alert people of your checkpoint?
- 100 meters
  - 200 meters
  - 500 meters
  - 1,000 meters
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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**Item 58**

Scenario: A local national is approaching a U.S. checkpoint on a main supply route. As he nears the checkpoint, he sees barriers and concertina wire stretched across the road at odd angles. The driver is faced with making a rapid decision. He can slow down to make the hard turns or he can speed up and attempt to crash through the barriers and concertina wire. What zone of a checkpoint did the driver just enter?

- a. Barrier
  - b. Safe
  - c. Crash
  - d. Deceleration
- 

**Item 59  
Through  
Item 61**

Matching: In the spaces provided, place the letter of the scenario in column 2 that describes the type of search zone in column 1.

**Column 1**

**Column 2**

Type of Search Zone

Scenario

- \_\_\_ 59. Personnel
- \_\_\_ 60. Vehicle
- \_\_\_ 61. React

- a. Partitioned or screened areas to provide privacy
  - b. Engineers should be located here
  - c. Heavy barriers and mirrors
- 

**Item 62**

The area of a checkpoint that allows personnel to eat, sleep, and recover in relative security is known as the \_\_\_\_\_ zone.

- a. safe
  - b. rest
  - c. search
  - d. canalization
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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- Item 63** To increase the survivability of search teams from blasts and friendly fire from the overwatch teams, search zones should include
- a. dive pits.
  - b. concertina wire.
  - c. perimeter security.
  - d. construction material.
- 

- Item 64** What term is used to describe an item, occurrence, condition, or situation that suggests the presence of explosive material or suggests more attention should be paid to an individual at a checkpoint?
- a. Indicator
  - b. Threat
  - c. Situation
  - d. Trait
- 

- Item 65** Who should open the compartments of a vehicle that is being searched?
- a. Driver
  - b. Search team
  - c. Security team
  - d. Overwatch team
- 

- Item 66** The four basic groups of explosive hazards are dropped, projected, placed, and
- a. improvised.
  - b. moving.
  - c. unidentified.
  - d. thrown.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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**Item 67** The three basic steps to react to an explosive hazard are to recognize, react, and

- a. dispose.
  - b. report.
  - c. defuse.
  - d. move.
- 

**Item 68** Marking the location of an known explosive hazard will assist EOD teams in removing the hazard and

- a. protect people from inadvertently approaching the hazard.
  - b. show the enemy that you found the hazard.
  - c. keep it from exploding.
  - d. make the area safe for movement.
- 

**Item 69** When reporting a suspected or known explosive hazard to higher headquarters or to EOD, you should use the

- a. submunitions report.
  - b. SALUTE report.
  - c. 9-line UXO spot report.
  - d. 4 W's report.
- 

**Item 70** What is the most common type of improvised explosive device used against U.S. military forces?

- a. Placed
  - b. Suicide
  - c. Vehicle
  - d. Booby traps
- 

*Continued on next page*



## Review Lesson, Continued

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- Item 71** The location most commonly used to store the main charge in a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device is in the
- a. rear
  - b. tires
  - c. engine.
  - d. headlights.
- 

- Item 72** A person that is willing to blow themselves up in order to kill or injure as many friendly forces and civilians as possible can be classified as a
- a. troubled person.
  - b. taliban person.
  - c. fanatical bomber.
  - d. suicide bomber.
- 

- Item 73** The two basic methods of delivery of a suicide IED are
- a. personnel and airplane.
  - b. vehicle and airplane.
  - c. person-borne and vehicle-borne.
  - d. vehicle and booby-traps.
- 

- Item 74** Utilizing a checklist during the preparation for a convoy mission will
- a. increase the security of the convoy.
  - b. ensure that nothing is overlooked or left behind.
  - c. increase the effectiveness of the planning phase.
  - d. decrease the security of the convoy.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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- Item 75** Ensuring that everyone knows how the convoy will react in each situation is the purpose of having
- a. rehearsals.
  - b. evacuation plans.
  - c. serialized schedules.
  - d. recovery plans.
- 

- Item 76** A convoy should be organized into four main parts: scout, head, main body, and
- a. headquarters.
  - b. security.
  - c. point.
  - d. trail.
- 

**Item 77 Through Item 81** Matching: In the spaces provided, place the letter of the vehicle location in a convoy in column 2 that describes the vehicle type in column 1.

**Column 1**

**Vehicle Type**

- \_\_\_ 77. Ammunition truck
- \_\_\_ 78. Slow moving truck
- \_\_\_ 79. Maintenance vehicle
- \_\_\_ 80. Commander's vehicle
- \_\_\_ 81. Bulk petroleum truck

**Column 2**

**Location in Convoy**

- a. Separated within the convoy
  - b. At the front of the convoy
  - c. At the trail of the convoy
  - d. Where they can maintain control
- 

- Item 82** In convoy operations, a common technique adopted to increase force protection and increase flexibility of options during a mine incident or a small-scale attack is the
- a. massive column option.
  - b. four-vehicle rule option.
  - c. vehicle placement option.
  - d. convey recovery option.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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**Item 83**

Critical cargo should be placed

- a. at the head of the convoy.
  - b. at the rear of the convoy.
  - c. throughout the convoy.
  - d. in the middle of the convoy.
- 

**Item 84**

The convoy commander has three options when confronted with incoming artillery or mortar fire. He can halt in place, continue to march, or

- a. disperse quickly to concealed positions.
  - b. abandon vehicles and seek cover.
  - c. drive into the impact area.
  - d. die in place.
- 

*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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### Answers

The table below lists the answers to the exercise items. If you have any questions about these items, refer to the reference page.

Item Number	Answer	Reference
1	b	1-4
2	b	1-5
3	d	1-5
4	a	1-5
5	a	1-8
6	d	1-9
7	b	1-10
8	c	1-11
9	a	1-16
10	c	1-17
11	b	1-19
12	c	1-20
13	a	1-20
14	b	1-21
15	b	1-26
16	a	1-27
17	a	1-28
18	c	1-29
19	a	2-4
20	c	2-4
21	b	2-5
22	d	2-5
23	a	2-6
24	c	2-13
25	b	2-15
26	d	2-17
27	a	2-17
28	b	2-18
29	c	2-19
30	b	3-4
31	c	3-4
32	b	3-5
33	b	3-6

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*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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Answers,  
continued

Item Number	Answer	Reference
34	b	3-7
35	c	3-7
36	a	3-7
37	d	3-7
38	a	3-8
39	a	3-9
40	d	3-15
41	a	3-15
42	d	3-16
43	d	3-17
44	c	3-18
45	a	3-18
46	c	3-19
47	a	3-19
48	a	3-20
49	b	3-27
50	a	3-27
51	a	3-27
52	d	3-28
53	b	4-4
54	a	4-4
55	c	4-4
56	a	4-5
57	a	4-5
58	d	4-6
59	a	4-7
60	c	4-7
61	b	4-7
62	a	4-7
63	a	4-14
64	a	4-16
65	a	4-22
66	d	5-4
67	b	5-11

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*Continued on next page*

## Review Lesson, Continued

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Answers,  
continued

Item Number	Answer	Reference
68	a	5-11
69	c	5-13
70	a	5-18
71	a	5-22
72	d	5-23
73	c	5-24
74	b	6-4
75	a	6-7
76	d	6-8
77	a	6-9
78	b	6-9
79	c	6-9
80	d	6-9
81	a	6-9
82	b	6-10
83	c	6-15
84	a	6-17

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