

main objective of a strike is to destroy insurgent forces and base areas, strike forces normally do not remain in the area of operations after mission accomplishment. A strike force normally is assigned a specific target area in which it conducts operations.

ORGANIZATION. Forces designated to conduct strike campaign operations should be relieved of routine area defense responsibilities well in advance of the operation. Strike forces normally are controlled at the national, regional, or state level and are assigned no permanent area responsibilities. Strike forces are organized as self-sufficient TFs capable of operating for extended periods of time in areas remote from home bases. In addition to combat forces, TFs may contain intelligence, PSYOP, civil affairs, police, and paramilitary elements.

OPERATIONS. Once insurgent forces or bases have been located, strike forces maneuver to destroy them. The insurgent's ability to hide weapons and to assume noncombatant guises in attempting to avoid capture may require thorough reconnaissance and search of the area. Suspects must be managed firmly but treated fairly and with respect to avoid turning innocent suspects into insurgent sympathizers. When small units conducting reconnaissance operations sight relatively large insurgent tactical forces, surveillance should be maintained and reaction forces quickly deployed to destroy them. When an area is suspected of harboring insurgent forces or installations, reconnaissance and surveillance should be conducted and followed by an IMMEDIATE attack or raid by reaction forces when sufficient information has been developed on the target.



■ Offensive tactical operations include reconnaissance-in-force, raid, movement to contact, hasty or deliberate attack, and exploitation and pursuit. Combat support and combat service support operations are planned to insure responsiveness to operational requirements. Operations outside the support range of fixed combat service support installations may require that these elements be attached or assigned directly from field depots and tactical bases. The coordination of these activities is accomplished between the TF commander and the appropriate headquarters.

■ Reconnaissance to locate and test insurgent dispositions and strengths or to develop additional intelligence can be followed immediately by hasty attack or raid. Reconnaissance should emphasize thorough reconnoitering of an area and is characterized by continuous, decentralized, small-unit