operations also may be conducted to establish bases in unpopulated areas where insurgent forces have established staging areas, training areas, rest areas, logistical facilities, or command posts. The remote area may be in interior regions of the country or near border areas where major infiltration routes exist. Remote area operations normally are conducted by specially trained and selected units.

CONCEPTS. Remote area operations are conducted to establish areas of strength in order to provide operational bases to support strike campaigns or consolidation campaigns. Success of a given remote area operation is more assured when the local population is willing to support its programs. Support is more likely to be forthcoming if the government force contains personnel indigenous to the area who can influence the local population. Initially, strong combat and combat support forces are required to establish secure operational bases. A remote area operation may be conducted in areas with little or no population to interdict infiltration routes. Maximum use is made of special equipment to provide continuous coverage of suspected areas and routes. Firepower and combat forces, with an airmobile capability, should be prepared to quickly attack identified targets.

ORGANIZATION. To the extent possible, the tactical force should be composed of personnel indigenous to the operational area. The type of tactical force employed (regular forces or paramilitary) will depend on the objectives, characteristics of the area, attitude of the local population, political considerations, and the equipment and logistical support available. The size and composition of the tactical force are in part determined by the insurgent's influence over the population and the government's ability to recruit and develop an adequate local force. When the tactical force is recruited from local inhabitants, local leaders should be used even though their military ability may be limited. By using local leaders, assisted as necessary by advisors, better control and motivation are possible. Also, training, indoctrinating, and incorporating the local force into the governmental structure are facilitated.

OPERATIONS. In addition to tactical operations, remote area operations may include civil affairs, PSYOP, intelligence, populace and resources control, and advisory assistance operations. Most remote operations are long term and continuous. They are initially directed at disrupting the insurgent's operations and then destroying the insurgent armed forces. The insurgent infrastructure is destroyed as early as possible. Remote area operations include a preparation stage followed by the operational stages of offense, development, and completion.

■ PREPARATION STAGE. This stage entails delineating the area of operations, collecting and assessing data and information pertaining to the operational area, estimating resource requirements, training personnel, and preparing operations plans.

■ OFFENSIVE STAGE. This stage entails moving the force into the operational area, establishing a secure operational base, destroying or clearing insurgent tactical forces from the area, neutralizing or destroying the insurgent base area, neutralizing the insurgent political infrastructure, and establishing or reestablishing government control.

■ DEVELOPMENT STAGE. This stage entails conducting aggressive defensive operations, primarily by extensive patrolling; introducing and conducting short-term military civic action programs which may develop into