

■ **POSITIONING.** Field artillery batteries may be positioned and laid by platoon or by single piece. Field artillery batteries employed in this manner have a 6400-mil firing capability.

■ **MOBILITY.** In operations conducted in large inundated areas or areas with navigable streams and rivers, boats or rafts are excellent means for transport of weapons and ammunition. In large watercraft, artillery may be positioned to fire from the craft. Since the 105mm howitzer can be lifted by helicopter, field artillery may be used this way where terrain and the guerrilla situation deter ground movement. Helicopters can be used for position reconnaissance and also for ammunition supply and resupply.

■ **FIRE DIRECTION.** When fire control is centralized, the artillery battalion establishes a fire direction center (FDC) for the computation of firing data for the batteries. During decentralized operations, the direct support battery may operate independently for limited periods. When required, a platoon or section of the battery may also employ FDC techniques to deliver indirect fire for limited periods. Air observation posts and airborne FDCs can be used to adjust fire and perform tactical fire direction.

■ **COMMUNICATIONS.** Counterguerrilla operations place a burden on communication and fire control. Since radio is the most flexible, mobile, and, at times, the only means of communication available, aircraft may have to be used extensively as radio relay stations. Communications must be maintained with the local host country forces and ACC.

■ **AMMUNITION.** Artillery projectiles and fuzes which provide capabilities and characteristics flexible enough to meet most counterguerrilla requirements must be maintained at battery level during decentralized operations (see FM 6-50).

ENGINEER

Counterguerrilla tactical operations may require vastly increased engineer support because of poorly developed road nets and the need to construct bridges, culverts, and installations. For a discussion of the capabilities and organization of divisional and nondivisional engineer units and engineer teams and detachments, see FM 5-100.

MISSIONS. Engineer units support counterguerrilla tactical operations by - -

- Hasty repair of routes and bridges.
- Installing expedient or combat float or fixed bridges.
- Breaching obstacles by removal or destruction.
- Engineer reconnaissance.
- Assisting in detaching and removing mines and booby traps.
- Producing potable water.