

The mobility of armored personnel carriers in suitable terrain gives them a significant advantage over guerrilla forces. If guerrilla forces have limited antiarmor capabilities, the armored personnel carrier can be used as a fighting vehicle. To prevent unnecessary casualties and loss of the carrier's speed, armor protection, and psychological effect, premature dismounting from carriers should be avoided. Riflemen usually dismount when - -

- Securing an objective after an assault, when prisoners must be secured, and when an area must be searched. This task is accomplished by carrier teams and maneuver teams.
- Terrain obstacles preclude armored vehicles closing with guerrilla forces. In this situation, a dismounted attack is launched. If possible, carrier teams fix the guerrilla by fire while maneuver teams close with him.
- The unit is unavoidably halted in an area which has not been secured. Observation posts, patrols, and local security are provided by dismounted riflemen.
- Missions such as search of an area are assigned.

## **TANK AND MECHANIZED INFANTRY TEAM/TASK FORCE EMPLOYMENT**

Tanks and carriers as part of a combined-arms team can be of value in counterguerrilla tactical operations, and every effort should be made to take advantage of the team's mobility and firepower. Apparent limitations on use of armored vehicles due to terrain may be reduced significantly by reconnaissance to determine favorable routes.

When tanks or carriers are used against guerrilla forces, infantry must closely support them to guard against ambush. In their early developmental stages, guerrilla forces usually have few sophisticated antitank weapons; however, they may be skilled at improvising means to destroy or cripple tanks and carriers.

In tactical operations, tanks or carriers may be used effectively to - -

- Execute strike campaign operations, including harassment, against well-organized guerrilla forces.
- Perform reconnaissance-in-force missions.
- Provide convoy escort.
- Provide mobile reserves for offensive missions or movement to blocking positions.
- Conduct demonstrations and feints.
- Assist in base defense.