

CHAPTER 7

- The search element is the element which conducts the mission assigned for the operation. Normally, it will be organized into special teams.

- The security element surrounds the village while the search element moves into the village. Members of the security element orient primarily upon evadees from the populated area; however, they can cut off any insurgents trying to reinforce the village.

- The reserve element is a mobile force within a nearby area. Its specific mission is to assist the other two elements should they meet resistance they cannot handle. In addition, it must be capable of replacing or reinforcing either of the other two elements should the need arise.

- Consider any enemy material found, including propaganda signs and leaflets, to be booby trapped until inspection proves it is safe.

- Thoroughly search underground and underwater areas. Any freshly excavated ground can be a hiding place. Mine detectors will assist in locating metal objects underground and underwater.

- Deploy rapidly, especially when a guerrilla force is still in the area to be searched. The entire area to be searched must be physically surrounded simultaneously. If this is not possible, observed fire must cover that portion not physically covered.

SEARCH TEAMS. Special teams may be formed for search operations. In searching small areas (a few buildings), small units can conduct a search without special teams for each function. Search teams may require a capability for:

- Reconnaissance.
- Physical or visual search.
- Fire support.
- Control.
- Prisoner detention.
- Mine detection.
- Scout dogs.
- Riot control agents, flame weapons, and demolitions.
- Tunnel reconnaissance team.
- Interrogation.
- Documentation.
- PSYOP/CA operations.