

- Size and exact location of the village.
- Fortifications (mantraps, spiketrap, etc.).
- Warning systems.
- Tunnel systems.
- Where does the insurgent live? Does he live in the forest at night and inhabit the village during the day, or does he stay in the village night and day? Does he inhabit one hut, or is he spread through the village?
- How many people are there in the village?
- The security element and the search element can use one of two general methods of movement.
  - If aviation support is available, a quick-strike airmobile operation can be employed. This type operation is characterized by speed.
  - If the elements conduct a dismounted operation, they normally will use predesignated routes. This type operation is characterized by secure and rapid movement.
- A village may be searched as follows:
  - If the inhabitants appear hostile, all persons can be assembled in a central location. This method allows for maximum control over civilians, facilitates search, denies the insurgent the opportunity to conceal evidence, and allows for a more thorough search and interrogation. It has the disadvantage of taking the inhabitants away from their dwellings thus encouraging looting which, in turn, engenders ill feelings.
  - A second method is to restrict inhabitants to their homes. This method prohibits movement of civilian personnel, allows them to stay in their dwellings, and discourages looting. The disadvantages are that it makes control and interrogation difficult and gives inhabitants time to conceal evidence in their homes.
  - A third method is to have the head of each household remain in front of his house while all others are brought to a central location. During the search, the head of each household accompanies the search team through his house. Looting is minimized, and the head of the household can see that the search team did not steal property. This is the best method for controlling the population.
- Search teams must search thoroughly for insurgent personnel, equipment, escape tunnels, or caches. Cattle pens, wells, haystacks, gardens, fence lines, and cemeteries should be investigated. Search teams must be constantly alert for booby traps.
- After the house search is completed, the perimeter and the area between the