

exploitation and occurs when a large guerrilla force attempts to disengage. Normally, it attempts to cut off and annihilate a hostile force. It does this by maintaining pressure with an exploiting force and encircling with sufficient force to cut escape routes and destroy the enemy. It culminates a successful exploitation.

As enemy demoralization and unit disintegration begin, exploitation may develop into pursuit. A pursuit may develop in any operation in which the enemy has lost his ability to operate effectively and attempts to flee. Pursuit requires great energy and the resolution to press on despite fatigue, dwindling supplies, or the approach of darkness. Nighttime pursuit increases enemy confusion and speeds his disintegration.

The primary purpose of pursuit is to destroy the guerrilla force. Although terrain objectives may be assigned as control measures, the primary objective is the guerrilla force.

In pursuit, the requirements and command relationships for forces which follow and support are the same as in exploitation. In conducting a pursuit, the commander maintains unremitting, direct pressure against the enemy while trying to envelop him to cut his line of retreat. When conditions permit, the commander orders double envelopments of the retreating enemy. He makes maximum use of fire support, airmobile forces, and offensive electronic warfare.

## RAID

A raid is an operation, usually small-scale, involving a swift penetration of hostile territory to secure information, harass the hostile guerrilla force, or destroy the guerrilla force and its installation. It ends in a planned withdrawal upon completion of the assigned mission. A successful raid is based on accurate, timely, and detailed information. To assist in attaining surprise, the raiding force uses inclement weather, periods of limited visibility, or terrain normally considered impassable.

The force is normally organized into an assault element and a security element. A larger raiding force may add a support element while a small raiding force includes supporting weapons in the assault element.

The use of airborne and airmobile forces for a raid enhances surprise. If night airborne or airmobile raids are conducted, the force must be accurately inserted and oriented on the ground. Airmobile combat patrols supported by armed helicopters offer infinite possibilities for conducting raids. This type of raid force can move in, strike the objective, and withdraw without extensive preparation or support from other sources.

For additional information on the composition and organization of raid forces, see FM 7-8, FM 7-10, FM 7-20, and FM 21-75.

## SECTION IX STRIKE CAMPAIGN