

flank security, and/or rear guards) are used to provide security. When terrain precludes the use of these ground security elements, air cavalry will perform these activities as part of the cover force mission.

RAIL MOVEMENT

MISSION. The primary mission of train personnel and combat or security troops is to get the train to its destination.

CONCEPT. As long as the train continues to move to complete this mission, control remains with the train crew; however, if an ambush or firefight develops and the train is unable to disengage by movement forward or backward, the escort commander will take command and undertake defense of the train with all available personnel. If there is no escort, the senior military member aboard will take command. Radio communications are used to call for assistance. Security detachments guarding the right of way have their own communication system which may be tied into the railway communication system when required.

ORGANIZATION. Railway installations and rail traffic are secured by establishing defined areas of responsibility. Standing operating procedures are normally published by the highest level of command. Rail security is coordinated with area and tactical commands which provide support.

OPERATIONS.

- Armored trains may be used for patrolling track where guerrilla activity may be expected. Armored trains operate tactically under orders of the appropriate military commander. Since the operation of an armored train is quite different from that of other trains, the military transportation service will assign a specially selected train crew. This crew will coordinate the train movement with that of other trains and with proper regard for the tactical situation.
- Railway gondolas may be quickly prepared for defense by piling sandbags on the floor and at the sides and by mounting machineguns, mortars, and rocket launchers. These cars must not be placed next to cars containing gasoline, ammunition, or other flammables.
- Locomotives should be preceded by two or more cars loaded with sandbags, rocks, or scrap material for protection against mines and obstructions.
- On a single-track rail division subject to guerrilla attack, the positive-block method of operations is employed. In this method of operation, a following train is not permitted to enter a block until the preceding train has cleared it. This permits the train in the block, if attacked, to back up if necessary and to receive reinforcements by train from either direction.