

## GENERAL

The base defense, established to provide all-round security for the base with available forces, is characterized by detailed planning and centralized control. Security measures may also include provisions to protect adjacent civilian communities if feasible. Constant and aggressive action by friendly elements against enemy forces constitutes a major element of base defense. Vigilance and sound security measures reduce enemy interference with operations at the base and also tend to cause enemy forces to divert their operations from the area.

## FUNDAMENTALS

**USE OF TERRAIN.** Proper evaluation and organization of the area are essential to hold down the number of additional forces required for base defense. Factors considered are - -

- Natural defensive characteristics of the terrain.
- Use of artificial obstacles to enhance the natural defense characteristics of the terrain.
- Existing roads and waterways used for military lines of communications and civilian commerce.
- Control of land areas surrounding the base complex to a range beyond that of enemy mortars and rockets and also control of water approaches.



**SECURITY.** Early warning of pending actions insures the base commander time to react to any threat. Outposts, patrols, ground surveillance and countermortar radar,