

perform many of the tasks concurrently, but some tasks require priority. The base commander specifies the sequence for preparation of the defense system. FM 7-8, FM 7-10, and FM 7-20 provide a recommended sequence for tactical defense.

Construction of personnel shelters throughout the billeting, administrative, and maintenance areas provides individual protection against standoff attacks. Depending on resources available, these shelters will vary in construction. Shipping containers, dugouts, and double-walled plywood shelters with sand or gravel fill, all with sandbag reinforcement and overhead cover, provide acceptable protection. These shelters are close to the billets and work areas to permit rapid access. To the degree possible, construction will follow guidance in FM 5-15 and FM 7-8.

Fighting bunkers may be constructed on position or prefabricated and moved to position for assembly. Construction of these bunkers should be of sufficient strength to withstand a direct hit by recoilless rifle fire on the front and sides and a direct hit by a mortar round on the top.

Construction of revetments for critical resources provides additional protection against mortar/rocket fragmentation. These revetments may be of sand-filled, double-walled construction, either plywood or steel plate sides. Overhead cover is provided when possible.

Tactical wire barriers should be used within the perimeter to limit and canalize penetrations by enemy groups or individuals. Initially, these interior barriers can be as simple as a single strand of wire 3 to 4 feet high. Generally they should be placed to prevent a direct approach to vital installations. Provisions should be made to cover these barriers by automatic weapons fire. The barriers should be constructed as inconspicuously as possible and be relocated periodically to disrupt enemy plans. Further, the barriers should not be so intensive as to preclude freedom of movement by the reaction or reserve force. These forces, as well as all personnel, should be made thoroughly familiar with the location of all barriers during the course of daylight and night drills.

## EMPLOYMENT OF FORCES

Forces whose primary mission is base defense conduct aggressive patrol actions, develop and occupy defensive positions within their assigned sectors, and prepare immediate reaction forces to counter any enemy action. These forces may be uni-Service, joint, or combined, depending on the composition of base area forces. The following paragraphs provide information on patrol, position, manning, reaction force activities of the BDF, and host and third country forces participation.

### PATROLS.

- Base defense operations to counter small groups of enemy forces include aggressive, frequent patrolling by squad- and platoon-size forces to detect and capture or destroy small groups of enemy. Dogs may be used to add security and additional detection ability to patrol operations. FM 21-75 provides details of patrol activities.

- Patrolling is conducted by small, highly mobile units moving on foot or by