

mission of making planned searches to locate areas used by the enemy to cache supplies, regroup, rest, train, or otherwise prepare for offensive actions. Small groups of enemy are engaged and destroyed. Large groups are reported and kept under surveillance until they are attacked. Augmentation in the form of local paramilitary guides or trackers increases the effectiveness of combat patrols.

#### DEFENSE POSITIONS.

■ The key positions of the base defense consist primarily of bunkers and towers in the base perimeter area. The positioning of bunkers and towers affords maximum observation and mutually supporting fires over the area forward of the perimeter to include the perimeter barrier and sensor system.

■ **BUNKERS.** Full-time observation and all-round defense of the base are essential; however, to reduce the number of personnel conducting static defense missions, it may be possible to designate key bunkers around the perimeter to be manned at all times and the remainder to be fully manned during darkness, reduced visibility, and increased enemy threat. Individual fighting positions are prepared near the bunkers to provide covering fires. Night/day vision devices, automatic weapons, grenade launchers, and hand grenades are common to the bunker positions; and antitank weapons cover possible ground vehicle approaches.

■ **TOWERS.** When coupled with night/day vision aids, sensors, and flash-ranging devices, elevated platforms enhance the capability of detecting perimeter infiltration and location of mortar/rocket firing positions. Standard military towers or towers constructed from local materials can be used. The installation of sandbags or steel plating around the observation platform provides protection against automatic weapons and small arms fire. Construction of a ground-level bunker provides additional protection when fires are directed against the tower. Access to the bunker may be by means of a fireman's pole or a ladder arrangement. Tower safety measures for consideration include - -

Lightning arresters.

Construction to withstand strong winds and to support two observers and their equipment.

Enclosed mounting ladder.

Provision of safety nets around the tower when warranted by tower height.

Painting an appropriate color to reduce reflection from moonlight.

Installation of a suitable roof to shield personnel from the elements without interference to observation. A double-roof design could cause mortar rounds to detonate at a height that affords some protection to observers.