

LEADERSHIP

Small unit leadership is stressed. During counter guerrilla operations, in rapidly changing circumstances, the small unit leader must be able to plan and execute operations with little guidance.

Training should prepare small unit leaders to immediately assume a higher command.

Small unit leaders are trained in procedures for requesting and adjusting mortar and artillery fires and for requesting aerial fire support.

Training should include orientation of direction in difficult terrain.

Responsibility for the mission readiness and health and welfare of subordinates is a continuous part of training.

NIGHT OPERATION TRAINING

Effective operations during hours of darkness are essential in counter guerrilla operations. The basic ingredient of successful night operations, offensive or defensive, is the confidence of the individual soldier in his ability and his equipment in the night environment. This confidence stems from detailed planning and painstaking and successful training.

Training programs which devote from one-quarter to one-third of the total training time to night operations provide troops and units with the necessary knowledge, confidence, and skill that they need for night combat. The key to successful night operations is to schedule training which includes transition of operation from day to night and vice versa. This is scheduled on an uninterrupted tactical exercise. Further, the scope of night operations should include all aspects of operations. Tactical operations involving night movement should be stressed.

Areas of emphasis in night training are - -

- Techniques of fire during darkness.
- Individual weapons firing under all conditions of natural light and artificial illumination.
- Night relief procedures at small unit levels.
- Night movement and security at halts.
- Individual and unit light and noise discipline.
- Individual proficiency in land navigation at night.
- Use of detection devices in offensive and defensive night operations.
- Night live fire exercise for squads and platoons.