

ESSENTIAL SUBJECT
PERFORMANCE ORIENTED TRAINING

STUDENT ADVANCE SHEET



**INDIVIDUAL
COUNTERMEASURES
FOR
MINES AND BOOBYTRAPS**



JULY 1976

INDIVIDUAL TACTICAL MEASURES STUDENT ADVANCE SHEET

TRAINING STATION #3: Individual Countermeasures for Mines and Boobytraps

OBJECTIVES: When operating in a simulated environment where the enemy is known or suspected to be employing mines and boobytraps, employ physical protective, detection, and avoidance countermeasures.

On command, or upon tripping a mine or boobytrap device, apply immediate action (sound warning and drop to the ground).

INSTRUCTIONS: The advance sheet included for this training station contains the key teaching points for the instruction which you will receive. You should read through this sheet carefully to prepare yourself for instruction in and performance testing of the objectives listed above. You should bring this advance sheet to class with you. The advance sheet for this training station has been broken down into the following parts:

PART I: INDIVIDUAL COUNTERMEASURES

PART II: IMMEDIATE ACTION

PART I: INDIVIDUAL COUNTERMEASURES

PHYSICAL PROTECTION:

1. Wear body armor and helmet.
2. Sandbag vehicle flooring.
3. Keep arms and legs inside vehicle.
4. Maintain an appropriate distance from other personnel.
5. Do not travel alone.
6. Do not pick up souvenirs.

DETECTION COUNTERMEASURES:

Detection countermeasures can be categorized as visual inspection, probing, and mine detectors.

VISUAL INSPECTION. Be alert and observant for:

- a. Mud smears, mudballs, dung, or boards on a road.
- b. Apparent road repairs.

- c. Wires leading away from the side of a road.
- d. Tripwires across trails.
- e. Unusual terrain features.
- f. Suspicious items in trees or bushes.
- g. Enemy markings (the enemy will mark most boobytraps in some way).

KEY STEPS TO PROBING:

1. Roll up sleeves.
2. Remove watches and rings.
3. Don helmet and flak jacket.
4. Assume position on hands and knees.
5. Feel upward and forward.
6. Probe at a 45° angle every 2 inches on a 1 meter front.



AVOIDANCE COUNTERMEASURES:

1. Stay off trails, footpaths, etc. as much as possible.
2. Move where local inhabitants move.
3. Avoid patterns.
4. Maintain appropriate intervals.
5. Move slowly, if possible.
6. Be alert when pursuing the enemy.
7. Use artillery and mortar fire to help neutralize boobytraps.
8. Mark detected mines and boobytraps.
9. If on roads, stay in well-used portions.
10. Follow tracks of vehicle ahead.
11. Avoid holes, depressions, and objects lying on the road.

PART II: IMMEDIATE ACTION

KEY STEPS OF IMMEDIATE ACTION:

1. Warn others.
2. Drop to ground immediately.
3. If possible, present smallest target to the force of the expected explosion by pointing the feet in the direction of the charge.