

STUDENT HANDOUT

ATTACK HELICOPTER EMPLOYMENT, THE CARDINAL RULES

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(CONFERENCE)



AUGUST 1969

UNITED STATES ARMY AVIATION SCHOOL
FORT RUCKER, ALABAMA

STUDENT HANDBOOK
ATTACK HELICOPTER EMERGENCY
THE CARDINAL RULES
CONFINEMENT



ARMANDO BAEZ

UNIVERSITY STATE AVIATION SCHOOL
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

DEPARTMENT OF TACTICS
UNITED STATES ARMY AVIATION SCHOOL
Fort Rucker, Alabama

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PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

ATTACK HELICOPTER EMPLOYMENT, THE CARDINAL RULES

1. KNOWLEDGES: Without the aid of notes, references, and without error, student will be able to—
 - a. Write from memory the 12 cardinal rules of attack helicopter employment. The rules need not be verbatim.
 - b. Write the cardinal rule being violated in four sketches of tactical situations involving attack helicopters.
2. SKILLS: None.

NOTES

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ADVANCE SHEET

ATTACK HELICOPTER EMPLOYMENT, THE CARDINAL RULES

PURPOSE: This conference is designed to provide you—as a future attack (armed observation) helicopter pilots—with several vital rules which will apply to the majority of missions performed by attack (armed observation) helicopter units in the Republic of South Vietnam.

SUMMARY: This period of instruction is concerned with attack (armed observation) helicopter tactics and employment techniques at the fire team (scout team) level. The 12 cardinal rules have been proven in combat from the utilization of the first attack (armed observation) helicopter team in South Vietnam up to the present day. Variations of certain rules due to terrain and situation differences will be mentioned. This period will provide each student with tested guidelines which will enable him to make sound tactical, on-the-spot decisions.

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STUDENT OUTLINE

ATTACK HELICOPTER EMPLOYMENT, THE CARDINAL RULES

1. Take your time
2. Know the situation
 - a. Consideration
Mission
Enemy
Terrain & weather
Troops & equip. available
3. Brief
4. Avoid FH. in Dead Man's Zone
Avoid prominent terrain features

5. Avoid Flying 180° wing position
6. Avoid Flying Parallel to Terrain Features
7. High Recon First
 - Locate Friendly & Enemy
 - (surprise enemy weapons whether)
8. Always assume that the area is HOT
9. Locate Friendlies First
10. Avoid Firing From over the Heads of Friendly Troops

11. Avoid Target overflight
weapons

12. Engage at Max. EFF. Range
Disengage before Enemy's EFF. Range

a. Conserve ordnance & use it wisely

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PERFORMANCE CHECK

ATTACK HELICOPTER EMPLOYMENT, THE CARDINAL RULES

1. Write from memory the 12 cardinal rules.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
 - f.
 - g.
 - h.
 - i.
 - j.
 - k.
 - l.
2. Each of the following sketches depicts a typical tactical situation involving attack (armed observation) helicopter employment. Write the rule being violated in the space provided.

NOTE:



PLATOON LEADER



**ANTIAIRCRAFT
WEAPON**

1. PLATOON LEADER
2. FIRE TEAM LEADER
3. WINGMAN



FIRE TEAM LEADER



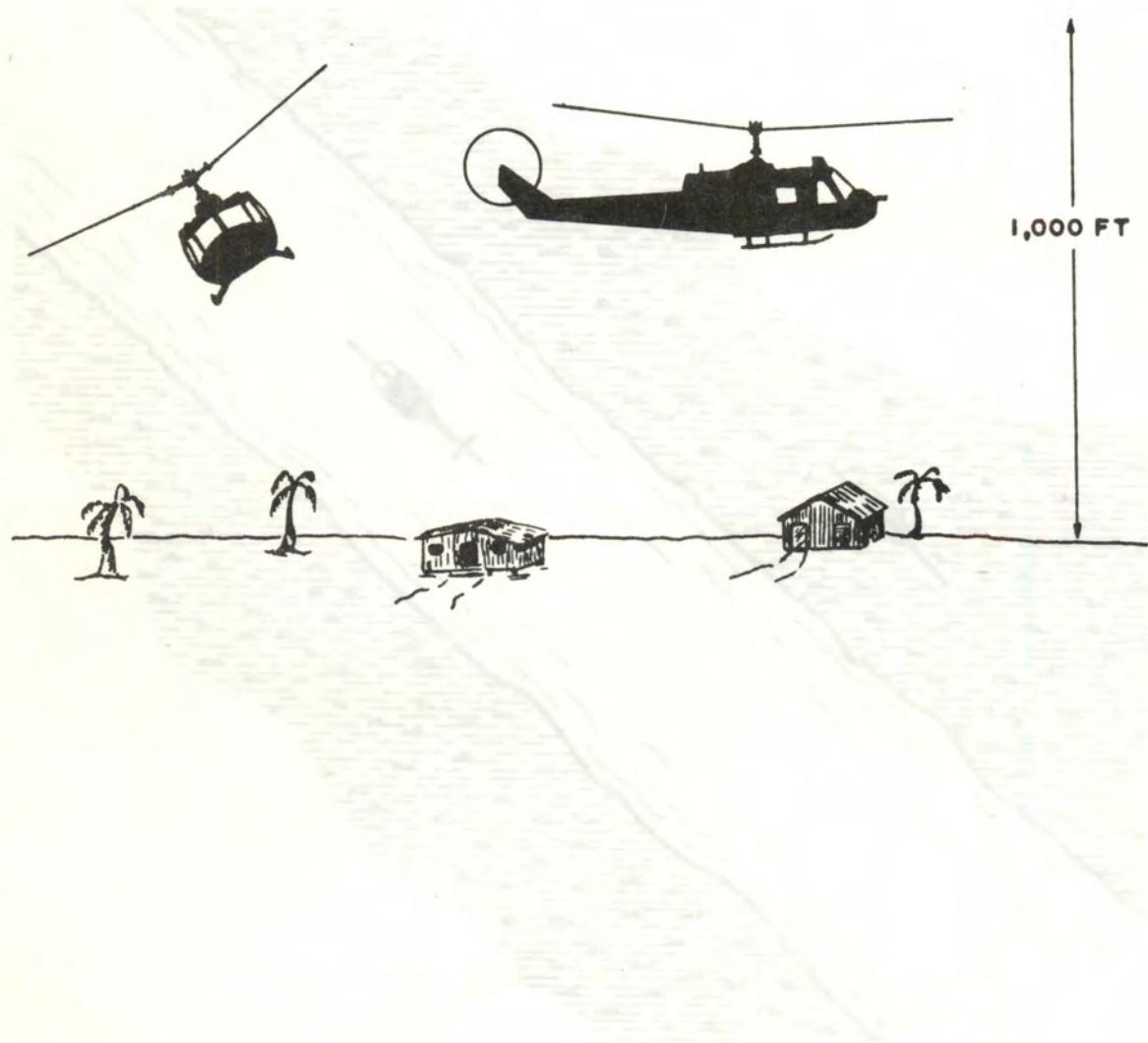
**AUTOMATIC
WEAPON**



WINGMAN

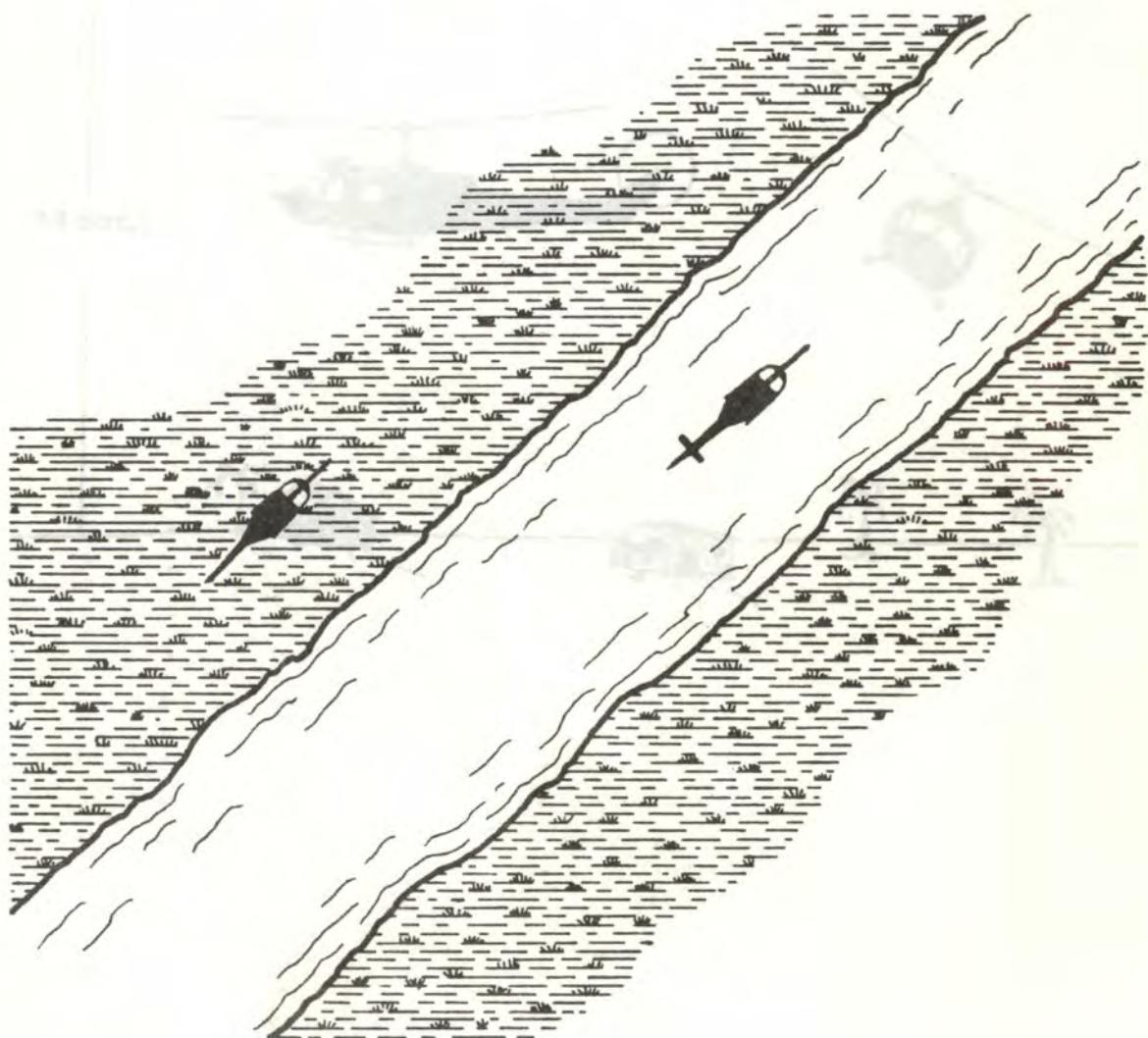
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ANSWER: _____



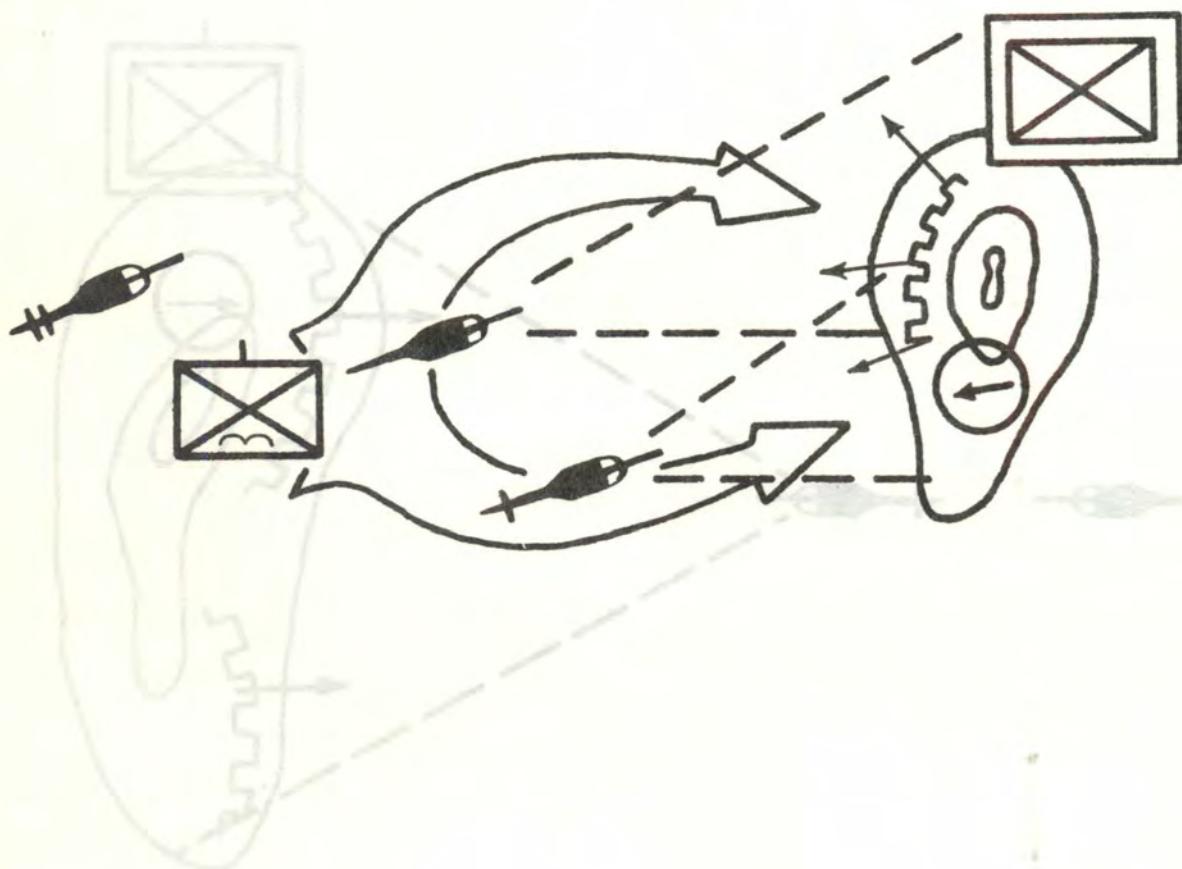
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No. 4

ANSWER: _____

