

Show-Me GOLD



Offensive Operations

TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVE

ACTION: Conduct Offensive Operations.

CONDITION: Given an instructor and prescribed manuals.

STANDARD: Conduct Offensive Operations as outlined IAW FM 3-21.8 The Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad, and FM 3-21.10 The Infantry Rifle Company. Achieve a minimum passing score of 80% on all overall testing at the end of the week.



RISK ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL

**Enabling Learning Objective
ELO 1**

ACTION: Determine the purpose of the Offense.

CONDITION: Given an instructor and prescribed manuals.

STANDARD: Conduct Offensive Operations as outlined IAW ADP 3-0 Unified Land Operations, FM 3-21.8 The Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad and FM 3-21.10 The Infantry Rifle Company and achieve a minimum passing score of 80% on all overall testing.

OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS

Offensive Operations are combat operations conducted to defeat and destroy enemy forces and seize terrain, resources, and population center. They impose the commander's will on the enemy.

FM 3-0

**PURPOSES OF OFFENSIVE
OPERATIONS**

- Dislocate, Isolate, Disrupt, and Destroy Enemy Forces
- Seize Key Terrain
- Deprive the Enemy of Resources
- Develop Intelligence
- Deceive and Divert the enemy
- Create a Secure Environment for Stability Operations

FM 3-0

Enabling Learning Objective ELO 2

ACTION: Determine the characteristics of the Offense.

CONDITION: Given an instructor and prescribed manuals.

STANDARD: Determine the characteristics of the Offense IAW FM 3-21.10 The Infantry Rifle Company and FM 3-21.8 The Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad. Achieve a minimum passing score of 80% on all overall testing.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE OFFENSE

- Surprise
- Concentration
- Audacity
- Tempo

FM 3-21.8

Surprise

- Attacking at a time or place or in a manner which the enemy is unprepared
- Stresses enemy command and control
- Total surprise is rarely needed as delaying or disrupting enemy reaction is usually effective

9

In September of 2012, 15 Taliban fighters attacked Camp Bastion in Afghanistan, killing two Marines and causing severe damage to equipment and U.S. Warplanes. They crept to the camp, which was surrounded by open desert by posing as Maize farmers and using natural contour lines to avoid detection.

10

Concentration

- Achieved by massing the effects of weapon systems and rifle squads to achieve a single purpose
- Units do not all need to be co-located
- Reduces the effectiveness of enemy fires

11

In 216 BC. Hannibal faced Two Roman Generals with different leadership styles. One of these Generals by the name of Minucius, charged a small contingent that Hannibal had marched out to lure the enemy into an attack. Minucius took the bait and attacked with his entire force only to be ambushed by Hannibal's main force that was concealed in the woods.

12

Audacity

- Risking bold action to achieve positive results
- Knowledge of the commanders intent one and two levels up helps leaders to take advantage of battlefield opportunities
- Allows soldiers to overcome adversity and danger

13

Early on D-Day, Rangers from the 2nd Ranger Battalion were tasked to destroy enemy artillery that threatened friendly landings on Omaha and Utah beaches. The artillery was located atop of Pointe du Hoc. The Rangers, using Grappling hooks and rope ladders, scaled the steep cliffs under fire and eventually were able to destroy the guns.

14

Tempo

- Rate of speed of military action
- Synchronization produces positive results
- Tempo may change several times throughout a operation
- Factors of METT-TC control tempo

15

As part of their 2004-2005 tour in Kadamiyah Iraq, 4-31 IN ran continuous mounted and dismounted patrols throughout the AO. They also confiscated weapons caches, and disrupted the enemy's IED and VBIED capabilities. Any intelligence received was used to find and select targets that were suspected of conducting attacks on coalition forces.

16

FLEXIBILITY

- Is not a characteristic of the Offense
- At some point in most attacks, the original plan must be adjusted to meet changes in the situation.
- Commanders maintain flexibility at all times so he can attack identified enemy weaknesses when they are presented. The commander should avoid "fighting the plan" and instead focus on fighting the enemy or attacking identified enemy weakness.

FM 3-21.10

Enabling Learning Objective ELO 3

ACTION: Discuss the Squad Attack.

CONDITION: Given an instructor and prescribed manuals.

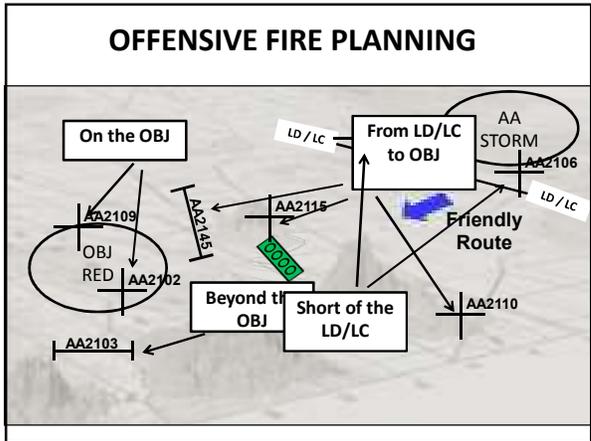
STANDARD: Discuss the Squad Attack IAW FM 3-21.8 The Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad. Achieve a minimum passing score of 80% on all overall testing.

**Enabling Learning Objective
ELO 4**

ACTION: Discuss Offensive Fires Planning.

CONDITION: Given an instructor and prescribed manuals.

STANDARD: Discuss Offensive Fires Planning IAW FM 3-21.8 The Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad. Achieve a minimum passing score of 80% on all overall testing.



War Fighting functions in the Offense

- Protection: Security must be a consideration in planning for offensive operations.
- Sustainment: Purpose of sustainment in the offense is to assist maneuver elements in maintaining the momentum.
- Mission Command: The commander will locate where he can maintain a current and accurate picture, and best control his elements.

Support Element

- Provide supporting indirect or direct fires initially to the breach element, then to the assault element.

Practical Exercise

You are the Squad Leader of 3rd Squad, 1st PLT, () co, 3-11 IN. Your platoon is tasked to block a road, which is an enemy avenue of approach located at GL 16158280. Intel reports that although no enemy movement is detected on the road at this time, there is a 2-3 man LP/OP overwatching the road VIC GL 16808310. You have 60 MM mortar support and are allocated 1 PPT (AB007) and 4 rounds HE. You are currently located at GL 1570 8360

Things to remember...

- How would you maneuver your forces?
- Actions on the objective
- Consolidation & Reorganization

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