

TACTICAL MOBILITY TRAINING

Level One Mobility Concept

The purpose of this concept is to infill a light mobile Special Forces element into a hostile area while maintaining the ability to move rapidly throughout the AO. The safety and effectiveness of personnel utilizing horses, pack animals, ATVs, UTVs, and off-road motorcycles must be taught in advance.

1. **Issue.** CDIED (Command Detonated Improvised Explosive Devise). CDIEDs have always been and still are a serious threat, but as the dynamics of our battle space changes and as outside sources continue to increase the amount of training and materials they provide to our enemies, our threat from CDIEDs grows, as does the catastrophic effects created by these devices.
2. **Discussion.** The current methods of mitigating the effects of these CDIEDs is either adding armor to our vehicles or reducing our exposure to possible threats by utilizing off road modes of transportation. Both of which meets our enemies end state of disrupting our operations.

By adding armor we reduce speed, range, cargo capacity, and life span of the vehicle while at the same time failing to meet the threat we currently have in the theatre of operations. As we know, the threat we are seeing is from a CDIED placed in the ground below the vehicle which the 1st and 2nd generation armor up-grades fail to address. The result is a slow moving target that funnels the blast through the passenger compartment while offering no defense above that of the unarmored GMV.

Another option employed is to remain off of the publicly traveled road ways and away from choke points. This limits our capability to move in the battle space and reduces our effectiveness in the area of mobility, meeting our enemies end state.\

3. **Recommendation.** Develop and execute a new and revolutionary method of maneuvering throughout the battle space while at the same time reducing the effectiveness of the enemy's current TTPs. Although using foot patrols, horses, pack animals, ATVs, UTVs, and off-road motorcycles offers an alternative, our range and speed is limited by our skill and versatility on these platforms. However, if ODAs receive quality instruction utilizing these platforms before deployment our speed and mobility would be greatly enhanced. This would greatly increase our operational reach while delivering a psychological blow to our enemy and their support mechanisms.
4. **Concept.** USSF develop and field ODAs that are skilled in the usage of unconventional methods of transport and mobility. By utilizing horses, pack animals, ATVs, UTVs, and off-road motorcycles ODAs would have the ability to move men and supplies throughout the battle space safely and effectively.

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The USSF force would infill into the battle space utilizing alternative modes of mobility to access the canyons and trails leading to the AO. This would allow for teams to be inserted into the AO with minimal exposure to the enemy's intelligence network, while mitigating the risk of CDEIDs associated with vehicular movement. This reduced signature would deny the enemy the necessary time to gather intelligence, employ CDIEDs, or move their forces into attack or hiding positions.

Once inserted into the AO, teams should be able to move throughout the battle space with success. This would demonstrate the U.S. resolve, resulting in a devastating psychological blow to our enemy. Upon completing the mission the USSF force would exfil via another route out of the AO. The proposed timeline of these types of missions would be two to three days and these missions would be re-supplied by helicopters during all phases of the operations.

Another employment tactic would be to insert the USSF force for the purpose of establishing blocking positions that would have the flexibility of movement along with the ability to give chase in the event that an enemy force tries to flee the AO.

5. NOTES:

- A. This type skill must be taught prior to deployment
- B. The use of horses, pack animals, ATVs, UTVs, and off-road motorcycles does not preclude the use of mortars or crew serve weapons. On the contrary, pack animals, ATVs, UTVs can serve as transporters for mortar tubes, crew serve weapons, and supplies for the soldiers.
- C. The ODAs that have this unconventional skill set would have a decisive and effective advantage in the vicinity of the FOBs due the limited number of routes entering and exiting the vicinity of the camp. Horses, pack animals, ATVs, UTVs, and off-road motorcycles are not confined to public roads.

Level Two Mobility Concept

Special Forces to develop and incorporate realistic mission oriented level two training opportunity. After successful completion of an introductory level one training program on the usage of horses, pack animals, ATVs, UTVs, and off road motorcycles personnel have the opportunity to attend level two mission oriented training on these platforms. Mission oriented training focuses on the soldier's ability to apply previous

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training in a manner to initiate and complete a mission that focuses on a specific objective.

Conducting level two training enables the operator on ODAs to maintain and build proficiency while carrying out the task and duties associated with planning and conducting a mission in a realistic field environment.

NOTES:

- A prerequisite for an ODA to conduct level two training safely must be the attendance of level one training ; first acquiring the rudimentary knowledge of the usage of horses, pack animals, ATVs, UTVs, and off road motorcycles.
- Attending level two training builds on the knowledge base of the operator by maintaining proficiency.
- ODAs conducting level two training should utilize terrain that best resembles the target destination of the ODA.