

(NOTIONAL EXTRACT FOR TRAINING ONLY)

**Headquarters, 2-123 Infantry
Camp Rifle, Iraq
Battalion Tactical SOP
1 Jul XX**

General. The guidance and directives published in this tactical SOP apply to all soldiers assigned, attached, and under the operational control of this headquarters while in the CENTCOM theater of operations. The written directives established by this SOP are to be considered as lawful orders for the conduct of all battalion operations, and may be supplemented by either verbal or written guidance as the tactical situation dictates.

1. Rules of Engagement

- All soldiers are authorized to use deadly force to protect themselves and their fellow soldiers when threatened or engaged by persons using deadly force.
- You may use deadly force to protect the lives of innocent civilians who are threatened with deadly force by insurgents and criminals.
- You may not use "recon by fire" or similar means to engage unidentified enemy targets.
- You may not use indirect means of fire to engage the enemy without approval of this headquarters.
- You may not fire upon or target unarmed civilians at any time.
- When engaged by sniper fire, you may return fire on a clearly identified enemy target, using direct fire weapons.
- Captured enemy personnel will be treated and processed as prisoners of war.

2. Rules of Interaction with Civilians

- When available, use a U.S. employed linguist to interact with civilians.
- Avoid actions, speech and gestures that will needlessly incite anger with civilians, local officials, and coalition members.
- Treat all indigenous and coalition persons with respect and courtesy.
- Male soldiers may not search female civilians at any time. Use female soldiers to search female civilians, or have local police officials complete the search requirements.
- Detain civilians observed committing crimes and turn them over to local authorities.
- When available, use assigned Military Intelligence personnel to help observe and gather information.
- When requested to provide assistance of a military nature, report each request to this headquarters.
- Local officials and their assistants will not be routinely searched for weapons.
- Be courteous and respectful toward all civilians.

3. Reports/Requests Message Formats

- Use Blue 1 report (Appendix A) for SITREP to this headquarters NLT 0600 and 1800 daily.

- Use Blue 2 report (Appendix B) for spot reports, all halts, enemy contact, IEDs, requests for civil-military assistance, and reports of unusual activities in the area of operations. EOD and UXO support requests will also use this report.
- Use Green 1 report (Appendix C) for all supply and service support requests.
- Use Red 1 report for all medical support and MEDEVAC requests.
- Use Amber 1 report (Appendix D) for patrol mission debriefing. Submit NLT two hours after arrival in base camp.

4. Control Measures and Reporting – Patrols

All battalion patrols, whether mounted or dismounted, will observe and comply with these reporting requirements. Reports will be given verbally via FM secure radio, or by digital means (FBCB2) if so equipped.

- Report departing base camp.
- Report crossing Starting Point of patrol route.
- Report all checkpoints designated on the route.
- Report all graphic control measures such as phase lines and traffic control points.
- Report all scheduled and unscheduled halts.
- Report all instances of known or suspected IED.
- Report all instances of confrontation with civilians.
- Report all instances of friendly interaction with local government officials
- Report all civilian requests for military assistance.
- Report all instances of detaining civilians and prisoners of war.
- Report reaching the patrol route Release Point.
- Report re-entry into base camp area.

5. Unscheduled Halts with Enemy Contact - Patrols

Actions on enemy contact during patrols will vary with each situation, but the Patrol Leader and patrol members will execute the immediate battle drills that address these actions:

- Deploy as required by the situation.
- Develop the situation to determine the threat.
- Send Blue 2 report.
- Develop/recommend a course of action.
- Execute the course of action.
- Treat and evacuate friendly casualties.
- Maintain contact.
- Maintain all around security.
- Maintain situational awareness by observation and monitoring radio.
- Engage only the enemy that you can see.

6. Scheduled Halts - Patrols

When conducting a presence patrol, the Patrol Leader will take the following actions at the scheduled halt area:

- Provide Blue 2 report to this headquarters.
- Conduct reconnaissance in the immediate area of the halt point.
- Maintain 360 degree security and observation.
- Use patrol members to keep traffic away from patrol vehicles, if mounted.

- Ensure that during operation PMCS are completed as needed.
- Redistribute ammunition if needed.
- Interact courteously and professionally with all civilians to gain their confidence and trust.
- Lead and trail vehicles will have gunner observing from crew weapons station at all times.

7. Unscheduled Halts with No Enemy Contact – Patrols

When conducting a presence patrol, the Patrol Leader will take the following actions at the unscheduled halt area when there is no enemy contact:

- Provide Blue 2 report to this headquarters.
- Conduct reconnaissance in the immediate area of the halt point.
- Maintain 360 degree security and observation.
- Use patrol members to keep traffic away from patrol vehicles, if mounted.
- Ensure that during operation PMCS are completed as needed.
- Maintain situational awareness through observation and monitoring.
- Interact courteously and professionally with all civilians to gain their confidence and trust.
- Lead and trail vehicles will have gunner observing from crew weapons station at all times.

8. Arming Orders

- When in base camp all individual, crew served, and vehicle mounted weapons will be unloaded, cleared and in the SAFE position.
- All weapons will be cleared upon entry into the base camp area.
- All personnel will keep their individually assigned weapons and ammunition with them at all times within the base camp area.
- Vehicle mounted weapons will remain on vehicles within the base camp area.
- Vehicle mounted weapons will be manned at all times when outside of the base camp area.
- When departing the base camp area, all weapons will be loaded with a round in the chamber, and the weapon in the SAFE position.
- When engaged by the enemy, return fire only on positively identified enemy positions.

9. Force Protection Measures and Procedures

- When outside of the base camp, all personnel will wear vest type body armor and Kevlar helmet at all times.
- Mounted personnel will not dismount vehicles except on order of the Patrol Leader.
- Patrol vehicles must maintain visual contact for mutual support in case of attack.
- All personnel will follow the arming orders given above.
- Mounted and dismounted patrols must ensure 360 degree ground and air observation and security at all times when outside the base camp perimeter. This includes movement from the main gate to the SP and from the RP to the main gate.
- If you encounter a suspected IED, immediately establish a 300 meter exclusion area and call for EOD assistance.

- Do not attempt to disarm any suspected explosive devices.
- Do not fire at suspected explosive devices.
- Follow battalion battle drill actions on contact and Patrol Leader orders when engaged by enemy fire.
- When searching a detainee always have one soldier standing guard while you search the detainee and follow the procedures for a frisk search (Appendix M).
- Use the two-man rule when detaining and restraining enemy personnel.
- Captured enemy explosives require EOD assistance.
- Clear and safeguard all captured enemy weapons.

10. Pre-combat Checks and Inventories

Pre-combat checks (PCC) and pre-combat inventories (PCI) for all patrols will be completed not later than one hour prior to the scheduled SP time. Patrol leaders will ensure that all members have required equipment, ammunition, supplies, and that all vehicles are mission ready. All communications equipment must be fully operational.

11. Departure and Re-entry Procedures

Departure. All presence patrols will depart through the main gate of Camp Rifle in order to arrive at the patrol route Start Point (SP) at the time specified in the patrol order. Patrol leaders must inform the main gate NCOIC of the number of vehicles and personnel in the patrol when departing. Arming orders for all weapons are effective immediately upon departing the main gate area.

Re-entry. Returning patrols will contact the battalion TOC via radio when arriving at the patrol route Release Point (RP). The battalion TOC will notify the main gate NCOIC that the patrol is returning and confirm the arrival notification with the Patrol Leader. Patrol leader will then contact main gate personnel. When entering the main gate, the Patrol Leader or Assistant Patrol Leader will dismount and account for all patrol vehicles and personnel as they re-enter the base camp. All weapons will be cleared and placed in the SAFE position as part of the main gate entry procedure. The Patrol Leader will conduct a weapons and sensitive items inventory immediately after the patrol has cleared the main gate area. Remove all incendiary items from unattended vehicles.

12. Patrol After-Action Reports

Patrol Leader will complete the patrol report and submit final Amber 1 report (Appendix D.) Pay particular attention to include weapons/sensitive items accountability, significant event activity, reconnaissance information, enemy locations, casualty information, and any recommendations for future actions.

END OF NOTIONAL SOP EXTRACT