

APPENDIX F

TRACKING AND COUNTERTRACKING, EVASION AND ESCAPE, AND SURVIVAL

Tracking and countertracking evasion and escape, and survival involve skills and techniques that can be crucial to an LRS team during a mission beyond the forward line of own troops. LRS teams may find that they are being tracked during the course of a mission. Additionally, they may encounter tracks or signs during movement or during a surveillance mission. To be an effective countertracker and to provide intelligence on the frequency and flow of traffic on trails, an LRS soldier must be an effective tracker.

F-1. TRACKING AND COUNTERTRACKING

Operating deep behind enemy lines requires proficiency in tracking and countertracking skills. Tracking ability allows an LRS team to immediately identify the presence of the enemy and collect intelligence. Tracking is also useful when an LRS team conducts a combat search and rescue mission to retrieve a downed pilot. Additionally, knowing how to track greatly enhances the team's ability to countertrack.

a. **Concepts of Tracking.** To become a tracker, certain qualities must be developed and refined such as patience, persistence, acute observation, good memory, and intuition. These traits help when the tracking signs become weak or if the tracker has a certain feeling about the situation. As the tracker moves, he forms an opinion about the enemy such as how many, degree of training, the equipment they have, and state of morale. The following six indicators help form the tracker's picture of the enemy.

(1) *Displacement.* Displacement means that something is moved from its original position. The tracker looks for signs of displacement for 10 to 15 meters in a 180-degree arc to his front from the ground to the average height of a man. (See Figure F-1, page F-2.) By comparing indicators, the tracker can gain information. For example, if a footprint is found and a scuff mark on a tree is about waist high, it may indicate that an armed soldier passed this spot. (See Figure F-2, page F-2). A footprint can tell the tracker what footwear the enemy is wearing, if any. It can also show the lack of proper equipment, the direction of movement, number of persons, whether they are carrying heavy loads, the sex, rate of movement, and whether or not they know they are being followed. (See Figure F-3, page F-3; see Figure F-4, page F-4.) Other forms of displacement are bits of clothing or thread left on the ground or vegetation. Movement of vegetation on a still day (such as broken limbs and bent grass, animals flushed from their homes or cries of excitement; trails cut through foliage, disturbed insect life, or turned over rocks) indicates a presence.

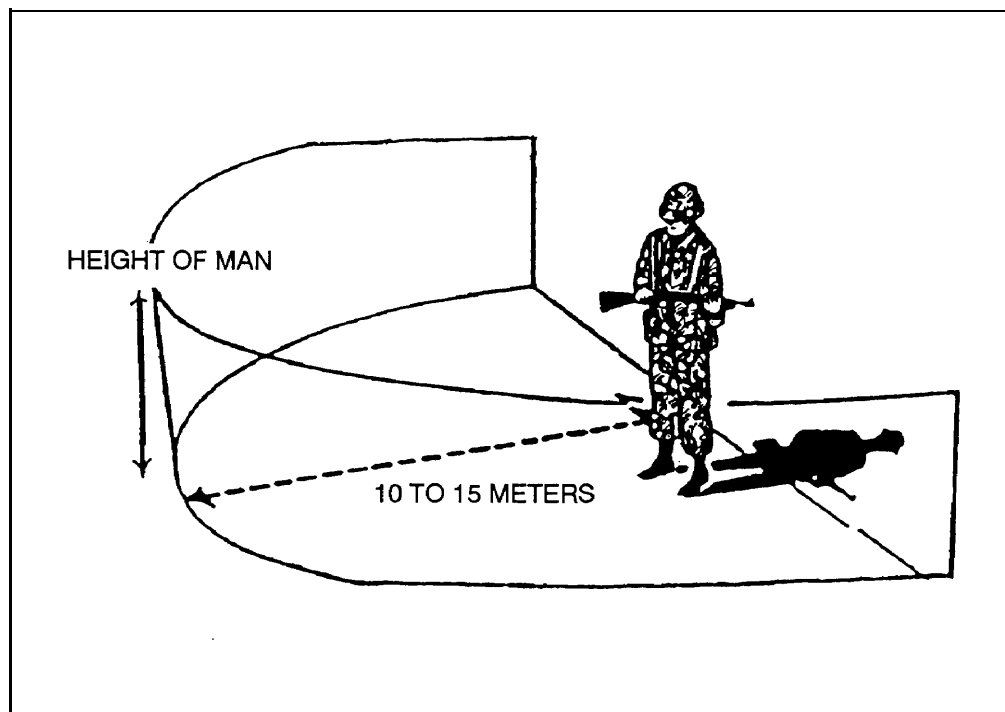


Figure F-1. Area surveyed for indicators by tracker.

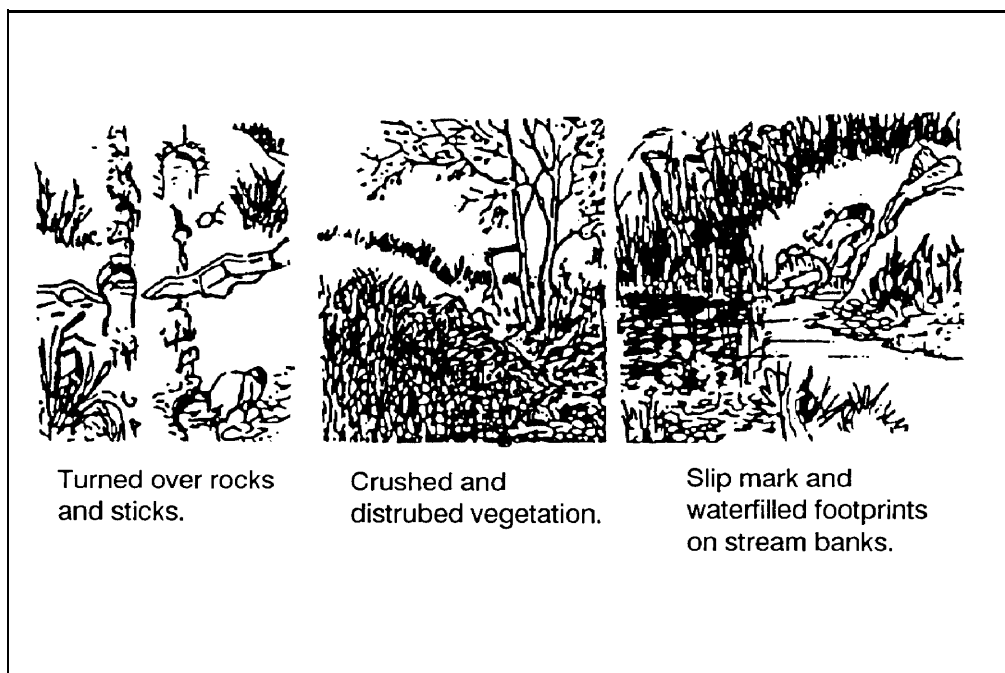


Figure F-2. Examples of displacement.

If the footprints are deep and the pace is long, the party is moving rapidly. Long strides and deep prints, with toe prints deeper than heel prints, indicate that the party is running.

If the prints are deep, short, and widely spaced, with signs of scuffing or shuffling, a heavy load is probably being carried by the party.

To determine the sex of the party being followed, the size and position of the footprints are studied. Women generally tend to be pigeon-toed, while men usually walk with their feet pointed straight ahead or slightly to the outside. Women's prints are usually smaller and their strides are usually shorter than men's.

If a party knows that it is being followed, it may attempt to hide its tracks. Persons walking backward have a short, irregular stride. The prints have an unusually deep toe. The soil will be kicked in the direction of movement.

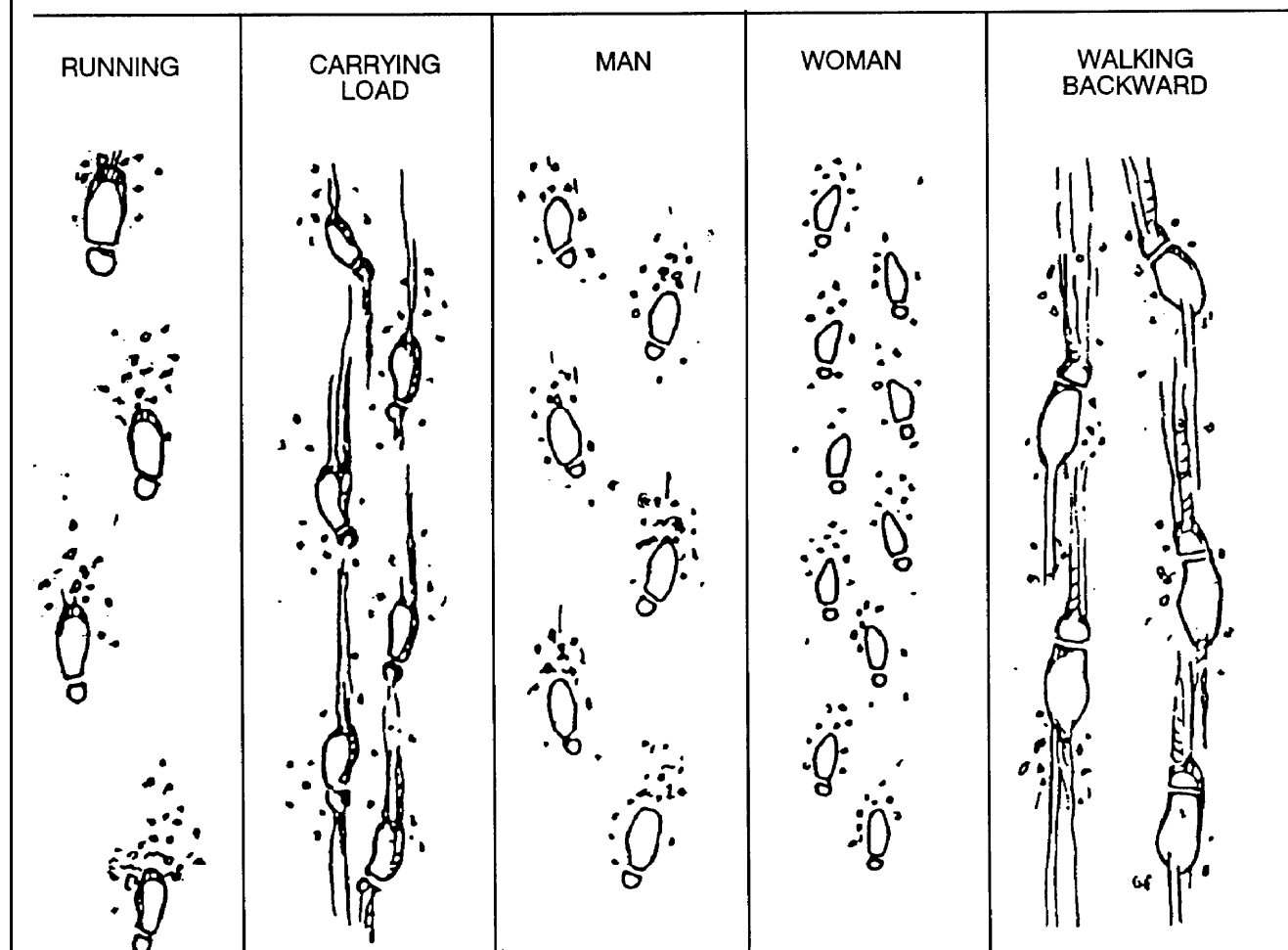


Figure F-3. Types of footprints.

To use the 36-inch box method, mark off a 30- to 36-inch cross section of the trail, count the prints in the box, then divide by two to determine the number of persons that used the trail. (The M16 rifle is 39 inches long and may be used as a measuring device.)

Identify a key print. In this case, it is the left boot print. Draw a line from the heel across the trail. Then, move forward to the key print of the opposite foot and draw a line through the instep. This should form a box with the edges of the trail forming two sides, and the drawn lines forming the other two sides. Next, count every print or partial print inside the box to determine the number of persons. Any person walking normally would have stepped in the box at least one time.

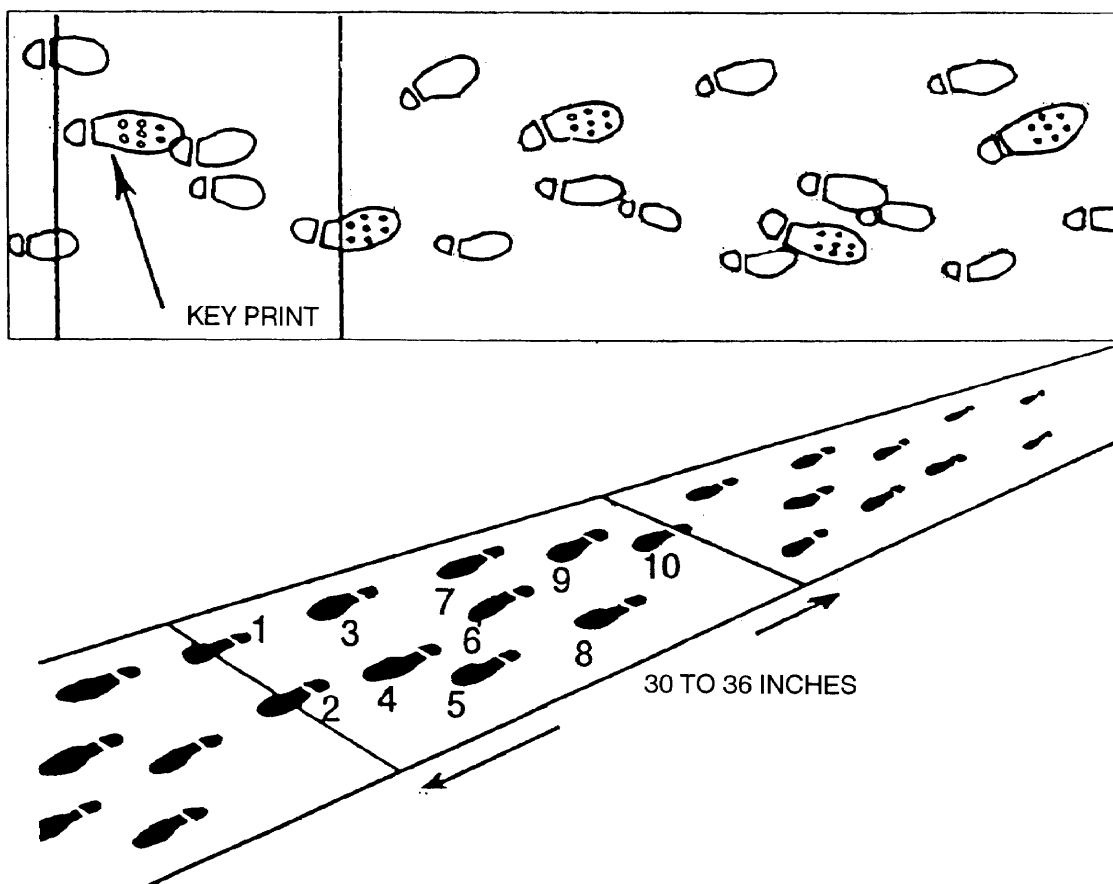


Figure F-4. Box method for determining number of footprints.

(2) *Staining.* A good example of staining is blood on the ground or foliage. Other examples of staining are mud dragged by footgear and crushed vegetation on a hard object. Crushed berries also stain. The movement of water causes it to become cloudy.

(3) *Weathering.* The weather may help or hinder the tracker to determine the age of signs. Wind, snow, rain, and sunlight are factors affecting tracking signs.

(4) *Littering.* A poorly disciplined unit will pass through an area leaving a path of litter. A tracker can use the last rain or strong wind as a measure to show the amount of time it has been there.

(5) *Camouflaging techniques.* Camouflage applies to tracking when the followed party tries to slowdown the tracker; for example, leaving footprints walking backward, brushing out trails, and walking over rocky ground or through streams are ways of camouflaging the trail.

(6) *Interpreting combat information.* The tracker makes a mental image of who he is tracking by using his learned concepts. When reporting to the commander, he indicates what he believes, but should not state it as fact. Commanders take this information under consideration. If they choose, immediate planning is done to take action against the enemy.

b. Tracking Team Organization. Tracking units can be any size as long as they have these three elements: a leader, a tracker, and security. Often, tracking teams consist of two types:

(1) *Tracker and cover man.* Each team member is equally skilled. They can move fast, know each other's abilities and weaknesses, and can compensate for each other.

(2) *Tracking team leader tracker RATELO, and two security men.* The advantages of a tracking team with this many members are increased observation and security. The disadvantage is the size of the team.

c. Tracker and Dog Teams. Tracker and dog teams are more effective than a tracker alone.

(1) *Dog characteristics.* The dog(s) follows a trail faster and can continue to track at night. Despite years of domestication, dogs retain most of the traits of their wild ancestors. If put to controlled use, these traits are effective when tracking.

(a) *Endurance.* A dog can hold a steady pace and effectively track for up to eight hours. The speed can be up to 10 miles per hour, only limited by the speed of the handler. The speed and endurance can be further increased by the use of vehicles and extra teams.

(b) *Mental characteristics.* Dogs are curious by nature. Dogs can be aggressive or lazy, cowardly or brave. A dog's sensory traits are what make him seem intelligent.

(c) Aggressiveness. Tracking dogs are screened and trained. They are aggressive trackers and eager to please their handler.

(d) Sensory characteristics. Knowledge of the following sensory traits and how the dog uses them helps the evader to think ahead of the dog.

- Sight. A dog's vision is the lesser of the sensing abilities. They see in black and white and have difficulty spotting static objects at more than 50 yards. Dogs can spot moving objects at considerable distances, however, they do not look up unless they are training up a tree. A dog's night vision is no better than man's.
- Hearing. A dangerous problem for the evader is the dog's ability to hear. Dogs can hear quieter and higher frequencies than humans. Even more dangerous is their ability to locate the source of the sound. Dogs can hear 40 times better than men.
- Smell. The dog's sense of smell is about 900 times better than a human. It is by far the greatest asset and largest threat to the evader. Dogs can detect minute substances of disturbance on the ground or even in the air. Using distracting or irritating odors (for example, CS powder or pepper) only bothers the dog for a short time (3 to 5 minutes). After the odor is discharged by the dog, he can pickup a cold trail even quicker. The dog smells odors from the ground and air and forms scent pictures. The scent pictures are put together through several sources of smell.
 - Individual scent. This is the most important scent when it comes to tracking. Vapors horn body secretions work their way through the evader's shoes onto the ground. Sweat from other parts of the body rubs off onto vegetation and other objects. Scent is even left in the air.
 - Reinforcing scent. Objects are introduced to the dog that reinforce the scent as it relates to the evader. Some reinforcing scents could be on the evader's clothing or boots, or the same material as is used in his clothing. Even boot polish can help the dog.
 - Ecological scent. For the dog, the most important scent comes from the earth itself. By far, the strongest smells come from disturbances in ecology such as crushed insects, bruised vegetation, and broken ground. Over varied terrain, dogs can smell particles and vapors that are constantly carried by the evader wherever he walks.

(2) *Favorable tracking conditions.* Seldom will the conditions be ideal for the tracker and dog teams. During training, they become familiar with the difficulties they will face and learn to deal with them. The following conditions are favorable for tracker and dog teams.

(a) Fresh scent. This is probably the most important factor for tracker teams. The fresher the scent, the greater chances of success.

(b) Verified starting point. If trackers have a definite scent to introduce to the dogs, it helps the dogs to follow the correct trail.

(c) Unclean evader. An unclean evader leaves a more distinctive scent.

(d) Fast-moving evader. A fast-moving evader causes more ground disturbances and individual scent from sweat.

(e) Night and early morning. The air is thicker and the scent lasts longer.

(f) Cool, cloudy weather. This limits evaporation of scent.

(g) No wind. This keeps the scent close to the ground. It also keeps it from spreading around, allowing the dog to follow the correct route.

(h) Thick vegetation. This restricts the dissemination of scent and holds the smell.

(3) *Unfavorable tracking conditions.* Marked loss in technique proficiency can be expected when the following conditions occur.

(a) Heat. This causes rapid evaporation of scent.

(b) Unverified start point. The dogs may follow the wrong route or scent.

(c) Low humidity. Scent does not last as long.

(d) Dry ground. Dry ground does not retain scent.

(e) Wind. Wind disperses scent and causes the dog to track downwind.

(f) Heavy rain. This washes the scent away.

(g) Distractive scents. These take the dog's attention away from the trail. Some of these scents are blood, meat, manure, farmland, and populated areas.

(h) Covered scent. Some elements in nature cause the scent picture to be partially or completely covered. Examples are sand that can blow over the tracks and help to disguise the track; snow and ice that can form over the track and make it nearly impossible to follow; and water. Water is one of the most difficult conditions for a tracker dog team. Water that is shallow, especially if rocks or vegetation protrude, can produce a trail that a dog can follow with varied degrees of success.

c. **Countertracking.** Countertracking techniques are constantly used by LRS teams to avoid alerting the enemy to their presence. To be effective at evading trackers, countertracking techniques must be known. Knowledge of

tracking is probably the best way to successfully evade trackers. Knowledge of tracker and dog teams greatly assists the survivor when evading the enemy. Some of the following techniques may throw off trackers:

- Double back (especially when moving into open areas).
- Use trails (follow or pretend to follow, then double back).
- Walk backward (this makes the tracker believe the evader is moving in the opposite direction).
- Change directions before entering streams.
- Walk in water.
- Cover the trail.
- Outdistance trackers.
- Take advantage of terrain and weather conditions; for example, use streams and sparsely vegetated areas to move through, and move during heavy rains.

F-2. EVASION AND ESCAPE

Evasion is eluding the enemy during a mission or following contact. Escape is breaking away from the enemy when surrounded. Together, evasion and escape refer to the act of returning to friendly lines by foot, essentially escaping from the enemy and evading him to reach friendly lines. (See FM 90-18 for more information on evasion.)

a. **Short- and Long-Range.** In short-range evasion, the evader is close to the main battle area and becomes isolated from his unit. He usually has the means to return to the unit within a few days. Long-range evasion involves greater distances behind enemy lines where the evader may have to travel miles over foreign terrain, possibly with little food and equipment. LRS teams fit into this group. Characteristics of successful long-range evasions include—

- Being able to cover greater distance from friendly forces.
- Knowing survival techniques.
- Knowing travel restrictions are greater.
- Conserving supply.
- Having a strong will to survive: sense of responsibility (the strong help the weak), family and home ties, panic control, continuous planning, patience and endurance, self-preservation, and knowledge of survival and evasion.

- Knowing special considerations: where to go; attitude of the population; customs of the people; advantages and disadvantages of civilian contact; travel restrictions, curfews, checkpoints, and roadblocks.
- Knowing available courses of action: exfiltrations, deceptions. At times, it is impossible to travel without coming in contact with civilians. Evasion by deception under these circumstances is necessary. Deception may require the use of a disguise and a cover story. Deception is perhaps the most difficult type of evasion to take. A combination of exfiltration and deception may apply in some situations.
- Collecting information.

b. **Principles.** The following basic principles area must for the team to be successful at evasion:

- A detailed plan, including how to evade the enemy (take time, conserve food and strength by resting and by sleeping when needed), survive, and return to friendly territory.
- Rules of engagement including camouflage and concealment.

(1) *General evasion.* When a soldier becomes isolated and is unable to return to his unit or is unable to continue his assigned mission, he must find a safe hiding place where he can make an estimate of the situation and plan his courses of action. He considers the following.

(a) Travel. Travel is critical for the evader because chances of capture are greater, while on the move. Some planning considerations are—

- Avoid major roads and populated areas.
- Always use camouflage and concealment.
- Use a disguise as much as possible.
- When possible, travel during darkness. However, if it is likely that the enemy or local civilians know the location, move immediately. Whenever possible, the terrain to be traversed at night should be observed during the day. Be especially attentive to concealment and to obstacles in the travel path.
- Use maps and shelter.
- Measure progress on the ground by the stopover points that are reached. Speed and distance are secondary. Do not let failure to meet a precise schedule inhibit the use of a plan.

(b) Obstacles. Obstacles can impede or influence the selection of travel routes. Obstacles are in two categories: natural and man-made.

- Natural obstacles are rivers, streams, and mountains.
- Man-made obstacles include electric fences, contaminated areas, border and front-line crossings, friendly teams, and friendly outposts.

(2) *Assisted evasion*. Behind enemy lines, there may be people who are dissatisfied with the existing condition of the country. They may assist in a number of ways. One of the ways that these individuals may contribute is in establishing an evasion and escape system for allied evaders to return to friendly territory. This type of evasion is designated in the OPORD or communicated to a team by HF radio during the conduct of a mission. The team avoids contact with personnel during an evasion and escape, unless instructed to do so.

(a) Evasion and escape lines. These are organized to contact, secure, and evacuate friendly personnel. They may provide the following assistance:

- Shelter, food, equipment, clothes, and credentials acceptable to the area.
- Information on the enemy.
- Guides and medical treatment, plus local currency and transportation.

(b) Aids. Some aids to assist the evader to return to friendly lines are—

- Blood chit. The blood chit is a small cloth depicting the American flag and a statement in several languages. It identifies the bearer as a member of the US forces and promises a reward for the bearer's safe return to US control.
- Pointee talkee. The "pointee talkee" is a language aid that contains selected English phrases on one side of the page. The foreign language translation is on the other side. The soldier determines the question or statement to be used in English, then points to its foreign language counterpart.

(c) Conduct of evasion and escape lines. Evasion and escape lines includes contacting the line. The following actions must be considered when contacting the line, approaching the line, making contact with the line, and procedures after making contact.

- Establishing identity. During planning, all team members complete a DD Form 1833, Isolated Personnel Report (ISOPREP) (see Figure F-5.)

CONFIDENTIAL (WHEN FILLED IN)

ISOLATED PERSONNEL REPORT (ISOPREP) (See Privacy Act Statement on reverse before completing this form)		1. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) GOODE, JOHNNY B.		2. SSN 123-45-6789	
CLASSIFIED BY: AFR 64-3, AR 525-90 NWP 19-2 DECLASSIFY ON: OADR		INSTRUCTIONS Items 1 through 15 and 20 through 23 are to be completed by Applicant. Items 16 through 19 and Item 24 are to be completed by RCC Personnel. All items are to be filled in INK; however, use a PENCIL for items 3, 13, 14, and 20 through 24.			3. RANK/GRADE LTC/05
4. BRANCH OF SERVICE US Army		5. NATIONALITY American		6. DATE OF BIRTH (YYMMDD) 540131	
				7. OBVIOUS MARKS (Scar, Birthmark, Mole) NONE	
8. BLOOD GROUP O+		9. HEIGHT 6'4"		10. COLOR OF EYES Blue	
				11. COLOR OF HAIR Blonde	
12. DATE PREPARED (YYMMDD) 931006		13. DATE REVIEWED (YYMMDD) AND CURRENT ASSIGNMENT 931201		14. AUTHENTICATOR NO. 0613 15. SIGNATURE	
16. DATE MISSING (YYMMDD) (RCC personnel will complete.)		17. LOSS POSITION (RCC personnel will complete.)		18. PRIORITY (Holds vital information requiring priority rescue) (RCC personnel will complete.) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
				19. SPARE (RCC personnel will complete.)	
----- Fold here -----					
PERSONAL AUTHENTICATION STATEMENTS					
20. (Use declarative statements, not questions you can easily remember and that are not relatives [other than immediate family], private. Avoid references to dates, ages, records or public information. These derive four questions from each statement			21. and answers. Give personal details that subject to change. Details of friends, pets, vehicles, and vacations are appropriate. Information from your military statements should be detailed enough to to authenticate the individual; for example		
22. "My first car was a green, four-door, 1941			23. Packard.")		
24. ADDITIONAL DATA (Do not complete. This block is for local use.)					

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Figure F-5. Example of DD Form 1833 (front).

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<small> AUTHORITY: 10 U.S.C. Sections 133, 3012, 5031 and 8012; EO 9397. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE(S): It is essential to the combat search and rescue effort for the protection of search and rescue forces from enemy entrapment. The social security number is used to ensure positive identification. ROUTINE USE(S): It will be completed by each aircrew member who may be subject to action in or over hostile territory. It contains personal information that may be used to ensure positive identification. After the aircrew member has completed the form it will be classified "CONFIDENTIAL." DISCLOSURE IS VOLUNTARY: The information is necessary since it affects the entire search and rescue mission and effect on individual of not providing information could be loss of crew status. </small>				
LEFT HAND	CODE	PRINT CODE	CODE	RIGHT HAND
1. LITTLE FINGER		Arch KK		10. LITTLE FINGER
		Tented Arch LL		
		Finger Loop MM		
		Thumb Loop NN		
		Whorl OO		
2. RING		Finger Missing PP		9. RING
		Finger Mutilated QQ		
		Question/Uncertain YY		
----- Fold here -----				
3. MIDDLE		PHOTOGRAPH (Front View) (Provide current front photograph in normal flight clothing.)		8. MIDDLE
4. INDEX		PHOTOGRAPH (Profile View) (Provide current profile photograph in normal flight clothing.)		7. INDEX
5. THUMB				6. THUMB

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Figure F-5. Example of DD Form 1833 (back) (continued).

- Having patience while awaiting movement on the line.
- Obeying those assisting the evasion and escape.
- Planning for escape in case of compromise of the line.

(d) Traveling the line. The team considers the following in traveling the line—

- Planning and coordinating with fellow evaders and traveling with guides.
- Not speaking to strangers.
- Not showing personal articles and not offering payment to helpers.
- Having assisted evasion in the unconventional warfare operational areas. US Special Forces may also organize and operate evasion and escape mechanisms in assigned unconventional warfare operational areas.

c. **Evasion Planning.** The LRSU commander makes an initial assessment as to the area the team will most probably evade. He coordinates with the corps or division aviation units to determine if they have combat search and rescue plans that might coincide and be of use to the LRS team. If the aviation unit does have combat search and rescue plans in effect, the plans are used whenever possible. Finally, the commander identifies and coordinates with the joint combat search and rescue commander, normally at echelons above corps. If a team cannot be assisted in evasion at the corps or division level, all evasion planning information for that team, to include DD Form 1833, is given to the joint combat search and rescue commander. DD Form 1833 is critical for the team to enter an evasion network. (For more information on joint combat search and rescue planning and execution, see FM 90-18.)

d. **LRS Team Evasion Planning.** After the LRSU commander coordinates with other evasion planning agencies, he may determine the unit must make independent evasion plans. The LRSU commander starts by identifying the team evasion corridor. The corridor begins in the objective area and ends at a point the commander anticipates friendly forces will control at the end of the evasion.

(1) The commander may also identify designated areas of recovery along the corridor. However, the preferred method is for the team leader to designate the recovery areas based on his METT-T analysis. Designated areas of recovery are specific areas on the ground where exfiltration or linkup will occur. The team leader makes a determination as it applies to his

team and anticipates METT-T factors if the team must execute the evasion plan. Time intervals between recovery areas are planned; for example 24, 48, or 72 hours. This allows the LRSU commander to keep track of the team as it travels the evasion corridor. (Figure F-6.)

(2) The commander ensures the team fills out DD Form 1833. He provides the team with duress codes for all communication systems. He provides them with signals to use during the evasion for aerial recovery at designated areas of recovery. He also provides signals to use in case of indigenous or partisan linkup. He gives the team the timetable to schedule recovery areas for activation. An example of a timetable is in Figure F-7, page F-16.

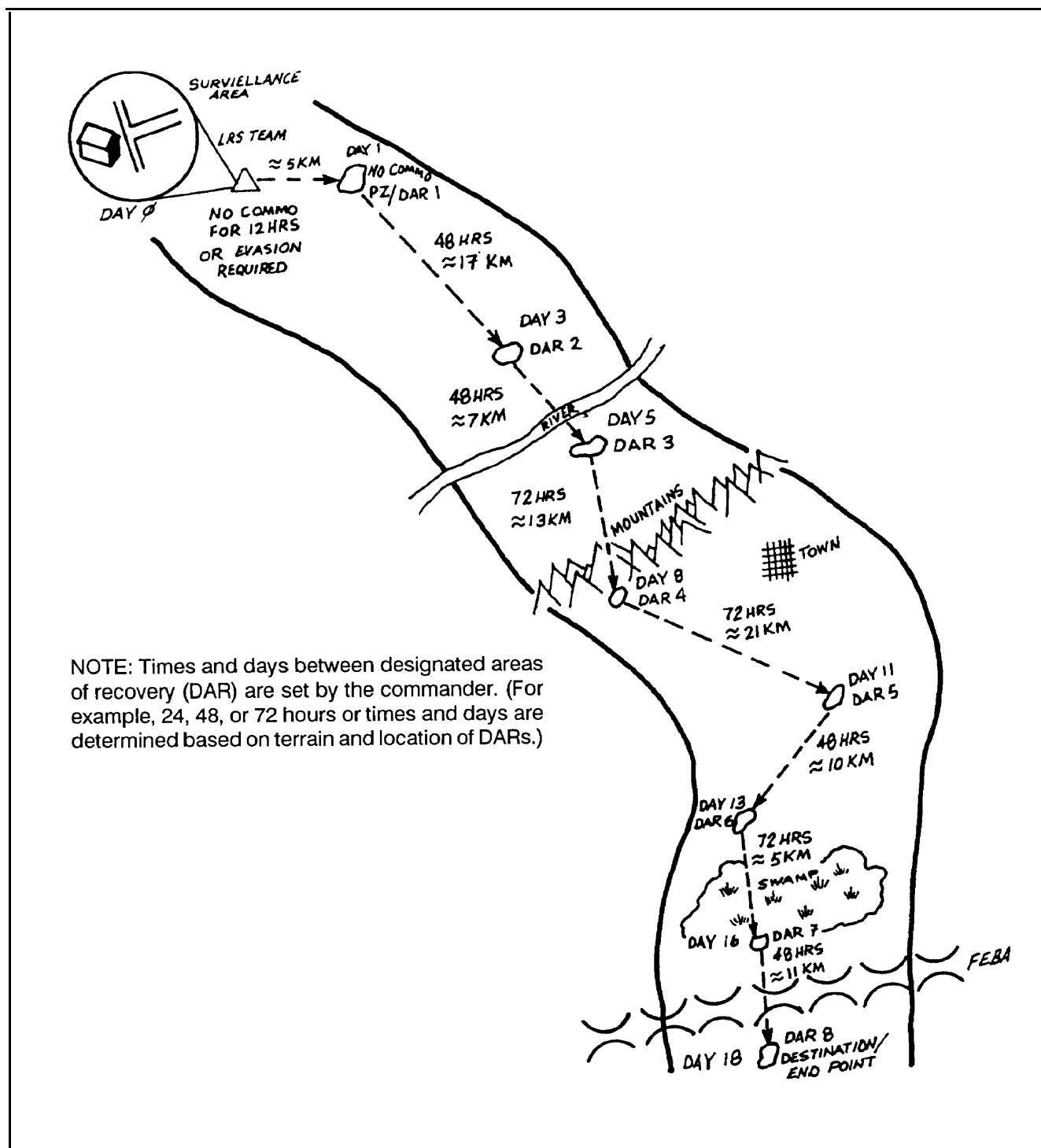


Figure F-6. Example of an evasion corridor.

TIME/EVENT	LOCATION	ACTIONS
No communication with LRSU HQ or evasion required	Target area	Attempt communication for 2 intervals (12 hours) or move to no communication PZ or DAR 1
No communication for 3 time intervals (12 hours) Day 0	Target area	Move to no communication PZ or DAR 1
No communication PZ active 0001 to 0230 hours Day 1	No communication PZ or DAR 1	Prepare PZ signal for activation
Aircraft arrives at PZ	No communication PZ or DAR 1	Activate signal
Communication equipment resupply	No communication PZ or DAR 1	Continue mission
No communication resupply	No communication PZ or DAR 1	Exfiltrate
No aircraft arrives	No communication PZ or DAR 1	Move to DAR 2
Move to DAR 2 (time interval is 48 hours) Days 1 and 2	En route, move during limited visibility	Patrol base during daylight
DAR 2 active 0100 to 0300 Day 3	DAR 2	Prepare PZ signal for activation
Aircraft arrives DAR 2	DAR 2	Exfiltrate
No aircraft arrives	DAR 2	Move to DAR 3
Move to DAR 3 (time interval is 48 hours) Days 3 and 4	En route, move during limited visibility	Patrol base during daylight
<p>NOTE: The timetable continues until the last DAR. Time and days between DARs are set by the commander and considered by the team leader when determining the location for DARs. Times and days between DARs can also be determined based on the terrain and location of the DARs. By using a timetable as described above, the LRSU commander or combat search and rescue commander knows the DAR in effect for a particular time.</p>		

Figure F-7. Example of a timetable.

F-3. SURVIVAL

LRS teams must know the principles of survival and must be proficient in survival techniques to successfully conduct evasion and escape operations. (See FMs 21-76 and 31-70 for more information on the principles and techniques of survival.)

a. Survival tasks that LRSU soldiers must be proficient in areas follows:

- Area study.
- The mnemonic **S-U-R-V-I-V-A-L**:
S ize up the situation.
U ndue haste makes waste.
R emember where you are.
V anquish fear and panic.
I mprovise.
V alue living.
A ct like the natives.
L ive by your wits; but for now learn the basics.
- Water procurement.
- Water purification.
- Field-expedient direction finding.
- Shelter construction.
- Fires.
- Rope making.
- Signaling.
- Smokers and meat preparation.
- Tools and weapons.
- Traps and snares.
- Fishing.
- Edible plant identification and preparation.
- Field-expedient first aid.
- Prisoners of war tap code.

b. A useful technique for organizing for survival is the 3-phase individual survival kit. The content of each phase of the kit depends on the environment in the area of operations and available supplies. This is only an example of the contents of a 3-phase survival kit.

(1) *Phase I (extreme)*. Soldier without any equipment (load-bearing equipment or rucksack). Items to be earned and their suggested uses include:

- (a) Safety pins in hat (fishing hooks or holding torn clothes).
- (b) Utility knife with magnesium fire starter on 550 cord wrapped around waist (knife, making ropes, fire starter).
- (c) Wrist compass (navigation).

(2) *Phase 2 (moderate)*. Soldiers with load-bearing equipment. Load-bearing equipment should contain a small survival kit. Kit should be tailored to the area of operation and should only contain basic health and survival necessities.

- (a) 550 cord, 6 feet (cordage, tiedown, fishing line, weapons, snares).
- (b) Waterproofed matches or lighter (fire starter).
- (c) Waterproofed iodine tablets (water purification, small cuts).
- (d) Fish hooks or lures (fishing).
- (e) Heavy duty knife with sharpener, bayonet type (heavy chopping or cutting).
- (f) Mirror (signaling).
- (g) Tape (utility work).
- (h) Aspirin.
- (i) Clear plastic bag (water purification, solar stills).
- (j) Candles (heat, light).
- (k) Surgical tubing (snares, weapons, drinking tube).
- (l) Tripwire (traps, snares, weapons).
- (m) Dental floss (cordage, fishing line, tiedown, traps).
- (n) Upholstery needles (sewing, fish hooks).

(3) *Phase 3 (slight)*. Soldier with load-bearing equipment and rucksack. Rucksack should only contain minimal equipment. The following are some examples:

- (a) Poncho (shelters, gather water such as dew).
- (b) Water purification pump.
- (c) Cordage (550), 20 feet.
- (d) Change of clothes.
- (e) Cold and wet weather jacket and pants.
- (f) Poncho liner or lightweight sleeping bag.

NOTE: Items chosen for survival kits should have multiple uses. The items in the above list are only suggestions.