

P5: Camouflage and Visual Signaling Techniques

Based on:

052-COM-1361-Camouflage Yourself and Your Individual Equipment

071-COM-0608-Use Visual Signaling Techniques

Task: Subtly employ realistic camouflage that resembles the background to your skin, uniform, weapon, and equipment. Demonstrate visual signaling techniques.

Condition: You are a member of a team preparing to establish an ambush position in a non-CBRNE environment. You are in the patrol base preparing to move to the Objective Rally Point. Enemy presence is suspected.

Standard: Correctly apply camouflage within 10 minutes or less. Correctly demonstrate each of the 15 visual signaling techniques within 10 seconds of receiving the prompt.

Station requirements: Both appropriate and inappropriate camouflage items based on the environment and the Candidate's uniform/packing list. The training area should contain a mannequin or an actual Soldier who is completely camouflaged correctly and appropriately. The color charts and other graphic references from the appropriate references must also be available in the training area. The Candidate must know how to apply camouflage correctly, what the standard is for their environment/equipment, and be given the means/materials to succeed. The Unit will choose which 15 visual signaling techniques are to be used; they must be the same 15 that were used during practice week. Different visual signaling techniques may be used based on valid Army publications. Pictures of all 15 visual signaling techniques being tested should be posted in the training area.

Camouflage:

1. Subtly employ realistic camouflage that resembles the background without overdoing.
2. Use natural or artificial materials to breakup regular shapes, outlines, and equipment.
3. Reduce possible shine by covering or removing items that may reflect light.
4. Blend colors with the surroundings, ensuring that objects do not contrast with the background.
5. Camouflage your exposed skin.

a. Cover your skin oils, using paint sticks, even if you have very dark skin.

Note: Do not use oils or insect repellent to soften paint sticks. This defeats the purpose of paint sticks by making the skin shiny. Do not use mud, paint containing motor oil, or other field expedient paints for EIB.

- b. Use the color chart when applying paint on the face.
 - c. Paint high, shiny areas (forehead, cheekbones, nose, ears, and chin) with a dark color.
 - d. Paint low, shadow areas (around the eyes, under the nose and under the chin) with a light color.
 - e. Paint exposed skin on the back of the neck, arms, and hands with an irregular pattern.
6. Camouflage your uniform and helmet.
 - a. Roll your sleeves down and fasten all buttons/zippers/Velcro.
 - b. Attach leaves, grass, small branches, or other items to your uniform/helmet that will distort shapes and blend colors with the natural background. Soldiers must be aware of foliage hazards/poisonous leaves.
 - c. Wear unstarched uniforms.
 - d. Do not wear excessively faded or worn uniforms because camouflage effectiveness is lost.
 7. Camouflage your personal equipment.
 - a. Cover or remove shiny items.
 - b. Secure items that rattle or make noise when moved and/or worn.
 - c. Breakup the shape of large and/or bulky equipment using natural or man-made items.

Visual Signaling Techniques:

1. Combat formations.
 - a. Disperse: Extend the arm horizontally. Wave the arm and hand to the front, left, right, and rear. Point toward the direction of each movement.
 - b. Assemble or rally: Raise arm vertically overhead. Turn palm to the front. Wave in large horizontal circles. Point to assembly or rally site.
 - c. Join me, follow me, or come forward: Point toward person(s) or unit. Beckon by holding the arm horizontally to the front with palm up. Motion toward the body.
 - d. Increase speed, double time, or rush: Raise the fist to the shoulder. Thrust the fist upward to the full extent of the arm and back to shoulder level. Continue rapidly several times.

- e. Quick time: Extend the arm horizontally sideward. Turn palm to the front. Wave the arm slightly down-ward several times, keeping the arm straight. Keep arm at shoulder level.
- f. Enemy in sight: Hold the rifle in the ready position at shoulder level. Point rifle in the direction of enemy.
- g. Wedge: Extend the arms downward to the side. Turn the palms to the front. Place your arms at a 45- degree angle below horizontal.
- h. Vee: Raise the arms. Extend the arms 45-degrees above the horizontal.
- i. Line: Extend the arms. Turn palms downward parallel to the ground.
- j. Coil: Raise one arm above the head. Rotate it in a small circle.
- k. Staggered column: Extend the arms so that upper arms are parallel to the ground, palms facing each other. Raise the arms so they are fully extended above the head.

2. Battle drills.

- a. Contact left or right: **Grader choice**. Extend the left/right arm parallel to the ground. Bend the arm until the forearm is perpendicular. Repeat.
- b. Action left or right: **Grader choice**. Extend both arms parallel to the ground. Raise the left/right arm until it is overhead. Repeat.
- c. Air attack: Bend the arms with forearms at a 45-degree angle. The forearms should cross. Repeat.
- d. Nuclear, biological, or chemical attack: Extend the arms and fists. Bend the arms to the shoulders.

Repeat.

3. Patrolling.

- a. Map check: Place one hand on top of other. Point at palm of one hand with index finger of other hand.
- b. Pace count: Bend knee so that heel can be tapped on. Tap heel of boot repeatedly with the open hand.
- c. Head count: Raise one arm behind the head. Tap the back of the helmet repeatedly with an open hand.
- d. Danger area: Raise one hand up until it is level with the throat. Draw the hand, palm down in

a throat- cutting motion across the neck.

- e. Freeze or halt: Make a fist with one hand. Raise the fist to head level.

4. Control drivers.

- a. Start engine or prepare to move: Simulate cranking of the engine by moving the arm, with the fist, in a circular motion at waist level.
- b. Halt or stop: Raise the hand upward to the full extent of the arm, with palm to the front. Hold that position until the signal is understood.
- c. Left or right turn: **Grader choice**. Extend the opposite arm horizontally to the side. Turn palm toward vehicle with finger extended in the direction of travel.
- d. Move forward: Face the vehicle. Raise the hands to shoulder level with palms facing the chest. Move the hands and forearms backward and forward.
- e. Move in reverse: Face the vehicle. Raise the hands to shoulder level with palms facing the vehicle. Move the hands and forearms backward and forward.
- f. Stop engine: Extend the arm parallel to the ground with hand open. Move the arm across the body in a throat-cutting motion.