

ART 7.6.2.4 Conduct a Show of Force

Shows of force are flexible deterrence options designed to demonstrate U.S. resolve. They involve increasing the visibility of U.S. forces to defuse a situation that, if allowed to continue, may be detrimental to national interests or objectives. The United States conducts shows of force for three reasons: to bolster or reassure allies, deter potential aggressors, and gain or increase influence. Shows of force demonstrate a credible and specific threat to an aggressor or potential aggressor. They involve increasing the visibility of U.S. forces in the eyes of the target audience through establishing an area presence and performing exercises and demonstrations. Presence patrols executed by small tactical units are one technique of conducting shows of force. Although actual combat is not desired, shows of force can rapidly and unexpectedly escalate. Therefore, units assigned a show of force mission assume that combat is probable and prepare accordingly. All actions ordinarily associated with the projection of a force to conduct combat operations pertain to show of force deployments. (FM 3-07) (USACAC)

NO.	Scale	Measure
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Supporting Collective Tasks:

Task No.	Title	Proponent	Echelon
07-6-6117	Conduct a Show of Force Demonstration (Battalion - Brigade)	07 - Infantry (Collective)	Brigade