

ART 1.2.2.6 Conduct Cover Operations

Cover is a security operation. Its primary task is to protect the main body. It gains time by fighting. It also observes and reports information while preventing enemy ground observation of and direct fire against the main body. A covering force operates outside supporting range of the main body. It promotes early situational development as it deceives the enemy about the location of the main battle area while disrupting and destroying enemy forces. Cover operations provide the main body with the maximum early warning and reaction time. (FM 3-90) (USACAC)

NO.	Scale	Measure
01	Yes/No	Covering force's operations provided the protected force with sufficient reaction time and maneuver space.
02	Yes/No	Covering force was in place not later than time specified in operation order.
03	Yes/No	Covering force prevented enemy ground observation of protected force or installation.
04	Yes/No	Collateral damage from the covering force's activities was within acceptable limits.
05	Yes/No	Covering force provided early and accurate warning of enemy approach.
06	Yes/No	Covering force oriented its operations on the secured force.
07	Yes/No	Covering force performed continuous reconnaissance.
08	Yes/No	Covering force maintained contact with enemy forces.
09	Yes/No	Commander developed criteria for ending the covering operation.
10	Yes/No	Covering force caused the enemy main body to deploy.
11	Yes/No	Covering force defeated or repelled enemy forces as directed by the higher commander.
12	Yes/No	During an offensive cover operation, the covering force penetrated the enemy's security area and located the enemy's main defensive positions.
13	Yes/No	During an offensive cover operation, the covering force determined enemy strengths and dispositions and located gaps or weak points within the enemy's defensive scheme.

14	Yes/No	During an offensive cover operation, the covering force deceived the enemy into thinking the main body had been committed.
15	Yes/No	During an offensive cover operation, the covering force fixed enemy forces in current positions to allow the main body to maneuver against them.
16	Yes/No	During a defensive cover operation, the covering force avoided being bypassed by attacking enemy forces.
17	Time	To conduct zone reconnaissance of the area surrounding the secured force.
18	Time	To plan the cover operation.
19	Time	To prepare for the cover operation to include movement to security area.
20	Time	To execute the cover operation.
21	Time	To report enemy activities to appropriate headquarters.
22	Time	Of warning that the covering force gives to the secured unit or installation before the secured unit or installation makes contact with the enemy.
23	Percent	Of covering force casualties during the cover operation.
24	Percent	Of secured force casualties during the cover operation.
25	Percent	Of unit combat power used to provide the covering force.
26	Percent	Of enemy reconnaissance, advance guard, and main body elements destroyed or repelled by the covering force.
27	Percent	Of friendly operations judged as not compromised prior to or during execution.
28	Percent	Of operations not compromised (based on enemy prisoner of war interrogations or captured documents).
29	Percent	Of the security area that can be observed at any given time by the covering force using visual observation and sensors.
30	Percent	Of AO cleared of enemy forces by an offensive covering force.
31	Percent	Of enemy forces in an AO bypassed by an offensive covering force.
32	Number	Of incidents where enemy forces affect the security of the secured force.
33	Number	Of incidents where enemy reconnaissance, advance

		guard, or first echelon forces compromise friendly courses of action.
34	Number	Of covering force casualties during the cover operation.
35	Number	Of secured force casualties during the cover operation.
36	Number	Of enemy reconnaissance, advance guard, and main body first echelon elements destroyed during the security operation.
37	Number	Of mobility corridors or avenues of approach that the covering force can observe.
38	Number	Of observation posts that the covering force can establish.
39	Square KM	Size of security area or AO.

Supporting Collective Tasks:

Task No.	Title	Proponent	Echelon
01-4-7924	Perform Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Area Security Missions	01 - Aviation/Aviation Logistics (Collective)	Section
17-6-9224	Conduct a Cover (Battalion - Brigade)	17 - Armor (Collective)	Brigade