

The Sea Cadets



Practical Leadership Tasks

“Relief Aid Minefield”

Prior Training Required:

First Aid (optional) *See further notes.*

Equipment Required:

- Land Rover or similar vehicle that may be accessed from the rear (preferably with a tow bar)
- Ropes
- Poncho
- Chalk or similar material to mark out tyre tracks
- 9 Tyres

Personnel List:

1 Casualty briefed with a reasonably severe injury (*also see further notes*)
Supervisors (if available)

Instructions for Organiser:

Position the vehicle on a level area, with approximately 10 – 15 metres of clear space behind it. Ensure the vehicle is in neutral and the handbrake is on. Draw tyre tracks leading from the rear wheels directly backwards for about 10 metres. Position a rope or similar marking at 90° to the tracks on the ground about 7 – 10 metres behind the vehicle. Place all other equipment in the back of the vehicle.

Model Solution:

The known areas of safety in the minefield are where the wheels have already been; so all movement in the minefield area should have been done where the tyre-tracks are. One team member should climb straight through to assess the driver's status straight away, while the rest of the team unload all of the usable equipment (i.e. the rope) from the rear of the vehicle and return to the safety area. The rope should be tied to the rear of the vehicle and the other end returned to the safe area, ensuring that at no point it touches the floor. The person on-board should then release the handbrake and/or footbrake (casualty's foot may be resting on it) and the rest of the team can pull the vehicle back to safety (the person inside making steering adjustments to keep the vehicle straight). Once back, the handbrake should be reapplied and the casualty should be evacuated, using the poncho as a stretcher. Medical treatment may then be given if required (*see further notes*).

Points to Watch For:

- Equipment or personnel touching the ground on the "live" side of the rope
- Control is maintained over the vehicle when in motion and when stationary

Further Notes:

As an add-on to the exercise, this may lead into a proper First Aid training/practice session, with correct treatment given to the casualty. Alternatively, the exercise ends with the casualty being removed from the vehicle.

Situation:

Your team is travelling as the rear-guard of a convoy taking essential supplies to a remote village in the war-torn country of Malawi. Guerrilla forces have sabotaged the dirt road leading to a village and the lead vehicle has hit a mine, disabling out the vehicle. The driver is not responding to radio transmissions and is assumed to be unconscious and potentially injured: no further details about his condition are known at this time an EOD squad has been requested but will not arrive for at least an hour. A Cas-Evac has also been called and a helicopter will arrive in approximately 20 Minuets. Due to the instability of the region and the high possibility of further attacks, the casualty needs to be recovered as quickly as possible, and ready for evacuation in 15 minuets. All space behind your current position may be considered safe. The area in front of you is uncertain and should be treated as live.

Mission:

You must recover the injured driver from the mined area in preparation for evacuation, without incurring additional injuries to your team.

Execution:

You have 15 minutes from the end of this briefing to complete this task. You may use any equipment in the back of the vehicle or on your persons. Due to the risk of detonating further mines, AT NO TIME is the engine of the vehicle to be started: you may only enter through the rear of the vehicle, and there must be someone in control of the vehicle whenever the vehicle is not stationary.

Any Questions?

Check Understanding:

How long do you have to complete the task?

15 Minuets

What equipment may be used?

All equipment in the vehicle and in their possession

What 3 limitations apply to the vehicle?

Engine may not be started

Only the rear of the vehicle can be used for entry

The vehicle must be under control when moving