



Australian Government

DEFCA429 Undertake defensive actions

Release 1

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Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
1	DEF12 V2	First release. Replaces is and equivalent to DEFCA402B. Undertake defensive actions. Completely revised. Changes throughout the unit to meet current language. Outcomes unchanged.

Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to operate as a **team** member during the conduct of defensive actions in the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

For the purpose of this unit of competency, a team is defined as a group of up to approximately 30 personnel (for infantry this would be a section or platoon).

No licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. In a Defence context, this means that there is no civilian need to hold this unit in order to meet licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements.

Application of the Unit

This competency was developed for combat arms personnel required to deploy in an operational environment, but is applicable to any individual in this field of work.

Typically operators work independently and as part of a team under direct and/or indirect supervision, use discretion and judgement, and take responsibility for the quality of their outputs.

All activities are carried out in accordance with relevant organisational policies and procedures.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

ELEMENT

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Performance Criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where ***bold italicised*** text is used, further information is detailed in the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

Elements and Performance Criteria

1. Prepare for defensive actions	1.1 <i>Defensive action orders</i> are received and clarified where required. 1.2 <i>Battle procedure</i> is conducted. 1.3 Appropriate personal and task specific equipment is selected and fitted as directed and/or required by the operational environment.
2. Conduct defensive actions	2.1 Defensive position is occupied as ordered. 2.2 <i>Defences</i> are constructed as ordered in accordance with <i>standard procedures</i> . 2.3 <i>Defensive routine</i> is conducted as ordered in accordance with standard procedures. 2.4 <i>Drills and routines</i> are conducted in accordance with operational requirements and standard procedures. 2.5 Withdrawal from the defensive position is conducted as ordered.
3. Finalise defensive action activities	3.1 <i>Post operation activities</i> are conducted in accordance with operational requirements and standard procedures. 3.2 <i>Post action administration</i> is conducted in accordance with operational requirements and standard procedures.

Required Skills and Knowledge

Required Skills

- apply battlecraft aggressively
- apply navigation techniques
- apply operational safety
- apply recognised safety precautions
- assimilate orders
- handle weapons safely in an operational environment
- interpret fire control orders
- work in a team

Required Knowledge

- battlecraft
- characteristics, technical capabilities, effects, employment and limitations of equipment
- cultural awareness
- fire control orders
- navigation techniques
- WHS requirements
- orders for open fire
- recognised safety precautions
- team work

Evidence Guide

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Assessment must confirm the ability to work as part of a team by day and night in a simulated operational environment that replicates the extremes and stress of a threat environment.

Assessment must also confirm the ability to construct the following defences:

- shell scrapes
- weapon pits
- obstacles
- fire lanes
- weapon stakes

Assessment must also confirm the ability to adhere to all defensive routines as detailed in the Range Statement.

Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated over time and in a range of contexts that could be expected in the workplace.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Context of assessment

Competency should be assessed in a simulated operational threat environment. The person should be exposed to the extremes of the operational environment under physical and mental stress. The context of assessment would usually be simulated due to the nature of this high-risk environment.

Specific resources for assessment

Access to a team; a simulated operational environment that replicates the extremes and stress of a threat environment; a rifle and ammunition; and a variety of equipment as listed in the Range Statement.

Range Statement

The Range Statement relates to the Unit of Competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. ***Bold italicised*** wording in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.

<i>Defensive actions</i> may include:	• area defence • delaying defence • mobile defence • withdrawal
<i>Battle procedures</i> may include:	• cleaning weapons • conducting rehearsals • receiving confirmatory orders • removing non-essential items • test firing weapons • testing or checking equipment, which may include: • ammunition • load carrying equipment • personal protective equipment • day and night vision equipment • infra-red lights • rations • task specific equipment • specialist equipment early warning devices • communication equipment
<i>Defences</i> may include:	• bunkers • early warning • fire lanes • hardening of facilities • illumination plan • obstacles • reinforcement of buildings • shell scrapes • weapon pits • weapon stakes
<i>Standard procedures</i> may include:	• Australian Standards • defence instructions • doctrinal pamphlets • job guides, other publications • manufacturers' handbooks, industry specifications and technical instructions • work health and safety (WHS) regulations • organisational policies and procedures

	• procedure manuals • reengagement procedures • relevant local government by-laws • relevant state/territory or federal legislation • routine orders • standing operating procedures • standing orders • written and verbal orders
<i>Defensive routine</i> must include:	• applying weapon readiness states • camouflage maintenance • clearing patrols • maintaining communications between individual/groups • maintaining hygiene plan • maintaining obstacles • monitoring surveillance devices • observing arcs • range cards • rehearsals • searching ground • stand to/down • standing patrols • track discipline • using the ground
<i>Drills and routines</i> may include:	• counter attack procedure • counter penetration drill • marry-up procedures • relief in place • withdrawal
<i>Post operation activities</i> may include:	• confirming weapon state • hand-over evacuees • hand-over non combatants • hand-over prisoners of war • participating in debriefs • preparing for subsequent operations • psychological debrief
<i>Post action administration</i> may include:	• assisting with resupply and redistribution • completing all documentation • equipment cleaning • maintenance of personal hygiene • returning specialist equipment

	• weapon cleaning
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Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.