

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

STANDING ORDER NO. 96

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The
Chief Security Commissioners
Of Zonal Railways & RPSF
All *Divisional Security Commissioners* of RPF
All *Commanding Officers* of RPSF

**Sub: Standard Procedure for Security of RPF & RPSF Posts,
Out-Posts and Camps in sensitive and vulnerable locations.**

The following guidelines are recommended for safety and security of personnel deployed in sensitive and vulnerable areas infested with militancy or left wing extremism. These guidelines for setting up the posts, outposts and camps outside their headquarters also attempt to regulate the routine activities duly addressing the precautionary measures to be taken to ensure safety of the camp and personnel.

I. SITING OF POST

A post should be sited after thorough recce and following considerations should dictate the selection of site:

a) It should be:

- On a dominating ground.
- Defendable with troops.
- Able to meet task requirements.
- Away from crowded residential areas.
- Away from a busy road.

b) It should allow:

- Secure layout of vulnerable points like kote, signal-center, cookhouse etc.
- Defence with minimum number of sentries.
- Secure area for training, briefing, debriefing, recreation etc.
- Administrative backups like fetching water, fresh vegetables, toilet areas etc.

II. HOW TO OCCUPY A POST

- Dominate the area to be occupied.
- Search the area thoroughly for IEDs before occupying the site.
- Post commander should mark the layout of defences and other vital areas like kote, signal-centre, lines, office etc.
- Once the area is marked, troops should move in 'stand-to' and establish alarm post.
- Sentries are detailed and working parties start erecting security fence/perimeter and other structures of the post.
- Area patrol if launched.
- Prepare defences/morchas.
- Organise the post layout.

III. ISSUE OF STANDING ORDERS

Prepare detailed post/camp standing orders to regulate all operational and administrative aspects of the post.

Prepare camp standing orders on:

- Location, strength and role of post.

- Security of post.
- Security of individuals.
- Security of arms and ammunition.
- Security of vehicles.
- Security of water points, bathing/washing points and toilets.
- Post routine during day and night.
- Fire precautions.
- Administration: Messing, recreation, leave, purchase of rations, dak, pay and allowances, discipline etc.
- Regulation of entry/exist.

IV. SECURITY OF POSTS

Adhere to the following instructions:

- a) The post should have a security plan.
- b) Strength of the post:
 - The post should have adequate strength so that all sentry posts could be manned as planned.
 - Not more than one third of the post strength should be deployed for the security of the post.
 - The strength of the post should be divided into camp security personnel and mobile reserves. The mobile reserves will carry out the tasks of chasing of attackers, reinforcing sentries etc.
- c) Entry Points in the posts should be reduced to absolute minimum and armed securities should be posted to guard them from proper defensive positions.
- d) The sentries should be so placed that any stranger approaching the post is stopped at least ten yards away and allowed to come closer after proper identification.
- e) There should be a standby sentry to meet any eventuality and take action in case the first sentry becomes a casualty at the hands of extremists.

f) Sentries should be regularly briefed about the possibility of surprise and suicidal attacks by assailants and the precautions to be taken.

g) Night sentries should be in pairs.

h) Perimeter patrolling by armed personnel of adequate strength should be carried out round the clock. Patrols should be sent to dominate the area around the post regularly.

i) The post should be light tactically with the lights focusing away from the post.

j) Each morcha or sentry post should be connected to the guardroom with an effective alarm system.

k) Each guard commander should have a wireless set to communicate with the post commander and perimeter patrol and each post commander should be in communication with QRT.

l) There should be proper standing orders to counter the threats from attack of grenades, small arm, IED blast etc during day and night. These orders should be known to all personnel and the drills well rehearsed.

V. SECURITY OF INDIVIDUALS

a) All administrative movements will be under armed cover.

b) No individual shall move out of the post alone without escort.

c) All will wear bulletproof jackets and helmets while going out of the post on duty.

d) All parties going out of the post must carry a wireless set.

e) In/out register should be maintained at the post gate.

VI. SECURITY OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION AT POST

Ensure that:-

- a) All men use rifle chains to secure personal weapon with their duty belts.
- b) No weapons will be left unattended in the morchas/sentry post/post.
- c) In the Kote chaining of rifles in the rifle rack should be ensured.
- d) Morchas of the kote should be suitably fortified.
- e) Kote guard commander should be in wireless communication with the post commander.
- f) No handling/clearing of the weapon will be done inside the morcha/guard room.
- g) All weapons are combat worthy by proper maintenance.

VII. SECURITY OF VEHICLES AT POST

- a) Vehicles should be parked away from the perimeter so that grenade attack cannot damage them.
- b) Vehicles should not be parked close to each other.
- c) Vehicles should not be left unattended.
- d) No single vehicle should move out of the post.
- e) Vehicle moving out of the camp should have required escort, fully equipped to counter any threat.
- f) Essential spares/repairs kit including a torch must always be carried by each driver while moving out of the camp.
- g) Do not park the vehicles in such a way that discloses your direction of move.
- h) Movement of vehicles out of the camp should be minimal.

VIII. POST ROUTINE DURING DAY AND NIGHT

a) Day routine should include orders on :

- Morning stand to
- Breakfast
- Spot training
- Lunch
- Games
- Mounting of guards
- Roll Call
- Evening stand to
- Dinner
- Sitting of weapons for the night
- Alarm drill

b) Night routine should include orders on :

- Recreation timings
- Lights out
- Restriction regarding naked lights.
- Challenging and recognition.
- Opening of fire.

IX ROUTINE TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Following instructions should be followed :

- a) All briefings/debriefings should be done by the post commander on sand-model. Each post must have a sand model of the area of responsibility.
- b) The gate sentries/guard commander should check all outgoing personnel and vehicles to ensure that:
 - All are wearing bullet-proof jackets and helmets.
 - Rifle chains secure weapons.
 - Wireless set is in working condition.
 - Men know the call signs.
 - Vehicles are self-starting.
- c) While eating food, men should not congregate at night under the light, as they may be visible to insurgents from far off distance.
- d) While enjoying games/recreation, security of the area should be beefed up.
- e) The guard commander himself must relieve the night sentry by walking up with the relief sentry.
- f) Stand to drills should be practiced daily at morning and evening and each man must know his morcha and area of responsibility.
- g) Area in and around the post should be cleared of unwanted bushes and grass.

X. SECURITY OF INFORMATION

- a) No body should disclose any information regarding the post to any outsider. Disclosure of information should be on the basis of need to know.
- b) No outsider should be allowed to enter the post. There should be a visitor's tent outside the post where all transactions with the outsiders should be done.
- c) There should be no casual talk with outsiders regarding officers and men of the post or the duties being performed by the post.
- d) Actions within post regarding preparation for any operation should not be obvious to disclose it.
- e) Avoid same route and timings of moving out of the camp.
- f) Do not become predictable.

XI REGULATION OF ENTRY/EXIT

- a) No outsider should be allowed inside the camp.
- b) All vehicles/individuals moving in/out of the camp must be recorded by the sentry at gate.
- c) Ill equipped men and vehicles should not be allowed out of the gate.
- d) Deploy double sentries at the gate of the post, standing at a distance of about 10 meters from each other and covering each other with their weapons.
- e) Any outsider asking for any sort of assistance from the CRPF should be directed to approach the nearest local police station.

XII PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FIRE HAZARD

- a) As soon as a post is established, fire points at sensitive places like:
 - Kote and quarter guard.
 - Store
 - Cookhouse
 - Signal centre
 - MT park etc. should be established.
- b) It should be ensured that all fire extinguishers are in working order and all ranks know their use.
- c) The magazine and armoury should be so located where it is safe against fire hazards.
- d) Fire-alarm practice should be held at least once every fortnight and fire-fighting drills regularly rehearsed.
- e) Signal centers and other buildings containing costly stores be provided carbon tetra chloride type fire extinguishers of minimum two liters capacity.
- f) Under no circumstances engines/generators used to charge batteries should be utilized inside the thatched huts and tents, as they are likely to cause fire.
- g) Living accommodation for the signal personnel should be separate from the signal center and stores.
- h) Smoking of bidies and cigarettes and throwing of bidies and cigarettes stubs near petrol tank/charging set is prohibited.

- i) Proper insulation of electric wire should be ensured to prevent short circuits caused by defective, wrong and slipshod maintenance.
- j) Precautions against flying embers from the fireplaces or chullah or from nearby jungle set on fire by villagers be taken.
- k) No naked fire should be lit inside the camp.

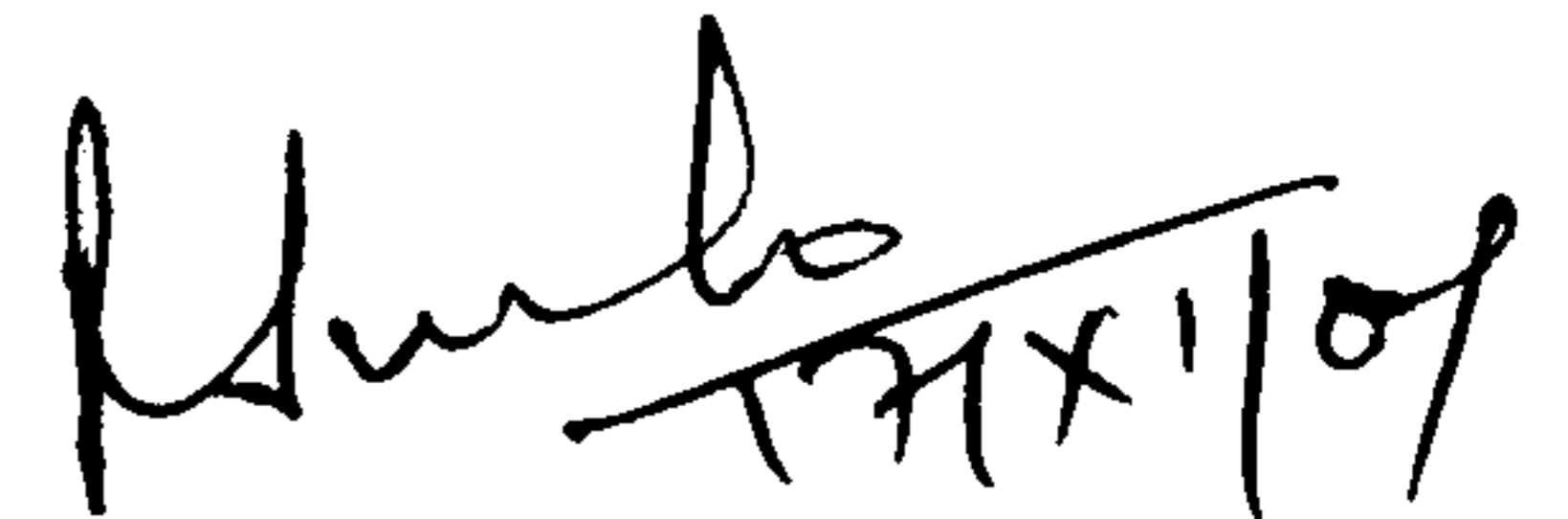
XIII PRECAUTIONS AGAINST ATTACK BY SUICIDE SQUADS.

In past there have been a numbers of fierce attacks on the camp of Security forces in J&K by the suicide squads resulting in a number of casualties. To counter this challenge effectively, the commanders should review the security measures of their respective camps/posts and take adequate aggressive action to defeat such attacks.

Following guidelines are issued to meet this challenge.

- a) The post security personnel come to "stand-to" as soon as there is an attack on the post.
- b) There should be a speed breaker in front of the main gate of the camp to slow down any speeding vehicle approaching the post.
- c) There should be double sentries at the main entrance. One sentry, without any arms, will carry out the search/identification but he will wear bullet proof jacket and helmet. Another sentry will provide armed cover to him. He will also wear bullet proof jacket and helmet.
- d) There should be a third sentry with an automatic weapon in a moreha , at a distance of about ten meters inside the main gate to take on any rushing intruder.
- e) While no outside person/vehicle is to be allowed in to the post, persons approaching the gate in vehicles should be ordered to stop away from the gate and there should be a foolproof frisking/checking and proper identification of the individuals/ vehicles.
- f) There should be a visitors tent /room outside the main gate, where outsiders will be made to sit and the person whom he wants to meet should be called there. While our person is meeting any visitor, proper watch be kept by the sentry for his safety.

- g) There should a trench across the entrance road of at least 3' wide and 4' deep, just behind the main gate. This trench should be covered with a removable iron/steel barred trench cover, which should be placed whenever own vehicle is allowed to come in. For remaining periods, the trench should remain uncovered. This will help in avoiding crash entry into the camp using vehicles. These trench-covers may be operated mechanically wherever possible.
- h) There should be a Quick reaction team (QRT) kept ready inside the post/camp. It should be located close to the entrance gate, so that if the sentries at the main gate fail to stop the attackers, the QRT can take them by surprise and destroy.
- i) There should be a suitable alarm system to alert all sentries and other personnel in the camp about the danger.
- j) Defence of the camp/post should be made offensive by sending patrol and ambush parties around the camp in suitable places at irregular intervals.
- k) Any person, including a VIP or a senior officer in uniform should also be stopped, checked politely, identified and only then should be allowed to enter the camp.
- l) Contingency plans with neighbouring units should also be rehearsed regarding cordoning the area, establishing cutoffs, regulating traffic etc. periodically as part of routine rehearsals.
- m) The commander, keeping in view the ground situation, may take any other measures deemed fit.



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