

APPENDIX E. MILITARY WORKING DOGS

Military working dog (MWD) capabilities enhance the commander's ability to protect forces and assets. Although MWDs are normally garrison assets, the MAGTF commander can request MWD support for combat, combat support, and combat service support operations.

The Marine Corps has two types of dual-certified MWDs in their inventory. The drug detector dogs (DDD) and explosive detector dogs (EDD) are also certified as patrol dogs. This dual-certification enables the commander to employ the MWD in detector and/or patrol roles.

When combined with a military police (MP) dog handler, the MWD becomes part of a MWD team. An MWD extends the handler's ability beyond the limits of human sight and hearing by detecting and locating a person faster than a human, even when vegetation or terrain might obscure that person from human detection.

Although MWDs are normally garrison assets, MWD teams can be assigned temporary additional duty to operating force units during combat and combat contingency operations. The Marine expeditionary force provost marshal coordinates MWD support during contingency and combat operations. While MWDs can be a logistical burden, MAGTF commanders should consider MWDs for most operations.

Explosive Detector Dogs

The most appropriate MWD for the operating forces is the dual-certified patrol and explosive detector dog (P/EDD). The dual-certified patrol and P/EDD can, with additional training, adequately perform any MWD mission except drug detection. To support the MAGTF, these MWDs must be able to—

- | Detect bombs and tripwires.
- | Bypass enemy in bunkers and built-up areas.
- | Conduct flight line security patrols, enemy prisoner of war (EPW) control, perimeter patrols, and other appropriate missions.

Drug Detector Dogs

The DDDs can be a valuable force protection tool for the MAGTF commander to deter drug use by Marines. Commanders should request drug detector support when drug use is anticipated in future contingency and combat operations, low intensity conflicts, extended deployments, or anytime Marines come in regular contact with civilians.

Patrol Dogs

Marine Corps MWDs are trained in law enforcement patrol functions to—

- | Detect the presence of unauthorized personnel.
- | Alert the handler to the presence of intruders.
- | Attack on command.
- | Attack without command when the handler is threatened.
- | Cease attack on command.
- | Search buildings and open areas for criminal offenders.
- | Perform reliably off the leash.
- | Work safely and effectively around people.
- | Conduct mobile patrols.
- | Conduct dismounted patrols.
- | Operate or assist at fixed posts.

Organization

An MWD team consists of a dog and its handler. Three teams comprise an MWD detachment, which can be patrol, patrol and narcotic detection, or patrol and explosives detection. With three teams, the detachment can provide 24-hour support for a mission that requires one MWD, or the detachment can support up to three short duration missions. A detachment can be attached to support—

- | MP combat support or internment and resettlement.

- 1 Law and order augmentation.
- 1 MP units.

Planning

When MWD teams are employed, they participate in all phases of the unit's mission. The handler and the kennel master recommend ways to use the MWD team. In addition to the commander's concept and mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available—time available (METT-T), the handler must consider—

- 1 Length of tactical employment, which depends on climate and environment.
- 1 Location and size of area to be covered.
- 1 Condition and type of terrain.
- 1 Prevailing wind direction.

Handling Techniques

Normally, handlers are armed with a sidearm, and may carry a weapon with a sling. These weapons are primarily for the defense of the handler and the MWD. The handler focuses on working and controlling the MWD.

Usually, MWD teams work in front of or on the flanks of other military police or the protected facility, but not so far that the accompanying military police cannot provide security for the team. The teams should be downwind from potential location or avenues of approach of the person(s) to be detected. This improves the chances of providing early warning. If the MWD team is supporting a patrol that is moving directly into the wind, the team may have to move left or right of a line of march to make use of the prevailing wind. In some cases, the MWD team can traverse while the patrol continues on a direct route.

The MWD is rehearsed with the team or patrol members so everyone can get used to working with the MWD. Team members must know what to do if a handler is seriously wounded or killed. A dog that has worked closely with a team and has developed a tolerance for one or more of the team members will usually allow one of the members to return it to the

kennel. If the MWD will not allow anyone near its handler, other handlers must be called in to assist.

Support Capabilities

The MWD capabilities are used to support tactical patrols, fixed location security, EPW and civilian internee operations, and law and order operations.

Tactical Patrol

Properly conditioned and trained MWDs enhance the security posture of a tactical patrol through detection and location of enemy soldiers.

Fixed Location Security

The MWD teams at fixed locations can often extend security into or across concealing terrain. These teams work best at perimeter posts and at posts located away from distracting activity, where MWDs help deter threats to the site. If working outside the perimeter, MWDs can detect threats before the attacker gets near enough to compromise security.

Selection of fixed locations and limits must be adjusted for factors that affect the MWD's ability to see, hear, and smell. For example, lights can cause the MWD to rely more on sight than on its other senses. The MWD teams operating in lighted areas should patrol varied routes, remain in shadows, or stand stationary in concealed downwind positions as needed. Varied postings of a team increases deterrence by avoiding a set patrol pattern and helps keep the MWD's interest level up. To support fixed location security, MWDs are employed—

- 1 At access control points or dismount points to guard persons during identification checks.
- 1 In large enclosures that normally require many sentries for effective security.
- 1 At posts that are secured only in periods of high threat or where occasional random posting is needed during inclement weather.

Enemy Prisoner of War and Civilian Internee Operations

The MWD teams offer a real and a psychological deterrent against escape attempts. If an escape should

occur, MWDs can help track and capture the escaped EPW. These teams help secure EPWs—

- | At collecting points.
- | In holding areas.
- | During movement.
- | During work details outside the fence at internment locations.
- | By enhancing perimeter security at a compound or camp.

Law and Order Operations

The MWD teams may be used in either proactive or reactive operations.

Proactive Operations

In proactive operations, MWD teams—

- | Patrol assigned areas.
- | Conduct security checks.
- | Assist at roadblocks and checkpoints by providing additional control for persons at the location and detecting narcotics and explosives.
- | Support VIP security missions with explosives detection and area patrolling.
- | Escort funds.
- | Conduct searches in support of narcotics investigations.
- | Search for and locate explosives in support of counterterrorism operations.
- | Search for narcotics, ammunition, and explosives in support of customs operations during deployment or redeployment.

Reactive Operations

In reactive operations, MWD teams—

- | Respond to and clear unsecured buildings.
- | Respond to and assist in searching threatened sites for suspected explosive devices.

Employment Considerations

Although the MWD is an asset to MP operations, its effectiveness may be reduced by distractions, aggressiveness, weather, or environmental conditions.

Distractions

The MWD team works best in uninhabited areas. If friendly forces frequently distract an MWD from responding to the handler's commands, the MWD soon loses interest and reliability.

Aggressiveness

The ability to work around people without becoming distracted or showing hostility toward strangers is a key factor in the patrol dog's success as a law enforcement tool. This capability is generally referred to as controlled aggressiveness. With attack-trained animals, this is a desirable temperament trait. Controlled aggressiveness does not mean that patrol dogs lack spirit or cannot pursue and attack with vigor. Patrol dogs must be cautious of strangers and be prepared to complete each assigned task without regard to the danger involved. Therefore, patrol dogs must—

- | Be alert and aware without showing overt hostility.
- | Attack without savagery.
- | Obey their handlers.

Weather

During inclement weather, an MWD's ability to detect an intrusion will exceed the detection ability of its handler and other physical, mechanical, or electrical intrusion detection systems. In hot, humid weather, the MWD works at top efficiency for only 2 or 3 hours at a time. Depending on the conditions, the MWD may require additional cool-down breaks.

The MWD works best when placed to take advantage of odors carried on the wind. When there is little or no wind, the MWD can detect intruders up to 200 meters away using its senses of smell, hearing, and sight. Under those circumstances, the MWD may detect a scent even though the person being tracked is off to one side. As wind velocity increases, the MWD must be more in line with the tracked person to detect the scent. In unfavorable wind conditions, the MWD can still detect by sound and sight, but its capabilities are reduced by—

- | Noise.
- | Movement.
- | Smoke.
- | Dust.
- | Dense undergrowth.

- 1 Heavily wooded areas.
- 1 Jungle growth.

Environment

Some environmental situations severely restrict or rule out the use of MWDs. Before employing MWDs, the following factors should be considered:

- 1 MWD employment near petroleum, oils, and lubricants must be infrequent and brief, because petroleum, oils, and lubricants can damage a dog's paws and sense of smell.
- 1 MWDs cannot be used in areas contaminated with nuclear, biological, and chemical agents, because there are no protective devices for them.
- 1 MWDs may work in open areas where riot control agents are in use if the wind velocity is normal; however, they should be closely monitored and taken to a veterinarian if they show signs of distress.

Employment

The MWD teams are frequently employed to perform tasks under difficult operational conditions, which include crime scene investigation, building and area searches, as well as narcotics and explosives detection.

Crime Scene Investigations

Crime investigations usually involve nose work such as tracking and building searches. Although patrol dogs can perform such tasks with a high degree of proficiency, an investigation requires the full cooperation of all personnel at the crime scene.

The ability of the MWD team to track successfully depends on the distribution, quality, and life of the followed scent, which is influenced by climate, terrain, and age of the track. Many subjects initially flee on foot but complete their escapes in vehicles. Others flee into built-up areas where their scent either dissipates or becomes mingled with other odors.

Military police should secure the crime scene with a minimum of personnel and minimize their movement in and around the crime area if an MWD is required for tracking. When MWD assistance is not requested promptly or if the crime scene has been disturbed, the

trained patrol dogs may be unsuccessful in completing the operational tracking requirement.

Building and Area Searches

The MWD's capability to check buildings and open areas rapidly and thoroughly for intruders and criminal suspects is a valuable asset to law enforcement and security personnel. The MWD teams should be dispatched to every incident involving actual or suspected burglary, housebreaking, vandalism, trespassing, or flight from a security area. The presence of MWDs at such scenes reduces the number of military police required and minimizes the risks in searching for potentially dangerous offenders.

Conducting building or area searches with patrol dog teams requires organization, adherence to a prescribed plan, and the cooperation of military police at the scene. An MWD should not be used to search, especially off the leash, until military police at the scene feel certain that the area is clear of innocent people. Other factors to be considered include the—

- 1 Time of day.
- 1 Evidence of forced entry or illegal presence in the area.
- 1 Potential danger to the handler.
- 1 Type and size of area to be searched.

During building searches, accompanying military police secure the building, and the MWD team enters and searches. Military police may be directed to enter portions of the building as those areas are cleared by the MWD. When searching an area, accompanying military police should be behind the MWD team and clear of the area to be searched. Keeping nonhandlers out of the MWD's search area reduces the distractions for the dog and improves its chances of catching the offender's scent or detecting sound and movement. Accompanying military police should be near enough to assist the handler if needed.

Drug Detection

A DDD is trained to detect the presence of marijuana and derivatives as well as hard narcotics (e.g., opium, cocaine, and heroin).

People, traffic, foreign odors, other animals, loud noises, and strange objects may divert the MWD's attention from its primary task. Basic obedience, scent discrimination, and systematic employment

techniques help reduce the impact of distracting influences. Proper conditioning of MWDs, such as frequent exposure to people, traffic, loud noises, food odors, other animals, and refuse containers, prepares them for field service. If possible, MWDs should also be familiarized with aircraft and gunfire.

Military police, accompanying a DDD team, may follow the team on its search. The military police usually stay immediately outside the room or vehicle being searched, where they can observe the search and the MWD's responses. After completion of the DDD team search, military police conduct a thorough, physical search of the area indicated by the DDD team to locate and seize any evidence.

Explosives Detection

The on-site commander determines whether to evacuate an area in response to a bomb threat. Before an EDD team conducts a building search, the building must first be cleared of occupants. This procedure minimizes the distractions to the EDD team and reduces the risk to area occupants.

If the occupants haven't searched the area, the EDD team conducts the initial search. An advantage to having the EDD team conduct the initial search is that the handler has specialized explosive device detection capabilities and search techniques. If the EDD team completes an initial search without detecting an explosive device, the occupants should inspect, because they can identify items which are out of place or foreign to the area. When responding to a bomb threat, EDD teams should conduct the following procedures:

- 1 The EDD handler recommends the number of safety and security persons who may accompany the EDD team into the search area.
- 1 The handler and accompanying personnel should be provided with protective equipment and other equipment (e.g., flak vests, inspection mirrors).
- 1 Accompanying personnel must be briefed on the following search actions:
 - n Turn off any carried radios, portable phones, etc.

- n Move nothing, disturb nothing, and change nothing during the search. If lights or appliances are off, leave them off; if on, leave them on.
 - n Direct occupants to begin searching an area, section, or building as soon as the EDD team has cleared it.
 - n Evacuate all persons, including the search party, a reasonable time before the specified detonation time. Keep the area clear for at least an hour past the threatened detonation time.
- 1 Accompanying personnel must take the following actions if the MWD responds:
 - n Notify explosive ordnance disposal immediately of the location of the response.
 - n Do not attempt to move, open, or tamper with any object suspected of being an explosive device.

Transportation Requirements

Each MWD detachment, consisting of three MWD teams, requires transportation to and in its area of operation. Depending on the mission, the detachment may require additional or alternate transportation. If METT-T makes it preferable for military police to use commercial vehicles, MWD teams may require similar transportation.

When performing routine law enforcement duties, patrol dog teams are normally employed as mounted patrols or in a combination mounted and dismounted status. This allows them to cover large areas, to be more responsive to requests for assistance, and to provide greater psychological deterrence to criminal activity. This transportation method also permits the dog handler to respond to calls that do not require special canine skills and to perform traffic control duties as required.

Several types of vehicles can be used effectively to transport patrol dog teams. These vary from four-wheel drive vehicles to modified sedans. If using a closed vehicle, air conditioning may be needed to sustain operational effectiveness.