

MOVEMENT CONTROL MEASURES USE OF CR2 IN VEHICLE CHECK POINTS

INTRODUCTION

1. The use of vehicle checkpoints (VCPs) plays an important role in the contemporary operational environment, for example; interdicting insurgent activity as well as complementing other security measures in COIN operations. Section B to AFM Vol 1 Pt 9 covers the general techniques and procedures for establishing and conducting roadblocks and checkpoints.

2. The use of CR2 in VCPs is not an activity that is routinely practised. The vehicle size attracts attention and the L94 Chain Gun (CG) and L30 Main Armament (MA) are not optimised for accurate close engagements under 200m and 400m respectively without the risk to friendly forces and/or non combatants operating in the near vicinity. The use of the L30 MA is not considered suitable for the immediate VCP area, therefore the Gunner's Primary Sight (GPS) and Commander's Primary Sight (CPS) should only be used for observation. An L94 CG 200m line must be established by vehicle commanders and identified by gunners on immediate set up of the VCP for fire control measures. Although targets under 200m can be engaged¹, gunners and commanders must be aware of the effects of gun sight offset and the associated L94 characteristics of dispersion and rapid rate of fire². In addition the limited manpower in a tank troop makes the protection of dismounts difficult. Therefore if CR2 Troops are required for VCP operations they should only be used in an emergency situation (Snap VCP) or as part of a planned, deliberate operation using at least a half Sqn. The inclusion of additional dismounts should be considered at the earliest opportunity.

'SNAP' VCP

3. Fig 1 (page 5) illustrates how a 'Snap' VCP is configured using a CR2 Troop to form a chicane, to provide cover to the controller and searcher, use of dismounts for close protection and cut-offs forward of the check point to deter suicide bombers and to assist in traffic control.

SUICIDE VEHICLE BORNE IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE (SVBIED)

4. The risk posed by a SVBIED is a major concern when establishing a VCP and procedures must be adapted to meet this threat. In a high risk environment a half squadron operation may be required to mount a single VCP in order to achieve the necessary force protection levels. The following tasks will need resourcing:

¹ The L94 Chain Gun can be fired with relative accuracy using the fire control system from 200m to 1100m. Ranges below 200m will cause the fire control system to default to 400m and reduce the accuracy of the first burst (G1022/1 Technical Aspects and Techniques of CR2 Gunnery).

² All CR2 Gunnery Courses are taught the effects of gun sight offset and the L94 characteristics (dispersion and rapid rate of fire) in accordance with the relevant DRAC course syllabi and Technical Aspects and Techniques of CR2 Gunnery (G1022/1).

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- a. Establish OPs, trigger VCP and provide cut-off force – 2 x tanks.
 - b. Conduct VCP (remain in hide until triggered) – 3 x tanks.
 - c. Conduct satellite patrols, provide outer security force and interdict traffic bypassing VCP – 2 x tanks.
5. To mitigate the risk of SVBIEDS the following measures should be considered:
- a. Avoid establishing a VCP unless essential and then only for short periods.
 - b. Achieve maximum stand off.
 - c. Control movement through the VCP.
 - d. Disperse friendly forces to reduce the number of target available to the suicide bomber.
 - e. Task satellite patrols to provide VCP depth and stand off required to identify and react to a potential threat.
 - f. Minimise the use of static dismounts where possible.
 - g. Position vehicles to give maximum protection to dismounts.
6. The ground and tactical situation will determine the precise layout of a high risk VCP. Fig 2 (page 6) illustrates a half squadron VCP.

DEPLOYMENT OF CR2 WEAPON SYSTEMS

7. The CR2 crew³ will deploy with the following weapon systems in VCPs:

Ser	Wpn	Operator	Range	Role in VCP	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
1	L30 - 120mm	Gunner & Loader/Operator	2000m	Mounted / Observation	Sighting system used for observation
2	L94	Gunner	200m – 1100m	Mounted / Observation	Normally to be used at targets at a distance of 200m or more
3	L37	Loader/Operator	100m – 1100m	Mounted / Observation – local area protection	Can also use SA80 Carbine
4	SA80 Carbine	Commander & Driver	250m	Dismounted	Can also be used from mounted positions

³ Ground, threat and the tactical situation will dictate individual roles within the VCP. The table is to be used as a guide only.

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8. The application of the weapon systems available to the CR2 Tp and crew should be used in consideration with the capabilities, weapon ranges and characteristics of those weapons systems.

9. A tank is used to give local protection to the dismounts using the best combination of the L37, L94 Chain Gun (at a minimum distance of 200m from the VCP only), and SA80K. As a bare minimum there should be 2 personnel on the ground; one to stop and search and one to cover. If there is a requirement for 2 personnel to be used as searchers the Loader/Operator should man the L37 and have his SA80K to hand in the event that a stoppage occurs on the L37. The Gunner should use his weapon system for observation activities. Drivers should also ensure that when dismounted their hatches are closed. Each vehicle is also to be used by the dismounts for immediate blast and small arms protection.

C2 PROCEDURES

10. Overall control of the VCP is conducted by the Squadron Leader/2IC/Troop Leader who must have communications with all dismounts on the ground. The Commander on the ground must have communications with his vehicle crew to ensure a two way flow of information. A troop net should be set up to allow all vehicles to be all informed using the Personal Role Radio⁴.

11. Hand signals must be considered in the event of a communications failure.

12. The use of CR2 in VCPs is not a normal task for CR2 troops. Therefore it is essential that time in the orders process and battle preparation is given to rehearsals for VCPs. Rehearsals should be considered key activity to ensure success of the VCP operation. VCP training must be conducted during pre-deployment training.

13. VCPs should only last for a maximum of 20 – 25 minutes before collapsing and moving on regardless of threat.

ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

14. Consideration should be given to the use of additional equipment not normally provided to CR2 troops; such as caltrops, barbed wire etc when undertaking VCPs as part of a deliberate operation.

CONSIDERATIONS

15. Considerations for the use of CR2 in VCPs:

a. **The use of CR2:**

- (1) To form chicanes, roadblocks, and search bay areas.
- (2) As cover for dismounts.
- (3) Use of sights and weapons (giving elevation and protection to the crew).

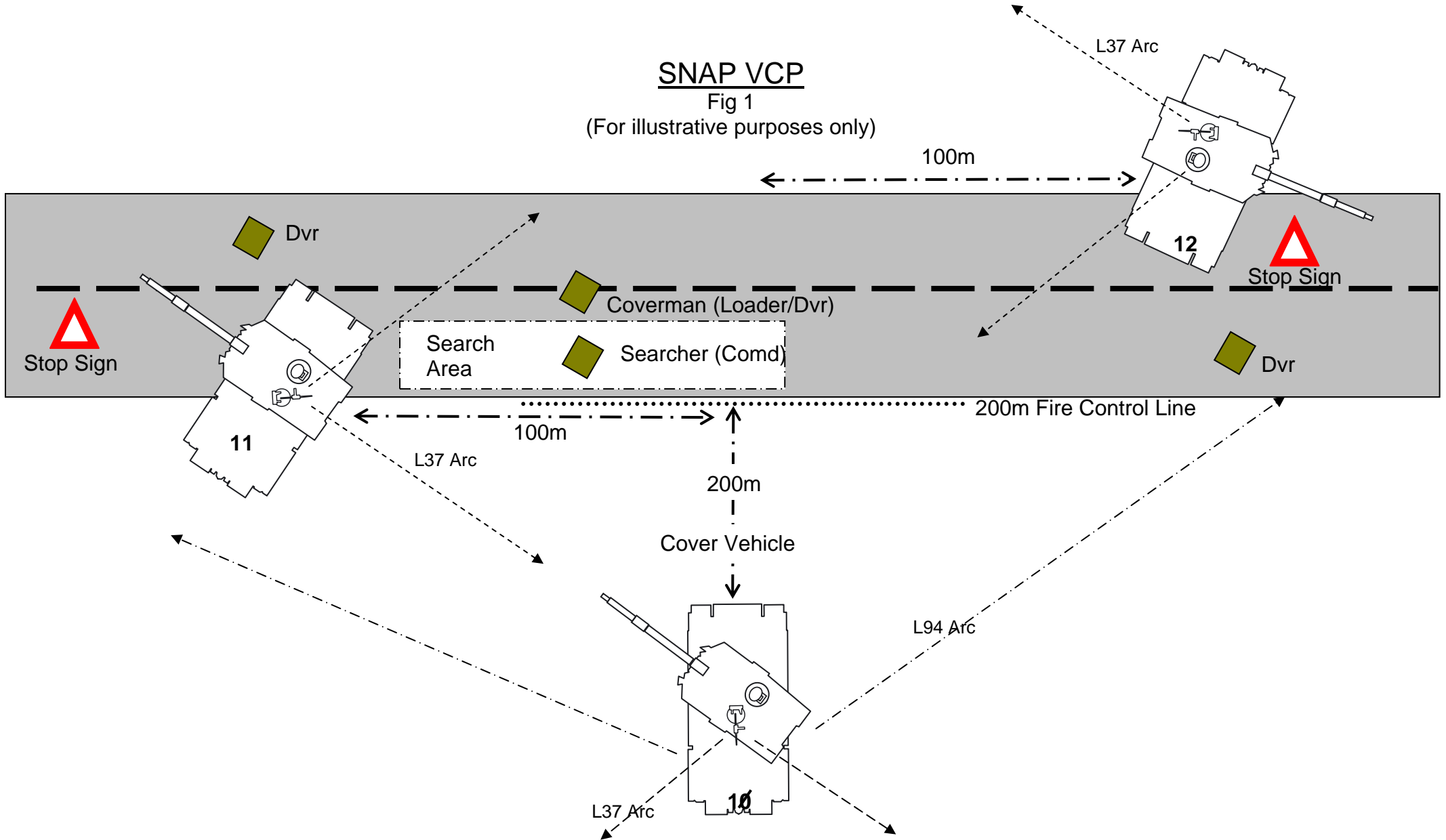
⁴ It is possible for the PRR to be used underneath the ANR headsets.

- (4) Deploying additional snap VCPs away from the target area.
- b. **The use of dismounts:**
- (1) To provide local security.
 - (2) To conduct 5m & 20m checks (these remain applicable despite the use of CR2) and to check the exit route on conclusion of the task.
 - (3) The provision of additional manpower to conduct the task. Where possible other squadron personnel should be considered for use e.g. SSM, SQMS staff. If possible the use of Infantry soldiers should be considered to carry out the stop and search process allowing the CR2 troop to give cover and overwatch.
 - (4) Where possible an interpreter must be considered when conducting VCPs.
- c. **Local Population.** Tanks and armoured vehicles have a tendency to attract the local population. If this occurs consideration should be given to collapsing the VCP to move to another area.
- d. **ECM.** The use of ECM must be considered in the planning stage of any VCP operation. In theatre TTPs will dictate the type of ECM coverage required.
- e. **Rules of Engagement (ROE).** All soldiers need to be practised in the application of current ROE to ensure they respond in an effective and decisive manner, thereby maximising the safety of friendly forces and the civilian population around them.

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SNAP VCP

Fig 1
(For illustrative purposes only)

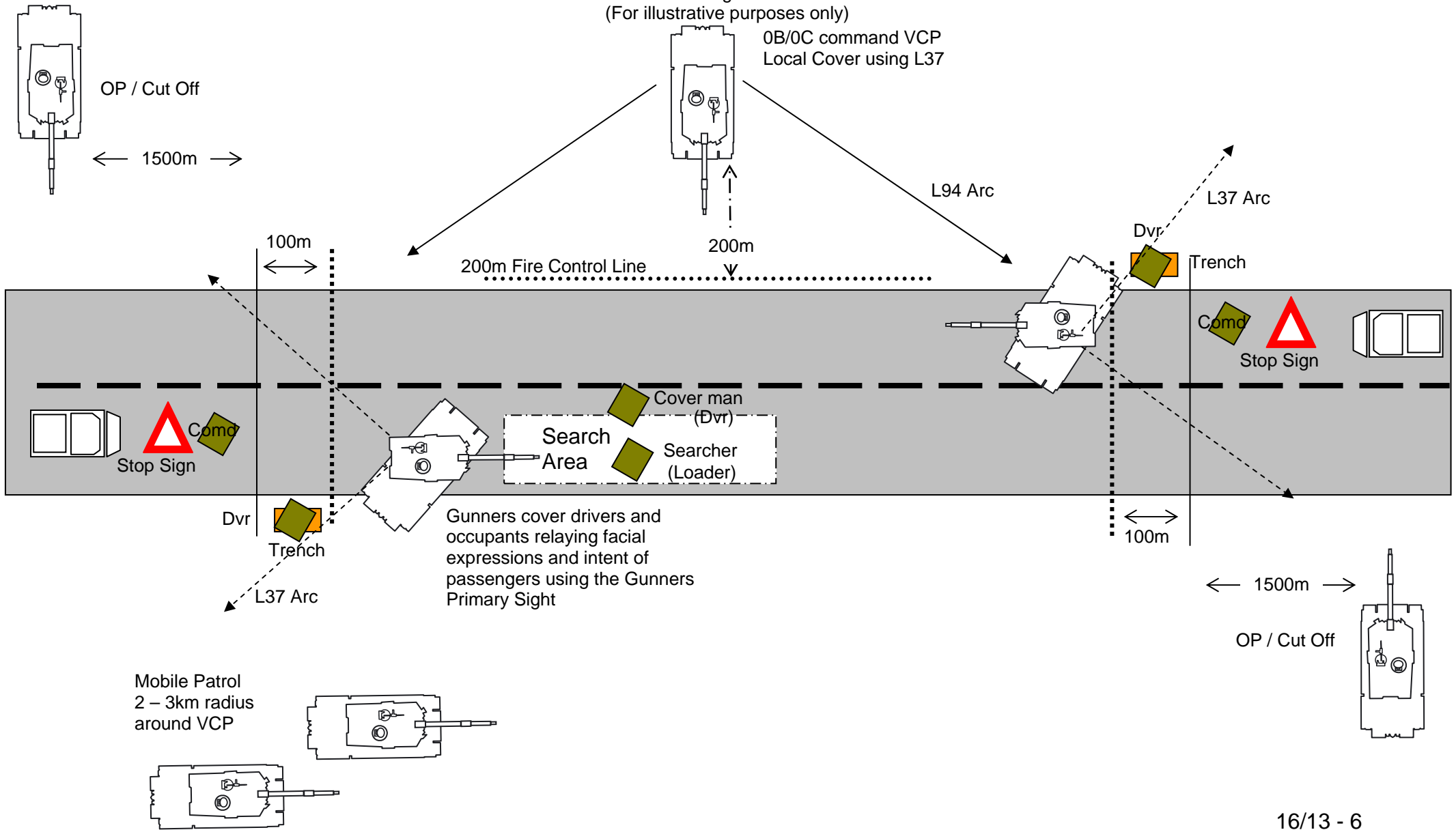


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VCP IN HIGH SVBIED THREAT

Fig 2
(For illustrative purposes only)
OB/OC command VCP
Local Cover using L37



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