CAMOUFLAGE SELF & EQUIPMENT
USMC UNIFORMS OF WAR

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE

CAMOUFLAGE EVOLUTION

1776 to Pre-WWI
Marine Corps Combat Uniforms
Brightly Colored
To recognized Friend from Foe

WWI to Present Day
Marine Corps Combat Uniforms
Subdued Colors
To blend with Combat Environment
OVERVIEW

◇ Understanding Cover & Concealment
  - Cover and Concealment Defined
  - Concealment Principles
  - Concealment Techniques
  - Factors of Recognition

◇ Understanding Camouflage
  - Camouflage Defined
  - Camouflage to fit the Operational Environment
  - Camouflage Skin
  - Camouflage Equipment
  - Camouflage a Position
Please Read Your

Terminal Learning Objectives

And

Enabling Learning Objectives
QUESTIONS
COVER & CONCEALMENT

○ **Cover:**
  - Anything man-made or natural that provides protection from enemy fire.

○ **Concealment:**
  - Anything man-made or natural that hides you from enemy observation.

MCWP 3-11.3, Para 4001
CONCEALMENT PRINCIPLES

- Concealment Principles:
  - Remain motionless while observing. Anything in motion attracts the eye.
  - Use all available concealment.
  - Observe from the prone position (it offers a low silhouette and makes detection by the enemy difficult.)
Concealment Principles (Continued):

- Blend with the background because contrasting colors are noticeable.
- Remain in the shade because moving shadows attract attention.
- Expose nothing that reflects light.
Concealment Principles (Continued):

- Distort or change the regular outline of objects. Most military objects have distinctive shapes that make obvious shadows and silhouettes.
- Avoid the skyline. Figures on the skyline can be seen from great distances and are easily identified by their outlines.
CONCEALMENT TECHNIQUES

- Concealment Techniques:
  - When observing, look around an object's side if possible.
  - If you must look/fire over the top of concealment or cover, the outline of the head or helmet should be distorted.
  - Upon the approach of an airplane, takes a prone position, turns face-down, and remains motionless. If surprised by an airplane, remain in place and do not look up.

MCWP 3-11.3, Para 4001
Concealment Techniques (Continued):

- Cover exposed body parts such as the face, back of the neck, and hands with grease paint, mud or other materials to reduce sun reflection.
- Camouflage for equipment can be improvised from garnishing or sandbags to prevent sun reflection.
Concealment Techniques (Continued):

- In snowy terrain, white over-garments are worn.
- The helmet cover outline should be distorted.
FACTORS OF RECOGNITION

- Camouflage Factors which could give away your position are as follows:
  
  - **Shape**  – Outline of object
  - **Shadow**  – Reflection of object
  - **Color**  – Background contrast
  - **Noise**  – Sound
  - **Texture**  – Reflecting light
  - **Position**  – Camouflage site
  - **Movement**  – Against background
QUESTIONS
**Camouflage Defined**

- **Camouflage:**
  - Is the use of concealment and disguise to minimize the possibility of detection and/or identification of troops, material, equipment, and installations.
  - The purpose of camouflage is to provide concealment of military objects from enemy observation.
Camouflage to fit the Operational Environment

- Operational Environment Camouflage:
  - Successful operational environment camouflage is the ability to recognize and take advantage of all forms of natural and artificial debris, vegetation and soil in order to match the operational terrain’s dominant colors and patterns.
Skin Camouflage:

- Exposed skin reflects light and attracts the enemy's attention. Even very dark skin will reflect light because of its natural oil.
- Shiny areas (forehead, cheekbones, nose, and chin) are painted with a dark color. Shadow areas (around the eyes, under the nose, and under the chin) are painted with a light color.
- Exposed skin on the back of the neck and hands is painted with two colors in an irregular pattern.
Skin Camouflage (Cont.):

- When standard issue face paint sticks are not available, burnt cork, charcoal or lamp black can be used to tone down exposed areas of skin.
- Mud is used only in an emergency because it changes color as it dries and may peel off, leaving the skin exposed. Since mud may contain harmful bacteria, mud should be washed off as soon as possible.

MCWP 3-11.3, Para 4002
Skin Camouflage (Cont.):

- The three standard methods of applying camouflage to exposed areas of skin are:

  - Splotching
  - Stripping
  - Splotching & Stripping

MCWP 3-11.3, Para 4002
Equipment Camouflage:

- Any equipment that reflects light should be covered with a non-reflective material that aids in the concealment of the weapon (for example, black electrical tape or mud).

- The straight line of the rifle or other infantry weapons may be very conspicuous to an enemy observer. The barrel and hand guard should be wrapped with strips of contrasting colored cloth or tape to break the regular outline. Mud or dirt dulls any reflecting surface.

  DO NOT SACRIFICE FUNCTION

MCWP 3-11.3, Para 4002
Equipment Camouflage (Continued):

- The **helmet** is camouflaged by breaking up its shape, smooth surface, and shadow.

- Use of a **helmet cover** works best. In the absence of a helmet cover, mud can be irregularly blotched on the helmet to disguise its form and dull the surface. A helmet cover may be improvised from irregularly colored cloth or burlap to blend with the background. Foliage can be draped but should not stick up like plumes.

MCWP 3-11.3, Para 4002
CAMOUFLAGE POSITION

- **Position Camouflage:**
  - When selecting a defensive position to camouflage, select the best available site that will provide protection against enemy fire (direct or in-direct) while simultaneously establishing un-obstructed sectors of fire view.
Camouflage Nets:

- Lightweight Camouflage Screen System (LCSS) Nets are a proven effective way to rapidly camouflage a position from overhead observation. LCSS is available through the Navy supply system in desert, woodland and arctic colors.
**Camouflage Vegetation:**

- Use of branches and vines to temporarily conceal vehicles, equipment, and personnel are an excellent means to camouflage a position.

- However, foliage requires careful maintenance to keep the material fresh and in good condition. If branches are not placed in their proper growing positions, they may reveal friendly positions to enemy observers. Cutting large amounts of branches can also reveal friendly positions, so cut all vegetation away from target areas.
CAMOUFLAGE POSITION

- Don’t Give Away Your Position!!!
QUESTIONS
SUMMARY

Understanding Cover & Concealment
- Cover and Concealment Defined
- Concealment Principles
- Concealment Techniques

Understanding Camouflage
- Camouflage Defined
- Camouflage to fit the Operational Environment
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- Camouflage Equipment
- Camouflage a Position
BACKUP SLIDES
DEAR DIARY

I LIKE TOTALLY SMOKED THIS TERRORIST TODAY