PUBLIC ORDER MANAGEMENT

Foot Tactics
Public Order Management is reliant on a number of units being able to work together as one cohesive body, in the framework of a complex, coordinated manoeuvres and a plan. For this purpose, all FPUs need to be able to use the same foot tactics.

This module outlines the main foot tactics to be used by UN FPUs; these include the main methods of moving a formed body of officers in various scenarios, from route lining to full Public Order Management during serious disorder.

The FPU officer needs to be aware of the formations, the words of command and the fact that they will be expected to move as a unit. The section commanders need to be familiar with the tactics and the words of command so that they can deploy their sub unit quickly and efficiently, and the FPU Commander must be able to select the appropriate tactic for the situation as it unfolds before them. He must be as well fully proficient in the use of the words of command.

Aim

To apply the Foot Tactics used during Public Order Management.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this module the participants will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the Basic foot tactics (Division of the unit, March, Double & general Progression)
2. Demonstrate the various types of Cordon
3. Demonstrate the Clearing Wave
4. Demonstrate the Offensive & Defensive movements

Training sequence

The material in this module is designed to be delivered over four 40 minute classroom based theory lessons, followed by 21 hours & 20 minutes of practice, which should include at least one hour for assessment. This is on the assumption that the students have received no previous training in this subject.

Duration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Session time</th>
<th>Lecture/Presentation</th>
<th>Question/Assessment</th>
<th>Session Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 hours</td>
<td>4 x 40 mins</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>21 hours 20 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Options</td>
<td>Mission Specific</td>
<td>Optional film</td>
<td>Optional activity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Methodology

This module contains four PowerPoint theory presentations to explain and show the various techniques, however, the majority of this module should be taught in a practical manner using the format:

- Explanation by the instructor
- Demonstration by the instructor
- Imitation by the students (with instructor correcting where necessary)
- Practice by the students until the technique is perfected

At the end of the final stage the instructor will be able to assess if the student is competent in the technique, having carried out continuous assessment throughout the preceding lessons.

The instructor should inform participants of the content, format and timing. Knowing what to expect, participants can improve their ability to focus on the subject and benefit better from the session.

- Basic foot tactics (40 minute classroom lesson) = lesson 1
- Cordons (40 minute classroom lesson) = lesson 2
- Clearing Waves (40 minute classroom lesson) = lesson 3
- Offensive/defensive movements (40 minute classroom lesson) = lesson 4
- Practice (21 hours practical lessons) = lesson 5

The practice should be carried out over a number of days and the instructors should be aware that the physically demanding nature of deploying the FPU in Public Order Management techniques must be carefully managed so that the students do not get fatigued as this is likely to lead to injury.

A number of the practical periods should be conducted in the form of exercises which should be carried out in as realistic situation as possible, with the use of other officers acting as ‘Mob crowd’.

When training a full FPU, it is recommended that this module is taught to individual Platoons and then additional practice time is given to bring the whole FPU together for co-ordinated training.

Instructors are encouraged to add practical examples and mission specific information related to the specific deployment of participants, if known.
Instructor Profile

This module is best presented by an instructor who has practical experience in Public Order Management in peacekeeping operations and who could share his/her experience with the group. This instructor must be practiced and skilled to be able to demonstrate the technique correctly. If there is more than one instructor, at least one should have practical experience as Public Order Management trainer in either domestic policing or a peacekeeping mission.

Instructor Preparations

Required Readings
- DPKO Policy on Formed Police Units in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations
- FPU Training Handbook
- Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials
- Directive on the Use of Force and respective SOPs

General Preparations

Equipment:
1. Computer and PowerPoint slides for lessons 1 - 4
2. Projector and Screen for lessons 1 - 4
3. Full public Order management equipment for each officer for the practical section of the training.

Training Area:
The initial lesson should be carried out in the classroom. However, initially, subsequent lessons will need a large open area where students can work in buddy teams and as an FPU section and platoon. Once the basic tactics have been grasped by the students, the FPU will need to practice their tactics in a more urban situation. For this purpose, a ‘ghost town’ or public order village it ideal.
Lesson 1 – Basic foot tactics (Theory)

Contents:

BASIC FOOT FORMATIONS

PUBLIC ORDER MANAGEMENT

UN Peacekeeping PDT Standards for Formed police Units, 1st edition 2015

Slide 1

Contents

• Aim
• Learning outcomes
• Tactical considerations
• Unit formations (modular organization)
• Embarking and disembarking
• Types of march
• Route lining
• Progression
• Summary

Slide 2
Aim

To introduce the FPU to the basic foot formations to be used during Public Order Management.

Slide 3

Learning outcomes

At the end of this module, the students will be able to:

• Demonstrate basic unit formations
• Demonstrate embarking and disembarking
• Demonstrate the 3 types of march
• Demonstrate street lining
• Demonstrate progression in public order situations

Slide 4

The way a unit will present itself to the crowd when it deploys to the scene of a public order event, is essential since it represents the image the units will project. The unit will want to project a reassuring or a powerful image but in any case, it will have to be perceived as very professional. The choice of the equipment the FPU will be wearing as they deploy is likely to set the mindset of the crowd. On the first hand, a unit wearing the full gear will flag a message of readiness to resort to force very quickly and it may prompt the demonstrators to escalate the tensions. On the other hand, when the FPU appears in a non-hostile deployment not displaying any visible crowd control gears, it projects a more benevolent attitude. It must however be reversible, both ways, and all crowd control gears have to be easily accessible and the unit trained to equip very quickly and under the pressure.

The deployment itself, in order to project an image of professionalism and strength
has to match a few specific requirements:

- The units will deploy in a very ordered manner, quickly but not in a hasted fashion
- The unit will deploy in silent with all officers wearing the same equipment and uniforms.

- All officers will know, prior their deployment where to set up and what they are expected to do and what are the appropriate reactions as contingencies.

- The officers will not engage with the crowd in any way, (don’t speak, smile and joke with the crowd) and restrain from any provocative attitude, (laughs, inappropriate gestures...) and the interaction with demonstrators, if any, has to be polite, impersonal and firm.

Officers will not display weapons except in case of imminent deadly threat and even then, it is preferable to have the weapons holders standing discretely to the rear of the deployment, (like marksmen).

- The unit has to be perceived as strong, professional, resilient, passionless and imperturbable. Stress can easily communicate from officers to the crowd and conversely what a reserved attitude will prevent to happen.

- The orders issued by the commanding officers should be brief and clear in order to be executed swiftly and without hesitations by the operators. The level of command of the basic foot manoeuvres is likely to convey the impression of professionalism and demonstrators are less likely to mess up with a unit perceived as strong and professional. Conversely, a unit perceived by the crowd as having limited command of the basic foot manoeuvres and a lousy leadership, is likely to be the one sustaining most of the violence since it would be perceived as “weaker”.

Tactical considerations

• Missions of the unit
• Modular organization
• Equipment of the unit
• Environment
• Composition, intent, size, position and attitude of the crowd
• Decision making process and tactical choice
Unit formations

- Different formations must be considered depending of the situation.

- The choice will depend on:
  - The crowd (hostile or not),
  - The crowd in contact or not,
  - The uses of projectiles or not.

Slide 6

The Commander needs to be able to split the unit down into sub units for various reasons; to cover a larger area, to deal with small or narrow streets, to form filter cordons, or to work with vehicles are a few. The method is simple with the commands being very similar. When the unit splits, the sub units move to the side to form a distinctive gap between each of them.

Unit in block formation

Slides 7 to 11

The slides 7 to 11 illustrate the different formations of an FPU deployed for a crowd control operation, translating the concept of the modular organization.

The commander will choose his lay out according to the terrain and environment (need to cover a wide place), the attitude of the crowd and the mission. The unit can easily go from one formation to another one without any difficulty just to respond to an operational situation. His lay out will also depend on the manpower deployed on
The role of each team member has to be defined clearly and known by all police officers deployed for a mission.

Please refer to the lesson “Organization of an FPU” to describe the importance of the team leader role.
To split the unit

EXAMPLE OF ORDER:
- Unit to split into platoons (or other formations)
- From the left to the right (or opposite, or from the centre to the sides…)
- Gap of “x” metres between the platoons
- Report as soon as ready = cautionary order
- The platoon commanders announce “ready”
- Go = executive order

This order can be used for the other formations (sections, teams or buddy teams)

To split the unit (example)

Slides 14 to 16
Slide 14 presents the order in order to split the unit.

Slides 15 and 16 show example of formations adopted according to the situation and the terrain.

**To reform the unit**

- Platoons (or other formations) to reform into unit (or other formations)
- From the left to the right (or opposite, or from the sides to the centre…)
- Gap of “x” metres between the platoons/or others if necessary
- Report as soon as ready = cautionary order
- The platoon commanders announce “ready”
- Go = executive order

This order can be used for the other formations (sections, teams or buddy teams)

Slide 17

Slide 17 presents the order in order to reform the unit.

Reforming the unit is very similar; when the command ‘Go’ is given, the sub units move together to close the gap which was formed when they split.

**Embarking/disembarking**

General considerations
- The officers disembark if their safety is not threatened.
- Situation analysis: police equipment, environment, exit of the area, number of demonstrators, behaviour, armed or not, the opportunity to disembark…
- Decide and communicate a strategy before disembarking
- Consider the type of the police vehicle: lateral doors, back door, grills, bumpers, armoured vehicle or not
- Adapt the positioning of the police officers inside the car according to their tasks

Slides 18 and 19

Officers will invariably arrive at the scene of an operation or public order incident in vehicles; they need to be aware of the correct method of embarking and disembarking from transport. It is appreciated that the types of transport used by
FPUs will vary, and the Instructors should ensure that the training for this element is carried out on the type of vehicles that will be used on their deployment in mission.

On arrival at the scene, the unit commander will give the appropriate command, dependant on the size of the unit and the tactical formation that is appropriate to the situation. It may be necessary to deploy immediately into a defensive cordon with the shields and batons at the ready position if it is an emergency situation. However, in most cases, the officers will be able to deploy and take formation prior to any hostile action from the crowd.

The Commander will decide on how many files are required and then announce “Ready to disembark in two files” (for example). He will then indicate which side the shield will deploy on (normally the side facing the crowd) and any other administrative instructions with regard to helmets, gas masks, shields and batons. For example “Shields on the left in standby position, batons at belt on the right, "Report as ready". The unit will then make any necessary adjustments (placing helmets on for example) and state “Ready”. The executive command will be “Go” at which point the unit will file off the vehicle in an orderly manner and form up as instructed next to the vehicle.

It is important that the unit has embarked in the correct order on the bus to enable then to deploy out in their unit order. This will be explained during the practical training phase when the instructors will be able to physically place the unit in the appropriate seats of the vehicle. It will be dependent on the types of vehicle used by the FPU. Therefore, it is not possible to detail all the different potential formations in this guidance.

To re-embark following deployment the Commander will march the unit to their vehicle and give the command “Ready to embark”. The officers commanding the sub elements will answer “Ready” and the unit will move onto the vehicle in an orderly fashion, taking the appropriate seat so that they can disembark in the correct order if necessary.
**Embarking/disembarking**

- Unit ready to disembark in X files…
- Shields file on the right/left, shields in stand by position, batons file on the right/left, batons at belt
- Report as soon as ready
- The platoons announce “Ready”
- Go

According to the situation, the unit can de-bus and take position directly in teams, fully equipped or not.

To reach the position, the unit commander can order to move at the double.

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**Slide 20**

Slide 20 illustrates the framework to order the embarking or the disembarking of the unit.

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1- **Unit disembarks, no hostile situation**

**Key points:**

- Situation analysis
- Teams disembark orderly but without any equipment
- No emergency if no hostile crowd.
- Unit commander decides to take place without any protection.
- This decision depends on the demonstration (peaceful demonstration, children present, cultural event...).
1- Unit disembarks, no hostile situation

Slides 21 to 27

Slides 21 – 27 are a series of animated slides which illustrate different options (not exhaustive) for disembarking according to the situation (presence of demonstrators, threat, time...), the PowerPoint version of the presentation on the resource disc must be used for this section of the lesson.

To advance/take a new position

- According to the objective of the unit and the emergency of the situation, the FPU commander may order to the unit to advance or take a new position
- The FPU commander can decide to move:
  - Marching normally (with or without cadence)
  - Marching in double time (double march)
  - Marching dynamically (speed for charge or bound)

Slides 28

According to the mission and the emergency of the situation, the FPU commander may decide to march forward at a normal pace, march at the double or march dynamically. Appropriate orders have to follow (see lesson on the framework orders).
March and halt

- The unit is deployed in one block. All the officers are in an active guard position.
- The command “Ready to go” is given, the shield holders hit the shields, the officers join the feet and shout “Ready”.
- Impress the crowd by acting in a disciplined manner.
- Fix the limit and when reached, stop the unit with the command “Halt”.

Slide 29

The unit is formed up ready to move, the officers are in the active guard position awaiting an order. The command ‘Ready to go’ is given, at which point the shield holders strike their shields with their baton to indicate readiness and at the same time the officers come to the position of attention and shout ‘Ready’.

This show of unity and discipline has a psychological effect and will often impress a passive crowd and make them think hard about how they will react to such a unit.

The commander will either fix a limit, for example ‘To the next street light’ or ‘100 metres forward’ or may just give the executive command ‘Go’. The unit will then march forward, at a steady rate, keeping a straight line to the objective. When they reach the objective the Commander will order ‘Halt’

March at the double

- Same situation as previously
- Key points:
  - Identify the objective,
  - do not sprint just a progressive jog
  - discipline and shouts to impress the crowd,
  - Front line stops and rear line takes alignment behind

Slide 30

The Double march is not a run; in Public Order Management situations with all the
protective equipment being carried, it is easy for officers to become tired or dehydrated if they carry out too much physical exercise. Physically demanding manoeuvres should be kept to a minimum.

The Commander can order a double march from standing if necessary. The order will then be “At the double…Go”. The double march can be decided from the initial position, after a march or in preparation of the charge.

Once the unit arrives at its objective, the command ‘halt’ is given and the rear rank aligns itself with the front rank, ensuring that they are deployed in a straight line. The front rank will adjust its deployment to the width of the cordon. It may require spreading out the cordon, with more space left between buddy teams. It may also be the opposite, in case the street would be narrower. If there isn’t enough space for the buddy teams, teams on the right and on the left will stand behind the rest of the cordon, and can be used as a reinforcement if need be. It implies for the front row to remain aware of the situation and adjust to the new environment and its constraints. Leaving too much space between two buddy teams may jeopardize the all cordon.

**Dynamic march**

- Speed is crucial when the decision is taken to execute an offensive or defensive manoeuvre
- **Key points:**
  - Identify the objective
  - Discipline and shouts to impress the crowd
  - Alignment even during the dynamic movement and at the end of the movement
  - Need for rapid action

The dynamic march is used during all offensive movements. It can also be used when the unit breaks contact and some elements reposition for embarking.

The dynamic march is used in case of necessary urgent manoeuvre and when there is a need to impress demonstrators coming to close from the contact line (crowd putting pressure on the unit).
Once the unit is in a Public Order Management situation, there will be a need to move forward as a formed unit, ready to protect itself when necessary. The need to march into locations is only appropriate when the crowd are passive and there is no danger or according to legal requirements or orders, (in case for instance, it is necessary to expand a protected area…).

The unit will need to progress in order to secure an area, which may or may not contain a crowd, who may be passive or hostile.

The progression can be conducted in relay or by over bounding. The commander will deploy platoons or sub units as appropriate to the environment and they will move in the same manner as individuals do in tactical progression. The speed of movement will depend on the reaction of the crowd. Where there is just a need to move over ground to clear and secure it, the unit can progress at a steady pace, whilst at the same time, being ready for any hostile reaction.

The Communication between the teams is essential. As soon as a place has been checked and cleared, the unit commander must announce at the radio, sector “X” clear. The unit commander is in charge of the coordination of the platoons, sections and teams.
Street lining

Only in presence of a peaceful crowd and following two objectives.
- Keep a specific route clear of pedestrians and traffic
- ensure the protection of VIPs on a route

Slide 33

Street lining is a tactic that can only be employed when dealing with a passive crowd; it will normally be carried out during VIP visits to a location where roads will need to be kept free of traffic and pedestrians, to allow the VIPs convoy clear movement through their route. It is also used as part of the protection of VIPs, as the route lining officers will also have a security role and will be looking at the gathered crowd to identify any potential threats.

Street lining

Organisation

- Facing the crowd
- Facing the official convoy
- Facing the crowd and the official convoy

Slide 34

Street lining is normally deployed in three methods:

**Facing the crowd** - this is the most appropriate as the officers can see the crowd and can react to any threat as it appears. They should not watch the convoy as it
passes but concentrate on what their section of the crowd is doing.

**Facing the official convoy** – this is only used when the unit is providing a guard of honour. It has limited protective value as the officers will not be able to react to anything in their vicinity as the crowd will be behind them and they will not see it.

**Facing the crowd and the official convoy** – this combines the two techniques, the Guard of Honour face the convoy while other officers are deployed in between to watch the crowd.

**It is also possible to employ a double line of officers one to face the crowd and one to face the convoy from the rear of the crowd.** This is appropriate where the crowd lining the street is in large number and the officers at the front may not be able to see what is happening at the rear of the crowd.

Where possible some form of temporary barrier should be employed to keep the crowd from moving into the roadway. The officers should stand in front of this barrier to monitor anybody who tries to get over it.

This technique should be used in conjunction with counter snipers and observers situated on rooftops and other raised locations, who can monitor the crowd and any possible locations where a sniper may deploy.

### Street lining

![Police officers in 2 files, walking in the same direction](image)

*Slide 35*

Officers are normally deployed in their units marching in double file. They deploy to their positions as they arrive at them.
The distance in between officers will have been worked according to the location, size of the crowd and potential threats. This should be indicated in the Operation Order and the unit commander will instruct and deploy the unit accordingly.

**Summary**

- Unit formations (modular organization)
- Embarking and disembarking
- Types of march
- Progression
- Route lining

The officers should be given a summary of the key points of the lesson before being asked if they have any questions.
QUESTIONS

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Slide 38
Lesson 2 – Cordon

Contents:

CORDONS

PUBLIC ORDER MANAGEMENT

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Slide 1

Contents

• Aim
• Learning outcomes
• Tactical considerations
• Set up a cordon
• Filter cordon
• Blocking cordon
• Directional cordon
• Summary

Slide 2
Aim

To introduce the FPU to Cordons used during Public Order Management.

Slide 3

Learning outcomes

On completion of this module the participants will be able to:

- Demonstrate a Filter cordon
- Demonstrate a Blocking Cordon
- Demonstrate a Directional Cordon

Slide 4

Cordon objectives

- Filter cordons
  - Monitor a crowd and allow restricted movement
- Blocking cordons
  - Restrict access and secure a sterile area
- Directional cordons
  - Funnel or channel crowd in a certain direction
There are three types of cordon with specific roles. The Unit Commander will decide according to his mission and to the following operational needs which to adopt.

**Filter Cordons**: These are employed to allow a certain group of people through into a restricted area. It may be to attend a meeting where there is a large crowd who will not be allowed into the building, or it could be to allow residents back to their accommodation during a public order situation, where a crowd has gathered nearby to protest. The filter cordon may be also established in order to reduce the speed of flow of a crowd and be able to control the demonstrators.

**Blocking Cordons**: This tactic is used to restrict access to a specific area. The unit will block the road and no access will be allowed. These are used in a Public Order situation to clear an area and keep it secure having regained it from the control of a hostile crowd. It can also be used following serious disorder to protect a crime scene.

**Directional Cordons**: These are used to direct a crowd in a certain way, for example football supporters leaving a stadium may be directed in a certain direction towards their transport or away from a local shopping area. It can be used to direct supporters from a political rally away from a hostile crowd of the opposing party and keep them separate. It can also be used to channel or funnel a crowd so that they are reduced in size and can be monitored by the officers in the cordon.

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**Tactical considerations**

- Mission of the unit
- Legal aspect and use of force
- Composition of the unit (different elements = contact, reserve, support, rear safety, drivers and vehicles)
- Equipment and strength of the unit
- Size, intent, attitude, position and composition of the crowd
- Environment
- Choice of layout and position of the shields or batons in the cordon is applicable to all cordons (shields or batons holders at front, helmets and batons at belt or police officers fully protected...)

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Tactical considerations
- To set up a cordon, shields on the front line
- Left limit……, right limit……
- From the left to the right (cautionary order)
- Go (executive order)

According to the situation, only one line can be set up.
The unit commander decides also of the equipment.

Slide 7
Slide 7 represents the order framework in order to set up a cordon.
Please refer also to the lesson on Crowd control orders “short orders”.

Set up a cordon

Peaceful demonstrators
The order to set up a cordon will specify the type of cordon, for example, “To set up a blocking cordon, shields at the front, left limit housing line 10 metres South of the end of Wood Street right limit 10 meters North of the end of Wood Street” “From the left to the right” “Go”

**Set up a cordon**

**Hostile demonstrators**

Slide 24
In case of hostile crowd, the unit commander will decide on appropriate equipment and march forward for the situation. In this case, the teams are taking position from the left to the right using the previous team as a protection.

**Set up a cordon**

**Demonstrators using projectiles**

**2 cases**
Slides 36 to 47

Slides 36 to 47 illustrate one method to set up a cordon in case of presence of an aggressive crowd. The unit debussed in teams, shields in ready position. The teams follow each other, under the protection of the team placed at the front.

In this case, the teams reach first the junction/point to reach, before deploying in a blocking cordon.

The first team takes position at the nearest corner. Each team advances and benefits from the protection of the preceding team. The choice is made after the evaluation of the situation by the commander.

Slides 48 to 56
Slide 57 to 58

Slide 56 and 57 show a filter cordon in place using a control element unit. Observers are placed in front of the cordon to monitor the crowd. The contact element forms the cordon and allows a small break in the cordon behind which there is a control element that will check the members of the public as they come through the filter. The reserve element is available to be used if necessary and the back safety element keeps the rear of the unit protected, as well as securing the area. The Commander will be situated near the filter. Vehicles can be employed to assist in blocking roads to create filter cordons.

Blocking Cordon

Tactical Principles:
The cordon should give the impression of:
- strength
- power
- cohesion

Slide 59

Blocking Cordons are normally designed to be a show of strength; the unit is restricting access to an area or is securing it following public disorder. The unit
needs to give the impression of strength, power and cohesion to deter the crowd from attempting to attack the unit and retake the area.

Slide 60

Slide 60 illustrates the blocking cordon. As mentioned in the tactical considerations, the unit commander has the choice for composing his contact element (batons or shields on the first line) according to the attitude of the crowd.

**Directional cordon**

**Aim:**
To manage the flow and maintain the crowd on a determined route

- **Layout 1:** carried out with an axis in front of a main door.
- **Layout 2:** extend a diagonal across the road

Slide 61

Directional Cordons are used to direct, funnel or channel people in a certain direction. The scenarios shown here shows a unit dealing with spectators exiting a venue in two groups, where they need to be kept separate. The first group is sent in one direction. The unit then realigns around the exit, to allow the second group to exit in the opposite direction.
There are two distinct methods; using a cordon line taking its access from the doorway or exit and extending diagonally across the road to the far building line. The second method has a reserve element available behind the main element that is placed directly across the roadway from building line to building line. Although not illustrated in this section, the directional cordon can also be used to funnel a crowd into a narrow line or in conjunction with another unit, forming a filter cordon whereby a crowd can be monitored and certain element removed to be searched or arrested.

Slides 62 and 63 illustrate the two methods of deploying a unit at a directional cordon, the dotted lines show how they realign when the crowd profile changes.
This slide illustrates the method of deploying a unit at a directional cordon. The unit extends a diagonal across the road.

**Summary**

- Tactical considerations
- Set up a cordon
- Filter cordon
- Blocking cordon
- Directional cordon

The officers should be given a summary of the key points of the lesson before being asked if they have any questions.
QUESTIONS

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Slide 66
Lesson 3 – Clearing wave

Contents:

- Aim
- Learning Outcomes
- Tactical principles
- Key points
- The clearing wave, method and orders
- Summary

Slide 1

Slide 2
Aim

To introduce the FPU to clearing waves used during Public Order Management.

Slide 3

Learning outcomes

On completion of this module the participants will be able to:

• Demonstrate the clearing wave

Slide 4

Tactical considerations

• Mission of the unit = choice of the tactic
• Size, intent, attitude, composition and position of the crowd
• Equipment of the unit according to the crowd attitude = misuse of force
• Close contact with the crowd (consider first as an invitation to leave a place)
• Coordination between the officers (alignment is important)
• Reserve element
Slide 5

The purpose is to clear a place while pushing back the demonstrators without the aggressive impact of an offensive manoeuvre.

The tactic aims to invite people to leave an area that has to be emptied or made free.

The front row of officers may, however, be very close to the crowd and so, should be exceptionally vigilant and ensure that they are watching the crowd for any adverse reaction and potential threat.

Keeping the alignment and communication with the unit commander are key to the manoeuvre and if the crowd pushes back with too much pressure, then another tactic must be used, otherwise the unit may be overwhelmed.

Dependant on the nature of the crowd, batons may be in the belt, at the chest or at the ready position. Shield holders must be ready to take over the front line if projectiles are thrown or the crowd becomes overly aggressive. A reserve element accompanies the clearing wave in support, in case of the need to adopt another tactic or make arrests.

The tactic has to be abandoned as soon as the attitude and the intent of the crowd change. In the case of such an attack, the reaction of the unit will change and the unit commander can use force respecting the principles of self-defence.

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**Clearing wave**

The clearing wave is a foot maneuver used by a unit while being in direct contact with demonstrators, in order to push away a crowd whether calm, hostile or aggressive.

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Slide 6

There are some common features between the cordons and the clearing waves. The clearing wave is a foot manoeuvre used by a unit in direct contact with a crowd, in order to move them in a certain direction away from the police line. It can be used on a passive, hostile or aggressive crowd although the tactics used by the officers will
be adjusted accordingly.

It allows the crowd to leave the scene without confrontation. However, the unit commander must stop the manoeuvre if the crowd resists, as it will then not achieve its aim. It is always advisable to keep a reserve element ready to be deployed in support.

Key points

- Contact between the officers on the contact line
- Keep the alignment
- Available reserve
- Report all suspicious behavior
- Reversible lay out
- Shields and other crowd control gears kept immediately available.

Slide 7

The key points for officers to remember are listed in slide 7. Communication between the team is key, ensuring that any threats are seen and communicated, alignment must be kept or the line will start to come apart allowing the crowd to get between officers. The reserve must be available to deploy in support if necessary. The lines must be able to reverse, so that the shields holders take over from the batons holders or vice versa. Even with a passive crowd, all equipment must be readily available to put on if it becomes necessary.
Clearing wave: method and orders
- “For a clearing wave of X meters” or “For a clearing wave to the next cross-road”
3 solutions:
- Shields and batons on the same line (batons holders go through the shields line from the right)
- Batons on the front line
- Shields on the front line
- Take the position
- Go
- Unit ready to go (cautionary)
- Go (executive)
- To stop “Halt”
The order will depend on the crowd attitude: passive, hostile or aggressive

Slide 8
The method of giving the command will depend on the state of the crowd and other factors at the scene. However the process should be in the following sequence:
The variations are as stated, shields in the front row, batons in the front row or one row with shields and batons between each other.

Instructors note: Slides 9 - 19 are a series of animated slides which illustrate the different lay outs in case of clearing weave. The PowerPoint version of the presentation on the resource disc must be used for this section of the lesson.
Summary

- Tactical principles
- Key points
- The clearing wave, method and orders

The officers should be given a summary of the key points of the lesson before being asked if they have any questions.

QUESTIONS
Lesson 4 – The Offensive/defensive movements

Contents:

OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE MOVEMENTS

PUBLIC ORDER MANAGEMENT
UN Peacekeeping PDT Standards for Formed police Units, 1st edition 2015

Slide 1

Contents

• Aim
• Learning outcomes
• Tactical considerations
• Offensive movements
  - The charge
  - The bound
  - The offensive bound
• Defensive movements
  - The withdrawal
  - The defensive bound
• Summary

Slide 2
Aim

- To introduce and familiarize the trainees with the basic offensive and defensive movements used by a crowd control unit during public order operations

Learning outcomes

On completion of this module, the students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the basic offensive and defensive movements in crowd control operations

The charge

- The charge is a manoeuvre used by an unit in order to disperse a crowd and to clear an occupied area with the appropriate use of force.
- This manoeuvre is designed to disperse the crowd.
- Either a full unit or one of the platoons can carry out the charge.
- CS gas launchers can support the foot manoeuvre.
Slide 5

The Charge is designed for use when dispersing a crowd which is not complying from an area, resorting to the appropriate level of force and a warning is normally given to the crowd. The manoeuvre is not meant to capture the crowd it is to push them away from the area that the commanding officer wants to regain control of. However, any that purposely remain or commit violence toward the police can be arrested by arrest teams who will either carry on the regular arrest procedure or evacuate people on the side of the demonstration in the case of pass-buyers, caught in the middle of the manoeuvre.

A Charge can be executed by the whole FPU or a sub unit, although to be effective a Platoon is probably the smallest sub unit that would be used. This will also depend on the number of the people making up the crowd. To support the manoeuvre, CS Gas can be fired into the crowd as this will start the dispersal effect prior to the officers commencing their charge. The best way to proceed is to send tear gas canisters on the area the unit commander wants to regain in order to start pushing the demonstrators out and accompany this movement by carrying on the use of tear gas in the direction toward where the commanding officer wants to evacuate the crowd (see below the tactical considerations).

The charge: tactical considerations

- Legal basis and use of force (including warnings)
- Weather conditions (when using tear gas)
- Environment (high positions, lateral axes, exit roads for the demonstrators…)
- Unit capacity (reserve to cover lateral axes, position of the vehicles, terrain…)
- Size, composition, position, attitude and reaction of the crowd
- Distance between the unit and the crowd (do not charge from the position on a long distance)
- Psychological effect on the crowd (hit the shields while marching, shout during the charge)

However, the unit commander must take a number of considerations into account, before resorting to tear gas. It may not be appropriate, because of the nature of the crowd, because of innocent bystanders nearby, because of effects that it may have on the environment (i.e. there is a hospital nearby). He will also have to consider the environment, “can he see beyond where the charge will end”, “is there the possibility of officers being cut off”? He will need to consider the weather conditions; if it is
raining or snowing, the possibility of injury during the charge to both the officers and members of the crowd is higher.

The FPU commander should also take in consideration the wind direction before any use of tear gas. Launching tear gas with a strong front wind could be ineffective on crowd presence but could place the unit into difficulty (gas pushed in direction of the unit). The most important of all is the distance involved; He will not want his officers to charge over a long distance.

It is also important to bear in mind that the charge has to comply with a legal framework. The occupation of a new area on the ground by a FPU has to be legally substantiated, (by legal order issued by a legal and legitimate Authority). Failing to do so, the FPU would be illegally preventing the freedom of movement of citizens.

During the charge, tear gas launchers can continue to support the foot manoeuvre. The officers will be wearing gas masks so they will be able to operate without discomfort and have the advantage over the crowd.

In order to reinforce the psychological aspect and effect of the charge, police officers hit the shields while marching and shout during the charge.

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**To make a charge**

- For a charge of X metres or for a charge to reach the next crossing road
  - Different scenarios
  - Start walking or Start at the double
  - Charge from the position
    - The Sections leaders echo the command
    - Ready to go (cautionary) = hit the shields
    - Ready to charge
      - Go (executive order)
    - Charge
  - To stop the unit “Halt” in both cases

**Slide 7**

The charge order can be given from a standing start or the commander can move the unit closer so there is less area to cover during the actual charge.

The initial command will lay down the limits of the charge for example ‘for a charge of 50 metres’ or ‘For a charge to the next road junction’> If the charge is to be from a standing start, the next command will be ‘Ready to charge’ the front rank hit their shields and the rear rank shout. Then the executive order is given ‘Charge’. When
the unit reaches its objective, the command ‘Halt’ will be given.

If the charge is to be proceeded with a “march” or “double march” to a closer point, the initial command will be given in exactly the same manner. However, it will then be followed by ‘March’ or ‘Double March’ as the unit approaches the point from which the commander wants them to charge. He will give the cautionary command ‘Ready to go’, at which point the front rank will hit their shields and the rear rank will shout. Then the executive command ‘Charge’ will be given. The Commander will give the ‘Halt’ when the unit reaches its objective.

The charge

Warning  the crowd when use of force:
Leave the place
We are going to use force or tear gas canisters!

Warning 3 times in a language understood by the crowd, made by local authorities or unit commander if not present

Slide 8 to 13

Slides 8 – 13 are a series of animated slides which illustrate the charge, the PowerPoint version of the presentation on the resource disc must be used for this section of the lesson

The bound: tactical considerations

- Objective: gain ground and quickly reposition the unit
- Distance: short distance (no more than 15 to 20 meters)
- Environment (high positions, lateral axes...)
- Size, composition, position and attitude of the crowd
- Psychological effect on the crowd (shout during the bound)
- Assimilated to a “mini-charge” (speed and dynamism)

Slide 14
Bounds are meant to gain ground rapidly and dynamically. The FPU commander has to react immediately to a threat or in order to avoid a new threat.

Repositioning the unit can be also decided with a bound in order to impress the crowd and to dissuade it from any bad intent or action.

The same framework is used in this case: “for a bound of “X” meters or point to reach, ready to go (cautionary order), go (executive order. Halt”.

![Slide 15](image)

![Slide 16](image)
Offensive bound

Objective: no intention to gain ground space but to allow the unit in contact with the crowd to release itself from a too strong pressure, which can endanger its safety.

Distance: maximum 10 meters and return to departure’s line

Environment (high positions, lateral axes…)

Size, composition, position and attitude of the crowd

Appropriate use of tear gas at the end of the movement forward (hand gas canister)

Psychological effect on the crowd (shout during the offensive bound)

Can be executed after another foot tactic (bound)

The offensive bound: tactical considerations

Offensive bounds are meant to push back the crowd when the contact line is under too much pressure or violence from demonstrators. It is a way to the unit to get more space to manoeuvre, distance the crowd and reorganise if need be. It is sometimes called as well “self-defence bound”.

The Offensive bound is not intended to gain ground but to disperse the crowd from the immediate vicinity in front of the unit.

There is no specific legal requirement for this manoeuvre but for the use of force which has to be limited to a strict minimum. It doesn’t specifically require giving warnings to the crowd since actually, the very nature of this manoeuvre is to react in emergency to an immediate deteriorating situation. This may be complemented by
the use of tear gas but then, warning the crowd would be advisable since it means resorting to a higher level of force.

Offensive bounds are short, (never more than 10/15 meters) and sudden in order to surprise the crowd and prompt demonstrators to flee the contact line. Once that point has been reached, the unit should stop and immediately withdraw back to their start line. That will leave at least a 10 metre gap between the officers and the crowd. It can be used for less than 10 metres if appropriate.

The first tactical principle that the commander must remember, is that this manoeuvre is not used to gain ground; the charge or the bound should be used for that purpose.

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**To make an offensive bound**

Shields are in ready position
- “Unit, for an offensive bound of 10 metres” or “for an offensive bound to reach the next crossing road”
- Teams “X” use of gas hand canister upon order at the end of the offensive bound
- “Unit ready to go” - the shield holders hit the shields (cautionary order)
- “Go” (executive order)
- When the point is reached, the unit commander announces “halt” (or blows whistle once) – Tear gas hand canisters can be used at the same time. He then orders “back”
- To stop the unit, “Halt” (or long blow of whistle) to its initial position

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Slide 19

The words of command are as shown on slide 19. Public order commands can be done by voice or by whistle. The whistle can be heard easily by all police officers. However, the unit need to be practiced in this before they are deployed. It may not be heard in very noisy demonstrations.
Offensive bound: practicalities

- Shield & Batons
- Psychological advantage – shouts
- Instruct those who will use
- Fix the limits
- Alignment when the unit stops.

Slide 20

The unit forms a cordon with shields and batons ready. When the command is given, the unit strike their shields and shout. This will give a psychological advantage over the crowd and the shout can be continued during the advance phase.

Those officers, who are going to deploy CS canisters at the extent of the advance, should be instructed before the order is given so that they are ready to deploy before the unit withdraws.

The Commander must have fixed the limits and communicate them in the words of command, so that the unit knows exactly how far it is going and does not split or become disjointed.

When the unit stops at the extent of the advance there will need to be a short pause whilst the officers deploy CS canisters (if appropriate), at which point they should realign to ensure they have a straight front rank. Then the unit start to withdraw back to the start line, in the case of an offensive bound and to the designated withdrawn point in the case of a defensive bound.

If the bound stops at a crossroads, the officers must be careful not to expose the flanks of the unit to missiles from the crowd (the contact element can be reinforced on the flanks by the reserve element in this case).

At the end of the manoeuvre the unit will need to realign again.
Use of tear gas hand canister upon order (and if necessary)
Slides 21 to 23 illustrate the offensive bound.

**The defensive bound: tactical considerations**

- Pressure on the unit
- Change of the mission, need to reposition the unit
- Environment (high positions, lateral axes...)
- Unit capacity and elements (use of gas)
- Risk of attraction of the crowd. Assess attitude, intent, size and composition
- Preparation of the maneuver and limit fixed by the unit commander

The defensive bound is performed when a unit has to make a tactical withdrawal but is still under pressure of the crowd.

The crowd is pushed back by the movement forward and can be kept at a good distance from the unit with the use of CS canisters.

The unit moves forward 5 to 10 meters and withdraws at least 20 meters. It is a way to tactically operate a withdrawal or settling on a position located behind the FPU when this manoeuvre is conducted under a strong pressure from the crowd. This can be operated several times in order to reach the given point where to re-establish.
The defensive bound

The unit is moving forward on a short distance from its initial position.

Tear gas can be used at the end of the movement forward. The use of gas facilitates the movement backward, particularly in case of presence of an aggressive crowd.

Previous position of the unit

New position of the unit

Slides 25 to 27
Slides 25 - 27 illustrate the defensive bound.

**The withdrawal: tactical considerations**

- No pressure on the unit
- Change of the mission
- Environment (high positions, lateral axes…)
- Unit capacity and elements
- Risk of attraction of the crowd
- Preparation of the maneuver and limit fixed by the unit commander

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**Slide 28**

*The withdrawal*

Initial position of the unit
Summary

- Tactical considerations
- Offensive movements
  - The charge
  - The bound
  - The offensive bound
- Defensive movements
  - The withdrawal
  - The defensive bound
The officers should be given a summary of the key points of the lesson before being asked if they have any questions.

**QUESTIONS**

**Lesson 5 – Basic foot tactics (practical element)**

There is twenty one hours of practice recommended for these subjects which should be carried out at the discretion of the instructor. It is important that the students get the opportunity to practice the basic formations before they move on to the more complicated tactics. The practice should be using a realistic environment such as a public order village or ‘ghost town’ and a ‘mob’ crowd should be available to act in an appropriate manner where necessary armed with soft balls or similar projectiles.

It is at the discretion of the Instructors, as to whether they show all the theory lessons and then move onto the practical element or they show the theory then spend some time practicing before they move on to the next technique.

The students should be able to perform all of these techniques before the instructor moves on to the more complex tactics, which follow this module.