

GETTING...

...PERSONNEL...

...BACK

KRUNCH

CHARLIE-LIMA SIX... THIS IS CHARLIE LIMA THREE-FOUR. COME IN CHARLIE-LIMA SIX!

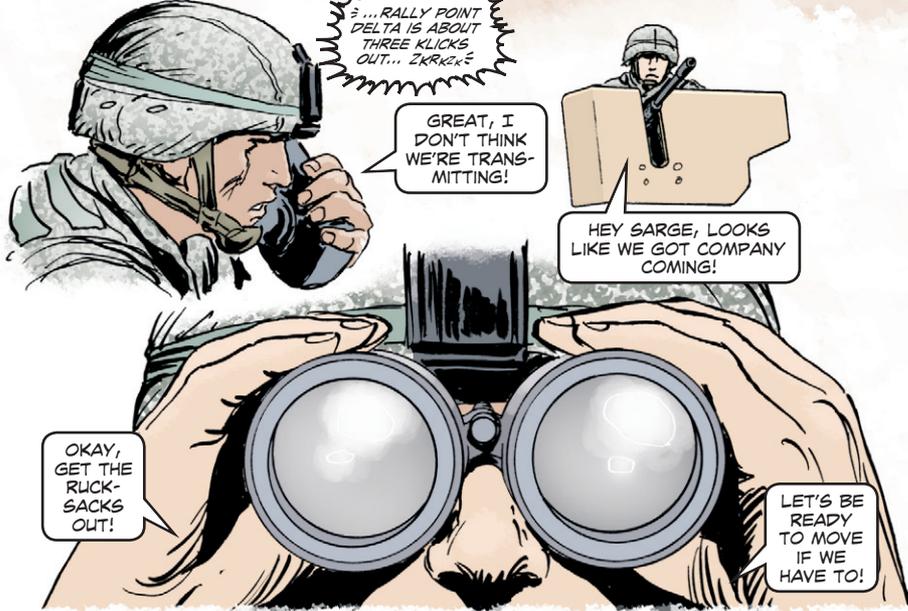
... RALLY POINT DELTA IS ABOUT THREE CLICKS OUT... 2KRIK&E

GREAT, I DON'T THINK WE'RE TRANSMITTING!

HEY SARGE, LOOKS LIKE WE GOT COMPANY COMING!

OKAY, GET THE RUCK-SACKS OUT!

LET'S BE READY TO MOVE IF WE HAVE TO!



Your Personal Recovery Efforts

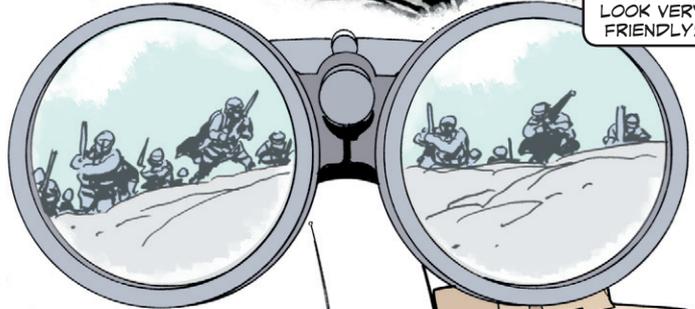
Isolated in an area where you don't know who might be hostile, you evade. Besides applying the code of conduct and your survival, evasion, resistance and escape (SERE) training, there are some other things you must do:

- **Take stock of your assets.** How much ammo, food and water do you have? Where is the nearest rally point? What means do you have to communicate? What are the challenge/password, authentication codes, as well as other recognition systems?
- **Prepare for Friendly Contact.** Do you remember how to use ground-to-air signals (GTAS) in daylight and darkness? What is your unit plan for personnel recovery? What are you supposed to do? What will they be doing? Do you remember the Air Tasking Order Special Instructions? What's supposed to happen at recovery sites?

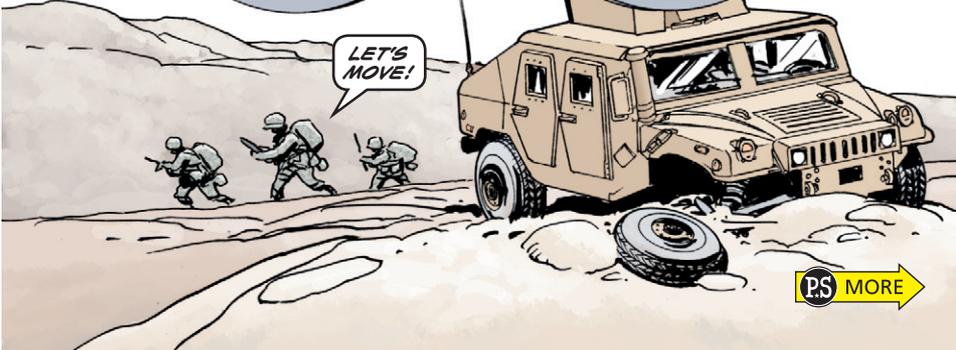
Knowing the answers and following the combat drills for SERE can give you the confidence you need to overcome obstacles. It can also be a source of hope when you know your unit will be searching for you.



THESE GUYS DON'T LOOK VERY FRIENDLY!



LET'S MOVE!



The movie *Behind Enemy Lines*, about a Navy navigator downed in the Balkans, portrays the stress of finding yourself alone in a hazardous area. It also shows the anxiety that fellow servicemembers feel for those missing.

The reality for isolated, missing, detained or captured (IMDC) personnel serves it up in larger doses.

When the Army talks about "No soldier is left behind" it's not just talk, nor is it just about soldiers. Everyone connected with the DoD mission—service members, civilian employees, contractors—is valued and needed. For all who are separated from U.S. control, the Army wants them back—safe and unharmed. It's a lot easier when everyone in the system uses personnel recovery as they should.

Preferably you've done all that is possible to prevent isolation. But sometimes things get grim!

There are steps to take when you're the one who has lost contact with friendly forces.

Unit Recovery Actions

Prevention is the much preferred alternative. Leaders at all levels must check that junior officers, NCOs and convoy leaders down to team leaders know how to reduce the likelihood of losing personnel and that they can quickly begin personnel recovery actions.

Their immediate alert to higher headquarters will limit the size of the area that must be searched. The more specific the location the better.



THIS LOOKS LIKE A GOOD SPOT, SPECIALIST JONES.

LET'S GET SOME WATER AND TAKE AN INVENTORY.

SO WE HAVE SIX MRES, 8 GRANOLA BARS, ABOUT 9 LITERS OF WATER AND OUR BASIC LOAD OF AMMO.

AND I GRABBED THE GTAS BAG, TOO!

GTAS



WE COULD DEPLOY THE GTAS HERE IN THE GULLY.

PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE WON'T SEE IT BUT ONE OF OUR AIRCRAFT MIGHT!

WHAT'RE YOU GUYS WAITING FOR?

GET IT DONE!

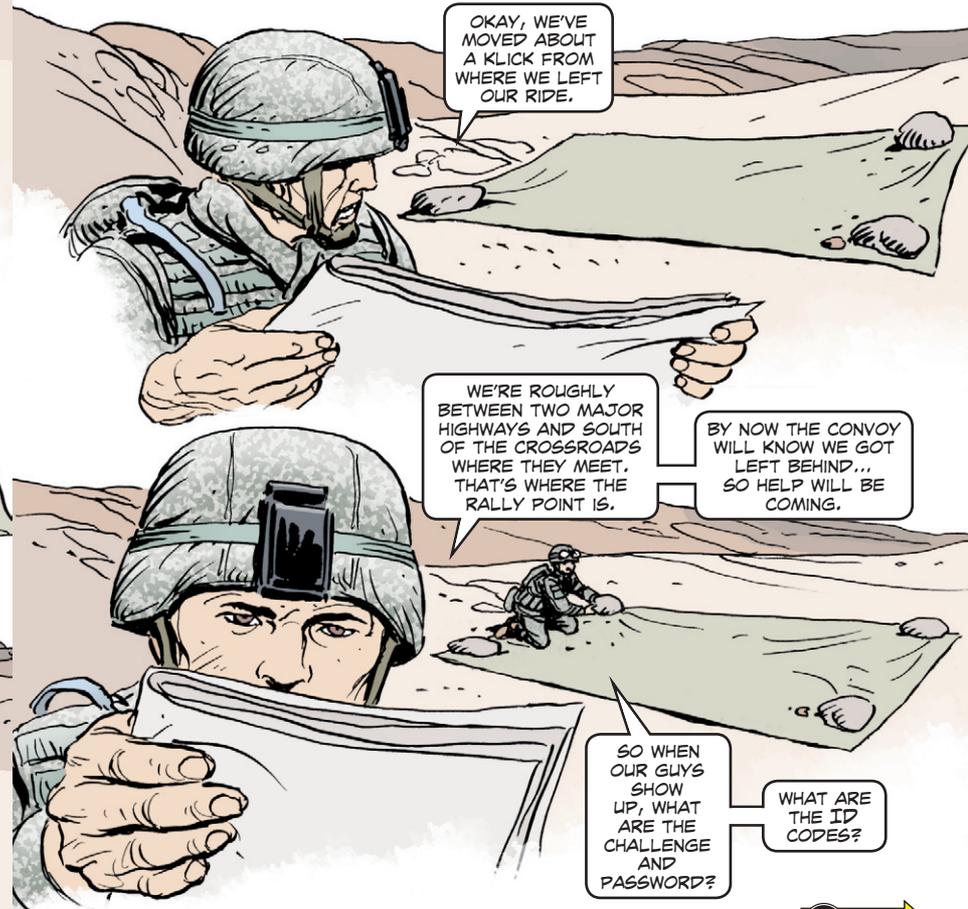


Higher headquarters can deploy quick reaction forces to recover the IMDC personnel. The commander can divert other units to set up hasty containment check points and conduct a cordon and search of the area. The unit can call in aircraft to expand the search area and to defend IMDC personnel.

Support for the isolated personnel may be psychological or physical. It may include airdrops of supplies or close air support. Support will also be provided to family members (if needed) through Family Assistance Teams and others.

The bottom line for recovery actions is that recovery should come from those friendly assets that are closest, fastest, and best suited to complete the recovery.

Thus, an isolated soldier who has successfully evaded hostile forces may be recovered by ground forces or even by aircraft that see his GTAS.



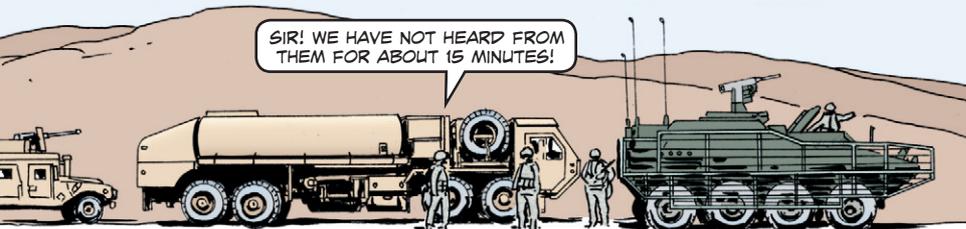
OKAY, WE'VE MOVED ABOUT A CLICK FROM WHERE WE LEFT OUR RIDE.

WE'RE ROUGHLY BETWEEN TWO MAJOR HIGHWAYS AND SOUTH OF THE CROSSROADS WHERE THEY MEET. THAT'S WHERE THE RALLY POINT IS.

BY NOW THE CONVOY WILL KNOW WE GOT LEFT BEHIND... SO HELP WILL BE COMING.

SO WHEN OUR GUYS SHOW UP, WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGE AND PASSWORD?

WHAT ARE THE ID CODES?



Recovery Isn't the End

Isolation from friendly forces is extremely stressful. Recovery doesn't end with simply returning isolated personnel to U.S. control. Reintegration is required.

Reintegration has several possible phases, but recovered personnel can expect these activities at each level:

- Medical exams and treatment
- Intel debrief to obtain information
- SERE debrief to gain lessons learned
- Transportation as required

In personnel recovery nothing can prepare soldiers, civilians and contractors as well as direct instruction and practice in SERE, GTAS and other recovery-related information. Close combat drills for movement to contact and breaking contact have direct application to evasion skills.

But training isn't enough. Prevention of situations that create isolation, and preparation for recovery if needed, must be a part of every operation, truck convoy and patrol.

Your life, and the lives of those around you, depend on your personal recovery preparation.





A UAV SPOTTED THREE SOLDIERS TAKING DOWN A GTAS.

THEY ARE MOVING ON YOUR LOCATION FROM THE EAST.

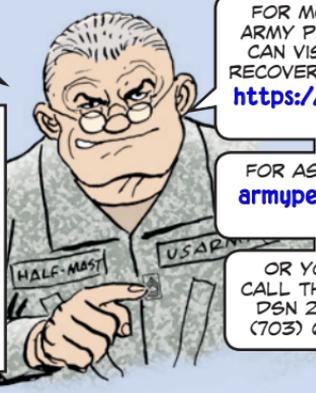
YES SIR! PERSONNEL ARE IN SIGHT AND OKAY!

GLAD TO SEE YOU GUYS!



THESE PUBLICATIONS FORM THE BASIS FOR ARMY PERSONNEL RECOVERY EFFORTS...

- FM 3-50.1, *Army Personnel Recovery*
- GTA 80-01-001, *Fundamentals of Army Personnel Recovery*, provides a pocket reminder of personnel recovery principles



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ARMY PERSONNEL RECOVERY YOU CAN VISIT THE ARMY PERSONNEL RECOVERY OFFICE (APRO) WEBSITE: <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/373835>

FOR ASSISTANCE YOU CAN EMAIL armypersonnelrecoveryoffice@conus.army.mil

OR YOU CAN CALL THE APRO: DSN 222-3116 (703) 692-3116

