

RESTRICTED

Chapter 8

THE CADET AND THE COMMUNITY

SECTION 30

Introduction

0801. This chapter should be read in conjunction with the APC Syllabus Army Code No 71101 (Revised 1988) pages 90 - 94 and with the Cadet Training Manual Volume I Army Code No 71462 (1990 Edition) Chapter 8.

0802. The Armed Forces not only provide a service in time of war, but also in peace by reinforcing the emergency services. The Territorial Army by its nature, is ready to provide a service in time of war, but the Cadet Forces have no such role in war or peace and the only service they offer, apart from being youth organizations, is involvement in community activities. This subject is therefore important, as it portrays the Cadet Forces to the local community as being a responsible and worthwhile organization.

The Syllabus

0803. In keeping with other APC subjects the syllabus is progressive. At the 1 Star level emphasis is placed on the basic knowledge of how to make an emergency call, and on the simple tasks (detailed in Volume I) which the cadet is expected to perform in the detachment. A room task notice board is a good way of achieving this aim. A high standard must be set at this stage, otherwise the cadet will not know the standard expected of him at the later stage of his training, when he might be working on his own. At the 2 Star level the cadet is required to make a street map of the locations of the services. Where the detachment is in a rural area this will not always be possible. In this case, the cadet should be given the task of locating and producing a map showing the location of the nearest services. It is possible that the cadet may have travelled some distance to get to the detachment. If this is the case he should produce a map for his own town or village, the aim being that he should acquire a good knowledge of the local services available and not necessarily those serving the detachment. No set periods have been allocated for projects, but involvement over a set period of time is necessary. Cadets at the 3 and 4 Star levels can work as individuals outside Cadet Forces time at these activities, but from a public relations point of view, it is better that the Cadet Forces are seen as contributing to the community activity by working as identifiable groups.

Projects

0804. It is preferable as a general rule, to choose a project which will result in a clearly defined achievement in a fairly short time, rather than a routine type which continues over an endless period, when enthusiasm starts to wane. To this end several projects can be organized within the given time bracket at the 3 and 4 Star level.

RESTRICTED

Whilst this subject does not differ from other subjects, in that it must be made interesting and tackled with enthusiasm, a word of warning is necessary to those responsible for organizing projects. A project which is discussed and decided upon may be an excellent one, but it is necessary to ensure that it has not been undertaken previously in the same area by another voluntary organization, which will not be pleased if the Cadet Force interferes without previous consultation. The appropriate organization to consult is usually obvious, but in the case of doubt, the Secretary of the local Round Table or Rotary Club are useful contacts.

Unsuitable Projects

0805. It goes without saying that cadets should never become involved with projects that bring them in contact with drugs, solvent abuse or alcoholics or any politically motivated event. Attention is also drawn to the ACF Manual 1984 (Army Code No 14233) Chapter 15 paragraph 15.004, which directs that the Cadet Force as a corporate entity is not to become officially involved with political factions.

Public Information

0806. A good project which involves work in the community can provide the local detachment with an excellent opportunity to publicize its work and this shows the Cadet Forces in a good light. Every opportunity should be taken to report such activities to the local newspaper.

Fund Raising

0807. Fund raising is important and can give very significant help to excellent causes. But it should not be seen as the only way of contributing to the community.

County Direction

0808. Because the subject of work in the community is by its nature entirely dependent upon the needs and opportunities in the locality itself, frequent and positive direction should be provided by the Cadet Commandant.