

TRAINING OF PATHFINDER

SECTION I

GENERAL

34. IMPORTANCE. The success of an operation upon the accomplishment of the pathfinder mission is to insure that his force will arrive at the proper location in the proper order and that subsequent resupply operations can be carried out. Trained pathfinder teams, properly equipped and positioned, are the connecting link between air and ground forces. A communications link is essential to the efficient operation.

35. QUALIFICATIONS. Selection of men for training should be made from groups of men of the most rugged nature of such duty. Selection should be made on the basis of the following qualifications.

a. Intelligence. A prerequisite, if the system is to be installed, operated, and maintained for navigation.

b. Physical and mental hardness. Essential functions are often required to operate behind the scenes for transportation and in close proximity to the public.

c. **Courage and initiative.** In the event of the team, each soldier must be prepared and the missions of any members of the team.

d. Reliability. The responsibility for the performance of combat missions makes it imperative that the team be reliable to the highest degree.

36. DISQUALIFYING FACTORS. S
for duty with pathfinder teams due to natu
mental capabilities.

a. Height phobia. Men suffering from
qualified due to frequent use of aircraft,
transportation.

b. Night blindness prevents efficient the hours of darkness.

c. Poor vision is detrimental to the sight incoming aircraft and to make rapid

d. Air sickness. Same as fear of height.

a pathfinder. For example, a man afflicted the safety of the entire team when operating a machine. The machine was a simple one, but the man's sneezing caused by the affection.

FIGURE 12.

(28)

[illegible]

Fig. 12. SUGGESTED ORGANIZATION AND EQUIPMENT FOR PATHFINDER OPERATION. Distribution of equipment among team members will be governed by initial mission. Distribution shown is for marking of a Drop Zone for night landing of parachute teams or aerial supply. Additional equipment for subsequent missions, day or night, is carried in aerial delivery containers.

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