

## Rescue Operations by the Military Nurse during Conflict: Insurgency

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### Abstract

*Whenever there is disaster or conflict the first thing that comes to mind is rescue. Immediately all the necessary organizations swing into action to rescue and evacuate victims or casualties. It is always an organized activity involving the rescue team of the nation or state that is the military, police and other trained personnel. In most cases the rescue team goes to the site with trained medical personnel who are in most cases military/police with ambulances and sometimes with Aircrafts on standby for emergency evacuation.*

*Conflicts can sometimes be positive or negative consequences thus before any rescue operation is carried out it must be well planned and organized by the organizations concern. The situation must be well understood and surveyed so as to devise a standardized way of dealing with any type of conflict. Disasters are also included during any conflict because no conflict or disaster occurs without loss of lives or destruction.*

*The military in such cases are always deployed to handle such incidents in conjunction with the police and other trained personnel of the rescue team. However, during insurgency only the military or uniformed personnel are deployed to handle the situations. As such only a military nurse can be sent to attend to the hostages or casualties under a special cover with the hope of being a mediator between the authorities and the terrorists.*

*One cannot discuss conflict without disasters, terrorism and insurgency. Thus no nation today that is not affected by any of the above therefore many countries have ready made plans to fall back to at any point such situations/ calamities occur with a well trained rescue teams on standby.*

**Keywords:** Conflict, military, military nurse, disaster, insurgency, management and casualty evacuation.

### AIM

Is to highlight the roles of the military nurse during any conflict or disaster.

### What is Conflict

Conflict is serious disagreement or argument. It can also be a form of friction or discord within a group when the actions/ beliefs of one or more members are resisted or is unacceptable by one or more members of the group. Sometimes conflict can be or become violent pending on the specific cause either internal or external.

### Types of conflict

- Man vs Self – This is the internal conflict that occurs within oneself while taking a decision between right or wrong.
- Man vs Man - Is a form of external conflict between men. Man vs man conflict obstructs a person from achieving a goal or target.
- Man vs Society – Is an external conflict between the government and culture/tradition. This involves the societal norms.
- Man vs Nature – This is a form of natural disaster or dangerous

- situation that is going against the force of nature.
- Man vs Machine – This means technology standing in the way of man getting what he wants.
- Man vs Fate/Supernatural – This is when one is struggling against a god or gods.

### What is disaster

Disaster is an adverse condition that can lead to loss of lives and properties or an event that has unfortunate consequences which can be a sudden accident or natural calamity.

### What is management

Management is the organization of resources and responsibilities for dealing with all humanitarian aspect of emergencies. In short is the preparedness, response and recovery to lessen the impact of disaster.

### Types of Disaster

- Natural
- Man made

Natural disasters are disasters that occur naturally for example; heavy rains, fire out breaks, earthquake, land/snow slides, floods and famine.

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Manmade disasters are disasters caused by man such as accidents, air crashes, nuclear installations, nuclear reactions, careless handling of chemicals and weapons, conventional military warfare and road traffic accidents. Other disasters are also caused by civil wars, communal conflicts, terrorist attacks by group armed men/ campaign. The terrorists can attack through hostage taking, suicide bombing, hijacking/kidnapping, assassination or sporadic firing.

### Who is a Terrorist

Is any person or persons who uses unlawful violence or intimidates especially the civilians to pursue their political goals or aims.

### What is Insurgency

Is an action or uprising against the authorities

### What is a Military

These are professional organizations that are authorized by a sovereign state to use deadly force and weapons to support and protect the interest of the state or nation. It consists of the Army, Navy and Air Force however, some countries have Marines and Coast Guards.

### Who is a Military Nurse

A military nurse is a trained military personnel as well as a trained nurse. The nurse is trained to enable him/her work in peace and war time to provide healthcare to personnel, their families, retirees and civilians at any time. A military nurse carries weapons during war because he/she can be deployed to the warfront or war zone.

### Roles of the Military Nurse

The nurse must be well trained professionally and militarily to enable her/he to assume the following roles especially when dealing with the terrorist group or the insurgents

- a. Act as a medical personnel by treating all the wounded or the sick taken as hostages
- b. Act as an intelligent personnel by ensuring she/he is alert and observe what is going on around her/he with caution.
- c. Act as a mediator between the authorities and the terrorists. She/he must be neutral to enable her/him succeed in releasing the hostages or transferring the injured or sick to the hospital.
- d. Must be able to communicate with the authorities without giving any positive sign to the terrorists.
- e. The nurse must be able to identify the terrorists with any sign or mark on the terrorist.
- f. The nurse must be able to identify the types of weapons used by these armed groups such as rifles, pistons or any other harmful weapons.

### Methods of evacuating the casualties

All trained disaster nurses must be able to evacuate the casualties from the scene of the attack or disaster for onward movement to the hospital via the ambulance or aircraft

- a. Human crutch
- b. Two handed seat
- c. Four handed seat
- d. Fireman carrying
- e. Pick a back
- f. 4 man stretcher/blanket carrier

### Conclusion

Conflict is a very serious argument or disagreement between one or more people which can be external or internal. One cannot discuss conflict without talking of disaster, insurgency and terrorism/terrorists. In most cases the Military, Police and other trained personnel are always deployed when such chaos occurs as well as medical personnel especially the nurses.

Military nurses are attached to the rescue team especially during insurgency in order to treat the wounded or the sick as well as to act as mediators between the authorities and the terrorists. The nurse must at anytime be alert, observant and cautious at all times. It is very important to have a readymade plan at any point in time and have a rescue team on standby always as most nations are faced with one calamity or another.

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