

SAF COMMANDO COURSE

Program of Instruction

PHASE I – INDIVIDUAL SKILLS TRAINING PHASE

POI 2012- 438hrs/ 53 ½ days

Subjects	Scope/Description	2012 POI		Mode of Instruction
		No. of Days	No of Hours	
1. Course Orientation	Importance of Commando training; history of Commando; different phases of Commando training; Students' guide and school policies.	½ day	4Hours	Lecture
2. Combat Life Saver	First Aid treatment of injuries; IV therapy MEDEVAC	5 days	40 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/ Graded Practical Exercise
3. Weapons	Gun Safety Procedure, Operational capabilities, functions and basic maintenance.	3 Days	24 Hours	Lecture/ Practical Exercise
a. Small arms	Characteristics, capabilities and employment of US Cal 45, 9 mm, US rifle M16, US rifle M14, GL M79/M203, Garand, Galil and Sniper Weapon System; assembly and disassembly, malfunction and immediate actions.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/ Graded Practical Exercise
b. Crew-served weapon	M60, Cal.30, Cal. 50, Mortar 60/81mm, Recoilless rifle 90 and 57 RR.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/ Graded Practical Exercise
c. Practical exercise		1 day	8 Hours	
4. Explosives		3days	24 Hours	
	Characteristics and types of	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/

a. Explosives and Demolition	explosives; computation of charges for specific targets; methods of detecting and disarming; characteristics and types.			Graded Practical Exercise
Subjects	Scope/Description	No. of Days	No of Hours	Mode of Instruction
b. Grenades	Kinds of Grenades; capabilities, limitations and employment of grenade; types and techniques of throwing.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration/ Practical Exercise
c. Landmines and Booby Traps	Characteristics and types; improvising booby traps; detecting and disarming; Actions when caught in minefield.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration/ Practical Exercise
5. Marksmanship Training		14days	112 hrs	
a. Fundamentals of Marksmanship	Different shooting positions; sighting and aiming; wind and wind effect; trigger control adjustment; bullet trajectory, angle shooting; classification and types of ammunition.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture
b. Triangulation	Target-box exercise; placement of three-round shot group in a dry fire environment.	1 day	8 Hours	Practical Exercise
c. Battle sight Zeroing	Hitting the center of the target at 25 meter range.	1 day	8 Hours	Graded Practical Exercise
d. Record Firing	Record firing on Cal. 5.56 rifle at 25 meters	3 days	24 Hours	Graded Practical Exercise
e. Sneaker Course (Day & Night)	Engaging targets while stalking.	1 day	8 Hours	Graded Practical Exercise
f. Confidence firing	Shooting water bags being held by student buddy; holding a target confidently while target is shot by the buddy student.	1 day	8 Hours	Graded Practical Exercise

g. Advance Marksmanship 1. Variable distance shooting (50m-250m) 2. Endurance Firing 3. Low Light Firing 4. Uphill downhill shooting 5. Moving target	Test the student's ability to shoot the targets accurately on different situations.	6 days	48 Hours	Graded Practical Exercise
Subjects	Scope/Description	No. of Days	No of Hours	Mode of Instruction
6. Intelligence		1 day	8 Hours	
a. Tactical Intelligence	Introduction to Tactical Intelligence Intelligence Cycle Threat groups Insurgency indications	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture
7. Communication	Radio identification, uses and functions Programming, Cipher/ Decipher Techniques, assembly & disassembly	3 days	24 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/ Graded Practical Exercise
a. Introduction to communications	Radio communication Elements of communication, Phonetic language Abbreviations & acronyms, Radio net APCO ten signals, Common used ten codes, Cipher/decipher	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture
		½ day	4 Hours	Practical
b. Classifications and types of radio	VHF Radios (Harris/Icom), Propagation characteristics, UHF MVS VHF, Multi Marked Radio System, Parts of hand held radio (Motorola/harris), Radio wave propagation, Preventive maintenance	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture
		½ day	4 Hours	Practical
c. Modes of transmission	Codan Manpack tactical Radio, HF propagation, Antenna fundamentals Transmission site selection	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture
		½ day	4 Hours	Practical
8. Individual Day and	Cover and concealment; temporary	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/

Night Training	battlefield position; camouflaging with camouflage paint, burlap, camouflage suit; day movement; low and high crawl; action with flare night movement; hand and arm signal; sounds and smell identification, listening TTPs. Students shall make their own camouflage suit.			Graded Practical Exercise
Subjects	Scope/Description	No. of Days	No of Hours	Mode of Instruction
9.Observation and VisualTracking	Principles and techniques involved in observation and visual tracking over rugged terrain; identifying and interpreting signs and tracks. Judging age of signs.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/ Graded Practical Exercise
10.Observed and Call for Fire Procedures	Roles and responsibilities of a forward observer/determination of targets; call for indirect fire; adjustment procedures for special situation.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/ Graded Practical Exercise
11. Field Craft and Survival	Type of natural weapons; improvised shelter while in the field; edible foods as available in the jungle; medicinal and poisonous plants in the field; principles involved in jungle survival. Water Procurement & Purification.	2 days	16 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/ Graded Practical Exercise

12. Escape, Evasion and Recovery	Basic reasons for escape and evasion; advantages of early escape; organization and E, ER net; organization inside POW camp; legal status of POWs, contact point procedures.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/ Graded Practical Exercise
Subjects	Scope/Description	No. of Days	No of Hours	Mode of Instruction
13. Jungle and Mountaineering		7 days	56 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/ Graded Practical Exercise
a. Jungle and Mountaineering Techniques	Basic techniques in the conduct of mountaineering; mountain walking and rock climbing.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise/
b. Rope climb and Knot tying	Types and characteristics of ropes; rope management; coiling and tying of the coil and rope throwing; different kind of knots and its uses.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise
c. Rappels and Belays	Different types of rappels and belays and their application.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise
d. Bridge and River Crossing	One rope bridge; two rope bridge; planning and conduct of river crossing	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/ Practical Exercise
e. Obstacle Course	Rope climb, Double Beam, beam/Banquet & Pit, Network of Wire/Ford, Upper Tunnel, Lower Tunnel, Spalier, Balance Beam, Sloping Wall w/rope, Over & Under /Irish, Table, Tunnel/Double Beam, Four steps of Trip Wire, Assault wall/Pit, Vertical Ladder, High wall/Zigzag Balance, Chicane/3 assault wall.	1 day	8 Hours	Practical Exercise
f. Rope Course	Baby crawl, commando crawl, monkey crawl,two rope bridge, three rope bridge, jump and punch, tarsan swing	2 days	16 Hours	Practical Exercise

	and slide for life			
14. Map Reading/Land Navigation	Uses of Compass, Maps, Graphical Training Aid (GTA), Grid Coordinate, Measurement, Azimuth and Back Azimuth and Vice Versa using the “LARS FORMULA”.	13 days	104 Hours	Lecture/Practical Exercise
Subjects	Scope/Description	No. of Days	No of Hours	Mode of Instruction
a. Introduction	Definition of terms. Marginal information; topographical & and Military symbols; military grid system.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture
b. Scale and Distance	RF; Map and ground distance Pacing and pace factor; measuring distance on the Map.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Practical Exercise
c. Direction	Study on direction (azimuth and bearing); declination diagram; finding direction without Compass.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Practical Exercise
d. Elevation and Relief	Study of contour lines; relief profile and slope; determine Elevation.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Practical Exercise
e. Compass	Parts and uses during Day and Night.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Practical Exercise
f. Methods of locating Points	Intersection; resection; modified resection; polar coordinates; terrain association.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Practical Exercise
g. Terrain Analysis	Individual Exercise on terrain analysis using the Map; ground orientation.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Practical Exercise
h. Day Movement	Practical ground exercise in locating points using the map and compass	1 day	8 Hours	Graded Practical Exercise
i. Night Movement	Practical ground exercise in locating points using the map and compass. Elevation	1 day	8 Hours	Graded Practical Exercise
j. practical exercise	Individual, buddy and team navigation	5 days	40 Hours	

k. Basic operation and maintenance of special equipment	Proper care, usage and handling of night vision, binocular, range finders, and Global Positioning System (GPS)	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture /Demonstration Graded Practical Exercise
15. Individual Equipment Run		1 day	8 Hours	Graded Practical Exercise
16. Buddy Equipment Run		1 day	8 Hours	Graded Practical Exercise

PHASE II – SMALL UNIT TACTICS TRAINING
POI 2012- 320hrs/ 40 days

Subjects	Scope/Description	2012 POI		Mode of Instruction
		No. of Days	No of Hours	
1. Commando Team Organization	Composition and equipment of a Commando Team; roles and duties of team members; capabilities and limitations.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture Demonstration/ Practical Exercise
2. Combat Plans and Orders	Types, characteristics and formats of plans and orders. The Operations Order (OPORD) and Warning Order (WO) format; how to conduct operations briefing using the terrain model.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture
3. Small Unit Leadership	Leadership traits and principles; roles and responsibilities of a leader.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture / Practical Exercise
4. Troop Leading Procedures	Eight steps of TLP;	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration
5. Patrolling	Types of patrol; preparations and plans for patrolling; conduct of patrol; patrol TTPs.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration
6. Link – up Operations	Organization, planning and the techniques involved in the conduct of	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration

	link-up.			
7. Re-supply Operations	Organization, planning and the techniques involved in the conduct of re-supply.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration
8. Commando Team SOP	SOPs on Team Movement techniques; application of visual and silent signals; crossing danger areas.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture /Demonstration
Subjects	Scope/Description	No. of Days	No of Hours	Mode of Instruction
9. Firefight SOP	TTPs on: fire and maneuver, meeting engagement, counter ambush, near/far/sniper ambush, break contact, apprehending unarmed civilians.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration
10. Special Action Force Operational Detachment Area (SAFODA)	Selection of Detachment; Tactics & Techniques Procedures (TTPs) on occupation of detachment; activities at detachment (Priorities of work); security/alert plan.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration
11. Team Raid	Planning, organization and TTPs on the conduct of Raid.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture Demonstration Graded Practical Exercise
12. Team Ambush	Planning, organization and TTPs on the conduct of Ambush.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration
13. Practical examination on Team Movements (Scenario)		2 days	16 Hours	
14. Water Borne Operations	Small boat handling; techniques involved in Day/Night waterborne infiltration/infiltration.	15 days	120 Hours	Lecture /Demonstration
15. Section SOP	Commando Section Organization; duties and responsibilities of Leaders; movement techniques; crossing danger areas.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration
16. Section Firefight SOP	Section TTPs on: fire and maneuver,	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration

	meeting engagement, counter ambush, near/far/sniper ambush, break contact, apprehending unarmed civilians.			
17. Section Patrol Base Operations	TTPs on occupation of patrol base; activities at patrol base (Priorities of work); security/alert plan.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration
Subjects	Scope/Description	No. of Days	No of Hours	Mode of Instruction
18. Section Raid	Planning, organization and TTPs on the conduct of Section Raid.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture /Demonstration
19. Section Ambush	Planning, organization and TTPs on the conduct of Section Ambush	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture /Demonstration
20. Practical Examination on section movement (scenario)		2 days	16 Hours	
21. Air to Ground Operations (AGOS)		2 days	16 Hours	
a. Heli-borne Operations	Capabilities and limitations of the different types of Heli employment in heliborne operation; loading, positioning and unloading the Heli during hostile and non-hostile situations; selection of pick zone and landing zone; method of marking landing zone (Day/Night); landing zone date; GTA communication; method of directing the Heli; 9arshaling; HeliRapel.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture /Demonstration Graded Practical Exercise
b. Close Air Support	Familiarization with AUH 37 (Sikorsky) and MG 520 Helicopter; capabilities limitations with regards.	1day	8 Hours	Lecture /Demonstration Graded Practical Exercise
22. Platoon SOP	SR Platoon Organization; duties and responsibilities of Leaders; movement	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration

	techniques; crossing danger areas.			
23. Platoon Firefight SOP	Platoon TTPs on: fire and maneuver, meeting engagement, counter ambush, near/far/sniper ambush, break contact, knock out banker.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture /Demonstration
24. Platoon Patrol Base Operations	TTPs on occupation of patrol base; activities at patrol base (Priorities of work); security/alert plan.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration
Subjects	Scope/Description	No. of Days	No of Hours	Mode of Instruction
25. Platoon Raid	Planning, organization and TTPs on the conduct of Platoon Raid.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture /Demonstration
26. Platoon Ambush	Planning, organization and TTPs on the conduct of Platoon Ambush.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Demonstration
27. Practical examination on Platoon movement (scenario)		2 days	16 Hours	
28. Commando Operation In Urban Terrain (COUT)	Introduction to Close Quarter Battle	6 days	48 Hours	
a. Types of Combat operations	High intensity, Precision, Surgical and transition from on condition to another.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture
b. Principles of COUT	Surprise, Security, Simplicity, Speed, Violence of Actions.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture
c. Commando Operations	Planning, Organization and TTPs; Armed entry; Unarmed entry; How to enter behind enemy lines; How to deceive enemy supports in the AO.	2 days	16 Hours	Lecture /Demonstration
d. practical exercises		3 days	24 Hours	
29. Team run		2 days	16 Hours	

PHASE III – FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE (FTX)/ COMBAT MANUEVER

POI 2012- 192hrs/24 days

Subjects	Scope/Description	2012 POI		Mode of Instruction
		No. of Days	No of Hours	
1. Long Range Reconnaissance		5 days	40 Hours	
a. Introduction to LRRP	Definition of terms, Objectives, mission, types of reconnaissance, organization, composition, equipment and dispositions, Fundamentals, process, operations, support.	1day	8 Hours	Lecture
b. HideConstruction	Hide selection, Construction and occupation.	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/ Practical Exercise
c. Objective sketch and patrol logs	Sketching techniques, maintaining patrol, commo, surveillance logs.	1day	8 Hours	Lecture/ Practical Exercise
d. R and S plan development	Planning considerations, mission development	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture
e. Cache	Definitions, types, methods, techniques, emplacement and recovery	1day	8 Hours	Lecture
2. FTX		5 days	40 Hours	Practical Exercise
3. Escape, Evasion and recovery		1 day	24 Hours	Practical exercise
4. Continuation of Intelligence		6 days	48 Hours	
a. Concept of insurgency	Knowing the enemy, PNP Campaign Plan Samahan, AFP Internal peace and security Plan PPSP),Bayanihan	1 day	8 Hours	Lecture

Subjects	Scope/Description	No. of Days	No of Hours	Mode of Instruction
b. Trade craft and intelligence operation	Introduction to trade craft Observation and description Surveillance Casing Clandestine communication Tactical question Introduction to counter intelligence Operation security	2 days	16 Hours	Lecture
c. Laws and Jurisprudence	Bill of Rights, International Humanitarian Law, and Jurisprudence related to basic rights	1 day	8 Hours	Practical Exercise
d. PSYOPS/ Introduction to Barangay module	Knowing the Art of deception in enemy politics and armed units and how to counter them; How to clear the affected barangays;	1.5 day	12 Hours	Lecture
e. Sensitive Site Exploitation	Search, gather and protection of evidences at the crime scene	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture
5. Combat maneuver	Combat Operation	6 days	48 Hours	
6. Seminar on Customs and Tradition on the indigenous people of Mindanao and Visayas		1 day	8 Hours	Lecture

PHASE IV – MISSION PLANNING

POI 2012- 88hrs/ 11 days

Subjects	Scope/Description	POI 2012		Mode of Instruction
		No. of Days	No of Hours	
1. Military Decision Making Process (MDMP)	MDMP designed as a planning process similar to Troop Leading Procedures.	3 days	24 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
a. Receipt of Mission	Identify the given the specified task given.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
b. Mission Analysis	Analyze a mission in context to what is happening around.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
c. Course of Action Development (COA)	Plan of actions to make decision on what course of action to take.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
d. Course of Action Analysis	The students learn basic analysis in preparation of the battlefield.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
e. Course of Action Comparison	Select comparison method to determine decision criteria assign weighting values to criteria and make recommendations.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
f. Course of Action Approval	Commander's intent statement should state the cause of approval.			Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
g. Orders Production	The notification memorandum orders must be given.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
2. Graphical Estimate of the Situation for Counter Insurgency (GESCON)	Provide basis for all Intel Operation, Tactical Operations and Tactical decision.	3days	24 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise

Subjects	Scope/Description	No. of Days	No of Hours	Mode of Instruction
a. Main Features of GESCON	Based on mission, mainly for counter-insurgency used, supports the planning and execution of most battle function.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
b. Opposing Features Template	AFP (PA, PC, PAF, PN) INP, CHDF, Vigilantes	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
c. Enemy Forces	CPP Units, Composition, Disposition, Strength			Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
d. Events Template	Violent Incidents, Sightings (Map Tracking)	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
e. Terrain and Weather Template	Road Net, Observation and fields of fire, Cover and Concealment, Obstacles, Key Terrain, Avenues of Approach/ Withdrawal	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
f. Community Situation Template	Barangay Categorization, Religious Factors, Political Factors.	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
g. Economic Template	Key Industrial Facilities (Rice Mill, Sugar Central, Saw Mill) Vital Installation (Light, Water, Power lines), Public Facilities (Markets, Stores, Bus Stations)	½ day	4 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
3. Intelligence Preparation of the Battlefield (IPB)	Describes the fundamentals of intelligence preparation of the battlefield (IPB) It is use in directing the intelligence effort, and its role in driving the staff's planning for contingency or combat operations.	4days	32 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
a. Define Battlefield Effects	Analyzing the threat and environment in a specific geographic area.	1 Day	8 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise

Subjects	Scope/Description	No. of Days	No of Hours	Mode of Instruction
b. Evaluate the Threat	Principal judgment decisions and evaluations which together form the basic "how to" of IPB.	1 days	8 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
c. Determine the Threat and enemy course of actions	It prescribes the procedures followed in performing IPB and illustrates the application of IPB in various situations.	2 days	16 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
4. Mission Brief back		1 day	8 Hours	Lecture/ Tabletop Exercise
5. Comprehensive exam		½ day	4 Hours	

PHASE V – TEST MISSION

(1 Month/ 30 days)

1. Twenty one (21) days of major combat operation and nine (9) days rest.
2. For every operation, it will be seven (7) days major combat operation and three (3) days rest. (7/3)
3. Enemy encounter will automatically qualify commando students for graduation.
4. With or without encounter students shall graduate after one (1) month of test mission.

Program of Instruction 2012(Revised)

Phases	No of days Academics	Pass	Run			Compre exam	Travel and fix tent	Sub-total
			Individual	Buddy	Team			
Phase I INDIVIDUAL SKILLS TRAINING PHASE	53 ½ days	3 days	2 days	2 days			1	61 ½ days (2 months and 1 ½ days)
Phase II SMALL UNIT TACTICS TRAINING	40 days	3 days			2 days		2	47 days (1 month and 17 days)
Phase III FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE (FTX)/ COMBAT MANUEVER	24 days	0	0	0	0		2	26 days
Phase IV MISSION PLANNING	11 days	3 days	0	0	0	½ day	1	15 ½ days
Phase V TEST MISSION	30 days combat operation							<u>30 days</u>
							Total	<u>180 days (6 months)</u>

Required Students and Training Directorate

Students	Maximum of 100
Training Directorate	24 personnel (16 SAFTB personnel) (8 personnel from line units)

IV Conditions for POI 2012 with time table of 6 months (5 months academics and one (1) month test mission).

1. Logistical requirements such as firearms and ammunition should be available prior the opening of the Commando Course.
2. Financial requirements shall be released prior to the start of each phase.
3. Students shall not be utilized for other activities so as not to disrupt the flow of training.
4. Due to in adequacy of facilities only one commando class shall be opened in a quarter.
5. Once the commando course starts, training directorate and F2 personnel shall coordinate on the identification of target for the test mission.

Individual Training Requirements for SAF Commando Course

Quantity	Items
1 unit	Long Firearm (M16) with 6 long magazines
3 sets	Battle Dress Uniform (Green Camouflage)
1 set	Back Pack with frame
1 set	Ammo Rig
1 pc	Poncho
2 pairs	Combat Shoes
5 pcs	Olive Drab T-shirt
3 pcs	Cycling Shorts
1 set	Mess kit with spoon and fork
1 set	Water canteen with steel cup
1 pc	Rucksack
1 pc	Low carry holster
1 pc	Eye protector
1 pc	Ear plug
1 pair	Rubber shoes
1 pair	Slippers
2 pairs	Civilian clothes
2 pcs	Black shorts
5 pairs	Black socks
1 pc	Bush hats with roster number
1 set	Pistol Belt with suspender
1 set	First aid kit with medicines
1 unit	Shelter halves or "trapal"
1 set	PNP Athletic Uniform
365 rds	5.56 mm ammunition (Basic load)
50 rds	7.62 mm ammunition
50 rds	9 mm or 45 cal ammunition
1 pc	Lensatic Compass