

Safety Alert



Tent Fire Safety OIF SA-006

Fire Prevention is not something that most people think of throughout the day. However, as some Soldiers recently found out, a fire can occur at anytime of the day or night. The fire, in the pictures below, occurred while most of the platoon was at dinner or out on patrol. Luckily, alert caring Soldiers heard the smoke detector and attempted to put out the fire. This awareness also facilitated notification of the fire department. Both the Fire Department and Soldiers actions limited the extent of damages and loss of property.

A few basic rules that all Soldiers & Leaders must know and follow:

- Ensure that each tent has two (2) serviceable 10lb extinguishers, one (1) at each exit.
- Ensure that every tent has at least one (1) serviceable smoke detector.
- Do not store or keep ammunition in the tents.
- NO SMOKING within 50 foot of a tent.
- Conduct fire evacuation drills regularly.
- Get fire extinguisher training.
- Keep egress routes clear.
- No cooking in tents.

Hazards

Controls

Overloaded Electrical Wiring

Inspect all electrical wiring for frayed or broken wires
Remove all non-mission essential items from circuit
Do not plug in high draw appliances to the same circuit
Do not use daisy-chained surge protectors or extension cords

Missing or Empty Extinguishers

Order new extinguishers from FSS out of Kuwait or from the States
Ensure replacements are requested after use
Ensure extinguishers are properly placed
Do not use fire extinguishers as door stops
Ensure extinguishers are accessible

Lack of Fire Warning System

Order, place, and maintain smoke detectors IAW IH Accident Prevention Plan
Post fire guards in sleeping and high hazard areas
Use a common fire alert system IAW IH Accident Prevention Plan

Blocked Exits or Pathways

Ensure that each area has an exit plan with multiple exits
Ensure that the center aisle remains clear to both ends of the tent
Ensure that Tent Pods have accessible egress routes
Do not build extended entryways that block egress routes of other tent occupants
Have a plan of action and accountability methods

Ammunition Stored in Sleep Areas

All munitions, minus small arms, must be kept in the BLAHA or AHA. On FOB's there are no exceptions



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