

Watchtower¹ Work Responsibilities and Procedures

制高点工作职责及流程

One, responsibilities for watchtower work

First, to conduct upper area surveillance and open area surveillance² of the school's interior areas; **second**, to conduct upper area control and surveillance during trainees' extracurricular activities; **third**, to maintain well the handover log for firearms and ammunition, and for the guard handover registration, etc. 2. In case of an unusual circumstance or attack, **first**, promptly initiate early warning and report [the incident]; **second**, assist the Strike Group and the main gate through high-altitude fire support and direct suppressive fire³ towards the terrorists.

Two, workflow

1. **Duty roster:** 6 special police officers are on duty, implementing a 'three shifts and two operations' model, with each shift lasting 6 hours.
2. **On-duty weapons and equipment:** On-duty staff must wear standardized uniforms with stab-proof vests, carry light machine guns⁴ and QBU-88 sniper rifles.
3. **Scope of work:** In watchtowers, mainly use light machine guns and QBU-88 sniper rifles. From the watchtowers / high-level patrol walkways, monitor and control the study areas with their security perimeters. Following leaders' instructions, the drill commander and incident response command leader surveille and use firepower and suppressive fire to control the designated areas.
4. **Workflow:** 1) On-duty staff wear combat uniforms, stab-proof vests, and carry light machine guns and QBU-88 sniper rifles, mainly surveilling the study zones A, B, C, D, and the teaching building. The two on-duty staff alternate every half hour, exchange the surveillance information, and do a good job documenting the gathered surveillance [data]. 2) After 6 hours the handover to the next shift [takes place], the shift leader uses a radio transmitter to notify the incoming shift team to take over, and the staff who hand over to the next shift must do well in registering all relevant details. 3) The incoming personnel must review the previous shift's records, confirm the functioning of guns and equipment. After confirming of the previous shift, weapons and equipment, the shift is handed over.

¹ The Chinese term 制高点 (literally "commanding heights") can also refer to walkways for guards along the tops of the outer perimeter walls (巡视道).

² This refers to surveilling the inner courtyards of the camp, and also perhaps to surveilling the sky around the camp - in order to spot flying objects such as drones.

³ In military science, suppressive fire is designed to prevent the opponent from continuing their attack by covering their positions with sufficiently intensive gunfire. This typically involves the use of machine guns, and is likely the reason why re-education camp watchtower guards are equipped with sniper rifles and machine guns that are capable of higher rates of fire than regular battlefield assault rifles.

⁴ A light machine gun or squad machine gun supports an infantry offensive through rapid direct firepower, delivering suppressive fire against enemy positions. They are often tripod-mounted and capable of higher rates of fire than regular battlefield assault rifles. The model used in Konasheher re-education camps is the QBB-95.