

Chapter 15

Rear Operations

The COMMZ extends from the rear of the CZ back through the rear of the theater to connect with the theater base. It includes a joint rear area to facilitate protection and operation of installations and forces that provide CS and/or CSS to combat operations. The JRA provides essential support to joint operations. Successful rear security operations are critical in this area since it contains the LOC, establishments for supply and evacuation, and agencies required for immediate support and maintenance of field forces.

THE TREAT

The threat to the theater base and COMMZ ranges from individual acts of sabotage to the insertion of battalion-size or larger forces, to air and missile attacks. Large-scale enemy attacks may require the commitment of US reserve forces, combat units from forward areas, or HN or allied resources. The potential magnitude of the threat dictates that US forces be trained to cope with threat forces when and where they attempt to interrupt COMMZ operations. They must use every appropriate active and passive measure for defense against detection from the air, attack from the ground, and compromise of their defense systems.

Three levels of response to threat activities serve as a guide for planning rear operations security. Rather than focusing on the size or type of threat, these levels focus on the

nature of friendly actions needed to counter the threat. The threats listed here provide typical examples of the types of threats that can be expected.

- Level I—Those threats that can be defeated by base or base cluster self-defense measures.
- Level II—Those threats that are beyond the base or base cluster self-defense measures but can be defeated by initial response forces. Bases and base clusters are able to delay Level II threats until arrival of response forces.
- Level III—Those threats that will probably target several friendly rear elements as part of a larger, coordinated effort, rather than individual, separate entities requiring a tactical combat force to defeat them.

SUPPORT FUNCTIONS

Rear operations, which consist of activities to assure freedom of maneuver and continuity of operations, include four functions: security, terrain management, sustainment, and movement. All rear operations functions are interrelated. When planning or conducting one function, commanders and staffs must consider all the other functions, thus synchronizing rear

operations. This synchronization is the ROC's responsibility.

SECURITY

Security for rear operations is vital to the success of force projection operations. Key tasks are—

- Coordinating base/base cluster defense plans.

- Collecting, integrating, analyzing, and disseminating timely and accurate intelligence.
- Aggressively patrolling, in coordination with the HN, to intercept and defeat small threat forces before they close on their objective.
- Rapidly deploying forces sufficient to counter the enemy intrusion.

TERRAIN MANAGEMENT

Units are positioned based on their mission, concept of the operation, and anticipated commitment. Factors that can affect unit positioning include current rear area IPB, METT-T, and considerations of the unit being positioned. While support units are normally positioned close to MSRs to facilitate timely support, they should not be positioned near likely enemy avenues of approach or in likely enemy landing zones or drop zones. Support units are dispersed as much as possible to minimize the effect of enemy attacks on the overall sustainment effort.

SUSTAINMENT

Synchronizing sustainment with the overall concept is critical to the success of close, deep, and rear operations. ROCs monitor sustainment operations and advise their respective commanders on security

implications resulting from these efforts. Critical sustainment functions include-

- Analyzing the commander's concept and intent to develop an integrated sustainment plan.
- Recommending the positioning of support units where they can best support operations.
- Identifying those critical facilities and unit movements that require priority protection.
- Developing a support plan and coordinating support for units in the rear area.
- Monitoring the status of sustainment operations throughout the AO.

MOVEMENT

Movement in the rear area consists of theater and local movement of combat, CS, and CSS forces. This includes operational- and tactical-level movement and maneuver, support movements, and unit relocation based on changes in the tactical situation. Each type of movement must be scheduled based on command priorities to prevent congestion and support the concept of operations. Movement control units normally control movement on MSRs. ROCs control routes other than MSRs. Effective control of movements in the rear area requires synchronized planning and execution of movements by MC units, MP, the moving unit staffs, and the ROC. It also requires moving units to march discipline and adhering to highway regulations and other plans.

BATTLE COMMAND

Rear operations include those activities that allow freedom of maneuver in the COMMZ, continuity of sustainment, and uninterrupted C². The combatant CINC is ultimately responsible for all rear operations in a theater of operations. He normally assigns subordinate commanders the responsibility for operations in a JRA in accordance with mission requirements, force capabilities, the strategic environment, and the threat. He ensures that subordinate commanders are given authority commensurate with their responsibilities. The ASCC may be assigned the responsibility for rear operations subject to applicable HN laws and agreements. Depending on the size of the

AO, it may be further delegated to the senior support headquarters, which may be the senior logistics headquarters (see Figure 15-1).

In a joint environment, the theater CINC or subordinate JFC normally designates a JRAC, who is responsible for coordinating and maintaining the overall security of the JRA as directed by the JFC. The JRAC is a critical link in coordinating security, establishing reliable intelligence and counterintelligence support, and securing communications to all forces operating in the JRA. The JRAC's overall coordination responsibility for security does not lessen the responsibility that component elements have for their own security.

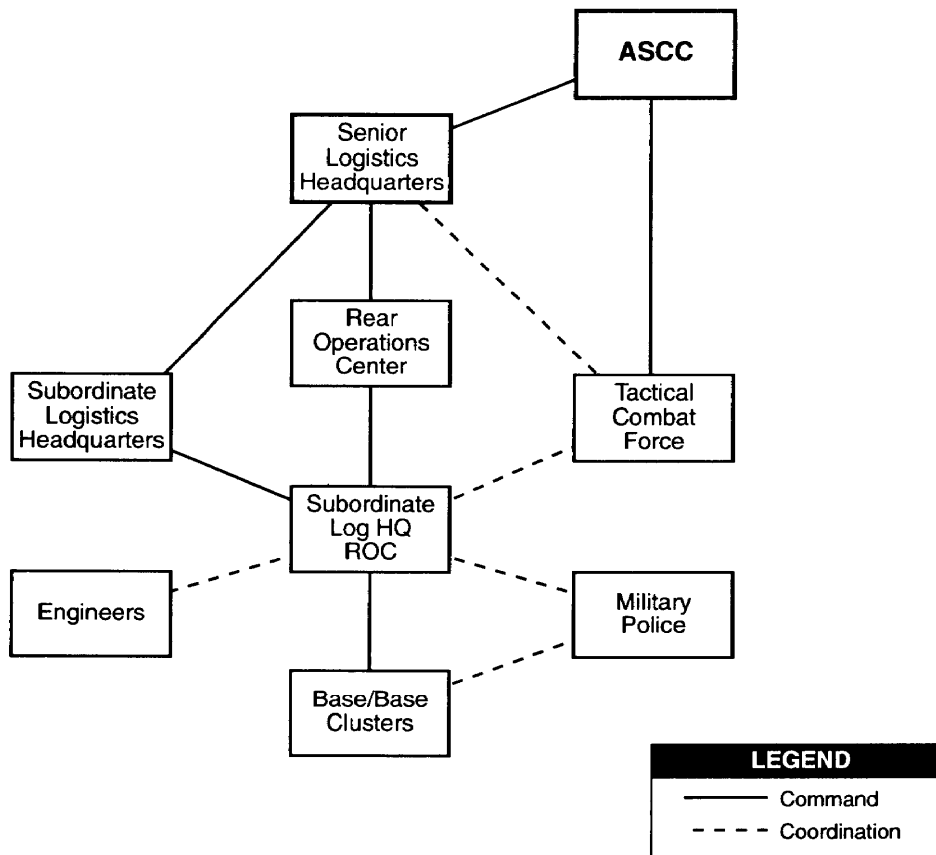


Figure 15-1. Battle Command for Rear Operations

REAR TACTICAL OPERATIONS CENTER

The senior logistics headquarters' rear tactical operations center, an element of the security plans and operations (SPO) staff, is the primary staff element for security operations. The ROC is the planning and coordination agency for the senior logistics headquarters for security operations.

SUBORDINATE SUPPORT HEADQUARTERS

Subordinate support headquarters have the responsibility for coordinating base and base cluster defense to ensure protection from Level I and II threats. In his assigned portion of the rear area, the subordinate support commander is responsible for the full range of rear operations as defined by the senior

logistics headquarters and subject to applicable HN laws and agreements.

The subordinate support headquarters commander must ensure that all bases/base clusters in his AOR/AO are trained and prepared for involvement in rear operations. The execution of responsibilities requires the utmost in cooperation and coordination between the subordinate logistics headquarters and tenants. The SPO is the subordinate logistics headquarters commander's chief staff for rear operations planning and execution. The subordinate logistics headquarters ROC is the SPO's primary staff element for conducting security operations and terrain management.

BASES AND BASE CLUSTERS

The base and base cluster form the basic building block for planning, coordinating, and executing base defense operations. The ROC, in coordination with the SPO, organizes units occupying the subordinate logistics headquarters AOR into base clusters. He does this based on the SPO's requirements and recommendations for placement.

The ROC recommends to the SPO the appointment of base cluster commanders from

units in the cluster. Normally, the base cluster commander is the senior commander in the base cluster. The base cluster commander forms a base cluster operations center (BCOC) from his own staff and available base assets.

Bases are formed within the base cluster (see Figure 15-2). A base is a single-service base or a joint-service base. A joint-service base is either one in which one service has primary interest or two or more services have co-equal

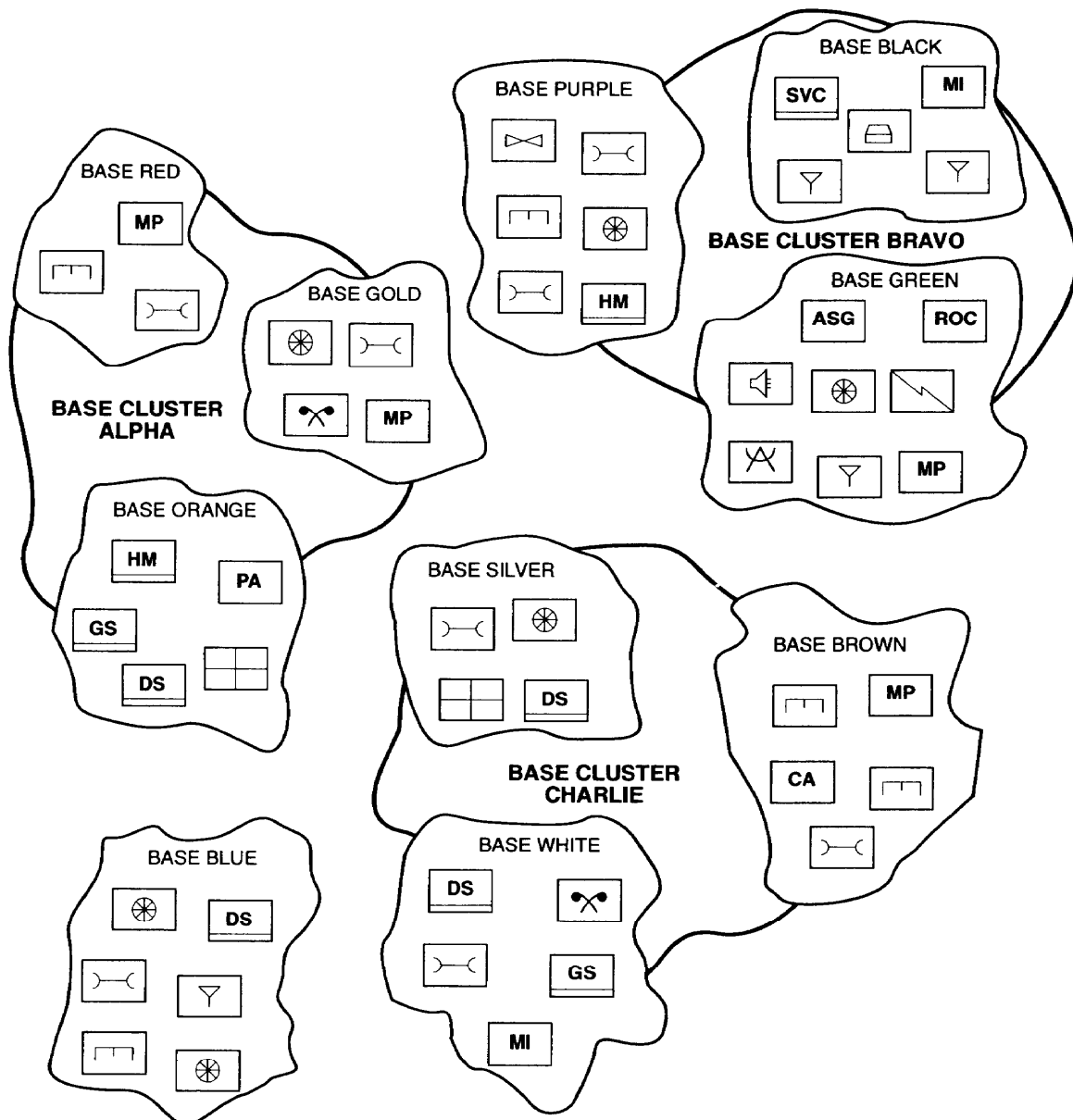


Figure 15-2. Examples of Notional Bases and Base Clusters

interests. The base cluster, in coordination with ROC, appoints the base commanders. Base commanders also form base defense operations centers (BDOC).

BASE COMMANDER

The base commander is responsible for base security and defense. All forces assigned to the base are under his OPCON for base defense purposes. The base commander's responsibilities for base defense include-

- Establishing a BDOC from available base assets to serve as the base's tactical operations center and focal point for security and defense. The BDOC will assist with the planning, direction, coordination, integration, and control of base defense efforts.
- Establishing an alternate BDOC from base resources or, if base assets are not available, designating a headquarters element from units dedicated to the base for its local defense.
- Planning for the inclusion of transient units by ensuring base defense plans include provisions for augmenting the regularly assigned base defense forces present at the base during periods of threat.

BASE CLUSTER COMMANDER

The base cluster commander is responsible for securing his base, coordinating the defense of bases within his base cluster, and integrating base defense plans into a base

cluster defense plan. His specific responsibilities include-

- Establishing a BCOC from his own staff and available base or base cluster assets to serve as the base cluster's tactical operations center and focal point for planning, directing, coordinating, integrating, and controlling base cluster defense activities.
- Providing appropriate facilities and housing for necessary liaison personnel from bases from within the cluster.

INDIVIDUAL UNIT COMMANDERS

The commanders of units at a base are responsible for—

- Participating in the preparation of base defense planning.
- Providing, staffing, and operating base defense facilities in accordance with base defense plans.
- Conducting individual and unit training to ensure forces' readiness to perform their assigned tasks in defense of the base.
- Providing appropriate facilities and essential personnel for the BDOC and the base commander.
- Providing liaison personnel to advise the base commander on matters peculiar to their units.
- Providing for internal security of the base.
- Providing C³ systems, including common-user communications within the command.

RESPONSE FORCES

The senior logistics headquarters ROC may designate response forces, normally MP, to respond to bases or base clusters under Level II/III threat. The size of the response force is based on the current IPB and the commander's risk assessment. Once designated as a response force, MP, along with supported ROCs and base or base clusters, will conduct a joint IPB, review bases and base cluster defense plans, exchange signal operations

instructions, and identify response forces necessary to counter likely enemy activities.

The senior logistics headquarters commander's concept and intent, established protection priorities, and the COMMZ IPB drive the response planning. Base defense and response forces incorporate this information into their own IPB and, in coordination with the senior ROCs, position themselves where they can best respond to major enemy

incursions. Should response forces encounter or engage enemy forces beyond their ability to defeat, they will immediately notify the

appropriate ROC and maintain contact with the enemy until a tactical combat force can be committed.

TACTICAL COMBAT FORCES

When the threat in the rear area exceeds response force capabilities, the ROC commander requests the commitment of a tactical combat force from the ASCC. The tactical combat force usually remains under OPCON of the ASCC, although lower level commanders (senior logistics headquarters, subordinate support headquarters) may be granted this authority in special circumstances. Tactical combat forces are obtained from the following:

- Tactical units passing through the rear area to the forward-deployed force.
- Units assigned or reconstituted in the rear area. The ASCC may have units assigned to rear security operations, including an MP brigade TF based on METT-T.
- Tactical units of other service components or allies within the theater army under OPCON of the senior army commander.
- Tactical units from forward-deployed elements.
- A task-organized force from assets disembarking in the theater.

The tactical combat force is usually a combined arms organization. Senior logistics headquarters and subordinate support headquarters ROCs may attach or assign liaison teams to this tactical unit for security missions. The tactical combat force may have attached or DS artillery or attack helicopters and be task-organized by the tactical commander.

The assigned tactical combat force commander frequently uses the ROC to assist in coordinating rear security operations. The size and composition of the tactical combat force will depend upon METT-T. The senior army commander provides the tactical combat force commander with an operational plan that identifies all units under his OPCON and the boundaries of the tactical combat force's tactical AO.

The tactical combat force coordinates logistics support from support assets in the rear area through the ROC. Upon completion of the mission, the tactical combat force returns to its parent unit or reconsolidates in the rear area.

The ROC will assist the tactical combat force commander in completing all necessary coordination for the security operation. The MCA should identify and control routes, and available area MP should assist in the moves of the tactical combat force into position. When required, local security forces will brief the tactical combat force commander on the current situation.

If the HNS is viable and has retained responsibility for external base/base cluster security operations, the senior logistics headquarters or subordinate logistics headquarters ROC will coordinate with HNS for tactical combat force requirements. The HN will assign its tactical combat force to a tactical area. Depending on existing agreements, US forces within the area may also be placed under OPCON of the HN tactical combat forces.

FIRE SUPPORT

The objective of fire support at the operational level is to provide protection to the projected force and sustainment base. These fire support operations are planned and may be continued until strategic and campaign objectives are achieved. Vigilance is

maintained until all forces are redeployed. This requirement is applicable to war and MOOTW.

Fire support is normally provided to rear areas on a contingency basis. There may, however, be times when fire support assets are

positioned in rear areas in preparation for a pending threat. An essential part of the planning process in rear security operations is targeting in support of bases, base clusters, and the commander's overall plan for conducting rear security operations.

Rarely are sufficient fire support assets available to simultaneously satisfy the needs of both the CZ and the rear areas. The immediate problem for the rear operations commander is manipulating limited fire support resources. Considerations that affect the application of fire support for rear area security operations are-

- The reduction of fire support to the main battle effort.
- The suitability of the fire support as determined by the overall tactical situation.
- The responsiveness of the available weapons systems.
- The precision and collateral damage effect of the weapon systems.
- The existence of a communications net to facilitate fire support activities.
- The availability of observers to identify targets and adjust fires.

The availability and timely use of fire support in security operations are critical to the overall rear area security plan. Many units

and agencies located in the COMMZ have assets to detect and locate enemy forces. Some of these assets belong to the fire support units themselves. Refer to FM 6-20-30 for more information on fire support to Army corps and division operations. Other considerations for operational-level fire support for rear operations are as follows:

- Fire support organizations in ROCs may have to be formed on an ad hoc basis.
- The use of field artillery in rear operations will require on-order tactical missions.
- Army aviation or close air support is the most responsive fire support asset for use in rear areas.
- Fire support coordination measures are used to protect friendly units.
- When a brigade-size task force is committed for Level III threats, fire support will normally consist of a DS artillery unit and battalion TF mortars.

Besides the Army, other services have extensive target-acquisition capabilities, along with HN military or HN civil authorities. Commanders may use any or all of these assets to predictor respond to Level II and III threats. Rear security operations are important to the sustainment forces in the CZ and to ensure freedom of action throughout the theater.

AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE ASSETS

The theater is provided air and missile defense protection throughout all phases of force projection operations. The operational-level Army AD element provides operational-level ADA brigades, which participate in joint DCA operations and provide protection from surveillance by UAVs and attack by lethal UAVs, cruise missiles, fixed-wing and rotary-wing manned aircraft, and TBMs.

The operational-level Army air and missile defense organization integrates Army AD activities throughout the theater of operations. Specifically, the operational-level ADA element provides air and missile defense to theater rear area critical assets. As a result, CSS buildup and sustainment activities can be conducted unencumbered. Each critical asset is evaluated

to determine its priority for air and missile defense protection. The establishment of a priority is based on the threat characteristics and the criticality, vulnerability, and recuperability of the critical asset.

ADA units normally enter the theater during the early entry phase of force projection and continue to arrive during the buildup leading to decisive operations. During these activities, the priorities for air and missile defense protection to selected critical assets can change. Generally, the critical assets receive either dedicated—assigned ADA units under a standard tactical mission—or complementary ADA protection. Complementary ADA protection uses the tactical and technical characteristics of ADA

fire units to defend critical assets not receiving dedicated air and missile defense protection.

ADA units are also capable of providing air and missile defense protection to the COSCOM, DISCOM, and brigade trains. This protection is provided by using organic ADA units assigned to the corps and division. The CINC will approve the recommended critical assets to be protected in two categories: facilities and geopolitical points. Facilities identified as critical assets are:

- SPODS.
- APODS.
- C² headquarters.
- CSS sites and bases.
- Communication installations.
- Assembly areas.
- ADA sites.

Geopolitical points identified as critical assets are:

- Capitols (seats of government).
- Key civilian industrial areas.
- Key utility areas.
- Railroad marshaling yards.
- Population areas.
- Bridges.

The integration of the air and missile defense designs provide protection and provide the senior CSS headquarters command the flexibility to sustain the force. The benefits of this ADA infrastructure throughout the theater provide the full spectrum of air and missile defense to the CSS structure in an integrated manner. This spectrum of activities includes:

- Offensive counterair operations—to destroy the enemy TBM threat capability to detect and launch.
- Defensive counterair operations—to destroy the enemy tactical ballistic missiles and air platforms in flight.
- Battlefield management/C⁴I—to provide for accurate and timely force and engagement operations.

The senior CSS headquarters ROC maintains a communications link through the required air defense coordinator. The link with the area air defense commander ensures that bases are constantly aware of the air defense status. The ROC coordinates with the area air and missile defense assets within its AOR so that it can integrate air and missile defense coverage into its planning for terrain management and MC functions.

LIAISON ELEMENTS

All services having forces located in the AOR of a subordinate logistics headquarters will provide liaison to the subordinate logistics headquarters ROC. Their primary duties are to coordinate ground defensive operations and procedures. The service element will provide appropriate communication between its liaison officers and ROC representatives.

AIR FORCE

In addition to the tactical air control parties provided for maneuver elements, the Air Force component will provide air liaison elements to all land levels according to joint force guidance and directives.

The Air Force will normally provide an air support coordination element (ASCE) to the senior logistics headquarters ROC. The ASCE's

primary duties are to assist and advise in the planning of CAS in the rear area and to coordinate the use of HNS. Liaison members monitor communications nets for subordinate logistics headquarters ROCs and selected bases and units to---

- Advise and assist unit commanders in understanding CAS capabilities, limitations, and procedures.
- Assist in preparation of the fire support annexes in operations plans of the senior logistics headquarters and subordinate logistics headquarters ROCs.
- Train senior logistics headquarters and subordinate logistics headquarters ROC personnel to implement the provision of this concept.

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The Navy will provide a liaison team to the subordinate support headquarters ROC or the highest land component headquarters located in the harbor. The team will provide naval expertise, intelligence, and liaison capability with naval assets to support rear security operations and to prepare naval fire support

plans. In situations where Marine Corps assets are tasked to provide fire support for rear security operations, the Marine Corps element should provide a liaison element or an air naval gunfire liaison company team to the senior logistics headquarters or subordinate logistics headquarters ROC.

NONCOMBATANT EVACUATION OPERATIONS

While the theater commander must transport combat personnel and supplies into the theater, he must also ensure that noncombatants are evacuated from the theater. The ASCC and its subordinate senior logistics headquarters and functional commands are normally responsible for ensuring noncombatants are transported to departure points where they can be evacuated from the theater. The requirement to evacuate noncombatants from an area of a theater or from the theater itself can arise at any time across the range of military operations. In several areas of the world, the US has considerable numbers of forward-deployed forces. They are often accompanied by their family members. In even more areas are large numbers of government civilian employees and private citizens who need to be evacuated before or as soon as hostilities commence.

Advance warning time of situations that may require NEO are short. NEO compete with readiness activities for resources such as transportation and facilities. Therefore, they must figure prominently in transition-to-war plans. Only with extensive, detailed planning

and realistic rehearsals can evacuation time be minimized.

Logistics elements play a large part in NEO. The senior logistics headquarters is a likely candidate to provide essential supplies and shelter. Medical organizations operating on an area basis provide medical and veterinary support. The senior MC organization, working closely with senior logistics headquarters and senior transportation headquarters, will plan transportation and task operators to handle it. HN resources are used to the maximum extent feasible. Military police provide security within resources.

Senior and subordinate support headquarters ROCs must comply with NEO security requirements throughout their AORs. To secure departure routes and holding areas for noncombatants, they must have identified assets. To allow for safe and expeditious evacuation with minimum exposure to ongoing or anticipated combat operations, the senior movement control organization makes the route selections while the senior logistics headquarters designates the holding areas.

RECEPTION OPERATIONS

Reception operations include the initial reception of units and equipment, the preparation of these units for combat, and their subsequent movement forward into the CZ.

The senior logistics headquarters, subordinate logistics headquarters, and functional commands are responsible for planning reception operations for units arriving in the theater. These commands also coordinate with HN for HNS required to ensure operation success.

The senior and subordinate logistics headquarters ROCs plan and coordinate security requirements. While reception operations are underway, key facilities such as APODs, pre-positioned equipment and materiel, ammunition, fuel, and personnel holding areas are defended. Planners must recognize that reception assets are high-priority targets and plan accordingly.

AREA DAMAGE CONTROL

ADC measures are those taken before, during, and after hostile action or natural disasters to reduce the probability of damage, to minimize its effects, and to aid in the continuation or reestablishment of normal operations. Repair, if necessary, occurs after the damage is controlled.

Area support groups supporting functional commanders prioritize overall ADC requirements relative to theater missions and capabilities. US engineers and HNs have a major portion of the capability to perform these tasks. The HN, depending upon agreements, may have overall responsibility for ADC. In such circumstances, the US has responsibility for ADC on bases/installations and may provide assistance to HNs for ADC missions within their capability.

Other forces and assets that contribute to the ADC mission include ordnance, MP, chemical, CA, maintenance, medical, signal, supply, transportation, and transiting units. HNS can be a vital resource for ADC in the rear area. Early HNS identification and coordination are essential to supplement ADC efforts. Responsibilities and support from HN assets will normally be negotiated at theater level and as part of the status-of-force agreements and treaties.

THEATER COMMANDER

The theater commander is responsible for ADC in the COMMZ and establishes overall priorities. These priorities generally focus on repair of damage having the greatest impact on the conduct of close and deep sustainment operations.

ARMY SERVICE COMPONENT COMMANDER

The ASCC sets and prioritizes overall ADC requirements relative to the Army's mission and capabilities. He establishes these priorities

in coordination with the senior theater component commands, supported area commands, and ASCC functional commands.

LOGISTICS HEADQUARTERS

Senior and subordinate support headquarters commanders are responsible for planning ADC operations that employ assets within their areas. They must plan ADC operations through their respective ROCs. Plans identify anticipated requirements for ADC that exceed capabilities and the relative priorities of those ADC missions.

SENIOR COMMANDERS

Senior commanders of bases and installations within the COMMZ coordinate requirements for ADC with the ASCC commander. Army and Air Force commanders establish priorities for ADC missions as part of their planning process at the base or installation level. All units are responsible for providing ADC within their base/installation to the extent of their resources and capabilities.

ENGINEER COMMANDS

The senior engineer command plans, coordinates, and manages ASCC engineer missions. It plans the engineer support required to perform ADC missions according to ASCC priorities. Subordinate engineer headquarters are assigned ADC missions in a specified area. These engineer headquarters and their supported areas coordinate the development and execution of ADC plans.

The ACEM and DCEM retain responsibility for performing ADC functions beyond the capability of the bases and units in support of subordinate logistics headquarters commanders. Engineer units are assigned under OPCON of the subordinate logistics headquarters commander for specific ADC missions or periods of time.

HOST-NATION SUPPORT

The use of HNS enhances the capability of US forces to maintain successful combat operations on any battlefield. In many areas of the world, HNS is a requirement since at EACs the rear area is friendly HN sovereign territory that the US supports. Viable HNS, however,

may only be available in certain areas of the world.

HNS includes civil and military assistance provided by an HN to allied forces and organizations that are located in or transiting

through HN territory. This support can include assistance in almost every aspect required to sustain military operations within a theater.

HN personnel and organizations can perform many functions as well as or better than US personnel or units because of their familiarity with the language, local customs, terrain, transportation and communications networks, facilities, and equipment. HNS requirements and capabilities vary based on the wartime requirements of the HN itself. The scope of HNS is limited only by the availability of resources and the ability of the US and HN to reach agreements concerning their use.

HNS to allied forces and organizations is normally based on signed agreements. These agreements formalize the HN's intent and willingness to support US requirements and defined tasks, functions, operations, priorities, and procedures for HNS. Agreements permit HN, US, and allied forces to-

- Expedite provisions of requested support.
- Identify the types and quantities of available support.
- Specify conditions under which support will or will not be provided.
- Specify the status of HN civilian and military personnel committed to HNS.
- Specify the ROE beyond self-defense within designated bases and base clusters.

Operations take place in a foreign nation whose sovereignty remains viable. HNS agreements may give the HN responsibility for overall rear security operations. If the HN retains responsibility for rear security operations, the senior logistics headquarters ROC will advise the HN representative of the requirement for tactical combat forces.

The US will establish CA teams to coordinate US- and HN-related activities. Each CA team designates the points of contact for each HN civil and military echelon. The CA teams interface with appropriate US military echelons. The teams are identified by echelon from highest to lowest as follows:

- National political/military command.
- Civil/military districts.
- Military regions.
- Military subregions.

Requests for support are channeled through HNS liaison civil-military elements located at each US military echelon and CA team. This method of integrating HNS into the US force structure provides the required interface at each echelon to achieve unit effort in support of rear security operations.

HNS for rear security is characterized by centralized planning and decentralized execution. Centralized planning begins with both the HN and US commanders at each echelon. They ensure that rear security plans are combined into an area security and protection plan that complements and coincides, where possible, with established US and HN organizations, structures, political boundaries, and agreements for support, to include ROE.

The HN political command, with its military liaison counterpart, is the initial point of civil-military interface for rear security operations. Coordination at this echelon fixes responsibility and establishes measures to ensure coordination of rear security at its subordinate command levels. A common communications network operating between the CA teams and the US Army ROCs enhances integration of support.