

APPENDIX B

TOTAL MOVEMENTS CONTINUUM

This appendix provides an overview of the MDRD processes within the total movements continuum. The Army's ability to rapidly expand and project forces and logistics with the proper mix of combat support and combat service support is central to the Army's role as the nation's strategic land force. See Figure B-1.

THE PHASES

Commanders, in order to effectively deploy and employ their forces, must understand the total movements continuum. See Figure B-2.

The deployment process phases may overlap with unit call-up and the phases of the mobilization process. Concurrent with forces deployment, lodgement, stabilization, and restoration activities decisive engagements and/or conditions amicable to US interests may result as the force begins the redeployment process.

As forces are redeploying, select units and supplies may continue to deploy. The redeployment process phases may overlap with continuing deployments and also parallel demobilization activities. Commanders must plan for these simultaneous MDRD processes. Chapters 3, 4, 5, and 6 provide general guidelines for commanders to meet MDRD requirements.

Commanders must use care in developing the TPFDD by which forces and supplies are deployed. During the deployment process, US forces are most vulnerable to significant casualties. Conversely, as closure times extend, the duration of a crisis extends, increasing the risk of casualties.

With the knowledge that extended force closure times may directly increase the domestic and coalition support risks for a particular crisis, commanders rigorously discipline their strategic lift requirements to that which is needed (deployment equipment list) for the operation.

Additionally, strategic mobility limitations require commanders to prioritize unit displacements where they are mutually supporting and capable of defending against potential threats as a prelude to decisive engagements.

Commanders, through their G3/G4 staffs prescribe, in TPFDD format, who, what, when, and where forces will be deployed. Based on these initiatives and the unit's ability to accurately identify its movement requirements (in UMD format), USTRANSCOM then identifies how the unit will move to meet national military strategy objectives.

Deployment is a command-directed, but shared, staff responsibility with a 51 percent or greater role for G3 operations and a 49 percent or lesser role for G4 logistics. This coordinated staff effort may change percentages, but deployment must remain shared to ensure the commander's intent is successfully executed.

Units will normally align the how portion of the total movements continuum to their logistics staff personnel (G4/S4), who articulate movement requirements in transportation terms for the USTRANSCOM. They

also work closely with their commander and G3/S3 in developing a well-planned, practiced unit movement plan that is both responsive and flexible to the aligned OPLAN or OPORD.

SUMMARY

In summary, the total movements continuum is dynamic and requires extensive attention to detail. Commanders must clearly convey their intent. Their G3/G4 staffs must synchronize coordination to successfully complete the several processes that comprise the continuum. The most reliable plans ensure flexibility in overcoming obstacles and allow for quick adjustment to adverse events that occur during OPORD.

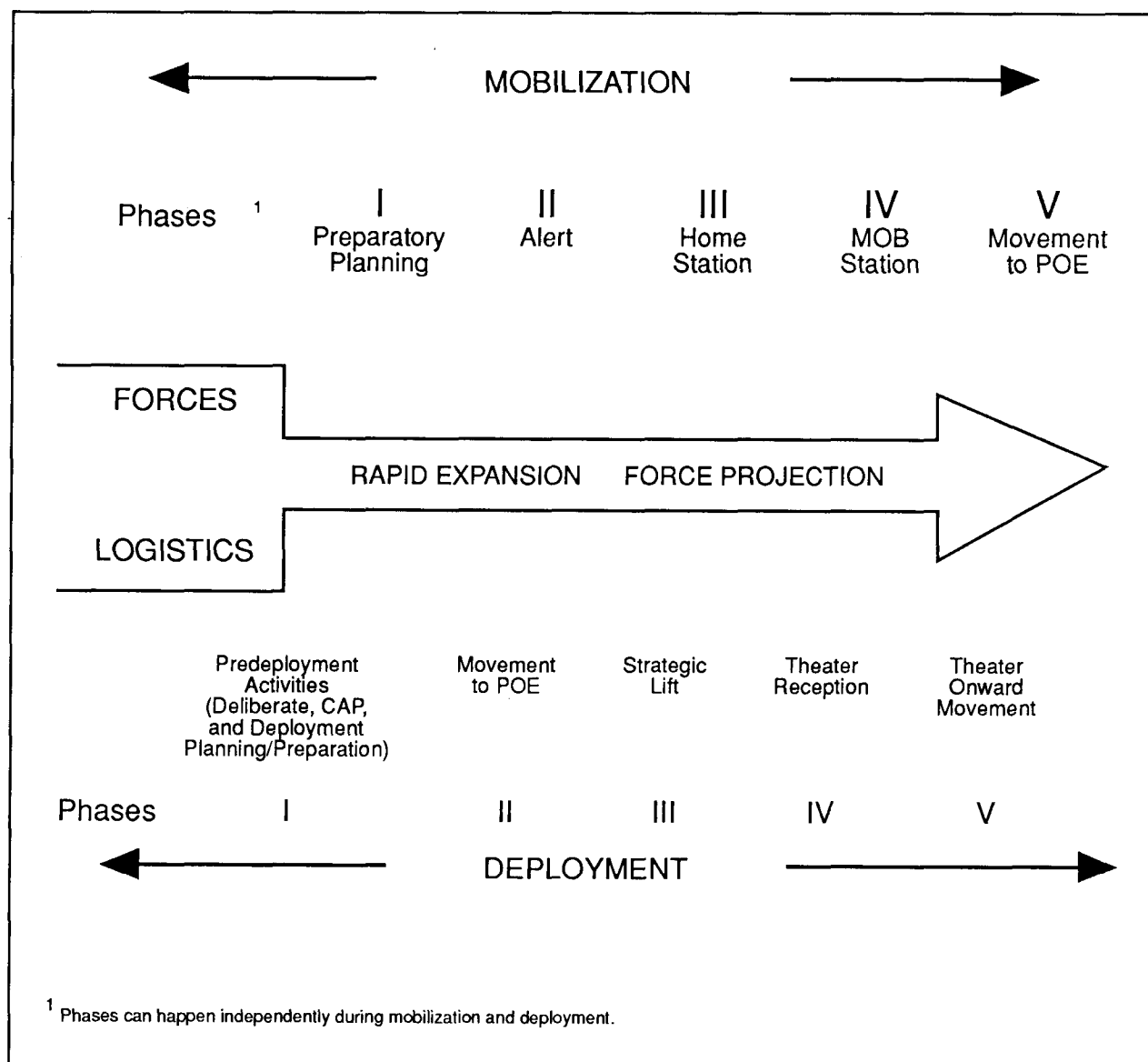


Figure B-1. Army Force Projection

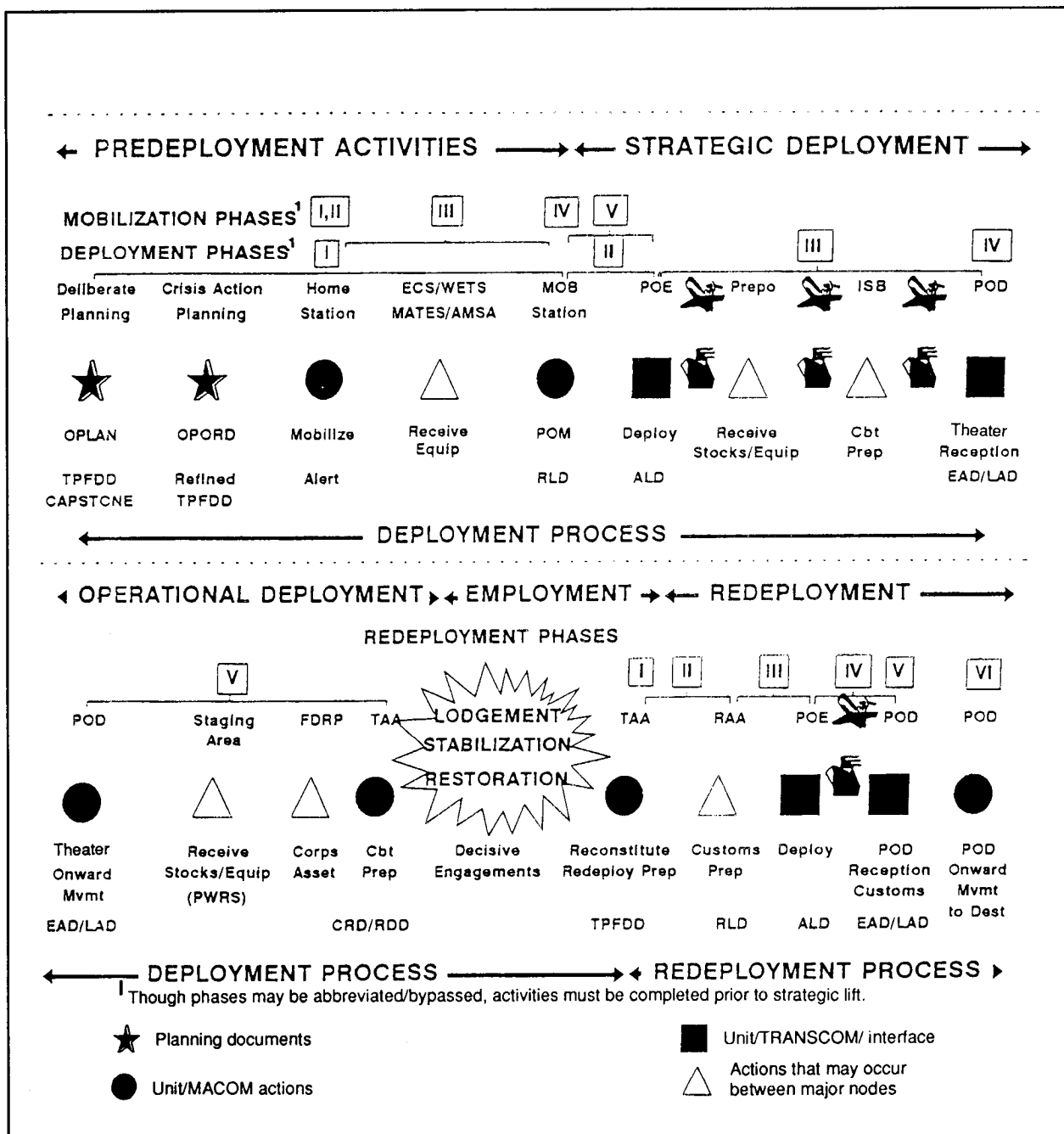


Figure B-2. Total Movements Continuum