

APPENDIX A

REAR AREA THREAT INFORMATION



GENERAL

Maintenance assets are inherently susceptible to attack from the forward line of troops (FLOT) through CONUS due to their composition and diverse missions. The small size, limited combat power, and geographic dispersion of maintenance assets combine to present a highly vulnerable target. These factors, coupled with the future centralization of selected maintenance functions, make maintenance activities vulnerable and lucrative.

The following are the most probable threats by type and area which will impact on the general support company's mission. For more information on rear area operations, see FM 90-14.

Agents, terrorists, and Warsaw Pact (WP) sympathizers, although not a significant combat threat, can disrupt operations and inflict severe damage on Ordnance activities. The threat will use information collected by these elements in their overall effort to identify and target key activities. Additionally, these groups will conduct random acts of sabotage against

soft targets. Units in the division rear area and beyond are the most likely to encounter these threats due to the lower intensity of combat and the higher density of soft targets.

Special purpose forces (SPFs) pose a threat similar to that of agents, terrorists, and WP sympathizers. However, SPF teams are highly trained, well-equipped experts organized to accomplish specific missions. As with Level I threats, probability of contact with SPF teams increases the further away a unit is from the FLOT.

Air mobile and airborne forces, because of their flexibility, overwhelming combat power, and operational depth of employment pose a serious threat to ordnance operations. Because of their employment range limitations, the threat will probably employ air mobile forces from the FLOT to the corps/TA boundary, with Airborne forces reserved for deeper, high-value targets like theater port and maintenance complexes.

Radio electronic combat (REC) poses the single greatest threat to the LOG C2 system. The disruption or destruction of the logistics control system would effectively halt maintenance and logistic support until the system was either repaired or replaced.

Soviet air operations will impact on every ordnance activity throughout the entire width and depth of the mission area. Rotary wing assets pose the greatest threat to units operating within the division area. Threat helicopters will affect maintenance operations through normal combat and by engagement as targets of opportunity within their area of operation. Fixed-wing assets present a greater threat to deep (corps and above) ordnance operations because of their numerous combat capabilities,

Artillery and missiles will also impact on operations throughout the mission area. Units deployed forward in the brigade and division areas are highly susceptible to attack by tube artillery while units in corps and theater areas would be more susceptible to missiles.

NBC operations by the threat will significantly degrade mission accomplishment. Every echelon should expect attack. Not only will maintenance units have to defend against attack, they might have to operate in a contaminated environment. The use of

nuclear weapons, because of electromagnetic pulse (EMP), would compound this problem.

Tank battle attacks into the rear area would devastate maintenance operations. Due to the small size and limited combat power of most maintenance units, they are incapable of defending against an attack by a major armored force (tank company or larger). It is doubtful most ordnance activities would be the primary objective of an operational maneuver group (OMG). The primary threat from OMGs is to disrupt or destroy key maintenance and logistic facilities deep in the rear area and from incidental combat with raiding parties. If an activity is between an OMG and its objective, it will be engaged.

Support unit. When a general support maintenance unit is in a tactical environment, care should be taken to set up in a small geographically definable area that is well-drained, possessing good hard stands and an all weather road network running through the area. Permanent or semipermanent buildings can be located in the area to be used for shop space. Whenever possible, the position should be situated and configured to take advantage of natural and man-made terrain features for concealment and base defense.