

Appendix F

Support for the Heavy/Light and Infantry Divisions

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HEAVY/LIGHT DIVISION

DIVISION OPERATIONS

The threat to the heavy/light division (2d Infantry Division) relies on massive firepower, large numbers in multiple echelons, and high maneuverability. It may attack with very little warning. The US and its allies must defend against the initial attack, then seize the initiative while using the terrain to maximum advantage.

The US division designed to oppose the threat is a mix of heavy and light forces along with aviation assets. The heavy forces are to be used along roads and in open areas. Aviation assets may be used to insert infantry forces into overwatch positions. The division has only a limited capability for self-sustainment. It is designed to fight as part of a combined command, not a US corps. FM 71-100 describes the operations of the heavy/light division.

DISCOM

The DISCOM structure for this division is designed to support a heavy/light mix without some support normally provided by a corps to a division. The DISCOM is a modified heavy DISCOM with attachments. The HHC/MMC organization and functions are the same as those of the heavy DISCOM. Since there is no COSCOM supporting the DISCOM, the MSB has maintenance teams to provide or supplement repair capability for MLRS, Chapparral, tracked vehicles, artillery/turret/fire

control systems, and radios. Supply and missile maintenance capabilities have also been adjusted to meet the force requirements. The AMCO has also been specifically structured to support the mix of aircraft assigned to the division.

The DISCOM has three FSBs. Each is constructed differently to meet the needs of its supported force. The basic support concepts and considerations employed by each FSB are the same as those discussed in this manual and FM 63-20. The support requirements, however, will differ due to differences in terrain and mission, as mentioned above, and the people and equipment of the supported force. Each FSB is designed to support two battalions. One supports two tank battalions, one supports two mechanized infantry, and one supports two infantry. The HHD of each FSB is identical to that of the heavy division FSB HHD.

The FSBs for the tank and mechanized infantry battalions can plan to support as do the FSBs of heavy divisions. The FSB for the infantry battalions support a primarily dismounted force. The decreased mobility and less complex weapon systems reduce logistics requirements, particularly Class III and V and maintenance. Like the units it supports, the FSB must use dispersion and relative mobility in close terrain. FM 7-30 has information on infantry brigade operations.

INFANTRY DIVISION (NATIONAL GUARD)

DIVISION OPERATIONS

The infantry division operates in nearly all terrain, weather, and enemy situations. Since its maneuver elements consist primarily of dismounted infantry, the division is optimized to fight in terrain with restricted mobility. The division's tank and mechanized infantry battalions give the commander flexibility in tailoring the force. He can mix heavy and light forces at the brigade level. Further discussion of infantry division and brigade operations is in FMs 71-100 and 7-30.

DISCOM

The DISCOM of the infantry division is structured the same as the heavy division DISCOM with an HHC/MMC MSB, three FSBs, and an AMCO. However, these units, with exception of the HHC/MMC, have been modified to account for differences in the supported force. The AMCO as well as the S&S, TMT, and missile maintenance companies of the MSB employ the same support principles as the heavy DISCOM, though their organizations have been modified to

account for differences in aircraft, weapon systems, and other equipment in the division.

As in the heavy/light division, each FSB is designed to support a different brigade structure. One FSB supports the two heavy battalions and one infantry battalion. It is structured like a heavy division FSB and operates much the same. It must constantly be prepared to task organize to support brigade task forces which include one or both of its supported brigade's heavy battalions.

The other two FSBs are designed to support brigades whose maneuver battalions are infantry. One is structured to support three battalions and the other four. Their HHDs are identical to those of heavy division FSBs. Their supply companies have a greater capability in the supply section for Class I, II, IV, and VII supply than their counterparts in a heavy division. However, they have less than half the

bulk fuel storage and distribution capability since they support dismounted infantry. The medical company ambulance platoons have no tracked ambulances. The maintenance companies are also structured like heavy division FSB companies except that capabilities in specific areas have been adjusted to correspond to the number and types of equipment in the supported force. An infantry SST is allocated for each battalion supported.

Like the heavy/light division FSB designed to support the two infantry battalions, the FSBs of the infantry division support a force built around dismounted infantry soldiers. Class III and V consumption is significantly less than for a heavy brigade, and so is the maintenance requirement. Mobility is limited. FSBs must prepare to support task-organized forces with heavy forces either from within the division or from without.