

Training and Evaluation Outline Report

Task Number: 71-8-7222

Task Title: Defend an Area of Operations (Division - Corps)

Supporting Reference(s):

Step Number	Reference ID	Reference Name	Required	Primary
	ADP 3-0	Unified Land Operations	Yes	No
	FM 3-90	TACTICS	Yes	Yes
	FM 5-0	THE OPERATIONS PROCESS	Yes	No
	FM 6-0	MISSION COMMAND	Yes	No

Condition: The command has received an operations plan, or warning, operations, or fragmentary order from higher headquarters and is exercising mission command. The commander has issued guidance on defending an area of operations. The command has established communications with subordinate and adjacent units, and higher headquarters. The mission command system is operational and processing information in accordance with standard operating procedures. Some iterations of this task should be performed in MOPP.

Standard: The unit defends an area of operation in accordance with the operations, or fragmentary order, and the higher commander's guidance and intent. The unit defends from mutually supporting positions that are prepared, occupied, and reconnoitered before the "defend not later than" time specified in the order. The unit adjusts positions to cover target reference points, engagement areas, and sectors of fire, based on the common operating picture. The unit complies with the rules of engagement.

Note: Task steps and performance measures may not apply to every unit or echelon. Prior to evaluation, coordination should be made between evaluator and the evaluated units' higher headquarters to determine the performance measures that may not be evaluated.

Special Equipment: None

Safety Level: Low

Task Statements

Cue: None

DANGER

Leaders have an inherent responsibility to conduct Composite Risk Management to ensure the safety of all Soldiers and promote mission accomplishment.

WARNING

Composite Risk Management is the Army's primary decision-making process to identify hazards, reduce risk, and prevent both accidental and tactical loss. All soldiers have the responsibility to learn and understand the risks associated with this task.

CAUTION

Identifying hazards and controlling risks across the full spectrum of Army functions, operations, and activities is the responsibility of all Soldiers.

Remarks: 21 November 2011

Notes: None

TASK STEPS

- * 1. The commander maintains situational awareness and understanding during the mission through knowledge management provided by the staff.
2. The unit conducts confirmation briefings with subordinate units immediately after the operations or fragmentary order is issued to ensure subordinate units understand the commander's intent and concept.
3. The unit conducts mission preparation.
 - a. Conduct extensive intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance.
 - b. Refine the plan based on intelligence updates.
 - c. Conduct pre-combat checks and inspections.
 - (1) Inspect and monitor the progress of defensive preparations to ensure they met the commander's timeline.
 - (2) Seek to identify shortfalls early enough to shift resources.
 - (3) Supervise subordinate troop-leading procedures to ensure planning and preparations are on track and consistent with the unit commander's intent.
 - (4) Use the preparation time prior to the enemy's attack to build the strongest defense possible.
 - (5) Conduct rehearsals during day light hours and limited visibility.
 - (6) Position forces.
 - d. Task-organize units to accomplish the mission.
4. The unit occupies and improves its defensive positions.
 - a. Initiate occupation of defensive positions.
 - (1) Issue a fragmentary order and graphics to subordinate elements.
 - (a) Changes in friendly and enemy situations.
 - (b) Changes to unit tasks, purpose, and general changes to the scheme of maneuver that facilitate occupation of the defensive position.
 - (c) Changes to task organization, including digital changes and effected times.
 - (2) Enter defensive positions from the flank or rear.
 - (3) Subordinate unit sectors of fire and observation overlapped and connected with adjacent units.
 - (4) Designate defensive control measures and disseminates the information to subordinate commanders.
 - (a) Identify tentative locations for each unit's primary defensive position.
 - (b) Identify tentative locations for the subordinate unit's supplementary defensive position.

(5) Adjust positions as necessary to cover target reference points, engagement areas, and or sectors of fire.

(a) Verify direct fire plans and proofed positions.

(b) Adjust primary positions.

(c) Adjust alternate and supplementary positions.

(d) Select covered and concealed displacement routes between primary, alternate, and supplementary positions.

(6) Complete occupation of the defensive positions.

(a) Implement changes based on guidance from higher headquarters.

(b) Direct units to continue improvement of the defensive position with additional steps of a deliberate occupation as time permits.

(7) Maintain security by employing scouts and observation posts.

(8) Provide security for elements working forward in sector such as engineers emplacing obstacles.

(9) Secure obstacles.

(10) Observe template enemy landing zones.

(11) Clear possible enemy observation posts locations.

b. Continue to prepare and or upgrade defensive positions.

(1) Mark vehicle positions.

(2) Mark fire control measures in the engagement area.

(3) Dig survivability positions within the unit's capability.

(4) Position ammunition caches.

(5) Emplace protective obstacles.

(6) Report progress to higher headquarters.

c. Conduct reconnaissance and surveillance operations.

(1) Designate reconnaissance group.

(2) Designate overwatch elements for the reconnaissance group.

(3) Move to a vantage point to view defensive position from the enemy's perspective.

(4) Use covered and concealed routes.

(5) Move through engagement area and identify all likely enemy avenues of approach and key and defensive terrain.

(6) Evaluate any lateral routes.

(7) Determine how the enemy will attack:

(a) Consider how the enemy will employ reconnaissance assets.

(b) Consider where and when the enemy will change formations or establish support by fire positions.

(c) Consider where and when the enemy will conduct a breach and/or assault.

(d) Consider where and when the enemy will commit follow-on forces.

(e) Consider effects of the enemy's combat multipliers.

(f) Consider enemy's rate of movement.

(8) Update digital systems to incorporate the following information:

(a) Fire plans and sector sketches and annotated graphic control measures.

(b) Fire support plans in depth, anticipating the enemy scheme of maneuver and shaping the battlefield.

(c) Emplace observers in vantage points within the defensive area that affords a clear view of the area of operation.

(d) Establish unit fire support control measures that correspond to mission variables.

(e) Designate covered and concealed routes between alternate and successive defensive positions.

(f) Properly manage key locations in the defensive positions and in the engagement areas.

5. The unit's engineers integrate obstacles into the defense and disseminate obstacle overlay(s).

a. Identify obstacles the unit is tasked to emplace by higher headquarters.

b. Specify obstacle locations with defined task and purpose for each.

c. Provide security during emplacement.

d. Direct obstacle emplacement.

e. Identify locations for massing direct and indirect fires.

f. Identify and mark control measures on the ground.

g. Identify tentative locations of key weapon systems providing obstacle coverage.

h. Site obstacle group(s).

(1) Ensure obstacles are covered by direct and indirect fires.

(2) Identify dead space.

(3) Mark general limits and orientation of obstacle groups.

(4) Site and report obstacles.

(a) Report completion of obstacle emplacement, integration, and turnover or transfer.

(b) Report grid locations of the obstacle group and fire control measures.

i. Distribute plans and routinely updated information throughout the preparation phase to subordinate and higher/adjacent units.

6. The unit reports occupation of defensive positions to higher headquarters:

a. Submit the completed obstacle fire plans.

b. Update the common operational picture, to provide current situational understanding and provide timely and accurate information.

7. The unit executes the area defense.

a. Engage the enemy; on order or when engagement criteria are met.

(1) Employ and focus direct fires, repositioning to alternate positions as necessary to destroy enemy forces and maintain survivability.

(2) As required, refocus direct fires to defeat identified enemy elements.

(3) Employ indirect fires in accordance with defensive fire plan to achieve desired effects on the enemy force.

(4) Adjust indirect fires.

(a) Shift indirect fires to suppress or destroy enemy elements.

(b) Lift indirect fires to facilitate movement of friendly elements or when desired target effects on the enemy have been achieved.

(5) Issue additional fragmentary orders to direct or task subordinate units as required.

(6) Move to alternate, supplementary, or successive defensive positions as required maintaining flexibility and survivability.

(7) Issue fragmentary orders to displace when enemy advances in sufficient force to meet the specified displacement criteria.

(8) Send spot reports, situation reports, and make recommendations to higher headquarters.

b. Commit reserves for counterattack in accordance with the higher commander's guidance and intent.

- (1) Recognize enemy deception efforts aimed at causing the premature or indecisive commitment of the reserve.
- (2) Use decision points and named areas of interest developed during construction of the decision support template to trigger execution of a counterattack.
- (3) Defeat the targeted enemy force before being attacked by subsequent enemy forces.
- (4) Seek to avoid the enemy's strength.
- (5) Take advantage of the protection and concealment offered by the terrain and or limited visibility.
- (6) Attack with long-range direct fires from concealed positions synchronized with all available fire support.
- (7) Launch counterattacks around other committed units rather than through them when feasible.
- (8) Provide for the removal of the reserve or the integration of the reserve into the defense after the counterattack.

8. The unit assesses the operation and recommends adjustments to the plan ensuring operations meet the higher commander's guidance and intent.

9. The unit continuously performs composite risk management.

- a. Identify hazards
- b. Assess hazards to determine risk.
- c. Develop controls and make risk decisions.
- d. Implement controls.
- e. Supervise and evaluate.

10. The unit complies with the rules of engagement.

11. The unit consolidates and reorganizes as directed by the commander.

12. The unit prepares for transition to sequels and branches as required or directed.

(Asterisks indicates a leader performance step.)

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	GO	NO-GO	N/A
1. The commander maintained situational awareness and understanding during the mission through knowledge management provided by the staff.			
2. The unit conducted confirmation briefings with subordinate units immediately after the operations or fragmentary order was issued to ensure subordinate units understand the commander's intent and concept.			
3. The unit conducted mission preparation.			
a. Conducted extensive intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance.			
b. Refined the plan based on intelligence updates.			
c. Conducted pre-combat checks and inspections.			
(1) Inspected and monitored the progress of defensive preparations to ensure they met the commander's timeline.			
(2) Sought to identify shortfalls early enough to shift resources.			
(3) Supervised subordinate troop-leading procedures to ensure planning and preparations are on track and consistent with the unit commander's intent.			
(4) Used the preparation time prior to the enemy's attack to build the strongest defense possible.			
(5) Conducted rehearsals during day light hours and limited visibility.			
(6) Positioned forces.			
d. Task-organized units to accomplish the mission.			
4. The unit occupied and improved its defensive positions.			
a. Initiated occupation of defensive positions.			
(1) Issued a fragmentary order and graphics to subordinate elements.			
(a) Changes in friendly and enemy situations.			
(b) Changes to unit tasks, purpose, and general changes to the scheme of maneuver that facilitate occupation of the defensive position.			
(c) Changes to task organization, including digital changes and effected times.			
(2) Entered defensive positions from the flank or rear.			
(3) Subordinate unit sectors of fire and observation overlapped and connected with adjacent units.			
(4) Designated defensive control measures and disseminated the information to subordinate commanders.			
(a) Identify tentative locations for each unit's primary defensive position.			
(b) Identify tentative locations for the subordinate unit's supplementary defensive position.			
(5) Adjusted positions as necessary to cover target reference points, engagement areas, and or sectors of fire.			
(a) Verified direct fire plans and proofed positions.			
(b) Adjusted primary positions.			
(c) Adjusted alternate and supplementary positions.			
(d) Selected covered and concealed displacement routes between primary, alternate, and supplementary positions.			
(6) Completed occupation of the defensive positions.			
(a) Implemented changes based on guidance from higher headquarters.			
(b) Directed units to continue improvement of the defensive position with additional steps of a deliberate occupation as time permits.			
(7) Maintained security by employing scouts and observation posts.			
(8) Provided security for elements working forward in sector such as engineers emplacing obstacles.			
(9) Secured obstacles.			
(10) Observed template enemy landing zones.			

(11) Cleared possible enemy observation posts locations.			
b. Continued to prepare and or upgrade defensive positions.			
(1) Marked vehicle positions.			
(2) Marked fire control measures in the engagement area.			
(3) Dug survivability positions within the unit's capability.			
(4) Positioned ammunition caches.			
(5) Emplaced protective obstacles.			
(6) Reported progress to higher headquarters.			
c. Conducted reconnaissance and surveillance operations.			
(1) Designated reconnaissance group.			
(2) Designated overwatch elements for the reconnaissance group.			
(3) Moved to a vantage point to view defensive position from the enemy's perspective.			
(4) Used covered and concealed routes.			
(5) Moved through the engagement area and identified all likely enemy avenues of approach and key and defensive terrain.			
(6) Evaluated any lateral routes.			
(7) Determine how the enemy will attack.			
(a) Considered how the enemy will employ reconnaissance assets.			
(b) Considered where and when the enemy will change formations or establish support by fire positions.			
(c) Considered where and when the enemy will conduct a breach and/or assault.			
(d) Considered where and when the enemy will commit follow-on forces.			
(e) Considered effects of the enemy's combat multipliers.			
(f) Considered enemy's rate of movement.			
(8) Updated digital systems to incorporate the following information:			
(a) Fire plans and sector sketches and annotated graphic control measures.			
(b) Fire support plans in depth, anticipating the enemy scheme of maneuver and shaping the battlefield.			
(c) Emplaced observers in vantage points within the defensive area that affords a clear view of the area of operation.			
(d) Established unit fire support control measures that correspond to mission variables.			
(e) Designated covered and concealed routes between alternate and successive defensive positions.			
(f) Properly managed key locations in the defensive positions and in the engagement areas.			
5. The unit's engineers integrated obstacles into the defense and disseminated obstacle overlay(s).			
a. Identified obstacles the unit is tasked to emplace by higher headquarters.			
b. Specified obstacle locations with defined task and purpose for each.			
c. Provided security during emplacement.			
d. Directed obstacle emplacement.			
e. Identified locations for massing direct and indirect fires.			
f. Identified and marked control measures on the ground.			
g. Identified tentative locations of key weapon systems providing obstacle coverage.			
h. Sited obstacle group(s).			
(1) Ensured obstacles were covered by direct and indirect fires			
(2) Identified dead space.			
(3) Marked general limits and orientation of obstacle groups.			

(4) Sited and reported obstacles.			
(a) Reported completion of obstacle emplacement, integration, and turnover or transfer.			
(b) Reported grid locations of the obstacle group and fire control measures.			
i. Distributed plans and routinely updated information throughout the preparation phase to subordinate and higher/adjacent units.			
6. The unit reported occupation of defensive positions to higher headquarters.			
a. Submitted the completed obstacle fire plans.			
b. Updated the common operational picture, to provide current situational understanding and provide timely and accurate information.			
7. The unit executed the area defense.			
a. Engaged the enemy; on order or when engagement criteria are met.			
(1) Employed and focused direct fires while repositioning to alternate positions as necessary to destroy enemy forces and maintain survivability.			
(2) As required, properly re-focused direct fires to defeat identified enemy elements.			
(3) Employed indirect fires in accordance with defensive fire plan to achieve desired effects on the enemy force.			
(4) Adjusted indirect fires.			
(a) Shifted indirect fires to suppress or destroy enemy elements.			
(b) Lifted indirect fires to facilitate movement of friendly elements or when desired target effects on the enemy have been achieved.			
(5) Issued additional fragmentary orders to direct or task subordinate units as required.			
(6) Moved to alternate, supplementary, or successive defensive positions as required maintaining flexibility and survivability.			
(7) Issued fragmentary orders to displace when enemy advances in sufficient force to meet the specified displacement criteria.			
(8) Sent spot reports, situation reports, and made recommendations to higher headquarters.			
b. Committed reserves for counterattack in accordance with the higher commander's guidance and intent.			
(1) Recognized enemy deception efforts aimed at causing the premature or indecisive commitment of the reserve.			
(2) Used decision points and named areas of interest developed during construction of the decision support template to trigger execution of a counterattack.			
(3) Defeated the targeted enemy force before being attacked by subsequent enemy forces.			
(4) Sought to avoid the enemy's strength.			
(5) Took advantage of the protection and concealment offered by the terrain and or limited visibility.			
(6) Attacked with long-range direct fires from concealed positions synchronized with all available fire support.			
(7) Launched counterattacks around other committed units rather than through them when feasible.			
(8) Provided for the removal of the reserve or the integration of the reserve into the defense after the counterattack.			
8. The unit assessed the operation and recommended adjustments to the plan ensuring operations meet the higher commander's guidance and intent.			
9. The unit continuously performed composite risk management.			
a. Identified hazards.			
b. Assessed hazards to determine risk.			

Equipment (LIN)

Step ID	LIN	Nomenclature	Qty
No equipment specified			

Material Items (NSN)

Step ID	NSN	LIN	Title	Qty
No equipment specified				

Environment: Environmental protection is not just the law but the right thing to do. It is a continual process and starts with deliberate planning. Always be alert to ways to protect our environment during training and missions. In doing so, you will contribute to the sustainment of our training resources while protecting people and the environment from harmful effects. Refer to FM 3-34.5 Environmental Considerations and GTA 05-08-002 ENVIRONMENTAL-RELATED RISK ASSESSMENT.

Safety: In a training environment, leaders must perform a risk assessment in accordance with FM 5-19, Composite Risk Management. Leaders will complete a DA Form 7566 COMPOSITE RISK MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET during the planning and completion of each task and sub-task by assessing mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available-time available and civil considerations, (METT-TC). Note: During MOPP training, leaders must ensure personnel are monitored for potential heat injury. Local policies and procedures must be followed during times of increased heat category in order to avoid heat related injury. Consider the MOPP work/rest cycles and water replacement guidelines IAW FM 3-11.4, NBC Protection, FM 3-11.5, CBRN Decontamination. .