

U.S. ARMY SERGEANTS MAJOR ACADEMY (BSNCOC)

W108

JUN 99

REAR OPERATIONS

PRERESIDENT TRAINING SUPPORT PACKAGE

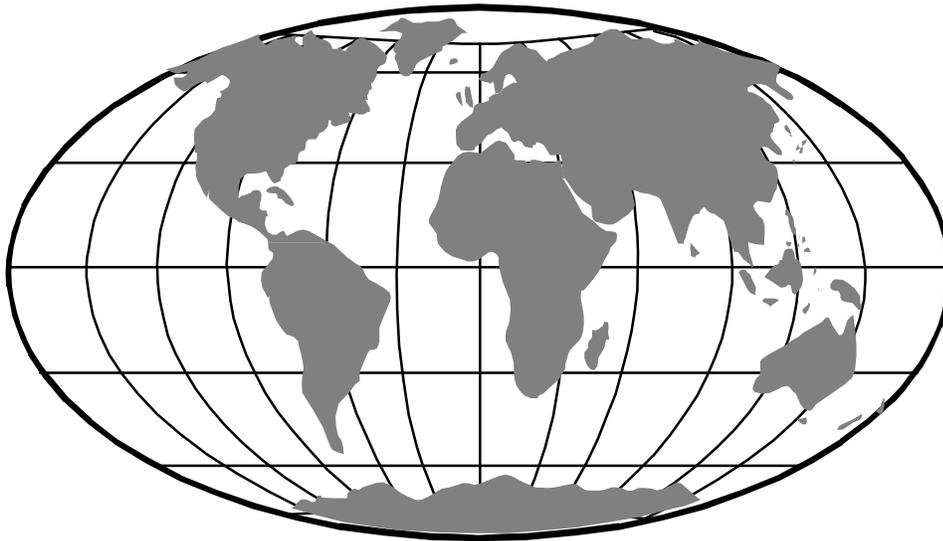
# WAR FIGHTERS



Sergeant Major



Master Sergeant



Sergeant First Class



Staff Sergeant

# OF THE 21ST CENTURY

## PRERESIDENT TRAINING SUPPORT PACKAGE

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<b>TSP Number/ Title</b>	W108 Rear Operations
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<b>Effective Date</b>	JUN 99
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<b>Supersedes TSPs</b>	This supersedes Preresident Training Support Package W108-RC, May 96, Training Support Package W108, Rear Battle, Mar 94, and W108, Rear Operations, Dec 98.
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<b>TSP User</b>	The following course(s) use(s) this TSP: Battle Staff NCO Course
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<b>Comments and Recommendations</b>	Send comments and recommendations on DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) directly to:  ATTN ATSS DCR CMDT USASMA BLDG 11291 BIGGS FLD FORT BLISS TX 79918-8002
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**This TSP  
Contains**


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The following table lists the material included in this TSP.

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	C. Student Handout(s)	Not used

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**Gender  
Disclaimer**

Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.

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## SECTION I ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

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### Task(s) Trained

This lesson trains the tasks listed in the following table(s):

<b>Task Number:</b>	None.
<b>Task Title:</b>	Advise the commander and staff on rear operations
<b>Conditions:</b>	As a Battle Staff NCO of a Battalion/Brigade staff.
<b>Standards:</b>	IAW FM 100-15

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### Task(s) Reinforced

This lesson reinforces the task(s) listed in the following table:

<b>Task Number</b>	<b>Task Title</b>
071-400-5AAB	Establish TOC operations.
301-336-1051	Maintain situation map.

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### Prerequisite Lessons

None

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### Clearance and Access

There is no security clearance or access requirement for this lesson.

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### Copyright Statement

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### References

The following table lists the reference(s) for this lesson:

<b>Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Para No.</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
FM 71-100	Division Operations	Aug 96	NA	NA
FM 71-123	Tactics and Techniques for Combined Arms Heavy Forces (Appendix D)	Sep 90	NA	NA

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**Equipment  
Required**

None

**Material  
Required**

None

**Safety  
Requirements**

None

**Risk  
Assessment  
Level**

Low

**Environmental  
Considerations**

None

**Lesson  
Approval**

The following individuals have reviewed and approved this lesson for publication and incorporation into the Battle Staff NCO Course.

Name/Signature	Rank	Title	Date Signed
Johnnie S. Dills	GS9	Training Specialist, BSNCOC	20 October 1999
William D. Adams	SGM	Chief Instructor, BSNCOC	20 October 1999
Alan R. Tucker	SGM	Course Chief, BSNCOC	20 October 1999

## SECTION II INTRODUCTION

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### Terminal Learning Objective

At the completion of this lesson, you will—

<b>Action:</b>	Advise the commander and staff on rear operations
<b>Conditions:</b>	In a self-study environment, using the material contained in this lesson.
<b>Standard:</b>	IAW FM 71-100

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### Evaluation

Prior to being enrolled into Phase II of the Battle Staff Course you must take a Phase I Exam that includes questions on material from this lesson. You must correctly answer 70% of the multiple choice questions to receive a “GO” on the Phase I exam. A “GO” is required for enrollment into Phase II.

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### Instructional Lead-in

Current doctrine recognizes three types of operation: deep, close, and rear. Place your tactical emphasis on striking deep into the enemy's territory with air mobility and weapons with long range capabilities. The current doctrine will pose an unprecedented likelihood of extensive combat action in what were previously safe rear areas. Sophisticated and highly accurate weapon systems can inflict heavy damage on both sides. Enemy forces will direct active reconnaissance, surveillance, direct target acquisition effort, and electronic warfare (EW) against your forward and rear areas. Massive troop concentrations or destructive firepower will make some penetration by both sides almost inevitable.

Throughout military history there are numerous examples of the difficulty of defending against combat operations in the rear area. These operations disrupt communication, command and control, and forward support of needed supplies and personnel replacements. For example, during Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Saddam Hussein employed terrorists to attack our rear area.

This lesson provides the battle staff NCO with an overview of rear operations. By understanding the information presented in this lesson, you as a battle staff NCO will be able to better advise and assist the commander in preparing for and fighting the rear operations.

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## SECTION III PRESENTATION

### ELO 1

<b>Action:</b>	Explain the objective of rear operations.
<b>Conditions:</b>	In a self-study environment, using the material contained in this section.
<b>Standard:</b>	IAW FM 71-100

**Learning Step/  
Activity (LS/A)  
1, ELO 1,  
Objective of  
Rear Operations**

The objective of rear operations is to ensure freedom of action and continuous operations. Rear operations are numerous, complex, and never ending. Commanders and their staffs synchronize the rear operations functions of sustainment, terrain management, movement control with close and deep operations, and security in accordance with the commander's concept and intent.

The assistant division commander for support (ADC-S) plans and controls division rear operations from the division rear CP. He exercises his responsibilities through the division rear CP and the division support command (DISCOM) CP, which is normally collocated for life support, local security, and ease of coordination.

Rear operations include all activities conducted for the sustainment of deep, close, and rear operations. They consist of four interrelated functions:

- Sustainment.
- Terrain Management.
- Movement Control.
- Security.

### Sustainment

Rear operations include planning and directing sustainment. Synchronizing these actions with the concept of operation is critical to the success of close and deep operations. Rear operations also ensure that sustainment is not degraded by, and does not limit, the force commander's freedom of maneuver and continuity of operations. The rear CP and the DISCOM anticipate, plan, and coordinate the relocation of CSS units in rear areas as the situation changes. CSS facilities disperse to minimize the effect of threat attacks.

Normally, the rear CP plans and coordinates the sustainment effort while the DISCOM focuses on its execution. The DISCOM recommends the location of the division support area (DSA) and the positions of units within the DSA.

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**LS/A 1, ELO 1,  
Sustainment,  
continued**

The DISCOM directs subordinate units, monitors their ability to provide support, and makes rear operations recommendations to the rear CP. The G-5 works with the rear CP and DISCOM to procure any needed host nation sustainment support.

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**Terrain  
Management**

While G-3s and S-3s have overall responsibility for terrain management, rear CPs usually position supporting units in rear areas to support both current and future operations. Their location depends on their missions, the division's concept of operation and concept of support, and current rear area intelligence preparation of the battlefield (IPB).

The positioning of the DSA is key in terrain management. The rear CP, with the G-3 and the DISCOM commander designate the DSA. All units entering or desiring to relocate within the division rear must coordinate with the rear CP to ensure that their proposed locations do not conflict with current or projected operations, positioning, or movement priorities.

Once positioned, these units form bases (unit or multi-unit positions with a definite perimeter) and base cluster (mission grouping of bases or security requirements lacking a clearly defined perimeter). The rear CP commander normally designates the senior commander within each base or base cluster as its commander. Base and base cluster commanders are responsible for positioning units within their respective area of responsibility. Base and base clusters fall under the control of the division rear CP for positioning, security, and movement within the division rear area.

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**Movement  
Control**

Movement control includes the planning, prioritizing, deconflicting, and execution of movement plans, both internal and external (other US forces and host nation) to a unit. G-3s and S-3s are responsible for the movement of tactical units through or within areas of operations. Rear CPs are generally responsible for administrative moves. Additionally, they prioritize and deconflict movements within rear area as well as plan for the sustainment of tactical movement within the division.

The G-4 recommends main supply routes (MSRs) to the G-3 and the commander. The G-4 controls use of MSRs within the division and coordinates supply routes for supporting corps units. He identifies critical points along MSRs to the G-3 who coordinates with the division provost marshal and the assistant division engineer (ADE) for security, area damage control, and MSR maintenance. The G-4 coordinates with the air defense coordinator (ADCOORD) for air defense coverage of MSRs.

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**LS/A 1, ELO 1,**  
**Movement**  
**Control,**  
 continued

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The G-3 establishes priorities for movement along the division MSRs based on the overall sustainment priorities in support of the operation. The division provost marshal receives the movement priorities and he enforces them.

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Security

The rear operations cell coordinates and assigns specific security responsibilities to all forces in the rear area to ensure sustainment. Rear area security includes intelligence and early warning actions, response operations, base and base cluster self-defense, and rear area fire support.

The rear CP is responsible for maintaining and updating the rear area IPB. The intelligence cell at the main CP produces IPB products used and updated by the rear operations cell. The rear operations cell then produces a predictive intelligence estimate, identifying likely threat targets and intentions. They send the estimate, along with information on the current threat situation to all units in the division rear area. It forms the basis for planning and conducting the other three components of rear security operations.

The rear CP gathers, and disseminates to all rear area units, early warning information regarding threat air activities. The rear operations cell collects information from the Army airspace command and control (A<sup>2</sup>C<sup>2</sup>) element at the division main CP. It also collects information from division and corps air defense artillery units located in the division rear area, Air Force tactical air control party (TACP) airlift element at the rear CP, other Air Force control teams that may be operating in the division rear, and other rear area units. Use this early warning information to anticipate threat airborne and air assault insertions in the rear areas.

Division rear area operations must be able to respond simultaneously to wide range of rear area threats. The rear CP plans and coordinates actions against enemy activity in the division's rear area. The division commander's concept and intent, the rear area IPB and the ADC-S's established protection priorities drive response force planning. The rear CP melds this information with its own IPB. It positions itself in the division area where it can best provide timely support to the highest-priority facilities (those where an attack by threat forces is most likely).

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**LS/A 1, ELO 1,**  
Security,  
continued

Base or base cluster self-defense provides Level I responses to small, localized enemy threats such as—

- Enemy-controlled agent activities.
- Enemy sympathizers and saboteurs.
- Terrorist activities.
- Electronic intelligence collection devices.

Normally MP units (with appropriate supporting fires) respond to Level II threats. These threats exceed base or base cluster self-defense capabilities but do not require commitment of a tactical combat force (TCF). MPs can defeat—

- Unconventional forces conducting diversionary and sabotage operations.
- Small combat unit conducting raid, ambush, and reconnaissance operations.
- Special warfare intelligence collection and operational missions.

When the MP response force encounters or engages threats beyond its ability to defeat, it immediately notifies the rear CP. The response force maintains contact with the enemy and continues to develop the situation until the rear CP commits the division's TCF.

The TCF responds to Level III threats. The TCF is normally a combined arms organization. A METT-T analysis will determine its specific size and composition. The TCF can counter limited enemy—

- Heliborne operations.
- Airborne operations.
- Amphibious operations.
- Infiltration operations.
- Ground forces attacks in rear areas.

The G-3 may designate a TCF as part of the division's overall task organization to respond to rear area threats. He bases this designation of the TCF on the rear IPB, an analysis of METT-T, and the division commander's assessment of the overall enemy capabilities. The TCF receives fire support from either DS field artillery units or fires from the division's GS and general support reinforcing field artillery units.

The TCF will often have aviation support. The TCF commander coordinates with the ADC-S and division rear CP to develop multiple contingency plans for its employment in the division rear area.

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**LS/A 1, ELO 1,**  
Security,  
continued

The ADC-S normally allocates and commits the TCF to rear operations. The premature commitment of the TCF may rob the division of flexibility and initiative necessary to counter the enemy actions in the division's area. The ADC-S makes this decision when he determines that either base or base cluster defense forces and Level II response forces cannot counter a threat. Determination that the threat poses such a risk to the success of the division's rear operations may also cause him to commit the TCF.

When appropriate, the TCF task-organizes its units and maneuvers them to where they can best interdict or engage the enemy forces. The TCF focuses on those threat targets critical to the division ground and air avenues of approach, drop zone, and landing zones.

The TCF coordinates with response forces (normally MPs) regarding the exchange of reconnaissance information, battle handover procedures, and contingency plans for TCF operations. The rear CP ensures that movements in division rear do not impede TCF operations.

A committed TCF movement takes priority over all other movement and sustainment activities. If the tactical situation warrants, the rear CP or the main CP requests additional corps assets to assist the TCF. Such assets include other maneuver units, fire support assets, assault helicopter, and CAS. All support elements for TCF operations are under the operational control of the TCF commander.

The TCF committed receives an area of operations (AO) from the rear CP. At that time, all elements within the TCF area of operations are OPCON to the TCF for tactical operations until the elimination of the threat.

Base and base cluster commanders develop a base or base cluster defense plan designed to detect and defend against enemy actions. Each commander bases his plan on the division rear CP IPB, his own IPB, the current intelligence situation, and an analysis of his unit's mission requirement. To maximize unit mission accomplishment, defense plans are flexible and allow for differing degrees of security based on the probability of threat activities.

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**LS/A 1, ELO 1,**  
Security,  
continued

Defense plans should clearly delineate command and control (C<sup>2</sup>). This includes detection of threats--

- Use of observation posts (OPs) and patrols.
- Assignment of defense sectors of responsibility to subordinates.
- Integration of available weapons into the defense plan.
- Identification of unit response forces to bolster the defense during an attack.
- Obstacles.
- Area damage control.
- Internal air defense.
- Fire support planning.
- Air, ground, and NBC attack alarm systems.

MP units receive defense plans for area security or battlefield circulation control near the base or base cluster. The response forces receive defense plans to attacks beyond the base or base cluster self-defense capability. The rear operations cells integrate the defense plans into the overall division rear defense and the support plans. Adjacent bases or base clusters use defense plans to coordinate mutual support and to prevent fratricide.

Base or base cluster commanders maintain 24-hour communications with the division rear operations cell for intelligence, tactical information, and direction and with their parent organization for unit mission guidance. Base or base cluster commanders communicate with, and direct defensive operations of, other units occupying terrain within their base or base cluster.

The operation cell within the rear CP is responsible for planning rear area fire support operations. The operations cell collates base or base cluster fire plans and response force fire support plans. The rear FSE coordinates the composite rear operations fire support plan with the division fire support coordinator (FSCOORD) and the FSE at the division main CP.

**LS/A 2, ELO 1,**  
Lesson  
Exercise 1

Click here to go to [Lesson Exercise 1](#).

**ELO 2**

<b>Action:</b>	Explain the rear command post functions in rear operations.
<b>Conditions:</b>	In a self-study environment, using the material contained in this section.
<b>Standard:</b>	IAW FM 71-100

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**LS/A 1, ELO 2,**  
Rear Command  
Post

The rear command post (CP) controls all elements functioning in, residing in, or transiting through the division rear area. It also synchronizes rear operations for the division battle. Before units leave the corps rear area, they coordinate with the appropriate movement control and corps rear area operation center (RAOC). These elements in turn coordinate with the division rear CP. The rear CP clarifies and approves routes and locations of proposed bases or base clusters. It integrates this information into the division security plan and addresses requirements for combat support service (CSS) of new or transiting units. The division rear CP passes this types of information to the main CP.

The rear CP and this division support command (DISCOM) CP normally collocate in the established DISCOM base within the division support area (DSA) in the division rear area. This collocation does not imply that together they constitute one command post; they are two separate and distinct CPs with different critical functions requiring close cooperation and coordination. The rear CP's main concerns are terrain management; security of rear area; tactical, personnel, mail, and logistics movement within and through the rear area; and synchronization and direction of CSS. The DISCOM CP's main concern is the execution of CSS.

Both the rear CP and the DISCOM CP analyze future division plans for their impact on current and future rear area operations. They work together to provide logistics and personnel support when and where needed. The rear CP deconflicts tactical and administrative moves and controls them when required. It manages the terrain in the rear area. It assigns units to bases, designates base clusters when necessary, appoints commanders for bases, and synchronizes rear security operations. It integrates base defense plans and coordinates actions of the TCFs.

The rear CP monitors activity in the brigade's rear, adjacent divisional rear areas, and corps rear area to prevent potential conflicts with the division's rear operations. It also monitors close and deep operations. When augmented, it may assume control of the fight if the main and tactical command posts (TAC CPs) can no longer function. The rear CP normally contains three cells— headquarters, operations, and CSS.

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**Headquarters  
Cell**

The assistant division commander for support (ADC-S), normally a brigadier general, functions as the rear operations commander and is responsible for all rear operations. The ADC-S ensures coordination among the operations cell, CSS cell, and DISCOM CP. He normally remains at the rear CP, but when required, he travels throughout the rear area to synchronize operations. His primary concern is to sustain the division's deep, close, and rear operations.

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**LS/A 1, ELO 2,**  
Operations  
Cell

The rear operations cell is responsible for terrain management, security, and movement deconfliction and control. Initially small, the cell becomes fully capable when augmented in crisis with reserve component personnel. This cell monitors current division operations and ensures the division's rear responds to current and future requirements.

Until augmented, the operations cell accepts risk in the functions it can perform. We normally divide the operations cell into three elements—operations, intelligence, and fire support. Responsibilities include—

- Coordinating response and TCF and host nation assets.
- Working closely with the PM operations element located nearby. (The PM element coordinates traffic control measures when needed, EPW and CI operations, security of designated critical assets, and employment of MP assets.)
- Coordinating (through the G-5) host nation assistance.
- Coordinating the positioning, status, and security of units, which are under the control of the division rear CP.
- Updated rear area IPB. (The rear CP supplements IPB products received from the main CP to illuminate rear area terrain, enemy capabilities, and the enemy's most probable COAs within rear area.)
- Managing the overall division CI effort in the division rear area; coordinating closely with the PM and G-5 to accomplish refugee screening and rear area intelligence collection.
- Monitoring the interrogation facility and division EPW collection point.
- Coordinating fire support for the rear area.

The division's signal battalion provides a small assistant division signal officer (ADSO) element to the rear CP for signal support. Its functions are the same as those for the main CP. When engineer, air defense (AD), or other units are under control of the rear CP, the rear operations element directly controls each unit. Each unit either establishes a command post near the rear CP or provides a liaison officer (LNO) to ensure proper integration, synchronization, and coordination of the unit's activities. The provost marshal (PM) element and the G-5 also work under the supervision of the rear operation cell.

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**LS/A 1, ELO 2,  
CSS Cell**

The major functions of the CSS cell are to plan and coordinate sustainment operations—man, arm, fuel, fix, move, and sustain soldiers and their systems. This cell also interfaces with the main CP, the rear CP operation cell, and subordinate units. The CSS cell has two major elements--logistics and personnel.

The logistics element consists of the G-4 and division transportation office (DTO) sections. The G-4 plans, coordinates, directs, and synchronizes the division's arm, fuel, fix, and move operations. The G-4 coordinates logistics support that exceeds the DISCOM's capability with the corps rear CSS cell and corps support command (COSCOM).

During movement operations involving the entire division, DTO and PM personnel may locate temporarily at the tactical command post (TAC) or tactical operations center (TOC). There they assist the staff in monitoring the move and coordinate any contingencies that occur. The DTO, DISCOM movement control officer (MCO), and PM representative help plan and enforce movement priorities.

The G-1 section plans, coordinates, directs, and monitors all personnel operations. In support of combat operations, the G-1 focuses on personnel replacement, strength, and casualty management; coordination of external support requirements (postal, morale, welfare, and recreation); and medical evacuation. He develops replacement priorities from G-3 input.

The G-1 section consists of a plans officer and a personnel management center (PMC), which may be task-organized to support development as part of the TAC CP. The PMC consists of two branches: personnel readiness and personnel operations. The locations of these branches are normally within the G-1 support element in the rear CSS cell. The PMC mission is to sustain division personnel readiness, direct the division-wide personnel systems, synchronize the efforts of the personnel network, and manage replacement activities. The PMC also ensures the placement of essential personnel services to commanders, soldiers, civilians, and other joint service or allied personnel.

The G-1 support element, locates near the rear CP, coordinates and executes the personnel element functions. This element consists of the major sections of G-1 and special staff (such as inspector general (IG), chaplain, surgeon, and staff judge advocate (SJA)). This support element coordinates strength management, casualty reporting, replacement operations, combat health support (CHS), religious support, and legal services. It also coordinates morale, welfare, recreation, community support activities, and postal services and monitors finance support.

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**LS/A 1, ELO 2,**  
CSS Cell,  
continued

A corps finance battalion supports the division and other units in the area. Apply flexibility in the positioning of the public affairs officer (PAO) and the public affairs (PA) section. Locate them where the commander deems most appropriate, based on the nature of the operation. The division band provides music to promote troop morale and unit esprit and to support civil military operations. In combat, trained and supervised band members will fill other roles.

**LS/A 2, ELO 2,**  
Lesson  
Exercise 2

Click here to go to [Lesson Exercise 2](#).

**ELO 3**

<b>Action:</b>	Explain the brigade's responsibilities in rear operations.
<b>Conditions:</b>	In a self-study environment, using the material contained in this section.
<b>Standard:</b>	IAW FM 71-123

**LS/A 1, ELO 3,**  
Rear  
Operations  
Actions

Rear operations consist of those actions, including area damage control, taken by all units, singly or in a combat effort, to secure the force, neutralize or defeat enemy operations in the rear, and ensure freedom of action in deep and close operations. They form a system designed to ensure continuous support. Rear operations are not just the protection of logistics facilities. They include movement of friendly units throughout the rear area. A rear threat may require tactical combat forces to defeat it. Rear operations may divert forces from the brigade close operation.

Brigade Rear's  
Area of  
Responsibility

The brigade's rear area consists of all space behind the battalions' sectors of responsibility. Delineate this rear area by a specific phase line, or consider the rear area to begin about eight to ten kilometers behind the forward edge of the battle area (FEBA) or just behind the battalions' combat trains.

Intelligence

The S-2 should give equal emphasis to the brigade rear and forward areas when developing the IPB. Identify the likely axes of advance through the brigade and possible landing zone (LZ) and drop zone (DZ) sites. The S-2 should acquire information and disseminate all intelligence concerning enemy agents, terrorists, sympathizers, and special purpose forces. Although these individuals or groups are of little threat to combat forces, they can devastate CS and CSS. The S-2 should incorporate the Military Police (MP) platoon leader into his collection plan.

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**LS/A1, ELO 3,**  
Intelligence,  
continued

The MP platoon can assist in intelligence collection and can act as liaison with the host nation. It is important that the S-2 identify the enemy's target priorities in the brigade and division rear areas. Then the S-2 will analyze ammunition transfer points; petroleum, oils, and lubricants (POL) assets; and other critical elements that must survive to sustain the brigade.

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Command and  
Control

The brigade commander is responsible for plans and operations throughout the depth of his operation. To meet those responsibilities, he assigns tasks to subordinate and supporting commanders. The brigade S-3 includes detailing planning for offensive and defensive missions.

When the commander plans for the defense of the rear area, he needs to know what elements are in his sector of responsibility. He also must know what assets each unit has that will allow it to defend itself and which elements can defend against a large enemy threat? Doctrine states that the location of most CS and CSS units in the brigade rear area are in the brigade support area (BSA).

Many small elements form bases, with the entire group of bases making up a BSA, which is a base cluster. The BSA or cluster is under the C<sup>2</sup> of the FSB commander. All units in the BSA are under OPCON of the FSB commander. The FSB commander is responsible for the defense of the BSA.

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Brigade  
Commander's  
Goal

The brigade commander's goal is to retain overall freedom of action for fighting close and deep operations. Freedom of action occurs when the MSRs are clear, free of obstructions, and secure; units movement through the brigade area is quick and in an orderly fashion; logistical resupply and reconstitution are sustained; and all CS and CSS units are secure. To accomplish this, there must first be an understanding of the different levels of threat.

The planning considerations for rear operations include—

- Securing the rear area and facilities.
  - Preventing or minimizing enemy interference with C3.
  - Preventing or minimizing disruption of CS and CSS to forward units.
  - Providing unimpeded movement of friendly units throughout the rear area.
  - Finding, fixing, and destroying enemy incursions in the rear area.
  - Providing area damage control after an attack.
-

**LS/A1, ELO 3,**  
Brigade  
Commander's  
Goal,  
continued

- Identifying combat units, ground, and aviation (if available) that will have the on-order mission to defeat the enemy in the rear area.

**LS/A 2, ELO 3,**  
Lesson  
Exercise 3

Click here to go to [Lesson Exercise 3](#).

**ELO 4**

<b>Action:</b>	Explain the MP's mission in rear operations.
<b>Conditions:</b>	In a self-study environment, using the material contained in this section.
<b>Standard:</b>	IAW FM 71-123

**LS/A 1, ELO 4,**  
MPs

The brigade commander's only specific asset trained for and having the primary mission of rear area operations is the military police platoon. The MP's ability to shoot, move, and communicate on the battlefield provides the commander with both technical and tactical advantages. Commanders can rely on MPs to help keep enemy activity in the rear area from delaying their reinforcing units and disrupting their C<sup>2</sup>.

MP elements are task-organized to accomplish their missions. Size and composition of a tasked element depend on mission needs and the tactical situation. MP teams have the experience, initiative, and ability to operate independently or as part of a larger unit.

MP Teams

Three-man teams are the building blocks of MP units. Each MP team has a vehicle, a crew-served weapon (an M60 machine gun or an MK-19 grenade launcher), and a vehicle-mounted radio. The team leader observes and maintains communications. A second MP drives, and the third MP is the gunner and alternate driver. They are capable of calling for indirect fire support (FS) and using light antitank weapons. The team has equipment to detect NBC contamination, night-vision devices to see at night, and secured radio communications mains. MP teams fight mounted or dismounted to suit the tactical situation.

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<b>LS/A 1, ELO 4,</b> Commander's Intelligence Gathering Assets	In the rear area, MPs are a critical part of the commander's on-the-ground intelligence-gathering assets. They are his rear area scouts. MPs routinely travel the battlefield road networks. As part of their security mission, MPs routinely move off-road for area reconnaissance and other area security operations. They help find the enemy and identify his strengths and weakness. MPs collect and disseminate vital information to help commanders see the battlefield. Information about conditions in the rear area and the presence and nature of enemy helps a commander know when and where to concentrate combat power. The MPs' mobility and communication assets allow them to detect and monitor activity throughout their broad AOs and report their finding quickly. Swiftly changing combat situations make timely and accurate information about the location of units, road conditions, and enemy activity imperative.
Force Organization	In the rear area, the MPs are a flexible economy-of-force organization that can significantly multiply the commander's combat power. MPs do this without increasing the commander's total force or diverting his combat resources from more critical operations. Because of their mobility and dispersion in the rear area, MPs are likely to be the first forces on the scene of a threat insertion in the rear area. If this occurs, MPs fight to preserve the security of the area. MPs encountering enemy forces engage them with individual and crew-served weapons. They destroy enemy elements within their capability. Organized in small tactical elements, MPs can operate independently or fight as a part of a larger force because of their initiative, mobility, firepower, and communications abilities. As squads or platoons defending a base or countering small enemy incursions, the commander should carefully consider mission priorities for these valuable assets because of their small size.

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**LS/A 1, ELO 4,**  
MP Four Basic  
Missions

The MP platoon carries out four basic missions in support of the commander and the rear operations mission. These are—

- Battle Circulation Control (BCC). Expediting forward and lateral movement of combat resources to ensure a way is open to move reinforcing troops, fuel, food, and ammunition across the battlefield.
- Area security. Helping the commander to provide security and protection in the rear area.
- Enemy Prisoner of War (EPW) operations. Collecting, evacuating, and interning EPW to relieve the tactical commander of the responsibility.
- Law and order operations. Conducting these when necessary to extend the combat commander's discipline and control.

Any one of the above missions can easily require the entire MP platoon and more; therefore, it is important to consider the factors of METT-T when using the platoon. It is best to keep MPs mobile, acting as the eyes and ears of the commander. During offensive operations, employ the MPs in BCC and EPW missions. In the defense, employ the MPs in the BCC as area security.

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Movement

Maintaining security of the MSRs for swift and safe movement of units and resupplies is critical to combat mission success. To avoid locking too many MPs into this mission, use the brigade's maintenance vehicles (with caliber .50 weapons) and combat vehicles that are returning forward with supplies as security. If that is not possible, a good practice is to use no more than 50 percent of MP assets on BCC unless there is a major movement of forces.

---

Area  
Security

The MPs primary missions are area reconnaissance and security. The S-2's IPB will be important in identifying critical terrain that needs to be kept under frequent or constant surveillance, such as LZs, DZs, and axes of advance. The MPs' ability to find, fix, and destroy Level I and Level II threats will greatly decrease the commander's requirement to employ combat forces in the rear. The early detection of heavy Level II and Level III threats by MPs will allow them to at least delay, if not defeat, the enemy before he reaches the brigade's logistics assets. Ensure you equip the MPs with sufficient antitank capability. Use them aggressively as rear area scouts in counterreconnaissance missions to keep enemy reconnaissance out of the BSA.

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**LS/A 1, ELO 4, MP** If the enemy force is more than the MP platoon can handle, plan for the following contingencies:

- Reprioritize artillery support to rear area mission to slow the enemy until friendly combat forces make contact.
  - Redirect attack helicopters or close air support (CAS) to slow down or stop the enemy.
  - Designate the battalions' scout platoons and/or other ground combat forces with a secondary mission of the rear operations battle.
  - Coordinate assets from division or corps to assist in backup for the rear operations.
- 

**LS/A 2, ELO 4, Lesson Exercise 4** Click here to go to [Lesson Exercise 4](#).

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**ELO 5**

<b>Action:</b>	Explain the defense of the brigade support area (base cluster).
<b>Conditions:</b>	In a self-study environment, using the material contained in this section.
<b>Standard:</b>	IAW FM 71-123

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**LS/A 1, ELO 5, Brigade Support Area (Base Cluster)** Defense of the bases within the brigade support area (BSA) and defense of the base cluster known as the BSA is a difficult ongoing task. The requirement to have the BSA located so two or three roads pass through the cluster and so it is near an MSR does not make for easy passive security. Too many roads into a BSA will decrease the commander's ability to secure the area. When locating the BSA, the commander should take advantage of every factor that will increase his passive security.

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**Base Defense**

Each unit located in the BSA will normally be a few hundred meters from the next unit. All the units are in the BSA for the purpose of supporting the brigade. For defensive purposes, each unit will set up as an individual base. Each base must have a plan for the defense of its element, and each must integrate its defense plan with the FSB commander (base cluster commander). Each base should plan on assisting with access control duty on the main avenues entering and exiting the BSA. Those base/units located along the BSA perimeter should plan on securing a sector of it.

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**LS/A 1, ELO 5,**  
Base  
Defense,  
continued

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Most units in the BSA have a heavy support mission and therefore have few personnel to give toward security. It is imperative that each unit have a thorough defense plan that uses everyone as an ongoing check of personnel in the area. Considerations for defense of a base include the following:

- Locate and prepare a fighting position for each individual or section in the unit.
  - Everyone should immediately challenge anyone who is unfamiliar or out of place.
  - Have a plan of action if the enemy infiltrates your assembly area or base.
  - Have a specific signal/alarm to order people to fighting positions.
  - Have a different alarm/signal to warn that enemy forces are in the internal area. This type of alarm can cause everyone to drop to the ground and fire on anyone left standing.
  - Rehearse your plan for defense—many times.
  - Your plan must allow for some personnel, weapons, and equipment to be out on mission.
  - Coordinate with the bases nearest to you.
  - Soldiers with fighting positions oriented near or toward other bases must use caution when firing weapons.
  - Understand and confirm from which direction the BSA's reactionary force will come.
  - Plan and use mobile (foot patrol) and static security. Static security is hard to detect and, therefore, effective. Mobile patrolling is an immediate deterrent for many small elements.
-

**LS/A 1, ELO 5,**  
BSA/Base  
Cluster  
Defense  
Considerations

Developing and executing a defense plan for the BSA must include all those factors considered for a base, plus the following:

- In addition to the MP platoon, identify and rehearse the reactionary team to combat an enemy attack.
- Check each base's defensive plans—on the ground.
- Use any available engineer assets to dig in equipment and prepare fighting positions.
- Take advantage of the knowledge of the MP platoon/sergeant in base/base cluster defense.
- Take advantage of all assets in the BSA, including temporary assets such as—
  - Operable weapon systems on inoperable tracks.
  - Combat soldiers awaiting repair of vehicles.
  - Lightly wounded soldiers awaiting return to units (at medical company).
  - Reserve combat forces.
  - Scout platoons that are not performing missions for their battalion.

**LS/A 2, ELO 5,**  
Lesson  
Exercise 5

Click here to go to [Lesson Exercise 5](#).

**ELO 6**

<b>Action:</b>	Explain the purpose of rear operations in the offense and defense.
<b>Conditions:</b>	In a self-study environment, using the material contained in this section.
<b>Standard:</b>	IAW FM 71-100

**LS/A 1, ELO 6**  
Offense

Division rear operations in the offense help provide the commander and committed forces freedom of action. They enhance the commander's ability to influence the close fight. Rear operations consist of terrain management, security, movement, and sustainment. Rear units anticipate critical requirements and prepare to secure and move (push) sustainment packages forward. The division rear CP and the DISCOM monitor attacking brigades and redirect the priority of CS and CSS to support changes to the division main effort. The division's rear operations are the same as earlier discussed in ELO 1.

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**LS/A 1, ELO 6**  
Defense

The division plans and conducts rear operations to ensure freedom of maneuver, continuity of sustainment, and continuity of battle command.

The division conducts rear operations within the division rear area (DRA). The DRA extends from the rear boundaries of forward brigades to the division's rear boundaries. It contains many CS and CSS units, assorted munitions and delivery means, C<sup>2</sup> headquarters, and uncommitted combat units. It may also contain joint facilities, such as air bases, host nation facilities, and population centers.

The division is responsible for securing the rear area from the forward brigades' rear boundaries to the division rear boundary. Planning for combat operations in the rear should not unnecessarily divert combat power from the main effort. Division defensive planning must address the early detection and immediate destruction of threat forces attempting to operate in the division rear.

The form of defense used may require additional emphasis on rear operations. Pass the degree of risk accepted during a mobile defense to the rear commander as an increased threat to support forces. This may impact on their ability to continue operations at the anticipated level.

The basic mission of CSS units is to sustain the battle. Their sole purpose is to maintain and support division soldiers and their weapon systems before, during, and after operations. Tactical logistics functions are those actions that man, arm, fuel, fix, move, and sustain soldiers and their systems.

Rear operations focus on maintaining the capability to sustain the division's forces. Integrate movement, security, terrain management, and area damage control with sustainment to provide the division synchronized rear area support.

Three levels of enemy activity guide the planning for rear operations. These levels focus on the friendly response required to defeat the enemy rather than on the size or type of enemy. We discussed the three levels of threat earlier in ELO 1.

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**LS/A 2, ELO 6,**  
Lesson  
Exercise 6

Click here to go to [Lesson Exercise 6](#).

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## SECTION IV SUMMARY

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### **Review/ Summarize Lesson**

This lesson explained the objective, Rear Command Post, brigade's responsibilities, MP's mission, Brigade Support Area (BSA), and offensive and defensive missions in rear operations. It is important that you understand rear operations to enable you to better assist your commander. The knowledge you gain from this lesson will greatly enhance your understanding of rear operations on the modern battlefield.

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### **Check On Learning**

The six lesson exercises that you completed during this lesson serve as the check on learning for the TLO.

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### **Transition to Next Lesson**

None.

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## SECTION V STUDENT EVALUATION

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### **Testing Requirements**

Prior to being enrolled into Phase II of the Battle Staff Course you must take a Phase I Exam that includes questions on material from this lesson. You must correctly answer 70% of the multiple choice questions to receive a "GO" on the Phase I exam. A "GO" is required for enrollment into Phase II.

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## Lesson Exercise 1: Instructions

The following five questions will test your knowledge of the materials covered in ELO 1. There is only one correct answer for each item. When you answer each question, you will be given immediate feedback. If you answer any question incorrectly, study that part of the ELO again.















The TCF is normally a combined arms organization that responds to \_\_\_\_\_ threats.

- A. Level I
- B. Level II
- C. Level III
- D. Level IV















Base or base cluster provides self-defense for what level I threats?

- A. A company sized reconnaissance unit deployed with armored vehicles.
- B. Conventional forces.
- C. Enemy controlled agents, sympathizers, and saboteurs.
- D. Operational Readiness Group (ORG).















What is the objective of rear operations?

- A. Ensure freedom of action and continuous operations.
- B. Ensure security of BSA and terrain management.
- C. Ensure movement control and sustainment.
- D. Ensure close and deep operations.















What threat level II organization can the MPs defeat?

- A. A company sized reconnaissance unit deployed with armored vehicles.
- B. Enemy controlled agents, sympathizers and saboteurs.
- C. Operational Readiness Group (ORG).
- D. Unconventional forces.















\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are responsible for the movement of tactical units through or within areas of operations.

- A. G-1s and S-2s
- B. G-3s and S-2s
- C. G-3s and S-3s
- D. G-4s and S-4s













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is C.**

The TCF is normally a combined arms organization that responds to Level III threats.  
PTP, Page 9.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is C.**

Base or base cluster provides self-defense for level I force consisting of enemy controlled agents, sympathizers, and saboteurs. PTP, Page 9.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is A.**

The objective of rear operations is to ensure freedom of action and continuous operations.  
PTP, Page 6.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is D.**

MPs can defeat unconventional forces. PTP, Page 9.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is C.**

G-3s and S-3s are responsible for the movement of tactical units through or within areas of operations. PTP, Page 7.













**CORRECT**















## Lesson Exercise 2: Instructions

The following five questions will test your knowledge of the materials covered in ELO 2. There is only one correct answer for each item. When you answer each question, you will be given immediate feedback. If you answer any question incorrectly, study that part of the ELO again.















Who is responsible for all rear operations?

- A. Battalion commander.
- B. Brigade commander.
- C. Assistant division commander for support (ADC-S).
- D. Division commander.















What are the three cells which normally compose the rear CP?

- A. Headquarters, operations, and CAS.
- B. Headquarters, operations, and CSS.
- C. Security, operations, and CAS.
- D. Headquarters, security, and CSS.















What does the acronym RAOC stand for?

- A. Reserve Airlift Operation Center.
- B. Reserve Area Operation Center.
- C. Rear Area Operation Center.
- D. Rear Area Occupation Center.















The rear operations cell is responsible for terrain management, security, and movement deconfliction and control.

- A. False.
- B. True.















What are the two major elements of the CSS cell?

- A. Logistics and personnel.
- B. Security and personnel.
- C. Cooperation and coordination.
- D. Logistic and mail.













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is C.**

The assistant division commander for support (ADC-S), normally a brigadier general, functions as the rear operations commander and is responsible for all rear operations. PTP, Page 12.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is B.**

The rear CP normally contains three cells--headquarters, operations, and CSS. PTP, Page 12.













**CORRECT**













# **INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is C.**

Before units leave the corps rear area, they coordinate with the appropriate movement control and corps rear area operation center (RAOC). PTP, Page 12.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is B.**

True. The rear operations cell is responsible for management, security, and movement deconfliction and control. PTP, Page 13.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is A.**

The CSS has two major elements--logistics and personnel. PTP, Page 14.













**CORRECT**















## Lesson Exercise 3: Instructions

The following three questions will test your knowledge of the materials covered in ELO 3. There is only one correct answer for each item. When you answer each question, you will be given immediate feedback. If you answer any question incorrectly, study that part of the ELO again.















Who should the S-2 incorporate in his collection plan?

- A. Military Police (MP) platoon leader.
- B. Military Police (MP) platoon sergeant.
- C. Scout platoon leader.
- D. Task Force commander.















Who is responsible for the BSA's defense?

- A. Assistant division commander.
- B. Brigade commander.
- C. FSB commander.
- D. Unit commander.















What is the brigade commander's goal in rear operations?

- A. Ensure freedom of action and continuous operations.
- B. Freedom of action for fighting close and deep operations.
- C. Freedom of movement and BSA security.
- D. Terrain management and area security.













# **INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is A.**

The S-2 should incorporate the Military Police (MP) platoon leader into his collection plan. PTP, Page 15.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is C.**

The FSB commander is responsible for the defense of the BSA. PTP, Page 16.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is B.**

The brigade commander's goal is to retain overall freedom of action for fighting close and deep operations. PTP, Page 16.













**CORRECT**















## Lesson Exercise 4: Instructions

The following three questions will test your knowledge of the materials covered in ELO 4. There is only one correct answer for each item. When you answer each question, you will be given immediate feedback. If you answer any question incorrectly, study that part of the ELO again.















Who is the brigade commander's only specific asset trained for and having the primary mission of rear area operations?

- A. Armor platoons.
- B. Cavalry platoons.
- C. Infantry platoons.
- D. Military police platoon.















In the rear area, MPs are a critical part of the commander's on-the-ground intelligence-gathering assets.

- A. False.
- B. True.















Which are the MP platoon's four basic missions in support of the commander and the rear operations missions?

- A. Area security, Battle Circulation Control (BCC), Enemy Prisoner of War (EPW), and Law and Order operations.
- B. Area security, Battle Coordination Control (BCC), Enemy Prisoner of War (EPW), and Law and Order operations.
- C. Zone security, Battle Coordination Control (BCC), Enemy Prisoner of War (EPW), and Law and Order operations.
- D. Area security, Battle Circulation Control (BCC), Enemy Prisoner of War (EPW), and close and deep operations.













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is D.**

The brigade commander's only specific asset trained for and having the primary mission of rear area operations is the military police platoon. PTP, Page 17.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is B.**

True. In the rear area, MPs are a critical part of the commander's on-the-ground intelligence-gathering assets. PTP, Page 18.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is A.**

These missions are Area security, Battle Circulation Control (BCC), Enemy Prisoner of War (EPW), and Law and Order operations. PTP, Page 19.













**CORRECT**















## Lesson Exercise 5: Instructions

The following three questions will test your knowledge of the materials covered in ELO 5. There is only one correct answer for each item. When you answer each question, you will be given immediate feedback. If you answer any question incorrectly, study that part of the ELO again.















All the units are in the BSA for the purpose of supporting the battalion.

- A. False.
- B. True.















What does the acronym BSA stands for?

- A. Base Support Area.
- B. Battalion Support Area.
- C. Brigade Support Area.
- D. Battlefield Support Area.















Position each BSA so it is near an MSR and so \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ roads pass through the cluster.

- A. one or two
- B. one or three
- C. two or three
- D. two or four













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is A.**

False. All the units are in the BSA for the purpose of supporting the brigade.  
PTP, Page 20.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is C.**

Defense of the base within the brigade support area (BSA) and defense of the base cluster known, as the BSA is a difficult ongoing task. PTP, Page 20.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is C.**

The requirement to have the BSA located so two or three roads pass through the cluster and so it is near an MSR does not make for easy passive security. PTP, Page 20.













**CORRECT**















## Lesson Exercise 6: Instructions

The following three questions will test your knowledge of the materials covered in ELO 6. There is only one correct answer for each item. When you answer each question, you will be given immediate feedback. If you answer any question incorrectly, study that part of the ELO again.















The division is responsible for securing the rear area from the forward battalion's rear boundaries to the division rear boundary.

- A. False.
- B. True.















What does the acronym DRA stand for?

- A. Division Recovery Area.
- B. Division Rocket Area.
- C. Division Rear Area.
- D. Division Radar Area.















The basic mission of CSS units is to sustain the \_\_\_\_\_

- A. battalion.
- B. brigade.
- C. battle.
- D. base.













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is A.**

False. The division is responsible for securing the rear area from the forward brigades' rear boundaries to the division rear boundary. PTP, Page 23.













**CORRECT**













# INCORRECT

The correct answer is C.

The division conducts rear operations within the division rear area (DRA).  
PTP, Page 23.













**CORRECT**













**INCORRECT**

**The correct answer is C.**

The basic mission of CSS units is to sustain the battle. PTP, Page 23.













**CORRECT**

