## **Glossary**

The glossary lists acronyms and terms with Army or joint definitions, and other selected terms. Where Army and joint definitions are different, (Army) follows the term. Terms for which FM 3-90 is the proponent manual (the authority) are marked with an asterisk (\*). The proponent manual for other terms is listed in parentheses after the definition.

A2C2 Army airspace command and control

AA assembly area

AATF air assault task force

AATFC air assault task force commander

ACA airspace coordination area

ACM airspace control measure

ACP air control point

acq acquisition

ACR armored cavalry regiment

\*actions on contact a series of combat actions, often conducted simultaneously, taken

on contact with the enemy to develop the situation

active air defense direct defensive action taken to nullify or reduce the effectiveness

of hostile air action. It includes such measures as the use of aircraft, air defense weapons, weapons not used primarily in an air

defense role, and electronic warfare. (FM 3-01.8)

AD armored division

**ADA** air defense artillery

ADC area damage control

administrative movement a movement in which troops and vehicles are arranged to expe-

dite their movement and conserve time and energy when no

enemy interference, except by air, is anticipated (JP 1-02)

AG adjutant general

AGL above ground level

**AH** attack helicopter

AI air interdiction

air assault operations those operations in which assault forces (combat, combat support,

and combat service support)—using the firepower, mobility, and

total integration of helicopter assets—maneuver on the battlefield

under the control of the ground or air maneuver commander to engage and destroy enemy forces or to seize and hold key terrain (FM 3-97.4)

airborne operation

an operation involving the air movement into an objective area of combat forces and their logistic support for execution of a tactical, operational, or strategic mission. The means employed may be any combination of airborne units, air transportable units, and various types of transport aircraft, depending on the mission and the overall situation. (JP 3-18)

air control point

an easily identifiable point on the terrain or an electronic navigational aid used to provide necessary control during air movement. ACPs are generally designated at each point where the flight route or air corridor makes a definite change in direction and at any other point deemed necessary for timing or control of the operation. (FM 3-52)

air corridor

a restricted air route of travel specified for use by friendly aircraft and established for the purpose of preventing friendly aircraft from being fired on by friendly forces (JP 1-02)

air defense battlefield operating system the employment of all active measures designed to nullify or reduce the effectiveness of attack by hostile aircraft and missiles after they are airborne (FM 7-15)

airspace coordination area a three-dimensional block of airspace in a target area, established

by the appropriate ground commander, in which friendly aircraft are reasonably safe from friendly surface fires. The airspace coordination area may be formal or informal. (JP 3-09.3)

alt altitude

\*alternate position

a defensive position that the commander assigns to a unit or weapon for occupation when the primary position becomes untenable or unsuitable for carrying out the assigned task

ambush

a form of attack by fire or other destructive means from concealed positions on a moving or temporarily halted enemy (FM 3-0)

**AO** area of operations

**APOD** aerial port of debarkation

approach march (Army) the advance of a combat unit when direct contact with the

enemy is intended (FM 3-0)

AR armor

area defense

a type of defensive operation that concentrates on denying enemy forces access to designated terrain for a specific time rather than destroying the enemy outright (FM 3-0)

area of influence

a geographical area wherein a commander is directly capable of influencing operations by maneuver or fire support systems normally under the commander's command or control (JP 1-02)

area of interest that area of concern to the commander, including the area of

influence, areas adjacent thereto, and extending into enemy territory to the objectives of current or planned operations. This area also includes areas occupied by enemy forces who could jeopardize

the accomplishment of the mission. (JP 2-03)

area of operations an operational area defined by the joint force commander for land

and naval forces. Areas of operations do not typically encompass the entire operational area of the joint force commander, but should be large enough for component commanders to accomplish

their missions and protect their forces. (JP 1-02)

\*area reconnaissance a form of reconnaissance that focuses on obtaining detailed

information about the terrain or enemy activity within a

prescribed area

\*area security a form of security operations conducted to protect friendly forces,

installations, routes, and actions within a specific area

ARFOR the senior Army headquarters and all Army forces assigned or

attached to a combatant command, subordinate joint force command, joint functional command, or multinational command

(FM 3-0)

\*Army air movements operations involving the use of utility and cargo rotary-wing

assets for other than air assaults

Army airspace command and control those actions that ensure the synchronized use of

airspace and enhance the command and control of forces using

airspace (FM 3-52)

\*art of tactics The art of tactics consists of three interrelated aspects: the

creative and flexible array of means to accomplish assigned missions, decision making under conditions of uncertainty when faced with an intelligent enemy, and understanding the human

dimension—the effects of combat on soldiers

**ASCC** Army service component command

ASG area support group

aslt assault

\*assailable flank a flank exposed to attack or envelopment

assault echelon the element of a force that is scheduled for initial assault on the

objective area (JP 4-01.2) [The joint definition includes a sentence

relating to amphibious operations that is omitted.]

\*assault position a covered and concealed position short of the objective, from

which final preparations are made to assault the objective

\*assault time the moment to attack the initial objectives throughout the geo-

graphical scope of the operation

\*assembly area an area a unit occupies to prepare for an operation

**AT** antitank

ATACMS Army Tactical Missile System

atk attack

**ATS** air traffic service

attack an offensive operation that destroys or defeats enemy forces,

seizes and secures terrain, or both (FM 3-0)

\*attack by fire a tactical mission task in which a commander uses direct fires,

supported by indirect fires, to engage an enemy without closing

with him to destroy, suppress, fix, or deceive him

\*attack-by-fire position the general position from which a unit conducts the tactical

mission task of attack by fire

\*attack position the last position an attacking force occupies or passes through

before crossing the line of departure

\*avenue of approach (Army) the air or ground route leading to an objective (or key

terrain in its path) that an attacking force can use

avn aviation

\*axis of advance the general area through which the bulk of a unit's combat power

must move

**AXP** ambulance exchange point

base a locality from which operations are projected or supported

(JP 1-02)

base cluster in base defense operations, a collection of bases geographically

grouped for mutual protection and ease of command and control

(JP 3-10)

base commander In base defense operations, the officer assigned to command a

base (JP 1-02)

\*base defense force A base defense force is a security element established to provide

local security to a base

base defense operations center a command and control facility established by the base

commander to serve as the focal point for base security and defense. It plans, directs, integrates, coordinates, and controls all base defense efforts, and coordinates and integrates into area security operations with the rear area operations center/rear

tactical operations center. (JP 3-10.1)

\*battalion A battalion (or a squadron) is a unit consisting of two or more

company-, battery-, or troop-size units and a headquarters.

\*battalion task force a combat arms battalion-size unit consisting of a battalion

headquarters, at least one assigned company-size element, and at least one attached company-size element from another combat

arms or combat support unit

\*battery a company-size unit in a field artillery or air defense artillery

organization

battle a set of related tactical engagements that last longer and involve

larger forces than an engagement (FM 3-0)

battlefield organization the allocation of forces in the area of operations by purpose. It

consists of three all-encompassing categories of operations:

decisive, shaping, and sustaining. (FM 3-0)

\*battle handover line a designated phase line on the ground where responsibility

transitions from the stationary force to the moving force and vice

versa

\*battle position a defensive location oriented on a likely enemy avenue of

approach

BCD battlefield coordination detachment

BCOC base cluster operations center

BCT brigade combat team

BDAR battle damage assessment and repair

**BDOC** base defense operations center

bde brigade

**BDF** base defense force

**BFV** Bradley fighting vehicle

**BG** brigadier general

BHL battle handover line

\*block a tactical mission task that denies the enemy access to an area or

prevents his advance in a direction or along an avenue of approach. Block is also an engineer obstacle effect that integrates fire planning and obstacle effort to stop an attacker along a specific avenue of approach or prevent him from passing through

an engagement area

**bn** battalion

Bn TF battalion task force

**BOS** battlefield operating systems

**boundary** a line that delineates surface areas for the purpose of facilitating

coordination and deconfliction of operations between adjacent

units, formations, or areas (JP 0-2)

**BP** battle position

\*breach a tactical mission task in which the unit employs all available

means to break through or secure a passage through an enemy

defense, obstacle, minefield, or fortification

\*brigade combat team a semipermanent combined arms organization, consisting of a bri-

gade headquarters, at least two combat arms battalions, and all necessary supporting combat support and combat service support, formed for the purpose of carrying out a continuing specific task

\*brigade a unit consisting of two or more battalions and a headquarters

BSA brigade support area

\*bypass a tactical mission task in which the commander directs his unit to maneuver around an obstacle, position, or enemy force to maintain the momentum of the operation while deliberately avoiding combat with an enemy force

C cover (used on graphics to indicate a security mission. See paragraph 12-13)

C2 command and control

CA civil affairs

calculated risk an exposure to chance of injury or loss when the commander can

visualize the outcome in terms of mission accomplishment or damage to the force, and judges the outcome as worth the cost

\*canalize (Army) a tactical mission task in which the commander restricts

enemy movement to a narrow zone by exploiting terrain coupled

with the use of obstacles, fires, or friendly maneuver

CAS close air support

cbt combat

**CCIR** commander's critical information requirements

CD cavalry division

counterdrug

CFL coordinated fire line

CFZ critical friendly zone

\*checkpoint a predetermined point on the ground used to control movement,

tactical maneuver, and orientation

CI counterintelligence

\*clear a tactical mission task that requires the commander to remove all

enemy forces and eliminate organized resistance within an

assigned area

close area where forces are in immediate contact with the enemy and the

fighting between the committed forces and readily available tactical reserves of both combatants is occurring, or where commanders envision close combat taking place. Typically, the close area assigned to a maneuver force extends from its subordinates'

rear boundaries to its own forward boundary. (FM 3-0)

close combat carried out with direct-fire weapons, supported by indirect

fires, air-delivered fires, and nonlethal engagement means. Close combat defeats or destroys enemy forces or seizes and retains

ground. (FM 3-0)

**CNR** combat net radio

co company

COA course of action

COL colonel

**COLT** combat observation and lasing team

\*combat arms units and soldiers who close with and destroy enemy forces or

provide firepower and destructive capabilities on the battlefield

\*combat formation an ordered arrangement of forces for a specific purpose and the

general configuration of a unit on the ground

combat information (Army) unevaluated data gather by or provided to a commander

that, due to its highly perishable nature or the critical nature of the tactical situation, cannot be processed into tactical intelligence or other staff products in time to meet the commander's

information requirements (FM 6-0)

\*combat outpost a reinforced observation post capable of conducting limited com-

bat operations

combat power the total means of destructive and/or disruptive force which a

military unit/formation can apply against the opponent at a given

time (JP 1-02)

combat service support battlefield operating system the support and services provided

to sustain forces during war and military operations other than

war (FM 7-15)

\*combat support (Army) critical combat functions provided by units and soldiers in

conjunction with combat arms units and soldiers to secure victory

combined arms the synchronized or simultaneous application of several arms—

such as infantry, armor, artillery, engineers, air defense, and aviation—to achieve an effect on the enemy that is greater than if each arm was used against the enemy separately or in sequence

(FM 3-0)

command and control battlefield operating system all tasks associated with the

exercise of authority and direction by a properly designated commander over assigned and available forces in the

accomplishment of the mission (FM 7-15)

\*company a unit consisting of two or more platoons, usually of the same

type, with a headquarters and a limited capacity for self-support

\*company team a combined arms organization formed by attaching one or more

nonorganic tank, mechanized infantry, or light infantry platoons to a tank, mechanized infantry, or light infantry company, either

in exchange for, or in addition to, its organic platoons

\*consolidation the process of organizing and strengthening a newly captured

position so that it can be defended

\*contact point an easily identifiable point on the terrain where two or more

ground units are required to make physical contact

\*contain (Army) a tactical mission task that requires the commander to

stop, hold, or surround enemy forces or to cause them to center their activity on a given front and prevent them from

withdrawing any part of their forces for use elsewhere

\*contiguous area of operations when all of a commander's subordinate forces' areas of

operations share one or more common boundaries

**COP** common operational picture

\*control a tactical mission task that requires the commander to maintain

physical influence over a specified area to prevent its use by an enemy or to create conditions necessary for successful friendly

operations

**CONUS** continental United States

\*convoy security operations a specialized kind of area security operations conducted to

protect convoys

coordinated fire line a line beyond which conventional, direct, and indirect surface fire

support means may fire at any time within the boundaries of the establishing headquarters without additional coordination. The purpose of the CFL is to expedite the surface-to-surface attack of targets beyond the CFL without coordination with the ground

commander in whose area the targets are located. (JP 3-09)

\*cordon security the security provided between two combat outposts positioned to

provide mutual support

\*corps the Army's largest tactical unit and the instrument by which

higher echelons of command conduct maneuver at the operational

level

**COSCOM** corps support command

co/tm company/team

**counterattack** (Army) a form of attack by part or all of a defending force against

an enemy attacking force, with the general objective of denying

the enemy his goal in attacking (FM 3-0)

\*counterreconnaissance (Army) a tactical mission task that encompasses all measures

taken by a commander to counter enemy reconnaissance and surveillance efforts. Counterreconnaissance is not a distinct

mission, but a component of all forms of security operations

\*cover a form of security operation whose primary task is to protect the

main body by fighting to gain time while also observing and reporting information and preventing enemy ground observation

of and direct fire against the main body

\*covering force a self-contained force capable of operating independently of the

main body, unlike a screening or guard force

**CP** checkpoint; command post

\*critical friendly zone

an area, usually a friendly unit or location, that the maneuver commander designates as critical to the protection of an asset whose loss would seriously jeopardize the mission

CSG corps support group

combat service support

\*cueing the integration of one or more types of reconnaissance or surveillance systems to provide information that directs follow-on

collecting of more detailed information by another system

DAG division artillery group

DASB division aviation support battalion

\*decisive terrain key terrain whose seizure and retention is mandatory for success-

ful mission accomplishment

in land and naval warfare, an engagement in which a unit is considered fully committed and cannot maneuver or extricate itself. In the absence of outside assistance, the action must be fought to a conclusion and either won or lost with the forces at

hand. (JP 1-02)

deep area an area forward of the close area that commanders use to shape

enemy forces before they are encountered or engaged in the close

area (FM 3-0)

\*defeat a tactical mission task that occurs when an enemy force has

temporarily or permanently lost the physical means or the will to fight. The defeated force's commander is unwilling or unable to pursue his adopted course of action, thereby yielding to the friendly commander's will and can no longer interfere to a significant degree with the actions of friendly forces. Defeat can

result from the use of force or the threat of its use.

\*defeat in detail Defeat in detail is achieved by concentrating overwhelming combat power against separate parts of a force rather than

defeating the entire force at once.

defensive operations operations to defeat an enemy attack, buy time, economize forces,

> or develop conditions favorable for offensive operations. Defensive operations alone normally cannot achieve a decision. Their purpose is to create conditions for a counteroffensive that allows

Army forces to regain the initiative. (FM 3-0)

delay a form of retrograde [JP 1-02 uses an operation] in which a force

under pressure trades space for time by slowing down the enemy's momentum and inflicting maximum damage on the enemy without, in principle, becoming decisively engaged

(JP 1-02, see delaying operation)

\*delay line a phase line where the date and time before which the enemy is not allowed to cross the phase line is depicted as part of the

graphic control measure

CSS

decisive engagement

\*deliberate operation an operation in which a commander's detailed intelligence

concerning the situation allows him to develop and coordinate detailed plans, including multiple branches and sequels. He task-organizes his forces specifically for the operation to provide a fully synchronized combined arms team. He conducts extensive rehearsals while conducting shaping operations to set the

conditions for his decisive operation.

**demonstration** (Army) a form of the attack designed to deceive the enemy as to

the location or time of the decisive operation by a display of force. Forces conducting a demonstration do not seek contact with the

enemy. (FM 3-0)

\*denial operations actions to hinder or deny the enemy the use of space, personnel,

supplies, or facilities

\*destroy a tactical mission task that physically renders an enemy force

combat-ineffective until it is reconstituted. Alternatively, to destroy a combat system is to damage it so badly that it cannot perform any function or be restored to a usable condition without

being entirely rebuilt.

\*detachment left in contact an element left in contact as part of the previously designated

(usually rear) security force while the main body conducts its

withdrawal

\*direction of attack a specific direction or assigned route a force uses and does not

deviate from when attacking

**DISCOM** division support command

\*disengage a tactical mission task where a commander has his unit break

contact with the enemy to allow the conduct of another mission or

to avoid decisive engagement

\*disengagement line a phase line located on identifiable terrain that, when crossed by

the enemy, signals to defending elements that it is time to

displace to their next positions

\*dismounted marches Dismounted marches, also called foot marches, are movements of

troops and equipment, mainly by foot, with limited support by

vehicles.

\*disrupt a tactical mission task in which a commander integrates direct

and indirect fires, terrain, and obstacles to upset an enemy's formation or tempo, interrupt his timetable, or cause his forces to commit prematurely or attack in a piecemeal fashion. Disrupt is also an engineer obstacle effect that focuses fire planning and obstacle effort to cause the enemy to break up his formation and tempo, interrupt his timetable, commit breaching assets pre-

maturely, and attack in a piecemeal effort.

div division

**DIVARTY** division artillery

**DIVCAV** division cavalry

\*divisions (Army) the largest fixed organizations in the Army that train and

fight as tactical teams, and are organized with varying numbers

and types of combat, CS, and CSS units

DLIC detachment left in contact

DOD Department of Defense

 $\mathbf{DS}$ direct support

DSA division support area

 $\mathbf{DZ}$ drop zone

EA engagement area

EAC echelon above corps

eff effective

\*encirclement operations operations where one force loses its freedom of maneuver because

an opposing force is able to isolate it by controlling all ground

lines of communication and reinforcement

a small, tactical conflict between opposing maneuver forces, engagement

usually conducted at brigade level and below (FM 3-0)

\*engagement area where the commander intends to contain and destroy an enemy

force with the massed effects of all available weapons and

supporting systems

\*engagement criteria protocols that specify those circumstances for initiating

engagement with an enemy force

\*engagement priority

the order in which the unit engages enemy systems or functions

(Army) a form of maneuver in which an attacking force seeks to avoid the principal enemy defenses by seizing objectives to the enemy rear to destroy the enemy in his current positions. At the tactical level, envelopments focus on seizing terrain, destroying specific enemy forces, and interdicting enemy withdrawal routes.

(FM 3-0)

envelopment

**ENY** enemy (graphics)

EOD explosive ordnance disposal

 $\mathbf{EPW}$ enemy prisoner of war

ESB enhanced separate brigade

evac evacuation

 $\mathbf{E}\mathbf{W}$ electronic warfare

\*exfiltrate a tactical mission task where a commander removes personnel or

units from areas under enemy control by stealth, deception,

surprise, or clandestine means

exploitation a type of offensive operation that usually follows a successful at-

tack and is designed to disorganize the enemy in depth (JP 1-02)

EZ extraction zone

FA field artillery

**FARP** forward arming and refueling point

FCL final coordination line

FEBA forward edge of the battle area

**feint** (Army) a form of attack used to deceive the enemy as to the location or time of the actual decisive operation. Forces conducting a feint seek direct fire contact with the enemy but avoid decisive engagement. (FM 3-0)

FFA free-fire area

\*field of fire the area that a weapon or group of weapons may cover effectively

from a given position

\*final coordination line a phase line close to the enemy position used to coordinate the

lifting or shifting of supporting fires with the final deployment of

maneuver elements

final protective fires an immediately available preplanned barrier of fires designed to

impede enemy movement across defensive lines or areas (JP 3-09)

\*fire strike the massed, synchronized, and nearly simultaneous delivery of

precision-guided munitions

\*fire superiority that degree of dominance in the fires of one force over another

that permits that force to conduct maneuver at a given time and

place without prohibitive interference by the enemy

fire support battlefield operating system the collective and coordinated use of target-

acquisition data, indirect-fire weapons, fixed-wing aircraft, offensive information operations, and other lethal and nonlethal means against targets located throughout an area of operations

(FM 7-15)

fire support coordination line a FSCM that is established and adjusted by appropriate land

or amphibious force commanders within their boundaries in consultation with superior, subordinate, supporting, and affected commanders. The FSCL facilitates the expeditious attack of surface targets of opportunity beyond the coordinating measure. A FSCL does not divide an area of operations by defining a boundary between close and deep operations or a distinct area [JP 3-09 uses zone] for close air support. The FSCL applies to all fires of air-, land-, and sea-based weapon systems using any type of ammunition. Forces attacking targets beyond an FSCL must inform all affected commanders in sufficient time to allow necessary reaction to avoid fratricide. Supporting elements attacking targets beyond the FSCL must ensure that the attack will not produce adverse effects on, or to the rear of, the line. Short of an FSCL, all air-to-ground and surface-to-surface attack operations are controlled by the appropriate land or amphibious force commander. The FSCL should follow well-defined terrain

features. Coordination of attacks beyond the FSCL is especially critical to commanders of air, land, and special operations forces. In exceptional circumstances, the inability to conduct this coordination will not preclude the attack of targets beyond the FSCL. However, failure to do so may increase the risk of fratricide and could waste limited resources. (JP 3-09)

fire support target see target

\*fix a tactical mission task where a commander prevents the enemy

from moving any part of his force from a specific location for a specific period to of time. Fix is also an engineer obstacle effect that focuses fire planning and obstacle effort to slow an attacker's

movement within a specified area, normally an engagement

\*flanking position a geographical location on the flank of a force from which effective

fires can be placed on that flank

\*flanks the right or left limits of a unit

**FLE** forward logistics element

**FLOT** forward line of own troops

FM field manual

**FOB** forward operating base

\*follow and assume a tactical mission task in which a second committed force follows

a force conducting an offensive operation and is prepared to continue the mission if the lead force is fixed, attrited, or unable

to continue

\*follow and support a tactical mission task in which a committed force follows and

supports a lead force conducting an offensive operation

\*follow-on echelon those additional forces moved into the objective area after the

assault echelon

foot march see dismounted marches

forward edge of the battle area the foremost limits of a series of areas in which ground

combat units are deployed, excluding the areas in which the covering or screening forces are operating, designated to coordinate fire support, the positioning of forces, or the maneuver

of units (JP 1-02)

forward line of own troops a line which indicates the most forward positions of friendly

forces in any kind of military operation at a specific time. The forward line of own troops normally identifies the forward

location of covering and screening forces. (JP 1-02)

\*forward passage of lines when a unit passes through another unit's positions while moving

toward the enemy

**FPF** final protective fires

**FRAGO** fragmentary order

free-fire area a specific area into which any weapon system may fire into

without additional coordination with the establishing

headquarters (JP 3-09)

front an echelon of the Soviet Army two levels above corps, the

equivilent of a US army group

frontal attack (Army) a form of maneuver in which an attacking force seeks to

destroy a weaker enemy force or fix a larger enemy force in place

over a broad front (FM 3-0)

FSB forward support battalion

FSCL fire support coordination line

**FSCM** fire support coordinating measure

**FSCOORD** fire support coordinator

G guard (used on graphics to indicate a security mission. See

paragraph 12-13)

G1 assistant chief of staff, personnel

G2 assistant chief of staff, intelligence

**G3** assistant chief of staff, operations

G4 assistant chief of staff, logistics

**G5** assistant chief of staff, civil affairs

G6 assistant chief of staff, communications

\*gap (Army) an area free of armed mines or obstacles whose width and

direction allow a friendly force to pass through the area

containing obstacles while dispersed in a tactical formation

GEN general

**GPS** global positioning system

GRC guards rifle corps

grd ground

**GS** general support

**GSR** ground surveillance radar

\*guard (Army) a form of security operations whose primary task is to pro-

tect the main body by fighting to gain time while also observing and reporting information and preventing enemy ground observation of and direct fire against the main body. Units conducting a guard mission cannot operate independently because they rely

upon fires and combat support assets of the main body.

\*hasty operation an operation in which a commander directs his immediately

available forces, using fragmentary orders, to perform activities with minimal preparation, trading planning and preparation time

for speed of execution

hel helicopter

**HHC** headquarters and headquarters company

**HIMAD** high- to medium-altitude air defense

**HQ** headquarters

**HUMINT** human intelligence

**IBCT** initial brigade combat team

**ID** infantry division

**IFF** identification, friend or foe

**IMINT** imagery intelligence

**IN** infantry

**infiltration** (Army) a form of maneuver in which an attacking force conducts

undetected movement through or into an area occupied by enemy forces to occupy a position of advantage in the enemy rear while exposing only small elements to enemy defensive fires (FM 3-0)

\*infiltration lane a control measure that coordinates forward and lateral movement

of infiltrating units and fixes fire planning responsibilities

intelligence battlefield operating system the activity to generate knowledge of and products

portraying the enemy and environmental features required by a commander in planning, preparing, executing, and assessing

operations (FM 7-15)

\*interdict a tactical mission task where the commander prevents, disrupts,

or delays the enemy's use of an area or route

**IO** information operations

**IPB** intelligence preparation of the battlefield

**ISB** intermediate support base

\*isolate a tactical mission task that requires a unit to seal off-both

physically and psychologically—an enemy from his sources of support, deny an enemy freedom of movement, and prevent an

enemy unit from having contact with other enemy forces

ISR intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance

**JAAT** joint air attack team

**JAG** judge adcocate general

**JAOC** joint air operations center

**JFACC** joint force air component commander

**JFC** joint force commander

**JFLCC** joint force land component commander

**JP** joint publication

JSOA joint special operations area

JSTARS joint surveillance target attack radar system

JTF joint task force

\*key terrain any locality or area, the seizure or retention of which affords a

marked advantage to either combatant in a given course of action

\*kill zone that part of an ambush site where fires are concentrated to

isolate, fix, and destroy the enemy

LC line of contact

LD line of departure

\*Level I threat a small enemy force that can be defeated by CS and CSS units

operating in the rear area or by the perimeter defenses

established by friendly bases and base clusters

\*Level II threat enemy activities that can be defeated by a base or base cluster

augmented by a response force

\*Level III threat a threat beyond the defensive capability of both the base and base

cluster and any local reserve or response force

lg long

\*light line a designated phase line, forward of which vehicles are required to

use blackout lights during periods of limited visibility

\*limit of advance a phase line used to control forward progress of the attack. The

attacking unit does not advance any of its elements or assets beyond the LOA, but the attacking unit can push its security

forces to that limit.

\*line of contact a general trace delineating the location where friendly and enemy

forces are engaged

\*line of departure a phase line crossed at a prescribed time by troops initiating an

offensive operation

line of communication a route, either land, water, and/or air, which connects an

operating military force with a base of operations and along

which supplies and military forces move (JP 1-02)

\*linkup point a point where two infiltrating elements in the same or different

infiltration lanes are scheduled to meet to consolidate before

proceeding on with their missions

\*linkup a meeting of friendly ground forces, which occurs in a variety of

circumstances

LL light line

LLTR low-level transit route

LOA limit of advance

**LOC** line of communication

\*local security low-level security operations conducted near a unit to prevent

surprise by the enemy

\*logistic package a grouping of multiple classes of supply and supply vehicles under

the control of a single convoy commander

LOGPAC logistic package

LRP logistics release point

LRSU long-range surveillance unit

LTC lieutenant colonel

LU linkup

LZ landing zone

M mechanized

meters

\*main battle area the area where the commander intends to deploy the bulk of his

combat power and conduct his decisive operation to defeat an

attacking enemy

maneuver the employment of forces on the battlefield through movement in

combination with fires, or fires potential, to achieve a position of advantage with respect to the enemy in order to accomplish the

mission (JP 1-02)

maneuver battlefield operating system the movement of forces to achieve a position of

advantage with respect to enemy forces. This system includes the employment of forces on the battlefield in combination with direct fire or fire potential. This system also includes the conduct of

tactical tasks associated with force projection. (FM 7-15)

\*march column all elements using the same route for a single movement under

control of a single commander

\*march serial a major subdivision of a march column that is organized under

one commander who plans, regulates, and controls the serial

\*march unit a subdivision of a march serial. It moves and halts under the

control of a single commander who uses voice and visual signals.

MASINT measurement and signature intelligence

max maximum

MBA main battle area

MCC movement control center

MD mechanized division

MDMP military decision making process

MECH mechanized infantry

MED medical

meeting engagement (Army) a combat action that occurs when a moving force engages

an enemy at an unexpected time and place (FM 3-0)

METL mission-essential task list

METT-TC mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support avail-

able, time available, and civil considerations (FM 6-0)

MG major general

MI military intelligence

military gamble a situation in which a commander risks the force without a

reasonable level of information about the outcome (FM 6-0)

min minimum

\*mixing using two or more different assets to collect against the same

intelligence requirement

MLRS Multiple Launch Rocket System

MMC materiel management center

mobile defense (Army) a type of defensive operation that concentrates on the

destruction or defeat of the enemy through a decisive attack by a

striking force (FM 3-0)

mobility/countermobility/survivability battlefield operating system Mobility

operations preserve the freedom of maneuver of friendly forces. Countermobility operations deny mobility to enemy forces. Survivability operations protect friendly forces from the effects of

enemy weapon systems. (FM 7-15)

MOPP mission-oriented protective posture

mort mortar

movement control the planning, routing, scheduling, and control of personnel and

cargo movement over lines of communication (JP 4-01.3)

**movement to contact** a type of offensive operation designed to develop the situation and

establish or regain contact (FM 3-0)

**MP** military police

MRB motorized rifle battalion

MRR minimum risk route

MRT movement regulating team

MSR main supply route

MTC movement to contact

mutual support support that units render to each other against an enemy because

of their assigned tasks, their position relative to each other and to

the enemy, and their inherent capabilities (JP 1-02)

NAI named area of interest

\*named area of interest the geographical area where information that will satisfy a

specific information requirement can be collected

**NBC** nuclear, biological, and chemical

\*neutralize (Army) a tactical mission task that results in rendering enemy

personnel or materiel incapable of interfering with a particular

operation

NFA no-fire area

NGO nongovernmental organization

**no-fire area** a land area designated by the appropriate commander into which

fires or their effects are prohibited (JP 3-09)

\*noncontiguous area of operations when one or more of a commander's subordinate forces'

areas of operation do not share a common boundary

OAKOC observation and fields of fire, avenues of approach, key terrain,

obstacles, and cover and concealment

O/O on-order

**OBJ** objective

\*objective (Army) a location on the ground used to orient operations, phase

operations, facilitate changes of direction, and provide for unity of

effort

\*objective rally point a rally point established on an easily identifiable point on the

ground where all elements of the infiltrating unit assemble and

prepare to attack the objective

**obstacle** any obstruction designed or employed to disrupt, fix, turn, or

block the movement of an opposing force, and to impose additional losses in personnel, time, and equipment on the opposing force. Obstacles can exist naturally or can be manmade,

or can be a combination of both. (JP 1-02)

obstacle belt a brigade-level command and control measure, normally given

graphically, to show where within an obstacle zone the ground tactical commander plans to limit friendly obstacle employment

and focus the defense (JP 1-02)

\*obstacle control measures specific measures that simplify the granting of obstacle-emplacing

authority while providing obstacle control

**obstacle restricted area** a command and control measure used to limit the type or number

of obstacles within an area (JP 1-02)

\*obstacle groups one or more individual obstacles grouped to provide a specific

obstacle effect

obstacle zone a division-level command and control measure, normally done

graphically, to designate specific land areas where lower echelons

are allowed to employ tactical obstacles (JP 1-02)

\*occupy a tactical mission task that involves moving into an area so that

it can control that entire area. Both the force's movement to and

occupation of the area occur without enemy opposition.

offensive operations Offensive operations aim at destroying or defeating an enemy.

Their purpose is to impose US will on the enemy and achieve

decisive victory. (FM 3-0)

OH observation helicopter

**OP** observation post

**OPCON** operational control

operation a military action or the carrying out of a strategic, operational,

tactical, service, training, or administrative military mission

(JP 1-02)

operational framework the arrangement of friendly forces and resources in time, space,

and purpose with respect to each other and the enemy or situation. It consists of the area of operations, battlespace, and

the battlefield organization. (FM 3-0)

**OPLAN** operation plan

**OPNS** operations

**OPORD** operation order

**OPS** operations

**OPSEC** operations security

**ORA** obstacle restricted area

**ord** ordnance

**ORP** objective rally point

PAA position area for artillery

\*passage lane a lane through an enemy or friendly obstacle that provides a safe

passage for a passing force

\*passage of lines (Army) a tactical enabling operation in which one unit moves

through another unit's positions with the intent of moving into or

out of enemy contact

\*passage point a specifically designated place where the passing units pass

through the stationary unit

passive air defense all measures, other than active air defense, taken to minimize the

effects of hostile air action. They include cover, concealment, camouflage, dummy positions, dispersion, and protective

construction. (FM 3-01.8)

PD point of departure

\*penetration (Army) a form of maneuver in which an attacking force seeks to

rupture enemy defenses on a narrow front to disrupt the

defensive system (FM 3-0)

**phase line** a line utilized for control and coordination of military operations,

usually a terrain feature extending across the operational area

[JP 1-02 uses zone of action] (JP 1-02)

\*piecemeal commitment the immediate employment of units in combat as they become

available instead of waiting for larger aggregations of units to ensure mass, or the unsynchronized employment of available forces so that their combat power is not employed effectively

PL phase line

PLD probable line of deployment

\*point of departure the point where the unit crosses the line of departure and begins

moving along a direction of attack

POL petroleum, oils, and lubricants

\*position area for artillery an area assigned to an artillery unit where individual artillery

systems can maneuver to increase their survivability. A PAA is not an area of operations for the artillery unit occupying it.

PP passage point

\*primary position the position that covers the enemy's most likely avenue of

approach into the AO

\*probable line of deployment a phase line that a commander designates as the location

where he intends to completely deploy his unit into assault

formation before beginning the assault

\*procedures standard and detailed courses of action that describe how to

perform tasks

**psn** position

**PSYOP** psychological operations

**pursuit** an offensive operation designed to catch or cut off a hostile force

attempting to escape, with the aim of destroying it (JP 1-02)

PZ pickup zone

**PZCO** pickup zone control officer

PzDiv panzer division

raid a form of attack [JP 1-02 uses operation], usually small scale,

involving a swift entry into hostile territory to secure information, confuse the enemy, or destroy installations. It ends with a planned withdrawal from the objective area upon mission

completion. (FM 3.0)

\*rally point an easily identifiable point on the ground at which units can

reassemble and reorganize if they become dispersed. Alternatively, it is an easily identifiable point on the ground at which aircrews and passengers can assemble and reorganize

following an incident requiring a forced landing.

RAOC rear area operations center

RC rifle corps

**RD** rifle division

rear area (Army) The rear area for any command extends from its rear

boundary forward to the rear boundary of the next lower level of command. This area is provided primarily for the performance of support functions and is where the majority of the echelon's

sustaining operations occur. (FM 3-0)

\*rearward passage of lines when a unit passes through another unit's positions while moving

away from the enemy

recon reconnaissance

\*reconnaissance in force (Army) a deliberate combat operation designed to discover or test

the enemy's strength, dispositions, and reactions or to obtain other information [The Army definition adds dispositions, and

reactions to the joint definition.]

\*reconnaissance objective a terrain feature, geographical area, or an enemy force about

which the commander wants to obtain additional information

\*reconnaissance operations (Army) those operations undertaken to obtain, by visual observa-

tion or other detection methods, information about the activities and resources of an enemy or potential enemy, or to secure data concerning the meteorological, hydrographical or geographical characteristics and the indigenous population of a particular area. [The Army definition adds and the indigenous population to the

joint definition.]

reconstitution those actions that commanders plan and implement to restore

units to a desired level of combat effectiveness commensurate with mission requirements and available resources. Reconstitution operations include regeneration and reorganization.

(FM 4-100.9)

\*reduce a tactical mission task that involves the destruction of an

encircled or bypassed enemy force

\*redundancy using two or more like assets to collect against the same

intelligence requirement

\*release point a location on a route where marching elements are released from

centralized control

\*relief in place (Army) a tactical enabling operation in which, by the direction of

higher authority, all or part of a unit is replaced in an area by the

incoming unit

**reorganization** action taken to shift internal resources within a degraded unit to

increase its level of combat effectiveness (FM 4-100.9)

**response force** a mobile force with appropriate fire support designated, usually

by the area commander, to deal with Level II threats in the rear

area (JP 1-02)

restrictive fire area an area in which specific restrictions are imposed and into which

fires that exceed those restrictions will not be delivered without

coordination with the establishing headquarters (JP 3-09)

restrictive fire line a line established between converging friendly surface forces that

prohibits fires or their effects across that line (JP 3-09)

\*retain a tactical mission task in which the commander ensures that a

terrain feature already controlled by a friendly force remains free

of enemy occupation or use

retirement a form of retrograde [JP 1-02 uses operation] in which a force out

of contact with the enemy moves away from the enemy (JP 1-02)

retrograde (Army) a type of defensive operation that involves organized

movement away from the enemy (FM 3-0)

RFA restricted fire area

RFL restricted fire line

RGR ranger

RIF reconnaissance in force

RISTA reconnaissance, intelligence, surveillance, and target acquisition

**rly** rally

ROC rear operations center

 ${\bf ROE} \qquad {\bf rules~of~engagement}$ 

**ROM** refuel on the move

**route** the prescribed course to be traveled from a specific point of origin

to a specific destination (JP 1-02)

\*route reconnaissance a form of reconnaissance that focuses along a specific line of

communication, such as a road, railway, or cross-country mobility

corridor

\*route security operations a specialized kind of area security operations conducted to protect

lines of communication and friendly forces moving along them

**RP** release point

rte route

rules of engagement directives issued by competent military authority which delineate

the circumstances and limitations under which United States forces will initiate and/or continue combat engagement with other

forces encountered (JP 1-02)

S screen (used on graphics to indicate a security mission. See

paragraph 12-13)

S1 battalion/brigade personnel staff officer

S2 battalion/brigade intelligence staff officer

S3 battalion/brigade operations staff officer

S4 battalion/brigade logistics staff officer

S5 battalion/brigade civil-military operations staff officer

S6 battalion/brigade communications staff officer

SAAFR standard use Army aircraft flight route

SAW squad automatic weapon

\*science of tactics the understanding of those military aspects of tactics—capabil-

ities, techniques, and procedures—that can be measured and

codified

\*screen (Army) a form of security operations that primarily provides early

warning to the protected force

**SEAD** suppression of enemy air defenses

search and attack a technique for conducting a movement to contact that shares

many of the characteristics of an area security mission (FM 3-0)

\*sector of fire (Army) that area assigned to a unit, a crew-served weapon, or an individual weapon within which it will engage targets as they

appear in accordance with established engagement priorities

\*secure a tactical mission task that involves preventing a unit, facility, or

geographical location from being damaged or destroyed as a

result of enemy action

\*security operations those operations undertaken by a commander to provide early

and accurate warning of enemy operations, to provide the force being protected with time and maneuver space within which to react to the enemy, and to develop the situation to allow the

commander to effectively use the protected force

\*seize a tactical mission task that involves taking possession of a

designated area using overwhelming force

sep separate

**SF** special forces

**SHORAD** short-range air defense

**SIGINT** signals intelligence

**SOA** special operations aviation

**SOCCE** special operations command and control element

**SOF** special operations forces

SOI signal operating instruction

**SOP** standing operating procedures

SP start point

**SPF** special-purpose forces

spoiling attack (Army) a form of attack that preempts or seriously impairs an

enemy attack while the enemy is in the process of planning or

preparing to attack (FM 3-0)

spt support

sqd squadron

\*start point a location on the route where the marching elements fall under

the control of a designated march commander

STAVKA acronym for the Soviet high command during World War II

\*stay-behind operation an operation in which the commander leaves a unit in position to

conduct a specified mission while the remainder of his forces

withdraw or retire from an area

striking force a committed force organized to conduct the decisive attack in a

mobile defense. It normally comprises the maximum combat power available to the commander at the time of the attack.

(FM 3-0)

\*strong point (Army) a heavily fortified battle position tied to a natural or

reinforcing obstacle to create an anchor for the defense or to deny

the enemy decisive or key terrain

\*subsequent position a position that a unit expects to move to during the course of

battle

\*supplementary position a defensive position located within a unit's assigned AO that

provides the best sectors of fire and defensive terrain along an avenue of approach that is not the primary avenue along which

the enemy is expected to attack

\*support-by-fire position the general position from which a unit conducts the tactical

mission task of support by fire

\*support by fire a tactical mission task in which a maneuver force moves to a

position where it can engage the enemy by direct fire in support of

another maneuvering force

\*supporting distance the distance between two units that can be traveled in time for

one to come to the aid of the other. For small units, it is the distance between two units that can be covered effectively by their

fires. (FM 3-0)

\*supporting range the distance one unit may be geographically separated from a

second unit, yet remain within the maximum range of the second

unit's indirect-fire weapon systems (FM 3-0)

\*suppress (Army) a tactical mission task that results in the temporary

degradation of the performance of a force or weapon system below

the level needed to accomplish its mission

surveil surveillance

sys system

TAA tactical assembly area

tactical combat force a combat unit, with appropriate combat support and combat

service support assets, that is assigned the mission of defeating

Level III threats (JP 1-02)

tactical level of war the level of war at which battles and engagements are planned

and executed to accomplish military objectives assigned to tactical units or task forces. Activities at this level focus on the ordered arrangement and maneuver of combat elements in relation to each other and to the enemy to achieve combat objectives.

(JP 1-02)

\*tactical mobility the ability to move rapidly from one part of the battlefield to

another, relative to the enemy

tactical road march a rapid movement used to relocate units within an area of

operations to prepare for combat operations (FM 3-0)

\*tactician an individual devoted to mastering the science and art of tactics

tactics (Army) the employment of units in combat. It includes the

ordered arrangement and maneuver of units in relation to each other, the terrain, and the enemy to translate potential combat

power into victorious battles and engagements. (FM 3-0)

TAI targeted area of interest

target in the fire support context, an area designated and numbered for

future firing (JP 1-02)

\*target reference point an easily recognizable point on the ground, such as a building or a

road junction, used in conjunction with engagement areas and

sectors of fire to initiate, distribute, and control fires

\*targeted area of interest the geographical area or point along a mobility corridor where

successful interdiction will cause the enemy to abandon a particular course of action or require him to use specialized engineer support to continue. It is where he can be acquired and

engaged by friendly forces.

TCF tactical combat force

**TCP** traffic control point

**TECHINT** technical intelligence

\*techniques the general and detailed methods used by troops and commanders

to perform assigned missions and functions, specifically, the

methods of using equipment and personnel

TF task force

\*time of attack the moment the leading elements of the main body cross the line

of departure, or in a night attack, the point of departure

tm team

**TOC** tactical operations center

TOW tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire-guided (refers to the Ar-

my's heavy, antitank missile system)

trans transportation

\*trigger line a phase line used to initiate and mass fires into an engagement

area or an objective at a predetermined range for all or like wea-

pon systems

\*troop a company-size organization in a cavalry organization

\*troop movement the movement of troops from one place to another by any

available means

TRP target reference point

TTP tactics, techniques, and procedures

\*turn a tactical mission task that involves forcing an enemy force from

one avenue of approach or movement corridor to another. Turn is also a tactical obstacle effect that integrates fire planning and obstacle effort to divert an enemy formation from one avenue of approach to an adjacent avenue of approach or into an

engagement area

turning movement (Army) a form of maneuver in which the attacking force seeks to

avoid the enemy's principal defensive positions by seizing objectives to the enemy rear and causing the enemy to move out of his current positions or divert major forces to meet the threat

(FM 3-0)

UAV unmanned aerial vehicle

**UMCP** unit maintenance collection point

US United States

**USAF** United States Air Force

**USMC** United States Marine Corps

USN United States Navy

withdrawal a planned operation in which a force in contact disengages from

an enemy force (JP 1-02) [The Army considers it a form of retro-

grade.]

WMD weapons of mass destruction

\*zone reconnaissance a form of reconnaissance that involves a directed effort to obtain

detailed information on all routes, obstacles, terrain, and enemy

forces with a zone defined by boundaries