

# Tactics for the Field Artillery

## Field artillery platoon and/or battery in operations



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

## Field artillery platoon and/or battery in operations

### Basic and recommended reading:

#### Basic:

Pub-35-14-01. *Bojové použití dělostřelectva*. Vyškov: Odbor doktrín VeV-VA, 2013. 203 s. – kapitola 3.1.

Pom-2/10-120. Normy pro hodnocení odborné přípravy pozemního dělostřelectva. Praha: GŠ AČR, 1992. 68 s.

ČERMÁK, B. *Použití dělostřelectva v boji mechanizované brigády*. Brno: VA, 2004. 83 s. [S-2915] – kapitola 1.3.

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### Basic and recommended reading:

#### Recommended:

POTUŽÁK, L., VONDRÁK, J., SOTULÁŘ, B., SOBARŇA, M. Základní pojmový aparát pozemního dělostřelectva AČR. Brno: UO, 2011. 130 s. [S-10053]

APP 6(C). *NATO Joint Military Symbolology (STANAG 2019)*. NSA, 2011.

AAP-6, *NATO Glossary of Terms and Definitions (STANAG 3680)*, NSA, 2007.

## Field artillery platoon and/or battery in operations

### **Educational objective:**

Place and role of the field artillery battery (platoon) in fire support to a task force.

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## Content:

- 1) Grouping of artillery for fire support to task forces
- 2) Combat formation
- 3) Combat capabilities

## 1) Grouping of artillery for fire support to task forces

In order to provide complex and effective Fire Support the FA assets (units) are grouped by superior commander.

### Grouping of artillery means:

- assignment of FA units for the standard Indirect Fire Support (IFS) tactical missions (DS, GS, GSR)
- reinforcement of combat (maneuver) formations/TF by FA
- displacement of FA to combat formation

Groupings of FA established before combat is changing in the course of the combat, depending on development of tactical situation and tasks.

## 1) Grouping of artillery for fire support to task forces

**Reinforcement** of combat (maneuver) formations/TF **by FA** is organized by commanding officer superior to both, and it can be:

- assignment - DS usually)
  - under direct control of TF COM
  - TACOM
- allocation for support (attachment for specific FS tasks -GS, GSR)
  - remains under control of its FA COM
  - provides FS to FT COM in tasked areas, time or trgs

## 1) Grouping of artillery for fire support to task forces

### Grouping of FA for ACR Task forces

- 4<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> BCT – assignment of Arty Bn incl. FSCC
- Bn TF – assignment
  - up to FA firing battery
  - always FSC cell + Arty Recce TA Platoon
- Coy TF – assignment of Arty Recce TA Squad + mortar/artillery firing unit



## 2) Combat formation

Combat formation is structured displacement (system) of elements of artillery units (formations) necessary for the preparation, direction and execution of both artillery fire and maneuver

- To displace into a combat formation the FA unit COM to determine:
  - firing areas,
  - command post area,
  - observation post areas for Arty Recce TA means under his/her command.

## 2) Combat formation

ArtyBn combat formation = ArtyBn PAA + Arty Recce TA means:

- main CP including FDC,
- combat formation of its firing batteries,
- observation post areas of directly commanded Arty Recce TA means,
- rear Bn area (CSS - logistic and medical support).

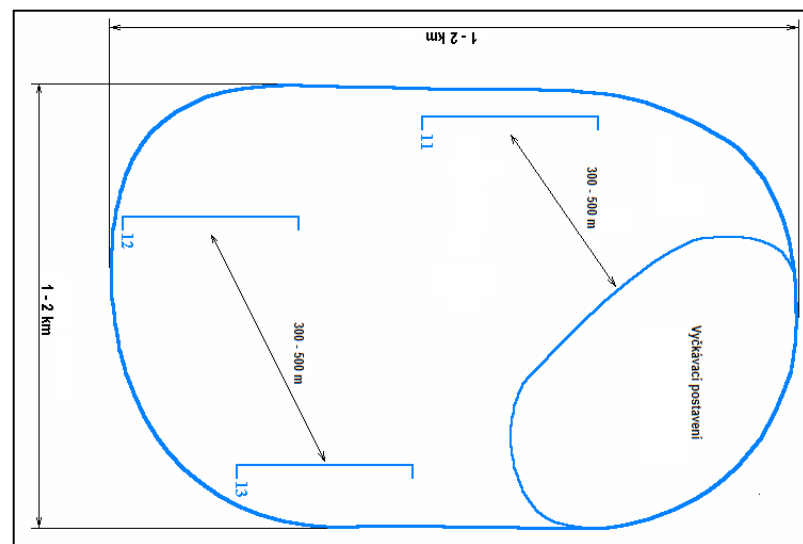
Firing/mortar Bty combat formation = Bty PAA:

- CP = Bty FDC
- 1-3 up to 4 firing positions
- covering position
- covering position for ammo and/or towing vehicle

## 2) Combat formation

### Tactical norms for PAA

- Arty Bn - 3-6 by 3-6 kms, 1 km between Bty`s, 2-6 kms behind FEBA
- Arty Bty – 1-2 by 1-2 kms, 2-6 kms behind FEBA
- SpM Bty – 1-2 by 1-2 kms, 1-4 kms from FEBA
- M Bty – 1 by 1.5 kms, 1-4 kms from FEBA



## 2) Combat formation

### Battery Firing Position

- a leg of terrain prepared and/or occupied by firing unit to launch fire,
- prepared or unprepared,
- covered or uncovered - against the ground optical recce,
- occupied by unit just for (before) launching the fire,
- shoot and scoot tactics

### 3) Combat capabilities

Combat capabilities refer on the ability of an artillery unit (firing batteries) to meet the requirements for fire support of combat units.

- calculated by FSO (FSCOORD) at FSCC/FSC cell,
- reported to Arty and supported COM,
- used for FS planning and Bty tasks management.

### 3) Combat capabilities

#### Combat capabilities division in ACR Arty:

- maneuver and tactical movements capabilities
- firing capabilities
- Arty Recce TA capabilities
- Arty C2IS capabilities

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### Tasks for individual work:

- 1) Clarify what the grouping of FA is about.
- 2) Clarify forms of reinforcement by FA units (assets).
- 3) Discuss on FA groupings in support to various maneuver ACR TF`s.
- 4) Using tactical symbols, make a sketch of Bty PAA with all its elements (positions)
- 5) Discuss the rules and tactical norms for displacement of artillery and mortar firing units.
- 6) Explain set up and positioning of FSE (FSCC) for BnTF and BCT
- 7) Discuss on combat capabilities of Firing Bty, division and significance.