

WRITTEN PREPARATION

Subject:	Artillery Tactics
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Topic:	T13: Use of the artillery in stabilization and other type perations (2p + 2c)
Objective:	Define the place and role of the task force's artillery in fire support of stabilization and other type operations.

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1) Stabilization operations

The division of military operations and the boundaries between them are currently ambiguous. However, in accordance with the ACR Doctrine, in the full spectrum of the conflict, depending on its intensity, 4 basic categories of military operations can be defined:

- Military Peace Deployment Operation (PME);
- Peace Support Operations (PSO);
- Counter-insurgency operations and asymmetric conflict (COIN);
- Main combat operations - large-scale war conflict (war).

Stabilization activities and post-conflict reconstruction, together with offensive, defensive and other tactical activities, are an integral part of any armed conflict.

During the war, it will be necessary to carry out stabilization activities on an occupied or own territory on an ongoing basis to ensure the safety of the population, own units and support functions of the rear (food production, transfer axes, air and sea unloading points, critical infrastructure, etc.).

In current conflicts, stabilization operations are usually referred to as multinational military crisis management operations. Under NATO conditions, these are crisis management operations outside Article 5 of the Washington Treaty, the so-called Non-Article 5 Crises Response Operations (NA5CRO). These operations are activated by the international community, which sets a clear mandate (and, as a result, rules) for the implementing forces to carry them out.

Depending on the intensity of the conflict, stabilization operations are usually referred to as:

- Peace Support Operations (PSO),
- Counter Insurgency Operations (COIN).

2) Use of the artillery in stabilization operations

The role of artillery as a type of army in stabilization activities will depend on the degree of armed conflict and other politico-military aspects such as the military strength of a potential adversary or the reliability of national authorities' control over local armed forces.

An important characteristic of these operations will be the combination of a limited number of own forces and a large area of responsibility of units and departments in the area of operation. National political and military officials will not have firm control over the territory and parts of the armed forces entrusted to them. The support of the local population, unless it is directly hostile, will not be unequivocal and the security forces will have to gain it through their activities. Resistance forces will often be irregular battle groups with partial interests using asymmetric methods of fighting, regardless of the loss of civilians or within their own ranks.

Given the politico-military sensitivity of stabilization operations (NA5CRO) - compliance with international law, strong binding of troops by the Rules of Engagement, maintaining (ensuring) legitimacy in the eyes of the local population, support from national governments and international public opinion - cannons and ammunition with maximum accuracy of firing and mortar units of small and medium caliber. The powers to authorize indirect fire, verify its security and effects at the target will be highly centralized and will generally rest at higher levels of command than the commonly considered war.

Selected members of the artillery, especially staff officers, can participate in tasks to support military and non-military structures in the area where internationally managed stabilization activities take place - for example, as advisers, mentors or instructors training local security forces.

Stabilization operations will be highly intelligence-oriented and conditional.

Artillery reconnaissance units and means, together with their primary purpose or even separately, may be included in the structure of the security forces to increase the capability of the Integrated Intelligence and Reconnaissance System (ISTAR) or unit protection by participating in their early warning system.

In operations in support of peace, artillery, artillery battery may participate in particular in the first phase of the operation in establishing security and control over the area of interest. Depending on the local tactical situation, fire brigades can support security forces in enforcing peace and adhering to accepted peace agreements and measures (withdrawing troops and

combat equipment to designated locations, creating a demilitarized zone between the parties to the conflict, etc.).

Another measure of stabilization activities may be demonstration activities. As part of the demonstration activity, artillery units may make movements or occupy areas of deployment in the area of interest, thus demonstrating the combat power of stabilization units and the determination and readiness to use this force as well.

Artillery observers will covertly or openly reconnoiter the observation post in the areas of interest, process observation schemes, examine the possibilities of connection and plan direct securing and maneuver between the observation posts. They will be included in the formations of patrolling units to ensure their fire support and to be thoroughly acquainted with the area of responsibility of the supported unit.

The firing units will carry out exercises in the areas of interest to take planned and deceptive firing positions. To increase the authority of the security forces, self-propelled howitzer firing squads will be assigned to patrolling units. As part of demonstration activities and at the same time to maintain the capabilities of artillery units, combat firing can be carried out in dedicated (created) training areas, even with the participation of representatives of the opposing parties.

Counter-insurgency operations will be characterized by an asymmetrical way of fighting groups that refuse to recognize internationally agreed agreements for a political solution to the crisis or the mandate of deployed security forces. As a rule, they will act both against the established state and local administration, the cooperating civilian population, and against the deployed international units of the security forces.

COIN operations are characterized by a permanently increased threat to the security of their own forces and direct contact with the enemy in offensive and defensive activities. This nature of the operation also affects the method of use and operation of artillery units:

- the movement of firing units outside the secured base or combat positions is practically impossible,
- units in contact with the enemy require fire support, often over long distances,
- combat and fire support are conducted in populated areas,
- fire is conducted to protect bases when it is attacked by insurgents by direct and indirect fire from highly mobile or covertly deployed, often temporary means of fire.

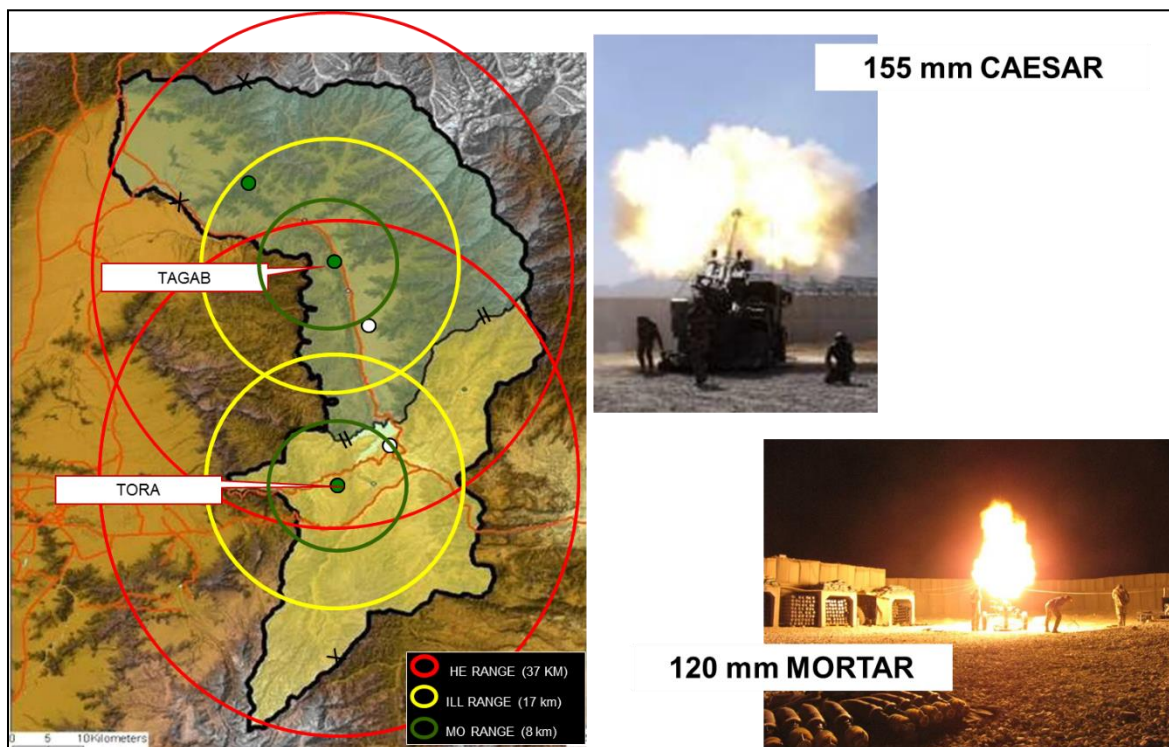
In response to this environment, units or sections of the main artillery will concentrate on secure bases and combat positions deployed so that the range of artillery ensures the possibility of eliminating enemy targets, preferably in the entire area of responsibility of the task force. To minimize collateral damage and the possibility of endangering their own units, it becomes necessary to fire only on the observed targets and preferably with ammunition with final guidance.

Units in contact with the enemy can be directly supported by mounted or guided small-caliber

mortars from their assembly.

Mortars are placed inside the bases for their direct circular protection (direct securing) and cannons are designed to direct fire. Mortars can also supplement or replace cannons while providing fire support or eliminating the enemy over short distances.

Artillery units at the bases create a firing system within the range of their range. The meteorological conditions of the shooting are regularly ascertained and individual cannons can shoot auxiliary targets in the areas of interest to verify the elements of the shooting. If the security units conduct operational activities outside the base, artillery observers and flight attendants are included in their sets. Cannon operators keep their weapons ready to fire into areas where their own units operate. Depending on the safety situation, selected shift operators may ensure a continuous readiness to conduct fire. Appropriate placement of bases and artillery due to its range allows the task force to create a firing system of artillery covering the entire area of its responsibility. An example of an artillery firing system to support moving units and convoys of Afghanistan, SURROBI province, 2011, is shown in the figure.



In an effort to fulfill the stabilizing nature of operations, instead of fire destruction, artillery can be used to deter a potential or real enemy, such as non-lethal fire or fire into areas where its effects do not cause loss of persons and property. For this purpose, some NATO armies are also equipped with special "deterrent" ammunition (Warning Shot Shell) with the same ballistic characteristics as deadly ammunition. This allows the time to change the mode of fire on the enemy to be minimized if a deterrent effect is not achieved. The French artillery successfully used this ammunition during the ISAF operation in Afghanistan.

Given that demonstration and deterrence can have a counterproductive effect, the implementation of these measures will be subject to the same high degree of centralization as the authorization of combat fire.

The experience from the firing of artillery units in the ISAF operation can be summarized in the conclusion:

- a) Losses on the civilian population (CIVCAS) are inadmissible as well as strictly selective fire on targets.
- b) Each fire is associated with detailed fire planning to determine the fire in time, space and determine the desired effect.
- c) Artillery acts as a "system of systems" and in mutual agreement and complementarity with other systems and units.
- d) The centralization of artillery command is high, while delegating responsibility for the effects of firefighting fire safety to the level of command as close as possible to the tactical situation.
- e) Fire control and artillery reconnaissance subsystems must be rapid and flexible.
- f) To destroy the target, fire must be accurate and rapid and in accordance with the ROE without violating tactical guidelines and regulations.
- g) All available reconnaissance means - radars, UAVs, real-time image capture, etc. - are involved in detecting the enemy and controlling and controlling the firing action.

In special cases, engineer and medical units of the artillery unit may participate in the initial renewal of services and facilities in the area of deployment as part of stabilization measures.

Artillery units and specialists can also act in regular security forces in stabilization operations without their combat equipment. However, such deployment must be preceded by appropriate training prior to deployment.

3) Use of the artillery in the other type operations

Other tactical activities are an integral part of the whole spectrum of operations in which the ground forces and with them artillery units and formations can participate.

Other tactical activities include relocation, securing, deployment outside the fight and other activities that can be both offensive and defensive.

The activity of artillery in other tactical activities is based on generally valid use of combat support forces, ie. to support the achievement of the fulfillment of the combat task and the manner of its implementation (intention, concept) determined by the superior commander in whose formation he works, or to whom they are intended to support. Some of the other tactical activities are a common part of the activities of artillery units, in some they may participate.

Other tactical activities include:

- survey,
- security (security),
- the procedure for establishing contact with the opponent,

- conflict,
- contact,
- assistance to the besieged forces,
- rotation of units in combat,
- retreat / deliberate departure,
- move,
- overcoming obstacles.

4) Use of the artillery in specific environment

The artillery commander must be prepared to perform tasks with his unit not only in the full range of operations and tactical activities, but also in different environments and specific conditions.

- artillery activity in a built-up area
- artillery activity in a mountain environment
- artillery activity in wooded areas
- artillery activity in the steppes and deserts
- artillery activity in winter conditions
- artillery activity at night

This activity has been partially discussed in the previous topics, especially in the activity of the battery in offensive and defensive activities.

References

Basic

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