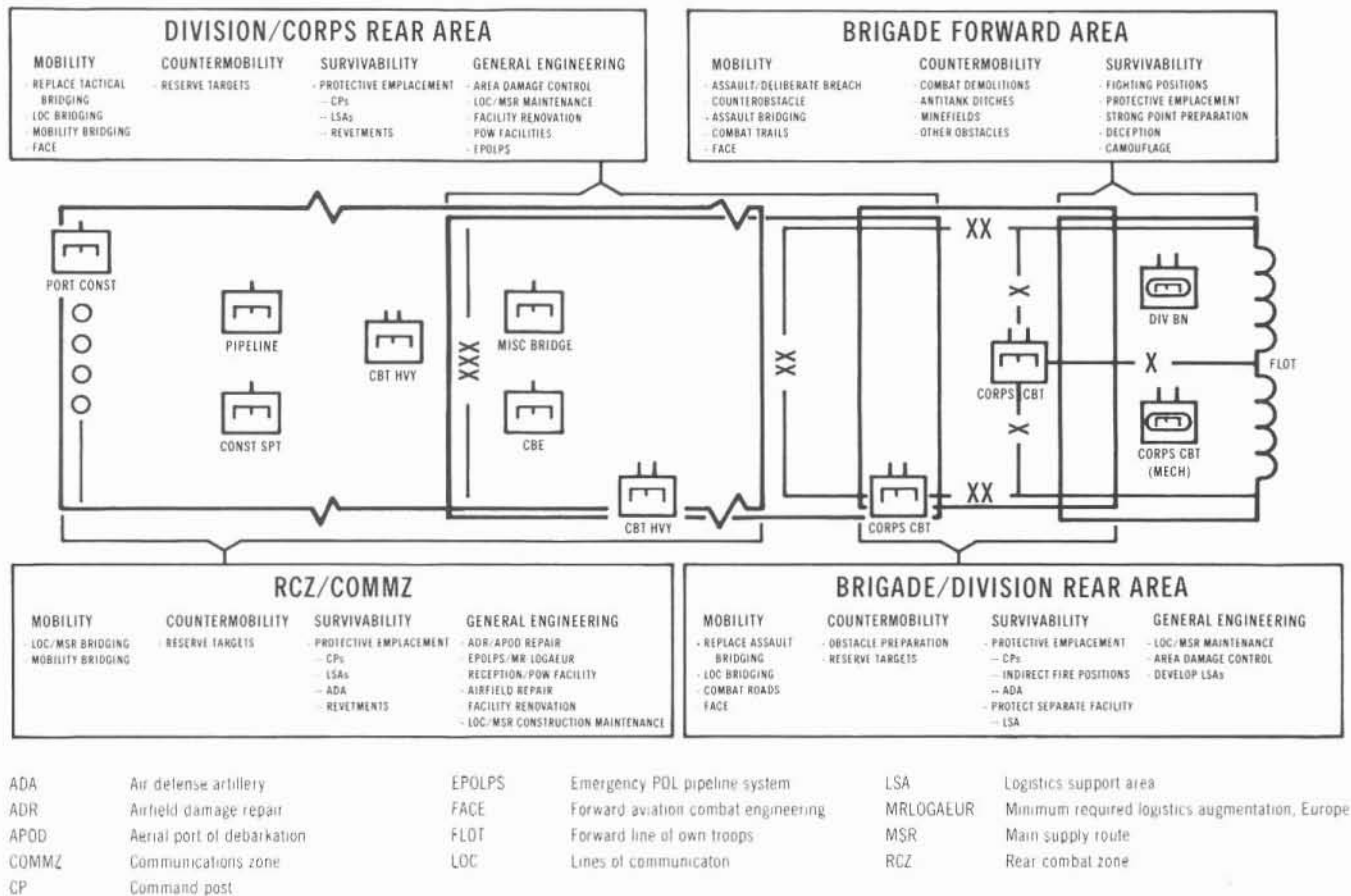


Engineer Battlefield Layout



by CPT Daniel Russell

Engineers perform a variety of support missions throughout the depth of the battlefield. These range from sapper-oriented combat engineering for forces facing the enemy to specialized general engineering like port construction for the theater.

The figure depicts a typical division slice of engineer units and their missions. The battlefield is divided into four regions:

- The brigade forward area.
- The brigade/division rear area.
- The division/corps rear area.
- The RCZ/COMMZ.

They overlap because in reality the boundaries for engineer missions

aren't clearly delineated. The overlap also emphasizes the need for coordinated engineer effort.

Most missions in the brigade forward area and the brigade/division rear area are mobility, countermobility and survivability tasks. Therefore, troops near the FLOT are primarily combat engineers. Mechanized combat engineers operate within the brigade forward area, and wheeled combat engineers work in the brigade/division rear area.

Moving rearward from the FLOT to the RCZ/COMMZ, the missions shift to general engineering and survivability. Construction engineer

units (combat heavy, equipment companies and bridge companies) operate in the division/corps rear area.

Specialized units such as pipeline and port construction companies are located in the RCZ/COMMZ.

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