

Joint Doctrine Update

By Major Scott Spellmon

Several engineer-focused joint publications (JP) are in the doctrine development, revision, and approval process. They are JP 3-34, *Engineer Doctrine for Joint Operations*; JP 4-04, *Joint Doctrine for Civil Engineering Support*; and JP 3-15, *Joint Doctrine for Barriers, Obstacles, and Mine Warfare*. These publications, among several others, present doctrinal discussion for the engineer battlespace functions outlined in JP 3-34 (general engineering, topographic engineering, and combat engineering) as depicted in Figure 1.

This article provides an update on where these publications are in the development process. It discusses significant content revisions that have been drafted as a result of lessons learned from recent operations and presents the method by which the Army and joint publications hierarchy will be linked in the near future.

JP 3-34

A new publication, JP 3-34, *Engineer Doctrine for Joint Operations*, will serve as the capstone manual for joint engineering. It will provide joint force commanders and their staffs with guidance, principles, and procedures to plan, coordinate, and conduct timely and tailored joint engineer support across the full range of military operations. This publication will fill a void in today's joint doctrine library, since there is no manual that ties together the engineer battlespace functions or describes how they shape the battlespace in which joint forces will operate. In comparison to U.S. Army doctrine, JP 3-34 is the "FM 5-100, *Engineer Operations*" of the joint community.

Highlights of the publication include considerations for two of the most debated issues within the joint engineering community: placement of the engineer staff within the joint staff structure and command and control options for the joint engineer force. JP 5-00.2, *Joint Task Force Planning Guidance and Procedures*, states that "The commander, joint task force (CJTF) may organize his staff as he considers necessary to carry out his duties and responsibilities...."

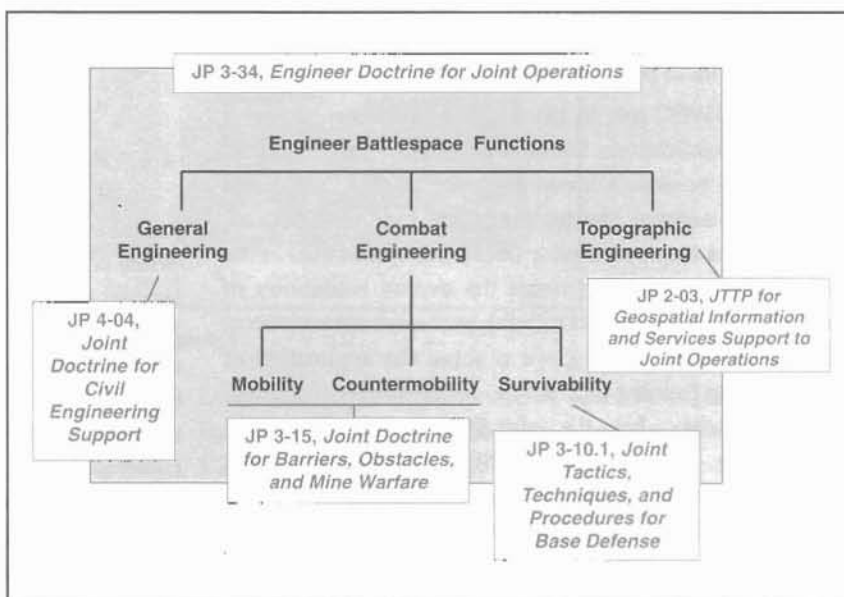


Figure 1. Engineer battlespace functions

Given this capability, Chapter II of JP 3-34, "Command and Control," presents several staff placement options for the CJTF to consider when organizing his engineer staff for a particular operation (Figure 2, page 25). Since many engineer staffs within today's joint commands are subordinate to the J4, the intent of this discussion is to present the considerations and benefits for locating the engineer staff outside of the logistics function. JP 3-34 describes advantages of placing the engineer as a special staff officer (with staff links to the J3, J4, and J5) or as a cell under the J3, depending on the nature of the operation. In many operations, these options offer the engineer staff more opportunities to optimize their functions and facilitate planning and coordination issues related to operational maneuver, force protection, or other engineer-intensive mission requirements.

Command and control options for the engineer force traditionally have been established along Service lines as a Service component command (top portion of Figure 3, page 25). While this technique remains an option, JP 3-34 presents other command and control courses of action for the joint force commander to consider when organizing the joint force for an operation. In light of recent operations, a functional component command may be more efficient to leverage the unique engineering capabilities within each Service (bottom portion of Figure 3). For example, in some operations the joint force commander may best optimize Marine and Army

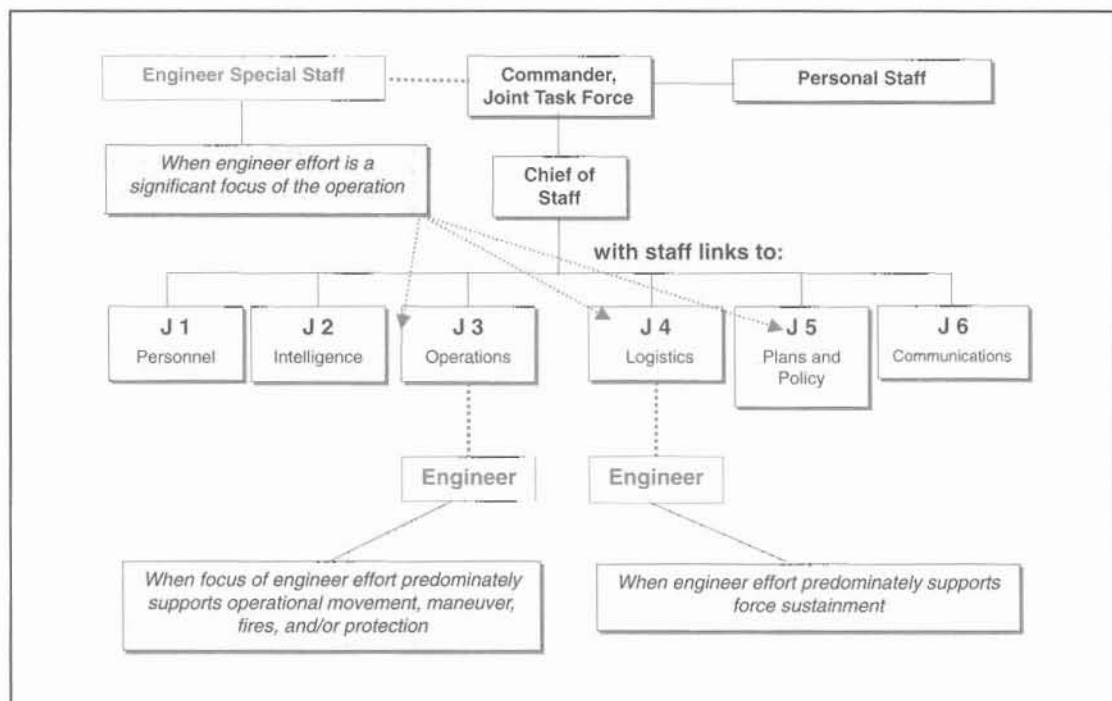


Figure 2. Sample JTF HQ staff organization with engineer staff placement options.

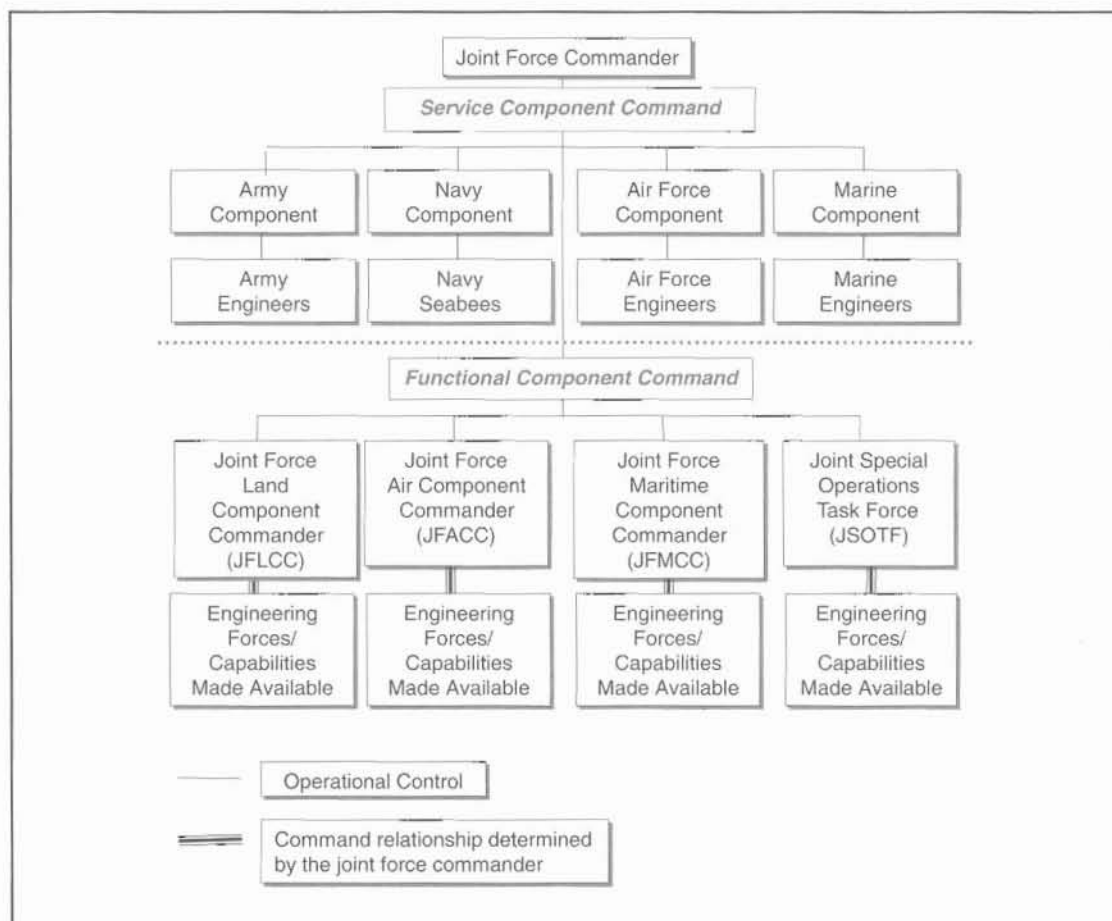


Figure 3. Service and functional component commands

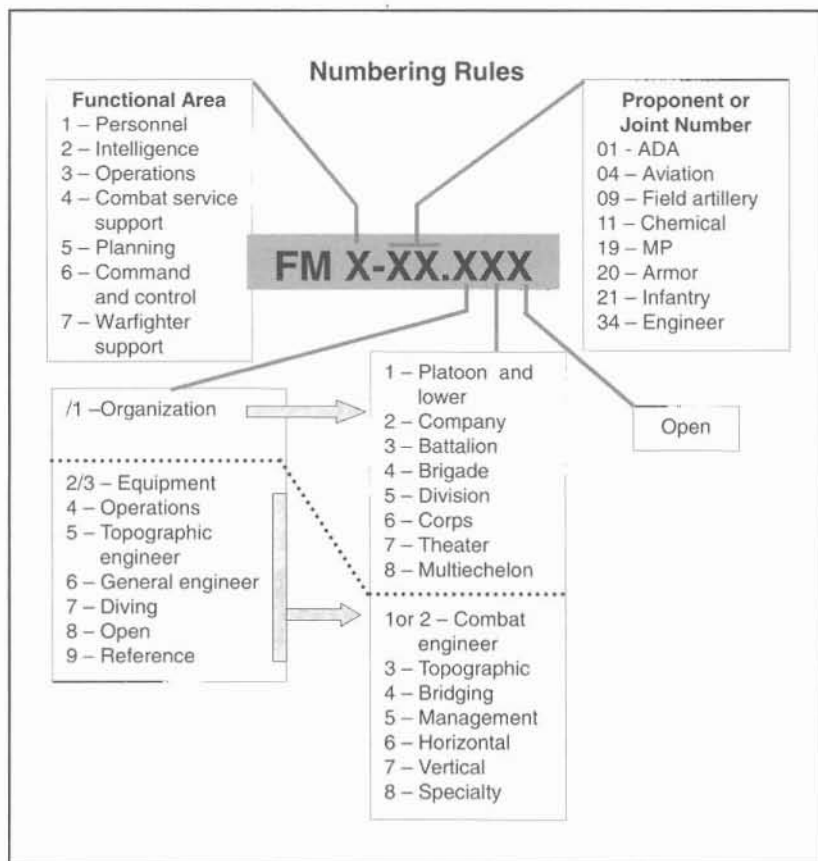


Figure 4. Numbering rules

engineers by making them subordinate to the joint force land component commander, leaving Air Force engineers subordinate to the joint force air component commander and Navy Seabees subordinate to the joint force maritime component commander. This is one example; JP 3-34 presents numerous options that are available when engineers are organized under a functional component command. The publication also presents considerations the staff should address when preparing task organizations and command or support relationships for a given joint operation.

U.S. Army Engineer School personnel participated in recent working groups to develop JP 3-34. As lead agent, the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) will distribute this publication to the commanders in chief and Services for final review in May 1999.

JP 4-04

The key "4-series" joint engineer publication is JP 4-04, *Joint Doctrine for Civil Engineering Support*. It provides joint engineer planners with detailed, logistically focused planning and operational requirements for shaping the joint force battlespace from a facilities and infrastructure perspective. The current revision improves on

the September 1995 version by presenting operational and strategic considerations for planning, coordinating, and executing civil engineering operations. As requested by the field, JP 4-04 also fully describes the military civil engineering capabilities within the Services, contract construction agents, and contractors.

U.S. Army Engineer School personnel actively participated in the revision of this publication. As lead agent, the Navy (Naval Facilities Engineer Command) is currently staffing JP 4-04 with the commanders in chief and Services. The first draft is available in the joint electronic library at <http://www.dtic.mil/doctrine/jel>.

JP 3-15

JP 3-15, *Joint Doctrine for Barriers, Obstacles, and Mine Warfare*, outlines how mobility and countermobility operations can enhance the terrain and shape the battlespace to support the commander's operational and strategic objectives. In comparison to U.S. Army doctrine, the publication serves as the operational compilation of principles discussed in FM 90-13-1,

Combined Arms Breaching Operations, FM 20-32, *Mine/Countermining Operations*, and FM 90-7, *Combined Arms Obstacle Integration*. Unlike these field manuals, however, JP 3-15 presents the land, air, and maritime components of mine/countermining warfare.

JP 3-15 completed the doctrine development cycle on 24 February 1999. It is available at <http://www.adtdl.army.mil> (Joint Publications).

Linking Joint and Army Doctrine

Unlike the joint doctrine library, the Army's numbering system for doctrinal publications follows no discernable set of rules. Some engineer manuals, such as the 5-71 series, align engineer doctrine with its associated maneuver doctrine, but in most cases the numerical designation gives no indication of its hierarchical position or subject.

In August 1997, TRADOC initiated a program to revise the Army doctrine hierarchy to link it by number and function to the joint publications system. The purpose of this initiative is to—

- Enable the Army to move in concert with an established, systematic joint doctrine system with the other Services.

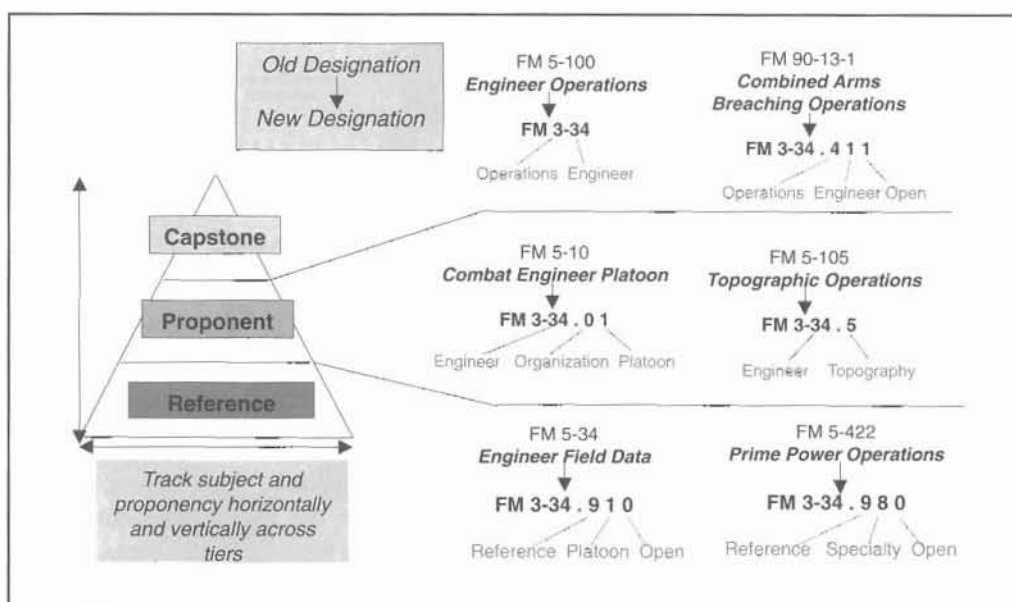


Figure 5. Linking joint and Army doctrine

- Groom young officers for the increasingly joint, inter-agency, and multinational nature of future military operations.
- Facilitate planning, preparation, and conduct of joint operations by Army headquarters.

The joint doctrine numbering system follows a fixed set of rules, as depicted in Figure 4, page 26. The first digit corresponds to the staff functional area for the content of the publication (1-Personnel, 2-Intelligence, 3-Operations, etc.). The second and third digits correspond to an existing joint publication or the Service proponent for the publication (20-Armor, 21-Infantry, 34-Engineer, etc.). The fourth digit describes the content of the publication: organization, equipment, reference, and for engineer publications, the type of engineering covered (topographic, general, diving, etc.). Subsequent digits in the numbering system serve as further descriptors to the manual's content.

The end product of this hierarchical method is a three-tier system that allows field personnel to track proponenty and functional areas horizontally and vertically across tiers (Figure 5). The upper tier delineates Army or capstone doctrine and aligns those manuals with their corresponding joint publications. The following examples show how current capstone Army field manuals will be renumbered:

- FM 100-5, *Operations*, will become FM 3-0, *Operations*, which aligns with JP 3-0, *Doctrine for Joint Operations*.
- FM 5-100 *Engineer Operations*, will become FM 3-34, *Engineer Operations*, which aligns with JP 3-34, *Engineer Doctrine for Joint Operations*.

The second tier consists of proponent and branch-specific doctrine and publications on tactics, techniques, and

procedures. The lowest tier consists of reference-related doctrinal publications that contain tabular data, general reference, or common equipment. Examples of field manuals in each tier and their future designations are shown in Figure 5.

The revised doctrinal numbering system has been approved at all levels throughout the Army. Implementation of the system is expected to begin with the new version of FM 100-5 (FM 3-0), *Operations*, when it is published. Subsequent renumbering of existing field manuals will occur during the normal review or reprinting process.

Conclusion

U.S. Army Engineer School personnel continue to participate in the doctrine development process for joint publications. In an effort to improve field operations, considerable strides have been made over the past several months to ensure that lessons learned from recent operations have been captured in our joint engineer doctrinal publications.

For more information, call MAJ Spellmon at DSN 676-7537 or commercial (573) 563-4106.



Major Spellmon is chief of the Doctrine Development Division at the U.S. Army Engineer School. Previous assignments include observer/controller at the Combat Maneuver Training Center; company commander, 82nd Engineer Battalion; and platoon leader, 8th Engineer Battalion. MAJ Spellmon is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and holds a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois.