



MILITARY SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AIM

To acquaint the SOs on the use of mil symbols and abbns in the army

SEQUENCE

- Military Abbreviations.
 - Introduction.
 - Rules.

- Military Symbols.
 - Definition.
 - Guidelines.
 - Basic military symbols.
 - Size indicator.
 - Role indicator.
 - Tactical symbols.
 - Construct a map symbol.

- Conclusion.



MILITARY ABBREVIATIONS



- **Abbreviations, acronyms** and **initialism** are **shortened versions** of words and phrases used to save time.
- **Acronyms** are which form the **initial ltr of words** in the particular phrase (UNICEF – United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund).
- **Initialism** is a **shortened form of words or phrase** pronounced as a series of letters (IMF – International Monetary Fund).
- Be sure to use the **appro abbn** at the **correct place**; since a misuse can lead to a **miscomm**. E.g.: Category (cat).



- Abbreviations given in the **Jt Mil Abbn Manual** is auth to use in written staff wk.
- Learn commonly use abbn and must be consistent in their use in a particular paper/doc/svc corres.



RULES

- **Rule 1.** Be **consistent** throughout the **doc** and **tables** as well as in the **text**. **No sentence should commence with an abbn.**
- **Rule 2.** Do not use **punctuations** in or after abbn except when it is part of **normal sentence punctuation**.
- **Rule 3.** Abbreviations for **most units of measurement** remain unaltered in the plural; **'min'** means **'minute'** or **'minutes'** and **'kg'** means **'kilogram or kilograms'**.



- **Rule 4.** Some **abbn** indicate both the **singular** and the **plural** forms and **do not reqd** the addition of 's'. For an e.g. Exercise/s - Ex, Battalion(s) - bn(s).

- **Rule 5.** An **apostrophe** could be used even with an abbn to indicate possession. For an e.g. Officers' Mess, is abbreviated as Offrs' Mess.

- **Rule 6.** Names of **loc/towns** should be **abbreviated** as per the **accepted and regularized list** of **abbn** and all other loc are to be written in full. For an e.g. MONARAGALA, is abbreviated MNG and DIYATALAWA is abbreviated DLA.



- **Rule 7.** Any **composite noun** or one containing a **suffix** or **prefix** is to be abbreviated by abbreviating the **part for** which there is an **auth abbn**; e.g. ‘mob’ (mobilization) ‘demob’ (demobilization).
- A **prefix** is a **gp of letters placed before the root of a word** (proactive, illegal).
 - A **suffix** is a **gp of letters placed after the root of a word** (comfortable, hourly).
- **Rule 8.** Abbreviate terms used with No. For e.g. 101 BC, AD 1200.



➤ **Rule 9.** Rules regarding **use of blk capitals and initial capitals** apply as follows:

- Abbreviations **composed** of initial letter of words (**Acronyms and Initialisms**) are to be written in **blk capitals**; for e.g. '**ATC**' for 'Air Traffic Control'.

- Abbreviations consisting of **shortened version of a full word or words** are to be **written in blk capitals**, with **initial capitals** or in **word case** according to the relevant context, such as:
 - ✓ Abbreviated words as a **main or gp heading**. For e.g. RECCE REP, OFFR.
 - ✓ Abbreviated words as a **para heading**. For e.g. Recce Rep, Offr.
 - ✓ Abbreviated words in the **text of a para**. As e.g .recce rep, offr.



- Abbreviations for **all 'ranks'** are to be written with **initial capitals, irrespective** of the **context**. For e.g. Lieutenant Colonel ABC Silva as **Lt Col** ABC Silva.
- When **No of words in conjunction are abbreviated** which is not as acronym or initialism and forms a pronounceable word it should be **written in upper case**. For e.g. **casualty evacuation** as **CASEVAC**, **Civil Military Cooperation** as **CIMIC**.
- Abbreviations leading to confusions shall be avoided at the discretion of the originator. For e.g. using of abbn '**No**' for number will create confusion with English word '**no**' in a para.



Rule 10. As fols:

- Any **word** that **does not have** an **official** or **internationally accepted abbn** cannot be used in the text.
- Owing to the **length** and the **No of times** that the **same words appear** in the **text**, it **may be abbreviated** at the **first time** that such words are **introduced**.
e.g .Bangladesh Military Academy (**BMA**).
- **Newly intro abbn** should be **used** in the **text**.



AUTHORISATION

- Annexes, appx and tables.
- In all types of svc doc **except formal, directed and DO ltr.**



POINTS OF THE COMPASS

- The four cardinal pt of the compass are written in full. Example **South**.
- For intermediate pt, letter N,S,E and W are used. Example- **SW**, and **NE**.



SECURITY CLASSIFICATIONS

- Security cl should not be abbreviated.
- **'RESTRICTED'** and **'CONFIDENTIAL'** will be abbreviated as **'RESTD'** and **'CONFI'** only in the **conf minutes**.

CONCLUSION

MILITARY SYMBOLS



What is a **mil symbol**?

A mil symbol is a **graphic sign** used, usually on a **map, display** or **diagram** to rep a particular **mil unit, instl, activity** or **other item** of **mil interest**. It may be in **colour** and accompanied by **alphanumeric** characters.



Alphanumeric Characters

Numbers 0-9

Letters A-Z both uppercase and lowercase



- Pictures give a **clear idea** than **words**.

- The **use of mil symbols** confined to marking:
 - In **sit** or **int maps**, **overlays** and **air photos notation**.

 - **Naval** and **AF maps** when involved in land Ops.

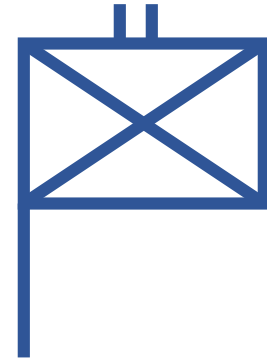


GUIDELINES TO USE MILITARY SYMBOLS

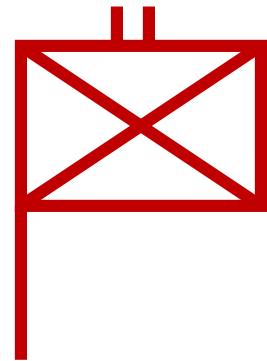
- In case **no symbols exist** or a **combination of symbols would not be clear**, the **symbols used must be explained in a map key**.
- Symbols must be kept as **simple** and **clear** to prevent misunderstanding.
- **Over elaboration is to be avoided** and clarity to be maintained.

COLOUR REPRESENTATION

➤ Blue. For friendly units, instl, eqpt, activities and gr environment symbols.

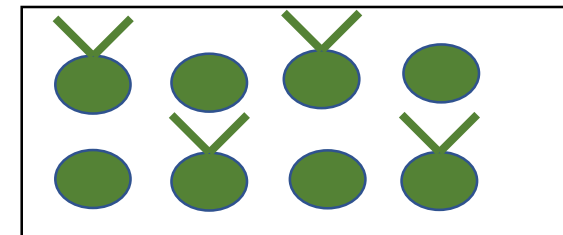


➤ Red. To indicate en units, posts, instl, eqpt, activities and gr environment symbols.





➤ Green. For both friendly and en man-made obst.



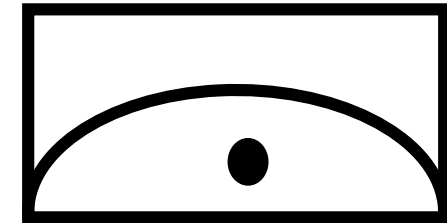
➤ Yellow. For both friendly and en NBC events.





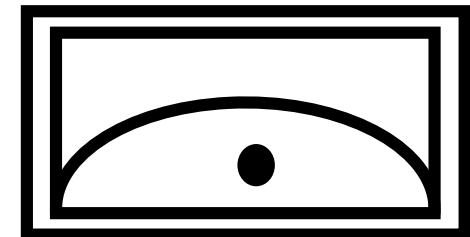
➤ When one colour is used due to the **non avail of colour** reproduction facilities, in such occasions symbols are indicated as fol:

- Friendly symbols are outlined by single lines.



Friendly AD

- Enemy symbols are outlined by double lines.



Enemy AD

SYMBOLS FOR LAND OPERATION

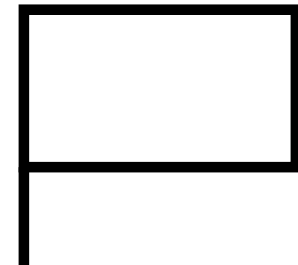


UNIT, POST, AND INSTALLATIONS

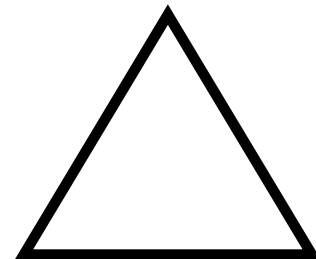
➤ Any **fmn, unit or sub-unit** is rep by a rectangular flag symbol.



➤ A **HQ** or an **elm of a HQ** is rep by a basic flag symbol, placed on a shaft on its lt.

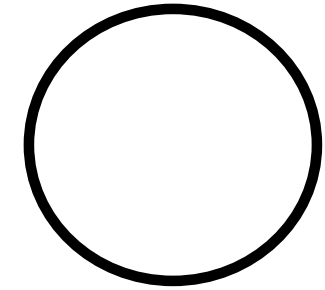


➤ An **OP** is rep by a triangular symbol.

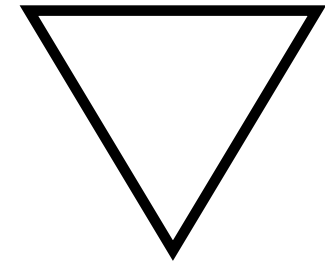




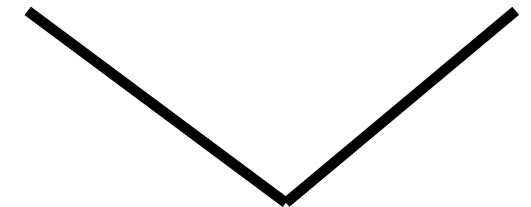
- An **admin** or **log instl** is rep by a **circular symbol**.



- An **elect instl** is rep by a **downward facing triangular symbol**.



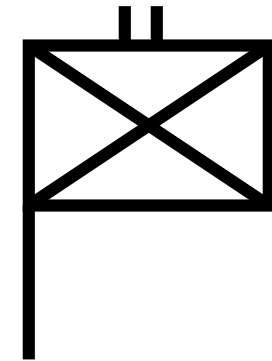
- A landing site (LS).



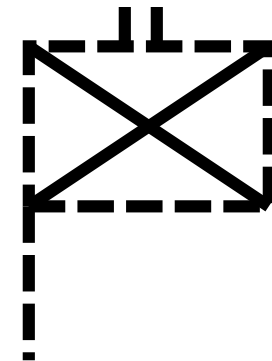


SOLID OR BROKEN LINES

➤ Symbols marked with solid lines indicate **pres or actual loc.**



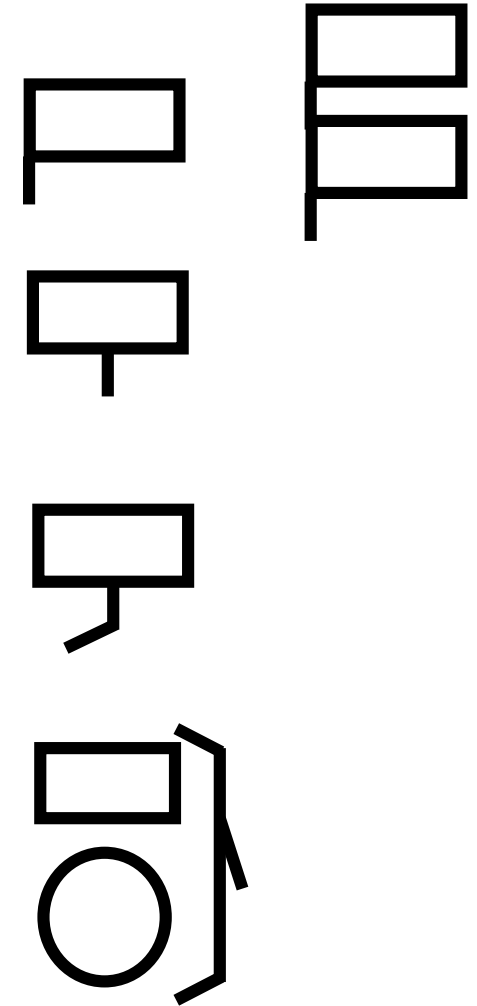
➤ Symbols marked with broken lines indicate **future or projected loc.**





LOCATIONS OF UNITS, POSTS AND INSTALLATIONS

- At the pt of the **shaft for HQ** (2 or more symbols can be placed on one shaft).
- At the **centre of the bottom** of a basic symbol.
- At the end of a '**loc vector**' (note that the symbol can be offset from its actual posn).
- By bracketing a gp of units etc, if they are **co-loc**, against a single '**loc vector**'.





SIZE INDICATOR

- Section or equivalent ●
- Platoon or equivalent ● ● ●
- Company, sqn, bty or equivalent |
- Battalion or equivalent ||
- Brigade or equivalent X
- Division or equivalent XX
- Corps or equivalent XXX



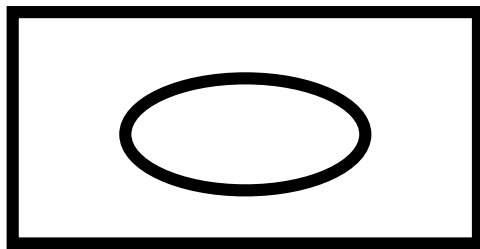
ROLE INDICATORS

A **symbol**, or **composite symbol containing two or more types**, may be placed within the **basic symbol to show the type of unit, post or instl.**

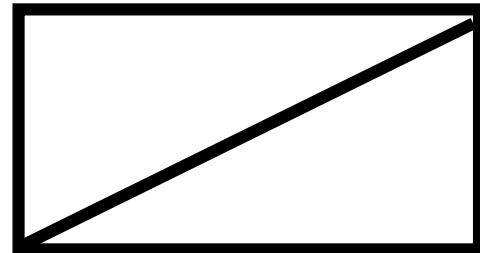


BASIC UNIT ROLE INDICATORS

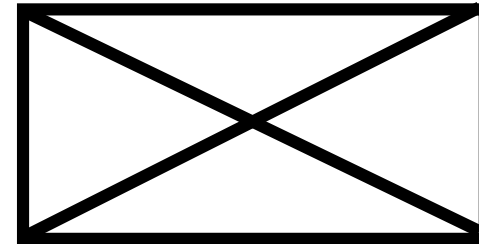
➤ COMBAT ARMS



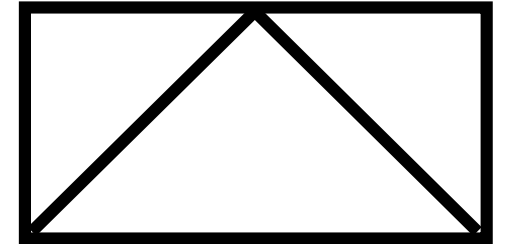
Armour



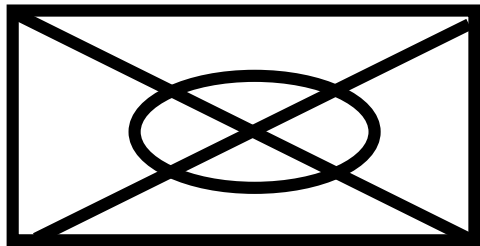
Recce



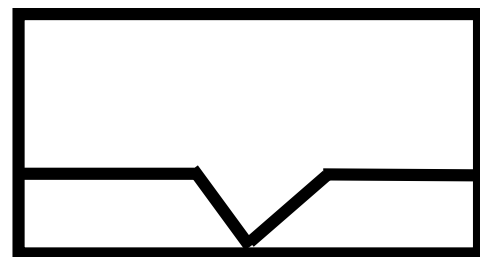
Infantry



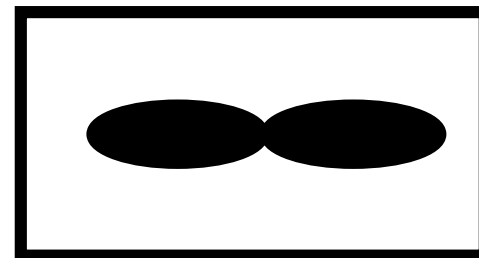
Anti-tank



Mechanized inf



Airmobile



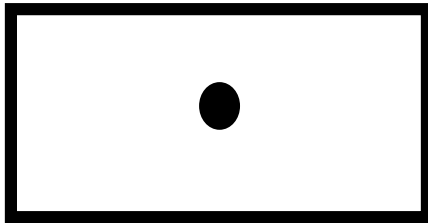
Army avn



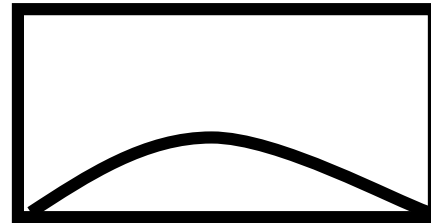
Electronic warfare



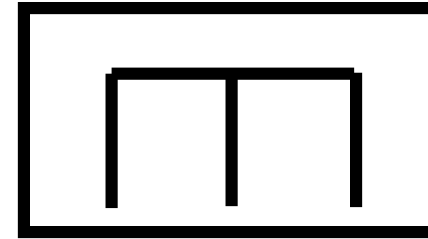
➤ **COMBAT SUPPORT ARMS**



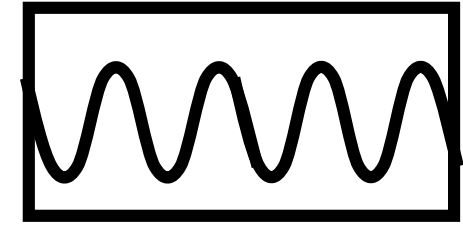
Artillery



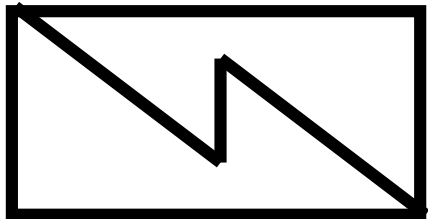
Air defence



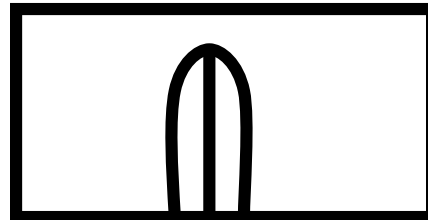
Engineers



Amphibious



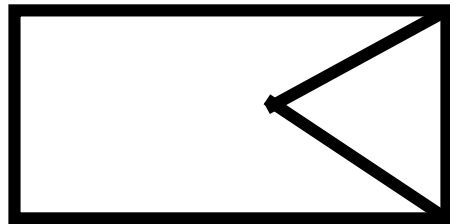
Signal/comm



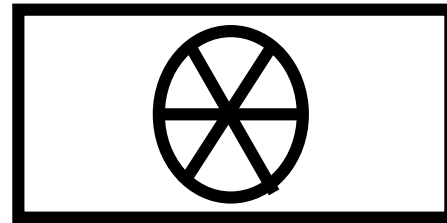
Missile



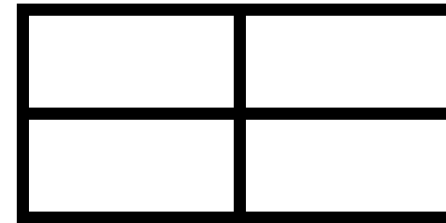
COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT



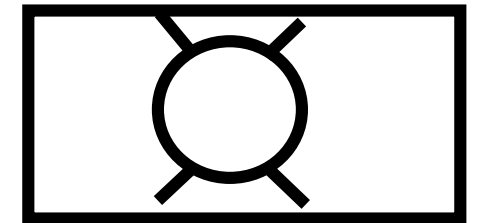
Combat svc sp



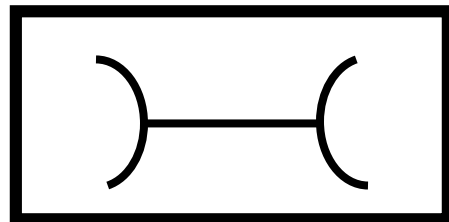
Transport/mov



Medical



Ordnance



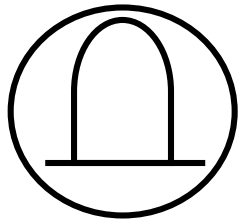
Maintenance



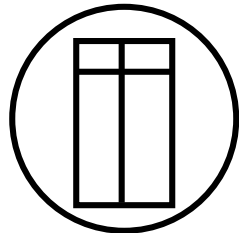
Provost



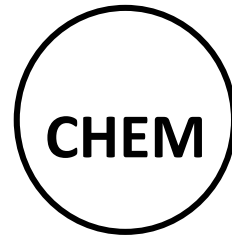
BASIC LOGISTIC INSTALLATION



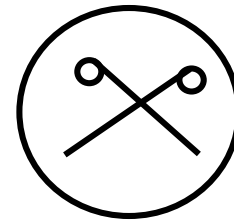
Ammunition



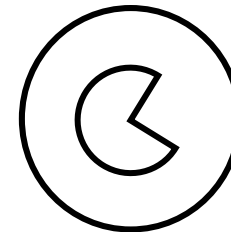
Burial



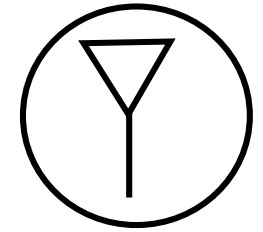
Chemical
storage



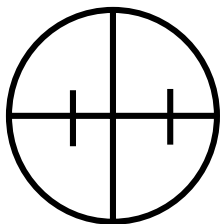
Decontamination



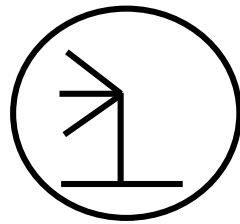
Food



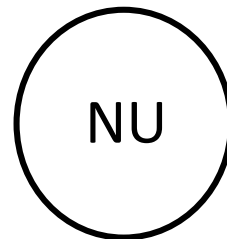
Fuel



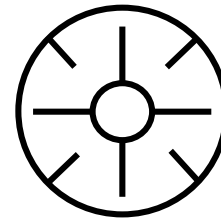
Hospital



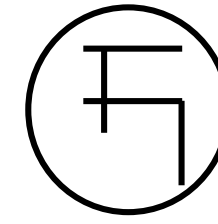
Laundry/bath



Nuclear storage



Spares

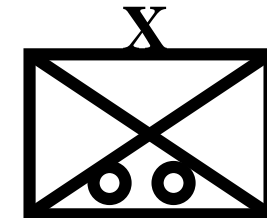
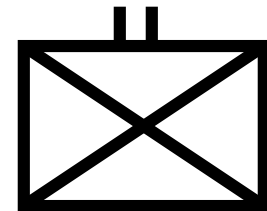
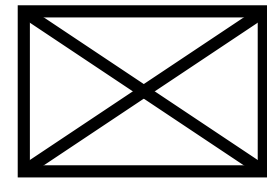


Water



BUILD UP OF MILITARY SYMBOLS

- The starting pt is the **basic symbol**.
- The **svc arm/corps** is marked inside the symbol.
- The **size symbol** is placed on the top.
- If it is nec to illustrate the **functional cap** the appro symbol may be **super-imposed over the basic symbol** or if clarity demands placed under it.



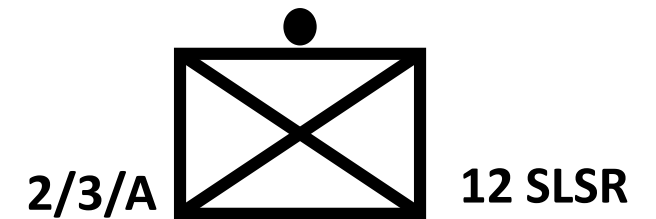
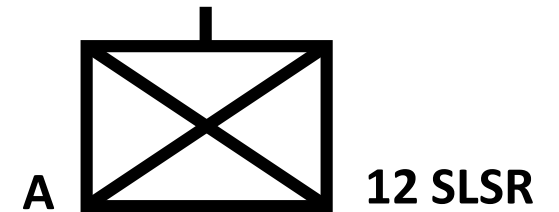
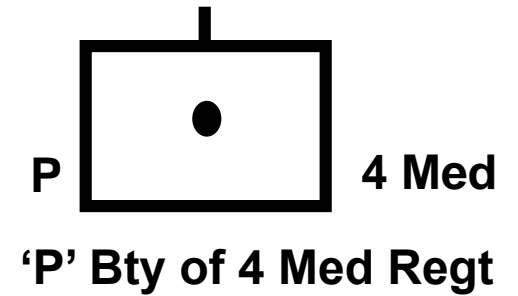
A veh mtd inf bde



➤ To the **rt** of the symbol is written the **designation of the fmn/unit/parent unit** together with the abbn for any **spl cap/role**.

➤ To the **lt** of the symbol, **sub-unit designation** is written equivalent to size symbol.

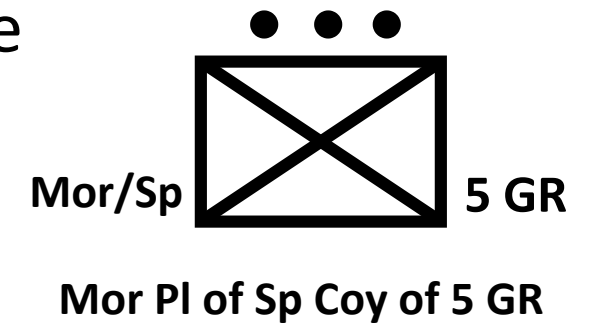
➤ Intervening **echs of comd** are indicated by using their designation separated by **oblique strokes**.



No **2 Sect** of No **3 Pl** of **A Coy**
12 SLSR



- Weapons/functional symbols may be added to the **It of the basic symbol** to denote the type of sub-unit.



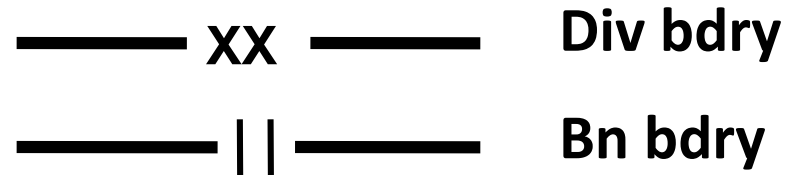
- To show a **non-organic cbt comd** the symbol is placed over the size symbol.



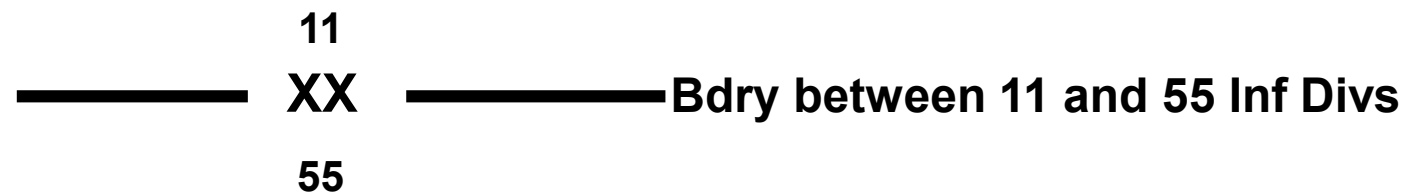


TACTICAL SYMBOLS

- Boundaries are marked by a solid line with the **size of the fmn/unit** interposed at convenient intervals.



- The **numerical des of fmns/units** may be placed on either side of **size symbols** on the bdry to indicate which fmns are separated by the bdry.





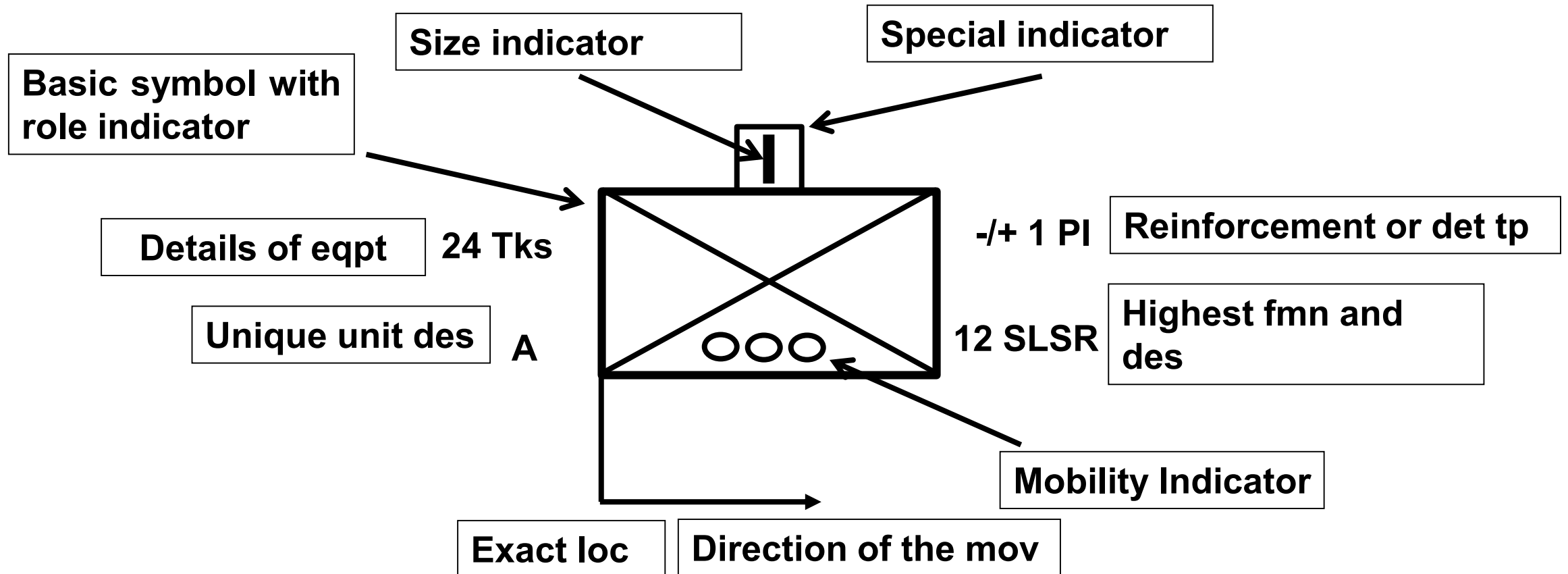
- When **bdry** separates units of unequal size, symbol of large fmn will be used **except rear bdry**.

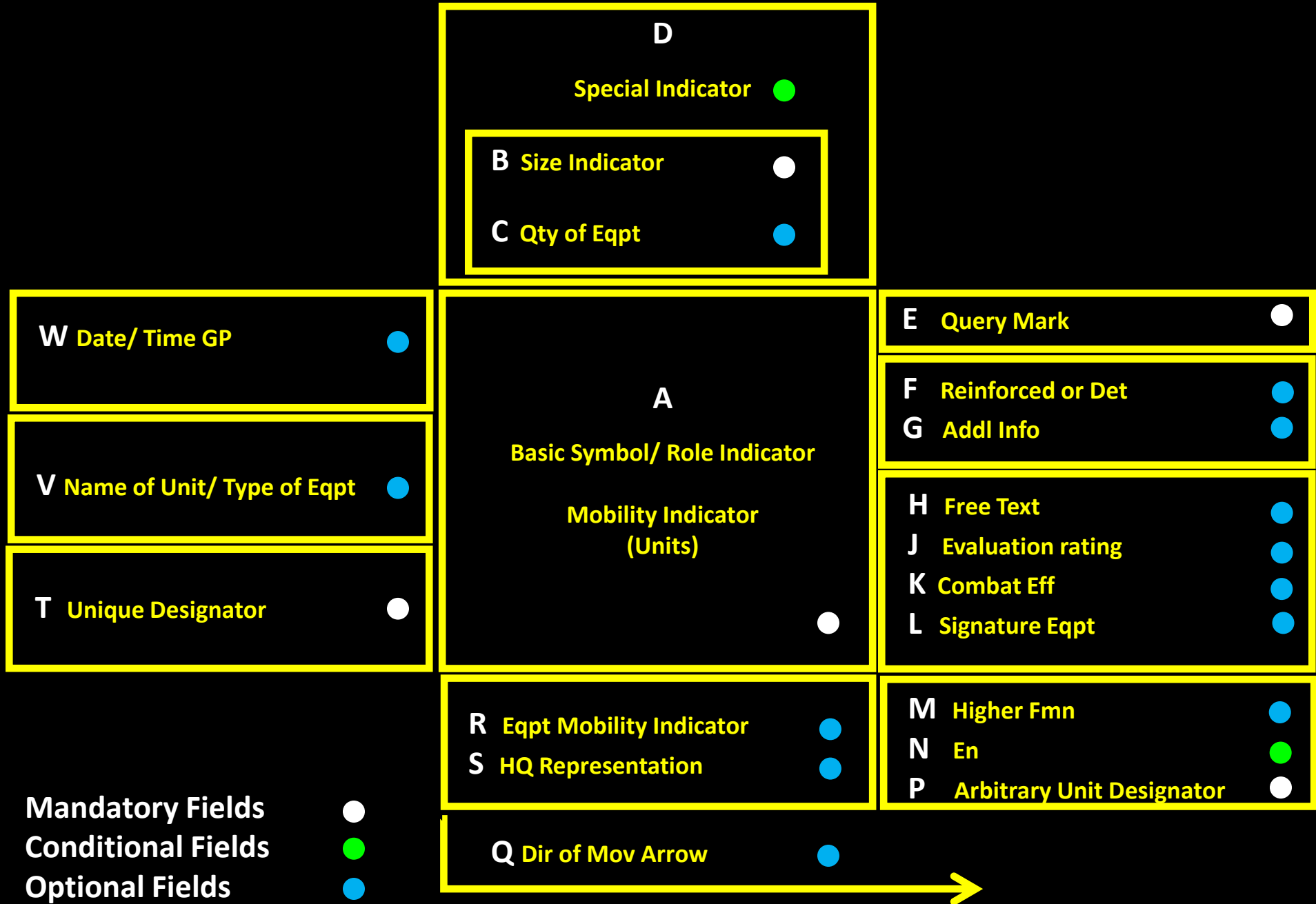
552
—— x ——
4 GR

552
—— || ——
4 GR



GUIDE TO CONSTRUCT A MAP SYMBOL

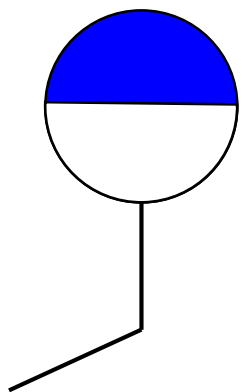




Mandatory Fields ●
 Conditional Fields ●
 Optional Fields ●

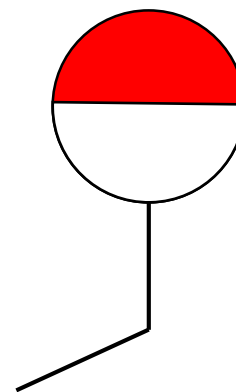


MAP MARKING SYMBOLS FOR SITUATION



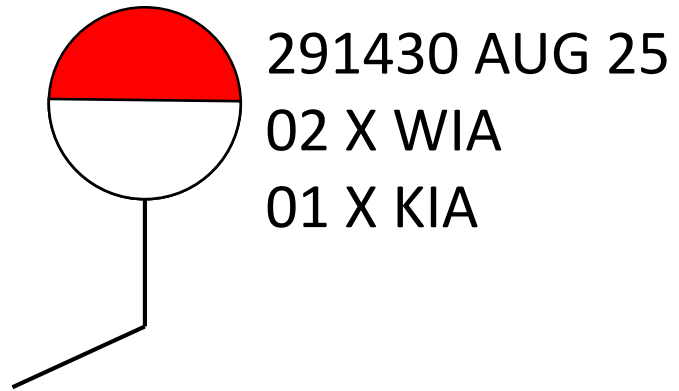
291430 AUG 25
02 X WIA
01 X KIA

Own Force Initiated Contact



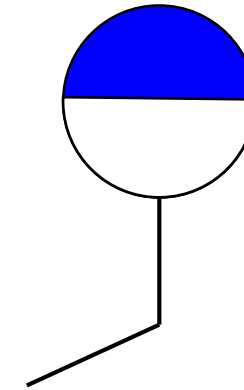
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01 X KIA

Own Force Initiated Contact



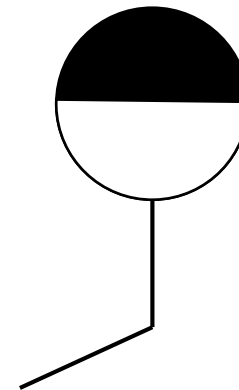
291430 AUG 25
02 X WIA
01 X KIA

Enemy



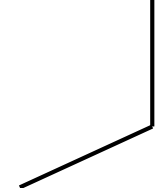
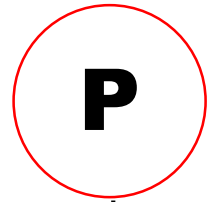
291430 AUG 25
02 X WIA
01 X KIA

Own Force

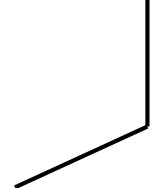
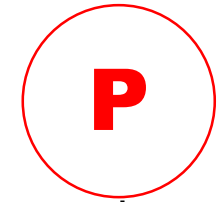


291430 AUG 25
02 X WIA
01 X KIA

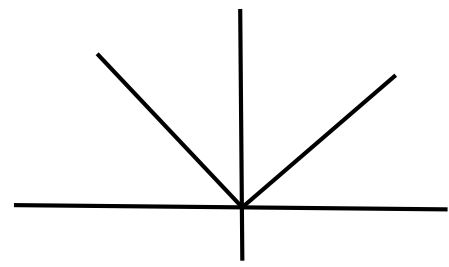
Police/Civil



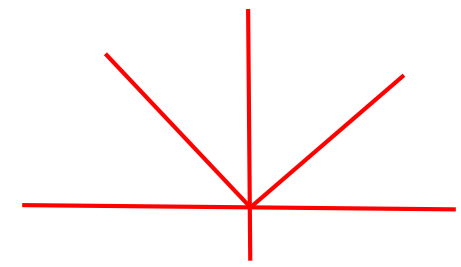
**Propaganda
PSYOPS**



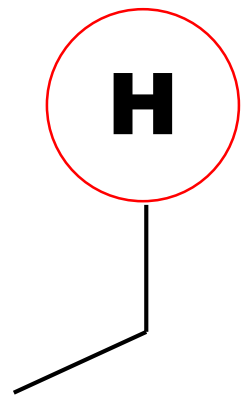
**Propaganda/ PSYOPS
Armed Men Involved**



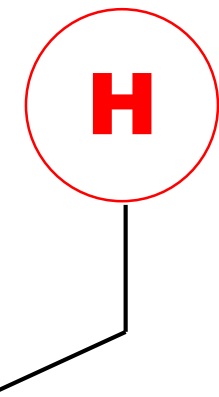
Mine/Bomb/Booby Trap



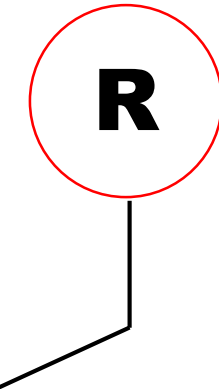
**Mine/Bomb/Booby Trap
Loss of Life**



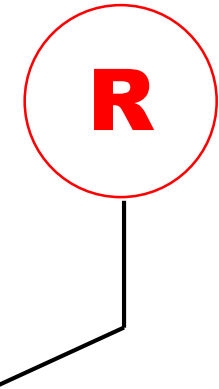
Hijack/Kidnap



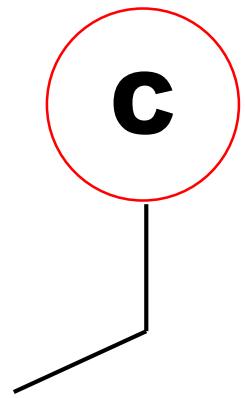
Hijack/Kidnap
Loss of Life



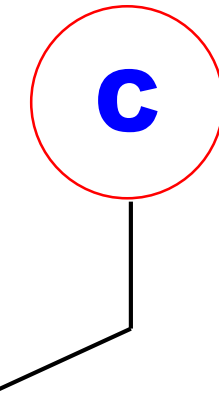
Robbery or Hold Up



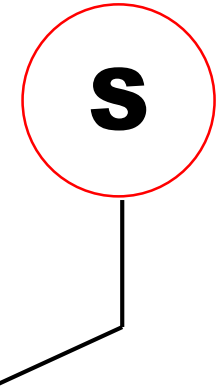
Robbery or Hold Up
Loss of Life



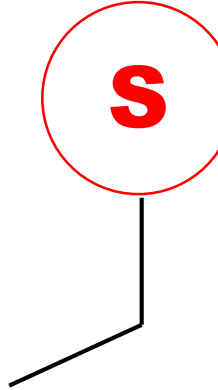
Arms Cache



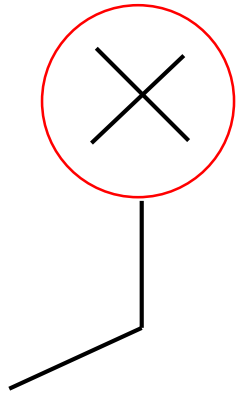
Arms Cache
Recovered by SF



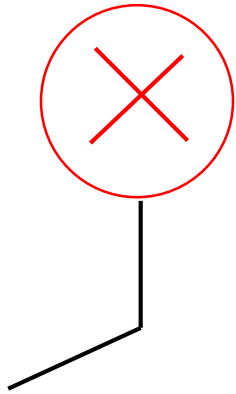
Sabotage



Sabotage
Loss of Life



Communal Strike



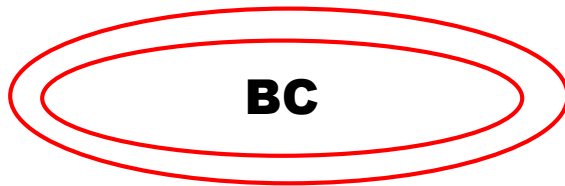
Communal Strike
Loss of Life



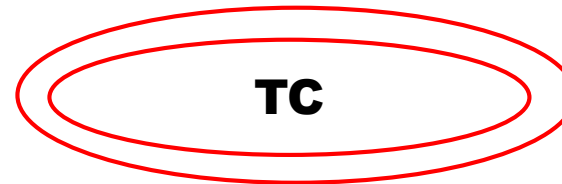
Road Block
Own Force



Road Block
Terrorists



Terrorist
Base Camp



Terrorist
Training Camp



Terrorist
Safe House

CONCLUSION



➤ 51 Inf Div is dep in the gen area JFN. The Div HQ is loc at GR 773833.

➤ Boundaries between:

- 1 GR and 2 SLNG.
- 4 VIR and 55 Inf Div rear bdry.
- SFHQ (W) and 11 Inf Div.



➤ Elements coloc with HQ 51 Inf Div are as fol:

- HQ 7 SLE.
- HQ 8 SLA.
- B Coy 4 SLSR.
- C Sqn 4 SLAC.
- A Coy 2 MIR.



- Landing site is loc at GR 255326.

- The fol elms/instl of the DAA of 21 Inf Div are coloc in gen area Ranasewapura (GSQ 7581):
 - 21 Sqn 2 CES.
 - FOD 2 SLAOC.
 - MDS 5 SLAMC.
 - Fd Wksp 2 SLEME.
 - A Coy 5 SLCMP.
 - 71 Sqn 7 SLE.
 - C Coy 6 SLLI.



- Burial site at GSQ 8881.

- The HQ 222 Inf Bde is loc at GR 815900 and coloc with fol elms/instls:
 - P Bty 14 SLA.
 - C Sqn 4 SLAC.
 - POL pt.
 - ADS to open by 0800 hrs on 07 Feb 25.



- A helipad at GR 733896

- Deployment of bn/wpns of the 222 Inf Bde are as fol:
 - A sect of MMG pl with HQ 4 SLLI at GR 810920.
 - Bn mor with HQ 1 GR at GR 969933.
 - A tp of T-55 with HQ 15 GW at GR 238872.
 - OP at GR 911975, GR 009944 and GR 556943.



THANK YOU