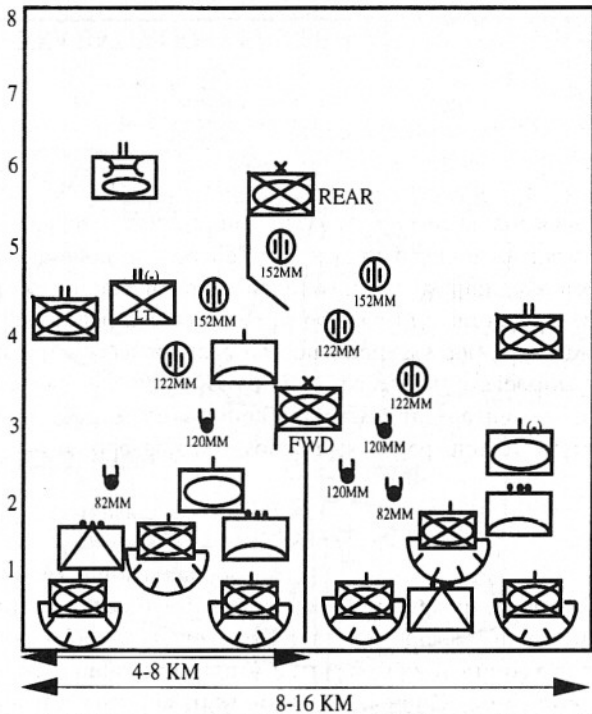


# NKA MECH BRIGADE IN THE DEFENCE

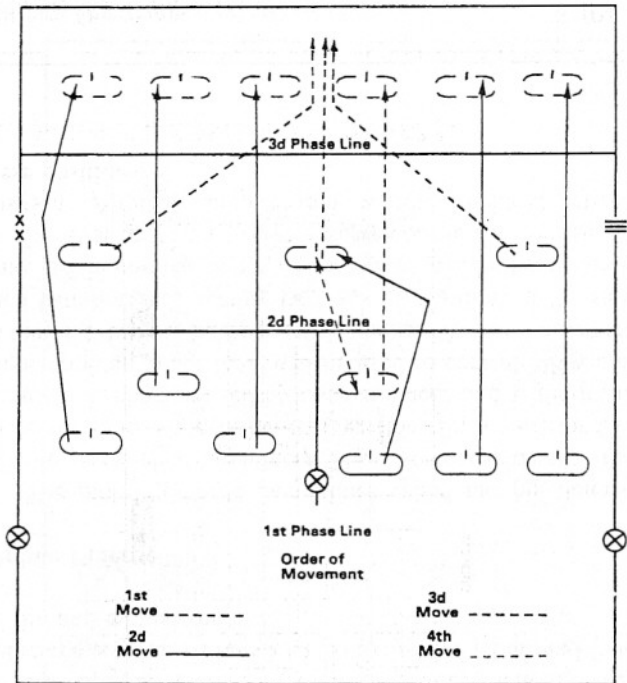


## **Positional Defense**

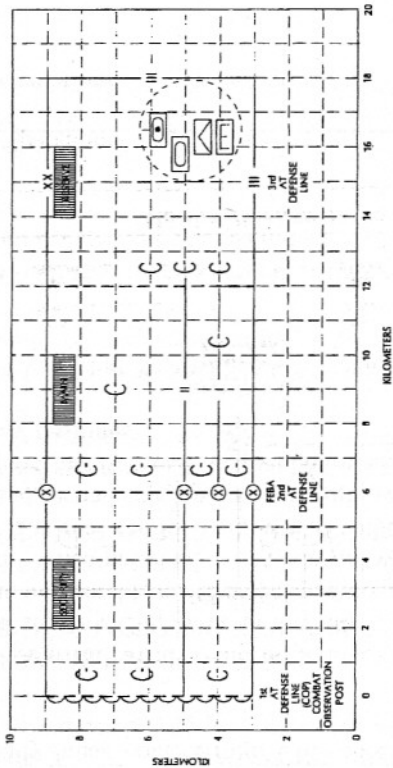
Positional defense (sometimes called area defense) will be conducted when the NKA decides to hold key terrain or a key area, or to impede or destroy a CFC attack. It will be centered on the expected main axis of a CFC attack and the main defensive echelon will be selected to provide all around fields of fire and mutual support.

## **Mobile Defense**

The mobile defense (sometimes called moving defense) will be used when an inferior NKA force decides to trade space for time while inflicting casualties on a superior CFC force. It is characterized by counterattacks and withdrawals. Predetermined phase lines will be used to control NKA units as they fall back to subsequent positions. Within the defense, each battalion will occupy two sets of positions at the same time. Main combat troops and weapons will be concentrated in the first position while reserves maintain the second position. Antitank ambush teams will be emplaced between these positions.



***Mobile defense of the regiment.***



## REGIMENTAL POSITIONAL DEFENSE

## Retrograde Operations

The NKA defensive doctrine plans for three types of retrograde operations: withdrawal, disengagement, and retreat. The NKA would use a disengagement (a form of withdrawal) to physically break contact from CFC observation or direct fire.

An NKA **withdrawal** would be conducted by NKA units to avoid a superior CFC force in the attack, lure CFC forces into terrain unfavorable to offensive operations, and change the battlefield. When possible, the withdrawal will take place by echelon. The rear service units would withdraw first, while artillery and second echelon forces occupy security positions. First echelon forces would then withdraw under the cover of the security positions.

An NKA division-size withdrawal would be characterized as follows:

- Second echelon provides security for all rear defense lines occupying positions in advance

- Regiment's second echelon occupies preselected phaselines covering regiment's first echelon disengagement
- Frontline battalions withdraw under the covering fire of platoon size units reinforced with the second echelon battalion's antitank weapons and machineguns
- Companies withdraw using fighting positions and connecting trenches or bounding overwatch movement
- Attached tanks withdraw in bounding overwatch movement while covering infantry withdrawal
- Bridges and roads are destroyed and obstacles emplaced to restrain CFC advance
- During withdrawal, division command post is located in the covering sector.

A NKA **retreat** would be conducted to avoid battle with CFC forces. It would normally follow a combat disengagement. Once contact with CFC has ended, the NKA

would form a march column for moving to the rear; at that point, a retreat would begin. The purposes of an NKA retreat are as follows:

- To maintain distance from CFC forces
- To occupy an advantageous position
- To replace other units and align combat lines
- To transfer the force to another area for other operations
- To reduce distance from rear areas.

After passing through a designated line in combat disengagement, the NKA unit conducting the retreat would move to a preplanned area or defense line, under cover provided by a rear guard. When a retreat is conducted while marching under contact with CFC, a powerful security force would be deployed to secure the flanks and rear. An NKA retreat would terminate with the occupation of an assembly

area, for achievement of follow-on duties, or occupation of a defensive line.

### **Counterattack**

A counterattack would form the basis of NKA defensive combat. After attempting to establish the best defense plan possible, NKA units would rehearse their counterattack plan. It would usually be performed by the second echelon and intended to be decisive. The counterattack would be directed at CFC's flank or rear while CFC forces are fixed by the first echelon. Fires in support of the counterattack would be intended to delay or collapse CFC's attack.

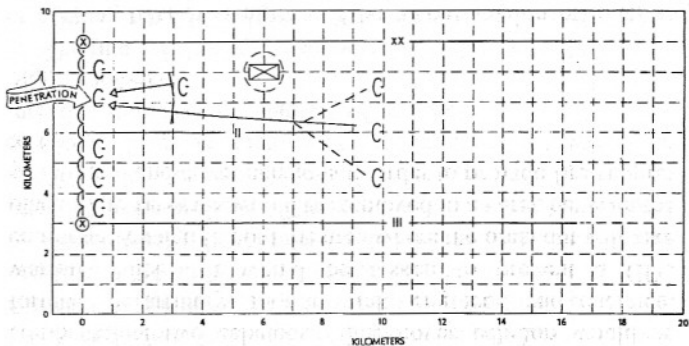
The first echelon would support the counterattack by halting or slowing the CFC advance or by channeling it toward areas favoring the counterattack. Flanks would be vigorously held to restrain the width of any areas penetrated by CFC.

The second echelon conducting the counterattack would send out reconnaissance to verify the situation and then the



counterattack force would strike at CFC's flank or rear. If the counterattack is successful, the NKA would attempt to resume offensive operations directly, conducting exploitation or pursuit operations.

#### REGIMENTAL COUNTERATTACK



## Escape from Encirclement (Breakout)

NKA units conducting a breakout would execute it in the following order: penetration unit, cover echelon, and reserves. The **penetration echelon** would be formed mainly of artillery, tank, and mortar units. Normally it would comprise one-half or two-thirds of the entire combat power and would be composed of two echelons. The **cover echelon** would be formed by artillery, mortar, tank, engineer, and chemical warfare units. It would be tasked to prevent a CFC counterattack and to hold the area where the breakout will take place. The **reserves** would be deployed to an area between the penetration and cover echelons in order to provide fire support to both.

## Night Defense

NKA defense at night will be a continuation of daytime defensive operations. Only fire support plans and barrier fires will be modified. Plans will be adjusted to include proactive reconnaissance, fire plans, and use of illumination. Reserve forces will normally be moved closer to the main defense line.

The fire plan will be reinforced, security strengthened, and additional obstacles added to the defense.

When a CFC night attack is not expected, about one-half of NKA troops will remain on alert. All others will rest. Ambush teams and combat outposts will immediately report any contact with CFC forces and then withdraw. Concentrated fires will be brought upon approaching CFC forces. Direct small arms fire and hand-to-hand combat commences with any CFC breach of forward NKA strongpoints.

### **Armor Support to Defensive Operations**

NKA tanks will participate in the defense either statically by stubbornly holding prepared positions, or by maneuvering in counterattacks, usually against a CFC flank. In the positional defense, tanks will be supported by mechanized, artillery, and engineer elements. Tank positions will be dug in and located on favorable terrain and will have the missions of repelling CFC attacks and thwarting infiltration as well as conducting counterattacks. Small units of tanks may be attached to NKA infantry and conduct screening or reconnaissance. Tanks could be used at the front line to

counter CFC tank attacks, but most likely will be held in the second echelon or in the reserves.

## **Artillery Support to Defensive Operations**

The NKA would use fire support weapons in the defense to deter or stall a CFC attack and to engage and destroy CFC attacking forces in their preparatory stage. Defensive fires would be accomplished according to the sequence of defensive fire support stages and would be delivered within prescribed fire zones.

NKA artillery groups (see section on fire support to offensive operations for a discussion on artillery groups) and units will develop their fire support plans based upon the fire support plans at corps or division level as well as guidance issued by the supported maneuver unit. The maneuver unit will designate areas for barrage fires and barrier fire lines as well as develop a fire plan for exposed flanks and counterattack. Fire support in the defense will include the following zones: long-range fire, close defensive fire, and a main defense support fire.

In the **long-range fire zone**, corps and division artillery groups will conduct harassing and interdiction fires before CFC forces enter attack formations. These fires will be meant to destroy the momentum of the CFC attack, disrupt the employment of CFC troop concentrations, and cover the withdrawal of NKA security units.

**Fires in the close defense zone** include fires prior to the attack, fires during the attack, and final protective fires. Fires prior to the attack are intended to disrupt CFC's attack preparations by breaking up attack formations and destroying command posts, observation posts, and communications facilities. Fires during the attack are intended to destroy CFC tanks and other armored vehicles as well as suppress CFC artillery. Final protective fires will consist of fire, at a maximum rate, at the defensive front line for annihilation of CFC forces and at concentrated barrier positions.

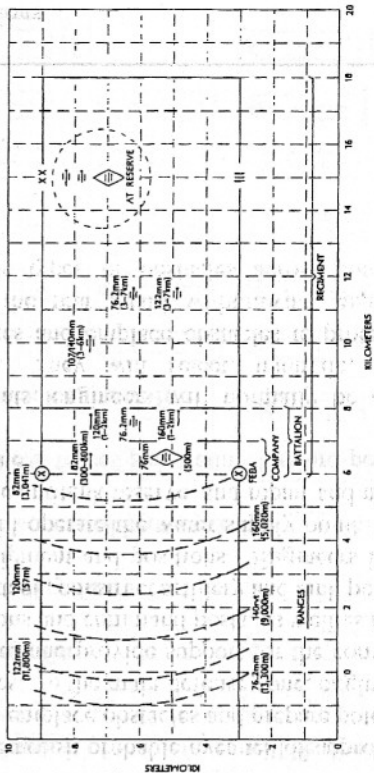
**Fires in support of the division's main defense zone** will be used to support a counterattack or to cover a withdrawal of main defense forces. They will also be used to support deeper defensive positions by suppressing CFC forces that have penetrated the main defenses, and by providing covering fires

during the displacement of artillery supporting the main defensive zone.

All fires in support of the defense will be divided into five phases as follows:

- Long-range fire
- Counterbattery fire
- Frontline area final protective fire
- Fire on CFC forces penetrating forward positions
- Counterattack support fire.

# SUPPORTING FIRE IN REGIMENTAL DEFENSE



## **Engineer Support to Defensive Operations**

In rear areas of the defense, engineers will either rig for demolition or demolish probable avenues of approach. Also, engineers would emplace obstacles and prepare potential NKA withdrawal routes. In the main defense zone, engineers would emplace obstacles and provide support for the construction of defensive positions and command posts, as well as clear routes for the counterattack, construct artillery and tank positions, and camouflage equipment and positions. Engineers in the main defense zone will operate the water supply point, function as an element of the antitank reserve, and repair and maintain the main supply route.

During retreats, engineers will normally be attached to security units. They will select, maintain, and repair withdrawal routes and emplace obstacles to protect exposed flanks. After the rear guard withdrawals, engineers will emplace various types of obstacles across potential CFC approach routes.