FM 21-30

Military Hieroglyphs and Abbreviations



This is an essential reference, but reproducing and editing it is a colossal pain in the gazoo. There is no useful facsimile online (that I have been able to discover) because existing PDF format copies in the various archives are all in black and white. Since much of the information, particularly in the map symbols chapters, rely on color, a lot of information is hidden in the PDF's. Reproducing this copy required days of scan, cut, and paste. The result is worth it for serious living historians.

Obviously, only the most ambitious and dedicated will have a need for more than a fraction of the information in the manual (hydrographic conventions, for example, have little application); but as we use military symbols on overlays and maps and sketches, we have a handy reference.

FM 21-30

WAR DEPARTMENT BASIC FIELD MANUAL

CONVENTIONAL SIGNS, MILITARY SYMBOLS, AND ABBREVIATIONS

WAR DEPARTMENT + OCTOBER 1943

WAR DEPARTMENT BASIC FIELD MANUAL F.M. 21-30

CONVENTIONAL SIGNS, MILITARY SYMBOLS, AND ABBREVIATIONS

This manual supersedes FM 21-30, 26 November 1941, including C 1, 9 May 1942, and C 2, 27 July 1942.



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FM 21-30, Conventional Signs, Military Symbols, An Abbreviations, is published for the information and guidance of all concerned.

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BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

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For explanation of symbols see FM 21-6.

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This manual supersedes FM 21-30, 26 November 1941, including C 1, 9 May 1942 and C 2, 27 July 1942.

PART I

GENERAL MAPPING

CHAPTER 1 • GENERAL

1. PURPOSE. This manual gives in convenient form the abbreviations and general symbols which have been authorized for military use. It contains technical symbols and instructions for the map maker, and military symbols for the use of those in the military service. Persons engaged in the, preparation of maps should also be guided by AR 300-15, TM 5-230, and Bulletin 788, Topographical Instructions of the United States Geological Survey. Those whose duties require them to read foreign topographic and military maps should consult FM 30-22.

Symbols other than those shown herein may be used provided they do not conflict with any authorized symbols and are explained in a legend.

- **2. SCOPE.** Part I of this manual deals with general topographic, hydrographic, and air navigational symbols and abbreviations prescribed for use on all United States maps. Part II contains symbols of a military nature authorized by the War Department. Part III gives authorized military abbreviations.
- **3. SIZE. a.** In general, topographical symbols resemble the objects which they represent. The symbols vary in size with the scale of the map. On small-scale maps, the symbols are reduced to their most elementary form and do not conform to scale. As the scale is increased, the symbols assume more nearly the shape and scaled size of the object represented.
- **b.** The symbols in this book are generally of a size suitable for use on a map of scale 1: 62,500, unless otherwise noted.

- **4. COLOR.** The symbols are shown in appropriate color for a four-color map. When less than four colors are used, the colors in the symbols shown in chapters 2, 3, and 5 which are not used will be executed in black ink.
- **5. LETTERING.** Civil divisions are indicated by VERTICAL ROMAN type; natural water features by *SLANT ROMAN* type, or italic; natural land features by VERTICAL GOTHIC type; and works of man by *SLANT GOTHIC* type. On hastily prepared military maps, the lettering may vary considerably from these standards.
- **6. MARGINAL DATA.** The data, shown on chart 1 are given, where practicable, in the margins of all maps, photomaps, or aerial photographs, and usually in the places indicated by the encircled figures. On military maps, overlays, and field sketches, only essential information concerning the kind of map, orientation, date of preparation, source, and scale are shown, and then not necessarily in the margins. For detailed information on marking aerial photographs see FM 30-21.

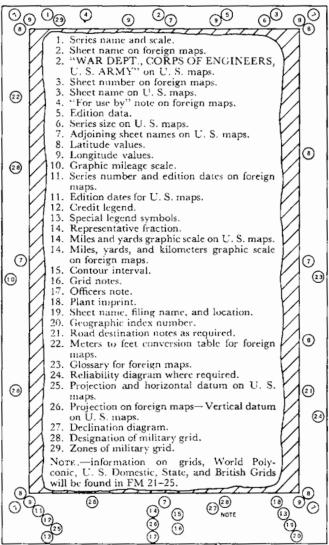


Chart 1.—Marginal data for maps, photomaps, and aerial photographs.

PRIMARY TOPOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

7. GENERAL. This chapter gives the symbols used on United States maps for drainage, relief, and land classification. For topographic abbreviations, see chapter 6.

Perennial stream (large)..... Perennial stream (small)..... An intermittent stream is Intermittent stream..... sometimes full, sometimes dry, depending on the season and local rainfall. Stream with wash. Dark blue line indicates lim stream. Brown wash symbol indicates size of n channel. Intermittent stream in interior of wash no permanent stream exists. Anastomosing streams run in multiple channels Anastomosing of braided stream..... that reconnect in a braided pattern.

Chart 2.—Drainage.

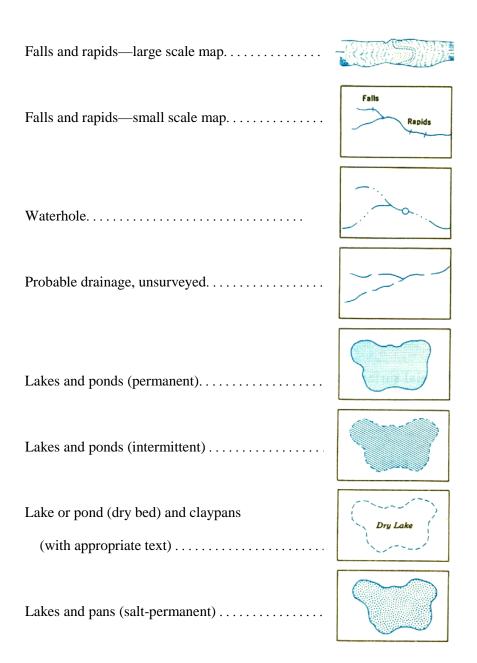


Chart 2.—Drainage—Continued.

Lakes and ponds (salt-intermittent)	
Lakes and ponds (salt-dry)(saltpans) (with appropriate text)	Saltpan
Spring	9
Wells and water tanks	• •
Glaciers, form lines showing flow	
Glacial surface moraine	
Snow field	

Chart 2.—Drainage—Continued.

Contours (blue if under water)	€ 610 € 606
Contours (approximate only)	- 100 5
Form lines (no definite interval)	
Hachures	610
Depression contours. Cuts.	
Fills (Where high railroad or highway embankments occur, the use of hachures to represent the bank or grade is recommended instead of extensive use of depression contours covering large areas of the sheet.)	
Mine dump (ore)	٧
Tailings	

Chart 3.—Relief.

Bluffs	Rocky (or use contours) Other than rocky (or use contours)	
Sand and sand	d dunes	
Washes		
Gravel		
Rocky land		
Lava		Cater
Moraine, or e	sker	

Chart 3.—Relief—Continued.

Overflowed land	
Marsh (if peat bog add appropriate text)	
Salt marsh	addis
Cypress swamp	
Woodland (or as shown below)	
Woodland (or broadleaved trees)	
Logged-off or burned-off areas	
Dense woods or jungle growth	

Chart 4.—Land classification.

Pine (or narrow leaved trees)	
Palm	TAIL ATT TO TAIL TAIL TAIL TAIL TAIL TAIL TAIL TAIL
Palmetto	
Mangrove	
Bamboo.	
Cactus	4 6 6 4 4 5 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6
Banana	+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +
Orchard or	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

Chart 4.—Land classification—Continued.

Vineyard	
Grassland in general	
Tall tropical grass	when when the sold as we will all the sold and sold and the sold and t
Cultivated fields in general (scale 1:31,600 and larger)	
Cotton	
Rice field.	
Sugarcane	**************************************
Corn	PPT T TT T

Chart 4.—Land classification—Continued.

CHAPTER 3 HYDROGRAPHY

8. GENERAL. This chapter gives hydrographic and aids to navigation symbols used on United States Maps. These symbols are approved by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. For hydrographic abbreviations, see chapter 6.

G&GS is now part of NOAA.

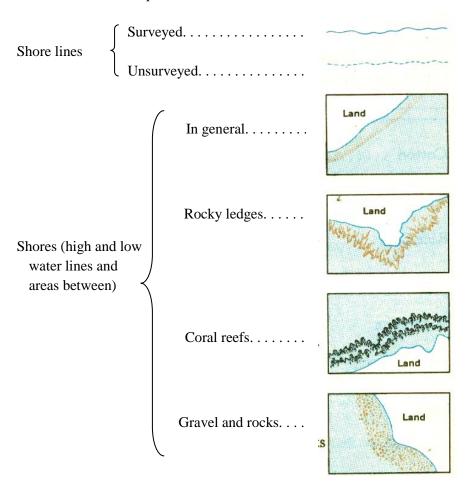


Chart 5.—Hydrography, dangers, obstructions.

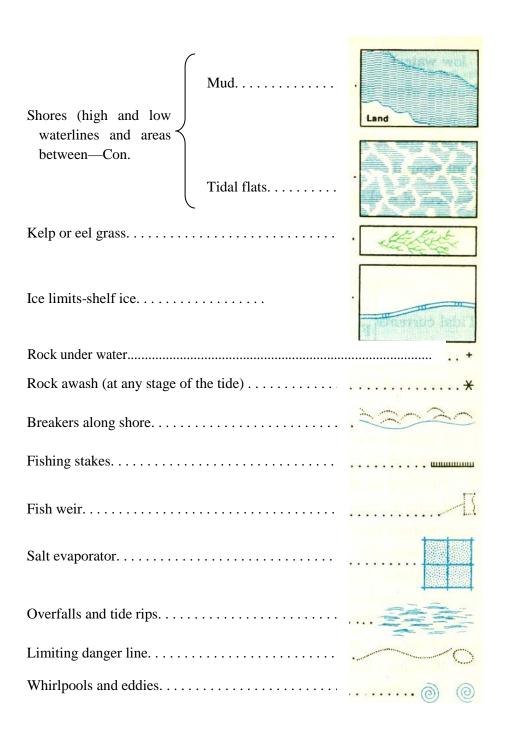


Chart 5.—Hydrography, dangers, obstructions.—Continued.

	on of the hull or superstructure above	ŽĮ.
	angerous to surface navigation)	⊕
		•
Sunken wreck (n	ot dangerous to surface navigation)	(foul)
Sunken wreck (n	ot dangerous to surface navigation	(wreckage)
nor those over	which the depth exceeds 10 fathoms)	2 kn
	en wrecks	2 kn
Current, not tidal	l, velocity 2 knots	1½ kn
(Special usag	ge)	1 kn
	Flood, 1 ½ knots	
TO: 1.1	Ebb, 1 knot	
Tidal currents	Flood, second hour	50
		30
	Ebb, third hour	
	fathoms	and the second
Depth curves:		vanamanana
	foot line	
	-foot line	
	-foot line	
4-fathom line.		4
5-fathom line.		
6-fathom line.		
10-fathom line		
20-fathom line		
100-tamom III	e	

Chart 5.—Hydrography, dangers, obstructions.—Continued.

Lifesaving station (in genera	ıl)	
Lifesaving station (Coast Gu	nard)	+ C.G.165
Lighthouse		
Lighthouse on small-scale cl (light sectors shown by do	hart	········ •
Light vessels showing numb	per of mast lights	🕹 😃
Beacons (sectors shown by dotted lines)	Lighted	**
D 6 1: 1	marks)	
Black		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Striped horizontally	(in general)	
Striped horizontally	(in red and black)	Δ
Striped vertically		
Checkered		
Perch and square		👌
		◊
Whistling (or use fir	est six symbols with word	Top marks used with any buoy symbols
Bell (or use first six	symbols with word "bell")	*
Lighted		

Chart 6.—Aids to navigation.

Radio station	R.S.O
Radio direction-finder station (radio compass station)	R.C.O
Radio tower	R.T.O
Radio beacon	R.Bn.⊙
Pilot station	[⊙] PIL. STA.
Weather Bureau signal station	. [⊙] w. b. sig. sta.
Water gage	
Anchorage Of any kind (or for large vessel)	
For small vessels	t
Mooring	.
Range or bearing line	
Track line	
Drydock	X
Floating drydock	
Patent slip	
Leader cable	========
Dolphin	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Anchorage prohibited	Anchorage prohibited

Chart 6.—Aids to navigation.—Continued.

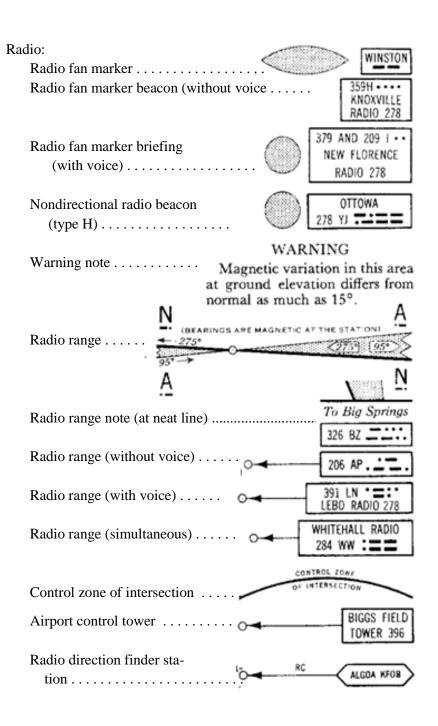
AERONAUTICAL CHART SYMBOLS

(To be reproduced in magenta)

9. GENERAL. The conventional signs for use on aeronautical charts		
differ from those used on topographic maps as follows:		
a. All symbols are larger and more striking to the eye.		
b. Those features on the ground which are easily identified	ed from	
high altitudes are emphasized on aeronautical charts. Other feat subordinated or omitted entirely.	ures are	
Airports Unclassified	\oplus	
Military field		
Joint military-civil	0	
Commercial or municipal	\Diamond	
Flight strip (landing area adjacent to highway; sy		
direction of runway)	\leftarrow	
Emergency landing field	+	
Seaplane ports:	•	
Base with complete facilities	1	
Anchorage with complete facilities	ţ	
Protected anchorage with no facilities	. ŧ	
Beacons:		
Rotating, with flashing code beacon	*≭	
Rotating, with course lights and code		
Flashing code	* ^	
Flashing	*	

Obstruction (center of symbol marks lo Prominent elevation (numerals indicate in feet)	height
Mooring mast	[*
Night lighting facilities (place under fie	eld name)
Marine navigation light (with character	ristic)
Lines of equal magnetic declination	22"W
Prominent transmission line	
Civil airways:	RED AIRWAY NO 1
With flight levels indicated	Miles from Houston
Uncontrolled	
Air navigation hazards (United States of	
Danger area	'/////
Caution area	CAUTION
Prohibited area	AIRSPACE RESERVATION
Air defense zone or vital defense area (United States only)	EASTERN AIR
Air routes as shown on radio direction- finding charts of the United States:	

Chart 7.—Aeronautical chart symbols—Continued.



*Chart 7.—Aeronautical chart symbols—*Continued.

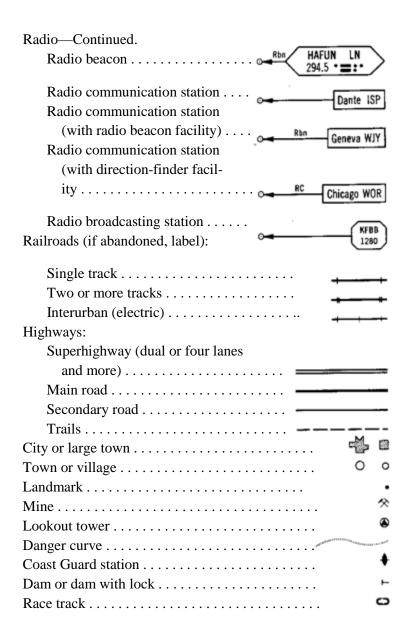


Chart 7.—Aeronautical chart symbols—Continued.

WORKS OF MAN

10. GENERAL. This chapter gives the symbols used on maps to indicate the works of man

ne works of man.	Larger than 1:200,000	1:200,000 and smaller
Primary highways	. 7	
Secondary highways		
Other surfaced roads		
Descriptions of the surface and vroad classification. See paragrap		l, if known, for each
Trails		
Poor pack trail or footpath National or U. S. Route	Provincia	ll or state route.
(Date of road in formation	on shown in margin of a	ıll maps.)
Telegraph and telephone Unde Subm	round or poles	T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T
Electric power transmission line		
Tunnel (railroad or road)		
Railroad station of any kind		

Chart 8.—Roads, railroads, wire communication.

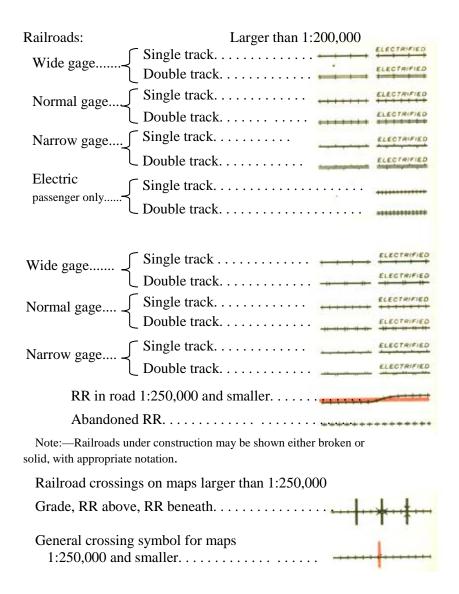


Chart 8.—Roads, railroads, wire communications—Continued.

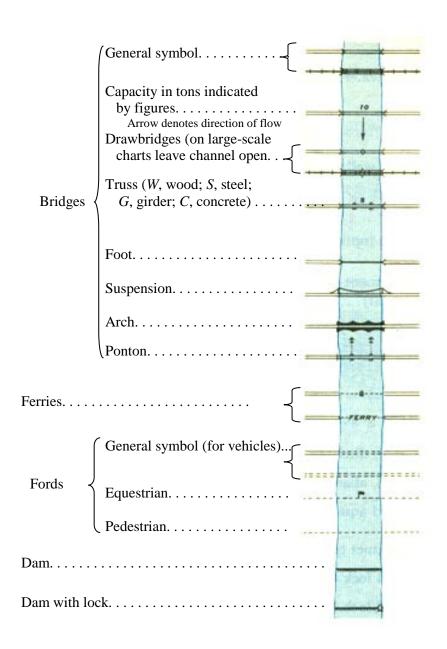


Chart 9.—River works.

Breakwater, dock, and jetties	Try
Earth wall, or levee	-catalandahkatan dakan injung
Levee (optional for War Department	·*************************************
Revetment (optional for War Department)	Annonmonoming
Dikes	
River gage	
Canal, ditch, or open aqueduct	[
Canal, abandoned	
Buried aqueduct or water pipe	
Aqueduct or canal in tunnel	

A river (or stream) gage is a marker for measuring stage or water level.

Chart 9.—River works—Continued.

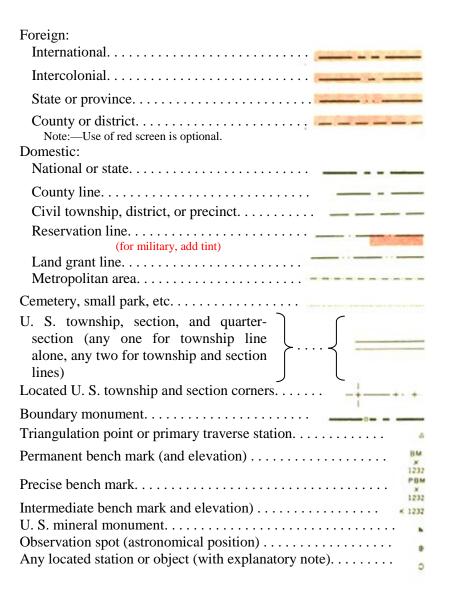
1:200,000 and smaller

City, first importance. (actual shape)	
City, second importance	
City, third importance	
Town, large	
Town, small	
Village	
Sample combination showing city, town, or village, scales larger than 1:200,000. Note:—Large urban areas may be shown in gray tint with important buildings and street system in black. Buildings in general	
Hospital	*or43
Schoolhouse or university	
Windmill	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Ruins	
Church or place of worship	
Fort	
Cliff dwellings	P/ - S

Chart 10.—Buildings, urban areas.

Cemetery only).	(cross symbol to be used in U. S.	CE	or [f
Mine or o	quarry of any kind (or open cut)		····· 🐅
Prospect.			x
Shaft			· · · · · •
Mine tun	nel {Opening		×
Oil or ga	s wells		0000
Tanks			
larger and symbols. S	Scales larger than 1:50,000 show wells and tallarger than 1:200,000, show well and tank focales 1:200,000 and smaller omit wells and maps of any scale.	farms with t	hree or four
Coke ove	ens		*****
(Fence of any kind (or board fence)		
	Stone		
Fences	Worm		
	Wire	Barbed	
	Hedge		

Chart 11.—Miscellaneous.



Note: The tint for boundaries does not copy well from the original manual; hence the boundaries appear orange or yellowish umber. The actual map tint is pink:

Chart 12.—Boundaries, marks, and monuments.

GENERAL MAPPING ABBREVIATIONS

SECTION 1

TOPOGRAPHIC ABBREVIATIONS

11. GENERAL. The abbreviations listed below are prescribed for general use on all United States maps. Besides those listed in this section, those abbreviations listed in section II and also in chapter 10 are used when appropriate:

A	Arch or arroyo
abut	abutment
b	brick
bot	bottom
Br	branch
br	Bridge
C	Cape
cem	cemetery
con	concrete
cov	covered
Cr	creek
cul	culvert
DS	drug store
E	east
Est	estuary
f	fordable
Ft	fort
gir	girder
i	iron
I	island
Jc	junction
kp	king-post
L	lake
Lat	latitude
Ldg	landing
LSS	life saving station
LH	lighthouse
Long	longitude
Mts	mountains
N	north

nf	not fordable
p	pier
pk	plank
PO	post office
Pt	point
qp	queen post
R	river
RH	round house
RR	railroad
2d	second
S	south
S	steel
Sch	schoolhouse
Sta	station
St	stone
str	stream
TG	tollgate
3d	third
Tres	trestle
tr	truss
WT	water tank
WW	waterworks
W	west
w	wood

SECTION II ABBREVIATIONS USED WITH HYDROGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

12. GENERAL. The following abbreviations, for use with hydrographic symbols, are authorized for all United States nautical maps and charts. These abbreviations are approved by the Federal Board of Surveys and Maps and are used by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey and Hydrographic Office.

13. RELATING TO LIGHTS.

aeronautical
alternating
blue
destroyed
every
experimental
fixed
fixed and group flashing
fixed and flashing
flashing
green
group
group flashing
group occulting
horizontal
interrupted quick
irregular
light
lighthouse
nautical mile
minutes
obscured
occulting
Private light (maintained by private interests; to be used with caution)
quick flashing
red; range
reflector
revolving
seconds
sector
short-long

Temp	temporary	
•		
(U)	unwatched	
VB	vertical beam	
Vert	vertical	
vis	visible	
W	white	
14. RELATING TO FOG SIGNA	ALS.	
DFS	distance finding station	
FB	fog bell	
<i>FD</i>	fog diaphone	
<i>FG</i>	fog gong; fog gun	
<i>FH</i>	fog reed; fog horn	
<i>FN</i>	fog nautophone	
<i>FS.</i>	fog siren; fog signal station	
<i>FT</i>	fog trumpet	
<i>FW</i>	fog whistle	
<i>SB</i>	submarine fog bell (mechanical)	
<i>SFO</i>	submarine fog oscillator	
15. RELATING TO DANGERS.		
<i>Bk</i>	bank	
<i>cov</i>	covers	
D	doubtful	
<i>ED</i>	existence doubtful	
<i>Obstr</i>	obstruction	
<i>PA</i>	position approximate	
<i>PD</i>	position doubtful	
<i>Pos.</i>	•	
rep	reported	
Shl	shoal	
uncov		
Wk		
Wks	wreckage	
16. RELATING TO TIDES AND CURRENTS.		
<i>HW</i>	high water	
<i>HHW</i>		
<i>LW</i>		
LLW		
<i>MHW</i>		
	ilicali iligii watci	
<i>MHHW</i>		

17. RELATING TO QUALITY OF BOTTOM.

MLW.....mean low waterMLLW.....mean lower low water

MSL..... mean sea level MTL.... mean tide level

a. Material

$Bld(s) \dots \dots$	Boulder(s)
<i>Ck.</i>	Chalk
<i>Cl</i>	clay
<i>Cn.</i>	cinders
<i>Co</i>	coral
<i>Co Hd.</i>	coral head
Di	diatom
G	gravel
Grs	grass
<i>La</i>	lava
M	mud
Ml	marl
<i>Oys</i>	oysters
<i>Oz.</i>	ooze
<i>P</i>	pebbles
<i>Pm</i>	pumice
<i>Rk.</i>	rock
S	sand
Sh	shells
<i>Sp.</i>	specks
<i>Spg.</i>	sponge
<i>St.</i>	stones
<i>Vol Ash</i>	volcanic ash

Why all this attention to the bottom of the sea? Actually, things like this are important to detailed navigation and ocean survey, and before GPS were even more so.

Navigation in the Old Days was tricky: determining latitude required a view of the sun, and longitude would be based on dead reckoning and "lunars" until the availability of very accurate chronometers. When surveying coast lines, mariners "took soundings": took samples from the bottom and assessed them (sand, shelly, etc., along with depth). When seamen visited that point again, they had an extra way of verifying they were in the right place by the quality of the bottom.

b. Quality.

brk	broken
<i>crs</i>	coarse
dk	dark
<i>fly</i>	flinty
fne	
glac	glacial
<i>gty</i>	gritty
<i>hrd</i>	hard
<i>lrg</i>	large
<i>ly</i>	light
rky	rocky
sft	soft
<i>sml</i>	small
<i>spk</i>	speckled
stf	stiff
<i>stk</i>	sticky

c. Color.

<i>bk</i>	black
<i>br.</i>	brown
bu	blue
gn	_
<i>gy.</i>	gray

rd	red
<i>wh.</i>	white
yl	yellow

18. RELATING TO BUOYS AND BEACONS.

B	black
<i>Bn.</i>	beacon
<i>Br</i>	brown
<i>C</i>	can
Chan	ah a alrama

Chec. checkered G. green

HB......horizontal bandsHS.....horizontal stripes

 N.
 nun

 R.
 red

 REF.
 reflector

 VS.
 vertical stripes

W..... white *Y*.... yellow

19. RELATING TO STATIONS.

NRC..... naval radio direction-finder (radio

compass station)

NRS. naval radio station
PIL STA. pilot station
R Bn. radio beacon
RS. radio station
R Tr. radio tower
SIG STA. signal station

S PIPE. standpipe STA. station

WB SIG STA..... Weather bureau signal station

20. GENERAL ADJECTIVES.

abandabandonedabtaboutancancientapproxapproximatebetbetweenClclearanceconcreteconcreteconspicconspicuouscorcornerdiscontiddiscontinued

dist	distance
elece	electric
estabe	established
<i>exper</i> e	experimental
<i>fl</i> f	flood
gt g	great
<i>lrg</i>	large
maintd r	maintained
<i>mid</i> r	middle
<i>mod</i> r	moderate
No	number
<i>priv</i> F	Private, privately
<i>prom</i>	
smls	small
<i>std</i> s	standard
subms	submerged

PART II MILITARY MAPPING SYMBOLS CHAPTER 7 MILITARY UNITS

- **21. IDENTIFICATION. a.** The symbols in chart 13 are used to indicate military units or activities on maps, sketches, and overlays. Where the use of the identifying symbol of a military unit is impracticable. abbreviations are employed.
- **b.** These symbols are used either within a rectangle to indicate a military unit, a triangle to indicate an observation post, or a circle to indicate a supply point.
- **22. SIZE.** The symbols in chart 14 are used to indicate the size of a military organization. They are used mainly with boundary symbols, or with rectangles, triangles, or circles in conjunction with the symbols in chart 13.See charts 17 and 26-40.

Antiaircraft Artillery	
Armored Command	
Army Air Force.	00
Artillery, except Antiaircraft Artillery	•

Chart 13.—Military Units—identification.

Cavalry (horse	
Mechanized	Ø
Chemical Warfare Service	G
Engineers	Ε
Special (amphibian)	Æ
Infantry	\boxtimes
Medical Corps	
Military Police	МР
Ordnance Department	ෂී
Quartermaster Corps	Q
Signal Corps	S
Tank Destroyer	TD
Transportation Corps	*
Veterinary Corps	
Notes.—1. Coast Artillery Corps uses the artillery symbol, with appropriate abbreviations, see chart 31 2. Airborne units are designated by combining a gull wing symbol with the arm or service symbol. Examples:	
Airborne Artillery	
Airborne Infantry	
3. For units attached to the Air Forces, the arm or service symbol is placed over the Air Forces symbol. Examples:	
Aviation signal unit	\$
Aviation ordnance unit	(J)
Chart 13.—Military Units—identification—Conf	tinued.

The following symbols are placed either in boundary lines (see chart 17) or above the rectangle, triangle, or circle inclosing the identifying arm or service symbol.

Squad
Section
Platoon
Company, troop, battery, or Air Forces flight
Battalion, cavalry squadron, or Air Forces squadron
Regiment or group; combat team (with abbreviation CT following identifying numeral)
Brigade, combat command of armored division, or Air Forces wing
Division, or command of an Air Force
Corps or Air Force
Army ××××
Service command, department, or section of com-
munications zone
Communications zone
General Headquarters

Chart 14.—Military Units—size.

CHAPTER 8 MILITARY ACTIVITIES

- **23. GENERAL. a.** This chapter contains symbols used for military purposes on maps, charts, and overlays. These symbols are authorized for all military use, but they are used mainly on large-scale maps. No departures from these symbols should be made unless none of these signs applies or when the scale of a map prevents their use.
- **b.** Special signs and symbols of a technical nature, sue as signal wiring diagrams, construction blueprints, engineer construction symbols, or coast artillery fire-control maps may be found in Field and Technical Manuals of the arm or service concerned.
- **24. COLOR.** When colors are used, military symbol: representing objects in territory occupied or controlled by our forces are shown in blue, and those in territory occupied or controlled by the enemy are shown in red. The only exceptions are the following:
- **a.** Symbols for areas to be covered by friendly fire or gas, although generally located in enemy territory, are executed in blue.
- **b.** Symbols for gassed areas, wherever located, are always executed in red.

Military airdrome, general	
Commercial or municipal airfield	\Diamond
Army Air Forced air base or service center	

Chart 15.—Air activities.

Night fighter airdrome	∞
Air field: Landing Satellite Auxiliary Advanced + or	≫
Dummy	,
Dispersal point for airplane	
Revetment, splinterproof, for airplane	
Airship	\Diamond
Airship hangar	0
Airship mooring mast	Γ
Autogyro or helicopter	92
Radar station (Type No	√ . —)
Barrage balloon ascension point	T

Chart 16.—Air activities—Continued.

Balloon barrage area
Antiaircraft defended area
Searchlight belts
Combined antiaircraft and searchlight area
Restricted flying area
Prohibited flying area
Bomb line
Free bombing area
Antiaircraft ship (top of mast placed at exact
location)
Antiaircraft ship, defended area (circle shows radius of effective action
Convoy (arrow indicates direction; point of arrow is at position of convoy

Chart 16.—Air activities—Continued.

tower is at position)	$\stackrel{\frown}{\circlearrowleft} \rightarrow$
Rendezvous point	ROV
Rally point	Rolly Pt
Example, for separate units: 91st Fighter Squadron	91 F:
Targets:	
Primary	® Pot
Alternate	₩ ALT T
Last resort	LAT COO
Aircraft natrol area	8 G

Chart 15.—Air activities—Continued.

Aircraft unit symbol
Balloon 💝
Barrage balloon ascension point
Searchlight
Radio detector (radar)
Radio detector (radar)
Searchlight at principal control point
Searchlight at subcontrol point 🖔 s
Spread-beam searchlight
Self-propelled antiaircraft artillery
50-caliber antiaircraft gun
4.7-inch antiaircraft gun • 4.7 AA
3-inch antiaircraft gun • 3 AA
90-mm antiaircraft gun (etc., caliber on right)

Chart 16.—Antiaircraft artillery activities activities—Continued.

Squad
Section
Platoon
Company or similar unit
Battalion or similar unit
Regiment or similar unit
Brigade
Division. —xx—
Corps
Army
Service command, department, or section of
communications zone
Communications zone
Rear boundary of theater of operations
Front line
Fighter aviation (limit of radius of action)
Observation aviation (limit of zone of recon-
naissance)
Limit of wheeled traffic by day
Limit of wheeled traffic by night
Line beyond which <i>lights</i> on vehicle are pro-
hibited
Outpost line
Main line of resistance
Regimental reserve line
Limiting point
Line of communication
Line of departure
Straggler line
Prisoner of War inclosure, IV Corps

Chart 17.—Boundaries and delimited areas.

Defense areas (consist of boundaries broken by unit symbol):	
	_•~
Squad	\bigcirc
Section	\odot
Platoon	
Demolitions	#### Blue
Gas (see also chart 18)	
Area to be avoided	Red
Area to be gassed, nonpersistent	Blue G-NP
Area blanketed by smoke (time effective)	Smoke 1300-1700 hrs
Target areas (indicate caliber; draw symbol to scale)	
Primary, 60-mm mortar (50 yards square)	[eo]
Primary, 81-mm mortar (100 yards square)	81
Secondary, 60-mm mortar (50 yards in diameter)	
Secondary, 81-mm mortar (100 yards in dia-	(60)
meter)	BI
Normal, Battery B, 105-mm howitzer	\sim
(100 by 200 yards)	В
(100 by 200 yards)	105 How
Emergency, Battery B, 105-mm howitzer	
(100 by 200 yards)	В
	105 How

Note: "100 yards square" does NOT mean "100 square yards"; it means a square 100 yards on a side (10,000 square yards).

Chart 17.—Boundaries and delimited areas—Continued.

Arsenal (chemical warfare)
Building, gasproof
Demolitions, vesicant contaminated
(show agent, time, and date)
Dugout, gasproof
Area to be avoided (show agent, time,
and date)
Area to be blanketed by smoke (show time
effective and date)
Area to be gassed, nonpersistent (show
agent, time, and date)
Area to be gassed, persistent (show
agent, time, and date)
Mines:
Chemical land mine
Chemical land mine barrier (mines
emplaced but unfired)
Road-block obstacle, contaminated (show agent,
time, and date)

Chart 18.—Chemical warfare activities.

25. ROAD AND BRIDGE CLASSIFICATION. On topographic maps, road classification is as shown in chart 8. Military traffic control symbols are shown in chart 24. Foe military field sketches and topographic reconnaissance, the classification description described in this paragraph is used. The characteristics of roads and bridges are indicated by the following symbols and abbreviations:

	Type of surface		
	All weather		Earth
Physical characteristics	Paved: such as concrete, bituminous, brick, or other pavement.	Improved: ¹ such as gravel, crushed rock, stabilized soil, select granular material, or other wearing material.	Unimproved: dusty whem dry, muddy when wet.
Good road (gentle grades, gradual curves, smooth surface, good	A	С	E
foundation. Poor road (steep grades, sharp surface, or poor foundation.	В	D	F (probably impassable in wet weather)

¹ Includes roads of these materials which have had treatment to lay dust or which are covered by a bituminous suirface treatment of seal coat.

b. General characteristics of roads and bridges.

- (1) Traffic lanes.
- 1, 2, 3, etc. Placed after road type symbol to indicate roadways suitable for continuous traffic in one, two, three, etc., lanes respectively.
 - 1+ One-lane roadway having occasional passing locations, and suitable for very light two-way traffic.
 - 1½ One-lane roadway having frequent passing locations, and suitable for light two-way traffic.
 - 2 Two-lane roadway having occasional one-lane defiles, and suitable for moderate two-way traffic.

(2) Information.

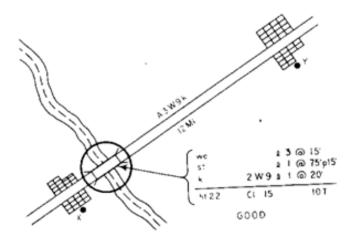
- W Followed by numeral indicates clearance width in feet provided at most critical locations. Symbol is preceded by numeral to indicate more than one such lane (for example, 2 W 9 indicates two separate lanes, each of which provides a clearance width of 9 feet.)
- C1 Followed by numeral indicates clearance height in feet between surface of roadway and overhead obstruction.
- T Preceded by numeral indicates tonnage limitation (bridges).
- Mi distance in miles.
 - I Followwed by numeral indicates average interval of time (timedistance) in minutes requires by motor v ehicles during daylight to travel section of road shown.

c. Engineer characteristics of roads and bridges.

(1) Roads.

Concrete Bituminous pavement, heavy duty Brick or block pavement Bituminous surface treatment (except on concrete, brick, or block pavement), bituminous stabilized sand or gravel, or other	k bt br
bituminous type not suitable for heavy duty	bs
Crushed rock or macadam.	m
Gravel	g
Stabilized soil, sand-clay, shell, cinders, disintegrated granite, or	U
other select material	sm
Earth	ea
(2) Bridges.	
Concrete, slab or beam	k
Concrete arch	ka
Steel beam	sb
Steel truss	st
Steel girder	sg
Stone arch	sa
Wood trestle	wo
Wood truss	wot
Length	1
Height above stream bed	ht
Panel length (trusses)	p
Condition (state as "excellent," "good," "fair," or "poor.")	

d. Example (see chart 19). Sketch between villages X and Y with good, all-weather, three 9-foot lanes, concrete road, 12 miles long, and a multiple bridge 140 feet long consisting of 45 feet of wood truss, and 20 feet of concrete beam and 75 feet of steel truss with 15-foot panels; 18-foor roadway width, 20 feet above stream bed, 15-foot clearance, capable of carrying 10 tons, in good condition.



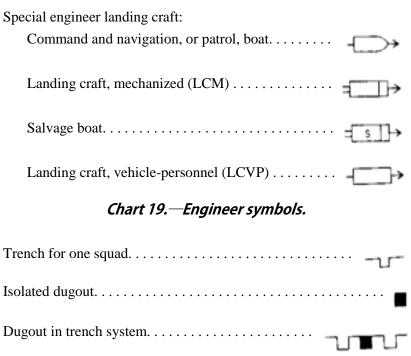


Chart 20.—Field and permanent fortifications.

Gasproof dugout.....

	Occupied	Unoccup	pied
Surface shelter		ēП	
Underground shelter (personnel capacity indicated)	10	d Unoccup	
Surface shelter in trench system		7:===1	5
Underground shelter in trench system			V
Gasproof surface shelter			G-P1
Fort, general			П
Pillboxes:			
Concrete			\Diamond
Steel turret			0
Machine guns, direction of fire unknown			
Antitank guns, direction of fire unknown			
Direction of fire known, caliber unknown			*
Machine guns, direction of fire known			
Antitank guns, direction of fire known			
Fortified area, general		P	2

Chart 20.—Field and permanent fortifications—Continued.

Demolitions
Barbed wire, general
Four-strand fence (protective wire)
Low-wire fence
High-wire fence.
Combination band
Dannert wire or concertina
Concealed wire
Gas (see also chart 18):
Area to be avoided
Area to be gassed, nonperistent (indicate
date and hour—see chart 18)
Area to be blanketed by smoke (time effective) (Smoke 1300-1700 hrs
Mines and mine fields:
Land mines:
Single string of antitank mines
Activated antitank mine
Double antitank mine
Double activated antitank mine
Pressure type antipersonnel mine
Trip-wire type antipersonnel mine

Chart 21.—Obstacles.

Mines and mine fields—continued. Land mines—continued.	
Booby trap	Λ
	4
Mine detector	
Mine fields.—The color green should be used field areas, demolitions, road blocks, and other	
activities. The color green is to be used for no <i>othe</i>	
When the color green is not available, the symbol v black.	will be executed in
To be reprodu	aced in green
(in black if green is	
Mine belt; numerals in rectangle indicate number of mines in belt. D in rectangle represents dummy mine field. Mines in definite pattern; boundaries drawn to scale to indicate actual extent of belt	[620]
to indicate actual extent of beit	AT-APers
Boundary of mine field unfenced	_www.
Boundary of mine field indefinite, unfenced	uuu
Boundary of mine field, fenced with barbed wire. Numerals indicate number of	
strands in fence	
Examples of symbols in mine field. Scattered mines between boundaries and between belts are indicated schematically by small circular	
marks	A. W. Land and A. M.

Chart 21.—Obstacles—Continued.

Marine mines, controlled	oup, and a oup. As it is assumed bols should of a mine s drawn to
Leader gear	
(An energized cable to aid vessels the passages in marine mine fields. Symbol chart to show exact location.)	
Chemical land mine	····· (c)
Marine nets:	Я
Torpedo net (with gate)	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Obstacle, general:	Prepared but
IndividualProposed	passable Completed
Road block	# **
Bridge out	# *
Tank barrier	
Tank trap	

Chart 21.—Obstacles—Continued.

Filter center.
Information center
Message center Msg Cen or
Point on axis of signal communication (probable future location of command post)
Artillery
Cavalry
Infantry
Radar station
Radio intercept station
Radio station (transmitting and receiving)
Radio intercept station
Radio station (transmitting and receiving)
Radio station (transmitting and receiving)
Radio station (transmitting and receiving)
Radio station (transmitting and receiving) Radio direction—finder station, mobile. Radio direction—finder station, portable. Switching central (located at command post) Switching central.
Radio station (transmitting and receiving) Radio direction—finder station, mobile. Radio direction—finder station, portable. Switching central (located at command post) Switching central. Commercial switching central.

Note.—For special symbols used in signal communication for wiring diagrams, line route maps, traffic diagrams, and signal operation maps, see FM 24-5 and TM 11-462.

Chart 22.—Signal facilities.

Military post or star		•	ead- 	P
(Lower end of station or at	f staff ter an easily	minates at m	ilitary post or terrain feature	
to scale, thi so as to sho or line and c	maps when s symbol is the area	ere troop units may be modified occupied by a which they as	can be shown fied as follows units in column	
Line		Column		
Arsenal				_^
Arsenal (chemical	warfare)			ر م
General hospital				
Laboratory, experin	nental cen	ter, or proving	g ground	. <u>ā</u>
Point, any located (suitable de	escription)		0
Posts:				. •
Observation, ge	eneral			
Fixed underwar	ter, listenir	ıg		. (L)
Visual signal				. ~
Reception center				
Replacement training	ng center.			A
Reception center		^		
Weather station				ab

Chart 23.—Special buildings, posts, and centers.

Debarkation or embarkation point	🖶
Supply points:	
Occupied	\ /
Proposed	····
Examples: Railhead	(Rhd
Class I supplies	
Ammunition (Class V supplies)	<u>(Ď</u>)
	-
Small-arms ammunition	
Class III supplies	••••
Water	(w)
Engineer (arm or service symbol in circle)	(Ē).
Procurement district, headquarters	<u>X</u>
Railroad center	The state of the s
Supply:	
Ammunition, all classes	<u>П</u>
Ammunition, artillery	
Ammunition, small arms	№
Class I	
Gasoline and oil	▼
Water	w
Remount service	U

Chart 24.—Supply, transportation, traffic.

Petroleum supply: Gas wells	۵ <u>۵</u> ۵ ۵
Oil wells	86°08
Oil-well derrick	🛮
Petroleum tank	
Bulk storage petroleum products	
Surface cable	~~~
Submarine cable	
Submarine pipeline	300000
Gas pipeline	· <u>_ </u>
Oil pipeline	5
Petroleum products pipeline, general	x
Trains (supply, motor)	🛱
Animal-drawn	
Pack	
Railway	Ry
Traffic and traffic control:	
Railroad grade crossing	
Railroad above road	
Railroad beneath road	<u>+</u>

Chart 24.—Supply, transportation, traffic

Fraffic and traffic control—Continued. Boundary between two sections of roadway
Impassable roadway
Bridge
Tunnel
Rotary traffic
Turn-around location
Parallel line to one-lane road indicates length of roadway where passing is possible
One-way traffic.
Two-way traffic
Alternating one-way traffic
Dispatch route (operated by schedule system)
Reserved route (can be used by specific traffic only
National and state route markers, respectively
Military route marker
Traffic post (or unit); traffic headquarters
Marked road intersection
Line beyond which any lights (including black- out lights) are prohibited

Chart 24.—Supply, transportation, traffic—Continued.

Automatic rifle	>
Automatic rifle (position prepared but not occupied)	>
Machine guns (arrow points in principle direction of fire):	
Caliber .30, water-cooled, heavy	•>
Caliber .30, air-cooled, light	<u> </u>
Caliber .50	• ··50 >
Antiaircraft	• A A >
Sector of fire of single machine gun (arrows indicate sector of fire; heavy solid portion on solid arrow shows danger space when fire is placed on final protective line	7
Sector of fire of machine gun section (two guns)	7
Rifle, firing antitank grenade	→
Rocket launcher, antitank	-
Antitank gun, 75-mm (caliber specified on right)	, .
75-mm antitank gun in position with principal direction of fire	♦ 75 >
37-mm antitank gun in position with principal direction of fire	
cipal direction of fire	<u> </u>

Chart 25.—Weapons.

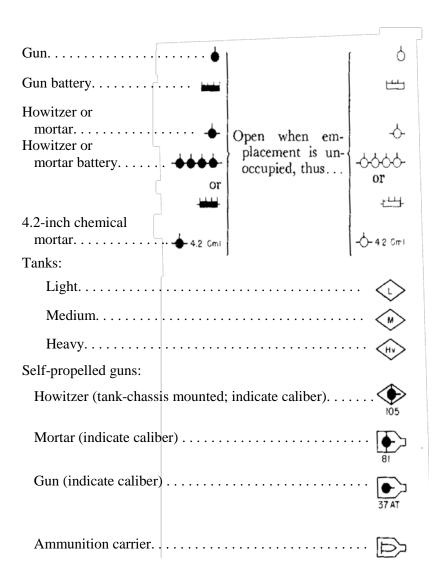


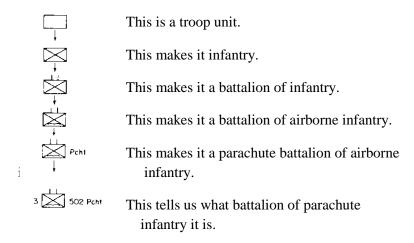
Chart 25.—*Weapons*—Continued.

CHAPTER 9

ILLUSTRATIONS OF MILITARY SYMBOLS

- **16. UNIT DESIGNATIONS.**—This chapter contains examples to illustrate the method of combining basic symbols and abbreviations in order to show the desired information. The following are general rules governing the application of these symbols to rectangles, triangles, or circles representing, respectively, troop units, observation posts, and supply points:
- **a.** The basic symbol is placed in the center. (See chart 13.)
 - **b.** The symbol for the size of the unit is placed above.
- **c.** Army and air force are shown by a number spelled out.
 - **d.** Corps and air force command are shown by Roman numerals.
- **e.** When the symbol represents either an army or a corps in its entirety, the numeral designation is placed *inside* the box. When the symbol pertains to a unit within an army or corps, the army or corps numeral is placed on the *right*, outside the box.
- **f.** Numbers designating battalions in a regiment are shown on the left, in Arabic numerals.
- **g.** Numbers designating separate battalions are shown on the right, in Arabic numerals.
- **h.** Numbers designating divisions, brigades, groups, regiments, separate companies; or similar separate units are placed on the right, in Arabic numerals.

- **i.** Letters designating companies, troops, or batteries are in capitals and are shown on the left.
- **j.** Companies, troops, batteries, or platoons. (not separate), and other elements of a unit which are designated by name instead of by letter (for example, "Antitank Company" or "Headquarters and Service Troop"), are designated by the use of the proper abbreviation on the left.
- **k.** Abbreviations for explanatory purposes are shown on the right (see ch. 10).
- **l.** Abbreviations are used instead of symbols to show information that cannot be indicated by a single symbol.
- **m.** Calibers are shown by numbers placed under the symbol and the unit of measure is omitted.
- **17. APPLICATION OF SPECIAL SYMBOLS.** The following examples illustrate the method of combining basic symbols and abbreviations in order to show the desired information. These are only a few of the possible combinations. The following diagram illustrates how these symbols are built up:



88th Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade	88
3d Antiaircraft Artillery Group.	∑ 3
302d Antiaircraft Balloon Battalion (low altitude)	302
101st Antiaircraft balloon battery (separate) (very low altitude)] 101 VLA
Headquarters Battery, 401st Antiaircraft Gun Battalion	401
Battery C, 228th Antiaircraft Searchlight Battalion.	228
2d Platoon, Battery C, 119th Airborne Antiaircraft Battalion	9
Battery D, 441st Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion (mobile)	∣МЫ
Battery A, 105th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic weapons Battalion (self-propelled)	105

Chart 26.—Examples—Antiaircraft Artillery.

I Armored Corps	立
1st Armored Division	📛 ı
Combat Command A, 1st Armored division	А 💍 І
1st Armored Division Trains	۰۰۰۰۰ چې ۱
Transportation Platoon, Headquarters Company, 1st Armored Reconnaissance Battalion	T Hq O I Rcn
Assault Gun Platoon, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 1st Armored Regiment	Hq I 1 1
Company A, 1st Armored Regiment	
1st Tank Group	
742nd Tank Battalion (light)	742 (L)
6th Armored Artillery Group	6
16th Armored Engineer Battalion	E
Medical Detachment, 16th Armored Engineer battalion	Det 🔂 16 Enar
6th Armored Infantry Regiment	
Assault gun platoon, Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Armored Infantry Regiment	·· Hq I
Treatment Platoon, Company A, 47th Armored Medical Battalion	
Company A, Supply Battalion, 1st Armored Division	
Operations Platoon, 47th Armored Signal Company	Opn 3 47

As most are aware, the CC replaced the Armored Regiment early in the war. A CC is really a brigade, and is the ancestor of modern divisional brigades.

←A problem: this symbol (1st Tank Group) represents an ad hoc combination of separate tank battalions, but the symbol is identical to 1st Armored Regiment. The only difference is that in the latter case, the division information would also be shown.

Note that the designation "armored" and the little tank tread does not necessarily mean the specific unit is "armored"—only that is organic to an armored unit.

Chart 27.—Examples—Armored.

First Air Force
IV Fighter Command
18th Fighter Wing
4th Reconnaissance Group
5th Bombardment Squadron
54th Troop Carrier Group
66th Service Squadron.
12th Glider Squadron.
88th Reconnaissance Squadron
Air Support Control B, 8th Air Support Communications Squadron
5th Photo Reconnaissance Squadron
16th Depot Repair Squadron, 15th Air Depot Group
20th Air Base Security Battalion.
23d Signal Company, Wing.
Company C, 321st Engineer Aviation Battalion

Chart 28.—Examples—Army Air Forces.

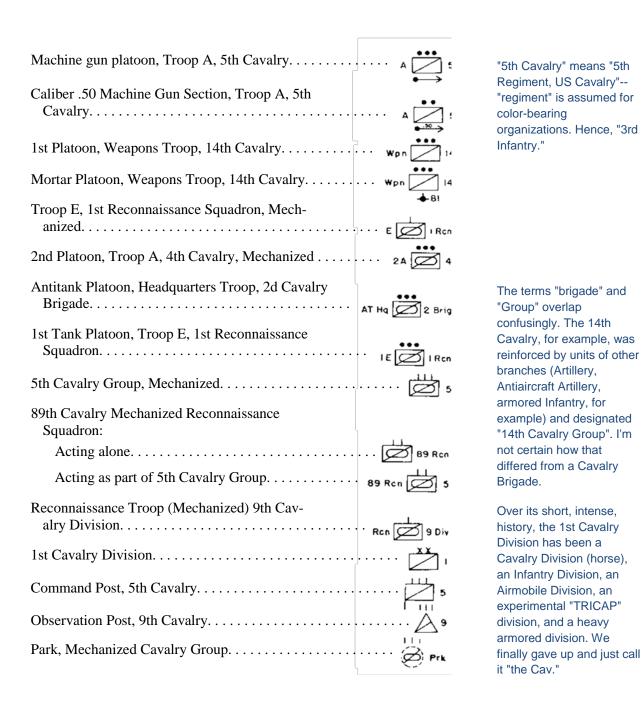


Chart 29.—Examples—Cavalry.

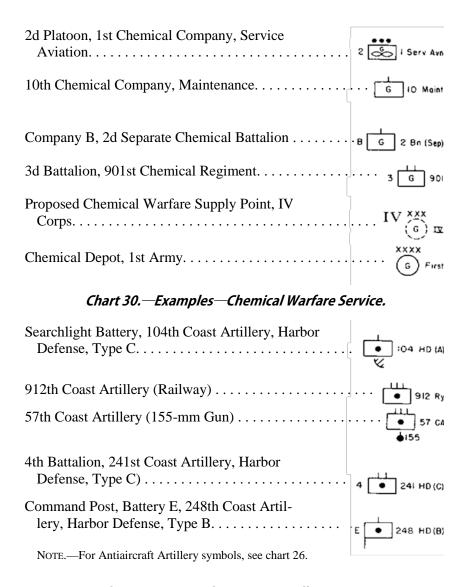
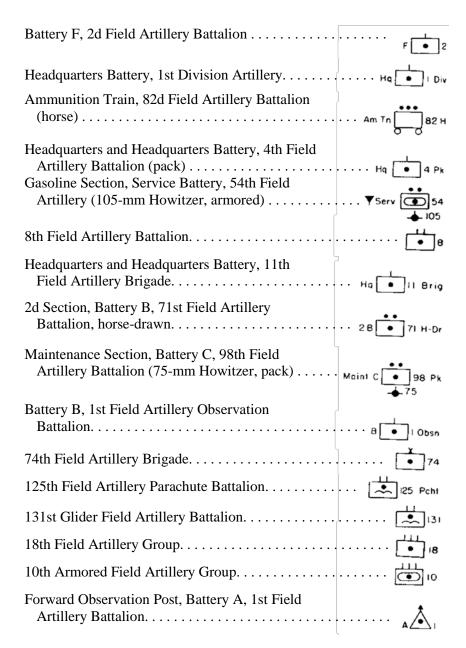


Chart 31.—Examples—Coast Artillery Corps.

Company A, 2d Engineer Combat Battalion
8th Engineer Squadron
Company A, 16th Armored Engineer Battalion
Company B, 905th Engineer Heavy Ponton Battalion
Parachute Company, 307th Airborne Engineer Battalion
2nd Platoon,70th Engineer Light Ponton Company2 E 70 L Pon
Engineer Depot Number 2, First Army 2(E) First
Proposed Engineer Park, II Army Corps
2d platoon, Company B, 84th Engineer Camouflage Battalion
2d Platoon, Photomapping Company, 660th Engineer Topographic Battalion
Company 1 E 195 Dp Trk 2d Platoon, 391st Engineer Depot Company 2 E 391 Dep
Company B, 801st Engineer Water Supply Battalion
Second Boat platoon, Company A, 531st Engineer Boat and Shore Regiment
Engineer Boat and Shore Regiment

Chart 32.—Examples—Corps of Engineers.



The 75-mm howitzer is called the "pack howitzer" because it can be broken down into several "pack loads" that can be carried by mules. Most surviving 75's are set in concrete pads in front of National Guard arsenals these days.

Chart 33.—Examples—Field Artillery.

Headquarters Company, 29th Infantry Hq 29
Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon, Headquarters Company, 19th Infantry
Maintenance Section, Transportation Platoon, Service Company, 5th Infantry
Kitchen and Baggage Train, 29th Infantry
1st Platoon, Antitank Company, 4th Infantry
1st Cannon Platoon, Headquarters Company, 6th Infantry
Ammunition and Pioneer Platoon, Headquarters Company, 3d Battalion, 10th Infantry
Weapons Platoon, Company A, 14th Infantry
60-mm Mortar Section, Company B, 15th Infantry
Machine Gun Section, 2d Platoon, Company D, 20th Infantry
\longrightarrow
502d Parachute Infantry.
22d Motorized Infantry
Company A, 41st Armored Infantry
Observation Post, 81-mm Mortar Platoon, Company D, 23d Infantry
Proposed regimental Ammunition Supply Point, 27th Infantry

The mortars cited in Company D (the heavy weps company in 1st Battalion of a Rifle Regiment—the other weapons companies being H and M (there is no J Company)—are the 81-mm kind. The machine guns in this case are the caliber .30 heavies.

Chart 34.—Examples—Infantry.

II 1 . 10 ' C . 1 . M 1' 1	
Headquarters and Service Company, 1st Medical Regiment	1 & S
Clearing Company D, 8th Medical Battalion	DHB
2d Platoon, Company A, 105th Medical Ambulance Battalion	105
3d Platoon, Company A, 47th Medical Battalion Armored	
Clearing Platoon, Veterinary Troop, 1st Medical	
Squadron3	Vel
First Army Medical Depot	First
1st Battalion Section, Medical Department, 175th Infantry	•
Battalion Aid Station, 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry	_
Ambulance Loading Post	- ALP
Collecting Station, 1st Division.	(X
11th Evacuation Hospital	: - II Evac
Clearing Station, I Corps	CXX
Hospital Train	. 🖂
Veterinary Clearing Station, First Army	First Clr
5th Platoon, 12th Veterinary Company	
901st Veterinary Evacuation Hospital	901 Evac

Chart 35.—Examples—Medical Department.

Yes, there is still an Army Veterinary Corps. The only horses and mules left are the caisson mounts at Arlington and the mule mascots at West Point. Now the Vets have two missions of note: they inspect meat purchased for mess halls, and they take care of lab animals used by the huge Army medical research efforts.

2d Ordnance Company, Heavy Maintenance (Army)	
3d Ordnance Company, Heavy Maintenance (Tank)	
Service Section, 28th Ordnance Company (Medium Maintenance)	
Magazine Platoon, 51st Ordnance Company Ammunition)	The magazine platoon in an
3d Platoon, 95th Ordnance Company, Railway Artillery Maintenance	Ordnance ammo company is the guys who lift and haul heavy things, often by hand,
Company B, 19th Ordnance Battalion (Armored)	on and off trucks and rail cars and around the dump.
Headquarters and Supply Section, 105th Ordnance Company (Medium Maintenance)	
Service Platoon, 73d Ordnance Company (Depot)	
721st Ordnance Company (Aviation Air Base)	
1st Ordnance Battalion (Medium Maintenance)	←This symbol is in error; it
1st Platoon, 104th Ordnance Evacuation Company	should have two vertical lines on top, indicating a
319th Ordnance Maintenance Company, Antiaircraft	battalion.
7th Ordnance Maintenance Battalion, Motorized	
61st Ordnance Maintenance Company, Airborne	
419th Ordnance Platoon, 531st Engineer Special Brigade	

Chart 36.—Examples—Ordnance Department.

Now the Ordnance Corps.

Class III Railhead, Third Army, proposed...... Second Army Quartermaster Depot Number 1, III Corps Quartermaster Park, proposed..... Truckhead, Class I Supply, Third Army, Salvage Collecting Point, 3d Division proposed......solv coll (a) 3 2d Platoon, Company K, 48th Quartermaster Regiment (Truck) 2 K Q 48 Trk Company A, 203d Quartermaster Battalion Company D, 94th Quartermaster Battalion Company A, Supply Battalion,

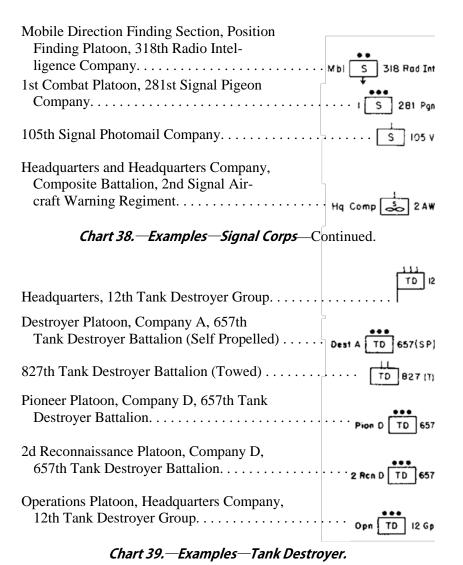
For details, consult **FM 100-5** and FM **100-10**.

I have no idea what a sterilization battalion does, or why it is necessary to have a whole battalion doing it. Perhaps it would be better placed in the Veterinary Corps.

Chart 37.—Examples—Quartermaster Corps.

Headquarters Platoon, Company A, 51st Signal Battalion
Radio Operation Platoon, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 51st Signal Battalion
Teletypewriter Operation Platoon, Company B, 57th Signal Battalion
59th Signal Construction Battalion
Installation and Maintenance Platoon, Company B, 64th Signal Operation Battalion
Command Post Section, Message Center Platoon, Headquarters Company, 59th Armored Signal Battalion
Radio Intelligence Platoon, Company A, 318th Signal Battalion (Aviation), Air Support command
Teletypewriter Operation Platoon, 263d Signal operation Company, separate
83d Signal Troop, 1st Cavalry Division
93d Signal Company, 421st Engineer Special Brigade
365th Airborne Signal Company
20th Signal Fixed Radio Station Company
10th Signal Photographic Laboratory
Unit

Chart 38.—Examples—Signal Corps.



Recall that this is a 1943 Manual, and doctrine and TOEs for the tank destroyer force were still somewhat notional. I find no evidence of tank destroyer forces operating at group level, but separate battalions assigned to GHQ (theater command) reserve were commonly assigned to divisions as needed.

Headquarters, Military Railway Service
· · · ·
707th Railway Grand Decision
714th Railway Operation Battalion
753d Railway Shop Battalion
Handayortars and Handayortars Company
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 12th Port
194th Port Company
Transportation Corps, water Division
Transportation Corps, Rail Division
Transportation Corps, Highway Division
Transportation Corps, Transit Storage Division
Transportation Corps, Traffic Control Division
Consolidating Station
Holding and Reconsignment Point
Port Agency
Port of Embarkation

Chart 40.—Examples—Transportation Corps.

PART III

MILITARY ABBREVIATIONS

CHAPTER 10

LIST OF MILITARY ABBREVIATIONS

- **28. GENERAL.** This chapter is concerned primarily with abbreviations found only in Army field work.
- **29. DATES AND HOURS. a.** Dates. Dates are written with the day preceding the name of the month, thus: 15 Jan 1943.
- **b. Time.** Time is indicated according to the 24-hour clock system, in four-digit numbers, the first two digits representing the hour. the second two digits the minutes.

Examples:

0001 means 1 minute after midnight. 0630 means 6:30 in the morning.

1500 means 3:00 in the afternoon.

c. Dates with hours. Dates with hour designations are written as follows:

0630, 15 Jan 1943.

A six digit number may be used, in which case the month is assumed to be the current one. The first two digits indicate the day of the month, and the last four the hour, as explained above. For example: 150630 means 6:30 in the morning of the 15th day of the current month.

d. Greenwich time. If the time is based on Greenwich rather than on local time, the letter "Z" is placed after the hour designation. For example:

0630Z

150630Z

- **30. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ITS USES. a.** Kinds of abbreviations. This manual contains abbreviations authorized for use in *field work*, such as field orders, field maps, and messages. For abbreviations used in administrative work, see AR 850-150. In addition to those on the following list the Army is also authorized to use common abbreviations that are generally accepted, such as ft for foot.
- **b. Capitalization.** All abbreviations used 10 field work have a capitalized initial letter.
 - **c. Punctuation.** All abbreviations used are written without periods.

List

A

acting	Actg	
adjutant (1st staff section, brigades		
and lower units)		
administrative	Adm (O)	
advance	Adv	
advance guard	Adv Gd	
advance message center	Advance Msg Cen	
Aeronautic, aeronautical	_	
agent		
air	•	
air base		
airborne command		
aircraft warning (company)		
air depot		
airdrome		
air field.		
air force.		
air intelligence (section)		
airport	_	
airship		
Air Support Command		
Air Support Control	-	
altermate towart	Contl	
alternate target		
ambulance loading post	_	
American Expeditionary Forces		←Known in 1917-18 as the
ammunition (train)		"Ass End Forward."
ammunition supply point		
amphibian truck (company)		
Amphibious Command		
animal-drawn		
antiaircraft artillery		
Antiaircraft Artillery Intelligence Service		
antiaircraft balloon		
antimechanized		
antipersonnel		
Antisubmarine Command	Antisub Comd	
Appendix	App	
approximate	Approx	
armored car	Armd C	
armored	Armd	
armorer	Armr	
armor-piercing	AP	
Army Engineer Service		
Army headquarters		
Army medical (laboratory) (service)		
Army Postal Service		

Arsenal	Artif
attack	
automatic	Auto
automatic weapons	AW
aviation gasoline	
aviation oil	Aoil
В	
baggage	
bakery	•
balloon	
Balloon Barrage Training Center barrage balloon (battalion)	
base depot company	
base point	
basic.	
Basic Field Manual.	
battalion (combat train)	
battalion adjutant	
battalion beachhead	
battalion intelligence officer	Bn S-2
battalion landing team	BLT
battalion plans and training officer	Bn S-3
battalion supply officer	
battery commander	
battle reconnaissance	
bench mark	
bicycle.	
bill of lading	
bivouac	
blacksmith	
boat	
boiler and smith shop companybomber	
bomb line.	BL
bomb service truck.	
boundary	
bridge train (heavy) (light)	
brigade	Brig (BDE)
brigade adjutant	Brig S-1
brigade intelligence officer	Brig S-2
brigade plans and training officer	Brig S-3
brigade supply officer	Brig S-4
brigade headquarters	
browning automatic rifle	
bugler	
bulk storage petroleum	BSpet

-	
camouflage	
cannon (platoon)	
carbine	. Cbn
carpenter	
car repair company	Car Rep Co
cemetery	Cem
center, central	Cen
central interpretation unit	CIU
character	
chauffeur	
chemical agent, nonpersistent	. G-NP
chemical agent, persistent	
chemical mortar, 4.2-inch.	
chief.	
chief of	
Chief of Transportation.	
Chief Signal Officer	
civil (or civilian)	
Class I supplies	-
clearing company	
close-in.	
clothing	
coast defense	
coastal frontier	
collecting (company) (point) (station)	
combat (care) (zone)	
combat command	CC
combat crew	CCr
combat team	CT
command and navigation boat	C&N Bt
commercial	
Commissary	Comm
communication	
communications zone	
Composite	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
computer	
Concentration	_
consolidating station.	
construction.	
contact party	
continuous wave	
control	
convalescent (hospital)	_
copilot	
Counterreconnaissance	
crew chief	
crossroads	
current	Cur

"CW" is a mode of RF (radio frequency) transmission that yields an audio tone when ON and silence when OFF: Morse Code.

1 1 1 '	D/D
dead reckoning	
delivered or delivery	
demolition (squad) (officer)	
depot	
deserted or desertion	Des
detail	
direction finding	D/F
director	Dir
direct support	D/S (DS)
distant	Ds
distant surveillance section	DS Sec
district engineer officer	DEO (District
, and the second	Engineer)
district transportation officer	· ·
division ammunition office	
division beachhead.	
division headquarters.	
division service area.	_
draftsman	
drawn.	
driver	
duty officer	DO
${f E}$	
electrical or electrician	Elec
element	Elm
eliminate	
embarkation	
emplacement	
enemy aircraft	_
engine house company	
entrucking point.	
erecting and machine shop company	
estimated time of arrival	
evacuation	
exclusive	Excl
${f F}$	
field laboratory	F Lab
field remount depot	
field train	-
fighter	Fi
fighter control area	FCA
film strip.	FS
filter	- 5
filter center.	
final protective line.	
fire-direction center.	
first lieutenant	
fixed	
flash ranging	FK

forward interpretation unit	Fr
garage. gas, nonpersistent. gas, persistent. gasproof. general dispensary. general hospital. general service schools. general service. general support. geological survey. glider. grand division (railway) graves registration (battalion) (company) ground.	Gar G-NP G-P G-Pf Gen Disp Gen Hosp GSS Gen Serv G/S (GS) Geol Surv Gli Gr Div (Ry) Gr Reg (Bn) (Co)
ground control interception	GCI Gpmt
half-track. harbor. harbor boat service. harbor craft (company. headquarters. headquarters and service (battery) (company) (troop).	Har HBS Har Cft (Co) Hq (HQ) H&S (Btry) (Co) (Tr)
heavy weapons company. highway. highway transportation officer. holding and reconsignment point. horizontal control operator. horse. horse-drawn. hospital.	Hv Wpn Co Hwy HTO H & RP HCO H H-Dr
impregnating. include. inclusive. indicated air speed. information. information center. initial beachhead. initial point. instrument. intelligence.	Incld Incl IAS Info IC IBH IP Inst

Groupment is a French term for an ad hoc combination of units (e.g., "Groupment Mobile 100"). It is roughly equivalent to the American term task force.

intelligence officer	S-2 or Int O	
interceptor.		
interpreter		
J.	тері	
· ·	_	
join	Jn	
K		
killed	Kd	
L		
labor	I br	
laboratory		
landing craft, mechanized.		
landing craft, personnel		
landing craft, personner.		
landing craft, vehicle-personnel		
landing craft, vehicle-personner.		
land mine.		
last resort target.		←"We can't find the primary
•		target or the secondary
legislative		target; let's shoot for the
liaison.		LRT so we don't have to
lieutenant colonel.		jettison bombs in the
light mashing gun		channel."
light machine gun		
lightslinemen		
line of departure		
lines of communication.		
long wheelbase		
low altitude.		
	LA	
M	36.1	
machinist		
main line of resistance		←In the 1950's the US
. 1 1	of)	Army shifted from a linear
main supply road		defense to a defense in
	supply route)	depth, owing largely to the
maintenance of equipment		emerging threat of tactical
maintenance of way		nuclear weapons. The MLR
major general		became the Forward Edge
material		of the Battle Area, or FEBA.
medium (tank)		
meteorologist	_	
military attaché		
Military Railway Service		
minimum altitude		
mobile		
Mobilization Training Program		
motor gosoline		
motor gasoline		
motor-tricycle	IVIUTCI	

move	Mv	
movement	Mymt	
musician		
	Wids	
N		
navigation (officer)	Nav (O)	
net control system		
not yet returned		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
number	110	
0		
Observation post	OP	
Officer in charge		
One-pounder		
- ·		
Operation	-	
Operator	-	
Order, orders		
Orderly	Odly	
Outpost line	OPL (COPL;	
•	combat outpost	
	line)	
Outpost line of resistance		
•	OI ER	
P		
parachutist	Pchtst	
park	Prk	
party		
patrol boat	•	
photograph or photographic		
pigeon	_	
pioneer and demolition section		
plans and training officer		
platoon	Plat	
point	Pt	
ponton	Pon	
portable		
port agency.	D.4	
port of debarkation		
port transportation officer		
postal (section)		
primary target		
principal		
prisoner	Pris	
proving ground	PG	
Q		
_	OMEO	
quartermaster supply officer	QMSO	
R		
radio and panel section	R & P Sec	
radio detector equipment		Literally, "radio [wave]
radio intelligence (company)		detection and ranging."
railhead		and ranging.
railhead officer.		
Tamicau Umcci	MIO	

railroad	RTO
railway traffic officer	-
range officer	Rg O
ration distributing point	RDP
railway shop battalion (diesel)	
rear (echelon) (guard)	
received	
reconnaissance (long range) (medium range)	
reconstruction park	
recreation	
reduce or reduced	
Refrigeration	
regimental adjutant	
regimental beachhead	
regimental headquarters	
regimental intelligence officer	
regimental orders	
regimental plans and training officer	
regimental supply officer	
regimental reserve line	
regimental supply officer regulating (station)	Regul 3-4
reinforced.	
rejoined	
release point	v
rendezvous point	•
repair shop company	
replacement	
report, reporting	
reproduction	
rescinded	
Reserve.	
retired	
rifle (company)	
road bend	
road junction	
road space	RS
rocket	Rkt
rocketeer	Rktr
rocket launcher	RL
${f S}$	
Sales Commissary (Battalion) (Company)	Sales Comm (Bn) (Co)
Salvage	Salv
sanitary	Sn
schedule	Scd
scout	Sct
scout car	Sct C

11.14	CI
searchlight	
second lieutenant.	
self-propelled	
self-propelled mount	
semiautomatic rifle	
semimobile	
sentence	Sent
sentenced	
shipment	
shipping ticket	
shop (battalion)	
short wheelbase	SWB
signal	Sig
signal operations instructions	SOI
small arms	SA
small boat (company)	S BT (Co)
sound and flash (battalion)	
sound locator	S-L
sound ranging	SR
specialist	
special messenger	_
special troops	
staff	•
staging area (company)	
stenographer (s)	
sterilization	
stevedore	
straggler line	
submarine	
supply	
supply point	•
support	
support line	•
surgeon	
surgical (hosp	
surrender or surrendered	Surr
survey	Surv
switchboard	
switching central.	
T	SW C
-	_
tactical	
Tank Destroyer	TD
technical	Tech
telegram	Telg
telegraph printer	Tgp
teletypewriter	Tt
teletypewriter center	Ttc
theater headquarters	THQ
time lengths	
toolmaker	Tlmkr

"Tactical" is an adjective: e.g., "tactical deployment." Reenactors use it as a noun, and apply it to an activity that bears little similarity to anything the Army does.

topographic, topographical	Top or Topo
torpedo	Tor
tractor.	Trac
tractor-drawn	
traffic	
traffic control station.	
train commander	
training circular	
training film	TF
training unit	
e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	TS
transit storage	
transport, transportation	T or Trans
transportation company	
trench mortar	
troop (s)	Tr (s)
troop carrier (squadron)	
truck-drawn	Trk-Dr
truck head	Trk Hd
${f U}$	
unit of fire	U/F
unit training center	UTC
V	
vertical control operator	VCO
very low altitude	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	VLA Vis
visual	. 10
volunteer	VOI
W	
warrant	Wrnt
warrant officer	WO
water supply	W Sup
water tank (battalion) (train)	W Tk (Bn) (Tn)
weapon carrier	Wpn Carr
weapons (troop) (platoon)	Wpn (Tr) (Plat)
welder	Wldr
winch	Wn
wrecker	Wkr
${f Z}$	
zone of fire	Z/F
zone transportation officer	— -
Lone transportation officer	210

←"Train" in this context means the baggage train of a military unit of any size, not a railroad train.

←A unit training center is a place (like Camp Toccoa in BoB) where units train from the ground up together; most training centers simply prepare individual replacements.

APPENDIX LIST OF REFERENCES

Authorized Abbreviations and Symbols for Military Records and Administrative Special Orders Except Field Orders and Messages . . AR 850-150 Coast Artillery, Reference Data..... FM 4-155 Engineer, Reference Data. FM 5-35 Obstacle Technique. FM 5-30 Topographic Drafting. TM 5-230 Field Artillery, Reference Data. FM 6-130 Medical Department, Reference Data. FM 8-55 Armored Field Force Manual, Tactics and List of Publications for Training. FM 21-6 **Elementary Map and Aerial Photograph** Reading..... FM 21-25 **Advanced Map and Aerial Photograph** Reading..... FM 21-26 Soldier's Handbook. FM 21-100 Infantry Drill Regulations..... FM 22-5 Signal Communications. FM 24-5 Foreign Conventional Signs and Symbols. FM 30-22

Manuals and references in boldface are included in the reference library.