



(U) CHINA: PLAA COMBINED-ARMS BRIGADE'S DEFENSIVE OPERATIONS

(U) This infographic describes and depicts PLAA Army (PLAA) Combined Arms-Brigade (CA-BDE) Defensive Operations. Though the PLAA considers the offense to be the decisive form of warfare, centuries of invasion and occupation have led to considerable emphasis on the importance of defensive operations. PLAA's most sacred mission is defending Chinese territory from outside aggression. Defensive operations play a key role by attriting the enemy's strength, forcing it to commit greater forces in an attempt to achieve an objective, and reducing or restricting the options available to the enemy.

(U) The PLAA's strategy is based on the concept of active defense. Active defense refers to the strategic framework wherein tactical offensive actions and counterattacks are employed within a fundamentally defensive construct. In an informationized and intelligentized battlefield, active defense will take advantage of long-range, precise, smart, stealth and unmanned weapons and equipment as well as space and cyber assets.

(U) PLAA COMBINED ARMS BRIGADE

- Medium CA-BDE**
5,000 x Troops
- 30 x IFVs
- 14 x 105-mm assault guns
- 6-9 x rapid-fire 120-mm mortars/MANPADS/Crew-served wpns
- 18-27 x 122/155-mm Self-propelled Gun
- 9 x 122-mm Rocket Artillery
- 9 x ATGM
- 18 x SPAAG
- 8 x SHORAD
- 1-2 x Radar Systems
- 12-20 x light armored vehicles
- 2-3 x UAS
- OS**
Operational Support (Signals/Engineers/CBRN)
- SS**
Service Support (Logistics/Maintenance/Transport/Medical)


(U) CA-BDE DEFENSE HVT

(U) TYPE 95 PGZ-04 SHORAD



Typically located in the Rear Defense Zone. ~18km range with optical range sight, thermal imaging, automatic target tracking and laser rangefinder

(U) CSK131 - C2 VEHICLE



Typically at all CPs. Has onboard computers with digital mapping Beidou SATCOM and positioning, night-vision cameras for driver and rear door

(U) ZBL-09 - C2 VEHICLE




ZBL-09 (Type 09) Chinese 8x8 Amphibious Armored Personnel Carrier (APC)

(U) CA-BDE DEFENSE TRAINING




(U) POSITIONAL DEFENSE




(U) Positional defensive operations rely on a strongly entrenched position, defensive terrain advantages, obstacles, and stalwart resistance. They are static and not meant to enable rapid relocation of troops.

(U) MOBILE DEFENSE




(U) Mobile defensive operations mix blocking and restraining actions with counterattacks, seeking to achieve a decisive defeat of an opponent's armored or mechanized assault by concentrating combat power at key points throughout the defensive zone.

(U) WITHDRAWAL



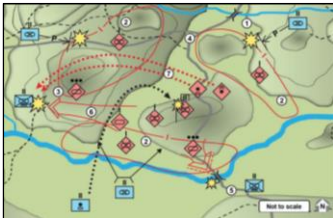
(U) A withdrawal is an organized and planned retreat. There are two types: active and compelled. Active withdrawal is when a unit conducts a retrograde to take up a more defensible position, better defend an adjacent unit, avoid enemy firepower, or lure the enemy into overextending itself. A compelled withdrawal is a retrograde taken in direct response to an enemy attack, when a unit is unable to continue resistance in its current position.

(U) URBAN DEFENSE



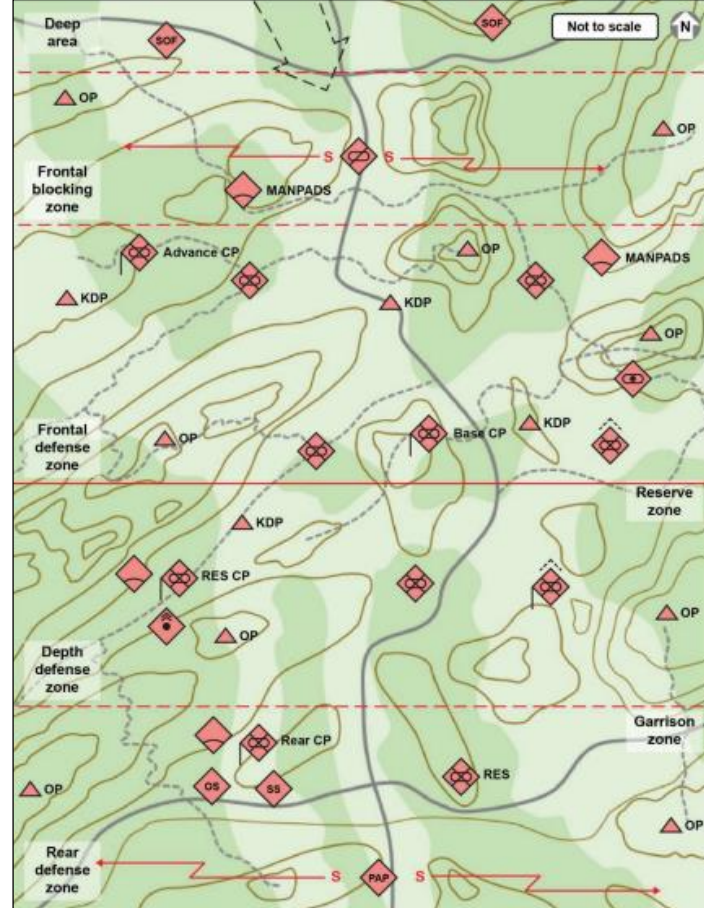
(U) Urban defensive operations are conducted using the same principles as other forms of defense: building the defensive zones and establishing the primary direction of defense.

(U) BREAKOUT



(U) A Breakout occurs when encircled PLAA units have endured heavy multi-domain attacks to multiple flanks. An encircled unit is likely significantly weakened and damaged.

(U) PLAA CA-BDE DEFENSE ZONES



CP	command post	OP	observation post	S	screen
KDP	key defense point	OS	operational support	S:OF	special operations forces
MANPADS	man-portable air defense system	PAP	People's Armed Police	RES	reserve
N	north				

(U) The defensive zone typically consists of five areas: the deep zone, the frontal blocking zone, the frontier defense zone, the depth defense zone, and the rear defense zone.

(U) The PLAA recognizes six types of defensive operations: positional, mobile, hasty, urban, diversionary, and specialized. Positional, mobile, urban, and specialized are described and depicted above. There are two primary forms of specialized defense: breakout and withdrawal. Hasty and Diversionary defensive operations are described below.

(U) **Hasty defensive operations** are conducted under emergent circumstances. Hasty operations attempt to make best use of terrain, reconnaissance, and security operations—coupled with surprise and deception—to defeat, neutralize, or blunt enemy advances. Hasty operations may temporarily take the form of other defensive operations.

(U) **Diversionary defensive operations** include a multitude of different temporary or hasty missions conducted both in and out of the defensive zone to surprise, confuse, frustrate, or degrade enemy forces. Diversionary missions include screens and covers, counter-reconnaissance efforts, ambushes, blocking actions, and raids. They are intended to force the enemy to deploy, deplete enemy supplies, inflict casualties, slow the enemy advance, suppress enemy reconnaissance, and provide early warning for the main defensive group. They are typically conducted far in front of the main defensive zone.