
**FM 101-5-1
MCRP 5-2A**

**OPERATIONAL TERMS
AND GRAPHICS**

**HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

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Operational Terms and Graphics

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Preface

PURPOSE

This manual sets forth procedures for the United States Army and the United States Marine Corps in the use of land-based warfighting symbology. An extensive set of symbols for the Air Force and Navy is found in Military Standard 2525A. The manual is a dictionary of operational terms and military graphics. It is designed for commanders and staffs from company through corps to communicate instructions to subordinate units.

This manual describes symbols for use in the force domain (maneuver command and control) but does not supersede the military standards that describe symbols for use in the engagement domain ("radar" tracking, evaluation, engagement, or engagement system directing). Military standards established for air defense engagement and systems control and aircraft "heads up" displays are to be used. When information is transferred from an engagement domain system to a force domain command and control system, it will be automatically or manually converted to the force domain symbols in this publication.

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

This doctrine applies to all Army and Marine Corps commanders and staffs. For overseas theaters, the procedures govern US unilateral operations only. For combined operations, applicable multinational procedures apply. This manual does conform to the appropriate NATO requirements.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Definitions and terms used in this manual agree with those expressed in Joint Publication (JP) 1-02, Army Regulation (AR) 310-25, and Fleet Marine Force Reference Publication (FM FRP) 0-14. This manual agrees with MILSTD 2525A, subject to its approval by all services. The provisions of this manual are the subject of international agreement(s):

1059 National Distinguishing Letters for Use by NATO Armed Forces

2019 Military Symbols for Land Based Systems

2022 Intelligence Reports

2961 Classes of Supply of NATO Land Forces

3680 NATO Glossary of Terms and Definitions (AAP-6)

4420 Display Symbology and Colors for NATO Maritime Units

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Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.

Chapter 1

Operational Terms

The shadowed boxes **2-16** show the page number for the symbol or graphic for those definitions with graphic representations

A

abatis — A vehicular obstacle constructed by felling trees (leaving a 1- to 2-meter stump above the ground on both sides of a road, trail, gap, or defile) so that they fall, interlocked, toward the expected direction of enemy approach. The trees should remain attached to the stumps and be at a 45-degree angle to the roadway. The obstacle itself should be at least 75 meters in depth to be most effective. See FM 5-102.

3-27

abort criteria — A predetermined set of circumstances, based on risk analysis, which makes the success of an operation no longer probable; thus the operation is terminated. These circumstances can relate to changes in safety, equipment or troops available, preparation or rehearsal time, weather, enemy, losses during execution, or a combination of the above. (See also air assault and deep operations.) See FMs 71-100-2, 90-4, and JP 3-18.1.

above ground level (AGL) — The altitude of an aircraft as measured between the terrain (excluding vegetation and man-made structures) and the aircraft. The altitude is usually not the same as measured from sea level. (See also coordinating altitude.) See FMs 1-111, 17-95, 90-4, and 100-103.

absorbed dose (JP 1-02, NATO) — The amount of energy imparted by nuclear (or ionizing) radiation to unit mass of absorbing material. The unit is the rad. (Army) — **1.** This term is being replaced by the term centigray that is the equivalent of 100 rads. **2.** A unit of energy absorbed by a material, such as body tissue, from nuclear (ionizing) radiation, equal to 100 ergs per gram of material. See also centigray and dose rate. See FMs 3-3-1 and 3-4.

accompanying supplies (JP 1-02) — Unit supplies that deploy with forces. (Army) — All classes of supplies carried by units and individual soldiers during deployment to, and redeployment from, an area of operations or training exercise area. (See also basic load, classes of supply, and combat load.) See FMs 100-10 and 100-16.

acknowledge — A directive from the originator of a communication requiring the addressee(s) to advise the originator that his communication has been received and understood. This term is normally included in the electronic transmission of orders to ensure the receiving station or person confirms receipt of the order. (See also acknowledgment.)

acknowledgment (JP 1-02, NATO) — A message from the addressee informing the originator that his or her communication has been received and is understood. (See also acknowledge.)

acoustical surveillance (JP 1-02) — Employment of electronic devices, including sound-recording, -receiving, or -transmitting equipment, for the collection of information. See FM 34-10-1.