

Confidence-Building Defense: Fundamental Design Principles

A selection of slides prepared for seminars held in
Holland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Belarus in 1994.

Organized and co-sponsored by:

Study Group on Alternative Security Policy (SAS)
&
Project on Defense Alternatives (PDA)

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Note: Military technologies change so that preferred weaponry
will change with time. The appropriate mix of forces should be
customized in application to particular countries. Principles tend to endure.

www.comw.org/pda/
January 2019

Operational Advantages of System

- ◆ **Unique division of labor allows rather small forces to secure large areas**
 - ◆ **Operating relatively simple combat elements in a stable, supportive context facilitates command and control; improves force allocation**
 - ◆ **Due to combination of diverse components, intruders cannot adapt their tactics; must move against resistant medium**
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CBD Principles and Effects

Principles

Steadfastness:

- Low vulnerability of defense structures
- Reliable area coverage
- Stopping power
- Sustainability

Nonprovocation:

- No invasion potential
- Minimal cross-border strike and intervention capabilities

Defense efficiency:

- "Home advantage" gives defense an edge at tactical, operational, and strategic levels

Stability Effects

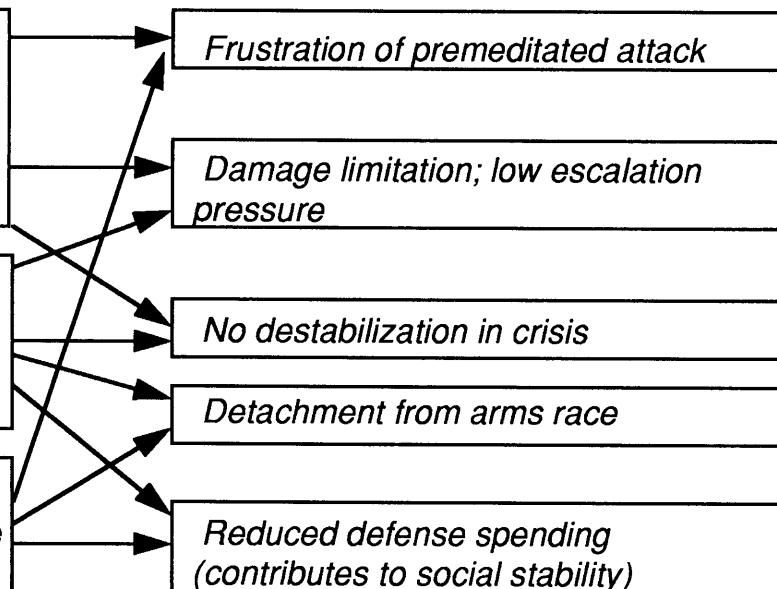
Frustration of premeditated attack

Damage limitation; low escalation pressure

No destabilization in crisis

Detachment from arms race

Reduced defense spending (contributes to social stability)



Force Integration and Operational Guidelines

- ◆ Most light and indirect fire units organized in *Network*
 - ◆ Heavy *Counter-Attack Units* interact with network, add shock power and complicate enemy calculus
 - ◆ Some Lt. Mech. and Artillery units serve as *Operational Reserves* to thicken net as needed
 - ◆ Overall integration resembles *Spider-in-its-Web*; Interaction among elements achieves synergistic effect
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Most light and indirect fire units organized in *Network*

- ◆ **Network units emphasize indirect fires, mines, and obstacles; fire often substitutes for movement**
 - ◆ **Mobility of network units primarily for self-protection, secondarily for force (re)allocation**
 - ◆ **Network has semi-static sensor/communication systems as well as logistical depot organization**
 - ◆ **Amount of area covered depends on resource constraints and geostrategic conditions**
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Overall integration of system resembles a *Spider-in-its-Web*

- ◆ **System of indirect fire flexibly covers other combat elements**
 - ◆ **Network (“web”) units detect, contain, and attrit enemy; facilitate allocation of friendly counterattack units**
 - ◆ **Shock units (“spiders”) provide power sufficient to defeat and eject enemy thrusts**
 - ◆ **Integration of network (“web”) and counterattack (“spider”) elements achieves a synergistic effect**
 - ◆ **Indirect fire and operational reserves provide capacity to thicken portions of web; web has some flexibility**
 - ◆ **Stability ensured because mobile elements tied to indirect fire system, home-based engineer, and other support**
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Some light mechanized and artillery units serve as *Operational Reserves*

- ◆ **Operational reserves combine long-distance mobility with defensive power for terrain-oriented combat**
 - ◆ **Stability guaranteed because operational mobility “decoupled” from offensive capability**
 - ◆ **Size of reserve depends on force-to-space ratio**
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Defensively specialized model would use:

- ◆ *Light Infantry* for area security and object defense
 - ◆ *Artillery* for area-control by fire
 - ◆ *Light Mechanized Infantry* for defensively holding prepared ground
 - ◆ *Cavalry* for delaying action and to improve force allocation
 - ◆ *Armor and Heavy Mechanized Infantry* to complicate intruder's calculus and retake lost terrain
 - ◆ Some light mechanized and artillery units to act as defensively-oriented operational reserves
 - ◆ *Unit ratio* of $\leq 25\%$ Heavy Mech, $\approx 45\%$ Artillery, $\geq 30\%$ Light Mech, Cavalry, and Infantry
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Attributes of Ground Force Elements

Categories	Light Infantry • Dispersed • Fluid • Semi-motorized	Indirect Fire • Lt Mech/Motorized • Tube & Rocket • Combat Drones	Light Mechanized • Infantry • Cavalry • Mortars	Heavy Mechanized • Heavy Armor • Mech Infantry • Heavy Mech Art.
<i>Firepower</i>	⊗ LOW	√ HIGH	• MEDIUM	√ HIGH
<i>Shock Power</i>	⊗ LOW	• MEDIUM	• MEDIUM	√ HIGH
<i>Ability to Counter-concentrate</i>	⊗ LOW	√ HIGH	√ HIGH	• MEDIUM
<i>Invasion Potential</i>	• MEDIUM	√ LOW	• MEDIUM	⊗ HIGH
<i>Immediate Presence</i>	√ HIGH	• MEDIUM	⊗ LOW	⊗ LOW
<i>Vulnerability</i>	⊗ HIGH	• MEDIUM	• MEDIUM	√ LOW
<i>Exposure</i>	√ LOW	• MEDIUM	• MEDIUM	⊗ HIGH
<i>Logistics Demand</i>	√ LOW	⊗ HIGH	• MEDIUM	⊗ HIGH
<i>Equipment Cost</i>	√ LOW	• MEDIUM	• MEDIUM	⊗ HIGH
<i>Personnel Cost</i>	√ LOW	• MEDIUM	• MEDIUM	⊗ HIGH
<i>Mil-Political Control</i>	⊗ LOW	√ HIGH	√ HIGH	• MEDIUM

KEY: √ = Positive; • = Neutral; ⊗ = Negative

How CBD System Serves Maneuver

- ◆ **The defense gains an information advantage because:**
 - Contest unfolds on ground the defense knows well
 - The area-covering network gives the defense eyes and ears everywhere, while targeting enemy information assets
 - CBD system is simple from the inside, complex from the outside; this complicates intruder's calculus while easing command and control for defenders
- ◆ **The defense gains a force allocation advantage because:**
 - Complex engineering work prepares the defender's ground
 - Mobility of fire partially substitutes for unit mobility; substantial artillery support also allows lighter units to engage heavier
 - Net facilitates movement of Spider units by providing support, thus allowing shorter "tail"

CBD System Makes the Battlefield a Medium Supportive of Friendly Units and Resistant to Enemy Initiative

Application of CBD to Air Forces

- ◆ **Air power is the pre-eminent long-range offensive and surprise attack tool**

 - ◆ **Goals of confidence-building air force:**
 - **Neutralize the long-range air power of the aggressor**
 - **Facilitate defensive force allocation to meet surprise ground assault**
 - **Convey a posture devoid of pre-emptive intent and capability**
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CBD Design Guidelines for Air Forces

- ◆ **De-emphasize surprise and deep strike capabilities; they are destabilizing and not cost effective**
 - ◆ **Emphasize CAS and Battlefield Interdiction capabilities, plus flexible interceptor-SAM mix (better exchange ratio than OCA)**
 - ◆ **Ensure nonprovocation by separating ground attack and air defense mission via strict aircraft specialization**
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Application of CBD Principles to Maritime Forces

- ◆ **Concentrate on flexible coastal protection**
 - ◆ **Give up blue water aspirations if geostrategic situation permits**
 - ◆ **Develop naval force and operational plans based on:**
 - **Multi-sensor network, land and sea-based**
 - **Strong capacity for local mine warfare**
 - **Coastal rocket/gun batteries and anti-ship RPVs**
 - **Fast attack craft**
 - **Land-based armed helicopters**
 - **Coastal anti-air batteries**
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CBD Guidelines for Technology Integration

- ♦ **Emphasize interaction of complementary force elements and the "intelligence" of whole system;**
result: less demand on "intelligence" of individual weapons
- ♦ **Emphasize robust, reliable designs;**
result: reduced risk, cost, and logistical requirements
- ♦ **Selectively integrate mature high technology as combat "multiplier" when cost-effective**
- ♦ **Human element provides the most flexible, reliable, and economical intelligence asset***

** The converse option, fully "autonomous" weapons and systems, is too costly and vulnerable to countermeasures.*
