

















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

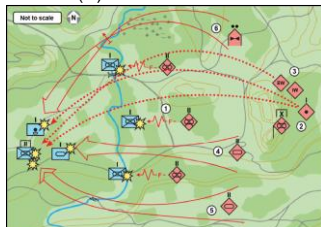
(U) This infographic describes and depicts PLA Army (PLAA) Combined Arms-Brigade (CA-BDE) Offensive Operations. The PLAA considers offense to be the decisive form of warfare and uses a combination of information warfare, deception, firepower, and maneuver to swiftly destroy an opponent during offensive operations. The PLAA seeks to offset U.S. and its allies' capabilities through the integration of long-range weapons with precision guided munitions (PGM), electronic warfare (EW) systems, and Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) sensors and information to support their offensive strategy.

(U) The PLAA's offensive strategy is based on the concept of **system warfare**. System warfare emphasizes identifying critical or vulnerable system components, then targeting these vulnerabilities to degrade or destroy the effective use of larger systems they belong to. At the tactical level, system warfare focuses on high-value battlefield systems such as radars, command and communication nodes, field artillery and air defense systems, and it can include select armored vehicles and critical logistics systems.

## (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) ENVELOPMENT



(U) Two primary envelopment methods are used by the PLAA: simple envelopment and complex envelopment—both of which occur on enemy flanks.

### (U) PENETRATION



(U) Penetration operations use a mobile or fast-moving element to defeat an enemy line of defense and continues to press forward into the enemy's rear area.

### (U) FIREPOWER ATTACK



(U) A firepower attack uses massed firepower capabilities including field artillery, ballistic or cruise missiles, air attack, anti-air attack, network attack, electromagnetic attack, and direct fire.

### (U) CA-BDE OFFENSE HVT

#### (U) PHL-81 122MM SP-MRLS



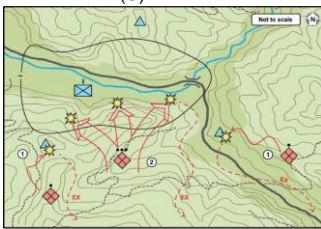
Typically located in the Reserve zone. ~3.5km range armed with a high explosive or steel fragmentation warheads.

### (U) AMBUSH



(U) An ambush is an operation in which a unit deploys to a location in advance, then strikes the enemy from a concealed position in a surprise attack.

### (U) RAID



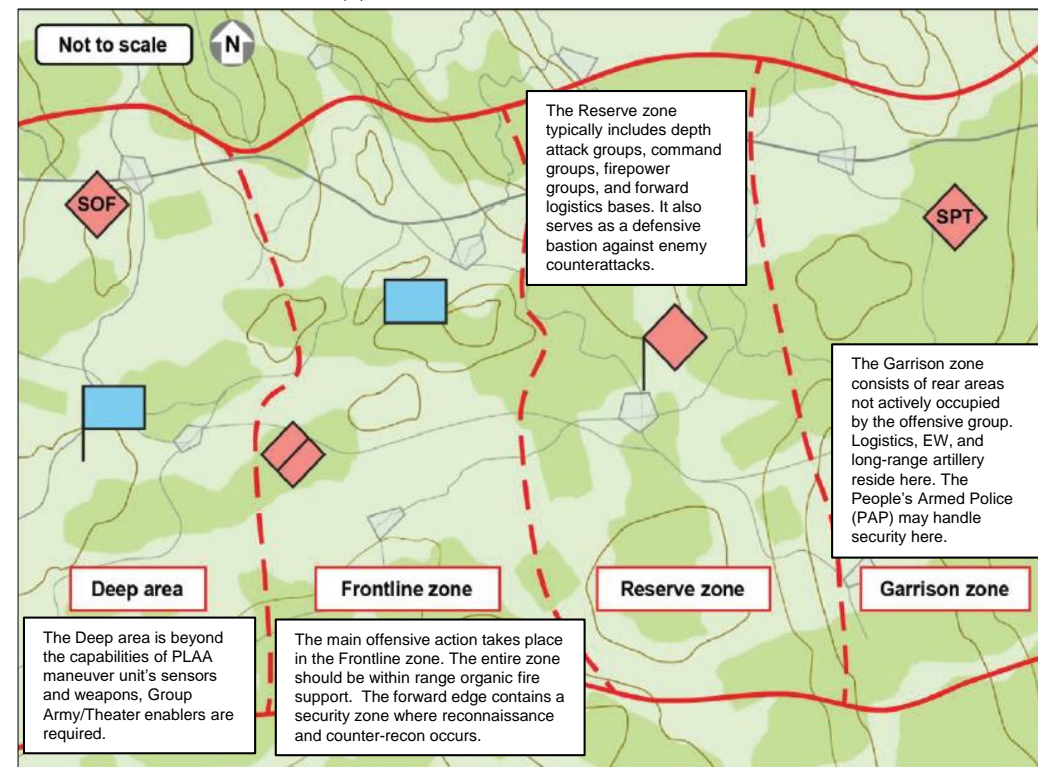
(U) A raid is designed to strike and surprise an unsuspecting using a hit-and-run approach.

### (U) CA-BDE OFFENSE TRAINING



PLAA Soldier attacking a mockup of Taiwan's Presidential Building at Zhurhe Training Center.

## (U) PLAA CA-BDE OFFENSIVE ZONES



(U) PLA offense defensive typically consists of four areas: deep area, frontline zone, reserve zone, and garrison zone.

(U) The PLAA recognizes six types of offensive operations: envelopment, penetration, firepower attack, ambush, raid, and pursuit. Pursuit is not depicted above but is described as an offensive tactic wherein a friendly formation maintains constant contact with an enemy formation in retrograde.

(U) PLAA's equivalent to U.S. Army missions are referred to as **campaigns**. Unlike Western theater-level operations that are generally objective-based, PLAA campaigns are mission-based. PLAA campaigns often involve other services and are jointly coordinated by a theater command. The PLAA's campaign approach suits its doctrine and philosophy—it is more prescriptive, centralized, and narrow in scope, and consequently it requires less freedom of action from subordinates.

(U) **Offensive Groups** are the PLAA operational elements responsible for fixing, assaulting, and annihilating enemy forces. Offensive groups are deployed in such a way as to ensure substantial numerical and firepower advantage. PLAA guidelines suggest offensive groups seek a four-to-one advantage in maneuver forces, a five-to-one to seven-to-one advantage in artillery firepower, and three PLAA antitank systems for each anticipated enemy armor system.

#### References:

[ATP 7-100.3 Chinese Tactics, August 2021](#)

[GTA 20-10-002 People's Liberation Army "Ground Forces" Quick Reference Guide](#)

[Red Diamond Volume 10, Issue 3](#)

[Worldwide Equipment Guide](#)