LOGEX/RC

It's the real thing— on paper.

The task of providing realistic unit training for Reserve component combat service support units is not an easy one, particularly if the unit is a major headquarters, such as a support brigade. But that was the goal of LOGEX/RC 73 (Logistics Exercise—Reserve Components) held at Camp Pickett, Virginia, from 19 May to 2 June 1973.

About 4,900 individuals participated in the training exercise, comprising 25 Army National Guard and 45 Army Reserve units. The scenario for the mock operation depicted a 13-division equivalent force of more than 650,000 troops. The officers and men of the Army National Guard and Army Reserve units staffed a theater army support command, three corps support commands, a personnel command, a medical command, a theater army area command, a military police command, a transportation command, an engineer command, and a materiel command.

The senior unit participating was the headquarters of the 310th Field Army Support Command (Army Reserve) from Washington, D. C. The farthest distant unit attending the exercise was the headquarters and headquarters company of the 298th Field Depot (Army National Guard) from Hawaii.

The exercise intended primarily for Active Army personnel, LOGEX 73, was held from 28 April to 12

May 1973, just prior to the Reserve component training project. Approximately 3,300 participants were involved in LOGEX, including 23 Army National Guard and Army Reserve units.

Annual events, LOGEX and LOGEX/RC are now scheduled by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and sponsored by the Department of the Army. The year-round task of preparing the exercises is the responsibility of the Logistics Exercise Directorate, part of the Army Logistics Center at Fort Lee, Virginia. In addition to serving as training vehicles for the Active Army, the Army National Guard, and the Army Reserve participants, the exercises are interservice programs and include Air Force, Marine, Navy, and Military Sealift Command personnel as well.

The players in LOGEX and LOGEX/RC face a series of problems planned, programed, and introduced in a timely and realistic manner. The play is subject to the actions of a team of personnel in the role of controllers. The problems are formed into messages and sent to units without any approved solutions. The units must then attack the problems received as if the situations faced actually existed.

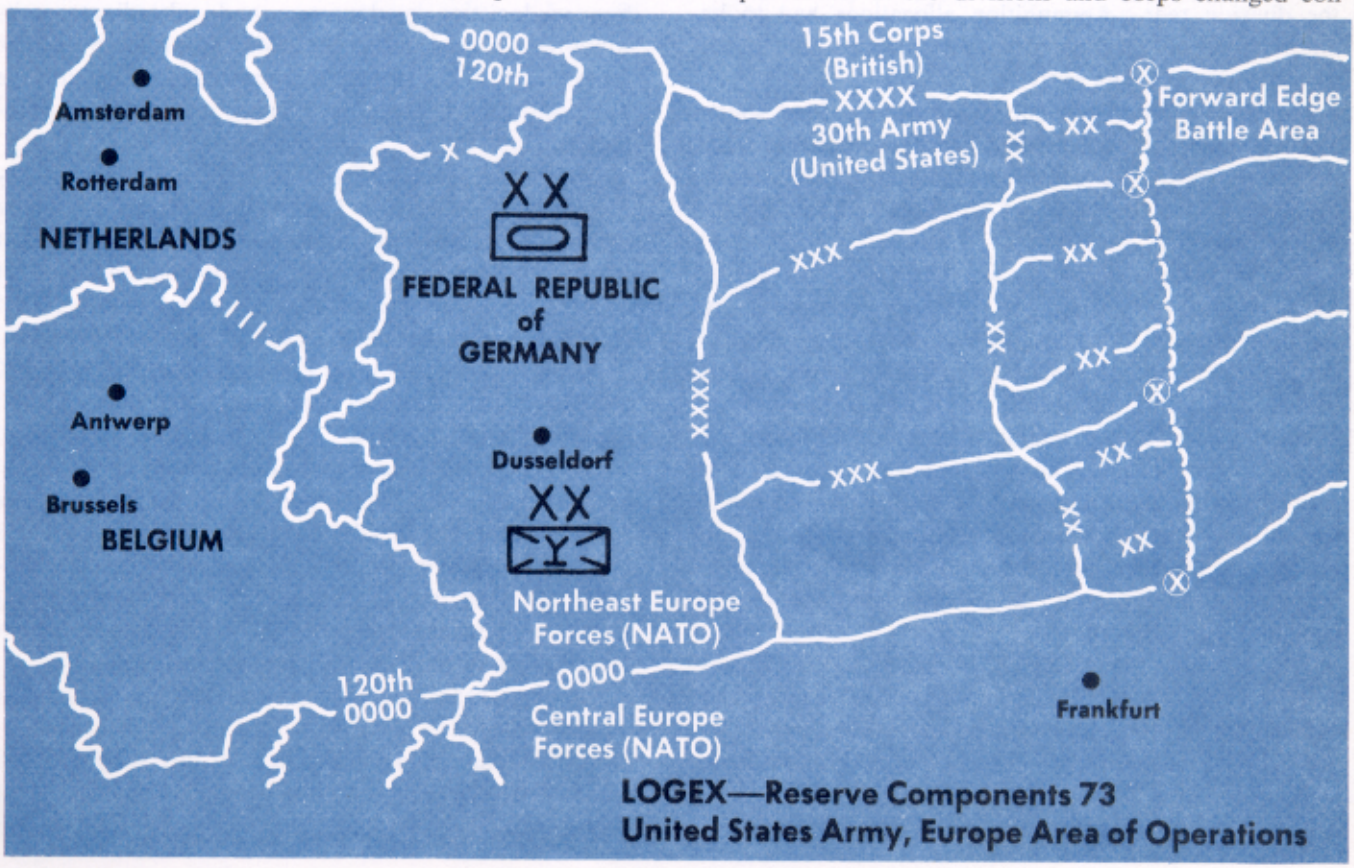
LOGEX and LOGEX/RC are semifree play command post exercises. That is, players are free to reach any decisions and initiate any actions desired. However, since the scenario is planned, reactions must be controlled within limits to maintain the objectives of the exercise. The players' decisions are permitted to stand as long as current doctrine is not violated. Thus the players are afforded the opportunity to gain practical experience in the latest logistics concepts.

As a response to action taken by the participants, an Aggressor Control Element is used by the LOGEX controller staff to simulate retaliatory enemy activity, and actions and reactions are anticipated for controller guidance.

The exercise this year portrayed a nonactive nuclear general war situation in Central and Western Europe with U.S. and allied forces grouped under the NATO (Allied Command Europe) structure.

The locale depicted is shifted from year to year so that participants can be exposed to diverse situations and geographic conditions. For example, the 1972 LOGEX programs portrayed war conditions in Korea. The 1974 exercises, however, scheduled again to be held in late Spring at Camp Pickett, are being planned to once more present Central and Western Europe as the theater of operations.

In addition to the primary task of repelling aggressor forces, the players faced about 3,000 problems during the six days of LOGEX/RC 73. As aggressor forces pushed farther and farther into U.S. positions, logistics support had to be altered accordingly. Division support commands were relocated, causing turbulence in the corps support commands. This, in turn, affected the theater army support command. Logistics requirements of the divisions and corps changed con-



LOGEX—Reserve Components 73
United States Army, Europe Area of Operations

In the control headquarters actions breed reactions . . . and aggressor movements are closely watched.

stantly as a result of the free play actions. An emergency aerial resupply operation was necessitated when the line of communication in one corps was cut behind the division rear. Ammunition allocations had to be adjusted due to the loss of supply facilities as a result of aggressor guerrilla activity.

Among the situations encountered were food shortages, prisoner of war escapes, black marketeers, military casualties, train derailments, harbor pilot strikes, the existence of thousands of homeless refugees, and a nuclear weapons accident.

One problem was initially reported as the spillage of 80,000 gallons of oil into the Rhine River endangering the Ruhr area of Germany. A complication arose with the report that black marketeers stealing sewer system fittings had caused thousands of gallons of raw sewage to flow into the Rhine, mixing with the oil and posing a severe health hazard. The problem was assigned to a civil affairs battalion commander, and within 48 hours was further complicated by a manpower shortage, an equipment shortage, and the outbreak of an unidentified disease in the area. Such was the scope of the problems encountered.

It is expected that LOGEX 74 and LOGEX/RC 74 will be executed with more emphasis on realism and the evaluation of new doctrines approved by the Department of the Army, as well as on concepts that have evolved but that have not yet been approved.

The program began during World War II as a series of map exercises conducted by and for the Quartermaster School at Camp Lee. The exercises were intended to give students practical experience in the operation of logistics headquarters and subordinate units supporting a field army. In 1948 the program became known as LOGLEE, and was expanded to include the Transportation School, introducing intraservice participation.

Due to the success of LOGLEE, the Chief of Army Field Forces directed in 1949 that an annual combined exercise be conducted under guidelines issued by that command. Responsibility for development and conduct of the exercise was to be rotated among the technical service schools. In 1950 LOGLEE became LOGEX.

Army Reserve personnel first participated in LOGEX in 1957. Army National Guard units first played a role in the program in 1964.

LOGEX grew to an annual Department of the Army exercise in the late 1960's and included Navy and Air Force participants in addition to students from schools presenting training in military police, engineer, ordnance, medical, signal, civil affairs, and other combat service support skills. In late 1971 LOGEX became a Joint Chiefs of Staff coordinated exercise program.

The first separate exercise for Reserve component units was initiated in 1972 as LOGEX/RC. It is, perhaps, the solution to the problem of providing realistic combat service support training for Army National Guard and Army Reserve units. ALOG