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**The Soviet Threat
to
Corps
General
Support
Centers**



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ABOUT THE COVER

The article beginning on page 6 assesses the Soviet threat to the U. S. Army's general support centers in Europe. The cover design, by Charles Marie and Joseph Wells, symbolizes that threat.

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Army Logician is devoted to the publication of timely, authoritative information on Army and Defense logistics for the Active Army, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, civilian employees of the Army, and the public. Our purpose is to increase knowledge and understanding of logistics and to encourage and stimulate innovative thought in the subject areas of logistics by providing a forum for publishing and presenting those ideas. The views expressed in the articles in this publication are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

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LOGISTICS

Logistics is the function of providing the materiel, services, and facilities that a military force needs in peace or war. It includes the planning and accomplishment of the movement and maintenance of forces. It is the bridge between our combat troops and the industrial and natural resources of our Nation.

Logistics is commonly divided into five functional areas: Supply, Maintenance, Service, Facilities, and Transportation.

- "Supply" refers to acquisition, storage, redistribution, distribution, and disposal of materiel.
- "Maintenance" refers to all action taken to retain materiel in, or restore it to, a serviceable condition or to improve its usefulness through modification. It includes the management and performance of planning actions during the acquisition phases of the life cycle of equipment as well as actions subsequent to its development. The physical performance of maintenance tasks subsequent to deployment is allocated to one or more categories; i.e., organizational, direct support, general support, and depot maintenance, according to the maintenance concept for the item. Depot and general support maintenance actions primarily involve the support of the supply system by repair and overhaul of equipment end items and major components for return to supply stocks. Direct support and organizational maintenance actions are aimed at keeping equipment in the hands of using units in a serviceable condition.
- "Service" is associated with nonmateriel support activities. It includes such elements as graves registration and laundry.
- "Facilities" are part of installations, their acquisition or construction, maintenance, operation, and disposition.
- "Transportation" refers to all aspects of mobility required to assure timely, safe, and economical movement of persons and things.

ALOG

Source: *The Department of the Army manual*, January 1977, p. 6-24.

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