

Chapter 5

Force Artillery

5001. Mission

During times of war and major contingencies, the role of Force Artillery may be assigned to an artillery unit, normally 14th Marines. Force Artillery provides artillery, rocket, and missile fires in support of the MEF and MSCs as required.

5002. Concept of Employment

a. The commander of the Force Artillery is responsible to the MEF commander, through the Force Artillery Liaison Team, for tactical fire direction and control and coordination for combat service support requirements for Force Artillery assets.

b. Force Artillery controls all cannon, rocket, and missile units not assigned to the GCE. It normally includes one or more organic artillery battalions, joint and/or combined supporting arms units, MLRS batteries or battalions, and any related target acquisition assets, such as Q-37 or Q-47 radar.

c. Force Artillery will be tasked organized to include all or part of the following elements:

- Force Artillery Command Operations Center.
- Force Artillery Liaison Team – Located within the FFCC.
- Organic artillery battalions.
- Organic and attached radar, survey, and meteorological detachments.
- Organic and attached CSS elements.
- MLRS.
- Joint artillery.
- Allied artillery.

5003. Command Relationships and Tactical Missions

a. Command Relationships. Since Force Artillery is not a standing organization assigned to the MEF, the unit normally will be attached to the MEF from its parent command.

b. Tactical Mission. Force Artillery, headquarters and subordinate elements, are capable of operating under any of the four standard tactical missions assigned to any artillery unit : direct support, reinforcing, general support–reinforcing, and general support. Refer to Figure 1-5 for a complete discussion of the seven inherent responsibilities of each tactical mission.

1 (1) Force Artillery in general support. During planning the Force Artillery
2 commander may recommend that his subordinate elements remain under his control With all
3 of its organic and attached fire support assets, Force Artillery then supports the MEF as a
4 whole to allow the MEF commander to shape and weight the battle. The GS role provides the
5 MEF CG with immediately responsive fires.
6

7 (2) Force Artillery in general support-reinforcing. This mission is assigned when the
8 MEF CG wants to weight the GCE, or a division of the GCE, yet maintain the flexibility to
9 support the force as a whole. Force Artillery supports the MEF as it does under the GS
10 mission but must also be positioned and capable of supporting requests for reinforcing fire
11 from the reinforced artillery unit, normally the Division's artillery regiment. Upon assignment
12 of this mission, Force Artillery establishes communications and liaison with the reinforced
13 unit.
14

15 (3) Subordinate elements of Force Artillery can be assigned any of the four tactical
16 missions. However, the tactical missions of GS-R and R can only be given in order to
17 reinforce another artillery unit. GS is as stated above and the mission of DS can be assigned to
18 support any of the MEF's MSC.

19 **5004. Duties and Responsibilities**

20
21 a. The duties and responsibilities within the headquarters of the Force Artillery remain the
22 same as within the normal COC configuration described in Chapter 2 with the following
23 exceptions:
24

25 (1) Force Artillery provides a liaison team (MEF FAHQ liaison team) to the Force Fires
26 Coordination Center (FFCC). The FSCC section, from the standard artillery regiment T/O, will
27 form the basic structure and assume the duties of the MEF FAHQ liaison team. Refer to
28 paragraph 12007 of this chapter for additional information on the MEF FAHQ liaison team.
29

30 (2) The Force Artillery S-2 and TPC must be prepared to operate either within the FAHQ
31 or as part of the MEF FAHQ liaison team.
32

33 (3) The FAHQ must be prepared to receive liaison teams from attached MLRS / Joint /
34 Allied units. Refer to paragraph 12008 of this chapter for additional information.
35

36 (4) The FAHQ must be prepared to provide additional liaison teams to attached allied
37 units. Refer to paragraph 12008 of this chapter for additional information.

38 **5005. Force Artillery Liaison**

39
40 a. MEF FAHQ Liaison Team

41
42 (1) Organization

43
44 FAHQ Liaison Team OIC

LtCol/0802

1	Future Plans Officer	LtCol/0802
2	Future Operations Officer	LtCol/0802
3	FAHQ Liaison Chief	Msgt/0861
4	FAHQ Liaison Asst Chief	GySgt/0861
5	Arty Scout Observers	LCpl-Sgt/0861
6	Field Radio Operators	Pvt-Sgt/2531
7	Current Fires Officer	if available
8	Current Fires Assistant	if available
9	CBR Platoon Commander	as required
10	TPC Section	as required
11	S-2 officer	as required

12
13 (2) Tasks of the MEF FAHQ Liaison Team

14
15 (a) Advise the MEF Commander/Staff on Force Artillery capabilities and
16 employment.

17
18 (b) Communicate MEF Commander's intent, fire support guidance, and priorities
19 to FAHQ.

20
21 (c) Provide FAHQ representation in the FFCC plans, Future Plans, and Future
22 Operations cells.

23
24 (d) Coordinate and /or monitor execution of Force Artillery missions ordered by
25 the MEF Commander/Battlestaff.

26
27 (e) Monitor current status of Force Artillery units.

28
29 (3) Duties of the MEF FAHQ Liaison Team

30
31 (a) MEF FAHQ Liaison Team OIC.

- 32
33 - Provides FAHQ representation to the MEF Commander/FFCC.
34 - Advises the MEF Commander/FFCC on capabilities and limitations of the
35 FAHQ.
36 - Coordinates information flow between the MEF and the FAHQ.
37 - Is the FAHQ's representative to the MEF targeting board.
38 - Prepares the Force Artillery Estimate of Supportability.
39 - Remains abreast of, and keeps the MEF Commander/FFCC informed of, the
40 current FA operations.
41 - Keeps FAHQ informed of plans and tactical situation of the MEF (current and
42 future operations).
43 - Coordinates with the G-2/G-3 to assure effective planning and application of
44 Force Artillery assets.
45 - Advises FAHQ on selection of targets, attack guidance, and target
46 precedence.
47 - Coordinates the activities of the FAHQ Liaison Team members.

1
2 (b) Future Plans Officer

- 3
4 - Acts as Assistant MEF FAHQ Liaison Team OIC
5 - Acts as the FAHQ representative to the FFCC Future Plans section.
6 - Keeps the FAHQ LNO OIC abreast of future plans.
7 - Prepares the Force Artillery's estimate of supportability for future operations.
8 - Stays abreast of the future MEF indirect fire planning requirements.
9 - Keeps the FAHQ advised on the future MEF operations/plans and
10 requirements.

11
12 (c) Future Operations Officer

- 13
14 - Acts as the FAHQ representative to the FFCC Future Ops section

15
16 (d) Current Fires Officer

- 17
18 - Acts as the FAHQ representative to the FFCC Current Plans/Fires section if
19 available

20
21 (e) Liaison Chief

- 22
23 - Is positioned in the MEF FAHQ Liaison Team section.
24 - Acts as the senior enlisted advisor to the FAHQ Liaison Team OIC.
25 - Supervises the setup, initialization, and data maintenance of the LCUs within
26 the MEF FAHQ Liaison Team Section.

27
28 (4) Equipment

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- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1- M813 | 1- Field Desk |
| 3- M998 (Highback) | 1- XO's Chest |
| 3- LCUs | 1- Map Board |
| 2- MICUPS | 5- Field Tables |
| 1- GP Tent | 1- Pubs Box (5 cube) |
| 3- Camo Nets (tent) | 2- 2- Generators |
| 6- Camo Nets (vehicle) | 3- 2- MRC-145s |
| 1- Arty Chest | 3- SINCGARS |

31 b. Liaison Parties from Organic Battalions. Depending on tactical missions assigned,
32 operational tempo, and personnel requirements, the FAHQ may task organic battalions to
33 provide all or any part of their battalion liaison teams to execute any FAHQ tasking including,
34 but not limited to providing the FAHQ liaison teams to a reinforced or allied unit.

35
36 c. Liaison Parties to Reinforced Units. Upon assumption of a GS-R mission, the FAHQ
37 will provide a liaison team to the reinforced unit to facilitate coordination. The liaison team
38 will co-locate with the reinforced unit's command post.

1
2 d. Liaison Parties from Attached/OPCON Units. Units that are attached/OPCON to the
3 FAHQ will be required to furnish a liaison team to co-locate with the FAHQ COC in order to
4 facilitate coordination.

5
6 (1) Liaison from MLRS / Joint Units. The MLRS/Joint unit will furnish a liaison team
7 to co-locate with the FAHQ COC in order to facilitate coordination.

8
9 (2) Liaison from Allied Units. The allied unit will furnish a liaison team to co-locate
10 with the FAHQ COC in order to facilitate coordination. Communication and logistics support
11 will be coordinated by the liaison team. The FAHQ will also provide a liaison team to co-
12 locate with the allied unit's headquarters - communications will be provided by the FAHQ.
13

14 **5006. FAHQ Intelligence Section**

15
16 The FAHQ intelligence section will be prepared to coordinate closely with the MEF G-2 to
17 ensure the best possible dissemination of intelligence and targeting information to the FAHQ
18 operations section. This includes coordinating with the CBR officer and the TPC to plan and
19 control the best use of organic radar assets.

20
21 a. The S-2 officer will be prepared to perform his duties either at MEF headquarters as
22 part of the MEF liaison team or within the FAHQ COC. If his duties will be performed as
23 part of the MEF liaison team, he will ensure that adequate equipment, personnel and
24 communication methods remain within the FAHQ COC to ensure that the intelligence process
25 within the FAHQ COC remains functional.

26
27 b. Depending on the situation, the CBR officer and all TPC assets will either be located
28 with the MEF FAHQ Liaison Team at the FFCC or at the FAHQ COC.
29

30 **5007. Target Acquisition/Counterfire.**

31
32 a. Target Acquisition Asset Coordination. The FAHQ will be responsible to coordinate
33 its organic/attached Weapons Locating Radars (WLRs) and artillery observation teams to best
34 provide target acquisition capabilities to the MEF. The FAHQ CBR officer, as part of the
35 MEF liaison team, will provide recommendations to the FFCC for optimum utilization of
36 these MEF assets. Counterfire targeting information may be also be received from a variety of
37 other sources (e.g. UAVs, EW, OAS, HUMINT, and deep reconnaissance).
38

39 b. Counterbattery and Countermortar Radar Employment and Coordination.

40
41 (1) 14th Marines contains an organic Q-36 Firefinder radar platoon. The FAHQ may
42 be assigned other WLR's such as the Q-37 Firefinder and allied radars. FAHQ will be
43 responsible for the positioning of these assets.
44

1 (2) The FAHQ CBR Officer will provide recommendations to the FFCC on how to
2 best utilize FAHQ organic target acquisition assets to best complement GCE target acquisition
3 plans.
4

5 (3) Common Sensor Boundaries. Target duplication between WLRs is likely during
6 combat. One method to reduce duplication of generated counterfire missions is to establish a
7 common sensor boundary (CSB) for CFFZs. The FAHQ CBR officer will assist the FFCC in
8 establishing required CSBs to prevent duplicate processing of an acquired target.

9 **5008. Meteorological Support**

10
11 All Meteorological (MET) operations for the Force Artillery will be conducted in accordance
12 with MCWP 3-16.5 *Artillery Meteorology* and Chapter two of this publication. In addition to
13 normal duties of providing meteorological support to organic and attached units of Force
14 Artillery, the Force Artillery Met Section will be responsible to integrate or coordinate
15 meteorological support operations with the GCE artillery meteorological sections.

16 **5009. Survey Support**

17
18 Survey operations for the Force Artillery are the same as discussed in Chapter 2. The Force
19 Artillery Survey Section will be responsible for providing survey support to all organic and
20 attached units of the Force Artillery. Additionally, the Force Artillery Survey Officer may be
21 assigned responsibility for survey control within the MEF AOR and will integrate/coordinate
22 survey support with GCE artillery survey operations.

23 **5010. Communications**

24
25 a. Wire. External telephone links to MEF is not feasible due to the distances between
26 MEF and the FAHQ.

27 28 b. Radio

29 30 (1) MAGTF/MEF Doctrinal Nets:

- 31 -MEF Command 1
- 32 -MEF Command 2
- 33 -MEF TAC 1
- 34 -MEF TAC 2
- 35 -MEF Alert
- 36 -MEF Intel
- 37 -MEF FSC
- 38 -MEF Arty Air Spot
- 39 -MEF Med Reg
- 40 -MEF Comm Coord

41 42 43 (2) MAGTF/MEF Non-Doctrinal Nets:

1
2 - FAHQ to MEF Liaison Cell (this link will be provided by MEF assets and
3 personnel)
4

5 (3) Doctrinal Nets NOT to be utilized by the FAHQ:
6

- 7 -MEF Recon
- 8 -MEF Tac Air Command
- 9 -FMF Mobile Command
- 10 -MEF HST Control
- 11 -LZ Control
- 12 -MEF Damage Control
- 13 -MEF Damage Control Local
- 14 -Shore Party Local
- 15 -MEF Naval Gunfire Support
- 16 -Naval Gunfire Control
- 17 -Naval Gunfire Ground Spot
- 18

19 (4) Doctrinal MAGTF/MEF nets with uncertain applicability to FAHQ:
20

- 21 -MEF Air Observation
- 22 -MEF Arty Command/FD
- 23 -MEF CSS
- 24 -LF Support party Control
- 25 -MEF Local Security
- 26 -Air Nets: TAD, HD etc.
- 27

28 c. Multichannel Radio. MUX links between MEF and FAHQ will be provided by MEF.
29

30 d. SATCOM. Possible connectivity to MEF from FAHQ.
31

32 e. Communications Guard Shift. MEF to guard for FAHQ and its subordinate and
33 attached units.
34

35 f. Joint and Combined Operations. Coordination must occur in Joint and Combined
36 operations to ensure that equipment compatibility is met, command relationships are defined,
37 and equipment and personnel augmentation, if any, is identified.
38

39 g. Maintenance. The flow of supplies and evacuation of communications equipment for
40 repair will flow through the CSSD element attached to the FAHQ, and not directly through the
41 MEF.

42 **5011. LOGISTICS**

43 In support of the Force Artillery, a combat service support detachment from the FSSG may be
44 attached to support higher echelon maintenance and other logistics functions.