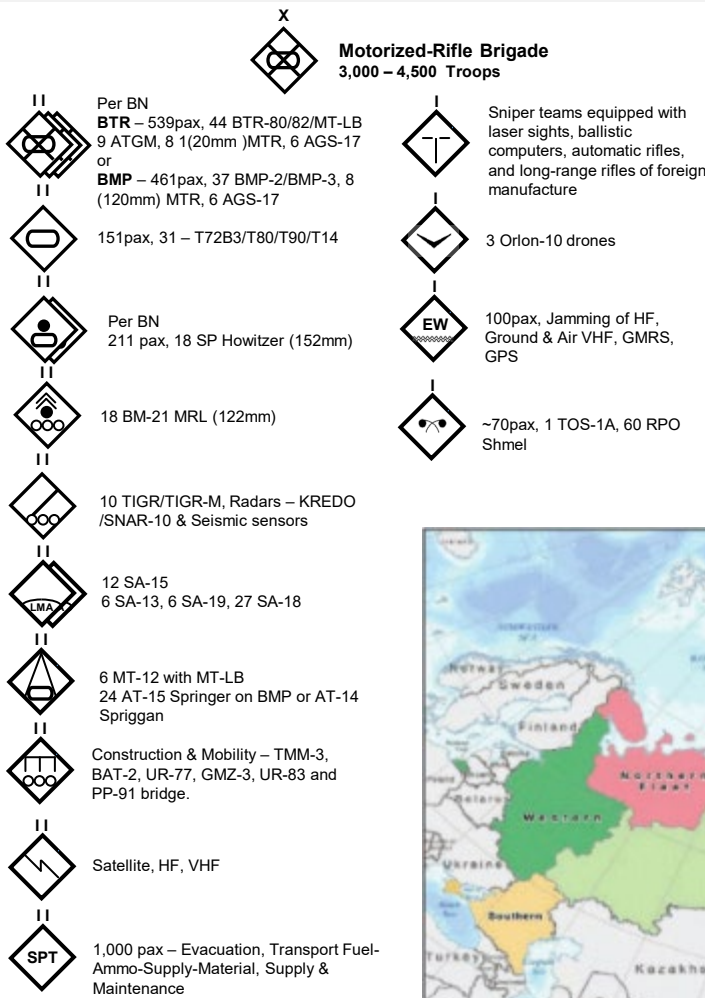
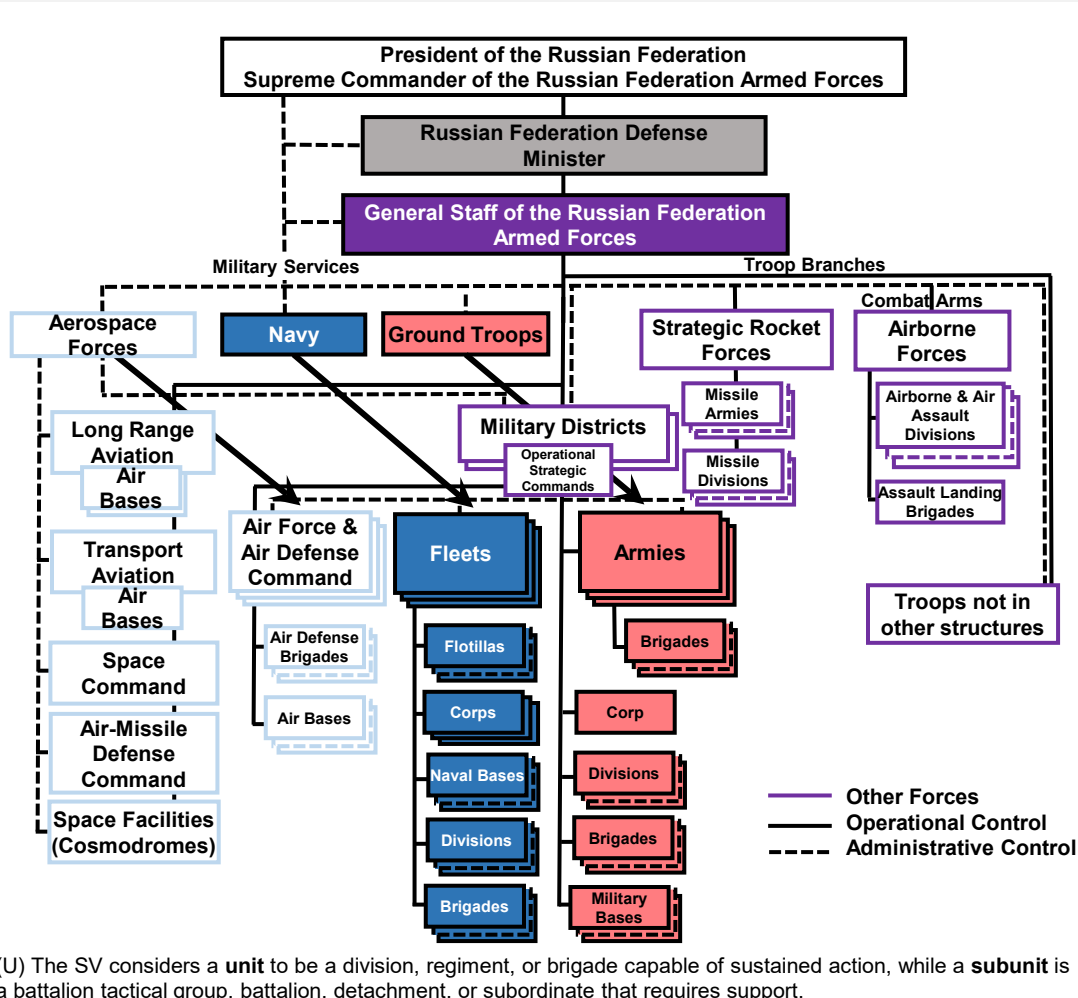


(U) RUSSIA: HOW THEY FIGHT



(U) This infographic describes how the Russian Ground Forces (SV) fight. The SV contains the main land-based combat power of the Russian military with tank and motorized rifle brigades and divisions with subordinate regiments, both subordinate to combined-arms armies. As part of the evolution of the SV, Russia's goal is to generate brigades and regiments with the capability to create two-to-three task-organized Battalion Tactical Groups (BTGs). Included in the main branches of tank and motorized rifle are missile, artillery, and air-defense units. Additional supporting units consist of reconnaissance; engineer; nuclear, biological and chemical defense; materiel technical support; electronic warfare; and signal.



(U) Since the 1920s, Russian tactical level units have fought as combined arms entities to exploit the effects of more precise targeting combined with integrated fires. A basic principle of Russian military actions is to use the effects of strike actions to create the conditions for military success. The SV combines both maneuver and artillery strikes to achieve success on the battlefield. Russian divisions with subordinate regiments as well as brigades reporting directly to an army higher headquarters, are task-organized for combined-arms missions. Combined-arms units, integrate available forces and means allocated by the senior commander. Both brigades and regiments will form task-organized tactical groups. Often these include battalion tactical groups (Батальонная Тактическая Группа - BTGs) to perform assigned missions. Russia will employ all available national elements of power prior to launching maneuver forces and after force-on-force operations begin, the country will continue to employ these integrated capabilities to support tactical maneuver.



(U) The SV considers a **unit** to be a division, regiment, or brigade capable of sustained action, while a **subunit** is a battalion tactical group, battalion, detachment, or subordinate that requires support.

(U) The SV conducts three general types of actions at the tactical level, defensive actions, offensive actions, and local war and armed conflict actions.

(U) The SV is adaptive, flexible, and agile, and can readily change force composition and focus to optimize organizational capabilities for use against known or perceived aggressor vulnerabilities. Once combat begins, the tempo and rapid changes--common on the modern battlefield--will greatly decrease a unit's or subunit's ability to generate and distribute new intelligence or prepare new plans and orders. As a result, the SV believes battle management at the tactical level should be decentralized but remain under centralized operational control. Battle management for the SV is driven by commanders. The rapid implementation of a plan or development of a supporting action is often a key to success. SV tactical commanders have increased authority and a corresponding expectation of using initiative to quickly respond to sudden battlefield changes.