

MAP MARKING AND MILITARY SYMBOLS

Introduction





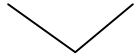

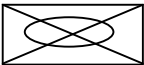
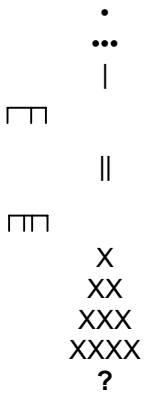
The aim of this section is to acquaint the reader with the use of military symbols in general use in the Jamaica Defence Force. All Officers and SNCOs need to understand the military symbols used for map marking as they enable tactical and logistic information to be displayed on maps and in pamphlets. A common NATO 'language' is used so that the information can be transferred between units of all types.

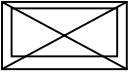




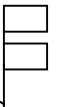
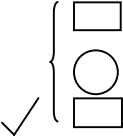

1. Definitions

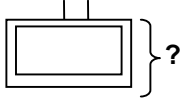
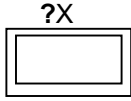
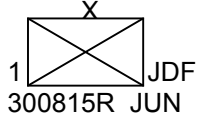
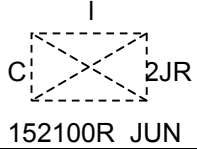

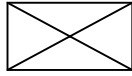
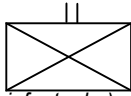

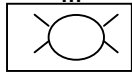
- a. **Military Symbol** - A military symbol is a symbol or a combination of symbols completed as necessary, by letters, numbers, abbreviations, words or colour and is used to identify and distinguish a particular formation, unit, installation, organization or activity.
- b. **Unit** - A unit is any military body whose structure is prescribed by a competent authority in a table of organization and equipment. In other words it is a body of men organized under one commander, in accordance with a separate establishment and which is not part of a larger Unit.
- c. **Sub-Unit** - A Sub-Unit is necessarily therefore a component of a larger unit and may or may not have an independent table of organization or establishment.
- d. **Formation** - A Formation consists of two (02) or more units grouped under the command of an Officer not below the rank of Colonel.

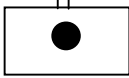
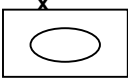
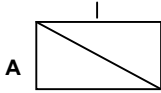

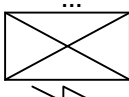

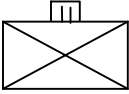
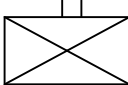
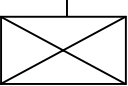
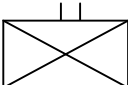
2. Use of Military Symbols

Military symbols are used for a number of reasons such as to save time, secrecy, space, etc. Persons competent in their use are an asset to Commander as their ability to translate an idea into, say, an overlay order capable of conveying clear instructions to junior commanders without any ambiguity, enhances battle procedures.

Basic Symbols	
a. Any body of troops viz a formation, unit or sub-unit is represented by a rectangle symbol.	
b. A HQ or element of a HQ is represented by the basic flag symbol, placed on a staff on its left. Characters may be placed under the symbol eg. MAIN, ALTN, REAR and TAC.	
c. An observation post/surveillance detachment is represented by a triangular symbol.	
d. An administrative or logistical installation is represented by a circular symbol.	
e. A landing site	
Armed Forces, Arms Corps, Regiment And Functional Symbols	
<p>Service, arm, corps, Regiment and functional symbols are placed inside the basic symbols to show the type of body depicted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An infantry formation, Unit or Sub-Unit • A mechanized infantry formation, Unit or Sub-Unit 	 
<p>Unit size symbols are placed on top: A non-mechanized infantry Battalion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section • Platoon/troop • Company/ Squadron Battery • Company/Squadron Group • Battalion/Regiment • Battle Group • Brigade • Division • Corps • Army • Unknown size 	

<p>Colours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Own and friendly troops, installations and activities • Enemy troops, installations and activities • Own, friendly or enemy demolitions, minefields or obstacles. • NBC contaminated areas both friendly and enemy. • Other colours must be explained in legend. <p>If only one colour is available the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enemy troops, installation and activities use double lines e.g. • Demolition, minefields and obstacles – use normal symbols with annotations for clarity. • Contaminated areas – written explanations may be given as appropriate 	<p>Blue Red Green Yellow</p>   <p>Gassed area</p>
<p>Locations</p> <p>To indicate the location of symbolized bodies or installations, the following means are available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The basic symbols (other than for a HQ) may be placed on a central staff which may be extended or bent. The base of the staff indicates the exact location. • The Headquarters symbol already incorporates a staff that may be extended or bent as required. The base indicates the exact location. • If several HQs are at one location a number of flags may be placed on the same staff. • Where a group of units, installations or activities are at one location, it is often convenient to indicate this by a bracket, the foot of the staff indicating the location 	    
<p>In order to indicate different locations the basic symbols may be drawn with solid or broken lines as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A solid line to indicate the present or actual locations, objectives and boundaries. • A broken line to indicate future or proposed locations, objectives, boundaries etc 	

<p>Use of Question Marks</p> <p>A question mark is used in conjunction with a symbol to indicate that some doubt is attached to the information depicted. The position of the question mark indicates the information in doubt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All info about the enemy doubtful It is doubtful whether the enemy formation is a brigade 	 
<p>Timings</p> <p>The time of any occurrence such as the opening of a HQ or installation, the arrival of a body of troops and so on may be written under the symbol using the date, time, group etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present location of 1 JDF Infantry Brigade Future location of C Company 2JR (Set to open at 2100 hrs on 15 June.) 	 
<p>Combination of Symbols and Abbreviations to Indicate Bodies of Troops</p>	
<p>Composition of Military Symbols</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The starting point is the basic symbol The service, Arm or Corps symbol is marked inside the basic symbol If necessary the size symbol is placed on top If it is necessary to illustrate the functional capability, the appropriate symbol may be super-imposed over the basic symbol or if clarity demands placed under it. 	  <p>(infantry unit/sub unit or formation)</p>  <p>(an infantry bn)</p>  <p>(A mountain Brigade)</p>  <p>(An ordnance platoon)</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To the right of the symbol is written the designation of the formation, Unit, parent Unit together with the abbreviation for any specialist capability role that cannot be indicated by a symbol. To the left of the symbol is written the sub-unit designation, equivalent to size symbol. Intervening echelons or commands are indicated by using their designation separated by oblique strokes. Weapon/functional symbols may be added below the basic symbol to denote the type of sub unit 	 <p>21 Lt (Towed) 21 Light Artillery Regiment (towed)</p>  <p>9 (Indep) 9 Independent Armoured Brigade</p>  <p>A 2JR A Coy 2JR</p>  <p>2/3/A 1JR No.2 Sect of No.3 Pl A Coy 1JR</p>  <p>2JR Signal Platoon 1 JR</p>
<p>Non-Organic Grouping & Combat Commands</p>	
<p>To show a non-organic combat command the symbol  is placed over the size symbol</p> <p>The composition of the captioned grouping could be 2 JR less 1 Coy, with a squadron of tanks, a battery of artillery and a troop of engineers.</p>	 <p>An infantry Battle Group</p>
<p>Attachment and Detachment</p>	
<p>When a Unit or sub-unit is substantially reinforced or detached the plus symbol is placed to the upper right in brackets. The extent of attachment or detachment is indicated within the brackets.</p>	 <p>(+)</p>  <p>(-1 PI)</p>  <p>(+2 Coys)</p>

Tactical Symbols	
Boundaries	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Boundaries are marked by a solid line with the size of the formation/unit interposed at convenient intervals 	
Areas	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Where it is not appropriate to lay down bdrys between units but it is required to show areas for them a line is drawn enclosing the area 	
Objectives	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Objectives will be shown by drawing a solid line around the area concerned containing the objective. If required for clarity, the designation of the unit/sub-unit whose objective it is, may be added thus: 	
Weapons Symbols	