

COMBAT AIR OPERATIONS CHAPTER 3

Combat Air Operations

There are 3 types of combat air operations that need to be considered, namely counter-air operations, anti-surface operations and strategic air offensive operations.

- Favourable- air situation A favourable air situation is reached when an enemy's air forces are unlikely to prevent the successful completion of your land, sea and air operations.
- Air superiority- Air superiority is a situation reached when your air forces are notably more dominant than those of your enemy. In a situation of air superiority your land, sea and air operations will not be stopped by the enemy's air power.
- Air supremacy- Air supremacy is basically the degree of air superiority that means that opposing air forces are incapable of offering effective interference

Offensive Counter Air Operations

- Suppression of enemy air defences
- Fighter sweep
- Escort
- Airfield attack

Defensive Counter Air Operations

Active air defence

- Detection system
- Command and control system
- Weapons system

Anti-surface operations

- Air interdiction
- Battlefield air interdiction
- Close air support
- Maritime Air operations

Strategic Air Offensive

- Nuclear operations
- Conventional operations