

TACWAR # 154
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TACTICAL WAR STUDY DOCUMENTATION

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1. The execution of Tactical Warfare Studies requires TOOLS and LIBRARIES of past work in each endeavor. The methodology tools and computer sub-routines are developed, verified and utilized in the course of the study work. Many of the required tools and sub-routines (e.g.: Capability Model, Risk Function Model, etc.) are already available and most of the additional tools required have been identified in *The Anatomy Of Combat*¹, which is a part of the Tactical War Study Library.

2. Documentation of the Tactical War Study efforts since early 1969 has followed a simple but effective formula that consists of three levels of documentation:
 - (1) The lowest level is the individual investigator's notes or note-book in which the substance and conclusions, if any, of discussions are recorded.

 - (2) The next level of documentation is the DATA BOOKS which are divided into the ten basic functions of warfare ²:

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FUNCTION</u>
TACWAR	Tactical War
SUPFIRE	Support Fire (includes Fire & Maneuver)
INTERDICT	Interdiction Fire
STRATFIRE	Strategic Fire
DEFSUP	Defense Suppression
SAD	Surface to Air Defense

¹ The Anatomy Of Combat, 1996, by Raymond J Volluz & Raymond M. Volluz.
See web site : www.AnatomyOfCombat.com

² IBID. Chapter 2, The Structure of Tactical War.

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FUNCTION</u>
AIRSUP	Air Superiority
NAVCOM	Naval Surface Combat
ASW	Anti-Submarine Warfare
INTEL	Intelligence

Subjects that are general in nature and apply to more than one function are filed in the Tactical War Data Book. Any investigation or part of an investigation that takes more than a few hours is recorded in draft (typed or hand written) form or as an informal memorandum report. These Internal working papers serve as starting points for further investigations or parts of a jig-saw puzzle which may be fitted together at a later date to form the basis for the highest level of documentation - a Technical Report.

(3) The Technical Report is prepared when something of substance has been accomplished and warrants formalization. Pieces of work that form an input to a larger job are recorded in the Data Books unless it also meets the test of sufficient substance to justify a formal Technical Document in its own right.

3. The Weekly Progress Report (What's New This Week) serves the purpose of stitching together the chronology of events that begat the Data Books.

4. This method of documentation not only has proved useful but necessary since the scope is large and too diffuse to handle in a more systematized manner. Although the functional breakdown is quite useful to define study areas, there is still considerable overlap in subject matter. This system provides the essential continuity in a program of work which is characterized by starts, stops, interruptions and delays due to frequent changes in priority and funding.