



The levels of warfare are a framework for defining and clarifying the relationship between national objectives, the operational approach, and relevant tactical tasks

### NATIONAL STRATEGIC

National policy  
Global strategy  
*Constantly evolving*

- U.S. government formulates policy goals and ways to achieve them
- Synchronizes action across government and unified action partners
- Focuses on developing global strategy and providing global strategic direction
- Provides the context, tasks, and purpose for the employment of instruments of national power

### THEATER STRATEGIC

Theater strategy  
Campaigns  
*Foundational to combatant command campaign plans*

- Combatant commanders synchronize with unified action partners
- Employ all elements of national power to fulfill policy aims within a given theater
- Combatant commanders update strategic estimates and develop theater strategies
- Theater strategy prioritizes ends, ways, and means and is nested with strategic guidance

### OPERATIONAL

Major operations  
Battles  
*Links strategic to tactical*

- Campaigns and operations are planned, conducted, and sustained
- Links tactical force employment to strategic objective achievement
- Actions involve broader aspects of time and space than those in the tactical level
- Operational commanders seek to create the most favorable conditions possible by preparing for all future events

### TACTICAL

Engagements  
Small unit actions  
*Resourced by operational headquarters*

- Forces plan and execute battles and engagements to achieve objectives
- Battles are conducted by corps or divisions over months and engagements by brigade echelons and below over minutes or hours
- Context for tactical operations is established by strategic and operational levels of warfare, connecting actions and outcomes



#### Class I

*Food and Water*

Extreme cold weather increases consumption requirements by as much as 50 percent in contest with a decreased appetite

#### Class II

*Clothing and Individual Equipment*

Use loose-fitting layers with moisture wicking properties while ensuring batteries are stored above 10° F

#### Class III

*Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants*

Multi-viscosity oil (15W-40) is recommended for most vehicles in cold weather – varying levels are needed for more extreme cold

#### Class V

*Ammunition*

Expect increased use of indirect fire ammunition due to dead space and deep snow while storing units in original containers

#### Class VII

*Major End Items*

Plan for resupply challenges in cold and mountainous terrain, as forward-based units may be lean and rely on redistribution

#### Class VIII

*Medical Supplies*

Anticipate high consumption rates and ensure perishable materials are packaged and marked for special handling

#### Class IX

*Repair Parts*

Units operating in extreme cold may need to increase their Class IX block by up to 300 percent

#### Class X

*Material for Nonmilitary Programs*

The same friendly force protective measures should be used for detainees, indigenous inhabitants, and dislocated civilians



#### THE ARCTIC END STATE

*The U.S. Army is able to rapidly generate and project Multi-Domain forces globally that are specifically trained, equipped, and sustained to fight, win, and survive in extreme cold weather and rugged mountainous conditions over extended periods.*