

APPLICATION OF FIELD FORTIFICATIONS TO THE DEFENCE OF A POSITION—

Object of defending a position. Subdivision of the defence into two kinds, active and passive. An active defence includes offensive, defensive and purely defensive actions. Application of the different kinds of defence. The positions of the works must conform to that of the troops (1st Principle of Defence), but a *slight* alteration may be made on technical grounds.

Statement* of the tactical requirements and the consequent distribution of the troops.

General arrangement of works to conform to this distribution, namely, Lines with Intervals. Comparison of Lines with Intervals and Continuous Lines.

Object of advanced works and of a second line of Defence and general arrangement for each.

Arrangement and nature of works according to the kind of defence: (1) Offensive, Defensive; (2) Active defence; (3) Passive defence.

Choice of Position.—The approximate site depends on strategical considerations, the accurate site mainly on tactical and slightly on technical considerations. General requirements. Special requirements according to the kind of defence. Defects that may occur in positions and how best to neutralize them. Description of various kinds of positions.

Choice of sites for works.—The site must be chosen principally on tactical and slightly on technical considerations. Requirements, and how fulfilled, in each of the following cases:

a. Infantry shooting line, supports and reserves.

b. Artillery, guns and limbers.

c. Strong points. Advanced posts. Main line pivots. 2nd line pivots. Keeps of Position. Works covering retreat.

d. Flanks.

e. Communications, radial and lateral.

Order in which the various works should be executed.

Number of troops required to defend a position according to the kind of defence. Distribution of troops.

Application of the foregoing to the defence of positions occupied for the following purposes, giving in each case the object of defending the position, the *special* requirements and how they are fulfilled:

a. Field of battle. Offensive, defensive and pure defensive. Inquiry into the effect of intrenching on the field of battle.

b. Lines of investment.

c. Defence of the environs of a fortress.

d. Defile works—bridge heads and mountain passes.

e. Intrenched camps, depots, etc.

Attack and Defence of field works.

USE OF FIELD FORTIFICATION BY THE ATTACK.

Object.—The assailant may employ Field Fortification for two distinct purposes, namely: a purely offensive and a purely defensive use. Cases in which Field Fortification would thus be used.

Purely Offensive use.

Nature of Works.—The same as those for defence, of a very hasty description. But includes, besides, the destruction of enemy's works when captured. Methods of doing this.

* The considerations of these tactical requirements belongs to the Course of Tactics.