

THE IMPORTANCE OF LOGISTICS IN MILITARY ORGANIZATION

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Abstract: *The importance of the logistical operations was decisive especially during wars, where the supply of ammunition, weapons, fuel, food can be vital. After World War II, logistics entered a period of decline, as most companies focused in particular on increasing production capacity, due to the high demand from the post-war years. Logistics would make a come back with the economic crisis of the 1950s. Thus, the decrease in profits determined businessmen to resort to methods of reducing maintenance costs and increasing production efficiency. This period coincides with the widespread use of the concept of "physical distribution" that lasted until the 1980s when the term "logistics" was introduced.*

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1. The concept of logistics in military organization

The concept of logistics appeared in the 17th century in the French army, where the term "loger" is used to describe how to transport, supply, nourish and provide certain conditions, for an operational army in motion, applying military knowledge.¹

One of the oldest definitions accepted for logistics is as follows: "all preparations and actions needed to supply the armed forces to the fullest efficient manner, with goods and supplies, leaving them more favorable circumstances in confrontations ”.

At present, logistics in the military field refers to "all the means necessary for the strategic and tactical decisions in the field".

After World War II military logistics specialists went into industrial civil activities where they applied their knowledge laying the foundations of industrial logistics. With the development of various industrial systems and with the evolution of markets the concept of logistics has also evolved. It has become increasingly clear that the primary purpose of logistics is to find and make available goods and services of adequate quality, at the right time and the right place, under the necessary conditions and quantities, in order to create the best context for achieving the goals that an organization proposes.

The term "logistics" has very diverse interpretations, from a simple transport to an interdisciplinary science combining engineering with microeconomics and organization theory.

Thus one can appreciate logistics as a problem in itself. Being closely related to socio-economic and industrial development logistics has evolved in parallel with them. Therefore,

¹ Carmen Bălan, Logistica, Ediția a III-a revăzută și adăugită, Editura Uranus, București, 2006, p. 309-312.

