

CHAPTER 2

THE DIVISION

2-1. Typical Division

The division is the largest fixed organization that trains and fights as a tactical team. It is organized with varying numbers and types of combat, CS, and combat service support (CSS) units. There are five types of divisions—armored, infantry, light infantry, airborne, and air assault. A division may be composed of eight to eleven maneuver battalions and other CS and CSS units. All divisions are organized with the same base—

- A division headquarters and headquarters company (HHC).
- Three brigade HHCs.
- An aviation brigade (AB) HHC.
- A division artillery (DIVARTY).
- A DISCOM. Medical companies organic to the division are DISCOM assets.
- An air defense artillery battalion.

- An engineer battalion.
- A signal battalion.
- A military intelligence battalion.
- A military police company.
- A chemical company (in most cases).

A division may have 11,000 to 17,000 soldiers assigned. When properly reinforced, a division is a self-sustaining force capable of independent operations for long periods of time. Individual battalions in a division may be task-organized into separate task forces to fight independently. A division usually fights as a part of a corps or a joint task force. Divisions are the backbone of the Army, and the AirLand Battle is won or lost by their brigades and battalions. Figures 2-1 through 2-5 show the organizations within the light infantry, airborne, air assault, armored, and infantry (mechanized) divisions. Definitive information pertaining to all the divisions listed above is found in FM 71-100.

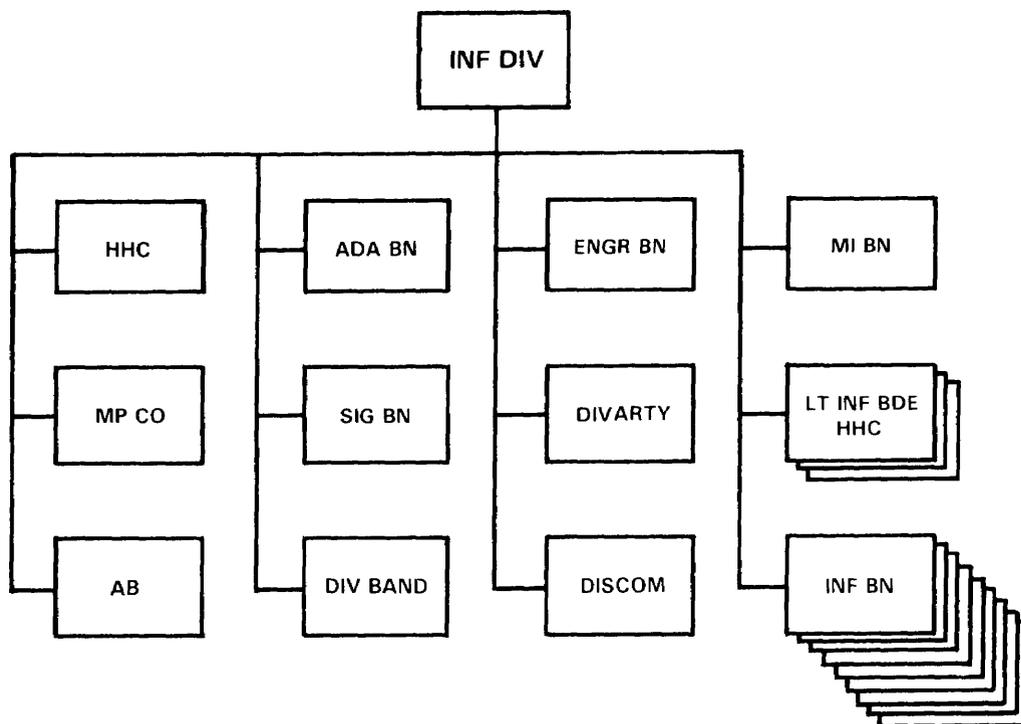


Figure 2-1. Light infantry division.

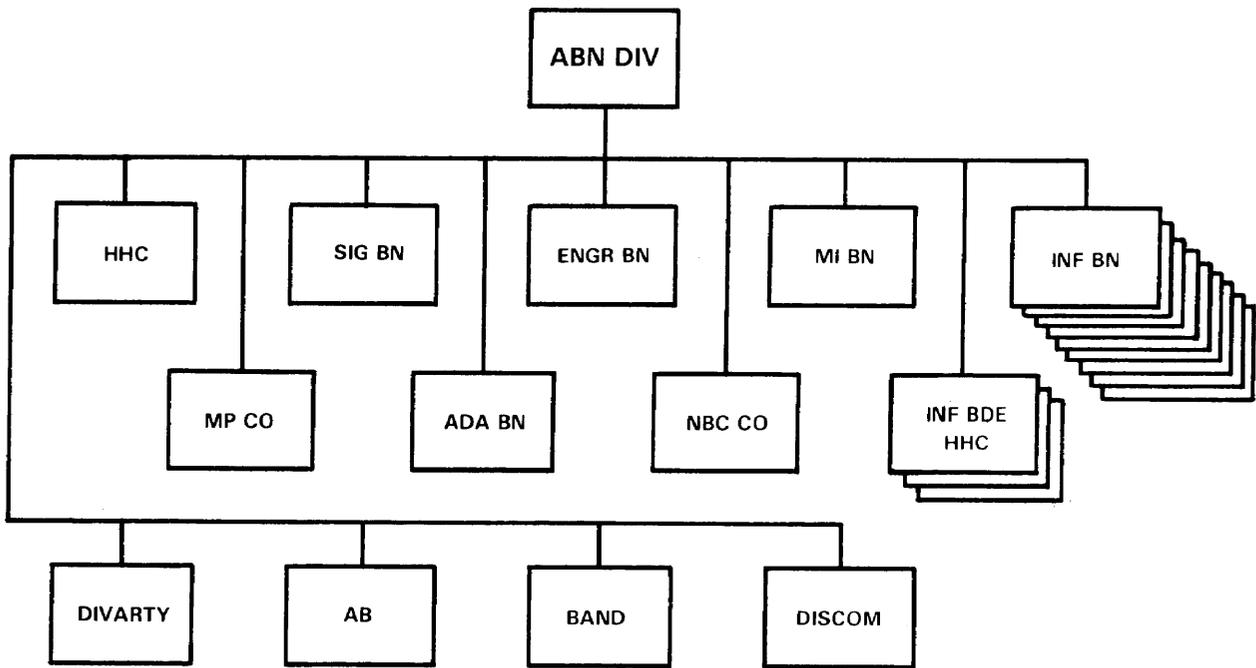


Figure 2-2. Airborne division.

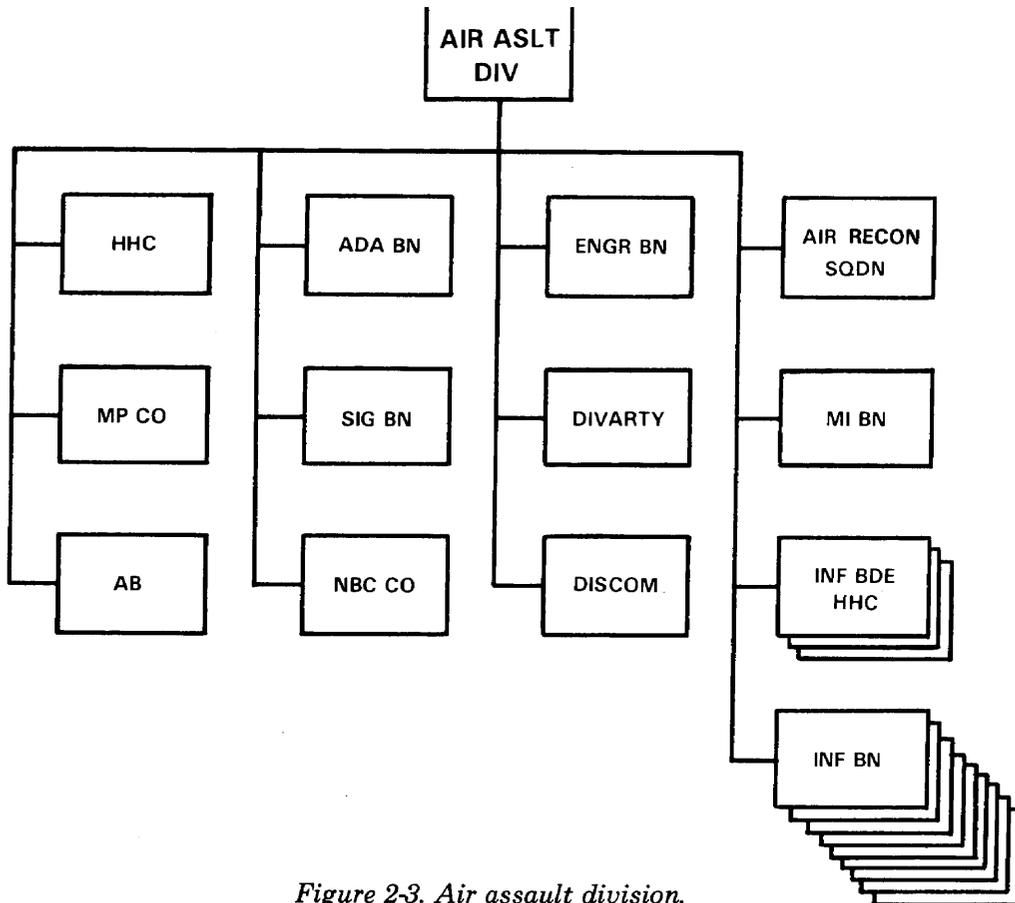


Figure 2-3. Air assault division.

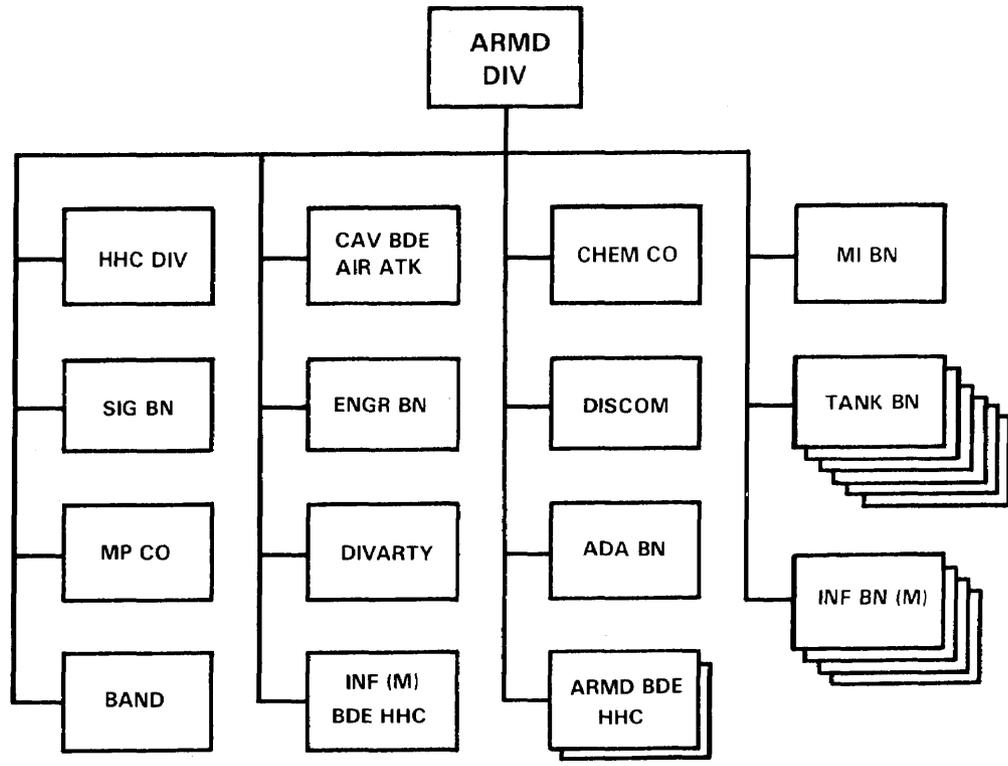


Figure 2-4. Armored division.

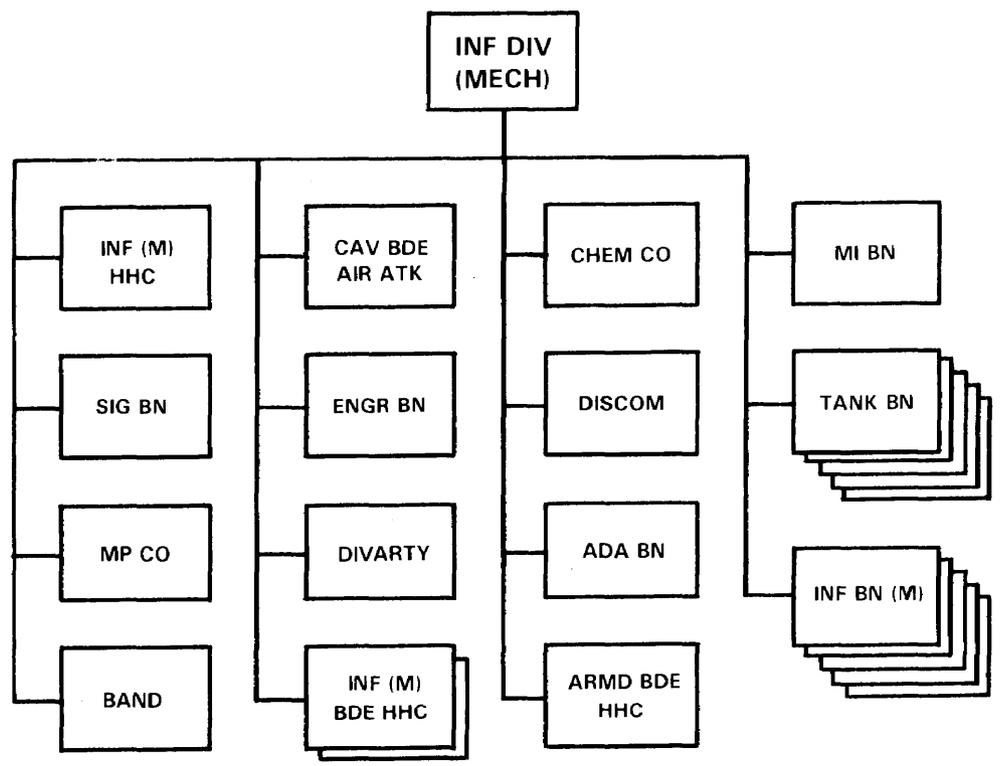


Figure 2-5. Infantry division (mechanized).

## 2-2. Division Headquarters

*a.* The division headquarters provides C2 and supervision of the tactical and administrative operations of the division and its organic, attached, or supported units.

*b.* The HHC of the division provides logistical support and personnel for the division headquarters and staff section. It is normally located close to the division main command post.

*c.* Figure 2-6 depicts the elements/sections of the division headquarters.

## 2-3. Major Commands in the Division

There are six major commands within the division. They include three maneuver brigades, an aviation brigade, a DIVARTY, and a DISCOM.

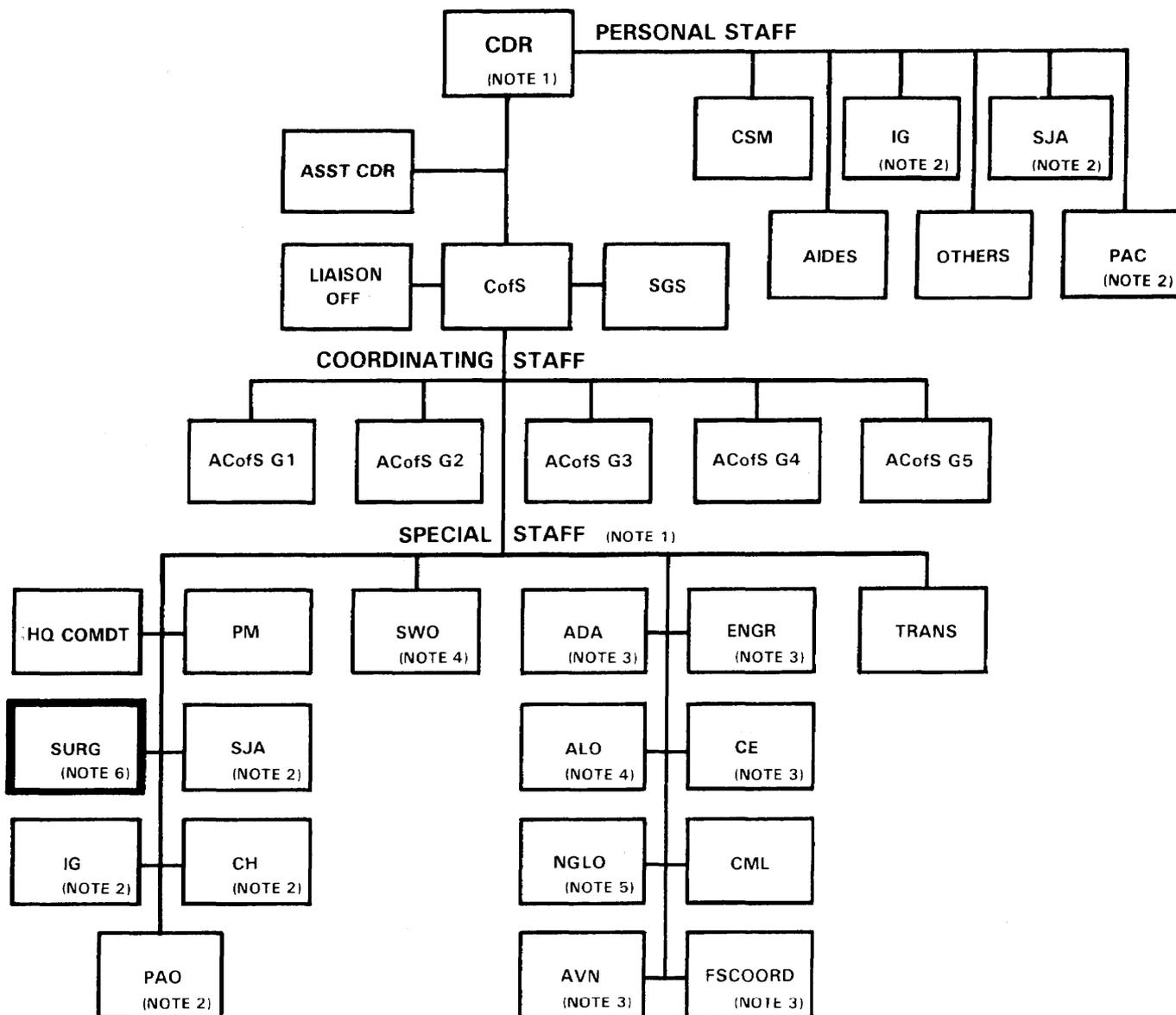
*a.* The maneuver brigade headquarters provides C2 facilities necessary to employ attached and supporting units. The brigade normally controls from two to five maneuver battalions. It can be employed in independent operations when properly organized for combat. The only unit permanently assigned to the maneuver brigade is the brigade HHC. The necessary combat, CS, and CSS units used to accomplish the brigade's mission are attached to, under operational control (OPCON) of, or placed in support of the brigade. The HHC of the maneuver brigade furnishes logistical support, to include ground command vehicle support, personnel for the brigade headquarters staff section, and security.

*b.* The aviation brigade provides the division commander a C2 headquarters with organic lift, attack, observation, and general support aircraft which can be tailored to support the division commander's plans. The aviation brigade's missions are to—

- Find, fix, and destroy enemy forces using fire and maneuver.
- Provide CS and CSS in coordinated operations as an integrated member of the combined arms team.

The speed and mobility of the aviation brigade allow it to conduct deep, close, and rear operations. The aviation brigade possesses the flexibility and versatility to perform a wide variety of roles throughout the entire range of maneuver, CS, and CSS functions in support of division combined arms operations. These roles can be performed by the aviation brigade during offensive and defensive operations in high-, mid-, and low-intensity conflicts. Planning at division level must allow for integration of the aviation brigade into the combined arms scheme of ground maneuvers. However, the aviation brigade is not a maneuver brigade in the same sense as the other ground maneuver brigades. The aviation brigade is not routinely committed as a maneuver force. When properly augmented and supported, it can be committed for short periods in a maneuver role in the conduct of combat operations. The brigade is most effective when its aerial forces are concentrated at critical times and places to exploit the maneuver effect of the combined arms teams. Thus, the brigade extends and augments division capabilities to strike the enemy from multiple directions. The control measures for the tactical employment of the aviation brigade differ little in principle from the employment of the ground maneuver force.

*c.* The DIVARTY is the primary organic indirect fire support for the division. The firepower of the DIVARTY is augmented by close air support, attack helicopters, mortars, artillery resources of higher headquarters, and when feasible, naval gunfire. The DIVARTY has the dual mission of integrating all fire support to the division, as well as providing field artillery fires for close support, interdiction, and counterfire support to the division. The primary function of the fire support units is to provide continuous and timely support to combat units by locating, identifying, and neutralizing or destroying those targets most likely to impede the successful accomplishment of the division's mission. The DIVARTY commander is the principal advisor to the division commander for fire support matters and is the fire support coordinator (FSCOORD). Both the division Assistant Chief of Staff (Operations and Plans) (G3) and DIVARTY commander interact continuously throughout the planning sequence, the decision process, and the execution of the mission.



**NOTES:**

1. SPECIAL STAFF SECTIONS ARE GROUPED UNDER THE COORDINATING STAFF SECTION RESPONSIBLE FOR PRIMARY STAFF COORDINATION.
2. DIRECT ACCESS TO THE COMMANDER AS A PERSONAL STAFF OFFICER AS REQUIRED. THE IG AND THE SJA BY REGULATION (AR 20-1 AND AR 27-1) ARE MEMBERS OF THE PERSONAL STAFF.
3. ALSO SUBORDINATE UNIT COMMANDER.
4. PROVIDED BY AIR FORCE.
5. PROVIDED BY THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS.
6. ALSO SUBORDINATE UNIT COMMANDER, EXCEPT IN THOSE DIVISIONS ORGANIZED UNDER THE MAIN SUPPORT BATTALION/FORWARD SUPPORT BATTALION DESIGN.

*Figure 2-6. Division headquarters.*

d. The DISCOM provides division-level CSS to all organic and attached elements of the division. It is organized to provide maximum amounts of CSS within prescribed strength limitations. Combat service support activities are organized and positioned so they can provide responsive and effective support to tactical units in combat environments. The DISCOM can, on a very limited basis, furnish CSS to nondivisional units in the division area. The DISCOM commander is the principal CSS operator of the division and exercises full command authority over all the organic units of the supported command. The division Assistant Chief of Staff (Logistics) (G4) on the other hand, has coordinating staff responsibility for logistics planning and develops the division-level plans, policies, and priorities. The relationship between the division G4 and the DISCOM commander must be extremely close because of the similarities of interests. The G4's planning role does not relieve the DISCOM commander of the responsibility for advising the division staff during formulation of plans, estimates, policies, and priorities. The DISCOM commander normally locates the DISCOM elements in the DSA and the BSA.

(1) In the airborne and air assault divisions where the DISCOM is not organized under the MSB/FSB design, forward area support teams (FASTS) are employed. The FAST elements and units are under the supervision of the forward area support coordination officer (FASCO). The FASCOs are deployed out of the DISCOM headquarters to

each of the BSAs to coordinate and control all CSS activity. Additional information pertaining to the FASCO is provided in Chapter 4, Section II.

(2) In those DISCOMs under the MSB/FSB design, the MSB supports the DSA and the FSBs are deployed forward to the BSA. The DISCOM is organized to effectively provide the maximum amount of CSS within prescribed strength limitations while providing the most effective and responsive support to tactical units in a combat environment.

(3) In all divisions, the DISCOM headquarters controls the logistical and health service support for the division. The DISCOM headquarters ensures that the division is effectively organized and positioned for immediate response to the tactical commander's CSS requirements. The DISCOM headquarters is normally located in the DSA. It provides area support to all divisional units in the division rear area and backup support to those DISCOM elements that are deployed to forward areas. Figure 2-7 shows the organizational structure of a DISCOM headquarters which is not under the MSB/FSB design; Figure 2-8 shows the typical organizational structure for a DISCOM headquarters under the MSB/FSB design. Additional information pertaining to the DISCOM headquarters under the MSB/FSB design is provided in Chapter 3 of this manual and in FM 63-22. FM 63-2 contains information for DISCOM headquarters which are not under the MSB/FSB design.

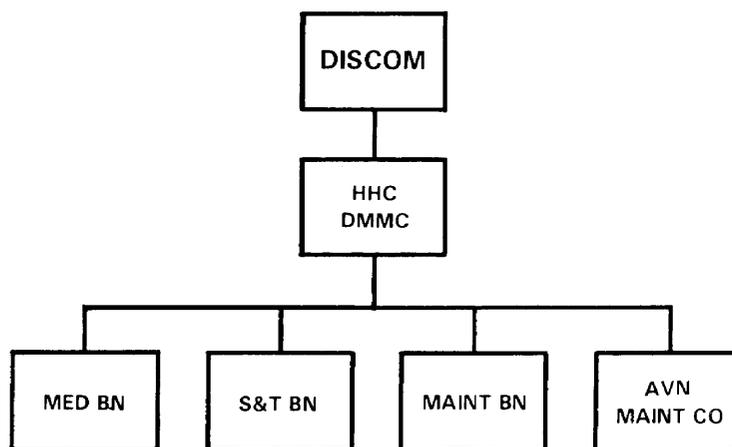


Figure 2-7. DISCOM (not MSB/FSB design).

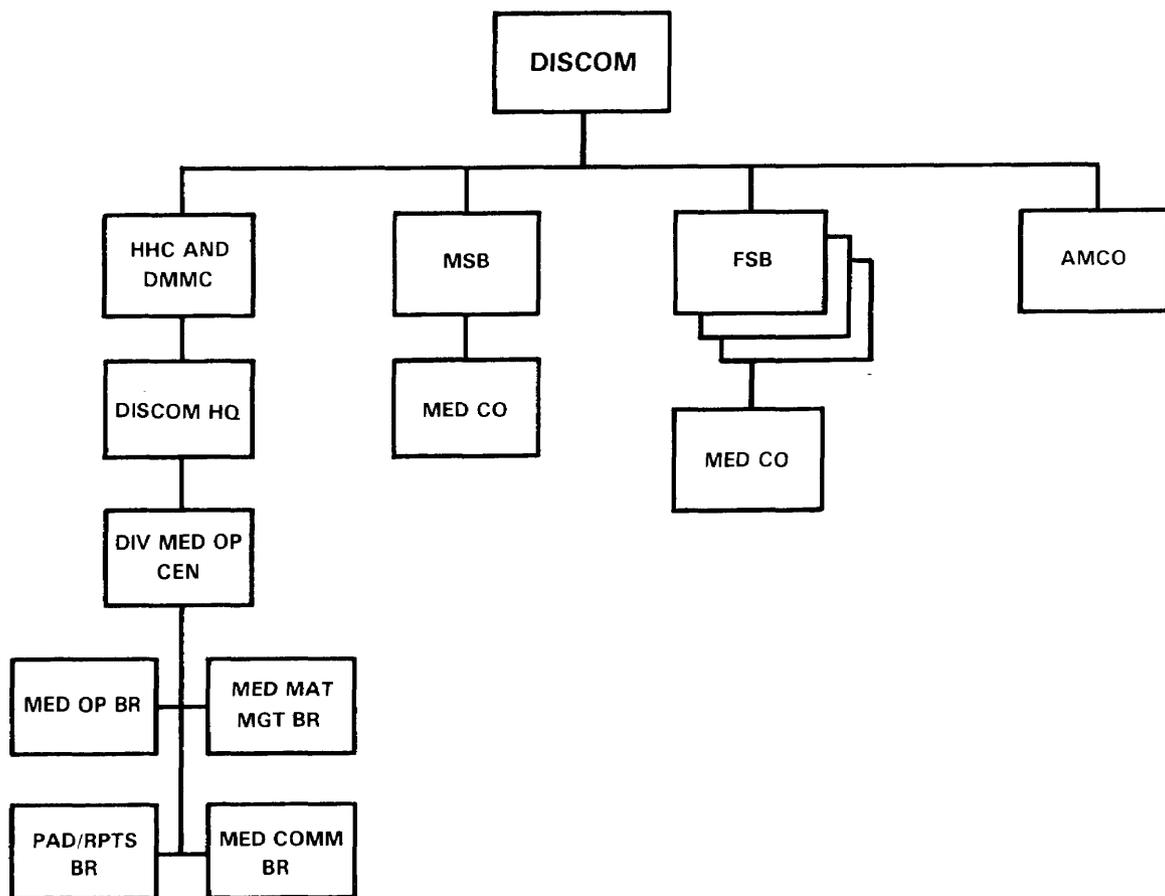


Figure 2-8. DISCOM (MSB/FSB design).