



TOP SECRET



Briefing conducted by CO 74th FS, Lt. Colonel Pete 'Davy' Jones.

05:00, 28th October, 2011.

Media

<https://youtu.be/Hq3BG5zX4RY>

Situation

The initial stages of the ground war have gone well with US forces securing Hormuz, Larak and Qeshm islands along with a number of smaller islands throughout the Straits and Gulf.

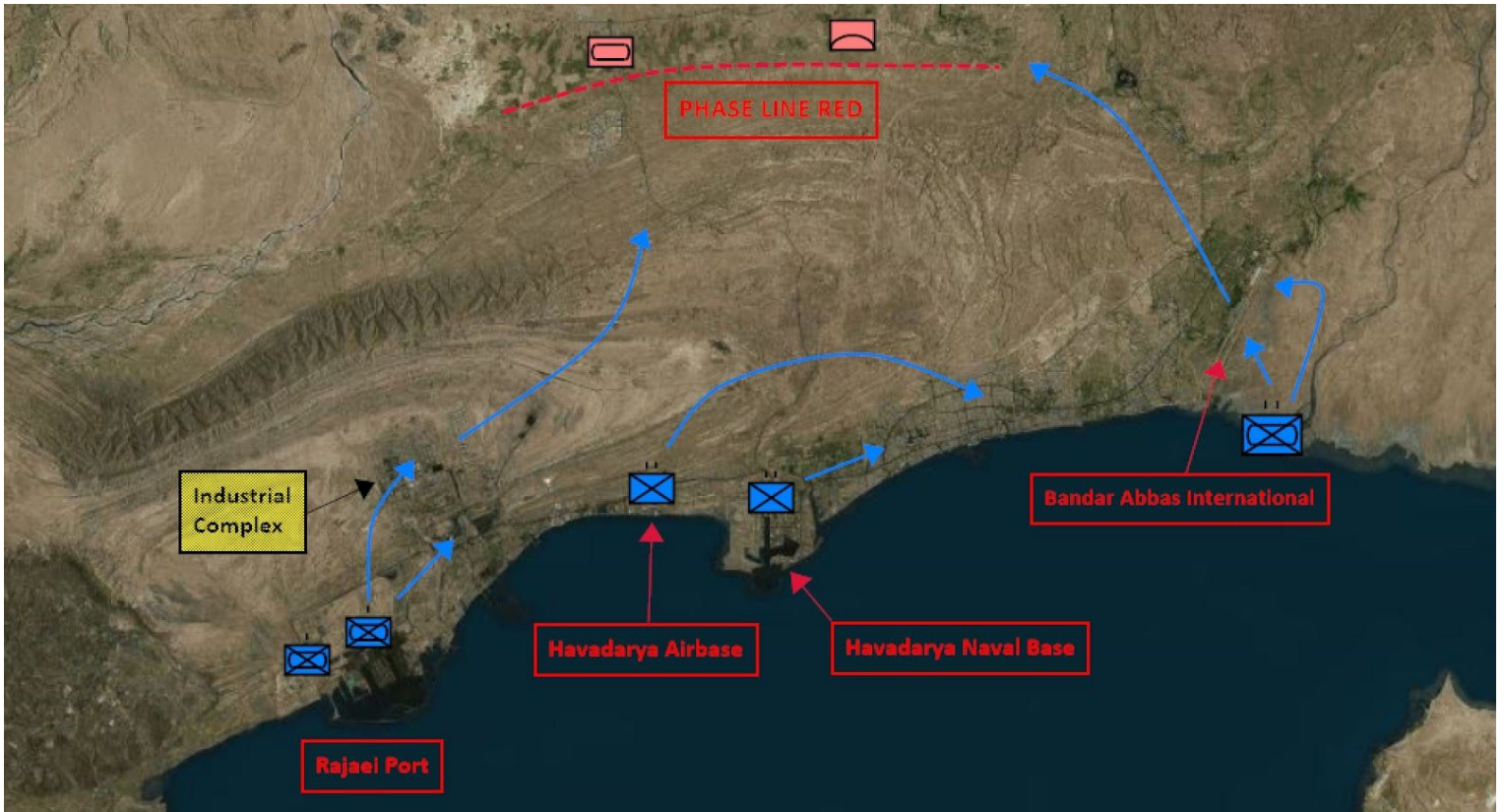
Resistance so far has been relatively light, with mostly small scale engagements breaking out. US forces saw the biggest action so far in the Qeshm City and Dargahan regions of Qeshm island, but with air support these larger pockets of resistance were soon quashed.

With the securing of these islands coalition forces are now placed to begin the initial assault on mainland Iran.

The US forces will be focusing on the Bandar Abbas area, encompassing Rajaei Port and Havadarya in the west out to Minab in the east.

The bulk of the fighting is expected to take place in the western sectors, where the 5th and 7th Marine Regiments will move to seize Rajaei Port and Bandar Abbas International Airport. At the same time the 82nd Airborne's 2nd Brigade will take control of Havadarya Air and Naval bases before turning east and entering Bandar Abbas itself.

Once the initial targets are secured the Marine forces will start moving towards Phase Line Red, an Iranian defensive line anchored around the towns of Movarid and Tazian.



As always considerable air support will be provided for this operation. Operating sectors will be allocated to supporting aircraft as below. Aircraft will be preassigned sectors to operate in but operational needs may require aircraft to switch sectors as requested.





TOP SECRET



SPINS

Command and Control:

Local ATC will be responsible for all airspace control within 10nm of their respective airfields.

UAE airspace is currently closed to almost all civilian traffic and all airspace movement in the UAE / Gulf region will be controlled from E-3 platforms under the callsign **Overlord**.

Once handed off by ATC, coalition aircraft must report to Overlord who to ensure aircraft deconfliction will assign altitude blocks in high traffic areas.

Airborne radar coverage will be provided by a combination of E-3 and E-2 flights, the SA picture will be coordinated through the airborne command post and communicated via callsign **Darkstar**.

Upon entering the battlespace strike aircraft will be handed off from Overlord to the Air Support Operations Centre (ASOC), callsign **Whiplash**.

Whiplash will have final GO/NO GO authority on all strike missions and will also collate and prioritise requests for air support, assigning strikers to JTAC's when required.

All communications channels should be monitored as listed in the mission briefing at all times.



TOP SECRET



SPINS

Rules of Engagement.

Aircraft Classifications

Bandit - Aircraft identified as belonging to a hostile force.

Bogey - Unidentified aircraft.

Friendly - Aircraft identified as belonging to a friendly force.

Unknown - An unknown aircraft, presumed friendly.

Hostile Intent

Hostile Act considered if unit:

- Engages friendly forces with a weapons system.

OR

- Supports the weapons systems of other units, resulting in weapons release. Including but not limited to lasing, marking, radar illumination of targets.

Hostile Act considered if unit meets **all** the conditions below:

- Spikes/spots/marks a friendly target within their weapons range or the range of a supporting unit.
- Persistently maneuvers to maintain a weapons firing solution or to maintain solution for fire support.
- PosID as a bandit or belonging to a hostile force.

Hostile Act considered if unit meets **all** the conditions below:

- Moves in an aggressive manner towards friendly forces.
- Actively deploys countermeasures and/or seeks to avoid detection.
- PosID as a bandit or belonging to a hostile force.



TOP SECRET



SPINS

Rules of Engagement.

Hostile Act considered if unit meets **any** of the conditions below:

(note these conditions may often apply to individuals that are civilian in appearance)

- Observed preparation of an ambush position, including but not limited to the positioning of weapons systems, explosives or significant obstructions in tactically advantageous positions.
- PosID as engaging in the command and control of hostile forces.
- Observed in the use, transportation or maintenance of weapons systems that pose a threat to coalition forces within a contested battlespace.

Upon confirmation of a hostile act, aircrew are cleared to engage and act in self defence or the defence of friendly forces.

Predefined targets

Targets defined within a briefing are pre-cleared for engagement providing the briefed details are followed. In these conditions visual ID will not be required.

Dynamic Targets

Targets may be assigned to aircrew via ASOC or JTAC in the field.

Weapons release authority will be under the control of the JTAC/AFAC at all times. The only exception to this is if contact with JTAC/AFAC is lost and that in the defence of friendly forces the conditions for hostile intent can be met.

Surrendered Forces

The surrender of all forces must be observed and engagement ceased immediately.

If soldiers abandon a vehicle and move away from the battlefield in a manner consistent with surrender they must be allowed to escape to a safe distance before engaging the vehicle. Surrender should be distinguished from retreat, surrender is defined as the abandonment of all weapons/ weapons systems and overt actions such as white flags, raised hands.



TOP SECRET



SPINS

Control of Air Support.

Air support requests (ASR) will commonly be made through the ground commander CAS to the air support operations center (ASOC).

The ASOC will process the ASR and match to available CAS platforms. ASOC will direct the CAS platform to the AO and connect them to the JTAC / AFAC.

The JTAC or AFAC will provide the targets details, locations of friendly forces or civilians and specify the attack details such as IP, attack direction, weapons to be employed and egress routes. The JTAC will also specify the type of control authority they will have over the attack, these are detailed as below:

Type 1

JTAC requires control of individual attacks and must visually acquire the attacking aircraft and the target for each attack. Targets and friendly positions should be marked whenever possible.

Visual acquisition must be obtained through eyes-on or via optics such as binoculars, without the use of third party devices such as laptops or other digital imagery.

Control will be made over the attack direction of the aircraft to reduce the risk of collateral damage or the attack affecting friendly forces.

Type 2

JTAC requires control of individual attacks but JTAC is unable to visually acquire the attacking aircraft at weapons, unable to visually acquire the target, or the attacking aircraft is unable to acquire the mark/target prior to weapons release.

JTAC can acquire the target visually or use targeting data from a scout, fire support team, joint fires observer, unmanned aircraft (UA), special operations forces, CAS aircrew, or other asset with accurate real-time targeting information.



TOP SECRET



SPINS

Control of Air Support.

Type 3

JTAC provides clearance for multiple attacks within a single engagement subject to specific attack restrictions.

JTAC does not need to visually acquire the aircraft or the target.

JTAC will provide attacking aircraft with targeting restrictions and then grant blanket weapons release clearance to meet the stated restrictions.

JTAC maintains abort authority.

9 Lines

The JTAC will commonly provide the CAS platform with a 9 line specifying the instructions for the attack. The 9 line format is as follows.

1. Initial point (IP)
2. Heading from the IP to the target.
3. Distance from the IP to the target in nautical miles.
4. Target elevation in feet above mean sea level.
5. Target description.
6. Target location coordinates.
7. Type of mark.
8. Location of friendlies from the target, direction, and distance in meters.
9. Egress direction.



TOP SECRET



SPINS

Terminology

The JTAC and air support platform will communicate using set terminology. This terminology is detailed here.

Cleared hot - air support is cleared to engage the target.

Winter - this is the predetermined abort code in theatre. If the JTAC issues code winter or calls abort then the attacking aircraft must safety weapons systems and maneuver off target.

Contact - refers to spotting visual references used to talk onto a target.

Tally - Visual confirmation by the pilot of the target.

Visual- Visual confirmation of friendly forces.

Weather

Wind = 252 8kn @ GL, 101 15Kn @ 6600, 321 25Kn @26000.

Temp 22C.

Clouds 10/10 coverage, 10,500 ft base, 2100 ft depth.



TOP SECRET



Mission

Mission Summary:

- **Strike AAA positions at Havadarya Airbase.**
- **Hold at position Alpha for CAS alert tasking.**

Mission Details

Gunman flight, consisting of a four ship will depart Al Minhad and proceed across the Straits to their pre planned target - Havadarya Airbase.

Ahead of the assault by the 82nd Airborne, Gunman will strike 4 AAA positions at Havadarya, removing one of the remaining threats to the helicopters bringing the 82nd in.

Following the strike at Havadarya, Gunman 1-1 and 2-1 will proceed to sector Alpha and hold for CAS tasking. Gunman 3-1 (Mono) and Gunman 4-1 (Lt. Dan 'Ronnie' McDonald) will proceed to sector Delta.

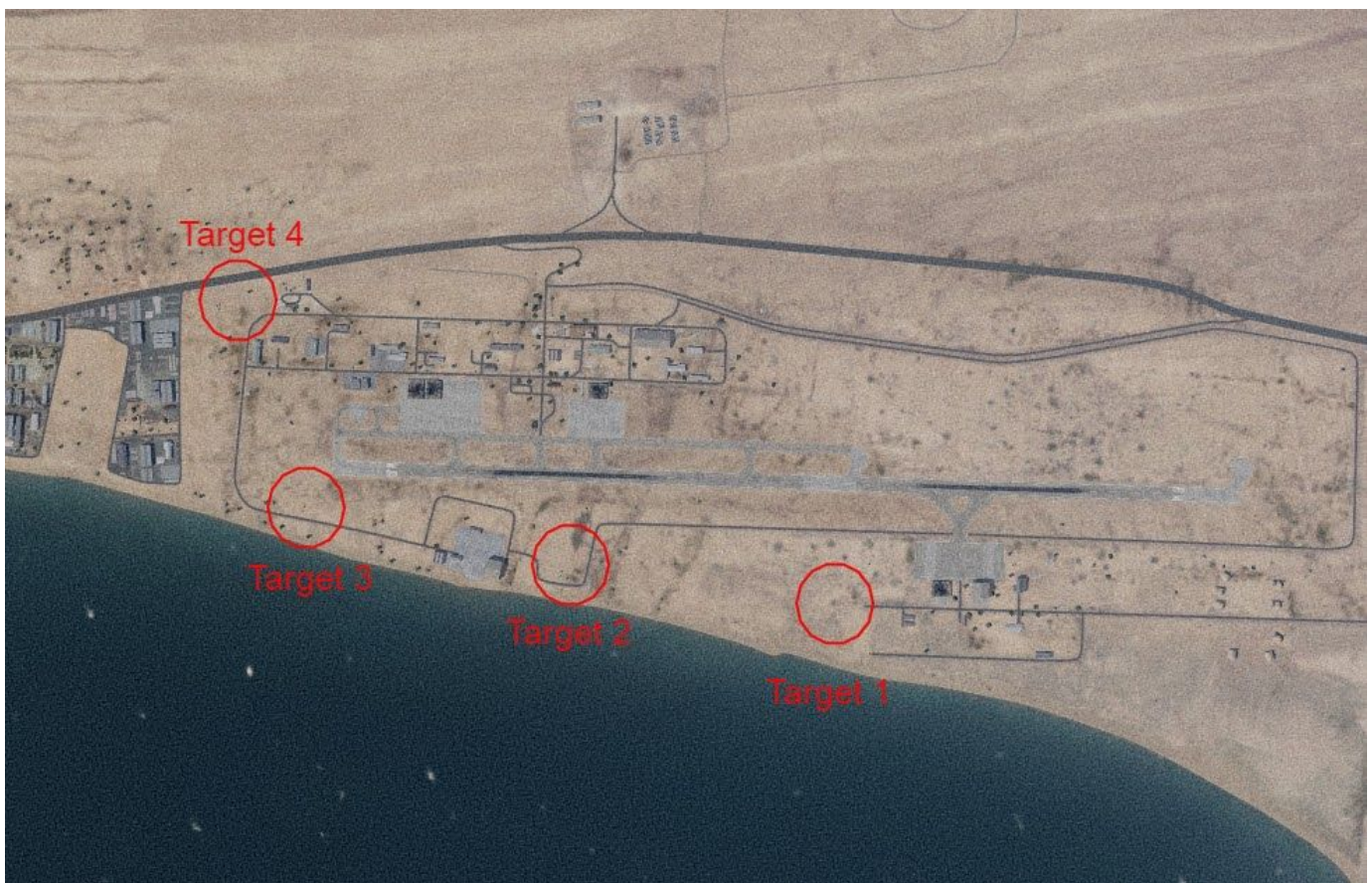
Mission

Mission Specifics

After takeoff proceed to WP 1 and join up with your flight. Push north east in formation to WP 3 before heading north towards the Havadarya area.

The flight should check in with the usual agencies enroute. A Marine Special Operations Team (MSOT) is on the ground already with eyes on the airbase and will provide a BDA. Whiplash will provide radio frequencies and callsigns enroute to the target.

The strike is against 4 AAA positions at Havadarya airbase, the removal of which will facilitate the landing of helicopters directly at the base. Due to the poor weather expected for this mission the strike will be made using GBU-38's. The targets are designated 1 through 4, Gunman 2-1 your target will be target 4. WP 5 has been set directly on the target.





TOP SECRET



Mission

Once the target has been destroyed Gunman 1-1 and 2-1 will proceed to sector Alpha, where they will contact Whiplash and hold for tasking.

Within sector Alpha, Marine forces will first secure Rajaei Port, from here they will then push through and secure the industrial complex to the north before pushing towards phase line red.

Flight Plan

WP	Alt (k ft)	IAS (Kn)	Notes	WP	Alt (k ft)	IAS (Kn)	Notes
1	5	230	RV with flight	7	8000	230	Egress
2	9	230		8	15000	230	Egress
3	15	230	Check in Overlord	9	15000	230	
4	15	230		10	5000	230	Approach
5	56 ft		TARGET 40R DR 16273 04360	11			Land
6	15000	200	Hold at Alpha				

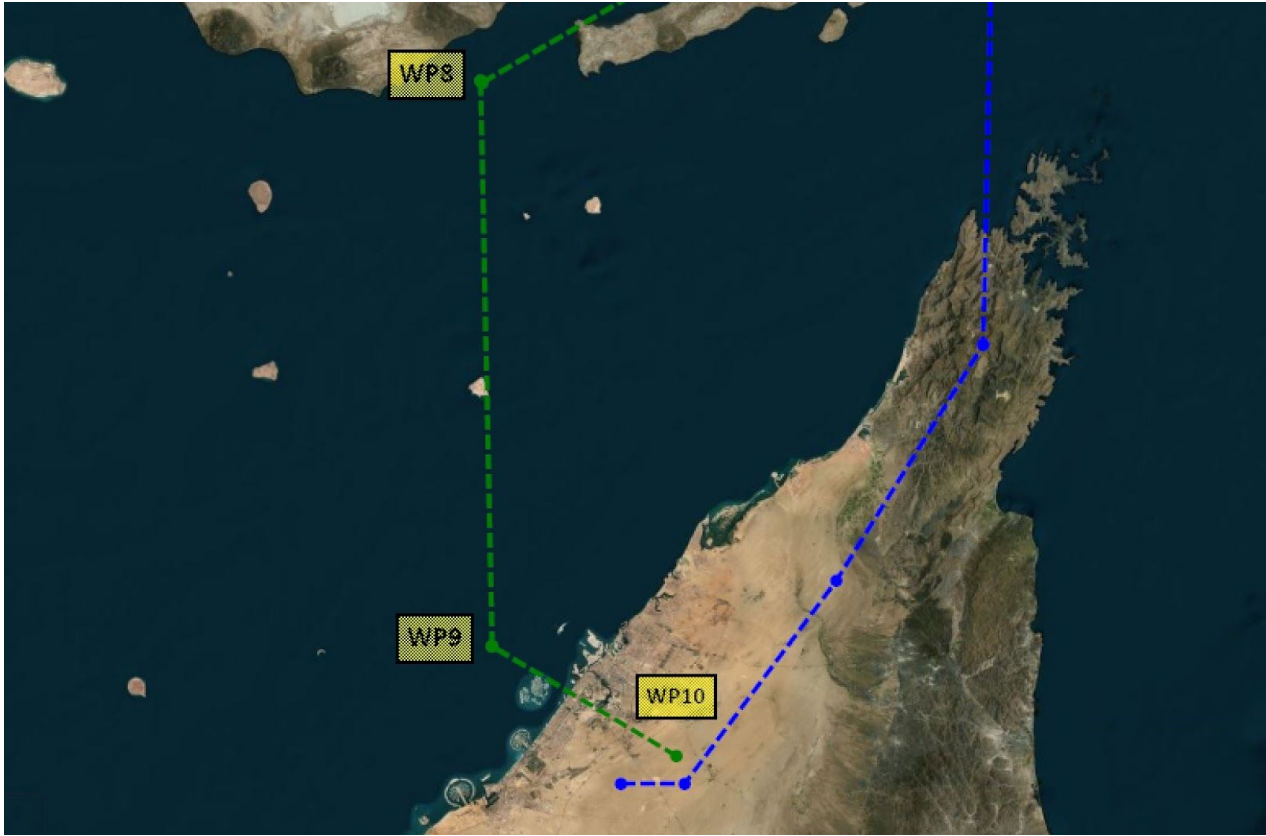
Joker Fuel 2500lb

Bingo Fuel 2000lb

Flight Plan



Flight Plan





TOP SECRET



Threats

AAA in the vicinity of Havadarya (primary target).

ELINT has revealed SA-8 Gecko mobile systems in the direction of phase line red.

As always the presence of mobile AAA and MANPAD/SA-9 Gaskin should be assumed and mitigated for.

Iranian air assets have been seriously degraded, however several attempts from the IRIAF to breach our CAP's defensive lines have occurred in the last 24 hours.

*****NOTE TO PLAYER*****

Be aware this mission can be quite a lengthy one if completed in full, allow approximately 2-2.5 hours to complete (this can be shortened however if tasking is aborted early, this will not cause a mission fail, just a potentially reduced score).