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

04:30, 5th November, 2011.

## Situation

The Scud hunting efforts in recent days have been highly successful, with over 14 separate batteries of TEL's destroyed or disabled over the last week. Whilst this success of course pays testament to the skill and courage of our pilots, it is the efforts of the SOF on the ground that have really made the difference.

The IRGC is also aware of this and they've stepped up their efforts to remove our forces from the area. At approximately 15:00 yesterday, one of the Forge special forces teams made contact with an IRGC patrol in Scud Alley - near the Firuzabad valley, we know they managed to pull back south under darkness and they've made an urgent request for extraction - due not long after dawn. Several air assets are being scrambled on an emergency CAS mission to make sure the extraction is successful, our Hog's will of course be part of this mission. No further details are available at this time.

# Situation



The SOF team reportedly made contact in the Firuzabad area and withdrew south overnight.



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## 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.



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## 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.



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## 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.



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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.



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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.



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### *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 = 274 1kn @ GL, 300 4Kn @ 6600, 180 18Kn @26000.

Temp 22C.

Clouds 5/10 coverage, 7800 ft base, 1700 ft depth.





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## Mission

### Mission Summary:

- Provide CAS and support the extraction of a US special operations team.

### Mission Details

Take off from Lavan and form up with Gunman 1-1 at WP1.

Gunman 1-1 will make contact with the SOF team.

Follow Gunman 1-1 to the extraction area and provide CAS as needed.

The SOF team will provide more details when you are enroute.



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## Flight Plan

WP	Alt (k ft)	IAS (Kn)	Notes	WP	Alt (k ft)	IAS (Kn)	Notes
1	5	230	RV Gunman 1-1	3			Land
2	5	270	Approach				

Joker Fuel 2000lb

Bingo Fuel 1500lb

## Threats

No specific intel on threats available at this time, however the extraction area is only 10 miles south of Scud Alley so anticipate AAA and MANPADS in the area.