



TOP SECRET



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

05:00, 24th October, 2011.

Media

<https://youtu.be/tTZjwu1LB6U>

Situation

This morning the coalition forces will start the air campaign against Iran.

A large scale, coordinated attack will target the Iranian air defence network, it's airfields and it's fighter aircraft.

The opening shots will be made by the US navy, with Tomahawk cruise missiles fired from ships in the Gulf of Oman. These Tomahawks will target the early warning radars at Bandar-E-Jask, Sirri, Kish and Havadarya with an impact time of 06:55.

Overlord will broadcast '*Nevada*' at impact minus 2 minutes.

Once the radars are offline, Overlord will signal the Go code '*Florida*' and all aircraft will push to their objectives.

The attack will begin with SEAD missions flown against coastal air defence positions, followed closely by F/A-18's and F-15's on fighter sweeps. Positions along the entire southern flank of Iran will be targeted, as will the two SA-10 batteries located further inland.

Once the threat level has been reduced, the second wave will follow with strikes against IADS command positions and airfields.

Upon completion of these strike packages the ability of the Iranian military to defend it's airspace will have been seriously diminished.



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Air Tasking:

Flight	Aircraft	Target
Phoenix	F/A-18	SEAD - east sector
Dallas	F/A-18	DEAD - east sector
Seattle	F/A-18	Fighter Sweep - east sector
Washington	F-16	SEAD - west sector
Miami	F-16	DEAD - west sector
Orlando	F-15C	Fighter Sweep - west sector
Chicago	B-1	Bandar Abbas Airport
Houston	B-1	Havadraya AB
Baltimore	B-1	Lar AB
Nashville	B-1	Shiraz AB
Memphis	F-15E	Shiraz AB
Newark	F-15E	Lar AB
Atlanta	F-15E	IADS command
Gunman	A-10	Sirri and Abu Musa airfields



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Situation

Iran is well aware of the buildup of coalition forces and are prepared for an attack. Air defence command is on full alert and squadrons of IRIAF fighters are on round the clock CAP's.

Iran has a capable IADS network, consisting of a combination of both modern and legacy Soviet/Russian radars, SAM and AAA systems as well as both US and British built HAWK and Rapier systems.

Iran also operates a variety of Russian aircraft including the Mig-29, Mig-21 and SU-25. Some older US aircraft also remain in the Iranian inventory, namely F5's and F-14's. It is not currently known if the F-14's are still equipped with the AIM-54 Phoenix missile.



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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.



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Weather

Wind = 261 7kn @ GL, 270 13Kn @ 6600, 121 20Kn @26000

Temp 17C.

Clouds 7/10 coverage, 7500 ft base, 1500 ft depth.



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Mission

Mission Summary:

- Destroy SAM system on Abu Musa island.
- Destroy Mig-21 aircraft on ground at Abu Musa Airfield.

Mission Details

Whilst the opening shots of the airwar are fired, the 74th FS will proceed to two Iranian occupied islands in the Gulf and neutralise the air defences there.

As part of Iran's military build up in the Gulf, the islands of Sirri and Abu Musa have seen the recent deployment of SAM systems and interceptor aircraft.

An SA-6 battery has been installed on Sirri whilst Abu Musa has seen the deployment of an SA-15 mobile system and the arrival of 2 Mig-21 interceptor aircraft.

ELINT has shown the SA-6 and SA-15 to be fully operational, the Mig-21's arrived late last night and ongoing surveillance since arrival has revealed major maintenance on the aircraft appears to be underway. It is believed that these Migs will not be operational upon arrival in the target area and this presents a valuable opportunity to catch them on the ground. Should this prove to be incorrect the nearby F-15 CAP will be tasked to protect the Gunman flights.

The presence of these assets in the centre of the Gulf pose a threat to aircraft crossing the water to Iran as well as to our E3's and tankers behind the front line. The destruction of all SAM systems and Mig-21 aircraft will remove this threat. Ideally we would allocate dedicated SEAD aircraft to this mission but given the density of the IADS network in Iran we cannot spare any of our SEAD capacity for these targets.

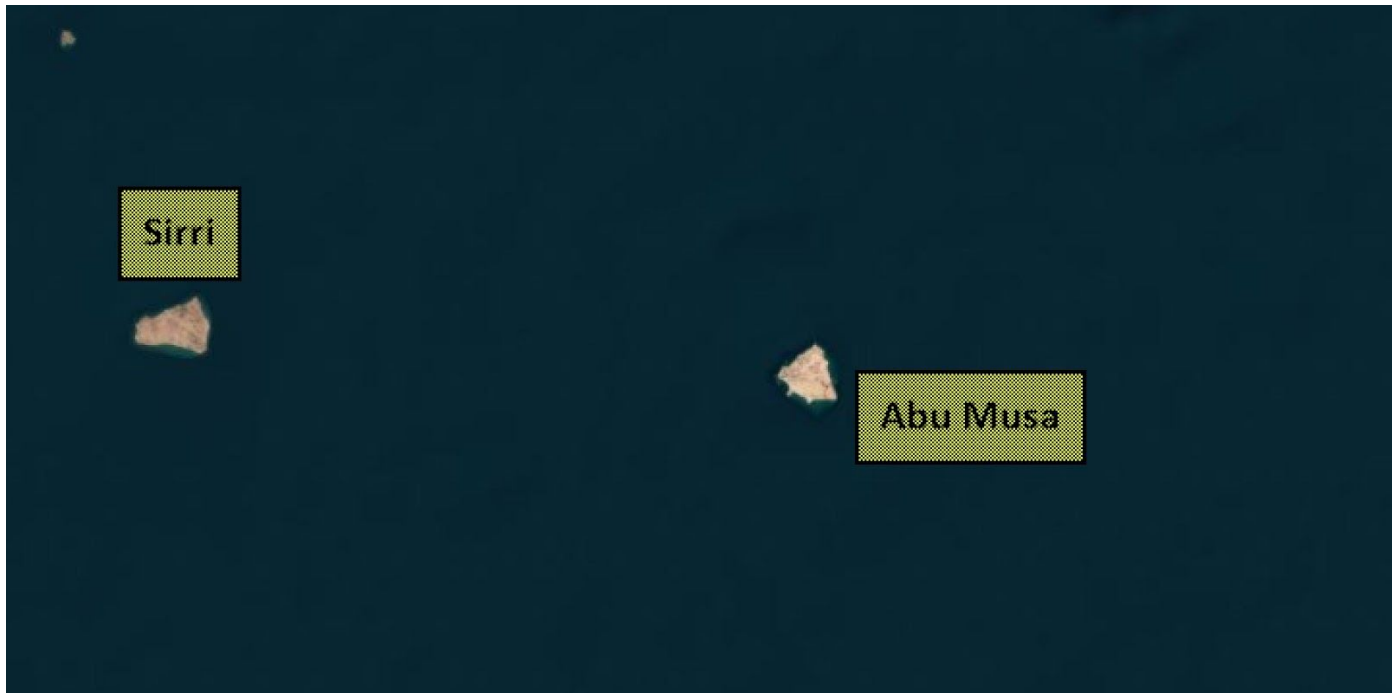
Today's package from the 74th FS consists of three flights, Gunman 1, Gunman 2 and Gunman 3.

Lt.Col Jones will lead Gunman 1 (4 ship) and will attack the SA-6 on Sirri. Analysis of the battery location has led to the conclusion that it will be vulnerable to a low level attack. This target is designated as *Fenway*.

Mission

You will command Gunman 2 (2 ship) and will attack Abu Musa, designated Yankee.

Gunman 3 (2 ship) under the command of Lt. Peyton (callsign Mono) will proceed to Jazireh island, a few miles north of Sirri. Intel suggests that Iran has started to deploy military equipment to this island, if this is the case then Gunman 3 will report back to Overlord for further instructions. The designation for Jazireh is *Wrigley*.





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Mission

Mission Specifics

Upon takeoff the three flights will proceed together through WP1, 2 and 3. At WP4 the flights will split into their separate mission paths. Ensure contact with Overlord and Whiplash is made throughout the flights.

Gunman 2 will proceed on flight plan to WP 6, where they will report in to Whiplash for final strike clearance.

The expected position of both the SA-15 and Mig-21's are programmed into waypoints 9 and 10. Be advised though that the Tor is a mobile system and it's position may have changed since the latest satellite photos.

A UAV under JTAC control will be on station close by and will be providing real time data to Whiplash as well as being available to supply additional tasking if instructed by Whiplash.

Mission



Mission



Care should be taken to avoid the engagement zone of the SA-6, your flight plan has been prepared with this in mind so make sure to follow the allocated route. The SA-15 engagement range is limited so make sure you stay out of range whilst you ID your targets. I'll leave the attack specifics to your discretion.

Finally HUMINT has revealed that the crews stationed on Abu Musa are regular conscripted personnel and not part of the IRGC, the intel has suggested that the discipline of these troops is low and they may be less than well prepared. I'd advise not relying too much on this intel but I would expect that the longer you loiter over the target, the more risk you face of the Iranians sorting themselves out and engaging you in a meaningful way.

Mission

Abu Musa:





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Flight Plan

WP	Alt (k ft)	IAS (Kn)	Notes
1	5	230	Form flights
2	15	230	
3	15	230	
4	15	230	Caution SA-6
5	15	230	Caution SA-6
6	15	230	Check in Whiplash
7	10	230	Ingress Target Area
8	10	230	IP - Estimated max engagement range of SA-15
9			Last known location SA-15
10			Last known location Mig-21's
11	10	230	Egress
12	15	230	
13	15	230	
14			Land Al Dhafra

Joker Fuel = 2200 lb

Bingo Fuel = 1700 lb



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Threats

An SA-6 battery is located at Sirri Island, your flight plan will route you outside of it's engagement zone so do not deviate from the flight plan.

Abu Musa is protected by an SA-15 Tor mobile SAM system. Whilst this is a potent and dangerous threat it is fortunately hampered by a limited range. Your attack plan should take advantage of this.

It is unknown but considered likely that MANPAD SA-18 systems will be present on site as well. The possibility of AAA over the target is also unknown but possible. These systems can be defeated through high altitude.

There are no airborne threats in your AO providing the Mig's remain grounded.

Details of all threats can be found in your kneeboards.