

OPERATIONS ORDER 24-01 (OPERATION WATERBOY)

Reference:

Map – Fort Knox Special (1:25,000)
BN OPORD 24-01
TC 3-21.76 Ranger Handbook
ATP 3-21.8 Infantry Platoon and Squad

Time Zone: Romeo (US Eastern Time)

TASK ORGANIZATION

CO HQs	1st PLATOON	2nd PLATOON	3rd PLATOON
FIST Team	PLT HQ	PLT HQ	PLT HQ
Mortar Section	3 x Rifle Squads	3 x Rifle Squads	3 x Rifle Squads
2 x Medics (FLA)	Weapons Squad	Weapons Squad	Weapons Squad

1. **SITUATION** – U.S. forces are operating in a country known as the Republic of Hardin (RoH). A relatively new free-state that is experiencing sovereignty for the first time after a violent uprising of the people several years ago. With the help of NATO forces, the Republic of Hardin has established a new governmental system with free elections; U.S. forces are currently conducting stability operations throughout the region.

A. Area of Interest

1. The Area of Interest (Aoi) for this operation encompasses RoH.

i. North - 09N

ii. West – 85E

iii. South – 85N

iv. East – 10E

2. **CAS/CCA** – Enemy (ENY) has no reported air capabilities.

3. **Artillery/ADA** – We suspect that the enemy may have a 82mm Mortar Section (comparable to U.S. 81mm) located IVO Cemetery Hill (FG 015 959); from this location, ENY mortars can affect the far eastern portion of the AO. Their primary mission is to suppress coalition forces IOT block them from pursuing an enemy withdrawal east of the AO after a large-scale attack on the Village of Knox. The immediate use of these mortar systems will likely be triggered when a U.S. element of squad size or larger is detected East of the FD 1020/ Porter River Rd intersection (EG 962 964).

4. **Reinforcements** – 1 ENY PLT composed of three light infantry squads with technical vehicles IVO Atcher DZ (FG 010 870), likely trucks stolen from villagers in the Village of Radcliff. Expected to reinforce if U.S. forces demonstrate overwhelming combat power against established enemy fighting positions that are deemed decisive to enemy operations. Reinforcements can reach the eastern portion of the AO in approx. 25 minutes, utilizing their vehicles on FD 1020 from the south. However, reinforcements not likely to be utilized as ENY forces are not well established in the area and could surpass their operational reach.

5. **Reserves** – ENY forces do not have any suspected or reported planned reserves within the AO or Aoi.

B. Area of Operations (AO)

Throughout this operation, Alpha Company will be operating within **AO SHIELD**; encompassing the Village of Knox.

CO AO: AO MUDBOWL

- North – 02N
- West – 92E
- South – 90N
- East – 02E

1. Terrain Analysis:

a. **Obstacles:** Existing: All creeks represent natural obstacles to movement (mounted/dismounted). Examples include Mill Creek. **Mill Creek is the major waterway running north to south within the Aol and AO.** This waterway is essential to **conducting water resupply for both friendly and enemy forces.** Conducting water resupply makes us vulnerable to emplaced enemy ambushes along obvious crossing and refill points. Obvious, preexisting man-made water crossings may be rigged with demolitions and are likely being observed by enemy OPs. Major hills and ridgelines may restrict movement corridors and make friendly movements more susceptible to detection while conducting infiltration.

b. **Avenues of Approach:** There **are numerous hard ball roads** within our AO, providing **high speed AOA's.** FD 1020 runs east to west and borders the northern portion of the company AO. MSR Eisenhower runs from north to south on the eastern portion of the AO and continues from east to west on the southern portion of the company AO. MSR Wilson runs north to south and forms the western board of the AO. These hard ball roads are two lanes and allow for vehicles to move in a file at speeds of up to **30- 35 KPH.** Several known trail networks exist to the north that intersect with FD 1020 in the northern portion of the AO. **Dismounted enemies use these trails to facilitate movement throughout our AO.** These approaches allow for faster movement as compared to movement through natural vegetation. Squad and platoon sized elements are capable of travelling on or alongside these trails at approximately 1-2 KPH. **Maintain security during movement at all times.**

c. **Key Terrain:** Key terrain consists of decisive infrastructure within the Aol and AO. These locations **provide optimal conditions for communication networks and provide a primary power source to the AO.** Solar Fields (K1) (EG 938 971) and Administrative HQ BLDG (K2) (EG 942 956). Additionally, the AO has **numerous LZs spread throughout.** When secured, these LZs can be used to facilitate casualty evacuation. **The enemy will likely use these LZs as mortar firing points if operational reach allows.**

d. **Observation/ Fields of Fire:** **Vegetation is dense due** to the summer climate throughout the AO which limits fields of fire and observation to within 50 meters. High ground may be sparser in some locations that will provide direct fire weapon system ranges of 200m-250m, allowing for both Friendly and Enemy personnel to engage well within their max effective ranges. Our indirect fire is best used as pre planned targets along coordinated routes, and on enemy objectives. Along the forest roads, observation/FOF is diminished due to the canalization of the terrain/high ground, as well as dense vegetation concealing observation from the enemy travelling on roads.

e. **Cover and Concealment:** Terrain **affords excellent cover and concealment from direct fire weapons.** Concealment using vegetation is most effective in draws and valleys along creeks. Concealment from overhead observation is effective near streams where the vegetation is denser. The mostly dense terrain, deadfall, and numerous hardwoods afford the ability to quickly find concealment from observation and cover from indirect/direct fires, it should be utilized for the majority of movements after reaching the line of departure. **The enemy uses the thick canopy to hide from Friendly aircraft.**

2. Weather Analysis: WEATHER & LIGHT DATA (See local WX forecast)

C. Enemy Forces:

ENY Forces Composition, Capabilities, and Recent Activity:

1. **Composition, Disposition, Strength:** The MF operate as an unconventional force, with a non-standard uniform that travel by foot or in civilian 4x4 Hilux Trucks. Enlisted and Officer Personnel wear black pants and shirts with a mix of soviet-era BDU gear. Mattoon Forces operate in squad(-) of 6-8 personnel coordinated by a mobile C2 element. MF also have access to 82mm mortars. Communications equipment and radios are typically fielded to the Officers only. There are estimated to be at least two dismounted squads operating within the AO to secure key terrain to gain and report intelligence gathered. These squads will likely have 1x M240B with additional small arms weapons, their movement formation is unknown. They are operating at 90% strength.

2. **Capabilities:** MF squads are armed with automatic rifles and light/medium machine guns equivalent to U.S. M4's, M14s, M249s, and M240Bs. The EN mortar section has 2x 82-PM-41 mortars that have a max effective range of 4,300 meters allowing them to range the eastern portion of the AO. They can adjust and place IDF within 15 minutes of notification and have the ability to quickly displace if necessary to avoid retaliation. MF use handheld radio systems that allow for reporting between other MF squads. They also use long range FM systems to communicate with their higher headquarters across the border and amongst adjacent platoons and companies.

3. **Recent Activities:** Over the last 96 hours, enemy patrols have been conducting small-scale harassing attacks from the eastern half of the AO. Intelligence reports suggest that the enemy is attempting to gather information on coalition forces security posture, response time, and SOPs. It is likely that the enemy is using this information to plan for a larger offensive within the next 10-14 days. Enemy patrols have been observed conducting resupply operations along MSR Boucher. It is suspected the resupply consists of mortar rounds and class IV to reinforce positions.

D. Friendly Forces:

1. Higher Headquarters Mission and Intent:

a. 2 Levels Up

i. BDE Mission: 2 IBCT, 1st IN DIV. neutralizes the Mattoon Forces in Republic of Hardin NLT D+5 IOT prevent the destabilization and preserve the legitimate government of Republic of Hardin.

ii. BDE Commander's Intent.

Expanded Purpose: Prevent the destabilization and preserve the legitimate government of RoH.

Key Tasks:

- Destroy enemy forces within the AO.
- Secure key terrain and border crossing points.
- Re-establish security and promote Republic of Hardin structured government.

End State: Enemy in AO is unable to influence coalition operations, friendly forces retain control of AO, friendly forces postured for follow on operations, the legitimate government of Republic of Hardin is restored, and civilian collateral damage is minimal

(b) 1 Level Up

i. BN Mission: 2-1 IN BN conducts offensive operations in Republic of Hardin NLT D+4 IOT deny the ENY freedom of maneuver on the western portion of the AO.

ii. Battalion Commander's Intent:

Expanded Purpose: Deny MF from setting the conditions to gather accurate intelligence on coalition forces within the AO to prevent coordinated ENY attacks.

Key Tasks:

- Secure government sites and key terrain within the AO.
- Disrupt MF freedom of maneuver to conduct reconnaissance within the AO.

- Prevent ENY ability to mass combat power to conduct large-scale offensive operations.

End state: Enemy forces denied freedom of movement within the AO, Coalition Forces postured for transition to stability operations, AoA's in the AO preserved, and local populace remain supportive of the Republic of Hardin government.

2. **Mission of Adjacent Units:**

- B/2-1 IN (SO1) conducts raids in AO Klein IVO EG 96 97 NLT H+9 IOT destroy ENY forces and drive them south toward BN DO.
- C/2-1 IN (SO2) conducts raids in AO Vallencourt IVO EG 96 98 NLT H+9 IOT destroy ENY forces and drive them south toward BN DO.

3. **Attachments/Detachments**

- Attachments: Medic (1/PLT), FO (1/PLT)
- Detachments: None
- Units providing fire support:**
 - BN 120mm Mortar Section
 - BN 81mm Mortar Section
 - CO 60mm Mortar Section

2. **MISSION:** A Company (BN DO) conducts offensive operations in AO Farmer Fran NLT H+8.5 IOT destroy ENY forces and deny freedom of maneuver on the western portion of the AO.

3. **EXECUTION:**

a. **Commander's Intent:**

1. **Expanded Purpose-** The purpose of this operation is to prevent Mattoon Forces from setting conditions for the successful annexation of a Mattoon structured government.

2. **Key Tasks:**

- Conduct ambush on ENY resupply convoy.
- Clear west to east through identified NAIs.
- Destroy all enemy personnel and equipment within the AO.
- Upon completion of ambush operations, occupy patrol bases undetected and posture to conduct future combat operations.

3. **End State:** All Mattoon Forces destroyed; all key routes within the AO withheld; Friendly Forces are postured to rapidly project combat power throughout the AO; Local-national authority retained and local populace remain supportive of the Republic of Hardin government.

b. **Concept of the Operation:**

We will accomplish this mission by conducting a series of ambushes along MSR Boucher. Decisive to this operation is the destruction of enemy resupply convoys. This is decisive because it denies ENY ability to resupply their mortar firing points and troops to continue offensive operations against US Forces. **A3 (DO):** Conduct an ambush IVO EG 9635 9670 NLT H+8.5 IOT destroy ENY logistics convoys. **A2 (SO1):** Conduct an ambush IVO EG 9510 9570, NLT H+8.5 IOT destroy ENY logistics convoys. **A1 (SO2):** Conduct an ambush IVO EG 9470 9290, NLT H+8.5 IOT destroy ENY logistics convoys. The purpose of fires is to allow friendly forces freedom of maneuver. All enemy forces destroyed; all key routes within the AO withheld; Friendly Forces are postured to rapidly project combat power throughout the AO; Local-national authority re-established and local populace remain supportive of the Republic of Hardin.

- Phase I: Planning and Preparation
 - This phase starts with the receipt of this ORDER and ends when PLTs are staged for movement.
 - Critical to this phase is the briefing of PLT OPORDs IOT ensure shared understanding and provide the framework for the common operating picture.
- Phase II: Movement
 - This phase starts with movement to line of departure and ends when A1, A2, and A3 have established point ambush positions along MSR Boucher.

- Critical to this phase is the undetected movement to the ambush positions.
- Phase III: Actions on Objective
 - This phase starts when PLTs initiate movement from west to east within their axis of advance and ends when all elements have destroyed ENY convoys between **H+8.5** and **H+16**.
 - Critical to this phase is the successful clearance of MSR Boucher and the destruction of ENY patrols/OP's encountered.
- Phase IV: Consolidation and Reorganization (C&R)
 - This phase starts when all ENY convoys have been destroyed or withdrawn from the AO and ends with the receipt of follow-on mission from higher.
 - Critical to this phase is the identification of any ENY reinforcements moving into the AO, clearance of any obstacle emplaced by the ENY and the establishment of PLT area defense IVO PLT LOA.

c. Scheme of Movement and Maneuver:

1. **3/A (DO):** Conduct ambush IVO **EG 9580 9595** NLT **H+8.5** IOT destroy ENY logistics convoys in the western portion of the AO.
2. **2/A (SO1)** Conduct ambush IVO **EG 9510 9570**, NLT **H+8.5** IOT destroy ENY logistics convoys in the western portion of the AO.
3. **1/A (SO2)** Conduct ambush IVO **EG 9635 9670**, NLT **H+8.5** IOT destroy ENY logistics convoys in the western portion of the AO.

d. Scheme of Fires

Target: AB3005

Trigger: O/O

Location: **EG 968 972**

Observer: A1/ A2 PL/FO

Delivery System: 120mm HE.

Attack Guidance: 8 rounds, NFA around all friendly OPs. NFA within 500 meters of K1 and K2. No WP for illumination.

Communication: FM – Company net/ ALT- BN Fires Net.

- i. All PLTs must turn in additional targets and confirm/refine targets NLT 1hr prior to issuing PLT OPOD. Request fires through CP using TTLODAC. Once the targets have been approved you will be issued a target number.
- ii. Each PLT is authorized 2 x 81mm priority targets for planning, 4 rounds per.
- iii. Each PLT is authorized 2 x 60mm priority targets for planning, 4 rounds per.
- iv. CO MTR SEC will be with the CP. MFP's will be adjusted throughout the operation. Ensure the PLT FO's are maintaining communication with the CO CP and providing accurate locations of the front line trace to ensure immediate fire support in the event of TIC. The BN Mortar Platoon will be located with the BN TOC.
 1. Target Series for A1 until further notice: AB1005 – AB1025
 2. Target Series for A2 until further notice: AB2005 – AB2025
 3. Target Series for Company targets until further notice: AB3010 – AB3025

e. Tasks to Subordinate Units:

1. **3/A (DO)**
 - a. Conduct ambush IVO **EG 9635 9670** NLT **H+8.5** IOT destroy ENY logistics convoys in the western portion of the AO.
 - b. Receive and distribute ammunition at **EG 948 969**.
 - c. Maintain communication and coordinate movement with CO HQ.
 - d. Coordinate for link up with CP for resupply and CASEVAC.
 - e. Report observations which answer PIRs to CO HQ.
 - f. Occupy patrol base IVO **EG 995 975** NLT **H+16** to prepare for follow-on operations.

(2) 2/A (SO1)

- a. Conduct ambush IVO **EG 9510 9570** NLT **H+8.5** IOT destroy ENY logistics convoys in the western portion of the AO.
- b. Receive and distribute ammunition at **EG 948 969**.
- c. Maintain communication and coordinate movement with CO HQ.
- d. Coordinate for link up with CP for resupply and CASEVAC.
- e. Report observations which answer PIRs to CO HQ.
- f. Occupy patrol base IVO **EG 985 935** NLT **H+16** to prepare for follow-on operations.

(3) 1/A (SO2)

- a. Conduct ambush IVO **EG 9470 9290** NLT **H+8.5** IOT destroy ENY logistics convoys in the western portion of the AO.
- b. Receive and distribute ammunition at **EG 948 969**.
- c. Maintain communication and coordinate movement with CO HQ.
- d. Coordinate for link up with CP for resupply and CASEVAC.
- e. Report observations which answer PIRs to CO HQ.
- f. Occupy patrol base IVO **EG 985 955** NLT **H+16** to prepare for follow-on operations.

f. Coordinating Instructions:

1. Timeline.

WHEN	WHO	WHAT	WHERE
(D-DAY)			
0700 (H-4)	All	Weapons Draw	Arms Room
0730 (H-3.5)	A1-6/A2-6	Receive Order	Company TOC
0800 (H-3)	A1/A2	Issue WARNORD	Company TOC
0830 (H-2.5)	A1-6/A2-6	Coordination with A6	Company TOC
0830 (H-2.5)	A1-7/A2-7	Supply Requests Received by A7	Company TOC
NET 0900 (H-2)	A1/A2	Issue PLT OPORDs	Company TOC
1100 (H-Hour)	A2/A3	SP	Company TOC
1130 (H+30min)	A1	SP	AO MUDBOWL
NLT 1330 (H+2.5)	A1/A2	Postured for simultaneous ambushes	MSR Boucher
1930 (H+8.5)	A3	Conduct Ambush	EG 9635 9670
1930 (H+8.5)	A2	Conduct Ambush	EG 9510 9570
1930 (H+8.5)	A1	Conduct Ambush	EG 9470 9290
2330 (H+16)	A3/A2/A1	Occupy Patrol Base	EG 995 975 / EG 985 935 / EG 985 955

2. CCIR. REPORT ALL PIR IMMEDIATELY TO COMPANY CP.

a. PIR.

1. Composition of MF mounted and dismounted patrols.
2. Presence of MF HVTs.
3. Location of MF C2 nodes, cache sites and drug trafficking routes.
4. Any maps, number and type of rounds found or used overlays, SOIs or operational plans.
5. Enemy use of NVGs/lasers.

6. Enemy use of IEDs or discovery of IED materials.
7. Presence of enemy ADA assets.

b. FFIR.

1. Loss of mission essential equipment.
2. Patrol compromised during reconnaissance/tactical movement.
3. Failure to meet mission timeline.
4. Violation of COMSEC.

c. EEFI.

1. Friendly force disposition and routes.
2. PZs for re-supply and emergency extraction.
3. Friendly operational plans and intent.
4. US forces SOI.

3. ROE.

- a. Use of deadly force against enemy forces is authorized.
- b. The right to self-defense is never denied. A Soldier always has the right to defend themselves. If fired upon by enemy personnel, lethal force may be used.
- c. Enemy forces may be attacked day or night, unless they are attempting to surrender.
- d. All enemy camp facilities and equipment may be attacked, except religious and medical facilities.

4. Actions on Enemy Contact.

- a. Engage and destroy enemy patrols if compromised.
- b. Send all SPOT Reports to Company CP on contact, use SALUTE format.

5. Civilians on the Battlefield. Avoid all civilians in AO, reduce collateral damage to a minimum.

6. Resupply. Report status of Class I and Class V DAILY.

7. Future Operations. Guidance for follow on operations issued to PLTs in the form of a daily FRAGO IOT facilitate daily coordination and mission planning.

8. Control measures.

- a. Designate internal control measures for PLT maneuver and approve through the Company Commander.
- b. Establish direct/indirect fire control measures on the OBJ to reduce fratricide (Phase Lines, TRP's, etc.)

9. Capture Avoidance.

- (a) Use of 5-point contingency plan for all departing elements.
- (b) Leaders maintain accountability of personnel/equipment at all times.
- (c) Plan for easily identifiable en-route rally points to allow separated elements to link up.

10. Priority of rehearsals.

- a. Back brief the company commander before giving the platoon WARNO.
- b. Actions on the OBJ.
- c. React to contact.
- d. Fixed rope installation.
- e. Patrol base occupation.
- f. LDA crossing.

11. Contingency Plans. Develop contingency plans for the following situations (minimum):

- a. Compromise plan for movement, leaders recon, and patrol base.

b. **MASCAL plan**.

12. Captured Soldier protocol.

- a. **Immediately** report to higher.
- b. Move to last known location and begin immediate search.

- c. Establish initial cordon.
- d. Establish/reinforce/expand cordon.
- e. Surge operations: immediate mission change for all forward units.

4. SUSTAINMENT.

- a. Logistics.
 - 1. Company trains co-located with CP.
 - a. Plan for 24 hours of continuous operations prior to the first ground resupply.
 - b. Load preparation, delivery method, and location determined at company level.
 - 2. Equipment: Repair using field expedient means whenever possible. Remove all battalion equipment from casualties before evacuation from AO.
 - 4. Class I:
 - a. Deploy with 2 MREs per man. Deploy with 6 quarts of water minimum per man.
 - 5. Class V:
 - a. Deploy with basic load for all weapon systems.
 - b. Prepare all demolitions prior to insertion.
 - 6. Class IX:
 - a. Request as needed.
 - b. Call on company command net for emergency resupply.
 - 7. Transportation:
 - a. Movement into AO is by foot.
- b. Personnel.
 - a. Handle all EPWs IAW the 5 Ss (Secure, Search, Silence, Segregate, Speed to the rear). Coordinate EPW exchange point with higher.
- c. Health System Support.
 - 1. Laundry/Shower only available at assigned billets. Services not available until refit.
 - 2. MEDEVAC:
 - a. Use CO CMD Net.
 - b. Ground and air MEDEVAC both available.
 - c. Plan en-route CCPs as appropriate.

5. COMMAND AND SIGNAL.

- a. **COMMAND:**
 - 1. Location of higher unit commander – BN CDR at BN TOC.
 - 2. Company commander will move with Co Mortar Section behind the DO, 3/A.
 - 3. Succession of Command: XO, 1SG, 1 PL, 2 PL, 1PSG, 2 PSG
- b. **CONTROL:**
 - 1. Location of CO CP: Trailing behind Company DO
 - 2. BN TOC located at **EG 935 965**. Along with the BN Mortar Platoon.
 - 3. Reports
 - a. All reports will be submitted on Alpha Company Command net to Alpha X-Ray or A6.
 - b. I-1 (SALUTE report): upon enemy sighting/immediately when any PIR is collected
 - c. Immediate report of all PIR.

- d. Radio Check every hour on the hour, unless actively engaged with the enemy.
- e. OPSKED in effect

c. SIGNAL:

1. Frequencies and Call Signs.

a. Frequencies

1. Company

- i. Primary 60.755
- ii. Alternate 75.440

2. Platoon

- i. A1- 60.555
- ii. A2- 77.010
- iii. A3- 37.945

b. Call Signs

1. Company

- i. Company Commander- Alpha 6
- ii. Company 1SG- Alpha 7
- iii. Company HQ- Alpha X-Ray

2. Platoon

- i. 1st Platoon- Alpha (PL 1-6, PSG 1-7, 1SL 1-1, 2SL 1-2, 3SL 1-3, WSL 1-4)
- ii. 2nd Platoon- Alpha (PL 2-6, PSG 2-7, 1SL 2-1, 2SL 2-2, 3SL 2-3, WSL 2-4)
- iii. 3rd Platoon- Alpha (PL 3-6, PSG 3-7, 1SL 3-1, 2SL 3-2, 3SL 3-3, WSL 3-4)

2. Methods of communication, in priority: Visual signals, FM with 10 sec. maximum transmission time (contingent upon the situation), messenger.

3. Challenge and Password: Colonel, Sanders

4. Number Combination: 3

5. Running Password: Medulla Oblongata

6. Visual signals as per platoon SOP. VS-17 to mark LZ for MEDEVAC.

7. RTO Duties:

- a. Call in all OPSKEDs at each phase of the operation and radio checks every hour on the hour.
- b. Ensure communication is maintained with higher throughout the operation.
- c. Provide PLT front line trace at PL and every radio check.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Encl.
Annex B – Intelligence
Annex C – Operations Overlay

MICHAEL WRIGHT
CPT, IN
Commanding