

THE BASIC SCHOOL
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA
FEX I – LZ Falcon 1st Plt Order

General Situation. You are the Squad Leaders of 1st Platoon, Leatherneck Company A. You are currently in Camp Barrett, a village located in the province of Centralia. However, operations will be staged out of LZ Falcon, where we will insert via ground movement. The LZ is currently being utilized as a convoy staging area and local distribution center for supplies. Your battalion recently arrived in this AO and has been briefed that over the last several months the Montanya Regular Army (MRA) has terrorized Camp Barrett through a campaign of intimidation, kidnappings, and murders. The MRA are not a conventional force such as ours, but they do have a command and control node. The MRA are very proficient fighters but lack the weapon systems and technology we bring to the fight. Recently, the MRA have been predominantly conducting their terror campaign through systematically hijacking local supply vehicles. In an effort to stabilize Camp Barrett and Centralia as a whole, our Battalion and specifically our Company has been tasked with securing Camp Barrett and the surrounding areas in order to allow the humanitarian efforts to proceed unimpeded.

Orientation. Our Area of Operations (AO) is bordered by the Breckenridge Reservoir to the North and to the East, MCB 1 to the South and West. We are currently located in LZ-7, which serves as our company's staging area for ground insert. LZ Falcon will serve as our Ammunition Supply Point (ASP) and company command post (CP). Off-road travel is restricted for vehicles and unrestricted for dismounts. Surrounding areas are characterized by dense vegetation, numerous draws ranging 20 – 50 meters in depth. Water frequently occupies the base of the draws after periods of rain, but may not be depicted on our maps. Observation: Visibility ranges from 50-200m during the winter months and 25-100m during summer months. Cover & Concealment: Heavily vegetated areas provide the most concealment for movement, while some low lying areas around Breckenridge Reservoir are lightly vegetated and provide enhanced visibility for us and the enemy. Numerous fingers and draws can facilitate cover for movement depending on our direction of travel. Obstacles: Breckenridge Reservoir is not normally fordable during the summer months but an adjacent company has reported several positions where foot mobile traffic can cross, although none have been identified in our Company AO as of now. Key Terrain: LZ Falcon, our assembly area, provides a staging area and distribution center for UN supplies, and therefore is a high priority for MRA forces. Several clearings in surrounding areas are potentially suitable for use as helicopter landing zones for resupply and casualty evacuation purposes. Avenues of Approach: All unimproved roads are trafficable by both friendly and enemy forces and can also be utilized in conjunction with the MSRs for resupply and casualty evacuation purposes. Due to lighter vegetation and moderate terrain along water features, dismounted enemy avenues of approach are likely along guiding features such as Breckenridge Reservoir. Potable water sources are available throughout the AO.

1. (U) Situation

a. (U) Enemy

(1) (U) Composition/Disposition/Strength. During the past 24 hours, the MRA have deployed multiple fire team and squad sized elements IVO Camp Barrett and LZ Falcon. Intelligence suggests at least two MRA fire team and one squad sized units have entered our AO from the South and East of Breckenridge Reservoir and the North and West of MCB 1. These units have typically operated in a disaggregated manner, gathering information and familiarizing themselves with the terrain and MSR's in this area. Recent intelligence indicates that once the MRA have reconnoitered our ASP and logistics hub in LZ Falcon, they will attempt to conduct harassing attacks on the ASP defenses to determine our disposition and strength, eventually massing to conduct a deliberate attack on our ASP and logistics hub. Total force strength of all the MRA squads in the Company AO appears to be about 30-40 fighters. The MRA are armed with Soviet style small arms including AK-47s, RPKs, RPGs, some captured US small arms and have the ability to coordinate indirect fire. The MRA were last seen wearing captured American Navy camouflage uniforms. Communications are conducted with cellular phones and civilian radios which limits their ability to command and control.

(2) (U) Capabilities and Limitations. The MRA is capable of defending their positions but given their small size, they will be unable to defend effectively against squad size elements or larger. MRA is unable to reinforce from outside the AO, while they are capable of limited reinforcement from inside the AO within 45 mins, based on successful communication with adjacent MRA forces in the vicinity of LZ Falcon. The MRA are able to conduct small

scale harassing attacks when they can achieve surprise, typically inflicting maximum casualties with light machine guns or small arms before breaking contact and egressing. The MRA is capable of withdrawal, and are likely to withdraw in the direction of MRA forces NW or SE of our AO in order to consolidate their forces as we do not expect them to become decisively engaged.

(3) (U) Enemy Most Likely Course of Action. The enemy's mission is to reconnoiter our AO at LZ Falcon in order to enable continued harassment of civilian convoys. During the day they conduct reconnaissance of the AO. I expect the MRA to defend their ingress routes just outside of our AO with squad size elements. I believe they are at 25% security, moving well-rested fire team elements into our AO during the day. On contact, the enemy fire team elements will defend initially and if not suppressed, attempt to withdraw in the direction of the closest MRA squad position. If they have the element of surprise and advantageous terrain, the enemy will seek to inflict maximum casualties through small-scale ambushes. I expect the MRA to egress from our AO in the late evenings each day, utilizing the same ingress routes, with new teams infiltrating again in the early morning under the cover of darkness.

b. (U) Friendly

(1) (U) Higher's Mission and Intent. On order, Leatherneck Company A clears MRA forces from the AO IOT prevent them from interfering with humanitarian efforts and conducting intimidation campaigns IVO Camp Barrett.

(2) (U) Adjacent

(a) (U) Leatherneck Company B- Located at DZ Raven (DZ Raven is a large logistics distribution center and they are tasked with defending it).

(b) (U) 2d Platoon- (SE1) for the company, located at TA5A. Task: NLT 1100, destroy enemy elements IVO Camp Barrett and TA5A to the south IOT prevent the MRA from interfering with humanitarian operations.

(c) (U) 3rd Platoon- (SE2) for the company, located at Camp Barrett. Task: NLT O/O, serve as Company QRF IOT prevent the MRA from interfering with humanitarian operations.

(3) (U) Supporting. None.

(4). (U) Attachments/Detachments. None.

2. (U) Mission. We are the Main Effort. NLT 1100 1st Platoon destroys MRA forces IVO LZ Falcon IOT prevent them from interfering with humanitarian operations.

3. (U) Execution

a. (U) Commander's Intent. The purpose of this operation is to prevent them from interfering with humanitarian operations. The enemy's center of gravity is their depth provided by numerous small-sized units conducting harassing attacks and reconnaissance throughout our AO. The enemy's critical vulnerability is their inability to mass and concentrate their forces due to their lack of mutual support and command and control. I will exploit this vulnerability by conducting simultaneous squad attacks on isolated MRA units around LZ Falcon. My desired endstate is that the MRA is destroyed and unable to conduct operations IVO Camp Barrett, our AO is clear of MRA forces and humanitarian efforts have complete freedom of movement to and from LZ Falcon.

b. (U) Concept of Operations

(1) (U) Scheme of Maneuver. Our platoon direction of attack will be outward from LZ Falcon in NW, NE, and SE directions as we conduct independent squad level attacks on suspected enemy positions in our AO. We will have two supporting efforts (SE) and a main effort (ME). At 0600, the platoon will depart from our ground extract point at LZ-7, displace to LZ Falcon, and establish a platoon AA IVO 18S TH [9023 6747](#). The main effort will destroy MRA IVO Platoon Objective 1 at 18S TH [9003 6761](#). After assaulting through the objective, the squad will consolidate in the direction of the enemy, contact the platoon commander, and be prepared for follow-on operations. SE1 will conduct defensive operations at the Plt AA. SE2 will conduct route reconnaissance along hotpatch road. Each squad

leader will be responsible for determining their distribution of forces, formations of movement, additional tactical control measures, and form of maneuver to support their attacks. Mission has priority.

(2) (U) Fire Support Plan. None.

c. (U) Tasks

(1) (U) 1st Squad. You are the platoon's ME. NLT 1100, destroy MRA unit 18S TH 9003 6761 IOT prevent them from interfering with humanitarian efforts at LZ Falcon. BPT conduct follow on operations.

(2) (U) 2nd Squad. You are the platoon's SE 1. NLT 1100, defend the platoon AA IVO 18S TH 9023 6747 IOT prevent them from interfering with humanitarian efforts at LZ Falcon. BPT conduct follow on operations.

(3) (U) 3rd Squad. You are the platoon's SE 2. NLT 1100, control Hotpatch Rd IVO the plt AA at 18S TH 9023 6747 IOT prevent them from interfering with humanitarian efforts at LZ Falcon. BPT conduct follow on operations.

d. (U) Coordinating Instructions

(1) (U) Direction of Attack. Multiple Directions

(2) (U) Formations for Movement. Determined by squad leaders.

(3) (U) Tactical Control Measure.

(a) (U) AA: LZ Falcon at 18S TH 9023 6747

(b) (U) ATK POS: Determined by squad leader

(c) (U) LD: Determined by squad leader

(d) (U) ASLT POS: Determined by squad leader

(e) (U) Obj: Ridgeline south of major water feature at 18S TH 9003 6761

(f) (U) LOA: South branch of Breckenridge Reservoir

(4) (U) Timeline

0500	Chow
0530	Stage for ground Insert IVO LZ-7
0600	Movement
0800	Ammo Draw, Comm Draw, PCCs (Initial Inspection)
0830	Squad Orders Process
0900	Final PCCs and Radio Check with Platoon Commander
0930	Insert/Cross LD
NLT 1100	Enemy destroyed on objective

(5) (U) Lost Marine Plan. Squad leaders are responsible for developing their own Lost Marine Plans.

(6) (U) AA Priorities of Work:

(a) Establish and mark Resupply Point/Casualty Collection Point.

(b) Clear path for CASEVAC from AA to Company CP.

(c) Establish hygiene, head call, and trash collection points.

4. (U) Administration and Logisticsa. (U) Administration

(1) (U) CASEVAC. All casualties will be immediately treated and communicated to the platoon commander. Urgent and priority casualty evacuations will be coordinated by the squad leader through the platoon sergeant. Squad leaders are responsible for establishing pre-planned casualty collection points with platoon leadership. Primary means of evacuation will be via ground, secondary by air. The platoon sergeant will coordinate the evacuation through the squad leaders and push information to the Company SEL. The casualty will be transported back to the Company Assembly Area at LZ Falcon and will be tracked by the Company SEL. Routine casualties will be cared for upon return to the Company. Company corpsman will determine if evac is necessary. Company will coordinate all evac.

b. (U) Logistics

(1) (U) Ammunition. Draw one day of supply (DOS) for ammo and (2) boxes chem sticks from the Co GySgt in Company CP following insert.

(2) (U) Chow and Water. Draw seven MREs and a full load of water prior to movement to platoon AA.

(3) (U) Resupply. Limited ammo resupply will be available on call via the Company Gunnery Sergeant. Water resupplied via weapons platoon at regular intervals.

5. (U) Command and Signala. (U) Signal(1) (U) Signal Plan.

(a) Red Star Cluster is reserved for Company Signals and is for Emergency Medevac only. Squad leaders can expect an allocation of (1) Smoke grenade.

(b) Company CP/Resupply point marked with engineer tape and (2) chem sticks on a tree next to the road/LZ.

(3) (U) Challenge and Password. Determined by squad leaders.

b. (U) Command.

(1) (U) Location of Key Leaders. The PltCmdr, the Plt Sgt, and Guide will be at the Plt CP in LZ Falcon.

(2) (U) Succession of Command. Plt Sgt, Plt Guide, 1st SqdLdr, 2d SqdLdr, and 3rd SqdLdr.