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C634 MDMP EXAM

Army Nurse Corp

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MILITARY DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

**RUNNING ESTIMATE**

The area of interest is movement and logistics of troops and equipment. It is very critical to the success of our mission to the Ranger base camp at Calasiao in the Lingayen Gulf. This area of operation is characterized by sharp terrain that will slow down movement of troops, hills and mountains dominate both the eastern and western flanks. Apart from the poor condition weather, it will also be difficult to resist the Japanese landing even with the help of Philippine Defense Forces because in bad weather and rugged terrain Air support is needed to deliver supplies, surveillance and movement of troops.

According to information from different sources, Japanese forces have already landed at five key points in the Northern and Southern Luzon as well as Mindanao (King, 1985, p. 7). They have established seaplane bases and seized airfields. Their target is Lingayen Gulf with the proximity of Manila, which is the capital city. Therefore, this is the most logical site for a large invasion force to land. We anticipate that the landing will take place at the Southern end of the Gulf where the friendly forces store their artillery batteries. We need the full assistance of the submarines and coastal artillery to hit down the Japanese seaplanes (King, 1985, p. 8). We have to develop an accurate, comprehensive movement estimate to define appropriately where we should land, when and how to land. We should also identify techniques on how to mass combat power and ways of minimizing opposition to our landings as long as we can. With our significant variable here being time, our estimates should focus on not only time but also other factors such as the Japanese Army (enemy) Courses of Action, terrain and also the resources that we have at our disposal. We must understand that they're limitations in supplies, and any decisions made should be focused on reducing wastage. Every Soldier is required to be mission capable, ready as a whole force, and with the understanding of the kind of equipment available at our disposal. The Battalion Engineer will need to analyze the situation, develop a plan of action to reduce obstacles and tasks, and furthermore evaluate the quick movement and action; the entire force is required to understand the planning factors within a critical event. Without a full understanding of this, the staff will not provide the detail necessary for plan synchronization and all the beachheads and shores around us should be secured. Air, sea, and, if need be, airborne forces should prevent the Japanese from coming closer to the camp.

**THE PROBLEM**

There is a danger of overextension in the face of a continual threat of counterattack by the Japanese forces against the Sixth Army, which is the leading factor which has prevented the XIV Corps from moving southwards. There is also logistics problems that are delaying the progress of XIV Corps as well as slowing down the operation of I Corps from securing the left side of the gulf. Another problem is that the US and the Filipino forces are poorly equipped and ill prepared. Shipment of cargo depends on the US Army vessels with limited cargo capacity. There are also problems resulting from minuscule budget, shortage of weapons, communication equipment, transportation, and uniform for the soldiers.

To sustain ground forces and succeed in the entire operation air and sea we must be adequately positioned to defeat the Japanese counter attacks, we must use deception, interdiction, and counter nobility. The logistics mechanism should be able to facilitate faster movement of soldiers and men to the beach and the shores faster than the Japanese forces. They should have the necessary ammunition for dealing with counterattacks. Apart from getting the men and equipment to the ground with speed, the logistics mechanism should facilitate reinforcement movement forward and casualties to safe places we must find all other logistics ashore. It will be crucial to facilitate the movement of supplies to the forces rather than putting more soldiers in the front.

**THE MISSION**

These are military actions of a state and non-state actors as they try to respond to a situation that is developing. A mission plan is required to put such a case on hold. Operations can be of non-combat or combat nature. A military mission statement may incorporate three different and particular words which are: Liberate, Raid, and Secure. To liberate is to set free from bondage or incarceration (Ancker & Burke, 2003, p. 18). In our case here it reflects on freeing Philippine as a nation from control by Japanese that is a foreign and oppressive government.

On the other hand, a raid is a sudden attack on enemy troops, air crafts or an armed force in an attack or warfare. Secure, on the contrary, refers to something that is protected from danger, or rather protect from danger or attack. Regarding our case, it means guarding so that the no one, Japanese included, can enter or leave without permission. The one word that should be involved in this military mission statement is Raid. The raid also refers to depression or a tactic in the warfare mission that has no intention of capturing or holding terrain but finishes with a strong raiding force and retreat as fast as possible to the defending position to be able to a counter attack (Ancker & Burke, 2003, p. 20).

**PURPOSE AND TASK**

**The Filipino Guerillas**- there was an unrestricted Philippine resistance movement during the Japanese occupation of the island during World War II. This movement opposed the Japanese. They were involved in underground and guerilla activities. Studies indicate that there were more than 260,000 people organized into guerillas (King, 1985, p. 13). These were underground anti-Japanese movement’s organizations, and their effectiveness was realized after the end of Second World War when Japan only controlled 12 provinces out of the 42 provinces.

**Alamo Scouts** were under Special Reconnaissance Unit of the US 6th Army in the World War 2 Pacific Theatre Operations (Department of the Army Washington, DC, 2012, pp. 1-4). The scouts organized themselves on Ferguson Island and also New Guinea. Their main purpose was undertaking raids and reconnaissance from the southwest Pacific. Their operations were deeply behind Japanese lines, and they were commanded personally by Lieutenant General Krueger, who was also US Sixth Army Commanding General. This unit was formed by General Krueger to provide timely vital intelligence on enemy troops especially the Japanese. They were to estimate the troop numbers, types of units and location of the troops to the Sixth Army. This group is famous for the liberation of American prisoners of war (POW) from the Cabanatuan POW camp that was controlled by the Japanese in January 1945 in the Philippines.

**Civilians**- World War 2 saw American attitude towards Filipinos change because of the assistance the offered the American troops against the Japanese, which involved in mobilization efforts during the war against Japanese.

**The 6th US Army**- this is a United States field Army. This Army served extensively in the Pacific during World War 2 including the fight against Japanese in the Philippine Islands.

**The Radio Team in Guimba**- the radio was the only means of communication during the rescue of American and Allied prisoners of war from Japanese POW compound in Cabanatuan in the Philippines. This operation was done jointly by 6th Rangers, Alamo Scouts, and Filipino Guerillas.

**COMMANDER’S CRITICAL INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS (CCIR)**

We lost so many Soldiers to the Japanese during the Battle of Bataan suffering at the Cabanatuan Prison and many transferred to unknown destinations. I am proximate the remaining Soldiers to be slightly over 500. The US command has become concerned that there is an intention to kill the prisoners of war. We have already been alerted of several killings that have taken place. We have to arrange a raid to rescue the remaining soldiers and allied prisoners of war.

We have the support of Filipino Guerillas and the civilians, and all we need is a plan. With the Aid of Alamo Scouts also we can rescue the prisoners of war. An arrangement was made for the attack to take place on January 30th and kept secret. Many factors will facilitate our victory on the 30th day of January. We have to act fast and free the prisoners from the number of casualties’ increases. I believe that the combination that we have in place, the Filipino guerillas, Alamo Scouts and the sixth ranger battalion can carry out a successful raid. The guerillas already based in the area, and the local fighters have guided the Alamo scouts into the area. The reconnaissance of the camp has provided us with enough information that has helped us in finalizing the final raid plans.

**COMMANDER’S JUDGEMENT**

According to the commander, the combat is going to be a raiding patrol whose mission is to attack the POW base for the purpose of liberating personnel. The key to this raid is a surprise, firepower, and violent action. To surprise the enemy, we will attack when they are least expecting. We will also attack when visibility is poor, and that is one of the reasons as to why we have postponed to 30th instead of 29th. We will also attack from an unexpected direction. According to weather forecast there, 30th will be rainy and foggy. The enemy forces also collect supplies and replacement for their uniform from the stores. Soldiers are also paid their dues on this day. Therefore, this is a perfect opportunity to strike when occupied elsewhere. All should understand that the nature of the battlefield will be a server test for the Army. As the Commander in Charge, I have a full awareness of the force plans necessary for meeting all the challenges that will be associated with the raid, the weakness, and strengths of the enemy forces and how to capitalize on them.

Our plan is for the Rangers to move close to 30 miles on foot and place them only 1 mile away from the camp, which will require crawling over the terrain. Distraction will then be to set or to facilitate further movement towards the camp by a low flying jet fighter to distract the attention of the guards to look into the skies as the soldiers crawl closer towards the enemy. They will then hide a ditch awaiting darkness to commence the raid, therefore, recognize the problem at hand and evaluating resources available for correcting the situation is an integral part of understanding the mission.

**COA ANALYSIS, COMPARISON & RECOMMENDATION**

This type of combat is a raid which is a sudden attack on enemy troops, air crafts or an Armed Forces in an attack or warfare. As discussed above. The raid also refers to depression or a tactic in the warfare mission that has no intention of capturing or holding terrain but finishes with a strong raiding force and retreat as fast as possible to the defending position to be able to a counter attack. However, is a liberation raid (Cone, 2013, p. 5). Therefore, this means that moving outside the camp after the invasion would help. Moving fast to a location that is concealed and establishing a defensive parameter would be the best option. It will make us prepared for any counter attack in case the enemy troops regroups or receive reinforcement from another camp. If we continue moving towards Guimba, we will risk being counter-attacked by the enemy troops who will be seeking revenge. Staying in the camp is also not a good idea since the enemy could send reinforcement from other camps.

The solution is raiding, liberating and retreating to a safer ground that is concealed to establish a defensive parameter (Cone, 2013, p. 5). Raiding is the most lethal and common form of warfare to the situation at hand. We will attack at break of dawn with the aim of finding the enemy still sleeping, unsuspecting and disorganized. We have to maintain a high degree of secrecy about our intended action we will rely heavily on skills and surprise instead of mass because our result is to liberate the POW. The plan will include a short, precise and violent force, clandestine approach to the POW base and exfiltration as soon as we have completed our objective. It will make our troops exit the scene as fast and possible. The Filipino guerillas having established some clandestine communications with the prisoners, they have some information on how the camp was designed.

This raid operation is considerably large as it involves liberation of many POW against an area dominated by the stronger and more powerful Japanese Army. The guerillas will be joined by the reconnaissance platoon so they can clear the way forward by marking landing and drop zones. The paratroopers are then expected to jump to the marked areas and link up with the guerillas. Their work is to secure the prisoners after killing the guards. The other battalion will move to the camp on land tractors to transport the prisoners on vehicles. Another phase is to protect the escape by using heavy artillery to divert the remaining Japanese force.

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