**(U) W-Day-Ariana Attacks Atropia**

(U) Arianan forces launched their attack against ATR under cover of military exercises underway since (24 Jun 2019 W-6). Arianan forces began their attacks at 01 0300 July 2019 (W-Day) with Special Purpose Forces (SOF) strikes against ATR government, military, and infrastructure targets. In many cases, these operations were conducted in conjunction with the South Atropian People's Army (SAPA) elements serving as guides and co-belligerents.

**(U) W-Day-SAPA attacks ATR Airbases**

(U) 0400 W-Day-Atropian air force bases are also struck by commando / SAPA forces.

**(U) W-Day-Assasination**

(U) 0800 W-Day-The Atropian Defense Minister and Air Force Chief of Staff are assassinated in a complex ambush while moving from the capital to Air Force command post north of Baku. Additional decapitation strikes kill or injure additional members of the Atropia High Command and government.

**(U) W+9 -Arianan Bridgehead**

(U) W+9-The 58th DTG establishes a bridgehead along the Kura River. The 18th DTG immediately crosses and begins the envelopment of the 1st ATR from the east while the 88th DTG attacks from the west. Gorgas, under intense pressure from the United States and United Kingdom, opens parliamentary debate on whether to allow coalition forces to use its territory. Ariana states it will consider Gorgas's support to be an act of war and will respond accordingly. President Sokolov also states that "Donovia will view Gorgas's broadening of the Caucasus Conflict in an unfavorable light."

**(U) W+8 OSC-E Resumes Offensive**

(U) W+8-OSC-E resumes its offensive. The 58th DTG fixes the 1st ATR while the 84th DTG forces the Kura River and passes forward the 88th DTG. The 1st ATR begins shifting forces west to counter this maneuver. USN elements begin entering the Black Sea after it is swept by Kemalian minesweepers. Debate continues on an AUMF in the U.S. Congress.

**(U) W+5 to W+8 OSC-E Conducts Operational Pause**

(U) W+5 to W+8-OSC-E initiates an operational pause in order to reconsolidate and reorganize its forces. Under heavy diplomatic pressure, the United States agrees not to commit offensive forces to the Persian Gulf. POTUS directs the shipment of ready war stock from the Persian Gulf region towards the Black Sea. The Kemalian Air Forces conducts numerous air interdiction strikes against OSC-E's supply lines, prompting Ariana to threaten TBM strikes onto Kemalian airfields. The Kemalian Parliament votes to allow USAF forces into country "solely for defensive purposes until the United States Congress passes an authorization for military action." USAF immediately dispatches four wings from EUCOM.

**(U) W+5 ATR Retreat**

(U) W+5-The 11th and 12th ATR continue to retreat towards Ganja using the terrain and aggressive Kemalian airstrikes to aid in their defense. The 77th and 84th DTGs suffer heavy casualties in reducing these two brigade. The 1st ATR counterattacks in support of this defense in an attempt to maintain a front line running roughly along the Kura River and is repulsed with heavy losses

**(U) W+4 US Authorizes use of Force**

(U) W+4-The United States Congress begins debating an authorization to use military force (AUMF) against Ariana. Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Oman, and Bahrain all publicly request that the belligerents agree to keep the Persian Gulf free of military activity. Ariana immediately agrees. Despite this, the price of oil climbs above $140 per barrel

**(U) W+3 Ariana conducts amphibious landing**

(U) W+3-The 407th Amphibious brigade conducts an amphibious landing in the 5th ATRBDE. This compels the 5th ATR to retreat, which in turn caused the 10th ATR to fall back due to its exposed flank. The 58th division then attacks the 10th AZ, defeating it southwest of Baku. OSC-E employs non-persistent chemical agents during these attacks, and the day concludes with the 5th ATRBDE being routed. EUCOM issues orders to form CJTF-CASPIAN based on previous contingency plans.

**(U) W-6-Ariana announces military exercises**

(U) W-6-Ariana announces the initiation of military exercises it dubs OPERATION CYRUS. For the first time, these exercises include the mobilization of Ariana's reserves. Kemalia places its air force and two airborne brigades on alert in response and offers to deploy forces to Atropia within 72 hours. Atropia does not accept this officer, but deploys the 6th and 7th brigades along their southern border and begins a partial call up of reservists.