

5th Marines METL

1 October 2000

The following conditions apply to all regimental missions:

- Multiple battalions. Air, artillery, AD, reconnaissance, tank, AAV, LAR, and CEB as integrated combined arms team. As GCE of a MAGTF or as an element of the division.
- Mechanized, helicopterborne, truck, and foot-mobile maneuver forces.
- Desert, forest / jungle, urban, or mountain / arctic environment.
- Night or day.

1. Attack

“Attack and seize Obj C (BIR EL GUBI) IOT gain CSSA / FARP site for future division operations.”

Deliberate attack. Twenty-four hours of reconnaissance. Fixed enemy defenses with mechanized counterattack force. Planned fire support. Multiple battalion-sized maneuver elements. Shift main effort. Passage of lines. Consolidation. Exploitation. Resupply.

2. Defend

- a. **Block.** “Establish block vic Obj B (TULSA) IOT protect East flank of division advance.”
- b. **Defend a fixed site.** “Defend Obj D (SOLLUM AIRFIELD) IOT maintain continuous air operations.”
- c. **Defend a linear sector.** “Defend in sector IOT prevent an enemy penetration attack from threatening the capital.”

Prepared defensive positions in depth. Close terrain. Planned fire support integrated with direct-fire engagement areas. Obstacle plan. Integrated anti-armor plan. Counterattack plan. Unit rotation plan.

3. Conduct Helicopterborne Assault

“Conduct Helicopterborne assault into Obj D. Establish block IOT protect East flank of division advance.”

Multiple battalions. Multiple battalion PZs, multiple insert LZs. Artillery battery inserted. Forty-eight hours of supplies needed until linkup with advancing forces and regimental ground echelon. Insert battalion and regimental COCs. Insert anti-armor capability.

4. Conduct Amphibious Assault

“Conduct amphibious assault at Beach GREEN 1 and 2. Attack and seize Obj C (BIR EL GUBI) IOT gain CSSA / FARP site for future division operations.”

Advanced force reconnaissance operations. Integrated NSFS. Multiple battalions. Multiple amphibious ships. Surface landings and helicopterborne landings. Ship to objective maneuver (STOM).

5. Relief Operations

- a. Conduct Passage of Lines.** “2nd battalion executes a passage of lines through 1st battalion IOT continue the attack.”
- b. Conduct Relief in Place.** “2nd battalion executes a relief in place of 1st battalion IOT free 1st battalion for reserve mission.”
- c. Conduct Withdrawal.** “Regiment withdraws to Phase Line UTAH IOT shorten defensive perimeter.”

Command and control of organic battalions and attached ground units. Command relationships, comm. channels, and coordination with supporting arms. Traffic control, route planning, marking, and guides, shifting FSCM. Planned fire support.

6. Conduct Security Operations

“Conduct security operations in sector IOT prevent interference with relief operations.”

Scheduled patrols throughout battalion sectors. Checkpoints and Vehicle Check Points (VCP). OPs. Reserve as Quick Reaction Force (QRF). Intelligence collection as main effort. Interface with civilian authorities and non-governmental organizations.

7. Deploy Overseas

“Deploy to port MARTHA (Port and Airfield) IOT prepare for imminent combat operations.”

Adjust TPFDD. Establish movement control infrastructure to track deployment. Stage multiple battalions and equipment at SPOE or APOE. Assemble multiple units at arrival assembly areas. Plan for MPF offload.

Update to Regimental METL

Conduct Helicopterborne Assault, METL 3, is the single Mission Essential Task (MET) that will drive all training this quarter.

The following detailed mission profile is intended to assist battalions in designing training to support this MET. Exercise SEA HORSE WIND will train to the following mission profile.

Forces. Three infantry battalions, one CEB company, DS artillery battalion. Regiment fights as part of division, not stand-alone MAGTF. Assault echelon is two infantry battalions with AT vehicles, CEB, one artillery battery, and forward C2 elements. Ground echelon is one motorized or mechanized battalion, two battalion trains, artillery battalion (-), and log / C2 main bodies.

Enemy. Mechanized enemy with artillery support. No enemy units at objective. Enemy can close on objective in less than ten hours.

Timing. Night Assault. One battalion and one battery are inserted first night. Second battalion, supplies, and C2 are inserted following day. Forty-eight hours before ground echelon links up with assault echelon at objective.

Terrain. Forested mountains. Paved main roads, dirt secondaries. Narrow defiles. Severe restrictions on mech and vehicles. Only restriction on foot movement is slope. **Objective** is narrow chokepoint in close terrain.

Pickup Zones and Insert Zones. Multiple battalion PZs, NONE at airfield with A/C. Planning staffs are NOT co-located. PZ to insert LZ distance is 30 to 50k, outside artillery range. Multiple insert LZs, up to 8k apart, are roads and clearings in hills above roads. LZs are not surveyed. Some LZs have limited vehicle access (HMMWV).

Logistics. Blocking position requires pioneer equipment and entrenching supplies. Food, fuel, water, and ammunition, especially for artillery, must be inserted during first ten hours.

Command and Control. Widely separated positions in mountains require vehicle-mounted comms. Deep objective requires long-range comms to HHQ and supporting arms.

Mission. “At 2100, conduct Helicopterborne assault into Obj D. Establish block IOT protect East flank of division advance from enemy counterattack force.”

The following tasks are NOT required by this mission profile:

- Seize an airfield. Conduct C-130 flight ferry operations.
- Establish helicopter FOB. Conduct FOB operations. Resupply at FOB.
- Conduct follow-on helicopterborne assaults from FOB.
- Coordinate artillery fires ISO insert LZs.