

ESTIMATE PROCESS PRACTICAL EXERCISE REQUIREMENT 2

Read the exercise scenario and complete the following:

- Develop an estimate of the situation (using METT-TSL).
- Be prepared to discuss your analysis and the conclusions you formulated.

Orientation

You are the commanding officer (CO) for F/2/6. It is now 101300 AUG XX and you have just received the battalion OPORD. Your company, currently at 100 percent strength in personnel and equipment, is located approximately 1.5 km to the east of the line of departure (LD) in Assembly Area Dog. The battalion commander reinforced your company with a FAC, 81 FO, and ARTY FO. See Tab A and Tab B for information about a Marine infantry rifle company. The terrain environment encompasses a pass through the Bull Run Mountains (Hopewell Gap TU655050) that is surrounded by deciduous and coniferous forests, very common to the northern Virginia and Chesapeake Bay watershed areas. It has rained heavily for the past 48 hours, but the forecast for the next 72 hours calls for clear skies, high humidity, and temperatures above 90 degrees F. Mean elevation is approximately 450 feet above sea level.

1. Situation

- a. General. Omitted.
- b. Battlespace. See attached sketch.
- c. Enemy. The enemy is occupying strong defensive positions in the vicinity of Hopewell Gap (see sketch). The S2 believes that the enemy force is a motorized infantry company(-)REIN with 3 x 14.5mm KPV machine guns and 2 x 82mm 2B9 mortars. He believes the enemy has a Combat Security Outpost (CSOP) in position to provide early warning. He believes that the enemy brigade has withdrawn west across the Mill Run River and is preparing to attack within the next 48 hours in order to gain control of the lines of communication in the 6th Marines area of operation (AO).
- d. Friendly Forces
 - i. Higher. The 6th Marines attacks in zone at H-hour to seize and defend Regimental Objective A (Aldie Gap TU703175) and Regimental Objective B (Hopewell Gap TU655050) in order to prevent the enemy from gaining access to the division's lines of communication.
 - ii. Adjacent. 1/6 attacks in zone at H-hour to seize and defend Regimental Objective A in order to prevent the enemy from gaining access to the regiment's lines of

communication. The 44th Virginia National Guard (44th VNG) is currently defending the Thoroughfare and New Baltimore Gaps (the boundary is not shown, but the 44th VNG is the 2/6's left flank).

- iii. Supporting. 2nd Battalion, 10th Marines, is in general support of the regiment. E/2/10 will provide fires for 2/6.

2. Mission

2nd Battalion, 6th Marines, attacks in zone at 120500 AUG XX (H-hour) to seize Regimental Objective B in order to prevent the enemy from using Hopewell Gap as an avenue of approach to interfere with the regiment's lines of communication.

3. Execution

- a. Commander's Intent. Overview: Elements of the 342nd MTZD INF BDE will continue to guard along Bull Run Mountains until the 34th MTZD INF DIV has completed rearming and refitting. When the weather breaks, the 342nd will require at least 24 hours to resume offensive operations. The weather is forecasted to break within the next 72 hours.

The enemy's center of gravity (COG) is the strong defensive position located on the high ground east of Hopewell Gap. The enemy's critical vulnerability (CV) in our zone is the lack of supporting arms from higher headquarters and mutual support from other enemy units in the Hopewell Gap area. I intend to exploit this vulnerability by isolating the enemy platoons from one another and preventing reinforcement from the enemy brigade. We will accomplish this task by conducting a sequential attack on Regimental Objective B supported by E/2/10. This attack will deny the enemy the Hopewell Gap avenue of approach. Endstate: Regimental Objective B is seized, defensive positions are established, and the enemy is prevented from using Hopewell Gap as an avenue of approach.

- b. Concept of the Operation. At H-hour, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marines, conducts a foot-mobile frontal attack and attacks in zone with two rifle companies forward and one rifle company in reserve. Supporting effort #1: At H-hour, G Company attacks along Axis Blue to seize Battalion Objective 1 in order to prevent the enemy from massing combat power on the battalion main effort. Main Effort: At H+30 minutes, F Company attacks along Axis Red to seize Battalion Objective 2 and Battalion Objective 3 in order to prevent the enemy from using Hopewell Gap as an avenue of approach to interfere with the regiment's line of communication (LOC). Reserve: E Company follows in trace of the main effort and is prepared to (1) Reinforce the main effort and (2) seize Battalion Objective 4 in order to prevent the enemy from repositioning. Priority of fires: Initially to SE #1, then shift to the ME after it crosses the LD.

c. Tasks

i. Company G (SE #1)

- (a) At H-hour, attack along Axis Blue to seize Battalion Objective 1 in order to prevent the enemy from massing combat power on Fox Company.
- (b) Support by fire Fox Company's attack to seize Battalion Objective 3 in order to prevent the enemy from massing combat power on the battalion main effort.
- (c) Establish defensive positions in the vicinity of TU653055 oriented north in order to prevent the enemy from using Hopewell Gap.
- (d) You have initial priority of fires.

ii. Company F (ME)

- (a) At H+30 minutes, F Company attacks along Axis Red to seize Battalion Objective 2 and Battalion Objective 3 in order to prevent the enemy from using Hopewell Gap as an avenue of approach to interfere with the regiment's LOC.
- (b) Establish defensive positions in the vicinity of TU648048 oriented southwest in order to prevent the enemy from using Hopewell Gap.
- (c) You have priority of fires once you cross the LD.

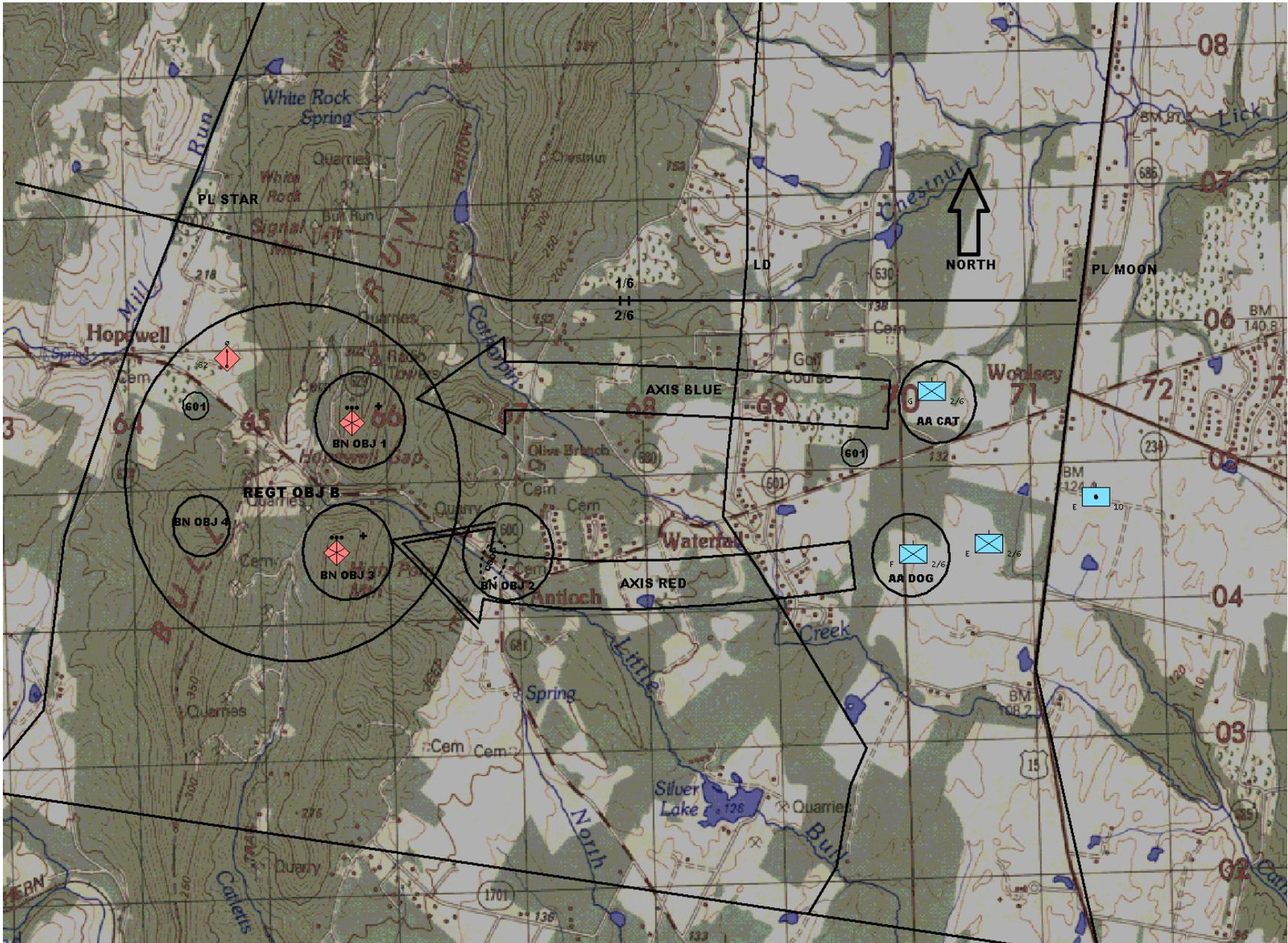
d. Reserve. Company E. Priority of planning:

- i. Be prepared to reinforce Fox Company.
- ii. Be prepared to seize Battalion Objective 4 in order to prevent the enemy from repositioning.

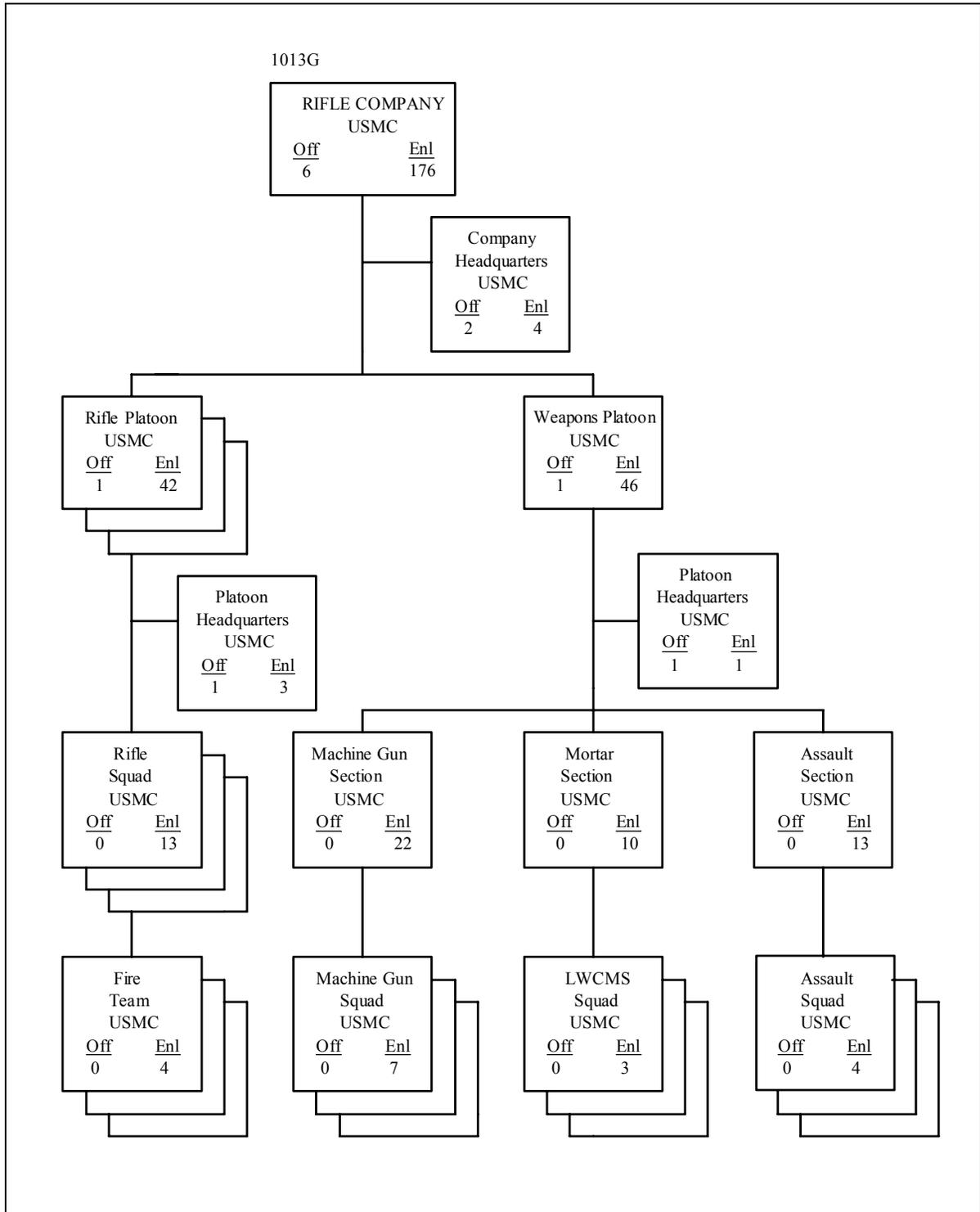
e. CCIR. Omitted.

f. Coordinating Instructions

- i. MOPP Level 0.
- ii. H-hour 0500.
- iii. Report crossing of all phase lines and the LD.
- iv. Minimum collateral damage in the town of Hopewell. Only PGMs are authorized within 500 meters of buildings.
- v. Use of civilian labor is not authorized.
- vi. Companies provide guards for enemy prisoners of war back to battalion collection point TU668044.



Tab A Rifle Company, Infantry Battalion



Tab B Rifle Company Weapons

RIFLE PLATOON WEAPONS

Fire Team

Team Leader – M-16A2 Rifle/Grenadier

Squad Automatic Rifleman – M-249

Squad Automatic Weapon

Rifleman/Assistant Automatic Rifleman – M-16A2 Rifle

Rifleman – M-16A2 Rifle

Squad

Squad Leader – M-16A2 Rifle

Platoon Headquarters

1 M-16A2 Rifle each Officer/Enlisted

WEAPONS PLATOON, RIFLE COMPANY, INFANTRY BATTALION

Weapons Platoon Weapons

Machine Gun Section – 6 M-240G Machine Guns

Mortar Section – 3 M-224 60mm Mortar

Assault Section – 6 MK-153 SMAW 83mm