

## TACTICAL VIGNETTE 98-6

# Cobra's Counterreconnaissance Fight

WHAT'S  
YOUR  
NEXT  
MOVE??



**Situation:** You are the company team commander of Cobra Team (tank heavy), TF 3-37. Your team consists of two M1A1 tank platoons (1st and 3rd Platoons), both at full strength, and one mechanized infantry (BFV) platoon (2nd Platoon), which has three operational BFVs. Your TF is comprised of two armor company teams (Apache and Cobra) and one mechanized infantry company team (Battle Masters). Your TF is defending in sector, and the brigade commander wants your TF to protect the western flank of TF 2-10, the brigade main effort. Prior to 1500 yesterday, you prepared your battle position for the main defensive battle. You assumed the counter-recon mission from Apache Team at 1500 yesterday. During the night, Apache Team destroyed three vehicles from the enemy's division reconnaissance. The TF scout platoon (with six HMMWVs) was already established in three long-term OPs in depth forward of PL TENNESSEE.

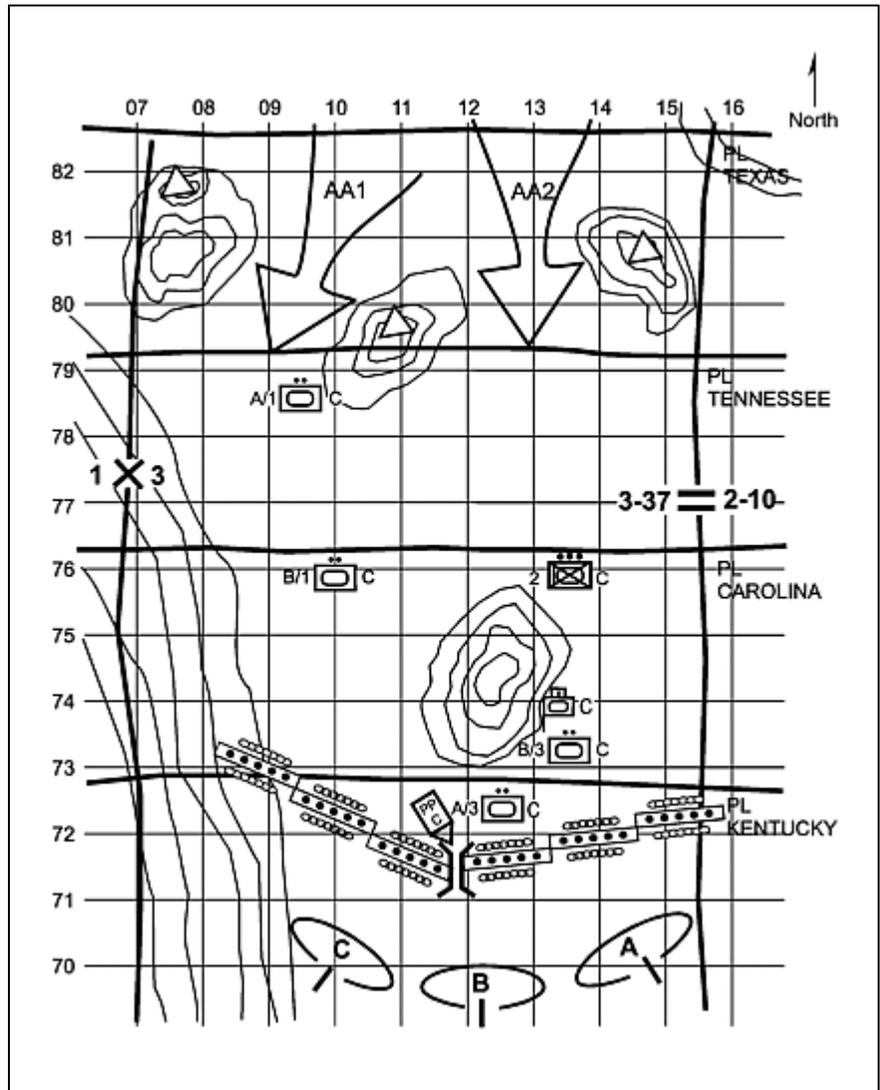
Currently, you have 1st and 2nd Platoons (at 50% security) arrayed along PL CAROLINA, ready to react to spot reports from the scouts. 3rd Platoon's Alpha section is manning passage point CHARLIE on the north end of the passage lane and controlling all traffic into and out of the security area. The remainder of your company team is in a hide position co-located with your command post. You have priority of fires. The TF scout platoon is attached to your company team until you withdraw from your counter-reconnaissance mission. Upon your withdrawal, scouts remain in place and revert to TF control.

Your company team has had no contact with the enemy until around 0330, when scouts report one BMP-1 vic WT095813 moving south on AA1. The 1st Platoon's Alpha section reacts, and at 0400 you get the following report from RED 4: "RED slant 2, Alpha section engaged but did not destroy 1 BMP, last seen moving south vic grid WT086793. Alpha section has one vehicle with severe track damage, one fully mission capable vehicle stuck in a wadi, and a total of four wounded soldiers vic WT097786. Bravo section set PL CAROLINA." Just as RED 4 finishes his transmission, you receive a report

from the scouts that two BRDMs are moving south on AA2 vic WT132809 and scouts are observing four unidentified hotspots moving south vic WT095862.

The TF commander stated in the OPOD that you are to withdraw your company team NLT 0500, signal the engineers to close the lane behind your last vehicle, rearm and refuel, and occupy your BP ready to defend with all 14 vehicles NLT 0600.

Time is now 0403. You must act now! What do you do?



### REQUIREMENT

Develop your COA and issue your FRAGO and any other reports you would submit. Readers who submit their solutions to the scenario should provide the following: fragmentary order to the company team, the rationale behind your decision, and a sketch of your plan of action. E-mail your solution to: HastyD@ftknox-dtdd-emh5.army.mil, or mail your solution to Platoon and Company Team Doctrine Branch, ATTN: ATZK-TDD-P, Fort Knox, KY 40121-5210.