

Case Studies

This slide deck provides several case studies that may be useful when preparing for combat operations. It is not exhaustive, but rather provides a few key examples that may help Junior Leaders in future operations.

Conducting an AMBUSH on the TALIBAN Afghanistan

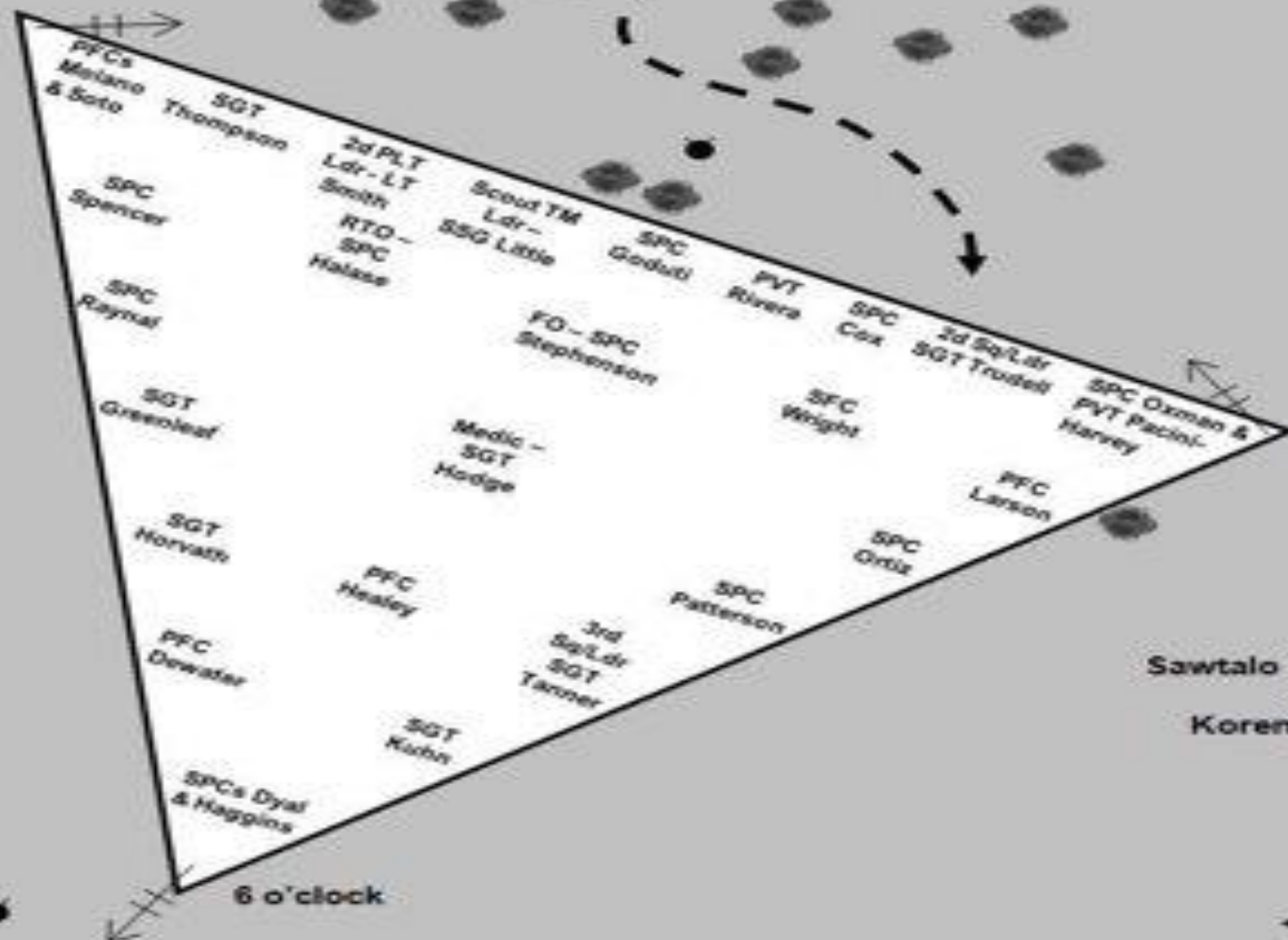
"Ambushing the Taliban A US Platoon in the Korengal Valley." By Scott J. Gaitle

- In 2009, an Infantry Platoon conducts a modified linear ambush on Taliban soldiers in the mountains of the Korengal Valley in Afghanistan.
- What went into the decision-making process?
- What organic resources did the PL utilize for maximum effect on target?
- Why did the PL decide to use this type of ambush?
- What was the impact of the LPOP (Listening Post/Observation Post) on the engagement?
- How could this ambush have been executed more effectively?
- What would you do?
- <https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Portals/7/combat-studies-institute/csi-books/VanguardOfValor.pdf>
- Begins on Page 27.

← N

9 o'clock

OP/LP - SGT
Nightingale, SGT
Reese & SPC Custer



3 o'clock

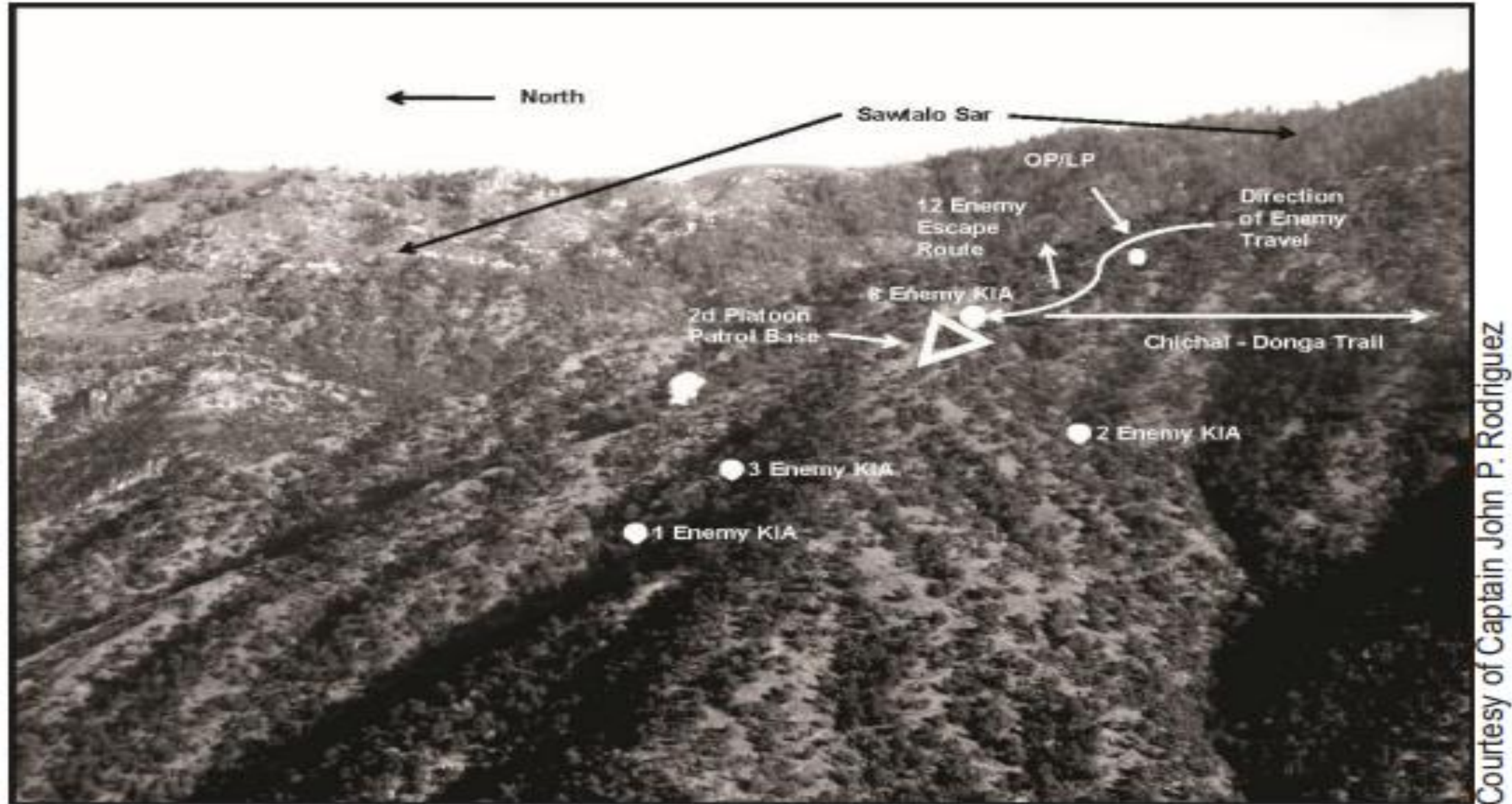
Sawtalo Sar Ridge in
the
Korengal Valley

6 o'clock

Legend

- Enemy Path of Travel
- Tree
- Claymore mine
- ↑ Machine Gun

10 Meter Scale



Courtesy of Captain John P. Rodriguez

Figure 5. Location of patrol base and enemy elements on Sawtalo Sar Ridge.

Additional Resources and Case studies on Conducting an Ambush

- [https://www.moore.army.mil/infantry/magazine/issues/2017/JUL-SEP/pdf/12\)LP-Aiken-Moores_txt.pdf](https://www.moore.army.mil/infantry/magazine/issues/2017/JUL-SEP/pdf/12)LP-Aiken-Moores_txt.pdf)
- Case study of an ambush conducted during the Moore's Creek Campaign
- https://www.moore.army.mil/Infantry/DoctrineSupplement/ATP3-21.8/chapter_08/CombatPatrols/ActionsontheObjective_Ambush/index.html#:~:text=A%20hasty%20ambush%20is%20conducted,prepared%20to%20engage%20the%20enemy.
- Doctrinal supplement on conducting an ambush

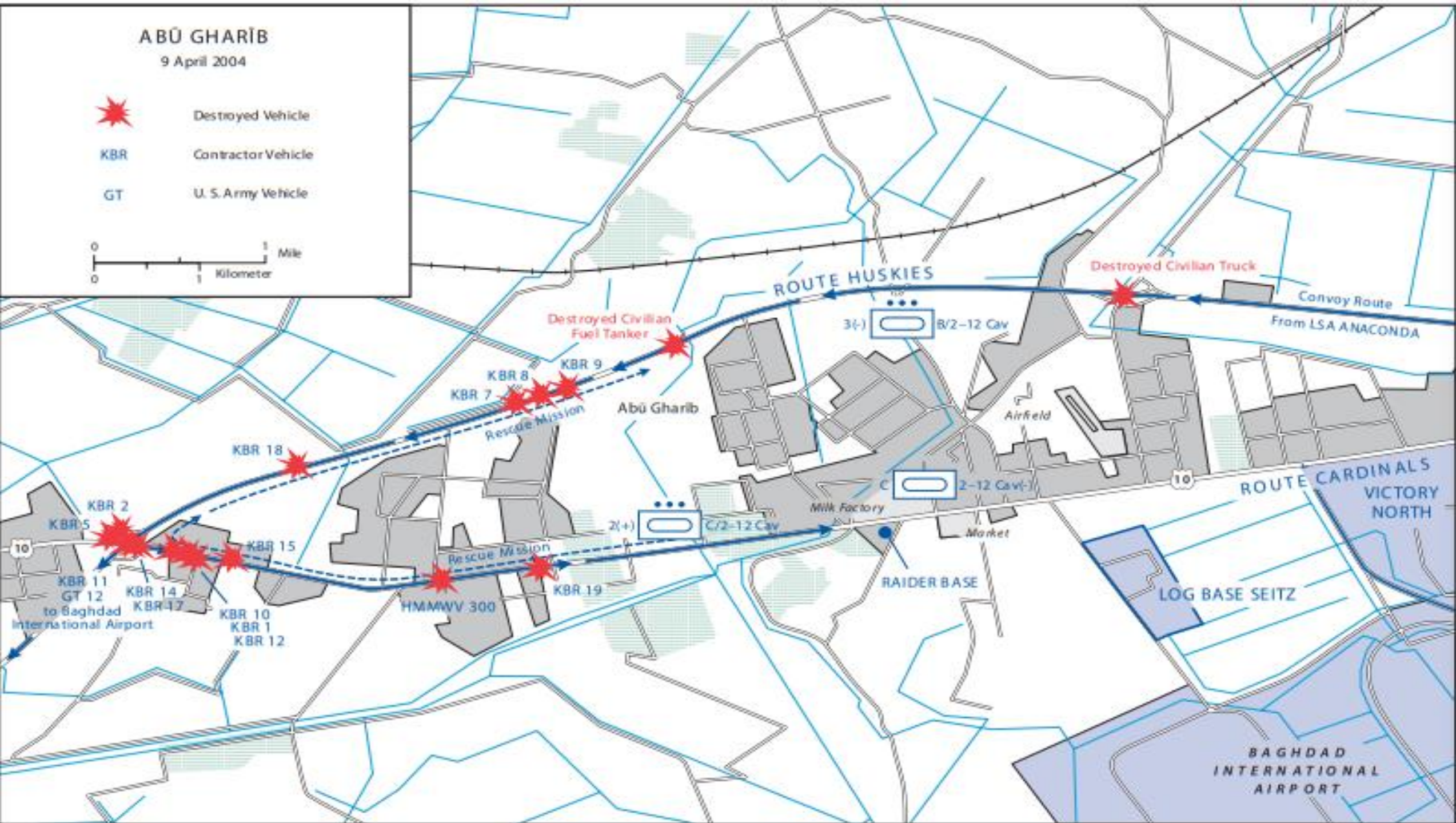
React to Ambush Case Study

- Good Friday, 9 April 2005
 - Ambush at Abu Ghraib
 - 724th Transportation Company (POL), 7th Transportation Battalion
 - Page 74 <https://apps.dtic.mil/sti/pdfs/ADA592921.pdf>
 - Page 37 https://history.army.mil/html/books/iraq/tots/tip_spear.pdf
-
- What can you do to prepare your soldiers for this kind of scenario?
 - What good and bad decisions were made?
 - What would you do differently?
 - What ethical dilemmas did the leaders face?
 - Are your soldiers prepared to fight without you?

ABŪ GHARĪB

9 April 2004

-  Destroyed Vehicle
-  Contractor Vehicle
-  U. S. Army Vehicle

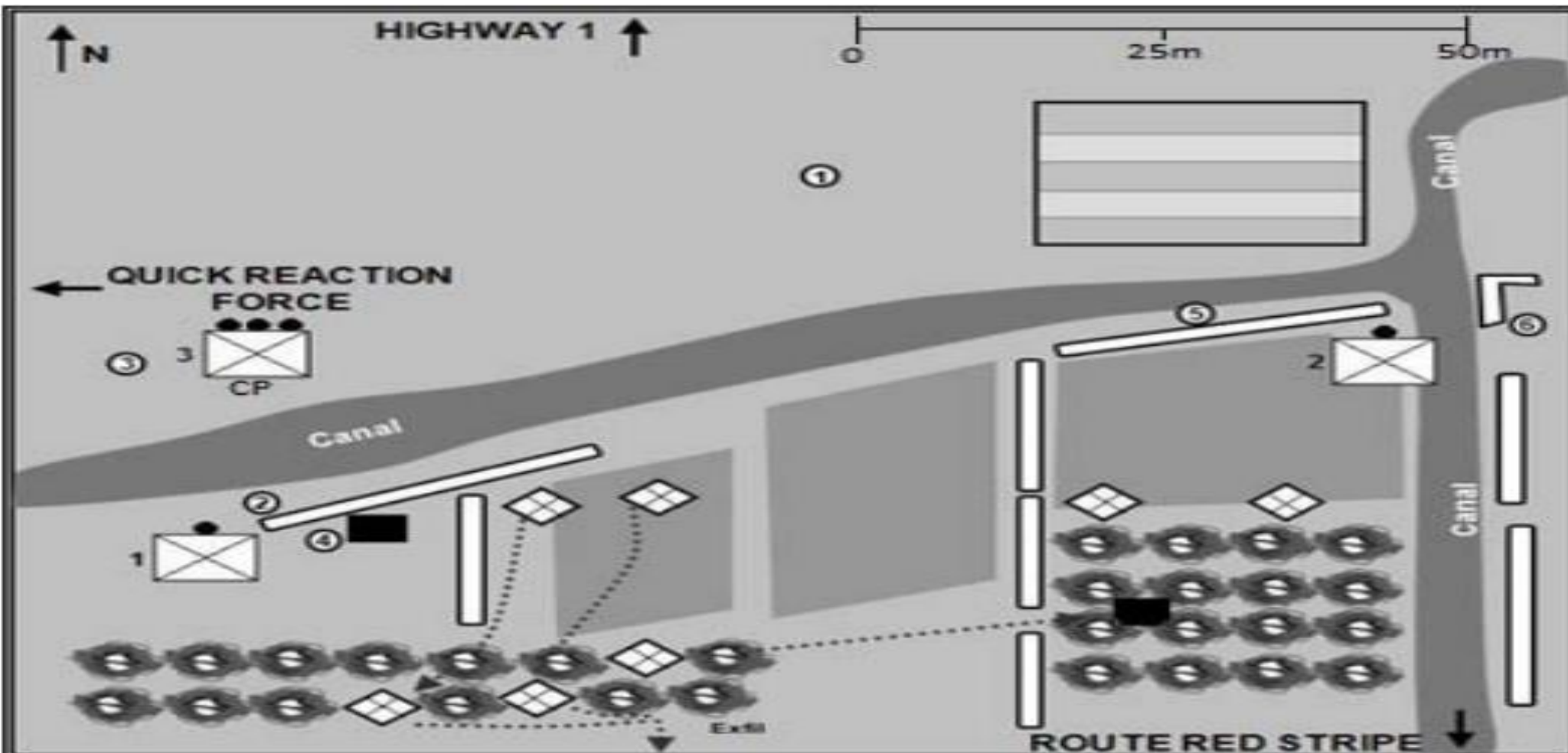


Additional Resources and Case studies on React to Ambush

- <https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Journals/Military-Review/Creative-Kiosk/Creative-Kiosk-2023/Ambush/>
- Convoy ambush from NCO 11B perspective in Vietnam
- <https://www.moore.army.mil/Infantry/DoctrineSupplement/ATP3-21.8/index.html>
- Doctrine – React to Ambush

Movement to Contact

- "Flipping the Switch," Page 50.
- <https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Portals/7/combat-studies-institute/csi-books/VanguardOfValor.pdf>
- How would you overcome an obstacle?
- What would you do differently?
- What factors do you have to consider when making these decisions?



Legend

- Building/Hut
- Enemy
- Enemy Route
- Grape Field
- Open Field
- Pomegranate Orchard
- Wall

Note: All Squads 3/D/1-502

- ① Peck's HQ element/Bartlett's 1st Squad take initial contact.
- ② 1st Squad sets up support by fire position.
- ③ HQ element sets up rear security.
- ④ 1st Squad moves to hand grenade range, force northern two enemy teams to withdraw.
- ⑤ Hays' 2d Squad crosses canal. Move to deny east flank to enemy.
- ⑥ 2d Squad moves to cover, cuts off enemy's eastern withdrawal.

Additional Resources

- <https://www.moore.army.mil/Infantry/DoctrineSupplement/ATP3-21.8/index.html>

Doctrinal Resource

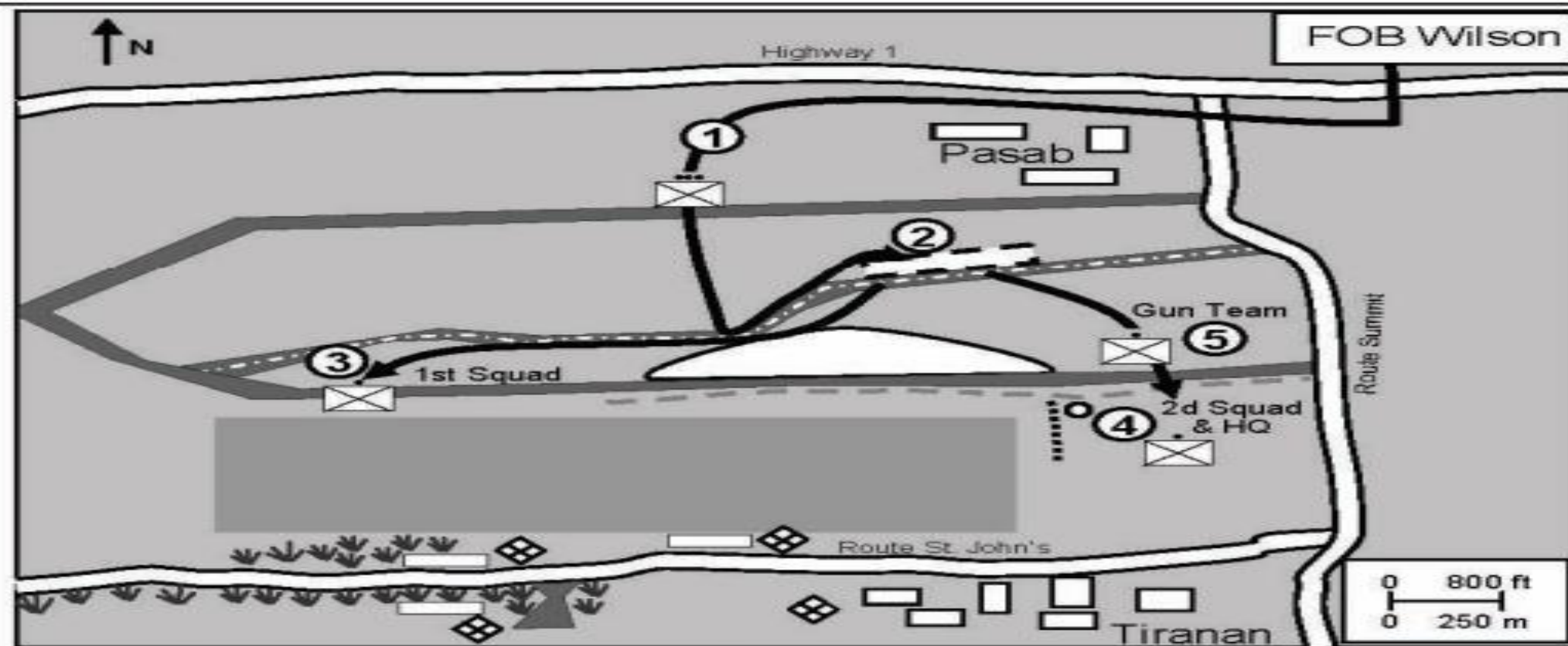
- <https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Portals/7/Primer-on-Urban-Operation/Documents/In-Contact.pdf>

Urban Operations Case Studies

- <https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Portals/7/combat-studies-institute/csi-books/deep-maneuver-lsco-volume-5.pdf>
- Deep Maneuver LSCO

Patrolling

- Page 135
- <https://www.armypress.army.mil/Portals/7/combat-studies-institute/csi-books/VanguardOfValor.pdf>
- How would you effectively implement your weapon systems in this situation?
- What worked? What did not?
- What lessons learned could be useful for future wars?
- How do you keep your troops alert/focused after conducting countless patrols?



- ① Route to Initial Positions
- ② 2d Squad Visually Clears Large Mud Hut
- ③ Faggiano's 1st Squad Takes up Initial Position in the West
- ④ McKinnis' 2d Squad and HQ Search the Objective
- ⑤ Singley's Gun Team Sets Up Rear Security

Figure 3. First Platoon Patrol to Tiranana.

Additional Resources

- <https://www.amazon.com/Infantry-Vietnam-Albert-N-Garland/dp/B000GPTZRI>
- Vietnam War Student Paper collection
- <https://mcoecbamcoepwprd01.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/library/DonovanPapers/Vietnam/STUP4/A-F/BaileyRobertN%20CPT.pdf>
- <https://mcoecbamcoepwprd01.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/library/DonovanPapers/Vietnam/STUP4/A-F/CarrollRobert%20C.%20CPT.pdf>
- <https://www.armyupress.army.mil/Portals/7/combat-studies-institute/csi-books/deep-maneuver-lsco-volume-5.pdf>

LSCO Maneuver Case Studies

Large-Scale Combat Operations

- <https://www.armypress.army.mil/Portals/7/combat-studies-institute/csi-books/deep-maneuver-lsco-volume-5.pdf>
- Compilation of case studies focusing on LSCO environment and maneuver warfare
- How can you utilize this information to prepare for the future?
- How can you use this resource to help your Soldiers?