Our Army at War -- Relevant and Ready
Background

• LTC John Steele
• Armor Officer – Tank Platoon Leader Desert Shield/Storm (3 AD), Company Command 2 ID Korea
• TF Falcon (Camp Bondsteel), Kosovo, 1 AD Staff Officer
• 1AD - 2-37 AR Executive Officer – May to Oct 03 Baghdad
• 3d SQDN 2d ACR Operations Officer - Oct 03 to Jul 04 – Baghdad, Al Kut, Najaf, Diwaniya, Al Kufa, Afak, Al-Hilla
• 2d ACR and 2d CR Executive Officer Jul 04 to Jun 06 – Fort Polk to Fort Lewis – Unit Generation for SBCT #4
The SBCT

- Core operational capabilities
  - Strat, operational and tactical mobility
  - Enhanced situational understanding
  - Full spectrum capability
  - Combined arms integration down to company level
  - Decisive action through use of Infantry (close combat; urban and complex terrain)
  - Reach back capability
- Fully integrated within joint cont force
  - Deploys rapidly; executes early entry
  - Conducts effective combat operations with fully-integrated fires
  - ABCS – GCCS integration
  - Prevents, contains, stabilizes, or resolves conflict

The Army Vision

“A force that is deployable, agile, versatile, lethal, survivable, sustainable, and dominant at every point along the spectrum of operations…”

- Operational/Deployable Force
- Medium Weight Force
  - The best characteristics of both light and heavy forces
- Early Entry Force
- Bridge to the Future Force
I have watched this vehicle save my soldiers’ lives and enable them to kill our nation’s enemies. In urban combat there is no better vehicle for delivering a squad of infantrymen to close with and destroy the enemy. It is fast, quiet, incredibly survivable, reliable, lethal, and capable of providing amazing situational awareness.

These qualities distinguish it from every other platform in the Army inventory but most importantly it delivers the most valuable weapon on the battlefield – a soldier.

LTC Erik Kurilla
CDR, 1-24 Infantry
**OPERATION AFAK**

**TASK ORGANIZATION:** (EFF 010700JUN04)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Task Organization</th>
<th>SQDN CTRL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B/3-7AR(SE)</td>
<td>1/B/2-37 AR 4/KILLER 5/KILLER THT TPT</td>
<td>3/MAD DOG 4/IRON 3/B/2-37 AR THT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M/3 ACR(ME)</td>
<td>1/MAD DOG 4/IRON 3/B/2-37 AR THT</td>
<td>6/KILLER - RES FLE FAS</td>
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</tbody>
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**MISSION:** 012300JUN04, 3/2 conducts zone reconnaissance of AFAK vic. MA233476 and destroys militia forces to determine militia activity and demonstrate US Forces’ resolve.

**Purpose:** is to facilitate future successful Iraqi Security Forces’ operations in Qaddisiya Province.

**Key Tasks:**
- Rehearsal: Maneuver, communications, and medical evacuation
- Control and communications
- Determine enemy presence in AFAK
- Destroy enemy forces

**Endstate:** MM destroyed in AFAK, reduced Mukhtada Militia influence, minimum civilian casualties, positive attitude shared among local residents; 3d Squadron positioned to conduct sustained combat operations in Diwaniya or Qaddisiya.

**TIMELINE**
- 010830JUN – OPORD
- 011400JUN – SQDN BACK BRIEF
- 011500JUN – REHEARSAL
- 012000JUN – B Co SP
- 012205JUN – M Co SP
- 012210JUN – TAC SP
- 012215JUN – HHT SP
- 012300JUN – SWT on station - 020300JUN
- 012255JUN – SQN CP 1, O/O M Co move CP 6, B Co move CP 7
- 020400JUN – Attack complete, set TCPs
- 020700JUN – Consolidate and Reorganize
- 012300JUN – Set joint TCPs
- 020930JUN – B Co SP to Diwaniyah
- 020945JUN – HHT SP to Diwaniyah
- 021000JUN – M Co SP to Diwaniyah
- 021030JUN – Sqdn begins arriving Cps

**COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS**
1. Units gauge response of population to US presence.
2. Units identify and report Sadr posters / anti coalition graphity for removal morning of 2 JUN by IPs
3. MEDEVAC 33.55 – DUSTOFF
4. Current ROE in effect
5. FAS / FLE / Retrans intilia location vic CP1
6. TCBs responsible to evoc casualties to AXP.
7. Mass casualty = 3+ wounded, AXP moves to location.
8. Maintain 360 degree security at all times.
9. SQDN retrans cmd net on FH700 past CP1

**PIRs**
1. Enemy contact.
2. Location of Sadr posters / anti coalition graphity.
3. Enemy defensive positions / roadblocks
4. IPs in zone
A Quality of Firsts

SEE FIRST

HUMINT
IP (informant) informs 1-5 IN of an assassination plot to kill a local police chief. 1-5 IN shares intelligence with OCF-I and begin joint planning and source vetting. 1-5 IN shares intelligence with OCF-I and begins development to capture Abu Zubayr, utilizing the sub-source to bait Zubayr.

SIGINT
Sensitive Source reporting verifies presence and location of Abu Zubayr.

Abu Zubayr, aka Muhammad Sultan Saleh

UNDERSTAND FIRST

SBCT
Rover III imagery is used to plot icons on FIRCIS, creating a "Common Operating Picture".

IMINT
Rover III allows 1-5 TAC to track OCF-I and sub-source movement through IMINT.

FINISH DECISIVELY

ACT FIRST

OCF-I
OCF-I confirms Zubayr's location and moves to intercept.

SBCT
547/5 IN & TAC5-IN move to secure the objective and relieve OCF-I. From call to TOT - 5 minutes.

SBCT
1-5 IN (T) secure site & escort OCF-I element from target.
CDR/1-5 IN finds suicide belt on Abu Zubair body.
EOD & 113EN reduce suicide belt, recover remains and return source.
Recon/5 IN exploits chase vehicle finds documents & pictures which are passed to OCF-I. Passes additional intelligence and information to 3-21 IN for exploitation.

Saad Ibrahim Alawi, aka Abu Fathi
Abu Zubayr, aka Mohammad Sultan Saleh
Zubayr's Suicide Vest
Abu Tariq, aka Abu Mahmud
• Close Fight Domination
• New C4ISR capability and interface
  • ABCS 6.4
  • JNN
• New Org/Equipment
  • Combined Arms
  • MGS
• Infantry/Info Centric
  • Mortars/Snipers
  • Vehicles and Wpns Sqds
  • ABCS/C4ISR
• Logistics/Support Concepts
• Leader Training Mindset

AO Arrowhead
Approx. 220km x 264km

AO Defined in SBCT O&O:
50km X 50 km

Mosul to Balad 270km

Mosul to Al Kut or
An Najaf 450km

• Full Spectrum Dominance
• ISF Partnerships
• Non-Kinetic vs Kinetic
• IO/CMO focus
• Policeman mentality
• Company Level Fight
• The Leadership Reaction Course
• Need Next Generation C4ISR
• Need Training Systems

Training Lethal, Adaptive, and Culturally Aware Leaders