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Tactical Scenarios for Use With the Tactical Staff Training Module

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Science Applications International Corp.

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for

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TACTICAL SCENARIOS FOR USE WITH THE TACTICAL STAFF TRAINING MODULE (TSTM)

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TACTICAL SCENARIOS FOR USE WITH
TACTICAL STAFF TRAINING MODULE
(TSTM)

Introduction

This report documents one component of a larger effort to enhance human performance in Army tactical decision making. The overall effort addresses the development, integration, and evaluation of techniques to enhance the information processing and decision making performance of battlefield command groups. The techniques, including both decision aiding and training, will be evaluated in a controlled environment, the Experimental Development, Demonstration, and Integration Center (EDDIC), at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to document Army tactical scenarios which were developed to support training research in automated tactical staff training.

Scope

This report focuses on the development and application of four tactical scenarios to support training of Army division-level staff officers in the analysis of the battlefield area and of its influence on the planned performance of an assigned tactical mission. The scenarios are intended for initial use with EDDIC prototype training software called a Tactical Staff Training Module.

Overview

An Army tactical command and control system consists of people, equipment, procedures, products, communications, and facilities for the planning, coordination, and directing of tactical military operations. A key element of the command and control system is the people who operate the systems and perform the functions that are essential to military decision making. An analysis of the functions of the coordinating staff officers at division level reveals opportunities to improve decision making both through improvements in training and through development of automated decision support systems. One such function, Analysis of the Battlefield Area, has revealed significant opportunity to enhance the decision making process through training in the performance of the function. To this end, ARI has developed a Tactical Staff Training Module.

The analysis of the battlefield area is a comprehensive study to determine the effects of the area of operations on enemy and friendly operations. It includes an analysis of weather, terrain, and other factors throughout a commander's area of interest. It serves as a basis for developing specific

friendly courses of action and for determining enemy capabilities in commander and staff estimates. The analysis allows the commander and staff to see the battlefield in width, depth, height, and time dimensions.

The Tactical Staff Training Module (TSTM) is a prototype of a part-staff part-task computer-supported training tool, which includes both individual and team analysis as vehicles for training. In this TSTM, the portion of the battlefield area analysis emphasized is terrain. Terrain analysis is a complex activity that is essential to tactical planning by all division staff sections. It requires significant amounts of coordination and communication in order to obtain, integrate, and evaluate information requisite to a complete and accurate analysis. Generation and interpretation of topographic and climatic information without aids is time consuming and resource demanding, and the quality of performance of this function tends to vary between individuals as well as across staff teams. The automated TSTM can play an important role through training to the end of achieving standardization in function performance and synergism of efforts across all staff officers and teams.

In order to test the TSTM in a realistic training mode, tactical scenarios are necessary. The number of scenarios developed (four) was necessary to provide flexibility in the TSTM training scheme; namely, for pre-exercise evaluation of both individuals and teams; for support of actual training using TSTM; and, finally, for post training evaluation of individuals and teams to ascertain the training benefits realized. The number of scenarios also permits variations in the sets of scenarios used for training purposes. The four scenarios are termed mini-scenarios because they contain only that information necessary to evaluate the effect of terrain and weather upon the analysis and comparison of a number of alternative tactical courses of action. Information regarding friendly and enemy force status, disposition, and capabilities has been omitted to ensure that only battlefield area information is used for training. In order to support training using TSTM, the tactical mission, terrain representation, and minimal control measures associated with mission performance are provided in the scenarios. Terrain data displayed to support TSTM are computer-generated and are based upon digitized terrain data available through the Defense Mapping Agency (DMA). Four map scales are available, and computer-generated control measures required to support TSTM training exercises are also available.

The four mini-scenarios are all laid in Western Europe. DMA digitized terrain data for that area constitute the only available data set of sufficient size to accommodate division level tactical operations. The scenarios are of relatively equal difficulty for staff training (an intentional objective) using TSTM; i.e.,

- Division missions are similar; i.e., offensive operations to seize and restore the Inner German Border.
- Division zones of operation are of approximately the same width and are composed of similar types of terrain.
- Distances from present line of contact/line of departure (LC/LD) to the assigned objectives are approximately equal.

- Obstacles in the area of operations are of relatively equal difficulty to cross or breach.
- Identical climatic and seasonal conditions exist.
- Troop lists and task organizations for attacking divisions are similar.

The major differences between the four scenarios are the actual land forms (relief), hydrography, vegetation type and distribution, surface materials, built-up areas, lines of communications (roads and railroads), and other man-made features.

Each of the four mini-scenarios forwarded with this report consists of (1) the commander's planning guidance for the assigned tactical mission and (2) a corresponding tactical overlay depicting those control measures which bound each terrain analysis. For ease of scenario presentation, a sketch of the tactical overlay accompanies the commander's planning guidance for each scenario; however, the actual tactical overlays for each scenario are delivered under separate cover. The physical overlays provided with these scenarios are mirrored by computer-generated graphics available in the TSTM. The actual overlays are to be used with the appropriate map sheets of Map, Germany, Scale 1:50,000, Series M745. Map sheets of Series M745 to cover all scenarios are identified as follows:

L4918, L4920, L4922, L4924, L4926, L4928
L5118, L5120, L5122, L5124, L5126, L5128
L5318, L5320, L5322, L5324, L5326, L5328
L5518, L5520, L5522, L5524, L5526, L5528
L5718, L5720, L5722, L5724, L5726, L5728

The division commander's planning guidance and tactical overlay sketches for each mini-scenario are included in appendices as follows:

Appendix A - Scenario Alpha
Appendix B - Scenario Bravo
Appendix C - Scenario Charlie
Appendix D - Scenario Delta

APPENDIX A
SCENARIO ALPHA
OFFENSE GERMANY

SCENARIO ALPHA

OFFENSE GERMANY

Gentlemen, 10 (US) Corps has been making steady progress in its counter attack to restore the Inner German Border (IGB). The 22 Mech Div to our south has had some rough going, however, and their attack is going less rapidly than ours. The 18 Armd Div of 6 (US) Corps to our north is making good progress and is in good position to cover our north flank.

The corps commander's intention for continuing the attack, which was contained in the frag order we just received, is for the 23 Armd Div to launch an attack at 180600 Aug to turn the enemy forces opposing the 22 Mech Div out of position and allow both divisions to close rapidly on the IGB. We will be making the corps main attack, and the 22 Mech Div on our south will make a strong secondary attack to pin the enemy to his front in position. The 202 Armd Cav Regt will screen our north flank and maintain contact with 6 (US) Corps.

Our zone of attack appears to be of a size to amply accommodate two brigades on line and still allow us to retain a strong reserve. The reserve should be strong enough to take over either frontline brigade mission and punch through to the division objectives. I see corps objective ALPHA broken into three division objectives; COYOTE, FOX, and WOLF. Capture and control of these division objectives will give us positive control of the IGB in our zone. I want to emphasize a critical aspect of this operation which is that we will not cross the IGB without specific orders from the corps commander.

As for tentative courses of action, I want a strong initial attack supported amply by artillery, CAS, and attack helicopters. I also want the division reserve positioned and prepared to quickly exploit our successes. I see three tentative courses of action based upon my mission analysis. Course of action ALPHA is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the north on the axis GREBENAU (NB3322) - NIEDERJOSSA (NB4025) - NIEDERAULA (NB4228) - SCHENLENGSFELD (NB5930). Course of action BRAVO is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the center on the axis MAAR (NB2712) - north of SCHLITZ (NB3913) - HAUNETAL (NB4924) - EITERFELD (NB5624). Course of action CHARLIE is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the south on the axis ANGERSBACH (NB3108) - SCHLITZ (NB3913) - BURGHAUN (NB5116) - KIRCHHASEL (NB5617).

G2 and G3, take a good look at the terrain, the avenues of approach to the division objectives, and the enemy strength and dispositions. Let's come up with a good scheme of maneuver and supporting fires, and remember that this operation must proceed rapidly if we are to be successful in our mission. My intent is hit hard in our initial attack, penetrate enemy defensive position to our front, and move rapidly to seize the division objectives. By our actions I want to quickly threaten the flank of enemy forces opposing the 22 Mech Div to our south and to capture or kill as many of the enemy as possible.

I would like to have your estimates by 171500 Aug. G3, get a warning order out quickly, and I would like to have the operation order out by 171700 Aug. That timing will give a limited opportunity for reconnaissance and coordination prior to darkness.

G1, see if corps can push through some replacements as early as possible.

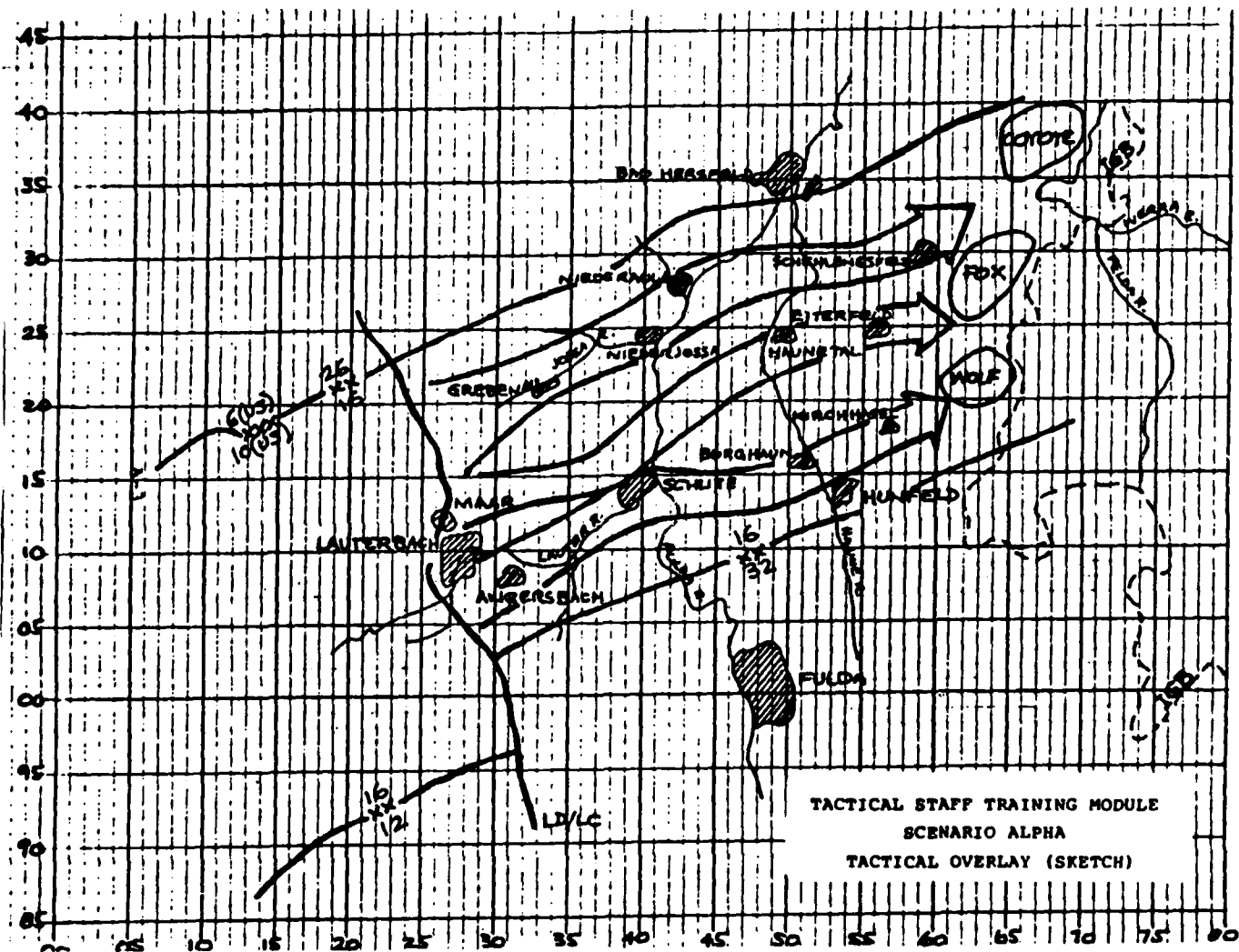
G2, get as much information as you can about changes in the enemy situation before we jump off. I don't want to be surprised. Be particularly alert to indications of reinforcement of enemy units currently in contact and to opportunities that the enemy may have to counterattack our forces. Keep in mind that successful performance of our current mission will put NATO forces almost into Warsaw Pact territory, and the enemy will be pretty sensitive to giving up any more of their territory.

G4, I want positive and continuing support of this operation, because I expect the attack to go fairly rapidly. Use care in selecting your support areas and your MSRs, and plan to position your installations as far forward as possible without unnecessarily jeopardizing their operations.

As you prepare your estimates, keep in mind that the enemy has the capability to employ both nuclear and chemical weapons in the defense; therefore, analyze our courses of action and our activities in light of that fact. Let's not present to him so lucrative a target that he cannot resist the use of these weapons. He must realize that retaliatory action on our part could involve the use of these weapons on his homeland; therefore, it is doubtful that he will initiate use of these weapons at this time. G2, I want you to be particularly alert, however, to any indications that he will employ nuclear or chemical weapons.

If there are no questions, the Chief of Staff will schedule the presentation of your estimates.

TACTICAL STAFF TRAINING MODULE
 SCENARIO ALPHA TACTICAL OVERLAY (SKETCH)



APPENDIX B
SCENARIO BRAVO
OFFENSE GERMANY

SCENARIO BRAVO

OFFENSE GERMANY

Gentlemen, 10 (US) Corps has been making steady progress in its counter attack to restore the Inner German Border (IGB). The 22 Mech Div to our south has had some rough going, however, and their attack is going less rapidly than ours. The 18 Armd Div of 6 (US) Corps to our north is making good progress and is in good position to cover our north flank.

The corps commander's intention for continuing the attack, which was contained in the frag order we just received, is for the 23 Armd Div to launch an attack at 180600 Aug to turn the enemy forces opposing the 22 Mech Div out of position and allow both divisions to close rapidly on the the IGB. We will be making the corps main attack, and the 22 Mech Div on our south will make a strong secondary attack to pin the enemy to his front in position. The 202 Armd Cav Regt will screen our north flank and maintain contact with 6 (US) Corps.

Our zone of attack appears to be of a size to amply accommodate two brigades on line and still allow us to retain a strong reserve. The reserve should be strong enough to take over either frontline brigade mission and punch through to the division objectives. I see corps objective FOXTROT broken into three division objectives; LION, TIGER, and LEOPARD. Capture and control of these division objectives will give us positive control of the IGB in our zone. I want to emphasize a critical aspect of this operation which is that we will not cross the IGB without specific orders from the corps commander.

As for tentative courses of action, I want a strong initial attack supported amply by artillery, CAS, and attack helicopters. I also want the division reserve positioned and prepared to quickly exploit our successes. I see three tentative courses of action based upon my mission analysis. Course of action ALPHA is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the north on the axis MORSCHEN (NB4357) - ROTENBERG (NB5150) - MECHBACH (NB5541) - FRIEDWALD (NB6037). Course of action BRAVO is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the center on the axis SAASEN (NB3941) - BAD HERSFELD (NB5036) - MOTZFELD (NB6033). Course of action CHARLIE is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the south on the axis OBERAULA (NB3334) - KIRCHHEIM (NB4032) - ODENSACHSEN (NB5027) - MANSBACH (NB6426).

G2 and G3, take a good look at the terrain, the avenues of approach to the division objectives, and the enemy strength and dispositions. Let's come up with a good scheme of maneuver and supporting fires, and remember that this operation must proceed rapidly if we are to be successful in our mission. My intent is hit hard in our initial attack, penetrate enemy defensive position to our front, and move rapidly to seize the division objectives. By our actions I want to quickly threaten the flank of enemy forces opposing the 22 Mech Div to our south and to capture or kill as many of the enemy as possible.

I would like to have your estimates by 171500 Aug. G3, get a warning order out quickly, and I would like to have the operation order out by 171700 Aug. That timing will give a limited opportunity for reconnaissance and coordination prior to darkness.

G1, see if corps can push through some replacements as early as possible.

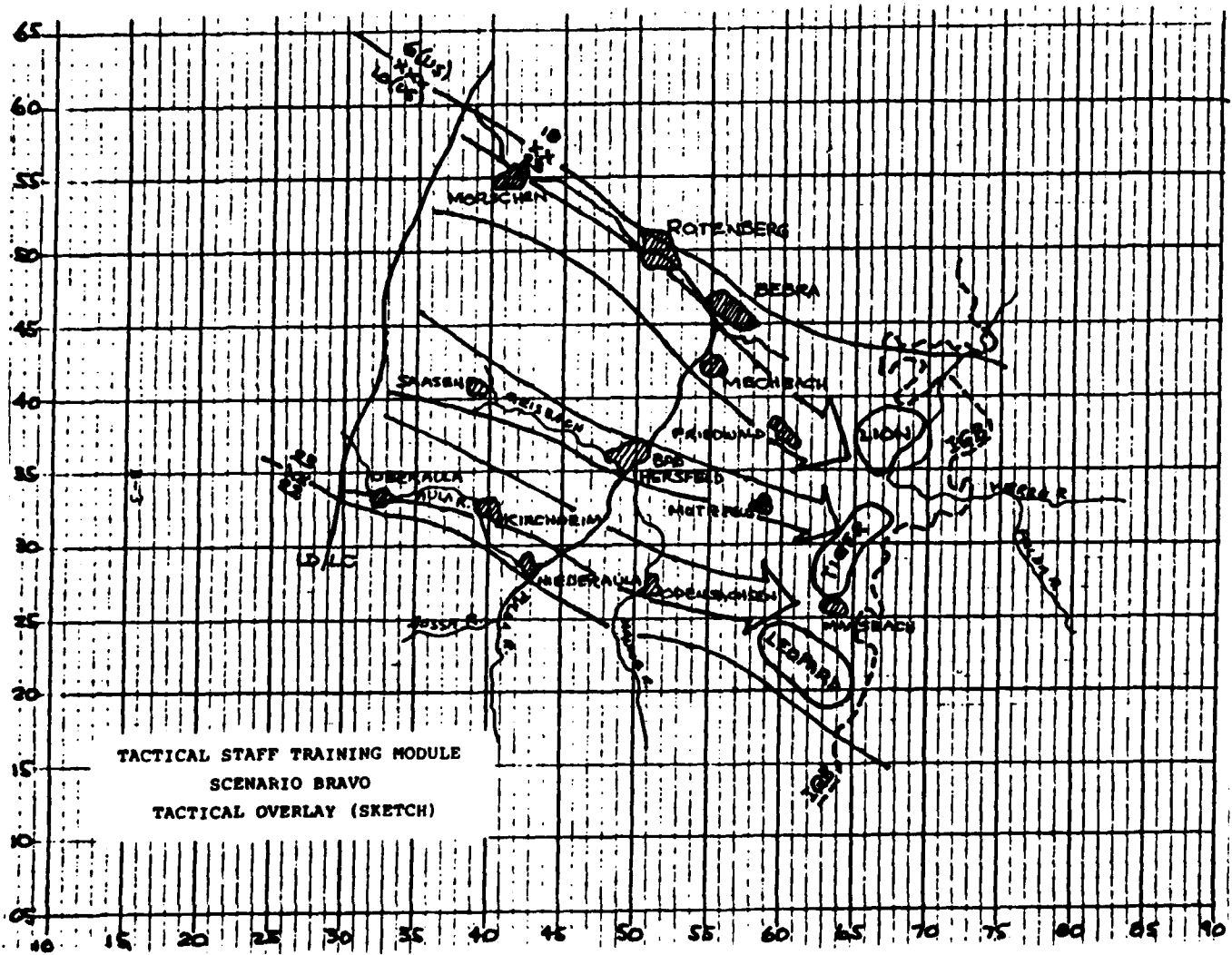
G2, get as much information as you can about changes in the enemy situation before we jump off. I don't want to be surprised. Be particularly alert to indications of reinforcement of enemy units currently in contact and to opportunities that the enemy may have to counterattack our forces. Keep in mind that successful performance of our current mission will put NATO forces almost into Warsaw Pact territory, and the enemy will be pretty sensitive to giving up any more of their territory.

G4, I want positive and continuing support of this operation, because I expect the attack to go fairly rapidly. Use care in selecting your support areas and your MSRs, and plan to position your installations as far forward as possible without unnecessarily jeopardizing their operations.

As you prepare your estimates, keep in mind that the enemy has the capability to employ both nuclear and chemical weapons in the defense; therefore, analyze our courses of action and our activities in light of that fact. Let's not present to him so lucrative a target that he cannot resist the use of these weapons. He must realize that retaliatory action on our part could involve the use of these weapons on his homeland; therefore, it is doubtful that he will initiate use of these weapons at this time. G2, I want you to be particularly alert, however, to any indications that he will employ nuclear or chemical weapons.

If there are no questions, the Chief of Staff will schedule the presentation of your estimates.

TACTICAL STAFF TRAINING MODULE
 SCENARIO BRAVO TACTICAL OVERLAY (SKETCH)



APPENDIX C
SCENARIO CHARLIE
OFFENSE GERMANY

SCENARIO CHARLIE

OFFENSE GERMANY

Gentlemen, 10 (US) Corps has been making steady progress in its counter attack to restore the Inner German Border (IGB). The 22 Mech Div to our south has had some rough going, however, and their attack is going less rapidly than ours. The 18 Armd Div of 6 (US) Corps to our north is making good progress and is in good position to cover our north flank.

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Our zone of attack appears to be of a size to amply accommodate two brigades on line and still allow us to retain a strong reserve. The reserve should be strong enough to take over either frontline brigade mission and punch through to the division objectives. I see corps objective FOXTROT broken into two division objectives; GRAPE and PLUM. Capture and control of these division objectives will give us positive control of the IGB in our zone. I want to emphasize a critical aspect of this operation which is that we will not cross the IGB without specific orders from the corps commander.

As for tentative courses of action, I want a strong initial attack supported amply by artillery, CAS, and attack helicopters. I also want the division reserve positioned and prepared to quickly exploit our successes. I see three tentative courses of action based upon my mission analysis. Course of action ALPHA is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the north on the axis REMSFELD (NB3350) - RENGSHAUSEN (NB3750) - STERKELSHAUSEN (NB4551) - BEBRA (NB5647) - IBA (NB6148). Course of action BRAVO is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the center on the axis SAASEN (NB3941) - ROHRBACH (NB5040) - MECKBACH (NB5541). Course of action CHARLIE is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the south on the axis KIRCHHEIM (NB4032) - BAD HERSFELD (NB5036) - MALKOMES (NB5733).

G2 and G3, take a good look at the terrain, the avenues of approach to the division objectives, and the enemy strength and dispositions. Let's come up with a good scheme of maneuver and supporting fires, and remember that this operation must proceed rapidly if we are to be successful in our mission. My intent is hit hard in our initial attack, penetrate enemy defensive position to our front, and move rapidly to seize the division objectives. By our actions I want to quickly threaten the flank of enemy forces opposing the 22 Mech Div to our south and to capture or kill as many of the enemy as possible.

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G4, I want positive and continuing support of this operation, because I expect the attack to go fairly rapidly. Use care in selecting your support areas and your MSRs, and plan to position your installations as far forward as possible without unnecessarily jeopardizing their operations.

As you prepare your estimates, keep in mind that the enemy has the capability to employ both nuclear and chemical weapons in the defense; therefore, analyze our courses of action and our activities in light of that fact. Let's not present to him so lucrative a target that he cannot resist the use of these weapons. He must realize that retaliatory action on our part could involve the use of these weapons on his homeland; therefore, it is doubtful that he will initiate use of these weapons at this time. G2, I want you to be particularly alert, however, to any indications that he will employ nuclear and chemical weapons.

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APPENDIX D
SCENARIO DELTA
OFFENSE GERMANY

SCENARIO DELTA

OFFENSE GERMANY

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Our zone of attack appears to be of a size to amply accommodate two brigades on line and still allow us to retain a strong reserve. The reserve should be strong enough to take over either frontline brigade mission and punch through to the division objectives. I see corps objective FOXTROT broken into two division objectives; XRAY and YANKEE. Capture and control of these division objectives will give us positive control of the IGB in our zone. I want to emphasize a critical aspect of this operation which is that we will not cross the IGB without specific orders from the corps commander.

As for tentative courses of action, I want a strong initial attack supported amply by artillery, CAS, and attack helicopters. I also want the division reserve positioned and prepared to quickly exploit our successes. I see three tentative courses of action based upon my mission analysis. Course of action ALPHA is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the north on the axis FLIEDEN (NA4086) - EICHENZELL (NA4994) - HOFBIEBER (NB5904). Course of action BRAVO is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the center on the axis HUTTEN (NA4380) - OBERKALBACK (NA4884) - SCHMALNAU (NA5689) - STEINBACH (NB6501). Course of action CHARLIE is to attack with two brigades on line with the main attack in the south on the axis OBERZELL (NA5076) - SPEICHERZ (NA5378) - STEINKUPPEL (NA6181) - GERSFELD (NA6589).

G2 and G3, take a good look at the terrain, the avenues of approach to the division objectives, and the enemy strength and dispositions. Let's come up with a good scheme of maneuver and supporting fires, and remember that this operation must proceed rapidly if we are to be successful in our mission. My intent is hit hard in our initial attack, penetrate enemy defensive position to our front, and move rapidly to seize the division objectives. By our actions I want to quickly threaten the flank of enemy forces opposing the 22 Mech Div to our south and to capture or kill as many of the enemy as possible.

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