

Mission #1: Strait to Hell

Protection of the SLOC

SITUATION: Continuing the *Jane's Defense Weekly* news report:

The Iranians have grown bolder over the past several months. Oil tankers of US and Japanese registry and carrying Saudi and Kuwaiti oil have been attacked by Iranian aircraft while transiting in the western part of the Persian Gulf. These attacks have been carried out by helicopter gunships and fixed wing aircraft. The base of operations of the relatively short range helicopters is unknown, as is the source of locating information that is vectoring in the Fixed wing aircraft.

In Other news, Iranian fighter aircraft have been tangling with Saudi and Omani aircraft for control of the air over the Strait of Hormuz.

The US has dispatched a CVBG to the Persian Gulf to stabilize the situation. It will arrive in four days. The press speculates as to whether the task force will attempt to transit the Strait of Hormuz into the Persian Gulf.

A Liberian Oil Tanker has reported that it struck a mine in the Strait of Hormuz and is limping into Qatar for repairs.

MISSION: Verify the presence of a minefield in the Strait of Hormuz and, if the minefield exists, identify a safe route of passage through which the Battle Group can pass. Commander-in-Chief, Central Command has declared Iran hostile. You have unlimited freedom of action in attacking military targets.

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IMMEDIATE

FROM COMNAVECENT
TO [ship name]

EA RESTRICTED//N02000//

MSGID/INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT/COMNAVCENT//

SUBJ/MISSION SUPPORT//

RMKS/1. HIGH PROBABILITY EXISTS OF SUBMARINE MINING ACTIVITY IN THE STRAIT. BEST ESTIMATE IS THAT A MINEFIELD IS BEING PLANTED WITH A NORTH-SOUTH ORIENTATION IN THE VICINITY OF LONGITUDE 056-30E.

2. LOCATE MINEFIELD AND SUBMARINE(S) PLANTING THE MINES. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO ATTACK THE SUBMARINE(S) TO STOP THE MINING.

3. TWO IRANIAN KILO CLASS SS ARE IN THE STRAITS. ONE KILO IN THE VICINITY OF 26-36N, 056-31E. THE OTHER KILO IS UNLOCATED AT THIS TIME. IRANIAN ASW-CAPABLE HELOS ARE ROUTINELY OPERATING WITHIN THE STRAIT.

4. ALLIED MERCHANT SHIPPING: TANKER IN VICINITY OF 26-34N, 056-34E IS NORTHBOUND IN THE STRAIT AND IS NOT CURRENTLY IN DANGER FROM THE MINEFIELD IF THE ESTIMATED POSITION IS ACCURATE. TANKER VICINITY OF 26-18N, 055-57E IS OUTBOUND THROUGH THE STRAIT. ETA AT THE ESTIMATED MINEFIELD POSITION IS IN THREE HOURS. YOUR RAPID RESPONSE IS ESSENTIAL.//

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PRIORITY

FROM COMNAVCENT
TO [ship name]

EA RESTRICTED//N02000//

MSGID/OPERATIONS TASKING/COMNAVCENT//

SUBJ/MISSION ASSIGNMENT//

RMKS/1. AREA ASSIGNMENT. OPERATE IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS IN THE VICINITY OF THE STRAIT OF HORMUZ BETWEEN LONGITUDES 055E AND 058E.

2. MISSION. PROTECTION OF THE SLOC. ENSURE TANKERS UNDER ALLIED FLAGS ARE NOT ATTACKED OR PREVENTED FROM PASSING THROUGH THE STRAIT.

3. COMMAND. COMNAVCENT RETAINS OPERATIONAL COMMAND.

4. RULES OF ENGAGEMENT. PEACETIME ROE IN EFFECT UNLESS HOSTILE ACTS ARE COMMITTED AGAINST ALLIED NAVAL FORCES OR ALLIED MERCHANT VESSELS. HOSTILE ACTS INCLUDE THE LAYING OF MINES.

5. OTHER. ALLIED SHIPPING POSITION INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED PERIODICALLY. SOME FISHING ACTIVITY IS TO BE EXPECTED AT ALL TIMES IN THE STRAIT.//

BT

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FROM CTF 69
TO [ship name]

EA RESTRICTED//N02000//

MSGID/INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT/CTF69//

SUBJ/LAUNCH INSTRUCTIONS//

RMKS/1. SECOND KILO LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF 26-38N, 056-24E, WEST OF MINEFIELD.//

BT

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OOB:

US Forces: 1x 688i Class Submarine

OPFOR:

2x Kilo class SSKs

2x Helix ASW helos in the air continuously.

2x Tankers, 1x fishing boat and 1x Trawler in the original mission. .

Biologics are a must, up to the builder for specifics.