

Operation Swift Defender Implementation Guide

Purpose

1. The purpose of the Operation Swift Defender Implementation Guide is to support training planners and executors within the NZ Army to effectively utilise the Operation Swift Shield Scenario. Achievement of this will contribute to the adoption of the DATE-P training scenario framework by the NZ Army and enhance interoperability with our defence partners IAW the intent of PLAN ANZAC.

Background

2. Operation Swift Shield was created in 2023 as a replacement for the LOTC Operational Scenario (Louisvoa) which had been in use since the early 2010s. The requirement for a new operational scenario for individual training within the NZ Army was driven by CA's directive that the NZ Army was to adopt the DATE-P training scenario framework NLT EOY 2023.
3. Concurrently with the adoption of DATE-P, CA announced PLAN ANZAC, which sought increased realignment with AS Army training systems in order to enhance interoperability and also reduce the staff effort of managing the NZ Army training system.
4. As a result it was decided that the LOTC Operational Scenario (Louisvoa) would be replaced with an already existing DATE-P compliant scenario already in use with Australian Army training institutions with modifications made to meet existing NZ Army training requirements. Operation Bronze Achilles (OBA) was selected for conversion for the below reasons.
 - a. Interoperability. OBA is currently in use by the Combat Officer Advanced Course (COAC) which is attended as a CAPT-MAJOR course by several corps within the NZ Army and supported by an NZ instructor. OBA is likely to become the standard training scenario for the AS Army going forward.
 - b. Scale. OBA was originally designed to support the training of Bde and BG operations in a combined, joint, and interagency environment. Furthermore it incorporates multiple phases of war allowing it to be utilised to support a wide range of training. This made its conversion to suit NZ Army needs more straightforward than other available options.
 - c. Adversary. OBA originally utilised the North Torbian OPFOR, but has been recently updated to enable training against an Olvanan formations during COAC. The inherent flexibility of the scenario lends itself to training against a wide set of adversaries.
5. In Sep 2023, NZ Army Tactical School, supported by members of the ADF, converted Operation Bronze Achilles into Operation Swift Defender. While the original concepts and scenario of OBA have been retained, several major modifications have been made to meet NZ Army learning requirements and future-proof against anticipated changes within the AS Army.
 - a. Geography. OBA was originally set in South/North Torbia (LUZON, Phillipines). The island of LUZON has been replaced by the North Island of New Zealand, which will be notionally located at the northern end of the Phillipines Island Chain. This modification

was necessary in order to enable the scenario to be utilised for both conceptual (TEWT/SPX) and practical individual training. The human terrain of OBA has been retained.

- b. Coalition Forces. The original OBA consisted of a single ANZAC Division with 3 Bdes conducting operations as part of an American Corps. There was relatively little consideration of the wider joint force. The below modifications were made:
 - i. Removal of US Forces. The scenario now consists of a single ANZAC Division, supported by elms of the South Torbian Army, conducting operations against North Torbia. The removal of major flanking formations was necessary to enable easier exercise design and use of more terrain for training. Key US enablers (GBAD, CHS etc...) remain within the FF ORBAT.
 - ii. 1 (ANZAC) Div Structure. The 1 (ANZAC) Div structure was modified to reflect the new CFBB (2023).
 - iii. CJTF 667. The inclusion of CFMCC and CFACC force structures was made IOT better support joint land combat training outcomes.
 - iv. South Torbia. HN Mil has been severely degraded at the beginning of the scenario, but is reconstituting cbt power thanks to coalition support. This plan of reconstitution enables training designers to choose the capability of HNSF according to the needs of their training.
- c. Adversary Forces. A key challenge of adapting OBA was justifying why the bulk of the North Torbian Army (TPA) was not conducting offensive operations against South Torbia, and in particular not combating coalition forces when they moved over to the offensive. ICW ADF, it was decided that by setting the scenario shortly after a previous conflict and concurrent with a south-east asia scenario being developed by ADF for coalition use, that a reduced combat power could be justified for the TPA.
 - i. Size. The scenario has selected 3 OSC (Corps equivalent) as the adversary. Within the scenario this represents the remaining combat power available to North Torbia given its previous defeat and the requirement to police its own population. A Corps sized formation was selected for three reasons:
 1. Training Requirements. Both NZ Army Tactical School and Logistics Operations Schools have learning objectives which require students to practice brigade operations, within a divisional setting, during the defensive phase of war. This logically required an attacking corps to justify the divisional defensive and delay operations. While the conversion of existing assessments to reflect independent brigade operations was considered, this was deemed less than ideal, particularly given the renewed emphasis on divisional operations within the AS Army.

2. Doctrine. The selection of an OSC adversary better enables education of students regarding the doctrine and operational approach of the adversary.
 3. Flexibility. A larger adversary allows for a wider range of capabilities to be present, thereby increasing flexibility for training designers.
- ii. Equipment. The adversary has been equipped with Olvanan, rather than North Torbian equipment and structures. This has been justified as Olvanan support to the rearming of North Torbia. This has been done to achieve interoperability with AS Army and is consistent with intended AS updates to OBA.
 - iii. Capabilities. While 3 OSC is a capable force on paper, the scenario makes clear that it has serious logistical limitations and has a relatively short window of opportunity to achieve its goal of defeating South Torbia and the Coalition. This 'achilles heel' has been inserted to enable exercise designers to choose to culminate or render ineffective elements of 3 OSC to meet their own training needs.

Operation Swift Defender Artefacts and Overview

6. The Operation Swift Defender Scenario consists of the following artefacts.

- a. Operation Swift Guardian 1 (ANZAC) Div Outline.
- b. Operation Swift Guardian OPORD (including):
 - i. TaskOrg
 - ii. Intelligence Estimate
 - iii. Intelligence Annex
 - iv. Rules of Engagement
 - v. Joint Fires Annex
 - vi. Air and Airspace Control Annex.
 - vii. Force Protection Annex.
 - viii. Health Support Annex.
 - ix. PSYOPS Annex.
 - x. Information Operations Annex.
 - xi. Cyber and Electromagnetic Warfare Annex.
 - xii. Logistics Support Annex.
 - xiii. Civil Military Operations Annex.
 - xiv. Space Annex.
 - xv. Engineer Annex.
- c. TRADOC Coalition Forces Battle Book (2023).
- d. TRADOC Red Book (2023).

7. An overview of the blue and red COAs is best obtained by reviewing the Op Swift Guardian 1 (ANZAC) Div Outline (attached at end of this document).

Using Operation Swift Defender in Training.

8. A recommended process for utilising Operation Swift Defender when designing training is given below:

- a. Step 1: Identify Phase of War. Using the OSD timeline, situate the training to occur within the relevant phase. *Example: An OC of a motorised (LAV) coy wishes to conduct a coy exercise focussing on defensive operations. They would select for the exercise timeline to occur during Div Phase 1.*
- b. Step 2: Identify Capability/Echelon to be trained. It is anticipated that most training requirements can be met utilising 9 MCB's structure. *Example: The OC decides that they will be one of the NZ LAV Coys within the NZLAV BG of 9 MCB.*
- c. Step 3: Identify Terrain to be used. *Example: The OC decides that the exercise will be set in WMTA and the surrounds so that live firing can occur.*
- d. Step 4: ICW TESC FRAGO Operation Swift Defender OPORD as necessary. *Example: In this example the original Div SoM does not involve 9 MCB conducting defensive operations in the CENTRAL PLATEAU. However the OC and the TESC now create a FRAGO to the overarching OPORD which forward deploys elms of 9 MCB to the CENTRAL PLATEAU to support the South Torbian defensive operations. The en situation is also updated as needed. In this example, the standard scenario would mean the adversary would be from one of the medm BTGs of 6 Div, so an appropriate adversary for the coy's trg needs. However if the Coy were light infantry, the en sit would be updated so that the adversary was 6 Div's light BTG.*
- e. Step 5: Execute Training.
- f. Step 6: Provide updated artefacts to TESC (NZ) for future trg. The FRAGO and updated Int Estimate used to support the training are then retained by TESC (NZ) IOT serve as an off the shelf training solution for future exercises.

Review and Feedback

9. Operation Swift Defender is intended as a live scenario which will evolve over time to become more detailed and diverse. Users are strongly encouraged to provide feedback either to enhance the overarching OPORD/Scenario or to provide FRAGOs which enable more specific training outcomes.