



Quick Decision Exercise Loy Manara

Centre for Army Lessons is trialling a new way to better deliver your QDE. It now consists of four parts:

Part 1 - Revision of Doctrine (to set you up for success in the QDE)

Part 2 - Relevant lessons

Part 3 - The QDE; and

Part 4 - The opportunity to use Simulation (at your local Battle Simulation Site [BSS]) to test your plan

We welcome your feedback on this new approach, and remember the best solution wins a book!

Part 1 – Revision of Doctrine.

The following doctrine points are from LWP-CA (DMTD CBT) 3-3-1 DISMOUNTED MINOR TACTICS, Section 6-3 and will refresh your knowledge on the phases, planning considerations and control measures for the successful conduct of a section attack. You can access the doctrine via Army Knowledge Online.

General. Section attacks are conducted against small and isolated enemy posts as part of a platoon or company task. As there is generally limited time for reconnaissance, rehearsals will rarely, if ever be conducted. Plans must be simple and well-practiced. Movement in the assault should always be covered by fire.

Phases. The phases of the attack are:

- Preparatory
- Assault
- Exploitation and
- Reorganisation

Planning considerations. As you develop your plan consider the following:

- Surprise
- Firepower
- Secure the forming up place and line of departure
- Maintenance of momentum
- Retention of the initiative
- Rapid reorganisation

Control measures. As you refine your plan, consider using some of the following control measures to assist your command and control:

- Line of departure
- Objectives
- Report and phase lines
- Boundaries
- Centre-lines
- Feature numbers
- Axis/axes of approach/assault
- Coordination points
- Engagement areas
- Fire control measures
- Assembly areas
- Forming-up places
- Routes
- Battle Positions

Part 2 – Relevant Lessons.

Before conducting any operation or tactical task it is wise to consider what we have learnt from previous experience. The Centre for Army Lessons has identified three lessons relevant to this QDE.

Lesson 1: Know the capabilities of your enemy's weapon systems (range, accuracy, rate of fire and penetration) as this will likely impact your plan.

Lesson 2: Use simple and robust control measures to ensure you maintain control of your fire and movement.

Lesson 3: Use SMEAC for your orders. By using the SMEAC format you will be articulating your plan in a simple and commonly understood format and sequence that addresses all the elements required for success.

Part 3 – QDE50: 'Loy Manara'.

Situation

General. You are the Section Commander of C/S 11A, an infantry section within a battle group (whose mission is to clear enemy from within its AO) deployed to Takistan. Your section is conducting a dismounted patrol to clear enemy within your Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR). You are located at GR 082021 and the time now is 0800h.

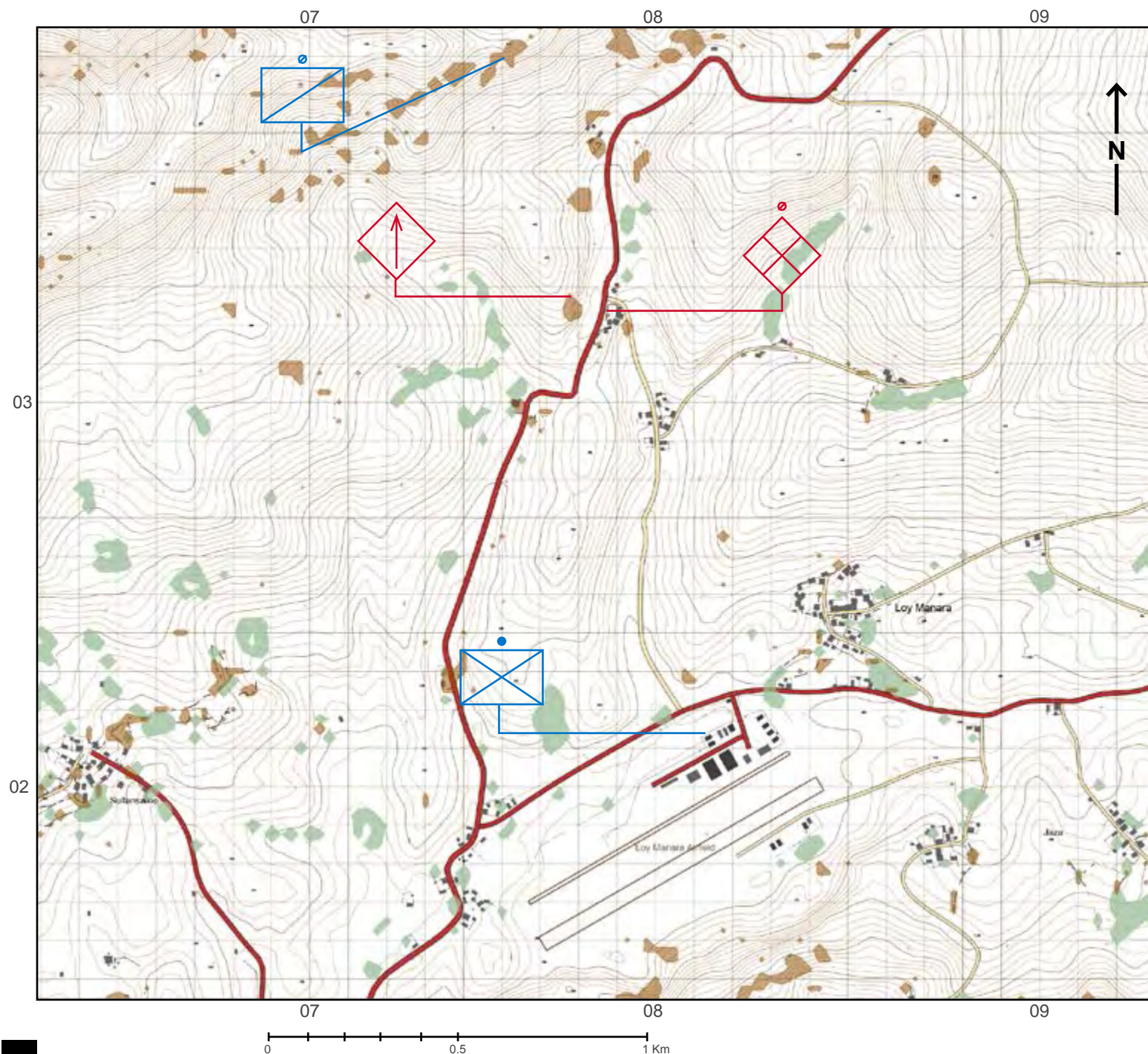
Enemy. A Reconnaissance Patrol (C/S 63A, located at GR 076039), has sighted an enemy Vehicle Check Point (VCP) at GR 079033 on a Main Supply Route (MSR) (running north/south) within your TAOR. The MSR is normally well used by the local population (typically busy with sedans, motorcycles and pedestrians); however, is quiet now. 63A has sent some images. Image 1 shows two dismounted enemy at the road junction (with AK47 and RPG-7V) and image 2 shows one enemy with an RPK on the high ground to the west (GR078033). The enemy have been using the abandoned building to the north-east of the junction.



Image 1



Image 2



Civilians. Most civilians have evacuated the area, although a small quantity appears to be at the VCP. Your PL/Coy has been active in the area of operations (AO) for several months and the local population are generally appreciative and supportive of your presence.

Friendly. 63A can observe and report only - they will not unmask their position. There is no UAV support. You have no Offensive Support or AFV support. You have AME available upon request.

Mission.

03 Your section is to **clear** the enemy position by NLT 1100h **in order to enable freedom of movement** along the MSR.

Part 4 – Use simulation to test your plan

If you wish to test your plan, arrange (through your unit) to attend your local Battle Simulation Site (BSS) – they are in Darwin, Townsville, Brisbane, Singleton, Puckapunyal, Canungra and Adelaide, where you can execute your plan in VBS3. The BSSs look forward to supporting your development.

02 Finally, don't forget to submit your solution to CAL in order to put yourself in the running to win a military history book.

Go to <http://ako.drn.mil.au/> on the DPN, select 'Quick Decision Exercises', then 'Our latest Quick Decision Exercise' – then follow the instructions. Alternatively, send is straight to us at army.lessons@defence.gov.au.