



Department of Defense

OPERATION IRON LOTUS

CTF-177 – Target Package 01

FRAGORD : 0735 - MR88

APRIL 27 2025

FOR SIMULATION PURPOSE ONLY

131ST - ALWAYS ON TARGET

OPERATION IRON LOTUS**Time Zone Used :** LOCAL TIME**From :** COMBINED AIR OPERATIONS CENTER**To :** PATROL LEADERS**Annexes :** ATO // AO**Risk level :** HIGH**A1 : Situation**

On April 25, 2025, a Chinese Type 071 amphibious transport dock illegally landed forces on Pagan Island (US territory), establishing a forward ISR and air defense outpost within 36 hours. The PLA Navy (PLAN) justified the move under the guise of “regional scientific cooperation.”

Following the shutdown of a US drone near Agrihan Island, USINDOPACOM authorized a precision strike to neutralize Chinese military presence and reassert US sovereignty.

A2 : Weather**METAR:** PGSN 250650Z 18004KT 9999 FEW025 SCT027 20/12 A2992**SUNRISE:** 0737 LT**A3 : Enemy forces****A31 :** PLAN Ground Forces – Pagan Island

- 2x HQ-7 SHORAD batteries + MANPADS units
- CH-4 armed UAV detachment
- 1x Type 071 amphibious assault ship anchored off coast

A32 : PLAN Naval Cover

- 1x Type 054A frigate, 20 NM west of Pagan, active patrol
- Armed with HQ-16 SAM and potential EW suite

A33 : PLAN Carrier Strike Group (North of AO)

- CNS Shandong (CV-17) operating ~150 NM north of Pagan
- Embarked air wing includes J-11 multirole fighters (QRA-capable)
- Carrier group accompanied by 2–3 surface combatants (Type 052D / Type 054A)
- Capable of deploying J-11s in response to US air strikes within minutes.

B1 : Mission

Conduct a precision air and naval strike to eliminate hostile Chinese ISR, C2, and air defense assets on Pagan Island. The operation will proceed in the following phases :

B11 : Phase I – Maritime Threat Neutralization

Engage and destroy the **Type 054A frigate** patrolling 20 NM west of Pagan.

B12 : Phase II – Land-Based Strike Execution

Phase II begins upon confirmation of LIPSTICK (Type 54A) neutralization. Engage ground targets: JY-11B radar, mobile C2 node, then UAV zone including CH-4 drones and their control station.

C1 : Execution**C11 : Weapons**

- GBU-12 or GBU38 are authorized and recommended for all strikes conducted on Pagan Island. JTAC support unavailable – self-designation or buddy lasing advised.
- The Type 054A frigate will be engaged with a coordinated salvo of AGM-84D Harpoons. **Intelligence estimates that two direct hits will render the vessel combat-ineffective.**

C12 : Intelligence

- Radar sites are hot and tracking airborne targets.
- UAV patrols occur regularly at 18,000–22,000 ft.
- DEVIL flight is tasked with engaging the Type 054A frigate and will conduct a low-altitude ingress (below 400 ft AGL) to delay detection and enhance tactical surprise. Terrain masking and sea-skimming profiles are advised to avoid early radar acquisition.
- Current air defense is limited to 2x HQ-7 batteries and frigate-based HQ-16 coverage, but classified assessments indicate the PLAN intends to reinforce the island's IADS within the next 48–72 hours. Deployment of HQ-9 long-range SAM systems or ship-based coverage from additional Type 052D destroyers is expected if no action is taken.

C13 : Anti-aircraft defense

The air defense network over Pagan Island is layered and tactically positioned.

Island-Based Systems:

- 2x HQ-7 SHORAD batteries, each composed of 2 TELs and 1 radar vehicle, positioned inland.
- **Max engagement range:** ~8 NM
- **Max altitude (ceiling):** ~20,000 ft
- Coverage focuses on critical infrastructure (radar, UAV zone) with overlapping threat rings. Capable of optically guided fallback in ECM-degraded environments.

Naval-Based System:

- 1x Type 054A frigate operating 20 NM west of Pagan, armed with HQ-16 medium-range SAMs.
- **Max engagement range:** ~30 NM
- **Max altitude (ceiling):** ~60,000 ft
- Provides outer perimeter air defense, capable of engaging aircraft and standoff munitions during ingress.

C14 : Strike Phasing

N/A.

C15 : ROE

- 2-factors IFF: Electronic + one condition : Visual confirmation / AIC declares hostile / Hard lock.
- Engagement is **limited strictly to designated targets** within the authorized strike package. No collateral or opportunistic strikes are permitted without CAOC approval.

C16 : Interception

N/A.

C17 : Civilian traffic

No civilian air/naval traffic reported in AO.

AO declared restricted; NOTAMs active

C18 : Support

TEXACO : TANKER 245.000 / AGL300 PROBE

SHELL : TANKER 246.000 / FL200 BOOM 46X

PHANTOM : AWACS 251.000

C19 : Remarks

- Enemy forces are assessed to possess smoke-generation capability. Rapid deployment of smoke screens around C2 and SAM sites should be expected upon detection of inbound strike elements.
- Imagery and SIGINT indicate that hostile forces frequently relocate key assets — including radar systems, SAM units, and drone launchers — to complicate targeting and reduce exposure.
- In the event of J-11 presence in the AO, avoid engagement, unless in self-defense. Current US assets are not configured for sustained air-to-air combat superiority in this environment.

C20 : Compliance

Operation authorized under **Article 51 of the UN Charter**, legitimizing national self-defense against unlawful military incursions. This strike aims to **restore US territorial integrity** while preventing escalation and limiting collateral effects.

C21 : Domestics

Saipan Intl: 256.900 / RWY 07 (Divert for Navy)

CVN-76: 308.000 / 76X

C22 : Operational Security

- **IFF Activation:** Transponders must remain off.
- **Open communications** in transit; radio discipline **only near the target area**.
- All tankers operate TACAN-silent.
- Use EMCON posture during ingress.

C23 : What if ?

To be discussed at the oral briefing. Anticipation of situations with measures to be taken.

AIR TASKING ORDER**STRIKER TEAM ALPHA**

C/S	UNITS	TASK	TGT	ORD	T/O	TOT	BL	RMK
DEVIL 4	4xF/A-18C	STRIKE	Ty54A	4xA84H	0700	N/A	AGL300	/
BUD 2	2xF15E	STRIKE	FOS-P	4xG12	0710	N/A	28	1631
NINJA 3	4xF16C50	STRIKE	FOS-P	2xG12	0710	N/A	25	1651
BANSHEE 6	4xF16C50	TARCAP	/	ND	0710	N/A	30	/

STRIKER TEAM BRAVO (FULL NAVY VARIANT)

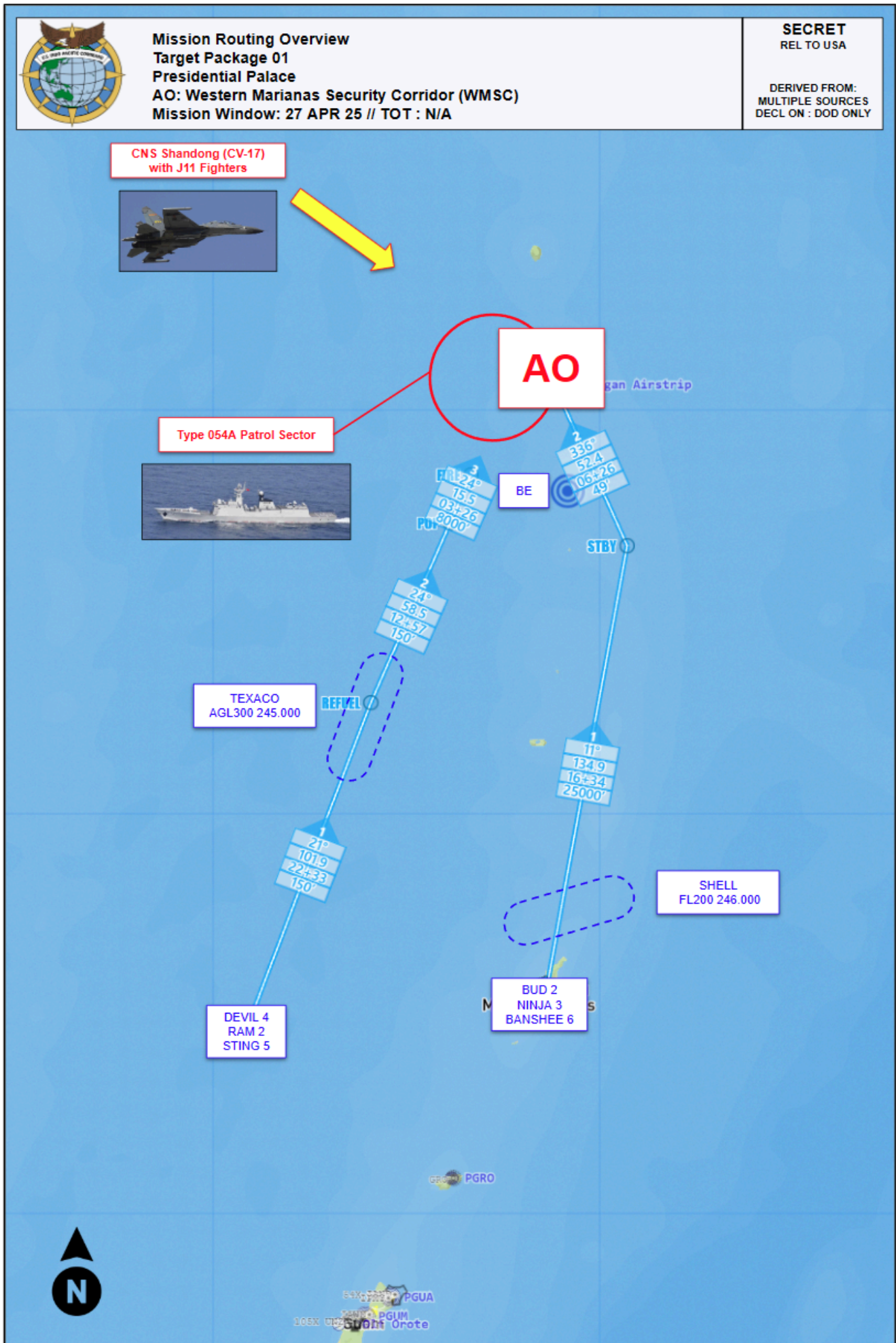
C/S	UNITS	TASK	TGT	ORD	T/O	TOT	BL	RMK
DEVIL 4	4xF/A-18C	STRIKE	Ty54A	4xA84H	0700	N/A	AGL300	/
RAM 2	4xF/A-18C	STRIKE	FOS-P	2xG12	0710	N/A	25	1641
STING 5	4xF/A-18C	TARCAP	/	ND	0710	N/A	30	/

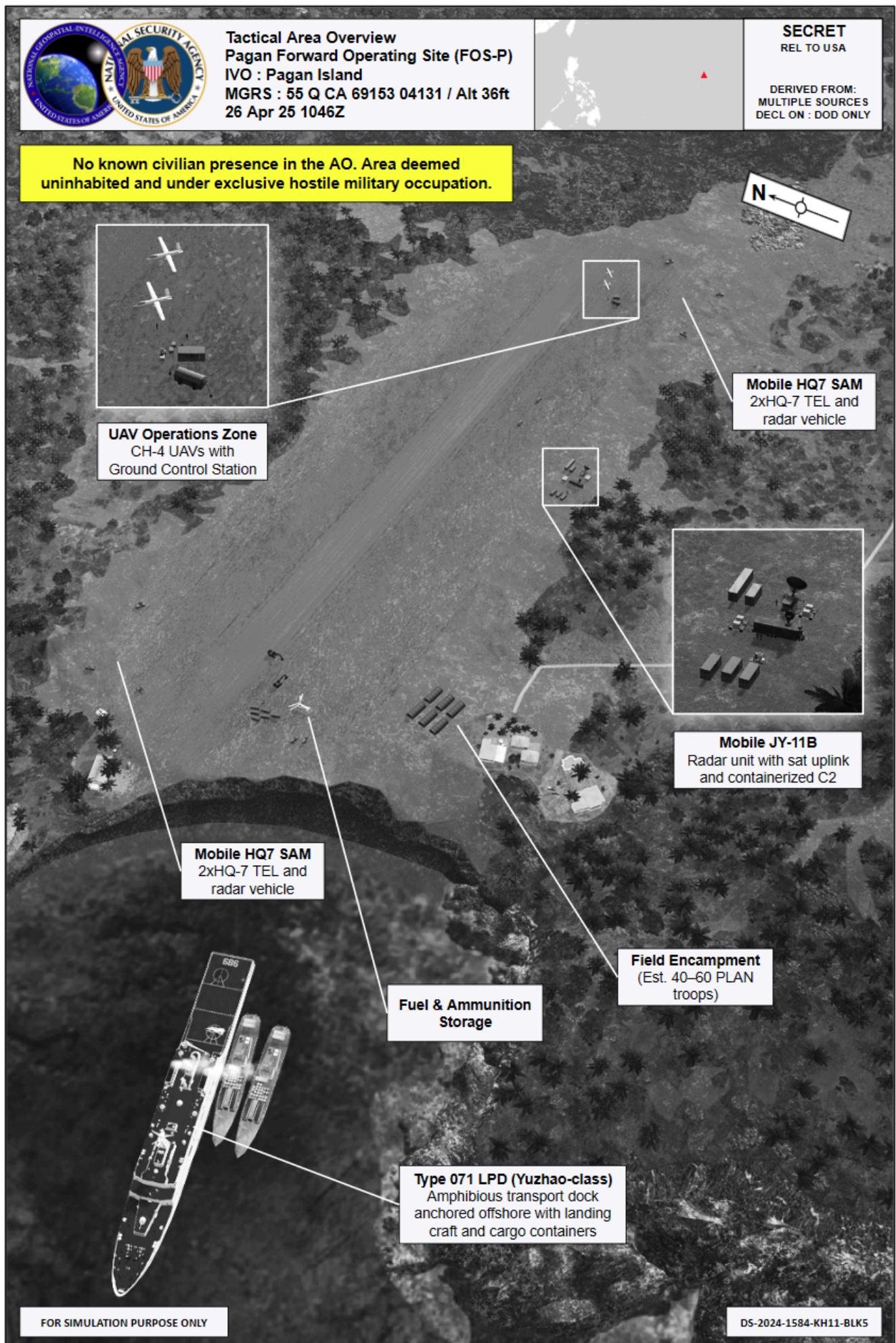
CODEWORDS

VELVET: Abort mission.

STARLIGHT: Engaging Type54A frigate.

LIPSTICK: Type54A frigate ineffective.





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