Project O'Bannon

Read-Ahead Materials

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Schedule

Articles / Papers

Wilson, G.I., Bunkers, Frank, and Sullivan, John, "The Next Conflict", Marine Corps Gazette, February 2002, Vol. 86, No. 2

Pollard, Neal, "Understanding Decision Points of Terrorism", in Deterring Transnational Terrorism: Implications for US Policy and Strategy, Academic Paper for Georgetown University School of Law

Note:

Location – Wargaming Division – See Map
Time – Coffee, donut, check-in at 0800 each morning.

Project O'Bannon
Combating Terrorism
"What's Next?"

Information Paper

Introduction. On 13 - 14 March 2002, Wargaming Division, Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory (MCWL), in cooperation with the Office of the Secretary of Defense/Net Assessment (OSD/NA), will conduct the third in a series of *Project O'Bannon* events. This event will look at the likely future of terrorism – terrorism over the next 10 years. *Project O'Bannon* is designed to examine the scope and components of an extended global campaign against international terrorism, with particular attention to the potential contributions of military, and especially Marine Corps capabilities. The events of 11 September 2001 have refocused the attention of every American and are the driving force behind *Project O'Bannon*. The terrorist attacks were the opening salvo in the first world war of the 21st Century – a global war against terrorism. This campaign will require an examination of the structure, dynamics, and vulnerabilities of key infrastructure networks. It will require the US to develop new and integrated approaches to warfare, as well as a new vocabulary. Victory will demand that the US integrate a number of broad and unconventional civilian and military capabilities.

Project O'Bannon is named for Lieutenant Presley O'Bannon, US Marine Corps, who in the early years of the 19th century played a visible role in the defeat of the Barbary Pirates. Moreover, it is shaped by the historical analogue between the global war against piracy in the 18th and 19th centuries and the global war against terrorism. As Paul Hefheinz notes, in both cases the protagonist used the "…threat of anti-social violence to intimidate law-abiding people. They attacked the highly visible commercial interests of powerful states… And they used safe havens to plot their attacks and train their forces

for battle." (*Wall Street Journal* [New York], 2 October 2001). There are many contemporary issues, including the effective use of military force that may have precedence in past efforts to combat piracy. "The lesson for modern times is that it took a major, international effort to root out piracy whenever it flourished."

Project O'Bannon is a logical continuation of two ongoing Marine Corps Wargaming Division programs - *Project Ellis* and the Revolution in Military Affairs (RMA) Program.

Project Ellis is named for Major Pete Ellis, who perceived a major shift in the strategic landscape after World War I. He correctly identified Japan as a likely enemy and was instrumental in the development of the amphibious capabilities that served as the foundation for the Pacific island-hopping campaign during World War II. Similarly, *Project Ellis* explores events in the strategic landscape that could result in major changes in U.S. national and military strategies that in turn could necessitate changes in the direction of U.S. military operational concepts.

The RMA Wargaming Program explores potentially revolutionary changes in the character and conduct of warfare that could be enabled by integrating emerging technologies with innovative organizational and operational concepts. The Office of the Secretary of Defense, Net Assessment (OSD/NA), co-sponsors the program.

***Project O'Bannon* Objectives**

- To identify and understand the strategic and policy framework for the campaign against global terrorism as shaped by the Department of State (DOS) and the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD).
- To assess the nature, dynamics, and vulnerabilities of global terrorist networks.
- To explore the role of military force, particularly Marine Corps capabilities, against terrorist networks.
- To define the operational and tactical dimensions of a campaign against global terrorism.
- To devise operational and tactical concepts for combating global terrorism.

- To identify distinctive capabilities and organizational innovations that may be needed to combat global terrorism.

Each *Project O'Bannon* event will have its own more specific "sub-objectives."

***Project O'Bannon* Concept.** *Project O'Bannon* will be an 8 – 9 month effort. It will consist of a series of war games, seminars, workshops, cultural intelligence seminars, and related activities. These events will constitute a comprehensive effort to develop an integrated approach to a long-term campaign against global terrorism. The project will not "chase events," but will rather seek to stay "ahead of the bow-wave." The bottom line will be the emphasis placed on the role and application of military force, especially Marine Corps capabilities. *Project O'Bannon* will follow the RMA approach of integrating operational concepts, organizational innovations, and appropriate advanced technologies to achieve revolutionary changes in the nature of warfare. Finally, a rapid assessment with specific action recommendations will follow each event, with an overall assessment at the conclusion of the program.

Integrated Issues. There are a number of past Wargaming Division efforts that are directly related to Project O'Bannon, and the results of which can inform the effort. These include:

- Computer Network Attacks (CNA) against critical infrastructures; e.g., financial, transportation, and electric power.
- Non-Lethal Weapons (NLW)
- Cultural Intelligence.
- Chemical and Biological Warfare.
    - Incident Response.
    - Military Support to Civil Authority.
    - Use in Conventional Warfare.
- Nuclear Counter-Proliferation.
- Marine Corps Organizational Innovations:
    - Chemical and Biological Initial Response Force (CBIRF).

- Company L, Marine Support Battalion.
- Anti-terrorism Brigade: 4th MEB (AT).

➢ Expeditionary Deployment / Operations (Sea Wolf).

➢ Strategic Surprise/Futures (*Project Ellis*).

Event One: Overview Seminar. The purpose of the Overview Seminar was to provide a general introduction to the global combating terrorism problem, and to broadly consider the key areas of concern that will be considered in more detail in subsequent events.

Key Topics. The following are some of the Key Topics discussed at the first event.

- The history, definition, and nature of terrorism
- An overview of religion and terrorism.
- The Role of Intelligence in the war on Terrorism
- Networks.
- Potential organizational innovations.
- Recent Marine Corps efforts in Combating Terrorism – (4th MEB AT)
- Current and future military roles, missions, and capabilities in combating – terrorism

Event Two – Objectives. Event Two will attempt to address the following questions.

What will be the most likely motivating factors for terrorism in the future? What part will religion, politics, criminal activity, nationalism, and other factors play in motivating terrorist acts?

What will be the most likely terrorist's targets? Where will the terrorist attack - which countries; what targets within those countries; what will be the nature of the attack; and what can we do to prevent or mitigate the affects of the attacks?

What will be the structure of terrorist organizations in the future?

Where will the war against terrorism be fought over the next ten years? Where are the likely locations around the world for terrorism to flourish?

- The Middle East – the Horn of Africa

- The Central Asian Republics
- South - Southeast Asia
- South – Central America

How sophisticated will terrorists be in the future? What Tactics, Techniques, and Technologies will they employ?

Which US capabilities – military, economic, political – will most likely be employed to combat terrorism?

Administrative Information

- **Location / Directions / Parking.** The workshop will be held at the Wargaming Division, MCB Quantico, Virginia. See the attached map.
- **Hotels.** See listings with map. It is recommended that individuals make their own reservations as soon as possible.
- **Security Classification.** The workshop will be held at the unclassified level. All printed materials and all material entered on the computers will be UNCLASSIFIED.
- **TAD Funding.** All participants are to provide their own funding for this seminar.
- **Conference Fee.** $20.00.
- **Attire**. Civilian casual, slacks and a shirt – no blue jeans.
- **Communications Support / Messages.** 703-784-3276.
- **Workshop Schedule.** See Attached

Contact Information

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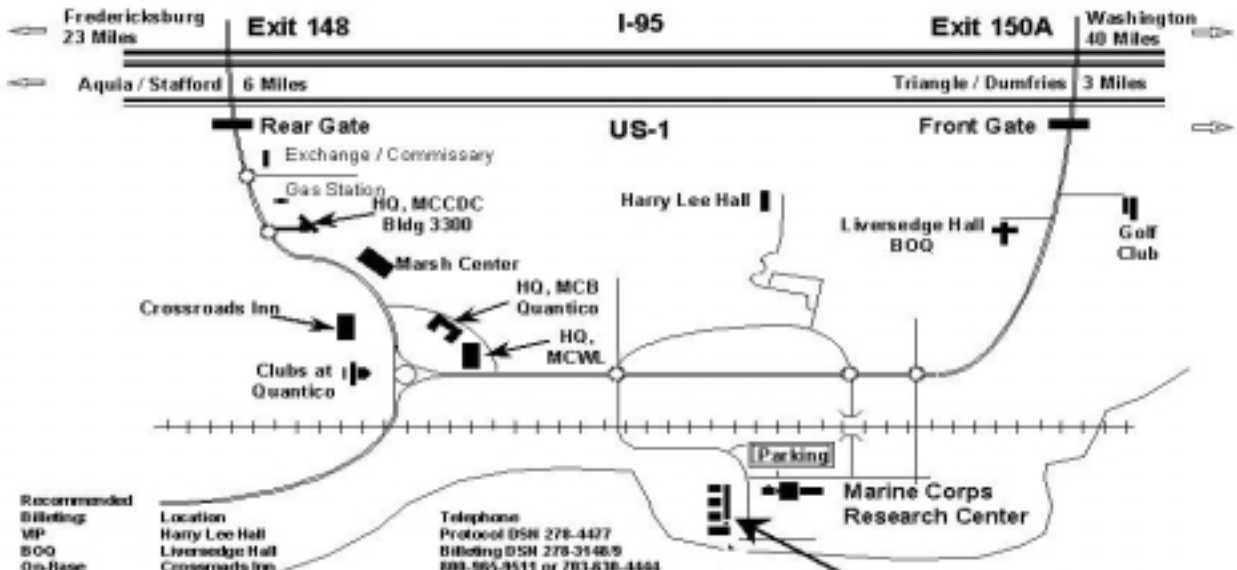

Recommended Billeting:	Location	Telephone
MP	Harry Lee Hall	Protocol DSN 278-4477
BOQ	Liversedge Hall	Billeting DSN 278-3148/9
On-Base	Crossroads Inn	800-965-9511 or 703-638-4444
Off Base	Days Inn (Aquia)	800-329-7466 or 540-659-0822
	Hampton Inn (Stafford)	800-426-7866 or 540-657-0999
	Comfort Inn (Stafford)	800-221-2222 or 540-659-8999
	Country Inn (Stafford)	540-659-4338
	Super 8 Motel (Stafford)	800-800-8000 or 540-659-9950
	Holiday Inn Express (Triangle)	800-465-4329 or 703-221-1141
	Ramada Inn Quantico (Triangle)	703-221-1181
	Super 8 Motel (Dumfries)	800-800-8000 or 703-221-1518
	Econo Lodge (Dumfries)	703-221-4176
	US Inn Quantico (Triangle)	703-221-1116

Tentative Schedule

Wednesday– 13 March 2002

0800 – 0830	**Arrival – Check-in – Coffee and Donuts**
0830 – 0840	**Welcome Aboard – Admin Remarks – Mr. Frank Jordan**
0840 – 0900	**Workshop Schedule – Objectives – Overview, Mr. Rich Blanchfield**
0900 – 1010	**Presentation and Discussion: "al Qaeda Network", Mr. Tom Candon, SAIC**
1010 – 1030	**Break**
1030 – 1140	**Presentation and Discussion: "Reconsidering Counterterrorism Doctrine: Organizational and Operational Implications", Dr. Steve Sloan, University of Oklahoma**
1140 –1230	**Lunch**
1230 –1340	**Presentation and Discussion: "Future Conflict: Terrorism, Homeland Security and Constabulary Operations", Sgt. John Sullivan, Terrorism Early Warning Group, LA County Sheriff's Department**
1340 –1450	**Presentation and Discussion: "The Future of Terrorism", Mr. Mike Kaiser, Marine Corps Intelligence Activity**
1450 –1505	**Break**
1505 – 1615	**Presentation and Discussion: "Single Issue Terrorism and Globalization's Bastards", Mr. Neal Pollard, Hicks & Associates, Inc**
1615 – 1630	**Wrap-Up**

Thursday– 14 March 2002

0800 – 0830	**Arrival – Coffee and Donuts**
0830 – 0835	**Administrative Remarks – Mr Rich Blanchfield**
0835 – 0945	**Presentation and Discussion: "The Future of Terrorism: Tactics and Technology", Mr. Brian Houghton, Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism (MIPT)**
0945 –1000	**Break**
1000 –1110	**Presentation and Discussion: "Biotechnology and Bioterrorism", Dr Kevin O'Connell, US Army Soldier Biological Chemical Command (SBCCOM)**
1110 – 1210	**Discussion Questions for Scenario Building (1)**
1210 –1300	**Lunch**
1300 –14:10	**Presentation and Discussion: "Terrorism and IW", Mr. Matt Devost, Terrorism Research Center**
1410 –1545	**Discussion Questions For Scenario Building (2)**
1545 – 1600	**Closing Remarks**