BY ORDER OF THE
COMMANDING OFFICER
OF THE 185th
RESERVOIR DOGS VFS

185th VFS INSTRUCTION
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185th FLIGHT PLANNING
AND PACKAGE BRIEFING
TEMPLATES – Version 1.0

NOTICE: This publication is available on the 185th WWW site at: http://185th.co.uk.

This document details the flight planning and package briefing templates that can be used by 185th members when conducting mission planning and briefing.

FLIGHT PLANNING TEMPLATE

This template should be followed during the flight mission planning and briefing process to ensure all important details have been covered for your flight. You can complete situation and mission sections as a package as these will normally be the same for all flights. You should then split into your separate flights to plan the rest of the mission.

SITUATION

- **WEATHER**
  - **Mission Time**
  - **Visibility**
  - **Clouds/Fog/Rain**
- **GROUND**
  - **Any major landmarks relevant to the mission**
  - **Visual IP points**
  - **Tactically important terrain (ie valleys for NOE ingress)**
- **ENEMY**
  - **Air Threat – Actives bases, aircraft types, capabilities (missile types and jamming)**
  - **AD Threat – SAMs, AAA, Radar Sites, Mobile AD, Threat ranges and engagement altitudes**
- **FRIENDLY**
  - **Sqns involved in current mission & airbase locations**
  - **Friendly CAP locations**
  - **Expected friendly flights in mission area (for deconfliction)**
  - **Friendly AD umbrella**
  - **Friendly ground forces and expected movements**

MISSION

- **Who**
- **What**
- **Where**
- **(By) When**
- **Why**

EXECUTION – CONCEPT OF OPS

- **General Outline- who goes where and does what**
- **Groupings**
  - **Strike/CAS**
  - **Air Escort**
  - **SEAD Escort**
  - **FAC**
  - **Other**

- **Route of Flight**
  - **Takeoff**
    - **Runway**
    - **Type – Single/Formation**
    - **Power Setting**
    - **Rotate Speed**
    - **Initial Climb Out**
    - **Rejoin**

- o **Ingress**
    - **Formation**
    - **Timing**
    - **Speed**
    - **Alt**
    - **Push Point**
- o **Target**
    - **Type**
    - **Bullseye**
    - **Allocation of primary and secondary targets for each aircraft**
    - **Co-ordinates of individual targets**
    - **Attack Type (High/Low/DTOS/Pop-Up etc)**
    - **Munitions to be used**
- o **Egress**
    - **Formation**
    - **Timing**
    - **Speed**
    - **Alt**
    - **Rejoin**
    - **Split**
- o **Landing**
    - **Details of in-use runway for Home Plate and Alternate**
    - **TACAN channels**
    - **Approach Type (Straight-in, Overhead etc)**
- o **Defensive**
    - **Go/No go decisions**
    - **Safe areas**
    - **Engage/Avoid Distances**
- o **Offensive**
    - **AD and Air-Threat Attack Profiles**

- • **Co-Ordinating Points**
    - o **Location for each Flight**
    - o **Nicknames in use**
    - o **Timings**
        - **Take-Off**
        - **Push Point**
        - **FLOT**
        - **Split**
        - **TOT**
        - **Re-join**
        - **FLOT**
        - **Split**
        - **Landing**
    - o **Actions-On**
        - **Fence-in**
        - **Mud Spike SAM**
        - **SAM Launch**
        - **Mud Spike AAA**
        - **AAA incoming**
        - **Air spike by threat type**
        - **Loss of aircraft**
        - **Damage to aircraft**
        - **Out of formation, including use of AB to catch up**
        - **Lost-wingman drill**
        - **Fence-out**
        - **Any special actions such as multi-flight grinder for Air and SEAD Escorts**
    - o **ROE**
        - **Target ID**
        - **Self-Defence and offensive actions/targets of opportunity**
        - **Escort and SEAD escort freedom of action**

- o **Ordnance**
  - ▪ **Use of Stand-off weapons**
  - ▪ **Allocations of weapons to flights and aircraft**
  - ▪ **Minimum release altitudes**

ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

- **Loadouts – weapons and fuel**
- **ACMI**
- **Screenshots**
- **Debriefing**

COMMAND AND SIGNALS

- **TS channels in use**
- **Callsigns**
- **Nicknames**
  - o **Push Point**
  - o **IP**
  - o **Egress Point**
  - o **Other coordinating points as required**
- **Emergency**
  - o **Lost comms**
- **AWACS**
  - o **Picture/threat**
  - o **Declare**

PACKAGE BRIEFING TEMPLATE

Once you have complete planning and briefing you own flight using the flight planning template above, you should use the following template to brief the rest of the package about the most important details of your flight.

All Flight Leads should state the following:

1.   **Flight name**
2.   **Type of aircraft**
3.   **Take off Time**
4.   **Take off location**
5.   **Ingress route and altitude (so you are easily recognisable to friendly aircraft)**
6.   **Time on target**
7.   **Target/action**
8.   **Egress route and altitude (so you are easily recognisable to friendly aircraft)**
9.   **Landing Location**
10. **Any other information required by the package.**
11. **Any requests for info/actions from other flights in the package**