

APPENDIX D

THE INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE

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(Classification)

Headquarters  
Place  
Date, time, and zone  
Msg Ref No

INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE NO \_\_\_\_\_

References: Maps, charts, or other documents.

Time Zone Used Throughout the Estimate:

(Short title identification)

1. **MISSION.** The restated mission determined by the commander.

2. **AREA OF OPERATIONS.** This paragraph discusses influence of the battlefield environment in arriving at conclusions. It is based on the facts and conclusions of IPB and the analysis of the battlefield area, if one has been prepared. It may be a reference to an analysis of the battlefield, if adequate coverage and discussion are contained therein.

a. **Weather.**

(1) **Existing situation.** Include light data and either a weather forecast or climatic information, as appropriate. Use appendixes for detailed information.

(2) **Effect on enemy courses of action.** Describe the effects of weather on each broad course of action (such as attack or defend). Each description concludes with a statement of whether the weather favors the course of action. Among the courses of action, include use of chemical agents, nuclear weapons, and special methods, techniques, equipment, procedures, or forces.

(3) **Effect on own courses of action.** Describe in the same manner as for (2) above, except that the estimate excludes the use of biological agents.

b. **Terrain.**

(1) **Existing situation.** Use graphic representations, such as IPB templates, where possible. Use annexes for detailed material. Include as much information as necessary for an understanding of observation and fire, concealment and cover, obstacles, key terrain features, and AAs. Include effects of nuclear fires, enemy biological and chemical agents, and any other pertinent considerations on each of these factors as appropriate.

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(2) **Effect on enemy courses of action.** Describe in the same manner as for the effects of weather in a(2) above. For defensive courses of action, state the best defense area and the best AAs leading to it. For attack courses of action, state the best AAs.

(3) **Effect on own courses of action.** Describe in the same manner as for effects of weather in a(3) above.

c. **Other Characteristics.** The following additional characteristics considered pertinent are included in separate subparagraphs: sociology, politics, economics, psychology, and other factors. Other factors may include such items as science and technology, materiel, transportation, manpower, and hydrography. These factors are analyzed using the same subheadings as weather and terrain.

**3. ENEMY SITUATION.** This paragraph gives information on the enemy which will permit later development of enemy capabilities and vulnerabilities and refinement of these capabilities into a specific course of action and its relative probability of adoption.

a. **Disposition.** Reference may be made to overlays, enemy situation maps, or previously published documents.

b. **Composition.** Summarize enemy OB that can influence accomplishment of the mission. Reference may be made to previously published documents. Special mention is made of units capable of EW, low-intensity operations, and other special operations, as appropriate.

c. **Strength.** Enemy strength is listed as committed forces, reinforcements, air assets, nuclear weapons, and chemical and biological agents. The purpose of this listing is to assist in developing enemy capabilities and vulnerabilities for use by the commander and staff in selecting courses of action. The unit mission, location of the enemy, enemy doctrine, and the level of command at which the estimate is being prepared are factors to be considered.

(1) **Committed forces.** List those enemy ground maneuver units currently in contact and those ground maneuver units with which imminent contact can be expected, regardless of the specific friendly course of action implemented. Designation of enemy forces as committed forces depends on disposition, location, controlling headquarters and doctrine. The intelligence officer usually accounts for committed forces based on the size unit doctrinally used to oppose the friendly unit. Generally, enemy units are counted in terms of units two echelons below the friendly unit's size (for example, a brigade S2 normally considers committed forces in terms of companies; a division G2, in terms of battalions; and a corps G2, in terms of regiments). If there is doubt whether a unit is a committed force or a reinforcement, it is considered a reinforcement.

This attributes to the enemy the maximum capability to reinforce forces to oppose a given friendly course of action.

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(2) **Reinforcements.** Include designation and location. Reinforcements are those enemy maneuver units that may or may not be employed against us, depending on our choice of a specific course of action and enemy plans. Reinforcements are enemy units not committed in or out of the friendly sector, but which can react to the friendly course of action, subject to time and distance considerations, in time to influence the accomplishment of the mission. Imminent contact is not expected. Disposition, location, level of control, or other factors at the time of the estimate are considered in determining which enemy forces are reinforcements.

(3) **Air.** List the number of enemy aircraft by type within operational radius. Include the number of possible sorties per day by type of aircraft, if known.

(4) **Nuclear weapons and chemical and biological agents.** Estimate, as appropriate, the number, type, yield, and delivery means of enemy nuclear weapons and chemical and biological munitions or agents available to the enemy.

d. **Recent and Present Significant Activities.** List selected items of information to provide bases for analyses to determine relative probability of adoption of specific courses of action and enemy vulnerabilities. Enemy failures to take expected actions are listed, as well as positive information.

e. **Peculiarities and Weaknesses.** Based on knowledge of enemy tactical doctrine, practices, the principles of war, the AO, and the enemy situation previously described and discussed, list peculiarities and weaknesses, and briefly describe each, indicating the extent to which they may be vulnerable and how they influence possible friendly courses of action. The items listed are grouped under the headings indicated below. Only pertinent headings are used.

(1) **Personnel.** An estimate of strength usually is included if less than 80 percent of authorized strength. Status of morale is included, if known.

(2) **Intelligence.** An estimate of enemy intelligence success, ineffectiveness, and susceptibility to deception and detection is usually included.

(3) **Operations.** An estimate of combat effectiveness is usually included if less than excellent.

(4) **Logistics.** An estimate of the enemy's capability to support their forces logistically is included if there are apparent weaknesses.

(5) **Civil-military operations.** An estimate of the attitudes of the enemy and the civilian populace and the status of food supply, medical facilities, communications, and other critical resources is usually included.

(6) **Personalities.** An estimate of the capabilities and or weaknesses of the enemy commander and principal staff officers usually is included.

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**4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.** Based on all the previous information and analyses, develop and list enemy capabilities. The listing provides a basis for analyzing the available information to arrive at those capabilities the enemy can adopt as specific courses of action and their relative probability of adoption

a. Enumeration. State what, when, where, and in what strength for each capability.

b. Analysis and Discussion. To provide a basis for conclusions of enemy capabilities and their relative probability of adoption, each capability, or appropriate combination thereof, is discussed in a separate subparagraph. Consideration of enemy deception measures is included. All the pertinent previous information and conclusions are tabulated as either supporting or rejecting the adoption of the capability. After listing all the evidence, each capability is judged from the enemy point of view of whether the adoption of the capability is advantageous to the enemy. Such judgments need not be made if the conclusion is obvious or if there is no evidence that the enemy will adopt the capability, except when the capability is one that will make the accomplishment of the friendly mission highly doubtful or impossible. This exception is to focus attention on dangerous threats.

**5. CONCLUSIONS.** Based on all the previous information and analyses, conclusions are stated concerning the total effects of the AO on friendly courses of action; the courses of action most likely to be adopted by the enemy, including their relative probability of adoption; and the effects of enemy vulnerabilities that can be exploited. These conditions assist in the selection of a friendly course of action.

a. Effects of Intelligence Consideration on Operations. Indicate whether the mission set forth in paragraph 1, above, can be supported from the intelligence standpoint. Indicate which courses of action can best be supported.

b. Effects of the AO on Own Courses of Action. For attack courses of action, indicate the best AAs. For defensive courses of action, indicate the best defense areas and the best AAs leading to and into the defense areas. (This subparagraph is omitted if the discussion of the effects of the area on own courses of action in paragraph 2 has been omitted because of the availability of a current analysis of the AO.)

c. Probable Enemy Courses of Action. List courses of action in order of relative probability of adoption. A listed course of action may include several subordinate courses of action that can be executed concurrently. Usually, no more than two or three courses of action, in order of probability of adoption, can be justified by the available evidence.

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d. **Enemy Vulnerabilities.** List the effects of peculiarities and weaknesses that result in vulnerabilities that are exploitable at own, higher, or lower levels of command. The order in listing these vulnerabilities has no significance.

/s/ (Designation of staff officer)

OFFICIAL:  
G2's Signature Block

Annexes (as required)  
Distribution:

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