F-18C KTNX Challenge - Mission Briefing

Welcome to Nevada and the Tonopah Test Range (KTNX). In this training mission you will have your skills and nerves challenged in multiple Air-to-Air, Air-to-Ground and Reconaissance exercises.

The tasks are generated randomly, so the mission will be different everytime you fly it and might even offer one or the other unexpected surprise.

Although this is a training mission, you will be carrying live ordnance. The targets on the range are remotely controlled units, also with live weapons.

Mission objective: Follow the route from **WP 0 to WP 6** and **complete all tasks** given by *'Bluebird control' on* **240.1** (Ch 2). Survive and land safely back at KTNX.

Departure and Arrival: *KTNX RWY 32*, (WP 0 + WP 6), TACAN **77X**, VHF **125.75** (Ch 1)

Weather: KTNX 310/9 +10 S/060 20/8 2998 (Wind out of 310 at 9 knots, visibility more than 10 km, clouds scattered at 6000 ft AGL, temperature 20°C, QNH 2998 inHg

Weapon loadout: ATFLIR, 2x **AIM-9X**, 1x **AIM-120C**, 4x **Mk-82**, 2x **AGM-65F**
Note 1: you may change the targeting pod and weapons to your preference before commencing taxi.
Note 2: no rearming allowed – consider the mission a failure if you expend all your weapons before completing all tasks.

Airborne Tanker (orbiting in FL250 between WP 3 and WP 5):
KC-135MPRS *Texaco on UHF* **305.0** (Ch 3), TACAN **15X**
Note 3: you may hit the tanker anytime during the mission and then continue to your last assigned waypoint.

Required skills:

- Enroute navigation along preset waypoints
- Modify existing or enter new waypoints using coordinates and altitude
- Employ the ATFLIR (or LITENING) targeting pod to locate units and targets
- Attack ground targets with unguided Mk-82 bombs, IR Mavericks or the gun
- Attack airborne targets with AIM-9s, AIM-120s or the gun
- Handling of aircraft malfunctions

Some hints:

- **Use the autopilot** enroute between tasks, to have the capacity to **write down notes** (eg. coordinates) when receiving tasks, have a notepad ready.
- This mission uses the **F10 menu** for some communication tasks.
- When forced into a BFM engagement, it might be a good idea to **jettison remaining Air-to-Ground weapons**.

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AIRPORT DIAGRAM

AL-3188 [USAF]

TONOPAH TEST RANGE (KTNX)

TONOPAH, NEVADA

SW-4, 27 JAN 2022 to 24 FEB 2022

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