



The Pebble of Discord : A Mirage Story

Mission 6, Sub fishing

60mn

10th of June 1992

Intelligence service suspects an Iranian submarine is sailing sometimes near the coast between Abu Dhabi and Dubai to spy on the Emirates activity. Unfortunately, the United Arab Emirates Navy lacks anti-submarine warfare abilities. Just some acoustic buoys have been moored in the hope of detecting it.



Briefing

You have been asked to suggest a solution to strike the submarine if detected on the surface.

With the tension continuing around Abu Musa, few Mirages are available for that. Thus you imagine to conduct SUCAP (SURface Combat Air Patrol) with only one plane at once, only during the most relevant time slots and with the lighter load possible to maximize the play time.

About the ordnance, long-range missile like Exocet is excluded due to the sea traffic along the coast and the needed visual ID. Unguided bombs as well because too random with few of them. So your best idea is to use ... BLG-66 Belouga cluster bombs. Low probability to sink it but high to hit / damage / immobilize it thanks to the large dispersal area even with only 2 devices.

Your turn starts at 4:55am.

Recommended BLG-66 setting is **Inst / 2 (nb) / 8 (dist x10m), 500**

kt / 1 000 ft AGL.

A commando conveyed by helicopter will attempt to board the submarine if immobilized and not sunk.

Mission starting at **4:55 am**

WP1	300 kt / 5 000 ft
WP2	350 kt / 5 000 ft (12nm in front of Dubai)
WP3	350 kt / 5 000 ft (12nm in front of Abu Dhabi)
WP4	300 kt / 5 000 ft
WP5	Al Dhafra Air Base

Radio frequencies

Al Dhafra Tower	126.50	Green Radio Channel 1
Al Minhad Tower	118.55	Green Radio Channel 2
Ground units	257.00	Green Radio Channel 3
Naval units	258.00	Green Radio Channel 4
Texaco (Tanker)	255.00	Green Radio Channel 6
Civilian guard freq	121.50	Green Radio Channel 8
Military guard freq	243.00	Green Radio Channel 9
Mission (Ops Center & Air units)	251.00	Red Radio Channel 1

For takeoff and landing, use the standard F5 ATC radio menu !

This is a **cold** start by night.

To complete this mission you will need to patrol along the coast between WP2 and WP3, locate and hit the submarine with the help of Ops Center, then land at Al Dhafra Air Base and park your plane to the assigned location (**70**).

Advice

Be sure to know the inner and outer lights switches of your plane. A key shortcut to switch on the torch could be a good idea to start in the dark.

Review the use of Night Vision Goggles (NVG) just in case.

Remember the Chuck's guide (see Introduction doc) if you need to review the BLG-66 or the CCIP mode.

For information, the BLG-66 has two possible dispersion areas, 240m x 40m or 120m x 120m, selected by the *FUSE SELECTION* switch (*RET* or *INST* respectively).

Source : https://www.wikiwand.com/fr/BLG_66_Belouga

References

During the 70s, Iran bought 90 CH-47 Chinook. Despite the end of US support after the 1979 revolution, Iran has made heavy use of them and at least two are still in service in 2022.

Iran bought 3 Kilo class Russian submarines from 1991 to 1994.

Is it weird to use cluster bombs against warships ? Not really ... In 80s, the CBU-99 (Mk 20 Rockeye) was a standard weapon for US Navy A-6, A-7 and F-18 conducting SUCAP. It is a cluster bomb basically designed against armored vehicles (like the BLG-66). In the mid-80s, US Navy used it efficiently against several Lybian warships in the the Gulf of Syrte.

Source : Libyan Air Wars, Part 2, Tom Cooper, Helion and Company Edition.

(Kneeboard available in flight)

Airfield

	Alt	Radio	Runway	TACAN	ILS
Al Dhafra AB	52 ft	126.50	128°	96X	109.10
Al Minhad AB	172 ft	118.55	90°	99X	110.70

Radio frequencies

Al Dhafra Tower	126.50	Green Radio Channel	1
Al Minhad Tower	118.55	Green Radio Channel	2
Ground units	257.00	Green Radio Channel	3
Naval units	258.00	Green Radio Channel	4
Texaco (Tanker)	255.00	Green Radio Channel	6
Civilian guard freq	121.50	Green Radio Channel	8
Military guard freq	243.00	Green Radio Channel	9
Mission (Ops Center & Air units)	251.00	Red Radio Channel	1

Package

Codename	Aircraft	Country	Role	Ordnance
Uzi 1	M2000C	UAE	SUCAP	BLG-66 x 2 1300l tank x 1
Ford 1	UH-1	UAE	Boarding	Commando

Recommended BLG-66 setting :

Inst / 2 (nb) / 8 (dist x10m), 500 kt / 1 000 ft AGL.

Flight plan

WP1	300 kt / 5 000 ft
WP2	350 kt / 5 000 ft (12nm in front of Dubai)
WP3	350 kt / 5 000 ft (12nm in front of Abu Dhabi)
WP4	300 kt / 5 000 ft
WP5	Al Dhafra Air Base

Notes

Assigned location at Al Dhafra Air Base -> 70 !