

Pirate Voyage – Mission 1 – Blackbeard’s Folly

Situation:

Welcome to the Persian Gulf. The Tarawa group is currently cruising up the Gulf of Oman on its way to help police the area and discourage Iranian interference with shipping. For this cruise, the Tarawa is assuming the callsign Black Pearl, and missions will have a pirate theme.

The airfield at Bandar-E-Jask – codename Blackbeard - is relatively small, but provides cover against attacks to the port and the local part of the straits.

It also hosts an Iranian Revolutionary Guards rocketry regiment which regularly carries out 'exercises' with surface to surface missiles.

Intelligence reports they are about to begin a new exercise which is actually a cover for an attack against shipping targets in the area using Silkworm missiles.

Radar and missile launchers have been delivered to 2 large white hangars at the south west end of the airfield and these are the primary target of a strike by harriers from the Black Pearl (Tarawa).

An attack from the sea is likely to be intercepted by the SA6 and SA3 batteries defending the area, as well as Phantoms based at the airfield, so we have a cunning plan.



Task: CAP

Waypoints:

WP1: Take-off and gain altitude. Circle until Dodge flight are feet dry.

WP2: Patrol at altitude along the coast until you hear that Dodge flight is at their IP.

WP3: Circle until Dodge flight are safely away from threats.

WP4: Landing back at Khasab

SPRINGFIELD FLIGHT

Type: 2x Harriers

Freq: 264MHz

Task: SEAD

Ordnance: 3x AGM122, 1xAIM9M, 4x Rockeyes

Primary targets: Both SA6 and SA3 radars to be destroyed.

Secondary Targets: Zu23 emplacements have been spotted at either end of the runway. These pose less of a threat, but harassing them will keep them from attacking the strike Harriers.

Air Threats: 2x F4 Phantoms are based at the airfield and will try to scramble if you're detected. Stay below 500 feet once you've passed waypoint 1 to try and avoid detection.

If you see them preparing to take off, you might want to attack them on the ground, otherwise you could have an exciting flight back to the Black Pearl.

Take off: After Colt, approx. 0510

DODGE FLIGHT

Type: 2x Harriers

Freq: 243MHz

Ordnance: 6x MK82 air, 8x Zuni rockets, 2x AIM9M

Primary Target: The two white hangars nicely placed side by side approx. 700m west of the end of the runway. Your approach from the north means they'll be partly obscured by local housing - be careful of collateral damage - we don't want to make the situation worse than it already is.

Secondary targets: Any targets of opportunity in the area such as the Zu23s and SAM launchers, but your main goal once the primary is destroyed is to head home to the Black Pearl.

Take Off: After Jolly Roger, approx. 0515

Springfield and Dodge Waypoints:

- 1: Drop down to wavetop height
- 2: Feet dry and within SAM radar detection range - keep very low
- 3: Turn to follow ridge
- 4: Last turn before target
- 5: IP - 6 miles to target
- 6: Target area (SA6 radar for the SEAD flight)
- 7: Downwind from Tarawa
- 8: Land at the Tarawa
- 9: Alternate landing - Fujairah airport

Other notes:

Bullseye:

North tip of the mainland.

Weather:

Clear, wind 10-20 knots NW

AWACS:

Pirates don't need no AWACS!

Refuelling:

Aaaar! See AWACS