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Operation RIVER BLITZ

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Mission

From 20 Feb to 5 Mar, 1st Marine Division (-)(REIN) conducts offensive operations in Al Anbar Province to disrupt and defeat AIF elements and generate intelligence IOT set the conditions for Operation RIVER BRIDGE and our RIP with 2^d Marine Division.

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Commander's Intent

- **Purpose:** I intend to conduct operations in the river cities area as well as throughout Al Anbar province to capitalize on the momentum gained by Operation Al Fajr, Operation Citadel, and the Iraqi elections to further disrupt insurgent operations and expand our control while concurrently facilitating our RIP with 2d Marine Division.
- **Method:** Ramadi and the Hit-Haditha corridor will be the focus of our counterinsurgency operations. We will conduct small unit operations utilizing those tactics that have proved successful in the past, to include raids, patrols, sweeps, vehicle checkpoints, and cordon and knocks. 2^d Marine Division personnel will be incorporated in planning to the greatest extent possible to increase their situational awareness and facilitate our turnover. I want to incorporate SOF and our Iraqi Security Forces in this operation to maximize their unique capabilities. Planning must include the most effective kinetic and non-kinetic methods to engage the AIF rapidly, at multiple points on the battlefield and overwhelm him in what has been previously an economy of force area of operations.

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Commander's Intent

IO will be critical to assist in driving a wedge between the insurgents and the local citizenry. Civil affairs will remain focused in Fallujah and Nasser Wa Salaam, where the enemy has largely been neutralized and we stand to gain the most from engagement, however, we will employ our civil affairs personnel anywhere they can make a difference. Our continued CMO efforts will demonstrate our commitment to the people, and through the creation of jobs and rebuilt infrastructure, we will win the hearts and minds of the Iraqi people. Our fine efforts to train our Iraqi counterparts will continue with new vigor thus providing a potent future force to expand on the tactical and operational gains that we have made in Al Anbar province.

- **End State:** We will have disrupted insurgent operations in the river cities area and elsewhere making Al Anbar province inhospitable for their continuing activities while reinforcing the authority of the legitimate Iraqi government and setting the conditions for a successful RIP with 2d Marine Division.

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Concept



- Goal:
 - Disrupt and defeat AIF elements in Al Anbar to generate actionable intelligence
- Overarching Tasks:
 - Interdict rat lines from Ramadi to Hit on the north side of Euphrates river
 - Small unit operations to defeat enemy elements
 - Raids, snap VCPs, and presence patrols
 - Control access into and out of Ramadi
 - Cordon to isolate using chokepoints
 - Exploit integration of ISF in all DIV operations
 - Exploit SOF capabilities and integrate them into operations, as appropriate
 - RIVER BLITZ IO campaign for AO Raleigh, Topeka, and Denver while continuing enduring IO tasks
 - Explain isolation of Ramadi
 - Introduce the new Iraqi Army and legitimize the ITG
 - Continuity of themes and messages during the RIP
 - Engagement with newly elected Al Anbar leaders
 - Continued engagement with municipal leaders
 - Integrate ISR assets to assist in targeting and maximize opportunities for developing actionable intelligence
 - BPT target emerging HVIs
- Endstate:
 - AIF prevented from interfering with the 1st MarDiv & 2^d MarDiv RIP and set conditions for implementation of Operation RIVER BRIDGE while expanding our gains in Al Anbar province.

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Tasks

- Intel
 - Focus ISR assets to the west
 - Use JSTARs to analyze traffic patterns before and after implementing ECPs
 - Focus HETs on insurgent networks based on 1.4c
 - Conduct electronic survey and target development in the Hit/Haditha corridor IOT determine insurgent use of the electromagnetic spectrum and specific communications mediums.
 - Integrate Gossamer Support Teams into ECPs and VCPs IOT interdict/apprehend known insurgents based on their electronic signatures.
 - Conduct sustained ground based collection in the Hit/Haditha corridor IOT determine insurgent intentions, locations, and organizational structure.
 - Conduct TAREX of recovered electronic equipment IOT determine insurgent cell structure and associations.
- Fires/Effects
 - Conduct Electronic Attack (EA) against approved targets in support of Division operations IOT selectively deny insurgent use of the electromagnetic spectrum.
 - Ensure widest CBR coverage possible
 - Develop IO / PSYOP plan
- C2
 - 2X Platoons SCC TACON to 2 BCT (include ISF)
 - Freedom Guards DS to RCT-7
- AT/FP
 - TF 1.4a focus in AO Denver
 - Opals, Backscatters, wands, metal detector booths throughout AO Atlanta

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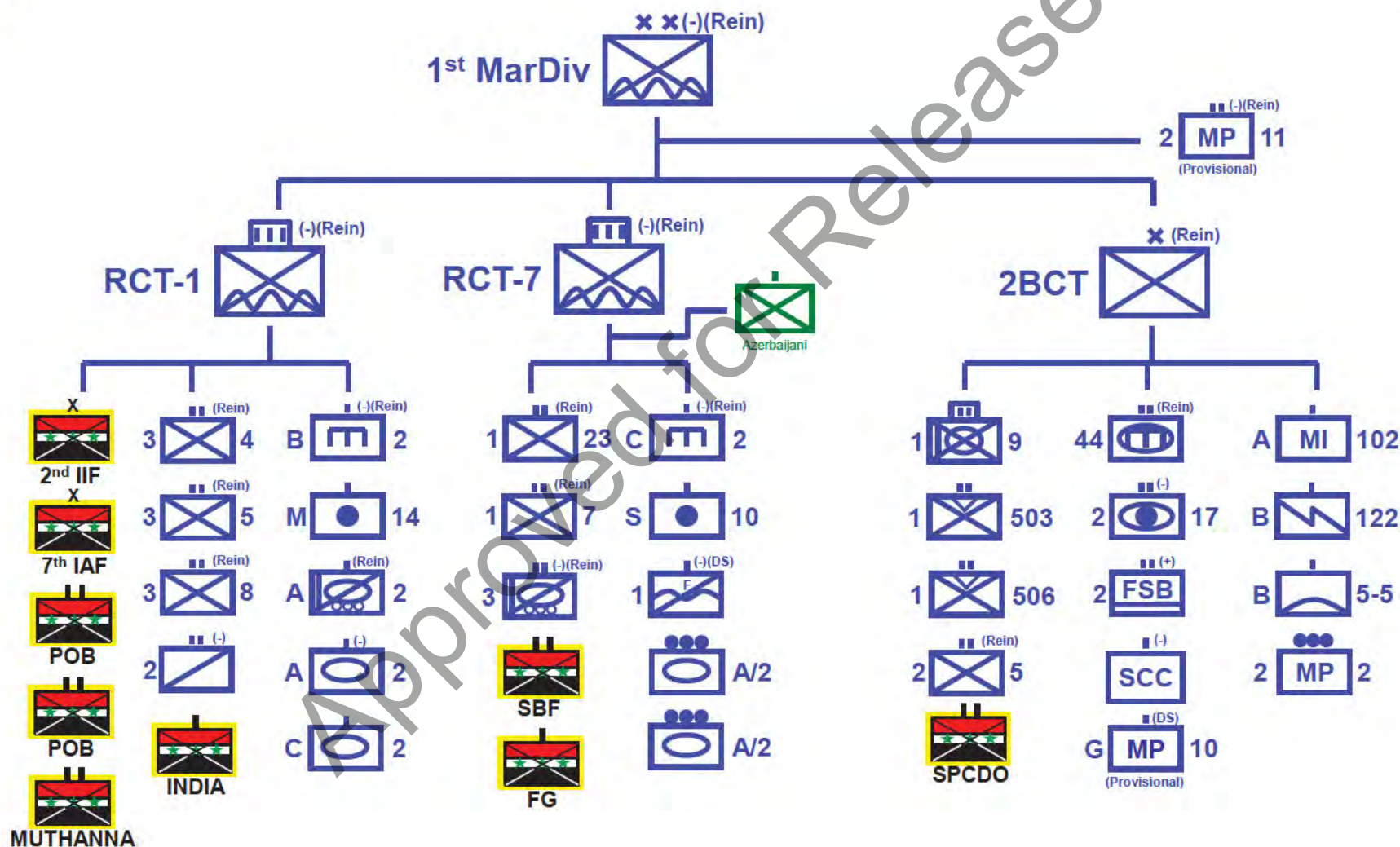


Tasks

- Maneuver
 - Control access into and out of Ramadi
 - At least one Ramadi ECP for military traffic only
 - Plan for “priority traffic” through ECPs
 - Screening guidance for 2 BCT/ISF
 - Incorporate SCC into isolation ops
 - Use air for snap VCPs in AO Denver
 - Continue TRAP/QRF
 - Increase tempo of platoon and squad ops
 - Interdict RAT lines north of Euphrates between Ramadi & Hit
 - Focus small unit operations in Ramadi, Nasser wa Salaam, Karmah, river cities area, and Husaybah
- CMO/CA
 - Conduct leadership engagement to enhance legitimacy of newly elected government and elicit their support and cooperation
 - Inform ITG of our intention to control access into and out of Ramadi
 - Reinforce ECPs with CA teams to monitor atmospherics
 - Continue ongoing CA projects
- CSS
 - Identify and coordinate any special logistics requirements beyond organic ability to support/provide; to include ISF
 - Identify surge requirements for Class IV and HE to support ECPs

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Task Organization



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RCT-7 (ME): Conduct offensive operations along river cities corridor.

T1: Conduct small unit raids, VCPs, C&K and C&S in river cities area

P1: Disrupt and defeat AIF elements and generate intel for future targeting

T2: Interdict rat lines north of the Euphrates River between Hit – Husaybah.

P2: Disrupt AIF

2 BCT (SE 1): Isolate Ramadi

T1: Isolate Ramadi

P1: Interdict AIF movement into and out of Ramadi

T2: Interdict rat lines north of the Euphrates River between Ramadi – Hit – Hadithah.

P2: Disrupt AIF

T3: Conduct small unit raids, VCPs, C&K and C&S in Jazeera and Sofia areas

P3: Disrupt AIF and generate intel for future targeting

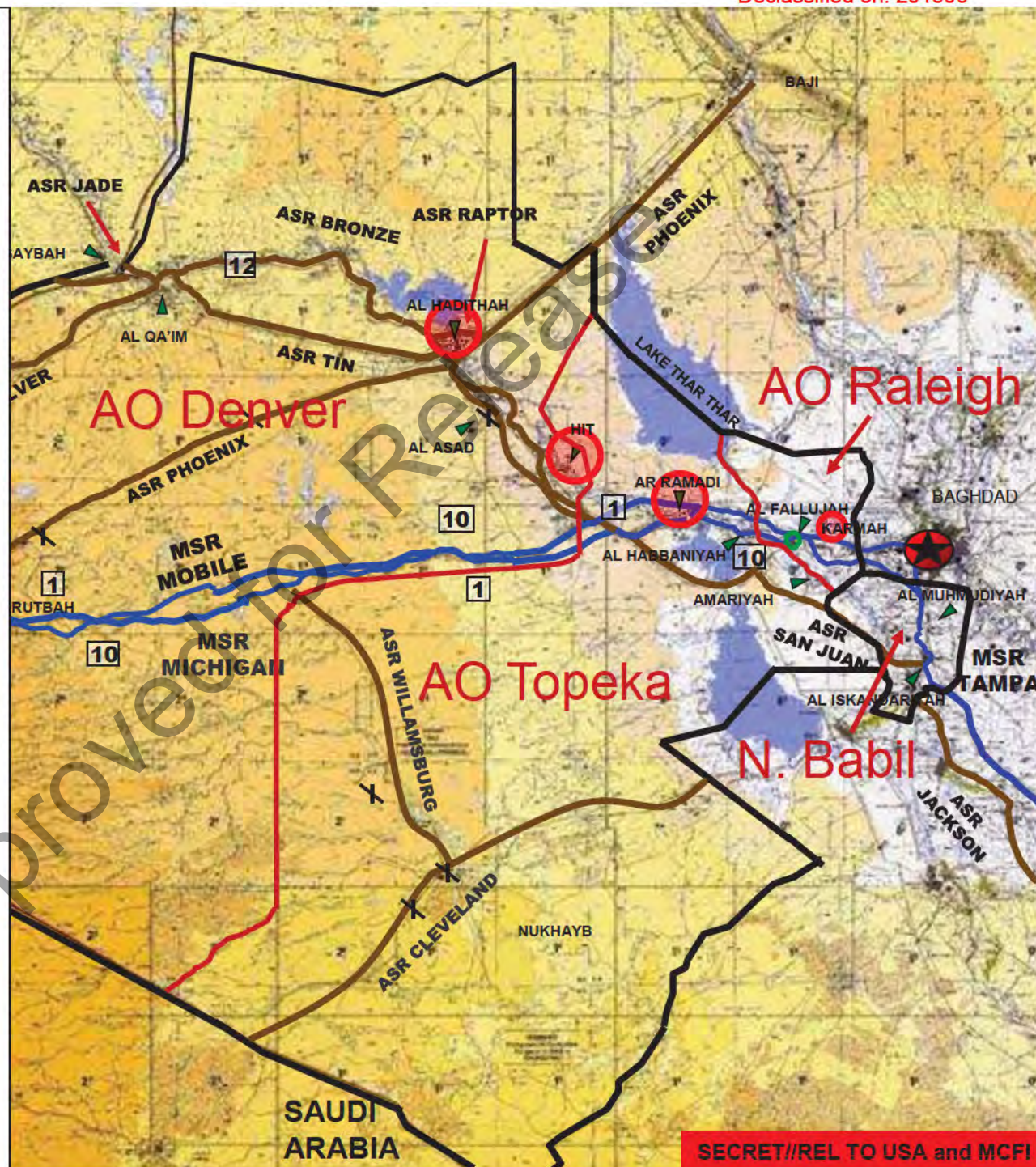
RCT-1 (SE 2): Focus disruption efforts north and east of Fallujah

T1: Conduct small unit raids, VCPs, C&K and C&S

P1: Disrupt AIF and generate intel for future targeting

T2: Continue CA efforts to rebuild and repopulate Fallujah

P2: Restore basic services



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Operation RIVER BRIDGE

ConOps

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Operation RIVER BRIDGE



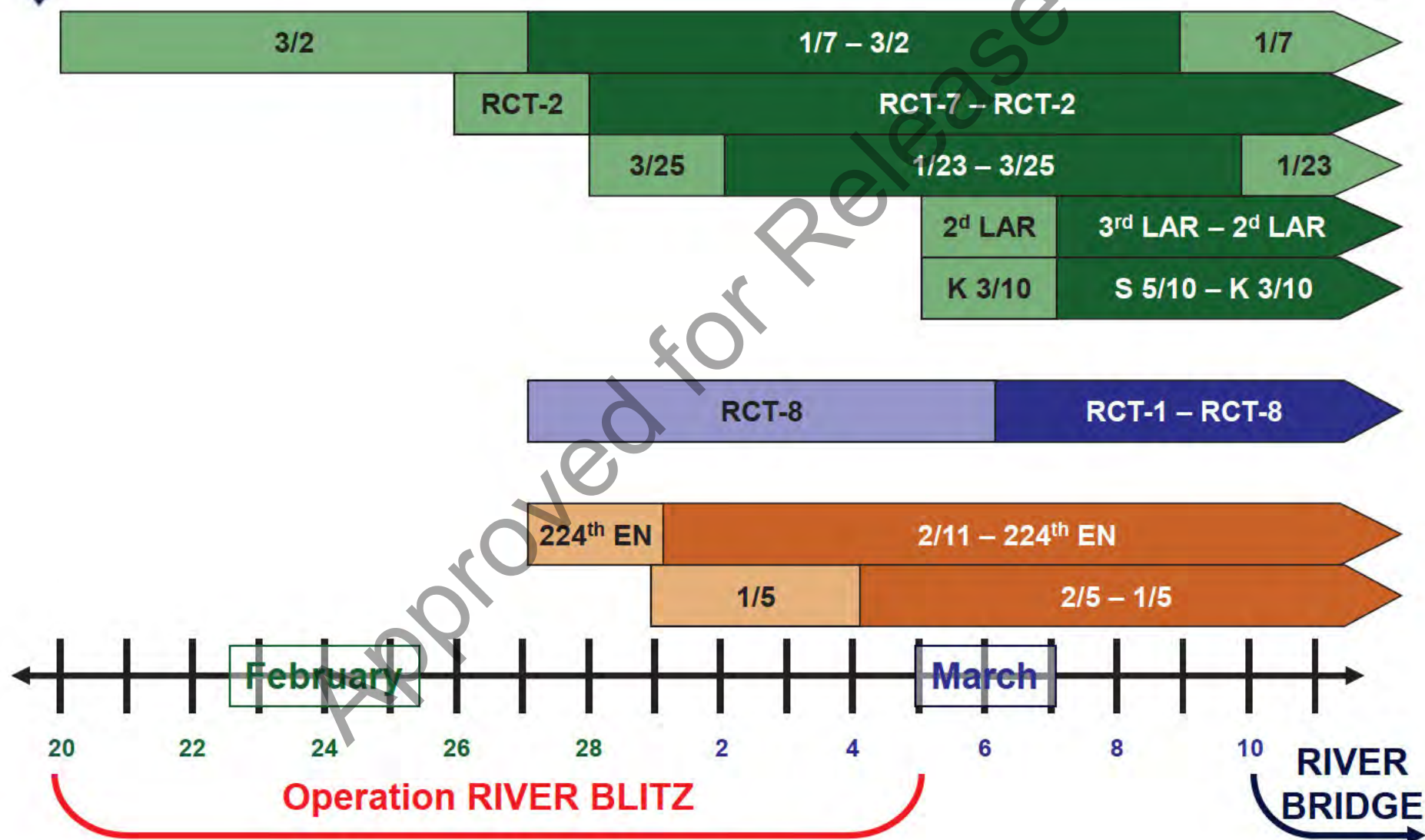
- Purpose:
 - Further disrupt and defeat AIF in Al Anbar and provide a bridging concept of operations that overlays and supports the RIP throughout AO Atlanta
- Method:
 - Exploit actionable intelligence resulting from RIVER BLITZ with focused offensive operations
 - Focus Division and SOF operations on emerging target sets
 - Continue to Interdict rat lines from Ramadi to Hit to Husaybah
 - Small unit operations (raids, snap VCPs, and presence patrols)
 - Continue to control access into and out of Ramadi
 - Continue integration of ISF in all DIV operations
 - IO campaign focuses on:
 - Continue to legitimize the ITG and the Iraqi Security Forces
 - Continuity of themes and messages during the 1st MarDiv and 2^d MarDiv RIP
 - Develop IO themes that exploit results of RIVER BLITZ
 - Continue engagement with newly elected Al Anbar leaders
 - Continue engagement with municipal leaders
 - Continue RSO&I of Iraqi Security Forces in AO Atlanta
 - Integrate ISR assets to assist in targeting and maximize opportunities for developing actionable intelligence
 - BPT target emerging HVIs
- Endstate:
 - AIF prevented from disrupting the RIP in AO Atlanta
 - Successful transition from 1st MarDiv to 2^d MarDiv with no operational pause
 - Increased level of security in Ramadi facilitating the emergence of the newly elected ITG

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RIP Dates

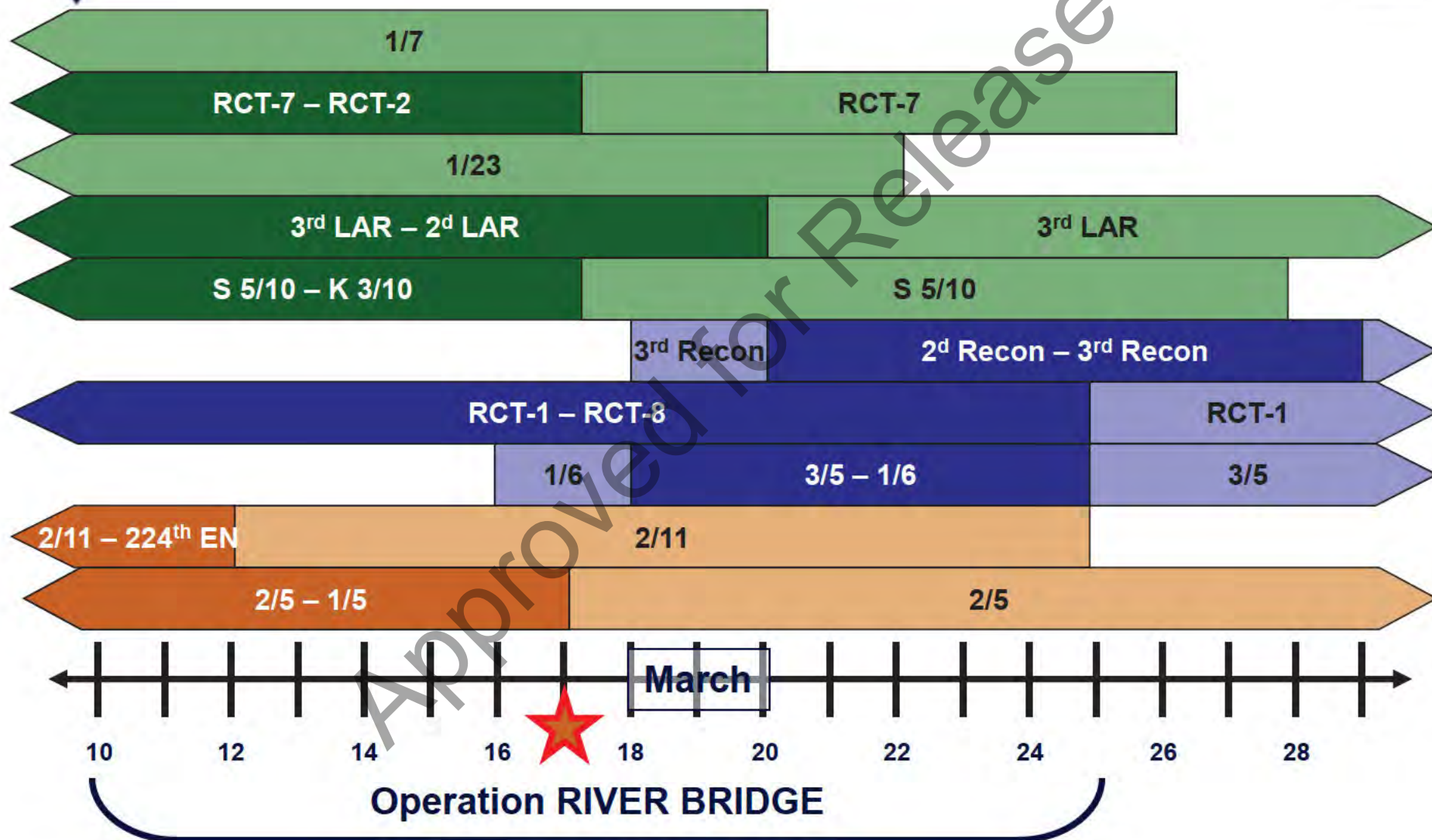


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RIP Dates



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Questions?

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