



# ON EXERCISES AND DOCTRINE

## The Scenario Modelling

by LTC (ITA A) Giulio DI MARZIO

### 1. Overview:

A scenario is the lead-in background story of a crisis or conflict and consists of a sketch, outline or description of an imagined situation or of any possible sequence of future events used for training NATO Command Structure (NCS) staff elements, HQs or Forces as well as in seminar, academic or experimental environments. A scenario will be composed of specific modules essential to the accomplishment of the NATO Commander's objectives or of the seminar/academic/rehearsal objectives.

### 2. General:

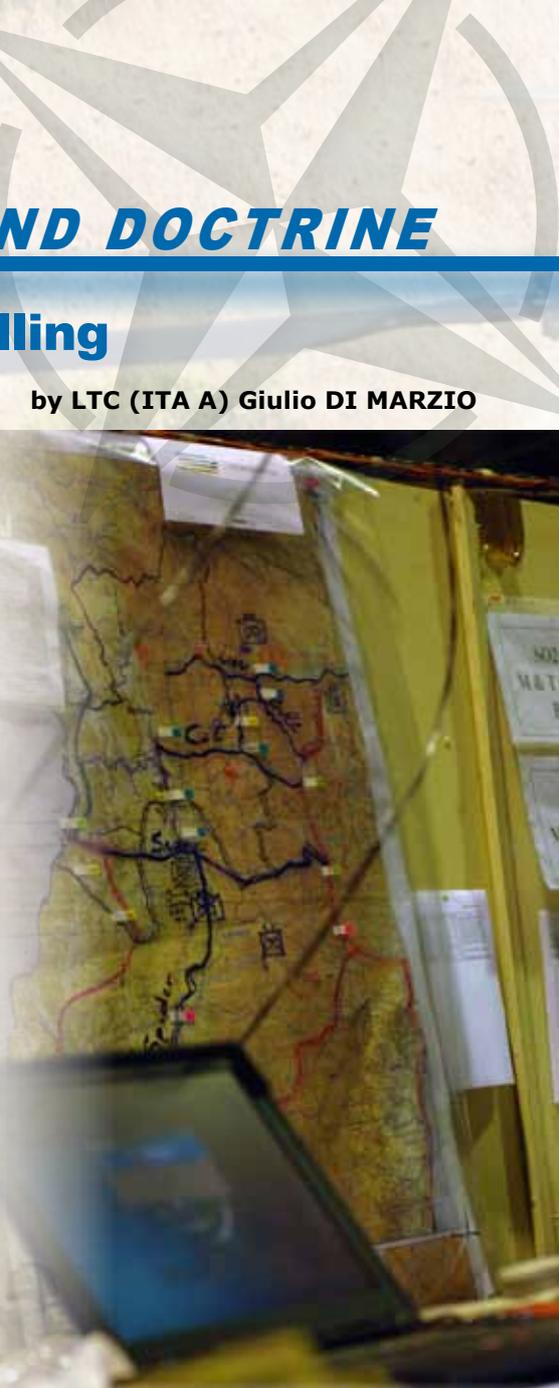
The scenario has various functions and interrelations. It is used for all exercises at any level: strategic, operational and tactical. It requires a certain art to develop the scenario that is to be broad enough but has to contain details to support all the range of requirements coming from the end-user, the Primary Training Audience (PTA). It has to be artificial because the various exercises differ from real operation or more closer to reality when the exercise is focus on training the PTA on a mission. The same artificiality, above mentioned, applies to the data gathering and input into the automated info system used by the PTA. Then it has a clear and defined methodology and sequence delineated by 6 modules which mirrored all the exercise development and give the audience what they need to be trained properly.

Finally I would remind the strict connection that the Scenario has with the MEL/MIL (Main Events List/Main Incidents List) Development. In fact, as mentioned, the scenario provides the broad settings and detailed background info on all relevant aspect that the MEL/MIL Development team build Story lines/Events and Incidents designed to trigger certain decision and activities in the PTA based on the exercise and training objectives.

### 3. Scenario Modules:

The scenario information and data are organised into modules, which are required for each exercise phase. The table here lays out the six Scenario modules and the timeline for their development in relations to the various phases of an exercise execution stage as defined by the BI-SC 75-3.

Module	Stage 3 - Exercise Execution	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III
		Individual and Collective Training	Crisis Response Planning	Execution
1 - Geo-Strategic Situation		Finalized	Finalized	Finalized
2 - Theatre of Operations		Geo-political	Geo-Strategic	Geo-Tactical
3 - Strategic Initiation	n/a		Finalized	Finalized
4 - Crisis Response Planning Information	n/a		Finalized	Finalized
5 - Force Activation and Deployment Information	n/a		Initial	Finalized
6 - Execution Information (STARTEX and MEL/MIL)	n/a		-	Finalized





## ON EXERCISES AND DOCTRINE

The Module 1 – Geo-Strategic Situation is to be prepared by OSE/EPG prior to the ESPEC Conference of an exercise. The Scenario group should be working in advance of the MEL/MIL group. Where a new scenario is to be developed, the Scenario group may first meet during or even before the IPC. The group may have to programme one or two workshops to enable the coordination of products, otherwise it will probably subdivide into small sections addressing;

- geography and infrastructure
- country studies giving background material
  - political
  - social
  - financial
  - industrial
  - religious
- order of battle
  - armed forces
  - irregular/terrorist group force holdings
  - distribution

The Module 2 – Synthetic Theatre of Operations Module gives static information/data about the region to support strategic assessments and operational planning. It is provided by the CPT and the Information/data are produced in Bi-SC AIS Functional Services/doctrinal formats (where available) and includes, inter alia.

- Mapping/Map Data Set
- Theatre Data
- Country Studies/Country Information
- Regional Orders of Battle (ORBAT)
- OPFOR Campaign (For use by EXCON only).

The Module 3 – Strategic Initiation Module establishes the international and NATO political desired end-state, objectives, limitations and directions as well as the supporting strategic military assessments and planning guidance following NATO crisis response system. This module, prepared by the EPG, includes, as a minimum:

- Road to Crisis (Narrative summary of major events leading to planning situation, included in MEL/MIL database)
- UNSC Resolutions
- Strategic Military Assessment
- NAC Initiating Directive
- Strategic Planning Guidance/Directive

The Module 4 – Crisis Response Planning Information

Module provides current updated information/data about the international and regional situation. Information/data are produced in Bi-SC AIS Functional Services/doctrinal formats (where available). This module, already prepared by CPT, includes, as a minimum:

- Current Intelligence Summary.
- Friendly Forces. Forces available for planning based on NATO ORBAT as well as current disposition of forces in the theatre area.
- Civil Military Assessment
- Environmental Assessment



# ON EXERCISES AND DOCTRINE

- OLRT Recce Reports
- TOPFAS data set

The Module 5 – Force Activation and Deployment Information Module provides external information/data in response to player CONOPS and CJSOR as well as CCIR as required to complete execution planning and to initiate deployment and initial entry operations. Information/data are produced in Bi-SC AIS Functional Services/doctrinal formats (where available). This module delivered by FPC by CPT, includes, as a minimum:

- ACTWARN/ACTREQ Messages
- FORCEPREP Messages
- Allied Force List (AFL) (ORBAT Force profiles)
- Force Balancing Results
- SOFA/MOUs/TAs
- Current Intelligence Summary (INTSUM)/ Intelligence Report (INTREP) (as required)
- Joint Target Lists
- Rules of Engagement Authorisation (ROEAUTH)/Implementation (ROEIMPL)

The Module 6 – Execution Information Module describes the current situation at STARTEX, based on Bi-SC Reporting Directive requirements. Information/data are produced in Bi-SC AIS Functional Services/doctrinal formats (where available). This module includes, as a minimum:

- Road to War (Narrative summary of major events leading to current situation, included in MEL/MIL database)
- Current Intelligence Summary (INTSUM)/ Intelligence Report (INTREP) (as required)
- Current ASSESSREP
- Order of Battle / Transfer of Authority Land/Air/Sea / STARTEX Force Laydown
- Current SITREPS for Land, Air, Navy, PIO, CIMIC, CIS , Deployment, Logistics
- Common Operating Picture(s) - (may be generated by LOCON and assisted by Synthetic Tools)

Bi-SC Exercise Directive (75-3)

Module 1  
Geo Strategic situation

**The BACKGROUND**

Module 2  
Synthetic Theatre of Operations

**The DATA**

Module 3  
Strategic Initiation

**The TRIGGER**

Module 4  
Crisis response Planning Information

**The PLANNING**

Module 5  
Force Activation and Deployment Information

**The STARTEX**

Module 6  
Execution Information

**The PLAY**

- Major Events and Incidents Lists (database)

## 4. Conclusion

Scenario is a basic tool for an exercise development sequence and should include all the required elements useful to define the reference framework where the exercise is played. Its production implies a synergic & core action by the Core Planning Teams members (CPT) which have to contribute with their capabilities from their different perspective. Mainly G2, G3, G4, G5, G6, Info ops and CIMIC are quite deeply involved in this setting because of their peculiar expertise. In general the scenario sets the conditions to play the game....the exercise it.

