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Author

Topic: Operation Rolling Fire Mission #27

BeachAV8R
Member
Member # 3055

posted 01-14-2004 19:38

01/14/04
Falcon 4.0/SP3 Campaign Mission Report #27
OPERATION ROLLING FIRE
DAY 3 - 0815 HOURS

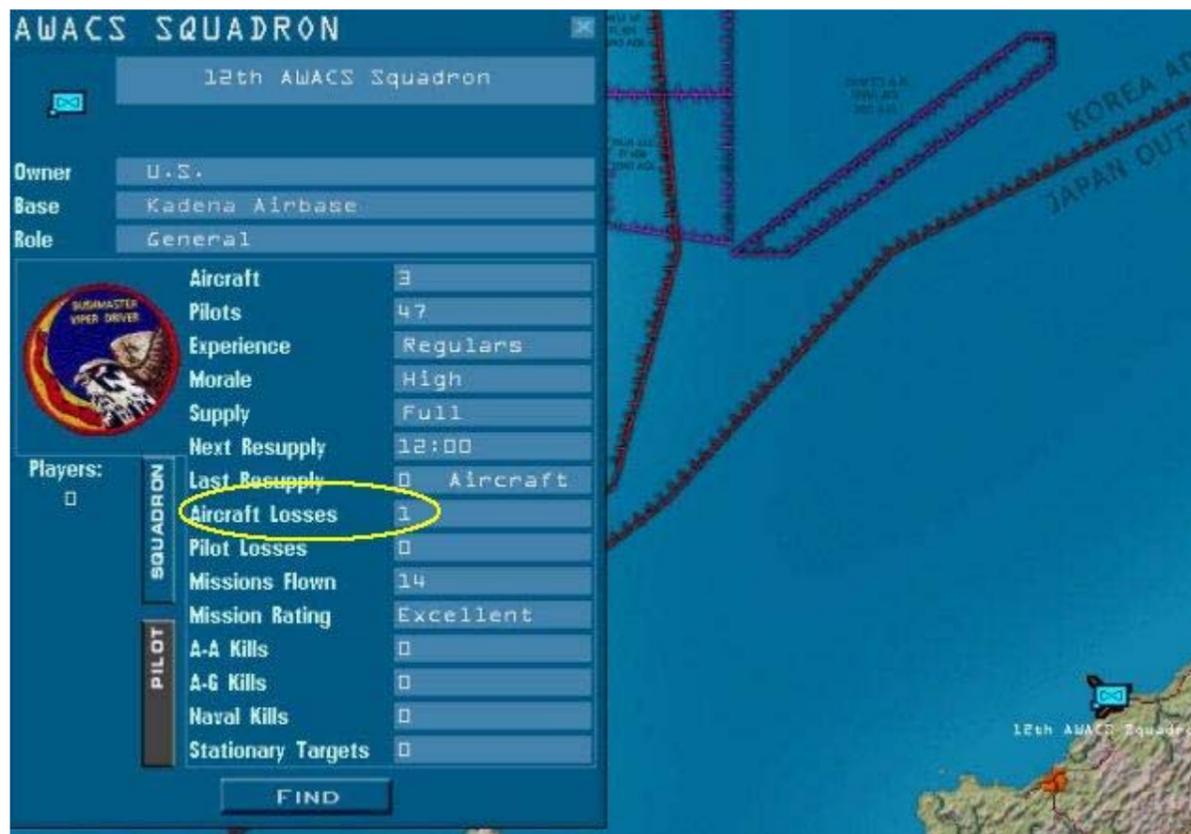
Campaign Status:

Ground forces will be making a renewed offensive toward P'Yongyang this morning. Some flights will be flying CAS for the advancing troops while others will be flying fighter sweeps.

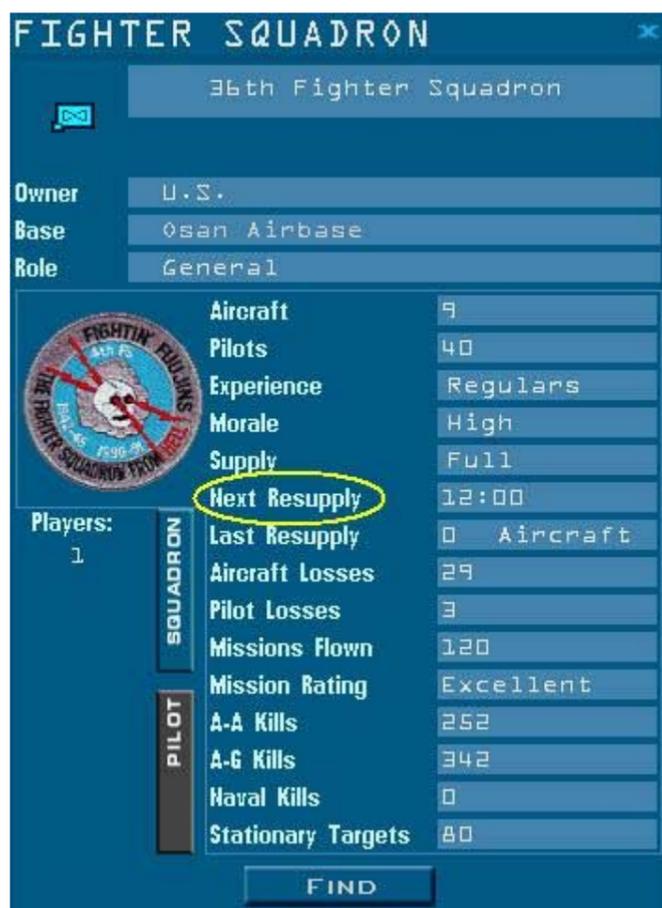
We have learned that several hours ago in the early morning hours the 12th AWACS squadron out of Kadena, Japan lost an E-3 AWACS which explains why AWACS support was unavailable for a portion of this mornings missions. The 3 remaining AWACS have increased their sortie rate to provide coverage until a replacement can be ferried in from another theater.

ORDER OF BATTLE

AIR	LAND	SEA	INSTALLATIONS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pusan Port 100% Operational Pusan Shipyard 100% Operational Air Forces : Japan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kadena Airbase 100% Operational <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12th AWACS Squadron 3 E-3 47 Pilots 0 Players 13th Tanker Squadron 4 KC-135 45 Pilots 0 Players 44th Airlift Squadron 14 C-130H 48 Pilots 0 Players Naval Forces : Japan 					



Additionally, the ordnance situation at Osan remains critical. According to supply we can expect a replenishment at 1200 hours today:



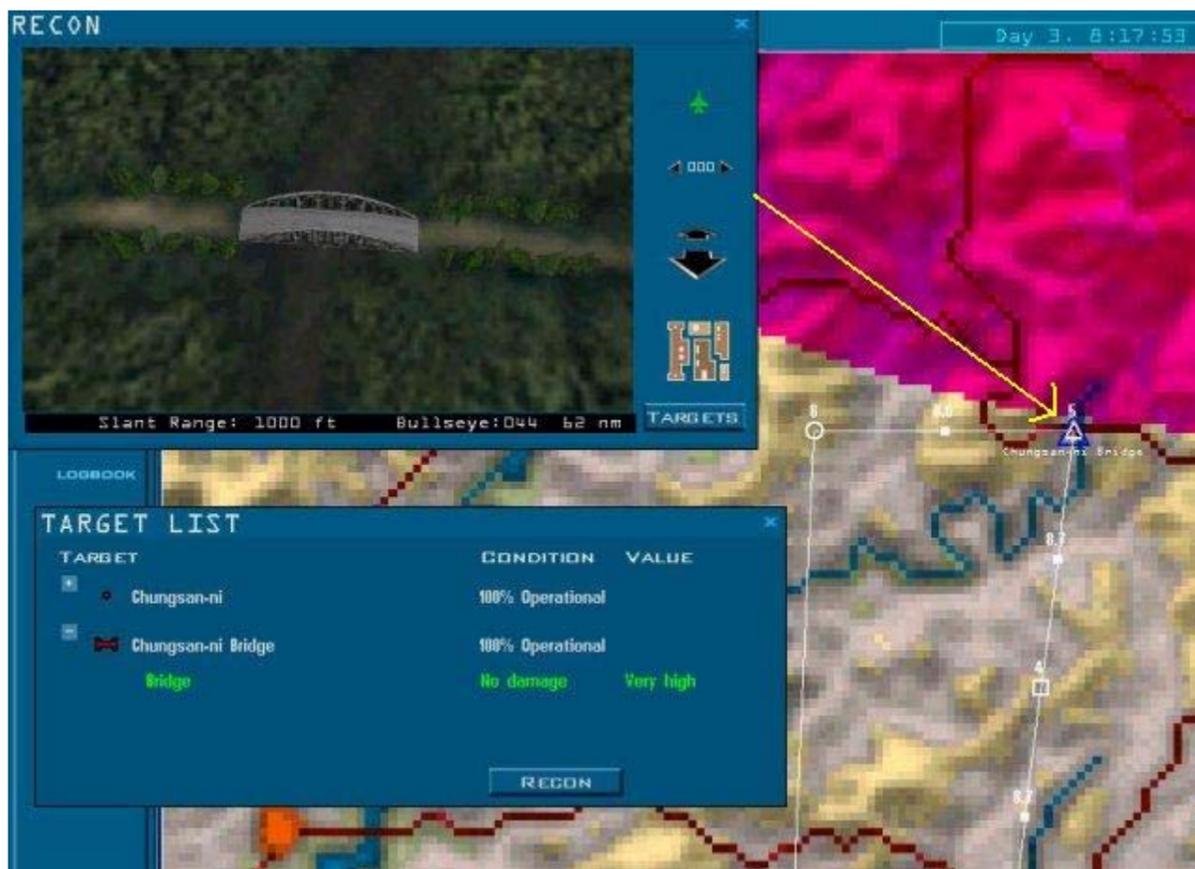
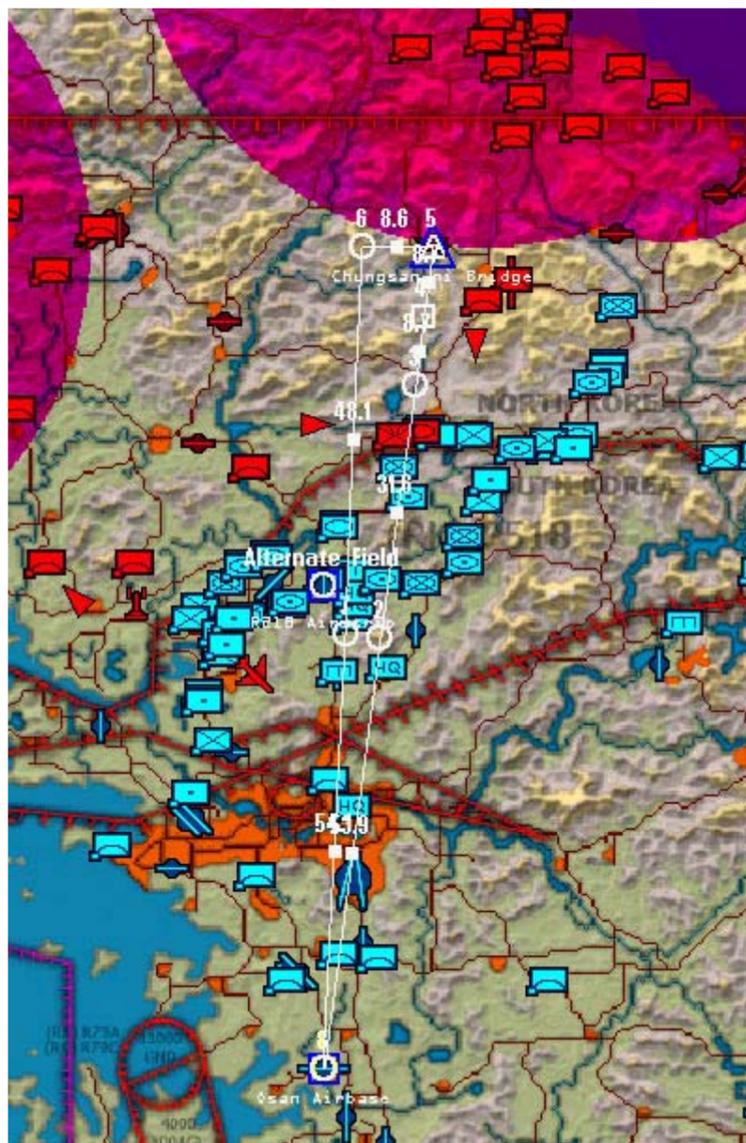
Objective:

Our objective for today is to strike the Chungsan-ni bridge to prevent the movement of DPRK troops intent on defending P'Yongyang.



Planning/preflight:

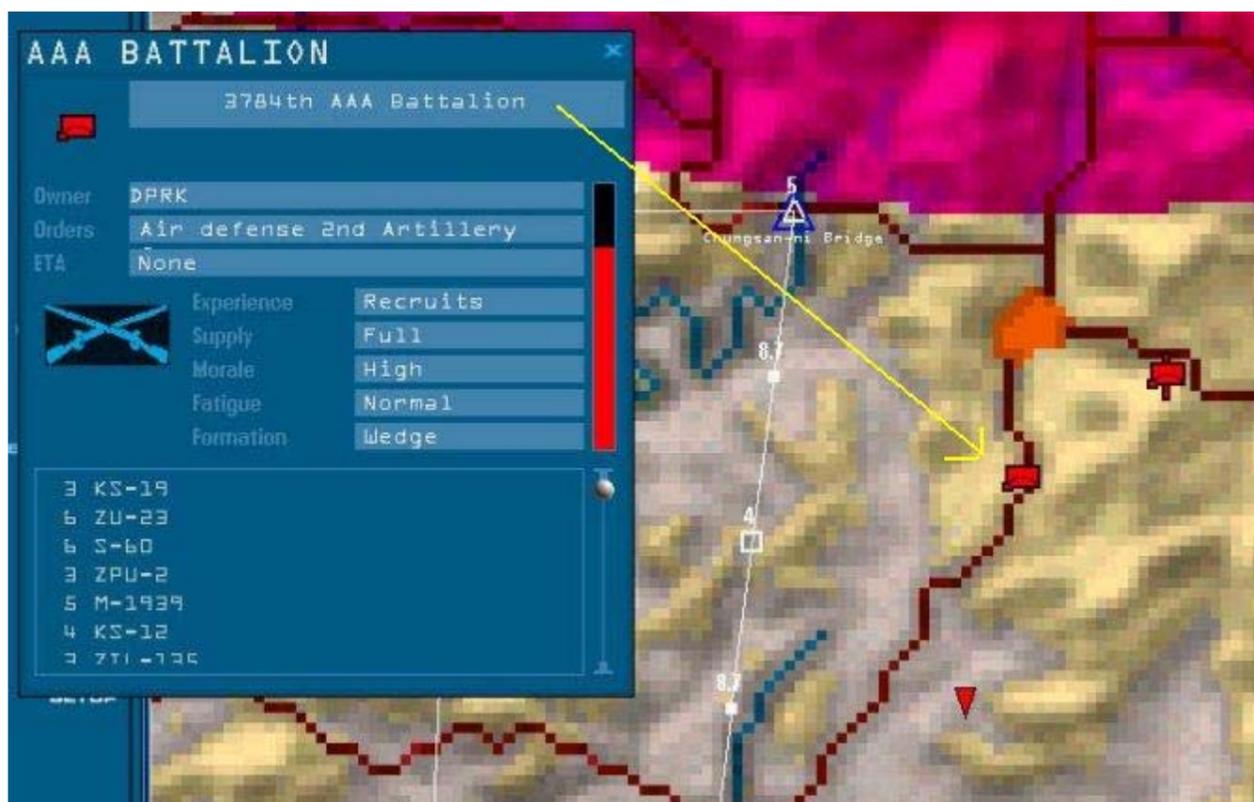
We will be flying in a 2-ship flight today escorted by a flight of 4 F-16CJs who will provide CAP over our strike. Since the target bridge is not deep in DPRK territory we will assess the flight profile during the strike and alter our ingress and egress routes according to the threat level we encounter.



As flight lead I will be carrying 2 GBU-24/GP laser-guided bombs. With a medium altitude ceiling we can anticipate a medium to low altitude release to allow our targeting FLIR to properly see the target. Wingman #2 will be carrying a limited (due to supply) anti-air missile load and it will be his function to provide immediate support in the event of enemy air activity in the target area.



Be aware that there is an SA-2 site and a AAA battalion to the immediate south-east of the target. Based on pre-flight intelligence data the SA-2 site's radar appears to have already been destroyed but the AAA site remains a valid threat:



Cont....

<http://home.carolina.rr.com/beachav8r>

From: **Charlotte, NC USA** | Registered: **Jan 2001** | IP: [Logged](#)

BeachAV8R
Member
Member # 3055

posted 01-14-2004 19:39

Debrief:

Blasting off into the dark and rainy morning I hope this mission goes better than mission #25 were I got smacked down by the SA-2 well before getting to the target area:



Picking up a course to the north there isn't much time to relax on such a short-legged mission. I check-in with AWACS and am extremely relieved when I hear a reply. He holds a threat of two J-11s at 325 degrees, 40 miles at 10 thousand feet. We already have our radars off but with few allied aircraft to our west we know we will be prime targets for marauding J-11s. As such I elect to drop down to a terrain-following profile to minimize our presence:





Now down in the weeds I keep a watchful eye on the threat warning receiver and can see the bearing to the J-11 changing as they fall down our left side. Checking with AWACS confirms that the range gets no closer than 30 miles:



Reaching down to the right MFD I setup the TFR to give us a "hard" ride at 200 feet:



With the TFR set there is little else to do but keep an eye on our navigation and keep a dialogue with AWACS to assess the enemy threats. The RWR shows that the Navy is keeping busy today with what appears to be an F/A-18 strike flight accompanied by an F-14 CAP:



Cont...

<http://home.carolina.rr.com/beachav8r>

From: **Charlotte, NC USA** | Registered: **Jan 2001** | IP: [Logged](#)

BeachAV8R
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 Member # 3055

posted 01-14-2004 19:39



Passing over a small military we see a great example of why Falcon 4 is so damn good: object permanence in the campaign. This location was struck by another campaign generated mission and the buildings are still showing the damage from the attack:



With the attack waypoint approaching rapidly I make sure I arm my laser and check the FLIR MFD to make sure the "L" illuminates indicating the system is ready:



A critical point in the mission is passage over the FLOT, which is always a hotbed of activity. As we scream over friendly troops we can see explosions dotting the terrain as allied forces trade fire with DPRK defenders:



At just outside of 10 miles to the target I start a gentle climb and turn my ground radar back on to start searching for the bridge. No sooner than I've nudged the stick backward AWACS screams out to me new enemy contacts at about 1 o'clock, 10 miles! Simultaneously my RWR scope pops up a multiple -23 symbol:



I briefly consider engaging the air-to-air master mode but I reason that the briefed purpose of my wingman on this mission was to provide defensive support for me while I was on the bombing run. So instead of breaking off the attack I give my wingman two commands in rapid succession: "ACTIVATE RADAR" "WEAPONS FREE" He acknowledges, breaks formation and a few seconds later yells "Fox Three Medium!":



Cont...

<http://home.carolina.rr.com/beachav8r>

From: **Charlotte, NC USA** | Registered: **Jan 2001** | IP: [Logged](#)

BeachAV8R
Member
Member # 3055

📅 posted 01-14-2004 19:40 🏠 👤 📧 🗨️ “ ”

With confidence in my wingman's abilities I continue the gentle climb, pull up my A2G radar, verify the radar is slaved to the steer-point and then switch to DBS2 mode to see if I can pick out the bridge. After a couple of seconds it pops into view as a bright contact near a road junction. I also note the MiG-23 symbol is down to a single contact on the RWR and it is sliding down the right side of the scope:

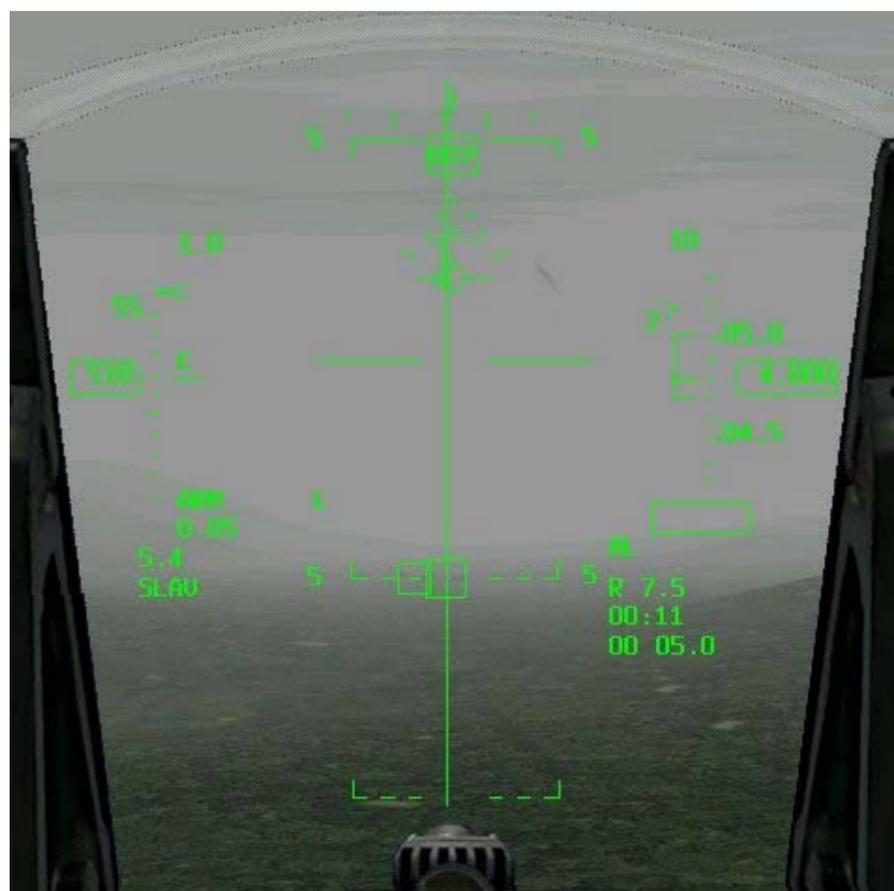


I slew the cursor over the bright blip on the DBS2 display and hit the designate button handing off the targeting to the FLIR:





The HUD shows I have 7.5 miles to the target and 11 seconds until bomb release:



I momentarily unlock the FLIR lock to slew the cursor to the left a bit to center on the bridge span itself then re-lock the FLIR:



A couple of new ground threat spikes illuminate on the RWR as enemy SAM and AAA sites suddenly become aware of our presence so I reach down and flick the ECM illuminating the ECM light:



Holding steady I simply hold the pickle button down and wait for the release timer to reach zero at which time the bomb will be dropped (with my consent) by the fire control computer:



Cont...

<http://home.carolina.rr.com/beachav8r>

From: **Charlotte, NC USA** | Registered: **Jan 2001** | IP: [Logged](#)

BeachAV8R
Member
Member # 3055

📅 posted 01-14-2004 19:40 🏠 👤 📧 🗒️ “ ”

After the bomb comes off the rack I start a shallow bank to the right and watch the impact timer on the FLIR MFD and assure that the laser is firing (flashing):



Boom! Scratch one bridge from the ATO!



Free to maneuver I tighten up my turn to the right and pull up my TFR page anticipating dropping back down to a low-level egress:



With the J-11 threat to the left (west) on the inbound leg I elect to go with the lesser of two evils and pull off the target to the right (east) which does unfortunately put me directly over the pre-briefed AAA site which erupts in white smoke and tracers whiz past the canopy:



An Su-25 out to the west on a mission probably not that dissimilar from mine!



Cont...

<http://home.carolina.rr.com/beachav8r>

From: **Charlotte, NC USA** | Registered: **Jan 2001** | IP: [Logged](#)

BeachAV8R
 Member
 Member # 3055

📅 posted 01-14-2004 19:41 🏠 👤 📧 🗒️ “ ”

I order my wingman to rejoin and we cross back over the FLOT headed for home. Unfortunately I look out at my racks and see the 4 unexpended missiles and start thinking (oh-no..don't do that!). I get a steer from AWACS toward the two J-11s that were probably flying CAP over the aforementioned Su-25 and do a totally stupid thing and engage them. They have every advantage in the world but I have this burning need to shoot something down. We close the range and they seem preoccupied so I launch an AMRAAM at the lead and catch him as he is climbing oblivious to my presence:

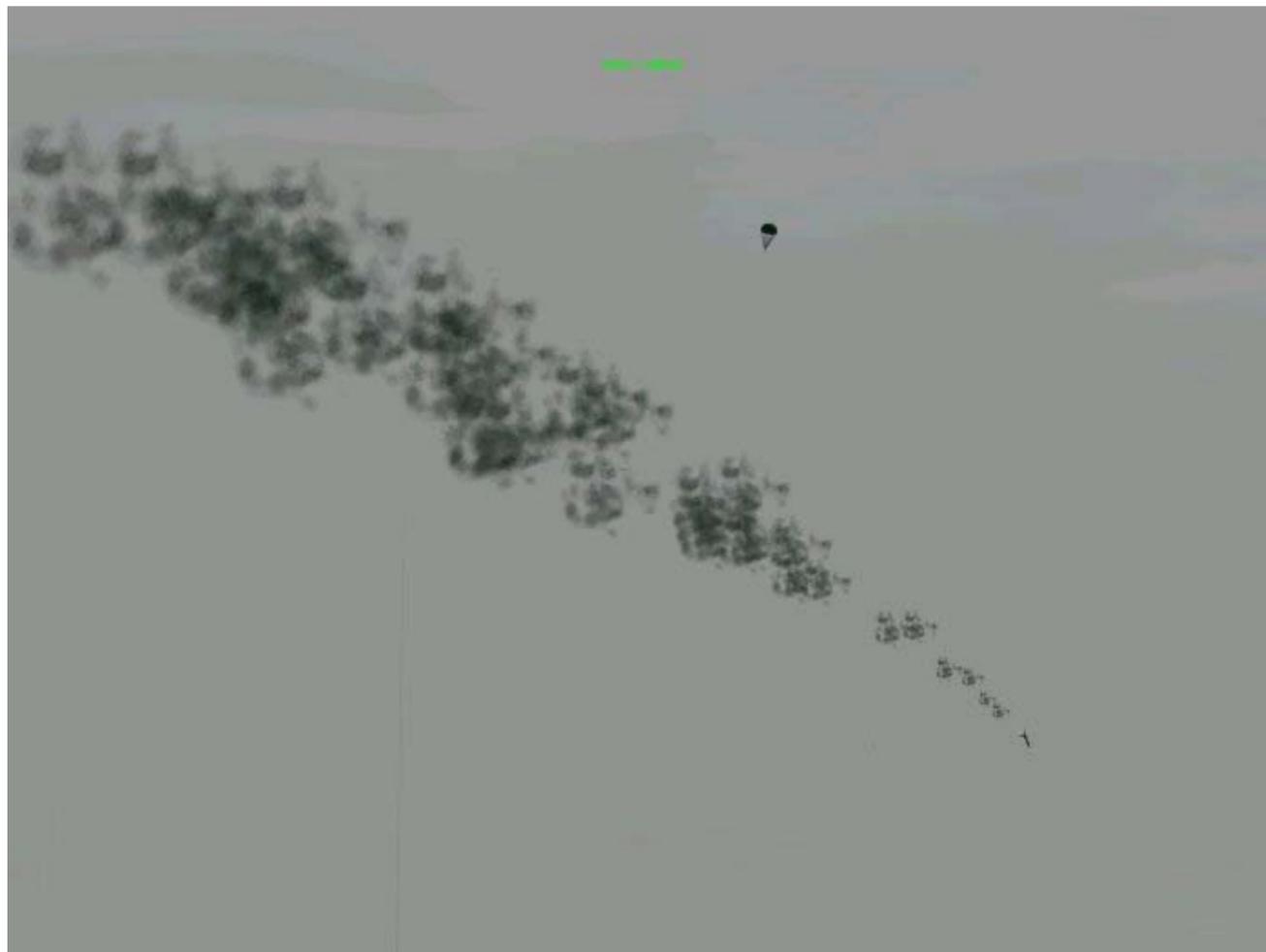




His wingman takes offense however and dumps his nose, fires and I'm well inside the no-escape range since he's shooting down-hill. I launch my second AMRAAM just seconds before two AA-10Cs blot me from the sky in an extremely anti-climactic way. At least my missile scores after I'm killed sending the second J-11 down in flames too:



Unfortunately the second J-11 must have fired a third missile which also took out my wingman and soon he is hitting the silk as well. So none of us win that round:



Conclusions:

The mission is a success from the standpoint of us destroying the primary target. My judgment on the J-11 engagement, however, leaves a lot to be desired. I'm credited with destroying the bridge and downing the two J-11s but the cost (two F-16s) was far too steep. Stick to the plan dumbass.

```

Beach joined as Stallion11 at 08:32:00
DPRK Bridge destroyed by Beach at 08:44:4
AA-10C launched at Beach 09:03:50
AA-10C launched at Beach 09:11:00
PRC J-11 downed by Beach at 09:11:21
Missile launched at Beach 09:11:39
Beach downed by PRC J-11 at 09:11:47
PRC J-11 downed by Beach at 09:12:10
Stallion12 ejected at 09:12:45
    
```

DEBRIEFING

MISSION: Partial success (Strike Chungsan-ni Bridge)
YOUR TASK: Partial success (Destroy Bridge at target site)
PILOT RATINGS: Good

Actual TOT: 08:44:27 (71 seconds late)
 Losses: 2

PACKAGE STATISTICS:

Flight	Aircraft	Comments
Stallion1 (Strike)	2 F-16CG	Mission partial success: Significant damage to target site.
Stingray1 (SEAD Escort)	4 F-16CJ	

FLIGHT STATISTICS:

Callsign	Status	Ordnance Fired
Stallion11	Destroyed	2 x AM-120B
Stallion12	Destroyed	1 x GBU-24/B
		1 x AM-120B

PILOT STATISTICS:

Callsign	Aircraft	Pilot	Status	AA Kills	AG Kills	Rating
Stallion11	F-16CG	2Lt. Beach	KIA	2 (0)	1 (0)	Good
Stallion12	F-16CG	Lt. Lorton	MIA	0	0	Good
Stingray11	F-16CJ	Cpt. Yung	OK	0	0	Excellent
Stingray12	F-16CJ	Lt. Barnes	OK	2	0	Excellent
Stingray13	F-16CJ	Lt. Affergan	OK	1	0	Excellent
Stingray14	F-16CJ	Lt. Louie	OK	0	0	Excellent

RESULTS:
 The destruction of Chungsan-ni Bridge will hinder the 1st HQ Battalion's movement towards the front, relieving some pressure on friendly troops.

As for the 2 MiG-23s that bounced us over the target, my wingman fired on one of them but was not credited a kill. The CAP flight of F-16CJs was credited with 3 kills however, so I assume it was one of them who actually scored on the -23s and kept them off my back. Good show.

BeachAV8R

[01-14-2004, 19:49: Message edited by: BeachAV8R]

<http://home.carolina.rr.com/beachav8r>

From: **Charlotte, NC USA** | Registered: **Jan 2001** | IP: [Logged](#)

MeanGreeny
Junior Member
Member # 8923

📄 posted 01-14-2004 20:30 🗑️ 🏠 📧 📝 “ ”

Just to make you feel worse - they shot down 2 x F16's AND a load of unused [short supply] AMRAAM missiles 🌐

From: **UK** | Registered: **Jan 2002** | IP: [Logged](#)

Stewie
Member
Member # 930

📄 posted 01-14-2004 21:49 🗑️ 🏠 📧 📝 “ ”

Great stuff Beach 😊
What I like to see is the thinking that goes on behind the decisions you make. I mean, most of us can do the switchology, but the philosphy is a different matter. Cheers mate :thumbs:

>

From: **Morecambe, Lancashire, U.K.** | Registered: **Jun 2000** | IP: [Logged](#)

Agent X20
Member
Member # 675

📄 posted 01-14-2004 23:29 🗑️ 🏠 📧 📝 “ ”

Nice work right up to that last bit...

If it's any consolation I think you've just posted some of your bestest-crispest images yet. Nigh on photo realistic.

So err, what was it you were telling me about saving those precious airframes? 😊🌐

[KiwiSim](#) 'Who said Kiwis couldn't fly?!'

From: **Wellington, New Zealand** | Registered: **Apr 2000** | IP: [Logged](#)

peppergomez
Member
Member # 10976

📄 posted 01-14-2004 23:51 🗑️ 🏠 📧 📝 “ ”

hey beach,

just curious why you didn't drop both gbu's on a single pass, since you only had 1 target. was that in case you missed with the first, so you would have another for a 2nd try? also, was 1 gbu enough to destroy the bridge, or did it just inflict heavy damage?

thanks again for the report. i have migrated over from jf18 to f4, and i am really in awe of it.

Registered: **May 2002** | IP: [Logged](#)

BeachAV8R

Member
Member # 3055

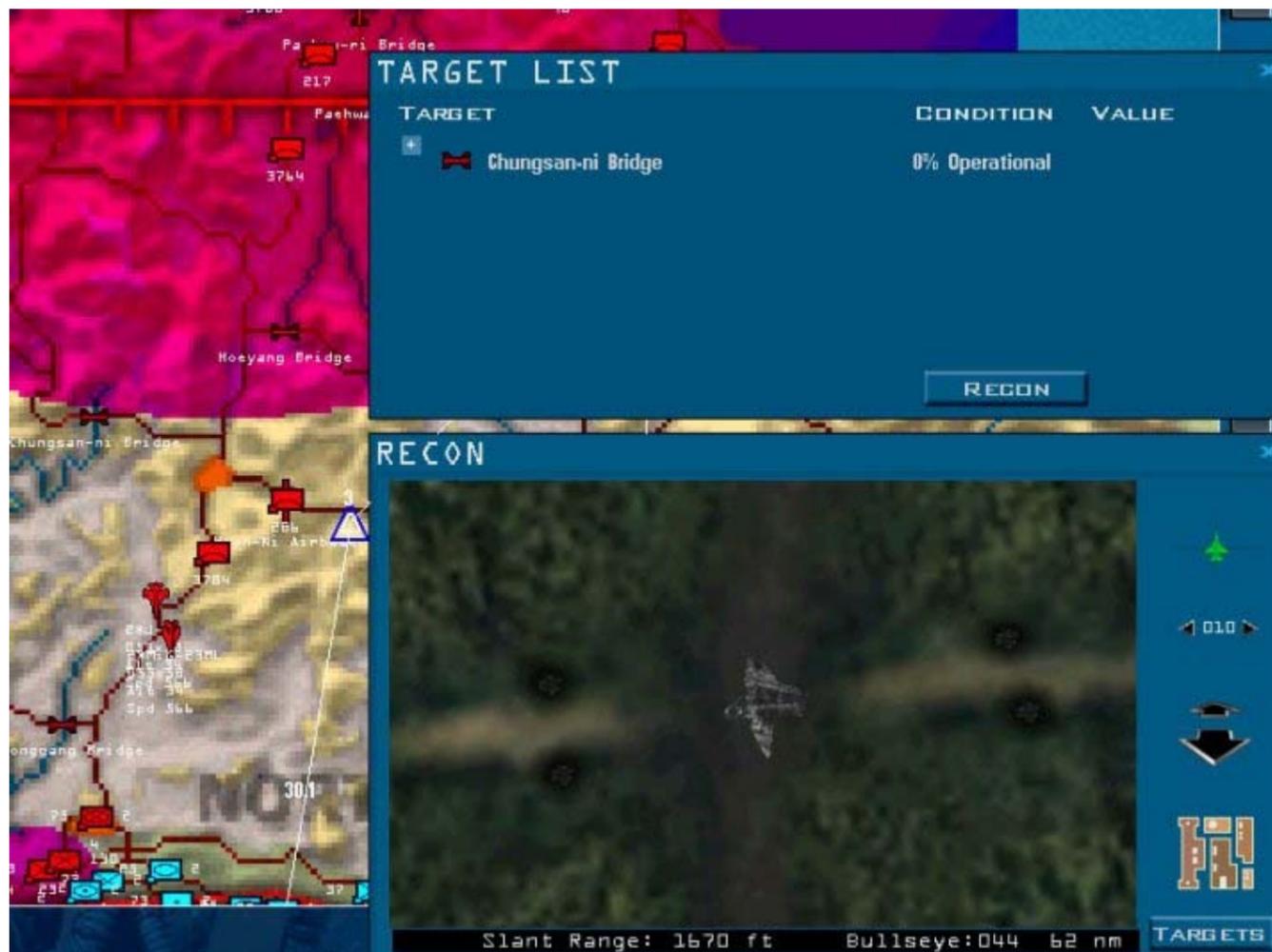
📄 posted 01-15-2004 00:31 🗑️ 🏠 📧 📝 “ ”

quote:

Originally posted by peppergomez:

just curious why you didn't drop both gbu's on a single pass, since you only had 1 target. was that in case you missed with the first, so you would have another for a 2nd try? also, was 1 gbu enough to destroy the bridge, or did it just inflict heavy damage?

You got it..I wasn't sure if I could make the hit on the first pass, so I was saving the second for a run back toward the south (generally a BAD idea though to make multiple passes). Turns out I didn't need the extra LGB. On small bridges like that you can get a 100% kill on it with a single GBU-24. The campaign debrief listed the mission as a partial success, but I think it was only partial because I was shot down. I forgot to post this image of the after-strike intel report which showed the bridge at 0%:



MG - Don't think I didn't think about my precious AMRAAMs going down with me..lol..supply will be pissed!

Thanks Stewie and Agent X - uh..nevermind what I said earlier about bringing airframes home to roost..it's over-rated 😊

BeachAV8R

<http://home.carolina.rr.com/beachav8r>

From: **Charlotte, NC USA** | Registered: **Jan 2001** | IP: [Logged](#)

Zero Niner
Member
Member # 273

📄 posted 01-15-2004 02:07 🗑️ 👤 📧 📄 “ ”

Shakes head in disbelief
Beach, what *is* it about A2A targets that make you go fangs out (mind you - I'd probably have done the same, lol).
Focus, man, focus.
As MeanGreeny said, not only did you lose 2 airframes, plus missiles, you lost *2* pilots (1 KIA, 1 MIA) - how're you gonna get the Longevity Medal if you keep on flying like that? 😊

Zero Niner, out.

From: **Singapore** | Registered: **Nov 1999** | IP: [Logged](#)

Cougar_DK
Member
Member # 15377

📄 posted 01-15-2004 04:41 🗑️ 👤 📧 📄 “ ”

Another great story from you - I can't wait for the next one!

From: **Denmark, Farum** | Registered: **Mar 2003** | IP: [Logged](#)

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