

Total Immersion 2009

Friday the 26th of June

The event preparation began today. S/Sgt Nicholson, Pvt. Aaron Nicholson, Pvt. Jim Nicholson and John Bennett prepared props and aided in mowing. I arrived with Cpl John Fowler in the late afternoon. We unloaded the jeep and stowed our gear. T/Sgt Busse and T/3 Dick Kanoski arrived at 1900 hours. We set up the small mess area and got squared away for the evening. At 2030 hours the evening chow and cold beverages arrived. By 2300 hours we all hit the sack.

Saturday the 27th of June

We awoke at 730 hours. T/3 Dick Kanoski prepared coffee and donuts for the troopers who stayed the night. The remaining troops began to filter in as the day progressed. These troopers were S/Sgt Doug Drieling, PFC Jay Borman, PFC Chris Borman, PFC Ethan Forman, Pvt. Brandon Hayes, PFC Dustin Milliner, PFC Rob Milliner and Pvt. Mark Albright.

By 1200 hours the German troops began to arrive. We had 6 troops of the 5th Gebirgs, one man of the 352nd and three Fallschirmjager's. Mike Silcox of the Gebirgs was the German Commander.

At 1930 hours we had the briefing for both German and American troops. S/Sgt Nicholson briefed everyone on the terrain. He made sure we all understood to be safe and be careful in the dark. At 2030 hours we had our formation. We check Safety and Authenticity at this time. At 2045 hours the men were briefed on the first objective.

The Airborne drop began at 2100 hours. The C-47 was flown by Major Bennett (a tractor pulling a flatbed trailer). The Sticks loaded on the C-47 and took off for their entry point onto the property.

TO & E:

	1 st Squad	2 nd Squad
Squad Leader	S/Sgt John Nicholson	S/Sgt Doug Drieling
Assistant SL	PFC Dustin Milliner	Cpl John Fowler
	PFC Rob Milliner	PFC Chris Borman
	Pvt. Brandon Hayes	PFC Jay Borman
	Pvt. Aaron Nicolson	PFC Ethan Forman
	Pvt. Jim Nicolson	Pvt. Mark Albright

T/Sgt Busse was the field commander. I participated in the Pathfinder drop and first scenario before falling back to camp as a casualty of a bad cold.

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The time values and objectives are below:

2100 hours - Pathfinders serial departs airfield
PFC Rob Milliner and PFC Ethan Forman were our Pathfinders.
They were dropped first and positioned near the jeep accompanied
by 1st Sgt Traphagan. The first stick was 1st Squad. 2nd Squad was
in the second drop.

2120 hours - Main Serial(s) depart airfield
1st Squad would be first to drop followed by second Squad.
Drop Zone coordinates:
F-4 F-5 E-5 D-5 D-6
Heading South by Southwest

2150 hours – We were to assemble at Drop Zone assembly point:
Coordinates F-4 F-5
The drop was not on time due to flack and resistance on the
ground. The Germans had AA fire and the drop zone was hot. The
Pathfinders had met heavy fire while attempting to set up the DZ.
The Germans made it difficult due to heavy fire. In a short while the
main body of men were dropped and the Germans abandoned the
DZ. The firing ceased and the Pathfinders were able to move out.

2200 hours The first objective was to find and retrieve a courier from the 82nd
Airborne who was in a downed C-47. He had a pouch with maps
and crucial information. At the briefing the plan was to have 1st
Squad flank from Ravenoville to the coordinates C-8. 2nd Squad
was to proceed down the Hay Road from St. Come Du Mont. The
Pathfinder element was unable to meet up with either Squad. We
proceeded down the Hay Road hoping to meet 2nd Squad. We
made it to the objective and found the courier. It was so dark we
could not see 10 feet in front of us. The luminous disks on the back
of our helmets were a great help. PFC Rob Milliner and PFC Ethan
Forman and I made it to Hay Road. I took the courier back to
Marmion Farm. The rest of the men came down to Marmion Farm
to form up for the next objective.

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2330 hours- We were to assault St. Come du Mont - coordinates E-5
Now that the sticks had rolled up and consolidated a Marmion Farm. The men left the safety of the farm and proceeded to the objective. We were to capture a drop bundle and hold for ultimate delivery to Stopka's Strongpoint (Marmion Farm) coordinates G-8. We were to consolidate defensive positions in the village and hold against German counter-attack.

0100 hours - We are now to assault Ravenoville - coordinates C-7
The objective was to destroy the ammunition dump, consolidate in the village and then hold against possible German counter-attack.

0200 hours - Objective: Assault Hill 30 - coordinates B-5
We were to capture the German flag at top of Hill 30. We then had to transport the flag to Marmion Farm to achieve the objective and then consolidate all troopers at Marmion Farm by 0115 hours.

0330 hours – The action ceases and the troopers return to the stronghold.

Some of the men packed up their gear and left for home. Others of us returned to the barn and hit the sack.

Sunday 28 June

We awoke at 0700 hours. The Gebirgs were packing and preparing to head home. The troops were now up and preparing to leave. By 0845 we were on the road for home.

We had 10 aggressors and 15 Troopers. I would like to thank John Nicholson for hosting this event and for writing the scenarios. Please submit any feedback you may have to improve this event.

Prepared by:

1st Sgt Traphagan, R.