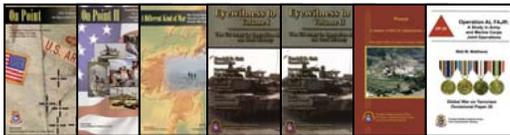


## The Virtual Staff Ride (VSR)

Since 2005, CSI has provided the Army with a new platform for leader development with VSRs to augment our numerous field staff ride offerings. Featuring 3D imagery produced largely from satellite imagery, photographs, video, and first-hand accounts from participants, the VSR leverages current technology to conduct an effective staff ride without leaving the classroom. Initially utilized to capture lessons learned from Afghanistan and Iraq, the eight VSRs and wide array of supporting publications currently offered by CSI continue to assist Army units in pre-deployment preparation and universal leader programs. CSI Staff Ride Team instructors actively provide VSR support to Active and Reserve Components at CONUS and OCONUS installations, supporting leader development programs from the ROTC to the Corps level.



## OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM OPERATION ANACONDA



A day long staff ride (or partial day staff ride) that examines the coalition attack into the Shahi Kowt Valley in 2002. The study encompasses conventional operations (3/101 ABN Div), coalition operations (Afghan Military Forces), joint operations (CFACC), and special operations.

### WANAT



A 4-hour staff ride that examines a coalition Task Force conducting COIN operations in the Waygal valley of Afghanistan, 2007-2008, focusing primarily on an insurgent attack on a small COP occupied by 2<sup>d</sup> PLT, C Co, 2-503 Infantry, 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade.

## OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

This 16-hour VSR focuses on the first two years of OIF, 2003-2005, and the transition from decisive to stability operations. Shorter scenarios are also available.

### March to Baghdad

An abbreviated version of the overall OIF VSR, this 6-hour staff ride focuses on Phase III Combat Operations during March-April 2003, culminating with the fall of Baghdad.



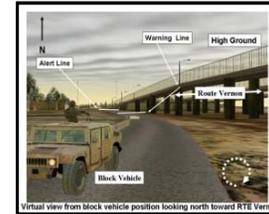
### Ambush of the 507th Maintenance Company

This 2-hour staff ride looks at the ambush and destruction of the 507<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Company on 23 March 2003 during the V Corps advance on Baghdad.



### Check Point 541

This 2-hour staff ride highlights an escalation of force incident at a US blocking position in Baghdad on 4 March 2005, resulting in the accidental death of an Italian Major General.



### Palm Sunday Ambush

This 2-hour staff ride focuses on the insurgent ambush of two supply convoys on ASR Detroit and US actions on contact on 20 March, 2005.



## CSI's Newest VSR

### FALLUJAH



This five-hour staff ride examines the US-led coalition operation to secure the Iraqi insurgent stronghold of Fallujah in November 2004. This first true Unified Land Operations-oriented staff ride is an ideal leader development and education tool for the Brigade and Division level as organizations learn to fully understand the concepts of Unified Land Operations and Mission Command within the doctrinal construct of the Decisive Action Training Environment.

### Staff Rides

Staff rides serve as an active and effective platform in support of the Chief of Staff of the Army's number one priority: Leader Development. A staff ride is conducted in accordance with a specific methodology consisting of a systematic preliminary study of a selected campaign or battle, an extensive visit to the actual sites associated with that campaign or battle, and an opportunity to integrate the lessons derived from the first two phases combined. A staff ride thus links a historical event, systematic preliminary study, and the actual terrain to produce a battle analysis in three dimensions.

### The CSI Staff Ride Team

The team develops and conducts live and virtual staff rides as a leader development and educational tool for Soldiers. By focusing on the timeless and universal aspects of warfighting, staff rides provide important insights into military operations, concepts of leadership, and the human dynamic of battle. The Staff Ride Team also provides information and guidance to US Army units and agencies on how to conduct staff rides for the purpose of developing and educating leaders.

### To Contact Us

**Combat Studies Institute Staff Ride Team**

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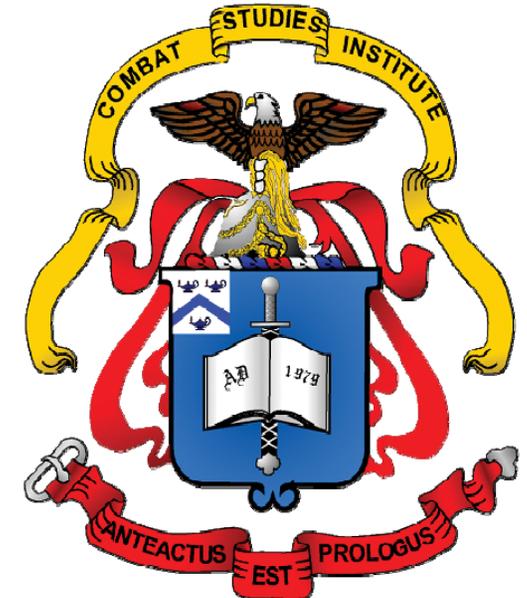


<http://usacac.army.mil/organizations/lde/csi/srteam>

United States Army

# Combat Studies Institute

## Virtual Staff Rides



*The Past is Prologue*