

## The Virtual Staff Ride (VSR)

Since 2005, CSI has provided the Army with a virtual platform for leader development to augment our numerous ground staff rides. Featuring a 3D virtual environment produced largely from satellite imagery, photographs, video, and first-hand accounts, 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 Army University Press' VSRs and wide array of supporting publications continue to assist Army units in pre-deployment preparation and universal leader training programs. The Staff Ride Team provides VSR support to Army organizations world wide and supports leader development programs from the ROTC to the Corps level.

## OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM



### OPERATION ANACONDA

A six hour staff ride that examines the coalition attack into the Shahi Kowt Valley of Afghanistan in 2002. The VSR studies the complexities of conventional, coalition, joint, and special operations.



### Wanat

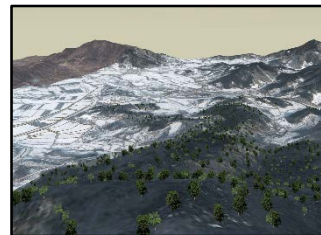
A 4-hour staff ride that examines a coalition Task Force conducting COIN operations in the Waygal valley of Afghanistan, 2007-2008, focusing primarily on an insurgent attack on a platoon COP.

## OTHERS



### The Marne Campaign

This two day staff ride studies the 1914 campaign of WWI. The VSR examines the inherent issues in multinational coalitions and warfighting, doctrine, and decision-making at the operational level of war.



### Chipyong-ni

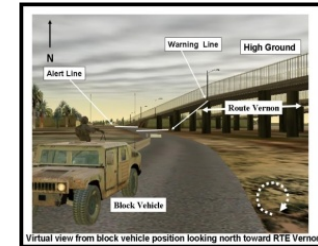
This six hour study focuses on the 1951 attack against the 23d RCT and attached French battalion. It was the first tactical victory over the Chinese and halted the overall PLA offensive.

## OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM



### Ambush of the 507th Maintenance Company

This 2-hour staff ride studies the ambush of a convoy from the 507th Maint Co on 23 March 2003 during the V Corps advance to 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.



### Fallujah

This five-hour staff ride examines the US-led coalition operation to secure the Iraqi insurgent stronghold of Fallujah in November 2004.



## CSI's Newest VSR

Available September 2017

### **Battle of Stalingrad, 1942-3**



The Stalingrad VSR examines the pivotal World War II battle from multiple levels of command to highlight the challenges and complexities of large scale operation, operations in dense urban terrain, and their relevancy to the modern operating environment. The staff ride is tailorable for use from the company through ASCC level. The Stalingrad VSR is fully exportable to any unit or organization which has access to the Army-licensed gaming software, Virtual Battlespace 3 (VBS3). The exportable package includes full instructor support materials, student readings, and instructions on how to use everything.

## Staff Rides

Staff rides serve as an active and effective platform in support of leader development and education. 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 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 their own staff rides for the purpose of developing and educating leaders.

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# Army University Press

## Combat Studies Institute

### Virtual Staff Rides



***The Past is Prologue***