

## NATO-The Next War In Europe

**\*\* Warsaw Pact Invades Germany 1984 \*\***

Version 2.1

Based partially on the Avalon Hill board game "NATO:The Next War in Europe"

November, 1984:

Internal politics and international rivalry create a climate in which East-West relations sink to an all-time low. After a hair raising showdown with the United States over the passage of Soviet arms shipments to Latin American client states, the Soviet leadership decides to strike back.

A plan is initiated to engineer another Berlin Crisis, in a calculated move to split NATO between hawks and doves, and thereby wreck the alliance. The Soviets stage the exposure of a bogus West German spy ring in East Berlin. Shortly thereafter, the Soviets claim that NATO has stockpiled huge numbers of tactical nuclear warheads in West Berlin, and an intensive propaganda campaign is launched to denounce this development. The Warsaw Pact issues a collective ultimatum, demanding West Berlin's return to East Germany.

NATO, however, proves surprisingly united in its rejection of the Warsaw Pact demand. The Soviets step up the pressure by putting the Warsaw Pact on full alert and initiating massive ground and sea maneuvers. NATO remains unmoved.

As matters come to a head, access routes to West Berlin are cut and Berlin is blockaded as an unseasonably harsh November settles in. Furious NATO diplomacy fails to obtain any respite, as the Soviet leadership has committed itself to recovering West Berlin to fully to back down. As an insurance measure, the Soviets quietly begin mobilizing Catagory II divisions.

Food and fuel begin to run short inside the beleaguered city. Unescorted West German transports trying to penetrate the blockade are repeatedly turned back by Warsaw Pact fighters. When an escorted flight is attempted, it is attacked. Only the immediate destruction of the attacking aircraft and the hasty retreat across the border prevent a general conflagration.

The Warsaw Pact military leadership now concludes that the political leadership has seriously overreached itself. The generals insist that either the blocked be abandoned or a pre-emptive strike authorized to break NATO's back before the western alliance is fully organized. Unwilling to bear the cost of another humiliating retreat, and secure in the knowledge that the Catagory II divisions of the Western Military Districts are combat ready, the Soviet leadership authorizes a pre-emptive strike, the goal of which is to roll the military frontier beyond the Ruhr. Preparing for this master stroke, a daring move is quickly planned and secretly executed; A Soviet Marine division is embarked aboard a disparate handful of ferries and liners. They depart for Copenhagen at a leisurely pace, unescorted and with nothing remiss visible above decks.

Meanwhile, unwilling to see Berlin starved into submission, NATO begins serious preparations to break the blockade by force. West Germany calls up selected reserve units; A NATO carrier task force forms in the north sea, along with a sizable marine amphibious group ready to respond to threats to Norway and Denmark. The USAF floods England and Germany with aircraft, the 9th Airforce being deployed to Germany within 24 hours, other wings arriving over the course of the next week.

NATO discovers the Catagory II divisions mobilizations as those units are sent towards Germany and begins full mobilization. Forty-eight hours later, the first Soviet Catagory II divisions roll into East Germany and the invasion is on.

Begins: November 24, 1984

Duration: 31 Turns

Turn Length: Full Day

Major Events:

1. If Pact forces get within 100km of the Ruhr region US reinforcements will arrive in Germany.
2. If Pact forces get within 100km of Salzburg there is an 85% chance that the Italian Bolzano Mtn XX will be dispatched to Austria within the next week.
3. If Pact forces get within 100km of Innsbruck there is a 70% chance that the Italian Vittorio Veneto XX will be dispatched to Austria within the next week.
4. If Pact forces get within 125km of Esbjerg, Denmark; United States Marines will be landed at Esbjerg.
5. From Turn 2 to Turn 10 there is a 75% chance that the Pact will have CW release.
6. If there is Pact CW release then NATO will have CW release the next turn.

7. From Turn 1 to Turn 6 there will be Refugees for the 10 hex area west of Hannover/Hamburg.
8. If Pact forces get within 100km of Munich there will be Refugees for the next 6 turns for the 10 hex area west of Munich to Stuttgart.
9. From Turn 15 on there is a 50% chance of a Cool Front.
10. Nuclear release option is possible, use at your own risk.

#### Unit Colors:

##### NATO

White & Green on Olive	US Army
Blue & White on Olive	USAF
Yellow & Red on Olive	USMC
Black & Lt Grey on Olive	USN
White & Green on Brown	Canada
Red & Blue on Brown	Royal Navy
Red & White on Brown	BAOR
White & Blue on Brown	RAF
White & Red on Lt Blue	Belgian
White & Lt Blue on Lt Blue	Luxembourg
Black & Lt Blue on Yellow	Dutch Army
Black & Yellow on Yellow	Dutch AF
Lt Grey & Black on Grey	Denmark
White & Black on Black	West Germany
Black & Tan on Grey	Austrian
Black & Green on Teal	Italian
Black & White on Blue	French Army
White & Blue on Blue	French Airforce
White & Black on Blue	French Navy
White & Blue on Green	NATO Bases

##### Warsaw Pact

Yellow & Maroon on Maroon	Soviet Army
White & Red on Maroon	Soviet Guards
White & Red on Maroon	Soviet SF
Field Grey & Grey on Maroon	Soviet Naval
White & Black on Field Grey	East German
Black & White on Red	Czech
Black & Lt Green on Tan	Hungarian
Red & Yellow on White	Polish

#### Changes in 2.1-

Altered NATO to use NATO flag v. USA

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