

# BATTLE STARSHIP

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE BARRAX EMPIRE!



# **SATIII-0845 PULSCOM BULLETIN**

## **IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION: ALERT STATUS 2.**

**To:** Squadron Commander/Battle Group V

**From:** GALAX LUNAR HQ

**Subject:** Hostage Situation

**Immediate Action:** All leaves cancelled. All pilots confined to base. Await orders.

**Date:** 01/08/2400

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INTEL reports that Commander Berry Mayers and Commander Lori Bergin are being held hostage by Barrax forces. Pulse-variable communications indicate that they were attacked by a Barrax Nova Cruiser at 3900 hours S.R.T. in the Karnus Sector, 671 988 4360.

The commanders were able to partially transmit a final message. Trace Lok analysis follows: "ability to..... invisible...limited.... time .....fast.t...acce..... brigg.ht.light..beaming us aboard...."

Shortly after the attack, Inter Trak scans identified a massive energy source in the same sector moving toward the planet Terrainia. It is believed that the hostages are being held in the inner recesses of that planet.

Mayers and Bergin were returning from a successful mission to Urania, the home planet of the Barrax Empire, and are in possession of information that is integral to the defense of Earth and the success of any future counteroffensive actions.

# SATIII-0845 PULSCOM BULLETIN

## EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION: ALERT STATUS 1

**To:** Squadron Commander/Battle Group V

**From:** GALAX LUNAR HQ

**Subject:** Mission Briefing

**Mission Code:** C61-178DE

**Date:** 01/09/2400

**Primary Objective:** Eliminate Barrax lifeforms from the planet's surface and subterranean emplacements. Proceed without delay and begin immediate rescue efforts of the hostages. It is imperative that we free commanders Mayers and Bergin before Barrax interrogators are able to break through their psychological defenses.

**INTEL Brief:** Barrax activities have escalated in the Terrainian region for the last 10 years. An analysis of transport patterns and laser scan results indicate that this planet is a major weapons research and development center for the Barrax Empire. It is highly probable that any offensive action will be met by genetically engineered, biological weapons technology never before encountered in this galaxy.

**INTEL Recommendation:** A large attacking force would prove counterproductive, due to the 100% probability that early warning Barrax defenses would be alerted. The only chance for a successful rescue mission (50% confidence level) is to send a small strike force comprised of one or two Delta II class cruisers with stealth capability.

## STARTING PLAY

### Loading Instructions

1. Turn on your computer and insert the Battle Squadron disk in your drive (label side up).
2. If your computer is already running, insert your Battle Squadron Disk and "Warm Boot" it by holding down the CTRL key and both Amiga keys at the same time.
3. If you wish to speed through the introduction sequence, press the mouse or joystick button when each new scene is displayed.

### Startup Options

**F1** Toggles between the mouse and joystick controller selected for Player 1. Player 1 is the active player in a single player game. Player 1 (silver) starts on the left side of the screen in a two player game.

**F2** Toggles between the mouse and joystick selection for Player 2. Player 2 (gold color) starts on the right side of the screen in a two player game.

**F3** Toggles the sound effects on or off. You can play the game without any sound, with only sound effects, with only music, or with both.

**F4** Toggles the music on and off.

**F5** Toggles between one and two player modes.

## GAME OPTIONS

### Two Player Mode

In two-player mode, each ship has full-scrolling mobility across the screen. It is not necessary for the player who starts on the left to remain on the left during battle. When missile upgrades or "smart bomb" capsules become visible (See Acquiring Weapons), only the first player to catch the capsule acquires the weapon. When you wish to enter a new level (see Changing Levels), both players must access the entry point simultaneously.

- **Team Combat** - In team combat, both players are working together to rescue commanders Mayer and Bergin from the Barrax Empire. You will have to keep track of your partners progress and difficulties, as well as your own, in order to succeed on this perilous mission. It is recommended that your team carefully collect the "Nova" missile capsules and ensure that neither player exhaust their supply.
- **Free-for-All Competition** - During free-for-all competition each player is trying to collect the most points. Proceed with caution at entry points to new levels, because both players must enter simultaneously.

### Single Player Mode

In single player mode, you won't encounter the same number of enemy air and ground emplacements as in two-player combat. You will be using the controller selected for Player 1 on the Setup Options screen. Nevertheless, it is a more difficult mission to complete as a single player.

## GAME PLAY

### Changing Levels

You can enter the subterranean levels on Terrainia by moving your ship onto the entry point identified by an "Enter Here" sign. Care must be exercised in two-player combat, because both players must simultaneously place their ship on the sign.

Each time you enter a new level, the number of enemies increases and new weapons will be fired at your ship. It is advisable to upgrade your weapons and collect additional "Nova" missiles before taking on the challenge of a new level.

### Acquiring Weapons

You will find it difficult to succeed on your mission using only the weapons supplied on your Delta1 Strike Cruiser. New weapons and upgrades can be acquired on Terrainia if your combat skills are up to the test (See Weapons Systems for details on weapons types). Previous engagements with Barrax fighters have led to the discovery that certain jettisoned Barrax weapons can be recovered for use by your spacecraft.

Once you have destroyed specific targets, you will notice a rectangular capsule moving back and forth on your computer display. Two different capsules have been identified:



This glowing capsule changes color at every turn. The weapon you acquire or upgrade is based on the color when you catch it. For example, if you have captured a "red" magtorp, you can upgrade the weapon by capturing another red capsule.



This capsule is released whenever you defeat a 4-member Barrax fleet. You automatically receive a "Nova" missile for capturing this one!

## GAME PLAY

### Joystick, Mouse and Keyboard Control

Your joystick or mouse can control the movement of your ship, the firing of particle beam weapons and the release of "Nova" smart bombs (See Startup Options).

- Your joystick/mouse controls the movement of your ship in eight different directions. Simply move the joystick in the direction you want your ship to move.
- To fire a laser or acquired weapon, press the joystick fire button or the left mouse button.
- To fire a "Nova" smart bomb, rotate the joystick lever in a counterclockwise direction while holding down the fire button. With a mouse, press the right button to fire your "Nova."
- To pause the game, press the "P" key.
- To restart, and play a new game, press "P" and "ESC."

### Game Play and Difficulty Options

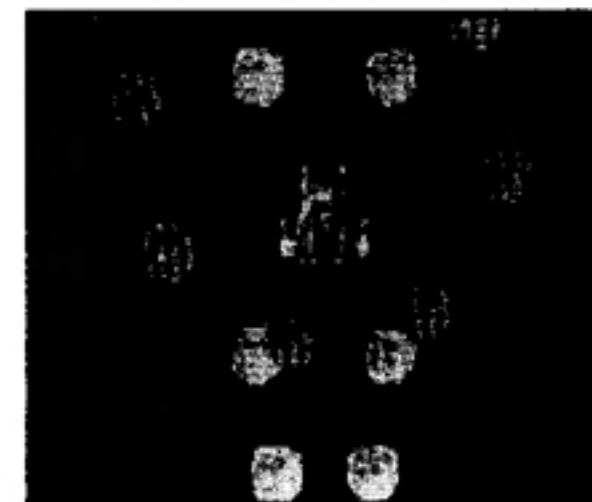
You can change specific game play features and change the difficulty of the game. Press the **Spacebar** when the initial options screen is displayed to access a submenu of options. Highlight your selection and press the joystick or mouse button to select the following:

- The number of lives you possess at startup.
- Your initial ready weapon.
- The maximum number of enemy bullets.
- The speed of enemy bullets and missiles.
- The time delay for enemy fire.

## WEAPONS SYSTEMS

You will discover 25 different weapons configurations in Battle Squadron. As you work your way through the various levels, you will find that certain weapons are best used in specific situations.

### "Nova" Smart Bombs



The "Nova" smart bomb is the only weapon that can help you out of the tightest jams. When you've been backed into a corner and destruction seems imminent, launch a "Nova" and you will destroy most of the enemies on your computer screen. Use the joystick or mouse to fire your "Nova"

in a specific direction.

You enter the fray armed with three smart bombs. Additional "Novas" can be acquired by catching the special capsule marked with an "M."

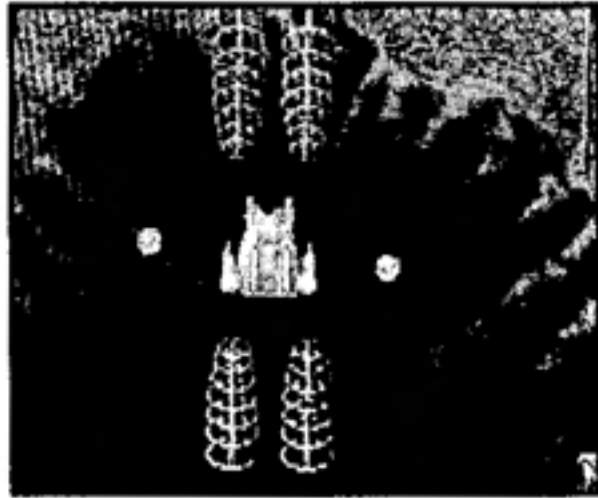
### Magnetic Torps (Red)



These balls of energy are absolutely devastating, but in the first versions you acquire, enemy ships can slip right through. There are six upgrades available and the last one cuts the widest swath through Barrax defenses.

# WEAPONS SYSTEMS

## Anti-Matter Particle Beam (Blue)



through the opposition.

This radiant blue beam weapon is deadly and accurate, and will fire with amazing rapidity. One of the upgrades is the only weapon in your repertoire that fires backward and forward at the same time. At one level, that's a distinct advantage. This weapon, however, cuts the narrowest path

## Magma Wave (Orange)



The swirling magma wave may provide the best combination of raw power, speed and accuracy. The width and duration of its "devastation zone" are amazing.

## Emerald Laser (Green)



gain an advantage over the enemy.

This laser sends the longest burst into space after a few upgrades and fires very quickly. Its upgrades are never very wide, but a single shot is enough to annihilate most enemies. The emerald laser is favored by "hot-shot" pilots who depend on decisive maneuvers and lightning reflexes to

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