

WARSAW PACT ON FULL ALERT OVER U.S. TROOP BUILD UP IN WEST GERMANY

October 6, 1985 The U.S. troop build up in West Germany in recent weeks was an unprecedented provocation and Moscow has put the Warsaw Pact forces on full alert to take any action deemed necessary, the Soviet Union's Foreign Minister said today.

Speaking on national television, he said the concentration of U.S. forces in West Germany posed a grave threat to Eastern Europe, but the Warsaw Pact was prepared to meet the challenge.

Western diplomats described the confrontation as the most serious since the Iron Curtain was drawn in Europe.

Washington had earlier warned Moscow that any interference with its vital supply routes to the Middle East would force massive retaliation.

The U.S. has been using military installations in European NATO countries, mainly West Germany, as a bridgehead for its forces fighting the Syrians in the Middle East. Thousands of troops and huge arms supplies have swelled West German U.S. bases.

The Syrian offensive in Jordan and Lebanon, started in August, has ground to a halt since American forces intervened on a massive scale in September.

Moscow has protested strongly against the intervention, but has so far supported Syria only with arms.

But ever since the three-pronged arms reduction negotia-

tions in Geneva broke down on May 28, tensions have mounted in Europe.

Relations within NATO came under considerable strain because the European partners felt the U.S. had been too uncompromising on the issue of the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), also known as the 'Star Wars' programme.

The Soviet Union walked out of the Geneva talks started on March 12 when the Americans refused to link negotiations on intercontinental weapons and intermediate range nuclear forces with the space bases defence system.

The European NATO partners still fear that the realisation of SDI

might lead to a decoupling of Western European and American defence interests despite assurances from Washington that the programme would not only shield the United States, but also its European allies.

But the deployment of 464 American Cruise Missiles and 108 Pershing-2 medium range missiles in Europe was nevertheless stepped up, albeit against strong internal opposition.

Belgium and the Netherlands agreed to deploy their contingent of Cruise missiles, a decision previously postponed pending the outcome of the Geneva talks.

Britain and Italy were ahead of their respective deployment schedules by the end of August, but internal strife over the issue cost both governments vital popular support.

Deployment of the 108 Pershing-2 medium range missiles in West Germany and of Cruise was also stepped up, but also led to a strong political polarisation within the country and to violent mass protests directed against U.S. bases.

The Bonn government has also been under attack from Eastern Europe for its alleged revanchist intentions.

The West German Chancellor failed to calm long-held suspicions in Eastern Europe that Bonn was seeking the reunification of the two Germany's within its 1937 borders at all costs, when he addressed a meeting of a Silesian exile organisation on June 14.

He said he hoped all Germans could one day live in freedom in a united country.

With Superpower relations at an all time low and the financially crippling arms race in full swing, the Eastern Bloc reacted with great sensitivity to the Chancellor's remarks.



SOVIET MOTORIZED INFANTRY APPROACHING BORDER—OCTOBER 5TH.

Moscow accused Washington of aiding and abetting Bonn's 'sinister' intentions and Western intelligence reported a massive build up of troops in Warsaw Pact front states. The number of Soviet SS-20 medium range missiles on Eastern German soil was doubled in the space of only three months.

The lack of real leadership in the Kremlin due to the illness of the Head of State since late last year, is seen by Western diplomats as a major cause for concern at this time of high tension.

Political analysts agree that the flaring up of the Middle East conflict was a welcome excuse for the U.S. President to boost the number of American troops in

Europe to counter the Warsaw Pact's threat.

They said social tensions in both East and West as a result of the threat of war was also putting governments under pressure to seek fast success in resolving the crisis.

'Reactions of the Superpowers and their allies to the present crisis in the European theatre have never been more difficult to predict than today', a British political analyst said gloomily.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCY, BONN

© MCMLXXXIV PSS

Wargaming For The Commodore 64

WARGAMERS SERIES

BATTLE FOR MIDWAY

DATE: 4th June 1982

PLACE: MIDWAY ISLAND

THE SCENARIO

Battle For Midway puts you in command of the US Pacific Fleet as you attempt to stop the Japanese from invading Hawaii.

The battle for Midway marked the turning point of the battle for the Pacific. If the Japanese are allowed to invade Midway Island, it would give them a stepping stone to attack Tokyo, Hawaii and then mainland United States, thus completely changing the whole outcome of World War II.

THE GAME

Battle For Midway is not a simple game. It has been designed for the person who enjoys a stimulating and challenging game. It is a tactical game that requires you to think and plan to ensure that whatever the outcome of the game - that is the way it could have happened.

The game is played on three levels. Firstly you are given a large scale map showing an overview of your forces. Secondly you have a detailed map showing details of those forces down to the last ship. Thirdly you are given a visual representation of the battle and your forces at every stage.

3 LEVEL GAME

Although complex it is easy enough for anyone to learn. It follows the fully detailed instructions, and has been incorporated a choice of three levels, depending on three different Japanese strategies, thus making it suitable for beginner or expert alike.

THE AUTHOR

Alan Steel is one of the original UK wargamers and has been involved in designing wargames for nearly twenty years.

Available on Cassette £9.95 Disk Version £12.95

ALSO AVAILABLE ON AMSTRAD

