



Preamble

Thank you for the opportunity to create another third-party campaign for DCS World. I'm excited to finally bring a campaign featuring one of my all-time favorite aircraft—the legendary F-4 Phantom.

This campaign presents a "Cold War Gone Hot" scenario, which is purely fictional. Any similarities to real-world events or individuals are entirely coincidental and not intentional. The campaign draws inspiration from the novels of Tom Clancy and my passion for the late Cold War era, where high-stakes aerial combat and geopolitical tensions defined an era of military aviation.

The mission design follows a semi-realistic approach. My goal is to deliver a smooth and engaging gameplay experience rather than strictly adhering to ultra-realistic procedures. The level of realism is up to you—whether you prefer a full startup checklist or a quick AutoStart, both options are available.

The missions follow a linear storyline but allow players flexibility in how they accomplish their objectives.

Each mission features a detailed and illustrated briefing within the game, eliminating the need for additional documentation on a second screen. However, if you prefer, you can find PDF briefings for all missions in the doc folder inside the DCS campaign directory.

A cheat menu is available in every mission, allowing you to enable invulnerability or manually complete mission tasks if needed.

To enhance immersion, the campaign includes over 1,500 voice-over radio transmissions, driving the narrative forward and making the experience feel alive. Additionally, cutscenes provide further insight into the unfolding conflict and its developments.

If you encounter any bugs or issues, feel free to report them on my Discord or in the official ED forums.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all the volunteers who helped to bring this campaign to life, including other third-party campaign developers who offered invaluable advice, the dedicated voice actors, and the committed beta testers who provided feedback and improvements.

Now, I hope you enjoy and have a great time with the Northern Defenders campaign!

Happy Landings.

Cyking

Join me on:

[DISCORD](#) – [YOUTUBE](#) - [INSTAGRAM](#)



Story Introduction

After the death of Leonid Brezhnev in **1982**, a power struggle began within the Communist Party. Many expected a member of the old guard to take over, but instead, the largely unknown hardliner and nationalist Mikhail Medvedev emerged as the new leader.



Medvedev, determined to secure Soviet dominance, devised a daring plan. He recognized the looming defeat of the Soviet Union in the arms race against NATO and the threat of internal collapse. Rather than submitting to the West, he believed a surprise conventional war against NATO was the key to achieving Soviet global dominance.





THE INTERNATIONAL TIMES

Medvedev Surprises
West with Push for
Nuclear Disarmament

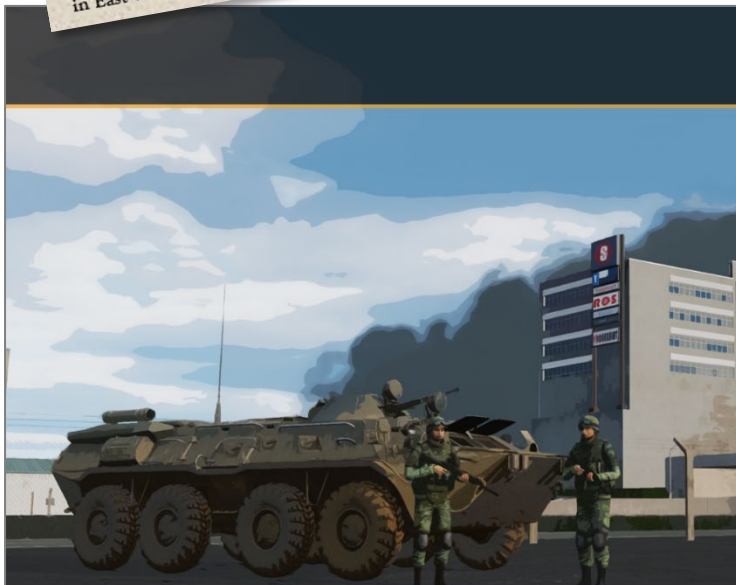
Moscow, May 1983 – In an unexpected move, Soviet leader Mikhail Medvedev has proposed sweeping nuclear disarmament talks, just weeks after taking office. His plan includes reducing strategic nuclear arsenals, limiting nuclear submarines, and completely banning tactical nuclear weapons. Additionally, Medvedev has revised the Soviet nuclear doctrine, stating that such weapons would only be used for defensive purposes.

Western diplomats, initially wary of Medvedev's intentions, are now optimistic. The announcement has sparked hopes of lasting détente between the Soviet Union and the West, with some Western nations even calling for reductions in military spending to focus more on social and educational programs, as the Soviet Union is seen as less of a threat under Medvedev's leadership.

The world watches eagerly, awaiting what could be a major turning point in East-West relations.

To execute his vision, Medvedev employed the strategy of maskirovka—the art of deception—with only a close circle of confidants aware of his ambitions. To keep NATO off guard, the Soviet Union pursued an ostensibly decisive course of nuclear disarmament. Treaties were signed, creating an illusion of détente while secretly freeing up resources for clandestine military projects.

The summer of 1984 brought unexpected developments. In Finland, chaos erupted as the Communist SKP party seized power with support from the KGB. Disorder and violence spread as democratic forces and segments of the Finnish military resisted the takeover.



THE INTERNATIONAL TIMES

SKP Seizes Power:
Communist Coup in
Finland

Helsinki, July 1984 – Finland's Communist Party (SKP), with support from Soviet intelligence, has taken control of the government in a sudden coup. Backed by the KGB, the new regime quickly declared its intent to align Finland with the Soviet Union and join the USSR.

However, not all Finns support the takeover. Resistance groups are forming, and parts of the military have refused to back the SKP government. Clashes have already been reported as opposition forces mobilize.

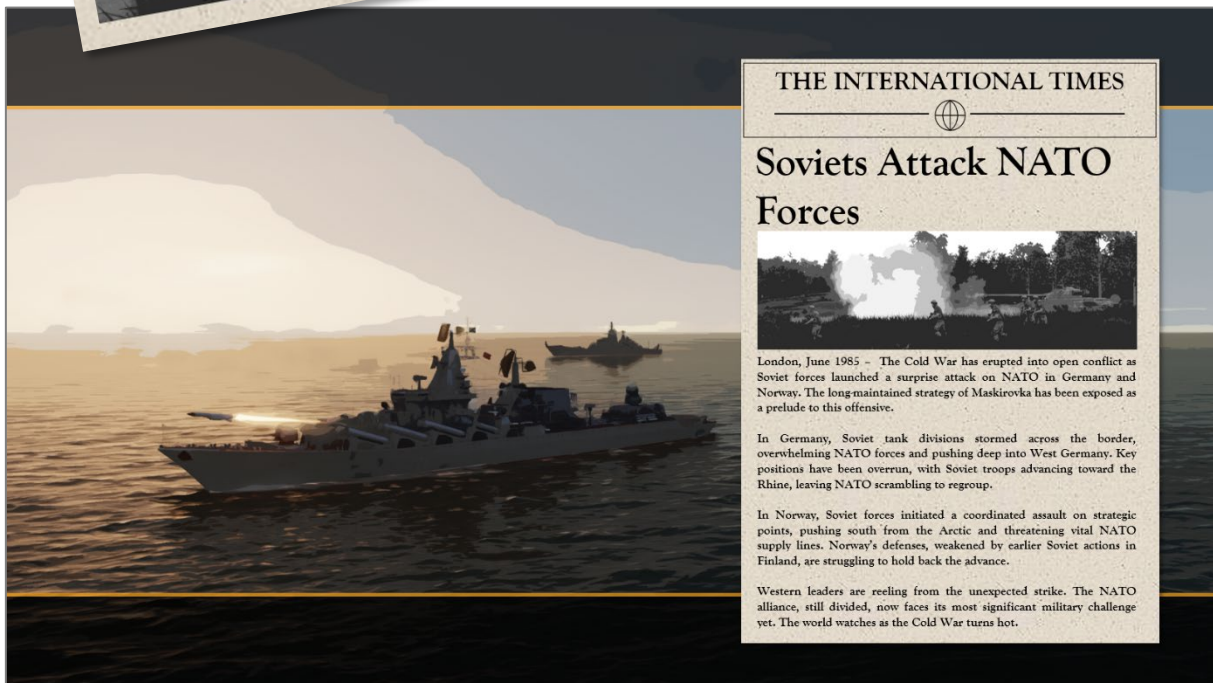
Western nations are closely monitoring the situation, fearing that Finland could become a new Cold War flashpoint in Northern Europe.





In response, the SKP called for Soviet assistance, prompting the deployment of Soviet troops to Finland. Sweden and Norway began supplying weapons to Finland's democratic resistance. NATO, caught off guard and paralyzed by the rapidly unfolding events, struggled to present a unified response.

In May 1985, the maskirovka was finally revealed. The Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact launched a large-scale offensive. Within days, West Germany was overrun, and NATO forces were pushed back deep into west Germany. The German Air Force was largely destroyed on the ground, with the few remaining aircraft retreating to Britain.





Medvedev viewed Scandinavia as the key to victory. If the Soviets could break through to the Atlantic, they could sever NATO's transatlantic supply lines, ultimately leading to NATO's collapse in Europe.

After weeks of chaos and heavy losses, NATO managed to regroup and hold the Soviets at the Rhine. Recognizing the Soviet strategy in Scandinavia, NATO began assembling a task force comprising ground, naval, and air units from across the alliance. The remnants of the German Air Force were hastily reorganized into new squadrons and assigned to this task force.



DCS



**NORTHERN
DEFENDERS**
PHANTOMS RISING

The fate of the free world now rests on the outcome in Scandinavia.

The Press has dubbed this task force...

NORTHERN DEFENDERS

