

## THE LATEST "AIR WAR" SCENARIO *by Mark Herman*

[xx.xx] Whose Air Space Is This? 0120 (EST), 19 August 1981

**General Situation:**

On 19 August 1981, while the US Sixth Fleet was conducting maneuvers in the Mediterranean, two Libyan Su-22 fighters scrambled from an airfield near Benghazi to intercept two US F-14 fighters from VF-41, which is based on the USS Nimitz. The US aircraft were heading south while the Libyan aircraft headed north. The dispute was over the Libyan claim that their territorial rights extended into the Gulf of Sidra for over 200 miles as opposed to the US claim of 3 miles. The US fighters were intercepted 47 miles north of the Libyan coastline.

**Map Arrangement:**

North

- A
- D
- C
- D
- E
- F
- G
- H

| Egyptian                   | Plane # 1           | Plane # 2           |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Aircraft types:</b>     | <i>Su-22</i>        | <i>Su-22</i>        |
| <b>Movement Allowance:</b> | <i>6</i>            | <i>6</i>            |
| <b>Throttle Setting:</b>   | <i>6</i>            | <i>6</i>            |
| <b>Energy Points:</b>      | <i>0</i>            | <i>0</i>            |
| <b>Wings:</b>              | <i>Level</i>        | <i>Level</i>        |
| <b>Dive/Climb:</b>         | <i>Level Flight</i> | <i>Level Flight</i> |
| <b>Missiles:</b>           | <i>4 Atol</i>       | <i>4 Atol</i>       |
| <b>Hexes:</b>              | <i>H0816</i>        | <i>H1017</i>        |
| <b>Altitude:</b>           | <i>78</i>           | <i>78</i>           |
| <b>Heading:</b>            | <i>Due N</i>        | <i>Due N</i>        |

*Note: (use the Su 7B table and 1 from all turn modes)*

| USAF                        | Plane # 1           | Plane #2            |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Aircraft types:</b>      | <i>F-14</i>         | <i>F-14</i>         |
| <b>Movement Allowance:</b>  | <i>8</i>            | <i>8</i>            |
| <b>Throttle Setting:</b>    | <i>8</i>            | <i>8</i>            |
| <b>Energy Points:</b>       | <i>0</i>            | <i>0</i>            |
| <b>Acceleration Points:</b> | <i>0</i>            | <i>0</i>            |
| <b>Wings:</b>               | <i>Level</i>        | <i>Level</i>        |
| <b>Dive/Climb:</b>          | <i>Level Flight</i> | <i>Level Flight</i> |
| <b>Missiles:</b>            | <i>4 AIM-9L's</i>   | <i>4 AIM-9Ls</i>    |
| <b>Missiles:</b>            | <i>6 Sparrow</i>    | <i>6 Sparrow</i>    |
| <b>Hexes:</b>               | <i>A0201</i>        | <i>A1502</i>        |
| <b>Altitude:</b>            | <i>80</i>           | <i>80</i>           |
| <b>Heading:</b>             | <i>Due S</i>        | <i>Due S</i>        |

**Historical Notes:** The four aircraft closed at full speed, and when the aircraft were approximately 1,000 feet apart (4 hexes), the Libyan jets fired one Atoll missile and split. The US F-14's banked hard and came up

behind the Su-22's and immediately fired one AIM-9L each; the missiles destroyed the Su-22's. One parachute was seen to open. The last thing the Libyans probably saw was...

