

CONDOR!
An Optional Rule for Wolfpack!

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Before the war, the Condor was a commercial airliner. During World War II, the four-engined FW200 Condor was used successfully by the Germans in the years 1940 and 1941; It accounted for over 25% of the Allied shipping lost to air attack and over 16% of the U-boat total.

The Condor had great range and set several speed-distance records. This aircraft was ordered by Denmark, Finland, and Brazil. Japan expressed interest in a sea-patrol version of the Condor.

War broke out before the deliveries were made, however, and the Condors were put to use by the Luftwaffe. Although Condors were available to the Luftwaffe in late 1939, they were not employed in air operations until April of 1940. Based in Denmark, the

Condors helped maintain supply of German forces at Narvik. New bases became available in France and Norway after the conquests of these countries. British convoys, vulnerable to air attack, proved easy prey for the Condors in the fall of 1940.

Reconnaissance was another role the Condor was well suited for. After sighting the Allied convoy they would radio back information disclosing the location of the ships. Positional errors were great, however, and the Kriegsmarine lost confidence in the airplanes. The Condors could not deal with escort carriers and their planes. So, combined with decreasing numbers of aircraft available, poor serviceability, and mounting opposition, the Condors were relegated to serve as transports.

The following rule assumes the Condors had been produced on a wider scale and had been provided adequate parts and supplies for servicing.

CONDOR PARTICIPATION:

The Germans receive four aircraft counters in all scenarios. These counters (representing Condors) have a range of 20 hexes. They may be based in any hex in Norway and/or France. They may not overfly Britain or Ireland. These aircraft may be used to search for convoys in the same manner as Allied aircraft search for U-Boats.

They may attack convoys (one attack factor per counter) using the same CRT as the U-boats use. They execute their search and combat immediately following the Allied air phase.

It will be necessary to follow the path of storms until they leave the board via the east edge. A shortage of storm counters may develop and I suggest the use of coins as substitute counters. The Condors, like Allied aircraft, are grounded by storms.