

TAC NEWS

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A DARFUR SCENARIO

"BETWEEN TWO FIRES!" - 18 APRIL 2005

El Geneina, in Geneina Province is the capital of West Darfur. Its location, near Sudan's frontier with Chad, makes it a logical place for Black African refugees to congregate. It also possesses a commercial airport capable of handling large military aircraft. As a consequence, three refugee camps are located there, housing more than 30,000



"Internally Displaced Persons" (IDPs). Conditions are harsh by western standards. Food, safe drinking water, shelter, and medicine are scarce but, at least, available. A British "M.A.S.H." unit has been stationed there since 1 January 2005 at the "El Geneina I" camp. This fact has made it even more attractive as a way-station for Darfuris seeking to escape the attentions of Khartoum supported "Janjaweed" militia. To provide local security and maintain order, this medical unit was assigned a company of the US 82nd Airborne Division on 1 April.

During the second week in April, rumors in the marketplaces had been spreading of a large force of Janjaweed and Sudanese

government troops operating between El Geneina and Wadi Howar to the north. If

these troops could close down the El Geneina Airport, the three camps there would also be forced to close down, the nearest rail line being over two hundred miles away at Nyala. The result would be disastrous for the refugees. The local branch of the "Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army" (SPLA) was determined that this must not happen!

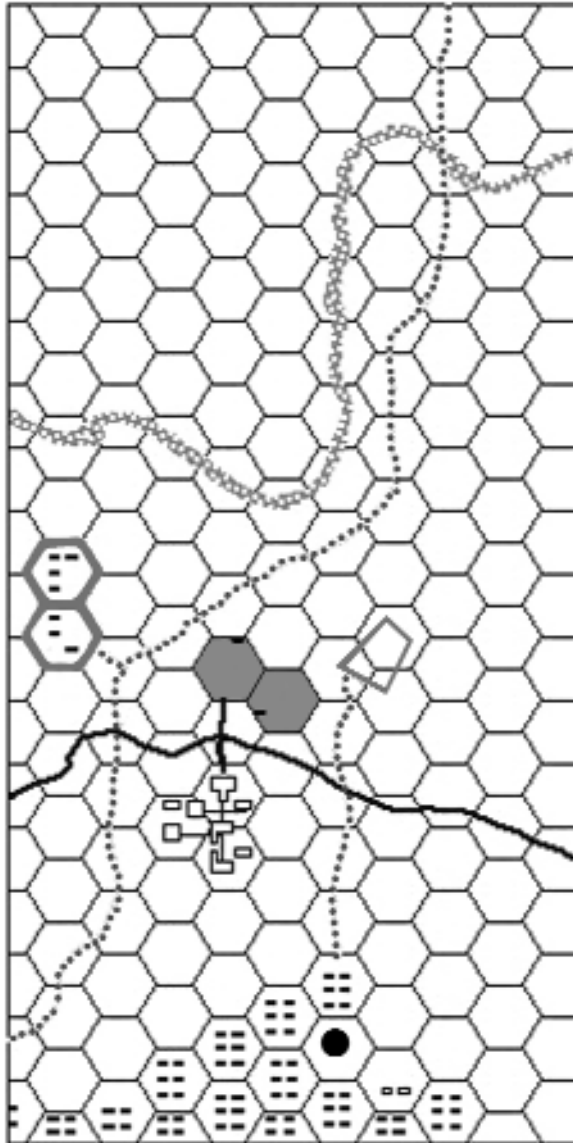
On the morning of 18 April, large dust clouds were observed along the dirt road from Miski in North Darfur. Hundreds of local villagers, carrying what few belongings they had left and driving their skinny cattle before them, spilled into El Geneina from the same direction. When questioned, they pointed north and repeated, "Janjaweed!" (Gunmen). The camp erupted into activity. The SPLA garrison rushed out to meet the raiders, the US paratroopers and British "medics" readied their weapons, placing themselves between the terrified refugees and the raiding party. Their position was remarkably similar to that of the ham in a very bad ham sandwich!






MICRO ARMOUR®: THE GAME

TACNEWS Scenario # 16

El Geneina 18 April 2005



-  = Refugee Tent Area (Rough Terrain 1)
-  = Water Tank (Heavy Building)
-  = Medical Compound (Light Buildings)
-  = Wadi Al-Hadj (Rough Terrain 2)
-  = Geneina / Misky Road (Track)
-  = Geneina / Nyala Road (Good Road)
-  = Thorn Cattle Pen (Barbed Wire)
-  = SLA Compound (Clear)
-  = Clear Terrain (Clear)
-  = Helo Landing Zone (Good Road)

- 1) The Battlefield measures 36" x 72". Each hexagon is 4" x 4.6".
- 2) The Geneina / Misky Road crosses Wadi Al-Hadj via a "ford".
- 3) At the first sign of danger, the refugees drove their cattle out of the pen or "kraal". It is empty.



MICRO ARMOUR®: THE GAME

TACNEWS Scenario # 16

US / UK / GUERRILLA FORCES 82nd AIRBORNE	Generation IV Cohesion 18
Co "F" / 2nd Battalion / 503rd Para-Infantry Regiment: <i>Deploy within the limits of the Helicopter "LZ".</i> [Break Point: 32]	
4 x <u>TL4</u> Infantry(A) 1 x M996(998)/TOWIIB 2 x M1114/LMG 2 x UH-60A	

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS	Generation IV Cohesion 16
9 Company(-)/ Royal Army Medical Corps: <i>Deploy within the limits of the "Medical Compound".</i> [Break Point: 17]	
4 x <u>TL4</u> Infantry(R) 3 x "TUM" Medium Truck 2 x Land Rover 110/LMG	

SUDANESE PEOPLES LIBERATION ARMY (SPLA)	Generation IV Cohesion 18
SPLA Guerilla Column: <i>Deploy within the limits of the "SPLA Compound".</i> [Break Point: 29]	
1 x <u>TL2</u> Infantry(R) HQ/BTR-60/PB 1 x ZPU-23/2 (SP) 1 x BMP-2/AT-3 8 x <u>TL2</u> Infantry(R)	

US/UK/SPLA Victory: Force BOTH the Sudanese Army AND "Janjaweed" Militia columns beyond their respective break points before the end of turn 16.

SUDANESE ARMY / MUSLIM MILITIA FORCES 2nd ARMORED BRIGADE	Generation II Cohesion 14
Sudanese "Brigade" Column(-): <i>Enter the North edge of the map, by road, on turn one.</i> [Break Point: 67]	
1 x <u>TL2</u> Infantry(B) GHQ+0/BTR-50 5 x T54/55 13 x <u>TL2</u> Infantry(R)/BTR-152 2 x ZPU-23/2 (SP) 3 x V-150	

"JANJAWEED" MILITIA	Generation II Cohesion 13
Militia "Battalion" Column: <i>Enter the North edge of the map on turn one (1).</i> [Break Point: 28]	
1 x <u>TL1</u> Infantry(B)/Truck, 5 x <u>TL1</u> Infantry(C)/Toyota "Crew Cab", 14 x <u>TL1</u> Horse Cavalry(B)	
Sudan Army/Militia Victory: Exit fifteen (15) or more "armed" stands, by road, off the <u>west</u> edge of the map AND exit eight (8) "armed" stands off the <u>south</u> edge of the map by the end of turn 16.	

scenario length: 16 turns

terrain: "Open"
(Maximum sighting distance is 36 inches).

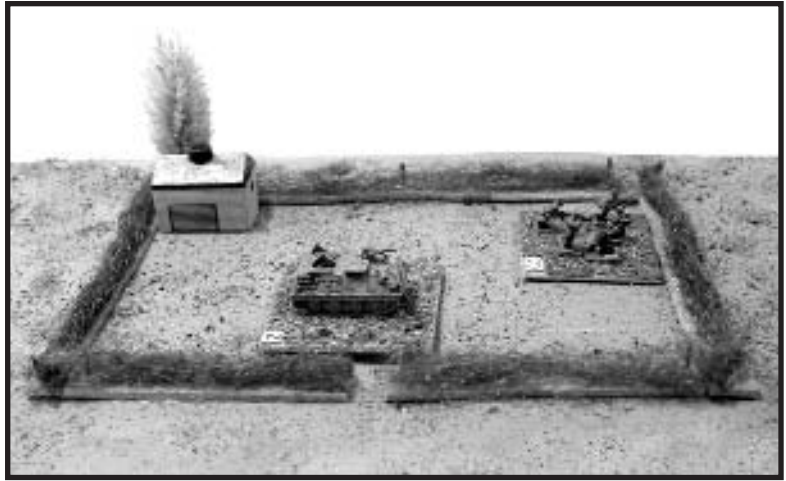
special rules:

- 1) No Sudanese Army stand may exceed Tech Level 2, regardless of its actual Tech Level.
- 2) No Militia stand may exceed Tech-Level 1, regardless of its actual Tech Level.
- 3) No SPLA guerilla stand may exceed Tech Level 2, regardless of its actual Tech Level.
- 4) UK stands are not actually "Type (R) stands. They simply use Type (R) stats. (They are non-combat "medics").

CREATING "EL GENEINA" SCENERY

1. Thorn Walled "Kraal"

The "Kraal" was made by using painted brass wire to represent vertical pipes and draping fine "steel wool" over them. After several attempts at painting the steel wool, I simply dull coated it. Every color photo I've ever seen of such enclosures shows the dry thorn branches as black or very dark brown and slightly glossy. For bases, I



used thin strips of vinyl floor tile painted "dry earth yellow". I drilled holes into this for the posts, then glued the steel wool in place over these. After a little "teasing" and trimming, the "wool" looked very realistic. The strips were then glued down to a painted and terrained sheet of thin card to form the enclosure. (and so it could be reused). A "tree" made from a bit of real vegetation and a hotel from a derelict "Monopoly" game completed the picture.

2. Refugee Tents

These were made by covering wooden "plugs" of various sizes, used to cover counter-sunk screw heads with aluminum foil and painting them a light "canvas" color. A little dry-brushing to add touches of dirt and they were done. I used aluminum foil because it retains wrinkles and creases and looks more realistic than a smooth surface.

