

RESTRICTED



COMBAT MANUAL

ELITE UNIT TACTICAL INFORMATION

EPYX®



LOADING INSTRUCTIONS

CBM 64/128 Cassette

Press **SHIFT** and **RUN/STOP** keys together. Press **PLAY** on the cassette recorder.

CBM 64/128 Disk

Type **LOAD""**,**8,1** and press **RETURN**. The game will load and run automatically. Follow on-screen prompts.

SPECTRUM 48/128K, +2 Cassette

Type **LOAD""** and press **PLAY** on the cassette recorder. The game will load and run automatically.

AMSTRAD CPC Cassette

Press **CTRL** and small **ENTER** keys simultaneously. Press **PLAY** on the cassette recorder.

AMSTRAD CPC Disk

Type **RUN"DISK** and press **ENTER**. The game will load and run automatically. Follow on-screen prompts.

ATARI ST/CBM AMIGA Disk

Insert disk and switch on computer. The game will load and run automatically. Follow on-screen prompts.

VIRUSWARNING: Please note – to avoid 'infection', power off your system for 30 seconds before loading.

IBM PC

Boot in DOS. At the A> prompt, type **STRIKE** and press **ENTER**. Use this command alone for gameplay in EGA or Tandy graphics mode. To set other gameplay features, add the following suffixes to the command: **c** – CGA graphics mode, **j** – joystick control, **so** – game sounds off or **sl** – jet sounds off, all other sounds on. For example, to play in CGA mode with a joystick and game sounds off, type **STRIKE c j so**. Be sure to insert a space between suffixes.

When the title screen appears, press **SPACEBAR** or **FIRE**. Follow on-screen prompts. Highlight your choices by pressing the **ARROW** keys or moving the joystick. Press **SPACEBAR** or **FIRE** to select an item.

During play, press **S** for a three-way toggle between full game sound, jet sound or game sound off. Press **J** to toggle between joystick and keyboard control during play.

HARD DISK INSTALLATION

1. At the prompt, type **C:** and press **ENTER**. Type **cd/** and press **ENTER**.
2. Insert disk A.
3. Type **mkdir strike** and press **ENTER** to create a directory named **STRIKE**.
4. Type **cd strike** and press **ENTER** to get into a new directory.
5. Type **copy a:*.*** and press **ENTER** to copy the disk into the new directory.

To Play Game From Hard Disks

Follow instructions 1, 2 and 4 then type **strike** and press **ENTER**. Use suffixes to the command as in the floppy disk loading instructions.

NOTE: While playing SNOW STRIKE from a hard disk, you must keep the original SNOW STRIKE floppy disk in drive A.

THE F14-LCB COSMOS



NATO designation:
F14-LCB COSMOS

Nickname:
Rapier.

Country of Origin:
United States of America.

Type:
Twin-engine, two-seat, land or carrier based multi-role supersonic fighter plane.

Primary Function:
Attack and destroy multiple targets, both surface and airborne, in all weather conditions, during light and dark hours.

Power Plant:
2 Pratt & Whitney TF30-R-418A two-shaft afterburning turbofans.

Thrust:
32,000 pounds each engine with afterburner.

Performance:
Speed: 1,346 mph (Mach 2.04).
Climb: over 30,000 ft/min at normal gross weight.
Ceiling: above 65,000 feet.
Combat Radius: 857 miles.

Dimensions:

Length: 62 ft. 8 ins.
Height: 16 ft.
Wing area: 565 sq. ft.
Wing span: 38 ft. 2 ins. (68" sweep)
64 ft. 1½ ins. (20" sweep).

Weight:

Unarmed: 22,104 pounds.
Armed: 30,539 pounds.

Armament:

One 20mm M61-A1 Vulcan multi-barrel cannon with 60 rounds.
12 MOS (Missile Optics System) Harpy air-to-air missiles.
6 MOS Fury air-to-surface (ATS) missiles.
9 metallic foil chaff canisters.
9 magnesium flares.

Crew:

Two (pilot and co-pilot).

History:

First flight: 21 December 1997.
Initial take-off from US Navy carrier: 27 October, 1998.

BACKGROUND

DATELINE JAN. 1997: In America the new President has just been elected. His prime issue is to push congress into declaring war on the South American drug lords.

DATELINE FEB. 1998: Congress refuses to declare war on the South American drug lords. The President, as commander-in-chief, decides to send the troops in. The Americans' secret weapon is the new state-of-the-art F14-LCB Cosmos, nicknamed Rapier, specifically designed for this mission.

The versatility and power of this aircraft could effectively destroy the major drug installations, as well as transportation routes.

DATELINE APRIL 1999: After the authorization of Operation Snow Strike, an initial squadron of F14-LCB Cosmos jets arrive on the USS Epyx. The pressure is now on, and the stakes are high. Can you handle the pressure and complete the mission? There is only one way to find out. We wish you luck with your mission.

PRE-FLIGHT PREP

PILOT I.D.

At the Master Control Console, press **FIRE**, **ENTER** or **RETURN**.

Enter Pilot's Name:

On the next screen, type your name, press **ENTER** or **RETURN**, type your code name and press **ENTER** or **RETURN** again. Security access is granted unless you used the name and code name of a pilot already on the roster who was killed in action (KIA).

Select from Roster:

Select this option to fly as an experienced pilot. Select Scan to view records. When the desired pilot is on view, highlight Select and press **SPACEBAR** or **FIRE**. Security access is not granted if pilot is KIA. (Select Back for previous menu.)

Shred All Records:

Delete all pilots from roster.

MISSION SELECTION

There are ten separate missions, divided into two sets: Carrier-based missions flown over water or land-based missions, that require drug field identification. Choose carrier or land base then select a mission.

Carrier-Based Missions

- Free Flight. (Training)
- Sink Enemy Aircraft Carrier.
- Destroy Drug Transport Ships.
- Terminate Enemy Oil Supply.
- Stop Drug Convoy Ships.

Land-Based Missions

- Free Flight. (Training)
- Destroy Drug Laboratory.
- Bomb Cocaine Refinery.
- Demolish Drug Warehouse.
- Terminate Drug Transport.

SKILL AND WEATHER

Select your skill level ranging from:

Beginner (few enemy attacks) to **Expert** (most dangerous) level, and weather ranging from clear to stormy.

VOLUNTEERING A CO-PILOT

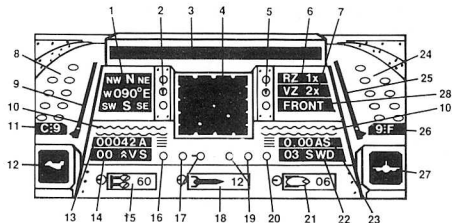
One of six co-pilots assist you on the mission. Select Review (to look at his photo and see his file) or Choose (to assign him to your mission).

Experienced pilots have the opportunity to review medals status. Select Yes to view. Press **FIRE** or **SPACEBAR** to begin your mission.

FLYING

Each mission begins with take-off, either from a runway or carrier flight deck. The control deck lights, next to the switches, tell you whether or not the switch is functional. In general, when a light is lit its switch is in operational condition.

The Control Deck



THE CONTROL DECK

As an ace pilot, you spend most of your time at the Rapier's control deck. The instruments description follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Heading | 15. Cannon Rounds Count |
| 2. Radar Switch Mode (CBM & IBM only) | 16. Stall Warning Light |
| 3. Co-pilot Message | 17. Ground Brakes |
| 4. Radar Screen | 18. Harpy Air-to-Air Missile Count |
| 5. Landing Gear | 19. Air Brakes |
| 6. Radar Zoom | 20. ON GROUND INDICATOR |
| 7. Visual Zoom | 21. Fury Air-to-Surface (ATS) Missile Count |
| 8. Oxygen Gauge | 22. Wind Gauge |
| 9. Oxygen Consumption Meter | 23. Air Speed Indicator |
| 10. Damage Indicator | 24. Fuel Gauge |
| 11. Chaff Count | 25. Throttle Setting |
| 12. Pitch Indicator | 26. Flare Count |
| 13. Altimeter | 27. Bank Indicator |
| 14. Vertical Speed Indicator | |

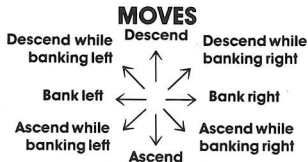
The on-screen locations of the above may vary slightly due to machine limitations.

TAKE-OFF

To begin take-off, release your ground brakes and open the throttle to full power. When the plane begins its run, pull back on the joystick then release it. This puts the aircraft's nose up for the ascent. When you have built up enough speed, you will take off. Retract the landing gear and reduce air speed by powering down the throttle. Now you're flying free.

AIRBORNE

Once airborne, control your pitch and bank by tapping the keys or joystick (or mouse for ST and Amiga).



Your pitch and bank indicators display your position. (The pitch indicator always shows your craft right side up).

Throttle settings affect manoeuvring. Air brakes increase drag during turns.

At any time during Free Flight you can save your current situation to RAM (except 48K Spectrum, 64K Amstrad). You can then retrieve a saved situation to practice it. Practice take-offs, landings, air attacks, escape and decoy manoeuvres and ground identification runs before you meet these situations in a combat mode.

SURVEILLANCE

Amiga, IBM and Atari ST Users please note:

Toggle view (forward/backwards) using **V**. Toggle camera (or full screen) cockpit using **N**. You cannot use weapons while on camera.

Your surface radar sweeps an area of approximately 400 square miles. The Rapier is always in the centre of the radar screen. (*IBM, Atari ST and Amiga Users: Allied bases are green. Enemy targets are red.*)

NOTE: In combat surface radar automatically switches to air radar and the radar zoom disappears.

Press **R** again to return to automatic radar control. On a bomb run press **R** to ignore air combat.

ENGAGE!

When enemy aircraft approach and fire, you'll hear tones warning you of this. The more tones, the faster your attacker is. Learn to identify attackers by their tones. Decoy evasion: chaff for radar-guided missiles, flares for heat-seeking missiles.

Tones:	Attackers:
Eight	MiG-31 Foxhound, armed with radar-guided missiles.
Six	MiG-29 Fulcrum, armed with radar-guided missiles.
Four	Su-27 Flanker, armed with heat-seeking missiles.
Two	MiG-27 Flogger, armed with heat-seeking missiles.

Ready an air-to-air missile. A diamond-shaped HUD (head-up display) appears. When the enemy craft is in firing range, a crosshair is superimposed on it. Manoeuvre to place the crosshair in the diamond. When you succeed, the diamond changes and you hear a tone indicating that your missile is locked on the target.

NOTE: You can only lock on to a target when your visual zoom is set to 1x.

If the enemy fires a missile, a tone sounds and the missile shows up on your radar. Arm your cannon, centre the missile in the diamond sight (you won't get a lock-on tone), and press **FIRE**. You can also shoot down enemy aircraft with the cannon (which gives you a lock-on tone).

To fire on a surface target, ready an air-to-surface missile and follow the same procedure as for other targets.

LANDING

You'll find approach directions for an airfield or carrier in the Control Room under Global Status (see **Flying a Mission**). Follow the directions to fly to the landing site. You can land safely only in a designated landing zone.

To land, manoeuvre for a long, low approach, at about 500 feet. Landing in high winds will be difficult. Stay alert for enemy jets or missiles.

When the dotted line appears on the runway, reduce throttle to 3 and descend to 100 feet, and lower your landing gear. Aim for the near end of the runway. At about 30 feet, apply your air brakes. (Your chances of stalling at low throttle increases). Just before touchdown, raise the nose slightly. On touch down, close the throttle and apply the air and ground brakes.

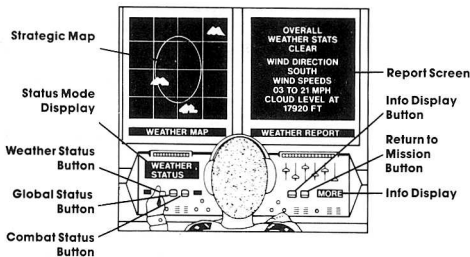
After landing, use the control keys to refuel, reload, repair and reset your aircraft on the runway. You may take off again to complete your mission.

If you've completed your mission and landed on the same airstrip or carrier deck that you took off from, use the control keys to log in the completion of your mission and see the Pilot's Records.

FLYING A MISSION

In carrier and land-based missions, your objectives are to destroy enemy aircraft and surface targets. In land-based missions you must also find and identify drug fields. Before take-off, contact the Control Room for a briefing (your mission pauses while you're in the Control Room).

THE CONTROL ROOM



Move the Flight Deck Officer's hand over the buttons on the control panel. The buttons on the FDO's left display these reports (identified in the Status Mode Display):

Weather Status: Describes the weather in all sectors.

Global Status: Shows Allied bases, enemy targets, landing directions and other strategic information.

Combat Status: Details your performance so far in the mission.

Press the Weather button, which is the right hand button closest to the FDO. The Info Display will read "More". Press **SPACEBAR** or **FIRE** to get detailed information on the Report Screen about any sectors that have less than ideal weather. The cloud in the sector of interest flashes as an additional cue. Press **SPACEBAR** or **FIRE** repeatedly for information on all bad weather sectors, then on all clear sectors.

Press the Global Status button and the Report Screen will display the following information about your aircraft:

Jet Damage where 0% is optimum condition.

Elapsed Time since the mission began at take-off.

Drug Fields Suspected by HQ.

Drug Fields Identified by you during your mission.

Press the More button to see the complete Global Status report. Allied bases are described along with runway, height, and the direction you should approach from in order to land. Enemy targets are named along with the number of missile hits it takes to destroy them. Items in the sector of interest flash as additional cues. Press the Combat Status button to receive a combat report.

Enemy Jets: How many planes have attacked you and numbers destroyed.

ATS Missiles: The number of air-to-surface missiles fired and number of direct hits.

Surface Targets: The number of surface targets present, and the number destroyed.

Press the More button to see the complete Combat Status report. For each enemy squadron in the area you'll see the squadron number, the number of aircraft and the total number of enemy aircraft in the area (all squadrons). The squadron in the sector of interest flashes.

When you have finished your briefing, move the FDO's hand to the far right (the Info Display reads "Done") and press **SPACEBAR** or **FIRE**. You'll return to your cockpit.

YOUR ORDERS

Use the Control Room and your Surface Radar to find enemy surface targets. Fly out and destroy them with your ATS missiles. You may be intercepted by enemy aircraft on the way.

For all missions, your orders are to destroy the designated targets. Labs, refineries and warehouses all contain drugs at some stage of production. Convoys are moving drugs to points of sale. Enemy carriers hold aircraft and troops. Oil rigs produce raw materials to feed the war effort. Any target could also hide a strategic enemy HQ or radar listening post. Your all-out search-and-destroy effort is vital to the success of Snow Strike.

While on land-based missions, you also have to find and identify drug fields for HQ. Drug fields look like large rectangles of dark brown or black. To identify one, fly over it at under 100 feet. When directly over it, press **I** to begin the I.D. process. Maintain an altitude of less than 100 feet until the field is 100 per cent identified. Your co-pilot will tell you when identification is complete.

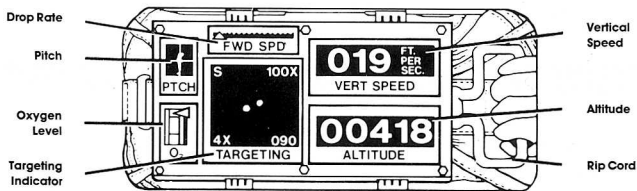
Identified drug fields show up in the Control Room on the Global Status map.

Your mission is complete only when you have destroyed all enemy surface targets in the area and identified all drug fields. Finally, you must return to your base by landing your Rapier on the same runway or carrier deck from which you started.

EJECT!

If your plane catches fire or runs out of fuel or oxygen while in flight, attempt to save yourself by ejecting. On your chest is an instrument packet with information about your descent (after ejecting **Shift E**).

INSTRUMENT PACKET



You can only survive the elements for a short time, so try to land quickly. Wait as long as possible before pulling the rip cord.

Your second priority is to land where you'll be rescued the quickest. Watch your targeting indicator. The circle in the centre is the point you are directly above. The dot in the circle shows the direction you're facing. The other dot shows the point where you ejected.

Aim for an Allied base. If none are nearby, attempt to land directly below your ejection point. This is the point of your last radio contact, where the search and rescue team will begin looking.

During free fall, turn to face your target drop zone. Monitor the pitch of your body by watching the Pitch display. Leaning forward increases your drop rate (shown on your instrument packet). Leaning back reduces your rate of falling. When the profile in the Pitch display is yellow free fall descent is at minimum. If the profile is red, you're accelerating forward. If the profile is green, you have no forward acceleration.

Check your Oxygen Gauge. If the arrow reaches the bottom, you suffocate.

After your canopy opens, your speed is reduced and you begin controlling the parachute in the same way as you controlled your body during free fall. Keep your target landing point in the centre of the targeting circle.

The **upper left corner** shows the direction of the wind. Facing into the wind helps you to stay on target. Adjust your forward speed to compensate for the head wind. The direction letter flashes red when you are hit with a gust of wind.

The **lower left corner** shows the magnification factor of your Targeting Indicator.

The **upper right corner** shows your condition (100% is perfect health).

The **lower right corner** shows your heading in degrees.

A tone sounds when you're directly below your ejection point or directly over a friendly base. Set your magnification at 4x so you can fine-tune your trajectory. As you near the water or ground, watch your drop rate. If it's too high (16ft/sec or more), you won't survive the landing.

After you land HQ will give you a report on your rescue and recovery. Rescue time depends on your distance from the landing target.

Your recovery time depends on how hard you landed. Press **SPACEBAR** or **FIRE** to continue. You are taken directly to a new Rapier (on the nearest runway so you can complete your mission).

PILOT RECORDS

If you are viewing your pilot records involuntarily because you were killed in action, you will first be taken to the funeral services. If you wish to, press **SPACEBAR** (IBM only) or **FIRE** to continue.

Your pilot record keeps track of your current and overall mission accomplishments, giving the following information:

Pilot: Your name.

Rank: Your rank.

Elapsed Time: How long it took you to complete the mission.

Average Time: The average time it takes to complete the mission.

Mission High Score: The high score to date for this mission.

Mission Multiplier: A multiplier that increases the scores in the other categories.

Mission Success: Points awarded for a successful mission.

Time Efficiency: Points awarded when you complete a mission successfully in less than the average time.

Fighter Points: Points awarded based on the number of enemy aircraft destroyed compared to the number encountered.

Target Points: Points awarded based on the number of surface targets destroyed and drug fields identified (compared to the total number of targets and drug fields).

Strike Accuracy: Points awarded based on the number of ATS missiles fired compared to the number of targets hit.

Pilot Safety: Points awarded based on the number of F14-LCBs lost by ejecting. The fewer jets lost, the more points earned.

Total: Total points awarded.

An X appearing next to a point score means you've been awarded a medal based on your performance in that area. X's also appear next to new promotions and high scores.

NOTE: in Free Flight missions, only fighter points and target points are awarded.

Promotions are based on total scores, as follows: **Ranks** and **Points Needed**.

General 18,000 and up, Lt. General 16,000 to 17,999, Major General 14,000 to 15,999, Brigadier General 12,000 to 13,999, Colonel 10,000 to 11,999, Lt. Colonel 8,000 to 9,999, Major 6,000 to 7,999, Captain 4,000 to 5,999, Lieutenant 2,000 to 3,999, 2nd Lieutenant 0 to 1,999.

After looking at your pilot record, press **SPACEBAR** or **FIRE** to see your medals and ribbons, as follows: **Award** and **Basis for Award**.

Striped Ribbon: Mission multiplier of 3 or 4, Solid Ribbon: Mission multiplier of 1 or 2, Distinguished Service Medal: Every 750 mission success points, Distinguished Flying Cross: Every 250 time efficiency points, Air Commendation Medal: Every 350 fighter points, Medal of Honour: Every 350 target points, Legion of Merit: Every 250 strike accuracy points, Purple Heart: Killed in action, or losing 2 jets but completing the mission while flying the third.

KEYBOARD COMMANDS

	IBM PC	CBM64/128	ATARI ST	AMIGA	AMSTRAD	SPECTRUM	
	Arrow Keys Use Joystick or Joystick	Use Joystick	Point with Mouse	Point with Mouse	Use Joystick	Use Joystick	Highlight on item.
	Space Bar or Fire Button	Press Fire Button	Press Left Mouse Button	Press Left Mouse Button	Press Fire Button or Space Button	Press Fire Button or Space Button	
	'ESC'	N/A	'ESC'	'ESC'	N/A	N/A	Select an item.
	'p'	'p'	'p'	'p'	'p'	'p'	Back up to previous screen.
	F8	N/A	F8	F8	N/A	N/A	Toggle pause/resume game.
	'G'	'G'	'G'	'G'	'G'	'G'	Switch Radar off.
							Toggle Raise/Lower Landing Gear.
Tandy 1000 use/insert Delete	Shift Plus + or -	+ or -	Shift + or -	Shift + or -	'W' - 'E' +	'W' - 'E' +	Radar Zoom.
	'B'	Space Bar	'B'	'B'	'B'	'B'	Toggle Brakes on/off.
	1 Thru 0	1 Thru 0	1 Thru 0	1 Thru 0	'Z' - 'X' +	'Z' - 'X' +	Set Throttle
	'+'/'-'	'@'/'"	'+'/'-'	'+'/'-'	'D' + 'S' -	'D' + 'S' -	Visual Zoom.
	'C'	'C'	'C'	'C'	'C'	'C'	Release Chaff.
	↑/↓ or Joystick	↑/↓ or Joystick	↑/↓ or Mouse	↑/↓ or Mouse	↑/↓ Joy	↑/↓ Joy	Adjust Pitch.

F1 Space Bar Fire	F1 Fire	F1 Space Bar or Fire	F1 Space Bar or Fire	1	1	Arm Cannon.
Joystick	Joystick	Mouse	Mouse	Fire	Fire	
F2	F2	F2	F2	'2'	'2'	Fire Cannon/Missile.
'A'	'B'	'A'	'A'	'A'	'A'	Missile Arm (Harpy).
F3	F5	F3	F3	'3'	'3'	Airbrake on/off.
'F'	'F'	'F'	'F'	'F'	'F'	Missile Arm (Fury).
→/← or Joystick	→/← or Joystick	→/← or Mouse	→/← or Mouse			Flare Release.
'V'	'S'	'V'	'V'	Joystick	Joystick	Adjust Bank.
F6	'S'	F6	F6	'V'	'V'	View indicator.
Shift F6	Shift 'S'	Shift F6	Shift F6	'K'	'K'	Save free flight (To Ram).
'N'	N/A	'N'	'N'	128K only	128K only	Load free flight (From Ram).
'O'	'O'	'O'	'O'	'J'	'J'	
'L'	N/A	'L'	'L'	128K only	128K only	Toggle Nose/Tail Camera.
F7	Clr/Home	F7	F7	N/A	N/A	Toggle Enemy (free flight only)
Shift F7	Shift Clr/Home	Shift F7	Shift F7	'O'	'O'	Landing (Co-Pilot Assist).
'I'	'I'	'I'	'I'	N/A	N/A	Refuel after landing.
F4	F7	F4	F4	'F'	'F'	View Pilot's Records (After landing).
SHIFT E	SHIFT E	SHIFT E	SHIFT E	'L'	'L'	Identify drug field.
				'I'	'I'	Disarm all weapons.
				'4'	'4'	Eject
				SHIFT	SHIFT	
				E	E	

CREDITS

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