

Call of Duty WARFARE



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INTRODUCTION

"...No truce or parley mitigated the strife of the armies. The wounded died between the lines: the dead moldered into the soil. Merchant ships and neutral ships and hospital ships were sunk on the seas and all on board left to their fate, or killed as they swam. Every effort was made to starve whole nations into submission without regard for age or sex. Cities and monuments were smashed by artillery. Bombs from the air were cast down indiscriminately. Poison gas in many forms stifled or seared the soldiers. Liquid fire was projected upon their bodies. Men fell from the air in flames, or were smothered, often slowly, in the dark recesses of the sea. The fighting strength of armies was limited only by the manhood of their countries. Europe and large areas of Asia and Africa became one vast battlefield on which, after years of struggle, not armies but nations broke and ran..."

— Winston S. Churchill, The World Crisis

Welcome to **Dust Warfare**, a tabletop miniatures game set in Paolo Parente's Dust universe. In **Dust Warfare**, players take command of a force of soldiers, vehicles, and other weapons of war to do battle with the enemy in the ongoing struggle for world domination.

War has advanced swiftly and strangely in the Dust universe through the application of VK technology – a limitless source of energy in its simplest form and an unthinkable weapon in the wrong hands. Tanks have evolved into striding engines of destruction, able to traverse any terrain in all weather. Advanced weapons and armor are coming into use by all sides as the global conflagration burns ever hotter.

DUST TACTICS

Dust Warfare has several elements in common with another game set in the Dust universe – **Dust Tactics**, which is a board game that uses miniatures on a grid. **Dust Warfare** uses many of the same rules, but is designed for a tabletop. **Dust Tactics** players will find many familiar concepts also used in **Dust Warfare**, however, there are differences in the turn sequence and how special abilities work. Players should pay careful attention to take advantage of new strategies.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The **Dust Warfare** rulebook is divided into six chapters, each detailing an important part of the game.

The Basic Training chapter describes how things work in a tabletop game. It is designed to give new players an overview of how to measure distances, roll dice, and perform other common game play tasks. This chapter also covers how units (groups of miniatures) work together, and how characteristics are used to denote the differences in units.

The Game chapter details the game rules. It covers the different phases of a game turn, as well as the various actions units can take.

The Spec Ops chapter lists the various special abilities that both units and weapons might have. These rules help to further differentiate units on the battlefield.

The Battles chapter provides a variety of scenarios that make **Dust Warfare** an exciting and tactical game.

The final two chapters, **The Allies** and **The Axis**, describe the individual Allied and Axis blocs, and the units that make up their platoons. These chapters explain how players choose their forces.

THE HISTORY OF DUST

Another Earth. A different 1947. The Second World War has raged for nearly a decade and its grip has spread to every continent on the planet. Entire nations have been trampled out, whole peoples subjugated, and great cities befallen flat by the titanic conflicts unleashed across the globe. Three monolithic power blocs have emerged from the threats, machinations, diplomacy, and outright conquests perpetrated by the major nations' strife. For some, that victory means conquest, glory, and world domination; for others, freedom – but few now talk of simple peace. This is the world of Dust.

1939-1940: WAR IN THE WEST

The Axis bloc sparked the European conflagration with Germany's invasion of Poland, the most flagrant in a series of increasingly expansionistic moves by Germany's egomaniacal Führer, Adolf Hitler. In response, Britain and France formed the Allied bloc and declared war on Germany. The Allies proved to be only a short-lived foe for the triumphant German Wehrmacht streaming back from their victories in Poland and Norway. In 1940, mainland France was overwhelmed by the Wehrmacht's terrifying new doctrine of Blitzkrieg – "lightning war" – in just six weeks.

Britain and France were unable to stop Hitler's legions as they swept through neutral Belgium and the Low Countries. The Allied armies were broken and driven back by a relentless tank battalion blitz and overwhelmed by Axis air power supremacy, even as a flanking Axis thrust emerged

1937

July: Japanese forces invade mainland China. World War II starts in Asia.

1938

March: A German military expedition led by Manfred Kreuzer returns from Antarctica under great secrecy. A U-boat bearing "vital cargo" is sent directly back to Germany.

April: The Blutkreuz Korps is formed in Berlin under the leadership of Baron Leopold von Thaler. Its goal is to study the Antarctica discoveries.

1939

September: Germany invades Poland. Great Britain, France, Australia, and New Zealand declare war on Germany. World War II starts in Europe.

1940

March: Blutkreuz Korps scientists make a breakthrough in their research, opening the "vital cargo" and waking an alien life form.

June: Paris falls and the first Battle for Britain starts the following month. Saigon becomes the new capital of the French Republic.

September: Germany, Italy, and Japan sign the Tripartite Pact. The foundations of the Axis bloc are made.

December: The war reaches North Africa. The next month, Allied troops take Tobruk.

from the "impassable" Ardennes region to complete their encirclement. Britain's army barely escaped disaster through the miracle of Dunkirk, evacuating hundreds of thousands of French and British soldiers while under continual air attack. Axis armored spearheads then swept south, relentlessly carving through the Allied lines until mainland France was forced to capitulate weeks later.

Bitter resistance stymied any immediate invasion attempt of the British Isles, but the Führer's attention was already being drawn elsewhere. Why bother with the British when U-boats and bombers would soon reduce them to ruins? Meanwhile, ambitious, unscrupulous men of many nations were lining up to join their fates to Germany's rising star.

With mainland France conquered and the whole of Western Europe overrun, Germany found willing allies to the east and south. Nations that resisted the Führer's overtures were ruthlessly subjugated and forcibly joined to the Axis bloc under puppet governments. Efforts by the British Commonwealth forces to stem the tide proved futile and they were pushed back across the Mediterranean to North Africa and the vital artery of the Suez Canal. America strained the limits of its declared neutrality by supplying

arms to Britain, but it was too little, too late. Disaster loomed everywhere. Only a handful of brave airmen, the constant vigilance of the Royal Navy, and the onset of winter saved the Allied cause from being extinguished in 1940.

1941 brought an unexpected reprieve for the nascent Allies as the mighty Axis juggernaut swung east. The Führer had set his sights on the Soviet Union as the philosophical, political, and cultural antithesis of Greater Germany and the Third Reich. Bolshevism would be destroyed root and branch, while the wide lands of the Soviet Union would be rendered little more than fiefdoms of the Axis bloc. The Allies' last weapons against the Axis – embargo and blockade – would be rendered useless by the vast resources that could be plundered from the east.

1941

June: Operation Barbarossa is launched. The invasion of the USSR begins.

December: The Japanese navy attacks Pearl Harbor. The USA enters the war.

The Battle for Moscow occurs. Newly arrived Soviet ski troops push back the Wehrmacht.

1942

February: Japanese forces attack Darwin, Australia. A few days later, a Japanese submarine bombards Santa Barbara, CA. Mainland USA is vulnerable to attack.

April: The first American raid on Tokyo is achieved by flying Army bombers from Navy carriers and then landing in China.

August: The first American offensive begins with the Battle of Guadalcanal.

October: The Germans test fire the first V2 missile.

The Second Battle of El Alamein occurs. Allied troops inflict their first serious defeat on the Afrika Korps.

Axis Forces field test the new Panzer Kampfpläufer. Mass production is slowed by difficulties importing the VK mineral from Antarctica.

November: Operation Torch begins. Allied forces land in North Africa.

Operation Uranus begins. Russians launch a massive offensive around Stalingrad. The Axis-dominated part of the city holds, thanks to the new walkers.

1941-1942: WAR IN THE EAST

Operation Barbarossa opened the greatest invasion in history as millions of Axis troops and thousands of tanks crossed the Soviet border. The vast Red Air Force, the VVS, was caught on the ground by the attack and lost most of its planes in the first days of the invasion. The lethal prongs of Panzer armies thrust across Russia on a grand scale, bringing Blitzkrieg on a new level. They surrounded tens and then hundreds of thousands of Russian soldiers in a tightening net of steel. The Red Army resisted bitterly but their bravery could not stop the mass of war machines ranged against them.

In the Pacific, Japan had already been at war for four years, following its invasion of China in 1937. The blockades and embargoes imposed on the Axis were having little effect in occupied Europe, but against Japan their grip would soon become decisive. Even as the home islands suffered privation, the colonial possessions of the shattered European powers lay ready for the taking all across the Pacific with only hesitant, isolationist America standing in the way.

In December, as Hitler's legions ground to a halt just short of Moscow, Japan struck at the American Pacific Fleet base at Pearl Harbor. Of the eight American battleships of the Pacific Fleet, four were sunk and all the others critically damaged. At a stroke, Japan held naval supremacy in the Pacific. From Malaya to the Indonesian archipelago, Japanese invasion forces were already on the way.

