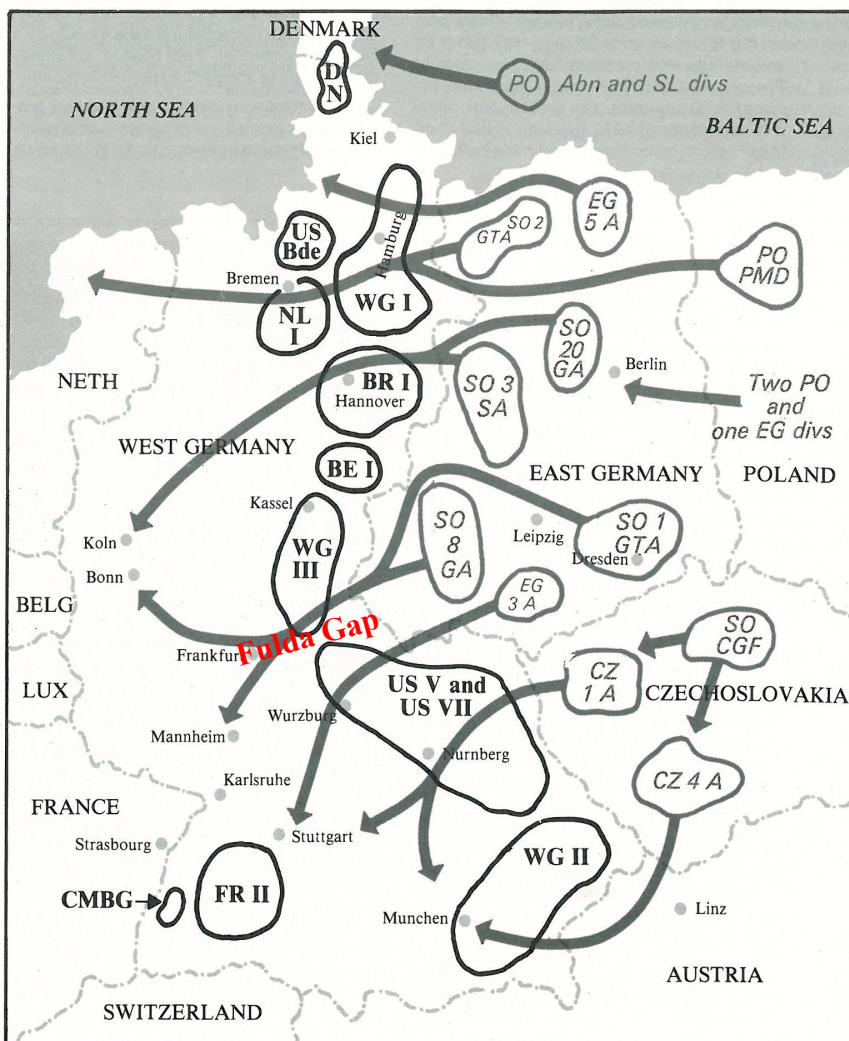


Red Storm Rising

September 1st, 1986. Economic stagnation causes fear of the loss of military superiority in the Soviet Union. Combined with the introduction of new weapon systems, such as the M1 Abrams and Leopard tanks and the Apache helicopter, this may well tip the military balance in favor of NATO. War seems to be the only option to crush the West before it becomes too strong.

Using routine exercises as cover-up, Warsaw Pact forces have been built up along the inner-German border. Even NATO observers were allowed to keep up appearances, but in the early morning hours, exactly 47 years after the German attack on Poland, the first Soviet tanks cross the border.

The Soviets have chosen two main axes of advance. Boggy in spring and fall, the North German Plain has dried out in the long summer, making it easier to cross in order to get access to the North Sea ports of Hamburg and Bremerhaven and block REFORGER reinforcements. German and Dutch forces, supported by the BAOR, struggle to stop the advancing forces.



Further to the South, the long-expected attack through the Fulda Gap has become reality. Crossing this narrowest part of West Germany will allow the Soviets to decapitate NATO by taking out the command & control centers in the Rhein-Main area as well as cutting West Germany in half.

The Fulda Gap is defended by the American Fifth Corps and the West German Third Corps. The vanguard is the American 11th Cavalry Regiment, an elite armored unit that has spent the last decade guarding the border and training for what is now happening. Are they able to stop the Red Storm?