



*"The Cedar and the Rooster : A Mirage Story"* is a fictional story-based 10 mission campaign for the Mirage 2000C, fully voiced-over, taking place in the Middle East.

Mods needed : M-2000C, Syria map.

## Situation

February 1993. Despite the end of the civil war in 1990, Lebanon is remaining in a unsettled situation. Militias, directed undercover by Syria and Iran, are agitating the country. The international community wants to avoid a new chaos but doesn't manage to agree. Syria and Iran, backed by Russia, are firmly against an intervention even under the aegis of the United Nations. Turkey and Israel officially support the project of aid to Lebanon but behind the scenes don't want an international coalition that could weaken their respective influence in the area.

To break the deadlock and due to its historical good relations with Lebanon, France suggests to act alone. A Gazelle helicopter detachment will reinforce the Lebanese 8th Squadron to support the ground troops against the militias. Furthermore, 4 Mirage 2000s will ensure Lebanon air policing.

Western countries are relieved of this solution ... even minimal. Russia and its allies are relieved of this solution ... so minimal.

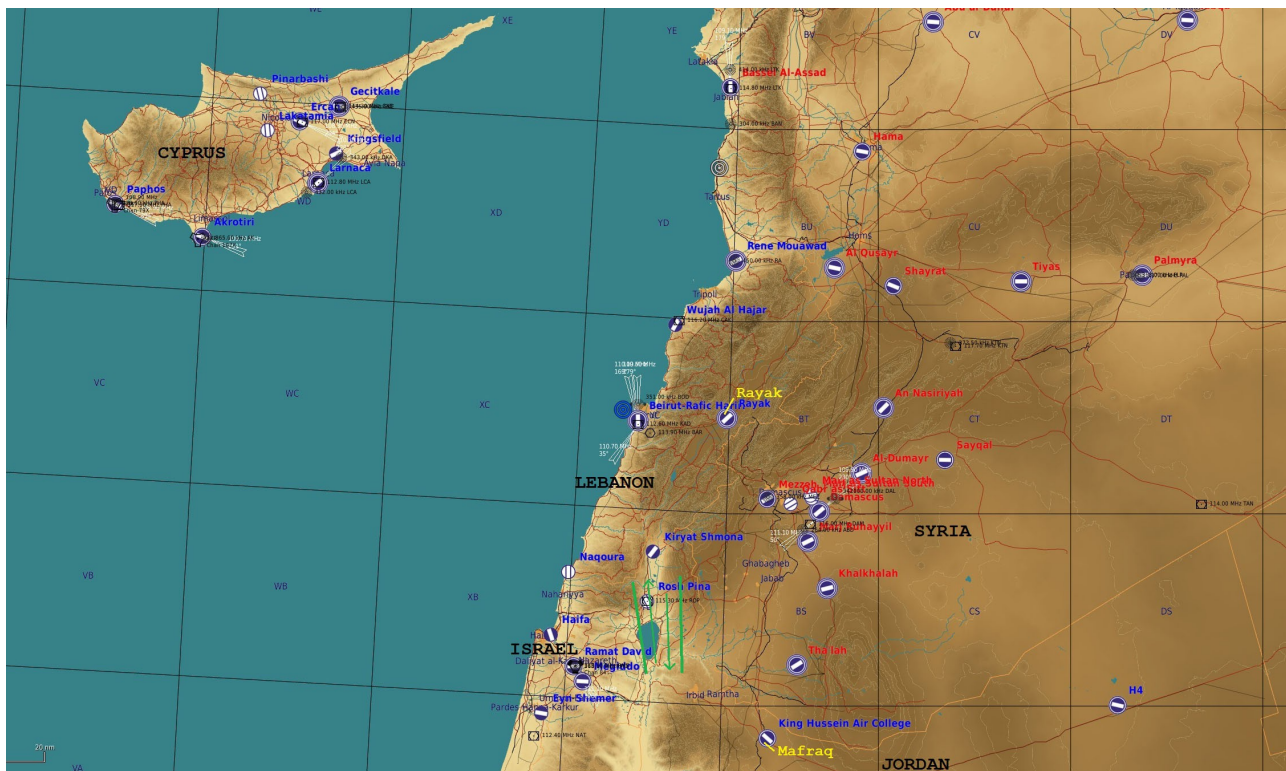
## Deployment

March 1993. The Gazelles of ALAT (*"Aviation Légère de l'Armée de Terre"* or *"French Army Light Aviation"*) settled in Rayak Air Base. A logical decision because this base is the home of the 8th Squadron equipped with the same rotorcraft.

For the Mirage 2000s, the choice is trickier. Having no fighter jet, Lebanese Air Force doesn't have suitable base. Incirlik Air Base would be a good choice. But it is already jammed with several NATO units and Turkey doesn't want one of these bases directly involved in this operation. After some negotiations, Jordan accepted to host the Mirages in Mafraq Air Base (aka King Hussein Air College).

Crossing Syrian border to reach Lebanon from Jordan is of course forbidden and would be considered as a *casus belli*. Half-hearted, Israel accepted a passageway over the Sea of Galilee allowing French aircrafts going in and out Lebanon along a north-south axis. Flying over Israel outside this passageway would lead to a diplomatic crisis.

Finally and reluctantly, Turkey accepted that NATO AWACS and Air Tankers support French missions off the Lebanese coast from Incirlik Air Base if needed.



Syrian Air Force is the main air threat. Mirage 2000s might encounter MiG-21s, MiG-23s, MiG-29s and Mig-25s ... even though there are some doubts about the real number of jets able to fly due to lack of spare.

## **Advice**

In all missions, an operator, codenamed *Brennos*, in a Control & Command Center will provide you the operational instructions. For everything else (preflight setting, startup, takeoff, landing, ...) of course you are fully autonomous and must use the standard procedures and communications.

France and Syria are not at war. Escalation should be avoided. Only open fire if you are under direct threat or have been ordered to do so.

## **References**

The cedar is the official emblem of Lebanon, because once large forest of this tree covered the country.

The rooster is an unofficial emblem of France. Many stories exist about the origin. For sure, the animal is a symbol of bravery and pride. But the most likely explanation dates back to Ancient Rome where, in Latin, rooster (gallus) and Gauls (Gallus) were homonyms. Today in France it's a popular symbol commonly used as logo by sport federations for instance.

From 2014, Mirages 2000D & N were deployed in Prince Hassan Air Base (in Jordan) for the "Opération Chammal" (French military operation in Iraq and Syria). So it would have been a good choice and a nice nod for this fictional campaign. Unfortunately this Jordanian base was not existing on the DCS Syria map when I designed this campaign. The closest was Mafraq Air Base (also known as King Hussein Air Base) hence this choice here.

## **To do**

Copy "The Cedar and the Rooster (A Mirage Story)" folder into  
C:\Users\<your name>\Saved Games\DCS\Missions\Campaigns

During this campaign, you may encounter many threats in the sky and on the ground. Make sure you know the RWR code list :

<https://forums.eagle.ru/topic/244681-rwr-update/>

You probably already know it but if you are not a Mirage 2000 veteran, download the excellent Chuck's guide :  
<https://www.mudspike.com/chucks-guides-dcs-mirage-2000c/>