

OPERATION ABLE ARCHER '83 COMMEMORATIVE SPECIAL EVENT W3A



**31 OCT 2014 2100 HRS UTC
TO
2 NOV 2014 1500 HRS UTC**

**OPERATION WILL BE ON 29.65 MC FM, 51.00 MC FM, 75 & 40 METERS LSB 20,18,10 METERS USB, & RTTY
ON MOSTLY MILITARY RADIO EQUIPMENT OPERATION WILL BE HOLIDAY STYLE.**

**TO RECOGNIZE THE SACRIFICES OF OUR MILITARY, SIGNAL CORPS, AND MEMBERS OF THE
CLANDESTINE SERVICES DURING THIS CRITICAL TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THE COLD WAR, WE WILL HOST
A SPECIAL EVENT STATION. OUR SPECIAL EVENT WILL CONSIST OF OPERATION FROM A REMOTE WOODED
AREA USING PERIOD STYLE MILITARY RADIOS AND ANTENNAS TO MAKE THE CONTACTS.**

**ABLE ARCHER 83 WAS A TEN-DAY (NATO) COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISE STARTING ON NOVEMBER 2, 1983,
THAT SPANNED WESTERN EUROPE, CENTERED ON THE SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EUROPE
HEADQUARTERS, ABLE ARCHER EXERCISES SIMULATED A PERIOD OF CONFLICT ESCALATION,
CULMINATING IN A SIMULATED DEFCON 1 COORDINATED NUCLEAR ATTACK THE EXERCISE ALSO
INTRODUCED A NEW, UNIQUE FORMAT OF CODED COMMUNICATION, RADIO SILENCES, AND THE
PARTICIPATION OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT.**

**THE REALISTIC NATURE OF THE 1983 EXERCISE, COUPLED WITH DETERIORATING RELATIONS BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION AND THE ANTICIPATED ARRIVAL OF PERSHING II NUCLEAR
MISSILES IN EUROPE, LED SOME MEMBERS OF THE SOVIET POLITBURO AND MILITARY TO BELIEVE THAT
ABLE ARCHER 83 WAS A RUSE OF WAR, OBSCURING PREPARATIONS FOR A GENUINE NUCLEAR FIRST
STRIKE IN RESPONSE, THE SOVIETS READIED THEIR NUCLEAR FORCES AND PLACED AIR UNITS IN EAST
GERMANY AND POLAND ON ALERT. THIS IS KNOWN AS THE 1983 WAR SCARE.**

**THE 1983 WAR SCARE IS CONSIDERED BY MANY HISTORIANS TO BE THE CLOSEST THE WORLD HAS COME
TO NUCLEAR WAR SINCE THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS OF 1962. THE THREAT OF NUCLEAR WAR ENDED
WITH THE CONCLUSION OF THE EXERCISE ON NOVEMBER 11.**

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT WALT SKAVINSKY (KB3SBC) KB3SBC@ARRL.NET

[HTTPS://SITES.GOOGLE.COM/SITE/ABLEARCHER1983W3A/](https://sites.google.com/site/ablearcher1983w3a/)