LT. SMASH'S FLOATING ICONS FOR COMBAT MISSION: FINAL BLITZKRIEG

This mod replaces the default floating icons in Combat Mission: Final Blitzkrieg (CMFB). These stylized icons are based on the U.S. War Department's 1943 Basic Field Manual FM21-30 Conventional Signs, Military Symbols and Abbreviations. The icons have a slightly three-dimensional appearance so that they look like counters from traditional board-based war games. And, when the icon blinks (i.e., the unit is selected or wounded), the unit's national flag is displayed.

Please note, these files are provided as-is and cannot be redistributed without my permission.

HOW DO I GET STARTED WITHOUT READING THE INSTRUCTIONS?

Copy "Lt. Smash's Floating Icons_Final Blitzkrieg.brz" to "My Documents\Battlefront\Combat Mission\Final Blitzkrieg \User Data\Mods\z". Restart CMFB and load a scenario. The default icons will be replaced with the icons in this mod. **Do not install the "Optional Files" folder or any of the files in the "Optional Files" folder without reading the remainder of this PDF.**

For more information about installing and using mods, see "Mods in Action" on page 115 of the CM Engine Manual v3.01 included with CMFB. This will get you up and running with a full set of floating icons. However, I've included several optional files to enhance game play.

THIS MOD ISN'T WORKING. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Try two things:

1. Make sure you're copying the .brz file you want to use into "My Documents\Battlefront\Combat Mission\Final Blitzkrieg \User Data\Modsa\z" folder.

2. Make sure you restart CMFB anytime you copy a new file into or remove a file from your Mods\z folder.

WHAT DO THE SYMBOLS MEAN?

The symbology used in these floating icons mimic those used by the U.S. War Department during World War II. The tables below show what each icon looks like, provides a description of what it means and gives an example where applicable. Various versions of each floating icon provided with this mod are displayed below. This includes the primary icon for the Axis (red) and Allies (blue) side plus the flag that is displayed when the icon blinks.

UNITS	AXIS (RED)	ALLIES (BLUE)	FLAG (BLINK) German	FLAG (BLINK) USA	EXAMPLES
Headquarters					
Infantry					Rifle Squad
Infantry, Submachine Gun					
Combat Engineer					Engineer, Sapper, Pioneer, Breach Team
Reconnaissance					Recon Team, Scout
Sniper					Sniper, Marksman
Forward Observer / Air Controller					
Light Machine Gun					MG34 Light Machinegun, 1918 B.A.R
Machine Gun					MG34 Heavy Machinegun, 1919A4 Medium Machinegun
Flamethrower					Flammenwarfer 41, Flamethrower M1A1
Antitank Weapon					Panzerschreck, Panzerfaust, Bazooka
Antitank Gun					PaK 40, 57mm L/50 M1 Anti-tank Gun
Flak					Flakvierling 38, Bofors Anti-Aircraft Gun
Infantry Gun					leIG 18, M1A1 Pack Howitzer
Mortar					sGrW34 8cm Mortar, 2in Mortar, 60mm Mortar M2

UNITS	AXIS (RED)	ALLIES (BLUE)	FLAG (BLINK) German	USA	EXAMPLES
Ammo Bearer					
Light Truck					Kubelwagen, Jeep
Light Truck, Antitank					
Light Truck, Heavy Weapon					
Truck					Opel Blitz, Deuce
Armored Car					PSW 222, M8 Armored Car
Halftrack					SPW 250/1, M3A1
Heavy Tank					Panzer VIE Tiger
Medium Tank					Panzer IVG, M4 Sherman
Light Tank					Panzer IIL, M5A1 Light Tank
Tank Destroyer					Marder IIIM, M10
Self-Propelled Gun					STuG IIIG, M7B1 Priest
Self-Propelled Anti-Aircraft Gun					Sd. Kfz. 7/1, M16 MGMC

FOG OF WAR ICONS	AXIS (RED)	ALLIES (BLUE)	FLAG (BLINK) German	USA	EXAMPLES
Unknown Squad/Team			-	-	Headquarters, Infantry, Combat Engineer
Unknown Heavy Weapon			-	-	Machine Gun, Grenade Launcher
Unknown Gun			-	-	Antitank Gun, Mortar
Unknown Armored Vehicle			-	-	Armored Personnel Carrier, Infantry Fighting Vehicle
Unknown Tank			-	-	Medium Tank, Heavy Tank
Unknown Unarmored Vehicle			-	-	Light Truck, Truck

FOG OF WAR ICONS	AXIS (RED)	ALLIES (BLUE)	FLAG (BLINK)		EXAMPLES
			German	USA	
Fortification	🔫	🔫	-	-	Bunker, Shelter

FORTIFICATION ICONS	AXIS (RED)	ALLIES (BLUE)	FLAG (BLINK)		EXAMPLES
			German	USA	
Ammo Dump	🔔	🔔	🇩🇪	🇺🇸	
Mine, Antipersonnel	℗	℗	🇩🇪	🇺🇸	
Mine, Antitank	✖	✖	🇩🇪	🇺🇸	
Bunker	🔫	🔫	🇩🇪	🇺🇸	
Shelter	▃	▃	🇩🇪	🇺🇸	
Foxhole, Trench	⊔	⊔	🇩🇪	🇺🇸	
Obstacle	✳	✳	🇩🇪	🇺🇸	

I HAVE A GERMAN VERSUS GERMAN VERSUS GERMAN OR USA VERSUS USA BATTLE. HOW DO I GET EACH SIDE TO BLINK THE RIGHT NATIONAL FLAG?

No worries. "Lt. Smash's Floating Icons_Final Blitzkrieg.brz" contains blue and red icons for Germany, the Commonwealth and the USA. However, if you're just using this file, your red side will still blink the German flag and your blue side will still blink the circled star, even if the Germans are blue and the USA/Commonwealth are red. You'll need to install one of the files from the "Optional Files" folder contain in the zip file you downloaded:

- If you're playing a German versus German battle, copy "Lt. Smash's Floating Icons_Final Blitzkrieg_Shared Blue_German.brz" to your Mods\Z folder. Remove any other "Shared Blue" files from this folder before restarting CMFB.
- If you're playing a battle in which the USA is the red side, copy "Lt. Smash's Floating Icons_Final Blitzkrieg_Shared Red_USA.brz" to your Mods\z folder. Remove any other "Shared Red" files from this folder before restarting CMFB.

While you only want one "Shared Red" and "Shared Blue" file in your Mods\z folder, these files are intended to be used with "Lt. Smash's Floating Icons_Final Blitzkrieg.brz." So, make sure that Lt. Smash's Floating Icons_Final Blitzkrieg.brz is in more Mods\z folder.

IS THERE A WAY TO AVOID USING THE SWASTIKA?

I have included an alternate set of icons that uses a German cross rather than the swastika. Copy "Lt. Smash's Floating Icons_Final Blitzkrieg_Iron Cross.brz" from the "Optional Files" folder into your Mods\z folder instead of "Lt. Smash's Floating Icons_Final Blitzkrieg.brz"."

If the German's are playing on the blue side, make sure you also move copy "Lt. Smash's Floating Icons_Final Blitzkrieg_Shared Blue_German Cross.brz" into your Mods\z folder.

I LIKE THE SYMBOLS BUT NOT THE BLINKING FLAGS. DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING SIMPLER?

Yes. If you're not a fan of the national flags, remove "Lt. Smash's Floating Icons_Final Blitzkrieg.brz" from your Mods\Z folder and replace it with "Lt. Smash's Floating Icons_Final Blitzkrieg_Basic.brz" which is located in the Optional Files folder in the zip file you downloaded. This icon set removes the national flags. Instead, the Allied side blinks khaki while the Axis blinks light grey.

I THINK YOU'RE USING THE WRONG SYMBOL FOR SOME UNITS. WHAT IS YOUR SOURCE?

My primary source was the U.S. War Department's 1943 Basic Field Manual FM21-30 Conventional Signs, Military Symbols and Abbreviations. In some cases, I could not find a perfect match for the unit portrayed in CMFB and I had to use my best judgment.

I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS OR NEED HELP. HOW CAN I CONTACT YOU?

If you have any questions, catch any errors, or have suggestions for improvement, please feel free to email me at lt_smash@yahoo.com.