

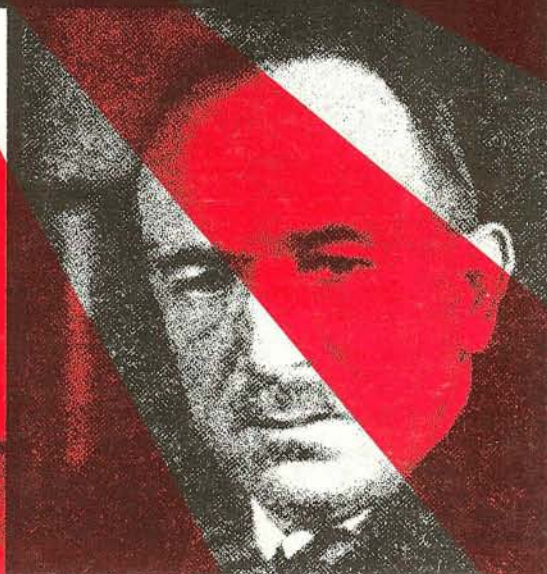
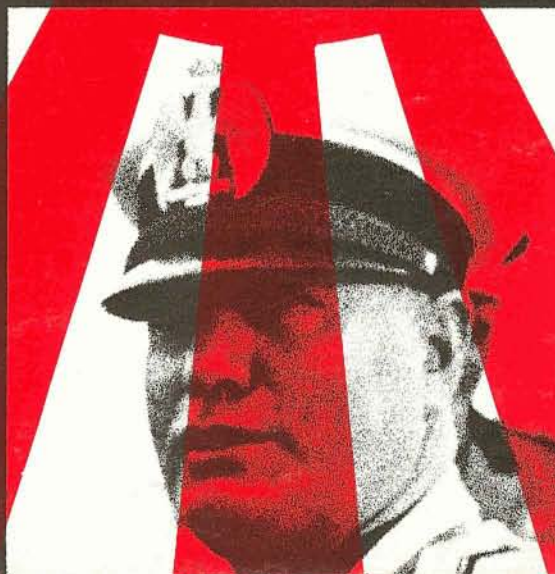
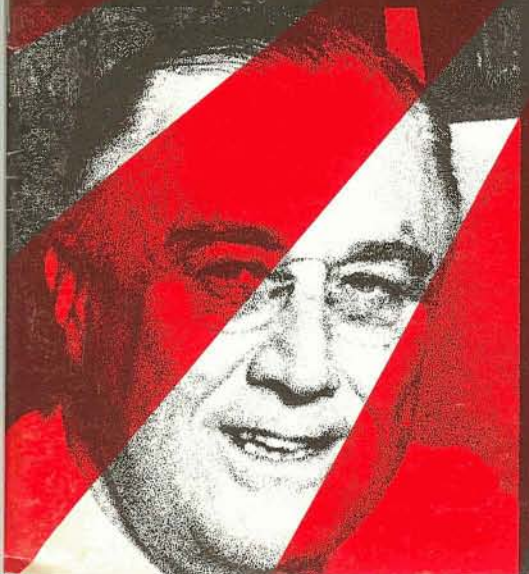
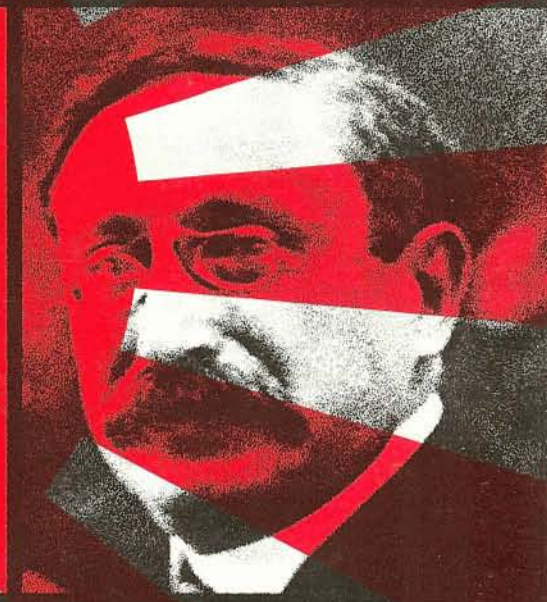
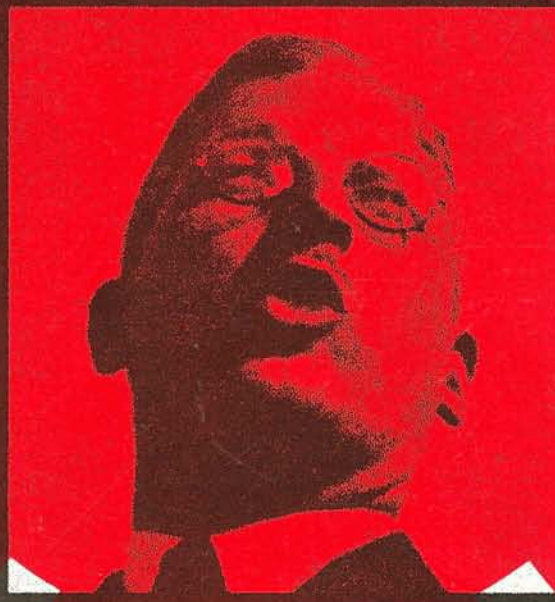
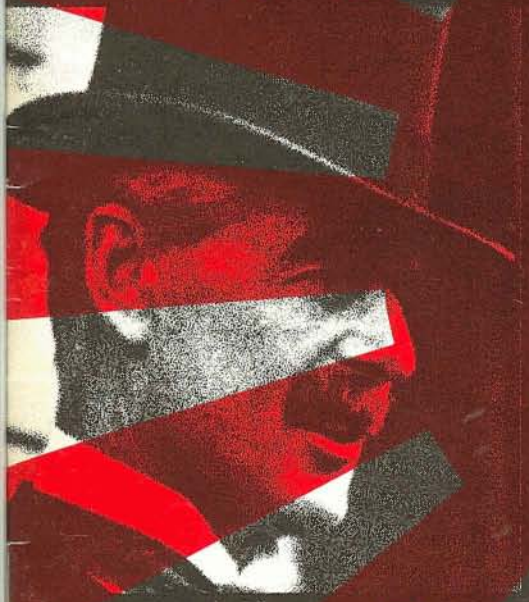
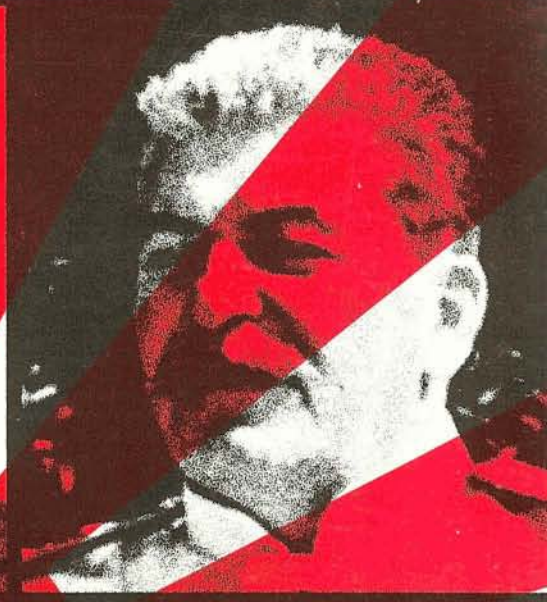
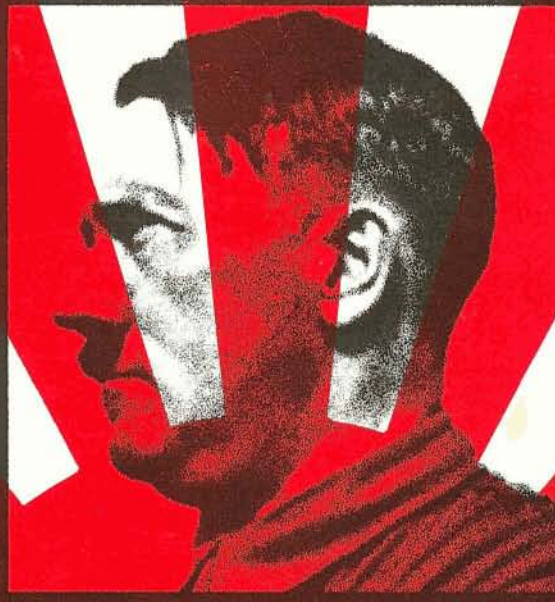
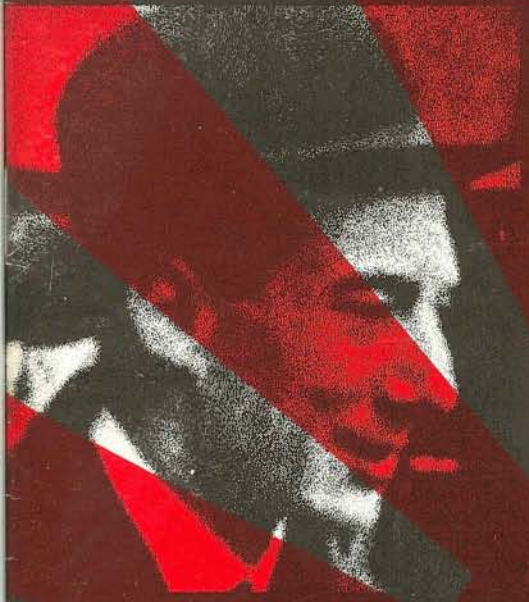
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GENERAL

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The AVALON HILL

GENERAL

The Game Players Magazine

The Avalon Hill GENERAL is dedicated to the presentation of authoritative articles on the strategy, tactics, and variation of Avalon Hill games of strategy. Historical articles are included only inasmuch as they provide useful background information on current Avalon Hill titles. THE GENERAL is published by the Avalon Hill Company solely for the cultural edification of the serious game aficionado, in the hopes of improving the game owner's proficiency of play and providing services not otherwise available to the Avalon Hill game buff.

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Avalon Hill Philosophy Part 59

THE NEW CROP

The start of a new year is always an appropriate time to turn our editorial attention to the discussion of new games. Last fall was the first time in recent memory that AH did not reveal a new game for the Xmas season. This shouldn't be taken as an indication of a slowdown however, as we've been working quite hard on our '77 releases and have a number of titles to offer in the coming year.

Not the smallest happening is our acquisition of yet another game company. Last December we took over the complete line of SPORTS ILLUSTRATED games which include PAYDIRT (pro football), BOWLBOUND (college football), SUPERSTAR BASEBALL, GO FOR THE GREEN (golf), and TRACK MEET (Olympic Decathlon competition). All five games sell for \$10 and are available both by mail and through our regular retail distribution. These are not just repetitions of our already existing sports games. Whereas the FOOTBALL, BASEBALL, and BASKETBALL STRATEGY series emphasizes pure competition in the form of the matrix play selections, the SPORTS ILLUSTRATED line utilizes the "replay" concept of sports games by providing realistic statistical ratings of actual teams and individual athletes so that the player can recreate the exploits of his favorite team/athlete. All the participants perform in direct proportion to their accomplishments in real life. In this way, baseball fans can check how Sandy Koufax would have done facing Babe Ruth, Ted Williams, etc. These games are particularly well suited to solitaire play and have a definite place in the sports game market. They will make a fine addition to our line of simulation games. The effect of the SPORTS ILLUSTRATED acquisition does not end there however. We will be repackaging all our sports games to take advantage of the greater clout of SI. Among the first to receive this treatment will be our remakes of the previous 3M games SPEED CIRCUIT and WIN, PLACE, & SHOW. These two were the class of the 3M sports line and will effectively round out our greatly expanded sports line which you'll see advertised frequently in the pages of . . . what else, SPORTS ILLUSTRATED.

Of more immediate concern to most of you as wargamers is, naturally enough, news of the upcoming wargame releases. The following is meant as only the briefest sketch of what we'll offer in 1977 so as to whet your appetite for the coming year. More detailed information will follow as we near publication.

Making their debut in the spring will be the long waited ARAB-ISRAELI WARS and the 2nd edition of RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN. The former utilizes an improved version of the PANZER-LEADER game system to portray our first effort at a modern day conflict. It will sell for \$10 in bookcase format with 4 geomorphic boards.

RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN will leave the Mail Order Only ranks for retail distribution in a highly polished 2nd edition. The rules have been rewritten to correct all prior ambiguities and omissions as well as add a few subtle refinements. The scenarios have been entirely revised to reflect more realistic OB's and offer greater variety in game length. The previous problem of

too many drawn games has been done away with by the incorporation of Sudden Death victory conditions which also tend to shorten the average Campaign Game and add even more suspense to an already exciting game system. Extra counters for Richard Hamblen's "What If . . ." Variant which appeared in Vol. 13, No. 4 have been added to the new counter sheet which also utilizes increased shading to further differentiate units with double impulse movement capability. Owners of the Mail Order Only edition of RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN are urged to look elsewhere in this magazine for details on how they can update their game at minimum expense.

SQUAD LEADER is progressing very nicely and will be ready to make its debut at ORIGINS 77. The game is evolving from an infantry type PANZERBLITZ into a comprehensive treatment of WWII squad level actions including armor, off board artillery, and a myriad of options. We'll be using the P.I. (Programmed Instruction) method to take the reader gradually through one of our most comprehensive rulebooks so that he can play the game and learn it step by step with a minimum investment of time. The game is so comprehensive and all encompassing that we are considering offering an extension kit of counters and scenarios for the Pacific War. Yet the beauty of the game lies in the relative simplicity of John Hill's new game system.

Also destined for release at ORIGINS is the remake of GETTYSBURG which embraces more new techniques than I care to go into here. Suffice it to say that it will be unlike any wargame we've ever done before. DESCENT ON CRETE is also scheduled for summer release. This game was designed by Vance von Borries and developed by Randall Reed. This operational battalion and company level game is reminiscent of a small scale ANZIO and should shed more than a little light on this fascinating but often neglected portion of WWII.

THE RISING SUN is out of drydock and into development but is a long way from completion. The scope of this game makes THIRD REICH look like checkers in comparison. It will include all the capital ships of the Pacific Theatre plus destroyer, submarine, and auxiliary divisions with detailed combat, repair, and ship building rules to give a tactical feel to a very big strategic game. At this point the game will utilize approximately 1,000 two-sided counters representing land, air, and naval units plus a roster pad to maintain order. The game will incorporate interlocking scenarios for play balance and playing time purposes. A complete Campaign Game will be included but due to the inevitability of the outcome, players will find the initial and mid-War scenarios to be the meat of the game.

Another wargame slated for release in 1977 is our reincarnation of U-BOAT. This game will have nothing to do with its simple predecessor of the early 60's, and will incorporate sub actions in all theatres of WWII—despite the misleading insinuations of the title. The game will include a multitude of ship vs. sub, and sub vs. convoy scenarios as well as an interlocking Campaign

A. H. Philosophy . . . Continued on Page 11



Europe and the Pacific

By Mark Saha

The origins of World War II in Europe have been explored more thoroughly than perhaps any other war in history. If for no other reason, the sudden total collapse of Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany made available to historians documents ordinarily not available for study until a hundred years after the fact, if at all. This extraordinary body of material has still not been adequately explored. Nonetheless, the main European causes, both immediate and long range—political, cultural, economic and technological—are generally known and have been admirably summarized, by the way, in the Designer's Notes of AH's *ORIGINS* game.

But the contribution of the Pacific to the outbreak of war in Europe is less well known. Some people would say the Pacific made no contribution whatsoever to the outbreak of hostilities in Europe. Granted, the Japanese were aggressive and bent upon empire, but they could have been contained had not the war in Europe tempted them into a bold and opportunistic land grab. So goes the argument. But a glance at the Objectives Table of Zedek's *PACIFIC ORIGINS* reveals a very interesting fact: Germany has no interests in the Pacific at all.

This situation came about because of Germany's defeat in the Great War of 1914-18. So intense was hatred of Germany after four bloody years of trench warfare (and some outrageous wartime propaganda), that the subsequent Versailles Treaty (1919) reduced her to little more than a bankrupt puppet state. Almost incidental, in the course of this wholesale political/economic destruction of Germany, was seizure of all her overseas colonies and interests. This proved to be a grave strategic error that was to come back and haunt the Allies with consequences that persist to the present day.

Strategist Harvey DeWeerd, in a series of university lectures, said the stripping of Germany's overseas possessions was an error on three counts. First, the manner in which it was done: the Allies, he

said, might at least have been honest about it. They might have said, "Look, you've lost the war, so we are going to take your colonies." The Germans are pragmatic if nothing else, and that kind of talk they might have understood. But the British and French were not so blunt. They said, in effect, "You, the Germans, have shown yourselves to be a morally inferior people, unworthy of the great task of bringing along colonial peoples in the Christian tradition. Therefore, we are going to undertake this burden for you." That, of course, is a paraphrase, but it reflects the general contempt that existed at the time in regarding the Huns as, indeed, morally inferior savages. Germany was given a national inferiority complex. Which made Hitler all the more welcome when he arrived with a new message: "We Germans are not a morally inferior people. Quite the contrary. We are a race of pure Aryan supermen whose destiny it is . . ."

Seizing Germany's overseas possessions was an error on the second count because it gave the Allies no "handle" by which they might have controlled Hitler. Suppose the colonies had remained in German possession. And Hitler marched into the Rhineland. What does Britain do? She seizes a rich German colony in retaliation, as a "police action." Germany immediately feels the sting. But in fact Germany had nothing to seize. All had been taken in 1919. If Hitler chose to march into Czechoslovakia, Austria, Poland . . . it was a matter of go to war or do nothing.

Finally, seizing German colonies left Germany the only major Western power without colonial interests. Germany was therefore indifferent to Japanese expansion and aggression. France, England, Netherlands, etc., had a great deal to lose and therefore a great deal to protect in the Pacific. If they went to war with Germany over Rhineland,

Czechoslovakia, or Austria, it would really gain them nothing—while an opportunistic Japan took advantage of such European entanglement to seize their priceless resources in the Pacific. Thus, it can be seen, the Allies found themselves in the 1930s in a trap of their own making; and this situation accounts for Hitler getting away with as much as he did before war finally came in 1939. Indeed, Hitler did not expect Britain and France to declare war on him even then. Why should they sacrifice their colonial empires to honor a treaty (the Polish guarantee) they could not possibly enforce anyway? He was almost right. England almost let it pass; but after three days England declared war and persuaded a reluctant France to do the same.

JAPAN OVER ASIA

But the Versailles seizure of German colonial interests in 1919 would not have created nearly the problem it did, except for the fact that in the 1930s all Western possessions came under increasing pressure from an expanding Japanese empire. This is the other side of the coin.

It must be remembered that Asia had never welcomed Western colonization in the first place. In fact, they resisted it; European trade was often forbidden by law in Asia, and resisted by force of arms. But, although a very high level of civilization had always existed in this part of the world, they lacked almost entirely the pragmatism of Western science and the technological weapons it produced. Resistance was useless. Asia was conquered, and it was developed, but it was in many respects an occupied country. Railroads, telegraph lines, and instruments of economic exploitation were owned and operated by Western powers under treaties dictated by those powers. This is not a very pretty chapter in the history of the West, and because it is

still a controversial subject, perhaps the best thing is to refer readers to a couple of recent popular accounts that take opposing views. It makes for interesting reading, and you can decide for yourself.

Barbara Tuchman's recent (1971) bestseller, *Stilwell and the American Experience in China, 1911-45*; Part One, Chapter 2 offers a brief but somewhat outraged critical account. The more recent *Total War, Vol. 2* by Peter Calvocoressi & Guy Wint (1973) is much more sympathetic or, perhaps, fatalistic about what happened. They say, in Part One, Chapter 1, that although the Western record in Asia is "chequered," nonetheless "The record of the (Western) powers is not so black as it is painted, whether by Chinese communists or western liberal historians, who are overwhelmed, quite often unreasonably, by guilt. In some ways China's suffering was inevitable . . . a withdrawn state being thrust upon the world." And thus, "The version put about by the communists is exaggerated, perverted, and untrue." Both books are excellent popular accounts and highly recommended.

Japan was the first major Asian nation to actively seek and master a knowledge of Western technology. A main reason for this decision on Japan's part seems to be that she had little other choice. Like England, Japan was an island nation, and thus highly dependent upon fishing and trade for economic survival. However, Japan entered the 20th century with problems more desperate, and solutions more elusive, than any Britain has ever faced. It was not necessary that Japan should go to war in an effort to solve these problems—throughout history many nations have and some have not—but a unique combination of cultural and political events made the road to empire an increasingly attractive solution.

Japan Over Asia by William Henry Chamberlin is an attempt at an objective Western assessment of Japan's problems, published in 1936 and revised—with developing events—in 1937 and 1939. It is always a good idea to study a contemporary account of an historical event because hindsight makes the problems of the past appear so silly, and a rational solution so obvious; a contemporary account may be less accurate, but at least it reflects what people believed and how they felt at that time. And people act upon their beliefs, not what is subsequently found to be the truth. In any case, Chamberlin did a remarkable job, in my opinion, in examining Japan's problems and explaining why the solutions of Western advisers did not work. Most of what follows is drawn from this book.

Chamberlin points out that although Japan was an island nation like England, any resemblance ended there. Japan was an island of volcanic rock; with best efforts, only 15.6 percent of her land area could be made suitable for farming, compared with 24.2 in Britain (and 27.8 in Netherlands, 40.2 in Belgium, 43.7 in Germany. This is 1936). This situation was aggravated by a sudden population explosion. Chamberlain quotes from a translated Japanese textbook: "The territory of Japan represents one half percent of the world's total, while her population makes up five percent of the world's total . . . (her) population density is approximately ten times greater than the average population density of the world."

Three possible "peaceful" solutions to Japan's woes were suggested by Western advisers. These were (a) birth control, (b) emigration, and (c) industrialization. Japan's reply was that (a) it was too late now for birth control, and in any case the Japanese family tradition was strongly against it, and (b) the Western countries themselves had all sorts of quotas strongly biased against oriental emigrants. The only country which was really open to Japanese emigration was Brazil, but this resulted in such a migration that even Brazil was forced to

impose quotas. That emigration should be smugly offered by Western advisers as a solution thus angered the Japanese more than birth control.

Finally, there was industrialization. This, indeed, was the direction of Japan's major effort at a solution. But industry requires raw materials and natural resources, and here Japan ran into a truly remarkable streak of bad luck. There was gold and mineral wealth in abundance in the Philippines, rubber in Indochina, oil in Borneo—but the volcanic rock of the Japanese islands yielded very little. Perhaps the ultimate insult in this regard came on the island of Sakhalan, which was divided by treaty between Japan and Russia. Japan searched diligently all along the southern portion of the island but found nothing of value; the Russians, after brief exploration, found on the northern half one of the largest oil fields then known!

What was Japan to do without resources? Again, there were two economic theories then prevalent, offering two different solutions. The first theory originated in Italian Fascist intellectual circles—a strange place for such a theory—because it was analogous to the communist "class struggle." Just as there can be a class struggle between rich and poor, bourgeoisie and proletariat, within a country, this argument went, so could there be an international struggle between "have" and "have-not" nations for global raw materials and natural resources. Chamberlin comments, ironically, that even in Germany ". . . National Socialist leaders have displayed an increasing tendency to attribute their country's economic difficulties largely to the lack of colonial sources of essential raw materials." Thus, Germany, Italy, and Japan were the major "have-not" nations of the world. And, in their struggle against the "have" nations, Germany sought a solution in a Russian empire, Italy in a Mediterranean empire, and Japan in an Asian empire.

Western economists of the "have" nations disagreed with this theory. They claimed that the mere ownership of colonial resources "meant nothing" because, "the expense of conquering and administering colonies is out of all proportion to the trade, investment, and migration benefits which accrue from colonial imperialism." And, "Since the producers of essential raw materials are only too eager to find buyers, . . . there is nothing to prevent a nation which is poor in raw materials from buying what it needs in the cheapest market and building up its industries on imported raw materials."

(It is interesting to notice that this theory has suddenly become relevant once again, with the Arab oil embargo of 1973, and the shoe on the other foot! United States and Europe were suddenly "have nots" and found it distinctly unpleasant. Western economists promptly dusted this theory off and reminded us that if the Arabs refuse to sell us their oil, or put too high a price on it, they will be stuck with a product for which they have no other possible use. The Arabs also understand the argument, from the standpoint that it is not in their interests to wreck the Western economy and thus destroy their best market.

Nonetheless, although everybody seems to agree with the theory, few countries like being in the position of Japan of the 1930s. Even though this time Japan is again with us, in the same boat! Thus, while economists and negotiators in the U.S. and elsewhere constantly quote this argument, present U.S. political policy is to make the nation "energy independent" as soon as possible.)

And Chamberlin immediately goes on to show why this economic argument, while sound in theory, was of little comfort to the Japanese. Quite simply, it put Japan at the mercy of the "have" nations. Says Chamberlin: "Japan needs rubber. The natives of

Malaya need cheap textiles. But the process of normal exchange is upset when the British Government, quite naturally concerned by the plight of the Lancashire textile industry, imposes a quota which sharply reduces Japanese sales of textiles in Malaya." Thus, "With trade restrictions established and multiplying all over the world, it is not easy to convince the Japanese that physical possession of essential raw materials is a matter of indifference" and "There is a strong temptation to cast the samurai sword into the mercantile scales that seem unfairly weighted against Japan."

This temptation, and popular feeling in Japan at the time, is captured better than any dry historical account possibly could, by a remarkable series of quotations of translated speeches and articles from the island empire.

Chamberlin quotes from an article by Japanese publicist Rin Kaito:

For over a century and a half the Asiatics have been pressed down by the Whites and subjected to Western tyranny. But Japan, after defeating Russia, has aroused the sleeping Asiatics to shake off the Western tyranny and torture.

From a pamphlet issued by the Japanese Naval Ministry in 1935:

In view of Japan's geographical position the powers should leave the maintenance of peace in the Orient in the hands of Japan, which is now powerful enough to perform this duty. If other powers fail to recognize the mission of Japan they may well be said to disobey the will of Heaven.

Translated excerpt from *Japanese and Oriental Political Philosophy*, by Professor Chikao Fujisawa:

The Emperor as Sage-King would think it his sacred duty to love and protect not only the people of this land, but also those alien peoples who are suffering from misgovernment and privations. It must be recalled that the Sage-King is answerable in person for the pacification of the entire Under-Heaven, which is the ancient name for the whole world; consequently his moral and political influence ought to make itself strongly felt through the length and breadth of the earth. Should any unlawful elements dare to obstruct in one way or another the noble activities of the Sage-King, he would be permitted to appeal to force . . . the heavenly mission of Japan to tranquilize the whole world.

Chamberlin writes that during his visits to Japan he spoke with many Japanese university professors with similar views. One of them concluded such talk with "a very amiable smile" and added, "Some people say I am an imperialist. But I think I am only a sane liberal."

Having quoted the above statements, I hasten to remind readers that these are quotations taken out of context of a tumultuous period of history; and, if you will compare carefully, you will find them no more absurd, indeed probably less absurd, than Nazi Aryan propaganda of the same period. Moreover, like Nazi propaganda, it mostly originated from high political or academic positions where it was "party line". There is little evidence that the Japanese or German peoples believe their respective propaganda so much as they went along with it due to a sense of national duty. Thus, in the recent book *Tojo*, (Ballantine, 1975) Alvin D. Cox states that if it had been put to a vote, as late as 1940, he estimates 80% of the population of Japan would have voted against going to war. Most of Japan's political leaders felt the same way, but control of the government was seized by the military, and they exploited the popular conception of Emperor Hirohito as Sage-King to present their military expansion as a religious crusade.

ZEDEK'S PACIFIC ORIGINS

Dan Zedek's remarkable PACIFIC ORIGINS game variant, included in this issue, may not be a "perfect" game. However, every gamer who has playtested it so far (and this includes about twenty hardcore gamers in California and Maryland) have found it superior to standard ORIGINS and more than a few remarked "this is the only thing that could really get me back into playing ORIGINS."

The game subject is one that defies perfection as a simulation. Many players, for example, were unhappy that they could not appropriate their PFs to Europe or the Pacific as they pleased. Obviously, this would have resulted in a very wild game almost impossible to balance. Moreover, it would be unrealistic to suppose that, say, Britain would pull out of the Pacific entirely to stop Hitler, or let Hitler have Europe to gain ascendance in the Pacific. Thus, European and Pacific PF allocations for a country like Britain represent an overall policy commitment to these respective theatres. Moreover, many of the PFs in one theatre could not have been transferred to the other even if England had desired to do so. For example, abandoning Hong Kong would not have increased England's influence in Europe—indeed, would likely have decreased it. And vice versa. The same holds with the other "two-theatre" countries.

A certain amount of PF transference could have taken place—especially in terms of fleets, etc.—and this is abstracted in the present game in the interboard relationship rules. Readers who are interested may experiment with a Max/Min PF allocation system if they wish; wherein total PFs for both theatres are given a player each turn, and he has a certain amount of discretion as to which theatre to place his PFs within set Max/Min limits. General feeling, however, is that such rules discriminate against the one-theatre nations of Germany, Japan, and China.

Perhaps the toughest nut to crack was the problem of the Sino-Japanese War. This was a very unique event, in that it represented "hot" war being actively carried out through much of the global diplomacy era of the 1930s. Many gamers felt that it should be omitted entirely. Zedek felt it should be included as a Japanese option, but if Japan opted for a "hot" war with China it would obviously have to be a very different game design element from the standard Diplomatic Attacks that continue among non-belligerent powers. And so you have the Sino-Japanese War Table. The Japanese player must judge carefully whether, as events unfold, his best chance for a win on Objective Points lays in a major Diplomatic Assault on Western Colonies, or a "hot" war with China.

Meanwhile, Western powers can never make their colonies "safe" from Japanese diplomatic aggression, since only Japan seeks a colonial Control. The Western parent nation seeks NC (no control) for his colony and the Allies seek a mild (low point) Understanding with each others colonies. This was done to reflect their mutual self-interest in keeping their colonial possessions from Japan.

PACIFIC ORIGINS captures very well, I think, the overall strategic essence of the global diplomacy that preceded the global war of 1939-45. Obviously, this is not a simulation-in-detail. Zedek had a lot of problems to solve; he has come up with some interesting solutions and a fast, intelligent, and fun game that is well worth your time and a place in your collection.



PACIFIC ORIGINS

by Dan Zedek

I. HOW TO PLAY

Pacific Origins is a companion game to *ORIGINS OF WORLD WAR II* and is primarily designed to be played simultaneously with that game. The new mapsheet is of East Asia in the 1930s; it should be placed on a separate table, if possible, but arranged so players have easy access to both gameboards. China and Japan are also introduced as active participants, so this variant may include up to seven players. (However, five people may still play. Germany/Japan and France/China can be single players as there is no conflict of interests between these respective countries. See below). Hereafter, we shall refer to these simultaneous games as PO (*Pacific Origins*) and EO (*European Origins*).

All rules for standard *ORIGINS* are used except as modified or expanded here. However, the rules changes are minimal, as you will see. Thus, playtesters have found this game easy to learn, very fast moving and, perhaps most important of all—it's now interesting even to France and the U.S.A.

II. STANDARD RULES:

MODIFICATIONS & EXPANSIONS

(1) Separate National Objectives (Chart I) and PF Allocations (Chart II) are provided for the Pacific theatre. These are used in the same way as standard EO charts.

(2) PF allocations received in the Pacific must be placed on the PO mapsheet. PF allocations received in Europe must be placed on the EO gameboard. PFs of any country may NEVER be transferred from one gameboard to the other.

(3) As in standard rules, PFs received in the Pacific must be placed on the mapsheet immediately, either in one's home country or as the player desires. Notice that special holding areas in the Pacific have been provided for Britain, France, and the U.S.A. These are "home" areas for these countries in the Pacific.

(4) British, French, Russian, and United States PFs in home areas on the PO board are completely separate from similar PFs on the EO home areas. No exchanges are allowed between a nation's two home areas, nor may units in these two home areas be combined for an attack.

(5) For purposes of this simultaneous game, standard European Origins is considered to begin in 1934 and end in 1939 (instead of 1935 to 1940). This is no way changes the play of that game. It remains six turns long, and all Objectives, PF allocations, and victory conditions remain the same.

Pacific Origins begins in 1932 and ends with completion of the 1940 turn. It is nine turns in length. The German player has no active part for the first two game turns, but may if invited sit in on negotiations to pave the way for any future benefits as the situation in the Pacific unfolds.

A complete Player Turn Order is now as follows: U.S., France, Britain, Russia, Germany, China, Japan.

III. SPECIAL INTERBOARD RELATIONSHIPS

Although PFs may not be transferred from one board to another, certain interboard relationships do exist and may be used to advantage by countries with PFs on both boards.

(1) Remember that Britain, France, Russia, and the United States have two Objectives Tables—one for Europe and one for the Pacific. Objective points

in Europe count only toward victory on the European board. Objective points in the Pacific count only toward victory on the Pacific board. Thus, each of the above countries will have two separate Objective Point totals at game's end, and, for example, Britain could win on one board and lose on the other.

(2) The Pacific Objectives Table sometimes gives an "E" as an objective for one of the above four countries in the Pacific. This merely denotes that although there are no Pacific interests, there are European ones and these may be relevant. For example, Russia's Pacific interests with Britain are denoted by "E"; thus, although Russia cannot gain an Understanding with Britain in the Pacific, the "E" refers him to the European board, where an Understanding is possible.

(3) UNDERSTANDINGS on one board are binding on the other. If Russia should get an Understanding with Britain on the European board, this Understanding is binding to Britain on both boards.

Understandings with colonies have no significance whatever apart from their Objective Point value. For example, a Russian Understanding with French Indochina gives Russia 2 Objective Points but does *not* constitute an Understanding with France. Only Japan seeks to Control colonies; parent nations seek NC (No Control) in resisting Japanese desires, and colonial Understandings merely reflect the mutual self-interest among Western powers that their colonies should be free of Japanese Control.

Players may still ALWAYS attack foreign PFs in their home countries or home "holding" areas.

(4) COMBAT: As previously stated, players may never combine PFs on the two boards for an attack. However, there is a special case in which a player may use PFs in his home area on one board to attack foreign PFs in his home area on the other board:

(a) When an opponent places PFs in your home area, you may attack those PFs only with your own PFs in that home area on that board.

(b) However, if you do not have enough PFs in the home area to make a legal attack (and you may deliberately bring this situation about during placement of PFs if you wish), then—and only then—you may elect to attack with PFs in your home area on the other board. This assumes you *do* have enough PFs in your other home area for a legal attack. Remember, PFs in the two home areas may *not* be added together; losses are taken from the area from which the attack is made.

Example: Britain has 9 PFs in England/Europe and 3 PFs in Britain's Pacific "home area". Japan has 3 PFs in Britain's Pacific "home area". If Britain should wish to attack, she must attack with Pacific PFs at 1-1 odds, since this is a legal attack. However, if Britain had only 2 PFs in the Pacific "home" area (no legal attack), she could elect to attack with the 9 PFs in Europe at 3-1 odds. In event of an exchange, British losses would have to be taken from the attacking (European) area; the two British PFs in the Pacific would be unaffected by any adverse results since they were not involved.

Notice that the above still does not entail any actual transference of PF units from one board to another.

(c) This rule would also make it legal, for example, for British PFs in the Pacific "home" area

CHART I

PACIFIC ORIGINS OBJECTIVES TABLE

| Objective | U.S. | FR. | BR. | USSR | CHINA | JAPAN |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| Britain | E | E | — | E | U3 | U1 |
| Burma | U1 | U1 | NC3 | — | U1 | C1 |
| China | NC3* | NC2* | NC2* | U3 | — | U1* |
| D.E. Indies | U2 | U2 | U2 | — | — | C2 |
| Malaya | U2 | U2 | NC3 | — | — | C2 |
| France | E | — | E | E | U3 | U1 |
| Indochina | U1 | NC5 | U1 | U2 | U1 | C1 |
| Japan | U2 | U2 | U1 | U5 | U1 | — |
| Manchuria | U2 | U1 | U1 | U3 | C3 | C3 |
| Mongolia | U1 | U2 | U1 | C4 | C1 | U2 |
| Phillippines | NC4 | U1 | U2 | U3 | — | C2 |
| USSR | E | E | E | — | U3 | U2 |
| Hong Kong | U2 | U2 | NC4 | — | — | C2 |
| U.S. | — | — | E | — | U4 | U1 |

*See Sino-Japanese War Rules

CHART II

PACIFIC ORIGINS—PF ALLOCATION CHART

| | U.S. | FR. | BR. | USSR | CHINA | JAPAN |
|------|------|-----|-----|------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 1932 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| 1933 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 13 |
| 1934 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 10 | 16 (European Origins Start) |
| 1935 | 12 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 12 | 19 |
| 1936 | 16 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 14 | 22 |
| 1937 | 20 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 16 | 25 |
| 1938 | 22 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 18 | 28 |
| 1939 | 26 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 31 (European Origins ENDS) |
| 1940 | 28 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 22 | 34 |

Also: Cf Sino-Japanese WAR Table; for every PF China loses due to Sino-Japanese war, award Japan ½ an Objective Point. Any remaining fractions are not rounded off. The Japanese player may wish to "collect" these Chinese PFs to count up after the game.

CHART III

PACIFIC ORIGINS—SINO-JAPANESE WAR TABLE

| | Shanghai and/or Peking | Hankow | Canton | Kunming | Chungking |
|---------|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| WAR I | 1,2,3,4,5 | 1,2 | 1 | — | — |
| WAR II | 1,2,3,4,5 | 1,2,3 | 1,2 | 1 | — |
| WAR III | 1,2,3,4,5 | 1,2,3,4 | 1,2,3 | 1,2 | — |
| WAR IV | 1,2,3,4,5 | 1,2,3,4,5 | 1,2,3,4 | 1,2,3 | 1 |
| PF | 1 PF each | 2 PFs/turn | 3 PFs/turn | 4 PFs/turn | — |
| Losses: | per turn | | | | |

When any of the above cities fall, the Chinese player loses the indicated number of PFs from his PF allocation for each succeeding PF allocation phase for the remainder of the game. These Chinese PF losses should be set aside or given to the Japanese player for holding (he may not use them); at the end of the game, the Japanese player gets ½ on Objective Point for each such Chinese allocated PF. Fractions are not rounded off—Japan could win by a fraction of an Objective Point.

Obviously, there will be no PF allocation Phase after the 1940 turn. Since this is the only turn on which Chungking may be captured, it has no PF Loss value; nor is there a PF loss for any cities captured in 1940.

Thus, Japan's only motive for attacking in China (1940) would be (a) to gain the four cities necessary for Control of China, or (b) try to knock China completely out of the game, which is a long shot but worth it if China should be ahead on points.

to attack German PFs in England. *if* Britain did not have enough PFs in England/Europe "home" for a legal attack. Likewise, France, U.S., and Russia may all use this tactic for breaking undesired European Understandings.

This also allows for a minimal amount of German/Japanese cooperation: Japan may attack British PFs in British/Pacific "home" area to prevent these units from attacking a German Understanding in England/Europe. Or, if it does not have a legal attack on Britain's Pacific "home", attack British PFs in England to weaken Britain in Europe. This is greatly to Japan's interest, as she wants to see a war break out in Europe (i.e., a German win with 15 points) since this greatly increases Japan's own possibilities, as we shall see.

Germany, on the other hand, will seldom opt to attack PFs in Pacific holding areas even if the opportunity arises. Adverse results weaken Germany in Europe, and it is no benefit to the German to eliminate (say) British PFs in the Pacific.

IV. SINO-JAPANESE WAR

(1) Starting with the 1937 turn, Japan may elect to do away with diplomacy and declare outright war on China. It is not necessary for Japan to control Manchuria or to attack/remove any Chinese Understanding with Japan.

(a) At the beginning of his turn, prior to placement of his PF allocations, the Japanese player simply announces his declaration of war. This may be done on any turn from 1937 to 1940 (although the only point of doing so in 1940 would be to convert a shared Control of Manchuria to Exclusive Japanese Control).

(b) All Chinese PFs in Japan are removed (including any Understandings) and no Chinese PFs may be placed in Japan for the remainder of the game. All Japanese PFs in China are removed, including any Understanding.

(c) If China and Japan have SHARED Control of Manchuria, this automatically converts to exclusive Japanese Control. The Chinese Control marker is simply removed.

(d) The Japanese player may now place his PF allocations as per usual. He may, and probably will, place them in China.

(e) The usual Diplomatic Attack Phase is now executed, starting with the United States (both boards) on through to Japan.

(4) After all diplomatic attacks are completed, a "Turn" now has a "Sino-Japanese War Phase." Simply, it is this: at the end of any turn that Japan has more PFs in China than the Chinese do, the Japanese may roll the Sino-Japanese War Table. When allowed to roll on the table, he may roll for every city on the table.

The first time the Japanese player rolls on the table, he must roll the WAR I column; the second time he uses it, the WAR II column, etc. Thus, if he declares war in 1937, and is superior to China in PFs on every subsequent turn, he will get to use the WAR IV table in 1940.

(g) Each city needs to be captured only once. It becomes a permanent Japanese possession for the remainder of the game.

(h) If Japan captures every Chinese city, he has conquered China. All Chinese PFs are removed from the board and China scores "zero" for the game.

But this is not likely. It is possible only on the last game turn; and then only if Japan is rolling on the WAR IV Chart, and rolls a "1" against Chungking.

(i) Thus, throughout the Sino-Japanese War, China or any other Player in the Pacific may continue to place as many PFs as they please in China. Russia may even secure her Understanding (U3) with China. These foreign PFs may even be

used in separate foreign attacks, if sufficient for legal attack, on Japanese PFs in China. This would be in an effort to contain the Japanese in China. (It is not likely that anybody can put enough PFs in China for a legal attack against Japanese PFs unless the Japanese player is not making an all-out effort here).

Any turn in which Japan is unable/unwilling to place enough PFs in China to exceed Chinese PFs there, he is not allowed to roll on the WAR Table.

(j) Prior to rolling the WAR Table, Japanese PFs in China may make diplomatic attacks on Chinese PFs or any other nation's PFs (except nations that have an Understanding in Japan). Only after the Diplomatic Attack Phase are Chinese/Japanese PFs in China compared to determine whether Japan may roll the WAR Table.

(k) Each Chinese city that falls to the Japanese reduces China's PF allocation per turn for the remainder of the game by the amount indicated on the WAR Table. A record must be kept of the total PFs lost; or, more simply, at time of China's PF Allocation, these "lost" PFs are physically set aside or handed to the Japanese player (he may not use them). At the end of the game, Japan gets 1/2 Objective Point for each such Chinese PF in his possession. Fractions are not rounded off. Japan could win by a fraction of an Objective Point.

Notice that since there is no PF allocation after the 1940 (end of game) turn, no PFs are lost from this non-allocation phase. Accordingly, no PF loss is given for Chungking.

(2) JAPANESE CONTROL OF CHINA: The Pacific Origins Objective Chart lists NC (No Control) as United States, British, and French Objectives in China but does not list a C (Control) to oppose them. Japan's stated Objective is Understanding (U1); and this would seem to give the Allies automatic NC points.

However, if Japan declares war on China, an Understanding is no longer possible. Japan is said to CONTROL China if four or more cities are captured; at such a time, Russia would automatically lose her Understanding (without it being attacked) and all foreign PFs would be removed from China without attacks. Only Japanese and Chinese PFs would remain in China; the Chinese, to try to prevent total fall of the country. Even if China survives (China still has a good chance to survive and, ironically, to win), with four cities captured, the allies lose their NC points. China is Japanese Controlled for remainder of game.

Summing up: Japan is not required to declare war on China, but may do so at the beginning of any turn from 1937 to 1940. Only in event of war do these rules apply. Japan should declare war in 1940 in any event, since (a) it would automatically convert a SHARED Control of Manchuria to Japanese Exclusive Control, and (b) some lucky die rolls would rip-off some fast NC points from the Allies. But to be sure, Japan must go to war in 1937 and make this a major effort; and win Objective Points by early capture of cities rather than diplomatic confrontations with the Western powers.

V. WAR IN EUROPE

The European game ends in 1939 and the winner is determined in Europe by standard victory conditions. If a war has broken out in Europe (i.e., Germany has won with 15 or more Objective Points), Britain, France and Russia are considered to be "soaked-off" in the Pacific and the following conditions result for the final (1940) turn in the Pacific:

(1) Only the United States, China, and Japan receive their 1940 PF allocations in the Pacific. Britain, France, and Russia receive no new PFs and must play the final Pacific turn with whatever PFs they have on hand.

(2) PFs in European "home" areas may not attack foreign PFs in their Pacific "home areas" even if otherwise legal according to rule III, 4 above. Nor are Understandings in Europe binding in the Pacific. The European board is dead for all play purposes in the Pacific.

(3) If there is no war in Europe, the above conditions do not occur. While the European game is still over, any Understandings there are still binding and rule III-2 interboard attacks may still be made when legal.

VI. HOW TO WIN

(1) There is a separate winner for Europe and Asia.

(2) As in European Origins, the player with the most Objective Points in the Pacific wins.

(3) To compare how the European and Pacific winners did, multiply the Asian's total by 5 and the European's by four. The higher score is the TOTAL game winner: there is still only ONE winner!

VII. WAR IN ASIA

As in European Origins, whether or not war breaks out in Asia has no effect on play or victory. However, if at the end of the game (a) Japan wins and (b) Japan is at war with China, war in the Pacific may be considered to have broken out. However, if at the end of the game Japan has completely conquered China or has not declared war on China, there is no war. Only if Japan wins the game while still bogged down in a Sino-Japanese war does the Pacific theatre of war result.

VIII. FIVE PLAYER VERSION

The rules as given above are for seven players. However, five may also play this variant; and, indeed, may find the game more interesting.

(1) For five players, Germany/Japan should be a single player, and France/China should be a single player.

(2) The only conflict of interest entailed here is with Franch/Chinese Objectives in Mongolia. Therefore, in this version allow France (only) an Understanding with Mongolia even if China has exclusive Control. Japanese Control or Shared Control would not permit the French understanding.

(3) IMPORTANT: Using this variant, only nations with PFs on both boards (i.e., Russia, France, England, United States) may use rule III-4 interboard combat. This will prevent France from "sacrificing" China or Germany "sacrificing" Japan to promote a strong win on one board.

IX. SETTING UP THIS VARIANT

We've tried to make this game as easy to set up as it is to play. Suggestions:

(1) Obviously, you need a copy of *ORIGINS OF WORLD WAR II*; but it would help if you have two copies, since you will need extra European PF counters. If you don't have two people with copies, simply order extra countersheets from the AH parts department.

(2) Chinese and Japanese PF counters are provided here, but you should mount them before play.

CLARIFICATIONS

(1) The mapsheet shows a special "Holding Area" for Hong Kong. This is merely a play-aid convenience. Units placed in the Hong Kong box are considered to be in the city; thus, all PFs placed in Hong Kong are simply placed in the holding box.

(2) Manchuria and Mongolia are not considered part of any country. They are exactly like Alsace-Lorraine and the Rhineland in European *ORIGINS*.

AREA TOP TEN

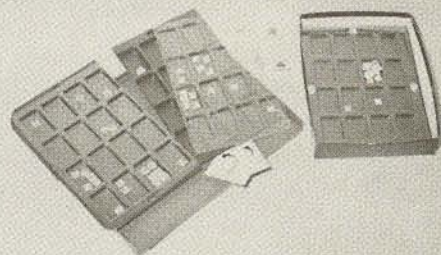
| Rank | Name | Times On List | Rating | Previous Rank |
|------|--------------|---------------|---------|---------------|
| 1. | R. Chiang | 4 | EGL2060 | 1 |
| 2. | T. Oleson | 5 | H01804 | 2 |
| 3. | C. Todoroff | 3 | CGII793 | 4 |
| 4. | R. Wood | 2 | DEJ1754 | 3 |
| 5. | S. Heinowski | 3 | CFI1744 | 5 |
| 6. | G. Kilbride | 2 | CDG1697 | 6 |
| 7. | S. Packwood | 3 | CEA1619 | 8 |
| 8. | D. Barker | 3 | DFG1613 | 7 |
| 9. | F. Small | 1 | CDF1591 | - |
| 10. | J. Le Jeune | 4 | CDE1579 | 9 |

The above players represent the 10 highest verified (11+ rated games) of the 3,000 member AREA pool. Players with an opponent qualifier less than C were not calculated among the top player ratings.

The "Times on List" statistic is considered as "Consecutive" times on list. If a player slips out of the Top 10 for any length of time his next appearance is considered as his first.

The following AREA memberships have been terminated. No rating points can be awarded for games with these individuals as they are no longer members of the system.

| | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 06109-01 | 60641-01 | 91789-01 |
| 14037-01 | 70601-04 | 98106-02 |
| 45208-01 | 73139-01 | CANAD-02 |



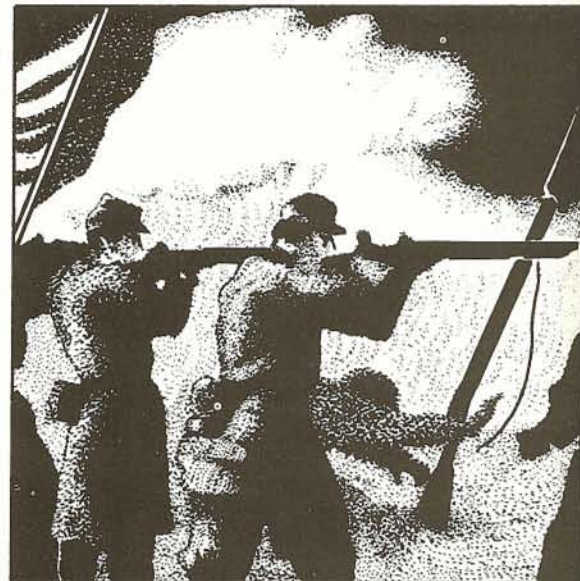
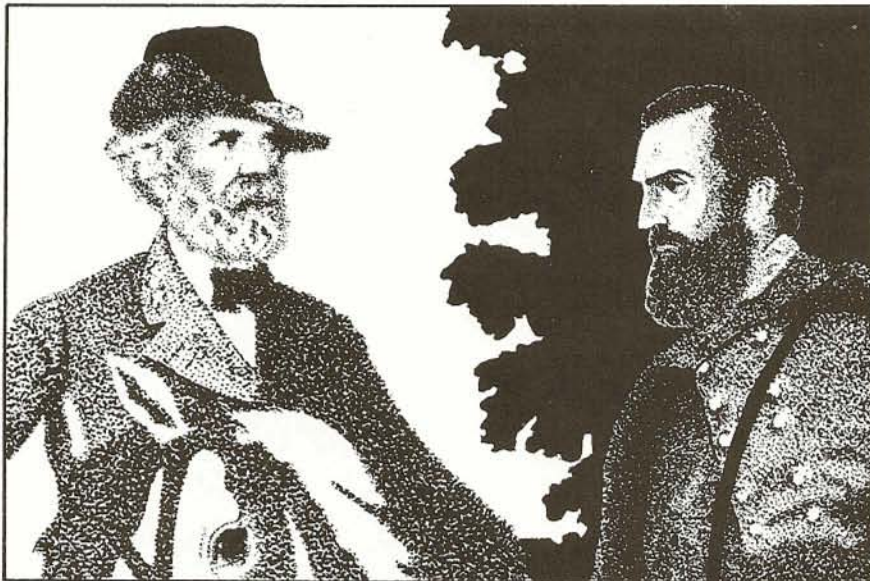
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CAMPAIGN FREDERICKSBURG— A CHANCELLORSVILLE VARIANT

by Richard Hamblen

I. THE CAMPAIGN GAME: There are two time record charts used in Campaign Fredericksburg. One, measured in days, keeps track of the periods of inactivity between battles; the other, measured in turns, is used during a battle.

A. The day chart is called the *game calendar*; each game-day is called a *calendar date*. The game calendar consists of a list of the actual calendar dates, in sequence, from November 18, 1862 (when the game starts) until January 31, 1863 (when the game ends). The players have to make this chart themselves.

1. Game Procedure: The Confederate Player keeps track of the game calendar. Starting with November 18, 1862, he calls out each date in turn.

a. After the date has been announced both players check their "Order of Appearance" tables. All units listed under "Present to be deployed" for that date are placed in the proper player's base pile. Units listed for a previous date but which have not yet appeared in the game also appear. Units that have already been on the board do not return.

b. Each player in turn moves any of his units he desires from each edge pile to any complete hex along that edge. These units may not be placed within an enemy combat unit's zone of control; they may push aside enemy Headquarters units in the way.

c. If the Replacement Pool has arrived on the Order of Appearance chart, the Union player may use it to rebuild eliminated infantry divisions. When he expends a number of replacement points equal to the infantry strength of a division, he may move that division from the eliminated pile to the wrecked pile. The Replacement Pool has 15 points that may be used once a game; they do not all have to be used the same turn.

d. The Union player may move all the units of one corps (or the Artillery Reserve) from the wrecked pile to the Federal base pile. The corps may not be a "ruined" corps. The Confederates may move all the units of any one division from the wrecked pile to the south edge pile. In addition, the

Confederates may move any Corps or Army HQ units from the wrecked pile to the base pile. The Federals may move any Grand Division or Army HQ's to their base pile.

e. Strategic Movement. Each player may move all of the units that are on the board. Each unit may move an unlimited distance *except*: each unit that is moved must end the movement on a non-river hex on its own side of the river (the triangle in the northwest between the rivers is nobody's side of the river—no stopping there); a unit may not enter and may not pass through a roadless wood hex nor a hex in an enemy zone of control; river hexes may be crossed only at pontoons and fords; and each unit must move individually and only once per date. Any infantry division that doesn't move may place a fort counter on its hex, if it is out of enemy ZOC. Similarly, any infantry division that does not move may remove a fort if it is sitting on. The forts must be placed in accordance with the rules of *CHANCELLORSVILLE*—no rivers nor town hexes, a maximum of 15 forts south of the Rappahannock and five forts north of the Rappahannock, etc. Removed forts may be emplaced again.

If a unit cannot abide by the above rules, it cannot move. The Union player moves first.

f. Each player now announces in turn whether he wants to start a battle on this date. The Union player announces first. If neither player does, the Confederate player crosses off the date and goes on to the next one (step a).

(i) The Union player has the privilege of announcing the first battle in the campaign. The Confederate may not announce a battle until after the end of the first battle.

(ii) No battles may be announced after January 27, 1863, because they could not be finished. Battles in progress may end.

B. The turn record chart is called the *battle chart* and is simply the *CHANCELLORSVILLE* Time Record Chart with *one more day* (i.e., column) of turns added on. The players can use the

chart provided in *CHANCELLORSVILLE*, adding a column of turns along the right edge.

1. Battle Procedure: a battle is played just like a game of *CHANCELLORSVILLE* except for the modifications listed in these rules.

a. The battle will last four days (each column of turns on the Time Record Chart is a "day"). As each column of turns is completed, the Confederate player checks off another date on the game calendar and announces the next date.

b. The player who announces the battle is the initiator. He immediately gets to make a Strategic Movement (see rule I.A.e above). He also gets the first player segment each turn of this battle. There is no special initial movement turn.

c. As the turns pass, both players should watch their Order of Appearance tables. By date, the "Arriving" column lists the units, hex location and turn when new units enter the game. These units are placed on the named hex—pushing aside any counters in that hex, if necessary—and may move immediately.

d. Any unit may exit the board along any edge, either during movement or as the result of a retreat. Headquarters units go into the edge pile for that edge. Combat units go into the edge pile only if their immediate Headquarters unit is already in that edge pile.

e. When the fourth column of turns on the battle chart has been completed, the battle is over.

2. Ending the battle: after the last turn each player goes through the following steps. The Union player does each step first.

a. Isolation: Each unit on the board must be able to trace an unbroken path of hexes free of enemy ZOC to any edge of the board. Units which cannot are immediately eliminated.

b. Supply lines: Each unit must be able to trace a path five hexes long to a supply road. The five hex path may cross a river only at a ford, an emplaced pontoon, or an emplaced boat. Any unit which cannot is immediately placed in the wrecked pile.

c. Ruined corps: Any Union corps with more than one half of its infantry units eliminated is ruined. Place all the uneliminated units of that corps—including artillery and headquarters units—in the wrecked pile.

d. Off-board units: units in friendly edge piles are all right. Units in unfriendly edge piles must either: 1) outnumber the enemy combat factors in that edge pile by at least 2-1; 2) have a supply road leading to that edge; or 3) be Confederate cavalry units. Units that fail all three tests are placed in the wrecked pile.

e. The senior officer shift: all eliminated Confederate corps and army headquarters are returned to the board, all eliminated Federal Grand Division and army headquarters are returned to the board. Every Federal corps HQ counter must be placed on an infantry unit of that corps—the Federal player may choose which infantry unit. The Confederate player must place every division HQ in play on some combat unit of that division. This must be done even if the HQs or the infantry units are in the eliminated pile.

f. All disrupted counters are un-disrupted.

g. Victory conditions are calculated (see section II).

3. Aftermath of battle: the game goes back to the routine outlined in section I.1 *except*:

a. The date after the battle is just crossed off. No action of any type takes place on that date.

b. The second date after the battle no new battle may be announced.

c. The third date after the battle only the Confederate player may announce a battle.

d. Then back to normal.

II. VICTORY CONDITIONS: These are calculated at the end of every battle and then again at the end of the game.

A. Victory Points: total the following:

1. The Union player gets one victory point for each Union corps HQ counter on the board, in an edge pile, or not yet arrived in the game.

2. The Confederate player gets one victory point for every division HQ counter or full-strength division on the board, in an edge pile, or not yet arrived in the game.

3. If either player has a unit in the enemy's base pile, he gets one victory point for that.

4. The Union player gets one victory point if he has a supply road leading off the south edge of the road.

5. The Union player gets a bonus of one point per HQ counter in the Confederacy's base pile if Federal combat factors in that pile outnumber Confederate combat factors in that pile by more than 2-1.

6. Add any carryforward victory points from previous battles.

B. The meaning of all this: compare each side's total victory points and consult the list below for results.

1. Difference of one point: Minor victory. Critical newspaper editorials for the loser, hopeful ones for the victor.

2. Difference of two points: Victory. Doubts are raised about the loser, Hosannas about the victor, who carries 1 point forward to the next victory calculation.

3. Difference of three points: Major victory. North and South alike are stunned—momentarily—by the outcome. The victor carries forward two victory points.

4. Difference of four victory points: Decisive Victory. The campaign goes into the history books, the victor gets voted the Thanks of Congress (whichever Congress seems appropriate), and the loser is removed from command. *The campaign ends here!*

III. RULES MODIFICATIONS: These are not really part of the campaign game, they're just good rules for the sake of historical authenticity.

A. Stacking Limits

1. Units that use the road bonus may stack with other units that use the road bonus to a limit that is one half the standard stacking limit (i.e., one Federal unit or II Confederate combat factors per hex). They may stack up to the normal limit with units that do not use the road bonus.

2. The stacking limit is also halved in roadless woods hexes.

3. Union cavalry units may not swim. They can cross river hexes only at fords and emplaced pontoons.

B. Terrain Considerations

1. The Rappahannock was really not that wide; artillery firing across it from Stafford Heights (which should be right on the bank of the river) had considerable range. So: artillery units firing from one side of a river to a target on the other side have a range of three hexes.

2. Hex GG36 was blocked by a drainage ditch during the battle of Fredericksburg. Any unit that enters that hex stops and becomes disrupted before any combat takes place.

C. Command Foibles: to represent the individual idiosyncrasies and abilities of the various commanders:

1. Burnside didn't think the fords were usable until after the first battle failed. Union infantry and artillery and pontoon units may not cross at fords until after the first battle has been completed.

2. The Federal command structure was unwieldy. On any one turn during a battle the Federal player may move the units of only two Grand Divisions—the other Grand Divisions may not move. If the Army HQ unit moves, then only one Grand Division's units may move. In any case, the Artillery Reserve units may always move.

3. Longstreet was the most devastating attacker of the war. The Longstreet counter may join in an attack like any infantry unit—the attack he joins goes up one column on the combat results table.

4. Jackson's long suit was his elusiveness. Treat the Jackson counter as a special substitute counter—Confederate units stacked with him at the end of movement may be removed from the board and kept in a separate stack, face down. These units may return to the board at the beginning of any

ORDER OF APPEARANCE OF THE ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

| Date: | Present to be deployed: | Arriving: |
|---------|---|--|
| Nov. 18 | W.H.F. Lee, Norfolk Lt. Arty | |
| Nov. 19 | | McLaws, Ransom and Cabell* at A-10 (12 PM) |
| Nov. 20 | add McLaws, Ransom and Cabell* | add Longstreet HQ, Hood, Pickett, and Anderson at A-10 (12 PM) add Arty Reserve and I Corps Arty Reserve at A-10 (3 PM) |
| Nov. 21 | add the rest of I Corps add the Artillery Reserve | Lee HQ, Stuart HQ, F. Lee Pelham* and Hampton at A-8 (6 AM) |
| Nov. 22 | add Lee HQ, Stuart HQ add F. Lee, Hampton, Pelham* | |
| Nov. 29 | | Jackson's Corps at A-24 (12 PM) |
| Nov. 30 | add Jackson's Corps | |

*artillery unit

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

| Date: | Present to be deployed: | Arriving: |
|---------|--|---|
| Nov. 18 | Army HQ, Left Grand Division, one boat | VI Corps* at JJ-19 (12 PM) |
| Nov. 19 | add VI Corps* | I Corps** at W-12 (6 AM) III Corps*** at M-7 (3 PM) V Corps* at W-12 (3 PM) Arty Res at W-12 (6 PM) Averell at M-7 (6 PM) |
| Nov. 20 | add I Corps** add Center Grand Division*** add Artillery Reserve | |
| Nov. 25 | add two pontoons | Sickles at JJ-19 (6 PM) |
| Nov. 26 | add Sickles | |
| Nov. 28 | add two pontoons | |
| Dec. 1 | add an assault boat | |
| Dec. 7 | add one pontoon | |
| Dec. 14 | add Replacement Pool | XI Corps* at JJ-19 (12 PM) |
| Dec. 15 | add XI Corps* | |
| Dec. 16 | | XII Corps** at JJ-19 (12 PM) |
| Dec. 17 | add XII Corps** | |

*includes Grand Division HQ and artillery

**includes Grand Division cavalry

***except Sickles' division

ORDERS OF BATTLE FOR THE FREDERICKSBURG CAMPAIGN

FEDERAL

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC – Ambrose E. Burnside (0–8)

ARTILLERY RESERVE – Hunt (0–8)

Left (6–6)
Left Center (3–6)
Right Center (4–6)
Right (5–6)

RIGHT GRAND DIVISION – Sumner (0–8)

II CORPS – Couch (0–8)

Hancock (5–4)*
Howard (5–4)*
French (6–4)*

IX CORPS – Willcox (0–8)

Burns (4–4)*
Sturgis (5–4)*
Getty (4–4)*

CAVALRY DIVISION – Pleasanton (3–6)*

CENTER GRAND DIVISION – Hooker (0–8)

III CORPS – Stoneman (0–8)

Birney (5–4)*
Sickles (5–4)*
Whipple (5–4)*

V CORPS – Butterfield (0–8)

Griffin (5–4)*
Sykes (5–4)*
Humphreys (5–4)*

DIVISION ARTILLERY – Center (3–6)

CAVALRY BRIGADE – Averell (3–6)*

LEFT GRAND DIVISION – Franklin (0–8)

I CORPS – Reynolds (0–8)

Doubleday (6–4)*
Gibbon (5–4)*
Meade (5–4)*

VI CORPS – Smith

Brooks (7–4)*
Howe (7–4)*
Newton (7–4)*

DIVISION ARTILLERY – Left & Right (2–6)

CAVALRY BRIGADE – Bayard (3–6)*

RESERVE GRAND DIVISION – Sigel (0–8)

XI CORPS – Stahel (0–8)

McLean (4–4)*
Steinwehr (4–4)*
Schurz (4–4)*

XII CORPS – Slocum (0–8)

Williams (4–4)*
Geary (4–4)*

DIVISION ARTILLERY – Reserve (3–6)

CAVALRY BRIGADE – Di Cesnola (2–6)*

CONFEDERATE

FREDERICKSBURG GARRISON – Norfolk Light Artillery Blues (1–6)

ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA – Robert E. Lee (0–8)

ARTILLERY RESERVE – Pendleton (0–8)

Cutts (2–6)
Nelson (2–6)

CONFEDERATE CAVALRY – Stuart (0–8)

Hampton (3–8)
F. Lee (3–8)
W. H. F. Lee (3–8)

HORSE ARTILLERY – Pelham (3–8)

FIRST CORPS – Longstreet (0–8)

McLaws (8–4)

HQ ((0–8))
Barksdale ((2–4))
Cobb ((2–4))
Semmes ((2–4))
Kershaw ((2–4))

Anderson (8–4)*

HQ ((0–8))*
Wilcox ((2–4))
Featherston ((1–4))
Mahone ((2–4))
Wright ((2–4))
Perry ((1–4))

Pickett (8–4)*

HQ ((0–8))*
Garnett ((2–4))
Kemper ((2–4))
Armistead ((1–4))
Jenkins ((2–4))
Corse ((1–4))

Hood (8–4)*

HQ ((0–8))*
Law ((2–4))
Robertson ((2–4))
Anderson ((2–4))
Toombs ((2–4))

Ransom (4–4)*

HQ ((0–8))*
Ransom ((2–4))
Cooke ((2–4))

CORPS ARTILLERY RESERVE

Alexander (3–6)
Walton (2–6)

McLAWS ARTILLERY

Cabell (2–6)

SECOND CORPS – Jackson (0–8)

D. H. Hill (9–4)

Rodes ((2–4))
Doles ((2–4))
Colquitt ((2–4))
Iverson ((2–4))
Ramseur ((1–4))
HQ ((0–8))

A. P. Hill (12–4)

Breckenbrough ((2–4))
Gregg ((2–4))
Thomas ((2–4))
Lane ((2–4))
Archer ((2–4))
Pender ((2–4))
HQ ((0–8))

Early (8–4)

Atkinson ((2–4))
Hoke ((2–4))
Walker ((2–4))
Hays ((2–4))
HQ ((0–8))

Taliaferro (5–4)

Paxton ((2–4))
Jones ((1–4))
Warren ((1–4))
Pendleton ((1–4))
HQ ((0–8))

CORPS ARTILLERY

WITH D. H. HILL
WITH A. P. HILL
WITH EARLY
WITH TALIAFERRO
RESERVE

– Jones (2–6)
– Walker (3–6)
– Latimer (3–6)
– Breckenbrough (2–6)
– Brown (3–6)

subsequent Confederate movement phase, before any units on the board have moved. While they are with Jackson, the Jackson counter may move normally, but all stacking and movement rules must be obeyed just as if the whole stack were physically on the board with Jackson. If the Jackson counter ever attacks or is attacked (or, using the inverted counter rule, if it is ever turned face up), all the units with him must immediately be placed on the board with him.

(NOTE: If the Jackson or Longstreet counter is eliminated, the counter comes back—but after that the counter no longer has the special feature described above).

5. Chain of Command: in order to clarify the command chain in the two armies, I will list the various units and what HQ can un-disrupt them:

Confederate brigades: Proper Division HQ or any corps, army

Confederate artillery: Proper Division HQ or any corps, army

Confederate reserve artillery: Any HQ

Confederate Divisions or Division HQ: Any corps, army HQ
Union infantry divisions: Proper corps or Grand Division, or Army HQ

Union cavalry: Proper Grand Division or Army HQ

Union artillery: HQ named on unit, or the Artillery Reserve HQ, or Army HQ

Union corps, Grand Division HQs: Any higher echelon HQ

Union Artillery Reserve HQ: Army HQ only

Note that the Confederate cavalry units still un-disrupt by themselves, but the Union cavalry does *not*.

IV. WEATHER: Since the actual weather greatly affected the campaign in a number of ways, this rule is included as an optional way of introducing those effects (and the uncertainty that comes with them) into the game. The rule is optional first because it has to be a little complicated in order to be authentic, and second because so many people seem to hate weather rules.

A. When the Confederate player calls out each turn, he rolls a die and consults the chart below to see what the weather is for that day.

| 1. Roll | Weather |
|---------|-----------------|
| 1 | Rain |
| 2 | Monthly special |
| 3 | Monthly special |
| 4,5,6 | Clear |

2. The "Monthly special" is clear in November, Fog in December, and Rain in January.

B. Weather Effects

1. No battle: if no battle is in progress, only "Rain" is significant. If "Rain" is rolled, no Strategic movement is allowed and all unoccupied fortifications are removed from the board.

2. Battle: if a battle is in progress, or begins on this turn:

a. "Clear"—no effect

b. "Fog"—artillery range is cut to one hex in ALL situations.

c. "Rain"—all roads cease to be roads for this turn *except*:

(i) The "Plank Road"

(ii) The "Turnpike" or "Old Turnpike"

(iii) The road from Aldrich to Chancellorsville

(iv) The road from Falmouth to WW37

3. Delayed effects of rain. On the date *after* rain:

a. All fords cease to be fords for that turn

b. Off-road movement is penalized

(i) infantry and cavalry units may move half their MF

(ii) pontoons and artillery cannot move at all off the road.

c. Note that the above restrictions apply for both Strategic Movement and movement during a battle.

d. Note also if it rains the day after a previous rainfall the combination of effects makes movement very difficult.

Definition of terms:

Ruined Corps: A Union Corps with more than half of its infantry units (not factors) in the eliminated pile.

Wrecked Pile: A pile of units that have not been eliminated but which are not actively in the game. "Ruined" units go into the wrecked pile.

Friendly Edge: For the Federals, the north and east edges of the board; for the Confederates, the south and west edges.

Supply Road: A road that runs free of enemy ZOC to a friendly edge. A supply road may cross a road only at a pontoon.

Edge Piles: The piles of units that move off each edge of the board. There are four edge piles, one for each edge.

Base Piles: For the Federals, the north edge pile, for the Confederates, the south edge pile.



A. H. Philosophy . . . Continued from Page 2

Game. Playtest reactions to this game have been extremely favorable and it stands out as perhaps the most entertaining multi-player, non-Diplomacy type wargame we've ever done.

Wargames aren't the only thing of interest we're working on however. Indeed, the current rage among our staff and the local playtest group is a form of sophisticated railroad *MONOPOLY* called *BOXCARS*. A great little multi-player blend of luck, skill, and Diplomacy it will please anyone not totally sworn to cardboard tanks and vicarious cavalry charges.

Another little gem which will make its retail appearance this spring is *THE COLLECTOR*—a renamed and redesigned version of 3M's old *HIGH BID* game. A great social game for 3 to 5 players faintly resembling Rummy, this item has the added advantage of a short playing time (30-45 minutes) making it a delightful pastime for family play or a fun evening with two couples.

We have still other brands in the fire but they may not see the light of your gameroom in '77. We trust that somewhere within our crop for the coming year is something you'll enjoy. To us each game seems to surpass its predecessor in quality and we are extremely pleased with the coming yield. We hope you'll be too.



REDUCED HEX SHEET PADS

Now available from the Mail Order Department is a pad of 30 hex sheets with normal half inch hexes printed on one side and 1/8" hexes printed on the back. The pads are useful for designing your own games, making hex overlays for actual maps, or generally sketching moves and/or concepts. The pads are available from the parts department for \$1.00 plus postage.

Explanation of Orders of Battle:

General: The titles of each level of command are in capital letters; each body of troops that should have its own unit counter in the game is indicated by the name of its commander printed in lower case. After each name in lower case is the combat strength and movement allowance of that unit, enclosed in parentheses. Thus:

Birney (5-4)

stands for Birney's infantry division, which has a combat factor of 5 and a movement factor of 4 hexes a turn.

Many of the artillery units are identified by the name of their organization, rather than their commander.

The titles in upper case indicate if the units are artillery or cavalry. Units which are not so indicated are infantry divisions, each having a movement allowance of 4. The units indicated by a (0-8) following their name are headquarters units.

Asterisks () indicate infantry or cavalry units that contain "attached artillery." In addition to the combat factor printed for such units, each unit has one "invisible" artillery factor which always travels with the unit and which may be used as artillery in either of the artillery combat methods. This is a variation from the standard game of CHANCELLORSVILLE; it is meant to represent the large number of batteries in each army which were assigned directly to brigades or divisions to give artillery support on a small scale to the smaller infantry organizations. In practice, these batteries were almost never massed.*

To repeat, each asterisk * means that that unit has 1 extra, invisible, artillery point in addition to the printed combat factor. Thus, a (5-4)* can actually attack with 6 points if it does not use its artillery point in the offensive artillery phase.

Federal organization: Each Grand Division consists of two infantry corps, a cavalry force and an artillery unit. The Right Grand Division has no extra artillery. The four Grand Divisions and the Artillery Reserve make up the whole Army of the Potomac.

Notice that every non-artillery unit in the Federal Army has "attached artillery."

Notice also that Federal cavalry units have a movement allowance of 6. This is deliberate; the Federal troopers were still learning their trade.

Confederate organization: The units with their combat/movement factors enclosed in doubled parentheses, i.e., ((2-4)), are the substitute counters with which to replace the division counters. These substitutes consist of a number of infantry brigades and a divisional headquarters, marked ((0-8)).

The Norfolk Light Artillery Blues unit represents the two batteries, infantry regiment and cavalry regiment that held Fredericksburg in November, 1862. When the Army of Northern Virginia had finally shifted to the area, the cavalry regiment returned to its normal brigade (W.H.F. Lee's) and the infantry and artillery were assimilated into Anderson's Division. Use the unit as a normal artillery unit attached to the I Corps after that headquarters comes onto the board.

Please note that in the Confederate army the only "attached artillery" units are the infantry divisions in the First Corps . . . and of these divisions, the McLaws Division does *not* have "attached artillery." At this stage in the war, the method of artillery employment depended upon the particular preferences of the commanders of artillery in each division and corps. The old method of artillery employment in practice during the early stages of the war was to attach a battery, sometimes two, directly to each infantry brigade. This prevented the massing of fire that could be so devastating, and more progressive artillery commanders started maintaining divisional pools of artillery that could be employed en masse. Jackson and his chief of artillery, Colonel Crutchfield, made a policy of massing each division's artillery in this fashion, and so the Confederate Second Corps always tended to fight its artillery in battalions, deployed as needed. Longstreet allowed his subordinates to continue their old practices of "attaching" artillery until the whole Army of Northern Virginia went through an artillery reorganization into battalions in early 1863. Only Cabell in Longstreet's Corps made a policy of coordinating artillery fire in masses.

When a confederate division with "attached artillery" breaks down into its substitute counters, the artillery point becomes attached to the HQ unit.

"Attached artillery" points do not count towards stacking limitations.

Special Unit Characteristics: 1) The Federal "Left Center" and Confederate "Cutts" artillery units had long range guns, 20 pound Parrot guns or better, so they may fire at a range of three hexes as long as the shortest path to the target is unobstructed by hill, town, or forest (if there are 2 "shortest paths", the unit may fire if either is unobstructed) 2) The Federal Army had a pool of replacements available at Aquia Landing. After this pool has arrived (as indicated on the Federal Order of Appearance chart) the Federal commander can recreate eliminated units using the 15 points in this pool. These units may be recreated only between battles and are immediately present to be deployed at the start of the next battle.

Final Note: for those who do not like the "attached artillery" system and prefer the normal *CHANCELLORSVILLE* system, here is an alternative OB for the artillery in both armies:

Army of the Potomac: I Corps (8-6); II Corps (6-6); III Corps (7-6); V Corps (5-6); VI Corps (7-6); IX Corps (5-6); Horse (2-8); XI Corps (5-6); XII Corps (4-6); RESERVE (6-6). These replace all artillery in the Federal OB above. Army of Northern Virginia: add Hood (1-6), Ransom (1-6), and Pickett (1-6); and replace the Norfolk Light Artillery Blues with Hardaway (2-6). Other artillery stays the same.

The units in the game . . .

The combat factors in this variant were determined by the use of a formula, based on the number of men and cannon in each unit. Roughly, each infantry point represents 1000 infantry "effectives" taken into action, generally rounding up and adjusting points so that the corps-level strength comes out accurately. The Confederate brigade strengths are generally just averaged within each division, with one-point brigades chosen on the basis of fewer regiments, less strength implied in the reports, etc.

Each artillery point, including "attached artillery," represents about 8 guns. The Confederate artillery was organized as it appears in the TO, but the Federal artillery requires a little explanation. Formally, the batteries (each of 6, rarely 4, guns) were assigned to divisions except for the Army Reserve Artillery of 43 guns, and two batteries in the II Corps reserve. In practice, however, chief of artillery Hunt could and did appropriate batteries from the divisions in order to create enormous grand batteries of 30 or 40 guns; generally, he left a battery or two with each division. To create a Federal TO that was reasonable in the light of the game's stacking rules and in light of what actually happened, I chose the arrangement present in the TO—one point of "attached artillery" to each unit, for simplicity's sake, the four "grand batteries" that Hunt used in the real campaign, and the extra batteries lumped into 2- or 3- point units in order to be effective under the stacking rules.

The Federal cavalry units have 1 point for each 1000 troopers plus one point of "attached artillery" for the battery attached to each unit. Confederate cavalry was considerably more competent at this period of the war, so the Confederate brigades have 1 point for every 700 troopers, and the horse artillery has been lumped into one unit because of Pelham's skill in coordinating and employing the attached batteries.

The Best Alternative to Play Balance

By Donald Greenwood

Back in days of yore when wargames were scarce and the strategies they attracted far more abundant, I was just one of many enthusiasts who read the *GENERAL* from cover to micro print eagerly seeking a new twist to the Shagrin I-3 envelopment strategy in *STALINGRAD* or the latest theory on the relative advisability of a 1-2 vs Steinmetz on the heights of Quatre Bras in *WATERLOO*. Those were the days when we analyzed every facet of the classics until we knew them backwards and forwards or so I thought until the next pbm opponent taught me yet another trick after adding another notch to the negative side of my win/loss ledger.

Gradually I came to recognize that play balance was primarily a function of who "got there first with the mostest"; "there" being pronounced expert-ise with the accent on experience. Even the much maligned *STALINGRAD*, the granddaddy of all supposedly imbalanced wargames, grudgingly came to be accepted as a toss-up when played between players of the highest caliber. A shame too, for it was always great fun to watch some upstart braggart, loud in his conviction that a "competent" Russian player could not be beat, meet humility at the hands of a master such as George Phillies or Dave Roberts. One's only defense in such a position was quite untenable—after all, he was a "competent" player was he not? Missing the "master" label myself by a small millenium, I am probably less saddened by the onslaught of titles of recent vintage than are those belonging to that exclusive club. Yet, I am hardly overcome with mirth by the *state of the art* today. You'll forgive me if I borrow that pet phrase of game designers everywhere and apply it not to game design but to the less publicized but equally important game *player*. Whereas the growing number who fancy themselves professional designers have turned out a constantly improved product in search of the elusive perfect game, the players have been falling behind. There is barely time to read the first descriptive review accounts of a game, grasp the rules, play a sample game or two, wait for your favorite wargaming magazine to arrive, and settle down to analyze . . . the next descriptive review of yet another new game! And so it goes with nary a chance to gain any real insight into the subtleties and nuances of a game, no pet theories shared with compatriots, and all too few lessons taught by painful experience.

Perhaps that's as it should be. Realism devotees have long advocated the need for "fog of war" and put down the rote reaction that comes with over-familiarity. "Who cares how many turns it takes cavalry to get to Nivelles from Charleroi?," they scream. After all, Napoleon didn't know how long it would take, why should they? Well, maybe he did and maybe he didn't, but it's certain that he would have dearly loved to know that little fact—down to the very minute his Lancers would draw fire. I'm with Nappy there . . . I want to know as much about the battle as possible—before I sit down to my battleground. Granted, there's got to be a first time but that doesn't mean that I can't have read over the rules several times, looked for helpful tricks in all too infrequent strategy articles, or soloed the situation a few times before facing a real opponent who not so vicariously thirsts for my gaming blood.

All of this may seem a bit heavy to those of you for whom simulation is the end-all, be-all of your wargame persuasion. And, if so, I apologize for taking up space you undoubtedly could put to better use. But for those to whom the game is the thing I dedicate what follows. For I am a firm believer that

there are few rewards in gaming more gratifying than the inner pleasure one derives from the near mastery of a game. To stand above one's peers and realize the pleasure of piecing together one pre-planned move after another into an inescapable vortex of victory as if it were so many pieces of a puzzle is, to me at least far superior to playing any game for the first time. Alas, mastery of any one game seems to be going the way of the great American dream. At least, that's the impression one is left with due to the dearth of authoritative analyses published in today's hobby magazines. The journals of our trade seem to place a premium on design theory or what I, less politely, refer to as bs—at the expense of educating the gaming public in the nuances of play in all these splendid new games. And anybody out there who professes to know all there is to know about gaming is either a damn fool or a bigger liar. Granted, it takes a lot more work to put out an authoritative strategy article than to record flowery phrases on rules presentation, and one can only print what one receives, but there is a principle of leadership by doing which needs wider acceptance in the hobby.

If all this sounds like a eulogy for strategy articles in wargame magazines I'm vastly relieved for that is my intent. At the point in the hobby's evolution when other slick magazines joined the *GENERAL* in competing for the wargamer's attention it became highly fashionable to put down 'Perfect Plans' as the immature rantings of the great unwashed. The tendency to label any article smacking of hints on strategy—no matter how erudite the analysis might be, as a Perfect Plan evolved into a hobbywide hysteria. Before long those who still dared pen their strategy tips gave penitence to the masses with the standard opening: "I don't believe in Perfect Plans, but . . ." or some other such explanatory drivel. Well, I don't believe in Perfect Plans either, but I am a firm believer in enhancing my enjoyment of a game by analyzing it to the nth degree. There's only one way to gain expertise in a game and that's to play it over and over and over again against as many different people as possible. If I can shortcut this learning experience by picking up pointers others are willing to share with me from their experiences I'm more than happy to oblige them by putting their theories to the test. Vicarious visions of charging Hussars are fine and certainly do much to flavor our hobby but the *game* remains the thing and enjoyment for me is still largely a matter of pitting my expertise against yours. Anybody who enjoys losing with the underdog is too masochistic for my tastes.

I think the recent trend towards new games, variants and history ad nauseum in hobby journals has left the hobby with a subconscious craving for strategy analyses. Case in point—which was the most popular seminar at ORIGINS II? Despite the presence of such famous designers as James F. Dunnigan and Redmond A. Simonsen it wasn't any of the design seminars. Rather, it was the throw-in of the SPI quartet—"Tactics of Game Playing" with F. Georgian. Who? Sorry, Fred, but it serves to prove a point, and we developers don't need any glory anyway. Seriously, only a shortage of space at the scheduled time kept this seminar from far exceeding the others in attendance.

Having made this public plea for a return to comprehensive analyses of game strategy, I can hardly cop out by leaving you without some pearl of

wisdom to apply in your next match. So, having painted myself into a corner in the true tradition of the world's Charley Browns . . .

VICTORY IN IDISTAVISO IN 14 EASY TURNS

Let me hasten to add that my claim to fame in this or any other game on pure playing ability is highly suspect. The only game I feel remotely comfortable with is *FOOTBALL STRATEGY*—probably a result of a frustrated defensive tackle who knew he could have been a great quarterback if only . . . *FOOTBALL STRATEGY* is only a fair simulation but without peer as a competitive game in my estimation. But after over 300 games against some 90 different opponents and more than a few vicarious concussions what would I know? Any attempt at objectivity was obliterated two Super Bowls ago. You see, I won 78% of those 300+ contests. I like this game! But belay those fears for this isn't a prelude to the tale of my 44-0 shutout of the Idistaviso Bears. Being a professional game developer means that I *playtest* a lot of games. Unfortunately, I get to *play* very little. Those who can't fathom the difference between playing and playtesting haven't done much of the latter. One of the games I tested more times than I care to remember is *CAESAR'S LEGIONS*. In its earlier form as GDW's *EAGLES* I was among the unbelievers who cried "imbalance" and hurled never ending criticism on the God of designers who dared treat the imperial Legions of Rome with such scorn. Loren Wiseman, the original designer of *EAGLES*, took this in stride and knowingly suggested alternate strategies with which I might have more success. I, in the true tradition of the great unwashed, never did make any headway with Loren's suggestions and ended game after game with my legions hopelessly bogged down in the woods of the Suebii chasing elusive German chiefs bearing the all important standards. "The game is unbalanced" became the all too frequent rallying cry. "We have to increase the time limit to 15, no 16, turns." Loren remained unperturbed and I kept playing as we grafted the 1776 matrix CRT into the game design. Lo and behold after about 20 playings a winning strategy evolved. Only now the Roman was winning with relative ease. The solution—drop the game length back to the original 14 turns. This article will relay that strategy and hopefully, like *STALINGRAD*, *AFRIKA KORPS*, *MIDWAY*, and *BULGE* before it, set right the question of play balance for the fourth scenario of *CAESAR'S LEGIONS*.

First off, play with a touch of class, Don't duplicate my mistakes and get carried away with the invincibility of those beautiful 45-4 legion counters. Swarming across the Rhine and Danube from all angles has as much subtlety as Charles Bronson crocheting doilies in a tearoom and less chance of success. Don't feel sorry for Arminius' travel schedule and stagger around Germany inciting the populace to riot. You're bound to be much more successful at it than he could ever be. I used to think it was neat to send the XIII Legion across the Danube and watch it plow through the Hermandurii like a modern day battlewagon through 18th century frigates. Neat, but not very productive. If the Sugambrii, Suebii, Lugii, and Hermandurii are to enter the game it should be as a result of a long ride by Arminius—one which takes him out of the action until it's too late. Don't do his recruiting for him.

TURN 1—

Set up as many auxiliaries in the forts across the Rhine as possible. The aim is not attrition. You'll need these units for screening purposes later on and to reinforce the legions while moving through wooded areas. They can be used as bait upon occasion if their sacrifice will lure a sizable German force into the open within reach of a Legion. Otherwise, auxiliaries should be risked only in even or better odds battles against Lt. Infantry. The German Lt. Infantry is especially valuable for the ambush affect it lends killer stacks in woods hexes, as well as for its extreme maneuverability. It should be attacked in the open whenever an opportunity presents itself. The Batavians are equally valuable to the Roman player and his first move should be to withdraw them to a Roman fort. Their ability to infiltrate unguarded wooded flanks makes them extremely valuable to have around during the end game despite the fact that they can not stack with Roman units.

The V and XXI Legions should split into half-legions with Drusus accompanying the fast cohorts to M21 with maximum auxiliary support. This should put both the Usipatii and Frisii to flight. The half-legions with full cavalry support skirt the Marsii village to the west while auxiliaries dispatch the luckless Marsii chieftain who has undoubtedly been deserted by his troops which will proceed to flee through the woods of Lesser Chaucii. The I and XX Legions follow close behind.

The Rhine river fleet will be used to ferry auxiliaries into the land of the Batavii and XVI & XIV Legions with auxiliary support into the southern half of the Tenceterii. This should put the Tenceterii roughly in the center of 4 Roman legions. If they react correctly they can escape but if they dawdle they can and should be hit before they can combine with others to form a killer stack. The II and XIII Legions bring up the rear as they travel north on the Rhine road net. They will eventually become the knot in the noose we are just now beginning to fashion.

TURN 2—

Like all such analyses our plan will become increasingly vague as the game goes on, dependent as it is on reaction to an opponent's variable response. If the Germans have not selected their initial disposition wisely, pursuit may yield early favorable battles against the Usipatii and Tencterii. Failing that, the V and XXI Legions should recombine and proceed at a more leisurely pace into the northern half of Lesser Chaucii while Drusus joins the I and XX Legion at the border of the Chatii and the XIV & XVI Legions separate and flush the woods of the Tenceterii.

TURN 3—

By this time Arminius may well have succeeded in raising Lesser & Greater Chaucii. No matter. You'll do him a favor now and raise the Chatii by advancing into that land with Drusus, two legions, and six auxiliaries being careful to skirt T16 so as not to free the Lesser Chaucii Eagle. The Chatii will doubtless disdain combat in the open northland and mobilize in protective stance around their temple. The XXI and V Legions draw a bead on the northernmost Lesser Chaucii village while the Rhine river fleet puts to sea.

TURN 4—

This is a crucial turn for the German player if he is to seriously impede the Roman plan. One of the northernmost legions continues on to the eastern

peninsula of Lesser Chaucii while the other seals off the gap between the two forests in the center of the land, being careful to maintain a four hex distance from the temple at all times. Drusus and two legions cross the river into the extreme south of Lesser Chaucii followed at a distance by XIV and XVI Legions. A pincers movement is starting to become apparent, anchored at the Marsii village by the just arrived II Legion. If the German is to offer more than passive resistance he must act now and put heavy battle groups into the triangle formed by the woods hexes at U13. A chief, three heavy infantry, and a light infantry mob in a woods hex have an almost even chance against a Legion if Drusus is not present. In any case this is the German's best chance to cause significant Roman casualties and his *only* chance to seriously impede the pincers movement.

TURN 5-7—

By now the Rhine river fleet should be in position to ferry the XXI Legion across the major river and into Greater Chaucii while maintaining a 4 hex range from the Greater Chaucii temple. On turn 7 it will again take ship to cross into the land of the Suebii. Now the marines will disembark and join the auxiliaries which have accompanied the XXIst. All units are still more than 4 hexes away from the German temples. Drusus continues his advance into Greater Chaucii with two legions and the XIII Legion arrives to form the bottom of the cup. Arminius has by now roused all the support he's likely to get but finds himself and most of his forces outside the rapidly forming cordon of Roman might.

TURN 8—

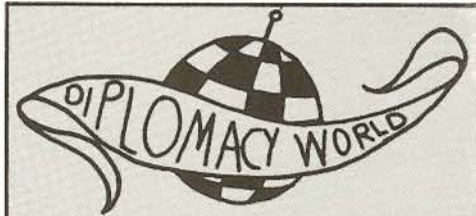
The trap springs shut. Roman legions should now occupy 8 roughly equidistant points along the lines of J5,06,Q9,T11,U15,S18,M19 and K16. Spread out behind them so as to avoid combat but create an infiltration proof screen will be the auxiliaries—thusly deployed only when an escaping chief and captured eagle might be heading their way. Combat is offered now only in the open under Roman terms.

TURN 9—

The ring tightens as the three easternmost legions advance on the Greater Chaucii temple—forcing the German standard bearer to flee west—deeper into the contracting circle. The rest of the ring is careful not to violate the reaction zone of the Lesser Chaucii temple.

TURN 10 & the End Game—

The ring tightens further with all eight legions forming a tight circle around the Lesser Chaucii temples and its two Eagles. On turn 11 the bloodletting will begin in earnest as the Legions cut their way through to the Eagles with no regard for casualties. Care must be taken to maintain a screen of auxiliaries and cohorts to prevent a breakout by the Eagles and this will become increasingly difficult as Arminius and his recruits enter the fray. However, *experience* has shown that the Roman can gain the upper hand frequently—especially if Arminius gets a little too bold and offers combat in the open against two Legions. The result is never guaranteed but is always close and usually fun. What more could you expect from an imbalanced game?



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Many people have requested that we publish a "best sellers" list similar to that utilized by book publishers to promote top selling items. Such a list for Avalon Hill games is not as appropriate however due to our slower publishing rate, mail order only policy for some titles, and the overall relative stability of our titles salability. Yet to appease the curious and give small manner of praise to the "hot ones" we'll publish our Fiscal Year Best Seller list annually and supplement it with an annual ALL TIME BEST SELLER list.

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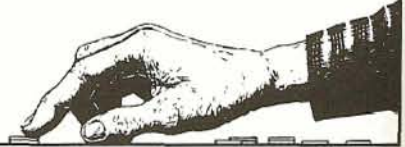
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AFRIKA KORPS

Axis Commander: R. J. Beyma
 Allied Commander: D. S. Burdick
 Neutral Commentator: Thomas Hazlett



This is the 3rd Series Replay published to date on AFRIKA KORPS. None has been free of player error and perhaps that is as it should be. What is generalship if not taking advantage of an opponent's mistakes? This game was interesting primarily because the loser thought he was robbed of victory by the luck of the die. Closer examination reveals that while certainly unfortunate in some areas, he did have good fortune in avoiding casualties in his early attacks. The question of whether his opponent was "lucky" or that he was negligent in not taking extra precautions against the desperate options of an opponent pressed by the relentless tide of war is one which we thought you would enjoy answering yourself.

Note that this game was played by mail in 1975 and as such uses the old CRT and supply tables—thus explaining the different percentages of events referred to by the players. The commentator, Tom Hazlett, is an acknowledged expert in AFRIKA KORPS, having won a competition similar to the AH CLASSIC 500 at the 1975 convention in Cincinnati. His commentary appears in italics below.

Opening Allied Comment:

The primary Allied objective for the first stage (April—June, 1941) of the upcoming campaign is to establish and maintain a defensive perimeter in the escarpment around Tobruch. This is an admittedly ambitious objective; the Germans may very well succeed in investing Tobruch. In that case I hope to make the Germans pay in casualties for their success.

In addition to the main goal of defending Tobruch I will endeavor to maintain control of the pass at K-34 and, of course, my Home Base. No

offensive operations are planned at this time except that I may try to slip a 1-1-6 behind German lines to harass his supply line.

German supply is the key to this game. This early stage is especially critical. If my navy can sink two of the first three Axis supply ships Rommel will be in serious trouble.

German April 15 Commentary—

This is my standard opening move. The Italians isolate Bengazi, my Recce unit heads for the British Southern Flank, and the main units of the 21st Panzer deploy in a threatening manner in the central desert. Trenta will anchor my southern flank at N-17 next turn and can participate in attacks on H-16 and K-18 on Turn 3.

I will adopt a wait and see strategy early in the game while I gauge the British response and assess the supply situation. My units will always be ready to pounce on a British mistake that could lead to a major victory.

Allied April 15, 1941—

I moved 7/31 Motor to N-19 to prevent 21/5 and 21/104 from reaching the escarpment between O-21 and S-24 next time. My opponent can get a surrounded 3-1 against 7/31 Motor but I doubt that he will use a supply and risk an exchange at this stage of the game.

With 21/5 and 21/104 out of the picture I should be able to use the 1-1-6's to counter the threat from the south. 21/3 can't reach my Home Base before June 1 by going through the desert because Rommel is too far away to contribute his bonus.

April II Neutral Commentary—

The pattern of the game is quickly established. The German player has a good basic knowledge of

the game but his play in many instances indicates either he does not pay attention to, or is not aware of, the subtleties of troop positioning. Here he failed to garrison N-19 with 21/3. He will quickly discover that the Recce unit is almost useless as a solo threat in the south. The British properly took advantage of this lapse, moving to N-19 and preventing a southern move by the rest of the 21st Division.

German April 30 Commentary—

Brescia and Savena isolate Benghazi and the 2/2S.G. dies at the end of the turn. The 21st Recce is harassing the British southern flank. The rest of the army deploys in front of the British escarpment line. A local attack on this line next turn is a possibility, especially if I get another supply unit.

Allied April 30, 1941—

The Axis move contained no surprises. The best Rommel can do now in the west is a 4-1 against a 2-2-6 or a 5-1 and 3-1 against 7A/1.2. This is why it was important to leave 2/2 S.G. in Bengasi last time so that two Italian units would have to stay back on siege duty this turn.

I'm glad that 21/3 moved to R-31 instead of to the escarpment at R-29. This way I only need the three brigades of 4th Indian Division to keep 21/3 away from Trobruch and off the escarpment on Row L. Since I won't need a garrison at my Home Base until May 1, I've sent Supply #2 south into the desert.

April II Neutral Commentary—

The Germans continue to position units poorly. Trenta should be several hexes north where it can reach the road and still threaten all the targets reachable from his present position. 21/3 ignores a position on the escarpment, and the extra pressure it would provide on the British line.

German May 15 Commentary—

I consider the 4-1 attack to be necessary to break the escarpment line. A D-back 2 won't be too bad as it will leave the British 2-2-6 cut-off from Tobruch. The British player will be in a poor defensive position next turn unless he pulls back.

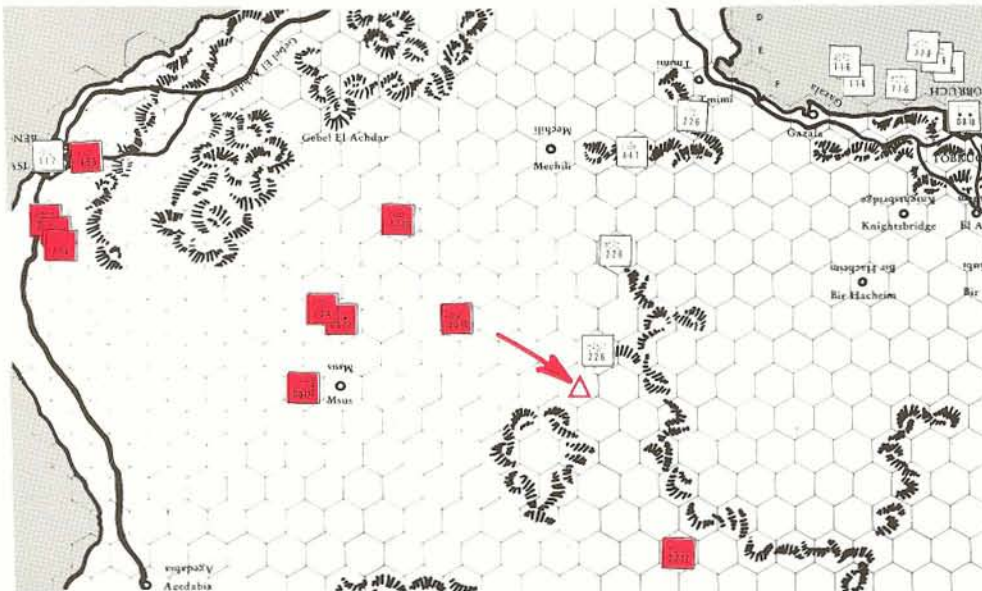
Losing the supply unit was unfortunate. However, if I get the expected two out of three in April and May I will be ok.

The 21st Recce is simultaneously threatening J-27, J-34, and the British Home Base. Unless he takes positive steps this turn, I will capture his home base on June, 1941.

Rommel did a little fancy footwork this turn. He went from C-9 to C-11, back to E-6, down to N-13, and then over to N-16.

Allied May 15, 1941—

I was surprised that my opponent would risk the 4-1, especially with only two supply units on board. He got the result he wanted, but at least his units are



APRIL 15, 1941—The illustration shows the final positions of both sides after the opening move. The British take top honors for the turn by occupying N-19 with 7/31M and thus denying the southern

approaches to the Germans through the pass in the escarpments at Q-21. Though no attacks are made the Allies have gained the upper hand in maneuver for the coming turn.

somewhat out of position. My disposition exploits the fact that he can't bring 24 factors to attack I-25. He can get a 3-1 against 22 Gds on I-27, which is probably his best attack, but an exchange would hurt him.

At first I had 41/11 on J-33, but I finally decided it was better to keep 21/3 from going to I-29. I also changed 7A/2 from S-24 to S-25 in order to prevent its being attacked from R23 while G-23 is attacked from H-23. Both those attacks could have been supplied from M-23.

May I Neutral Commentary—

The Germans must now pay the price of failing to outflank the British to the south. Any exchange possibility this early is a British victory. The Germans get away with the attack, rolling a D-Elim, but it costs a supply, a commodity they will find to be all too precious in this game.

Again the German misplaces units. The 15th should be closer to the coast road, at J12. Why didn't 21/104 join in the advance after combat?

I think 7A/2 would be better off on S24, in spite of British comments to the contrary. He overestimates the possibility of an attack on G-23 from H-23 only. S-24 ties up two German units if an attempt is made to block it.

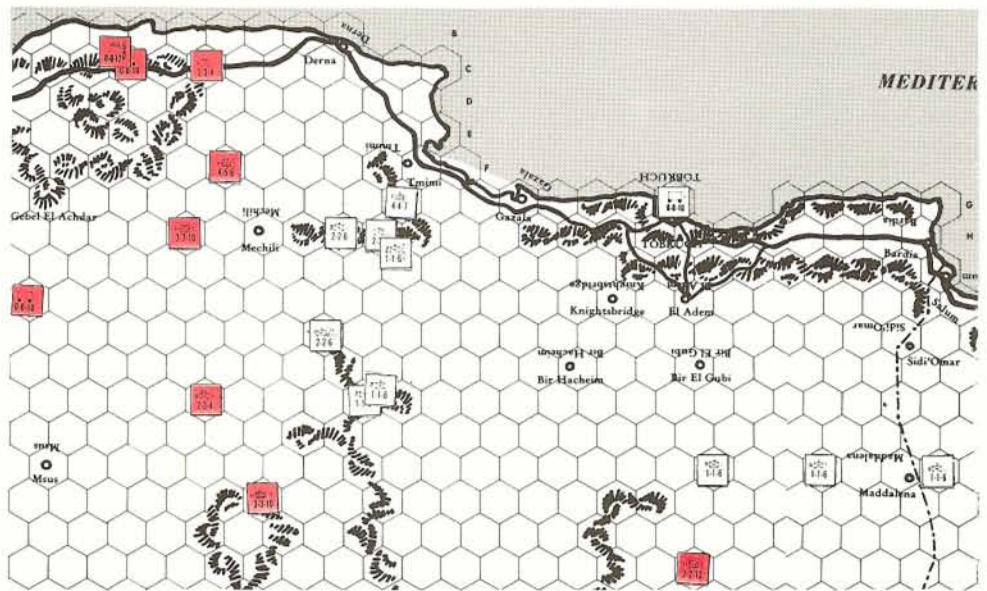
German May 30 Commentary—

I've decided to take a calculated risk this turn in order to get a chance of taking Tobruch next time. If I can get a D-Back 2 or an exchange on my I-2 (A 40% chance) I can take the escarpment on I-25. From there, with all but 4 factors of the British forces cut off, I can mount a good attack on Tobruch on the June, 1941 turn.

If my attack doesn't succeed I will still be in a relatively good position with light losses. I should be able to complete the encirclement of Tobruch next turn. I've decided to go ahead and eliminate the pesky 7A/2 while I have the chance. Note that Hex H-23 was deliberately left open in case more than one British unit had to retreat from I-25.

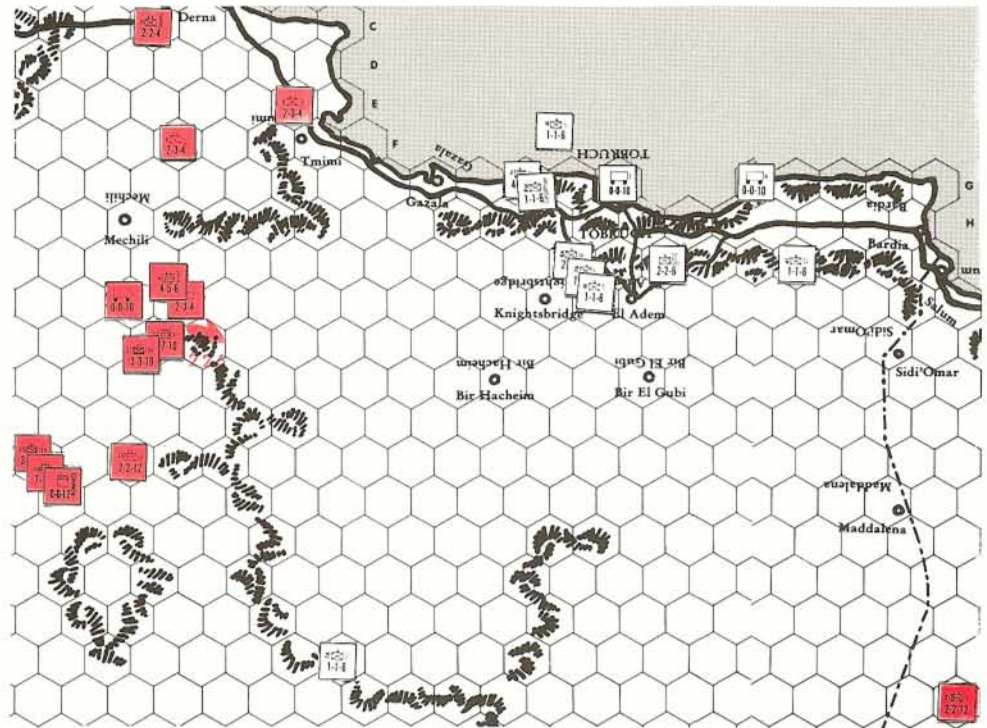


MAY 30, 1941—The German supplies arrive safely and move to K-11 which is not shown in the illustration. This allows the Germans a bold chance to cut off Tobruch from reinforcement but their I-2 attack vs. 9A/20 results in the elimination of Savena. 21/5, and 21/104 secure a DB2 (G-23) in their 5-1 vs. 7A/1, as does Ariete and Pavia vs. 41/7 at 3-1 (H-23). The 15th Division eliminates 7A/2 in an AV. All four attacks are supplied by Supply #1. The British, relieved by their near brush with disaster, fall back upon Tobruch.



APRIL 30, 1941—The German receives supplies and advances them across the central desert. Not shown are Savena and Brescia which are completing the isolation of 2/2SG in Bengasi which is eliminated at

the end of the British move and Bologna which is holding down the German Home Base. Allied units not pictured are supply units at S-53 and J-44.



MAY 15, 1941—The Germans attack and eliminate 7/31M in a 4-1 with 21/5 advancing after combat to K-18. Supply #2 is used to sustain the attack. The British fall back on Tobruch in their turn,

sending 41/5 out to sea to deal with the threat to their Home Base posed by 21/3. Units not shown are British supply units at J-62 and X-53.

Allied May 31, 1941—

I made an error last time which, fortunately, worked out well for me. His attacks were well conceived. He had a 40% chance of clearing 9A/20 from I-25 so that Ariete and possibly Pavia could advance to that hex. That would have prevented my units on G-23 from getting back to Tobruch this turn. As it happened, the loss of Savena was not worth the slight gain in position. Nevertheless, I should have placed 2/3 by itself on I-25 last time.

The elimination of Savena accomplishes my objective of causing Axis casualties before Tobruch is put under siege. There should be more to come. He'll have to make at least one more soak-off in order to besiege Tobruch. In fact, his best chance may be to take the soak-off against I-27 next time in

order to hit 2/3 at 3-1 surrounded. If he doesn't attack 2/3, my defensive line will be stronger next time.

MAY II NEUTRAL COMMENTARY—

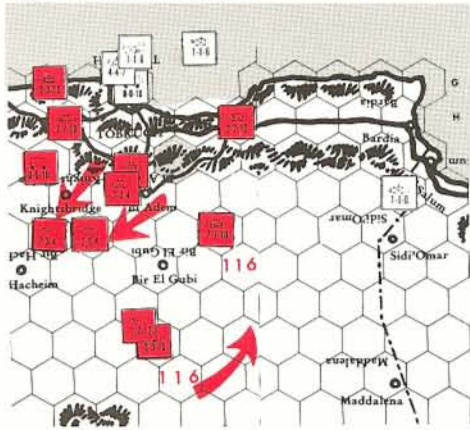
The British player made his first major error, leaving the 4-4-7 on G-23, where it could be cut off. The Germans made a good attack. If their I-2 had succeeded, they would have been guaranteed a 3-1 on Tobruch next turn.

German June 15 Commentary—

I was most disappointed with the results of my attacks last turn. I seemed to have lost all of them. To make matters worse, I lost another supply unit on a 30% chance.

Fortunately, my opponent made a serious miscalculation. Using Rommel and getting an A. V. on POL enabled my supply unit to reach I-24. This enabled me to roll over 4I/7 and surround the British Units on I-27. They will be automatically eliminated on his turn.

At this point I have bottled up the British in Tobrukh and have destroyed the British Forces outside. I will have several turns now to assess the supply situation and to decide whether to drive into Egypt or assault Tobrukh.



JUNE 15, 1941—Despite the loss of their supply ship the Germans pull off a major coup. 21/5 AV's 4I/7 at 7-1, allowing 21/3 to reach H-28 via the back door of the Salum pass. Ariete and Trenta eliminate 7A/1 at 3-1, while Brescia survives its soak-off vs. 2/3 at I-4. Pavia survives the necessary 1-4 soak-off vs. 9A/20 and 22 GDS. This leaves them adjacent to Ariete and Trenta without supply or retreat, forcing their elimination. 15/115 advances to G-23 after eliminating the Poles at 5-1 surrounded. The 4I/11 survives the 5-1 by 15/33 and 21/104, and retreats to N-31 from where it moves in the British turn to block the Salum pass. British units not shown include 7/7SG at I-46, 4I/23, J-47, 7/4SAM & Supply #3 I-47, Supply #2 X-54, Supply #4 J-62, and 7/7 in reserve.

Allied June 15, 1941—

Ouch! I didn't think his supply unit could get past Row 23. That was a costly oversight. Then, to top it off he comes unscathed through two 1-4 soak-offs and a 3-1. I suppose I deserved those battle results though for my blunder.

The thing to do now is get over the shock and take stock of my assets. There are some positive aspects to my situation. 1) 2/3 is still alive to defend Tobrukh. 2) Rommel has no supplies on the board (although he is in no real danger of losing his army through isolation as long as he can trace a supply path to his Home Base as it is unlikely I'll keep sinking supplies. 3) 4I/11 has survived for a while. 4) Savena has been eliminated. If I can hang in there and get a break or two, I might still pull this game out.

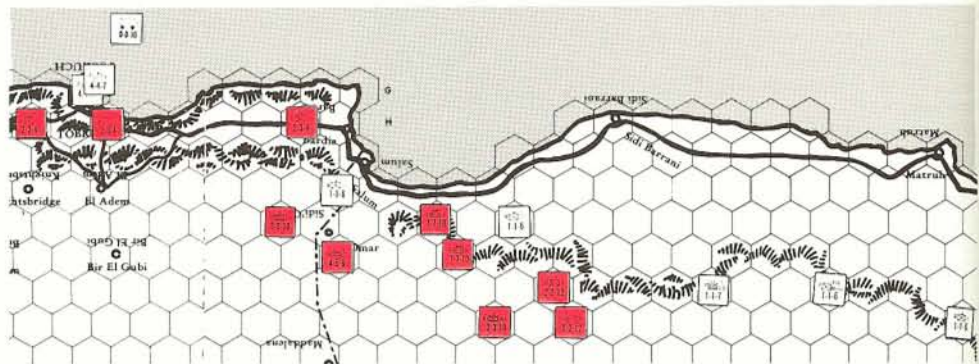
The only real decision required this time was where to send 4I/11. That unit can't escape being surrounded next time no matter where it goes. I decided it was better to block the pass at K-34 than to send 4I/11 south into the desert.

June I Neutral Commentary—

The British made a costly miscalculation. Failure to see the automatic victory cost them 2-2-6's at no cost to the Germans, who now have a very favorable kill ratio.

German June 30 Commentary—

It's too bad that I didn't win my 60% 5-1 against 4I/11. That would have meant no "loose ends" to tie up. By the way, 4I/11 was purposely retreated the way it was, I would rather have it where it is, where I can easily isolate it, than running around in the desert with a supply unit. (Note that we're playing with the rule interpretation that a captured supply unit cannot be used to sustain the attack that



JUNE 30, 1941—The German supplies arrive but are too far west to do them any immediate good... they must settle for a westward penetration and isolation of 4I/11 at Salum. The British take advantage of the respite offered by the German lack of supply to

defend the coastal road approaches with their scant forces. Units not shown include the 7/7 still in reserve, three Allied supplies at W-55, K-59, and J-62; Rommel K-11, and German supply at J-12.

captures it). Also, I'm not going anywhere anyway until my supply unit arrives. By that time 4I/11 will be dead.

Strategically speaking, I intend to drive on the British Home Base if I get a reasonable amount of supply units. Mathematically speaking the Germans should get supplies 4 out of the 1st 6 turns. I'm due one next turn. On the next couple of turns I intend to drive East in the desert. I want to "seal in" the rest of his units, especially the 1-1-12. I anticipate a delay unit on J-37. Hopefully, I will be able to outflank and isolate this unit. I anticipate having (4) +2 attacks against the British forces before November. I should be able to get close and inflict more casualties. Another serious mistake on his part could end the game. If he overlooks Tobrukh I may be able to sneak back and take it. In any event, with decent supplies, I should be in pretty good shape come November.

Allied June 30, 1941—

From his disposition this time I can tell that Rommel is not planning to attack Tobrukh next turn. Therefore, as a psychological ploy I am leaving him a 40% chance to capture Tobrukh by attacking one of my 4-4-7's at 1-2 followed by a 3-1 against the other. My prediction is that he will be tempted, but reject the attack as not worth the risk.

My ploy has two objectives, both psychological in nature. First, I hope to divert his attention temporarily from the drive against my Home Base. Second, he may feel that I overlooked the potential (1-2) & (3-1) assault on Tobrukh and consequently underestimate my playing ability. Certainly, my play so far has not been the sort to inspire respect for my competence. If I can lull him into a feeling of overconfidence, it could pay off for me later in the game.

My disposition is designed to keep him from reaching the escarpment too far east. I'm too weak to try to establish a position further west by occupying both J-37 and K-38.

June II Neutral Commentary—

The Germans did all they could without supplies. I don't understand the British comments about Tobrukh. The benefit of leaving the 3-3-7 in reserve escapes me. It is inconsistent with his policy of causing German casualties, as even should the 1-2 fail it is a cheap soak-off compared to the one necessary if a 3-3-7 were present. Any psychological advantage will be of little value if he loses Tobrukh.

German July 15 Commentary—

I'm getting a bit fed up with losing supply units. So far I've managed to get only three out of an expected 4.7 supply units. If I can just get the

expected number of supplies I can work the British over pretty good by November.

4I/11 will be eliminated at the end of the British turn. I will isolate 4I/23 next turn if its the only unit that I can attack.

Allied July 15, 1941—

I was right about his not going for the Tobrukh attack this time. I wonder if he was tempted. At any rate I'm not going to give him another chance at it.

It's not clear at this point whether he will attempt to storm Tobrukh or continue the drive on Alexandria. If he goes for Tobrukh and gets an exchange plus an AElim on a soak-off, then he'll be down to 24 factors while I still have a 4-4-7.

My guess though is that he will try to take my Home Base. If so, it would be nice if he continues to besiege Tobrukh with only the two Italian divisions. If the opportunity presents itself, I may try to break out of Tobrukh. In the meantime I want to establish a pattern of leaving units in reserve until they are needed. I'll need to use my August reinforcements when and if I try the Tobrukh breakout, and I don't want to alarm my opponent if I leave those units in reserve for a turn or two.

July I Neutral Commentary—

The German supply situation is not good. Although his expectation to this point is 4.0, not 4.7. I agree that his receiving only 3 supplies has been a major factor. The supply used on May I would have been very useful the last two turns.

Why did the German pass up the Tobrukh attack? He was willing to take a 40% chance on May II. At this point their lack of supplies makes a successful eastern push unlikely. The attack on Tobrukh is a great opportunity.

The British withdrawal was wise. It is generally better to withdraw to a narrow front and conserve strength, rather than attempting to delay in the desert with the whole army. The Germans will probably not waste a supply to kill 4I/23.

German July 30 Commentary—

I had expected 4I/23 to remain on K-51 and M-51, that would have slowed me down and forced me to isolate 4I/23. I guess my British opponent is attempting to conserve units.

I could have gotten both 4I/23 and 7/7S.G. this turn but I think my supply unit is worth more than 2 factors at this point.

Next turn I can advance up to the British El Alamein Line and isolate 4I/23. If it retreats or the British advance I can launch a good attack.

Given average luck, I can expect 2 more supply units by the end of September. Supply units entering in October cannot reach the El Alamein front before

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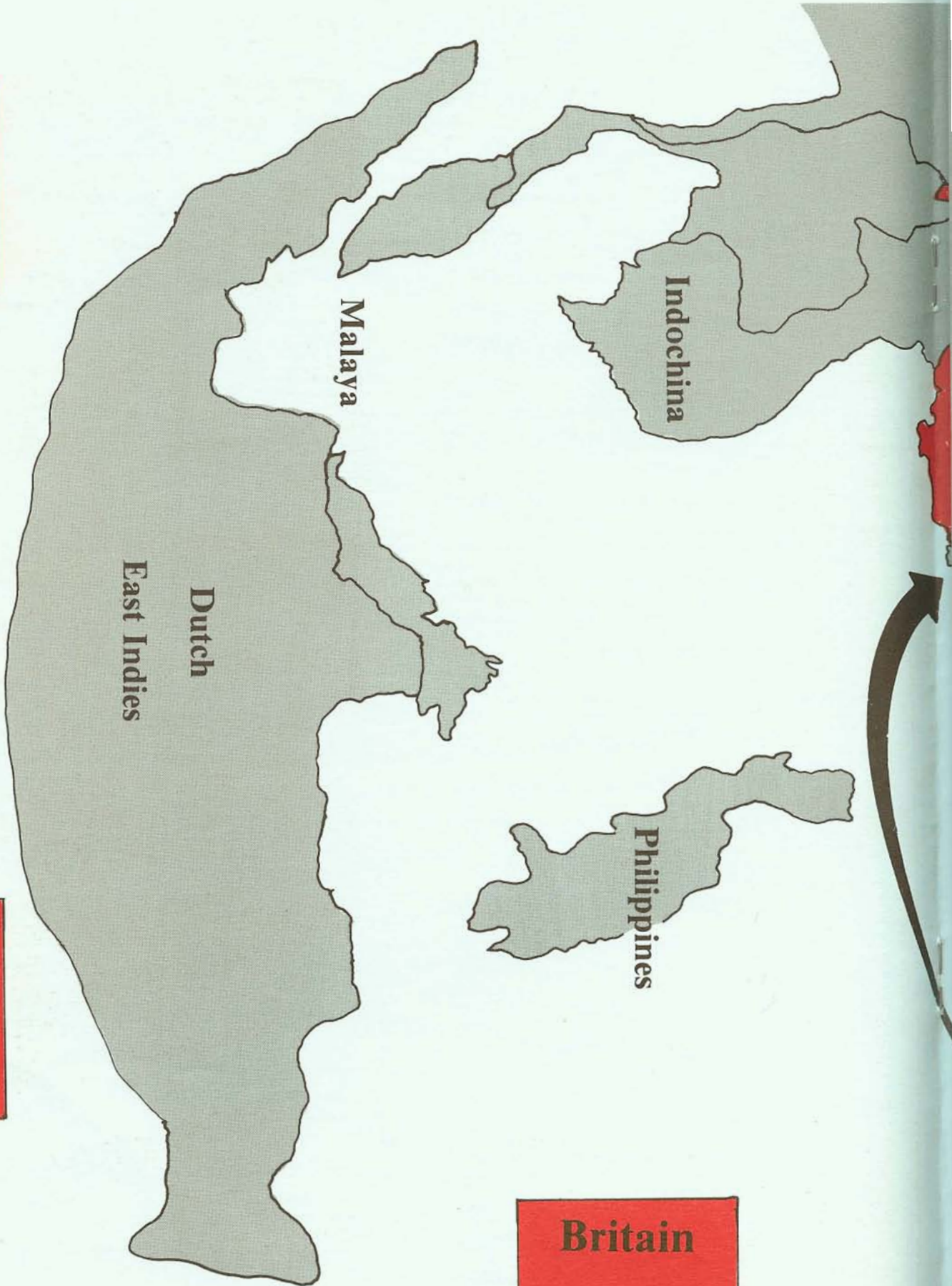
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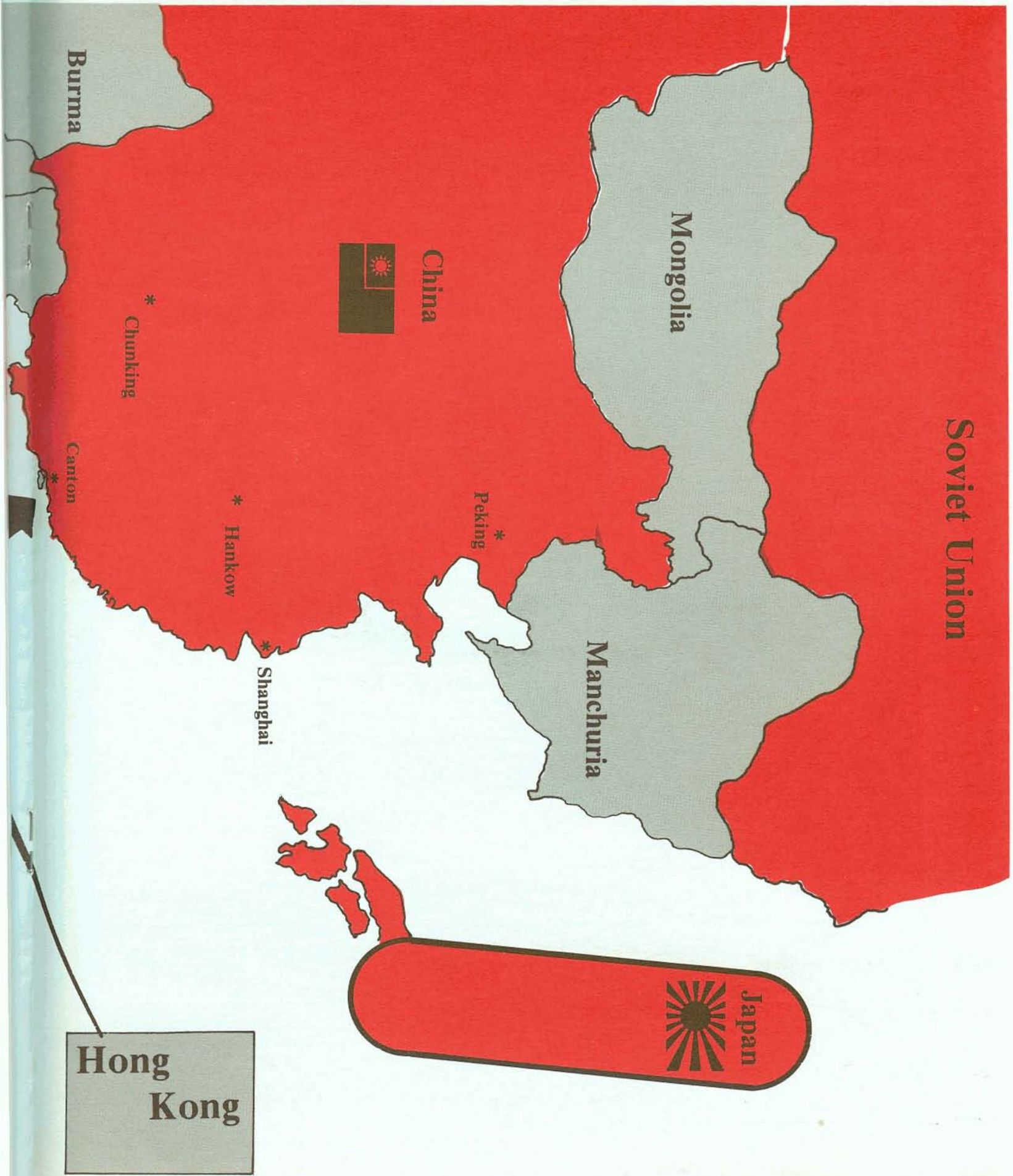
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- 8. Excitement Level _____
- 9. Overall Value _____
- 10. Game Length _____

The review sheet may be cut out, photocopied, or merely drawn on a separate sheet of paper. Mail it to our 4517 Harford Road address with your contest entry or opponents wanted ad. Mark such correspondence to the attention of the R & D Department.

Game to be reviewed next: _____

Valid only in the United States

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Opponent Wanted

1. Want-ads will be accepted only when printed on this form.
2. For Sale, Trade, or Wanted-to-Buy ads will be accepted only when they are dealing with collector's items (games no longer available from AH) and are accompanied by a token 25c fee.
3. Insert copy where required on lines provided and print name, address, and phone number where provided.
4. Neatness counts; if illegible your ad will not be accepted.
5. Ads will be accepted only on forms from the preceding issue except in those cases where no Opponents-Wanted form appeared in the preceding issue.
6. So that as many ads can be printed as possible within our limited space, we request you use the following abbreviations in wording your ad. Likewise with State abbreviations.
Afrika Korps = AK; Alexander the Great = Alex; Anzio; Baseball Strategy = BB St; Battle of the Bulge = BB; Basketball Strategy = BK St; Blitz; D-Day = DD; Football Strategy = FT St; France, 1940 = FR'40; Face-to-Face = FTF; Gettysburg = Gett; Guadalcanal = Guad; Jutland = JUT; Kriegspiel = Krieg; Luftwaffe = Luft; Midway = Mid; 1914; Origins of WWII = ORIG; Outdoor Survival = Out; Panzerblitz = PAN; Panzer Leader = Pan Ld; Play-by-Mail = PBM; Play-by-Phone = PBP; Richthofen's War = RW; 1776; Stalingrad = 'Grad; Tactics II = TAC; Third Reich = 3R; Waterloo = Wat.


A knowledge of probability is one of the paramount weapons in any wargamer's arsenal and few games lend themselves better to pure probability study than *WAR AT SEA*. Below we list 10 questions dealing with probability in *WAR AT SEA*. Answer them by circling the correct choice or writing the answer in the provided space. The ten winning entries will receive certificates redeemable for free AH merchandise. To be valid an entry must be received prior to the mailing of the next *GENERAL* and include a numerical rating for the issue as a whole as well as list the best 3 articles. The solution will be announced in the next issue and the winners in Vol. 14, No. 1.

In the following ship vs. ship battles, which ship has the best chance to end the turn still at sea? If both ships' chances are about equal—i.e., within 2% of each other—rate the battle a draw.

1.


| |
|---|
| Gneisenau |
|  |
| 3 5 7 |

 OR

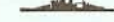
| |
|---|
| Howe |
|  |
| 4 5 6 |

DRAW

2.

| |
|---|
| Admiral Scheer |
|  |
| 2 2 5 |


 OR

| |
|---|
| Renown |
|  |
| 3 3 6 |


DRAW

A British 1-1-7 is determined to stand and fight it out. Which German ship should it fire on first (i.e., which German ship is most dangerous to the cruiser's chances of remaining at sea?)

3.


| |
|--|
| Scharnhorst |
|  |
| 3 5 7 |

 OR


| |
|--|
| Bismarck |
|  |
| 4 9 6 |

4
DAMAGED

4.

| |
|---|
| Graf Spee |
|  |
| 2 2 5 |

 OR

| |
|---|
| Gneisenau |
|  |
| 3 5 7 |

3
DAMAGED

5. Assume the *Bismarck* (4-9-6) is fighting the *Washington* (5-5-4). What's the largest number of damage points the *Bismarck* can have at the start of the battle and still have a better probability of ending the turn at sea?

6. How many ASW points does the Allied player have to put in a sea zone to have a 50% chance of disabling and/or eliminating all 7 U-boats in one battle?

7. How many ASW points does the Allied player have to put in a sea zone to have a 50% chance of disabling and/or eliminating 5 U-boats in one battle?

8. Three 1-1-7 cruisers are fighting the *Bismarck* (4-9-6). Which side has the better chance of controlling the sea zone?

British _____
Germans _____

9. Two 1-1-7 cruisers are fighting the *Scharnhorst* (3-5-7). Which side has the best chance of controlling the sea zone?

British _____
Germans _____

10. What is the probability that all 3 Allied convoys will get to Russia, assuming maximum Axis air attacks in the Barents Sea but no U-Boat or surface attacks?

ISSUE AS A WHOLE:.....(Rate from 1 to 10; with 1 equating excellent, 10= terrible)

Best 3 Articles:

1 _____ NAME _____

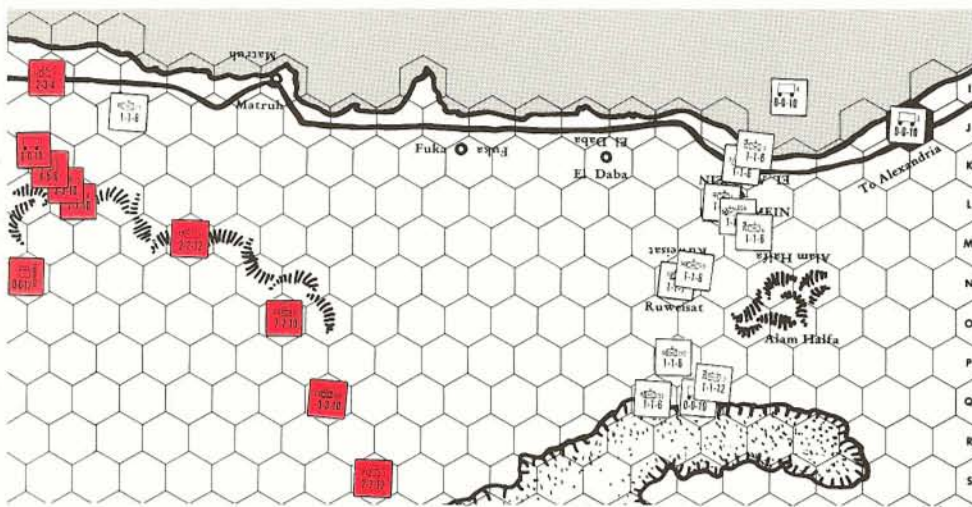
2 _____ ADDRESS _____

3 _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____



JULY 30, 1941—The German supplies were sunk on the July 15 move so the German contented himself with eliminating 41/11 by isolation. The British fell back to El Alamein leaving 41/23 as a rearguard at K-45, and reinforce Tobruk with 7/7.
Reinforced by the arrival of their 2nd Supply unit the Germans

move east on July 30th. Pavia and Brescia remain at H-24 and H-26 to contain Tobruk. The British leave 9A/18 in reserve—continuing their psychological ploy of lulling the German into ignoring the missing unit. 11 British factors and a supply now occupy Tobruk. The stage is set for the big gamble.

the British November troops arrive. That should give me a pretty good assault on the British H.B.

My defending troops at Tobruk are so arranged as to prevent the British from “sneaking” units out at 1-3. Also, the best odds the British can get is 2-1, which I’m willing to give.

The British player could conceivably capture my supply unit on L-45. This would, however, involve a 1-6 soakoff with 5 factors. I deem the supply unit to be worth the expected British losses. It would be like using my supply unit to get a 6-1 against 5 of his factors.

Allied July 31, 1941—

My opponent continues to use just Brescia and Pavia to cover Tobruk. I’m thinking seriously about trying the breakout from Tobruk next turn.

My 41/23 on J-45 prevents him from hitting me very hard before August II.

July II Neutral Commentary—

There is nothing worth attacking, so the Germans merely continue their advance. The German comments about a 2-1 out of Tobruk will come back to haunt him. When one has an advantage in a game he should expect his opponent to do things he would not consider were the game even.

AUGUST 15, 1941—The German bypassed 41/23 and left it isolated while they move eastward on the British HB. This advance leaves them further in the hole which is about to be created by the British

German August 15 Commentary—

I am moving and recording this move prior to checking to see if I get supplies. It won’t make any difference in my move. 41/23 is not worth a supply unit. Besides, I can only attack one time in August anyway. So, I will isolate 41/23. Note that I, in effect, have a double isolation because of my advanced Panzers. Next turn I should be able to get in a good attack. With 2 or 3 additional supply units, I can raise some hell before November. There’s a 25% chance that I may lose a supply unit in the next 2 turns because of having 3 on the board. But having 3 on the board in August isn’t all that bad. Having a 50% chance of killing 3-5 factors is better than a 100% chance of killing a factor that you can isolate anyway.

Allied August 15, 1941—

Well, the time has come to bite the bullet and take the bull by the horns. If I get an “AElim” or an “A back 2” in my 2-1, I’m a goner. On the other hand I should win if I get a “DElim,” “D back 2” or “Exchange”. A “½ AElim” would permit me to hang on for a while, but I would probably lose eventually.

August I Neutral Commentary—

The British attack had to be made, but I question whether it was necessary so early. The situation

attack out of Tobruk. 70/23 soaks-off against Brescia at 1-6 and is eliminated but Pavia is eliminated in a 2-1 by 2/3, 9A/18, 7/4, 51/9, 10 with 9A/18, and 7/4 advancing into H-26. The bulk of the German

could change. The Germans may get a string of DB2’s, or fail to receive a supply in September. Either one of these events would make capture of the Home Base unlikely, as the Germans will need at least 4 attacks to break through the double lines of 1-1-6’s along a narrow front. The 2-1 would still be there in September or October and may not have to be made at all if the situation changes.

German August 30 Commentary—

The British player made a risky attack and got away with it. His 2-1 out of Tobruk put the whole game on one die roll. I feel that he attempted to win with luck what he couldn’t otherwise win.

The only chance for a real victory was a D-Elim and He got it. An A-Elim or A-Back 2 and I win immediately. I feel as though I could still have a good chance of winning with a D-Back 2 or Exch result.

The 2-1 has changed the entire complexion of this game. The British player has a good chance of driving on my home base and cutting off the Afrika Korps. I must now attempt to extricate my army and fight a long war against difficult odds.

Allied August 30, 1941—

My opponent complained loudly about my good luck. That doesn’t bother me though, because that’s loser talk. While he’s demoralized, I’m going to try to deliver a knockout blow.

He made a nice move, almost, in an effort to get his Supply #3 out to his main force in the east. My attack will prevent this, however, because his 15/33 will not be able to join forces with Supply #3 next time even if it survives my attack. He should have put 15/33 on P-37 and moved Supply #3 to T-21.

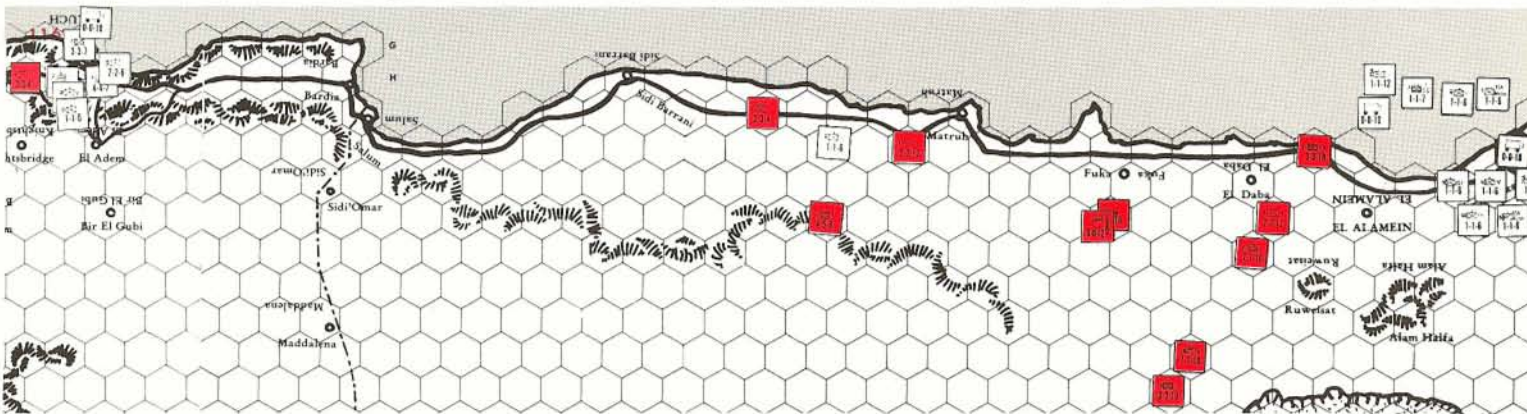
My attack leaves me exposed, but he can’t exploit it without using his Supply #2. That would leave his main force out on a limb and subject to eventual isolation.

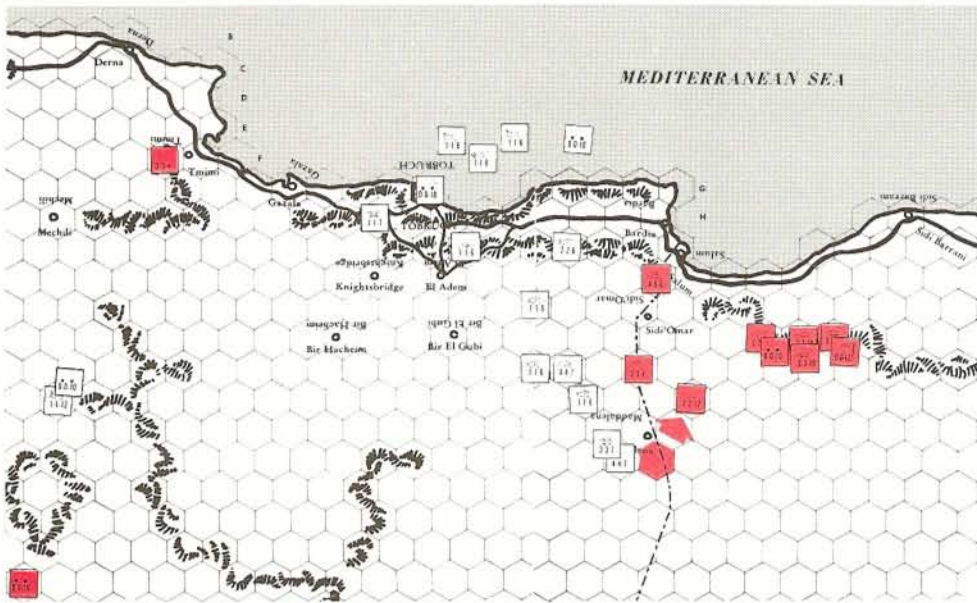
At first I had 2SA/7 on N-17, but changed it to N-18. Now, if he sends his Supply #3 to T-28 or U-29, I can capture it and still reach W-29 to block the southern route. I feel that option is worth more than the threat to reach the coast road south of Bengasi.

August II Neutral Commentary—

The Germans had to move back to Tobruk but sloppy placement cost them dearly. 15/33 could have made it clear to T-36 with Rommel, assuring him a next turn link-up with Supply #3. Even a one hex adjustment would have put him beyond attack range, a fatal error as it turns out. As for Supply #3 I cannot understand why it moved only 9 squares.

supply is now cut off from the main Axis forces and presently lies out of the illustration at G-22 and K-11. The British player continues his practice of keeping a unit in reserve by leaving 51/29 off the board.





AUGUST 30, 1941—The British breakout of Tobrukh forces the Germans to flee westward, abandoning their encirclement of 41/23 and forcing them to use a vital supply to AV it at J-45 with 15/8. The British make good use of sea movement to land the bulk of their forces

The British attack probably should not have been made, as it left his armor exposed, but against this German it proved to be a winning move.

German September, 1941 Commentary—

Although the British player did not make any major blunders I think he made a weak move. He

in Tobrukh and fan out into the desert to block the German retreat. 2SA/7 is sent into the desert to track the Germans' Supply #3 which, in connection with the 3-1 on 15/33 by 7/7 and 2/4 makes the German supply situation a very tricky predicament.

has his Recce unit after my supply line and prevented Recce 15 from linking up with Supply 3. However, his Recce unit *cannot* threaten my home base next turn. He has exposed 8 factors (7/4, 7/7, 41/5) in the desert. *Had I gotten a supply unit I could have gotten a 7-1 against 41/5, 5-1 surrounded against 7/7, and a 1-2 surrounded against 7/4.* Even

if the 7/4 survives it will be eliminated on the British turn. This is made possible by putting supply units on T-20 and W-30. The British Recce unit can only capture one or the other—not both. I can use the other to kill the Recce unit and withdraw my Army. Either the British Player made a dumb move or luck saved him again. The luck of the die is winning this game for the British Player. There is not enough rolls in this game for luck to “even out”.

Allied September 15, 1941—

My assumption last turn that Rommel could not afford to attack my exposed units was too hastily made. My intelligence informs me that Rommel has drawn up attack plans, but scrapped them when his supply ship was sunk. Upon reflection it appears that he might have gotten away with it. I should have sent 7/4SA Motor to N34 and left 7/7S.G. on H-25 to protect Tobrukh.

For his part I believe that Rommel erred in allowing me to capture his supply on W-30. Even though he can annihilate my Recce unit now, it will cost him another supply unit to do so. Two supply units for one Recce is a good bargain for me.

September I Neutral Commentary—

Although the game continued well into 1942, we will drop it after September I, because it is here that the Germans missed their last real chance to stay in the game.

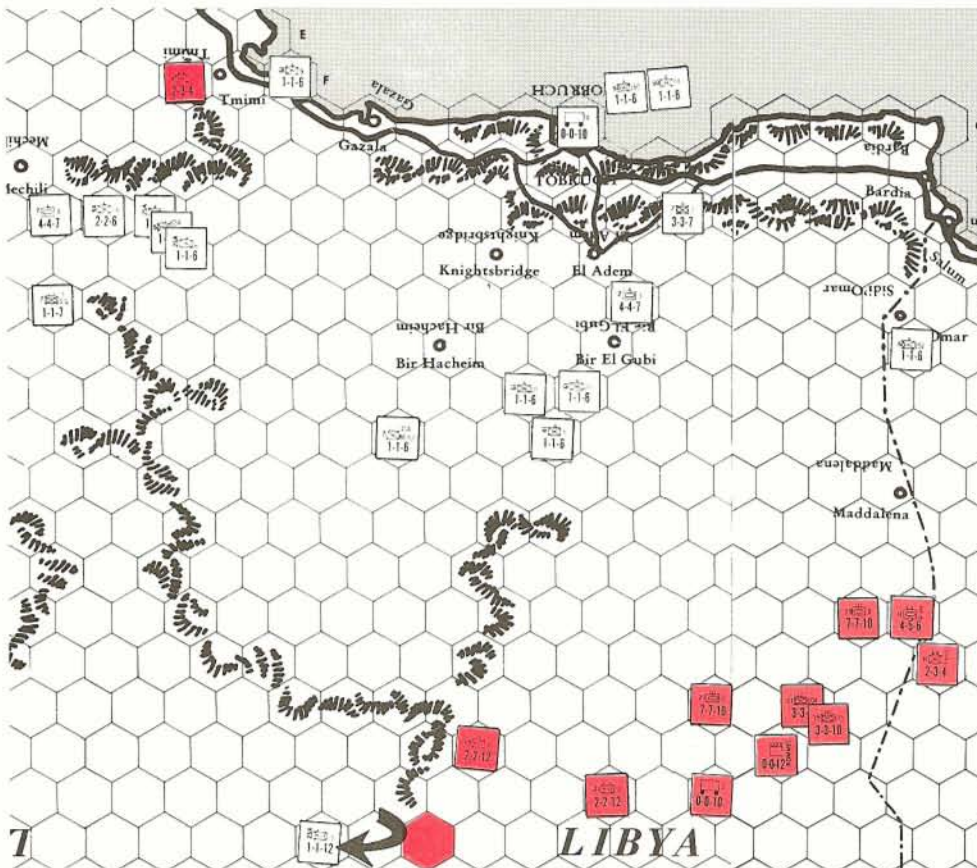
It certainly would have been easier on the Germans had they received another supply but the attack should have been made anyway. Both players have overestimated the ability of one Recce unit to block the entire southern half of the board. A link up with supply would be difficult, but possible. It should have retreated this turn while the German Recce units race west and the rest of the Germans wipe out the British armor. The Recce units would have been in a position to link up with the Home Base before British reinforcements could arrive in the southern desert.

The opportunity of killing two armor units at the cost of a 1-2 soak-off does not occur often and cannot be passed up. It was the last real chance the Germans had to stay in the game. Instead of killing the armor with one supply unit and retreating the other out of danger he sacrificed one to the Recce unit and used the other to kill it on Sept. II. This 2 supply for 1 unit exchange was the death knell of the German effort.

He managed to link his army up with his Home Base without further opposition but received only 1 supply in the next 4 turns. By the time he had supplies the British were dug in along a line from C-7 to S-24.

After several turns of sitting in an attempt to draw the British into the open, the Germans finally attacked on January II, and got an exchange against a 3-3-7 on K-18. A British counterattack killed a 7-7-10 in an exchange and 2 turns later a 2-1 against a 4-4-7 on G-23 resulted in an A-Elim. as the last desperate German offensive failed to even reach Tobrukh.

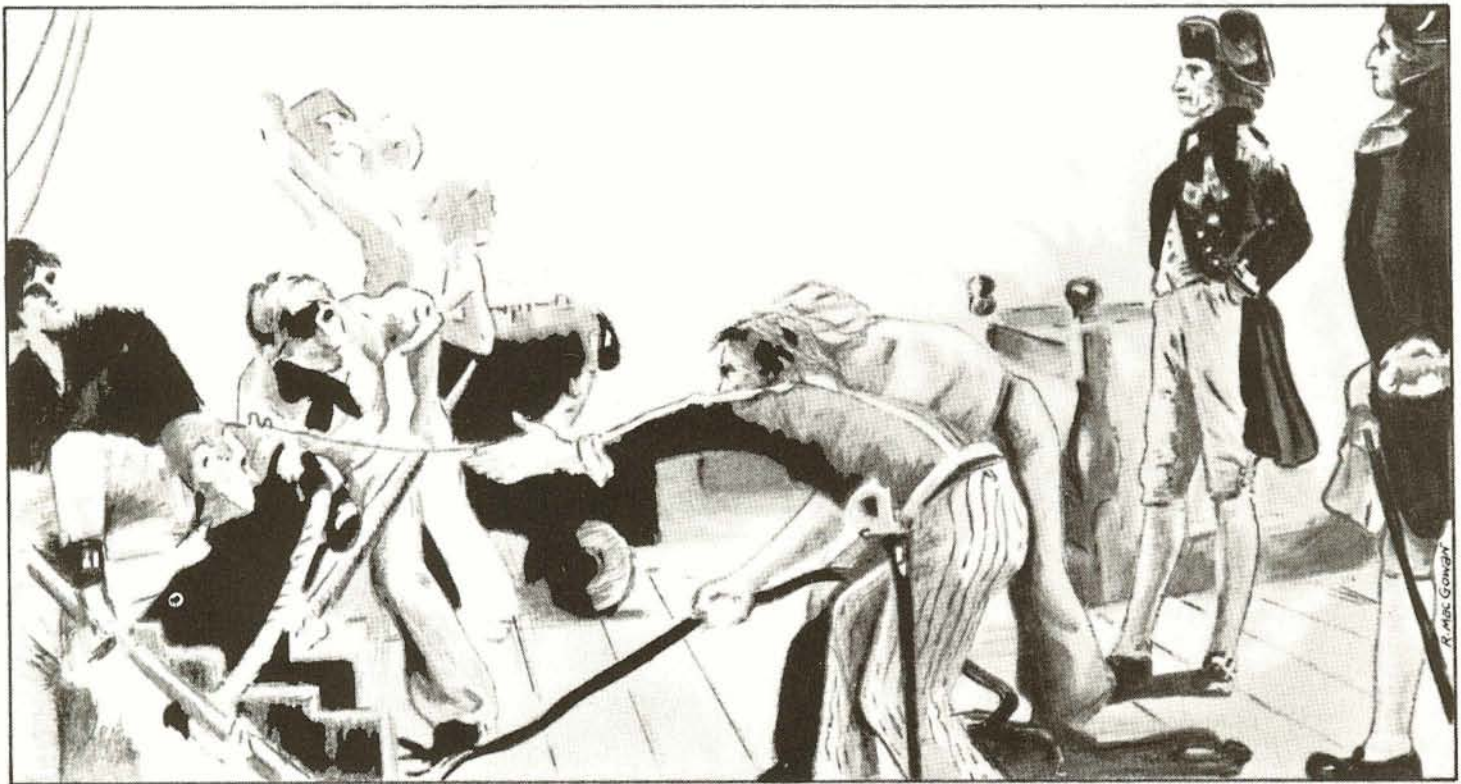
In his final comments the German decried the 2-1 out of Tobrukh as the crucial battle. There is no doubt that it was, psychologically. From that point on, the German player deteriorated. Militarily there were several other crucial battles. There was the 40% chance to take Tobrukh that failed, and another 40% chance that was passed up. Finally, there was the failure to kill the British armor, which later anchored such a strong defense that the Germans never even reached Tobrukh for that hoped for 1-1. The German supply rolls were poor but they failed to use what they had to maximum advantage.



SEPTEMBER 15, 1941—The German supplies are sunk again but the initiative now lies entirely with the British. 2SA/7 captures the German Supply Unit #3 on W-30 and destroys it prior to retreating back to W-29. This bit of thievery was all made possible by the foresight of the Allied 3-1 attack on 15/33 last turn. To the northwest the British are threatening Brescia which will have to withdraw next

turn or be isolated. Even the British 1st supply takes gms in the embarrassment of the Germans by moving to S-16 to slow down the Germans last supply. With only one supply in hand and cut off from his source of future supply the German finds himself on the horns of a dilemma—isolation if he does attack and inactivity if he doesn't.





RULES EXPANSION FOR W.S.&I.M.

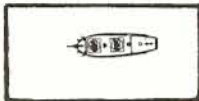
by Mick Uhl

Much more material was available for inclusion in **WOODEN SHIPS AND IRON MEN** than actually made it within the material limits imposed by economics. Rather than omit it entirely from the game, provisions for their eventual utilization were included in the design of the components with the fore-knowledge that they would be published in the **GENERAL**.

A new scenario is included below which utilizes these rules in recreating the British land and naval operations in clearing the Delaware River after the fall of Philadelphia.

BOMB-KETCHES:

As already noted, one of the counters included with the game is an overview of a bomb-ketch.



As these vessels were used to reduce forts and other land structures, they must be used in conjunction with amphibious operations (to be detailed later).

Bomb-ketches as a general definition were ships which carried mortars, i.e., guns which fired explosive shells on a high trajectory in order to hit objects behind breastworks or walls. Bomb-ketches were not very effective nor were they ever designed to do battle with other warships. Their main function was to reduce the defensive capability of forts and/or entrenchments so that amphibious units could land and capture the position.

1. There are three types of bomb-ketches (more accurately termed bombs) which are available in the game.

Single Mortar

Two Mortars Mortar Vessels

Note that the Two Mortar bombs were superior to the other two vessels in every respect. This should not limit the players to using this model exclusively. Mortar vessels were used during the French Revolutionary Wars and were not popular which soon led to their abandonment.

These ships also carried regular cannon as well as mortar(s).

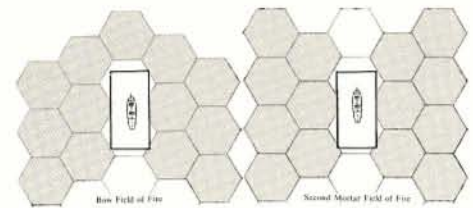
2. Bombs may only fire their mortars while anchored.

3. The line of fire for the mortars may never be blocked. They fired over, not through, obstacles.

4. Fire with broadside guns is normal. These guns may not be loaded or fired during the same turn that the mortar(s) are loaded or fired.

5. For the single mortar bombs, a mortar's field of fire is 270° (bow field) which encompasses both left and right broadside fields and the field between the two toward the bow. In other words you may not fire through the stern. For the two mortar bombs the second mortar may fire in either the left or right broadside but may not fire across the bow or stern.

6. It takes four turns to load mortar(s) (not necessarily in sequence). This is noted in the load section by marking M in the R section for the bow (270° field of fire) mortar and in the L section for the second mortar of the two mortar bombs.



7. The players filling out the log for bombs should mark off the mortar's hit boxes in the carronade section.

8. Mortars may only be fired at fixed targets on shore or at motionless ships (i.e., anchored or aground), not at ships drifting, no matter how slowly. They have a maximum range of 10 hexes.

9. Mortars use a separate entry in the HDT. See chart below.

10. All hits scored by mortars are tripled. Only the Hull Hit Tables are used. Each mortar is fired separately and may be fired at the same or different targets. Mortars may not fire at targets at less than three hex range.

FORTS AND FORTIFICATIONS:

Naturally, these will be placed on hexes designated as land. Forts were used to protect

| Name | Class | Hull | Qual. | Crew Section | Guns | | Mortar B 2 | Rigging 1 2 3 4 | Depth (ft) | Point Value |
|----------------|-------|------|-------|-----------------|------|-----|---------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | | | | | L | R | | | | |
| Single Mortar | B | 3 | Av* | 1 1 1 | 1 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 4 4 | 8 | 7 |
| Two Mortars | B | 4 | Av* | 1 1 1 | 1 1 | 1 1 | 1 1 | 4 4 4 | 9 | 9 |
| Mortar Vessels | B | 2 | Av* | 1 1 1 | — | — | 1 | 4 4 4 | 6 | 6 |

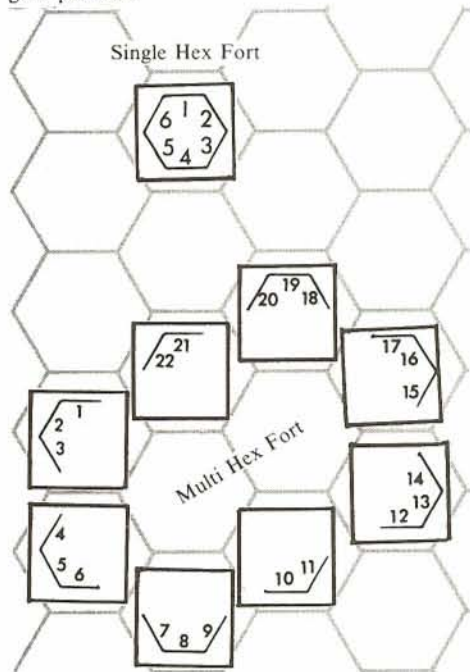
* or your choice

waterways and the commerce and ports associated with them from naval and/or amphibious invasions. Forts had the advantages of thick walls and sturdy gun platforms which could hold higher calibre weapons as well as large numbers of defenders. Their drawback was that they were a fixed and often isolated target.

1. No counters have been provided for forts, so you must make your own.

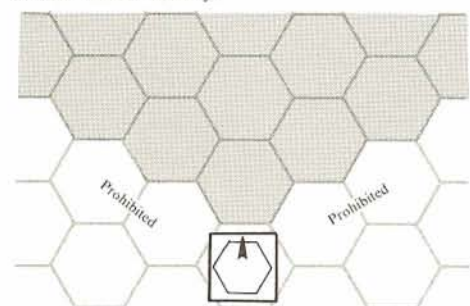
a. Remembering the dimension of a hex as 100 yards in diameter, forts may be as small as one counter or several formed to pattern the outer walls of the forts.

b. Forts were designed in many polygonal shapes, so as a general representation of these varieties and to fit within the geometric pattern of the game, a hexagon can be used as the basic shape of a single counter fort. This also greatly facilitates field of fire determination. The example below of a fort labels each side so as to identify the number of guns per wall.



c. For multi-counter forts or fortifications, the walls of the forts may be drawn to correspond to the hex sides of the counter forming the wall.

2. The field of fire for each wall is shown below. Note that these fields overlap. At points where they do, the guns of two or more walls may fire together at one massed battery.



3. Adaptions to the log must be made to include new information and to remove irrelevant sections.

a. For loading more than two sides of the fort, add columns to the moves section and label them each to a corresponding side of a fort.

b. In the time scale of the game, the effects of bombardment on a fort's walls would be too small to damage its performance. The hull section on a fort's log will be ignored. Only gun and crew hits are

recorded. Crews will be divided into three sections as normal. Guns are divided into sections for each side of the fort. The extra sections may be recorded in the rigging section of the log.

c. Gun specifications are determined by the players in any manner desired. Each side of the fort need not have the same number of guns as any other.

d. The number of crew squares allotted is a direct proportion to the number of gun squares allocated. The ratio is 6/5 crew square for each gun square rounded up. Crew squares are distributed to the crew sections as evenly as possible with the lowest number sections having the highest priority. Additional crew squares as garrison units may also be added. But they must be placed in a separate section and may fire guns as poor crews only.

4. All sides of a fort may be loaded and fired during the same turn.

5. Guns in forts or fortifications fire at a +2 Hit Table modification for 1-6 gun squares, and +3 for 7+ gun squares. This is doubled if the advanced game is used.

6. Mortars may also fire from a fort. Land based mortars take just three turns to load and have a +2 hit table modification when firing. They have a full 360° field of fire.

7. A maximum of 6 gun squares (excluding mortars) per fort wall should be allocated, though this is up to a player's discretion.

FLOATING BATTERIES:

These were large rafts sturdily built with protective walls and housing large guns to break down land fortification defenses. They are used exactly like forts with the following exceptions:

1. Use a counter exactly as the type designed for single hex forts.

2. They have no movement of their own but are towed into place by another ship. For towing purposes they are treated as first class ships of the line.

3. These batteries must be anchored. If they are forced to up anchor or break anchor they drift in the same manner as a first class S.O.L.

4. They are set up in the same manner as forts. In other words they have no hull squares therefore they may not be sunk. They may be grappled and boarded.

SHIPS BOATS:

Each ship generally carried one or more boats used for various details which could not be performed by the owning vessel itself. Within the game framework they best function as screens against fireships or as amphibious landing craft.

1. Use gunboat counters to represent ships boats. As with gunboats, each counter may represent more than one ship's boat.

2. Ship's boats move in the same manner as gunboats. They do not have any gun squares.

3. The order of battle for these vessels is dependent upon the parent ship.

a. The number of hull squares is equal to the number of crew squares available in the first section of the parent ship.

b. The maximum number of crew squares which may man a ship's boat counter is the same as its hull squares, i.e., for every hull square, one crew square may be carried. The minimum number of crew squares which may man a ship's boat counter is one. A maximum of one "oar" square per section is allowed.

4. As long as a boat counter is with its parent ship it need not be in play. It is either being towed or physically on the ship's deck. As soon as it is to be used independently, it is placed in any hex adjacent to the parent ship.

5. Crew/Military units and/or artillery may be placed aboard a ship's boat counter by means of a Transfer Boarding Party.

6. Crew squares used to "man" a boat counter should be drawn from the lowest numbered crew section.

7. Boat counters cannot be used to block shots. Ships may fire at them or over them.

8. While a boat is attached to the parent ship it absorbs some of the damage directed toward the ship. For every four hull or gun hits in any combination, a boat loses one hull, crew, and oar square available. This, of course reduces the speed and the size of the force allowed to board. As soon as the boat is placed on the board it receives damage independently and is considered a separate target. A boat does not block line-of-sight.

9. In every other respect while independent a ship's boat is treated as a gunboat and is subject to all rules covering such.

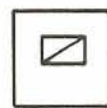
LAND FORCES AND AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULTS:

Certain ships may be designated as carrying extra crew squares representing forces and material to be used in an amphibious assault. Ships boat's would be the vehicle by which units would land. Combat between land forces are handled with the Melee system of combat. Players have total freedom in deciding what types of units may be used in assault capacity.

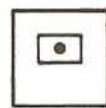
1. Counters will have to be made (use reverse side of those included). There are three possible types of units available for amphibious assault:



Infantry



Cavalry



Artillery

2. Each counter represents one section or equivalent being transported by boat and a side record must be maintained of its strength.

3. One Infantry square may be transported for each crew square available on the boat.

a. One Cavalry square may be transported for every three crew squares available on the boat.

b. Boat counters from ships of 74 or more guns can carry one gun square of artillery in addition to one crew square to man the boats.

4. On the turn of landing, ground units may not move. From the next turn on units may move at the following rates:

a. Infantry—2 hexes per turn

b. Cavalry—4 hexes per turn

c. Artillery—1 hex per turn (2 hexes if defined as field artillery).

5. When amphibious units are adjacent to the fort, melee may occur. Use identical procedure to that used on board ships. Crew quality is determined before scenario begins. Crews defending a fort each get an additional 3 melee strength points added to their original strength.

6. Units must melee every unit in a fort even if they are not adjacent.

7. Guns on land fire with same modifications as guns in forts.

8. When putting artillery gun square (other than field artillery, which is carried just for land operations) on land, remove one gun square from either broadside. Carronades may be used.

ROWING CAPABILITIES:

Ships of smaller class had the ability to move by oar as well as by sail.

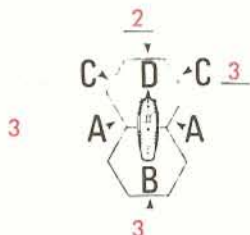
1. All ships mounting 24 guns or less may use rowing capabilities at any time. The player must note in the Notes section the turn beforehand that he is changing to oars. He need not do this to change back to sail.

2. Wind effects on ships while rowing are the same as for galleys and ship's boats.

3. Rowing ships handle like galleys except that a 60° turn costs one movement factor.

4. Two crew sections must be used for rowing. They may not perform any other duties while in this capacity.

5. The speed diagram for ships using oars is:



THE DELAWARE FORTS

October 3—November 21, 1777

I. INTRODUCTION

Of major consequence to General William Howe's success during the British campaign to capture Philadelphia in the summer of 1777 was the exposure of his supply lines to the ambush style of attack in which the Americans excelled. This exposure was a result of the overland route which the supply trains followed along Howe's line of march. All the territory gained as a result of the superior British feat of arms could not be held if the supplies could not reach the invading army for the British army was unable to forage to maintain their position in America and had to import most of their supplies from Europe.

An alternate supply route would have to be developed which would be both safe and efficient. The obvious answer was the Delaware River. It was navigable as far as Philadelphia for large ships and safe from depredations by American forces. The utility of this route was equally apparent to both sides and its protection from enemy utilization had been anticipated by the American command. In the preceding months, the Americans had built two lines of underwater obstructions set to rip open the hull of any ship passing overhead. These lines were anchored by three forts. Howe had by-passed the Delaware upon his descent to Philadelphia from New York and had chosen, instead, to land his army at Elk's Head at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. Now, upon his capture of Philadelphia, he had to open the Delaware or retreat.

The first line of obstructions was 12 miles downstream from Philadelphia and protected by Fort Billingsport, a weakly constructed and defended redoubt. A force detached from Howe's army was sent to capture this fort. It landed upriver and quickly captured the fort by a flank attack although the garrison was able to spike the guns and escape. Enough of the underwater obstacles were cleared to allow passage of the British fleet, commanded by Admiral Richard Howe, William Howe's brother. The second line was five miles closer to Philadelphia and was in two sections; the center being protected by a mud bank. This was a more formidable challenge to the British, being protected as it was, by two large forts.

The eastern fort on the New Jersey shore, Fort Mercer, was chosen as the target for the first British attack to break the line. A brigade of Hessians who marched directly from Philadelphia tried three

separate assaults on the fort. All three failed due to a combination of stiff resistance by the fort's defenders and support of the American gunboats along the river. Five British ships ran aground as they attempted to maneuver close to the fort in support. Three were able to extricate themselves but two, the *Augusta*, 64 guns, and the *Merlin*, 18 guns, were destroyed. The Hessians returned to Philadelphia with approximately 33% casualties to their force.

After the debacle at Fort Mercer, the British turned their attention to Fort Mifflin which occupied a small island west of the obstructions. Unable to land an amphibious party here, the British concentrated a tremendous amount of fire power both from the land based batteries on the Pennsylvania shore and from guns on their ships. On November 15 they opened into one of the heaviest bombardments of the war. It was estimated that over a thousand rounds were fired every twenty minutes. Unable to withstand this fire Fort Mifflin surrendered and the garrison escaped.

Upon the fall of Fort Mifflin, Cornwallis with a force of about 2,000 British regulars crossed the Delaware and again attacked Fort Mercer. This time it was empty. Christopher Green, commander of the fort, had pulled out earlier realizing that its usefulness to protect the river had ended with the fall of Fort Mifflin as the British could breach the obstructions near Mifflin and bypass the remaining fort. The American fleet, trapped upriver, was scuttled.

The whole affair was marked by an amazing lack of cooperation between the continental forces, the local militias, and the navy which was under the control of the State of Pennsylvania. The fleet did not risk any of its major vessels in defense of the forts and in the end lost them anyway. The militia was unable to provide the reinforcements needed to man the forts adequately. The bulk of the defense fell, therefore, on Washington's regulars who were stretched to defend Philadelphia as well as the river. In this situation the Americans did not have any hope of preventing the Howes' eventual control of the Delaware River. With what they had, the Continental Army performed brilliantly, exacting almost as many casualties in Von Donop's assault on Fort Mercer as the British lost in the battle of Germantown. They also destroyed a ship-of-the-line, the largest that they were to capture or destroy without French aid during the entire war. The British were delayed for almost two months in getting supplies to the campaigning army who, if Washington had defended the Delaware more strongly, may have been forced to retreat back into Maryland.

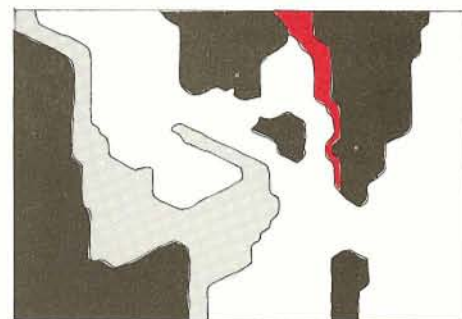
II. PREVAILING WEATHER CONDITIONS

Wind Direction: 2
Wind Velocity: 3—Normal breeze
Wind Change: 6

III. SPECIAL RULES

- A. Basic and Advanced game rules including those described above are used except the Advanced Game Log Modifications.
- B. The following Optional Rules are in effect:
 - VII. Towing
 - XI. Running Aground
 - XII. Casting the Lead
 - XIV. Fore-and-Aft Sails

- IIIA. Fireships
SEE PAGE 29
- IIID. Gunboats
SEE PAGE 29



black: land
grey: Shallows (a partially grey hex is considered a shallows hex).
red: Special Channel

Land and Prohibited Area—vessels of all types may not enter.

Shallows—Only certain ships may travel over these hexes without fear of running aground. These ships are noted by an S on their entry in the Order of Battle.

Channel—Only certain ships may pass through the Channel without fear of running aground. These ships are noted by a C on their entry in the Order of Battle.

D. The river current runs in direction 1 and 6. All ships and rafts drifting must drift in either one of these two directions and may change to the other direction only to prevent the ship or raft from moving into a land or prohibited hex. The owning player decides the initial drift direction. River current has no other effect on a ship's movement. Wind has no effect on drifting.

E. A ship may fire into a coastal land hex but cannot fire through a land hex.

F. The river channel may be entered by qualified British vessels from hexes EE1, FF1, or GG1, at least 5 turns after the successful penetration of line 1 of underwater obstructions at the earliest.

G. All vessels may anchor.

H. Underwater Obstructions

1. Ships may not pass over any hex occupied by an underwater obstruction counter. All rafts may pass over. A ship which is forced to move into an underwater obstruction hex is considered destroyed and the counter removed from play. Underwater obstructions are stationary and may not be moved.

2. Underwater obstructions can only be cleared by a ship of at least 28 guns. The ship must be adjacent to the obstruction counter for 4 consecutive turns without being fired upon to remove it.

3. The American player can secretly choose a passage through the second line of underwater obstructions between Fort Mifflin and Fort Mercer. Ships may sail through this passage. Once used, by the American player though, the British player is also free to use it. If the American player does not use the passage the British assume the second line of obstructions as solid.

4. A ship (not raft or gunboat) can be intentionally sunk to block passage across two hexes in the same manner as an underwater obstacle. The sinking is accomplished immediately upon the announcement by the controlling player at the end of the movement phase. The hexes must be marked and cannot be kept hidden.

I. Fire rafts can only be sent at intervals of one raft every three turns. Those British vessels which cannot enter the board at the start of play may remain off the board and enter at a later time. Those British vessels which are allowed to enter the

Channel may leave the board along the entry hexes (see Order of Appearance) and re-enter at the Channel a minimum of 4 turns after the breaching of the first line of obstructions.

J. LAND UNITS

1. Infantry counters cannot be stacked. Land batteries may be stacked two high. Field artillery may be stacked with infantry up to 2 counters high.
2. When forming infantry units, the British may have a maximum of 10 infantry or crew squares per counter: the Americans, 8.
3. Some American forces are in the form of reinforcements. They may enter as either infantry units or as replacements to fort garrison's. As

replacements they may replenish any garrison squares lost in melee or gunfire. The garrison may never be increased above its original strength. The reinforcements are added at the end of any turn in which a melee did not occur against the garrison to be reinforced.

K. MELEE

1. Melee may occur between land units in the open as well as against forts and ships as long as the battling units are adjacent to one another. This form of melee is conducted in the same manner as regular melee.
2. Losses due to melee conducted on land are always taken from the units or garrison sections of

lowest quality first.

3. If an infantry unit loses 33% of its squares (rounded up), it may no longer voluntarily enter into melee but may melee as a DBP.

L. Amphibious assault against Fort Mifflin is not allowed.

M. Those vessels with an asterisk by their gun strength in the Order of Battle may fire every turn provided they lower their Hit Table by one.

N. Guns in forts may be spiked (destroyed) at any time by the controlling player if he has at least one crew, garrison or infantry square in the fort.

O. The British Mortar batteries can only fire at one fort wall at a time (i.e., if 2 gun hits are scored and only one gun square is on the wall being fired at, only gun square is marked off).

P. Running Aground

1. All ships which cannot move over the shallows normally (see Order of Battle) may attempt to do so by risking running aground.

2. For each ship not qualified to move over shallow hexes and attempting to do so, both players secretly record a number from one to six and the name of the ship on a slip of paper. The opposing player then takes both slips, cross indexing both values on the table below to obtain a Run Aground Value (R.A.V.). For each turn including the turn of entry, that the ship occupies a shallow hex, the controlling player rolls a die which if it equals or is less than the R.A.V. indicates that the ship has run aground.

R.A.V. TABLE

| | | Controlling Player's Value | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Opposing Player's Value | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 |
| | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| | 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | 5 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | 6 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Of course the opposing player must indicate when the ship has run aground by displaying both written values as proof.

IV. ORDER OF APPEARANCE

At Start

Place the following counters in their assigned hex.

| COUNTER | LOCATION |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Fort | |
| A - Billingsport | D4 |
| B - Mercer | H19 |
| C - Mifflin | DD12 |
| Underwater Obstructions | |
| line 1 | H3, I3, J2, K2, L1, M1, I4, J3, K3, L2, M2, N1. |
| line 2a | U13, V12, W12, X11, Y11, Z11, AA11, V13, W13, X12, Y12, Z12, W14, X13, Y13, AA12. |
| line 2b | N17, O17, P16, Q16, R15, P17, R16, Q17, S16. |

American Force

All vessels may start anywhere between obstruction line #1 and board edge 4.

LAND FORCES ORDER OF BATTLE

| British | Type of Unit | I.D. | Qual. | Section | Guns |
|------------------------|-------------------|------|-------|---------|----------|
| | | | | 1 2 3 | |
| Stirling's Detachment | Infantry | A | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | B | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | C | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | D | El | 6 -- | -- |
| Von Donop's Brigade | Infantry | E | Cr | 6 -- | -- |
| | " | F | Cr | 6 -- | -- |
| | " | G | Cr | 6 -- | -- |
| | " | H | Cr | 3 -- | -- |
| | " | I | Cr | 3 -- | -- |
| | Artillery (field) | A | | | 1* |
| Cornwallis' Detachment | Infantry | J | El | 10 -- | -- |
| | " | K | El | 9 -- | -- |
| | " | L | El | 9 -- | -- |
| | " | M | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | N | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | O | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | P | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | Artillery (field) | B | | | 4 |
| Wilson's Detachment | Infantry | Q | Cr | 7 -- | -- |
| | " | R | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | S | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | T | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | U | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | V | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | W | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | X | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | Y | El | 8 -- | -- |
| | Cavalry | A | El | 8 -- | -- |
| Siege Batteries | Artillery | C | | | 1 |
| | | D | | | 1 |
| | | E | | | 1 |
| | | F | | | 1 mortar |
| | | G | | | 1 mortar |
| American | Fort Billingsport | A | Cr | 1 1 -- | 1 |
| | Fort Mercer | B | El | 4 4 3 | 1 |
| | Fort Mifflin | C | El | 3 2 2 | 3 |
| | Reinforcements | | Cr | 18 | |
| Greene's Detachment | Infantry | A | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | B | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | C | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | D | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | E | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | F | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | G | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | H | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | I | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | J | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | " | K | Cr | 8 -- | -- |
| | Cavalry | A | Cr | 4 -- | -- |

British Force

Vessels may enter the board between D1 and K1 inclusive. At least four turns after successful penetration of the first line of obstructions, those ships qualified to enter the Channel may do so between hex EE1 and GG1 inclusive.

American Reinforcements

The reserve pool may be used to form infantry units at any time. Those squares used to form a unit may not be used to replace a fort's garrison losses. *Turn 5* Greene's Detachment may be brought into play anytime between turn 5 and 10 provided that there are British infantry units on the board. As soon as all British infantry units have been removed from play, Greene's detachment must also be removed.

Turn 25 Greene's Detachment may return on this turn or thereafter if there are British forces on the board.

Greene's detachment may not be brought into play between turns 11 and 24 whether there are British infantry units on the board or not.

British Reinforcements

Turn 2—Stirling's detachment may enter be-

tween hexes A3 and A5 inclusive any turn between turn 2 and 5.

Turn 15—Von Donop's brigade may enter between hexes A22 and I35 inclusive anytime between turn 15 and 25.

British land batteries may be placed anywhere on the land mass indicated by hexes HHI and RRI. *Turn 25* From this turn on, Cornwallis' and Wilson's detachments may enter the game anywhere along the coast from A3 to H17 provided that there are British vessels or ship's boats adjacent to the entry hexes.

NOTE: Only one British detachment may be on the board at any time. So, for example, if Von Donop's brigade is still in play after turn 24 neither Cornwallis' nor Wilson's detachments may enter the game. The British player may remove those land units already in play by either 1) moving them off the board through one of the entry hexes or 2) moving them adjacent to a friendly vessel or ship's boat along the river bank. The unit may then be removed from play.

V. VICTORY CONDITIONS

The British player must accomplish the follow-

ing two objectives in order to win:

1. Capture Fort Billingsport and Fort Mercer; and remove enough of the underwater obstructions to allow passage of at least one British ship through line 1 and 2a; the accomplishment of which will end the scenario.
2. Gain more victory points than the American player.

The American player wins if the British player is unable to fulfill either of his two objectives at the end of the scenario.

Victory points are awarded as described in the rules plus extra points for the following:

American Player

1. Each British infantry square destroyed 2 points
2. Every 4 turns played 1 point
3. Every British land artillery or Mortar square destroyed 1 point

British Player

1. For every American infantry or garrison square destroyed 1 point
2. For each land artillery square destroyed ½ point
3. Each fort captured 20 points
(If any part of the garrison escapes) 17 points

VI. ORDER OF BATTLE

| Name | Guns | Class | Nr. | Hull | Qual. | Crew Section | | | Guns L R | Rigging | | | | Point Value | |
|---------------------------|-------|----------|-----|------|-------|--------------|---|---|----------|---------|---|---|---|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| British: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somerset | 70 | SOL | 2 | 12 | Cr | 4 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 | — | 25 |
| Augusta | 64 | SOL | 2 | 11 | Cr | 4 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 7 | — | 20 |
| Isis | 50 | SOL | 2 | 8 | Cr | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 6 | — | 17 |
| Roebuck | 44 | SOL | 2 | 7 | Cr | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | — | 12 |
| Pearl | 32 | F | 3 | 5 | Cr | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| Liverpool | 28 | B | 5 | 4 | Cr | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 9 |
| Camilla | 28 | B | 5 | 4 | Cr | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 9 |
| Merlin | 18 C | S | 5 | 3 | Cr | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| Zebra | 14 C | S | 5 | 3 | Cr | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Vigilant | 16 C | G | 6 | 3 | Cr | 1 | 1 | 1 | (1) | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| Cornwallis | 8 C | G | 6 | 2 | Cr | 1 | — | — | 1* | 1* | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Floating Battery | 22 CS | Raft | | unl. | Cr | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 | | | | | | 12 |
| (1) = 1 square of marines | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| American: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Montgomery | 10 C | F | 4 | 4 | Av | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| Andrea | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Doria | 14 C | B | 5 | 3 | Av | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1* | 1* | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 |
| Racehorse | 10 C | S | 5 | 3 | Av | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1* | 1* | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Champion | 10 C | S | 5 | 3 | Av | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1* | 1* | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Fly | 8 C | S | 5 | 2 | Av | 1 | 1 | — | 1* | 1* | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Speedwell | 4 C | S | 5 | 2 | Av | 1 | — | — | 1* | 1* | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Delaware | 4 C | Sc | 5 | 2 | Av | 1 | — | — | 1* | 1* | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Champion | 6 C | X | 6 | 3 | Av | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| Repulse | 6 C | X | 6 | 3 | Av | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| Convention | 4 CS | G | 6 | 2 | Av | 1 | — | — | 1* | 1* | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Chatham | 4 CS | G | 6 | 2 | Av | 1 | — | — | 1* | 1* | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Gunboat No. 1 | 5 CS | GB | 7 | 10 | Av | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | bow | 3 | 3 | 3 | — | 8 |
| Gunboat No. 2 | 5 CS | GB | 7 | 10 | Av | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | bow | 3 | 3 | 3 | — | 8 |
| Gunboat No. 3 | 3 CS | GB | 7 | 6 | Av | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | bow | 2 | 2 | 2 | — | 6 |
| Gunboat No. 4 | 12 CS | GB | 7 | 6 | Av | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | bow | 2 | 2 | 2 | — | 6 |
| Arnold (Floating Battery) | 10 CS | Raft | | unl. | Av | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | | | 8 |
| Putnam (Floating Battery) | 12 CS | Raft | | unl. | Av | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | | | 8 |
| Vesuvius | CS | Fireship | | 3 | Av | 1 | | | | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Strombolo | CS | Fireship | | 3 | Av | 1 | | | | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 14 Fire rafts | CS | | | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | |

X - Xebec

* - may fire each broadside every other turn

C - may pass through channel without running aground

S - may pass through shallows without running aground

Note: The American should use French ships to complete his fleet.



A CLOSER LOOK AT RICHTHOFEN'S WAR

by Bill Doncher

For years now Avalon Hill has been producing wargames of extremely high calibre. To date, however, none compare with the game of *RICHTHOFEN'S WAR*, for here one can truly command every aspect of the plane's flight. The fact that it is an aerial combat game, and that it is set during World War I, simply adds to its quaintness as a departure from the run-of-the-mill wargame.

I therefore felt it would be interesting to conduct an investigation of the game, using mathematical probability and my own experience.

First, I decided to compile a chart of all plane classes used in the game, as listed on the Target Damage Table, and then determined their respective hit probabilities. See Chart 1, below.

Chart 1
Hit Probability

| RANGE | PLANE CLASS | | | |
|-------|-------------|------|------|------|
| | A | B | C | D |
| 1 | .909 | .818 | .818 | .636 |
| 2 | .818 | .818 | .727 | .545 |
| 3 | .636 | .636 | .636 | .364 |
| 4 | .636 | .545 | .545 | .364 |
| 5 | .545 | .455 | .455 | .364 |
| 6 | .455 | .364 | .364 | .273 |
| 7 | .364 | .364 | .273 | .182 |
| Avg. | .623 | .571 | .545 | .390 |

With an ace in play, these figures are apt to change. For example, an "A" class plane firing on an ace at a range of one must roll 4-12 instead of the normal 3-12 in order to score a hit. This amounts to only an 81.8% chance of inflicting damage, rather than the 90.9% chance recorded on Chart 1. The chart will also become amended with an ace firing instead of being fired upon. However, the figures should still be used as a general rule of thumb.

It is interesting to note here the relative weakness of the "D" class planes, i.e., the DeHavilland 2, Nieuports 11 and 12, the Sopwith 1½ Strutter, RAF's Be-2 and Re-8, and the LFG Roland C-2, even in relation to "C" class planes. It is also interesting to note that with the exception of the Roland C-2, all "D" class planes belong to the Allies.

Obviously, when these planes are involved in a dog-fight, or in a situation where they must fight to survive, they do relatively little good. Their primary purpose, however, was not to engage the enemy in combat, but rather to scout enemy troop movements, dispositions, artillery, etc.

Which brings us to our second chart, average damage factors when scoring a hit. One must bear in mind the likelihood of the plane in question to inflict any damage at all on an enemy plane, re Chart 2:

Chart 2
Average Damage Factors

| RANGE | PLANE CLASS | | | |
|-------|-------------|------|------|------|
| | A | B | C | D |
| 1 | 4.20 | 4.11 | 3.00 | 2.43 |
| 2 | 3.67 | 3.00 | 2.38 | 1.67 |
| 3 | 2.71 | 2.57 | 2.14 | 1.75 |
| 4 | 1.86 | 1.83 | 1.67 | 1.25 |
| 5 | 1.67 | 1.80 | 1.60 | 1.25 |
| 6 | 1.60 | 2.00 | 1.75 | 1.00 |
| 7 | 1.75 | 1.25 | 1.33 | 1.00 |
| Avg. | 2.49 | 2.37 | 1.98 | 1.48 |

In this case, as with Chart 1, the presence of an ace will sway the averages, but only slightly, so as not to change the basic computations.

It is amusing to note that in some instances in this chart, as you probably already have noticed, every plane class has one case where the average damage value increases instead of decreasing as the range grows greater, i.e., "A" class planes at range six in relation to range seven. This can be accounted for by the fact that as the distance expands, the number of times the plane can score a hit diminishes, but the total number of damage factors remains the same, or approximately the same, as the lesser distance.

Please note one important factor at this time. At a range of five, the lone "B" class plane, the RAF Se-5a, has an average damage factor .13 greater than that of "A" class planes at the same range, and that at a range of six, both this plane and "C" class planes outweigh, so to speak, the "A's", by .40 and by .15, respectively. Even "C" class planes at a range of seven have a higher average damage factor than the "B" class Se-5a.

And so it is at this moment that Chart 1 comes back again, to be used in conjunction with Chart 2. As a case in point, consider the following: As mentioned, the plane in class "B" has a higher average damage factor when firing at a range of five and at a range of six than do "A" class planes.

But as a glance at Chart 1 will prove, "A" class planes firing at ranges of five and six have a better chance of scoring a hit against the target plane than does the Se-5a.

My advice is that if you have a choice, go with the better average damage, as opposed to the better chance of scoring a hit. As it stands, "A" class planes do have a better chance of inflicting damage than the Se-5a does, but the edge is only 9.1% at a range of six, and only 9% at a range of five. The difference in average damage more than makes up for this, however.

Of course, the situation you are in at any given moment may warrant taking advantage of the better probability, and you may not have a choice to make regarding the use of the planes. Generally, however, it does seem to make more sense to gamble and go for more damage.

Chart 3 suddenly finds itself thrust into the limelight:

Chart 3
Die Roll Probability

| ROLL | YOUR CHANCES |
|------|--------------|
| 2 | .028 |
| 3 | .056 |
| 4 | .083 |
| 5 | .111 |
| 6 | .139 |
| 7 | .167 |
| 8 | .139 |
| 9 | .111 |
| 10 | .083 |
| 11 | .056 |
| 12 | .028 |

Chart 3 deals with die roll frequency, showing the chance the gamer has when trying for a particular roll. This should be used in association with the Target Damage Table in order to ascertain

your chances for obtaining a critical hit. As an example, "A" class planes at a range of three need a die roll of nine in order to score a critical hit. Chart 3 shows that there is an 11.1% chance of rolling a nine. The presence of an ace is a simple enough factor to figure when computing your chances. Simply add or subtract one from the roll of the dice, as the case may be.

For greater realism and enjoyment of *RICHTHOFEN'S WAR*, I suggest that you incorporate the following optional rules when playing the game:

Rule 1—Prevailing Wind. This often was a factor during many of the key air battles of World War I, and in fact played a role in practically any battle ever fought in the air during that era.

Rule 2—Reaction Rule. For my part, I wouldn't think of playing a game without using this rule. The initial reaction of the actual pilot often turned defeat into victory, and vice versa. Consider, if you will, the folly of a World War I pilot deliberating for even one minute as to which way to turn, dive, or climb.

Rule 9—Angle of Attack: Deflection. This is a highly realistic rule which often takes away what amounts to a slight advantage for the attacking plane.

This analysis was developed in order to help you see, in a mathematical light, the subtleties involved in the game. It is hoped that this will help you in actual play.

As a game, *RICHTHOFEN'S WAR* provides what I feel is the ultimate challenge to a gamer's ability.



★★★★★

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Game Theory and 1776

By J. Richard Jarvinen

The Tactical Results Matrix in 1776 has always had a fascinating appeal to me. Anyone who has had the thrill of attacking at I-I using an Enfilade Left (while the defender Refuses the Right) and then rolling a one knows *exactly* what I mean! Despite the fact that I've always felt I've had more than my share of luck with this system, I've often wondered if I was really using the Tactical Cards to my best advantage. Perhaps I've been selecting Frontal Assault too often and Recon in Force not enough. Obviously I want to play my cards in a way that yields the most favorable result. But the big Question was always hovering over the battle board: What were the best possible choices in order to maximize my chances of a favorable result? The structure of the Tactical Results Matrix (hereafter referred to as the TRM) and the manner in which the Tactical Cards are chosen suggest that this system could successfully be analyzed by game theory, that branch of mathematics that deals with the selection of the best available strategy in order to maximize one's winnings (or minimize one's losses) in a game, war, business endeavor, etc.

A small digression is necessary to define some terms for those readers who may not be familiar with game theory. A game refers to a set of rules and conventions for playing and a play refers to a particular possible realization of the rules. At the end of each play, each of the players receives (or loses) a payment, called the payoff. The matrix consisting of all possible results based on the strategies available is called the payoff matrix. The object of each player is to maximize his expectation (the average payoff based on a strategy.) A strategy is a set of numbers that represent the frequency with which each possible play is selected. The astute reader will have recognized that for our use each play represents the selection of two Tactical Cards (one by the Attacker, the other by the Defender), the payoff is the die roll adjustment on the TRM, and the payoff matrix is the TRM itself. In 1776 there are eight possible plays for each player; thus a strategy would consist of a set of eight non-negative numbers that add up to one.

One important theorem of game theory is that all games have at least one optimum solution. That is, there exists a strategy for each player that will maximize his winnings, and no other strategy can be better. So all I had to do was to pour the TRM into the computer, push the button, and wait for the magic answer. Unfortunately there was one small feature on the TRM that did not readily lend itself to analysis. This was that dreaded nemesis of all attackers, the successful withdrawal! While a successful withdrawal has no effect on the current battle, it certainly has some influence on which Tactical Card you select. There are few things more frustrating in life than to have a Continental Army of 5,000 outnumbered three to one, only to have the sneaky devils slip from your grasp with minimal loss. So how do I allow for this elusive concept? Well, to keep things simple (to begin with, anyway), I don't make any allowances for it. I let the values on the TRM remain as they are and replace NC by the value zero. What this implies is that neither player puts any

value whatever on a withdrawal. This is actually the case in many instances. The sole purpose of each player is to try to inflict the highest possible

TABLE I
Tactical Result Matrix - No Adjustments

| Attacker | FA | RF | EL | ER | RL | RR | SD | WD | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| D | FA | 0 | -2 | +2 | +2 | -1 | -1 | +1 | -3 |
| e | RF | +2 | 0 | -1 | -1 | 0 | 0 | +2 | -2 |
| f | EL | -2 | +1 | 0 | 0 | -2 | +3 | -2 | 0 |
| c | ER | -2 | +1 | 0 | 0 | +3 | -2 | -2 | 0 |
| n | RL | +1 | 0 | +2 | -3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| d | RR | +1 | 0 | -3 | +2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| e | SD | -1 | -2 | +2 | +2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| r | WD | +3 | +2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

TABLE II
Tactical Result Matrix - Successful WD Adj = -2

| Attacker | FA | RF | EL | ER | RL | RR | SD | WD | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| D | FA | 0 | -2 | +2 | +2 | -1 | -1 | +1 | -3 |
| e | RF | +2 | 0 | -1 | -1 | 0 | 0 | +2 | -4 |
| f | EL | -2 | +1 | 0 | 0 | -2 | +3 | -2 | -2 |
| c | ER | -2 | +1 | 0 | 0 | +3 | -2 | -2 | -2 |
| n | RL | +1 | 0 | +2 | -3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -2 |
| d | RR | +1 | 0 | -3 | +2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -2 |
| e | SD | -1 | -2 | +2 | +2 | 0 | 0 | -2 | -2 |
| r | WD | +3 | 0 | -2 | -2 | -2 | -2 | -2 | -2 |

loss on his opponent, giving no thought to escape or retreat. The payoff matrix is now shown as Table I. The most significant feature of this matrix is that it is symmetric (for math freaks, symmetric implies that each value in row i, column j = the negative of the value in row j, column i). It is characteristic of all symmetric matrices that the average payoff (or value) to each player is zero, and furthermore, that the strategies for both players will be identical. Following is the result for the matrix of Table I, giving the percentage of the time that each strategy should be played (FA is Frontal Assault, RF is Recon in Force, EL is Enfilade Left, etc.). Underneath the table is the value of the game and the chance of getting a withdrawal using the given strategies.

CASE I
(Withdrawal Adjustment = 0)

| Attacker's Strategy I | Defender's Strategy I |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| FA | .18 |
| RF | .27 |
| EL | .18 |
| ER | .18 |
| RL | .09 |
| RR | .09 |
| SD | .00 |
| WD | .00 |

Value = 0.0 Chance of WD = 0.0

This table says that each player should pick FA, EL, and ER 18% of the time (each), RF 27%, RL and RR 9%, and never pick SD or WD. (The purist will note that the odds only add up to .99 - this is because of the inevitable roundoff error). The value of the game is 0.0, as previously suspected, and the chance of a withdrawal via the Tactical Cards is also 0.0. So all you 1776ers who haven't been selecting Recon in Force had better take a hard look at the above statistics.

So much for the ideal situation. But now you ask, what if the Defender is trying to withdraw? Obviously that puts a premium on Withdrawals

(unless the Attacker picks Frontal Assault - ouch!). The problem now becomes how to make successful Withdrawals "harmful" to the Attacker and "beneficial" to the Defender. One way is to simply adjust every case on the TRM where a successful Withdrawal occurs by some negative number. If you used -1, the bottom line would now be +3, +1, -1, -1, -1, -1, -1. This doesn't mean that you would use these values in practice. It just implies that a Recon in Force against a Withdrawal is not really worth +2 to the Attacker anymore. He would probably be willing to settle for +1 if he could have another attack. Obviously the more negative value you assign to a Withdrawal, the bigger the premium you associate with it. So, every place in the TRM that was red or NC had 1 subtracted from it. I then put this new adjusted TRM into the computer and pushed the button again. Surprise! The results were identical with Case I. Minus one was probably not enough of an adjustment. So this time I subtracted two from all the appropriate entries (see Table II), and had more luck:

CASE II
(Withdrawal Adjustment = -2)

| Att. Strat. II | Def. Strat II |
|----------------|---------------|
| FA | .24 |
| RF | .36 |
| EL | .20 |
| ER | .20 |
| RL | .00 |
| RR | .00 |
| SD | .00 |
| WD | .00 |

Value = -0.12 Chance of Succ. WD = 24.7%

A rather startling change has occurred due to the adjustment to the TRM. The Attacker no longer selects Refuse the Left or Refuse the Right, but instead picks Frontal Assaults and Recon in Force more often. The Defender also gives up on Refuse the Left or Right, but now selects Stand and Defend and Withdrawals! The value of the game has shifted slightly in the defender's favor, the price you would expect to pay by using Frontal Assaults more often.

Now I decided to adjust the TRM by even more. I used values from minus three to minus ten, and one extreme case of minus twenty-four (either the Attacker is desperate to nail the Defender or the Defender is willing to sell his soul in order to escape!). Following are the results using the values -4, -6, and -24:

CASE III
(WD adj. = -4)

| ATT. III | DEF III |
|----------|---------|
| FA | .41 |
| RF | .31 |
| EL | .14 |
| ER | .14 |
| RL | .00 |
| RR | .00 |
| SD | .00 |
| WD | .00 |

Value = -0.5 Suc. WD = 14.8%

CASE IV
(WD adj. = -6)

| Att IV | Def IV |
|--------|--------|
| FA | .52 |
| RF | .30 |
| EL | .09 |
| ER | .09 |
| RL | .00 |
| RR | .00 |
| SD | .00 |
| WD | .00 |

Value = -0.74

Suc. WD = 9.8%

CASE V
(WD adj. = -24)

| Att V | Def V |
|-------|-------|
| FA | .82 |
| RF | .18 |
| EL | .00 |
| ER | .00 |
| RL | .00 |
| RR | .00 |
| SD | .00 |
| WD | .00 |

Value = -1.46

Suc. WD = 1.9%

Taken together, these tables show some interesting trends. As the "value" of the WD adjustment decreases, the value of the game slowly decreases, while the chance of a successful withdrawal via the Tactical Cards rapidly approaches zero. The attacker starts to rely more and more on Frontal Assaults, while the Defender is busily pulling out Enfilades, with only an occasional Withdrawal just to keep the Attacker on his toes. In the most extreme case, we would anticipate the Attacker always picking Frontal Assaults, the Defender always picking Enfilades, the value being exactly minus two and the chance of a Withdrawal being exactly zero. And I can assure you, that when the Attacker doesn't want the Defender to get away, and the Defender knows it, you might as well forget the Tactical Cards and just subtract two from the die roll. Experience bears this out, but isn't it nice to know that theory agrees with you!

One interesting problem arises when the Attacker and Defender interpret the situation differently. For example, the Attacker may be using the strategy presented in Case II (he doesn't care too much if the Defender gets away), but the Defender misreads the Attacker's intentions and defends using the strategy in Case IV (he thinks the Attacker really wants to pulverize him). This type of problem comes under the subject of *non-zero-sum games*, a topic which is beyond the scope of this article, and undoubtedly beyond the ability of this author. However, I will admit that the advantage would generally lie with the person using the lower numbered strategy.

Using the strategies presented in this article should improve your chances for getting good results on the TRM, but I have no sympathy for those people who are playing against psychic opponents or who can't roll a number higher than a two.

DESIGN ANALYSIS



THE LEFTOVERS

by John Engberg

Picture the following game of *STALINGRAD*: you're the Germans, driving fast and hard through the Ukraine. You've given the Russians a bloody nose, but his lines are still cohesive. But you see an opportunity—smash one 5-7-4 and you can come around behind and cut off most of his front. Sure, he's behind a river and you can only attack from two hexes, but the four 8-8-6s are in easy reach and should carry the day. They move up. That's 32-14, ten more factors are needed for a 3-1. You spot a 5-5-4 and put him in the line. Five factors needed, but only enough room left for one more unit. You frantically search the board—nothing in reach bigger than a 4-4-4. That gives you only 41 factors, one shy of 3-1 odds. Now you either call off the attack and allow Ivan to reinforce; or risk a 2-1 shot, with the funmaking prospect of having at least 28 factors fly off of Valhalla on the wings of an A-elim. Situations like this cheat barbers out of millions of dollars every year.

Is there a better way? Let's see.

The title is derived from the fact that one often does not get battles that reduce to nice, even CRT odds (even with 3-2 columns and the like). Factors are left over. These factors fight and die like the rest, but are powerless to influence the battle. One obvious solution is to put more columns in the CRTs, but some fellows will still be left out. Carrying this to extremes, we can have a table that covers EVERY possible situation. You could figure out what the greatest possible strength defending a hex would be, and the greatest number of attackers that could be brought to bear, and check out everything in between. Such a CRT would be about the size of the New York phone directory and come in a separate package. A science fiction game with such a table would be an ancients game by the time of publication. There is something inherently unwieldy in the beast.

One does not have to risk a hernia just to enjoy the hobby. I have devised a solution which only requires two tables. One is a basic flat-odds type.

FIGURE A

| die | 1-6 | 1-5 | 1-4 | 1-3 | 1-2 | 1-1 | 2-1 | 3-1 | 4-1 | 5-1 | 6-1 |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| -2 | Ab2 | Ab2 | Ab2 | X | X | X | Db2 | DE | DE | DE | DE |
| -1 | AE | AE | AE | AE | AE | AE | Ab2 | X | Db2 | Db2 | DE |
| 0 | AE | AE | AE | AE | AE | AE | Ab2 | X | Db2 | Db2 | Db2 |
| 1 | Ab2 | Ab2 | Ab2 | Db2 | Db2 | DE | DE | DE | DE | DE | DE |
| 2 | AE | Ab2 | Ab2 | X | X | Db2 | Db2 | DE | DE | DE | DE |
| 3 | AE | AE | Ab2 | Ab2 | Ab2 | X | Db2 | Db2 | DE | DE | DE |
| 4 | AE | AE | AE | Ab2 | Ab2 | Ab2 | X | Db2 | Db2 | DE | DE |
| 5 | AE | AE | AE | AE | AE | AE | Ab2 | X | Db2 | Db2 | DE |
| 6 | AE | AE | AE | AE | AE | AE | AE | X | X | Db2 | Db2 |

surplus
subtraction

FIGURE B

| 0-9.9% | 10-19.9% | 20-29.9% | 30-39.9% | 40-49.9% | 50-59.9% | 60-69.9% | 70-79.9% | 80-89.9% | 90-99.9% |
|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 0 | 0 | -1 | -1 | -1 | -2 | -2 | -3 | -3 | -3 |

The other works somewhat like the tactical matrices in *1776* or *CAESAR'S LEGIONS*. This second table translates any overages from flat-odds into die-roll advantages. In the opening example, the thirteen extra factors are turned into a die roll modification that would make the battle equal to a 3-1 straight. One factor shouldn't be more important than the other forty-one put together. Such a table for *STALINGRAD* might look like the one in diagram A.

Such a system has inaccuracies of its own. Two factors are more important at 8-3 than at 22-10. A quick panacea for this is to express the excess as a fraction of the attacking or defending force, rather than a number of factors. The table would be divided into percent increments (1-5%, 5.1-10%, 10.1-15%, etc.), each with a die roll addition. This has the drawback of players having to calculate percents, but it is not all that difficult. Simply divide the part by the whole and multiply by 100. In the beginning example, $13:14 \times 100 = 92.86\%$. A cheap pocket calculator should do away with pencil-pushing, or a chart of combinations and percentages could be included in the game (something like the odds-reduction chart included with AH's old standardized CRT). This would look somewhat like figure B.

For variety, one could add a vertical column with combat odds. The die roll modification would differ slightly depending on the balance of forces. This would allow the excess-point table to take percentages into account. Gamblers among you might even like to roll a die to determine the exact change, out of different possibilities. This can enhance the uncertainty created by things like tactical matrices and command control.

I hope this Total Unit Effectiveness CRT (I get my jollies thinking up fancy names for things) helps you in your gaming, and that you no longer need to defoliate yourself over that up-factoring unit that just couldn't make it. Okay, so I've run it up the flagpole. We'll see who salutes it.



BATTLES IN GERMANY, 1948

by Roy Easton

In 1948, Stalin sought to put pressure on the Western Allies by shutting off all of the land access routes to Berlin. The Allies responded by supplying Berlin completely through the air in the Berlin Air-Lift. These *PANZER LEADER/PANZERBLITZ* variant situations assume that the Air-Lift had failed and that the Allied leaders had decided to open the land routes to Berlin by force.

These situations use the *PANZER LEADER* boards and Allied units and the *PANZERBLITZ* Soviet units. The *PANZER LEADER* rules are used with the following modifications:

1. **STACKING**-Four Allied units may stack in a hex; three Soviet units may stack in a hex except for Soviet infantry units which can stack with only one other unit.

2. **INDIRECT FIRE**-No Soviet unit may use indirect fire; all Allied M and (H) units may use indirect fire.

3. **RANGE**-Soviet infantry units have a range of 2*.

4. **ARMORED ENGINEER VEHICLES**-Situation 25 introduces two new types of AVRE's (Armored Vehicle, Royal Engineers) and this rule covers their use.

a. The AVRE-F units represent AVRE's carrying fascines (bundles of sticks). When this AVRE enters a stream hex, it may drop its fascine by expending an additional movement point. A "Fascine" counter is placed in this hex to indicate that the fascine has been placed in the stream. All tracked and half-tracked vehicles may now cross the stream on this hex by expending an additional 3 movement points but no more than 2 units may cross each fascine per turn. Up to 3 fascines may be dropped in a single hex and they may be crossed on the same turn that they are dropped. Each AVRE-F carries one fascine.

b. The AVRE-B units represent AVRE's equipped with bulldozer blades. An AVRE-B may remove a "Wreck" from a Clear Terrain hex by remaining undispersed on that hex for one complete Movement Phase at the end of which the "Wreck" counter is removed from the Board. The same process is used to clear a "Wreck" from Woods hexes except that at the end of the Movement Phase, the "Wreck" is replaced by a "Wreck-R(emoved)" counter which counts as a unit for stacking but does not inhibit movement (as along a road).

c. One AVRE-B can remove a "Block" counter by remaining undispersed on that hex for 2 complete Movement Phases, at the end of which the "Block" counter is removed from the game. Two AVRE-B's can remove a "Block" if each one remains on that hex undispersed for one complete Movement Phase.

d. One or more AVRE-B's can clear a Green hexside by remaining undispersed adjacent to that hexside for a total of 3 complete Movement Phases, at the end of which a "Green Side Cleared" counter is placed with the arrow pointing to the cleared side. All tracked and half-tracked vehicles may then cross this hexside by expending an additional 2 Movement Points.

e. AVRE-B's can clear minefields by using the procedure described above for removing "Wrecks".



SITUATION 23

Germany, 1948: The Berlin Airlift has failed and President Truman has ordered the army to open sufficient land supply routes into Berlin to supply the city. The success of this attack by elements of the U.S. 2nd Armored Division depends on the speed with which the routes are opened and casualties are immaterial.



Available Units:

U.S.: Two Combat Commands each containing the following:

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 14 A 10 10 7531 9 | 14 H 10 9 5401 | 15 A 12 6 9600 9 | 12 A 10 2 0221 0 | 15 A 20 1 0201 0 | 3 M 12 3 0222 1 | 60 (H) 35 7 4103 8 | 40 (H) 32 7 4201 8 | 3 I 2 10 1121 1 | 4 I 2 10 1531 1 | 2 C(I) 2 3 2414 10 | 0 C 0 1 2201 14 |
| 10 | | 3 | 2 | 2 | | | 3 | 3 | 9 | 12 | 6 |

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 0 - 0 (32) 0 | 0 - 0 (23) 0 |
|-----------------|-----------------|



1 only, can spot for any and all U.S. units.



Soviet: Reinforced Guards Mechanized Rifle Brigade.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 15 A 8 10 953 11 | 18 A 12 14 982 8 | 16 A 8 15 943 8 | 6 I 5 18 102 1 | 8 I 1 12 512 1 | 3 I 1 8 111 1 | 24 M 20 2 93 0 | 3 M 12 87 89 1 | 12 A 5 75 32 0 | 6 I 6 12 71 0 | 40 H 20 122 101 1 | 0 C 0 1 422 12 |
| 4 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 3 | | | 3 | 6 | | 2 | 10 |

| |
|----------------------|
| 2 C(I) 1 2 442 10 |
| 3 |

Note: Since the counter-mix does not provide sufficient counters for this situation, the player should purchase another set of Allied counters or make appropriate substitutions. Soviet mortars may not use indirect fire.

Boards:

| |
|---|
| A |
| C |
| D |



The U.S. Zone-Soviet Zone Border runs south along Row U on Board A until it reaches the main river and then runs along the river to the South end of Board D.

Set-Up:

Soviet Player: Set up first anywhere east of the Border.

U.S. Player: Set up second anywhere West of the Border, move first. Each of the two Combat Commands must set-up on a different Board but there are no other restrictions on movement or firing.

Game Length: 15 Turns

Victory Conditions:

Victory is determined by the number of road exit hexes on the Eastern Edge of the Board controlled by the U.S. player at the end of the game. In order to control one of these hexes, the U.S. player must have been the last to move a unit through this hex and there must be no Soviet infantry or non-halftrack armored units within 2 hexes of the road exit hex on the last game turn.

| Number of Hexes Controlled by U.S. | Victory Level |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 0 | Soviet Decisive |
| 1 | Soviet Tactical |
| 2 | Soviet Marginal |
| 3 | Draw |
| 4 | U.S. Marginal |
| 5 | U.S. Tactical |
| 6 | U.S. Decisive |

SITUATION 24

Germany, 1948: As the U.S. Army drives on Berlin, the Soviets counterattack in the British Zone. A battlegroup of the 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards, is ordered to delay the advance of a Soviet Tank Corps.

Available Units:



British:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---|--------|----|----|----|-----|------|----|----|-----|------|----|---|----|----|---|----|------|---|---|------|---|---|------|----|------|----|
| Comet | | Archer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | A | 12 | 16 | A | 12 | 3 | A | 5 | 35 | (H) | 35 | 14 | A | 10 | 4 | I | 2 | I | 2 | 3 | M | 8 | 2 | C(I) | 2 | | |
| 12 | | 10 | 12 | 10 | 3 | SMC | 3401 | 16 | 7 | SMC | 4102 | 8 | 2 | 17 | mm | 0 | 10 | 1531 | 1 | 6 | 1511 | 1 | 3 | 78 | mm | 2401 | 10 |
| | | 12 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



Soviet:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|--------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|-----|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|-----|----|----|---|---|---|----|---|-----|---|--|--|
| 15 | A | 8 | 18 | A | 12 | 40 | H | 10 | 16 | A | 8 | 12 | A | 5 | 3 | M | 12 | 24 | M | 20 | 40 | 24 | 3 | I | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | 134/85 | 951 | 11 | 14 | 11 | 31 | 11 | 8 | 15 | 50 | 152 | 7 | 15 | 942 | 8 | 2 | 78 | mm | 33 | 0 | 3 | 87 | mm | 1 | 2 | 125 | mm | 91 | 0 | 2 | M | 12 | 8 | 111 | 1 | | |
| | | 12 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-------|-----|---|----|-----|-----|------|---|---------|-----|----|---|---|-------|-----|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 5 | I | 4 | 8 | I | 1 | 2 | C(I) | 1 | 0 | C | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | RIFLE | 140 | 1 | 12 | SMC | 161 | 1 | 2 | HALFTRK | 645 | 10 | 1 | 1 | TRUCK | 428 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 9 | 3 | 6 | 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Note: Use Sherman and M-4 counters with Comet values and M-10 and Achilles counters with Archer values.

Boards:



NORTH

Set-Up:

British Player: Set up first anywhere on the Board, move second.

Soviet Player: Move first, enter from any hex or hexes along Eastern edge of Board. All Soviet units must be on Board by the end of Turn 3. The British player may use Opportunity Fire on Turn 1.

Game Length: 15 Turns

Special Rule:

All British CAT attacks have their odds increased by one column, i.e., a 1:1 becomes a 2:1.

Victory Conditions:

Victory is determined by the number of Soviet tank units, (T-34/85, JS III, SU-152, and SU-100) exited off the Western edge of the Board from any partial hex south of B-GG-6. Each exiting unit must use 1 Movement Point to exit the Board and may not return after exiting.

| Number of Units Exited | Victory Level |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 0-2 | British Decisive |
| 3-5 | British Tactical |
| 6-8 | Draw |
| 9-11 | Soviet Marginal |
| 12-15 | Soviet Tactical |
| 16-24 | Soviet Decisive |

SITUATION 25

Germany, 1948: As the Soviet counteroffensive surges through the British Zone, a hastily assembled force built around an armored regiment of Royal Engineers is ordered to attack the base of the Russian salient.

British:



| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|-----|------|----|-----|-----|------|---|----|----|----|---|----|------|---|---|----|----|------|---|----|----|------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 14 | A | 12 | 3 | A | 5 | 35 | (H) | 35 | 14 | A | 10 | 4 | I | 2 | I | 2 | 3 | M | 8 | 2 | C(I) | 2 | I | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | 10 | 3 | SMC | 3402 | 16 | 7 | SMC | 4101 | 8 | 2 | 17 | mm | 0 | 10 | 1531 | 1 | 3 | 78 | mm | 1 | 2 | 78 | mm | 1174 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 12 | 2 | 3 | 12 | 14 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|----|------|---|------|---|
| 2 | C(I) | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| 3 | SMC | 2402 | 10 | (32) | 0 | (23) | 0 |
| | | 8 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 6 |



For use with AVRE's

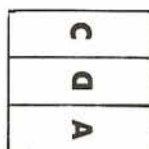


Soviet:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|--------|-----|----|----|-----|-----|---|---|----|----|----|----|---|----|---|---|----|---|---|-----|---|----|-------|-----|---|----|-----|-----|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 15 | A | 8 | 16 | A | 8 | 12 | A | 5 | 3 | M | 12 | 24 | M | 20 | 3 | I | 2 | 5 | I | 4 | 8 | I | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | 134/85 | 952 | 11 | 15 | 108 | 941 | 8 | 2 | 78 | mm | 34 | 0 | 3 | 86 | 1 | 2 | 92 | 0 | 8 | 112 | 1 | 16 | RIFLE | 147 | 1 | 12 | SMC | 186 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| | | 4 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|-----|----|----|-------|-----|----|--|
| 2 | C(I) | 1 | 0 | C | 0 | X | | |
| 2 | HALFTRK | 641 | 10 | 1 | TRUCK | 421 | 12 | |
| | | 5 | 7 | 10 | | | | |

Boards:



NORTH

Set-Up:

Soviet Player: Set up first anywhere on the Board.

British Player: Move first and enter anywhere along the Southern edge of the Board.

Game Length: 12 Turns

Victory Conditions:

The Soviets win if, at the end of the game, they can trace a line of continuous road hexes from the East to the West edges of the Board such that no hex along this line is within 2 hexes of a British non-Bren or halftrack unit. The British win by avoiding the Soviet Victory Conditions.

THIRD REICH RULES

The Second Edition of the Third Reich rules is now available for \$2.00 plus 50¢ postage. These rules have not been rewritten. They are still in the original lengthy and somewhat ambiguous style. Those expecting a crystal clear revision will be disappointed, and should not order the revision.

What the second edition *does* have is a 5 page Appendix of Questions & Answers on play—many of which have appeared in the *GENERAL* previously. Marked in the margins of the rules themselves are 35 changes to the actual copy. All of the important changes have been published in the Design Analysis column of Vol. 13, No. 2 of the *GENERAL* so that previous owners need not purchase a new set unnecessarily.



PANZERBLITZ BOOKLETS

After hundreds of requests for it, we've finally published the best of the *GENERAL*'s many articles on *PANZERBLITZ*—conventional wargaming's all time best seller. Entitled "Wargamer's Guide to *PANZERBLITZ*", it initiates and may very well end the "Best of the *GENERAL*" series as no other game has been the target of a comparable volume of literary attention.

The 36 pp. manual resembles very much an issue of the *GENERAL* except that it is devoted 100% to *PANZERBLITZ*. The articles are taken almost exclusively from back issues, dating as far back as 1971. In addition, two never before published articles appear; Robert Harmon's "Commanders Notebook" which analyzes the original 12 scenarios, plus Phil Kosnett's "Chopperblitz"—a hypothetical variant utilizing helicopters with six new scenarios.

Reprints include Larry McAneny's "The Pieces of Panzerblitz"—voted the best article ever to appear in the *GENERAL*, "Beyond Situation 13"—twelve additional scenarios by Robert Harmon; "Parablitz"; "Panzerblitz"; "Blind Panzerblitz"; "Situation 13"; "Championship Situations"; "Panzerblitz Concealment"; and "Incremental Panzerblitz." Topping it all off is a complete listing of all errata on the game published to date where the Opponents Wanted Page once ruled supreme.

The Wargamer's Guide to *PANZERBLITZ* sells for \$3.00 plus 50¢ postage and handling charges from the Avalon Hill Game Company, 4517 Harford Rd., Baltimore, MD 21214. Maryland residents add 4% state sales tax.

Dear Sir:

I have some comments I'd like to pass on to you concerning the *GENERAL* and the course of AH in general. First, you and the people at AH are to be congratulated. The *GENERAL* has become a first class publication and I am truly amazed at the volume of new games that have been brought out in the last few years. I remember the days of the classics when it was more like one or two new games a year. That also brings me to my point of concern.

Perhaps Future Shock has hit the old line wargamer. It used to be that you could keep up with all the new AH games and gain at least a mastery and appreciation for them even if some (like *1914*) didn't reach that stage. The *GENERAL* was full of articles which could be enjoyed if not for their quality, but at least because you knew what they were talking about! What with the volume of new games and the lack of volume of my time available for gaming, the *GENERAL* is read now with perhaps less enjoyment as the average issue has mostly articles about games which I know nothing about. It is interesting at least to learn what they are about.

It seems that wargaming has changed, broadened its scope and appeal, and of course the *GENERAL* has followed this trend. However, I think that the in-depth coverage given in the recent issues to some of the new games must be done with care—that is, don't over do it as I feel you did in Vol. 13, No. 2 with *WS&IM* taking up so much of the issue. Really, there only seem to be two articles in the issue and if you aren't interested in *WS&IM* and/or *DIPLOMACY* the issue is just a waste. I am interested in the two, but please try not to make the issues quite so specialized. I feel that the in-depth coverage is a good thing, but just no so much of it!

On another side, thanks for publishing (finally) my Imperfect Defense article in Vol. 11, No. 3. I find it funny that the letters about it (Vol. 12, No. 1, Vol. 12, No. 3 and Vol. 13, No. 2) have referred to the photographer (Dick Bartlett) as the author? Oh well. I have taken the criticisms of Robert Beyma to heart to the extent of pulling back the stack of 4-6's at CC-14 and using a more conventional defense on the Bug River. The defense south of Hungary is the same except for replacing a 2-3-6 with a 4-6-4. There does not seem to be much to do about the possibility of a big 1-2 on Brest except to grin and hope for the best. The defense is not the best possible, that's why I called it the Imperfect Defense. I wrote it in response to some really poor defenses I'd seen published. *STALINGRAD* does appear to be a balanced game to me now with the 1-2 and 2-1 a necessary part of a German's tactics. A properly administered 2-1 can do wonders for the next few months of the war.

You are to be congratulated for the publication of *RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN*. It is so different from *S'GRAD* that at least to the game player, there is no overlap. The few that I've tried were really something.

I guess that the diversification of wargaming means that we must really specialize in a few games even if you insist on bringing out more and more new and fascinating ones. Well that's life. Good luck nonetheless.

Dr. Richard Shalvoy
Lexington, KY

We are aware that we are gambling each time we put out an in-depth issue such as Vol. 13, No. 2, but feel that it is necessary if we are to provide truly meaningful coverage of a game. The policy is not unbreakable however, and we will continue to alternate the in-depth approach with scattergun coverage in future issues.—Ed.

★★★★★

Dear Sirs:

I purchased a copy of your new game *TOBRUK* several months ago, but I did not get a chance to play it until recently. Now that I have received the revised rules for *TOBRUK* I have made a concentrated effort to learn and play it. Learning *TOBRUK* did not require as much effort as I had thought it would because of its new learning system and because it has been so enjoyable to play. I have just about finished the process of learning how to play *TOBRUK*, and I am very pleased that I purchased it and took the time to learn it. At present, I have a collection of over one hundred wargames, and I believe that *TOBRUK* is the best of them all. I very much like

Letters to the Editor ...

its new game system, and I hope that more games can be produced using this system. I would like to see it applied to the same kinds of situations as your earlier games *PANZERBLITZ* and *PANZER LEADER*, and I wish that games using the *TOBRUK*-system could be developed dealing with tactical combat in the Pacific theater during World War Two and with modern tactical combat situations (maybe set in the Middle East). If it were possible, even though the type of weapons used might be much different, I would also be very interested in a game which would apply the *TOBRUK*-system to tactical combat in World War One. I very much believe that *TOBRUK*'s game-system is a revolutionary design which could and should be used in future tactical wargames, and I hope that you will soon begin developing more games using the *TOBRUK*-system.

In addition, I want to tell you how much I like your other new game *WOODEN SHIPS & IRON MEN*. I have found it to be far more playable than the similar game published by your biggest competitor. It might be that some day its game-system and something like the *TOBRUK*-system could be combined to produce what would probably be a very excellent tactical naval game.

Jeffrey R. Smith
Columbus, OH

★★★★★

Dear Mr. Greenwood:

I have often wondered when you at Avalon Hill will computerize your games. As a programmer and wargamer (since I was twelve), I have often daydreamed about the possibilities the AH games present.

Your games are ideally suited (large amounts of data handled in the same manner according to set rules) for computer application. *TOBRUK*, with its many die rolls and tables, is one example. The computer could generate the die rolls and report the results with such speed that it would almost be like sitting in the turret of a Pz. III watching the Grants roll towards you.

Another of your games which I like very much and bought as soon as it came out is *1914*. I'd play it more if it wasn't so much trouble to set up and keep track of. The computer could easily keep track of all the pieces on the board as well as many rules the players would care to utilize.

Not only could the computer keep track of rules and units, it could control what information each player has on his opponent's units. No longer will you be able to tell at a glance where your opponent's strengths and weaknesses are. In *AFRIKA KORPS*, *Reece* units will have to do just that—recon; and in *PANZER BLITZ/LEADER*, you can deploy units behind hills or in woods without your opponent knowing they're there.

I realize that all this can be done now with inverted counters (which tend to confuse the owning player as well as his opponent) or with a third player, but at what cost to speed and game enjoyment?

I mentioned the third player. How often do you find someone who really *wants* to be a third player? More often than not, a third player takes on that role so that such things as hidden movement or simultaneous movement or some other optional rule can be employed. But with the computer taking over these tasks, the third player can become a contestant in a multi-player game without a fourth player having to keep track of everything, who can become a fourth contestant without a fifth player ...

And now that we're on the subject of multi-player games (which also seem to take forever at a cost to game enjoyment), what are the possibilities with the computer in the picture? Five players as the commanders in *ALEXANDER*? Ten players in *PANZER BLITZ/LEADER*? Twenty in *TOBRUK*? Fifty or more in *JUTLAND*? And all of the players would be making their moves simultaneously with no information as to the movements of the other players, if they could not logically have information about them.

The cost of computers today is going down, and microcomputers will be appearing in every home and will one day replace the television as the family's entertainment center. While today, even the cheapest microcomputer may be out of the

price range of the average wargamer, they certainly aren't beyond the reach of most wargaming clubs. I sometimes fantasize along the lines I've outlined in this letter, and I imagine a dozen or more wargamers around the country playing in the same game, or even a club in San Francisco fighting the Battle of the Bulge against a club in ... Baltimore, perhaps?

Stephen Kilmer
San Pablo, CA

★★★★★

Gentlemen:

Three games have recently joined *ORIGINS* in the "political" category: *DIPLOMACY*, *KING-MAKER*, and *MR. PRESIDENT*. The last of the three is the subject of this letter. I have been playing *MR. PRESIDENT* for several years now and feel that it is an outstanding product, probably the best game of its kind.

Purists may argue that this is a game of "chance." Not so! My reasons:

- 1) Although the order in which the Ballot Cards appear is at random, both parties start with identical decks of cards. It's what they do with the cards that counts.
- 2) In real life a candidate would spend more time in a large, populous state than in a small one. To reflect this, the player is forced to roll the dice while campaigning, for the dice charts favor the larger states. The frequent number of dice rolls, however, helps to reduce the luck element, for luck will even out.
- 3) The Campaign Headquarters cards are a chance element, but a realistic one. In an actual campaign such unexpected events such as press endorsements, rumors, and news events turn up and alter things. Also, the additional option of drawing a card adds a decision point.

There is one major flaw in the game design. I am annoyed that the same dice numbers used in selecting states are also used in determining eligibility for "options" (going to campaign headquarters, advertising, debating). The selections of states and options are independent events and should be treated as such. I therefore suggest that after selecting his region (unless he has decided to raise funds) the player rolls the dice once for his options (hoping for a 7, 11, or doubles) and then rolls once for his states. Then he makes his decision as to what to do this turn. I also suggest that in the "Home Stretch" the player must roll the dice separately for the states in each of the two regions.

In short, then, the *MR. PRESIDENT* game, while requiring strategy, is exciting and fascinating. It belongs in every game addict's library. Hopefully Avalon Hill will look into other former 3M games not mentioned in Vol. 12, No. 5's "Avalon Hill Philosophy." I particularly enjoyed *BAZAAR*, *HIGH BID*, *ACQUIRE*, *VENTURE*, and *SLEUTH*. I also feel that *MONAD* could survive if the rules are changed slightly so that the discard pile is reshuffled before being turned over into the draw pile so as to add uncertainty to play. I am anxious to see which 3M games will be maintained.

Bill Hecker
Leominster, Mass. 01453

Ed. Note: ACQUIRE, VENTURE, and SLEUTH were never discontinued. HIGH BID was, but we have redesigned, repackaged, and renamed it THE COLLECTOR and it will be available again in the spring.

★★★★★

Dear Sir:

I have played countless games of *MIDWAY*, and it has become my pet love of all wargames. Long live its creators! However, I cannot help but wince, whenever I read an article on *MIDWAY* in your magazine or gaze at my search counters, at your flagrant use of the word "Jap."

Good Heavens! Doesn't the General Editorial Staff realize that this is a blatant racial slur?

The word "Jap" is as an offensive and disparaging remark to Japanese-Americans as the word "nigger" is to Black-Americans.

In your Series Replays and various articles, I am sure this can be rectified quite easily by simply inserting "Japanese". The more difficult task would be the changing of the search counters to read something other than the word "Jap". I recommend the use of the abbreviation "JPN" or "Jpn.". The former has been advocated by the Japanese American Citizens League as a substitute for the more commonly used "Jap" for the use in dictionaries and encyclopaedias. It is already being used. If this is unacceptable (which I doubt), then I propose a mere period (.) be placed after the final "p" in the word "Jap" on the search counters. After all, the American counters are not marked "US" but "U.S."

As a wargamer, I subscribe to your magazine and will continue to subscribe; but, as a Japanese-American who is proud of his cultural heritage, I cannot let the use of the racial slur, to which I have developed an uncanny hatred, continue in your fine magazine.

I trust you to rectify it as speedily as possible.

Sincerely,
Craig Kurumada

Ed. Note— Thanks for pointing out this oversight on our part. We'll keep it especially in mind while preparing THE RISING SUN for publication later in the year.

★★★★★

Dear Sirs,

I don't feel Dean Miller's article does justice to *RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN* in that his complaint about a minor point and the editorial rebuttal tend to obscure the true "breakthrough." This is the type of game I have been expecting to happen and am glad did. Here is a remake of a well "gamed" period of military history which offers playability *plus* confronting each player with a much more clear-cut view of the advantages and disadvantages possessed by both sides in the actual conflict. As the German or Russian, these advantages and disadvantages have been made on important parts of the strategic and tactical choices the player has to make. One can truly appreciate the strategic problems that faced each side and the scope of the game, including the well conceived victory conditions, diminishes the possibility of "game tactics" to avoid a victory condition that would have been ludicrous in the actual situation.

All this and pbm playability too! I'm already joining orders with a friend for a second copy and predict that this game has a good chance of becoming a good selling classic. To me it also proves that there is great scope for improvement in other well-worked areas (e.g., The North African Campaign—a similar redo of *AK* where the Allies have to push Rommel out and not just avoid his conditions of victory, the Pacific campaign on a reasonable scale, the Civil War, etc.).

So far, The Russian Campaign looks like the best game of the 70's.

Sincerely,
William A. Farone
Bon Air, VA

Editor's Note: Many others have written similar letters and we think you'll even be more pleased with the improved scenarios, corrected rules, and Sudden Death Victory conditions of the 2nd edition.

★★★★★

Dear Don:

Thank you for printing my "More French Alternatives" in 13.3. There is one serious flaw, though; the order of battle for Mini-Game Dunkirk was left out. British forces within the perimeter should be 1(8-8), 1(6-8), and 2(1-8), and 1(4-8) is in hex 721. French forces are 1(6-6) in Calais, 1(6-6) in 722, and 1(6-6) in 723. Belgian forces are 1(4-6) each in 783 and 784. At the start of Turn Ten (the third Turn) these units surrender. German forces south of 849 are 1(7-8), 3(6-8), 1(5-8), 2(4-8) and 4(2-8). Forces north are 5(7-6). No German unit may be within two hexes of an Allied unit at game start. Germans have four supporting air units, the Allies two British (flying from England).

Phil Kosnett
North Brunswick, NJ

READER BUYER'S GUIDE

TITLE: DIPLOMACY \$11.00

SUBJECT: Multi-player Political Game based on Pre-WWI Europe

DIPLOMACY was the 29th game to undergo analysis in the RBG and fared well enough to be ranked tenth with a cumulative rating of 2.60 despite its old age. Although the game was acquired by Avalon Hill in 1976, it has been available in much the same form practically since the birth of the wargame hobby. The AH version remained faithful to this timeless classic save for an enlarged mapboard and cover art patterned after the highly successful English version.

The Components rating is perhaps the most interesting as it is the first rated game to utilize three dimensional pieces (different colored and shaped wooden blocks). The resulting 3.13 was only the 20th best score in this category to date and does not bode well for those who would favor an end to cardboard counters.

The only drawback to an otherwise strong showing occurred in the Realism category where it ranked a poor 25th. Being a somewhat abstract multi-player game with a game and combat system based entirely on player interaction rather than historical capabilities, this is as it should be, for *DIPLOMACY* is a simulation in only the most general sense.

Elsewhere the game fared consistently well with outstanding performances in Ease of Understanding (2nd) and Play Balance (3rd) speaking well for its classic game qualities. The game remains highly popular today

whenever gatherings allow for a full field of participants, as evidenced by the record attendance tournaments at ORIGINS I & II. The required 7 participants is widely recognized as the game's major drawback and is partly responsible for spawning a postal *DIPLOMACY* hobby wherein enthusiasts play in any of virtually dozens of privately operated fan zines. *DIPLOMACY*, more than any other commonly accepted wargame, is widely recognized as a hobby in itself and those interested in pursuing it further should proceed via the *DIPLOMACY WORLD* journal advertised elsewhere in this magazine.

The playing time of 5½ hours is somewhat exaggerated and can be cut by reducing the time allotted for negotiations.

- 1. Physical Quality 2.35
- 2. Mapboard 2.26
- 3. Components 3.13
- 4. Ease of Understanding 1.87
- 5. Completeness of Rules 2.39
- 6. Play Balance 2.09
- 7. Realism 4.57
- 8. Excitement Level 2.30
- 9. Overall Value 2.43
- 10. Game Length 5 hr., 26 min.

THE QUESTION BOX

TOBRUK:

Q. If a unit is firing counter-battery, can an enemy battery attempt to locate it even though it is NOT firing onto the mapboard?

A. Yes. ANY type of off-board fire makes a battery liable for counter-battery locating—including counter-battery fire.

A. May forward observers spot targets while in full cover?

A. Yes.

Q. May indirect fire weapons acquire targets which are in a full-cover state?

A. Only if those targets were previously exposed by movement or by their firing. Units that remain in full cover without firing, moving, or changing their cover state may not be fired upon by any type of weapon.

Q. May the opposing player examine a unit in full cover by looking under an entrenchment counter if

that unit has already shown itself in a good cover state on the previous turn?

A. No. Enemy units under entrenchment counters may not be examined.

Q. May Carriers fire Bren guns or ATR's from inside weapon pits?

A. No.

WAR AT SEA

Q. Can P.O.C. gained ever go over +10 on the POC Chart?

A. No.

Q. Are Germany and Norway one and the same port?

A. Yes; they are considered one combined port.

Q. Can carrier aircraft ever attack ships in port?

A. No.

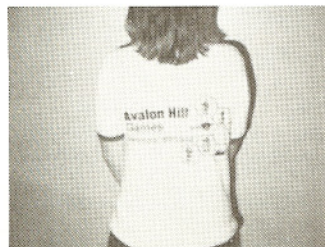
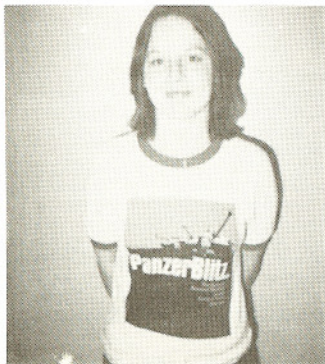
WARGAMING T-SHIRTS

The wargaming t-shirts are now available and although these black and white photos do not portray the vivid colors and sharpness of the artwork you can take our word that these shirts sport an exact full color likeness of wargaming's most widely recognized box cover.

The back sports an enlarged, silk screened version of the Avalon Hill logo. The neck and sleeves feature attractive red collars to present a very pleasing overall appearance.

The shirts sell for \$5.00 each plus the usual postage charges based on the dollar amount of your total order. Be sure to specify size. Maryland residents add 4% State Sales Tax.

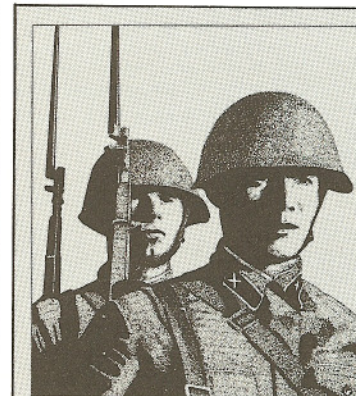
_____ Small _____ Large
_____ Medium _____ Xtra Large



GENERAL BACK ISSUES

Only a limited number of *GENERAL* back issues are available for \$1.50 each plus normal postage and handling charges. Due to low supplies we request that you specify an alternate for any selection you make. The index below lists the contents of each issue by subject matter; feature articles are designated with an (*), series replays are italicized, and the number following each issue is the reader rating of that particular issue.

- Vol. 7, No. 2 — 4 miscellaneous, Anzio, Bulge, Jutland, Blitzkrieg, Waterloo
- Vol. 8, No. 1 — *Bulge, Anzio, 2 miscellaneous, Panzerblitz, 2 Luftwaffe, 1914, Gettysburg
- Vol. 12, No. 1 — *1776, Anzio, miscellaneous, Panzerblitz, Chancellorsville, Panzer Leader, Stalingrad, Tactics II . . . 2.57
- Vol. 12, No. 2 — *3 Tobruk, Panzerblitz, Bulge, Blitzkrieg, Panzer Leader, Stalingrad . . . 3.10
- Vol. 12, No. 3 — *3 Jutland, Waterloo, miscellaneous, Third Reich, Chancellorsville . . . 3.96
- Vol. 12, No. 4 — *Alexander, Afrika Korps, 3 miscellaneous, Panzerblitz, Midway, France '40, 1776, Panzer Leader, Stalingrad . . . 2.64
- Vol. 12, No. 5 — *Panzerblitz, Anzio, miscellaneous, Afrika Korps, Blitzkrieg, Third Reich . . . 3.22
- Vol. 12, No. 6 — *Chancellorsville, WS&I, miscellaneous, Panzer Leader, Stalingrad . . . 3.42
- Vol. 13, No. 1 — *Luftwaffe, Panzer Leader, 2 1776, Waterloo, Kingmaker, Alexander . . . 3.58
- Vol. 13, No. 2 — *WS&I, Diplomacy, Third Reich . . . 3.32
- Vol. 13, No. 3 — *Caesar's Legions, Midway, miscellaneous, Panzerblitz, France '40, Kingmaker, 1776, Stalingrad, Russian Campaign, War at Sea . . . 2.53
- Vol. 13, No. 4 — *Tobruk, War At Sea, Stalingrad, Third Reich, The Russian Campaign, Panzerblitz, 2 Miscellaneous . . . 3.26



RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN UPDATE

If you own the Mail Order 1st edition version of *RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN* you can update your version at minimal expense by following the instructions below.

We will send you the new *RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN* rules free of charge in exchange for your order for any new game and a copy of the old rulebook cover—OR—a copy of the old rulebook cover and 50¢ for postage.

The new counter sheet for *RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN* is also available for \$1.00 plus 25¢ postage. The new counter sheet is not necessary but does include increased shading for double impulse units, variant counters, and modifications to the Hitler and Stalin pieces.

NOT AVAILABLE UNTIL APRIL 1

AVALON HILL RBG RATING CHART

The games are ranked by their cumulative scores which is an average of the 9 categories for each game. While it may be fairly argued that each category should not weigh equally against the others, we use it only as a generalization of overall rank. By breaking down a game's ratings into individual categories the gamer is able to discern for himself where the game is strong or weak in the qualities he values the most. Readers are reminded that the Game Length category is measured in multiples of ten minutes and that a rating of 18 would equal 3 hours.

| | Cumulative | Physical Quality | Mapboard | Components | Ease of Understanding | Completeness of Rules | Play Balance | Realism | Excitement Level | Overall Value | Game Length |
|----------------------|------------|------------------|----------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------|------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1. RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN | 2.24 | 1.98 | 1.85 | 2.02 | 2.24 | 3.07 | 2.78 | 2.41 | 1.78 | 2.07 | 28.5 |
| 2. WS & I.M. | 2.34 | 2.40 | 3.07 | 2.38 | 2.88 | 2.39 | 2.07 | 1.85 | 1.88 | 2.10 | 9.2 |
| 3. ANZIO | 2.36 | 2.11 | 1.74 | 1.94 | 3.74 | 2.88 | 2.62 | 2.00 | 2.09 | 2.15 | 21.7 |
| 4. PANZER LEADER | 2.50 | 2.41 | 2.17 | 2.34 | 3.65 | 2.60 | 2.67 | 2.19 | 2.34 | 2.20 | 13.1 |
| 5. RICHTHOFEN'S | 2.52 | 2.28 | 2.62 | 2.12 | 2.63 | 2.94 | 2.60 | 2.66 | 2.39 | 2.45 | 6.0 |
| 6. 1776 | 2.56 | 2.16 | 1.76 | 2.45 | 3.27 | 2.62 | 3.08 | 2.72 | 2.63 | 2.36 | 33.4 |
| 7. 3rd REICH | 2.57 | 2.12 | 2.47 | 2.34 | 4.15 | 3.22 | 2.59 | 2.24 | 1.95 | 2.05 | 34.9 |
| 8. PANZERBLITZ | 2.58 | 2.00 | 3.00 | 2.03 | 4.03 | 3.00 | 3.06 | 2.05 | 2.07 | 2.05 | 14.0 |
| 9. KINGMAKER | 2.60 | 2.26 | 2.84 | 2.34 | 2.83 | 3.07 | 1.86 | 3.65 | 2.14 | 2.41 | 20.2 |
| 10. DIPLOMACY | 2.60 | 2.35 | 2.26 | 3.13 | 1.87 | 2.39 | 2.09 | 4.57 | 2.30 | 2.43 | 32.6 |
| 11. CAESAR'S LEGIONS | 2.64 | 2.32 | 2.36 | 2.31 | 2.14 | 2.23 | 3.73 | 3.05 | 2.86 | 2.73 | 13.5 |
| 12. CHANCELLORSVILLE | 2.68 | 2.62 | 2.57 | 2.45 | 2.26 | 2.52 | 3.43 | 3.07 | 2.55 | 2.64 | 18.8 |
| 13. FRANCE 1940 | 2.82 | 1.75 | 2.05 | 1.85 | 3.30 | 3.25 | 4.05 | 3.00 | 3.40 | 2.75 | 16.0 |
| 14. JUTLAND | 2.83 | 2.84 | — | — | 2.39 | 3.27 | 3.06 | 3.24 | 2.53 | 2.61 | 29.7 |
| 15. LUFTWAFFE | 2.87 | 2.41 | 2.91 | 2.04 | 2.86 | 3.02 | 3.73 | 3.41 | 2.82 | 2.64 | 24.2 |
| 16. MIDWAY | 2.88 | 2.75 | 3.12 | 2.56 | 2.78 | 2.90 | 3.66 | 3.08 | 2.37 | 2.73 | 15.7 |
| 17. AFRIKA KORPS | 2.90 | 3.04 | 3.10 | 2.92 | 2.12 | 2.29 | 3.39 | 3.57 | 2.91 | 2.77 | 13.5 |
| 18. ALEXANDER | 2.93 | 2.99 | 3.21 | 3.19 | 2.55 | 2.98 | 3.43 | 2.76 | 2.43 | 2.86 | 12.7 |
| 19. ORIGINS OF WW II | 2.98 | 2.69 | 2.58 | 2.80 | 2.00 | 2.22 | 4.00 | 4.06 | 3.11 | 3.40 | 9.6 |
| 20. BLITZKRIEG | 3.09 | 3.39 | 3.28 | 3.30 | 3.14 | 2.89 | 2.25 | 3.67 | 2.81 | 3.05 | 24.0 |
| 21. TOBRUK | 3.10 | 2.85 | 4.68 | 2.13 | 4.32 | 2.77 | 3.06 | 2.11 | 3.00 | 2.96 | 21.6 |
| 22. WATERLOO | 3.18 | 3.29 | 3.27 | 3.11 | 2.01 | 3.11 | 3.27 | 4.32 | 3.21 | 3.01 | 16.2 |
| 23. BULGE | 3.21 | 2.93 | 2.80 | 3.31 | 3.08 | 3.40 | 3.53 | 4.11 | 2.81 | 2.95 | 20.0 |
| 24. D-DAY | 3.43 | 3.72 | 4.54 | 3.69 | 2.56 | 3.09 | 4.38 | 4.50 | 3.60 | 3.56 | 17.8 |
| 25. STALINGRAD | 3.44 | 3.43 | 3.74 | 3.40 | 2.07 | 2.52 | 4.37 | 5.15 | 3.28 | 3.04 | 20.0 |
| 26. TACTICS II | 3.51 | 3.43 | 4.30 | 3.59 | 1.45 | 2.18 | 3.32 | 5.57 | 4.59 | 4.20 | 11.6 |
| 27. 1914 | 3.87 | 3.18 | 3.40 | 3.26 | 2.46 | 4.32 | 3.86 | 1.95 | 5.48 | 3.86 | 55.0 |
| 28. GETTYSBURG | 3.88 | 3.59 | 3.84 | 3.54 | 2.68 | 3.39 | 5.08 | 4.51 | 4.34 | 3.98 | 12.5 |
| 29. KRIEGSPIEL | 4.04 | 3.77 | 4.20 | 3.85 | 2.13 | 2.94 | 2.93 | 6.09 | 5.20 | 5.29 | 9.8 |

Vol. 13, No. 4 of the *GENERAL* was rated at 3.26 by responding readers. The individual ratings based on our 1200 point maximum scoring system were:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| TOBRUK Combat Expansion | 245 |
| WAR AT SEA Series Replay | 201 |
| Taking the Offense in STALINGRAD .. | 200 |
| The Gamer's Code of Ethics | 168 |
| But What If | 153 |
| Blind Free Kriegspiel | 96 |
| Avalon Hill Philosophy | 81 |
| Increasing Infantry Firepower..... | 32 |
| Rest of Calculation | 24 |

DIPLOMACY captured TOP GAME OF THE YEAR honors in the annual competition hosted by the prestigious English magazine *GAMES & PUZZLES*. Other Avalon Hill games placing high in the British competition included *KINGMAKER* (5th) and *SPEED CIRCUIT* (19th). We will be reintroducing *SPEED CIRCUIT* to the American market this spring with improved rules and components.

We expect only two price increases in 1977. As of February 1st both *WAR AT SEA* and *TACTICS II* will sell for \$6.00 instead of the previous \$5.00. Inflation marches on.

To make way for the switch of *RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN* to the retail line, *STALINGRAD* has been switched to Mail Order only status. You'll probably still see it on store shelves for months to come, but bulk shipments to retail outlets have stopped.

We no longer stock blank hexsheets (PANZERBLITZ hex size) without grid co-ordinates printed in each hex. All future orders for hex sheets of this size will be filled with sheets containing grid co-ordinates in each hex.

Reader Dave Glewwe informs us that the 1st Sioux Falls, SD wargame convention will be held April 23rd and 24th at the 11th St. YWCA. For more information write Dave at his 312 N. McKenzie, Luverne, MN 56156 address.

More and more full service wargaming centers are coming into existence to serve the growing wargaming community. One such establishment is HOBBY LAND at 343 Lincolnway West in South Bend, IN which sells Avalon Hill games and the *GENERAL* and then refers its customers to the local club headed by Mike Phoebus. Interested parties can contact Mike for more details at his 824 W. Colfax, South Bend, IN 46601 address.

Reader Richard Loomis of Scottsdale, AZ is already organizing his trip to ORIGINS III in New York... by bus! Richard is looking into the possibility of a charter bus originating in Los Angeles for the cross country trip. Cost is estimated at \$170 roundtrip but only if 38 people sign up for the charter. If interested, contact the "Flying Bus Service" at P.O. Box 1467, Scottsdale, AZ 85252. What a *KINGMAKER* game you could have on a Transcontinental bus trip!

Twin cities readers will be interested in the activities of THE OLD GUARD. This wargame club meets for board games every Sunday between 1 and 6 at the 6th Precinct Police Club Room at 2639 Nicollet Ave in Minneapolis. Further information is available from Membership Chairman Frank Manos at 722-1684.

Infiltrator's Report



Tom Shaw (right), Avalon Hill Vice President and *FOOTBALL STRATEGY* designer, congratulates Carl Slutter for winning Super Bowl IV.

Carl Slutter took top honors in the Avalon Hill *FOOTBALL STRATEGY* League by besting Doug Burke's Cleveland entry 40-7 in Super Bowl IV for the most lop-sided play-off victory in the history of the league. Slutter's Dallas team ran up a 12-2 regular season record and then proceeded to the Super Bowl with a 39-13 victory over George Uhl's Falcons and a 22-17 win over Paul Queeney's Saints. Doug Burke finished the regular season with a 9-5 mark en route to play-off wins over the Bills of Dennis Yost 33-28 and Wes Coates' Raiders 24-7. Slutter won \$100 plus possession of the league's rotating trophy for his mastery over the 28 team league.

More evidence of the rising acceptance of games as a new form of literary expression was the Game Day held by the Wyandotte Bacon Memorial Library in Michigan last December 4th. More and more libraries are turning to the circulation of games as a way of increasing public interest in their services. Among the many games which were eligible for two week "borrowing" at the Bacon Memorial Library are *1776* and *TACTICS II*.

TEAM ITHACA seems to be opening up a lead in the 1976 Avalon Hill Team Championships gamesmastered by Nicky Palmer of Denmark. Their most recent advances came as the result of a double win in *WATERLOO* against YOGWC. 1975 AH 500 finalist Pat McNeven was the victim.

Interest Group Baltimore and the Avalon Hill design offices have moved to 900 St. Paul St. in Baltimore. The gaming public is invited to attend the Saturday game sessions every weekend from 10 to 5. Half-price, damaged games will be available for sale at this location, but parts, magazines, and new game purchases must be made by mail for the time being.

In order to give readers a longer time to respond to the contests we will accept entries up to and including the day the next issue of the *GENERAL* is mailed. This means that the ten winners of credit vouchers for AH merchandise will not be announced until the second issue after each contest appears.

Only Robert Medrow of Rolla, MO found the correct solution to Contest No. 73 as listed in the last issue of the *GENERAL*. The rest of the solutions were graded on their probability of preventing the Russian invasion and attack to save Stalin. Rounding out the top 10 puzzle solvers were: P. Devolpi of Lisie, IL; P. Siragusa, Houston, TX; J. Clemente, Houston, TX; K. Septon, Eugene, OR; J. Culpepper, APO, NY; G. Hill, New Castle, PA; J. Stahler, Silver Spring, MD; B. Scott, Cherry Hill, NJ; and R. Kolish of Homer City, PA.

Following is the solution to Contest No. 74. An asterisk indicates that the unit was the southernmost of two "B" units in the same hex. Two asterisks indicate *charging* cavalry. The number following the dash in the *Final Hex Facing* and *Units Attacked* columns refers to the correct explanation in the Notes column.

| Unit Moved: | Final Hex Facing: | Units Attacked: |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Agema Hypas | L5N | — |
| Thessalio I Cav | L6NW**—1 | Uxian Infantry—2 |
| Macedonian I Arch | N8N* | 2nd Chariots |
| Macedonian II Arch | O8N* | 2nd Chariots (AV)—3 |
| Greek II Phalanx | M7N | Uxian Infantry—2 |
| Agrianian I Jav | N7N | 1st Chariots |
| Agrianian II Jav | N7N* | 1st Chariots (AV)—3 |
| Cretan Arch | O10SE—4 | Parthian, Persian HA (AV) |
| Balacrus Jav | N9NE—4 | 3rd Chariots |
| Thessalio II Cav | O8N** | 3rd Chariots (AV)—3 |
| Lancers | M10** | Albanian Inf, Mard Arch (AV) |
| Allied Horse | M9SW** | Scythian Nomads, Dahae HA |
| Alexander | P10 | — |

CONTINUATION — (Contestants did not have to supply)

- A. Now execute the AV against the Uxian infantry
- B. Regardless of the results of its 1-1 attack the Royal Companions Cav I will hold its position.
- C. Advances after AVs:
 - (i) Thessalio I Cav to P19
 - (ii) Indian Cav must retreat, can not (5), is eliminated
 - (iii) Thessalio II Cav to L7
 - (iv) Lancers to M9
 - (v) Allied Horse to L8
 - (vi) 1st Bactrian Cav must retreat cannot, (5), is eliminated

NOTES:

1. Moving through the Macedonian archers (question Y at the end of the rulebook).
2. Not executed yet — see continuation
3. Standing chariots halved against enemy missile fire
4. Skirmishers passing through fully stacked hexes
5. Must retreat because other unit in hex was eliminated



Understanding Understanding Understanding Understanding Understanding Understanding Understanding



Understanding Understanding CONTROL CONTROL CONTROL CONTROL CONTROL



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Diplomacy Counters



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Diplomacy Counters



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