

That would be enough

This has been issue 49 of *To Win Just Once*, published 1st November 2004. It incorporates *Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses*, a postal game of *En Garde!*. Issues are published ten times a year, roughly every five weeks.

Deadlines

Orders for *Odessa Steps* to Mike Dommett by Friday 12th November 2004.

Orders for *Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses* and Fictionary Dictionary entries to Pevans by Friday 19th Nov 2004.

(Last deadline for 2004 is 17th/24th Dec; first for 2005 is 28th Jan/4th Feb.)

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Games only	
Per issue/game turn	£0.50
11-issue/turn subscription	£5.00

Games played

If you are interested in playing any game, please let Pevans know.

En Garde! Pevans has room for more players in *Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses*. You will need the rules to *En Garde!* in order to play. [start-up fee payable]

Railway Rivals Edward Walkington, John Harrington and Chris Boote want to play in the next game. You will need the chosen map to play. [free start-up]

Star Trader A game is in progress. Martin Jennings, Michael Grazebrook and Bob Parkins are in the queue for the next one. Full rules will be provided. [start-up fee]

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To Win Just Once

(incorporating *Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses*)



Civil War in France: *LPBS* starts on page 18

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Chatter

Well, I had a very enjoyable week on the canals at the end of September. My alcohol consumption doubled and I think my food intake went up nearly as much! The weather was fairly kind to us and we just pottered along the Grand Union, stopping early each evening – something of a necessity given the timing of sunset at this time of year.

I'm pleased to announce that copies of *Sunda to Sahul* have now arrived and are available through Games from Pevans (www.pevans.co.uk/Games). This is an interesting game designed by Don Bone and published by Sagacity Games in Australia. It's played over a jigsaw as players build up islands and compete for the points that each provides. Production quality is excellent and the game looks gorgeous. If you want to try it out, come along to Swiggers one Wednesday – I'll also make sure there's a copy available to play at MidCon.

Pete Card has kindly supplied some notes on a couple of SF books he's read recently, so there's a more extensive Science Fiction section this time. Plus my preview of this year's Spiel games fair.

Meanwhile, I'd better keep practising for the EuropeMasters tournament (held on the Saturday of Spiel). After all, we want the *TWJO* team to do well and the captain really ought to know what he's doing...

Science Fiction

This issue it's back to the wonderful world of Peter F Hamilton. Or rather, to a new world, since *Fallen Dragon* is not connected with any of his other books. It does, however, have a competent hero with military training, several converging plot lines and Hamilton's distinctly British voice. Like Hamilton's other recent books, this is a large volume (808 pages). It gives the author room to develop a subtle and complex story. Three stories, to be more accurate.

Two of the stories tell us about the same person. We first meet Lawrence Newton as a disillusioned squaddie (the term Hamilton uses for soldiers), meeting an old buddy to set up a deal involving his next mission. So we quickly get a lot of information: he's employed not by a government, but by a corporation (with the muscular name of Zantiu-Braun). Advancement depends on share ownership rather than ability – Newton has risen to the rank of sergeant after twenty years' service. His next mission will be to a planet he's visited before. And he wears something called 'Skin' – it protects him, enhances his strength and houses his weaponry. Nasty stuff. (And reminiscent of Heinlein's *Starship Troopers* – but this is 2000s technology, not 1950s.)

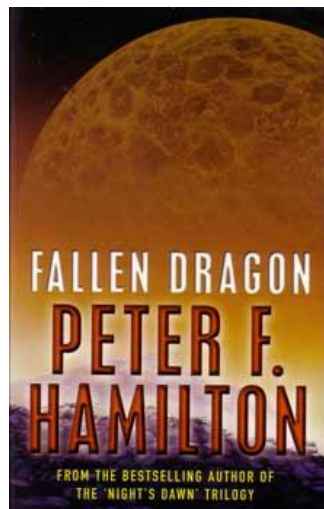
Next we meet Denise Ebourn, a teacher in a city on Thallspring, the planet that is the target of Newton's mission. Her life seems normal and introduces us to her planet. However, there are enough undertones to make it clear that there's something else going on here. The third strand returns us to Newton: starting at age 12. It tells us more about who Newton is and how he grew up. And, in particular, about his rebellion against his upbringing and how he came to be a squaddie.

The first two stories converge quite quickly as Newton and his squad deploy on Thallspring in an "asset realization" mission. We learn, as we go through the book, that interstellar travel is an expensive business. Faster-than-light engines cost a lot of money to build and require a huge amount of power – which costs more money. In the first flush of enthusiasm, lots of companies invested in space travel, setting up colonies that they expected to provide a handsome profit.

But this was not to be – in this story, anyway. Colonies proved to need continual re-supply of vital materials and the economics didn't work out. If a colony came up with some innovation, it proved cheaper to manufacture on Earth than ship finished goods back from the colony. And so the companies declined. Some went to the wall, some consolidated and others sold up. The colonies were left to cope as best they could: some flourished, others didn't.

At the time Hamilton's story is set, Zantiu-Braun is the only major operator of starships. And the only way it can show a return on its investment is to raid the colonies, appropriating whatever it can sell back on Earth. It uses the legal argument that it is the 'owner' of the colony (buying colonies or even defunct corporations to gain this leverage) and backs it up with armed force. Which is where the 'Strategic Security Division' comes in. Newton is part of the military machine of the oppressor; Ebourn part of the surprisingly sophisticated resistance.

The third strand takes us through Newton's experiences as a squaddie. It shows us how he has become the man he now is. In particular, we learn about his first operation on Thallspring and the goal of his quest on this planet – the "fallen dragon" of the title. But it doesn't stop there. It culminates in the bloody mess of an operation that effectively destroyed Zantiu-Braun's military power – though, like a dinosaur, the corporation does not yet realise that it's dead. All of which led to Newton's bit of private enterprise.



The resolution of this is not really a surprise, since the blurb on the back of the book gives it away. However, the details are surprising. As he did in the "Night's Dawn" books, Hamilton changes his characters' (and our) view of the universe in the final stage of his story. And what is truly surprising is the way this enables Newton to change his own circumstances and recover something he thought lost forever.

I was tempted to call this a good, old-fashioned SF romp. But it's actually rather subtler than that. The military stuff is done well – and one thing that Hamilton certainly doesn't do is glorify war. Life in Zantiu-Braun's Strategic Security Division – as in any infantry unit – is nasty, brutish and short. Newton even says, early on, that he is only sergeant "because Ntoko never made it back from Santa Chico". There is a well thought-out background with a credible scenario for the expansion and then contraction of space exploration. And set against it is a very personal story of one man's growth and, perhaps, redemption. Great stuff and a book I heartily recommend.

Charles Stross's Fiction by Pete Card

Among the loot I brought home from the 2004 World Science Fiction Convention in Boston (Mass) was a handful of novels by Charles Stross, the most recent up-and-coming British SF writer. Stross has his roots in computer nerd-dom, and is perhaps best known for his short stories in Asimov's describing the trajectory of a near future technological Singularity, as experienced by Zeitgeist surfer Manfred Macx, his daughter and their artificial cat.

The idea of a Singularity has become an SF commonplace, describing an event where accelerating technological change rapidly changes human civilisation literally beyond recognition. The result would be largely incomprehensible to us, but the fun comes in watching the un-Transcended remnants cope. This is at the other end of the genre from the traditional space opera, where far future societies maintain traditional civil and military hierarchies and space battlefleets with brass fittings slug it out broadside to broadside. In *Singularity Sky*, Stross lets the two contrasting models of the future collide, with tragi-comic effect.

In the aftermath of a Singularity, the post-human Eschaton has scattered humanity across hundreds of colony worlds and left them to make their own way. The Eschaton offers minimal support and enforces the prime directive "Thou Shalt Not Violate Causality" with an iron hand – sometimes hard to distinguish from large scale astrophysics. When the mysterious star-travelling Festival arrives at a backwater colony of the rabidly anachronistic New Republic and begins to grant wishes, the colony's overlords respond by

sending a task force “the long way round”, planning to exploit a loophole in Relativity and get the jump on the invaders. Or “invaders”. This is unwise for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the Prime Directive.

The sequel, *Iron Sunrise*, is next in my to-read list.

The Atrocity Archive is something quite different. Imagine Harry Palmer at the Mountains of Madness and you will have some idea. As Stross himself has it, this is cross between HP Lovecraft and Len Deighton. Magic works, it is insanely dangerous and dimly-lit government departments keep the Secrets Men Were Not Meant to Know. The original novella was serialised in *Spectrum* issues 7-9, but Golden Gryphon have now published a US hardcover collection of *The Atrocity Archive* plus its sequel, *Concrete Jungle*.

Stross’s own web-site – <http://public.antipope.org/charlie/index.html> – has more details.

Spiel Preview

I’m writing this just before this year’s Spiel, so I thought I’d have a look at some of the new games coming up at the show.

Alea will, as usual, be showing a prototype of a game for next year. *Louis XIV* is by Rüdiger Dorn and about intrigue at the Sun King’s court. Alea claim it’s a rich strategy game, so I’m certainly looking forward to seeing it.

There seems to be an interesting selection of game from Amigo. *Pompeji* is a strategy game from Klaus-Jürgen Wrede. Players start by moving citizens around the town of Pompeii. When Vesuvius erupts, they have to get the citizens out before they are overwhelmed. Hmm, perhaps an English version could be re-themed around the Titanic? Maybe not... *Razzia* is a re-working of Reiner Knizia’s *Ra* into a card game with a cops and robbers theme. *Die Weinhändler* by Claudia Hely and Roman Pelek (the designers of *Santiago*) is a tactical card game of competing wine merchants. The idea is to build up the best portfolio of wines in your cellar.

Eggertspiele is not a publisher that has provoked much attention, but their new strategy game, *Neuland*, looks very interesting. Designed by Tobias Stapelfeldt and Peter Eggert, the game is about developing a nation, with the players both co-operating and competing. It sounds rather like a cross between *Settlers of Catan* and *Industria*, which certainly makes it attractive to me, though it looks pretty abstract. Their other new game is by Fritz Behrens and called *Power-Soccer* – which was enough for me to switch off!

Apart from their prizes-winner, Hans im Glück will have another *Carcassonne* game from the original game’s designer, Klaus-Jürgen Wrede. *Carcassonne – die Stadt* is about the development of the city of Carcassonne using the tile placement and scoring mechanisms of this series of games. It is being published in English by Rio Grande Games as *Carcassonne: the City*. There is another *Carcassonne* expansion and a strategy game from Ralf Burkert: *Im Schatten des Kaisers*. This is a power struggle game in which players ascend the ranks of the aristocracy with the aim of becoming Emperor (Kaiser). There’s a dynastic element to the game, too and it sounds very intriguing.

Kosmos will have a new game from Klaus “Settlers of Catan” Teuber. *Candamir* is a stand-alone game, but the story is about the first settler on the island of Catan. The players are working together to build up a village, while exploring the unknown areas around it. It sounds like it may well incorporate ideas from some of Teuber’s earlier games (such as exploration game *Entdecker*). Definitely one to take a look at.

Phalanx games will be one of my first stops to see (finally!) Francis Tresham’s *Revolution*. Sub-titled The Dutch Revolt 1568-1648, the game is about ... well, work it out. This is the struggle of what is now the Netherlands to break free of Spanish rule and the players represent various factions in what was also a religious war. Francis has produced some brilliant games in the past (*Civilization*, 1829) and we’ve been waiting a long time for this one. Phalanx will have another seven new games for us at Spiel.

Pro Ludo, who are producing the new edition of Richard Breese’s *Keythedral*, also have a new game from Michael Schacht, *Hispanola* (presumably the German name for Hispaniola). This is a trick-taking card game to gain positions on pirate ships and thus gain treasure. I definitely want to take a closer look at this one.

R&D Games is Richard Breese’s imprint for the games he designs (notably the series that started with *Keywood*). His new game will be released at Spiel and here’s his own description of *Reef Encounter*.

“*Reef Encounter* is a gamer’s game for two to four players lasting approximately 90 minutes. All components, including the rules (which are in both English and German), are in full colour. The original artwork is again by Juliet Breese. The game is just a little (not much) more complex than the earlier ‘Key’ games, the most recent of which, *Keythedral*, has just been re-released by Pro Ludo.

“Production will be limited to a maximum 1,068 copies. I will wait until after Essen to decide whether to sell any remaining copies by post. This is partly

because I do not yet have packing boxes of the correct size, but also because the game is quite heavy, making postage expensive. The games are being produced in Germany by Ludofact, so the components will be top quality and the boxes rigid! The large number of components has resulted in a deeper 70 mm box (than the Key games) and a corresponding price tag of 40 Euros.

“The aim of the *Reef Encounter* is to grow the largest and strongest corals on the reef and to feed the parrotfish. Points are awarded at the end of the game for the number and type of polyps that your parrotfish has consumed.

“Each turn players play larva cubes, allowing polyp tiles to be placed onto the boards to create new and larger corals. Corals that are two or more polyps in size may attack other weaker types of coral. Polyps from a defeated coral can then be recycled as new polyps or used to obtain alga cylinders or larva cubes. Shrimps can also be played to protect the corals from attack. Alga cylinders strengthen some types of corals relative to the other types and can fix the hierarchy between two particular types of coral (and increase their value) for the remainder of the game.”

Sounds fascinating. As a fan of Richard’s earlier games, I’m looking forward to getting my hands on a copy of this one. One point to note from the above is that the game may well not be available after Spiel. But I’m sure someone will be bringing some copies back for re-sale...

We are, of course, expecting *Struggle of Empires* (see my notes in TWJO 47) from Warfrog. In addition, they will have some new boards for *Age of Steam*: Germany/Western USA and Scandinavia/Korea. There may even be a re-print of *Age of Steam* for those who don’t have it yet.

Zoch is best known – as far as I’m concerned, anyway – for its great dexterity and children’s games. The company has begun to produce some more demanding fare of late and this year has *Goldbräu* by Franz-Benno “*Trans America*” Delonge. This is a business game about brewing and looks rather interesting.

Next issue, I’ll let you know what I thought of the games I actually saw...

Games Events

I shan’t be at **MidCon** this year as it clashes with the *Siege of Troy* freeform game that I signed up for months ago. A shame, but I expect some of you will be there: the Thistle Birmingham City Hotel in central Birmingham from the evening of Friday 12th November to the evening of Sunday 14th November. For more details see www.midcon.org.uk.

At the end of November we have Dicecon East: Overseas House, Princes Street, Edinburgh on Sunday 28th November. There will be a couple of tournaments, but the main emphasis is just coming along and playing some games. More information on the website: www.dicecon.com.

I had better also mention Dragonmeet, which takes place at Kensington Town Hall in London on 4th December. This is mainly a role-playing event, including all forms of RPG, but also wargames and CCGs and lots of trade stands. Entry will be £7 on the door. See www.dragonmeet.com.

This box concentrates on games events I expect to attend.

Swiggers: games club that meets every Wednesday evening (though December dates depend on venue availability) at the Bunch of Grapes, St Thomas Street, London SE1. Board games and occasional role-playing. No charges, all welcome. For more information, see www.pevans.co.uk/Swiggers.

Games Games Games Days: from noon(-ish) on the second Saturday of every month at the Duke of York pub at 35 New Cavendish Street, London W1. A day of board games, with those present covering the cost of the room and sandwiches.

Maycon: a mixture of board games and role-playing over the May Day bank holiday weekend. There will be a new venue for the 2005 event. This convention is also the host for SpielChamps UK – The UK Board and Card games Championship and qualifier for the European Championships. For more details and a booking form, see www.maycon.org/.

Spiel: the board games event of the year. Oct. 13th-16th 2005, at the Messe (Exhibition Centre) in Essen (Germany). Contact Friedhelm Merz Verlag, Postfach 210250, Bonn, 53157 Germany, www.merz-verlag.com/spiel/e000.php4.

MidCon: board games plus the UK’s National *Diplomacy* Championship. 12-14th November 2004 at the Thistle Birmingham City Hotel in central Birmingham. Entrance is £18 on the door. For details: www.midcon.org.uk.

Winter Stabcon: 7-9th January 2005 at the Britannia Hotel in Stockport. A mixture of board games, wargames and role-playing at this friendly con. Registration is £12.50 until 30th November (£15 thereafter) and accommodation is available in the hotel. Sign up with the stabconinfo Yahoo group to find out more: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/stabconinfo>.

Credits

To Win Just Once issue 49 was written and edited by Pevans. The LPBS masthead (page 18) is by Lee Brimmicombe-Wood, as is the cover picture and the illustration on page 13. The illustration on page 21 is by Tim Wiseman and the one on page 22 by Nik Luker.

Fictionary Dictionary

This game is open to all readers – I guess most of you will know it. Each issue I will put up a couple of obscure words. Anybody who wants to participate writes in with fictional definitions for the words. I publish these, anonymously. Everybody votes for their favourite definition (a vote for your own definition will be ignored).

Players score points according to how many people choose their definition. (In other games the definitions include the correct one and players get points for spotting it. However, it's too easy to look words up in a dictionary, so I've left this out for this game.) We'll run this for 10 issues. The winner is the player with the most points at the end.

Scores from Round 5

Votes on Round 5

Voter	I	K
Mike Dommett	2	3
Pevans	7	6
Pete Holland	3	1
Andrew Kendall	6	3
Graeme Morris	3	5
Colin Parfitt	8	4
Gerald Udowiczenko	7	8
Pam Udowiczenko	4	1

So there you are.

The table above on the left shows which definitions people voted for last round. The table on the right gives the scores of those who have provided definitions.

Here are the real meanings of the words in round 5.

Irremeable (adj, archaic): offering no possibility of return.

Kerygma (n): the proclamation of salvation through Jesus Christ.

Players' Scores

Name	This round	Total
Guy Arnold	0	1
Mike Dommett	1	1
Pevans	2	16
Bill Hay	0	2
Pete Holland	3	16
Nik Luker	3	9
Bill Michell	0	6
Mark Moores	0	2
Graeme Morris	2	6
Neil Packer	0	1
Colin Parfitt	3	10
Al Tabor	0	4
Gerald Udowiczenko	2	9
Pam Udowiczenko	0	3

Round 6 Definitions

Here are the definitions sent in for our next two words.

Lentiginous

1 (Lent-igi-nous) Banking slang, meaning to borrow money (to be lent) without (igi) the common sense (nous) to know that you'll pay back more, due to

the ludicrously high interest rates. Typically used in reference to Store Cards.

2 (adj) Referring to the ingenuity used to obtain (and eat) chocolate in secrecy after it has been publicly given up for Lent.

3 Describes a state prior to the expulsion of unpleasant gaseous emissions, as the gas builds up. A vegetarian diet, or any diet high in pulses, is likely to give rise to a lentiginous stomach.

4 The man who swears that he lent you something and, when you demur, decides to take you to court.

5 Pertaining to a Lentige – a member of the mediaeval religious order of the same name. The order is most famous for requiring its adherents to make a pilgrimage during Lent each year to a different place in the Holy Land.

6 Descriptive of the craving you get for something you know you shouldn't have and won't be as nice as you imagine.

7 (adj) Describes a temporarily resident species or population that a country is just borrowing; often to the annoyance of the indigenous one(s). The Brits are, for example, lentiginous to the Costa Brava.

8 Of the Fear of Pancakes, resulting in severe dizziness for a period of about 7 weeks.

Muscarine

1 An artificial fragrance used to mask something far worse.

2 A type of pig that has mottled black and brown skin and a straight tail.

Muscarines are prized for the taste of their flesh, but are quite rare since, unlike most breeds of pig, their litters typically number only 2-3 piglets.

3 The rather tasty fruit, the cross between a Muscat Grape and a Nectarine. The pips can be quite big however.

4 A low-fat spread made from red grapes. Interesting taste, low cholesterol and spreads straight from the fridge (though best served at room temperature). Shame about the colour!

5 If one attempts to create the colour white by combining all available paints, this never works. Instead the colour produced will converge on muscarine. In practice, any three colours are usually enough to produce a murky brownish sort of colour that is close enough to muscarine to fool all but the expert eye.

6 A poisonous gas used by the Germans in World War One to shell the Allies. Also known as "Mustard Gas".

7 Something passing for Australian Perfume involving mixing cheap wine and seawater. Not really caught on in the civilised world.

8 A form of acting, perfected by Michael Caine and used religiously by Roger Moore, where the least number of facial muscles is employed in giving a character presence.

For the next deadline, I need you to:

- vote for your favourite definition of each word above and
- let me have your fictional definitions for the two new words below.

The next words are: Napiform and Ootheca.

**Votes and definitions to TWJO, 180 Aylsham Drive, UXBRIDGE
UB10 8UF or TWJO@pevans.co.uk by Friday 19th November.**

Odessa Steps Star Trader – Turn 16

"That sounds like another pod gone."

"Yes, but we are still here."

"Did you see that last volley?"

"Yes: direct hit on the Dagger Hull aft."

"More Incoming!"

"Brace for impact!"

"That's the last cargo pod."

"Look, he's turning to Port."

"Fire!"

"Beautiful shot! Look, it hit him hard."

"What's that venting midships?"

"He's blowing up. Got the bastard!"

And so TOTAL TRANSIT 2070's armed merchantman blew up an attacking Military Hull again. But not until the Dagger Hull had captured an unarmed Clarinet Hull, and forced two other ships to Emergency Hyperjump to their ports of departure.

Isotope Trader

GRAND LARS THENI has been selling at Epsilon Eridani – 6 units for 2 HTs each. Percent was active for INTERSTELLAR METALS, selling on Contract at Delta Toucanis.

KATKORP bought a Market Position as a Contractor along with 12 units at a price of 1 at Mu Herculis, SHYLOCKS sold 1 back on Contract. KATKORP only bought 8 at Sigma Draconis, for 1 HT each again. TOTAL TRANSIT 2070 sold 6 Isotopes for 3 HTs each at Alpha Centauri.

INTERSTELLAR METALS sold 12 at 2 apiece at Beta Hydri and were recognised as Contractors. Tau Ceti seemed to show signs of a reviving market. TSTI were selling 3, SHYLOCKS 5, and IM 2 – all at the closing price. Then TRANS SOLAR TRADING and KATKORP starting reopening redundant production facilities, 16 for TSTI and 10 for KK. SHYLOCKS sold their 6 to the market – not much communication between Corporations here.

Wines, Drugs and Spirits Quarterly

Mu Herculis saw KATKORP emptying its vats and selling 5 units for 14 HTs each. TT2070 kept its prices high and sold 5 on Contract. INTERSTELLAR METALS and GRAND LARS THENI both bid 12 to buy at Alpha Centauri,

but both failed to buy anything. TRANS SOLAR TRADING INC bought 20 first, bidding the price up to 19 HTs, and then KAT KORP sold 15 at 13 HTs and brought the price right down again. Both Corporations gained a Market Dealership as a result. Then they sold their production facilities quickly. Neither made much of a profit on this.

Hot Spice

There was a dealership for GRAND LARS THENI, selling 10 Spice for 9 HTs each at Epsilon Eridani. BLAND & BRASS bought 4 at a price of 9 at Sigma Draconis. Meanwhile INTERSTELLAR METALS bought 5 on contract.

Alpha Centauri saw TSTI selling 2 for 11 HTs a unit and IM 1 unit for 12 HTs. The price continues to fall slowly under the influence and growing acceptance of artificial spice. But we say that the real thing is what matters!

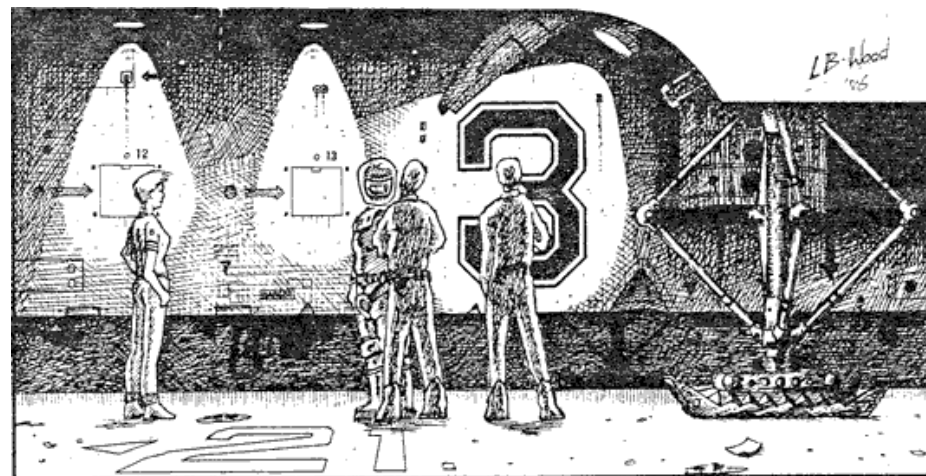
Monopole Matters

GRAND LARS was selling at 14 and sold 11 units at Epsilon Eridani to gain a Contractorship. KATKORP went buying at Mu Herculis: 7 units for 14 HTs each and a Dealership.

SWISS MERCENARY FLEET had only one trade lined up, at Alpha Centauri. Caught out by falling prices, the Corporation sold only 3 units. SMF's attempt to sell and use Contractor's powers was not well received. Only the Market Manager can act in this fashion and the Helvetian isn't that person.

Obituaries

It is with sadness that we report the deaths of Agents X, TWO GUN and Z. All had their lives cut short, X being assassinated on Mu Herculis Spaceport –



possibly by the elusive Clint – while TWO GUN and Z died in Mu Herculis System Space as their ship was blown apart by TT2070 missiles.

All will be missed.

Flowers and Hypercubes only.

ALLOYS for Pleasure

Not much action in Alloys recently. INTERSTELLAR METALS bought 10 units for 1 each HT at Gamma Leporis – currently suffering a glut – and was awarded a Contractorship.

Despite high prices, only 11 were sold all Quarter. 9 were sold by KATKORP for 7 HTs each at Mu Herculis (to gain a Dealership). TOTAL TRANSIT 2070 sold 2 for 8 HTs in the same market. Yes folks, Alloys seem out of fashion.

Shipping Lanes

Passenger numbers are back up once more, as the revamped GRAND LARS THENI & T HEFT have supplanted Tau Ceti Xpress in mass transit. There is still goodwill if the Tau Ceti-based Corporation was to bestir itself, but it is nearly a year now since TCX last hyperjumped. New management is required.

GRAND LARS has rolled out the Twilight Countess at Alpha Cantauri, with B crew and, so far, 3 Passenger pods.

KATKORP is presumably the beneficial owner of the Clarinet Hull Cutty Sark, believed lost in Mu Herculis System Space. TSTI admit to the ship's disappearance, but claim that an axis of evil exists amongst the Corporations it counts as its enemies.

Zorro has been sold to SHYLOCKS by TSTI for a sum in the region of 200 HTs. The deal was sweetened with the contracts for agents Badger and Willy. A recipe for Black Market dealings? If we were a little more suspicious and less trusting...

Petroleum Products

KATKORP was trying to sell at Epsilon Eridani, but bid too high as the price fell. At Delta Toucanis KATKORP and INTERSTELLAR METALS both sold 5 on contract, but TSTI's bid of 10 HTs to sell was too high.

IM picked up 5 Petroleum on Contract at Mu Herculis. GRAND LARS THENI sold 10 units for 10 HTs apiece off their Monarch hull at Sigma Draconis and was awarded a Dealership.

Investors' Corner

INTERSTELLAR METALS still fail to repay their bank loan, but at least they are now making the interest payments. This quarter they bought a new Warehouse at Alpha Centauri. Their Credit Rating may be upgraded soon.

TRANS SOLAR TRADING INC. repaid its huge 740 HT loan and faces the future debt-free. However they also disposed of most of their warehouses, selling 6 this quarter. With the loss of one ship to piracy, a second ship sold and two ships failing to arrive at Mu Herculis for a possible sale, one has to wonder about the Corporation's underlying value.

SHYLOCKS sold their Isotope production units at Tau Ceti, and put the cash into raising the Corporation's Political Connections.

GM Notes and News

If you are a Contractor, you can buy or sell 5 units using Contracts OR you can bid in the usual way. You cannot do both.

It is permissible to sell off everything and win with no other assets than 2,000 HTs in cash. It is considered

embarrassing if you do this and fall short of 2,000 HTs.

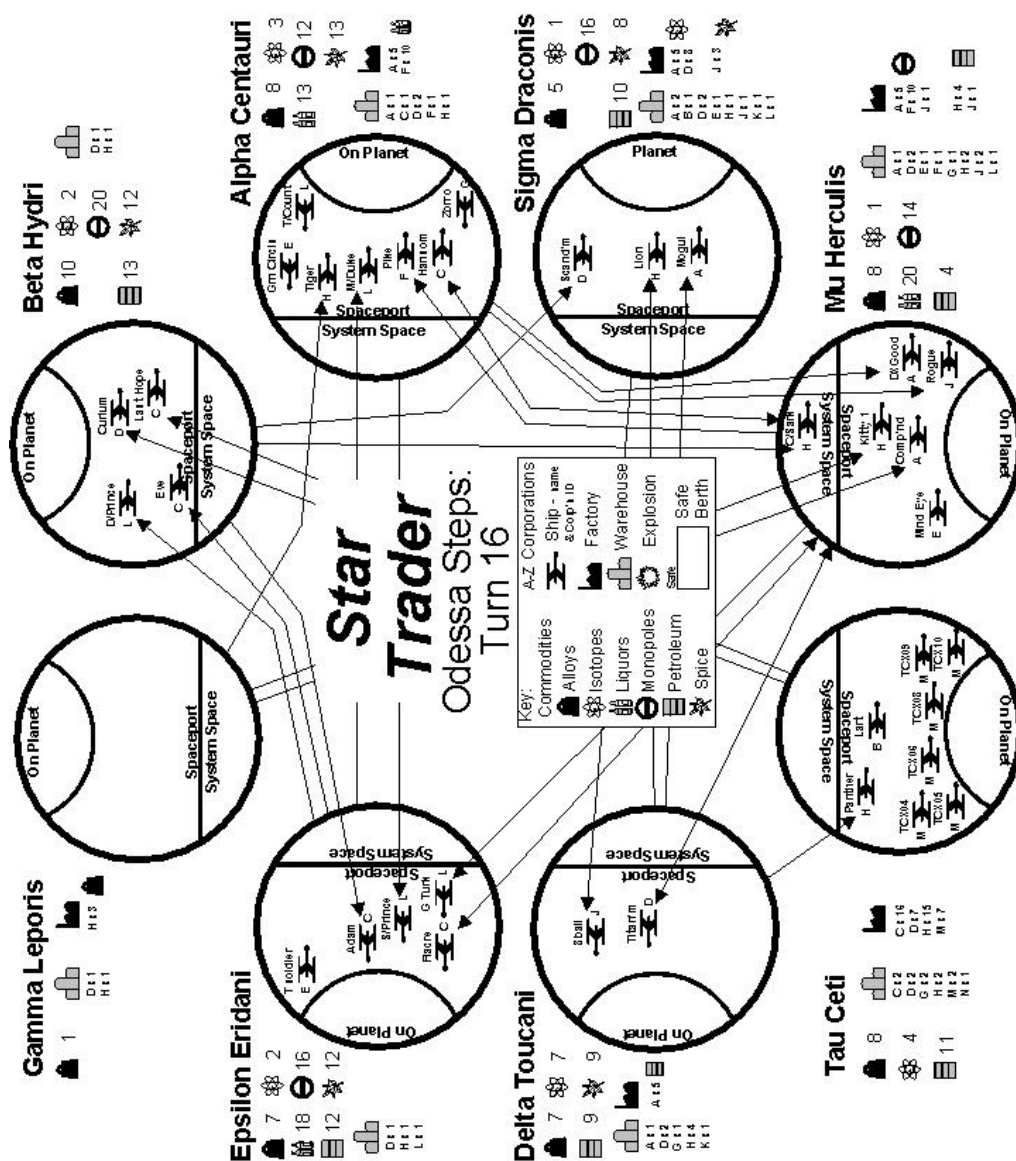
There were no new News chits this turn. Current News Chits (new ones in bold) are:

Turn 17 B4, C4
Turn 18 C6, B8
Turn 19 P2

Corporation Table

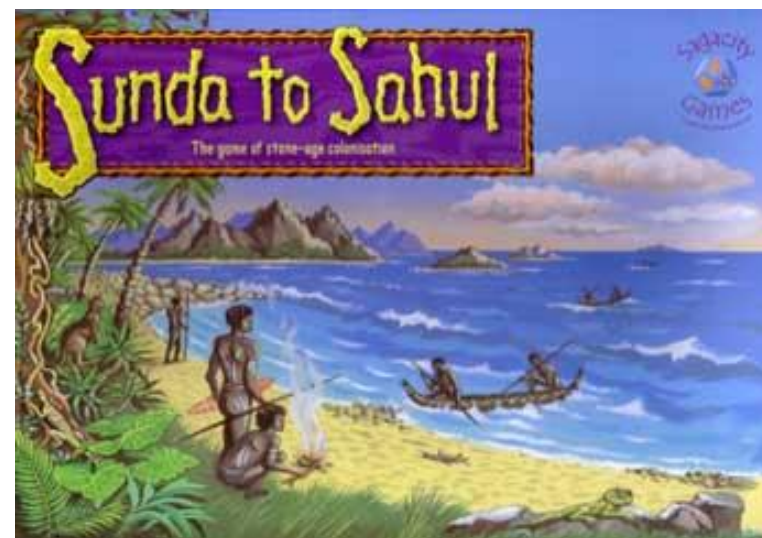
Corporation letter & name	Conn'n Levels			Init Bid	Turn Order	Cash Rep'n		Player
	Bus	Crim	Pol					
A Total Transit 2070	10	0	7	0	5th	639	40	Simon Burling
B New Expensive Weapons Bring I Empire	3	7	2	N	10th	129	33	<i>Player wanted</i>
C Trans-Solar Trading, Inc	10	8	6	0	4th	653	40	Jerry Elmore
D Interstellar Metals	10	5	5	0	8th	232	40	Paul Evans
E The Universal	10	0	5	N	9th	506	40	John Harrington
F Swiss Mercenary's Fleet	10	0	10	0	3rd	743	40	Martin Jennings
G Shylocks	10	2	3	0	7th	310	40	Andrew Kendall
H KatKorp	10	3	9	12	2nd	817	30	Michael Martinkat
J Bland & Brass	8	2	7	0	6th	180	39	Colin Parfitt
L Grand Lars Theni & T Heft	10	1	2	20	1st	67	40	Ian Whitchurch
M Tau Ceti Express	4	0	7	N	10th	574	40	Matthew Wale
'N' under Initiative Bid indicates No Move Received								

Orders to Mike Dommett, 119 Victoria Road, ALTON GU34 2DD
or by e-mail to mike_dommett@yahoo.co.uk
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Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses 175

Being a postal game of *En Garde!* run by Pevans since April 1986 and now published as part of *To Win Just Once*.

If you'd like to play, you'll need to subscribe to *TWJO* and pay the start-up fee (see back page). You will also need a copy of the rules to *En Garde!* – or at least access to a copy.

**Orders for June 1658 to Pevans at
180 Aylsham Drive, Uxbridge UB10 8UF
or lpbsorders@pevans.co.uk by
Friday, 19th November 2004**

June 1658

There may be turmoil in Paris as everybody chooses sides, but gentlemen still have scores to settle in the traditional way. Not surprisingly, General Ringeur, leader of the rebel forces, doesn't show up for his date with Colonel D Arth Vader of the Cardinal's Guard. It would have been amusing if he had! Denis Bone isn't around either, so there are no fights for Vader this month. Rene Ouai doesn't get any action as Beppe de Marko fails to appear.

We do have Horatio d'Escargot, though, carrying his two-handed sword (with the support of his second, Sirius Chien) to his assignation with Jean ou Rous. Rous has a rapier and less skill than d'Escargot, so the odds are against him. Rous starts, bizarrely, by parrying. This has no effect as d'Escargot hauls his weapon into the air and begins to swing it round. Rous takes advantage of this opportunity to lunge forward. His rapier stabs d'Escargot in the ribs to draw first blood. The two-handed sword completes its swing and thumps into Rous in a full-blooded slash. Full-blooded is probably the word as Rous concedes the fight and tries to staunch his wound – assisted by Chien.

Orson de Combat seconds Gaston de St Marque against Zachary The Money Goes, who has Fernand Louis Adelmo de Gaulle as his second. This is a rapier fight and old injuries to both men make it fairly even. The Money Goes has the advantage in expertise, though. Both men parry. Both men lunge and strike home. De St Marque surrenders. He has done enough damage that The Money Goes can decline to meet his other adversaries: Ced Deucer, Sirius



Chien and Charlemagne le Gosse (who doesn't show up anyway) – all members of the Cardinal's Guard.

Instead, Musketeer de Gaulle takes them on, starting with Deucer. Both men have rapiers, but de Gaulle's heftier build provides an advantage for him. It is Deucer who scores first blood. He neatly parries de Gaulle's opening lunge and ripostes: a touch! Then he jumps, but this is mis-timed and de Gaulle hits him with a slash to even things up. Deucer responds with a slash of his own, partly deflecting de Gaulle's following lunge. Then he launches into a furious lunge, catching de Gaulle immediately with the lunge part. A slash from de Gaulle precedes Deucer's cut and then de Gaulle hits him again with a lunge. Breathing heavily, both men rest a moment. Then de Gaulle lifts his weapon again. Deucer parries, but de Gaulle slashes through his guard for his fifth hit. Deucer throws in the towel.

Rapiers at dawn

With no sign of le Gosse, de Gaulle fights Chien next. With his wounds roughly bandaged, de Gaulle faces the two-handed sword of his adversary. Chien also has d'Escargot seconding him and the advantage of being at full strength. A lunge from de Gaulle scores a hit and first blood. But the inevitable slash from Chien's heavy blade does its damage and de Gaulle concedes this one.

Lucien d'Escaillehuitaillements versus Marc de Zorro is another rapier duel. The advantage is with the heftier de Zorro, who is also slightly more skilled with this weapon. Both men lunge initially: a touch apiece. D'Escaillehuitaillements tries to be clever and jumps to one side. His timing is not good and de Zorro hits him with a slash as he recovers his balance. Then de Zorro starts a furious lunge, running d'Escaillehuitaillements through with the lunge and forcing him to surrender.

Despite his injuries, d'Escaillehuitaillements elects to face his second opponent, Revaulvin d'Or. As d'Or also uses a rapier, this would be an even fight if d'Escaillehuitaillements wasn't injured. Though d'Or is considerably more skilled. And he has Joseph de Veevre with him. Some parrying and blocking is followed by a lunge from d'Or. He catches d'Escaillehuitaillements off guard and runs him through. D'Escaillehuitaillements concedes again.

Then d'Or takes on Marc O'Polo. The only edge in this fight is that d'Or is still the more skilled swordsman. Again d'Or parries. O'Polo waits for him to drop his guard and skewers him with a lunge. D'Or lunges back. A slash from O'Polo is followed by another lunge from d'Or. That's enough for O'Polo: he surrenders before he gets hurt any more.

Investors and debt collectors

Which brings us to financial business. Marquis Stan Dandy Liver puts some money into Finance. Baron Alfonse Qué Holique puts a lot of money into Arms. Earl Gaston de St Marque wants to put a huge amount of money into Arms. If only he had it! And Marc de Zorro is the latest man to pick up a Bond in the Fleur – at a hefty premium.

Horatio d'Escargot borrows from the Shylocks to repay his earlier debt and pick up some spending money. Euria Humble, Jacques Shitacks and Xavier 3sup don't seem to be in charge of their finances. All three are visited by the Shylocks' boys as their loans are due for repayment. And all three of them have the cash, so they just have to pay up.

With war looming there's still time for some last minute juggling of positions. Alfonse Qué Holique leans on the Brigadier of Third Foot and he quits his post. Stan Dandy Liver puts his weight behind Brigadier-General Gar de Lieu as the man for the job and he duly gets it. Next Holique forces out the Colonel of Princess Louisa's Light Dragoons, leaving Major Jon Dam in charge. Dam buys the Lt-Colonel's rank to make sure of his command. Lieutenant-General Omi Palone gets rid of his Aide.

Charlemagne le Gosse and Sirius Chien successfully combine forces to remove one of the Majors in the Cardinal's Guard. Ced Deucer pressures the other one to go, to no avail. This is enough for Chien to buy the vacant Major's spot. Unfortunately, his new rank invalidates his application as Captain of the Cardinal's Escort. The job goes instead to Captain Ced Deucer, after he's called in a favour. Colonel le Gosse signs up Lucien d'Escaillehuitaillements as the regiment's latest recruit. He buys a Captaincy using some of the cash le Gosse gives him.

In Government circles the Minister of State, Co W Ard Extrême, gives the Justice portfolio to Minister Revaulvin d'Or. As Field Marshal he also puts General de St Marque in charge of Third Army. Let's hope the cash de St Marque passed him had nothing to do with it. Orson de Combat ignores Stan Dandy Liver's offer of the Brigade Major's job with the Guards Brigade, preferring to remain with First Foot Brigade. Which negates Jean de Florette's attempt to appoint Jean-Claude van Damme in de Combat's place. At least Jean-Claude still gets some cash from Jean.

Backed by influence from Revaulvin d'Or and a loan from Stan Dandy Liver, Nom N Clature joins the undermanned 53rd Fusiliers. He buys the rank of Major, thus taking command of the regiment. And Jean ou Rous enlists new boy Philippe de Lafey as a Subaltern in the Gascons and lends him a few hundred crowns too.

Mustering the troops

And then the armies mobilise. Field Marshal Co W Ard Extrême refuses to get involved in the prospect of civil war. He assigns the Frontier regiments to defend France's borders. Except for dealing with some unrest in the Languedoc. Fourth Frontier regiment is despatched to restore order under the command of the Province's Military Governor, Lt-General Rene Ouai. Bdr-General Henry Thierry Christian refuses to take sides and his regiment, the Queen's Own Carabiniers, joins the Frontier regiments.



The rebel leader, General Abel Ringeur, raises the Pretender's standard in Rouen. Second Army HQ joins him, along with the First Division commander. Brigadier Jean de Florette brings First Foot Brigade along. The Picardy Musketeers follow suit, but not the Royal Foot Guards. The Brigadier loses his Brigade Major, too, as Orson de Combat is a Loyalist. However, the 27th Musketeers, under Colonel Marc O'Polo, arrive to replace them.

D Arth Vader announces that the Dragoon Guards are for the rebels and his Brigadier concurs. Colonel Jean Petit gives up his post as Second Division Adjutant to lead his regiment, the Archduke Leopold Cuirassiers, to join them. With only two Brigades in his Army, General Ringeur marches his men West. His aim is to seek support with other dissenters in the provinces of Normandy and Brittany. He may also have another, high-powered ally in mind. The King's younger brother is the current Duke of Brittany – though his interests are pretty much confined to hunting and fishing.

Colonel Charlemagne le Gosse, commanding the Cardinal's Guard, commits his men to the protection of His Eminence. The Guard moves its HQ into the Palais Cardinal and is active in patrolling the streets of Paris. Similarly, Colonel Zachary The Money Goes reserves the King's Musketeers for the defence of the King. They take up positions in and around the Louvre. Guards Brigade command remains in Paris to co-ordinate these two regiments. The Crown Prince Cuirassiers, what's left of Heavy Brigade, also remain in Paris. They patrol the streets around the Royal Palace, usually shadowed by detachments of Musketeers. Along with the Frontier regiments, these units remain in First Army, under the command of General Claude Byacat.

The remaining regiments muster outside Paris, forming a hastily re-organised Third Army, now commanded by General Gaston de St Marque. The Royal Foot Guards and Royal Marines join the 4th Arquebusiers to make up an expanded Third Foot Brigade. D Arth Vader's attempts to coax the 53rd Fusiliers into the rebel camp are countered by the influence of Marc de Zorro. De Zorro joins forces with Jacques Shitacks, Stan Dandy Liver and Orson de

Combat to ensure that the 69th Arquebusiers remain loyal. Second, Third and Fourth Foot form Second Division. And the Army also has the Dragoon Brigade – Lt-Colonel Jon Dam being deaf to Vader's entreaties to join the other side. General de St Marque orders his command in pursuit of the rebel force, hoping to bring them to bay before too long.

Anyone in Paris?

All of which leaves Paris pretty empty this month. Co W Ard Extrême is to be seen in the Fleur de Lys in the company of Mlle Bette Noire – whose affections he has wrested from D Arth Vader. It didn't take long. Horatio d'Escargot spends three weeks in the Frog & Peach. Then he is the Bawdyhouses' sole customer this month. And Omi Palone spends all month practising his rapier while awaiting his hoped-for appointment to command a Division.



Rebels on the move

The rebel Second Army marches westwards across northern France. They meet occasional resistance from local militias, but these don't count as more than skirmishes. The strongest attack is made on First Foot Brigade. The two regiments, unused to working together, misunderstand what's happening and open fire on each other. The Brigadier's Aide, Subaltern Duvail de Fontaine, tries to intervene, but is caught in the crossfire and killed. RIP. Brigadier Jean de Florette survives with little to show for his month's action. Major Jean-Claude van Damme is the most senior casualty in the Picardy Musketeers. He is at the head of his Battalion when the shooting starts and falls immediately. RIP. Marc O'Polo, leading the 27th Musketeers, dodges the musketballs and is brevetted to Bdr-General.

It is left to the Dragoon Guards to deal with the militia attack, which they do in short order. Colonel D Arth Vader is Mentioned in the (rebel) Despatches and brevetted to Bdr-General. He picks up a hundred crowns of loot into the bargain and takes command of Horse Guards Brigade. There's nothing much for the Archduke Leopold Cuirassiers to do, but Colonel Jean Petit manages to find 150 crowns worth of booty.

Not an impressive start to Abel Ringeur's campaign. The man himself is Mentioned in his own Despatches. He rakes up 350 crowns as well.

Loyalists in pursuit

General Gaston de St Marque marches Third Army northwards from Paris, giving strict orders that there will be no looting. When he hears that the rebels are on the march, the army shifts its line of advance to the north-west. They are unable to make any faster progress than their quarry and are also

subject to occasional attacks by bands of rebels (or just opportunists). The General does well enough to be Mentioned in Despatches and has his rank made permanent.

The 69th Arquebusiers suffer the worst, being chased from their tents by a night-time attack. Their Brigade comrades, the Gascons, come to their aid and chase off the attackers. Gascon commander Jean ou Rous is Mentioned for this action. Subaltern Philippe de Lafey survives his first experience of war, but has nothing to show for it.

In the Third Foot Brigade, the 4th Arquebusiers are also mauled when they run into a well-armed levy that sides with the rebels. Luckily the Royal Foot Guards are right behind them and decimate the militia with a few well-aimed volleys. RFG commander Alfonse Qué Holique leads his men in person, which brings him a Mention in Despatches. Lt-Colonel Harry Covert is right by his side and is Mentioned twice. Major Lokwot Isaw and Captain Beau Romir fail to distinguish themselves.

The Royal Marines swagger along, wishing they were on board ship. They stay out of trouble, bringing a Mention in Despatches for the acting commander, Lt-Colonel Euria Humble. There is another Mention for Major Orson de Combat. Third Foot Brigadier Gar de Lieu has his rank as Brigadier-General made permanent (thus detaching him from the 4th Arquebusiers).

Second Foot Brigade leads the way on the road and the two Fusilier regiments see off everything that comes their way. Brigade Major Joseph de Veevre makes sure his name goes into the Despatches – after all, he is writing them. In his first command, Major Nom N Clature achieves promotion to Lt-Colonel of the 53rd. There is also a pat on the back for him. For the commander of the 13th, Bdr-General Revaulvin d'Or, this translates into a Knighthood on top of his Mention in Despatches.

The Dragoon Brigade operates on the flanks of the Army. Grand Duke Max's Dragoons have no problems and there is no reward for Colonel Bud d'Wiser. Princess Louisa's Light Dragoons drive back a raiding party. Subaltern Ivan de Maphril en Bleubréille survives a musketball that creases his scalp, but gets nothing else for his pains. Lt-Colonel Jon Dam, commanding the regiment, is brevetted to Colonel, Mentioned and patted on the back.

Defending Paris

The Heavy Brigade, reduced to just the Crown Prince Cuirassiers, remains on station in Paris. Brigadier Sean Sondamour and CPC commander Beppe de Marko are both Mentioned for their increasingly common habit of tearing around the Paris streets on horseback, chased by several troopers. There is

some suggestion that they are practising their horse-racing skills, but this is denied by First Army command. As nothing untoward happens in Paris, General Claude Byacat is promoted to full General. His Adjutant, RM Colonel Jacques Shitacks, and Aide, RM Major Xavier 3sup, receive no recognition. But then, they haven't done anything either.

The Cardinal's Guard put on a show of force around the Cardinal's offices. Including firing off the odd volley when they get jumpy. This backfires on Major Sirius Chien. As officer on watch one night, he orders his men to open fire on some suspicious shadows. A freak ricochet bounces back and catches him between the eyes. RIP. Still, it's an ill wind... and Captain Ced Deucer is promoted to Major in his place. There is nothing for Captain Lucien d'Escaille-huitaillements, but Colonel Charlemagne le Gosse is Mentioned.

Around the Louvre, the King's Musketeers stand guard in their best dress uniforms. His Majesty is particularly impressed with Lt-Colonel Meaux Curlieunlaurrie and awards him a Knighthood. This brings him a Mention in Despatches. There is nothing for Private Fernand Louis Adelmo de Gaulle (keeper of the regimental mascot), nor for Colonel Zachary The Money Goes. Brigadier Stan Dandy Liver is promoted to (brevet) Lt-General. His name goes into the Despatches and he becomes an Earl. There is a Mention for Brigade Major Marc de Zorro, but nothing for the Brigadier's Aide, Jacque Wabbit.

Frontiers and provinces

The borders remain fairly quiet this month – France's enemies have not yet realised what's happening. A reconnaissance attack routs Frontier regiment 3. A similar attack on the Queen's Own Carabiniers fails. The cavalry repels its attackers in short order with a charge. The regiment's commander, Bdr-General Henry Thierry Christian, is Mentioned in Despatches for his success. He picks up 350 Crowns of loot from what the enemy leaves on the field of battle. Private Denis Bone is brevetted to Subaltern and collects 200 crowns of his own plunder.

In the south, Provincial Military Governor Rene Ouai commands Frontier regiment 4 against the revolting peasants. General Marvin Leigh Rowbow has volunteered for the fray again and has been assigned to the regiment to advise Lt-General Ouai. He is somewhat surprised that the rallying cry of the rabble is "no more taxes" rather than support for the Pretender! Against General Rowbow's advice, Ouai sends the Frontier troops to suppress rioting in the regional capital, Montpellier. The soldiers are ambushed in the city's narrow streets, where their firepower is of little use, and chased out again. Ouai is stripped of his appointment for this display of incompetence and is lucky not be disgraced. Rowbow gets nothing. ❖

Press

Despatches from the Front

What we've got here is failure to communicate. Some men you just can't reach... So, you get what we had here last week, which is the way he wants it! Well, he gets it! 'N' I don't like it any more than you men.

Pour le Roi!!!

† B.Bdr-General The Money Goes, King's Musketeers and the Minister of War

Announcements

France is in the depths of a civil war. I did not take the decision lightly to embroil her such, but I felt that, in truth, I had no choice.

King Pevans is not the divinely appointed king. He has an elder brother who came to me for aid.

True, his elder brother is a bastard, but then it is also claimed that King Pevans was sired by another – not the old king. You just have to look at how he has started behaving recently to realise that this must be truth; he has been persecuting innocent men who were previously staunch supporters – and indeed members of his cabinet.

I call on all god-fearing men of Paris to join me in my campaign to put the true king on the throne. Join my army and support the cause. Just state in your orders that you are joining the side led by Abel Ringeur (the king calls it the side of the Pretender, but we know that that isn't true). If you command troops, please bring them along with you.

Many men have already sworn their support. Will you stand by and see injustice continue?

† Abel Ringeur

An open letter to all officers in the RFG
Gentlemen, I hope I do not need to remind you that we are the ROYAL Foot Guard and as such our loyalty to King Pevans go without saying. We fight for the King, we fight for France, we fight for Honour. Death to the traitors!

God save the King!

† B.Brig Gen AQH

To the Royal Marines,
Most loyal Officers and men, we will give our full support to the rightful King Pevans and fight his just cause – until our last breath if need be. Any man who feels differently can leave the regiment now, or face court martial! We will defend the King appointed by God to rule over us, not some bastard who has just crawled out from under a slime encrusted rock! Your Colonel,

† Jacques Shitacks, RM

Official Notice

As Minister of War, I have decided in order to protect the Royal Family a couple of regiments will stay behind in Paris to, ensure their safety during this time of civil unrest caused by the Pretender. I have chosen the King's Musketeers and Crown Prince Cuirassiers to undertake this task.

† B.Bdr-General The Money Goes

Let it be known that during these particularly dangerous times, His Eminence the Cardinal will be fully protected by his personal Guard. Anyone who appears to be interfering with His Eminence as he carries out his Holy Duty as the rightful King's most important advisor will be prevented from doing so by the full force available to the Cardinal's Guard.

† Charlemagne le Gosse, CO CG

After due consideration, I have seen through this "Pretender" who claims the right to the throne. I mean when you think about it, the name gives him away, doesn't it? If he is just pretending, then he can't be the true heir to the throne, can he? Frankly, I don't understand why Count Ringeur has not realised this.

Vive Le Roi!

† Sir Sean Sondamour

Frenchmen, let us not fight one another. I, Euria, most humbly beg all to treat each other with respect and the deference that gentlemen deserve. Give and take quarter.

I have ordered the doors of my newly constructed orphanage thrown open to treat the injured of both sides. I ask only that those poor souls who use its facilities treat it as neutral ground.

Let us pray that this unwarranted disturbance to the natural order is over as soon as possible, and that whilst Frenchmen fight each other that the enemies of this sacred land do not invade!

Gentlemen of Paris,
In France's hour of need, every man must do his duty. The false pretender has raised his banner and some men, even some of my former friends, have deserted the path of righteousness to succour the enemy. There must be no uncertainty in this, as well as being high treason, the enemies of France wish her weak and divided, helping the pretender helps them.

I myself will perform my sworn duty to protect the Crown Prince from any harm – I pray we do not meet on the field of battle, Abel, or I will prove the folly of your rash decision upon your cursed soul's all too mortal vessel.

† Beppe de Marko
Vive le Roi!

Message from Jean Claude van Damme to his commanding officer, JdF:
Sir,

RE: THE PRETENDER AND LE ROI
After much thought, I have decided to bow to my commanding officer in these matters, since he has much more experience at politics than I do. May the "real King" win!!!
Yours, etc, † Jean Claude van Damme

I'm back, only to find that I'm embroiled in a civil war?! What has the world come to?

I, and the Gascons, who you would have thought have little to do with the "high grace" world of French nobility, will nonetheless side with the king.

DEATH TO THE TRAITORS!

Or something like that.

† JoR

It is still not too late to join the side of the true King of France.

Bring your command to Normandy and fight against the false king Pevans.

† Abel Ringeur

Dearest Gentles of Paris,

With the prospect of Civil War now clouding our horizon, it is meet that I disclose the hitherto well guarded secret that I overheard, nine months ago, whilst attending in audience upon Her Most Gracious Majesty, La Reine.

Le Roi does, indeed, have an elder brother: that cannot be denied. It is also true that the late King, the father of Le Roi, acknowledged the boy as his own.

However, it was common knowledge amongst the Royal Household of the time that the boy was a BASTARD. This was recently confirmed to me by a priest who was present when His Eminence, the Cardinal, received the late King's dying confession.

It transpires that the King recognised the lad that he might save his wife, our former Queen, from the indignity of embarrassment. For, in truth, the Bastard is NOT the late King's son.

With this disclosure, I call upon all true-born sons of France to rise up and stand with me in the defence of our rightful Sovereign, King Pevans.

Vive Le Roi!

† Marquis Stan Dandy Liver

Matters of Honour

To: FLAG and ZTMG

Unfortunately, it would be regarded as somewhat derelict for the commanding officer of the Cardinal's Guard to allow himself to be killed in a duel at this particular time. However, I do look forward to seeing you both in Paris in September and crossing swords with whatever Musketeers survive the upcoming struggle at some point in the autumn.

Yours, † Kid Charlemagne

Sean Sondamour

Where I come from the tradition is that an offended party challenges his enemy and waits for him to respond with details of weapons, venue and seconds. It's just not normal for a duel to be arranged as it is in Paris where things are much more casual and rushed. Consequently I followed the dictates of etiquette, challenging Jean Petit and awaiting his response without realising the duel had already been set. If either he or you think that I would make a habit of such mistakes, say it and you will receive my challenge the following month. If not, keep your insulting remarks to yourself.

† Revaulvin d'Or

Social

Dear d'Or, Many thanks for hosting the inaugural CEECC. I hope there are many more to come. † Zack

Concerning my organisation of parties: I wished to honour those

men who will be bravely fighting on behalf of France and will not apologise for it. I took up my position only the month before and no doubt you would have complained if our soldiers had marched away without such a send-off. Will you be joining them or are you another like JP who will serve where there is no danger or LdE who finds the whole concept of war just too ridiculous to care?

† Revaulvin d'Or, Soldier, Minister,
Servant of France

I shall host a party for all of Paris at the Fleur in the first week of September dedicated to the safe deliverance of His Majesty.

† General Count Claude Byacat
One rather expects it will all be over by then. † Le Roi

Personal

My god we're in trouble!! We're about to enter a Civil War and the only evidence our CPS and Minister of State can find of someone's guilt are vague recollections of a conversation with "Stan". Where is the Justice in that... Oh yes, there is no Minister of Justice.

† The People

On a balcony overlooking the discussion room of the Maison de l'Etat.

The Minister of State is leaning against a pillar and watching his ministers in heated debate about the Civil War. In the centre of the discussion room, Brigadier Liver, personal secretary to Extrême, is co-ordinating the strategy. A large map

of France, dotted with regimental positions, covers the oaken table and dossiers of officers – containing their tactical history – are swapped around in order to find out who would be the best commanders for the King's armies. Liver's declaration "The Minister of State will make every effort to ensure that our borders are safe" resounds through the hall and generates some polite applause from the assembled governmental officials.

Meanwhile, Extrême's gaze wanders to the window. He watches a duck waddling around on the flat roof of the nearby Theatre des Joyeux and smiles sheepily. Minutes pass while the Minister of State stares at the duck, oblivious to the heated debate in the room below the balcony.

When the duck finally flies away, the ministers have left, and a servant presents Extrême with a large folder of official documents.

"These are the military and governmental appointments for next month and the overall military commitment for this summer, as suggested by Marquis Liver", the servant explains.

"Where do I have to sign...?"

I thought EVERYONE despised the QOC.

Den Percent is looking to network with a few fellow entrepreneurs and has a few ideas to chew the cud over; I am open to financial offers. I am also available as a second at no charge.

† Den

To whoever in the Cardinal's Guard can read, I do feel your announcement of last month was just a little too long-winded for the type of scum, sorry lowlife, you want to attract. I mean, can pond life read?

† B.Bdr-General The Money
Goes, King's Musketeers

Dear Baron Charlemagne Le Gosse, Come on, own up, just between you and me... none of you can read, can you? You paid a scribe to write it all up for you, hence the use of such flowery language.

† Count Zachary The Money Goes

All sing now...

"They say, he's the great Pretender... ah wah, wah..."

Who said that the King is dead?

† OdC

FLAG to ZTMG:

Mon Colonel,

Regarding our new regimental mascot, Josie: I'm happy to report that she has grown accustomed to her new surroundings and her new duties. She now wears her regimental coat with pride and it's a joy to behold her when the roll is called, standing as much at attention as her nature permits (we just have to make sure her neighbours don't carry something eatable in their trouser pockets). She is in good health (says the vet) and her appetite is excellent – if she can't forage on her own in the nearby commons the cooks will fetch her what's left in the kitchens and she usually tucks in like a good'un – except we can't make

her eat the stuff Jackson brings from the officers' mess. I don't know what those bright young reporters would make of it – we'd sure get some funny looks if people knew that our officers thrive on stuff a pig won't touch! Jackson says fish eggs is an acquired taste, but I think Josie just has a highly developed olfactory capability and Jackson does use a mean-smelling brand of soap (I'm sure there's plenty of garlic in it). Well, that's about it, Sir, and now I must get packing if Josie and me are going to the front. I must say I'm looking forward to it and so does she – her little trick of slipping in and out between the men's legs may be valuable if applied to an enemy company of infantry trying fancy evolutions on the battlefield. She can wreck a line faster than a volley of 32-pounders!

I remain your obedient servant,

† FLAG, private KM (KRM*)

* Keeper of the Regimental Mascot

Dear Count Ringeur

I'm seriously confused... Who is this legal chappie 'injustice' who should not be allowed to continue? Why don't we all have a jolly game instead?

I suggest that we play that game the English seem to like so much – they have a lot of vices but they really know how to have a great time chasing inflated bladders...

Yours etc,

† Orson de Combat

Count Abel Ringeur, you are a Traitor to His Majesty. † Omi Palone

Excerpt from Gascon Regimental formation

I have heard the rumblings around Paris, just as you have. Something is brewing, and all is NOT right with the world. I want to remind you why you are here... When you were down and out, the Gascons took you in. When you were poor and tired and dirty...er, the Gascons took you in. When you were wandering around the streets of Paris, looking for some meaning to give your life, the Gascons took you in. And who are the Gascons? Who is it that picked you up, and mostly dusted you off? Who was it that took you in, and fed you, and clothed you, and gave you a Subaltern to look after you? The King! That's who! The King, who rules by God's own grace. The King, who is ordained by God and our Church. The King, who takes care of all of France.

Will the pretender look after you? I tell you NO! Will the pretender provide for you? I tell you NO! Will the pretender throw the entire kingdom into chaos for his own selfish reasons? I tell you now, that the answer is YES.

Look at the coin in your pocket. This coin – the gold Crown – symbolises all that is good about our King. It is hard, but not so hard that it can't be bent. Our king is hard, with the ability to bend to the changing of history. The coin is gold, to symbolise the golden right of rule. The coin carries the engraving of the crown that symbolises the divine right of kings to rule. And whose face is engraved on the other side? Not some

jumped up tw*\$% with delusions of grandeur! It is our KING! The man you swore an oath to. And the man who, these many long years, you have fought for, and died for.

In the coming months, our will shall be tested. Others will tell you that the pretender is the true King, and that our own King is an impostor. Others will tell you that your faith in the King is misplaced, and that the pretender will lead France much more ably. You will tell them differently. You will tell them that the pretender is just that--a pretender, with no other purpose in life than to disrupt and weaken our fair France. You will tell them that your King took you in, and took care of you, and made you the men you are today. And you will show them, by your courage and your deeds, that our King is a good King, and a just King, and the rightful King.

The Gascons, from this moment, declare for the KING! And let any man who thinks otherwise be stripped of his uniform and cast from our sight, to rot in Hell forevermore for the blasphemy of daring to distrust our divine King!

Dear Abel,

So the King kicked you out of Paris and now you have found an "older brother"... Oh, how so fortunate.

† Zack

This lady with the chicken-wringing hands – is this why Xavier 3sup has a sexual organ that looks like a corkscrew?

To Count Abel Ringeur,
Thank you for your kind offer to commit High Treason against my King. However, why don't you can take your poor little bastard and pretend to be King somewhere else. I think a pigpen would suit you both nicely.

Yours, † Jacques Shitacks

Mon cher Count Christian,

It has come to my attention that the Solicitors Saisir et Courir are still in charge of a trust fund that encourages people to kill their Minister of State. It is an embarrassing situation for the public safety of Paris that these people can overtly advertise a heinous crime. Please take care of the situation. If you need any help by the Minister of Justice or any other officials, feel free to ask, and I shall make sure that this issue will get the priority it needs.

† CWAE (MoS & FldM)

GdSM, Do you think that both dog and horse racing can survive? Once back from the Front I will endeavour to pop in and check out Le Prix d'Or.

† ZTMG

Also heard at the Gascon Regimental formation:

"Yeah, the coin is round and with a flat top, but you don't see him saying that about the king!"

Lord Percy Percy says that, as fashion is tending towards the frothy, Jean-Claude van Damme has very fashionable duelling routines.

Personally, I think the English have got the best idea –

How about the two sides chasing an inflated bladder around a field?

Far better than skewering each other instead of the English.

† OdC

To all, like, Gentlemen:

Dudes! Duelling is one thing, but civil, like, war is seriously uncool and heavy. Couldn't we all just chill out and sort this out peacefully? Maybe the chief dude and his brother could have a time-share throne – say, like, 6 months on, 6 months off. C'mon guys, I know you can all be mellow about this – let's make up and be friendly before someone winds up totally, like, terminal. Give peace a chance, man.

† Lucien

Lucien d'Escaillehuitaillements, you seem to have been in the Fleur enjoying the free drinks organised to entertain those brave soldiers intending to serve His Majesty at the front, yet you yourself have refused the call of military service. I may only be a gentleman's son but, by damn, it's a sight better that being an aristocratic gutless wonder like you. Grow up! France faces civil war while you complain about your hankies not being ironed properly

† Revaulvin d'Or, Loyal Servant of Le Roi

Won't the threat of Civil War mean a reduction in the demands for Fleur Bonds? After all, won't the shareholders be trying to kill each other?

† Den

Also heard at the Gascon Regimental formation:

“How can you tell King from a Gascon?

“The King hasn’t got shit all over him.”

Ah, the simple, honest wisdom of the peasant. † Le Roi

Poetry Corner

(All signed poetry submissions gain their author at least 1 SP)

The King! The King!
For him we’ll victory bring!
The King! The King!
For him honour’s the thing!
The King! The King!
We’ll his enemies necks a’wring!

The King! The King!
We’ve supported him all Spring!
The King! The King!
And now to battle do we fling!
The King! The King!
To his noble banner doest we cling!
The King! The King!
To be in his service’s real thrilling!
The King! The King!
He’ll keep the throne, we’re hoping!
The King! The King!
He’s not a Chinese dynasty like Ming.
The King! The King!
To rebel on him a crime!
The King! The King!
An excellent word to rhyme.

Points Arising

Setting up the civil war was more fiddly than I expected and I’ve had to make a number of manual adjustments. Please check your character sheets carefully and let me know if there’s anything that doesn’t seem right.

Given this, I will run July and August as separate turns as usual.

Civil War

General Abel Ringeur has raised the Pretender’s standard in an attempt to overthrow the King. The campaign is therefore a civil war!

All player characters must decide which side they are on (or declare themselves neutral and guard

France’s frontiers). Each military unit will usually follow its commander and NPCs will generally follow their superior officer. Thus a PC Brigadier may support the Pretender, only for the PC commander of one of the Regiments in the Brigade to declare for the King, but the PC commander of one of the Regiment’s Battalions to side with the Pretender. It will be confusing!

This season’s campaign will be a series of battles between the opposing sides. Players may swap sides at a later date (but may suffer some penalty if they do).

Stockbrokers Filthy, Rich and Loaded still have a couple of Fleur

Bonds for sale. Bids in excess of 1500 Crowns are invited.

Solicitors Saisir et Courir have charge of the trust fund established by Charles à Tanne. The fund will be paid out on the death of Co W Ard Extrême, but will diminish due to the costs of maintaining the fund. The balance stands at 5822 Crowns.

The following didn’t send any orders and suffered the consequences:

DdF Duvail de Fontaine (Simon Burling) has NMR’d. Total now 3 and is sent to a Frontier regiment

Francesca Huskinson (BdW) and Barry Townsend (LI) were floated at their request

X1 (Gerry Sutcliff) was floated as we had a problem with communications.

Reminders: It is worth sending orders in even if they’re a day or two late: I may be able to action the orders and will probably be able to use any press. It also reassures me that you’re still there.

You are welcome to submit orders and press by e-mail. Getting your press this way is particularly helpful. Send your orders to lpbsorders@pevans.co.uk and you’ll get an automated reply when your message arrives in my mailbox. Please give your name and your character’s name and specify actions in full (since it’s without your character sheet). Attached files should have your character ID and the month in the name. If you want queries answered before the deadline, e-mail LPBS@pevans.co.uk. ◇ P

Announcements

Omi Palone asks NPC Division Commanders of First, Second, Cavalry and Frontier Divisions to resign

Omi Palone applies for Division Commander of First, Second, Cavalry and Frontier Divisions

Rene Ouai asks NPC Division Commander of First, Second and Frontier Divisions to resign

Rene Ouai applies for Division Commander of First, Second and Frontier Divisions

Stan Dandy Liver asks NPC Brigadier of 2nd Foot Brigade to resign

Stan Dandy Liver asks NPC Brigadier of 4th Foot Brigade to resign

Stan Dandy Liver asks NPC Division Commander of First, Second, Cavalry and Frontier Divisions to resign

Stan Dandy Liver requests that the commanders of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Squadrons of the Dragoon Guards bring their commands over to the King’s loyal troops

Stan Dandy Liver requests that the commanders of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Squadrons of the Archduke Leopold Cuirassiers bring their commands over to the King’s loyal troops

Stan Dandy Liver requests that the commanders of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the Picardy Musketeers bring their commands over to the King's loyal troops

Stan Dandy Liver requests that the commanders of 1st, 2nd and 3rd

Battalions of the 27th Musketeers bring their commands over to the King's loyal troops

Sean Sondamour applies for Division Commander of First, Second, Cavalry and Frontier Divisions

Duels

Results of this month's duels:

Abel Ringeur didn't turn up to fight D Arth Vader and lost SPs.

Horatio d'Escargot (with SC, gains 1 Exp) beat Jean ou Rous.

Beppe de Marko didn't turn up to fight Rene Ouai and lost SPs.

Zachary The Money Goes (with FLAG, gains 1 Exp) beat Gaston de St Marque (with OdC).

Fernand Louis Adelmo de Gaulle (gains 1 Exp) beat his enemy Ced Deucer.

Charlemagne le Gosse didn't turn up to fight Fernand Louis Adelmo de Gaulle and lost SPs.

Denis Bone didn't turn up to fight D Arth Vader and lost SPs.

Sirius Chien (with HdE, gains 1 Exp) beat his enemy Fernand Louis Adelmo de Gaulle.

Revaulvin d'Or (with JdV, gains 1 Exp) beat Lucien d'Escaillehuit-aillement (under half Endurance).

Revaulvin d'Or (with JdV, gains 1 Exp) beat his enemy Marc O'Polo.

Zachary The Money Goes declined to meet Ced Deucer as he was under half Endurance.

Zachary The Money Goes declined to meet Charlemagne le Gosse as he was under half Endurance.

Marc de Zorro (gains 1 Exp) beat Lucien d'Escaillehuitaillement.

Zachary The Money Goes declined to meet Sirius Chien as he was under half Endurance.

Grudges to be settled next month:

None!

"Adv." Indicates player with the advantage in Expertise: his first duelling sequence need only contain six Actions.

Duels held over until September:

Bud d'Wiser versus Jean Petit.

D Arth Vader versus Co W. Ard Extrême.

All duels (including any to be voted on) must be fought next month unless held over due to one or other duellist being at the Front. Orders conditional on a challenge being voted cause are acceptable.

New Characters

Simon Burling gets the Second son of a very wealthy Merchant: Init SL 3; Cash 500; MA 1; EC 4 (X1).

Pam Udowiczenko gets the Second son of an Impoverished Gentleman: Init SL 4; Cash 40; MA 4; EC 2 (X2).

Paul Wilson gets the Second son of a Merchant: Init SL 3; Cash 150; MA 5; EC 4 (X4).

Tables

Other Appointments

King's Escort: Ensign N	Captain BR
Cardinal's Escort: Ensign N	Captain CD
Aides: to Crown Prince N	to Field Marshal EH
Provincial Military Governors: __/N/N/N/N	
City Military Governor N	Adjutant-General N
Inspectors-General: of Cavalry N	of Infantry N
Commissioner of Public Safety HTC	
Chancellor of the Exchequer DAV Minister of Justice RdO	
Minister of War ZTMG	Minister of State CWAE

Shows who holds appointments outside military units:
ID for Characters, N for NPC, __ for vacant,
CPS for additional posts held by the CPS.

Frontier Regiments

(On Campaign for Jun-Aug)

	F1	F2	F3	F4	RNHB
Colonel	N2	N1	N2	N1	N7
Attached				MLR	
				RO	

Also at the Front

This table shows the Colonels of Frontier regiments (N + MA for NPCs), together with the volunteers assigned this season.

Battle Results

First Army: 4

Frontier Division: 3

Queen's Own Carabiniers: 2

Frontier regiment 1: 3

Frontier regiment 2: 4

Frontier regiment 3: 6

Frontier regiment 4: 6

RNHB regiment: 2

Guards Brigade: 1

Cardinal's Guard: 2

King's Musketeers: 3

Heavy Brigade: 3

Crown Prince Cuirassiers: 3

Second Army: 3

First Division: 3

1st Foot Brigade: 5

Picardy Musketeers: 6

27th Musketeers: 5

Cavalry Division: 5

Horse Guards Brigade: 4

Dragoon Guards: 1

Archduke Leopold Cuirassiers: 3

Third Army: 2

Second Division: 3

2nd Foot Brigade: 5

13th Fusiliers: 2

53rd Fusiliers: 2

3rd Foot Brigade: 5

Royal Foot Guards: 2

Royal Marines: 3

4th Arquebusiers: 5

4th Foot Brigade: 6

69th Arquebusiers: 5

The Gascon Regiment: 2

Dragoon Brigade: 5

Grand Duke Max's Dragoons: 3

Princess Louisa Lt Dragoons: 2

Army Organisation and Summer Deployment

Neutral First Army (Defence – Paris) CBy/X3/J/S/N

Frontier Division (Defence – frontier) N6/_/N3

Frontier Regiments (Defence – frontier)

QOC (Defence – frontier)

Guards Brigade (Defence – Paris) – CG KM

Heavy Brigade (Defence – Paris) – CPC

Rebel Second Army (Field Ops) AR/N/N1/N

First Division (Field Ops) N2/N/N5

1st Foot Brigade (Field Ops) – PM 27M

Cavalry Division (Field Ops) _/_/_

Horse Guards Brigade (Field Ops) – DG ALC

Loyalist Third Army (Field Ops) GdSM/_/N2/N

Second Division (Field Ops) N5/N/_

2nd Foot Brigade (Field Ops) – 13F 53F

3rd Foot Brigade (Field Ops) – RFG RM 4A

4th Foot Brigade (Field Ops) – 69A Gscn

Dragoon Brigade (Field Ops) – GDMD PLLD

Organisation and Deployment for the Campaign

Season plus Army and Division posts

(CO/Aide/Adj't/QMG):

ID for chars, N (+ MA for CO and Adj't) for NPC, _ for vacant

Brigade Positions

Guards Brigade SDL/JW/MdZ

Horse Guards Brigade DAV/_/_

Heavy Brigade SS/N/N6

Dragoon Brigade N3/_/N4

First Foot Brigade JdF/_/_

Second Foot Brigade RdO/_/JdV

Third Foot Brigade GdLi/N/_

Fourth Foot Brigade N2/_/_

Entries as Army Organisation Table

Hell Hath no Furry...

No	Name	SL	Attr	Last
61	Bette Noire	19	W	CWAE
64	Edna Bucquette	18	W	
3	Kathy Pacific	17	B	
35	Katy Did	16	I	
42	Maggie Nifisent	16	B	
55	Jacky Tinne	16		
60	Polly Hydronne	16	W	
52	Guinevere d'Arthur	15	B/W	
10	Frances Forrin	14	B	
48	Fifi	14	B/W	
16	Ophelia Derriere	13		
26	Ella Fant	13	B	
27	Lucy Fur	13	B	
30	Leia Orgasma	13	B	
45	Cath de Thousands	13		
8	Lotte Bottle	12	B	
12	Charlotte de Gaulle	12		
17	Henrietta Carrotte	12	I/W	
28	Vera Cruz	12		
31	Bess Ottede	12	I/W	
1	Sue Briquet	11	B	
4	Anne Tique	11	W	
9	Deb Onairre	11	I	
40	Sheila Kiwi	11		
63	Carole Singeurs	11		
20	Emma Roides	10	I	
33	Anna Rexique	10	I	
38	Pet Ulante	10	W	
43	Di Lemmere	10	I	
53	Angelina de Griz	10	B	
56	Ingrid la Suede	10		
51	Jane Lapotaire	9	B/I/W	
57	Ava Crisp	9	I	
59	May Banquet l'Idee	9		
2	Betty Kant	8	I	
19	Jenny Russe	8	W	
32	Sal Munella	8	W	
41	Marie Antoinette	8	B/I	
47	Eve Ningalle	8	I/W	
49	Mary Huana	8	B/I/W	
34	Freda de Ath	7	W	
39	Thomasina Tancenjin	7	I	
50	Ulla Leight	7	I	
5	Belle Epoque	6	B/I	
13	Josephine Buonoparte	6	I/W	
24	Violet Bott	6	I/W	
15	Ada Andabettoir	5	B/I	
25	Lois de Low	5	B	

This table shows the mistresses in Paris.
B=Beautiful, I=Influential, W=Wealthy,
Last = Last lover seen with this month

The Greasy Pole

ID	Name	SL	SPs	Cash	Rank, Regiment/Appointment	MA Last seen	Club	EC	Player
AR	Count Abel Ringeur	27	F	Comfy	General/2nd Army Commndr	11	Flr	4	Bill Michell
CWAE	Count Co W. Ard Extrême	25	75	Wlthy	Fld Marshal/State Min.	5	Bette	3	Benedikt Löwe
ZTMG	Count Zachary The Money Goes	24	F	OK	Colonel KM/War Minister	11	Flr	4	Gerald Udowiczenko
MLR	Count Marvin Leigh Rowbow	24	F	Rich	General	11	Flr	3	Martin Jennings
CBY	Count Claude Bycat	24	F	Rich	General/1st Army Commndr	9	Flr	4	William Steven
AQH	Baron Alfonso Qué Holique	22	F	OK	B.Bdr-General RFG/Min w/o Port	6	Flr	5	Tym Norris
HTC	Count Henry Thierry Christian	21	F	Fthy	B.Bdr-General QOC/CPS	13	Flr	3	Matthew Shepherd
CIG	Baron Charlemagne le Gosse	21	F	Rich	Colonel CG	8	Flr	2	Neil Packer
DAV	Count D Arth Vader	20	F	Rich	B.Bdr-General DG/HGds Brigadier	13	Flr	6	Michael Blasebalk
SDL	Earl Stan Dandy Liver	20	F	Poor	B.Lt-General/Gds Brigadier	9	Flr	4	Guy Arnold
BdM	Viscount Beppe de Marko	20	F	Fthy	B.Bdr-General CPC	15	Flr	2	Mark Moores
SS	Sir Sean Sondamour	18	F	Wlthy	B.Lt-General/Hvy Brigadier	4	Both	2	Pete Holland
GdSM	Earl Gaston de St Marque	17	F	Comfy	General/3rd Army Commndr	9	Flr	3	Nathan Richards
LI	Viscount Lokwot Isaw	17	F	Rich	Major RFG/Gen's Aide	14	Both	3	Barry Townsend
OP	Baron Omi Palone	16	36	OK	B.Lt-General/Min w/o Port	3	Both	4	Mike Dommett
BR	Baron Beau Romir	16	F	Wlthy	Captain RFG/Capt.K's Esc	4	Both	3	Graeme Morris
HC	Marquis Harry Covert	15	F	Rich	Lt.Colonel RFG	13	Both	2	James Guiton
RdO	Sir Revaulvin d'Or	14	F	OK	B.Bdr-General 13F/2 F Brigadier	8	Both	4	Jerry Spencer
MdZ	Marc de Zorro	14	F	Comfy	Major RFG/Gds Brigade Maj.	3	Both	5	Colin Parfitt
RO	Rene Ouai	13	F	Comfy	B.Lt-General	1	Both	5	Peter Denison
OdC	Sir Orson de Combat	13	F	Wlthy	Major RM	4	Both	5	Francesca Weal
JP	Sir Jean Petit	13	F	Comfy	Colonel ALC	4	Both	4	Pete Card
EH	Sir Euria Humble	12	F	Comfy	Lt.Colonel RM/FMshl's Aide	8	Hunt	5	Matthew Wale
JdF	Jean de Florette	12	F	Comfy	B.Bdr-General PM/1 F Brigadier	4	Hunt	4	Robert Carter

ID	Name	SL	SPs	Cash	Rank, Regiment/Appointment	MA Last seen	Club	EC	Player
X3	Xavier 3sup	12	F	Comfy	Major RM/Gen's Aide (1st Army)	4	BG	5	Mark Mortimer
BdW	Bud d'Wiser	12	F	Comfy	Colonel GDMD	9	Hunt	2	Francesca Huskinson
JS	Jacques Shitacks	11	F	OK	Colonel RM/1st Army Adjutnt	3	Hunt	4	David Olliver
GdLi	Sir Gar de Lieu	11	F	OK	Bdr-General/3 F Brigadier	3	Hunt	4	Bill Hay
SC	Sirius Chien	10	RIP						Paul Wilson
CD	Ced Deucer	10	F	Poor	Major CG/Capt.C's Esc	5	Hunt	3	Nigel Monaghan
MC	Sir Meaux Curlieunlaurrie	10	F	Wlthy	Lt.Colonel KM	7	Hunt	2	Wayne Rutledge
JdV	Joseph de Veevre	10	F	Comfy	Lt.Colonel 13F/2 F Brigade Maj.	3	Hunt	5	Andrew Kendall
LdE	Lucien d'Escaillehuitaillement	9	F	Comfy	Captain CG	3	BG	4	Nik Luker
MOP	Marc O'Polo	9	F	Comfy	B.Bdr-General 27M	5	BG	4	Kevin Morgan
DdF	Duvail de Fontaine	8	RIP						Simon Burling
JW	Jacque Wabbit	7	F	Wlthy	Captain RM/LtGen's Aide (Gds Div)	6	F&P	2	Terry Crook
JCvD	Jean-Claude van Damme	7	RIP						Pam Udowiczenko
HdE	Horatio d'Escargot	6	9	OK	Private KM	4	F&P	3	Graeme Wilson
FLAG	Fernand Louis Adelmo de Gaulle	6	F	OK		5	F&P	4	Hajo 'Red' Schlosser
JoR	Jean ou Rous	6	F	Comfy	B.Bdr-General Gscn	5	F&P	2	Brian Niemi
JD	Jon Dam	5	F	Poor	B.Colonel PLLD	7	RP	1	Ben Brown
NNC	Nom N Clature	4	F	OK	Lt.Colonel 53F	5	RP	5	Richard Huzzey
DB	Denis Bone	4	F	OK	B.Subaltern QOC	3		5	Timothy Hunt
DeP	D'en Percent	3	0	Poor		1		4	Gerry Sutcliff
IMB	Ivan de Maphril en Bleubréille	2	F	Poor	Subaltern PLLD	2		3	Chris Boote
PdLF	Philippe de LaFey	2	F	OK	Subaltern Gscn	2		5	Filipe Silva

An F under SPs means that the character was at the Front, RIP means that he died. + against SL means it went up this month, - means it went down. Cash: Poor = <500, OK = 500-1500, Comfy = 1500-5000, Wlthy = 5000-10000, Rich = 10000-25000, Fthy = 25000+
Last seen is the lady the character was last seen with in public.

EC is Endurance Class: 1 = <60, 2 = 60-90, 3 = 91-120, 4 = 121-159, 5 = 160-200, 6 = 201+