

That would be enough

This has been issue 63 of *To Win Just Once*, published 17th March 2006. 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 *Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses*, *Easy Money* bids and *Railway Rivals 3* game end statements to Pevans by Friday 7th April 2006.

Orders for *Railway Rivals 4* and *Star Trader* to Mike Dommett by 5th May.

(Deadlines for 2006 are 5th/12th May, 9th/16th June, 14th/21st July, 18th/25th August, 22nd/29th September, 27th October/3rd November, 1st/8th December.)

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11-turn subscription	£5.00	£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: www.engarde.co.uk.

Railway Rivals on the North of England or Severn Valley map. So far we have Mark Gilby, Edward Walkington (North), Steve Bunce (either) and Nathan Richards (either). We provide rules and a working copy of the map.

Star Trader A game is in progress and we have a couple of positions available if anyone wants to join in – let me or Mike know if you're interested. Rules provided.

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To Win Just Once

(incorporating *Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses*)



A new edition of *Britannia*

Though my report from the London Toy Fair has to wait for next issue

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(LPBS 189: August 1659)

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ID	Name	SL	SPs	Cash	Rank, Regiment/Appointment	MA	Last seen	Club	EC	Player
HdE	Horatio d'Escargot	10	F	Comfy	B.Bdr-General ALC	4		BG	3	Graeme Wilson
LaT	Lun a'Tic	10	F	OK	Captain RFG	1		Hunt	2	Paul Wilson
MdS	Sir Magnon de Sources	10+	F	OK	B.Bdr-General PM/Gen's Aide ()	4		F&P	5	Robert Carter
PdMR	Sir Pierre de Mont Réal	10+	F	OK	B.Lt-General/3 F Brigadier	8			5	Pam Udowiczenko
X3		9	0	OK		3			4	Mark Barrowcliffe
WB	Walter Butts	9	F	Comfy	Major KM	4			3	Richard Newby
DdL	Dan de Lyon	8	F	Comfy	B.Bdr-General QOC/Ist Army Adj't	1		HGds	6	Ashley Casey
RdM	Rob d'Masses	8+	32	Poor	Major GDM	4	Lotte	BG	3	Craig Pearson
JRG	Jean-René Gratrien	7	16	Poor		1		BG	3	David Lopez
DF	Dexteur Facteur	7	F	Comfy	Major QOC	4		BG	2	Kevin Morgan
JLF	Jean Laissez Faire	6	F	OK	Captain QOC	2			3	Filipe Silva
AE	Auray Enri	6	F	OK	Major QOC	3			4	Chris Rudram
DSPA	Dancer Sous le Pond'Avignon	5	RIP							Gerry Sutcliff
PF	Phresh Face	5	RIP							Charles Burrows
RPdE	Roland Pollee d'Eaulee	4	F	Poor	Subaltern QOC	6		RP	3	Pete Card
LdLR	Lucien de la Rue	4	F	Poor	B.Subaltern QOC	5		RP	6	Olaf Schmidt
MIO	Michael l'Ovnotwore	4+	21	Poor		2		RP	2	Justin Key
MD	Marc Desade	4+	20	Poor	Captain 53F	1		RP	2	Mark Stretch
X4		3	0	Poor		1			5	Mark Gilby
MM	Mad Morty	3+	25	Poor		6	Belle		3	Mark Mortimer
PdVB	Pierre de Vin Blanc	3+	24	Poor		5			4	Keith Bristow
X1		2	0	Poor		4			5	Timothy Hunt
X2		2	RIP							Terry Crook
X6	Pas de Nom	2	F	Poor		5			2	James Guiton
JPG	Jean-Paul Georgeringneau	2	RIP							Tim Macaire

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, Withy = 5000-10000, Rich = 10000-25000, Flthy = 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+

The Greasy Pole

ID	Name	SL	SPs	Cash	Rank, Regiment/Appointment	MA Last seen	Club	EC	Player
AQH	Marquis Alfonse Qué Holique	25	RIP						Tym Norris
CWAE	Count Co W. Ard Extrême	24	27	Poor	General	5	Flr	3	Benedikt Löwe
SDL	Viscount Stan Dandy Liver	23	33	Withy	Lt-General/WVar Minister	11	Flr	4	Guy Arnold
ZTMG	Count Zachary The Money Goes	23	F	Withy	B.Bdr-General KM/2nd Army QM Gen.	11	Flr	4	4 Gerald Udowiczenko
GdSM	Viscount Gaston de St Marque	22	F	Comfy	Fld Marshal/2nd Army Commandr	9	Flr	3	Nathan Richards
CIG	Marquis Charlemagne le Gosse	22	F	Rich	B.Lt-General/Gds Brigadier	11	Flr	2	Neil Packer
LI	Count Lokwot Isaw	20	F	Withy	Lt.Colonel RFG/State Min.	19	Flr	3	Barry Townsend
SS	Baron Sean Sondamour	20	F	Withy	General/1st Army Commandr	5	Flr	2	Pete Holland
BdM	Viscount Beppe de Marko	19	41	Fthy	Bdr-General	17	Flr	2	Mark Moores
BR	Baron Beau Romir	19	F	Withy	Captain RFG/C.Prnce Aide	7	Flr	3	Graeme Morris
GdLi	Baron Gar de Lieu	19	F	Comfy	B.General/1st Div Commandr	3	Flr	4	Bill Hay
OdC	Baron Orson de Combat	18	F	Comfy	Bdr-General/HGds Brigadier	6	Flr	5	Francesca Weal
RO	Rene Ouai	18	F	Comfy	Lt-General/Fntr Div Commandr	3	Flr	5	Peter Denison
RdO	Baron Revaulvin d'Or	18+	60	Rich	Bdr-General/Justice Min.	8	Flr	4	Jerry Spencer
JS	Sir Jacques Shitacks	17	F	OK	B.Lt-General/1 F Brigadier	3	Flr	4	David Olliver
MdZ	Sir Marc de Zorro	17	RIP						Colin Parfitt
DC	Devlin Carnate	16	43	Comfy	Colonel PLLD	4	Both	2	Bruno Giordan
BdW	Baron Bud d'Wiser	16	38	Comfy	B.Bdr-General GDMD/Min w/o Port	11	Both	2	Francesca Huskinson
OP	Marquis Omi Palone	16	F	Comfy	Major KM	4	Both	4	Mike Dommett
EH	Marquis Euria Humble	15	F	OK	B.Bdr-General DG/FMshl's Aide	14	Both	5	Matthew Wale
FLAG	Sir Fernand Louis Adelmo de G'lle	13	F	Comfy	Lt.Colonel KM	5	Hunt	4	Hajo 'Red' Schlosser
CD	Baron Ced Deucer	13	F	OK	B.Bdr-General CG	10	Hunt	3	Nigel Monaghan
JdV	Sir Joseph de Veevre	13	F	Comfy	B.Bdr-General 13F/2nd Div Adjutant	3	Both	5	Andrew Kendall
AdA	Averell de Alton	12	F	OK	Major RFG	3	Hunt	4	Martin Jennings
LdE	Lucien d'Escaillehuaitaillement	12	F	Comfy	Major CG	3	Hunt	4	Nik Luker
AV	Sir Antoine Valois	11	F	Comfy	Lt.Colonel DG/HGds Brigade Maj.	1	Hunt	4	Simon Burling
TT	Thomas Tudo	11	F	OK	Lt.Colonel ALC	4	Hunt	5	Ben Brown
LN	Leo Nennie	10	F	Poor		4	F&P	5	Chris Boote

Chatter

My apologies that this issue is a couple of days late. I came down with a nasty stomach bug early in March and I've been catching up with things since then. Normal service should be resumed for next issue.

I was well enough to spend a day at the races, though. This was a stag do for a friend and the first time I've been horse racing. Sadly, it was a cold, wet day and we were inside most of the time – we might as well have been at the bookie's! Still, it was a congenial day in good company. And involved a lot of drinking.

Talking of which, who wants to join me at the London Drinker Beer Festival next week? I'm going for the Friday (24th) afternoon and fellow drinkers are welcome. Drop me an e-mail or ring me on the day on 07771 535690. The venue is the Camden Centre on Bidborough Street, London WC1 – effectively across the road from St Pancras station. There are more details on the organiser's website: www.camranorthlondon.org.uk/ldbf.

Railway Rivals and *Star Trader* players should note the long (double) deadline for their games as GM Mike Dommett is chasing an eclipse in Africa. Well, someone's got to do it!

My report from this year's London Toy Fair was supposed to be in this issue. But I'm up to 40 pages without it, so it'll have to wait for next time. Anyone wanting a preview can find it on my website: www.pevans.co.uk/Reviews/ToyFair2006.html.

I don't believe it!

Grr! The latest thing winding me up is the repeated use of the word 'loaned' on the radio and television and in newspapers and books. Repeat after me: loan is a noun, lend is a verb. And the past participle of lend is lent!

This was set off by the 6 o'clock news on Radio 4. Nobody's "loaned money to the Labour Party!" They may have lent money – in which case they probably deserve a peerage – but nobody's loaned anyone anything. And on the BBC, too! What is the world coming to?

I know exactly what's happening here. It's those Americans and their insistence on turning nouns into verbs – even when there's already a perfectly good verb available. Grr!

And it's not just British English that's suffering. Subscriber Olaf Schmidt has his own rant to get off his chest.

Letters

I have read quite enthusiastically your essay/editorial about the “sl’rrang of da britesh language” especially grammar. Let me tell that in Germany it is as bad if not worse. Just two examples to make your day.

Ist: Danone (I don’t know if Danone sells products in GB, but it is a big company specialising in milk products, yoghurt and (curd) cheese mostly). This company has done more to the degrading of the German language than any other (perhaps with the exception of Verona Feldbusch). One of their products (“Fruchtzwerge” – Fruit Dwarfs) was advertised by children like this:

“... let’s go and buy it, because it is healthy.”

Now that may not sound too horrible. BUT this is a direct translation, including word order, and while “because it is healthy” is okay in English, it is **TOTALLY** wrong in German. “Weil das ist gesund” has to be: *weil das gesund ist!* Note: the verb in a subordinate clause is always at the **END!**

So everybody is now using that word order, eg: *weil ich gehe dann ins kino*, instead of: *weil ich dann ins Kino gehe*.

This is only surpassed by the aforementioned woman, Veronica Feldbusch, with her unforgettable “*da werden sie geholfen*” – “there you will gotten help” – right word order, totally wrong tense.

These were merely “advertising jokes,” but even deeper runs the slow conversion of German to Gerlish or *Denglisch* as it is known hereabouts. For example, the all too well known statement of Windows (tm) (r) (whatever):

“*Updates werden gedownloadet*” – “downloading Updates” or “*Ich gehe mal zu Frank, abchillen*” – “I am going to Frank to hang around.”

My estimate is that in 30 years you won’t need to learn German any more as our language will be such an amalgam of English that you can probably work out the meaning by listening just to the English snippets.

Einen schönen day noch! Olaf

Thanks for that, Olaf. Mind you, your description of German in 30 years time sounds rather like what’s already happened to Welsh! The *Academie Française* is fighting a rearguard battle against *le weekend*, *le parking* and so on. And, as I recall, one of the characteristics of Alexander Solzhenitsyn’s writing is that he seeks out archaic Russian words to use in place of neologisms coined from

Hell Hath no Furry...

Regiments Organisation									
	RFG	Col	LCol	Maj	Maj	Capt	Capt	Capt	Capt
	CG	CD	LdE	N4	N4	N3	N2	N2	
	KM	ZTMG	FLAG	OP	WB	N4	N2	N6	N5
	DG	EH	AV	N6	N2	N3	N3	N4	
	QOC	DdL	DF	AE	N5	N3	JLF	N4	
	ALC	HdE	TT	N2	N2	N5	N1	N4	
	CPC			N1	N5	N4	N2	N6	
	RM			N4	N3	N3	N5	N6	
	GDMD	BdW	N6	RdM	N2	N3	N1	N2	
	PM	MdS		N5	N5	N2	N4	N4	
	I3F	JdV		N1	N5	N5	N5	N5	
	PLLD	DC		N6	N6	N2	N3	N5	
	53F			N5	N2	N3	N3	N2	MD
	27M				N1	N5	N2	N3	
	4A			N2	N6	N1	N6	N5	
	69A				N5	N6	N3	N6	
	Gscn				N3	N5	N6	N3	N5

Entries are Character abbreviations, N (+ Military Ability) for NPC, blank for vacant, * shows the regiment adjutant. + shows ranks held by characters with a brevet rank or an appointment elsewhere.

No	Name	SL	Attr	Last
61	Bette Noire	19	W	RdO
64	Edna Bucquette	18	W	
3	Kathy Pacific	17	B	SDL
35	Katy Did	16	I	BdM
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	RdM
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	DC
56	Ingrid la Suede	10		
6	Viv Ayschus	9		
57	Ava Crisp	9	I	
59	May Banquot 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	MM
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

Battle Results

First Army: 5

Cavalry Division: 3

Horse Guards Brigade: 1

Dragoon Guards: 5

Queen's Own Carabiniers: 2

Heavy Brigade: 3

Archduke Leopold Cuirassiers: 5

Crown Prince Cuirassiers: 5

Frontier Division: 3

Guards Brigade: 1

Royal Foot Guards: 3

Cardinal's Guard: 3

King's Musketeers: 2

Frontier regiment 1: 5

Frontier regiment 2: 3

Frontier regiment 3: 6

Frontier regiment 4: 5

Second Army: 3

First Division: 4

1st Foot Brigade: 4

Royal Marines: 5

Picardy Musketeers: 4

RNHB regiment: 1

Second Division: 5

3rd Foot Brigade: 2

27th Musketeers: 5

4th Arquebusiers: 4

4th Foot Brigade: 3

69th Arquebusiers: 3

The Gascon Regiment: 4

Army Organisation and Summer Deployment

Field Army (Field Ops) _/_/_/_/_

First Division (Field Ops) _/_/_/_/_

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

3rd Foot Brigade (Field Ops) – 27M 4A

Second Division (Field Ops) _/_/_/_/_

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

RNHB Regiment (Field Ops)

Frontier Division (Field Ops) _/_/_/_/_

Frontier Regiments (Field Ops)

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 _/_/_/_/_

Horse Guards Brigade _/_/_/_/_

Heavy Brigade _/_/_/_/_

Dragoon Brigade _/_/_/_/_

First Foot Brigade _/_/_/_/_

Second Foot Brigade _/_/_/_/_

Third Foot Brigade _/_/_/_/_

Fourth Foot Brigade _/_/_/_/_

Entries as Army Organisation Table

Frontier Regiments

(Assault for Sept-Nov)

	F1	F2	F3	F4	RNHB
Colonel	N6	N2	N4	N6	N8

Attached

Also at the Front

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

American (a damn' good reason to read him in translation, if you ask me). So it's happening everywhere! Well, all over Europe, anyway.

Mmm, Danone!

Bodegas with Buzz – a tasting event organised by The Wine Society

Reported by Neil Packer

Right at the end of February Pete Holland, James Guiton and I were joined by a former *En Garde!* player for a civilised evening tasting South American wines at the Guildhall in Winchester. This was far more cultural than the beer festivals I'm used to, with an introduction speech, representatives of the vineyards present to talk about the wines, lots of people in collar and tie – oh, and spittoons. We were advised that the latter are traditionally used only for rinsing out glasses with the bottled water provided on all the tasting tables.

Anyway, after a chip supper, the taste of vinegar needed immediate washing away. Immediacy being of the essence, I made a beeline for the nearest empty table and found myself in conversation with a representative of one of Chile's organic wine producers, Vinedos Organicos Emiliana. First up, the *Adobe Carmenère 2003*, a clean and sharply fruity red, which cleared away the chippy taste in no time. Nice for £5.25, but I was sure there was better on offer. The rep tempted me with the same vineyard's *Coyam 2003*. A very oaky red – hardly a surprise, considering Coyam is native Indian for oak. This is a blend of 5 grapes, aged in oak from the Americas and France. Some time has been spent getting this blend right, the result is a good flavour all round the mouth. £9.95 per bottle – but yum!

Time for some white – using the aforementioned spittoon for rinsing first of course. Catena *Chardonnay 2003* from Argentina caught me by surprise as I don't normally enjoy whites. This was not too sweet, clean-tasting with a rich flavour. Certainly one worth remembering. I moved back to red and the *Ben Marco Expresivo 2003* from the Dominio del Plate vineyard, owned by one of the few women growers in Argentina. Another blend, but predominantly malbec and cabernet sauvignon, this was a good oaky red, but seemed a little pricey at the best part of £13 a bottle. Slightly more down-market, I tried the *Privada 2003* from the Norton producer, a well-established vineyard. More cabernet sauvignon/malbec, this is a soft, well-rounded wine and much better value than the previous, although still £9.95 per bottle. My last Argentinian wine of the night turned out to be Domaine Vistalba's *Infinitus Cabernet-Merlot 2003*. Vistalba is run by a Frenchman in Patagonia and this fine, fragrant wine turned

out to be the value-for-money bargain of the evening – £5.95 per bottle with savings for bulk buys. This is on my list of must buys.

Back to Chile and white for the next – the *Wine Society's Chilean Sauvignon Blanc, Leyda Valley 2003*. Unfortunately, this wine reaffirmed my views that white wines are best left alone. So, to try some of the newer reds – *Marqués de Casa Concha Merlot, Peumo 2004* and *Terrunyo Syrah 2004* are both from the Concha Y Toro winemakers. The former turned out to be a nicely scented (vanilla, I later learned) wine, creamy in texture and I thought well worth £8.95 a bottle. The latter was a genuinely classy Syrah – a hint of black pepper, tannins softened – lovely, but much pricier at over £10.

Time was running short, so, after re-sampling some earlier favourites, I tried some more expensive wines. Cono Sur is a producer in southern Chile and provided the *Visión Pinot Noir 2004*. A very simple flavour to this one, but rich and velvety and worth considering for laying down at £9. Lastly, two wines from Casa Lapostolle's Apalta vineyard. The *Cuvée Alexandre Merlot 2004* unfortunately fit with Paul Giamatti's view of all merlots in the film *Sideways*. (Less said the better.) However, the *Clos Apalta 2003* – a blend of Merlot, Carmenère and Cabernet Sauvignon – is an absolute masterpiece. Opulent, velvety, ready-to-drink, but will also keep well, this was far and away the quality wine of the evening. Then I checked the price – £432 for a case of 12 ... a little out of my range!

Speeches happened somewhere, but I wasn't very alert and the time was only 8.30 pm. Someone was telling us to go. And I didn't see anyone even spitting... All that remained was time for a very impressive curry (with bottled lager of course) before the train took us home to Southampton.

Entry fee: £22 – but this was a hugely enjoyable night out, with no pressure to buy, just good opportunities to try what was on offer and meet lots of different people. Thanks very much to the Wine Society (a not-for-profit, mutual society devoted to spreading the word of wine) for this event. Check out their web site at www.thewinesociety.com for further information.

Science Fiction

Having said last time that I was going to get hold of Kage Baker's reprinted *In the Garden of Eden*, I thought I had better do so. Amazon did the business and I had the book a few days later. A week after that, I'd read it. I have to say that I was rather surprised. I knew that the "Company" books were about time travel and a secret corps of agents. So I was expecting something fairly technological. Perhaps along the lines of Poul Anderson's *The Corridors of Time*, a book that

Challenges to be voted on:

Dan de Lyon challenges Jean-René Gratrien for insulting the Cavalry.

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

Mark Stretch started with the Bastard son of a well-to-do Gentleman: Init SL 3; Cash 225; MA 1; EC 2 (MD).

Justin Key started with the Bastard son of a well-to-do Gentleman: Init SL 3; Cash 225; MA 2; EC 2 (MIO).

Keith Bristow started with the Second son of a Peasant: Init SL 2; Cash 10; MA 5; EC 4 (PdVB).

Tim Macaire started with the Bastard son of a wealthy Merchant: Init SL 2; Cash 225; MA 3; EC 3 (JPR).

Tym Norris gets the Second son of a very wealthy Baron: Init SL 7; Cash 750; MA 6; EC 2 (X2).

Gerry Sutcliff gets the Second son of a very wealthy Merchant: Init SL 3; Cash 500; MA 2; EC 1 (X5).

Tim Macaire gets the Bastard son of a wealthy Merchant: Init SL 2; Cash 225; MA 6; EC 1 (X7).

Colin Parfitt gets the Orphaned First son of a well-to-do Gentleman: Init SL 5; Cash 1775; MA 1; EC 2 (X8).

Charles Burrows gets the Second son of a small Merchant: Init SL 3; Cash 25; MA 5; EC 4 (X9).

Tables

Other Appointments			Shows who holds appointments outside military units: ID for Characters, N for NPC, _ for vacant, CPS for additional posts held by the CPS.
King's Escort: Ensign	___	Captain	___
Cardinal's Escort: Ensign	___	Captain	___
Aides: to Crown Prince	___	to Field Marshal	___
Provincial Military Governors:	___/___/___/___/___		
City Military Governor	___	Adjutant-General	___
Inspectors-General: of Cavalry	___	of Infantry	___
Commissioner of Public Safety	___		
Chancellor of the Exchequer	___	Minister of Justice RdO	
Minister of War	___	Minister of State LI	

Applications

This table shows the applications announced in the order in which they will be dealt with.

Minister of State: ZTMG

Minister of War: ClG, GdLi, GdSM, JS, RO, SDL, SS, ZTMG

Minister of Justice: ZTMG

Minister without Portfolio: ClG, DdL, ZTMG

Chancellor of the Exchequer: ZTMG

Commissioner of Public Safety: AV, DC, GdSM, OP, PdMR, ZTMG

Field Army Commander: GdLi, SS

Adjutant-General: ClG, GdLi, JS, PdMR, RO, SDL

Inspector-General of Infantry: ClG, GdLi, PdMR, RO, SDL

Inspector-General of Cavalry: ClG, GdLi, PdMR, RO, SDL

City Military Governor: ClG, GdLi, PdMR, SDL

Division Commander: ClG (all), GdLi (all), JdV (First), JS (all), PdMR (all)

Provincial Military Governor: ClG, GdLi, PdMR, SDL

Field Army Quartermaster-General: DdL, JdV, ZTMG

Brigadier: DdL (Horse Guards), JdV (2nd Foot), ZTMG (Guards)

Field Army Adjutant: DC, MdS, TT

Aide to Field Marshal: AV, TT

Division Adjutant: AV (all), EH (First), TT (all)

Aide to General: OP, RdM, TT

Brigade Major: DF (Horse Guards), OP (Guards), TT (Heavy)

Aide to Crown Prince: BR

Duels

Results of this month's duels:

Devlin Carnate (gains 1 Exp) beat Beppe de Marko.

Omi Palone's challenge to Beppe de Marko was voted down 3:4.

Grudges to be settled next month:

Pierre de Mont Réal (Foil, 2 rests) has cause with Mad Morty (Foil, adv.) for pinching Belle.

Auray Enri (Sabre) has cause with Roland Pollee d'Eaulee (Sabre, adv.) for pinching Marie.

Gaston de St Marque (Rapier, Seconds OdC & ZTMG, 2 rests) has cause with Stan Dandy Liver (Cutlass, Seconds OdC & SS, adv.) for pinching Bette.

Orson de Combat (Foil, Seconds EH, 3 rests) has cause with Gar de Lieu (Rapier, Seconds SDL, adv.) for pinching Lucy.

Antoine Valois (Sabre, 1 rests) has cause with Gar de Lieu (Rapier, Seconds SDL, adv.) for pinching Leia.

Joseph de Veevre (Rapier, Seconds OP & RdO, adv.) has cause with Lun a'Tic (Rapier, Seconds HdE) for pinching Bess.

Dan de Lyon (Sabre, Seconds RPdE & LdlR, adv.) challenges Jean-René Gratrien (Rapier, 1 rests).

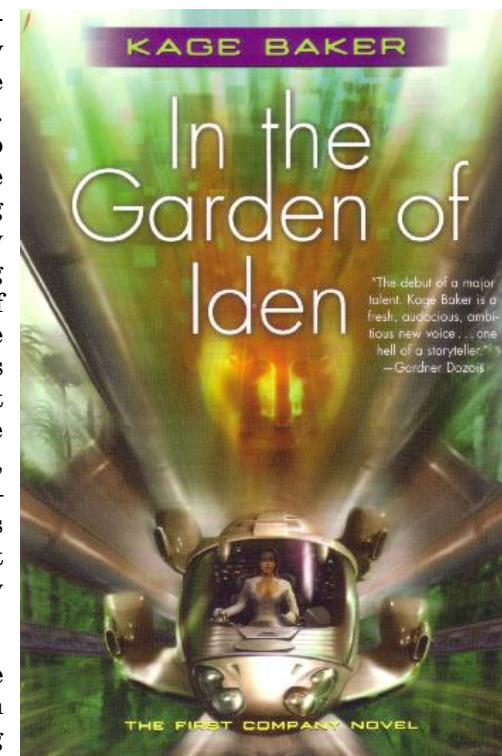
"Adv." Indicates player with the advantage in Expertise: his first duelling sequence need only contain six Actions.

captivated me (many years ago) with its mixture of high technology and Dark Ages history. What I got was more like a historical romance. Albeit a historical romance where one of the protagonists is an immortal cyborg!

The book starts with a massive info-dump. Chapter one introduces us very baldly to the Company and how time travel works in Baker's universe. Time travel is limited: you can go into the past, but you can't visit the future. Nor can you move anything into its future. And recorded history can't be changed. So, no shooting Hitler in 1930, but plenty of opportunity to work behind the scenes. You can't rescue the contents of the great library at Alexandria, but you can copy it all. And so the company behind time travel, Dr Zeus, Incorporated, grows very, very rich – all those previously unknown works by da Vinci, Picasso and Rembrandt that turn up after being stored safely over the centuries!

But Dr Zeus doesn't just have time travel, it has immortality: a selection of medical and engineering techniques that can turn a young child into an immortal. Provided they don't mind becoming part machine. So, take the technology back in time and use it on people who are not recorded in history. The Company now has an army of field agents who know advanced technology, know the future history of the world and can act to save all the things that careless mankind will destroy. Thus the Company also has a network of secret bases and travel routes around the planet through the centuries.

This is a fascinating set up. Here you have a band of people who are of their time – or some time earlier – but have the education of someone from the far future. They also have what are almost super-powers and are immortal. Baker doesn't explain what she means by immortality, but implies that these people cannot die. Not just that they won't grow old, but that they are completely unkillable. Think Captain Scarlet.



Enter our heroine. Rescued from the dungeons of the Inquisition in medieval Spain, the young Mendoza (as she's named) is made immortal, educated and trained by the Company. She becomes a botanist, preserving rare plants for posterity. *In the Garden of Iden* is about Mendoza's first mission. A trip to mid-sixteenth century England – part of the Spanish influx that accompanies Queen Mary's marriage to the heir to the Spanish throne. Here, she is to identify – and preserve – plants from a botanical garden set up by one Sir Walter Iden. Sir Walter gets some advanced medical treatment in payment – cloaked as alchemical mumbo-jumbo, of course.

The story is strong on life in the sixteenth century and how it compares with modern conveniences. Every now and then, the reader is reminded that the characters are people out of time. Their interests are the 'latest' film release (on the equivalent of DVD) and the news on the networks maintained by the Company (and, of course, completely inaccessible to the 'natives'). At the same time, this is a turbulent period of English history and the characters are very aware of how historical events are influencing what's going on around them.

I found a few jarring notes within the story, but it is quite compelling – even though much of it is mundane. Perhaps this is its strength, seeing how these exotic immortals cope with everyday surroundings. I was certainly captivated, despite it being rather different from what I expected. Not a tale of derring-do, but the story of a (rather extraordinary) young woman discovering who she is. And that she is a human being after all. Baker tells a good story that involves the reader right the way through and doesn't pull any punches. *In the Garden of Iden* is an impressive story and a great start to a series. I shall certainly move on to the other books and I suggest you give this one a try.

Games Events

Compulsion is a major role-playing event and Compulsion 2006 is on over the weekend of 25th-26th March at Teviot Student Union in Edinburgh. Details on the website at www.compulsion.org.

April sees the 2006 Battlemasters event. Run by the European League of gamers, Eurolog, this has been going for quite a few years. I haven't been for several years, but it always used to be a fun mix of RPGs, CCGs and some board games. As far as I can work from the rather opaque website, it's at Leicester University on 21st-23rd April. Online booking forms, directions and other useful stuff are on the website: www.eurolog.org.uk and follow the Battlemasters links.

Things get busy in May. Beer & Pretzels happens in Burton-on-Trent on 13th and 14th May. Board games, wargames and other things in Burton's Town Hall.

Omi Palone applies for Commnr. of Public Safety
 Pierre de Mont Réal applies for Province Mil. Governor
 Pierre de Mont Réal applies for Division Commander of First, Second and Frontier Divisions
 Pierre de Mont Réal applies for City Military Governor
 Pierre de Mont Réal applies for Inspector General Cavalry
 Pierre de Mont Réal applies for Inspector General Infntry
 Pierre de Mont Réal applies for Adjutant General
 Pierre de Mont Réal applies for Commnr. of Public Safety
 Rob d'Masses asks NPC Lt.Colonel of Grand Duke Max's Dragoons to resign
 Rob d'Masses applies for Aide to General
 Rene Ouai applies for Inspector General Cavalry
 Rene Ouai applies for Inspector General Infntry
 Rene Ouai applies for Adjutant General
 Rene Ouai applies for Minister of War
 Stan Dandy Liver applies for Province Mil. Governor
 Stan Dandy Liver applies for City Military Governor
 Stan Dandy Liver applies for Inspector General Cavalry
 Stan Dandy Liver applies for Inspector General Infntry

Stan Dandy Liver applies for Adjutant General
 Stan Dandy Liver applies for Minister of War
 Sean Sondamour applies for Army Commander of Field Army
 Sean Sondamour applies for Minister of War
 Thomas Tudo applies for Brigade Major of Heavy Brigade
 Thomas Tudo applies for Aide to General
 Thomas Tudo applies for Division Adjutant of First, Second and Frontier Division
 Thomas Tudo applies for Aide to Field Marshal
 Thomas Tudo applies for Army Adjutant of Field Army
 Zachary The Money Goes applies for Brigadier of Guards Brigade
 Zachary The Money Goes applies for Army Quarter Master Gen. of Field Army
 Zachary The Money Goes applies for Commnr. of Public Safety
 Zachary The Money Goes applies for Chancellor of Exchequer
 Zachary The Money Goes applies for Minister without Portflio
 Zachary The Money Goes applies for Minister of Justice
 Zachary The Money Goes applies for Minister of War
 Zachary The Money Goes applies for Minister of State



Announcements

Antoine Valois applies for Division Adjutant of First, Second and Frontier Divisions
 Antoine Valois applies for Aide to Field Marshal
 Antoine Valois applies for Commnr. of Public Safety
 Beau Romir applies for Aide to Crown Prince
 Charlemagne le Gosse applies for Province Mil. Governor
 Charlemagne le Gosse applies for Division Commander of First, Second and Frontier Divisions
 Charlemagne le Gosse applies for City Military Governor
 Charlemagne le Gosse applies for Inspector General Cavalry
 Charlemagne le Gosse applies for Inspector General Infntry
 Charlemagne le Gosse applies for Adjutant General
 Charlemagne le Gosse applies for Minister without Portfllo
 Charlemagne le Gosse applies for Minister of War
 Devlin Carnate applies for Army Adjutant of Field Army
 Devlin Carnate applies for Commnr. of Public Safety
 Dan de Lyon applies for Brigadier of Horse Guards Brigade
 Dan de Lyon applies for Army Quarter Master Gen. of Field Army
 Dan de Lyon applies for Minister without Portfllo
 Dexteur Facteur applies for Brigade Major of Horse Guards Brigade
 Euria Humble applies for Division Adjutant of First Division

Gar de Lieu applies for Province Mil. Governor
 Gar de Lieu applies for Division Commander of First, Second and Frontier Divisions
 Gar de Lieu applies for City Military Governor
 Gar de Lieu applies for Inspector General Cavalry
 Gar de Lieu applies for Inspector General Infntry
 Gar de Lieu applies for Adjutant General
 Gar de Lieu applies for Army Commander of Field Army
 Gar de Lieu applies for Minister of War
 Gaston de St Marque applies for Commnr. of Public Safety
 Gaston de St Marque applies for Minister of War
 Joseph de Veevre applies for Brigadier of 2nd Foot Brigade
 Joseph de Veevre applies for Army Quarter Master Gen. of Field Army
 Joseph de Veevre applies for Division Commander of First Division
 Jacques Shitacks applies for Division Commander of First, Second and Frontier Divisions
 Jacques Shitacks applies for Adjutant General
 Jacques Shitacks applies for Minister of War
 Magnon de Sources applies for Army Adjutant of Field Army
 Omi Palone applies for Brigade Major of Guards Brigade
 Omi Palone applies for Aide to General

The event is run by Sal and Phil Bootherstone of Spirit Games and has been a fixture in the calendar for years. Check the details on the website at www.spiritgames.co.uk/bnpdetails.php.

And then it's time for Maycon! 26th-29th May (late Spring Bank Holiday) at the Ramada Jarvis Hotel at Heathrow. Board games, role-playing, freeforms and lots of other things, including SpielChamps, the UK Board and Card Games Championship, on the Sunday (the *To Win Just Once* team will, of course, be competing). Details at www.maycon.org.

This box concentrates on 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.

Winter Stabcon: early January 2007 at the Britannia Hotel in Stockport.

Maycon: late May bank holiday weekend (26th-29th May 2006) at the Ramada Hotel at Heathrow. This friendly convention is a mixture of board games and role-playing and includes SpielChamps UK – the UK Board and Card Games Championship and qualifier for the European Championships. Keep an eye on the website – www.maycon.org – for the latest details.

Summer Stabcon: early July at Woolton Hall, Manchester University. A mixture of board games, wargames, CCGs and role-playing at this friendly convention. Sign up with the stabconinfo Yahoo group to find out more: groups.yahoo.com/group/stabconinfo.

Spiel: the board games event of the year. 19th-22nd October 2006, at the Messe (Exhibition Centre) in Essen. Contact Friedhelm Merz Verlag, Postfach 210250, Bonn, 53157 Germany, www.merz-verlag.com/spiel.

Credits

To Win Just Once issue 63 was written and edited by Pevans. The LPBS masthead (page 19) is by Lee Brimmicombe-Wood as are the pictures on pages 11 and 33. The illustrations on pages 20, 21 and 24 are by Tim Wiseman and those on pages 22 and 23 are by Nik Luker. Pevans played with his scanner and Photoshop.

Oh, Mr Porter! Railway Rivals game 3 – Round 12

SLOTH WORST TRAINS fail to send in orders. TOOT does enough to stay in front and win, while SPAMTRAK does just enough to claim second after all.

Races

Race	TTYF!	SWT	DECLINE	TOOT	LOL	SPAMTRAK
36 13-35			20-3		10+3	
37 15-55	15-6		15-3+10		0-7	+3+3
38 52-46	20-4				5+3	5+1
39 44-24		+3		20-9	+6	
40 23-52				20		
41 34-62		+13	0-7+1	10+2		20-9
42 65-54	10-3			+1		20+2
TOTAL	32	16	33	44	20	45

Builds and Points

A – John Harrington, TRAINS TAKE YOU FASTER! (TTYF!), Blue

Start Points 184

Points: 184 + 32 races = 216 (5th)

B – Chris Boote, SLOTH WORST TRAINS (SWT), Purple

Start Points 115

Points: 115 + 16 races = 131 (6th)

C – Steve Bunce, DOVER EASTBOURNE CHATHAM LINE (DECLINE), Yellow

Start Points: 219

Points: 219 + 33 races = 252 (3rd)

D – Edward Walkington, TOTALLY OUT OF ORDAH TRAINS (TOOT), Green

Start Points: 236

Points 236 + 44 races = 280 (1st)

E – Gerald Udowiczenko, LEAVES ON THE LINE (LOL), Black

Start Points: 209

Points 209 + 20 races = 229 (4th)

F – Timothy Hunt, SPAMTRAK, Red

Start Points: 215

Points: 215 + 45 races = 260 (2nd)

GM Notes

Congratulations to Edward on the win and thank you all for playing.

Game End Statements please to PAUL EVANS for the next issue, as I will be away.

**Statements to TWJO, 180 Aylsham Drive, UXBRIDGE UB10 8UF
or by e-mail to TWJO@pevans.co.uk by 7th April 2006.**

on time (“No Move Received”) and suffered the consequences.

AdA Averell de Alton (Martin Jennings) has NMR'd. Total 1

BdW Bud d'Wiser (Francesca Huskinson) has NMR'd. Total 1

LI Lokwot Isaw (Barry Townsend) has NMR'd. Total now 1

X6 Pas de Nom (James Guiton) has NMR'd. Total now 3 and is sent to a Frontier regiment

X1 (Timothy Hunt), X3 (Mark Barrowcliffe) and X4 (Mark Gilby) were floated at their own request.

Terry Crook's character was removed as he hasn't sent orders for some time and his subscription has run out.

Welcome to the players who've signed up since last turn: Mark Stretch, Justin Key, Keith Bristow and Tim Macaire. Good to have you on board.

Solicitors Saisir et Courir have charge of the trust fund established by the late Charles à Tanne and supported by the late D Arth Vader. The fund, of 6,000 crowns, will be paid out to whoever kills Co W Ard Extrême.

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 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



En Garde! rules for LPBS players

The new edition of the *En Garde!* rules is now in the shops.

Retail price is around £10 (\$18 in the US), but LPBS players can order a copy from me for £6 (inclusive of UK postage – £7 to addresses in the rest of Europe, £8.50 in the rest of the world).

Send a UK cheque, payable to Margam Evans Limited (to En Garde!, 180 Aylsham Drive, Uxbridge UB10 8UF), for the appropriate amount – or online at www.pevans.co.uk/LPBS/SOSubbers.html – with a note of where to send it to.

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

Jacques Shitacks

If only you had stopped at skills 1, 6, 7 and 9. 8 is possible, if the Aide employed has an extremely strong stomach and is unable to differentiate between truth and falsehood (memo – try the CG), but 2 requires the services of a man of such circularity as to be virtually immobile. As for 3 and 4, would you like a 2-lane or 4-lane bridge over the channel?

† Le Bladder Noir

Far be it from me to criticise the Field Marshal, but how can Lord Percy Percy have displayed toadyism to His Majesty King Pevans. Are you suggesting, sir, that His Majesty is not worthy of devotion as God's agent on Earth, and his every word to be listened to as an express command. I am sure that you are not intending to revive that most impious rebellion of recent infamy, by an implied criticism of His Majesty. (There are times that the Lord Percy Percy shows misjudgements, but surely not in that case.)

Yours truly, † Omi Palone

Points Arising

Next turn is the start of a new season. **All characters start the month in Paris and all duels *must* be fought.** Any vacant appointments not taken by player characters will be filled by NPCs – unless appointed by a player character, who may order that they are left vacant (if you have applied for a post or hold a rank that allows you to appoint other characters to posts, don't forget to appoint people).

To General Co W. Ard Extrême Sir,
I look forward to being the best aide that you have ever had. Thank you for the opportunity

† Major Rob d'Masses
That's a shame. † le Roi

Lord Percy Percy says, as fashion is tending towards being disappointingly let down, Gar de Lieu has been making a lot of women very fashionable.

Poetry Corner

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

Who do you think you are mocking, Mr Liver,
When you sing an awful song?
We are the boys who have to listen to your stuff.
We are the boys who cry out "enough, enough!"
So who do you think you are mocking, Mr Liver,
When you sing your rotten songs.

Note that the military appointments on the Greasy Pole (and character sheets) this turn have expired. They are shown just as a reminder.

Many thanks to Tym Norris for the entertaining way in which AQH bowed out of the game. Good luck with the new character, Tym.

The following didn't get their orders in

St Mary's Railway Rivals game 4 – Turn 1

All four Companies start building towards the centre of London.

Player A

SOMEBODY TO REALLY INFLAME
KEN'S EGO (STRIKE)

Gerald Udowiczenko (BLACK)

Builds: (Woodford) – Q30 – Liverpool
Street – O28 – O26 (+6)

Score: 20 + 6 = 26

Player B

TURNHAM GREEN WIVENEY
RAILWAY (TGWR)

Chris Boote (RED)

Builds: (Richmond) – C2 – Putney - E9
- E10 - F10 - F11 - G12 (+6)

Score: 20 + 6 = 26

Player C

LONDON AREA TRANSIT EXPRESS
(LATE)

Steve Bunce (BLUE)

Builds: (Watford) – Wembley Park –
X12 - Finchley Road – S15 (+12)

Score: 20 + 12 = 32

Player D

PEVANS'S CENTRAL METRO-
POLITAN RAILWAY (PCMR)

Paul Evans (GREEN)

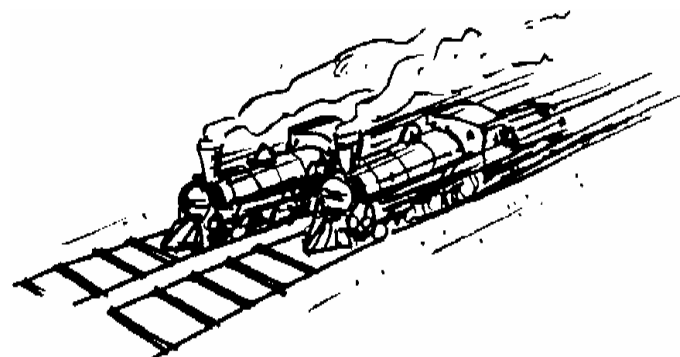
Builds: (New Cross) – K31 - K27 - L26
- L23 - Waterloo – M22;
(L23)-K24 (+6)

Score: 20 + 6 = 26

Next turn's Build is 14

Note that Mike is away for several weeks in March and April, so there's a double deadline this time.

**Orders to Mike Dommett, 119 Victoria Road, ALTON GU34 2DD
or by e-mail to mike_dommett@yahoo.co.uk by 5th May 2006.**



Easy Money

Turn 9

This table lists the people still in this game (originally everybody who reads *To Win Just Once* – the people I knew about anyway – with new readers added in as they subscribe). It shows what they bid last turn, what they actually got and what they hold now.

Player	Bid			Actual			Holding					
	Buy/Sell	No	Colour	Buy/Sell	No	Colour	Red	Grn	Blue	Ylw	Blk	Money
Guy Arnold	B	1	Blue	B	1	Blue	0	0	3	0	1	24
Chris Boote	B	3	Green	B	1	Black	0	0	4	1	3	35
Ben Brown	B	1	Yellow	B	1	Yellow	0	0	0	1	0	183
Simon Burling	B	1	Red	B	1	Red	4	0	0	0	1	47
Charles Burrows	B	2	Green	B	2	Green	0	3	3	0	1	52
Robert Carter	S	1	Red	S	1	Red	2	4	0	0	1	118
Mike Dommett	B	1	Blue	B	1	Blue	0	0	2	0	2	91
Jerry Elsmore	B	1	Yellow	B	1	Yellow	0	0	0	1	0	174
Mark Gilby				B	1	Black	1	1	1	1	4	OUT
Bruno Giordan				B	1	Black	1	1	1	1	4	OUT
William Hay				B	1	Black	0	0	0	0	3	72
Pete Holland	S	3	Blue	S	3	Blue	1	0	1	0	1	90
Andrew Kendall	S	1	Red	S	1	Red	0	2	0	0	0	112
Nik Luker	S	1	Blue	S	1	Blue	2	3	0	0	2	65
Michael Martinkat	S	1	Blue	S	1	Blue	0	0	1	0	2	184
Bill Michell				B	1	Black	0	0	0	0	2	126
Graeme Morris	S	2	Blue	S	2	Blue	1	0	4	0	2	49
David Olliver	S	1	Red	S	1	Red	0	0	0	1	1	75
Neil Packer	B	1	Black	B	1	Black	0	0	0	1	3	9
Colin Parfitt	S	6	Red	S	6	Red	0	0	0	0	1	140
Chris Rudram	B	2	Blue	B	2	Blue	1	1	3	1	3	24
Alan Tabor	S	4	Blue	S	4	Blue	0	0	0	0	1	176
Barry Townsend				B	1	Black	0	2	4	0	4	OUT
Ger'd Udowiczzenko	S	1	Red	S	1	Red	0	0	3	0	1	40
Pam Udowiczzenko	S	1	Red	S	1	Red	0	0	3	0	1	40
Matthew Wale	S	1	Blue	S	1	Blue	0	0	0	0	0	129
Graeme Wilson	S	1	Red	S	1	Red	1	2	1	1	3	30
Paul Wilson	B	10	Green	B	1	Black	2	1	1	1	4	OUT

To Viscount Stan Dandy Liver Sir, I would like to thank you for all of your help since my arrival in Paris. You have shown me the benefits of working to be a better member of society. † Rob d'Masses

Dear CD,
Just wondering why you think anyone mad enough to join your rabble is going to be able to read, let alone have a "sharp mind." The duller the better I would have thought, especially if that drivel of a recruitment poster is anything to go by. † ZTMG

One has to say that the Cardinal's Guard has many, many vacancies for those with a sharp mind. One strains to come up with a current senior officer who is blessed with a premier étage for, as the English would say, they are all bungalows.

To B. Brigadier General Bud d'Wiser Sir,
Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve France. I will not let you down.

† Major Rob d'Masses

So let me get this straight. If the Royal Foot Guards got less Mentions in Despatches than the Cardinal's Guard or the King's Musketeers in the season just past, while the Regiment will maintain its position in the army list, it will no longer be considered France's premier fighting Regiment, superseded by the best performing of the other two Regiments.

What a noble challenge to have offered.

TOP ROYAL AIDE IN SURPRISE ROLE-SWAP

From our Court Correspondent
Tongues were wagging today among royal-watchers at the surprise move of Baron Beau Romir (Capt RFG) from his post at the head of the Royal Defence Squad (King's Escort) to the controversial role of Aide to the beleaguered Crown Prince. Dismissing rumours of hushed-up "serious security blunders" Baron Romir – known as 'Bo' to his closest associates – further stated that scandalous allegations of a liaison between him and "a certain female royal" were complete nonsense. "There haven't even been any allegations – none at all," he went on to say.

At a time when the self-confessed reputation of the heir to the throne as a "dissident working against political opinion" is bringing as much criticism as his gaffes in dealings with Chinese diplomats, sources close to the Prince say that he desperately needs a "steady hand at the wheel" in his private office.

Quoting from a high-level source, this reporter can exclusively reveal that what the Prince also desperately needs is a drinking-buddy who can "hold his liquor and help me find my way home."

Somewhere on the outskirts of Paris, a coach stops and asks directions to one of the more dangerous districts.

Local: "you don't want to go there sir. I hear they find dead bodies in the gutter almost every night"

EM: "Almost every night? Do you hear that Igor, we're in luck!"

Dear Minister of State Isaw,
Many thanks for your kind offer, however due to some miscommunication, I didn't receive the dispatch in time. I really should get myself an Aide...

Perhaps you could pop along to my party next month and we can discuss where best in the Government I can fit in.

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

Co W Ard Extrême is not getting forgetful, it's just that his syphilis is reaching a new stage. He has been breathing a lot of mercury for a cure and you are well aware of the side effects of that.

Marc de Zorro

When you find the reds, kill them all and make the world a better place. Anyway, isn't AQH on mineral water for his health?

Dear Count Lokwot Isaw, Minister of State

My Lord,

I am writing to you to apologise for the misunderstanding last month. Following discussions with Viscount Stan Dandy Liver (please see his letter below), I was under the impression that the cabinet had met and decided to appoint me, should I survive the front, as Commissioner of Public Safety in September. The Minister of War suggested, quite rightly, that my military acumen left rather a lot to be desired and not much to the imagination. It was felt, as I understood by his letter, that the

position of 1st Army Adjutant would ensure my safety, and allow me to return to Paris in September and begin the job protecting the public's safety.

You can, therefore, I am sure, imagine my surprise when I was offered the position and my even greater surprise when I turned it down. I can only say in my defence that I believed it to be a test of my determination to ensure that another CPS didn't die at the front before he had chance to fulfil even a month of his duties. I do sincerely hope that you can forgive my decision, and would still consider me for the post come September. I fully understand if you feel that another might be more suitable for the post, but please rest assured that I felt that I was acting in the way I thought the King's Government wished me to act.

Yours in sorrow and hope,

† Colonel Dan de Lyon, QOC,
1st Army Adjutant

ATTACHED:

Brevet Colonel Dan de Lyon, QOC
Sir,

I have approached the Minister of State regarding your request. However, it is my honestly ventured opinion that given your complete misunderstanding of all matters military – I mean no disrespect, you will appreciate – you might be better off accepting the post of First Army Adjutant for the Summer: then applying for the CPS in September, when I trust it will be yours.

Yours,

† Lt. General Viscount Stan Dandy
Liver, Minister of War

Share prices			
Red	Green	Blue	Yellow
20	16	23	34

Some hefty bids to buy Green push the price up so much that two out of the three bidders are priced out of them. Mostly, though, it's sell Blue and Red – though a few people buy. Neil Packer takes the interesting option of deliberately buying a Black. Purchases from the previous leaders mean that Michael Martinkat takes the lead by just 1 from Ben Brown. Al Tabor and Jerry Elsmore are close.

New subscribers Mark Gilby, Bruno Giordan and Chris Rudram were added in, starting with 3 Black, 1 of each other colour and 70 cash rather than 100.

For next turn just send me your bid:

"Buy/Sell n shares of Red/Green/Blue/Yellow."

**Bids for Turn 10 to Pevans at 180 Aylsham Drive, UXBRIDGE
UB10 8UF or TWJO@pevans.co.uk by Friday, 7th April 2006.**

What's this about?

Devised by Chris Boote, *Easy Money* is a game for all readers of *To Win Just Once* – **if your name isn't in the list above, let me know and I'll add you in.** The game takes 12 turns, the winner being whoever has the most money (not including the value of shares) at the end of the game.

There are four tradable stocks (red, blue, green, yellow) plus black, which never changes price. All stocks start at a price of 10p per share. Players start with 100p money and one of each tradable stock.

Each turn, each player must bid to buy or sell a number of shares in one colour of stock (except Black). A Buy bid is limited to the highest number of shares the player can afford at the current price. The price of the stock rises by 1p for each share in bids to buy and falls by 1p for each share in bids to sell. Players' sales and purchases take place after making these adjustments. The price of a stock cannot fall below 1p.

If a player can't afford to buy their shares at the new price or fails to make any bid or tries to sell shares they don't have (or anything else that invalidates their bid), then they buy a black share. Should a player not be able to afford a black share, they buy one for all their remaining money (even if they have 0 money, they get a black share). Players are out of the game if they own four black stocks. They are also out if they have no money and no tradable stocks.

Mission of Gravity Star Trader game 3 – Turn 7

Ping!

“Target acquired, sir!”

“Jam their communications and fire a warning salvo.”

“They’ve cut their engines.”

“Good, tell them to expect a boarding party from their new owners.”

“Umm, message from HQ, sir: we’re now owned by the bank!”

“...”

Ping!

“Another target!”

“Oh, forget it.”

The big happening this Quarter was the closure of SEMPER DURUS. Their bankers called in the loan due this quarter. With no assets on the ground, other than three empty warehouses, the ships in system space above Mu Herculis were disposed of. This brought a fraction of what their value would have been in the Spaceport. The Corporation’s offices were closed. Then Federation enforcers arrived to arrest all the executives after the Inquiry into their conduct had ruled them unfit to run a Corporation even in this less-regulated sector. TRANSURRANIC, who lost a ship to the pirates, suffered the most – though ZWILLINGE was incredibly fortunate to avoid joining him in unhappiness.

The Sabotage at Mu Herculis continued; this Quarter CAESAR WHOLESALE’s facilities were damaged, as were ISNOT-ISTOO’s. Loss of goods was fortunately light. This time the guilty party was identified as TRANS SOLAR TRADING INC., presumably cross at the loss of custom.

NEIKAN-DO tried to hire an agent, but their 40 HTs was taken with no agent turning up for employment. Their Business Connections increased from 2 to 3 and they purchased 2 more Isotope Factories and 1 Spice Factory on Sigma Draconis. Their Reputation rose steadily on their advertising campaign and the revitalised Corporation is doing well.

SOLAR WINDS TRADING COMPANY accepted that it had built a Factory at Alpha Centauri and sent its ship there to collect the goods. CAESAR WHOLESALE INC. delivered their passenger at Alpha Centauri and found him suitably grateful. They increased their Criminal Connections too.

TRANS SOLAR TRADING INC restarted their Passenger fleets criss-crossing the sector, but found that they have competition nowadays.

To: Omi Palone

I will, of course, be delighted to entertain you at the Fleur in September, providing matters of state/campaign do not get in the way. Oh and of course provided you continue to steer clear of the bully-boy tactics often employed by members of your regiment. Obviously, I would expect those I entertain to be civil to members of my former regiment.

Yours,

† Charlemagne le Gosse

As the new Field Marshal, I shall be holding a military ball at Le Prix d’Or throughout the month of September, supported by the staff of the Fleur de Lys. This will allow the members of our armed forces the chance to swagger in their dress uniforms, thus showing the ladies of Paris the new ranks to which they have been promoted during the campaign season. Entrance will be open to all and ladies are included in the invitation. Unfortunately, due to my rising debts and the lack of plunder this season due to the Second Army being stationed in defence, I am forced to charge the sum of 50 crowns per ticket for each week or you can attend for the whole of the month for the sum of 150 crowns. Still, this will no doubt be the event of the season to see and be seen at.

† Field Marshal Gaston de St
Marque

Party:

To celebrate another successful Campaign at the Front, I will be holding a month long party at my club in September.

Anyone who served at the Front this Campaign gets in for free. Those that stayed in Paris, but still want to hear all about it, can pay 30 crowns per week or 100 crowns for the whole month and pretend they were at the Front!

Everyone is welcome, even the Cardinal’s Guard, after all we need someone to laugh at.

I will cover costs for all King’s Musketeers, members of the Government and those of SL 20+.

† ZTMG

To all

With all this commanding an army stuff going on, it’s hard to spend much time thinking about what I’ll be doing next month. Chances are though that I’ll be looking to make up for all the time that I have not been able to enjoy a good drink or two in respectable entertaining company. Anyone of like mind is more than welcome to contact me with a view to joining me at my club.

† Sean Sondamour

Personal

One would be remiss if one did not encourage the Cardinal and his operatives to take a close interest in the new Major of the Prince Louisa’s Light Dragons. But it may take more than the soft cushions... † OP

Announcements

To All Loyal Men of Paris,
Come and join the country's premier regiment, the King's Musketeers, and ensure that France's enemies are hunted down and dispatched. Places are still available, but please apply early to avoid any disappointment. Generous bonuses available and help with purchasing your commission.

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

Le Prix d'Or seeks men and women of both high and low rank to sponsor a new horse race, the Grande Nationale, to be held at its adjoining racetrack. Be the centre of the social world as you and your friends thrill to the sights and sounds of the riders thundering down the track, competing in your name for one of the greatest prizes in racing history.

Whilst horse racing may be the sport of kings, it is also freely open to the masses and already there are rumours of many Irishmen flocking to Paris to chance their arm at the forthcoming races. As newly-arrived landowner Michael Flynn said: "I wouldn't go anywhere else."

Matters of Honour

Lun a'Tic
De Combat's words last month to GdLi sum my feelings to you up, you lecherous stealer of ladies. I will see you in September. With luck, that's clearer than last month, no idea what I was talking about then. Apologies to all for that. † JdV

Monsieur Gratrien,
I am sure our esteemed colleagues in the Royal Foot Guard will be delighted to receive into their ranks a man who chooses to insult every member of the cavalry. I am sure that every one will ponder the sanity of a man who with no combat experience suggests that "*One thing to be said about the cavalry: almost anyone can make it to the top.*" I find your words incredibly rude and an affront to both the cavalry and myself. I hope you can back up your insult with your sword and can find seconds to support you and your preposterous claims on the first morning in September.

En Garde!

† Dan de Lyon, Colonel of the
Queen's Own, 1st Army Adjutant

Social

All Ministers, Members of the Fleur de Lys Club and Regimental Comrades of the late Colonel Marquis Alphonse Qué Holique are invited to a Memorial Service and Wake to celebrate his life and achievements. To avoid clashing with the "Post Campaign Coital Proclivities of Paris" the wake shall be held at the Fleur de Lys one month on from his most unfortunate demise in Wk4. In his honour, there will be a Fancy Dress Competition.

Theme: "Bottled Alcohol"

Prize: 500 Cr of Booze

† Lt. General Viscount Stan Dandy
Liver

GdLi renews his invitation to all to the wake for his uncle 1st week of September.

SOLAR SPICE, MONOPOLES AND LIQUOR did a private trade with SWISS MERCENARY for 12 Liquors at Alpha Centauri, apparently involving a substantial Consultancy fee to the Helvetian Chairman.

HONEST DARTH'S QUALITY USED SPACE SHIPS bought a new Warehouse at Delta Toucanis, and increased their Political Connections. ZWILLINGE sold the passenger pod from Doppelganger for more lucrative Cargo Pods, and bought a Warehouse at Sigma Draconis.

VOGON INDUSTRIES sold their slaves at Gamma Leporis, bought 3 new Alloy Factories there and launched their new ship, Death, at Tau Ceti. Though ferociously named, it has Cargo pods and an A class crew. Finally ISKANDER FIRE AND ACCIDENT sold the Passenger pod from Trust, upgraded the crew to A class and added a Passenger pod to complete the vessel.

Trading was brisk on some systems this quarter. At Gamma Leporis ISKANDER bought 7 Alloys for 3 HTs each and gained a Contractorship. There was still enough left for TRANSURRANIC to buy 3 more at the rock bottom price of 1 HT. Epsilon Eridani had ZWILLINGE selling 2 Isotopes for 7 HTs and SOLAR SPICE, LIQUORS & MONOPOLES sold 12 Monopoles for 12 HTs apiece to get a Dealership.

No one was trading at Delta Toucanis, which was a shame as the blockading fleet had moved away.

At Tau Ceti, ISKANDER FIRE & ACCIDENT sold 4 Alloys at a price of 9 HTs, TRANSURRANIC bought 6 isotopes for 4 HTs each and gained a Contractorship and then ZWILLINGE sold 12 Petroleum for 9 HTs apiece and a Dealership.

Mu Herculis saw ZWILLINGE selling 8 Isotopes for 10 HTs each and a further Dealer's position. SSLM sold 5 Monopoles on Contract and ISKANDER bought 9 Petroleum at the price of 9 HTs and took a Contractor's position for themselves.

SSLM bought 5 Spice on Contract at Sigma Draconis as the price dropped. ISKANDER disposed of a single Petroleum for 9 HTs and bought 6 Isotopes for 6 HTs. But NEIKAN-DU had already bought 10 Isotopes for 7 HTs and gained a Dealer's position. VOGON INDUSTRIES found themselves disposing of 5 Units of Isotopes on Contract at a much better price than they can have expected.

ISKANDER sold 5 Isotopes for 8 HTs each at Alpha Centauri, but spent more buying 5 Liquors at 11 HTs apiece.

Beta Hydri saw TRANSURRANIC selling 6 Alloys for 4 HTs each and taking a Dealership. HONEST DARTH's used their Market Managership to sell 8 Isotopes at the rate of 11 HTs. SSLM sold 2 Spice on Contracts as the price crept up.

Corporation Table

Corporation letter & name	Conn'n Levels			Init Bid	Turn Order	Cash Rep		Player
	Bus	Crim	Pol					
A Neikan-do	2	4	4	0	6th	155	28	Paul Wilson
B Solar Winds Trading Co	2	0	8	0	10th	65	25	Steve Bunce
C Caesar Wholesale	3	8	2	0	11th	199	31	Simon Burling
D Trans Solar Trading, Inc	5	0	7	0	9th	273	19	Jerry Elsmore
E SSL&M	7	3	5	1	8th	264	40	Paul Evans
F Semper Durus	0	0	0	15	1st	0	0	ELIMINATED
G HDQUS	6	2	2	8	3rd	235	39	Howard Goble
H Trade Wind	1	0	8	N		76	27	Available
J ISNOTISTOO	8	0	3	N	13th	52	32	William Hay
K Swiss Mercenary Fleet	3	0	9	0	7th	162	32	Martin Jennings
L Zwillinge	8	2	7	1	12th	250	40	Michael Martinkat
M Transuranic Trade Corp	10	0	3	4	4th	227	40	Bob Parkins
N Vogon Industries	10	7	0	0	5th	77	40	Nathan Richards
P Iskander Fire and Accident	7	7	2	10	2nd	147	40	Przemysław Orwat

'N' under Initiative Bid indicates No Move Received

GM Notes

Factories are built in Systems where a commodity is abundant – see the table bottom of page 17 in the rules. You can't build a Liquor factory at Mu Herculis, for example.

Players who took out loans on the first turn have to repay them by the end of next turn. You repay the loan before you get your Reputation bonus, if any.

A ship laid down in Turn 6, will be launched in Turn 7. It can only Hyperjump in turn 8. You can load it with passengers in turn 7, and goods, if you had a warehouse to store the goods in on turn 7.

I don't update the Market Positions table every turn. In future I will put the turn it was updated on it.

Corporation F, Semper Durus, was eliminated this turn, both for being unable to pay its debts (ships are sold for just 50 HTs if in space) and for failing an Inquiry. (Rules 22.7, 22.8) Firing on ships reduced its Reputation to 0 and it stayed there until the Inquiry phase, which went badly.

There will be a double deadline this turn, as I am away in North Africa over the next deadline.

News

There were four new chits this turn. NEWS CHITS (new ones this turn in Bold):

Turn 9 **B10, P1**
Turn 10 **C4, B10**
Turn 11 **P4**

nasty thud as he hits the bottom. None of the blows is fatal on its own, but the cumulative effect is. RIP.

First Foot Brigadier Jacques Shitacks rolls his eyes at the news and duly reports that his Brigade has lost another senior officer. It's not clear quite how he expresses this, but he ends up with two Mentions in Despatches and 350 crowns. There's a Mention, too, for the First Division commander, Lt-Gen Gar de Lieu. He is brevetted to General – hotting up the competition for the one Army command available next month – and sticks 250 crowns in his pocket.

The 27th Musketeers are on the receiving end of a Spanish attack. Faced with charging cavalry, new Captain Jean-Paul Georgenringeau knows his duty. Clamping his eyes shut, he stands firm, exhorting his men to stand beside him. All alone, he falls beneath the enemy sabres. RIP. Third Foot Brigadier Pierre de Mont-Réal orders the 4th Arquebusiers to back up their colleagues and they stem the tide. De Mont-Réal is promoted to (brevet) Lt-General and Knighted. (Boosting his social standing quite effectively.) Two Mentions in Despatches for Second Division commander Joseph de Veevre means he, too, receives a Knighthood. ❖



Press

Despatches from the Front

Dear 'amis de guerre'

It is with great regret and 'pas de joyeusement' that I write to you all to tell you of my misfortune.

After the surprise attack upon my little regiment, I sent three of my junior officers back to HQ to warn them of the ambush.

Sadly, I watched as one by one they fell to the withering enemy fire. I decided that I could not, 'en bon conscience' allow any more fine young men to perish, so I attempted this foolhardy mission myself.

I was able to escape their assaults, at the cost of my horse and my hat, and

arrived, bloody but unbowed, to report the 'situation désagréable'.

Rather than launch a (possibly futile) rescue mission, the senior officers instead saw fit to cashier me for not remaining with the tattered remnants of my force until destruction, and stripped me of my rank, my honour and my respect for the senior officers of 'La Belle France'.

I WILL show these stuffed shirt paper pushers what a real soldier can do, and when I return from Paris, a reckoning will be had!

Yours, from the Front,

† Leo Nenmie

Badly shaken, Lt-Colonel Lokwot Isaw gathers what loot he can: it comes to just under 500 crowns. Major Averell de Alton forgets the plunder in favour of securing the barracks. He is Mentioned in Despatches. Captains Beau Romir and Lun a'Tic pick up some cash: 300 and 400 crowns, respectively.

The Cardinal's Guard follow up and complete the mission. Colonel Ced Deucer is brevetted to Brigadier-General, but there's no reward for Major Lucien d'Escaille-huitaillements. The Guards Brigadier, Lt-Gen Charlemagne le Gosse does well out of all this. Taking personal charge of the town, he is Mentioned twice in the Despatches. This is a privileged position. Privileged in this case to the tune of a thousand crowns. The one senior casualty is Brigade Major Marc de Zorro. Confronted by a Spanish officer, de Zorro insists on taking him on in single combat. Unfortunately, the Spaniard is the better swordsman. RIP de Zorro. Division commander Rene Ouai enters the town in triumph and rakes 700 crowns off the top of the pot.

A successful conclusion to the siege means it's been a good campaign for First Army commander Sean Sondamour. Though his two Mentions in Despatches for this month are more like footnotes. There is also a Mention in Despatches for his Adjutant, QOC Colonel Dan de Lyon. De Lyon is promoted to (brevet) Bdr-Gen as well. Sondamour's Aide, PM Colonel Magnon de Sources, is also Mentioned. And brevetted to Bdr-Gen. And Knighted – which raises his social standing. So it's definitely been a good month for him!

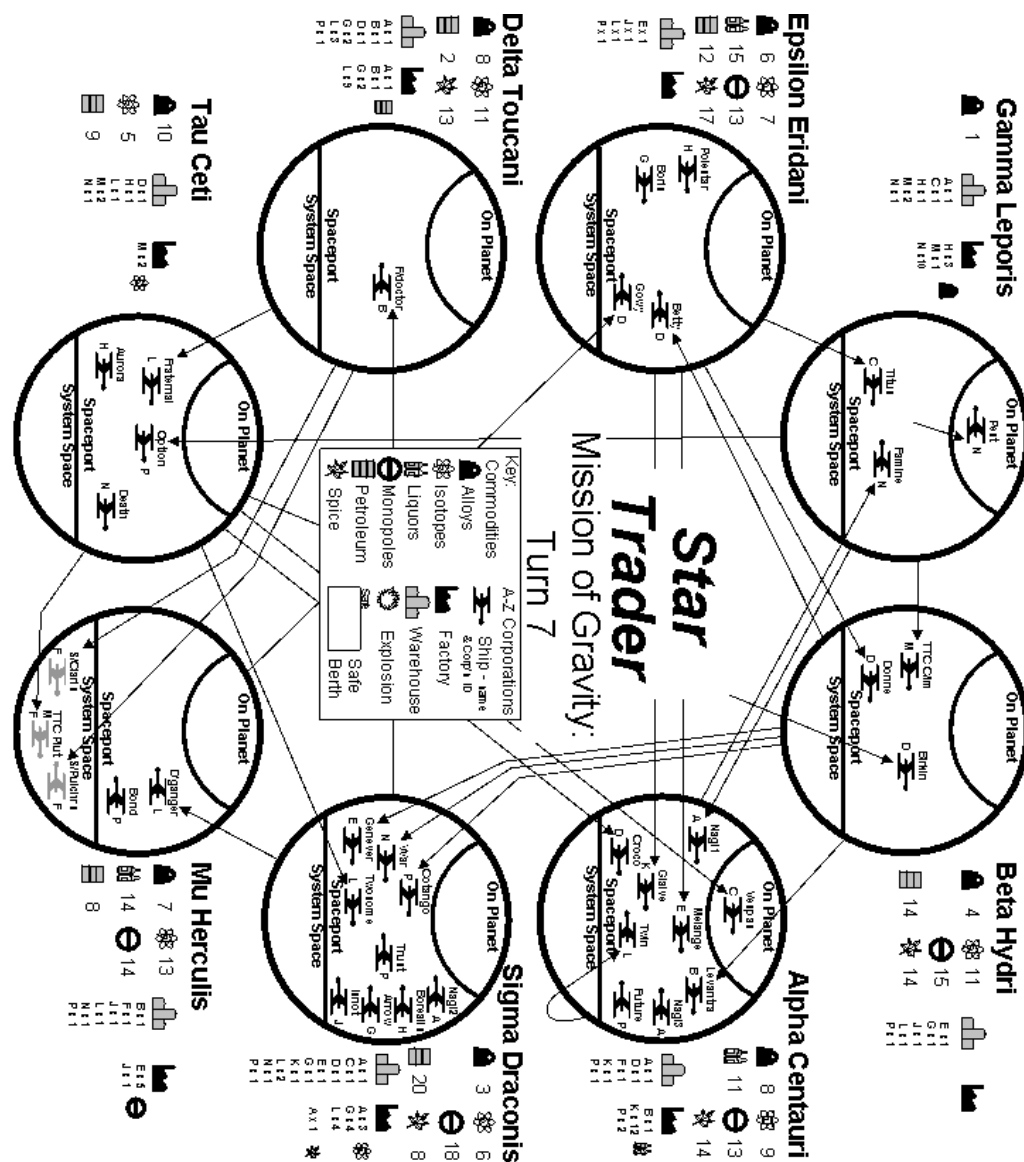
Marines don't climb trees

Second Army covers First Army's rear and lines of communication. Once again, there is no serious action, just a few reconnaissance attacks from small enemy forces. General Gaston de St Marque is disappointed (as he has been all season) not to see more action, but consoled by the thought of being Field Marshal from next month. Two Mentions in Despatches don't go amiss either. With limited opportunities for looting, there's only 300 crowns for him this month.

As commander of the Royal Marines, Lt-Col Phresh Face feels it is his duty to train the new recruits in the skills needed by the Marines. This month: firing from a fighting top. There being a lack of tall ships in the vicinity, the adaptable Face shins up a pine tree to demonstrate. He discovers, however, that trees aren't built as sturdily as ships' masts. There is a loud crack followed by a series of yelps and crashes as the Lt-Colonel bounces off branches on the way down and a



Orders to Mike Dommett, 119 Victoria Road, ALTON GU34 2DD
or by e-mail to mike_dommett@yahoo.co.uk
by Friday, 5th May 2006.

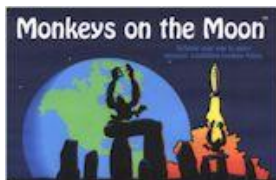


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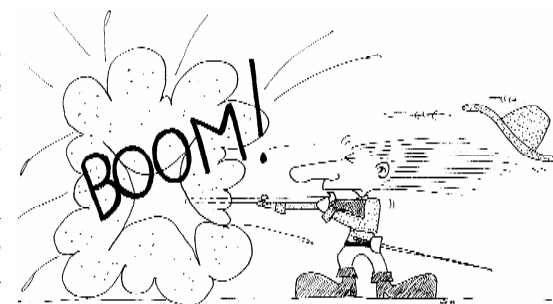
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Going out with a bang

Lt-General Rene Ouai decides that it's not worth trying to assault Arras and has the Frontier Division simply maintain the siege. What's left of the Spanish garrison breaks out, routing Frontier regiment 3 on the way. Frontier regiment 1 is also in the path of the attack and takes casualties. Frontier Private



Leo Nonmie (former commander of the CPCs) has dug himself a nice little foxhole and is perfectly safe inside it. Frontier regiment 2 is away from the attack and Private Pas de Nom ('X6') discovers that no-one's shooting at him when he sits on the ramparts. He is Mentioned in Despatches. The garrison makes its getaway across country in good order, despite being spotted by elements of the CPCs.

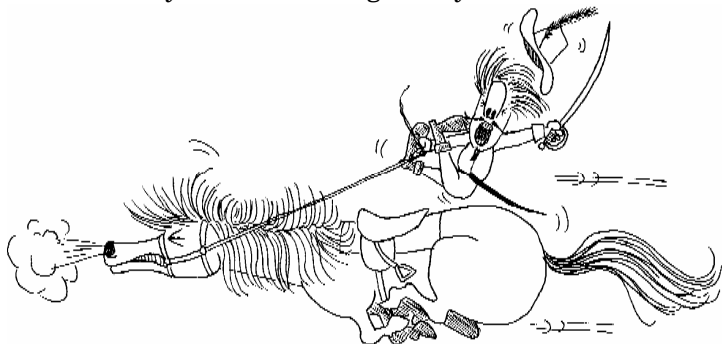
With the last soldiers gone, the town surrenders to the French troops. The Guards Brigade is ordered into the town and the King's Musketeers lead the way and start the looting. Commander Zachary The Money Goes receives a Mention in Despatches and 300 crowns. His Lt-Colonel, Fernand Louis Adelmo de Gaulle, takes the unusual step of shortening his stirrups by a couple of inches, a practice that is banned from the parade ground. However, on the battlefield it improves his reach, allowing him to "hit the enemy first." He lines his pockets with over a thousand crowns worth of booty. As he can't be promoted, he gets two Mentions in Despatches ("looks like a bloody jockey," "excellent control one-handed"). Senior Major Omi Palone finally gets the money he's been looking for all season: 800 crowns of goodies. Junior Major Walter Butts collects just a hundred crowns less and gets his name into the Despatches twice.

The Royal Foot Guards are trying to keep up with their commander, who has disappeared into the town. Following the scent of fine brandy, they find him surrounded by barrels – mostly empty by now – smoking his pipe. "Good to see you chaps," slurs Colonel Alfonse Qué Holique. He hiccoughs, lurches to his feet, grins inanely and knocks the embers out of his pipe on the rim of a barrel. Woomph! The Foot Guards duck as a pale blue flame rockets out of the barrel and spreads rapidly across the ground. To the barrels that Holique hasn't drunk. The ones marked 'Gunpowder.' A resounding explosion marks the end of the Royal Foot Guards' commander (and Chancellor of the Exchequer). RIP. Holique's will sees large sums of money going to the Minister of Justice (Revaulvin d'Or), Minister of War (Stan Dandy Liver) and Minister of State (Lokwot Isaw), though there is little to say how the Chancellor came by all this.

DG Colonel Euria Humble takes over de Combat's position with the Horse Guards Brigade as acting Brigadier. He sends both regiments out on regular sweeps. His reward is promotion to (brevet) Bdr-General and 150 crowns from this month's plunder. His Brigade Major, DG Lt-Colonel Antoine Valois backs up his new boss (same as his old boss!). He isn't recognised but dips his hand into the pot for some 200 crowns worth of booty. Deprived of its senior officers, the Dragoon Guards regiment displays no initiative this month and heads back to camp every time it encounters any resistance.

The Queen's Own Carabiniers are more aggressive. The acting commander, Major Dexteur Facteur, leads the men to counter a Spanish probe – probably aimed at finding a weak spot through which to relieve the town. The QOCs see off the attacking Spanish cavalry in short order. Major Facteur's bravery gains him a Mention in Despatches and he gets 600 crowns for ransoming a captured junior officer. Fellow Major Auray Enri isn't quite so brave. His only reward is some 500 crowns in loot. There is a Mention for Captain Jean Laissez Faire, whose war whoops are credited with disconcerting the enemy. Brevet Subaltern Roland Pollee d'Eaulee is promoted to full Subaltern. And trooper Lucien de la Rue is brevetted to Subaltern. It's slow progress at the bottom of the regiment.

On the other flank, it's a quiet month for the Heavy Brigade. Colonel Horatio d'Escargot leads Archduke Leopold's Cuirassiers. His heart doesn't seem to be in it, but he is promoted to (brevet) Bdr-Gen. A little loose change (say 50 crowns) comes his way as well, but it's small beer compared to what he borrows from RFG Captain Lun a'Tic. Lt-Colonel Thomas Tudo tries to egg on his superior. His initiative is Mentioned in Despatches. The Crown Prince Cuirassiers are under strength after two months of fighting (and the cashiering of its commander). Captain Dancer Sous le Pond'Avignon is in command of second squadron, despite being a new recruit to the regiment. On patrol, he spots a Spanish force heading away from Arras. Despite the advice of his staff sergeant, he orders his men into a charge across a nice grassy hillside. His horse trips over one of the many rabbit holes and throws le Pond'Avignon headfirst into the ground. His neck snaps on impact. RIP. The enemy makes a clean getaway.



Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses 189

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* (see back page). You will also need a copy of the published rules to *En Garde!*.

Orders for September 1659 to Pevans at 180 Aylsham Drive, UXBRIDGE UB10 8UF or lpbsorders@pevans.co.uk by Friday, 7th April 2006



August 1659

It's definitely summer in Paris and the city slumbers in the sunshine for most of the month. The long days mean an early start for those getting up at dawn for furtive assignments. But that only affects Beppe de Marko and Devlin Carnate this month. Oddly for a cavalryman, Carnate uses a Rapier, while de Marko's weapon is a sabre. The two men are slightly built and a pretty even match. De Marko has the advantage of being more skilled with his blade than Carnate is with his. De Marko goes for the surprise option and lunges furiously with the blunt point of his sabre. This doesn't do much damage, only just breaking the skin. Carnate jumps aside to inspect the damage. He backs further off and avoids de Marko's follow-up cut. Despite his lower expertise, Carnate is able to get in a lunge while de Marko is still recovering his balance. This blow is too much for de Marko and he concedes the fight.

Who'd be an Aide?

As the campaign enters its last month there is some last minute jockeying for position in the military. Euria Humble uses his influence on the Adjutant to First Division, but fails to get him to resign. However, it only takes the application of money for Humble to make himself Colonel of the Dragoon Guards. The now vacant Lieutenant-Colonel's slot is purchased by Antoine Valois. Beau Romir and Orson de Combat join forces to persuade the Heavy Brigadier to quit. But Omi Palone throws his weight behind the Brigadier and this is just enough to

convince him to stay in the job. Not that it matters, as the one applicant for the job, Leo Nonmie, no longer has the rank for it.



Lieutenant-Generals Stan Dandy Liver and Rene Ouai both ask their Aides to resign. Liver succeeds, but Ouai doesn't. Neither has anyone else lined up for the job though. Roland Pollee d'Eaulee turns down the chance to be Aide to Orson de Combat in favour of the similar offer from Revaulvin d'Or. Unfortunately, d'Or already has an Aide, so d'Eaulee can't have the job. Similarly, the increasingly absent-minded Co W Ard Extrême tries to make Rob d'Masses his Aide. D'Masses fancies the job, but so does the incumbent.

The one success is Beau Romir's application to take over as Aide to the Crown Prince. His application is backed by Gaston de St Marque and Stan Dandy Liver, making his success certain. Romir takes over his new role with pleasure – even though he's at the front and the post lapses at the end of August.

Several new recruits sign up for the last month of the campaign. Jean-Paul Georgenringeau is turned down by Phresh Face, Magnon de Sources and new Colonel Devlin Carnate for the Royal Marines, Picardy Musketeers and Princess Louisa Light Dragoons, respectively. He is finally accepted into the 27th Musketeers, where he buys the rank of Captain and joins the regiment in action. Marc Desade enlists with the 53rd Fusiliers, buys a Captaincy and stays in Paris. The Crown Prince Cuirassiers enrol Dancer Sous le Pond'Avignon. He'd like to be a Major, but his social standing will only take him as far as Captain. The new Captain saddles his horse and heads for the front. Colonel Dan de Lyon accepts Lucien de la Rue into the Queen's Own Carabiniers. De la Rue is content to be a humble trooper and also sets off for the battle.

Wine and ... song

There really aren't that many socialites left in Paris. But Stan Dandy Liver keeps his end up by acting the host at the Fleur de Lys. He is in the club all month with Kathy Pacific at his side and has invited several others to join him at specific times in August. Beppe de Marko and Katy Did are in the Fleur all month too. As are Revaulvin d'Or and Bette Noire, though only on their own membership for the first three weeks. Co W Ard Extrême turns up on his own after his first week's shenanigans. He visited the Bawdyhouses and tried to wave away the wine that was brought to him. He was firmly reminded that drinking is obligatory and relieved of sufficient crowns to pay for his refreshment. This left him without the cash to pay for the female company he'd visited the place to get!

But let us return to the details of Stan and Kathy's guests. The start of the month is the busiest point. Devlin Carnate rolls up with Angelina di Griz on his arm. Rob d'Masses and Lotte Bottle follow. Jean René Gatrien is unaccompanied, as are new boys Michael l'Ovnotwore and Pierre de Vin Blanc. As most of these have no regimental affiliation, there are no confrontations during the week. Stan and Kathy are left alone the following week. Marc Desade appears in week three. The end of August sees Mad Morty arrive, escorted by Belle Epoque. Finally, Revaulvin and Bette make their move from members to guests and Toady to Stan and Kathy.

After their visit to Stan at the Fleur, Devlin and Angelina move on to their own club, Bothwell's. They stay there for the rest of the month. Similarly Rob d'Masses and Lotte head for Blue Gables, where they spend the next three weeks. Marc Desade moves around rather more. He starts August in his club, Red Phillips. He chances his hand with the ladies before attending on Stan in the Fleur. No luck there, so he has to Toady on his own. Feeling the lack of female company, Marc heads for the bawdyhouses and the "ladies of negotiable affection." Shame he doesn't take enough money with him to be able to afford one of the ladies.

We've already mentioned that Co W Ard Extrême visited the red light district. Other visitors – at separate times – are Pierre de Vin Blanc and Michael l'Ovnotwore. Michael is another man who's failed in his courting attempt, but both of them get the female company they need. Pierre then goes courting. He perseveres after an initial refusal and is successful at the end of the month. That's one way to spend the money he borrowed from the Shylocks – though he had a gift from Euria Humble as well. Michael completes his August in the gym for a week's practice with his rapier. Jean-René Gatrien also goes courting. He calls on several women, but fails to attract any of them. This just leaves Mad Morty, who practises for three weeks with a two-handed sword before partying at the Fleur with Stan and Kathy.



Behind the Arras

First Army continues the siege of Arras. Frontier Division (and the volunteers) maintains the encirclement while the Cavalry Division covers the surrounding countryside to intercept any reinforcements. Brigadier-General Orson de Combat takes over as acting commander of the Cavalry Division. He decides to swap the two Brigades between flanks so that they can have some different scenery. His innovative approach gets him a Mention in Despatches and 400 crowns in loot.