

THE COSMIC BALANCE



Issue # 169

August 2000

PANAGEANEWS

Starting first in Western Panagea we begin in Illyria outside the city of Gildazar where GROG! Guard (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls) defeated Jem'Hadar (Lopra worshipping EGA Humans) in a close and costly battle. More than two weeks later GROG! Guard attacked again, this time defeating Hemlock (Lawful EGA Elves) in another brutal battle.

At the city of Hampton, Silver Arrows (Trimorph worshipping CSA Elves) smashed Black Lancers (Lopra worshipping EGA Humans) while Urotsukidoji (Lo-kee worshipping CSA Humans) defeated Rampaging Bulls (Lawful Terminator Humans).

At the city of Andar, Stormhammer (Lawful Runeblades Dwarves) defeated Desert Knights (Chaotic Gnolls).

In the Vaeld Mountains outside Ferrous Mons, Lions Of The North (Wicca worshipping Humans) and Mutton Birds (Giants) teamed up to defeat Ax Throwers (Lawful EGA Dwarves).

Moving to Central Panagea we begin in the Grimwall Range. In the opening round of fighting Lomorian Wolf Pack (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls) assaulted the beleaguered city of Gulfport (Lawful Avatars Humans) only to be repulsed. Meanwhile outside the city S.F. Giants (Chaotic Kodan Raman Giants) defeated Les Palantiri (Lawful Avatars Humans). Two weeks later Preparation H (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls) defeated Bloodguard (Lawful Avatars Humans). Another week would pass before the Bloodguard suffered a second defeat, this time at the hands of Supremes (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls). At about the same time Lobo's Moon (Zraxxut worshipping LOOT Gnolls) defeated Les Palantiri in a close battle. Nearly two weeks would pass before fighting continued with Preparation H destroying the battered Bloodguard while S.F. Giants and Lomorian Wolf Pack teamed up to destroy Initiative (Lawful AIM Giants).

On the Isle of Mist, Pirates of Panagea (Shhvoon worshipping SWARM Humans) made a costly bombardment of the city of Atlantis (Lawful Terminator Humans) after failing to crew up their catapult batteries. Two weeks later 1st Marine Corps (Shhvoon worshipping SWARM Humans) attempted to storm the city but were repulsed.

Finally in Eastern Panagea on the Estarian Plain, Shadows (Lawful Terminator Humans) suffered a brutal defeat after ambushing Wolverine Psychos (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls). They were almost

immediately set upon by Lupine Legion (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls) and Shadows was destroyed.

At about the same time Silent Covenant (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls), Jack Wolves (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls) and Brraalt's Brigade (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls) teamed up to destroy the Woodland Guard (Lawful Elves), one of Panagea's oldest armies and one of its most prolific builders of settlements. A tragic loss.

LORASIANEWS

The island known as Moloch's Folly is the center of attention as battles continue to rage. In this month's opening rounds Blood Rage (Chaotic ROC Dark Elves) destroyed Salty Dawgs (Guardians Gnolls) outside the settlement known as Half-Haven. At about the same time, some fifty miles away, the 10th Virginia Inf (Chaotic ROC Gnolls) destroyed Bron's Builders (Lawful Guardians Titans). Returning to Half-Haven some two weeks later the 10th Virginia Inf destroyed the Runaways (Lawful Guardians Halflings). [Ed: Apparently they didn't "runaway" fast enough!]

On the Agerian Plain outside Isengak, Eat My Shorts (Chaotic ACE Orcs) defeated the Sapphire Legion (Cosmic Balance worshipping Gnolls).

On the Vardian Plain outside Angonheim, Bert's Big'uns (Giants) smashed the hopelessly outnumbered Caravan Guards (Humans).

PANAGEARUMORS

The CSA is on the move once more. Who will be their target this time?

The Terminators are running ... AGAIN. Why is no one surprised?

Who stole all my sheep? Damn that Xanthor anyway!

The KIL push into Panagea is nearly complete. Let Lawfuls and Chaotics alike tremble in fear!

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Valen of Mycene is ready to abdicate to the next Warlord showing interest, be it Lawful, Neutral, or Chaotic. "I just want out," he was heard to say.

LORASIA RUMORS

Why is KIL building massive fleets at Isengak?

The caves in the Spynebak Mountains hold great treasures to those brave enough to find them.

The Bard known as Jarek the Taleweaver seems to know more than he should about a certain artifact....

Visit Magdenheim today! Our markets are the spiffiest and our bathrooms the cleanest!

The Guardians are ready to strike at the heart of Chaos!

The Kaffa Free Trade Zone is now in business.

BULLETINBOARD

PANAGEA PLAYER NOTICE

To keep the children distracted during marches the Kodan has developed several sing-alongs of which the most favorite is the following:

99 virgin sheep in the pen
99 virgin sheep
Xanthor goes in
Commits a sin
98 virgin sheep in the pen

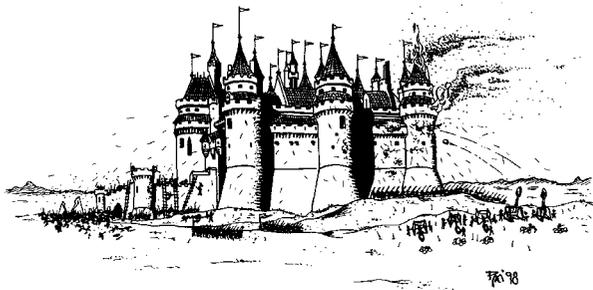
98 virgin sheep in the pen
98 virgin sheep
Crappy goes in
Commits a sin
97 virgin sheep in the pen

(You keep going, having whichever Lawfool you want "visiting" the sheep pen, until you run out of sheep. Then...)

Law makes neutrals weep
They steal their sheep
99 virgin sheep in the pen

(... and you start all over.)

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PANAGEA AND LORASIA PLAYER NOTICE

To: All
From: Michael Welch

I am on-line daily during the week. If you don't have Yahoo Messenger, get it. Once you get it, look me up at:

rayanchillwind@yahoo.com

Let's get talking.

+ + + + +

LORASIA PLAYER NOTICE

The Lorasias census bureau has preliminary figures for this year's census. We have tallied all the armies we could find. Some are still in hiding or won't respond to our census takers' inquiries! We have also heard rumors that some of our census takers have been tortured, killed, eaten, and sold into debauchery! Please stop. They are just trying to do their job. Preliminary figures indicate the following:

Of known armies:
21% are Human
13% are Gnolls
10% are Giants
7% are Dwarves and Elves
5% are Kobolds and Lizars
4% are Orcs and Goblins
3% are Ogres, Vampires, and Dark Elves
2% are Centaurs, Minotaurs, Leomen, Titans, Halfings, and Hobgoblins
1% are Satyrs

We hope you find these figures as fascinating as we here at the census bureau do!

+ + + + +

LORASIA PLAYER NOTICE

Overheard at the Lotheria Lumberyard:

"Lemme get this straight. It's 15 gold for 1 Lumber. Even with Woodworking IV and Manufacturing IV it still takes me 4 Lumber to MAKE a Wagon, so that's 60 gold. Then I can only get 45 for the Wagon. I'd do better just selling the Lumber back. I'm going down to Port Royale. Hopefully Gnolls have a better head for business than Elves."

Overheard two weeks later at the Port Royale Lumberyard:

"AAAARRRRRRGGGGGHHHHHHHHH!!!"

[Ed: Two points: 1) tearing apart a wagon yields 2 Lumber, not 4 due to wastage, and 2) people buy and sell lumber but typically only sell wagons thus supply and demand affects pricing.]

LORASIA PLAYER NOTICE

Gorbo handed his employer another beer. "Bentpaw, dey calls you army 'mighty'. You should be happy. All me see is frown 'cross you snout."

Bentpaw nodded to the Goblin in thanks. "It should. But we haven't really earned it. Exxilion was just old women and children, no troops. We had Bron's by better than 5 to 1 the first time and theirs were light troops. Then they were defenseless. Don't think I'm ungrateful. I'll take the victories," a brief smile came across his face. "And the spoils. But we cannot be called mighty until we have faced the Guardian war-horses." He drew a long draught from the fresh beer.

Gorbo nodded. "You is long-thinker. Dat is good. You father was long-thinker, but him know when not to think so much. Dis is partytime. Me not sure if you should drink more or stop." He studied Bentpaw's face for a moment. "Hmmmph. Well as long as you is gonna long-think, what you think we gonna do now?"

"Finish what we came here to do. Clear the area of Guardians, take the stronghold for The RoC, then..." his voice trailed off and neither spoke for several seconds.

"Then what?" Gorbo finally asked.

Bentpaw drained the rest of his beer, sighed, then looked at the old mercenary. "Now you know why I have to think long."

COD ON-LINE

Our presence on the Internet is growing rapidly with a number of resources currently available.

If you want to learn about the happenings in the CRACK OF DOOM (I and II) check out the following message boards:

www.insidetheweb.com/mbs.cgi/mb144455
<http://clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/conclavecodiichat>

Message Boards are a great way to share ideas and pick up the latest gaming gossip. As with anything you get of the internet — don't believe everything you read! When in doubt, ask the GM. Also, if you have an important comment, question or complaint, send it to AGE rather than posting a message as AGE does not supervise or manage these sites and your comments may never reach us and will be unlikely to get an official response.

If you want information on CTF2187 check out the following:

ORBO's CTF2187 HOME PAGE: Want to check out the latest CTF info including the current issue of the newsletter almost the same day it is published? How about player bios, many with color photos? All that plus lots of other useful information is available at the CTF website. Special thanks to Orbo (Rob

Fackler) for his efforts in setting and maintaining this cool site: Check it out at:

<http://yourpage.blazenet.net/orbomaxx/ctfhome2.htm>

Brigadier General Them Bones [PN323] of the Beserkers [TM5] has set up a Chat Room at:

<http://clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/ctf2187>

He also has set up an email discussion list. For those of you unfamiliar with a mailing list, here is how it works. Folks interested in a common topic must JOIN (aka SUBSCRIBE TO) the list. All of these "members" will then receive all postings to this list and can also respond and/or post their own messages. All sorts of folks can have all sorts of topics going at the same time — so long as it is strictly CTF related.

To join, send a blank email to: CTF2187-subscribe@onelist.com.

If you prefer to get all of the postings in one "batch" mailing a day (rather than each one sent to you individually) then immediately send a SECOND email to: CTF2187-digest@onelist.com

Of course, don't forget to check out the AGE site which contains all sorts of nifty downloads (House Rules, CC/RC Form, etc.). It is still in its infancy but is expected to grow and evolve rapidly over the coming months and of course feedback and suggestions are encouraged. Check it out at:

<http://www.ageforfun.com>

REMINDER

It is important to remember that the newsletter now covers two different game worlds: PANAGEA (COD I) and LORASIA (COD II). All newsletter submissions (Player Notices or Rumors) should clearly be labeled indicating to which world they refer. Not only does this make the information more useful to the reader but it also helps to avoid confusion between two positions with the same ID Number (one in each game). As stated in the House Rules, materials for the next newsletter must be received by the 21st of the month. Diplomatic messages should also clearly indicate what world they are for.

SPREAD THE WORD

Do you know someone who might be interested in Play-By-Mail? Better yet, how about someone who might be interested in playing one of the games run by AGE (CTF, COD I, COD II)? If so, send us their name and address and we will send them our massive information package along with a special free gift. It's a great way to recruit a friend into the hobby.

SCORE CARD

Can't tell the players (ie. alliance abbreviations) without a score card? Here it is:

Panagea (COD I)

A.I.M. — Aegis In Malum (Latin for Shield Against Evil).

C.S.A. — Circle of Steel Alliance.

D.O.A. — Defenders of Aldaryn.

E.G.A. — Elderwood Guard Alliance.

L.O.O.T. — League of Orcs Ogres and Trolls. Sometimes also referred to as L.O.O.(G.)T. when Gnolls are included.

P.T.L. — Panagea Trade League

R.P.A. — Royal Panagean Alliance

S.W.A.R.M. — Shhvoon Worshipers And Respected Mariners.

Lorasia (COD II)

A.C.E. — All Chaos Explorers
Guardians — Guardians of Destiny. Sometimes referred to as G.O.D.

F.R.C. — Fourth Reich of Chaos

ICON — Independent Confederation Of Neutrals

K.I.L. — Kobolds Invade Lorasia

R.O.C. — Reign Of Chaos

R.O.T. — Raging Odious Terror

S.O.B. — Soldiers Of Balance

WHAT'S NEW — COD I & II

Having trouble keeping track of all the latest rule changes, hints and strategy articles published in the Cosmic Balance? Now available: "The Best Of The Cosmic Balance" covering Issues #126-#166 (more will be added as time permits). This publication is FREE for the asking when your request is accompanied by a turn or a payment to your account otherwise we ask \$1.00 to cover postage and handling. Another great service from your friends at ADVANCED GAMING ENTERPRISES.

WEB HELP

If you have checked out our website (www.ageforfun.com) you will have noticed that we are very fond of PDF files. However, it has come to our attention that some of you aren't familiar with the PDF format. So here is a quick explanation.

PDF stands for Portable Document Format. It is basically a way of creating files (like copies of our newsletters) that look identical no matter what system you are using (Windows, Mac, Linux, whatever). You can view the files onscreen or print them. The current versions also compress files nicely making for quick downloads. To open PDF files all you need is a viewer. Where do you get a viewer? Check our LINKS page and we will take you right there! Just download Adobe Acrobat Reader for your system and you are all set.



"THEY CAME FROM THEIR MOUNTAINS..." *HEWITT '92*