

THE COSMIC BALANCE



Issue # 210

January 2004

PANAGEANEWS

This month we begin in the relatively peaceful Western region.

In the Elderwood forest, Grave Robbers (Trimorph worshipping CSA Giants) and Screaming Kids (Trimorph worshipping Giants) teamed up to butcher the fleeing Plainsmen (Lawful Terminator Humans).

On the Illyrian plain outside the Human city of Stormhold, Lupine Legion (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls) smashed The Right Arm (Lawful Elves).

Moving to the Central Region....

On the isle of Mycenea, outside the Human City of Mycene, Trekkers (Lawful Terminator Humans) and Wyraxian (Lawful Terminator Humans) teamed up to destroy Bolak's Reavers (Humans). Their leader, Bolak One-Eye, was the deposed City Leader of Brigadoom (now known as Flea Bite, a CSA stronghold) and one-time pirate lord. Meanwhile, Smasher (Lawful Terminator Humans) defeated Toad's Sons (Shhvoon worshipping Lizara).

On the Isle Of Medes, Tsunami (Lawful Terminator Humans) defeated Elf Slayers (Chaotic LOOT Gnolls).

Finally, in the East....

In the Black Mountains, Hunter's Moon (Zraxxut worshipping LOOT Gnolls) defeated a fleeing and virtually defenseless Jackson Hole (Lawful Terminator Humans). Fifty miles away at the Lizaran city of Flea Bite, Fedaykin (Lawful Terminator Humans) and Mariana (Lawful Terminator Humans) teamed up to defeat Mental Militia (Chaotic Kodan Raman Orcs).

On the Crystal Plains outside the Human city of Narga Thum, Blood Guard (Lawful Terminator Humans) and Clan Thaxton (Lawful Terminator Humans) teamed up to defeat Pirates Of Panagea (Shhvoon worshipping SWARM Humans) in a massive, close and costly engagement. More than two weeks later, Dire Wolf (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls) destroyed Calmwind (Lawful Elves). At about the same time Silent Covenant (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls) destroyed Thrill Kill Kult (Vampires).

In the region known as Kythos outside the Kobold city of Lugburz, Kodan Raiders (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls), Jack Wolves (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls), and Black Dog (Chaotic Kodan Raman Gnolls) teamed up to defeat I.R.A. (Redeemer worshipping RPA Humans) in a series of close and hard-fought engagements.

LORASIANEWS

On the Nulean Plain, Hellcats (Trimorph worshipping Leomen) destroyed Mighty Men Of Valor (Humans). About the same time, though 150 miles away, Frost Giants (Lawful HARM Giants) destroyed 1st Black Dragoons (Chaotic Lizara). Elsewhere, nearly a month later, Dwarven Axes (Lawful HARM Dwarves) and Sentinel (Lawful HARM Centaurs) defeated the fleeing Hellcats.

On the Agerian Plain outside the Goblin city of Isengak, Red Maw (Lawful HARM Gnolls) destroyed 2nd Legion Of War (Ogres). Several days later, 9th Diamond (Lawful HARM Humans) smashed 1st Bloodaxe (Chaotic Gnolls). Nearly two weeks later, 9th Diamond attacked again, this time destroying 1st Bloodaxe. At about the same time, Red Maw defeated Rabid Hounds (Cosmic Balance worshipping Gnolls) in a large and costly battle.

In the Anvil Mountains, Ark Of The Covenant (Cosmic Balance worshipping Humans of the NWO) devastated Amazing Grace (Lawful Giants). Two weeks later they returned to finish the job and Ark Of The Covenant completely destroyed Amazing Grace.

On the Vivatian Plain outside the Human village of Lakon, Golden Pendulum (Cosmic Balance worshipping ICON Humans) destroyed Scarlet Knights (Cosmic Balance worshipping IRA Vampires), no doubt greatly displeasing their deities for destroying fellow Cosmic Balance worshipers.

In the Akrid Wastes outside the Goblin city of Garshank, Shadowmane (Lawful Centaurs of the Crystalian Warriors) destroyed Onyx Pack (Lo-kee worshipping Gnolls). Weeks later and 150 miles away, Truth And Light (Lyredh worshipping Leomen) defeated a fleeing Ein (Trimorph worshipping Humans of the Crystalian Warriors).

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In the Cambrian Range, Toe Jam (Lawful HARM Dwarves) ambushed and won a narrow victory over Gesellschaft Narren (Lyredh worshipping Giants of the Akuda Combine). Almost immediately thereafter, Bad Blood (Akuda Combine Humans) narrowly defeated Tonatiuh's Torch (Kobolds) in a massive engagement involving nearly 8,000 warriors. Next, Foresters (Lyredh worshipping Satyrs of the Akuda Combine) and 10th Virginia Inf (Chaotic Gnolls of the Akuda Combine) teamed up and nearly destroyed the already battered Toe Jam. Nearly two weeks later, Tonatiuh's Torch launched a counter attack and defeated Bad Blood in another brutal engagement resulting in nearly 4,000 casualties!

In the Nadev Jungle outside the Lizaran city of Reeza'Nesh, Fear That Walks (Lawful HARM Lizara) crushed Spasm Spasm Boogie (Chaotic Lizara).

PANAGEARUMORS

Old foes return with a vengeance.

The Terminators are fleeing Panagea. Where will they go?

The Kodan Raman are on the move. Who's first on their hit list? Who do you think?

The New Blood falters, but all is not lost. A new leader emerges.

Death comes to all. But for some, death is just the beginning.

I heard Xanthor found a secret portal to another realm, but to get to in you have to jump into a certain latrine.

LORASIA RUMORS

The ancient Sage Mirrin needs a champion. Who will come forth to answer his call?

KIL units spotted near Port Royale.

Why are those Vampires running around with so much siege equipment?

Dead Men Tell No Tales.

The Akuda Combine have united with others to end Kobold tyranny.

City Leader Fangdol Blackmane has announced many bounties recently.

Real MEN have no tails.

A new land mass has surfaced in the midland sea — and it has cities!

BULLETINBOARD

PANAGEA PLAYER NOTICE

Hey Gnoll

Hey Gnoll,
Where you going with that sword in your hand?
Hey Gnoll,
I said, where you going with that sword in your hand?

I'm going to cut down a Terminator,
He killed my ole lady and burned our home down,
He killed my ole lady and burned our home down!

Hey Gnoll,
I heard you cut a Terminator down, cut him down-down.
Hey Gnoll,
I heard you cut a Terminator down, down on the ground!

Yes I did, I stabbed him and he went down
When I caught him messing around town,
With this sword, I stabbed him!

Hey Gnoll,
Where you going to now?
Hey Gnoll,
Why're you leaving this place?

I'm going to Mycene Island
To wipe the smile off Xanthor's face.
Then Panagea'll be a better place!

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PANAGEA PLAYER NOTICE

Ballad of the Black Beret

Fighting soldiers from the night,
Fearless Gnolls who kill and fight.
Gnolls who mean just what they say,
Brave Kodan Gnolls with Black Berets.

(CHORUS) Silver Ks upon their chest,
These are Gnolls, the Kodan's best.
One hundred Gnolls will test today,
But only three win the Black Beret.

Trained to fight for the Kodan,
Trained in combat, hand-to-hand.
Gnolls who fight both night and day,
Courage take from the Black Beret.

(CHORUS)

Back at home a young wife waits,
Her Black Beret has met his fate.
Her Gnoll died for those oppressed,
Leaving her this last request:

Put the Silver K on my son's chest,
Make him one of the Kodan's best.
Then he'll pass the test one day,
A Kodan Gnoll of the Black Berets!

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.N.A.P. — Society of Neutrally Allied Peoples.

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

Lorasia (COD II)

A.C.E. — All Chaos Explorers.

Akuda — Akuda Combine.

C.W. — Crystalian Warriors.

F.R.C. — Fourth Reich of Chaos.

Guardians — Guardians of Destiny. Sometimes referred to as G.O.D.

HARM — Heroes and Raving Maniacs.

ICON — Independent Confederation Of Neutrals.

I.R.A. — Imperial Red Armies.

K.I.L. — Kobolds Invade Lorasia.

N.W.O. — New World Order.

R.O.C. — Reign Of Chaos.

R.O.T. — Raging Odious Terror.

S.O.B. — Soldiers Of Balance.

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:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/conclave_gathering/
<http://www.neosoft.com/~lanza/ICONdiscuss1.html>

Message Boards are a great way to share ideas and pick up the latest gaming gossip. As with anything you get off 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.

In a similar vein, the ICON alliance (COD II) has its own website that contains a wealth of useful information for members and non-members alike:

<http://web2.airmail.net/Lanza/index.htm>

If you want information on CTF2187 check out the following:

TALES OF CTF2187: A great new site by Shannon Muir that contains the best of her game related fiction and more! Check it out at:

<http://members.aol.com/shannonelisemuir/>

ORBO's CTF2187 HOME PAGE: Want to check out a great archive of old CTF newsletters? 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://userweb.suscom.net/~orbomaxx/ctfhome2.htm>

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

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/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. The list is currently moderated by General I.B. Tryon [PN721] of team WASP [TM18].

To join, send a blank email to: CTF2187-subscribe@yahoogroups.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@yahoogroups.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>

WHAT'S NEW — COD I

The January 1st census figures are out! Humans are the most populous race constituting more than 40% of the world's population. Gnolls come in second with nearly 30% and everyone else is far behind (in order: Giants, Elves and Orcs). Centaurs and Minotaurs are the most populous of the Advanced Races.

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-#180 (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.

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.

WHAT'S NEW — COD II

The January 1st census figures are out. Laboriously calculated by Gnome scribes the latest figures indicate that Humans are the most numerous at 25% of the worlds population. Gnolls come in second at nearly 15% with Elves and Kobolds tied for third (and together not quite equal to the number of Gnolls). For the Advanced Races, Satyrs come in first, Centaurs second and Dark Elves and Halflings are tied for third. The most surprising is the vast numbers of Xaati that now roam the landscape.

In general, Halflings and Satyrs have the happiest populations while Lizara and Trolls have the least happy.

In general, Satyrs and Dark Elves field the largest armies while Trolls and Ogres field the smallest.

As for character professions, the top three are BattleMage, Warlord and Cleric, which comes as no surprise. They constitute nearly 50% of all characters. The next most common are Druid, Gladiator, Seer and Bard. The least popular are not widely known and will not be reported.



HAPPY NEWYEAR!