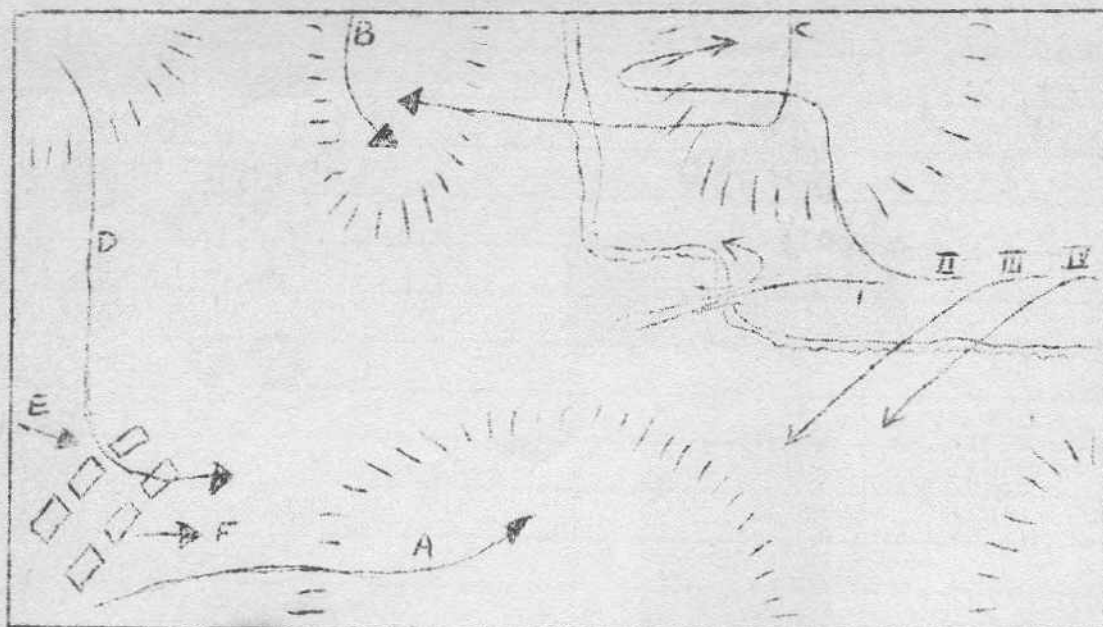


MILITARY MUDDLING 4

Issue 4

October 1978

HEROIC ITALIANS BRAVELY FLEE!



KEY:

- A - Me
- B - Militia
- C - 'de Basta Bandido'
- D - Augier
- E - White
- F - Peasants
- I - Dalmations
- II - Titus
- III - Davis
- IV - Saignée

Report ~~sent~~ to the Provincial Junta of Catalonia.

From Capt. Carlos don Attfield.

'Yesterday the (expletive deleted) French and their allies tried to run a wagon of supplies to one of their isolated garrisons. From wounded captives it would appear that a Lt. Giacomo Wallman, with 10 Dalmations (in Green coats, not white with black spots!) and Sgt. D. Titus, with 9 Italians, were escorting, sorry escorted, by a civilian with a cart. Following on was Sgt. Giavanni Davis, with 9 Italians, and Sgt. Eric Saignée, with 9 Frogs. To stop them we had a party of Geronese Militia led by Major A. Rogers, my own party and three parties of guerilleros led by Juan 'de Basta Bandido' (Doug), Roberto White, and Manuel 'Canalla' Augier, a total of 51 extremely brave Catalans.

The action opened when Sgt. Titus moved off the road to his right to engage 'de Basta Bandido' in a running fight and the Dalmations moved across the bridge and up the hill to engage me. Sgt. Titus drove the guerilleros in front of him and they fell back across the stream to join the Militia. In following up the Italians were driven off by this combined force, leaving one of their number bathing in the stream. Receiving very heavy casualties, the Dalmations fled from in front of my men and raced back over the bridge. However, now Sgts. Davis and Saignée were making an appearance. Up to this point Lt. Wallman had been seen running round in ever decreasing circles, and is assumed to have been suffering from some form of Brain Fever.

Roberto White now appeared to help us and occupied the village. The Dalmations and the Italians under Sgt. Titus were hurriedly reorganised and herded forward by threats and curses by Lt. Wallman, and drove the Militia and 'de Basta Bandido' from their position, but they fell back in good order and re-grouped on the hill behind them, and the Eyeties could not shift them, no matter how they tried.

Meanwhile, Sgt. Davis, followed by Sgt Saignée, attacked my position. In the firefight that followed, I bravely fired my pistol at Sgt Davis. I missed. We then retired, supported by Augiers men, in excellent order to the cover of the village. Davis and Saignée prepared their assault. It was then that an uplifting experience happened. Father Frenetico, the local priest rallied the villagers and led them in a gallant charge against the foreigners. The Eyeties, being confronted by a huge banner depicting the Madona and child, debated whether to fire, or kneel reverently and then fire. In the end it took two volleys and a stiff hand to hand fight, lasting at least 2 seconds, to defeat the brave peasants. After some nasty fighting, and some hurled abused through open windows, Lt. Wallman took stock of the situation, and his remaining troops, and decided to retire. He will no doubt make another attempt with more men soon.

Our casualties were 19 out of 51 and 14 out of 19 peasants. French and Italian casualties were 17 out of 41.

The Rules

Yet again we were using our own set of Napoleonic Skirmish rules. These are still in the testing stage, and so a number of changes will be made as a result of the game, but on the whole they worked well.

The game was played on Sunday 24 September.

LUXURIOUS VILLA WANTED

Respectable military gent (Retired) requires palatial accomodation with a good view of Rome. Price no object but premises must have large servants quarters and accomodation for 300 Elephants. Please contact Mr. H.Barca, Carthage W8.

***** SCANDALOUS TOURS *****

Wish to announce their exciting new range of 'Adventure-Tours' to the continent:- See Rome and Die! See lots of other places and (possibly) survive! Send now for our brochure of all-inclusive holiday tours. Prices include-

- * Sea-View berths on our luxury long-beats (cars supplied).
- * All meals whilst in transit (span, span, salt-pork, span, etc.) - once ashore you'll be able to seek out those delightful bistros and pavement cafes to sack.
- * Friendly guides will soon whip up your enthusiasm for the holiday of a lifetime (for some at least).

Once ashore (despite the opposition) a whole new world will be yours:-

- See exciting new cities!
- Meet interesting people!
- Dine on exotic foreign food! (It will make a change from all that span, Lager, and span etc.)

Experienced couriers will arrange for you to burn/pillage/rape/destroy/ and murder to your hearts content (we cater for all tastes).

Whilst holiday insurance is covered (a sacrifice to Odin plus free casting of the runes) we recommend a visit to 'Shield' our friendly armourers who do a chic range in heavy clothing - chain-mail braces, armoured beach shorts, steel-lined kiss-me-quick hats etc.

At the time of going to carve we cannot guarantee Rates of Exchange to the Sword, nor foreign customs regulations. However, a well sharpened axe or spear should solve most difficulties!

Book now to avoid disappointment! Tours start as soon as the ice breaks up.

POOL LEAGUE

If anyone is interested in starting a pool league to play during tea-breaks, or when we have a lull in the action let me know.

Jin.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Friday 20 October Napoleonic Skirmish, or 1/300 Napoleonic, or both.

Sunday 22 October We will not be doing a Boxer Rebellion game after all, since Terry won't be coming this week. Instead we will try and do our 'Hollywood B-Movie Skirmish' which is also very amusing.

Northern Militaire, 3-5 November

Terry will be doing 'Tel El Kabir', and the rest of us can play if interested. I will be taking something to play in the evening.

Sunday 12 November Ancient Campaign. Need I say more?

+++++ Games Day 1978 +++++

The Games Workshop have asked us to put on a display at their Games Day on Sat. 28 October at the Seymour Hall, WC1. I propose doing a participation/demonstration Zulu Skirmish. If anyone wants to come along (especially if you have some figures), then see me soon. Jin.

ARTICLES

I would like to vary the content of Military Muddling a bit for future issues, and include some serious articles on some of our pet periods. Everyone has done something of their own, and it would be good if we could turn it into an article for MM. All I need are notes, if you do not want to write out a detailed essay. In any case keep up to battle reports, I am getting more and more good ones from people.

Jin.

(PS Does anyone want to do a cartoon strip?)

World War One

Who's interested in playing WWI with thousands of unpainted Airfix figures ??? (a good question!) If you have the courage to admit to this, see Terry or Pete.

***** DOOR MONEY *****

The fee for non-members will be going up soon from 10p to 25p per session, so be warned! Also the ILEA have put up the Annual membership ~~fee~~ to £3.25 per year.

Here is a reminder of times;

Friday meetings, 7.30 to 10.30pm

Sunday Meetings, 12 noon to 9.00pm

A Chestnut Lodge Production
48 Palace Road London SW2