THE BOOK OF METHUSELAH

ANCIENT WARGAMES CAMPAIGN

In 4 volumes

I Introduction, rules, map etc.

II Year 1: 969BC (Played from 1987-1988)

III Year 2: 968BC (Played from 1988-1989)

IV Year 3: 967BC (Played from 1989-1990)

Volume I

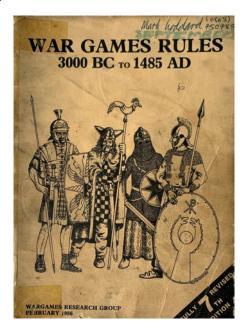


Fancy dress party at No. 36, Benson Road, Oxford in July 1988, celebrating the 1st anniversary of Methuselah

METHUSELAH

Introduction

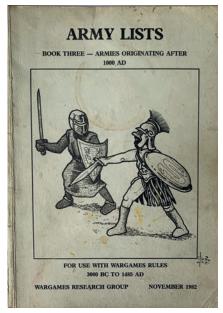
Started in the summer of 1987, this wargames campaign, set in the Ancient world, involved nearly a dozen players by the time it finished in 1990. The initial aim was to create interesting scenarios for Tuesday evening wargames, fought out on table top in Oxford, using the *Wargames Research Group (WRG) Seventh Edition Ancients Rules* by Phil Barker,



in conjunction with the famous three books of accompanying army lists.







WRG Army Lists

Three examples of their use.

The Athenian League used Early Hoplite Greek 700 BC to 450 BC

24. EARLY HOPLITE GREEK. 700 BC to 450 BC.

24 mc cnc "B"= 261 24"

| C-in-C on foot or mounted on horse as HI, LTS, JLS if used by hoplites, Sh, @ 100 points. | - 1 | |
|--|-----------|---|
| Greek Ally-General on foot or mounted on horse as HI, LTS, JLS if used by hoplites, Sh, @ 75 | ** | |
| points. | Up to 4 | |
| Thessalian Ally-General mounted on horse as HC, JLS, @ 75 points. | Up to 1 | |
| Spartan Sub-General on foot as HI, LTS, Sh, @ 50 points. | Up to 2 | |
| Hoplites "Regular C" HI, LTS. Sh, @ 6 points. | 69 to 200 | |
| Extra to give hoplites JLS or upgrade Spartan hoplites to "Regular B", Spartiates, @ 1 point. | Up to 180 | |
| | Up to 15 | |
| These alian pobles "Irregular R" HC II S @ 7 points 12 = 169 | Up to 5 | |
| Thessalian cavalry "Irregular C" LC, JLS, @ 4 points. 12 = 73 6=49 | Up to 24 | |
| Theban cavalry "Regular C" MC, JLS, @ 6 points. | Up to 12 | |
| Other Greek cavalry "Irregular C" MC, JLS, @ 4 points. | Up to 12 | |
| Extra to upgrade MC to HC, @ 2 points. | Up to 18 | |
| Archers "Irregular C" LI, B, @ 2 points. 8 = 6 12 = 59 | Up to 18 | |
| Extra to upgrade Athenian archers to "Regular C", @ 1 point. | Up to 12 | |
| Javelinmen "Irregular C" LI, JLS, @ 2 points. | 6 to 48 | |
| Slingers "Irregular C" LI, S, @ 2 points. | Up to 12 | |
| Extra to give javelinmen or slingers Sh, @ 1 point. | Up to 48 | - |
| Thracians "Irregular C" LMI, ½ JLS, ½ JLS or LTS, Sh, @ 3 points. | Up to 12 | + |
| Up to 8 regular command factors @ 10 points. | | |
| Up to 12 irregular command factors @ 25 points. | | |
| The state of the s | 2 | |

An army including Spartans must have a Spartan C-in-C. An army including Thebans must include a Theban general, if Thessalian nobles or more than 12 Thessalians a Thessalian general, and if Athenians an Athenian General. A junior general, other than a Spartan, of the C-in-C's nationality is assumed to be sufficiently disloyal to qualify as an ally rather than a subordinate. An allied general must control at least 23 hoplite or cavalry figures. Generals should normally accompany a unit of their own type and nationality and fight in its front rank. At least half the Spartan hoplites present must be Spartiates classed as "Regular B", the rest other Laconians classed as "Regular C". The mid-6th century Spartan poet Tyrtaeus describes hoplites lacking JLS at a time when other nations' hoplites still used them. The Spartans cannot have cavalry. If any hoplites have JLS, Thracians and HC cannot be used and LI cannot have shields. Thessalian horsemen can fight in wedge.

Up to 8 regular command factors @ 10 points. Up to 10 irregular command factors @ 25 points.

| CACLIDA - CALIBRATIA GENERAL | 1 100 -011 |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 21. INDIAN. 4EL 217 4 ACh me 56 = 2421 | 4 Hun = 241 |
| 900 BC to 430 AD. 3EL ING MILIER DELLE 188 3 H | 1 = 18 + |
| 1 3 Hich me S | - : 188 |
| C-in-C with JLS mounted astride elephant with "Irregular B" crew of driver with JLS, @ 106 | |
| points, or with LB and JLS in elephant howdah with "Irregular B" crew of unarmed driver and | 100 |
| unarmed man with umbrella PA standard, @ 115 points. | |
| Sub-General with LB in four-horse heavy chariot with "Irregular B" crew of 2 drivers with | 1 |
| JLS, 1 with LB, and 2 with JLS, @ 80 points. | ** |
| Ally-General with LB and JLS in elephant howdah with "Irregular B" crew of unarmed driver | Up to 1 |
| and unarmed man with umbrella P standard, @ 80 points. | TT |
| Extra to provide P standard of other form for general lacking umbrella carrier @ 5 points | Up to 2 |
| Elephants with "Irregular B" crew of unarmed driver and 2 with ILS or I.B. @ 42 points | All or none |
| Extra to give unarmed elephant drivers or umbrella carriers II.S. @ 6 points | Up to 8 2 = 10° Up to 14 |
| Two-horse heavy chariot with "Irregular B" crew of driver with II S 2 with I B @ 20 | Up to 8 |
| Extra to upgrade chariot by adding 2 extra horses, extra driver with JLS, and 2 extra warriors | OP 10 6 |
| 4 with JLS, @ 24 points. 54 v pyther 2 = 133 | Up to 8 7 . 13 |
| 7(6) | op to o |
| | 1.3111 |
| 24 * Cavalry "Irregular C" MC, JLS, Sh, @ 7 points. Cavalry "Irregular C" HC, JLS, Sh, @ 9 points. Entre to ungreed "Irregular C" Sh, @ 9 points. | 411 |
| Cavalry "Irregular C" HC, II S, Sh, @ 7 points. | 105 20 to 40 |
| Extra to upgrade "Irregular C" MC or HC to "Regular C", @ 2 points. | % Up to 10 |
| Cavalry "Irregular C" MC, JLS, Sh, @ 7 points. Cavalry "Irregular C" HC, JLS, Sh, @ 9 points. Extra to upgrade "Irregular C" MC or HC to "Regular C", @ 2 points. Cavalry "Irregular B" EHC, L @ 10 points. Arjunayana mercenaries "Irregular C" LC, JLS, Sh, @ 6 points. | Up to 30 |
| Arjunayana mercenaries "Irregular C" LC, JLS, Sh, @ 6 points. | Up to 30 |
| Skythian mercenaries "Irregular C" I C P | ** |
| Arjunayana mercenaries "Irregular C" LC, JLS, Sh, @ 6 points. 16 Skythian mercenaries "Irregular C" LC, B, @ 4 points. 24 Bactrian mercenary hophites "Regular C" HI, LTS, Sh, @ 6 points. 24 * Infantry "Regular D" or "Irregular C" MI, LB, 2HCW, @ 3 points. 24 * Infantry "Regular D" or "Irregular C" MI, ILS, 2HCW, Sh, @ 4 points. | Up to 15 |
| ***Infantry "Regular D" or "Irregular C" MI I P 211CW @ 2 points. | 40 to 100 |
| 14 * Infantry "Regular D" or "Irregular C" MI, LB, 2HCW, & points. | Up to 50 |
| 24 * Infantry "Regular D" or "Irregular C" MI, JLS, 2HCW, Sh, @ 4 points. 4 12 \$ 16 * Extra to upgrade MI to HI, @ 2 points. 545 54 2Hcw | Up to 20 |
| | Up to 15 |
| % Skirmishers "Irregular C" LI, LB, 2HCW, @ 3 points. 12 Skirmishers "Irregular C" LI, JLS, 2HCW, Sh, @ 4 points. | Up to 10 |
| - 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 | Up to 12 |
| Maiden guard "Regular A" LMI, JLS, Sh, @ 6 points. | OP to 12 |

An army of 800 BC to 320 BC cannot have howdahs, regulars, EHC, HC, LC, HI or LMI. An army of 320 BC to 220 BC cannot have two-horse chariots, EHC, LC or hoplites. An army of 220 BC to 50 AD cannot have chariots, EHC or regulars other than maiden guard and hoplites. An army of 50 AD onwards cannot have chariots or any regulars except maiden guard. No army may have more chariots than elephants. The chief difference in dress from 50 AD onwards is that unarmoured Indian cavalry and infantry often add a brightly coloured upper garment resembling a shrunken tee shirt exposing 6" of midriff. The maiden guards were originally recruited from Greek girls. They are depicted with bare bosom, necklaces and bangles and carry a small round shield. Several of the Minifigs Aureola Rococo 25mm fantasy range women warriors convert quite well with a long wraparound skirt of tinfoil. For EHC of the Kushan period, use Parthian SHC riders, but mount them on horses with partial metal armour in front only. The best and most realistic tactic with Indians is to use the elephants as the main offensive arm, supported by archery, and to use chariots on the wings to support the cavalry. Skythians can fight in wedge.

18=58,12:82

36. ALEXANDRIAN MACEDONIAN. 355 BC to 330 BC.

C-in-C mounted on horse as HC, L, @ 100 points. = 120 1 116 Sub-General mounted on horse as HC, L, @ 50 points. = 70 Up to 1 Companions "Regular A" HC, L, @ 10 points. 11 to 23 Prodromoi "Regular B" LC, L, @ 7 points. 190 6 to 12 Thessalians "Regular B" LC or MC, JLS, @ points. 11 to 18 Extra to upgrade Thessalians to HC, @ 2 points. All or none Paionians or Asiatic Hippakontistai "Irregular C" LC, JLS, @ 4 points. Up to 6 Thracian cavalry "Irregular B" LC, JLS, @ 5 points. Up to 12 Greek allied or mercenary cavalry "Regular C" HC, JLS, @ 8 points. 12 = 106 Up to 12 Hypaspists "Regular B" LMI, LTS, Sh, or MI, P, Sh, @ 5 points. 16 the TLS = 118 12 to 36 13 0 (in 16 s Phalangites "Regular C" MI, P, Sh, @ 4 points.

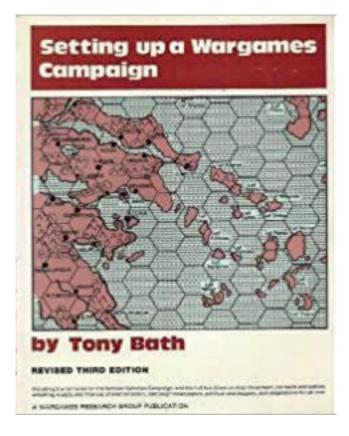
Agrianian, Illyrian or Thracian javelinmen "Irregular C" LI, JLS, Sh, @ 3 points. 24 24 to 144 12 to 36 Agrianian slingers "Irregular C" LI, S, Sh, @ 3 points. Up to 6 Extra to upgrade all Agrianians to "Regular C", @ 1 point. Up to 18 Rhodian slingers "Regular C" LI, S, Sh, @ 4 points. Up to 6 34 Cretan or Macedonian archers "Regular C" LI, B, @ 3 points. 6 to 24 Extra to provide Cretans with Sh, @ 1 point. Up to 12 Greek allied hoplites "Regular D" MI, LTS, Sh, @ 3 points. Up to 80 Greek mercenary peltasts "Regular C" LMI, JLS, Sh, @ 4 points. 24 me LTS = 130
Thracian peltasts "Irregular C" LMI, ½ JLS, ½ JLS or LTS, Sh, @ 3 points. 24 n 2 Here = 121
Extra to give Greek peltast LTS or Thracian 2HCW as well as JLS, @ 1 point. Up to 60 Up to 48 Any or all Macedonian specialists "Regular C" LI, CB or SS, @ 3 points.

Heavy bolt-shooter with "Regular C" crew of 3, @ 30 points. Up to 12 Up to 2 10 mina stone-thrower with "Regular C" crew of 3, @ 30 points. Up to 1 Up to 24 regular command factors @ 10 points. Up to 8 irregular command factors @ 25 points.

This list covers the period from Philip's reforms to Alexander's Skythian campaign. Prodromoi are the troops formerly known as Sarissophoroi. The old views that these were Thracian irregulars and that the Companions were armed with a 6 foot spear are no longer tenable. Prodromoi and Companions were both armed with a 12 foot spear and dressed similarly except that the former wore the non-metallic spolas or no armour instead of a corselet. Players with Thracian sarissophoroi figures are advised to cut their weapons down to javelin size. Opinions as to the proper classification of Thessalian cavalry differ. There is overwhelming evidence that in earlier times they were LC, but some later literary evidence that suggests that they may then have been better adapted to close fighting than skirmishing. Their performance in guarding Alexander's left wing against superior numbers of Persian cavalry is equally explicable by both theories. I admit that I am now in the minority in preferring the LC interpretation! The evidence for Hypaspists being armed differently than phalangites is purely circumstantial, but there is no evidence for the contrary as yet. Players must choose one interpretation or the other. Companions, Prodromoi, Thessalians and Thracians can fight in wedge.

Campaign Rules

The campaign guidelines were initially inspired by $Setting\ Up\ A\ Wargames\ Campaign$ (Paperback – 1 Jan. 1986) by Tony Bath.



We named our mythical continent after the oldest man in the world — apparently Noah's father: *Methuselah*, who was reputed to have lived to the ripe old age of 969 years. And taking this as our cue, we began the campaigning season as was customary, in the Spring (March) of the year 969 BC. Needless to say, the second year of the campaign progressed into 968 BC.



Moves would be weekly, and happened in 'real time' — four weeks per month. Weeks would be designated in Roman numerals, so the first move would be *I.3.969BC*.

Methuselah: A Players' Guide

METHUSELAH

A PLAYERS GUIDE, (21/3/88)

This mythical continent is named after Methuselah: a pre Noachian patriarch who is stated to have lived 969 years (hence as type of longevity). Methuselah is run by Zeus - (or Jehovah, Jupiter, Satan depending on who you are) - The umpire whose omnipotence is all encompassing and whose decision is final.

Campaigning started in the first week of March, 969bc, (during September of 1987). Months are conveniently partitioned into weeks I, II, III and IV. One week is played every real-time week. It is now week I of October, 969. The winter looms up, and the Spring of 968(bc) beckons.

BRIEF HISTORY OF COUNTRIES TO DATE

THE ATHENIAN LEAGUE is a consortium of wealthy cities, democratic politically and keen on economic growth. Currently running a prosperous hire business dealing in Mercenaries, Warships and Strumpets. Ruler: Invidious Poliorcates.

THE BELT OF OCCULT is an unknown area, Rumour suggests constant internal bickering, witchcraft, Druid domination, and self- preoccupation. Ruled by the great female Charioteer, Boaconstrictia. Currently repelling an invasion from the Dark Empire.

THE INDIANUS REGION is a world of mystique and mountains, with fertile valleys beyond. Secluded and protected, and under the Empress Sophia, (who claims distant Parbeerian ancestry), the region has developed quickly; unhindered by political upheaval. The power of the Indianus army has been felt by Parbeeria, Serpia, and now the Empire, as Sophia's army marches on.

MACEDON was invaded in the first week of campaigning by The Dark Empire, on the grounds that it was a righteous realm, ruled with honour and morals, keen to help the Godly, and quick to defend the weak - contrary to the Empire's principals. Macedon, after a time of terrifying occupation, is now fighting back against her oppressors, in the form of a Slave Army under Athenicus.

PARBEERIAN DOMINION represents the area held by an equestrian nomadic peoples, known to all as ill-disciplined, erratic, and very bad communicators. After some very bad luck in the Spring of 969, when half of their entire army went down in a gale in the Black Sea, they were over run from the West, by THE DARK EMPIRE, and in the East, by the INDIANUS REGION, furious over a diplomatic incident at Rackenruin (NN1). Hinrich-von-Farten- Blaster, the Parbeerian king, has now concluded peace with Sophia, and holds token quantities of troops and land.

SELEUCIDITE KINGDOM has a multi-class structure, containing peasants in the northern regions near Impecunious, high brow academics on the Black Sea coast based around Literatii (CC11), with merchant classes rampantly fishing and trading on the coast of the Caspian. King Eric Seleucid, a seventy

year old, (known by most as "Mad Eric") is currently engaged in stemming a religious rebellion, staged by Bluhdists on the Skythian River.

THE SERPIAN EMPIRE, once great, is now a powerful yet dormant force. Isolated, and financially depressed, it sulks and dwells in the past. One recent success has been the repulse of an invasion from King Eric, although the south is under invasion from the Indianus.

THE DARK EMPIRE casts a shadow over Methuselah. Slavery, expansionism and oppression have all taken their toll on the Empire's unsuspecting neighbours, leaving Herpes the Great, and his staff of Generals (all named after nasty diseases), in a most powerful position. However, the Empire now seems totally without friends(?).

ARMIES.

All military units are organized into groups under the command of a General. These FORCES are given a name consisting of a letter of the Alphabet. Troops may not move unless with a General.

The maximum size of a FORCE (or ARMY - consisting of a group of FORCES operating in the same location) is anything that does not exceed the number of figures I have on the shelf here in heaven. If a ruler, for example, deploys 15 Cohorts of HI, HTW SH in the same hex, he will be penalized by only being able to fight with four of them initially, it being assumed that the "main body" will turn up later. I hope this will lead to balanced forces.

Recruiting must take place at suitable settlements (currently administrated by the Ruler). Training takes:-

Two weeks to recruit if D class

Four weeks to recruit if C class

Eight weeks to recruit if A or B class

At the commencement of training, the points value of each unit to be recruited is subtracted from the ruler's treasury.

Units either moved or attacked while recruiting, fight, and remain as the class they have reached during training. The exception to this rule is Generals, (and or bodyguards of one or two elements) who can move while training, but take the same time as troops: dependent on class.

Units may usually only be recruited from the URG army list appropriate.

Generals all cost fifty points, and characteristics are decided by the Gods.

FLEETS.

There are two options open to rulers:

a) Requisitioned merchant vessels (whose predominant form of power is the sail). Cheap and cheerful. Hired at 1 Talent per point of troops to carry. They can generally be hired within a week, at suitable coastal settlements (the larger the better), for an unspecified period of time. The "Catch"

is that crews get fed up and start thinking about going home after a few weeks. Extra payment en-route MAY help.

b) Purpose built vessels with military crew, with or without the addition of a marine contingent, and powered by oars. These have to be ordered in advance, and take one month to build, assuming the number of points capacity required does not exceed the Settlement's "Taxable Value". If it does, proportionally more time will be required. The proximity of woodland may help here. Also, the historical importance of shipyards.

FINANCE

At the end of each month, troops are paid one tenth of their total points value. At the same time, income to the tune of one tenth of the "Taxable Value" of each Settlement under current administration is received by each country. The exception to this is that during January and February, (when the weather is too bad to campaign for most armies anyway), all troops are given unpaid leave, and no taxes are chargeable.

Other expenses, or credits are added or subtracted as they occur. These may include the sale or purchase of mercenaries, the cost of building a fleet, gambling costs: eg betting on chariot racing, etc.

Lists of Accounts, Settlements administration and current balance are available on request, and at the end of each month. Appeals to the Gods are not unheard of (if they get it wrong).

Rulers gain administration of a settlement by passing through it, unopposed. On entering an enemy settlement, the local populace may fight, hide-away, surrender, or flee. Each Town or City is assumed to have a Militia (which is usually unreliable, but may prove to be useful). Militia do not appear on the pay- roll, and their keenness to fight will depend on local patriarchs/Governors characters, general popularity (or fear) of the ruler, and any other conditions pertinent to the situation.

CASUALTIES AND FATIGUE

As in WRG 7th edition, casualties received are expressed in Fatigue Points (FPs). Units with 5FP or over are "tired". Units with 15FP or over are "exhausted".

If a unit is in supply, these FPs will disappear over the period of one month. Units that become "shaken", also remain so for the same period.

Forces that become "Out of Supply", (cannot trace a line back to their supply bases) not only cannot remove FPs, but also incur FPs for each week out of supply. The effects depend on morale class, conditions of troops, recent experience, location (friendly or enemy) etc. This condition may lead to erratic maneuvers, riots and looting, desertion, or even changing sides.

In extreme cases after combat, units may be destroyed completely. Irregular units are more prone to this than Regular.

SIEGES

Should these become necessary, they are lifted by: a) Treachery b) Poor Morale c) Starvation d) Surprise Attack e) Assault f) Mining etc

THE MAPS.

Each hex on the MAIN MAP represents an area approx. 20 X 20 miles. (The mile is based on 1000 paces of a foot soldier). Terrain indicated on the main map is only a suggestion of the actual terrain.

More detail is shown on computer generated AREA MAPS (one page for each hexagon), where each character is equivalent to a small terrain piece in WRG terms. The scale on these maps is 1cm = 1000 paces.

Our wargames table is therefore 20 X 15 mm on the area map (2000 X 1500 paces). Terrain is set out by the umpire for each encounter directly from the applicable AREA MAP. It is therefore possible to lay ambushes, flank march, hold "off table reserves", withdraw to safety, etc.

TROOP MOVEMENT AND ORDERS.

Each campaigning week, (each real week) orders are sent to Zeus for all "Forces". The deadline for receiving orders in time is mid-day on Saturday. However, there is no reason why "standing orders" should not be issued for an unlimited amount of time to cover holidays, courses, or other particularly busy periods.

Example Orders: (ON A 6" X 4" INDEX CARD PLEASE).

BELT OF OCCULT. III,OCT,969.

FORCE A: WAIT: IF ATTACKED BY LARGER FORCE, EVADE SOUTH OR WEST. FORCE B: ATTACK HENS (D2) AND HOLD IF SUCCESSFUL, OTHERWISE RETREAT BACK TO HEOROT(E3) FORCE C: HOLD. SEND OFF SCOUTS INTO ADJACENT HEXES & REPORT.

> RECRUIT FORCE D: AT HEOROT (E3) "SLIMY MELLONS" IN 1 LCh with JLS, "IRREG B" DRIVER 50 SLIMY'S WARBAND 24 "IRREG C" LMI with JLS SH 121 SLIMY'S SLINGERS 12 "IRREG C" LI with SL 76

NB: SEE LETTER TO FARTEN-BLASTER, DARIOUS, AND HERPES. SEE INCONTINENT OFFERING.

Situation Reports (Sit Reps) are issued (dropped into a post box) by mid-day every Monday morning, leaving everybody till about Thursday (ish) to respond. Sometimes, details of the week's activities may not be known: eg- The result of battles not played out until the following weekend. However, this is only realistic, as no rulers has yet invented two way radio the field telephone.

Sent with the sitrep each Monday morning, is a NEWSLETTER, (The same for all players -unlike sitreps) which is currently called the IN-CONTINENT. This largely un-censored literature is a major source of rumours, scandals, battle reports (true and false), adverts for services, boasts, chariot racing results, abuse, etc. The In-Continent only keeps going through players' contributions, so keep 'em coming.

Movement rates follow WRG march segments = number of hexes per week. Eg:

LC, SHIPS with wind 5 HEXES PER WEEK HC, MC, LI 4 HEXES PER WEEK EL, HCh, REG LMI 3 HEXES PER WEEK MI, HI, IRREG LMI 2 HEXES PER WEEK

These are maximums, assumed in good weather, on roads, when not unduly fatigued, not thirsty, or demoralized, etc. A FORCE may only move as fast as it's slowest body will travel.

The above distances may be increase by fifty percent by FORCED MARCHING, which will result in 2FPs per week. Each of these 2FPs is recoverable after one week's rest.

Players may specify a WARY MARCH, which represents a speed HALF AS FAST AS THE FASTEST BODY PRESENT. This could be useful if an ambush is suspected, and represents eg: cavalry scouting ahead of the infantry. FORCES which include troops who move twice as fast as other troops in the same force are always assumed to be marching Warily, with no penalty to movement.

Otherwise, normal or ROUTE-MARCHING is assumed.

CONTACTS AND BATTLES.

On seeing signs of the enemy, scouting values (as seen in Sit Reps) are compared, and depending on weather, local knowledge, terrain, size and speed of forces as a whole, etc; a decision, based on combat orders (if they exist) is made as to whether a battle will result or one side successfully evade contact, ambush, or whatever.

If a battle results (AT LAST) then terrain is set up from the maps of the area, and the battle fought out in the "War Office" at Benson Road, by God and friends, using 25mm figures, under WRG 7th Edition Ancients rules.

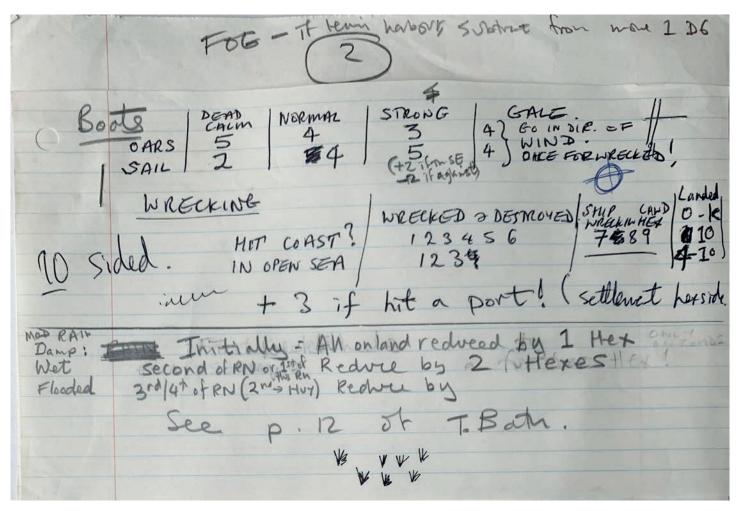
Suffice to say that the army unfortunate enough to have to quit the field first, usually suffers the worst. FPs grow alarmingly in rout. However, such factors as having more fresh cavalry than the enemy, a friendly fortress close by, or heavily favourable terrain to flee into are all taken into account.

IN CONCLUSION.

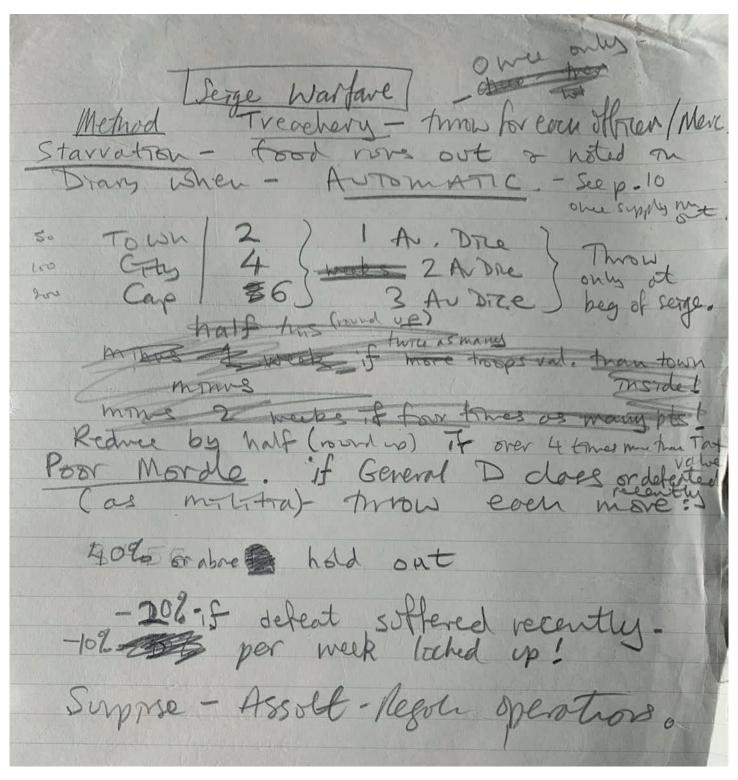
To quote Phil Barker; ".... Let them strive to win the favour of the Gods for themselves by getting into the spirit of their role with prompt, clear and unambiguous orders, and gems of political or strategic cunning that tickle his fancy."

Rules for unusual situations

Weather was calculated/created by the umpire, but meteorological conditions (e.g. fog, or storms at sea) called for special rules and self imposed guide-lines for the impartial umpire to follow.



Siege warfare became important fairly early on, with players arguing that treachery, starvations and other unpleasant outcomes should come into play!



Ad hoc rules for transporting troops by boat, the use of fleets and eventually pirates etc.

| Are | Boots - sail or oar |
|------------------------------|--|
| 100% | Umpres Test Sheet (00 - 100) PDATE () (WIND DIRECTIONS) SUMMER 1 > 44 SUMMER 1 > 45 > 88 SH 11/2 1/4 5 > 9 1025 40-55 70-85-100 NE (2) WEATHER! Heavy Ran? POTENTIAL TO BELIZZARD SNOW RAIN FOR NORMAL INTERES SUMMER 1-2 3-6 7-9 10 > 20 > 30 > 95 > ANNIMAL 15-2 3-6 7-9 10 > 25 > 30 > 95 > OF OTHER 1-7 8-12 3-19 20-39 40-350 > INDIANT 1 20 12 3-19 20-39 40-350 > |
| Sup +10 Athe+5 Dark+2 Mac 15 | PARCELANS TOLLOWTS TO PAR-8 OCC-12 SERPIANS TO DITTO TO THE STRONG FALE TO RANGE FALE TO THE PARCELANT STRONG FALE TO THE PARCELANT |
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It wasn't long before devious potentates were planning religious uprisings, slave revolts, assassination etc. etc.

This sample 'Spartacus Slave Army List', published in a wargames magazine, was used to great effect when Macedon was blighted by a Seleucidite financed uprising led by 'Athenicus' (who become something of a legend in his lifetime).

| | The state of the s | |
|--|--|----------|
| SLAVE ARMY OF SPARTACUS | 73BC70BC | |
| C IN C ARMED AS GLADIATOR | Body guard or mounted on horse as L.H.I. JLS Sh | 100pts |
| SUB GENERAL AS ABOVE | | 50pts |
| ALLIED GENERAL FORMAN GLADIATORS 11 PICKED BODYGUARD | Mounted on horse as HC JLS Sh to be commanded by C IN C or sub general irreg B LHI 2SA. Sh @7pts each | 75pts |
| EX SLAVE 24 GORMAN FOOT WARRIORS | 12 Irreg A HI LTS SH @ 7 12 IRREG A MI JLS SH @ 5 Plus 25pts command | 169pts |
| 24 GALLIC FOOT WARRIORS | 12 Irreg C LHI JLS SH @ 5 12 Irreg C LMI JLS SH @ 3 Plus 25pts command | 121pts |
| 24 ILLERIAN FOOT WARRIORS | Irreg B LMI LTS JLS SH @ 5 Plus 25pts command | 145pts |
| 12 FOOT SKIRMISHERS | Irreg C LI JLS SH @ 3 Plus 25 pts command | 61pts |
| 12 SLINGERS | Irreg C LI S SH @ 3 Plus 25pts command | 61pts |
| 24 EX EASTERM SLAVES | Trained as bithynian style peltast reg C KMI LTS JLS SH @ 5pts Plus 10 pts Command | 130pts |
| CAVALRY | No. | |
| 12 GALLIC CAVALRY | Irreg B HC JLS SH @ 9 Plus 25pts command | 133pts > |
| 15 ILLERIAN CAVALRY | Irreg C LC JLS SH @ 7 Plus 25pts command | 130pts X |
| | TOTAL POINTS > 1 | ,252pts |

Although in existance for only three years this army of slaves was accorded nine victories over the armies of the "Masters of the World". WRG have omitted this army from their Book 1 Lists. So here , in the WRG style , is our version based on common sense and Lewis Grassic Gildoon's fictional account of the revolt which is quite the best book on the subject (entitled Spartacus). We have given the Gladiators two side arms to distinguish their unusual hand to hand combat qualities. This army must have a reasonable change against all but the best Roman troops providing it can gain a good central defensive position that is heavily wooden on the flanks to afford ambush that Gladiators and upgraded front ranks are wearing captured Roman armour.

Players and Countries

The main protagonists were as follows:

Coordinator (God) Mark Goddard Composer/conductor

Belt of Occult Andy Mummery History/art teacher

Tribal leader: Boaconstrictia

The Dark Empire Barry Lee Bank manager

Emperor: *Herpes The Great* (later Pope Herpes I)

Parbeerian Dominion Alex Coaker British Telecom computer programmer

Led by *Heinrich Von Fartenblaster*

Macedon/Indianus Region Pat Goddard Clarinettist/bassoonist

Commander: Alexander The Great

Athenian League Geoff Reeves Lorry Driver

King: Invidious Poliacartes

Seleucidite Kingdom Ian McCubbin Scientist

Potentate: King Eric Seleucid

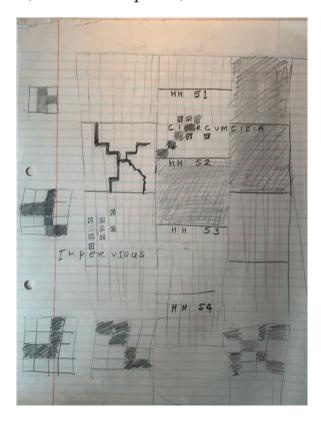
Serpian Empire Rob Fletcher Politics teacher

Imam: The Ayatollah

Other players on a temporary basis included Andy McCubbin, Linda and David Fairhurst with Tom from the Oxford Wargames Club and others.

The Map

Our map was created from scratch — a combined creative effort. Here's an initial sketch. The idea was to use hexagons (rather than squares) to allow more realistic movement options.



We purchased some huge sheets of paper decked out in hexagons and our map eventually looked like this, including about 250 different cites, towns and villages:



Rulers typically chose their own settlement names. Most of the Indianus Region villages came straight out of the Indian Restaurant section of the Oxford Yellow Pages. The Parbeerian Dominion were dominated by references to flatulence and toilet humour generally. In stark contrast, the Athenian League played it absolutely straight and stuck to the history books.

Currency

Each ruler adopted their own currency. Thankfully, we agreed that the exchange rate would remain 1:1 across the board.

| COUNTRY | TAX | PAY | CURRENCY | BALANCE |
|---------------------|-------|-------|----------|---------|
| ATHENIAN LEAGUE | 3,409 | 2,498 | Drachma | 2,566 |
| BELT OF OCCULT | 4,265 | 1,957 | Skulls | 763 |
| ACEDON | 4,498 | 2,049 | Marbles | 791 |
| PARBEERIAN DOMINION | 5,337 | 1,840 | Beans | 749 |
| SELEUCIDITE KINGDOM | 2,607 | 1,602 | Quints | 316 |
| SERPIAN EMPIRE | 8,548 | 3,438 | Mazumas | 874 |
| THE DARK EMPIRE | 3,526 | 1,170 | Lira | 719 |
| PIRATES | 414 | 196 | Dabloons | 305 |

DATE 26/06/89

Settlements

Each country had a monthly tax income to pay for their armies, proportional to the number and importance of the settlements currently under their control.

| ======================================= | | | ========== |
|---|--|---|---|
| TYPE | NAME | HEX | TAX |
| ATHENIAN LEAGUE | | | |
| ATHENIAN LEAGUE CAPITAL CITY CITY CITY CITY CITY CITY CITY CITY | ATHENS AETOLIA ARCADIA BOEOTIA CORINTH DELPHI HELENUS LACONIA OLYMPIA THEBES THESSALY BACCHUS BOREAS HASTBIEN HERMES HESTIA HIPPOLYTUS HYDA PERSEPHONE | R20 P17 Q20 T20 S18 S17 U24 Q23 P21 U18 S15 N20 V21 Q16 W20 U19 Q25 V16 S22 | 500 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 |
| VILLAGE VILLAGE | PHAEDRA RHEA | W24 V16 | 50 50 |
| National Tax | | | 3,000 |
| BELT OF OCCULT | | | 40 |
| VILLAGE | BARROW BOWE BRECCA COTT COX DELL DEN DOGS DUNES FENS FLATS GARTH GEATE GLEN GRAVES HALFDENIEF HALGAR HELM HENS HEOROT HILDEBURGH HNAEF HOGTOR HYGELAC INGELD JUTE KNAP KNOLL MEAD-HALLS ONELLA RINGS | I1 G1 A1 D1 K1 L1 D3 N1 H1 E2 F1 P1 G1 J1 G2 Q1 E1 A4 D2 E3 C3 B2 K2 P2 Q2 O1 S1 D2 M1 C4 N1 | 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 75 7 |

| VILLAGE | SAGE | C2 | 75 |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|--|
| VILLAGE | SCYLD | N2 | 75 |
| VILLAGE | SHEILINGS | A2 | 75 |
| VILLAGE | THANE | R1 | 75 |
| VILLAGE | THORGAR | C1 | 75 |
| VILLAGE | UNERTH | B1 | 75 |
| VILLAGE | WAEL | A3 | 75 |
| VILLAGE | WOAD | K1 | The second second |
| VILLAGE | WOLFS | H2 | 75 |
| National Tax | WODES | nz | 75 |
| nacional iax | | | 3,000 |
| INDIANUS REGION | | | |
| CAPITAL | VAISTATI | 0015 | |
| TOWN | | 0015 | 500 |
| | HARAHARAPPA | PP18 | 100 |
| TOWN | HASTINAPURA | 0012 | 100 |
| TOWN | JOPHPUR | PP4 | 100 |
| TOWN | KAUSHAMBI | MM15 | 100 |
| TOWN | MOHENJO-DARO | 0020 | 100 |
| TOWN | SAKA | FF2 | 100 |
| VILLAGE | ADILABAD | MM11 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | AKASH | QQ14 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | ANARKALI | LL15 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | BELLII | PP18 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | BEREFT | II1 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | BHAJI | 006 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | BHALL | NN9 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | BHIR | 005 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | BIKAHNER | QQ12 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | BIKASH | 0016 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | CHIPATI | 002 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | CORACLE | BB2 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | DECAPITOV | KK1 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | DEHRA-DUN | NN4 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | DEWAS | PP9 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | DILLDONEIA | MM17 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | DIPALI | KK17 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | FARIDKOT | KK13 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | FLEECED | FF2 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | FLOTILLA | CC2 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | GIDA | 0012 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | GLUTONISH | CC2 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | GULAB | NN14 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | HICK | ΩΩ3 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | HISSAR | LL14 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | HOSHANGABAD | LL8 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | HUP | QQ3 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | JOMUMA | PP19 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | KASHMIR | 0018 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | KISMET | PP15 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | KYBER | JJ15 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | MAHAL | QQ18 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | MANZIL | NN14 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | MEEROT | MM6 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | MOTI | QQ18 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | MUZAFFAMONGOR | LL12 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | NANN | LL5 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | NHOB | NN9 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | PAHH | NN18 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | PARATI | MM1 9 | 40 |
| VILLAGE | PATI | QQ1 | 40 |
| | | | The state of the s |

| VILLAGE | PILLAU PLASSEY PUSHI RACKENRUIN RAIPUR RAJ RUMATUMN RUSSONOVITCHSKI SAHANAH SAHARAPUR SAIGOR SHARHEEN SHISH SIKAR SIRSA SROHTAAM ZIHP | QQ24 PP14 QQ7 NN1 QQ9 OO22 MM22 DD1 QQ21 OO4 QQ4 NN20 OO22 PP2 LL6 MM10 PP11 | 40 40 40 50 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 |
|--|---|--|--|
| CAPITAL CITY CITY CITY TOWN TOWN TOWN TOWN VILLAGE | GOULAYS REDSALAMI TARNISH TOBOLSK OMENSK SEMENOVICH TOILESH ZOYA ABADNA BALKHASH BARGUZIN BOOZINARD BRIDANTINE CAPIOLINA LETTOFF LUPIN MITA ODDZON PANTSOFF PAVEL POUCUP SITON STINKA THICKISH TIKELER VOLVICH YEFREM | AA3 U5 U2 Y8 V1 V7 R4 Y10 U8 T2 W8 U6 CC9 BB7 R3 Y6 Y5 T2 Y1 Z5 U4 Y5 R3 X9 X5 S2 X8 | 500 200 200 100 100 100 100 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 50 5 |
| SELEUCIDITE KINGDOM CAPITAL CITY CITY CITY TOWN TOWN TOWN TOWN TOWN TOWN TOWN TOWN | IMPERVIOUS BACTERIA LITERATII TERTIS ALUMNI BLACHARNAE CALUNDAE IFORANAE LACHRYMOSA MAGNESIA | GG8 GG11 CC11 HH4 AA10 DD9 II8 HH6 KK5 FF9 | 500 200 200 200 100 100 100 100 100 |

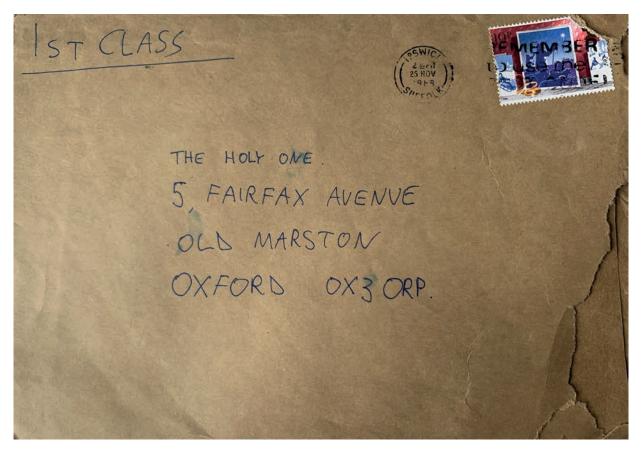
| | | and the same of the same | A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR |
|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| TOWN | NUBILIA | FF12 | 100 |
| TOWN | SOUSA | FF6 | 100 |
| TOWN | SPIRTA | EE4 | 100 |
| TOWN | TROILUS | II10 | 100 |
| VILLAGE | ALPHA-CENTAURI | KK3 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | BITHNIA | BB13 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | CALCIA | GG9 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | CICCINAGROINAE | DD12 | |
| VILLAGE | CRESSIDA | JJ9 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | | | 50 |
| | DIPTHERIA | HH11 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | GRASTARTISSANDRONICUSSIDIA | MM23 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | IMPECUNIOUS | II2 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | OI | JJ6 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | POLLOI | II7 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | PUBILIA | GG13 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | RUMTITUM | FF5 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | SCUBIDUBI | FF5 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | SCUBINAEOUS | CC9 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | TARANTULA | EE11 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | TARDIS | HH3 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | TEDIOUS | II5 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | VEGA | DD4 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | VIRTUOSI | II13 | 50 |
| National Tax | | | 3,050 |
| CEDDIAN EMPIDE | | | |
| SERPIAN EMPIRE | NIMOTON | TT21 | 200 |
| CITY | ANTOICH | II21 | 200 |
| CITY | BABYLON | HH16 EE20 | 200 |
| CITY | LYDIA | | |
| CITY | SERPIA CITY | CC16 | 500 |
| CITY | TROY | Y15 DD18 | 200 100 |
| TOWN | CAPPADOCIA | JJ24 | |
| TOWN | HATRA | JJ18 | 100 100 |
| TOWN | HYRCANIA | DD22 | 100 |
| TOWN | PAPHLAGONIA | FF15 | 100 |
| | PERGAMUM | W14 | 100 |
| TOWN | PHRYGIA | Z16 | 100 |
| TOWN | TARSUS | GG22 | 100 |
| VILLAGE | ALEPPO | HH22 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | BESSOS | DD16 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | EKBATANA | BB16 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | ERECH | LL24 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | HALICARNASSUS | X13 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | HAMADAD | ¥13 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | HARRAN | DD20 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | IBERIA | DD14 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | IPSUS | X17 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | LYCIA | DD16 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | MEDIA | BBA5 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | MILETUS | Y19 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | NICAEA | II24 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | PURA | DD15 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | SINOPE | BB19 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | TAXILLA | BB19 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | ZADRAKATA | DD18 | 50 |
| ational Tax | | | 2,950 |
| HE DARK EMPIRE | | | |
| CAPITAL | ALEXANDRIA | Q13 | 500 |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| | | 1000 | |
|--|--|------------|-----------|
| | | | L. Warren |
| CAPITAL | MARS | E14 | 500 |
| CITY | BUCEPHALUS | \$10 | 200 |
| CITY | CLEOPATRA | P9 | 200 |
| CITY | | V13 | 200 |
| | CLITUS | | 200 |
| CITY | ILIAD | R12 | 200 |
| CITY | OLYMPIAS | Q10 | |
| CITY | PELLA | U13 | 200 |
| CITY | PHILIPIA | 014 | 200 |
| TOWN | ANTIPATER | T8 | 100 |
| TOWN | ARIDAEUS | S13 | 100 |
| TOWN | BIGCHESTER | 19 | 100 |
| | CHARDIUM | E11 | 100 |
| TOWN | | 05 | 100 |
| TOWN | CIRCUMCIZIA | F20 | 100 |
| TOWN | DALI | Т9 | 100 |
| TOWN | DEMONSTHENES | N4 | 100 |
| TOWN | FINANCIUM-TIMUS | F6 | 100 |
| TOWN | FLORENTI | | 100 |
| TOWN | HEPHAESTION | N10 | 100 |
| TOWN | INCHESTER | D8 | 100 |
| TOWN | JUVENSUS | C5_ | |
| TOWN | KEYSIUS | A17 | 100 |
| TOWN | MINANO | J3 | 100 |
| TOWN | NAPOLI | F17 | 100 |
| TOWN | OESTON | C7 | 100 |
| TOWN | PAUSANIAS | T12 | 100 |
| | PLUTARCH | N9 | 100 |
| TOWN | POMPEII | F13 | 100 |
| TOWN | PRONTO-PRINTII | L6 | 100 |
| TOWN | RIA | V12 | 100 |
| TOWN | SILVERNIUM | Ј3 | 100 |
| TOWN | | G11 | 100 |
| TOWN | TRUSS-TUS | J5 | 100 |
| TOWN | VENICIUM | H14 | 100 |
| TOWN | VESUVIA | H18 | 100 |
| TOWN | VISIONAVA | E22 | 100 |
| TOWN | ZOG | T10 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | ANDREX | N14 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | ANEXRA | 012 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | ANRIAD | P6 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | BLEWOFF | M7 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | COASTUS | | 50 |
| VILLAGE | DRANEXA | P8 F14 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | DUPAYS | F 14 M8 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | EXANDRA | | |
| VILLAGE | EXENAD | M9 | 50 50 |
| VILLAGE | HIRUS | F18 | |
| VILLAGE | LEANDA | M9 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | LEXIDAN | N13 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | MILINUS | G4 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | PASTA | D8 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | PITTSUS | D7 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | SEATUS | K16 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | TABLUS | E24 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | VERDI | J13 | 50 |
| VILLAGE | VILLANOVIA | G7 | 50 |
| National Tax | | | 6,050 |
| | | | |
| Total Tax in Methy | | | 24,000 |
| ======================================= | | | ========= |
| A STATE OF THE STA | And the state of t | | |
| | | | |

Orders

Orders for each army from each of the seven players were sent by post (no email in those days) to the co-ordinator, who would then impartially evaluate outcomes each week. He would therefore know everything and was soon jokingly referred to as 'God' on regular weekly correspondence! The following letter was an amusing variant, addressed to:

'THE HOLY ONE, 5 FAIRFAX AVENUE, OXFORD'.



Orders were originally requested on index cards, but this just didn't suit most rulers.

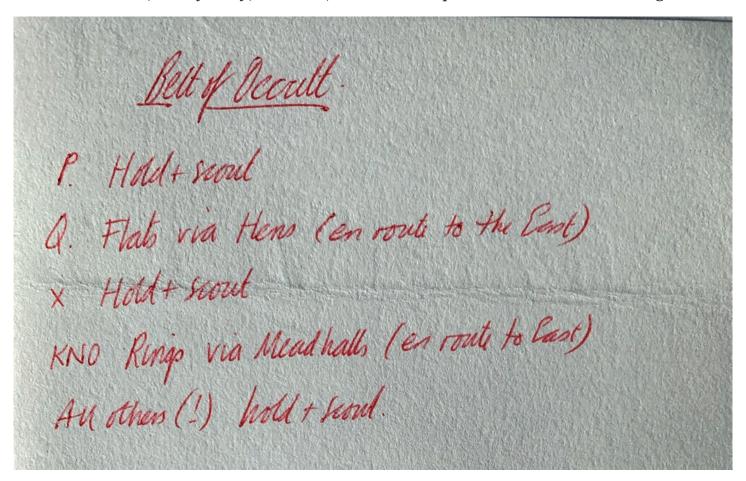
The Serpians and Seleucidites regularly submitted long careful epistles in small ultra-neat writing, often covering several A4 sides. Other rulers dashed off some virtually illegible utterances on scrap paper.

Here is a very small selection of some of the orders sent in.

This sample order card is from the always traditional Athenian League, run by Geoff Reeves from Luton. His chosen general names were meticulously researched and based on historical reality.

| | HENIAN LEAGUE |
|--------|---|
| FORCE | To move with all speed & P17 |
| | To move with all speed & PIT |
| | |
| FORCE | E É lo more by SED 10 P17 ALL SPEED |
| | To more by SEN TO PIT AK SPEFU |
| | |
| 140 | SSALY will stort triuming of new with in two week the fellowing |
| 1110 | SUMME STONE STONE DITUMENTS OF THE |
| CINIPS | with in two week the felled in |
| re | L'1 A575 20 |
| 21 | HOPLITES |
| 0 -1 | GENRAN WILL be 1:145 STIMULUS HE |
| the | |
| the | be on rocete to 515 F, O will go to postion 515 |

The Belt of Occult, run by Andy, a teacher, often uses red pen as if homework was being marked.



ORDERS FOR MACEDON WKIII NOV 968

RESUME OR WHAT SHOULD HAVE
HAPPENED TO FORCE C.

ZEUS THE MACEDONIAN

ALEXANDRIAN HYPASPISTS

MACEDONIAN HYPASPISTS

RECRUITS

HOLD AT CLITUS.

Force H.

NEW GENERAL PARMENIUM + 1 LC JLS IRREG B 55pts.

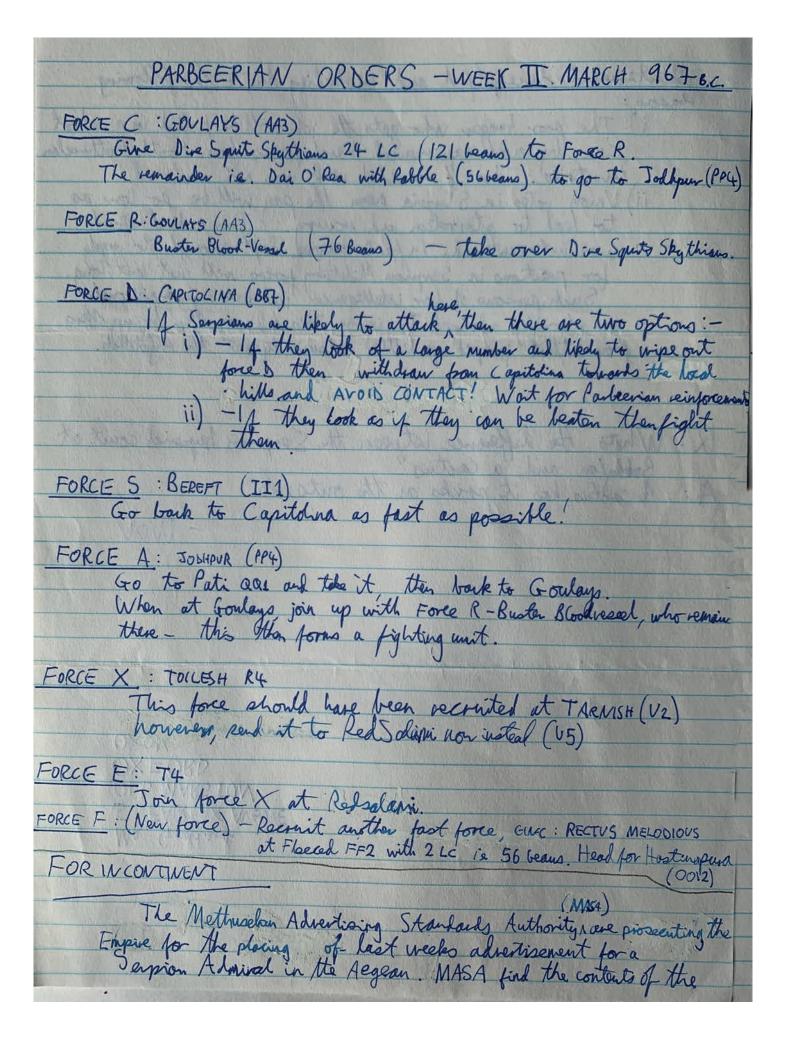
MACEDONIAN CAVELRY
MACEDONIAN PHALANX,
CONTINUE TO THESSALY

FORCE B.
RETURN TO CLEOPATRA AFTER RAID

| Dispositions for Serpian Troops. | I + 11 Dec 968. |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Force A (Taxilla + Sirope.) | Rebrill Taille & Sinoppel Once completed, March N. to Serpia C: |
| Force P. (Magnesia) | March E to take Calcia, Hear west to Blackarrae. Give Molostions' Survivors Serpium citizenry, and hand them over to Ken |
| Force K. (Bacteria) (Kerlan) | Hand the infantry over to Akbba. March north to west up with Force Pat wherever Relieve Xerxes of the command of the Parlocerian LC. Do this by night. Take no chances. Leturn to Bacteria. Take the Skythian Scouts with us. |
| Force C (Bacheria) Silaman. | Hard the infantry over to Akbha. March north with Kartin and join up with Xerxes. |
| Force F (Bacteria) | Continue to build fortifications. Take no chances. Once the LC return, probe north ear to locate position of the Jelencids. If the option is safe, March to take Troibs: but: be voey wary. Let Kerim scout forward with the |
| Force 2 (Impernions) | No orders: but: ask of why Eric has not moved Modes why is he not being used? |
| Force G (Ayabollah) | March on Supin City. (for Christmas) |

An exciting development early on was the secret installation of a Pirate class, financed by the Dark Empire to run riot against the coasts of Macedon, the Athenian League and the Serpian Empire. Under the colourful name of Bourbera of Seville, Carolyn Lee ruled the waves illicitly:

| Winter 968 | The Pirates |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Reforming & rec | rinting as follows: - |
| | seneral Manuel Galtifairi eg Amc Jls sh 90 enans 18 Ir B LMI, HTW, Sh 97 18 Ir B LMI, HTW, Sh 97 |
| General + Sirr | eg Amc Jis sh 90 |
| galtyairis Celtibe | mans 18 Ir B LMI, HTW, Sh 97 |
| Shup "The Santa C | atauna 42 figure capacing 7- |
| | |
| General + 5 in ship "The Santa | neral Dego Dementez reg A mc, Jyls, sh 90 a Barbara "6 Fig capacity 6 |
| | Total 96 |



Indianis week III July 968

force C, E, F Carry on towards Govlays

Force Q - Proceed continuisly to Family to report the must take the guise of a Serpiain training to deserter - y conglith he must find his own excuses for (deserting!

Force A, D, 5 - Attack the serprains at Kyber.

Force B - Head for Palldonesia - Juid out more about the Serpian attack - if a message can be sent to moterijo Daro - say that the town will have the highest honour of Indianius bestowed upon it for such nobbe fighting - Help will soon be on its way - holdon.

| Troop 1 | Tovenuts/Reconstruct (cont.) | | | |
|---------|--|-------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | |
| FORCE | Now (List 41) | | Next Year (List 91) | |
| (A) | 16 Slingers LI/S Irr. D | 41 | 16 LI (55/ 28), Sh R. | eg.C 74 |
| | 1 Scythol Chariot Irr. A | 24 - | The Same | 24 |
| | | 572 | | 571 |
| (4) | CATCHUS CLAPPID + ZHC/L | 70 | BASIL BOLLUKARII + ZEH | |
| | 12 Thoralistoi LHI/JLS/LTJ/St | 94 | 12 Psilos LMI/B/Sh Reg. C | |
| | | | | |
| | 24 Pettasto LHI+ Re | | 24 Shutator (see above) Reg. | C 148 |
| | 18 Cappadoions LMI/SLS/ShI | In.C 79 - | The Same | 79 |
| | 24 Peltasto LMI+ Reg | | 24 Statato (as above) | 148 |
| | 24 And LI/B IN.D | 49 | 12 LI/B/Sh Reg.C | 28 |
| | | SSZ | | 571 |
| (4) | TUNA DAIUS + ILC/B | 54 | WAVAR TESTES + ILC/B/Sh | 28 |
| | 8 LC/B In.C | 57 | 8 LC/B/Sh Reg.C | 74 |
| | | ut | | 132 |
| (M) | Moous OPERANOI | so . | -> Carry on the good work | a! so |
| (F) | BRIAN BORING + LI | 0 | -> The some | |
| | 18 Cappadocions LITE+ In. | | The Some | 0 |
| | | 79 | | 79 |
| | | | | 79 |
| GRAND | TOTAL | 1,602 | | 1,635 |
| 71 0 | ould also like to reco | ruit soma | more ferces at Impervious | الد مه |
| | | | | |
|) 6 EH | C/6HC L/B/Sh Rag. B | -18/Sh Rag. | | C-IN-C) |
| 3 EH | C/3KC 4/8/sh Reg. 8 | MALE S | 178 | |
| | | | 94 | |
| Total | K. | | 304 | |
| And now | for some mercenories! | Office. | 411 | |
| 18 | Assyrian EHC 1 | offer as | annual salary of 220 Que | |
| | The state of the s | would h | could be sould at 11 | ents, with a |
| 12 | (definitely Bludhist!) | fer 75 Q | cents par annum. | x ! |

Rob Fletcher, running the Serpian Empire, was head of the Politics department and St. Edward's School in Oxford, and was naughty enough to use headed notepaper!

ST. EDWARD'S SCHOOL
OXFORD OX2 7NN

To Gob.

PREMIE BELLEVIT BELLE LIGHT CAMERY at BITHMA + PARHLAGONIA.

(in not sure how and I can spand) There needed be much (Scowling purposes)

b) I'm also not sove of travel carditions in Jaman. More if possible

Forces A, B and C. Forces A and E should unite.

c) Begin fleet building at \$17HMA please.

Here, the imaginative Ayatollah is re-creating a table top version of a deadly foe indeed: Fulham FC supporters' club army lists!

Fulliam FC Supporters' Clab — Army Lieb \$957-\$989

"Irreg A"

Cin C as Lan with SA and THE @ 100 points.

Shed Guard "Irregular" B" LMI, EHCW (Stanley Knife) @ 3 pt.

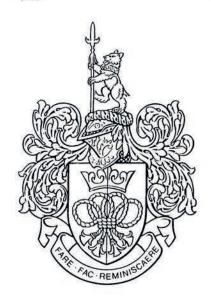
East End Terrace Skirmishers "Irreg C" LMI armed with exections

Andy Mummery was a Colonel of the Essex Regiment, in the 'Sealed Knot': the official English Civil War re-enactment Society, and would occasionally use their letter heading.

These particular orders also included an impromptu painting, modestly dashed off at the bottom of the sheet:



32



The Sealed Knot



The Society Of Cavaliers And Roundheads

(A Company Limited by Buarantee)

Tear Mark, fing about the lost dispatches - This therefore is "Invasion of the Body broper II"

South scouting and avoiding or capturing enemy patrols
going x country of necessary and using inglet marches
forest graths etc. to approach Hibrins.

Agroup of disquised voldiers to enter well the market tradex
(who in all the Robin Herod plans) When the gates open.

These main force then to rush the gates and take the torm.

L. Cavalry to surround torm and prevent any frigitives
[arrying news away.

Force N -> Oraves Force N -> Dell Force O -> Hygelae.



V.A.T. No. 275 5592 23 Regd. Charity No. 263004 Company Regd. No. England 1014700 Milinis)

Registered Office: 65 Westhall Road, Warlingham, Surrey. CR3 9YE

Alex Coaker, the Parbeerian ruler, always ahead of his time, rather stylishly always completed his communications with his famous if somewhat unpleasant corporate logo:

God,

Jam sending orders + letters separate from the asservord just to make supe you get them on time. Crossword to hopefully opinive for week 3 howh also.
Please inform we the rest of the country about the Seyrian aggression against Porbeerin, but that we will crush them unless they with hom immediately.

Von F.

Sometimes a set of orders would include something unusual: in this case, a proposed written treaty between Fartenblaster and Sophia:

An Agreement between Farten Blaster and Sophia. Made during Week iv of August, 969bc.

- The Siege of Goolays ends without blood.
- The Captured Skythian Light Cavalry are returned to Stinka Bossa's command, (Although they are shaken for a month).
- 3) Parbeeria and Indianus join together verses the Dark Empire.
- 4) To cover inconvenience caused by lack of cooperation, the Dominion relinquish the following settlements to the administration of the Indianus Region until further notice.

Pavel
Brigantine
Capitolina
Tobolsk
Yefrem
Zoya
Thickish

A new border is drawn from Goolays to W8/X8 to reflect the new administration of Settlements. Free passage is given to supply wagons and the like through Goolays for the use of any Indianus forces in the new sector.

| Signed | | | |
|--------|----|---|---------|
| A p | | | |
| 19, | | | |
| | 1. | n | |
| | | | ~ ' |

Orders would include movement directives, letters to other rulers, recruitment of fresh troops if finances allow, reconnaissance initiatives and anything else a player's imagination could muster.

TO: KING ERIC NEEK 4 JUNE 168 BC.

FROM: FARTENBLASTER

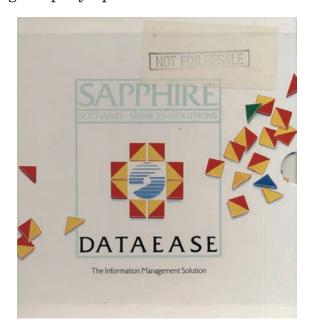
Dear Eric,
Where are you? How which strength against the Serpions
Where are you? How which strength against the Serpions
do you still have? The Agotollah is soon to march upon
Impervious. I walloped the Serpions at B horkarnae so that should
Impervious. I walloped the Serpions at B horkarnae so that should
alon them down. I will give all liberated towns in Selevidite Kingdom
alon them down. I will give all liberated towns in Selevidite Kingdom
book as soon as possible is. in a week or two.

In freedship,

You Fasten blaster

Situation Reports

Every weekend, players' orders would be processed and evaluated by God, and situation reports produced and sent back out on the Monday morning post. The software used was the DOS based relational database management system Dataease, as used by larger corporations like National Westminster Bank, Esso Research etc. This was all pre-Windows era: a black screen with amber text - that's IT. All this database query language experience was invaluable to running the music publishing company Spartan Press a short time later.



Each rulers' weekly 'sit-rep' would include one or more database reports, printed out on either the old tractor fed dot matrix printer (whose ink has unfortunately faded over 30+ years) or the reliable (if very noisy) Brother Daisy Wheel printer. Battle reports, intelligence information, troop dispositions, account statements and settlement administration lists all appeared.

Battle Report.

Week IV, August, 969bc.

Empire ambushed at Wolfs.

Battle cards are enclosed to show you your own and enemies strengths. The Empire were marching in columns with three Cohorts and wagons with stragglers, wounded etc on the road to Wolfs from Glen. The two Empire "Forces" were both tired, as they were out of supply. The Heavy Cavalry were out scouting the low hills and knolls ahead. The Auxiliary Infantry became more tired by scouting out the woods to both flanks.

At the very moment the Heavy Cavalry were at some distance from the main column, and the marching cohorts were strung out through a defile in the woods, with the Auxiliaries deep within one of the copses, THOR THE BRAINLESS sprang out with his body-guard of chariots, surprising the CINC - Glutinous Maximus, who became shaken, along with his leading Cohort.

As the troops turned to meet the awesome sight, the Warband of Hogtor ran from the woods on the other side of the track, while some Druids, secreted opposite, on the given signal, started wildly screaming and sacrificing virgins.

In the ensuing scramble, Maximus broke and fled, as did the leading Cohort, pursued by Thor and his brave charioteers. The Warband did not do so well, being caught in the flank by Maximus's Cohort III, and failing to turn to meet the threat for three successive bounds, was eventually routed, pursued, and destroyed.

The anonymous FORCE K GENERAL captures Wolfs, with a very tired, but thankfully now "IN SUPPLY" force.

Thor and the Druids withdraws to the woods.

The disgraced Glutinous Maximus (Governor of the Belt) flees to Milano, followed by his surviving Cohort, and a demoralized unit of Heavy Cavalry.

SITUATION REPORT III/4/969

DARK EMPIRE

CURRENT FORCES ENCLOSED

MOVEMENT ON WATER - See page 5 of rules re:Navy. Should this be required only to scout, use several vessels of about 24 cubit size, which are large enough to support a cohort in each. Since all ships move at the same speed regardless of size, small ships are no good as they cannot escape quickly to report on enemy movement, whereas a few units of MARINES would dissuade potential invaders, be able to act as an expeditionary force with permanent maritime back-up, AND act as scouts.

Mad King Eric uses fishing vessels to scout for him. eg in the Caspian Sea last week. These cost him very little, but are very inefficient. Nautilus Frigati was sent out, contact was lost, and in the next sitrep, he was found to have been murdered, and a Parbeerion invasion was clearly underway!

Two vessels of 24cubit size each would cost 96 lira to build and would be ready one month from receipt of order.

Three forces not mentioned on sheet are;

Force E (Now Delphi and advancing on Alexandria)

24 REG B ARCADIAN HOPLITES MI LTS SH + AG

Force F (Now Delphi and advancing)

AG + 11 LC REG C JLS

FORCE G (Waiting for general to lead them from the South)
12 more Thracian mercenaries now in Thessally.

Where is your letter to Eric re marriage to ugly Sel. hag? I cannot find it......

God.

DARK EMPIRE'S FORCES III/4/969

FORCE A1 (RALLYING) COASTUS M7

PSORIASIS SERGIUS + 11 REG B HC JLS SH (Shaken until III/5/969)

FORCE A2 EXANDRA M8

CLUADIUS HEPITITUS + 11 REG B HC JLS SH + PA

24 REG C HI HTW SH

24 REG C HI HTW SH

24 REG C HI JLS SH

24 REG C LHI B

FORCE B ALEXANDRIA (UNDER SEIGE) Q13

MARCUS MAGNESIA (GOV. MACEDON) + 11 REG B HC JLS SH 24 REG C HI HTW SH (SHAKEN UNTIL I/5/969) 24 REG C LHI JLS SH

24 REG A AETOLIAN HOPLITES MI LTS SH INCLUDING AG (12 LI JLS SH DESTROYED IN ASSAULT ON ALEXANDRIA)

ALLIED GEN OF THESSALLY + 2 REG A CRONIES (12 THESSALIAN REG B HC JLS SH DESTROYED IN ASSAULT)

24 REG C DELPHI HOPLITES MI LTS SH INCLUDING AG

18 IRREG C THRACIAN PELTASTS LMI JLS 2HCW SH

12 IRREG C THRACIAN PELTASTS LMI JLS 2HCW SH

FORCE C MID-ADRIATIC EN-ROUTE FOR ANEXRA N14

S.G. + REG B CRONIES (NAMELESS)

24 REG C HI HTW SH

24 REG C HI HTW SH

24 REG C LHI JLS SH

FORCE D (RECRUITING UNTIL IV/5/969) MILANO J3

DERMATITIS + REG B CRONIES

24 REG C HI HTW SH

24 REG C HI HTW SH

12 REG C HC JLS SH

18 IRREG C LC JLS SH

SITUATION REPORT III/4/969

MACEDON

FORCE A

Have arrived at Alexandria, found no sign of life but plenty of signs of death outside. The EVIL ONES have locked themselves away and preparing for seige. Your forces have reconoitered the entire area, established a blockade on movement of supplies from the south, and set up watch parties against sorties. All units are living off the land successfully, and although there is great fear of the invaders, the general feeling of the local farmers is that they would rather die than endure the presence of such an appalling atrocity as MARCUS MAGNESIA.

Condition of enemy not known. Condition of friendly troops; 2 or three fatigues on each unit. Condition is NOT yet deteriating thanks to local support, all - be - it in muted silence.

FORCE B

Bad news for remaining Pike unit, which was pursued and over-come by enemy who are continuing to advance. Alexander is alive and running for his life from Exandra where he saw the advance of the enemy infantry, and split the joint in good time. He is sure that the enemy do not know of his being in the vicitity and unprotected. He has joined friends at Plutarch.

This force has been removed.

FORCE C

Progress has been arrested by stiff and aggressive resistance in Blewoff by local mounted sheriff and village equestrian archery society who rellished the idea of live target practise. However, these lively amateur cavalry soldiers finally saw sense and surrendered against over-whelming odds, and were immprisoned in the local Mead Hall. The local Sheriff, after a few pints, seemed not a bad old boy: middle aged, clever but not literate, generous and handsome. He agreed to appeal to higher authority and meanwhile asked for his men to be released so that they could continue with their work and not be harrassed by the military of either party.

HC will remain tired for a month and while still in supply may advance as normal.

FORCE D

Recruitment complete by end of this week all bar REG B LMI who will need one month of training without movement before ready. However, they may be regarded from the end of this week as REG C but they will not be able to upgrade once moved - rather like Herpes and his REG D Bolt Shooters.

Situation Report III/4/969 INDIANUS REGION

Force C

Now NN6 and advancing steadilly.

Other forces hold.

Prisoner agrees with treatment. Her health improves. How are you to blackmail her? You provide the raw material and I will get her to do the talking.

The Calcia Spy School (GG9)

Ian McCubbin's *Mad King Eric Seleucid* was far from mad. Early in 989 he developed a highly sophisticated and properly financed School of Espionage. Graduates were sent all over the continent and relayed back all sorts of information. One such student was 'Dick Devious' who famously spent months on a long term mission to assassinate the Dark Emperor *Herpes*. He came surprisingly close to success, but was unlucky in the last few minutes of the operation and was captured and unceremoniously executed there and then by Herp.

This elaborate ring of spies called for routine special 'Intelligence Reports', all cloaked in the strictest secrecy. See below:

ERIC SELEUCID: ADMIN AND INTELLIGENCE.

LITTERATII PROJECI.

The fifteen quints will be deducted without delay The project has revealed the following:

Lachrymosa is a volatile town at the moment. Bludhism is still very new, but gaining ground rapidly. The difficulty with utilizing religious fervor is that there is more than a degree of unpredictability about it.

The native skills of the people who live to the south of the Caspian include chariot racing. The military version of this, of course, has already been harnessed and is known through-out Methuselah, as "Mad Eric's Magic Machines". The Famous Seleucidite Scythed chariots however, have yet to prove themselves in battle.

It was discovered that the underlying reasons for this growing interest in Bludhism stem mostly from a lack of worldly comfort: - With the desert lands to the north casting a spell of Impecuniousity, Religion provides an escapism which is equalled only by the rewarding experience of umpiring an Ancient Wargames Campaign.

To get to the point, at this early stage of Bludhism, I am prepared to offer the following units should you wish to take advantage:

24 Arabs half Irreg A, Half Irreg D. LI JLS 25 36 Peasants " " , Half Irreg E. LMI IPW 35 24 Skythians Irreg A, LC BOW 50

These rates are a very special offer. However, in order to take advantage of them, certain provisos are in order they must be recruited in Lachrymosa, and at the end of recruiting, (Only Two Weeks) a test will be made to determine how they feel. Current academic research indicates that a chance of 75% exists that the new forces will act as requested. There is a 10% chance of them rejecting Military service altogether, and continuing to pray, wail, sit on beds of nails etc. There remains a 15% grey area, in which God only knows what they will do.

There is only one dice throw taken: on the day of completion of their training. The result remains until they are destroyed in battle?

Report from the Dark Empire.

The Invasion of The Belt is known to have been going well for the Empire of late, despite the Weston Postal Strike, halting most

Forces for a week(°) Weather has been bad (as usual) in the Belt, and the burning of Villages, and the accompanying rapes has been able to continue fairly will un-detected, despite a task force of Warbands detached to try to find the invading forces° However, the weather is now hot, and visibility is back to being good. It is known that the Empire's force in Unerth is now being shadowed by the Belt's LCh's.

There is evidence of two navies currently recruited, and operating in the Mediterranean/Aegean area. The Gales of two weeks ago have caused communications to cease though....????

Report from Indianus.

Very little to report that Sophia has not intimated to you in person while at Babylon. Her fleets to Macedon were undamaged in the storms. It is rumoured that she will attack Athenia first.

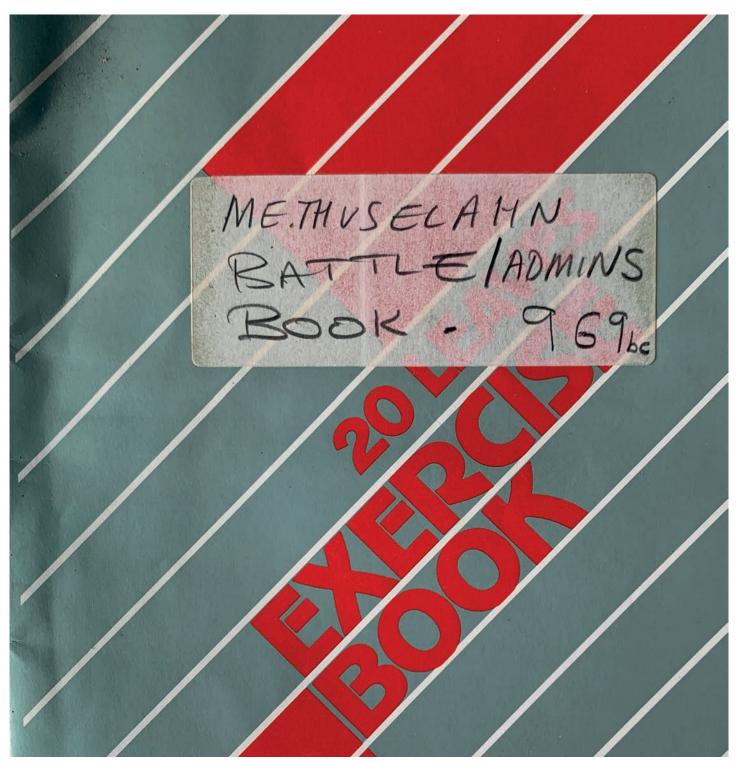
News from Naff.

This man has run into some rather bad luck. The message got through, the plan was set in motion, and then things got rather out of hand. There must have been suspicion before the deed. Also, the message was read by the Parbeerian Secret Police before it arrived on the Indianus Desk. The Indianus troops WERE let in, but then had the gates shut behind them, and were systematically destroyed. Losses include Elephants and Infantry

Naff has not been heard from since. (See Incontinent - God).

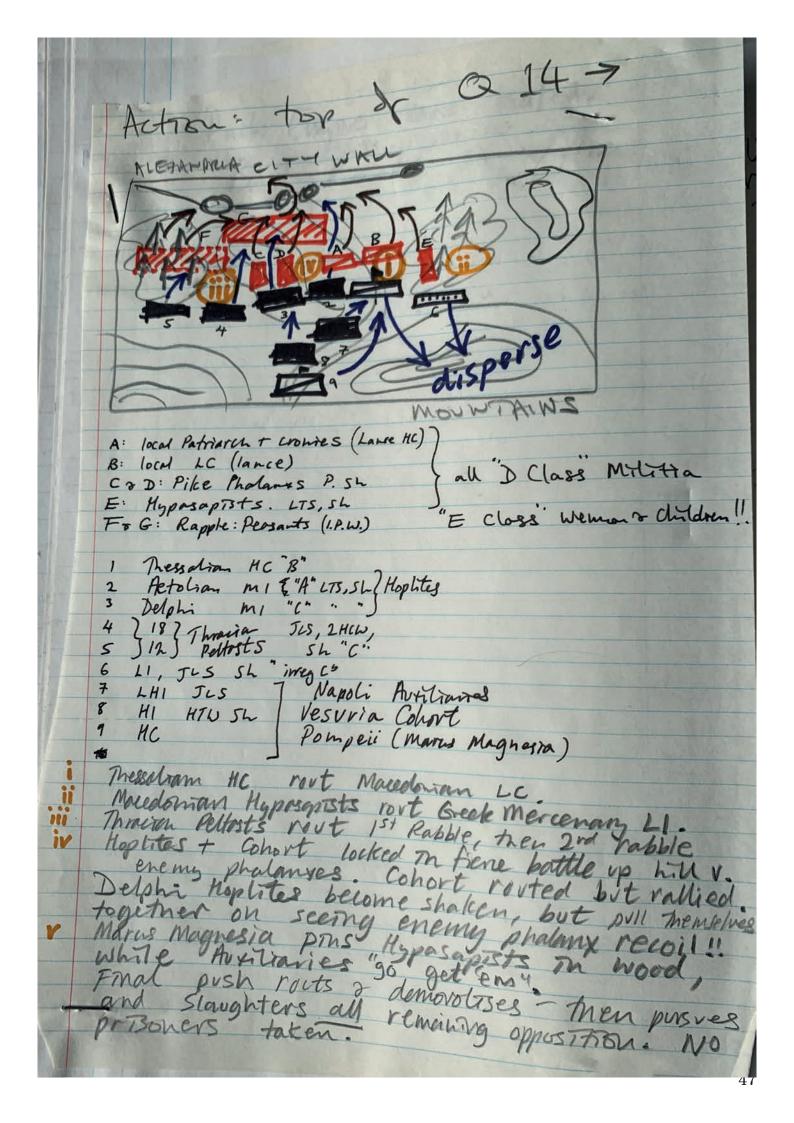
God's Battle Book

The original point of Methuselah was to create some interesting wargame scenarios for our regular Tuesday night wargames. The battles were recorded in an exercise book, kept in the wargames room at No. 5, Fairfax Avenue, Oxford.

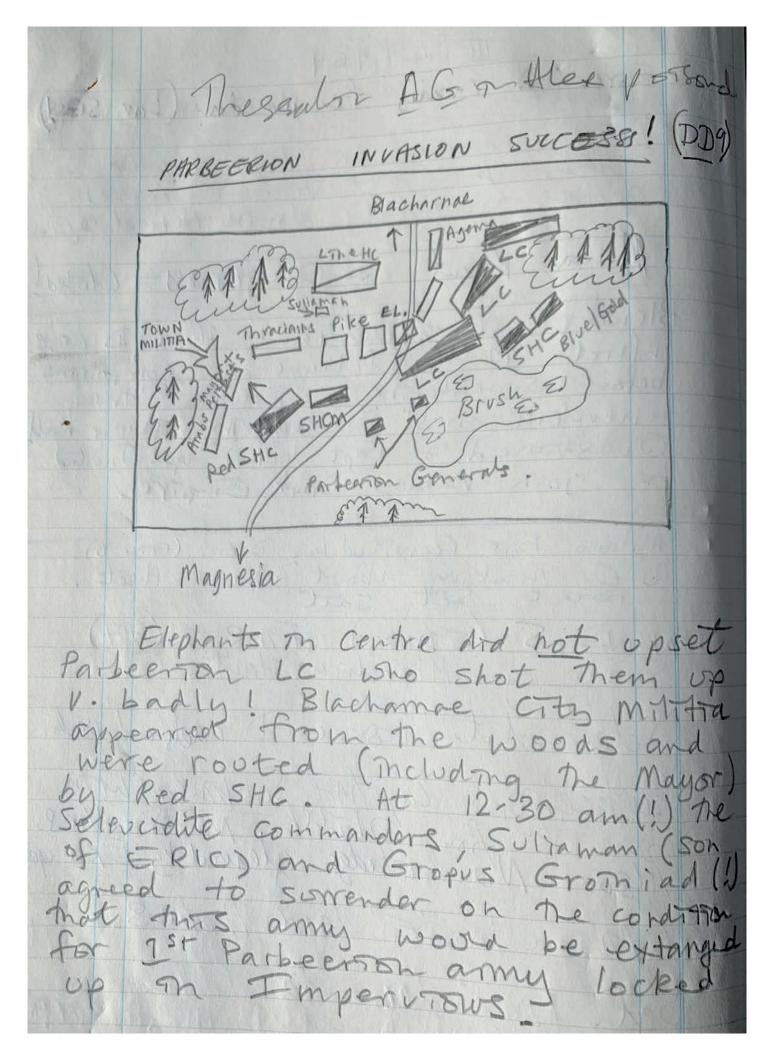


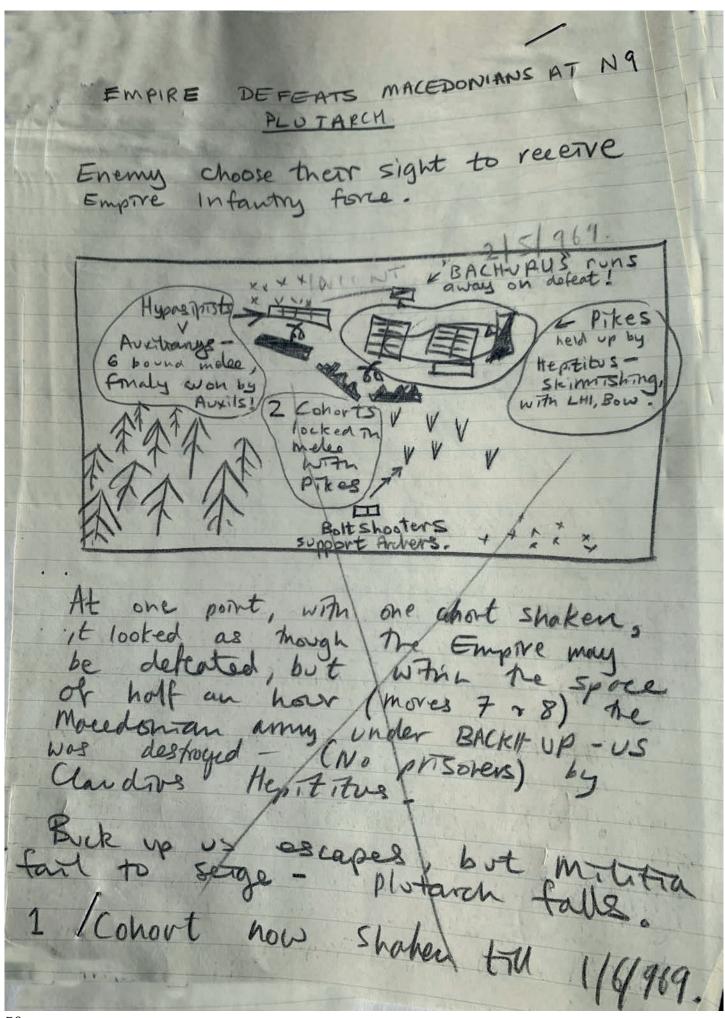
I/3/969 ExAMPRIA (M9) BATTLE 1. DARK EMPIRE V MALEDON. Dark Empire Invades Exandra (M9): Psoriasts Sorgivs routed by Macedonian Hypaspists. Avyiliary Bowmend becommone Shaken and whole command becomes Demoralized! The other command under Hepititis decides to retire in good order. Macedon did not tollow up. I/4/969 Alexandra (Q14) BATTLE 2 DARK EMPIRE defeat Macedon City Militia. City Militia detend southern City Gates provely but unsurestilly. Empire loose Thessalian HC and 12 Mercenary LI, and one whort shaken, but capture Capital! I 4/969 Coastus (M8) BATTLE 3 EMPIRE V MACEDON . Encounter battle. Both armies meet on the March. Muedonian thing wiped out after encounter battle Just sorth of Coastus.

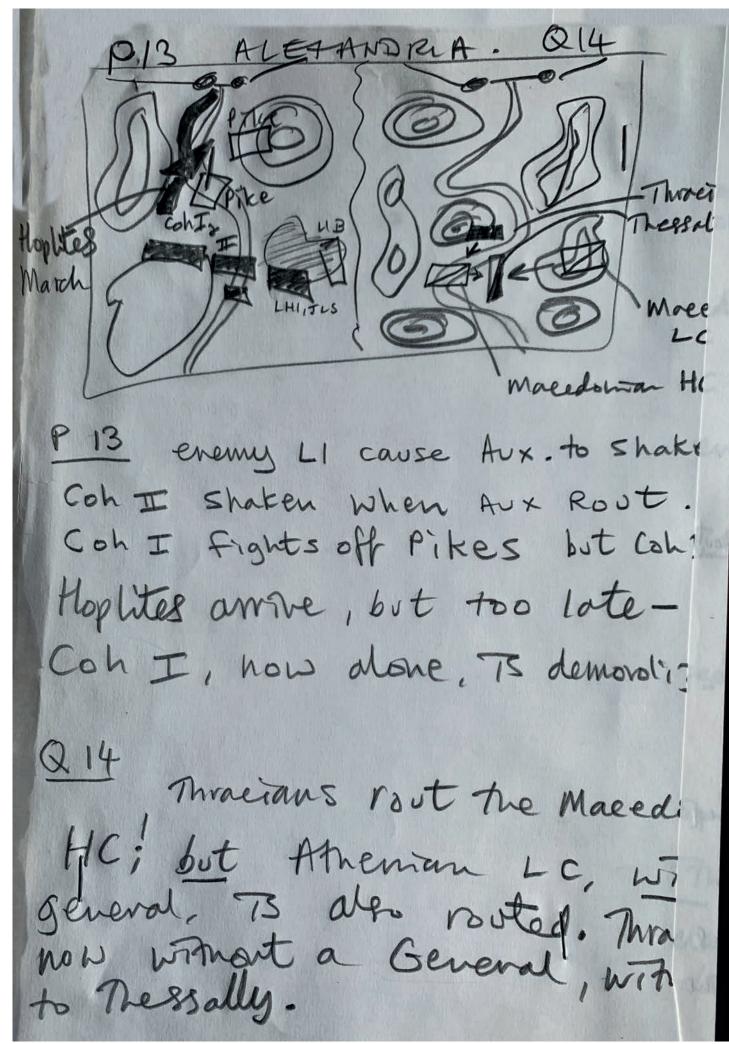
Battle 3 (continued.)
Empire Cavalry TS Smashed, but Infantry are able to advance on Exaudra after new command structure built Sergins retires with body gd. to Coastrs. I/4/969 Calcia (GG9) Battle 4 PARBEERIAMS Massacre SELEVIAITE VILLAGE MILITIA Arab archer Militia, outrum bered 26 Tol are eventually massacred after decisting to fight it out. No losses to Par beerson Invasion torce. CSE not detected, and evacuated to Impervious 4/4/969 Magnesia (FF9) Battle 5. PARCECRIONS SMASHED & SELEUCIDITE ARMY. Complete fiasco for Invading Parkerions! Seleverdate Elephants upset LC. who eventually rout, upsetting other LC and SHC, who also rout only remaining SHC unit charges Phalanx but routs oh Impact. Whole army taken prosoner, or Imperiors). 80% boats captured



BATTLE REPEAT I/4/969 M7-VICTORY FOR DARK EMPIRE - but loves high 1 Exaudra MI VV Coastus A: Empire SHC & HC lock in battle all day, V. Macodon Companions. SHC fmally rout (++ haveted) - Hepititis fights on and also becomes exhausted Bi PsoriAsis charges, recoils and routs evening LC He , Then charges companions in Rear, and They root & disperse. CI Pike block I belomes shaken when a CATASTROPHE hits Macedon (Poor old Pat!)
Yes - Ariadne, the CTLC (and only General) is killed by a SHC man! Mreedon now a sitting duck!! Pike Block two becomes shaken when the other one routs on being charged by the now advancing Dil Empre Bowmen live eveny Pettrets
over steep how into consist by reperted All enemy pursued and destroyed - no prisoners on your orders - but the Can phalanx (shaken) from dispersing back to Examples. Logges SHC Lost Both HC Units "thansted"
Bolt shooters did bugger all Cohorts & Bow of hors Sleep. Where now?







The In-Continent

The weekly newsletter, labelled the *In-Continent* played a vital role, and generated astonishing quantities of unfettered fun and enjoyment throughout the three years of the campaign. All players, as well as God, freely contributed to this popular publication, sometimes anonymously, disseminating news items, battle reports (many of which were bogus), cartoons, a vast campaign related crossword, joke adverts, insults, oracle predictions, a blues number, various tragic poems and much more. Most copies have survived but some are hard to ready. They have been reproduced, as legibly as humanly possible, in three further volumes of *The Book of Methuselah*.

Also, two short videos, available free on YouTube, have recently been created, bringing to life the two exciting cartoon strips: Barry Lee's inimitably irreverent 'Clitorix THE CELT'.

Episode 1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CHgDV6vKfK8



Episode 2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n4SVtTIGyEU&t=2s

