

## Introducing... **“THE CHARACTERS”** OF THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR IN HELIGOLAND.



Hello and welcome to the tiny world of Atriboria, a Dark Continent in a parallel universe in the 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century where the scramble for colonial power is just as real and fantastic as it was in our own world a mere 150 years ago...

The people you can view below do not differ from most other, except they share the same passion: collecting and painting model armies and fielding their forces in miniature battles, be it historical simulations or near historical imaginary conflicts.

Once a week they leave reality behind and become adventurers in their own right. Oh, I nearly forgot to introduce myself! I'm the guy orchestrating all this, safely tucked away behind the clouds above. They call me...

**GOTT**

### THE ARMY COMMANDERS (*generals*)



#### **Général de Division Edouard Monamour.**

**Commander of the French forces invading Heligoland.**

Before he joined the army, Edouard Monamour had finished Law School, but an incident involving the wife of a French minister forced him to accept a commission in order to avoid a duel. After serving abroad he returned home with the rank of Major, probably more due to luck than courage. Rumours are circulating (definitely untrue, we're sure!) that he was born nine months after his mother had a passionate affair with an English officer by the name of Flashman. One thing is certain: commanding the French expedition to Heligoland was the last thing he wanted. Much rather he would have stayed in Paris (*the very thought brings tears to his eyes*), enjoying all things pleasant the City of Light has to offer (in the dark, that is...). He is not on very good terms with his second in command, Général Chérie, who he believes to be a cold calculated bastard.

#### **General Wilhelm Ohnewürstchen.**

**Commander of the D.A.K. (Deutsches Atriboria Korps).**

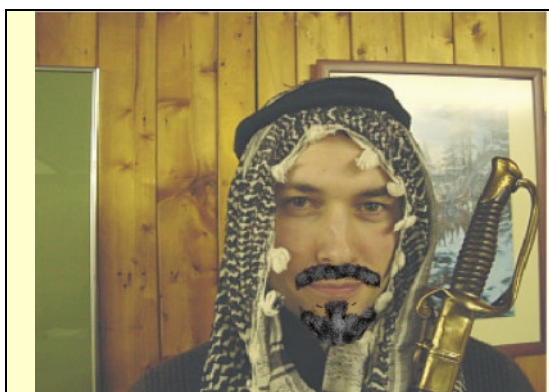
After the initial French landings on the southern shores of the island there was some panic in the *Fatherland* (to say the least). However reluctant many Germans were as far as colonial adventures are concerned, this was an insult that should be avenged! Ohnewürstchen was placed in command of the D.A.K. (regular *Pickelhaube* & *Jäger* regiments) to reinforce the local Schütztruppe and kick the *Frogs* out. Exactly the opportunity Ohnewürstchen had been waiting for, being a *beau sabreur* (well, a “*sabreur*” for sure, “*beau*”? we're not so sure about that...). Being a fierce warrior, he's most certainly qualified for the job (HE thinks, others are – again – not too sure...). His main worry is the fact that he has to leave behind his young wife *Marie-Jeanne d'Écqueren* (no, not French, but Belgian) who is devoted to God (or is it to GOTT?...).





### General Oscar Verneukdt.

**Commander of the Dahomey Amazon Askari.** Although it might seem odd that an all-female force is commanded by a male general, this is not the case here. Ever since the Dahomey Amazon mercenary army had been founded, it has always been commanded by men. The reason therefore is simple: As long as the army is successful (and comes home laden with booty), the (male) general keeps his rank and position. If not, the general not only loses his job but also his head in the process. All this is part of a ceremony that lasts weeks whereby the unfortunate commander is kept on display in a cage - awaiting his doom - but not after having been separated from some other essential body parts first. (No wonder he has such a sad look in the eyes...) Needless to say that General Verneukdt is VERY motivated to do his job to the best of his abilities!

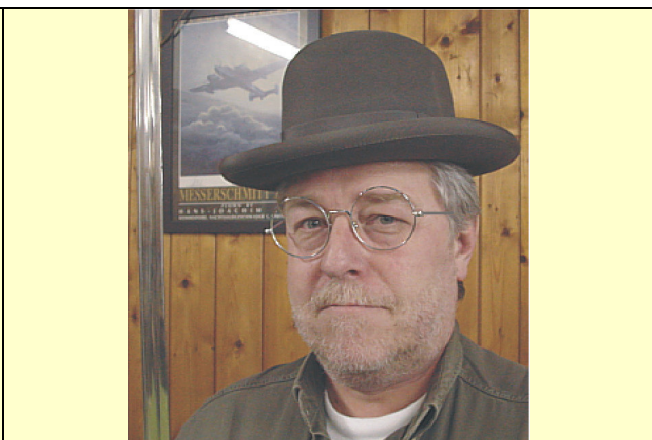


### Salah Dhin.

**Commander of the Arab Legion.** Salah Din is somewhat reluctantly in league with the Germans. How well he had things sorted out, being lord and master over the southern part of Heligoland! He had established a profitable slave route and had even built a nice palace for himself in the region. Money, women, tea (being a Muslim...) to his heart's content, until the French Christian dogs smoked him out. Not that he is such a great fan of the Germans (who – in time – would have done the same no doubt), but his options are limited for the moment and if he wants to regain his little kingdom, there is little else he can do but to join forces with the *Pickelhaubes* of that idiot Ohnewürstchen and the Colonial Volunteers of Bauernkopf, who he despises not only for cultivating the land and protecting the natives, but also for founding the black *Schütztruppe* on top. We'll see, *Inch'Allah...*

### Karl Bauernkopf.

**Commander of the Colonial Volunteers.** As so many other Germans, Bauernkopf set sail for Heligoland, hoping to become what he never could be in the Fatherland: a true (be it colonial) *Junker*! And how well he has succeeded: he owns several businesses in Kaisersheim and a number of farms in the country. He also founded the colonial police force – the *Schütztruppe* - and is more or less regarded as the uncrowned viceroy of Heligoland, much like his famous counterpart, James Brooke, the Rajah of Indistan. Needless to mention he is less than pleased with the French invasion, but not very happy with the arrival of Ohnewürstchen (who seems to represent everything he despises) either. "*Heligoland to the Heligolandians*" and "*Heligolandians first*" are his mottos...



### Général de Brigade François Chérie.



**Commander of the French Foreign Légion and auxiliaries.** After a successful career as a high ranking police officer, Chérie was offered a colonel's commission in the FFL, now being promoted to *Général de Brigade* and second in command of the French forces in Heligoland. A career man, he is determined to do his job well, but at the same time he is frustrated that he has to serve under Monamour, who he remembers from the days of the "incident" with the minister's wife and some other "things" since... He does not believe at all that Monamour has gained his rank rightfully and is willing to put the man to the test in order to prove his case. In fact, he is convinced that Monamour is a disaster waiting to happen and he is not prepared to risk the life of his men unnecessarily. If he can get Monamour out of the way, the army will be his to command as *Général de Division...*














## Other characters

 <p><i>Mustafa Khebab a.k.a. Johan Viandel.</i></p>	<p><b><u>Mustafa Khebab, a.k.a. Johan Viandel.</u></b></p> <p>Mustafa Khebab was born out of wedlock as the result of a passionate <i>affaire</i> between Abdul Khebab (a rich Egyptian property-owner) and the Brussels born <i>mamselle</i> Mora Viandel. The Viandel family (trying to avoid a scandal) shipped the boy off to the USA where he was subsequently raised in several orphanages in the South. During the ACW (for a short note on this go to <a href="http://www.rudi-geudens.be/html/afriboria_vehicles.htm">http://www.rudi-geudens.be/html/afriboria_vehicles.htm</a>) he joined the CSA as a 14 year old en became one of the youngest Lieutenants in the Southern forces. After returning to Afriboria, he <i>lost</i> a fortune in the scrap metal trade (his house is still stockpiled with it). Later he <i>made</i> a fortune during the Great Famine in the Nile Regions by importing rice from the Far East, using a fleet of junks for transport. This became known as "<i>Johan's Junk-food</i>". He still holds a commission as a brigadier in the Southern Army and is a member of a select club planning to create a CSA colony in Afriboria (supported by his father who has become a very influential person in the Nile Regions). In the so called "civilised world" Mustafa is known by the name his mother gave him: Johan Viandel. He has travelled the world's battlefields, much as Harry Flashman, but (as rumour goes...) without Flashy's proverbial success with the fair sex...</p>	 <p><i>Mustafa Khebab in the uniform of an officer of the Army of the Nile.</i></p>
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## Non-Playing characters

 <p><b>Marie-Jeanne D'Ecqueren, wife of Ohnewürstchen - a religious woman devoted to Gott.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Marie-Jeanne D'Ecqueren (Frau Ohnewürstchen).</u></b></p> <p>As a young girl, MJ ("Emjee" as she is known) visited the Americas with her father (a Belgian Baron), where the family toured the Wild West. Rumour goes that it was there she first met Mustafa Khebab, whilst visiting an orphanage. After breaking an arm falling off a horse, she would be fearsome of mounting (horses) again for the rest of her life... Her family later became impoverished and she married (the then <i>Leutnant</i>) Ohnewürstchen as a last resort, after having made a living for a while as a model for several sculptors. Soon after her marrying Ohnewürstchen, a desperate MJ sought relief in religion and turned to Gott (German for "God") for comfort.</p>	 <p><b>The world famous (MJ) bronze "Seduction"</b></p>	 <p><b>MJ D'Ecqueren reading from her favourite book: the Bible.</b></p>
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	<p><b><u>Major Richard Grosslaweitt.</u></b></p> <p>Secretary to <i>General</i> Ohnewürstchen, commander of the D.A.K. No army can function without proper logistics and organisation. As we all know, the Germans are masters in this field. Therefore, Ohnewürstchen has taken his long time secretary <i>Major</i> Richard Grosslaweitt with him on campaign as his T.S.A. (Top Secretary to the Army). Will this be a wise decision? We'll see how things turn out...</p>	
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	<p><b><u>William ("Bill") Armintrout.</u></b></p> <p>Reporter of the <i>Afriborian Herald</i>. After having sold his shares in TMP (the "Totally Mad Paper"), Bill Armintrout was ready for another challenge and accepted to be sent to Afriboria to act as (embedded...) reporter for the "Afriborian Herald". Although he tries to remain out of harm's way during the numerous conflicts on the Dark Continent, he finds himself often in the heat of the battle and has – as a real swashbuckler and on several occasions (and in just as many disguises) - fought his way out of some tight spots (picture on the left).</p>	
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