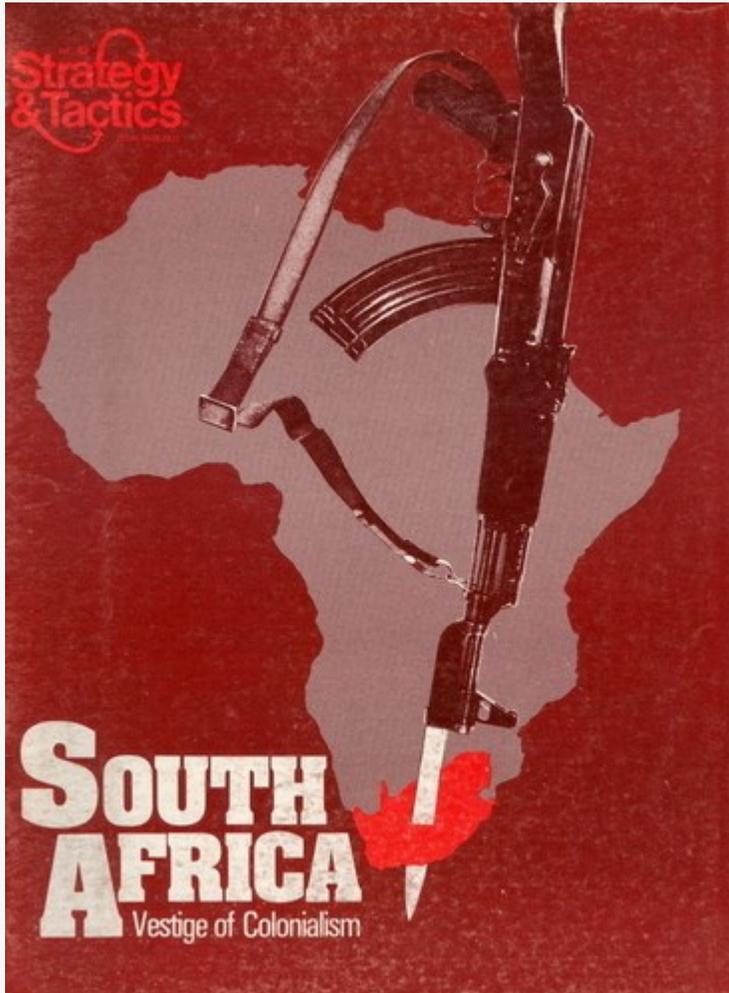


## ER Bickford Presents

### South Africa Replay

About Me. **South Africa**



This game models the potential conflict between the Black Nationalists and the Republic of African Government. The nature of the conflict will involve conventional war tactics by the RSA while the Black Nationalists will likely use guerrilla tactics. The game scale is 60 km per hex and the game turn is weekly, with a quarterly strategic turn. Since the units are mainly company and battalion sized, there is unlimited stacking and at times the units may occupy the same hex without being in contact.

That brings up a unique feature regarding ZOC's. A unit only exerts a ZOC in the hex it occupies, and only if it is a revealed unit. The Black Nationalist units often function as unrevealed units. In this state they require the RSA forces to obtain contact if battle is to occur. Otherwise there is no one to attack. Even when in their open state, the Black Nationalist units have an opportunity to evade combat, based on the unit's size, ability and the terrain. It makes for interesting situations.

The Victory conditions are also unusual and scare some away from the game. Essentially the Black

Nationalists must hold 7 city and 1 metropolitan hex to win. This could take a long time depending on how aggressive the combatants are. There is no end turn. The game comes with a variable victory conditions rule that I am using. This allows the combatants to collect VP's throughout the game, The RSA gets VP's for eliminating Nationalist companies, guerrillas and bases. The Black Nationalists get VP's for eliminating enemy Strength Points, as well as holding onto cities or native reserve areas at the end of the RSA player's turn (The RSA player is the second player.) To win, the RSA needs a 3-1 VP ratio for three consecutive strategic turns he wins. The Black Nationalists must, on the other hand, show a 3-1 VP's superiority on any Strategic Phase. It could still be a long game.

**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:22 am (#614 Total: 2389)

**About Me.** **Turn 1 March 1977**

The Black Nationalists perform their Reorganization Phase. Several "dummy" units are deployed to mask the insurgents' movements. Some of the Black Nationalist units that are deployed in Angola cross into Southwest Africa. One tank battalion boldly moves into Tsumbe and then on to Windhoek. Other forces that are deployed in Mozambique drive into Transvaal. There is no Ground Combat.

The commander of the Republic of South Africa, moves mechanized forces into Southwest Africa and to the south of the city Windhoek. Infantry and artillery advance to Keetmansnoop. A recon battalion advances to Pietersburg to investigate enemy movement while infantry is deployed in the Trankaal.

The RSA commander attempts to make contact with all enemy forces. Contact is established with a BN tank battalion in Windhoek. There was a dummy unit in Pietersburg and contact is made with Black Nationalist infantry in Transkaal.

A heavy air strike group supports the assault in the Transkaal region. Unable to successfully evade the Government forces, the Black Nationalist stand and fight. Things go south quickly for the RSA commander and his force is repulsed and retreat from battle. Another firefight rages in Namibia as BN tanks are unable to evade the RSA. This time the RSA forces dislodge the BN armour units from Windhoek. There is no response from the Black Nationalist leaders.



*The Black Nationalists are Black on Red The RSA is White on Red*

**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:23 am (#615 Total: 2389)

**About Me.** **Turn 2 March 1977**

The two exposed Black Nationalist units return to their hidden status during the Reorganization Phase. Black Nationalist forces move cautiously into Southwest Africa from Angola. Meanwhile units from Mozambique launch a raid into Johannesburg and Germiston. There is no combat preparation by the rebels nor response by the RSA forces.

The RSA commander responds to the threat in Johannesburg by sending four battalions in to ferret out the rebels. Powerful artillery moves into Germiston. Meanwhile an infantry battalion is moved from Keetmansnoop to Windhoek. The RSA Airforce is ordered to support the contact in Johannesburg. Contact is made with the Black Nationalists infantry battalion in the city. It turns out that a false report was turned in in Germiston, which revealed a dummy unit only. In Southwest Africa, the RSA recon reveals a powerful enemy tank battalion in the open near Windhoek. None of the rebel forces are successful in evading the enemy.

In Southwest Africa battle erupts again. Outnumbered and caught in the open, the Black Nationalist tank battalion is eliminated. Meanwhile fighting begins in Johannesburg. The rebel infantry battalion is also eliminated. The Government has easily put down the insurgencies.

RSA 6 VP's to BN 0 VP's

**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:23 am (#616 Total: 2389)

**About Me.** **Turn 3 March 1977**

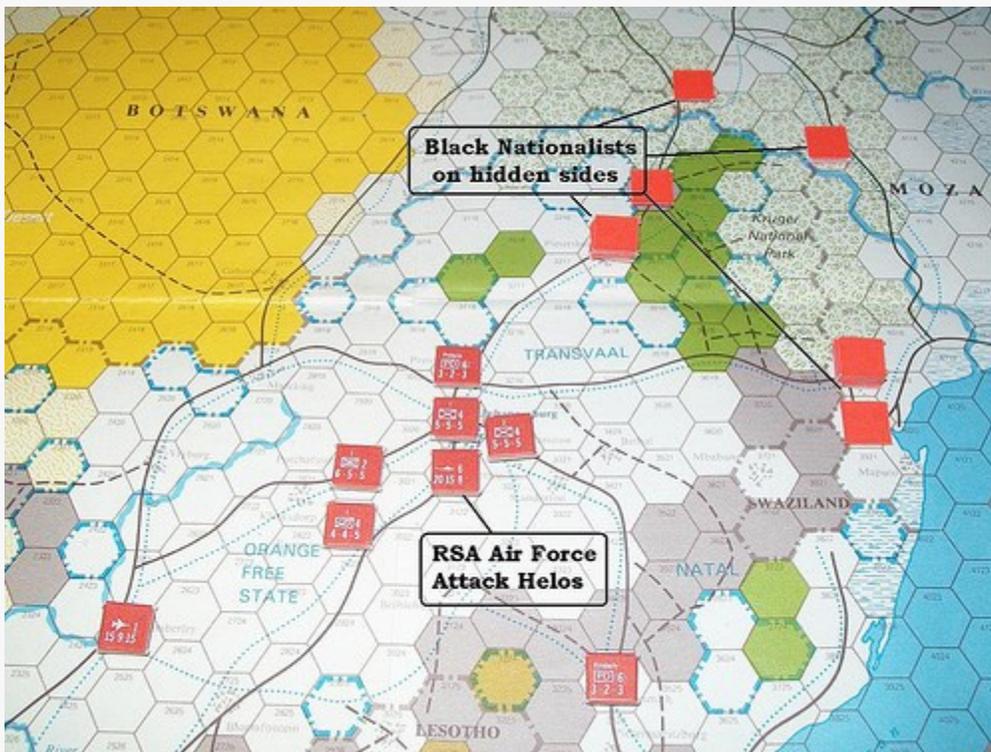
The Black Nationalists prepare for more insurgencies. Meanwhile they hide out in the terrain. The units operating in Southwest Africa fall back toward their line of communications while the position south of Mozambique is solidified. The infantry deploys in Pietersburg. The RSA's commander relaxes during the seeming peace. The RSA has 6-1 lead in VP's.

**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:24 am (#617 Total: 2389)

**About Me.** **Strategic Turn Summer June 1977-August 1977**

The Republic of South Africa increases the manpower pool by 8 points, raising the bar to 258. The Taxation rate is left alone at 10 percent. There is no effect from the Dislocation Table. During the Black Nationalists Guerilla Phase, one unit is formed as a result of the tax rate. An insurgent guerrilla unit arises in Victoria West.

The RSA's Resources climb to 55 RP's while the Black Nationals raise their resources to 22 RP's. All of the Black Nationals units are in supply. The RSA units are also fully supplied. The South African Government expends resource points to maintain the army, which leaves the RSA with only 17 RP's remaining. The Government player expends 2 manpower and 4 resource points to mobilize an infantry battalion which is available during the fall season. The Black Nationalists mobilize eight infantry companies. One infantry battalion is formed through progressive mobilization and will be available on in the fall. This leaves the Black Nationalists with 9 Resource Points. Eight more points are spent to mobilize an armoured battalion.



**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:25 am (#618 Total: 2389)

**About Me.** **Turn 1 June 1977**

The Black Nationalists resume their work on infiltrating the RSA's territory. Several units swoop in near the city Bethal while forces move into Swaziland. The BN also has a base in Pietersburg and moves a

dummy unit along the road to the south of the base. More troops advance along the border of Botswana to the west of Transvaal. In Southwestern Africa, several units and dummies move into Namibia while a dummy moves along the trail toward Walvis Bay. The RSA has the 2nd Recon Battalion stationed there.

The commander of the RSA orders units deployed in Windhoek to investigate the enemy movement reported to the north. Meanwhile, the 1st Artillery Company advances to Windhoek. The 3rd Infantry battalion discovers a dummy. (False report). The 2nd Recon fails its reconnaissance in the rough terrain in SW Africa. The 4th Infantry successfully makes contact with a Black Nationalist infantry battalion in the open terrain in SW Africa. The BN unit attempts evasion but needs a die roll of "one" and fails. A firefight opens up in the plains of SW Africa. The commander of the RSA has the support of attack aircraft. The defending infantry retreats.

The 1st Airborne battalion uses airlift to address the insurgents in Victoria West. There is automatic contact. The guerrillas attempt evasion but fail. (They needed a 1-5 and rolled a "6"). Battle erupts. The result is exchange and the guerrilla unit is eliminated. The 1st Airborne battalion is reduced to a cadre.

In Transvaal, the RSA 2nd Infantry moves through Bethal and attempts contact. This is successful and an infantry company is discovered. Attack helos support the fight. The BN infantry company attempt evasion but fails the die roll. The BN infantry is eliminated.

The 1st infantry battalion in Johannesburg moves out to recon the enemy movement on the road to the north. Another false report. (A mech infantry battalion moves into Johannesburg.) Lastly, the 1st Recon battalion is sent to engage the Black Nationalists along the Limpopo River on the Botswana border. Contact is successful and another infantry company is found. The BN infantry attempt evasion, which is successful and the unit inverts.

All told the RSA still leads with 8-4 VP's.

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**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:26 am (#619 Total: 2389)

**About Me.** **Turn 2 June 1977**

The Black Nationalists commander reorganizes and inverts the open units. Two dummy units are sent through Namibia along the main road. Another dummy moves into Walvis Bay. In the east, three infantry units move into the cities of Mateking, Klerksdorp and Potchefstroom. The guerrillas forgo combat.

The commander of the RSA needs to address the insurrections in various cities in South Africa. The 4th Infantry battalion chases down the enemy in the desert of Namibia, and the 2nd recon returns to Walvis Bay. The 1st Recon advances to Mateking while a strong force moves into Pietersburg. The Black Nationalists have a base there and it is garnering VP's.

The 2nd Recon battalion discovers a "dummy" counter in Walvis Bay, thus the city is back in control. Neither the 3rd infantry nor the 4th can make contact with the enemy in the deserts of Namibia. The 2nd Airborne attempts contact with the BN unit in Klerksdorp. The Black Nationalist infantry unit is automatically revealed and immediately attempts evasion. Somehow the infantry company loses itself in the city and successfully evades the Republic units. At last, the RPA conducts a significant operation against the Black Nationalist Base in Pietersburg. Attack helos are used to support the mission and there is automatic contact. The army base doubles the defenders strength. The result is exchange. The BN infantry battalion is eliminated and the 1st Infantry battalion is reduced to a cadre. The Black Nationalists' army base is destroyed.



## Turn 4 June 1977

The Black Nationalist commander continues to employ guerrilla tactics. One unit moves toward the diamond mines in the west. Another unit moves into the Kalahari Desert. An infantry battalion attempts to move from contact with the ZOC of the 4th infantry battalion. The RSA unit successfully makes contact, revealing the BN infantry. The BN infantry battalion fails its evasion die roll and remains stuck in contact with the enemy. Combat ensues. The RSA Airforce makes an appearance sending a heavy air strike. The attack is repulsed and the Black Nationalist unit is eliminated. SO much for avoiding conventional tactics.

Flushed with victory, the RSA commander perseveres in his efforts to bring the rebels to battle. In Southwest Africa, the RSA commander searches out the enemy in the rough terrain along the railroad line, but they fail to make contact. The 4th infantry searches near the diamond mines and discovers a "dummy".

In the central region, the 1st Recon, supported by a heavy air strike, attempt to locate the enemy in native reserve areas. An infantry company is discovered in the Karoo. The infantry company fails its evasion attempt. Combat ensues and the defender is eliminated. Another infantry company is placed in contact in the native area near Lesotho. The Black Nationalist company commander somehow manages to evade and avoids combat. In the mountains near Lesotho, the 1st infantry supported by the attack Helos attempts to close with the enemy. Although contact is initially made., the defenders easily evade due to the cover of the mountainous terrain.

The RSA has added 5 VP's due to combat losses, while the BN adds 5 for territorial gains. Thus the score sits at Black Nationalists 20-18.

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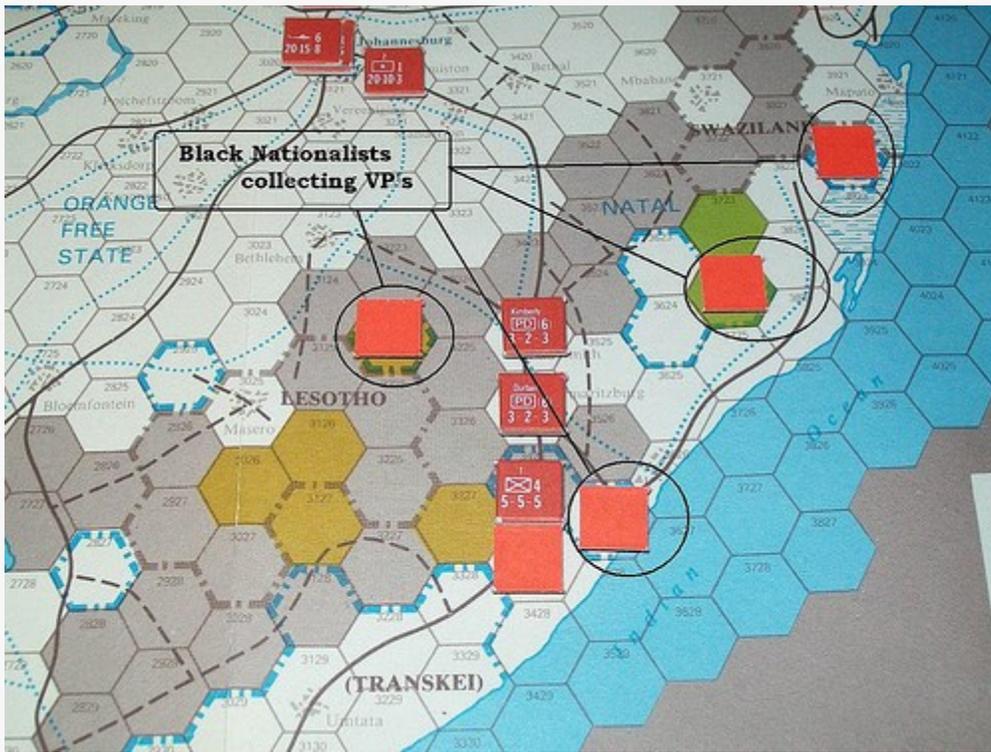
**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:28 am (#622 Total: 2389)

## Turn 5 July 1977

During Reorganization, three dummy units are deployed. Very little is done in the way of movement and redeployment. Some forces are moved into native regions. Several positions are in enemy ZOC's but the BN commander doesn't move the units and thereby risk contact.

Windhoek is undefended, so the 4th infantry battalion re-deploys to the city. The units attacking the native reserve in the mountains near Lesotho re-deploy as it is impossible to pin the enemy down there. The 2nd Airborne, supported by the South African Air Force manages to discover a "dummy unit" holding the other native area near Lesotho. The airborne forces subsequently move back to Kimberly. The forces in Southwestern Africa fail to make contact with the enemy, which remains pinned in the rough terrain of SW Africa.

The Black Nationalists collect 4 more VP's and lead 24-18.



ER Bickford - Dec 12, 2011 9:28 am (#623 Total: 2389)

**About Me.** Turn 6 July 1977

Another dummy unit is placed. Two Black Nationalist units move into Transkei. Again the guerrilla commander chooses to avoid combat. The RSA commander is aware that some of the enemy activity is based on false intel, i.e., dummy units, but these still have the political ramifications suggested by the VP's.

The RSA's 1st Infantry Battalion follows reports of enemy movement in Transkei. Heavy attack air units are sent along. The activity is discovered as a dummy unit. Contact is made by the 2nd Airborne in the central part of Transkei. A Black Nationalist infantry company attempts evasion, but fails the die roll. (Only needed a 1-5 to succeed). The enemy company is eliminated. Another "dummy" is revealed in a native reserve near Lesotho.

The 1st Recon moves to Vryburg and the 3rd infantry to Windhoek. The 4th infantry is ordered to join the 2nd recon to smoke out the enemy in the rough near Walvis Bay. Contact is made with an enemy infantry company, which attempts evasion. It is successful and inverts.

The Black Nationalist collect 4 more VP's and the RSA gains one. Black Nationalists lead 28-19. The guerilla tactics are working but the rebels are running out of units.

ER Bickford - Dec 12, 2011 9:29 am (#624 Total: 2389)

**About Me.** Turn 7 July 1977

The Black Nationalists continue with their underground tactics. Three units move through Botswana, using the trail through the Kalahari Desert. A clandestine unit moves into Pietersburg while another advances along the road to the southeast of the Transvaal. No contact is made.

Reports of enemy activity pour across the RSA commanders desk. The 1st Infantry Battalion is sent to investigate the situation in Natal. It doesn't have enough movement to make contact. Artillery forces and a light air strike group move to Pietersburg. It turns out to be a dummy. The 1st Recon Battalion in Vryburg moves to the native area in the center of the country. Attack Helos join the fray. Another dummy.

In SW Africa, the RSA commander discovers an enemy infantry company, which it successfully evades after initial contact. With out better unit values, this could go on endlessly. Last, the city Tsumbe is contested by the RSA 3rd Battalion which enters contact with a Black Nationalists infantry unit. The enemy unit somehow manages to evade the attackers and reverts to its hidden status.

The Black Nationalist collect 3 more VP's and lead 31-19 VP's.

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**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:29 am (#625 Total: 2389)

 **Turn 8 July 1977**

During Reorganization, the Black Nationalist commander divides one of the infantry regiments in Angola into three infantry companies. Several units maneuver through the desert in Botswana while other troops are advanced along the road toward Rhodesia. Another hidden unit occupies the native region in Kruger National Park. The unit that has been baffling the command in SW Africa finally disengages and moves back toward Angola along the railroad. (It cannot use RR movement though, as this is an enemy RR).

Now the RSA responds to the latest enemy threats. Additionally, a few units are re-deployed. The 1st Recon battalion moves to Mateking. The 1st Mech uses railroad movement and then the trail to get near Kruger National Forest. Three units deploy to Windhoek. The 1st Airborne re-deploys to Walvis Bay via helo transport. Next the 3rd Infantry attempts to remove the enemy from Tsumbe. It makes contact with the enemy. The Black Nationalists have an infantry company in the city and it fails its attempt at evasion. As a result of combat, the defender retreats into the bush to the north and the RSA has liberated Tsumbe.

Another battle unfolds in Natal. The 1st Infantry Battalion is supported by helos and engages a Black Nationalist infantry company. The defender successfully evades so there is no combat. The helos return to Koonstad. The Black Nationalists gain four more VP's.

BN 35-19 VP's

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**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:29 am (#626 Total: 2389)

 **Turn 9 August 1977**

The Black Nationalists in Botswana move along the northwestern side of the Limpopo River toward Rhodesia. Units in Namibia fall back toward the Angolan Border. The R.S.A. resumes its work on the rebels in Natal. Attack helos join the 1st Battalion in the maneuver. The Black Nationalist infantry attempts evasion in the wooded terrain, and is successful. The police manage to discover a dummy in Natal The Black Nationalist collect 3 VP's for territorial holdings.

BN 37-19 VP's

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**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:30 am (#627 Total: 2389)

**About Me.** **Turn 10 August 1977**

The Black Nationalists continue to fall back on their supply lines as the season is closing. The commander of the RSA makes a concerted effort to get to the enemy that is operation in Natal. Police units join the 1st Infantry Battalion. Attack helos are used and there is automatic contact. Due to the extra forces, it will be more difficult for the infantry company to evade the RSA this time. The evasion attempt fails and a firefight develops. This results in the destruction of the BN infantry unit. Then the 2nd Mechanized with artillery and air support hunt down the rebel units in Kruger National Park. It turns out to be a "dummy".

Black Nationalist 39-20

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**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:31 am (#628 Total: 2389)

**About Me.** **Turn 11 August 1977**

While the Black Nationalist continue to consolidate outside of the Republic of South Africa, the government commander goes after the last two positions. The airborne unit is used to get into the difficult Native area near Swaziland. The Air Force fully supports the attack with air strikes and attack helos. There is automatic contact, but the enemy turns out to be a dummy unit. The Black Nationalist gain one VP.

Black Nationalist 40-20

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**ER Bickford** - Dec 12, 2011 9:31 am (#629 Total: 2389)

**About Me.** **Turn 12-13 August 1977**

Using railroad movement, the rebel air defense unit moves to the military base. Several other units also rail to their respective bases so as to re-supply for more campaigning. The RSA's commander attacks the last rebel unit in the mountains near Lethoso. This is a native reserve which yields VP's to the enemy. The rebel infantry company is auto discovered and attempts to survive by evasion. The evasion succeeds despite all of the enemy helos. The mountainous terrain should not be discounted.

Black Nationalist 42-20.

This is how I ended the game.