

(Toponymy is canonized by [Fillippo - A Tale of Mini & Dice], co-creator of Operation Hungry Walrus online campaign.)

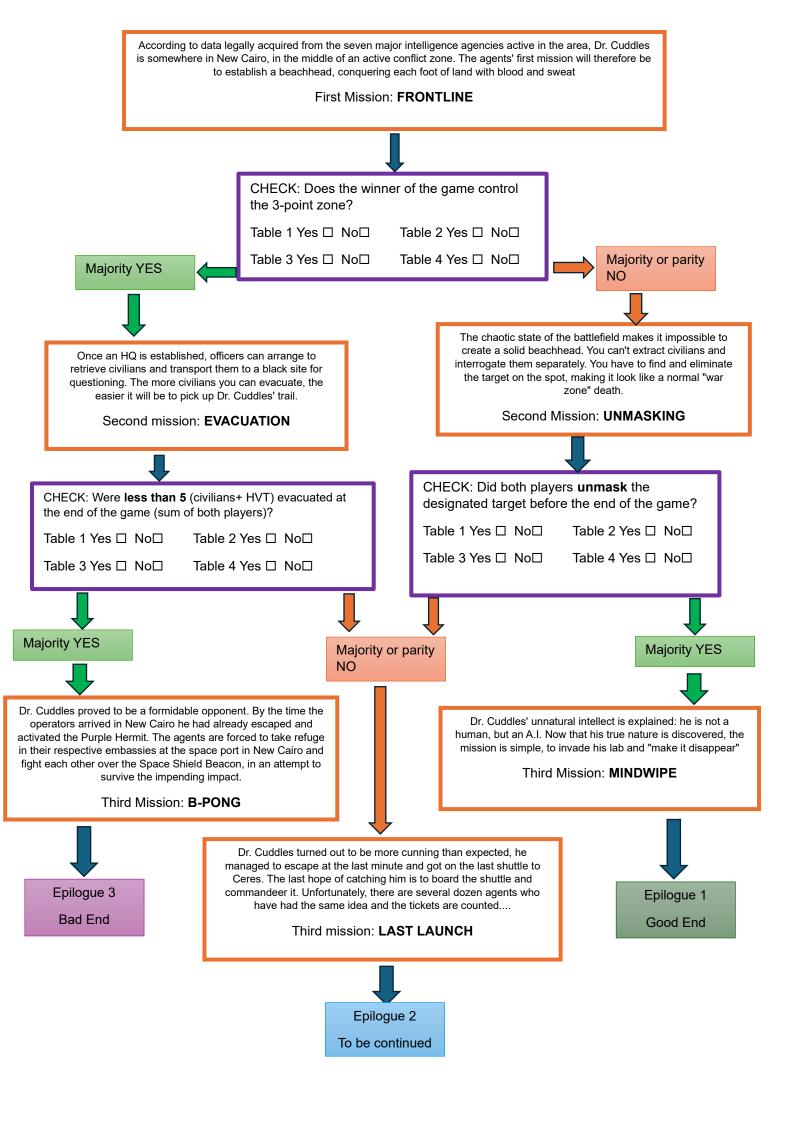
The sixteenth conflict in the state of Hypalexandria is entering its third year. The territory, plagued by continuous wars, has always been a profitable market for multinationals, arms dealers and private contractors from the neighboring region of New Hypatia. Hundreds of millions of BitCredits and more or less the same amount of human resources move every month thanks to the conflict.

However, this idyllic currency generator is in danger: a mysterious terrorist and self-proclaimed scientist is on the verge of completing his doomsday device, the Purple Hermit, a device that threatens to end this and a thousand other conflicts, according to the numerous statements made by he himself on clandestine and protected channels.

Because of such statements, the scientist is in the crosshairs of several intelligence agencies, last but certainly not least the Bureau Noir, which coined his official and best-known designation: "Dr. Cuddles."

The Powerful, and several of the Less Powerful, therefore have no choice but to deploy their best operators, in great secrecy, so that public opinion can continue to believe in world peace, and hunt down this mad scientist, to end his reign of terror.





Epilogue 1 – Good End

With the elimination of the AI known as Dr. Cuddles, the scientist's plans have been revealed: the Purple Hermit is a small space station, nothing more than an anonymous meteorological research base, which can detach from orbit on command and crash to any point on the planet, with all of its juicy several hundred tons theseum ass, filled to the brim with a special cargo: purple fungus spores and bramble seeds, carefully modified by Dr. Cuddles with DNA from QAZ creatures.

The intervention of **[tournament winner]** team stopped the mad scientist's plans, but the Al's abrupt disconnection from his private network caused a failsafe to activate, which destroyed much of his research, including the Purple Hermit, generating a spectacular explosion in the skies above New Cairo.

Over the next 24 hours, a relentless rain of theseum fragments falls in the territory of Hypalexandria and crosses into the neighboring state of Sikhistan, precipitating diplomatic relations between the two states and generating a new armed conflict that promises to last decades.

Not only is the lucrative war safe, but the new conflict in the immediate vicinity opens up countless new economic opportunities and promises to sustain powerful economic growth in New Hypatia for at least two generations, spurring an era of unprecedented prosperity and wealth in the megacity.

In all of this, the real winner turns out to be **[faction of the winner of the tournament]**, who, although they could not take over Dr. Cuddles' laboratory and research, nevertheless took credit for ending the terrorist, i.e. secretly brought back a cube containing a mysterious prisoner to be interrogated.

Epilogue 2 – To Be Continued

With Dr. Cuddles' escape on the last shuttle from New Cairo, his laboratory was left undefended and soon discovered, revealing the scientist's plans: the Purple Hermit is a small space station, nothing more than an anonymous meteorological research base, which can detach from orbit on command and crash to any point on the planet, with all of its juicy several hundred tons theseum ass, filled to the brim with a special cargo: purple fungus spores and bramble seeds, carefully modified by Dr. Cuddles with DNA from QAZ creatures...

The station, equipped with anti-ballistic defense systems bordering on voodoo tech and completely selfsufficient, remains an almost impregnable bastion and a sword of Damocles pointed at Hypalexandria. The military, private operators, the Powerful and many investors of New Hypatia can continue their rich conflict, but they will always turn a worried eye to the night sky and to that star in particular, which could always wake up one day and fall on this war, ending it forever.

The only ones who hold a shred of hope are the [**tournament winner**] operators, who managed to board the last shuttle with the Doctor and, in bloody competition against the other infiltrated operators on board, turned the trip into a thrilling and dangerous manhunt. Records on Ceres will show that the shuttle arrived at its destination completely empty, the black box stolen.

Of course, public figures **[the tournament winner's faction]** are very firm in denying the allegations by various political opponents, who claim to have seen, through spy satellites, small shuttles of the **[tournament winner's faction]** docking at the Purple Hermit in the months that followed.

Epilogue 3 – Bad Ending

The Purple Hermit, a small space station, nothing more than an anonymous meteorological research base, turns out to be Dr. Cuddles' weapon: when the timer expires, it crashes into the marker's position, taking with it several hundred tons of theseum, and a particularly special cargo, the result of years of loving research and development.

The first impact generates a massive explosion, which wipes out the fighters in the immediate vicinity and flattens half of New Cairo, while the shock wave fills the atmosphere for several hundred kilometers with special spores of purple fungus and bramble seeds, carefully engineered by Dr. Cuddles, containing DNA from QAZ creatures. Over the next 24 hours, with a seismic roar, all of New Cairo is covered by an entire ecosystem of giant mushroom-trees and Quantum creatures, which continue to expand at an alarming rate. (They will cover the entire territory of Hypalexandria in the span of a few weeks, shredding military and civilian infrastructure without distinction, stopping exactly and mysteriously at the political boundaries of the territory)

The conflict of Hypalexandria is now over, the terrain has become impassable and wild, but there remains a small opportunity for huge gains: a fraction of the spaceport of New Cairo has survived, the only, faint beacon of civilization from which the savage land can be recovered, its resources exploited, and the theseum fallen from the sky reclaimed.

Thanks to the heroic sacrifice of **[tournament winner]** team, the Purple Hermit's point of impact has been diverted just enough to allow the survival of this tiny section of the spaceport, which, as it happens, was a home of operations for **[the tournament winner's faction]**, which will be the progenitor of Hypalexandria's rich new era of re-exploration.

Dr. Cuddles fled, taking his research with him. It's unclear where he'll go, but one thing is certain: his reign of terror has only just begun.

New Hypatia's economy suffers from the end of the lucrative conflict: billions of bitcredits are lost, subsequent bankruptcies and mass layoffs cause a recession. A golden era for gangs and organized crime begins. Several gang leaders rise to fame and even legend, names like such as Al Schiavone, Pablo El Crowbàr, Donny "big Dolphin", and Hutt of the Pizzas.