

EX1 - Operation Desert Pasta

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(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

SIGN September, Unified Year 1925

SIGN Imperial Capital Berun, Imperial Strategic Headquarters

SIGN Strategy and Operations

Colonel Erich von Rerugen

[00:21] Erich

I'm a little tired of this.

SIGN Military Railways

Captain Maximilian Johann von Uger

[00:23] M

The railway folks feel the same way.

[00:26] Erich

Every day, the same food.

And not good food, at that.

[00:31] Erich

The quality of food has a
direct effect on morale.

[00:35] Erich

In other circumstances, I'd be asking the
cooks to exercise their creativity...

[00:39] M

But we can't ask for luxuries.

[00:41] M

The front lines, particularly on the
southern front, are probably far worse.

[00:45] Erich

The southern front?

[00:48] Erich

The 203rd Aerial Mage
Battalion is there, too?

[00:55] Erich

I suppose I can make a suggestion
to General von Zettour.

[00:59] M

What do you mean, specifically?

[01:00] Erich

Our nominal allies in Ildoa have been making noises about wanting a closer relationship.

[01:07] Erich

If we drop hints about wanting to share provisions, they might be willing to provide.

[01:13] Erich

I'm sure the 203rd will love it.

SIGN Interstitial Episode Operation Desert Pasta

SIGN Southern Front, Imperial Military Temporary Base

SIGN Base Command

[01:37] Tanya

I've already drunk half my ration for the day.

SIGN 203rd Aerial Mage Battalion Commander

Major Tanya von Degurechaff

SIGN 1st Company, Adjutant

First Lieutenant Viktoriya Ivanovna Serebryakov

[01:42] Visha

It hurts not having enough water, doesn't it, Major?

[01:48] (W)

Major Degurechaff? Are you there, Major Degurechaff?

[01:52] Visha

What is it, Captain Weiss?

SIGN Vice Commander and 2nd Company Commander

Captain Matheus Johann Weiss

[01:54] (W)

Splendid news, Major!

[02:00] Men

Supplies from home!

[02:02] Men

Look at the size of those crates!

[02:04] (W)

Let us through.

[02:05] Grantz

Oh, Major!

[02:08] Grantz

Look at this!

[02:10] Tanya

That's pasta!

[02:12] Tanya

Are all these crates filled with pasta?

[02:15] (W)

Yes.

[02:16] (W)

"We realized it was possible to

transport dried short pasta by air.

[02:21] (W)

The troops who've received it love it.

I hope you'll enjoy it."

[02:26] (W)

So the enclosed message says.

[02:31] Visha

I've gotten so sick of that k-brot bread!

[02:34] Koenig

We wouldn't want to refuse HQ's kindness.

SIGN 3rd Company Commander

First Lieutenant Wilibald Koenig

[02:37] Grantz

Let's chow down!

SIGN 2nd Company

First Lieutenant Warren Grantz

[02:38] Neumann

I'll do the cooking!

SIGN 4th Company Commander

First Lieutenant Rhiner Neumann

[02:42] Tanya

Men...

[02:43] Tanya

Where do you think we are?

[02:46] Tanya

Desert battles are harsh.

[02:48] Tanya

Weapons. Ammo. Parts. Fuel.

[02:50] Tanya

All that, and even water,
needs to be transported in.

[02:55] Tanya

I think the guys at HQ need
to learn what it's like

[02:58] Tanya

to not have water come out
when you turn the faucet.

[03:02] Tanya

So, did we get any water with this pasta?

[03:08] Weiss

No, not really...

[03:10] Tanya

Sheesh. So the Fatherland
wants us to chew on raw pasta?

[03:14] Weiss

That wasn't in our orders.

[03:17] Tanya

If we used up all our water cooking pasta,
it wouldn't even be funny.

[03:23] Tanya

It's as edible as a picture of a dumpling,
or a pie that's floating in the sky.

[03:27] ---

What?

[03:30] Tanya

Now, let's get back to our mission.

[03:34] Tanya

We do force recon and strike
their supplies, like always.

[03:39] Tanya

We'll hit their supply lines
and see how they react.

[03:42] All

Yes, ma'am!

[03:55] (W)

This is 02 to 01.

[03:57] (W)

We've sighted an enemy supply
depot that looks like our target.

[04:00] Tanya

Very well.

[04:02] Tanya

Follow the plan. The 2nd Company
will hit from above.

[04:05] Tanya

3rd and 4th Companies,
strike from the flanks.

[04:07] Tanya

Don't fly into your allies' firing lines.

[04:10] Tanya

All units, attack!

[04:12] ---

Yes, ma'am!

SIGN Southern Front Free Republic Supply Depot

[04:20] Soldier

What?

[04:22] Soldier

What is it?

[04:23] Soldier

You see something?

[04:31] Soldier

Enemy attack! Enemy attack!

[04:35] Soldier

Imperial Mages!

[04:36] Soldier

Impossible! Where did they come from?

[04:38] Soldier

Hit them back!

[04:39] Soldier

They came out of nowhere!

[04:49] Grantz

Enemy mages to the rear.

[04:51] Grantz

They're panicking and rushing up here.

[04:53] Tanya

Okay. 2nd Company, draw the mages away.

[04:57] Weiss

Roger!

[05:00] Visha

Major, detecting EM waves.

[05:03] Visha

That's the comms facility!

[05:04] Tanya

Okay. We've got a present
from the Empire for it.

[05:21] Weiss

This is the 4th Company. We see what looks
like an ammo storage facility.

[05:25] Weiss

You should be able to see it
directly ahead of the 3rd Company!

[05:28] Tanya

You guys can hit it, right, 3rd Company?

[05:30] Koenig

Right!

[05:36] Koenig

Thanks for gathering it
all in one place for us!

[05:57] Soldiers

What happened?

[05:58] Soldiers

The ammo dump's on fire!

[06:00] Soldiers

This place is finished!

[06:02] Soldiers

Retreat! Retreat!

[06:05] Soldiers

Get to the evac bunkers!

[06:06] Soldiers

Leave the trucks! They're easy targets!

[06:19] Tanya

Okay, we're done here.

[06:21] Tanya

No enemy reinforcements.

[06:24] Tanya

Pretty good work, for a force recon mission.

[06:28] Visha

Major, over here!

[06:32] Tanya

Did you find something,
Lieutenant Serebryakov?

[06:37] Visha

Look, Major!

[06:39] Visha

It's filled with 20-liter water tanks!

[06:42] Visha

We shouldn't lack for water for a while now!

[06:45] Tanya

Hmm! Just what we were waiting for.

[06:56] Neumann

Here you are, Major.

[06:58] Tanya

Thank you.

[06:59] ---

Hot, hot, hot, hot...

[07:04] Tanya

Good. It's al dente.

[07:06] Guys

How long has it been since I've had pasta?

[07:08] Guys

This water is so good!

[07:09] Guys

I never thought I'd get pasta in the desert!

[07:10] Guys

Good job, HQ!

[07:17] Weiss

This is, well...

[07:20] Grantz

It's nice and toothsome, but...

[07:22] Koenig

Depressingly flavorless.

[07:25] Neumann

It's nice to be able to enjoy the
original flavor of the ingredients.

[07:29] Neumann

You can eat it in the ancient Ildoan style
and not get your hands dirty.

[07:34] Soldiers

This wasn't what I was hoping for.

[07:36] Soldiers

But it fills you up, at least.

[07:39] Soldiers

It's not great.

[07:40] Soldiers

It's not that different than k-brot.

[07:43] Tanya

*Before all this, I could
eat whatever I wanted.*

[07:46] Tanya

Honestly, this is...

[07:51] Visha

You don't like it either, Major?

[07:55] Tanya

Pasta's only good if you
have sauce and spices to go with it.

SIGN Southern Front Imperial Army Temporary Base Command

[08:09] Weiss

I propose an Allied Kingdom
Forward Base as our next target.

[08:15] Weiss

We have limited information about them,

[08:17] Weiss

but what we have suggests they're moving
large amounts of supplies at night.

[08:21] Weiss

We should see what they're stocking up on.

[08:26] Neumann

Major, I suggest we strike
the Escargots, not the Limeys.

[08:32] Koenig

I'm not a gourmand by any means,
but there are things even I can't eat.

[08:39] Visha

What about this supply dump?

[08:41] Visha

Given its location, it should
have some yummy ingredients...

[08:54] Visha

No, I mean...

[08:55] Visha

I-I-It has important-looking
supplies, and, um...

[08:58] Visha

It's a good place to test
the enemy's response.

[09:06] Tanya

I see. If we hit this place, then we...

[09:12] Tanya

We'll go with Lieutenant
Serebryakov's suggestion.

[09:18] Visha

I'm honored!

[09:20] Grantz

Well done, Lieutenant Serebryakov.

[09:22] Koenig

You've got a good nose.

[09:24] Weiss

Yup.

[09:25] Tanya

Of course, the goal of the
operation is still force recon.

[09:31] Tanya

But since we're exercising
some local command discretion,

[09:33] Tanya

contact the Southern Front Commander,
General Romel.

[09:37] ---

Ma'am!

[09:38] Weiss

Dismissed.

[09:41] Tanya

It's always best to keep the brass informed.

[09:46] Tanya

*I've got to make sure to cover
my ass, bureaucracy-wise.*

[09:53] Visha

Um, Major?

[09:55] Visha

What should I name the operation
when I put it in my report?

[09:58] Tanya

We're fixing HQ's screw-up.
Just make something up...

[10:02] Tanya

No.

[10:03] Tanya

I just thought of a good name.

[10:17] (W)

Attention!

[10:22] Tanya

Men, the cooks at Strategic Command

have no idea how food works.

[10:27] Tanya

Thus, we're forced to find
our own water in the desert,

[10:32] Tanya

as well as our own meals!

[10:35] Tanya

However, there's no need
to take any big risks.

[10:39] Tanya

It would be the height of stupidity
to lose talented, veteran mages

[10:44] Tanya

for the sake of some flavor.

[10:46] Grantz

Major, are we more important
to you than food?

[10:51] Tanya

Correct, Lt. Grantz.

[10:53] Tanya

Both you and the food are
the property of the Empire.

[10:58] Tanya

But you'll rot slower.

[11:01] Grantz

I'm honored to hear it, ma'am!

[11:03] Koenig

We always get the worst jobs.

[11:09] Neumann

Cause we're the hardest workers.

[11:12] Tanya

Both of you, that's not quite right.

[11:15] Tanya

When I give you the shittiest jobs,
it's 'cause I care.

[11:21] Man

Okay, time to get to work!

[11:23] Man

Just like we always do!

[11:27] Tanya

Regardless, what we need is
always far away from us.

[11:32] Tanya

To get it, we must keep working.

[11:36] Tanya

And so I now initiate...

[11:37] Tanya

"Operation Desert Pasta."

SIGN Southern Front Free Republic Base

SIGN Free Republic Army

General Pierre Michelaud De Lugo

[11:48] De Lugo

What's going on?

SIGN Free Republic Army

Lt. Colonel Severin Bientot

[11:49] Severin

The Empire knows the status of our supplies.

[11:56] Weiss

Major, I found tomato sauce!

[12:00] Visha

It has chicken in it!

[12:03] Severin

The attacks look sporadic and random, but...

[12:08] De Lugo

If you look at which countries
jurisdictions were attacked,

[12:12] De Lugo

it reveals a startling
and dangerous truth.

[12:17] Koenig

Got some basil!

[12:19] Grantz

And dried parsley from Ildoa!

[12:21] Neumann

Oregano, too!

[12:23] Neumann

That'll be good in a tomato-based sauce!

[12:25] Severin

They're not just idiots who
are after our canned goods.

[12:29] Severin

It's a cunningly-disguised strategy.

[12:32] Severin

Every base that was attacked

[12:34] Severin

was right on the border of another
country's operational jurisdiction.

[12:38] De Lugo

Which makes life harder.

[12:40] De Lugo

Those disgusting dogs have already sniffed
out the weakness in our alliance.

[12:49] Weiss

Wine!

[12:50] Grantz

And cheese, too!

[12:52] Visha

That's perfect for the pasta!

[12:54] Koenig

I could use some side dishes.

[12:56] Neumann

I wanna make potato salad.

[12:58] Severin

According to an intercepted
enemy transmission...

[13:01] De Lugo

They're calling this mission
"Operation Desert Pasta"?

[13:06] De Lugo

The bastards are mocking us!

[13:14] Tanya

Everyone...

[13:17] Tanya

Mission complete!

[13:18] All

Hooray!

[13:30] (SV)

It's so good...

[13:32] Grantz

This chicken is great.

[13:34] Koenig

So's the potato salad.

[13:36] Weiss

It goes great with the wine!

[13:40] Neumann

We're eating better than they do back home!

[13:42] Soldiers

This is so good!

[13:43] Soldiers

When's the last time we
had something so good?

[13:46] Soldiers

It's amazing!

[13:57] Tanya

*It's just a temporary coincidence that
we're able to eat so well in the desert.*

[14:03] Tanya

*But that coincidence has restored life
and humanity to the troops of this unit.*

[14:10] Tanya

It's wonderful.

[14:13] Visha

May I sit here?

[14:15] Tanya

Go ahead.

[14:17] Visha

This is a nice change of pace, huh, Major?

[14:22] Tanya

Yeah.

[14:24] Tanya

Food is important.

SIGN Imperial Capital Berun, Imperial Air Force Base

[16:16] Rerugen

I didn't expect such splendid results.

[16:23] Rerugen

It was hard to get another shipment,

[16:26] Rerugen

but the guys at the front are
working so hard, I just had to.

[16:30] Soldiers

Bring on the pasta!

[16:32] Soldiers

We're sending more to the southern front!

[16:35] ---

Sir!

[16:36] Soldiers

Keep the noodles coming!

[16:37] Soldiers

Hurry, hurry!

Revision #1

Created 2024-01-03 02:00:00 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-01-03 02:00:00 UTC by whimsee