by Bill Jahnel

Hostile Takeovers and Slash and Burn

One of the reasons to use the ATTACK UNITS ONLY command is that when you clean out a colony of its more annoying inhabitants, the buildings will still be there for you to populate with your more worthy race of people. While this is a pleasant thought in theory, in practice you tend to find that you can't always afford the credits to move your people into place in time to defend your new holdings. Therefore, you usually have one of two options when taking over an enemy site. Option One: THE HOSTILE TAKEOVER. In option one, you grab excess colonists from all over and get their hienies into your opponent's territories. This is cheapest when done to an opponent's territory adjacent to one you own - otherwise they will charge you the full 50 credits a colonist. One interesting note is that once you own a territory that has a building in it, you can move colonists there EVEN IF THAT TERRITORY is on an island or across the sea. Therefore, once you invade, you can move people there quickly to inhabit and set up defenses and an industriomilitary world away from

your

their

to find you

complex to continue your attack against an opponent half a you.

Option Two: SLASH AND BURN. Sometimes, taking over a recently acquired territory proves impractical, especially if money is running low, attack devastated so many buildings the territory almost isn't worth holding on to, or maybe you are tight on excess colonists. Given this choice, you can go for a truly horrid play technique. Once you get into their area, grab the demolish button and raze every single building in the place. This will give you back credits and resources. Then go to the world map, and switch to resource views, and steal the resources with the money you just got from razing the buildings. Then move your pieces out of there on the same turn. Your opponent, planning a counterstrike against you to reclaim territory, may waste some missiles and come in full force only have vanished like the morning mist, and left their once prosperous colony an echo of Roanoake.

Economic Growth and Midgame

apportunition Ac	With military conquest will come new territories and new
opportunities. As	you expand into each new territory, you should consider
making a museum	right off, assuming that it wasn't a conquered territory that
already had such	a facility there. The reason is that THE ARTS ARE YOUR KEY TO
ECONOMIC	VICTORY.
reaction by the	Here's some quick figures: In each colony square, negative
	people to taxation maxes out at -10 under oppressive taxation. Overpopulation will usually max out at -15 a square, for a
settlement area	of 5,000 colonists which contains four luxury housings. The
territories	
that have	that are likely to exceed this overpopulation negative are those
	many workers not employed; too many people staying at
housing complexes	

leads to crabby couch Maug and further overpopulation unhappiness. So, unless you are badly mismanaging things, you should max out at a -25 influence on each territory. A museum with two workers in it will, by no coincidence, max out to give you +25 culture. What is curious about museums is that they can produce up to 36 culture with three workers, BUT ALL CULTURE OVER 25 IS WASTED. If you ever need a spare colonist, always remember you never need more than two colonists working a museum, and before you have overpopulation problems, a museum with just ONE worker will generate +12 culture, which offsets the -10 overwhelming taxes.

> When you settle a new territory, build a museum and drop 3 in to finish the museum by next turn. As a buffer, drop two drop your taxes in that square to reduced taxes for a turn. is active, you can pull all but one colonist off the museum and exploiting your new territory, safe in the knowledge that you exploiting the masses most efficiently.

By midgame, with a healthy economy chugging, you can start extra backbones to your industrio-military complex each turn level two buildings (automated factories, fusion reactors, and and level one farms) and setting your colonists to upgrade is sometimes a tricky beats, especially on mantle drills to subcollectors. The problem is that collectors will take you three from a mantle drill, so you have to upgrade them slowly, and upgrades, so you don't run out of ore in mid-game. Sometimes drop a few new sub-space collectors in first, and then when hitting your production with tremendous amounts of ore, then existing mantle drill facilities.

Upgrading nuclear fusion reactors to antimatter plants is almost

more settlers pieces of art or After the museum get to work will be

cranking out by creating mantle drills, them. Upgrading space turns to get stagger your it is best to they start upgrade your

as difficult

a choice, as these conversions happen relatively early in the game and energy crunches can be fatal. It takes at least two turns to change over a fusion plant, and you often will be presses for energy at that point. Either have built up some heavy reserves before converting or build a antimatter plant first (which will take at least two turn to build a fresh one, by the way) before the conversion.

> Factories, on the other hand, are easy to upgrade. With the number of colonists in them, they will upgrade to a higher turn from automation to robotic to replicator. This is an way to get new money resources (and you will need the cash) factories to convert endurium to triridium, which is often extremely efficient way to maximize your mining operation. In mid to late game, you may find yourself building a new antimatter plant a turn. As your colonies expand and you start warheads, you will find yourself always tight on resources: money, ore, or antimatter pods, and your military will want while your complex of buildings will consistently be demanding more energy. Top this off with the occasional need to build universities and farms, and you have a constant growth general, you will not need as many farms as anything else, as relatively efficient compared to your other needs, and wood less of an issue in later parts of the game; you can survive a you get food replication, though once you do you will have growth due to the huge food surpluses. On the other hand, yourself needing more and more tech labs, not only to meet the research costs for technologies, but because so many things electronic components. You may find yourself dedicating a few facilities to doing nothing but cranking out those precious

maximum facility once a extremely efficient or to get new overlooked but an

new

factory, mine, and proliferating Never enough antimatter pods more and more portfolio. In farming is becomes much long time before explosive colonist you will find increasing will require research

components.

Balancing building sliders can be tricky. Don't forget that every turn after you are finished making something in a factory, that if you aren't in a circular queue, your factory will still allocate labour to building things even if it has nothing to build, and you will waste an opportunity for money. Some building sliders are more efficient to do in different territories than in others. For example, in almost all cases, you want to mine absolutely no iron and switch entirely to endurium once your get endurium mining. Except on very rare squares, endurium will generate more ore, and you also don't pay as much for transporting it if you are using it to build something in another territory. Choosing which research facilities to do electronics components is a no-brainer, since the ones producing the components should also be the ones in the territories making missiles or disruptor cannons / holocaust cannons / other higher technology military units. Wood, food, and energy balance are a little trickier. A hydroponic farm and an antimatter plant both require some more thoughtful decisions as to balancing their outputs, as they are more affected by territories. A hydroponic farm in a woods can generate a ton more wood than food, as the reverse is true of food on a farm in a plains. However, unless you have transporters, you also must balance some out for the cost of shipping throughout your empire, and you may find that while you can maximize your food and wood output by specializing wood or food in some territories, a more balanced approach can save you money. Once you get transporters, though, immediately maximize production by territory value, since you will end up with an immense number of resources that way. Energy has a similar unusual note: antimatter plants generate a variable amount of power depending on the square in which they were built, but they will ALWAYS generate only up to

40 antimatter pods, no matter where they are located.Therefore, in anpods toon energy-find it costs asurpluses andcolony's war

Final Notes

Deadlock is a game most likely to be won by those who more apply building technique game models (such as those learned in Civilization) than those who try to play Warcraft-style. While trying to disable your opponent early on is valuable, outstripping them in production and technology is much more likely to carry the day. While your strategy will vary some from race to race, make sure to capitalize on your race's strengths and utilize your opponent's weakensss against them. Attack Maug museums to cripple them with unhappiness and riots, or have the Re'Lu scouts work their wiles on them. Invade Uva Mosk Territory so you can claim the benefits of the squares their scouts have shaman danced upon. And if you are Tarth, well, KILL, KILL, KILL, Then kill some more. It's fun.