

AUSTRIAN HOLIDAY

A DAY IN THE COUNTRY WITH SUPER SOLDIERS

A SHADES OF EARTH DEMO ADVENTURE

Player's Section

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Expedition To The Jungle

In the summer of 1932 a team of hunters journeyed up the Rio Xingu into the Mato Grosso. This was an untamed land that few white men had seen and no one had conquered. The leader of these men, Sturmbannführer Heller Jäger, lead a team of SS and local hunters into the jungle in search of a beast so terrifying that the locals did not name it. It was called simply the Beast, and the Germans had heard of it from the local government. It was purported to be an immortal boar of giant proportions. Jäger roamed for six months on the hunt, setting his team and pursuing the trail. The months took their toll on the team as one after another fell prey to what seemed to be supernatural causes. In the end there was only Jäger and his personal aide, Mallory.

In those final weeks, deep in the bush, Mallory proved himself faithful and skilled as a tracker.

They discovered the Beast's lair and tracked it to a ravine overgrown by the jungle. The area was thick with

humidity and the scent of death, and there seemed to be a timeless feel that hung in the air. As they entered the ravine, out of the darkness came the Beast. It hit Mallory in the chest and drove his broken body into the wall. Jäger fired into the creature emptying his gun.

The Beast was not slowed one bit even though Mallory gripped it with all his fading strength. Jäger pulled his machete and began hacking at the beast, trying desperately to save his friend. Jäger finally made it through the impossibly tough hide and severed the Beast's spine. Sadly, it was too late for Mallory.

As Jäger buried his friend and aide he realized that the massive Beast was healing. Jäger drove his machete deep into the heart of the beast. His long journey back to civilization was fraught with danger at every turn. When he made it to Bélem the SS were waiting to take the Beast away. He let them but instead of returning to his life he faded into the jungle and has not been heard of since. The SS transported the Beast to MittelWald Station for study.

The SS spent the next five years until the summer of 1938 studying the Beast and trying to replicate its healing capabilities. Herman Goering himself was head of the project and the scientists involved reported directly to him. In 1935 the Gestapo took command of the operations and drove the research harder, using prisoners as test subjects.



MittelWald Station

MittelWald Station is located in a difficult to get to, rural location in the Austrian Alps in Tirol, a western state of Austria. The German Reich claims it is a simple weather station but Department 12 has evidence otherwise. The villagers of Mittelwald, located 20 km away from the station, are afraid. Since the station began operating people and livestock have gone missing. They fear the woods which once were their homes. No one now travels by night unless they wish to disappear.

The station is currently overdue for their weekly check in. Communications between top Gestapo officials have been intercepted by Department 12 agents that indicate concern. This project was not favored by some of the more conservative members of the Reich and if something has gone wrong they want it covered up quickly. They have also indicated that the initial trials have been quite favorable.

MittelWald also has a heavily camouflaged munitions factory. It is disguised so that if it is recognized as a building it will look like an old lumber mill. Operations are limited at this time mainly to supplying a potential army of super soldiers with light weaponry.

Approach to the facilities is well guarded and there is only one serviceable road that approaches the base. Located on this is a fortified guard station which typically houses 20-25 guards and a Panther tank.

The main buildings are a mix of old construction from a catholic monastery and new construction by the Germans. The main compound is made up of the laboratory, barracks, motor pool and a large fountain in the center.

Group Ideas

Gestapo

A group of Gestapo is sent to investigate the silence of MittelWald. They will possibly hire free-lancers but it is unlikely since this is a top secret installation. Their primary goal will be to recover the serum and any research related to it. All base personnel will be considered expendable. If it suits their purposes, they will recruit villagers to meet the Reich's needs. They may be under orders to liquidate anyone they find and most definitely destroy any and all evidence they find.

Department 12

Department 12 has a strong interest in the Reich's supernatural research programs. They had picked up the trail of the SS in Brazil but had lost them when they made it to Europe. Only recently have they been able to find the Beast and the research going on around it. They have successfully planted a spy in the MittelWald Station before it went silent.

Dept. 12 often hires rogues with specialties required for the success of a mission. The core of the team will be Dept. 12 agents but specialists may be available for in-field analysis. These outsiders will not be privy to Dept. 12 information or equipment.

This group will have less information than a Gestapo team and be limited to the intel that the U.S. and U.K. have been able to gather. Their primary mission will be to rescue any scientists, capture any information or samples pertaining to the research, and kill the Beast. Killing the Beast is a target of opportunity but would help to ensure that the Nazis cannot rebuild their research.

Hired Investigators

Lorelei Holdst is worried about her father and does not believe the SS when they tell her that he is well but cannot be bothered at this point. Her father has always sent her daily letters and even if they were heavily censored, they told her he was still alive. She has not received a letter from him in over a week.

She is determined to find her father and to that end will hire people willing to believe her when she tells them of his research. She does not fear the Gestapo and only knows that she must save her father. She will not entertain the idea that he is dead.

The group she will assemble will be made up of several disciplines coming from all parts of the world. She is looking for a group able to defend themselves but also with the skills to

infiltrate a top secret military base. German language skills will be a great benefit.

She knows more about the base than the Gestapo realize. She has visited twice and knows the general layout well enough to reproduce maps for the party. She knows the lab quite well even though parts were off limits when she was there. She will share all this information with the group but will also insist on accompanying them. She will pay each person \$500 U.S. dollars on safe retrieval of her father and \$250 U.S. regardless of the outcome.

Setting Characters

Dr. Warner Holdst



Dr. Holdst is a leading bio-physicist for the Germans and a native Austrian. Five years ago he was recruited into the special projects division by the SS and

some would say he joined eagerly. He is not a hard line Nazi follower but does enjoy the funding for his research. Up until then he had been working on enhancing the immune systems of primates with substantial success. It was this work that initially attracted the attention of the Reich.

Dr. Holdst is fifty-three years old, stands five feet eleven inches tall, has greying black hair and grey eyes. He has a very sharp mind and is very direct, although he prefers to think before taking action. He has a deep love for his

family, especially Lorelei, but often cautions his daughter to think more thoroughly before acting. He fears her impulsive actions will be her undoing at some point.

Dr. Holdst has a wife and two daughters living in Salzburg. His wife, Isolde, is worried about him because he works so hard. Lorelei, his eldest, is attending university for teaching. His younger daughter has no ambitions for university but has been making the tour of the social circles. Lorelei Holdst is concerned recently since she has not received a letter from her father in over a week. He normally writes daily. She will look into her fathers absence if no one else will.

Lorelei Holdst

Lorelei Holdst is a rare individual for her time in that she is motivated to do what she wants and will not entertain the idea that she cannot do something. A woman of 22 years, she is attending university at Salzburg and



studying to become a teacher of medicine. She is athletic, to an indecent level for 1938, and is involved in the fencing team. She is five feet ten inches tall with chestnut brown hair and grey eyes. She looks more like her father's side of the family than her mother's and has his same fiery determination.

Lorelei has petitioned the Reich and the Austrian government for information of her father but has been refused. She feels she has exhausted all her options and is resorting to building a team for what she believes is a rescue mission. If she cannot find a group to

help her, then she will go it alone. The Gestapo or the Dept. 12 teams may find her searching the base for her father. She will try very hard to convince them to save her father but if they refuse she will attempt to leave them and continue the search herself.

Sturmbannführer Manfred Gruentz



Commander of the MittelWald Station, Sturmbannführer Gruentz is a very responsible officer in the SS. He is in charge of the station's security and soldiers as well as general administration.

He is noted as being driven by his career. As a young man he denounced his father to the Nazi Party. It is also believed, but cannot be proven, that when his brother confided in him that he was leaving Germany in order to marry a Jewish girl he had him killed rather than risk damage to his standing with Hitler and Goering. He is a responsible officer of the most dangerous type, the kind that truly believes all the propaganda of the Reich.

Lorelei has met the Sturmbannführer several times and will relate his insistence that she be accommodating. She has refused him and at times incited anger but never a response that would be fatal.

Dr. Dietrich Faber



Dr. Faber is a well travelled doctor of chemistry and pharmaceuticals. He has a very professional relationship with Dr. Holdst and outright enmity with Dr. Herald. He is seldom seen

socializing and prefers to be all business in the lab.

He stands six feet tall and has brown hair with a touch of grey at the temples. He sports a neatly trimmed goatee and wears round spectacles.

Dr. Faber's nationality is somewhat of a mystery. Although he has a German name he speaks with an English accent which he blames on his extensive travels. When asked he will usually evade the question and state that he is from many locations around the world.

Dr. Jonathan Herald

Dr. Herald is an English doctor of anatomy and was hired only one year ago. He has become a good friend of the Holdst family and not having any family in England has spent most of the holidays with them.



His spare time has been spent in courting Lorelei and they have grown fond of each other. His favorite pass time is to play chess with either Lorelei or her father.

Dr. Herald is in his early thirties, has blond hair and brown eyes. He stands five feet ten inches and dresses conservatively. He received his degrees from a small private college outside of Edinburgh, Scotland.

