Europe’s Earliest Kriegsspiel? Book Seven of Reinhard Graf zu Solms’ Kriegsregierung and the ‘Prehistory’ of Professional War Gaming

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Abstract

The history of professional war gaming is usually understood to have begun around the turn of the 18th to the 19th century and mainly associated with the Prussian Kriegsspiel, with chess-based predecessors traceable down to a game published in 1664 by Christoph Weickmann. Yet already a century before Weickmann and more than two centuries before the invention of the Prussian Kriegsspiel a Hessian nobleman published a game of cards that was intended to be used both for preparing young noblemen for military decision-making and for supporting command and control in the field. It thus may well have been the earliest professional war game of the post-medieval period.

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Europe’s Earliest Kriegsspiel? Book Seven of Reinhard Graf zu Solms’ Kriegsregierung and the ‘Prehistory’ of Professional War Gaming by JORIT WINTJES Julius-Maximilians-Universität, Würzburg

http://bjmh.org.uk/index.php/bjmh/artic load/68/51. I don't attempt to explain it. The article has 33 pages, and it's English. I found the book Chapter 7 Kartenspiel starts here http://bildsuche.digitale-sammlungen.de &nav=&l=de. And to explain the plans of war to the lower commanders. As I understand it, the cards were practically used before 1559. The year 1559 had established peace between the long-time opponents France and Habsburg and perhaps one had decided to speak open about this "secret weapon".