SOUTH CAROLINA SUNK

Delaware Bay – 21 December 1782

Having been warned of the British squadron patrolling off Cape May, Captain Joyner decided to head out of the bay to the south. As they crossed into the Atlantic, the British found them.

Map Type: 2 sheets, Floating



Wind Direction: random

Time: 10 turns

South Carolina Colonial Navy player (blue): 5th rate (South Carolina), 3x 6th rate (Hope, Constance, Seagrove)

British player (green): 3x 5th rate (HMS Diomede, HMS Quebec, HMS Astraea)

Optional rules:

Crew Quality – the 6th Rate have poor crew (reduced ship capabilities due to cargo)

Chasers – All American ships have bow chasers as does HMS Diomede. South Carolina also as stern chasers.

Coppered Hull – No

Marines – No

Scenario Specific Rules:

Privateers –the 6th rates are small merchantmen privateers with several limitations to reflect their true capabilities:-

- They will surrender when only British ships are within 5 hexes at the start of a turn.
- They can only fire once per player turn
- They cannot board another ship (but defend normally)

Escape - The South Carolinian ships escape the battle if there is no British ship within 15 hexes and they move off a map edge

Play balance - HMS Quebec and HMS Astraea only have 32 guns, mostly light 6 pounders, so could be reduced to 6th rate for a more balanced battle.

Victory Objectives: The British must capture 2 ships to win. If a British ship is sunk, the British must capture the South Carolina.

The South Carolinians win if the British fail (probably by escaping)

Historical result:

When the Americans split up, the British did as well. Constance surrendered almost immediately. Seagrove escaped HMS Diomede by heading north into the wind.

The main pursuit continued into the next day. By skilful manoeuvring, the British trapped and forced Hope to surrender before blasting South Carolina's masts and rigging into ruin in the evening.

Note: The title refers to the delirious effect on South Carolina's budget, having to pay off the cost of losing their leased frigate (South Carolina) for about a decade.