

THE BORKA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

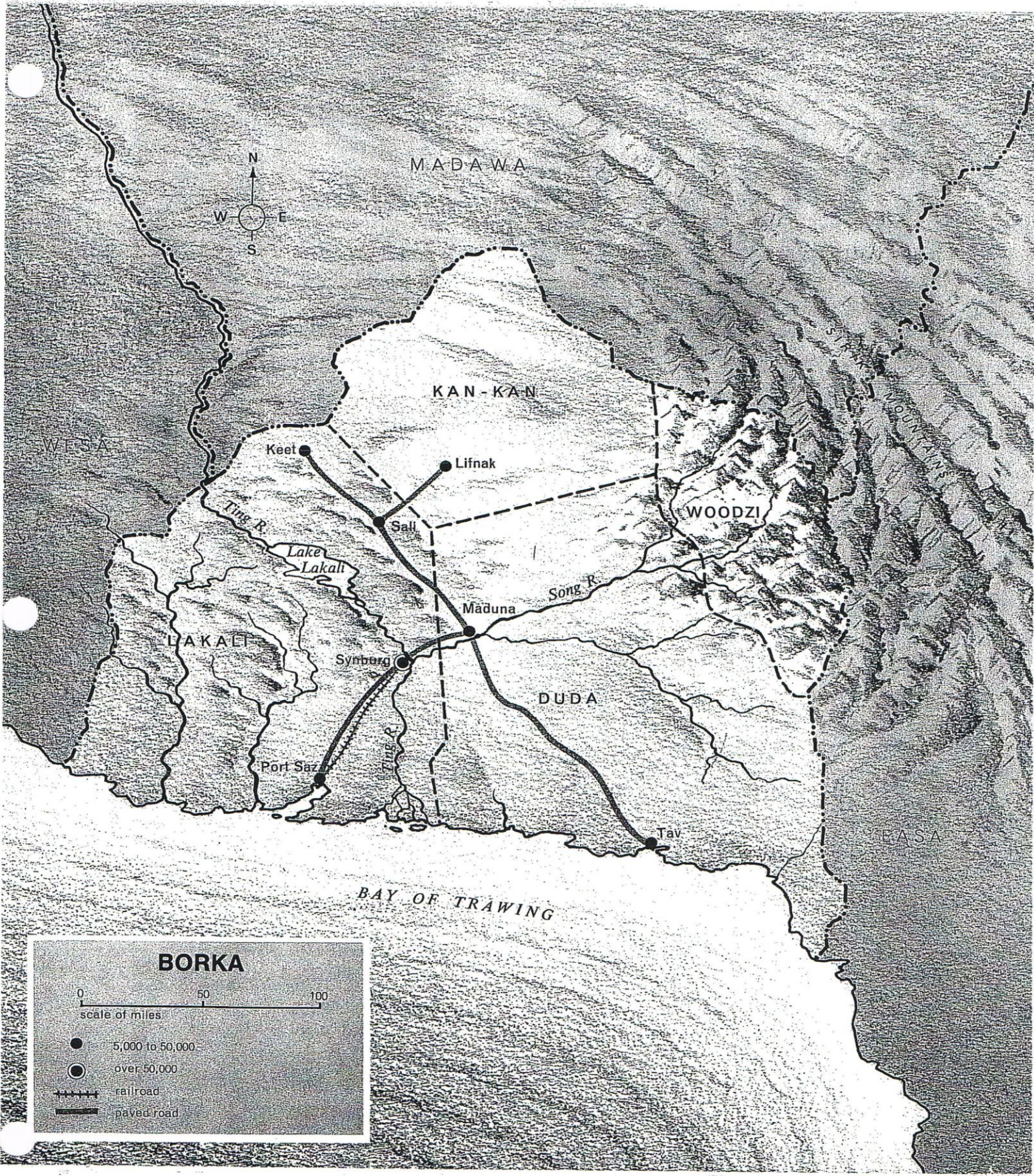
The government is merely a servant -- merely a temporary servant; it cannot be its prerogative to determine what is right and what is wrong, and decide who is a patriot and who isn't. Its function is to obey orders, not originate them.

Mark Twain:

Class Copy

Please do not write or highlight in this packets

MR WORM



BORKA



- 5,000 to 50,000
- over 50,000
- +—+—+—+— railroad
- paved road

Here is a brief description of each of the tribes:

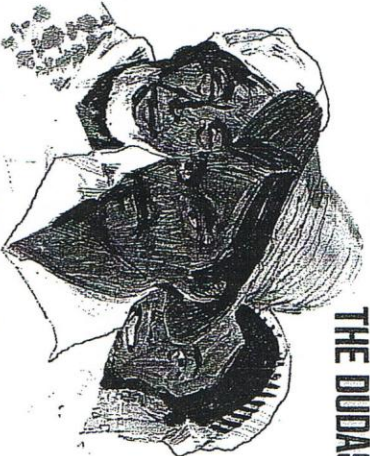
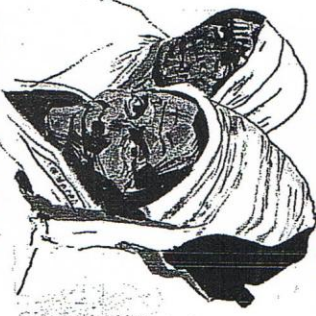
THE DUDAS

The Duda Tribe, with 800,000 people, makes up almost half of the entire Borkan population. Most Dudas are farmers. Their land is rich, and they grow more than enough to feed their families. What they don't eat themselves, they sell to the Kan-Kan and Lakali. A typical Duda farmer builds his own house, clears, plants and harvests his own crop; and makes his own tools from wood and stone. He greatly enjoys his independence, and is not used to taking orders from others. Dudas value practical education, which helps them grow better crops. They also value large families and traditional religious observances, and they have rigid views of what behavior is considered acceptable or moral.

THE LAKALIS

THE LAKALIS

The Lakali region is laced with many rivers. Because of its rivers and the fine harbor at Port Saz, Lakali is naturally suited for trade. The Lakalies are the merchants of Borka. They trade Borkan farm products and beef for products from Easa, Wesa and other countries. Trade has made the Lakalis rich; the 300,000 Lakalis control most of Borka's money. The Lakalis highly value philosophy, politics and education, and many of them have studied overseas. The fine university in Synburg is the only university in Borka. Wealth and education have made many Lakalis smug and arrogant. Evidence of this feeling can be heard in a jump-rope rhyme often sung on the streets of Synburg: "The Lakalis must 'cause the Woodzis won't - While the Kan-Kans can't and the Dudas don't."



THE KAN-KANS

The 400,000 Kan-Kans live in the dry northern plains of Borka. Across their border is the warlike Madawan Empire. The Kan-Kans seem shy and peaceful as they herd their goats and cattle. However, Borka's very independence from Madawa is testimony to the strength and skill of the Kan-Kan warriors. Ongoing skirmishes with Madawa have affected the Kan-Kans. They distrust everything and everyone foreign. They refuse modern medicine and education, and up-to-date methods of doing things. Most Kan-Kans have adopted the practice of polygamy. This practice of having more than one wife at the same time arose because so many Kan-Kan warriors were killed in battle, and the tribe was growing smaller. Kan-Kans have also taken up the practice of keeping Madawan prisoners of war (about 50,000 so far) as slaves. The Kan-Kans are interested in Borkan unity only because the tribe needs financial help from Lakali and food from Duda.



THE WOODZIS

THE WOODZIS

The Woodzi tribe is very small; it has less than 100,000 people. Most Woodzis live in small bands, which wander from valley to mountaintop in search of game. The hard life of an ordinary Woodzi makes him value hunting and tracking skills much more than city manners and fine dress. Whenever a young Woodzi boy comes down from the Sirik Mountains, he is laughed at. Because of his backward manners and rough clothing, the Dudas and the Lakalis treat the Woodzi like an outsider. Usually the boy quickly returns to the only place he is accepted, the Sirik Mountains. In recent decades, since important minerals were discovered in remote regions of the Sirik Mountains, rich and powerful Lakali businessmen have developed mining operators, run primarily on Woodzi child labor. The Woodzi children send their small earnings home to help support their poor families.



BORKA

In recent generations new nations in Africa and Asia have had many of the same problems that troubled the young United States of America. In some case they continue the struggle to create new governments which can deal with those problems. The country of Borka is imaginary, but its problems would sound very familiar to the American colonists and to the leaders of many of today's new countries.

Borka is a land of variety. In the south the plentiful rainfall and rich soil ensure good harvests. In the north the dry, treeless lands support cattle and goat herds. In the northeast the flatlands give way to the rugged Sirik Mountains. The few people who live in the Siriks make their living by hunting and mining. Their life is hard.

Four tribes live in Borka: the Duda, Lakali, Kan-Kan, and the Woodzi. Several years ago the tribes banded together, fought and won their independence from the harsh rule of the Madawa Empire to the north. Since that time, the tribes have lived in relative harmony with each other. Though they have considered themselves separate tribes, each with its own tribal government, they have formed a collection of tribes called the "confederation." The government of this "pseudo country" was supposed to unite the Borkans and help them maintain their independence from Madawa. However, since the central confederate government has little or no power over any tribe, it has been failing miserably. The government has no power to regulate trade or commerce between the tribes, to impose taxes to raise money with which to create an army for the country's protection, or even to hold any of the tribes accountable in any way.

The leaders of the tribes are meeting in the Lakali city of Syzburg to create a new form of government for Borka. Most Borkans throughout the four tribes support the idea of some form of representative democratic government, as they recognize and fear the dangers of falling back into an autocracy like the repressive Madawan government they fought so hard to escape. However, beyond that common fear, the Borkan tribes have many different needs, goals, philosophies and opinions about what specific form their democracy should take.

The question of what form of democratic government will best suit the people of Borka may seem simple, but it must include many different considerations. Some of the questions the leaders must answer are:

- A. Who should be represented in the government, and how?
- B. How should the government provide for the security of the Borkan people?
- C. What role should the government play in Borkan society?
- D. How should government be paid for, and by whom?
- E. How will ordinary people be protected from the power of government?

The many differences between the four tribes make these questions difficult to answer. In this simulation, you play the members of the four tribes of Borka who have been given the challenge of constructing a new, more successful national government. Your simulation is finished when your new government is created that answers all of the above questions, and has been approved by the majority of the tribes. Good Luck