

On Common Ground

American Civil War Miniatures Wargame

DON CARLOS BUELL



Military Expertise: 9

Smart

+3 to Morale

+3 to Leadership Checks

Personality: 7

Well Respected

-1 to Rallying Difficulty

Special Rules:

For All Units within 12" of the General

+1 to Hit

+2" to Movement

+1 to Damage Save

Educated in private school, excellent in math and horsemanship. Sent to west point by a wealthy uncle who raised him after his father died of a cholera epidemic. Almost expelled several times for demerits, although academically he excelled. Seminole war 1841-1842. Good administration and strict disciplinarian. Mex war vet brevetted 3 times for bravery. Organized the army of the Potomac with McClellan. When Sherman buckled under command and requested of McClellan that he be relieved Buell took command and organized the army of Ohio – the most highly trained successful and modern army on either side of the war. Pursued A.S. Johnson toward Mississippi, then literally saved Grants ass at Shiloh by arriving with 30,000 fresh troops on the second day when Grants troops were diminished and becoming more disorganized. In so doing he embarrassed Grant and thus incurred his hostility. He ignored political pressure when it came to his army. Friend of McClellan, big time Democrat, and former slave owner, who thought succession was legal, but believed in gradual emancipation with compensation to slave owners. He believed in maneuver more than constant attack and became known as a ‘soft war’ commander. He enforced a strict policy on non interference with southern civilians. He believed in iron discipline and gentlemanly comportment. After U.S. Gen John B. Turchin permitted the pillage of Athens AL. Buell brought charges against him, proved his case in military court, and won. Turchin was dismissed by the army only to be later reinstated and promoted by friends in the war dept. Accused of being overly cautious Lincoln ordered Gen George Thomas to replace Buell. Thomas refused, and then Lincoln suspended the order. Buell eventually pushed Bragg back into Tennessee and brought Kentucky under union control, but because his government viewed ‘tardiness’ he was replaced by Rosecrans, and sidelined for the rest of the war.

- “A capital soldier and student of the profession. He fought a battle with courage, coolness, and intelligence, saving us from utter rout at Shiloh, into which false position, Halleck’s ambition and Grants density has begotten us.” – Gen William F. ‘Baldly Smith
- “The commander merits condemnation who, from ambition, or ignorance or a weak submission to the dictation of popular clamor and without necessity or profit, has squandered the lives of his soldiers.