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ASTROCADE INTRODUCES "ARTILLERY DUEL" VIDEO GAME AT CES

CHICAGO--Attention, armchair generals of all ages!
Astrocade introduced today its new "Artillery Duel" video
game cartridge at the Consumer Electronics Show here.

The game starts to the sound of drums, as your squad
and your opponent's march in to set up gun emplacements on
opposite sides of a mountain range. The military
objective: blast your opponent's gun emplacement off the
mountain before he or she blasts yours.

Looking up at your battle display, you note your gun's
barrel angle and powder charge and the current wind
velocity. After a few test rounds, you make careful
adjustments, and blast away. When you achieve over 50%
damage (your "closed circuit TV" closeup of your enemy's
gun will show how you're doing), your enemy's ammunition
dump blows up, blackening over his entire mountain.
Triumphant, your soldiers march down to claim victory.

Instant hit

"I got the idea for Artillery Duel from living near the U.S. Navy Fleet Anti-aircraft Warfare Training Center in Virginia, which trains Navy gunners," says game designer John Perkins, 38. Perkins created an earlier version of the game in Astrocade BASIC and it became an instant hit among Astrocade owners, who asked for a full-blown video game version. Perkins, a leading consultant to the U.S. Navy on computer programs for fire control weapons and missile systems, used real gun-fire trajectory equations in the game (wind velocity effects, etc.), so it is accurate enough to be used in elementary artillery training, Perkins says.

"People who have played Artillery Duel find it a tremendous release of aggression and a great party game," says Perkins. "When teams play, they usually cheer when they win. Wives especially enjoy blasting their husbands, and kids like to beat their fathers. And people who are intimidated by faster-action video games find Artillery Duel gives them an even start."

Artillery Duel runs on the Astrocade video game and priced at \$34.95 retail. It will be available this Fall at Astrocade dealers nationwide.

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