



## UNDER A BROKEN FLAG.

By Jefferson Lee

**THE NATION** stands at the threshold of collapse. Irreversible changes to the Global Climate have started to critically disrupt your Nation's stability and future. Your citizens look to your leadership in their time of need.

**SETUP.** Play requires four players and a standard deck of Poker cards, with Jokers. Each player is the Representative of one State in the Nation.

To start the game, score and tear off these rules from the Flag, and place the Flag in the middle of the table. Each player then draws eight cards from the deck. Set aside the rest of the cards.

The game is played in four turns. Each turn represents a critical crossroads in your Nation's future which has prompted an **Emergency Assembly**. On the back of these rules is a **Schedule** that you will use to track information about each Assembly.

**ECONOMY.** The cards represent your Nation's economy. A card is **one resource**: Tech (♣ Clubs), Fuel (♦ Diamonds), Food (♠ Spades), Water (♥ Hearts). Royal Cards (Ace, King, Queen, Jack) are worth **two resources**, while Jokers are worth **zero**.

**PLAY.** The **first three Assemblies** follow these steps. **Read out loud.**

**1. REPORT.** One Representative reads the Assembly Report and discloses *Recovery Costs* and *Current Debt*.

**2. REPAY.** Any Representative can discard one card to remove **one billion** in Debt. Any amount of debt can be paid off. **Representatives are not required to contribute to debt repayment.**

**3. PROPOSALS.** Each Representative scores and tears off one piece of the flag, along the dotted lines. On the back is the *Proposal* they want to enact.

**4. SESSION 1.** Each Representative gets *two minutes* to defend the merits of their Proposal in front of the rest of the Assembly.

**5. RECESS.** After the first round of discussion, Representatives take a *five minute* recess. During this time, Representatives can talk and trade resources.

**6. SESSION 2.** Each Representative gets a second round to defend their Proposal.

**7. PAYMENT.** Each Representative pays for the cost of any Proposal they wish to *Enact*. **A Representative can pay for any number of Proposals**, but the exact cost must be paid -- any surplus is lost.

**8. COMPROMISES.** The Nation endures the *Fallout* of any Proposal *not* Enacted. Cross out the *Proposal* and place the *Fallout* next to the Flag.

**9. UPKEEP.** Each Representative decides whether they want to contribute to the *Recovery Costs*. Any contributions to the *Recovery Costs* must be paid exactly -- surplus is lost. **Representatives are not required to pay for Recovery Costs.**

**10. DEBT.** Any *Recovery Cost not met* becomes **one billion in Debt**. Add this debt to the current debt and record it on the *next* Assembly Report.

## ASSEMBLY 1, 2026 JULY 23

**REPORT:** "Ongoing food, water, and fuel shortages have caused major city centers to shutdown and civil unrest is causing emergency services to be severely overrun." **LOSSES TO DATE:** 633

**CURRENT DEBT:** 1 Billion

**RECOVERY COST:** Tech (♣) + Fuel (♦) + 3 Food (♠) + 3 Water (♥)

## ASSEMBLY 2, 2032 JUNE 2

**REPORT:** "Aid shipments have completely stopped from our allies. The ongoing Drought has devastated crops, and our experts predict severe food shortages." **LOSSES TO DATE:** 14,300

**CURRENT DEBT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECOVERY COST:** 2 Food (♠) + 2 Water (♥)

## ASSEMBLY 3, 2036 APRIL 9

**REPORT:** "The ongoing heat-wave has severely depleted our water supply. Coupled with the recent flooding season and the continued GD3 epidemic, millions of our citizens will not have safe drinking water in a matter of weeks." **LOSSES TO DATE:** 300,000

**CURRENT DEBT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECOVERY COST:** 2 Water (♥)

## ASSEMBLY 4, 2043 JANUARY 1

**REPORT:** "Most of the Capital has been without electricity for almost two hundred. Nearly all of the staff have abandoned their posts. We have enough diesel to run the radio transmitter for just enough time to send an emergency radio address to our citizens." **LOSSES TO DATE:** 500,000

**CURRENT DEBT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PROPOSAL:** Continued Higher Education funding.

**FALLOUT:** Inflexible labor market, slowed innovation, increased poverty.

**COST:** Tech (♣) + Tech (♠)

**PROPOSAL:** Nutritional Assistance Program.

**FALLOUT:** Citizens begin to die of malnutrition and starvation.

**COST:** Food (♠)

**PROPOSAL:** Enforce fuel efficiency regulations.

**FALLOUT:** Global demands leave your citizens without fuel reserves.

**COST:** Tech (♣)

**PROPOSAL:** Water Conservation Act.

**FALLOUT:** Your Nation's water quality is ranked the worst on the planet.

**COST:** Water (♥)

**PROPOSAL:** Infrastructure improvements.

**FALLOUT:** Millions lose access to electricity, and emergency services suffer.

**COST:** Fuel (♦) + Fuel (♦)

**PROPOSAL:** Reduce food waste.

**FALLOUT:** Food production fails to meet demand and citizens starve.

**COST:** Tech (♣)

**PROPOSAL:** Support Local Programs.

**FALLOUT:** Communities are unable to manage their local resources and begin to fail.

**COST:** Tech (♣)

**PROPOSAL:** Switch to Clean Energy.

**FALLOUT:** Without a reliable fuel source, your citizens suffer through harder seasons.

**COST:** Fuel (♦) + Fuel (♦)

**PROPOSAL:** Continue Welfare Programs.

**FALLOUT:** Millions of citizens suffer terribly during the increasingly harsh seasons.

**COST:** Tech (♣) + Food (♠)

**PROPOSAL:** Continued research funding.

**FALLOUT:** Loss of scientific mind share and future technical innovators.

**COST:** Tech (♣)

**PROPOSAL:** Continue Supplemental Food Program.

**FALLOUT:** Millions of existing recipients begin to starve without this help.

**COST:** Food (♠)

**PROPOSAL:** Provide International Climate Change Aid.

**FALLOUT:** International condemnation and reduced global standing.

**COST:** Food (♠)

**PROPOSAL:** Improved Environmental Protection.

**FALLOUT:** Farms land becomes severely eroded and water becomes contaminated.

**COST:** Fuel (♦)

**PROPOSAL:** Continued public education funding.

**FALLOUT:** Cultural stagnation, falling labor market, and increased poverty.

**COST:** Tech (♣)

**PROPOSAL:** Continue to sponsor Health Programs.

**FALLOUT:** Millions of citizens go without any health care at all.

**COST:** Tech (♣)

**PROPOSAL:** Continued Wildlife Protections.

**FALLOUT:** Sudden food chain collapse threatens the Nation's food production.

**COST:** Tech (♣)

**PROPOSAL:** Continued Environmental Clean-up.

**FALLOUT:** Existing environmental issues become staggering disasters.

**COST:** Tech (♣)

**PROPOSAL:** Additional Disaster Funding.

**FALLOUT:** Sudden and severe weather disasters leave your citizens totally helpless.

**COST:** Water (♥)

**PROPOSAL:** Continued UN Membership.

**FALLOUT:** Severely reduced diplomatic opportunities and global standing.

**COST:** Tech (♠)

**PROPOSAL:** Improved Health Care.

**FALLOUT:** Chronic illnesses and local epidemics cause massive societal disruptions.

**COST:** Tech (♠) + Tech (♠)

**PROPOSAL:** Maintain current trade partnerships.

**FALLOUT:** Reduced trade and diplomatic opportunities, and economic stagnation.

**COST:** Tech (♠)

**PROPOSAL:** Farmland Conservation Act.

**FALLOUT:** The Nation's farmland becomes an irreversible dust bowl.

**COST:** Food (♠)

**PROPOSAL:** Food Production Regulations.

**FALLOUT:** The Nation's farmland becomes overworked and barren.

**COST:** Water (♥)

**PROPOSAL:** Housing Assistance Program.

**FALLOUT:** Millions are rendered homeless as resources and land become scarce.

**COST:** Tech (♠) + Fuel (♦)

## ENDGAME. ONLY READ OUT LOUD THIS DURING THE FOURTH ASSEMBLY:

**1. DEBT REPAYMENT.** Each billion in Debt that remains by this turn represents **one million** additional people who have died, or fled the Nation due to instability. **You cannot discard cards at this time to reduce losses. It is too late now.**

**2. REPORT.** A Representative now reads the *Report* and discloses *total* losses from these last four Emergency Assemblies.

**3. DEBATE.** For *five minutes*, the Representatives openly debate one final topic: **Should the Nation stay intact or should each State take their own path?**

**4. TRANSMISSION.** After the debate, each Representative gets *two minutes* for their *Radio Address*. The Representative should clearly state her position and her desires for her fellow citizens.

**5. EPILOGUE.** Each Player gets to Narrate what happens to their State after the radio goes silent.