

I submitted our moves prior to the deadline as usual. We received our magazine some days later to find that a deadline extension was ordered—note not requested by the players — because "over half of the players had missed their moves". Both Larry and I protested this action noting, among other facts, that this rule was not in the house rules of ATLANTIS. To no avail! The deadline extension stood, even though our moves were in on time!

In the Spring of 1905 the climax of the DIPLOCON was at hand. Amid the great piles of work that had to be done the season for ATLANTIS was overlooked and thus Larry and I both missed the deadline. Since Mr Schleicher had allowed the other players a missed move we requested the same right. We were told that over half of the players did not miss but that Chris would ask for a player vote. He did so but not on the grounds of our protest or on the grounds of fair and equal treatment as we had requested! The players voted to not play the season over — in short screw you, even though they got a free season at the hand of the GM when they didn't even ask for it.

Both Larry and I can see this as nothing short of Caprice. Chris has made a ruling allowing one group of players to miss a deadline whenever they damn well please while the rest of the players are without recourse.

We submit that the arbitrators of the IDA and TDA should request that Chris play the season in question over again to give us the same chance these other players had when they all missed their moves.

Sincerely,

Lenard Lakofka

The following letter is from Mr. John Beshara, replying to the above letter. Some parts have been omitted that do not directly pertain to the discussion.

October 10, 1972:

To: Mr. Lenard Lakofka

Dear len,

I have your letter, undated, about 1971R in Atlantis and I have checked the record as published in Atlantis, asked Chris for further information and discussed the issue with the Board. The facts according to the record in Atlantis appear to be:

1. The 1971R "Winter 1903" moves appeared in Atlantis #48, dated 4February 1972, and a "Spring 1904" deadline set for 24February 1972.
2. In Atlantis #49, dated 18February 1972, the deadline for "Spring 1904" moves was extended to 9 March 1972 at the request of Steve Brooks, due to a death in his family. This extension was published well in advance of the 24 February deadline and for a valid reason, both of these facts contradict the statements made by you in the third paragraph of your letter. (As an aside, around that time Steve phoned me saying he was in New York because of his father's death. At Steve's request, I gave him Chris' phone number so he could phone Chris and request the extension. Naturally, I offered to do so for him, but he said he would manage.)
3. In Atlantis #51, dated 17 March 1972, the "Spring 1904" moves were published. The deadline for "Fall 1904" moves was set for 27 March 1972. A period of 10 days between major moves is too brief a period and I suspect that is the reason why Chris announced an automatic extension of the "Fall 1904"

deadline in Atlantis 52 to 30 May 1972. It appears this is the extension to which you were referring, rather than the "Spring 1904" extension. According to my understanding of the Atlantis deadlines between major moves, the players are entitled to a minimum of two weeks from the date of mailing in which to submit moves. It is possible Chris made a typographical error in dating the issue or in setting the deadline or was delayed in mailing the issue, and I have asked Chris to clarify this point for me. Nevertheless, it is the GM's responsibility to conduct his games in an orderly manner and if he has failed to give the players the requisite period of time in which to submit moves, he is most certainly justified in personally extending the deadline. On more than one occasion I have personally asked Chris to extend deadlines, even in games in which I am not playing, when I have noted that players did not receive the requisite minimum time in which to submit moves. This is one of the things TDA does which evidently you are not aware of. We do it to protect newcomers who may not be aware of their rights. (We also audit adjudications in games in which there are newcomers to ascertain the GM has not made an error. This is another service of TDA which you evidently are not aware of, according to the last issue of your zine.)

While I do not think it was automatic for Chris to refuse to accept your late moves because of Diplo-Con, I see no relationship between that and the extension he gave in "Fall 1904". I do not think you are busier than I am, even during Diplo-Con, and during all my years of play I've never missed a move in any of my games. When personal or business pressures, or my travelling, have caused problems, I have somehow managed to submit moves, appoint a substitute or request an extensive extension of the deadline prior to the deadline date. By virtue of Diplo-Con, you were entitled to an extension and you should have made the request prior to the deadlines in all your games, if you did not think you could get your moves in on time.

*

There is no question, Len, that I do sympathize with you, particularly because I was recently "done in" by Chris in one of his rulings in my game in 1970C, but what Chris did in your game was within his discretion as the GM insofar as the record of Atlantis shows, and that could only be altered if Chris were to tell me he mailed Atlantis #51 a few days prior to March 17, 1972.

In any event, we appreciate the gentlemanly manner in which you have conducted your dispute.

All good wishes and good gaming,

Best,

John J. Beshara
Chairman of the Board
THE DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION

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The "Spring 1904" moves were extended from 27 March to 27 April without a notice printed in ATLANTIS. I further extended the moves after the 27 April deadline when moves were not received from all the players -- in particular, I had reason to believe that several players missed due to moving and school pressures.

After I delayed the game again, I was contacted by Horvath who had lost my address in moving from Chicago to Virginia. Was I justified in giving an extension without one being requested? That is the question posed by Messers. Blandin and Lakofka.

ORDERS OF TIME

Alertness in duties and conscientious control of diplomatic and executive communications has proven to be the very mainstays of successful nation states. In consistency with this axiom, it is also true that failure in either duty or communications ultimately results in a like failure from success. Paramount to this axiom is the demands and limitations of time which can be long in duration or short, but surely capped with a deadline. It is with these personal demands of myself and reality that I now return an answer of "No!" to the request that we reinact the spring 1905.

Historically there are like failures in the recorded roles of the past that can reinforce and give proper understanding to you of my decision.

In the American Revolution (the one in 1776), England lost an empire when Lord North's Colonial Secretary, Lord Germain, failed to communicate military movement orders to General Howe (then residing at Chesapeake Bay) in favor of a weekend hunt for quail and his intense hobby of capturing girls in the downy. In 1877 the military supreme command was North and Germain who remained, by necessity, amidst the political gaming tables of London proper. General Burgoyne, panting for battle at Lake Champlain (since he had bet a throughbred horse that he would be victorious and home in England by Christmas) pushed a plan to Germain of marching south to Albany (even though he wasn't sure of its location) while General Howe was to march north, meet him, and thus trap the rebels between their two massive armies. Orders were written to Gentleman Johnny on a Friday and placed on an American bound ship (a trip of some 4-10 weeks). Howe's orders were not completed at that time and Germain, in haste for his country (or is it casual = live diplomacy) estate, left Howe's orders for his signature on the following Monday.

The Burgoyne orders reached their destination in 4½ weeks while Howe's orders didn't reach him until after Burgoyne was almost at Albany -- with half an army and half a plan.

The British defeat at Saratoga cost an army, a nation's morale, and an empire.

Another example of failure in this despicable manner would be the breakdown of communications between Germany and Austria-Hungary in July, 1914. Over the Serbian nuisance issue Kaiser Wilhelm II and Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg gave their famous carte blanche decision to Austria on July 5 whereupon Willy went sailing in the Baltic with his Imperial Fleet and Hollweg, on the 19th, went to Holland for a few days rest.

Hollweg returned on the 23rd and had just begun to catch up on his homework on the 25th when Austria broke relations with Serbia and the creaky rumblings of wooden wagon wheels could be heard in the East. It wasn't until the 29th that Hollweg realized things weren't quite right and the Kaiser didn't get the word until the 30th when he finally ordered his yachts to return home -- mucho prontos me amigos! On the 31st Hollweg asked General Moltke "Is the Fatherland in danger?" THE GUNS of AUGUST sounded on the 1st because Willy and Beth had not performed their duties properly and had not maintained a continuous exchange of information with their unstable ally.

It was later reported that Lords North, Germain, Wilhelm II and Hollweg were repentant but could not receive a recompense in their times of err. A fond adieu to England and Italy as the order of time stays nor repeats for no man - not even a diplomat.

CmH

Historian to the RAH Empire
(Russia, Austria-Hungary)

The following is an article that was written by Michael Horvath.

Murder in Atlantis

Some discouraging trends have been developing in Atlantis over the past year that have caused me no end of concern. At the risk of alienating my friend Chris (as the publisher) and also some of the apparently less (although they may claim more) professional people who are involved with Atlantis, I now offer this subtle comment on my thoughts.

Perhaps it is the Atlantis state of financial stability, stock meetings, union boycotting and/or arson that have resulted in numerous delays of publication but the situation is getting ridiculous. With the last delay of the R-3 results I was about to assume that everyone challenging my allies and myself had turned in their jackboots for slippers and that all was over! Not so since after a month and half the war is apparently resumed! As we are all aware of these numerous and endless delays I shall rule for all that Atlantis loses round one.

Appearing almost regularly are paragraphs and paragraphs about how poor the mailing system is in that they keep losing 100, 200, 500, or 1,000 items for periods lasting as long as a month or more! Bullllshiiiiit!!!!!! I am not about to be stupid by saying that all is in order in the postal house but I am going to state that it is my conviction that some (s) in our own house is (are) goofing off too much! It would come as no surprise to me that an investigation of players, game masters and publishers who have claimed mail loss were actually responsible themselves. Come on Lakofka, why don't you admit you were in California again! If the postal system was as bad as some would have us believe does it not make sense that the people of the U.S. would be up in arms? At least big business would be raising hell! Atlantis loses round 2.

There is too much crap in the paper that apparently pushes diplomatic articles right off the pages! The Atlantis publication of September 15-25 (this one took ten days to print, let alone send) is a typical example. Some kind of feud between John Boardman and John Beshara about the Israeli-Arab conflict was published while an historical article that dealt with a problem in R-3 was left behind the radiator in Chris' apartment. Really now fellas, why don't you write directly to each other and arrange the details of the duel and get it over with! Atlantis loses round 3 by a knockout. Weak pulse on arrival at Publications County Hospital. Long live the Queen!

Really Chris, I know how busy you are but either fly the plane right or stay on the ground!

(signed) Mike

In comment to the above article, and I write very few comments to anything which Chris prints in Atlantis, a few little known facts about my husband, and myself:

The post office is notorious for losing mail. They managed to do it to us this week, again. The last issue of Atlantis took ten days to publish for financial reasons. Chris graduates this December, works part time, but I am the main source of income for the time being and a roof over our heads and food on the table are much more important than whether or not somebody gets their copy of Atlantis. Chris does not ask anyone for a subscription for Atlantis, you asked him. If you don't like it don't subscribe, it is all that simple. Charity comes at HOME FIRST.

DEB

THE DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION presents

Moves in a Sample Game
with Comments on the Interpretation of the Rules

By Eric Verheiden

When the 1971 Diplomacy Rulebook was published, there was an inadvertent failure to correct the "Sample Game" on the last two pages to conform with the changes in abbreviations, rules, terms and the addition of underlining to indicate orders that fail. The following is an edited revision of the "Sample Game," as I think the style is desirable for the Rulebook:

SPRING 1901

ENGLAND: A Liv-Yor, F Lon-Nth, F Edi-Nrg.
FRANCE: A Par-Bur, A Mar-Spa, F Bre-Pic.
GERMANY: A Ber-Kie, A Mun-Ruh, F Kie-Den.
ITALY: A Ven-Pie, A Rom-Ven, F Nap-Ion.
AUSTRIA: A Vie-Tri, A Bud-Gal, F Tri-Alb.
RUSSIA: A Mos-Ukr, A War-Gal, F Sev-Bla, F StP (sc)-Bot.
TURKEY: A Con-Bul, A Smy-Con, F Ank-Bla.

*

FALL 1901

ENGLAND: F Nrg-Bar, A Yor-Nwy, F Nth C A Yor-Nwy.
FRANCE: A Bur-Mar, A Spa-Por, F Pic-Bel.
GERMANY: A Kie-Hol, A Ruh-Bel, F Den Holds.
ITALY: A Pie-Mar, F Ion-Tun, A Ven Holds.
AUSTRIA: A Bud-Ser, F Alb-Gre, A Tri Holds.
RUSSIA: A War-Gal, F Bot-Swe, F Sev-Rum, A Ukr S F Sev-Rum.
TURKEY: A Bul-Ser, A Con-Bul, F Ank-Bla.

Comment: With everything to gain and nothing to lose, Austria should have ordered A Tri S A Bud-Ser. Since A Bud would then be moving with support against Turkey's unsupported opposition, the move would have succeeded.

*

WINTER 1901

Supply Center Chart and Adjustments:

ENGLAND: Home, Norway (+1).....Build F Edi
FRANCE: Home, Portugal (+1).....Build F Mar
GERMANY: Home, Denmark, Holland (+2).....Build F Kie and A Mun
ITALY: Home, Tunis (+1).....Build F Nap
AUSTRIA: Home, Greece (+1).....Build A Vie
RUSSIA: Home, Rumania, Sweden (+2).....Build A StP and A Sev
TURKEY: Home, Bulgaria (+1).....Build A Smy

Comment: France builds one new unit for Portugal but none for Spain, which A Por passed through in the Spring.

*

SPRING 1902

ENGLAND: F Edi-Nth, F Nth-Nwy, A Nwy-StP, F Bar S A Nwy-StP.
FRANCE: A Por-Spa, F Mar-Lyo, A Bur-Mar, F Pic-Bel.
GERMANY: A Mun-Bur, F Kie-Hol, A Hol-Bel, A Ruh S A Hol-Bel, F Den Holds.
ITALY: A Pie-Mar, F Tun-Wes, F Nap-Tyr, A Ven Holds.
AUSTRIA: A Bud-Ser, A Tri-Bud, A Vie-Dud, F Gre Holds.
RUSSIA: A Sev-Arm, A Ukr-Sev, F Rum Holds, A Gal S F Rum, A StP-Nwy,
F Swe S A StP-Nwy.
TURKEY: A Smy-Arm, A Con-Bul, A Bul-Rum, F Bla S A Bul-Rum.

Comment: The coastlines of Norway and Sweden are adjacent along the south, thus F Swe can support an attack on Norway. Also, Norway and St. Petersburg are adjacent at the extreme north. Since England's A Nwy and Russia's A StP are trying to occupy the position of the other, each with one valid support, the result is a standoff. Austria's F Gre could not support the action in Serbia -- a fleet cannot move to an inland province and therefore cannot give support in such a province.

FALL 1902

ENGLAND: F Nth-Nwy, F Edi-Nth, A Nwy-StP, F Bar S A Nwy-StP.
FRANCE: A Bur-Mar, F Lyo-Mar, F Pic-Bel, A Spa Holds.
GERMANY: F Den-Swe, A Ruh-Bur, A Mun S A Ruh-Bur, A Bel S A Ruh-Bur, F Hol S A Bel.
ITALY: A Pie-Mar, A Ven-Pie, F Wes-Mid, F Tyr-Lyo.
AUSTRIA: A Tri-Bud, A Vie-Gal, A Ser S TURKISH A Bul-Rum, F Gre Holds.
RUSSIA: A Sev-Arm, F Rum-Bla, A Ukr-Rum, A Gal S A Ukr-Rum, A StP-Nwy,
F Swe S A StP-Nwy.
TURKEY: A Bul-Rum, A Con-Bul, A Smy-Arm, F Bla S A Smy-Arm.

Comment: France retreats A Bur-Gas. Russia retreats A StP-Mos and F Rum is disbanded. The result in Norway is different from the previous moves because German intervention of F Den-Swe cut the Russian support. Russia could have held Rumania by moving A Gal-Rum, A Ukr S A Gal-Rum.

WINTER 1902

Supply Center Chart and Adjustments:

ENGLAND: Home, Norway, St. Petersburg (+1).....Build F Lon
FRANCE: Home, Portugal, Spain (+1).....Build A Par
GERMANY: Home, Belgium, Denmark, Holland (+1).....Build F Kie
ITALY: Home, Tunis.....No change
AUSTRIA: Home, Greece, Serbia (+1).....Build A Tri
RUSSIA: Moscow, Warsaw, Sevastopol, Sweden (-2)..Remove A Gal
TURKEY: Home, Bulgaria, Rumania (+1).....Build F Con

Comment: Although Russia lost two supply centers, only one unit is removed because F Rum was disbanded during the year.

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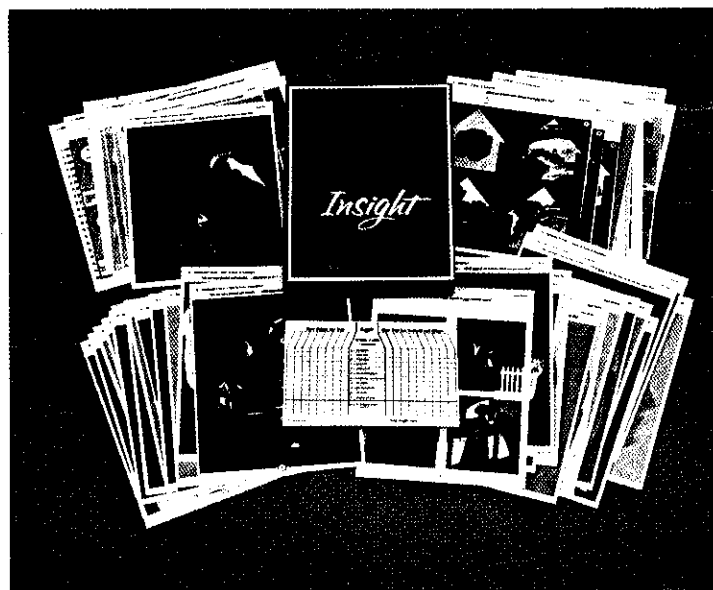
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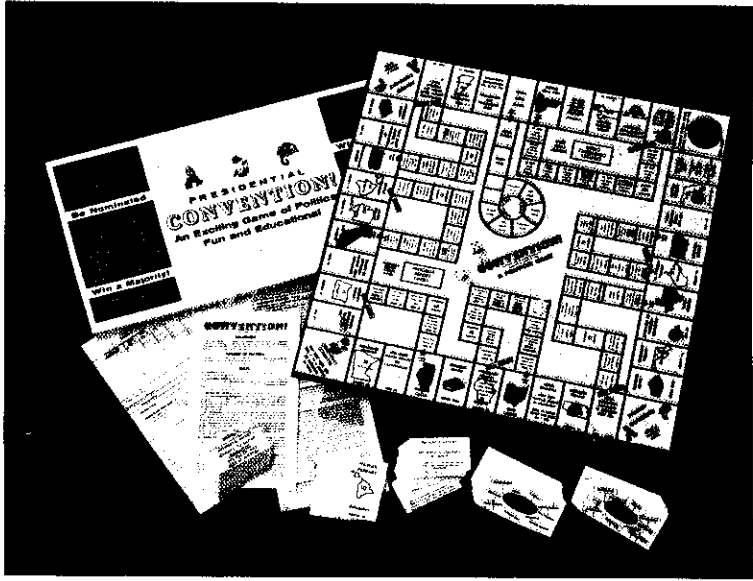
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THE DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION'S

First Postal Diplomacy World Championship Tournament

1. Forty-nine entries will be seeded into seven games. The purpose of seeding the players is to divide, as equally as possible, the strongest players among the seven games, to avoid having any two players from the same area and to avoid collusion. Each of the winners of the seven games will then compete in the finals for the honor of being Diplomacy's World Champion.

2. There will be one or more additional games to provide alternate winners to play in the finals, if there are stalemates in any of the first seven games, and to be standbys in the finals.

3. Rules: (1) The rules will be essentially those of the 1971 Rulebook with some variations. (2) Anyone is eligible to compete. (3) There will be at least one standby player for each game. (4) The games will be conducted in Atlantis by Gamesmaster Chris Schleicher. (5) In the event of any disputes, clarifications or modifications of any nature during the contest, the final arbiter will be the Chairman of the Board of THE DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION, John J. Beshara.

4. Prizes: (1) Winners of all games and the best player in all stalemated games receive their choice of a wargame manufactured by Games Research Inc., through the courtesy of its President, John R. Moot. (2) For the World Champion, a beautiful, engraved trophy donated by John Beshara; a free entry in a game in Graustark, Liaisons Dangereuses, Atlantis and Erehwon given by John Boardman, Len Lakofka, Chris Schleicher and Rod Walker, respectively; a free entry in the next Hoosier Archives multiple winner trophy game, courtesy of Walt Buchanan; a one year subscription to Boast and Stench given by Herb Barents; plus a valuable surprise prize donated by THE DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION. (3) Herb Barents is giving the runner-up a one year subscription to Boast and is also giving a free game in Boast to the first players eliminated in each of the first seven games, "so losers may be winners, too." Walt Buchanan is also giving a one year subscription to Hoosier Archives to the best over-all player in the alternate games. John Boardman is also giving a one year subscription of Graustark to the best player in any of the first seven games that are stalemated. Chris Schleicher is also giving a one year subscription of Atlantis to the best standby player in the first seven games.

5. Entryfees: \$7 per game for players. \$5 per game for standbys. Entryfees include a subscription to Atlantis until the conclusion of all games in the tournament for which an entryfee is paid. When all games are filled, players paying an entryfee of \$7 will automatically be allocated standby positions, if openings are still available, and will be refunded \$2. Subscription rates: \$5 for all games in the first round or \$10 for the entire tournament; subscribers may assume standby positions, if openings become available. Checks must be made payable to Chris Schleicher but must be mailed to John Beshara, 155 West 68th Street, New York, N.Y. 10023. Players should include a listing from 1 thru 7 of their country preferences.

(THE DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION is not liable for the failure of the publisher, or those donating prizes, to fulfill their commitments)

Monsignor Pablo Gonzalez, prefect of the Papal Commission on Sainthood, released the first report of the study group today. His Holiness had charged the commission with solving the problem of alienation of the faithful by loss of saintly identification. The monsignor stated that when the commission had earlier indicated that certain saints, Christopher and George among them, had never existed many people who had had these as patrons and namesakes were very disturbed. The Pope asked the commission to find persons with names of such nonsaints who were worthy of sainthood.

Cardinal McLennan's subbestion was tabled.

The commission had nominated Georggio "Big G" Gambino, commander of the papal army which has recently taken the city of Trieste. To his credit General Gambino showed great courage and piety in his tireless efforts to halt his victorious troops from the practice of indiscriminate rape and murder.

"Big G" was extremely concerned that the rape of a pregnant woman could easily be a form of abortion since violent rape will bring about miscarage, and killing the woman would deprive the unborn of the "right to life" and he was very concerned about the rights of the unborn. As Papal troops, he felt, the troops had to support all the policies of the Curia.

The General toured the city continuously, going without sleep for two days, to make sure that his men neither raped nor killed such women. This was a very arduous task since the men very much enjoyed the wholesale killing of the townspeople and found it difficult to discriminate in the dark.

On behalf of the commission Monsignor Gonzalez asked all faithfull to write to His Holiness to cast their votes on "Big G's" cannonization.

-----Thanks to Drew McGee and Philip Roth

BB

"Spring 1903"

1971DF

R-6

RUSSIA (Bagala):

A Gal-Ukr
A Mos (S) A Gal-Ukr
F Swe-Nwy

AUSTRIA (Thorgaard):

A Vie-Gal
A Bud-Rum
F Alb-Ion
F Gre-Bul (sc)
A Ser (S) F Gre-Bul (sc)

GERMANY (Ainsworth):

F Den-Ska
F Kie-Den
F Hel (S) F Kie-Den
A Hol (S) A Bel
A Bel (S) A Hol
A Mun holds

ITALY (Rice): [COA]

A Pie-Tus
F Lyo (S) A Pie-Tus
F Wes-Tyr
A Ven-Ron

[continued on page 13].

