

BARATARIA

#1

Winter 1900

18 June 1972

"If everybody is somebody nobody's anybody."

Barataria is a postal Diplomacy bulletin, edited and published by John McCallum, P. C. Box 52, Ralston, Alberta, T0J 2N0, Canada. It carries the moves of game 1972BD. The subscription price is a cent a page. Trades with all other Diplomacy publishers are welcomed.

Rod Walker to the rescue! Game 1972BD Begins!

Game 1972BD has been made up and ready to go for a month except that it lacked a seventh player. Rod Walker has consented to play in it, allowing the game to begin at last. The players:

Germany: Edi Birsan, 48-20 39th St., Long Island City, New York, 11104

England: Bob Johnson, Box 134, Whippany, New Jersey, 07981

France: Ed Halle, Box 903, Gainesville, Florida, 32601

Italy: Rod Walker, 4719 Felton St., San Diego, California, 92116

Austria: Doug Beyerlein, 3934 S. W. Southern, Seattle, Washington, 98136

Turkey: Walt Buchanan, RR # 3, Lebanon, Indiana, 46052

Russia: Bob Ward, 8665 Florin Road, Sacramento, California, 95828

Deadline for moves for Spring 1901 is Thursday, 8 June.

Playing procedures will be identical with those for game 1972BC played simultaneously in Pfennig-Halbpennig. They will be detailed in issue #6 of that journal which players should receive a few days after the current issue of Barataria.

The make up of this game has been rather long and involved. Last fall I offered a game, based on the Serendip quotes contest. There were only two applicants, Doug Beyerlein and Edi Birsan. In the winter when I was working on the ODD Rating List I wrote and asked them if they would be willing to have, instead, a game based on the ODD Rating List, the players to have scores as close as possible to their own. They both agreed and the game was offered in Pfennig-Halbpennig. Replies fell into two groups: There were those with ODD scores close to the average of Beyerlein and Birsan, and there were those, mostly new comers but including also a few old hands, with scores, like my own, close to 600. At first I refused the latter but, later, such applications continued to come in, I decided to have two games, one for each group. I soon had 6 people enrolled for each game, and there the thing stood for the better part of a month. Though a seventh application came in for the lower rated game, I asked Rod Walker to get a game number for it, and he volunteered

to enter this one. The game is therefore off and running. All players in it are rather high on the ODD Rating list, and every player is within 250 points of the mean of the scores of the others. All players, of course, are winners of previous games. All of the players are editors of Diplomacy journals, or were editors some time ago. With such well known old timers as these introductions are hardly necessary, as I suspect that all have played in games with the others. (The exception to this is the pair Walt Buchanan - Ed Halle. Ed was very active in the years around 1969, not only playing in many games but publishing Brobdignag. For various reasons he had to drop out of the hobby and this game is his first since his return to the fold. Walt likewise has been very active in the last year or so, as editor of Hoosier Archives, as participant in various Diplomacy organizations, and as a highly successful player. However, he only joined the hobby in the Fall of 1970, by which time Ed had left.) Anyhow, best wishes to all for an enjoyable game.

Pfennig-Halbpennig has a brief run down of the playing procedures to be used in its game, 1972BC. The same procedures will be used here. All players will be sent copies.

Players were informed of the player-country assignments by a circular letter sent out in mid-May. Another circular letter, in early June, delayed the deadline on account of the editor's absence. Two administrative matters have since arisen. Players should note the change in the Zip-code for Doug Beyerlein, as shown on page 1. Doug has not moved but the Post Office is doing some re-numbering. Bob Ward's address should have the unit number, #176, inserted after the street address. So let us get on with the game.

Game 1972BD, Spring 1901:

New Pope Elected

St. Petersburg. 1 Feb. The Russian Foreign Ministry has been deluged with offers, counter-offers, warnings, counter-warnings, plots, and counter-plots. How much, or whether, to believe is still at question. We wish peace with all, but for now alliance with none. You takes your chances.

Rome, 13 Feb. Without debate, the College of Cardinals bowed to the New Order in Italy today and elected Lucretia Borgia pope. Her Holiness, surprising no one, took the style of Joan II, although considering the number of times Her Holiness has been Pontiff by now, she would probably be more accurate at XXII. Oh, well...infallible, you know. Rome, 27 March. American exchange student Phil T. Retsch today led a massive student demonstration on the Vatican grounds. During the demonstration, Retsch burned an American flag, although the symbolism of doing so in Italy is a bit obscure. But then, so is Retsch. The demonstrators screamed, "Stop the War!" at the top of their lungs, while beating up any monks they could get their hands on. When it was pointed out to him that there was no war at the moment, Retsch screamed "Filthy re-actionary pig!" Later on he advanced this perspicacious argument by stating, "We'll make you stop the war if we have to start one to make you stop!"

London, 30 March. England regrets having sent its southern fleet into the Channel but felt it was quite necessary for the protection of its trade and home shores during this period of turmoil in Europe. The nations of both France and Germany have not been close to ours and this is no doubt the result of our careful policy of no continental entanglements (with one exception) these past few decades. Nevertheless, the Foreign Office has issued the warning that hostile acts by up-coming belligerents may draw us into this foolish war.

Dover, 2 April. Reports from journals recently in Belgium hint that the King of the Belgians will be heading for London in the near future to secure English assistance in the preservation of its independence. They most commonly noted that the strong economic ties with England will be the argument advanced most particularly.

Rome, 3 April. Today saw renewed demonstrations led by Phil T. Retsch. The demonstrators screamed that the pope was a "male chauvinist pig" and that the church was a "sexist autocracy". Standing upwind, several reporters talked with Retsch. When it was pointed out to him that the pope was a woman, he countered, "She's still a male chauvinist pig, even if she isn't male. So there!" Retsch vowed to stay in the Vatican grounds, uprooting vegetation, bullying nuns, and assaulting squirrels, until at least half the college of Cardinals was composed of women. When it was pointed out to him that since the time of Pope Innocent XIII, Her Holiness' father, the College of Cardinals was never less than 55% women, Retsch shrieked that he would not be misled by facts and vowed to continue to demonstrate "until I get what I want".

Scapa Flow, 6 April. The main Home Fleet prepared to sail into the Norwegian Sea, officially on maneuvers, however there have been indications of troop barges and transports gathering in northern Scotland and that the North Defence Territorial Army Corps has been mobilizing and assembling in bases in the same area. Speculation is that England has agreed to send a defensive Expeditionary force (BDEF) to protect Norway from the war apparently beginning in Europe. This would be in agreement with the only treaty of mutual defense England has with any continental power.

Sale, 8 April. Herr Doktor Johann Bohrman, Professor of Astrology, Alchemy, Demonology and Rhetoric at Cloud-Cuckoo University here, today delivered a major address at Torquemada Hall. "We will support Comrade Retsch to the end!" he screeched. "He is against things and that is the right way to be. Against, against, AGAINST!" shouted Herr Doktor Bohrman, jumping up and down on the podium. The two reporters who covered the speech were unable to make a comprehensive report on it, since the echo in the otherwise empty hall made much of it unintelligible.

St. Petersburg, 15 April. Agents of the Russian Military Intelligence have received evidence that would appear to indicate an anti-Russian alliance between Germany and England. While we have nothing but love in our hearts for our brothers in those two countries we cannot let the threat to freedom posed by their reactionary leadership go unanswered. Therefore we have ordered preventive action by the Military Department. We recognize that this may be the work of provocateurs, and will withdraw on satisfactory assurances that no ill is intended to us.

France (Halle): Army Paris to Picardy
Army Marseilles to Spain
Fleet Brest to English Channel

England (Johnson): Fleet Norway to Norwegian Sea
Fleet London to English Channel
Army Liverpool to Edinburgh
Fleet Edinburgh, unordered, stands

Germany (Birsan): Fleet Kiel to Denmark
Army Munich to Ruhr
Army Berlin to Kiel

Russia (Ward): Fleet Sevastopol to Rumania
Army Warsaw to Prussia
Army Moscow to St. Petersburg
Fleet St. Petersburg to Gulf of Bothnia

Turkey ((Buchanan): Fleet Ankara to Black Sea
Army Constantinople to Bulgaria
Army Smyrna to Armenia

Austria (Beyerlein): Army Budapest to Serbia
Army Vienna to Galicia
Fleet Trieste to Albania

Italy (Walker): Army Venice to Tyrolia
Fleet Naples to Ionian Sea
Army Rome to Apulia

Underlined moves do not succeed. As there is no English Fleet in Norway the order to such a unit necessarily fails. Deadline for moves for Fall 1901 is Thursday, July 6th.

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Congratulations to Doug Beyerlein on his recent graduation, in Engineering, at the University of Washington.

Congratulations to him also, for his win some weeks ago of game 1967AB in which, as in this game, he played Austria.