

the zine where the name's the longest part....

B \* I \* G   H \* I \* T \* S   O \* F   M \* I \* D \* - \* A \* M \* E \* R \* I \* C \* A  
( V O L U M E   3 ) number forty-five  
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next deadline: monday, december 3, 1984 (phone 6pm CST 12/2)

standby list: 1st level-Dodge, Martin, Russell, Tighe, Stafford  
2nd level-Bishop, K Brown, Elli, Ellis, Gautron, Iverson, Johnston,  
Mark Keller, Michael Keller, Wall

game openings: 1w deadlines, \$6--Masche, Chen-pi, K Brown, Laster  
2w deadlines, \$9(note change)--Bishop

new subbers/coas: Mike Elli, Hamilton Box 60505, Univ. of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403  
J. Travis Laster, 125 Garden Ct, Winchester VA 22601  
Marc Peters, 1814 Cameron Dr #3, Madison WI 53711  
James Woodson, 850A Stephens Rd, Milton FL 32570

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important announcement

As of December 31, I am retiring from the US/OGP Orphan Service. I have planned for several months to retire sometime this winter. It has been a good year and a half, and I'm quite happy. The orphan service is the most satisfying hobby service anyone can perform.

I now need to appoint a successor who together with Dick Martin will continue the work. The job involves more than merely finding new GMs for orphaned games. You must work with unhappy players and burnt-out GMs, the BNC, and the various sources of funding. It requires a bit of organization, some real-life diplomatic skill, and a bit of time and effort. You have to deal with hobby members at their worst. You have to stand up for players in a hobby dominated by pubbers and GMs. It's like either being the garbage man of the hobby or the bill collector, I'm not sure which.

If you are interested in the job or would like to nominate someone else, please contact me by December 31.

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Publishers, please pass on the above information...  
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It's poll season again in the hobby. It's always poll season, somebody or another asking for your votes on zines, GMs, players, writers, washroom attendants, who t-have-you. I used to think that such polls were harmless nonsense. I even ran a poll myself for a couple years. Sure, only a handful of people vote and the results are only slightly more accurate than a random list, but it's fun to go through it and see who wins. Right?

Well, I've changed my mind. Polls are not harmless nonsense, but nonsense that does this hobby more harm than good. The numbers are nonsense, but taken seriously by a lot of people in the hobby. Too much attention is paid to the "winner" or the "top 10" zines. New players are drawn to these zines, many of which are by publishers that are already overworked. Will they have the enthusiasm to get new players started? As for a pubber who's struggling, a low poll rating is not going to encourage him to stick with the hobby rather than orphan the games.

Zines are individual creations; it's idiocy to try to rank them or put them on a scale. Therefore, I will not vote in any more polls. I will not plug any polls. I'm asking all ~~you~~ of you not to vote for me or my zine in any poll. And I'm asking anyone who runs a poll not to list any results for me or my zine. I'll have no more of the nonsense.

the end of yet another game....

84G LET IT BE ZINE: Irksome! & Big Hits of Mid-America (Volume 3) GM: Scott Hanson

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	
A	5	7	8	10	11	14	16	18	Keith Sherwood (WIN F'08)
E	4	4	5	6	6	3	2	3	Jeff Whittington (dre F'06), Dan Stafford (sur F'08)
F	5	5	3	1	1	1	0	-	Joey Bishop (out F'07)
G	5	7	6	5	3	1	0	-	Marc Peters (out F'07)
I	4	4	6	7	7	10	11	8	Kevin Tighe (sur F'08)
R	5	4	4	5	6	5	5	5	John Kador (sur F'08)
T	4	3	2	0	-	-	-	-	Kevin Brown (out F'04)

Thus ends the final game to begin in Irksome! Keith also becomes the first person to win one of my games. He also got a draw in the first game I GMed. For the first time since that first game began in Brutus Bulletin, I have no fast game going. With all these firsts involved in this game, I think I'll just say congratulations to Keith, your beer opener's in the mail (ha ha), and thanks to the other players. Hope you had a good time...send an endgame statement, if you feel so inspired.

OLD BUSINESS...EN DGAME STATEMENTS

CASABLANCA (83CF; F/G draw in S'll, A & T sur.)

RUSSIA (Kevin Tighe): I could say a lot of great things about a few players and about some of the nifty opening moves, but why should I when I never bothered to send in orders. ((Kevin dropped out inadvertently in S'02))

GERMANY (Terry Tallman): A notable game in several respects. As the "MadLad" demo game it help further the research of these of us involved in the phenomena of diplomacy as played in Wisconsin, but most specifically as played by the genus *dettus grabberii*. While there's still years of work to be done and press to be written this will always be remembered as a cornerstone. The Ozog triple flip-flop was disrupted here, only one flip and one flop. Everyone was waiting for the final flop to drop when the game stopped. Biffy proved once again that try as I may we are destined never to be allies. Unfortunate indeed. I was surprised the solid AT didn't fare better. Noone could believe that the Wall would stab the Paul to benefit the Sleaze but Paul could probably have had a piece of a 3-way if he was willing to sacrifice the ~~Wall~~ Wall. Obviously Dan and the Orc did what they had to do in the long run. In retrospect, I should have stabbed the Sleaze. It was clear the Orc would have helped. Russia was tied up in the south, I only hastened his demise. Despite what the Wall may think I still would enjoy trying to play a game as his allie. It couldn't be any worse than being Biffy's allie.

HEAT NIGHT (82IU; A/R draw in F'll, no survivors)

RUSSIA (Cathy Gunning): This game was one of my favorites. I first must thank Mark Lawzere, Austria, for being one of the best allies I ever had and for proving that a A/R alliance can work. I allied with Austria from 01. From then on it was just trying to prove it to others (Germany and Turkey, Tallman and Irwin) that I was not allied to Austria. Nancy was new but not stupid. Tallman trusted his influence over me. The key year was 03. No one was still exactly sure where I stood but Tallman and Irwin were unsure of me. I must thank Tallman most of all. He was the one to convince Nancy to trust me. I never had to talk to her. That was her greatest mistake and Tallman's too. Thus the collapse of Turkey and Germany. Mark took care of the south while I worked on the north. Now the strange thing was that E/G/F never could work together. Even after Nancy's death they could not put their lots together and fight me and Mark. That was their downfall. Soon it was France alone against myself and Mark. It was only a question of time. I must give most of the credit in the alliance to Mark. He'd keep an active in the game the whole time. He was my helper in many cases. And of course I thank Scott for GMing, even with mistakes here and there. Good game...

## RETREATS....rus F sev r ARM

AUSTRIA(Frueh) A BUD & A SER S ger A gal-rum; A TRI S ger A tyo-ven; A alb-GRE.  
 FRANCE(Bowen?) nm; A SPA, F TUS, F TYS, A PIE H; A pic h(d...); F mid h(d...)  
 GERMANY(Wall) A tyo-VEN; A gal-RUM(S A SEV); A UKR S A sev; A sil-GAL;  
 A ber-SIL; A ruh-BUR(S A MUN); A bel-PIC(S F ENG);  
 F nat-MID(S F IRI); F NTH is bored.  
 ITALY(Iverson) A ROM H; A ven-tus(d...)  
 RUSSIA(Givan) F BLA g aus A bud-rum(NSO); F ARM-ank.  
 TURKEY(Michael K) F aeg-CON(g A ANK); F NAP H; A rum h(d...)

## 1911 supply centers

A home ser GRE 5 bld 1  
 F home por spa tun 6 even  
 G home den nwy swe war hoā stp bel 17 bld 4\*  
 mos edi lon lvp VEN SEV RUM  
 I rom ~~xxx~~ 1 rem 1  
 R ~~xxx~~ (bul) ~~xxx~~ 1 or 0#  
 T smy ~~xxx~~ nap CON ANK (BUL) 4 or 5#  
 \*only room to bld 2(was one short)  
 #-depends on retreat of tur A rum

WIN TER 1911/SPRING 1912 are due  
 DECEMBER 3, 1984. The concession  
 to G failed, 2y ln, 2hwr. It proposed  
 once again, not voting means no.  
 Possible retreats: F A pic to bre,  
 pa r,otb; F F mid to bre,gas,por,  
 wes,naf,otb; I A ven to apu,otb;  
 T A rum to bul,otb. Would KEVIN TIGHE,  
 290 12th St, Arcata CA 95521  
 please standby for FRANCE.

## press:

RUS-TUR: Something about the name rings a bell. But, otherwise, no.

ITALY-FRANCEP Brilliant move! Hope the rewards were worth it.

RUS-AUS: This may have been your last chance.

MARK-EVANS: Good news, you may be wiped out yet.

RUS-GER: This definately was yours.

HUGGY-RUS: Was this the train to Desert Moon?

83AV BAD BRAIN MENSA 18 FALL 1908 THIS GAME IS STALE, MATE

## retreats.....aus A ven r OTB

AUSTRIA(J Ellis) A pie h(d...)  
 FRANCE(K Brown) A B EL-den(C F NTH,S A KIE); F ENG & F LOW S F nth; F nwg-BAR;  
 F cly-NWG(S F NAT); A mar-PIE(S F LYO); A MUN S A kie;  
 A RUH S A mun.  
 GERMAN Y(Reges) F DEN H.  
 ITALY(Michael K) A ven-ROM; F adr-VEN; F ion-ADR.  
 RUSSIA(R Brown) A SWE S ger F den; A BER H(S A PRU); F NWY H(S A FIN); A tri-TYO;  
 A gal-BOH(S A SIL); A bud-TRI(S A VIE); F BLA H.  
 TURKEY(Mark K?) nm; F EAS,F AEG,F GRE, F BUL/SC,A ANK H.

## 1908 supply centers

A ~~xxx~~ 0 out  
 F home spa por bel edi hol lon kie mun lvp 12 even  
 G den 1 even  
 I rom nap tun VEN 4 bld 1  
 R home rum nwy ber swe bud ser tri VIE 12 bld 1  
 T home gre bul 5 even

WINTER 1908/SPRING 1909 are due  
 DECEMBER 3, 1984. The asu A pie  
 can retreat to tus,otb. A R/F/T  
 draw is proposed; please vote.  
 NVR is no. Once again, would  
 CARL RUSSELL, 21 Morgan Rd,  
 Binghamton NY 13903 please  
 standby for Turkey.

## press:

RUSSIA-FRANCE: The hobby archives are filled with articles on stalemate lines, some  
 of which I wrote myself. I suggest you dig them out. You're headed for a no-win  
 situation.

RUSSIA-WORLD: Re. my note to France. It's something you can all see for yourselves.  
 Why drag this game out? Russia proposed a draw of Russia, Turkey and France. If that  
 fails, we'll try for some other combination, perhaps other participants, but a three-  
 way is reasonable at this point. If someone has other ideas, let's start writing and  
 working on a strategy.

83HL EXPRESSO LOVE WINTER 1905 SEASONS SEPARATED...

RETREATS:::::rus F nth r DEN; tur A rom r APU.

ENGLAND(Masche) Even; has F NWY.

FRANCE(Tallman) Bld F BRE; also has F N TH, F LON, A BUR, A MAR, F SPA/SC,  
F LVP, F BEL.

GERMANY(J Ellis) Even; has A RUH, F HOL, A KIE, A MUN, A EDI.

ITALY(Johnston) Rem A tus, F tys, F tun; has A ROM, F ADR.

RUSSIA(Meinel) Bld F STP/NC, A SEV; also has A VEN, A TYO, A TRI, F GRE, F NWG,  
F CLY, A SWE, F YOR, A WAR, A MOS (no room for 3d bld.)

TURKEY(Given) Rem F nap; has A APU, A SER, F ALB, F ION, F EAS.

You all received the note regarding the continued existance of England. SPRING 1906  
is due DECEMBER 3, 1984. Orders are on hand from everyone but England. Both a F/R  
draw and a concession to R are proposed; not voting is NO.

press

ITALY-WORLD: May the yellow slime consume the white scum.

TUR-RUS: Take that, O Greedy One.

LONDON TIMES: Czar gets Greece on fingers, spills Turkey on floor. Will Kraut stay  
fresh and true?

RUS-FRA:Rant away Terry--you just can't get over someone other than you being able  
to ally with Jeff and Evans successfully.

ITALY-RUSSIA: You should have done this sooner.

TUR-FRA: Once again I govel at the feet of the ToadFather. You tried to warn me, but  
would I listen?

FRANCE-ITALY & TURKEY: On to Moscow!!!!!!

84 HS TWIST AND SHOUT SPRING 1901 LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD

AUSTRIA(Masche) F tri-ALB; A vie-TRI; A bud-SER.

ENGLAND(Johnston) F lon-NTH; F edi-NWG; A lvp-YOR.

FRANCE(Bloecher) A par-PIC; A mar-SPA; F bre-ENG.

GERMANY(Bishop) F kie-DEN; A mun-RUH; A ber-KIE.

ITALY(Ellis) A ven-TYO; A rom-VEN; F nap-ION.

RUSSIA(Tighe) F stp/sc-BOT; A mos-UKR; A war-GAL; F SEV-bla.

TURKEY(Holley) F ANK-bla; A con-BUL; A smy-ARM.

FALL 1901 is due DECEMBER 3, 1984.

press

AUS:ahhhhh

ENG: ahhhhh

FRA: ahhhhh

GER: ahhhhh

ITA: ahhhhh

RUS: Owwww!

TUR: Well, shake it up, baby!

ALL: Twist and Shout!

RUSSIA-GER: Hey Joey, how many 'b's' are there in Warner Robins?

KT-MM: Are you a Madlad or did you just move into the area?

TIGHE: Alright, a rock & roll Dip game. Now I can do my Chuck Berry impersonations...  
do do dupe dupe dupe...hmm, doesn't come across on paper very well, but wait til the  
video comes out. Oh Yeah.

RUSSIA-ENG: See, no need to worry about me.

Thus concludes another set of Big Hys. We will return shortly.

*Scott*