

Black Frog



THIS IS BLACK FROG
Volume I, Issue 15

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BLACK FROG is a Diplomacy Zine that emphasizes well run games and prompt publication. BLACK FROG is published quite frequently by John H. ('Jack') Masters, 25711 North Vista Fairways Drive, Valencia, California 91355. Telephone: 5:00 to 9:00 P.M.; (805) 259-2811.

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DIPLOMACY is a multi-player war game invented by A. Calhamer and presently owned by Avalon Hill, Inc.
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Subscriptions to BLACK FROG are \$12.00 for 24 issues or one year, whichever happens last. There are no game fees. At present there are no game openings in Black Frog. When new games open up, BF subbers who are not already in a BF game will have preference.

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How many of you noticed that Black Frog #12 was postmarked the same day as the deadline. I won't make it this time, too many of you are waiting until the very last minute to get orders in; but I certainly hope to have it in the mail the following day after the deadline.

Thom Burnett noticed, but Thom once played a game in Craig Reges zine Against the Odds, where game results often did not get mailed within a month of the game's deadline.

.....
Within the past week or so, you should have received Black Frogs #13 and 14. I talked to a couple of you on the phone that thought the Linsey/McKibbin/Rodriguez letters were genuine. Not so, they are just figments of my imagination and were meant only as satire.

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REGARDING THE FAKE BLACK FROG
.....

As I hope you all realize by now, Black Frog #11 (with the orange cover and color pictures) was a fake. Bob Arnett has, more or less, verbally confessed to it over the phone. His intent was good natured and I bear him no malice for it. I actually thought the thing was pretty damn funny. In order to do this thing, however, Bob had to have an accomplice. That accomplice had to be either Al Rodriguez or my wife Ardyce. One of these

days I will find out which one of them. Until then.
.....

There are a few things in the fake that require comments:

(1.) Bob Arnett did send me some snapshots of Kathy Byrne (supposedly from Origins). These may be genuine or may just have been to set me up for the fake. I will go ahead and publish these, but first I am sending them to Bruce Linsey to verify if they are really Kathy.

(2.) The John Leeder poll results in the fake are absurd. As soon as I get a copy of the actual poll results, I will publish it in its entirety in Black Frog.

(3.) Statements in regard to Dave Perlmutter are pure fiction. Outside of NMR'ing in 79HK and 80L, I know of no heinous crimes of which Dave is guilty.

(4.) Voice of Doom, to the best of my knowledge, is not going to have an all-homosexual game.

(5.) Neither Gary Coughlin or Gary Coughlan have won the savings bond. Black Frog is not named after a Lockheed VSTOL aircraft. I do work at Lockheed, however as a materials engineer. Within the next month I will give the answer to the origin of the name Black Frog and will start another contest. One last clue in the Black Frog name: "It was intended to be 'folded'".

MORE ODDS AND ENDS

Due to a lot of press in the four games, there is not much room for anything else this issue. Look for an extra issue of Black Frog within the next two weeks. There are quite a few things that I want to publish before they are completely outdated.

There are now 49 subscribers to Black Frog, 19 more than I ever intended when I started out. I will go ahead and accept additional subscribers, but no longer at the donation level--they will have to pay at least the basic per copy cost of printing and mailing this thing.

I want to thank the following persons who have given Black Frog good plugs and have contributed to the early success: Ron Brown (Murd'ring Ministers), Bruce Linsey (Voice of Doom), John Michalski (Brutus Bulletin), Lee Kendter Sr. (Why Me), Mark Berch (Diplomacy Digest), Bob Arnett (Volkerwanderung), Michael Mills (Emhain Macha), Bob Sergeant (St. George and the Dragon), Steve McLendon (Dragon and the Lamb), etc.

80hr

WAR

f'oi

Gary may not believe it yet, but yes France

was in Piedmont in spring 1901

Movements smooth in West and North--but

massive tangle in Balkans, Austria!!!

AUSTRIA	(Schaller)	<u>F ALB-Tri</u> , A VIE (S) F Alb-Tri, <u>A SER-Gre</u> .
ENGLAND	(Perlmutter)	A Yor-NWY, F NTH (C) A Yor-Nwy, F NWN (H), <u>A War-Sil/NSU!/ FRANCE</u> (Carson) F Mao-POR, A Pie-MAR, A Pic-BEL. GERMANY (Carter) A Kie-HOL, A RUH (S) A Kie-Hol, F DEN (H). ITALY (Hanson) <u>A VEN-Tri</u> , A TYO (S) A Ven-Tri, F Ion-TUN. RUSSIA (Tilley) F Fin-SWE, A War-GAL, F Sev-RUM, A UKR (S) F Sev-Rum. TURKEY (Burnett) F Ank-BLA, A BUL-Gre, A CON-Bul.

1901 Supply Center Chart:

ENGLAND:	Home, NWY	build	...	1
AUSTRIA:	Home, SER	build	...	1
FRANCE:	Home, BEL, POR	build	...	2
GERMANY:	Home, HOL, DEN	build	...	2
ITALY:	Home, TUN	build	...	1
RUSSIA:	Home, SWE, RUM	build	...	2
TURKEY:	Home, BUL	build	...	1
NEUTRAL:	GRE, SPA	lose	...	10

Winter 1901 builds are due on September 23rd at 5:00 P.M. PDT. This is real soon! May I suggest that you send build orders in right now, and then revise them later if necessary.

PRESS:

Vienna: What the hell does it take to preserve the peace in this part of Europe?

Ankara: I think a prime suspect for the fake orange Black Frog should be a certain John H. Masters. //Do I know him?//

1980HR Press (Continued):

Berlin: For sale or exchange. Dave Perlmutter and Vern Schaller address labels--never been used, with original gum. Get them now, while wholesale prices are still in effect.

Marseilles to London: I don't know if cats like mice, but frogs apparently love pizza.

Marseilles to Rome: Please accept the governments sincere apologies. General Rongwette has received a new compass and is heading toward Spain.

Mirkwood Forest: Will the real Dave Perlmutter please stand up, shut up and leave?! Gandalf Lives!

80hs FAMINE f'oi

Turkish units stand still; England shuns

Norway and goes to Belgium; Russia off
to a fast start and builds two!!

AUSTRIA (Lew)	F Alb-GRE; A SER (S) Russian A Ukr-Rum; A Tri-VIE.
ENGLAND (Colombo)	A Yor-BEL; F ENG (C) A Yor-Bel; F NTH (S) A Yor-Bel.
FRANCE (Albrecht)	A SPA(H); <u>A PIC-Bel</u> ; F Mao-POR.
GERMANY (Kuszyński)	A Ruh-HOL; A Kie-DEN; F Den-SKA.
ITALY (de Vries)	A VEN(H); A Apu-TUN; F ION (C) A Apu-Tun.
RUSSIA (King)	F Gob-SWE; <u>F SEV-Bla</u> ; A Ukr-RUM; <u>A MOS-Sev</u> .
TURKEY (Hart)	<u>A BUL-Rum</u> ; <u>A ARM-Sev</u> ; <u>F ANK-Bla</u> .

1901 Supply Center Chart:

ENGLAND:	Home, BEL	4, build1
AUSTRIA:	Home, SER, GRE	5, build2
FRANCE:	Home, SPA, POR	5, build2
GERMANY:	Home, HOL, DEN	5, build2
ITALY:	Home, TUN	4, build1
RUSSIA:	Home, SWE, RUM	6, build2
TURKEY:	Home, BUL	4, build1
NEUTRAL:	NWY	1, down11

1980HS Continued

Winter 1901 builds are due on September 23rd at 5:00 P.M. PDT. This is real soon! May I suggest that you send your build orders in right now, and revise them later if necessary.

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PRESS:

Moscow to Turkey: The Tsar does not like being lied to. She was not born yesterday and doesn't appreciate Sultans who think she was. Fortunately, the Tsar (who is brilliant herself) has a master tactician and advisor named Groove, and between us, we will destroy Turkey and the piddling Sultan. //Bill! Have you been piddling again?//

Peking: Thanks for the hints, Pearl-mother ...

TX to AK: How do Alaskans talk?

Moscow to Germany: Ignore all those no-nothings who want war between Germany and Russia. There are rich rewards for those who keep the faith. //Hear that Dan? Maybe she thinks you are Conrad Shortley!//

Moscow to Austria: Not only are there rich rewards for those who keep faith, but there are terrible punishments for those who break it. The Tsar is forever loyal.

Liechtenstein: K.B.: Wa-wa-wa-WOW!

Paris: A high level official here in the Third Republic has termed recent press releases from the Capitols of Europe as "garrulous and supererogatory." This same official indicated that the President is quite concerned about English ships sighted nearing Brest and said, "English rhetoric and actions are tessellated." (Who is this high level French yo-yo?!) //Tesselated, huh?//

A suburb of Dallas: Does heart have a hart?

Malta: (Vacationing) I am not silent!

The Press demands freedom-of-the-war according to the first diplomatic amendment.

Mirkwood Forest to GM: You mean you actually let Mark Lew play in your zine? //Sure, and Dave Perlmutter as well.//

1980HS Press (Continued)

Merion (Perly's picks): The big loser this round is Mark Lew. He stupidly trusted Italy. Doesn't he know that Texans always stab Austrians? No wait how 'bout those Oklahomans? Forget it. Anyway. What was the Dylan Song "Just Like a Woman". Well this King filly bounces "just like a woman", stabs "just like a woman". Really guys are you going to let her get a build? //No! They let her get two!// If so, you pansies are going to sit in your bars in San Francisco drinking Shirley Temple's and watching ballet and let a woman do well in this hobby then I know of a certain game of Bruce Linsey's that you sissies might want to sign up for. Bill Hart is the only real man in the bunch of you. Bounce her Bill! //Bill has been bouncing her till he is sore!//

Merion-Moscow: But seriously was the 15 year old who tried to pick you up wearing a Rams hat and mirror-sunglasses? Might've been my brother Jack..... //Thought your brothers name was Dan. Actually though the 15 year old was named Mark Spector who was wearing a "Voice of Doom" t-shirt and a beanie-cap.//

AK to GM: Who is Kevin Buckalew? //Al Rodriguez's bail bondsman of course.//

Debrecen: (That's in Hungary; look it up,) //No, we'll take your word for it.// I heard Kuszynski was a good player, perhaps not saying anything is a of his strategy. //Actually Dan wrote a strategy article on 'how to play Germany' in his 'Big Timer' zine. His favorite tactic seems to be an attack on Austria in which he gets England, France and Italy all to cooperate by convoying a German army from Denmark to Trieste in fall 1902.//

80hu Pestilence s'oi

Only Italy shows any daring;
England & Turkey narrowly make deadline!

AUSTRIA	(Giddings):	A Vie-GAL; A Bud-SER; F Tri-ALB.
ENGLAND	(Townsend):	F Edi-NWN; F Lon-NTH; A Lpl-YOR.
FRANCE	(Gallagher):	F Bre-MAO; A Par-BUR; A MAR (S) A Par-Bur.
GERMANY	(Rodriguez):	A Mun-RUH; A Ber-KIE; F Kie-HOL.
ITALY	(Schwartz):	A Ven-TRI; A Rom-VEN; F Nap-ION.

RUSSIA (Conner): F Sev-Bla; A MOS-Sev; A War-UKR;
F StP(sc)-COB.
TURKEY (Hartman): A Con-BUL; A Smy-CON; F ANK-Bla.

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Fall 1901 orders are due on October 7th at 5:00 P.M.,
PDT. Don't wait until the last minute, as several of you
did last time!
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PRESS:

Sultan to World: The Sultan announces that the Golf
Tournament and In-law hiatus is now over and that he
will resume negotiations immediately. //I think he
means he intends to write a letter, fellows.//

Famine: Dear Pestilence, our press' quantity is exceeded
only by our quality and our modesty.

Tunis: The people of Tunis demand to be released from the
Italian slave masters' threat and request the assist-
ance of the PEACE loving TURKS in their national
liberation WAR. //Sure they do!//

Vienna: Let it be known that the German and Austrian
nations are united in a "self preservation" pact.
We remain jointly dedicated in alliance against each
other's enemies; yet we will not jointly become
aggressors against any nation unless first provoked
into a fight. //?? Would you regard an Italian army
in Trieste as provoking??//

Pestilence to London (War): //This should have been in
the press for 80HR--sorry.// Do limes and Perlmutters
mix? Two to one you won't be in Belgium by '02 in
this one either Davie baby. Good luck though. Herr
Doktor is pulling for you. I'm a D.D.S. you know.
Malpractice, indeed!

Norway: The Norwegian peoples request the aid an assistance
of our Russian brothers in preventing an Anglo influx.
Save us mother RUSSIA.

Merion County USA to Europe: Dylan, as usual said it best.
"How many people must Herr Doktor stab dead,
before the tales of his treachery are finally spread.
How many lies must Al Giddings tell,
before his words begin to smell.

The answer my friend is blowing in the wind."

1980HU Press(Continued).....

More Merion: Wanted! A badly typed R.M. Conner letter.
//Lots of luck fella, but I don't think you will find
one.//

Paris: France sends greetings to its allies in all their
strength and threatens annihilation to its opponents.

Mirkwood Forest to Pestilence: How about a vote to keep
all Dave Perlmutter press out of this game? Gandalf
Lives!

Vatican City: Pope Nortz sends his greetings to all
nations of the world and asks for donations in the
way of supply centers to keep the noble crusade against
all enemies of the church going strong.

Vienna: Herr Doktor will be away from the capital for
approximately 10 days beginning on Sept. 15th. All
mail will be promptly answered on my return.

St. Petersburg: Foreign Minister Alexei Kurochkin-Neznaev
announced today that the long and often heated negot-
iations with his opposite number in the Austrian
government were concluded just minutes before the
expiration of the "Guarded Peace" under which the
European powers have been restrained for the past
winter. The subject of the Russo-Austrian talks, the
possession of the province of Galicia, was argued during
every waking hour during the last several months.
Acting upon advice from the German embassy, the Imp-
erial Russian Government has now formally recognized
the Austrian claim to the region, despite the large
number of slavs who live there and continue to pay
their allegiance to the Tsar of All the Russias, and
then some. However, an observer will be sent to
verify the implementation of the treaty.

80id

DEATH

w'

Note that the Boardman Number, 1980ID, has now been
assigned to this game. Spring 1901 orders will be due on
September 23rd, at 5:00 P.M. PDT.

John H. Masters
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- ☐ Sample
- ☒ Please plug
- ☐ See page _____

FIRST CLASS MAIL