

Black Frog



BLACK FROG is a Diplomacy Zine that emphasizes that Postal Diplomacy is fun to play! The publisher is the "occupant" at 25711 North Vista Fairways Drive, Valencia, CA 91355. Telephone (805) 259-2811.

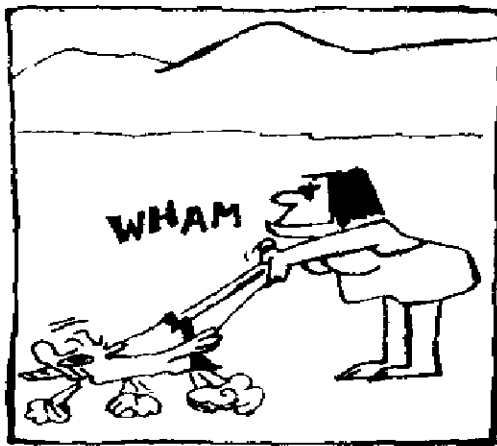
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Effective now, subscriptions to BF are 50¢ per issue with a minimum sub for ten issues (= \$5.00).

Diplomacy is a multi-player war game invented by Allan B. Calhamer and owned by Avalon Hill Company. There are no immediate openings at present.

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I just read recently that Black Frog would be stopping publication at issue #24--but here we are at issue #34 already. As I indicated in issue #31, I am accepting Jane Proskin's "Peek" as issue #32. As for issue #33 well you all have gotten it. If you are one of the ones who never did figure out what issue #24 was well, you will probably never figure out issue #33 either.

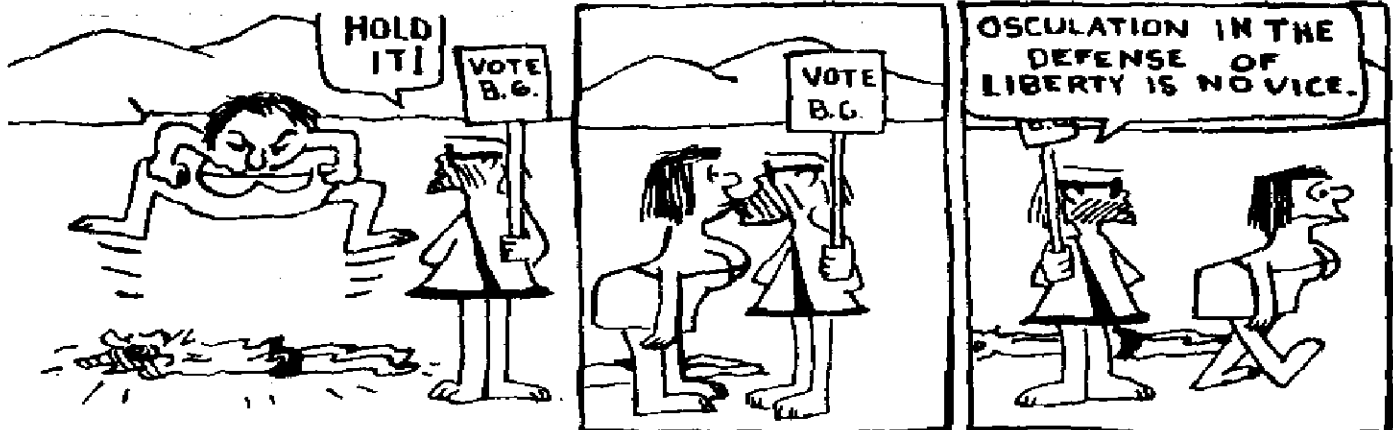
.....
GOOD NEWS for me. The ESG strike at Lockheed has ended and I went back to work on Monday the 19th. I was out ten weeks. We got very little as a result of ten weeks effort and did not get the COLA (cost of living allowance) provision that we were striking for. Something that I might add that all other employees at Lockheed have. The strike effort was ultimately broken by the Southern California Aircraft Builders (best known by their abbreviation: SCABs) who crossed the picket line and went back in to work. After the end of the ninth week--52% had become scabs although there were only about 20% at first. Now that we are all back in, there is considerable friction and hard-feelings between the strikers and scabs. It will be a very long time before this situation ends.

I am extremely busy and pressed at work now and will be until after the middle of February. I have two very important IRAD reports to finish up. They were initially scheduled to be completed before December 19th, but this has been extended until February 15th now. As a result I will be able to spend very little time with Black Frog or with any of my Diplomacy games during the next month. I hope that everybody will understand. As a result, this issue will be a bit skimpy with very little besides the actual game results. As I am writing this, there is a possibility that I may break my record and not get this in the mail on the day following the deadline.



goodbye

Perl !..



Dave Perlmutter is leaving the postal hobby. The little cartoon above is my way of giving him a final tribute. For those of you not familiar with Dave's subzine in Brutus Bulletin that was entitled:

~~EXTREMISM~~ IN THE DEFENSE OF LIBERTY "
" OSCULATION

the humor in this may not be apparent. A special citation should be given to Dave Carter, Gary Carson and Kelly Tilley for so very successfully 'osculating' Dave out of 1980HR.

.....
ORCCON

Orecon (the Orange County gaming convention) was held January 16 through 18th in Anaheim. Your editor took first place in the 42 player Diplomacy tournament without winning a game. There is no space in this issue to give all the gory details, so I will relay them next time.

Dave Grabar, Ron Brown, Dan Kuszynski, Bill Schiwautz, Matt McKibbin, Jay Shufeldt, Mike Hartman, Jennifer King, Dave Barker, Jerry Jones, Eric Verheiden, Scott Marley, and Rod Walker all stayed home when they heard I would be there.

80id

Death

e'03

Pandemonium everywhere as Italy takes lessons from Kathy Byrne
and attacks nearly everyone !!!

AUSTRIA (Cusack) NMRI Neutral orders by Apple Computer.
A Cal-BUD; F Alb-TRI; A SER (s) F Alb-Tri.

ENGLAND (Grabar) F IVP-Iri; F Nth-ENG; F LON (s) F Nth-Eng; A Wal-YOR.

FRANCE (Guajardo) F Mao-NAO; F IRI (s) F Mao-Nao; F RNE-Eng; A PIC (h); A BEL (h);
A SPA (h).

GERMANY (Mercer) F Hel-NTH; F DEN (s) F Hel-Nth; A Kie-HOL; A Sil-WAR; A PRU (s)
A Sil-War.

ITALY (Schiwantz) A Tyr-MUN; A Tri-VIE; A Ven-PIE; F Nap-TYR; F Tun-WES; F GRE-
Bul(sc).

RUSSIA (Shufeldt) F SWE-Den; A Stp-LIV; A MOS (s) F Sev; F SEV (s) A Rum; A RUM
(s) ITALIAN F Gre-Bul(sc); A War (h)//dislodged and must retreat
Ukr, Gal or OTB//

TURKEY (Mooney) A BUL (h); A CON (s) A Bul; A ARM-Sev; F HLA (s) A Arm-Sev.

Fall 1903 will have a deadline of February 17th, 1981 at 12:00 noon PST. Per the
Black Frog house rules, this was the final season for the Apple Computer to make neutral
moves for Austria. No standby will be called and Austria will lapse into civil disorder.
If, however, Blair Cusack submits orders for Austria they will be used, but phoned in
orders for Austria will not be accepted. Cusack's sub to BF has been cut as of this issue.

Press:

LONDON: The fall of England is inevitable, the only thing is, it will take many, many
years.

ITALY: "If Kathy Byrne could do it, why can't I." (Re: Volkerwanderung 1979IS)
//I can think of several things that Kathy Byrne can do that you can't!//

GERMANY to RUSSIA: And the war between us has begun. Take note you made the first move
towards a supply center, not I. //Where does that leave Italy?//

GM to DEATH: A very interesting season, I am as anxious as you guys to see how it all
comes out in the wash in the fall.

80kj

V. I. P.

f'01

Snow Queen goes wild with four builds while both wicked witches stymied!!

AUSTRIA (Olsen) A TRI (h); F Alb-GRE; A SER (s) F Alb-Gre.

ENGLAND (Sampson) F Nth-LON; F Nwn-NAO; A Edi-YOR.

FRANCE (Brown) A Spa-POR; A Gas-SPA; F Eng-BEL.

GERMANY (Pillant) P Hol-NTH; A Ruh-HOL; A Kie-DEN.

ITALY (Malnardi) A VEN (h); A Apu-TUN; F ION (c) A Apu-Tun.

RUSSIA (Wells) A Stp-NWY; F GoB-SWE; A Ukr-RUM; F Hla-CON.

TURKEY (Arnett) F Con-ABG; A BUL (s) RUSSIAN F Hla-Rum/nso/; A Arm-ANK.

1901 Supply Center Chart:

AUSTRIA:	Home, SER, GRE (5)	build	2
ENGLAND:	Home	even	
FRANCE:	Home, POR, SPA, BEL (6)	build	3
GERMANY:	Home, DEN, HOL (5)	build	2
ITALY:	Home, TUN (4)	build	1
RUSSIA:	Home, SWE, NWY, RUM, CON (8)	build	4
TURKEY:	ANK, SMY, BUL, Edi (3)	even	
Neutral:	///	out	12

V.I.P. (1980KJ) continued:

Winter builds for 1901 are due February 3rd, 1981 at 12:00 noon PST. There is a change of address for Allen Wells, please note it below in the press.

Press:

FROG KILLER-WORLD: I will be travelling back to MIT for the last (thank God!) term of my Masters degree. Since I will be driving. I will be forced incommunicado for about a week. My last day here in California will be Friday 23 January. I will be at MIT by Monday 02 February. My address there will be:

Allen K. Wells
550 Memorial Drive 2B3
Cambridge, MA 02139

I will make a special effort to find the moves out from Jack and get letters off to all before I move (although I don't guarantee it). Send all correspondence to the above address starting in W'01 and I will reply as soon as I get there. //Usually when a Russian player gets 8 supply centers in 1901, the others stop writing!//

FROG KILLER-WORLD: Does anyone want to trade me for Dave Pilant address labels? I will trade at the following rates: Tom Mainardi 1/1; Bernard Sampson 2/1; Bob Arnett 2/1; Ron Brown 3/1; Bob Olsen 3/1; Jack Masters 5/1. //Write to Michalski, maybe he will show Pilant how to use the address labels; in the meantime, how would you like to trade phone bills with Dave Pilant?//

LONDON-PARIS: In case you haven't heard, I'm the type of player who takes a 1901 stab very hard. Seeing that you've allied with Germany and Russia against me, I've decided to suicide out against you. Or, in other words, I'm going to try and take you with me. Nothing personal, just an object lesson for all concerned.

FROG KILLER-JANE PROSKIN (Wherever you are): I really do believe you exist. As to your note, show up any time. But, one thing bothers me, how can anyone be as cute as you and have hand-writing identical to Black Jack? Did you retouch those pictures 'just a bit'? //For a while, Jane and I were real close--but I didn't write any notes for her - RJ//

BERLIN: I see Lennon is dead -- well one down and three to go!

FROG KILLER-BLACK JACK: So I'm on the 'honor roll', eh? And you couldn't even spell my name right? If you can't spell Allen, just call me Frog Killer.

TRIESTE-BLACK JACK: But, Jack, I'm not in Tyrolia! What on earth are you talking about? //Take it up with Gary Coughlan, I'm just puppeting to him.//

AUSTRIA-BLACK JACK: Here's my entry in the 'Guess the meaning of Black Frog' contest. This is really wild, but it could have something to do with a paper airplane called the Black Frog? I don't know where I got such a crazy idea. Actually I thought of it months ago, but I never got around to writing to you about it. Incidentally, where is my prize? //Sorry, I can't talk about prizes while you're still in Tyrolia.//

80hr

War

8'03

Austria and England go out with hardly a flicker--five left!

AUSTRIA	(Schaller)	Summer '03: A Ser retreat to ALB. Fall '03: <u>A BOH-Vie</u> ; A Tri (s) A Boh-Vie/d and must retreat/; <u>A ALB-Ser.</u>
ENGLAND	(Perlmutter)	<u>A FIN-Std</u> ; <u>F NWN-Nwy</u> ; F Lon-Eng/dislodged and must retreat/; <u>F NAT-Mao.</u>
FRANCE	(Carson)	F Iri-MAO; F Eng-LON; A BUR (h); A SPA (h); F Mao-WES; A LPL (s) ENGLISH F Edi/nsu/.
GERMANY	(Carter)	F NTH (s) FRENCH F Eng-Lon; A EDI (h); A MUN (h); A Kie-DEN; F Hel-KIE.
ITALY	(Hanson)	A Ven-TRI; F ADR (s) A Ven-Tri; <u>A VIE (s) RUSSIAN A Rum-Bud</u> ; A Rom-TUS; A Apu-ROM.
RUSSIA	(Tilley)	A GAL (s) A Rum-Bud; A Rum-BUD; A Sev-RUM; <u>F BLA (s) A Sev-Rum</u> ; F Nwy-SWE; <u>A STP-Nwy.</u>
TURKEY	(Burnett)	A CON (s) A Bul; A BUL (s) A Ser; <u>A SER (s) RUSSIAN A Gal-Bud</u> ; <u>F ABG (s) FRENCH F Iri-Wal/imp/; F ANK-Bla.</u>

Dave Perlmutter has stated that he is resigning from the game. If he does not submit orders in the coming season--England will be in Civil Disorder.

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.....
AUSTRIA:  Atl, Atl, Atl ..... 0 .... out .....
ENGLAND:  Atl, Loh, Lpl, Nwy ..... 1 .... down .....3
FRANCE:   Home, Bel, Por, Spa, LON, LPL .. 8 .... build .... 2
GERMANY:   Home, Den, Hol, EDI ..... 6 .... build .... 1
ITALY:     Home, Tun, Vie, TRI ..... 6 .... build .... 1
RUSSIA:    Home, Swe, Rum, HUD ..... 7 .... build .... 1
TURKEY:    Home, Bul, Gre, SER ..... 6 .... build .... 1
.....

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Winter builds are due on February 3rd, 1981 at 12:00 noon PST!

Press:

APULIA: In a last minute change of plan that surprised even the Pope, the invasion of Trieste came from Venice and not Apulia as scheduled. This news was given to the Pope just before he was to give his speech in Apulia. "Oh, well," he sighed as he turned north to bless the distant troops, "it's the thought that counts."

ROME to MOSCOW & ANKARA: Let's go!

GERMANY to ENGLAND: I hope that this doesn't hurt your chances of playing in the all-star 'Fifth Horseman' game. Don't give up now though.

MINNEAPOLIS to VALENCIA: Minnesota winters? You didn't let a little -30° weather scare you away, did you? (Actually, it was 50° here on December 30 .. oh yeah, it was 90° in LA). VIKINGS ALL THE WAY! Well, we'll know by the time this is printed, won't we. //Yes we do, the Vikes went all the way to Philadelphia. The day I left St. Paul to come to California it was - 30° with the wind-chill factor -70°. The battery on the U-Haul truck I was bringing my stuff out in froze solid. I had to take the battery out, bring it in and heat it in the oven and then put it back in to get started. I'll stay where I am in the winter, but come up and visit you someday in the summer.//

PARIS to LONDON: When Englishman Alan Minter lost his championship fight (and my ten dollars) to Larry Hagman, I vowed that I'd get even someday. So that's why I jumped on your back. Big-hearted I'm not.

LIVERPOOL: Ze ghoat of Napoleon smiles now, oui?

ENGLAND to BERLIN: I never got your letter, but no matter I'm too far gone for you to care.

MERION FANTASIES DEPT: "Of local interest, Merion, PA football star Davey (Whitashoes) Perlmutter was picked up as a 17th round draft pick for the L.A. Rams"

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MERION to APPLE II:      10 Read A,B
                          20 Data 0,0,0,0,0,0
                          30 Print "This is France's IQ"
                          40 A = 1
                          50 B = A*B
                          60 A = (A*B)/A - B
                          70 End
                          Run

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80hs

Famine

8'03

Now it's alliances shifting in Scandinavia time; or didn't anybody ever Jenny about the Kuszyneki style of play??

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AUSTRIA   (Lew)      A Gal-BUD; A VIE (s) A Gal-Bud; F Alb-ION; F GRE-Bul(sc).
ENGLAND   (Colombo)  F IRI-Wal; F NTH-Edi; F NAT-Mao.
FRANCE    (Albrecht) A Bur-MAR; A GAS (h); F Eng-WAL; A LON (s) F Eng-Wal; F Bre-ENG;
                          F MAO (s) F Bre-Eng.
GERMANY   (Kuszyneki) A HOL (h); A Den-SWE; F NWY (s) A Den-Swe; A Mun-SIL; F Kis-BAL;
                          A Ruh-MUN.
ITALY     (de Vries) A Tyr-TRI; A TUN 'breaks out the coppertone'; F ABC (s) Austrian
                          F Gre-Bul(sc); F EAS-Smy.
RUSSIA    (King)     F NWN-Edi; A Ukr-CAL; A WAR (s) A Ukr-Gal; A RUM-Bud; F SEV-Bla;
                          F SWE (s) German F Nwy/dislodged retreat Fin, GoB or OTH/.
TURKEY    (Hart)     A SMY (h); F CON (S) A Smy; F ELA-Bul(ec); A SER (s) F Bla-Bul-
                          (ec).

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AUSTRIA: Vie, Bud, Gre, ~~Tri~~, ~~Bel~~ 3, down ... 1
(was one unit short in 1902)
ENGLAND: Edl, Lpl, ~~Lpl~~ 2, down ... 1
FRANCE: Home, Spa, Por, Bel, LON 7, build .. 1
GERMANY: Home, Hol, Den, Nwy, SWE 7, build .. 1
ITALY: Home, Tun, TRI 5, build .. 1
RUSSIA: Home, ~~Bel~~, Rum 5, down ... 1
TURKEY: Home, Bul, SER 5, build .. 1
.....

..... Winter builds are due on February 3rd, 1981 at 12:00 noon PST!
.....

Press:

PARIS: Who is it that says France does not like England? The French people really do like England. In fact, the French like England so much that we have decided to make England our home, permanently.

TSEPADUB: ImoobaK

NOTE: Are all Austrians backwards?

POPE to ROW: Blessed are those who find the moves!

SWITZERLAND: Reliable high level official sources in the Scandinavian country of islands report that an invitation has been extended to the Czar of all Russians to assist in the stabilization of its economy. No response from St. Petersburg as yet. -- Reuters, October 1903.

LIVERPOOL: This is an unlikely dateline for England, but the only center I may have by now. It all depends on how the past seasons negotiations went. I sent letters to each player last season, seeking an alliance to turn the game in my favour. I have listed the players, their response to my letter, and my reply. Can you match the player with the correspondence?

The Players:

- (1) Dan Kuszynski
- (2) Mark Lew
- (3) Jeff Albrecht
- (4) Jennifer King
- (5) Wietze de Vries
- (6) Bill Hart.

Their Response:

- (a) I am willing to lend you full support--but only if you agree to meet me in San Bernardino to "discuss strategy". Be sure you bring the chains and whip or the deal is off.
- (b) So, you are a nephew of Kenneth Taylor! I am actually an Iranian. My name is actually Dan Ruholla Kus_ _ _ _ _ -Ayatollah. I don't like Kenneth Taylor--as you will find out.
- (c) Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha!
- (d) If you can just hold out until 1919, I can probably get an army over to help you.
- (e) Help you? Sure, I will help you. But first, I have to make sure you can't double cross me. All you have to do is disband two fleets, and then I will give you all the help you need.
- (f) I hate Italians.

My Reply:

- (i) I know Diplomacy is just for fun, but I want to win the trophy derby. Therefore, I agree to your terms. Please do not bring the Lithuanian midgets.
- (ii) Italian? Me? I am more Irish than Italian. Anyway, it is the Iranians you really have to watch out for.
- (iii) You are Iranian! What a coincidence--I am actually more Iranian than Italian. And Uncle Ken and I never got along anyhow.
- (iv) Is that a yes?
- (v) Could you possibly form an alliance with Germany instead of me?
- (vi) By 1919 I can probably get an army over to 'help' you. Maybe I should make it five or six armies and a couple of fleets too. You have no idea how much I want to help you.

ANSWERS:

1,b,iii; 2,a,i; 3,e,v; 4,c,iv; 5,f,ii; 6,d,vi

LIVERPOOL Again: Ever since Peter Falk expressed a desire to return to television as the popular Lieutenant Columbo, I have received numerous letters seeking confirmation of the rumour that the title character was actually based on myself. Unfortunately, all I can say is "talk to my agent", due to the possibility of a breach of contract suit

by NMC. Let me say that, neither I, my wife Kate (a pretty volunteer reporter on a small newspaper in Southern California), or our pet Basset Hound have any knowledge of a link between Lieutenant Columbo or Steve Colombo. Ahhh ... just one last thing. We don't even smoke the same brand of cigar. To lay all doubts to rest, I have sent along a picture of myself, taken at a recent Diplomacy tournament (the well known Diplocks III) in Sault Ste. Marie. That is me on the left, (Yes, Diplomacy certainly is fun (especially the little known 'Lady Wrestler' variant)).



LIVERPOOL to VALENCIA: Is Black Jack prejudiced against the mentally handicapped? I see no other explanation to explain why the highest percentile players get a Trophy Derby game, but the lowest percentile players get nothing. I would like to see all other low percentile players write requesting a 'special' game for those 'special' players. Think of it as a 'special' Olympics, only in Diplomacy. How about it Black Jack?

VALENCIA to LIVERPOOL: I have been giving thought to a special game along a similar vein for some time. Something may be in the works.

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Additional notes on 1980HS "Famine"

The spring 1903 NMR for Italy was in error. His orders were actually on hand and were misplaced by the GM. A correction was sent out individually to all the players in the game. This note is for the benefit of non-Famine-players who may be following the game. The Spring 1903 orders for Italy were:

Italy (de Vries) A TYR-Boh; A TUN suns on the beaches; F AEG (s) F Eas-Smy;
F EAS-Smy.

This forces one change in the Russian orders as follows:

Russia (King) A Gal-Boh/dislodged and must retreat War, Sil or OTB.

The Summer 1903 retreat for Russia was

A Gal retreat to WAR

One complaint was voiced that no time was given for negotiations before the Russian retreat. Yes, that is true but in the standard Diplomacy rules no Diplomacy ever precedes retreats, builds or removals. This is not quite practical in postal games because negotiations cannot be entirely stopped. However, in all cases where I split seasons I will provide just enough time to ensure that you can get the zine and get your orders back in. I cannot prevent negotiation, but you will probably have to do it over the phone.

One player called for an extension of the season because of my error creating a problem in negotiation after the Russian retreat. If two or more players had asked for an extension I might have considered it, but I don't want to slow a game down any more than is absolutely necessary. The Russian retreat to WAR was quite predictable and in any case, conditional orders could have been used.

... Lone French fleet raids Tunis ... Italy gains Vienna but loses fleet ...
Austria hangs on in spite of huge odds ... Whatever happened to Germany? ...
England and Russia go to war over Scandinavia ... Are there any allies?? ...

AUSTRIA	(Giddings)	A BUD-Ser; F ALB-Gre; A Vie-Tri/dislodged must retreat Gal or OTB/.
ENGLAND	(Townsend)	F Bdi-NWN; A Yor-NWY; F NTH (c) A Yor-NWY; F SKA (s) A Yor-NWY; F Swe-Fin/dislodged and must retreat to Den or Gob/.
FRANCE	(Callagher)	A BOH-Mun; A Bur-BEL; A PIC (s) A Bur-Bel; A Par-BUR; F Wes-TUN.
GERMANY	(Rodriguez)	NMR! {neutral orders by Apple Computer} A KIE-Ber; F HEL-Kie; A MUN (s) A Kie-Ber; A Bel (h)/dislodged and must retreat to Ruh, Hol or OTB/.
ITALY	(Schwartz)	A Tyr-VIE; A TRI (s) A Tyr-Vie; A SER (s) F Aeg-Gre; F ION (s) F Aeg-Gre; F Aeg-Gre/dislodged and must retreat OTB/.
RUSSIA	(Connors)	F HUM (s) TURKISH A Bul; A Gal-SIL; A BER-Kie; A STP-NWY; A Fin-SWE; F BAL (s) A Fin-Swe.
TURKEY	(Hartman)	A BUL (s) AUSTRIAN F Alb-Gre; F Con-AEG; F EAS (s) F Con-Aeg; A SMY (h).

.....
With a total of four summer retreats involved, I will call for summer 1903 orders
only on Tuesday February 3rd. Deadline at 12:00 noon PST.

A question has been raised over the German order in Fall 1902 where an army in Belgium
supported an army in Kiel. Belgium does not border Kiel and the support was not valid.
It made absolutely no difference in the adjudications, however.
.....

Press:

TURKEY to BLACK JACK: You think we should form alliances just to make your life easy?
//No, but you might think about an alliance to make your own life easier!//

ROME to RUSSO-TURKISH ALLIANCE: In the event of an Italian suicide (due to lack of support),
I say hail to the French! Italy will turn blue before it ever turns yellow, white or
even red.

CORSICA to BERLIN: Don't you think its time you patched things up with France? //Rodriguez
didn't even know it was time to get his moves in!//

SYRIA to MOSCOW: Next time he says "stiff upper lip and all that rot", punch it will you.

VIENNA to ROME: I tried bagel breath, I really tried. You're just TOO unpredictable for
my tastes. Hang on to your chewing gum. It's the only thing that is going to keep
your teeth in!

BUDAPEST to RUSSO-TURKS: I'm at your service! Let's have a party in Rome!!

AUSTRIA to FRANCE: After your fall stay in Tunis, you're invited too!

ICELAND to LONDON: While watching from afar its clear to all that Russia has too many
friends for you to be so rude.

SWITZERLAND to PARIS: Remember when we discussed the ADRIATIC SEA ACCORDS, why haven't
you fulfilled your end of the bargain?

VALENCIA to PESTILENCE: I understand that Al Rodriguez is cutting way back in the postal
hobby and is dropping most (all?) of his games. I tried to reach him by phone the
night of the deadline but was unable to get him. If Al does indeed resign from the
game, would you want him to name a replacement to take over the German position? If
anybody has a strong opinion about this--one way or the other--please let me know
by the February 3rd deadline.

BLACK JACK to STONK: Where is Bob Carmody, now that I need him?
.....
.....
.....

IT REALLY IS TOO BAD

THAT I DON'T HAVE A LAST MINUTE FILLER ITEM

TO FILL THIS SPACE!

I THINK I WILL BLAME IT ON MIKE CONNER FOR NOT GETTING ME A PRESS RELEASE ON TIME
IN THE PESTILENCE GAME!