Brobdingag #92 GNV-2

January 1969

# Introduction

After my experience of running off <u>Brob-3 #91</u> on the local Baptist Church's mimeograph, I'M almost tempted to type off each copy individually and mail them out. Fairly good reproduction, but man, is the old girl tempermental.

Those observant souls may have noted the chopped off appearance of pages 1 and 2. Well, they were. So I'm going to take a few extra pages and go into my position on the various rules and interpretations of postal Diplomacy.

- 1. Konings Rule: Brob-3 allows Konings rule.
- 2. Wells' Extension of Konings Rule: Brob-3 allows Wells' extension.
- 3. Boradman's Dilemma: Example:

  Germany: A Ber Pru

  A Sil (s) A Ber Pru

  Support of A Sil remains good.

  Russia: A: Nu (s) A Pru Sil
- 4. The Victory criterion: One player must have 18 forces actually on the board.
- 7. Ties and Draws: After two years with no change of supply centers, all players are asked if they will consent to a draw. If so, one is then declared. If any player does not consent, two more years will be allowed, and if no supply centers have changed hands players will be asked to submit game plans for a victory. If none are feasible (none of this "attack until X misses a move" stuff.) a draw will be declared.
- 6. Support order to a unit ordered to move: Support is invalid.
- 7. Support by fleets in split coast provinces: Example:
  F Mar Spa(sc)
  F Gas (s) F Mar Spa(sc)??
  Fleet Gascony can support a fleet or an army into or in the south coast of Spain. But a fleet in the south coast of Spain cannot support a unit in Gascony or an attack on Gascony. Similar rulings for the provinces of Bulgaria and St. Petersburg.
- 8. Cutting of the Cutting of Support: Not allowed in Brob-3.
- 9. Cutting one's own throat: Example:
  Germany: A Pru War
  A Sil (s) A Pru War
  A Mun Sil
  Support of A Sil remains good. No suicides allowed.

a two part rule. We will deal v a cach part.

Part A: "A Convoy move does to cut support against the fleet in the body of water through which the army is convoyed last. "Example:

Italy: F Apu (s) F von Adr Austria: F Adriable (c) A Alb Apu

F Ven - Adr

This is still a frontal attack and does not cut the support of F Apu

Part B: "When one of the fleets in a convoy chain is dislodged, the attempted convoy does not cut any support at all." It a fleet is dislodged, the army which was to have been convoyed has no effect whatsoever at its intended destinatio.

Both Part A & B of Brannan's rule ar allowed in Brob-i.

- 11. Convoy between contiguous provinc Example:

  Italy: A Nap Bon
  F Tyr (c) A Nap Bon It is assimine but allowed.
- F Tyr (c) A Map Hom It is assimine out a.

  12. Alternate Route Convoy: Frample:

  Thaly: A Apu Alb

F Adr (c) A ADU - Alb

F Ion (c) A ADU - Alb

The idea being that if one fleet is disloged then the army will proceed by the other. Only if both floots were disloged would the convoy fail. This will be considered a two step con by and will fail if ther floot is disloged.

- 13. Convoy of Support: Not ellowed in Brob-3:
- The Mislaid Army: Example:

  England: A Lon Bel Germany: F Nth (c) ENG A Lon Nwy
  Does not succeed, as the orders for the arm and the fleet must
  agreement. ((You know, this is one rule that could make life most
  interesting in a variout game, for when a an army to their hinds.)
- 15. Army convoyed by Mislodged floet: If an army is to be convoyed and the fleet scheduled to convoy is littledged, the army does not move.
- 16. Retreat Rule: This was supposed to be in Arcby91, but the church mimeo objected...

a. single piece retreating - single space open: Automatic retreat, with removal option to player.

b. single piece retreating - multiple spaces open: Player sust order, and failure to order results in removal.

c. multiple pieces retreating - multiple spaces opens Same as beabove.
d. multiple pieces retreating - single space opens - retreat and the other(s) ordered to "stand and die".

- Two forces retreating to the same space: Both are destroyed. ((Could this be termed a "population explosion?"))
- 18. Retreats closed by stand-off: Retreating force is removed.
- -19. Retreat via convoy: Not allowed in Brob-3.
- The Coastal Crawl: Example; 20. F Spa(sc) - Por or F Bul(ec) - Con F Con - Bul(sc) F Por - Spa(sc) Both of these are allowed.
- 21. The Crawling Retreat: (( I like that term!)) Example; England: F Por (R) Spa(nc) France: F Spa(sc) - Por F MAO (s) F Spa(sc) - Por This move is legal and will succeed in Brob-3.
  - The force simultaneously attacked from two sides: Example; Italy: Army Piedmont Hold; Austria: Army Typolia Piedmont; Army Venice (s) Army Tyrolia to Piedmont;

France: Army Marseilles to Piedmont; Freet Gulf of Lyon Support Army Marsellles to Piedmont;

- 231 The Spring Raid: This would mean that a force that passes through a supply center in the spring would not gain the center from its owner, but would cause the center to revert to a neutral status, as it held before the game. The example would be as if Serbia were Austrian, and a Russian unit passed through in the Spring withoutan Austrian unit moving to assert ownership in the Fall.
- 24. Order of Removal: Brob-3 will remove on the follwoing basis, any required removal for which the player does not submit orders.

1. Farthest from home (Nearest home supply conter).

- 2. Non supply center before supply center.
  3. Fleet before Army.
  4. (Actually part of 1) Distance from home is by steps, with convoys as single steps. No multiple convoys used in counting.
- 5. If this should result in a tie, we will use John's system and remove on an alphabetical basis, first A, then B, ect.
- 25. The you-only-live-once game: In which an annihilated army cannot be rebuilt. This is not allowed in any other 'zine, not is it allowed in Brob-3.
- 26. The Gilliland Incident situation: Example; France: Army Marseilles to Piedmont Army Burgundy to Marseilles
  Army Gascony (s) Army Burgundy to Marseilles If Army Marseilles does not succeed in its attack to Piedmont, the

supported move to Marseilles does not dislodge the French Army already there.

- 27. The Self Standoff: We have all had the problem of how to defend more supply centers than we have pieces. An example would be for France, with forces in both Portugal and Marseilles to order them both to Spain. This not only blocks Spain, but closes both Portugal and Marseilles as well. This move is allowed in Brob-3.
- 28. The Self Standoff Counterploy: Let us say that in the above example, England is the hostile power with a fleet in the Gulf of Lyon, and is moving up forces on Iberia. So England, guessing what France intends to do ((cunning devil)) orders; F Lyon (s) French A Por Spa. This is a supported attack opposing an unsupported one and succeeds. It is allowed in Brob-3.
- 29. The "Changing of the Guard:" The direct interchange of an army and a fleet without invoking a convoy is not allowed in Brob-3.
- 30. Exchange by Convoy: Example: Say Germany has an Army in Holland and a Fleet in Belgium, and wishes to exchange them. Is A Hol Bel F Nth (c) A Hol Bel F Bel Hol

a legal move. Note that there was no direct changing. Tentatively I will allow this in Brob-3 but I would like some opinions from anyone who feels otherwise.

31. Convoy through Coastal Province: Example.
France: Army Picardy to Holland
Fleet Belgium Convoy Army Picardy to Holland.
This is not allowed in Brob-3.

### Discussion:

As John said in Brob #90, we have had a good amount of correspondence on Diplomacy and lots of other subjects as well, from the weather in Ralston to duck hunting. I count myself rather fortunate to have been introduced to Diplomacy by Monte Zelazny and to have had someone like John to kick ideas around with. I know Gainesville postmarks have been a familiar sight in the Ralston Post Office. I just hope that John, and all of you will feel free to bend my ear as much as we've bent John's. I'll try to put as much time and thought into the replys as John did. As anyone who has met and had to put up with me will attest, I am a gabby sort, When I can get away from pipe or stein.

You will no doubt note in the past four pages, and in those to come, incidents of improper use of the English language and improper construction as well. I seem to recall a statement which pretty well summed up my opinion of the language; "English is the result of Norman men at arms trying to make dates with Saxon barmaids in 11th century England, and no more legitimate than any of the other results.

# POSTAL PROCEDURES:

All mail to: P.O. Box 903
Gainesville, Florida, 32601

I'd appreciate you spelling out Florida and using the zip code as mail from a few areas has a tendency to go to Gainesville, Georgia first. I might add this is especially true for the Washington D.C. area.

Deadlines will be at midnight of the day stated. To clarify, this is the midnight ending the stated date. As I said in Brob-3's last issue, this system lets me clean out the box when I get off work.

I will more than likely GM the games when I get back to Starke that same night, so I should be able to do the stencil the next day. Trustingly, there will be at most a three day lag between receipt and posting.

# CONTACTING THE GAMEMASTER:

Have Fun! While I am extremely regular in my hours, they are a bit bizarre.

Home Phone: Starke, Florida 904-964-5427

It is unlisted locally so it does no good to call Operator and ask for me. It will be a good mumber until one of

those damn sell by phone companies ferrets it out from somewhere. If it ever does change you will be informed of the fact. No collect calls.

I am usually home at the following times, subject of course to varying factors.

Monday - Friday: 1000 - 1515 hrs Saturday - Sunday. Generally all day and more so on Sunday.

Calls at other hours will not find me home. Now Joanie flatly refuses to get interested in Diplomacy, and while she will take moves by phone, I urge you (if you ever do call) to do so during hours when I will be at home.

PROPAGANDA PROCEDURES: We do accept propaganda from players, subject to decency, (after all, this is published on the First Baptist Church's mimeograph and I do leave a courtesy copy. We reserve the right to edit due to space limitations. It is doubtful that Brob-3 will ever reach the Brobdingagian length of 24-28 pages again. If it should, it would be mainly discussion, I am sure.

ET CETERA ITEMS: Brob-3 will continue to publish summaries of other diplomacy games completed in other 'zines. Probably there will be a few

times when we will try and intelligently discuss a few things completely unrelated to Diplomacy. One of the subjects undoubtedly will will be Fletcher Pratt Naval Wargames, which is a very big thing here in Florida. Anyone of you out there who is a devotee, especially of the First World War era is invited to write.

and the state of t BROBDINGAG-3 ABA (Anything but Austrial)

England:

Dick Reiter

HQ 2nd Wea Wng Cmr Box 166

APO New York 09332 (Air Mail please)

· Martin Brown and Company of the State of t

France:

Charles Welsh

6917 Cherry Lane

Annandale, Va. 22003

(Need telephone number)

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Norm Zinkham

Box 322 Sub Post Office #6

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada (Need Telephone number)

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Randy Bytwerk

1034 Barber Terrace, N.W. Grand Rapids, Mi. 49504 Phone: 616-453-0567

Austria:

Mike Mellott

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Auburn, Wa. 98002 (Need Telephone number)

Russia:

Doug Beyerlein

3934 SW Southern

Seattle, Wa 98116 Phone: WE2-5743

Turkey:

George E. Schelz, Jr.

140 W. 238th St Bronx, N.Y. 10463 Phone: 212-546-0691

Freiherr von Speilen and myself wish to wish each of you the best of luck in your diplomacy and in your play.

A CHART TO A CONTROL OF A CONTROL OF A FEW States (1997)
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DEADLINE FOR SPRING 1901 MOVES IS MIDNIGHT, ENDING FRIDAY, 28 FEB. 1969

PROBITINGNAG-3 ACA 1969

England: Jeff Power 521 Sixth Street

Traverse gity, Mich 49684 616-947-6394

Larry St. Cyr. Jr. 30 Frederick St

North Adams, Mass 01247 413-663-6838

Germany:

Norman McLeod

Norman mcLeou 906 Kimberwicke Road NcLean, Va 22101 Need Telephone number

Italy:

Lewis Pulsipher

RR #3, Box 189

Battle Creek, Mich 49017 616-962-1520

Glen Hertz CMR Box 1733 APO SF 96328 Alr Mail Please

SP/4 Brenton Ver Ploeg

US 54928214

Co C, 125th Sig Bn
APO SF 96225
Alr Mail Please

Turkey:

the orman many

David Johnston 5451 Rockwood Road Columbus, Ohio 43229 614-888-0273

As with game ABA, the Freiherr von Speilen and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you gentlemen the very best of luck in your diplomacy and your play. We look forward to an interesting game.

DEADLINE FOR SPRING 1901 MOVES IS MIDNIGHT ENDING FRIDAY, 28 FEB 1969

## The Conrad von Metzke Contest

Brob #89 announced a Conrad von Metzke contest. There was only one entry. How is it that Diplomacy players know all about the works of Richard Wagner, the wording of Gilbert and Sullivan opperettas, the history of miniscule and evanescent African kingdoms, but not what has appeared in the journals of our own game? The winner of the contest is therefore Edi Birsan. Congratulations, Edi: With your dozens of games you are probably happy to have a free game coming up. Conrad, please note.

((By jamcc))

# The Brob Rating List

Introduction: The BROB Rating List is constructed on the following principle. In any game a player gains a point from every player who does worse than himself (i.e., from players eliminated earlier or, if they both survive until games end, players with fewer forces at game's end). Similarly, he loses a point to every player in the game who does better than he does. This results in a score of +6 for the game winner, +4 for the next strongest survivor, +2 for the third player, and so on, down to -6 for the player who was the first to be eliminated. If there is a tie at any point, the two involved get into mediate scores; for instance, if there were two survivors, in addition to the winner, each with 8 forces at game's end, they would each gain a score of +3. In the case of a drawn game, all survivors score equally with one another. For a player rated on several games, the scores from his various games are added to give the player's Completed Came Total Score. This is the second figure given in the rating. A total score of +16, for example, may be considered to mean that, in all the players completed games, the number of people he has beaten ( equals has done better than ) exceeds the number who have beaten him, by 16.

Many people are more interested in the a craze performance of a player, rather than his total score. To get it the player's score is divided by the number of games on which he is rated and this average is reduced to a percentage scale. On this scale a player who played in amny games and won them all would have a score of 100%, and one who played many games and was first eliminated in all of them would net 0%. A correction, a sort of built in shock absorber, is applied to the percentage so that a player cannot bound to 100% or fall to 0% as the result of a single game. The ranking in this listing is on the basis of the percentage scale, the first figure given for each player - the name of the man at the top of the list is that of the man who has done the best on the average, it is not the name of the man who has won the most games.

If two or more players have identical percentage scores, the one showing the greatest advance of Current Game Score over Completed Game Score, will have his name printed above the others. The

symbol "(W)" after a name means that the player has won at least one game of standard 7-man postal Diplomacy.

Current games which have progressed to the stage where one or more players have been eliminated can be partially scored, but not completely as we still don't know who the winner will be. Such partial results of games in progress are added to the player's Completed Game Total Score to give the Current Game Score, the third figure shown. It doesn't mean much by itself. However, if it is much higher than the Completed Game Total Score, it is likely that the average of the player will increase in the next six months or so; if much lower, the average will decrease. If the two scores are nearly equal changes in the percentage should not be great.

Many newer players have not yet been rated on a completed game, but may have partial results from games in progress. They are listed at the end of the listing. Those in this category with strong positive scores will likely be well above 50% when their names first appear in the percentage listing and those strongly negative will be below 50%. It is too early to make predictions for those with scores of a point or two.

In this rating list only one person is rated for a given country in any game. If the country changes hands and if it nets a positive score, this is credited to the last player for that country; if it nets a negative score, or zero, it is debited to the original player for the country. That means, to abandon play in a game can never help a players score; to act as a replacement for a departed player can never hurt a players core.

The Country listing is formed in exactly the same way, except that partial results from games in progress are not included.

This listing includes minor varients: for example, games which used, and games which did not use Koning's Rule are both included. However, major varients, such as those played on a different map, those with Economic Feature added, and so on, are not included.

This edition of the listing, the first since Brob changed hands, gives the names of all rated players. Future editions will drop the names of players who are no longer active. (Active as players, that is. John Boardman, for example, who is extremely active as a gamemaster, but who is playing in no game in progress, would be dropped.)

Completed standard 7-man Diplomacy games included in this listing are the following: 1963B, 1964A, B, D, 1965A, B, D, E, F, G, H, I, L, M, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, 1966A, B, D, E, F, H, I, K, L, M, N, O, R, AA, AB, AC, AG, AI, AK, AL, AM, AQ, AU, AV, BB, BC, BG, BJ, BK, 1967E, H, P, V,-AC, AF, AG, AK, AU, 1968P, for a total of 60 Games. The current game part of the tisting includes partial results for all 7-man standard games which have progressed to the first elimination, as far as

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Country 11st

England 61.1% +80 62.1 +16 +24 John Smythe (W)
Turkey 56.5 +47 61.7 +6 +2 Jack Boot
Prance 54.4 +32 61.3 +7 +7 Doug Ecycricin
Bussin 48.9 -8 604 +15 +17 Doug Ecycricin
Russin 48.9 -8 60.4 +15 +17 Doug Ecycricin
Russin 48.9 -8 60.4 +15 +17 Doug Ecycricin
Russin 48.9 -8 60.4 +15 +17 Doug Ecycricin
Russin 40.0 -72 59.8 +5 +10 Frank Clark
Rustria 40.0 -72 59.7 +6 +7 Ken Davidson
Rustria 40.0 -72 59.7 +7 Flank 40.1 +1 Rustria 40.0 +1 R
 Country 11 st
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41.7 - 2 - 2 Bebert Whalen
40.3 - 4 - 4 John Boardman
40.3 - 5 - 14 Aftonos Griffin (W)
40.2 - 13 ITS Beland Taudker
40.2 - 14 ITS Beland Taudker
40.2 - 15 ITS Bon Bounds
40.2 - 15 ITS Bon Bounds
40.2 - 16 ITS Beland Taudker
40.2 - 17 ITS Beland Taudker
40.2 - 18 ITS Beland Taudker
40.3 - 10 - 12 Joak Harmess
410 George Schelz
410 Charles Schelz
410 ITS Thomas Eller
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Doug Baker
Terry Senn
Michael Dobson • Bill Haggart 0 Jim Houghton Jon Jacky Teter McDonald 0 Edward Meyer W Mike Santos - 2 Jay Halderman 2 Mike MoIntyre 2 Frank Musbach 2 Paul Scroggie Richard Czata Lon Eurtis 4 Bob Adems 4 Len Bailes 4 Donald Hetsko

- 4 Wayne Hoheisel
- 4 Robert Kauffman
- 4 Bruce Pandolfini
- 4 John Videtto
- 4 Michael Vaughan
- 5 Robert Champer
- 5 Paul Waterson
- 6 Carl Anderson
- 6 Lee Spice - 6 Carl Anderson
- 6 Lee Srico
- 6 Dave Bischoff
- 6 Paul Budd
- 6 Deborah Deutsch
- 6 Bob Eddy
- 6 Sidney Jolly
- 6 Jack Longbine
- 6 J. Longyear
- 6 Charles McLenon
- 6 Ivan Musicant
- 6 Tommy Lee Ogle
- 6 Jerry Page
- 6 John Reiner
- 6 James Tuttle
- 7 Fritz Mulhauser
- 8 Bob Maloney
- 10 Bob Reiter

 → 2112 コープルをおいています。
 ・ (2) 本のできる。 No. we haven't taken it over. I just will add to the flood of hap y news to the effect that Acolus will soon reappear. I had a long phone conversation with Monte Saturday night and it should be out again within two weeks of this issue. Acolus is without a coubt one of the most earefully gamemastered zines around, on a level with John Koning's steb and Brobdingnag in the days when John McCallum was editor, If you don't mind Irregular publication, subscribe and have the thrill of watching your fearless editor got token apart. I do have such nice neighbors.

Seriously, Monte has been having very little free time, and it has bothered him that Aeolus has been deleyed enough to draw poison pen notices. Nonte told me that it was over half typed and would be finished and run off - and in the mail as soon as possible. Did you ever heve the Soring 1901 worries and wonders for five months? Company that I was the the Carlo

As John Metalium mentioned in #90, I contemplated publishing a zine for about six menths before the first edition came out. I had the

opportunity to observe Monte's efforts with Aeolus, which may be a reflection on my mentality for carrying on with this. I like to hope that all this time and thought will keep Brob-3 alive and well, and up to the standards that gave it the fine reputation it enjoyed under John.

-30-

Diplomacy is the registered trade mark of a game invented by Allan B. Calhammer and manufactured and sold by Games Research, Inc., 48 Wareham Street, Boston, Mass 02118. It may be purchased from them at the modest fee of \$ 7.50 postpaid.

Brobdingnag-3 is a journal devoted to the postal version of that game, a feindish system wherein it takes you three weeks to find who you can and cannot trust, rather than 15 minutes. It is proofread to the Freiherr Schwartz von Speilen after being typed by Eduard Halle, P.O. Box 903, Gainesville, Florida, 32601.

Game fee is \$ 3.00, payable in either cash or stamps. Subscriptions are 10/\$1 or 15¢ per single copy. Write care of the above address.

Have a pleasent Lincoln's Birthday and see you in three weeks.

## ADDENUM

After all this was typed up, I received a letter from John Beshara, concerning a subscription, and also the following note: ( I might add that this is concerning Aeolus game #4 which I also am in. The last issue of Aeolus was in early Summer 1968.)

"Would appreciate your making a public note in your zine that so far as I am concerned, since I have not heard one word from Monte Zelazny since Spring 1901 moves were called for over four months ago, and inasmuch as I signed up for Game 4 over six months ago anticipating it would be well enough on its way so that it would not interfere with my Winter and Spring vacation plans — so far as I am concerned the game as now constituted is terminated without prejudice to myself. In short, I want nothing to do with the game and I do not want my name to appear as a player or having been a player in the game."((John, I had a few things to talk to Monte about anyway, so I called down and passed this along. After listening to this Monte informed me that he had mailed the Spring 1901 moves out the day before. What action he will take on your personal note is up to him. I did relay the information to him. I daresay he will be writing you soon. I can understand your feelings as I am in the game, and I have been through all this once before, eh))