



BUSHWACKER

VOL. XIV, No. 1

(Whole Number 160)

JANUARY 1985

Welcome to the start of the 14th year of publication of BUSHWACKER, a Postal Diplomacy* zine specializing in variant games. It is named after a comic strip character I invented back in the 6th Grade, a looong time ago (in a Solar system of my own design). That's his picture on the masthead. Produced by: Fred C. Davis, Jr., 1427 Clairidge Rd, Baltimore, Md. 21207. Phone: (301) 747-7248. Phone calls accepted between 7 and 9:30 p.m. weekdays, and between 12 Noon and 9:30 p.m. weekends, Eastern Standard Time. However, all players are requested to submit their orders by mail.

*Diplomacy is a registered trademark for a game invented by Allan B. Calhamer, and Copyright by the Avalon Hill Game Co., Baltimore, Md. 21214.

GAME FEES: \$8.00 to newcomers, \$7.00 to current players or readers or members of the Mensa Diplomacy SIG. STANDBY FEE: \$4.00 for newcomers, \$3.00 for current readers. For your Fee, you receive copies of the rules/maps for your game(s), plus receipt of BUSH for the length of your game. (I will always provide you with your rules/maps for any game run in BUSH. Non-Players may also order copies of any game running here. Most cost 50¢, but lengthy rules, like Vacation Dip III, will cost \$1.00.)

SUBSCRIPTIONS for non-players and non-standbys: 12 issues for \$4.00. This will go up to 12 issues for \$4.50 effective February 15, 1985.

→ GAME OPENING: As reported here last month, our next game will be Vacation Dip III. There are 100 Event Cards, which are dealt out one to each player every year, which enable the players to make special moves or perform other diabolical acts. Each Power also starts with an extra army, "on vacation," which doesn't need a SC for support. Several people are already signed up, so hurry, hurry, hurry, if you want a starting or standby slot. I'll start mailing out copies shortly to those of you who have already signed up. Please send money when you sign up.

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This issue contains reports on ZEUS V-F (1984A gf11), WOOLWORTH II-D (1983H cb19) and L'IMPERIALISME II-B (1984H xm16).

PERSONAL NOTE

I will be starting a special assignment at work on Monday, January 7th. This may last through April 15th. I will be helping to man an "800" number hot line to help answer inquiries about the newly levied income tax on Social Security benefits. Nine out of ten people receiving S.S. won't have to pay any tax, but everyone on the rolls will receive a 1099. We're expecting to receive 9 million inquiries about this, including at least two million calls to our "800" number. We have 1,000 dedicated phones to answer these inquiries, including 100 in our Hqs. building in Woodlawn (Baltimore County). There will also be open phone lines in Kansas and New Mexico for the benefit of people calling from the Mountain and Pacific time zones after we've gone home.

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Since I will be detailed to a different location from my home base, and perhaps working different hours, I am uncertain as to how this will affect the production of the next couple of issues of BUSHWACKER. I recently unlimbered my mimeograph machine and got it running again. I may be using it to produce the game report pages. In any case, I'm going to set the next Deadline for Saturday, February 2, 1985, and we'll play it by ear after that.

It is possible that there could be some delay in the production of the next issue. Don't panic if there is. I haven't produced 160 consecutive issues without learning that there's more than one way to skin a cat.

If any of your friends or relatives have questions about the information on any SSA 1099's they may receive, they have the choice of contacting their local Social Security offices, the Internal Revenue office phone number shown on the Form 703, or phoning SSA's "900" number as shown on the back of the 1099. That no. is (900) 200-1099. It gives a two-minute recording. If they need more information, that recording will give our "800" number at the end. Both are free calls. But don't try to use the "800" number to give me your orders! The odds are a thousand to one against your getting me, and calls can't be transferred from one phone to another.

We are a mixed bunch, coming from all the various components of SSA, and ranging in grade from GS-5 to GS-12, but all theoretically equal as "operators." Most seem to be bright and interesting. Since the first 1099's won't be mailed out before January 5th, we expect to be twiddling our thumbs for the first day or two. Then, all hell will probably break out, as people misinterpret the form as a tax bill from SSA. (The current Administration deliberately downplayed this new law until after Election Day, for fear some people would become angry and not vote for the Great Communicator). I'll bet that if I could tape my calls, I'd pick up some choice epithets.

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NEWS OF THE WORLD

PEOPLES DIPLOMACY ORGANIZATION VARIANT PACKAGE. This is being put together by Tom Swider. The package is slated to include somewhere between 10 and 15 variants, including both maps and rules. Hopefully, this will include a couple of variants from Britain, which have not been published in America before now. Articles on variants and the variant hobby are being solicited. Anyone who'd like to offer a contribution should contact Tom at: P.O. Box 1324, SUNY, Binghamton, N.Y. 13760.

No price or publication date has been established yet, but this should not be much longer in forthcoming. The "PDO" started out more or less as a joke, but it has already furnished the annual ZINE REGISTER, and now will offer the first variant package to come on the ^{American} market in about ten years, except for Lew Pulsipher's book (which was printed in England). Right on, PDO.

DIPLOMACY WORLD UPDATE. Good news for those of you pining away waiting for your next issue of D.W. The first Rod Walker-Kathy Byrne issue should be in the mail in January. They decided that rather than produce a skeleton issue in December, they would input all of Kathy's new contributions in the next issue. In order to do this, it was necessary to delay publication for another month. This will make for a better issue, with input from both coasts now available.

I was sad to hear that the U.K. edition of D.W. was stillborn. It was supposed to have started with Issue #38, Summer 1984. I never did learn whether that issue was reprinted by Andy Poole in Britain, with special columns for U.K. and Continental news. In any event, Andy has apparently now left the Postal hobby. Hopefully, someone else will take over the project.

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NEWS OF THE WORLD (Cont.)

So, anyone on either side of the Pond should now subscribe to D.W. through Rod Walker, 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas, Calif. 92024. Subs are still \$8.00 per year in the U.S., \$10./year (U.S. funds) in Canada, and \$10./year from Overseas by sea mail. (\$15./year by air mail). I don't know whether the forthcoming increase in postal rates will affect these rates, but I suggest that you not delay in subscribing.

MARYCON NEWS. On Friday, May 31, 1985, Vari-MaryCon will be held at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Va. This is the curtain riser for the regular MaryCon Tournament, which begins on Saturday. Several different variants are under consideration for playtesting. The object will be to select one particular variant, and make enough full size boards of same to have it played by 3 or 4 different groups simultaneously. (Three different variants were played in 1984, so we can expect to see at least 21-25 people show up to play this year).

There will also be a Gunboat Tournament played throughout the weekend. The rules will provide that whenever seven people can get together, they will start a game. So, Gunboat games may be running anywhere, at any time. The only restrictions are that you can't play against any other player in more than two games, and you must play a different country each time, unless you've played all seven. Bonus points will be given for winning a game with one of the weak sisters (Austria, Italy, Germany).

For more information, contact Tom Swider, P.O. Box 1324, SUNY, Binghamton, N.Y. 13760, and ask to be put on his mailing list for GERRYMANDERING. Enclose five 20¢ stamps for the remaining issues.

FOLLOW-UP AND APOLOGY. I have been informed that the "medical" letter which I mentioned on Pg. 8 of the December issue was circulated in the hobby with the permission and agreement of the recipient. Therefore, I owe Woody Arnawoodian an apology, since he was merely the pipeline for the distribution of this text. He has written me to say he's sorry he forgot to include his name on my copy. As for the whys for its distribution, this is a mystery which is beyond me. Neither the author nor the recipient should have sent copies to anyone. I had not planned to mention this matter again, and would not have were it not that I owed Woody an apology.

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GAME OPENINGS ELSEWHERE

MILAN DIPLOMACY. You saw this design in the May 1984 issue of BUSH. The Italian SC is moved from Venice to the new Milan province, which lies between Ven and Piedmont. Being offered by Rod Walker in EREHWON. There is a Game Fee of \$3 + an NMR deposit of \$2, + a sub: 10 issues for \$6. EREHWON is now appearing on time once again. Rod's address at top of this page.

"1895". This is a new 8-player game set on a highly-modified European board, in the years immediately preceding the Spanish-American War. Spain is the 8th Power. Offered by Howard Christie in his new zine, STABBACK. Game Fee of \$5 + a sub: 10 issues for \$3. I'm still waiting for my copy of the game, as I'm curious to see how closely it may resemble my own "1885" (which is a 9-player game including Spain & Sweden). Anyway, this sounds interesting. I may comment again when my copy arrives. Howard's address: P.O. Box 115, Millville, Pa. 17846.

TOOTING MY OWN HORN, we now appear to have six people signed up for VACATION DIP III: Robert Cheek, Pete Gaughan, Conrad Minshall, Mark Trifkovic, Brad Wilson and Dan Wilson. Not everyone has sent in their money. Remember, it's who gets his money in first who gets the starting slots. Others would have to be standbys.

FROM SEA TO SHINING STARS - Fred Davis

The term "spacefaring nation" has now come into use to describe the activities of the United States and the Soviet Union. This is a natural extension of the older term, seafaring nation. It is an interesting historical fact that most of the real progress in civilization was made by seafaring nations. It was Greece, not mighty Persia; Phoenicia, not old Egypt, which did most of the exploring and made most of the innovations in their eras.

In our own times, it was first the great navigators of Spain and Portugal which put those countries in the lead. When their stars went into decline, they were replaced as leaders by the sea captains and shipbuilders of England and France. England, a tiny island, controlled one-fourth of the world thanks mainly to her maritime skills. (Seapower and steam engines, brought to the world by iron men in wooden ships). Austria bumbled, Russia stagnated (except for gaining the Wild East), and Germany entered the game too late. Little Holland played the seafaring game well enough to become the greatest of the small powers.

In Asia, Japan, the second England of our globe, went from feudalism to world power in 50 years (1855-1905), while its landbound Chinese neighbor slept. And we all know how this maritime power has grown in the years since 1950 to become the third most important nation in the world.

In summary, those cultures that grew up in an island-type environment, or were pressed up against a seacoast and had to go to sea to expand, seem to have usually been the cultural leaders. Even Rome started out as a seapower in its wars with Carthage. Overland travel was so poor that for all practical purposes movement by ship was the only practical way of moving bulk cargo prior to 1829. In this respect, it should be understood that the East Coast of the U.S. was in closer touch with Western Europe than its own heartland prior to 1850, and the American merchant marine was truly our lifeline to civilization for the first 100 years of our independence.

Based on this seafaring analogy, the science fiction written between about 1920 and 1944 assumed that the leading spacefaring nations would be Britain and America, with side mentions of France and Holland. Nobody ever mentioned Russia. Indeed, one of the earliest of the "Oakie" stories mentions that the cities of the Free World want into space while the commissars remained rooted to the soil of the Motherland.

What happened? How come Russia suddenly moved to the cutting edge of the space age? One can give technical reasons, like the Russians capturing the facilities at Peenemünde. One can say that Stalin was paranoid, and his drive, and that of his successors, was due to demands for power and security. But I think there's more to the story.

I have a theory, which I have not seen expressed elsewhere, that Russia also became a spacefaring nation because in 1945 she finally achieved her ancient goal of obtaining warmwater ports. In 1945, the USSR finally became a seafaring nation. Her warships and merchant ships began to visit the whole world, instead of living cooped up in the Baltic and Black Seas. From seafaring to spacefaring became a natural transition.

In any case, the number three spacefaring power is obviously going to be the other great seafaring nation of the 20th century, Japan. The first men to land on Mars will probably speak Russian (perhaps in 1992, the 75th anniversary of the October Revolution), but I'd be willing to make a bet that the first people to explore the Jovian moons will speak Japanese!

As for the U.S.? Well, our merchant marine is dead, and Reagan and Stockman seem committed to destroying all parts of the space program not directly related to national defense (i.e., killing people). Once the men running the American space program are

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fired, it will take another decade to put the program back together again under a more enlightened Administration. Unless, of course, some of our scientists are as smart as Wehrner von Braun. Von Braun played on the Reich's desire for weapons to get what he wanted. He said to close friends, secretly, "Of course, we're going to the Moon. Only don't tell the Führer!"

Of course, the stars are our destination. But don't tell Ronnie!

* * * * *

Postscript: As for why Britain has not ventured into space, that's another story. The casualties of two World Wars did terrible damage to the British gene pool. We will never know how many potential scientific and engineering geniuses were wiped out in the trenches of the Western Front, to say nothing of the endless crosses "row on row" throughout the world. The percentage of officer casualties was reportedly higher in the British Army than in most others in W.W. I. (As William Holden said to Alec Guinness in "Bridge Over the River Kwai": "Your kind went over the top in 1914 with nothing but swagger sticks in your hands.") This was followed by a socialist government in 1945 which killed ambition, and literally drove many of the best and brightest Englishmen to emigrate to America, Canada, Australia and elsewhere, to avoid the stagnation at home. That, plus the end of an empire, did not leave the new Little England with much of the spirit of Nelson or Drake.

However, Britain now seems to be recovering. I think it's quite possible that the seafaring tradition may eventually result in Britain taking a leadership position in the Common Market space program. Hopefully, Englishmen will once more be seeking "a tall ship, and a star to steer her by."

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MISSING ZINES. Has anyone heard anything from the publishers of MURDERING MINISTERS (Ron "Calif." Brown) or 30 MILES OF BAD ROAD (Mark Luedi)? My records indicate that they haven't appeared since about September '84. What's the story, you guys?

ANDUIN, which was the production of one of the hobby's youngest publishers, Eric Kane, folded with the November issue. Eric made arrangements for the orderly transfer of his games, however. As a student at Baltimore's Johns Hopkins University, he found he had no time left for publishing. He will be missed.

I find all these folds and missing zines quite ominous. I can't help but wondering whether some are the result of the incessant feuding which has enveloped the U.S.A. part of the Postal hobby in 1984. I hope that some new publishers will be starting up soon, or we will be in considerable trouble in providing enough gamestarts to keep up with demand.

P.S. Have just rec'd 30 MILES #29, but I can't figure out whether he's folding from what he says. Amusing, but confusing.

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COLORED MONEY NEWS: I've seen a report that the new multi-colored U.S. bills may make their appearance as early as December 1985. These banknotes will be almost impossible to counterfeit. Unfortunately, all denominations will retain the same appearance in color and size. The United States will apparently remain the only country in the world where every banknote is identical except for portraits and numbers. If we're so smart, how come we don't put a different shade or tint on each denomination? Or, is everybody in the world out of step but Johnny?

L'IMPERIALISME II-B (1984H xm16)SPRING 1913

FRANCE AND IBERIA GO TO WAR, INVADE EACH OTHER'S TERRITORIES. ITALY ENTERS ALGERIA VIA BACK DOOR. AUSTRIA USES FRONT DOOR TO VENICE. TURKS MISREAD NAVIGATION RULES, FLEETS STALL. GERMANY MOVES SOUTH.

AUSTRIA (Dancause): A Trieste-Venice. A Albania-Trieste. A Budapest-Galicia.
(6) A Greece (S) Neutral A Bulgaria. A Rumania (S) Neutral A Bulg.
A Serbia (S) A Rumania.

BELGIUM (Dancause): A Belgium (S) Neutral A Holland.
(1)

ENGLAND (Hagerson): F Helgoland-Denmark. F English Channel-Mid-Atlantic. F Wales-
(3) English Channel.

FRANCE (Wilson): F Liverpool-Irish Sea. A Edinburgh-Liverpool. A Paris-Gascony.
(8) A Brest (S) A Paris-Gascony. A Marseilles-Catalonia. F Gulf of
Lyon (S) A Mars.-Catalonia. F Algeria-Western Med./d/, (R) Morocco
(Only sp open). F Mozambique-South Indian Ocean /d/, Annihilated.

GERMANY (Cheek): A Munich-Tyrol. A Ruhr-Munich. A Berlin-Silesia. A Kiel (H).
(6) A G.E.A. (H). F Kamerun (H).

IBERIA (Kozlowski): A Rhodesia-Mozambique. A Cape (S) A Rhodesia-Mozambique. A Angola-
(9) Rhodesia. A Belgian Congo-Rwanda. F SAO-South Indian Ocean.
F Cadiz-Mid-Atlantic Ocean. A Catalonia-Cadiz /d/, (R) Leon (per
R.H.R.). F Lisbon (S) A Catalonia-Cadiz. F Western Med. (S)
FRENCH F Gulf of Lyon-Tyrr. Sea (NSO).

ITALY (Anderson): A Tyrr. Sea disembarks A Sardinia. F Tyrr. Sea (S) A to Sardinia.
(6) A Libya-Algeria. F Tunis (S) A Libya-Algeria. F Naples-Ionian Sea.
A Eritrea-Sudan.

TURKEY (Baty): F Const.-Bulgaria(s.c.). A Aegean Sea-Greece. F Aegean Sea (S)
(6) F Const.-Bulgaria(s.c.) (Illegal Order. See A/F Rules Module
III.g). A Sevastopol-Rumania. A Ukraine (S) A Sev.-Rumania.
A Egypt-Sudan.

Rule III. g. states that a F, having landed an A, may move elsewhere. However, "it may not support another unit elsewhere." Since the A failed to land in Greece, the order is moot anyway. However, if the disembarkation into Greece had succeeded, F Aegean could have moved to Bulgaria, (S) by F Const. As it is, A/F Aegean Sea remains intact.

PRESS:

IBERIA to Turkey: With a lack of diplomacy, and a laziness in not responding to a French peace initiative last turn, I have single-handedly pushed France into an alliance with Italy. I apologize. I had a chance to lead an F-T-Ib vs. Italy attack, and blew it. Good luck in surviving an A-I attack... and when Italy stabs France you'll have a reliable Western ally.

GERMANY to France: Keep neither a blunt knife nor an ill-disciplined looseness of tongue.

ROME: Ho hum, nothing new to report. Oh, for those days in 1910! Those were the good old days!

IBERIA to France: I don't know what got into me. I don't usually wierd out. I think it's curable, though. Please write, even if just to say "Die, you gravy sucking pig!"

IBERIA to Italy: How did your elections go? We're seeing a lot of unrest over here - all of our leaders are running away to Africa.

GERMANY to Austria: Civility costs nothing and buys everything.

DEADLINE for FALL 1913 is SATURDAY, February 2, 1985. Telephone deadline is Friday, February 1st, at 9:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

ZEUS V-F (1984A gf11)FALL 1943

GERMAN PANZERS SIDESLIP INTO RUMANIA. BATTLE OF BREST-LITOVSK LEAVES POLAND IN RUSS HANDS. BRITISH LOSE NORWAY, TURKEY. U.S.A. SINKS JAPAN. CHINESE ARMIES CONTINUE TO OVERRUN ASIA. FRANCE FAILS.

BRITAIN (Anderson): F Norway-Finland(n.c.) /d/, (R) W.Arctic Ocean (o.s.o.). F Middle East-Egypt /d/, Annihilated. F London-English Channel. F Spain(nc)-Mid-Atlantic. F North Pacific (S) JAPANESE F Mid-Pacific-Sendai(NSO).
(5)

CHINA (Kozlowski): A Iran-Middle East. A Turkey (S) A Iran Mid-East. F Yellow Sea-East China Sea. F Tokyo (S) USA F Sendai. A Korea (H). A Nepal-India. F Indochina-Indian Ocean.
(7)

FRANCE (Trifkovic): NMR. F's English Channel, North Sea, Greece, East Med., and Ionian Sea all (H). A Gascony (H).
(6)

GERMANY (Baty): F Baltic-Denmark. A Poland-Rumania. A Hungary (S) A Poland-Rumania. A Czecho.-Poland. A Berlin (S) A Czecho.-Poland. A Venice-Yugoslavia.
(6)

JAPAN (Baumeister): F Mid-Pacific-Hawaii (Impossible. Spaces not adjacent).
(1)

USSR (Rauterberg): F Finland(nc)-Norway. A Sweden (S) F Finland-Norway. F Gulf of Bothnia-Baltic Sea. A Yugoslavia (S) A Rumania. A Rumania (S) A Yugoslavia /d/, (R) Stalingrad (only space open). F Sapporo (H). A Baltic States-Poland. A Moscow (S) A Baltic States-Poland.
(9) (8 units)

U.S.A. (Cheek): F Central Pacific-Caroline Is. F Midway and F Okinawa (S) F Central Pacific-Caroline Is. F Mid-Atlantic-North Atlantic. F New York (S) F MAC-North Atlantic. F Indian Ocean-Egypt. A Canada (H). F Sendai (H).
(8)

Information: I have recently replaced my original Zeus-V-F working map with one of larger size. I found that the smaller map was getting pretty cramped with all those colored tacks in it. If you'd like a larger map, please let me know, and enclose a 20¢ stamp for your copy.

Did I ever explain that "ZEUS" was the name of the British zine in which this variant first appeared? There were not three previous versions. ZEUS IV was the original design printed by Chris Northcott. ZEUS I, II, and III were other variants printed in his zine. This was a somewhat unfortunate choice of nomenclature. This means the original Northcott global design should have been called "(Name) I," and my versions should have been "(Name) II and II-F" (F standing for "France included.") However, it's too late to make such a change now, so this will continue to be "V-F".

PRESS:

POLAND (by occupier in Spring 1943): Jubilation in Warsaw as victorious German troops free country from the yoke of Russian oppression. (Can you picture such a headline in 1943? What an upside-down war this is!). ((Similar scenes happened in the Ukraine and Byelorussia in 1941, when the Germans were welcomed as liberators from Stalin. Germany blew the chance to convert the Russian people to their side when they decided to treat all Slavs as slaves. - F.C.D.))

USA to USSR: The greater a man is, the greater the courtesy.

LONDON: I hope Japan did the right move. Oh well.

CHINA to World: Now that we have IRAN on our side, you are all really in trouble. Our hoard armies have worked on the simple principle of having more people than the enemy

(more)

has bullets. Iranians, fighting a holy war and more than willing to die for their country, have inspired our own soldiers to greater heights of kamikaze ecstasy.

PEKING Population Program: We have now lost 7% of the required casualties needed to bring our population down to manageable levels. Keep on fighting, men. We can't afford peace, yet.

SUPPLY CENTER COUNT, WINTER 1943: GAINS, ~~LOSSES~~

BRITAIN: Edi, Lon, Egypt, NORWAY, TURKEY	3, Remove 1 (1 annihilated)
CHINA: 3 Home, India, Indochina, Korea, Tokyo, TURKEY, MIDDLE EAST, SWEDEN	9, Build 2 (was 1 short)
FRANCE: 3 Home, Low Count., Rome, Spain, GREECE	7, Build 1
GERMANY: 3 Home, Denmark, Venice, RUMANIA, YUGOSLAVIA	6, No change
JAPAN: MIDWAY	0, Remove 1 (OUT)
USSR: 4 Home, Finland, Poland, Sapporo, NORWAY, YUGOSLAVIA, GREECE, RUMANIA	9, Build 1 (was 1 short)
U.S.A.: 3 Home, Canada, Sendai, Solomons, MIDWAY, * OKINAWA, MIDDLE/EAST	8, No change (was 1 short) * (Took Okinawa in 1942)

~~USA played 1943 with one too many units, but nobody caught this until I did the SC Count just now. Sorry about that, but it's too late now to replay 1943.~~

Since there are only 4 Builds and one Removal (not counting Japan), I'll be glad to combine the WINTER 1943 and SPRING 1944 seasons. Everyone should therefore submit orders for both seasons. However, I will grant a separation of seasons if anyone so requests.

DEADLINE for orders will be SATURDAY, February 2, 1985. Phone deadline will be Friday, February 1st, at 9:00 p.m., Eastern Time. Winter and Spring, please.

*Would Dan Wilson, 3431 Oakdale, #1614, San Antonio, Texas 78229, please submit backup orders for France, just in case Mark Trifkovic misses again?

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WOOLWORTH II-D, 1983H cb19

FALL '05

ENGLISH AND GERMANS EXCHANGE BLOWS. ITALIAN-TURK ALLIANCE GLOBBERS SPAIN. GERMANY MAKES SURPRISE ENTRY INTO BALKANS. AUSTRIA COME, BUT SPAIN SAVES BALKAN FLEET.

AUSTRIA (Henry): No units.

(2) (0 units)

BALKANS (??): F Algeria-Tunis. A Transylvania-Pennsylvania.

(2)

ENGLAND (??): F Norwegian Sea-Norway. F North Sea (S) F NWG Sea-Norway. F Helgo-
land-Kiel. F London-English Channel.

FRANCE (Touchette): A Paris-Burgundy. A's Belgium & Marseille (S) A Paris-Burgundy.
(4) F English Channel-MAO.

GERMANY (Baty): F Berlin-Kiel. F Denmark (S) F Berlin-Kiel. A Ruhr-Holland.

(7) A Vienna-Budapest. A Munich-Burgundy. A Switz. (S) A Munich-Burgundy. F Norway-North Sea /d/, (R) Skag. (only space open).

ITALY (Dancouse): A Trieste-Serbia. F Tuscany and F Rome (S) TURKISH F Ionian-Tyrr.
(4) Sea. F Tunis (S) TURK F Ionian-Tyrr. /d/, Annihilated.

RUSSIA (??): A Lapland-Finland. F St. Pete(n.c.)-Lapland. A Sweden (S) GERMAN
(6) F Denmark. A Galicia and A Rumania (S) GERMAN A Vienna-Budapest.

A Sevastopol (S) A Rumania.

SPAIN (Anderson): F Western Med. (S) BALKANS F Algeria-Tunis. A Holland (S) ENGLISH
(4) F Helgoland-Kiel. F Gulf of Lyon-Madrid. F Tyrr. Sea-Ionian Sea /d/,

may (R) To Gulf of Lyons or Naples.

TURKEY (??): A Serbia-Albania. A Budapest (S) ITALIAN A Trieste-Serbia /d/, (R)
(6) Trieste (only space open). F Bulgaria (H). F Ionian-Tyrr. Sea.
F Aegean-Ionian Sea. F Naples-Sicily. (more)

In SPRING '05, the Russian A Sweden had (S) German F Denmark, not German F Norway, so the German F remained in Denmark, and did not have to Retreat to Skag. All of Germany's neighbors were notified by postcard.

SUPPLY CENTER COUNT, WINTER '05: GAINS, LOSSES

AUSTRIA:	BUDAPEST , ROME	0, All Removed, OUT
BALKANS:	TUNIS, SERBIA , RUMANIA	1, Remove 1
ENGLAND:	3 Home, Iceland, NORWAY	5, Build 1
FRANCE:	3 Home, Belgium	4, No change
GERMANY:	3 Home, Denmark, Switz., Vienna, BUDAPEST, NORWAY	7, No change
ITALY:	Naples, Venice, ROME , SERBIA , TUNIS , TRIESTE	4, Build 1 (1 annihil.)*
RUSSIA:	4 Home, Galicia, Sweden, RUMANIA	7, Build 1
SPAIN:	3 Home, Holland	4, No change*
TURKEY:	3 Home, Bulgaria, Crete, Greece, TRIESTE	7, Build 1

* If SPAIN choses to (R) its dislodged F Tyrr. Sea to Naples, then Italy would stand at 3, No change; and Spain would rise to 5, Build 1. If SPAIN will send me his (R) order by postcard immediately, I'll notify ITALY of this result ASAP.

→ AND NOW WE COME TO THE VOTE on the proposal for a DRAW between Germany and Italy. I have been criticized by one of the players for saying that as of Winter '04 Germany & Italy "control only 11 SC's between them." I feel that my comment was within the spirit of this game, in which the ownership of the Secret Powers is supposed to remain a mystery, even where the players know Who's Who. (I played in a Woolworth I Postal game in which the identities of two Powers' owners was kept secret to the very end). Rule 8. c. states: "The final report will show the winners as the players owning those Powers, rather than just the countries themselves. (i.e. A player winning with only one of his Powers is not considered to have "lost" with the other Power)." So, the Draw would go, in this case, to the owners of Germany and Italy, NOT to Germany + ?? and Italy + ?? (Albeit the inclusion of the ?? Powers adds up to a heck of a lot more than 11 SC's).

Due SATURDAY, Feb. 2, 1985. Phone, 2/1/85, 9pm. So, be sure to vote on this two-way Draw with your next set of orders. Anyone failing to vote will be counted as voting "Yes." Even if you have informally told me how you intend to vote, please include a formal vote with your orders. If you want me to publish the vote totals (with names omitted) if the Draw does not pass, please so indicate. If no one objects, I'll do so, to avoid further criticism of my voting procedures. I think we'd better play only WINTER '05 under the circumstances.

PRESS:

All Press this season is from the same player. I find much of it highly repugnant and off base, but will print some of it anyway.

BALKANS to Spain: It is indeed sophistic, methinks, for our illustrious GM to fail to add the dots of the "known" secret powers to the 11 known dots of Germany and Italy in advancing the thesis that the prior draw vote was premature, especially where silence between Winter '04 and Spring '05 was construed as a "nay," when folk are probably too cheap to send in a postal card with a vote, their orders already having been submitted.

((See above for my explanation of the "11 SC" item. FYI, Lu, one or more bona fide "No" votes were cast last time. - FCD))

BALKANS to Turkey: Perhaps our illustrious GM just can't stomach the embarrassment of having only two active games in his zine.

((For the record, BUSHWACKER has always had a policy of running not more than three games at any one time. That's why I've been able to publish for 12½ years without burning out. I already have six people signed up for the next game, but they all know it won't start until one of the current games ends. If I was hungry for game fees,

I'd be interested in ending games, not extending them. It's my personal opinion that no game should end until at least one or two players have been eliminated. In those 12½ years, Fall 1905 (or its equivalent) has been the earliest that any BUSH game has ever ended. I realize that this game was considerably delayed when MANIFEST DESTINY folded, but I'd be interested in seeing what developed over the next couple of game years. - FCD))

BALKANS to GM: After 159 consecutive issues, one would think you would have your House Rules say what they mean and mean what they say.

((O.K., I'll concede that point. I do have a catch-all Rule, however, to wit:

"25. PRECEDENTS. In situations not covered by the Rulebook nor these HR's, the GM will make the most reasonable and equitable ruling possible consonant with the nature of the game and precedents set by other GM's."

I'll see about revising my HR's the next chance I get. Meanwhile, as Anne Landers says, "Ten lashes with the wet noodle.")

* * * * *

DIPLOMACY NOW IN GAMES HALL OF FAME

in November 1984.

Games Magazine elevated ten board games to the pantheon of their Hall of Fame! They are referred to as "very special ones (which) remain favorites year after year. These are the classics that imitators never seem to equal in quality or staying power.... Most of the games that follow, we believe, will still be played 100 years from now."

The ten "classics," together with their date of publication and country of origin (where other than the U.S.), are: Acquire, 1963; Clue/Cluedo, 1947 (England); Diplomacy, 1959; D & D, 1974; Monopoly, 1935 (based on "The Lendlord's Game," patented in 1904); Othello, 1889 (England), "reinvented" in Japan, ca. 1970; Risk, 1959 (France) (Originally called "La Conquete du Monde," ca. 1950); Scrabble, 1948; Sorry, 1934 (England); Yahtzee, 1953 (Originally published as "Yacht", 1940).

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"...Political systems come and go. A century or two from now, we could be living under a Muslim Theocracy or Absolute Socialism or Re-constituted Anarchy. We might even be living under a government of Justice! If we blow ourselves up today because we are panic-stricken by the Red Menace - there won't BE any other form of government because there won't be any human race."

-E.E. Rehmus, extract from article in MENSA JOURNAL, December 1984

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FIRST CLASS MAIL