



BUSHWACKER

VOL. XIV, No. 5

DOUBLE ISSUE

MAY-JUNE 1985

This is the 164th consecutive issue of BUSHWACKER, a Postal Diplomacy* zine which specializes in Variant games. The person inflicting this atrocity on you is: 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 Time. Players are requested to submit their orders by mail. This zine is named for the comic strip character, "Bushwacker," whom I invented before most of you were born. That's his picture on the masthead.

*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 FEE - \$8.00 to newcomers, \$7.00 to current readers. STANDBY FEE - \$4.00 to newcomers, \$3 to people currently on our Mailing List. (\$1.00 deduction for Mensans). Games are run on a Flat Fee basis. For your Fee, you receive copies of the rules/maps for your game(s), plus receipt of BUSH for the duration of your game, unless you drop out. We don't have any Game Openings right now, but we can use STANDEYS in all of our games, as we've lost a few people lately.

SUBSCRIPTIONS for non-players. 12 issues for \$4.50. We also Trade with many zines on an all-for-all basis.

This issue contains reports on ZEUS V-F (1984A gf11), L'IMPERIALISME II-B (1984H xm16) and VACATION DIP III (BUSH #17).

* * * * *

This is a Double Issue, because it contains both Part II of my article on "The Battle of Guadalcanal" and an article on Halley's Comet contributed by Bruce Linsey. We expect to publish the next two issues around the middle of the month ("July" about June 17th and "August" about July 16th). Then, there'll be a slight lag as we take a short vacation and try to work things back towards the end of the month.

PERSONAL COMMENTS

We returned from our Telephone Tax detail to our regular slot as a Disability Claims Analyst on May 6th. The last 2½ weeks, after the phones were closed down, we had a lot of spare time, so some of this issue was written in advance. Any last minute news flashes will appear at the end.

We had an interesting time those last 2½ weeks, working on an Illegal Alien project, where the aliens have worked under false Social Security Numbers. In some cases, they have simply invented a SSN, which may or may not have already been assigned to someone else. In other cases, they have obtained someone else's number by fraud, such as by using an illegally obtained birth certificate, or they have purchased a real card in Mexico that belongs to a friend or may have been lifted from a tourist's wallet. Most of these numbers run in the Texas (449-467) or California (545-573) series. If you have a Social Security Number in either of these series, it would be a good idea to have your Earnings Record checked every 3 years to see if all the wages posted to your number belong to you. (Ask your S.S. office for Form 7004).

The United States is the only country in the civilized world where you don't need special papers to work. All you need is a Social Security number. Until 1974, it was quite easy to get one. Even now, with a phony birth certificate it's sometimes possible to get a real number, although more and more illegals on relying on the purchase of one from "operators" in Tiajuana and Juarez. When caught, they often say they "found" the card on the street. (Will someone from San Diego go over and see how many cards they find lying around over there. Sometimes, I think they must grow on the cacti.) There is also a business in real and fake New York City birth certificates for residents of Jamaica and Guyana. They all try to come in via Buffalo or Rouse's Point, after a flight to Montreal or Toronto.

This only works, of course, with the collusion of those good businessmen who like to hire illegal workers and pay them very low wages. They get away with wretched working conditions since the illegals don't dare complain to the police.

Over one million Social Security cards are being confiscated from illegal aliens each year by the Border Patrol and INS. To defeat this fraud, which imperils the very stability of the Social Security system, it may soon be necessary to reissue a new non-counterfeitable SSN card to every number holder. This would be a plastic card with a built-in electronic code, such as it used by most modern credit cards. As a stopgap measure, SSA began issuing specially coded cards to nonresident aliens about three years ago, which can be used only for ID purposes (such as for opening a bank account), but cannot be used for working. However, this is touching only the tip of the iceberg.

We're doing such coding on those SSN cards actually belonging to illegal aliens, on my detail, but the main problem is to "unscramble" the wages which they've had reported on other peoples' Earnings Records. Hopefully, the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill will soon be enacted by Congress, to prevent employers from hiring illegal aliens. This will not only stem the flow of illegals into the American workforce; it will also prevent the wrecking of U.S. workers' Social Security accounts.

* * * * *

COLLECTORS AND LIBRARIANS are reminded that the lifespan of most modern paper is only 50 years. There is an acid in woodpulp paper which causes it to disintegrate after that. I presume that all photocopy paper is of the woodpulp type. Maybe somebody can check on that. The only type of paper which will last for the ages is pure "rag" paper, usually made with cotton or linen. You can buy 100% cotton fiber paper in stationery stores, but it's quite expensive. You can also buy 75% cotton paper for a cheaper price. You might want to see whether you could make a couple of "archives" type copies of your zines on such paper, if you have control over your own printing facilities. (The New York Times and other fine newspapers run off a couple of hundred copies of each issue on such paper for the use of libraries at the start of each press run).

There is a process whereby the acid can be removed from woodpulp paper. This is now being used by the Library of Congress for their older books and papers. It looks something like a pressure cooker from the outside. I don't know whether any commercial services are available to us ordinary folk. If anyone should discover such a service, please let the rest of us know. The one precaution that I know of is to never seal any woodpulp paper inside plastic acetate folders. The acetate makes the paper disintegrate even faster.

We may eventually be faced with the necessity of recopying all the material in our archives, or microfilming it. Even microfilm has only a comparatively short shelf life, however. Storing material in air-conditioned environments will prolong their lives. A damp basement or a hot attic are very bad for anything made of paper.

THE THREAT TO OUR MAIL SERVICE - An Editorial

Some right-wingers in Congress and in the Administration are proposing a bill (HR 86) to abolish the Private Express Statute, the law granting exclusive delivery of First Class Mail to the Postal Service. They claim that "competition" will improve the mail service. One proposal is to lift the monopoly only in certain big cities, starting with New York, which reportedly has the worst mail service in the nation.

Opponents of the abolition of the Private Express Statute have pointed out that the chief result of such a move would be the skinning off of easy-to-deliver mail in the central areas of the largest cities. The Postal Service would be left with the expensive delivery service in rural areas and small towns. (Imagine the profits some friend of the current Administration could make if all he had to do was to deliver the mail on Manhattan Is. or the Chicago Loop). The loss of the profitable big city first class mail service would force a further increase in postage costs for the rest of us. In other words, this proposal makes about as much sense as did the breaking up of the Telephone Company, which has raised everyone's bills.

Another point about the possible breakup of the postal monopoly has not received much publicity. This concerns the operation of the International Postal Union, which has governed the flow of International mail throughout the civilized world for the past 125 years. The I.P.U. regulations direct and prescribe the flow of said mail only through national post offices.

Were the Reagan Administration to establish several private mail services in the U.S., they would be incompatible with the receipt and delivery of foreign mail. Can you imagine the consternation in Overseas PO's upon receiving a letter bearing a "stamp" from "Joe Blow's Private Postal Service"? Such mail would be legally undeliverable. Similarly, foreign mail arriving here could not be handled by Joe Blow.

So, those of us having a strong interest in the receipt and transmission of foreign mail had better support those forces within and without the government who are opposing the abolition of the Private Express Statutes. "Competition" would open a real can of worms, especially for those of us living near cities, and would raise the cost of first class mail for everyone.

((The primary cause of poor mail delivery in some urban areas, in my opinion, is that all Federal employees get paid on the same wage scale, regardless of where they live. What is a princely wage in a rural area becomes a paltry sum in high COL areas like N.Y.C. This, in turn, results in the jobs in HCOL areas being filled with unskilled workers, since qualified people will not work for such low wages.

((The solution is to pay the going wages in places like N.Y.C., to attract more qualified employees. Federal blue collar workers have always been paid at the prevailing local wage rates. But, I guess this is too logical for the Postal Service.)) DONE ABOUT 1990.

* * * * *

YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLD WHEN... (A roving spacefiller)

You can remember when people could sing that song from "State Fair" with a straight face: "I feel so gay, in a melancholy way, that it might as well be Spring."

You mention listening to the news of the bombing of Pearl Harbor on the radio, and people start calling you "Sir," and bring you a chair to sit down on.

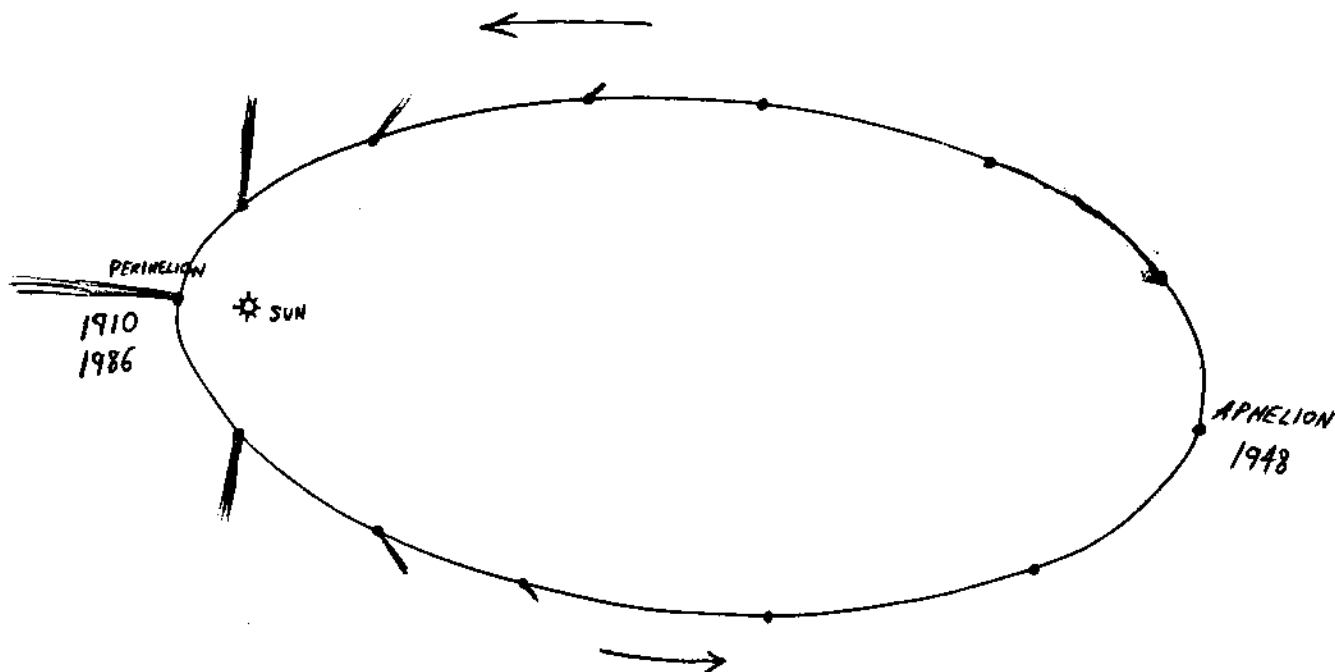
You refer to college football and basketball players as "students."

Halley's Comet

by BRUX Linsey

In the March issue of Bushwacker, some remarks about Halley's Comet were printed. In keeping with the astronomical theme of this zine, I wish to offer the following further comments, which may aid in some readers' understanding of this phenomenon, which is due to reappear next year.

Halley's is only the most famous of a countless number of comets which orbit our sun. Comets are tiny (compared to planets, that is) balls of frozen gases and other particles which speed through the cold void of outer space. The popular image of a comet, which includes a long tail streaming out from the head, is accurate only when the comet is in close proximity to the sun. At these times, the solar wind -- a continuous emission of subatomic particles from the sun -- bombards the comet with sufficient force to overcome the weak gravity of the comet's mass, and push some of the gases away in a stream which in some cases attains a length of several million miles. This appears to us as the comet's "tail." Thus we can dispense with another popular notion; that the comet's tail always follows its head. Since the tail is a product of forces emanating from the sun, it always points away from the sun, so that when the comet is moving back out toward its aphelion, its tail precedes it.



Most of the time, however, the comet is far from the sun and has no tail. Why "most of the time"? Comets, like all permanent members of our solar system, travel in elliptical orbits about the sun. (The planets' and most asteroids' orbits are nearly circular, but are in fact ellipses of very low eccentricity.) The sun is at one focus of the ellipse, not at its center, so that if a comet's orbit is very eccentric (as most are), it spends the vast majority of its time far from the sun. In addition to this, according to one of Newton's famed Laws of Gravitation, the speed of a body in orbit is greatest at perihelion and smallest at aphelion; or, in lay terms, the comet moves relatively slowly when it is far from the sun and zooms by at breakneck speed (in some cases, dozens of miles per second) when near the sun. If a human could somehow exist on Halley's Comet, for instance, he would experience frigid winters of about 75 earth years duration, then a brief year or so of spring, summer, and autumn before riding back into the lonely reaches of the solar system. Our hypothetical celestial cowboy would lead a chilly existence indeed!

Despite the use of the phrase "zooms by at breakneck speed" above, comets do not flash across the sky in an instant as many people believe. That spectacle is provided by meteors, or "shooting stars," which are particles of stone or metal that happen to stray into the earth's atmosphere. From our vantage point millions of miles away, comets appear stationary and can remain visible for months on end.

Halley's Comet has been well-tracked and observed. Its orbital period is 76 earth years. It has made some spectacular appearances over the centuries, but alas, the 1986 approach promises to be quite inconspicuous for us poor peons who live in the northern temperate latitudes. The view from the southern hemisphere and the northern tropics will be much more advantageous. The reason for this is that the comet's orbit lies in a plane quite oblique to that of the earth's. The orbits of the moon and planets are practically coplanar (except for Pluto's, which is 17° tilted to ours), and so these objects all appear to follow almost the same path through our sky. We call this path the zodiac, and because of the earth's rather small inclination on its axis -- $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ -- the entire zodiac, and thus all of the planets, are visible from most places on the earth's surface (anywhere between the arctic and antarctic circles) at some point each year.

Celestial mechanics play funny games with comets, however, and many of them travel in orbits whose planes are greatly inclined to ours. Halley's Comet falls into this category. It so happens that during this approach, it will reach perihelion while on the opposite side of the sun from the earth, precluding easy viewing, and when it is visible its position will be well "below" -- south of -- our orbit. So, we northerners won't be able to see it much of the time because the earth itself will literally be in the way! Take heart, though; the view is likely to be much better when the comet returns in the year 2062.

Comets have been the objects of many superstitions throughout history, most of them ominous. Yet, while a direct collision between the earth and a comet would have catastrophic results, they are otherwise harmless. In 1910, the earth passed through Halley's Comet's tail, with no discernable effects. The odds against a direct hit are -- pun only semi-intended -- astronomical. Even so, a number of terrestrial disasters have coincided with, or shortly followed, the appearance of comets.

The Battle of Hastings in 1066 was accompanied by a visit by the then-unnamed and unexpected Halley's Comet, and the war between Caesar and Pompey in 48 B.C. was preceded by a spectacular comet. The latter bit of information is ours thanks to the Roman writer Pliny, who perished in the eruption of Vesuvius in A.D. 79 -- which, as it happens, occurred immediately on the heels of another appearance of Halley's Comet. The 1910 return of Halley's Comet preceded World War I by but a scant four years; and now, of course, the 1986 model will look down upon the earth and witness the height of the Great Diplomacy Hobby War (whose nuclear glow will by then presumably be visible even in the southern hemisphere). One must pause then and wonder whether Newton's Law is the only reason that Halley's Comet will beat a hasty retreat back out into the empty void!

* * * * *

(My son, Kevin, says he expects to be here for the next showing in 2062, and thanks Uncle Brux for reminding him to make the necessary reservations. - FCB)

* * * * *

(cont. fr. Pg 3)

WHEN... You can remember when the answer to the question, "What's playing at the movieS?" brought the names of one or two films, instead of an encyclopedia of information.

You think of a \$75,000 house as a palace in one of the ritzier suburbs.

ANOTHER HOAX

A fake copy of Rod Walker's ZIMLAVIA #25 was mailed to several people from Fresno, California in mid-April. Said fake announced the end of DIPLOMACY WORLD. It also reported that Rod had no money to refund subscriptions.

To the contrary, D.W. is alive and convalescing in Flushing, N.Y. Perhaps you will have received your Spring issue by the time this arrives.

The flyer also mentioned my taking over the North American Variant Bank, and said I was selling copies of the NAVB Catalog for \$7.50! Well, while \$7.50 a copy would buy a lot of Champagne, I must regretfully return any such orders received. When I do eventually prepare a new NAVB Catalog, it will cost a lot less than \$7.50. The price will depend on the state of my wine cellar - oops, I mean the printing costs. Please don't send me any orders until I make an announcement here.

Fresno is some 200 miles north of L.A. We don't know who produced this fake. The typing was very poor. It's possible that it was printed elsewhere and shipped to Fresno for mailing by a friend. Anyone have a lead on this case?

* * * * *

THE ZINE REGISTER HAS BEEN PUBLISHED!

Yes, and delivered, too. Approximately nine months late, Roy Henricks has produced a very nice-looking 44 page listing of all known zines and subzines in North America, plus a listing of those zines in Australia, Europe and the United Kingdom on which information was available. In a few cases, the information is dated. I believe that about three of the listed zines have subsequently folded. However, the format is well organized and a model of clarity, so this is a gold mine of information for the PBM hobbyist. To get your copy, send \$2 to Roy at: 128 Deerfield Dr., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15253.

I can't see what all the controversy was about. There are no references to feuds or character assassination in the Z.D. It has not been ruined by association with That Linsey Creature. Indeed, it's impossible to tell which entries may have been typed by Brux, as everything follows the same low-key format. This is Roy's baby, not Brux's. There is a brief mention that some publishers did not want their zines listed in the Register, so it might be best not to mention the Z.D. when asking for a sample copy of zines showing "No statement provided." Roy does not name names, I know that Melinda Holley was most adamant that her REBEL not be listed for some unknown (to me) reason. However, I'm pleased to say that every known zine has been listed herein. This is public information, and I concur with Roy that the information should be as complete as possible. Try it, you'll like it.

* * * * *

CORRECTION ON ORIGINS '85 LOCATION

I've just recently learned that ORIGINS will be held on the campus of Towson State University, just north of Baltimore, instead of at the U. of Maryland Baltimore Co. campus just west of the city. You'll receive exact directions if you register, but the fastest way to get there from the Baltimore Beltway (I-695) is to go south on Charles St. (Beltway Exit 25) about 1.5 miles to Towsontown Blvd., and a left on that boulevard right into the campus. This is the same site where ORIGINS '84 was held. Sheppard-Pratt Mental Hospital is right next door. (Convenient).

Robert Sacks has kindly informed me that the Diplomacy Tournament will consist of two rounds, one from Noon to 7 p.m. Saturday, and the second from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Sunday. He will conduct a "Diplomacy Hobby Meeting" at 9 p.m. Saturday, June 29th.

It appears that Dan Wilson has dropped out of the hobby, since he's dropped out of games in other zines as well. Brad Wilson was requested to submit standby moves. Unfortunately, he received a copy of BUSH with Pp 7/8 missing. He contacted me about this, and I sent him the proper pages, to his Paoli address. I don't know what happened; perhaps he didn't have time after he got home to make the deadline. I'm going to assume that Brad Wilson is the new French player. He's going to be away for the next three weeks, so I hope he can get orders in for Winter 1914.

LAST AFRICAN NATIONS FAIL TO IBERIANS. AUSTRIANS CRASH OKTOBERFEST, FORM SOLID WALL IN EAST. GERMANS GET IN DUTCH. FRENCH FAIL. TURKS FRUSTRATED. ITALIANS STAB.

AUSTRIA (Dancause): A Tyrolia-Munich. A Bohemia (S) A Tyrol-Munich. A Galicia-Silesia. A Poland-Prussia. A Trieste-Tyrol. A Piedmont-Switz.
(8) A Greece (H). A Rumania (H).
BELGIUM (Dancause): A Picardy-Burgundy.
(1)
ENGLAND (Hagerson?): NMR. F's Liverpool and Denmark (H).
(2)
FRANCE (Brad Wilson): NMR. A's Brest and Leon (H). A Cadiz (H) /d/, (Annihilated).
(7) A/F Bay of Biscay (H). F's Gulf of Lyons and Morocco (H).
GERMANY (Cheek): A Switz.-Marseille. A Kiel-Holland. A Ruhr (S) A Kiel-Holland.
(6) A Munich-Switz. /d/, (R) Berlin (only space open). A Burgundy (S)
BELGIAN A Picardy-Paris (NSO). F Gulf of Guinea-South Atlantic.
IBERIA (Kozlowski): A Somaliland-Abyssinia. A Kenya (S) A Somali-Abyssinia. A Cape-
(10) Transvaal. A Mozambique (S) A Cape-Transvaal. F Lisbon-Cadiz.
A Madrid (S) F Lisbon-Cadiz. A Catalonia-Leon. F MAO-Bay of
Biscay. F Western Med. (S) ITALIAN A Algeria-Morocco /d/, (R) Sardinia,
(only sp. open). F North Indian Ocean (H).
ITALY (Anderson): A Apulia boards F Ionian, A/F Ionian-Aegean, A disembarks Smyrna.
(8)(7 units) F Tunis-Western Med. F Tyrr. Sea (S) F Tunis-Western Med.
A Sudan-Egypt. A Algeria-Libya. A Rome-Venice.
TURKEY (Baty): A Eastern Med disembarks Palestine. F Eastern Med-Levant Sea.
(7) A Persia board F Arabian Sea, A/F Arabian Sea-N. Indian Ocean.
A Egypt-Libya. A Sevastopol (H). F Bulgaria(sc) (H).

NO PRESS

SUPPLY CENTER COUNT, WINTER 1914: GAINS, ~~LOSSES~~

AUSTRIA:	4 Home, Greece, Poland, Serbia, MUNICH, VENICE	8, No change
BELGIUM:	Belgium	1, No change
ENGLAND:	London, Denmark, LIVERPOOL	3, Build 1
FRANCE:	Brest, Paris, Edi, Morocco, CADIZ, MARSEILLE, LIVERPOOL	4, Remove 32 (3 annihilated)
GERMANY:	Berlin, Kiel, Kamerun, Nigeria, Switz., HOLLAND, MARSEILLE, MUNICH	7, Build 1
IBERIA:	Madrid, Lisbon, Angola, Belgian Congo, Cape, Madagascars, Mozambique, G.E.A., Rhodesia, Senegal, CADIZ, ABYSSINIA, TRANSVAAL, SARDINIA	18, Build 4 (Room for only 2 Builds)
ITALY:	Rome, Naples, Libya, Algeria, SARDINIA , Somaliland, Sudan, Tunis, VENICE, SMYRNA	9 10, Build 2 (was 1 short)
TURKEY:	Con, Ankara, Bulgaria, Egypt, Mesopotamia, Palestine, SMYRNA	6, Remove 1
Neutral:	Norway (1)	

We have NO MORE Standbys for L'Imp. I'll have to assume that David Hagerson and Brad Wilson will be sending in orders for England and France, respectively. If anyone else would like to submit orders, just send 'em in together with \$1.00 for the maps/rules, (over)

and I'll be glad to put you down as a Standby. Note that both England and France have an adjustment to make in Winter 1914.

DEADLINE for WINTER 1914 is SATURDAY, June 15, 1985. Telephone deadline will be Friday, June 14th, at 9 p.m. Eastern Time. Because of the uncertainty about who's playing E & F, we will play only the Winter season. I'll accept a Build/Removal order from anyone, but I would not play a move season without notifying players of the names and addresses of any new players. Again, FYI, Brad Wilson's summer address is: 302 Friendship, Paoli, PA. 19301.

* * * * *

VACATION DIPLOMACY III

SPRING 1901

STANDOFF IN GALICIA IS ONLY COMBAT IN FIRST ROUND. TURKS CAST MAGIC SPELL ON FRENCH ARMY. GERMANY APPEARS TO BE INVINCIBLE. ENGLISH INVENT AMPHIBIOUS UNIT.

ENGLAND (Wallace): F Edi-Hebrides Sea. F London-North Sea. A/F* Liverpool-Irish Sea. VF Sicily-Ionian Sea. *(ENG plays Card #35).
(4)
FRANCE (B. Wilson): F Brest-Mid-Atlantic. A Paris-Gascony. A Marseille-Spain.
(4) VA Persia-Armenia (Annihilated)
GERMANY (Dodge): F Kiel-Holland. F Crete-Ionian Sea. A Berlin (MS) A Munich.
(4) Plays Card #30 (All moves succeed).
ITALY (Floyd): F Naples-Tyrr. Sea. VF Iceland-North Atlantic. A Rome-Venice.
(4) A Venice-Piedmont.
AUSTRIA (Rice): A Budapest-Galicia. A Vienna-Tyrol. F Trieste (S) A Vienna-Tyrol.
(4) IMPOSSIBLE - Tyrol is an Inland space. VF Gotland-Baltic Sea.
RUSSIA (Cheek): A Warsaw-Galicia. F St. Pete(sc)-Finland. F Sevastopol-Rumania.
(5) A Moscow-Ukraine. VF Sardinia-Western Med.
TURKEY (Kenny): A Con-Bulgaria. A Smyrna-Ankara. F Ankara-Con. VF America-North Africa. Plays Card #88 to annihilate FRENCH A Persia.
(4)

All players are reminded that you must identify your Vacation unit with a "V" in front of its type. After this season, any Vacation unit orders without the "V" will Hold. Players must also sign their names at the bottom of each set of orders.

3 Event Cards have been played: #30, #35, #88. The other players have apparently saved their Cards for the Fall moves. If anybody doesn't understand how to use their cards, please contact me immediately. You are required to keep ^{your own} running tally of cards used, if you want to. Standby players will be advised of the card held by the country for which they're requested to submit back-up moves, privately.

PRESS:

RUSSIA to Germany: There are some who start their retirement long before they start working (or playing Diplomacy).

RUSSIA to Turkey: The winds are always on the side of the ablest navigator.

DEADLINE for FALL 1901 orders is SATURDAY, June 15, 1985. Telephone deadline will be Friday, June 14th, at 9 p.m. Eastern Time. There was a paucity of Press for the first move of the game. Remember, you can submit press releases for your country. Short and/or funny releases are preferred.

* * * * *

ZEUS V-F, 1984A gf11SPRING 1945

RED ARMY CRASHES INTO BERLIN WHILE GERMANS TAKE POLAND. LENINGRAD GETS YELLOW FEVER. CHINA AND USA SET COURSES FOR EUROPE. FRANCE RETRACTS TO EASTERN HEMISPHERE.

BRITAIN (Floyd): F West Arctic Ocean-Canada(ec). F MAO (C) FRENCH A Panama-Spain.
(2)

CHINA (Kozlowski): A Siberia-Leningrad. A Amur (S) RUSSIAN F Sea of Okhotsk-Okhotsk.
(9) F Sea of Japan-Sea of Okhotsk. A Kazakh-Stalingrad. F Tokyo-Sea of Japan. F Indian Ocean (S) USA F Egypt. A Turkey (MS) A Middle East. F South Pacific-Panama.

FRANCE (Brockmeier): F North Sea-West Arctic Ocean. F English Channel-North Sea.
(7) F West Britain (S) ENGLISH F MAO. A Panama-Spain. F Libya-Egypt. F Greece (MS) F East Med. (MS = Mutual Support).

GERMANY (Baty): F Helgoland-Hamburg. A Berlin (S) F Helgoland-Hamburg.* A Rumania-Poland. A Czecho. & A Hungary (S) A Rumania-Poland. A Yugoslavia-Rumania. *A Berlin /d/, (R) Munich (only space open).
(6)

USSR (Rauterberg): F East Arctic Ocean-Finland(nc). F Sea of Okhotsk-Okhotsk.
(8) A Poland-Berlin. F Baltic Sea (S) A Poland-Berlin. F Denmark (H). F Norway-North Sea. A Baltic States-Moscow. A Stalingrad (S) A Balt. States-Moscow.

U.S.A. (Cheek): A Hawaii (S) CHINESE F South Pacific-Panama. F Washington (S) CHINESE F S. Pacific-Panama. F North Atlantic-West Arctic Ocean.
(10) F New York-MAO. A Oregon-Canada. F Midway-California. F Central Pacific-Midway. F North Pacific & F Sapporo (S) CHINESE F Sea of Japan-Sea of Okhotsk. F Egypt (S) CHINESE A Middle East.

PRESS

USA to France: If there's anyone there, perhaps you can do better than M.R.T.

PARIS to Chungking: Your request for Alliance is unconditionally denied!

DEADLINE for FALL 1945 orders is SATURDAY, June 15, 1985. Telephone deadline will be Friday, June 14th, at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time. These deadlines are a day later than originally planned, as I'll not be leaving town till June 20th.

* * * * *

PLUG: THE RAZOR'S EDGE, by James Early, 3705 Uruguay Dr., Pasadena, Texas 77504. TRE runs both Regular and Variant games. He is currently running two sections of Tom Swider's "Final Conflict III," which is a global variant, set in the year 2100, which uses planes and nuclear ICBM's. It's one of the few global variants to use only 7 Powers. Europe is not one of those 7 Powers, while Australia is. I find this somewhat unrealistic, but the map is well-designed, and the game appears to be balanced. A game of "Confusion Dip" is about to begin. Maps are used. While the reduced type is too small for my eyes, the printing is very neat, with plenty of white space. He is currently running a series on a profile of Otto von Bismarck.

Game Fees are \$2.00. Subs are 10 issues for \$5.00. James is also producing a new version of U.S. Diplomacy. I've advised him that this should probably be called "U.S. Diplomacy IV." (I designed U.S. Dip II and III). It will be interesting to compare his completed design with my "III" version. I always felt that "III" was not sufficiently dynamic. I'll let you know my opinion of "IV" when I see it.

* * * * *

"It is well that war is so terrible. We should grow too fond of it."

- Robert E. Lee, following the Battle of Fredericksburg, Dec. 13, 1862, where 12,000 Union and 6,000 Confederate soldiers died in a single day.

(Only a few miles from the site of MaryCon III)

POSTAGE UPDATE - COSTLY TO CANADA

We recently had three overweight items going to Canada returned for additional postage. While the postage for the second and additional ounces of First Class Mail within the U.S. remains at 17¢, the rate to Canada and Mexico was increased to 18¢. This marks the first time in this century that there has been any difference between Canadian and domestic postal rates. So, anyone mailing zines to Canada had better lay in a supply of 1¢ stamps to add to your 17¢ stamps when you go over the ounce. (It took the P.O. eight days to bounce my mail!)

* * * * *

WOULD YOU BELIEVE?

That Mark Berch and Bruce Linsey no longer exist? That's according to Kathy Byrne. She recently stated in KATHY'S KORNER that "I am joining Bob Olsen in his alternative hobby," and that in this other hobby, Berch and Linsey do not exist. This has now been carried out to the extent that whenever Brux's name would appear, it has been x'd out, including an "x" over the "x" in Brux.

I have nothing against Bob Olsen, and I know nothing about any official "alternative hobby." It would be nice if Kathy or John would furnish us with a complete list of all the people who no longer exist in her hobby. Perhaps we can reciprocate by printing a list of the names of people who no longer exist in the original Postal hobby. However, it's going to be somewhat awkward at MaryCon and Origins when these people who no longer exist keep bumping into each other in doorways and food lines. Like, "Awright, guys, so Kathy doesn't exist, but I'm choking to death on her cigarette smoke!"

* * * * *

We've just learned that Halley's Comet will be behind the Sun when we take our Caribbean cruise next February. Unfortunately, that's the only week we can go, when our County's schools are closed. With binoculars, Halley should be visible beginning about November 3rd. It will become a naked eye object in early December. Unfortunately, it will be lost behind the Sun about January 20th. It will again become visible to northern hemisphere observers around March 15th, gradually fading out about May 1st.

If you can leave the U.S., one of the better places to spot the comet would be the tip of the Baja peninsula. Other spots in southern Mexico are easily accessible by car. I've seen advertisements for cruises through the Panama Canal in March, and also for flights to Australia (which include hotel rooms). These are all fairly expensive. A one-week visit to any Caribbean island is another possibility. Since March is the high tourist season, book early. You'll want to bring at least binoculars with you.

* * * * *

THE BATTLE OF GUADALCANAL - Part II:

With great tenacity, Admiral Tanaka and his twelve big transports, carrying at least a division of troops, were still coming. Delayed by the results of last night's battle, they were spotted moving down The Slot from the Shortland Is. by a B-17, on the afternoon of November 13th. They were accompanied by four cruisers and six destroyers. (The Slot was the body of water between Choiseul and Santa Isabel Is. to the north and New Georgia to the south, running from Bougainville and the Shortlands in the west to Guadalcanal and Savo Is. in the east).

Nor was this all. Admiral Kondo was determined to bombard Henderson Field. He gathered up the undamaged ships from Abe's forces - BB Kirishima, cruiser Nagara, and four destroyers - to combine with his own force. He planned to escort the transports to Guadalcanal with this force. Meanwhile, he sent Vice Admiral Mikawa with four heavy and two light cruisers and six DD to bombard the airfield.

On the night of the 13th Mikawa arrived off Savo Island. Shortly after midnight he detached the heavy cruisers Suguya and Maya under Nishimura to move offshore. Each shot over 500 rounds of 8" shells at the American beachhead on the 'Canal. There were no American ships to stop them. They had everything their own way.

Fortunately, the bombardment did more psychological than physical damage. Only 18 U.S. planes were destroyed, and Henderson Field was still operational. Two U.S. PT boats made torpedo runs at the cruisers, but scored no hits. Word of the bombardment, combined with word of the approaching transports, was received with shock in Washington. Still Friday the Thirteenth there, even President Roosevelt feared that the 'Canal might have to be evacuated. Was anything left to stop the Nips?

The answer came on the morning of the 14th, in the form of the last operational aircraft carrier in the free world between Suez and Pearl Harbor, the famous Enterprise. All day long the planes of Enterprise, some based on the ship and others from Henderson Field, attacked the Japanese convoy. It was "Fighter Ten" Grumman Wildcats vs. Zero fighters; "Bomber Ten" Douglas Dauntless dive bombers vs. Tanaka's ships. In the carnage, the U.S. forces sank a heavy cruiser and seven transports at a cost of five planes.

But at nightfall four transports and 11 DD's were still steaming a straight line course for Guadalcanal! This last run of the "Tokyo Express" was being screened by Vice Admiral Kondo's Emergency Bombardment Group. This now consisted of Kirishima, the heavy cruisers Atago and Takao, the lights Nagara and Sensai, and nine destroyers.

As far as the Americans on Guadalcanal knew, the only remaining U.S. surface forces available to oppose them - all that lay across The Slot - were two PT boats.

"They moved out to the area of the bitch patrol to tackle the Jap battle fleet with the air of Sydney Carton going to the scaffold." 5.

Kondo intended to land his four transports and to give the beachhead on the 'Canal another pasting. U.S. planes had spotted him coming as darkness fell. The news spread among the weary troops ashore. They'd already had two sleepless nights due to Jap naval bombardment. Now they faced another.

At eleven p.m. on the 14th, the two PT boats saw dark shadows emerge from the blip of Savo Island. They believed it was the Jap force arriving and began to close in to attack.

At that moment, a new voice was heard on their radio speakers:

"This is 'Ching Cheng' Lee. Get out of the way; I'm coming through!" 5.

It was not the Japanese fleet. It was Rear-Admiral Willis^A Lee and the two most powerful units of the United States Navy, the new 16" gun battleships Washington and South Dakota (35,000 tons, 9 - 16" guns, speed of 28 knots). (Lee had earned the nickname "Ching Chong" from his years of prewar service on the China station).

This was Task Force 64. On the afternoon of November 13, when the threat of more Jap attacks on Guadalcanal was imminent and all of the American ships in the area were forced to return to base for repairs, Admiral Halsey had ordered the two BB's, and whatever four destroyers had the most fuel, to detach themselves from Adm. Kinkaid's Task Force 16 and run northward to cover the beachhead. They had arrived, unknown to most of the people on Guadalcanal, early on the evening of the 14th.

They came into the area in a single six-ship column, led by the DD's Walke, Benham, Preston and Gwin. They were followed by the flagship, Washington, with South Dakota ("Battleship X") bringing up the rear. Halsey had taken a great gamble in throwing this precious force into the narrow confining waters of the Solomons. The battleships were the only new capital ships the U.S. had in the Pacific.

The ships had never operated together. The four DD's were from four different divisions, with no division commander among them. The battleships likewise had been strangers before this voyage. Instead of a formal operation order, Lee had to signal his intentions by searchlight. Nevertheless, Halsey felt that he must throw in everything he had, and granted Lee complete freedom to do as he pleased when he reached Guadalcanal.⁶

Lee entered The Slot travelling north-eastward between Cape Esperance,^{at} the north-west corner of Guadalcanal, and Russell Island 20 miles northeastward. He circled Savo Island in three legs, heading southeast on the third leg. He met the PT's on the latter leg. At 11:52 p.m. the line turned back due west to run between the Canal and Savo.

Adm. Kondo's forces were coming down in three sections. Two or three miles in front was an outer screening force under Hashimoto, consisting of light cruiser Sendai and three destroyers. The inner screen included Nagara and six DD's. Behind them came the big stuff, with Kondo aboard CA Atago, rather than his battleship. At the same time, the passenger division of the Tokyo Express, under Tanaka, was preparing to land the troops from the four surviving transports. This was to begin simultaneously with the beginning of Kondo's shore bombardment.

Sendai had first spotted the Americans at 11:10, thinking she was seeing two cruisers and four destroyers in the darkness. Although the Americans had radar, they did not spot Sendai and her escorting DD as they continued to track Lee. The other two DDs of the group, Ayanami and Uranami, were detached to scout south of Savo.

Kondo, learning of this spotting, gave his battle orders. Nagara and four DD's were to follow behind Ayanami at full speed. The big group was to stay outside Ironbottom Sound northwest of Savo Is. This plan was the ultimate in the Japanese tactical pattern of dispersion - 14 ships split four ways in a 10-mile-square area.

At exactly midnight Washington, heading due west, spotted the first Japanese ship on her radar at a distance of 9 miles. This was Sendai. At 12:17 a.m. on the 15th, Washington opened fire, scaring the cruiser back to safety, laying a smoke screen behind her. (This pre-radar tactic was now useless for invisibility). Sendai soon outran the range of the primitive radar of the day. Washington continued to fire by guesswork, but Sendai was unhurt.

Then the Japanese destroyers closed in. Ayanami and Uranami came in first, at 12:30, firing torpedoes. The Nagara squadron loosed their "Long Lance" fish five minutes later, while at the same time their guns began shooting up the U.S. DD's. Unlike Hollywood war movies, our destroyers started getting their stuffing knocked out by enemy gunfire. The effect foreboded another disaster for the Americans.

Destroyer Walke was knocked off course. Preston's topsides were demolished from amidships aft, and she was out of action. Gwin was hit in the engine room and had her torpedoes knocked out of their tubes and dumped overboard.

At 12:38 Jap torpedoes began hitting the mark. Walke had her forecastle blown off as far as the bridge, and began sinking by the bow, a flaming wreck. Benham's bow was destroyed, and she was forced to limp out of the battle. Preston was gutted by fire and the crew forced to abandon ship. Only Gwin continued firing. Not a single American torpedo had been fired. Our nice new battleships were now totally without escorting cover. The only Japanese ship hurt was Ayanami, which was left dead in the water.

The Americans were confused because of the uncertain pictures on their radar screens. Between all of the small islands in the area and all the scattered Jap forces we often weren't sure what we were shooting at - or what was shooting at us. Some thought a shore battery on Savo Is. was shooting at us, when actually it was Japanese ships hugging the shore. Worse yet, South Dakota lost all her electric power at 12:33, knocking out her radar and radio, leaving her both blind and dumb.

Washington's gunners were handicapped by floundering cripples ahead and confused by radar echoes against Savo Is. It should be further noted that Japanese gunnery was even better than appears on the surface. While our battleships were firing by radar, the Japanese had to illuminate their targets by searchlight, or shoot only at targets already in flames. ♪

Lee now ordered his two surviving destroyers to withdraw and turned his battle line to avoid the burning hulks of Preston and Walke. Washington turned to port to pass behind them, but Dakota was forced to turn to starboard to avoid the withdrawing Benham, and so was silhouetted by the flames behind her, making her a perfect target. Luckily, no hits were scored on her.

Dakota's power now returned and the monster was once more back in the action. Her main batteries opened up on Sendai astern. She succeeded in setting fire to her own planes on the fantail catapults, thanks to a turret gun blast. Fortunately, the concussion of the next salvo knocked the planes overboard.

"Battleship X" then found herself really in a fix. In turning to starboard she completely lost track of her flagship. Due to the power failure she had lost track of how the battle was running, and was not even certain as to who was who among the green blips on the radar screen. Then, along came Kimura with his withdrawing advance guard. Dakota had lost her flagship, but the Japanese had found Dakota!

Kimura shouted a warning to Kondo. Then his force fired 34 torpedoes at the battleship. By some incredible luck, all missed. The Japanese ships made a complete loop around Dakota and fell back, losing sight of her. Dakota had both Kimura's and Kondo's forces on her radar, but not knowing what the latter was, continued to close the range with both groups, without opening fire.

The order of battle of Kondo's heavy ships was Atago, Takao and Kirishima. They had spotted both of the American battlewagons. South Dakota was much closer, and was chosen for the victim. With neither side firing, the two forces closed to the incredibly short battleship range of 5,000 yards.

Then, in one instant the searchlights of the Japanese fleet were turned on the Dakota and all hell broke loose. At this range, a cruiser's eight inch shells will penetrate armor as easily as the 14" shells of Kirishima. Big shells plowed into Dakota's superstructure, but the modern construction of this ship limited the damage. The Jap destroyers made another torpedo attack. Again they all missed. The great 16" guns of the American battleship began dishing out damage to the cruisers. But she was in a tight spot against three to one odds.

Meanwhile, Washington had been looking for its companion. Adm. Lee had been tracking a big target on radar for several minutes, but was afraid to fire for fear it might be Dakota. Actually, Dakota was in the "blind spot" of Washington's radar on her starboard quarter. This was the other half of the remarkable coincidence that had kept the two battleships from knowing where the other was. Then the Japanese turned on their searchlights and there was no doubt as to who was who.

The fat target that Washington had been tracking was battleship Kirishima!

Washington's sixteen inch battery opened up on her at a range of 8400 yards. Three salvos screamed out. With deadly accuracy shells tore into Kirishima. She burst into flames and sent towering clouds of black smoke into the heavens. She looked so badly damaged that Lee believed she was through and ceased firing.

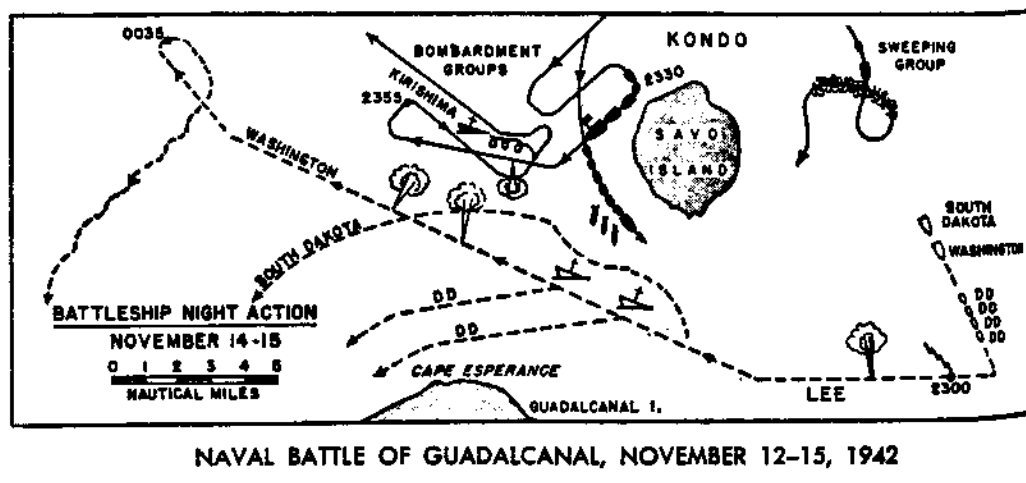
But Kirishima was not through. She kept on firing at Dakota. Washington resumed firing. Five more salvos. Nine 16" and 40 five inch hits were scored. Kirishima was reduced to firing one main battery gun. She tried to turn and run. It was too late. In seven minutes the great Nipponese fighting machine was knocked out of the fight, steering gear hopelessly wrecked, topsides aflame. She was so badly wrecked Lee decided not to waste any more shells in sinking her.

The Japanese had been so intent on closing with the brightly illuminated Dakota that they had lost all idea of Washington's location - until she opened fire on them. After seven minutes it was the Japs who were outnumbered - two cruisers vs. two BB's.

The big fellows turned their attention to the Japanese cruisers, revealed by their own searchlights. The U.S. gunners believed they sank at least one cruiser, but post-war records show that both got away. Washington then swung her guns over to shoot at a group of enemy DD's that were running away at high speed. Lee's ship began to pursue them with mayhem in mind, shifting course to N.N.W. But then the lead Jap DD began laying a smoke screen, and Lee, fearing a torpedo attack, turned around to take a S.S.W. course.

Lee was unsuccessful in contacting Dakota by radio, as all of "Battleship X's" radios had been shot away. Not seeing her around, he didn't know whether she was retiring or sinking. In hopes of drawing the Japanese away from his damaged companion, he ran on alone, trying to lure the enemy to chase his undamaged ship.

The Japanese heavy bombardment unit continued the pursuit for awhile; then suddenly changed its mind and ran off to the north. Jap destroyers continued to pursue the Washington "one ship task force" throughout the night. Some got close enough to fire torpedoes, and some of these torpedoes came so near astern that they exploded upon hitting the churning mass of water that was Washington's wake.



(Map from The Great Sea War, by Nimitz and Potter, Pg. 265)

South Dakota had been pretty badly shot up in her upper works. Her radar, radio and fire directors had been knocked out. Radar plot was demolished. Number 3 main turret was out of action. A 14" shell had struck its base. While not penetrating, it had put a dent into the armor plate that they never straightened out again. A fuel tank was holed. Small but dangerous fires were creeping all over the superstructure. A cut steam line filled the upper parts of the ship with its escaping contents.

But at least Dakota was now alone. The Japanese cruisers had run off to protect their transports, now making their landings. Captain Catch of Dakota, finding his ship, without fire direction control, unable to effectively continue in the engagement, withdrew at full speed to the southwest. Unable to contact Lee by radio, he also could not notify the Admiral of his withdrawal by blinker signal, for without radar Washington couldn't be spotted.

Midway during the last Japanese DD torpedo attack on Washington, Dakota got her radio working and was able to contact the flagship. Lee, apprised of her damage, ordered her to retire. A rendezvous was arranged for 9 a.m. By chasing Washington, the Japanese had lost the opportunity to finish off Dakota or the damaged destroyers.

By dawn on November 15, 1942, the United States Navy controlled the sea around Guadalcanal. The burning and exploding Kirishima was abandoned and scuttled at 4:20 a.m., with the crew being taken off by Sendai and a destroyer. Her captain wanted no part of the daylight punishment that Hiei had taken on the 13th. Ayanami, in hopeless shape, was sunk by her companion, Uranami, after removing the crew. The fighting units of the Imperial Japanese Navy left for home.

Dakota was early for the rendezvous with the flag. The two ships joined up and headed east for Noumea on New Caledonia. The South Dakota was to be sent back to the States for lengthy repairs. Meanwhile, the bowless Benham had been trying to make it to port aided by Gwin, but by 5 p.m. on the 15th the task became impossible, and the ship was abandoned. Gwin took the survivors aboard and gave her the coup-de-grace.

Because of the disaster to their fighting forces, the four Japanese troopships had been forced to beach themselves on Guadalcanal. At dawn they were blasted to pieces by American planes and a new destroyer, the Maede - only big warship left in the area. While the Americans landed every soldier and most of the equipment they had brought with them, all the Tokyo Express was able to deliver was 2,000 shaken survivors with ten days supply of rice. Many of the Japanese soldiers were more suitable candidates for hospitals than for front line duty. 8.

Meade then rescued many of the survivors of Walke and Preston, who were still in the water. When she brought them into Tulagi harbor on the afternoon of the 15th, the curtain fell on the naval Battle of Guadalcanal.

Conclusion:

Although the Americans suffered a higher total number of warships lost, it was the Japanese who suffered the irreparable losses. In three days the U.S. lost nine warships and had eight more damaged, for a total of 17. The Japanese had seven sunk and ten damaged - likewise 17. But Nippon lost two battleships, one heavy cruiser, and four destroyers; while the Americans lost only two light cruisers and seven DD's.

Further, the Japanese lost 11 transports and an entire division of troops. The troop loss could be accepted; there were plenty more where they came from. But Japan could not replace its battleships and big transports.

One extremely fortunate thing helped the Americans. Up at Truk, besides the ill-fated Kongo class battleships that Japan sent down, were sitting the two greatest battleships in the history of the world - the 64,000 ton BB's Musashi and Yamato, each armed with nine 18" guns. The Yamato was Admiral Yamamoto's flagship, from which he directed these operations from afar. On the other hand, Halsey at Noumea decided to send in the two most modern battleships he had available.

If Halsey had instead chosen to send in the older battleships Maryland and Colorado, which he had available, or if Yamamoto had come down with his two great monsters, the history of the world might have been different. But our new ships had only to contend with World War I capital ships.

The Battle of Guadalcanal was the turning point of the Pacific War. Until November 14, 1942, it was highly possible that Japan would win the Pacific War, by destroying the smaller existing Allied forces before our larger potential force overwhelmed her. After that date, the story in the Pacific became one of almost unbroken Allied success.

In November 1942, "The Hinge of Fate" turned, to use Churchill's phrase, in North Africa, at Stalingrad, and at Guadalcanal. Franklin Roosevelt said: "The turning point of the war has at last been reached." Winston Churchill commented, "It is the end of the beginning." In the Pacific, the Japanese naval staff planner, one Captain Ohmae, said: "After Guadalcanal, I knew we could not win the war. I did not think we would lose, but I knew we could not win." 9.

The essential steps to victory were "taken when Willis Augustus Lee went up 'The Slot' at Guadalcanal on the night of November 14, 1942." 10.

#

Bibliography:

Samuel Eliot Morison, The Struggle for Guadalcanal, Little, Brown & Co., 1949. (This is Volume V of Morison's ten volume on the History of U.S. Naval Operations in World War II, which is the definitive history of the sea war).

Karig, Battle Report, Vol. III, Rinehart & Co., 1947

Fletcher Pratt, The Navy's War, Harper & Brothers, 1944

Fletcher Pratt, The Marines' War, Harper & Brothers, 1948

(To which, in preparing this revision, I have added information from the book by Admiral Chester Nimitz and E.B. Potter, The Great Sea War, Prentice Hall/ Bramhall House, 1960).

FOOTNOTES TO "GUADALCANAL"

1. Morison, Pg. 240
2. *ibid.*, Pg. 243
3. Pratt, The Navy's War, Pg. 269. (Most Japanese battleships had a foremast structure resembling a pagoda).
4. *ibid.*, Pg. 272
5. *ibid.*, Pg. 276 (two quotes, same pg)
6. Morison, Pg. 272
7. Karig, Pp. 186-187
8. Pratt, The Marine's War, Pg. 113
9. *ibid.*, Pg. 114
10. Pratt, The Navy's War, Pg. 288

#

FEDERAL TIMES

MAY 13, 1985

Editorials·Letters·Columns

Moving the Mail

For two centuries — first under the old Post Office department and then the independent U.S. Postal Service since 1970 — the government has been delivering the nation's mail.

This year, there is heightened debate in Congress, among mostly conservative thinktanks and within the postal service itself on whether the letter mail monopoly should be broken, in whole or part.

The tug of war over the Private Express Statutes is of obvious concern to the 718,000 postal employees. Their jobs are at stake, after all.

But the issue is even larger. The elimination of the postal service's lock on letter mail deliveries would have a profound impact on all of us, especially those who reside in rural areas.

The issue is not whether private firms could deliver letters within a city or between major metropolitan areas more cheaply. That is a certainty. No knowledgeable observer of the postal service would disagree.

The dilemma for USPS — and the public — is that it has a mandate to process and deliver the mail to everyone.

And that universal service obligation means that Joe Smith in New York City has the same right to low-cost service as Sarah Mullins who resides in an isolated community in North Dakota.

Postal service rates are predicated on the costs associated with serving *all* of the people, *all* of the time.

Consider the immediate ramifications of a break in the letter mail monopoly: the more lucrative mail would be skimmed off by private firms, leaving the postal service with the equally important, but far less economically workable, chore of moving mail to remote areas.

The result would be skyrocketing costs in first class that would have to be absorbed either by the mailer or the taxpayer — or both.

There would be other equally pressing consequences.

Our mail is safe in the postal system. We don't have to worry about our letters being read or stolen or lost, in most instances. We do not have to contend with disruptions caused by employee unrest.

● Ambitious Chinese saw that the time was ripe for domination of the world by gun-carrying ships. They pulled their high technology together and built dozens of large sailing junks with multiple masts, steered by sternpost rudders, navigated by magnetic compasses, and armed with guns. In A.D. 1405 a powerful fleet set off to impress the barbarians, and a succession of expeditions overawed half the known world, gathering treasure from as far away as Mecca and Africa. Had that naval policy persisted, this book would be written in Chinese. Officials and accountants persuaded the emperor after less than thirty years to put a stop to it, and eventually they destroyed even the records of the voyages. It was bureaucracy's most breathtaking accomplishment.

Timescale,
Nigel Calder

ANALOG, MAY 1985

Every major nation in the world long ago decided that the processing and dispatch of the mail should be a function of the government. Contrary to what some members of Congress and several governors of the postal service are saying, this is one government monopoly that should remain intact.

Mail delivery is not perfect. But the postal service itself is not broken and, therefore, does not need to be fixed by those who are bent on parceling it out to the private sector.

FOLLOW-UP ON "THE SUN'S NEIGHBORHOOD" DIPLOMACY

Most of you will remember that we designed a 3-D Dip board called "The Sun's Neighborhood," based in part on a NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC map published in June 1983. My board and rules were printed in the December 1983 issue of 30 MILES OF BAD ROAD. (That was a magnificent production, with each level of the map printed in a different color).

Recently, a real 3-D star map has become available to astronomy and SF buffs. This contains 27 stars, including Sol, going out as far as Procyon (11.4 light years) and Tau Ceti (12 l.y.). Each star sits on a plastic "straw" set in an attractive lucite base, which contains useful information. This can be educational, especially if you have any young people in your family. You can see how close we are to Tau Ceti and Epsilon Eridani, the two stars most likely to have life-bearing planets in our neighborhood, and the two which we "tuned in to" in Project Ozma.

For a copy of this map and its accompanying booklet, send \$29 to: American Tool & Toy, 5116 Buckingham, Detroit, Mich. 48224. Allow 4 weeks for delivery.

Incidentally, I discovered that on my "Neighborhood" map, 61 Cygni and Tau Ceti are reversed in position. This was due to the difficulty in turning a 2-D map into a 3-D projection. Maybe I'll correct this someday, although I'd hate to spoil the beautiful maps Mark Ludi printed for me. Since it's "only a game," I guess I can live with it. While my Diplomacy map goes out to 40 light years, to include stars as distant as Arcturus and Zeta Reticuli (both 37 l.y.), with a bit of imagination and effort, one could play a form of Dip using this commercial map.

* * * * *

Out of the 392,000 veterans of the Spanish-American War of 1898, only 16 were still living as of April 21st, the 87th anniversary of the start of that war. As they ranged in age from 99 to 108, it will be only a short time till all have passed on. Then, the World War I veterans will become the Grand Old Men of our veteran population. (Being a follow-up to our article on when the last veteran of each war died, which we published in February 1978).

* * * * *

Thus ends our double issue for May-June. Fear not, another issue will be out in mid-June, called "July." Our "August" issue will come out in mid-July. Then, we will take a short vacation, and the September BUSH will appear near the end of August.

BUSHWACKER MAILING CODE: (P) = Player or Standby. (T) = Trade or Mutual Sub.
(C) = Complimentary copy. (SUB) = Subscription. (S) = Sample copy.

#

BUSHWACKER
c/• Fred C. Davis, Jr.
1427 Clairidge Rd.
Baltimore, Md. 21207
U.S.A.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

A BUSHWACKER SPECIAL

July 4, 1985

ZEUS V-F, 1984A gf11

FALL 1945

We made a couple of errors in this adjudication. Since we were out of town until recently, we were unable to rectify this until now.

1. The ^(USSR)RUSSIAN order for F Finland(nc) was "F Finland(nc) (S) F Okhotsk-Leningrad(nc)." I misread this as "F Finland (S) F Leningrad(nc)." Since the Finnish (S) order was into the space from which the Chinese unit was attacking, the Chinese A in Leningrad cannot cut that support. Therefore, the Russian F takes Leningrad, and The Chinese A is dislodged, and may Retreat OTB or to Siberia.
2. CHINESE order "A Kazakh-Stalingrad" fails. It was not supported. USSR A Stalingrad was stood off in Rumania, and remains in Stalingrad.
3. Note that the dislodged Russian A Moscow may move to either Baltic States or Siberia, or OTB. Thus, Siberia is a space to which two units may possibly Retreat. China and USSR should note this.

This affects the SUPPLY CENTER COUNT as follows:

CHINA: Gains OKHOTSK, but <u>not</u> Leningrad or Stalin-	10, Build 1
grad.	(NOT "12, Build 3")
USSR: Does <u>not</u> lose Leningrad or Stalingrad.	5, Remove 3
Loses MOSCOW, OKHOTSK, POLAND	(NOT "3, Remove 4, 1 annihilated")

I hope this will not affect the July 15th deadline. Under the circumstances, I think it would be best to play only the WINTER 1945 season.

All players are being sent a copy of this correction.

Don't forget to Vote on the proposed 3-way Draw for China-Germany-USA. A failure to vote will be counted as a "Yes" vote.

Fred C. Davis, Jr.
Fred C. Davis, Jr.
1427 Clairidge Rd.
Baltimore, Md. 21207

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100

100