



BUSHWACKER

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This is the 172nd consecutive issue of BUSHWACKER, a Postal Diplomacy* zine dedicated to the play of Variant games and other insanity, including occasional reports on the health and welfare of the North American Variant Bank. This is brought to you 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. There is no guarantee that I'll be home, so please mail your orders, except in emergencies.

*Diplomacy is a registered trademark for a game invented by Allan B. Calhamer, and Copyright by the Avalon Hill Game Co., Baltimore, Md. 21214. This zine is named for my comic strip character, "Bushwacker," whose picture is on the masthead.

GAME FEE: Games are run on the old-fashioned Flat Fee basis. \$9.00 for newcomers, \$8.00 to current readers, with another dollar off for people already playing in another game here. **STANDBY FEE:** \$5.00 to newcomers, \$4 to people currently on our Mailing List. For your Fee, you receive copies of the rules/maps for your game(s), plus receipt of BUSH for the duration of your game. No additional sub requirement.

SUBSCRIPTIONS for non-players: 12 issues for \$6.00. There is an additional \$1.00 discount on all of these rates for members of the Mensa Diplomacy SIG. We also **TRADE** with many other zines on an all-for-all basis.

GAME OPENING: Our next game will be "Turnabout Dip," one of my own designs. The former neutrals have become the Great Powers, and the former Powers the hapless neutrals. We printed the rules here last month. The entire "Turnabout" game was printed in DIPLOMACY WORLD #41, which arrived here about four days ago. So, now I'll print the map here for the benefit of the few readers (I hope) who don't get D.W. There is one change between the "final" map printed here and the map which appeared in D.W. Note that Vineland does touch High Ocean Box. There is a text reference to a 6th province of Benelux, called "Groningen," but this was deleted before the map was printed. So, Benelux has just five provinces, the same as every other Power except Ireland.

There are still two starting slots open, as two people who signed up haven't send me their Game Fees. Hey, Herb Barents and Karl Brockmeier, where's your payment? Since this is first come-first serve, these slots will go to whoever gets their money in first. If the game is filled, I'll give you a standby slot and a refund. I very much want to publish the starting lineup next month.

This issue contains reports on ZEUS V-F (1984A gf11), L'IMPERIALISME II-B (1984Hxm16) and VACATION DIP III (BUSH #17), which, at long last, has a Miller Number, 1985R rm39!

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IN MEMORIUM - Seven Brave Explorers

The world - not just this nation - has lost seven stout hearts on Challenger. These seven astronauts were the most recent of a long line of explorers dating back to the dawn of history who have set out to see "what lay over the next mountain." Let us hope that there will always be such people, for if the spirit of adventure should die, the human race will also come to an end.

We hope this tragedy will have no ill-effects on the continuation of the space program. Perhaps people will now realize that there is risk involved in every flight. As Sen. John Glenn said, we were extremely lucky to have gone 25 years (since May 1961) without a loss in manned launches, but our luck couldn't be expected to last forever.

It is proper at this time, I think, to remember how hazardous the developments of the entire field of transportation have been. In the 19th century, there were an endless series of boiler explosions, wrecks, and collapsed bridges, as we learned how to operate steamboats and railroads. The average life of a steamboat on the Mississippi was less than five years. Many railroad workers were killed and maimed in the days before the invention of air brakes, automatic couplers, and proper signals.

Likewise, the whole history of aviation is replete with the names of those who gave their lives in the effort to fly further, faster, higher. Some of the actions performed by people like Bleriot, Moissant, Hovey, Lindbergh, Byrd, Chamberlin, Earhardt and Corrigan were literally mad. But, if they hadn't done the things they did, we might still be flying around today in a Ford trimotor "tin goose."

Some commentators were saying that maybe the shock of Challenger's loss would cause young people to turn away from interest in space. I don't believe this. The only danger the space program faces is that some geriatric politicians may be more interested in nickels and dimes than the stars. I'm sure there will be along line of applicants willing to fly in the shuttle and other spaceships if and when they're ready to go.

Unfortunately, the fifth space shuttle was not built. It may now be possible to take the uncompleted mainframe and complete it with parts off the shelf. Let us hope the program continues unabated. We have both the "Galileo" mission to Jupiter and the Space Telescope to launch in the next 12 months, plus a host of satellites.

If the shuttle program continues, the Challenger astronauts will not have died in vain. They will have inspired us to work even harder. And, within the lifetime of most of us, there will be many, many civilians in space. It has been proposed that some astronomical objects be named for the seven people in the crew. (Moon craters were named for the three Apollo astronauts who were lost in 1967). That would be a most fitting memorial.

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MISSING ZINES

Several zines seem to have stopped publishing recently. Can anyone furnish any information on the following publications?:
SO I LIED (Marc & Debi Peters). Last seen in Sept. 1985, and that after a two-month delay. THIS BUD'S FOR YOU (Mark Fleming). After a great start, this hasn't appeared since October. HAI JIKAI (Mark Keller). October 1985, following a two-month gap. TACKY (Lu Henry). Last seen in November.

I have had to suspend Trading with all of the above, unless they were signed up here as players or standbys. If all of these zines have folded, we're going to have a heck of a lot of orphans to pick up.

Incidentally, Ron (Calif.) Brown's MURD'RING MINISTERS still appears, on about a quarterly basis, with the games being run by carbon copies in the interim.

WE SAIL THE OCEAN BLUE

We took a week off in mid-February to take a Caribbean cruise aboard the Carla C. of the Costa Line. This was sort of a reward to myself for having the good sense to leave the Civil Service before they amend the pension laws. We flew from Baltimore to San Juan, Puerto Rico, and boarded our ship there. "We" included my wife, Inge, and our son, Kevin, who had that week off from school.

Our itinerary included Curacao, Caracas, Grenada, Martinique and St. Thomas, Virgin Is. Curacao is an Overseas province (w/ adjacent islands) of The Netherlands, and Martinique is an Overseas Department of France, so legally we visited both countries. The currency of the Homeland is used, but U.S. dollars circulate freely. On Curacao we saw an excellent Aquarium, and visited the factory where the original Curacao liqueur is made. We tried ice cream sundaes liberally laced with chocolate or orange Curacao. Delightful! Also saw the famous swinging bridge of Wilhelmsstadt in action.

In Venezuela, the ship docks at La Guaira, and you are whisked up to Caracas, at 3,500 ft. altitude, on the autopista, in big air-conditioned Mercedes busses, in 45 minutes. I was amazed to discover that Caracas is a real metropolis, with 3½ million people in the city proper. There are many skyscrapers and highrise apartments, the boulevards are well laid out, and the subway line is excellent. Almost a duplicate of the systems in Washington and Baltimore, although the cars are French made. Our 7-hour tour included a 5-station ride on the Metro. A second line is due to open in the Fall. There is a large middle class, consisting of 45% of the population. Everyone has running water and electricity in their homes, no matter how humble. Unfortunately, the falling oil prices have caused Venezuelans to become quite concerned about the future of their social welfare programs. But things were very nice in February 1986.

In Grenada, they like Americans very much. The 1983 invasion is called "The Rescue" or "The Intervention." There is still poverty, but not abject poverty. The people are cheerful and optimistic. This is the first year that the cruise ships have returned en masse. Tourism is an important business there. We saw only a few signs of the war on our tour. I can recommend their beaches. We spent two hours on a lovely beach, where we could swim in clean, warm water. There are apparently no sharks around, either. At least, I think we returned to the ship with the same number of passengers that we started out with.

We had visited Martinique on our last trip, so we didn't take the big cross-island tour to St. Pierre and Mt. Pelee. Don't miss this trip if you're ever there. I had written a term paper on the 1903 volcano explosion which destroyed St. Pierre back in college, so it was most interesting to see the site with my own eyes. (For \$1 I'll send you a copy of my paper). At St. Thomas, of course, everyone goes to one of the three liquor stores to load up on duty-free medicinal supplies. If you enjoy the unusual drinks, you'll think you've died and gone to heaven when you see the long rows of shelves, running from floor to ceiling, filled with just about every alcoholic beverage known to man. While the wines are no bargain (we can buy Lancer's for the same price in Baltimore), the liqueurs are. They have open tasting bars, so you can sample some of the exotica before buying. We bought a nice cocoanut liqueur, as well as some bottles of Haagen-Daaz from Holland, which supposedly resembles the ice cream of the same name. We haven't opened one yet. Pop in on us and we'll pop the cork.

We had about 700 passengers on the Carla C. Roughly 50% Americans, 30% Canadians (there was a very large group from Ontario under the aegis of Paramount Tours), 10% Hispanic, 5% Italian (it's an Italian ship), and 5% from South America who boarded the ship at Caracas and made their round-trip cruise from that point. The latter procedure is not advertised up here, but has apparently been quite successful in picking up business from Latin America.

So, the ship was a regular United Nations. They called the Bingo numbers in three languages, as our Cruise Director was trilingual (most unusual for someone born in Nebraska, but this guy was a genius). Four languages, actually. He asked if anyone was Canadian. Then, he called the next number, "B-15, hey?" Our waiter, who was from Bari, Italy (in Apulia) spoke four languages, Italian, English, Spanish and German. He enjoyed speaking with Inge in German. She said his German was better than his English. Many crewmembers took great pride in being multilingual.

Being an Italian ship, we were always offered more food than we could possibly eat. We were a little disappointed in the cooking, however. I thought it was just senility affecting my tastebuds, but others said the same thing. Italian-Italian cooking is just not the same as Italian-American cuisine in an Italian restaurant in America. Frankly, I prefer the Italian-American style. In all honesty, we all felt that the cuisine was tastier four years ago on the Cunard Countess. (Which, I believe, employs French chefs).

Some things were better on Cunard; some better on the Carla C. At least we played real Bingo on the Carla. On the Countess, we played some silly Lotto-type game using paper sheets that bore only the vaguest resemblance to Bingo. Prizes were also bigger on the Carla. The jackpot had gotten up to \$1400 on the last night when someone won it. Everyone at our table played the last night, but none of us won anything. I came in second on the ship's Trivia Quiz, but only a First Prize was awarded. The guy who won was a pro - he'd won the prize the previous week on a different Costa Line ship! Kevin won an Honorable Mention in the Costume contest.

Our cruise director was fantastic. He was everywhere, giving lectures on what to see on each island, singing and playing the guitar in the floor show, operating a walkie-talkie to coordinate the landing of the ship's tenders at Grenada, selling tickets, running the Bingo, you name it, he was there. Someone like that can make an ordinary voyage into a fantastic one.

But when it came to items like sanitation, ship's security and organization, the British ship beat the Italians hands down. Passengers did not have to show cabin keys or passes to get back on our ship (shades of Achille Lauro), whereas we could not go and pay a visit to the Countess when she was tied up alongside us in St. Thomas, as the Brits weren't going to let any dangerous looking people like us aboard. If you have a bad leg, don't travel on the Carla, as they used a very steep and narrow stairway for boardings and debarkings except at San Juan, while Countess uses a gangplank.

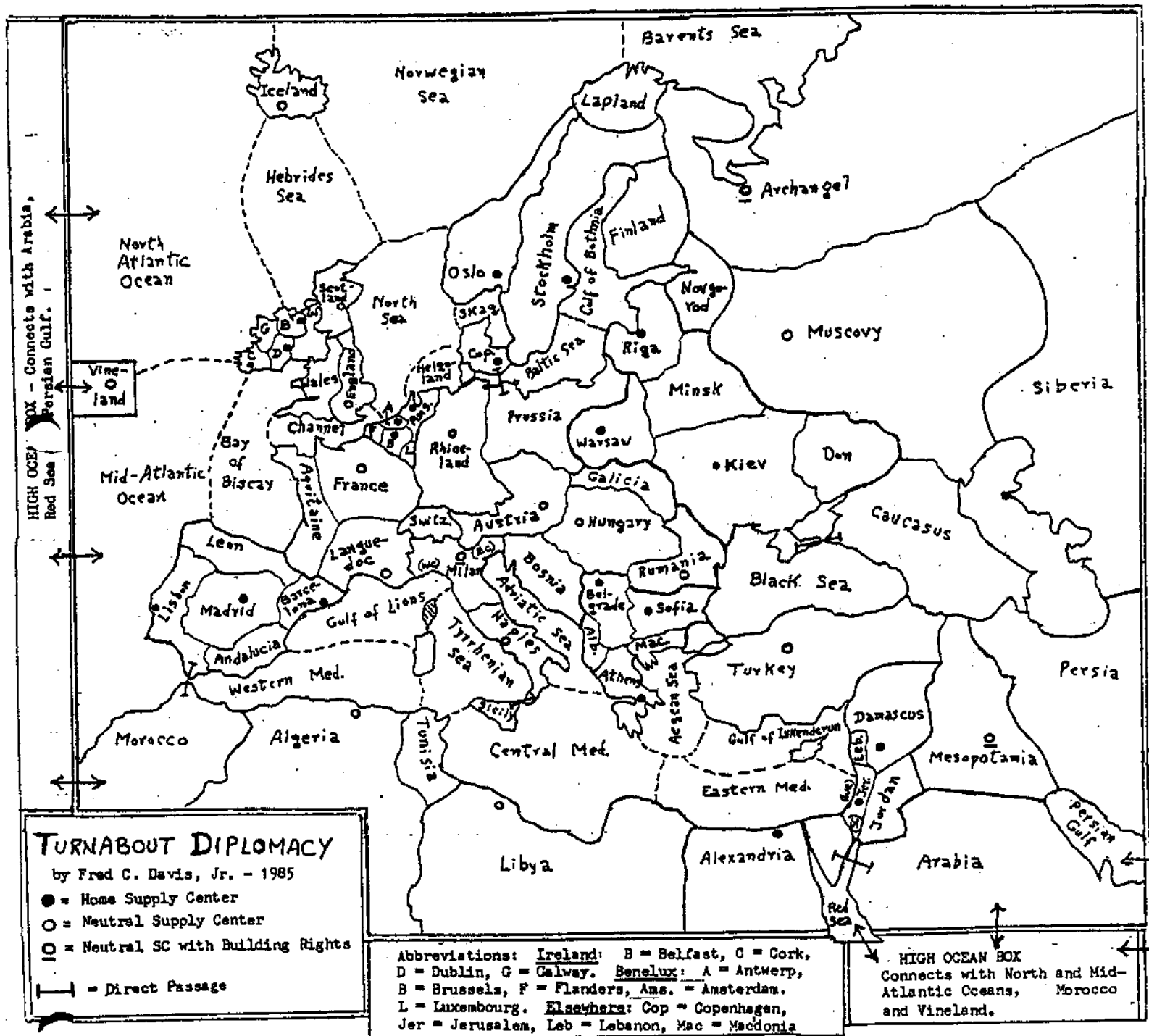
However, we had a heck of a good time, and plan to go again in another three years. I think we may try a Scandinavian ship the next time, however.

I can highly recommend a cruise for a special occasion, such as a honeymoon, wedding anniversary, or to celebrate a promotion. But make your reservations six months in advance if you want a nice lower-priced cabin in a good location. You don't want a cabin on the lowest deck, nor one too close to the bow or stern. It's also nice to have a porthole so you can check on the weather, and where the ship is as you enter or leave a port. We had a good cabin amidships, with two regular bunks and a Pullman berth that pulled down at night for Kevin.

No matter which ship you take, all good things have to come to an end. We were back in San Juan before we knew it. At 1 p.m. we were basking in 80° weather, and four hours later I was chopping ice and snow off of our car in the Airport parking lot. If I'd had any brains, I would have stayed down there until March.

TURNABOUT DIP Map. NAVB Catalog No. ca 02/07

The Rules were printed in the Jan. issue.
Additional Rules & Comments on the back of this map.



Remainder of "Turnabout Dip" Rules. (#1-8 were printed in Jan. 1986 BUSH).

9. Abbreviations on the Map:

- a. Within Ireland: B = Belfast, C = Cork, D = Dublin, G = Galway
- b. Within Benelux: A = Antwerp, B = Brussels, F = Flanders, Ams. = Amsterdam,
L = Luxembourg
- c. Elsewhere: Alb. = Albania, Cop. = Copenhagen, Jer. = Jerusalem, Leb. =
Lebanon, Mac. = Macedonia

10. Optional Army/Fleet Rules

If the Army/Fleet Rule is adopted, the A/F Rules Module should be incorporated into these Rules at this point. (Available from Fred Davis).

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Recommended colors for Great Powers: Balkans - Red; Benelux - Black; Ireland - Green; Middle East - Yellow; Scandinavia - Dark Blue or Pink; Slavs - White; Spain - Light Blue or Brown.

Historical Notes:

France represents "Ile-de-France" and "Champagne" provinces rather than the historical nation of France.
Milan should be the "Kingdom of Sardinia," but that could cause confusion with the island of Sardinia.
Naples and Sicily ought to be the "Kingdom of the Twin Sicilies," but we don't have room for such verbiage.
Minsk could be Byelorussia, but Minsk sounds much funnier.
Novgorod was a medieval Russian city-state, once the rival of Muscovy.
Libya could be called "Tripoli" if we wanted to be technical.
There ought to be an impassable Papal State between Milan and Naples, called the "Patrimony of St. Peter" (Greater Rome), but we omitted it to avoid any more complications to the map.

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GAME OPENINGS: Conrad von Metzke has openings in the current reincarnation of his COSTAGUANA. For the benefit of you newcomers, COSTA has been around in one form or another since 1965. It has had four lives, for a total of 185 issues. It is one of the most literate of all zines. Marvelous articles on classical music and other subjects. The sub fee is just \$2.20 for ten issues (or \$4.40 for 20). He also trades on an all-for-all basis. There are NO additional Game Fees.

The Game Openings are in the following:

Regular Diplomacy.

Cline 9-Man Variant. (Not sure yet which version this will be. Conrad improved on the game in a version now called "II". I put my 2¢ in with about 3 minor refinements, and that version is called "IV".)

Gunboat Variant. All players are anonymous. All negotiations must be done in the open via the press published with the game. Should be very interesting.

Send your payments to Conrad at: 4374 Donald Ave., San Diego, Calif. 92117-3813. I may be getting into one of these myself.

L'IMPERIALISME II-B, 1984H xm16SPRING 1917

ITALIANS KEPT AT SEA AT ROME AND CON. AUSTRIANS OCCUPY GERMANY, BUT BAGGAGE TRAIN IS STALLED. THE IBERIANS MOVE IN. STANDOFF IN BURGUNDY.

Brad Wilson informs me that his college failed to forward his mail to his home address in December. That's why he NMR'd last month.

AUSTRIA (Dancouse): A Munich-Kiel. A Berlin (S) A Munich-Kiel. A Bohemia-Munich.
(11) (10 units) A Silesia & A Tyrol (S) A Bohemia-Munich. A Venice-Rome.
A Trieste-Venice. A Budapest-Trieste. A Rumania-Budapest.
A Bulgaria (H).
ENGLAND (Keller): F Clyde-Edi. F North Sea (S) F Clyde-Edi. F London (H).
(4) F Denmark (H).
FRANCE (B.Wilson): A Paris-Burgundy. A Picardy (S) A Paris-Burgundy.
(2)
GERMANY (Cheek): A Belgium-Picardy. A Burgundy (S) A Belgium-Picardy. A Ruhr-
(7) (6 units) Belgium. A Kiel (S) A Ruhr-Belgium (IMP.) /d/, (R) Holland (only
space open). A Marseilles-Switz. F Morocco-Algeria.
IBERIA (Kozlowski): A NAO disembarks Clyde. A Liverpool (S) A NAO-Clyde. F NAO-
(16) Norwegian Sea. A Lisbon boards F MAO, A/F MAO-English Channel.
F Irish Sea & F Bay of Biscay (S) A/F MAO-English Channel. A Leon-
Gascony. F Cadiz-Western Med. A Madrid-Cadiz. F Angola-African
Sea. A Equatorie-Belgian Congo. A Somaliland boards F North
Indian Ocean, A/F NIO-Arabian Sea, A disembarks Persia. A Sudan
(S) TURKISH F Egypt. F SAO-MAO.
ITALY (Anderson): A Libya boards F Ionian, A/F Ionian-Tyrr. Sea, A disembarks Rome.
(8) F Catalonia-Gulf of Lyon. A Palestine boards F Eastern Med.,
A/F Eastern Med-Aegean, A disembarks Const. F Tunis-Algeria.
A Vienna sings "Blue Danube" (H). A Sardinia "Homeward Bound" (H).
TURKEY (Baty): A Levantine Sea-Libya. F Levantine Sea (S) A to Libya. F Egypt
(5) (S) A Levantine Sea-Libya. F Const. (MS) A Smyrna.

ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 1: A proposal has been made for a concession to IBERIA. A Vote on this will be taken with the Fall orders. Anyone failing to vote will be counted as voting "Yes." The Fall season will be played in any case, per our House Rules.

ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 2: David Anderson will be resigning from this game following the Fall 1917 season, due to the press of other matters. I am going to ask David Rice if he is willing to take over Italy if the game continues beyond that point. His address: 1221 N.E. 51st Ave., #119, Hillsboro, Ore. 97124. There are no other standbys left for L'IMP. II-B. If anyone else would like to be a standby here, just send me \$2 for a set of maps and rules. If the game ends, I'll refund \$1.

PRESS:

GERMANY to England: "Ill fortune seldom comes alone."

BUSHWACKER: Is that Woodrow Wilson I see coming with his 14 Points?

DEADLINE for FALL 1917 orders and VOTES is SATURDAY, March 1, 1986, since February has only 28 days. Phone deadline will be Friday, Feb. 28th, at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

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MINI-REVIEW: We have just seen "White Nights," starring the ballet dancer Barishnikov (sp?). An excellent film. The dance sequences and soundtrack are magnificent. The scenes of the Soviet Union are accurate and chilling. I particularly liked the line, "I am still a Russian. I only left the Soviet Union." This is how they play hardball in the big leagues of Diplomacy.

ZEUS V-F, 1984A gf11

WE PLAY TWO SEASONS

WINTER 1947Current Strength

CHINA (Kozlowski):	Build F Canton, F Peking	11 (+2)
FRANCE (Brockmeier):	No change	6 (-1) (1 annihilated)
GERMANY (Baty):	No change	9 (—)
USSR (Rauterberg):	No room to build	5 (+1) (1 unit short)
U.S.A. (Cheek)	Remove A Oregon	11 (-1)

SPRING 1948

LENINGRAD FINALLY FALLS, BUT RUSSIANS BLAST GERMANS OUT OF NORTH SEA. U.S.A. TAKES NORTH POLE AND MAKES MED INTO "MARE NOSTRUM." FESTUNG EUROPA GIRDS FOR SHOWDOWN.

CHINA (Kozlowski): (11)	F Okhotsk-Leningrad. A Siberia (S) F Okh.-Leningrad. F Algeria-Libya. F Egypt (S) F Algeria-Libya. A Kazak-Stalingrad. F West Arctic (H) /d/, (R) NO (per orders). F Canton-Indochina. F Peking-Canton. A Iran (MS) A Turkey. A Sinkiang (S) A Siberia.
FRANCE (Brockmeier): (6)	F Ionian-Adriatic. F Libya-Ionian /d/, Annihilated. F Stalingrad (H). F Paris (MS) A Low Countries (Benelux on new maps). A Marseilles (S) GERMAN A Yugoslavia-Greece.
GERMANY (Baty): (9)	A Baltic States-Leningrad. A Moscow (S) A Bal. States-Leningrad. F North Sea-Norway /d/, (R) English Channel (only space open). A Sweden (S) F North Sea-Norway. F Denmark-North Sea. F Helgoland (S) F Denmark-North Sea. A Hungary-Austria. A Yugoslavia-Venice. A Rumania-Stalingrad.
USSR (Rauterberg): (5) (4 units)	F Leningrad-Norway (IMP) /d/, (R) Finland(nc) (only space open). F Norway-North Sea. F London & F Edi (S) F Norway-North Sea.
U.S.A. (Cheek): (11)	F West Med-Ionian. F Rome (S) F West Med-Ionian. F MAO-West Med. F Panama-MAO. F Gascony (S) F Panama-MAO. F Canada(ec)-West Arctic. F NAO (S) F Canada(ec)-West Arctic. F East Arctic (S) CHINESE F Okhotsk-Leningrad. A Alaska (H). F N.Y. (S) F Panama-MAO. F Middle East-East Med.

There is a proposal on the floor for a 3-way Draw between China, Germany and the U.S.A. This should be voted upon with your next orders. A "No Vote Rec'd" will be counted as a "Yes" vote. Under the BUSHWACKER House Rules, the Fall season will be played in any case. To the Diplomacy table, gentlemen.

PRESS:

USA to Germany: You don't think anyone suspects we're allies?

USE: Just making the Mediterranean safe for democracy.

LENINGRAD (old owner) to Paris: You saw what happened to Britain when he dared to kick me while I was down. "Those who are ignorant of history are doomed to repeat it." I have nothing better to do.

BUSHWACKER: Help, help! As the war enters 1948, a kid in Chicago named Fred Davis is about to receive a "Greetings" from his draft board.

DEADLINE for FALL 1948 orders and VOTES is SATURDAY, March 1, 1986. We're giving you an extra day because February has only 28 days. Telephone deadline will be Friday, Feb. 28th, at 9:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

Now, what will we do with all this empty space?

VACATION DIPLOMACY III (Now 1985R rm391)

WINTER 1903

MOST PARTIES HEARD FROM. ITALY PLAYS ONE SHORT.

Like the cobbler's children going shoeless, this game ran without a Miller No. until January 1986, until I could classify a backlog of about 20 new variants for the NAVB.

FALL 1903 Revisited. ENGLAND took Sweden from Russia in Spring 1903. Therefore, England owns 8 Centers, and gets one Build. Russia owns only 7 Centers. She's entitled to two Builds, but has room for only one. These countries and England's immediate neighbors were notified by postcard.

"Calabria" is a very tiny space, touching only Sicily and Naples. It exists solely to keep a Vacation unit from moving directly from Sicily to Naples on its first move. Apulia still touches Naples, and by rule, Naples is not a two-coasted province.

	Current Strength
ENGLAND (Wallace): Build F Liverpool	8 (+1)
FRANCE (B. Wilson): No change, but still in game	2 (-2) (1 annihilated)
GERMANY (Young): No room for a build	5 (-) (will be 1 short)
ITALY (Floyd) NBR. Will be 1 short	5 (+1)
AUSTRIA (Rice): Remove A Trieste	2 (-3) (2 annihilated)
RUSSIA (Cheek): Build A Moscow. No room for second build.	7 (+2) (will be 1 short)
TURKEY (Kenny): Build A Const.	6 (+1)

Every Power except France also has a Free (Vacation) unit on the board, but Austria's is in permanent Civil Disorder.

The P.O. lost Russ Wallace's orders for Fall 1903 in the Christmas rush. Brad Wilson's college did not forward his December mail to his home address. I wish to thank Jeff Hoffman for submitting backup orders for England. I am now going to ask him to submit backup orders for ITALY for Spring 1904. His address is: 3 Canoe Brook Dr., Princeton Jct., N.J. 08550.

I have tentative orders on hand for Spring 1904 from France and Turkey.

PRESS:

AUSTRIA to Eastern Alliance: There goes the neighborhood.
AUSTRIA to World: Help!

TURKEY to Austria: Don't worry, you're still in. By the way, ever hear of Vienna sausage? World famous.
TURKEY to Russia: All your letters got here.

RUSSIA to Germany: Pity, you could have had Denmark, and somewhere to build!
RUSSIA to GM: Let's hope this nice guy doesn't finish last!

LONDON to League of Nations: We have liberated Sweden from the bruin, and refute that nation's claim to it.
LONDON to World: Yes, I'm still around. France and Austria weren't the only ones given the old one-two. I got mine from the GM and USPS.

BERLIN: Our Atlantic fleet went in the wrong direction; our Mediterranean fleet alienated a desired friend. The Admiralty is stupid; Admiral Sachs is sacked.

CONSTANTINOPLE COURIER: The Ottoman High Command has announced two new secret (more)

BUSHWACKER, FEBRUARY 1986, Page 8

weapons - Paratroops and tactical nuclear weapons. ((But I'm not going to give you those cards to play with! - BUSHWACKER))

DEADLINE for SPRING 1904 orders is SATURDAY, March 1, 1986. Telephone deadline will be Friday, Feb. 28th, at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

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ANYONE CURIOUS ABOUT THE MEANING BEHIND THE MILLER NOS. used for these games? The first part is the same as a Boardman No. Thus, the "1984A" in ZEUS V-F indicates that this was the first variant game assigned a designator in 1984. The "g" is its major category, Global designs. "f" is the subcategory for Post-1920 global games. "11" shows it was the 11th game placed in that classification.

L'IMPERIALISME II-B (1984H xm16). The "x" stands for "Expansions of the Regular Board". Up until now, the subcategory "m" included all games with expansion to the east and south. Most are in the Youngstown Variant series. When the new NAVB Catalog appears, "xm" will be limited to only Youngstown games, since so many of them were played in the first 15 years of the Postal hobby. A new subcategory "xo" is being established for "Other Designs" with large areas east or south of the Regular board, including all of the L'IMP. designs. L'IMP II-B will become "xo04," but this will not alter the MN assigned to this particular game, unless the MNC chooses to do so.

VACATION DIP III (1985R.rm39) was the 18th variant game to be assigned a MN for 1985. The lower case "r" is the major category, "Rules Revisions using the Regular Board." "m" is the subcategory "Major Revisions." This is one of the most common types of variants around, so this is the 39th such game recorded in the Bank's records.

TURNABOUT DIP is going to bear the Catalog No. "ca02." The "c" is for Major category "Modifications of the Basic Game." Subcategory "a" is for "Alternate Worlds, Different Great Powers." This will be only the second game in that category. If I can't find a category to fit a game, I can create a new category for it. Most of the classifications were worked out by Rod Walker back in 1980, but there are always new ideas coming down the pike requiring new categories.

* * * * *

We'll be out of town from Feb. 8th thru 15th, so don't try reaching us then.
BUSHWACKER MAILING CODE: (P) = Player or Standby. (T) = Trade or Mutual Sub.
(C) = Complimentary copy. (SUB) = Subscription copy. (S) = Sample copy.

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