

See Pg. 2 for move on
German Navy



BUSHWACKER

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This is the 201st consecutive issue of BUSHWACKER, a Postal Diplomacy* zine dedicated to the play and reporting of Variant games, hobby news and whatever else I decide to write about. This is brought to you by: Fred C. Davis, Jr., 3210-K Wheaton Way, Ellicott City, Md. 21043. Phone: (301) 461-1885. Phone calls accepted between 12 Noon and 9:30 p.m. Eastern Time, except during the dinner hour from 6 to 7 p.m. Please try to submit all of your orders by mail, except in emergencies. Note that on Deadline nights, the phone cut-off time is 9 p.m.

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

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This issue contains reports on VACATION DIP III (1985R re39), CHARACTER DIP (1987AF-rm49) and CONQUEST OF THE NEW WORLD (1988AQ wc03).

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We received several compliments and congratulations for our 200th issue last month. Conrad von Metzke advises that his COSTAGUANA is up to about issue #185, but he's lost count. Thanks for all the notes, you guys and gals. Incidentally, if anyone got stuck for 20¢ postage due, we'll reimburse you. The last issue weighed in at about 2.1 ounces, but we sent out most of the Sub and Trade domestic copies with just 45¢ postage. We used the old GM's trick of scattering them around in a dozen neighborhood mail boxes, so no one batch would contain more than 5 or 6 copies. Since none were returned, I guess this worked.

By the way, postcards to Canada now cost 21¢. This has not been very widely publicized. One of my postal cards was returned for more postage in August.

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This issue may be slightly late. So many things have been happening lately. I had a very bad cold, as a result of getting soaked to the skin when my car broke down in the Amish country near Lancaster, Pa. We then had to sit in an ice-cold restaurant for two hours, and then be driven home - a two-hour drive - before we could change

clothes. Since my condition lasted for about 8 days, it may have been a light case of flu rather than a cold. For three days, I was too sick to type, so you know I must have been ill!

My car remained in one shop or garage after another, as various defects were found. None of the earlier and more expensive operations were successful in restoring the car's health. I finally took it to a genuine old-fashioned "Gasoline Alley" garage, where the cure, a defectively set timer, was repaired for \$45.00. In the interim, we had to survive as a one-car family. Since we live in the boondocks, with no public transportation, this limited my mobility.

On top of all this, we received news that two very good friends are hospitalized in very poor condition. We are making hospital visits, but there is nothing we can do to help. These events cast a pall over everything.

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★ MORE ON THE GERMAN SURFACE NAVY

Subscriber Jeff Breidenstein has sent me additional information, to wit:

The definitive book on capital ships is Battleships and Battlecruisers, 1905-1960, by Siegfried Breyer.

No German ship was to be named Hindenberg. (I had this confused with the aircraft carrier, Graf Zeppelin, which was laid down, but never completed.) There was also a plan to convert an uncompleted heavy cruiser Seydlitz (of the Prinz Eugen class) into a carrier in 1944, but time ran out for her.

The reason the British carrier Glorious could not defend herself when attacked by G & S was that her decks were loaded with Gloster Gladiator fighters from Norway, which were not carrier planes. Her own aircraft were stuck below in the hangers.

Hood's torpedo tubes had been removed during a pre-war refit. It is now believed that what actually exploded was her ammo for her 4" AA guns and her AA rockets. It is also thought that the killing blow was scored by Prinz Eugen rather than Bismarck, since Prinz's guns were already on target, while no hits had been recorded for the BB.

The German book is called Battleship Bismarck, written by a surviving junior officer. Jeff believes it is still in print. The Bismarck's design is actually based on that of the Bayern class W.W. I BB's, which were Germany's first 15" gun ships. Since aircraft were of minor importance in W.W. I, her horizontal armor was not as good as it should have been.

One of Prinz Eugen's floatplanes, an Arado Ar 196, is preserved in the Smithsonian museum at Silver Hill, Md. (I've seen it there, but didn't know it had come from the Prinz).

Bismarck's watertight integrity held to the end, when she was actually scuttled by her own crew. Rodney fired one torpedo at her. This is the only time in naval combat that one battleship ever fired a torpedo at another.

Breyer's book has a drawing of Gneisenau's probable appearance after her conversion to 15" guns.

Thankyou very much, Jeff, for this information. I've taken the liberty of compressing it and slightly changing the order of presentation.

VACATION DIP III - 1985R rm39WINTER 1914CHANGES FOR ENGLAND & GERMANY.

		<u>Current Strength</u>	
		<u>SC's</u>	<u>Vac Units</u>
AUSTRIA (Reges):	No change	1 (--)	3
ENGLAND (Chang):	Build F Liverpool. <u>Build F Edi.</u> Blocked by Italian play of Card #36. (Also, Edi is still owned by Germany)	10 (+2)	1 (Will play one unit short)
FRANCE (B.Wilson):	No change	0 (--)	0
GERMANY (Young):	Removes F Baltic Sea. (Only had to rem. 1, as 2 were annihilated)	10 (-3)	0
ITALY (D.Wilson):	Plays Card #36 on England, to deny her one Build. No room to build.	3 (+1)	0 (Will play one unit short)
RUSSIA (Cheek):	No change	0 (--)	1
TURKEY (Kenny):	Build A Con.	16 (+1)	0

I have Tentative orders on hand for Austria and Germany, for Spring 1915.

PRESS:

ITALY to England: I'm going to open a pizza parlor in downtown London!
 ITALY to World: The London-Berlin "Axle" was broken due to an English bagatelle.
 ITALY to Russia: Welcome to THE Alliance. I think you will enjoy the changed tempo of play.
 ITALY to France: You are out, but not gone; nor forgotten either.
 ITALY to World: PRESS WAR!!

(One additional lengthy Italian item is being saved for next month).

DEADLINE for SPRING 1915 orders is WEDNESDAY, October 26, 1988. Telephone deadline is Tuesday, Oct. 25th, at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Now, we're getting back to the ends of the months again. The following deadline will probably be November 30th.

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ATLANTICA III CORRECTION

We made a dumb mistake when printing the Starting Lineup. Somehow, we picked up Ben Greaves' paper, and stuck him in as the U.S.A. player. Ben, of course, had already been announced as the Russian player in "Conquest of the New World III." The correct U.S.A. player is, and always has been:

Ronald J. Brown, 44 Carmichael Ct., Kanata, Ont., CANADA K2K 1K2

To compound matters, I did not send Ron a copy of the maps/rules, since I assumed that he had a copy in the Canadian Variant Bank files. But, Ron informs me that Atlantica III is not in those files, so I've only sent him his set about a week ago. Accordingly, Ron has requested a delay in the start of this game, and I have granted this. The APRIL 1870 moves will be postponed until November 30, 1988. (From Wed., October 26th).

Several players submitted questions about this game. I've run off some Clarifications, but since we're near the bottom of the page, I've decided to run this at the top of the next page. (This is known as a "space filler").

→ ((WANTED: One player to fill a REGULAR game of Diplomacy in the Mensa Diplomacy SIG. Six people are waiting to go, so we will fill this and get started as soon as anyone contacts me and signs up. This is open to anyone, not just Mensans, who'd like to start a Regular game Asap. Send no money. The GM will set his own reasonable fee.))

Clarifications of Atlantica III Rules

These are in response to questions raised by some of our players.

1. The canal in Karelia functions exactly like the canal in Kiel. A/F's cannot use either the Karleia or Kiel Canals. Using the Karelia Canal without permission of its owner is considered a hostile act.
2. Azores is a sea space as well as a land space. An A may occupy it.
3. Rule 9.c., prohibiting "OTB" retreats, supersedes any mention of "OTB" moves in the A/F Combined Operations Rules.
4. Frozen Regions. Fleets may be built in frozen Home SC's in March. The phrase in Rule 12. e, "Armies may not be landed or embarked ... from an unfrozen province into a frozen sea space." will also apply in reverse, so an A in an A/F in a frozen sea space cannot disembark into an unfrozen land space.
5. Gulf of Lions is the correct name for that space. I've been after Allan Calhager for 19 years, trying to get him to correct this map error.
6. The Rulebook will be followed if two units try to Retreat to the same space. Remember, you can always write potential Retreat orders, and you'll always be allowed to write (R) orders following Fall moves. These will technically be Autumn retreats, but will always be reported with the Winter season.
7. See Rule 10. b., e. & g. for areas where A's may or may not cross without benefit of convoy. To these, I should have included that A's may move between Montreal and Gaspe.
8. A's may be disembarked from an A/F into Mexico and Libya, just like A's may be embarked or disembarked between Hudson's Bay, Barents Sea, and adjacent boxes, as shown in Rule 11.a.
9. A player may write potential Retreat orders for a High Seas Fleet placed on the April 1870 move, consistent with Rules 5.b. and 5.c.

IN CONCLUSION, I repeat, the first DEADLINE has been postponed to WEDNESDAY, November 30, 1988. Sorry for the delay. You may, of course, submit orders when you wish to.

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MORE NEWS:

The Diplomacy Alliance Against Aids will have raised nearly \$900. for the AIDS research program when all of the pledges are received. Approximately 46 people, including six who remain anonymous, submitted pledges or checks. Any late checks, in any amount, may be sent to Simon Billenness, 630 Victory Blvd., #6F, Staten Island, N.Y. 10301.

The Top Finishers at the Canadian Diplomacy Convention in Toronto in August (CAN CON) were: 1. Marc Peters, 2. Steve Hutton, 3. Randy Grigsby, 4. Rob Lowes, 5. Fred Hyatt. That's two Yanks and three Ontarians in the Top Five. A total of 9 games were played.

A Final DIPCON REPORT is being prepared by Pete Gaughan. As this is going to include photos, this will not be out before October 1st at the earliest. But, I'm sure it will be worth waiting for.

CHARACTER DIP - 1987AF rm49

WINTER 1904

ENGLAND AND AUSTRIA WORK OVERTIME TO REARM. GM REMOVES ITALIAN UNIT.

	<u>Current Strength</u>
ENGLAND (Baty): Build 4A Lon, 5A Liverpool, 6F Edi	11 (+3)
FRANCE (Acheson): No change	5 (-1) (Was 1 short)
GERMANY (Hess): Remove 1A Munich, 3A Berlin	0 (-2) OUT
ITALY (Wilson?): NRR. GM Removes F Aegean	2 (-1)
AUSTRIA (Suchard): Build 7A Vienna, 8A Bud, 2F Trieste	10 (+3)
RUSSIA (Bargender): Remove 1A Armenia	3 (-1)
TURKEY (Cheek): No change. (2A Sev annihilated)	2 (-1)

The Characteristics for the new units will be enclosed with the copies going to their builders. I have tentative orders on hand for Spring 1905 from France.

PRESS:

ENGLAND to Austria: Would you like to talk about an Austrian Anschluss now? Or, would you rather wait for the 1930's?

ENGLAND to Paris, Italy: That was a cute move into Rome. What's your next trick?

AUSTRIA to England: Don't you remember - my invisible unit is in Yorkshire!

ENGLAND to France: Not bad. You now have 1/3 of your homeland.

ENGLAND to Russia: Did I see you support Austria into two Russian Supply Centers? No wonder you're down to three.

Will Eric Brosius, 41 Hayward St., Milford, Mass. 01757, please submit back-up orders for Italy. 2F Rome may jump over another unit (Card #5). 1A Paris can cross seas without convoy (Card #17). These characters were exposed some time ago.

DEADLINE for SPRING 1905 orders will be WEDNESDAY, October 26, 1988. Phone deadline is Tuesday, Oct. 25th, at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

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CONQUEST OF THE NEW WORLD III - 1988AQ wc03

SPRING 1590

HISTORY RECORDS FIRST BATTLE OF THE FALKLANDS.

ENGLAND (McCrumb): A/F Atlantic Ocean-St. Lawrence Sea. A/F Atlantic-Bermuda.
(4)

FRANCE (Baty): A/F Atlantic Ocean-Antilles. A/F Atlantic-Hispaniola.
(4)

PORTUGAL (Cheek): A/F Atlantic Ocean-Falklands. A/F Atlantic-The Nose.
(4)

SPAIN (Dousette): A/F Atlantic Ocean-Shelf. A/F Atlantic-Falklands.
(4)

RUSSIA (Greaves): A/F Western Pacific-North Pacific. A/F 2 Western Pacific disembarks A in Hawaii.
(4)

PRESS:

MADRID: Please excuse the Spanish silence! We have been suffering through a writer's strike, but all is in order now, and we expect to be more active.

(more)

CLARIFICATIONS OF CONQUEST RULES

1. The A/F's used here are very different from the A/F's used in the games of my own design. Note the F's cannot support the A's ashore. They act more like a F in a classic convoy. They cannot move and disembark the A on the same move.
2. On the first move, it is advisable to specify that the A's and F's in the Oceans are forming A/F's. I've done that here.
3. On future moves, if an A is built in the Atlantic or Western Pacific Ocean without an accompanying F, it can only be picked up by one of your own F's, which must be sent out into the Ocean to do so. At the same time as you order a F into the Ocean, you can order the A to board said F and form an A/F. (Per Rule 4).

As a practical matter, you will find that once you have established your new Home SC in the New World, you'll be building most of your new A's there.

It has been pointed out to me by one player that Russia will have a great advantage in this game if she is the only Power who can build in the Western Pacific Ocean. Alaska will be practically impregnable. There are two solutions. One is to alter the map to have Saskatchewan touch Alaska. The other is to permit the building of units in either Ocean.

I don't like the map alteration idea. It's historically inaccurate and makes it too easy for Russia to penetrate to the Midwest. So, we again fall back to the "two-ocean building rule." However, it's now too late to discuss this as beginning in 1605. So, please vote again on this issue with your next set of orders, but the year for allowing such builds will be advanced to 1615.

DEADLINE for FALL 1590 orders and Votes will be Wednesday, October 26, 1988. Phone deadline is Tuesday, Oct. 25th, at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

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