

November

#17
7

THE
CONCERT
OF
EUROPE

INSIDE:

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--LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-----

Caution, The Concert of Europe has just been exposed to high intensity radioactive particles. As a result it has grown gigantic over night!

Okay, okay the funs over--it hasn't really grown at all. Only changed format. Frankly I became extraordinarily tired of making silly little booklets. Last months booklet making went quite badly. The pages were crooked, the staples got mashed, I lost my temper, and the whole endeavor was a fiasco. Hence, (I love that word) the Concert of Europe has been altered to this open face format. Anyone who doesn't like the change is strictly forbidden against voicing their distress. This 'zine isn't a democracy nor a dictatorship--it's an oligarchy of one.

This issue comes at a volatile time in hobby history. And yet, despite the volatile times this issue will remain true to the TCOE tradition established all of six months ago and in no way reflect goings on in the remainder of the hobby. It's not that the goings on aren't interesting, it's just that TCOE subscribers seem to fall into two categories--those who don't care about the hobby at large and those who do care and subscribe to enough 'zines to get plenty of first hand gossip rather than third hand stuff that I'd write about.

What all this translates to is this...issue number seven will probably be dull. Nothing news worthy or out of the ordinary will be taking place on the next few issues, but that doesn't stop people from reading other 'zines so why should it stop you from reading this one. Just because you can probably predict every word is no reason to toss this journal in the trash.

Oh, I just remembered...Ed Henry will probably be reviewing this issue in North Sealth West George. So something interesting will be happening--I'll be introducing the new section titled "In Praise of Ed Henry: The Wise Champion of Literary Criticism". Anyone who writes reviews is a friend of mine! (Especially if it's a review of something I'm involved in.) In fact, I'm so taken by critics that I always try to spot the local critic in the audience at all the Eugene Symphony Concerts. I wouldn't want him to see me from my bad side. As somebody, whose name I forget, once said about critics, "it doesn't take a chicken to evaluate the taste of eggs." True, true, true.

Okay, okay, the funs over again. I won't really be presenting a section called "In Praise of Ed Henry: The Wise Champion of Literary Criticism" but if Ed would like to write such a section for next issue I'm absolutely certain that we can work something out for next issue.

Well, (I learned that trick--you know, saying "well" to start a sentence--from our beloved president) I've squandered enough of your time in frivolity. On to the issue...

--A POLITICAL ENDORSEMENT-----

As opposed to an apolitical endorsement. Like a product endorsement.

It's election time, incase you haven't heard, and like Gary Coughlin I'm going to endorse a presidential candidate in my Diplomacy journal. But unlike Gary, I'm encouraging you to vote for four more years of...Ronald Reagan.

New, those of you who know me well are probably saying, "oh my, this is outrageous." Or perhaps you are saying, "Oh, my, this is nothing but a charade to take cheap shots at our nation's president." Well if you are saying these things stop it! As I worked for Walter Mondale during the last three months I studied the issues, and debated long and hard and by golly I've come to the conclusion the Ron deserves four more years.

You may be asking yourself what caused a dyed in the wool young liberal to turn to the dark side of...er, the Republican party. Well, I guess it was the closing statement that Reagan gave during his final debate with Mondale that first got me to thinking. I mean, when the

president began describing his journey up the coast highway of California, with the sun shining and the waves waving...my heart was stirred. The way the president mused over what he would say in his time-capsule letter...ohh, all I can say is that it's a darn good thing Edwin Newman stopped the president or else I might have been overcome by emotion.

Anyway, this eloquent message got to start thinking of reasons why I should reconsider my harsh judgement of Ronald Reagan. Now I'd like to present those reasons to you.

First of all his policy of borrowing huge sums of money to pay for his arms race and his tax cuts for the rich has raised interest rates for consumers so high that he has all but eliminated urban sprawl in many communities. Around where I live no one can afford to buy a new house or start a new business. This is really cutting down on the spread of our city. His policy of borrow-and-spend has all but eliminated one of America's stickiest problems--growth. Soon we can reverse the nasty trend of urban sprawl by tearing down all the houses that were built by people who couldn't afford their interest rates, all the banks that have gone belly-up in the four years, all the farms where the farmers couldn't make a living (which I'm happy to say includes almost every farm in America), and all the small businesses that went sour and took part in this record year for business failure. It'll be great having all that extra wilderness where communities used to be.

And speaking of the wilderness...our wise leader has championed that cause too. I look at Reagan's environmental policies with deep admiration. You see, by running rough shod over our environment Reagan has swelled the ranks of the Sierra Club with thousands of new members. By pillaging once protected regions--regions vital to our eco-system--he has unified his opposition. He has given environmentalists new martyrs to mourn and hold up as symbols to rally behind. It's amazing but he's done it. From a dialectic view point he's shown us in four short years how bad bad can get and given us new hope for a better better. (See I passed political science 101: Introduction to Marxist Theory.)

But the greatest thing Ronald Reagan has done is renewed my optimism. I watch his t.v. commercials and listen to him speak and it gives me hope for the future. They give me beautiful, simple, tasty excuses to avoid thinking. If everything is so rosy who needs to read what economic and environmental experts are saying? Those just wimps and cry babies trying to go back to the past with its vaccination, shame, and unmanly penchant for considering future consequences of current actions. Poopy!

Thank you Mr. Reagan! Thank you for helping me to see the beauty of a single prosperous tree instead of looking at a whole gloomy forest. Bless you! You're the tops. In fact I like you soooooo much, that I'd like to give you a very long vacation as a gift for all those taxing four-hour work days you put in.

I want to give you this small gift so much that I'm going to vote for Walter Mondale in the hopes that you get just such a vacation. It's a little thing, but it's the least I could do.

--HOBBY NEWS-----

This hobby news business has never been one of my fortes. (Or even one of my metso-fortes) But I'll stick with it.

Let's see...The terms of the Mike Shli vs. Terry Tallman election shows that things can get touchy when the title Hobby Sex God is on the line. You see, the terms have been changed, now everyone has to send their vote to a neutral third party--Daf Langley. Daf hosts Dafcon each New Year's Eve and I don't know her address. Perhaps if anyone does know her address they might share it with me. (Who's giving who the news?) Daf, by the way--the capital "d" on this typewriter is busted.

TCOE faithful, Bruce Linsey, has folded his 'zine Voice of Doom after 100 issues. I only received three issues but they were entertaining and I'm sure the hobby will miss getting their novellas every month from Bruce. For the record, his final issue weighed in at a hefty 270 odd pages. Needless to say I haven't read the entirety of this manifesto but I'm working at it. Thanks for all the time and effort you put in on your readers' behalf.

TCOE faithful, Kathy Byrne has taken over editorship of diplomacy World. This transition is effective immediately. Rod Walker will continue to serve as editor and publisher. Like Rod, Kathy would like to receive articles from all interested hobby members. Note: it has been rumored that this announcement appeared in a fake issue of Erewhon, personally I think the announcement is real but time will tell.

Yuck! Enough of this. I hate writing hobby news.

---THE GAMES---

LOOK OUT! THE PLAYERS IN THE DIPLOMACY GAME FINALLY SEEM TO BE GOING TO BLOWS!
FALL 1902



- A- (VILLANUEVA) A. Tyr-ven, A. Vie-Tri, A. Bud H., A. Ser s. A. Bud, F. Gre-Ion
- E- (GARNER) F. Nig s F. Nwy, F. Nwy H. (dislodged to ser or CTS), F. Bre-Eng, A. Lon-den
F. Nth c A. Lon-den
- F- (KUTT) F. Por-MAC, A. Pic-Bre, A. Gas s A. Pic-Bre, A. Bur g EMERMANXA, AUSTRIAN A. Tyo-Kun
(RSO)
- G- (EXTROK) A. Hol H., A. Bel s A. Hol, A. Ruh-Mun, F. Ska-Nwy, F. Hel-Nth
- I- (COUGHLIN) A. Apu-Ven, A. Tun-Smy, F. Lon c A. Tun-Smy, F. Gas c A. Tun-Smy
- R- (KOZLOWSKI) A. Rom-Bul, F. Bla s A. Rom-Bul, A. StP s GERMAN F. Ska-Nwy, F. Swe s GERMAN
F. Ska-Nwy, A. Gal-Ukr, A. Mar H
- T- (TALLMAN) F. Ank-Con, A. Con-Smy, A. Smy-Syr

- 1902 CENTER DISTRIBUTION:
- A- Home, Ser, Gre (5) even
 - E- Home, ~~Nig~~, den, ~~Nwy~~ (4) down 1
 - F- Par, Bre, Mar, Spa, Por (5) up 1
 - G- Home, Bel, ~~Apu~~, Hol, Nwy (6) up 1
 - I- Home, Tun (4) even
 - R- Home, Bul, Rom, Swe (7) up 1
 - T- Home (3) even

The deadline for builds, retreats, removals, and spring 1903 moves is November 28th. Save yourself and me from having to make collect calls on the 29th by sending in preliminary orders right away!

How about a little press?

VIENNA to ROME: I was made an offer of a signed copy of Leo Tolstoy's See Italy on twenty kopeks a day. Sorry.

VENICE to TYROLIA: Just to be on the safe side.

ITALY to TURKEY: Smyrna seemed nicer to try than Istanbul.

CALIPH to POPE: Just to be on the safe side.

MUNICH to THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ALLIE: Well, here goes nothing.

TURKEY to RUSSIA: To hear is to obey! And I'll even try to write a letter this month.

KIEL to TURKEY: You'll always be the number one Hobby Sex God in my Book (but don't tell T-Bone, it would break his little heart.)

GM to JOAN: He doesn't have to tell T-Bone...You just did. After all, Mike is just the type to read the press word for word even though he isn't in the game. Archa Mike? You old monkey.

GERMANY to ITALY: Will you write my press for me?

GM to PLAYERS: Sheesh, what a game! We've got Tullin asking Kevin to write his orders for him and Joan asking Gary to write her press order. Dad, will you GM the game for me? In exchange I'll write your letters for you.

AUSTRIA to ALL: The Vienna Saw Sage has returned! Sorry for the extended vacation.

GM to EFGIRT: You can judge how sorry by the number of letters he sends in November.

BUDAPEST to MOSCOW: I'll send that recipe for strudel as soon as I can swing by that Epicurian shop in Munich I told you about.

GM to EFGIRT: Oh oh. Looks like he's not sorry at all. He seems to be planning another vacation. Well at least he's got a permanent residence.

AUSTRIA to ALL: Al Villanueva
1497 W. 5th st.
Eugene, OR 97402

GM to AL: By the way, congratulations on your new teaching post. Since you never hear from him I may as well tell the rest of you that Al was just hired as a music teacher. His first task is to turn sixth graders on to opera. GGG! Good luck Al.

ROME to BERLIN: I've just read your most embarrassing moment! P.S. Paul is a good guy.

GM AGAIN: Gary you should be ashamed for mentioning Joan's most embarrassing moment and not cueing the rest of us in on it!

BERLIN to ROME: We'll never surrender our pacifiers no matter how many boxes of Bush Puppy Nix you threaten us with.

GM to AEFR: If you don't understand that last bit of press it's okay I didn't understand it either.

LONDON to ROME: Nah, Eugenics is what my father calls Eugene. Besides who wants to be associated with a pink haired lady Brit from a band that plays a'ry synth music?

GE to Paul: Certainly not me. Eugene Ensemble will have to do.

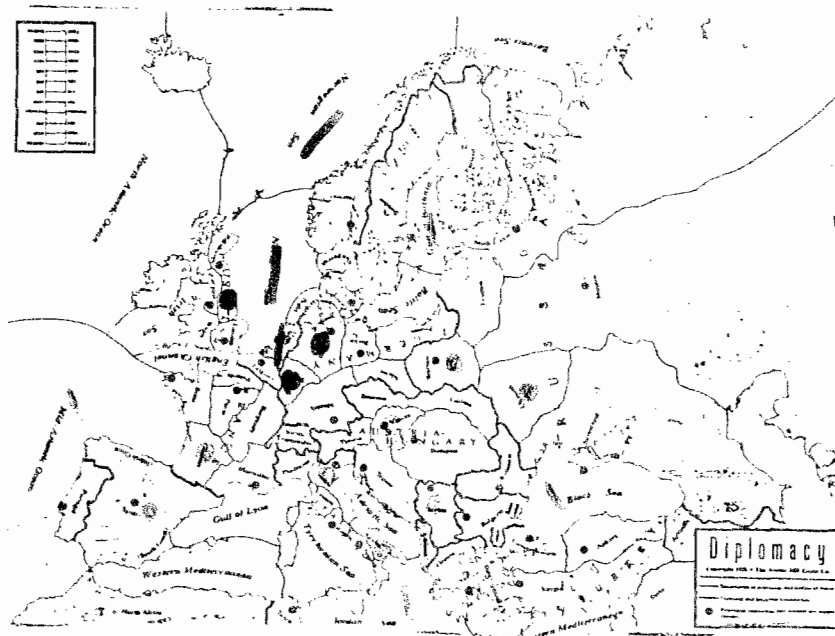
GM to ED HENRY: THE WISE CHAMPION OF LITERARY CRITICISM: It is my most sincere wish that you enjoyed this press. If you did not like it I would be happy to disclaim every word of it next issue.



QUESTION! would you allow this youth to baby sit your children? If he were analyzed to be your dorm x room mate in college would you move out? Would you hire him as a life-guard at your swimming pool?

THE NEW GAME WILL BE CALLED: THE NEW GAME FROM HERE ON. IF ANY OF YOU KNOW THE NEW BNC I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU'D GET A MEMBER FOR THIS GAME.

SPRING 1901



A player has requested that I print the preference lists for this game.

Clough-REFIATG

Corbin-EFRTGAI

Ed Daley-EIRTGFA

Henry-T????A

GALICIA-FAREITG

CARUSO-GERFTLA

O'DONNELL-REFIATGE Five first choices, one second choice, and one fourth choice.

A- (O'DONNELL) A. Bud-Ser, A. Vie-Gal, e. Cri-Ab

E- (CORBIN) F. Edi-Nwg, F. Lon-Nth, A. Riv-Yor

F- (GALICIA) F. Bre-MAO, A. Yar-Spa, G. Sic-Gas

G- (CARUSO) F. Kle-Hol, A. Hun-Ruh, A. Ber-Rie

I- (DALEY) A. Ven H, F. Nap-Ion, A. Rom-Apu

R- (Clough) F. SED-Bot, F. Sev-Bla, A. Bos-Pkr, A. Tur-S. I

T- (HENRY) F. Con-Bal, F. Ank-Con, A. Smy-Ph

The deadline for Fall 1901 is November 28th.

ITALY to ENGLAND AND GERMANY: You two sure are silly. What is your motive?

FRANCE to AUSTRIA: If you don't write I'll sick Italy on you.

GM to New Game: Any game that starts with press about not getting may be in serious trouble of having loads of NMRs. Hey, to off set this the NMR fee for this game is your first born child. I know Ken and Ed are in serious danger if they NMR (Denise and Joan would probably lose their minds) but the rest of you--I don't know if you have kids but beware...if you NMR I'll watch the birth announcements in your home town papers with greed in my heart.

HENRY to O'DONNELL: You must have volunteered to play Austria

GM: He was more accurately conscripted. Oh, not to contradict the man who'll be reviewing TOPE next month...it just seemed that conscription was more accurate, that's all.

THE SULTAN SPEAKS: It was announced today that a decision has been made to execute the ambassadors of major European powers (along with their staffs) in order to start with a clean slate. Unclaimed remains will be recycled in our poppy fields.

FRENCHIE to TOUT LE MONDE: It's a dirty job but somebody's got to do it

SAN DIEGO to DANNA CT.: What's all this "send in preliminary orders" jazz? Did you change the house rules in the first issue? I must have missed something. Let me know.

DANNA CT to RON: Boy did you miss something. In issue #2 I adopted Rod Walker's house rules and in issue #4 or 5 I adopted a modified set of Rod Walker's house rules. Send ~~me~~ an envelope, 37 cents in stamps, and a personal letter containing no less than three compliments to the Prophet (without the compliments he won't respond) and you'll receive a copy of the house rules--that is unless I've lost your address which is always an excellent possibility.

PARIS to ALL A YOUSE: I know this is a postal game but my phone number is 619-267-8072. Let's make this a fun one guys.

GN to ALL A YOUSE: My phone number is 363-85-3644. I'm rarely here before eleven so call late-ish. Weekend mornings are also a good bet.

Well, only two takers on cross-Atlantic Diplomacy. There are still five openings left and only two for Americans. This is your last chance to play in TOOE for about the next two years.

In the next few issues of TOOE I intend to present a number of variants that I've come up with. Some are quite silly but others are very serious. This issue...THE BYRNE VARIANT. Named for Kathy Byrne, this variant is designed to re-convert to face-to-face games in which a group of five people who, like Kathy Byrne, will only play Italy happily. I find Italy to be by far the most interesting country and so do many others. So when too many of us appear at a con we can all play happily.

There are a few rule changes that are worthy of note.

1. Switzerland is passible and is a supply center.
2. A player must own eleven centers in order to win.
3. Players are strictly forbidden against choosing one of the five Italys as their favorite.
4. The North Atlantic is not a supply center.
5. When writing orderw, players must specify the letter of the province they are moving to. For example player "B" might submit orders which read...A. Piedmont "B" to Ven. "C", E. Adriatic "C" supports A. Piedmont "B" to Venice "C", or Swiss. to Venice "B". Et Cetera.

For the sake of clarity I'll give you a list of which provinces touch new nodes in another player's home region.

Any given Adriatic touches a Ven, an Apu, an Ion, a Tyrhenian, a Tus, and a Pie.

Any given Ionian touches a Nap, an Adr, $\frac{2}{2}$ Tuneses, and $\frac{2}{2}$ Tyrhenians.

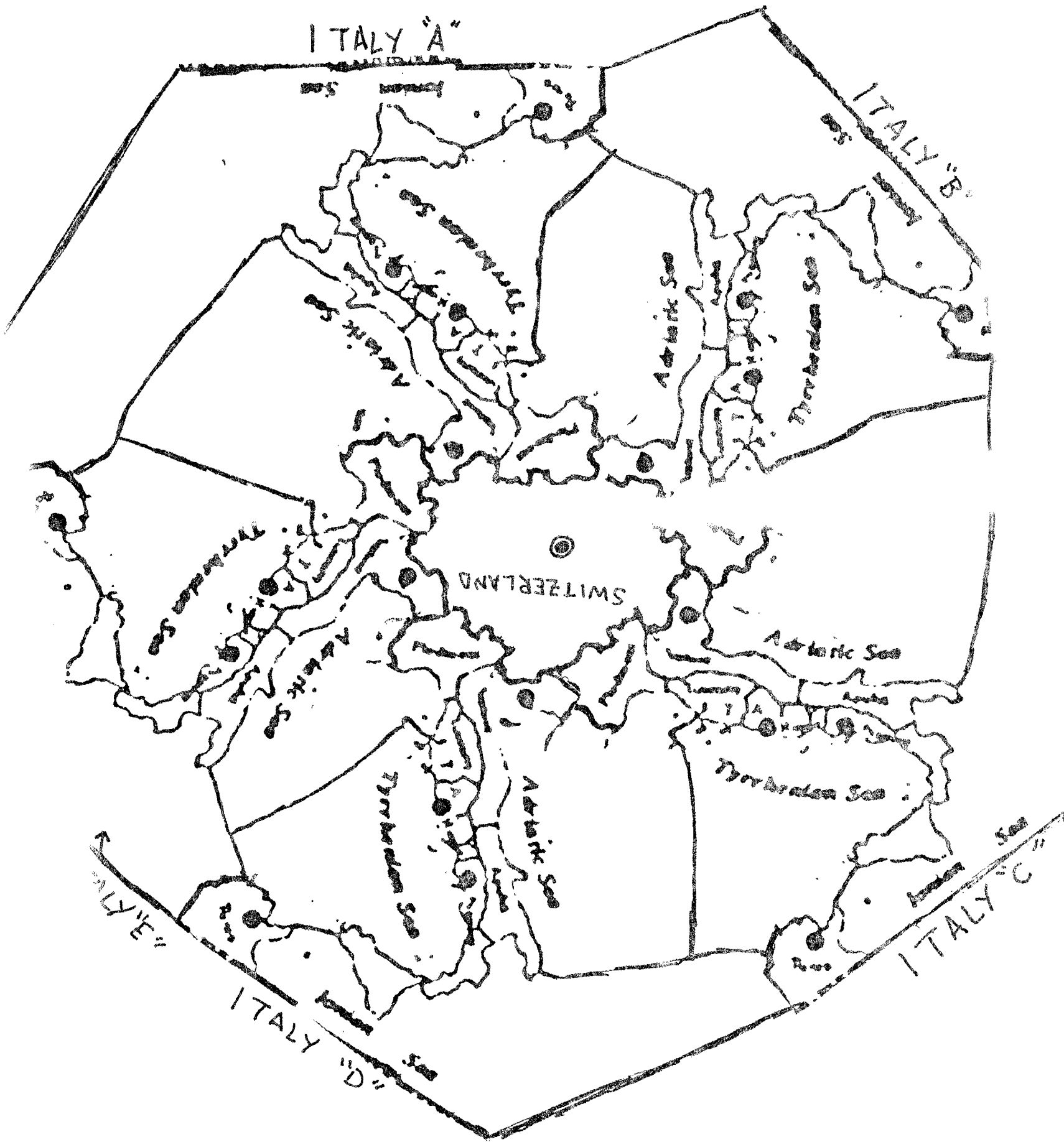
Any given Venice touches an Adr, an Apu, a Rom, a Tus, $\frac{2}{2}$ Piedmonts, and Switzerland.

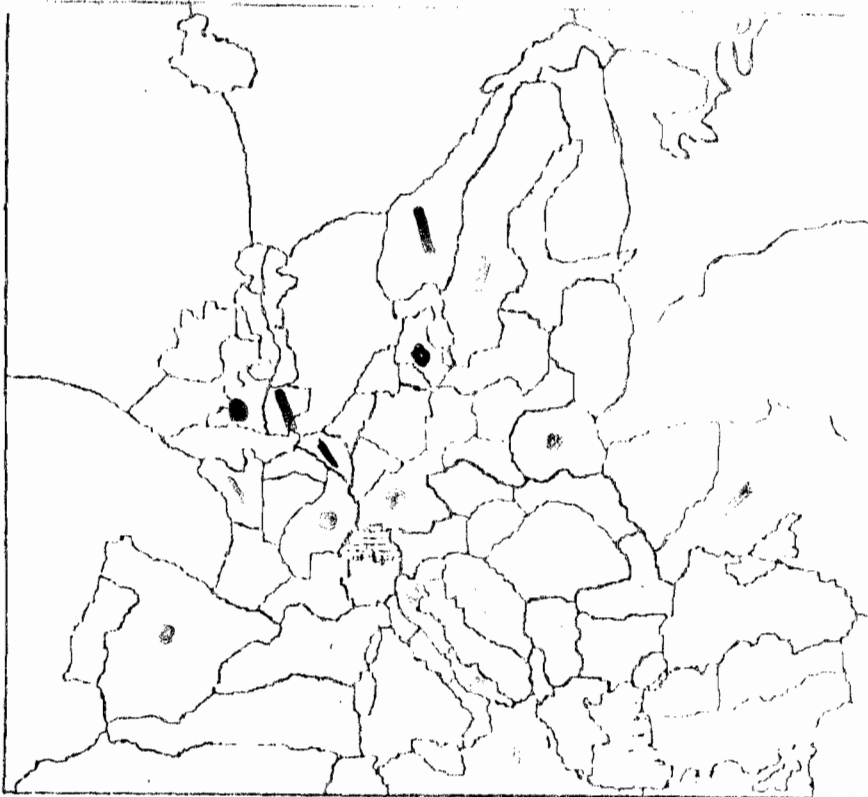
That should cover any misunderstandings of the map (provided on the next page).

Sadly I can't GN a game of K.B. Diplomacy but if anyone would like to present it in their own 'zine or here in America's Premiere Game Journal they may feel free.

Next month I'll present my ten player variant set in tenth and eleventh century England and surrounding territories. Players represent Picts, Celts, Scots, Welsh, Angles, Saxons, Normans, Frisians, Danes, and Norse.

KATHY BYRNE VARIANT!





YOUR GUEST GM:
Mike Ehli
Hamilton Box 60505
University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-6005
(503) 485-~~9513~~ 9150
(Ask for Mike in Rm. 115)

Note that this address may change soon as I am trying desperately to get into another dorm. You'll be notified immediately of any change of address.
I got the dorm change!!!
Speaking of which... *same* COA for Al Villanueva *address* 1497 W. 5th *different* Eugene, OR 97402 *phone...*

Deadline for Winter 1901 builds is November 28.
I will adjudicate Spring 1902 if I get seven sets of Spring orders.

4.
AUSTRIA (Henry): F Alb-TRI, A SER S Turkish A Bul-Gre, A Gal-RUM
ENGLAND (C. Lee): F Nth-NWY, F LON-Eng, A WAL II
FRANCE (Kozlowski): F BRE-Eng, A Mar-SPA, A BUR S Russian A Sil-Mun
GERMANY (Clough): F Hol-BEL, A Kie-DEN, A Mun-Bur (d, r Ruh, Kie, Ber, Boh,
ITALY (Latteri): A VEN-Apu, A APU-Gre, F Ion C A APU-Gre // Tyo, OTB)
RUSSIA (Villanueva): A Sil-MUN, A Ukr-WAR, F Bot-SWE, F Rum-SEV
TURKEY (Aikens): F BLA S Austrian A Gal-Rum, A Con-BUL, A Bul-GRE

1901 Supply Centers:

AUS Home SER RUM 5; build 2 // ITA Home 3; even
ENG Home NWY 4; build 1 // RUS Home SWE MUN 6; build 2
FRA Home SPA 4; build 1 // TUR Home BUL GRE 5; build 2
GER Ber Kie ~~VIE~~ DEN BEL 4; build 1 (2 if A Mun r OTB)

PRESS:

BERLIN to PARIS: Are you going to try to tell me that you sent in anti-Italian orders, but thank heavens they were too late? Bull! You've had your narrow-minded peabrain set on attacking me since Day 1. I never realized you planned to be genius enough to attack England, too.

VIE to B. BORGIA: With silence on your part, cover Tri & Gony Gre.

CSAR to ALL: I am back, and interested in communing with all. Let's pass notes!

BERLIN to SERBIA: I think these Oreganos have decided that I should be the meat for their stew. You seem to be faring rather well.

VIE to MOS: You may be the silent type but if Turkey helps out you ain't gonna be too strong.

REPORT FROM BERLIN: The people of this iron-curtained city watch in despair as those dirty Commies move in, unhindered as the rest of the German forces go off to fight a less important opponent.

PRIMUS ILLUMINATUS: Should I point out that the Commies and the iron curtain didn't come until much later? Naahh, that would be rude...

VIE to TUR: Let's get 'em.

---LETTERS IN THE PROPHET'S MAILBAG-----

Gather 'round everyone, the wise one is about to read his mail...

This month I received the following correspondence from Tom Latteri.

"Greetings prophetic Swami guru Baggi Shish Moon Dawn of the West,

'I SEEK SOME guided advice. I have some staked interest in my client, Barb Latteri, who is playing Italy in 1984 CX-Von Neuman's Catastrophe in TCOE.

'1) Is she making a mistake?

2) Will the shifts in her hormones, i.e. after giving birth to a beautiful baby boy, make her more aggressive, protective of her domain, or just a passive stand-by-afraid to take a stand or advance?

3) Would the other players be as cruel, insensitive, and greedy as to attack an innocent new mother, who has her arms and mind occupied with taking care of her new babe?

'I would appreciate you utilizing your mystic powers to answer these questions as my crystal ball seems to be clouded over at this time, must be the rain."

Tom "the swami of the south" Latteri

Ahh, fascinating-fascinating indeed. Allowing me to cast forth future truths to you my paternal-type friend. First let me gather my thoughts. OOOOOOOOOOOHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

Okay, the answer to your first question is multi-faceted. She has, is, and will make mistakes along the path of Von Neuman's catastrophe. Among her past mistakes was listening to the bad-advice of a certain publisher from Eugene who can scarcely manage his own games let alone the games of my other disciples. Second she made the mistake of trusting a no-good-low-down-Australian. Third she didn't write often enough to keep the Austrian from becoming low-down-and-no-good.

Before answering question two I must bid you hearty congratulations on the birth of Joey. I hope some day to encounter this child as I prophecy he will lead a life of prosperity and may need a sponser some day soon. The answer to your question is that her new hormone alignment will certainly make her more protective of her domain. As you can see she has yet to venture far from home and probably not do so for some time.

The answer to your final question is...OF COURSE...these peolpe are typical Dipsters and you can bet that they will have no qualms about attacking a new mother. Thomas, how can you be so naive?

There you have it. I have spoken.

Thank you Tom and thank you Prophet of the west.

---REVIEWS, PREVIEWS, AND STUFF-----

No reviews except CINEMA ESOTERICA. Next month this column may become a full subzine. Once again I'll remind all readers that they are welcome to use this section to present anything they like so long as it deals with a preview a review or a rebuttal.

CINEMA ESOTERICA The Adventures of Prince Achmed (1926) In 1923 Lotte Reiniger and her staff began the painstaking job of photographing paper silhouette figures a frame at a time. By 1926 the result was the world's first feature-length animated film, The Adventures of Prince Achmed. This internationally successful German production based on tales from the Arabian Nights tells of young Achmed's attempts to free his beloved damsel from the sinister clutches of the African Sorcerer. In one startling scene the prince is mobbed by several nubile palace attendants, each of whom he kisses passionately. Another unexpected moment is when Achmed's ally the Ogress slays the Sorcerer well before the film's climax. Reiniger, a noted pioneer in her specialized field, later went on to do TV work in England.

Bart Aikens

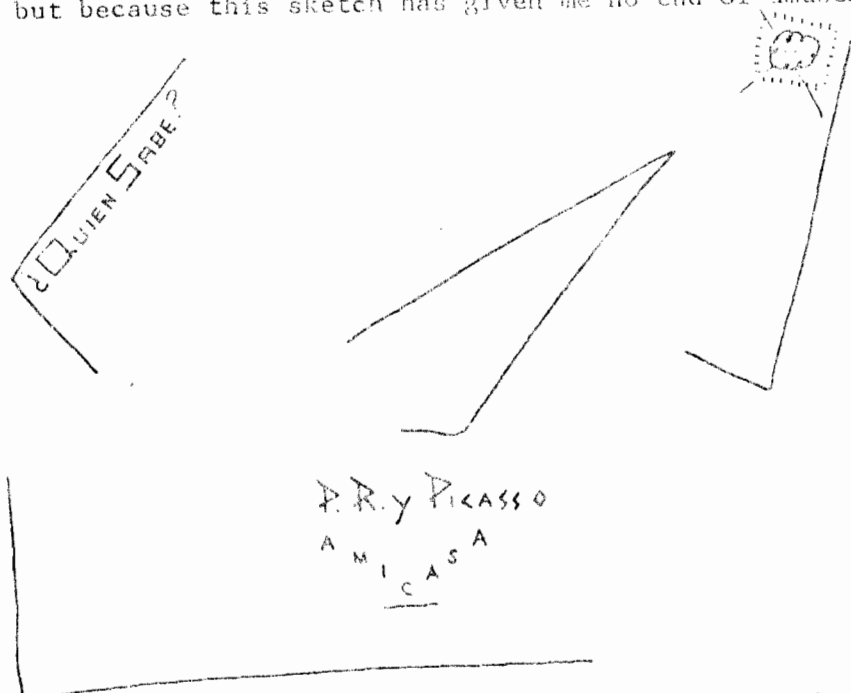
---A NEW CONTEST AND AN OLD CONTEST RESULT---

With the start of a new academic year my thoughts are filled college life. So this month's contest requires you to submit ideas for TCOE University's 1984 academic year. You should specify the department and give a course description. For example...

This Fall the TCOE U. Literature department will offer, GIANTS OF BOLIVIAN FICTION: The course will present students the rewarding opportunity to become familiar with the rich fiction of this tiny land. Included on the reading list are such significant authors as De Sa E Silva (Bolivia's first and only existentialist), Del Grande (an overly prolific absurdist), and Pancho Chappo (a romantic poet who died at age 14). All readings are translated into English.

Yours should be more involved and hopefully more outrageous. All worthy entries will be printed and earn a free issue.

Since there was no new contest for this issue I'll reprint one of the finest entries from the Picasso contest...Ed Henry's masterpiece. I say this not because Ed is reviewing my 'zine soon, but because this sketch has given me no end of amusement.



NOT JUST ANY KIND OF FEEL
IT'S THE CONCEPT OF ELEGANCE



92102
SAN DIEGO CA
P.O. Box 8416
LARRY PEERY

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

TRADE?
YOU FEEL YOUR BOXES!



AGN 6

Small, faint text at the bottom right of the page, possibly a return address or additional postage information.