



Volume Diez, Number Tres

Passover 1985

I date this issue the way I do to reflect reality. Obviously, if you haven't gotten this when you expected it, it is because I passed you over....

"Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned," 'tis said? I wouldn't know. I've only been to hell once - the day Reagan won - and as for the scorned women problem, they always beat me to it! Notwithstanding, this is COSTAGUANA, a journal of postal Diplomacy and Delphic dilapidation congealed by C. Friesner "Uncle Connie" von Metzke, 4374 Donald Avenue, San Diego, CA 92117-3813. Telephones: Home (619) 276-2937. Office: (619) 566-2170 or 566-2190, both usable if needed but please try not to. Subs \$2.20 for ten. Game fees: Well, if ever I open another game, I'll set one. Trades: You send me yours, I'll send you mine, and if you don't like that arrangement, get stuffed.

1985 is the 300th anniversary of the births of Johann Sebastian Bach, Georg Frideric Händel and Domenico Scarlatti. In celebration of this momentous year, the local classical music station is absolutely inundating its listeners with the music of Bach and Händel - but almost no Scarlatti! My personal feeling is that if they plan to bombard us with Bach and heap on the Händel, they could at least suffuse us with Scarlatti and allow the Eytie equal time. Either that, or they could chuck all three and play some decent music....

Eric department.

Vol. I.

Tonight at the dinner table, the four-way conversation was proceeding rather randomly, with no particular direction, when suddenly Eric placed his fork on his plate, stared up at me and said, "Hey, Daddy! Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one! YAAAAY!!!"

Vol. II.

An hour later, apropos of nothing, Eric quite suddenly said - and I quote exactly, "A-B-C-D-E-F-G-H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O...P! (Giggle) I'm going to the bathroom!" And off he went....

LINEARSEPARATORSAREANARTFORMOFWHICHTHEEXPRESSIONISTSNEVEREVENCONCEIVED!

Welcome to San Diego..."America's Finest City," so the Chamber of Commerce slogan goes. This is the town where the mayor is under indictment, where we have the highest incidence of police killings in the nation, and - worst of all - from which this journal has the indecency to emanate. Welcome. Wanna trade homes?

UNFORTUNATELYFORYOU,IFYOUTURNTHISPAGEYOUWILLALMOSTCERTAINLYFINDANOTHERONE

President Reagan is about to honor the War Dead of Germany by placing a wreath at a selected cemetery. Then, as an afterthought, he will be visiting the site of one of the death camps and presumably doing homage there. And as Ronnie remembers the fallen whom we do mourn, let us recall a couple of people whom we don't mourn....



"...and so I suppose we have no choice but to take a stand; we can hardly let Roosevelt throw people into concentration camps just because they're Japanese!"

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In line with the above, here's a trivia question for you: The most famous war crimes trial in history was at Nuremberg in 1946. 24 people were indicted; 22 were actually tried; 3 were acquitted; 4 were given determinate prison terms; 3 were given life in prison; and 12 were sentenced to death, of whom ten were actually hanged.

The questions:

1. Name as many of the defendants as you can, and specify in which category of sentence each falls.
2. Who were the two indicted but not tried, and why?
3. Who were the two sentenced to death but not hanged, and why?

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(Obituaries, P.23)

A SESAME STREET TRIVIA QUIZ:

1. Name the actor whose own name is the same as his character's name.
2. Name the character who has been played by two different actors.
3. A famous operatic tenor once sang a lament about Ernie's lost rubber duckie. Who is the tenor?
4. On what floor of 123 Sesame Street does Bert live?
5. Grover the Waiter always has the same dissatisfied customer week after week. What is the customer's name?
6. Who was Bob's accompanist for Lehar's "Vilia?"
7. According to Gordon, why did Mr. Hooper have to die?
8. What is Forgetful Jones' horse's name?
9. When Kermit the Frog went to interview Peter Piper, Peter was out of town. Where was he?
10. What happened to the Alligator King when one of his sons gave him seven rubies?

A BRIEF COMMENT ON THE POLITICAL IN-FIGHTING CURRENTLY RAMPANT IN THE DIPLOMACY HOBBY: Remember, I've been around since '65. Twenty years. I have seen a couple of feuds come and go, and I have been in the forefront of a few of them. Relatively few of the names are still with us, but some are: Walker, Boardman, yr. hmbl. srvnt., and maybe some more. My own most virulent feud is so stone-cold that I rather doubt much of anyone remembers it; it involved a rather unusual character named Charles Norbert Reinsel, stories about whom would fill a book, but why would anyone bother? Then there were Boardman and me on the same side, refusing to accept mail franked with a Henry Ford stamp because ol' Henry was a virulent anti-Semite; Boardman and me on opposite sides, disagreeing over whether it was permissible to have a friend who happens to be gay; and so it went, on and on through other subjects of truly momentous significance. And now I am given to understand that there are newer, even more spectacular hobby feuds active or latent: Rod Walker's name is bandied again, but we also hear of Bruce Linsey, Kathy Byrne, possibly others.... Well, friends, I don't pay much attention any more. I do not, in all candor, have the slightest idea who supports which side, nor even what the subject of the feud is. I suggest only the following attitude, concerning both the current feud(s) and those of my past heyday:

WHO GIVES A FLYING ONE?

Okay, let's work it this way. First we print the games, then we print an updated mailing list for this journal, then we ask a question, then we shut up.

No - let's do the question first. Who (by name and address) is the current Boardman Number Custodian?

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COSTAGUANA announces

TWO NEW SYSTEMS

to help you avoid missed moves.

1. Send me your 'phone number and an authorization to call you. If your moves have not been received by press time, I will telephone (specify best times) and get your missing moves. Then, when I get my 'phone bill, I'll tell you what you owe me for the call. (Failure to pay will result in loss of this privilege.) NOTE: I promise to try. I do not promise to succeed; if you aren't home after two attempts, I won't pursue it.

2. Submit 'sealed general orders.' These are simply written outlines of your strategic intent, alliance structure, objectives, etc., in whatever detail you choose. You may write anything. Prepare this, seal them in an appropriately marked envelope, and send the envelope - inside another envelope - to me. I'll file them. Then, if your moves don't arrive some season, and (if appropriate) you can't be gotten ahold of by 'phone, I'll have a local anonymous person open the envelope and construct a set of moves based on your indications. Said person will not be involved in the game in any way. Once used, such orders will be discarded and you'll have to provide a new envelope for future use. But please note: If you elect to avail yourself of this system, you must keep current! If at any time anything you've written and sealed changes, you'd better remember to revoke the old envelope and substitute another. Example: If you have submitted sealed orders two or three seasons ago stating, "France and I are allies, Germany is at war with us," and you miss a move the season after France backstabs you and Germany sues for peace and a new alliance, what do you suppose will happen? The anonymous player will fashion orders which go after Germany and leave France alone! Why? Because the only things the 'sub' will be shown are your envelope and the current board positions. From those, he'll do his competent best - but if the sealed envelope is obsolete, that's your problem!

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Some months ago, it was announced that His Highness Sir Muda Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzadin Wadaullah, the twenty-ninth Sultan of Brunei, would sponsor an international prize for the best novel published annually in the English language. Ken Peel now sends a news clipping telling us that the first winner is Peru's Mario Vargas Llosa. His prize: \$50,000. Another \$100,000 in scholarship awards went to five different universities in three countries. Runners-up for the novelist's prize: Russia's Yevgeni Yevtushenko and Czechoslovakia's Milan Kundera.

It strikes me that there's something wrong here. Pudgy little Sir Hassanal did say 'published' in English, not 'written.' Still, one wonders at the fact that all three finalists wrote originally in other languages. Maybe the Sultan needs to add a prize for best translator?

JOHN WALKER, who plays in a couple of these games (and whose address can be found in the new player roster this issue), is also running a game of his own - an orphan he recently adopted. John tells me he could use a standby player or two. I've put my name down for the service, so if any of you care to join me, please write John.

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ONE MORE ERIC STORY: On picking him up at his pre-school today, the teacher informed me that Eric was being disciplined and that he would tell me why. So I asked, and he proudly smiled up at me and announced, "I was bad. I hit the ball with Matthew's head!"

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GAME THREE

Fall 1901 at last!

AUSTRIA (Walters): a vie-tri. a ser (s) alb-gre. f alb-gre.
ENGLAND (Peel): a yor-bel. f nth (c) yor-bel. f eng-mid.
FRANCE (Walker): a pic-par. a spa-mar. f mid-por.
GERMANY (Caruso): a kie-den. a bur-mar. f hol (s) ENG yor-bel.
ITALY (Pustilnik): a rom-ven. a ven-tyo. f ion-tun.
RUSSIA (Brown): a ukr-rum. a gal (s) ukr-rum. f bla-con. f bot-swe.
TURKEY (Cartier): a smy-ank. a bul-gre. f con-aeg.

No retreats, obviously.

Supply centres:

A: vie, bud, tri, ser, gre (5). Build two.
E: lon, lvp, edi, bel (4). Build one.
F: par, bre, mar, spa, por (5). Build two.
G: ber, kie, mun, den, hol (5). Build two.
I: rom, nap, ven, tun (4). Build one.
R: nos, stp, sev, war, swe, rum, con (7). Build three.
T: smy, ank, bul (3). Even.
Still neutral: nwy (1).

Spring 1902 moves will be due FRIDAY, 10th May 1985. (On file at this time for Germany.)

[illegible]

What did the pincushion say when it backed into the porcupine?

"Sorry, mom."

[illegible]

Matt Johnston writes: I think that your Diplomacy audience needs a little more incentive to solve one of the 'sillies' I sent in. (Remember 2 E on the HB, which even you couldn't get?) Write that I will give the person a concrete cookie if they answer the question, but they have to pick the prize up; it would cost too much to send. I hope no-one strains their brain."

And let me add that (now that Matt has given me the answer) there

HERE'S ERIC AGAIN: Eric has a stuffed Care Bear. Tonight he informed me that henceforward his Care Bear will be called "Care Bear" and his wind-up musical stuffed bear will be called "Er-Bear."

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AUSTRIA (Robson): a war-sil. a rom-ven. a bud (s) ser. a ser (h).
a pie (s) tri-tyo. a vie (s) tri-tyo. a gal-boh. a tri-tyo.
f tyn-lyo.

FRANCE (Johnston): a tyo-boh. a ruh-mun. a bel-bur. a mun-sil.
a bur-mar. f lyo (s) bur-mar. f spa (s) (s) bur-mar. f wes (s)
ITA tun.

TURKEY (Walters): a bul (h). a mos-lvn. a ukr-mos. a con-sev. f gre-
ion. f bla (c) con-sev. f ion-nap.

I suppose it is possible I mis-copied the Italian move; I suppose I could go double-check it; but since it makes no difference, I'll let you all assume that Jim was a complete idiot and butchered it utterly. Saves me admitting that maybe I can't read....

[illegible]

LONG//////////////////////////////////////SEPARATOR

Being as how Conrad painted sainthood on Mr. Peel, I feel obligated to present the other side. My obligation stems primarily from the fact that he is my opponent in Game Three, and he has also reared his ugly head

in Game Two of COSTAGUANA. The last thing I want is my fellow players thinking Ken Peel is "caring...articulate, aware and extremely personable," as Mr. von Metzke would have you believe.

Actually, Conrad did strike a strong note in saying Peel would make an excellent politician. So did Nixon, Hitler and Julius Caesar. But they all have/had their small faults....

Peel is a power-mad Diplosite. (A parasitic blood-sucking ladder-climbing Diplomacy broker.) He is a fiend who feigns friendship. Actually, he is merely pushing his WARTHOG banner and greeting Diplomacy giants like Conrad in the hopes of taking over the hobby and having us all play World Diplomacy.

I know this because I've seen him in action. I've played his damned World Dip. and cavorted with his WARTHOG clan. Let me tell you, it is not a pretty picture.

Beware of Mr. Peel. Et tu Brownie.

Most sincerely, to be sure,

/s/

Doug Brown

((COMMENT BY YR. HMBL. EDITOR: I might first clarify that World Dip. is a variant of massive proportions substantially developed by Ken Peel. I have seen parts of it. I have tried to understand it. I have been successful in understanding it only to the extent that I noted that some of it appeared to be written in simulated English....

((Now. I rather liked Ken when I spent an evening with him, but I do admit that I have a tendency to be gullible. Nevertheless, I might mention the following facts: Doug Brown lives in Penngrove, California. Penngrove is not very far from Sebastopol, California. In Sebastopol lives none other than Charles M. Schulz, who has for many years eroded our brains with the deranged silliness known as "Peanuts."

((Do you suppose that too much of the wind may be blowing from the north?))

((Unrelated extension on the geography lesson above: Mr. Brown also lives very close to three people that once meant a lot to me. In Sebastopol also lives one Virgil Miller, my former brother-in-law. Just north lives Mrs. Veronica O'Connell, my former mother-in-law; she is, or was, in Santa Rosa. And to the south lived my very favorite aunt, Gretchen Gray, late of San Rafael.

((If Doug would care to, he might be so kind as to look these people up in the 'phone books for me. I'd very much enjoy knowing if any is still there. In the case of my aunt, I'll be rather surprised if she is, because she died in 1980. In the case of Virgil Miller and/or Mrs. O'Connell, my question is a little more serious: For some years now I've had the nagging thought in the back of my mind that I'd very much like to find out how Virgil's sister-in-law, and Veronica's daughter, is doing these days. The person in question was, as you may have guessed, my former wife Kathy, whom I divorced in 1974.

((Tell you what, Doug. Look up Virgil Miller for me. If he's in the book, send me his address and 'phone. I don't know that I'll actually use them - I might be intruding, after all - but something keeps nagging at me, telling me that I need to find out....))

I did not watch the Oscar presentations: I have no interest in such things, and in any case hadn't seen most of the films nominated. But I did at least glance at the newspaper report on the winners the next day, and noted a magnificent quote from Maurice Jarré, composer of the winning musical score ("Passage to India").

M. Jarré, acknowledging "Amadeus" as the runaway winner of the evening: "I'm just lucky that Mozart wasn't eligible!"

YOU, TOO, can prevent me stuffing these issues with Eric jokes, silly filler lines and pictures of Mussolini. You can write press! We're back to normal now; and Doug Brown has broken ground with a useful contribution. Shall we take up the mantle and save me being inventive?

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1984HI (Game Two): Spring 1903

AUSTRIA (Pierce): a sev-ukr. a ser-gre. a tyo (s) FRE pie-ven. a tri (s) FRE pie-ven. a gal (s) sev-ukr. a vie (s) tyo. a bud-rum. f bul (s) (s) ser-gre.
ENGLAND (Johnston): a nwy-stp. f lvp-iri. f nth-lon. f bar (s) nwy-stp.
FRANCE (Fleming): a pie-ven. a gas-bur. f mid (s) wal-eng. f wal-eng. f tyn-rom.
GERMANY (Walker): a bel-ruh. a mun-tyo. a ber-pru. f kie-den. f hol-nth. f swe (h).
ITALY (Peel): N.M.R. a's ven, apu; f's nap, ion (h).
RUSSIA (Cartier): a fin-swe. f both (s) fin-swe.
TURKEY (Stevens): a mos (s) ukr-sev. a ukr-sev. f aeg-con. f bla (s) ukr-sev.

The Italian army Venice is annihilated (NMR). The Austrian army Sevastopol may retreat to Armenia or off the board. The German fleet Sweden may retreat, to Baltic, Norway, Skagerrak, or off the board. These retreats are due with fall moves, which may be conditional thereon.

Ken Peel's miss is, I am quite sure, an odd oversight; no replacement will be sought.

FALL 1903 MOVES are due Friday, MAY 10, 1985.

MURMANSK: Gosh, it's 1903 and I'm still on the board - is that a record?

JAMUL: No, actually, I remember hearing about an in-person game that you actually won! Something about the other six players having health problems?

By the way - do you still collect poisonous spiders?

ENDOFGAMESENOFGAMESENOFGAMESENOFGAMESENOFGAMESENOFGAMESENOFGAMES'BYE

The final comment is, unexpectedly, a big one. One of the most durable and best-respected gamesmasters in the business, Doug Beyerlein of EFGIART, has just informed me that he's closing up shop after nineteen years. To say the least, this is a massive shock to the hobby; few among us would ever be missed as much as Doug ("Mr. Reliable") will be.

He leaves three games needing homes, but - true to his level of integrity - a good and honest new residence has already been arranged. Would any of you care to guess where? (Hint: If anyone would care to serve in a standby capacity for the three 'new' games, I could sure use you!)

From now on, at least ten pages for sure!

For now, ta-ta....

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