

The Diplomacy Tribune

April 1991

Number 25

The Runestone Poll

Yes, it's that time of the year again, time for you to rate your favorite, and not so favorite zines. There are 103 zines and 28 sub-zines in the poll this year, down 6 from 109 zines last year and down 7 sub-zines from last year's 35. There have been several folds, and near-folds. One of the most notable near-folds would have to be Phil Reynold's *Dipadeedoodah!* whose last real issue was sent out in August 1990. Phil is running his games by flyer now, but whether the zine will ever recover its former health is still up in the air. Another notable fold would be that of Fred Davis' *Bushwacker*. Fred is completing his remaining games by flyer wrapping up one of the oldest running zines in Dipdom. Other zines missing from the list are; *The Bip Bop*, *Boardgame Challenger*, *Cathy's Ramblings*, *Clandestine Activities*, *Diplomacy Today*, *Diplomatic Contraband*, *Dark Mirror*, *Dyslexia*, *Entropy*, *Fiat Bellum!*, *Fol Si Fie*, *Ground Zero*, *Hagalil Hamaarvi*, *Hansard*, *House of Lords*, *Known Game Openings*, *KGO Zine Directory*, *The Last Resort*, *Loose Caboose*, *Mindoj*, *Mouse of Lords*, *No Name Flyer*, *Quinipique*, *Passchendaele*, *Politesse*, *The Popular flyer*, *The Prodigal Zine*, *A Sharp Mind...*, *TRAX*, *Two Bars in C Sharp*, and *When the Lights Went Out*. All-in-all, 33 zines have disappeared with 27 new listings taking their places. The "turn-over" rate for zines in this hobby is astounding, it's hard to imagine so many efforts coming and going at such a rate.

The value of this and other polls has always been in question. Some feel the polls do more harm than good by discouraging new pubbers when they make a poor showing, or none at all. But I can't agree with that. Anyone that is that easily discouraged, I feel, isn't ready to publish. The Trib made it into the top 100 it's first time onto the poll, but it had already been out for a year. The Trib's showing, of all things, encouraged me to push on and improve the zine where I could. I hope the Trib will show up somewhat higher on the list since so many more people have seen it since then. But it all depends on participation. If everyone in the hobby took part instead of just those active few, the polls would be far more effective. But it's just like anything else that requires voting, it's those that don't participate that complain the loudest. So put out a little effort and tell us what you think of us. This hobby is what you make of it.

Game Openings:

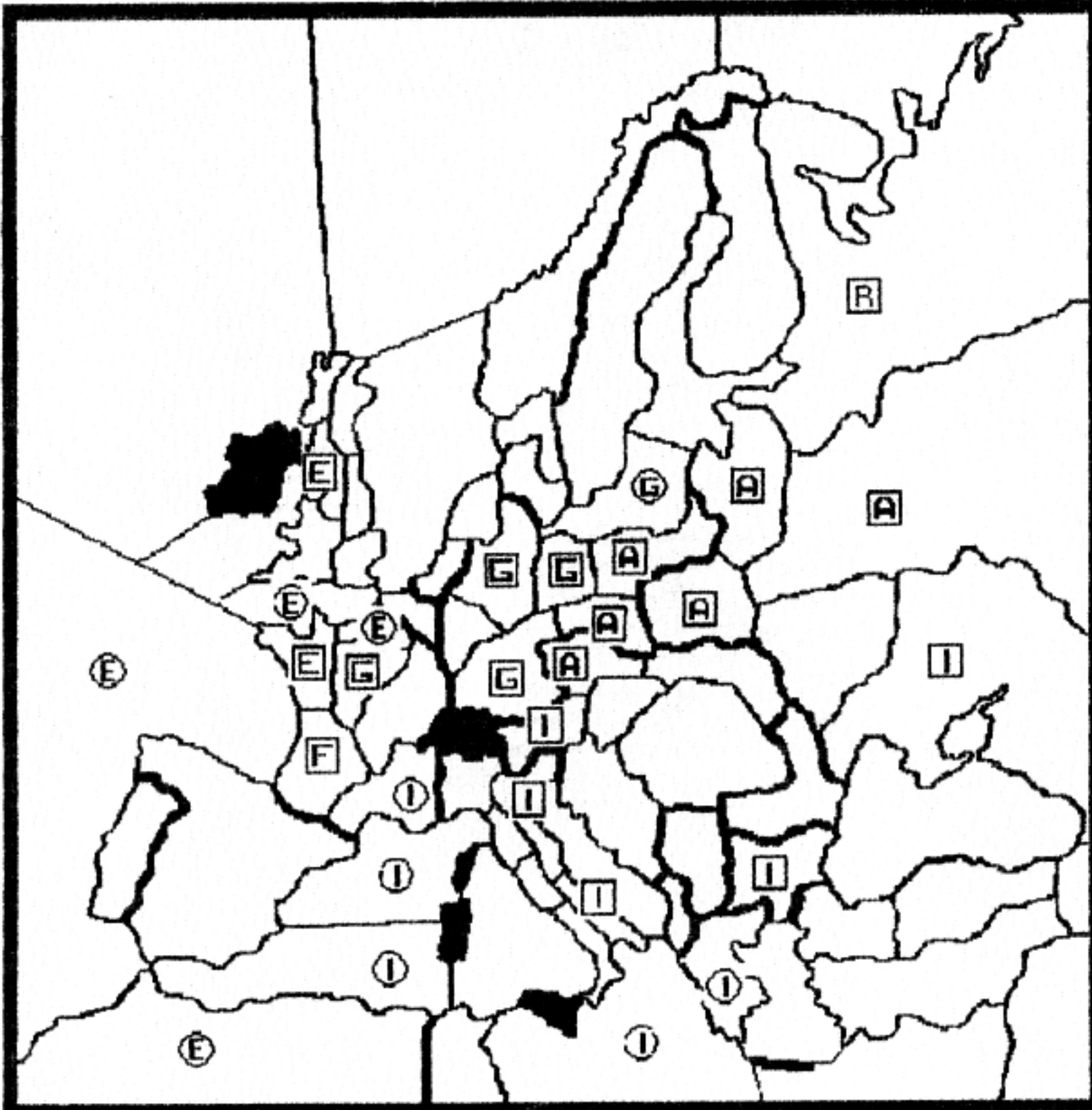
Ed, a regular game, still needs one more player to start.

Fran, may, or may not be a variant, that is totally up to those that want to play. It may be *Perestroika* or *Global Diplomacy*, or some other variant. The choice is made when I have enough request to fill whatever game is requested. Fran will not start until one of the other games has ended.

I need two players for an experimental game of **Wooden Ships & Iron Men**.

Abe - 1989IB

Winter 1907



England (*Lachick*). F Mao, F Ech, F Pic, F Naf, A Bre, A Lvp

Germany (*Armstrong*). F Bal, A Kie, A Ber, A Mun, A Par [No builds received]

Russia (*Civil Disorder*). A Stp

Austria (*Diehl*). A Boh, A Sil, A Pru, A War, A Liv, A Mos

Italy (*Kille*). F Mar, F Gol, F Wme, F Ion, F Gre, A Ven, A Apu, A Ty, A Bul, A Sev [No builds received]

France (*Sweeney*). A Gas

**Due Next:
Spring 1908 Moves**

THE DIPLOMACY TRIBUNE

Press

Ber-Vie: My attack on France yielded Paris and an English ally. You gained nothing by attacking me and you exposed your frontier to the Italian stab. I invite all important spectators to compare the results of each of our strategies and decide for themselves which one is "unhinged." Maybe you ought to think about it too...

Lon-Vie: We all see that you can roll over Jim; how 'bout playing dead so the people still interested have a chance?

Armstrong-Sweeney: Once again, I call upon you to explain why you NMRed out of France in Global Diplomacy after specifically telling me not to replace you. An appology would be appropriate if no good reason exists. Please note that my reason for attacking you in this game was because you proved an unreliable and reckless ally (who never wrote).

GM-Ber: I understand your feelings about the mentioned event, it's hard enough to get players, much less keep them playing, but... Your quarrel is between Bob and yourself and has no connection to the play of this game, so let it rest.

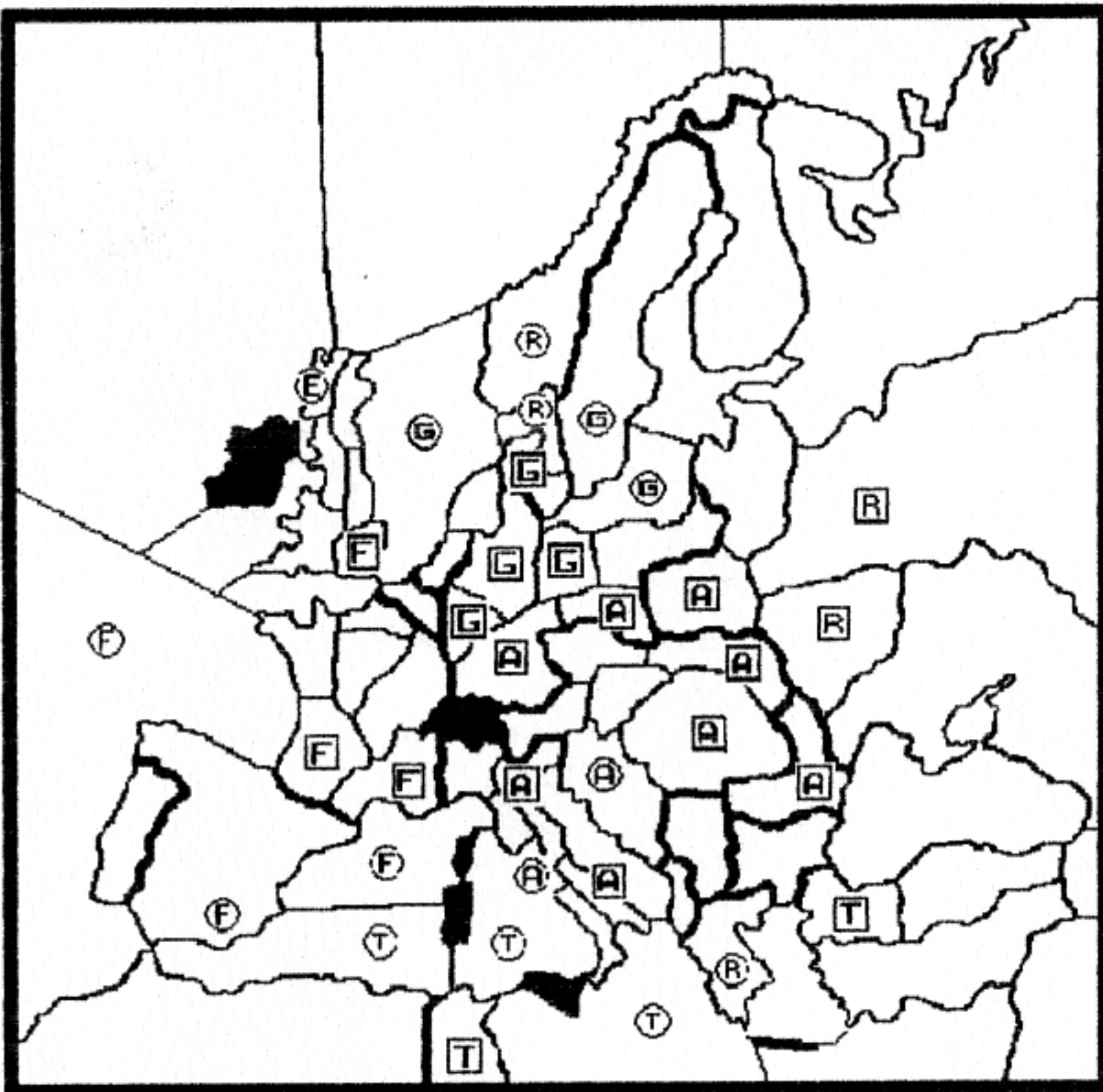
Vie-GM: I didn't (R) to Pie, you did-How can a GM move or remove a players pieces for him when it is the player's option and the player is active in the game!? I'll decide what to do with retreated units!

GM-Vie: Jim, I retreated your army to Pie because that was the only open space it could retreat to. If I had known it would get your panties in such a bunch I would have stalled the game for a month to get your reply. I sincerely appologize.

NOTICE: A concession to Italy has been proposed. Please vote with your Spring Orders.

Carl - 1990HS

Winter 1904



THE DIPLOMACY TRIBUNE

England (*VanDok*): F Cly

Germany (*Burgess*): F Nth, F Swe, F Bal, A Ruh, A Ber, A Den, A Kie

Russia (*Renner*): F Ska, F Gre, A Mos, A Ukr, F Nwy

Turkey (*Armstrong*): F Wme, F Tys, F Ion, A Con, A Tun

Austria (*Johnsen*): F Rom, F Tri, A Ven, A Apu, A Rum, A Gal, A War, A Mun, A Sil, A Bud

France (*Kirk*): F Mao, F Gol, F Spa(sc), A Mar, A Gas, A Lon

Due Next - Spring 1905 Moves

Press

Ger-Aus: Thanks...I was hoping this would work out.

Par-World: My press release "Frog-Sultan" of two issues ago was not intended as an insult to Mr. Renner. France officially apologizes in the event the Czar was offended.

Par-Con: Carl is alive and well; thank you.

Istanbul-Berlin & Paris: My apologies gentlemen. It seems Austria decided he doesn't want to win after all but would rather throw all the cards into your hands. I guess he forgot the basic rule in Diplomacy: First destroy your enemies and THEN stab your allies. No doubt he learned how to play Diplomacy from Bob Sweeney who tries to attack all his neighbors and acts so shocked when he gets mashed on...

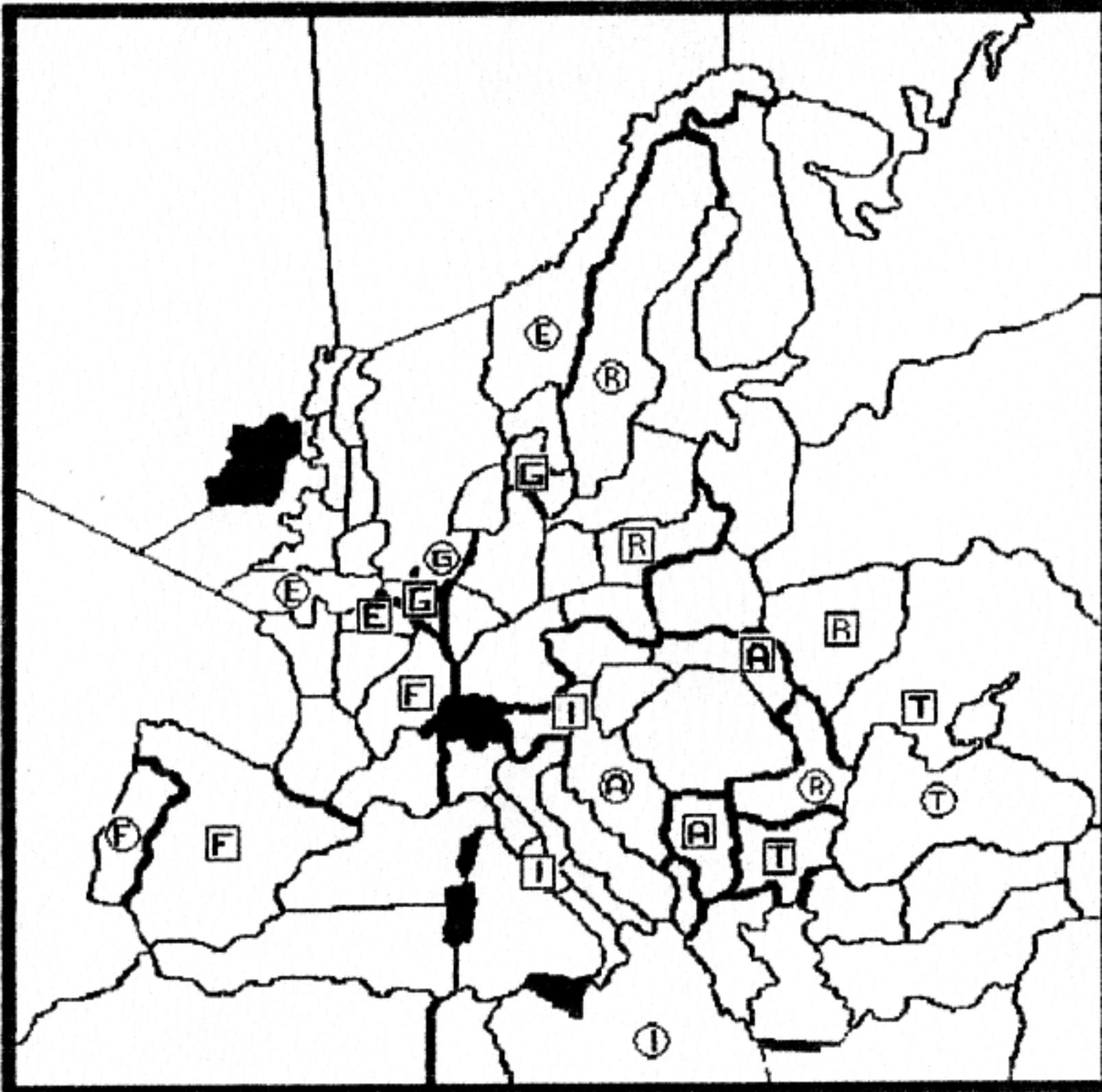
NOTICE: The Concession to ART failed with one vote FOR and two AGAINST.



... and that winter each leader paused to reflect on this new development...

Donna - Gunboat

Fall 1901



Fall 1901:

England:

A Wal-Pic, F Ech-C A Wal-Pic, F Nth-Nwy

Units: A Pic, F Ech, F Nwy (3)

Cntrs: Lon, Lvp, Edi, **Nwy** (4) Build 1

Germany:

A Kie-Den, A Ruh-Bel, F Hol-S A Ruh-Bel

Units: A Den, A Bel, F Hol (3)

Cntrs: Ber, Kie, Mun, **Bel**, Den, Hol (6) Build 3

Russia:

F Bot-Swe, A War-Pru, F Sev-Rum,

A Ukr-S F Sev-Rum

Units: F Swe, A Pru, F Rum, A Ukr (4)

Cntrs: War, Mos, Stp, **Rum**, Swe (5) Build 1

Austria:

A Bud-Ser, A Rum-S A Bud-Ser[R>Gal], F Tri-Ven

Units: A Ser, A Gal, F Tri (3)

Cntrs: Vie, Bud, Tri, **Ser** (4) Build 1

Turkey:

A Bul-Gre, A Arm-Sev, F Ank-Bla

Units: A Bul, A Sev, F Bla (3)

Cntrs: Con, Ank, Smy, **Sev** ^{BUL(5)} ~~(4)~~ Build 2

Italy:

A Rom-Ven, A Ven-Tyl, E Ion-Gre

Units: A Rom, A Tyl, F Ion (3)

Cntrs: Rom, Nap, Ven (3) No Change

France:

A Bur-Bel, A Mar-Spa, F Mao-Por

Units: A Bur, A Spa, F Por (3)

Cntrs: Mar, Par, Bre, Spa, Por (5) Build 2

THE DIPLOMACY TRIBUNE

Press

Tur-Aus: Talk to me, friend.

Eng-Fra: I'm dreaming of a white Christmas just like the ones we used to know.

Mun-Mos: You're welcome for sure. Sorry about your south.

Eng-Rus: I'll consider the deal to be mutual. I wish you luck in your battles with Turkey.

Tur-GM: I said "Hel", not "Hell"

Rus-Eng: You got a deal, let's stay out of each other's way. I have problems enough as it is.

Eng-Ger: I will leave Belgium alone if you help me in my fight against France.

Rom-Vie: How?

Mun-Lon: Great moves. Are you by any chance Michael Jackson?

Tur-Ita: Go west, young man. Leave my dear friend, the Emperor, alone.

Mun-Par: If you are renting Mun, the rent is expensive.

Rus-Fra: France and Russia are natural allies. Let us keep an eye on Germany together.

Rom-Con: Friends forever...er, at least for now, right?

Due Next - Winter 1901 Adjustments

Due to the over-whelming amount of begging, pleading, & bribing, the Winter Adjustment season has been separated.

Deadline - All Games - April 28th 1991

The 1991 Runestone Poll

ZINE POLL

You may rate any amateur postal or e-mail zine that you've read enough of to rate fairly. This means you've seen (or would have seen if not for delays) *at least* two issues since August 1, 1990. Only North American zines are eligible, but anyone may vote. Rate each zine from 0 (the worst) to 10 (the best)—no fractions, please. Do not rate your own zine. Blanks are for zines I forgot to list.

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|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Abyssinian Prince | <input type="checkbox"/> Disoriented Express | <input type="checkbox"/> Perelandra |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acropolis | <input type="checkbox"/> DMZ | <input type="checkbox"/> Perestroika |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Against the Odds | <input type="checkbox"/> DOGS of War | <input type="checkbox"/> Pilot Light |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alpha & Omega | <input type="checkbox"/> Domer Dip | <input type="checkbox"/> Pirate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Angst United | <input type="checkbox"/> Down at the Mouth | <input type="checkbox"/> The Prince |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Appalachian General | <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Trains | <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ark | <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Protocol | <input type="checkbox"/> Protozoan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Armchair Diplomat | <input type="checkbox"/> Empire | <input type="checkbox"/> Punt Formation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Assassin's Blade | <input type="checkbox"/> The Encounter | <input type="checkbox"/> Rails by Mail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Been There, Done That | <input type="checkbox"/> Excelsior | <input type="checkbox"/> Ramblings by Moonlight |
| <input type="checkbox"/> benzene | <input type="checkbox"/> fast trax | <input type="checkbox"/> Rebel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blade Wars | <input type="checkbox"/> The Gamer's Zine | <input type="checkbox"/> Retaliation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boast | <input type="checkbox"/> Get Them Dots Now! | <input type="checkbox"/> So I Lied |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Boob Report | <input type="checkbox"/> Gonzo Rails | <input type="checkbox"/> Son of Flip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buckeye Rail Gazette | <input type="checkbox"/> Graustark | <input type="checkbox"/> Starwood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Canadian Diplomat | <input type="checkbox"/> Heroes of Olympus | <input type="checkbox"/> The Swiss Observer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carolina Cmd & Cmnty | <input type="checkbox"/> The Home Office | <input type="checkbox"/> The Tactful Assassin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caveat Emptor | <input type="checkbox"/> Hoodwink | <input type="checkbox"/> Ter-ran |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cheesecake | <input type="checkbox"/> Kathy's Korner | <input type="checkbox"/> This Train... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comrades in Arms | <input type="checkbox"/> Kempelen's Turk | <input type="checkbox"/> Thorazeen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concordia | <input type="checkbox"/> Lemon Curry | <input type="checkbox"/> Twains |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Continuing Crisis | <input type="checkbox"/> Mad Dog | <input type="checkbox"/> Tyromania |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Costaguana | <input type="checkbox"/> Maniac's Paradise | <input type="checkbox"/> Upstart |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Countermeasures | <input type="checkbox"/> Massacre by Treachery | <input type="checkbox"/> Vertigo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crimson Sky | <input type="checkbox"/> The Megadiplomat | <input type="checkbox"/> Victims Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ...David Watts | <input type="checkbox"/> Megalomaniac | <input type="checkbox"/> War Fair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dipadeedoodahl | <input type="checkbox"/> The Messenger | <input type="checkbox"/> Well, Martha... |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diplodocus | <input type="checkbox"/> The Metadiplomat | <input type="checkbox"/> White House Mania |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diplomacy Digest | <input type="checkbox"/> Moiré | <input type="checkbox"/> Why Me? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diplomacy Downs | <input type="checkbox"/> Niccolo | <input type="checkbox"/> The Zine Register |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diplomacy Tribune | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flame | <input type="checkbox"/> BOOT HILL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diplomacy World | <input type="checkbox"/> Not New York | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diplomag | <input type="checkbox"/> Ohio Acres | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dippy | <input type="checkbox"/> Orphan Son | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dippy Doings | <input type="checkbox"/> ...Pedro... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disease City | <input type="checkbox"/> Penguin Dip | <input type="checkbox"/> |

ADVERTISEMENT

For copies of the main lists (zines, subzines, and GMs), check here and enclose 50 cents, two 29 cent U.S. stamps, or an issue of your zine in which you publish a ballot. For the Poll publication, check here and enclose a donation of \$5.00 or more. Last year's publication was 100 pages long. It contained main lists, articles, statistical analysis, and everything else you'd want to know! Thanks for your donations; they really help.

SUBZINE POLL

A subzine is a regular section of a zine which is (a) edited by someone other than the zine editor(s), or (b) edited by the zine editor(s), but devoted to a specific hobby service. Any subzine of a North American zine is eligible. The other instructions are the same as those for the Zine Poll.

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|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asterion | <input type="checkbox"/> Poll Talk | <input type="checkbox"/> Top Knife |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Blind Wars | <input type="checkbox"/> The Popular Front | <input type="checkbox"/> The Unabashed Bo(t) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CDO News | <input type="checkbox"/> Reginald Maudling... | <input type="checkbox"/> The Unzine Voice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIDOES | <input type="checkbox"/> Ring Finger in Rear | <input type="checkbox"/> War Correspondant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Eccentric Diplomat | <input type="checkbox"/> Seriously Folks | <input type="checkbox"/> Water on the Knee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extremism in Defense... | <input type="checkbox"/> Shut Up Jack!!! | <input type="checkbox"/> The Whipping Post |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The First Negotiator | <input type="checkbox"/> Slappy's Sports Section | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foot in Mouth | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Beat | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It's Me Again | <input type="checkbox"/> Standard Deviation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Karmel's Panorama | <input type="checkbox"/> Subwithnoname | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notes from the Bunker | <input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Rails | <input type="checkbox"/> |

GM POLL

You may rate any GM under whom you played any postal or e-mail game since August 1, 1990 for long enough to assess his or her competence. Only North American GMs are eligible, but anyone may vote. List GMs alphabetically by name (not zine). Rate each GM from 0 (the worst) to 10 (the best)—no fractions, please. GMs may not rate themselves.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Send this ballot to **Eric Brosius, 41 Hayward St., Milford, MA 01757.**

You have until June 30, 1991 to vote, but please vote early.

Indicate one way in which you take part in the North American postal or e-mail gaming hobby (sub to zine XXX, play in game 1989YY, etc.) _____

Signature _____ (If I can't tell who you are or your ballot isn't signed, it may not be counted!)

Print your name neatly _____

Check here if you do not want your name on the list of voters.

RUNESTONE POLL CONTEST

Guess the Zine Poll winner—this year's prize is a travel Diplomacy board with magnetic pieces. To be eligible you must vote in the Poll and correctly guess the winning zine; I will pick the contest winner at random from the set of eligible entrants. The names of the winner and any other eligible entrants will be published in the Poll publication.

To enter, print your address neatly: _____

The zine you think will win: _____