

Une fois encore, a la plage, mes chers amis, une fois encore! No wonder Shakespeare wrote in English, and so do I you lucky things! Who am I?

Brendan Whyte of

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I am now on email too, until November at bwhite@stat.auckland.ac.nz

Yes, they have spelt my name wrong (why? Whyte must be one of those colonial oppressor names that are now so pas a la mode. I was offered Mugabe, and Goldberg-Sasakawa, but declined). Yes, I am suing for emotional damages and libel. No, their lawyers aren't taking me seriously.

This is the latest lovingly-prepared issue of 'Damn the consequences', brought to you by the letters B, O and the number 1.609

I am tutoring again this semester, and doing 3 batches of marking which adds up to nearly 75hrs/fortnight. That is their definition of full time, and I am not allowed to work more at uni. I tutor a School Cert. Maths kid one night a week. I did the job at Eden Park for the test. We thrashed South Africa, those nasty mauling 'boks! I was lucky to get posted to bar work, not serving food, so I got to handle cash (mmm!) as we served overpriced wine, beer and softdrinks to corporate parties in a large marquee on the 2nd field. Luckily the weather was fine, or the grass floor would have been mush! They had a neat bottle opener for the wine, mounted on a wooden frame. It operates like a howitzer breech. You put your foot on the frame to hold it, place the top of the bottle into the bottom of the opener, and pull the large handle down and up with all your strength. The corkscrew is self-twisting (like those ratchet screwdrivers) and goes into the cork through the plastic bottle - top-covering and pulls the cork out, expelling it on the handle upstroke like a used shell from a gun (hence the howitzer analogy. Doing 5 crates of wine on it took little time, but the effort required is a little less genteel than a standard opener.

I had an interview with Australian-Pacific Tours (a 70yr old luxury bus tour group) for a tour operator position, but didn't get to round 2. I was offered a job with the NZ Demography unit in Christchurch, but had to make my mind up when they rang me (I was in the shower) Friday night. As I want to do a PhD preferably, I wanted to wait until I knew I wasn't getting funding for Melbourne (the deadlines are 1 Oct so I would know by mid-Oct), but the chap wanted a yes or no immediately. I had been offered a job with them in 1995, and turned it down to go to the US, so I guess they doubted my integrity in applying again. It was a tough choice, but I'll hang out for the PhD... I also have an upcoming interview for a management position with Singapore Airlines in Singapore. An interview and a 2.5 hour exam take place in early Sept. here in Auckland. Whew!

Several of you have enquired about my fingers and Mr Crandlemire suggested I use paper when I wiped! The fingers were topped by the asphalt I landed on, but despite lots of blood, were only fleshwounds, and soon healed. Nonetheless, as one uses one's fingertips to reach those important places and type zines, I was a trifle inconvenienced for a couple of days. As were those sharing bathroom facilities with me.

The other weekend, John's father Peter took me and several other tramping club members to Little Huia on the Manukau Harbour, on the edge of the Waitakere Ranges. From here the coast road crosses a ford (the footpath goes over a 6foot high bridge, while the cars swim!) and goes inland before ending at Whatipu at Manukau Heads. Overshadowing Little Huia is Jackie's Peak, a liberty-cap shaped hill, privately owned, that Peter had permission to ascend. It's name in Maori translates as Thrusting Penis, apparently. It's only 148m high, but you climb it from sea level, and the views over the harbour are fabulous. Manukau Harbour is the 3rd largest in the country at 390 sq km, and flows out through a narrow head with a treacherous bar. Nearby Cornwallis Point has a memorial to the 185 people drowned when HMS Orpheus was wrecked upon it in 1863. Peter knew of someone who canoed to Huia for supplies for his bach, and had to go at exactly mid tide, or he'd either get swept out to sea, or into the huge harbour by the tide racing through the mile-wide heads.

From this viewpoint, we followed a farmtrack inland along a spur behind the peak, crossing the road to Whatipu and heading across a field of cattle. These large shaggy Anguses came gallumphing after us, and as the paddock sloped down to a stream, we found the chasing cows couldn't stop easily on the steep slope and almost fell over each other, tripping up. That's quite a weight to be hit with, a cattle avalanche! But by cutting straight down the slope, not along the terraces made by the cattle, we escaped them. Across the stream and an electric fence, we found a flat track leading up beside the stream, probably an old tramline for logging, due to its grading. A Peter Hutton trip is never on tracks though, especially flat ones, so we went straight up, through gorse and over fences into the bush, bushcrashing our way up a quite steep and thickly forested spur, until we made the ridgeline. Once there, a short walk to the end of the ridge through more gorse yielded a knoll with 3 sheer sides with good views back over whence we'd come. Then after lunch, on up the ridge, picking our way around thickets of cuttygrass and bracken and gorse. We eventually found an overgrown trail, an 'unofficial trail' according to the Regional Council, whom Peter had written to for permission to bushcrash. This opened out onto the short touristy metalled track to the summit of Mt Donald MacLean. Here are 2 platforms to view the heads to the SW and Auckland to the NE. The carpark is only 5mins down this trail. The latest ARC map of the Waitakeres, while devoid of contours(!!) does show the regional park boundaries, and Bob Usher, father of another friend, knows almost everyone who owns private property in or around the park. There is a paper road to a property to the West of the summit, as small lot, an acre or 2, with a bach on it that has been vandalised in rather gross ways by local petrolheads and dopies. Typical Westie vandalism. Many tracks criss-cross the Waitakere, and several pass close to this property, which is not fenced or otherwise marked apart from on this one map (the building is the dot at 471641, NZMS 260 sheet Q11 Waitakere). As it is so obvious from the Mt's viewing platforms, it's no wonder it got vandalised. The owner is overseas apparently. Some architect chappie. It was only a car-case hut anyway, but a

shame to be so befuddled. Nearby must have been a scout exercise, because we stumbled upon 5 or 6 bivouacs in the bush along the trail, some good, others with flat roofs! They were made from bracken and fern, but not the plentiful Nikau fronds which are much better at letting water run off I'd have thought. Anyway, Donald MacLean is 360m, and although reachable by wheelchair from the carpark, up a mile long unsealed and steep sideroad from the unsealed Whatipu road, we'd climbed it from seallevel in about 3 hours. Between Huia and Little Huia there are other fascinating bluffs to climb, and at Whatipu itself, remnants of the Piha tramway which skirted the coastal cliffs, taking out kauri logs early this century.

Letter Column:

Conrad von Metzke, San Diego

I've done a lot of looking in the 2 local newspapers, and I find that 'theatre' and 'theater' seem to be used interchangeably. The adverts by the film houses usually use '-re' whereas the editorial material does not seem to have a preference. The live performance houses likewise are a mixed bag - on one page of yesterday's rag, I could show you 5 '-re's and 3 '-er's with no apparent pattern as to type of house. I used '-re' because that's the way I spell it.

You're right, I didn't see Hamlet. There is no way on earth I could sit through a 4-hr film. I get far too cramped, so I no longer make the effort. Intervals do little good - for the same reason I long ago gave up the opera and the symphony. Pity.

Angel's Flight in LA - on which I rode several times when I lived there '53-'57 - is indeed the world's shortest railway. Now. But about 6 months ago it was not. There was a line in Augsburg, Germany, c.80m long. It went from one building of the Augsburg slaughterhouse to another building directly across a narrow city street. It was phased out early this year as superfluous - there's no longer any traffic in the street, as it's been bypassed by construction elsewhere. This is from Ralph Laumen who lives there and sent me a news article on the ceremony marking the last trip on the line. On the other hand, unlike Angel's Flight, Augsburg never carried passengers. On another hand, angel's Flight, unlike Augsburg, never carried freight. Unless you class passengers' luggage as freight.

So Brandon Clarke doesn't like various ethnic groups, but has/had a Samoan girlfriend? Ok, makes sense. Somewhat akin to my mother-in-law who dislikes Jews but married one - and for some reason he went for it. He even agreed to change his name so it wouldn't look Jewish, from Kaplan to Karlan! Says more about him than about her actually. Well, anyway, at least Brandon is an honest and forthright bigot, though I confess I do see evidence of the 'some of my best friends are niggers' syndrome at work here.

Well, some of mine are, so what syndrome might that be exactly? Some of my friends and relatives are NZers, but that doesn't mean I love their NZ accents, or eating habits, or political views...

Theatre is the only form over here. Does SD not have symphonies/opera in the park-type-concerts like here, Sydney and elsewhere? Christiane and I rode Angel's Flight mid-96, after catching the subway to downtown LA (all 2 miles of subway extant then!) from the Archbishop of Canterbury's mass at the LA Convention Centre. It's a neat ride, but slow and really only a gimmick, considering the flight of stairs next to it gets you up or down faster. A covered escalator would be more practical. But it's a needed tourist attraction for an otherwise grotty downtown area. Power to the People Mover!

David Addison, Australia

Question on Vain Rats, how will powers be assigned? I assume preference with a random draw for ties, I also assume countries will be assigned first.

I had just thought of assigning countries by preference, and powers totally randomly, but as you and Greg both queried this, maybe I'll get a preference list of both from you (where power choices are tied to your country preferences), and work it from there. Otherwise it requires 2 mailings to let you know your countries, and then assign powers!

Tramping: New Zealander trampers are amazing; they can spend days in the wilderness with only a bag of dried fruit and a change of underwear in their backpack. Then they come home without using either of them. Now I have the Kiwi-bashing out of my system (the rugby made me do it) we can turn to other matters. More Hamlet: I've heard tell that the short version is still good cinema, though I haven't seen it and thus can't compare, so it might be worth seeing if only to get an impression of the intended big screen feel. There is very little countryside (Danish or otherwise) to be seen. Most scenes are indoors, 2 crux outdoor scenes (Ophelia's funeral, Hamlet's first vision of his father) are filmed on sets (adding to what is a very theatrical production). The one scene where grand sweeping vistas are to be spotted occurs as Hamlet is heading off to exile and runs into the Norwegian army. A nice grand sweeping bit of cinematographic wanking showing some rather flat countryside.

Rosencrantz etc: concerning Stoppard's play and whether I've seen it, yes and no. I've never seen it theatrically (just missed a recent season dammit), I've seen the film though, and it ranks as one of my top 5 bits of cinema (based on dialogue alone, it's probably my favourite). Although most of their (R&G's) discussions do nothing in terms of plot (what plot?) it seems Stoppard has really captured the essence of Shakespeare's writing

(his comedy anyway), that being a strong wit and a great deal of word play. The game of questions, enacted as a tennis match, had me bent double the first time I saw it.

Finally, my web site, 'The Depository' can be found at <http://flame.ay.com.au/~armrh/>!

The depository is a RPG site, providing downloads and soon on-line versions, of modules, systems and whatever other useful stuff comes to mind. Currently I'm looking for people who want to contribute, as the pickings are fairly slim at present. I'm not just after RPG material, being a gamer, not just an RPGer, I'm after gaming stuff anyone wants to submit (though anything to do with GW or any ccg will be looked at 2 or 3 times before being ceremoniously burnt) [huzzah!!! Ed.] as I am hoping to eventually have several pages each relating to a different part of the hobby.

I too loved R&G. Have you seen Stoppard's more recent work 'Arcadia'? That was on in Auckland at the Uni theatre for a short season, and is about maths and fractals and such. Brilliant again, especially as I understand the maths, and it's the first reference to Fermat's Last Theorem I've found in literature! I've given up Shakespeare momentarily for Hitchcock, having seen every one of the ones available at my local video stores. I have printed his oeuvres de film from the net, and am trying to find the lesser known ones to watch. Vertigo was quite good, the psychotic effects are a hoot, but Rope was one of the best, and Rear window too. Why he James Stewart's character went for the girl he did in Vertigo, I can't understand, his designer ex-girlfriend with the cantilevered bra was much more babe-licious!

Tim Lurz, Taiwanese immigration source

The most racist country is Korea, hands down. They hate everybody! The problems with immigration into NZ are squarely on NZ's shoulders. The immigration fee (I don't remember exactly, 50,000NZ or US?) is... absolutely nothing. That is pocket change. I don't know anyone in Taiwan who can't throw that on the table without batting an eyelid. If your government were to add another zero, then at least people would stop and think first about immigrating. Stop giving the questions in advance to the English interview for the visa. Anyone can memorise the answers in advance. Most people who emigrate really don't emigrate. They get residency and then come back to Taiwan to work, leaving the kids in school in the new country.

You neglected an important angle to immigration to NZ. How do YOU take advantage of it? I know of one girl paid 2500US/month plus free food and housing to baby-sit parachute kids in NZ. I know of another who had her college tuition paid for, along with 20 000 US plus free food and housing in exchange for baby-sitting a couple of parachute kids. I get paid anywhere from 25-30US/hr tax free to teach privately at my home. I could teach 12hr/day, 7d/week if I wanted. Most of them are people wanting to emigrate.

Taiwan is a great place to live. I've been here 9 years and love it. Most foreigners I know think the same. I have something I could never really get back home... freedom. I work when I want to. The money I make is mine to spend, the govt doesn't take a 30% cut as the US govt does. I've the option of making \$1000/month and still have enough to drink and whore around. I also have the option of adding a zero to that 1000. It all comes down to me. I have opportunity. I am a marketing consultant for the largest 3D architecture software company in Taiwan, yet I don't have a degree in marketing or computers. But I was given a chance to show them what I could do. I started out as a translator and then was given more responsibility. Would an American company ever give me a chance like that? Taiwan has taught me more than any college marketing or sales degree could ever do. The question is "Are you a buckaroo?" If you want a job &/or opportunity then come out to Taiwan. The key to remember is that success or failure rests on nobody else's shoulders but your own. Can people in general accept that responsibility?

I thought the business immigration scheme did require NZ\$500,000...personally I think it sucks to sell citizenship, as the rich are not the nicest or best people to have here, and are more likely to be after a tax haven, or education for their kids. I want to see the 35000 quota cut to 10,000 with English test marks going up. It appears from a report in Friday's paper, that our man in Taiwan says the English test is seen as anti-Asian in Taiwan, so we're lowering the standard to be seen as open to Asians! In other words, come and flood our schools and social welfare systems whether you know English or not, because we want your money. If they can't speak English then they can't get a decent education, and can't get good jobs and contribute. Instead they take away jobs NZers can and would do, but will work for worse wages and conditions, and thus create unemployment. I visited my old work, Blackwood Gayle recently, and they had lots of Chinese working in the warehouse. Those are jobs our people need, not foreigners! More effort should be made to keep immigrants here. No child under 16 (preferably 18) should be left here, and absentee ownership of property should also be illegal. There are enough homeless here as it is. It seems the new housing estates in (C)Howick don't sell well to non-Asians because the silly 2-storey glass lobbies they have are a devil to keep warm in winter, and the small sections have no grass or trees. Thus the immigrants are trying to bring tropical lifestyles to a temperate climate. The Brits had more sense in India. But I am very disturbed by the Minister's recent desire to lower standards to keep up our intake. That isn't policy, and it is pandering to Asians, rather than being, as it should, for our benefit. English native speakers should get preference when they want to come here, as they adapt better to the culture and lifestyle and know the laws. They don't get isolated, and turn to crime as Asian do with gang and extortion involvement. They don't create racial tension or expect motorways instead of buses. If native English speakers happen to be non-Asian, so be it. I bet Taiwan's

immigration policy isn't pro-Asian either (apart from Filipino maids). With no reciprocity, we risk losing our jobs and environment and resources to groups who will leave when they have stripped us. It is our gov't's problem, but they do nothing but worsen it.

If Taiwan is such a great place to live, why is pollution so bad, corruption rife, and most resources stripped (fish, forests etc.)? Why are they emigrating? The 30% cut makes the US a better place because of the government regulation of the bad. The Taiwanese girl we had here couldn't believe we swam in the sea, and we almost had to throw her in the water. In Taipei she said it was so polluted nobody swam. The idea of growing your own fruit and playing football in the backyard were also foreign to her. She missed them when she went back home, along with stars, birds, trees...But I must come over and visit her and you sometime and see it for myself. I certainly want to ride the east coast railway! Send me any job vacancies. With all the appalling translations on Taiwanese plasticana and packaging, nearly everyone must need a proof-reader with native language skills...?

Brad Martin, W.Australia

good debate you stirred up! Thanks for the listing of the Official History of NZ in WW2. Shame about the Govt Bookshop being sold off. Is there any gov't institution secure from privatisation? [No. The P.O. looks to be next, and superannuation is having a good try] From a consumer perspective, it is evident that private enterprise pricing is a lot higher than gov't. The prices you sent are far too high for me. Anyway, the list is still useful - I will check out the local 2nd hand bookshops. Looked around for an Australia Rail Atlas, but no luck. Found one for UK, but only modern lines.

Your Kiwi subbers seem a bit ignorant of the email network. 2 WF subbers - Berry Renken in the Netherlands and Andy Turner in Darwin run email dip games.

Your copies of Pitt's orders for last ish arrived the day I finished the zine! The vols of the NZ History are expensive, but \$30 for the 3 documents volumes is quite good. Try buying any 3 hardback books for that today. Privatisation puts prices up for sure, and therefore results in lesser use of services. Like education, hospitals/dentists, and so on, requiring more expensive treatments by the gov't rump later (dole, surgery...). The argument goes that the private sector can price items realistically. Bollocks. It lumps all costs it doesn't want to consider back on the taxpayer. Eg the gov't used to keep the west Coast coal mines going for employment reasons, to ensure a healthy West coast economy. When it closed them, whole towns died, and crime and despair really hurt. Coal is no cheaper, yet we now have to pay for policing, legal systems and dole cheques for those miners, and their communities. While a town may die if its resources run out, there is a certain level of strategic necessity in keeping the culture of a place alive (Coasters are a breed apart), and keeping its economy going. Ditto with Telecom. It employed thousands, and sure, service was poor. But we still have the highest rate of international toll rates in the West, and we now have to pay for the social consequences of the unemployment of thousands. Yet Telecom makes huge profits, pays its executives over \$1m each, and acts like it is king. No one should be allowed to earn over \$100 000 in my opinion. It is unnecessary. And for that \$1m, we could employ 40 people at \$25000 each. I refuse to believe that that executive is worth so many others. If he is not prepared to work for \$100 000, an excellent wage here, then why is he in the job? Not because he wants to be. The best employees are those who do a job because it needs doing, not those who only do it for \$1m. The argument is we'd lose him overseas if we didn't pay him so much. Answer: let him go. He obviously has little interest in contributing to the country, so is better off gone, leaving those of us who do want to make a difference.

One industry that does need deregulating is the airline industry. I want to see ONE set of prices, obvious to all. A transparent market is necessary to efficiency and that is one market that is opaquer than a large opaque thing that you can't even see through. That, and tobacco, which needs regulating more. Phasing out in fact. It sucks the way it is regulated here, so the companies try and sell their cancers to the poor, and then cry free trade if a gov't (like Thailand's) tries to keep them out.

Robert Stimmel, Tuscon, Az.

Here's an easy question, what's the largest country entirely within Europe? On page 6 [wrt the dip problems of Mr Clarke] I believe the A Boh-Tyr failed, but I no longer have the rules book. It was blocked by A Ven-Tyr, but if A Tyr-Ven had succeeded then A Boh-Tyr would too. Weather is interesting during monsoon season. TV has had 2 flash-flood warnings in past few minutes (4:30pm). Anyhow it's mostly a road warning. There have also been dust storm and severe thunderstorm warnings this week for SE Az.

I lived NW of that Bunker Hill (LA) area in '63-'66. Angel's Flight was working, but there were many vacant areas in Bunker hill area. I believe they now have skyscrapers. That flood covers much of SE Az until 9pm.

It depends on how you define Europe: does it stop at the former USSR boundary, or the new Russian one, or go all the way to the Urals? I guess it is Ukraine, off the top of my head.

Is there anywhere you haven't lived Robert?!!!!

As to Brandon's poser, I see the problem. Does Ven-Tyr stand off Tyr-Ven or Boh-Tyr or both? If Tyr-Ven, then Tyr is then hit and dislodged by Boh. If boh, then Tyr can't be dislodged, it is a beleaguered garrison. If both, again no one moves. Ven and Tyr CAN'T change places. Thus the only options are Boh-Tyr is stood off or it isn't. Moves are simultaneous. Only when support is cut do moves get changed within the adjudication, in that case to

hold orders. So while Ven and Tyr can't change places, and neither will succeed against the other, does this negate their orders, one cancelling the other, changing them to hold orders? I'm not sure. Mathematically, I want to say yes, thus Ven H, Tyr H and Boh hits Tyr with 2 strength and dislodges Tyr. But gamewise, no. Ven bounces Boh, 2 all, and Tyr is caught in the middle, unable to get to Ven. If Tyr had tried to move with the same strengths elsewhere, he would be out of Tyr, and Ven with 2 and Boh with 3 fighting for Tyr make the result obvious: Boh gets in. Therefore should it matter where Tyr attempts to move? Does the fact that he tries to go to Ven make such a difference, even without the question of Mun, which is really a red herring in this situation. The real question is how to resolve the overall situation of Ven vs Boh and vs. Tyr. Munich's presence or not is irrelevant. I would therefore now decide that no one moves, as it is the safer option. Ven's move is not cancelled out by Tyr's opposite counter-move. Thus Ven can stop Tyr AND hold off Boh, if Boh has only one support too. Can some other GM's and players comment on this?

Richard Gill, E.Australia

My apologies for being slack, work has been busy and I've been sinking a lot of time into football, both as a player and a club official. Now that I've missed Queensland selection (sob) I can get back into other things.

Glad to see you back in the game. What code? Football means different things to different people, especially in Australia with at least 4 versions of it, not counting any US 'foot'ball or Gaelic footy clubs... May I ask how old you and David and Greg are? I'm never sure if I'm dealing with highschool kids or senior cits (like Robert). What club do you play for? How big are interstate sports contests in Aussie? They have 5 nations in the UK, and we have the provincial rugby teams here (which are less provincial and more like US 'city'teams every year). Do most codes have state level teams with interstate contests, or is it mainly club based, like the ARL, and 'Super'league?

Pitt Crandlemire, Boston, Massachusetts.

Lessee... I'll have some Hawaiian delights, squid rings, and a thick shake. I already have the Big Dddy's Special [you're telling me! Ed.] . What's delivery on that? Sorry to hear of the bike accident. I'm having a hard time figuring [not fingering then? Ed.] (and I am most definitely "not" trying to picture this) why your injury is interfering with wiping your bum. In the States we use toilet paper for that... [yeah, yeah...]. What's your current status on The Massacre? Did you win yet?

I entered the Independence Day Mini Massacre after my trophy-level showing in the St Valentine's Day one. But this was a killer, and I did quite badly. I got 27/40 correct I think. I have had the answers back, then they allow for protests and send out the placings and trophies. They admitted this one was a bugger, but I did well in some places and really screwed up in others. It was quite tricky. You, and another character travel together for the first legs, then you go east and he goes west at a certain point. From there, all the instructions must be followed for both of you. If it says turn right, you each do at the place specified. There is one set of instructions, but you have to track both of you simultaneously, as sometimes you cross each others paths. It got really confusing. I didn't follow the rules too well. You get stuck and know you are wrong but can't figure out where it happened until the answers come, and it is obvious. You fell so foolish, as the rules are simple (1page). It's a lot of fun. The biggest pain was a bonus question (it didn't count towards scoring) that asked you to find the distance travelled while decelerating between 2 junctions. The distance was greater than that between the junctions, so if you didn't do the calculation, you turned at the junction as was correct to do. If you did the calculation, you realised you travelled past the junction, and were then going on looking for the next one that obeyed the instructions for where to turn, but there wasn't one, thus, you were stuck in the middle of the game with no way out! There were some things man was not meant to know! That threw me. I turned at the junction anyway, 'cos I don't trust any American's maths (!) but it left me unsure of whether I was in the right place or not. I was, but it did affect my game.

About now they're taking entries for the 18th Circumglobal Trophy Dash, raced over maps of the world, and the places therein. Write to Trophy Dash, P.O. Box 53, La Canada, Ca 91012, USA.

By the way, the takeaway menu is real, and sent to me by Alex H in Dunedin. Don't try ringing it from Auckland or elsewhere! What items do you Americans find different, besides the fried Moro (Mars) bar? Do you know what an Hawaiian Burger is? Chips? Thickshakes?

Alex Hood, Dunkest Dunedin

Can I carry over my vp in Sopwith to the new game? Otherwise how do you become an ace? Perhaps the number of points should be lowered.

As the first Sopwith game (Albatross) was run on a non-stop basis rather than getting last-man-standing of the original six, I will not count that towards vp. Thus you need a new pilot for Brequet, and subsequent games. No pilot can fly in 2 games simultaneously. You need 2 pilots for 2 games at once. Vps can be carried over once a pilot wins a game. Then he can go into the next with those points. BUT only the winner. Those shot down, like your good Von Richtofen, die, and take their points with them. You need 40pts to be an ace from memory. 5pts per

enemy shot down and 1pt per hit on one. Thus you need to do lots of damage to your 5 enemies in one game, let them recoup at their airfields and blast them again. Toy with them, cat and mouse-like. Then, my son, you can become an ace in a game. But if you survive a game, you can play in another after that with the same pilot and his vp. Sort of like Conkers. Ok? But as the first game was unusual, I won't count vps there. But Brequet and subsequent games, and a 2nd is nearly full, will count.

Greg White, E. Australia also

Do you intend to allocate Vain Rats powers at random or use the draft method?

I answered this from David above. For speed, list countries, and for each country, the powers in preference you want as that country. Conflicts resolved by me. Basically, I'll sort out the countries first, and then based upon your preferences for powers as each country, I'll allocate powers.

Eg Eng (power combo a, power combo b), Fra (power combo c), Aus (power combo a, power combo g). Etc.

Brandon Clarke, Auckland (sort of)

The second meeting of the Auckland Dip Club fell flat on its face with last minute withdrawals. Thanks to Andrew Ward who drove Browns Bay to Howick (40km) to find that only 4 people turned up. Bevyn turned up too, but evidently we didn't hear him knocking, and he went home. We'll try again in the first week of Sept. I'll keep you posted.

On a completely different track, I've started playing sopwith by email with some people I know. Turns run daily, and I type up a turn report called 'The Verdict' mailing it out each night, along with a colour bit map of the board. We are playing it as open ended, with a queue of pilots to take over as others crash or are shot down. There are thus a few house rules. Currently 6 aloft and 3 in line. Anyone interested in dabbling drop me a line (bjc@stevensons.co.nz)

are you interested in running or letting me run, a blind payola game? I can email you the rules if you're not familiar with it, and some articles. You could include these in DiC.

Certainly send me the bumf, I've never heard of it. Anything is better than the pyramid schemes trying not to be that clog my email along with Pamela's secret Sex Video. I'd rather have a Victoria's secret catalogue. Any of you Yanks have a spare clean copy? ;-) Seriously, sorry to hear about the Dip meeting. Hope it goes better next time. Good on Andrew for being so keen. Well done that man! Brandon also asked me on the phone about deliberate crashing in Sopwith. Seems some pilots read the rules as saying they lose 5 pts and the enemy gets 5 if the enemy shoots them down. So they deliberately crash/fly off the board, to deny 5pts to the enemy, and keep all their own. This is against the spirit of the rule, and is thus illegal in my opinion. You lose 5 pts if you die in any way. The enemy gets 5 for killing you. Thus flying off the board can be a strategy to avoid 'giving' points to the enemy, but will still hurt you. As you are playing open ended, like Albatross was, vp count whether you die or not, sort of, as there is no last man alive winner situation. Thus it is an important point to make clear. In the closed game, you die=you lose, so there is little point killing yourself except as a strategy as to how to distribute the 5pts others get for killing you. You may fly away from the winning player and let a lesser player shoot you so he gets the points instead. But again, unless you are the winner, points don't count, as they die with the pilot.

David Charlton, Wellington.

Referring to last quiz, do and when last did 4 countries meet at a point. I was intrigued by your answer to this question. I have found a reference in the 'Rough Guide to Zimbabwe-Botswana'.

1996. This guide includes a sketch plan of the Chobe National Park and at the confluence of the Chobe and Zambezi the 4 countries meet at a point. However, when I was in Bechuanaland in the early 60s, it was common knowledge that bechuanaland had a common border, albeit small, perhaps 200-300yards, with Northern Rhodesia. I have come across one atlas, The International atlas, published by Philips, 1994, which shows that common boundary. Other atlases because of their small scale of this area show a merge. Perhaps this matter has been resolved. Unfortunately there is no diplomatic presence by any of the 4 countries in NZ for info on this question.

[Later I recieved this...] I have come across 'The Encyclopaedia of International Boundaries'ed Gideon Biger, 1995. Pp87-91 describing the boundary of Botswana, there is refernce to an unspecified quadripoint between that country and Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe in the Zambesi. The article said that there was controversy on the matter, although the accompanying map does show boundaries meeting at the quadripoint.

Good hunting! I haven't seen this encyclopedia nor am I acquainted with Mr Biger. Somehow I wonder if even a Namibian consul if he did exist here could answer the question. Now the countries are at peace, they have more important things to worry about than whether they meet together in the river or at 2 separate tripoints also in the river. Namibia was originally defined as land on the North bank of the Orange river, vesting the river itself in the RSA. Now, the thalweg is used instead. If anyone is near a consul for any of these 4 countries, could they ask for me? I have no idea of the terrain around the immediate area. It is an intriguing place anyway. Maybe the good people at Guinness know, as the spot was mentioned in the Record Book a few editions ago, but I haven't seen it in recent ones. Does this imply it isn't a quad? Hmm...

MACHIAVELLI Game "Bergamo" Summer 1517

Errata: The Papacy lost its last home centre last turn and so is eliminated. PAP EPA Flore becomes Indep G Flore. Thanks for playing Alex!

The Milanese persuade the French EPA Pavia to go home and plough some fields. Meanwhile the Venetians have similarly coerced the AUS EPF UA. What poorly-motivated troops you both had!

FRA (Martin)	A Piac-Parma
MIL (Hutton)	A Tyrol-Swiss A Savoy C G Savoy EMA Prove-Marse G Genoa-F Genoa A Milan H
VEN (M.Hood)	A Trent-Vicen A Fruil S A Trent-Vicen A Ferra-Padua A Bolog-Pisto F LAGOO-UA F Romag S F LAGOO-UA F Dalma S F LAGOO-UA A Croat-Bosni
TUR (L.Quiding)	NMR! F Ancon H F IS H
AUS (B.Quiding)	A Urbin-Spole <u>A Trevi-Vicen</u> F WGL H F WTS-Sardi F ETS-Tivol <u>F LA S F UA H</u> (nsu)

Retreats:none

Disbands: none

Monies:

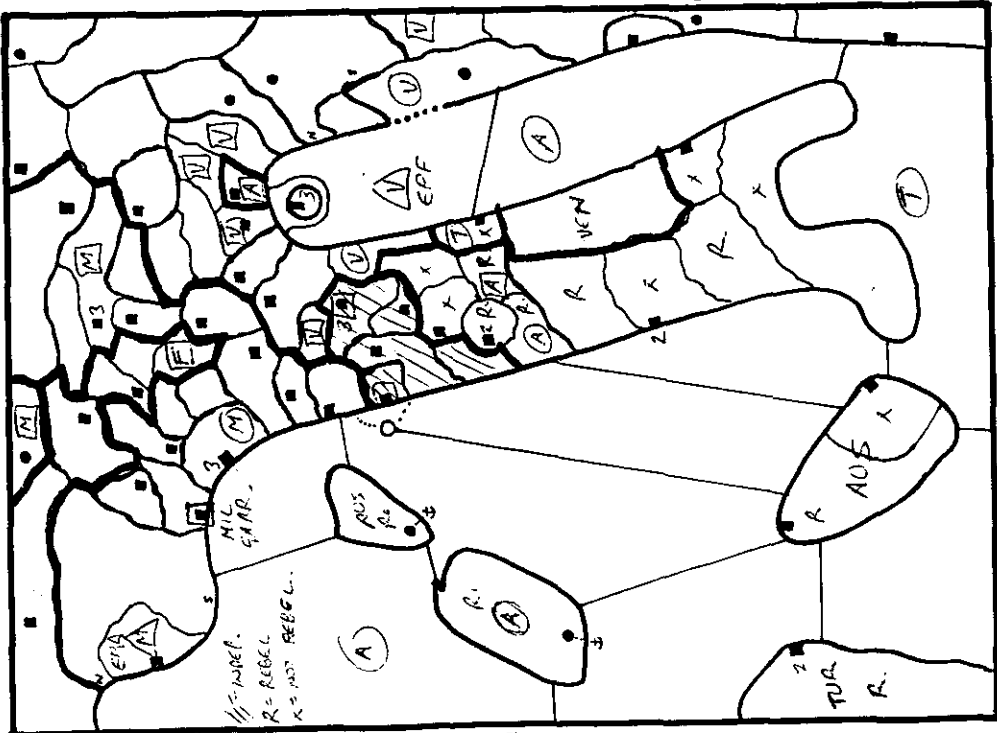
Loans out:

City count: A:5 F:3 M:13 T:1 V:13 Indep:4 Rebel:5 // 44

Press: From Venice: Visiting English actor/playwright Bill Shakespear, in Venice to research his next Italian play after the runaway success of his Veronese tragedy "Romeo + Juliet", reports that the recent decision to raise a highly trained professional fleet in Venice, though it cost large forced loans, has been very popular. Whereas there were only two Venetian fleets against 6 Austrian or Turkish, now at least in the adriatic there is parity, and perhaps soon Bill suggests better than parity. Local students of politics have advised him to stick to writing romantic tragedies rather than spying on shipyards, for his own good, to which he has replied spiritedly that his new play is set in Venice and its working title is "The Moor of Venice".

GM-all: It has been asked what happens if a power with one special unit wants to buy a special unit off another player. The rules are explicit that each player can only have one at a time. I therefore rule that a player with one who buys by bribe another one, will have the new one lose its special status when it changes sides, becoming a normal army, fleet or garrison at the moment of purchase.

GM-all: This is the 1513 scenario. French home centres are Swiss, Avign, Marse & Saluz, (and Prove)



DIPLOMACY Game "Brest" Spring 1906

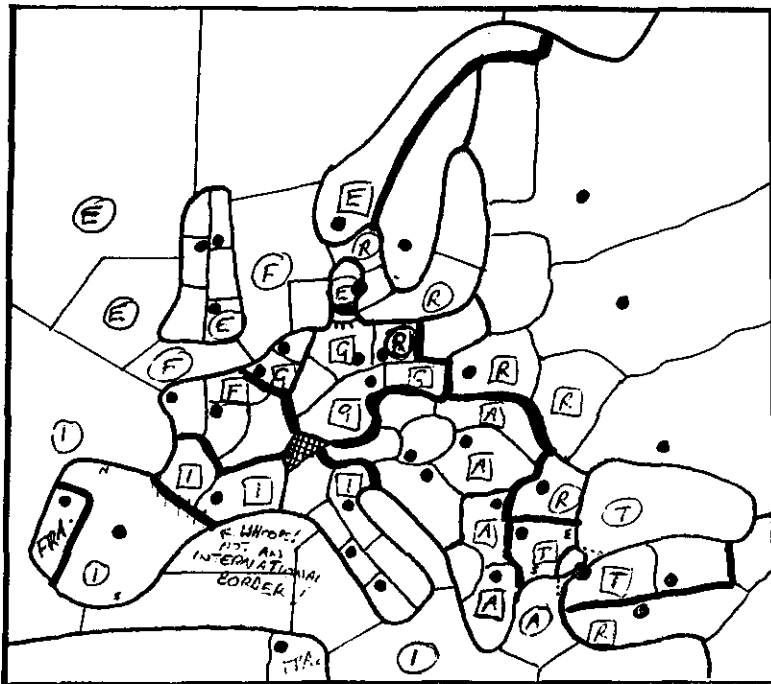
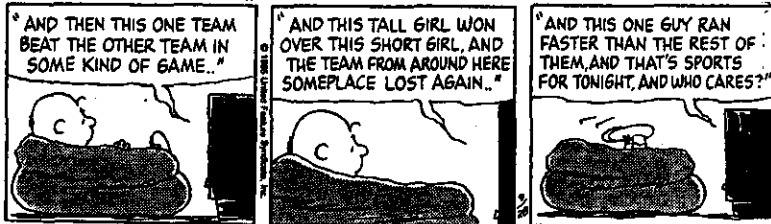
ENG (Gonsalves) NMR! F NAO, IRS, Lon, Den H A Nwy H
 FRA (B. Quiding) F NTH C GER A Bel-Edi(nso) A Pic H F MAO-ENC
 GER (L. Quiding) NMR! A Kie, Bel, Mun, Sil H F Ber H
 ITA (Ward) F WMS-MAO F Spa(sc) S F WMS-MAO A Pie-Mar A Mar-Gas F Nap-ION
 A Ven H
 AUS (Hutton) A Vie-Gal A Bud S A Vie-Gal A Ser-Rum A Gre-Bul F AEG S A Gre-Bul
 RUS (M. Hood) A Smy H F Rum S TUR A Bul H F SKA-NTH F Pru-Ber F BAL S F Pru-Ber
 A Ukr S F Rum H A Gal-War
 TUR (A. Hood) A Bul S A Con H A Con S A Bul H F BLA S A Bul H

Retreats: none

Disbands: GER F Ber(nro/nrp)

Press:Tur-all:All is quiet on the Eastern Front as well. This is because the austrians' throats are being slit while they are sleeping!

WHYTE ON PRO SPORTS :



BANBURY MERTON STREET Round 7 (lowest unduplicated number wins)

Crandlemire, Petrie 1 ; Addison, White 2 ; **B.Quiding 3** ; Charlton, Clarke, A.Hood 4 ; Natrass, Stimmel 5 ; Martin 6.

Name	Pts (system A)	Pts (system B)
Clarke	0+0+0+0+1+1+0=2	0+0+0+0+10/37+11/37+0=0.5676
B.Quiding	0+1+0+0+0+0+1=2	0+7/33+0+0+0+0+11/33=0.5454
Hutton	1+0+1+0+0+0+0=2	8/34+0+4/34+0+0+0+0=0.3529

BRIGHTON AVENUE Round 6 (closest to median of integer entries >0)

Charlton, Crandlemire, 8 ; A.Hood 9 ; **Addison, Petrie, B.Quiding, Stimmel, 10** ; Clarke, Natrass 11 ; Martin, White, 12. So close!!!

Median = 10. David, Mark, Bevyn and Robert get ¼pt each under systems A and B.

Name	Pts (system A)	Pts (system B)	Pts (system C)
B. Quiding	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} + 0 + \frac{1}{4} + 0 + \frac{1}{4} = 1.125$	$\frac{1}{2} * 7/33 + \frac{1}{8} * 8/34 + 0 + \frac{1}{4} * 10/37 + 0 + \frac{1}{4} * 11/33 = 0.2863$	1+1+0+1+0+1=4
A.Hood	0+0+0+½+½+0=1.0	0+0+0+½*10/37+½*11/37+0=0.2837	0+0+0+1+1+0=2(!!!)
Charlton	$0 + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{4} + 0 + \frac{1}{2} + 0 = 0.875$	$0 + \frac{1}{8} * 8/34 + \frac{1}{4} * 7/34 + 0 + \frac{1}{2} * 11/37 + 0 = 0.2295$	0+1+1+0+1+0=3
Addison	$0 + 0 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + 0 + 0 = 0.75$	$0 + 0 + \frac{1}{4} * 7/34 + \frac{1}{4} * 10/37 + 0 + \frac{1}{4} * 11/33 = 0.2023$	0+0+1+1+0+1=3
Martin	$0 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + 0 + 0 + 0 = 0.75$	$0 + \frac{1}{2} * 8/34 + \frac{1}{4} * 7/34 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 0.1691$	0+1+1+0+0+0=2
Crandlemire	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 0.625$	$\frac{1}{2} * 7/33 + \frac{1}{8} * 8/34 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 0.1355$	1+1+0+0+0+0=2
Hutton	$0 + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{4} + 0 + 0 + 0 = 0.375$	$0 + \frac{1}{8} * 8/34 + \frac{1}{4} * 7/34 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 0.0809(!!!)$	0+1+1+0+0+0=2
Petrie	$0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + \frac{1}{4} = 0.25$	$0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + \frac{1}{4} * 11/33 = 0.0833$	0+0+0+0+0+1=1
Stimmel	$0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + \frac{1}{4} = 0.25$	$0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + \frac{1}{4} * 11/33 = 0.0833$	0+0+0+0+0+1=1

BONNIE BRAE Round 6 (closest to mean of integer entries 0<x<1000)

B.Quiding 145 ; White 152 ; Addison 153 ; A.Hood 160 ; Crandlemire 174 ; Natrass 187 ; Stimmel 190 ; Clarke 197 ; **Charlton 225** ; Martin, Petrie 999.

Mean = 325.54 David leaps to the top of the board!

Name	Pts(system A)	Pts (system B)	Pts(system C)
Charlton	$0 + 0 + \frac{1}{3} + 0 + 0 + 1 = 1.333$	$0 + 0 + \frac{1}{3} * 7/34 + 0 + 0 + 11/33 = 0.4019$	0+0+1+0+0+1=2
White	$1 + 0 + \frac{1}{3} + 0 + 0 + 0 = 1.333$	$7/33 + 0 + \frac{1}{3} * 7/34 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 0.2807$	1+0+1+0+0+0=2
Crandlemire	0+0+0+0+1+0=1	0+0+0+0+11/37+0=0.2973(!!!)	0+0+0+0+1+0=1
Clarke	0+0+0+1+0+0=1	0+0+0+10/37+0+0=0.2703	0+0+0+1+0+0=1
B.Quiding	0+1+0+0+0+0=1	0+8/34+0+0+0+0=0.2352	0+1+0+0+0+0=1
Petrie	$0 + 0 + \frac{1}{3} + 0 + 0 + 0 = 0.333$	$0 + 0 + \frac{1}{3} * 7/34 + 0 + 0 + 0 = 0.0686$	0+0+1+0+0+0=1

IF ANYONE WANTS TO PLAY ANY OF THESE (and I hope you all do) JUST SEND ME NUMBERS FOR EACH GAME! You can enter at any time, but the more often, the better your chances!



RAILWAY RIVALS Game "Ashburton" 1483CB, Canterbury. Economic rules, Round 5

ICH (Bien), yellow: 115-Rolleston-Lincoln, Pleasant Point-H37; H37-I36-Cave; Cave-H35-H33-Fairlie.
 KIWI (Martin), red: Geraldine-E38-F38, E38-Temuka; Hinds-X12; F38-H39-Timaru.
 SIR (Charlton), black: Q14-P14-Rakaia, Dunsandel-O15; Lincoln-Rolleston; Temuka-F40-G39-Timaru.

Monies:		Rivals/builds		Rivals/Races'		Tender	Balance	
Name	Start	Cities	in	out	in	out		profits
ICH	84	12	+9	-	-	-	-	105
KIWI	58	-	-	-2	-	-	-	56
SIR	56	-	+1	-8	-	-	-	49

Akaroa and Oxford remain inexplicably unconnected.

Contracts: (don't forget this is an ECONOMIC rules game, not a racing rules one!)

13/Cave-Sp2/West; 15/Temuka-26/Ashburton; 22/Rangitata-Sp6/Coal; 35/Acheron-51/Hornby; 33/Methven-46/Akaroa; 41/Southbridge-63/Springfield; 53/Christchurch-64/Oxford.

This WAS randomly chosen, and both unconnected cities came up. You may submit tenders for any or all contracts this round. Unconnected contracts (both of them!) will be held over and offered in addition to the next 7 next round. You may build up to \$12 including all payments to rivals for extant track after this rounds' tenders. Gee, I wonder where you are going to build... Allowance will decrease by \$2/round.

RAILWAY RIVALS Game "Aliwal North" 1482SA, South Africa. Racing rules, Round 6

RACES: 12-46: ZEx +20; Skokian +10 15-22: ZEx +30. Skokian failed to get XRP
 24-64: Held over, no entrants. 34-52: ZEx +16; Bore +9; Boering +5
 36-Sp5: Bore +20; Skokian +10 43-63: Bore +20; Boering +10
 56-Sp2: Bore +30

Skokian (Stimmel) purple: B83-Z34-V32; A90-A91 only!!!
 CONTS (Charlton), green: Q18-Q20-Kimberley-O24 only!!!
 Zulu Xpress(Crandlemire),black: Jo'burg-Q32-P33-Pretoria; Jo'burg-O31-L30-Mafeking; Upington-I17.
 BOERING(Von Metzke),red: P39-Pietersburg; Q34-Pretoria; Z15-X14; S5-Worcester-N8; A66-B66-Uitenhage.

BORE (Martin), blue: Springfontein-T21-T18-V17-V16-W15-Graff Reinet-X15.

Notes: You cannot build THROUGH a foreign country, only into it 1 hex. Thus Maputo is only reachable from the 2 hexes in S.Africa that border it. Also, ALL payments for builds AND for payments to rivals based on track built in previous rounds comes from the allowance, out of your cash. You cannot build \$14 and then pay rivals extra to that, unless the payments are for rivals' track built in the same round as yours, ie simultaneously.

ERRATA: BORE built T41-Lydenburg last turn. CONTS built A74-E73-C71, not A74-C72-C71. The map is correct.

Monies:		Rivals/builds		Rivals/races		Race	Balance	
Name	Start	Builds	in	out	in	out		wins
Skokian	47	-9	+1	-2	+2	-13	+20	46
CONTS	58	-11	+1	-3	+10	-	-	55
ZEX	58	-13	+5	-	+7	-11	+66	112
BOERING	54	-12	+2	-2	+14	-11	+15	60
BORE	57	-12	-	-2	+12	-10	+79	124

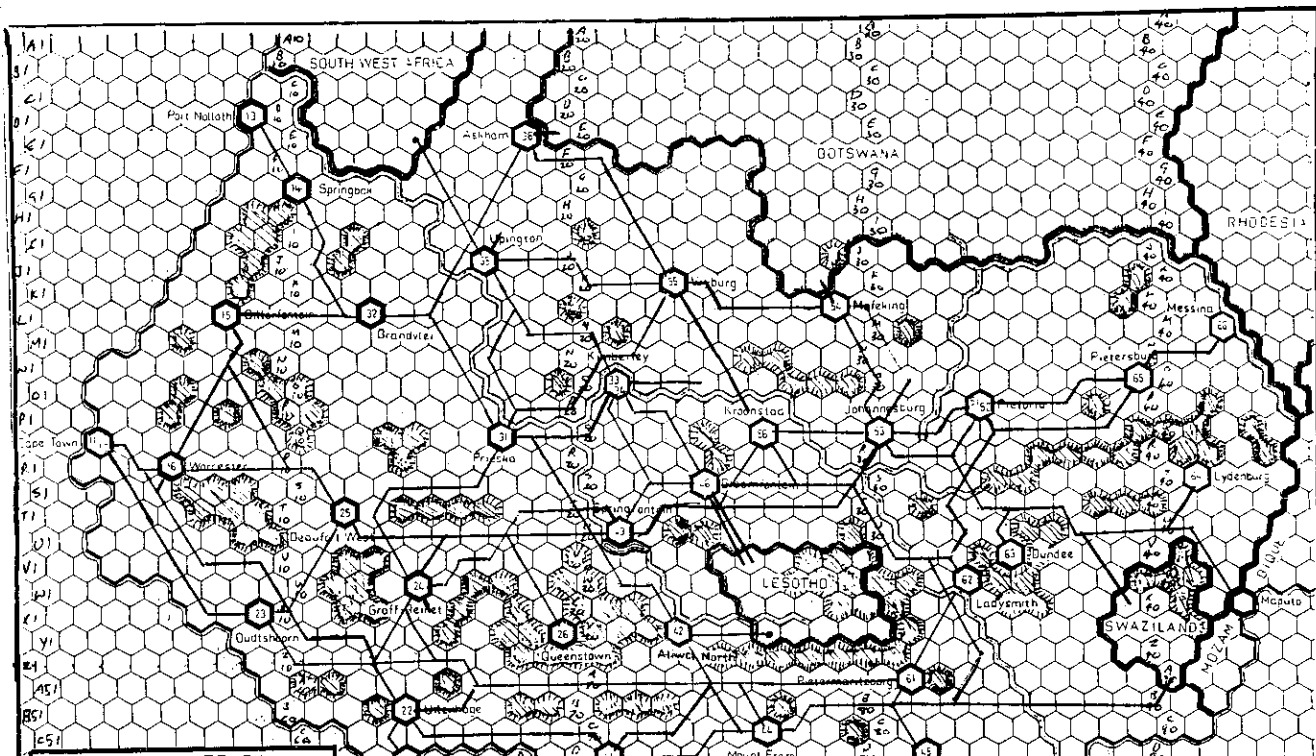
Only Rhodesia remains unconnected.

RACES: 13/Pt Nolloth-53/Jo'burg; 16/Worcester-65/Pietersburg; 21/Pt Elizabeth-51/Pretoria; 23/Oudtshoorn-33/Kimberley; 31/Prieska-44/Mt Frere; 41/E London-Sp3/Rhodesia; 62/Ladysmith-Sp2/Mozambique.

Held over from last round: 24 Graff Reinet-64 Lydenburg;

Enter any 4 races, plus the held-over one. I know Rhodesia isn't joined, thus it will be held over until next turn, but you can still only enter 4 races + 24-64. Remember that both players must order XRP or joint runs for these to work! Conditionals on the basis of the other player failing to so order are allowed. Build up to \$12 which must include all payments to rivals, after the races.

10
12




SOUTH AFRICA

1-13 Borders
 1-10: Any part including Popula.
 11-13: BORDERS (RUMS 12 in over, 7)

1 East West Africa (Nambu)
 2 Swaziland
 3 Rhodesia (ZIMBABWE)
 4 Mozambique
 5 Lesotho or Swaziland Part a second
 6 a corner of 100, 5-101.
 7-13: 131 including Rhodesia

ROAD RUMS	1	2	3	4	5	6	10

 Lake Iransabz
 Drawn by Bill Brown

100000000

CANTERBURY (2K2)

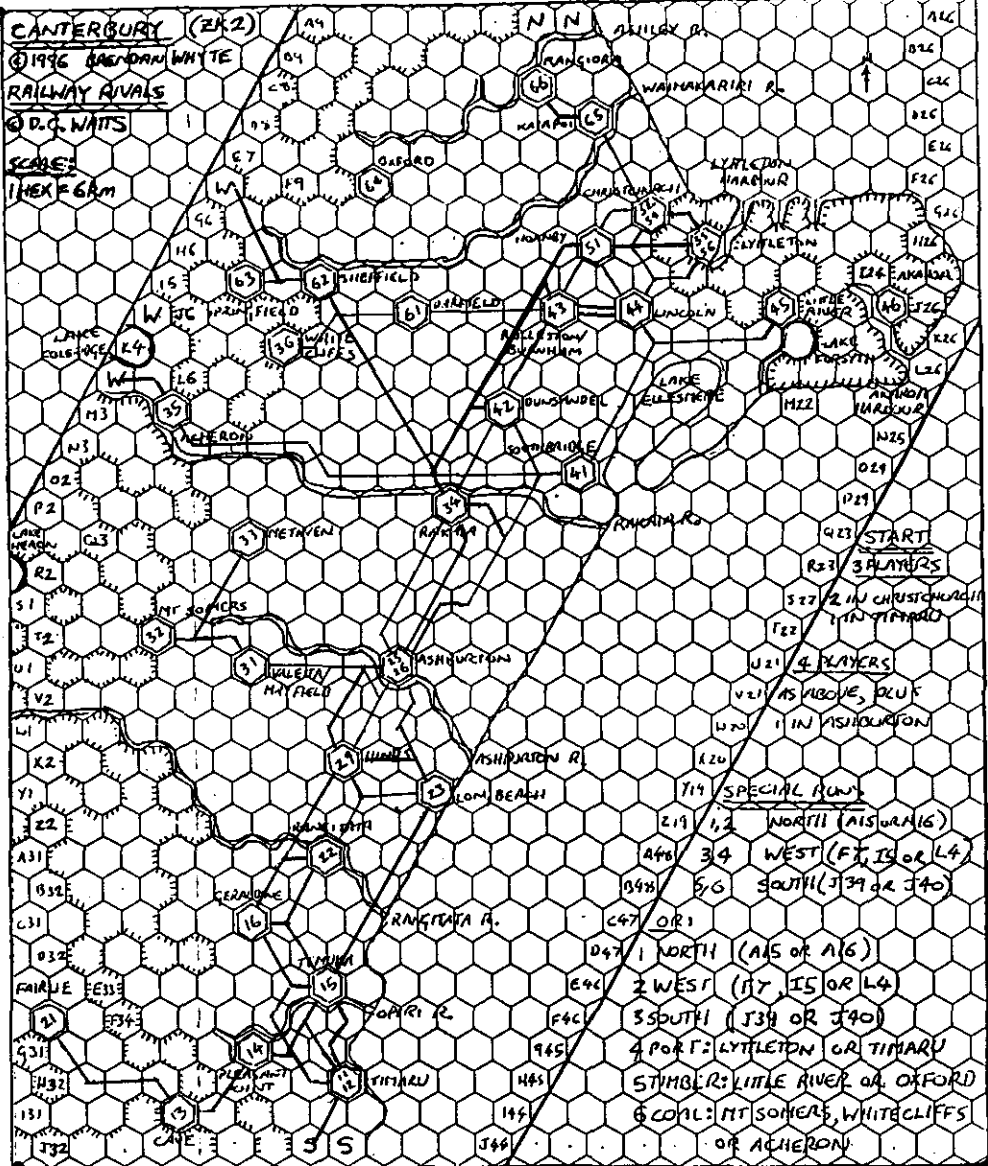
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RAILWAY RIVALS

© D.C. WAITS

SCALE

1 HEX = 6 KM



- Q23 START
- R23 3 PLAYERS
- S27 2 IN CHRISTCHURCH
- T22 1 IN TIMARU
- U21 4 PLAYERS
- V21 AS ABOVE, BUT
- W20 1 IN ASHBURTON
- X20 1 IN ASHBURTON
- Y19 SPECIAL RUN
- Z19 1,2 NORTH (A15 OR A16)
- A40 3,4 WEST (F1, IS OR L4)
- B40 5,6 SOUTH (J39 OR J40)
- C47 OR 1
- D47 1 NORTH (A15 OR A16)
- E46 2 WEST (I17, IS OR L4)
- F46 3 SOUTH (J39 OR J40)
- G45 4 PORT: LYTTLETON OR TIMARU
- H45 STIMBLR: LITTLE RIVER OR OXFORD
- I45 5 OR ASHERON
- J46

13

Britannia Game "Alban" Turn 1, A.D. 43-110

ROMANS (Natrass) 1st move: 2A ENG-Wes 2A ENC-Sus 3A ENG-Wes-Dow 2A ENC-Wes-Ava
2A ENC-Wes-Ava-Hwi 2A ENC-Sus-Ess 2A ENC-Sus-Ess-Suf.

1st battle: kills 1 Belgae in each of Wes, Sus, Dow, Ess, Suf. Kill 1 Welsh in each of Ava, Hwi.
Roman Forts built in Wes, Sus, Dow, Ess, Suf, Ava, Hwi.

2nd move: 2A Sus-SMe 3A Dow-Hwi-Mch then 1A Mar-Che 2A Hwi-Mch-Che then 1A Che-Cum
2A Ava-Hwi-NMe 2A Wes-Sus-Ken 2A Ess-Suf-Nor 2A Suf-Lin

2nd battle: SMe kill 1Belgae Mch kill 1R & 1Brig Che kill 1Brig Cum 1Brig retreats to Gal
NMe kill 1R, 1Belg can't retreat, kill 1Belg Ken kill 1Belg Ess kill 1Belg

Suf no result, 1Belg can't retreat, kill 1Belg

Roman Forts built in SMe, Mch, Che, Cum, NMe, Ken, Ess, Suf.

BELGAE(M.Hood) all dead. Nasty.

WELSH(A.Hood) Pop 4½= 1A Dev +1½. No moves.

BRIGANTES (Martin) Pop 5 = 1A Pen +2. Moves A Yor-Pen, A Ber-Lot-Str.

Can't move A Lot-Str as ordered, as then overpopulation would kill it.

PICTS(M.Hood) Pop 3½= 1A Alb +½. Moves 1A Dun-Alb.

CALEDONIANS(A.Hood) Pop 1½. No new units, no moves.

Victory Points:

Romans: Ava, Che, Cum, Dow, Ess, Hwi, Ken, Lin, Mch, NMe, SMe, Nor, Suf, Sus, Wes @1 =15.

Belgae: Killed 1Roman = 2pts Brigantes: Killed 1Roman = 3pts.

Welsh:0 Picts:0 Caledonians: 0

totals: Natrass:15 Martin:3 M.Hood:2 A.Hood:0

Press:

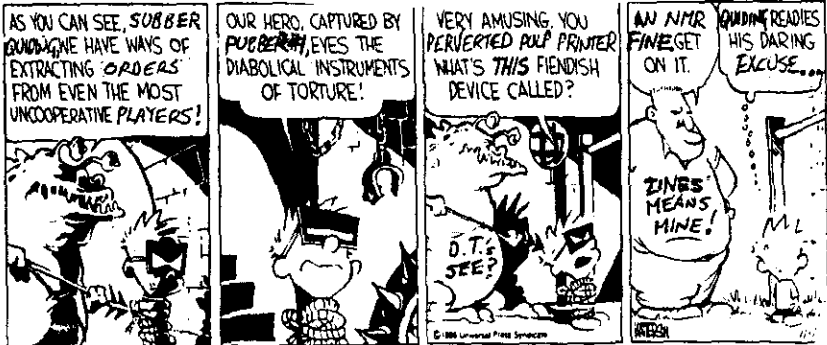
The Welsh are content to own Wales, Devon & Cornwall, stay away and we will do the same.

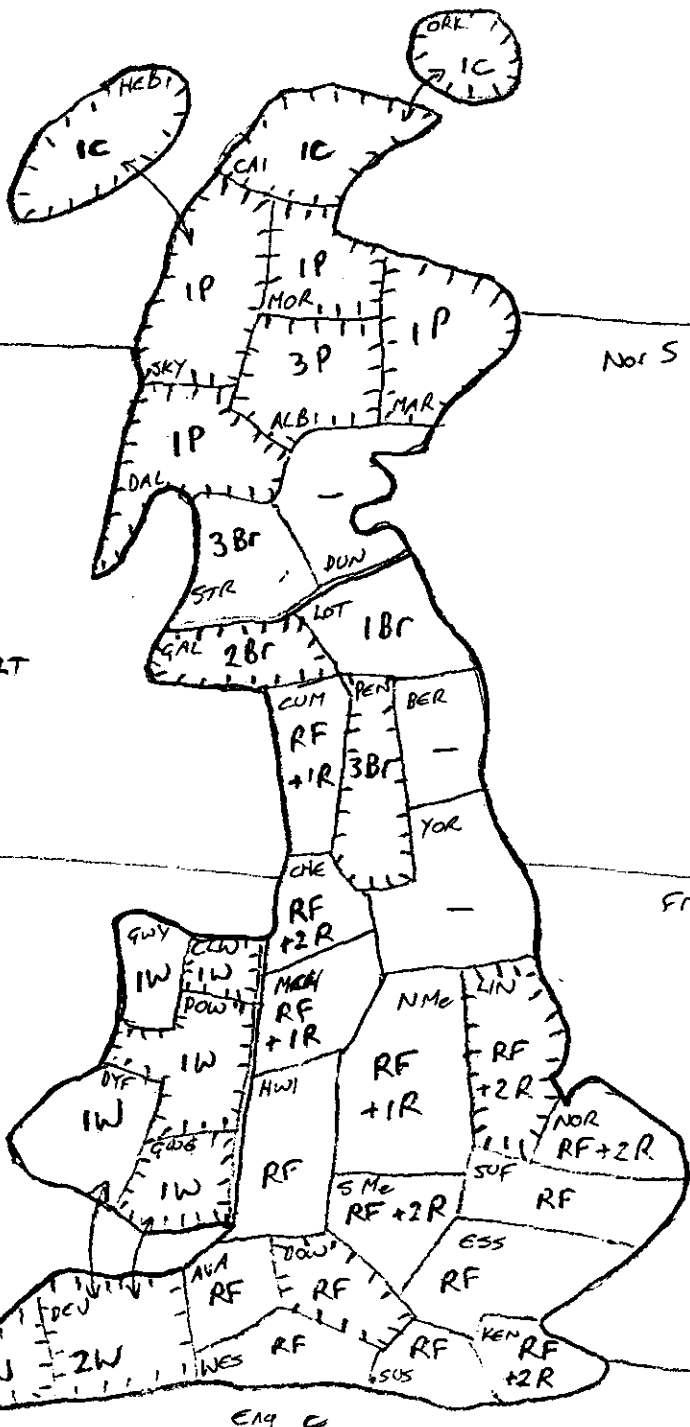
The Belgae have heard rumours of a major Roman invasion, following the reconnaissance last century of Julius Caesar, whom we repelled. The Belgae undertake not to attack any Caledonians/ Welsh/Pict/Brigantes as long as Roman armies remain in Britain, & hope for a reciprocal agreement.

The Picts agree not to attack the Brigantes/Belgae/Caledonians as long as the Romans remain in Britain.

GM notes. 2 players have asked about turn splits for major invasions. At this point I agree in principle, but we'll see the situation at the time. Apart from the Brigantes, I don't think anyone would have played much different knowing where the Romans ended. Note to some players that TWICE as many armies as the enemy has need to stop in a province to let others carry on. If he has 1, you need to leave 2 there! I have adjusted orders as best I can to cope with this. Attacks will be made in the same order that you moved pieces unless specified otherwise. Moves will not be made that result in overpopulation killing that unit or others as well, unless you specify. This IS different to ff play Be aware and adjust strategies accordingly. This next turn should be much easier for all.

THE ANOMALOUS ADVENTURES OF SUBBER QUIDING IN THE LAND OF ZINE!





C=CALEDONIAN
 P=PICT
 Br=BRIGANTES
 R=ROMAN
 RF=ROMAN FORT
 W=WELSH
 --=NO ONE

AH O

Ely C

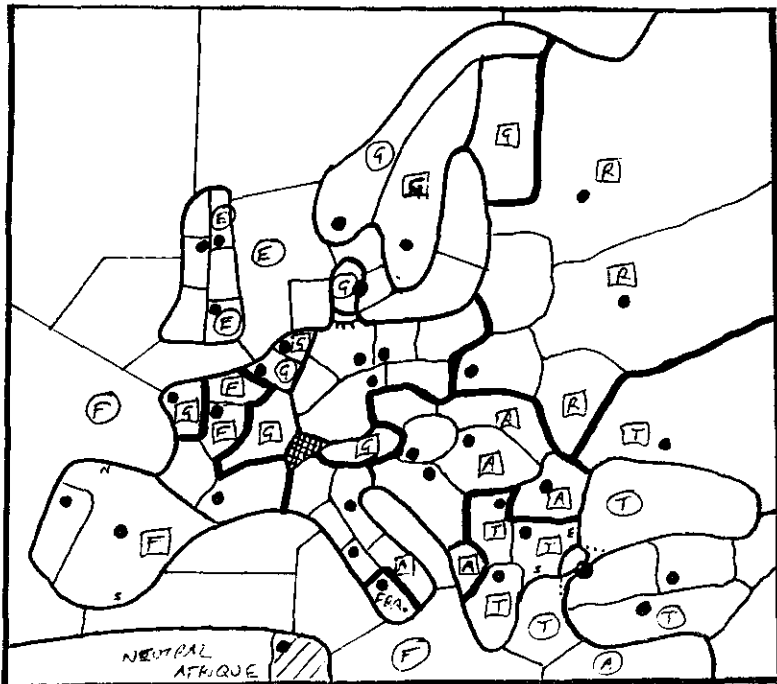
WINTER 1898 Diplomacy Game "Bulgaria" Autumn 1904

ENG (B.Quiding) F NTH S RUS F NWG-Nwy F Edi S F NTH H
 FRA (Addison) A Spa-Mar A Par-Bur F MAO-Bre A Pic-Bel F TYS-ION
 GER (Kent) A StP S F Nwy H F Nwy S F Den-NTH F Den-NTH A Swe S F Nwy H
A Hol S F Bel H F Bel S F Den-NTH A Mun-Tyr A Bre-Par A Bur-Mar
 AUS (White) A Apu H A Alb-Gre A Ser-Bul A Bud-Rum A Gal S A bud-Rum F ION-EMS
 RUS (M.Hood) A Liv-StP A Mos S A Liv-StP A Ukr-Sev F NWG-Nwy
 TUR (Craig) F BLA-Rum A Sev S F BLA-Rum A Rum-Ser A Gre S A Rum-Ser
A Bul S A Rum-Ser F AEG S A Gre H

Retreats: AUS A Ser-Bud RUS A StP-Fin Disbands: none
 Builds: ENG(3) +F Lon FRA(5) as is GER(9) as is AUS(6) as is RUS(3) -F NWG TUR(7) +F Smy

Supply Centre info: Neutral still(1): Tun
 Home centres: ENG(Lon,Lpl,Edi) FRA(Bre,Mar,Spa) GER(Hol,Kie,Mun,Swe) [ITA(Rom,Nap)]
 AUS(Ven,Tri,Vie) RUS(Nwy,StP,Mos,Sev) TUR(Bul,Con,Ank,Smy) [underlined = conquered]
 New conquests: ENG(none) FRA(Par,Por,Nap) GER(Bel,Ber,Den,Nwy,Bre)
 AUS(Bud,Rom,Ser) RUS(War) TUR(Sev, Rum,Gre) [underlined = someone else's home centre]

Press: Rus: Stalingrad in the autumn, the Crimea in the Spring, that is what archduke Michael has promised the russian people, abandoning the frivolous naval adventures of his predecessor, and that is what he is now beginning to achieve, the liberation of Russia from its invaders.

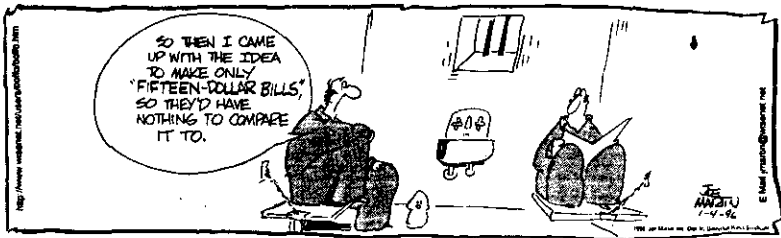


Game "Albatross" Round 46

				<u>end</u>	<u>face</u>	<u>ammo</u>	<u>hp</u>	<u>vp</u>
Col. du Bois (Craig)	A	A	LS	O14	P15	10	02	09
Capt. von Bomb (B.Quiding)	A	LS	LS fA	I13	J13	13	12	01

Clouds move north as Du Bois races out of cover, while Von Bomb tails him from an increasingly small distance.

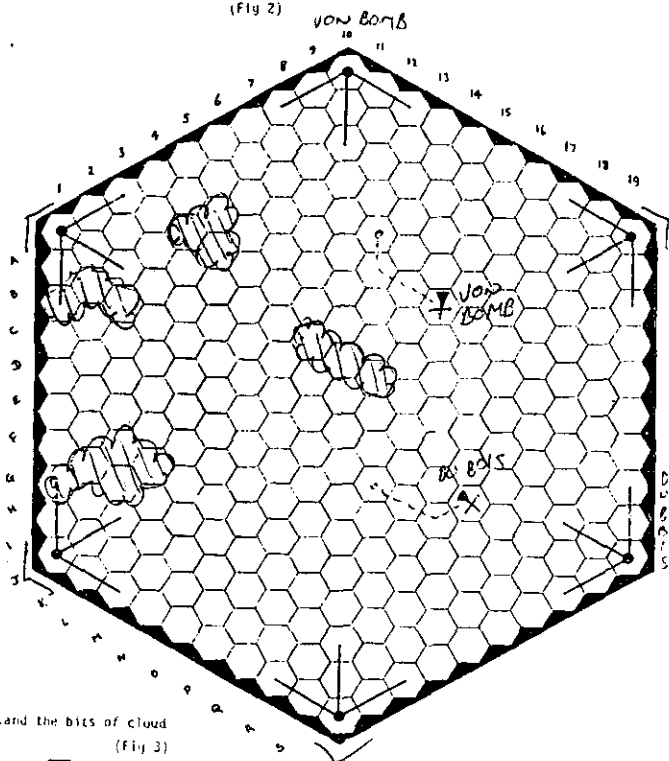
No press.



5/ page 13

Gazfinc's Sopwith map

(Fig 2)



...and the bits of cloud

(Fig 3)

f16

GUNBOAT Diplomacy Game "Bohemia" Spring 1916

Central collapses imminent: Austrians and French lose ground to Russo-Turko-Anglo-Italo Battalo!

New Italian player picks up his pieces and marches to the marshes!

ENG F Edi-NTH F Den-SKA F HEL-Den F Kie S F HEL-Den A Bur-Par A Bre S A Bur-Par

A Lon-Bel F ENC C A Lon-Bel

FRA A Pic-Bel A Mar H

ITA A Pie-Mar F Spa(sc) S A Pie-Mar A Rom-Ven A APu-Nap F TYS-Tun

AUS A Tyr-Tri A Vie S A Tyr-Tri

RUS A Nwy-Swe A Swe-Pru F BAL C A Swe-Pru A War-Sil A Gal-Boh A Sev-Ukr

TUR F Rum H F Alb-Tri A Bud S F Alb-Tri A Ser S F Alb-Tri A Gre-Alb F AEG-Gre F Smy-EMS

F ION-Tun F WMS-Tun

Retreats: FRA A Mar-Gas

Disbands: none

Press: Con-Mos: Vie for you, Tri for me.

Mos-Con: You should be in Tri, please be a ducky & support my A Boh-Vie. Ta muchly.

Mos-Lon: Curious situation young bean. I hope your fish are down south. If you want to block up the Pillars of Hercules you will probably have to do it yourself, what?

Mos-Ber: Barbarossa reversed! What - there's no one there?

Eng-Rus: Ok, so where do you want to carve the world exactly?

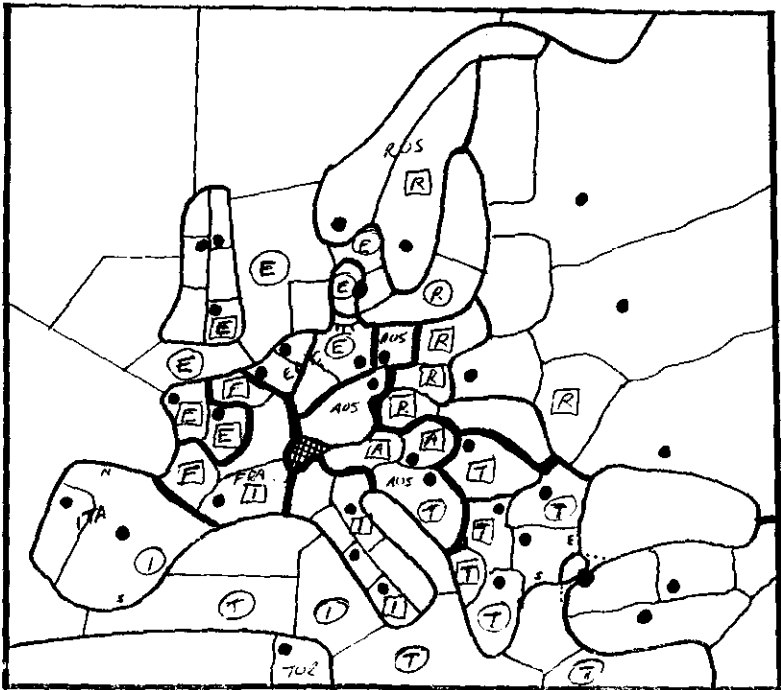
Eng-ita: I'm leaving Marseilles to you, because it is in both our interests for me to take advantage of the French stupor to leave Paris, thus leaving France with only one centre at best.

Eng-Ger: I am sorry to say that you are dead, but hope you learned some useful tactical skills. Good luck next time. Gruess Gott!

Eng-Fra: I am glad to say that you are dead too, unless the Turk rescues you, but I suspect your last nonmove was a deathwish I am happy to comply with - here comes the Burmese doctor U Than Asia. A Dieu!

Eng-Tur: You don't say much but you wargame well! I am voting for the double win of you and me.

GM-all: proposal E/T voted down 2:1 with 3 no votes. New proposal 6-way draw. Needs unanimity to succeed.



DIPLOMACY Game "Burgundy" Autumn 1908

The Map is tidied ; Russia declares : 'They shall not pass!'

ENG (White) F IRS-MAO A Lon H A Pic-Bel F NTH S A Pic-Bel F BAL-Kie A Den S F BAL-Kie
 A Par H
 FRA (Gill) F MAO S F ENC-Bre F ENC-Bre F Lpl-IRS A Wat-Yor A Bur-Gas
 ITA(M.Hood) A Ser-Bud A Vie S A Ser-Bud A Tri S A Ser-Bud A Gre-Ser F Alb-Gre
 F ADR-Apu A Nap S F ADR-Apu
 RUS (Martin) F Bel-Pic A Pru-Liv A Ber S A Mun-Kie A Mun-Kie
 TUR (Addison) A War H A Bud-Vie A Rum-Ser A Bul-Gre F BLA H F EMS-ION
 F Tun S F EMS-ION F ION-TYS

Retreats: TUR A Bud-Gal Disbands: RUS A Bel (NRO)

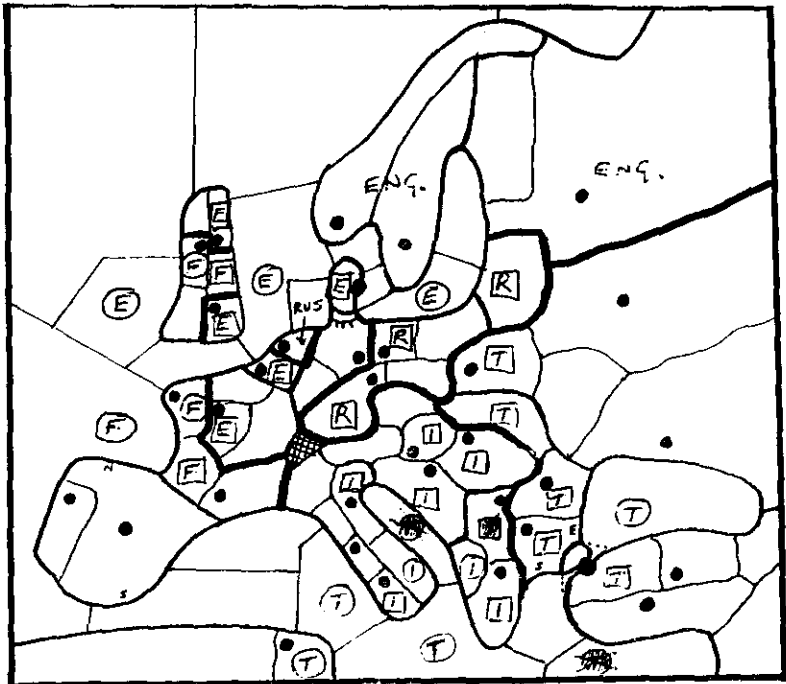
Builds: ENG(9): + A Edi. 1 short (NBP) FRA(5) as is ITA(8) + A Ven RUS(3) as is TUR(9) + A Con.

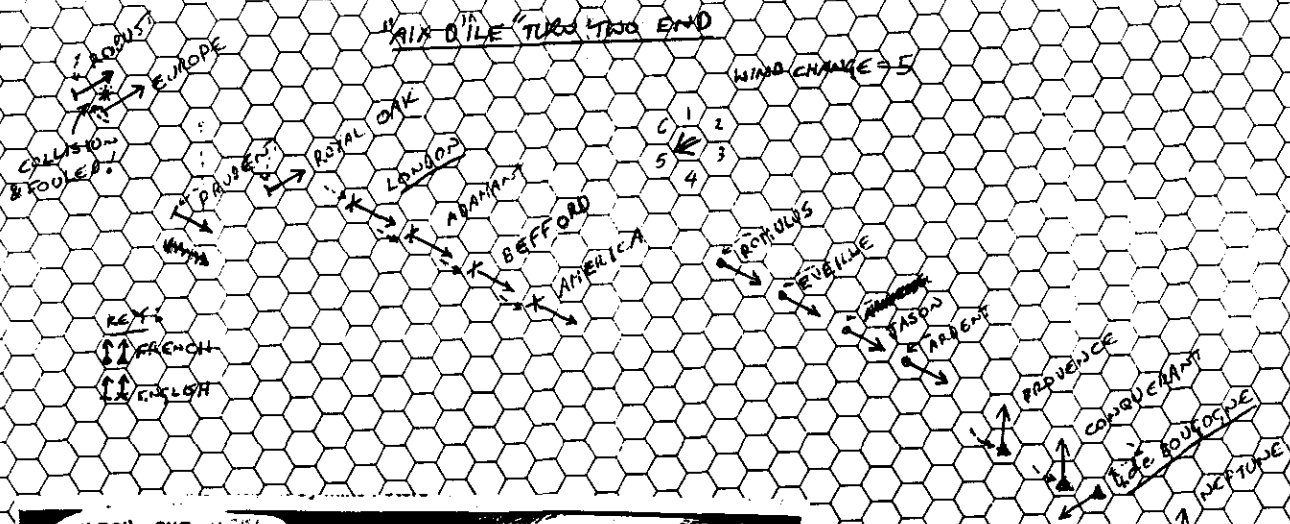
Press: Ita-Tur: You will not win if you keep fighting me, because I will hold you out longer than France or Russia can hold out my good friend and near neighbour England. So move your fleets west and your armies north if you wish to make progress. You may beat me, but I have already shown that I'll be tough.

Eng-Rus: You mention that without a homeland England is stuffed. I expect you are speaking from experience.

Eng-Fra: NMR. No more ratbag - best luck in any future games you play. I hope you enjoyed this one, it was fun having you along for the ride. Thanks.

GM-ENG: It's an ill chicken who blows too soon...





WOODEN SHIPS & IRON MEN Game "Île d'Aix" Round 3

Midshipman Michael misorders as masts mesh in Medway mixup!

French concentrate on revolution of the circular kind!

Great White Fleet inches closer to combat!

GM gaffs greatly as ships shift strangely south.

Notes: 2R = move 2, turn R, NOT turn R twice (which is illegal in the same hex anyway).

R2 = turn R, move 2, for similar reasons.

FRENCH:	Crandlemire:	Neptune:L	<u>Duke de Bologogne:</u>	R2	Conquerant:L	Provence: L
	Martin:	Ardent:L	Jason: L		Eveille: L	Romulus: L
ENGLISH:	White:	America:1	Befford:1		Adamant:1	<u>London:1</u>
	M.Hood	Royal Oak:L	Prudent:3L		Europe:R !!	Robust:L !!

Errata: Europe and Robust were mistakenly portrayed as being one hex north of where they should have been, in line with the rest of their fleet. This does not affect their moves, as their attitudes were portrayed correctly. This turn they are shifted one south, back to where they should be. However their collision remains.

Robust and Europe foul by die roll, and can no longer move nor turn until unfouled. This happens at the beginning of each FTF turn, but the end of each PBM turn on a 1 or 2 on 1d6.

For Turn 3, the ships fail to unfoul.

Press(gang): none.

QUIZ:

Apologies: I misplaced one of Brandon's answers last time. He did get the Chalons question. So that's a point to him, and one only for David: Clarke 2, Charlton 1.5, Crandlemire 1, White 0.5

Round 2 questions:

1: What/where is "The Firestone Republic"

Liberia. Firestone, of tyre and ruining-public-transport-in-LA-in-favour-of-tyres, GM-&-oil-companies fame bought 99-year leases to over 1 million acres (400 000ha) of plantations there in 1926. Harvey Firestone, the company's founder made large loans to the country and built a new. Improved harbour. Rubber provides 40% of Liberian GNP (before the recent civil war that is, with iron ore making up 50% more. Liberia sent troops to France in WW1 while Mr Firestone organised rubber production for the war effort and it was a US base during WW2. This question had nothing to do with my recent research on Firestone employees, but to those who thought so, a good try, I hadn't connected the two!

Correct answers: M.Hood, White, Charlton. 1/2 pt each. May I ask why Pitt chose Venezuela?

2: What is a "Romalpa Clause"

A clause in a sale that retains ownership of goods by the seller until the buyer has paid in full. I recently bought a \$8 desk pad from a stationery shop, and the huge receipt they gave for my cash purchase had one printed at the bottom, despite my paying the total price. David says to see Aluminium Industrie BV vs Romalpa Aluminium Ltd, 1970 (or is that 1976?). Pitt and David A. add it is used to prevent the seller becoming an unsecured creditor if the buyer becomes insolvent before completing payment. Michael, as far as I know it is not a security against the *carrier* going bankrupt. Brandon adds that it can only be upheld for simple goods that can be repossessed. Ingredients into other goods and fixtures present problems in upholding the clause. He says: Chewbacca provides wookiee beans for a blended coffee that Lando Calrissian is producing & marketing. In this case there is no way for Chewie to get his individual beans back from the blended product, so no Romalpa clause can be upheld. Jabba the Hutt sells a new hyper drive for the Falcon to Han Solo and reserves a right to enter and remove the drive if Han doesn't pay up. This would be upheld.

What sort of text book did you learn economics from??!! I grew up with widgets, not wookiee beans!

Correct: Addison, Crandlemire, Clarke, Charlton. 1/2 pt each

3: What is/are the home port(s) of the Swiss merchant navy?

Glassner, 1996, "Systematic Political Geography", lists them as Basel and Genoa.

White, Clarke, Charlton (Basel only), Crandlemire, Martin (Genoa only). I'll be kind and give 1/4 pt each. David says a direct Basel-London cargo service started 1936.

4: What is the size of Bolivia's merchant navy?

Glassner says one. But after I got your answers, I e-mailed Lloyds in London, and they told me none at present, though I am prepared to believe a couple may have existed in the interim. But I must go with the most recent authority, being Lloyds. Bolivia has a navy of river patrol boats, so I guess the merchant navy depends on definition of size. It has free port privileges in Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Paraguay.

Correct: Charlton and Martin, but I suspect for the wrong reasons! 1 pt each.

5: What was the significance of the change in ownership of Carpathian Ruthenia in 1945?

Ruthenia was a slavic area noted for its Greek Orthodox forms but acknowledgement of Papal supremacy. After WW1, Ruthenians in E.Galicia claimed self-determination, but were absorbed in Poland. Those in the NE Carpathians were made the Czech province of sub-Carpathian Russia. Those in Bessarabia and Bukinova became Romanian. As Germany dismembered Czechoslovakia, C. Ruthenia declared itself independent, and next day was absorbed by Hungary. Liberated by the Russians in 1945, it was ceded by Czechoslovakia to the USSR (against the treaty that granted it to Czech, and against US wishes), where it became the Transcarpathian oblast of the Ukranian SSR. Since the USSR had acquired much of Galicia and Bukinova, Ruthenians were thus reunited.

However, despite this ethnic significance, I believe the real geopolitical reason the Russians wanted it was to give them direct access to Hungary, so that as many Eastern Bloc states as possible were able to have Soviet troops rushed to them in a crisis without having the problems of driving through another state, even a satellite. Thus both the Hungarian and Czech revolts in the 1950s and 60s were easily crushed without delay or risk of demonstrations in transit states. Stalin never had much care for ethnic reunification, anyway, as his forced migrations and political gerrymanders show.

Correct: none.

Points: Charlton 3^{1/4} White 1^{1/4} Martin 1^{1/4} Crandlemire ~~1~~ 2^{3/4} Clarke ~~1~~ Addison & M.Hood 1/2
PLACINGs: 1 4 = 4 = 3 2 6 = 6 =

Questions for Round 3:

1. What does BASF mean/stand for?
2. There is a German company called MAN. What does this mean/stand for?
3. Where did the German colours of yellow, red and black come from?
4. In 1921 a Czech word entered English & many other languages. What word, and where/who did it come from?
5. What does the cover map illustrate, and what language is it in?

Everyone can enter, and I hope will.

2pts for a sole correct answer, 1pt each for 2 people sharing the answer, 1/2 pt each for >2 people.

WAITING LISTS:

- RoboRally: Petrie, Crandlemire, Natrass, Clarke. 1-4 more (ownership useful but unnecessary)
- Diplomacy: Addison, White, Natrass, Clarke 3 more needed
- Youngstown Diplomacy: White, Martin, Addison, Craig 5 more needed
- Vain Rats Diplomacy: Petrie, Addison, White 4 more needed
- Fog Of War Diplomacy: White, Clarke 5 more needed. Rules DfC71.
- Railway Rivals: Hannover-Leipzig (racing rules): Charlton, Martin, Bien. 1 or 2 more needed.
- Otago-Southland (eco rules): Charlton, Martin, Bien, Von Metzke. 1 more needed.
- Waikato (eco rules): Charlton, Martin, Bien, Von Metzke. 1-2 more needed.
- Journeys of St Paul : Craig, Charlton, Crandlemire. 1-3 more needed. Rules sent when full.
- Maharaja(Britannia in India: the Greeks to the Brits): Martin, Crandlemire, Petire. 1 more needed
- Sopwith: Crandlemire, Addison, Clarke 3 more needed
- Brighton Ave/Bonnie Brae/Banbury Merton St : jump right in and play!!!
- Quiz: send in your answers!

STANDBYS: Wooden Ships: Natrass, Clarke.

Sopwith: Crandlemire

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BE THERE OR BEWARE...