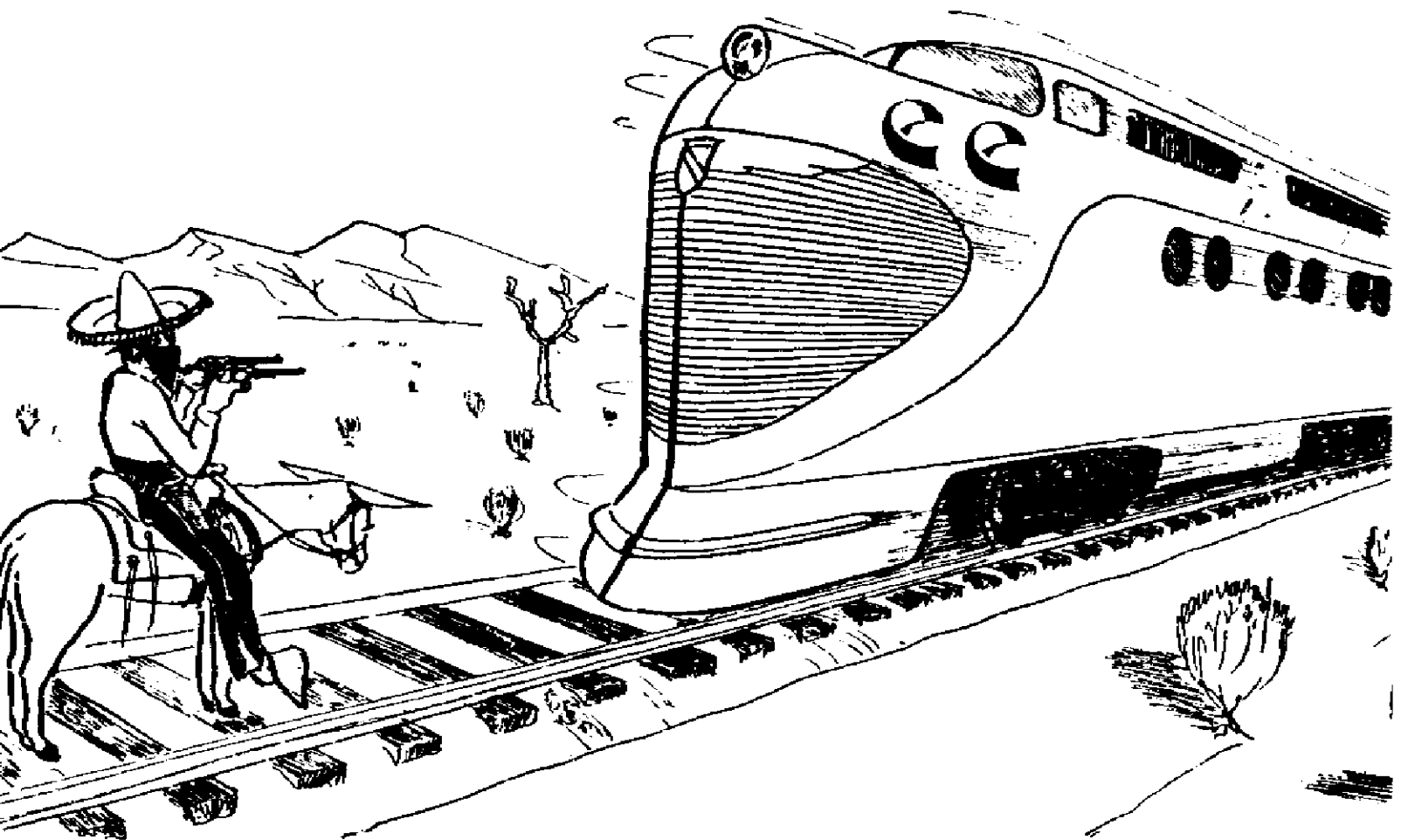


Europa

Express



EUROPA EXPRESS is the newest North American Diplomacy 'zine. This is the premier issue of what is to become a monthly publication.

The publisher is Gary Coughlan whose address, and the address of publication is:

4614 Martha Cole Lane  
Memphis, Tennessee 38118

This address will be good until sometime in April of 1981 when the publisher intends to move to Biloxi, Mississippi.

Subscriptions: Rates are being established as soon as I determine my publication costs of putting issue #1 (this issue) out. In the meantime, if you want to sub, send me a postcard to that effect. I will see that you receive issue #2 and will bill you for a sub. If, after seeing my prices, and issue #2, you want to change your mind you are welcome to cancel.

Game Openings: I will be opening six regular games of Diplomacy. These will start just as soon as I have the players signed up. I expect the games to fill very fast, so please let me know right away.

Contributions: All sorts are encouraged. Europa Express will give sub credit for all material printed.

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Alan B. Calhamer invented Diplomacy, which first appeared commercially in 1959 in essentially its present form. The Avalon Hill Game Company now owns the copyright and publishes the game.

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Front Cover Illustration: On the front cover we have a picture of banditto Al Rodriguez as he attempts to rob Europa Express in a foolish attempt to take credit for the fake Murd'ring Ministers #27 and the subzine Joy of Jane, both of which were the production of the pubber of Europa Express, Gary Coughlan.

Well the Europa Express will not stop for a petty thief like Al Rodriguez, so consider him smashed.

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Memphis Cotton Carnival 1934: Also on the front cover of EE, is a depiction of the great seal of the Memphis Cotton Carnival for 1934. This is important (Kathy Byrne please take note!). It was at the Memphis Cotton Carnival in 1934 that pronto pups were first (Continued on inside back cover).....

## Y'ALL WAS A FAKE

Many of you, and I am not yet sure how many, received a sample copy of a zine called Y'All that was purportedly published by me and mailed out of Phoenicia, NY on January 5th. THIS WAS A FAKE!

I have been proclaiming for the last several months that I would be publishing my own zine starting this January. This made an opportune situation for a person or persons unknown to me to fake my zine before I even put out the first issue. Apparently they did not know that the name of my zine would be Europa Express.

Y'All was done in fun and no real harm was done. The perpetrator(s) concentrated on poking fun at my Southern Heritage and thus branded himself (themselves) as a 'Damn Yankee(s)'.

Please be advised, however, that this (and not Y'All) is the real premier issue of the new zine by Gary Coughlan.

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### CONFESSION TIME FOR COUGHLAN

I decided about six months ago that I wanted to publish my own zine. In order to learn about some of the mechanics involved and to get a bit of experience, I decided to publish a fake. (I was mostly inspired by the splendid job of John Boardman in faking Brutus Bulletin #69--and yes it was really John who was responsible for BB #69, wasn't his mock rage over it splendid?) My first fake was the "Mellow Yellow" Voice of Doom.

"Mellow Yellow" was fun to do and I think it added a lot of hobby enjoyment to everybody. Thus, I decided to do my second fake which was the "Banzai for Bonzo" issue of Retaliation. At the time I put out B for B, I was more than a little peeved at all of the pubbers who declined to even mention "Mellow Yellow" in their zines.

Publishing fake zines is a traditional part of the hobby and most hobbieists enjoy fakes. But it is a very time-consuming and expensive endeavor for the faker. One little bit of enjoyment that he gets out of it is reading about the fake in the comments in other zines. I strongly urge anybody who publishes a fake zine to exclude those pubbers from his circulation list who refuse to acknowledge and comment on fake zines. You know who they are!

After "Banzai for Bonzo" I decided to do one more fake before initiating my own zine. This was the "Joy of

Jane" issue of Murd'ring Ministers. Bob Arnett, who is mostly upset because I refused to do a fake "Christmas" Volkerwanderung for him, hatched up this plot with Ron Brown and Dick Martin to credit Al Rodriguez for "Joy of Jane", but everybody can surely see that this is a bunch of nonsense. I am dedicating this months cover illustration of EE to the attempt to credit "Joy of Jane" to Rodriguez.

By the way, I would strongly recommend that anybody else wanting to start their own zine to try faking somebody else's first, even if that means faking Europa Express. This will give you a bit of experience in writing and a chance to go through the mechanics of putting out a zine without committing yourself to an every month publication. After putting out your "fake" you may well decide that you don't really want to be a pubber after all.

To have your "fake" issues mailed and postmarked from some distant city, all you have to do is address and stamp them, bundle them up and mail them to the Postmaster of the city you want them postmarked from. The Postmaster will open your package and mail them for you, with his local postmark. As a matter of fact I am going to use this system to mail out the first several issues of Europa Express (those issues until the games get started). I think it would be fun to have the zine postmarked from interesting places such as "Moscow, Idaho", "Warsaw, Missouri" or "Sevastopol, California". What do you think?

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### EUROPA EXPRESS

Well this is Europa Express. It will have a digest format, rather like Dragon and the Lamb, or Volkerwanderung or Black Frog; but, unlike those zines, it will be entertaining and well written. Unlike Enhain Macha it will never be published on recycled toilet paper and unlike Retaliation it will never be mailed 2nd Class.

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### GAMES AND HOUSE RULES

Europa Express will feature regular Diplomacy only and I will run up to seven games. These games will get underway just as soon as I have seven people signed up for the first one. The Europa Express house rules will be featured in issue #2.

I have corresponded with no other than Allan B. Calhmer himself for clarification of the rules in regard to support orders for units of a foreign nationality.

Calhamer's reply was rather surprising. In supporting or convoying the unit of a foreign power it is necessary to spell out the name of that foreign power only if the foreign power in question is Austria or Russia. I will definitely incorporate this into my house rules.

To verify this, I have photo-reduced the letter from Mr. Calhamer and am reproducing it below. His distinctive letterhead and signature should dispel any doubts of its authenticity.

ALLAN B. CALHAMER  
501 N. STONE AVE.  
LA GRANGE PARK, ILL. 60525

Gary Coughlan  
4614 Martha Cole Lane  
Memphis, Tennessee 38118

January 3, 1981

Dear Gary:

Regarding your questions on the rules of Diplomacy.

You will notice in the rule book, that spelling out the name of the foreign nationality is indicated in all cases when the foreign nationality is Austria or Russia. Cf. page 4 "A Sil S RUSSIAN A War-Pru;" or page 5 "A Kie S AUSTRIAN A Boh-Mun."

The inference should, therefor, be very clear. If you are going to support, convoy, etc. the units belonging to Austria or to Russia, it is necessary to designate and spell out the foreign nationality of those units. Otherwise the order is not valid. Regarding the units belonging to another Great Power, e.g. France or Italy, it is not necessary to spell out the name of the country involved. I do, however, deem it a good practice to spell out the name of the foreign power in all cases of this sort.

I am glad that I might have been of service to you. I greatly appreciate your concern and I always get a big kick out of these rules questions when they come up. Good luck in your forthcoming venture in publishing Europa Express.

Best regards,

Allan B. Calhamer

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE GREAT WAR  
(between the states that is)

(Many Yankees suffer gross misconceptions about what really happened in the American Civil War. One thing that I intend on doing in Europa Express is to set them straight. This article will, therefor, be the first of many installments on this subject. - G.C.)

1. General Grant at Appomattox.

Corporal Olsen, of the Sixty-ninth Kansas Volunteer Infantry, aide to General Grant, entered the General's bedroom and shook his hammock roughly. General Ulysses S. Grant opened one eye and looked around. Headquarters were distressingly disarranged; papers were strewn on the floor; confidential notes from spies were blowing about in a breeze from an open window; the dregs from an overturned bottle of corn whiskey flowed across an important military map.

"Pardon, sir," said Corporal Olsen, "but it is past 11:00 o'clock and this is the day of surrender. You ought to be up, sir."

"Go away Olgbin!" roared Grant. "I feel terrible." He turned over and closed his eyes again.

"It is Olsen, Sir," said the Corporal. He was very proud of his Scandy-Yankee surname. "General Lee will be here any minute now," he added as he swung the hammock again.

"Don't swing me," moaned Grant. "Do you want to make me sick or something? What's he coming here for?"

"This is the day of surrender, sir," said Olsen.

Grant held his head and said, "Three-hundred generals in the Northern armies and he has to come to me about this. What time is it?"

"You're the commander-in-chief, that's why," said Olsen. "It's eleven twenty-five, sir."

"Don't be crazy," said Grant. "Lincoln is the commander-in-chief. Nobody in history ever surrendered before lunch. Doesn't he know that an army surrenders on its stomach?"

"The generals of the Confederacy will be here any minute now," said the Corporal. "You really ought to be up, sir."

Grant stretched his arms and yawned. "All right, all right," he said. He rose to a sitting position and stared about the room. "This place looks awful," he growled.

"You must have had quite a time of it last night, sir," ventured Olsen.

"Yeh," said General Grant, looking around for his clothes. "I was wrassling some general. Some general with a beard

Olsen helped the commander of the Northern armies find his clothes.

"Where is my other sock?" asked Grant. Olsen began to look around for it. The General walked uncertainly to a table and poured a drink from a bottle of corn liquor.

"I don't think it is wise to drink sir," said Olsen.

"Never mind about me," said Grant, helping himself to a second glass of straight corn liquor, "I can take it or I can let it alone."

The soft thudding of horses' hooves came through the open window. Olsen walked over and looked out. "It is General Lee and his staff," said Olsen.

"Show him in," said General Grant, downing his third glass of corn whiskey. "And, see what the boys in the back room will have."

Olsen walked smartly over to the door, opened it, saluted, and then stood aside.

General Lee, dignified against the blue of the April sky, magnificent in his dress uniform, stood for a moment framed in the doorway. Then, he walked in, followed by his staff. They bowed and stood silent.

General Grant stared at them. He only had one boot on, he had his jacket buttoned wrong (with the top button in the second button hole) and his eyes were badly blood-shot.

"Do I know you?" asked Grant. Are you Robert Browning the poet?

"This is General Robert E. Lee," said one of his staff coldly.

"Oh," said Grant. "I thought he was Robert Browning. He certainly looks like Browning. There was a poet for you, did you ever read ....."

"Shall we proceed at once to the matter in hand?" asked General Lee, his eyes disdainfully taking in the disordered room.

"Some of the boys was wrassling here last night," explained Grant. "I threw Sherman, or some general a whole lot like Sherman. It was pretty dark."

Grant handed a bottle of his corn liquor to the commanding officer of the Southern armies, who stood holding it, in amazement and discomfiture. "Get a glass, somebody," said Grant. He looked straight at General Longstreet. "Didn't I meet you at Cold Harbor?" he asked. General Longstreet did not answer.

"I should like to have this over with as soon as possible," said Lee. Grant looked vaguely at Olsen, who walked up close to him, frowning. Grant downed his fourth glass of corn liquor and poured another.

"The surrender, sir, the surrender," said Corporal Olsen in a whisper.

"Oh sure, sure," said Grant. He downed his fifth glass of corn liquor. "All right," he said. "Here we go." Slowly, sadly, he unbuckled his sword. Then he handed it to the astonished Lee. "There you are, General," said Grant. "We dam' near licked you. If I'd been feeling better we would have licked you."

Well, if Lee hadn't of remained a true gentleman to the end, and if it hadn't been for the quick thinking Corporal Olsen.....the North came that close to losing the Civil War.

Grant collapsed on the floor in a drunken stupor. General Longstreet helped Corporal Olsen pick him up and throw him in his hammock. General Lee handed Grant's sword to Olsen and then took off his own and handed it to Olsen.

In a sense then it was Corporal Olsen that saved the day for the North. It was rumored, and may be true, that Lincoln intended to reward him after the war by appointing him to an important ambassadorship. We will never know for sure, however, because of that unfortunate night at the theatre. Grant had his eyes on the presidency, so in a sober moment he paid Olsen handsomely to go back to Kansas and keep his mouth shut. It is said that descendants of Corporal Olsen have been living in Kansas (on welfare I presume) ever since.

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#### WHY I AM MOVING TO BILOXI IN APRIL

I am a mail clerk working for the United States Post Office. I have put in for a transfer to Biloxi, Mississippi and will be moving down there sometime during April as I have just learned that my request for a transfer had been approved. The reasons why I am moving make a very long story that involves my girl friend, Martha Cole, and her uncle Benjamin Cole. Benjamin Cole is a prominent construction man in Memphis. In fact he put up the subdivision where I am living and named the street I presently live on after his niece. It is a long story, however, and I won't have room for it until next issue. In the meantime you can look forward to it.

I am hurrying up this issue for a couple of reasons; one of which is the "fake Y'All that recently appeared. But because I am hurrying to get it out, I am not including all that I had originally planned to include. I am sorry about that as some really good material will have to wait until issue #2.



With only eight pages plus covers, this issue (which I might remind you is a free sample) will be somewhat smaller than normal issues. I expect that normal issues will contain sixteen pages plus covers as a normal course of events and in no cases will they contain less than twelve pages.

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LEPANTO FOR HOBBY MASCOT

Mike Conner (Lone Star Diplomat; 3214 Beverly Road, Austin, Texas 78703) is conducting a poll to pick an official hobby mascot. I hereby submit my pet civet cat, that I have named "Lepanto" as a candidate. The picture of Lepanto is provided below. Lepanto is posing with my girl friend, Martha Cole.



Martha Cole and Lepanto

\*Vote for LEPANTO for hobby mascot\*

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Mark Berch and Diplomacy Digest: In any first issue of a new zine, it is a good idea to mention Mark Berch and his zine Diplomacy Digest (492 Naylor Place, Alexandria, VA 22304). Now Mark is obligated to give Europa Express a plug in DD.

Now don't forget Mark!

GETTING REVENGE FOR A STAB  
(Part One in a Series)

So your game long ally in 1980PY has just stabbed you and you want revenge and want it bad. Well if he lives in a city near you, here is one good way to get it.

Go to a discount bookstore; some place where they sell discontinued books at bargain prices. Buy as many copies of the cheapest hard-cover book you can get. A larger arty-type book with a lot of pictures is best. Twenty bucks should get you at least a dozen copies, but get as many more as you can afford. Now write boldly on the flyleaf of each copy: "This book the property of ((your former ally)). If found, return to ((your former allies present address)). One-hundred dollars reward for returning." Scatter the inscribed books about your former allies home town. Leave them in the toughest ghettos, or in bars near the docks. Other good places to leave them are among the cheapest seats in the local stadium, or in the locker room of the scrubbiest training gym for boxers in the area.

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WHO  
DOES  
THIS  
REMIND  
YOU  
OF  
???



(Memphis Cotton Carnival .... from inside front cover)

introduced as a novelty food item. A pronto pub as most of you know (but regrettably K.B. and some others don't) is a hot dog that has been deep fried in a corn meal batter. Sometimes also known as a "corn dog." Kathy Byrne in Kathy's Korner in the zine Whitestonia has recently tried to tell her readers that this (a hot dog deep-fried in corn-meal batter) is known as pigs-in-a-blanket. Pigs-in-a-blanket as most everybody cept Kathy knows are pork sausage links rolled up in pancakes.

One more comment at Kathy Byrne. O.K. Kathy if you are so smart about the names of food items--what is Crawfish Pie??

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Acknowledgements: I want to acknowledge the help of Bruce Linsey (Voice of Doom), John Michalski (Brutus Bulletin) and Jack Masters (Black Frog) for supplying me with mailing labels. These are the ones that I am using to send out this sample issue of EE with.

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#### A COUPLE OF QUICK PLUGS:

Voice of Doom (Bruce Linsey, Bldg. 11, Apt. 21, Leisurville, Watervliet, NY 12189). If you are tired of matching wits against six other players alone in your Diplomacy games--try a game in VoD. Players in VoD games are also matching wits with the GM, who will shoot them down, if he can, by enforcing any one of his 783 special house rules.

Brutus Bulletin (John Michalski, Rt. 10, Box 526Q, Moore, OK 73165). BB comes out twice a month. It is always full of obscenities and always in poor taste. But, what the hell, some of you may like it.

Black Frog (Jack Masters, 25711 N. Vista Fairways Drive, Valencia, CA 91355). My mother always taught me that if I couldn't say anything nice, not to say anything at all. I think that this is a good time to remember this.

Whitestonia (John Caruso, 42-34 Saull St., Flushing, NY 11355). Recommended to anybody who wants to play Mastermind by mail. And only to those that do.

Emhain Macha (Michael Mills, 1585 Quaker Rd., Macedon, NY 14502). Well very fortunately for Mike, I am running out of space on this page and won't be able to say what I really think of his zine.

From ..... GARY COUGHLAN  
4614 Martha Cole Lane  
Memphis, Tennessee 38118

A sample issue of the latest  
Diplomacy Zine. I hope you will like  
this issue and, if you are a pubber,  
will plug Europa Express in the next  
issue of your zine. -- G.C.

FIRST CLASS MAIL .....

