

August 19, 1985

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Here is the mid monthly that I promised. And yes, issue 14 is correct. My thirteenth issue had several problems, not the least of which was the fact that I labelled it the 12th issue. So we had two twelves and no thirteen. The major problem, though, turned out to be the deadline. The correct deadlines are as follows:

**PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS NOTES**

**DUE NEXT TURN: (FF only!)**

Media bids and Spotlight issues in North Plains; declare candidacy in California and Ohio; maintain whatever organizations that you have already set up; seven days travel. Possible issues: Fair Housing on 1 or higher; Energy Mobilization on 8 or higher.

**TIME FACTOR NOW STANDS AT: 51 (FF) and (HPG)**

**NEXT DATE TO CHECK THE DJIA: August 15, 1985**

**DEADLINE: August 29, 1985 (FF) and August 22, 1985 (HPG)**

**GUNBOAT DEADLINES: September 1, 1985**

\* Since the deadline for the Dow Jones has already passed by the time you get this, the new time factor is 51, so Fair Housing is now an issue.

In editing the last issue I also cut out a full page of hobby happenings. The part that was left on the cutting room floor included the Runestone Poll results and the review of the Black and Blue Book. Those follow shortly hereafter. Also in this issue are the results from the two gunboat games, the rules for the General election, a Butter Battles that was inadvertently not printed last time, and if there is room an editorial. Not bad for an unscheduled stop. But that's what issue thirteen will do to you!

If you haven't seen a copy, or don't own a copy, I very highly recommend you get a copy of the Black and Blue Book by Mike Maston and Larry Peery. The book is phenomenal. The Hobby Census that has been put out by Dick Martin of late was always very useful; this new effort, however, goes far beyond the census. There are three lists: alphabetical, by ZIP, and by phone number. If you want a list of people in your area, you can find them according to either zip code or area code. For many of the entries he has also listed their interests.

Furthermore, I took the liberty of mapping out exactly where the people in the hobby live. All 1000 names. We have very large groups in California (this year's BBB started with the 1984 California BBB as a base, so these numbers will skewed in that direction), Texas, New York, and Illinois. Amazingly similar to the present division for rotation of DipCon. I hear that Mike did most of the work, but Larry is getting all the praise. So send your praise to Mike too. Enclosed in this issue is an order form for your very own BBB. They are constantly going to be working on an update for it, so send in any new information that you have.

Another phenomenal production was the Runestone Poll results. Of course, with Bruce Linsey phenomenal output is commonplace. There are 270 pages of lists and zine preference matrices. I am very proud to announce that my fledgling zine came in at 26th, and I hardly feel bad at all that Bruce McIntyre's Excelsior got

excusing murderers, and to excuse them is to implicitly condone what they did.

"If the law tells me that I can kill and hope to be freed or at least to be taken care of by taxpayers for the rest of my life, than the law merits the ultimate punishment. Justice must be served. To do less would be criminal."

Rob grinned. "I am still not convinced," he said. Jean nodded in agreement.

"I'll have to think it over some more," Brian said.

"I have one more thing to say. As liberals we say we believe in compassion, mercy and understanding, but we're no better at practicing these virtues than anybody else. Let's reserve our decency for the people in our daily lives -- they're the ones who deserve it. Be hard on murderers, not on your friends; we often practice it the other way around."

With my sermon over, we rose and went our separate ways.

<<Greg here. An excellent article. In a conversation I had with Pete Gaughan over a year ago he admitted that he would kill to protect the life of a defenseless child, if he felt it was absolutely necessary to do so. He did add that he would not kill in self defense. My argument for the death penalty is that it is an act of self defense. If we don't do away with the people in our society who have proven that they have no regard for human life, then we are going to allow them to kill again.

Portions I have to argue with: They all agreed that the system was racist, and I would argue against that. Statistics are funny things; they can both fight for and against you. I agree that many more blacks are executed than whites. I also have to point out that many more blacks are arrested and convicted in almost every crime category. A recent article in a black community newspaper here in Austin stated that as a fact, so don't call me racist for quoting them. It is also true that blacks are generally born with fewer opportunities than any other group in this country, and that is what leads to poorer environment, poorer education, and a higher likelihood that they will turn to crime. It is through the educational system that we need to change this cycle, and that in turn will make the number of criminals more proportionate to the overall racial mix. I think that overall people who commit similar crimes get similar sentences.

One small part I actually found insulting! How can you claim mercy, compassion and understanding exclusive liberal traits? The only difference between your liberalism and my conservatism is that I think all aid programs should be conducted by the states and you think they should be controlled by the Federal government. There are legitimate points of argument as to whether certain programs are worthy and working. Personally I think we should phase out social security as a failure; does that make me heartless and cruel? I also think that unemployment insurance should be an interest free loan program instead of a giveaway; does that mean I lack mercy? We disagree on the methods to attain virtually the same goals: for every person who is able to hold a job to have one and to help people who have little or no means to help themselves. A quick note here to Mr. Wall. I WANT AN ARTICLE ON THE DEFINITIONS OF LIBERAL, PROGRESSIVE, MODERATE, AND CONSERVATIVE!!! Please? Thanks to Bart for the article; as always, responses are more than welcome.>>

"You've just stated a fact, not an argument," I said. "But the point of the death penalty is to punish the guilty, not bring back the dead."

Rob frowned. "It's revenge, pure and simple."

"Justice is a universally accepted form of revenge," I answered. "Like revenge, justice consists of giving people what they deserve in proportion to their actions. But there is a difference between justice and personal revenge; it's the difference between law and vigilantism."

"So what? Capital punishment is still incomparably savage and makes us no better than the murderers we execute," Jean said.

"The legal methods of execution in the United States today are far more humane than the methods murderers employ to kill their victims. As for sinking lower than the murderers we execute, I believe we sink lower when we don't execute them because we fail both to protect society and to uphold our ideal of justice."

Brian shook his head. "I just don't see how anyone can rationalize killing people under any circumstances."

"How about war? We call that kind of killing heroism. It doesn't have the stigma of murder attached to it. Personally I would feel remorseful receiving a medal for having killed fellow pawns in a political game, whereas sentencing to death a man who had raped, tortured and slain a little girl would leave me with a clear conscience."

"But capital punishment is so racist in practice. Blacks are far more likely than whites to be executed," Jean said.

"That's a valid allegation," I said, "and I hate bigotry more than just about anything. But the real issue here is how to remove the taint of racism from the system. Consider this analogy: if a boss is dispensing bonuses unfairly to her employees, the solution is not to eliminate bonuses but to make their distribution more just."

"I think it's pretty sick of you to compare bonuses with death sentences," Jean said.

"I think it's pretty sick to condone murderers' deeds by not punishing them."

"Don't you realize that capital punishment doesn't deter murder?" Rob asked.

"I don't want to quibble over statistics," I responded. "I can cite my evidence and you can cite yours and we'll get nowhere. So let me say that even if capital punishment didn't deter other murderers, it would permanently deter the one murderer for whom the penalty was enacted, and that would be justice."

"Bart, you're aware of how society can warp some individuals. Don't put all of the blame on the murderer for what he is," Brian said.

"I don't put all of the blame on the murderer, just most of it. You're suggesting that we put society in the electric chair for its crimes I agree, but I think we could flip the switch only in a figurative sense. However, if we accept the view that society is responsible for who we are and what we do, then that implies we're not responsible for our actions. Blaming that great abstraction 'society' for all of our woes is tantamount to

5th after only 4 issues. Thanks to the 22 of you that voted for me! Well 21 anyway; I got one 2. Can't win them all.

Special congratulations to BRUX for his first place finish with Voice of Doom (which rumor has it will reappear sometime this month), and to Steve Hutton, Gary Coughlan, Ron (Canada) Brown, Bruce McIntyre, Dave Carter, Pete Gaughan, Mark Berch, Dave Kleiman, and Steve Langley for their top ten finishes. As for the Subzines, you already saw that Jake took third with High Plains Gonzzo. Butter Battles didn't appear on this years poll.

If you are interested in seeing the complete results they are available from Bruce at 73 Ashuelot Drive, Dalton MA. The price is \$1 if you are one of the 256 who voted and \$2 otherwise. It will be interesting to see if the results are printed up in the next Diplomacy World as they have been for every poll since I have been in the hobby.

Speaking of which, I GOT MY DW! That line was going to be 'I WANT MY DW!' fashioned after the popular MTV ads, but I got it the other day. I kept hearing that people had gotten copies. It is indeed back, and in much more readable form than before. Rod has apparently bought a new typewriter, and the collaborative effort of Walker and Byrne have produced some well written, well edited articles. It looks pretty good. Even though it is late this time, I would recommend that you sub to it. DW has had several rough times but has always bounced back to become the Flagship zine of the hobby. One warning, however, to the editors: no feuding allowed. One word about any allegations against anybody and I for one won't hesitate to cancel my sub and recommend others do the same.

The first draft of this page didn't have that warning, but my mailbox has recently received two different item dealing with "The Feud," and I had to have it fumigated. A note to all participants: Who cares? Your arguments aren't going to convince anybody who isn't already convinced, and nobody has been harmed in the least by all of this. Kathy just put out a great issue of DW and BRUX just ran the most successful Leader Poll in its history. So what's the problem?

The following is from Bart Aikens. He is presently is editing a subzine to The Concert of Europe called SCREED, and is one of the few liberals in Iowa. He recently suggested that the pair from "My Dinner with Andre" be elected President and Vice-President, and he is here today as an advocate of Capital Punishment. What? You heard me right! Let's let Bart explain this himself.

A CONVERSATION ON THE DEATH PENALTY  
by Bart Aikens

My fellow liberal activists and I had been shooting the breeze in the student union when Jean mentioned capital punishment. Quickly I said that I supported the death penalty. My three associates instinctively flinched.

"Capital punishment has a much nicer ring to it," Brian said.

"A sure sign that a liberal coined the term," I replied.

"Do I detect a crypto-Republican in our midst?" Rob said.

"You should know better, Bart," Jean said. "Killing murderers won't bring their victims back."

GEORGE WILL

SUMMER 1903

AUSTRIA A Budapest retreats to RUMANIA

FALL 1903

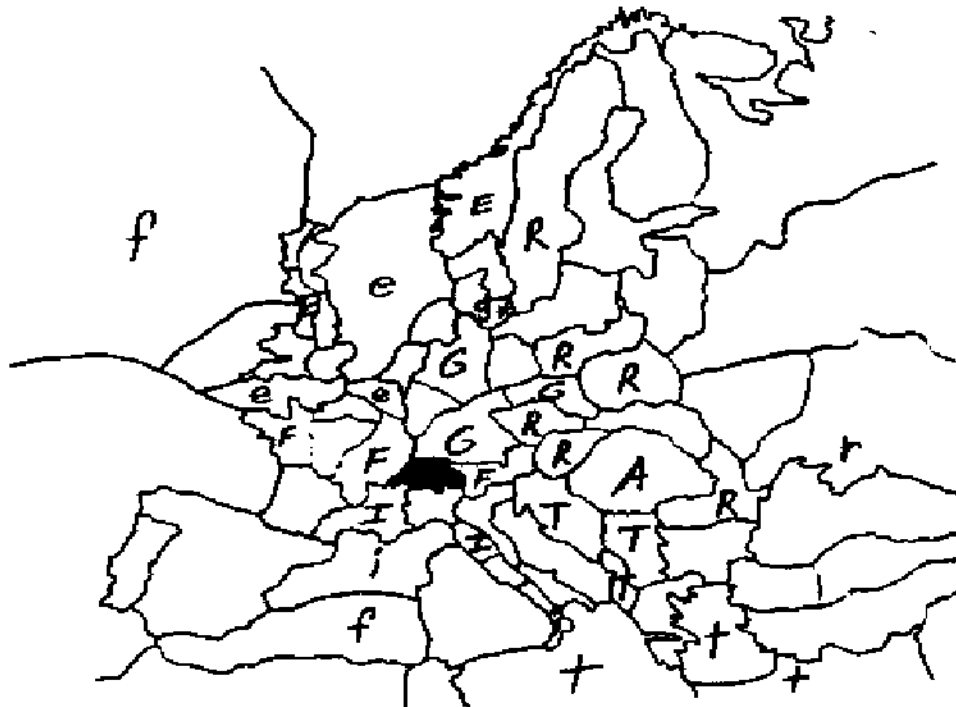
AUSTRIA A Tri - Vie (dis. ann.), A BUD S A TRI (OTM)  
 ENGLAND A Edi - LIV, A NWY H, F BEL H (F NTH S), F ENG - Mid  
 FRANCE A BRE H, A BUR- Mar, A TYO - Ven, F WES - Tun, F NAO -  
 Mid  
 GERMANY F Hel - DEN, (A KIE S), A MUN - Boh, A SIL - Pru  
 ITALY A Pie - MAR (F LYO S), F Apu - NAP, A TUS - Ven  
 RUSSIA A Liv - PRU (A WAR S), A Fin - SWE, F Den H (ret. Bal,  
 Ska, OTB), F SEV - Rum, A RUM - Bud (A VIE S), A BOH S A  
 VIE  
 TURKEY A Ser - TRI (A ALB S), A Bul - SER, F ION - Tun, F EAS -  
 Ion (F AEG S)

SUPPLY CENTER CHART

AUSTRIA	BUD, tri, vie-----	1 --
ENGLAND	Home, Nwy, Bel-----	5 --
FRANCE	Par, Bre, Spa, Por, mar-----	4 -1
GERMANY	Home, Hol, DEN-----	5 +1
ITALY	Home, Tun, MAR-----	5 +1
RUSSIA	Home, Rum, Swe, VIE, den, bud-----	7 -1
TURKEY	Home, Bul, Ser, Gre, TRI-----	7 +1

PROPOSAL: Russia/Turkey draw. Please vote by next Deadline.

DEADLINE FOR WINTER '03 AND SPRING '04 IS SEPTEMBER 1, 1985



## GENERAL ELECTION RULES

After the conventions are over there will be a general election. The following rules will apply.

**Finance:** Presidential candidates will get 5000 CFP, Vice Presidential candidates get 1000. All candidates get to carry over from the primary campaign any funds that are left over.

**Timing:** Four turns consisting of several weeks worth of campaigning. Weeks 1-4 will be turn one, weeks 5-7 turn two, weeks 8-10 turn 3, and weeks 11 and 12 turn four. The election will be held at the end of week twelve.

**Issues:** The party platform is identical to that of the Presidential candidate. Presidential candidates get to spotlight three national issues that will be figured in every election. Presidential candidates spotlight two issues per state or region, Vice President spotlights one, while figuring the vote split on issues, the Presidential stands will count four times as much as the V.P. candidates original issue stand. It will be advantageous for Republicans to spotlight issues in which the two candidates in the Republican party split and the Democrats are the same as the Republican VP, and visa versa. Spotlights are due in turn four only. Each state or region must be listed separately. What about Windfall and Draft one? They no longer exist. In addition, those issues that have no vote totals listed for them in the early primary elections cannot be spotlighted in those states. Sorry, but thats the breaks. They also shouldn't be used for national issues, because I don't have anything to get a total from.

**Travel:** There will still be greater returns on travel the closer you get to the election day, according to the following scale:

	President	Vice President
During primaries	60%	15%
Weeks 1-4	70%	18%
Weeks 5-7	80%	20%
Weeks 8-10	90%	23%
Weeks 11-12	100%	25%

**Organization:** 40% of the votes received in each region or state will count again toward the general election (10% for VP). The organization will work in exactly the same manner during the General as it did in the primaries. Candidates may set up organizations starting at any week, as long as they let me know before that weeks moves are due. For example, You must set up organizations for weeks 1, 2, 3 or 4 (lasting through 12) in turn one. Setting up an organization starting in week 9 must be done with the turn 3 moves.

**Media:** 40% of the media will be carried over from the primaries (10% for VP). Media bids can be made during any of the four turns. Prices for media start at the minimum price, but there are no "shares" per se. If only one of the candidates spends the minimum for media in a state during turn one, then he gets all the media available for that turn. If the Democrats spend 60 CFP and the Republicans 40 CFP, the Democrats get 60% and the Republicans 40%. The earlier media purchases aren't worth as much as later purchases according to the same schedule as the travel. Except for primary turnover, there is no distinction between President and Vice Presidents for media. The number listed as "media point total" in the game booklet will be doubled and used as the number of media votes available to the candidates.

For the purposes of the general election, all the issue vote totals will be added together, much as the open primary state are now. Organization vote totals, media vote totals, and travel vote totals will all be doubled.

Clear as mud, right guys? Actually I think we have a very workable and playable game here. If you have questions, now is the time to ask. We have exactly 7 elections between now and the conventions. It should take at least two issues to get the conventions straightened out, then four issues to finish the election. That's one year from now.

In the meantime I hope to open up a 1984 version game of PP in 1986, another highly political year. The calendar should be arranged so that there are a total of 24 moves including the General election. That would take exactly two years to complete, and would end in January of 1988, just as one of the most political years in our history will be beginning.

I also just got a mailer from Jake with the rules that he will be using for the General Election in the Gonzo game. I don't know if he has mailed that to all the players in that game or not. If not then I will add it to their FFs next time. If any others would like to see a copy then let me know. It previews some of the rule changes that he will be making for the '84 version. I would publish it, but things are confusing enough here already.

This is supposed to be the center two pages, and should be backed by the two Gunboat games so that you can pull it out and keep it separately. I have had a request to publish all the candidates issue stands, which I will do next time as well. I think I have room here for some cartoons people have been sending. Thanks for thinking of me, especially to Gary C. and Nick F.!



HODDING CARTER, III

Did I spell that right? In keeping with the electronic media, and to further irritate Jake Halverstadt, I decided to use the liberal side of "This Week with David Brinkley" as the game name. The opening moves:

SPRING 1901

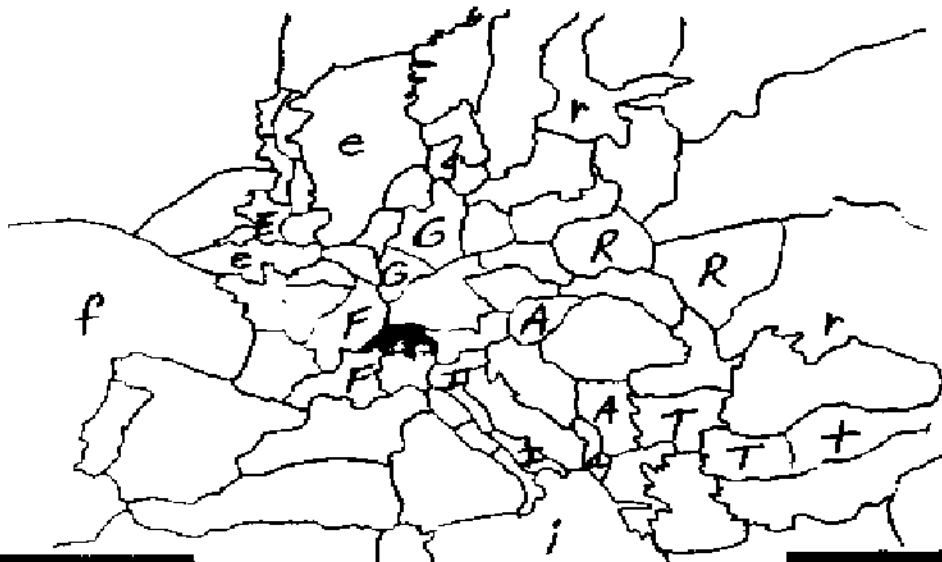
AUSTRIA A VIE - Gal, F Tri - ALB, A Bud - SER  
ENGLAND F Edt - DTH, A Liv - WAL, F Lon - ENG  
FRANCE A Par - BUR (A MAR SE), F Dre - MID  
GERMANY A Ber - KIE, F Kie - DEN, A Mun - RUH  
ITALY A Rom - APU, A VEN H, F Nap - ION  
RUSSIA A WAR - Gal, F Stp - BOT, F SEV - Bla, A Mos - UKR  
TURKEY A Con - RUL, A Smy - CON, F ANK - Bla

DEADLINE FOR FALL '01 IS SEPTEMBER 1, 1985

We have an excellent mix for this game, though you will have to take my word for that. It includes experienced players as well as novices; intense diplomats as well as just-for-the-hell-of-it type players. To refresh your memory: there is no press allowed; I would prefer it if you made no attempt to find out who else is in the game; "Joke orders" will be reported as holding only, and I really wouldn't appreciate any problems from any of you.

The notation above and in "George Will" is as follows: Province spaces using the generally accepted abbreviations, "ret." means the unit has the possibility to retreat to any of the provinces named thereafter, "dis." means the unit is dislodged, this is followed by "ann." which means the unit is annihilated. Underlined moves do not succeed. I have always listed the moves correctly, so if the notation is incorrect just use the moves as your guide. Always bring errors to my attention, though, and the sooner the better. In the supply center chart, ALL CAPS means that center was gained this season, all lower case means the center was lost this season, and Mixed Upper and Lower Case means the center was retained. On the map the UPPER CASE is an Army and lower case is a fleet.

If you have any questions call me at the number listed on the first page and I will help you any way that I can.





<<A point by point rebuttal here. We shouldn't tell our allies how to run their internal affairs. Period. I consider allies more than countries where we have a specific military agreement. They can be countries where we have trade agreements, or just common enemies. It really all boils down to that: who is the common enemy? Our only real enemy is the Soviet Union, and we should do what we can to protect ourselves, and others who request that protection. China is an emerging nation, and a new ally. How long will that alliance last if we immediately start acting holier than thou and start telling them how to treat their people and to get a second party started and to completely alter their economic system? It won't last. If, on the other hand we accept their friendship and show them by example the benefits of a Democratic government and free enterprise economic system, then the change will eventually occur.

Secondly, do we give aid to the people of a country or to the government? Are we presently supporting the government of Ethiopia through our donations? Isn't that a "repressive government?" The question of foreign aid is a confusing one, and probably has no real answer. Instead of being pained by the government being supported, rejoice in the people of the nation who are benefitting and otherwise would not.

One quick question here: Why is it necessary to support South Korea?

As for South Africa, there is only one reason to interfere at all: They represent the only stable government in all of southern Africa. They are the only African nation not bordering the Mediterranean that had more people move in than leave. If the government falls completely then most of that area will be thrust into an enduring depression. Military factions will take over the major industries, meaning gold and diamonds, and since much of the world's gold comes from there, other economies will be adversely affected. Although this may sound like a contradiction, I fully support the idea of divestment. The first rock of the avalanche had already fallen with several National banks announcing a moratorium on loans to South Africa, and several others cancelling purchases of Krugers. As one or two stock prices begin to drop, and a rumor or two about a revolution starting emerge, then there will be a wholesale dumping of South African stocks. In one day it will be worthless. Personally, I think the situation is hopeless. There will be a revolution and we will be blamed for all the countries ills and we will have another soviet puppet government in Africa. The gold there will sustain the Soviet economy for a good time to come.

Hogwash, huh? Our intentions were perfectly honorable in Lebanon, yet Tip O'Neil and his gang still passed a resolution to force American troops out. Two days later a major offensive toppled the government and the American troops were withdrawn. I am not going to pretend that there weren't any mistakes made there, because many were. But the congressional meddling in foreign affairs and ongoing situations cost us the entire objective. It probably also cost the lives of the 250 Marines.

"A majority of the American people applauded Grenada..." I am not too sure that statement is accurate, but I do remember the immediate reaction of the Speaker and several other Democrats was very negative. They dropped opposition because it was over the day it had begun, but I promise you they would have fought it had it been a month or two of fighting. Speaking of Grenada, I have a question for Jake. The only real controversy that came out of that situation was the refusal to allow American Press on the island. Why didn't the biggest and best news gathering industry in the world know about the invasion beforehand? Even the people

that we did not as give the Russians back to a Stalinist  
beauty, but there are some things that we can do (talk big and do nothing) such as retaliate  
Beirut.

Reagan and Bitburg, you mention this and then attribute motives  
to me that I have never possessed in my life and even stated as  
such in EE #44, p. #1 on this very topic. You said of me: "Or do  
you believe we should berate all the Germans for Hitler's  
crimes?" and you call Reagan's "move to tell the German people  
that they are not going to be continually punished for the  
atrocities of the Nazis" something that I "find fault" with  
again."

In the first place, Germans and Americans have been reconciled  
for decades. We are allies. No thinking American blames the  
German people for the Nazi crimes. You cannot condemn an entire  
people for the sins of a few maniacs forever and no one has done  
this. Certainly not me.

Enter Reagan. All he did was needlessly open old wounds and  
inflict new pain on victims of the Nazi atrocities and stir up  
old feelings, among US servicemen and families who lost relatives  
in the war. And he did it in spite of the opposition of the  
majority of the American people, US servicemen and survivors of  
the holocaust. I really wonder what this insensitive politician  
will do for VJ day.

I do favor either an isolationist policy for the US or acting in  
concert with allies, who should be allies in more than name only,  
with only specific limited acts of unilateral action by our  
country. An example of the latter would be Beirut. I'm tired,  
essentially, of our country being the world's policeman and our  
allies getting a free ride and then almost never backing us. For  
instance, it is our vessels which are near the Straits of Hormuz  
to ensure that Iran doesn't shut down the Gulf to oil shipments.  
Why us? We only get 5% of our oil from that area. Where are the  
forces of the West Europeans and the Japanese to defend their  
interests when they get a majority of their oil from those  
waters? Why should American blood be (potentially) shed alone  
for the sake of European and Japanese oil needs?

Greg, I'd like you to give me your scenario of how Patton should  
have finished off the Russians in 1945, time frame and all. Just  
how would it have been accomplished? I can't get to it before  
Sunday, but I'll send you some excerpts from a book my father has  
about what Erwin "Desert Fox" Rommel thought about a war, after  
World War II, between the Anglo-Americans and the Russians. I  
think you'd find it as interesting as I did.

I see why the atom bombs were used in Japan and agree with their  
use at that time and for those reasons. What reasons would you  
have used for their use in Vietnam and at which point in the war  
would you have dropped them?

Incorporate Japan, Germany, and Israel forcibly as states in  
United States? You've got to be joking! That would make us on  
the level of the Russians who forcibly incorporated Estonia,  
Latvia, Lithuania and hold in subjection East Europe. Surely  
Greg, if you think we should have a right to forcibly annex  
non-english speaking peoples, does this mean that, say, Cuba or  
Nicaragua could also have the "right" to annex nations about them  
that speak the same language? Think about it. The US does not  
exist in a moral vacuum and I'm afraid of people who say: "My  
country right or wrong." That led to the excesses in Nazi  
Germany.

#### GUEST EDITORIAL RESPONSE

<<From Gary Coughlan comes a short response to my response to his guest editorial. Are you with me?>>

I'm getting confused! I really enjoy FF but I'm now uncertain which issues I've been reading. Was the most recent issue (with my editorial) issue 12 or 13? ..... <<Check out page one for your answer. GME>>

I didn't think your comments "rather harsh," and you didn't offend me in the least. Please though, don't compare me to Carter in any way! I detested that one as our President, although Reagan makes him look less bad as time goes on.

Our country stands for many fine ideals. I think we should be true to these ideals as they mean a better life for people. We cannot have much effect on Russia or the other communist countries so our leverage is limited.

On the other hand, by virtue of being allied to other countries, we have more leverage and we should use it. It pains me to see my country supporting repressive governments merely because they are non communist, although there are some necessary exceptions in my mind such as South Korea. On the other hand we have no military alliance with South Africa that I am aware of, and we should press for change in that country so that it can be a peaceable change. We should press for a democratic government in the Philippines and in Pakistan and Chile.

The alternative is the greatly enhanced possibility of more Iran. We backed the government there and ignored the people's desires and interests and we are paying the cost now.

You mention that we couldn't take the action that we did in the past because of the "Democratically controlled Congress," Hogwash. In the immediate aftermath of the TWA situation Americans were as mad as I've ever seen. I myself have lost any sympathy I may have had for those Lebanese and would have welcomed a military action. After all, the majority of the American people applauded Grenada and we went in there with far less provocation of emotional feelings than we had over the Shiite hijacking.

You mentioned Vietnam. I always felt that war should have been fought like a war and it would have soon been over. It is ludicrous to think that the nation which almost single handedly beat the great powers of Germany and Japan could not conquer little North Vietnam.

you mention "rebels" and say "If they can get the US to reduce the aid they can probably succeed in toppling the government." It appears to me that you always assume that the "rebels" against any US backed government are communist. Is this correct? Have you ever considered that these people might be wanting to better their country and can do it without being communist? It doesn't seem like you have.

Yes there was an election in Nicaragua, one that was "checked out" by West European and American observers and shown to be fair. Much of the anti-Sandinista opposition (and we aren't talking about the rebels here) did not participate. But, unlike the Communist countries, they could have participated. Don't blame the Sandinistas for that too, Greg!

Yes, I talk about the Realpolitik and Reagan not acting. In Realpolitik, you have to recognize the real possibilities that exist and those that do not. We don't have to do some things

If I gave the impression that I labelled everyone opposed to the US a communist, then I am sorry. As I said before, we have one real enemy: The USSR. Communism is an economic system, and not a political system. I strongly believe in free enterprise, and I think it can take care of itself. Eventually all systems will have to convert to free enterprise or fail. Democracy, on the other hand, is much more difficult to maintain. An inherent weakness of the system is the necessity of allowing the opposition to operate completely within the system. There are factions in the US that openly advocate rebellion and the

creation of a dictatorship, but there is little or nothing that can be done about them. If we throw the Nazis in Illinois in jail, and the Communists in Alabama in jail, why can't the Democrats in Texas throw the Republicans in jail? (Believe me, they want to!)

The election of Ortega was a farce, just as the election of Thein was a farce. It was labelled "fair" because there were no restrictions on who could vote, but who needs restrictions when there is only one candidate?

where  $\mathbf{C}_1$  is the  $2 \times 2$  matrix

The reason we interfere on behalf of our allies, as in the Strait of Hormuz, is to keep from having to bail them out completely at a later date. How much of a weakened condition would Europe and Japan be in if their oil supply is cut off, not to mention how much more our oil will cost as they start competing for our supplies?! Why aren't they protecting their own interests? That's a good question, and I'm not sure it's entirely accurate since I seem to remember reading about British vessels in the area. Regardless of whether that is true or not, it is in our interests to be there. If nothing else it leaves our troops in easy reach of Iran and the power struggle that will ensue there when the Ayatollah dies. There are already many anti-Khomeini groups here in the US asking for intervention, just as there were when the Shah was in power.

I don't know how Patton could have beaten Russian, as I am not a military strategist. I suspect it could have been accomplished the same way we beat Japan. In Vietnam we could have used the A-Bomb immediately after the Tet offensive. That war would have ended the day the bomb dropped. Of course this is hind sight and there is no way that we could have known at the time that the Tet offensive had all but completely depleted the resources of North Vietnam.

I did not say that we should forcibly incorporate modern nations into the US. We did do that in our early history in Texas, Hawaii, the Pacific coast, and when we first settled at Plymouth Rock, but I wouldn't advocate for today. Right after WWII though, it could have been easily accomplished and probably should have been. I do think we should make it easier for other states to join us if they want to. With our Federal government as powerful as it is, it is unlikely at best that any country would want to become a state.

Thanks for the letter Gary.>>

[illegible]

That's it for my first mid-monthly! I enjoyed it, though this was a little more hectic to get out than my regular issues. Maybe that's because I sandwiched this in between and around RazorCon and DipCon!

## Butter Battles

"Zwiilniks" (1985A) Winter 1902 and Spring 1903

### (A quiet)Winter:

England: build F EDI.  
Germany: remove F KIE.  
Russia: build A WAR.  
Turkey: build F SMY.

### (A wicked)Spring:

Austria (Nick Fellela, 17 Brokaw Ave., Floral Park NY 11001)  
A vie-bud\Ann\, F TRI H, A ser S TURKISH A BUL-rum\NSO\Ann\.  
England (Stephen Wilcox, 5300 W. Gulf Bank #103, Houston TX 77088)  
A BEL S F nth-HOL, F edi-NTH, F eng-MID, F nth-HOL, F SKA S RUSSIAN F swe-DEN.  
France (Larry Peery, Box 8416, San Diego CA 92102)  
A BUR-mun, A mar-PIE, F mid-NAF, A PAR-bur, F spa(sc)-WES  
Germany (Melinda Ann Holley, Box 2793, Huntington WV 25727)  
A den-swe\Ann\, F hol-kie\Del: hel, Dsb\, A MUN S A tyr-BOH, A tyr-BOH.  
Italy (Steve Arnawoodian, 602 Hemlock Cr., Lansdale PA 19446)  
F ION S AUSTRIAN F VEN-aib\NSO\, A pie-TYR, F TUN S F ION, A VEN S A pie-TYR  
Russia (Ronald Spitzer, 761 N. Bundy Dr., Los Angeles CA 90049)  
F BER-kie, A BUD S A gal-VIE, A gal-VIE, A rum-SER, F sev-RUM, A SIL-mun, F swe-DEN, A war-PRU.  
Turkey (Tom Boyd, 17018 Via Tomar, San Lorenzo CA 94580 - but see last season's press for temporary COA)  
F aeg-GRE, A BUL S RUSSIAN A rum-SER, A CON H, F gre-ALB, F smy-AEG.

### GAME NOTES:

- Greg Ellis (700 Rio Grande, Austin TX 78701) is now your GM. Greg's phone number is (512) 343-8202. I'll resume GMing around the middle of October when I return from New York.
- Deadline is Friday, **August 2nd** for Winter 1902 and Spring 1903. After that I expect Greg will put you back on four week deadlines.
- Standbys: K. Byrne(AUSTRIA), J. Early(ENGLAND), G. Ellis(GM), M. Fleming, Givan, Kohn(RUSSIA), S. Langley(FRANCE), Luedi(GM), and P. Milewski. Holler if you want on or off this list.

### PRESS:

Russia-Turkey:\R What happened last fall? Oh I know, your head was in the clouds. Right?  
Russia-England:\R Thanks.  
Russia-Germany:\R Sorry but I needed the build. Turkey misordered. I really thought I could have worked with you. Next time I don't listen to Larry.  
Ger-Board:\G Double my last press release! You guys are mean!  
Russia-PJG:\R I wish you could convince everyone else of that including me. All I see are French Pieces laughing at me.  
Conrad-Russia:\GM Are they still laughing?  
Russia to the Great Conrad:\R What should I do now coach. Larry NMR'd is that funny or sad?  
"Coach"-Russia:\GM Both. And I have no idea what you should do now. Depends on what your goal is, now doesn't it?  
Russia-Turkey:\R Next time let me know where you are going and leave a phone number. So that I can call. I was climbing the walls with worry.

That was Butter Battles 7.0. My address until July 29th is 3702 Tarragona Lane, Austin TX 78727. Then, until October 11th it is IBM Systems Research Institute, 205 East 42nd St., New York NY 10017. I'll be staying at the Plaza Hotel - (212) 751-5710. Those dates are travel days - if you send anything that might get to NY before July 30th then mark it "HOLD FOR ARRIVAL". Mail sent to my home while I'm gone will be forwarded every week or two. Mail sent to IBM after I'm back in TX will probably never reach me.

Presenting

THE BLACK AND BLUE BOOK 1985

The 1985 edition of the BLACK AND BLUE BOOK is now available. This fourth edition lists some 1,066 names, addresses, telephone numbers, and hobby interests of DIPLOMACY hobby members from all over North America.

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In addition this year's edition contains special essays on how this year's BBB was developed, what steps the beginning player should take to get into the hobby, a technical explanation of how the BBB was done on the Commodore 64, an essay on play by electronic mail DIPLOMACY, a list of FTF Conventions and Tournaments, some information on DIPLOMACY overseas, a list of emergency telephone numbers the typical hobby member might need, and some other surprises.

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The price is \$4.00, plus \$1.00 for postage and handling from: 1985 BBB, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102. Make checks payable to Larry Peery and in U.S. funds only.

\*\*\*\*\*

Enclosed is a check or money order for \$5.00 (U.S.) made payable to Larry Peery. Please send me a copy of the 1985 BBB.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: 1985 BBB, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102, U.S.A.