

# GRAUSTARK

Page

"Winter 1906" (1955A); "Fall 1901" (1955L)

29 August 1955

1955A

## GERMANY CALLS UP HOME GUARD FOR LAST-BIGLE STRIKE

As was reported last week to 1955A players, the following establishments of new units were made in "Winter 1906":

GERMANY: A Kiel.

TURKEY: A Constantinople.

The deadline for "Spring 1907" moves is SATURDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 1955.

## THE TACTICS OF DIPLOMACY - III

(concluding installment)

by Allan B. Calhoun

Austria-Hungary normally agrees with Germany that each will stay away from the other's frontiers. They normally agree that neither shall make Beneficio or Silberin. If these two Powers fight early in the game, both are likely to be taken in the rear and destroyed. Austria has a difficult game at the outset, but if she gets off to a good start she often gets a strong game. Usually she will play A Red-Sea in the Spring of 1901. This played may attack Rumania, Bulgaria, or Greece in the Fall, without fear of failing to be in a supply center in the Fall, and if she gets a stand-off she will stop the growth of another Power. There is a variety of ways of playing the other two Powers. Often the Black goes to Albion and the Vienna Army goes to Trieste. This provides F Alb-Gre with support from Serbia in the Fall. If Italy and Russia have not invaded in the North, Austria will raise two armies and get a good game. If the Russian Black Army has invaded Gallia, the Trieste Army may be ordered to strike Vienna or Budapest, leaving the other open, and hoping to outguess the Russians. Shading one's guess can become psychologically and technically a deep proposition.

If Austria suspects that Italy will attack Tyrolia, she may order A Tri, F Tri holds. Now if the Russians

1955L

## RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE SWEEPS THROUGH SO-FINLANDIA

ENGLAND: A Wal holds; F North Sea-Bal; F Eng & F North-Sea Bal.

FRANCE: F Mid-Port; A Spe & A Pic hold.

GERMANY: A Rip-Den; A Rub-Bal; F Hal S & Rub-Bal.

ITALY: A Apr-Tun; F Ion S & A Apr-Tun; A Ven holds.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: A Tri holds; F Alb-Gre; A Car S & F Alb-Gre.

RUSSIA: F Bot-Swe; A St-P-Norway; F Sov-Rum; A Ukr S & F Sov-Rum.

TURKEY: A Bal-Rum; A Con-Sey; F Ink-Bal.

Underlined moves are not possible. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Stinburgh, Liverpool, London. (3)

FRANCE: Brest, Marseilles, Paris, Portugal, Spain. (5)

GERMANY: Berlin, Denmark, Holland, Kiel, Munich. (5)

ITALY: Naples, Rome, Tunis, Venice. (4)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Budapest, Greece, Sarbia, Trieste, Vienna. (5)

RUSSIA: Moscow, Norway, Rumania, St. Petersburg, Saratopol, Sweden, Tarvas. (7)

TURKEY: Bulgaria, Ankara, Constantinople,  Smyrna. (4)

During "Winter 1901" Russia may establish 3 new units; France, Germany, and Austria-Hungary may each establish 2 new units; and Italy and Turkey may each establish 1 new unit. The deadline for the establishment of these units is SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 1955. However, if all players air-mail in their establishments: orders quickly, they will be published earlier - hopefully in GRAUSTARK #65, due to be published on Labor Day.

Press releases for 1955L begin on

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1965L

## RUSS RELEASES

**ATHENS:** Let it be known that the Austrian fleet in Albania is merely passing through; we have nothing against Albania. However, the Greeks recently murdered Count Johann Holzer who was visiting Athens. We shall occupy their crummy country and show them who's boss. (Austria, of course.)

**SARAJEVO:** Count Boris Borsak, an Austro-Hungarian of Russian ancestry, and commander of the Austrian Army in Serbia, announced that the Serbian government and people will be left intact as long as they pay Austria the tribute she demands and deserves. He pointed out that either way he would get what Austria needed.

**VIENNA:** Emperor Franz Josef announced that he is all for peace with Russia as long as Russia is satisfied with Rumania and leaves the rest of the Balkans to Austro-Hungary. He also warned that any assistance for the Turks, whom he referred to as "Hoskian savages", would also result in war. He further demanded that the Turks withdraw from Bulgaria.

**CONSTANTINOPLE:** Rumor has it that the Russian army in the Ukraine fearfully, it is logical that that army will try for Rumania and not Galicia, but who knows?

**BUCHAREST:** Rumanian scouts were happy to hear the news that the non-aggression pact with Germany had been cleared, and were glad to see the German army in Munich move to the Ruhr. Tyrolia, Munich, and Bohemia form the largest undefended international border on the continent of Europe.

**BUDAPEST (April 1, 1901):** There was a "vamp, va" scare this past week in the city. It was rumored that the infamous and inevitable Count Bela Bogyalibov was loose, but when the warden of the Budapest City Vampire and Werewolf Cade assured the city-dwellers that Bogyalibov was still in captivity and showed a picture taken that day, the scare subsided.

**TYROLIA:** Hot-dog vendors and moonshiners in this beautiful province are heart-broken. Since the German Army in Munich, to which they had been selling their booze and dews at outrageous prices, moved to the Ruhr, they have all gone bankrupt. It would seem logical that they could sell their stinky products to the Italian army in Venice, but we recently discovered why not - Victor Emmanuel has forbidden it, and placed outrageous fines and penalties on anyone caught with the stuff. Oh, Via, some shit!

**CONSTANTINOPLE:** Turkey declares war on Russia! "Big Brother" decided today that with Russia, Austria-Hungary, and Italy all converging on the Balkans, that Turkey wants half of the "pie": Bulgaria and Rumania. "Why doesn't Austria fight Russia and Italy," "Big Brother" asks, "and leave poor Turkey alone?"

**BERLIN (28 May 1901, Reuters):** Upon the occasion of a state visit to Karlsruhe, a massing of troops and columns with a review of the Second Army by the Imperial Kaiser, Wilhelm II, was held amid impressive, almost pagan, ceremony.

Highly commending the virile troops assembled in full battle regalia, the Emperor stated: "There need be no hesitation or faltering on the part of so splendidly equipped and officered an Army - Belgium is yours! There need be no fear of depredations from the West," continued the Kaiser, brandishing his withered arm in defiance, "your right flank at Kiel is securely held by your comrades-in-arms of the heroic First Army, and soon a brave new army, the Third, will arise fully battle-trained in Munich to protect your left."

"And meanwhile, glory in the magnificent deeds of your brothers in the Grand Fleet who have rescued the Hollanders from the threat of invasion by England. With such an example before you, you cannot fail in your glorious mission to similarly rescue Belgium from the decadent French."

(continued on p. 5)

This is  
O At  
P Great  
H Intervals  
R This  
A Appears  
T To  
I Inflamm  
O Optic  
N Nerves

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lands Galicie, the Austrian Army which is still in Vienna (due to a stand-off in Tyrolia) and the Army which moved into the Spring, may both be ordered to attack Budapest. They stand each other off, which keeps the German Army in place, so that Austria may build after the move; they also keep the Russian Army in place, out of both Vienna and Budapest. Austria has substantially no chance of surprising Greece, however, if she elects these Spring moves. Also, if Italy does not attack Tyrolia, the Vienna Army unexpectedly slides into this province, after which it is out of position to make the full stand-off in Budapest. Thus, if the German Army is ordered back to Budapest in the fall to keep the Russians out, it may unexpectedly move there, and Berlin will not be occupied after the fall move. Thus Austria cannot raise a new unit.

A solution to this dilemma is for Germany and Austria to agree both to attack Tyrolia in the Spring. They stand each other off, neither moves out of position, and Italy is kept out of Central Europe entirely. If Germany and Austria agree to do this, they should notify Italy during the first diplomatic period. Italy will be more likely to choose an anti-French deployment if she knows that the roads to both Germany and Austria are blocked.

A normal French deployment is 1. Bas-Rhin, 2. F. du Bas, 3. M. du A. Savoie. If England was not played, 4. Low-Sax, the French Fleet proceeds in the fall to Portugal. An Army is ordered into Spain. If Italy has entered Piedmont, the order is 1. Bas-Rhin. Generally France would like to prevent a German thrust into Tyrolia, which ties most of the French pieces down to defense of supply routes. If France makes an anti-Italian development, she may play the above Spring 1931 moves, she says 1. Low-Sax. On the fall move, the Spain Army occupies Portugal, and the Fleet moves into Spain (South Coast). If Italy did not move to Piedmont in the Spring, the Germany Army could be told off to go to Marseilles. If the result is a stand-off, again a Fleet may be raised there, but if the result is a move to Marseilles, raising a new unit there is not alluring.

There are other interesting first move developments which arise from this to him, and choosing among early developments is often based on positional considerations which flower later in the game. Strategy is still evolving, too, because no fact cannot be anticipated and adapted to in a subsequent game. In any case, diplomatic considerations can override the technical. Alliances sometimes hold together in situations in which neither ally is adequately defended against the other. Loose technical alliances founded on distrust, or are pulled apart by false advice or tempting offers from the outside. A country that has "lost the diplomacy" and finds itself fighting expensive wars can rely on tactics only to delay the issue while it tries to save itself diplomatically.

## ADDRESS LABEL CODE

With each issue of **GRASSBARK** which you receive, please note the symbols which appear in the upper right-hand corner of the address label. They indicate why you are receiving this Bulletin of Postal Diplomacy. The key is:

A - You participate in 1931A.

B - You participate in 1931B.

C - You participate in 1931C.

D - You participate in 1931D.

E followed by a number - You have subscribed to **GRASSBARK** at 10 issues for \$1. The number indicates the issue of **GRASSBARK** with which your subscription begins.

Similar symbols are used for **BRITANNIA**, the Bulletin of Postal Diplomacy for

1931E, which is also published by John

Scrivener at the same subscription rate as **GRASSBARK**. The next issue of **BRITANNIA**, 1931, should appear around the middle of September. It will contain the Spring, Fall, and winter moves of what has proved to be the latest postal diplomacy game now played.

## THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

**JOHN SUTHER**, 632 1/2 Forrest Ave., Evanston, Illinois: The proposed method for measuring the "skill" of postal Diplomacy players seems altogether too complicated. If a measure of "skill" is desired, why not make the measure simple? An example: Give 1 point for every supply center controlled at the end of the game. Subtract 1/3 point for every spring or fall move missed. Subtract 1/2 point for every year the game continues after the winter move in which a player loses his last supply center. Finally, take the sum and divide it by the number of games entered....

With this system you can adjust for resignations as follows: If a player resigns and no replacement is made, 1/3 of a point will be subtracted from the resignor's accumulated score for every spring and fall move missed. When the resignor's country is removed, in lieu of the 1/3 point deduction, the 1/2 point deduction will be made for every game year thereafter until the game is completed. The same adjustment can also be used for people who do not resign but permit their change to either from lack of interest.

[[This seems to be simply an application of the rules of the previous paragraph to the case of a resignor or defaulter.]]

Now that I look over my proposal it seems too complicated also. But it is flexible and permits an individual to be scored on a basis other than "how many games has he entered" etc.

[[Under this scoring plan, players in the completed games of 1963, 1964, and 1965 would be scored as follows:]]

James Mackenzie	18.00	James Goldman	2.67	James Thomas	- 1.33
Derek Nelson	13.83	John McCallum	1.00	Dave McDaniel	- 1.50
John Bryson	8.35	Phil Cashore	0.00	Fred Lerner	- 1.67
Robert Lako	5.35	John Koning	- 0.33	Dick Schultz	- 2.67
Don Swannan	4.00	Bill Christian	- 1.00		
John Harvey	3.33	Samuel Kosiner	- 1.17		

In this system, what should be done about such a situation as exists in 1965, where Allan Callender played Germany for two game years, leaving her with 11 supply centers and a poor situation as the result of an ill-timed double-cross of an ally. Roland Taudiker has taken over Germany, and is now fighting a valiant but foredoomed resistance. If Germany is eliminated from this game, how should the points, or lack of them, be apportioned between Callender and Taudiker? Also, how should team games be scored by your system?]]

**FRANK CLARK**, 4506 Fiske Place, Alexandria, Va. 22312: It is quite obvious that there is considerable sentiment of some sort of tournament routine for postal Diplomacy players, particularly now. Three games have been permitted. Certain principles are emerging or need to be reinforced themselves:

1. That only completed postal games be tallied.
2. That the winner get prime score for his game.
3. That other survivors be rewarded in proportion to pieces remaining.
4. That those who resign for uncontrollable cause be penalized only slightly.
5. That those who default be penalized more heavily.
6. That those who are forced out be penalized at a rate between the foregoing extremes.

Consequently then, the scoring could be organized in the following fashion: Winner 1 point for each piece remaining at end of game, plus two points for each player forced out of the game.

Survivors: 1 point for each piece remaining at end of game.

Losses: 1 those forced out of game 1 penalized 2 points.

Resigners: 1 those penalized 1 point.

Defaulters: 1 those penalized 3 points.

Obviously, when the resignor has before being forced out of a game automatically forfeited his game.

Similarly, adjustments are suggested for the players. Obviously a system will be worked out by the players for their approval.]]

During January 1901, the following results. The first figure is taken directly from his ledger, and the second divided the first figure by the number of games played. Lack of a definition for "character" in precise terms has led to no definite positions being assigned.

Nelson	30	17	Derry	4	4	Kelling	-2	-1
Blackstone	20	22	McCallum	1	1	Schultz	-3	-1
Clyde	17	25	Wright	1	1	Christman	-2	-2
Leak	7	7	Kushner	0	0	McDaniel	-2	-2
Goldman	7	3	Lerner	0	0			
Insular	4	4	Gastora	-1	-1			

RUSS RELEASERS

(continued from p. 3)

The British's statement concerning the First Army reveals to this correspondent what must be its not only to all the great strategic plans of the Russian General of the High Command. What is developed later that the First Army did not hold the flank at Kiev but instead unashamedly accented the hapless Danube.

British Intelligence Estimates

BRITISH (18 August 1901, Robinson's Wire Service). General European war about to begin? Many signs, in addition to the minor Black Sea clash between Russian and Russian naval patrols, appear to point to such a conclusion. There is general mobilization throughout the major powers of Europe and Asia Minor. Armaments are at an all-time high - Holland, Serbia, Bulgaria, Albania, and Spain have already fallen to possible commitments. Now is probably the time to buy munitions stocks, increase war-time insurance, and salt away bank accounts in Switzerland.

Other indicators continue to come to the notice of our wide-flung network of intelligence operatives. Naval maneuvers currently reveal interests to other minor powers - Portugal, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Greece, Tunisia. The winter of 1901 should bring a reformation of such increased strength for all the major powers of Europe (including Turkey) that a very minor spark indeed could touch off a general conflagration. What will be the spark? A naval "accident" off Morocco? A "hunting accident" at Mayotling? A minor matter of royalty lost to an "assassin's" bullet, say at Santiago? A man's hat blowing off his head in Malaya?

Even without those possible spark incidents, direct confrontations could be building up in certain corners of Europe. Is Italy in a mood for trouble with Austria-Hungary? Or with Turkey? Also, is Germany pushing Russia to Sweden? Or against England to Norway? And the Russians headed for Brent? Will the First Army be deployed to Yorkshire? Or turn to Belgium or to Burgundy? Any such conflict could precipitate war, in the view of our Independent Intelligence Analysis of Europe.

Briefly noted Frenchmen are torn between defense of the horizons and the siren call to spread French culture in Florida. Germans cry "Get off me", and he had better protect the Eastern front, because they can't. Still, the bloody Boche are at it again - Holland, and possibly Belgium and Denmark have fallen to the hobnobbed heek. In this hesitant winter period, Russia is split wide open. The Italians could have been in Macedonia this winter, if they had been smarter. The Turks have proven they are no open-water sailors, but maybe they can beat the Austrians? The English dogs may wind up supporting the strongest, not, as by tradition, the second strongest power in Europe. To cover all bases, they are moving North, South, East and West all at once.

Strangling alliances? Italy and Austria-Hungary both heading south - to cooperation or attack? Russia and Turkey to divide the Balkans? Germany and England to divide France? Or Germany and France to mount an invasion of England? Are Russia and Germany heading for Berlin? What neutral is about to be done by his second service? And the world behind Berlin to follow?

Who is the Lone Wolf of Europe?

The winter snows will see many changes to the map of Europe.

Charles Wells (Department of Mathematics, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio 44106) announces the foundation of a new postal Diplomacy bulletin, Lonely Mountain. Publication will begin next month. Would-be players and subscribers should write Dr. Wells for further details.

The Grand Furdick Gazette is a one-shot account of a Diplomacy game played among Les Aillies (France), Les Salins (Italy), Al Scott (Germany), and Charles Wells (England) at Scott's residence on 12 July 1965. A move-by-move account of the game is included, with strategic analysis and press releases. Beginning players will find this publication of particular interest. The game ended after "Fall 1904" when England and France agreed to a deal. The Gazette lists no price or address to which to send for a copy, but you might try asking Dr. Wells or Al Scott, 2506 Shenandoah Drive, Charlotte, N. C.

Diplomacy bulletins, including the above-mentioned one, are usually named after fictional countries. However, Robert Adams, who plays Russia in 1965NT, is the first to have an address taken from fiction. He lives on Marjula Court in Lafayette, California - "Marjula" is the name of a coastal district of Palermo in Elio Vittorini's novel Wall of the Unicorn.

A forthcoming issue of Lonely Mountain (20 issues for \$1) is to enter a game) will describe a new game, Parliament. The scene of the maneuvering for this game is a multi-party Parliament, in which each player is a party leader.

During the next week, the Commissioner will publish the 9th issue of his science-fiction and fantasy fanzine, KNOWABLE. This issue includes an article on selfishness, an expose of attempts to find "scientific support for racism, two more chapters in a round robin story, and a continuing discussion in the letter column of anthropology and archaeology. KNOWABLE is 5 issues for \$1.00.

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