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Hoosier Archives was originally a periodic listing of the Diplomacy archives of Walter Buchanan, R.R. # 3, Lebanon, Indiana 46052, telephone (317) 482-2824; Archives Director, NCPGBDD and a member of TDA, IFWDS and the PDRC. It is now primarily a Diplomacy gazette devoted to articles on good play, demonstration games such as The Grudge Game (1971BC) now in progress, rating systems, and game news. Information from the archives is vital for all this and is available to the public as well. Although the archives is virtually complete in at least xerox form, except for Rundanis and the LASFS zines, missing undamaged originals are solicited, either for purchase or a loan to permit Xeroxing. (See the last quarterly archives listing in Hoosier Archives #53 for zines needed.) Many original copies are now available from the archives and more are solicited so as to make them available to others. A subscription to Hoosier Archives is \$5/\$2.00 (or 7/1.00); back issues are available for a stamp apiece. Ask for issue #55 to get a list of all articles through #53. This is Albatross Press publication #60.

INTO THE ARCHIVES NO. 21

One of Diplomacy's most prolific writers, Edi Birsan, is back again with another excellent article on the openings, this time on Austria. This former empire of the Hapsburgs is thought in many Diplomacy circles to be the most difficult country to play. Edi seems to have discovered the secret, however, in that among Edi's eight unimpeded wins, three of them have been with Austria! We are pleased to present this article and note that for the first time, Hoosier Archives has more original articles listed among its issues than reprints.

THE AUSTRIAN GAUNTLET

by Edi Birsan

In considering the alternatives in tactical moves during the first year of play, the Austrian player generally focuses on what to do with the Army in Vienna. Traditionally, the Austrians use the Fleet in Trieste to move south to secure Greece while the Army in Budapest enters Serbia and backs up the Fleet's claim on Greece. The success of the simple two-unit move into the Balkans is the main reason for it becoming the traditional opening since the Turks have no chance to extract Greece from the Austrians with the two units in place. Hence, many Turkish players, when confronted with a traditional looking advance, do not move to Greece in the Fall of 1901 in hopes of securing Austrian favors against either Italy or Russia. If the Italian player is avoiding the usual suicide attack on Austria in 1901 and the Russians are not moving into the Galician region, the Austrian player has an opportunity to grasp the initiative in the south with an iron grip by pressuring the southern players with an unusual opening.

In the Spring of 1901, the Austrians play the traditional moves of Army Budapest to Serbia, Fleet Trieste to Albania and a non-hostile Army Vienna to Trieste. At this point, the Austrian has a chance to see if there are dramatic changes in the eastern region: have the Turks played to Armenia, are the Italians in Tyrolia, what is the Russian intention? If the climate is right and there are no overt acts against the Austrian mainland, and the Turks are either tied down against Russia or do not intend to play to Greece, the Austrian can move in the fall as follows: Fleet Albania to the Ionian, Army Serbia to Greece, Army Trieste to Serbia. Thus the Austrians have seized the key sea area in the Mediterranean and can turn it to use against either the Italians or the Turks. More than likely, the Italians will be rather bothered by such a move and they have a right to be as they are about to be eliminated by the Austrian if he plays his cards right. The Turks will also be unnerved by the move, as it forces the Austrian Fleet to do battle with the Turks in the waters off the Eastern Mediterranean while the Austrians can still make a surprise attack on Istanbul. Regardless of the strategic shift of the Austrian, one thing will be constant: they will win; the odds and directing the offensive rather than being the object of someone else's strategy.

The resort to such a challenge in the Ionian can be a costly gamble if either the Italians doublecross the Austrians in the Fall of 1901 or if the Turks throw tradition to the sharks and move on Greece regardless. But, in Diplomacy you have to decide what the chances of a doublecross are; if you deem the chances of a doublecross small, the gamble may pay off. No one can improve your Diplomatic guesswork, but with this opening you at least have one more alternative to consider when you feel the time is right to act but are unsure of what to do.

VISIT TO THE ARCHIVES NO. 3

Part of the Michigan crowd descended on us last weekend to make for the largest Diplomacy get-together here yet. We even had enough for a five-man FIF game! Included in the entourage were Herb Parsons and his girl, Constance Sue Veele, Bob Van Andel, and a friend of his, John de Longpre.

After suitable chivvings and ab-ings at some nice treasures on exhibit in the archives, such as Derek Nelson's Gambitack #3, we got down to the business at hand. Prior to the game, we drew for countries with the following result: Austria (Buchanan), England (Van Andel), France (Veele), Russia (Parsons), and Turkey (de Longpre).

After initially lamenting my fate as Austria, I soon found it wasn't a half-half country to play in a five-men game since your neighbors, Italy and Germany, are in civil disorder. The end result was a traditional east-west stalemate as follows: Austria--10, England--9, France--9, Russia--4 and Turkey--2. More details will follow in a future write-up by John in States or Frost. I might add that Herb would have done better if he could have kept his girl in line. But alas, we found her a very independent woman. Carol couldn't even get her to join the Diplomacy Widows Association!

All in all, however, we had a great time and enjoyed the visit very much. Hopefully, Carol and I can reciprocate with a journey to Michigan this summer.

THE GRUDGE GAME (1971BC)

Fall 1901

SMYTER STATES TRETICK, FOXES FROSNITZI

AUSTRIA: A Vie-Tri, A Ser S Russian F Rum-Bul(es), F Alb-Gre
(Loftofka)

ENGLAND: A Non-Neg, F Nth C A Yer-Nay, F Nig S A Yer-Nay
(Prosnitz)

FRANCE: A Bir-Bal, F Mid-Por, A Gas-Spa
(Birman)

GERMANY: F Den-Sin, A Kie-Den, A Rrh-Rol
(Key)

ITALY: A Von-Nay, A Apu-Tun, F Ion C A Apu-Tun
(Walker)

RUSSIA: A Ser-Fin, F Bot-Sue, A Ukr-Sov, F Rum-Bul(ec)
(Smythe)

TURKEY: A Dul-Fin, F Bla S A Bul-Rum, A Ann-Sov
(Tretick)

Winter 1901 Games are due not Friday from noon on Saturday, 5 February 1972. Remember that this is likely to be much later. All is intended to be sent by return mail. Also, I would again urge anyone who has not already done so to send in General Orders.

Note: Due to the enormous Spring 1901 analysis to follow, press releases will be delayed until next spring.

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RUIMES: All Centers Occupied!

AUSTRIA:	Bud, Tri, Vie, Gro, Ser	(5)	Build TWO
ENGLAND:	Edi, Liv, Lon, Hull	(4)	Build ONE
FRANCE:	Bre, Mar, Par, Bel, Por, Spa	(6)	Build THREE
GERMANY:	Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol	(5)	Build TWO
ITALY:	Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun	(4)	Build ONE
RUSSIA:	Mos, StP, Sev, War, Run, Swe	(6)	Build TWO
TURKEY:	Ank, Con, Smy, Bul	(4)	Build ONE

As a note for the future, I would like to solicit any game correspondence you would like to send from time to time during the game. Comments on your intentions with your moves would be appreciated too. Then at the end of the game this material can be used for a comprehensive game analysis. Also, to clear the record, this information will be kept strictly confidential until the end of the game and will not be used in any play-by-play game analysis such as the one by Rick Brooks below.

ANALYSIS (Spring 1908)...Rick Brooks (R. R. 1, Box 367, Fremont, Indiana 46737; comments are invited) (An introduction on Rick Brooks will be published next issue.)

It is a bit hard to criticize opening moves as alliances are hazy, probably even to the players. Russia has signed most friendly and is in trouble in the south. It seems obvious that Russia has an agreement with Austria since both left Galicia alone. Austria could go after Russia now that he is in a bind, but Italy appears to be coming in on Austria's other flank.

I favor a southern strategy with Russia. If Russia cannot gain an agreement with either Austria or Turkey (a bad sign in itself), I notify Turkey that RA Sevastopol is hitting the Black Sea and notify Austria that RA Warsaw is moving to Galicia. I also state to Turkey that if he hits the Black Sea with TF Ankara, he will have assured its neutralization for the spring. Hitting Galicia assures that Austria must support in either Vienna or Budapest with the other (usually AA Budapest (S) AA Vienna to Galicia as this assures one more unit on Austria in the fall), and Austria usually doesn't care to go this far at the start of a game. Even in a Russia-Turkish alliance, I favor both fleets bumping heads over the Black Sea on the opening move. The plight of Russia clearly illustrates the value of this approach.

Turkey is now in a position to move either into Romania or Sevastopol with support and Russia has to sacrifice him. With RA Moscow moving to St. Petersburg, Russia's options are few. Austria might help with RA Galicia as it is unlikely that TA Bulgaria would try to move to Greece and block out TF Adrian. Turkey needs TA Bulgaria (either to cut Russia's possible support of RA Ukraine to Sevastopol, to follow up into Armenia if Russia moves RA Romania back to Sevastopol, or to support TF Black Sea to Russia). If TA Bulgaria fails to move to Greece, he is most unlikely to get support from TF Adrian as this would leave Turkey without a build unless Austria was thoughtful enough to give up Trieste, which seems most unlikely.

Russia's chances without Austrian help are more than good. RA Ukraine (S) TF Romania would assure protection of Novorossiia unless RA Sevastopol hits the Turt. Since Turkey is almost certain to move RA Ankara to Sevastopol (removing vital units (no support or attack power of TF Black Sea)), the place most would cost Russia the loss of Sevastopol, put Romania in a red position to defend, and give Turkey the build. RA Ukraine (S) TF Romania to Sevastopol is the best bet. TF TF Black Sea (S) TA Adria to Sevastopol or vice versa, all moves would be disastrous. TF Ukraine could move to Black Sea and cut support, but this would mean that he would be wiped out if Turkey hit Romania with TF Black Sea and TA Bulgaria with TA Armenia hitting Sevastopol. A stand-off over Sevastopol would leave Sevastopol open to Turkey and Germany. War in the south would then allow Russia to put a fleet in Sevastopol. A problem for RA Ukraine is that a stand-off over Sevastopol would probably mean that RA Ukraine would be TF Black Sea, Russia would build two, and RA Ukraine moves RA Ukraine (S) TF Black Sea to Novorossiia and Turkey goes after Russia with the units, Turkey would take Novorossiia and leave the battle.

With his clever Austria early in, The Prudent Russian alliance to keep in working order

is that of Austria and Turkey since Austria tends to squeeze Turkish expansion and Turkey almost always has units moving around the Austrian flank. Austria may not care to see Turkey grow strong as he will form a buffer between Turkey and the rest of the board if Russia falls and be open to a squeeze play. Besides, Lakefka and Tretick are on opposite sides of the DA feud.

So, a Russian move of RA Ukraine (S) RF Rumania to Sevastopol could be helped by AA Serbia to Bulgaria. The only way Turkey could take a Russian center would be to move TF Black Sea (S) TA Bulgaria to Rumania and TA Armenia to Sevastopol. This would lose Turkey Bulgaria and he would only have one build. Austria still should get two as Italy is unlikely to hit Greece. This would also leave Turkey in an overextended position as his TA Rumania would be flanked by RA Ukraine, RF Sevastopol, AA Bulgaria, and with probable Austrian builds (Italy allowing) of AA Budapest and AA Trieste, Austria could have two more units in striking position by fall. AA Trieste could be supported into Serbia in the spring and AF Greece could support AA Bulgaria.

I would not expect to see TF Black Sea (S) TA Bulgaria as Turkey cannot come out without a build unless he moves quite quickly--such as hitting Greece if RF Rumania and AA Serbia gang up on him. He could even get away with this if he moved TF Black Sea to Rumania and TA Armenia to Sevastopol. Then RF Rumania's support would be cut or RF Rumania would take Bulgaria and lose either Rumania or Sevastopol depending on which one RA Ukraine moved to. TA Bulgaria would be dislodged into Constantinople or off the board if Turkey wanted another fleet in Constantinople. If Turkey chooses to move TF Black Sea (S) TA Bulgaria to Rumania and RF Rumania (S) AA Serbia to Bulgaria, RF Rumania would be wiped out. Russia probably wouldn't dare not move RA Ukraine to Sevastopol in this case. So, if Tretick or Turkey got tricky and moved TA Armenia first, then Sevastopol probably wouldn't be open to build in.

The Italian move of IA Venice to Trieste is interesting. Usually moves can be interpreted on the basis of alliances. Some players may make an occasional wild move to keep the other players honest. So where does Italy fit in? An attack on Trieste looks like he is going against Austria. But both Turkey and Russia have moved away from Austria as has Germany. I also find it hard to picture an alliance between Walker and Tretick.

If Italy had been moving against Austria, I'd expect to see IA Venice to Tyrolia and IA Rome to Venetia. If Naples to Indian Sea is always a good opening move since it allows Italy to take Tunis just as IF Naples to Tyrrhenian Sea would. It also allows for a move against Greece and the opportunity exists. Since Italy has moved IA Rome to Apulia, he can converge onto Tunis and have possession of the Ionian Sea in the Spring of 1902.

If Italy had put earlier into Tyrolia and Venice, he could go for Trieste with support in the fall. If allied with Turkey, IF Trieste to Greece would have left Italy with three units to Black and four units. Italy would get a build unless the Russians were in position to cut supply. It is doubtful that RF Rumania would move to Bulgaria to cut support. If the Turk had stayed out of the Black Sea, he wouldn't care to change his mind, while if the Turk had a fleet in the Black Sea, hitting Bulgaria could be risky.

My reasoning of IA Venice to Trieste and IA Venice to Naples is that it was by pre-agreement much as I like to agree to have bases over the Black Sea if I'm Russia or Turkey. From the start Austria favored Critica and the possibility of Prussian attack, he had a urge to "work" in a stand-off. An alliance with Italy could help Austria. If Russia and Austria could pull it off, Austria would expand in the fall with AA Vienna and AA Serbia to Budapest which would leave Budapest open to build in. Whether then to move AF Alttitude to Greece or back to cover Trieste would be the question.

Since Russia definitely intended to move north, I doubt that he has more than a non-aggression pact with Austria. No sense in the probability that Austria and Italy have agreed to go after Turkey. I am sure that Smyrna has already mentioned this possibility to them after he noticed that Turkey was small. And if Turkey only gets one build, he could be open to attack at the start.

Austria will probably hit Greece, and Italy can converge IA Apulia to Tunis. Italy can build AF Naples and it would really help the British and puts fleets in Constantinople and Argos, so it will stand him well if required.

France's next decision is probably. Probably the best move for an uncertain France is IF Paris to Hollandia, IF Louis to Ceylon, and IF Kinsale to Hungary. This leaves

plishes several things. If the German moves GA Munich to Burgundy, he is blocked out and cannot menace Marseilles and Paris in the fall. If he doesn't, France has a shot at Bologna and possibly Munich in the fall. FA Paris to Gascony leaves many options open for the fall. FA Gascony can take Spain while FF Mid-Atlantic takes Portugal or moves to Brest if the English have been naughty enough to move to the English Channel. If FA Marseilles has successfully moved to Burgundy, FA Gascony could block Marseilles in case IA Venice had moved to Piedmont.

FA Marseilles (S) FA Paris to Burgundy is not as good since in the case of EF London to English Channel, FF Mid-Atlantic must drop back to cover Brest or risk losing it. Thus, Portugal is out for the first year. But those openings and West Britain used do get France a build if England, Germany, and Italy gang up on him. In this case, if France's neighbors had moved GA Munich to Burgundy, FF London to English Channel, and IA Venice to Piedmont, FA Paris to Burgundy would have failed. But FA Gascony to Marseilles, FA Paris to Brest, and FF Mid-Atlantic to Portugal would have gained a build. Then if England had been thoughtful enough to try to take Brest, France could build FF Brest and move FF Portugal to Spain (SC). France probably would lose Marseilles in the process as England hitting for Brest, Germany for Burgundy, and Italy for Marseilles would take one of the three spaces or if France blocked them all, stop France from getting a build. With two of them supply centers, Burgundy would probably be left undefended. Then in the spring, GA Burgundy and IA Piedmont could take Marseilles if France did not build there.

It could be that France moved FA Marseilles to Gascony as it was sure to go, whereas moving FA Marseilles to Burgundy could have been blocked. This could indicate that France is bending over backwards to avoid bugging Italy.

England has not exhibited himself, a wise move in this game, but he can't keep it up. If France has moved FF Brest to the English Channel along with the move of RA Moscow to St. Peter, England could still get a build by moving EA Yorkshire to London and EF Norwegian (S) EF North Sea to Norway. EF North Sea (S) EF Norwegian Sea could be cut by either FF English Channel or CF Denmark to North Sea.

Which brings us to the Boulechlander. And probably to Russia's northern strategy. Russia probably didn't leave himself wide open in the south without having something going far back in the north. His moves seem catered to England. If they are a feint, they leave him relatively off balance. Since France has left England alone, that probably will leave Germany too hasn't had to nominal himself to Prussia's promised ally against England. CF Kiel to Denmark is a good opening move as it leaves Germany aimed to go west or to keep Russia out of Sweden. A move of CF Kiel to Holland leaves it aimed west. It could have proceeded to Kiel-Denmark or the direct route. Most savvy players do not. He could use CF Denmark to the North Sea in the fall hoping to catch the English unawares using EF North Sea to support, but it is doubtful. Since France stayed out of the English Channel, England can move EF Prussia (S) FA Piedmont to Norway along with EF North Sea (C) EA Yorkshire to Norway. This not only blocks the North Sea and gives a build, but it also puts an army with two potential opponents, EF North Sea and EF Norwegian Sea, in Norway. Even if Germany moves GA Berlin to Sweden and GA Kiel to Denmark in the fall, England can hold Norway until the winter threat goes to problem or put support on until a Russian army takes Finland. The question here is, will France force Germany alone to do this? He is probably staying away of Norway and Denmark since Germany's forces have much closer places to go. But France usually plays it safe during the winter year. He has got Spain and Portugal plus a shot at either Belgium or Ireland depending on how Germany chooses. Germany has the option of going for Belgium or Spain but to cover Prussia with GA Kiel. GA Kiel to Holland should go, as England will be trying to make prorogation of Norway by putting his units on it. If Germany moves GA Riga to Denmark and FA Burgundy takes Holland, Germany can have either Belgium or Holland for sure, and probably both. So he can build GA Berlin and GA Kiel and throw the French out. If he goes Brest and out of Holland, he will still have a GA Kiel. If he is blocked out of Denmark, GA Kiel to either GA Riga can distract France from Holland. Let CF Brest sit would also be done better than GA Kiel. He could be surprised to see GA EF Sweden,

Germany could be at Sweden and go after France in the winter. But that makes it hard to move out of Denmark and this opportunity would still be big enough to keep him there. And the last point is the winter. A German attack and it gets sensible. Holland, if captured, is the next best thing to taking Russia.