

# IMPASSABLE

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Impassable is a journal of postal Diplomacy published and edited by John Boyer, 117 Garland Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013. Phone: (717) 249-1343, after 9:30 pm weekdays except on Mondays and Thursdays in which case call after 10:00 pm (eastern time). Don't call later than 11:00 pm on any night.

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There is only one opening left in Scotice Scripti III. Game fee is \$5, and you can get the rules & map for .25¢. Subscriptions to Impassable is 6 issues for \$1. Chapel Hill Publications will eventually publish another gamezine to be called, The Swiss Gazette. This will carry no more than two games for its planned maximum of 12 pages on a tri-weekly basis. These two games will attempt to go all out historically. Only good press writers will be allowed to play. Losers will continue to write press releases and participate in two other planned phases of the game. For more information, ask for free sample sheet of The Swiss Gazette. Another gamezine in the works will be Lost Horizons and will carry primarily variant and orphaned games. TSG gamefee will be \$7 to cover the higher costs. Already, we have Conrad von Metzke signed up for this game. More information on LH at a later time. With Scotice Scripti III, Impassable will reach its maximum number of games. In the future, as the games are finished, we will go down to a limit of 7 or 8 games in order to allow more space for articles, etc.

## IMPASSABLE'S REPLACEMENT LIST

Since no one has missed their moves this time around (bravo for the players!), I will not need to reprint the list since it hasn't changed. Thanks go to those stand-bys who have submitted stand-by orders.

Every great advance in natural knowledge has involved the absolute rejection of authority.

Huxley, Lay Sermons

## HOUSE RULES

I have several new house rules (and reaffirmations of old ones) and I thought it would be best to put them on the front page where everyone would see them. Remember, I will be printing a supplement to add to the house rules you now have, but the ones below are effective immediately!

1) I will not accept any late orders unless they have been unduly delayed as by the U.S. Post office. Recently, I have just finished compiling statistics of mail time from the players to the GM. The following are the rules I am setting up to determine which mail have been unduly delayed.

a. The standard times for airmail are as follows: The Far West--2 days; Mid-West (states of MN, WI, MI, IL, IN, MO, TX, LA and TN)--2 days; East--not practical.

b. The standard times for first class mail are: The Far West--3 days; Mid-West--3 days; and East--2 days. I will not consider any late mail that has been mailed third class.

c. Add to your standard time one extra day to cover normal post office delays. Use this figure and mail it that many days ahead of the deadline. An example: The deadline for next time is December 15, 1972. If you live in California, all first class mail must be postmarked by December 11th in order for late mail to be accepted. The normal time is 3 days, but I will not allow late mail from those who like to shave it close to the deadline to delay the game. I have only weekends to publish Impassable, and waiting a day for late mail will delay the zine for up to one whole week. If you mailed first class from California on Dec. 12th and it gets here on Saturday, I will not accept it because you took chances with the post office.

This method for determining late mail will continue until I decide whether to move up the deadline to Thursday in which case all mail taking one more day than usual will be accepted if mailed at least their normal time ahead of the deadline day.

2. All orders must be signed, this leaves out Western Union telegrams!

3. Keep your game moves on separate sheets of paper, that is one sheet for each game!

(cont. on next page)

4. I reserve the right, on the present deadline set up (Fridays), to accept or reject late orders that arrive on Saturday. If I have typed up the game, then the late orders will not be accepted. Other than this, you are taking a risk when you don't mail early by at least one extra day over the normal mailing time from your area. Mail that has been unduly delayed by the post office will be accepted and any game's adjudication will be corrected. There will be a maximum of days allowed for late mail also, but I haven't decided this point yet. Most likely, I will accept unduly delayed mail up to 10 days prior to the next deadline.

5. Since the current times for phone calls are in the evenings, this means that I will no longer accept any phone calls on the deadline day. Phone calls must be taken by me to be valid, and the hours are when I am most likely to be home.

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THIS ISSUE, NEXT ISSUE, ETC.

I have several articles, letters and, of course, puzzles, quotes and the like. What I can't fit into this issue will be put into the next issue. Issue #14 will be a special issue perhaps double-sized. A word of caution: the next deadline is set for December 15, 1972. I thought about delaying the deadline, but I could not have it close to Christmas, nor before New Year's, so I left it on the 15th of December. Make sure that you mail your orders in early. My recent postal statistics pointed out, already, an increasing delay of the mail in the month of November. So, send in early tentative orders, two sets of orders, or allow me to phone you collect if I do not receive your orders. There are nine people who have authorized me to call them collect if I haven't received their orders. The way I operate is that if I don't receive their orders by Thursday, I will call them that same night. I do this to prevent giving people a chance to extend the deadline. For this Christmas-New Year season, it can't hurt to allow me to call you collect for this one time only. In that event, let me know early--either by phone or by mail.

Okay, so the message is this: be extra early for the next issue! And take extra precautions to protect yourself from missing moves. As an example, the post office tells me that air mail will be more reliable, and it may help to use air-mail this time around if you haven't been using air mail service.

Yet, I will wait for unduly mail, and will wait up to one week (til next weekend) before

publishing Impassable. If we're out on schedule, the next deadline of January 5th will present less problems, postal-wise. If we're delayed, we'll set a deadline accordingly. PLAY IT SAFE! MAIL EARLY!!  
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GAME 1970BJ, Autumn & Winter 1904

RUSSIA LEADS ALL WITH NINE WHILE THREE OTHERS ARE TIED AT SEVEN EACH! TURKEY IS DESTROYED COMPLETELY, AND FRANCE WAITS FOR THE CHOPPING BLOCK CEREMONEY!

Autumn 1904--Turkey disbands retreating A Smy  
Winter 1904--

AUSTRIA (Beyerlein): Stands Pat  
ENGLAND (Thomas): Stands Pat  
FRANCE (Lakofka): D F Iri  
GERMANY (Cooper): Stands Pat  
ITALY (Phillips): B F Nap  
RUSSIA (Richter): B A Mos, A StP  
TURKEY (Weidmark): Out of game, kaput,  
dead and buried (good grief)

SPRING 1905 ORDERS due Friday, Dec. 15, 1972,  
at noon.

Winter 1904 Positions--

Austria: F Aeg, A Bul, A Ser, A Rum, A Bud, A Vie, A Ukr (7); England: F Lon, F Edi, F Nat (3); France: F Iri (1); Germany: A Gas, A Par, A Bur, A Ruh, A Boh, F Den, F Nth (7); Italy: A Tyr, A Pie, A Mar, F Nap, F Spa (SC), F Por, F Mid (7); Russia: F Cly, F Nwg, A StP, A Mos, A War, A Sev, F Bla, A Ank, F Smy (9)

Propaganda--

Turkish Underground (6 ft., that is)--Well, you're the one that's alive Captain Le Cupcake. If Germany didn't miss, you could have joined me down here, as I planned, but I guess I'll just have to wait. Believe it or not, I think this is the first game I've been wiped out of! You almost got me in Xanadu, but luckily they stopped publishing and I'm still there. But, back to business, I'd like to thank Beyerlein for a good game--very honest fellow he is. And I'd like to thank Len for some fine press. As for Phillips, ....bzztph! Thanks guys. (I bet it's the first time somebody said thanks after getting wiped out...more often you hear "thanks" in a game where Len has just been wiped out, and everybody says, "Thank God!") Bye.

Wales--Damn it, Andy, couldn't you all with someone besides Russia? If anyone has any doubts if Italy is allied with Russia, just figure it out.  
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3  
GAME 1972AZ, Autumn & Winter 1903

FRANCE TIES AUSTRIA FOR THE LEAD AS GERMANY  
AND RUSSIA BOTH MOVE TOWARDS NATIONAL OBLIVION

Autumn 1903--Aus R A Bul-Gre, Ger D A War, and  
Tur R A Sev-Mos, but no retreat order was  
given for F Smy and GM automatically  
disbands the unit.

Winter 1903--

AUSTRIA (Osmanson): B A Bud  
ENGLAND (Wiskow): Stands Pat  
FRANCE (Mahler): B A Par, A Mar  
GERMANY (Richter): Stands Pat  
ITALY (Hollingsworth): Stands Pat  
RUSSIA (De Prisco): D A Liv (Turkey retreated  
A Sev-Mos and Russia lost another center)  
TURKEY (Thomas): No build order was received.  
Will be one unit short for 1904.

SPRING 1904 ORDERS due Friday, Dec. 15, 1972  
at noon.

Winter 1903 Positions--

Austria: A Ven, A Bud, A Gal, A Ukr, A Sev,  
A Rum, A Gre, F Aeg (8); England: A StP,  
F Bar, F Bal, A Den, F Hel, F Nth, A Lon (7);  
France: F Tun, A Naf, F Tyr, A Tus, A Mar,  
A Par, A Bel, F Hol (8); Germany: F Kie, A  
Ber (2); Italy: A Bur, A Rom, F Ion, F Smy  
(4); Russia: A Mos (1); Turkey: A Mos, F  
Bla, A Bul (3), will be 1 unit short for 1904.

Propaganda--

Ecclesiastes--The winds of change sweep across  
Europe, long standing alliances are crumbling  
in the face of the whirlwind sown during the  
Autumn. Is France still allied with England,  
or has he become friends with Germany, Austria  
or even Italy? Will England cast its lot  
with Austria in order to turn the rest of  
Europe into a pillar of salt? Which group  
of the true believers will find companionship  
with the Sultan's infidels? Can Russia and  
Germany prosper in the hitherto inhospitable  
European soil? And will Austria, the sick  
man of Europe, become so robust that his  
neighbors will perish? 1904 will be a very  
interesting year.

France (Fleet Brest)--Brittania won't rule  
London, much less the waves.

Gen. Custer--Eng +2, Aus +1, Ita and Rus even,  
Fra, Ger and Tur -1.

Holland--Doug was much cleverer in his move  
to Burgundy, didn't think he had it in him.  
Bill was even more clever in going to Venice.  
It looks like the Garibaldi-Drool Monarch  
Alliance(G.A.R.D.R.O.M.A.)has split up.

Radio Free Clyde--After the deceitful and  
(cont. on next page)

treacherous act perpetrated by our once  
well-loved French ally. The Prime Minister  
announced that England was open to proposals  
from potential allies, including that Mr.  
Kissinger over in the colonies!

Radio Free Clyde--We congratulate Howard on  
his clever move in Holland.

Impassable--my apologies. There was no  
"Holland" press release. That under "Holland"  
actually follows at the end of the second  
Radio Free Clyde. It seems I can't type  
very well this weekend.  
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GAME 1972DG, Summer & Fall 1903

Typo Error in #12--Russia did take Prussia  
and Germany had to retreat.

Summer 1903--France R F Eng-Bel, Russia R  
A Bul-Rum, and Germany R A Pru-Ber

TURKEY WEAKENS AS THE RACE FOR THE LEAD  
TIGHTENS UP TIGHTER! ENGLISH TRICK RUSSIANS!

Fall 1903--

AUSTRIA (Thomas): A Ser-Bul, F Gre S A Ser-  
Bul, A Gal-Sil, A Boh S A Gal-Sil, A Tyr-  
Mun

ENGLAND (Keller): A Edi-Den, F Nth C A Edi-  
Den, F Ska-Nor, F Eng-Bel/r/

FRANCE (Murray): F Bel S F Bre-Eng, F Bre-  
Eng, A Gas-Bre, A Mar S F Por-Spa (SC),  
F Por-Spa (SC)

GERMANY (De Prisco): F Den-Swe, F Bal S  
F Den-Swe, A Ber S A Sil, A Mun-Boh,  
A Sil S A Mun-Boh/a/, A Ruh S Fra F Bel

ITALY (Hrbek): A Ven-Pie, A Tus S A Ven-Pie,  
F Lyo-Mar, F Mid-Por

RUSSIA (Fish): A Arm-Ank, F Bla S A Arm-  
Ank, A Rum-Bul, F Swe S Eng F Ska-Den/nso/  
/r/, A War S Aus A Gal-Sil, A Pru S Aus  
A Gal-Sil, A Mos-Ukr

TURKEY (Tovson): A Con-Smy, F Ank H/r/,  
F Bul (SC)-Gre/r/

AUTUMN & WINTER 1903 ORDERS due Friday, Dec.  
15, 1972 at noon.

Fall 1903 Supply Center Chart--

Austria: Home, Ser, Gre, Bul (6) Builds 1

England: Home, Nor, Den (5) Builds 1

France: Home, Spa, ~~Por~~, Bel (5) Stands Pat

Germany: Home, Hol, ~~Bel~~, ~~Den~~, Swe (5) Stands  
Pat, 1 unit destroyed in Fall 1903

Italy: Home, Tun, Por (5) Builds 1

Russia: Home, Rum, ~~Bul~~, ~~Ska~~, Ank (6) Removes  
1 (may disband a retreating unit)

Turkey: Con, Smy, ~~Ank~~ (2) Removes 1 (may  
disband a retreating unit)

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Propaganda--

Impassable--Well, well, well...this is surely a game where everyone is spilling blood! This might as well be called the Blood Game? (BG). Well, it looks as if our "analyst" has recovered from his blood-letting and is back to make more hazardous predictions on this wierd, bloody game!

Cupcakeville--Just too overworked last season to 'analyze.' Every missed move is a disaster regardless of whether you gain or lose from it. It detracts from the entire game--worst of all, it makes the game a folly. But, let's look at what did happen. Russia dislodged the German army in Prussia while Germany got into the Baltic. That situation will likely explode if Austria moves in the Fall. A Tyo, A Boh, A Gal, A Pru all can attack into Germany. It is a shame because Russia should have had an excellent position if Austria had played A Gal-Sil, A Tyo S A Boh-Mun! (the move he likely was supposed to make). England has become a Russian ally and is delighting in the demise of France and Germany! Now A Edi can be convoyed to Bel or Holland--how wonderful ((what about Den as he played it? Is that better?--Ed.))! Italy would have been better to bounce F Spa (SC) for now France can play A Mar or A Gas bounce F Por in Spain. Italy can guess that and really hurt France with F Wes S Fra F Por-Spa (SC), F Mid-Por! The move to Pie should not have been made by Italy! In Piedmont, France is out of position as he must defend Mar as well as prevent the pieces teaming up on Spain. All other moves were straight forward enough.

The Fall of 1903 brings us a lovely guessing game!!! F Lyo, F Mid, F Wes, F Eng, F Nth, F Ska can attack Por, Spa, Mar, Bre, Bel, Den and Hol! F Ska, F Swe, A Pru, A War, A Gal, A Boh, A Tyo can attack Den, Ber and Mun! Germany and France sure have their work cut out!

F Lyo C A Tus someplace is likely for Italy. He seems to like this style--while F Lyo S F Mid-Spa (SC) is a stronger attack. France has bungled too often, so I don't wish to predict--yet, I think he may play A Mar S A Gas-Spa (or F Por S A Gas-Spa) F Bre-Mid! F Eng should retreat to Iri and attack Lvp so England can't convoy to Germany.

Russia has to watch Swe so Eng F Ska-Den, F Pru-Bal is best for a Fall move. A War-Sil, A Gal S A War-Sil (or vice versa) F Tyo S A Boh-Mun. Germany can hold things, but F Nth-Hol must be defended against (that is England's best attack likely, although supporting F Ska-Den is a very close second.) Austria and Russia can retake Bul so that's

no problem. I forsee everyone staying statis quo this Fall--we'll see!

Glasgow--Today top secret plans have been uncovered that call for the destruction of France and Germany with 600,000,000 tons of liquid soap. There has been much opposition to this plan, however, because some feel that once arriving in Germany, nobody could possibly stand the stench long enough to unleash the soap.

Iceland--"Deutschland, Deutschland unter alles..."

London--Recently, informed sources have revealed that a huge offensive would be launched against Germany. They also said there would be no plans against France because that the French were already offensive enough.

Paris--Na, Na, guess which way I moved! I hope that I guessed how you all moved, woe to me if I didn't.

Piedmont, September, 1903--Rumor emanating from this European crossroad province indicate that the citizens are preparing to be liberated by the Royal Italian Forces. Having lived for two years under French oppression and almost constant warfare, the residents appear eager for the enlightened leadership provided by the government of King Ernesto il Ginzo.

Rome, September, 1903--Reports from Italian spies in France indicate that the Frenchmen have incorporated a new maneuver into their basic training of enlistees. The new tactic is reportedly for use against superior forces. The new procedure involves all French combatants to drop all their weapons, thrust both arms above the head, and shout in Italian, "Don't shoot, don't shoot." Rumors have been heard to the effect that this advanced training, due to its complexity coupled with the French mentality, has caused the French Army to extend its basic training period by 2 months.

Turkey--1) Despite rumors to the contrary, Turkey has just begun to fight, and 2) How is it that 2 super powers cannot annihilate 1 microscopic power such as Turkey? One is immediately led to believe that if 1 other microscopic power allied with Turkey, that these two super powers would become extinct. Upsluck, Iowa--Hey, HrbeK, how's about looking out for Austria and Germany?

Vienna (LRV) September 17, 1903--The Dictator was in a rage when he received Germany's demand that the Austrian Army in Bohemia be evacuated. The Dictator wanted to know who in the hell the Germans thought they were to demand that the Austrians evacuate an Austrian Province. In 1900 the Germans agreed to

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leaving the provinces of Tyrolia and Bohemia neutral, looking back it is easy to see who first broke this agreement. With these things in mind, the Dictator today announced that a state of war exists between Austria and Germany.

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GAME 1972BW, Spring 1903

TWO SEPARATE WARS DEVELOPS IN EUROPE! FRANCE AND GERMANY SLUG IT OUT IN TRENCH WARFARE WHILE ITALY TRICKS THE RUSSIANS FOR GAINS IN AUSTRIA!

COA--David Davies, 2385 Lawrence Ave., San Bernardino, CA 92404

ENGLAND (Nielson): F Nth-Nwg, F Den-Swe,  
F Lon-Nth, A Yor-Wal

FRANCE (De Prisco): A Bur-Mun, A Bel-Ruh,  
A Pic S F Eng-Bel, F Eng-Bel, A Par-Bur,  
A Gas S A Par-Bur

GERMANY (Davies): A Hol-Bel, A Ruh S A Hol-Bel, A Mun-Bur, F Kie-Hol

ITALY (Lindauer): A Tri-Bud, A Tyr-Vie,

A Ven-Tri, A Vie-Gal, F Tun-Ion, F Ion-Aeg

RUSSIA (Knudsen): A Mos-Sev, A Rum S A Bul,  
A Bud S Ita A Tri-Ser/nso/r/, A Bul S Ita

F Ion-Gre/nso/, A Sev-Arm, A Nor-Swe,  
F Bla S A Sev-Arm, F Swe-Ska, F StP (NC)-Nor

TURKEY (Abbott): A Ser S Ita A Tri-Bud,  
A Gre S A Ser, F Aeg-Con, F Eas-Smy, A  
Ank S F Aeg-Con

SUMMER & FALL 1903 ORDERS due Friday, Dec. 15, 1972 at noon.

#### Propaganda--

In the Channel--"Pierre, our orders have been changed. We are to sail for Belgium immediately." "Ah, that's more like it. Now we will show the stupid War Department what the French Navy can do when it is sober."

Reykjavik, Iceland--1902 saw many extreme happenings in Europe. Austria's gone, but the fighting will still rage on, and rage it will. Russia has jumped out to an early commanding lead, possessing 9 units, with France and Italy running a fair second with 6 units each. Turkey's running a tight fourth with 5 units because England and Germany are right behind with 4 units apiece, and alas there's poor Austria with 0. What will happen in Europe from here on is purely unpredictable, because of the many unknown commitments and alliances. Questions still to be resolved: What will Russia do in the

North, attack Germany or continue his attack on England? What will Italy do, will he attack Russia, or Turkey, or maybe just remain out of their fight? These and many other questions like them have to be solved before the supreme question can be answered, WHO WILL WIN???? (My guess is either England, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, or Turkey. I don't think that Austria has a chance!!!)

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GAME 1972CD, Autumn & Winter 1902

FRANCE LEADS THE GAME WITH SIX UNITS, BUT FOUR OTHERS ARE CLOSE BEHIND WITH FIVE UNITS!

Type Error in #12--Germany owns Denmark and thus stands pat this winter.

Autumn 1902--Tur R A Rum-Bul

Winter 1902--

AUSTRIA (De Lucia): D F Gre

ENGLAND (Schleinkofer): B F Lon

FRANCE (McKeon): B A Par

GERMANY (Ray): Stands Pat

ITALY (Morris): B A Ven

RUSSIA (Brennan): D F Fin

TURKEY (Nelson): B A Con

Winter 1902 Positions--

Austria: A Vie, A Bud, A Ser, F Alb (4);

England: F Lon, A Yor, F Nth, F Nor, F StP

(NC) (5); France: F Mid, A Gas, A Par, A

Pic, F Mar, A Mun (6); Germany: A Bel, A

Ruh, F Hel, A Kie, F Den (5); Italy: F Tyr,

A Ven, A Tyr, F Ion, A Tri (5); Russia: F

Swe, A Gal, A Rum, A Ukr (4); Turkey: A Bul,

F Aeg, A Con, A Sev, F Bla (5)

SPRING 1903 ORDERS due Friday, Dec. 15, 1972 at noon.

#### Propaganda--

Camelot, England--In the wake of Russia's declaration of war against England, King Arthur wishes to remind Czar Mike that there was a treaty which the Russians chose to ignore by building in the north. The capture of St. Petersburg negated this growth of Russian power. The King also points out that it was a fillet that took the Russian city, an indication that there are no other designs on Russian territory. The King hopes that peace will be worked out.

Rome, Jan. 1, 1903--In his annual State of the Kingdom address, King Victor Emmanuel III announced that peace has been re-established with France. His Majesty didn't mention the nature of present Austro-Italian relations, though...but then, was there any need to?

GAME 1972CJ, Summer & Fall 1902

AUSTRIA TAKES MUNICH AS RUSSIA MOVES INTO  
BERLIN. FRANCE REGAINS MAR BUT LOSES SPA TO  
ITALY. PORTUGAL REMAINS UNCLAIMED!

Type Error in #12--Turkey: A Arm-Sev. This  
moved failed and did not succeed

Summer 1902--Turkey R A Bul-Con  
Fall 1902--

AUSTRIA (Verheiden): A Sil-Mun, A Boh S A  
Sil-Mun, F Gre-Aeg, A Bul H, A Ser-Gre  
ENGLAND (Cairns): A Wal-Lon, F Nor-Nth,  
F Bel-Eng  
FRANCE (Cooper): F Eng-Mid, F Bre S F Eng-  
Mid, A Spa-Mar, A Bur S A Spa-Mar  
GERMANY (Ostapkovich): A Hol H, F Den-Bal,  
A Ber S A Mun-Sil/r/, A Mun-Sil/r/  
ITALY (Iakofka): F Tyr-Iyo, A Mar S F Wes-  
Spa (SC)/r/, F Wes-Spa (SC), A Tyr-Mun  
RUSSIA (Wrobel): A Fin-Swe, F Bal-Ber, A  
Pru S F Bal-Ber, A Mos S F Sev, F Sev S  
A Rum, A Rum S Aus A Bul H  
TURKEY (Atteberry): F Ank-Con, A Con-Sny,  
F Bla S A Arm-Sev, A Arm-Sev

AUTUMN & WINTER 1902 ORDERS due Friday, Dec.  
15, 1972 at noon.

Fall 1902 Supply Center Chart--

Austria: Home, Ser, Gre, Bul, Mun (7) Builds  
2  
England: Home, Bel, Nor (5) Builds 2 because  
he was short 2 units during this year.  
France: Home, Spa (3) Removes 1  
Germany: Kie, Ber, Hol, Den, Hol (3) Removes  
1 (may disband a retreating unit)  
Italy: Home, Tun, Spa (5) Builds 1  
Russia: Home, Swe, Rum, Ber (7) Builds 1  
Turkey: Home, Bal (3) Removes 1

Propaganda--

The Dream Maker, Chapter 5--Stan Rumble, a  
man confused and near despair, left for  
Seattle at 1:02 a.m. after a sleepless cab  
ride to the Chula Vista Airport. Stan was  
almost afraid to sleep, afraid of some new  
catastrophe that might occur. He had boarded  
the awaiting plane full of that fear. The  
takeoff was effortless and the crystal beauty  
of the diamond studded sky began to captivate  
him. A memory of that Seattle flop house now  
awakened in him. He stared into the darkness  
and all at once, the stars became animated.  
His mind drifted back to that time three  
days before...

"Look deeply Mr. Rumble, don't be upset.  
Soon a great burden shall pass from me to  
you and I shall sleep. Look deeply, Mr.

Rumble, as I give this gift to you. Let  
your mind accept these incantations and wishes  
from a time long since forgotten. First  
the Pentagon, Mr. Rumble. Look closely at  
it. Look deeper, deeper..."

"Would you like a drink, sir?"

"What, a drink you foul...Oh, I'm sorry  
miss," Stan mumbled to the stewardess. "Gin  
and tonic, thanks." Why did she come then?  
His memory was coming back to him. He  
poured the liquor down and stared out of the  
window again hoping to recapture that prior  
moment.

Then he saw it. The wisp of smoke from  
the engine, then a bright puff of flame.  
"Oh my God, we're on fire!" The plane rocked  
from side to side; the milky blackness of  
the sky melted into the small lights of the  
town below. Faster and faster they went  
into the death spiral. There it was, Rough  
and ready California. Soon he'd be in it.  
Soon the Grange hall would be no more along  
with 87 passengers, a crew of 4 and 103  
people at a town meeting. Down the plane  
plunged. The last sight was that of the  
stewardess flying by him into the bulkhead--  
blackness!

Stan awoke two days later in a sterile  
white room. He tried to move. He could not.  
How had he survived?! But then he realized  
that he was tied down. "What's going on?  
Where am I? The crash..."

"He's awake, Inspector," a voice said  
from out of nowhere. "Inspector James  
Eastland, Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
Are you feeling better, Mr. Rumble?"

"Ah yes, but the crash? Why am I here?  
How am I here?" "Before you go any further,  
let me advise of your constitutional rights  
..." To be continued!

Dream Maker, Rome, November 3, 1902--Who's  
stealing my Rome dateline? Ah, just as  
John allows--Black Propaganda--how strange!  
Kiel--Look, Eric, enough is enough! If you  
just pack up and get out of Germany, I  
promise I won't tell anyone you have a brother.  
Anyway, aren't the Austrians supposed to be  
weak in 1902?

Impassable--I venture the forecast that if  
Russia and Austria remain allies, that Europe  
will soon be under their thumb and reduced  
to a neighborhood fight between them.

GAME 1972CK, Summer & Fall 1902

A TIGHT GAME AS EVERYONE IS STILL IN IT!  
STATIS QUO RESULTS AS LOSSES ARE MADE UP  
BY GAINS ELSEWHERE!

(cont. on next page)



Summer 1902--Austria retreats F Gre-Ion, and  
Russia retreats A Gal-Ukr

Fall 1902--

AUSTRIA (Chin): A Bud-Rum, A Gal S A Bud-Rum,  
A Ser S A Bud-Rum, A Vie H, F Ion-Eas

ENGLAND (St. Johns): F Bar-StP (NC), F Ska-  
Nor, F Nth S F Ska-Nor

FRANCE (Gray): F Mid-NAT, F Eng-Bel, A Pic S  
F Eng-Bel, A Gas-Spa, A Bur S Ita A Boh-Mun

GERMANY (Lindauer): A Ber S A Mun, A Kie-Hol,  
A Mun H/r/, F Den H

ITALY (Gershenson): A Sil-War, A Boh-Mun,  
A Tyr S A Boh-Mun, F Wes-Mid, F Tyr-Ion,

RUSSIA (Davis): F Rum S Tur F Con-Bul (SC)/r/  
A Ukr-War, F Bot-Swe, F Nor S F Bot-Swe,  
A Fin S F Nor

TURKEY (White): A Gre H, F Aeg S A Gre H, F  
Con-Bul (SC), A Smy-Con

AUTUMN & FALL 1902 IRDERS due Friday, Dec. 15,  
1972 at noon.

Fall 1902 Supply Center Chart--

Austria: Home, Ser, ~~Wp~~, Rum (5) Stands Pat

England: Home, ~~Nor~~, StP (4) Builds 1, lost  
1 unit Spring 1902

France: Home, Spa, Por, Bel (6) Builds 1

Germany: Ber, Kie, Den, Hol (4) Stands Pat

Italy: Home, Tun, Mun (5) Stands Pat

Russia: Sev, War, Mos, ~~StP~~, ~~Nor~~, ~~Swe~~  
(5) Stands Pat

Turkey: Home, Bul, Gre (5) Builds 1

Propaganda--

Antwerp, December 31, 1902--Now do you  
believe me, Richard?

Constantinople, September 7, 1902--In an  
attempt to ease deteriorating relations with  
England, the Sultan recently sent to the  
Prime Minister ten of his most beautiful  
harem girls as a token of friendship. Our  
great Potentate eagerly awaited a return  
gift that would heal the wounds and normalize  
relations between our two great peoples.  
Finally, a British ship sailed into the Golden  
Horn. When its mission was made known, it  
was given permission to dock at the Sultan's  
private pier near the Palace. The English  
were very secretive about their cargo and  
stubbornly refused to let any Turkish subject  
know what their cargo was and demanded to  
present it to the Sultan without interference  
from guards or custom officials. They  
brought their wagon loaded with the mysteri-  
ous cargo to the Imperial Palace and an  
eagerly waiting Sultan. Before unveiling  
the gift, a note from the Prime Minister was  
read to the Sultan by the leader of the  
British delegation. "Your gift was a most  
thoughtful one and I was most hard pressed to

come up with an appropriate gift that would  
adequately convey to you my opinion of you,  
your people, and your allies. I believe that  
I have succeeded." The gift was unveiled. A  
horrible scream filled the hall followed by  
shouts of "Unclean!" "Unclean!" A horrified  
and then enraged Sultan regained his composure  
long enough to shout to the guards, "Throw  
these dogs in chains. I will deal with them  
later!" Alarmed courtiers rushed into the  
great hall and gasped in alarm and disgust,  
for there stood the beet red enraged Sultan  
surrounded by ten of the Prime Ministers  
best Razorback Hogs. Needless to say, war  
was declared the next day.

Germany, Oct. 1, 1902--The German Government  
was pleased to see that the Italian Government  
was wise enough to remove its forces from the  
German Center at Munich. It was a wise choice  
for the Italians to remove themselves at  
their own free will, rather than face the  
wrath of the German Army. The German  
Government now finds that another problem is  
facing it. We are not sure who are Germany's  
real friends and allies, so would they please  
stand up and show themselves, or better yet,  
write.

Paris-December 15, 1902--It was announced  
today by the French Minister of defense that  
it was regrettable that General Maurice Le  
Piu, commander of the military district of  
the province of Burgundy got his orders  
confused. He couldn't remember if the  
message said Germany or Italy so he used his  
judgement. That was his biggest mistake.

Reuters News Agency-December 31, 1972--  
American Newsmen, Edward R. Furrow-Brow and  
Walter Von Crankase reported to the American  
press that it looked as if Turkey was being  
herded into a nice tight little ball for the  
final kill and that Russia and Austria would  
do the honors.

Spain--"Just testing, David, just testing."  
-----

GAME 1972DD, Spring 1902

THINGS LOOK BAD FOR ENGLAND AND TURKEY WITH  
BOTH BEING UNDER ATTACK FROM THREE ENEMY  
NATIONS. WHO WILL GET THE SPOILS? WILL THE  
ALLIES STICK TOGETHER? OR WILL ONE GET  
GREEDY OR WILL TWO GANG UP ON THE THIRD  
PARTNER?

AUSTRIA (Leerkamp): A Tri H, A Vie H, A Ser-  
Bul, F Gre S A Ser-Bul, A Bud-Ser

ENGLAND (Dick): F Nwg-Nth, F Lon S F Nwg-  
Nth, A Lvp-Edi

FRANCE (Fujihara): F Eng-Iri, F Bre-Eng,  
A Bel H, A Por H, F Mar-Spa (SC)

(cont. on next page)

GERMANY (Chin): A Hol-Ruh, A Ber H, A Den H,  
F Nth-Yor, F Kie-Hol  
ITALY (Roll): F Ion-Eas, F Nap-Ion, A Tun H,  
A Ven H  
RUSSIA (Nelson): A Sev-Arm, F Bla S A Sev-  
Arm, A Rum S Aus A Ser-Bul, A War H, A  
Nor-Swe, F Swe-Ska, F StP (NC)-Nor  
TURKEY (Stone): A Con-Ank, A Bul-Rum/a/,  
F Ank-Arm, F Aeg-Con

FALL 1902 ORDERS due Friday, Dec. 15, 1972 at noon.

#### Propaganda--

Clyde, March 10--King Alexander was forced to sign a new constitution here today ending the government as a monarchy forever. It was finally decided after two men entered the chambers with a large axe and block. Crowds outside the palace rejoiced when they heard the news.

Liepzig--The German General staff today reviewed a huge 40 tone white mammoth elephant with a chainmail and a 150mm howitzer in a pill box on top, maneuver over a number of various obstacles. When asked what it was, General Clavs Von Thumpwitz said, "Vhy ist our nev zuper veapon." We call it tank. When asked if it was going to be used against the British, he commented, "Hmmm, maybe, but for those dirty Russkies, we'll clobber'em with 10,000 of them."

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GAME 1972DF, Fall 1901

A LOT OF MOVES FAIL THIS TIME! AUSTRIA CRUMBLES UNDER THREE-WAY ATTACK. GERMANY LEADS ALL WITH THREE NEW SUPPLY CENTERS!

AUSTRIA (Conner): A Ser-Bud, F Alb-Tri,  
A Vie S F Alb-Tri  
ENGLAND (Lirdauer): A Yor-Lon, F Nth-Lon,  
F Nwg-Nor  
FRANCE (Hilliker): F Eng-Lon, A Spa-Por,  
A Gas-Spa  
GERMANY (Schill): A Kie-Hol, A Ruh-Bel,  
F Den-Swe  
ITALY (Strickland): F Ion-Tun, A Ven S A  
Tri, A Tri H  
RUSSIA (Grove): F Bot-Swe, F Rum H, A Gal-Vie,  
A Ukr-Gal  
TURKEY (Blank): A Bul-Gre, A Con-Bul, F  
Bla S A Con-Bul

WINTER 1901 ORDERS due Friday, Dec. 15, 1972 at noon.

#### Fall 1901 Supply Center Chart--

Austria: Bud, Vie, ~~Tri~~ (2) Removes 1

England: Home, Nor (4) Builds 1  
France: Home, Spa, Por (5) Builds 2  
Germany: Home, Bel, Hol, Den (6) Builds 3  
Italy: Home, Tun, Tri (5) Builds 2  
Russia: Home, Rum (5) Builds 1  
Turkey: Home, Bul, Gre (5) Builds 2

#### Propaganda--

Berlin--Count Curt Von Duncelndorff recently commented that England was creating a threat to the German nation by occupying the North Sea area in which Germany owned via prior fishing traits and rights.

Moscow--Foreign Affairs Secretary Stephen Foolinkovitch announced that he would be happy to sign Non-Aggression Pacts with all European countries. He emphasized that every such pact would be honored as completely as had the Austrian Pact which they were fulfilling now at the request of the Austrian Empire to help hold off the Italians.

Paris--This is Lyme Ee reporting for BBC News in Paris. Minister of Defense Hoo Flung Dung today announced that all front line troops would be armed with a new secret weapon. Although the entire nature of it is not known, information has it that it is some sort of drug to be put in the soldiers' four o'clock tea. This drug, code-named Whoopee-doo, is said to cause hallucinations. They are visions of the English winning the war. As everyone knows, this will never happen.

Turkey--It's great to have friends!! Sultan Blank has decided to realine his armies and navies with a 1-1 ratio of men to women. This is expected to improved moral and to make our armies and navies a happier place to serve!

Vienna--Emperor William IV today announced that the main forces of the army would be sent against the Italians. The Italians will never succeed in the attack. Actually, the fleet in Naples was headed for the Adriatic, but they lost their way and went to the Ionian instead. This seems true of all the Italians.

Vienna--Baron Jon Jerkstein calmly stated that Austrian forces were being mobilized to turn back both the Italians and the Russian invaders. He pointed out the supreme intelligence of Austrian leadership, the first rate quality of the defensive weapons, the determination of the soldiers and citizens and then he concluded by saying Austria would be free of its invasions by the end of the year. He blew kisses and waved a hearty goodbye to the citizens of Vienna as he went on a vacation to relatives in Berlin.

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MURDER AT CHICAGO  
(Puzzle #12)

"Gentlemen of the Court," Leery Parry said gleefully, "If you will allow me only a reasonable amount of time, I will endeavor to delve into all the relevant facts of this case and draw upon the evidence to correctly solve the murder: the who and the why as we all know the how was accomplished with this Exhibit A that is lying right in front of your very eyes, Gentlemen. I thought and thought, Gentlemen, of the various nine statements made by the three witnesses of the murder of which one was the actual and real murderer of poor and now deceased Roddy Walder! Gentlemen!" exclaimed Leery Parry in a state of extreme labrum agitation, "I have solved the murder case that is now being presented before you! I and only I know who the murderer is, that is outside of these three witnesses to the murder of which one was the actual murderer! I will now proceed to relate to you how I solved this horrendous crime!" Leery Parry stopped to take a deep breath before going on with his solution.

"Gentlemen, let t and f denote true and false, respectively. If we assume that Lamb is guilty, then Chris' statement #1 is false. ((The nine statements as listed last time are numbered from 1-3 in order they were given)) Since by hypothesis only one of each man's statements is false, then statements #2 and #3 are true. Therefore, an F is placed in table opposite Chris in column 1 and t's in the same row in the other two columns. Since, under the assumption that Chris is guilty, Chris' statement #3 is true, then Ferdinand's statement #3 must be false; hence, Ferdinand's other two statements are true. Therefore, an F is placed opposite Ferd in column 3 and t's in the same row in the other two columns. Now John's statement #2 contradicts Chris' statement #2; thus, John's statement #2 is false. Moreover, John's statement #3 contradicts Chris' statement #3; hence, John's statement #3 is false. This contradicts the hypothesis that only one of each man's statements is false. Thus, the assumption that Chris is guilty is false, therefore he is innocent."

Statement	1	2	3
Christopher	F	T	T
Ferdinand	T	T	F
Jonathan		F	F

"Now," continued Parry eagerly, "assume that Ferdinand is guilty. Then Jonathan's statement #1 is false and, by hypothesis, his other two statements must be true. There-

fore, an F is placed opposite Jonathan in column 1 and T's in the same row in the other two columns. Since Chris' statement #2 contradicts John's statement #2, then from the table, Christopher's statement #2 is false. Moreover, Chris' statement #3 contradicts John's statement #3; thus, Chris' statement #3 is also false. This contradicts the hypothesis that only one of each man's statements is false. Hence, the assumption that Fred is guilty is also false; therefore, Ferdinand is innocent." ((Nicknames are only that for the longer names of the characters in this puzzle--it is not meant to represent any true public figures))

Statement	1	2	3
Christopher		F	F
Ferdinand			
Jonathan	F	T	T

Leery Parry was now almost running around the courtroom in a very highly charged state of excitement. He finally came to the third and crucial assumption, "Finally, gentlemen of the court, let us assume that Jonathan is guilty, then his statement #2 must be false and, by hypothesis, his other two statements must be true. Therefore, an F is placed opposite Jonathan in column 2 and T's in the same row in the other two columns. Chris' statement #3 contradicts John's statement #3. Thus, Christopher's statement #3 is false and, by hypothesis, his other two statements are true. Therefore, gentlemen, an F is placed opposite Christopher in column 3 and T's in the same row in the other two columns. Fred's statement #3 contradicts Christopher's statement #3 and, since Chris' statement #3 is false, then Ferdinand's statement #3 is true. Therefore, a T is placed opposite Ferdinand in column 3. Finally, Fred's statement #1 contradicts John's statement #2 and, since John's statement #2 is false, then Fred's statement #1 must be true. Therefore, a T is placed opposite Ferdinand in column 2. It follows that Fred's statement #2 is false and since this does not contradict any of the other statements, an F is placed opposite Fred in column 1. Thus, the assumption that John is guilty is consistent with our hypothesis and with all the statements."

The courtroom's silence was broken by the shouts coming from Jonathan who loudly cried that Leery Parry was just talking words and didn't prove anything. The guards gathered around Jonathan and quieted the accused murderer. His lawyer, Dr. Boardy rose and cleared his throat to make his defense for his client. Leery Parry turned around and was stunned while his case was  
(cont. on next page)

defeated by discovery of a loophole.

"Your honor," Dr. Boardy addressed the judge of this famous trial, the famous Birdie Ersan, "allow me to bring up a fact that the distinguished, shall I say extinguished, great Leery Parry of the Prosecution failed to cover. This piece of evidence that which I now hold up in front for all to see is a piece of paper that was found at the scene of the crime!" Exultant, Dr. Boardy placed Exhibit B for the judge to examine and approve as evidence. He continued, "This exhibit was written by the deceased Roddy Walder. This piece of paper was written during the game and it was a message that was meant to be kept secret and meant to be handed to Jonathan Basheeba, but Jonathan never got it. Allow me to read it. 'Dear Jonathan, this letter is to inform you secretly that I will be stabbing you in the back during the next game year, and that I hope you enjoy it. Signed; Roddy Walder' Evidently, this message never reached Jonathan as it was found in his pant's pocket, but he did go ahead with his stab and this, gentlemen, is what Leery Parry overlooked. My client, Jonathan Basheeba did indeed unfortunately killed Roddy Walder, but it was in self-defense! I plead to this court to dismiss the case against my client on this single and most prominent fact! I rest our defense." Dr. Boardy sat down quite confident at having defeated the great Prosecutor, Leery Parry.

The judge, Birdie Ersan, looked to the jury and said, "Gentlemen of the jury, the prosecution and defense have both presented their arguments for this case. Let me add, however, that killing in self-defense has been proven in a few cases as free of murder in any degree of intention. You may now go and deliberate." The jury filed out and then 10 minutes later they filed back into the highly charge courtroom. The Foreman of the Jury, Balter Buchan stood up and announced, "Your honor, the jury has decided unanimously that Jonathan Basheeba is guilty of murder of the first degree."

The judge was greatly shocked. "I cannot allow this! I must over-rule your decision. As this decision will most certainly ruin my reputation, I still will pronounce Jonathan Basheeba not guilty on the technicality of murder in self-defense of a backstab! This case is dismissed!"

The whole courtroom was in an uproar; no one expected this decision to happen! The crowd was indignant of the judge's decision and they left the courtroom in an angry mood.

As everyone left the courtroom, we are left with the two protagonists, Leery Parry

and Dr. Boardy both taling to each other.

"Congratulations, Boardy, you finally beat me," mumbled Parry.

"That's okay, Parry, "I wouldn't have saved my client's dirty neck if it hasn't been for you."

"Me?" asked Parry incredulously, "How?"

"Earlier in this puzzle-story, you mentioned that the game had nothing to do with the crime. Well, I simply asked my client for the truth and figured out the rest. Then, I knew that the judge of this case would stick by the books to a fault and that I would win this case on that technicality."

"Okay, okay, you win Boardy, but I have to go now and cover another murder case."

"Really, Parry? What case would that be?"

"I'm covering the murder of Putrid Veber."

"Really! Why that is just dandy, Parry, I'll be seeing you there!"

"Oh no!"

And so ends our Murder in Chicago story and I want to thank Steve Cairns for giving me an idea for this technicality. The response for this puzzle was the best ever for any of the puzzles I presented, and I thought that you all may want to read a good ending. As for the solution, Jonathan did indeed kill Roddy, and whether he was set free on a technicality is up to you to decide.

#### A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

from Charles "Norm" Reinsel

First, I want to thank you for the nice letter, you sent, welcoming me back to the world of Postal Diplomacy! Second, I am probably the most traveled of the Diplomacy players and have been to more countries, all of the states and have personally visited, or have had them visit me at "1984," ((I presume this was his old address.--Ed)) most all of the old timers in Postal Diplomacy. I met all of these: Beshara, Prosnitz, Koning, Birsan, Smythe, Wells, Tretick, McCallum, Taudiker ((I'm not sure of the spelling)), Brannan, Calhamer, Swenson, Turner, Dugert, Bailey, Von Metzko, Peery, Walker, Cline, Smith, Castoria, Germagine, Dunigan, Alderson, Buchanan, and many, many more! (I apologize for the misspelled names) ((I apologize if I have read them wrong!))

Third, I think the feuds are, were, and always will be stupid. ((This is why I have made fun at them with the above puzzle.--Ed)) Fourth, I ask all of you new additions and 'late comers' not to sell yourselves short! Any hobby needs young blood! You are the  
(cont. on next page)

future of Postal Diplomacy! We need you all to carry on. It is as simple as that.

Fifth, I was the first "Ombudsman" in Postal Diplomacy. I joined the I.D.A. and I expect to be active! I will not run against my good friend, Edi Birsan to get my title back. So, I guess if someone will nominate me, I'll run for an "At-Large Council Member" as I understand there is a vacancy. ((Norm was not nominated for At-Large, but he was nominated for Pacific Regional Secretary))

Sixth, I guess you know I invented the very first, some say the best, Postal Diplomacy rating system! (The Big Brother Ratings). Most do not know it was first published in John Boardman's Graustark and second in Well's Lonely Mountains and in Koning's Stab. In other words, the Big Brother ratings are older than the Big Brother Fanzines ((Fanzines are the old-time nomenclature for gamezines as many of the oldtimers were Sci Fi readers and fans))

Seventh, I do not want to get involved with the paper work of trades; so, I ask you, John Boyer, and others such as Walter Buchanan, to play in Big Brother. ((Already arranged.)) There are still plenty of openings in the six games ((may be less than 4 games left by now.)) yet to be started in my "World Series" set! The seven winners will play a final game in Big Brother. ((He has done this before and therefore my idea of the 7 winners playing in a winner's game was not new)) My gamefee is high at \$7.00 til December 31, 1972. But, you get what you pay for! ((Very true, Norm has the reputation for exceedingly well-run games!))

Last, but not least, sure we had fun in the old days and we were a closer society, but don't be afraid to try something new. Cause some waves! Jump in, the water's fine! In closing, I have no enemies with friends like Conrad von Metzke who needs enemies! (HA!!) ((The last statements were in answer to questions in my letter to him))

\*\*\*Charles Reinsel's return to the hobby will do much to offset the loss of Rod Walker, and we couldn't have done any better with Norm. If you want a well-run game, then join up with his Big Brother games! Like he said, he travels a lot, and the current situation is no exception. So, send your money or inquiries to P.O. Box 8342, San Diego, CA 92102. Conrad Von Metzke will forward them to Charles until he returns and settles down. If you want to play against me, ask for the variant game, United States.

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The ink of the scholar is more sacred than the blood of the martyr. --Mohammed

## RECENT ARRIVALS WITH OPENINGS

Anschluss, #8, Nov. 3, 1972. Joseph O. Antosiak, 402 East Ave., La Grange, IL 60525. Has openings in Origins, GF is \$3 with .75¢ refund when another game of Origins is filled after yours. Regular Diplomacy openings, GF/\$4. A variant, Germany VS The World, GF/\$4 and map & rules for .25¢. Also has a multi-player Waterloo game, GF is #3.

Arrakis, #3, Nov. 6, 1972. John Leeder, Box 1606, Huntsville, Ontario, Canada. Has openings in regular Diplomacy. GF/\$4 with \$1 discount if you belong to the IDA! Sub rate is 100 pages/\$1.

Blood & Iron, #11, Nov. 13, 1972. Lewis Pulsipher, 329 Twin Towers, Albion, MI 49224. Has openings in variants: Anarchy IV, Anonymity III, Diadocmi II. Game fee is apparently only \$1 plus sub. Sub rate is 8/\$1.

Ipimoea, #3. John F. Lawrey Jr., P.O. Box 86, Salome, AZ 85348. GF/\$3 and one 8¢ stamp. Sub rate is \$1.50, but for how many issues, I don't know.

Seitenstetten, #1, Nov. 1, 1972. Conrad von Metzke, P.O. Box 8342, San Diego, 92102. This is not his first zine as he also publishes Costaguana among many others. This zine will carry only one game, the orphan game 1962-A. This is supposed to be the first postal game ever organized, but never was finished. GF and Sub rate not yet establish. Inquire first.

Tangelo Express, #1, Nov. 17, 1972. Richard L. Hull, 4720 Cloyne, Apt. #2, Oxnard, CA 93030. This is a new zine. Only one game open right now. GF/\$2 deposit refundable after you finish your game, PLUS at least a 1st Class sub to the zine. He has three sub rates: Airmail is 6/\$1, First is 7/\$1, and Third is 10/\$1.

SPQR. James Massar, 127 N. Emmons St., Dannemora, NY 12929. Has regular game openings in this normally variant gamezine. GF/\$1 plus a \$1 sub plus postage PLUS a \$3 returnable deposit if you finish your game. 50¢ will be deducted for every missed set of orders.

The Silmarilli, Vol 1, #2. Chic Hilliker, 3312 Stoneycrest, Bloomington, IN 47401. Sub rate is 8/\$1. GF is \$4 with \$1 returned if you finish your game. Winner gets his \$4 back.

I certainly must comment that there are a lot of new gamezines coming out recently. Impassable was fortunate in coming out during a lull. These new zines represent a new breed of publishers who are primarily publishers and are not long-time players of the game. Try'em.

ANOTHER LETTER TO THE EDITOR  
from Michael Rocamora

I wish to discuss your article on Austria, but I have to get back to my paper. Still, I want to say something.

The beginning of your article is rather pessimistic. Austria is not a hopeless country. It is easier to win with Austria than with Italy and Germany. Your words, "miraculous series of diplomatic negotiations" are bound to depress the novice players who have drawn that country. I think you are misleading them. Austria demands a little more "Diplomacy" than some of the other countries. The person playing the country cannot take it easy. He must negotiate with his neighbors or he will be attacked by all of his neighbors. I think you should have pointed out that Italy is a fairly natural ally of Austria. Italy cannot afford to attack Austria until he knows what Turkey and Russia are doing and if France is going to attack or be attacked by Germany and/or England. Austria's initial negotiations with Italy should point these facts out. Italy would inherit Austria's position if he made the mistake of attacking Austria while Turkey and Russia were allied. Thus, I feel that Austria should be able to get Italy as an ally--at least in the short run. (In games with experienced players, Italy and Austria are usually allied in the beginning) It is advantageous for them to work together. Now, with a natural ally, Austria becomes a decent country. Even if Turkey and Russia are allied Austria would have a chance with Italy helping. Austria has a good solid defensive position and can withstand Russian and Turkish attacks for some time if he gets 2 builds in 1901. Italy and Austria can also

use a LEPANTO opening against Turkey. It is rather effective and I think you should inform your readers about it.

You were correct in pointing out that Russia is a better ally than Turkey. The alliance is strong and can last a long time. Some players think it is better than the Russian-Turkish alliance because there are other countries to help Russia if Austria doesn't move properly or decides to stab Russia. Austria should point out these facts to Russia in his negotiations. He must make sure Russia understands the advantages of working with him.

I think your article should have concentrated on the diplomatic aspects of playing Austria. Most people are aware of Austria's precarious position. It would have been more helpful to show people how to attempt to solve the problems of Austria than to just point them out. --Michael Rocamora

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ODDS AND ENDS OF THIS ISSUE

I have run out of room for all the stuff I had this time around. So, I will put them all into the next issue which will be bigger than the usual 12 pages. It will be my Christmas issue and I hope to be a pleasant surprise for all.

This time of the year is pretty hectic for me, and so I apologize for any delays in answering your mail during this month, and in December. Don't forget to mail your orders earlier than usual so that I get them on time!

The IDA elections are now underway, and I have been nominated for Editor. It looks as if I'll run unopposed. Next issue, I will have more on the IDA elections plus a whole handful of articles, drawings, puzzles, etc.

IMPASSABLE

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When a dove begins to associate with crows its feathers remain white but its heart grows black.

--German Proverb

You are mentioned on page \_\_\_\_

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