

ZORD OF HOSTS

Is devoted to variant Diplomacy. In these pages will be found Miller numbers and designators, variant game announcements and results, occasional articles and editorials, and (given a game fee of \$3.00 per player, in addition to maintaining a trade or subscription) games of variant Diplomacy. The price for subscriptions and back issues will be cost plus postage, with allowance for losses and rounded up to the nickel so that I can produce additional copies. Offers to trade will be considered.

Issues will be published at least quarterly, depending on material and games. Miller numbers will be assigned on the receipt of gamemaster's name, address, magazine, year of game start, name of variant, and list of players and countries; the publication of Miller numbers in this journal is subsidized by the IDA. Anyone may reproduce an issue in its entirety; partial reprinting is permitted upon attribution, except for articles by other authors who herewith retain full rights to their own material. This entire effort is yours courtesy of Robert Sacks, 4861 Broadway, Apt 5-V, NY NY 10034, (212) 942-3572. Member: AWA, DVC, IDA, NY MWGA, TDA, TIDA-RNY.

No. 9

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Supplements: Gemignani Awards Ballot II (free! - no charge); Expo 76 Flyer

The Air Force has decided to clear out its back inventory of officers, so there is a strong possibility that I will go on active duty for training September through December, perhaps at McGuire AFB, New Jersey. This will not effect assignment of MNs or publication of Lord of Hosts, but the office of Secretary of DVC, together with custody of Phoenix, will very likely be given to Fred Davis at Origins II.

() gee bske:	
() This is your last issue.	
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() geanp wow;	

EIEZT CIVZZ

DIPLOMACY VARIANT COMMISSION
Robert Sacks/4861 Broadway, 5-V/NY NY 10034 (Secretary, MNC)
Gregory Costikyan/1675 York Ave/NY NY 10028 (acting Vice MNC, Awards Secretary)
Fred Davis/3012 Oak Green Ct/Ellicott City Md 21043 (Vice Secretary)
Steve Doubleday/39 Sidney Rd/Staines Middx UK (NGC VS, AMNC/Europe)
Ferkin Doyle/639 Bainbridge St/Philadelphia Pa 19147 (nominee Coord VPS)
Will Haven/4 Victoria St/Chorley Lancs PR7 2TX UK (UKVB Dir)
Raymond Heuer/102-42 Jamaica Ave/Richmond Hill NY 11418 (TDA VO, AMNC/O&S)
Dave Kadlecek/Box 802/Univ of Santa Clara/Santa Clara Ca 95053 (IDAVC, NAVB Dir)
Hartley Patterson/Finches/7 Cambridge Rd/Beaconsfield Bucks HP9 1HW UK (Recat Ch)
George Phillies/910 Tenth St B/Santa Monica Ca 90403 (AWA President)
Andrew Phillips/128 Oliver St/Daly City Ca 94014
Douglas Reif/67 Grosvenor Rd/Kenmore NY 14223
Scott Rosenberg/182-31 Radnor Rd/Jamaica NY 11432

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF VARIANTS

In addition to NAVB and UKVB, there is also an NGC Variant Bank Custodian and Archivist - Dave Allen, 11 Alma Heights, off Cavendish Way, Mickleover, Derbyshire, ENGLAND. Walter Luc Haas also runs a Variant Bank of sorts, but since this is a "strictly personal" operation, I cannot recommend it.

Jeremy Maiden, 20 Newport Rd, Cwmarn, Gwent, WALES, is handling variant orphans in Britain, with IDA/UK offering £ 1 per game to replacement GMs.

THE SPACE GAMER, Box 15346, Austin Tx 78761, is devoted to science fiction and fantasy gaming. "To anyone who tells us where he saw TSG mentioned, we'll send a sample copy and the informative flyer on SF&F games...TSG pays, if modestly, for art and contributions. We are particularly interested in articles about SF&F games, fiction based on games, game playing, or space conflict themes, and game or space related illustrations." Six issues for \$5, renewal \$4, in the US and Canada. They also run a SF&F gaming feedback.

PHOENIX, the Journal of the DVC, #9-21, is available for a self-addressed envelope and 9 ounces postage from Robert Sacks. Subscriptions are welcome.

Back issues of MN'zines through LORD OF HOSTS 5&6 are available at 20¢/number plus postage. From LORD OF HOSTS #7 on, it is 25¢/number plus postage.

Hartley Patterson chairs the DVC's Committee on Recategorization of the MNs; other members are Davis, Heuer, Kadlecek, and Sacks (non-voting), with 4 vacancies fillable by Patterson and 2 by Sacks.

Gregory Costikyan serves as Secretary to DVC's Awards Panel; other members are Paul Bean, Doubleday, Heuer, and Sacks, with one seat as yet unaccepted. Raymond Heuer heads DVC's Variant Orphan Rescue Service - send him all business concerning variant orphans and insurance: Ferkin Dovle has been proposed to co-

concerning variant orphans and insurance; Ferkin Doyle has been proposed to coordinate the Variant Playtesting Service, which will be charged with examining variants for certification for playability for insurance.

Steve Doubleday is the new Associate MNC for Europe, replacing Michel Feron who has unaccountably disappeared from the hobby. Of course there are still many, many vacancies on the MNC staff.



PLACE: Johns Hopkins Univ., Baltimore, Maryland

You are cordially invited to attend ORIGINS II, including DIP(LO)CON IX, this year's official national Diplomacy Convention For all information, send a SSAE to CONVENTION, c/o TAHGC, 4517 Harford Road, Baltimore Md 21214. (They, Avalon-Hill, just purchase Diplomacy, so that would make this con official.)

KNOWN GAME OPENINGS (North America and Europe) D Agosta/900 L Foxridge/Blacksburg Va 24060 COMMAND/\$21+\$4/yr: Anarchy, Big Brother's WWIII, US R Christopher/15170 Colombet/San Martin Ca 95046 THE DEMONS HOME/\$1+10/\$1\frac{1}{2}: YV W Clumm/RR #1/Amesville Oh 45711 QUENDI KHAZAD DUM/\$2+GD \$1: YV F Davis/3012 Oak Green Ct/Ellicott City Md 21043 BUSHWACKER/\$7: Abstraction, Atlantica II-R L Gillespie/23 Robert Allen Dr/Halifax NS CANADA B3M 3G9 ZEPPELIN/\$2+12/\$2: War in the Air R Goldman/200 Old Army Rd/Scarsdale NY 10583 THE MORAVIAN GAZETTE/10/\$2: Utter Chaos D Grabar/1100 Lassen St/Richmond Ca 94805 NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST/\$5: Nuclear Holocaust: WWIII B Grossman/29 E 9 St 9/NY NY 10003 THE PREDAWN LEFTIST/8/\$2+/\$1: Near Utter Chaos; \$2: ME VIII; \$3: Colonia B Hartwig/5030 N 109 St/Longmont Co 80501 PODUNK NEWS/\$2: Napoleon's Europe D Head/Box 1231/Huntsville ONT CANADA POA 1KO ARRAKIS/\$2+1¢/pg+postage: M Homeier/238 N Bowling Green Way/Los Angeles Ca 90049 THE MASTER MACHIAVELLIAN \$1\frac{1}{2}+10/\$2.30: Colonia II A Jonsson/Box 176/S-98101 Kiruna 1 SWEDEN POLAR KNIGHT/postage (use ISE/Birsan) Foundation. Persian D Kadlecek/Box 802/Univ of Santa Clara/Santa Clara Ca 95053 SPECULUM/8/\$2 or 17 \$4+GD \$1+/-O-: Scacchomacy; \$1: Chinese; \$1\frac{1}{2}: Sw&Sor, Third Age; \$2: Gigaton Bo M Muchnik/2520 Hyacinth Ct/Westbury NY 11590 VALINOR/\$1+10/\$1\frac{1}{2}: ME V G Neiger/Box 4293/Brown Univ/Providence RI 02912 THE POUCH/\$5 or \$1+10/\$2: R Prévot/14 ave Théophile Gautier/75016 Paris FRANCE VORTIGERN/10/Fr10: (French speaking/en français) Interstellar, Multiplicity R Zaccalini/23 Toluca Estates/N Hollywood Ca 91602 THE DIPLOMACY BARON/\$2+GD \$1 8/\$2: Anonymity, Global LORD OF HOSTS #9.1 ACTIVE NEUTRALS 1974AEgc Game ends as four-way draw succeeds! Spring 1907 AUSTRIA (Ware) F Tri h, A Ven S Tri. ENGLAND (Gemignani) F EC h, F Wal S EC. Draw. FRANCE (Bean) B F Bre. F Bre h, A Mar S RUS MAO-Spasc, F Tyr-Nap. GERMANY (Berggren) B A Kie. F Bal-Den, A Boh S Mun-Tyr, A Bur-Pic, A Kie-Mun, A Mun-Tyr, A Par S ENG EC-Bre/nso/, A Ruh-Bur. Draw. NORWAY (Drews) F Iri-NAt. Draw. PORTUGAL (Ware) F MAO R-Spage. B F Por. F Por-MAO, F Spage S Por-MAO/disl/. RUSSIA (Morris) B A Mos, F StPnc. A Gal-Bud, F MAO-Spasc, A Mos-Sev,
A Rum S SER Bud-Ser, A Sev-Arm, F StPnc h/uo/, A Vie S GER Mun-Tyr, A War-Ukr.
SERBIA (Morris) A Bud-Ser. Draw (as both Russia and Serbia).
SPAIN (Aronson) A Pie h/uo/.

TURKEY (Aronson) NBR. F Aeg h/uo/, A Arm h/uo/, F Con h/uo/, A Gre h/uo/, A Ser h/uo//Annh/.

MY SPECIAL THANKS TO RICHARD WARE FOR TAKING OVER THE AUSTRIAN/PORTUGUESE POSITION WHEN IT FELL VACANT.

AUSTRIAN MINISTRY WAR-To RUSSIA and his SERBIAN lackeys: Be so good as to remove your ruffians from the Cultural Capital of Central Europe, and you may be spared from total annihilation on the Day of Judgement. BERLIN-A Four-way, English, Norwegian, German, Russo/Serbian draw is hereby pro-

posed. There is an ultra-solid alliance among these nations, with 100% cooperation as well. I urge all players to vote yes on the draw in order to end this senseless battle that will end in inevitable victory for the above mentioned

LONDON: No Frogs allowed in England! Greece went under two moves ago. Thanks Pete!

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1975BJgy
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THE RANGER IS GIL NEIGER

Feb 1418 SR

ELVEN LORDS (Bean) F Grey-Harl, A Lori-Fiel, A Rive-Holl. GONDOR (McGee) DA MTir h, A Anfa-Lefn, A DAmr h, A Lebi-Loss, F Pela-Tolf. HARAD-RHÛN (Costikyan) DA Hara-SGon, DA NRhû h, DA SRhû-WRhû, F Umba-BayB. NORTH (Ware) A Dale S Iron, A Ereb-NWas, A Iron S Dale, A NMir-Carr. ROHAN (Gemignani) A East-Anor, A Edor S East/otm/, A GapR-WEmn, A Helm h. SARUMAN (Labelle) DA Isen-WEmn, A Dunl-Ened, A Mori-Dunl. SAURON (Morris) TA Bara-Gorg, DA MMor-NIth, DA Udûn-Dago, A DGul-Vale, A Nurn-Mord, A SNur-SGon.

Gandalf and Balrog fight it out in Moria!

Mar 1418 SR

ELVEN LORDS (Bean) A Fiel S Holl-Mori, F Harl-WesS, A Holl-Mori (neutralize), Gand Holl S Holl-Mori/Annh/.

GONDOR (McGee) DA MTir S Loss-NIth, A DAmr-Belf, A Lefn-Ered, A Loss-NIth, F Tolf-SGon.

HARAD-RHUN (Costikyan) F BayB-Tolf, DA SGon h, DA NRhû h/disl/, DA WRhû-Brow. NORTH (Ware) A Carr-Vale, A Dale S Iron-NRhû, A Iron-NRhû, A NWas S Iron-NRhû. ROHAN (Gemignani) A Anor-East, A Edor-WEmn, A GapR h, A Helm S GapR. SARUMAN (Labelle) DA WEmn S Ened-GapR, A Dunl S Ened-GapR, A Ened-GapR,

Balr Mori Annh w Gand.

SAURON (Morris) TA Gorg-MMor, DA Dago-Brow, DA NIth h/disl/, A Mord-Gorg, A SNur-SGon, A Vale h.

New Rule: "Isengard is a double valued center for Saruman."

ADJUSTMENTS FOR SUPPLY

Elv: 3/3. H. No Change.

Gon: 6/5. H, <u>NIth</u>. Build 1.

H-R: 4/4. Hara, NKKO, SRhū, Umba, WRhū. No Change (Build 1 if DA NRhū Annh).

Nor: 6/4. H, Carr, NRhû. Build 2.

Roh: 4/4. H. No Change.

Sar: 4/4# Dunl, Isen+Isen, Mori, WEmn. Build 1.
Sau: 7/6. H, Vale. Build 1 (2 if DA NIth Annh or ret-Anor or Ithi).

Revised Addresses

GameMaster/ENTS-Robert Sacks/4861 Broadway, 5-V/NY NY 10034 ELVEN LORDS-Paul Bean/13 Grove St. 8/Boston Ma 02114 GONDOR-Kevin McGee/VMA-224/FPO San Francisco Ca 96602 HARAD-RHUN-Gregory Costikyan/1675 York Ave/NY NY 10028 NORTH-Richard Ware/TEP 253 Commonwealth Ave/Boston Ma 01440 RANGER-Gil Neiger/Box 4293/Brown Univ/Providence RI 02912

ROHAN-Margaret Gemignani/3200 NE 36th St, 907/Ft Lauderdale Fl 33308 SARUMAN-Burt Labelle/Forest Park 23/Biddeford Me 04005

SAURON-Warren Morris 022-42-9165/ET-A School Bldg 621/BEQ 235-117/Class 7632D/ Great Lakes Il 60088

APRIL 1418 MOVES (ADJUSTMENTS) DUE: 7 PM, WED, 31 MARCH 1976.
MAY 1418 MOVES DUE: 7 PM, WED, 21 APRIL 1976.

DUE: 7 PM, WED, 12 MAY JUNE 1418 MOVES

Rulings to Questions

An alliance victory is only possible for the Elven Lords, Ranger/Gondor, Rohan, and North if the other three are eliminated or concede. Of course there is always moral victory.

Gondor can put on the Ring; the Ranger cannot. If Gondor puts on the Ring and then the Ranger takes over Gondor, the Ring is no longer worn, merely carried. The Ranger can take over Gondor even if it is in CD because it has put on and dropped the Ring. The Ranger cannot put on the Ring even after he has taken over Gondor. If Aragorn is eliminated (TA option) before he takes over Gondor, he may still have the Ranger Army and the two Hobbit teams, but no longer has the options of the Paths of the Dead, the Dead Army, or to take over Gondor. ... after he takes over Gondor, play continues with Ranger and Gondor combined.

(In the first case Halbarad would have led the Dunadain, in the second Imrahil would have led the hosts of Gondor and the West.) When the Dead TA is deactivated. it disappears. When Aragorn takes over Gondor, the Ranger Army remains dispersable, but only ordinary armies may be built. Fornost and Lamedon become regular Gondor supply centers; before only Fornost was, and then for only the Ranger Army. The second impulse for double impulse units may be conditional, and retreat is possible after each impulse (though other rules may intervene).

Gandalf can call on the Eagles while imprisoned to get free. While imprisoned he (or any other piece) can only try to escape (move out). A piece cuts an enemy piece's support if they occupy the same space by being there, or by moving to that space as in ordinary diplomacy. When Elrond/Galadriel proceed by the most rapid route to a fortress, or Fangorn, or accompany a unit, that is only if he/she is not already with one of them. Flooding around the Rivendell area blocks passage of whatever Elrond specifies (possibly everything). When the Balrog mutually eliminates with an Elven Lord, it does not kill anything else; the Balrog acts automatically, not under orders from Saruman, Sauron, or the Lord of the Ring (vice versa would be far more likely!).

Units in Pelargir can veto fleet access between Lossarnach and Tolfalas, which are adjacent! Lebinnin and Lossarnach are not adjacent by coast. Amies can move across the Anduin where it forms a border between spaces without fleet help. They can be hindered by enemy fleets exactly as in ordinary diplomacy.

GAME RESULTS

1975BAbu - YV II, Anschluss orphan, terminated by player vote - GM refund fees. 1975BBgv - US II, Bushwacker, terminated by player vote - succeeded by US III.

1973Ccz. (Atlantica I) - an orphan finished in Impassable under John Boyer CANADA-Monahan (Joint Alliance Victory); CSA-Biehl (dro M'71); E-Doble (dro

A'70); F-Greenwell; G-Ricci; I-Bennett, Davis (from Ja'71, Joint Alliance Victory); USA-Lang, Kostoff (from 0'70), Burden (from Jn'71, dro Ja'72).

CANADA inc- 6 7 9 10 13 19 19 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12

C.S.A. omp- 4 5 5 3 3 - A 4 2 2 3 3* 2 4* 3 2 -3 3 2 \mathbf{E} ENGLAND lete 6 1 2 7 F 7 8 10 11 13 13 14*15 16 17 FRANCE 7 9 10 11 10 8 5 6 7 6 7 9 8 G 4 6 7 9 10 11 12*13 14*14 GERMANY inf-8 10 5 7 I 7 6 6 7 10 12 6 4 2 ITALY orm-R 8 6 ation 8 2 6 6 U.S.A. 3

4 4 1973CQf. (Anonymity) Zine: The Mixumaxu Gazette. GM: Robert Lipton A-Michael Friedman (res F'01), Richard Keller (dro F'09), Michael Friedman (out F'09); E-Brian Blume (out F'06); F-David Lagerson (draw); G-Ed Hollshwander (draw); I-Peter Horne (dro F'04), Stephen Tihor (dro F'05), Adam Gillinsky (out F'06); R-Doug Reif (out F'08); T-J O Pickard (dro F'03), Raymond Heuer (res F'05), Raymond Heuer (res F'10), Adam Gilinsky (dro F'11), Adam Carlson (res W'11).

1974Cey. (Kriegsmarine - Phillips) Zine: SHAAFT!!. GM: Andrew Phillips A-George Bent (res F'04), Carl Adamec; E-David Grabar; F-Richard Keller; G-Ian Straus (dro F'05), Steven Peluso (out F'05); I-Mike Fistel (out W'06); R-Bruce Coy; T-James Massar (dro F'04), Timothy Tilson (out W'04). Armistice.

01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 5 5 4 2 2 2 2 1 2 2 2 * 216 215 214 213 13 15 17 19 220 219 218 217 CARTHAGE 11 19 draw 10 5 8 6 8 EGYPT 9 6 10 11 12 6 F 9 9 6 8 9 9 10 12 12 MACEDONIA 6 7 8 9 11 .10 10 8 G 2 1 3 3 PERGAMUM 2 Ι 2 1 RHODES 5 4 8 9 9 8 10 12 \mathbf{R} 7 10 12 16±17 17 16 15 12 12* 6 ROME 9 8 11 10 8 4 2 draw SYRIA 9 7

1974Idd. (Diadochi II) Zine: Novgorod. GM: Tony Kniaz Car-Bob Haas (draw); Egy-Mike Maple (draw); Mac-Steve Walquist, Johnson (from 215), Sergeant (from 213); Per-Jim Lees (out 216); Rho-Gregg DeCesare; Rom-Tom Burkacki; Syr-Jim Venturini, Magnotte (from 219), Norton (from 213).

Emperor-Rick Kitching (dro S'05), Rick Solomon; Mariola-David Head; Norby-Paul Monahan (dro S'03), John Gross; Shalland-Brain Johnston (won S'07); Skogalang-Randolph Smyth (out W'04); Vastmanstad-Doug Ronson. 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 (Emperor's totals in units; others in centers) 1974AEgc. 02 03 04 05 06 Dr 3 3 4* 4* 3* 3 5 4* 4* 3* 3* M 4 (Active Neutrals) AUS 6 6 N 6 - 6 Zine: Lord of BEL Sh 3 4* 4 4* 5 6 8 won Hosts. BUL Sk 4* 4* 4* 1 -GM: Robert Sacks DEN ENG 2 2 2 draw A etc-Zoltan Tomary (Bel elim '03, dro F'06), 3 FRA 4* 7 Richard Ware; E etc-Margaret Gemignani (Gre GER 5* 6 draw elim '06, drew S'07); F etc-Paul Bean (Swe elim '02, Rum elim '05); G etc-Peter Berggren GRE 1 HOL 1 1 (Tun elim '02, Bul elim '05, drew S'07); ATI I etc-Harry Drews (Ita elim '04, Hol elim '05, NOR . 1 -1 draw drew as Nor S'07); R etc-Warren Morris (drew 2 POR as Rus and Ser S'07); T etc-Peter Aronson 1 1 RUM 1 1 (Den elim '02, Spa projected elim after draw) 6 RUS 8 10# draw 01 02 03 1974AFgd. (Deadly Dirty) SER 1 1 7* 9 draw Zines: Pen & Sword, Mutant. SPA 5** GM: Michael Lind SWE TUN A-Bill Klitzke (drew S'04); 5* 1 TUR E-Fred Hyatt (dro W'03); 7 Ι draw F-Steven Brooks; G-Gordon McCabe (dro W'03); I-John Baker R 9 11 draw (drew S'04); R-Walter Blank (drew S'04); T-David Lagerson out F'02). 1975Efc. (Downfall ...) Zine: Quo Vadis. GM: Dick Vedder Dwarves-M Gallow (dro Win); Elves-K StAndre; Gandalf-R Walker (won Win); Gondor-C Fishman (out The); Mordor/Sauron-R Sacks; Saruman-B Linden (dro Wed), J Peters; Rohan-J Lawson; Umbar-R Heuer (dro Wed), C Fishman. Start Sol Chi Lit Wed Win GM statement: Gandalf elected to start the D game in the Shire, which was where I had put E 7 10* 11 12 the Ring, thinking that the most obvious place 12 would be the least suspected (blew that, I'm afraid). From the Shire, Gandalf took the fol-Ga won Go 25 M 22 lowing route into Mordor, one space at a time: S 4 1 1 Shire-Bree (Frery), Bree-Ettenmoors (Solmath), Ettenmoors-Tramsburg (Rethe), Framsburg-Withered Heath (Chithing), Withered Heath-Iron Hills 36 2 R 5

1974Vdq. (Dalarna II) Zine: Runestone. GM: John Leeder

North Rhun-South Rhun (Mede), (Wedmath) South Rhun-Ash Mts., Ash Mts-Mt. Doom (Harvestmath), 2nd Mt. Doom turn, Destroys Ring (Wintering). ...

(Themidge), Iron Hills-North Rhun (Lithe),

MILLER NUMBERS AND NEW DESIGNATORS ASSIGNED

1975BKfh (Colonia II), Michael Homeier, The Master Machiavellian. A-Fred Hyatt, E-Karl Scheutz, F-Robert Stimmel, N-Russell Fox, OE-Carl Hargitt, Por-Victor Ricci, R-Steve Norris, Sp-Jon Pepper.

1975BLfh (Colonia II), Richard Kovalcik, Exponent. A-Robert Stimmel, E-Eugene Prosnitz, F-Fred Hyatt, N-Ron Stephens, OE-Karl Scheutz, Por-Richard Ware, R-Russell Fox, Sp-Alan Roland.

1975BMgz (2001), Rod Walker, <u>The Diplomat</u>. Australia-Robyn Edwards, Bra-Mike McAffee, Chi-Norman Weinstock, Eur-Jeff Key, India-Victor Ricci, Nig-Bob Sergeant, R-Tony Watson, SAfr-Len Lakofka, USA-Jack Kerins.

gz. 2001 (Rod Walker)

1974ANcv (YV IV/Phillips), Don Efron, <u>Brainwave</u>. A-Michael Maple, Chi-Len Howard, E-William Clumm, F-Ron Efron, G-Lee Kendter, In-Phil Castora, I-Thomas Kistler, J-J O Pickard, R-Doug McMullin, T-Chip Charnley. (now in <u>Janus</u>)

1975BNha (Flintlock II), John Leeder, Runestone. Algonkian-Brian Johnston, E-Tom Burkacki, F-Philip Chester, Iroquois-Robert Bawtinhimer, Ohio-David Head, Wendat-Mike Stiege.

ha. Flintlock II (John Leeder, Runestone #77)

1976Acv (YV IV/Phillips), Russell Fox, <u>Centurion</u>. A-Chris Bradshaw, Chi-Ted McDonald, E-Terry Lucero, F-David Fujihara, G-Lee Kendter Jr, In-Donald Parker, I-Jon Pepper, J-Baldwin Minton, R-Karl Schuetz, T-Jim Diehl.

1976Bhb (Gesta Danorum), John Leeder, <u>Runestone</u>. Dane-Philip Chester, East Anglia-Robert Acheson, Mercia-Doug Hayward, Norse-Lee Thompson, Northumbria-Mike Dominskyj, Pict-Robert Bawtinhimer, Wales-David Head, Wessex-Richard Fietz.

hb. Gesta Danorum (John Leeder, Runestone #72)

1976Chc (Global), Dave Kadlecek, <u>Speculum</u>. America-Lee Kendter, Bantu-Tim Ahern, Celt-Alan Carlson, Inca-Robert Sergeant, Japan-Victor Ricci, Polynesia-William Ameling, Turk-Karl Schuetz.

hc. Global (Lewis Pulsipher, Diplomacy World V. 2 #1)

1976Dhd (Grand Tournament), Drew McGee, Rebus Sic Stantibus. A-Charles Doehrer, Bruce Martin, Dennis Nagle; E-Gary Carson, John Kador, Don Rittel; F-Harley Jordan, Dennis Klein, Robert Sergeant; G-Jim Diehl, Lee Kendter, William McDonough; I-John Machir, Robert Sacks, Karl Schuetz; R-Ian Jeffrey, Philip McGee, Nina Pawlak, Vincent Tsao; T-John Arbogast, George Lyon, William McCullam.

hd. Grand Tournament (Drew McGee, Rebus Sic Stantibus #1 - 3)

1976Egv (US III), Fred Davis, <u>Bushwacker</u>. Calif-Stephen Morrill, Chesapeake-Ed Feuerherd, Dixie-Jerry Montgomery, Lakeland-Roy Taylor, New Eng-Stephen Locke, North West-William Clumm, Texas-Gery Smith.

NEW VARIANTS - Editorial Commentary

Paul Girsdansky has published two more atrocious variants: 1984 and Chess, also known as the Rod Walker variant, perhaps because it really isn't a variant.

On the other hand, Walter Luc Haas has once again published several good variants - I would heartily recommend a back subscription to Bumm. The last four published were: Air, Gibraltar, and Erratic, all by Martin Janta-Polczynski, and WorlDiplomacy (revised) by Enrico Manfredi. (Note that I do not review variants published in <u>Diplomacy World</u> or by the variant banks, so I can't say any more on these four.)

Financial (Mike Dominskyj, Runestone #99). A combination bourse-variant for 7 diplomacy players and a number of bankers. The ability to field and build units depends on both the number of centers held and the value of the currency held, as determined by the demand for the currency - unfortunately the formula or method given is mathematically unsound (and economically absurd), but the basic idea, as with other economic variants, is interesting.

The Maya (John Boyer, supplement to <u>Impassable</u>). Ordinary units serve as both armies and fleets; any number of fleets can be in a sea space; movement is not between land spaces but between cities adjacent by road; each of the 8 players has a single home city, which is the only land space which may have more than one ordinary unit, & only ! player's; moves and builds alternate - each land space is a city is a supply center; there is a special, temple, unit which can not be moved, but may be built in any owned center upon a net gain in ownership of centers - they are built in lieu of ordinary units, but do not count against subsequent supply - temple units add defensive strength (1-4 +1, 5-9 +2, 10 up +3) and the victory criteria is 15 temples in one or more centers. Recommended.

hd. Grand Tournament (Drew McGee, Rebus Sic Stantibus #1 - 3). Begins with 22 players, one for each home supply center - new players may be appointed by a king; victory condition is to be head of the winning country, followed by the

commanders of units of that country ranked by strength in that country's units, followed by the heads of other countries still in the game ranked by strength, followed by the commanders of other units ranked by strength; self-dislodgement is permitted under most circumstances, except where it is literally the same player's units, in the same country's army; the heads of kingdoms and grand duchies are elected by the commanders of units in those countries; grand duchies are formed when at least three players with at least three units occupy at least three centers and declare their independence under the same name; grand dukes can be recognized as kings by a majority of the other kingdoms or by the gamemaster ("pope") if none of his commanders belong to any other country; kings may not command more than one of their own country's units - however only kings may make build orders, and the king appoints commanders to built units; a player may secede one or more units with one or more centers to form an independent country called a principality; no player can command more than 5 of a country's units; heads of countries not in civil insurrection order removals - otherwise the gamemaster will; kings and grand dukes with more than 5 units may replace 1 commander each year; ... with more than 10 units may replace 2; units in control of 2 or all of their own country's home centers may declare civil insurrection, negating most of the head of country's powers, and calling new elections every turn until all controlled home centers declare for civil order; units may defect with the consent of the king or grand duke of the receiving country. Beautiful.

Big Brother's Expanded WW III Game For 8 Players (Charles Reinsel, Command #1). Many additional spaces including North America; some ½ centers; Bermuda, Cuba, and Peurto Rico are spaces controlled by England, Russia, and the US; each major power starts with 2 atomic bombs and 1 anti-missile, and Switzerland and Canada each have a bomb for the first occupier. Several good features.

The Sundered Worlds (Steve Doubleday, <u>Darien Settlement</u> 3). A pure abstract variant: beginning with 4 players, each with one home center connected to a fifth space, each player may elect to order a unit to alter space instead of moving by creating/destroying a non-supply center space, changing supply center status of a space, or altering connectivity, until only one player's home center exists. Interesting.

1066 (Ken Clark, <u>Darien Settlement</u> 3). Another good ancient England variant, with a noticeable flaw in that one non-home supply center is labeled as a home center with two names; two players have units that are either armies or fleets as needed, and two players have units which begin off-board, and come on by special rules, though they have the right to build in their first three captured centers. It is unclear that the variant is balanced, as 3 of the 7 have corner positions, 2 have near-corner positions, and 2 have inside positions, and it is unclear that playing the last 4 positions would be any fun at all; of course, one of the corner positions is rather isolated so the two near-corner positions are better, but the positions of the Northern Earls and Harold Godwinson are still not very enviable.

gv. United States III (Fred Davis, <u>Bushwacker</u> Vol V #3) - a revision of his US II variant, to allow for fleets and convoys: the map in US II is modified, mainly by the addition of sea and river spaces; optional starting positions are allowed for 3 of the 7 powers which, unlike US II, have fixed starting boundaries; rivers run between certain provinces without hindering armies crossing them; at the same time armies may be convoyed by fleets on rivers; further fleets may move between land spaces adjacent or opposite by river; in addition, there are many many special rules relating to fleets and army movement in the presence of water. While it is not one of his best variants, it is highly developed and worth studying; of course I am probably prejudiced against any variant or wargame played on a map of the US.

I have once again created a variant, and I submitted it to Lew Pulsipher for his variant design contest, so I can not publish it here; I can, briefly describe it: I called it Fluid Diplomacy, but apparently Peter Aronson has one by the same name, and on second thought I am slightly worried about the large possibility of trench warfare (stalemates) breaking out rather easily, belieing the name: basically, allow every space to have two occupants, and proceed ...

Jeremy Paulson

) Scott Rosenberg

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