

Lone Star Diplomat

No. 31

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81CE, 82AM, 82HU, 83H

★ ROUNDUP of Texas & International News

PLUG. Official announcement: William C. Quinn, D.D.S., announces the opening of his office for the practice of Family Dentistry, 301 Conroe Drive, Conroe, TX 77301, October 5, 1983. (24-hour emergency services, evening & Saturday appointments arranged on request, phone (409) 756-6867 answered 24 hours.) I'm sure Bill's burgeoning practice is the reason for his NMR in King Ranch this season.

PLUGG. Issue #15 of THIRTY MILES OF BAD ROAD arrived recently from Mark Luedi (PO Box 2424, Bloomington, IN 47402. A lively digest-size dipzine, TMOBR is a monthly devoted to postal Dip and Dune at a sub rate of ten issues for \$5, and it also contains letters, contests, and humor. A 20¢ stamp will get you a sample.

CHEERIO. I usually rely on EUROPA EXPRESS for hobby information for this column, but Gary Coughlan is on vacation. From the postcard he sent from the Queen's palace in London, it looks like the Europeans are treating him to a good time.

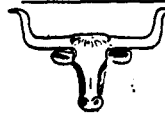
PETECON. The publisher of PERELANDRA, Pete Gaughan (509 Snadpiper Dr. #130, Arlington, TX 76013) is hosting an overnight Dip Party on January 13-14. If you can attend, call him at (213) 947-2766 so he can get enough drinks for the thirsty crowd. He'll be out of town for the holidays, so keep trying. If you can't make PeteCon, send him a stamp for a sample of his zine, which contains regular dip, a hex-type game called Snowball Fighting. Looks fun.

DIPCON XVII/ORIGINS'84. Make plans now for July 4th weekend to attend DipCon/Origins in Dallas. The DipCon Committee for this event consists of Ai Pearson, Chair, Ed Wrobel, and Pat Conlon. I've never attended, mainly because of distance and expense, but this one should be within reach.

HOUSERULE CHANGE. I will no longer offer NMR insurance. From now on each player is responsible for getting orders to me. I will still accept phone orders until deadline eve, but don't call after 10:00 pm Austin time. Also, don't expect my roommates to accept orders. Leave a message and I'll try to return the call.

LISTS. Standbys: Fritz, Luedi, Pierce, Smith. I need a few more people to volunteer to stand by. Please help me out. M-game: Fritz, Pierce, Luedi, Smith, Koehler, and Tatsch. Mayes and Milewski want to play here also, but geographical proximity to other confirmed players prevents their participation unless someone moves.

DEADLINE. I have shifted deadline day to Thursday. Also, I've given you an extra week to get orders in this time because of the holidays. Mail early!!



1983 H

Longhorn

F 1902

RUSSIAN ARMIES ATTACK ANATOLIA;
AUSTRIA, TURKEY DO BALKAN SWITCH

ENGLAND (Seth Owen): F Nth-NWY (F NWG s),
F SKA-Swe, A BEL s A Hol, A HOL s A Bel.
FRANCE (Rick Ragsdale): A BUR-Mun, F Mar-LYO,
A Spa-GAS.
GERMANY (John Mayes): A KIE-Hol (A RUH s),
A. MUN s A Ruh, F DEN h.
ITALY (Ned Nichols?): NMR! F ION h, A TYO h,
A Ven h [dsl, ret to Pie, Tus, Rom, Apu, or dsb].
AUSTRIA (Gregg Fritz): F Adr-VEN (A TRI s),
A VIE-Tyo, F Gre-BUL(sc) (A SER s).
RUSSIA (Joe Gallagher): F SWE s A Nwy, A Nwy s
F Swe [dsl, ret to Fin, Stp, or disband],
A war-UKR, A Arm-SYR, A Sev-ARM F RUM h.
TURKEY (Mike Cannon): F Aeg-GRE (A Bul s [dsl,
ret to Con or dsb]), F BLA-Rum, A Con-SMY.

+ Will Mark Luedi, PO Box 2424, Bloomington, IN
47402, please submit standby orders for Italy?

+ PRESS--

SULTAN: Hope this works!

BERLIN BUGLE: The Kaiser announced today that Germany would lift the government's ban on exporting beer. Inside sources say that with the various armed services of Europe making threatening gestures, the Kaiser hates to be fighting over a barrel.

FRANCE-ITALY: Looks like the power vacuum in the Med has tempted our Austrian and Turkish neighbors.
FRANCE-RUSSIA: Thanks for your interest in seeing me in the game soon. Hope to see you in the game when it ends.

LON-MOS: I don't speak gibberish, but in the quest for knowledge, I'm always willing to learn from an expert, so...please speak on.

SUPPLY CENTER STATUS for winter adjustments:

E: Home, Bel, HOL, Nwy	6/build 1
F: Home, Spa, Por	5/build 2
	[played 2 short]
G: Home, Den	4/even
I: Rom, Nap, Ven, Tun	3/even
	[played 1 short]
A: Home, Ser, Gre, VEN	6/build 1
R: Home, Rum, Swe	6/even
T: Home, Bul, GRE	4/even

+ FYI: The Texas Longhorn was not developed by men, but evolved from domesticated cattle brought to Santo Domingo by Columbus on his return voyage to the New World in 1493. In 1690 descendants of these hardy cattle (a herd of about 200) were brought to Texas where they managed to survive on the primitive range, thus enabling the Longhorn to become the foundation of the American cattle industry. There has never been an animal in history which has had more influence on the culture and economy of a people than the Texas Longhorn.

Post Office of Texas

Mike,

I felt compelled to write you after reading Whitt's letter, your reply, and your reader's replies. I have known Whitt for over three years now, as a business partner and a close friend. I don't doubt for a minute that he did send in orders. However, I also know your talents as an exceptional GM. Thus, I feel that this unfortunate situation is one to credit to the US Postal Service. I have experienced several incidents in which the mail service has broken down when corresponding to Whitt. I think this whole situation could be ironed out with a little Diplomacy.

John S. Mayes

I agree with your assessment that the USPS is probably the reason Whitt NMRed, although it is not impossible that his orders came and I lost them. At any rate, there seems to be little room for diplomacy in light of Whitt's decision to quit the game and cancel his sub to LSD. I respect his decision and have no hard feelings, and life goes on.

Dear Mike,

Regarding the rulebook changes, I am upset.

I am upset that I don't read about them in the Avalon Hill General, the official organ in which such information is supposed to be released.

I am upset that new Rule XII.5 stinks. The old wording was clear, concise language. The example stunk, but the example and the commentary which follows it are unchanged. The problem before was that the example was a limited application of the rule and led many to conclude it was not intended to have general applicability, but only remedy the type of situation dealt with in the example and commentary. The new rule does not limit itself to the Brannan Rule (convoyed attack comes from space of last convoying fleet) to invoke Rule X (the general rule for cutting support). Far from it. The new wording leaves us open to bizarre situations in which A Lon-Den convoyed by F Nth does not cut F Den s F Ber-Bal.

I am upset by new Rule XII.6 requiring an assessment of what a player intended based solely upon the orders that the player submitted. If it were so easy to tell, such a rule would not be needed in the first place.

Think about it. An army is ordered to an adjacent province in the usual fashion, without elaboration: A Bre-Pic. Much to the consternation of the poor slob who has to adjudicate the mess, F Eng c A Bre-Pic fails because someone had the audacity to dislodge the fleet. There is nothing by which to judge the intent of the player who wrote A Bre-Pic unless he specified overland or by convoy. It was his failure to specify his intent that makes it impossible to be sure. The new rule does not say that unwanted convoys can be refused. Not saying so is not conclusive. Why not just insist that an army to be convoyed to an adjacent province be so ordered itself: A Bre-Pic by convoy? The game is one of skill, not

The game is one of skill, not chance. The best interest of the hobby is in working toward uniformity of adjudication, consistency, and the same result every time. Did the player intend a standoff with the unit in the adjacent province? Did the player intend that A Bre change places with the unit in Pic instead? If the player did not specify in his written orders to A Bre, how can you tell, even if F Eng is of another nationality?

I am upset by the outright reversal of Rule XII.4 regarding ambiguous convoy routes. Why not

DARE TO BE DENSE.



DARSA

Stay tuned for more information about this exciting new organization.

require that all possible convoy routes except one be disregarded based on the intent as shown by the totality of the orders written by the player governing the army? That kind of hare-brained solution is found in new Rule XII.6, isn't it? Is it that unwanted convoys are okay if they cause the movement order of an army to succeed? Why not make Rule XII.6 consistent with the spirit of Rule XII.4 by providing that if the orders as written permit more than one route (overland or by convoy) by which the army can proceed, the order is not voided by the ambiguity and the army is not prevented from moving due to dislodgement of the fleet unless overland movement is blocked also? Why not?

Thanks for this opportunity to let of some steam.

Paul Milewski

1981 CE Independence F 1909

GERMANS ABANDON HOME TO INVADER AS RUSSIA LEAPS INTO LEADING ROLE

+ *Concerned players were aware that Turkey did have a choice for a retreat for his dsl A Tri: Tyo or Bud or disband.*

+ *Summer 1908: Germany disbands dislodged A Nwy; Turkey retreats dsl A Tri-Tyo.*

ENGLAND (Joe Gallagher): F LPL h.
 FRANCE (Jim Meinel): A Bre-GAS (A PAR s).
 GERMANY (Don Scheifler): F Bel-ENG, F Lon-WAL, A Edi-CLY, A Hol-BEL, A RUH-Bur.
 ITALY (Doug Tatsch): A BUR-Mun, A MAR-Pie, F VEN s A Tri, A TRI & F APU s Ven, F Ion-Alb [dsl, ret to Nap or dsb], F TUN-Ion (F TRH s).
 RUSSIA (Jeff Albrecht): A Gal-BUD, A VIE s Turkish A Ser-Tri [nso], A BOH-Mun, A Kie-HOL, (F NTH s), F Nwy s F Nth, F Den-KIE.
 TURKEY (Mike Blanchard): A TYO-Pie, F ADR-Ven, F ALB-Ven (A SER s) [both imp], F Aeg-ION (F GRE & F EAS s), A BUL h.

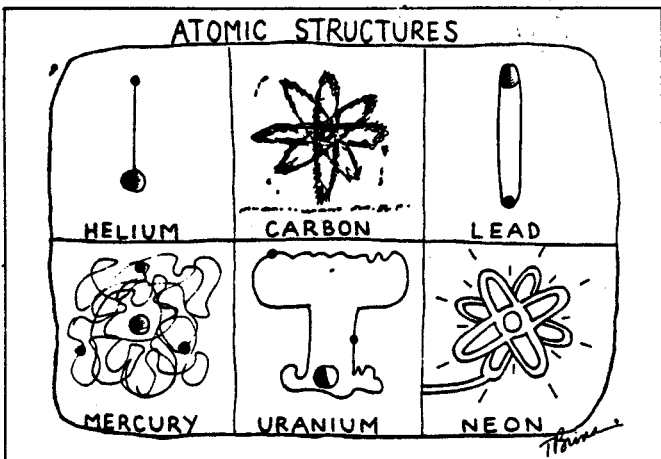
+ *A concession to Russia has been proposed. Please vote with your winter/spring orders. NVR = yes.*

SUPPLY CENTER STATUS for winter adjustments:

E: Lpl 1/even
 F: Bre, Par 2/even
 G: Kie, Hol, Bel, Lon, Edi, Den 4/remove 1 (played 1 short, 1 dsb)
 I: Home, Tun, Mar, Spa, Por, TRI, Vie 8/even
 R: Home, Nwy, Swe, KIE, Ber, Mun, VIE, Bud 11/build 3
 T: Home, Rum, Bul, Gre, Ser, Tri 7/remove 1

PRESS--

GERMANY: I agree with Mr. Tatsch. Russia has by far played the best overall game and deserves the win. **Vot: yes for a concession!**
 CON-ROM: Haven't you learned yet that the true seat of one true faith is in Constantinople? We are only trying to reunite our brothers in Rome with the faith before they stray too far.



1982 AM JALAPEÑO F 1905

E-G-I TIGHTEN NOOSE AROUND A-T WHILE AUSTRIA SUES FOR PEACE

ENGLAND (David Pierce): A Edi-NWY (F NTH c), F Swe-BOT, A HOL s German A Ruh-Kie, A Bel-RUH (A BUR s), F Trh-ION, A STP h (F BAR s).
 GERMANY (Terry Sutor): A KIE-Pru (F BAL s), A Ruh-Kie [dsl, ann].
 ITALY (Gregg Fritz): A VEN h (A PIE s), F ADR s English F Trh-Ion, F NAP & F TUN s English F Trh-Ion, F Wes-TRH.
 AUSTRIA (Bryan Jurkowski): F ALB-Adr, A TYO s A Mun, A MUN & A SIL s A Ber, A BOH s A Mun, A BER s A Mun, A TRI s A Tyo, A Bud-VIE.
 TURKEY (Jim Lawniczak?): NMR! F Ion h [dsl, ret to Apu, Gre, or dsb], F AEG & F EAS & F RUM & A CON & A MOS & A LVN all hold.

+ *A 4-way AEIT draw has been proposed. Vote with winter/spring orders. NVR = yes.*

+ *Will Jack W. Smith, Jr., 16944 Norborne St., Redford, MI 48240, please stand by for Turkey?*

+ *COA: Bryan Jurkowski, CBC-703, 7435 Monticello Road, Columbia, SC 29203.*

+ PRESS--

AUSTRIA-EUROPE: Why don't we end this bloodbath? It should be very clear that I will never turn on the Turk. If either of us turns on the other we are both dead, therefore neither of us will. Also, because we are not out after the win like some players in this game. Even if you two (E-I) start to break through our lines, it will take you years to finish us off. I am speaking of real-life years before this game will ever end. So please, how about a nice 4-way draw.
GERMANY-AUSTRIA: What happened last turn with your press? Did an armadillo get your tongue.
ION-CON: How will you cover all of that territory when one of our units breaks through? If I were you, I'd pick up a few more centers to assure that I would not be the next one out of the game.
AUSTRIA-ITALY: Let it be known to the leader of the great green power that controls the Western Med that the great A-H Empire is unilaterally ceasing all hostilities with you. We seek peace and only peace! We are not after your blood as some of the other powers in Europe wish to have. We seek peace and only peace! May the Pope read his holy book and find this in it: "So then let us pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another" (Romans 14:19).

SUPPLY CENTER STATUS for winter adjustments:

E: Home, Hol, Bel, Par, Bre, Nwy, Stp, 9/even
 G: Kie, Den, Swe 3/plays 1 short; cannot build
 I: Home, Tun, Mar, Spa, Por 7/build 1 [1 ann]
 A: Home, Ser, Gre, War, Mun, Ber 8/even
 T: Home, Bul, Rum, Sev, Mos 7/even



DEADLINE for all LSD games:

5 January 1984

W

1982 HU **King Ranch** F 1903

FROGS TAKE LIMEY CAPITAL; SHIFT IN BRITISH STRATEGY ANNOUNCED

ENGLAND (Don Scheffler): F Bar-STP(nc) (A NWY s), F Nwg-NAT, F NTH-Lon, F SKA-Nth.
 FRANCE (Rob Landeros): A Pic-LON (F WAL s, A ENG c), A BUR h (A MAR s).
 GERMANY (Paul Milewski): A RUH s A Bel, A BEL s A Ruh, A BEL h [two orders for same unit], A MUN h, A BER u, h.
 ITALY (Bill Quinn?): NMR! A TYO, A TRI, A SER, A GRE, A APU, F AEG, & F ION all hold.
 AUSTRIA (CD): A Bud h [dsl, ann].
 RUSSIA (Fred Winter): A Vie-BUD (A GAL & A RUM s), A SEV & F BLA s A Rum, A Stp h [dsl, ret to Fin, Lvn, Mos, or dsb].
 TURKEY (Seth)wen): A BUL s F Con, F CON s A Bul, A ANK s A Smy, A SMY s A Ank.

+ Will Mark Luedi, PO Box 2424, Bloomington, IN 47402, please stand by for Italy?

SUPPLY CENTER STATUS for winter adjustments:

E: Lon, Edi, Lpl, Den, Swe, NWY, STP 6/build 1
 F: Home, Spa, Por, LON 6/build 1
 G: Home, Bel 4/even
 I: Home, Tri, Ser, Gre, Tun 7/even
 A: Bud 0/out
 R: Mos, War, Sev, Stp, Nwy, Rum, Vie, BUD 6/even [1 ann]
 T: Home, Bul 4/even

PRESS--

ENGLAND-FRANCE: You, my friend, have made a stupendous error in judgement. The loss of Liverpool will be only a temporary nuisance, but it will not be ignored. Instead of armies romping through Moscow, I will have a swarm of fleets making a bee-line for Lisbon.

EDI: EG! EG! EG!

FRANCE-ENGLAND: All this could have been possibly avoided with a letter or postcard. Quell tragedie!

Oh well, how do we French say it? C'est la guerre!

FRANCE-TURKEY: Happy Thanksgiving! Try not to get stuffed.

FRANCE-RUSSIA: Ditto.

CONSTANTINOPLE: I'm very strategically placed to be a thorn in someone's side. Who is it going to be?

Peanuts



Thanks for your letter. I hope to have my computer by year's end. I'll write when I can tell you all about it.
 Regards, Mike

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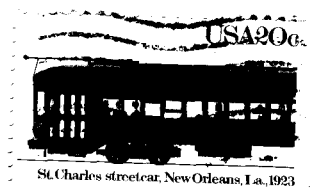
Subscriptions: Ten issues for \$3.00.

Game Openings: \$12.00. Some places available in LSD's last game.

Standbys: Sub credit for standbys who play to the end of game or elimination.

Awards: Winners get 20 free issues of LSD or equivalent, 2-way drawees get 14 issues, all other survivors get 10, & eliminated players get 6.

Alan B. Calhamer invented DIPLOMACY®, which was first published in 1959. The Avalon-Hill Game Company now publishes it.



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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