

MAGDS

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The Magician

I.

I'm usurping this part of ESL for a couple of things. The story I've been writing didn't quite fit this month, but it will be back. And those Bourse Rules would have sent us over the two ounce mark, so they will have to wait until next time.

Old Fiends (1985 X) came to a close, so there is a **GAME OPENING** in MAGUS again. Not to mention a Bourse.

This months offering looks a bit like this...

EXIT STAGE LEFT	(the afterword)	page 1
PATTER	(the magician expounds)	page 2
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The standby list: Mark Keller, John Huestis, Don Williams, J.R. Baker, Jim Keeney, Jim Bob Burgess, Chris Carrier, Mark Howorth, Melinda Ann Holley, Steve Emmert, Tom Hurst, Mike Pustilnik, Larry Botimer, Andy Lischett, Rick Kohman, Richard Hurley, and Stephen Dorneman.

A Motley Crew if I've ever seen one (and I've seen a few in my time!), but thanks to them all. If you want on or off Daf's Motley Crew, just let us know. If you are called on for standby orders, you will get the issue free for which you send the orders, whether they are used or not. We need standbys, so please join Daf's Motley Crew.

MAGUS can be obtained through the inferior method of paying us, Steve and Daf Langley, \$10.00 for 10 issues, or through the far superior method of writing for these pages. We pay for all submissions used with sub credits. The zine comes out once a month, with it's mailing date set to be the Thursday following the ZAT. The ZAT for all games in MAGUS that we GM is the Friday following the first Monday of the month. ZAT is the phone deadline, the mail deadline is that Saturday.

Daf is in the bedroom, trying to pretend that she's feeling cool in the 90+ temperatures (at 9+ pm). She told me that if I feel inspired, I can do ESL. Well, if it were perspiration instead of inspiration that truly counts, I'd have this sucker in the mails by now.

We ought to thank Rick Kohman for the Dipsticks. We have another piece of his, and a piece or two from J.R. Baker that should be features in a month or three.

Summer came earlier this year than ever before in recorded meteorological history. I, for one, am not happy about it. Spring (what little there is of it) and Fall (ditto) are the decent seasons in Sacramento. Summer is an unimaginative, unrelenting, humid heat, while winter is an unrelenting, unimaginative, rainy cold. Autumn is usually brisk and clear with winds and pretty clouds. Spring is usually brisk and clear with new leaves and blue skies. I miss them both.



"Zugabgabeterman" is German for "order handover date", hence, ZAT, which is the abbreviation for Zugabga-whatever. I borrowed ZAT from Gary Coughlan, back before MAGUS actually became a real zine.

Since then, I've used it, and never ever abused it, and only lately have two of you, who were not around in the good old days, asked of the derivation. Of course I went to the files, only to find, that I had used ZAT before I had a zine. No help there! So, then I went to the mouth of the horse (as it were) and asked Gary for help. Gary came through, as is his nature, and thus, you have it!

Speaking of Gary. Europa Express has been the leader for so long it is hard to remember what Dipdom was like without it. Lucky us, now we get a chance to find out. EE was one of the few zines that consistently moved me to write. Yes, was. With his usual great style, Gary mailed out sub refunds, airmail; who else do you know has quite that touch? EE was the best when it was at its peak, and it stayed there for a long long time.

Gary is one of the best writers in Dipdom. He has a feel for writing style that allows him to stroke in satire any and all of us. Now that he has released EE, we can look forward to seeing Gary's words in other zines. Not all is lost.

And, as long as I'm in a von Metzke sort of mood, how about them...got carried away there and almost typed Mets. How about the job Larry Peery has been doing with Diplomacy World?

When I came into Dipdom some five or six years ago, DW was hyped as the zine. None other than Mark Berch said he did all of his best writing for DW. So, I subbed...and truly felt ripped off by the late issues, the hassle over what I did or did not have coming as a sub balance...and then Rod Walker took things in hand (and, dare I say it, held them there for a very very long time) and I still felt ripped off. While I still can not claim to be a DW fan, you have to hand it to Larry for turning things around. DW has been out, on time, consistently, since Larry took the job. If anyone deserves an award for anything in Dipdom, I feel that it is Larry.

Speaking of awards (I've got to come up with a new segue) there are a whole bunch of them to be voted upon. Since I've never taken any of them seriously (sorry Daf, even though you won one of them, I still don't believe in them) they have come around again, and Larry would like you to vote. Considering the job he's done with DW over the past forever, it's the least we can do. Larry, I vote for you.

If any of you would like your votes to be a bit more formal than mine, you may write to Larry to get a ballot. Look in PRESTIDIGITATION for his address. It would not be amiss to send him an SASE.

Speaking of DW (I did it again, sigh), the next issue is on

the subject (dear to Fred Davis's heart) of Variants. So, Why not invent a Dip Variant and send it and an article to Larry for publication. Or, if you don't feel that inventive, send him a cartoon (or carton) of variant stuff. Anything will be appreciated.

It got hot in Sacramento. May is still supposed to be the Spring that we think of with showers and flowers, but not in Sacramento. Two years ago we broke records for most rainy days in a year, last year we set a record fog, and this year, we have started out with breaking the record for earliest day over 100 degrees. Only thing is, as I type, we've broken it for four days running. As you read, we may have done better than that. We are very record conscious here in Sacramento.

As I type this, there is a fan sitting approximately 30 cm from my computer (that's a foot for you non-metric types) blowing full on it and its tape drives, just to keep things cool enough for me to record these golden words (would you believe silver...lead?). Yes, when the temperature rises, the computer only responds to lots of extra care. Daf thought of the fan. I used to wait until four in the morning to type.

Fred Davis (mentioned above...notice the subtle way I've changed the segue?) once published a list of the reasons why we have not made contact with aliens. The list was taken from another source, so Fred can be forgiven for missing the most obvious reason. Think about it for a while, and I'll come back to it next month. Some of you will have seen me mention it before. I came up with it as the theme in an article I wrote for Jinx McCombs in her zine Mimsy (not to be confused with the zine Mimsy that I published at about the same time) back when I was going to school with her brother. I repeated it here when I first read Fred's list of reasons. The only reason I mention it now is that Fred is getting this issue, and I want to make him feel acknowledged (in my own very odd and put-offish sort of way).

While doing all the research I mentioned to determine the derivation of ZAT I noticed that this coming August will be the fifth anniversary of MAGUS. Since I'm bound to forget all about it by then, I thought I'd mention it now. A fifth Anniversary deserves some sort of mention...so just in case I don't think of it again, this is it.

Game Openings!

Yes, there are Regdip and Bourse Openings. I'm enclosing the latest version of the Bourse Rules. The Regdip will have no special rules, but will require a \$10.00 (fully refundable if you stay the course of the game) fee. Signed up and paid are: Marshal Linder and Bob Slossar (they both asked to be signed up with their final orders in 1985 X. Their refunds pay for the gamestart). I've had a couple three others mention that they are looking for a game and/or a Bourse. No game fee for the Bourse, as usual. Of course, you really should sub to MAGUS to play. It makes it so much easier for you to get your game results. Preference lists are optional. So far I have one preference list for two players.

Game Openings!

The Faz baby arrived! She is Carolyn Marie Fassio and her birthday was April 21, 1987. Her first words were, "I'm not playing Turkey!"

And, speaking of precocious babies, Amanda Kristen Byrne, born on Easter Sunday, is taking over the GMing duties in one of her Grandmother's games.

A final precocious baby update: Bob Olsen was named 'Hobby Genius' in the recent Don Del Grande Lifer Poll. (Believe it, Bob, your days are numbers!)

John Caruso tells us that the PDORA Auction cleared about \$400. Well done, all of you.

Russ Rusnak/900 N Rohlwing Rd #333/Addison IL/60101
Rus has asked me to announce that he has game openings. Games are run on a double deadline with all Spring and Fall moves due on the 20th of the month. Summer and Winter adjustments are due on the 1st of the following month. \$5.00 gamefee, no subfee, however you are dropped from the mailing list if you are eliminated from all of your games.

Conrad von Metzke/4374 Donald Ave./San Diego, CA/92117
Conrad has taken over the Hobby Census Custodianship (you notice that we have a lot of custodians...no wonder we are such a clean hobby) and would greatly appreciate all of you publishers sending him a copy of your current mailing list!

Derek Caws/The Old Kitchen, Bere Farm House/North Boarhunt nr Fareham, Hants/P017 6JL, UNITED KINGDOM
Derek has started publishing Globetrotter, a zine whose purpose is the discussion and establishment of a World Diplomacy Convention. This may even turn out to be an idea whose time has come.

Steve Heinowski/12034 Pyle SA/Oberlin, OH/44074
Steve is the BNC. All end game stats and new game starts should be sent to Steve for recording. You might send him a dollar donation with the game start. There actually is an expense involved in all this.

Fred Hyatt/60 Grandview Place/Montclair, NJ/07403-2422
is the MNC. Fred hands out the Miller Numbers for all the variant Diplomacy games. (Send Fred a donation, too.)

Rod Walker/1273 Crest Drive/Encinitas, CA/92024
Scott Hanson/3508 4th Ave S./Minneapolis, MN/55408
Rod and Scott are the Orphan Game Custodians. If you have a game that is in need of a new home, or a home for a game, let Rod or Scott know, and they will try to smooth the transition.

Scott Hanson/3508 4th Ave S./Minneapolis, MN/55408
Scott is publishing Pontevedria, a Reg Dip games opening list free for a GASE.

Steve Knight/2732 Grand Ave. S #302/Minneapolis, MN/55408 is the American half of a rather unique service. If you would like to sub to a European (United Kingdom, et al) zine, and the exchange rates are too much of a hassle, you can send dollars to Steve, and he will arrange the details.

June 5 - 7 is Dipcon XX/aka Madcon V
 This is a date change so listen up! The University of Wisconsin - Madison facilities can only host the gathering at that date. Another disappointment, Rusnak promised me that he'd host the thing in a bar. Seriously, Dipcon is the big one no matter how many or few of us attend.

June 5 - 7 is also Marycon
 Dick and Julie Martin will be GMing. Write to Ken Peel, 8708 First Ave. #T-2/Silver Spring, MD/20910 (301) 495-2799. Held in Fredericksburg, VA. Always a high quality event.

June 20 - 21 is PEERYCON VIIA
 Larry Peery is splitting PEERYCON into two parts this year. You'll have to play in both halves to win. Larry hopes to use the current Dipcon Rating System. Scheduled play with registration and (I think) a \$10.00 fee.
 Larry Peery/Box 8416/San Diego, CA/92102 (619) 295-6248

July 2 - 5 is Origins/Congress of Baltimore
 Game Company Sponsored convention with Diplomacy. Write to Robert Sacks/4861 Broadway 5-V/New York, NY/10034 for pre-registration information. I understand you must be registered with the Con in order to play.

August 1 - 2 is PEERYCON VIIB
 The second shoe drops. See the PEERYCON VIIA announcement.

Labourday 1987 is Pudgecon VI
 We had so much fun again this year that Bob has decided to postpone burnout for at least another year so that he can host another Pudgecon. Start making your plans now. Daf and I will be there. Last year, Bob's computer was the star of the weekend. Who knows what this year has in store.

January 1 (thereabouts) 1988 is Dafcon the next.
 We hope to be sporting new digs by then, but it will still be Sacramento. More room, a chance to sample some of the infamous Dafcon Chile, and informal gaming. Daf and I will definitely be there for this one.

Larry Peery/c/o Institute for Diplomatic Studies/
 Box 8416/San Diego, CA/92102 (619) 280-2239 publishes The Black and Blue Book, a fairly comprehensive listing of Dippers and related materials. TBBB sells for \$6.00.

Larry Peery (him again?) has put DW on this schedule:

DW 47	July 15	material to DW by	July 1
DW 48	October 15		October 1
DW 49	January 15		January 1

Material for print is still an important need! Don't worry about the subject matter. Write something and send it to Larry, Ken Peel, J.R. Baker, Bruce McIntyre, Mark Berch (S&T), or whoever.

If you have an announcement that belongs here, send it in. If you know of a Con, or a proposed Hobby service, or an award or poll that needs a plug, get the word on in to MAGUS and let PRESTIDIGITATION disseminate it for all of us.

VOLUNTEERS turns back into a letter column with this issue. It isn't as if all of the questions have been asked. The day that happens, the multiverse ends, but, it is time for a change... and so, we have:

Michael Pustilnik

4 May, 1987

I do have a couple words about the separation of seasons houserule. The original rule had the problem of allowing one player to slow down the game. But, the new rule has the slightly worse problem of creating an inordinate amount of work for the lone player who is at war with countries that have many builds or removals. I would like to suggest the following houserule:

Normally, the request of one player is sufficient to separate seasons, but, the players can, by majority vote, elect to transfer partial control over the separation of seasons to the GM. If this happens, the GM would state beforehand the number of requests that would be required to separate the following season (if he intends to allow them to be separated at all). The GM would make his decision based on the complexity of the situation.

Of course, in most games, players aren't trying to slow down the games, so this question wouldn't even come up.

/////as always, my comments are flagged with slashes. My feeling is that the game belongs to the players and that the GM should act only as a source of adjudication. The House Rules should be as simple as possible, hence the change from one vote to two votes. Granted, there are cases when a single player needs and deserves a separation. That may not occur with a two vote requirement, but the times that such will be an injustice are far fewer, based on recent history, than the times when a single vote for a separation will cause an injustice. Still, if the players want me to add a judgement call to the complexity of a set of retreats or builds, I will do so. As I said above, the game belongs to the players./////

Simon Billenness

19 April, 1987

I read your volunteers section of Magus with interest. Unfortunately, I didn't have time to contribute, myself, but I would like to respond to everyone's comments.

/////Has anyone ever told you that you write small?/////

The comments everyone made seem to reinforce my view that there is a lot of enthusiasm for an international Diplomacy Con, though there are a lot of reservations about actually holding a Dipcon in Britain.

My preference now is to leave Dipcon as it is and to establish a Diplomacy Worldcon along the lines of Fred Davis' proposal in a recent Bushwacker. His suggestion is that a Diplomacy Worldcon could take place every two years, so that people have a chance to save up and plan in advance. It could also be held in conjunction with an existing convention: Manorcon in Britain and Dipcon in America. This way a good turnout is guaranteed and the existing convention structure will be strengthened.

A British editor, Derek Caws has started up a new zine called Globetrotter which is designed to coordinate the planning for Diplomacy Worldcon and provide a central discussion forum. I'll send him this copy of Magus because

I know he'll be interested to read everyone's comments. In the first Globetrotter it was provisionally announced that the first Diplomacy Worldcon will be held in July 1988 in conjunction with Mancon, with the next slated for Dipcon 1990. If you'd like to join in the discussion and planning, Derek's address is: The Old Kitchen, Bere Farm House, North Boarhunt, nr Fareham, Hants PO17 6JL, England. Do you think you could plug Globetrotter in Prestidigitation? Thanks.

/////I think that can be done. Britain and the States? It isn't the world, but it is a start./////



Old Friends Bourse

Company Name	Acronyms	Dollars	Standing
An Cat Dubh Co.	ACDC	\$3.55	2465
Smart Money and Random Trading	SM&RT	\$4.61	1862
Poison Pen Antidotes	PPA	\$58.41	1670
Just Another Investor Listing	JAIL	\$11.18	1596
Kentucky Fried	KF	\$279.58	1483
Ted Turner	TT	\$3.65	1444
Abyssinian Commodities Exchange	ACE	\$0.35	1167
Joy Diffusion	JD	\$41.05	946
Finance 535	F-535	\$0.85	926
Bug Eyed Monsters Syndicated	BEMS	\$176.18	807
Virgin Investments Inc.	VII	\$165.85	268

Country	AUS	FRA	GER	ITA
SC Count	5	14	7	8

Shorts open at	AUS	FRA	GER	ITA
	2.50	7.04	3.19	3.63

	AUS	FRA	GER	ITA
BEMS	500	0	0	0
PPA	0	0	0	500
JAIL	0	0	500	0

Old Friends Financial News

***GM to BOURSE: PEACE in our times! The War is over. Time to count your tokens and establish a winner! There will be a new Bourse opening with the start of the next new game. New Bourse Rules should accompany this MAGUS.

***TT to DUCK: You're still a loser and you'll always be a loser. You can't hold out on 50-50 guessing games forever and when NAF gets annihilated you don't have room to rebuild it. That's all she wrote....

***GM to BOURSE: Can this man call 'em, or what. NAF was annihilated, Don has no room to build, and that is indeed, all she wrote for this game...it's over!

***COCHISE to GM: Shucks, now I'll have to throw away the Dead Duck press.

***VOLUNTEERS QUESTION #372: What do you think of holding Dipcon at Don Williams' apartment?

***GM to KF: Maybe you could send the Dead Duck Press to Venessa. If she learns about question #372, Don will need a new place to sleep.

***COCHISE to GM: Linda bought some chocolate mousse at the Magic Pan Restaurant the other day. There were Ghiradelli chocolate shavings over the whipped cream. I'll let her give her commentary on this one.

***ECSTATIC LINDY - CHOCOLATE SAGE: Who needs to get high on booze or crack when they can be thoroughly blitzed by the smell of Ghiradelli chocolate? On your advice, I took a sniff of the Ghiradelli shavings on my Magic Pan chocolate mousse, and the delicately rich aroma sent me off into sheer heaven! Note: I'm writing all this because, with all the Cochise and Duck press you and Daf get, it is clear you are craving press that is in good taste. And nothing tastes better than Ghiradelli!

Country	AUS	FRA	GER	ITA
Bourse opens at	2.50	7.04	3.19	3.63
TT	500-	0	969	500-
SM&RT	0	0	0	0
BEMS	0	0	500	500-
PPA	500-	500-	1570	0
VII	1300	0	500-	500-
KF	500-	99-	500-	900
ACDC	500-	662	500-	500-
ACE	0	0	569	500-
F-535	0	449	249-	159-
JAIL	2135	500-	0	500-
JD	0	290	0	500-
Bourse closes at	2.59	7.07	3.33	3.30

No Short Sales indebtedness this season.

Final closing	2.64	7.07	3.38	3.35
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Old Fiends Bourse Current Portfolios

TT	277	6100	6534	1513
SM&RT	1500	10176	4875	176
BEMS	500	0	4227	3583
PPA	500	9972	3495	0
VII	2025	0	2352	16
KF	4100	6700	2800	1800
ACDC	9641	10304	1667	5276
ACE	2599	224	3127	9851
F-535	0	6500	0	240
JAIL	2628	8264	0	3750
JD	0	6297	0	833

More Old Fiends Financial News

***L.L. to GM & GMS: I promise this is the last time I'll mention chocolate (this season, anyway). It has come to my attention that Don the Duck doesn't understand our passion for chocolate you-know-what, so for his sake I am going to dedicate my next sentence to him. Vanilla, vanilla, vanilla. There, Don! Never let it be said I never give you anything.

***GM to L.L.: Some sentence. Since when is vanilla a verb?

***KF to GMS: Have you tried the new Durican Hines Gourmet Trouffle Brownies? They are utterly sinful, but not quite decadent.

***BOOB to COCHISE: If you think we're going to get involved in a silly discussion about chocolate, you're crazy. You don't even exist, just a figment of GM's imagination. Besides I only like the dark, semi-sweet stuff (I have two of those 1/2 pound bars in my desk) and the delectable white chocolate, but only at Easter time. I hate sticky, sweet, gooey candy.

***BUDDING CHOCOHOLIC to GMS: That's telling Don. Unless Vanessa is not telling him something, he does remember what sex is. Unless he's doing it in his sleep...or Rob Olsen did have something to do with it.

***JIMBOB to DON: I don't get it either.

***AUSTRIA to BOURSE: 1. ACDC is in first place (congrats!)
2. ACDC holds twice as many Austrian Crowns as the next.
Coincidence? I think not!

***BOURSER to AUSTRIA: Yes, you needed to point out that
ACDC found a very good investment elsewhere.

***GM to BOURSER: ACDC found a lot of good investments.
Still, it was the boost that his Austrian purchase gave him at
the onset of the game that gave him his boost.

***KF to DUCK: Well, I'm picking up a few hundred Lira.
Could you give me some insider info?

***GM to KF: I have a tip for you. The game is over!

***KF to ROMA: France tried all-out assaults. Look what
it got him. All of fourteen centers to play around with.

***GM to KF and ROMA: What really decided it was the draw.

***FINANCIAL ADVICE XXIV: Good buys available this season.
ACDC keeps finding bargains in his basements as he closes
in on 2600. Austria has his wagons circled, but is a good
buy with an active Italian. Italy shows stability through
the next game year. France just keeps rolling along.

***L.L. to FINANCIAL ADVICE XXIV: You still here? You are?
##X##!

***FA XXIV to GM: But, but, I need my crayons.

***L.L. to MOJAVE MALLARD: Financial Advice XXIV is the only
person I know whose press makes Cochise seem like the epitome
of sparkling wit.

***FINANCIAL ADVICE #777?: I think France's prospects (I
was gonna say France's chances, but that sounds stupid) are
pretty good. On the other hand, Turkey doesn't have a prayer.

***FA XXIV to LINDY: Give them back, or...or I'll hold
my breath!

***TT to FINANCIAL ADVICE XXIV: So you made a comeback. BFD!

***GM to TT: As always, the soul of tact and diplomacy.

***KF to DUBLIN: Are you sure they can't force the draw
without Sevastopol? It looks possible and I'm taking votes
for a game I'm in.

***GM to KF: I understand people have voted on the law of
gravity and the value of pi, too.

***LASER LINDY to GM: Now that I've finished typing all
seventeen reams of your 'Generic' press, I have the time to
write back! And since fair is fair, I would never consider
breaking the Golden Rule by scribbling you a smidgin less than
you scribble me. You do remember the Golden Rule, don't you?
"Do unto others...then split!"

***GM to LINDY: That reminds me; send press to Steve and
Linda Courtemanche...they need lots of guest press!

***BEMS to BOURSE: Offering no-limit, zero-coupon bonds
in exchange for Marks. Will take any offer over \$2.00.
Must unload non-Aryan currencies.

***OLSEN to GMS: It was nice to sleep with you at Arlington.
Don't worry. I won't tell anybody you ##X##. Num's the word.

***GMS to OLSEN: Sorry about that glitch in the program, Bob.
We'll get it fixed by next month.

***OLSEN to WILLIAMS: I'm not as discreet as I used to be.

***GM to OLSEN: You've been taking lessons from TT?

***BOOB to DON (CA) WILLIAMS: I think you're "counterpart"
just joined another game. SLUDGE always has a reason!

***GM to BOOB: That almost sounds like an epitaph. The only
question is, where do we use it?

***LL to JD: Thank you so much for your sweet present (i.e.,
the Press). To show you exactly how much we appreciate it,
we're planning Something Very Special for you....

***INSIDE TRADER: Look for a collapse of the Franc as the Mark surges forth in a latent burst of national self-interest. Crown and Lira held steady as the line takes form.

***GM to INSIDER: Outside...the game is over.

***TT to GM: I refuse to accept mediocrity. Could it be because I don't own a calculator and seldom bother to figure out what I'm doing?

***GM to TT: Some are born to mediocrity, some have mediocrity thrust upon them, some, through their own works, achieve mediocrity. And, yes, it might have a lot to do with your playing style.

***JD to GM: I would like to lodge a complaint. In a previous season you held out the promise that Italy would go into CD, and on that basis, I bought in heavily. Now it turns out that Don Williams has retained the position, causing me massive losses and an extreme state of discomfiture. Bring back CD! Bring back CD! - Signed, the Save Italy League.

***GM to JD: What promise? Did any of you see me make a promise? Were there two witnesses. Did they sign and date the document? Was it notarized? I think not!

***BOOB to FRUEN: I wouldn't let SLUDGE get away with that, he's quite offensive.

***GM to BOOB: One of us is very confused. Make that, at least one of us is very confused.

***LL to COCHISE: Do you think he's fled the country yet?

***GM to LL: It must be me.

***BURGESS to OLSEN: I'm afraid I've just opened up another forum for the vicious Duck attacks. You should see some of the junk I've got already.

***GMS to BURGESS: If it's anything like the junk you've sent here this month, I'm sure you'll get a concession.

***GM to BURGESS: Are those attacks by a vicious duck, or vicious attacks on a duck, or does it matter to you?

***KF to BOOB: Try looking in Flick of the Wrist #32, 1985 AU, the Soldiers of Fortune game, Russia. In that issue, Terry was eliminated from his standby position.

***GM to KF and BOOB: If the subject is elimination of the loadfather...try looking at "Under Western Eyes" in Fiat Bellum (if we ever see another season...Don has managed to stretch the current season out for four months now).

***BOOB to OLSEN: Cat nose, maybe. I grind up little puppy dogs and eat them for breakfast. My two new little kitties are quite wonderful and our little noses rub often. I wouldn't rub noses with Olga, though, for anything.

***L.L. to COCHISE: Gee, it IS true that "payback is a bitch." First I thought about getting Langley a cocker spaniel, now this!

***GM to L.L.: I would neither rub noses with nor eat the little thing. I can't speak for Ashes, though. Ashes is our cat, and he is gentle and loving and nice, unless you happen to be a dog...then he's been known to lift a paw in anger.

***JD to ITALY: What's this now, you're trying to recruit a transgalactic hit man? I guess you haven't heard that BEMS and I have a perfect understanding; he doesn't land his saucer on my porch, and I don't googleplex his freemitze.

***GM to JD: That ought to make him stop and consider his options.

***FT to NIMPY GAUGHAN: Yes? Did you want something? Let me give you some of my cold steel. Be careful who you tickle.

***GM to TT: What are the odd he understand you?

***TT to ITALY: Make that 20-14...and dropping.

##KF to JD: No way can Germany go to 18 centers this season. Since he has only five units on the board, it would take him two game years.

##GM to KF: And we all know his chances of getting two more game years, don't we?

##BOURSER to VENICE: Lira, during that season, was a borderline future. Potentially greater gains were elsewhere, so some people sold. Others bought because of your stable position.

##GMS to BOURSER: Stable position used to be one of my favorites, but I kept getting hay in my hair.

##GM to BOURSER: Actually, she gave it up when we got the water bed.

##LASER LINDY to GM: I read your Leprecon review with great interest and really enjoyed it. Especially the part where Terry Tallman teaches Monte and Aaron how to paly "Naval Warfare." What a great new game concept...Battle of the Bellybuttons!

##GM to LASER LINDY: And you have the gall to complain about the puns in the Generic Game.

##OLSEN to WILLIAMS: As Ahab Queeg said so cogently at the Mud Wrestling match, I'm turning the other cheek, once again. (Hyork, hyork)

##GM to OLSEN: You know, what we need now is a good old fashioned movie review.

##L.L. to Winner Olsen: Having Reagan as Rick in "Casablanca" could have revolutionized the movie's plot! I can see it now: Uncle Ronnie escorting Nancy Davis to a fog-shrouded airstrip with these immortal words: "I'm saying it because it's true. Inside of us we both know you belong on a Macy's misses-wear pedestal. If that plane leaves the ground and you're not on it, you'll regret it. Maybe not today, maybe not tomorrow, but soon and especially when I get to the White House and people find out your entire Gloria Vanderbilt collection was funded by the Swiss bank account of Ollie North..."

##GM to L.L.: Nice review, although you weren't really very critical.

##COCHISE to DUCK: Don't speak about critical mass near a Health Physicist. It gets them nervous.

##GM to TT: Last chance, TT. Say something nice.

##TT to KF: Chasing you is like beating a dead horse, except it's twice as much fun.

##GM to TT: Speaking of beating dead horses.

##CALIGULA to GM: Your Steve Langley Blood Rules are vicious and brutal (but not bad...). But obviously they unbalance the game. Maybe you could change the combat tables to lessen damage to compensate...or how about this, if the target somehow evades the attack, and the attacker keeps pressing it, he develops Momentum, and has to continue outward or inward for 2-3 turns with a chance of crashing into the wall. This exact thing happened to George Bush - one minute he said he had the Big Mo (mentum), and the next minute he was Vice-President.

##GM to CAL: Actually, I've been thinking about a modified version of the Blood Rules. I think we ought to keep the part about braking to avoid an attack on your chariot means that the attack automatically hits your horses, and drop the rest.

##KF to TT: I see you bought German Marks. Thanks for the boost in price.

##BOOB to KF: Thank you. At least someone knows where Mr. Turner belongs, in the sewer.

1985 X Old Fiends The Players

Marshal Linder RD3, Box 218, Carmichael Rd. Owego, NY 13827
(607) 687-5444
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(203) 929-6218
 Michael Pustilnik 140 Cadman Plaza West, Brooklyn, NY 11201
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Redlands, CA 92374

The FGI draw has passed. The final adjudication and ultimate center count follows. End of Game statements and Final Stats next issue. As per request, Bob and Marshal are using their refunds to pay for the new game I've just opened. Mike is using his to extend his MAGUS sub.

1985 X Old Fiends Fall 1910

AUS (Marshal, 6) A BUL S ITA A RUM, A VIE S A TRI,
A SER S ITA A RUM, A BUD S A VIE, A TRI S A VIE
 FRA (Bob 14) F Wes-NAF, F MID S F Wes-NAF, F IRI S F MID,
A PIE S A Tya-VEN, A Tya-VEN, A BOH S A Mun-TYA,
A Mun-TYA, F Tus S F GOL-Tyh(d;anh), F GOL-Tyh,
F NTH-Den, A Gas-BUR, A BAL S GER A SEV-Rum, F Bre-GAS,
A UKR S GER A MOS-Sev
 GER (Mike 5) A WAR S FRE A GAL, A MOS-Sev, F BAL-Den,
F SPA(sc)-Wes, A SEV-Rum
 ITA (Don ?) F Naf S F TUN-Wes(d;anh), F TUN-Wes,
A Ven-Pie(d;r APU,OTB), F Tyh-TUS, A ROM S F Tyh-TUS,
F NAP-Tyh, F ADR-Ven, A RUM S AUS A BUD, A ARM H

1985 X Old Fiends Winter 1910 Supply Center Chart

AUS	Home, Ser, <u>Rus</u> , Bul	-1
FRA	Home, Bel, Por, Lon, Mun, Nwy, Swa. Lp1, Stp, Hol, Edi, War, VEN	even
GER	Kie, Den, Mos, Ber, Spa, SEV, WAR	+2
ITA	Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun, Gre, Sey, Ank, Con, <u>Sev</u> , RUM	-1

1985 X Old Fiends ZAT for End of Game Statements is June 5, 1987.

1985 X Old Fiends PRESS

DUCK to FROB: Funny. You blame my move to the Wes Med for our current troubles. I counter that the build of F Mar in 1907 started it. You then say that I never should have given you the ultimatum of W'01, telling you a build of F Mar would mean war. Sigh, is it any wonder there's no peace in the Middle East?

LINDY to DAF: What's wrong with this crowd, anyway? Don't they like to flirt?

VATER-ENTE: Wen du bist Leben du bist Hoffnung.

LINDY to GM: Help! I'm having "Volunteers" withdraw!

AUSTRIA to ALL: For the record, I voted for the draws...

GM to AUSTRIA: For the record, everyone voted for the FGI.

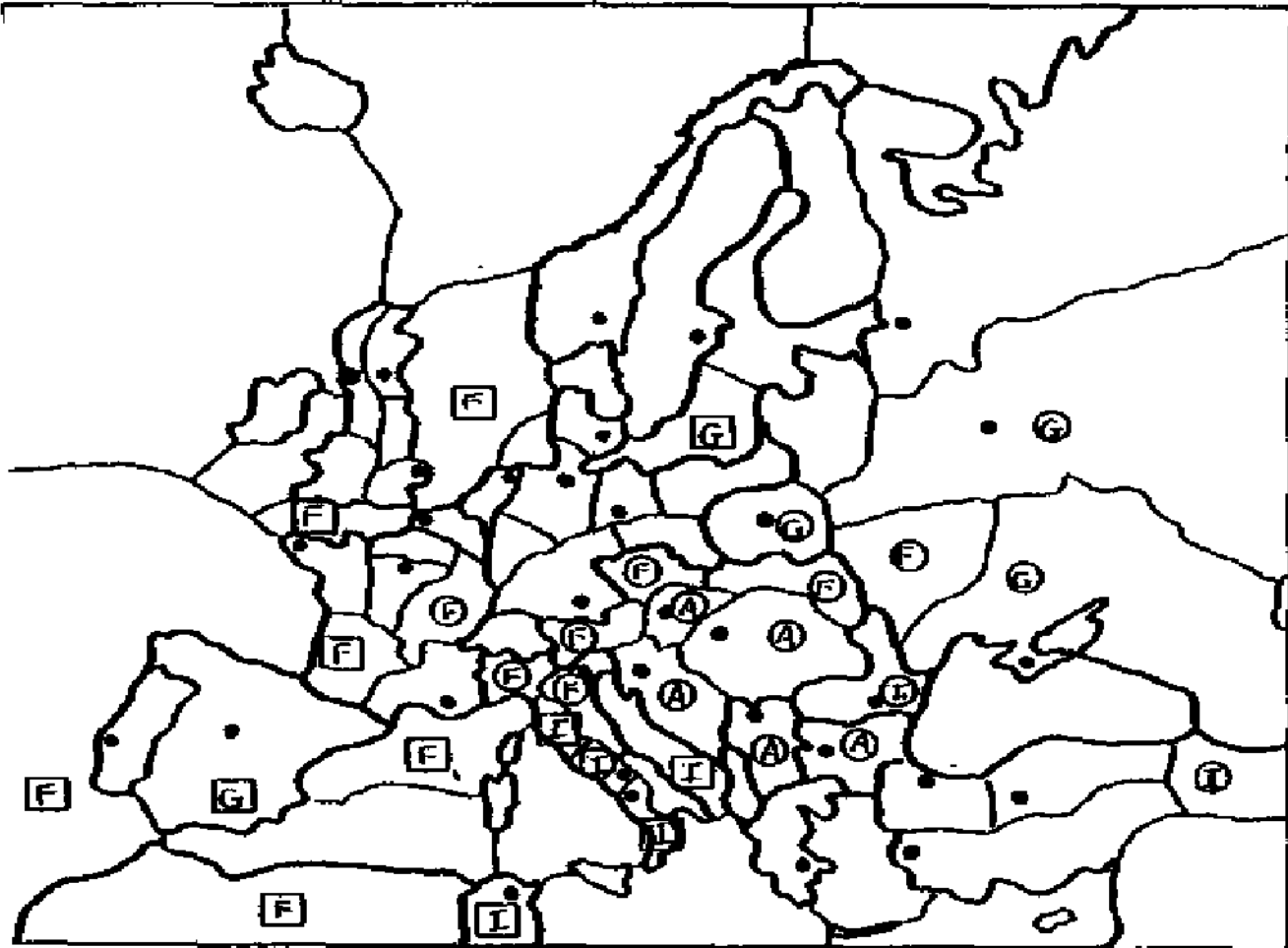
AUSTRIA to ITALY: DAMN.

AUSTRIA to GM: The early name change was so appropriate it's spooky - how did you know?

GM to AUSTRIA: Who, me? Jim Kenney came up with the name change, I just went along for the ride.

ROB to ALL: Valetear plaudite.

1985 X The Aliens' Game Map of final position.



OTHER ESCAPES

I hope I don't give you the impression that I have a 'it's all so wonderful I can hardly stand it' attitude. I say that because I think I've been saying nothing but praiseful things lately. I've told you about Steven Brust, and Orson Scott Card...and it's very difficult not to sound 'gosh wow boy oh boy!' about them. So, with that as a preface, let me tell you about Guy Gavriel Kay and his The Fionavar Tapestry. About only negative sounding thing I can say about his work is that some of it will be familiar. There are three books in the set, The Summer Tree, The Wandering Fire, and The Darkest Road. The reason some of it will sound familiar is that he has taken on the task of weaving a tapestry of the myths of Arthur and a few of our lesser known fantasies, while at the same time, telling the story from the point of view of five young persons of the modern world. How he manages to do it, without going too far in any corny or cliché direction is, in my mind, the true test of his ability as a writer.

Read the books, and you will find yourself never quite sure what these people will do, never quite sure if they will succeed or fail, but you will care. Part of the genius is that the heroes could fail. Part of the genius is that the story didn't have to follow the well known plot. Daf cried, I merely got choked up at a few points. One of the best in a field of good reading.

1982 CH The Aliens' Game Players

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 Mike Pustilnik 140 Cadman Plaza West, Brooklyn, NY 11201
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 Providence, RI 02908
 John Huestis 4525 Cameron Road, Shingle Springs, CA 95682

The AF (tee hee) draw failed to pass. Seasons are separated due to player request.

1982 CH The Aliens' Game Autumn 1921

AUS A Mun R DTB
 RUS A Tri R ALB, F Bul(ec) R BLA

1982 CH The Aliens' Game Winter 1921

AUS (Steve 3) even; has A VIE, A BUD, A SER
 ENG (Jeff 13) builds A LON; also has A PAR, A FIN, F MAY,
 F MID, A MUN, F KIE, F PRU, F SWE, F ENG, A RUM, A BUR,
 F NAF
 FRA (Mike 1) even; has F POR
 ITA (Jim 11) builds: F ROM, F NAP, A VEN; also has F ION,
 A PIE, A TYA, A TRI, F BUL(ec), F CON, F SPA(ec), F MAR
 RUS (John 6) removes A Stp, A Lvn; has A UKR, A BAL, A WAR,
 A RUM, A ALB, F BLA

1982 CH The Aliens' Game ZAT for Spring 1922 is June 5, 1987.

1982 CH The Aliens' Game PRESS

ITALY to RUSSIA: If you were adventurous, you could make a great deal of trouble for me, but I'm expecting something kind of wimpy.

GM to ITALY: Something on the order of he'll pay you Tuesday for a hamburger today?

LINDY to DOORMAN: Your wife is a wise woman, not playing Diplomacy! If she did, she'd find herself pubbing with a cast of crazies, co-running two press-games with the monthly output of an unabridged dictionary, and becoming addicted to many bizarre publications appearing in her mailbox! Not, of course, that I have anyone specific in mind when I say this.

GM to LINDY: I certainly can't think of whom it is you might have in mind, certainly no one in the present company.

LINDY to GM: Right?!

BOOB to DOORMAN: I quite agree with the illustrious GM who has vast experience in such matters. Never beat your wife at Diplomacy and never ever ever lie to her in a game. Wives tend to be sensitive to that for some reason.

DOORMAN to GMS: No, but she plays Strip Trivial Pursuit.

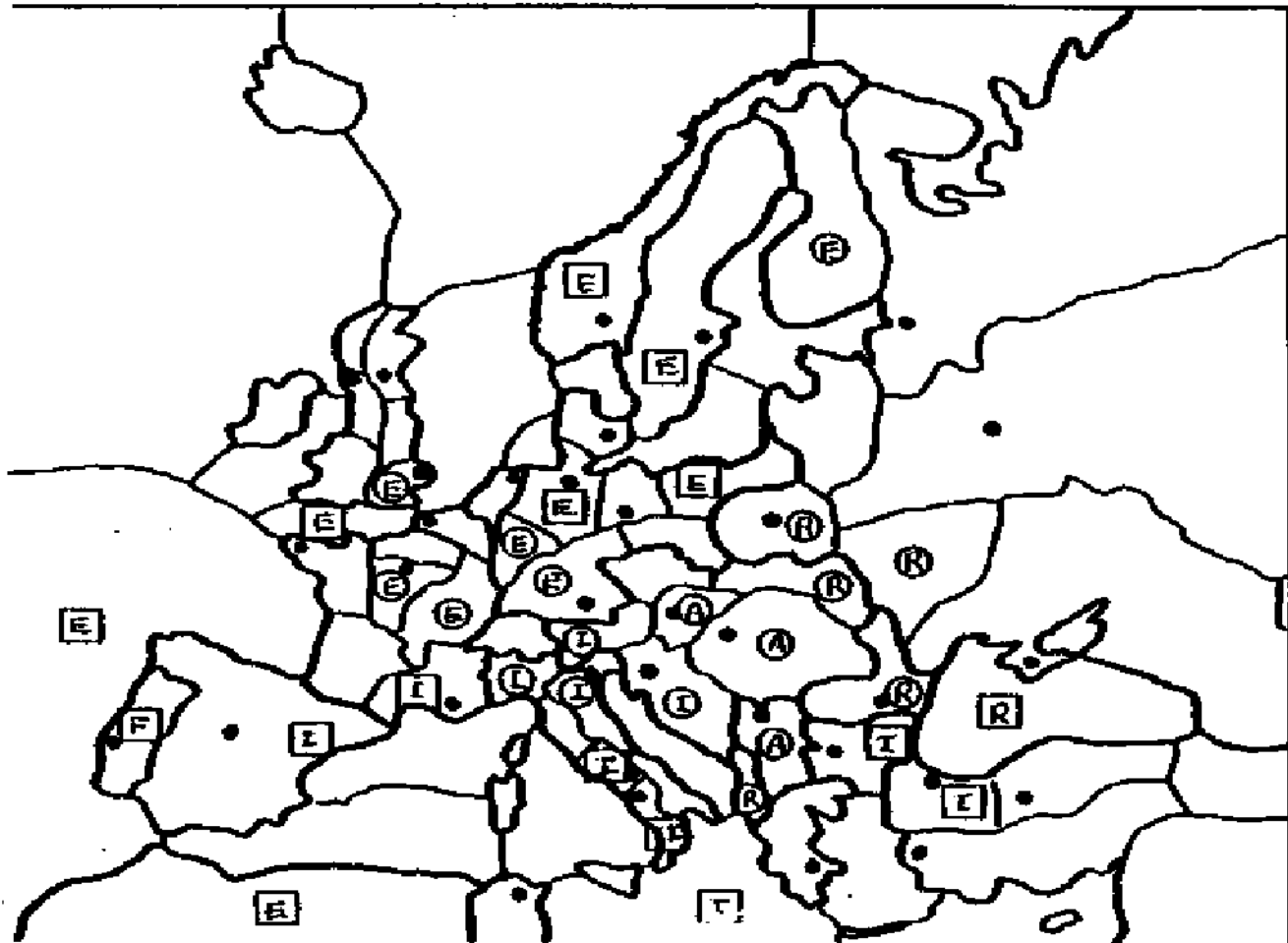
LINDY to GMS: Hey, have I got an idea for the ultimate FIF gaming experience! Rather than your "Strip Civ," how about "Strip Dip"? That's where everyone starts the game with four huge cloth "dots" which they wear on their bodies (Russia has six). The object of the game is to LOSE all your dots, if you get my drift. Try it next year at Dafcon and tell me how it goes.

GM to ALIENS: It's a sad case, she lives vicariously.

GMS to GM: What did she expect. marrying forchise?

1982 CH The Aliens' Game

Map prior to Spring 1922.



GMS to L.L.: We'll save Strip Dip until you and Cochise make that trip out to Sacramento.

L.L. to Dr. BOOB: What was that? Did you mumble something about Dafcon becoming a bigger draw than Dipcon? And "why"? Oh, for heaven's sake, ask Charlotte!

GMS to Dr. BOOB: Better not, that can be even worse than stabbing her in a regular Dip game.

L.L. to GM: Are you SURE this man's a doctor??!

GM to L.L.: According to the cards he was handing out at the singles bar, he's DR-Gyn.

DOORMAN to FRANCE: The question is whether you'll be eliminated before you graduate. This game will never end.

ITALY to FRANCE: Congratulations. I'll take that bet... you'll get your doctorate first.

DOORMAN to Dr. BOOB: Sure, I've had my AIDS test. Got a B minus on it. Good enough for you?

GMS to DOORMAN: What parts did you miss?

BOOB to L.L.: Your cross-pressing we can do without...why don't you cross-press right over into my little szine.

DOORMAN to IL: I have a gold Cross pen - is that what you need to write cross-press? Or, am I, like William Jennings Bryan's mankind, not to be "crucified" upon a cross of gold?

DOORMAN to GM: How's that for a classy ~~pen~~ pun?

ITALY to AUSTRIA: You would accept letters from the (s)illy Englishman?

GM to DOORMAN: Not bad, but as you can see, with a pun it isn't so much a matter of class as surprise.

1986 A Showtime The Players

John Huestis 4525 Cameron Road, Shingle Springs, CA 95682
 Tom Hurst 2686 Richardson Dr., Fitchburg, WI 53711
 Bill Quinn 501 Everett Dr., Conroe, TX 77301
 Melinda Holley PO Box 2793, Huntington, WV 25727
 Larry Botimer 13833 11th St. NE #3, Bellevue, WA 98005
 Don Williams 1325 E. Citrus Ave., Apt 2-C,
 Redlands, CA 92374
 Mark Fassio 11579 Mohican Road, Woodbridge, VA 22192
 (703) 490-4326

1986 A Showtime Spring 1905

AUS (John 1) F AEB S TUR F Smy-Eas (nso)
 ENG (Tom 4) F MID-Bre, F ENG S F IRI-Mid, F IRI-Mid,
 F NTH H
 FRA (Bill 5) F GAS-Bre, F POR-Mid, A PAR S A Pic-BUR,
 A Pic-BUR, A Mun-Boh (dir SIL, TYA, OTB)
 GER (Melinda 7) A Bel-PIC, A Bur S A Bel-PIC (dir BEL, OTB),
 A RUM S A Boh-MUN, A Boh-MUN, F Den-KIE, F Pru-BER,
 A Vie S RUS A BUD-Tri (dir BOH, TYA, OTB)
 ITA (Larry 7) F Nap-ION, A Pie-MAR, A TRI S F Gre-ALB,
 F Bre-ALB, F EAS S F Nap-ION, A SPA S A Pie-MAR,
 F WES S A SPA
 RUS (Don 7) A War-BAL, A Sev-RUM, A Rum-SER, A Gal-VIE,
 A BUD S A Gal-VIE, F Bul(ec)-CON, F Stp(sc)-BOT
 TUR (Faz 3) A ARM S F Con-SMY, F Smy-SYR, F Con-SMY

1986 A Showtime IAF for Summer and Fall 1905 is
 June 5, 1987.

1986 A Showtime Press

CON to BOARD: Please excuse any shortness of letters and/or delays in said things; with the birth of the new FazBaby, things here have been, shall we say, different. Those of you with babes will know what I'm talking about. Anyway, rest assured - this game had entered a new transition phase, given Italy's bold moves of late; Turkey shall not be denied her place in the sun! This game could get reeaaalll good....

RUSSIA to GM: Is this the turn where I pull one of my patented stupendously colossal blunders where I trash my position?

EM to DON: No, this is where you are in the 'meteoric rise' portion, just before the 'stalled' portion which immediately precedes the 'frustrated and getting greedy' portion which comes just before the part where you trash your position. I give it about two or three more seasons, you are such a swift operator.

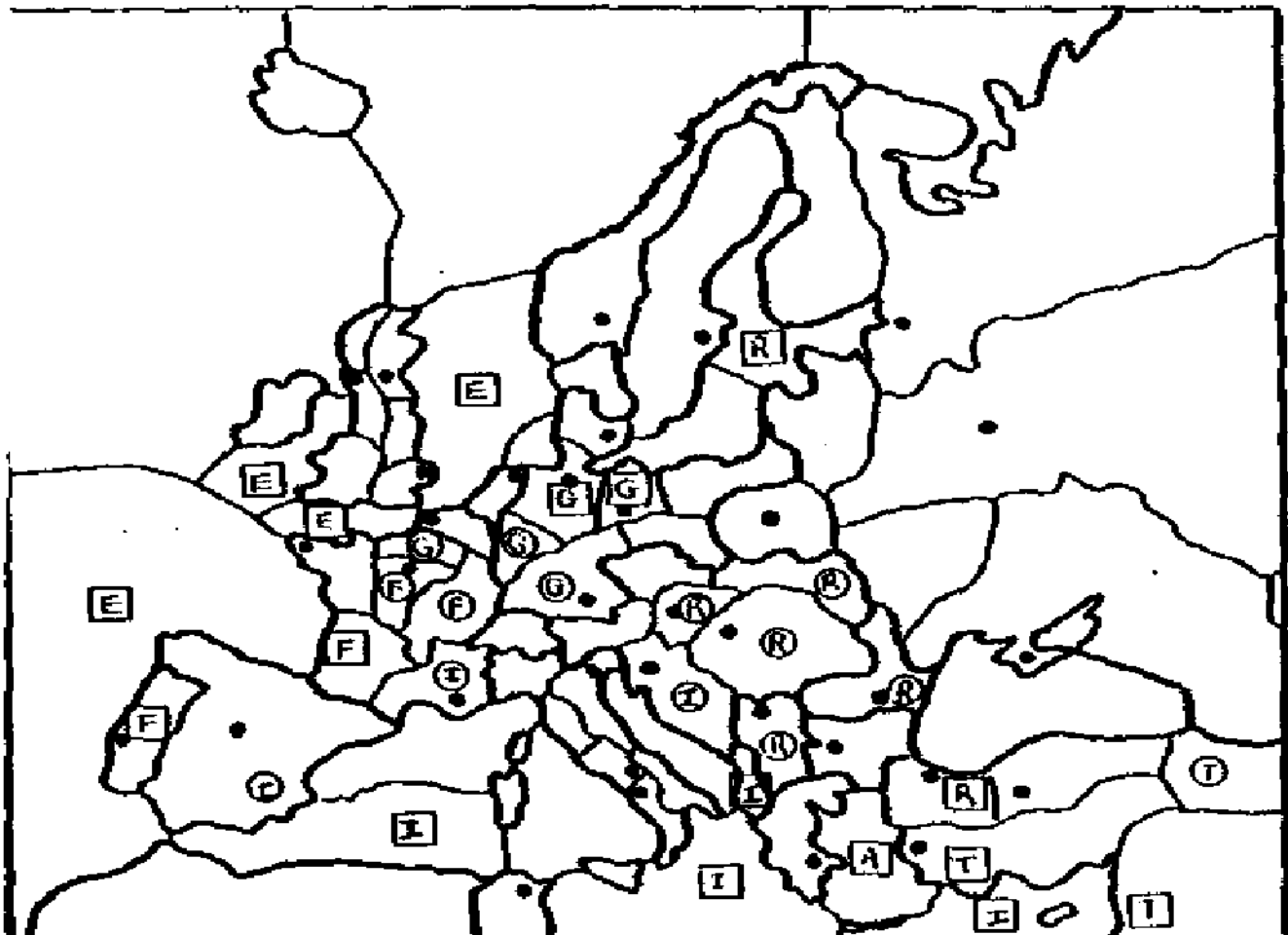
DUCK to FLASH: I noticed Botimer finally caught on to your whine-and-win style of play. Hell, some of us have been saying that about you for years.

RUSSIA to ITALY: He does do that whining so well, doesn't he?

TURKEY to FRANCE: My hat's off to you, Bill, really. Other than perhaps the 1901-2 eastern front, when things looked pretty grim for us easterners, there has been no one else this game who has shown such fluidity, such great defense, and such doggone staying power. You are harder to pin down than Puindexler and North. Continued good luck, Bill - you may need it, with the new I/E maneuvering.

GM to FRANCE: Can't you just see him grinning.

1986 A Showtime

Map does not show units in retreat.

RUSSIA to TURKEY: I swear, Flash, if you say "What's the skinny?" one more time, I'll punch you out. So help me, those cliches are killers.

KING GNOME to FROG PRINCE: Can't blame you for not having eyes in the back of your head, although with all the holes up there, I can't understand why you don't. You shouldn't let spite blind you to reality.

RUSSIA to FRANCE: Look at the bright side - I haven't stabbed you yet.

GM to FRANCE: It's only because he is pure and good and noble at heart, not because he isn't anywhere near you.

TURKEY to FRANCE: Aren't WE in a fun position? Seriously, Bill, you've got it all in France: danger to the homeland; offense against your enemies; millions of retreats/advance options; boy, sure wish I had some fun things to do....

BMS to FLASH: Weren't you complaining about that very thing to Margie about nine months ago?

RUSSIA to FRANCE: Take note of the Roman's press, and don't let him protect anything you hold near and dear.

ITALY to FRANCE: Sure wish I'd been in on this from the start. It would have been fun.

RUSSIA to ROME ON THE DANUBE: You won't liven things up, huh? What do you do for an encore?

MRS. DIPWAVER to IT(Al)LY: Careful about sucking my chocolate dick! He is used to people sucking UP TO him, but somehow they don't get much further than that. (Maybe it's his press.)

GM to MRS. DIPWAVER: Maybe it's his breath.

TURKEY to ITALY: Is our new line of separation considered in-place and effective now? In a civil manner, of course.... thanks for coming into this one and ending the stodgy trench warfare that was destined to happen. You have made the mighty fall, made once-small ones grow, and brought back interest to this one. Thanks, in all honesty.

ITALY to FAZ WHAN WEASEL: I like that "restrained snail". Your letters don't have any restraint so why should your playing style. Sincerity, like incompetence, finds its own level.

KING GNOME to EVIL I: If I'm in POR, you are a man who's word can be trusted, and it will remain for me to prove that mine's just as good. It will be.

GM to KING GNOME: Should it count against him that you didn't try to go to POR? Or are you going to be a real hard-nose?

DUCK to GGLE-EYED LINDY: Just like a woman, treat a man like so much beefcake, never taking into account that there's a duck human being under all that rippling muscle. No wonder you have no toadies - a man wants to be considered more than just an easy piece.

DUCK to GMS: I said that wrong...I meant that a man doesn't want to be just any woman's easy piece...for you I'm as easy as they come.

GM to EGO-EBB: What makes you think Lindy's eye is on you?

LASER LINDY to LOQUACIOUS LARRY: Who on earth (or elsewhere) is S.S.R.? By the way, I did try to take you away from the Mets Madam - I sent her and Caruso a few hundred bucks, plane tickets to Vegas, and told them to get married! See how much I care?!

DUCK to GMS: Aiiieeehhh!!!! Toady thieves? Save me! Save me! Don't let the toady thieves drag me off to their evil and wicked dens.

GMS to FEATHERED ONE: Not to worry sweetling, toady thieves have living rooms, not dens.

GM to GMS: I was told it was bedrooms.

GMS to GM: And just who was it that told you that?

DUCK to GMS: Oh...well, I'm still relieved.

RUSSIAN TOADY to WOULD-BE ITALIAN TOADY: Hey, you! Pay attention, the GMS is speaking to you. Listen and be enlightened.

GMS to WOULD-BE (T)OADY: Hot Fudge is of primary importance, whipped cream and extra nuts...

RUSSIAN TOADY to GMS: Please, Sweetboots, continue that we may become wise.

GMS to TOADY CLASS: And be sure not to do anything that will arouse Steve's suspicions upset my sweetie.

WARSAW to LONDON: You go near the GMS' breeches and I'll kick your gnome-ass. It's bad enough being in a stable of two, but Gaughan at least has the sense not to flaunt it.

KING GNOME to HEAVYHAND HUESTIS: Note that my crusade call made no mention of an R/T attack on you. So I sinned by omission? Women have been saying that for years!

GMS to KING GNOME: How did they spell that?

TURKEY to AUSTRIA: You can talk, talk, talk, but when no one wants to listen...hey, you're still a player, pal - put that unit to good use.

MOSCOW to ANKARA: Nice touch, Flash, warning Heavy Hand about impending doom ~~just in time~~ almost in time to save his country. I bet you'd make the proverbial drowning man come up a fourth time before you'd toss him the life jacket. eh? You're slick, guy, real slick.

DUCKSHIT to HEAVYHAND: Look at the bright side, you were right. Fassio and I alone couldn't defeat you and your Italian ally.

GM to HEAVYHAND: The patented Williams Bloat.

DUCKUMS to SWEETBOOTS: He wasn't being serious, was he?

SWEETBOOTS to GOLDEN TOADY: You mean about the gloat? You do gloat a bit, you know. The trick is to make sure no one takes it seriously.

DUCKUMS to SWEETBOOTS: Serious is as serious does.

FLICK OF THE WRIST to FLASH T. KIRK & MISS KITTY: Was it good for you two, too?

LL to GM & GMS: Warning: This looks like the #2 "Pregnancy Game" in the hobby - with future daddies in Russia and Turkey! Do you two think this sort of thing might be catching? Daf? Steve?? Hey, you two - open that bedroom door!

RUSSIA to THE MALE COURTEMANCHE: Would you please control your wife? Get her pregnant or something already.

GM to DUCKOVITCH: There you go, gloating again.

RUSSIA to GM: No one asked you.

TURKEY to RUSSIA: So, Duckmeister, the fertility curse also strikes you, eh? I understand you LIKE Lamaze class? I know there was something kinda...eeeeeeooooo...about you, boy. When is this youngun' due? Check with our illustrious GM-types; I've included a few names for your child with them last letter. What's good for the Flash, is good for the gander.

GM to FAZ: Sorry, Flash, but Bob Olsen has the Franchise on naming the Gosling.

KING GNOME to KAISER ROLL: Italy says you're fractious. What did you do, offer him an alliance? Everyone knows that his idea of fractious is not giving him everything he wants, especially if you're his ally.

RUSSIA to GERMANY: Sure I'm a nice person. Just call me Snow White.

GM to GERMANY: Great name for a Russian, eh?

TURKEY to GERMANY: You are one spread-out lady, lady! (No perverse cracks here, editors - gosh, what am I saying here?). I wish you well, Miss Kitty, and hope your allies kept allied and that your enemies stayed weak. I'd love to help you, babe, but I'm a bit tied up a'self down here....

GM to TURKEY: Are you trying to suggest something about the fertility curse, or are you just being friendly?

KING GNOME to TSAR DUCK: Whither now, oh web-footed wonder? Austria writhes, Turkey weeps, and Germany wriggles. Which way will you whomp? West?

MRS. DIPWAVER to DUCKOVITCH: Or did you forget the Wesson Oil for your feathers again?

DUCK to LUDICROUS LINDY: You used to be just silly, now you're up to silly and incomprehensible. I just keep asking myself whether that is a step forward for you or not. (Give my regards to Bored-way Joe.)

RUSSIA to TURK: I got the promotion. A week later I gave two weeks notice to take another promotion in another city. (And you thought all the Machiavellian moves took place on the board!) I began working for the City of Palmdale on April 1, 1987.

TURKEY to RUSSIA: Who knows, first San Bernadino; then Palmdale; perhaps Gov. Deukmejian's staff next, hmmm??? You'll need a Learjet for all the commute miles you're putting on, but what the hey...it's an improvement, and good luck to you. huddy.

UKRAINE to ARMENIA: Another thing - don't you ever call me a "big lug" again. I'm a moderately well-proportioned lug as lugs go.

GM to LUG: Yeah, but you've lost three wheels so far.

TURKEY to ITALY: Many thanks, good Italian! I already said that, true, but I guess I'm overwhelmed by your generosity, first in B&AW and now here....are you sure you're not a (dare I say it) a "Fascio Toady"? I mean, that species supposedly doesn't exist, but one can always hope....

ITALY to RUSSIA: My, oh my, I do have an option or two. And by the way, no, it doesn't hurt being Melinda's toady.

GM to I(T)ALY: You're going to break Flash's heart.

BMS to ITALIAN STALLION: Sweetie, you have no idea what it means to be a toady.

GOLDEN TOADY to BMS: Sweetboots...love of my pond...Big "O" of my Big "O"; I've heard that that Tallian person has risen his gloriously tanned and blonde-haired head once again. Tell me, oh-mistress-of-my-mudring, he'll not replace me as your number one stepping stone, will he? I'll do anything you want...anything you desire...yes, yes, just say the words Your any and everyest wish....

BO(T) to BMS: Boy, do you have your toadies brainwashed. I wonder what your technique is?

BMS to BO(T): Just watch this.

BMS to GOLDEN TOADY: My wish is that you dress up in a french maid's costume, complete with feather duster, gather together the makings for a hot fudge sundae, make sure the waterbed has fresh sheets, and watch Johnny Carson with me.

TOADY to BMS: Gee, you never asked for that before....

BMS to GOLDEN TOADY: Do you have a problem with Carson? Would you rather watch Joan Rivers?

TOADY to BMS: No, no, no, that's not it. It's just that, well, I'm rather fond of some parts of me, that's all.

BMS to TOADY: So am I; I'll bet we come up with the same list!

TOADY to BMS: C'mon, Sweetboots, you know what we like!!!

TURKEY to GERMANY: Man, talk about guys who want to rove all over you, Melinda! Good luck in booting out the foreign invader(s), and may Greater Germany prosper.

TURKEY to ENGLAND: What is the situation with John Bull now, hm? A monster ally; a monster potential friend (or foe); a France beset upon by enemies (oops - enemies)...what does this all bode for England, good sir? Turkey waits with basted breath.

KING GNOME to FAZ THE FEZ: With such graveling, I see you are trying to win the Duck's "Golden Mart" award for the year's best toadying. You've got some catching up to do, though. I just don't put mine in the press, where it ruins everyone's digestion.

KING GNOME to EVIL I: With all the grease you wops have, no wonder you're trying to smooth-talk Melinda. It won't work, though. Such toadying she only takes as her due. To get her to do something for you, you really have to do something kinky! Put that grease to better use!

GNOME to BMS: I understand. Being married to Cochise. Laser Lindy has to get her thrills wherever she can find them.

ITALY to ENGLAND: Strange liabo you're in, numb gnome. Why not break out into the Nth Alt?

GM to ITALY: Better than a breakout into North Africa, right?

ITALY to TURKEY: So you're an authority on double-dealing? Well, I'm always ready to learn from the voice of experience.

ENGLAND to ITALY/TURKEY: If you guys think you're so good at toadying, why is it that whenever Melinda hears you, she runs to the bathroom, kneels down, and chants, "Ralph, Ralph, Ralph"?

BELLEVUE TOAD to GMS: I'm easy, I know, and probably cheap too, but I have some pride left. Stable indeed. You think I'll just walk meekly into a stall? Okay, so I will. You've got me pegged.

LB to LL: Hah! You not kibitzing in one of my games, when you know each one I'm in in Rebel, KK, and perhaps Kaissa now?

RUSSIA to FRANCE: Hope you were on the up and up, mon ami; or this will be the fastest R/F alliance you ever saw.

ITALY to GM: Well I livened up this game up a tad, so maybe I'm not such a dull dog after all.

GM to ITALY: And just when did I call you a "dull dog"? You definitely got my "sharp Sharpei" vote.

BELLEVUE ON THE TIBER to SPACE SHOT: I'll bet you can do some real dynamite ogling from orbit. Are you equipped with the latest in super snoop equipment? Eavesdropping monitors? You must have a great time.

RUSSIA to ITALY: I hope Serbia wasn't on your agenda this time. It's just that I have a final point to make with Heavy Hand. No harm intended.

GM to RUSSIA: Don't sell yourself short, Don...clearly you are a tactical genius.

BELLEVUE TOAD to GMS: Don't worry. I've never had to sell myself short!

DUCK to FLASH: "Trench-type fighting"? Just like you to hit the nail on the head the turn Heavy Hand loses it big time. Gawd, you're great to have around for a laugh... I don't think I could stand you if you were being serious.

ITALIAN TOADY to MILLIFICENT: Can you believe that? You're still an apprentice mistress. Oh well, I know the kind of evil spells you cast, oh sorceress and the GMS never saw the day she could match that!

TURKEY to ENGLAND: Good sir, what tack is the Englishman taking now that the game's complexion has been altered? There are many options available, all of them bringing greater glory to your prized nation. Good hunting.

SCARECROW to ITALY: If you're not a good witch, why are you wearing those ruby slippers? Yeah, they go with the bloody dagger, but that can't be the only reason.

SMYRNA: We here in the harbor have absolutely no idea what the Italians are up to anymore, but we surely thank them for their gracious gesture! We now plan to repay that gesture back tenfold.

RUSSIA to TURKEY: Uh, oh, are you still here? How are you doing? Sold any '63 Ramblers lately? I like that green and blue plaid tie, there - goes with the orange suit. Here's to future good fortune for us and don't worry about F Con. Okay? So good? S'awright? S'awright!

TURKEY to RUSSIA: You owe me, buddy - remember that!

DUCK to FLASH: Get off your knees and die like a man.

RUSSIA to GERMANY: Forgive me my slight misstep into Vienna - if it was lucky enough to get it - shall we consider it the "trickle-down" side of the "belligerent neutrality" you've espoused? Or maybe just a straight payoff for Sweden?

GM to WONDER-DUCK: I suppose that means you'll be staying out of Sweden?

1987 AL European Style The Players

AUS Tom Hise 3121 E. Park Row #165
Arlington, TX 76010
 ENG Marshal Linder RD3 Box 218, Carmichael Rd.,
Owego, NY 13827
 FRA Rick Kohman 13517 Agua Dulce,
Castroville, CA 95012
 GER Bob Slossar 14 Buck Hill Rd.,
Huntington, CT 06484
 ITA John Huestis 4525 Cameron Rd.,
Shingle Springs, CA 95682
 RUS Richard Hurley 341 Wolf Creek Rd.,
Grass Valley, CA 95949
 TUR Larry Botimer 13833 11th St. NE #3,
Bellevue, WA 98005
 GM Steve Langley 2296 Eden Roc Lane #1,
Sacramento, CA 95825

Please note that Tom Hise will have a COA in June.
Tom Hise c/o Gano Center/1815 Gano/Houston, TX/77009

We have suffered our first prophetic retreat. Please note
the notation in the Turkish orders.

1987 AL European Style Fall 1901

AUS (Tom 3) F Alb-GRE, A SER S RUS F Rum-BUL(ec),
A TRI S A SER
 ENG (Marshal 3) F NNG S A Yor-NWY, F NTH C A Yor-NWY,
A Yor-NWY
 FRA (Rick 3) F Mid-POR, A Mar-SPA, A Bur-MAR
 GER (Bob 3) F DEN-Nth, A Kie-HOL, A Ruh-BEL
 ITA (John 3) F Tyh-TUN, A PIE H, A VEN H
 RUS (Richard 4) F Bot-SWE, F Rum-BUL(ec), A STP-NWY,
A UKR-Sev
 TUR (Larry 3) F Bla-SEV, A Bul-Rum(d)r CON),
A ARM S F Bla-SEV

1987 AL European Style Winter 1901 Supply Centers

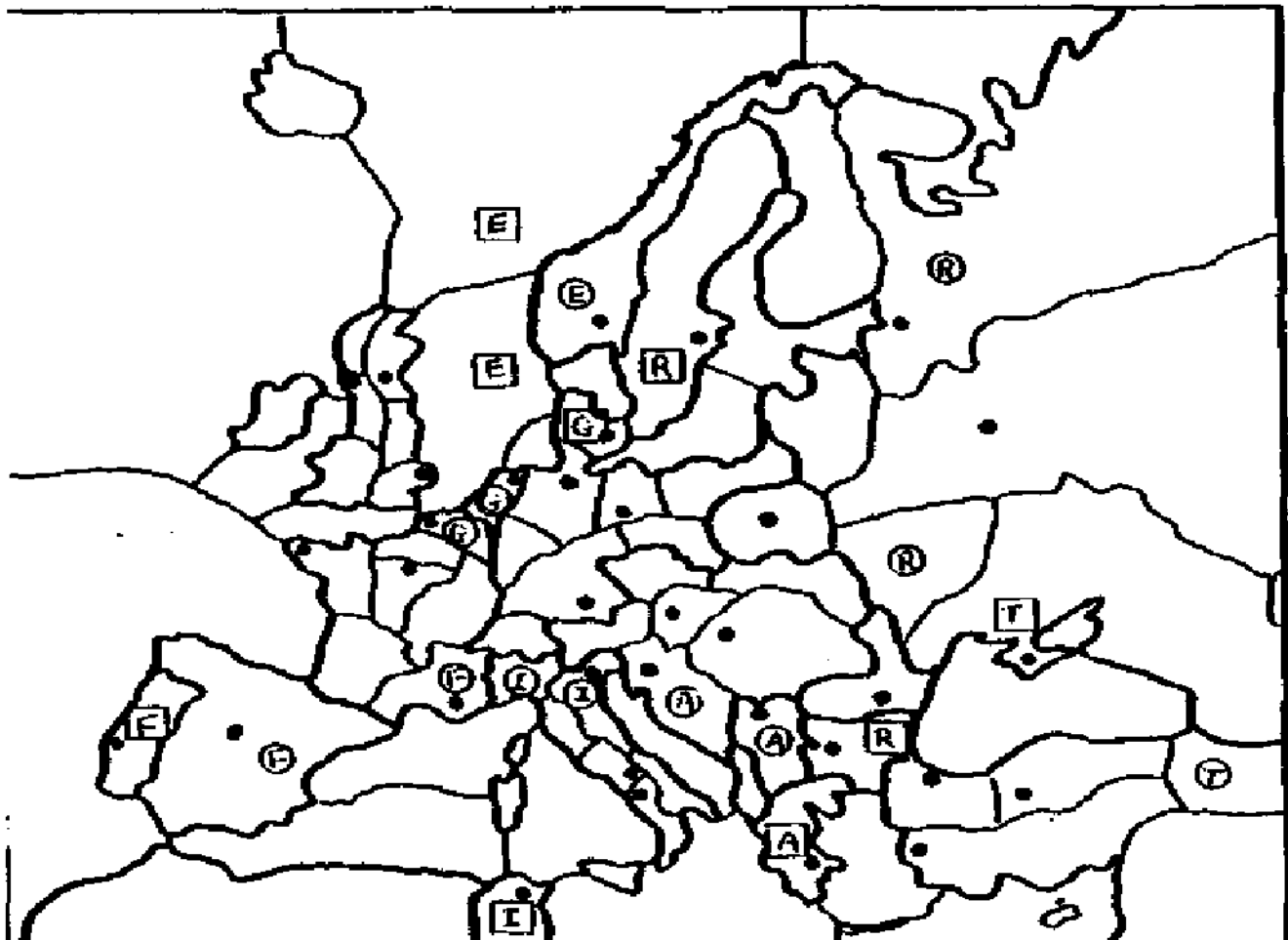
AUS	Bud, Tri, Vie, SER, GRE	+2;	builds 2
ENG	Edi, Lon, Lpl, NWY	+1;	builds 1
FRA	Bre, Mar, Par, POR, SPA	+2;	builds 2
GER	Ber, Kie, Mun, DEN, BEL, HOL	+3;	builds 3
ITA	Rom, Nap, Ven, TUN	+1;	builds 1
RUS	Mos, Sev, Stp, War, BUL, SWE	+1;	builds 1
TUR	Ank, Con, Smy, SEV	+1;	builds 1
NEU	<u>Bel, Bul, Den, Gre, Hol, Nwy, Por, Rum, Ser, Spa,</u> <u>Swe, Tun</u>		

1987 AL European Style ZAT for Winter 1901 only is
June 5, 1987.

1987 AL European Style PRESS

LARRY to GM: Greater love has no man for his fellow Dip
players than to save them from both Faz Whan and the Blood-
sucker. (How's that for big time credit?)
 RUSSIA to TURKEY: May your camel give you herpes.
 GM to RUSSIA: You're asking for the Bloodsucker!

1987 AL European Style Map prior to Winter 1901.



LINDY to DAF: So this game is called "European Style." Tell me....European Style WHAT? (Don't they have whipped cream and hot fudge?)

DAF to LINDY: Good grief, we just started this game and here you are! Is no game sacred?

MARSHAL to LARRY: Pleased to meet you. Who knows, maybe we'll even meet on the board!

CONTRAS to SLOSSAR: We're sorry that we got the wrong Linder, we promise to keep on trying until we get it right.

BOB to RICK: A contest to see who can say something nice about Don W.? Now, there's a contest worthy of a Clark Bar.

FRANCE to TURKEY: So tell Russia it's my fault, for not bouncing you in the Black! I hope to heck you got your signals straight, so you and I will bounce in the Baltic this season.

TURKEY to FRANCE: As you can see, I kept my half of the agreement and did not move into the Channel. And after such a mutually beneficial start to our alliance I'm sure we both trust each other and are inclined to believe whatever the other one says.

RUSSIA: The Tsar and Tsarina have retreated to the coast to repair their frayed nerve endings and ponder the unspeakable perfidy of the Turk. We are now at the Mendocino Botanical Garden. This is an astonishingly beautiful spot, and the Tsar is having trouble deeping his mind on affairs of state.

GMS to TSAR: Never mind affairs of state, are you keeping your waddis mind on the Tsarina. One must have priorities.

SMYRNA to GM: I'm glad you appreciate the faithful of Allah. If prayers can influence you, I'll make sure I bow down to Mecca (or Sacramento) 3 times a day.

FRANCE to ENGLAND: Castroville doesn't have much of a downtown, either (2 stop lights). Oh, by the way, I'm planning on dislodging your F NTH in Spring of '08, so don't forget to write the retreat order.

PASHA PDD to BMS: Uh huh! I knew it, you just had to let her make press at me in spite of my pleas. So I'm glad she and Millificent have made you tasty.

BMS to THROBING PASHA: Tell me more about these tastes.

FRANCE to ITALY: We appreciate the honor of being the first to view the new Italian Cavalry in full battle regalia. We are impressed. Now go home.

RICK to STEVE & LARRY: Yes, but "Who are those guys?" would have been extremely appropriate in "All the President's Men".

SPACEY to TURK(E)Y: (Whoops! I promised I wouldn't kibitz here!)

LARRY to SPACEY: Ah well, I'd probably miss you if you were not watching over all my moves. I've grown accustomed to your kibitzing. (That's also true of everything else, including ogling.)

GM to LARRY: That's a married lady...oops, sorry Lindy, you're right...none of my business at all.

MARSHAL to BOB: I just followed the trail of breadcrumbs - I don't know who was dropping them.

BOB to MARSHAL: Shoot! You made it to 4!

GM to BOB: Sort of in the tradition of the Williams Gloat.

FRANCE to AUSTRIA: Look to the West. What do you see? A couple of horses' asses! Italy's social comment of the Dual Monarchy?

GM to FRANCE: Italy knows a lot about horses' asses. He raises Polish Arabians in response to his mid-life crisis.

MELINDA'S TOADY to GM: Well, I hope the lightning made a believer of you and perhaps you're now one of the faithful?

GM to TOADY in search of a TOAD: I have always been faithful. That's the reason the GMS keeps me.

ST.PETE to ISTANBUL: Vultures will pick your bones while the Tsar dandles young Romanovs on his knees. (What is dandling, and why is it only done on the knees?)

GMS to TSAR: And here I thought you were faithful to the Tsarina all this time. If any old Romanov will do, did you know that I have some Russian blood by a previous love affair?

LB to GMS: Faithful? After your cruel rejection I've no one to be faithful to, except, of course, my favorite evil worceress.

GM to LB: According to the PDDRA Auction results, you may have some competition. The single item with the most bids was the picture of Melinda.

RUSSIA to TURKEY: It is the Tsar's unfortunate duty to embargo all sturgeon products bound for Turkey. "Let them eat peanut butter" were his exact words.

FRANCE to WORLD: This game looks like 7 chaotic snakes eating each others' tails, don't it?

RUSSIAN HEADQUARTERS: The Tsar's general staff have announced a "line of severe annoyance". Any Turkish units found north of a line running from Black Sea to Rumania will be subjected to vicious verbal abuse and probably have their tires slashed to boot. (If they are anachronistically driving tanks, well, we'll ticket them without mercy if they over-park). So there.

GM to TSAR: That ought to catch his attention!

Why There Are So Few Play By Mail Diplomacy Articles
By Steve Langley

Take your average war game. It is like a puzzle. Certain lines of play are superior. Given study, it might even be possible to find the one line of play that assures a win every time. If you do find that line, you quite naturally want to spread the word that you found it first. Then you move on to another game. If you don't publish, someone with whom you have played the line just may publish it anyhow, and the secret will be out. So, you may as well get the credit for your work.

If Diplomacy were primarily a game of strategy and tactics, there would be best lines of play discovered and articles written. There are articles written for that matter, but none of them are so naive as to claim to be "The Best Line". Why is this? Because Diplomacy is a game that plays on two levels. At the strategy tactics level it is a fairly simple game as war games go. All else being equal, the better tactician, the better strategist, will win of course. All else being equal....

It is that very all else that is at the heart of Diplomacy. Negotiation. Articles about negotiation tend toward the simplistic. Write lots! Write to Everyone! Surely there is more to it than that.

Some articles are written giving broad examples of ways to negotiate. You may use a few of them yourself. When you read the articles that suggest to you to raise up one of the players as especially skilled and to be feared, to the others, you probably remember a game you played with Dan Stafford. When it is suggested that you say that player X is known for his NMRs in order to get player Y to ally with you rather X, you probably remember a game or two with Larry McCloud.

Some of the ideas may not have occurred to you. Some of them may seem a bit contrived. Some may seem out and out foolishness. That's because they are not really considered to be the best line to follow by the person who wrote the article. What is written in such articles are all of the general ideas that could be tried. Rarely does the article touch on any actual delicate negotiations. There is always to actual negotiation that is written about in the article.

The "more to it" is what isn't written about. The real tricks of negotiation. Why not? Because, unlike your average war game, Diplomacy is not played on a board, it is played in the minds of the players. The winning line may not be all that obvious, even if played time and time again. The players with whom you play it may not see it as clearly as if it were laid out in pieces on a game map, so they won't understand it as a winning line despite your success. So you publish it and explain it all for everyone, right? Of course not, you keep it for yourself and go on winning.

Of course, what works for you might not work for everyone. In fact, it might not work for anyone else at all. Can you imagine how well you would do if you attempted the "I'm just a poor defenseless woman and everyone in this game is my enemy!" line that Kathy Caruso has so much luck with? I'm assuming you are not a woman, to start with. So, you have a line of play that works well for you. If you write about it, you may do nothing more than tip off the other players in your games what to expect from you. Suddenly your winning line self destructs. No wonder you don't publish.

ATROCITY EXHIBITION

This is the second edition of Atrocity Exhibition, the ill-behaved toddler in the family of Magus subzinnies. It's a publication of...I had it right around here somewhere...oh yes, me, Bob Olsen. Feel free to call me up sometime and we'll talk Don Williams and other sordid topics.

Some MASTERS OF DECEIT news for ya'all this time. There's a new Third Edition out, available from Woody. I haven't seen it (hey, I'm just the editor, and anyway Woody is holding out on me till June 1st, when the price rises from \$1 to \$2) but the new MOD features some decadent faddist frills I really don't agree with--in other words, it's legible this time. Bunch of sissies...

MOD has had quite a career. Who would have thought that a simple (-minded) publication slapped together on the spur of the moment just to annoy the Powers-That-Be would have such legs? Hey, if I had but known, I never would have had anything to do with it! But when it was done and (apparently) perfected, I looked around me and wept for lack of new worlds to conquer, just like Alexander the Great, a person I resemble in many ways (two eyes, two ears, slight tendency to mumble in Greek). I wondered, what new project could I turn my hand to? Having covered the "novice" scene, logically the next step might be a packet for the veteran, yeoman player. But such people are far too busy writing and receiving stupid Diplomacy letters to bother with play-of-the-game or suchlike drivel. The solution, then? So obvious. *A Publisher's Handbook of Abuse.*

Therefore it is my pleasure to announce the immediate availability of the Hobby Burnout Packet, which I have named KINGS OF OBLIVION after an album by the rock group Pink Fairies. (Quick, anybody, name one member of the Pink Fairies. How 'bout you, Jim-Boob?) This will be the ultimate going-away gift for the serious former Diplomacy enthusiast. Just a few of the articles contained herein: "You Wanna Leave? So Leave! Who Cares? Go On! Get Lost!" by Steve Arnawoodian; "Get Outa Here, Joik!" by Kathy Caruso; "I'm Still Only One Issue Late!" by Terry Tallman; "Going in Style" by Glenn Overby; "I'd Go But Mean Kathy Won't Let Me" by yours truly; "I Don't Know Anything At All About This Topic" by John Boardman; "There And Back Again, And Then There Again, And Then Back Again, And So On" by Rod Walker; and of course "Oh Please Master, Don't Leave, I'd Be Totally Lost Without You" by Jim Burgess.

Not only is this publication literally stuffed with important burnout information, but you'll want to keep a supply of at least 50 copies on hand for all your Diplomatic crises. Your ally NMRs? A copy of KOO makes an attention-getting shot across his bow. You're the victim of a stab? Then which is more sophisticated, the traditional "You're dead meat, sucka!" tirade, or a copy of KOO with the same message discreetly inscribed inside the front cover?

You'll want dozens of copies for your very own. \$5 each--place an order soon. If you don't write me about KOO, I can only conclude that you are already in a state of terminal burnout, so I'll send you a goodly supply of Kings of Oblivion and bill you later. Hurry! Do it today!

RUTHLESS PEOPLE: SPRING 1901

DAF USES "THE VON METZKE OPENING" !
FOR KATHY, IT'S "THE IBERIAN INDECISION" !
(MINOR POWERS DO STUFF TOO...)
THIS MAY NOT BE DIPLOMACY, BUT IT SURE IS...

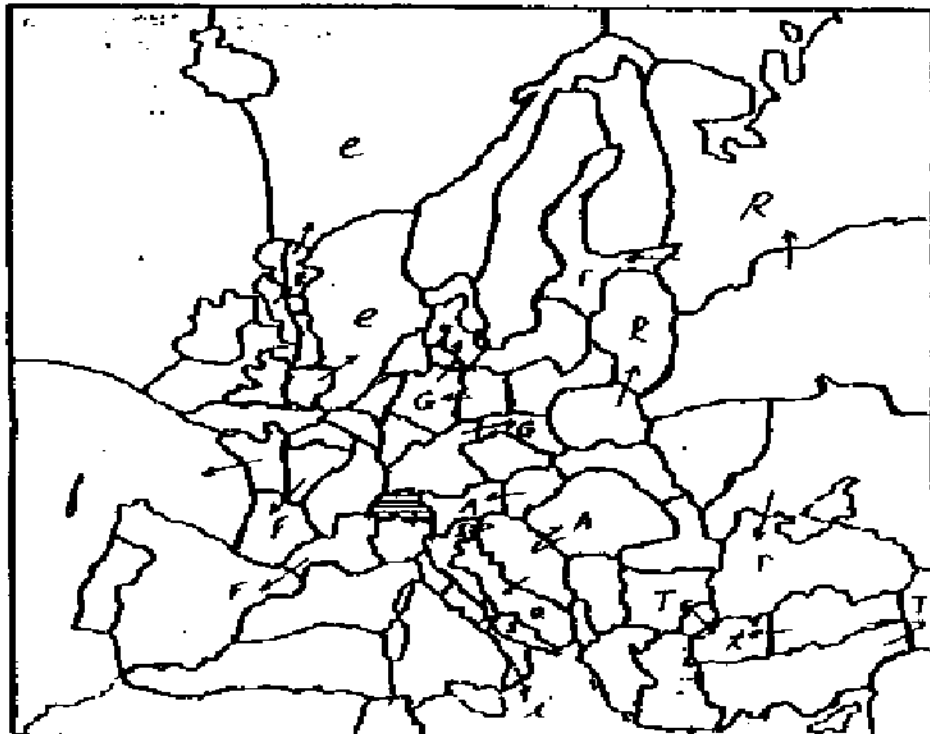
WAR!!!

AUSTRIA (Daf Langley): F Tri-ADR, A Vie-TYO, A BUD-Tri
ENGLAND (George Graessle): F Lon-NTH, F Edi-NWG, A Lpl-EDI
FRANCE (Kathy Caruso): F Bre-MAO, A Par-GAS, A Mar-SPA
GERMANY (Jim Burgess): F Kie-DEN, A Mun-SIL, A Ber-KIE
ITALY (Mike Mazzer): A VEN-Tri, A Rom-APU, F Nap-ION
RUSSIA (Don Williams): F Stp(sc)-BOT, A Mos-STP, A War-LVO,
F Sev-BLA
TURKEY (Pete Gaughan): F Ank-CON, A Con-BUL, A Smy-ARM

Note: Mr. Steve Heinowski, our esteemed BNC, has given this game the number 1987-AT...the AT standing for Atari, of course! Hey, is this guy a great BNC, or what?

Deadline for Fall 1901: JUNE 1, 1987

In accordance with my previous habit, the phone deadline is midnight of the night before the mail deadline. Since from now on the mail deadline will always be the first of the month, that makes the phone deadline the last of the (previous) month, most likely.



PRESS

Boob to SLUDGE: Oooh, I should have known I would begin to regret my very existence ((Why not? Everybody else does)) if I joined this horrible fiasco. Why do you do these things to me?

KK--Jerky: Look at the bright side, Lindy could be playing France!

Duck--Hinner: How dare you suggest that I, in fact, set you up in this game?! The simple truth--something you undoubtably are all too unfamiliar with--is that we all wanted to be in a game GMed by a master. Langley not being available, though, we settled on letting you give it a shot. We know we're going to be in need of another GM quickly, but give us at least a month or so to dig up a competent one, hey? And remember, if England orders A LIV-EDI, that's a disorder. Got it? ((If by "got it" you are referring to a psychosis, then I must point out that you and only you, by your own confession--and I salute your candor for once--have "got it" in this sense.))

Russia--England: Betcha my Toad can beat up your Frog!

LIT I--LIT II: So how was that for a play on words and ideas?

Kathy--Daf: This is not the battle of the toadies, this is you vs. me! You may think this game will be a snap, well, I would too if Honey was my neighbor. But Honey isn't next to me--he's the GM. ((Good point, Kitton! That's telling her!)) You'd be amazed at the amount of things Honey has been misplacing lately--orders of yours or your toadies' can't be far behind.

Kitton--Honey: The above was a hint, one which you better consider very seriously or you just may find yourself looking for a new job as Head Toadie! ((Whatever happened to, "Integrity" is my middle name?))

KK--Mushbrain: Cut the crap! If you don't like being called a mindless toady, then stop acting like one.

Kitton--Honey: Just what we need a temperamental toady...

Turk to GameMesser: I've only seen one so far and I already hate your maps. ((So who asked you?))

KK--Pops: You the odd man out--don't make me laugh. If you can't out-toady a bumbling idiot, I'll join another game in Fiat Bellum.

KK--Honey: I have a lot of faith in Pops! And if he dies in Mushbrain's arms, I'll personally kill him! Yes, that is a threat! ((You're a very violent person!))

Turk to Bobo: Ruthless? Yeah, I've been Ruthless for a while, but I'm Cathyful and I love it.

Italy-GM: Oh sure, Kathy Byrne ((who?)) and three others get their first choice and I get my eighth choice. Mr. Honest GM! ((So where, exactly, did I ever claim to be an honest GM? I want the exact date and place where I made such an alleged claim! I want a signed affidavit from myself admitting to your crazed accusations and giving you permission to mention them in public! So there, you unethical cad, you despicable rogue, you immoral bounder!))

Turk to Daf: You are perfect. You are lovely. You are my only toad.

KK--Cupcake: (Honey, don't read this) Remember the night you adorned your black silk stockings with a red lace garter

belt and then you got down on your knees (get your minds out of the gutter, he only got down on his knees so we'd be the same height) and we... Hey I'm not Mushbrain, I don't kiss and tell. Well, there is plenty more where that came from. What has Daf got to offer? She has nothing but a burnt out body-- she has already spread herself out too thin-- imagine keeping Mushbrain and Pops happy, forget the bodily damage, just think of the brain deterioration! The old girl should be put out to pasture, better yet, do her a favor and put her out of her misery!

Italy--Austria: Allow me to express my disgust in advance at the sorts of blatant, sexually oriented, sexist advances you will be receiving from Russia and Turkey. It is as if they feel you are merely a sex object, and, as a woman, haven't the capacity for strategic thought, tactics, and analytical reasoning. I, on the other hand, perceive the depths of your understanding, the profundity of your insight. I know that on the highest spheres of intellectual understandings, our minds can intertwine as one, locked in an intellectual embrace, thrusting, pounding, striving, following the sensuous curves of your thought processes, the mountainous hills of your strategic insights, the moist, ruby opening of your mind... Oh God!!! Let's be allies!!!

Italy--France: Hey, Hot Lips, wanna humma-humma?

Italy--France: Please forgive that last press item, Mrs. Caruso, I forgot that you are now a respectable married woman. Or at least married.

Italy--Russia: Don't get the idea that I am trying to stir up trouble between you and Turkey, but Gaughan is not called Dotsnatcher because he has polka-dot pubic hair. (At least not that I know of). ((You are such a raconteur...))

Pac-Man to Bulgaria: Wakkawakkawakkawakkawakka.

Italy--England: There is one thing to be said for an alliance between yourself and France, you could share the same shaving mug. I can see it now, the Five O'Clock Shadow Alliance! ((You are such a dead raconteur...))

Turk to Frog: You are a problem. ((You silver-tongued devil!))

Ita--Aus: I hurl myself into the abyss! It is no use--I can't fight you and your toady hordes. I go to Trieste in an act of self-immolation. To die in your supply centers is my one wish!

France--Motor Mouth: What kind of diplomacy is "I swear on my Nixon I won't go to Piedmont..."

KK--Boob: For a Boob you talk a good game! However, actions speak louder than words, and I promise you if you went to Bur, I intend to put you out of action permanently! ((Two death threats in the same season! Somebody check--is this some sort of record?))

Kitton--Honey: When you said that you wanted to test my love, I had no idea you were going to go this far! I mean there are tests and there are tests, but this is more like mission impossible! Hell, why didn't you just throw me to the lions? ((What, and have a bunch of dead lions?))

Russia--Game: By the way, I just wanted to let you all know that, as reported, my wife and I are expecting a baby. We're not sure yet, but we think the baby will be born in September or thereabouts.

((If anyone doubts Don's claims to be psychotic, to have thought "processes" resembling a plate of leftover scrambled eggs, just read on as logic jumps through hoops and reason is stretched out on the sadistic rack of a typical demented Williams tirade.))

I also wanted to make it absolutely clear that Bob Olsen and totally and absolutely responsible for this. Had it not been for the fact that Winner did not show up at Dafcon, we'd never have thought to get a motel while in Sacto this last January. And we all know what happens in motel rooms, don't we? (If he'd been there, I'd have been too distraught by his mindless attacks on me to concentrate on...uh...stuff.) (On the other hand, had he been there, we'd likely have gotten a room just to escape his totally raucous and brain-rattling snores. This is a typically Olsenesque plot...he wins if you do, he wins if you don't.)

I say all this to you, not for sympathy (I know you all commiserate with me in this interminable feud that Olsen has chosen to drag out sans raison) but to warn you all about the depths to which this Olsen--bestial behemoth of barbarism--will go to win. Win, win, win...it's all the guy thinks about. (I was going to say "man", but real men don't use epithets like "simple-minded antelope".) Look around at the other players. Just about any one of you could end up with an unexpected Special Delivery, compliments of Winner.

So, be careful what you do or say. Olsen will stop at nothing--not even bland pseudo-eruditicism and unctuous insidiousness--to reach his ultimate goal of driving me from the hobby and being declared, yes, the WINNER of this feud. His senseless and incoherent pedagoguery aside, this simple-minded misanthrope can hardly keep his base urge to win--to win at any cost despite the pain he might unleash on others--in check. You have been warned.

Russia--Pete & Cathy/Boob & Charlotte/et al: Please, be careful...use protection!!! Don't let the Olsen fertility curse get you! He's done it once, he'll do it again.

Duck--Frog: Watch it...ducks eat frogs...especially green, squishy, LOUD frogs.

Russia--Italy: Neener neener neener!!!

Russia--GMS: I hear and I obey...which fire did you wish for me to throw myself into? And, yes, I'll hold off on attacking Peter, at least for another season.

Duck--Boob: Hope the carrot offered on this side was bigger than the one they offered over there. ((Looks like a "carrot gap" has opened...))

Williams--Wesson King: Nice to hear from you again. The perfumed lace and silk stockings were a nice touch, but I prefer my partners female and hetero. Thanks anyway. (By the way, did anyone ever tell you you do a great plead and grovel? Kind of a poor toady's bump and grind. It was cute. Disgusting, mind you, but still cute).

Duck--Frog: Ahhh, SHADDUP!

Black Sheep--Winner: Better a black sheep than a black hole, into which everything is sucked without prejudice or discretion.

Redlands--Witlessta: If you thought this was bad, wait till next month when I really gear up. ((Yes, I did, and no, I won't.))

Duck--Maladjusted Misanthrope: Sure I'm psychotic, why else would I subject myself to the ignominious likes of you and your unfounded rantings? My psychosis has been diagnosed as Toedium Philadelphneus Maximus, a copadition similar to that which afflicts my life-long friend, that all-around super human being, Pete Gaughan. One of the best things about this particular brand of psycho-schmuckery is that one so afflicted is immune from that highly virulent and often lethal strain of psychosis known as Byrnegumcaruseum Toedius Autofatalis. But then you wouldn't know anything about that, would you? (Denial of reality, self-deprecation, avoidance of the truth, self-delusion, utterance of vague and contrived innuendos by the person afflicted...these are the tell-tale markers of one in the throes of the BTA dementia).

I guess we could be stuck with Linoleum Mazzergrosis Silkwaye Mania, or--shudder--that brain-melting inflammation known as Burgus Omnitodium Excelkus, (also known as "Boob's Fever") named after the only known and medically verifiable case ever found, Dr. James Burgess. Buergess not only is the only known case, but he discovered it and infected himself with it. Truly a psychosis to be reckoned with.

Duck--Graessle: Don't worry, I'll get to you later.

Duck--Cleaver Caruso: Ditto.

Duck--He Who the Shoe Fits: It's been said that both biology and geography are destiny. In either case you are dead meat.

Boob to SLUDGE: I need to write more press but I also need to get my taxes done. ((Render tribute to za glory uff za Shtate! Ve vill shkveeeeeze effery drop uff blood from za victims!)) I hope to get more to you later. My moves show my usual boobosity though, wouldn't you say. ((As a totally impartial GM, it is not permissible for me to comment on the boobosity of the orders submitted to me. However, if I were to comment on this matter, I would have to say that, yes, your orders show boobosity of the highest magnitude. But I didn't say that.))

And now for a hard-hitting Editorial Cartoon on the subject of Turkish atrocities in Bulgaria from noted pundit Mr. P. J. Gaughan:



The Melniboné Herald

#8

published by P.J. Gaughan, 3121 East Park Row #165, Arlington TX 76010-3744

HELKARAKSE ASF

Here it is--the fifth game of Snowball Fighting played in North America, "Helkarakse" (named for the long barrier of ice north of Tolkein's Valinor). The warriors:

Bruce Geryk (no name yet).....L12
Tom Hurst (Sass-squat).....I 5
Tom Hise (Muscles Galore).....C13
J.R. Baker (Snow Grench).....R10
Daf Langley (no name yet).....O11
Jeff Zarse (Smugpuff).....A 9

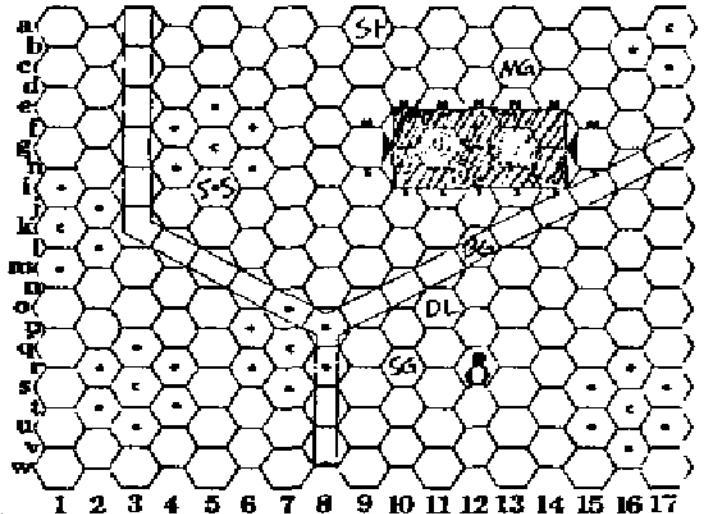
You may still submit or change your game name, right up to the deadline:

1 JUNE 1987 (phone: 31 May)

This is the first Snowfight to start outside of Britain or Perelandra. I hope you'll all get into the press-writing spirit of the game--but please, try not to cross-game between this and the new game in Pere! Remember, you each start with two Simple Snowballs; the SnowMaster's reserved datelines are "SM" and "Kitchen".

BG--Bruce Geryk 5748 S Blackstone Av #310 Chicago IL 60637
MG--Tom Hise 4568 Black Rock Dallas TX 75211 (due for COA June 3 to Houston)
DL--Daf Langley 2296 Eden Roc Ln #1 Sacramento CA 95825-3350
SG--J.R. Baker 44 Airshire Place Hazelwood MO 63042
SP--Jeff Zarse 1 Stonegate Rd Lake Forest IL 60045 (COA to NH in June)
SS--Tom Hurst 2686 Richardson Dr Fitchburg WI 53711

Oh--a note on positions. Everybody kept getting starting locations under trees and on the path, and I finally gave up re-drawing them. Tough. But the final spots really were random.



It's the start of another summer here in Sacramento. As those of you who have read me before know, I hate heat! It's been over one hundred for days and no end in sight. Of course, there is a cooling trend in sight. It should plummet into the 90's. It was this fact, plus a couple of others that has led me to make a decision. In two years (give or take)



Steve and I are going to move to Seattle. We both liked it there when we went a couple of summers ago. The job market should be fairly lucrative for Steve and with a couple of years of experience under my belt, I should have no trouble finding a job either. That's why we aren't moving tomorrow. Barclay College may have a name in Sacramento (how big I have yet to find out) but it probably won't mean diddle in Seattle. Therefore, get some experience, get a good recommendation, and then move. We will be moving sometime soon here in Sacramento, but that will be to a bigger place with a hot tub - or more correctly a cold tub - and air conditioning and three bedrooms. The boys will be going to San Diego for the summer so the move shouldn't be too traumatic.

I went and had another CAT scan done last month. I got the results last week. It turns out that there is no new growth and everything looks fine. I am relieved. I know I've been feeling good, but I had a lurking suspicion that something might be going on. It's good to know that I'm back to almost normal. Which brings up the question of why it all happened? Why would this episode swoop down on me, upheave my family and my psyche, and then leave without a trace (almost - I have to take about 4 different kinds of medicine every day)? It's mind boggling. I've decided to just be grateful and leave it at that. If I try to understand it, I'll go nuts.

School is entering the do or die stage. I've finished all my dictaphone assignments and I'm almost done with my legal packet (legal packet is a set of 20 jobs which simulate 3 days in a typical legal office. You have to type up Complaints and Probate Petitions and so on.) It was fun. I'm learning a new computer system. I finished the other one in record time and the teacher wanted to know how I'd handle the new system. So far, so good. It's more complicated than the one I'm used to, but it has some great features. And then there's Cortez-
It's a typing system built to increase your speed and accuracy. It consists of timed speed writings and drills based upon those timed writings. It's the pits, but it's working! In only two weeks, I've increased my accuracy three fold. My speed's been shot to hell, but they say that will come back once the accuracy is there. So this month my entire day consists of typing, in one form or another. Next month I get a class in interview techniques and employment tips. That one should be fun. I'll let you know.

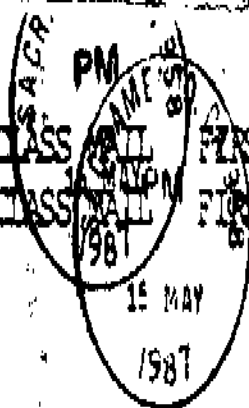
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