

# The Master Machiavellian

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## Dispatchio di Machiavelli

Greetings, thou princes! May you confound your enemies and strengthen your friends through a greater understanding of the art of Diplomacy.

It has become apparent of late that this publication's contestants are voluntarily reducing the amount of press submitted, thus making it possible for the Staff to announce the opening of yet another Diplomacy tourney. Participants will be solicited beginning next issue as many points regarding this contest remain as yet unsettled. Because of the declining number of subscribers, this contest will most probably be opened first to new subscribers, hopefully at the regular rate, and then, depending upon the response, to present subscribers. As there has been no response to our Managing Editor Michael Homeier's article on the application of Diplomacy in modern history, the Staff is considering suspending the article in favor of opening a sixth Diplomacy contest. This decision will be affected by any and all comments on the article in question.

The Staff of The Master Machiavellian feels proud to have been a part of a not insignificant economic miracle. Despite the drastic increase in postal rates and in material costs, The Master Machiavellian has maintained since its inception in August of 1974 its single dollar Diplomacy fee, and to this day still clears but ten cents per individual copy (subscription rate now 10/\$2.50) excluding postal costs as it did two years ago (1974 subscription rate 12/\$2.50). But the first quarter of this year has witnessed a major increase in materials (paper up 12% per ream, dittoes up 20% each) which is threatening to exhaust this publication's resources. Consequently, some increase in rates is obviously necessitated, however regrettably, in order to keep the publication going. The Staff is at present debating whether this increase will manifest itself in game fees or in subscription rates, and as this decision directly affects the subscriber and contestant, ideas and suggestions on the part of the readership are requested. The additional funds are required to continue the periodical as it is at present, any attempt at expansion being at this point totally unfeasible.

Unfortunately, it now seems apparent that the Staff will be unable to attend the GLASC convention to be held early in June. Final examinations begin the preceding Friday and continue until the following Wednesday, followed by commencement exercises for our Managing Editor and our Diplomacy Adjudicator. The Staff does, however, fully anticipate attending the third annual DinkiCon this Fall, tentatively set for Sunday 5 September 1976 at Holmby Park in Bel Air. The Master Machiavellian had intended to once again sponsor this event as it did last year, but another publisher intervened and his machinations prevented this; this periodical is not sponsoring DinkiCon III. Further details will be published as they become available.

May good fortune rest upon you, and may subtlety cloak your plans and actions. Graciously I welcome you to this realm of the lion and the fox, of force and of fraud.

Niccolò Machiavelli

STAFF AND INFO

The Master Machiavellian is a gamezine of postal Diplomacy, its variants, and other wargames. Subs are now 10/\$2.50 thanks to the increase in paper costs. Still, a bargain any way you cut it. Standbys for Colonia I, Diplomacy, and Colonia II are solicited. We intend to open another Diplomacy game next issue. Diplomacy, /c/ Avalon Hill Co., 4517 Harford Rd., Baltimore MD 21214, was invented by Allan Calhamer. Please make all checks, money orders, etc. payable to our treasurer, Michael Homeier.

STAFF - Editor-in-Chief: Peter Homeier; Managing Editor, Treasurer, Front Page Editor (whew!): Michael G. Homeier; Game Adjudications: Jonathan I. Reich (Diplomacy), Michael G. Homeier (Colonia I, II); Contributing Source: Mike Homeier.

Subscribing circulations: thirty-eight. Print run: sixty-five copies.

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GAMES SECTION.

- 1975Ufh(Colonia I) EN-NE-RU ALLIANCE GOING STRONG Fall 1752
- AUSTRIA(Stephens): F Nap-Ion; F Ion-Ang; F Run S F Ion-Ang; A Bos S A Rom; A Rom S A Psa-Pol; A Psa-Pol; A Bav-Sax; A Sss-Sav\*; A Pps S A Sss-Sav; A Ven S A Sss-Sav.
- ENGLAND(Scheutz): F Nwy H; F Nth-Eng; F Nat-Cat; F Ice-Nat; F Fla-Gom; F Bah-Cub; F Tas-Tah; F Fij-Sam; F Cor-Fij; A Ala /h/; A Fez+ -Nig; A Kam S A Fez-Nig.
- FRANCE(Lucero): A Vol S A Cha; A Cha S A Vol; A Lou-Ore; A Ont-Mas; A Sav S A Tou A Tou S A Sav; A Bur S A Sav; A Mah-Kha/r Cir, OTB/; A Niz S A Mah-Kha.
- NETHERLANDS(Hyatt): F Wio-Mal; F Jav-Mls; F Eio-Tim; F cat-Wat; F Gbe S F Eat-Wat; F Bal S A Rhi-Han; A Rhi-Han; A Den S A Rhi-Han; A Ant-Rhi; A Kat-Uga; A Tan H; A Nal H; A Bol H; A Ama-Pru.
- BYZANTIUM(Greenwall): F Izm-Ang; F Emd S F Izm-Ang; F Ars-Wio; F Eth H; F Bla S A Sof; A Sof S RU A Cri-Rom; A Lib-Sud; A Kha-Niz; A Afg-Mah; A Sin S A Afg-Mah; A Per-Afg.
- PORTUGAL(Stimmel): F Lis-Eat; F Azo S F Lis-Eat; F Vep S A Bha; F Coc-Cam; F Can S F Azo; A Dak S SP A Sah-Son; A Bha H; A Agt-Bol; A Bma-Ban; A Nig S SP A Ash; A Opo H.
- RUSSIA(Schnaath): F Swe S F Gob; F Gob S F Swe; F Soj-Jap; A Kaz-Kia; A Mon-Sze; A Skg S A Mon-Sze; A Sze-Bma; A Tib S A Sze-Bma; A Cri-Rom; A Lit-Pol; A B-s S A Lit-Pol.
- SPAIN(Gemignani): F Nwg H; F Tar-Fij; F Lgn-Tou; F Mex(-c)-Hon(-c); F Mnl-Scs; A Arg-Gas; A Alg-Tun; A Tex-Lou; A Cal-Ore; A Sah-Son; A Num S A Alg-Tun; A Ash S PO A Nig.

A couple of notes before the supply center chart: \*in last ish, AU A Sss-Sav failed; +EN A Nig /r Fez/; also, please all note that AU does take Sav thanks to SP F Lgn-Tou which cut support. Also, Bob Stimmel tells me Fred Hyatt informed him that a fleet can move Ptd(nc) to Ura but no farther east. Thanks, Bob! FR A Sav was annihilated.

1975Ufh Winter 1752 Supply Center Chart: ((gasp!))

- AU - Nap, Bud, Clu, Pra, Tri, Vio, Pps, Bav, Psa, ~~Pol~~, Sav (10). No change.
- EN - Aus, Lvp, Lon, Btl, Vir, Con, Nwy, Ore, Fij, Fla, Ala, Ice, Cub, Kam, Sev, Tah (16). Builds three. Whoops, add Nig.
- FR - ~~Br~~, ~~Dak~~, Par, Pdy, Qu, Tou, ~~Sav~~, Son, ~~Mah~~, Ont, Lou, Vol, Gha, Niz, Mas (13). Builds five (A Sav /a/) (or six if A Mah /r OTB/).
- NE - Jav, Utr, Ant, Cpc, Hag, Sur, Beo, Han, Don, Bol, Zam, Ang, Coy, Sum, Pru, Uga, Tan, Nal, Mal (19). Builds five.

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1975Ufh Supply Center Chart (cont.):

BY - Cnp, Bag, Dam, Izm, Jor, Sof, Per, Afg, Yem, Egy, Oma, Sth, Mah (13), +2.  
PO - Lis, Bra, Lag, Mac, Opo, Gab, ~~Yad~~, Azo, Agt, Bha, Coc, ~~Xam~~, Nig, Dak,  
Ben, Cam (14). Builds two.  
RU - PTD, TRK, Kia, Mos, Oms, Smk, Amu, Cri, Chn, Swe, Man, Sze, Pol, Bma,  
Sun, Jap (16). Builds four.  
SP - Cad, Mnl, Ifn, Mad, Mex, Val, Tex, Mrc, Tar, Cal, Nwg, Tun, Sen, Hon,  
Tun (15). Builds three.

1975Ufh Press:

BUDAPEST: "The Kaiser returned for a pre-frontal labotomy as it was decided that this was the most apt means of implementing the necessary behavior modification of his naughty talk. After the operation, the Kaiser was heard to murmur very softly in his cell, 'It's your zine. I'll be good, really I will. Everything is fine and I'm having fun. Fun, I tell you -- fun, fun, fun.'"

BOMBAY: "The prisoner appeared dazed, as he was dragged off the warship. The native dockworkers drew back, least they come in contact with what was obviously an 'untouchable'. Neither did the barbourmaster approach him -- instead everybody watched as a file of soldiers marched up to the ship. The platoon leader stopped before the Dutch Captain, saluted smartly and silently accepted the prisoner into his charge. With a sigh, Omar the Lip trudged northward. He realized it would be a long journey to Constantinople (and his last)."

LISBON: (News from abroad) "Spaniards protest visit from King of Naples -- insultingly called King Katzenjammer the First.

"Holy Roman Emperor orders King Katzenjammer (oops!) King of Naples to leave Spanish vacation and to help defend Europe against eastern hordes already nearing Poland."

THE HAGUE: "The Senate of the Commonwealth has taken up the question of continued interference by Austrian forces of Dutch military movements in Europe. Several Senators spoke in angry terms of the insistant attitude of distrust that obviously prevails in Vienna. Although no resolutions were put forward for adoption, rumor has it that the Commonwealth will react to the next such interference with legitimate and peaceful military movement with punitive action. Veteran observers believe a declaration of war to be highly improbable, but that Austria will be made to feel the weight of Dutch military strength."

PRAGUE: "Specialists here departed for Budapest for a new round of consultative therapy with the Kaiser. It seems that the vulgar and obscene dimensions of his post-operatal alliterative speech patterns needed attention. Effective remedial programs will entail lost of Thorazine, electro-shock treatments (with a cattle prod), and hydrotherapy. One psychiatrist was heard to murmur, 'Aversion therapy is so much fun,' whereupon he, too, was committed."

SOFIA: "Well, they don't call him, Felix the Terrible, for nothing!"

M CONSTANTINOPLE: "Yeah, but Felix the Last sounds better!"

VIENNA: "Dis censorer of der Imperial vort ist no Machiavelli! No, by Gott im Himmel, he bin ein latter day Savonarola," raged the egomaniacal emperor.

"'Jah, ist no time for der 'Shtorm und drang', puppy-patt 'ems baby-love 'em (und dot ist nicht meant to imply any symptomatic indication uf any deep-seated neurosis) -- ve got to get some advice from der Ludwhacko. He vill know vat should be der Imperial policy,' simpered the empress."

CAPE TOWN: "It is reported that Marshall van Stroup, Governor-General of the Dominion of South Africa has received sealed orders relating to recent Spanish naval movements in waters in the Dutch East Indies. Although the Dutch Commonwealth has long held Spain in the warmest regard, the alliance between Spain and Portugal and the Spanish naval activities in the East Indies can only lead the Commonwealth and Spain down the path of war."

SAVOY: "Holy Helen Traubell! Heavens to Jack Halay? ((This does get tiring after a while!)) The Imperial government stagnates, enemies of Austrian ambition grow strong -- and all the Imperial family can do is b----h argue about censorship. Meantime Savoy waits a delivere to wrest her land and people from the iron grip of the arrogant cruel French colonial warlords."

(CONTINUED)

MADRID: "There are a few things Spain does not like, Virillo, and one of them is your lack of generosity and your little secret. You forgot to tell us you were our brother-in-law. How forgetful! Austrian funny-talking relatives are forgetful, too. Forgot to tell us all about Russian connection. Spain wonders if that Turk is still interested, and would advise Netherlands to take an interest in Austrian affairs with an eye to be of help. We are open for suggestions and make it good, Austria, Byzantium, Virillo, and Netherlands. The last ones included Nonsense Speaking Advanced Course taught by Austria, How to Commit Out-of-line Alliances by King Virillo, How to Get the Knife In taught by Netherlands, and How to Be One Up taught by Byzantium. Come on, fellows, this isn't a reform school, this is a Dippy game. Cut out the nonsense and play Dippy. Remember, folks, a partner with a burnt tail remembers longer than an elephant. Give away my territory to Portugal, will you ..."

\* \* \* \* \*

1975BKfh(Colonia II)

SPANISH ORDERS RAISE EYEBROWS

Spring 1751

- AUSTRIA(Hyatt): Winter 1751 A Bav /r Sss/. F Nap H; F Som-Wio; F Tri-Adr; A Pol H; A Tan S PO A Ang-Zam; A Col-Ecu; A Sss-Bav; A Vie S A Sss-Bav; A Pra-Sax; A Psa-Han.
- ENGLAND(Scheutz): F Fij-Tar; F Nwy H; F Eat-Gbe; F Far-Nat; F Aus-Cor; F Vir-Bha; F Nig-Gog; F Lon S NE F Ant-Eng; A Kam-Con; A Lou-Tex.
- FRANCE(Stimmel): F Leo S PO A Opo-Arg/nso/; F Tou-Lgn; A Bor-Gas; A Pdy-Niz; A Quo-Ont; A Sav-Bur; A Pps H; A Mta H; A Vol-Sah; A Mah-Pun.
- NETHERLANDS(Fox): F Den-Bal; F Beo-Gos; F Ant-Eng; F Jav-Mls; A Utr-Rhi; A Hag S A Bav-Han; A Bav-Han; A Sur-Ama; A Cpc-Nal; A Ecu-Ama; A Han -Den; A Zam-Tan/r Kat, Moz, Nya, Kal, OTB/.
- OTTOMANS(Stephens): F Bla S A Sof; F Jer(sc)-Ara(wc); F Bag-Png; F Izm-Emd; A Sol H; A Afg-Kas; A Egy-Jer; A Per-Sin; A Oma-Yem; A Arm-Per.
- PORTUGAL(Reich): F Azo-Gbe; A Huo H; A Opo H; A Coc-Siz; A Mac-Coc; A Bol-Ama; A Con-Cab; A Bra-Agt; A Lag H; A Ang-Zam.
- RUSSIA(Norris): F Cal-Mex; F Swa H; F Naw-Epc; F Ptd(sc)-Gob; A Amu-Han; A Kie H; A Cri H; A Ore-Van; A Irk-Mon; A Mos-Ura; A Ala-Yuk.
- SPAIN(Kitching): F Sog-Can; F Tar-Mel; F Mnl-Plp; A Ifn-Sah; A Mrc-Tau; A Dak-Sa; A Arg-Mad; A Tex-Uta; A Mex-Cal; A Cad H.

COA = Steve Norris (from 8 May), 1161 Greenland Ave., Nashville TN 39216. Fall 1752 orders due 27 May 1976, no later than 3.00pm, at 238 N. Bowling Green Way, Los Angeles, CA 90049. Now for press:

CONSTANTINOPLE: "All press is hereby censored for the duration -- the duration, as yet, remains unspecified."

VIENNA: "Preparations for the enthronement of Frederick George I have been suspended until the period of mourning for the victims of Dutch treachery in South America has passed. The Court will also observe a day of fasting and prayer for the unfortunate citizens of Dakar."

GENEVA: "Reports reaching this city tell of tensions between Madrid and Lisbon. Spanish occupation of Cantabrian Sea and French occupation of Ligurian Sea and Gascony bode ill for the continued peace of the Iberian Peninsula."

LISBOA: "The Ferreira brothers, although still at large, have been cornered in the small town of Santa Maria in Northern Spain. The Throne was recovered several days ago and was undamaged. The leader of a criminal syndicate, the SLA\*, was apprehended while helping the Ferreira brothers escape the police. He is Eric Spak. When brought before the King he denied the charges. The King, being in a good mood, ordered him to be tortured, disemboweled, and drawn and quartered. The King's executioner, ~~a~~ an individual named Satan, was delighted."

\* \* \* \* \*

Diplomacy GAMES FOLLOW

SPECIAL NOTE TO COLONIA PLAYERS: Forgot to type in deadline for '75Ufh players; it's 3.00pm 27 May 1976 at 238 N. Bowling Green Way, L.A. CA 90049. Also to all Colonia II players, Bob Stimmel tells me that Fred Hyatt informed him that a fleet can move from Ptd(nc) to Ura, and from Ura to Sib, and Sib to Ber. This pertains to Colonia II players only (errata for Col I given after adjudications)

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AUSTRIA AND ENGLAND ON ASCENDANCY

Winter 1906

AUSTRIA(Kissner): Builds A Vie, A Tri. ENGLAND(Zimmermann): Builds A Lon.  
FRANCE(CD): No change. GERMANY(Fujihara): No change.  
ITALY(~~Fargason~~ Stimmel): Removes A Tun, A Pie\*. TURKEY(Lucero): Builds F Smy.

Thanks to Ron Kelly for submitting standby removals for Italy. Bob Stimmel, 1541 Sawtelle Blvd. Apt. #12, L.A. CA 90025 takes over what's left of that state Spring 1907 orders due 3.00pm 27 May 1976 at Jon Reich's house, 1443 Jonesboro, L.A. CA 90049. ((Mike here, re: \* = IT unit listed lastish as "A Tyo" should read "F Tyr"; also, I mistyped IT A Pie as Pic. Sorry!)) 1974HO press:

VATICAN CITY, 8 Dec. '06: "In a special ceremony held here today Pope Pius V agreed to become the spiritual leader of Austria-Hungary. Emperor Thomas joined the Pope in asking Catholics around the world to swear allegiance to the Austrian Empire. After the ceremony the Emperor was heard to whisper to an aide, "With God on our side..."

\* \* \* \* \*

1975AV

ROME-BERLIN-PETERSBURG CONTINUE ARMS RACE

Winter 1904

AUSTRIA(Lucero): No change ((\*)) ENGLAND(CD): No change.  
FRANCE(Carter?): NRR. GM removes F Iri. GERMANY(Swabeck): Builds F Ber.  
ITALY(Weswig): Builds A Ven. RUSSIA(Fox): Builds F StP(nc).((+))  
TURKEY(CD): No change.

Spring 1905 orders due 3.00pm 27 May 1976 at Jon Reich's house, 1443 Jonesboro, L.A. CA 90049. ((Mike here again; \* = incorrectly typed "(5)" in Fall '04 supply center chart; + = incorrectly typed "(5). NC"; RU does get build.)) Press: Wait! Don Parker, 44 Wexford Rd, Dewitt NY 13214, please standby for France!

TARZANA: "To TMM about the note of "from Bucharest to StPete in 1 day!" Haven't you heard of Moscow Airlines?" ((Aeroflot in 1905? Really, now...!))

ST. PETERSBURG, 1 Jan. '05: "As the gala celebration for the New Year continued, it was noticed that a new fleet had arrived. Yes, si, como no, of course, it was the third Russian Fleet. The First Fleet being in Norway, the Second fleet being up there (he ((who?)) points to the sky), and the new third with us! Czar (the only correct spelling is Tsar ((actually UAPs)), but the only one which is taught is Czar (at least, around here)) Russell I was unavailable for comment. However, the Tsarist (to appease Mike) ((Bozhe moi, shto s nyim?)) spokesperson Juvudski Goldstein (there's no discrimination for religion) announced that the destination was Scotland, and of course, the Dardanellas. When one asked why a fleet to go to Turkey was not being built nearer to Turkey, he remarked that, "Sebatical, uh, Sevastopol is filled up with the vacationers."

GENEVA: "The value of currencies on relation to the dollar are as follows: Crowns: they dropped to 1.2\$/Cr.; Pounds: they have dropped to a record low: 185L/\$; Francs: dropped to \$/Fr.; Marks: rose to 2M/\$; Lira: rose to 2Lira/\$; Rubles (applause): they rose to \$/1R; Piastres: they continue to fall: 100P/\$."

\* \* \* \* \*

1975GG

TURKEY BOWS OUT

Fall 1904

AUSTRIA(Bourns): NMR. Strike two. F Cnp, A Rum, A Ser, A Gal, A Tyo all /h/.

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ENGLAND(Diehl): F Sme-Den; F Nch-Hol; F Lon-Edi; F War ng a for E./s Den; F Smy  
 FRANCE(Verheiden): F Mar-Lyo; F Mid-Wes; F Bel H; A Bur S F Bel; A Por-Spa;  
 A Par-Pic.  
 GERMANY(Fox): F Den S RU F Swe; A Ruh-Mun; A Hol S A Kie; A Kie S F Den.  
 ITALY(Lucero): F Aeg-Smy; F Eas S F Aeg-Smy; A Gre H; A Tun H.  
 RUSSIA(Dunn): NMR. Strike twof F Swe, A Fin, A War, A Ukr, A Sev all /h/. OTB  
 TURKEY(Kelly): Summer '03 A Bul /r OTB/. F Bla-Ank; A Smy S F Bla-Ank/r Syr, Am

Brian? Martin? Still with us? Will Mark Zimmermann, CalTech 1-87, Pasadena CA 91126 and Bert van den Boogard, 6609-93 A Avenue, Edmonton Alberta T6B 0X1 please submit standby orders for Austria and Russia, respectively? Thanks. Winter 1903 builds are due 3.00pm 27 May 1976 at 1443 Jonesboro Dr, L.A. CA 90049. Supply center chart:

AUSTRIA: Home, Ser, Bul, Rum, Con (7). +2. ENGLAND: Home, Nwy, Edi (4). -1.  
 FRANCE: Home, Spa, Bel, Por (6). No change. GERMANY: Home, Hol, Den (5). +1.  
 ITALY: Home, Tun, Smy, Gre (6). +2. RUSSIA: Home, Swe (5). No change.  
 TURKEY: Ank, Edi, Smy (1). -1 (0 if A Smy /r OTB/.)

BERLIN: "Forget that 'Black Press' last time. I have no intention of letting Munich, Kiel, and Berlin fall. Signed, the Führer."

\* \* \* \* \*

196M MOBILIZATION (AND GAME!) GOING SMOOTHLY Winter 1901

AUSTRIA(Adam): Builds A Bud. ENGLAND(Diehl): Builds F Edi.  
 FRANCE(Fujihara): Builds F Bre, A Par. GERMANY(Cooper): Builds F Ber.  
 ITALY(Dittmar): Builds F Nap, A Ven. RUSSIA(van den Boogard): Blds A War.  
 TURKEY(Kitching): Builds F Smy.

Spring 1902 orders due 3.00pm 27 May 1976 at Jon Reich's house, 1443 Jonesboro Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90049. There was no press submitted.

\* \* \* \* \*

STANDBY POOL

1975GG - Mark Zimmermann; 1975GG - Bert van den Boogard; 1975AV - Don Parker;  
 Pool Status - Peggy Gemignani, Robert Stimmel, Eric Verheiden, Ron Kelly, Mark Zimmermann, Bert van den Boogard, Don Parker.

Anyone else out there want to join? Oh, yes, this pool is for Dippy only; I'd like to start a separate one for Col I and Col II. Any takers? It's added insurance for a continued smooth game for you...

\* \* \* \* \*

DIPLOMACY IN ACTION  
 ONE: The Inter-War Period 1925-1939  
 by Michael George Homeier

Part Two - The Munich Betrayal and The Rape of Prague (continued)

The hopes that Hitler had abandoned his policy of armed coups and unilateral expansion were soon proved futile, but in every European capital people remembered Adolf Hitler's announcement at the Berlin Sportpalast on 26 September 1938: "Once the Sudeten problem is settled no territorial problem in Europe will remain. It is the last territorial demand I have to make in Europe. This I guarantee. We want no Czechs at all." This was exactly what the Führer had told

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(article continued) Chamberlain at Munich, and Chamberlain had been convinced. Returning from his Bad Godesberg meeting with Hitler on 22 September, the British Prime Minister stated, "I think I should add that Hitler repeated to me with great earnestness what he had said already at Berchtesgaden, namely, that this was the last of his territorial ambitions in Europe and that he had no wish to include in the Reich people of other races than Germans. In the second place he said, again very earnestly, that he wanted to be friends with England and if only this Sudeten question could be got out of the way in peace he would gladly resume conversations."

One of the clauses of the "Munich White Paper" of 29 September 1938 stated that an international guarantee of Czechoslovakia's future security be given by each of the signatory powers. This to Britain and France was the essential condition for their agreeing to the vivisection of Czechoslovakia. The same guarantee would be required from Germany and Italy -- on one condition: as stipulated in Article I, "When the question of the Polish and Hungarian minorities in Czechoslovakia has been settled, Germany and Italy will each give a similar guarantee to Czechoslovakia."

Poland was first to exploit this clause: on 27 September 1938 an ultimatum was dispatched from Warsaw, and Czechoslovakia ceded to Poland the province of Těšín -- 625 square miles with 230,000 people. But the Hungarian claims remained unsatisfied. Prague and Budapest negotiated at Komárno for an agreement to end the national and territorial disputes stemming from the 1920 Treaty of Trianon. Four days of heated recrimination nearly ended in open warfare, but Germany and Italy intervened and forced the two to submit to their arbitration.

German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop and Italian Foreign Minister Count Galeazzo Ciano met on 2 November 1938 at Vienna with Czech Foreign Minister František Chvalkovský and Hungarian Foreign Minister Kálmán Kánya. The Hungarian desire for all of Sub-Carpathian Ruthenia was not met, but she did receive the districts of Mukačevo, Užhorod, Košice, Lučenec, Levice, and Nové Zámky (in all, 7,500 square miles with a population of 775,000). All ceded territories were to be evacuated no later than 10 November, announced the Axis arbitrators.

The Vienna Compromise was greeted with anger in Czechoslovakia and Hungary. When word of the compromise reached Budapest, the Hungarians clamored for force to secure the provinces denied them, but calmed down when Hitler and Mussolini got tough. In Bratislava, the sole Czechoslovakian city left on the Danube after the compromise, Slovak leaders accused the Czech government of selling them out by agreeing to the dismemberment of their lands. The Slovaks demanded and received increased autonomy, including a significant concession which officially hyphenated the country as Czecho-Slovakia.

Having thus painfully fulfilled the Polish-Hungarian clause of Article I of the Munich Agreement, Czecho-Slovakia sought the promised guarantee from Berlin and Rome; while the Italians agreed to the guarantee, they were overruled by their German allies who told the Czechs, "The question of the guarantee will not arise until the new frontiers have been defined in detail by the commissions."

On 20 November, following the frontier commissions, the point was raised again, but while Italian Foreign Minister Ciano saw no reason for evading the Czech request, the Germans replied that "the question of the guarantee had no direct connection with the settlement of the frontiers." Later information makes it obvious that Ribbentrop "had led his Italian opposite number into a fool's paradise".

But while the diplomatic bantering continued, Hitler had already made up his mind to liquidate Czecho-Slovakia. Only two days after the Munich Agreement, the Führer sent a secret message to Colonel-General Wilhelm Keitel at the Armed Forces High Command (Oberkommando der Wehrmacht) asking the length of time and forces required to break the resistance of the Czechs. On 11 October Keitel replied that it would "take little time and not much effort."

Eduard Beneš had resigned as president of Czecho-Slovakia on 5 October, but it was not until 30 November that the Czech National Assembly could agree on a successor. The new president, Dr. Emil Hácha, a frail 66-year old suffering from heart trouble, stated "Czecho-Slovakia and its people can only survive if

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(article cont.) despite all the psychological obstacles, a new relationship based on genuine mutual confidence without compromise" was established with Germany, a direction toward which Czech Foreign Minister Chvalkovsky had long been striving.

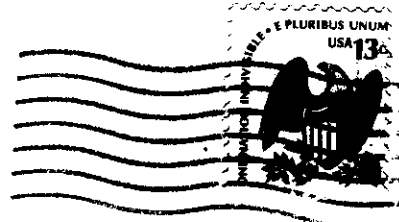
Following the provisions of the Munich Agreement, Chvalkovsky had been forced to comply with every one of Berlin's territorial demands. Thus, along with some 478,000 Sudeten Germans some 300,000 Czechs had passed under German control without the smallest guarantee of their cultural autonomy. On 19 November 1938, Germany's Prague Ambassador, Ritter, and Czech General Husarek met in Berlin to sign two protocols. The first contained an agreement by the Prague Government to the building of an extra-territorial autobahn across Czecho-Slovakia to link Austria and Silesia; the second, a similar agreement to build a German-controlled Danube-Oder canal across Czecho-Slovakia.

It was obvious that since the Munich White Paper the Czech Government had been doing everything in its power to comply with the wishes of Berlin, rejecting Swiss-type neutrality under the Guarantee of the major powers and accepting docility towards Germany as the only way to secure the guarantee promised by the Munich Agreement. But the Prague Government was soon undecieved. On 21 November Colonel-General Keitel forwarded an O.K.W. note which laid down strict conditions for the status of the Czecho-Slovakian army: 1) no fortifications to be planned or built along the Czech-German frontier; 2) the composition and equipment of the reduced Czech Army to be approved by the German Government; 3) standardization of all weapons and munitions, plus the adaptation of Czecho-Slovak industry to suit the needs of German national defense; 4) all intelligence activity which could be used against Germany to be forbidden, and Czecho-Slovakia to be closed to foreign intelligence agencies; 5) Germany to have the right, in peace and war, to transfer troops across Czecho-Slovak territory between Austria and Silesia, by road or rail, without prior notice being given. In short, Czecho-Slovakia was to be reduced to the status of a German vassal state.

From 11 to 13 January 1939, Chamberlain had visited Rome in an attempt to pin the Italians down on the Czecho-Slovak guarantee, but Mussolini and Ciano hedged, and Ciano telephoned Ribbentrop that Chamberlain's visit had been a "bilemonade". On 21 January, Chvalkovsky was summoned for an interview with Hitler following rumors that Germany was planning the final takeover of Czecho-Slovakia. Hitler bullied Chvalkovsky, trying to force the Prague Government to demobilize all but 10,000 to 20,000 troops and accept the O.K.W. demands, but Chvalkovsky refused to agree to this virtual surrender of Czecho-Slovak independence.

Hitler planned to use Hungary's continued territorial ambitions to put the Slovaks on the spot. He had realized the necessity of now having to strike from within instead of invade Czecho-Slovakia from without. With that realization, the twenty-year old republic was doomed...

NEXT INSTALLMENT: Part Two - The Rape of Prague



The Master Machiavellian  
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