

The Master Machiavellian

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Dispatchio di Machiavelli

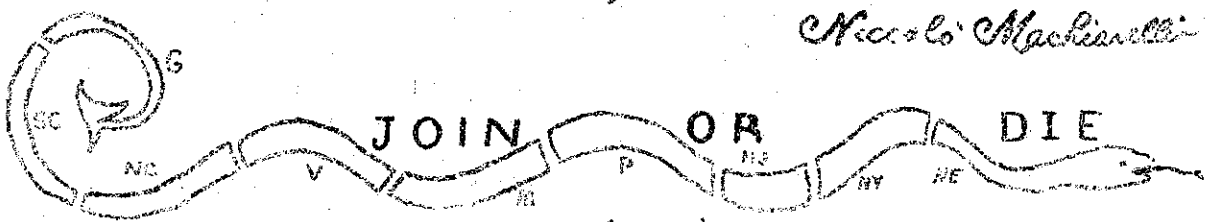
Greetings, to all who read these words, whether you be of high station or of low, a king of ancient family or but an ambitious man, may you receive benefit from prescribing your ways by these words, and pleasure in the accomplishments thereof.

The Master Machiavellian is deeply honored by the opportunity to participate in the celebration of the Bicentennial of the United States. We recognize that despite numerous trials and tribulations, periods of despair, and times of crisis, throughout two hundred years of the American experience that dream upon which this nation was founded remains ever within the grasp of our people. For two centuries the remarkable flexibility of the American system of government has enabled it to adapt to conditions radically different than those which constituted the socio-political environment of 1776. The continued forward movement of the United States during the last two hundred years makes the promise of the continuation of the American ideal in the years to come.

It appears in order to include here a few thoughts regarding the significance of the title and nature of the variant Colonia, and possibly allow the application of these thoughts to Diplomacy. When dominions are acquired in any territory differing in language, laws and customs, the difficulties to be overcome are great, and it requires good fortune as well as great industry to retain them; one of the best and most certain means of doing so is to plant colonies in one or two of those places which form as it were the keys of the land; for it is necessary either to do this or to maintain a large force of armed men. The prince only injures those whose lands and houses are taken to give to the new inhabitants, and these form but a small proportion of the state, and all the others are, on the one hand, not injured and therefore easily pacified; and, on the other, are fearful of offending lest they be treated like those who have been dispossessed. For it must be noticed, that men must either be caressed or else annihilated; they will revenge themselves for small injuries, but cannot do so for great ones; the injury therefore that we do to a man must be such that we need not fear his vengeance. But by maintaining a garrison instead of colonies, one will give much greater offence, since it injures every one in that state with the quartering of the army in it; which being an inconvenience felt by all, every one becomes an enemy, and these are enemies which can do mischief, as, though beaten, they remain in their homes.

I hope that you will be both stimulated and enriched by this publication. I know that through The Master Machiavellian you will gain better knowledge of the qualities of the lion and of the fox, of force and of fraud.

Niccolo Machiavelli



DEDICATION

This Bicentennial issue of The Master Machiavellian is dedicated to the over one million Americans who, for two hundred years, laid down their lives that the nation and principles they held dear would not perish in their stead.

-- Michael George Homeier, Editor.

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STAFF AND INFO

The Master Machiavellian is a magazine of postal Diplomacy, its variants, and other wargames. Subs are 10/\$2.50. Openings(5) in reg Dip to new subscribers only for \$1.50; openings in reg Dip to anyone else for \$2 (note changes). Standbys for Diplomacy and both Colonias are earnestly solicited. Diplomacy, /c/ Avalon Hill Co., 4517 Harford Rd., Baltimore MD 21214, was invented by Allan B. Calhamer. Please make all checks, money orders, etc. payable to our treasurer, Michael Homeier.

STAFF - Editor-in-Chief: Peter Homeier; Managing Editor: Michael G. Homeier; Front Page: Peter Homeier and Niccolo Machiavelli; Treasurer: Michael G. Homeier; Diplomacy Adjudications: Jonathon I. Reich; Colonia Adjudications: Michael G. Homeier; Contributing Sources: Terry Lucero, Michael Homeier.

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GAMES SECTION

1975Ufh(Colonia I)

SNAFU IN INDIA

Late Winter 1752

In TMM #20, there was an error in the adjudication not clarified until this issue regarding the present conflict in India between France and Byzantium. The following is the corrected adjudication for Fall 1752:

FRANCE: A Mah-Kha; A Niz S A Mah-Kha.

BYZANTIUM: A Kha-Niz/r Pei, OTB/; A Afg-Mah; A Sin S A Afg-Mah.

In this interchange, France lost Mah but gained Kha, forcing that Byzantine army to retreat to Pei or Off The Board. France gains no builds, and even if Byzantium retreats the army to Pei it may not build as it NBRed, although Pei will be added to its list of occupied centers. Following are the unit positions:

AUSTRIA(Stephens): F Nap, F Run, F Ion, A Bos, A Rom, A Pps, A Ven, A Sax, A Sav, A Psa (10).

ENGLAND(Scheutz): F Eng, F Gom, F Tah, F Sam, F Cor, F Cub, F Iri*, F Ice, F Nat, F Nwy, F Aus, A Ala, A Kam, A Fez, A Vir, A Lpl (16).

FRANCE(Lucero): F Bor, A Vol, A Gha, A Lou, A Mas, A Bur, A Tou, A Niz, A Kha, A Par, A Pdy, A Que (12).

NETHERLANDS(Hyatt): F Mal, F Mls, F Tim, F Gbe, F Bal, F Wat, F Jav, F Cpc, F Ang, A Den, A Han, A Rhi, A Uga, A Tan, A Bol, A Pru, A Nal, A Sur, A Ant (19).

BYZANTIUM(Greenwell): F Emd, F Wio, F Ath, F Bla, F Izm, A Sof, A Sud, A Sin, A Mah, A Afg plus A Pei or /r/ this A OTB for (10) or (11).

PORTUGAL(Stimmel): F Azo, F Vep, F Cam, F Eat, F Can, F Coc*, F Lis, A Dak, A Bha, A Agt, A Nig, A Opo, A Ben, A Bra (14).

RUSSIA(Schnaath): F Swe, F Gob, F Jap, F Amu, F Ptd(sc), A Kie, A Skg, A Tib, A Bma, A Pol, A Cri, A Bes, A Sun, A Sze, A Smk, A Irk (16).

SPAIN(Gemignani): F NWG, F Tar, F Lgn, F Hon(ec), F Scs, F Mex(ec), F Mnl, A Gas, A Tun, A Tex, A Cal, A Sen, A Num, A Ash (14).

"*" denotes unit omitted lastish; "___" denotes unit in Indian snafu. I have

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Spring 1753 orders on file from everyone, but I will accept orders conditional on the Byzantine retreat. Spring 1753 orders (revised, if any) due 3.00pm 22 July 1976 to Mike Homer, 238 N. Bowling Green Way, L.A. CA 90049 U.S.A. As the press submitted for Spring '53 was noncommittal, it is being included below:

LISBOA, a schoolroom: "Teacher - How many Russian units are needed to defeat three Portuguese units? Student - Twice as many, or six. Teacher - Correct! That is why 50% of Russian forces or 8 units are needed in Far East to defeat 22% of Portuguese forces or 3 units."

PRETORIA: "The 'Portuguese Underground' greatly overrates itself. Not only has Governor-General van Stroup not been cashiered, he is under consideration to take active field command of forces gathering to crush the remains of the Portuguese Empire in South America."

LISBOA: "Dutch underground tries to frame Governor Sebastian Jose de Carvalho y Melo, Conde de Oeiras y Marques de Pompal, by placing Playboy Bunny pictures in his secret, sealed orders. When found in his possession a good laugh was had by all."

LISBOA (News from Abroad): "Pitiful beggar, former Governor van Stroup, wanders streets of Capetown, as dogs bark and children taunt. Comment: There ain't no justice!"

THE HAGUE: "The charges of 'racism' emanating from Madrid are ludicrous. When the Spanish grant independence to their non-white colonial holdings and withdraw all military forces back to Spain, the Netherlands will consider such charges as having some merit. In the meantime, the peoples of Mexico, Senegal, the Phillipines are exploited by the Spanish Crown. In contrast, the Senate of the Dutch Commonwealth (the governing body of the Commonwealth) has a total of 14 Black Africans, 6 Amerindians, 6 Indonesians, 2 Ceylonese, and 10 Europeans. The 'non-white' Senators outnumber the 'white' by 28 to 10. The Spanish had best clean up their own back-yard before slinging mud at others."

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1975BKfh(Colonia II) SPANISH GOVERNMENT STILL PARALYZED Winter 1751

→ Builds A Lon, A Lvp, A Vir, A Nig.
AUSTRIA(Hyatt): Builds A Nap, A Som*. ENGLAND(Scheutz): Builds F Bri, F Aus.
FRANCE(Stimmel): Builds F Pdy. NETHERLANDS(Fox): Builds F Sur, A Ecu**.
OTTOMANS(Stephens): NBR! One short. PORTUGAL(Reich): Builds F Lis, F Mac, A Ang
RUSSIA(Norris): Builds F Haw, A Irk. SPAIN(Kitching?): NBR./A Bra (1 short). ←
→ GM R A Tau.

** denotes Sax is not a center, so AU builds only two. *** denotes that NE lost Zam to PO and thus builds but two. Terry Lucero, 8147 Via Mallorca, La Jolla (pronounced la hoiya, not djolla) CA 92037 has offered to replace Kitching; please do so, Terry. Thanks! Steve Norris writes to say his zip code is 37216. Spring 1752 orders due 3.00pm 22 July 1976 to Mike Homer, 238 N. Bowling Green Way, L.A. CA 90049. One would think I wouldn't have to type my address so often!
1975BKfh Press:

THE HAGUE, 26 December '51: "Herr Reich Minister, head of the Republic of Holland, hereby declared that although the Austrian side received ((?)) most of his war, that Holland was willing to accept peace. 'If war is what the Austrians want, let them have it. But if peace, the goal of the world, is what Austria wants with our republic, then we shall help them get it.'"

VIENNA: "The occupation of Switzerland by France, with advance notification of Austria by the French Government, has the full approval of Austria. All efforts by France to bring about a peace between Austria and The Netherlands are greatly appreciated in Vienna."

PARIS: "Ottoman Empire builds only one this year. France respectfully suggests that an offensive in directions other than towards French India would be more profitable."

LISBON, 27 December '51: "The Government announced today that the King would be on vacation for approximately nine weeks. Before leaving the King granted a

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ardon to the rebel, Paul Ferreira. His brother Jeff had been killed while trying to escape the royal guard. The reason for the pardon was not given, but another official said that it had to do with the great victories in the African Campaign. The King left at 7.30 this morning and his destination was not released."

QUITO(1 Jan. '52): "As the flag of Holland continued to fly, the leader of the Equator Peace Army spoke, 'The Equator Peace Army, now headquartered in Quito, Ecuador, will continually drive for world peace.'"

BERBERA: "The Moslem population of Somalia is reported to have petitioned the Government of Austrian East Africa for permission to form a Moslem Legion under the direct command of Duke Frederick George. It is thought that such a Legion would further cement the ties of good will existing between Catholic Austrians and Moslem Ottoman Turks."

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1974HO PEACE AVERTED BUT FORWARDED ONCE AGAIN Fall 1907

AUSTRIA(Kissner): F Nap-Tyr; A Rom H; A Pie-Mar; A Vie-Boh; A Tyo S A Vie-Boh; A Ser-Bud; A Rum-Gal; A Gal-War/r Ukr, Vie, OTB/.

ENGLAND(Zimmermann): F Mid-Spa(sc); F Eng-Mid; F Bel-Eng; F Nwy-Nrg; F Nth C A Den-Edi; A Den-Edi; A Pic-Bre; A Lon H; A Hol H.

FRANCE(CD): A Por /h/. ((Still! -- it's only been four years!))

GERMANY(Fujihara): F Bal C A Kie-Lvn; A Kie-Lvn; A Mos S A War/r StP, OTB/; A War S A Sil-Gal; A Sil-Gal; A Mun H; A Par-Bur; A Mar S EN F Mid-Spa(sc).

ITALY(Stimmel): F Spa(sc)-Mid; F Tyr-Tun.

TURKEY(Lucero): F Ion S AU F Nap-Tyr; F Gre S F Ion; F Aeg S F Ion; F Bla S A Sev A Ukr-Mos; A Sev S A Ukr-Mos.

An Austria-England-Germany-Turkey draw proposal has been forwarded again; vote due with Winter builds due 3.00pm 22 July 1976 at Mike Homeier's house (you find the address!). The three-way tie was defeated 2-2 with one abstention, the four-way was defeated 3-1 with one abstention. 1974HO 1907 Supply Center Chart:

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| AU - Home, Rum, Ser, Ven, Rom, Nap (8). NC. | FRANCE - Por (1). NC. |
| EN - Home, Nwy, Bre, Hol, Swe, Bel, Den (9). NC. | ITALY - Tun, Spa (2). NC. |
| GE - Home, Par, War, Mar, StP, Mos (7). Removes one. | |
| TU - Home, Sev, Bul, Gre, Mos (7). Builds one. | |

1974HO Press:

ENGLAND: "Let's end it friends with a draw -- ok, guys?"

MADRID: "Panic sweeps Europe because of exaggerated reports of sea monsters. Two peace proposals have already been extended so that nations can concentrate on new enemy./Enemy fleets paralyzed with fear and refuse to move into Tyrrhenian, West Med, Mid-Atlantic, and even into English Channel from Belgium. English Army in Picardy hears reports of amphibious monsters and refuses to move to Belgium.

FLORENCE: "Anybody for a two-way Franco-Italian victory?"

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1975AV AUSTRO-ITALIAN ALLIANCE GAINS GROUND Fall 1905

AUSTRIA(Lucero): F Eas-Smy; A Rum S A Gal; A Gal S A Rum; A Bud /h/. OTB/; FRANCE(Kelly): F Mid-Naf; F Eng-Mid; F Nth-Eng; F Lvp-Iri; A Mar S A Spa/r Gas, A Spa S A Mar/r Por, Gas, OTB/.

GERMANY(Swabeck): F Bal-Bot; F Ska S A Swe-Nwy; A Swe-Nwy; A Bur S IT A Pie-Mar; A Par-Bre; A Pic-Bel; A Hol-Bel.

ITALY(Weswig): F Tus-Lyo; F Lyo-Spa(sc); F Was S F Lyo-Spa(sc); F Con S AU F Eas-Smy; A Ank S AU F Eas-Smy; A Ser S AU A Rum; A Pie-Mar.

(CONTINUED)

RUSSIA(Fox): F Nrg-Edi; F Nwy S Gs F Den-Nth/nso/r StP(nc), Nth, Nrg, Bar, OTB/
A War S A Ukr; A Ukr S A Sev; A Sev S A Ukr.

TURKEY(OD): A Smy /h/a/.

Winter '05 builds/removals due 3.00pm 22 July 1976 at Mike Homeier's house.
1975AV Winter 1905 Supply Center Chart:

AU - Home, Bul, Rum, Smy (6). Blds EN - ~~Edi~~ (0). OUT.
FR - Par, Lon, Lvp, Por, ~~Spa~~, ~~Mar~~, ~~Brk~~ (4). Removes 2.
GE - Home, Den, Hol, Swa, Bal, Bra, Nwy (9). Blds 2.
IT - Home, Ser, Gra, Tun, Con, Ank, Spa, Mar (10). Builds 3.
RU - Home, Edi, ~~Nwy~~, ~~Mar~~ (5). No change. TU - ~~Mar~~, ~~Spa~~ (0). OUT.

1975AV Press:

WARSAW: "The Polish Liberation Army hereby declared unanimous support for the Russian Government. This followed seven month-long talks between S. (if we printed the whole name, it would take up this space) Chilvitzkof for Russia and H. Milisky."

BERLIN: "News has reached us of a Communist uprising starting in St. Petersburg, Russia. The Kisser ((I suppose he means KAISER!)) von Swabeck announced that he would help the Russians crush the uprising by sending in some of his best troops. So the Czar ((TSar, TSar!!)) need not fear this is not an act of war but friendship and should be treated accordingly. Also it will be necessary to go through Norway." ((Quite an afterthought...))

MT. OLYMPUS: "The Great Gods today decreed that Austria-Hungary will be re-named 'Austria-HUNGARY'! ((Gads what old hat!...)) Although officials in Vienna doubted such a move's 'realistic' properties, the Austro-Hungarian Empire appears to be 'starving'."

Vienna Tribune, 29 Sept. '05: "It was announced today by His Majesty the Emperor-King that elections are to be held for a Constitutional Convention. Each Parliamentary District shall choose three delegates, who shall in turn meet here next February to work out a new Constitution for the Empire. When their work is completed, it shall be submitted to the people for ratification, with two-thirds needed to approve it. The elections will be held November 18th, and prospective candidates have until November 4th to file. It is hoped that this Convention will result in a fair, democratic form of government, with the rights of all protected."

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1975GG FRANCE AND GERMANY HAVE AT IT Spring 1904

AUSTRIA(Bourne): F Con-Bla; F Tri-Alb; A Tyo-Pie; A Vie-Tyo; A Rum-Bud; A Ser H;
A Gal-Boh.

ENGLAND(Diehl): F Nth C A Yor-Den; A Yor-Den; F Ska S A Yor-Den; F Hal S A Yor-Den.

FRANCE(Verheiden): F Was-Tyr; F Lyo C A Spa-Tus; A Spa-Tus; A Bur-Ruh; A Pic-Bur;
A Bal-Hol.

GERMANY(Fox): F Den-Ska/r Bal, OTB/; A Hol-Ruh; A Mun-Boh; A Ber S FR A Bur-Mun
A Kia S FR F Bal-Hol/imp/.

ITALY(Lucero): F Nap-Tyr; F Rom S F Nap-Tyr; F Eas-Ion; A Gre H; A Tun H.

RUSSIA(Dunn?): F Swe-Nwy; A Fin-Swa; A War-Sil; A Ukr-War; A Sev-Arm.

TURKEY(~~Killy~~ CD): F Ank /h/.

Fall '04 orders due 3.00pm 22 July 1976 at Mike Homeier's. No press submitted.

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1976M FIRST NMR HITS HERETOFORE STABLE GAME Fall 1902

AUSTRIA(Adam): F Aeg-Bul(sc); A Ser S F Aeg-Bul(sc); A Bud S A Vie; A Vie S A Bud.

(CONTINUED)

ENGLAND(Diehl): F Nth-Hol; F Hel S F Nth-Hol; F Ska-Den; A Lon H.
 FRANCE(Fujihara): F Eng-Lon; F Mid-Nat; A Pic-Bel; A Spa-Gas; A Wal-Lvp.
 GERMANY(Cooper): F Bal-Den; F Ber-Kie; A Hol-Kie/r Ruh, OTB/; A Sil-War/r Mun,
 ITALY(Dittmar?): F Ion, F Tun, A Tri, A Ven, A Tyo all /h/. // Boh, OTB/
 RUSSIA(Boogard): F Swe S EN F Ska-Den; F Sev S A Ukr-Rum; A Ukr-Tun; A Pru-Sil;
 A War S A Pru-Sil.
 TURKEY(~~W/king~~ Kelly): * F Bla S A Bul; F Smy S A Con; A Con S A Bul;
 A Bul S A Con.

*= As Kitching seems to have dropped, Ron Kelly, #120, 225 Virginia Ave., S.E., Washington D.C. 20061 is taking over from standby. Following Fall/Winter 1902 Supply Center Chart(below), Winter builds due 3.00pm 22 July 1976 at TMM offices (238 And All That) ((should be a new 'zine...)) not Jon Reich's home!

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| AU - Vie, Bud, Ser, Gro (4). NC | IT - Home, Tri, Tun (5). NC. |
| EN - Nwy, Lon, Edi, Den, Hol, Lvp (5). Blds 1. | RU - Home, Rum, Swe (6). +1. |
| FR - Home, Bel, Por, Lvp (6). Builds 1. | TU - Home, Bul (4). NC. |
| GE - Home, Dsh (3). Removes 1. | |

GAMERS NOTE

As Jon continues on vacation in Europe, certainly straining our nation's standing in the eyes of those nations he is occupying (Holland and England) ((Boy, when he reads this!...)), all Dip orders for ish #23 are to be sent to TMM offices at 238 North Bowling Green Way in beautiful ((it was 102° in L.A. yesterday!)) Brentwood California, zip 90089. Two COAs:

COA. ERIC VERHEIDEN to 3245 SW 185th Ave., Aloha OR 97005 from 10-25 July.
 COA. TERRY LUCERO to 8147 Via Mallorca, La Jolla CA 92037

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BICENTENNIAL QUOTE: "Necessity never made a good bargain" -- Benjamin Franklin.

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WARGAMING AND The Master Machiavellian

Since TMM's inception back in August of 1974 it has been the intention of the Staff to run other games than just Diplomacy so long as a multi-player structure could be adapted to these games indigenous to the policy of this magazine to promote postal interplay of groups of people. Although openings have been offered in such games as Sorcerer and KingMaker, takers have been minimal. But recently we have been approached by a few subscribers who have expressed their desire to participate in multi-player wargames, and we have agreed to announce openings, conditional to obtaining enough players and play-by-mail rules, in the following wargames:

MechWar 77, Panzer 44, Frigate, Wooden Ships & Iron Men, Sniper, Patrol, World War II, and Third Reich.

In order to adjudicate such games, it will be necessary for us to obtain rules for multi-player versions, so that we may adapt them to postal play; probably any Simultaneous Movement System game could be utilized. If you are interested in Diplomacy Wargaming, please let us know so that we can determine exactly what is the demand and hence the feasibility of adding postal wargaming to TMM.

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"We must hang together, or most assuredly we will all hang separately."

-- Benjamin Franklin

Diplomacy: 1976M ROBERT STIMMEL for Italy.

Pool Status - Eric Verheiden, Ron Kelly, Don Parker, Bert van den Boogard, Peggy Gemignani, Thomas McNally, Terry Lucero.

Colonia: 1975BKfh TERRY LUCERO for Spain. No others in either Colonia pool.

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THE POLITICS OF INDUSTRIALIZATION by Terry Lucero

When people think of the Industrial Revolution, and its counterpart, imperialism, they generally think of rapid technological advances, along with industrial expansion and the acquiring of vast amounts of capital by a small group of industrialists. While this is true, it is far from the whole picture; rather, the Industrial Revolution brought about sweeping changes in the political, educational, religious, and domestic institutions, in addition to economic advancement, and was directly responsible for our present society. In this article, I will deal with the development of the nation-state, how it made possible (and was changed by) the Industrial Revolution, and how our present political systems evolved. I hope also to show that Europe was the most likely place for this vast change to occur, and what the results have been.

The present nation-state had its earliest origins in 15th and 16th Century Europe. Up until that time, Europe had been divided into feudal estates, each independent of the others and self sufficient, giving only nominal allegiance to their kings. As towns grew and trade developed, these estates came to specialize more and more on food, while the guilds produced anything else that was needed. This specialization and trade led to the accumulation of capital by the middle class townspeople, who were able to use their economic influence to gain charters for their towns, and free themselves of feudal influence. The relative freedom of action in the towns, along with the possibility of advancement, drew many peasants to move to them, and led to the growth of the middle class.

During this time, the feudal monarchs had been slowly consolidating authority in their own hands. By using their coffers to hire their own armies, they were able to conquer new areas, and assert direct control over all of their domains. The rise of a national bureaucracy dependent upon the king led to the centralization of administration, and more uniformity of laws, tariffs, taxes, etc. This left the nobles to either direct their estates subject to royal control, or to move to the national capital (as happened in France), in order to have a voice in running the national government. In either event, the focus moved to the monarch, and the loyalty of the people became focused on him, and the nation as a whole.

Once the country had been sufficiently unified, and the economy expanded to a national level, there were three general methods of industrialization a country could follow: Bourgeois, Communist, or Syncretic (Fascist) politics. Since the countries involved in the Industrial Revolution invariably followed the first course, it is only necessary to discuss the development of Bourgeois Democracy in detail.

It is a common error to confuse the Bourgeois politics of the 19th Century with the mass democracies of the 20th. While it is true that they are intimately related, and that the Bourgeois democracy almost invariably evolved into mass democracy, they are very distinct and separate. The most important difference lies in the fact that under the political rule of the Bourgeoisie, the vast majority of the population was prevented, via a limited franchise, from having any significant influence on the government. This permitted the upper middle

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class to control the policy of the government, and guide their economic empires with little interference. The governments they influenced followed a non-interference policy, which permitted the industrialists to regulate prices, wages, and hours to extract the greatest profits possible, which they reinvested in their factories.

TO BE CONTINUED

((The beginning of another excellent article by Terry. Some additional points: the feudal monarchs' breaking down of the landed nobility's independent power occurring mainly in the 16th and 17th Centuries culminated in the policy of mercantilism, including its inherent counterpart colonialism, whereby the monarch sought to enrich himself and enhance his authority, power, and prestige; the rise of the Bourgeoisie democracies merely represented the transfer of power from one level, the monarchy, to another, the middle class, which became just as jealous of its authority, wealth, power, and prestige as had been the monarchs of the Ancien Regime; thus we see that despite the beginnings of democracy, in both America and, to a larger extent, in France in the 18th Century, the middle class seized power to strengthen its own position and to eliminate monarchical restrictions, not to promote total equality amongst all. This is why the French Revolution demonstrates how a dictatorship of the monarchy was overthrown and replaced by a dictatorship of the middle class, while the plight of the lower-class peasant was eased not one bit. Thanks to Terry for this installment, and we look forward to receiving the next. -- Michael Homer.))

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1776 DEMOCRACY

compiled by Michael George Homer

Democracy in 1776 meant some very specific things to the men who founded the United States and whose generation guided the founding nation through the difficult period of establishment and legitimation. These men can be coldly classified under a variety of labels: extremists, revolutionaries, malcontents, intellectuals, dreamers, and others. But of all the various labels, the one which seems to fit the best is dreamer. The men who put their heads together to create a democratic nation out of the rubble of a collapsed colonial empire had a guiding ideal, a picture of the state they wished to create. Throughout two hundred years of the American experience it is easy to lose sight of that picture, that ideal, and thus it may prove enlightening on the eve of the Bicentennial to review, through the following quotations, what democracy meant to those men of 1776 who erected and maintained their ideal in a hostile, dissimilar world.

"It is essential to such a government (a democratic republic) that it be derived from the great body of the society, not from an inconsiderable proportion or a favored class in it" -- James Madison

"The Unity of Government which constitutes you one people...is a main Pillar in the Edifice of your real independence" -- George Washington

"It is to be feared that the people will be so accustomed to bondage as to forget they were ever free" -- Samuel Adams

"We mean not to dissolve that union which has so long and so happily subsisted between us...We have not raised armies with ambitious designs of separation from Great Britain, and establishing independent States. We fight not for glory or for conquest. But we are reduced to the alternative of choosing an unconditional submission to the tyranny of irritated masters, or resistance by force. The latter is our choice" -- John Dickinson

"The habits of thinking in a free Country should inspire caution in those entrusted with its administration, to confine themselves within their respective Constitutional spheres; avoiding in the exercise of the Powers of one department to encroach upon another" -- George Washington

(CONTINUED)

"The common and continual mischiefs of the spirit of (political) Party... agitates the Community with ill founded jealousies and false alarms, kindles the animosity of one part against another, foment occasionally riot and insurrection" -- George Washington

"In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself" -- James Madison

"All, too, will bear in mind this sacred principle, that though the will of the majority is in all cases to prevail, that will, to be rightful, must be reasonable; that the minority possess their equal rights, which equal law must protect, and to violate must be oppression. Let us then, fellow-citizens, unite with one heart and mind. Let us restore to social intercourse that harmony and affection without which liberty and even life itself are but dreary things. And let us reflect that, having banished from our land that religious intolerance under which mankind so long bled and suffered, we have yet gained little if we countenance a political intolerance as despotic, as wicked, and capable of as bitter and bloody persecutions... Every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We have called by different names brethren of the same principle. We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists" -- Thomas Jefferson

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DIPLOMACY IN ACTION

ONE: The Inter-War Period 1925-1939

by Michael George Homer

Part Two - The Munich Betrayal (conclusion)

Realizing the necessity of now having to strike from within instead of invade Czecho-Slovakia from without, Hitler planned to use Hungary's continued territorial ambitions to put the Slovaks on the spot. This boiled down to two blunt alternatives: first, the autonomous Slovak Government in Bratislava could continue to exist under the status granted it by the Prague Government, in which case the Slovaks would be left to the mercies of the Poles and Hungarians; or second, Slovakia could demand immediate independence from France, in which case Germany would offer her protection from the expansionist ambitions of her neighbors. Word of these ultimatums was conveyed to Monsignor Josef Tiso, premier of the autonomous Slovak Government granted by the Czechs on 6 October 1938.

On 9 March 1939, the negotiations between Prague and Bratislava for increased autonomy to Slovakia were halted. Acting within the confines of his constitutional prerogative, President Hacha took it upon himself on the following day to dismiss Tiso and two of his ministers, Durcansky and Pruzinsky, for "separatist activity prejudicial to the unity of the state," and occupied Bratislava with government troops. Hitler reacted by preparing a seven-point ultimatum to the Czech Government on 11 March, and by receiving Tiso and Durcansky on 13 March in the presence of Ribbentrop, Keitel, Brauchitsch, Minister of State Meissner, and State Secretaries Dietrich and Keppler (who had been a German agent in Bratislava).

Hitler recapped the list of Czech "deceptions" with which he had been met since the Munich Agreement, and informed Tiso that, as the situation had become "intolerable" during the last weeks, he had decided to settle the Slovak question once and for all, stating "It is no longer a question of days, but of hours... If Slovakia wants her independence I will support her efforts and stand surety for her success." Hitler concluded by asserting that Germany had no interest in Slovakia, which had never historically formed part of Germany.

When asked to supply the most recent developments of the situation, Ribbentrop stressed that Tiso would have but a few hours in which to come to a decision. Ribbentrop told the Slovak premier that a dispatch had just reached him telling of Hungarian troop movements towards the Slovak frontier.

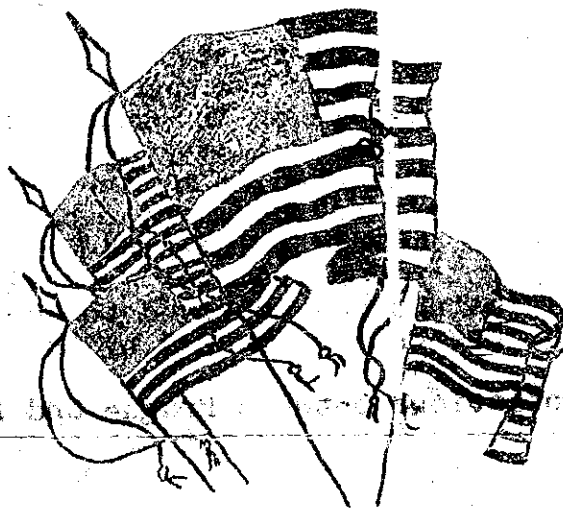
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What Ribbentrop did not tell the Slovak ministers was that these troop movements, aimed at Sub-Carpathian Ruthenia, had been organized by the Germans. Dispatched to Budapest on orders of Ribbentrop, Councillor Altenburg had put the idea to Admiral Miklos Horthy, Regent of Hungary, early on the morning of 13 March. By 5.30pm the same day, Berlin was informed that its idea had been received with "enthusiasm". Although the Hungarian chief-of-staff requested a postponement of the operation until the following week due to the lack of training in the Hungarian Army, Altenburg quickly replied that this would be too late. Thus Hitler received the following schedule from Horthy: "Thursday, 16 March - frontier incident; Saturday, 18 March - military coup."

The next day, 14 March, the Bratislava Diet yielded to its fears of Hungarian aggression and proclaimed the independence of Slovakia. The Diet asked Hitler to "guarantee the existence of the new state, and to take every measure to assure the protection of its frontiers." Isolated from Prague by the Slovak secession, Sub-Carpathian Ruthenia was forced to follow Slovakia's example, and its new president, Monsignor Volosin, also asked for Hitler's guarantee. But six Hungarian Army brigades were moving up the valleys toward the peaks of the Carpathians and the Polish frontier. Berlin sent a categorical "no" to the Ruthenian President on 15 March along with the advice to drop any ideas of resistance. The twenty year old Republic of Czechoslovakia was no more...

NEXT INSTALLMENT: Part Three - The Rape of Prague.

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