

# The Master Machiavellian

VOL. 1,

#3

- A P.B.O.M.S. PUBLICATION -

12 November 1974

## Dispatchio di Machiavelli

Greetings, to all who read these words, whether you be of high station or low, a prince of new dominions, 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.

In this publication, the third so far, The Master Machiavellian finds great pleasure in announcing the first contests of will to be adjudicated in this periodical:

"For many weeks the European situation has been accelerating toward open hostilities, and now the Great Powers, finding themselves split into rival factions, are taking it upon themselves to alter the destiny of the Western World.

"After careful consideration of the approaching turmoil, the King-Emperor of Austria-Hungary, Thomas Kissner, has begun an inspection of his troops, each sworn to lay down his life for the Dual Monarchy. If any important messages are to be sent to the regent, address them to 1268 Anesbrooke Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K2L 2E9.

"The King of England, Mark Zimmerman, during his coronation address, stated that in view of the rearming of the European Great Powers that England would not be caught unprepared, and that the forces of the Empire were being placed on national alert, according to a dispatch from the King's palace at CalTech 1-87, Pasadena, CA 91126.

"During the parade of French troops under L'Arc de Triomphe, the new Presidente de France, David Osheroff, has declared his intention of restoring his country to its former position of power it entertained under the reign of Napoleon I. Le President is available for comment at 335 28th Avenue, Venice, CA 90291.

"Following the recent death of the late sovereign of Germany, the former Crown Prince, David Fujihara, has ascended the throne and unwaveringly pledged himself to the furthering of the glorious Fatherland. He is now holding court at 1225 Peterson Lane, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817.

"In his annual state of the kingdom address, King Gus Ferguson I promised to stop meddling in European political intrigues and to maintain the territorial integrity of Italy at all costs. This from the King's assembly room in his palace at 1008 Marony Lane, Pac. Pal, CA 90272.

"The Imperial Russian Tsar, Erich Swabeck, announced that he would 'no longer tolerate the doings of those Great Power rulers thrice removed from the Tsarina's quarters,' and would teach them a lesson they'd never forget, 'by force, if necessary.' This from his Winter Palace at 442 1/2 Sherman Court, Venice, California 90291.

"Sources at the Turkish sultan's palace at 17045 Olmeda Way, San Diego, CA 92127, reported that after a particularly invigorating reading of the Koran, Sultan Terry Lucero announced his crusade to restore Islam to the

Western Heathens, and departed his harems long enough to monitor his forces' mobilization.

"The obviously upcoming conflict is to be waged under the supervision of Sir Jonathan I. Reich, Esquire, of address 1443 Jonesboro Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90049. All orders for Spring 1901 moves must be sent in no later than 7th December 1974. Until a Boardman Number is assigned, this game will be known as 'TMM #1.' -- Countries assigned at random. "

Thus, the situation is set, and the conflicts of mind and body are about to commence. I hope that you will be both stimulated and enriched by this publication. I know that through The Master Machiavellian you will gain greater command over the qualities of the lion and of the fox, of force and of fraud.

*Niccolò Machiavelli*  
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### STAFF AND INFO

The Master Machiavellian is a magazine of postal DIPLOMACY, its variants, and other wargames. Subs are 12 for \$2.50 and 24 for \$4.50. Game fee is \$1.00 (separate from sub)\*. Back issues available for 25¢ each. TMM is pubbed every fourth Tuesday. . . . DIPLOMACY, copyright Games Research Inc., 500 Harrison, Boston, MA 02118, was invented by Allan B. Calhmer. \*make checks payable to Michael George Homeier.

STAFF = Editor-in-Chief, Financial Editor: Michael George Homeier; Front Page Editor: Peter Homeier; News/Articles Editor: Philip Koenig; Game Adjudications: Jonathan Reich; Publicity Agent: David H. Calvert; contributing sources: Peter Shapley and Timothy Lee.

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### THE INSPIRATION

I would like to set something completely straight here. It may have seemed unusual that our front page is being written by Niccolò Machiavelli, especially as he lived in the 15th Century, and should have been dead for about 500 years! But here is this magazine, with the front page being done by the Master himself. The answer to this paradox is deep indeed.

One dark and stormy night, when I was reading some quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore, there came a strange prickling sensation on the back of my neck. I looked around, and saw before me a wavering apparition, dressed in strange robes of an ancient design, and holding a book on whose cover some letters glowed dull red.

"I AM MACHIAVELLI," he slowly intoned. "I have searched far and wide throughout the universe for someone who will accept a great task. Have you the courage to accept this task, and the perseverance to carry it through?"

I was stunned. The great Machiavelli, famous Italian 15th Century statesman, author of The Prince and The Art of War, the most legendary figure of artful deception and dark doings in history?

"I have the courage, and I have the perseverance," I gravely replied.

"Finally I have found he for whom I have so long searched," said Machiavelli. "Here is the task you must perform: After passing through the Regions Beyond which you know not of, I chanced to view your era, with its machines, industry, and technology. No where did I see any able practitioners of the great art of deceit, until at last I found a group of contestants of a 'game' called DIPLOMACY. Here, at least, were the first feeble gropings toward the correct handling of situations of political intrigue, the first level of understanding, of using the mind to control the

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situation, not the sword. Here, at last, I could begin to enlighten the world on the proper use of this game, DIPLOMACY. Therefore, it is your task to commence a publication designed to teach all the DIPLOMACY contestants how to properly conduct their high-level conflicts. The periodical shall be called The Master Machiavellian, and is to contain treatises on proper techniques of deception, reviews of past engagements, and also games of DIPLOMACY and its variants, for all the games have the basic requirement, that they are conflicts fought for the most part in the battlefields of the mind, where the conflict is not between armies, but between personalities. I myself will aid you insofar as an introductory letter to each issue is concerned, and also, occasionally, with advice for the princes engaged in conflict. Your rates will be extremely low, for I wish to contact the largest possible audience, and it would not be meet for some not to have the opportunity due to lack of finances."

"But why have you chosen me to write this great magazine, O Master of Deceit and Deception? Certainly there are many others more ably versed in the art of stabbing than I. Would not one of them be more able to carry out this task?" I asked.

"It is true that there are several others who have had more experience in this subject than you," Machiavelli replied. "However, I have recognized in you certain potential for craft and ingenuity not to be found all throughout this field. Furthermore, all of the other DIPLOMACY publishers are enamored of purple ink, which I cannot abide. You shall have my favor for as long as you use black!"

With that, he pointed his finger at me, and a piece of parchment fell into my lap. Picking it up, I discovered it to be the first Dispatchio di Machiavelli, which appeared on the front page of our first issue. Looking up again, I saw the figure of Machiavelli dissolving like smoke in the dark room.

The Master had left.

-- Peter Homeier

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## THE RISE AND FALL OF THE UNITED STATES' EMPIRE

The term "American imperialism" is often applied today to the military forces and civilian population of the United States by many of the other peoples of this Earth for various reasons to best suit their own purposes. The following is a report on the truly imperialistic actions this country has undertaken during its 193-year history.

The imperialistic wars conducted by the United States were always instigated by Washington against an enemy who was either much weaker or in such a position as to be unable to retaliate with overwhelming or even equal forces.

The first of the three imperialistic wars America waged was, unlike the others, a failure. The "War of 1812" broke out because of the fervor of the War Hawk Party whose specific intent was the accession of the British province of Canada. Although Great Britain's army and navy were engaged in a life-or-death struggle with Napoleonic Europe, this did not prevent the English from blockading and crippling our coasts, halting our laughable invasions into Canada, and launching several major attacks of their own, as the Americans had expected. Luckily, the United States was able to escape with her pre-war boundaries before Britain could mount an offensive against her. From that point on, the United States decided to leave the British and Canadians alone, and America went after weaker prey, instead.

In 1848 the United States, led by President Polk, invaded the Republic of Mexico, under the justification of "Manifest Destiny," and with the express intent of securing California and the Utah and New Mexico territories for the Union. In an extensive three-pronged attack, America, taking advantage of a bankrupt, unpopular, and corrupt government, virtually blitzed into California, where the California Bear Flag Republic was spuelched, across the Rio Grande into northern Mexico, and from the east, from Vera Cruz to Mexico City. The result: complete success -- America was rounded out, and the United States kept her eye on Mexico as a source of future land, an appointment canceled due to the outbreak of internal hostilities in this country in the year 1861.

Joseph Pulitzer and other publishers, and especially William Randolph Hearst, with blown-up stories of Cuban concentration camps and other atrocities contained in their "yellow journals," convinced the United States Congress to go to war with Spain, and President McKinley was persuaded, with the aid of the sinking of the U.S. Rustbucket Maine, to declare war in 1898, and "the Splendid Little War" began. In ten weeks, from Manila Bay to El Caney to San Juan to Santiago, American jingoism combined with Spanish internal strife to strip Spain of her last overseas possessions.

Since the turn of the century, however, American imperialist feeling has di away, so that even when the United States could easily have taken over the world with atomic power in the 1950's, instead her territories were either admitted to the Union or else made independent. Unfortunately, America's position as the second most powerful nation on Earth forces her to act as the Free World's policeman, so that frequently she must perform many acts which seem, on the surface, to be imperialistic. But since the conclusion of the "Spanish-American War" in 1898 America's imperialistic drives have been suppressed, and the cause of imperialism has been replaced by the cause of democracy, which has spread from the United States all across the globe.

-- Michael George Homeier

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### TO RETREAT OR TO DISBAND: THAT IS THE QUESTION

There has been some confusion as to the matter of retreats in DIPLOMACY and how they are to be executed. The system The Master Machiavellian employs is the Standard Retreat System. The way in which the Standard Retreat System works is like this:

General situation = You, as Turkey, have an army in Smyrna; your enemy, say Russia, has armies in Constantinople and Ankara; your provinces of Armenia and Syria are unoccupied.

During the spring move, the Russian armies attack Smyrna in a supported attack, thereby dislodging your unit. Both Armenia and Syria are still clear, and therefore eligible to receive your army.

So, with your fall orders, you submit in your summer retreat section a notation determining into which of the two possible areas your piece retreated; this retreat is carried out before the GamesMaster performs the fall adjudications.

Of course, the other players don't know until the GM has published the adjudications of the fall moves into which space your army has retreated. However, with only two possible retreat areas open to you, it is not very difficult to determine into which space you are most likely to have moved to. And with only one open area, even this slight

problem is eliminated. We suggest conditional moves to follow in the order of: "RUSSIA = If TURKISH A R Smy-Arm, then A Mos-Sev; if TURKISH A R Smy-Syr, then A Mos S, A Ukr-War."

Whenever your, or anyone's, defending unit is dislodged and has no place to retreat to, the GameMaster will show this elimination with the proper notation in the adjudications of the turn when this dislodgement took place. And, of course, should you desire it, you may always choose to disband a unit instead of choosing to retreat it (sometimes you do have a reason!).

Please be good enough to incorporate this system into your game play, all you combatants. That includes you, too, 1974 TMM #1!

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EXAMPLE GAME CONT.:

1801 Five-Person Variant Spring 1803  
EAST MEETS WEST IN SUN-BAKED MEDITERRANEAN

AUSTRIA (D. Calvert): F Ion H.  
ENGLAND (P. Koenig): F Nth-Ska; F Bar-StP(nc); F Lon-Nth; F Edi-Nrg;  
A Kie-H; A Den H; A Nwy S F Bar-StP.  
FRANCE (M. Homeier): F Wes-Tyr; F Tus H; A Pie-Tyr; A Mar-Pie; A Bur-Mun; A Ruh S A Bur-Mun.  
RUSSIA (P. Shapley): F Swe S A Fin; F Sev H; A Fin S F Swe; A Stp H /r/ (to Moscow); A War-Sil; A Gal-Boh; A Bud H; A Vie H.  
TURKEY (P. Homeier): F Gre-Alb; F Bla C A Ank-Rum; A Ank-Rum; A Ser-Tri; A Bul-Ser; A Smy-Arm.

--Turkey has placed herself in commanding position; she can swing into the Mediterranean, or mount attacks against Russia in Austria and against Sevastopol. Due to English pressure on northern Russia, the attack will probably come in Austria

1801 F-P Vt DOUBLE STAB LEAVES BOTH COMBATANTS FROZEN Fall 1803

AUSTRIA: F Ion-Gre.  
ENGLAND: F Ska S RUSSIAN A Swe; F Nrg H; F Nth H; F StP(nc) H; A Kie S  
GERMAN A Ber H; A Den-Swe; A Nor S F Ska-Swe/nso/.  
FRANCE: F Tus-Rom; F Tyr S F Tus-Rom; A Pie-Ven; A Tyr S A Pie-Ven;  
A Ruh S A Mun; A Mun S A Tyr.  
RUSSIA: F Swe-H; F Sev-Rum/a/; A Fin S F Swe; A Mos-War; A Sil-Ber;  
A Boh-Mun; A Vie-Tri; A Bud S A Vie-Tri.  
TURKEY: F Alb-Gre; F Bla S A Arm-Sev; A Ser-Bud; A Tri S A Ser-Bud;  
A Rum S A Ser-Bud; A Arm-Sev.

--Russia, realising what she was in for, makes a saving stab just as Turkey executes a stab of her own against the Tsarists; except for Sevastopol, Russia holds off. But her loss of Sevastopol added to this year's other loss of St. Petersburg will probably be the beginning of the end for Tsar Peter II Shapley. Meanwhile, England bungles her northern attacks, and France continues to advance while Austria dies on the shores of Greece.

1801 F-P Vt BUILDS Winter 1803

AUSTRIA: 2/2 -- loses one. OUT  
ENGLAND: Home, Nwy, Hol, Kie, Den, StP -- builds 1 (A Edi)  
FRANCE: Home, Bel, Por, Spa, Mun, Ven, Rom -- builds 3 (F Mar, A Bre, and A Par.

RUSSIA: Mos, War, Swe, Vie, Bud, ~~StP~~, ~~StY~~, ~~StA~~ -- loses 2 (F Swe, A Fin).  
TURKEY: Home, Bul, Ser, Gre, Tri, Rum, Sav -- builds 3 (F Sny, A Con, A Ank)

-- comments by Michael George Homeier

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REREREVIEWS!

Diplomacy World Vol. 1, #5 -- Walter Buchanan, R.R. 3, Lebanon, IN 46052.  
\$3/year. Each issue full of news, announcements, and articles. Sponsored  
by Games Research Inc. Bimonthly, 30-odd pages. Offset.  
Atlantis #744-- Chris and Deborah Schleicher, 814 East Old Willow Rd, Apt.  
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plus articles on various subjects. Monthly, 10 pp. Mimeo.  
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Poicteame #6 -- Bruce Schlickbernd, 6194 East 6th St, Long Beach, CA 90803.  
5/\$1.00. Interesting articles plus games, press, and stories. 6pp, Ditto.  
Hey, Bruce: how about some "D & D" articles?

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Master Machiavellian will adjudicate postal games in SPI's Fall  
of Rome (solitaire), and Frigate, the "Coyne-Hubbard World Variant"  
(as soon as Tom Hubbard can manage to scrounge up a copy of the lengthy  
map), and an interesting variant, "Colonia," by Fred Hyatt. NOTE: due  
to high costs of dittoing the world-wide maps of the latter two variants,  
the game fees must rise to \$1.50 FOR THOSE TWO ONLY (of course you get  
unlimited press, as usual). \*MORE ON "COLONIA" TO FOLLOW!

. . . In our fourth issue, our first Christmas issue, to come out  
around the tenth of December, we hope to publish our previously announ-  
ced and now-completely-playtested Senate Populus Romanus, our inter-  
Roman variant -- we will have openings in this variant by our fifth ish  
-- which will be seventh January.

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