

THE MIXUMAXU GAZETTE  
#11 9 February 1974

The Mixumaxu Gazette of a magazine of postal Diplomacy and what-not, edited and published by Robert Bryan Lipton, Esq. of Box 360, Lafayette College, Easton, Pa. 18042, and similar large land holdings scattered hither and thither on the surface of the Earth. He may be phoned at 215-252-9170, although if someone calls at an ungodly hour as was done two weeks ago, the consequences may not be vouched for. Better bring your lawyer. Subscriptions are six, triweekly issues for one dollar, and not worth a cent of it.

In case you're wondering, this copy is being typed by an orangutan, which accounts for its neatness.

Circulation of this issue is slightly more than 65. Can you guess how slightly? Do you care? Oh, go away and leave me alone to mis-gamesmaster my misgamesmastered games.

1973 FY All Quiet on Winter, 1903

the German Front

France retreats F Spa(s.c.)-Mid

Austria(Tatay): B A Vie; also has

F Gre, A Bul, A Bud, A Ser, F Ion

England(Trtek): B F Lon; also has

F Nat, F Ska

France(Horne): Remove A Par; has

F Mid, A Pic, A Bur

Germany(Hulland): NMR. Has F Nth, F

Hol, A Mun, A Ruh, A Bel

Italy(Kollmer): B A Ven, F Nap; also

has A Tus, A Mar, F Spa(s.c.), F Lyo

Russia(Blume): B A War; also has

F Nwy, F Swe, F Bla, A Fin, A Arm, F Rum

Turkey(Stehle): Has A Ank, F Con, F

Aeg.

Spring 1903 moves are due in by noon, 1 March 1974. Will Mike Worthington, 2022 Price Ave, Knoxville Tenn. 37920, please send in standby moves for Germany?

The New York Times of Dec. 26, 1973 reports that Green Berets in the Phillipines are giving out both

birth control pills and anti-rabies shots. I don't wish to criticise the minions of our government, but what does this combinations of agents do? Prevent hickies?

1973 HX Will Russia Clean Fall 1901  
His Typewriter Before GM Goes Mad?

Austria(Green): A Ser-Bul; A Bud-Ser; F Alb-Gre. Has Bud, Bul, Gre, Ser, Tri, Vie; may build three units.

ENGLAND(Reif): F Edi-Nrg; F Lon-Nth; A Liv-Yor. Has Edi, Liv, Lon. Stands pat.

France(Hollshwandner): F Mid-Por; A Bur-Bel; A Gas-Spa. Has Bel, Bre, Par, Por, Spa; may build two units.

Germany(Rakowski): A Ber-Mun; A Mun-Ruh; F Kie-Den. Has Ber, Den, Kie, Mun; may build one unit.

Italy(Moore): F Tyr-Tun; A Pie-Mar; A Ven-Tus. Has Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun, Mar; May build two units.

Russia(Lagerson): A Ukr S A Sev; A Sev S F Rum; F Rum S AUSTRIAN A Ser-Bul; F Bot-Swe, Has Mos, Rum, StP, Sev, Swe, War. May build 2 units.

Turkey(Potts): A Arm-Sev; F Bla S A Arm-Sev; F Bul S AUSTRIAN A Ser-Rum. A Bul is dislodged and must retreat to Con or be annihilated. Ank, Con, Smy; no builds or 1 if A Bul is annihilated.

All underlined moves fail. Winter 1901 builds are due by noon, Friay 1 March 1974. Builds may be made conditional on the Turkish retreat.

It has been asked if telegraphed or phoned-in moves are acceptable. Yes, but beware of 'gram messages. The two times they've been used in MG, they came in late.

Thanks for standby moves, Mike

1973 ER

Ou Est Le Pouvoir et La Gloire?

Fall 1902

Last issue I neglected to transcribe the following moves, though they were used in adjudicating. They all succeed:

Germany: F Den H; A Bur-Pic; A Mun-Bur; A Hol-Bel; A Ruh S A Hol-Bel.

Turkey: A Bul-Gre

Following Spring '03 moves, Austria retreated F Gre-Ion

Fall moves:

Austria(Tesser): A Tri-Alb; A Ser S RUSSIAN A Rum-Bul; A Bud-Gal;  
A Vie-Gal; F Ion-Eas. Has Bud, Ser, Tri, Vie(4); must remove one unit.

England(Coy): A Fin-St, P; F Bar S A Fin-St, P; F Nwy-Nth Sea; F Nth Sea-Eng  
F Eng-Mid. Has Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy, St, P, Swe(6); may build one unit.

Germany(Ritter): A Pic-Par; A Bur S A Pic-Par; A Bel S A Bur; A Ruh-Kie;  
F Den H. Has Bel, Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun, Par(7); may build one unit.

France(Weinstein): NMR: F Mar H; A Gas H; A Par H(dislodged&annihilated).  
Has Bre, Mar, Por(3); may build one unit.

Italy(Pickard): NMR: F Rom H; A Spa H; F Tyr H; F Lyo H; A Pie H. Has Nap,  
Rom, Spa, Tun, Ven(5); no change.

Russia(Lanham): A Gal-Sil; A Rum-Bul; F Sev-Bla; A Ukr-Sev; A Mos-St, P(ha-  
ha). Has Mos, Rum, Sev, War(4). Must remove one unit.

Turkey(Keller): A Gre S F Bul(e.c.); F Aeg S A Gre; F Bul(e.c.)H; A Smy-  
Con. Has Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Smy(4); may build one unit.

Underlined moves succeed in failing (or fail in succeeding; anyway, they don't do as ordered.) Since unordered units when dislodged are annihilated, there are no removals. Winter 1903 builds&removals are due by noon, Friday, 1 March 1974. Will Don Stehle, c/o Howard Johnson's Manchester, N.H. 03102 send in standby builds for France. If there is no notice from Joe Pickard, will Brian J. Blume, 538 Lakeland Drive, Wauconda, Ill. 60084 please send in standby Spring 1904 moves for Italy?

1972 CV

Pope Removes Kaiser from list of Excommunicants Fall 1903

Turkish A Con retreats to Ankara.

Austria(Hollshwander): A Tri-Vie; A Gal-War; A Rum-Sev; A Bul-Ser; F Gre H  
A Tyr S A Tru-Vie. Has Bud, Gre, Rum, Ser, Sev, Tri, War, Vie; may build 2 unit

England(Neiger): F Nth-Eng; F Hel-Nth; F Nwy-Swe; A Den S F Nwy-Swe. Has  
Den, Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy, Swe(6); may build two units.

France(Lowrance): A Pic-Wal; F Eng C A Pic-Wal; F Mid-Nat; F Wes-Mid; A Be  
S A Hol; A Hol S GERMAN A Kie. Bel, Bre, Hol, Mar, Par, Por, Spa(7); may build

Germany(Weber): F Swe-Den; A Mun-Ber; A Boh-Mun; A Kie S A Mun-Ber. Has  
Ber, Kie, Mun(3); must remove one unit.

Italy(Hilliker): F Tyr & A Ven H; A Con S F Eas-Smy; F Aeg S F Eas-Smy; F  
Eas-Smy. Has Bul, Nap, Rom, Smy, Tun, Ven(6); may build one unit.

Russia(Rutledge): NMR: A Mos H; F Ber H(annihilated); A War H(annihilated)  
Has Mos, St, P(2); may build one unit

Turkey(Hendry): F Smy-Con; A Ank S F Smy-Con; A Arm-Smy; A Ukr S AUSTRIAN  
A Gal-War. Has Ank, Con(2); must remove two units.

Underlined moves fail. German F Swe must retreat to Fin, Bot, Bal, S  
a or be annihilated. Italian A Bul must retreat to Bul or be annihilated. Winter 1903 builds&removals are due by noon, 1 March 1974. They may be conditional on the direction of the retreats.

Will Rudlop Tatay, PR#7, Box 28F, Greenfield Ind. 46140 please submit

(continued on p. 5)

1973 CQf (Anonimity)

Austrians Get In

Winter 1901

Whoops, I made a mistake in not listing the Austrian builds, and did not send out notification for fear you players would have ptoof you're playing. Austria built A Vie. the positions are:

Aus: A Vie, F Alb, A Tri, A Ser    Eng: F Nrg, F Nth, A Edi  
 Fra: F Por, A Bel, A Spa, F Bre, F Mar, A Par    Ger: F Den, A Ruh, A Hol, A Ber  
 Ita: F Tun, A Tyr, A Mun, A Ven, A Rom    Tur: A Con, A Smy, F Ank  
 Russia: F Swe, F Bla, A Gal, A Hum, A Sev, A St.P

Spring 1902 deadline is reset to noon, Friday, March 1. I can use the moves you have in now, except for Austria, which was operating under the belief I would not allow the build, and who must resubmit orders.

1973 EN

Unanschluss

Spring 1903

I forgot to mention that the Austrian F Gre dislodged in Fall '02 was retreated to Albania. But it won't make much difference...

Austria(Carroll): F Alb-Gre; A Vie S A Tri; A Tri S A Vie; A Bul-Con; A Ser -Bul;

England(Smith): F Edi-Nrg; F Nth Sea-Hel; F Den-Kie; A Hol S F Den-Kie; F Ska S F Den(impossible; F Den is not holding)

France(Reif): F Spa(s.c.)-Mid; F Mar-Lyo; A Bel-Ruh; A Pic-Bel; A Bur-Mun; A Gas-Bur

Germany(Heuer): A Kie S F Hel-Den F Bal S F Hel-Den; F Hel-Den

Italy\*\*(Friedman): A Gre-Alb; F Ion-Gre; F Adr S A Gre-Alb; F Nap-Ion; A Ven-Tri

Russia(Horton): F Sev-Arm; A Gal-Bud; F Rum-Sev; A Ukr-Rum; F Swe S A Nwy; A Nwy S A Swe; F Bla S TURKISH A Con-Bul

Turkey(Juergens): A Con-Bul; F Aeg S A Con-Bul; F Ank-Cen

Underlined moves fail. The Austrian A Bul and F Alb are annihilated. German A Kie is dislodged and must either retreat to Berlin be be annihilated.

Fall 1903 moves are due in by noon, Friday 1 March 1974

\*\*Michael Friedman has resigned. I wish to thank him for doing this rather than simply dropping. I am extending a complimentary subscription to him. He is being replaced by Paul Thomas who may be written c/o Linda's Tours, White Sands Post Office, Montego Bay, Jamaica, West Indies.

1972 CV((continued from p.2))

standby builds for Russia. Doug Weber's address is Box 1210, Station 2, Amherst, Mass. Hendry returns to his usual address.

The next issue of the Mixumaxu Gazette will be an extra-large one to celebrate the rise in postal rates. After it, the men in white coats will take me away. You may submit articles, press releases, et c.

We are nearing the end of our standby lists due to a large drop-out-resignation total this issue. We need standbys. Remember that you will receive free issues in which you are playing from a stanby position. We also have openings in our Feudal Diplomacy game(Arnachy) for \$5(two and a half to traders and those who are playing in other games) and openings in our seven-man-seven-game tourney for \$15. That's little more than \$2 per game, so sign up now

There are about twenty Diplomacy publishers in the audience, and I'd like to ask all of them a favor. My new brother-in-law is interested in playing Diplomacy postally. Unfortunately, he lives and works in Jamaica, and thus it is difficult for him to do so. He's entered a variant in this 'zine, but he wants to play the regular game. I would appreciate the publishers' sending him some samples, including rates, especially those with openings. Anyone wishing to help should send material to Paul Thomas, c/o Lindo's Tours, White Sands Post Office, Montego Bay, Jamaica, West Indies.

---

Back issues of the Mixumaxu Gazette are 25¢ or 5/\$1. Available are every issue from #0 to #10, though I have only one copy each of 0 and 2. If you order less than \$1 of back issues, send me stamps instead.

---

### Letters

((Guess whose comments are all like this?))

Ed Hollshwander((Box 757 Lafayette College, Easton, Pa. 18042)):In response to the word association test printed December 8 where a person((unsubstantiated assumption)) replied "Albert Schweitzer", "self-sacrifice" and "sea-sick" to the words "Santa Claus", "Gasoline" and "waterbed", it has been reported that Eduard Hollergischschwandnersky, noted Lithuanian psychologist and part-time gynecologist, has determined that only 3 people in the world could possibly make such responses. These three people are:

1. Leon Trotsky's third cousin, Claude, who was recently released from Sing Sing for illegally importing bull semen, after having served ten years.

or 2. Herman the Pimp, 73 year old 300 lb. midget with one leg who stands on the corner of 42nd St. and Broadway in N.Y.C. and whistles If I Were Young Again.

or 3. A teen-aged editor of a Diplomacy 'zine whose brain has been muddled by Rattray's Red Rapparee.((Who could this be? Right now I'm smoking Balkan Sobranie(white tin), which kills all the insects not done in by college food.))

Isaac Bickerstaff III((17 Judson Rd., Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. (no ZIP given))) About the Charles Reinsel mess. He has recently written me that he is fed up with all of Diplomacy fandom and is going to kick everyone but himself out of the hobby. I have little contact with the field, but I do not see how he is going to have a hobby by his lonesome. Will he play with himself.

Incidentally, he is growing discontented with humanity at large, and claims that they are "all homos(triple underlining)". I certainly hope he enjoys his own company.

Nick Ulanov((60 E. 8th St., NYC, NY 10003; Jan. 22, 1974)):All I can say to you as the publisher of the Mixumaxu Gazette is that you have a fool for an editor. On p. 11 of Issue #10 you reprint an obviously slanderously-butchered, quoted-out-of-context, mis-applied letter from Conrad von Metzke stating that I am "full of shit."((I notice that you don't deny it. Anyway, the previous part of the letter was a discussion of articles that Conrad is considering writing for me, and has nothing to do with the subject at hand. The section that discusses you was not butchered.))Following this you announce that I have been appointed New York City manager for the Marx for President

((continued on P.7))

Press Releases- 1973 FY

The Kremlin via Zurich(KUS) 2 Dec.1902: The big news in Russia today-His Imperial Highness, Brianovich III, took his annual bath today. It is apparent that the Czar believes in the old addage,"Cleanliness is next to godliness."

Zurich(KUS)3 Dec.1902:It was announced today that the wire service "Kremlin Unofficial Sources"(KUS) was purchased in whole by one Ivan Sunnavavich.

Geneva(IDUNNO): Ivan Sunnavavich, exiled Russian communist leader today gave an audience to the press in his palatial penthouse suite on the top of the Geneva Hilton. Dressed in impeccable Saville Row tweeds, and smoking a Cuban cigar, he vehemently denied that he had forsaken communism.

"For the proletariat to be united in truth, they must first know the truth. I have bought this service for the cause, and will operate it for the sake of the truth."

On being reminded that KUS had stated that the Czar took one bath per year, when in actuality he had bathed not ten months before, when he had fallen off a ship of the Black Sea Fleet,he said:

"There is such a thing as the higher truth," Mr. Sunnavavich answered." It is necessary that the oppressed masses have a true view of the decadent capitalistic royalty, a view which cannot be created out of the facts, but of skillful indications of nature.I lied so that the proletariat might know the truth."

Mr. Sunnavavich refused to answer any questions concerning his sources of money for the purchase of KUS.

Press releases 1973CQf((cont. from p.7))

Italian army now entrenched in Munich. We would ask that you do not retroop Ruhr and, as we will be in Belgium and you will be in Holland, we can be safely non-agreessive against each pther. If you hit Belgium for want of a center, I will take it back with all possible speed and, as I promised, you will find the full weight of the French millitary might on your back. We hope that there is peace on our borders.

Paris to the World: I do hope sincerely that you all have started writing some good press in this column or, believe me, you will not like what happens. This is my last warning. If there is no press this time I will be forced by the honor of all French gentlemen all over the world to begin my press war in earnest. What happened to the muscle-ninny guy anyway?Lipton, did you make him up?

Paris to Berlin(again) we will have army Burgundy support army ruhr into Munich as you will support with Berlin.If situations change this may not be possible but we see no reason for our support not to be there.

Paris to Rome:I hope you do not take the above personally. If you have some offer as to German property or the like, we are perfectly willing to listen. But since nobody wants to write to me, I have to play the whole thing by myself.

Rome to Moscow-Help would be appreciated in eliminating a delinquent Austrian nation. I take Vienna & Trieste,you take the rest of the Balkans.

Rome to France-You have earned our respect-we do not plan any con-  
-flicts with you. Perhaps we could organize an assault to the North?  
Here(IDUNNO):It may be a little too late for that now.

Pluggola

Once again, let me recommend the Fouch to you. This 'zine is fast approaching its first birthday, where it will have a 75+ page issue, containing an article by me on press releases (with, probably, nasty comments by Penelope Dickens), four variants that are new to North America, plus a plethora of other articles, probably twenty-five pages of Duncan Smith press releases. At the very least, you can sell it as scrap paper. Subscribe now, and it will be yours as part of the sub sometime in early March. \$2/10 issues from Nicholas Ulanov, 60 E. 8th Street, N.Y.C. 10003.

Also recommended is Bushwacker, a 'zine that specializes in variants, which the editor designs. He has a good sense of humor, though he keeps misspelling my name. 12/\$2 from Ferd David, 5307 Carriage Court, Baltimore, Md. 21229.

---

Press Releases-1973 EN

Gränzkopf (CRABS): It has been rumored that Honest John the Thaumaturge has applied for a Pontiff's license from the International Clearinghouse for Syncretistic Religions. We switch now to our correspondent, Victor Grignard:

"Honest John, is the Pontiff's license really necessary?"

"I think so. Even though I haven't set down ritual or beliefs yet, I think it is wise to stake my claim for Church Leadership, depending on how my preliminary survey works out I can be either Pope, Sultan, Archveylt ((sic)), Grand Master or even High Shaman. It's still up in the air."

---

Congratulations to Connie and Herb Barents on the birth of a son, Owen, on Dec. 10, 1973. I don't know what you're so pleased about Herb; Connie did nine months for it.

I imagine that raising a son in a gaming household is difficult. When the kids argue: "My father is an executive." "My father is a fireman!" "My father is a pimp!!." "And what does your father do, Owen?" "He plays games." What kind of thing is that for a son to brag about. Not baseball or checkers or chess or football or something for a kid to be proud of, but Diplomacy, where he lies and cheats and backstabs! If you ever want a divorce, Connie, you can get it on grounds of insanity.

Note to Carol Buchanan: Is the DWA going to start a Junior League?

---

I might mention that Herb Barents' Diplomacy magazine, BOAST has game openings. I might mention that I have sent in money for two of these. I might mention the cost is a \$2 game deposit per game, plus a subscription cost of \$2.75/annum (eighteen issues.) I might mention that BOAST is one of the most dependable 'zines in the field. I might also mention that it is one of the sloppiest. But, being unkind, I shall not.

---

As long as I'm not mentioning any of the above, I might as well not add that Herb's address is 157 State Street, Zeeland, Mich. 49464

---

Are your eyes bothering you? Do you see spaces with words in them announcing that those words do not exist? These words do not exist. Well, one of us is crazy, and if you're reading words that don't exist, it must be you. Tell me, do you ever think you're being persecuted?

Letteres((continued from p.5))

campaign. And beneath that you plug my zine! It grieves me that you should destroy the credibility of someone you go on to praise and appoint and then plug.((You have to remember that the Pouch has two other editors. And since when has being full of shit been a liability in politics. Anyway, as NYC manager of the Marxist Party, you should mention it in the Pouch.)) I can only assume that you were trying to cast doubt on Conrad's veracity((no, only on my sanity.)) I feel it my duty to point out to you that he has the power to re-assign your Boardman, thus depriving you of the \$35 you wanted to collect from your players for having gotten them the 1000th Boardman Number.((It has just dawned on me that these subjects you bring up indicate that you read my 'zine. My god, that's almost as bad as writing it! In any case, the game will still have been the 1000th to have received a Boardman #, and I can thus claim my money.))

My disagreement with Conrad is that I do not understand why the fact that the IDA exercises and indeed has no control over the Boardman #'s means they are not affiliated with the organization.((The problem arises because you stated that the #'s are a service offered by the Organization. I believe it was in your column for the Pouch. I wrote to Conrad asking about this, and he was apparently less than exact in his choice of words.

((To be exact, in Pouch#36, in North By Northeast, you speak of various services offered in the hobby as if they are done by the IDA. Of them, the Boardman #'s are only affiliated, and would certainly be taken care of without the IDA's money, the Miller #'s, according to Burt Labelle, the Custodian, does not even receive a stipend, and the Orphan Games Project is run by Greg Warden who, until recently, was not even a member of the IDA. So, Conrad is right.))

Sorry, folks, but the unexpected appearance in my mailbox of John Boardman's article(see page 2. It isn't there, but some games are) cuts into the space this issue. I have a letter from Walt Buchanan on the Diplomacy World subsidy, a letter from Penelope Dickens of censorship(and, right here, let me apologize for what I said earlier. I had taken her position to be much more unyielding than it is, and I can't harden my heart against her any more. I made a fool of myself, even though I enjoyed it at the time. I realize now that I was wrong. But neither was Penelope right.) I may have a difficult time fitting all the press in at this point, so until the Wednesday before printing, when the writing deadline is, only the press goes in.

#### Press Releases 1973 CQI

Paris to London-If I am in the English Channel it is not meant to be taken as an aggressive move. I may need the navy to support Belgium either in holding or Picardy to regain Belgium. There is, at this time at least, no feeling in the Chamber of Deputies that any war with England need be undertaken. This would especially be true if support from you was there this turn in case the Germans have been taken over by the War Party. If not, we shall have to see if you are antagonistic to our peaceful aims.

Paris to Berlin:I send my regards and hope that you did not try to take Belgium(if I lost it there will be trouble.)If not, and we are in Burgundy(the French I mean) then how would you like to regain Munich We are willing, as of now, to grant the use of our army in Burgundy for use in supportive action by your army Ruhr against the

((continued on p.5. Sorry))

Progress Report: Marxist Party of America-III

A report has been filed by Nicholas Ulanov, manager of the NYC office of the Marxist Party, on his efforts to have Harpo Marx put on the ballot for President of the United States of America in 1976:

I am happy to report that I am having great success in winning over some conservatives to the cause of the great Harpo Marx. I am pointing out to them that if Gerald Ford can be in the White House (oops, a little early there; I mean the vice-presidency), then why can't Harpo Marx? After all, not only does Harpo Marx keep his mouth shut as much as Ford, but when he opens it, he doesn't spew out support of the ~~former~~ President. And finally, I point out that Harpo has been publically known to not only walk and chew bubble-gum at the same time, but to walk, chew bubble-gum and honk his horn (no obscene connotations, please.)

This is an excellent strategem. It should also be pointed out to conservatives that Harpo was a spy working in the Soviet Union for several months, and successfully brought out secret papers that no one knows exactly what aid they gave to the U.S. in keeping ahead of its evil enemy. Check Mr. Marx's biography for this point. Mr. Ulanov goes on to say:

And finally, I'm pleased to inform you that I have set up a whole series of speaking engagements for Harpo. The final dates remain to be formalized. I have found particularly that the very important voting bloc of housewives in Queens and the northern suburbs of Larchmont and Scarsdale "can't wait to hear what he has to say."

There will be no speaking engagements. First of all, you must remember that Harpo is dead, and thus in no condition to go on your proposed tour. Secondly, and more importantly, we are trying to cultivate the image of a man who is too busy with the nation's problems, too engrossed with very important matters to speak to the ladies, much as he would like to. They'll have to come to him. I am sure that all managers will be able to handle this problem.

T. Michael Worthington, although he had expressed his belief that Mr. Marx is being run for "Man of the Century," which, though an admirable position cannot be compared with the presidency, has shown such an enthusiasm for Mr. Marx's election that he is appointed Manager of the Tennessee office, and is requested to suggest people to fill the posts in other states. People who believe in the Cause are instructed, if they reside in Tennessee, to contact Mr. Worthington at 2022 Price Ave., Knoxville, Tenn. 37920.

And please note that regional and state office managers are needed for large parts of the country and for most of the major cities. If you want the job, submit your name to the National Office, c/o this magazine.

---

Since I've begun using a mimeo machine I've found that I can handle a larger print run than I had originally believed. Therefore I would appreciate it if some of you publishers out there would mention me to your audiences. You don't have to be honest. Tell them I'm very good. Tell them I'm funny. As I said, lie.

---

What is it about the African nations that seems to attract rulers who say things that are patently stupid. Colonel Qaddafi, the ruler of Libya and ~~Egypt~~ ~~Libya~~ has announced that there will be a free press in Libya...so long as the press supports him (with thanks to Doug Reif.)



Press Releases 1973 CQf

England to the World: Phui on all this petty squabbling, it's every man for himself; come and get me!

St. P, Con, Vie, Rom, Par, Ber (IDUNNO): The leaders of this six European nations acclamed the latest Russian press release, and stated that after the past year of confusion it was good to have someone who issued orders. "Orders will be obeyed!" All the leaders announced in chorus.

Moscow to Turkey: Despair not. Bulgaria will be yours in the fall. It is but a stepping stone on the way west, and I hope you will forgive me.

Close to Home: The World War II Game

by John Boardman

World War II, the new Simulations Publications game on the European theatre of that war, elicits from me a number of personal reflections. Unlike war games from ancient and medieval history, or modern games based on Vietnam or Sinai, this one recalls my personal reactions as a child to the most climactic conflict ever fought.

The first event of international importance which I can recall was the German annexation of Austria. The next was the partition of Czechoslovakia. A week before my seventh birthday I heard a newsboy crying an Extra about the German invasion of Poland. I was nine when the news from Pearl Harbor interrupted everyone's Sunday dinner, and in a few weeks I was taking part in patriotic pageants of our eventual victory. My school became a center for the distribution of ration books- first for sugar, then for gasoline, and finally for everything from canned goods to shoes and tires. I trudged around the neighborhood as eagerly as any modern ecology buff, collecting old newspapers and tin cans. (Incidentally, with over 50,000 U.S. troops stationed in Indo-China to this day, I wonder where exactly the paper and metal collected by the ecologists is going!)

In California, where I grew up, the main battleground was naturally regarded as the Pacific Ocean, and the main enemy, Japan. The endemic anti-Oriental racism in California contributed as much to this as did the strategic situation. No voices were raised when fully loyal Japanese, in the thousands, were interned in concentration camps. The top halves of all street lamps were painted out, as were the coastward side of lamps along the ocean. Air raid drills were a regular feature of life in school, and at evenings in the neighborhoods. The Green Hornet's faithful Japanese valet Kato became his faithful Filipino valet Kato, and the stout Blackhawk with the bristle-cut and the knockwurst accent was hastily renamed "Stanislaus". When "zoot-suited" Mexican-Americans began rioting with soldiers at the Los Angeles embarkation port, the papers speculated that Japanese agents might be behind it. There were even "war groupies", the so-called "Victory Girls". These teen-age patriots expressed their loyalty to the American cause by handing out their favors gratis to all servicemen, and proved to be major vectors of venereal disease. (They, rather than Japanese agents, were probably the proximate cause of the "Zoot-Suit Riots".) Finally, Russia and all things Russian had a vogue comparable to the enthusiasm for China that accompanied our recent triumph of ping-pong diplomacy. The "United Nations", as the Allies were then called, stood on the twin pillars of the United States and the Soviet Union, and woe betide the man who badied the name of

((continued on P.11))

How To Write Your Own Press Release

I am, if you didn't know (and you probably don't) one of the best press release writers in the hobby today (I wasn't yesterday, and I won't be tomorrow, but I decided that I am today). Most people, however, do not know how to write one. A press release is very easy to produce.

Do you remember Roger Price's "Mad Lib" books, in which he produced a paragraph with some nouns and verbs missing, which you had to fill in? Well, a press release can act in the same way.

A press release is divided into three segments: the dateline, the news agency and the text. The dateline can be an important city in the country you are playing (see John Carroll's "Cluj"), where you are living (see John Boardman's "Brooklyn") or someplace you used to live (von Metzke's "Jamul") or maybe something having nothing to do with anything at all (see my "Phumpha" press releases.)

Next comes the news agency. Generally these are chosen so that the initials of the agency form an acronym (My "Inner District Underground News Nurturing Offices", John Boardman's "United Rabble-Rousing Press", John Carroll's "CRABS", et c.)

The third section, thought by some to be the most important, is the text. Although the experienced writer may choose any topic he wishes, with length ranging up to three pages, the beginner should write short releases. He should make it a denunciation, a notice that another country is being wiped out, that the home country is being wiped up, et c. The statement should be issued by a government official, either an historical figure, a perversion of one, a perversion of the writer's name, or a perversion of names in someone else's press release. As long as it is perverted, you're on safe ground.

Below is a blank draft press release, and my filling it up. See if you can learn anything from it.

( ): Today \_\_\_\_\_ in charge of \_\_\_\_\_ denounced the government of \_\_\_\_\_ for its attempts to take over \_\_\_\_\_. "These \_\_\_\_\_ will live to regret their vain attempts to subjugate the proud people of \_\_\_\_\_ and will be sorry." He then \_\_\_\_\_.

now for the completed version:

London (IDUNNO): Today Mr. Chamberlain, minister in charge of the navy, denounced the government of Turkey for its attempts to take over Brest, which it was prevented from doing by letting its attack on Edinburgh succeed. "These yellow pigs will live to regret their vain attempts to subjugate the proud people of Samoa." He then was shot by the Turkish occupying army.

All right, now try it yourself. Once you've written it, you have to send it someplace, preferably to a publisher who can print more press than he has been doing. I suggest Don Horton, Obsession, Don Miller, and John Boardman. John just loves good press.

You now know how to write a press release. Don't you feel better for it. But please remember, as you swagger down the streets of Sheboygan, that you have had help that these poor wretches have not. In your magnificence, be kind to them.

Close to Home((cont. from p.9))

Joseph Stalin.

The view that the general public got of the military situation was of course distorted through censorship, enthusiasm, and the absolute conviction of every American civilian that the war could not possibly be lost. The disastrous raid on Dieppe was presented as a triumph for the Allied commandos. The ouster of the Vichy government in Syria became the turning point in the Mediterranean theatre. The Yugoslav monarchist partisan Mihailovich was a heroic anti-Nazi; Benito Mussolini, an intellectual of considerable stature by fascist standards, became an opera-bouffe idiot; and it was devoutly believed that Admiral Yamamoto had threatened to dictate peace of the steps of the White House. (Actually, he had, in 1940, realized that current Japanese ambitions could not be realized in the face of American opposition, and told the General Staff that they could not accomplish them without dictating such a peace. His forebodings proved to be perfectly correct.)

These and other considerations comes back with a rush when I sit down to a game of World War II. I find myself rather nervous when the Axis player manages to pass the furthest expansion that the Axis made historically. In looking over the allied naval and amphibious capabilities, I find myself cavilling about their quantity. For example, by 1945 there is no further amphibious capacity left for the Allies. Does this mean that, if they had not succeeded in opening a Second Front in 1944, they could not have in 1945? Is it fair to limit Russian Partisans to the passive roles given them by the rules? (The Russian Partisans got a big build-up in the US news media during the war.) Was Suez or Gibraltar really that vulnerable to the Germans? Is it fair to allow the Germans not to get bogged down in the Balkans? Can't the Allies go through Scandinavia if the Germans fail to occupy Norway? ((During the Russo-Finnish War of 1939-40, British command was considering sending forces to help Finland against Russia through Norway-RBL)) Can Germans build reinforcements and replacements in what is really Czechoslovak territory, thus bringing them into action against Russia faster? Is Vichy France for real? ((a good question in any case-RBL)) (America seemed to believe during the war that almost the entire population of France belonged to the Maquis. For that matter, the French seem to still believe it.)

Fortunately for the things at stake in World War II, the players who in my experience have undertaken the Axis side are not inclined to extenuate the Axis position; they look on the game strictly as a strategic and tactical problem. It is unfortunately true that many wargamers have more or less pro-German feelings; a few are even pro-Nazi. Every so often a political writer or historian dips a toe in the murky waters of revisionism, and hints that the world might be a better place in which to live if the Axis had won World War II. These views usually come from people unhappy about the present power of communism, who reflect quite correctly that an Axis victory would have meant the total and brutal suppression of this ideology. Sometimes the approach is less rational, and arises from an admiration for the masculine and soldierly qualities allegedly possessed by the Germans under the Nazi regime. In Strategy & Tactics#4, Stephen B. Patrick's article on the German invasion of the Soviet Union is accompanied by a rebuttal to these notions. It consists of an account of the Murder Squads that the Germans turned loose on Jews and other civilians of the occupied regions. The total strength of these squads (Einsatzgruppen) was about 300,000!

The scenarios for the game all end with Spring 1945. However, it is at least arguable that the allies would have continued the war aft-

er that date if they had any foothold on the European continent at all. (Yes, but they would have "lost" in relation to history-RBL) The strategic decision taken in the early years of the war was to concentrate on Germany and fight only a holding action against Japan until Germany's surrender. Finally, after "Spring 1945" the use of nuclear weapons would have to be worked into the game's scenario ((is this why the game ends after this season? RBL)) At present many people believe that the A-bomb was not used against Germany because the "White" Allies did not want to use it on other "Whites", but only on the "Yellow" Japanese. In fact the A-bomb did not exist at the time Germany surrendered in May 1945. The successful test at Alamogordo took place in July and the bombings of Japan were in August. The depth of feeling against Nazi Germany in this country were such that, had the US possessed the Bomb before Germany surrendered, its use against Germany would have been certain. By contrast, German work on nuclear weapons was so far wide of the mark scientifically that their development in Germany could not realistically be added to the scenario.

If to a person of my generation World War II is much more real than its predecessors, it is also much more real than the wars that followed. "Before the war" and "Since the war" still refer to World War II, even in the mouths of someone born after 1945. It is the great watershed of modern history. It was the end of an era of several great powers of roughly equal influence. It was the beginning of an era when the preponderant strength of the United States of America is the principle fact of world politics, and challenges to that strength constitute the year-to-year workings of history. Whether a war directly involves the United States, as those in Korea and Vietnam, or do not, as the four Arab-Israeli and the two Indo-Pakistani conflicts, each is in some way a test of the new world power relationships established by World War II. This is reflected in war games as well. I find I cannot get interested in the idea of a game about Korea, Vietnam or the various Sinai campaigns, but that SPI's World War II has a fascination which I have found in few other war games. ((Perhaps this is due to the lack of emotional and moral conflict you feel about WW II in contrast to Korea and Vietnam-RBL))

To those of you who fear that I make money on this 'zine: I have computed my expenses for a first-class mail copy of an issue of MG to be 17.74¢. This compares with my subscription rate of 16.66¢. Once the rates rise 2¢, it will run me 19.74¢ per copy. In the meantime, some players (who get a minimum of 30 copies, and thus a maximum proce of 16.66¢/issue, have their copies air-mailed, which raises my cost to precisely 20.75¢, also soon to jump another two cents. You're still being cheated, but I'm not making anything on it.

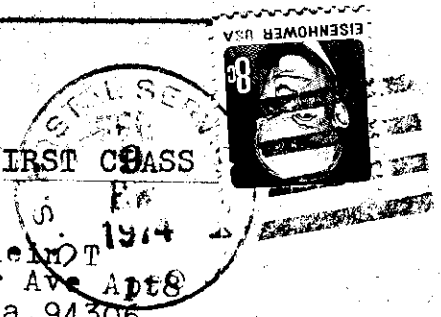
The Mixumaxu Gazette  
Box 360, Lafayette College  
Easton, Pa. 18042

FIRST CLASS MAIL FIRST CLASS MAIL FIRST CLASS MAIL FIRST CLASS MAIL

Article by John Boardman  
in here. How's that for  
turnabout?

SEND TO:

Doug Beyerlein  
330 Curtner Ave Apt 8  
Palo Alto, Ca. 94306



\_\_\_ This is your last issue of Mixumaxu Gazette. Aren't you lucky.  
\_\_\_ You are needed as a standby player in \_\_\_ See page \_\_\_