

Maniac's Paradise

Issue 43

\$1.00

An Official "Mud-Slinging" - "*Heh*" - "Sack" - "Surly Creep" -
"Anal Retentive" - "Beady-Eyed Rat" - "Whining Kent Pig" Production
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Subscriptions are \$1 an issue in US and Canada, game fees vary.
Articles and Sub-Zine submissions are gladly considered provided I can make nasty
remarks about them behind your back, throw a typo in here and there, and
that you join my various multi-level hobby conspiracies to further my MegaDip strategies.

Eenie, meenie, mienie, moe. Sack McHugh has got to go. Welcome to another fun-filled issue of Maniac's Paradise, where you can shake-shake-shake your booty for a measly \$1 a month. Truly one of the miracles of the modern age, along with The Clapper and coffee ice cream. Egads!

What have we got inside this month? For starters, another voluminous subzine by Sack McHugh. Now that he's stumbled into the greatest zine this side of the Atlantic, Sack seems unable to control his urge to spew venom onto these pages. We'll all have to suffer through it until the medication takes effect.

Back from the asylum, we've got the usual game reports (a few games finish up this issue). There are still openings in Gunboat and Balkan Wars VI. I imagine Sack won't be offering any other games soon - after all, he can't even handle the games he's GMing now! I'll probably offer another game of Dip next issue, and I'm always looking for suggestions of what variants you'd like to play.

In "Uptight, Upset, and Anti-Social" (aside from numerous letters) there's another MP music quiz. Watch it, this one is a bit harder than last time! The winner gets two free issues of MP. While I'm babbling, let me remind you about my other two zines - Your Zine of Zines, which reviews a few zines every issue, and Foolhardy, a hobby discussion zine. If you've never sen either of these and would like a sample of one or both, let me know. I'll let you get to the good stuff, but first let me remind you that the next deadline is:

October 5, 1992 at 12:00 noon eastern - be there!

Uptight, Upset, and Anti-Social

#26

9/2/92

Quote of the Month:

Bart Simpson (on halftime shows): "This sucks. Come on snipers, where are you?"

Quiz of the Month:

Time for another music quiz. These are all song titles from my LP collection (and a few from my wife's), as opposed to my CD or 45 or cassette collection. You just tell me the artist for each track. If the title was used by more than one artist, too bad, you've got to guess the one I'm thinking of! Mooohahaha! Some of these are hard, so this time I'm listing them in alphabetical order by artist. That might make it easier for you to figure it out. Winner gets two free issues of MP.

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1) Sole Survivor | 13) Ozone Baby |
| 2) How Do You Talk to Girls? | 14) End of the Road |
| 3) There's a Place | 15) Love Don't Live Here Anymore |
| 4) La Bel Age | 16) The Waiting |
| 5) Do the Donkey Kong | 17) Precious |
| 6) Follow You | 18) Finest Worksong |
| 7) Downed | 19) Beneath, Between, Behind |
| 8) The Endless Enigma | 20) Meat is Murder |
| 9) Face the Fire | 21) The Stroke |
| 10) Johnny Can't Read | 22) Hide in Your Shell |
| 11) Lights | 23) In City Dreams |
| 12) Everybody's My Friend | 24) The Seeker |

Hobby News and Views

PDORA Reminder: For those of you who like to dawdle, this is a reminder. The closing date for bids in this year's PDORA Auction is October 2. If you want to bid on something, do it now! Some items have no bids on them as of yet...others have massive competition. If you need a copy of the auction booklet, lemme know.

New Zine: Just after MP #42 went in the mail, I got the first issue of a new zine, Aren't You the Guy Who Hit Me in the Eye?, published by Andy Marshall. Andy was playing on Prodigy, and has now expanded to the PBM hobby as well. Issue #1 included a humorous look at how to play Dip (by K. Dean Gardiner), two orphaned Dip games, and a section called "Diatribes" where Andy discusses baseball and his hopes for Clinton in November, among other things. The sub price is 75 cents, and it'll be published on a 5-week schedule. Issue #1 lists openings in Dip, Gunboat, Dip 1898, and Enemy in Sight. There are presently no game fees (although he does mention some fairly expensive NMR insurance fees - I'm not sure if they're optional or not), and you can play in up to two games at a time (for now). If you'd like to see a sample, drop a line to Andy at 775 Quince Orchard Blvd., Apt. 32, Gaithersburg, MD 20878.

Zine Listings/Reviews Galore: Two big news items this month. First, Pete Gaughan will be taking over publication of the Zine Register. Congrats, Pete. I'm sure you'll do a fine job - just take note of what the public in Foolhardy says and things will be fine {grin}. Second, John Caruso has released the first Grass Roots, subtitled "PDO Zine Directory", which is available from him for \$1 an issue (address on back). In contrast to the ZR, GR lists only the bare minimum of info about each zine, with absolutely no editorial comment by John. If you're a publisher and want to make sure your info in the next GR issue is up-to-date, contact John. I think he said the next one will be coming out around the end of the year.

Letters

Stan Johnson: I hope this finds Mara feeling better. I am glad you had a letter concerning enclosures. I had only gotten one previously, because I guess they weren't coming out of the envelope, and since I didn't know they were there,

I didn't look for them. The letter made me look again and I found it. I will "get the gossip" from your pages.

Mark Nelson: David Hood exclaims "Bush will win"! The two key issues used by Bush are likely to be (as last time) "your money is safe with us!" and "we're real nice law abiding people (even if we did avoid the draft) and the Democrats are Satan's own children". Who needs a campaign based on policy when you have the Republican dirty tricks machine?

Perhaps someone would like to provide an argument as to why the economy is safer in Republican hands (on the evidence of the last 12 years it seems that the democrats can hardly do any *worse*) and give an assessment of economic policy over the last 12 years (out of 100, I'm not sure that they'll scrap into double figures).

I would have voted Republican last time (and the time before that) but past on the record of the last 12 years it seems to me that it is time for the Republicans to be kicked outta office.

But future policy (and the results of previous policy) are unlikely to be key issues in the campaign. Bush is surely odds-on to be re-elected, even if it's hard to have any confidence in his ability to construct policy.

Paul Milewski makes some excellent points. Although pubbers undoubtedly do vote lower than non-pubbers (because they are more critical, and because they often trade with zines that they wouldn't sub to) I believe that this difference in terms of the average vote is not statistically significant.

We can't be certain because we don't know how many votes from pubbers the average zine receives as a fraction of its total vote. Even if there are wide variations between the zines the fact that the regression coefficient is only '0.34' means that the overall effect on how a zine ranks on average vote (compared to other zines) is small. It may effect the relative positioning of zines within any one 'cluster' of zines but it is not going to effect which 'cluster' a zine is in.

It seems to me self-evident that any zine which supports the Poll by printing a ballot paper is going to perform (on average) better than a zine which doesn't. Michale (?) uses the emotive word 'support' and hints back at the various feuds associated with previous Zine Polls. The use of the word 'support' in this context is a red herring.

Observation. Those zines that 'support' the Marco Poll by mentioning it in their hobbynews column will (on average) do better than those that don't!

[[How can you make a statement that the economy has been in Republican hands for 12 years? The liberal Democrats have controlled Congress, who Constitutionally control all spending, for over 30 years! Now, I'm not defending Bush - I despise him. However, I laugh (and laugh again) when Clinton talks about how his party should be given a chance. Brad Wilson is probably right, vote Libertarian - at least for the President. All this talk of change, yet the same damn Congress will be voted in and continue to raid the public for all they can get. Read the book Hill Rat - it'll make you sick.

What the government really needs is a clean sweep in Congress, even if you have to repopulate it with Democrats. Then we can change all the horrible rules enacted after Nixon left office, those that cause a few particular Representatives to be the most powerful people on Earth.

Al Gore and Bill Clinton both could not hold certain jobs in the Government, because they would be considered security risks. Gore has close relations with certain environmental groups that were tied to communist Russia. Clinton's wife is involved with various radical anti-American groups. Read Gore's book and explain to me how he's a moderate. Clinton seems to think that taxing business is a great way to help the economy. I don't feel good about the next four years either way, but at least if Clinton is elected the stock market will crash and my firm will make lots of money.

The Republican Dirty Tricks Machine? The campaign prepares a list of statements made by Clinton and prominent Democrats that support him, and that's dirty tricks. The Democrats stir up an unsubstantiated charge of adultery on Bush (from a book that has been out for years, based on a single footnote) and that's policy? When was the last time you heard any mainstream press make a critical evaluation of Clinton's proposed policy? His plan will do irreparable harm to this nation.]]

Eric Brosius: I would like to accuse Paul Milewski of a journalistic "foul" in the most recent issue of MP. In a letter which quite rightly warns against the abuse of statistics, Mr. Milewski includes a quote from the 1991 Runestone Poll Publication The Roar of the Crowd. On page 100 I wrote:

Another fact may be less obvious: when we compare publishers and non-publishers who vote for *the same* number of zines, the publishers still vote lower by about 0.34 on average. As a mental exercise, I performed a multi-linear regression to obtain a formula that would predict a voter's average vote base upon the number of zines voted for and whether or not the voter is a publisher. The result was the following (the numbers are rounded for simplicity):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Average vote} &= 7.62 - 0.03 \text{ (for each zine voted for)} \\ &\quad - 0.34 \text{ (if voter is a publisher).} \end{aligned}$$

If you know anything about statistical analysis, you know that I haven't really told you anything here---I'm not going to discuss the mathematics. But this suggests that reading a lot of zines and being a publisher both tend to lower your average vote.

I have italicized the last paragraph for emphasis. When Paul discussed this article, he quoted down to the formula, but he omitted the italicized paragraph. I believe this was a bit deceptive. I was fully aware that by omitting necessary corollary information about the significance of the regression coefficients I was making the article useless from a scientific viewpoint. In fact, I included the italicized paragraph as an explicit warning to the reader that I was sweeping something under the rug. The article was a popular article, not a scientific one, and I didn't want to get caught up in a lot of detail that most readers would not appreciate.

Paul may still object to the way in which the article was written; he may feel that any such article should include full scientific documentation. Perhaps he would be right to feel that way. But to quote from the article, omitting the key passage, and then to lambaste me for the omission, seems like a cheap shot.

John Caruso: I can't believe that you only finished 2nd in the Runestone Poll. I sent in 25 ballots signed by my neighbors, voting your zine a 10, and Perelandra a 5. You should have won easily. I guess I'll have to try harder next year.

Did you hear what Jack was saying? He said without "And The Horse You Rode In On", that your zine wouldn't be in the top 5. I guess the results will shut his mouth for a minute or two. He didn't even make the top 11 subzines, nor a 5.7 average.

Diadochi V? What happened to numbers I, II, III, IV? I've never played the game, but it seems to me that any game with a stalemate line is an inferior game. At least that's what Jack always tells me when he badmouths all of my "balanced" games. I'd think a game that has imbalances in it would appeal to the Flap Jack mentality.

I once ran a game called Ancient World, my own creation. Some of the players comments were "great game", "a lot of fun", "lets get McHugh", "the best game of Ancient World you ever ran". You get the idea. Hey Doug, do you want to see Rome lose in Diadochi V? Give it to Jack "I can lose any time" McHugh.

Mark Nelson has a misconception about the PDORA funding that was denied to Garret Schenck. It wasn't based on Garret's biased comments, but rather on the committee's opinion of whether ZR warranted the funding. 3 out of 5 people thought the request was unwarranted. Garret's editorial comments were a non-factor with me. In fact, I probably took too much of a hands off approach to the ZR, and that may have affected its funding. For that, I already apologized and took full responsibility.

My opinion, and that of Dipdom tradition has been that editorial comments in service publications should be kept to a minimum, if at all. Attacks on zines and/or people have no place in a service publication. But again, its up to the person running the service to make his/her own judgement call.

I do think publishers tend to vote lower to other zines. Why? Call it ego, vanity, jealousy, whatever. But by voting the opposition lower, pubbers somehow feel they have a better chance for a good showing. And history has shown that those who support and plug the poll do better than those who did not. A good example is W/KK which, when it didn't support the Runestone, did mediocre to poor, and when it did support the poll, did real well. I don't need Paul Milewski's graphs, charts, and games with numbers to see that.

And I also agree with the opinion that all legal votes should be counted toward the final outcome of the Runestone. Why should the top 10% and bottom 10% be thrown out? Don't those people's opinions count too? Maybe next year we should all vote 5's so our 10's aren't wasted.

Stan Johnson: Congratulations on your excellent Runestone finish. I usually don't agree with the Runestone results, but in your case it's justified. You produce an excellent zine (except for JackAss portion). Keep up the good work and give yourself a pat on the back from me.

To Mark Nelson - While most games have some example of bad play, they don't always have a major effect on the outcome, and someone deliberately throwing a game is quite different from simple bad play. If someone wins a game because of NMRs and deliberate bad play, they have nothing to pound their chest and crow about. I have urged GMs to occasionally offer a veterans-only game, i.e. people who have completed two games with no or few NMRs to foster examples of good play, but none have ever done so. The level of competition corresponds directly with the level of play.

To David Hood - If Bush wins we all lose, except 1% of richest.

To Jerk McHugh - You don't have to read anything I write. I sure don't waste time on your drivel. Your section of the zine goes directly from mail box to trash.

[[Stan, if Clinton wins, we all lose. If Bush wins, we probably all lose anyway, unless he decides to develop a spine - which is unlikely. Taxing business to the hilt is a great way to expand the economy, isn't it? Raising taxes in 1990 worked so well, let's do it again but this time we'll really open the siphon! Remember, "invest in America" is really "tax and spend, tax and spend". Bush is good at that, but Clinton makes him look like an amateur. Or maybe Clinton will die in office, and we'll get Gore and his wonderful ideas on saving the country by putting the auto industry out of business.]]

Pete Gaughan: Jack should beat you soundly about the head for plagiarizing his Bruce McIntyre letter. Or was that a courtesy copy?

The RPB seemed pretty accurate - it'll be interesting to see what the stat freaks figure out about its prediction ability.

[[McBruce sent the letter to both of us - some was aimed at me, some at Sack, uhh, I mean Jack. I knew Sack, uhh Jack, was going to respond to some, and I told him I was doing the same. It just happened that we chose some of the same sections. Part of the letter also ended in up Your Zine of Zines.]]

Robert Stimmel: If you are going to have a Rock music quiz, why not have a Latin American music quiz. I don't expect the questions to be in Spanish.

If David Wang wants to run a Colonia game why not try two-man Colonia?

I once ran a regular game where I allowed a first NMR for vote, but the second time it meant yes.

When you send small pictures, remember I'm not married. (I prefer Karen Witter, Tina Louise, or Joyce DeWitt).

I propose a 10% tax once every four years on total assets over \$1 million.

Some people want to limit political office terms. I have a better idea. Don't give retirement benefits to legislative office holders. That would force them to take other jobs.

Earl Warren made lots of money through office holding. I agree with most of his opinions when Chief Justice. But I don't think he objected when Japanese-Americans were imprisoned. I believe J. Edgar Hoover was one of few to defend them.

If their talents had been used in war industries, instead of being wasted, World War II might have been shorter.

Plan to end poverty in the U.S.A.: eliminate entertainment (sports, movies, night clubs, etc.) until poverty is ended. I expect it would end rather soon.

[[Robert, I have to be honest - your two ideas (10% tax and eliminate entertainment) are two of the worst ideas I've heard in some time. I'll start with the tax idea. Redistribution of wealth is a terrific idea, if your objective is communism. The whole point of capitalism is opportunity for individuals to attain wealth. If you pass a law like that, you'll see a mass exodus of super-rich people out of the US to become citizens of other places. Who do you think owns large businesses and create job opportunities in this nation? If we the government put a 100% tax on all assets over \$1,000,000 per family, the resulting taxes would only run the government for about two months, and after that there would be almost no revenue of any kind. Read Atlas Shrugged. As for the entertainment idea, we obviously have completely different views on what the causes of poverty are. Poor education, the breakdown of the family, and the self-fulfilling prophecy of the welfare state are what I think cause most poverty in this country. What do you think causes it?]]

Eric Brosius: Here's a follow-up on hypothesis testing (let's not disappoint your stats fans.) Paul's comment was reasonable, though I disagree with the way he made it. He asked whether my regression from the 1991 Roar of the Crowd (showing that publishers and people who vote for many zines tend to give lower votes in the Runestone Poll) was statistically significant. I didn't save last year's worksheet, but I believe the results were very similar to this year's. The 1992 regression equation gives

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Average vote} &= 8.20 - 0.06 \text{ (for each zine voted for)} \\ &\quad - 0.38 \text{ (if voter is a publisher)} \end{aligned}$$

(compared to

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Average vote} &= 7.62 - 0.03 \text{ (for each zine voted for)} \\ &\quad - 0.34 \text{ (if voter is a publisher)} \end{aligned}$$

last year.)

The significance of the regression as a whole was very high. The F-statistic is 26 with 127 degrees of freedom; this isn't on my chart, but I know it won't happen often by chance.

But Paul may ask whether the two coefficients are **separately** significant. Once we include the effect of the number of zines voted for, is the publisher effect still significant? Doing a second F-test on the residuals, I found $F = 3.67$ with 128 degrees of freedom. Again, it's off my chart, but here the significance is much lower---I'd estimate the chance of this happening by chance is 10%. Last year's result was similar. It certainly doesn't **prove** being a publisher matters, but it **suggests** it, as I said, especially when it happens two years running.

There's no way I would include a description like the above in RotC, but in view of the large number of statistics fans that apparently read MP, I have decided, with a bit of reluctance, to submit it for publication here.

...And the Horse You Rode in on!

Issue 14

August 30, 1992

Welcome to the subzine whose stated goal is to further promote me, Jack McHugh (280 Sanford Road, Upper Darby, PA 19082 (H)215-352-7479 (W)215-832-3612 CIS ID# 76646,334), as a Hobby Icon, the biggest Empire television has ever seen! Remember that no matter what I do I am actually here to make the life of one Garret "Dada" Schenck's life a living hell. I know because Dada told me himself and he wouldn't lie would he?

I forgot to put my games list in last time. We can eliminate my game of Mideast Dip "Mommar"; it is filled. See, I told you to get 'em while they're hot! We still have openings in Balkan Wars VI; signed up: D. Kent, R. Schultz, Reynolds, Dorneman. If anyone else wants to sign up let me know. I'm also announcing the opening of a Regular Dip game.

We got lots of letters from all you Diplomacy yahoos. We got more of my tortured text on the hobby. The GM question is still alive and well here. I also want to write something on the our foreign policy in a post-Cold War world. I also got some football picks for this year as well.

Before I forget:

The Brad Wilson (standby) List:

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Roger Cox; Mike Gonsalves; Stephen Dorneman; Andrew York; Steve Nicewarner, Brad Wilson. Stand by's called this issue: Roger Cox as England in Marv Thornberry. Stephen Dorneman as England, Mike Gonsalves as Italy, Roger Cox as Germany in Lords of Discipline.

.....So's Your Old Man

The hobby news column of *...And the Horse You Rode in on!*

The big news this month kids is that according to informed hobby sources - like Pete Gaughan's letter to me in the letter column below - it looks like Garret "Dada" Schenck has found a successor for himself as editor of the *Zine Register*. Yes, hobby folks, it appears that Pete Gaughan will be the hobby's new tastemaster at the ZR.

Pete told this intrepid hobby reporter that "Doug will at least like one thing about it - I'll take it back to an open page. I'll also print a couple of standing rules about what I will edit out: any mention of previous editions of ZR; any attack unrelated to the quality of the zine being reviewed; any abuse of another reviewer...are just a sketch of what I'm considering. ZR will be much more milk-toast, I think, because that's the way I am. I leave it up to the guest reviewers to add spice."

Well, Pete, we here at *ATHYRIO* wish you lots of luck. I just hope it won't mean the end of your fine zine, *Perelandra*. We've all seen what happens to over ambitious ZR editors, witness the spectacular supernova that was Tom Nash. (So bright that people could read their zines by him at night for over a year!)

Other applicants for the killer job of ZR editor and chief hobby burnout/pariah were the CAD crew of Steve Nicewarner, David Hood and Mike Lowery. Mike once criticized Dada so they were out. Sean Brown, not content not to not publish merely his own zine, *Canyon*, decided he wanted to not publish ZR as well. Since Dada actually wants the ZR to be put out, Sean was bounced as well.

A Pox on You and Your Ancestors!

The letter column of *...And the Horse You Rode in on!*

We have letters from Eric Brosius (via Compuserve) Brad Wilson (via a computer disk, hand delivered to moi by Brad), Crazy MARKE Nelson (via INTERNET and Compuserve), John Caruso, Melinda Holley and Pete Gaughan (via USP(S)):

Eric Brosius (July 19, 1992): A few comments on your recent letter column in Issue 12 [of ATHYRIO](in MP 41).

First, while I have no problem with polls that use "vote counting" like the Marco Poll or Tom Swider's polls, you have to agree that these polls can lead to

some odd results. The polls in Parade magazine seem to be run that way, and as a result George Bush is included in both America's 10 Best Dressed Men and America's 10 Worst Dressed Men. Why? Simply because he is familiar to so many people. This is my primary reason for preferring the method used by the

Runestone Poll. The other reason is that if I were to use the same method as the Marco Poll, why have two polls that do the same job.

Second, I'd like to dispute your claim that "any survey that arbitrarily throws out answers isn't worth a thing." I'm not a social scientist, and perhaps you are, but I still think you're mixed up. From what I have seen, social scientists seem to prefer to use the *median* for measurement (thus, you'll see *median* family income studied more than *mean* family income. And what is the median? It's what you get when you arbitrarily throw out all but the *middle* answer! If you complain about the Runestone Poll throwing out the top and bottom 10% of the votes, how can you explain why social scientists so often throw out the top and bottom 49.9% of the answers?

In fact, the Runestone Poll *would* use the median except that it's too small. The modified mean is simply a way to adapt the idea behind medians to a smaller data set.

Why do people use the median? To reduce the random effect of very large or small values. If you look at *mean* family income, Ross Perot's income will have an enormous effect on the average. To throw him out by using the median does not mean we are making a value judgement on whether he is or isn't making too much money. We just don't want the answer to depend so heavily on him. In the same way, my use of the modified mean in the Poll does not mean I am making a value judgement on whether a given vote is or isn't a feud (or "booster") vote. I am simply trying to reduce the dependence of the poll on the opinions of any single voter.

If Jack Garret gives a zine or GM a low vote because no issue has appeared for 6 months, it is very likely that other voters will be doing the same. As long as more than 10% of the voters give low votes, those votes *will* influence the resulting score. You could argue over whether 10% is the correct number, but it seems to be a reasonable compromise.

Finally, I agree that my "don't take it seriously" warning can easily get lost. I urge publishers who print Poll results to include a small comment on this very issue - just to help people realize how unscientific this all is. The last thing I want is to represent the Poll as something it isn't.

The Big J says: Sorry, this letter is appearing a month late. I forgot about it and found it while getting orders for a CiS game. I wasn't going to print it but Eric is taking a lot of heat (and taking it with class, I might add) so I figured he deserves a chance to answer his critics (including me).

As for the median stuff, I suppose your right. You are obviously much more versed in the mathematics of statistics more than I am. All I will say about using the median is that it can give you a false impression of the data.

For example, by throwing out Ross Perot's income you will reduce the effect that Perot has the average but you may (and will if there are enough people defined as Ross Perot is in the data) show the income is much more evenly distributed than it actually is.

(Many people in this country are shocked, for example, to find out that the top 1% of the IRS income tax bracket control 90% of all the personal, and 70% of the total, wealth in this country. Perhaps if we stopped throwing out those who "wreck the curve" they wouldn't be so shocked, no?)

It isn't so much the throwing out of the votes I mind, Eric. I just thought that it was done mindless or for "feud" reasons. I'm glad to see I was wrong.

I'm also glad to see you're acknowledging the fact that the Poll isn't to be taken seriously. My recommendation is for you to cutdown on the amount of stats jargon/stuff so people won't try and get all wrapped up the analysis of the results.

Eric also pointed out that wrongly mentioned him "the same old faces" that show up at Dip Con every year. This year was his first Dip Con ever. Sorry Eric. By the way, hope to see you at Vertigo Games!

Mark Nelson (August 8, 1992): Move outta the way, I'm coming down for a quick toady to the toadymaster!

Who is this Don Greenwood fellow? Some Avalon Hill toady?

As I understand it the reason why DipCon has been away from the big cons over the last ten years is because of bad experiences at DipCon in 1982 (Maryland) and 1983 (Detroit) where DipCon was treated as a small side-show to the main con and not accorded either publicity or suitable facilities to run the tournament.

[...]You mention publicity, it is my believe that a small dip only Dip Con could attract considerable publicity if it was organized correctly!

[...]Ofcourse, the real reason why AtlantiCon has never staged DipCon in the last ten years has nothing to do with 'quality of the games', 'relationship with con staff' and 'elitism' and everything to do with the fact that Robert Sacks is associated with AtlantiCon.

This is based on (a) events at the last DipCon to be run in conjunction with Origins in Maryland in 1982 (where, as I understand it, Robert tried to insist that Origins had appointed himself to run the tournament) and (b) the personal dislike of Robert Sacks by many of the dipcon bigwigs (not helped by the so-called Hobby meetings that Robert likes to run).

(Side note, several people are discussing if North America should get WDC in 1995 or 1996, I'm personally in favour of 1995 as being the better year. AtlantiCon '95 as World Dip Con V?)

The Flapper responds: Don Greenwood is one of the main muckity-mucks at AH. Respect the company if not the man, you heathen Limey! <grin>

First of all Mark, you've been listening to the Fred Davis/Mark Berch rendition of the 'truth about Dip Con' for far too long. You have to remember that Fred and Robert don't get along. I consider Fred a personal friend, but he's just wrong when he talks about Atlantic Con and Robert.

As for 'sideshow treatment' you speak of, I don't believe it is true. I can't speak to 1982 or 1983 since I didn't go - but I'm sure some of my readers did, see John Caruso's letter, perhaps others would also like to write in (Brad? Tom?) with their opinions - but that hasn't been true of our Dip tours at Atlantic Con. They've always treated us with respect. In fact, the Origins and AtlantiCon people (and there have been different groups running both events over the years) have always been very clear about their support for the Dip tourney.

One of the great side benefits of a big con, with other events, is that you get to piggy-back on their publicity. That helps you go beyond the limited world of the hobby press.

You and John Caruso are correct that Robert's poor relationship with certain hobbyist - notably the Berch/Davis/Peery/Birsan clique - had definitely hurt Atlantic Con's ability to get Dip Con. Robert's supposed inability/inaptitude to run a Dip tourney is another fantasy made up by Robert's enemies. Hell, Fred has been to Atlantic Con, unlike most of the others, and really should know better.

As for Robert's hobby meetings, the Dark side (of the hobby) just doesn't like them because Robert is in control. Robert could run an event and find the cure for cancer at the same time and they find a reason to bad mouth it!

Fred comes to Robert's democratic and open meetings and argues with Robert. Fred then says the meetings are bad for the hobby because they are filled with arguments! This is a tautological argument. (Hey STan, tautological means circular!)

As for World Con, I don't care, it only attracts a few people from overseas. I think this a British fetish with something that is irrelevant to most cons and hobby-ists. As long as it doesn't interfere with our Dip Con, I don't care.

The Crazy One continues: If only the ZR is allowed to have reviews in its sacred pages, wouldn't that mean that no zine in the hobby would be allowed to review a zine?

I believe that the Rod Walker award would be better if it were restricted to particular pieces of writing rather than 'in general' or 'writing over a period of time'. I also think that the committee should provide camera ready copy to any zine-editor that requires it to run in their own zine.

There is only one thing more pointless than the Melinda Ann Holley Award. And that's when it was the Melinda Ann Holley Award for Women Hobbyist of the Year. However well intended this was it's pretty de-meaning to know that you're not enough good enough to win one of the other awards and have only won this award because you're a woman.

I agree that Eric Brosius gets carried away in producing the RuneStone Poll Results Booklet. I'd scrap most of the graphs and cut the page count down to about 20-32 pages.

God's gift to Dipdom answers: By George, I think you've got it. Only Dada is allowed to do reviews in the great ZR.

Our main mistake, my dear toady, was not so much in reviewing zines, but in daring to criticize *Upchuck*, with one of our first reviews. Because we actually found something we didn't like about it, Dada's been out to get the Sack and me ever since.

I agree that there should be some reasonable restriction - like length - placed on the Walker award. Right now I'm leaning toward the Caruso solution of simply scraping the award.

The Farce Poll is always carried away. In fact, I think it should be carried away - right to the trash! Seriously, I don't like it and never will. It simply is has more negatives than positives.

Thanks for the letter, Mark. I enjoyed reading and responding to it.

Brad Wilson (August 10, 1992): Your subzine continues to be the best I've seen in many a moon, since Michalski's Mos Eisley Spaceport ('a greater hive of scum and villainry you will never find'). Keep up the good work and maybe I'll buy you drinks at Murphy's.

Of course not everybody thinks you're so wonderful. For example, listen to this critic: 'One toad who has essentially built a subzine upon a continual barrage of offensive and personal attacks on me and my zine...' Yes, folks, it's straight from the Bearded Bully of Brooklyn's rather large mouth in Upchuck #54. Gee, I guess running Dip, Asian Dip, and Gunboat and writing articles on books, politics, and the hobby all is a 'barrage' on Garret! Boy, I'm so glad I got that straightened out!

The Flapper says: Thanks for the kind comments. I didn't think you liked the subzine too much, glad I was wrong. I intend to hold you to that promise at Murphy's for drinks!

As for my critics, who cares? I like the subzine and that's all that matters to me.

The ECC's spiritual leader says: *Thankyouthankyou-thankyouthankyouthankyou for the VERTIGO GAMES VI plug. I hope for a good turnout, and MP reaches a big*

audience. Ready to have your butt torched in Kingmaker again, Mr. Royal Death Card?

Good points on AVALONCON. Greenwood's whining was not becoming. On the other hand we shouldn't miss any opportunity to promote the hobby, so I think a strong hobby presence there in the future would be beneficial. Plus it can't hurt to kiss up to the manufacturer of Dip, either. You're dreaming if you expect AH to shell out one thin dime to GMs for AVALONCON. AH is so tight it needs analysis. I, of course, agree that it would be a shame for AVALONCON to supplant ATLANTICON as the premier East Coast con, if only because I don't want to play AH games all the time.

Naturally I can't let any discussion of DipCon pass without a comment. You are 100% percent correct on all your points, and while you could use an editor (Edi Birch? Townsend, Maryland?) your piece should be required reading in the hobby.

I simply can't stand the argument David Hood continually makes (he denies it, but he does it) about DipCon, that somehow novices aren't welcome because they 'dilute' the quality of play or are somehow scared off by (your word is excellent) the 'pompous' North American Diplomacy Championships. I haven't found the quality of play at DipCon (especially 1990) to be significantly better than any other Con, house, 'small', or 'big'. I will admit that 1983, with 118 people in Detroit, was dandy: the list of sharks on hand was endless -- and who won? Joyce Singer, of whom no one had ever heard (and haven't since, either). I think Hood would be happy if we had a seven-player DipCon as long as the 'quality of the play was high.'

As for only playing Dip, you could have spent three days at ATLANTICON this year and played Balkan Wars VI and two rounds of Dip and Dipped in open gaming as well. It's entirely possible to have an all-Dip weekend at a big Con.

There's no question that most of the critics of big Cons haven't ever been to one or haven't attended one in many moons. As you note, the NYGB has been running multi-player games on the East Coast for years and never had a hint of trouble or fuss. We have veteran, devoted GMs who work hard to provide congoers with a good time, often sacrificing much of our weekends (right, Jack?) to do so. In fact, I highly doubt anyone in the hobby has put on as many tournaments at Cons over the last few years as the NYGB: Sacks, you, I, Swider, Mainardi, Del Grande, and Mathias. Others yap about it: we do it. And our reward, often, is vitriolic abuse (it's always open season on Sacks, of course), lies spread about our tournaments by Peery and his toadies, and a rude slap in the face from the DipCon hobby meeting. And our Novices Seminar is, as far as I know, the only one of its kind. I submit that the NYGB and its associated group, the ECC, has done more for the hobby than most of the loud-mouthed egotistical hobby mavens like Peery, Berch, and Schenck.

I couldn't agree with your coda more: Baltimore in '95, DipCon XXVIII with ORIGINS XXI at the Inner Harbor! See you there! I hope ATLANTICON goes back to Baltimore (or at least Towson) as well.

I conclude on a sinister note. Most of the reviews of DIPCON XXVIII in K.C. have been written by small con nuts like Hood or Gaughan (I know, he's running DIPCON at PACIFICON, but that's the exception that proves the rule). None mentioned a scary note I have seen ONLY in Allan Calhamer's review that appeared in GRAUSTARK #607 and MAELSTROM #6. Rex Martin, who spoke at the awards 'banquet' (what a farce), noted, to quote Calhamer, 'concern that we weren't keeping up our numbers.' Boy, what a great impression to make on one of the bigshots at the company that controls our game's production. The small con freaks were probably too busy kissing each other's ass with awards to notice Martin's words of warning. We need a good turnout in '93, '94, and '95. Here's the trend of DipCons since 1982 (thanks to Perelandra #100 for this info): 161 (biggest ever-Baltimore), 118 (Detroit), 91 (ORIGINS in Dallas), 60 (Seattle), 76 (Fredricksburg, VA), 51 (Mad-ison), 23 (San Antonio, Texas; note the difference in Texas turnouts without ORIGINS), 55 (San Diego; 55 in California? They should have been ashamed), 110 (with World DipCon in Chapel Hill, the best promoted Dip Con I've ever seen, but take away the foreigners and the turnout was more like 75), 58 (Toronto, where they had 16 for CanCon this year), and 31 in Kansas City. 31 is the second-worst attendance since 1971, and the two lowest turnouts since Dip Con II have been in the last four years. This is not good, people. We're going the way of the dinosaurs.

FlapMan answers another satisfied customer: I gotta promote Vertigo games, I'm associate drinker, er, I mean host, yeah, host, that's it. (Burp!) No problem, friend. I hope we get a great turnout this year. Snaglepuss told me, despite his "retirement", he's coming, and were not even having it in Norristown. I also heard that a certain Canadian Woolky from Toronto might come too!

Hey, I'll take that kick ass faction I had last year and take my chance with the Royal Death card. Panzerarmee Kingmaker, here I come!

So I got a few facts wrong (it was at University Park, not Townsend, MD and it was Edi Birsan, not Birch as I wrote), pick, pick, pick! Hey, I got four long letters within a the first ten days of August, so I must be doing something right, no?

Jawn also makes the a similar argument to David, in that if everyone has "fun" the con is a success, regardless of how few people actually bother to show up. I find that argument equally annoying.

Don't get me started on long distance critics <grrr!> Hey, what the hell do we know Brad? We just go to a big con, play games, run games and talk to the organizers of the cons. Better to ignore us and

talk to the know nothing, small con crowd of Berch/Peery/Birsan. They "hear" all about Atlantic Con; we were only there. Who are we to comment?

You should see the crap that Mark Nelson is sending me. Apparently Fred is Ghod in Europe since they believe whatever he says is gospel according to Davis.

I agree we're unloved and unappreciated, but hey, I enjoy it and will continue to do it, no matter what the rest of the world thinks! (What did I get on the defiant meter?)

Yeah, well if want to see what happens to hobbies that don't keep up their membership we need only look no further than the Great White North - Canada. They've been in decline for years and are now down to about five zines. A sad statement on a once thriving hobby which recently saw Waddingtons', the Canadian distribute of Diplomacy, halt production of the game last year.

The Hobby's answer to Bill Conlin - my favorite sports columnist of all time who writes for (Philadelphia's) The Daily News - goes on: McBruce's idea on how things are done in the hobby awards is correct. The co-ordinator (formerly Ron Cameron, now David McCrumb) sends out the list of who'd been nominated to the commit-tee. We vote for a maximum of five in each category (I didn't vote for more than three nominees in any group, finding the fields all extremely weak) and the top 5 vote-getters get on the final ballot. I intend to propose changes -- along McBruce's lines -- this year. We'll see what happens. But since Garret will want to win the Miller Award next, I doubt, as you do, that there will be any change. I think the Holley Award should be tossed in the dumpster that holds noble but bad ideas, and the writing award as well for the reasons Mike Lowrey gave.

Jack, let this veteran of hobby polling fill you in: an 'objective' vote in the Farce Poll is when you carefully weigh your feelings on each zine, using all your rationality and intelligence to produce a ballot that thoughtfully and carefully best shafts the people you in the hobby you don't like. A 'feud' vote is when your evil, perverted, vicious hobby enemies unjustly, unfairly, and gratuitously trash you by giving you a 0. See the difference?

Mark Nelson should know better: one of Linsey's pet projects was to fortify the Farce Poll with as much pseudo-statistical ornamentation as possible -- better to arm it against justifiable attacks! (Such as people like me asking how Linsey can win the GM poll this year when he doesn't GM Dip and runs only Ripoff, er, Gonzo Football, but that's another letter to another zine).

The Big Flap says: It is a shame. If the Farce Poll were done right, I might be willing to support the hobby awards. Usually some ego manic, like Dada, comes along and ruins it for everyone. Oh well...

Oh, thanks for filling me on how the Farce Poll works. I knew I was viewing it all wrong. Yeah, it is crystal clear now. Thanks, Bwad, I just drank a six pack, now every-thing is clear.

See, Melinda's letter, apparently she has this warped idea that the Farce poll GMs should GM Dip. What a naive woman she is!

Ripoff football! That's the truth, the way we were both screwed out of a season by Herr Linsey and his rules by decree. They just happen to catapult Linsey in to first place. What a coincidence! Why is that another letter to another zine? Why not here? I was in the league too <sniff, sniff>

Thanks for a great letter, Brad! See you at Vertigo Games.

Melinda Holley (August 7, 1992): I read your article WHAT'S WRONG WITH DIPCON? with a mixture of astonishment, amusement, and frustration/anger. Astonishment at some of your more naive comments, amusement at some of your more stupid comments, and frustration/anger over most of your comments.

First of all, Dip Con rotates its location. In your opening paragraph you stated that (with the exception of 1990 in Chapel Hill), DipCon has been a small affair away from most gamers. What about San Diego (to name one location) a couple of years ago? Unless I've flunked geography, San Diego is on the West Coast where (by your statement) many of the gamers are located.

While the turnout in Kansas City was small, there were some new players there. Myself for one and some others that had not [previously] attended Dip Con (or maybe one or two [other people]) [...].

If by new players you meant, new to the hobby, you're probably correct although there were some names I didn't recognize. And I agree that participation in a larger convention would probably increase the number of new Diplomacy players. But is that any reason for your attitude? (Especially your attitude that you don't want to listen to any criticism you consider invalid by whatever standards you wish to apply. Forget that there may be some truth to the criticism, right?)

The Yankee responds: Oh boy, Ms. Melinda writing to me! Give me my plaque for hobby service now and avoid the rush next year (you listen, awards committee members?!). I'm an established subzine now.

You can see Brad's figures (taken from *Perelandra*) on various Dip Cons attendance. Not many came to San Diego, probably because it was run by Larry Peery, well known supporter of small cons with the same old people. Although you are correct, I did say, and still say, there are more gamers in California than anywhere else.

Fine, so you got a few new players in KC, wonderful. If there were large and small cons, this would be acceptable but there isn't. It is about eight

small cons in a row then we have to beg and plead to get one large con with Dip Con.

As for my attitude toward my critics, I make no apologies for it. If you think I'm wrong then I will write a review of *Rebel* based on second hand information. The review will be very critical of *Rebel's* turn around time, despite the fact that I haven't gotten *Rebel* in years. Now you and I both know that I haven't gotten *Rebel* in years, regardless of whether or not the review is accurate, how do you feel about my critical review of *Rebel*?

As I said before, if someone wants to criticize how I run a con, fine, but come to the damn con. All I know is my players, you know, the ones actually at the con, tell me I do a great job. So tell me Melinda, who should I listen to, Larry Peery and people who weren't there or my players? You know the ones that actually pay (via registration fees) for me to GM.

I work about 18-20 hours GMing at every year at Atlantic Con and I try hard to do a good job. Given all the hassles of the work, I admit I'm not prone to welcome criticism with open arms. However I do respect it and listen my players criticisms, after all how can I improve with out it?

I do have one requirement. I expect the person who is doing a critique of my performance to have actually been at the con. I'd like if they played in my tournament as well, but I'll listen if they were at least in the room. Is that too much to ask? I don't think so.

Ms. Melinda continues: If you don't like the hobby awards, don't subsidize them and attend the functions where they're given out. Easy answer. Most of us are regular human beings with all the faults of humanity. We like to win and we like to see our accomplishments applauded. The hobby awards do that. You don't like 'em...ignore 'em.

(I found it amusing that you are "a little sick" of the hobby awards & didn't even mention that the GM who won the Runestone Poll doesn't even GM Diplomacy anymore. To me that's ridiculous, but the trend seems to be force Diplomacy into sync with other games. I rather like Diplomacy, the awards, and Runestone Poll being for Diplomacy.)

Personally, I was extremely flattered that an award was named for me in recognition of hobby participation. That's ego talking (which we all have), but at least I'm honest enough to admit it. Mark Nelson's comments about this award in particular were pathetic (Burn-Out Award) considering he's all but abandoned the games he's GMing. If he doesn't want to participate, leave those alone who do like being recognized for their efforts.

You criticized spending money on the plaques & none for finding new hobby members. Ok, first of all, people donate money for that because they want to. That's their choice. If you don't like it, hump it. Second,

you want the hobby to subsidize finding new members? Ok, give us specifics on how you'd do it.

You see what's making me sick is all the people who sit around whining, moaning, and bitching about what's wrong & don't offer any solutions. Your Novice Seminar is a great idea. But don't use that as an excuse to chop others down. You want subsidizing for finding new hobby members? Give me some specifics on how you'd do it, who's responsible for the money, how are you going to handle mismanagement (or incompetency) of running the project (to get started) [....].

The Ghod Emperor responds: Your reaction to my criticisms of the hobby awards, Melinda, is really a better argument than anything I could make against them. You see, you've been co-opted completely by the award. The way you react to my mild criticisms of the hobby awards, you'd think you were a bear protecting her cubs!

A little history lesson is in order here. The awards were invented by Larry Peery so he could give them out to his friends and they could all feel good about each other. The awards are an affront to some hobbyist who've been ignored.

Take for example, Robert Sacks, whose twelve years of successfully running the tournament at Atlantic Con without a hitch have has been bypassed because he won't toady to Fred Davis and Larry Peery. I find that offensive and I don't intend to ignore it just because some people don't want to hear about it.

I believe in your recent interview with Phil Reynolds in *Diplomacy World* you said you don't look for a fight but won't hesitate to defend your friends. I admire that in a person. Do you really expect me to do any less? I'm sorry that we don't agree but I won't be silent or apologize for my opinions.

As for the Farce Poll honoring non-Dip GM's, I would care if I gave a rat's ass about the poll, but I don't. The poll is a scream since the pollster is listed in it as well. How many people are going to trash the pollster on his own ballot? Nothing the poll does surprises me anymore.

We already have a way of disbursing money in the hobby it is called the PDORA committee and I do support it. (Thus I do support the hobby awards indirectly, so I do think I have a right to criticize them.) Come up with some ideas and send the idea off to Doug or, better yet, start to do it and then apply for money from PDORA. The committee is fairly generous to people performing hobby services and not receiving money for their services.

Huntington, WV's answer to Loretta Lockhorn continues: Another thing, I'm not sure I want Dip Con always tied to a large cons. As I understand it, Dip Con is rotated so no one area or individual or group of individuals will dominate it all the time[....] Maybe others

don't want to tie Dip Con to larger cons. Maybe they do. Next year's results will give an indication.

There are advantages and disadvantages to tying Dip Con to a larger con. Anyone who takes the extreme and says it's all advantage or disadvantage hasn't thought it out. Your article seems to place you squarely on the advantage size. I don't think that's smart.

The PIG Board President rumbles: The reason why Dip Con rotates is so everyone, within reason, will get a chance to go - see Andy York's letter. This isn't the UK, we don't all live within 7 or 8 hours drive of each other.

As for who controls it, don't kid yourself, it is the same old group of people who go to all the cons and hobby meetings and vote. This year the vote on the Dip Con was 7-6. That means just 13 people at the con felt it wasn't important enough to vote on.

We can't have proxy voting because of the awful problems that were raised at Dixie Con in 1990 when we tried to pass the proxy amendment to the Dip Con charter. What it really came down to was the aristocracy (like Peery and Birsan) didn't want to give the franchise out to those who don't come (read: can't afford) to the previous Dip Con.

I also never said that I only wanted Dip Con with a big con. I did insinuate that and I am sorry I did. What I want to say is that we should try and have Dip Con with a larger con every two or three years, at least once every four years, so as to attract new blood. We can still have small Dip Cons but let's not only have small cons.

As for next years results, it is already going decided - Dixie Con in '95. I don't think the Origins in Dallas in '94 will have anyone from the pbm hobby running their Diplomacy tournament. Dixie Con will bid for Dip Con in '94 and likely win it as they've done it before and will have strong backing from the pbm crowd. Besides I can't see the Dip Con convention turning down a bid led by the editor of *Diplomacy World*, no matter how good Dallas looks. You don't think David goes to all those Dip Cons just to play Dip do you <grin>?

As for the disadvantage versus advantages of a small con. First of all, I tried to be fair and answer all the objections to large cons I had heard over the years. Did I miss any? Your critique here, in contrast to the rest of your letter, struck me as vague.

Second, I have been to both small (Can Con '89, Dixie Con '92) and large (Atlantic Cons, Origins) cons and have enjoyed them both. Have you come to a large con like Atlantic Con? Why don't you come next year Melinda and see for your-self how it is run? Then you can make up your own mind and stop parroting other people's objections. You might just enjoy it. And if you don't, I'm always open to constructive criticism.

Jannie Reb continues: Attendance at Dip Con is not completely dependent upon location. How stupid of you to say it is. While location is a small factor, finances are more important. Can I afford the trip? Can I afford the hotel/motel charges? Another factor is time away from work. Can I get time off? Is someone else scheduled off at that time? Can I trade with that person? Another factor is families. Can I manage to dump the wife/hubby & kids for a long weekend & still have a home when I return [...].

Probably the most amusing comment was your closing sentence, "For the good of the hobby and fairness to the East Coast, it's Baltimore or bust in '95." Fairness to the East Coast? Should we all bow eastwards three times a day? Get real. The East Coast deserves no more special consideration than the North, South, Midwest or the West Coast.

If I make it to Dip Con in 1994, I'll do as I did in Kansas City, I'll listen to those proposing to host Dip Con in 1995. I'll try to judge which date and plan is the best with regard to location, finances, time, etc.. And I'll make my choice and vote on the proposal that I feel is best. I won't vote for a proposal just because it is (or is not) tied to a larger convention. I urge everyone else to make the same decision.

The Big Flap Machine drones in reply: Say Melinda have you tried decaf<grin>? Seriously, most of the stuff you mentioned is intertwined with location. The major portion of any con budget is travel expenses, thus the further away a con is the more expensive it will be. It will also cost you more time off from work the further you travel. Add a family and the importance of location becomes even more important.

As for the last sentence, I tried to get profound and it came out maudlin instead. So sue me, I'm no Hemingway. <grin>

You weren't at Dixie Con in 1990 when we presented the bid for Baltimore and were told by some voters it was "the Canadians turn" to host a Dip Con. Why shouldn't those of us who can't afford to go to Dip Con wherever is on the East Coast want it where most of us are?

Ms. Melinda closes with: I'd like to make a few comments about things written in your letter column.

I don't see any reason why someone's efforts should be barred by consideration by the awards committee just because that person is on the committee. Maybe I missed something but the committee is more than just one individual and people within the hobby vote on the awards.

I consider the proposal of barring someone from consideration of an award just because that person is on the committee about the same as disallowing a votes in the Runestone poll for "statistical reasons." Unless the vote has been obtained by one of the time-honored

means of vote fraud, it should count (an statistical reasons can suck prune juice). My opinion.

By the way, you want a rotating committee so no one can dominate the awards but can you see the same danger in always tying Dip Con to larger cons? Just checking.

Ah, so you've been banned from UPSTART. Poor Garret. I dropped out when the game I was in ended. Even before that I was bored with UPSTART. Garret's disinclination to accept other people's right to disagree with him (even less gracefully [to] accept it when he's proven wrong) made for very boring reading. I never could understand UPSTART's popularity myself.

One more point to make. Actually, a repeat performance. (Stop yawning, Jack.) Can someone please explain to me why votes for Bruce Linsey were allowed in the Runestone Poll? He doesn't even GM Diplomacy. If he wants to be included (or if his players want him included), let him run a game of Diplomacy. Make a token effort for crying out loud. The only explanation I've heard is that there's no rule against his inclusion. That's a pathetic explanation as far as I'm concerned.

The Flapper flaps: You said earlier in your letter that you liked the hobby award named after you and called it "ego talking" and then you wonder why I don't like people voting on their own nominations? C'mon Melinda, you can't have it both ways. Call me a cynic, but I don't trust myself voting on my own stuff so why should I trust anyone else?

As Brad said in his letter, is it really such a sacrifice to stay off the committee? The PDORA has a similar rule, the only people who can't ask for PDORA money are the PDORA chairmen and the PDORA committee.

As for Dip Con and large cons. First I don't think we need or should have every Dip Con with a large con. Second, the cons move all over the country. Third, Dip Con is already controlled by a small cadre of people who follow the small dip cons around. Fourth, I support proxy voting to allow those who've attended a con in the last three years in the region whose turn it is to host Dip Con next year be allowed to vote via mail. Fifth, it is much easier to control the voting if only 15 people vote as opposed to 50 or 100.

We agree on your Farce Poll criticisms. Why can Bruce Linsey be included? The same reason Eric Brosius, the polltaker, is included, because they want in and they don't GM diplomacy. That's even more pathetic than the explanation.

Trying to bash Garret and kiss up to me, eh? It is good thing for your I'm a vain man or it might not work!

As Doug said in a letter to Steve Nicewarner in Steve's zine *Heroes of Olympus*, Dada believes anyone who doesn't admire and like him is simply letting real world or hobby politics get in the way of their "true

feelings" for Dada. Why any objective person can see how loveable Dada is!

Thanks for the letter. I enjoyed it.

John Caruso (August 11, 1991):

Bet you never thought that you'd get a letter from me. Well, surprise, surprise, surprise! I see the more things change, the more they remain the same. I'm referring to your "chest pounding" over Dip Con for 1995. Haven't you figured it out yet? Any con that will allow Robert Sacks to host Dip Con will NEVER be accepted. You have a better chance of VERTIGOGAMES hosting Dip Con than Atlantic Con with Robert. It is said but true.

What's wrong with Dip Con? As far as I hear nothing. Dip Con is not for promoting the Diplomacy hobby. Dip Con has traditionally represented a place where the annual Diplomacy championship takes place. Any other cons (major or small) can and should promote the Diplomacy hobby[...].

McMouth roars: Perhaps your right about Robert, but who says that he has to run the Dip Con in '95. Davis and Berch took it from Robert in '82 and they did a great job, or so says Davis and Berch. I mean they wouldn't lie would they?

Seriously, I think we can say will throw the floor open to nominations and take anyone whose qualified to GM. Who's to say we won't get Jim Yerkey? Jim did Avalon Con this year and did a great job.

John to say that Dip Con isn't for recruiting players for Dip, is like saying the Super Bowl is about who wins the game. C'mon, who plays in the tournaments and who's interested in the outcomes? Chess fans, D&Ders, bridge fanatics? Recruiting and playing are one and the same in my book.

Yawn goes on to say: I don't buy all the arguments put forth by the small con supporters, especially the one about newer players at big cons diluting play. That's just plain "bull", to quote Mark Berch. What if 50% of the players at a Diplomacy only Dip Con are newcomers? Wouldn't that dilute the play at the Dip only Dip Con? I think so. However, I don't buy all of the arguments put forth by the major con supporters either. What makes Dip Con less fun isn't how many people show up, but whether the people that did show up had fun. I never read, nor seen written where the mass numbers of people who didn't have a good time at Dip Con. True, there are always whiners who complain about the scoring, or smoking, or room conditions, or snack locations. But the bottom line is if the person wasn't having a good time, they'd leave. I know I would.

Dip Con does not have to be readily accessible. Mark Berch's at Townsend College in 1982 proved that. In 1982 we had the 150+ [editor's note: according to Pete Gaughan's figures it was 161. See Brad Wilson's letter above.] players, now the Dip Con I was involved with in Detroit we had only 120+ [118, actually]. What

made each of these cons a success was the time and effort the committee put into their jobs, and the fun that everyone had. Sure both had some problems, but overall, both were fun to be at. So was Mary Con when it hosted Dip Con in 1986. So were all the Mad Cons and Dragon Con (1984), Canada Con and any others that I missed. The only con to get even marginal criticisms was when Peericon hosted Dip Con. But even those critiques were mostly about eh scoring system used. (I believe they counted a written trivia questionnaire towards the final Dip Con score.)

I'm not saying that Dip Con doesn't need some uniformity, especially when it comes to scoring systems and tournaments offered. (Such as all Dip Cons having at least the same one popular variant tournament; and tow rounds of qualifying Diplomacy play, with the top seven scores advance to the final board for the championship, a yearly team competition.) But Dip Con doesn't need to be tagged to a major con, nor does it need to deliberately avoid a major con[...]. The bottom line is it's up to the people at one Dip Con to decide where the next one should be[...].

Let's leave the promotion of Dipdom to the Garret Schencks who see no cost too great for promoting Dipdom. And if a novices should show up at a small con Dip Con, let's let them play. Who knows, we may find another Edi Birsan, Gary Behnen or, God forbid, another Jack "where are my f....ing units" McHugh.

Big Pig oinks: That's Mr. "where are my f....ing units" to you, pal! Gee, I didn't know Buggy taught you to say swear words. I'll have to have a talk with that child. If I told her once I told her a thousand times, it's Pop-Pop see, Pop-Pop do!

First of all John, whether or not people walk out of a con isn't always a way to tell if they are having a good time. If you flew to California, would you walk out and come home if you weren't having a good time? What if you couldn't because your plane ticket wasn't till Monday? Besides, you should talk, Vertigo Games is twenty minutes from you and we have to pry you out of the house with a shoe horn.

Geez, Jawn, with all the uniformity you'd impose on Dip Con all the organizers would get to decide is the time for the hobby meeting. It would be nice if we had one universally agreed on scoring system, but we don't.

I also don't like all the progressive scoring crap; all it does is encourage everyone to stop playing as soon as possible. Then we have 18XX, Titan, Bridge Con, since no one is left playing Dip. What's the point of that? I say, keep the scores a complete secret till the end of the Dip Con. Let people drop their lowest game or two.

I never meant to say that small cons, even small Dip Cons, should be abolished or that one couldn't have fun at a small con. I was merely trying to make a case for an occasional Dip Con being with a large con.

Most Dip Cons are already small, dip only affairs and look at all the trouble I've gotten into for suggesting a large Dip Con. You're not paranoid if everyone is out to get you!

I also completely disagree with your notation to leave Dip Con with the people from the year before. That's like making this year's sports writers vote for last year's MVP. Why not use proxy votes and the Dip Con Society meeting? What is so hard about keeping a few hundred names from attendees at the last three or four Dip Cons? All pubbers keep subber names. I don't understand your opposition to this, Jawn.

As for the Garret Schencks of our hobby, your also trying to soft soap me, eh John? Geez, now Dada will think this subzine is built completely on personal attacks on him! There goes my great Zine Register you've done, Jawn! Now no one will like me <sniff, sniff> anymore.

Snaglepuss exits; stage left: I see you took it upon yourself to plagiarize KK's idea of the GMing question. How original of you. And you don't know why you only received a 5.5 score from 22 voters in the poll.

Correction: The idea of how to divide up the money was mostly Simon Billeness', not mine. I asked him to find something that seemed fair and that we could both agree upon, and he did. Who says I don't know a good idea when I see one? Unlike certain basement apartment dwellers.

Complaint #1: I don't like the way you present letters to you, chopped up with your response inserted. How about we delete your response (they don't make sense anyway) and push the letter back together?

Complaint #2: Did both you and Doug have to print the same letter? It looked so tacky! So disorganized! As if you and Doug do not communicate. Hmmm! How does one communicate with one's own pseudonym?

I think McBruce has a great idea for the hobby awards committee. No member may vote for his/her own material, playing, service, achievement, whatever.

Maybe a five year maximum for a committee member isn't a bad idea. However, a good idea would be the spreading out of the committee members evenly across the continent, sort of like the PDORA has employed for many years. This will allow all areas and clubs a chance for fair representation on the committee.

Sending along a copy of the written piece of the nominations would make it easier for people to vote on a piece. However, this is impractical even when the nomination is for one page articles. What about longer pieces? I know for myself, I only vote for a piece I've read. And things like the comments in the ZR, an article in a professional magazine, or a person's editorial comments in their own zine should not be nominated, let alone get through the nominating process. The Walker Memorial Award is about literary excellence, not literary volume or editorial excellence. Some of the award

winners are an insult to the award named after a great hobbyist.

Melinda is a friend of mine, but the award in her name is a repetitious and unnecessary award in its entirety. I thought we covered play of the game with the Koenig Memorial Award, an Achievement/Participation with the Miller Memorial Award. Why do we need a quantitative participation award? Let me join 10 zillion games, GM a million others and standby from here to eternity.

I'll also do a handful of service jobs. Now, may I have Melinda, er, the award that is!

The Hobby Icon returns fire: You assume, and we all know what happens when we assume Yawn (you make an "ass" out of "u" and "me"), that I care where I finish (or anyone finishes in the poll). Wrong, Suicide Squeeze breath! I'm always curious about the Farce Poll's results - like the way I'm fascinated with car wrecks - but that doesn't mean I plan my issues around them.

Re: your complaints. See the compliant department, currently located a long walk off a short pier. Just kidding, Hobby Old One. By the way, you sure write long letters for someone who is "retired" from the hobby. You must have been something special before Fred Davis. When it comes to overlap, you'll have to speak to the Sack. I see his stuff when everyone else sees it, after I get it in the mail. As for how I break up my letters; so far you're the only moaner I've heard from. If I hear from enough of other people maybe I'll change it. I always like letter columns like this myself; provided the editor doesn't go nuts and start interpreting every other sentence to make a comment.

Geez, Yawn, what's left for your Walker award? Not much, I think I see a pattern here. As for your Walker comment, your letter was surprisingly coherent for a guy who was probably doubled over laughing while typing it.

Let me guess, you've also worked with Melinda and Dada is no Melinda Holley, right Senator Caruso? First of all, I think they changed the award. It is now for "quality participation in the hobby." Whatever the #%*)@! that means - I certainly don't but I'm sure the voters do.....NOT!

Second, as you saw Melinda's reaction to my critique, to criticize the award is to bring the wrath of Ms. Melinda down on one's head. At least she is honest enough to admit it is "ego talking."

The hobby awards are a big favorite among the goodie-goodie types in the hobby who see them as being "wonderful" and encouraging people to "get involved" in the hobby. They see nothing wrong in "recognizing someone's contributions." I mean that's why we're all here isn't it; to get plaques telling is how swell we all are?

Third, the proof of the parochialism of the awards is that by criticizing there is almost no way ever

to win one. Real objective, eh? Think you or I or Mark Nelson will ever win a hobby award again? I doubt it.

I also find it repugnant that we have awards named after people both still alive and active. I thought awards were suppose to be memorials, testimonials to certain people no longer among us. How come we have testaments to the living? Are we like Roman Emperors; gods in our own lifetimes with temples in our names?

By the way, John, is that "handful of service jobs" or "service full of hand jobs"? Just checking. Keep up the good work, you Hobby Old Fart.

(By the way, since you such an old Hobby Old Fart, why don't you write me a letter (or article) explaining the real reason for the hobby awards?)

Great letter, thanks for writing in!

Pete Gaughan (August 13, 1992): Blessed art thou among Dipsters, 'cause you finally put together enough stuff in one month to drag a response out of me[...]

First that's Edi Birsan, not Birch. And before you bash Edi for showing up at Dipcon so often (I wonder why you and Brad think that's such a bad thing to do??), be aware that he has donated the trophies to be awarded at Dipcon next year.

There were new people at Dipcon. Andy York, Randy Davis, and Bob Hartwig were among the known PBmers there for the first time (you mention Melinda - then turn around in our next sentence and said "no new people."); Mark Elliott, Ken Neid and a couple of other unknowns actually made the effort to be there because it was a Diplomacy event. See, for those of us whose hobby is the postal Dip, Dipcon is great - we're guaranteed to meet Dip players, whether they're ones we met before or not. I don't go to Origins because I can't justify that kind of money for something that really isn't my hobby (I don't play wargames or miniatures.)

So only 31 people were in the tournament? Isn't that more than any other Dip Tournament east of the Mississippi in the past year? (I heard 28 at Avaloncon before you published "five boards" so I'm not sure.) Sure I play other stuff on the side when I can't get a game of Dip going - Titan, Acquire, Snowball Fighting and the like are party games for me. But my hobby is postal Diplomacy and Dipcon is the North American Diplomacy Convention (not Championship) so I go if I can, just as I go the annual Photo Marketing Assn. convention.

Bob Acheson's master says: C'mon Pete, I meant new people to the pbm hobby, not new to Dip Con. I'm glad that everyone who went had fun and that some people who had never to go before go to come. Most of these people not only are not new to the hobby but they publish! How many new people were at Cal's "How to Publish" seminar. I read the list of attendees, looks like only publishers went.

Second, who says you won't meet people you already know at a big con? See Brad's letter - you could have spent the whole weekend playing Dip at Atlantic Con. Just because there are other games available doesn't mean you have to play them.

While we're on this topic, there are some of us - like me - who don't think that there are just three or four other games (Acquire, Titan, Bridge or 1830) in the world besides Dip. Some of us like a large selection of games to play.

I'm getting a bit fed up with only having one or two other games to play outside of Dip when Dip only cons happen. I had a great game of Kingmaker at AtlantiCon. Could I have played this at a Dip only con? I haven't been able to yet. (I'm sure the above two paragraphs will piss alot of the small con devotees off, but tough, I've been there and it happens.)

As for Atlantic Con and Avalon Con, they tend to draw on the same area and don't overlap alot. That is to say, many of the people who go to AtlantiCon and AvalonCon don't go to both, but rather one or the other. I think if we had only one con, either AtlantiCon or AvalonCon we could have had 40-60 people for Dip. Instead we got about 20-30 for each con.

You are right, that it was disappointing year for cons. Not just in the East, but all over the country. Probably that has to do with the recession more than anything else.

The new ZR editor continues: By coming to Pacificon, people aren't making any grand statement about the need to be tied to a big convention - the L.A. bid was almost identical in size and style. L.A. and S.F. gaming circles revolve more around these "big" conventions than around house cons (whereas in the past the East Coast Klique seems, at this distance, to be held together by house cons first.) So when Dipcon comes out here, it's only natural that it will be at a general convention. That I think it will be good for Dipcon is incidental.

People have forgotten what miserable experiences we had with big cons ten years ago. Some folds' memories have changed, but at Dallas in '84 I heard horror stories about Detroit - and Dallas was the pits (a poorly-run con anyway, which treated Dipcon as a leper.) Dipcon won't be the most important thing to happen at Pacificon, but it will be a featured event.

As for criticism at a distance, your opinions on Avaloncon and Atlanticon may be first hand, but your screeching about Dipcon from 1000 miles away isn't. (Childish, I know, but true.)

CIS's favorite GM...NOTI continues: I'm glad that big cons are coming back in style. I don't care why they are. As for the ECC - we've moved away from house cons. Are big cons are almost all organized events - Avalon Con, Atlantic Con and Dixie Con. The only house con left is Vertigo Games.

Too bad, in some ways house cons are the most chummy of any con. House cons are where there are fewer people and the emphasis is less on gaming and more on socializing. With the relaxed atmosphere and smaller number of people of a house con, you really get to talk to everyone there.

As for your criticism of my criticizing of Dip Con, given your previous paragraph, I'm not sure whether to laugh or get angry. First, you pass on rumors about a con, Detroit Origins '83, you weren't at (I'm sure some of MP's readers were there, any comments people?) and then you bad mouth a con that I thought you helped organize and push - Dallas in '84. Then you follow that up with whining about me bitching about Dip Con because I wasn't there.

Okay, I can accept being taken to task on all of these - but not together, it just doesn't make any sense. If I can't criticize Dip Con for not going then how come you can criticize a Dip Con you weren't at? I am willing to vouch for a con I help run every year. How about admitting that Dallas in '84 was a disaster because it was a one time affair with no past or future?

My criticism is not some crap about "not being treated right," whatever that means, but about the number of people who came. As I have said before, my complaint isn't with Dip only cons, but ONLY Dip only cons.

Pete closes with: On the Marco Poll (too bad you didn't look at the sublist to see that I do get MP now), I think that it was begun specifically to give people a chance to vote for zines without having the opportunity to vote against zines. I vote in the RP, and I don't think the MP will ever push the RP aside - but I like giving folks the alternative, even if it is still just a popularity contest.

Hope you're having fun in Dipdom, sometimes that gets lost in all the angry words. Stay well.

The Jack Man says: Sorry, Pete but I don't do the subzine with MP in front of me and I hoped the Sack might have caught it. He didn't.

I like the Marco Poll. Keep up the good work. I am also having fun in the hobby. I do it because I enjoy it, if I don't I would stop. Thanks for asking, though, and you stay well too.

Thanks for the letter, it was appreciated.

David Hood (August 18, 1992): Read your subzine in MP #42. As usual, you've raised lots of interesting issues. And lots of good reasons for me to be Hobby Fuhrer...

Yes, the turnout at the KC DipCon was a disappointing, but not unexpected that was a Dipcon hold at a site which had not had time to build up a local tournament base or is it close to the postal hobby populations. I went, had a great time, but one had to

know going in that it wasn't going to be as big as, say, the Atlantic Con tournament....

Except this year. Given the normal 40's and 50's at the AtlanticCons I've been to, its too bad the turnout was so low this year. I think it was the location, frankly. If Sacks did any publicity at all, which he does not, there would be good 70 at the Dip event every year when held in Baltimore. I'm in the serious backwoods down here, but can still get people because I publicize the event.

I'm talking about direct mail. If y'all are serious about that Dip event, let's do up a flyer next year about Feb/March and send it to all the PA, NY, MD, VA, etc., gamers on my 1500 person list.

I don't have anything against having DipCon in Baltimore in '95 - and never have. (Brad's paranoid delusions in the latest Vertigo are just that.) So let's get the word out to Dip people that your tournament exists - a few mentions in Vertigo and MP don't cut it. (Same goes for Vertigo games - Brad insists on waiting to publicize it to the last minute every year!)

Jack says: As I have probably said elsewhere here, Atlantic Con's problems stem partially from competing against AvalonCon. They draw from the same sources.

However I agree with you about the need to publicize local events more, specifically something like Atlantic Con. The only problem I see us having is that we may not have the information to give out in Feb/Mar. This has been a problem vis-a-vis Atlantic Con the last few years. They've waited too damn long to get the flyers out.

Thank you for your generous offer of getting out a flyer and I intend to hold you to it. I will write to Robert Sacks before the end of the year and see if we can work something out. We have to go to Robert because he is the guy with all the info from the con organizers. He usually gets something to send back to them in late January. Unfortunately sometimes we don't find out the final word till a month before the con.

As for Brad's paranoia, I have a confession to make. It was actually my theory that you might try and throw the Dip Con bid to Avalon Con instead of Atlantic Con. I take full responsibility and apologize here. I'm also glad to see I was totally off base. The only difference I have with what Brad said is that I wouldn't have rushed into print without something like that without some proof.

Basically what I am saying is if you want to blame anyone, blame me. Again I apologize for having even thought.

I know why Brad waits till the last minute with Vertigo Games. He can't tell when it will be till his mom let's him know when she will be going to the shore. She doesn't decide until she knows when her house at the beach will be free of summer renters.

Second, given the fact that Vertigo Games is basically a house con - I'm not sure Brad wants masses

of people showing up. I don't think we could handle more than 30 or 35 people anyway. There is only enough room to play four or five games simultaneously and it really isn't near any cheap hotels.

The Hobby Führer continues on: Bottom line on DipCon - we have rarely have competitive bids. Brad can bleat all he wants about the KC site - but my understanding is that there was no other bids in Toronto. Who knows who runs the Dip events at GenCon? Do they even want DipCon? Not fair to castigate a site when its the only bidder.

Look my position on Big vs Small cons is simple - I like them all. I have argued in the past, and still believe, that the "DipCon" label is not the most effective way to bring in New Blood. Better to have the more regional events like DixieCon and the AtlantiCon Dip tournaments and publicize them more. I can tell you from personal experience that several novices told me in 1990 that they would not attend my DipCon because they didn't think that they would be competitive with the calibre of players in the national championships. One can argue about the depth of that sentiment, but I'm telling you that it exists.

McMouth replies: The lack of competing bids means that when a big con does offer to host DipCon we should jump at it. Whenever we have a small local con versus a big con for DipCon, the small con wins. (Please don't mention Larry Peery's bid this year. It was a joke. I'm talking small established Dip only cons, like DixieCon and CanCon.)

Given that reception, I don't know why people are so surprised the big cons aren't out to get us. I mean we even have people like Larry Peery saying that we are "mistreated" by big cons. They like us, but not that much.

I do agree that the small cons could be promoted better. I think that there should be a section added to the Zine Register or Pontevedria that is devoted to cons so that publishers can promote them. I think you already try and do something like that in DW, right?

As for people worrying about the calibre of players at DipCon, c'mon, David, that's where people like you and me tell them not to worry about it. Instead of catering to this mistake notion, let's explode the myth.

I'm sure, by the way, that the notion does exist. (See the next letter, David, Andy York essential agrees with you on the DipCon as bring better talent and scaring off the novices.) But so what? You and I know it is not true.

The man who made the word "y'all" correct English in Dipdom closes with: "Why must AvalonCon be either for serious or "casual gamers"? Why can't it cater to both? And while we are discussing AvalonCon and

DipCon in the same breath - has Yerkey ever said he even wants DipCon there?

The Great Flap Machine says: For those of you scoring at home Jim Yerkey, one of the leading members of the face-to-face Baltimore Mafia, is the guy who ran the dip tourney at this year's Avalon Con. Jim did a good job too. No, David, Jim never said he wanted, never said he didn't want it either. Again that was my theory at work again, sorry.

The reason, my good man, why AvalonCon can't cater to both the serious and casual gamers has to do with rounds. Serious gamers want multiple rounds of one game with lots of scoring. Casual gamers want lots of one or two round event with little scoring.

Theoretically both can be made happy. That's theoretically, of course, since you'd need to run multiple rounds, with different scoring systems, i.e., two competing versions essential, of the same game. But your right, it could cater to both.

Andy York (August 22, 1992): I must take exception to your comments about DipCon and what it really is. I was very pleased with the convention, thought the competition was top notch and felt that there was nothing for Gary or Vince to apologize for.

There is nothing wrong with holding a convention in the Midwest. In fact the location made it possible for me to attend. Presently, I could not afford a trip to either coast, and I don't see that changing anytime soon. A rotation of sites into the Midwest is just fine, and necessary.

I don't know why attendance was low this time as many Midwest conventions have large draws (GenCon, DallasCon and the one in Detroit to name three.) It may have been due to personalities and other considerations, not location.

As for joining DipCon with other, major, conventions I'm opposed. I guess it's what we fell DipCon is, and should be. DipCon is a national convention and,

overall, draws a higher caliber of player than the regional conventions. Thus, whether you call it the North American Championships or not, it is a more intense competition than you find elsewhere (and if it isn't the "Championship", which is?)

DipCon in and of itself is not the answer to "new blood". What is the answer are well advertised, GMed and supported Diplomacy events at Regional Conventions (AvalonCon, AtlantiCon, PacifiCon, et al.) That is where you can year after year bring new blood into the hobby. If -- adding DipCon to it will only increase the out-of-town crowd who, for the most part, would attend DipCon anywhere it is held (some exceptions granted, of course.)

I also think that the level of play at DipCon does scare off the casual player and the timid new blood. I overheard a fair amount of hateful and belittling comments made to players as I wandered the gaming room during the Dip tournaments. Is this the way we want to present our hobby to a potential player -- especially one who is playing in one of his first games of Dip with little or no exposure to the postal hobby?

I do agree with you that a Diplomacy event needs, MUST, be run at the larger cons on an on-going basis -- this is where the hobby will be revitalized and expanded. However, I do not feel placing DipCon with the larger cons is the way to go. After all, you don't see people getting into the organized tennis hobby by playing their first game at the US Open -- they get involved through local or regional events.

The Sack's Idol responds: I agree with you about DipCon this year. I wasn't attacking Vince or Gary. I too think they did a great job.

Are you bucking for Deputy Hobby Fahrer or something? You sound like David Hood. Basically, you can see my answers to him for what I think.

I'm glad you could afford to go to DipCon, that's why its rotated, so no portion of the country is left out (accept for the tiny bits of the country where jerks like S'Tan Johnson live, of course!)

Commodore Perry 1991 Q/m

Asian Dip II

Fall 1903

Deadline for Winter 1903/Spring 1904 is:

Thursday, October 1st, 1992 @ 1700 (5 pm) EDT

ALL ROADS LEAD TO...CALCUTTA?...DELHI?...ISLAMABAD?...LET'S JUST SAY INDIA!

Fall 1903:

%%%%%%%%%

China(Swider): A Lha-H; F For-Can; A Seo-Pyo; F Yel-Seo; A Inn-Man;

A Kan-Mon; A Sin-Tas; F ECS-CPO

India(Kent): F Wio-Mad; A Bom S F Wio-Mad; A Del-Isl(NSU); A Dac-Cal;

A Nep S A Dac-Cal;

Indochina(Acheson): F Mad S A Cal; F BOB-Cel; F Ada-BOB; A Han-Sai;

F Ran-Dac; A Cal S F Ran-Dac

Indonesia(B. Wilson): F Scs-Tai; F Pps-CPO; F Kor S F Pps-CPO; F EIO-Cey;

A Bor tells Boob to be less greedy and more considerate of others' needs-H

Japan(Gonsalves): F NPO S F Tok(ec)-CPO; F Tok(ec)-CPO; F SOJ-Seo; A Osk-H

Persia(G.Wilson): A Geo-Gor; A Teh-Tur; A Lar-Afg; F Ara-H

Russia(R. Schultz): A Bau-Del; A Gor-Arc; A Vla-H; A Kab-Isl; A Tas-Kab

Bold = unit final position. Underline = failed orders. **Strikeout** = units which must retreat. NSU = no such unit. NSO = no such order.

Indochinese A Cal retreats to Mod or OTB, F Mad is blown up!

Mike Gonsalves is now the player of record for Japan as Steve Nicewarner resigned. Thanks for trying to play, Steve, and sending in orders for two turns. Since this is not a turbofreak subzine, let me know when you're ready to standby again. Welcome Mike.

Centers by Owner Winter 1902:

Centers/Builds or Removals:

=====
China: Mon, Tas, Home, Pyo, Lha, Seo, Tai 8/0
India: Cal, Del, Bom, Ken, Isl, Kab 4/0*
Indochina: Home, Kua, Ran, Cal 5/0 or +1**
Indonesia: Tai, Home, Phi, Aus 6/+1
Japan: Seo, Home, Kam 5/+1
Persia: Home, Geo, Pal 5/+1***
Russia: Kab, Isl, Vla, Tas, Nov, Mon-Tas 5/0

Bold are centers gained/strikeout are centers lost this season.

*is even due to annihilation

**Is even due to unit annihilation or +1 if A Cal retreats OTB.

***Refused a build in 02 so is +1.

Mistake report: Last time I forgot to put the coast down for F Tok; I understood it to be ec. I was challenged and checked with Jawn "Snagglepuss" Caruso. Yawn agreed to be ombudsman and mildly supported me, so my ruling stood. Thanks to Yawn!

I also mistakenly listed the Indian unit in Kab as having a retreat last turn. It didn't and was blown up. Since everyone concerned caught it and so I decided I didn't need to delay the game.

Also the Indian move A Bom-Mad failed last turn. That was fairly obvious and a typo on my part. Again everyone caught it.

PRESS

BATAVIA: Pomp and circumstance ruled the day here as United States President Patrick J. Buchanan arrived for a week-long state visit to Queen Beatrix's island empire, ruled by her Viceroy of the East, Grand Duke Wilsonyk. Buchanan's agenda for discussions with His Highness include the suppression of Japan, which would fulfill a Buchanan campaign promise, the disturbingly rapid rise of the Celestial Empire as the ruling power on the Asian mainland, and the latest diplomatic *faux pas* committed by the blundering Indochinese tinpot dictator, the rye-soaked Canadian expatriate Robert B.J. Achpuckeson. Achepuckeson's crude behavior at a reception in Hanoi honoring President Buchanan's visit there appalled the world. Drunk and disorderly, Achepuckeson tried to pick up Mrs. Buchanan with the line, 'Wanna make \$20 the hard way?', goosed Secretary of State Jeane Kirkpatrick with a cocktail gherkin, and finally vomited on U.S. Ambassador to Indochina Kenneth Orange Peel after downing the entire contents of the punch bowl.

In strong contrast to the disgusting debauchery of Hanoi, the President was greeted by the Grand Duke, Foreign Minister Patches van Patches, and Lord Mayor of Batavia Tiffany deFeline with their customary dignity and grace. The Batavia Symphony Orchestra played 'The Stars and Stripes Forever' as the President deplaned at Admiral C.E.F. Helfrich Airport. The President and the Grand Duke immediately recessed for talks over a bottle of Bombay Gin, which soon may be imported much more easily into the Dutch East Indies. Entertainment for the evening consisted of American blues artist Albert Collins and his Icebreakers. 'Let's get down!' Buchanan was heard to say beforehand the show. The Grand Duke simply nodded, and passed the bourbon.

GM-Grand Ducky: Now, now don't pick on Boob, can't you see from the adjudication he's got enough problems! Now that you don't like him, given his war with India and Vietnamese incursion vis-a-vis China, I don't think Boob has a friends left. Except for Patches von Patches, of course, but he hardly counts, he likes everybody. (Except for Emperor Gonsalves of Japan!)

F Aeg S AUSTRIAN A Gre-Bul(NSO)

Bold = final location. **Underline** = failed orders. **Strikeout** = units which must retreat. NSO = no such order. Germany retreats A Kie, A Ber and A Vie OTB. No standby will be called for Germany. Will Stephen Dorneman please submit orders, in case Mike Lord doesn't come back, for England? Will Mike Gonsalves please submit orders for Italy, in case I forget to drop Andy York a note again? Will Roger Cox please submit standby orders for Germany?

One player also complained that I forgot to print Press last time. Sorry if I did, I didn't mean to. This is a grey press game. Only the player of record may use the home country or centers for his press. Upper Darby, FlapJack, FJ and GM are reserved for me.

Centers by Owner for Winter 1903: Centers/Builds or Removals:

```

=====
Aus: Bud, Tri, Gre, Mun, Ser, Vie, Kie                      7/+2
Eng: Nwy, Home, Swe                                              4/+0
Fra: Home, Spa, Por, Bel                                        6/+0
Ger: Vie, Kie, Ber, Den, Hol                                    2/+0*
Ita: Home, Tur                                                      4/+1**
Rus: Swe, Home, Rum, Nwy, Ber, Bul                            8/+2
Tur: Bul, Home                                                      3/-1*

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Bold denotes newly captured supply centers; **Strikeout** denotes newly lost supply centers.

*Even due to removals.

**A build still coming due to NMR last two years

Final Unit at the end of Fall 1902:

```

Aus: A Tri; A Vie; A Ser; F Gre; A Kie
Eng: F Eng; F Nth; A Swe; F Lon
Fra: A Mar; F Bre; F Mao; A Spa; F Bel; A Bur
Ger: F Hol; F Hel
Ita: F Tur; A Rom; A Ven
Rus: A Bul; A Sil; A Ber; F Con; F Nwy; F Bal
Tur: A Con; F Ank; F Aeg

```

PRESS

Ankara-Moscow: Have to hand it to you, everyone wants to help you out. Including me -- I want to help you out of your centers!

Ankara-Vienna: What a Sack. What, pray tell, do you get out of this stab? Nothing, except my eternal contempt. May you be locked in a room with Garret Schenck for 99 years!

GM-Brad the Bitter: Look, if you don't learn better socialization skills I afraid I will have to put you in my remedial game with S'Tarr Johnson, Jim Diehl, Larry Cronin, Paul Boymel, Garret Schenck and Bill Scharf. I will keep you there till you learn to work and play well with my toadies.

Ankara-Rome: Get with it! HELP! Can't you hear me knocking!? Gasp! HEELLPP!

GM-Ankara: Looks like no one is home. I don't know what it is with Italy; Mike Gonsalves is my third standby this game for Italy. Won't someone play this damn country?! Speaking of the Eyeties....

Russia-Italy: You are becoming very, very sleepy. Sleep.... Sleep....

GM-Russia: Hey, cut that out! No wonder I can't get anyone to play his country.

Marv Thornberry
Regular Dip 1989IA
Fall 1907

Deadline for Winter 1907/Spring 1908:
Thursday October 1st, 1992 @ 1700 (5 pm) EDT

GM BOOBOOS CAUGHT BY NUMEROUS PLAYERS

Fall 1907:

^^^^^^^^^^

Eng(Dorneman?): NMR! F Nwy-H; A Yor-H; F Eng-H; F Nth-H; F Bar-H
 Fra(York): A Gas S F Spa(sc); F Spa(sc)-H; F Tyn-Nap; A Pie S RUSSIAN A Ven
 Ger(Gonsalves): A Den-H; F Bal-Swe; F Swe-Ska
 Rus(J. Schultz): A Mun-Ruh; A Kie-Hol; A Sil-Mun; A Boh-Vie; A Lvn S A StP; A Ven-H;
A StP S GERMAN F Swe-Nwy(NSO); A Fin S GERMAN F Swe-Nwy(NSU)
 Tur(Carlberg): A Tri-H; F Wme-MAO; F Por S F Wme-MAO; F Ion-Tun; F EME-Ion;
 F Gre S F Eme-Ion; F Nap-Rom; A Apu-Nap; A Bul-Ser; A Ank-Smy;
A Tyo S RUSSIAN A Boh-Mun(NSO)

Bold = units final position. Underline = failed orders. **Strikeout** = units that must retreat. NSO = no such unit. NSU = no such unit.

Will Roger Cox please submit orders for England? I don't know what happen to Stephen Dorneman, he offered to be on my standby list but didn't send in any orders this time.

Mistake report: First of all I mistaken reported F in Tri and Tyo, both of which should be armies. Second I had a number of moves fail that actually made it. Ger A Kie-Den and Rus A Ber-Kie both succeed. I also partially underlined Frances move of F Wes-Spa(sc) by mistake. Turkey's move of A Rom-Apu fails as well. France does make it to Spain. Third, I allowed Russia to build A StP in Winter 1906 when he didn't even own StP, so A Fin doesn't exist. Fourth, most significantly, I failed to show that F Apu-Adr didn't just fail last turn, but was also dislodged and annihilated. All of the players concerned caught the mistakes in question so I am not delaying the game.

Centers by Owner for Winter 1907:

Centers/Builds or Removals:

=====

Eng: Bel, Edi, Lvp, Nwy, Den StP, Hol	4/-3*
Fra: Home, Spa, Por	4/+0
Ger: Den, Kie, Swe, Lon,	4/+1**
Rus: St P, Hol, Ber, Mun, Ven, War, Mos, Sev, Rum, Vie	10/+3***
Tur: Home, Bud, Gre, Nap, Rom, Ser, Tun, Bul, Tri, Por	12/+1

Bold are centers gained/strikeout are centers lost this season.

*Remove only one due to annihilation.

**Play one short due to lack of home center for build.

***Played one short last year.

Final unit positions after Fall 1906:

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Eng: F Nwy, A Yor, F Eng, F Nth, F Bar
 Fra: A Gas, F Spa, F Tyn, A Pie
 Ger: F Den; F Swe; F Ska
 Rus: A Ruh; A Hol; A Mun; A Boh; A Lvn; A Ven; A StP
 Tur: A Tri; F MAO; F Por; F Tun; F Ion; F Gre; F Rom; A Apu; A Ser; A Smy;
 A Tyo

An R/T draw has been proposed; please vote with your next set of orders. Remember that NVR and NMR equals a yes vote to all draws. Moves with NVR equals a no vote to all draws.

GM Question

Last time I asked what you would do if a player sent you two sets of orders. I got a nice bunch of replies and here they are:

Mark Nelson: Fairly straight forward. Using my houserules I compare the sets of orders. If a unit receives identical orders on the multiple set of orders then those orders are used. If a unit has multiple orders it holds. And if all your units had multiple orders you won't be NMRd (as orders have been received) but listed as all units hold.

Brad Wilson: If I couldn't remember the sequence in which I received the orders or use the postmark, I'd either call the player or NMR him.

John Caruso: Hahahahahaha! What idiot GM got himself into this fix? What I do is, orders arrive, if they have no date on them and then I check for a postmark. If one is legible, I place that on the player's orders as well, and list it as "postmark[ed]". I guess I should have answered in the past tense since all I GM now is one election game and the baseball league.

Pete Gaughan: I used the second set received.

Andy York: As I receive orders I place them into folders (one for each game), if I get a second set of orders, I paperclip it above the previous one (after checking the dates to be sure the second one is actually a replacement.) Then, when I adjudicate the moves, I take the information off the top sheet. If the orders are all undated with illegible postmarks I'll use the last one received

John Schultz: I would use the postmark. No question. Beyond that, I date each set of orders myself. I don't know why. I've never needed my own dates. But, I imagine if I couldn't read the postmarks I'd use my own latest date received. The any condition in which I might consider not using *some* orders would be if two sets of orders arrived on the same day, with the same postmark or unreadable postmarks, and I didn't have time to notify the player. In that case I'd compare the two sets and where a unit wasn't given conflicting orders I'd move the unit. Where conflicting orders arose I'd hold the unit. It all seems quite simple to me. Of course, I'm just a GM rookie and what do I know?

Me: Some people didn't understand the question. I meant to ask what you would do as a GM if you couldn't tell which set were the second one. It is obvious, to me anyway, that if you could tell you'd use the second set.

I would do what John Schultz said he would do. Compare the two sets (or more) of orders and take all the non-conflicting orders and use them. Mark the rest of the units as holding due to multiple orders.

Here is our GMing question for next time and it comes from Mark Nelson. I'm running a game using the American method of combining seasons. A player forgets to order a disband in their Winter orders but in the Spring season (no splitting seasons this turn!) orders as if they had disbanded a particular unit. My question is this: Should I use their implied disband or to I adjudicate that NDO! and make a GM disbandment (possible then making a mockery of the player's Spring orders).

Send me your answers and any other questions. Right now I've only got one other question - from John Caruso - so don't be shy about sending them in.

Mommar
Middle Easter Dip
Winter 2000

Deadline for Spring 2001 is Thursday, October 1st @ 5 pm (1700 hrs) EDT

Egypt (R. Schultz): A Cario; F Alexandri; F Aswan
Iran (D. Kent): A Tabriz; A Tehran; F Shiraz
Iraq(Strong): A Baghdad; A Mosul; F Basra
Israel(Bingham): A Haifa; A Jerusalem; F Tel Aviv
Saudi Arabia(Reynolds): A Riyadh; A Yenbo; F Mecca
Syria(Roger Cox): A Damascus, A Dayr az Zawr; F Aleppo
Turkey:(Stuart): A Ankara; A Istanbul; F Izmir

All of you should have the rules and map that the Sack sent you. If you don't drop me a line and I will send you another. Since the Sack is in the game and Phil Reynolds, the designer, is the game as well, I suggest that you direct all moves and game questions to me, and me alone.

Commodore Perry 1991 Q/m
Asian Dip II
Fall 1903
Deadline for Winter 1903/Spring 1904 is:
Thursday, October 1st, 1992 @ 1700 (5 pm) EDT

Late Correction: The Japanese move F SOJ-Seo should be underlined, as should the Chinese move F Yei-Seo. Therefore, Seo is still a Chinese center. China is therefore +1 (not Even), and Japan is Even (instead of +1). Sorry, I guess I'm as bad a GM as Doug, my hobby Ghod, always says I am. As punishment, I will now be known as The Supreme Sack and Doug will be known as Hobby Ghod Numero Uno. I beg for your forgiveness. (PS - Jack didn't type this part; but he did send this message to me telepathically).

"You're the one..."

by Mara Kent

#8

I really wasn't going to continue doing "You're the One", being that I've been occupied with many Doctor appointments. However, I received many cards and letters about how I have been missed. Of course I understand the need you all have for a whole bunch of **DIRT** to use against Doug someday. I'm sure you all have files marked "Dirt on Doug". So, I'll give you some!

First let me say that I really didn't realize that other wives were suckered into this **ZINE CRAP** (my favorite phrase that I yell at Doug when he isn't paying attention to me, because he is always intently reading that stuff)!! I guess it hadn't hit me that I am not the only ~~sucker~~ wife actually **TRYING** to understand this phenomenon known as Dipdom (even if I do it just to pretend to be interested in my hubby's stupid hobbies) until I received a postcard the other day. Now, I wasn't sure about the proper hobby etiquette, but a small participant (Hobby Ghod) told me that anything people send me in the mail not marked "NOT FOR PRINT" is public domain, so I feel okay about mentioning the card. Not that there was anything wrong with what was said on this postcard. On the contrary, it's what made me pick up the pen again! (Yes, I prefer to write out my rough drafts, rather than type them on the computer. A wife could wipe out all of her husband's Dip files with one keystroke! Wouldn't that just be too bad? Oopsie!)

Anyway, the inspirational postcard was from Bruce & Lesley McClung, who said "You must get better soon. Maniac's is the only zine my wife will read because of your domestic wit. Perhaps she relates to your "Doug-isms". Get well soon." I just wasn't sure the ~~sucker~~ wife wanted her name in a zine. Oh well, sorry if you didn't - but anyway let's get on with it. This one's for you Lesley - I hope you (and everyone else) find it amusing!

"Doug-isms"

What He Says

"I promise.."

"I'll clean up the kitchen for you."

"I'll feed the cats."

"I'll do it later."

What He Means

You won't remember what I promised, and you won't have any proof. Therefore, I can deny ever making such a promise and never have to live up to it!

I'll just stack everything in the sink and dump water on it. I'll stuff the napkins and plastic wrappers underneath as a surprise. You won't see it till I'm at work, so who cares?

If there is still any food in their bowl, that's good enough. Who cares how long its been sitting there? (Is the food supposed to be green like that?)

Not in this lifetime, or any other.

What He Says

What He Means

"I'll cook dinner tonight."

What do you want to order for delivery?

"I'll cook dinner tonight."
(Version II)

I'll look so inept in the kitchen, that after gritting her teeth for a few minutes, she'll be forced to take over and make dinner herself. All part of the plan! How do you boil water again?

"Good dinner. I'm full."

Where are my snacks, damn it?!

"I've got too much to do already!"

I've got a lot of comic books to read, I want to take a nap, and three new zines came in the mail today.

"I'm too tired."

I'm ready to go to sleep, UNLESS some Diplomacy idiot calls me. In that case, I'll spend two hours on the phone, talking about nothing.

"I'll do it tomorrow."

There's always another tomorrow. Hee hee. No commitment here!

"I have to get this done right now!"

I'd rather be doing this than doing any of the 100's of things I've been putting off for months. Besides, those things are work, and this is fun.

"I'll mail that important letter right away."

I'll bring it to work, throw it in one of my desk drawers, and forget all about it for months. Then I'll send it and tell you I did it back when I was supposed to!

"The gravy looks fine, but I don't want any on my turkey."

All my nose hairs were just singed off by the rancid smell this gravy is emitting. I don't want to ruin your meal, since you just poured it all over your food like a pig without tasting it first. So, if you get sick from it later I'll console you, being the good husband that I am.

"You stay in bed, I'll run the dishwasher for you."

Throw the soap in the dishwasher, and pretend the next morning that I didn't see the piles of dirty dishes, glasses, and utensils that needed to be put in there, essentially not accomplishing anything except wasting a lot of hot water and energy running the dishwasher for two glasses, a bowl, and a plastic fork.

"We can't afford it."

I spent all of our money on comic books and CD's, so you'll have to do without your medicine this month.

I hope you all enjoyed these. I'll be back in a few months with another column, if I get the urge. Thanks to all of you who sent me cards and letters. If you didn't get a thank you from me, it'll be in the mail soon. I love you all!

Diplomacy 5, Pessimism, 1990HB, F 13

"Bruce closes the deal, clinches his victory at last. A rare Italian win."

England (Weiss): Ret A War-Ukr.. A Ukr-Rum, F Swe-GoB.

France (S. Johnson): Ret A Spa-Gas.. A Boh-Tyr, A Bur-Mar, A Gas S A Bur-Mar,
A Mun S A Boh-Tyr, F Mid-Spa(sc), F Por S F Mid-Spa(sc), F StP(nc) H, A Hol-Bel,
A Par-Bre, A Yor-Lon, F Nth-Ech.

Germany (Diehl): F Nwy-Nwg.

Italy (McClung): Ret F Mid-Ech.. A Spa S A Mar, F Wme S A Spa, A Ven S A Tyr,
A Tyr S A Vie, A Bud-Rum, A Tri-Bud, A Smy-Pie, F Eme C A Smy-Pie,
F Ion C A Smy-Pie, F Tyn C A Smy-Pie, F Lyo C A Smy-Pie, A Sev H, A Mos H,
A War H, A Mar U (Destroyed), A Vie U, F Ech U.

Supply Center Chart

England	Swe=1	Remove 1
France	Bre, Par, Mar, Por, Bel, Hol, Mun, Ber, Kie, Den, Lon, Lvp, StP=13	Build 2
Germany	Edi, Nwy=2	Build 1
Italy	Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun, Tri, Vie, Bud, Ser, War, Gre, Bul, Rum, Con, Sev, Ank, Smy, Mos, Spa=18	WINS!

PRESS

England - Italy: Congratulations. An Italian win is quite an accomplishment. As I tell my kids, "You deserve to feel proud".

France - Italy: Bruce, you're a totally dishonest player. In fact, you have lied to me so often that I don't even think McClung is your real name. I know truth is completely foreign to you, but the truth is I don't think it was a "Good Game". I think it was a bad game and Mr. O'Brien an example of Diplomacy at it's worst. I would still like to know his motivation for throwing this game to you. You have taken a page from Bush's book. You throw around terms like tirade and your diminished victory, but do not address any of the specific issues I raised. I play Diplomacy for the pure contest not for stature and if you play it for stature, perhaps you should get a real life.

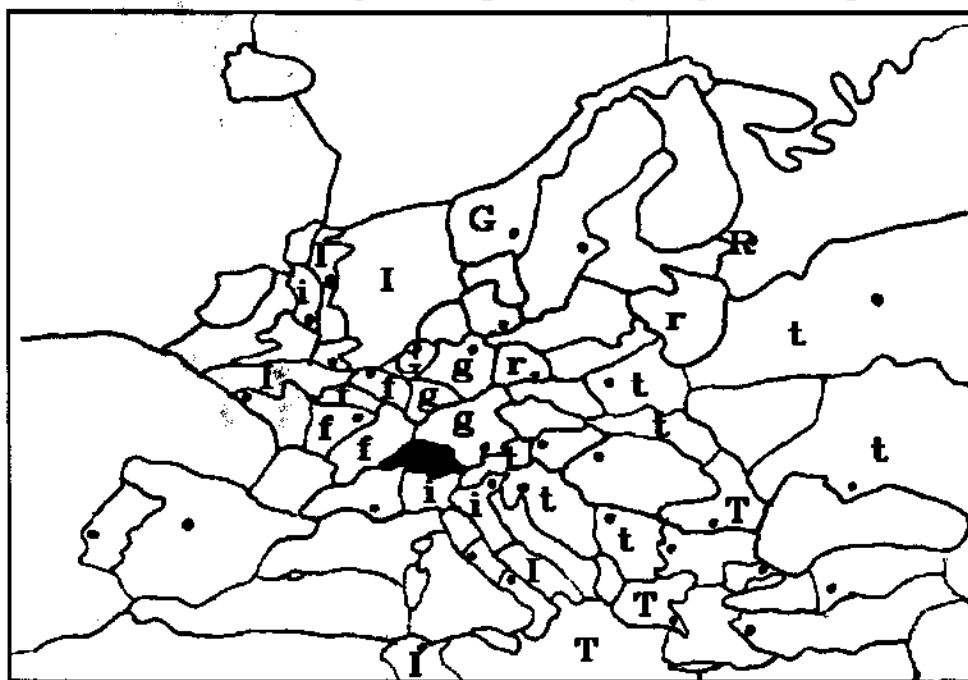
England - GM: 19=victory. However, I accept the dishonor, ignominy and shame from my terrible act of NMRing.

Italy - France: Sorry to imply that you don't have a life, Stan. Of course you have a life; a great life. We all envy your great life, your Diplomacy prowess, your clever press, and of course your great sportsmanship. Another game well played, Stan.

Germany - Italy: Don't come near my Nordic hideaway.

Diplomacy 6, Agony, 1990HA, F 12

"Germany takes a powder again..Tukrey keep on rolling."



England (CD): A Yor U.

France (Milewski): A Pic S A Bel, A Bel S I. F Nth-Hol(NSO), A Par S A Bur, A Bur S G. A Ruh-Mun(NSO).

Germany (J. Johnson): NMR! Ret F Nth-OTB..F Nwy U, A Mun U, A Ruh U, F Hol U, A Kie U.

Italy (Murray): F Ion-Tun, F Adr-Apu, A Ven-Pie, A Rom-Ven, F Lon-Ech, A Lvp S F Cly-Edi, F Cly-Edi, F Nth-Nwy.

Russia (McHugh): Ret A War-Pru..A Pru-Ber, F StP(sc) S A Lva, A Lva S F StP(sc).

Turkey (Acheson): F Aeg-Ion, F Gre S F Aeg-Ion, A Sev-Mos, A War S A Sev-Mos, A Gal S A War, A Tri-Tyr, A Bud-Tri, A Rum-Ser, A Arm-Sev, F Bla-Rum.

Would Stephen Dorneman standby for Germany?

Supply Center Chart

England	None=0	OUT!
France	Bre,Par,Mar,Bel=4	Even
Germany	Mun,Kie,Den,Hol,Swe,Nwy=6	Even
Italy	Nap,Rom,Ven,Tun,Spa,Por,Lvp,Lon,Edi=9	Build 1
Russia	StP,Ber=2	Remove 1
Turkey	Con,Smy,Ank,Bul,Rum,Gre,Ser,Tri,Vie, Bud,Sev,Mos,War=13	Build 3

PRESS

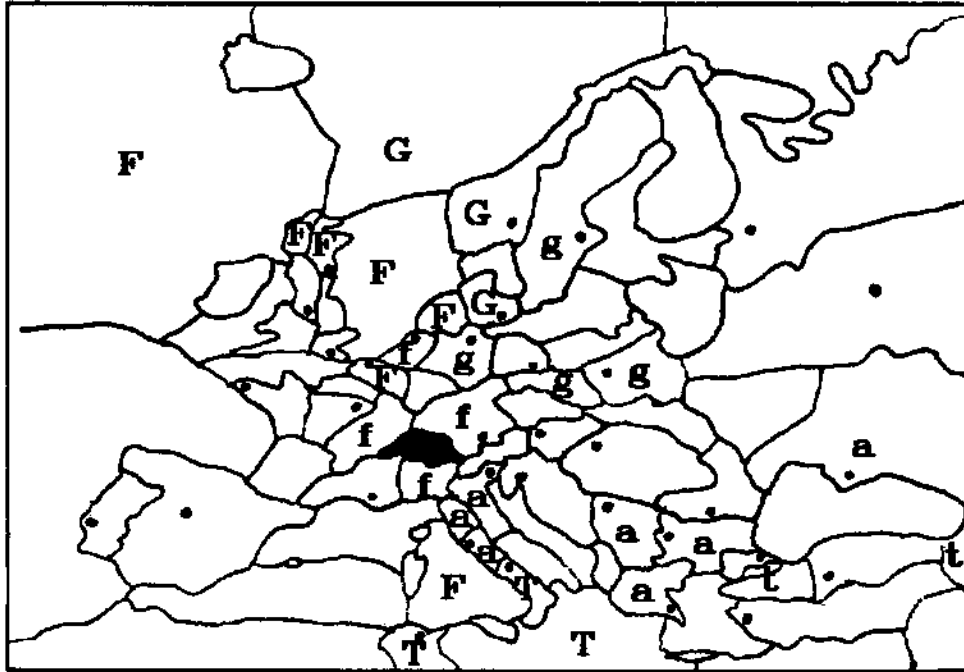
Turkey - Germany: As far as I can see - Italy or France are allies. I need an ally - not your centers.

Rome - St. Pete's: Dear Excellency, I'm sorry we all disappointed you with our stupid play. I wish my advisors and I had your wisdom. Is there anything we can do at this late state to save us from ourselves? I know we are hopeless, but surely one as great as you could give us a few pointers.

Boob - Flapjack: Only a few more lies.

Diplomacy 7, Scoop, 1990IG, F 09

"Austria makes momentous gains..Turkey loses two dots in the Balkans but stays even."



Austria (S. Johnson): A Alb-Gre, A Bul S A Alb-Gre, A Nap-Rom, A Pie-Tus, A Ser S A Alb-Gre, A Sev-Arm, A Ven S A Nap-Rom.
France (Diehl): F Tyn S F Rom, F Rom S F Tyn (Destroyed), A Mar-Pie, A Hol-Kie, A Bur S A Ruh-Mun, A Ruh-Mun, F Mid-NAt, F Nth-Hel, F Bel S F Ech-Nth, F Edi S F Ech-Nth, F Ech-Nth, F Cly-Nwg.
Germany (Holley): A Mos-War, A War-Sil, A Mun S A Kie (Dis-ret Ber, Tyr, Boh, OTB), A Kie S A Mun, F Den S A Kie, A Swe S F Nwy, F Nwy S F Nwg, F Nwg S F Nwy.
Turkey (Brown): Ret A Bul-Con.. F Gre-Ion, F Tun-Tyn, F Ion-Nap, A Arm H, A Con U.

A/F/G Draw Fails

Now Proposed - A/F, A/T, A/F/T, A/F/G, F/T, F/G/T

Supply Center Chart

Austria	Tri, Vie, Bud, Ser, Rum, Bul, Gre, Ven, Rom, Sev=10	Build 3
France	Bre, Par, Mar, Por, Spa, Lvp, Lon, Edi, Bel, Hol, Mun=11	Even
Germany	Kie, Ber, Den, Nwy, Swe, StP, War, Mos=8	Even

Turkey Con,Smy,Ank,Tun,Nap=5

Even

PRESS

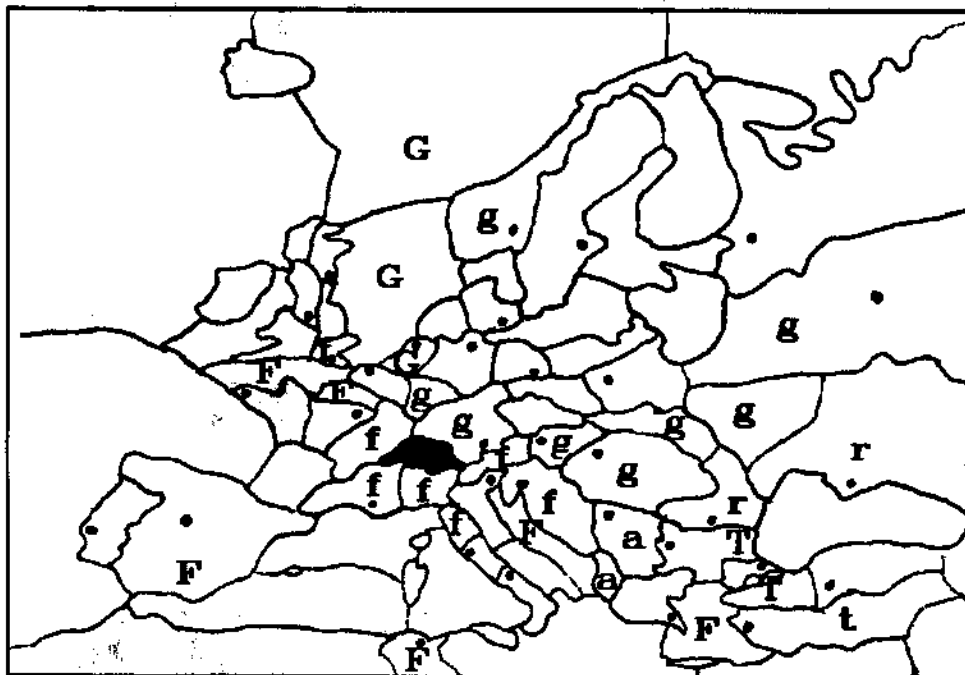
Austria - Germany: You had such a great position, now you're being pounded; what happened?

Austria - Turkey: What happened, you used to be such a good writer?

Austria - World: Turkey will never NMR in this game!

Diplomacy 9,Secrets,1991C,F 08

"France and Germany neck and neck, as all efforts at peace fail."



Austria (Milewski): A Alb-Tri,A Ser H.

France (Bingham): F Pic-Bel,F Ech C A Bel-Lon,A Bel-Lon,A Pie S A Ven-Tyr,F Adr H,
F Lyo-Spa(sc),F Aeg H,F Ion-Tun,A Bur S F Pic-Bel,A Mar S A Bur,A Rom-Tus,A Tri U,
A Ven-Tyr.

Germany (Strong): A Ruh-Bel,A Kie-Mun,A War-Ukr,A Mos S A War-Ukr,F Den-Nth,
F Hol S A Ruh-Bel,A StP-Nwy,A Vie-Bud,A Boh-Vie,A Gal S A Vie-Bud,F Nwg S F Den-Nth.

Russia (Wang): A Rum S A Sev,A Sev S A Rum.

Turkey (Brown): A Arm-Smy,F Bul(ec) H,F Con S F Bul(ec).

F/G Draw Fails
Now Proposed - F/G

Supply Center Chart

Austria Ser,Gre=2

Even

France	Bre,Par,Mar,Por,Spa,Bel,Lon,Lvp, Ven,Rom,Nap,Tun,Tri=13	Even
Germany	Ber,Kie,Mun,Den,Hol,Edi,Swe,Nwy, StP,Mos,War,Vie,Bud=13	Build 1
Russia	Rum,Sev=2	Even
Turkey	Con,Smy,Ank,Bul=4	Build 1

PRESS

Germany - Russia: Hah! Check your premise. Someone has been voting against G/F. Since it has not been me, it is R, T, A, or a combination of the above. Just because R, T, and A are doing "horribly", as you put it, does not mean they want the game to end. I'll keep playing and voting for the F/G. The French player would do well to look at how well the R/A "alliance" went earlier in the game. There's a lesson to be learned from that "alliance".

Froggie - World: ...and all I ever wanted was my own private Idaho...

Diplomacy 11,Synthaxe,1991AS,F 06

"Four nations at eight centers..this is what we call balance of power."

Austria (Strong): A Ven S A Tus-Pie,F Rom-Tus,F Ion-Nap,A Apu S F Ion-Nap,
A Sil-Mun,F Adr S R. F Alb-Ion,A Tyr S A Tus-Pie,A Tus-Pie.

England (Greger): A StP S A Lva,A Lva S A Swe-Pru,A Swe-Pru,F GoB S A Lva,
F Bal C A Swe-Pru,F Nth S F Ech-Bel,F Ech-Bel.

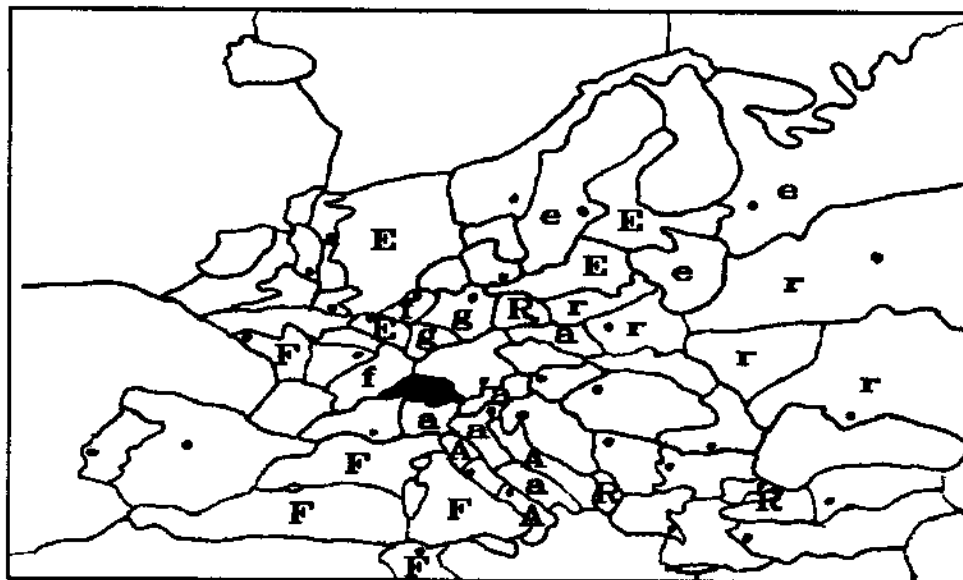
France (Holley): A Hol-Kie,A Bur-Mun,A Pie H(Dis-ret Mar,OTB),F Lyo S A Pie,
F Mid-Bre,F Tyn-Ion,F Tun S F Tyn-Ion,F Spa(sc)-Wme.

Germany (Levin): A Mun-Ruh,A Kie S A Mun-Ruh.

Russia (Carlberg): Ret F Ion-Alb..F Alb-Ion,F Bla-Con,A Arm-Sev,A Ukr S A Mos,
A War S A Pru,A Pru S F Ber,F Ber S A Pru,A Mos S E. F GoB-StP(sc)(NSO).

All Draw Proposals Fail

Proposed - A/E/F/R, A/E/F/G/R, F



Supply Center Chart

Austria	Tri,Vie,Bud,Ser,Gre,Bul,Ven,Nap=8	Even
England	Edi,Lvp,Lon,Nwy,Swe,StP,Den,Bel=8	Build 1
France	Bre,Par,Mar,Por,Spa,Tun,Rom,Hol=8	Even
Germany	Kie,Mun=2	Even
Russia	War,Mos,Sev,Ber,Rum,Ank,Con,Smy=8	Even

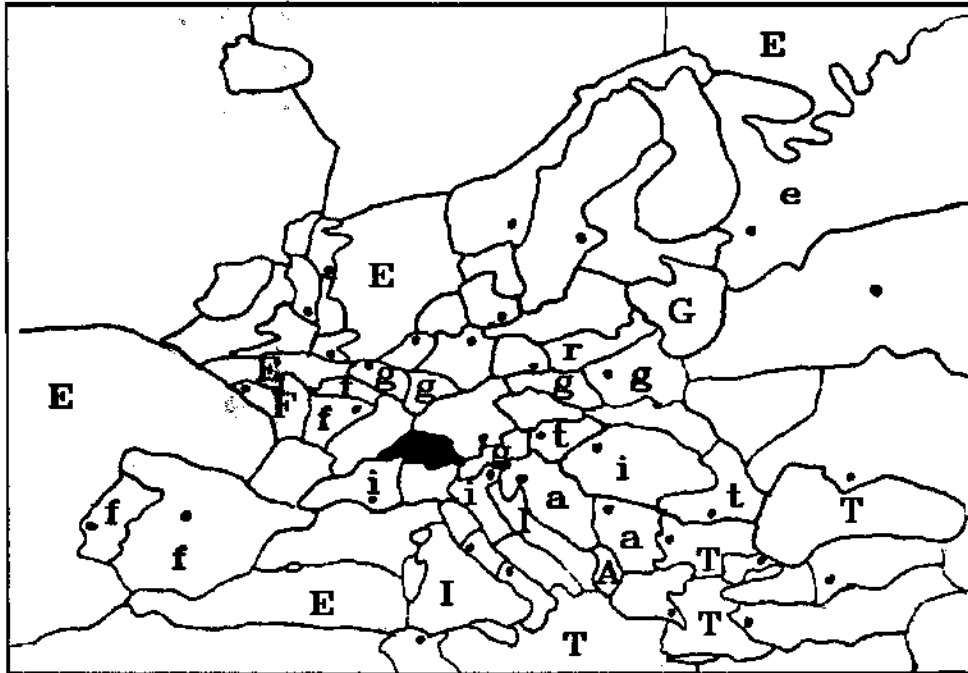
PRESS

Germany - France: With friends like you, who needs enemies?

Austria - France: Demand for Austrian wool has dropped since it has been reported the sheep are infested with moths.

Diplomacy 12,Heartache,1991AW,F 05

"Turkey and Germany experience further growth..English fleets move south."



Austria (Acheson): F Alb-Ion,A Tri S T. A Rum-Bud,A Ser S A Tri.

England (Ozog): F Bar S A Nwy-StP,F Nth S F Ech,F Mid-Wme,F NAT-Mid,
F Ech S F NAT-Mid,A Nwy-StP.

France (R. Schultz): A Spa-Por,A Mar-Spa,A Bur-Pic,A Par S F Bre,F Bre S A Bur-Pic.

Germany (Lord): F Bal-Lva,A Pru-War,A Sil S A Pru-War,A Mun-Tyr,A Bel S A Ruh,
A Ruh S A Bel.

Italy (Brooks): Ret A Tri-Ven..A Pie-Mar,A Ven-Tri,A Bud S A Ven-Tri,

F Ion-Gre(Dis-ret Nap,Apu,Tun,OTB),F Nap-Tyn,F Adr S A Ven-Tri.

Russia (S. Johnson): A Lva-Pru,A War S A Lva-Pru(Dis-ret Gal,Ukr,Mos,OTB).

Turkey (Greger): A Vie S A. A Tri,A Rum-Bud,F Bul(sc)-Gre,F Aeg S F Eme-Ion,

F Bla H,F Eme-Ion.

Supply Center Chart

Austria	Tri,Ser,Gre=3	Even
England	Lon,Lvp,Edi,Nwy,Swe,StP=6	Even
France	Bre,Par,Por,Spa=4	Remove 1
Germany	Kie,Ber,Mun,Den,Hol,Bel,War=7	Build 1
Italy	Ven,Nap,Rom,Tun,Bud,Mar=6	Even
Russia	Mos=1	Remove 1
Turkey	Con,Smy,Ank,Bul,Rum,Sev,Vie=7	Build 1

PRESS

Russia - England: Why don't you go for a win and grab the wide open German centers? You're playing like a girl!

Rome - Paris: The Pope is sending a Roman Legion to assist the French in their struggle for survival.

Paris - Pope: We embrace this NeoCarolinian Age. Let it begin.

London - Paris & Rome: We are just on a voyage to check out the French and Italian wines.

Russia - Germany: Whatever happens at least I didn't run away like a coward, like you did in Scoop.

London - Budapest: Stay alive - help is coming.

Russia - GM: Why did I get all the Heartache?

GM - Russia: The same reason I got all the heartburn!

Diplomacy 13,Free For All,1992??,Fall 1901

"Serious confusion over the claim to Greece, which (in the end) remains neutral."

Austria (R. Schultz): A Boh-Mun,A Ser S I. A Apu-Gre(NSO),F Alb S I. A Apu-Gre(NSO).

England (O'Kelley): F Nwg-Nwy,A Yor-Bel,F Nth C A Yor-Bel.

France (S. Johnson): A Bur-Bel,A Mar-Spa,F Mid-Por.

Germany (Roger Cox): F Hol S E. A Yor-Bel,A Mun-Ber(Dis-ret Ruh,Kie,OTB),A Kie-Den.

Italy (Siegel): A Tyr S A. A Boh-Mun,A Apu-Tun,F Ion C A Apu-Tun.

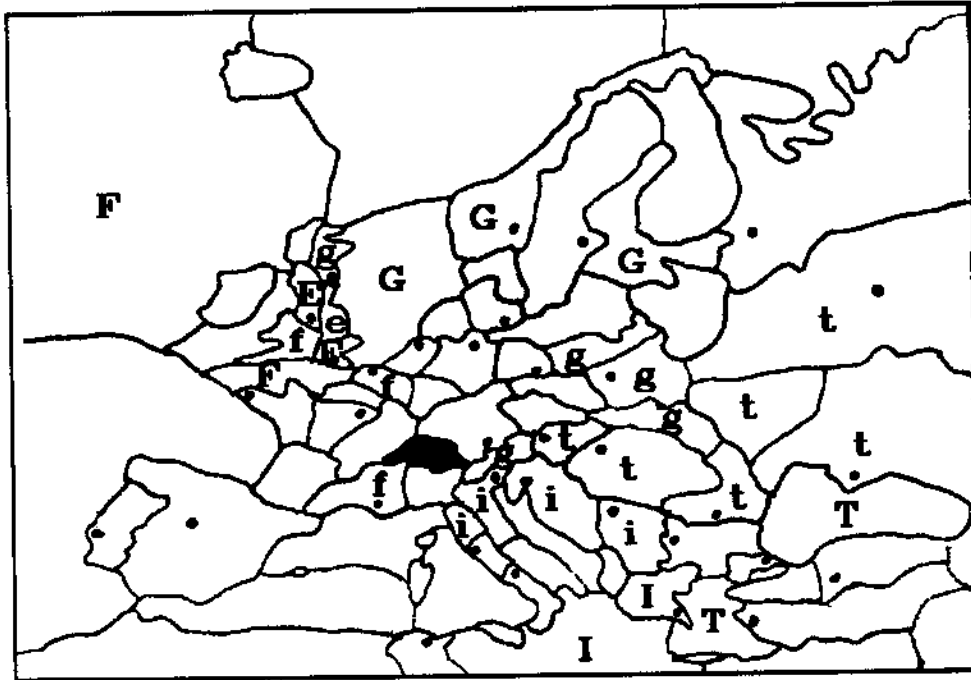
Russia (McClung): F GoB-Swe,A Sil-Ber,A Ukr S F Rum,F Rum H.

Turkey (Anderson): A Bul S A. F Alb-Gre(NSO),F Con S A Bul,A Ank H.

Concession to France Fails

Diplomacy O-1, General Brock, 1991L, F 04

"The Harpy of Flushing is finally struck down."



- Austria (K. Caruso):** A Vie Celebrates Her Freedom from Stan the Man(Dis-ret Boh,OTB).
- England (Milewski):** A Wal-Yor,F Lvp H,F Edi H(Dis-ret Nwg,Cly,OTB).
- France (Gonsalves):** F Ech C A Pic-Wal,A Mar-Bur,A Pic-Wal,F Lon S A Pic-Wal,F NAt-Lvp,
A Bel-Bur.
- Germany (Acheson):** F Nwy-StP(nc),F Swe-Bot,A Pru S A War,A War S A Sil-Gal,
A Sil-Gal,A Mun-Tyr,F Nth S A Yor-Edi,A Yor-Edi.
- Italy (S. Johnson):** A Alb-Ser,A Rom-Tus,A Tri S T. A Bud-Vie,A Ven S A Tri,F Gre H,
F Ion S F Gre.
- Turkey (Strong):** A Ukr-Gal,A Bud-Vie,F Bla H,F Aeg H,A Rum-Bud,A Mos-StP,
A Bul-Rum,A Sev-Mos.

Supply Center Chart

Austria	None=0	OUT!!
England	Lvp,StP=2	Remove 1
France	Bre,Par,Mar,Por,Spa,Bel,Lon=7	Build 1
Germany	Ber,Kie,Mun,Hol,Swe,Den,Nwy,War,Edi=9	Build 1
Italy	Nap,Rom,Ven,Tun,Tri,Gre,Ser=7	Build 1
Turkey	Con,Smy,Ank,Bul,Rum,Sev,Mos,Bud,Vie=9	Build 1

PRESS

Italy - GM: You should close yours when you eat!

GM - Italy: Look who's talking! Say it, don't spray it!

Austria - Italy: As usual it is a pleasure to get away from your colorful press!

Italy - Austria: Say cheese Kathy!

Italy - GM: Huh? Explain please!

GM - Italy: Never mind. Your feeble mind would be unable to grasp the full concept my stunning intellect is concentrating on. Mooahaha!

Italy - Austria: Whatever happens from here on out, I want to thank you for a wonderful moment I'll never forget. The only thing that could make me happier is to meet your bastard son Jerk McHugh face to fist.

Italy - Austria: Cause I don't taste as sweet as you.

Italy - Germany: I hear you keep urging Turkey to attack me, that's not a very freindly thing to do.

Italy - England: That was a blow well struck. Fight on McDuff!

Gunboat 4, Abby Normal, 1990 Trb32, F 14

"Italy seals the victory...Fourteen years of war come to an end."

End-game report and statements will be printed next issue.

France: Ret A Bur-Pic, A Gas-Spa, F Por S A Gas-Spa, A Par S F Bre,
F Bre S I. F Naf-Mid(NSO), A Pic S F Bre.

Germany: F Mid S F. F Por-Spa(sc)(NSO), A Bur S F. A Gas-Mar(NSO), F NAt S F Mid,
F Nwy-StP(nc), A Kie-Den, A Ruh S A Mun, A Ber S A Mun, F Hol-Nth, F Ech U, A Mun U.

Italy: A Tyr S A Sil-Mun, A Mar-Spa, A Sil-Mun, A Boh S A Sil-Mun, A War S A Mos,
A Mos S A War, A Sev S A Mos, A Ukr S A Mos, A Gal-Sil, A Tri-Ven, F Naf-Mid,
F Wme S A Mar-Spa, F Ion-Tyn, F Lyo S A Mar-Spa, F Tun-Naf, F Tyn-Tus.

Russia: Ret A Mos-StP..A StP-Fin, A Lva-StP.

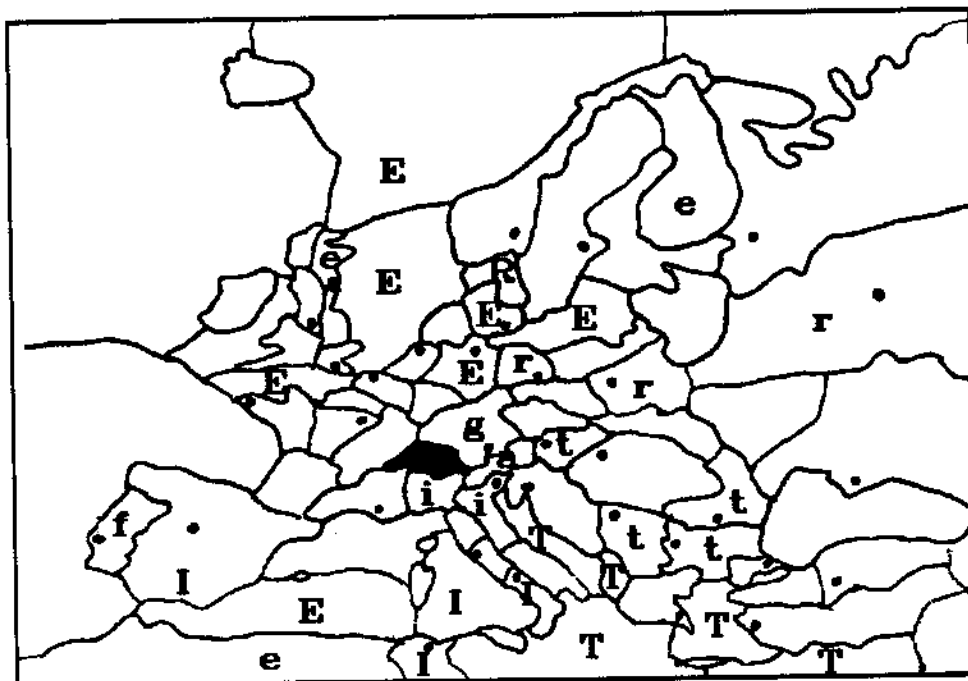
All Proposed Draws Fail

Supply Center Chart

France	Bre, Par, Mar, Por=4	Remove 1
Germany	Mun, Kie, Ber, Hol, Bel, Den, Swe, Nwy, Edi, Lvp, Lon=11	Build 1
Italy	Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun, Bud, Tri, Vie, Ser, Gre, Smy, Con, Ank, Bul, Rum, Sev, War, Mos, Spa=18	WINS!!
Russia	StP=1	Remove 1

Gunboat 6, Road Games, 1991 Hrb32, W 08/S 09

"Russian landing in Livonia thwarted by English bombardment..Fleets battle across Europe."



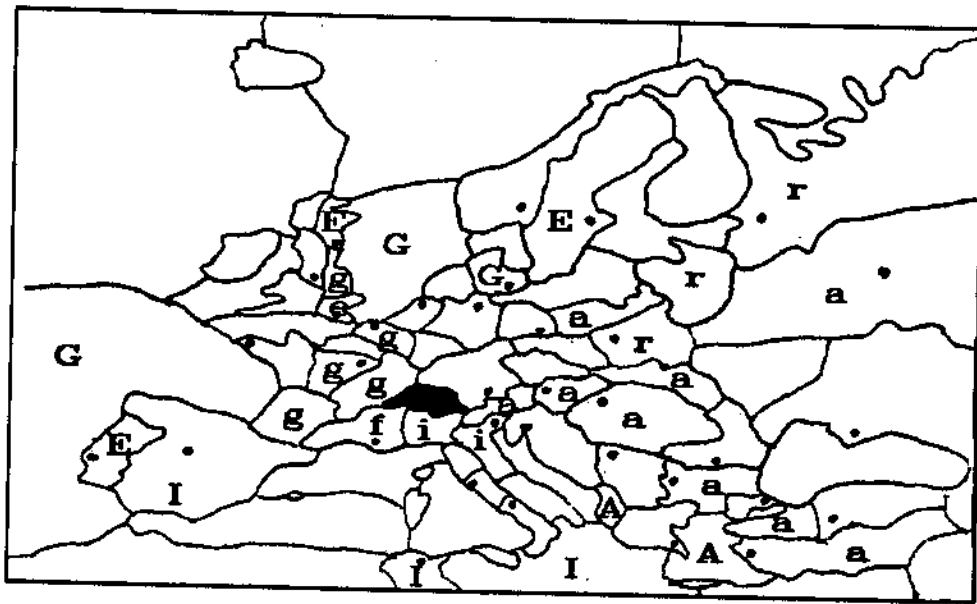
Austria: A Tri-Tyr, A Mos-Sev(Dis-ret Lva, Ukr, OTB).
England: Bld A Edi..F Nth S F Den, F Nwg C A Edi-Nwy, F Den S F Kie-Bal, F Hol-Kie,
 F Kie-Bal, F Ech-Mid, F Wme S F. A Por-Spa, A Naf-Tun, A Swe-Fin, A Edi-Nwy.
France: A Por-Spa.
Germany: A Mun H.
Italy: Ret F Ion-OTB, Bld A Rom..A Ven-Pie, A Rom-Ven, F Apu-Nap, F Tyn-Wme,
F Tun-NAf, F Spa(sc)-Mid.
Russia: Rem F Bar..F Ska-Nwy, A StP-Mos,
F Bal C A Ber-Lva(Dis-ret Swe, Pru, Lva, GoB, OTB), A Ber-Lva, A War S A StP-Mos.
Turkey: Bld A Con..F Gre-Alb, F Adr S F Ion, A Con-Bul, F Aeg S F Ion, A Bud-Vie,
 F Eme S F Ion, A Rum-Sev, F Ion S I. F Tun(OTM), A Ser S F Gre-Alb.

Concession to England Fails
 Now Proposed - R/T

Gunboat 7, Enigmatic Ocean, 1991Qrb32, W 07/S 08

"Go, Austria, go! Germany not doing bad, either!"

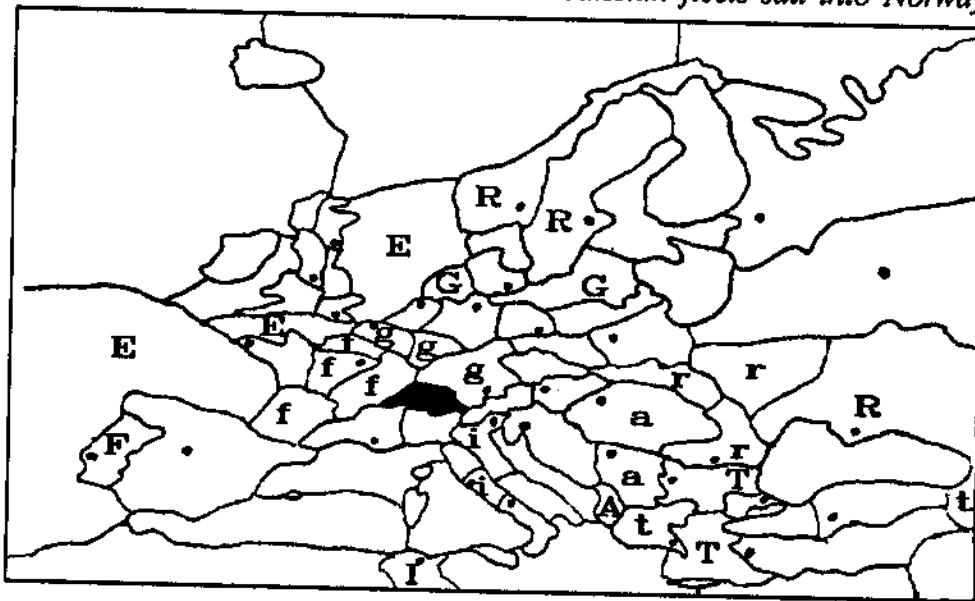
Austria: Ret A Ukr-Rum, Bld A Bud, A Vie..A Vie S A Tri-Tyr, A Tri-Tyr, A Rum-Bul,
A Gal-War, A Bud-Gal, F Aeg S A Rum-Bul, F Alb-Ion, A Smy S A Ank-Con, A Ank-Con,
 A War-Pru, A Sev-Mos.
England: Ret F Nth-Ska, Bld F Edi..F Edi H, A Par H(Dis-ret Pic, Bre, OTB), A Lon H, F Por H,
 F Ska-Swe.
France: A Mar U.
Germany: Bld A Mun..A Hol-Yor, F Nth C A Hol-Yor, F Den S F Nth, A Mun-Bur,
 A Bel S A Mun-Bur, A Bur-Par, A Gas S A Bur-Par, F Bre-Mid.
Italy: F Spa(sc) S F. A Mar, A Ven-Pie, A Rom-Ven, F Nap-Ion, F Tun S F Nap-Ion.
Russia: Rem A Ukr..A Lva S A Mos-War, A Mos-War, A Nwy-StP.
Turkey: Rem A Arm..F Bul(ec)-Rum(Dis-ret Bla, OTB).



All Proposed Draws Fail
Now Proposed - A/I, A/G

Gunboat 8, Arrival, 1992 Wrb32, W 01/S 02

"At least all seven nations submit orders..Russian fleets sail into Norway."



Austria: F Tri-Alb, A Bud-Ser, A Vie-Bud.

England: Bld F Lon..F Lon-Ech, F Mid S F Lon-Ech, F Nth S F Lon-Ech,
A Nwy H(Dis-ret Fin, OTB).

France: Bld A Bre, A Par..F Por-Mid, A Par S A Bre-Pic, A Bre-Pic, A Spa-Gas, A Bur-Ruh.

Germany: Bld F Ber, A Kie..F Hol-Hel, F Ber-Bal, A Kie-Ruh, A Mun S A Kie-Ruh,
A Bel S A Kie-Ruh, A Sil S E. F Mid-Gas(NSU). F Ech S E. F Gas-Bre(NSU).

Italy: F Ion-Tun, A Nap-Rom, A Ven H.

Russia: Bld F StP(nc), A War..F StP(nc)-Nwy, F Swe S F StP(nc)-Nwy, A War-Gal,
A Ukr S A Rum, A Rum S F Sev, F Sev S A Rum.

Turkey: Bld F Con..A Bul-Gre, F Bla-Bul(ec), A Arm-Sev, F Con-Aeg.

African Dip, Million Dollar Legs, 1991Sdm04, End Game

1991Sdm04

Maniac's Paradise

GM: Douglas Kent

Ivory Coast/Zaire Draw in Winter 2005

Ethiopia	<u>00 01 02 03 04 05</u> 05 04 03 03 03 00	Brad Wilson (RES F02) Robert Acheson (OUT F05) Tony Strong (DRAW W05) Jack McHugh (OUT F03) Charles Greger (SURV W05) B. M. Bryant (DROP F00) Graham Wilson (OUT F05) Randall Lee Schultz (DRAW W05)
Ivory Coast	06 08 11 12 12 14	
Libya	04 03 01 00 00 00	
Saudi Arabia	05 06 06 06 07 07	
South Africa	05 05 05 04 03 00	
Zaire	06 09 10 11 11 15	

Ivory Coast (Tony Strong): This was truly a fun game. From early on, I got to attack the "Other Sack" until all his Libyans were dead. Of course he made it easier by keeping his wrath confined to Egypt. Zaire made what I thought was a reasonable offer as an ally and I accepted. A draw is just fine by me.

Zaire (Randall Schultz): Well folks, this is my first end statement, I hope its OK. First I want Douglas Kent to know that his GMing was very good. I want to thank Tony Strong for an alliance that went the mile. I think the two NMR's were key to the eventual IC/Z victory. Z had difficult times.

An early strategy for Z was to sound out all neighbors; IC, SAF, and E. Of all the local nations, SAF seemed the strongest. I decided early on that I would focus there. SAF has an advantage in naval capacity. I wanted cooperations with Ethiopia vs. SAF; between the two nations Naval Capacity was equalized. Communications with Brad Wilson didn't pan out.

When Graham Wilson took the SAF helm, Z was already at war with E. I considered a change of alliances; I didn't want a two-front war. My negotiation expectations may have been a bit high. As the negotiations with SAF came down to the wire, I felt more and more insecure with insubstantial inferences to tangible plans, too many loose ends. I promised Zimbabwe to SAF but Namibia was not a part of the deal. I took the gimme and gave a gotcha. SAF took exception to that and declared the war we both wanted. I felt Graham was too cagy.

Graham has a fine sense for tactics though he fell short of strategic objective. For example; allowing SAF armies to be divided, removing armies instead of fleets, and building fleets instead of armies. Although I had the resources I feel my moves were comprehensive in the face of a tenacious opponent. Thank you Graham Wilson.

I have to agree with Brad Wilson. Ethiopia is a weak start position without an alliance. Time will tell. That is all I know. I would like to play African Dip again, real soon.

African Dip #2, Ragnar, 1992Ddm04, S 03

"Game Delayed..Unit left off game report last issue."

The S. African F Mid was left out of the game report last month. All moves and press submitted will be used next season unless I hear from you.

Ethiopia (R. Schultz): Has A Cen.

Ivory Coast (Roger Cox): Has F Fre,A Wsa,F Nga,A Sen,A Ngr.
Libya (Strong): Has F Nat,A Cha,A Tri,F Gui,A Esa,A Mau.
Saudi Arabia (G. Wilson): Has A Dam,F Ara,F Som,F Goa,A Eri,A Mec,F Red,A Kha.
South Africa (Wang): Has A Ken,A Tan,F Goc,F Mch,F Nin,F Sin,F Mid.
Zaire (Garrett): Has F Abi,F Gab,A Kin,A Kis,A Con,A Uga,A Sud,A Lub.

Narnia Wars, Midnight, 1991 AKf101, F 04

"Giants down to one unit..Still huge battles around Cor."

Archenland (Anderson): A COR H, Cor COR S A Cor.
Calormene (Wang): A Anc-SOJ, A GRV-Her, A HER-Olv, A ZUL-Grv, 2A OLV-Anv,
 A/F BOR S WQ. A Anv-Cor(NSO), F Sil-AVR, F SPL S WQ. A Anv-Cor(NSO).
Dwarves (Brown): A ASL S A Dan, A Dan S A Asl (Dis-ret Map, Sat, OTB).
Giants (McHugh): A SOM S A Des-Cww, A Des-Cww (Dis-ret Cau,, Nom, Mid, OTB).
Lone Islands (Ozog): A/F GAL S F Emp, F EMP S A/F Gal.
Narnia (Bingham): A STO S A Coa, A COA S A Sto, A Ber-OLD, HK , A RIR-Asl, A CAI H.
Telmar (R. Schultz): A Rhe-DAN, Miraz Rhe-DAN, A FLE S A Rhe-Dan, A Chi-DES,
 A LAN S A Chi-Des, A Lam-BEA, A Shu-DWA, A Nai-ARA, A BUL S A Val-Nai,
 A Teh-BRE, A Val-NAI.
White Queen (Garrett): WQ , A CWW H, A Ett-PUD, A FIS S A Ett-Pud, A Bow-ETT,
 A Gia-RIS, A BRN H, A LUN-Cor, A ANV S A Lun-Cor, A WIN-Lun, A GDW-Win.

All Proposed Draws Fail

Supply Center Chart

Archenland	Cor=1	Even
Calormene	Azi, Ilk, Tas, Vtp, Tor, Cal, Ham, Her=8	Even
Dwarves	Asl, Rhe=2	Even
Giants	Ser=1	Remove 1
L. Islands	Doo, Gal=2	Even
Narnia	Cai, Tow, Coa, Gre, Ber=5	Even
Telmar	Cas, Tel, Arg, Oct, Cre, Nww, Ara, Lan, Wes, Chi, Shu=11	Even
W. Queen	Anc, Cit, Bea, Ett, Cww, Win, Anv, Gia, Har, Brn, Fis=11	Build 1

PRESS

Miraz - Cor: I don't show weenie to anyone,
 I place my feet and genuflect.
 The now and later is just fun.
 Meat is meat in circumspect.

Lone Islands (That's soon to be "Lone Island") - Calormene: You know, if you want to come north, you could have just asked. After all, I'm not quite dead yet.

Queen - Mara: Thanks for the photo of the "White Queen", I think that outfit needs something though. Maybe a T-Shirt that says "Mess With Me and Learn the Real Meaning of 'Rocks in Your

Head™.

Miraz - White Queen: It looked as though you needed help
and nothing comes for free.
I hope that I've not caused a welt
when I helped myself to BEA.

Narnia - World: I guess I just lost my head...

Miraz - High King: WADAYATAWK, WADAYATAWK, WADAYATAWK.

Woolworth II-D, Theoretical, 1992Jcb19, W 01

"Seasons seperated by player request."

Austria (????): Bld F Tri, A Bud, A Vie..Has F Tri, F Ven, A Ser, A Gal, A Bud, A Vie.

Balkans (????): Has A Rum, A Bul, F Aeg.

England (Bingham): Has F Ice, F Nwg, F Nth.

France (R. Schultz): Bld F Bre..Has F Bre, F Pic, A Bel, A Swi.

Germany (Hyatt): Bld F Ber..Has F Ber, A Mun, A Kie, F Den.

Italy (????): Has A Mar, F Tyn, F Ion.

Russia (????): Has A StP, F Sev, A Ukr, A War.

Scand. (Anderson): Ret F Nth-Edi..Has F Edi, A Swe, F Nwy.

Spain (Shulman): Has F Alg, A Mad, F Lyo.

Turkey (????): Bld F Smy..Has F Arm, F Cre, A Con, F Smy.

PRESS

Vikings - Saxons: Well, I don't believe I ever received a message from you at all. I guess you're too small to find out before throwing insults. Don't worry about it now - O trust my retreat has made my position clear? As for buying something, why don't you get yourself...A LIFE!

Diadochi V, Checkmate, 1992HMac03, Spring 240 BC

"We're underway..Egypt and Syria prepare to face off."

Carthage (R. Schultz): F Car-AIO, A Had-SAH, A New-SAG, A Gad-IBE.

Egypt (Oliveri): F Alx-LEV, F Cyr-EGY, A Pto-SIN.

Macedonia (Stuart): F Kor-AEG, A Lar-PEL, A Pel-MOE.

Rome (Bingham): F Nea-STY, F Rom-NTY, A Bru-RAV, A Rav-VEN.

Syria (McHugh): A Arb-ARM, A Sel-DUR, F Ant-ISS.

PRESS

Rome - World: Hey! Who made-a-da salad?

Enemy in Sight - Yellow Submarine

Turn 7

Captain Barbablanco brings his Dreadnought astern of Admiral Schmellson's Baionnaise and load his cannons with 3 points of grape, plus a +2 stern rake, to sink that dastardly dingy. He sits back and prays that his big ships can survive the incoming, and then shudders when he sees he just received a red card!!!

Captain Ahab continues his miniscule assault, firing one point from his Agamemnon into the hull of Barbablanco's Santa Anna.

Sensational Captain She-Hulk gets her true revenge, throwing a French Break the Line onto Barbablanco's quivering fleet. She declares the Argonaut, Revenge, and Africa as line breakers. From miles away, one can faintly hear a green bellow of triumph.

Admiral Schmellson orders his Franklin into the fray, where it sinks Barbablanco's Dreadnought. Death and destruction everywhere!

Admiral Schmellson - Yisrael Kent - 1st Caledonia (Br) 6R/11H, 2nd Franklin (Fr) 5R/9H, 3rd Droits L'homme (Fr) 4R/8H, 5th Guerrier (Br) 3R/6H. Prize - 3rd Captain (Br) 3R/8H. No Red cards. **23 victory points.**

Sensational Captain She-Hulk - Mara Kent - 1st Ville de Paris (Fr) 5R/10H, 2nd Argonauta [Line Breaker] (Sp) 5R/9H, 3rd Revenge [Line Breaker] (Br) 4R/9H, 4th Africa [Line Breaker] (Br) 4R/7H, 5th Vengeance (Fr) 4R/6H, 6th Randolph (US) 3R/5H. No Red cards.

Captain Ahab - Jack McHugh - 1st Orient (Fr) 2(6)R/11H, 2nd Guillaume Tell (Fr) 2(5)R/9H, 3rd Bahama (Sp) 4R/8H, 4th Agamemnon (Br) 4R/7H. No Red cards.

Captain Barbablanco - John Schultz - 1st Santa Anna (Sp) 2(5)R/5(10)H, 4th Bienfaision (Fr) 2(4)R/5(7)H, 5th Insurgente (Fr) 1(3)R/4(6)H, 5th Essex (US) 1(3)R/3(6)H, 6th Bonhomme Richard (US) 1(3)R/3(5)H. Prize - 4th Yarmouth (Br) 1(3)R/4(6)H. 1 Red card. **16 victory points.**
French Break the Line (from She-Hulk) is active.

Top Ship - 3rd Bellerophon (Br) 4R/8H
Top Card - Black

Order for the next turn is McHugh, Y. Kent, Schultz, M. Kent.

PRESS

Captain Barbablanco - Admiral Schmellson: So...we traded ships. Well...not quite. Your Baionnaise sleeps with the fishes. Hope you got an additional ship card.

Captain Barbablanco - She Hulk: Eeek!!! She's everywhere!!! I open my latest diplomatic communique and find a threatening big green face looking at me with a gleering smile. My knees are definately trembling. Just how deep is your spy network?

Next Enemy in Sight Deadline - October 2, 1992

Kremlin

Tony Strong - Yellow, Mike Scott - Green, Bruce Reiff - Blue, Bill Scharf - Red

Turn 4

Phase 0: Increasing influence - Green adds 2 to M, plus declares 4 more for a total of 10+. Blue adds 2 to T, for a total of 10+. Red adds 1 to F and 1 to S. Yellow adds 2 to F.

Phase 1: Cures Phase - M ages 1 to 70, Y ages 3 to 62, S ages 2 to 60, Z ages 2 to 59.

Phase 2: Purge Phase - Blue, with T, fails to purge M. T ages 3 to 62.

Phase 3: Spy Investigation - Red declared 3 on F. Red, with F, puts ? on B, J, M, and T.

Phase 4: Health Phase - M + to +, T + to +, F + to +, J ++ to ++, Z + to ++.

Phase 6: Replacement - Green, with M, moves: Y to KGB, T to Foreign, J to Ideology, and B to Industry.

Phase 7: Rehabilitation. Red, with S, rehabs H, I, and P. S ages 15 to 75.

Phase 8: Parade - M waves for Green, aging 1 to 71. Yellow has two waves, Green has one, no one else has any.

	Final Positions			
	Blue	Red	Yellow	Green
Party Chief:				
M, 71, +, ?	4		9	10+
KGB:				
Y, 62, +, ?				1
Foreign:				
T, 62, +, ?	10+		10	8
Defense:				
F, 71, +		3	2	
Ideology:				
J, 67, ++, ?				
Industry:				
B, 75, ?				
Economy:				
S, 75, ++		1		
Sport:				
Z, 59, ?, ++				1
Candidates: L 65, N 63, Q 60, R 59, U 56.				
People: H 69, I 68, K 66, P 61, V 55, W 54, X 53.				
Kremlin Wall: A, C, E.				
Siberia: D 75 ++, G 71, O 62.				

Next Kremlin Deadline - October 2, 1992

Player List

Number Shown is Last Issue in Sub

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Next Issue's Deadline: October 5, 1992 12:00 Noon Eastern