

# PERELANDRA

## WAYwords #22

by W. Andrew York

Recently a story I read set my mind wandering. In short, the theme was personal goals—and dreams. The kind of dreams that make childhood special; the future boundless and seemingly unending. The dreams we lose as we enter “the real world” and we age.

I can remember, as a youngster, looking forward to the exploration of summer vacations; the long (it seemed) weekends to read and adventure; the hours between school and bed to enjoy friendships. Unfortunately, I find I've lost some, nay most, of that enthusiasm and vigor.

Today, in my adult life and with adult responsibilities, the summer vacations are long past. They've been replaced by a hectic two weeks a year filled with yearly repairs, cleaning and chores with a short interlude to visit friends.

The weekends are spent maintaining the household, shopping for food, cleaning the car and other mindnumbing duties necessary to keep going. The evenings after work seem too short; and too often filled with pap television and not with dreams.

My friends, whom I played games with, ran through fields and dunked in pools, are now folks I grab a quick lunch with or spend ten minutes on the phone “catching up” our lives once a month. There's no playful wrestling, climbing trees or spending the night in the backyard chatting and watching the sky.

When I was younger, I thought there were years upon decades to grow, expand and experience. Thus, I spent time just enjoying where I was, what I saw and daydreaming about random thoughts. There would be plenty of time for other things; and for those moments, I stopped and lived.

Now, I rarely think past the next weekend (short that it will be). Listing the things that need to be done; passing on to the next weekend what could be delayed. The dreams and aspirations of my youth have passed into distant memory; today I need to worry about what needs to be done today.

As a child I thought of what it would be like to be an astronaut, an architect, a scientist and a president. Today, I eagerly await the lottery drawing with my one ticket hoping that it will return my dreams to me.

But, I know that won't happen. I need to take control back over my life—returning my dreams and goals to me. I need to spend my evenings not watching mindless sitcoms and playing rote computer games; but in learning more about the world and improving myself. I need to start planning my weekend around experiences and personal growth. I need to spend my vacations exploring this world. I need to spend time playing with my friends and enjoying them and what they bring to

## Pete Gets His

Recently I completed an Internet Gunboat Chaos game (34 players, one center each); I entered as a stand-by, negotiated, took a few dots, got stabbed, generally had a good time. I trusted C-Berlin after he had made some questionable moves that didn't quite add up to stabs, and felt he never seriously considered a real alliance with me.

But in the endgame statements (called EOGs on the Net), the ally that stabbed me said something that explained this, though it shocked me...

*Michael Frigge, C-Berlin (Berlin/Ankara draw, F1911:*

*When Pete Gaughan joined as 3-Sip in 1907 I went crazy. I had an almost mythic view of him as a 'god' and was concerned that I would no longer be the prime mover and shaker in 'nushouse'. This led to some, what I might call, erratic play on my part—negotiating like the devil to convert "Saint" Pete to my side, but actively working to limit the growth of that power. My greatest paranoia was that 3-Sip and A-Ank would somehow get together and cut C-Ber out altogether.*

*I tried to work 3-Sip both ways against A-Ank—I would ask him to join with A-Ank and me in a 3way, then I would ask him to join me in a campaign against A-Ank. I really wanted to see where 3-Sip would fall out. In the end, 3-Sip always said he was prepared to move against A-Ank, but he would never commit his forces to that position. Instead, he seemed intent on establishing his presence in Iberia. Though I had offered England and Iberia to 3-Sip at some time, I never really meant the Iberian offer as that would have 3-Sip on several of my fronts—a very poor tactic if ever I heard one. I kept hoping 3-Sip really meant the Iberian offer as that would have 3-Sip on several of my fronts—a very poor tactic if ever I heard one. I kept hoping 3-Sip would reject the Iberia offer and suggest that we seriously campaign in Russia, but possibly because of his perception of C-Ber as an unreliable ally, he kept striving to improve his position relative to me. [...]*

Wow! I guess you've really made it big in the hobby when they grant you divinity both as a GM (see “Vulcan”) and as a player!

my life. And, I need to think about my future, my goals beyond my retirement account, beyond the next paycheck and beyond the next weekend.

How many of you have fallen into this same rut? How many of you haven't hugged (or snowballed) a friend recently? How many of you have scheduled your day so that you don't have time to be spontaneous or to watch a sunset. How many of you have squandered your dreams? And, how many of you are going to start looking for them again?

## Monologues

by Pete Gaughan

I've spent some time doing budgets and setting priorities and goals. I have to make a couple of changes:

1. There will no longer be any form of NMR insurance. I simply cannot justify phoning to get late orders, and I will not provide insurance to some players (i.e. email) while not providing it to others.

2. The game openings I show in the back of the zine will be the last ones until at least October. After those mentioned in the openings, priority will be given to people not already playing in games.

3. Overseas copies will be sent surface mail except for players and correspondents.

4. The zine is just about breaking even—not counting NMR calls I spent about \$100 more than I took in last year (though this should really include another \$500 in copier wear). With fewer new game fees coming in that might go up a bit, but games finishing (and therefore fewer pages) should balance that out. My goal is to keep the zine under two ounces every issue, but get twelve issues out this year (something I've only ever done once).

5. NovaCon has been postponed to the weekend of March 17th. Details are in Callboard but generally speaking, I want everyone to know that they are welcome to come spend that weekend here.

The baby is not so much responsible for any changes as our income situation is. Cathy's unemployment has run out, and she can't go on “disability” until May (oh our generous welfare State!) I expect we will end up this year earning 2/3 of what we did last year.

Cathy was examined by sonogram so we have seen our baby for the first time. It was a bit anticlimactic; if you've ever seen a sonogram, on a television show or commercial or in print, you've probably seen something recognizably childlike, but this image wasn't. There were two good reasons—the technician was not getting a clear image (Cathy's body isn't a ‘good transmitter of sound’), and the fetus is not as developed as those model images (only four months along).

Nonetheless, it was interesting to watch the monitor as the technician pointed out head, spine, legs (crossed), and hands (one in a thumb-sucking fist, though it hadn't yet quite got the aim down—the thumb was pointing at the forehead).

The progeny (I think he means the baby—Cathy) is still tiny (4” or so). The heartbeat was just a rapid dim-bright-dim of one of the white splashes on the screen. We know, at least, that there is only one fetus, but not what gender it is. We have printouts of several freeze-frames (in this family, we put ‘em on camera EARLY), but this was not as thrilling as hearing the heartbeat three weeks ago.

# The Roar of the Greasepaint

Mark Weseman

My only advice is to pick up the book *Your Baby and Child* by Penelope Leach. My wife swears by it. I, on the other hand, figure that I know as much about raising children as any so-called expert, so I prefer to go by the try-it-screw-it-up-and-fix-it method. The most amazing thing about kids is how resilient they are. You really have to mess up bad in order to keep them from bouncing back. In any event, enjoy your child/children. And screw the person who thinks you are just adding to the world's population. It really doesn't matter what he/she/it thinks. You have to be true to yourself first.

I am glad that you are turning over ZR to someone else. The last two ZR editors burned out and folded their zines after their tenure as ZR editor. That is too great a loss to the hobby. I enjoyed your tenure as ZR editor and I would like you to continue, but I prefer to see you pass it on and continue to publish *Pere*. I have the feeling that you feel the same way about it.

*[[Yes, I don't think I'm doing Michael a favor by giving him the job, but better now than after a year or two of waffling, delays and burnout.]]*

Jim Bailey

No baby stories from this direction, I'm completely unqualified to comment. Instead, I'll skip ahead a couple of years and give you (unsolicited) advice deriving from personal experience as well as observations from working in a toy store.

I'm sure that you'll completely agree that probably the most important thing you can do for your young son/daughter is read to him/her. I was raised by my grandparents until I was 12, and my grandfather read to me almost every night when I was little. I fondly remember curling up on the arm of his chair as he read, with his finger, then later mine, following the flow of words across the page. He instilled the joy of reading to me, and I can see now how rare of a gift that is. Way too many people avoid reading like a plague, leaving them ignorant and uninformed about how a large portion of our world works.

Reading is such an important element of learning, you'll really be giving your child(ren) [I don't want to saddle you with more than one yet] a huge head start in life with this simple (and enjoyable, don't forget the fun!) act. This is something I believe deeply, and is one pledge to my children I definitely intend to keep. I'm sure you'll have no problem here.

In fact, this basic skill is so important that I think the most obviously simple and effective school reform would be to limit kindergarten and 1st grade classes to 10 pupils per teacher and 2nd/3rd grade to 15 per teacher. Don't LET uninterested and disengaged parents sabotage their children's future. Make sure that EVERY child can learn the basic skills (familiarity with reading and arithmetic) IN the classroom. Even if parents never worry, or are unable to help, with their children's homework, the teacher has time to make sure each individual will have the skills to succeed DESPITE their parents. Children with involved parents will still be better off, but nobody advances with a builtin, lifelong handicap.

Second, play lots and lots of games with your son/daughter. Always emphasize the positive aspects of competition, winning/losing, friendship, socializing, honor, and again, fun. I know your attitude about such things is focused entirely in the right direction, so no problem here. Meanwhile, while you're enjoying the company of your family, your son/daughter is subconsciously learning social skills, concrete skills (counting and reading the directions), and as the games become more sophisticated, analytical skills that will come in handy with just about any venture. Again, I think I'm

preaching to the choir, but I don't think it's possible to overemphasize such things. It's amazing all of the people who don't think ahead even ONE move in their lives, much less think about planning a strategy that will help them achieve their goals.

If you want the ultimate test of your parenting abilities, take your child(ren) into a toy store. I see the entire gamut of parents and kids every day. Everything from parents who give in to their little "gimme" monsters at every turn, to parents who smack their kids for touching a display item that we want them to play with.

Happily, I can report that most parents and children are delights to serve. There is nothing that beats the look of a child's face lighting up at the prospect of receiving a toy they really want. (There is sometimes a very subtle difference between a kid asking for something and demanding something, a nuance lost to many parents.)

Teach your son/daughter early on the difference between "looking" trips, "little treat" visits, and "big treat" visits. Being able to make a "no" stick, seems to be the biggest challenge facing parents, hard in the short run, especially to avoid a tantrum, but invaluable in the long run. You wouldn't believe how many times I've wanted to say, "I'm not going to let you buy this for your kid because he's being a brat." We don't need high-pressure sales staff working on commission, we have the kids!

If you do things right, though, you'll enjoy bringing your kids to the toy store. You'll share his or her wide-eyed wonder at all of the stuff. You'll get to offer advice on what would be the perfect toy (seeing if it's something you would also have fun with, of course), and you'll get big hugs (again, there is a big difference between a hug that is "bought" this way and the kind that means something) and squeals of delight when you take it up to the counter.

Always buy with a mind toward imagination, try to avoid one-trick items, avoid noise makers (for your own sanity, as well as the fact that they usually detract from the imagination), and don't get hung up on gender issues. Boys are boys, and girls are girls. The important thing is not to limit the selection of toys. Actually, girls have the advantage here, it's much easier to cross over to traditional boy's toys like cars, sports, and action figures. The farthest you can get a boy to the girl's aisle would be the craft section (although I guess one could argue that action figures are really dolls made acceptable to boys). Sociologists who say buy only gender-neutral toys are living in a fool's paradise if they think that is a natural state of children that doesn't have to be constantly influenced to stay that way.

So, file this letter away for about three years until the flood of baby advice gets you through it, then continue enjoying your child's childhood with the above blueprint.

*[[I love your division of shopping into several categories. I will have to use those with Cathy! I do intend to read to my kids (and I expect we'll have more than one); I recall fondly, at the age of five, reading to my younger siblings, even if they were bored silly.]]*

David McCrumb

I guess it is time I added my congratulations on the new addition. And I want to commend you on being there when the little tyke is born. Not only was it helpful for Sharyn, but the thrill of seeing the kids being born was a fantastic feeling. And being able to hold them less than five minutes after they were born was very special.

While all those books about parenting, etc. are nice, rely on your own instincts. If you feel you had a decent raising yourself, there is no better roll model than your parents. Personal advice, such as Kay Shapero gave

last issue, is also recommended over books. Friends are giving advice to someone they know while books are written to the general population. A further advantage is that you can also ask them to expand on and explain their comments while a book is in straight black and white.

I always have trouble understanding why some people get upset about others having children. If me and my wife have two children, we are not contributing to the world's overpopulation problem. In fact, there is *no world overpopulation problem*. There are overpopulation problems in localized areas, but not the world over. And to tell the truth, I understand why there are problems in those areas. Where you are likely to lose half of your children before the age of ten, it makes sense to increase the number of children. It used to occur here.

*...my children will be something special. At least to me, even if not to anybody else.*

Cathy, make sure Pete does his share of feeding and changing the tyke. It may not be glamorous, but it is the best way for a father to bond with his child at that age.

The election: I am elated that North did not win the Senatorial race in Virginia. Chuck Robb was not a great candidate, but it is hard to come up with somebody worse than North. I must say, however, that I am glad there is a Republican majority in both the Senate and House. It should make things interesting. I can not wait until they go back in session next month to see what actually transpires. So far, all we have had is rhetoric. I want to see action.

*[[My reaction on the 'overpopulation' response was as first, well, that's okay. Yeah, there are too many people on the planet, and I'm the type of cynic who might make such a crack. After more thoughts, though, I began to feel that the writer was judging me personally, saying that I, individually, was morally wrong to have children, or that I was unfit to determine for myself whether I should.]]*

Rich Irving

I guess politics is getting pretty interesting. I may not be an expert but some things I just don't quite understand. :-)

1) Why are the Republicans making such a big deal about getting a balanced budget amendment when they categorically won't say what they plan to cut and have promised to increase defense spending, not to touch Social Security & Medicare AND cut taxes? It makes me wonder if they're in favor of a balanced budget or in favor of being in favor of a balanced budget.

2) Why the Republicans made such a big fuss about passing the "Congress has to apply its laws to itself" law when it was passed in the last Congress by the House and filibustered to death by Republicans in the Senate?

3) Why Mike Huffington won't concede defeat when he lost by more votes than votes than Ed Zschau did in his race for the Senate in 1986? Or Tom Bradley in his Governor's race in 1982? Or Richard Nixon in his Presidential bid in 1960? Even Pete Wilson certified the election. I think this shows much more of his true character than ever appeared in his \$28 Million worth of advertisements. I think everyone should be glad that this turkey didn't get elected, because he probably would have run for President in 1996.

As I say, some things I just don't understand.

On Reynoldzkay, I really don't care what map is selected. I'd prefer to play one I haven't tried before (Ireland, Russia, Bavaria, Kentucky/Tennessee), but whatever's decided is fine with me.

*[[I've said for a long time: the Reps aren't interested in balancing the budget. Well, at the very least they aren't interested in balancing it for the sake of the nation's long-term health—they want a balanced budget just like many*

want prayer in schools, because they feel it's morally right regardless of the consequences in lives and liberties.

[[And now they've requested that the White House's next budget be "consistent with the approval" of a balanced budget amendment—tantamount to saying, "We want a balanced budget, but you'll have to balance yours before we balance ours." No Repo Prez is the past twenty years has submitted a balanced budget—why should we see this movement as anything other than crying Wolf?]]

[[Political nose that won't fit anywhere else: Dan Quayle nearly announced his Presidential candidacy tonight, in front of 30,000 Amway members, and my only thought was, "Dan Quayle winning the Republican nomination is the best thing that could happen to the Democratic party."]]

Rick Kohman

It is gonna be a Happy New Year, ain't it? (Happy, happy, joy, joy!)

Please find enclosed an ample supply of "warm-fuzzy" time-release capsules, to help you get thru the coming months.

If you're worried about becoming a "baby 'zine"; let me get my 2c vote in... I demand at least a one-paragraph monthly update in "Trees" or "Me Again" (or a new box entitled "The Incubator").

[[Thanks! The card Rick sent is reproduced below:]]



Stephen McKinnon

...Speaking of computer games [[rust me, he was]], my roommate got me one for Christmas. It's called *Panzer General*, and is by those old wargame warhorses,SSI. No, no, don't skim, because unlike SSI's boardgames where the ASL gurus learned how to take nitpicky rules to new heights, PG is remarkably simple and very playable. There are five campaigns, made up of 38 scenarios, some of which are only playable if you do well in some parts of the campaign.

Some of the better aspects are: Infantry are the best units for city and forest combat; you spend prestige points to create your own core of units that travels with you from scenario to scenario, gaining better weapons as you spend more points; the game stresses use of combined arms without requiring a stack of one-of-each units.

Since it is turn-based, not interactive, it lends itself to two player use via file transfer either by email, modem or disc. So, anyone interested in having me kick their ass at this feel free to contact me.

And now, sport. Yeah, so last year was the World Cup, which I know I enjoyed, but right now all I remember is the shitty final. So, how to remove the dol-drums? Think about this year's World Cup: Rugby World Cup '95.

Since they've made at least an attempt not to appear so blatantly racist South Africa has been readmitted and the WC tournament is to be held there this year. This is somewhat unfortunate since now England has another tough team to beat. The others are France, Australia (defending champs) and New Zealand.

I used to hate rugby. My dad used to make me tackle him when I weighed about 1/5 what he did. However, once I was forced to play in public school, and we had a good team, I really enjoyed it. For those who like to see a hard, rough game played for the love of it (most players are not paid) then this is your thing. Just make sure you're watching Rugby Union, not Rugby League, which is for pootfahs.

[[Speaking of sports—Wrexham????????? Was in 'ell is goin' on in Ipswich these days, that they would lose (2-1) to Wrexham??]]

[[What are the differences between Rugby Union and Rugby League, and which ones make RL appropriate for gays?]]

James Hardy

Re: "AFC", yes "A" could be Association, but most clubs drop the "A" in such circumstances: if it's there it's usually to signify "Athletic" (Charlton, Wigan and Bournemouth are all "Athletics"—there may be more!), or in once case "Albion" (West Bromwich Albion). I must admit I've never heard of Meadowlark—Meadow Bank Thistle yes. I dare say you just couldn't read [[Brendan Whyte's]] writing which is worse than mine (especially if on that awful blue paper from Ceylon!)?

Jim Grose

Congratulations on the pregnancy. As the father of a 15-year-old, I have but one word of advice for you: ignore all unsolicited advice (including, if you wish, mine).

When Heather and I were having dinner with four relatives once, she told me she didn't want any more. The relatives confused the issue by offering a variety of solutions. With my gaze fixed on her, but in a voice loud enough for the others to hear, I said, "Heather, ignore all this background noise and do as I tell you to." We then retired to another room and worked out a deal!

[[Thanks. Interesting that you should pick that one topic. I have, in my ignorance, made a few assumptions about how we'll raise our kids, and one decision is that if the child says it doesn't want anything more to eat, I'm not gonna force it. Until they're in junior high it seems to me that children have self-regulating hunger drives, and creating a pattern of overeating is just asking for trouble later. Besides, it can become a power play, although your description shows that it doesn't have to.]]

Bill Wordelmann

Hope you had a good holiday season. And I hope it's not too wet in your neck of the woods. We here in the Midwest are getting a whole bunch of rain (emphasis on rain—not snow!). But I'm not complaining! We're averaging about ten degrees above normal (35-40 degrees versus 25-30) up to now. I hope the weather dieties don't decide to get even with us. (Heck—it could be a 7.2 Richter!)

Are you a big football fan? I imagine the Niners have the town in a frenzy (if not the weather). Or are you a nineteen-point Lighting Bolt fan??? Go Chargers! (All I want is a competitive game... not because SF rolled over the Bears!)

[[We're about an hour south of the flooding you've seen on TV (Russian River), although many isolated spots nearby (downstream Martinez, Fremont) had flooding or mudslides. Concord sits in a small valley with good flood-control channels, so there was little chance of water damage here, except... our car! We had the windshield replaced on

the Escort last summer, and have had to call the company back out twice to patch the sealant. Well, for three weeks we had taken that car out very seldom, it had rained almost continuously, and enough water had leaked in to make the front-passenger carper a marsh!]]

Marcelo Triunfo

I was sorry to hear about your father's heart attack. But I am glad to hear that he doing better, well enough to take part in another play. Please keep up posted in regards to his progress toward recovery. And congratulations to you and Cathy on your impending child! I remember the excitement when my brother's family first had their baby, so I am looking forward to hearing about how you are undergoing the process of anticipation.

Quite frankly I must wonder which World Cup game between Romania and Colombia Bruce MacInyre was watching. Everybody knows by now that Andres Escobar's tragic own-goal occurred in Colombia's match with the United States, which the US won 2-1; Tony Meola lost the shutout in the final minutes. And it wasn't Morocco that lost in the meta-game between West Germany and Austria in 1982, it was Algeria, whose 2-1 victory over the Germans is one of the biggest upsets in World Cup history.

[[I think he's right about the C-R game (two different own goals!), but you're correct on Algeria v. Germany.]]

There is no shortage of opportunities to play Magic: the Gathering where I live. A group has been hosting MtG events every month for the last several months in Manhattan, and another group will host an event in Brooklyn at the end of January. However, for a variety of reasons I have been unable to attend these gatherings, and as a result my opportunities to learn to play the game have been curtailed, and my interest in the game has waned. For me, learning the game has been confined to reading the rulebooks and the *Player's Guide*, and my activity has been restricted to maximizing deck construction, coming up with effective two-color combinations.

It was never my intention to dedicate myself to pursuing the area of collectible card gaming. But I wanted to expose myself, however peripherally, to what has now emerged as a significant new branch of the gaming hobby. Still, traditional board gaming, and now postal play, will be my principal means of interest in the hobby for years to come.

[[I started out spending most of my MtG time building decks but quickly realized it was lame and useless without playing. I've gotten together with Jason Bergmann, Mark Lew, and/or Richard Weiss to play Magic, and after a couple of sessions I might revamp a deck or build a new one—but the fun in the game (for me) is in playing first, and I still have to find time and opponents to do that more often before I blow any more time on setting up!]]

[[And if I can get more than one opponents at a time, I'd still rather play Silverton or Titan!]]

John McLaurin

With regards to the "silly Canadian" remark that you made referring to Mr. McKee, I believe there are a great deal more silly ones up here, sillier than Brent. What other country do you know that pays people not to work, and to the extent that we do? I speak as a silly Canadian, although I am not as silly as those I mentioned above.

Peace keeping? Hah! I subscribe to the theory of Ultraviolent Pacifism.

[[Speaking of the silly Canadian...]]

Brent McKee

I'm still reading.

On your comments about Bosnia, you're right,

# ARKON/Gunboat Snowball Fighting ASF27

you don't understand peacekeeping. Of course this really isn't peacekeeping since there is no peace to keep. The UN forces were sent to Bosnia to protect the aid that is being sent to the civilian population. That's why it is called UNPROFOR, United Nations Protection Force. They are there to protect the aid and to protect the civilian population. They aren't there to stop the fighting.

Even worse of course are the rules of engagement. You questioned why the Canadians and other troops who were taken "hostage" by the Serbs didn't resist. The simple answer was that the Rules of Engagement set down by the United Nations didn't permit them to. The troops were not permitted to fire unless they are fired upon, and in this case the Serbs didn't fire. They simply came to the UN positions in large numbers and restricted the movements of the Canadian troops.

Similarly, there is a limited amount that the UN troops can do in escorting convoys. They are frequently stopped at road blocks. The Rules of Engagement say that the UN troops cannot fire unless they are fired upon, and are able to identify the position that is firing upon them. If they are fired on by a sniper and aren't able to identify more than just the direction that the sniper is firing from, they can't shoot. They are only able to call for airstrikes if they are fired on by heavy weapons and then the aircraft can only attack if they are able to identify the exact position when they get over the area. Of course if they do attack something, they risk having UN personnel taken hostage again.

Based on this, the Serbs have developed a very effective strategy for handling convoys (both food and fuel). They will set up a roadblock and halt the convoy, but not fire. This usually results in the UN commander visiting the Serbian High Command to have them order the troops holding the roadblock to let the convoy through. Of course, the local Serbian Commander may or may not accept this order for a while. This makes it somewhat hard to get convoys through. Then, in the past and it probably still happens, they have had snipers along the route taking pot shots at the mostly civilian truck drivers in the convoys, which tends to discourage new recruits.

This is the sort of situation the UN finds itself in in Bosnia. There are between one and two thousand Canadian soldiers in Bosnia and Croatia at any one time, as well as a frigate off the coast in Arms Blockade. Given that the total active duty force of the Canadian Armed Forces (all three branches) is 60,000 this is a sizable commitment.

On the U.S. Elections: has Huffington conceded yet? If you want to hear something really weird, a few months ago I was reading the *International Express*, a weekly with the "good" bits from a week's run of the British *Express* newspaper when an article struck me dumb. It was a piece on Arianna Huffington, confidently explaining to their English readers how she would be the next First Lady of the United States! It goes without saying that she would be much better than Hillary Clinton.

The *Express* has had a real vendetta going about Bill and Hillary. Latest 'reports' are that their relationship is all a sham and behind closed doors they are constantly yelling at each other. This supposedly comes from Secret Service agents. But then the *Express* has used every opportunity to attack Mrs. Clinton. In reports about the White House counsel who committed suicide, they took great pains to describe him as Hillary Clinton's "suspected lover" every time they mentioned him.

[[I understood that the UNers couldn't fire unless fired upon; but this is the first time I've heard that that squad of Canadian soldiers was captured without firing a shot!

[[I don't even value tabloid gossip as highly as I value the doggie dog it should be used for!]]

		Wrap-Up		
WARRIOR	player	tp	hp	sb-di
George Costanza	Marcelo Trunfo	16	6	0-0
Rantop Chuckers	David McCrumb	15	2	0-0
Tigger of the Tundra	Mike Quist	15	7	0-0
Splat to the Head	John Galt	11	2	0-1
Tater D. Mallion	Tom Hurst	11	4	0-0
Old Man Winter	Chris Hassler	10	8	0-1
Frost Queen	Daf Langley	10	3	0-0
Icedance	Kay Shapiro	9	0	0-0
Yosemite Sam	Rick Kohmar	8	5	0-1
Mr. Freeze	Victor Thomas	8		out

Rantop Chuckers: Once again, I reach 15 VP and fail to win! I should give up, but I am too stubborn.  
Yosemite Sam to Arko-nauts: Ya gnarly-radicated idjits, ya! When Ah caught y'all the "Sammy Shuffle," Ah didn't spect ya ta be so jaggermicked entainted that ya'd spend the whole fleablustid round-up a-slamwakkin' me with pot-shots, jes' ta watch em skeeter around!

But Ah larnt muh lesson, and Ah'm a-gonna rite it down in muh Larntin' Book soon's as Ah larnt ta rite. Then Ah'm gonna larn ta read, so's how Ah won't fergit muh lesson. It's jes' this... him what's got the biggest loudest mouth is shor'nuff gonna be the first ta get a big shuten-up shoved down his pie-hole!

[[Rikko sez: As Sam, I enjoyed the 'press' in this game. Thank to all, especially our 'FV' about the 'Snow-pusher.']]  
GM to Rikko: You're on notice, son—Ah've seen you flirtin' with that Tom Howell character. You press here or you won't press nowhere!

Splat to the Head: As always, this game was a lot of fun. It seems to me almost entirely luck; if there's a diplomacy aspect, it's too subtle for me to figure out.

IceDance to all: Hey, what's everybody following me into the kitchen for? Oh, Ah well; I'd like to propose a toast in hot chocolate to the SnowMaster, without whom all this would not have been possible!

SnowMaster: Thank you, thank you! And now, da winnah...

George Costanza: This game ended a lot sooner than I expected. I, too, was dismayed at seeing the amount of press dwindle toward the end; all the little exchanges were among the highlights of Arkon. But that is to be expected when everyone is focused on scoring and winning. It's no surprise to see that the last playing turn featured close-range shooting by everyone who still had a chance to win.

While I was trying to establish some sort of relationship with Frost Queen, adversarial or otherwise, I wasn't interested in starting little fights with anybody else in particular—except Mr. Freeze. Last summer I actually saw Mr. Freeze, a hip-hop mime that was appearing at a contest in a local park. The comments I made in the Yard are based on my real life reaction to the performer. It was great to see Yosemite Sam return to the fight at the end; I was wondering if he was going to say something to me. But I'm glad that he's gotten over his laryngitis.

I was having second thoughts about entering the game as George Costanza. At first, I was intrigued by the possibility of George winning another contest and mastering a new domain. It took a while for me to understand how the character operated on *Seinfeld*, but he was easy to grasp, and I was soon able to react to what was happening in Arkon from George's perspective.

Just being in position to win was gratifying to me. But I am happy that everything worked out in the end. My thanks to the SnowMaster for inviting me to Arkon, and my compliments to all my worthy adversaries in the Yard!

## GIEDI PRIME / 1992AK

Winter 1911: Austria in civil disorder, GM disbands f gre; Germany disbands a mun; Italy builds f ven.  
f rom; Turkey builds f ank.  
England proposes G/I draw.

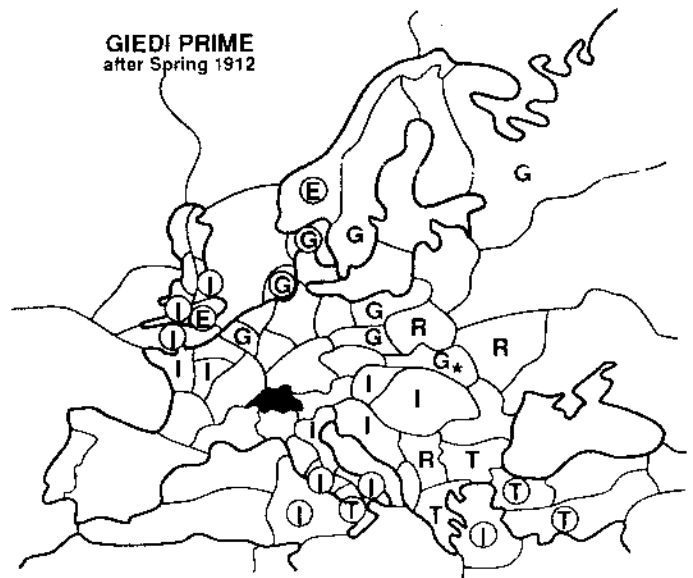
Turkey (Andy York): f nap-tyr, a bul-gre, a con-bul, f ank-con (f smy s).

Summer Retreat: Russian a gal.

Deadline for Fall 1912 is February 24.

Spring 1912: Nit Picking  
Austria (civil disorder): a alb h.  
England (Jamie McQuinn): f nwy-nis, f lon-nis.  
Germany (Lance Anderson): a bel u, a den-swe (f ska s), f hel-nis, a boh-gal, a sil-war (a pru s), a stp-mos.  
Italy (Hugh Magen): f bre-eng, a par-bre, f edi-yor, f lvp-wal, a gas-par, a pie-ven, a vie s german a boh-gal, f ven-apu, f tun-tyr (f rom s), f aeg-gre, a rum-bud (a tri s).  
Russia (Greg Ellis): a gal-war /dshlodged/ (a ukr s), a ser s turkish a bul-gre, a war-mos.

### GIEDI PRIME after Spring 1912



## It's Me Again!

by Cathy Gaughan

Hello everyone!! Hope your holidays went well. I can't complain, mine were pretty special. Pete got me a rocking chair, well it's actually a gliding chair. It's really wonderful. I love to rock and I will only need to use it more after we have our baby. It's finally starting to sink in that I am pregnant. We went to our second prenatal exam on Jan. 2nd and heard the baby's heart beat. It was unbelievable. There really is someone living in my belly. On Jan. 25th we will have a sonogram, so we might find out the sex by then. My tummy is starting to get that famous pooch. My clothes have been tight for over a month but I just looked fatter—now I think I'm starting to look pregnant.

Earlier this evening I had a quartet rehearsal here at home. We are working really hard on two songs that we are competing with in April. But this coming weekend Jan. 13-15 we get a kind of try out. It's one of the regional weekends and there will be a Novice Quartet Parade that my quartet will be performing in. We will be evaluated so we can get an idea of major areas that need work before April's real competition. The weekends are great. We get classes on singing techniques, administrative aspects of Sweet Adelines and lots of other stuff. It's also like a big slumber party with several hundred of your closest friends that love singing as much as you do. I guess it's kind of like a Diplomacy Party or Con, but mostly women instead of men and lots of singing instead of negotiating. Probably about the same amount of fun.

I think I told you in the last issue that my Dad was coming to visit from Florida on Christmas and stay till after New Year's. He was here and we did lots of sight-seeing. We went to Yosemite in the snow. It was very beautiful, I'd never been there in winter time. My Dad loves cold weather, too, so he just loved it. We enjoyed the Monterey Bay Aquarium on another day. We saw some whales off shore while there. We went to the Light House at Point Reyes in the rain, but we never saw any whales there. We took Dad to Muir Woods and he kept trying to figure out how to take a picture that would really show how tall the trees actually are.

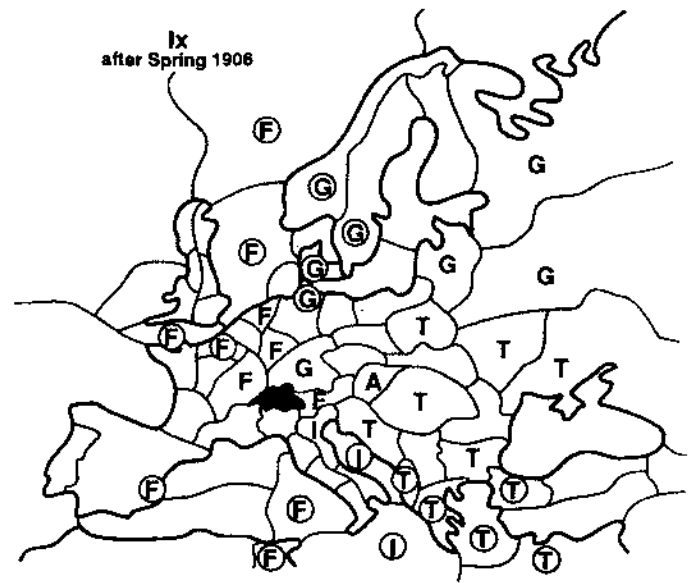
But, one of the most special times while Dad was here was on Jan. 2nd. We celebrated his birthday. We took him out to lunch and invited Pete's folks, and my really good friend Sally. After lunch we went back to Pete's folks house and had cake and presents. I hadn't seen that sparkle in his eyes for a long time. All in all I'm really glad he came to visit.

I did have a couple of rough days when I would imagine what it might have been like if my Mom had been alive to have come with him. I think I would have found out more of what was happening to him. He's a very quiet man, but I love him.

Speaking of some rough days, Pete and I both had a time of it when his Father had to go back into the hospital the week before X-mas. He didn't have a heart attack, but he had been having some angina. He went to a doctor's appointment and the doctor said he needed to go the hospital. They ended up doing another angioplasty after looking inside his grafts via an angiogram. So Christmas was very low key, so Dad wouldn't do to much. As it was I think he probably still over did it.

Now, however he's doing quite well. He has directed another play at the Community Theater called "Separate Tables". He is planning on his usual trip to Las Vegas with Pete for the Photo Marketing Association (PMA) show. He's quite a trooper. Pete's Mom is going a little bonkers trying not to worry herself to death over his health. Anyway it has made for quite an emotional time for all of us.

New topic, new day... We went to have our sonogram today, Jan. 25th. I was expecting much more than what it was. Maybe if I had had a view of the screen it might have helped. I was very disappointed that I couldn't see what was going on. She would say 'there's the head' and I would twist my head as far as I possibly could and I managed to see the glare of a light on the screen. One thing that actually made me feel a bit better was the baby was higher in my stomach than I thought. I had been feeling around and thought that I had felt something, but had totally dismissed it as being the baby because I thought it was way to high in my tummy. So, now I think I was actually feeling where the baby was. Anyway, the sonogram was NO BIG DEAL as far as I'm concerned. But if they can



## IX / 1993HG

Italy proposes concession to France.

### Spring 1906: Get Outta The Paint!

Austria (Kenneth Burke): a vic s turkish a tri.

France (Don Scheifler): fns-den, f bre-pic, f mid-eng, f nat-nwg, a hols german f den-kie /nso/, a bel-ruh, a par-bur, f mar-spa/sc, f tyn & f tun s italian f ion, a pie-tyo.

Germany (John Schultz): a tyo-mun, f bot-swe, f bal-kie (f dens), f nwy-nis, a lvn-war (a moss [a stp s mos]).

Italy (J.R. Baker): a vens french a pie-tyo /nso/, f ion hurls curses at the Turks (f adr s).

Turkey (Vincent Springer): a con-bul, a sev-mos, a war h (a ukr s), a rum-bud, a tris austrian a vic-tyo (f alb s [f gre s alb]), f acg-jon (f eas s), f smy-con.

### Deadline for Fall 1906 is February 24.

Brest to Kiel: It's *deja vu* all over again.

John to Don and J.R.: Hi guys! Does this seem familiar to you guys in any way, shape or form?

Paris to GM: So, I have to ask... did John get any letters from his predecessor? (I'll bet you knew that was coming!)

GM to Paris: Yeah, but I don't know the answer! (I knew y'all would appreciate this... but honestly, I do try to keep from placing players who've played together before. Apologies.)

A..H. to World (or what's left of it): The Turk is truly meant to triumph! Fight on, noble Turk, the French frogfaces fall in fear before you!

Marseilles to Vienna: Thanks for the flattery, but it was undeserved. I was actually just defending myself against an apparent stab from the former German. As it turns out, he appears to have fallen on the knife himself.

GM to Mars: Which makes you the moral equivalent of Quark, right?

Germany to France: You *must* know that it's not going to be *that* easy. Your approach was a lot better this time, though. It's good to be playing with you again, all else aside.

Paris to GM: In *Perelandra* #93 you extended my sub to issue 2349, and yet you now note that my sub is expiring. Does that mean you really *are* going to welsch?

GM to Paris: You bet. I intend to never publish issue 2349, so you're out of credit. (Or, maybe, "I published issue 2349 while you weren't looking!")

Brest to Kiel: "Gee, I'm gonna need some help to win this one." (fingers tapping the table)

Turkey to Germany: Good luck against the frog. Your east is safe....

GM to T: Talk is cheap but from the volume of your press it would seem to be dear.

Germany to Turkey: Let's talk sometime. I need dots.

GM to T: See, he agrees with me.

find out I have a healthy baby if of course was well worth it. I don't know if we get another one later when the baby is bigger. It might be more interesting. I would have liked to have found out the sex of the baby but that wasn't possible. I just hope nothing is wrong with it. We won't get to see the nurse to discuss it until the beginning of February.

# PLATEAU / 1994HJ

Whoops. Russian A Mos did not have to retreat, as Rum-Sev did manage to cut Sev's support even if it didn't dislodge.

Summer Retreats: English f kie-bal, Italian f tyn-nap.

## Fall 1903: HOLY JUMPIN' JUGGERNAUTS!

Austria (Matthew Lahtinen): a gal-ukr, a bud-rum (a ser s), f tri h.

England (Tim Goodwin): f edi-nts, f hel-kie, f bal s russian f swe-den, f stp/nc h, a nwy-swc.

France (Don Williams): f lyo-tyn, f tyn-tun (f wes s), a mar-bur, a mun-kie, a ruh-hol, mnew par-pic /no such unit/.

Germany (James Battle): nmr. a war u /dislodged/, a sil u, f den u /dislodged/, a kie u, a ber u.

Italy (Phil Reynolds): a ven h, a tun-naf, f nap s french f tyn-ion /nsol/, f rom s french f lyo-tyn.

Russia (Jeff August): f swe-den, a rum s austrian a ser-bul /nsol, dislodged/ a ukr-war (a mos s).

Turkey (Dave Golias): f eas-ion (f aeg s), f ion-tyn, a bul s austrian a ser-rum /nsol/, a sev s austrian a gal-ukr (f bla s).

Autumn Retreat: German a war, f den; Russian a rum.

Standby: Will John McLaurin please standby for Germany? Thanks for rejoining the party, John.

## Deadline for Winter 1903/Spring 1904 is February 24.

Seasons will be separated if TWO players so request.

Russia's BOTM: Julia Sawalha.

Duck to PJGIV: Where there's hope there's life? Nice turn of a phrase. Can you say it in Russian?

GM to Duck: Silly boy, of course I can. Цруку ерукуы рщзу ерукуы дшай.

Lyon King to Pope Philippe Renaldi IX: Debbe, pertanto, mai levare il pensiero da questo esercizio della guerra, e nella pace vi si debbe piu' esercitare che nella guerra: il che puo' fare in dua modi; l'uno con le opere, l'altro con la mente.

Duck to Concord: That's Italian, though I'll bet you knew that. I'll translate next time if you want. (McKinnon should thank his lucky stars I don't write all my press in Italian.)

GM to Duck: Sure I knew that. It reads something like: "LYON KING to POPE PHILIP REYNOLDS IX: So, I should never lift the mind from this exercise of the war, and in the peace we must exercise ourselves more than in the war; this could be done by two ways: each by the work, other by the intellect." Or maybe more generally, "We should come to an agreement about the peace, but you remember: I'm a warrior!"

France to Germany: I must certainly protest your unilateral, unethical, tyrannical, unsubstantiated (and probably anal-retentive, though I'm certainly not a clinically-trained psychologist, though I do watch tons and tons of daytime TV, and so can't use the term with authority) disallowal of my Mutant Nuclear Croissant Warriors (mncw) unit build last season. I find no rule or regulation in your HRs which preclude building or using such a unit. If you do not reevaluate your poor judgment of last season and immediately reinstate mncw (in Par), I shall be forced to call upon the BNC to have this game declared irregular.

GM to France: Give yourself a little credit. With all the time you've spent locked up in 'clinics' you must certainly know a little psychology.

"Stonewall" Nikki to Kamikaze Bill: "I hear you knocking, but you can't come in."

France to Nikki II, Postscript: Maybe you should try exporting the vodka, in mass quantities, to Turkey and Germany ...

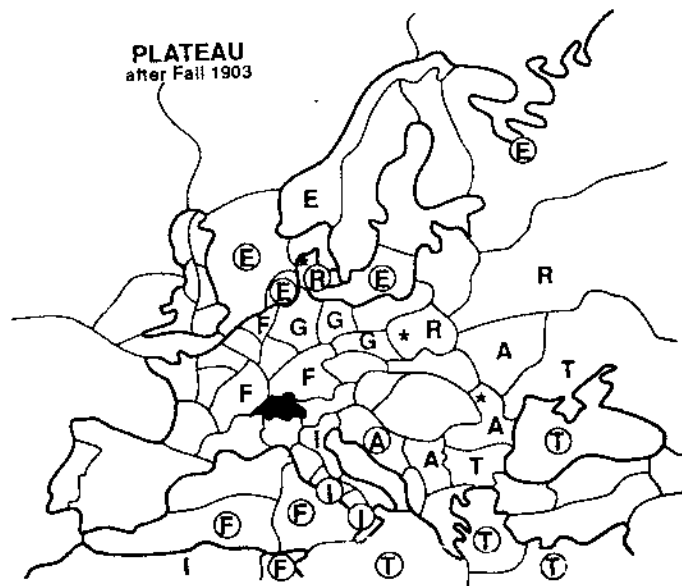
Mindless Chatter #1: Hey Turkey, Turkey; Hey Turkey, Turkey... Stabl Stabl!

Courtney Love to GM: I seem to have become a semi-regular fixture here. Shallow, self-centered and all. Go figure.

GM (tearing hair out by roots): Aarrrrggghhhh!

Current Berlin Bestsellers: *How to Make Enemies and Alienate People* by Wilhelm Xenophobe; *Victim of the World (It Was Never My Fault)* by K. Cobain; *Five Habits of Highly Ineffectual People* by C. Love Press.

## PLATEAU after Fall 1903



Postmodern Duck to Dotsnatcher: The existence of a pre-litigory culture? Was there ever such a time? Gosh! Wow! Gee! Maybe we could all harken back to those days and settle our disputes the old fashioned way, with bodkins or rapiers or dueling pistols at forty paces or loveless, politically arranged marriages or ...

Pomo Duck to PJGIV: If the heralded and foretold baby is a boy-child, one question—PJGV?

GM to Duck: Yes. I left out the Baby-Pool section last time, or you would've known already.

Cur Dog to Jack-Booted Jackal: I appreciate the tip about which way you're facing. It's hard to tell the difference otherwise. (PS: Cur dog is a redundant construction. Ask Mark Lew, he knows a lot about redundant constructions, and isn't afraid to exhibit his erudite linguistic brilliance. Often. At length.)

AH to GM: Maybe some nice 16x20 full-color glossies, perhaps?

Paris to Vienna: That big picture you are looking at should be an 80'x100' glossy of the Sultan. It's no longer a question of if, but of when, and how bad. Talk to me, mon ami.

Babe-of-the-Ninth-Month: Lil' Gaughan Junior/etc.

AH to Californians: More snow up here in the mountains, maybe the drought is over.

GM to AH: Hey, how the hell is Zephyr Cove anyway? I've driven through but never stopped. I spend more time around Yosemite than around Lake Tahoe.

Valencia to Albany (I know you're here somewhere): At last, something we can agree on—a leather-clad Dana Delaney can whip me into submission any time, any where, and at my expense. (And afterwards, she can nurse me back to health.)

London *Timer*: Sources close to His Majesty revealed yesterday that certain high-level communications have been intercepted by the enemy. Apparently, some new communication software being used to coordinate troop and fleet movements has a bug in it. The bug, which caused movement information to be forwarded to the enemy, was only discovered yesterday. It is unclear whether the bug was contained in the software at the time of delivery or introduced afterwards. In addition to troop movements, certain high-level passwords have been leaked to the enemy. An internal investigation has been initiated and the software company is being investigated.

Our diplomats have been working furiously to offset the possible ill effects of the leak. An agreement with Russian officials will allow the use of one fleet for His Majesty's service. These sailors deserve our utmost thanks and have been promised safe passage home when their mission is complete. Fortunately for our troops, the enemy is strongly outgunned and will find the troop movement information of little use. The only complication that arises from this leak is that a French army may be stranded on the outskirts of the German capital for the winter. Citizens around the country have already begun a knitting drive and soon thousands of hand-knit sweaters, hats and mittens will arrive to help the young Frenchmen brave the cold German winter.

[[Plateau press continues on page 7.]]

## PLATEAU / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1903

Austria	vie	tri	bud	ser	RUM	.	.	.	.	.	.	4/5	may build one
England	lvp	lon	edi	nwy	kie	STP	.	.	.	.	.	5/5	even
France	par	mar	bre	por	spa	bel	MUN	HOL	TUN	.	.	6/9	may build three
Germany	<del>mun</del>	ber	hel	den	war	KGE	.	.	.	.	.	5/2	must remove 1, 2, or 3
Italy	nap	ven	rom	<del>ten</del>	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4/3	must remove one
Russia	<del>sep</del>	mos	swe	<del>rum</del>	DEN	WAR	.	.	.	.	.	4/4	will play one or two short
Turkey	con	ank	smv	bul	sev	gre	.	.	.	.	.	6/6	even

GM to *Times*: Software?? In 1902?? What do you think is, Time Trax?

Mindless Chatter #2: Even the hero can take a bullet in the chest, once upon a time in the west.

Williamas to WWO:TW: I caught the references to M and J, but who the hell is Kirsten?

France to GM: How do you know so much about the submissive position of baboons?

GM to France: Edit a zine long enough and you'll see it all.

Random Tune Runnin' Through My Brain: "Under the sea! Under the sea! Nobody beat us, fry us, and eat us in *fricaut*. We what the landfolks love to cook, under the sea we off the hook ... " (I'm hanging with Valerie too much.)

France to Italy, Part One: Turkey just pulled his fleet into the Ionian, and he's got two more to back it up. Oh, goody, looks like you're saved!

GM to France: I'll tell you something, mongrel, your endgame statement for this game had better be a classic of the genre. A regular J. Conrad-level tale...

Versailles to Concord: Kirk's dead, huh? It's about &@%ing time. Can I sue his estate? I'll betcha that ol' Greyfriar syster, Emmert, would take the case.

Plat-France to Plahntin: I hope you decided to go for the gold and finally moved that fleet out of the harbor. That fleet's barnacles have barnacles, for cryin' out loud.

P-France to V-Turk: I love you, too. (And it's true—I am GHOD!)

AH to V-Turk: Hear! Hear!

Cur Dog to Kamikaze Kraut: "One's way of dying—and five dollars—can validate one's parking stub."

GM to Cur Dog: What color is the sky in *your* world?? Five dollar parking went out with 30¢ gasoline.

Snotty French Waiter to Game: So, that weel be two vodkas, neat, and one hot mead. (Sniff!) And what will the rest of *ze* party be having?

GM to Waiter: Get me a Earthquake—and a Dead Frenchman, while you're at it!

France to Waiter: Normally I'd have a Black Russian, but as things look black enough for him already, let me make it a Cognac. C'est tres Francaise!

France to Italy, Part Two: And those are tears of bliss and sheer joy in your eyes, aren't they?

Duck to Black Hole Widow (or is it Black Widow Hole?): What a filthy mouth you have! Watch yourself, or I'll have you Toad The Wet Sprocket!

Uncle Pete's Wet T-Shirt Philosophy Hour: "Second place is first loser."

Duck to Anybody Who Can Handle a Straightline: Is it just me, or does "Toad The Wet Sprocket" sound lewd and uncouth to anybody else?

GM to Duck: It's just you—the two songs I've heard were pretty good, actually.

France to Italy, Part Three: You've got it completely wrong. Actually, you need my help, not the Sultan's.

Burgundy to York: You don't say a whole lot in the press. Live by the motto, "If you have nothing to say, say nothing" do you? Shoot, that never stopped me. (As you've all figured out by now. And, just think, Pete encourages this merda! (That's Italian, too, and I'll translate next time if you ask.) Speaking of which ... )

GM to Burgundy: Do you remember Jack in "Nightmare Before Christmas"? Yelling, "I AM the Pumpkin King!" Well, I just once want to hear you yell, "I AM the Energizer Press Bunny!"

### THE DIPLOMINATI—Part 3

THE SEA OF PRESS, ABOARD THE SUB-TEXT *Not Word One*. The sub-text, *Not Word One*, a sleek and deadly marauder below the Sea of Press, seemed to wallow like an ungainly harbor tug while on its surface. That was the thought running through her captain's head as he stood on the conning tower bridge and watched the gang of jacktars on the aft deck as they uncrated the typos and manhandled them over the starboard side of the *Not Word One's* rolling bulk. He disliked exposing his vessel on the surface of the text like this, and especially in the Sea of Press, but at least he was familiar with these pages. In spite of his concern, he smiled.

Years ago, on one of his first forays into the Sea, they'd forced a typewriter's E-key to stick, and an entire issue of the zine, *Fiat Bellum*, had gone to publication without an 'E'. Nearly incompre-bloody-hensible. It had only been the beginning of a long and illustrious press-raiding career for Captain Kram Wel.

The smacking splash of another massive typo hitting the surface broke him from his reverie. As the typo floated off across the page, Captain Wel thought this another fruitful voyage in the making. Not since the sinking of *Upstart* had he felt this good, though pulling the plug on *I Still Live!* had come close.

From the corner of his eye, he noted with consternation that the bridge lookout on his right was tracking the progress of the typos with his binoculars as they floated abeam of the *Not Word One*.

"We know where they are!" he growled, startling the boy. "I've been out here for years, and I've never hit a typo yet!" The young lookout burned crimson as he lifted the binoculars to the horizon once more and scanned the margins. Perhaps, thought Captain Wel to himself, he'd been too abrupt. It was the lookout's first time out.

"Actually, son, that's not quite true. Once, I actually misspelled 'supersede' as 'supercede,' a common mistake which, incidentally, also appears in the *Magic* book." He ran his fingers through his long, blackish hair. "It was pretty bad, and I regret it to this day. The etymology is, of course, Latin, and the root is *sedere*, to sit. As I'm sure you know, *sedere* has cognates in the Romance languages; it is the source of the

words 'sediment,' 'sedimentary' and, less directly, 'seat' and 'sit,' and appears in the Catholic Mass in 'Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris.'" Captain Wel was beginning to feel it; he was starting to roll, and his quick brown eyes left the young lookout and began scanning the horizon automatically. The lookout's own green eyes meanwhile rolled uncontrollably back into his head as he unsuccessfully fought an incredible urge to swoon. "So if, for example, one court supersedes another, it suggests that the one court sits above the other. It's actually more complicated than that—supersede was already a mature word in Latin and developed a second meaning, 'to refrain,' from the original 'to be superior to.' The second is the source of the supersedeas writ we see in law. Furthermore ... " As the overcome lookout slipped unconscious to the metal deck of the *Not Word One*, the first mate, who'd watched things developing, stepped forward to assist.

"Captain Wel," he said, trying to revive the stricken lookout, "don't be so hard on yourself. Hell, even Webster's allows for 'supersede' as a variant spelling of 'supersede.' You can look it up yourself. In fact ... " He was interrupted by the aft lookout's warning cry.

"CURSOR! CURSOR! Port margin!"

"Damn the Muse!" cried the Captain. He scanned the port margin, quickly picked out the intermittent black dot. It was already hideously close and scrolling rapidly toward them. The work party hefted the half-full crate of typos overboard and was already scrambling for the hatches. To a man, the jacktars knew that a *Benzene*-Class sub-text, for all it's enormous power, had only one surface weapon—the lone 22-point punctuator on the foredeck. None of them had any misconception about using it to hit the agile and deadly cursor that was even now tabbing across the page at the *Not Word One*.

Captain Wel was the last man down, making sure to secure the hatch. He dropped to the bridge, where the klaxon was already braying its alarm through the sub-text.

"Segue! Segue! Segue! Let's get out of here!" The *Not Word One* jerked into motion as her crew grabbed at consoles and chairs with practiced authority. The sub-text thrummed as she began to segue down to escape. Moments later, the *Not Word One* bucked and shuddered violently with the impact of near misses as the cursor's edit/delete function rapid-fired above, deleting whole words within letters of her hull.

"Let's go! Move!" yelled Wel.

"It's overshoot! It passed us," said the Detection Officer. The crew on the bridge began breathing a collective sigh of relief. Except for the Captain. He knew ...

"No! No! No! The Muse be DAMNED! The bloody cursor's back in front of us," reported the Detection Officer a second later. "How the hell did it ... ?"

"WordWrap," growled Captain Wel through gritted teeth. "Reader, what's our depth?"

"Line 12, Sir."

"Get us deeper!"

"I'm looking, Sir, I'm looking! But it's *Diplomacy* press, dammit! There's not a lot of depth here, Captain!"

"If this were *War and Peace*, Ensign, you wouldn't make the money you do!" snapped Wel. "Find me anything!" he said. "Noun-verb agreement! A subject plane! Somewhere in the flux where there's a change in subject or author! Anything to deflect it's sensors. Now!"

"There's some Williams press coming up on the screen, Captain."

"Too thin, it's worthless." The cursor scrolled down the page after them.

"Here's a McKinnon 'Babe o' the Month' piece, Sir!" Captain Kram Wel pursed his lips. The cursor was hard on them. Not a lot of choice.

"Take it ... and may the Muse preserve us!"

### GREAT MOMENTS IN BABEOUSNESS, PART IV: Jennifer Tilly's logs going from her

A low rumble ran through the sub-text, followed by a sickening lurch as the *Not Word One* shifted violently to port. The sub-text began to list immediately.

"Damage report! All sections! All sections report!" ordered Wel.

"I don't believe it," muttered the Reader, drawing back from the periscope. "It took out the entire second line. Gone ... "

"Engineering reporting, Sir," crackled the intercom. "Too close. We're taking on correction fluid in the port ballast, 18 degree list! We can patch it and pump to stabilize, but we won't last through another hit like that. "

"Okay, he thinks he got us," muttered Captain Wel. "Time to think. Reader, prepare to Slip Tense. Helm, set coordinates for the next page. Flush segue tanks. Let's get this leaking bucket out of here!"

GM to Sea of Press: Whew! Glad that's finished. I hope you've enjoyed yourself. But apparently you don't know that the cursor on a Macintosh is a steel I-beam??

Lyong Kin to Archduke: Vitriol is a caustic metal sulfate. 'Vitriolic' is the adjective form, and often references a caustic quality, especially in virulence of feeling or speech. (Oh, and I was kidding when I said it to you.)

[[There's more Plateau press (believe it or not) on page 8.]]

[[This is the rest of the Plateau press from page 7.]]

Archduke to Lyon King: Vitriolic, vitriolic... ah, here it is... what! How dare you make such an intelligent, witty, ... well-thought-out sarcastic remark. Court fool, take this unabridged dictionary and go drop it on the Lyon Kig's head.

GM too Archduke: Give it up. If he weren't already a blockhead, would you be having this conversation?

Excitable Czar to Lyon King, North Witch and/or Pope: Send lawyers, guns and money.

Versailles to Concord, Take Two: On the other hand, why not let Kirk steal Picard's one-liners? I mean, it's not like Picard won't be around for another 20 or 30 ST movies.

Mindless Chatter #3: "I'm thinking of retiring from all my dirty deals. I'll see you in the next life, wake me up for meals." No!

GM to MC: "I'm reviewing... the situation... I'm a bad'un and a bad'un I must STAY!"

GM to All: For one free issue, Name That Movie.

SEA OF PRESS: The Captain looks around the bridge. He keys the intercom to the forward torpedo room.

"Launch the Prevarication Drone," orders Captain Wel. He thumbs the ship-wide intercom. "All hands, rig for adverb emulation." The sound of many feet pounding as a gang of jackrats responds, heads for the aft compartments to raise the -LY adverbial assembly. The crew hears the unfamiliar sound of the drone preparing to be launched. The intercom crackles once more.

"-LY assembly rigged. Awaiting your orders, Captain," says a scared voice over the intercom.

"Very good," says Captain Wel. "Activate at my command ... Launch NOW!"

The *Not Word One* spirals starboard, her props churning viciously as she rapidly descends the page. The cursor does a slip-change to the new page, scrolls downward in hot pursuit of the disappearing sub-text.

The *Not Word One* drifts into a V-Turk press item, seeking to hide. The cursor's sensor's are not fooled and it closes at last for the kill. Its edit/delete function hammers, pauses, and hammers again. It waits for the smoke to clear ... the entire V-Turk press item is gone. The *Not Word One* is nowhere to be seen ... obliterated, annihilated, vaporized. The cursor clears for home.

ABOARD THE SPACE STATION D69:

"What the bloody hell's going on? Somebody give me a status report!" cried Mazzer.

"Sir, Deep Shit Six scrambled two *Cursor*-class assault programs with edit/delete armaments last issue. One was nailed by a faulty sub-program, but the other got through. It's sketchy and unconfirmed, but it sounds like they found the bogey and took it out. They'll be thoroughly debriefed when they get back. We've got a handle on this thing."

"I'm not so sure," said the Boss. "That was easy, too easy ... and I hate easy." He gazed intently at MADAM's grid. "Langley, you still there?"

"Here, Sir" came the voice over the comvid. Langley's image was distorted by the screen, but he looked dog-tired.

"What you got, son?"

"Sorry, Boss, but the anomaly's extant. I can't explain it if the bogey's gone, but my readings say the anomaly's doubled in size, and it's *still* growing."

"Sit tight, Langley. Commander Mazzer ... you heard him. What do you think?"

Mazzer was wary. Things were going way too fast, and there was a lot they didn't have factored.

"All in all, Boss," he said, "I'd guess this little story ain't over yet."

"Not by far, Mazzer," agreed the Boss. "Not by far."

ABOARD THE SUB-TEXT *Not Word One*

"It cleared for home, Captain. The cursor's gone" reported the Detection Officer. "The tense shift worked, Sir! They didn't even notice the second 'rapidly' in the line."

"Well done!" said Captain Wel. "Let's get damage control underway and get back to work."

"Excuse me, Sir." It was the Radio Officer. "This came in while things were a little ... uh, hectic." Wel took the dispatch, scanned the top line, saw that it originated from CP Command. It was marked URGENT. He read it through quickly, toggled the all-hands intercom.

"Change in mission orders, men. We're headed home, immediate." The answering cheer through the sub-text could be heard without the aid of the intercom. Even Kram Wel grinned as he turned to the Helmsman. "Return to base immediately. Plot us a course for Fabula Rasa. SpeedRead Factor Seven."

"Aye-aye, Captain," said Helmsman Vokech. Within moments, the damaged but still deadly *Not Word One* turned silently for home.

GM to Plateaunians: Yes, that's really the end... for this month.

! A true incident, by the way.

## Zine Register 24

Help Out Now!

ZR news: next issue due March 1.

I've sent announcements to all Dipzine editors in North America—if you didn't get yours, contact me quickly!

If you publish a zine, send a couple of sample copies for review and we'll include you in ZR 24! (The data I'm looking for is listed at the end of this column.)

I need reviewers!

If you wish to help in the production of the postal game hobby's directory and review, write up your review of the amateur zines you see and send them in before February 28. I don't need descriptions, such as how many pages or what type of games are played. What I want to know is, what do you like or dislike about the zines you see? What style does a certain editor use? What kind of person would enjoy subscribing to that zine?

I still want comments on international zines also. Any zine in English is entitled to a complete entry, and foreign-language zines with any interest for North American readers are welcome to get a plug even if I can't review them. (I especially need help with French zines as I have been unable to obtain any review copies at all.)

ZR is up for critique as well...

If you have comments or criticisms on how ZR23 was produced *now* is the time to put 'em up. I'll be listening carefully for advice on how to organize and publish this directory.

...but a new regime will be in place after this one.

Michael Lowrey will be taking over ZR after I put out #24.

How was your Dip year?

I am still soliciting year-in-review notes—anything from a paragraph to an essay. Let me know what you thought were the most notable events in Dipdom in 1994; the most important themes; and the funniest comments.

Money is always welcome!

Of course, I'd like you to subscribe to *Zine Register* also. Price is \$2 in North America, \$4 (air mail printed matter) overseas.

Data Form: to get your zine listed, provide:

Zine Title; Editor's Name; Address; City, State, Zip, Country; Home Phone; Work Phone; Fax; Email; Which phone/email numbers should be listed?; Price; Frequency; Format (e.g. open page vs. digest, letter vs. legal, electronic file); Sample cost; First issue (month/year); Latest issue (month/year); Circulation; Games running; Games offered; Keywords you'd like to be indexed under—select from list [chat, club zine, e-mail, fannish, history, hobby news, international, laid-back, left-wing, Mensa, multi-games, politics, rail games, right-wing, service zine, speedy, sports games, United, variants, warehouse] (You may also 'make up' one keyword of your own.); Editor's comments: review, describe or promote your zine in 500 words or less.



# LUSITANIA/Gunboat Snowball Fighting ASF30

## Turn Six

WARRIOR	loc	segments 1	segments 2	segments 3	new loc	vp	hp	ib-di
Butt-Head (BH)	L14	collect Di	Di at SB (60,15)	collect Di	L14	3	8	0-1
Droopy (DR)	L6	-M7-L8, collect Sb	run indoors	sit	kit	7	10	2-0
Duke of Xeimasia (DX)	S5	collect 2 Sb	RR at DB (fails)	RR at VT* (90,27)	S5	9	3	0-0
Ice Root Beer (IRB)	S11	-Q11-O11-N12	RR at SB (95,21)	RR at SB* (95,30)	N12	7	2	0-0
Kid Charlemange (KC)	W9	run into kitchen	eat cookies (+2 vp)	drink milk (+2 vp)	kit	9	6	0-0
Polywog (PW)	P10	Di at Z (60,24)	collect 2 Sb	RR at SB* (95,70)	P10	10	7	1-0
Señor Beavis (SB)	M13	collect 2 Sb	RR at PW (95,22)	collect Di	M13	8	4	1-1
Slushball (SL)	D10	RR at T (95,47)	-E9-D8-C7-B6	collect 2 Sb	B6	5	6	3-0
Thing (T)	H6	BB at SL (65,73) & DR (75,31)	collect Di	collect Di	H6	5	5	0-2
Vapor Trail (V)	kit	sit	-V8-T8-S9-R10	BB at PW (70,24) & Z (fails)	R10	6	9	2-0
Zonk (Z)	U11	Di at IRB (40,37)	run indoors	sit	kit	12	10	2-0

Weather roll = 56. † = dodge. \* marks conditional orders. Droopy & Zonk may run out on Segment Three next turn. KC may run out any time, but gets no free 'balls.  
Deadline for Turn Seven is February 24.

**Segment One:** With Vapor Trail about to run out from indoors and Kid Charlemange down to 2 vp, the Kid figures he's everyone's target and ducks inside. Nobody's shooting at him, though, mainly because so many players are collecting ammo (Butt-Head, Señor Beavis, Duke of Xeimasia), running for position (Ice Root Beer), or both (Droopy). Slushball fires a solid shot at Thing; Thing shoots back, missing Slushball in its haste but hitting Droopy on part two of a Barnard Bolero—Droopy will be out of commission for a Turn! Polywog smacks Zonk with a Dirigible, enough soaking to send Zonk running for cover, just as Zonk score big with a Di of his own, against Ice Root Beer.

**Segment Two:** More frantic scrambling as the two sobbing sloshing soakers run into the kitchen... Vapor Trail runs out and next to the Snowman. Slushball runs up north, behind the big tree. Polywog and Thing reload, Beavis using this opportunity to splash Polywog with a Rattlesnake. This opens an opportunity for the others, though, as IRB nails Beavis, and Butt-Head give Señor Beave the Big Hurt with a Di at close range. The Duke stretches up over the top of his Fort to pound Droopy with one last shot, but the Droop makes it safely indoors.

**Segment Three:** Vapor Trail tries something similar—shooting at a kitchen-bound player—so half of his Bolero is wasted but the other half scores off Polyester. Several players pack Dirigibles, and the others throw successful Rattles: Duke on VT, Rooty and Wog on Beavis.

Beavis to Butt-Head: Oh, heh heh, yeah, my zipper. Thanks for the warning, what with this cold, uh, ... heh heh it coulda froze off. Or something.

Butt-Head to Beavis: Get away, bung-hole! Go make your own snowchick.

Beavis to Butt-Head: Last week you told me, that like, there was always t.v. Now, like, you say there wasn't any in the '70s. So like, I'm confused.

Butt-Head: "Make." ... huh, huh... I made her.

Beavis to Butt-Head: Heh, heh. You said, "butt." Heh heh.

Droopy's Animated Babes of the 40s and 50s: Little Red (aka the GIRL), So White (from So White and the Sebben Dwarfs), Cinderella, and Sleeping Beauty.

Droopy to Butt-Head: All of whom are out of your class you badly drawn worse animated buffoon.

SM to Droopy: Thank goodness this game is nearing the end. I don't think I can take much more of this stupidity.

Beavis: Heh, heh... heh heh heh... hm. Polly's Dog can't get a grip on his balls. Heh heh heh.

Droopy to Señor Beavis: And the same goes for you.

Zonk to Kid Gloves: Will you be joining me for a cup of hot tea?

SnowMaster to Zonk: With a postmodern name like "Zonk" shouldn't you be drinking a 'smart' juice like electrolyte-charged guava? or at the very least, cappuccino?

Wog to SM: See what I mean about the flippers—I missed again!

Beavis: But if he's a dog, he can lick 'em. Heh heh.

Beavis' Literary Quiz, Pt. I: What's the name of that magazine where the chicks, like, sit around with no clothes?

SM to Beavis: We keep that away from you specifically so you won't die of brain-fry at the shock. (On second thought, maybe I should send you my back copies.)

Beavis' Wisdom: Or like, I'd call my kid Uranus. Then, when his teacher called up she'd say, "Beavis, I'm calling about Uranus." Heh heh heh heh heh.

IRB to Mexican: Take off dat hat and do the dance, leggo of that thing in your pants, catch my snow SPLAT!

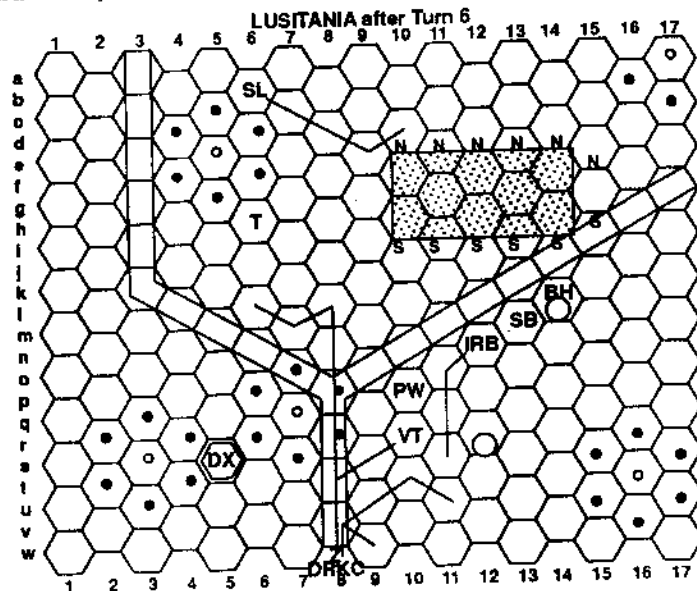
SM to Yard: A new twist on "Eat my dust!"

Zonk to Intentional Rattler Blocker: The warmth of the house may be upcoming, but a "Big D" is headed your way first!

SM to Zonk: I lived in "Big D." It seemed to me to be going nowhere fast.

Beavis' Literary Quiz, Pt. II: Heh, heh. Like, whose phone number did Butt-Head write on all the stalls at school? Heh, heh.

History Student to Duke: There were plenty of dukes in the Hellenes during the Middle Ages, after the Crusaders took Constantinople—Grand Duchy of Athens



and all that.

Beavis' Wisdom: Or she'd call and say, "Beavis, next week will you bring Uranus for show & tell?" Heh, heh. Hm. hehhehhehheh.

IRB to Vapor Spray: Quit *humpin* the snowman, do some *jumpin* around, man, and some *pumpin* the snowballs at the Mexic-c-can!

Beavis to Butt-Head: Hey, Butt-Head, where do babies come from, anyway?

SM to Beavis: You catch it from babid bats.

Wog to SM: I have to wonder what's on the other side of these fences.

SM to Wog: Well, on the west side we have the Sharks and Jets. To the east is a mysterious neighbor with slanted eyes. And north of us we have a tribe of barbarians, which call their land Cimrmeria. (Actually, I've always pictured the various SF games as being yards in the same neighborhood, and in fact in one game someone ordered an attack on a player in another game, and sure enough here came a snowball flying way out of the blue to land in the yard next to that player.)

Beavis' Wisdom: Or like, he'd get a rash and the school nurse would say, "Beavis, I'd like to look at Uranus' itch."

Droopy to Polywog: Should I do it? It would be wrong for me to do it. It could put an eye out or hurt him bad. But gosh my hands are getting cold just holding this snow.

If I do it my hand won't be full of snow and it can get warm. I dood it!

SM to Droopy Drawers: So *you'll* have to scoop it up.

Beavis muses: Yeah, I think I'll call my kid "Uranus Tool Slayer GWAR Beavis Jr."

SM to Beavis: You never did tell me what GWAR is. (Like I really want to know...)

Beavis to Butt-Head: Hey, like, help me get this snowchick into the shed.

MultiWog to Zonk: Ooops, it slipped!

Zonk to SM: Can we call a time-out so that everyone can pack up a good, solid

Dirigible to sling at Beavis and Butt-Head???

SnowMaster to Z: Hmmmmmm...

Droopy to Duke: Come out here and fight like a man... and I'll fight like a cartoon dog!

Polywog to Droopy: Slap, Slap, Slap, Slap, Slap, Slap, Slap, Slap!!!!

SM to Wog: Yeah, it'll be something like that.

IRB to Señor: Take THAT ... and THAT!

Beavis' Literary Quiz, Pt. III: Can you forge Principal McDicker's signature? We need a pass. Heh heh.

# SILVERRUN/Snowball Fighting ASF31

WARRIOR		Player	loc	segment 1	segment 2	segment 3	new loc	wp	hp	st	di
Atog	Wang	N2	nmr				N2	0	6	2	0
Dirty ol' Man	Baker	Q15	-P14-O13-P12-R12	collect Di		Di at ZP* (50,93)	R12	0	8	2	0
Fearless Reaper	Narhi	D2	RR at A (95,87)	collect Sb, -E2-G2		RR at A	G2	2	10	1	0
Freezer Burn	Golias	B14	nmr				B14	0	10	2	0
Glacial Gladiator	Brown	V14	collect Sb, -W15				T12	1	9	2	0
Guess Who?	McKinnon	B8	collect Di	De at DM (65,18), dodge		-V14-U13-T12-R12	J8	0	10	0	0
Haggis Hound	Andruschak	H6	builds Snow Fort	collect Di		-D8-F8-H8-J8	H6	0	10	2	0
Ice Sickle	Hurst	S5	-T6-V6	collect Di			V6	0	10	2	2
Puff&Fresh Snowboy	Schultz	U1	RR at A* (95,18)	RR at A* (95,20)			U1	2	10	2	0
Rude 'Dolf	Gardner	L10	builds Snow Fort	builds Snow Fort			L10	0	10	2	0
El Zorro de Plata	Kohman	U9	RR at GG (80,09)	collect 2 Sb		RR at DM (90,15)	U9	2	10	2	0

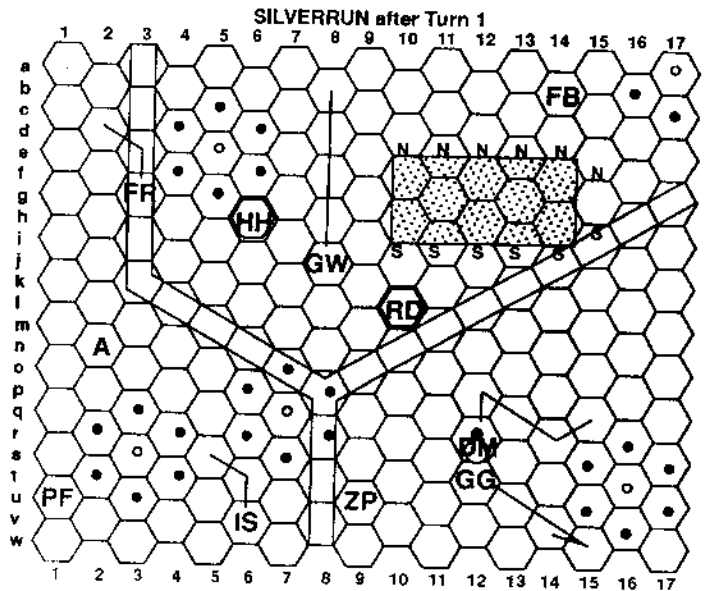
Weather roll = 18. † = dodge. \* marks conditional orders.

Deadline for Turn Two is February 24.

**Segment One:** A tentative start, as two players (Atog—summoning sickness?—and Freezer Burn) fail to wake up and two more (Haggis Hound and Rude 'Dolf) spend the entire Turn building Snow Forts. Puff & Fresh Snowboy and Fearless Reaper take advantage of Atog's snooze and splat him. El Zorro de Plata nails Glacial Gladiator. Guess Who? and Gladiator pack snow, with Gladiator moving off a bit and Dirty ol' Man making a dash for the Snowman. Ice Sickle puts his back against the house.

**Segment Two:** Fearless Reaper replaces his weapon and steps up closer to Atog; Puff takes another shot at A from the same spot with the same results. The Gladiator fires a Dolton Demon attack at Guess Who, then dodges in case someone is shooting at him. DM, GW, IS and the Silver Fox all pack snow.

**Segment Three:** Guess Who? races toward Ice Sickle, snarling and drooling and threatening Ice with his... um, with his... Folks, the rule is you can't carry more than 2 Sb, or 1 Di, while moving. If your ammo is under the limit, you're assumed to carry whatever you have, but otherwise you're supposed to tell me what you take with you—if you don't announce, you lose it all. So GW leaves both 'balls and both Dirigibles behind. And of course, weapons dissipate in the yard unless left in a Snow Fort, so bye bye Snowballs! Meanwhile, Dirty ol'Man huris his Dirigible at ZP, missing, maybe because he's distracted by the onrushing Glacial, and maybe because Zorro is firing back at DM with a solid Rattler! IS & PF pack weaponry; there's a lot of ammo around the yard at the end of this Turn!



Sing along: "She was working in a bridal shop in Flushing, Queens..."

Food for Atog: Shovel of Glacis. allows construction of Snowman in only one phase.

Rikko to David W., J.R., Doug, Steve, Tom, John & Paul: It's great to meet so many old friends in one place! Since it's hard to "do lunch" here, we'll have to "do press" instead. I know you're all capable of some good ol' happy-crappy; so whatcha say?

Are we ready to set this joint rockin'?

FR to Ice Sickle: There is only room for one.

SnowMaster to Reaper: Have no fear (right?), Sickle has a different tool on his mind.

Glacial Gladiator apologizes for the brain freeze that led to his not sending press this turn, and promises to pummel you with press next time.

Sickie to Plata-puss: Does your Zorro hat need blocking? What color mask and cape are you wearing this week? (Did you ever see "Zorro, the Gay Blade"? If so, you'll understand all these obscure references.) Here I A-am!

Puff & Fresh to Atog, Dirty ol'Man (oh yeah?), Ice Sickle and SnowMaster: This is...like...my ten-thousanth attempt at this game and none of you are going to stand in my way!!! This time. Maybe. (Well, then, how much to let me win one?)

SM to Puff: Going rate is \$10—I'm getting cheaper the longer Cathy is unemployed!

FR: Poor sods, you don't yet realize you have lost!

Sing along: "...til her boyfriend kicked her out in one of those crushing scenes."

Food for Atog: Ziploc Freezer Bag. allows one to enjoy cookies in the backyard once

IceSick has fetched 'em for you after one of his numerous visits to the kitchen.

SM: You realize, of course, that I'm going to steal all of these when I make the Perelandra expansion set.

Kohman to Dave G., Harry & Ward: And it's always good to make new friends. You can call me "Rick" or "Rikko" or "Raymond J. Johnson, Jr.," or anything you feel is appropriate. Now, as a seasoned veteran of the Snow-Wars, you could do worse than heed my advice. (You could also do better, but that's a topic for nit-picking pedants...) Your primary objective is "press"! Your secondary objective is to splat enemy characters in alphabetical sequence. Would I lie to you? Have I ever lied to you before?

SnowMaster to David W., J.R., Doug, Steve, Tom, John & Paul: Leave it to Rikko to write the wittiest AND least relevant press, all at once!

Sing along: "So, over the bridge from Flushing to the Sheffield's door. She was there to sell makeup, but father saw more..."

Sing along: "She had style, she had flair, she was there! That's how she became: the Nanny!"

SM to All: Oops. spoke too soon. "Least relevant" title just got snatched away. (further 'Sing along' items deleted)

Zorro to GG, DM & PG: My sword, she is thirsty for the blood of desperados who defile La Doña del Llanos Blanca. Must I once again drive off banditos and replace her head?

FR to ZP: El Zorro va a caer.

SM to Fearless: I help me out (my Spanish is ten-years rusty). What does the verb "caer" mean?

Haggis Hound to All: Apologies for the brief postcard of introduction instead of the two-page masterpiece of a letter you were all expecting. However, I am currently researching what I need for a home computer system of my own, how to finance it, and where to buy it. By the time you read this I hope to have the hardware set up and troubleshoot, the software installed and debugged, and I have a basic understanding of Windows. I already know DOS. Probably a 486/66 with MPC & modem.

SnowMaster to HH: My windows only slide open halfway; we're a Macintosh household. However, if you do get that modem let me know whether you're online somewhere! (What's an MPC?)

Sickie to Scotshund: If you really like haggis, you've got a lot of guts!

FR: To call me awesome is an understatement!

SM to Fearless: Until you score, to call you awesome is a joke!

HHGW to HH: Haggis, what is haggis?

Highlander: It's sheep's stomach stuffed with meat and barley.

Puff & Fresh to Haggis: Hi, guy! Yep, just seeing you everywhere. You may not know it yet, but now that you're playing SF your very essence is complete.

HHGW. And what do you do with it.

Highlander: You eat it.

HHGW: How revolting!

Food for Atog: Easton 2000 Hockey Stick. do additional 1pt of damage to adjacent target.

Sickie to Hooley: Sorry, but I wear glasses. You need to get a lot closer if I'm to greet you properly.

SnowMaster to Sickie: Nobody wears glasses for long in this game.

Food for Atog: Mask of Obsequy. allows you to match your attitude to whatever would most please IceSick.

# DURLA / 1994Wrb32 Gunboat Diplomacy

## Fall 1902: The Wild Wild West

Austria: a gal-rum (a bud s), a rum-bul (a ser s, f gre s).  
 England: f nts-ska, a fin-stp (a nwy s, f bar s).  
 France: a pic-bel (a bur s [a gas bus]), [lyo-mar, f mid-wes.  
 Germany: a mun u, a ber u, a ruh-hol, f den-swe.  
 Italy: a pie-mar, a nun b, f ion-ryn.  
 Russia: f stp/sc h /dislodged/ (a mos s), a war h.  
 Turkey: f smy-aeg, a bul-rum (f bla s, a sev s), f con-bul/sc.

Autumn Retreat: Russian f stp/sc.

## Deadline for Winter 1902/Spring 1903 is February 24.

Seasons will be separated if TWO players so request.

Italy to Pink Floyd: To have a dead head does not mean that I am not a wall for the Waters! I may be sly, but yes, no byrds shall be hurt by those who have stones thrown at them. And the yardbirds shall be fed cream in glass bowis free of beetles.

GM to Durlans: What do you call a Deadhead who's stopped living with his girlfriend? Homeless.

New York Times Former Italian Prime Minister Luigi (love thy neighbor) Linguini, who was recently fired after the first of two coup d'etats, has apparently taken up residence outside of Paris and is apparently intimately involved in French Foreign Policymaking. French Foreign Minister Pierre Ifitsalrightwithyou refused to comment. Wolfgang Drinkeneinbier, Defense Minister in Germany, stated that "if Luigi's influence helped keep the French from assaulting Munich, then I'm all for him. Although you gotta be worried about this promising everybody everything stuff." British Foreign Minister Lord Phillip Windbag, in a twenty-minute interview, said, ... well, nothing really.

Pfft to Gtst: French perfidly feigning affection frightens "pfft." Following French forces' philosophies, "pfft" favors friendship from feathered friend.

GM to Pfft: 10 brownies points to the first reader who tells me what "gtst" comes from. I to F: Your fingers AND your toes were crossed.

France to Italy: I sincerely hope that we don't have to be "stuck" in a war now with each other. It was hardly my intent. Still, I found your move to Piedmont upsetting (even if F Ion's attempted move to Aeg was simultaneously somewhat reassuring). I had wanted to bounce with my 2 fleets in Wes this season, but found that I HAD to protect Mar (and Wes). Thanks a lot. It looks like we may be finding ourselves dragged into the vortex with each other. I hope not, and would only suggest that your prompt retreat from Piedmont would affirm as such. Perhaps your retreat from Pie, combined with our agreeing to keep bouncing off each other in the Western Med, would serve to quell this potentially explosive situation. Thoughts?

England to Germany: Thank you for your patience in Sweden. After your experience, the British War Dept. felt it was necessary to eliminate the Russian threat in Scandinavia and the Baltic Sea. Your indulgence is appreciated. As before England will not interfere with your plans in Holland. Although, I suspect you will have already exhausted your diplomatic efforts in Holland by the time you read this.

Russia to England: Go away! Go away!

GM to England: Oh, he's subtle, this one!

Mr. U to Pepe LePew: I've already seen that movie. I didn't like the ending last time. I believe it was on the flight to Mecca for the 4th Crusade. The slimy pre-Napoleonic Frogs offered to 'help' we Italians. Why do you think the official language of Tunis is French now and Arabic is spoken in Mecca! Go home. Pick the fight you are starting with Germany! How long do you think the world will tolerate such blatant E-F adultery?

Original Italian to GM: How dare you try to replace me! Here I am, and here I shall stay! And as for France, he has the rock upon which I shall found my church! Although, Peter was my rock last time my Dad let me play on Earth. Do you want to be my rock, Peter? Maybe if you won't let me submit orders, you could at least hum a few bars of "Unchained Melody."

GM to Original Italian: Do I know you? Are you someone? Have we met before?

New Italian to Witches: Let's have some Magic. Prove you're witches!

West Witch to East Witch: I lost my broom.

Turkey to Austria: As you can see, I vacated Greece last turn, so your fears of Super-Turkey are unwarranted. I stick by my original proposal that we split the Balkans two for two and thus am taking Rumania this turn. Let me know in a future press item which two Balkans you want.

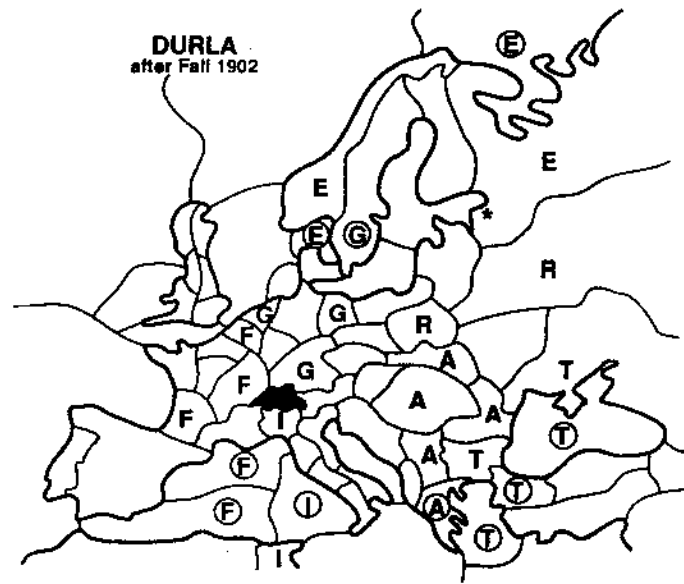
Russia to AH: I can still do something, though not for long.

GM to Russia: Don't worry, lots of guys get by just fine with 'short.'

I to AH: Greetings redux to you. Watch my moves, not either pair of cheeks. Thanks for the wise press to "F".

Connie Chung to France: "Who is your target? Whisper it, just between you and me."

GM to Chung: Ooh, cheeky!



## DURLA / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1902

Austria	vie	tri	bud	ser	rum	gre	6/6	even
England	lvp	lon	edi	nwy	STP	.	4/5	may build one
France	par	mar	bre	spa	por	BEL	5/6	may build one
Germany	mun	kie	ber	den	SWE	HOL	4/6	may build two
Italy	nap	ven	rom	tun	.	.	4/4	even
Russia	stp	mos	war	.	.	.	3/2	even or remove one
Turkey	con	ank	smy	sev	bul	.	5/5	even

## LAMETH / 1992AJ

Autumn Retreat: French a bel-bur. Winter 1910: England disbands f lon; France disbands f wes; Russia builds a sev; Turkey builds a con, a ank. France proposes concession to Turkey.

### Spring 1911: Hey, Doc... What's Up?

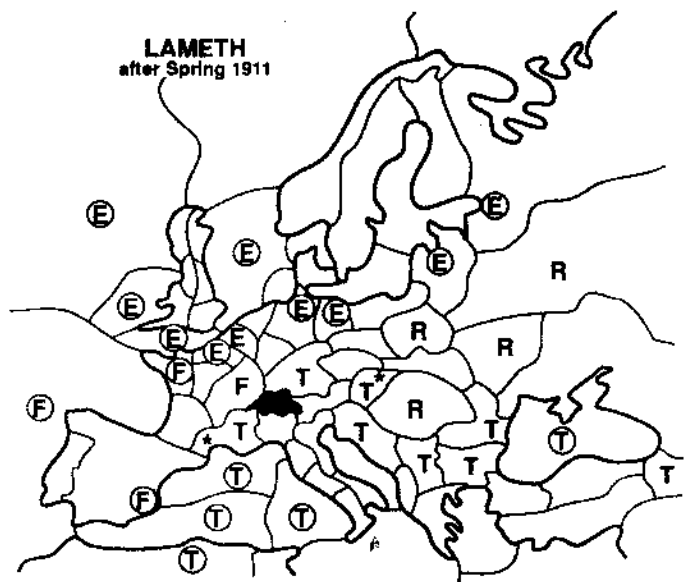
England (Stan Johnson): f wal-eng (f nts s, f pic s), a bel-bur, f hol-kie, f nar-mid (f iri s), f pru-lvn (f stp/sc s), f kie-ber, a ukr-gal /annihilated/.  
 France (Martin Johnson): f bre-eng, f mid h (f spa/sc s), a mar-pic /disl./, a bur-pic.  
 Russia (James Bailey): a sev-ukr (a mos s, a war s), a vie h /dislodged/, a bud-gal.  
 Turkey (Tim Goodwin): a con-bul, a ank-arm (f bla s), a rum-bud, a bul-ser, a mun-bur, a pie-mar (f lyo s), a tyo-vie (a tri s), f tun-wes (f tyn s, f naf s).  
 Summer Retreats: French a mar; Russian a vie.

### Deadline for Fall 1911 is February 24.

John Bull to Tsar Jim: Oh contraire you rascally Russia; your influence on the outcome of this game will be the same as most weak powers; which is the same as grist plays between millstones!

Russia to France: Well, that didn't work. NOW what?

Russia to everybody else: Hch, hch. Just kidding.



# TRALFAMADORE / 1994xxm22, Youngstown XV

Oops: Map showed Austrian army in Congo; shoulda been Leopoldville. Also Egypt's new units were indeed fleets. I remind players that maps are artificial courtesies; if the map and the printed adjudication differ, the printed moves prevail. No delay will be granted for map errors.

I have been receiving rules questions, and providing rulings whenever, in each case, the player asking has requested that his name not be revealed. I don't see a way to state the ruling without giving away who asked the question, so here's my solution: I will put off announcing a ruling for ONE season—no longer! But if someone else asks the same question in the meantime, then the whole thing comes into the open immediately. (So, look for two rulings next turn for sure.)

## Spring 1902

- Australia Z (Doug Brown): f melbourne-tasman sea, f new zealand-south pacific (f mid-pacific ocean s/dislodged/), a south australia-perth.
- Austria A (Steven McKinnon): a leopoldville-ubangi, a kameron's morrocan a french nigeria-british nigeria, a galicia s russian a romania ta budapesti sa f albania-greece (a serbia s).
- Brazil B (Charles Goetz): f recife-azores, f azores-windward islands, a amazon-british guiana, a la plata-sao paulo.
- Canada C (Jamie McQuinn): f toronto-montreal/nor, f montreal-nc-labrador, a alaska h, f iceland-norwegian sea, f labrador sea-north atlantic.
- Chile L (John Bryden): f santiago-south pacific, f antofagasta s mexican f guadalajara-mid-pacific, a peru-ecuador, a bolivia h.
- China X (John Galt): a peking s indian a burma-sikang f impossible/ (a kansu s peking).
- Egypt Y (Daniel Wardko): f suuez-red sea, f cairo-eastern med, a anglo-egyptian sudan-suez, a cyrenaica-farafa.
- England E (Matthew Lahtinen): f liverpool u, f edinburgh u, f thalant/ec u, f johore u, a cunene-ovamboland, f english channel's morrocan f cas-mid, a norway h, f north sea c german a den-bel /nso/.
- Ethiopia P (Michael Quist): a asmara-somaliland, a adis ababa-wahi (a kenya s [a jungle s kenya]).
- France F (Steve Nicewarner): f abidjan-cape verde, a gold coast-english nigeria, f formosa-south china sea (f saigon s), a brest-gascony, a marseilles-burgundy (a paris s), f portugal-mid-atlantic.
- Germany G (Ward Nahli): a dar es salaam-kenya, f kiel-frigolad f holland s, a munich h, a katanga-zaire, a burgundy-gascony f dislodged/, a denmark s russian f gulf of bothnia-sweden.
- India H (David Schlosser): a delhi-rajasthan, f madras-arabian sea, a calcutta-burma, a ceylon-madras, a burma-sikang, f madagascar-somali sea.
- Italy I (Chris Warren): nmr. f rome, f naples, f mogadisciu, f tunisia, a piedmont, a corsica all unordered.
- Japan J (Jim Bailey): f tokyo-philippines sea (f philippines s), f ovaka-east china sea, f kyoto-honshu, f karafuto-northwest pacific, f canton s russian a manchuria-peking.
- Mexico M (Vince Springer): a mexico city-yucatan, f monterrey-gulf of mexico, f guadalajara-mid-pacific ocean, a guatemala-honduras, a baja california-sonora, f cuba-caribbean.
- Morocco O (Rich Irving): f casablanca-mid-atlantic, a marrakech-mauritania, a senegal-guinea, a french nigeria-british nigeria.
- Netherlands East Indies N (David Kovar): f jakarta-malay sea (f palembang s), f hollandia-philippines sea, a borneo h, f brunei-celebes sea, a new guinea u.
- Russia R (Alex Simmons): a moscow-ukraine, a irkutsk-outer mongolia, a st. petersburg-baltic sea /imp/, a turkestan-sinkiang, a manchuria-peking, f korea-yellow sea, f gulf of bothnia-sweden, a warsaw-galicia (a rumania s [f sevastopol s rumania]).
- Transvaal V (Eben Kurtzman): f durban-cape of good hope, a pretoria-mozambique, a barotseland h (a rhodesia s).
- Turkey T (Matt Heppie): a iran h, a baghdad-nejd, a yemen-ast. black sea-aegean, a constantinople-bulgaria, f smyrna-eastern med, a bulgaria-greece.
- United States U (Martin Johnson): f los angeles-northeast pacific, f norfolk-sargasso sea, f sargasso sea-leeward islands, f hispaniola-puerto rico, f hawaii-micronesia.

Autumn Retreat: Australian f mid-pacific ocean; German a burgundy. Fall orders may be made conditional on where these retreat to, and they may retreat off the board. FYI: "nso" means "no such order".

Deadline for Fall 1902 is February 24.

Austria to Japan: Now I remember the name. I have a Heart Throbs album: *Cleopatra's Grip* to be precise. I hope the rest of Carlotti's work is better, otherwise your better-than-the-Widow-Hole claim is pure...

China to World: For as long as I last, I'll support any move against Russia or Japan, including into China. Such a deal! Get 'em while I last!

India to nearby colonial powers: You guys are confusing!

GM to India: Actually, the colonial powers' *homebases* are really confusing—all those

huge units on a tiny little map!

Moroccan Naming Ideas: As long as everyone is playing the name game, here are some pfunny ones: Long Gaughan, Dog Gaughan, and Going Going Gaughan (I know I'm going to get it for this one!) Feyd???

PJGIV to Morocco: It's been a while since I've done this, so here it is again. My name is Peter James Gaughan IV, and that last name is pronounced "GAW-hea". Not "Gone" or "Goggin."

Austria to Bailey-san: Well, my foul roommate got me the Frenet! album, and now I can't stop listening to it. Despite a) Angus' start nose ring and spiked hair; b) the fact they're all criminals (trans: Australian... So just on that cool voice I'll give in and say she's a music babe.

NEI to World: Completely, utterly swamped. No excuse for not writing, but that's the story. I'll try and do better.

Germany to All: I promise to write more next season!

Austria to Italy: Hey, if you're roleplaying I'd better attack you so that when you fold up like faulty deck chairs I get all your units.

Dolorre to France: With their tanks and their guns, and their guns and their bombs, in your head, in your head they're still fighting! IN YOUR HEAD!!

Viennese Storyteller to GM: Oh yeah! Well, sorry. You know you're supposed to take my side versus ex-girlfriends, or is she using a pseudonym in this game?

"...television will join the speech in progress. As the camera swoops in a familiar figure, standing at a podium recognized by all, comes into focus. We catch these words..."

Austria's Babes o'the Moment: Jennifer Galt, Jennifer Rubin, Patsy Kensit.

Russia to Austria: Thank you for leaving G—dammit, there you are again! Get out already!

GM to Russia: Just what I was thinkin—oh, you meant on the board.

Leacherous Devil-worshipping Metal-Heads: Ooh. We like Amy Grant, too. We want to be in an Amy Grant, Faith Hill sandwich.

GM to LDMH: Careful your bodily fluids don't leach away like that.

USA to France: That's the problem with New Year's resolutions, they're always easier to make than keep! :)

India to Transvaal: We really need to soften the tone of our correspondence. It's hard to make nice while scowling.

Turkey to India: The Sultan remains faithful to his pledge to the Afghan/Sind DMZ. He hopes that his ambassador was successful in convincing you to move towards a more fruitful sphere of operations.

Austria to Russia: POF? What's that, Point of Law?

Outside Heraklion, on the coast of Crete, two men check one another's 'chutes before boarding the craft that will drop them into the Devil's Armpit: Ottoman Turkey.

OberReichshauptamptführergesächta PanzerEßen: Reinsfuhl, habst du die Harem Eunnuckspielen Kamellflagen?

UnterSchupp Reinsfuhl: Jawohl, mein Herr. Aber must Ich den Konicalmammadonnengenschell bewearen?

Orhfg PanzerEßen: Ja, Reinsfuhl, der Zanana die Parodien seine Mutter in das Funkschrüftenampluten prefferren.

UnSp Reinsfuhl: Ihr geflenkisch in das Kopf ist.

Orhfg PanzerEßen: Oh, ja, Reinsfuhl. Oh, jawohl!

Austrian Medal of Heroism: Matthew Le Tissier.

Russia to China: Come to me, my little Chechnya.

Russia to Good Taste Committee: Well, they can't all be winners.

China to Japan: Now that you've got the bear by the ears, you better hope you can stay on his back! I predict he'll stab you by Winter 03. Don't say I didn't warn you...

Japan to Transvaal: Thanks, I consider that the highest compliment.

Scene from Casablanca II: The Wrath of Rick: (On a foggy airport runway)

Rick: Stay. Stay here. You belong here with me, together! If you go, you may be won't regret it now or tonight or tomorrow. But soon you will!

Sam: Hey man, I wasn't going keep to playing in your dump, anyway no how. I got me another gig to get to in St. Louis! Nearly broke all 10 of my fingers with that damn piano stunt!

Scorekeeper muses: Let's see, Vexvelt... Russia, nm, 2 dots; France, uh huh, 7 dots...

England, hm... 9 dots, and 16 for Turkey. So, that means Austria and Italy... NONE!! So, who cares what unfortunate meetings they might have had. Wait! Did Hurst sneak in here somewhere with my ex?

Turkey to Austria: The Sultan does not take orders from the Habsburg Emperor.

Austria to Russia: Wait! POF. You mean *Party of Fun?* You watch that thing? Man, you're braver than I thought!

The bozos at *USA Today* think POF is better than *My So-Called Life*. Wrong. *MS-CL* is the best new show, even if all the babes are underage.

Gates McFadden guest starred on POF and I still couldn't watch. Sorry.

Turkey to Chile: I am glad that we are in agreement as to our joint strategy. As you have proposed, joint operations will begin this fall.

Innocent Stander-by to Larval Lawyer in SA: Am I, you supposed to end your career in Brazil rather than start it there?

# JON CARROLL

## Is It Still Gray Outside?

I AM A SOFT PERSON; I understand that. If I'd been raised in Nova Scotia I would laugh hah hah in the face of the current endless run of dreary winter days. I would tell my friends that this is not nearly as bad as that time in '79 when the fog was so thick you couldn't see your own eyelids when you went to sleep.

But I am a California person. I do not care for gray. If it rains, I have to like it, because we need the rain. This is a phrase that California people are required to memorize in grade school: "We need the rain." But we do not need the gray.

The gray is without function. The gray is nature's way of having a nervous breakdown. Planes cannot fly in the gray. Cars and trucks crash in the gray. Everything is damp and loathsome in the gray. It's like living inside a mushroom.

You've heard of Seasonal Affective Disorder, SAD? Well, I have WATTBIGO. Indeed, I have often suspected that people who say they have SAD actually have WATTBIGO. I also believe that people who complain about the quality of the vegetables available in the store, the quality of the movies in the theaters, the quality of their sex lives, the quality of *everything* in January, are all suffering from WATTBIGO.

Therapists see it a lot this time of year. Smart therapists have soup and cookies on hand. "There, dear, it's a transitory transference event; nothing serious. Have some chowder," they say.

But they know it's WATTBIGO: Whining All the Time Because It's Gray Outside.

**Know what really perks up a day like today? A multivehicle crash on I-5**

THE GARDEN is supposed to be a place of solace in times like these — the garden, with its eternal promise of growth and rebirth and harmony with all the little leafy varieties of God's children.

The garden is not returning my calls.

I stood in the middle of the garden and complained. "You people," I told my plants, "are not shaping up. You are supposed to bring promise and hope and color and metaphors beyond measure, and what are you actually doing? Nothing! Nothing at all! Grow, you little monsters, or this is going to be a parking lot next week!"

The plants said nothing. Typical plant behavior.

To be strictly fair, a few things are happening in the garden. The hellebore around the apple tree is actually doing splendidly, but the hellebore is the Christmas Rose. You expect the Christmas Rose to do well this time of year. That's its job. I want a few of my plant brothers to be willing to put in overtime.

(Another symptom of WATTBIGO: the tendency to put a lot of words in italics. Silent whining — only in The San Francisco Chronicle).

There is one (1) penstemon flower. Is that pathetic? Three purple Stokes asters, oh joy. The Gartenmeister fuchsia (yes! calls itself the Master of the damn Garden; looks like a footman) is indolently pumping out its tiny blooms.

Slutty lavatera blooming. Slutty lavatera always blooms; no points from me. The *Tagetes lemonii* is doing its thing, bringing with it the eternal promise of pruning. It is not a consolation; it is a leggy shrub.

And mud. Gray above, gray below. We actually purchased the mud back when it was called soil amendment, so we have overpriced mud to go with the free fog. Oh look, a cancerous growth on the magnolia has broken off and fallen to earth! More solace from the garden!

SNOW WOULD BE GOOD. Snow would cover the mud and the ungrateful flowers and maybe kill a few of them as an object lesson to the others. Snow would look pretty and would provide several fine columns.

Even though the sky would be gray, the earth would be white. It would look like America in the Bay Area for a change, instead of some fogbound winter limbo, some breakaway Soviet republic in early April.

Won't happen, though. It's the days of *whine* and no roses.

**Brazil to Egypt:** Sorry we haven't spoken in awhile, I've been swamped. Unfortunately, all the news is bad, I'm all out of "Pulp Fiction" quotes, and the only one I remember from "Reservoir Dogs" has Torrentino holding forth on what he thinks the origin of Madonna's "Like a Virgin" is, which isn't too appropriate in this context, or maybe it is... Either way it wouldn't be too pleasant, "Romeo is Bleeding" was a good movie but it didn't have much in the way of classic quotes, so how about something from "Clerks"? "37!?" You said six, what the hell do you mean 37!?" I offer this, and a poor offering it is, as an example of the betrayal one feels when someone hasn't been completely honest. Just between you and me,

don't you get the feeling there are a couple people out there who will have just this sort of reaction this turn? **Austria to Egypt:** No, the other Ezekiel. Though I like that one.

**USA to Brazil:** Man, if my letters come across as sanctimonious and insincere as yours, I suggest we stop wasting time writing and let our fleets hammer it out!

**Brazil to Australia:** Don't you think you have other things to be doing other than threatening me? I mean really, a move to the South Atlantic by you is supposed to worry me. Look, I'll cover it this turn. Now what? I didn't respond to your mailings because, in my opinion, all those fleets to the north of you will make any plans hatched now quite moot by the end

of this year.

**MahaSchlosser to Australian P.M.:** Peace unto you.

**Japan to GM:** With massive fleets like those shown on the map, I'll be invincible!

**GM to J:** No, you're just taking over tiny little spaces.

**Turkey to Egypt:** Your failure to communicate has forced me to move towards the Eastern Mediterranean. Please send an envoy as soon as possible so that we can clear up this situation.

**South Russia Yacht Club to Turkish Captain:** As I understand the race, the first one to the Atlantic wins, right?

**Turkey to Russia:** I am going to crush you like the insignificant flea you are, you lying Cossack! ☉

# BARSOOM / 1993HI

England had, in addition to the units shown in my map, a F Wes which was left out of Keith's Fall 1905 adjudication.

Autumn 1905: Russian a vie o.t.b., a mun-sil.

## REstart: Winter 1905

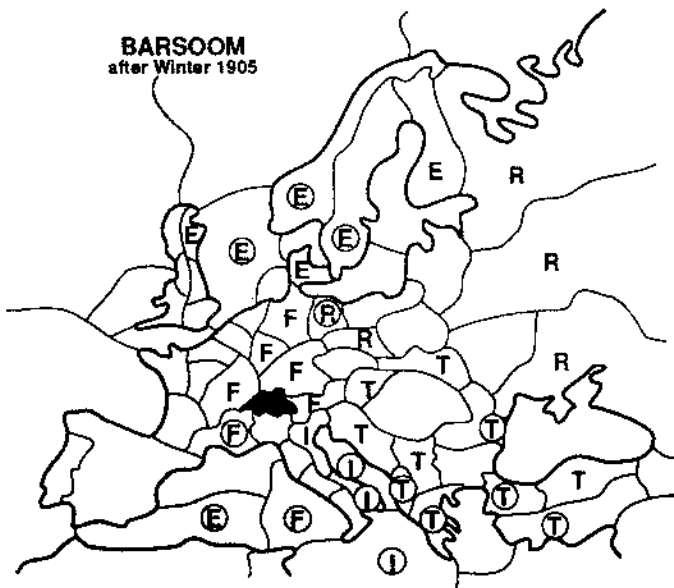
England (Jim Grose): builds a edi; also has f wes, f swe, a fin, f nwy, a den, f nts.  
 France (Paul Rauterberg): builds f mar; also has a tyo, a mun, a kie, a ruh, a bur, f tyn.  
 Italy (~~Jason Wilke~~ Dave Golias): has f ion, a ven, f adr, f apu.  
 Russia (Nelson Heintzman): has a sev, a mos, a stp, f ber, a sil.  
 Turkey (Tom Johnston): builds f con, f smy, a ank; also has a tri, a ser, f alb, a vie, a gal, f rum, f gre.

I'm sorry it took a couple of extra weeks to get this rolling, but I wanted to make sure you a) knew who to negotiate with and b) had all the right pieces on the board first. That said, now—go for it!

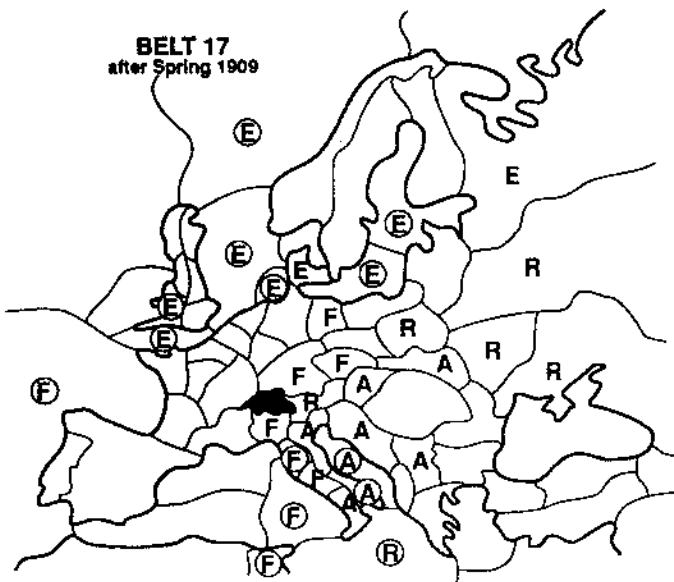
## Deadline for Spring 1906 is February 24.

England to All: Notice my fleet of subs in W. Med? One moment it's there, the next it's gone.  
 England to Turkey: Got enough builds?  
 England to France, Italy: How about sailing east rather than fighting each other?  
 England to Russia: What falls next—and to whom?  
 GM to FIRT: That's the press spirit I like, let's charter a little out there!

## BARSOOM after Winter 1905

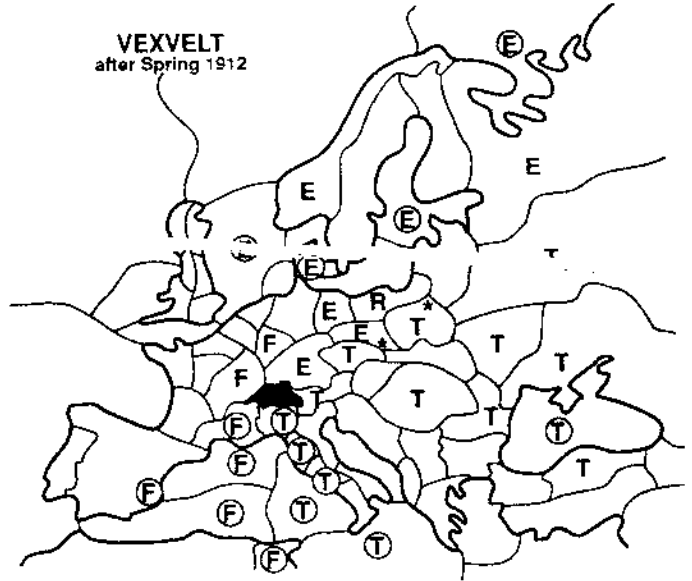


## BELT 17 after Spring 1909



England	ivp	lon	edi	nwy	swe	spa	den				7
France	par	mar	por	bel	hol	bre	mun	kie			8
Italy	nap	ven	rom	tun							4
Russia	stp	mos	war	sev	ber						5
Turkey	con	ank	smy	gre	ser	bul	rum	bud	tri	vie	10

## VEXVELT after Spring 1912



## VEXVELT / 1992R

E/T draw: F no, ERT nvr.  
 EFT draw: F yes, ERT nvr.  
 Winter 1911: Russia nrr, GM removes a lvn; Turkey builds a con, a ank.

## Spring 1912:

England (Lance Anderson): a lon-nwy (f nts c), a nwy-stp (f bar s), a kie-ber, a ber-sil (a mun s), f bot s russian a lvn /nsu/, f den u.  
 France (Tom Hurst): a ruh & a bur s english a mun, f tun ms f wes, f lyo ms f mar (f spa/sc s lyo).  
 Russia (Russ Rusnak): a war h /dislodged/ (a pru s).  
 Turkey (Steve McKinnon): a con-rum (f bla c, a sev s), a gal-war (a ukr s, a mos s), a rum-bud, a tyo-boh (a sil s /dislodged/), a tri-tyo, f pie h (f rus s), f tyv-rum (f ion s), f rom surveys the seven hills, a ank just in case you thought there'd be none this month again mocks Hurst's complete lack of a sense of humour.

Summer Retreats: Russian a war; Turkish a sil.

## Deadline for Fall 1912 is February 24.

Turkish Wit: Speaking of "Vulgar Boatmen," wasn't that about the struggles of a group from Sophia who struggled to bring Democracy to their country? Oh, no, that was the "Bulgar Votemen." My mistake.  
 Shameless Plugz: Frenet!, *Marvin the album*; Alice Donut, *Bucketfuls of Sickness and Horror in an otherwise Meaningless Life*. Soundtrack, *Apocalypse Now*.  
 Turkey wails: "The wic of my best friend stares right through me / Right into the tumour or my sick need."  
 Turkey's Film o'the Month: Double Exposure.  
 Turkey coincides: *Beethoven's 2nd*, huh? Haven't seen it, but I saw *Beethoven* over Thanksgiving. Bonnie Hunt was in it. Yay!  
 Great Moments in Babeousness, Part V: Anne Parillaud getting handcuffed in *Innocent Blood*.  
 Turkey's Babe o'the Moment: Deedee Pfeiffer, Margaret Colvin.  
 Turkey wonders: Hey, cool, is this film in 3-d?  
 Element o'Babeousness: chokers.

England	ivp	lon	edi	hol	kie	den	mun	ber	nwy		9						
France	par	mar	bre	spa	por	bel	tun				7						
Russia	stp	swe									2						
Turkey	con	ank	smy	bul	gre	tri	ser	sev	nap	bud	rom	rum	ven	vie	war	mos	16

# VULCAN / Deviant Dip 92JFrc04

## Rules now in effect:

Rule 0: Master Rule.

Rule 9: Perpetual Balloting. Cathy gets two votes. Anyone in the zine may propose a rule.

Rule 20: Hypnotism. Once per game year, each player is allowed to hypnotize any unit.

Rule 32: Chinese Checkers. Units may jump over 1 unit into a nonadjacent province, half-strength.

Rule 127: Blessed Are The Rule Makers. Players get an extra one-time build (in any owned SC) for every passed proposal they author, to a max of two builds per year.

Rule 183: Gaughan is now spelled GOD. Pete is divine and omnipotent.

Rule 207: Hack Job. Off-board centers converted to on-board. Player may win by either holding a majority of SCs or 18 centers.

Rule 212: Planet Downfall. Players may build rockets, which can: 1. Allow a unit to move to any province on the current map; 2. Destroy a unit or a supply center (destroyed centers return in two years); 3. Allow one unit to move to/from any space on Planet Downfall.

Rule 237: Procedural Matters. Rules take effect following the next season. GM gets two votes.

Rule 256: Hey, Greg, Remember This? Britain, Scandinavia and Atlantic become an "Ice Rink."

Rule 258: Return of the Poet Warriors. Players vote on each other's writing, winner gets one build and three votes (once only), second-place gets a build.

Rule 274: Jump in the Snow! Units may make Snowball Fighting attacks.

Rule 282: Earth-Shattering News! Players are allowed one seismic attack after each fall turn.

Rule 286: Blast Off. Players may build a rocket in each turn. Rocketing a unit is not a move.

Rule 287: Open Builds. Builds (including special builds) may be made in any unoccupied space.

Rule 292: Grand Review: One-time yes-or-no on all rules.

Rule 296: The Great Ice. Russia, Prussia, Baltic and Gulf of Bothnia are part of Finland.

Rule 297: Teleportation. Any unit may 'teleport' as its move; chance of being annihilated.

Rule 303: History Skewl. History quiz, worth one build and five points.

## Pre-Winter 1905

Poet Warrior builds: Germany a10 shire.

Rocket builds: Austria, Conrad, England, Germany, Italy, Marie, Yahweh.

Sorry, John, I forgot that RuleMaker builds were restricted to a max of two per year.

## Winter 1905: Soft Landing

Austria (Andrew York): rocket destroys edinburgh

a9 shire; collect 2 Sb

f10 north atlantic; collect 2 Sb.

Barbary States (Brad Wilson): no units.

Conrad (Conrad Minshall): rocket

builds ra seasaw; ammo left = 2s

builds a forlond; ammo left = 2s

builds a havens of umbar; ammo left = 2s

a10 barad-dur

England (Greg Ellis): rocket

a7 edinburgh

a10 yorkshire

f10 irish; ammo left = 1s

f10 norwegian

f10 helgoland; ammo left = 1s

f10 western med; ammo left = 2s

a8 tyrolia; ammo left = 1s

France (Matthew Lahtinen): no units.

Germany (John Galt): rocket

remove f marseilles

build ra10 esgaroth; ammo left = 2s

build ra10 khazad-dum; ammo left = 2s

a10 shire; ammo left = 2s

f10 iron hills; ammo left = 1s

a9 ered lithui; ammo left = 2s

Italy (Mark Lew): removes f midatlantic; rocket

a10 marseilles; ammo left = 1s

a4 khand; ammo left = 2s

Marie (Cathy Gaughan): rocket destroys heterogeneous

builds ra10 osgiliath; RR at a khand, ammo left = 1s

builds a10 lamedon; RR at a khand, ammo left = 1s

builds a10 lebennin; RR at a khand, ammo left = 1s

builds a10 south ithilien; RR at a khand, ammo left = 1s

a10 east emnet; collect 2s

f10 minhiriath; collect 2s

a10 edinburgh; collect 2s

Nelson (Mark Nelson): no units.

Persia-Arabia (Jack McHugh): no units.

Salinas (Rich Irving): builds a7 carrock; RR at yahweh a gladden fields; ammo left=1s

builds a10 esgaroth; RR at yahweh a gladden fields; ammo left = 1s

builds a10 river runnings; RR at yahweh a gladden fields; ammo left = 1s

builds ra10 dol guldur; RR at yahweh a gladden fields; ammo left = 1s

a10 elven king's halls; RR at yahweh a gladden fields; ammo left = 1s

Turkey (Steve Nicewarner): removes a munich

ra9 barad-dur; ammo left = 2s

a9 belgium; ammo left = 2s

Whyte (Brendan Whyte): builds a10 south ithilien; ammo left = 2s

f10 north africa; ammo left = 2s

f9 liverpool; ammo left = 2s

Yahweh (Pete Gaughan): rocket destroys moneyed

builds a10 erebor; RR at a carrock, ammo left = 1s

builds a10 south gondor; RR at a khand, ammo left = 1s

builds a10 grey havens; RR at a shire, ammo left = 2s

ra10 constantinople; collect 2s

f10 apporter; collects Di, ammo left = 1s, 1d

a10 harad; RR at a khand

a5 gladden fields; RR at a carrock

## Look again: No Seismic Attacks in Winter

History Skewl: free build and five points to whomever answers the most questions correctly, citing a reference nobody else cites.

1. In what year did Norse settlements in Greenland become a crown colony of Norway?

2. When George Wallace protested a Richmond, Indiana, law regarding public accommodations, where did he say "a moral issue" ought to be involved?

3. What was a "Depression cocktail," and where could you get one?

## Passed this turn:

Grand Review FIRST kills off: 10 (no secret ballot), 17 (only one proposal per player), 49 (moves may be conditional), 77 (no Black Death), 90 (no Olio), 157 (British play o.k.), 186 (rules may restrict unit movement), 192 (Clones now revert to 'normal' units), 197 (no NNS spaces), 199 (revert to original rule: proposals only pass by having the most votes), 215 (reproposals now o.k.), 241 (no Sunset Clause), 247 (no shared spaces), 252 (no Passages), 261 (sea spaces may be SCs), 302 (units and snowball VPs can't vote).

\* loss of Rule 247 means that several units are annihilated to prevent having multiple units in one space; most recent arrival is killed, except units arriving simultaneously both die: annihilated are German a shire, both units in esgaroth, Marie a edinburgh and both units in barad-dur.

Then regular voting enacts:

Rule 306: Suitcase Nukes. Everyone who has a proposal pass (including this turn) gets one suitcase nuke for each passed proposal. These can be used at any time to destroy any center on the board.

Rule 308: Double Shake. Players may, instead of ordering a seismic attack, support another player's seismic attack. Supported attacks will succeed versus unsupported attacks; attacks with equivalent support are still impossible.

Rule 317: Where Have All the Flowers Gone? All neutral supply centers cease to exist.

*[[eliminates army dol guldur; doesn't prohibit the creation of new neutral supply centers]]*

Rule 318: Moxen Anyone? All bribes must be in the form of collectable trading cards. Pete will judge the value of the card to him and act accordingly. INWO cards have double value. Fnord.

Poet Warrior builds, pre-Spring 1906: PGaughan, Lew.

Suitcase Nukes, pre-Spring 1906: PGaughan, Nicewarner, Whyte, York.

## Deadline for Spring 1906 is February 24.

### Game Paradigm:

Poet Warrior builds (Spring, Fall, Winter)

rocket builds (Spring, Fall, Winter)

orders (incl. Chinese Checkers, Hypnotism and teleportation; builds in Winter)

Snowball Fighting attacks (Spring, Fall, Winter)

Seismic attacks (Fall only)

History Skewl quiz (Spring, Fall, Winter)

votes on old proposals, those passed take effect

new proposals offered

### Edicts of the Vulkan GOD

John Galt: By the way, I notice that you numbered both of Ellis's proposals 309. GOD: True; consider #309b through #318 all 'bumped' upwards one digit.

John Galt: Also, the last sentence of your Prop. 316 looks like it got munched during editing; should there be something after "which are", or does it just delete all neutral supply centers?

GOD: Should've been as seen above (no change in meaning).

Greg Ellie: BTW, when will Vulcan actually move to page 1?

GOD: When pigs fly.

## Return of the Poet Warriors

Players and spectators are invited to submit poems and vote on which is best. Winner gets a build and three votes, second gets one build.

Votes from last time: 4 for PGaughan (AC.MY), 3 for Lew (GIS).

Pete Gaughan

I shot an arrow into the sky; it landed in a dead man's eye  
He stood and looked at me and said, "What's your problem? I'm already dead!"

## New Proposals

Note that several proposals have been deleted, since Rule 17 died (in each case, the second proposal offered by a player). Too bad, since I liked "Pun-itive Damages." But you may now repropose.

Prop. 320 (York): **Lend-Lease.** Any player may proxy their vote, units, supply centers and/or other items to any other player. These proxies may be "indefinite" (that is until the person giving the proxy cancels it); or may have a specific time limit (e.g. for one year); or until a certain condition exists (e.g. until player 'x' is eliminated). Units/Centers are considered to be the owning (not proxied) player's for purposes of building, capturing centers, movement, dislodgement (i.e., proxy is given to player 'x' from player 'y' for a supply center and an army. Only player 'y's units may be built in the supply and if the army captures a center, it will belong to player 'y'). Note anything built or captured under the proxy conditions will be grandfathered as part of that proxy until the proxy is withdrawn.

Prop. 321 (Galt): **Northwest Passage.** The Sea of Rhun is now navigable. There is a waterway between NRh and SRh (affecting movement exactly like Denmark/Sweden). At the east edge of the Downfall map, both NRh and SRh are now adjacent to the North Atlantic! This connection joins the two boards into one, permanently, for all purposes including seismic and snow attacks.

Prop. 322 (Irving): **Diplomacy: the Gathering—Revised Edition.** The following rules are added:

1) GM will randomly assign each SC to produce a particular type of mana: Black (Swamp), Blue (Island), Green (Forest), Red (Mountain) or White (Plains). If any new SC are created, GM will assign their mana when they are created.

2) Each player will receive a supply of mana each Winter season after building units. (Think of each SC as a standard land to be tapped.) Any untapped mana left prior to receiving the new supply is destroyed and cannot be used. This mana is used to bring Magic:the Gathering cards into play. Each card must actually exist and no player may re-use a card they have previously used (under normal circumstances).

3) Combat: Each unit will attack or support an attack with the strength of its current power. Each unit that holds, or is forced to hold, defends with the strength of its current toughness. Units supporting holding units support with the strength of their toughness.

All combat otherwise remains as in Dip. All units which do not have summoned creatures have a P/T of 1/1 and if anything refers to their casting cost, that is assumed to be 1 mana of any type and are assumed to be artifact creatures.

### 4) Definitions:

- Summon creature: Assign the creature to a unit. The unit will still move as current rules (armies on land, fleet at sea and coastal lands, etc.) but will have its P/T changed to the values of the summoned creature and have any attributes of the creature. If a unit using a creature is disbanded, the creature is buried in the graveyard. Once a creature is assigned to a unit, the creature can never be removed or changed to a different creature. If a card says a creature to be destroyed/discarded/buried, the unit will be disbanded.

- Trample: Any unit dislodged by this unit must be retreated OTB.

- Landwalk (ie. forestwalk, islandwalk) automatically wins any attack on a SC that supplies appropriate mana. (see 1) Any units occupying are dislodged.

- Flying: Unit may exist in any province or body of water flying above the surface. The unit has no control over the space and does not actually occupy it. (i.e. it may be flying above a space while it is occupied by another unit.) Unit is always assumed to be on the ground or in the water if it is in a territory it can normally occupy and flying if it can't normally occupy it. A flying unit may give support to an adjacent territory only if the unit could normally land there.

- Protection from color: Unit cannot be attacked by creature of the color. (Power of such creatures = 0). Spells of that color cannot be cast on the unit/player. Units of that color that are attacked by a creature with protection are assumed to have P/T of 0/0 (these units may be supported). Note: Circles of Protection state they apply only to the "player" not any creatures and, therefore, units.

- Bands: Units may add 1 more creature and gains strength from

power/toughness of both creatures and all attributes of both creatures. If a creature loses banding ability, one of the two creatures is sent to the graveyard, and the unit keeps the remaining creature.

- First strike: Units using first strike are assumed to move with a pre-movement phase without any supports except from other first strikers (phase occurs after retreats and before movement). Any unit that get dislodged during first strike phase may move if given a valid move order to a territory other than the location the first strike came from. (Ex. German A Ruh-Bur, A Mun S Ruh-Bur both with first strike and France orders A Bur-Mar. This move would be successful.) Units that are dislodged during the first strike phase their retreats are ordered in the following turn's retreat phase. (Just like normal units.) Units that are dislodged in the first strike do NOT cut support. Units after they complete their first strike move may then be supported in place. Units that have first strike ability must explicitly state they are using first strike for it to be applied.

- Tapped: A unit with an ability that requires it to be tapped must be ordered to hold in order to use the ability. All creatures are considered to be tapped whenever a move order is issued. All creatures/artifacts normally "untap" at the start of the turn. Any upkeep is done at the start of a turn. If a creature/artifact somehow stays tapped, it will hold in place and cannot use any special abilities.

- Regenerate: A creature that regenerates must be immediately assigned to an existing unit without a creature (exc. banding). Order is given during the retreat phase of the following turn after the creature is killed.

- Return item to hand from graveyard: allows re-use of item.

- Wall units may not move but they may support other units.

- Damage is applied against a unit reduces that unit's toughness down to a minimum of 0 until the end of the turn.

- Instants, Sorceries, Interrupts and fast effects that are not one time effects last until the end of the turn when they used. Enchantments last until creature dies. Units without summoned creature may be enchanted. Artifacts are permanent although they may need to be tapped to be activated.

5) Any card that is not covered by the above rules may be used if approved by the GM. GM must give a valid reason when the card is rejected. (e.g. The Rack can't be used since no one has a "hand". Nor, I don't like that card.) Once approved, any player may use the card in the same manner. If a player uses a card in a manner not approved by the GM, any mana used are lost unless this is the first attempt with card by any player in which case the mana will be restored at the end of the turn. (You have been warned!)

6) Multiple orgy is repealed. Any units which are located in area with multiple units are transported to a random non-SC space. (Whewwwwwww!!!!)

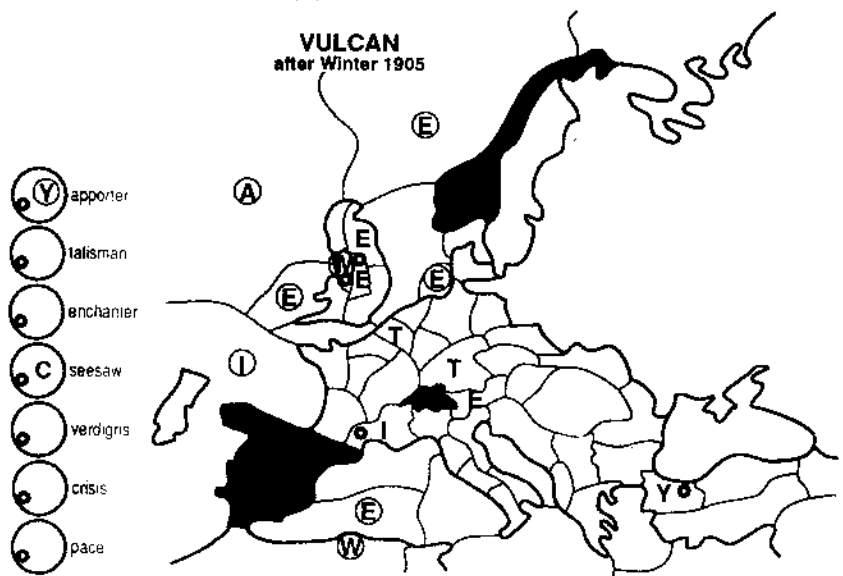
Prop. 323 (Ellis): **Vanna Home Rule.** Players get 1 additional vote for each letter in the name of their home town as listed in the official Perelandra Cast List. These votes count as regular votes.

Prop. 324 (PGaughan): **Whine Not.** Complaints about the GMing of this game are punishable by loss of all voting privileges for one turn.

Prop. 325 (Nicewarner): **Reiteration.** When an ending condition for the game is reached, the winner(s) shall be congratulated and receive one point each, but the game shall not end. Instead, the game will revert to the standard Deviant opening position/rules/etc. and the original seven players will start again.

Prop. 326 (Minshall): **Giveaway.** All of Pete's units and SCs are randomly distributed amongst the other players.

(Press is on next page...)





VULCAN / SUPPLY CENTERS and VOTING STATUS after Winter 1905

		SCs	votes	VPs
Austria	forlond, shire	2	2	4
Barbary States	city of the corsairs, talisman, osgiliath	3	3	0
Conrad	lamedon, enchanter, river running, 1/2barad-dur	3.5	3.5	4
England	secsaw, yorkshire, +2edinburgh	2	2	12
France	lebennin	1	1	0
Germany	esgaroth, heterogeneous, iron hills, 1/2marseilles	2.5	2.5	2
Italy	havens of umbar, khand, 1/2marseilles	2.5	2.5	0
Marie	isengard, druwaith iaur, helm's deep, minas morgul, +2edinburgh, minhiriath, east emnet	6	8	10
Nelson	south gondor	1	1	0
Persia-Arabia	verdigris, grey havens	2	2	0
Salinas	erebor, moneyed, khazad-dûm, elven king's halls	3	3	5
Turkey	1/2barad-dur	0.5	0.5	0
Whyte	crisis, south ithilien, liverpool	3	3	0
Yahweh	pace, imladris, apporter, constantinople, gladden fields, harad	6	11	11
Totals:		38		

Victory Criterion: 18 centers. Home SCs in bold, new captures in SMALL CAPS. \* Includes three bonus votes from Poet Warriors.

Neutralized by Black Death: minas tirith, pietism, windore (corsica, holland, kazakhstan, moscow, sevastopol); by rocket: lorn (F05); edinburgh, heterogeneous, moneyed (W05).

The following will be home centers if taken by the appropriate power: England liverpool; Germany enchanter, erebor; Persia-Arabia apporter. Also, the first Downfall center any players occupies is a home center.

Vulcan Voting, Winter 1905

prop	tot	nv	05	06	07	08	09	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Austria	8																+28
BarbSt	3	3															
Conrad	14		+40					-14									
England	25							+30	+20	-20	-20						
France	1	1															
Germany	10							+1	-2	-3	-1	-1	+1	+1			
Italy	2.5													+22.5			
Marie	41	1	-29	+30				+10			-9	-12					+20
Nelson	1	1															
Persia	2	2															
Salinas	4							-30			-4	+20					
Turkey	0.5													+18.5			
Whyte	3							+1					+1	+1			
Yahweh	38	34						+20		-9				-5			+30
Totals	139	42	+11	+30	+2	+30	+2.5	+11	-23	-1.5	+11	+11	+1	+1	+30	+30	

Vulcan Press

Khazad-Dum to London: I was just changing planes! Didn't know you were a halfling; why don't you give me a ring sometime! :)

GM to Khazad-Dum: That is really stooping low. Oops, sorry Greg, To all mages: At least this should be "playable"! Or, at least mostly playable :-)

GM to Mage: Should be, yes. But not all things are as they should be. I can pretty much assure you we won't have a chance to find out whether it's playable or not!

High School History Award winner to GM: Where's the History Skew?

GM to Dim Bulb: Think. Rules take effect *after the turn*. So there was no turn for HS to accompany *after HS* passed last time. This time there is, so there is.

Concerned Voter to P.Gaughan: Neutral SC which are what???

PJG to Voter(s): Yeah, sorry, bad edit.

Lew to Ellis: Hey, at least I outlasted Bergmann.

GM to Lew: What the hell, he gave me orders *this* turn.

	A	C	E	G	I	M	B	S	T	W	Y
9	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
10	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
17	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N
20	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
32	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y
49	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
77	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
90	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
127	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
157	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N
183	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
186	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N
192	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
197	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N
199	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N
207	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
212	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
215	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N
237	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
241	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N
247	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
252	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N
256	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
258	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y
261	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N
274	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
282	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
286	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
287	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
296	Y	N	N		N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
297	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
302	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N
303	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N

BELT 17 / 1993F

AEFR draw: AF yes, ER nvr.

Winter 1908: Austria builds a bud; England builds a lvp; Russia builds a sev.

Austria reproposes AEFR draw.

Spring 1909: Wraparound Skirt

Austria (Rich Irving): a tri & a vic s russian a boh-tyo, a gal s russian a pru-war, a bud-ser, a ven-rom (a nap s [f apu s nap]), f adr s russian f ion.

England (Les Casey): a lvp-wal, f nts-eng, f nwy-nts, f den-hel, a stp h, a lvn-den (f bal c), f bot h, f bar-nwg.

France (Randy Havens): f mid h, a rom h (f tus s, f tyn s), a pie-ven, f tun h, a sil-boh (a tyo s /annihilated/, a mun s), a bet s english f bal-pru.

Russia (Nathan Trent): a boh-tyo, a war-ukr (a mos s [a sev s mos]), a pru-war, f ion s austrian a nap.

Sorry about no map, guys, but the only space I could find was on page 14.

Deadline for Fall 1909 is February 24.

France to England: Sorry, Les, but I've grown very weary of this game.

GM to France: Les may have sensed that already.

Austria picks "Ed Wood" as a great movie to see, especially if you like Tim Burton, MST3K or (God Forbid!) Ed Wood movies. Martin Landau is excellent as Bela Lugosi. You'll probably have to wait for it on video, but it's well worth it. The most amazing thing is that it's (mostly) true! (I'm actually serious!)

Austria to England: But why wait three years, when you'll get the same result right now?

GM to Austria: And what result do you think that would be?

BELT 17 / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1908

Austria	tri	bud	ser	gre	bul	smy	nap	ven	vic	9
England	lvp	edi	lon	hol	kie	den	swe	nwy	stp	9
France	par	bre	mar	spa	por	bel	ber	mun	tun	10
Russia	mos	war	sev	rum	ank	con				6

# CALLBOARD

## Game Openings

**KAIDER III/Regular Diplomacy** (\$5 gamefee): Dennis Lynch (pd), Paul Gardner (pd), Tim Goodwin (notpd); can take four more. The threatened invasion of local players never materialized—I think they wanted more instant gratification and migrated to the Internet.

**REYNOLDZKAY/Railway Rivals** (\$3 gamefee): Weiss (pd), Brosius (notpd), Brown (notpd), Irving (notpd), York (notpd), and Quist (notpd) signed up. Map recommendations are Ireland (I, four players), Georgia (GA), Kentucky/Tennessee, or Ohio (OH) but let's hear what you want.

**SOLARIS/Diplomacy variant tba** (\$5 gamefee): Hoffman (pd), Hassler (notpd), Springer (notpd) signed up. If you sign up, indicate which variant you would like to play, and whether you're willing to play any others. First one to fill will start. I will supply rules to players at gamestart but if you want to review them before that send a SASE. Options are: Cline 9-Man: Springer, Hassler. Diplomacy II: Hassler. Cosmic Dip: Seismic Dip (invented by Lavaurs, English translation from *Ode* #21):

**Blind Diplomacy 1901 tourney** (\$10 per-zine gamefee) If you want to play on *Perelandra's* team in Richard Weiss's Blind Dip 1801 game, sign up with me and send \$1. I'll be President of our team; we need players who would each control one unit (obviously, three or four to start but with at least two more waiting in the wings to pick up new units as built). I will assign one 'general' to be Commander-in-Chief with authority to overrule other generals.

This game would be GMed by Richard in his zine (*Zero Sum*) with updates here. Ask either Richard (address in Roster) or me for details.

circulation of this issue: 107

You may use your subscription balance and free issues: to pay gamefees or to purchase copies of *Zine Register*, or to purchase *Diplomacy A-Z*. *ZR* and *Dip AZ* cost \$2 in North America, \$4 elsewhere.

### Poetry Shelf (the standby list)

Folks, I need some non-players to volunteer for the standby list. If you're not currently a Poet and you're willing to take on a position with particular restrictions, tell me and I will honor those. Most of my standbys are already in multiple games in this zine!

The Poets are, for Diplomacy: J.R. Baker, Dave Golias, Tom Hurst, Stan Johnson, Doug Kent, Steve McKinnon, John McLaurin, Phil Reynolds, John Schultz, Nathan Trent, Richard Weiss, Andrew York.

For Diplomacy variant games (some for certain variants only): J.R. Baker, Doug Brown, Dave Golias, Tom Hurst, Doug Kent, Steve McKinnon, Nathan Trent, Chris Warren, Richard Weiss, Brad Wilson, Andrew York.

**CALLED THIS MONTH:** Doug Kent in Tralfamadore / Youngstown XV Diplomacy; John McLaurin for Plateau.

## Conventions

### NovaCon V

We were initially going to invite everyone over on the weekend of February 19–21, but then I left out the Callboard section lastish and now it's kinda late notice. Sooo... we have to pick another date for our con. Consequently:

The Bay Area Game Group is welcome to come play games at our apartment the weekend of **March 17–19**. All manner of stuff will be played, including Snowball Fighting on the original J.R. Baker board with real character-pieces! Also, Mark Lew's new favorite (and mine), Silverton; Railway Rivals; back-from-the-dead Talisman; and Magic the Blathering in between many others. FLOOR SPACE IS LIMITED; reserve now!

## Calendar

February: 9 David Hood, 21 Gary Behnen  
 March: 16 Claire Brosius, 29 Casey Elaine Ellis, 31 Daf Langley  
 19–21: NovaCon, Concord CA.  
 April: 30 Cathy Gaughan  
 May: 12 Richard Weiss, 17 Vince Lutterbie, 19 Steve Langley, 25 Pete & Cathy's anniversary, 26 Walter Devin Ellis  
 June: 1 Fred Davis Jr., 12 Ed Wrobel  
 July: 13 Andy Marshall, 24 Tom Johnston  
 Origins: July 13–16, 1995, Philadelphia.  
 August: 15 Brent McKee, 16 Brendan Whyte, 29 Don Williams  
 October: 6 Harry Andruschak, 28 Andy York  
 November: 5 Kathy Caruso, 22 John Caruso.  
 December: 1 Bruce McIntyre, 6 Brad Wilson, 8 Melody Lutterbie, 16 Randy Davis  
 January: 8 Lance Anderson, 19 Pete Gaughan, 25 Chuff Aflerbach

### Waiting Pool

(Don Del Grande take note!)

Betting on the birth of Junior Gaughan. To enter, send \$1 to me, with your guess of date and time to the nearest fifteen minutes. (Your clue is 'late June or early July'.) If duplicate entries are received, the later entrant will be asked to try again.

You can avoid sending the entry fee by affirming to me that you have either donated a unit of blood, or a can of food to charity, in the past month. No entries after May Day.

Winner will receive 3/4 of all entry monies. (Hey, I'm no fool! The remains will go toward *The Inheritor's* first volume of Dr. Seuss.)

No pool will be conducted on the baby's name (unlike Stephen Glasgow's search which nearly wound up with his child becoming "Scott Cameron Glasgow"; ulp!). If the baby is a girl she'll be Sally Ann Marie Gaughan; a boy will be Peter James Gaughan V.

## Playlist

Books: Greg Bear, *Queen of Angels*; David Feintuch, *Midshipman's Hope*; Jack Vance, *Lyonesse*.  
 CDs: Queen, *Greatest Hits*; Jesus Christ Superstar soundtrack; Dylan, *biograph*, odds and ends of Cranberries, Indigo Girls, Steely Dan and Counting Crows while at Jason Bergmann's place.  
 LP: Renaissance, *Live at Carnegie Hall* (Christmas present from my sister)  
 Beer: Pete's Wicked Winter Brew—a bit too sweet even for my taste.

## Picks and Pans

Congratulations to Stephen Agar and his wife Esme (whose last name escapes me at the moment) on the birth of their daughter, Kate. As Richard Sharp points out in *Dolchstoff* 192, you must admire the depth of Stephen's convictions; he can't even write about his wife going into labour without using a capital L.

Quite a lot of zine news, mainly because I've been gathering it for three months after skipping several issues, plus I'm gearing up to produce another *Zine Register* and I'm being inundated with notes for that. See elsewhere in this issue for the announcement and details on how you can be part of *ZR*. (Actually, the return of this column is just to keep Stephen Agar from being disappointed, he who said that *Rambling WAY* is good but "not the best for general US hobby news, which is probably *Perelandra*.")

Quotes from the Land of Internet—David Bedno: "For me, the best part of Magic is the anal-retentive record keeping anyway; the fact that you can play a game with these cards is just gravy..."

*Zine Register* update sheets are pouring in; several zines I haven't seen in months (*Crimson Sky*, for instance) are showing up now. There will be a long list of 'presumed dead', though.

*Damn the Consequences* #57 had a cover which reproduced the letter of recommendation Brendan received from a muckity-muck at his uni—a letter which was a screaming riot of insults to Brendan.

Unclear on the Concept: Scott Cameron's *Protozoan* (#151) won't tolerate the new postal service prices, and as a protest he's going to charge his subscribers more!

Dip Bowl reappeared in *Lemon Curry* #148, and a team comprised of myself, Mark Lew and Jason Bergmann absolutely squashed Eric Brosius, Michael Quist and Jim Goode. Of course, Dip players will bear train-gamers at anything that requires brains!

*Boris the Spider* continues to offer the hobby's widest selection of games. Lastish had these waiting lists open: 1829, 1830, 1835, Bourse, Civilization, Diplomacy, Down with the King, Dune, History of the World, Kingmaker, Kremlin, Liftoff, Magic Realm, Maharaja, Merchant of Venus, Titan and a list of 'other possibilities! Paul Bolduc publishes this, at 203 Devon Court, Fort Walton Beach FL 32547-3110 (or bolduc@eglin.af.mil by email).

Seven Carlberg has been running an everybody-plays Dip game in his *Hoodwink*. My Austrian team is overcoming a bad start, but it's still only 1902. If you want to get into such a committee-operated game and Blind Dip here doesn't do it for you, sub to *H* and after seeing the lay of the land you can choose which Great Power you will emigrate to!

*Canadian Diplomats* #46 brings two incredible facts to light: that issue came out in less than two months, a land speed record for Bob Acheson; and, one of the greatest postal Dip players ever, Randolph Smyth, has gotten married. Equally incredible, Bob got a little chaty in this issue, musing about the Canadian hobby in the time he's been playing and including a couple of pages each of hobby news and letters!

Look who leapt back into the hobby this month: Larry Peery. Larry restricted himself to six pages with his latest perzine (= personal zine), but with all the underlining it feels like reading ten pages. Seems *World Diplomacy* may be dead and buried as Larry finally gives in to an inexorable trend: Peeriblah will not be bottled and scheduled, but will erupt when and where it is needed.

[Pick and Pans continues on page 20]

## Tonight's Cast

There is no longer any NMR Insurance. Bold indicates a new address. Please indicate whether you want your phone number included in future rosters.

PLAYER	ADDRESS	EMAIL
Lance Anderson	1200 Dallas Drive #824, Denton TX 76205	LancerA@aol.com
Harry Andruschak	P.O. Box 5309, Torrence CA 90510-5309	
Jeff August	5057 South 12th Street, Arlington VA 22204	
James Bailey	8337 La Riviera Drive, Sacramento CA 95826-1654	JamesAB5@aol.com
J.R. Baker	2709 Colonial Drive, Dickinson TX 77539	
James Bartle	290 Massachusetts Avenue #435, Cambridge MA 02139-4196	bartleax@athena.mit.edu
Jason Bergmann	5920 College Avenue #5, Oakland CA 94618	72163.3104@compuserve.com
Doug Brown	2517 Indian Wells Road, Placerville CA 95667	
John Bryden	Dept. of Math., U. of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta CANADA T2N 1N4	bryden@acs.ucalgary.ca
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# Hey! Look Me Over...

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1	Monologues / the editor rambles
2	The Roar of the Greasepaint / the letter column
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4	GIEDI PRIME / 1992AK Diplomacy
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9	LUSITANIA / Gunboat Snowball Fighting ASF30
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13	Guest of Honor / a column by Jon Carroll
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20	Literary Quiz

## X-23 / 1994IC

### Fall 1901

Austria (Vince Springer): a bud-vic, f alb-tri (a ser s).  
 England (Ward Nash): f nwg-bar, a edi-nwy (f nts c).  
 France (Lance Anderson): a pic-bel, a gas-spa, f mid-por.  
 Germany (Jim Bailey): a ruh-hol, f bal-swe, a kie-den.  
 Italy (Jim Robertson): f ion-run, a tyo-boh, a ven-tyo.  
 Russia (Peter Evett): f bot-swe, a ukr-sev, a stp-fin, f rum h /annihilated/.  
 Turkey (Doug Brown): a bul-rum (f bla s), a con-bul.

### Deadline for Winter 1901 is February 24.

Russia to England: So aggressive. We'll see how long you two can keep it together. I plan to fight you hard up North. Call me if you have a change of heart.  
 England to Russia: I was just looking through my letters and noticed one which I had thought was from Russia in another game was actually from you! Too bad I have already predicated my strategy on the thought that you had not written! My error.  
 GM to England: Wow! I have heard some Dip stories in my day, but this one...  
 Czar in St. P to Sultan: Selling me out the very first turn! How diabolical of you. Does this mean we aren't going to be buddies?  
 AH to I: Shall we propose the concession to Turkey now or should I give him all my centers first?  
 GM to AH: What the hell, propose away. He can always politely decline.  
 Kiel *Kommunicator*: The German Ministry of Defense has announce that the first phase of operation Europe Under Benevolent Domain has been successful. Cheering crowds in Copenhagen and Antwerp greeted the brave German sons who have prevented their subjugation to less benign powers. Stockholm citizens were disappointed that the Grand Imperial Navy of the Kaiser was unable to make planned festivities.

### X-23 / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1901 (Greece is neutral)

Austria	vic	tri	bud	SER	.	.	.	3/4	may build one
England	lvp	lon	edi	NWY	.	.	.	3/4	may build one
France	par	mar	bre	SPA	MAR	BEL	.	3/6	may build three
Germany	mun	kie	ber	DEN	HOL	.	.	3/5	may build two
Italy	nap	ven	rom	TUN	.	.	.	3/4	may build one
Russia	stp	mos	war	sev	.	.	.	4/4	may build one
Turkey	con	ank	smy	BUL	RUM	.	.	3/5	may build two

## LITERARY QUIZ

Okay, buoys and gulls: for one free issue each (you must get all parts of the question to score)...  
 JC2) What was Pearl Buck's maiden name? What was Buffalo Bill's middle name? What was James Cagney's real name? What is Toni Morrison's real name?  
 JC3) Where is Edward Abbey buried? What does his tombstone say?  
 SS53: Are 1948 dollar bills worth more than 1933 dollar bills?

[[Pick s and Pans continues from page 18]]

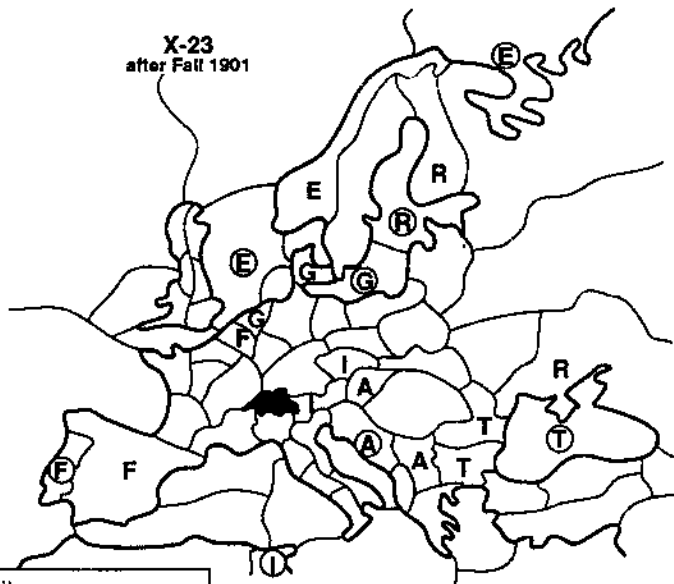
For instance, right on the heels of the first PDL came another, on the topic of Walt Buchanan's Hoosier Archives. In short, Walt has moved and is renting out his house in Indiana. In the basement there are several file cabinets (either 7 or 12) stuffed with neatly-organized files of Diplomacy zines, a near-complete collection of the hobby's work in the 60s and 70s. Several hobbyists are trying to figure out how to save these from the dump, but there is a problem: I estimate it would cost \$1600 to move the files cross-country by van, or \$1000 to rent a truck. If we can't find someone to become Archivist, Conrad von Metzke is willing to donate garage space until somebody will take the job (and I'll take it as soon as we buy a house, but that may be a long while). Fred C. Davis Jr. will decide shortly, I think, whether or not to start a fund-raising campaign to pay for the move, and Larry's PDL was simply his thoughts on who, what, when, where and why. For all of this and much more, Larry is at: 6103 Malcom Drive, San Diego CA 92115; or (619) 582-2904; or peeriblah@aol.com by email.

Larry is also offering copies of the agenda and data on the European Diplomacy Assn. If you're interested in goings-on Over There, send LP a SASE.

Thomas Franke (in *Diplomat* #32) reports that things are tough all over: to save money, the German state he lives in has announced that all public-sector university jobs must go vacant for two years before they can be filled. He's moving as a result... Thomas is also getting an ISSN (Int'l Std Subscription Number, a unique id. for periodicals) because the Bundespost not only increased rates, they tightened up definitions so nobody can use the 'printed matter' classification any more unless they're registered. My commiserations to the Germans, but I expect we'll see these same kind of inanities in the 'Land of the Free' soon now.

The pbm hobby is growing up; another sign of this is that it is gaining more and more independent and unique aspects. There are more and more zines which are distributed exclusively by email, including a house organ on America Online and a *Diplomacy World* challenger on the Internet. I won't go into great detail here (I hope to have reviews of each in *Zine Register*) but contact me if you're wired but can't find these.

Don Del Grande is the second pbm Dipster to develop a play-by-mail Magic: the Gathering system (the first being our own Stephen McKinnon). Don's call for players is in his zine, *Lemon Curry* #149—here's an early congratulations, Don, on reaching the century-and-a-half mark! To sign up write to Don at 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae CA 94904-1339, or email him at del\_gran@ix.netcom.com.



UNTITLED  
 by Joseph B. Strauss  
 (engineer of the Golden Gate Bridge)

This is their temple, vaulted high,  
 And here we pause with reverent eye,  
 With silent tongue and awe-struck soul;  
 For here we sense life's proper goal:

To be like these, straight, true and fine,  
 To make our world, like theirs, a shrine:  
 Sink down, O traveller, on your knees,  
 God stands before you in these trees.