

THE JUNE ISSUE

LENOTSUREA BOUTHOWLONG POLOTICIANWILL SURVIVEWHENIL OFFATCOLLEGETHISOOMENIFALL

POLITICIAN is a quasi-monthly journal having to do with variants of postal Diplomacy, published and edited by Konrad Baumeister, 11416 Parkview Lane, Males Corners, WI 53130 U.S.A. (ph 414-425-4631) and the Crossroads Press International. Subscriptions run at the rate of 10 issues of POLITICIAN for \$3.50 and there are no game openings. POLITICIAN will publish any article submitted of general interest to the variant community. This is EGEMOG Enterprises Production #115 or so.

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THE-GAME REVIEWS OF SWISS DIPLOMACY II, 1978rjc RECENTLY COMPLETED HERE

PHIL COOPER (Austria): Actually, I was far luckier than I deserved. Russia and Turkey never could trust each other until it was far too late. Also, my early growth allowed me to deal from a position of strength with them against each other. It was obvious from the start that the Swiss and Germans were allied, and when both offered me a non-aggression pact, it drove Italy into my willing arms. My only regret is that the last took all my strength, and none could be spared for a loyal Italy.

From fairly early on, I had been in frequent contact with London and Berlin, warning them of each other. When Germany did stab me, slightly earlier than I had expected, it gave Karl the opportunity any real diplomacy player would jump at. I hammered home to England what would happen if I collapsed and how Germany was with the Swiss to the death. That also helped was the growing Anglo-Swiss friction over the remains of France and Iberia. This friction took away valuable Swiss units needed in their attack on me, and made it impossible for England to join the German-Swiss alliance and difficult for him to remain neutral when they jumped me. But the real key lay in the strategic decision to offer England a two-way draw, a deal Germany and Switzerland couldn't match. It was either that or face a long-drawn-out struggle leading to a four-way draw. The necessity of allying with England to turn back Germany and the Swiss, although I probably could've held on indefinitely, allowed England to reach a position of strength withh all but killed my chances for a solo win. Besides there are times when loyalty is important.

Lastly, I'd like to comment on my early success. I don't think I've ever played a more strategically and tactically good game as this through the first four years. But, I don't think I'll ever see another game where I was so lucky, for so long. It was almost like I couldn't do anything wrong!

PAUL SCHUSTZ (England): I started out in an alliance with Germany and Switzerland versus France. I had planned to stay firmly allied to Germany once France fell, and work my way into the Mediterranean. However, Germany decided to break with Switzerland and I was placed in a position of

prising in a game which begins with an even number of players. As a rule of thumb, Diplomacy variants having an odd number of players will result in better games, since there must always be an "odd man out." However, a good map design can overcome some of this. 90% of the Swiss Dip map is the Master's (Calhoun's), but I believe my amendments make the variant viable. Perhaps there is a bit too much crowding at the center of the board, where the provinces are quite small. This could be overcome, in part, by making a larger sized map, so that Geneva, Zurich, and Swabia don't look tiny. I thought that the creation of Croatia and Swabia provided sufficient ordinary spaces in the center. I now see that perhaps there ought to be another ordinary space somewhere in the middle, based on what's happened to Switzerland in the other Swiss Dip game which I'm GM'ing (in Diplomacy), but I don't see that there's any room for one.

I felt that the addition of the High Ocean space, which makes neighbors out of England and Turkey, would serve to eliminate corner positions. However, only England was clever enough to see how useful this space would be. I was a bit disappointed to see only one unit use the High Ocean; but then, naval forces were not of prime importance in this particular game.

I am thinking of removing the 26-center two-power alliance victory rule. In this game, the two winning powers won with a total of only 24, but I think the knowledge that they only had to get two more captures to declare an automatic victory may have served to cause Russ and I to recognize the inevitable, and concede at a point prior to where we might have conceded had no such rule existed.

Any comments by other players in this section of the Swiss Variant II concerning game rules or map design would be appreciated. (Fred Davis, 1427 Clairidge Rd, Baltimore, Md 21207)

KONRAD KAUFMANN (GM): Glad you all enjoyed it. No comments from Russ Tule or others as of this typing (6-4-80). If they come in, then they'll go into POLITICIAN #11, I guess. Thanks to all for playing, and congratulations again to Karl and Phil for their draw.

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RANDOM NOTES

1) This issue will be a few days late, for a few reasons: a) From early Sunday through last Saturday I will have been up north, in Hurley to be specific, just killing time with two friends before one of them moves to Arizona. That is the week of both POLITICIAN and SCORCH deadlines. First things first. b) On the 18th Amy is leaving for some dive in Idaho, of all places, and she'll be gone for almost six weeks. Of course the days between my return Saturday and that Wednesday will be reserved for more important things. c) After the 18th I'll be in a blue funk for approximately six weeks, and nothing will bring me out of it, so don't expect much out of me then. Thus, while I'll try to squeeze out both SCORCH and POLITICIAN as soon as I can, I can't guarantee anything at all. When we get to August, Amy will be back, I'll be in a semi-normal state of mind again (at least as close as I ever come to it) and I'll be busy as hell, with little time left over for Diplomacy! Then, late in August it's off to Georgetown. Good!

2) If anybody is looking for VANILLA #2001, just wait until I come back from up north or so. I think it gets published about the 20th.

3) Advance thanks to WJL for manufacturing all of my games during the last few weeks. I hope to have a new one out in the next few days.

1978Jev -- Youngstown IV -- Fall 1910

AUSTRIA(Hyatt): A Pic-Mar, A Tas-Ron, F Tun-Alg, F Lyo-Spa(sc), F Wes S F Lyo-Spa(sc), F Tyn-Tun, F Adr-Ion, A Mor-Sah, A Bur S A Pic-Mar, A Mun-Ruh, A Sax-Rie, A Pos-Sil, A Bar-Kie, A War H, A Tyl-Mun, A Bud H

CHINA(Cooper): F SPOOBE-SOA(oops---SAC), F SPC-SPOOBE, F ECS-SPO, F Yel-EGS, A Hon-Oss, F Kyo-Kir, A Sak-Kar, F SoJ S A Sak-Kar, A Sib S A Skg, A Skg S A Sib, A Tib & A Nep S A Cal, A Cal S ENGLISH F BoB-Mad, A Bum S A Cal, A Tha-Joh, F Gel-Tim, F Mal-EIO, F Jav S F Mal-EIO, F And S F Mal-EIO, F Bor-Gal

ENGLAND(Kluge): F Iri-Eng, F Eng-Bre, F Nth-Hel, F Wng-Nth, A Bel-Ruh, F Hol-Kia, F Goa-Yem, F EcL-Mad

FRANCE(Stimel): F Mid-Spa(nc), A Gas-Bur, A Mar S A Gas-Bur,

GERMANY(Charnley): F Nth R Den, F Ska-Nth, F Den S F Sea-Nth, A Swe-Nwy, A Fin S A Swe-Nwy, A Par H/unordered/

ITALY(Schuets): F Fuj S CHINESE A Hon-Tok/nso, F Tim-TimOBE

JAPAN(Chase): F NPC-Ker, F Tok-SPO

TURKEY(Mendator S): A Len & A Mos S A StP, A StP H, F Ion-Aeg, F Sue-Redm, F Son-Mog, F WIO-Ara, F Cey-EIO, F Mad S F Cey-EIO, A Dec & A Raj S F Mad, A Del H, A Afg S A Del, A Tur S A Ems, A Oms S A Tur

Supply Center Chart: AUS: 4Home, Rum, Ser, Gre, War, Ven, Rom, Nap, Tna, Mor Mun, Dor, Pon, Sag; 17, Etd 1. CHI: 3Home, Via, Sai, Vit, Can, Man, Omo, Skg, Tha, For, Mar, Kor, Phi, Cal, Bor, Joh, Jav, Kyo, Oan; 21, Etd 1. ENG: Lon, Lyp, Hii, Ira, Bre, Hol, Bol, ~~Mad~~, Yem; 8, Even. FRA: Mar, ~~Sag~~, Por; 2, Rem 1. GER: Kie, Den, Swe, Nwy, Par; 5, Even. ITA: Eth, ~~Cal~~; 1, Rem 1. JAP: ~~Sag~~, Tok; 1, Rem 1. TUR: 4Home, Bul, Sev, Ira, Egy, Fen, Mcs, Oms, Del, ~~Sag~~ Mar, S&P, Coy; 16, Etd 1.

Winter 1910 & Spring 1911 orders and votes (see below) due July 14, 1980. (A Afg should have been listed last time. It had supported another unit last time. Sorry.) A concession to China has been proposed. Vote must be unanimous to pass. Propaganda:

JAPAN TO CHINA, ITALY AND ENGLAND: I die now, but I die knowing Japan will have its revenge. "Lawless you three, you'll never know when but the day will come when "The Empire Strikes Back"!"

CHINA: I ain't shaving a draw with nobody!

EARTHWIDE STUPID ONE-LINE PRESS SERVICE: Italian fleet commander, Karl Schuets, is expected to lead the first expedition to circle the world from west to east, as his fleet has already passed Timor.

Japan decides to replace gorilla forces with more human guerilla fighters. Japanese soldier, found in the Philippines, says that it belongs to Japan and that he will continue fighting until the Emperor informs him the war has ended with a Japanese victory.

1979Pjd -- Atlantica III -- Ac3 -- January 1971

ENGLAND(Horton): F Green sits and shivers, F Lyp-Hob, F Ice-Nag, F Wal-Lon, F Bol-Hel, A Ion beards F Nth, A/P Nth-Ska, A discombats Swe,

FRANCE(Chase): F Ase S ITALIAN F Can-Wat, A Mun S A Swi-Eur, A Swi-Eur, A Eyr-Vag, F Bre-Pic, F For-Cod, F Spa(sc) S F Por-Cad

ITALY(Cooper): F S&P-Hel, F Can-WAT, F Eng-Mid, F Max-Jag, F Tyn-Hes, A Tyl-Roh, A Sil S FRENCH A Mun, F Wng-Ken

GERMANY(Dipscomb): F Bol S A Sax, A Par S ITALIAN A Sil-Mun/nso, F Kingo-Bo, A Pic-Mar, F Axi-Cor, A Eub-Luc

RUSSIA(Charnley): A Nth-Ort, A Gal-Min, F Grand-Nat, F Ice S F Grand-Nat, F Nth-Skand, F Wng-Siber, F Bol S F Pal S GSA A/P Ber-Gat, A Tok-S.Y.

GBA(Davis): A Cha boards F Box, A/P Bar-Nat, A disembark Rio, F Noe S A
Cha-Rio, A Tan-Ken, F Car-Ris

USA(GD): F Rio H/R No by RMY, A Ken H, A Ala/Yuk H, F L.I.S. H, F Bos H

February 1871 due July 14, 1986. Propaganda:

FRANCE TO GERMANY: See mistakes in August 1870 moves, virtual certainty
of losing Morocco in Oct. 1870, and only 50% chance to taking Venice in Nov
1870, your lukewarm support and the picture should become clearer:

ROME: The Italian Government wishes to express its gratefulness to the
people of France for their loyalty, in movement and press, to the principle
of Franco-Italian goodwill and friendship.

ROME: The Italian government today warned England that any attack on
France proper, its units, or any of its possessions, would be considered an
act of war and sincerely hoped that England would agree to the proposed
Franco-Italian alliance/

1978RCh --- Colonia IV --- Spring 1756

AUSTRIA(Kluge): A Missouri-Oregon, A Louisiana-Missouri, F Texas-Louisiana,
F Florida-Louisiana, A Trieste-Bosnia, F Bosnia-Adriatic, A Budapest-Gal-
icia, A Galicia-Rumania, A Silesia S A Poland, A Poland S A Galicia-Rum-
ania, A Bavaria S FRENCH A Antwerp-Rhine

CHINA(Stimmel): A Khandah H, A Nizam-Coa, A Nehal S ENGLISH A Bengal-Yunnan
/nso/, and that's it

ENGLAND(Hyatt): F Gulf of Tenantepes-SouthPacific, A Mexico & A California
& F Gulf of Mexico H, F Cuba S F Gulf of Mexico, F Surinam-West Indies,
F Gulf of Balan-West Atlantic, A Jungle-Bolivia, A Recife-Bahia, A Chile-
Argentina, F S.W.Atlantic-Drake's Passage, F Brazil S A Chile-Argentina,
F Mid AtlanticOS.W.Atlantic, F Ireland & F Channel R RUSSIAN F Azores-East
Atlantic/nso/, F Edinburgh-Faroes, F London-Irish Sea, F North Sea-Nalge-
land, F Norwegian Sea & A Natal H, A Congo-Ruanda, A Mozambique-Tanganyika,
A Katanga S A Congo-Ruanda, A Feter-Nubia, F Angola-Gulf of Guinea, F Cape
Colony-South Indian, F West Indian-Sanali Sea/R Diego Garcia, Peshw., CBR/
F Ceylon-East Indian, F South China Sea-Davao Strait/R Borneo, Gulf of
Siam, East China Sea, OTE/, F Cambodia-South China, F Malaya-Malay Sea, A
Bengal-Burma, A Burma-Siam, A Cochin-Cambodia

FRANCE(Kandter Sr): A Senegal S A Dakar/a/, A Dakar H/a/, A Virginia H, A
Ontario-Yukon, A Manitoba S A Ontario-Yukon, F Quebec-Grand Banks, F Bay
of Biscay-East Atlantic, F Lisbon S F Bay of Biscay-East Atlantic, A Leon
S F Lisbon, A Toulon H, A Antwerp-Rhine, F Bordeaux-Brittany, A Hague S
A Antwerp-Rhine

OTTOMANS(Prosnitz): No Moves Rec'd! A Istanbul & F Izmir & A Egypt & F
Jerusalem (no) & F Goa H, A Baghdad H/a/

PORTUGAL(Di sorder): F Sea of Siam H/a/, F Tahiti H, F Yukon H/a/

RUSSIA(Schustz): A Argentina H/R Patagonia, Paraguay, OTE/, F West Atlantic-
East Atlantic, F Azores S F West Atlantic-East Atlantic, F Casaroes-Morocco
F Verde Passage-Senegal, A Sahara S F Verde Passage-Senegal, A Ghana-Dakar
A Volta S A Ghana-Dakava, A Kimberka S A Volta, F Denmark S A Hanover, A
Hanover S A Saxony-Prussia, A Saxony-Prussia, F Sweden-Norway, F Babia-
Mid Atlantic, A Finland-Mazelia, A Lithuania S A Rumania, A Rumania S A
Lithuania, F Ural-Siberia, A Caucasus-Azania, A Persia-Baghdad, A Agh-
anistan-Kashmir, A Yunnan-Nepal, A Szechuan-Tungay, A Canton H, F Teekin
Gulf-South China, F Formosa Straits S F Tonkin Gulf-South China Sea, F Sea
of Okhotsk-Japan, F Micronesia S F East China Sea-West Pacific, F East
China-West Pacific, F North Pacific-Polynesia

SPAIN(Copper): A Lagos S FRENCH F Lisbon, F Gibraltar S A Lagos, A Madrid H, F Valencia-West Med Sea, F Ionian-East Med, F Greece-Aegean, F Parthian Gulf S RUSSIAN A Persia-Baghdad, F Arabian Sea-West Indian, F Malayasy S F Arabian Sea-West Indian, F Red Sea-Jerusalem(sc), A Uganda H, F Somalia-Somali Sea, F Hawaii-Polynesia, F Manila-Davao Strait, F Australia-West Desert, F Malanecia S F Fiji-South Pacific, F Fiji-South Pacific, F Samoa S F New Zealand-Sea of Bismarck, F New Zealand-Sea of Bismarck, F West Pacific-Manila/A Guan, Tarawa, Solomon Sea, New Guinea, Arafura Sea/, F Timor-East Indian, F Iwo Jima-West Pacific

Fall 1756 due here July 14, 1980. Propaganda follows:

SWITZERLAND: The third world countries (Austria, China, France, and Spain) have decided to make up a more potent force than either of the Big Two Powers have, and concentrate on taking centers from them, not each other.

LONDON: Rumor has it King Freddie will soon be headed for warmer climate. The dense fog in London is not going well with his dense plans.

MOSCOW: A peace party has now come to power in Russia. It has proposed reinstating the Olympics and to celebrate has decided to personally go throughout the world with its armies and invite everyone.

INDIA: New computer stores Emperor's new booklet, "Greater Artillery Range Brings A Great Event-Victory". (G.A.R.S.A.G.E.) But a Russian spy eavesdrops the tape, proving that, computerwise, "Garbage In" doesn't always mean "Garbage Out".

INDIA: Emperor's popularity soars as nation supports him in time of crisis. Does this mean that he'll solve the crisis? Certainly not! If he did, the crisis would end and his popularity would fall.

INDIA: School board criticized for buying new atlases to show new elevation of Mt. St. Helens. Worse yet, they are planning to replace all geography books which state that there are no active volcanoes in the 48 states. Emperor may ask for extradition of volcano, for pollution, if any ash reaches India.

INDIA: Scientific research reveals that favorite song of birds is Puck's Brandenburg Concerto. This investigation should win a Golden Fleece award.

INDIA: Marie Antoinette visits India. When told that the people had no gasoline she replied, "Let them use methanol!"

MADRID: As you won't recall from our last episode, Queen Margabet had decided to return home to supervise her country's going out of business sale. We pick up the action at that point...

PEG: That's it! I'm leaving.

SPUD: Well, it was nice having you.

PEG (exiting stage left): It was nice being had.

PHILIP (at the window): I guess we'll just have to wait for the arrival of Soltin' Gene, the Vizier of Villany, Caliph of Galzany, and Sultan of Stebs, before settling the new world order.

SPUD: I protest! This place is too much like a zoo now.

LEE: With lions!

TSAR: And tigers!

PHILIP: And bears!

BOBBY: Oh my!

TSAR: Anyway, look who's protesting! Spud still uses a crayola to write his dispatches.

LEE: And every treaty of alliance you've ever signed has been in disappearing ink, Schatzki.

TSAR: I wish you'd die again.

BOBBY: Gentlemen, gentlemen!

PHILIP: Gentlemen? Is company coming?

BOBBY: You mean you're a zoo now?

SPUD: Don't play dumb with me Bobby! You don't do it as well as I do.

TSAR: Amen to that.

LEE: Oh no!

SPUD: What!

LEE: The enchiladas are gone, and so's Philip.

SPUD (at the window): He's not moving! He must be dead. Alas, he was a man among men.

TSAR: A prince among princes.

BOBEY: A drunk among drunks.

SPUD: No wait, he's moving.

LEE: Yes, he must've fallen on his least vulnerable part -- his head.

SPUD: He's mumbling something. Lee, can you make it out?

LEE: I think he's singing "I love London in the Springtime, I love Moscow in the Fall."

TSAR: God, he must be delirious!

BOBEY: How can you tell the difference?

And hours later, with Philip resting in his quarters, the four ambassadors meet secretly to discuss a highly sensitive procedural matter. Unbeknownst to them, a black-cloaked figure is observing them through a one-way mirror from a secret corridor behind a wall in a conference room. Yes, it whispers to itself, "it's working perfectly. The attempt on the life of the Spanish prince will result in wild accusations, and cooperation among them will be impossible. Only one more step remains to be taken, and the last great war will begin. And only I shall benefit." With a final sinister laugh, the figure begins to move through the secret palace corridors to the chambers of the injured prince.

Suddenly a pirate ship appears on the horizon, while far away Spanish troops search the Western Desert for clues to the whereabouts of the missing gypsy king. (This twist in the plot will baffle my readers.)

...to be continued...

POLITICIAN: Actually, I have a clue as to who the Unknown Saboteur in Black is. I mean, who also has been watching this game for the last 15 months...? Although I do have trouble seeing how another Colonial war would be of benefit to anyone...

1980Esv -- Youngstown IV -- Winter 1901

AUSTRIA(Phil Paulson): A Rom R Clu, Eld ABud. Also has A Ser, A Vic, F Tri

CHINA(Dupont): Eld F Can, A Pek. Also has A Gmo, A VN, F SCS

ENGLAND(Gepper): Eld F Lon, F Edin F Joh. Also has F Ire, F Nwy, F Barm, F Tha(cc)

FRANCE(Gene Paulson): Eld A Par, A Mar, F Sai. Also has A Dur, A Spa, F Mor, F Sor

GERMANY(Hyatt): Eld A Mun, A Pos. Also has F Den, A Hol, A Ruh, A Sil

INDIA(KRuge): Eld A Del, F Mad. Also has A Afg, F Cay, A Bum

ITALY(Chack): Eld F Nap, F Mog. Also has A Pen, F Ion, A Ven, F Bth

JAPAN(Ricci): Eld F Kyo. Also has F Phi, F BCS, F SCS

RUSSIA(Promnitz): Eld A Mos, A Oms, F StP(cc). Also has F Bot, A Rum, A War, F Sev, F Kor, A Man

TURKEY(Quaxley): Eld F Smy, E Bagh (F). Also has A Ann, F Nis, A Bul, A Eyr

Spring 1902 and July 14, 1900. Orders on file for Turkey, Japan, India, & Germany. These may be changed, of course. I've had several comments on how interesting and exciting this game is, and I'm glad to hear it! Press:

ITALY TO JAPAN: I always liked your TV show, and my forces stand behind you 1000%.

LONDON: With deep respect for the French Government's attempt to codify the principles of Diplomacy, the English Government wishes these additions to be added:

1) Hyatt's First Law of Tactics: Why fight, let your allies do it for you.

2) Cooper's Corollary to Hyatt's First Law of Tactics: Take centers from your allies, you have to fight your enemies.

3) Cooper's Calling Card: Have dagger, will stab. Anyone! Anywhere! Anytime! For anything!

4) Ricci's First Law of Diplomacy: Don't let anyone know who you are! They may remember you.

5) Prosnitz's first law of Tactics: Do the unexpected, stab yourself.

6) Cheek's First Law of Tactics: Attack novices or players that can't communicate. They won't know it until too late.

7) Kluge's Commentary on Cheek's First Law of Tactics: Will someone please tell me which game we're playing!

8) Paulson's (E) First Law of Tactics: Get drunk when you make your moves. They look that way anyway.

9) Cooper's Corollary to Paulson's First Law of Tactics: Have a woman say "Hay kid got me an Iron City Beer" and then go all the way to Pittsburgh to get it.

10) Paulson's (P) Second Law of Diplomacy: Declare war on everyone, then you can't get stabbed.

11) Dupont's Corollary to Paulson's Second Law of Diplomacy: Attack anyone who won't write. He may know what's going on.

12) Paulson's Commentary on Cooper's Law of Allies: You give me So Dork's money, and I'll buy him.

13) Charnley's Commentary on Paulson's Law of Negotiations: How long can your dog tread water?

POLITICIAN: This is a stupid place to put it, but I forgot earlier and will forget again later on. We have two COAs: Gene Paulson is now at RR# #8, Box 51D, Clayton, WI 54004, and his brother Phil Paulson is now at 208 East Charlotte Street, River Falls, WI 54082, which is a bit away from his brother. Thanks...

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN NEWS SERVICE: Austro-Hungary joins the anti-Russian crusade in ridding the arrogant dictator from the world's map.

AUSTRIA: Austria is a state of mind, a depressing feeling, that exists only in those who have ventured into that zone of insanity, "The Twilight Zone."

POLITICIAN: That happens to be one of my very favorite TV shows ever.

ITALY: The government faced a serious crisis when it was learned that the supply of stupid one-line press items was short. A crash program was instituted to develop stupid 2, 3 yes and even 4 line press items.

CHINA: Soon the hordes will be gathered and we will sweep out and conquer the world. With the aid of our allies the huns we shall build pyramids of GM's skulls throughout the world!

ENGLAND: I'm a currently conductor of the "concert of powers" referred to be China. Today Austria is the target but at any time I might change the tune and you'll be next! So send cash, large bills only to the indicated address and I will show mercy!

FRANCE: I hope you all have enjoyed my Rules of Diplomacy. They are soon to be published in hardcover by Grosvenor Press International for the price of \$20. But for a limited time only the book is available for just \$19.95! So just send your cash (no checks please) to the address listed.

Hurry! There are only a few copies left.

ROME: The pope has sent his faithful Jesuits to Japan to teach him how to spell his name.

TOKYO (A.F.T.A.): Japan shall expell the foreign dogs who seek to introduce the missionary position, the lapidary position and the bouncy-bouncies. These are, respectively: F-T-F, the silence of a rock, and the last is obvious.

COMMISSION OF NON-ENGAGED XETERO-EMPTY ATHENIAN DIMWITS: The CONEHEAD neutrals of Athens, Brussels, and Greece cry out to the Powers; we are besieged by phony war-makers playing at bouncy-bouncy.

PARIS-LONDON: Race you to OBB.

VIENNA-PEMING: Duck!

PEKING-ROME: Whither?

PEKING-POLITICIAN: Canadian postal strike June/July...

PEKING-LADAKH: Because it's there...

PEKING-VIENNA: The Asians For The Allies group suggests that if you don't want war and can't write us, you might as well send in some Black Press and not leave that burden to me. And do pick up your mail. We are sending you some nice talk, sausage-eater.

PEKING-TOKYO: Thanks for the confesaion. Do you want a pen, stamps or stationery? Hope you build a Pagoda on Fuji.

LODNON: Informed sources today denied that Prime Minister Philip had recently been in Belgium. These same sourcesclaimed that the PM had EELCHED during a recent, savage game of solitaire but that it was merely coincidence, and that it was the PM's twin brother, Phillip (that's 2 L's) who had been in Belgium setting up a chain of take-out brothels. These sources remarked that you can tell the two apart by the fact that Philip stands with his hands like THIS, and Phillip stands with his hands like THAT.

LONDON: Agents of MI-5 revealed conclusive evidence that Austria-Hungary is, in reality, a fig newton of Russia's imagination. Meanwhile, all agents were ordered to track down these responsible for the anti-French tone of recent black press datelined London.

PARIS: Volume III of the Laws of Diplomacy sold out in 3 hours today. Exerpts follow:

1) Cooper's Law of Austria: This position is only marginally better than daytime TV.

2) Hyatt's Fourth Law of Diplomacy: Attacking Russia is like eating an elephant. You've got to take one bite at a time.

3) Paulson's (P) Second Law of Diplomacy: The lion and the calf shall lie down together, but the calf won't get toomuch sleep.

4) Kluge's Corollary to Paulson's (P) Second Law: The odds are 6-5 that the light at the end of the tunnel is that of an approaching express train.

5) The Standby Principle: You should've seen it when I got it.

6) The Diplomacy Prayer: O Lord, grant that we may always be right, for thou knowest we will never change our minds.

7) The Mid-Game Syndrome: When you're up to your ears in alligators, it is not surprising that you've forgotten your first goal was to drain the swamp.

8) Cheek's Lawof Correspondence: There's nothing like a good pain-staking devotion to letter writing to put a glaze like a Sung vase on your eyeballs.

9) Paulson's (E) Commentary on Cooper's Law of Allies: If builders built buildings the way diplomacy players keep their alliances, then the first woodpecker that came along would destroy civilization.

POLITICIAN: That's it for now. May you two not writing press, let's get with it next month! And the others, keep up the great job!

MISCELLENEOUS

1) This is being typed on Tuesday, June 17, otherwise known as five days after the deadline. Uli adjudicated all of the games. After I got back from Up North I stayed at my friend's place for two days, took my gf down to the Playboy Club in Lake Geneva (my family has a membership of course), and got home rather late. This is my first opportunity to get all of this stuff straight. EGGNOG hasn't even been touched, even though it's deadline was four or so days earlier than POLITICIAN. I'll get to that today sometime, or tomorrow. We'll see.

2) To answer the inevitable question, yes, I had fun in Hurley. We didn't catch any fish, we unsuccessfully tried to buy booze in Michigan where the drinking age was 21 (which I didn't know until after they carded us), I lost my magnificent Stetson driving cap and a set of keys, the tent nearly blew away in near-hurricane winds on Friday morning, and my friend was nailed doing 85 mph on the freeway coming down on Friday night; but all in all it was fun. Oh! and a fuzz-buster or other radar detector is illegal in Michigan. One particularly funny (to me) episode was where one drives from Hurley into Ironwood (MI) and there's a big sign: Welcome to Michigan, Land of Hospitality. Driving back from Ironwood to Hurley (WI) there's the familiar (to me) sign: Wisconsin arrests drunk drivers and speeders. That just about says it all around here.

3) In case you didn't guess it, the bunny on the first page is supposed to be the Playboy Bunny. I drew it from memory only, unfortunately, and I'm no artist, so it's butchered all to hell...

4) Excuse me while I open a beer.

5) Thanks you for waiting.

6) The next deadline is July 14, 1980. Be on time. Phone deadlines, as always, is the day before then. I have every reason to suspect that I will get the July issue out on time, but the August issue is in question right now...though I don't know my schedule yet for then. Also in late August I should have some pretty big news for my readers, besides the fact that I'm taking off to college.

7) EGGNOG's 50th issue will be coming up very soon. If you have a contribution in article form to make, make it now. EGGNOG #50 will be a pretty big issue, anywhere from 20 to 34 pages long. Subscribe to EGGNOG at the rate of 10/\$3.50, or, for #50 alone, 50¢.

8) It's not whether you win or lose; it's how you place the blame.

This space is for notes...but then there isn't all that much space left.

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