

AUSTRIA GAINS THREE CENTERS

73-6 (1973DY) Fall 1901

Austria-Hungary (Jeff Key, 3)

ASerSABud-Rum, ABud-Rum, FAlb-Gre

England (John Boyer, 1)

AWal-Bre, FEngCAWal-Bre, FNth-Nwy

France (Charles Reinsel, 1)

no orders received. AMar-Spa, ABur-Mar, FMid-Bre

Germany (Edi Birsan, 2)

AKie-Hol, FDen-Swe, ARuh-Mun

Italy (Chic Hilliker, 1)

ATus-Tun, FTyrCATus-Tun, APie-Mar

Russia (John Smythe)

AUkr-Rum, AWar-Gal, FBoth-Swe, FRum-Bla

Turkey (Conrad von Metzke, 1)

ABul-Rum, FCon-Bul (EC), ASmy-Arm

Charles Reinsel has resigned from the game and Steve Cooper failed to send in stand-by moves. In accordance with the house rules, neutral moves were obtained for 1901. A replacement for France and a new stand-by player are being sought. To allow time, builds are being given a separate turn. All builds that have been sent in conditionally need not be repeated. Next deadline (builds): September 14.

* * *

NEXT DEADLINES:

73-3: September 1; 73-4: September 8; 73-5: September 1; 73-6: September 14; 73-7: September 8; 73-8: September 1; 73-B: September 14; 73-C: September 1

FRANCE GETS HIT

73-B (73.12d)

USA (Gil Neiger) no attacks

FRANCE (Cary Fulbright) no attacks

BRITAIN (Ronald Kelly) 1 - 1 vs.

France in Aus (A) IBM

RUSSIA (Evan Jones) no attacks

GERMANY (Alex Katzoff) 2 - 1 vs.

France in Rum (-) BOEING;

3 - 1 vs. France in Aus (X) IBM

| | USA | FRA | BRI | RUS | GER |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ALS | | | | | |
| AUS | | | | | C |
| BAL | | | U9 | 6 | |
| BRI | | | | | |
| CZE | | | | | C |
| FRA | | | | | |
| GER | | | | | |
| ITA | | | | | |
| POL | | | 2 | | 6 |
| RHI | | 6 | | | 5 |
| RUM | | 2 | | 5 | 5 |
| RUS | | | U5 | 3 | |
| USA | 6 | | | | |

USA 19, GER 7, FRA 0, BRI 6, RUS 0

* * *

HAPPY TWENTY-FIFTH The POUCH ISSUE!

* * *

* All subscribers and *
* traders, please see *
* editorial on page *
* two. *

* * *

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THE POUCH

c/o Nicholas A. Ulanov
60 East 8th Street
New York, N.Y. 10003

send letters, comments, and press releases to the above address.

guest articles are welcome. we pay five free issues for every article.

Editors:

Penelope Naughton Dickens

Duncan K. Smith

Nicholas A. Ulanov

Game Masters:

Raymond Heuer

Gil Neiger

Miles Smith

First off, guess who isn't moving. Nicholas Ulanov is not moving, so The POUCH's address will remain the same.

Now to explain some fairly important things.

The POUCH is in very poor financial shape. Make no mistake about that (we already did). But, if we have to fold, no one will get stuck. This is a commitment we have to make. If the decision to fold is made, we will publish five more issues to cover most subscriptions, and refund the remaining portions of subscriptions. We will make every attempt possible to get all games transferred, and since we have charged you no fees, we think this is more than fair.

We do think that with the cooperation of subscribers and trade The POUCH can be saved from oblivion. We have received since our inception nothing but very generous compliments, and we gather that it is the general opinion the The POUCH is a very good zine indeed. So, we ask for your help. Unlike many zine publishers, we cannot afford to run our zine at a loss.

Because of the number of pages printed, and the fact that with mimeographing, there is a certain initial expense (for stencils, ink, etc.) which cannot be avoided regardless of the number of copies printed, and that each additional copy after that initial outlay is almost cost-free, the only solution is for approximately thirty new persons to subscribe.

We ask our SUBSCRIBERS to obtain one new subscriber each. For this, you will receive five free issues, and the assurance of our gratitude and The POUCH's survival. Remember neither you, nor any new subscribers you bring in will lose money. All subscriptions will be fulfilled or refunded.

We ask our TRADERS to plug us, as you have in the past, generously. By doing so, you will assure The POUCH's survival, and we all know what a hardship and a tragedy it is for a zine to fold.

PLEASE HELP! Only if you do, can The POUCH continue. We badly want it to, and count on you to make it possible.

We believe you will help us, and that The POUCH will continue, so, assuming this to be true, we have a poll on page nine about how The POUCH should change and grow. We ask you all to fill this out,

subscriptions are 10/\$1.80

page two

and mail your responses to us. If you don't, a minority of opinions will move this zine, and this is not good.

The response to the John Lindsay poll has not been very good, and we still urge you to respond to it. Send your answers to it to the address opposite. We hope that far more responses will be forthcoming to the poll on page nine.

On page seventeen we have yet another poll. Those of you that subscribe to more than just this zine will undoubtedly see it in other zines. It is the Beyerlein Player Poll which allows you to vote on who you think the top fourteen players in the hobby are. We urge you to fill it out and mail it in.

We received no replies to our request for stand-bys for the games we are running, so we have designed a slightly complicated system of economic reward for those that will stand-by for our games. If you are used as a stand-by in a game, and your services are needed, you will receive one free issue for every turn your moves are used, up to and including five. Thus if you join a game in 1902, the chances are good that you will receive five free issues for your taking over of a country. If, on the other hand, you take over a country two turns before it is eliminated from a game, you will receive two free issues.

If you want to be a stand-by, please let us know if you wish to stand-by for regular games, variants, or both. Your participation in this program will be vastly appreciated. Besides, you wouldn't want to be in a game that had a player forfeit without any replacement available.

The next article-issue will contain John Boyer's excellent variant Europe 1721 (also known as 1721-II). We are opening up a game of it in which John Boyer is going to play. If you want to be in it, let us know.

We have one position left for 73-9. If you want to be it, let us know. So far, Ronald Kelly, John Stevens, Phil Dahnke, Drew McGee, Kirby Welch, and David Hov are signed up for it.

Because of the increasing number of our games, we ask only those who are not in any other games in The POUCH at present to sign up for new games. This is not a rule, just a request. When this is no longer desirable we will let you know.

It is clear to us that if we charged even only very small game fees, we would not be in debt, but we will not do this. We firmly believe that you should not have to do more than maintain a subscription to play in a game. Please remember this unusual position of ours when thinking about helping to alleviate our financial problems.

You can temporarily help our economic situation by purchasing back issues and games. We have lowered our prices on these in an effort to make them more attractive, so buy now! Back issues are now available for 30¢ each, and in an order of five or more, 25¢ each; Lord of the Rings Diplomacy map and rules sets for 25¢ and a stamped, self-addressed envelope; Ancient Hebrew Kingdom map and rules for 20¢ and a SSAE; Grand Fenwick's Revenge for 20¢ and a SSAE.

We received only one new subscriber this week instead of the necessary three. This is to be expected since this is the first week of our drive, but next week we must get three new subscribers.

The Montenegrin Government today announced the betrothal of the daughter of the head of the Montenegrin Aeronautics and Space Administration to the King's son.

In a statement issued at the same time by the official spokesman for MASA, it was announced that the M.a.n. on the Moon was the King's only son, and that the just-landed FEMALE was Col. Nikoplat A. Poponov's daughter. This announcement confirmed early rumours. Rumours that the entire space shot and subsequent reports that the M.a.n. had gone "crackers" were a plot of Col. Poponov's to be made Premier of Montenegro remained unconfirmed.

When asked about these rumours, the official spokesman for MASA replied, "I cannot comment on that, but I can say that the M.a.n. and the FEMALE both appear to be functioning very normally, and are not on a 'gay romp' at the People's expense as some have implied. I wish to also say," added the spokesman, "that Col. Poponov has been an outstanding director of MASA, and has contributed much to the advancement of the Montenegrin People."

When it was pointed out to the spokesman that he had used past tense when speaking of Col. Poponov as director of MASA, he replied, "I certainly did."

Caught coming out of his office, Col. Poponov said that there was "no significance" to the fact that he was wearing the red sash of the office of Premier, and that his office furniture being moved to the Chancellery was of "absolutely no importance whatsoever."

73-7 Doughp (Ottoman Press) G.V.: "Your Highness! Your High... Oh! Excuse me, Your Majesty, I didn't know you were busy."
 H.A.: "That's okay G.V. Roxelana doesn't mind; do you Roxy? Uhh, it's kind of hard to understand her with her mouth full G.V., but she really doesn't mind. Run along and get dressed, Rox; I'll catch you later. What's cookin', G.V.?"
 G.V.: "Well, Your Highness, remember when I told you that we hadn't missed the Concert of Europe after all because none of the Powers received an invitation in time? Well, one of them has begun to move against us anyway because there is a Bulgarian army at the gates of Constantinople, and King Boris would never make such a move unless he was sure of backing by another Great Power."
 H.A.: "Borrie the Bulgin! Bulgar attacking me, Sultan Hambone Ali, Commander of the Faithful and the Shadow of Allah on Earth? Why, when we catch that fat pig, I think I'll have him roasted over a slow fire and feed him to those two new eunuchs from New Guinea the Sultan of Sarawak just sent me!"
 G.V.: "Your Majesty!"
 H.A.: "I guess that would be a little strong, G.V. But I'm a bit irritable because Roxelana didn't have a chance to finish what she started. Roll me a joint, and I'll try to calm down and figure out what to do. ... Ahh! That's better. Now! Does Intelligence have anything? Nothing definite. Well, we've got to wipe out Borrie fast. Hop up the First Army on coke and they should sweep right through Bulgaria if we reinforce 'em with the speed freaks from the Janissa Corps. Order the Navy to the Dardanelles, so it can go to either the Black or the Aegean; and have the Smyrna army cover the Black Sea coast. Göt it?"
 G.V.: "Yes, O Exalted One! Is there anything else?"
 H.A.: "Yes, my Grand Vizier. Get Roxelana back in here!"

THE 200th YEAR

conversation in a belfry

by Archibald MacLeish

Centennial bell that will not ring,
tell me why your iron tongue
rusts in the rain, your mouth is dumb.
Why are you silent, bell?

FOR SHAME.

You are not shamed.

NOT I BUT YOU.

We? With all we've done and do?
We've ruled ourselves two hundred years.
No name on earth is proud as ours.

IT WAS YOUR FATHERS' PRIDE THAT RULED;
THEIR SONS ARE TRICKED AND LIED TO, FOOLED
AS LINCOLN THOUGHT NO PEOPLE COULD BE,
ALL OF THEM—ALWAYS—FOR THEIR GOOD!

But still we're free. Ring out! O ring!
WHAT MAN IS FREE WHEN FRAUD IS KING?
Our souls are ours; our minds our own.
YOUR MASTER LISTENS ON THE TELEPHONE

We govern. It is we decide.
YOU TO WHOM YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS LIED!
Ring out and all will understand
this is John Adams' well-loved land...
JOHN ADAMS WOULD HAVE SEEN YOU DAMNED.

...where Jefferson's immortal word...
JEFFERSON'S IMMORTAL WORD
IS YET TO HEAR. IT WILL BE HEARD
BUT NOT BY THOSE WHO SELL HIS SOUL.

You ring now, bell.

I TOLL. I TOLL.

GAD IS DEAD; LONG LIVE JUDAH

An analysis and review of the Hebrew Kingdom Variant

By DKS

Since The POUCH was the first Diplomacy 'zine' to actually finish a game of John Biehl's variant, The Ancient Hebrew Kingdom Diplomacy. It cannot be denied that since this is true, an analysis of the game played can only be helpful in pointing out the good and bad points of the variant.

In 1999 BC, Gad and West Manasseh immediately went to war with each other while Judah and East Manasseh, remaining neutral, just grabbed the supply centers. All the countries gained two supply centers except West Manasseh which gained only one. In 1998 BC, it became obvious to all that it was a contest between Judah and East Manasseh. The game ended in 1996 BC when Judah won and East Manasseh gained second. In that process Gad was eliminated and West Manasseh just managed to survive. It was then decided by all that the variant was an uneven one. I disagree.

It is true that at first glance it seems that East Manasseh and Judah have an advantage. This advantage is the same one that Turkey and France enjoy in a standard game of Diplomacy. That is they are not surrounded on all sides by major powers. Both West Manasseh and Gad start the game surrounded by the other three. If they attack each other, they immediately open the way for a Judah or East Manasseh victory. As long as the central powers stay together, the game remains even and well balanced. One thing to remember is that in a four man game it is much easier to set up a stalemate than in a seven man game. So if you do badly at the start there can always be hope for the four way draw.

History of 73-A (1973 ABdu)

East Manasseh: Duncan Smith, Second place

Gad: Bruce Wachtler, eliminated at end of 1996 BC

Judah: Marc Robinson, winner

West Manasseh: Alex Katzeff 1999-1997 BC, Nicholas Ulanov 1997-1996 BC, survival

Gamemaster: Miles Smith 1999-SP 1997 BC, Raymond Hever F 1997-1996 BC

* * *

THE SAGA POOR RICHARD NIXON

You know, nobody will believe it, but I'm really an egghead!

Quoted in the
Los Angeles Times
March 13, 1960

I was there when the bombs were dropping. But I didn't get hit and I didn't hit anyone. All I got was a good case of fungus.

South Pacific duty
during World War II
Washington, D.C.
July 26, 1952

FOR THE RECORD

edited by Nicholas A. Ulanov

We continue this series by reprinting the roll-call votes of certain key bills of the Senators on the Senate Select Committee investigating campaign practices and the Watergate scandal.

Some of the vote abbreviations which may not be clear:

Phil Pln - Philadelphia Plan which allowed the Federal Government to compel the hiring of minority workers on Federally-subsidized construction projects.

Defoliatn - Defoliation of plant-life in Vietnam.

Comp Bid Sales - Mandatory competitive bidding on disposals of commodities from national stockpile.

Pre-Prod Tests - Pre-production tests of military hardware.

Tob-Sub - Tobacco industry support funds.

Senator Sam J. Ervin (D - N.C.)

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| ABM | FOR | Phil Pln | AGN | Coop-Church | AGN |
| SST | AGN | Vol Army | AGN | Cut Oil Dpltn | AGN |
| Busing | AGN | Prison \$ | AGN | Consumer Prot | FOR |
| Tob Sub | FOR | Cut Mil \$ | AGN | Farm Sub Limit | AGN |
| Carswell | FOR | Defoliatn | FOR | Comp Bid Sales | AGN |
| No-Knock | AGN | 18-Yr-Vote | AGN | Pre-Prod Tests | AGN |
| Seniority | FOR | Pentgn PR | FOR | Cut Marjna Pen | AGN |

Senator Howard H. Baker (R - Tenn.)

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| ABM | FOR | Phil Pln | AGN | Coop-Church | AGN |
| SST | FOR | Vol Army | FOR | Cut Oil Dpltn | AGN |
| Busing | AGN | Prison \$ | ABS | Consumer Prot | AGN |
| Tob Sub | ABS | Cut Mil \$ | AGN | Farm Sub Limit | AGN |
| Carswell | FOR | Defoliatn | FOR | Comp Bid Sales | ABS |
| No-Knock | FOR | 18-Yr-Vote | ABS | Pre-Prod Tests | ABS |
| Seniority | FOR | Pentgn PR | FOR | Cut Marjna Pen | AGN |

Senator Edward John Gurney (R - Fla.)

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| ABM | FOR | Phil Pln | AGN | Coop-Church | AGN |
| SST | FOR | Vol Army | FOR | Cut Oil Dpltn | AGN |
| Busing | AGN | Prison \$ | AGN | Consumer Prot | AGN |
| Tob Sub | FOR | Cut Mil \$ | AGN | Farm Sub Limit | AGN |
| Carswell | FOR | Defoliatn | FOR | Comp Bid Sales | FOR |
| No-Knock | FOR | 18-Yr-Vote | AGN | Pre-Prod Tests | AGN |
| Seniority | AGN | Pentgn PR | FOR | Cut Marjna Pen | AGN |

Senator Daniel Ken Inouye (D - Haw.)

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| ABM | AGN | Phil Pln | FOR | Coop-Church | FOR |
| SST | FOR | Vol Army | ABS | Cut Oil Dpltn | FOR |
| Busing | FOR | Prison \$ | ABS | Consumer Prot | ABS |
| Tob Sub | FOR | Cut Mil \$ | ABS | Farm Sub Limit | AGN |
| Carswell | AGN | Defoliatn | ABS | Comp Bid Sales | AGN |
| No-Knock | AGN | 18-Yr-Vote | ABS | Pre-Prod Tests | AGN |
| Seniority | AGN | Pentgn PR | AGN | Cut Marjna Pen | FOR |

Senator Joseph M. Montoya (D - N.M.)

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| ABM | AGN | Phil Pln | FOR | Coop-Church | FOR |
| SST | AGN | Vol Army | ABS | Cut Oil Dpltn | AGN |
| Busing | FOR | Prison \$ | ABS | Consumer Prot | FOR |
| Tob Sub | FOR | Cut Mil \$ | ABS | Farm Sub Limit | AGN |
| Carswell | AGN | Defoliatn | ABS | Comp Bid Sales | ABS |
| No-Knock | FOR | 18-Yr-Vote | FOR | Pre-Prod Tests | ABS |
| Seniority | ABS | Pentgn PR | AGN | Cut Marjna Pen | FOR |

Senator Herman Eugene Talmadge (D - Ga.)

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| ABM | FOR | Phil Pln | ABS | Coop-Church | AGN |
| SST | FOR | Vol Army | AGN | Cut Oil Dpltn | AGN |
| Busing | AGN | Prison \$ | AGN | Consumer Prot | FOR |
| Tob Sub | FOR | Cut Mil \$ | AGN | Farm Sub Limit | AGN |
| Carswell | FOR | Defoliatn | FOR | Comp Bid Sales | AGN |
| No-Knock | AGN | 18-Yr-Vote | AGN | Pre-Prod Tests | AGN |
| Seniority | AGN | Pentgn PR | FOR | Cut Marjna Pen | AGN |

Senator Lowell P. Weicker, Jr. (R - Conn.)

| | | | | | |
|------------|------|--------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| ABM | AGN | 18-Yr-Vote | FOR | Clean Water \$ | FOR |
| SST | AGN* | Farm Sub Lmt | FOR | Mig Wrkrs Comp | ABS |
| Phil Pln | FOR | Coop-Church | FOR | Jets to Chiang | AGN |
| No-Knock | FOR | Family Asst | FOR | State CEO Veto | AGN |
| Comutr Tax | ABS | Work Stamps | ABS | Park Logging | AGN |

* as Senator

Senator Weicker's record (except where noted) in this, and the last, article is from his service in the House of Representatives.

AGN - Against

FOR - For

ABS - Absent

Primary Source: The Almanac of American Politics by Michael Barone
Grant Ujifusa, Douglas Matthews. Gambit.

The POUCH POLL

This poll will guide the change and growth of The POUCH. Please send your answers (along with your name—if you will) to the address on page two.

- 1 - How would you rate The POUCH as it now stands? A - Excellent, B - Good, C - Fair, D - Poor
- 2 - Would you rather see press edited according to standards of good taste and degree of entertainment, or see all press printed as space allows? A - Edit press, B - Print all press
- 3 - Would you like to see a column, similar to NOTES FROM PENELOPE, appear regularly by Nicholas A. Ulanov? A - Yes, B - No
- 4 - Would you like to see a solitaire game of Fall of Rome with press? A - Yes, B - No
- 5 - Would you like to see game fees implemented in order to allow constant game openings, and/or keep The POUCH financially afloat? A - Yes, B - No
- 6 - Would you like to see higher subscription costs to allow covers for The POUCH and/or keep The POUCH financially afloat? A - Yes, B - No
- 7 - Which should be cut back to allow more of the other? A - Press to allow more articles, B - Articles to allow more press.
- 8 - Would you like to see further articles and opinions on political subjects? A - Yes, B - No
- 9 - Would you like to see a regular column on wargames? A - Yes, B - No
- 10 - Would you pay \$2.00 for a reprint of all the articles that have appeared in The POUCH at the end of the first year of publication? (Such a publication would be about 150 pages long, and in more or less book-form.) A - Yes, B - No
- 11 - Would you like to see more polls like this to determine readership opinion? A - Yes, B - No
- 12 - How many games are you now playing in (in and out of The POUCH)? A - 0, B - 1 to 5, C - 6 to 10, D - 10 or more
- 13 - How many games have you won? A - 0, B - 1 to 5, C - 6 to 10, D - 11 or more
- 14 - How many games have you played in (including games not completed)? A - 0, B - 1 to 5, C - 6 to 10, D - 11 to 25, E - 26 to 50, F - 51 or more
- 15 - What kind of player would you consider yourself? A - Very Good, B - Good, C - Fair, D - Poor
- 16 - Do you write press? A - Yes, B - No
- 17 - Do you play wargames? A - Yes, B - No
- 18 - Are you a member of the IDA? A - Yes, B - No

PEOPLE OF VADUZ WITNESS PUBLIC HANGING!!!

(Vaduz, Liechtenstein) Today in the execution center of Liechtenstein, the black scaffold located near the river, three men were to be hung on charges of espionage. The first man was British, the second was a Frenchman and the third a Montenegrin. This supposedly simple hanging was marred by a series of very strange incidents. Our reporter, Joseph Ecrirer, tells us what he saw:

"The area around the scaffold was empty. Unlike other European cities where the inhabitants thrive on the hangings, the people of Vaduz are decent enough to let a man die in privacy. The first prisoner led out was the British one. His name was Winston Hill, former Viceroy of India. Calmly and courageously, the Major was led to the scaffold. He showed no fear and acted the gentleman as the noose was put around his neck. He refused any last request and the hangman pulled the lever. As the body pulled upwards, the noose slipped off the Englishman's neck and he fell into the river and swam to his safety. The Frenchman, Major Jean Duprez, was the same, an example of courage and bravery. And just as for the British the noose slipped from his neck and he swam to his safety. The last man was brought out. His name was Colonel Nikoplat A. Poponov III. He was the Montenegrin spy. This one showed no courage. He came out screaming, begging for a miracle. "No, no, I don't want to die. I'm too young, Save me, Oh Lord!" The guards had to forcibly drag him up the scaffold and he did not end his screaming. He was then asked if he had any last request. He screamed out "Yes, make the noose tight, I can't swim!"

LIECHTENSTEIN ARMY MISSES MOON AND DISAPPEARS!!!

(Cape Carnivore, Liechtenstein) Doctor Crazy Le Fous, Head of LSP (Liechtenstein Space Program), announced to the press today that the 16 man army of Liechtenstein had not gone to the Moon as previously hoped. As a matter of fact the army did not even reach the stratosphere. It is believed that the spaceships were headed in the general direction of France. President Melvin Gobowsky was quoted as saying this on the incidents: "If we couldn't get there how could they!" The president was asked if there was any chance that his daughter, Prissy Gobowsky, would marry the King of Montenegro's son, the M.A.N. "My daughter marry that nut! Don't make me laugh! That guy thinks the Moon is made of Tang! I'd sooner marry my daughter to a squirrel or Chipmunk! At least they eat nuts!" he exclaimed.

ZURICH, SWITZERLAND TO SUE LIECHTENSTEIN FOR LACK OF LIQUOR!!!

(Zurich, Switzerland) The Mayor and the Town Council of Zurich have filed a complaint against Liechtenstein. They claim that 16 citizens of Liechtenstein drank all the liquor in Zurich in three hours. It seems that Thursday night, 16 men fell

Me name is Unkle Gandalf and I got dese stories dat are gonna tell you about de inhabitants and de way of life of de people of de Middle Eard. They are de stories of three characters named Oink de Pig, Vomit de Herret-broken Orc, and Lord Tihor de Yellow. De first story is entitled "Slobo meets de Pig".

Now Oink de Pig was a dwarf in de Fellowship of de ring. And Slobo was de hobbit wid de ring. Also Oink de Pig was a greedy sunavitch and he wanted de ring. Only Slobo was not gonna give it to him. Now one day Oink de Pig met Slobo de Ring-bearer in an alley. "Dis is ma chance to get de ring", doughht Oink de Pig. Now dere ain't nuttin tall about a dwarf but next to a hobbit he's a veritable giant. So Slobo knew he would have to something sneaky. Right away Oink de Pig picked up Slobo and was about to dash him to de ground when Slobo turned and looked him right in de eye and breaded. Oink de Pig immediatly fell down dead. Now dere's one ding to remember. A hobbit like Slobo eats six meals per day and he don't never brush his teeth. De moral of dis story is "Never look a gift Slobo in de mouth".

De second story is entitled "Dove is vomiting in de woods".

Vomit was an orc. A very ugly orc and blue at dat. He was a veteran of de Battle of Isenguard where he ran into de axe of Gimli de dwarf. He was lucky dough because his head was sowed back on by Aragorn. It was only later dat people realised dat his head had been put on backwards. Now dis poor orc named Vomit was in love wid de Elf Princess, Penelope. She was de most beautiful Elf in de woods. Everyone knew what she had under her sweater exept Vomit and he was determined to find out. One day he met her in de woods and not by accident either.

"You don't love me Penelope", said Vomit, "Don't you like blue people or something? I can do more dan just pots and pans. I can do whitewalls and golf clubs too. (Oops, wrong script). Anyway Penelope, why does everyone exept me know what's under your sweater?"

"Oh, but I do love you big blue and I will show you what's under my sweater", Penelope told him.

Just as she was about to show him, a handsome and suave Elf Warrior stepped out of de woods and cleaved Vomit in half wid his broadsword. Penelope and de Elf Warrior left de woods. And Penelope showed him what was under her sweater happily ever after. De moral of dis story is "Don't try to look at what you ain't got".

And de dird and last story is "I am Lord Tihor; Yellow".

Very few people know dat Lord Denedor of Gondor had a son who died in the mountains of Mordor. His name was Lord Tihor de Yellow. This long lost son of Denedor was a coward dat sold out his country, Gondor, to de evil forces of Mordor. His fader entrusted him wid de plans for de defence of Gondor. Seeing dis as an easy way to sell out Gondor and save his miserable life, Lord Tihor de Yellow headed

for Morder. There he met the Lord Nazgul and proceeded to sell out Gondor.

"Oh, thank thou for this. Maybeth noweth Sauron willth leth me marryth that cuteth orc I so wanteth. You're noth bad youselth, big boy. Maybe youth wanteth to join meth?" asked de Lord Nazgul.

"No, I don't think so Lord Nazgul. How do I get out of here?" responded Lord Tihor de Yellow.

"Just folowth de tunnelth", answered de Lord Nazgul.

Now what Lord Tihor de Yellow did not know was dat de deadly nad very old spider, Slob, lived in dat tunnel and ate dings dat crawled drough de tunnel. It was dark and Lord Tihor de Yellow never realised dat he was in de spider's lair. Ten minutes later Lord Tihor was another meal in Slob's stomach. De moral of dis story is "A sellout ain't worth a human meal!"

Dat's all kiddies from Unkle Gandalf dis week. Come and hera ma tales next week.

73-5 (MOVIE GUIDE-BERLIN PRESS) AUGUST 1902=

The new X-Rated release from Jones & Jones Co., "I am an elephant; Gray", starring Suzette Robinsone and Phillis Kahn has reached the German Public. Sex Seed of the Daily Smut says its "Filthy, degenerate, lousy....." and Vincest Canbe (Fun) says its "Obscene, perveted, crummy.....". This new movie attempts to answer such relevent questions like "How do you make an elephant fly?" (Well first, you get a three foot zipper.....) and "What do you get when you cross an elephant and a streetwalker?(A ten ton pickup). This paper's favorite reporter, Melvin Swartz, went out on the streets to find out what the people of Berlin thought of the picture.

"What do you think of "I am an Elephant; Gray" sir?"

"Ma vife told me dat it vas a Valt Disney picture and one ding I know dat vasn't is a Valt Disney picture!"

"And what did you think sir?"

"Vat a girl dat Suzette is and vat about dat elephant, Va Va Va Va Voom!"

Today Joshua von Rabinowitz, German Minister of Propaganda, ruled that the movie must have some redeeming features since it was banned in Paris and London.

73-5 (THE BERLIN ECONOMIST-BERLIN PRESS) AUGUST 1902

Today German Chancellor, Baron von Neumann, announced Phase 17. All freezes will be lifted exept the ones on Rutabagas. The merchants that deal only in Rutabagas tell the press that this freeze will drive them into bankruptcy. Already the bl market operator have started to move into the business of selling hot rutabagas since the farmers refuse to dig up any more rutabagas until the freeze is lifted. Rutabagas are now being sold on the black market for 17.22 Mks each.

73-C KHAZAD-DUMB (TA 3019) Arrows fell among them. One struck Frito and sprang back. Another pierced Ra-Man's hat and stuck there like a black feather. Frito looked behind. Beyond the fire he saw swarming black figures: there seemed to be hundreds of narcs. They brandished spears and scimitars which shone red as blood in the firelight. Dumb, dumb rolled the drumbeats, growing louder and louder, dumb, dumb.

Legolamb turned and set an arrow to the string, though it was a long shot for his small ~~bow~~ bow. He drew, but his hand fell, and the arrow slipped to the ground. He gave a cry of dismay and fear. Two great Sabre-Toothed Neigers appeared; they bore great slobbs of stone, and flung them down to serve as gangways over the fire. But it was not the Sabre-Toothed Neigers that had filled Legolamb with terror. The ranks of the narcs opened, and they crowded away, as if they themselves were afraid. Something was coming up behind them. What it was could not be seen: it was like a great shadow, in the middle of which was a dark form, of dog-shape maybe, yet greater; and a power and terror seemed to be in it and to go before it.

It came to the edge of the fire and the light faded as if a cloud had bent over it. Then with a rush it leaped across the fissure. The flames roared up to greet it, and wreathed about it; and a black smoke swirled in the air. Its streaming mane kindled, and blazed behind it. In its right hand was a blade like a stabbing tongue of fire; in its left it held a whip of many thongs.

"Ai! Ai!" wailed Legolamb. "A Dunc-hound! A Dunc-hound is come!"

Gi, lit stared with wide eyes. "Evan's bane! he cried, and letting his axe fall he covered his face."

"A Dunc-hound," muttered Ra-Man. "Now I understand." He faltered and leaned heavily on his staff. "What an evil fortune! And I am already weary."

SOMEWHERE NEAR THE RIVER ISFN (TUILE 2) Theoden, son of Thegel, wishes to denounce the cruel fate which has thrust Duncan, the Smith, into the forefront of the armed forces of the dwarves.

His majesty, already angered by the - er - unpleasant decision of Gandalf Grayhame in making off with the king's favorite, Shadowfax, is now faced with a hard decision.

Ra-Man the Red, late of the White Council, and now the King's counselor, has attacked the forces of "Lord" Duncan ever since the Dwarf was seen leaving Mordor by way of Cirith Ungol. However, to attack northward now would mean leaving Rohan's entire rear open to Mordorian treachery.

Khazad-Dumb (cont.) The dark figure streaming with fire raced towards them. The narcs yelled and poured over the stone gangways. Then Brimfullbeer raised his horn and blew. Loud the challenge rang and bellowed, like the shout of many throats under the cavernous roof. For a moment the narcs quailed and the fiery shadow halted. Then the echoes died as suddenly as a flame blown by a dark wind, and the enemy advanced again.

"Over the bridge!" cried Ra-Man, recalling his strength. "Fly! This is a foe beyond any of you. I must hold the narrow way. Fly!" Arrowroot and Brimfullbeer did not heed the command, but still held their ground, side by side, ~~behind~~ behind Ra-Man at the far end of the bridge. The others halted just within the doorway at the hall's end, and turned, unable to leave their leader to face the enemy alone. (Stupid, weren't they?)

The Dunc-hound reached the bridge. Ra-Man stood in the middle of the span, leaning on the staff in his left hand, but in his other hand Anorgil gleamed, cold and white. His enemy halted again, facing him, and the shadow about it reached out like two vast wings. It raised the whip, and the thongs whined and cracked. Fire came from its nostrils. But Ra-Man stood firm.

"You cannot pass," he said. The narcs stood still, and a dead silence fell. "I am a servant of the Secret Fire, wielder of the flame of Anor. You cannot pass. The dark fire will not avail you, flame of Udûn. Go back to the Shadow! You cannot pass."

The Dunc-hound made no answer. The fire in it seemed to die, but the darkness grew. It stepped forward slowly on to the bridge, and suddenly it drew itself up to a great height, and its wings were spread from wall to wall; but still Ra-Man could be seen, glimmering in the gloom; he seemed small, and altogether alone: grey and bent, like a wizened tree before the onset of a storm.

From out of the shadow a red sword leaped flaming.

Anorgil glittered white in answer.

There was a ringing clash and a stab of white fire. The Dunc-hound fell back and its sword flew up in molten fragments. The wizard swayed on the bridge, stepped back a pace, and then again stood still.

"You cannot pass!" he said.

With a bound the Dunc-hound leaped full upon the bridge. Its whip whirled and hissed.

"He cannot stand alone!" cried Arrowroot suddenly and ran back to the bridge. "Help!" he shouted. "I am with you, Ra-Man!"

"I want my mommy!" cried Brimfullbeer and leaped after him.

At that moment Ra-Man lifted his staff, and crying "Aloud!" he smote the bridge before him. The staff broke asunder and fell from his hand. A blinding sheet of white flame sprang up. The bridge cracked. Right at the Dunc-hound's feet it broke, and the stone upon which it stood crashed into the gulf, while the rest remained, poised, quivering like a tongue of rock thrust out into emptiness.

With a terrible cry the Dunc-hound fell forward, and its shadow plunged down and vanished. But even as it fell it swung its whip, and the thongs lashed and curled towards the wizard's knees. He nimbly leaped out of the way crying, "Oh no you don't! I'm not going to fall for that old trick! Just how stupid do you think I am?"

"Well, if you're asking us..." cried Arrowroot and Brimfullbeer together.

"Shaddup! I'll attend to you two insubordinate cowards later! On to Rohan!" cried the wizard.

"\$ '%&&)\$& _\$%()@@'_%_()%\$\$\$\$%'!'" cried the rest of the group.

73-5 The Italian foreign minister Isadore Goingbaldi today announced that the Vatican will be converted into a Jewish Temple. This is being done to keep Non-Catholics Sultan Michael Hasan the Last, and Marc de Robinsone happy.

73-C To the Lord of the Dark Tower from King Bard: Why don't you give up your evil plans to capture the One Ring and leave Middle Earth forever. I assure you that you won't be missed. Otherwise you can suffer nothing but defeat at the hands of the U.F.P. (United Free Peoples.)

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The POUCH is now read in California, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, Washington, D.C., Canada, and England.

THE FALL OF ROME; A REVIEW

The Fall of Rome, Simulation Publication's newest release (S&T Nr. 39), has all the qualities that could make it a classic wargame in the genre of Panzerblitz and others. There can be no doubt that it does not represent the typical wargame at first glance. For one thing there are no funny looking hexes to blind you. Truly what makes the game so distinctive is the fact that it is an area game and a solitaire one at that. About the only game that can be compared to it is American Revolution and even it doesn't give you accurate picture of Fall of Rome. Probably the most appealing thing about the game is that it breaches the common gap between the hardcore wargamer and lightcore gamer. As a matter of fact it is quite popular with a lot of New York Area Diplomacy players (Even John Boardman likes it!).

The Fall of Rome has plenty of new innovations. Simulation Publications has found an original and interesting way to involve the political, economic and military aspects of Rome's fall. Interestingly enough, the political aspects can bring about Rome's fall even if the Roman player is successful economically and militarily. Although all these aspects of Rome's fall tend to blend with each other, it is interesting to see that they have not been ignored. Probably the biggest innovation of the game is that it is a solitaire one. The game was designed and can only be played as a solitaire game. The player plays the Romans and the Barbarians and independent kingdoms are moved automatically according to the rules. There are basically three different types of nations: The Barbarians, made up of Huns, Germans, Scythians, Dacians, Picts, and Tauricans, the Independent Kingdoms, which include Persia and sometimes (depending on the scenario) the Kingdom of Gallia and of Palmyra, and of course the Romans. The Barbarians are subdivided into two distinct classes: Barbarian Raiders and Barbarian Levies.

Probably the best way to give someone an idea of how the game works would be to describe a typical turn. Each turn is equivalent to a year in the game. At the start of the turn, the player rolls the die to see what, if any, rebellions are in any of the Roman controlled provinces. Next all the Barbarians and Independent Kingdoms move if possible and trigger any militia if the scenario dictates. Before the Romans move, the player must create new Barbarians. After that the Roman legions move, the player checks to see if any of the legions revolt and finally the player collects taxes. The taxes are used to pay the legions (who get very angry if not paid) and to bribe Barbarians. Barbarians tend to travel in groups of twenty even if there are only twelve legions in the scenario! This is usually evened out when the Barbarians attrit (blend in the population).

vides six scenarios. The first scenario starts right after Emperor Nero's death. The third deals with the age of the "Thirty Tyrants". The most interesting of all the scenarios is the fifth which involves the coming and going of Attila the Hun (150 Barbarian points). The last involves Justinian's, the Eastern Roman Emperor efforts to reconquer the Western Roman Empire. The other two scenarios (two & 3) deal with critical times when Emperors were a dime a dozen.

This game is endless in its possibilities. It accurately portrays the fall of Rome, simulating quite effectively the problems that faced Rome at the time. What makes the game so interesting and fascinating is that it is solitaire. No more looking for opponents or being murdered by more experienced players. The Fall of Rome (S&T Nr. 39) is available from:

Simulation Publications, Inc.
44 East 23rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10010

\$4.00 unboxed till late October; \$6.00 boxed afterwards.

* * *

(LIEBHAFENS-EIN STAR CONT'D)

through the roof of the Bore's Inn all dressed in funny clothes and screaming, "The Moon is ours! The Moon is ours!" From there they proceeded to go from one bar to another, brawling and drinking.

LETTERS TO PRESIDENT MELVIN GOBOWSKY:

Dear Melvin,

We have a great family. My wife and I love each other very much. Neither my wife nor I have ever had an affair. Our children love and respect us, and do not take drugs. We all love our country. We make enough money to be very happy. We have everything anyone would ever want. My question is this: Isn't this unusual? Isn't it dangerous? And what can we do to remedy it?

Frightened

Dear Frightened,

Have you thought about moving to the United States!

* * *

A little boy in a Russian Elementary Schhol, when asked to describe the USA said "The Usa is a sad country where workers and peasants are starving under capitalist exploitation by the cynical ruling classes."

"Correct," said the teacher, "and what is the major goal of the Soviet Union?"

"To catch up with the United States."

R.F.K, Jan. 22, 1963

BEYERLEIN PLAYER POLL BALLOT #6

The Beyerlein Player Poll (BPP) is a poll of the Postal Diplomacy community to determine the currently-active players in Postal Diplomacy. Any Postal Diplomacy player, gamesmaster, editor, or publisher may cast his/her ballot for the top 14 (from #1 to #14) currently-active Postal Diplomacy players.

Points are given as follows: 1st place - 20 points, 2nd place - 17 pts, 3rd - 15, 4th - 13, 5th - 11, 6th - 9, 7th - 8, 8th - 7, etc. The points are then summed for each player and the top 14 players listed by point totals. Results will be published in The POUCH and all interested zines.

Overseas people may use an air letter form in place of returning this ballot.

The BPP is not affiliated with any Diplomacy organization.

TOP BOARD

Comments:

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- 3. _____
- 4. _____
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Signature: _____

Please complete the ballot, sign it, and mail it directly to:

DOUG BEYERLEIN, 3934 S.W. SOUTHERN, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
98136 U.S.A.

Incomplete ballots or ballots without signatures will not be counted.

DEADLINE: 9 October 1973

This is The POUCH's twenty-fifth issue. I, for one, think it has come amazingly far in just twenty-five weeks. It has gone from four to eighteen pages an article-issue, and I think it one of the best zines in the hobby. If you agree, why not contribute to The POUCH by getting a friend to subscribe. (You have nothing to lose but your friend.)

It should be pointed out that right now you have an amazing opportunity to join the I.D.A. This worthy organization performs many valuable services, and you can partake of them for the minute sum of \$1.00. For another dollar, you can obtain the IDA Handbook, an article that no self-respecting Diplomacy player should be without.

Send your membership fee (if by check, made out to the International Diplomacy Association) to Walter Buchanan, R.R. 3, Lebanon, Ind. 46052. To obtain the Handbook, send \$1.00 (if by check, made out to John Boyer) to John Boyer, 117 Garland Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013.

If you join now you can participate in the upcoming elections for the various offices of the Association (other than President and Editor). And by the way, if you live on the Atlantic Coast (or in Vermont or West Virginia), you can vote for Nicholas Ulanov for Atlantic Regional Secretary. Believe it or not, he claims he doesn't even know who nominated him, and John Boyer won't tell him. He is running though, and I think he would make a splendid Secretary. (Those of you who are uncouth enough to support other candidates for this office, please excuse this partisanship.)

Best for the last week of summer (before Labor Day that is).

The POUCH
c/o Nicholas A. Ulanov
60 East 8th Street
New York, N.Y. 10003

