

SORRY TO SAY THERE'S NOTHING TO SAY

73-7 (1973EI) Spring 1905

Austria-Hungary (Ronald Kelly)

ASilsAPru, APruSASil, AGal-Boh, AVen-Tyr, FTri-Ven, ASev-Ukr

England (Leo Plotkin)

EBre-Mid, ANwysASStP, FWal-Eng

France (Don Pitsch)

FMid-Spa(SC), AMarsFMid-Spa(SC), APAr-Gas, Firi-Mid, FLon-Wal, ALivS FLon-Wal

Germany (Mike Ritter)

AKie-Swe, FBalCAKie-Swe, ASwe-Fin, ABel-Nwy, FNthCABel-Nwy, ABer-Pru, AMun-Sil

Italy (Jamie Adams)

no moves received. ATus, ANap

Russia (Duncan Smith)

ASTPSANwy, ALivSAMos, AMos

Turkey (John Stevens)

WMed-Mid, FGLyo-WMed, Fion-Tyr, FAeg-Ion, FBla-Con, ARum-Gal, AArm-Sev

* * *
More moves on pages five and six.
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NEPT DEADLINES:

- 73-3: March 16; 73-4: March 16;
- 73-6: March 9; 73-7: March 16;
- 73-8: March 9; 73-9: March 2;
- 73-10: March 16; 73-11: March 9;
- 73-12: March 2; 73-13: March 23;
- 74-1: March 30; 73-D: March 9;
- 73-E: March 2; 73-F: March 2

HAPLESS HAPSBURGS HOMELESS;
ITALY WON'T BUDGE

73-10 (1973GR) Spring 1903

Austria-Hungary (Gary Peterson)

AWar-Liv, ASerSARum-Bud (elim.), FGreSFion-Aeg

England (David Lagerson)

FNth-Hel, FSwe-Bal, FLiv-Iri, FEngS FLiv-Iri (-Lon), Fedi-Nwg, ABel-Bur

France (Robert Vivian)

Firi-Wal, FBre-Eng, FMidSFBre-Eng, APAr-Pic, AGas-Bur

Germany (David Claman)

FDen-Bal, AMun-Kie, AHolsAHol-Kie, ASil-Ber

Italy (Kevin Gallagher)

ATri-Ser, AVen-Tri, FAlb-Gre, FionC ATun-Alb, ATun-Alb

Russia (Wayne Gildroy)

FBoth-Liv, FKie-Hol (elim.), FSev-Rum, AMos-War, ABudSARum-Ser, AVieS ABud

Turkey (Zayne Parks)

ARum-Ser, ACon-Bul, FBlaSACon-Bul, FAeg-Ion, FSmy-EMed

* * *

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THE FOLIO

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

Contributing Editor:

Gil Neiger

Game Masters:

Cary Fulbright

Raymond Heuer

Miles Smith

Because new postal rates go into effect next Saturday, the next issue will be published Friday afternoon. Please try to get your moves in by then. Moves which arrive on Saturday will be honored and in the following issue any corrections will be given.

We apologize for the shortage of articles in the last couple of issues and this one. This is caused by having a great deal of material on hand waiting to be printed. Sooner or later matters will get back to normal. You're supposed to have to kill yourself to get material, why we've got such an influx is unexplainable.

As we announced, the Anniversary Issue will be about two weeks late. Both the 52nd (the last of the year) and the 53rd (the Anniversary Issue, Volume II, Issue 1) issues will be published next week, theoretically. This is because we missed an issue way back at the beginning and because there are no moves in the Anniversary Issue and we don't want to thus louse up the moves schedule. So the next issue you get will be issue 52, followed the next week by 54. Both will be moves-issues. Sometime in here, you will get the Anniversary Issue.

Six people are signed up for the bourse. If four more people do not sign up for it within the next two weeks, we will call it off.

The staff game which was announced has been called off. This is due to lack of interest and of time.

Please. Send your moves to your GM, not to the address above. Moves sent to the above address are accepted, but it's much better to send them direct.

..... Fred Hyatt and Matt Gelfand are signed up for the next game.

..... We remind you that if you want to insure your game(s), all that is necessary is that a total of one dollar is sent into us per game.

..... We're about to move into our second year. Any advice, criticism or commentary?

subscriptions are 10/\$2.00

page two

For various reasons, the following game has been held up in being announced far longer than it should have been. For this we apologize. It is game 74-1, which is some sort of distinction. The players and their countries appear below.

Austria-Hungary: David Davies, P.O. Box 60172, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles, CA 90060
 England: Robert Lipton, P.O. Box 360, Lafayette College, Easton, PA 18042
 France: William Clumm, 6407 Kennedy Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45213
 Germany: Glenn Pape, 5514 S. University Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60637
 Italy: Donald Hov, Box 274 St.#2, Amherst, Mass. 01002
 Russia: Mark Rutledge, 1344 Laukahi Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96821
 Turkey: Jonathan Jacobs, 1717 Pierce Tower, 5514 S. University Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60637

Use air mail to Mark Rutledge. GM is Cary Fulbright (277 West End Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10023). Send moves to him. Press to address on page two. First moves are due on Saturday, March 30.

We have picked up an orphan from David Staples' The Rigot. It is 1973CU. Its new internal number is 73-13. The players, their addresses, and their positions:

Austria-Hungary (John Boyer, 117 Garland Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013):
 A's: Vie, Bud, Tri, Ser, Rum; F's: Gre
 England (Charles Maylen, 2508 Haddon Ave., Modesto, CA 95351): A's:
 Bel, Ruh; F's: NAT, Iri, Eng, Bre, Pic, Hol, Nth
 France (Mike Lind, 1411 Ashley St., Richmond, VA 23231): A's: Par, Bur
 Germany (no longer in game)
 Italy (Howard Johnson, R.R. 2 Box 146, Glyndon, MN 56547): A's: Ven,
 Tyr, Mar; F's: Por, Spa(SC), Tyr, Ion
 Russia (K.L. MacDonald, 6471 Thornwood St., San Diego, CA 92111): A's:
 Mun, Boh, Gal, Ukr; F's: Bal, Bla
 Turkey (Don Kellogg, 1616 E. Skinner #116, Wichita, Kansas 67211):
 A's: Bul; F's: Aeg, EMed

Holdings:

A-H: Bud, Tri, Vie, Bul, Gre, Ser (6); Eng: Edi, Liv, Lon, Bel, Den,
 Hol, Kie, Nwy, Swe (9); Fra: Bre, Par (2); Ita: Nap, Rom, Ven,
 Mar, Por, Spa, Tun (7); Rus: Mos, StP, Sev, War, Ber, Mun (6);
 Tur: Ank, Con, Smy, Rum (4)

If any of the above addresses are wrong, or the positions and/or holdings are inaccurate, please let us know immediately. We need to have/know the following: A supply center chart through 1903; who the original players were for every country, whether they resigned or dropped, and when; who was the original GM.

The GM of this game is now Raymond Heuer (102-42 Jamaica Ave., Richmond Hill, N.Y. 11418). Send moves to him, press to the address on page two. Next moves (Fall 1904) are due on Saturday, March 23. All games in The POUCH require builds with the Fall moves. Builds/removals may be made conditional on Fall moves of other players or results of Fall moves. A separate builds/removals season may be requested by a player with any set of Fall moves. House Rules will be sent to the players with next week's issue. We know that starting up like this in a new zine can be difficult, so if you have any questions, please write either Raymond Heuer or Nicholas Ulanov. Good luck!

Constantinople (OP) Grand Vizier: "It is good, Adath Bey, to be back in this ancient, proud, imperial city, away from the mad frolics of our Sultan's new capital. Now tell me. What have your men learned of this Red Ruta? I trust no the influence she has over our young leader."
 AB: "I regret to report, Sire, that my spies have learned little that we did not already know. Ruta Rothammer was a student at Göttingen, in Germany, and worked as a laboratory assistant to Professor Heinrich von Bork. Apparently their relationship became more than a strictly academic one, as when he came to Turkey to arrange the purchase of the raw opium he needed to continue his experiments in the development of derivatives to be used as less-harmful painkillers, he brought her with him."

GV: "And so she met Hambone Ali."

AB: "Yes, and when von Bork returned to Germany, she did not go with him. Since then, if you will excuse my saying it, Sire, she has become our Sultan's closest advisor."

GV: "I know that too well, Adath Bey. It was she who dazzled him with visions of the glory of conquest and set us all on the road to war."

AB: "And an unholy war, Sire. We wage no jihad to convert or enslave the infidels, but fight instead only to increase the temporal power and glory of Hambone Ali!"

GV: "For a Master of Spies and Assassins, Adath Bey, you speak as a very religious man. And a very brave or foolish one if the Sultan should learn of your words. No, fear not; he will not learn. I know you are loyal to the Sultan, and his conquests may yet contribute to the spread of our Holy Faith and thus redound to the greater glory of Allah. Hambone Ali is still young, and with certain influences removed, could yet be led to follow in the traditions of his Fathers."

AB: "Do you mean...? But if he ever found out..."

GV: "I mean nothing yet. We must find out exactly what this woman is up to. She had the Sultan under her spell and could have arranged to become the mother of his heir, thus making herself one of the most powerful persons in the Empire. But after urging him on to war and providing him with the plan to keep control of conquered countries by getting their rulers addicted to the opium derivative, heroin, which von Bork had developed, she turned the Sultan's romantic interests to other women, and asked only that she be allowed to direct the administration of the drug addiction program. This Red Ruta seems to me a very strong and intelligent woman. I cannot believe that she would pass up a chance for a position of such power unless she had some greater plan in mind."

AB: "And it's my job to find out that plan."

GV: "You must! Revealing the plan must show her to be a traitor to the Sultan. And only if she is proved a traitor will the Sultan get rid of her. And only when she and her unholy influences are removed will we be able to restore the Sultan and the expanded Empire to the path of Islam."

73-6 Rome: Heh, guys, am I allied with someone? If so, howabout letting me in on the secret.

73-D Weston: From France I send my orders for Ottoman Empire's forces in Fall, 1722 (Is that clear?).

Queens (HUH): Ce pli ne sera pas acheminé par avion s'il contient un objet quelconque.

73-10 St. Petersburg (Dec. 12, 1974) -- The Defense Ministry unveiled its new slogan in its campaign to gain new recruits: "Join His Majesty's Armed Forces and see the world."

Word has it that the Russian Navy has plans for booking passage for those who wish to tour Europe.

Moscow (Dec. 15, 1974) -- "Warsaw? Who needs it... Munich or bust!"

73-9 (1973GK) CORRECTIONS

The Austrian move ARumSASer-Bul should have read ARumSASer-Bul (-Gal). Therefore Russia owns Rumania and has only one removal not two, and Austria does not get a build. The Russian move ASev-Rum succeeded.

73-3 (1973BY) 1904 BUILDS

Austria-Hungary (Jamie Adams) builds: ATri
 England (Nicholas Ulanov) removes: FBal
 France (Leo Plotkin) builds: FBer
 Germany (Duncan Smith) builds: FBer
 Italy (Drew McGee) no builds
 Russia (Gil Neiger) removes: FBoth
 Turkey (John Arensmeyer) no builds received. owed two.

Ronald Kelly (#210, 225 Virginia Ave., S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003) is asked to take over for Turkey.

RUSSIA & TURKEY: 1 YEAR LEFT

73-4 (1973DG) Fall 1905

Austria-Hungary (Keith Thompson, 2) FSmySABul-Con, ABul-Con, ASer-Rum, AGal-Ukr, ARum-Sev, ABohSATyr-Mun, AVieSABoh. owns: Bud, Tri, Vie, Bul, Con, Rum, Ser, Sev, Smy (9) builds: ABud, ATri

England (David Wildman) FNwy-Ska, FStP(NC)SAYor-Nwy, FBreSAGas, AYor-Nwy, FLonSFNth, FNthCAYor-Nwy. owns: Edi, Liv, Lon, Bre, Nwy, StP (6) no builds

Germany (Jonathan Jacobs) FDenSFHol-Nth, APic-Bel, ASwe-Nwy, ASil-Mun, AMun-Bur, ABerSASil-Mun, AParsAMun-Bur, FHol-Nth. owns: Ber, Kie, Mun, Bel, Den, Hol, Par, Swe, (8) no builds

Italy (Ronald Kelly) AArmSARum-Sev, AMar-Bur, AGasSAMar-Bur, FSpa(NC)SAGas, FAegSFSmy-Con, FMidSFBre, ATyr-Mun, FTyr-WMed. owns: Nap, Rom, Ven, Gre, Mar, Por, Tun, Spa (8) no builds

Russia (Paul Neumann, -1) AUkrSFSev-Rum, AWarsASil-Gal, FSev-Rum (-Bla). owns: Mos, ~~Sev~~, War (2) removes: FBla

Turkey (Eric Robinson) no moves received. ACon (elim.), AAnk. owns: Ank, ~~Por~~ (1) no builds

David Wildman will be resigning after next turn. He will probably be replaced by John Stevens (57 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201).

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"Take some more tea," the March Hare said to Alice, very earnestly.

"I've had nothing yet," Alice replied in an offended tone, "so I couldn't take more."

"You mean you can't take less," said the Hatter; "It's very easy to take more than nothing."

AUSTRIA WINS!

73-5 (1973DX) Fall 1910

Austria-Hungary (Leo Plotkin, 3) ACon-Ank, AMos, AVie, AArmSACon-Ank, ANap, ARom, ABul, AStP-Nwy, ASev, AGal, ABud-Ser, FEMed, FAeg-Con, FSmy, FAdr-Ion. owns: Bud, Tri, Vie, Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Mos, Nap, Nwy, Rom, StP, Ser, Sev, Smy, Ven, War (18) builds: ABud, ATri. owed one.

England (Alex Katzoff, -1) AFinSASTP-Nwy, FDen (-Nth), FSweSASTP-Nwy, FEng-Lon, FBel (-Eng), owns: Edi, Liv, Lon, ~~Den~~, ~~Nwy~~, Swe (4) removes: FEng

France (Eric Robinson) FPor. owns: Por (1) no builds

Germany (Duncan Smith, 2) ARuhSAPio-Bel, APic-Bel, ASpa, ABre, AHols APic-Bel, FHelSFKie-Den, FKie-Den, FNwy-Swe (-Nwg), owns: Ber, Kie, Mun, Bel, Bre, Den, Hol, Mar, Par, Spa, ~~Swe~~ (10) builds: FKie, AMar

Italy (Bruce Wachtler) FTun. owns: Tun (1) no builds

Turkey (Greg Costikyan) AAnk (elim.). owns: ~~Ank~~, ~~Con~~ (0) no builds

Thanks for a good game. This is the last regular phone game to be played in The POUCH, since many local players will not be in the city next fall when they go away to college. The only remaining phone game is the Youngstown (73-E) which will become by-mail in the fall.

This marks Raymond Heuer's first complete game as a game-master.

73-5 (1973DX) Game-master: Raymond Heuer

	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
A	3	5	8	7	9	9	10	11	13	15	18*
E	3	4	4	4	4	4	5	6	6	5	4
F	3	4	5	4	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
G	3	5	6	7	9	9	9	9	9	10*	10
I	3	4	4	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
R	4	5	3	5	5	5	4	3	2	-	-
T	3	5	4	3	3	4	3	3	2	2	-

* indicates unit unbuilt.

- Austria-Hungary: Leo Plotkin
- England: Phil Kahn (dro F02), Alex Katzoff
- France: **Mark** Robinson (res S02), Eric Robinson
- Germany: Duncan Smith
- Italy: Bruce Wachtler
- Russia: Cary Fulbright
- Turkey: Michael Hansen (res S08), Greg Costikyan

* * *

Is there a word in the English language that contains all the vowels?

Unquestionably!

THE EAST IS A MANDARIN ORANGE

BY DKS

This is a review of SPI's latest effort in the field of current history wargames, The East is Red. It deals in no uncertain terms with the possible Russo-China War. This game is frightening to say the least. I just read a few days ago that the Chinese and the Russians were again massing troops on their respective borders. Let us hope that SPI's futuristic game doesn't become one of reality.

SPI has based it's entire game on two concepts they assume to be true: That the Russians would have to attack in Manchuria, and that they would have to win quickly. The victory conditions and the amount of game turns prove this. Most of the Chinese industry is located in Manchuria, and Russia would have to cripple it in order to win a war. In order to win the game Russia has to isolate the Manchurian industrial centers from the rest of Mainland China. The Russians have only ten turns to do this. The reasons for the short time are simple. Russia has to win before the major Chinese reinforcements **get in and before any** major guerrilla campaign can be set up. Another reason is that the port of Vladivostok and the Trans-Siberian Railroad are the means by which the Russians can get supply. Can you imagine how hard it would be to supply a whole Russian army with one port and one railroad?

The mapsheet is quite attractive. SPI's art department is as good as ever. On the mapboard all of Manchuria, and parts of Russia and Korea are shown. Surrounding the Chinese cities are the industrial centers that the Russian player has to take. Surrounding China is a long range of very rough terrain that heavily hinders the Russians. The only way to avoid it is to go through Outer Mongolia by Railroad which can only be described as very time consuming. The rough terrain doubles the Chinese and halves the Russian armor, thus making it very tough to get through. If the Chinese can hold the Russians long enough there, their massive reinforcements should decide the game in their favor.

Nuclear weapons have a great deal of emphasis on the game. The Russians have their tactical Nuclear weapons (known as FROGS by their military), and the Chinese have atomic demolitions. Both have a big effect on the game. The Russian's tactical nuclear weapons double all their attacks, and the Chinese's atomic demolitions can slow up the Russian's movement to a crawl in the rough terrain. The Russians also have strategic nuclear weapons under an optional rule. This rule has the effect of destroying all of offboard China. This stops all Chinese

reinforcements from coming in (they're all dead!), and also the Russian reinforcements (Europe would undoubtedly disapprove of the Russians use of strategic nuclear bombs, disapprove enough to go to war with Russia. The Russian reinforcements would have to guard the borders.). Usually this leads to a Russian victory, and from what I've seen it's probably the only way they can win the game. That's one of the reasons why I hope that no war starts there. Still the odds that the Russians would use those weapons are small (thank God!).

There are four scenarios provided in the game: M+1 current and full readiness and M+30 current and full readiness. The Russians have a small chance in the M+1 scenarios, but in the M+30, they get killed. Trying to cross the rough terrain is like running into a brick wall for them in this scenario. There is also an optional scenario: Korean intervention in favor of the Chinese. This scenario is pretty useless since the Chinese don't need any help.

In summation I would have to say that overall this game is pretty good. By that I mean it's easy to play and learn, well designed, fun, and strategically simple. The only thing wrong with the game is that the Russians don't have a prayer of winning. Still the game is interesting if only because of the historical situation. If SPI is correct, the Chinese will handily win a full scale war. The East is Red is available from Simulations Publications Inc. for \$4.00 unboxed, and \$7.00 boxed.

73-8 (I AM A SPY; YELLOW. THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF KIMBALL DREK) PART IV. SKILL.

First I should tell you that I object to the title: skill. For one thing it's inaccurate. A much more truthful title would have been luck. Wasn't it luck that made me the only survivor when we arrested the fiendish Baron von Neumann? Wasn't it luck that I ended up dating Baroness von Neumann? Calling this part skill reminds me of that old proverb: "If thou shouldst enter a used diner and shouldst thou see the blessed cook making blessed hamburger patties by squashing them in the simpot of the human body, the armpit, ask him the important question: "Isn't that rather disgusting, Oh Blessed Cook?". And then thou shalt hear the blessed answer, the answer that answers all: "Look Bud, if thou thinkest this disgusting, thou shouldst come back on Wednesday, when we makest doughnuts!". I'm sure that I don't have to explain the great meaning of this proverb to you. To me it explains all.

Next Week. Part V. Senility.

This is a new column if you haven't guessed already. To be exact this is Duncan Smith's column. Until now I have resisted the column trend of The POUCH, but now I have found that I have no way of responding to Nick's or Penelope's comment in The POUCH. Now since I have, I might as well start something.

Both Nick and Penelope are firm believers in the IDA. I'm not. Frankly I don't enjoy seeing all The POUCH filled with IDA news, information and sometimes garbage. I believe that all the things that we have been reading in The POUCH recently about the Buchanan and Diplomacy World show exactly what's wrong with the IDA. If, as Nick says, the IDA has the power to turn Diplomacy World into the hobby's mouthpiece, why wouldn't it have the power to totally take over the hobby? And why should we take the chance? I think that the recent controversy is a sign that the IDA has to go. Why should we have to be subjected to the IDA's viewpoints, and it's obvious to me at least, that if we're forced to see Diplomacy World become the hobby's mouth organ, then there is no limit to what the IDA can enforce upon us. The IDA must go, and it must go now! No organization is needed in this hobby. There is no service that the IDA provides that we cannot provide for ourselves. Do we really think that only the IDA can subsidize the Boardman numbers? As of now the IDA is only paying for the mailing of the Boardman numbers, and the publishers could do that just by mailing a SSAE with their new game. Even worse the IDA is not even fair. In Diplomacy Review, the IDA's newsletter, did not even mention Nick's real argument against the subsidizing of Diplomacy World, even though Diplomacy Review claimed to be impartial. But they didn't stop at that. Diplomacy Review, in what I can only call an effort to discredit Nick, hinted that the only reason Nick objected was because he wanted an income from John Moot and a subsidization from the IDA for The POUCH. The IDA has proven that it is unfair, and biased, and it has to go!

This last weekend (the weekend of George Washington's birthday) half of The POUCH's staff went off to the Americana Hotel for the Star Trek Con. It was dreadful. Literally 15,000 people were there, and when there are 15,000 people at a convention, it's no longer a convention but a demonstration. Still the convention had it's good moments. Both Hal Clement and Isaac Asimov made fine speeches.

73-7 (THE SHOOTOUT. A LUKE LEPANTO WESTERN)

"Well Manny boy, de time has come. We gonna wipe out dat Grand Brassiere and dat Hambone Alli. Dat okay wit you?" Luke asked.

"Sure thing Luke, Ole Buddy." Manny answered.

They were standing in front of the Royal Turkish Palace in Constantinople. They knew that the moment had come. Manny and Luke checked their pistols and their Winchester Rifles. Quickly they ran up the palace steps and into the anteroom firing away with their Winchesters. Three Turkish guards were caught unaware and blown all over the room. Manny and Luke ran down the hall to what seemed to be the Palace meeting room. Unfortunately for them, they were met in the middle of the hall by a Turkish Regiment singing "My Old Kentucky Home". A great gun battle ensued in which bullets flew, spreading smoke throughout the hall. Finally the battle was over, and as the smoke cleared only two men remained standing, Manny and Luke. The hall was littered by lead filled Turkish soldiers. Manny and Luke slowly made their way down the rest of the hall, carefully sidestepping the bodies. Reaching the meeting room, they pulled out their Colt 45s and banged in the door. Two men were in the room: one had a great big bra over his eyes, and the other was holding a hambone in his hand.

"You must be the Grand Brassiere!" Luke said.

"37 cup C to be exact!" the Grand Brassiere answered.

"And you are the great Hambone Alli." Manny declared.

"Virginia Smoked as a matter of fact. I only eat the best!" Hambone Alli declared pointing at his hambone.

"This is a shootout!" Luke screamed out as he drew for his gun.

Luke and Manny both fired their pistols at point blank range. At the same time the Grand Brassiere snapped his monumental bra at Luke and Hambone Alli threw his hambone at Manny. Both Hambone Alli and the Grand Brassiere were hit by six bullets and as it always happens, they fell dead. Luke got a big bra stuffed up his nose, and Manny got a hambone stuck up you know where!

Just then a little man all dressed up in a military uniform overburdened with medals, and looking just like a South American Colonel with visions of grandeur, walked into the room.

"Hello. My name is Colonel John Stevens, and I'm sorry to have to tell you that you've been wasting your time....." he said.

73-5 (DEATH IN IRAYLAND)

As quick as lightning, Hector's feet drove into the Rayrilla on his left who went sprawling, while at the same time both his fists pounded into the face of the middle Rayrilla. Before the third Rayrilla had a chance to react, he was hit by a karatee chop on the neck. Three shots rang out, and three Rayrillas lay dead in pools of their own blood. Thanks to the silencer on his gun, no one had heard the shots. Hector went to the desk and pulled out the top drawer open. There he found the address of Eric von Robinoceros. From there he went on to tear up the office but all in vain. He could find no clues as to where the weapons were hidden. Deciding that it was time to leave, Hector quickly found his way out. From there he called a taxi and directed it to the Belfast Hilton.

"Did you have any luck?" a very sexy looking miss McKitty asked as she opened the door for Hector.

"Not really." he answered. And then he told her all about his adventures at the Acme Gun Corp.

"You're lucky to be alive you know. Care for a drink?" she asked.

"I wouldn't mind a scotch on the rocks please. Tomorrow I'm going to pay a visit on our friend, Eric von Robinoceros, a surprise one."

"That's sounds good. Be careful though, he's bound to have some more of his Rayrilla friends around."

"don't worry, I know how to be careful. That's my job. Still I don't enjoy having some trigger happy, over haired Rayrilla with foul breath stick a machine gun in my belly button." As he said this, Hector noticed that Elmer was a see-through nightgown. "God, you look so neigerish!" Hector declared.

"Have you ever really seen Saber Tooth Neigers Hector? I hear that they're extremely rare, on the verge of extinction." she said feeling flattered. It was a compliment to be called neigerish.

"Yes, I've seen them. I once had an assignment on the Isle of Gorflu. They're awfully sensuous!"

Elmer and Hector fell into each other's arms, and after a long kiss, they headed for the bedroom. Hector had never made it with an animal of some other breed. Well there's always a first time, he thought.

(to be continued...)

ZURICH (Joint Italian-Russian release): We demand that the Turkish-French-German-Austro-Hungarian alliance surrender to our amassed power. Any votes not received at the address below will be counted as a concession. If we get two more concessions we will agree to the outcome of our winning. ((That's nice. In case anybody's wondering, this is for 73-7.))

73-7 ZURICH (Government-in-exile Inc.): All votes must be in to the new address by tomorrow. We'll send you a copy of the new address if you send us a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

73-7 ZURICH (Gov-in-ex Inc.): Since no votes were received the decision is unanimous. The Italian-Russian alliance wins.

73-7 MUNICH (Spring, 1909) Reports came in from Prussia and Silesia of how badly the peasants were being treated by the Austro-Hungarian armies. There are various reports of rape and of villages being burned to the ground. Men are being forced to leave their families and join the intruding forces.

After hearing of these vicious maltreatments Kaiser Walker released a statement.

"I allowed the Austro-Hungarians into my country for only one reason: to destroy the Russians. I now see they have no intention of leaving after they're done. I say we kick them out now!"

The statement was met with great relief by the peasants and landowners of Eastern Germany who are rallying to the Kaiser's support.

((How embarrassing for you.))

The Master of West Currey Hall is reported recovering from a devastating attack from Penelope Naughton Dickens. The Pouchstress let loose one of the most eloquent and vitriolic attacks of all time, calling the master "sick," "paranoid," "shabby and ludicrous," "inane" and "overwrought."

After the devastation was over, worried aides were making desperate actions of all sorts, totally lacking the usual calm of their normal routines. One aide demanded that Penelope be hung in effigy. Later, a thorough study turned up the fact that there was no such place. "I meant," said the embarrassed aide, "in Edinburgh." Another white-faced aide tremblingly said, "It looks as though she may not marry him."

Meanwhile, the Master of West Currey Hall expressed his best hopes for Nicholas Ulanov's admission to all necessary and/or desired colleges. Said the Master, "I expect that Nicky will get into all the colleges he really wanted to, especially if he applied to all of them."

The Naughty Mstress of Wherewith Hall today announced that she would be glad to marry the Master of West Currey Hall. "That will be one experience I haven't had!" she exclaimed. The date of the ceremony has not yet been set, but she said she was looking forward to learning more of the details from the Master soon.

73-4

Warsaw (Sept. 1, 1905) -- (Getting) - The Polish diet - I don't want to go into its composition. Baron von Neumann, Russian Tsar, has been asked to speak on the State of the State.

"My fellow Germans - er Russians - er Poles, I came here this evening to speak to you about the conditions existing in the Empire. I could say that words fail me, but that would be taking the easy way out. Ridiculous empires break like biscuits. We can not expect the status quo to remain, nor can we expect a revolution, because there is no new baby in the womb (oops! sorry about that 4-letter word) of our society. Russia is a collapse not a revolution. L'etat, that's me, that's a good explanation to explain the splendor of Russia. Willie Shakesberg (what's in a name?) once told me -- "Be not afraid of greatness: some are born to greatness, some achieve greatness, some achieve greatness and some have it thrust upon them. But, Barry, you'll never have to worry about that kind of thing."

When I first heard of the Polish question, I saw the obvious answer Johnson & Johnson's new lemony product would do fine. But then I heard that it was one of the latest Polish jokes, it goes something like this -- Poles want independence. Ha! Ha! Ha! have you ever heard anything so funny. I heard that you have a lowly view of Mother Russia. I'm told that your Speaker of the Diet (which has little to speak well of), M. Krupolinchevskisky said -- "Thank God for the big Buffer state between us and China."

These are times that try men's souls. I'm not going to say that it is my predecessor's fault that we are losing this war, though I can say he started us on this road to bad times by losing all his battles. He (von Metzke) alone could have lead Russia into the enchanted quagmire, he alone could have found the way back to the causeway. He saw; he turned; he perished.... The Russian people were left floundering in the bog. Their worst misfortune was his birth, their next worst -- his death. Now I'm your leader, I am prepared to accept some of the blame, but not the guilt, there is a difference. Guilty people lose their jobs.

Russia can survive. I place my trust in the impenetrable spaces, impassable mud, and the mercy of Saint Nicholas Mirlinsky, Protector of Holy Russia. Russia has two good generals -- Generals Janvier et Fevrier, but remember Napoleon said, "One bad general does better than two good ones," so I shall take personal command of our rapacious and licentious soldiery.

Before continuing with the body of this boring ((very)) speech I'd like to say that travel books are quite reliable when I first came here I read Kipling -- The Russian is a delightful person until he tucks in his shirt - and Churchill - There are few errors they have ever avoided. I must say keeping things like this in mind have helped me to understand the peoples of the empire.

In the future some historian will definitely give pause to say -- "The refusal of the Russian and Polish peoples to accept what appeared to be inevitable defeat was the great factor in the salvaging of Western Civilization. Russia will certainly inherit the future. What we already call the greatness of Russia is only her pre-natal strugglings. From being a patriotic myth, the Russian people have become an awful reality. (You couldn't possibly realize how awful.) The future smells of Russian leather, blood, godlessness, and many whippings (ready, sadists and masochists?). I should advise your children to be born with a very thick skin on their backs. The double-headed eagle of the aristocracy is not merely the coat-of-arms of the Empire, but an exceedingly live and pernicious bird.

I shall demonstrate how Russia will expand to her gloire with these three matches. (Three - significant?) (The Baron tries to light the matches, fails.) Does anyone in the House know how to light a

match? What a stupid question I should have known none of you would know that.

The finest plans have always been spoiled by the littleness of them that carry them out. Even the emperors - er, us emperors - can't do it all by themselves - er, ourselves.

I saw a prophesy that a Great Empire will be destroyed. The hand-writing on the wall may be a forgery. I love Russia, and remember you always hurt the one you love."

73-4, 73-11 David Earl Lloyd George -- "If we are going in without the help of Russia, we are walking into a trap."

73-4 Special cable: Berlin to London

To: the Wild Man of Chelsea

From: The German Revolutionary People's Republicans

Sir: We of the German Revolutionary Democratic People's Republicans, a/k/a Bolshevik Boy Scouts, wish to express our thanks for the aid you have given us in our attempts to undermine and overthrow the legitimate government of the goddamn administrator, Kaiser Johann Wilhelm von Oskarmayer and his degenerate son, the heterosexual Prince. Your connivance with the Red & Green slime in their Christmastide attack has given us a much better shot at toppling the government. Eventually, of course, Austria and Italy will own all South Germany and France and you'll have the north, with nothing left for the real Germans, but being true revolutionaries we don't really care what happens to our homeland. After all, Italy has two units to your one in Brest now and could attack you anytime he wants, and he will but that's okay. After all, you're part of the Established Social Order anyhow. So what if all England Falls? All we have to say to that is -- Right On! The government of England is a true servant of the will of the proletariat, and the GRDPR.

S/ Giuseppe Linguini

Prime ministerialis of Italy

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NORTH BY NORTHEAST

I have lots of ideas for columns stacked up, but I think I should reply to Duncan's first column in this issue.

I am not saying that the IDA can hand DW dominance over the hobby. I merely said that by subsidizing it, such dominance could evolve. It is obvious that the IDA cannot enforce its wishes on the hobby, and to maintain that it can, is absurd.

Lastly, in reference to the summary of the debate in Diplomacy Review (newsletter of the IDA). There was no attempt to present the various views on the matter objectively. The summaries were signed by their authors. One author was presenting his view of the debate and another was summarizing the actions of the Council. And for the moment the Council is in favor of the subsidy. Therefore, presenting the subsidy in a favorable light is for the moment fairly presenting the views of the Council. In fact the only thing that was really wrong with the last DR is that it did not actually list the five bills the Council had passed, and I'm sure that was an oversight.

Duncan's comments that the IDA must go are ludicrous. The IDA has thus far done no damage to the hobby, and has done a great deal of good. Duncan is reliving the debate of three years ago, and if he wants to, fine. But that's all settled long ago, and in future I think I'll ignore it.

ERNIE MELCHIOR Why is it that any time your paper says anything about Walt Buchanan I always disagree with it? Let me jump in right away with my assurance that if DIPLOMACY WORLD goes to three-hundred pages a week, with a million dollar subsidization from the United Nations, I will not let it change my respect for your fine zine, or any other zine, at all. Buchanan cannot change my deep respect for and friendship with you no matter how powerful he gets or what he says, and I hope the same can be said from your end. I think it could.

My main point, though, is the converse: Nothing you can say will shake my deep trust and respect for the Buchanan family, and if I am right, this trust should be all that is needed to justify to those members of the hobby who also trust Walt completely (outside his games, of course; if he and I were in a game, I wouldn't believe him if he said that the sun rises in the east) that he should be given whatever subsidy he needs to carry out the very worthy project he would like to do.

Actually, it is probably a waste of our time to write and read this letter, since I do not have the skill with words to be comprehensible, let alone convincing, and since my absence of high standing in the hobby will not merit the consideration that these comments would if say, Rod Walker or Conrad had written them. (In short, if Edi can't convince you, how am I supposed to?) Nevertheless, you have attacked Walt Buchanan, thereby flailing yourself against a mountain of tactical wizardry, publishing skill and proven achievement, service and friendship to all members of the hobby (stick to attacking the unimportant people, like Nixon...). I know from your comments on the subsidization business that you also respect and like Walt (and if I didn't know I would assume it on the basis that I never met anyone who didn't), but it seems to me that your trust is not complete, or that you don't understand what it means. You know you have more information on this whole business than I do, but let me state my case for your changing your mind:

Like most members of the hobby today, the fact that I am now active is largely the result that Walt sent me a copy of his HOOSIER ARCHIVES (#69 I think) which I enjoyed. It had, if I recall, an article on some new German-Italian alliance by Edi Birsan, which led me to remark, "I'll bet he doesn't win very many games!" and a list of game-masters, most of which Walt recommended highly. One of these was John McCallum, in whose game (his second to last, now in SAGUENAY) I joined. For reasons which I don't much understand, I didn't subscribe to HA until #113 came out. To that point my only contact with the hobby was the one game I was in, which I was and am enjoying. Then using only Walt's plugs I began to subscribe to other zines. I answered the ad you sent me, and you sent back a sample copy, which was terrible. I didn't subscribe. Only through Walt's continued printed insistence that your zine was excellent did I finally decide it was worth another look. Now I am one of your many satisfied customers. Lipton may be angry about the possibility of Walt dominating the hobby, but most of the influence Lipton has is because Buchanan plugged his zine twice. The list goes on and on, but the point is clear: Walt will support any venture, from MOW ((now MGA)) to the IDA to an unpromising new zine to Larry Peery's STRATEGY AND TACTICS OF POSTAL DIPLOMACY.

It is Walt's plugging, more than any other single cause, that gives every starting publisher, player or whatever the potential to succeed in whatever endeavor he is trying to start. I ask you: in the

four years of his Diplomacy career was their any project related to Diplomacy that Walt has not supported enthusiastically from the very start? Has there ever been a negative word in HOOSIER ARCHIVES about any plan, publication or player? Has any person starting anything been refused his deserved, or undeserved mention? If there has been one organ of the hobby consistently above while involved in the conflicts in our hobby, active in finding solutions for the problems of running something as loosely organized as Postal Diplomacy must be while totally inactive in any attempt to impose a solution on the hobby, it has been the paper Walt has put out so well, so long and so regularly.

What is the possible justification for mistrusting power in the hands of Walt Buchanan? I do not want to talk in terms of principles, or precedents, which apply to actions of Congress or the law, but do not apply to our rapidly changing hobby. I want to know if you can come up with some substantive reason for suspecting that Walt's expanded outlet will do anything other than to help every single person connected in any way with our hobby. I seriously doubt that you can.

Parenthetically, Walt couldn't take "control" over the hobby even if he wanted to. DIPLOMACY WORLD will run only one game at a time, and cannot therefore be expected to eliminate game zines. Its only competition will be with pure article zines like WASHINGTON ((now CALIFORNIA)) REPORTS (if it continues like we all hope it will) and, and...Is there another such zine? Not even The POUCH, which is mostly an article zine can claim the pure limitation to Diplomacy the HA can, and DW will. People will not be satisfied to merely subscribe to DW.

But this is not the point. The point is that if Walt can expand his circulation to 300 people the hobby will benefit greatly. Players' names will go to all publishers, publishers' names will go to some 300+ players, and other projects will be known through DW, directly or indirectly, within two months to the entire hobby. (If they're announced in advance, so that they get to DW by printing time, the whole hobby will know before they even start.) Further, any editor of any zine, however small, can know that whatever he prints, if good enough, will get hobby-wide circulation within two months. The boon for minor people (like me) to write articles in small zines, knowing that if someone proves everything you said is wrong no one will notice, but that if what you say is good, everyone will know that it was your idea, should greatly benefit the small, unpublicized zines, and the newcomers to the hobby.

The sixth paragraph of your January 10, 1974, letter would smack of insane jealousy if it were from a lesser person than you. You seem to be claiming that you could do a better job than Walt could. (I hope you weren't.) Recall that while which zine is the best in the hobby is subject to interpretation, and since I measure each zine solely in terms of worth subscribing to or not, I don't have an interpretation. But your zine is dedicated to the views and interests of your editors, which include, among other things, wargames, politics, and deeply critical essays like the three on Walt in your last issue. Are you willing to drop all of these features just to become the "official zine?" I sure hope not.

I will read, with some generosity which my knowledge of you seems to merit, instead of jealously or an over-concern with power, that that paragraph reflects a very great, and completely justified pride in the dedication and good output of the editors and game-masters of your staff. Your zine is good, regular, well-game-mastered and definite enjoyable to read. But why does it bother you if someone else is

official? Let alone someone that everyone, including your zine, owes as much to as the hobby owes Walt?

Finally your fears and threats in paragraph 11 are gross and totally unworthy of your usual thoughtful and profound attitudes. Even if you don't believe in Walt's idea, there is no place among your rationality for the emotional nonsense and warmongering that makes up that paragraph. If you fold, the hobby will miss you, but it will not die. If you go into offset, in complete competition with Walt, you will not plug him, and he will plug you as an excellent zine in the impartiality that characterizes his efforts in this hobby, and the result will be that your circulation will get so much larger that it may even be half as big as his is. Further, once Walt gets the ball rolling, he is likely to do the hobby enough good that responsible critics, like Bob Lipton and you almost certainly are, are likely to come around to the hobby (which will be largely where it is now, except for a more efficient growth), even if a few of you do drop out. So don't threaten the hobby unless you really mean that the likes of Walt and Conrad and Edi and Greg and all the other people who have already done so much are going to let the hobby die. You went off the deep end in that paragraph, and I strongly recommend that you retract it.

Contrary to your expectations, the baby sitter will cost far more than Walt is likely to make, subsidy or no subsidy, so he will not make a profit. Walt has the solidarity of lifestyle (believe me all hell will break loose when you get to college) and the archival strength to make this project work. He also has the full support of most of the hobby. I urge you to support him also, because the great good to the hobby that Walt will do more than makes up for the harm that he won't do. Do you trust the man to do a fair and exceptional job in leading this hobby to a greater extent than he already does, or don't you? and why?

I know you will not make a wrong decision hastily, and I believe sincerely that you will act as you think is best for the hobby, without personal ambition, fear, rage or jealousy. I hope you will join in helping IDA support something that will greatly help the hobby, and no longer scurry from parliamentary misinterpretation to delaying action. Your place as a leading publisher and player in the hobby is assured no matter what Buchanan says or does, and he'll likely do more to help it than harm it.

((I am not afraid of Walt's efforts becoming a success, rather, I very much want them to succeed. I am not acting on the basis of "personal ambition, fear, rage or jealousy." I simply don't believe that the IDA ought to be directly involved with the publishing of zines any more than it should with running games. And, under the present set-up, I cannot see not granting a subsidy to anyone who wanted one like Walt's. I did not ask one because I really wanted one, but to point out that anyone could want, and we would have to give it to them. Also, I don't think GRI ought to financially aid a zine unless it's GRI's own zine, as in the Avalon-Hill - General set-up. In every other way I support DIPLOMACY WORLD and will do what I can to make it a success. DW can't hurt me or The POUCH, only help it. The potential for hurt to the hobby is there, but I think Walt is very capable of avoiding this and instead helping the hobby a great deal. I have one other complaint on the matter and that is that such large amounts of the IDA's money should not be spent without a vote of the members, but that does not directly affect my feelings about a DW subsidy. We can't give everybody a subsidy, so I don't think we can give anyone one -- unless the members tell us to. My actions and anger are not directed against DW, but against the subsidy.))

JONATHAN JACOBS

((In reply to Ronald Kelly's letter in #49))

Dear (?) Ron: Let me please explain to you my rationale for trying to get an extension. The "vacation" I was on was a three-week change of address due to winter break from the U of C. And the reason I wanted it, dear friend, was because of you. You see, I didn't completely trust you -- fool that I was -- and anyway, during these three weeks, I received one issue of The POUCH and no diplomacy mail. Needless to say, I was worried, especially since I had just moved to the North Sea (which would have antagonized England, though it was only protective) so I was relying on alliance with you which we had -- I thought -- had since the beginning of the game.

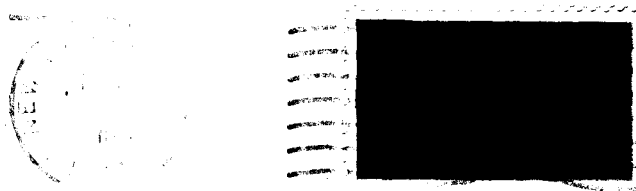
Anyway, there were moves due the middle of that period, so before they were due, I tried to call you. Lo and behold, I couldn't get through! Your phone had been disconnected! They didn't have a new number for you, and the only reasonable Ron Kelly in Oxen Hump or whatever the hell that is had an unlisted number. And then, when after submitting my moves I returned to Chicago I was astounded to be greeted by a letter from you claiming I had stabbed you! Actually had I any mind I would have. But anyway, I called in for the extension and then wrote you a nice good letter explaining it all, which you seem to have ignored or else conveniently forgotten for the sake of your little propaganda tract. The reply to that letter, that I got from you, told me that you had moved and didn't have a new phone. Now, come on, Ron! Nobody who uses the phone as much as you do would go a month without one! That is really a BSSH⁷ tactic. Of course I didn't see it, but I'm only a dumb novice, remember?

Incidentally, I don't see why you're so pissed about this all, since had I not gotten the extension, or had I figured out what you were doing before the night before moves were due, I would have attacked you anyway. So you aren't so bad off anyhow.

The POUCH

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

address correction requested



Mr. Jeff Ken
6918 NW
78th Terrace
Kansas City, MO 64152