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TTTTT H H EEEEE      PPPP   OOO   U   U   CCCC H H
T      H H E          P P O   O U   U C      H H
T      HHHHH EEE      PPPP   O   O U   U C      HHHHH
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----- Vol.II, No. 21; Issue 73 ----- A Compromise ----- November 23, 1974 -----

1973EI (73-7) Fall 1909

1973HN (73-11) Fall 1905

AUSTRO-TURKISH ALLIANCE REFORGED!

POPE VISITS THE RIVIERA

Austria-Hungary (Ron Kelly): A Tri R Tyo; A Tyo-Ven, A Pie-Mar. Owns: ~~77%~~, Vie, Ven. (2)

Note that last time Austro-Hungarian A Gal-Ukr succeeded; players were informed.

France (Don Pitsch): A Yor-Edi, A Pic S A Bur, A Bel-Lon, F Eng C A Bel-Lon, F Wes-Spa(sc), F Bre, F Mid, A Bur & F Mar hold. Owns: Bre, Mar, Par, ~~Bel~~, Edi, Lvp, Lon, Por, Spa.(8) REMOVE ONE

Austria-Hungary (Daivid Lagerson): A Vie-Gal, A War S A Boh-Sil, A Ukr-Rum, A Bud & A Ser S A Ukr-Rum, A Boh-Sil, F Gre S TUR-KISH F Ccn-Bul(ec). Owns: Bud, Tri, Vie, Gre, Rum, Ser, War.(7) EVEN

Germany (Ritter, Mike): A Hol-Bel, F Kie-Hol, A War-Gal, A Sev-Rum(-Mos), A Boh-Vie, F Nth-Eng, A Mun-Bur, A Ruh S A Mun-Bur, A Ber-Sil, F Nrg-Cly. Owns: Ber, Kie, Mun, Bel, Den, Hol, Mos, Nwy, StP, Swe, War.(11) BUILD ONE

England (Mike Ritter): F Cly-Nrg, F Lon-Yor. Owns: Lon, Lvp.(2) EVEN

France (Ken Muszynski): NMR; F Mid R OTB; A Bel. F Hol, A Gas hold; A Ruh holds (-Bur or elim), A Mar holds(-Bur or elim). Owns: Bre, ~~Mar~~, Par, Bel, Hol, Por.(5) BUILD ONE (OR TWO)

Italy (Gary Peterson): NMR; A Ven holds (who cares). Owns: ~~Ven~~.(0) OUT

Germany (Gary Peterson): A Mun-Ruh, A Kie S A Mun-Ruh, F Hel-Hol, F Edi S RUSSIAN A Den-Yor. Owns: Ber, Kie, (Mun), Edi.(3)(or 4)EVEN (OR REMOVE ONE)

Turkey (John Stevens): A Rum S A Gal, F Aeg-Ion, A Arm-Sev, F Tus S F Tyn-Lyo, F Tun-Wes, F Tyn-Lyo, F Rom S F Tus, A Alb S A Tri, A Tri S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Tyo-Ven, A Bud-Vie, A Gal S A Bud-Vie, F Bla S A Arm-Sev. Owns: Ank, Con, Smy, Bud, Bul, Gre, Nap, Rom, Rum, Ser, Sev, Tri, Tun.(13) BUILD ONE

Italy (David Tutacko): F Mid-Gas, F Wes-Spa(sc), A Pie-Mar, F Lyo S A Pie-Mar, A Tus-Pie. Owns: Nap, Rom, Ven, Mar, Spa, Tun.(6) BUILD ONE

Russia (Paul Neumann): NMR; A Rum holds (elim), A Sil holds(-Pru, Mun or elim), F Bla, A Mos, A Den, F Nth & A Sev hold. Owns: Mos, StP, Sev, ~~Ank~~, Den, Nwy, Swe, (Mun).(6)(or 7)EVEN (OR BUILD ONE)

Since John Stevens sub is way overdue, will Scott Rosenberg, 182-31 Radnor Rd., Jamaica, NY 11432 please standby for Turkey? *

Turkey (Mike Honig): F Con-Bul(ec), A Smy-Arm, A Ank S A Smy-Arm. Owns: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul(4) BUILD ONE

(continued on col. 1)
CONTENTS:

1973HN...Robert Goldman for France (200 Old Army Rd., Scarsdale, NY10583)&Allen Stevenson(785DelNorteDr., Livermore, CA94550)-Rus.
CONTENTS OF GAMES:

1972EN-12	1973HN- 1
1973CU-15	1973JC-14
1974DG-13	1974AI-16
1973DY-15	1974AR-13
1973EI- 1	1974CS-14
1973FJ-13	1974??-14
1973GR-13	1974HJ-16

AT LAST IT CAN BE TOLD.....5
EDITORIAL.....2
HOW TO DESIGN A RATINGS SYSTEM.....3
LETTERS.....7
PRESS.....9-12

The POUCH

c/o Gil Neiger
Apartment 11B
300 West 108th Street
New York, N.Y. 10025

Send letters, comments, and press releases to the above address

Guest articles are welcome; we pay three free issues for every article.

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Alex Katzoff

Cary Fulbright

Sub-Persons:

Jeremy 'S.' Paulson

Raymond 'E.' Heuer

Stephan Tihor

A lot has happened since the last issue. The most important that comes to mind (vis-a-vis the hobby, that is) is the I.D.A. preliminary nominations which came in the mail a few weeks ago. There were more nominations this year than ever, so I'm not about to list them all. But most important is that the man himself is running for Editor!!! (That's me, in case you haven't guessed it.) Edi Birsan is running again for President, and I'm sure that we all would like to see Edi in office for another two years, after the fine work he's done in the past. There were some new faces on the announcement, especially under 'At-Large Secretaries', and it'll be good to get some new blood in the council (my God, I fit in to that category, don't I?).

What else? For those of you have been dying to hear this, here it is: about one day after the last POUCH came out I decided to change my mind about Doug and the Boardman Numbers thing---to an extent. I realize that it is unfair to Doug to send everything to Conrad, as Doug is already making up for Conrad's incompetence. However, Conrad has fervently refused to make any sort of retraction of his most slanderous statement about Ray Heuer. It is very important that everyone understands that this whole question that just popped up has absolutely nothing to do with Conrad's actual choice. Whether or not Conrad chose Ray was completely his choice and I don't debate that with him. He is even (to an extent) perfectly justified to call Ray incompetent, as Conrad knows better than most people what the job entails. However, Conrad has no right to say anything about Ray's political standing in the hobby, a subject he has proved himself totally ignorant of. But once again, let me make clear that Doug and I are working together, as we should be.

One must not blame Conrad that much. One must remember that he is being controlled by Rod Walker. Rod, as many of you know, is again dredging up the farcical PDRC (Postal Diplomacy Rat. Commission), a mythical organization which Walker and others dredge up whenever they want to do something not to be directly associated with them. However, one must not put down other ratings compilers, just because they are automatically members of PDRC. Many 'members' try to hide their status, and one has done his best to resign.

I guess that I have to say once more that any scribbling that any of you subscribers have found on your recent POUCH's has been the work of Matt Diller, Greg Costikyan & Scott Rosenberg, not mine.

BOB LIPTON'S DIPLOMATIC
HOW TO ARTICLES # 2

HOW TO DESIGN A RATINGS SYSTEM
by Robert Bryan Lipton

Perhaps you've found my previous article on how to impress Diplomats ("How To Be A Big-Name Fan"), The POUCH # 53) has left something to be desired. While I have given a general outline, the details have to be filled in. And you cannot do it, or you wouldn't be reading this article.

One way to impress people is to design and maintain a ratings system. Here are some tips.

First of all, keep this thought firmly in your mind while working out your system: "A ratings system is meant to determine who the best players of this game are. The top players on each list will vary, as different systems measure different goals. My list, however, takes into account various factors which I believe are undervalued in other ratings."

Remember this at all times. Don't believe it, because it is not true. A ratings system is designed to make its designer look as good as possible. Nevertheless, the above thought is important, because you're going to say it a lot to a lot of people to justify your position, and it is a good idea not to break out laughing when you say it.

There are many traps that a designer can fall into. The most obvious one is setting up the system so that the designer is number one. This is a grave mistake, as it casts doubts on the impartiality and honesty of the designer, and all the ratings system custodians will jump on such a designer. After all, if they didn't protest, it might look like they're trying to cover up their own, identical offense. Which they are.

No, the designer must never be # 1. Top twenty, perhaps, maybe even # 2 if he really is good, but never the best. The most perfect system in this respect is Evan Jones' Origins ratings system, in which he is # 2, and Ben Miller is # 1. Who is Ben Miller? He never plays postally. So, you see, Evan is the best player of Origins you're going to meet. But it's well hidden.

Another potential mistake for the new designer is to put a bunch of new players at the top with him. Now, while two or three new faces will be accepted, in the main there are about 15 people who must be at the top. Take a look at the ODD listings and decide whom to keep. ODD is maintained by Doug Beyerlein, who is # 6 on it.

Thirdly, the player might make the mistake of putting only the best players at the top of his list. The most articulate publishers in the field (like me!) are mostly mediocre players, striving to obtain egoboo in other areas. Make sure a few of them are at the top of your listing so that they will be able to modestly say: "I don't believe in ratings", adding that, however, yours seems to be the best. Unless you have a minimum-number-of-games-completed criterion, Walt Buchanan will probably be in your top twenty, but that doesn't count, because he keeps his own ratings system. He does very well on it.

With these pitfalls to look for, you are already to compile
(continued on page four)

How to design...(continued)

page four

your system. Now, you may think that you are too horrible a player to be made to look good. That shows you how little you know! Here are some typical problems, and solutions.

PROBLEM: "I've finished eight games, and, except in the first, where I came in second, I've been the first to go each time."
ANSWER: Obviously you are such a good player that the rest of the hobby knows unless they get rid of you immediately, you will win the game. Include a "fear factor" to give seventh place finished points. Number one will be Edi Birsan.

PROBLEM: "I've been in ten games, and I've been dropped in each for missing moves, and the position crumbled immediately."
ANSWER: Obviously, you were the only reason that position held as long as it did. Set your system up so that it rates the game at the time of the first dropout, giving the dropout, giving the dropout extra points to compensate for the meanness of the gamesmaster. Remove the gamesmaster from the list for his unreasonable and unfair attitude. # 1 will be Conrad von Metzke.

PROBLEM: "I never win a game because I can't remember which spaces are which. Sometimes I even order units to places that don't exist on the board."
ANSWER: The point of this hobby is not the game, which is rather stupid, but to be as amusing to other people as possible. Make sure you add a factor for your creativity, Peggy.

PROBLEM: "Nonekan riid mu mpvws, thwysay thly are ~~//////~~ not able tpo read them?"
ANSWER: Add a factor for stream-of-unconsciousness press, Herb.

PROBLEM: "I'm a fairly good player, but I travel around a lot, and cannot maintain contact, so I lose."
ANSWER: Add an "outside pressure" facotr. Number one will be Greg Warden.

PROBLEM: "I've completed 87 games, won twice and have been in two three-way draws."
ANSWER: As with the above situation, pressure is an important factor. It can be shown that it is harder to be in 20 games at one time than in one. Multiply your sums by the number of completed games. The first place will go to Ron Kelly.

PROBLEM: I've finished 16 games, including two wins, one four-way draw and two three-way draws.
ANSWER: Run a player poll, and fudge the results. The leader will be Doug Beyerlein.

PROBLEM: "I've finished three games, winning them all."
ANSWER: This is an insoluble problem, as there is no way to devise a poll so that you will be at the top. P-Q4?

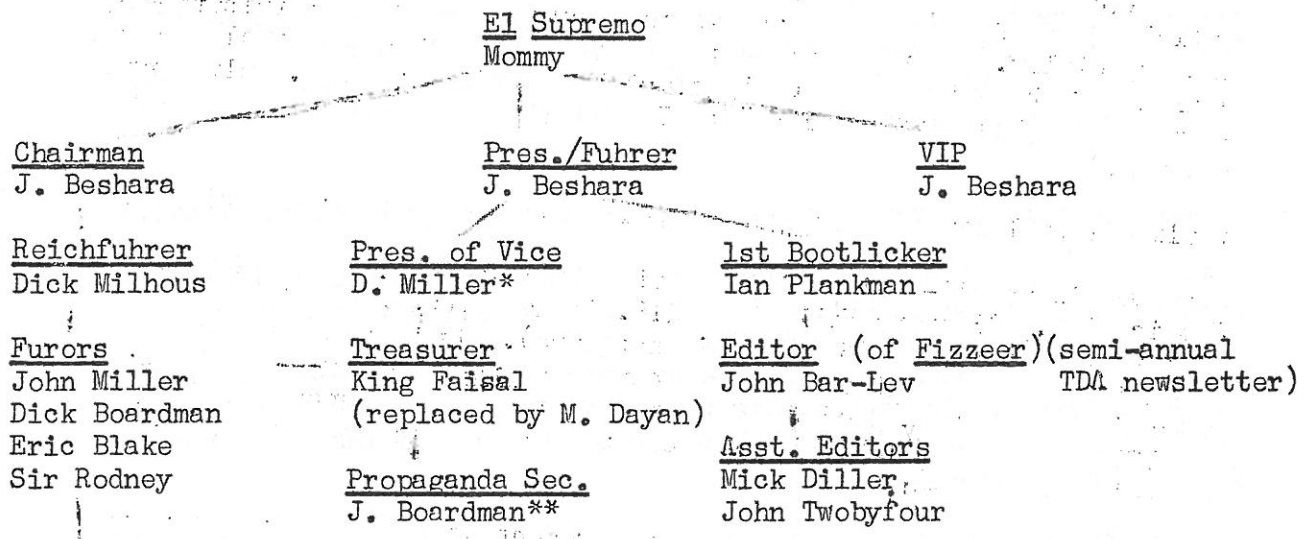
AT LAST IT CAN BE TOLD...

by John Wood

((This article is liable to offend many, many people, I want it clear right now that it does not in any way necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor, and is purely Mr. Wood's.))

Since the foundation, and subsequent expiration, of TDA (THE Diplomacy Association) in 1971, much ado about nothing has been uttered concerning the secrecy of the membership list of said organization. After more than two years of undercover work, bribery, blackmail, sweat and research, I have amassed the true organizational charts for this, the infamous TDA. This cost me a princely sum, I assure you. Even with bribes running as high as \$500 each, the complete chart could not have been amassed without the aid of a turncoat; a traitor. (The fact that the organization ceased to exist over two years ago also added to the endless problems involved). We cannot, of course, be allowed to reveal the name of our "Mr. Inside", but D. Miller has been since ordered killed by the remnants of the organization. And so, now with the help of your totally honest, and completely mad, editor, we're proud to present the complete organization chart of TDA-as opposed to IDA (International Diplomacy Association). Naturally, in the interest of fairness and equal time, we have entered the IDA chart immediately following TDA.

The Diplomacy Association (founded 1984)



The Membership: (limited to 10 by law)

- John Miller
- Dick Beshara
- Richard Boardman
- Odious Skumbahg
- Pious John
- Leper John
- Joe Smith
- L. Labofka***
- Melvin Durslag
- Horatio Hornblower

*our filthy, rotten, traitorous spy.
 **thought to be L. Labofka in reality, as yet not proven.
 ***only person to survive to belong to both IDA, TDA, IF?? & many, many others.

(over for IDA organizational chart)

(continued on page six)

LETTERS

BOB LIPTON (Box 360, Lafayette College, Easton, PA 18042)

I agree with John

Stevens' analysis of 1973GK. What he does not know is that, in 1904, when France began to move in on Italy, I wrote to Austria, Italy and Russia, pointing out that we should ally to save our skins in a stalemate. Russia agreed, but Italy did not reply, and Austria wrote back, saying, "Okay, but first I'm going to take Bulgaria from you." My reply stated that either he held off Bulgaria, or he could forget the alliance; if he shifted his forces north immediately he did not need Bulgaria. I received no reply, and if he had not been replaced, I would not have tried for the draw, which, unfortunately, failed anyway. No one, in any analysis of this game has pointed out that Ron Kelly played one of the finest games, tacitly and diplomatically, that I have ever seen.

I'm going to stick my oar in Beyerlein's article this issue (#71). While Doug Beyerlein cannot be faulted for not including material he apparently did not know about (I am referring to John Beshara's earlier use of the "Lepanto" and "DiChiave" openings. I don't think this is what John was complaining about. Rather, he is upset by Edi's not giving proper credit. ((Bob goes on here at some length, but expounds on the analogy Doug brought up about the idea of comparing this subject with the idea of alchemy/science, and that although Edi did unveil the idea to the public, it could (under Doug's analogy) be easily considered plagiarism. I will not try to decide who is right here, and will leave it up to the reader; also, Bob points out that John Beshara has written several articles on stalemates and other strategy and tactics.))((letter dated 10/17/74))

RAYMOND E. HEUER (102-42 Jamaica Ave., Richmond Hill, NY 11418; dated 11/5/74).

I feel that, in view of your comments in re-

cent issues of The POUCH (It's What We All Expected and More Reports On PDRC Duplicity), a few words of explanation are in order, and I am in the best position to make them.

Although I should have written earlier, I kept quiet since I felt it ~~easy~~ to believe that one person was lying/covering up to me (Beshara) especially one whom I had met for the first time only a month before, than it was to believe that several people I thought to be my friends (Conrad, Walt, Key, and others) were all jointly lying/covering up to me.

Subsequent events have brought out the real truth, and I now realize that the only counsel I received during this whole business which was both truthful and in my own best interests was received from John Beshara. I chose to disregard some of this advice, and I now regret it. I hope John will accept my apologies.

WALTER BUCHANAN (RR3, Lebanon, Indiana 46052; written to Nick Ulanov, 10/25/74)

...As to the Custodianship, the bulk of what has been printed in the

NY 'zines, is simply not true...Just for the record, the last contact I have personally had with Conrad, was 2 weeks before the DIPCON when he called me assuring me that everything was OK and he was keeping the Numbers. I have certainly not done anything to force him to turn the numbers over to anyone. I had hoped he could keep them. It is true that I had

(continued on page eight)

previously urged him to turn the numbers over to someone in the hobby that had proved himself with a major hobby task list, if he felt he couldn't keep the numbers, but I don't think my position was a secret. I wrote Heuer earlier in the summer telling him this and he didn't reply to my letter.

As to the meeting at the DIPCON with you all, I can only speak for myself. I arrived at the DIPCON believing that Heuer already had the numbers. Rod Walker had told me over the phone only a couple of days previously that Conrad had already mailed him the data. So what I really wanted at DIPCON, was the assurance in my own mind that Ray would be able to do a good job. I only regret that we didn't get more of a chance to talk. You did pretty well convince me, however, that Ray having the numbers wouldn't give control of the numbers to Behsara. Unlike about everyone else concerned, he is the one person that I sincerely believe has his own and not the interest of the hobby at heart. I would have to go thru my own sad involvement with TDA to convince you of that. In any case, no one to my knowledge threatened Conrad or said they would start rival numbers if Ray got them. That is the one thing that would tear up the hobby...

((All well and good, 'alt, but somewhere along the line someone is lying. How do you explain the letter that Ray got from Conrad talking about the 'phone call' he got from you and others that caused this whole controversy? Something fishy is going on, and I won't pretend to be the one who knows the answer; but right now a quite feasible possibility is that the San Diego clique is doing all this to befuddle the rest of the hobby so as to make their takeover easier. Have you noticed how Rod Walker is again talking of PDRC (you must have)? This is something to watch out for—look, right now he writes over half the material for your Diplomacy World, which is showing signs of improvement; and what's worse he's putting in anti-Beshara jokes, and if DW is to turn out the way you want it to, it must remain purely apolitical as far as the hobby goes. Well, I'm sure enough people are going to write in something, so I'll shut up now.))

*

*

*

B.O.A.S.T. is published by big Herb Barents (1142 S. 96th Ave., Zeeland, MI 49464) and stands for (I know you've read this many times before) Bottom of a Sewage Tank! Don't let the title fool you; BOAST is one of those all-around 'zines like PELLUCIDAR which everything: games, articles, news, &c., but it is not too long (like some oversized 'zines I know). I don't think Herb has any openings, but his sub-rate is \$2.75/yr. (17 issues).

SPECULUM (there you are, Dave) is published by Dave Kadlacek, 1447 Sierra Creek Way, San Jose, CA 95132. Each issue reviews many, many 'zines, and this one is a fine one to get just as a catalog of other 'zines. He tends to bring forth a totally unbiased view of hobby politics, which sort of annoys me at times, but is really quite refreshing. Dave is running some sort of Diplomacy Puzzle Contest, which I don't really understand, but write him and ask him about it. Sub rate is 10/\$2 and a few other rates for airmail and overseas. Game-fee is up to \$3 plus a \$1 deposit and you gotta sub. Well worth it.

1973GK PRESS RELEASES

THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERDIPLOMAT (THE RETURN OF THE EVIL GENIUS)(IDUNNO):
The world was crumbling for Superdiplomat; after the second call from the Evil Genius, and the stupidity of the editor of a great Metropolitan Dippy 'zine, whose name I can't remember, but whose eidtor changed "denouement" to "denouncement" in the last episode nothing went right. He had not won a single game since that call.

True, he had not lost any; all ended in draws; but a four-way draw between himself, Evan Jones, Greg Warden and Margaret Gemegnani did not seem to approach anywhere near a clear win.

Often now, when he doffed the guise of RBL, in which guise he produced his own Dippy 'zine, he wondered when he would lose a game. The Evil Genius had said "The next installment". Well, this is the next installment. But how long will it last? Will its writer perhaps spin it out to three or four pages? Will the editor cut it? Will Jonathan Jacobs resume writing his vastly inferior counterpart. Let's just wait a moment.

Anyway, Superdiplomat sat, waiting for the news. Suddenly the phone rang. Donning his glasses, Superdiplomat became RBL.

He picked up the phone and said "hello" in a quavering voice.

"Is Superdiplomat there?" Gil asked. "I'll want to speak to you again afterwards if he is, but I want to break the new to him first."

"What news?"

"Put Superdiplomat on, please!"

RBL was taken aback; no one had said 'please' to him since....well, he couldn't think when. He removed his glasses and spoke again to the phone, his voic deep and steady.

Gil's voice had become embarassed. "Superdiplomat," he said, "It's happened."

"What's happened?"

"It."

"Well, what's it?"

"It is what's happened."

"Stop this!" Superdiplomat roared, "Do it again and you'll never win another game! I'll join all of them and make you my especial enemy."

"You don't scare me any more."

The words chilled Superdiplomat. "It's happened!" he thought. "What's happened?" He heard faintly off by his left cerebellum. He brought himself under control. Superdiplomat had lost his first game, and to the Evil Genius! All he needed to know now was who had beaten him. He could then put out a contract on the fellow, and battle his way back up to an image of adamantine invincibility! Superdiplomat smiled.

"So," he said calmly, "Who beat me?"

"Oh," said Gil contemptuously, "you managed to figure that out? Well, it's---

1973JC PRESS RELEASES

SMYRNA ARMY HQ: "Allies? Allies?? Allies@!!! The Sultan doesn't need allies! Europe will be at our feet as soon as the Sultan unleashes his secret weapon! Now go back and fight to the last Armenian!"

ANKARA HQ: To paraphrase an old Custer Joke, Look at all those Cotton Pizin' Russkies!! sorry, Gil.....

NEW YORK: It's OK, but don't let it happen again!

1974?? PRESS RELEASES

FAR ECHMIADZIN (continued): Von Metzke was engaged in perfectly normal pursuits. He leaned over the gigantic table, and made a slight change on a piece of paper to one side of the huge map pasted to the table.

The walls of the small room were undressed, aside from a wall phone, but a huge goose-neck lamp hung from the ceiling ((that's how he spelled it)).

"No," said Metzke. "We need more strength in the south." He picked up a cardboard center from the northern wing, and placed it in the center of the German line.

The phone on the wall behind Metzke came to life. "Brrring," it said. "Brrring"

"Allo, Metzke here. What iss it?" Metzke said as he picked up the receiver of the phone.

"Ah, Conrad. How's the Schlieffen Plan coming?" asked the phone.

"Yes, master." replied Metzke

"What the fuck?" you say. I hear screams of "Huh?" from the back of the auditorium. I ask you, dear audience, use you powers of deductive reasoning. Surely, from watching too many melodramas, you can determine that "How's the Schlieffen Plan coming" is a hypnotic trance when uttered. And surely, from this display of obvious evil, you can figure out who put Metzke into this hypnotic trance....obviously Campbell.

"Listen," said Campbell.

VIENNA (continued): Meanwhile, Kilya Mzprywctz has set out along the dusty road to Galicia, singing o' hischeerful shepherd lays.....:

"T'ts 'n B'ms

T'ts 'n B'ms,

Slvovitz 'n Plums..."

When he is accosted by an Armenian tinker;

"Ah, Kind Sir, judging from that sword over your shoulder, you must be a hero."

"No...Vlah."

"No matter, " spake the kindly tinker, "I have all sorts of Hero items here to make you one, my boy, let's see...."

"What...is...Hr?"

"Ah-ha, just the ting---how about this, ah, this Shield of Perseus, magic Shield of Perseus---used to slay the Gorgon, or such like---It's heavy, and I hate to part with it, but..."

"What...is...sh'ld?"

"Ah, who steals my Perseus, steals trash, but say, Vlah, what's in your purse there---GOLD, hey, hey, let me count.....119, 120 Crowns, in GOLD; easily worth 222 in 74AR. Say, Shep. 120 Crowns happens to be just the price of this here shield."

"Rrrr...K'll V'mp'r's?"

"Vampires, of course, splendid, observe it's mirror finish, very magical. Vampires can't stand mirrors."

"Is g'd."

"Good"

"Wh'r'r V'mp'r's?"

"Where, oh....take that road over there, I suppose."

(continued on page eleven)

FAR ECHMIADZIN (continued): Huerian ripped open the envelope, and stared at the dittoed message that lay within.

"What? Boardman numbers? Beyerlein? Jesus fucking holy crock of shit....(etc,etc,etc, ad nauseum, ad infinitum, &co on)" Huerian said. Not in those exact words, of course.

He continued, his volume crecscenoing, his face growing redder, until, finally, the flesh outshone his acne, then he yelled "No! No! Shit no!", clutched at his heart, gurgled once, pitched forward on his face, and died.

Campbell leered at the front page of La Posa Aramianano. "Huerian Dead," it proclaimed. "Nyahhhhaahahah!" Campbell said. "Nyahahahaha. Little do they of the Big Apple dream first Huerian.....next...."

He turned his swivel chair towards the wall with the bulletin board once more, picked up a red-and-yellow-feathered dart, tossed it at the board, and exclaimed "Ahah!" The dart had pierced the heart of Neigerian.

"He shall be next," said Campbell, who returned to his reading.

But Campbell missed the second page----"The Tsar and the Turkish Junta Talk," and he did not see the trainloads of Turkish troops rail-roading along the Berlin-to-Baghdad railroad towards Armenia, nor the glorious cavalrymen of the Tsar galloping through the Ukraine.

VIENNA (continued): Thus Kilya comes misdirected to the gate of the Castle d'Armeniene where he bumps into none other than La Poso, taking his battle flag to the dry cleaners.

"Hwy, wh don't you watch where you're going?"

"Grrrr....Vmpr!"

"Me, no, no. There are no vampires around here."

"S'gh."

"Say, are you ever ugly, er, curious, and why in hell are you lugging around that hood from a, yes it is, a '54 Chevy?"

"Is....Sh'ld."

"It is kinda shiny."

"Is....'g'c....'nc'nt sh'ld of P'rs's."

"Magic, eh, says who?"

"M'n"

"What man?"

"M'n wh s'ld it m'."

"Somebody sold that...how much did he take you, er, I mean how much did you pay for it?"

"120 cr'wns."

"120 CROWNS!....say, I just happen to have this magic banner here...."

This diverting conversation is interrupted suddenly by a host of gayly clad figures.

"Excuse me, is this the Castle d'Armeniene?" pipes up the first.

"Yeh, so who wants to know?"

"We, Pursuivants." "O.K. Fellows, surround the place."

"Excuse me, I'm Barry, this is Gyronny, and in back Griffin Or end Flains Ermine. We seek La Poso."

"I think I know him; what is your business?"

"He has sullied his 'scutcheon; his arms are a mockery of our ancient heraldry. We have come to punish his rashness. With this hammer we shall change his personal achievement to Sable, two roundels gules, crushed, or perhaps Sable, a fess argent with a fool dancetty proper, if you take my meaning."

"But the former is color on color."

"It's been known, but hola! Stand back, what is that banner,-- seize him!"

"It's his" sayeth ye quick-witted Poso, and suiting his action to his words La Poso laterals the bolt of cloth to Kilya, and they commence to run.

At the corner of the castle wall Portcullis Argent tries to intercept, missing only by inches. The pursuit, taken off guard have just about caught up in time to bowl headlong into P.A., scattering pales, bends and tinctures like jellybeans.

La Poso and Kilya, despite their impedimenta are making good time around the next corner of the castle.

"Halt, over this wall is the herb garden; quick I'll give you a boost up. We'll be safe inside."

Somewhat encumbered with his shield, Kilya tosses it over first, thereby stunning a dangerous Griffon Vert with its own image.

(to be continued)

NEW YORK: OK, you guys, no more backlog; hit me again.

1974CS PRESS RELEASES

MOSCOW: Chief of investigators I. N. Efficient was worried, one of his best undercover men had just been fatally shot. If this kept up the NKVD would run out of men, after all, it never was a very popular group anyway. "Ah well," he thought, "I'll get the murderer this time. One of my best men is out there. Perhaps this will stop other fanatics from being so foolish."

Comissar U. Damfool of the NKVD was at the scene of the crime. He had carefully made sure that the body was not handled or moved. As he examined the body, there was something trickling down the forehead. He leaned over and tasted it. Salt water! And this far inland. HMMMMMMMM..... Somebody was going to catch hell for this. The subject concerned had a man detailed to him for surveillance.

He shuddered. "What a horrid trademark!", he thought. (as you will note the NKVD men have an inherent fear of water as anyone who has reasonably good alfactory senses will tell you if he gets within ten feet of one.) It could only be one person. This was the work of that fishfaced fiend, Gill Neiger! But there was only one way to find out for sure. Visit undercover man Ima S. Toolpigeonoff, head of section C (highest letter in the Russian alphabet).....

ZURICH: Please submit any ruthre entries for our press for the persecution of the Publisher promptly.

1972EN (72-2) Fall 1909

TURKEY AND ITALY BLACK AND BLUE

England (Richard Meyer): F Lyo-Tyn, F Wes & F Tun S F Lyo-Tyn, F Naf S F Tun, F Spa(sc)-Lyo, F Mid-Spa(sc), A Gas holds, A Ruh-Bel, A Mun-Ruh. Owns: Edi, Lvp, Lon, Bel, Bre, Nwy, Por, Spa, Swe, Tun:(10)BUILD ONE

(continued on page thirteen)

1972EN (continued)

page thirteen

GERMANY (Lee Greenwood): F Bal-Kie, A Ukr-Sev, A Mos S A Ukr-Sev, A Sil-Gal, A War S A Sil-Gal, A Mar-Bur, A Pie-Ven, A Boh S A Tyo, A Bud-Tri, A Vie & A Tyo S A Bud-Tri. Owns: Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol, Mar, Par, Mos, Sev, StP, Tri, Vie, War.(13)BUILD TWO

Italy (Jonathan Jacobs): NMR; A Pie R Ven; A Ven & F Adr hold; F Tyn holds(-Rom, Nap or elim), A Tri holds(elim). Owns: Nap, Rom, Ven, ~~Tri~~. (3)EVEN

Turkey (James Garzillo): NMR; F Tun R Ion; F Aeg, F Tus. A Ser, A Bul, F Bla, F Alb, A Rum & F Ion hold; A Sev holds(-Arm or elim). Owns: Ank, Con, Smy, Bud, Bul, Gre, Rum, Ser, ~~StP~~, ~~Tyn~~.(8)REMOVE ONE

Will Matt Diller (85-07 Avon St., Jamaica, NY 11432) and Mike Hinmon (8117 Heatherton Ln. #103, Vienna, VA 22180) please standby for Italy and Turkey respectively?

1973FJ (73-8) Fall 1908

ONE MORE

Austria-Hungary (Jonathan Jacobs): NMR; A Tri, A War, A Tyo, A Boh, F Ven, A Mos, A Rom ~~all~~ hold. Owns: Bud, Tri, Vie, Mos, Rum, Ser, Ven, War.(8) BUILD ONE

France (Eric Robinson): A Pie-Tyo, A Bur-Mun, F Eng-Nth, F Nwy S A Den-Swe, F Nth-Ska, A Ruh S A Bur-Mun, A T s-Rom, F Tyn S A Tus-Rom, F Tun S F Tyn, F Lyo S F Tyn, A Kie-Den, A Mun-Sil, A Pru-Lvn, F Naf-Mid, A Ber S A Mun-Sil, A Den-Swe. Owns: Bre, Mar, Par, Bel, Ber, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Lvp, Lon, Mun, Nwy, Por, Spa, Swe, Tun.(17)BUILD ONE

Russia (Matt Diller): A Swe-Nwy, F Ska S A Swe-Nwy, A Lvn-StP. Owns: ~~Mos~~, StP, ~~StP~~.(1)REMOVE TWO

Turkey (Duncan Smith): F Rom & F Ion S F Nap, F Alb-Gre, F Con-Aeg, A Bul holds, A Sev S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Mos, F Nap S F Rom. Owns: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Gre, Nap, Rom, Sev.(8)EVEN

Will Ronald Kelly (#210, 225 Virginia Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20061) please standby for Austria-Hungary; note that last time all Russian moves failed and should have been underlined.

1973GR & 1974AR (73-10 & 74-2)

Both delayed because of player request. Note that in 74AR we would like spring moves with the builds, because of this delay. Note in 73GR that Turkey's move into Wes last turn failed and should have been underlined.

1973DG (73-4)

Cary has gone out of town without giving me these moves. However, John Stevens has not renewed, so I am asking Russ Nekorchuk (Apartment 203, 7000 Nottingham, St. Louis, MO 63119) to standby for England. All players plus Russ will get a copy of the moves when Cary comes back.

1973JC (73-12) Fall 1905

England (Evan Jones): F Hel-Kie, F Den & F Bal S F Hel-Kie, F Hol S
F Hel-Kie, F Nth S F Hol, A Swe holds. Owns: Edi, Lvp, Lon, Den, Hol,
 Nwy, Swe.(7) BUILD ONE

France (Mike Ritter): A Bur-Bel, A Pic S A Bur-Bel, A Par-Bur, F Tyn-
Rom(-Lyo, Wes, Tus or elim), F Tun-Ion, A Mar-Spa.Owns: Bre, Mar, Par,
Bel, Por, Spa, Tun.(7) BUILD ONE

Germany (David Hov): A Bur retreated to Ruh; F Bel-Hol(-Eng or elim),
A Kie S F Bel-Hol, A Ruh S F Bel-Hol, A Mun & A Ber S A Kie. Owns: Ber,
 Kie, Mun, ~~Bel~~, ~~Hol~~.(3)REMOVE TWO

Italy (Russ Nekorchuk): F Rom-Tyn, F Nap S F Rom-Tyn, A Ven-Tri, A SerS
 A Alb-Gre, A Alb-Gre. Owns: Nap, Rom, Ven, Gre, Ser, Tri.(6) BUILD ONE

Russia (Allen Stevenson): A Ank, A Boh & A Lvn hold, A Sev-Arm, A Rum-
Bul, A Bud S A Rum, F Bla S A Ank. Owns: Mos, StP, Sev, War, Ank, Bud,
 Rum, Vie.(8)BUILD ONE

Turkey (David Lagerson): A Ank R Smy; A Smy-Arm, A Con-Smy, F Ion-Gre,
A Bul S F Aeg-Con, F Aeg-Con. Owns: ~~Ank~~, Con, Smy, Bul, ~~Gre~~.(3)REMOVE TWO

1974?? (74-4)

1901 BUILDS

Austria-Hungary (Will McCullam): Removes F Adr.

England (John Weswig): Builds F Lon, F Lvp.

France (Jim Bingle): Builds A Par, A Bre

Germany (Greg Costikyan): Builds A Ber, A Mun.

Italy (Adam Gilinsky): Builds F Nap

Russia (Bob Lipton): Builds A War, A Mos.

Turkey (Scott Rosenberg): Builds F Smy.

1974GS (74-3) Spring 1903

Austria-Hungary (Keith Thompson): A Vie-Gal, A Bud S A Rum, A Tri holds,
 F Gre-Aeg, A Bul holds(-Gre or elim), A Ser S A Bul, A Rum S A Bul.

England (Eric Verheiden): F Eng-Iri, F Edi S F Nth, A Nwy-Hol, F Nth C
 A Nwy-Hol.

France (David Gladstein): F Mid & F Bre-Eng, A Spa-Gas, A Pic holds.

Germany (Frank Bero): A Pru-Lvn, A Sil-Pru, A Mun-Sil, A Den-Swe,
 F Ska S A Den-Swe, A Bel holds, F Hel-Nth.

(continued on page fifteen)

1974CS (continued)

page fifteen

Italy (Wayne Gildroy): F Ion S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN F Gre-Aeg, F Tun S
F Ion, A Ven-Pie, A Apu holds.

Russia (Robert Goldman): F Sev-Rum, F StP(sc)-Bot, A War holds, A Mos S
A War.

Turkey (Gary Peterson): F Aeg-Bul(sc), A Con & F Bla S F Aeg-Bul(sc).

1973CU (73-13) Fall 1907

OTTOMAN FORTUNES PLUMMET

England (Charles Maylen): A Mar S F Spa(sc), A Gas S F Spa(sc), A Bur S
A Mar, F Mid-Por, F Spa(sc) S F Mid-Por, F Bre-Mid, F Eng S F Bre-Mid,
F Hel-Nth, F Nth-Nwy. Ows: Edi, Lvp, Lon, Bel, Bre, Den, Hol, Kie,
Nwy, Par, Mar, Spa.(12) BUILD TWO

Italy (Gary Peterson): F Spa(sc) R Por; A Tyo-Ven, A Pie-Mar, F Por S
F Lyo-Spa(sc), F Lyo-Spa(sc), F NAF-Mid, F Tun-Wes. Ows: Nap, Rom,
Ven, ~~Mar~~, Por, ~~Spa~~, Tun.(5) REMOVE ONE

Russia (K.L. MacDonald): A Tyo R Mun; A Mun S A Boh-Tyo, A Boh-Tyo,
A Vie S A Tri, A Bud S A Tri; A Tri S A Boh-Tyo, A Ser-Bul, A Rum S
A Ser-Bul, F Bot holds, F Ank-Con. Ows: Mos, StP, Sev, War, Ber, Bud,
Bul, Con, Mun, Rum, Swe, Tri, Vie.(13) BUILD FOUR

Turkey (Stephen Tihor): NMR; A Ser R Alb; A Bul holds(elim), A Alb,
F Aeg, F Ion, F Gre & F Eas hold. Ows: Ank, ~~Con~~, Smy, ~~Bul~~, Gre, Ser.
(4) REMOVE ONE

Will Robert Goldman, 200 old Army Road, Scarsdale, NY 10583 please
standby for Turkey; also, K.L.'s sub is way overdue; in the event that
he does not renew by next ish, will Will McCullam, Fairmount Road,
Newbury, Ohio 44605 please send in moves for Russia.

1973DY (73-6)

1907 BUILDS

Austria-Hungary (Jeff Key): Has A War, A Ber, A Ven, A Bud & A Gal.

England (John Boyer): Builds A Lon; also has A Kie, A StP, A Bel, A Hol,
A Fin, F Nat, F Nap, F Adr, F Den, F Nth, F Tyn & F Tun.

France (David Staples): Builds A Mar; also has A Bur, A Tus, A Mun,
A Pie, & F Rom.

Russia (civil disorder): Has A Mos.

Turkey (Burt Labelle): Builds A Con, F Smy; also has A Ukr, A Rum,
A Sev, A Ser, F Ion, F Tri, F Aeg.

The concession to England failed. Please note that Jeff Key's
and David Staples' trade situations are uncertain; in the event that
no trade agreement is reached and no subscription is purchased, I am
asking Brian Johnston, Box 629, Huntsville, Ont. CANADA PO# 1KO and
(continued on page sixteen)

1973DY (continued)

page sixteen

Herb Barents 1142 South 96th St., Zeeland, MI 49464 to standby for Austria-Hungary and France respectively? Thanx.

1974AI (74-1)

This game was not delayed last time; the moves went out to all the players the week of the last issue. However, the game is being delayed this time, due to general confusion (and major too). Glenn Pape's sub is overdue (I've said that before, haven't I?) so, let's have Matthew Diller, 85-07 Avon St., Jamaica, NY 11432 send in standby moves for Germany.

*PT*PW*PW*PT*PW*PW*PT*PW*PW*PW*PW*PW*PT*PW*PW*PW*PW*PW*PW*PW*PW*PW*

The Dispossessed is a good book, but I can't review it; too hard.

I was thinking of wasting the next two pages with blatherings, but I realize that I'd really better not, as this issue is slightly behind schedule, so I won't.

1974HJ (74-5)

That's its Boardman Number. Jim, you still owe me \$9.50

The POUCH # 73
c/o Gil Neiger
Apartment 11B
300 West 108th Street
New York, New York 10025

address correction requested

 CLASS MAIL

Next deadlines:
Dippy: 12N, 12/14/74
Bourse: 12M, 12/06/74