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Volume IV. Number 18: Issue 96

Providence, R.I.

November 20th, 1976

1976IC

"Spring 1901"

ALL MOVES SUCCEED! LAST TIME?

Austria-Hungary (Dave Claman): A Bud-Ser, F Tri-Alb, A Vie-Gal.

England (Dave Kalla): F Edi-Nrg, A Lvp-Edi, F Lon-Nth.

France (Edward Karlinski): F Bre-Mid, A Mar-Spa, A Par-Bur.

Germany (Philip Crowther): A Ber-Kie, F Kie-Hol, A Mun-Ruh.

Italy (Mike Hudec): F Nap-Ion, A Rom-Apu, A Ven-Tri.

Russia (Frank Suchar): NMR; A Mos holds, F StP(sc)-Bot, F Sev-Rum, A War-Ukr.

Turkey (Tom McNally): F Ank-Bla, A Con-Bul, A Smy-Arm.

Russia's moves were made by the neutral order rule. Frank called me shortly after the deadline, so I see no reason to appoint a standby. Will the players note that Doug Beyerlein, the Boardman Number Custodian, has assigned a Boardman Number, 1976IC to this game. Please use it on any correspondence concerning this game. Although Doug now charges \$1 to dispense Boardman Numbers, it is not in any way passed on to the players. Players should also note that they are encouraged to write press releases, and any press submitted (including "Black Press") will be printed.

DEADLINE FOR FALL 1901 MOVES (only) IS NOON, 11 DECEMBER 1976

1974FK

"Winter 1904"

HAIL. HAIL THE GANG'S ALL HERE?

England (John Baker): Builds F Lon; also has F Bar, F Bot, F Nwy, F Nrg & A StP.

France (Peter Berggren): Has F NAf, F Lyo, A Mar, A Spa & F Tyn.

Germany (Steve McLendont): Removes F Hel; has F Bel, A Lyn, A Pru, A Mun, A Beh & A Sil.

Italy (Margaret Gemignani): F Tyn /a/; builds F Nap; also has A Pie, A Tyo, F Tus & A Ven.

Russia (Michael Lariton): Builds A Sev; also has A Bud, A Gal, A Mos, A Vie & A War.

Turkey (Ron Kelly): Has F Adr. A Apu. F Bla. F Gre. F Ion & A Ser.

Pleas note that the new gamesmaster of this game is Dan Miller, and his address is Box 3039, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912, phone = (401) 863-5273. The deadline for Spring 1905 moves is NOON, 11 DECEMBER 1976. Note that the sub rate is now sevem for two dollars (I miscalculated), and that's how many you'll get, Mike. Also, all you people got #95 free. Hence, your subs run out on the following issues: Baker, 96; Gemignani, McLendon, 97; Berggren, Kelly, 98; Lariton, 105. John, this is issue 96.

This is The POUCH, and the men above are the ones responsible. The POUCH is a roughly triweekly magazine devoted to running games of postal Diplomacy and its variants. Diplomacy is the name of a game invented by Allan B. Calhamer and published by the Avalon Hill company of Baltimore, MD. Currently being run in The POUCH are 1974FK and 1976IC, games of postal Diplomacy, and 1975Kex, a game of a Diplomacy variant called SchizeDiplomacy.

Subscriptions to The POUCH are seven issues for two dollars. I hope to keep the sub rate stable here, at least for a while. My printing costs just went up again (since the last issue), but I believe that this rate will be bearable for me. There are no game openings at this time, and do not anticipate having any until at least one of the games herein ends. This may change however, depending on Dan.

This is the first issue of The POUCH since number seventy-eight that has had the results of moves for more than two games. That issue had the word "MASSI" as its logo, which is Finnish for "The POUCH". It contained the reports of thirteen regular Diplomacy games, the results of a Bourse which was attached to one of those games and the announcement of the opening of 1975Kex, as well as the rules to SchizoDiplomacy and a few articles and press. It was dated April 26th, 1975, although it was probably mailed considerably later than that considering the fact that I was rather tardy with The POUCH in those days. I also announced in that issue that I was indeed going to be going to Brown University. It was fourteen pages long.

There was a long delay after the mailing out of that issue, which was followed by a long meeting of major New York Diplomacy publishers. The meeting was taped and the transcript of the tape was printed in THE POCKET ARMENIAN. Following the meeting, The POUCH was split into two magazines: CAIR PARAVEL, which I published until the end of that summer, and Fallovia, which was published by Raymond Heuer, who was already publishing Carn Dûm, a variant effspring of The POUCH which was separated just before I started publishing. At the end of the summer, I ceased publishing CAIR PARAVEL, and Jeremy Paulson took it over, naming it Imladris - Sen of POUCH. He subsequently merged it with Scott Rosenberg's THE POCKET ARMENIAN and Greg Costikyan's Urf Durfal to form the Conglomerate, a 'zine whose name changed with every issue. Scott and Jerry have since folded this 'zine, and from what Jerry tells me, Greg will be keeping it up under the title, Urf Durfal - Grandson of POUCH.

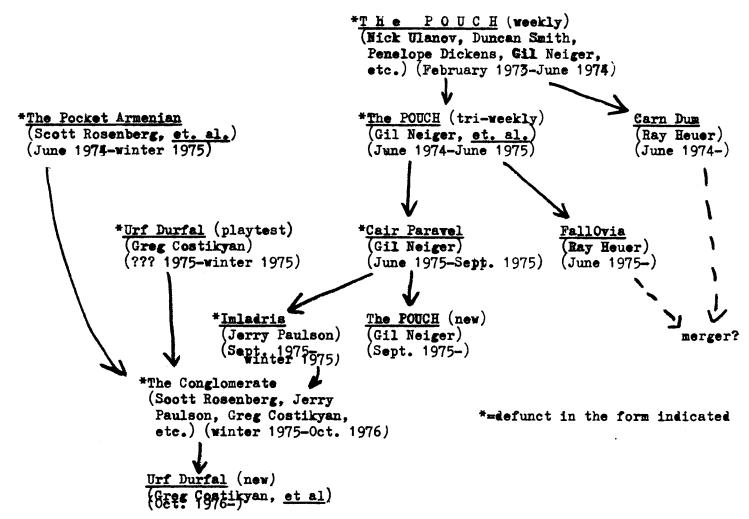
In the meantime, I started publishing The POUCH again to report the results of 1975Kex. I picked up an orphan game, 1972EN, which ended in a three-way draw shortly after that. I have been publishing two serials, "The Providence Connection", which has been written by myself and Raymond Heuer, and "The Grand Reunion", which I alone have written.

Anyway, back in issue seventy-eight of The POUCH I published an article by Matt Diller, to which he wrote many sequels. It was meant to parody what Matt considered an exceptionally elementary article that had been printed in <u>EXPONENT</u>, called "The Importance of Building Fleet St. Petersburg North Coast". I am reprinting Matt's article here in its entirety:

THE VALUE OF BUILDING FLEET NORWAY LEFT COAST by Matt Diller

Fleet Norway can be a very useful and constructive piece, if it's on the left coast, that is. It can even move to the North Sea!! Yup, even the North Sea! But its main strength is in its surprise! Who would expect Turkey to build in Norway? Even if someone thought of it, the odds that he thought it would be on the left coast are relatively negligible. This is an excellent attack on Italy, because he'd never think of it. But its main strength becomes apparent in the following set of moves: F Syr rotates the board half-way, F NAt rotates the board the other half of the way, and F Nwy(lc)-Swe! You see the position of the left coast is entirely relative to the angle at which you look at it! Now you can attack France! France would never suspect a snazy manuveur like that. After only eighteen builds of F Nwy(lc) you can win the game! Think about this the next time you plan to build a fleet Norway middle coast.

The POUCH Family Tree



Only four of the original (weekly) POUCH are still being run. These are 1973DG, 1973GR, 1973HN and 1974AR, by my own recollection. Three of these are in <u>FallOvia</u>, and one (1973HN) is in <u>Urf Durfal</u>.

Of the three original publishers of The POUCH, Nick Ulanov, Duncan Smith and Paul Neuman, not one is publishing at the moment. Infact, none of them is really actively involved in postal Diplomacy. I joined The POUCH staff as a gamesmaster with the second issue. Before Nick and Duncan passed on The POUCH to me in June 1975 Paul Neuman quit as editor, Penelope Naughton Dickens ascended from contributing editor to editor, and I went to contributing editor. Ray and I were the main gamesmasters then.

So who runs the only descendent of <u>The POUCH</u>? I have the name, and I'm now the only member of the original editorial staff still going at it. But Ray is running the most of original games. In terms of man-hours put into the 'zine(s) Ray is far and away in the lead. In terms of typing, printing, time on the subways carrying stencils, paper, machines, &c., on the phone working out arguments, settling feuds, arranging 'zine and game transfers, setting up meetings to work problems and the like, as well as general loss of sleep I can't think of anyone to rival Ray. Nick Ulanov might be a close second (especially considering the over one day of constant mimeographing that he engaged in when he produced the first anniversary issue). And Ray has Gertrude.

But then again, who cares?

With next issue of The POUCH I hope that our new editor, Dan Miller will make himself known to all our readers. Dan is no novice to Diplomacy, and in fact he actually met a good deal of the New York Conspiracy almost two years ago at WinterCon III in Cambridge. He is a freshman here, so we look forward to him helping with The POUCH for some time.

THE WAR GOES ON!

France (Jeremy Paulson): Removes A Lon; has A Mar, A Pie, F Tyn, F Lyo, F Eng, A Sfa, A Umb, & A Pic.

Germany (King Kalla): Builds F Kie, A Han; also has F Iri, A Bel, F Nth, A Ruh, F Hol, A Mun, A Ber, A Ukr, A War, A Lub, A Tyo, A Sil, A Swi & A Boh.

Turkey (Raymong E. Heuer): Builds A Con; also has F Alb, F Adr, F Bla, A Apu, A Tri, F Ion, A Pre, A Bud, A Vie, A Sev, F Cre, F Rom & F Nap. And A Rum.

I apologize for the short deadline. As you can see, this next one is reasonable. DEADLINE FOR SPRING 1910 MOVES (condit. retreats, too) is NOON, 11 DECEMBER 1976

What is the status of the 100th issue of <u>The POUCH?</u> I don't rightly know. I don't think I will be able to put it out on the scale that I wanted to (fifty pages; two hundred copies), but it will indeed be special. I would appreciate as many articles as I can get, especially from people who have been on <u>The POUCH</u> staff over the years (e.g., Nick, Duncan, Penelope, Ray, &c.), as well as those who have been instrumental in <u>The POUCH</u>'s success (e.g., John Boyer, Doug Beyerlein, Walt Buchanan, Conrad Von Metzke, &c.). In addition to new articles I think I will reprint some of the best articles from <u>The POUCH</u> when it was under my auspices (e.g., "The Great Sabertooth Neiger Expose", "A Worm in the Big Apple", "How to Design a Ratings System", &c.) and some of the best press (especially the great SuperDiplomat series). The main problems at this point will be time (my time) and money (my money). I don't have vast amounts of either at my disposal. But we'll see.

To sum up, there will be a special 100th issue. Those people whom I asked to write articles for me are still invited to do so.

This should be the last short issue. Next issue I anticipate having the next installment of "The Grand Reunien" and, if Ray Heuer writes it (HINT) the next of "The Providence Connection". In addition, we will have something from our new editor, another F Nwy(lc) reprint, and maybe the start of a new serial (a musical this time!). See you then!

The POUCH #96 c/e Gil Neiger Box 4293 Brown University Providence, R.I. 02912

address correction requested

FIRS' CLAS	_
MAIL	
	your sub expires with this issue
	please renew
	how about writing some press?

XXX how about writing an article?