

# REBUS SIC STANTIBUS

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**GRAND TOURNAMENT SITUATION**

REBUS SIC STANTIBUS

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# THE MAN OF THE MONTH

**Fernando Wood, The First Boss...**  
by Christopher McLenoan

With Election Day coming up, we thought it only appropriate to salute a man who made great contributions to electoral state craft. This month we therefore honor the first, city political boss, a grand sachem of the Tammany Society, Mayor of the City of New York -- Fernando Wood.

In 1832, at the age of twenty, our enterprising young politico opened a tobacco shop on Pearl Street, near the docks, in what is now known as Lower Manhattan. To further build his business, he established friendships with neighborhood street thugs and longshoremen. Wood became interested in politics and joined the Tammany Society in 1834. Because of his following on the docks, he was recognized in politics as a man to be welcomed into the ranks of Tammany and was made chairman of the Young Men's Committee. From that committee, Fernando was able to find a fast way to power.

Fernando's business expanded. He made friends with shippers, became a partner/owner of a number of ships, and established himself as a young, successful businessman. He was also becoming a successful young politician. Through the Young Men's Committee, Wood found a few men in each ward who might be interested in working with him. He organized his followers in secret--holding late night meetings so that they would not have to openly announce their loyalty. When he was ready, Wood was able to move his cabal into all of the delegations of the Tammany Hall Nominating Convention of 1840.

By means of his secrecy and good organization, he was able to take the ruling sachems entirely off guard. Shouts of "Fernando for Congress!" were heard from all parts of the hall. No one knew how much support Wood had--most didn't even know who he was. But as soon as it looked like most delegations were calling for him, others jumped onto the instant bandwagon so as not to be left out. Wood, who had no more support than a strategically-placed handful, was thus able to take the convention by wild acclamation. The Tammany slate won easily, and at age 28, Wood became the youngest member of Congress.

In Washington, Fernando made a big hit with his colleagues. He was always respectful to the Democratic leadership, but was also quick and colorful in debate. Having established a good record in Congress (among other things, he obtained the appropriation to finance S. Morse's famous telegraph experiments). Wood returned to his New York shipping business and to the cultivation of his political future back home.

Politics back on Manhattan Island were wild enough to interest any man. Tammany's unity, built under Aaron Burr and Martin Van Buren, was fast crumbling. The slavery issue that would later break the Union was breaking Tammany Hall. Former President Van Buren, his son, and his protegee Samuel Tilden led the "Barnburner" faction of Tammany, opposing statehood for new, slave states, New York monopolies, and City real estate interests. The more traditional, ward-healer elements of Tammany were under

Assemblyman Mike Walsh and "Captain" Isiah Rynders, leaders of a new generation of Irish immigrants. They were generally unconcerned with issues, but were fearful of losing contact with Democrats in the South, who, of course, vigorously opposed abolitionism. This second faction was popularly referred to as the "Hunkers."

The two factions could come to no agreement or compromise. They sent competing delegations to the Democratic National Convention in Baltimore in 1848. Neither faction could carry the City on Election Day. As a result, the Whigs took both the Presidency, and the Mayoralty of New York City.

The time had come for someone who could unite the Party again. Wood, who had stayed above it all in Washington, was on good terms with everybody. His speeches were on the subject of "unity" or "the principles of the Party", never on issues that would identify him with either faction. In the next nominating convention, Wood was again able to carry the day--this time for the mayorial nod. The "Hunkers" and "Barn-burners" held separate conventions in the hall. The Hunker convention ended in an uproar as fights broke out with the placing of Fernando's name in candidacy. The Barn-burner convention nominated Wood when his army of riverfront thugs outside the hall offered them good health in the future in return for a vote for the former Congressman.

The "hunkers" deserted the Party for the "City Reform Party", established by the local business community. The Whigs ran their mayor for re-election. The "Know Nothings" ( a low-life, anti-Catholic, anti-immigrant group) also ran a candidate. Fernando was elected by a slim plurality.

The first Wood administration was a model of good administration. Bribery and corruption, frequent under the Whig mayor and Democratic City Council, was severely curtailed. The streets were cleaned; bars closed on Sunday; prostitutes were less in evidence; and Central Park was purchased. Fernando thought that his "good government" attitude would be rewarded and that the business community would halt its ceaseless opposition to him and to Tammany. He was hoping that the City would find itself in an "era of good feeling." He was mistaken.

Wood was opposed for his second term in 1856 by the new "Republican Party" and the business interests behind it. Wood became quite bitter. Facing other party opposition and not having been so benevolent in the way of patronage while in office, he had barely received the nomination for a second term. But Fernando had learned his lesson. He too "reformed."

The city government took on the grand style we have come to expect from boss politicians today. Jobs, contracts, and franchises were openly sold at City Hall. Bars again opened on Sunday. City gangsters paid protection to the police so as to allow themselves to stay in open operation. The City Council approved a \$270,000 bid on a street cleaning contract, in spite of a \$84,000 bid. Wood wanted it so much he stayed in his office until midnight so he could sign it at the earliest possible moment. Real estate was purchased from Tammany faithful at 5 times its worth, and sold to the same for 1/5th its value. The street cleaning commissioner, in charge giving out contracts, was himself a cleaning contractor.

The state legislature in Albany decided to cash in on some of the gravy. They established a "Metropolitan Police Force"

and claimed state jurisdiction over the street cleaning department. Undaunted, Wood maintained the City's municipal police force and vied to keep mayorial control over the streets.

A great tug-a-war began between Mayor Wood and Governor John King. If one police force had been bribed, with the money off the top going to higher-ups, it would protect its benefactors from the other gang of "police." Things came to a head when Wood's street cleaning commissioner died. The Governor named his man to the city post, and Wood named another. When the governor's designee arrived at City Hall to take up his office, Fernando had him thrown out by the city's municipal police.

The governor obtained a warrant for the arrest of Fernando on the charge of inciting to riot. When the sheriff refused to serve it, the captain of the Metropolitan was called in to serve, and arrest the Mayor. He too was thrown out by the mayor's police.

The Metropolitan captain sent for reinforcements, at the same time the Mayor sent for his. Within an hour, an army of street thugs and city police were waiting for the Metropolitan in City Hall Park. They tore limbs down from the trees and readied for battle. Inside the Hall, City Council was voting in the Mayor's nominee for street cleaning commissioner just as the Metro's arrived.

As the Metro's moved into the park, they were beaten back by the Mayor's police and supporters. The Mets counter-attacked but were again beaten back. The City police outflanked the Metro's and pinned them between the Hall and the mob. Beaten by tree limbs and nightsticks, the bloody Metropolitan police were saved by the arrival of the Governor-controlled state National Guard. Better armed than any of the rest, the National Guard troops circled City Hall and arrested Mayor Wood. The next day Wood was back on the job, but had lost control of the street cleaning funds to Governor King.

Things were also going badly for Wood in Tammany Hall. He had miscalculated and backed Douglas against other possible Democratic candidates for the nomination against Lincoln. In so doing, he had aligned himself with pro-slavery elements of the Tammany society. When the Civil War broke out, he was embarrassingly linked to the South. "Reformers" in the Society, calling for a return to good, decent government (led by none other than Alderman William Marcy Tweed) were gathering strength. They expelled Wood and his loyalists. Wood lost in a try for re-election.

To re-unify the party, and bring pro-Wood elements back, Wood was later nominated and returned to his old Congressional seat where again he served with distinction, away from the temptations of City Hall.

## LETTERS

Editor:

Don't try to kid us. What the name of your publication actually means in Latin is Rebus gets sick standing on the bus.

I know this because I have friends in Latvia.

(signed)

The Lone Stapler

Friends:

I understand that you plan to publish an editorial in your newsletter endorsing Carter for President. Thank you for allowing me to give the other point of view.

In 1972, by an overwhelming majority, the American people re-elected President Nixon for an anticipated, complete term of four more years. They did so because they appreciated the importance of having at least four more years to carry out Nixon's policies and programs.

His program was first to build a strong structure for world peace; to show the Communists that American is ready and able to stand up to them, but is also ready and willing to negotiate sensibly; to crack down on the welfare cheats; and to deal firmly with the criminal element that is taking over our country.

Mr. Nixon should have been given the opportunity to carry out his programs. He wasn't. The American people should have had the President they wanted. They didn't.

Instead, a cabal of New York, Boston and Washington intellectuals and newsmen set out to hound him out of the Oval Office. They seized upon a petty election campaign prank and some obviously necessary, covert operations, and harped and harped and harped on them until the most skillful President of this century was forced, his final gesture of true greatness, to leave office for the good of this country.

The American people were denied their President then, but the Constitution did at least provide that they could be guaranteed their original choice of governmental philosophy. President Nixon could, and did pick a good strong relief pitcher. That relief pitcher who could well become another great president of this century is President Gerald R. Ford. We now have a chance to continue the Nixon/Ford programs for the four more years we wanted. During the malaise of Watergate both President Nixon and the country were too distracted. We can act now.

5.

How anyone could even consider voting for a peanut farmer from Georgia is beyond me. In these days of continuing world and domestic crises, we need a man who can draw on his own wealth of federal experience, not his half-baked interpretations of the Bible.

How can anyone vote for a man who he never heard of even a year ago?

It's obvious why Carter just can't get his story straight. He is, as President Ford said several days ago, a minor leaguer.

Some idiots will vote for anyone the Democratic Party puts up. But hopefully, the people will recognize greatness when they see it.

With President Ford in the White House we can continue to build a lasting and strong peace. Peace has been achieved at long last, and it can only be preserved by strong leadership. With President Ford in office the halt to stupid, wasteful spending on foolish projects can continue so that very soon we can have a more balanced budget and an economy continuing on the upswing....

The way to go is clear -- but so is the danger. Already certain liberals have begun a smear campaign about Mr. Ford's back taxes in clear attempt to divert us voters. Let's ignore this nonsense and get moving again!

FORD FOR PRESIDENT

Very truly yours,

(signed)

Harry Blakely

Types,

Nobody will bring peace. Nobody will tax the rich. Nobody loves the poor.  
NOBODY FOR PRESIDENT!

Yip, yip,

(signed)

YIPPIE

# EDITORIAL

## CARTER FOR PRESIDENT

This publication and the society have always embraced realism as the most important tenet of any political philosophy. A realistic look at a number of issues requires us to endorse Jimmy Carter.

(Peace) It is absolutely amazing how Gerald Ford can be going about taking credit for the fact that the country is no longer at war. It is only because the Congress steadfastly refused to give in to Ford-Kissinger plan for continued military aid for the Saigon Government in Viet-Nam and for the South African backed faction in Angola that the United States is not at war today, or atleast actively involved in war in some way. If Mr. Ford had had his own way we would probably be at war now. His claiming credit for peace does not speak well for his integrity. Mr. Carter's party in Washington is the only continuing political organization that has any right to claim any of the credit.

(Crime) It is equally amazing how Mr. Ford can use the issue of rising crime to his benefit. The Nixon-Ford administration has done nothing to alleviate the problem. If anything, they have made it worse.

Pompous pronouncements from the White House and silly expenditures on police hardware are obviously not the answer. Crime is increasing because of the downturn in the economy, but more importantly, because the people have lost faith in the ability of the American law enforcement system to mete out justice fairly and certainly. We don't know what Mr. Carter can do to solve the problem, but certainly the man who pardoned Richard Nixon can do nothing.

(Amnesty) Total and immediate amnesty is the only just course of action. While Mr.

Carter falls short of the mark on this score, his proposal is far more fair and intelligent than the Ford flim-flam. The wrongfulness of the governments policy in Viet-Nam is something to be made up for by federal efforts to aid those citizens most harmed by it; those drafted against their will and those forced to flee from their homeland. The evil of Viet-Nam is clearly not something to use to cover up crony-ism in the Nixon pardon.

(Economy) The continuing decline of the American economy is the greatest indication of confusion in the Ford administration.

During the Kennedy-Johnson administrations the total increase in the consumer price index was 17.5%. For the Nixon-Ford period the total increase has been 64.2%. In only the time that Mr. Ford has been in office, short as it is, the increase has been 14.1%, almost as much as during the whole Kennedy-Johnson period.

Unemployment was reduced from 1961 to 1968 from 6.7% to 3.5%. From 1969, when Mr. Nixon took office, to the present year under Mr. Ford, unemployment has increased to 7.8%. Most of the net increase has been in Mr. Ford's abbreviated term.

The other statistics show the same bad performance; a net increase in the number of persons falling below the statistical poverty line, a slowing of industrial growth, (for all the rhetoric) increasing federal deficit budgets, increasing interest rates, etc.

Clearly the time has come to put an end to the Nixon-Ford mismanagement of the economy. The answer to the economic problems of the country is not easy, but certainly Mr. Carter can be expected to do no worse than have the administrations of the past eight years.

Mr. Ford points out that things are a bit better than they used to be, but Mr. Ford is not running against Mr. Nixon,

he is running against his own record of failure.

To be sure, the main reasons for endorsing Mr. Carter are reasons of dis-

satisfaction with Mr. Ford. But that is almost always the case when a challenger is endorsed against an incumbent.

It's time for a change and only Mr. Carter can be elected to do it.

# GRAND TOURNAMENT DIPLOMACY

1976 Dhd

Fall 1902

## TREASON!

POPE'S BROTHER, RUSSIAN PRINCE PHILIP  
McGEE, AND ITALIAN PRINCE KARL SCHUETZ  
DEFECT TO GERMANY TAKING UNITS AND  
CENTERS. TURKEY GOING FAST TO POT.

### Austria

B. Martin A Ser (S) A Gal-Rum (NSO)  
C. Doehrer A Gal (S) ITALIAN A Boh-Sil  
A Bud (S) A Gal  
F Tri-Adr

### Russia

N. Pawlak A sev-H (acc. defect. of F Bul)  
V. Tsao A Rum-Gal  
A War (S) A Rum-Gal  
P. McGee F Bot-Swe (SC) (defects to  
Germany)  
F Swe-Nwy (defects to Germany)  
I. Jeffrey F Bla (S) A Rum-Bul (NSO)  
A Ukr-Rum

### France

H. Jordan A Bur (S) A Pic-Bel  
C. Doehrer A Pic-Bel  
D. Klefn F Mid-H  
F Bre-Pic  
(no comand) A Spa-NMR

### Italy

B. Sacks A Tyr-Boh  
J. Machlr F Ion-Aeg  
F Nap-Apu  
K. Scheutz A Boh-Sil (defects to Germany)

7.11

### Germany

J. Diehl A Hol-Bel (dislodged) (accepts  
defections of Italian A  
Boh and Russian F Swe and  
F Bot)  
L. Kendter A Mun-H  
F Hel-Den  
A Kie (S) F Hel-Den

### England

J. Kador F Bel-Hol  
C. Dupuis F Nth (S) F Bel-Hol  
D. Rittel F Ska-Den  
A Yor-H

### Turkey

W. McCallum F Bul-NMR  
B. Normand A Gre (S) F Bul  
A Con-Ank  
R. Solomon A Arm-NMR

note: If the Sultan sends in replacement orders for R. Solomon he will be removed from the game to the standby list.

### Supply Center Chart

#### Austria:

Vie, Bud, Tri, Ser (4-even)

#### France:

Par, Bre, Mar, Spa, Por, Hol (6-build 1)

#### Russia:

Mos, Stp, War, Sev, Rum, Swe, Bul (5-even)

#### Italy:

Rom, Nap, Ven, Tun (4-build 1)



England:  
 Lon, Edi, Liv, Nwy, Hol (4-even)  
 Turkey:  
 Con, Ank, Smy, Gre, Bul (5-build 1)  
 Germany:  
 Ber, Mun, Kie, Nol, Den, Nwy, Stp (6-  
 remove 1)

Commentary

To you kings who have builds, please  
 consider the guys on the standby list.  
 I'd appreciate it.

Russia, France and Germany can make  
 purges in this Winter turn.

# FIRST REGULAR GAME

1976 BE

Spring 1903

**PLAGUE STRIKES BALKANS!**

<u>France</u>	A Mar-Tus
<u>Norman</u>	F Lyo (C) A Mar-Tus
	F Pic-Bel
	A <del>Mar-Tus</del> F Pic-Bel
	F Mos-Tun
<u>England</u>	F Den-Swe
<u>Rittel</u>	F Nth-Hel
	F Lon-Nth
	A Yor-H
<u>Germany</u>	F Bal-Den
<u>Diehl</u>	F Swe (S) F Bal-Den (diehlod)
	A Ruh-Kie
	A Hol (S) Del
	<u>A Bel (S) Hol</u>
<u>Italy</u>	F Rom-Tyr
<u>Kogowski</u>	F Ion-Tun
	F Eas-Ion
	A <del>Mar-Tus</del>
	F Tyo-Pie

Russia  
 B. Sergeant  
 A War-H  
 A Mos-Sev  
 A Ukr (S) A Mos-Sev  
 F Sev-Bla  
 F Ank (S) AUSTRIAN F Aeg-  
Con (NSO)  
 F Nwy (S) ENGLISH F Den-Swe

Turkey  
 R. Nelson  
 F Bul-~~Den~~ (impossible)  
 A Con-~~Bul~~ (impossible)  
 A Smy-Arn

Austria  
 D. Malmquist  
 F Aeg-NMR  
 A Rum-NMR  
 A Gal-NMR  
 A Bud-NMR  
 A Ser-NMR

Note: The vote is in. Winter builds will  
 not be combined with Spring moves. Orders  
 should be written for each and every season.

# SECOND REGULAR GAME

1976 DG

Winter 1901

France  
J. Machir

Build A Par, F Bre  
has: F Eng, A Mun, A Spa

## DRAFT RIOTS IN VIENNA, KIEL

Austria  
C. Gibson  
Build A Bud (other build  
"deffered")  
has: F Gre, A Ser, A Tri

Italy  
J. Diehl  
Build F Rom  
has: F Tun, A Ven, A Pie

Turkey  
D. Staples  
Build A Con  
has: F Bla, A Rum, A Arm

England  
B. Martin  
Build F Len  
has: F Nth, F Nwy, A Yor

Germany  
J. Harpur  
Build A Kie (impossible)  
has: A Hol, A Kie, F Bel

note: Bruce Martin has resigned from the  
game. We accept his resignation with thanks  
for the ample notife. He is replaced by;

Russia  
C. Dupuis  
Build A War  
has: A Ukr, F Swe, A Mos,  
F Sev

Mr. Ron Kelly  
Room No. 120  
225 Virginia Ave., S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20061

# THIRD REGULAR GAME

At long, long last the third, and final,  
regular Diplomacy game has been filled.  
The players are;

Thomas McNally  
2515 Hampton Road  
Rocky River, Ohio 44116

George M. Bakich  
246 N. Hawthorne Street  
N. Massapequa, N.Y. 11758

Jad Dittmar  
1235 Birch Road  
Homewood, Ill. 60430

Edward R. Vesneske, Jr.  
Edward R. Vesneske, Jr.  
2129 East Avenue  
Apartment C  
Rochester, N.Y. 14610

Jerry Rogowski  
22405 Foxcroft Street  
Woodhaven, Mich. 48183

Richard F. W. Enkler  
12 Carriage Court  
Dix Hills, N.Y. 11746

Since it has taken so long to fill this  
game, the houserule against two players  
from the same telephone code area had to  
be waved

Mark Berch  
492 Naylor Place  
Alexandria, Va. 22304

Players will please submit country prefer-  
ence list, listing choices from 1 to 7  
in decending order, by the deadline stated  
in the NOTA BENE section.

# NOTA BENE

1. **DEADLINE.** The deadline for all moves in all games, and for submission of preference lists in the Third Regular Game is

NOVEMBER 10, 1976

2. **TIME OF PUBLISHING.** For those of you who haven't figured it out yet, Rebus is published on or about the fifteenth of each month. It takes us a few days to put it together. Don't get excited if you haven't received your copy three days after the deadline.
3. **VOTES IN.** We requested the players opinions as to combining the Winter and Spring moves. The vote is negative. Make it easy for us. Don't send in two moves at once.
4. **HOUSERULE REMINDER.** Our rules require players in more than one game to use separate sheets of paper for each game. The rules also require letter sized paper.
5. **OUR ADDRESS.** Let's end all confusion. Send all orders to

Drew McGee  
100 Belmont Place  
Apartment 6-J  
Staten Island, N.Y. 10301

6. **G.T.D. STANDBYS.** The Grand Tournament Diplomacy Game standbys are the following players;

Jim LaWhon  
USS Deliver (ARS-23)  
FPO  
San Francisco, Calif. 96601

Blair Cusack  
1620 42nd Street  
Calgary, Alta,  
Canada T3C 1Z5

David Staples  
Historical Interp. Org.  
P.O. Box 651  
West Fargo, N.D. 58078

Appointment of these players in this Winter season to newly built units should be appreciated by your publisher.

7. **LAST MONTH'S ISSUE.** Players were sent results of their moves by means of a photocopied results sheet. Your publisher was married to the former Miss Karen Sue Fisher about the time of the deadline so Rebus just had to wait. Traders will receive issues 9 and 10 by means of fourth class mail. No regular issue of Rebus was published for September.

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subvention

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