

RETALIATION

August 10, 1979

#3

Entertainment for Fanatics

Back again with another episode in the continuing saga of postal Diplomacy. This time with a little something different: which country do you prefer? This is not meant to bias the play of the game, just to present a forum for people with varying viewpoints on the strengths and weaknesses of the various powers.

MY VIEWS

Following my now two issue old tradition, I will now assail you with my thoughts on the subject.

Austria- Very nerve-wracking, but lots of fun. Close to lots of centers, but viewed often as an obstacle and not a potential ally. Compact defense, but needs an ally to really break loose offensively.

England- Excellent defense, but the need for fleets is very limiting offensively. A good country if you like to sit back and watch the game develop before making your move.

France- A good country defensively, and with an ally the Frenchies can really terrorize the board. Can be bottled up leading to a fascinating guessing game, if you go in for that sort of thing..

Italy- Often overlooked, Italy is one of the strongest countries in a long game, nibbling of abit here, a bit there, until it's too late.. The Boot is usually a slow developer, however, and can be left behind by a breakout elsewhere.

Turkey- The toughest to beat, requires rare determination to totally destroy, but also tough to find allies. Despite all the defensive advantages, Turkey is a difficult country to play, as the area immediately around it is usually hotly contested. Dogged determination is necessary when playing the Turks. Always good for some excellent press releases (one way or another).

Russia- Fun. You really need to talk to everybody as Russia.. Once you get started, you're hard to stop, but there's always another front you can lose all your gains on....

Germany- My personal favorite, really requires aggressive play to go anywhere, but the sky is the limit. Practically indefensible to the East, but the exact opposite is true to the West. Central positioning is both a blessing and a curse, how it works out is up to you, but the same is true of each country.

In general, each country has an approximately equal chance of pulling off a win, as everyone knows. Some are more equal than others but the difference is insignificant, all things considered. I'd love to hear what YOU have to say about it, and if you don't want them printed, just tell me. I only want feedback, I don't care if you type it or use finger paints (but finger paints are a bit difficult to mail)....

MOVES

FIRST: SPRING 1901 AND AWAAAAY WE GO!
England (Mooney)- F EDI-NWS; F LON-NOS; A LIV-EDI
Austria (Lee)- F TRI-ALB; ~~A VIE-GAL~~; A BUD-SER; A VIE (H)
Italy (Martin)- A VEN-TYR; A ROM-APU; F NAP-ION
Turkey (Kiser)- A CON-BUL; A SMY-CON; F ANK-BLA
Russia (van Alkemade)- F STP-BOT; A WAR-LIV; A MOS-UKR; F SEV-BLA
Germany (Rollin)- F KIE-Den; A BER-KIE; A MUN-RUH
France (Arnett)- F BRE-MAO; A PAR-BUR; A MAR S PAR-BUR

Underlined moves do not succeed. Next orders are due Friday, Sept. 7, by 6:00 PM. Remember to send in your builds along with them. One player indirectly expressed interest in phoning players who have not submitted orders in time. I will make a collect call to get orders if the player requests it, and I know the number, of course. So, send me those numbers and I'll print 'em up next ish. Mine is at the end of this wonderful publication. Please note my rather obscure abbreviation system, as I use it out of habit and a need to be unique.

I still need people. Any volunteers?

ANALYSIS

Fairly standard so far, with the exception of the rather off-beat move to Livonia. Everyone seems to be keeping this one close to the chest so far, but wait until 1902, eh?

WAITING LIST

Diplomacy- Roney, Kiser, Powell
Dungeons & Dragons- Kiser, Dave Martin, Me
Third Reich- the thought had occurred to me
Sniper!- sounds like fun
Firefight- another entertaining little game
Any other suggestions? Sniper! and D & D would be my recommendations as they would translate best to a PBM situation.

IT'S NOT OVER YET!

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PRESS

Take heed! To spur interest in one of the more enjoyable aspects of postal Dippy, I'm going to try something a bit different. What else is new? The player submitting the best press wins a free game (wow) with my decision being final. Try it, you'll like it! All the news that fits....

ST. PETERSBURG- WORLDS (White Outrageous Russki. Lies Dissemination Service)- Spring 1901- The Czar's Government is deeply appreciative of all the expressions of goodwill, friendship, neutrality and/or alliance receiver in St. Pete in recent months. If all that DD (Diplomatic Drivel) had to be taken at face value, mother Russia could peaceably go to bed at night and sleep the undisturbed peace of the unjust. Ill disguised under the friendly tones of all those letters and postcards however, received from every European capital, was the expansionist fever that appears to have every Head-of-State in its grip. The Czar, therefor, regretfully had to conclude, that at least some of those nice letters may not have been sincere.

As to mother herself, she merely wants to lead her two stray daughters (Sweden and Rumania) back to her ample bozom, and has no further intent or interest in territorial aggrandizement: Siberia is a large enough backyard for her to keep her chickens. HOWEVER, should any nation or government actually try to assault, rape or just fool mother Russia, then let him be prepared for a most chilling blast from the Ice Queen. Anyone daring to dispute Russia's inalienable rights to the territories mentioned above shall have to bear the full brunt of St. Peter's wrath until either (a) he screams for mercy, or (b) he is no more. (Note: the current betting in the Crimean resort Lasnevasgorod is approx. 613:1 against anyone's screams for mercy being heeded).

ALBANIA -- Terrorists have virtually crippled the Austrian government in recent weeks forcing the retreats of govt. forces from Trieste and Vienna. "This is only a temporary situation," announced Archduke Donald Pretender to the Austrian Legacy, "we expect international aid in the near future."

BREST: The 2nd fleet pulled out today on a mission of grave importance. It's destination was not made public, but Captain Abree commented that the West Indies could be made in 12 days.

PARIS: The streets were reported to be unsafe due to an outbreak of Russian fever! An official of the Third Republic stated that no more Russian damsels would be allowed selling their skirts on the streets until all had been closely examined by André DuMaél, the Republic's official wine taster.

MORE PRESS....

May 13, 1901: From the Italian Junta to Over-Kill Europe (I-JOKE) press offices came the startling news of an invasion of Vatican City. At a press conference later in the day Pope David I was heard saying, "This invasion signals the start of a long, drawn out war that could possibly spread to the rest of the 'world!'" and that "the move by the Italians was totally unannounced and unforgiveable." The Pope was seen later that day marshalling his troops and deploying them in strategic places throughout the city. Although the official casualty reports are not in, it appears that the Italian army is giving ground under the merciless beatings of the Vatican soldiers. We'll sit back and see how things turn out! V.C.-7 Italy-0

Well, it looks like I got a fairly good turnout so far as press goes already, and I'm looking forward to a similar volume in the future... remember: the judging will be on quality - not quantity. Of course, if you don't submit, you don't win. (However, with some of those releases...no, just kidding)

P.S.- WATCH FOR VOLKERWANDERUNG.

Watch for volkerwanderung?

Anyway... watch for little 'ole me:

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