

# RUDDIGORE #2

1 July 1980

RUDDIGORE is the official bibliographic 'zine of ORChives South, the San Diego extension of the Hobby Archives, which is under the general direction of Scott Marley and in the general direction of Orange CA. ORChives South is managed, and RUDDIGORE edited & published, by the Assistant Archivist, Rod Walker, "Alcala", 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas CA 92024. This issue is being sent free to various hobby officers; anyone else who wants one may obtain it by sending me \$1.00. This is Pandemonium Publication #702.

FIRST LET ME MAKE A CORRECTION TO RUDDIGORE #1. ANYONE WHO WANTS AN ISSUE MAY OBTAIN ONE BY SENDING ME A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE. THERE IS NO OTHER CHARGE FOR THAT ISSUE, AND THE MENTION OF 50 CENTS WAS AN ERROR. I REPEAT, THE ONLY CHARGE FOR RUDDIGORE #1 IS ONE S.S.A.E.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

For many years, ever since 1963 to be exact, it has been generally believed that the first postal Diplomacy game was proposed, started, and run by John Boardman. That is not, in fact, true. The first postal Diplomacy game was proposed and started by Conrad von Metzke.

Conrad and I have known this for some time. Back in 1969, it appeared that we would be able to lay our hands on the proof, since one of the players in that game, Lewis Perry, unexpectedly resurfaced long enough to drop Conrad a note and a phone call. Lewis indicated to use that (packrat that he was) the records of the game were in his files. Yes, he was sure he had them. Yes, he would be happy to give them to us. Certainly, he would come over to Conrad's the next weekend. Unfortunately, Lewis didn't show up that weekend, and the following week decamped for Arizona. All our efforts to relocate him have been in vain.

We had already leaked to a few individuals that the actual records for Conrad's 1962 postal game were within our grasp. We pondered what to do. Finally, we decided to fake it. Instead of the actual records, we would prepare forged issues of the gamezine. If we couldn't have the real MONGO, we would have a fake MONGO. Walt Buchanan was in on the hoax, and naturally gave it full coverage as a real "find".

However, when it came down to producing the fake issues, we just never got around to it. Too much trouble. We finally admitted the hoax, and let it go at that. After all, our last chance to recover the originals had passed by.

Or had they? Now, a decade later, a new opportunity arose. I had of course diligently searched my files and records for my copies of the game materials. I'm not one to throw things out...and yet everything for the period 1961-1965 was nowhere to be found. With all the moving I did during that period, I surmised that these things were lost.

A few weeks ago I got a phone call from my mother. She and my father were cleaning out their garage (they've lived at the same address since 1956 and have accumulated much junk). Would I, she asked, please come by and pick up my stuff? What stuff? Oh, nothing much, just a box of my old school papers, and if I really didn't want them she'd throw them out. No, I said, I'll be down...and eventually I went, during the weekend of 21/22

June. Sure enough, it was a box of papers, covering my two graduate years at college, the 1962 Model United Nations which we hosted, and some other materials accumulated before I got married. One file had miscellaneous old game designs (not related to Diplomacy) and...all of the issues of Conrad's 1962 gamezine!

This issue of RUDDIGORE therefore consists of a single item. A complete reproduction of the 10 issues of MONGO. This publication of those documents should settle for all time the question of whom really invented postal Diplomacy first.

Of course, in all fairness to John Boardman, it should be noted that Conrad's earlier invention was stillborn. The game started, continued for two game-years, and then stopped. It bred no successors, spread nowhere, and existed more or less in a vacuum. John's first postal game a few months later, however, was the foundation stone of the hobby.

But Conrad von Metzke thought of it first.

A review of these issues shows how faulty our two memories were. We tried to reconstruct how things were back in '62/'63 and came up with the information printed in NUMENOR 17B (the fourth issue). It turns out not to have been very accurate. We had the number of issues approximately correct, and we did remember that the game went two full game-years. But we didn't get the players to the right countries and had a slightly wrong list of the players. Furthermore, we thought the 'zine had been done in hectograph. It turns out to have been carbon copy.

One thing that should be noted is the player named "John Southlands" in the hoax version of the game. He was in fact the late Dr. Jon Nicholas Sutherland, Professor of (Mediaeval) History at San Diego State University. Jon went to Harvard for his Doctorate in 1962 and then came back to San Diego to teach. He was still alive (he died quite young) when the hoax game was published and we decided to change his name at that time, since Jon was an individual who might not have liked to be reminded that he once did something so juvenile as play Diplomacy.

Of the other players in that first game, three (von Metzke, Ward, and Walker) went on to found postal Diplomacy 'zines within the mainstream of the hobby that descended from GRAUSTARK (COSTAGUANA, EREHWON, and MARSOVIA). Two of these (von Metzke, Walker) were later Boardman Number Custodians and two of them (Ward, Walker) were later editors of BROBDINGNAG in succession to John McCallum. Two others, Dennis Frisch and Leonard Garland, did play in some of the later postal games. The remaining two, Perry and Kelley, never played another postal game.

Given the previous hoax, I am sure there will be those who doubt the authenticity of these documents. I know of no way to satisfy the doubts of these people, although if you wish to arrange an inspection of them, I will be happy to oblige. I am understandably reluctant to send them through the mail in any way, as they are unique and irreplaceable. I will certainly bring them to the next DipCon which I attend. In the meantime, I can only assure you they are genuine.

The collection of documents covers 10 issues, 12 sheets. They are here fully reproduced. You will be able to see why we called the 'zine MONGO although the concept of a 'zine name did not exist in 1962. The originals will remain on deposit in ORChives South. I will be happy to answer any questions, but please enclose SASE with your inquiry.

C. F. von Metzke  
5327 Hilltop Drive  
San Diego 11, California  
3 October 1962

Dear Rod:

Hi there! Remember me? I'm Conrad and we used to play Diplomacy together. At leased (least?) we did until a lot of you moved away and now my Diplomacy set is sad and lonely.

I have been thinking about this problem a lot because it appears that we are not extremely likely to get back together again for a long time. I have decided that there is a solution that will allow us to play Diplomacy anyway. (Sound trumpets, bang drums.) My solution is: WE CAN PLAY DIPLOMACY THROUGH THE MAIL. Yes, that's right, through the mail.

I'm writing you now to ask if you like this idea. It's simple, although it will require eight people, not just seven. One of us (I volunteer) will be a referee. Then there will be the seven players, who will conduct all of their diplomatic talking through the mail and then, by a certain date, mail their orders to the referee (who will be unless somebody else really wants to do it.) I (the referee) will then type up all your moves and mail them back to you players - then you can start the whole foolishness over again for the next season. I originally thought about playing one of the countries myself, but that somehow doesn't seem quite fair. So that's how I came to think of having a referee - and volunteering to do it myself.

Please write soon and tell me you want to play. We will need seven of you. When I get seven "yes" letters, I'll draw countries out of a box or hat or popcorn bowl (hear that, Len?) or something. Then I'll send each of you a letter to tell you what country you are - and who the other players are - and then you can start negotiating.

I hope you will play because I think this way of playing Diplomacy will be great fun for all of us. You will have much more time to determine your moves and write them down. I propose that we make the moves about every two weeks to give you plenty of time to send letters back and forth. How does that sound?

Anxiously awaiting your reply, I remain

Yr humble & obed'nt serv't,

*Conrad*

Me

P.S. Please? Whimper, whimper.

C. F. von Metzke  
5327 Hilltop Drive  
San Diego 14, California

Dear *you*:

It's me again. I'm pleased to report that you thought playing Diplomacy by mail was as good an idea as I did. I am assigning your countries now.

AUSTRIA is Lewis Perry  
P. O. Box 8151  
Los Angeles 8, California

ENGLAND is 2nd. Lt. Rodney C. Walker  
B.O.Q.  
March A.F.B., California

FRANCE is Dennis Frisch  
3583 Lemona Ave.  
San Diego 5, California

GERMANY is Robert J. Ward  
5383 Auburg (Auburn) Dr.  
San Diego 5, California

ITALY is Charles D. Kelley  
7721 Mission Blvd., Apt. 3  
Riverside 9, California

RUSSIA is Jon Nicholas Sutherland  
c/o Dept. of History  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

and TURKEY is Leonard Garland  
4075 3rd Ave.  
San Diego 3, California

I'm your friendly referee, Conrad von Metzke - you have my address above. There will be some extra time for Spring diplomacy, so please mail your Spring 1961 orders to me by 2 November 1962 - that's two weeks from next Friday. Don't mail them to any of the other players, just to me. I'll expect to receive them here by the 5th or 6th. What I will do then is type them all out and tell you which ones worked.

Bob writes to say he doesn't like the title "referee", but he can't offer any better suggestion. We will therefore use that title unless somebody can think of something superior to it.

Dennis wants to know if the San Diego players can obtain the moves from me by telephone after I have them typed up. Unless I receive an objection from one of you who is not in San Diego, I will grant that request. For you out-of-towners - if you wish, it would help me if you sent a stamp or stamped envelope with your moves. That will help with my expenses.

There is a telexfax at school - in the Department of Languages office - which I'm going to try to use. That way I won't have to type all these cartons.

Anxiously awaiting your moves and treachery, I am, as usual,

Yr humble & obed't serv't,

*Me*

Conrad

C. F. von Metzke  
5327 Hilltop Drive  
San Diego 14, California

Dear *Conrad*:

Hear ye, hear ye, the News of the World. War has broken out in Europe and great battles are raging across the continent. At last report, during Spring 1901 the following military manœvers took place:

AUSTRIA moved Army Vienna to Trieste, Army Budapest to Serbia, Fleet Trieste to Alban  
ENGLAND moved Army Liverpool to Yorkshire, Fleet Edinburgh to the Norwegian Sea,  
Fleet London to the North Sea.  
FRANCE moved Army Paris to Burgundy, Army Marseilles to Spain, Fleet Brest to the  
Mid-Atlantic Ocean.  
GERMANY moved Army Berlin to Kiel, Army Munich to Burgundy, Fleet Kiel to Denmark.  
ITALY moved Army Rome to Venice, Army Venice to Trieste, Fleet Naples to the  
Tyrrhenian Sea.  
RUSSIA moved Army Moscow to Ukraina, Fleet St. Petersburg (south coast) to the  
Gulf of Bothnia, Fleet Sevastopol to the Black Sea, and Army  
Warsaw to Galicia.  
TURKEY moved Fleet Ankara to the Black Sea, Army Constantinople to Bulgaria,  
Army Smyrna to Armenia.

All the moves succeeded except for the three double attacks on Burgundy, the Black Sea, and Trieste. Also Army Rome to Venice did not go because Army Venice was not able to move.

Rod sends along this announcement from London: "The Prime Minister has announced that we are having some little naval manœvers. If anybody sees any ships of the Imperial Fleet about, please take no notice as they are just looking around."

I also have this mysterious letter in my mailbox. It bears no signature. "We of the planet Mongo have been carefully watching you little Earth people and we see how you are fooling around. We note that several of your silly nations appear to be at war. Italy and Russia have attacked Austria. However, Turkey has attacked Russia which would seem to indicate that the Russian pressure may be taken off the Dual Monarchy. A curious arrangement, that. We note further that while France and Germany are battling over some very worthless land, England is behaving with most remarkable neutrality. Whither England? We will be watching these events very closely and His Imperial Highness Ming the Merciless will laugh at your puny armies and feckless fleets. We of the Mongo Observatory will keep him fully informed."

Please mail your Fall 1901 orders - hum, I will mail this tomorrow - by the 23rd, which is a Friday.

And finally, I continue to remain

Yr humble & obed'nt serv't,

Conrad

C. F. von Metels  
5327 Hilltop Drive  
San Diego 14, California  
28 November 1962

#### NEWS OF THE WORLD

From Switzerland (UPI) we bring you late news of the war in Europe. The following military maneuvers have been ordered by the Great Powers during the Fall of 1901:

**AUSTRIA** ordered Army Vienna to Trieste, Army Serbia to Budapest, Fleet Albania to Greece.  
**ENGLAND** ordered Army Yorkshire to Belgium, Fleet North Sea convoys Army Yorkshire to Belgium, Fleet Norwegian Sea to Norway.  
**FRANCE** ordered Army Paris to Burgundy, Army Spain stands, Fleet Mid-Atlantic Ocean to Portugal.  
**GERMANY** ordered Fleet Denmark to Sweden, Army Kiel to Holland, Army Munich to Burgundy.  
**ITALY** ordered Army Venice to Tyrolia, Army Rome to Venice, Fleet Tyrrhonian Sea to Tunis.  
**RUSSIA** ordered Fleet Gulf of Botnia to Sweden, Army Galicia to Vienna, Army Ukraina to Rumania, Fleet Sevastopol to the Black Sea.  
**TURKEY** ordered Army Armenia to Sevastopol, Army Bulgaria to Rumania, Fleet Ankara to the Black Sea.

The following orders did not succeed: the two fleets moving to Sweden, the two armies moving to Rumania, the two armies moving to Burgundy, and the two fleets going to the Black Sea.

It would seem that everybody will get to build at least one unit. Austria may build one, England may build two, France may build two, Germany may build two, Italy may build one, Russia may build one, and Turkey may build one. At this point, nobody owns Sweden or Rumania, so there will be only 32 units on the board.

Jon Sutherland asks this question: "I fail to understand how we shall be able to submit our builds without any diplomacy, as required by the rules of the game. Are you going to forbid us to correspond? I do not believe you will be able to trust everyone to honor such a prohibition, especially since those in San Diego may simply telephone one another to discuss their builds. May I suggest that you allow the normal time interval in order that we may all have the equal advantage?" I hadn't thought of that ~~before~~. Of course you shouldn't have diplomacy before builds but I don't see how we can prevent it. Hal Peck (remember the Great Knife?) is watching this game with great interest and tells me he might try having a game by mail, too. He thinks that I should have you send your builds in at the same time as your Fall moves. I don't see how that's quite fair since you won't be able to see the final positions. I'd rather not do that. The best thing to do is to have a shorter period for the builds and ask you all to be on your honor not to have any diplomacy before you mail them - just mail them right away when you get this. I am mailing these notices tomorrow, which is Thursday. You should receive them not later than Monday the 3rd of December. I would say you should have your builds into the mail by the 5th at the latest, so I will ask you to mail them by then. San Diego people, and you two Riverside people, on your honor, now, no diplomacy!

Also from Jon: "In St. Petersburg today, His Imperial Majesty (Czar Nicholas III has issued a statement to his English cousins, as follows: It is Our sincere hope that your announcement of last Spring was sincere. If We find that there is an army in Norway later this year, We will know you for a lying hyena and react accordingly. Be warned!"

And there's more. Turn to the next sheet.

This is the next sheet.

Law Perry writes, "Hey, guys, what did I ever do to hurt you? Call off the dogs and let's talk it over. All I want is a little peace and quiet."

I have from Dennis Frisch: "The Huns will die, all die, die, die, die, die!!!"

And from Bob Ward: "In Berlin the Kaiser has expressed his great concern over the Froggy orders. Obvious, you know this means war."

Meanwhile, I am, as usual,

Yr humble & obed'nt serv't,

El Conrad

C. F. von Metzke  
5327 Hilltop Drive  
San Diego 11, California  
8 December 1962

LATE NEWS FROM THE FRONT

From the Mongo Observatory: We of the planet Mongo observe with interest the little manœverings of you silly Earth people, and report them to our sublime Emperor Ming the Merciless for his egregious amusement. We note in particular how Italy and Russia seem bent on cutting up poor old Austria - just as if Emperor Conrad had it as usual - and not Emperor Lewis - and he laughs. Now you are raising more of your clumsy armies and fleets to continue this blood bath. In particular we have seen:

AUSTRIA	Raise Army Budapest.
ENGLAND	Raise Fleet Edinburgh. Raise Army London.
FRANCE	Raise Fleet Marseilles. Raise Fleet Brest.
GERMANY	Raise Army Berlin. Raise Fleet Kiel.
ITALY	Raise Fleet Naples.
RUSSIA	Raise Army Moscow.
TURKEY	Raise Fleet Constantinople.

Ah, the smell of blood is in the air. The feel of treachery is in the back. The Emperor Ming salutes you! Be merciless.

Rod, Lewis asks me to tell you he's working on the ICJ reports for the MUN and will send them to you soon. You can forward them to whomever would like to have them. If you wish, he can send them directly to me and I will take them to Prof. Generales.

Jon writes, "Czar Nicholas is well-pleased with His English cousin. Very well, then, it is peace and friendship and ~~solidarity~~ (no, strike that last word!) However, We are not so well-peased with Our Turkish neighbor, who is a treacherous dog and will be dealt with harshly. We also admonish the so-called Emperor in Austria that he must instantly abdicate his throne and surrender to the Russo-Italian Entente. If he does so without further demur, We shall feel constrained to allow him to survive in a supply center or two, provided he shall aid the Entente against the Turkish swine."

Rod writes, "Dateline, London, 25 December 1901. In his Christmas speech to the nation, the Prime Minister today expressed his great satisfaction with the pacification of the English Netherlands. He warned the Powers that no interference with this new Crown Colony would be tolerated, and in particular he suggested that the Kaiser should look elsewhere for any further lebensraum he might feel he needs. The P.M. also expressed his continued confidence in the Anglo-French peace accords of earlier this year and reminded the French President of his sworn promise never to build another naval force in Brest. He reminded his colleague of what would happen were that oath to be violated."

Your referee (which is me) asks that you mail your Spring 1902 orders by Monday, 17 December 1962.

*Handwritten note:*  
I have just received your letter of the 11th and am very glad to hear from you. I will be sure to mail your orders by Monday, 17th. I will also be sure to let you know when I receive your orders. I will be sure to let you know when I receive your orders. I will be sure to let you know when I receive your orders.



THE MONGO GAZETTE  
5327 Hilltop Drive  
San Diego 14, California  
21 December 1962

Dateline, Earth, Spring 1902. Our observatory reports further strange doings on the quaint distant planet of Earth. We have been watching in particular the continent they call Europe, where a war has broken out using very primitive weapons and tactics. We can only say that some very peculiar things are going on and it is getting curiouser and curiouser. As of this time of year, the following military maneuvers were observed:

- AUSTRIA tried Army Budapest to Vienna, Army Trieste support Army Budapest to Vienna, Army Serbia support Army Trieste, Fleet Greece to the Ionian Sea.
- ENGLAND tried Fleet Norway to the Barents Sea, Army London to Norway, Fleet North Sea convoys Army London to Norway, Fleet Edinburgh to the Norwegian Sea, Army Belgium stands.
- FRANCE tried Fleet Brest to the Mid-Atlantic Ocean, Fleet Marseilles to the Gulf of Lyons, Army Spain to Marseilles, Fleet Portugal to Spain (south coast), Army Paris to Gascony.
- GERMANY tried Army Berlin to Prussia, Fleet Denmark to Sweden, Army Munich to Silesia, Fleet Kiel to the Baltic Sea, Army Holland to Kiel.
- ITALY tried Army Venice to Trieste, Army Tyrolia support Army Venice to Trieste, Fleet Naples to Apulia, Fleet Tunis to the Ionian Sea.
- RUSSIA tried Army Vienna support Army Venice to Trieste, Fleet Gulf of Bothnia to Sweden, Army Ukraina to Rumania, Fleet Sevastopol support Army Ukraina to Rumania, Army Moscow to Ukraina, Fleet S - we did that one already.
- TURKEY tried Fleet Ankara to the Black Sea, Fleet Constantinople support Fleet Ankara to the Black Sea, Army Armenia stands, Army Bulgaria to Rumania.

According to our telescopes, some of these maneuvers failed to succeed. To be specific, the two attacks on Sweden did not go, nor did the two attacks on the Ionian Sea. The situation of all armies in Austria remains unchanged because the support of Army Vienna was cut by the attack of Army Budapest and the support of Army Trieste was cut by the attack of Army Venice. Army Trieste was supported by Army Serbia, and so was not dislodged by the Italian attack.

Ah, now the western Powers show their true colors! Russia and Italy had better watch out. The Balkan area is such a mess nobody can tell what will happen, and we of Mongo will be interested in seeing what happens next. However, we note with glee the high level of treachery and double-dealing which has thus far been established in this war. Keep up the good work!

Bob Walker writes, "The Prime Minister has reportedly sent identically worded notes to all the Powers, which notes allegedly deplore the present armed conflict and assure the Powers England's continued (and traditional) neutrality in all such affairs. We have accordingly withdrawn all units which might appear to be in a threatening situation regarding France and Germany (except for our small expeditionary security forces in the English Netherlands, of course), and have instead thrown out a protective naval net to insure the security of the Home Islands. Naturally, no nation should be concerned by this purely defensive action. In addition, we have sent an expeditionary force to improve internal security in the Crown Protectorate of Norway. This has been made necessary by the outbreak of Russo-German hostilities in Scandinavia. We continue to affirm the centrality of Sweden and will help defend it."

Your Fall 1902 moves should be mailed by the 7th of January 1963, which is a Monday if the calendar my bank sends out is accurate. If anybody is on vacation from school and needs an extension, please let me know, but I think this will give you all plenty of time.

Greetings, Earthlings! We now bring you news of your little war, which we naturally follow with great interest. The continued Manoeverings, Ubiquitous Treachery, and Sanguine Bloodshed arouse no little amusement in our most vicarious overlord, the Emperor King, whose Mercilessness has no limit. We are pleased to say that many of you show the same characteristics, which are no doubt appropriate to the circumstances. Now, the Fall 1902 maneuvers would seem to have been as given below.

AUSTRIA commanded Army ~~Trieste~~ (oops!) Trieste to Vienna, Army Budapest supports Army Trieste to Vienna, Army Serbia support Army Bulgaria to Rumania, Fleet Greece to the Ionian Sea.

ENGLAND commanded Army Belgium to St. Petersburg, Fleets North Sea, Norwegian Sea, and Barents Sea convoy Army Belgium to St. Petersburg, Army Norway supports Fleet Denmark to Sweden.

FRANCE commanded Army Marseilles to Piedmont, Fleet Spain (south Coast) to the Western Mediterranean, Fleet Mid-Atlantic Ocean to North Africa, Fleet Gulf of Lyons to the Tyrrhenian Sea, Army Cascoy to Marseilles.

GERMANY commanded Army Kiel to Livonia, Fleet Baltic Sea convoys Army Kiel to Livonia, Fleet Denmark to Sweden, Army Prussia to Warsaw, Army Silesia supports Army Prussia to Warsaw.

ITALY commanded Army Venice to Trieste, Army Tyrolia support Army Venice to Trieste, Fleet Apulia to Naples, Fleet Tunis to the Tyrrhenian Sea.

RUSSIA commanded Army Vienna to Budapest, Army Rumania supports Army Vienna to Budapest, Army Ukraina supports Fleet Sevastopol, Fleet Sevastopol supports Army Rumania.

TURKEY commanded Army Armenia to Sevastopol, Fleet Black Sea supports Army Armenia to Sevastopol, Army Bulgaria to Rumania, Fleet Constantinople to the Aegean Sea.

All of Austria's moves succeeded. All of England's moves succeeded. All of France's and Italy's moves succeeded except for the attacks on the Tyrrhenian Sea. Russia's moves mostly failed, except that the support of Army Ukraina is not cut. All of Turkey's ordered moves succeeded except Army Armenia to Sevastopol, which does not go. There are two retreats necessary: Russia's armies in Vienna and Rumania gotta go. Luckily, they can't retreat to any supply centers. No, I don't mean that. I mean that it would be much more complicated in this game if they could. As it is, poor Jon is almost wiped out.

I am going to ask Jon to send his retreats with his removals (I am going to assume that both of these dislodged units will probably be removed.) If anybody objects to this procedure, let me know. If that is the case, I will announce Jon's retreats first and then take the builds at a later date. Again, there is not supposed to be any diplomacy during this period, just as during 1901.

Based on the positions, the builds and removals are: Austria stays even, England may build one, France stays even, Germany may build two (wowee!), Italy may build one, Russia must remove three (ouch!), and Turkey may build one. All of the supply centers are now owned, so we should have 34 units on the board next time.

Red Walker writes, "The Prime Minister begs the Tsar to recall a certain game at Hal Peck's house, during which certain sworn and solemn oaths were exchanged and instantly broken by a certain party. Revenge is sweet."

There is more on the Next Page.

THIS IS THE NEXT PAGE. Otherwise known as Page Two. Did you wait to turn it until you were told to do so?

Nobody else who sent moves sent anything for me to type in here. I have some interesting comments from some of you on the game and on the diplomacy which I will save - and send out after it is all finished. I calculate that unless this goes on for many, many game years, we should be through before Christmas. Hal says that's insupportably long for a game and he probably won't have a postal-type game after all. It seems all right (the length) to me - and I hope we'll have another one after this. Perhaps another person should be referee next time so I can play. I have dibs on Austria - is that all right?

You will notice I'm still doing carbons instead of thermofax. With the thin paper I can get seven pretty good copies. The old biddy who occupies the Language office is always watching the machines, so I could never run off more than a copy or two. I typed ~~runners~~ funny because I typed an extra "n" and liked that so I typed a few more. The last carbons seem a little fuzzy, but readable. I don't mind publishing your comments and announcements - but please keep them short so I won't have to type more than two pages at any one time.

I will take these to the Post Office tomorrow so they'll get out right away. Please have your 1902 builds and removals and retreats (not necessarily in that order) in the mail by next Thursday, the 17th.

And now, from

M O N G O

Conrad brings you the War!

These are the 1902 builds and things. This is dated 21 January 1963.

ENGLAND raises Army Edinburgh.

GERMANY raises Army Berlin and Army Munich.

ITALY raises Army Rome.

RUSSIA did nothing. I waited all weekend to hear from Jon and I have to assume he didn't mail anything. The two armies therefore were not ordered to retreat and are taken off the board. That leaves one removal to make. The only unit outside of Russia's homeland is Fleet Gulf of Bothnia, so it comes off.

TURKEY raises Fleet Smyrna.

Nobody sent any pronouncements or bulletins this time. Lewis Perry says he is moving and requests a slight delay before he has to send in moves for Spring 1903. OK, good. Duke Kelley is also moving, from his apartment in Riverside to the base. Write him at: 2nd.Lt. Charles D. Kelley

B.O.M.

March A.F.B., California

Lewis Perry's address stays the same.

Sorry about the typing. I just washed my hands and can't do a thing with 'em.

I will now ask that you mail your Spring 1903 orders by Monday, 4 February 1963. I hope that will be enough time.

C. F. von Metake  
5327 Hilltop Drive  
San Diego 14, California  
18 February 1963

M O N G O

wants to know,

WHERE ARE YOU???

It's been two weeks since Spring 1903 orders should have been mailed. I have orders from Dennis, Rod, Bob, and Len. Jon, Duke, and Lewis seem not to have sent anything.

I am going to call once more for your moves. I will wait ten days and then send out the moves I have, so if your moves are not in by then your units will stand unordered. Please write your orders and get them in now because if almost half the players don't send in any, the game will get really skewed.

That means I'll send out the Spring 1903 moves on Thursday, 28 February 1963. Be sure to send in your moves by then!

Pretty please, beg, plead, whimper.

C. F. von Metzke  
5327 Hilltop Drive  
San Diego 14, California  
4 March 1963

M O N G O

gives up!

I regret to tell you all that we can't play this game further right now. Duke and Rod have both written to say that they have new jobs in the March A.F.B. Personnel Office which take much more of their time than the old ones. They don't feel they can keep up with the correspondence needed for the game. Jon Sutherland has also written to tell me that his classes are demanding more and more of his time and "I can't be playing games, too." Well, it's Harvard - we all understand. Nobody has heard from Lewis Perry - he seems to have dropped out of sight.

I am going to delay this game for a while, then. I will write you all again this summer to see if you want to restart the game then, or perhaps play it out in person if we will all be in San Diego, or perhaps start a new game if we can find enough people. Jon says he may be back in San Diego for the summer, and Duke and Rod are just up in Riverside, which is not a long drive.

Let me say that I have enjoyed this brief game by mail, even though it was a lot of typing. I'm sorry we can't continue it right now. Until later, I still remain,

Yr humble & obed't serv't,

  
Conrad