

# Rune- stone

games: 1976CC, 1975HO,  
1974B, 1975AE,  
1975AZ

July 19  
# 127  
IDA, CDGO

This is the "international edition" of RUNESTONE, a publication devoted to postal games of Diplomacy and its variants. Subscriptions cost 1¢/page + postage; gamefees are \$2.00 (\$1.50 to IDA members) plus subscription or trade. French-language games of regular Dip are available in BATOCHÉ for the same price; no-frills regular Dip in SANDWICH for 20¢/season + postage.

Richard Kovalcik is confirmed for the new seven-nations game; one slot is open, for someone not living in Canada, U.S., Australia, Spain, Brazil or Rhodesia.

Let's start this issue with a game completion:

## Game (1976CC), Winter 1906: ARMISTICE DECLARED!

The failure of the draw vote last week was due solely to Michael McLeod's missed vote. Michael has since recorded a vote in favour, and Ken and Gordon have indicated that their attitude hasn't changed. This game therefore ends as a 2-way draw between England and Germany. Here, for your edification, are the stats:

Publication: RUNESTONE. GM: John Leeder. Players: Aus- Malcolm Clark (dro W04), Jim Lawson (out W06); Eng- Michael McLeod (drew W06); Fra- Walt Armstrong (out W05); Ger- Ken Wiechula (drew W06); Ita- Mitchell McCormick; Rus- Doug Burrell (res F03), Blair Cusack; Tur- Gordon Johansen.

	01	02	03	04	05	06	
Aus	5	6*	4	2	1	-	
Eng	5	6	7	8	8	7	drew
Fra	4	4	3	1	-		
Ger	5	6	8	11	13	15	drew
Ita	5	3	5*	4	4	3	
Rus	6	5	3	3	3	3*	
Tur	4	3	4	5	5	6	

Local game. Drawn by player vote.

(Note that the Russian final total is corrected from last issue.)

I hope players will give us their analyses of the game; I'll do some too. I was a tiny bit disappointed in the draw, as I felt this was an "incomplete" game

which Ken could have gone on to win; however, I'm sure Ken had his reasons for preferring the draw.

Germany exploited early anti-Russian and anti-French movements to advantage while allying with England, his strong neighbour; in this sense, choice of allies had an important part in his strategy. The absence of any real coalition in the Balkans kept Germany's southern flank safe until he was ready to move in that direction; at that point, a change of government in Russia gave him the chance to form an alliance there, and he handled his puppet competently.

English strategy, as in any Anglo-German alliance, was pretty clear-cut: take the outside (France, northern Russia) while Germany clears the centre. It worked out, and England was continuing his expansion into the Mediterranean by game end.

Turkey bashed away persistently at Russia but couldn't make any real headway because of the absence of strong support from Austria. Both Austria and Italy seemed to lack policy direction and took no strong role in the overall picture.

I'd be interested in hearing German and English views of the battling

for Paris, Sweden, etc., in the final stages. For allies, you guys sure attacked each other a lot!

As always, consistency in getting orders in was a major factor. It seems that in local games, absence of NMRs is almost a guarantee of a strong finish!

I can't see starting a regular local game before September. However, someone expressed interest in doing a variant. Anyone care for a local game of the four-player version of Gesta Danorum? Should be relatively short, with lots of action. Let me know if you're interested.

ANIRISHJOKEHEARDFROMTOMMYMAKEMATTHEWINNIPEGFOLKFESTIVAL:WHYDIDTHEIRISHWOMANTAKI

To Players: (Repeat from last two issues)-All games were delayed one week by the air strike in Canada.

-All games with overseas players will now operate on 5-week deadlines; all games with U.S. players will run on 4-week deadlines.

-I no longer am phoning players collect when their orders are missing.

TWO BIRTH CONTROL PILLS? TO BE SURE, TO BE SURE. AND ANOTHER SENTINEL BY PAUL WILLEY: DID YOU HEAR

Game 1975HO, Spring 1904: TURKS AND AUSTRIANS SWARM NORTH AND WEST; FRANCE MOVES INTO LINE; GERMANS PASSIVE; RUSSIAN RESISTANCE INEFFECTUAL! CAN THE ALLIANCE BE STOPPED?

Austria (Larry Moran): a gal-war; a bud-rum; f gre s Tur f aeg-ion; a vie-boh; a tri-tyr, s by a ven.

England (Åke Jonsson): f ska-nwy, s by f bar.

France (Rick Solomon): f wes-tyr; f eng-mid; f iri h; a bel-bur; a mar-pie; a wal-lpl.

Germany (Joseph Vanden Borre): a lon h, s by f nth; f den h; a sil h; a hol h; a nun h.

Italy (Dave Pengelly): a pie-tus; f nap-rom; f tun-ion.

Russia (Richard Walkerdine): a nwy-fin; f stonc-nwy, s by f swe; a war-ukr; a mos s a war-ukr (retreats to Iva).

Turkey (Roland Prévot): f bla-con; f ion-nap, s by f apu; f aeg-ion; a ukr-mos, s by a sev.

COA: Roland Prévot, 19420 Perpezac Le Noir, France. We thank Doug Ronson and Paul Willey for standby orders.

Fall 1904 orders (with retreats and Winter projections) are due Monday, August 23, 10:30 AM MDT.

Berlin: It's so warm here, I think we're gonna die! All our armies are melting!

Hambourg: Send us beer, beer....

Moose Factory: If I have space, I'll print more from Ed Summers on Brazil; if not, it'll await the next season of this game.

ABOUTTHEIRISHGHOST?ITCLIMBEDOVERTHEWALLOFTHECEMETRY.ANDSOMEMETRICJOKESFROMDAVE

Game 1974B, Fall 1909 reprint: (Substitute GM Phillip Chester)

Austria (Roy Norton): a pie-mar; f wes-tun, s by f tyr & f ion; a boh h; a tyr s a boh; a vie-bud; a bud-rum; a set s f bul; f bulsc h.

England (Peter Walker): a lon-wal.

France (Jelle Terpstra): a lpl-edi; a bel-lon; f tun h; f mid-wes; f spasc-lyo; a mar-spa; a gas-mar.

Germany (Harry Drews): a gal-boh, s by a mun & a sil; a ank-con; a war-gal;  
 f eng-mid; a yor s Fre a bel-lon; f nth c Fre a bel-lon;  
 a ber s a mun; a naf s Fre f tun.

Russia (Randolph Smyth): a smy h; f bla s Tur f con-bulsc; a rum-ser.

Turkey (John Gross): f con-aeg.

The Austrian a boh and French f tun are annihilated.

- Centres: Austria: home, ser, gre, bul, ~~any~~, ven, rom, tun, nap (10) Build 1  
 England: ~~lon~~ (0) Remove 1, eliminated.  
 France: home, lpl, por, spa, lon, edi, ~~any~~ (8) Build 1.  
 Germany: home, den, swe, nwy, bel, hol, ~~any~~, war, mos, ank, con (12)  
 Build 2.  
 Russia: stp, sev, rum, smy (4) Build 1.  
 Turkey: ~~any~~ (0) Remove 1, eliminated.

Winter 1909/Spring 1910 were printed in RUNESTONE #124.

Fall 1910: AUSTRIAN DIPLOMATS MAKE LAST TRY AT ARMISTICE AS NOOSE TIGHTENS!

Austria (Roy Norton): f tun-tyr, s by f ion & f nap; a tus-rom; f gre-bulsc;  
 a tri s a ser; a ser s a bud; a bud s a vie; a vie s a tyr;  
 a tyr s a vie.

France (Jelle Terpstra): f tyr-ion (annihilated); f pie-tus, s by f lyo;  
 a mar-pie; a gas h; f mid-wes; a lon h; a edi h.

Germany (Harry Drews): a mun-tyr, s by a boh; f wes-tun, s by a naf;  
a bul-ser; a gal-bud; a sil-war; a ber-sil; a hol h; f nth-nwy.

Russia (Randolph Smyth): a rum s Ger a bul-ser; f bla-con; f sev-bla;  
 a smy-syr.

- Centres: Austria: home, ser, gre, ~~any~~, ven, rom, nap, ~~any~~ (8) Remove 2.  
 France: home, edi, lpl, lon, por, spa (8) Build 1.  
 Germany: home, den, swe, nwy, war, mos, bel, hol, ank, ~~any~~, bul,  
tun (13) Build 3.  
 Russia: stp, sev, rum, smy, con (5) Build 1.

Guess we play Winter only, as two Austrian removals would make conditionals pretty complicated. See also the draw proposal outlined below, and vote with your orders, due Monday, August 9. And I see we'll need a substitute GM again, so let's once more make it Philip Chester, 407 24th St. E, Prince Albert, Sask. S6V 1R9. Thanks, Philip!

Vienna: Let me take this opportunity to suggest a two-way draw between Germany and France, with the remaining countries (Russia and myself) to place according to the number of respective units at the end of this year. This is in response to a letter from Germany requesting my assent to a quick end to this game. If this is unacceptable, then I am perfectly prepared to play until my remaining units have been lost, the worst possible position for me at the end of the game being fourth in any case.

PENGELLY: WHAT IS A THOUSANDTH OF A TENTH? A MILLITENT. WHAT IS A TENTH OF A GRATE? A DECIGRATE. A

Game 1975AE can wait until the top of the next page while I try and figure out what to use for a spacefiller. Just thought I'd mention that I seem to be getting further jobs by default, one of them being the variants column in DIPLOMACY WORLD which I'll start come September. I would, however, be perfectly prepared to step down in favour of some qualified person with more time than I to do a proper job. Voluntary?

Game 1975AE, Fall 1907: MEDITERRANEAN CLOGGED WITH FLEETS! GERMAN HOPES DIM!

A request for Summer only was not granted, since everyone seemed to be handling the conditionals OK and it seemed an unnecessary slowdown of the game.

Austria (Cal White): a gal-war.  
 England (Mike Stiege): (Retreated f kie-hel); a lon-hol, c by f nth, s by f hel; f ska-den; f nwy-swe.  
 France (Doug Willsie): (Retreated a mun-sil); a bel s Eng a lon-hol; a sil-mun; a ber-kie; f tyr s Ita f tun-ion; f eng s a bel; f nar h.  
 Germany (Gord Bartman): a kie-ber, s by a mun; f hol-bel, s by a ruh  
 Italy (Tony Albano): (Retreated f ion-tun, a gal-vie); f tun-ion, s by f nap & f apu; a ser-tri, s by a bud & f adr; a vie s a.bud.  
 Turkey (Mike Dominskyj): a ukr-gal; a rum s Aus a gal-bud (nso); f ion-alb; a alb-ser, s by a bul; f bla s a rum; f aeg-ion, s by f gre.

The German f hol is annihilated. Centres:

Austria: war (1) No change.  
 England: home, nwy, swe, den, hol, ~~kie~~ (7) Build 2.  
 France: home, por, spa, bel, ~~mun~~, ber (7) Build 1.  
 Germany: ~~kie~~, ~~ber~~, ~~mun~~, ~~hol~~, kie, mun (2) Remove 1.  
 Italy: home, tun, vie, tri, bud (7) No change.  
 Turkey: home, gre, ser, bul, rum, sev, nos (9) Build 1.

The builds are all behind the lines and the German removal isn't overly complicated, so let's try combined Winter/Spring orders. They're due Monday, Aug. 9, at 10:30 AM MDT, and once more the substitute GM will be Blair Cussack, 1620 42nd St. SW, Calgary, Alta. T3C 1Z5. Merci, Blair.

Mike Dominskyj is back at his Toronto address for the rest of the summer.

London: (In the War Room) "Silence!!, Duke Michael, shrieked His Highness.  
 "But, but... the Germans offered an alliance of tremendous possibilities."  
 "Fool!!"  
 "They've proven their unreliability. We offered to share Europe with the Kaiser."  
 "Really, Duke, share a few minutes silence for my greedy little cousin."

Brussels: The loyal citizens of Brussels cheered heartily as the red-footed French Liberation Army passed in review on its way to Holland. The French general, in an address given to the good citizens, thanked them for their warm welcome and for patiently enduring the rape, torture and sadistic treatment received at the hands of the Germans while waiting for liberation. As he said, "We would have been here sooner, but there was an unusually large grape harvest this year."

ETHEAUSTRALIANS GOING METRIC TOO DAVE? IN CANADA WE HAVE METRIC WEATHER FORECASTS ON TV AND

Game 1975AZ, Winter 1905: KIND-HEARTED GM SAVES MANY FROM GRIEF BY ESCHEWING SPRING!

England (Larry Doble?): NRR. GM removed f swe; has f hel, f nth, a edi, a wal, f eng (5).  
 France (Ted Crowley): Retreated f eng-mid; built f bre, a par; also has f nwy, f nat, a hol, a bel, a ruh, a mun, f tun (10).  
 Germany (Ron Kelly): Built a ber.  
 Italy (Bob Bawtinhimer?): NBR! Has a tyr, a tri, a ser, a rum, f bulsc, f aeg, f ion, f nap (8, 1 short).  
 Russia (Rod Zaccalini): Has f fin, a ber, a sil, a gal, a vie, a bud (6).

Turkey (Doug Hayward): Has a sev, f bla, f arm (3).

Spring 1906 orders are due Tuesday, August 17 at 10:30 AM MDT. If you haven't sent 'em in, do it! Remember, I'll be away all week before; I don't know yet what time I get back on Monday. Better not phone in orders.

Standbys: For England: Doug Beyerlein, 240 Hawthorne, Apt. F, Palo Alto, CA 94301, USA. For Italy: Mike Stiege, 168 Donnelly Dr., Port Credit, Ont., Canada L5G 2M4. Other addresses are in #123.

Pressies? Nope.

"BISYSTEMIC" HIGHWAYSIGNSI SUPPOSE ONE OF THESE DAYS WE' LL WAKE UP AND DISCOVER THAT ALL THE

Plans for my next trip: I fly to Sudbury, Ontario, on Saturday, August 7, meet my canoe tripping partners there Sunday morning to take the train to Biscotasing, canoe for eight days on a large circle trip via Indian Lake and Wozhabong Lake, returning to Sudbury by train on Sunday, August 15, and then return to Calgary on Monday, August 16. I will be out of reach of mail, phones and newspapers for the wilderness portion of the trip, and voluntarily so the rest of the time.

I guess I should complete this issue (although I begrudge my time away from the Olympics telecast), so here's some of the latest Brazilian report from Ed Summers:

"The poorest Brazilians go, for their summer vacations, to Argentina; the middle class go to Europe on organized tours; the rich go to Salvador." So say the Brazilians. I won't bother to explain the logic involved in this statement, but the reference to Salvador is probably correct - it's the most expensive place I've ever lived in. Nevertheless, it's quite a city, full of character and reeking with tradition and open drains. It was founded by the Portugese in the sixteenth century, at which time the United States was still a happy British colony with an English-speaking population. Salvador was, in fact, the original capital of Brazil.

There is a strong African presence in the State of Bahia, and much of it is concentrated in Salvador. This influence goes back to the slave days, when all the black manpower was imported via the north-east coast of the country. The African influence is particularly noticeable in Brazil's national music, the samba - it's also present in the food - Brazil's national dish is "feijoada", (a sort of bean and meat stew eaten with rice) which, to my taste, is highly vomitable; and it's markedly present in the local religion known as "Candomblé". Tourists are permitted to watch a Candomblé ceremony and, these days, these are laid on specifically for the tourists. You've got to be in the right "circle" to see the real thing. In fact, there are a number of different versions of the rituals, depending on which original African nation is involved, but they are all a strange mixture of "magic" and the Catholic faith. The "official" Candomblé ceremonies are controlled by the police and usually start early in the morning with a "matança" (sacrifice) of animals as homage to the "orixás" (gods or saints); the public aren't allowed to witness this. The rest of the ritual takes place in the evening, with magic, hymns, people in trances, and all that sort of thing - much like a Masonic meeting, I s'pose you might say. I was telling one of the local Candomblé priests that, of course, the so-called "magic" is a lot of stupid nonsense which can only survive in an ignorant, superstitious society, and it is worthy of note that he was unable to argue the point.

I must stop now, John, because my skin is getting dry again, and this lily-pad isn't very comfortable.

((Sorry about the misspellings, Ed. I'm getting used to your handwriting by now...))

Ignore all of this - Ken changed his vote back to "Yes"!

Game 1976CC: This is what turns gamesmasters gray! At the last minute, Ken Wiechula phoned in to withdraw his consent for the draw. We therefore do not have a voted concession, we have a completely wasted page of typing (and if you think I'm going back to redo it, you're crazy), and we have an incredible cockup. I've been unable to contact a couple of the players to whom I had already said that there was no need to submit orders because the draw had gone through, and I will probably be unable to do so tomorrow because of a hectic day and evening. The only course open to me, then, is to delay this game another week. Winter 1906/Spring 1907 orders are then due next Monday, July 26 at 7:30 PM MDT.

In the meantime, we have a different proposal for an English-German draw. I'd better call for a vote on it, just in case the unexpected occurs.

MILEAGESIGNSHAVEBEENTAKENAWAYANDONLYTHEMETRICONESARELEFTSOWE'LLHAVETOFINALLYSET

Ed Summers' letter also asked me how I GM games, what setup I use and so on. Here's how it works: I have each game permanently set up on a mini-board, which is a conference map pasted to a couple of thicknesses of corrugated cardboard, with coloured thumbtacks used for units (a dot of silver model paint indicates fleets.) I also have a Diplomacy board constantly set up. To do an individual game, I set up the initial position on the full-size set, work out the adjudications from that (underlining failed orders on the master sheet), then type it up. I then use the typed version on the mini-board and double-check the mini-board against the fullsize one.

I therefore not only have each game's position constantly set up, but I have a double-check for accuracy when I do the game. This virtually eliminates adjudication errors (I can't remember one in 3½ years) although I still manage to make plenty of errors in typing, listing of units, listing of supply centres, listing of retreat options, and so on.

Ed's description of his own setup is worth printing:

"I have never actually purchased a game of Diplomacy. For face-to-face games, I have made a dining-table-size map with wooden pieces. Unfortunately, although I had the original cartridge paper backed with linen, I couldn't find anywhere (in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where I was at the time) capable of providing a plasticised coating to protect my work of art, and on two occasions I have had mugs of beer upset over the North Atlantic area, so Iceland now has very little topsoil remaining, and the sea looks rather stormy in that area.

"For the purposes of games by correspondence, I've stuck an old conference map up on a 'tin' tray and chopped up some magnetic plastic sheet to make tiny pieces, so that the fighting units will stay in place and I can sling the whole lot in a drawer between moves."

I guess a person has to be resourceful to survive in the tropics, right?

To answer other questions: The listing of player addresses has only players active in current games, and doesn't include waiting lists. Also, house-rules will be sent when the game starts, as well as player addresses and virtually everything else you need to know.

CHIMO!

RUNESTONE,  
John Leeder,  
208 Haysboro Cr. SW,  
Calgary, Alta.,  
Canada T2V 3G3

First Class Mail

Sub credit: \_\_\_ See page \_\_\_, please.