

Well, what is it this time? No big excuses for a small issue. Could it be my mother-in-law's visit? Working on the house? Ten hours of Olympic coverage every day? The slow spell that MU dropped on me? Anyway, here it is. Be thankful.

Game 1975AS, Fall 1906: (substitute GM Conrad von Metzke)

- England (Steve Tresco): f pic-bre, s by f eng; f naf-mid, s by f spasc; f por s f spasc; f stpnc h.
- France (Bob Bawtinhimer): (Retreated f spasc-mar); a bre h; a gas & f mar s Ita f wes-spasc.
- Germany (Joel Klein): a tyr h; a ber h; f bal-lvn, s by a pru; a bud-rum; a boh-gal, s by a sil & a vie; f swe-bot.
- Italy (Ron Kelly): a tri-ven; a ser s Ger a bud-rum; f wes-spasc; f gre-ion; f aeg-con, s by f bulsc.
- Russia (Blair Cusack): a ukr s a war; a rum-bul, s by a con; f eas-aeg; f lvn-stpsc, s by a mos; a war stares in the face of utter demolition by the indestructible German war machine.
- Turkey (Bryan Ronald): f tun h.

Retreats: English f stpnc to bar, nwy or disband; Russian a rum to sev or disband; English f spasc to lyo or disband; French a bre to par or disband.

- Centres: England: home, bel, bre, por, ~~stp~~, nwy? (6 or 7, depending on retreat.) Build 2, 1 or 0 depending on retreats.
- France: par, mar, ~~spa~~ (2) Remove 1 (or if a bre disbands, no change)
- Germany: home, hol, den, nwy?, swe, vie, bud, rum (9 or 10, depending on English retreat). Build 1 or no change.
- Italy: home, tri, gre, bul, ser, spa (8) Build 2.
- Russia: war, mos, sev, stp, ~~rum~~, ~~ser~~, ank, con, smy (7) Remove 1 or no change, depending on retreat.
- Turkey: tun (1) No change.

London to Rome: The fun-loving people of the British Empire, who invented the parliamentary system of government, free enterprise, motherhood, and all that, wish to inform the people of Rome that at this time the English wish for peace and non-aggression; and the English would accept assistance against the filthy French.

Moscow: The Irish Czar upon the Russian throne was in desperate moods the last few weeks over the fate of the Russian people. Anxious to avoid needless bloodshed, he has met with heads of state to discuss the possibility of capitulation. Russian ambassadors have despaired over the fatalistic and apathetic attitudes paramount in Europe. The governments of Europe seem ready to accept the German domination which has to this point subjugated Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, and half of her former historical ally, the Hapsburg Empire. The Czar was appalled at the disinterest and ready acceptance of the complete shattering of the balance of power in Europe.

London, via St. Petersburg: There have been ridiculous rumours circulating which claim that English secret agents halped sneak the Russian royal family out of St. Petersburg, to make the conquest of Russia easier.

Sevastopol: Four more members of the German Intelligence Agency (GIA) were apprehended and await trial for conspiracy in the assassination of Czar Cusack's uncle, Nicholas, two years ago. This brings the total of agents apprehended to sixteen.

Belfast: The English consulate was rocked by three bomb blasts. While the

strators wielding placards calling for an end to English aggression against Russia stormed files of police outside the building guarding unpopular British dignitaries. The IRA met with officials of Protestant underground forces in Londonderry, rumours have it, to discuss a coalition of forces against British representatives on the island. They fear British troop movements into the area soon.

Washington: The Russian ambassador, Valeri Pravdan, entered into discussions with the President of the United States, Teddy Roosevelt, regarding the deteriorating situation in Europe in the light of successful German military movements into the Russian provinces of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. The ambassador arrived after unsuccessful attempts to encourage Canadian participation in a conference of European Heads of State to discuss a cessation of hostilities in Europe. It is suspected that Russian foreign ministers will point to the historical closeness of the nations as regards the purchase of Alaska just forty years ago, and the American influence in bringing peace to Asia in the conflagration of 1903-4.

Tokyo: Japanese attempts to come to peaceful terms regarding the settlement of the Korean question have come to a standstill after the refusal to attend the conference on the part of Chinese representatives. Russian and American delegations are reportedly uncertain of the Commonwealth countries' threatened boycott of the Phillipine Peace Conference if France is not forced to relinquish its hold upon Indochina.

Winter 1906: RUSSIAN DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS FALL SHORT! ENGLAND GIRDS FOR ITALY!

England: Retreated f stpnc-nwy, f spasc-lyo; built a lon. (Treso's COA on page 3.)
France: NRR! a bre disbands.
Germany: No change.
Italy: Built f rom, f nap. (GM John Leeder, again)
Russia: Disbanded a rum, built f sev.
Turkey: No change.

Spring 1907 orders are due, to me, Monday, August 23, 10:30 AM MDT. This game, like all those involving U.S. players has switched to 4-week deadlines. Conrad informs me that Ron Kelly's ZIP code is 20061; I missed a change about 2 years ago.

Joel Klein's address is now Apt. 507-1, Englehart Hall, 1915 Maple St., Evanston, IL 60201, USA.

Standby for France: Marny Willsie, RR#1, Limehouse, Ont., Canada LOP 1HO. I do thank Conrad for his sterling GMing performance, his first in 2 years, done from memory, and flawless at that. Murky pukeup.

Berlin: The German government applauds the talents of the Russian press service. Their latest effort (dateline Moscow) indicated a talent for understatement. Or rather non-statement. We thought that the other powers might appreciate a less convoluted form: (" " means the original, followed by periods and the German interpretation):

1. "Anxious to avoid needless bloodshed".... "(ours)"
2. "Russian ambassadors have despaired over the fatalistic and apathetic attitudes paramount in Europe" "Why don't these guys believe me after I've attacked them? After all, I didn't do it more than once to any of them."
3. "The governments of Europe seem ready to accept the German domination... the Habsburg Empire" "They can't actually think that I would want all those centres! Boy, what little faith! I can't even get to Holland."

4. "The Czar was appalled... complete shattering of the balance of power in Europe." "Not only won't these other guys go along, but my friend Joel doesn't even trust me. Why do these people hold me accountable from game year to game year?"

We hope this interpretation will answer some questions.

Tunis: As the Turkish garrison sadly waved good-bye to the English fleet, the Sultan was heard to observe, "Perhaps we should open diplomatic channels with Italy. After all, without English tea, we'll have nothing to drink. Even Italian wine is better than dying of thirst."

(THESEARERIPPEDOFFFROM1901&ALLTHAT):DIDYOUHEARABOUTTHEUKRANIANGRANDMOTHERWHOWEN

Game 1975M, Fall 1906: SMALL POWERS TAKE NO ACTIVE PART IN CONFLICT! ENGLAND, TURKEY PREPARE TO LOVE INTO MAIN THEATRE!

Austria (Brian Johnston): NMR! a ser h.

England (Bob Normand): f eng-mid; f mid-spanc, s by f gas & a mar; f naf-wes; a bur s a mar.

France (Mike Dominskyj): NLR! f por h; a spa h (annihilated).

Germany (Cal White): a fin-stp, s by f nwy; a sil-war, s by a pru; a pie-tus; a boh-vie, s by a tyr; a mun-boh.

Italy (Blair Cusack): (Disbanded f eas); a ven-tus; a bud-vie, s by a tri; f wes-tun; a war s Tur a rum-gal (annihilated); f tyr-lyo.

Russia (Larry Doble): NMR! a mos h; a lva h; a stp h (annihilated).

Turkey (Steve Tresco): f eas-ion; f gre-alb; f aeg-gre; f con-bulsc; a sev h; a rum-gal, s by a ukr.

Centres: Austria: ser (1) No change.

England: home, bel, bre, par, mar, spa (8) Build 2.

France: ~~spa~~, por (1) No change.

Germany: home, hol, den, swe, nwy, stp, war, ~~war~~ (9) Build 1.

Italy: home, tun, vie, tri, bud (7) Build 2.

Russia: ~~stp~~, ~~war~~, mos (1) Remove 1.

Turkey: home, bul, gre, rum, sev (7) No change.

Winter 1906/Spring 1907 orders are due Tuesday, August 17 at 10:30 AM EDT. Remember, I'll be away the entire previous week, including Monday.

Standbys: for Austria: Robert Acheson, c/o Echo Bay Lines, Port Radium, N.W.T. XOE OXO; for France: Lyle Marshall, 57 Mericourt Rd., #204, Hamilton, Ont. L8S 2N5; for Russia: James Hymas, 250 Glen Manor Dr. W, Toronto, Ont. M4E 2Y1. Other addresses are in #123, except that Steve Tresco is now at 56 Knowles Cres., Regina, Sask, S4S 4P1.

Yeah, I know the standbys are all for minuscule positions, one of which will be destroyed unless an NMR or something occurs. That might happen. I call standbys for all positions, regardless of their size.

Berlin: Give me liberty or give me Warsaw..., St. Pete's, Vienna, Trieste, etc.

Moose Factory: Oops, almost overlooked a request for a 7-way draw. Vote S.V.P.

London (HP): The British Prime Minister, the Hon. Sir Bobby de Tipstaff, announced that the warlike acts of the Austrian military clique were an intolerable affront to Her Majesty's Government, and British forces have been ordered to make an example of these ungodly aggressors. It is hoped that Italian forces in the area will co-operate by withdrawing to the Italian peninsula, preferably to Sicily for safety's sake, to allow unimpeded passage to British

forces, whose mission is, of course, only to chastise the expansionist Austrians.

Piedmont (SP) ((also BP)): German forces have generously offered to withdraw to Marseilles and Paris to allow the passage of English forces on their way to Serbia to preserve the peace.

Somewhere in the Mid-Atlantic (VP): The British naval commander, Lord Admiral Mal deMer, has pledged to finally free the Gibraltar garrison, which has been under a French siege for six long years. While reports are sketchy, it appears the local British C.-in-C. of Gibraltar, Sir Charlton Heston, relying heavily on the local apes to strengthen the garrison, although R&R has been a problem, as the brave ape corps refuses to leave its rocky post. This was solved by having the Primate of Gibraltar and the famous monk Rex Kong distribute fresh fruit to the troops.

TONTHEPILLBECAUSESHEIDIDN'TWANTANYMOREGRANDCHILDREN?DIDYOUKNOWTHATAUKRANIANPUSHI

Game 1976CE, Fall 1902 Reprint (substitute GM Bert Van Den Boogaard)

This game has posed me a real dilemma. There seem to have been some problems, possibly based upon the air strike, but I have no way of knowing for certain. I did not receive the adjudications until just recently, and I still don't have the original orders. And one player, Marny Willsie, has protested.

I have decided to go ahead with the orders as Bert did them. The orders which Marny sent to me and wished to use would make little or no difference to the position (f eas would have been dislodged anyway, Marny), and England and Germany lost nothing except potential and, possibly, position. Therefore I think that replaying Fall with players aware of each other's intentions would cause a greater hardship than allowing the game to go forward.

I will, however, give Mrs. Chester the benefit of a doubt and will not count her as a dropout unless she misses next season as well.

Thanks to Paul Karan and Trevor Baillie for their standby orders.

Austria (Lyle Marshall): a bul s Rus f bla-con; a mun h, s by a boh; f alb s Ita f ion; a ser s a bul.

England (Kevin Adams): NMR. f nrg, f ska, f nth & a hol all hold.

France (Lisa Amorous): a bur s a bel; a bel s a bur; a mar-pie; f lyo-tyr; f spaco-wes; f mid-naf.

Germany (Eunice Chester): NMR. f den, a kie & a ruh all hold.

Italy (Marny Willsie): NMR a gre, f ion & a apu all hold; f eas h.

Russia (Ron Tchir): f swe s Eng f ska-den (nso); a pru-ber, s by a sil; a sev-arm; f bla-con; f rum h.

Turkey (Elliott Bold): a con h, s by a ank; f smy-eas, s by f aeg.

Centres: Austria: home, ser, mun, bul (6) Built a tri. Winter 1902
England: home, nwy, hol (5) Built f lon. (GM John Leeder)
France: home, por, spa, bel (6). No change.
Germany: ~~bul~~, kie, den (2). NRR. GM removes f den, as per rulebook.
Italy: home, gre (4) Disbands f eas, builds f nap.
Russia: home, swe; rum, ber (7) Built a war.
Turkey: home, ~~bul~~ (3) Removed f eas.

Spring 1903 orders are due, to me, Monday, August 23 at 10:30 AM MDT. Note that the game is now running on four-week deadlines.

Standby orders for Germany are requested from Julian Presber, P.O. Box

6, Site 15, RR#2, Sherwood Park, Alta., Canada T8A 3K2. Lisa Amorous has a new address: 313A Princeton Dr. SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106, USA. All other addresses are in #123.

Kevin Adams will be on honeymoon in England Aug. 21-Sept. 12, and of course has our congratulations (as does Adrienne).

The press below is a late Italian release from last season.

Oh, answer to a question on Bert's notation: OTB means "off the board", that is, disband.

Eastern Mediterranean (BP): The Comptess de Green Foot has received aboard her barge in the East Med. many couriers from near and far. Some, impressing her greatly with their dark good looks, and others with their peaches-and-cream complexions, have caused her to reconsider her position.

Count Kelly de Greene, headquartering in Venice, has captured a French spy, and after repeated torturing (took away his wine and sexy post-cards) Jacques Sauterne divulged that some French troops are embarking on an Eastern voyage.

Henceforth, an edict has gone forth to all Italians and Allies to BEWARE! The knife can stab silently, but a ready shield can protect.

NGABABYCARRIAGEISKNOWNASADOPEPUSHER?DIDYOUKNOWTHATYOU CANSINKAUKRANIANSUBMARINE

Odds & Ends:

1. Let this constitute a blanket apology to all those whose letters I've been slow in answering, or haven't gotten around to answering at all; whose zines deserving of plugging I've neglected to plug; whose projects needing publicizing I haven't publicized; and so on. I'll see what I can get in the rest of this issue, and next, but I make no promises, as my time is still limited.

2. New Blood: J. Eric Sheneman, 3424 Lakeview Dr., El Macero, CA 95618, USA.

3. Come On Out of the Woodwork!: Associate Miller Number Custodian for Special Projects: principal initial duty - Executive Officer of the LN Recategorization Committee/Project; other duties negotiable, perhaps to include a variant handbook. Write to Robert Sacks, 4861 Broadway 5-V, NY 10034, USA.

3. Peter Walker reports that he has game openings in BALTIC GAFFER and its subzine BALTIC SEA: a World War I variant (\$4 gamefee) and Napoleon's Europe (gamefee not yet decided). I haven't seen Peter's zines but he tells me they are basically game vehicles with occasional expanded issues. Write RR#3, Belfast, P.E.I., Canada COA 1A0.

4. A couple of new overseas trades: TAU CETI (Larry Dunning, 46 Holmesdale Rd., West Midland 6056, Western Australia) looks at the overall gaming scene and usually has at least one game review per issue; Larry is interested in Dip variants and issues #3-4 contain Hyboriax, a game for up to 10 players, based on the Conan stories. Openings in Regular Dip, Atlantica and Downfall; I'm not sure if overseas players are sought, nor of gamefees. Overseas subs cost 40¢/issue, 4/\$1.50, (I presume that's Australian currency.)

RATS LIVE ON NO EVIL STAR is published by Peter Swanson, an American ex-soldier in Britain. Peter has been around Diplomacy for a long time without getting into the publishing end; his new zine looks to deliver the best of both sides of the water; issues #1-3 are highly readable. (I shouldn't say Pete hasn't pubbed before; he did a subzine for a while, and has been doing QUEEN VICTORIA'S FUNERAL, newszine for IDA/UK, so he's not without experi-

ence.) Game openings in regular Dip (gamefee 50p + 1 pound deposit + subscription) available after Sept. 20, when Peter gets back from a North American trip. Subscriptions cost 2/3 p per sheet plus postage. With #3 is Ecliptic, a Solar System Dipvariant designed by Paul Willey, available for 4p + postage. Address is 6 Welford Place, Wimbledon, SW19 5AJ, U.K.

5. Only one more player is needed to fill a postal game of Dipvariant Antigonis Isles (designed by Doug Hayward) in ARRAKIS. Also open: a seven-provinces game of regular Dip (Alta., N.S. and N.W.T. are already represented). Gamefee is \$2 plus a sub (1¢/page plus postage); David Head, Box 1231, Huntsville, Ont., Canada POA 1K0.

6. New Canadian Zine: DER FLIEGENDE HOLLÄNDER, from Donald G. Wileman, 98 Sanderling Cres., Lindsay, Ont., Canada K9V 4N2. Anyone familiar with Don's prolific writings, mainly in PAROXYSM, will know to expect lots of entertaining reading, much of it on non-Dip subjects. Openings in regular Dip, as well as a Bourse based on a Dip game. Don is also looking for an associate publisher. Subs are 8/\$2 (6/\$2 overseas airmail); can't seem to find a gamefee mention. This could be a good one!

7. EVERYTHING... #27 had so few game completions listed that I'm not going to bother printing an updated listing of scores for the ODDMOD rating system; my own score rose to 830, not my personal high, but improving.

8. A few copies of RUNESTONE #127 went out without the correction to the last page's report on 1976CC; in case anyone's following the game, it did in fact end in a 2-way draw as reported.

SIMPLYBYSWIMMINGDOWNANDKNOCKINGONTHEDOOR?USUALHYPOCRITICALAPOLOGIESTOUKRANIANS

Subscriptions to RUNESTONE cost 1¢/page plus postage; send a lump sum and I'll keep track. RUNESTONE is published weekly (mostly), with bundles of issues being mailed monthly (mostly) to subscribers and traders, and when the player's game comes due. Gamefees (when available) are \$2 plus a sub or trade. (50¢ discount to IDA members). French-language games are available for the same rate, in BATOCHÉ; no-frills regular Diplomacy openings exist in SANDWICH for 20¢/season plus postage. And that snuffs the issue.

CHIMO!

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

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