

There were to have been no games due today, and thus perhaps no issue of RUNESTONE. However, 1978I was delayed a week because of the mail situation in Calgary. We're told that sorting of first-class mail is now only a couple of days behind and should be caught up by 12th October. We'll see....

When I made my appeal for new GMs to take some games, particularly N.A. regular games, it didn't come home to me that in fact I have only three N.A. regular games (English-language) in progress! Also, one of these is an all-Canadian game which I'd prefer to leave with a Canadian GM to keep the deadlines shorter. So as it turns out, I have many more GMing offers than I have games! Perhaps the two Madman games, whose rules are almost identical with the regular games, could go to GMs who asked for regular games. 1977Aid, in fact, is now no different than a regular game, all madmen having been eliminated.

Meantime, I'll just turn over games as their deadlines come up, in the order in which I received offers.

I do wish to thank everyone who offered to take on games. I also wish to thank everyone who expressed best wishes to Marge and I with respect to our marriage. We're really overwhelmed by all the support!

The game....

Game 1978I, Spring 1905 (reprinted from carbon copy mailing):

Austria (Hugh Polley): a tri-tyr, s by a vie; a ser-tri; a gal-boh;
a rum-gal; a war-gal; f bulsc-aeg.
 England (Frej Wasastjerna): f stpnc s f nwy; f swe-ska, s by f nwy;
f lon s f nth (ann.); f nth s f lon; a lpl-yor.
 France (Dave Hurd): a wal-lon, s by f eng; a gas-mar; a pic-bur; f mid-nat.
 Germany (Dave Pengelly): f den-nth, s by f ska (latter ann.); a kie-hol;
a bel-hol; a sil-boh; a tyr-boh (disbands as all ordered re-
treats precluded).
 Italy (Tom Butcher): a pie-mar; a ven h; f wes-nid; f tyr-lyo; f gre-lon.
 Russia (Walter Compton): f fin-stp; a mos-sev; a ank s Aus f bulsc-con (nso)
 (a ank ret. smy).
 Turkey (Fred Winter): a arm-ank, s by f con.

It appears that Horst John's dropout was a result of a massive postal screw-up. His orders never reached me, and my mailing showing that he had NRRed never reached him. An object lesson: keep track of when your zine is due!

Fall 1905: AUSTRIA ADVANCES TOWARDS GERLMANY! ENGLAND, FRANCE HAVE SAME PROBLEM
 (Hugh Polley)

Austria: a tri s a tyr; a vie-boh, s by a tyr; a gal-sil, s by a war;
a rum-sev; f aeg-bulsc.
 England (Frej Wasastjerna): f ska-swe, s by f nwy; f stpnc s f nwy;
a vor-lpl; f nth-eng.
 France (Dave Hurd): a bur-mar; a gas-spa; f nat-lpl; a lon h; f eng-nth.
 Germany (Dave Pengelly): f den h; a bel h; a kie-mun; a sil-war (ret. pru).
 Italy (Tom Butcher): a vie-pie; a pie-spa, c by f lyo; f mid-por; f ion-tyr.
 Russia (Walter Compton): f fin-swe; a smv-lon (NRR, disbands); a sev h.
 Turkey (Fred Winter): f con-smy, s by a ank.

Winter 1906: Austria: home, ser, bul, rum, war (7) No change.
 England: ~~lon~~, lpl, edi, nwy, swe, stp (5) No change.
 France: home, spa, ~~ppf~~, lon (5) No change.
 Germany: home, bel, hol, den (6) Builds a ber, a kie.
 Italy: home, tun, gre, por (6) Builds f nap.
 Russia: mos, sev, ank, (2) No change. ~~spj~~
 Turkey: con, ank, smy, ~~spj~~ (3) Builds f con.

COA: As of Oct. 12, Fred C. Winter, 400 W. Madison St. #2400, Chicago, IL 60606, USA. As of Dec. 1, 1LT F.C. Winter 393-54-1972, c/o Post Locator, Fort Bragg, NC 28307, USA.

Spring orders are due Monday, October 12.

Moscow: Death to the Turks!

Excerpt from an Editorial in the London Blabbermouth: While our peaceful and inoffensive nation was taking steps to protect our proper and rightful sphere of interest against encroachment by the Czar's hordes, the dastardly French sneaked up on us and launched an unprovoked invasion. Now the entire nation will rise up in wrath to repulse the intruders in co-operation with the gallant Italian armed forces. And if the Germans persist in stabbing us in the back, they also will receive their just deserts.

Letter from Ron Kelly: ((my comments like so))

(1) I sure don't understand my NLR, as I remember mailing them in before the 30 June (!) deadline. I know I did because I remember convoying a pic-wal. ((It's becoming increasingly evident that not all letters which get mailed get delivered. In any event, yours never arrived.))

(2) In issue 258 you said a number of zine ppll ballots were "spoiled" and not counted. Did you count mine, which was mailed in long before the deadline? ((Yes. There were a few late ballots, and they weren't counted. Yours was on time. The "spoiled" ones were, for example, unsigned, wrongly indicated, etc.))

(3) Why no answer to my last letter? ((Three reasons: (a) I've been desperately busy; (b) it was printed in other zines, and didn't, in my opinion, arise from a discussion which began in RUNESTONE, so it'd have been impolite to the other zines to pick it up; and (c) I'm devoting as little space as possibly to the "Oaklyn-is-fretick" issue, which I feel is amply covered elsewhere.))

(4) Why no answer to my card of months ago (!) asking if you would print my rebuttal to Oaklyn's letter, since you printed his non-typed lies? ((See response to (3) above. I printed Bernie's letter, in spite of its being a carbon submission, because I felt it responded to a situation which arose in RUNESTONE. Also, although Bernie's letter (on the use of anonymous neutral orders in 1907) expressed a point of view with which neither you or I agree, I hardly think this characterizes it as "lies".))

(5) On page 4 of issue 255 I see I am no longer on your standby list. Why did you kick me off? ((I automatically remove someone from the standby list when they drop out of a game (see Houserule 8).))

You might be interested to know that I bought a new car at the end of July. A brand new Toyota wagon. On Aug. 8 (two days before my wedding) it was pranged by a drunken teenager. I had to rent a car to drive to Ontario (\$900 out of pocket). My car has been in the shop ever since, waiting for parts to come from Japan. Meanwhile, the teenager who hit me quit his job, moved without leaving a forwarding address and without reporting the accident to his insurance company, who will not move on the claim until they get either a police report (which takes at least 8 weeks) or until their client reports the accident. So, I have no car and I'm out lots of money. Ain't life grand?

CHIMO!