



# R a m b l i n g   w a y

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Issue #20

Circulation: 65

DipCon Bound--that's what I'll be in just a few days. I'm really looking forward to an enjoyable trip to Kansas City, followed by PoolCon at the Lutterbies. It should be interesting to finally put some faces to all of my friends in the hobby.

With my trip to the north, I'll be out of town for two weeks, returning on the 14th. Then, I'll be leaving again on the 24th until August 1st to attend DallasCon and visit friends in north and east Texas. Thus, I'll not be available by phone for much of the month; and will have a tight deadline (July 23rd) for the next issue.

Also, please note, that I will not be at work during the month (yes, a whole month of vacation). So, don't try to contact me there, or send anything by fax -- I most likely won't get it in time for the deadline.

As for this issue of RW, we have the first game to finish. Steve Courtemanche has taken 19 centers in Fall 1911 to be declared WINNER of "My Word" (orphan from THE MESSENGER). Congrats to Steve!!! And he accomplished this even after the US Postal Service lost the last issue of RW sent to him.

This issue also has the last installment of Chuck Green's subzine "INTERNAZIONALE". With the end of his year of schooling at the University of Bologna, he has returned to the United States. I certainly hope he'll continue to contribute RW -- and maybe be able to actually join a game. Thank you, Chuck, for your insight into Italy!!

Unfortunately, John Breakwell was unable to send his usual subzine this time around. He promises to have the next installment here in time for the August issue. He has also expressed an interest in hosting a game in his subzine (possibly an orphan). If you'd be interested in playing in a game adjudicated in Great Britain, drop John or myself a note.

Be sure and check out the Hobby News section inside, as well as the various ads. 'ZINE REGISTER #20, the PDORA Auction Bid List and the impending release of the ENCYCLOPEDIA OF POSTAL DIPLOMACY ZINES are announced.

I appreciate all of the positive comments I've received about RW over the past few months. Not only has RW (and its subzines!!) received a favorable review in ZR; but Jack McHugh and Doug Kent's YOUR ZINE OF ZINES gave it the equivalent of "two thumbs up". Thanks to all of you, and to the people who wrote with "pats on the back" and constructive criticism. This is the only "pay" Joe Brooks, John Breakwell, Michael McCabe, Chuck Green and I receive for the work we do (we definitely don't make money on it!).

An update on the possibility of a con here in San Antonio. I've only received two letters about it. Both expressed an interest; however, both stated that they could not attend this year. I'll keep dangling the idea; but, I may skip 1992. I have locked in the time frame; the Friday after Thanksgiving through Sunday.

Don't forget that there are openings in Regular Dip, Gunboat, International Dip and Nuclear Destruction. The last two give you the possibility of playing with people across the Atlantic. Sign up and meet some new friends!!

## STAFF/SUBZINE ADDRESSES

INTERNAZIONALE: Chuck Green; 7 Daynard Dr.; Canton, CT 06019  
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## TRADES

CRIMSON SKY by Michael Gonsalves (530 Treasure Lake; Dubois, PA 15801)  
Plenty of Dip and Gunboat games, reputation for regularity.  
EXCELSIOR by Bruce McIntyre (6636 Dow Ave., #203; Burnaby, B.C.;  
CANADA V5H 3C9) has an irregular publication schedule, but an  
excellent commentary section and lettercol.  
THE GAMERS' 'ZINE by Earl Whiskeyman (27 Mark St.; Milford, CT 06460)  
has regular and gunboat games, En Garde! and Machiavelli.  
HOODWINK by Stven Carlberg (1939 Windemere Dr., NE; Atlanta, GA 30324)  
LEMON CURRY by Don Del Grande (142 Eliseo Drive; Greenbrae, CA 94904)  
besides Dip, runs Trivial Pursuit, Kingmaker, United and 1830.  
A LITTLE ORIGINAL SIN by Vick Hall (49 Vartry Rd.; Stamford Hill;  
London N15; ENGLAND) openings in Dip, Gunboat, Government, Battle  
MOUTH OF SAURON by Mark Nelson (21 Cecil Mount; Armley Leeds, W Riding  
LS12 2AF ENGLAND) insight into the British Dip hobby  
ORPHAN SON by Bob Hartwig (6612 W. 113th Ave.; Westminster, CO 80020)  
hosts orphaned games. Has commentary, a lettercol, subzines with  
Gunboat and Civilization games and other features.  
PONTEVEDRIA by Phil Reynolds (USF #4270; 4202 Fowler; Tampa, FL 33620)  
list of 'zines with game openings. Send a SASE for a copy.  
THE PRINCE by Jim Meinel (2801 Pelican Dr.; Anchorage, AK 99515) Dip  
QUEST FOR POWER by Russell Wallace (PO Box 256; West Lynn, MA 01905)  
openings in Buss Boss, ElfenGold, Fishy and PBM Campaign Trail.  
THE TACTFUL ASSASSIN by Eric Young (4784 Stephney Rd., RR #2;  
Armstrong, B.C.; CANADA V0E 1B0) Reg, Gunboat, Asian Dip openings.  
WAR FAIR by Stephen Glasgow (32009 Pendley; Willowick, OH 44095) is  
running Small World II-R and Middle Earth II.  
WELL MARTHA, IT KINDA' SORTA' LOOKS LIKE A DIP RAG...DON'T IT? by John  
Schultz (POB 41-19390 ICH 308; Michigan City, IN 46360)  
WORLD DIPLOMACY by Larry Peery (PO Box 620399; San Diego, CA 92162).  
YOUR 'ZINE OF 'ZINES by Jack McHugh (280 Sanford Rd.; Upper Darby, PA  
19082) and Doug Kent -- the Siskel & Ebert of 'zine reviews.  
ZERO SUM by Richard Weiss (2 Bayside Village Place, #409; SF, CA 94107)  
'ZINE REGISTER by Garret Schenck (40 Third Pl., Basement Apt.;  
Brooklyn, NY 11231) reviews just about every 'zine in the hobby.

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just contact the editor for details. Back issues \$1.00 each.  
Samples are free, though a stamp or two is appreciated.  
GAME FEES: A \$5.00 NMR fee is collected for each game. It is  
refundable if you play the game until completion or your  
elimination. A subscription to RAMBLING WAY is necessary to play.  
SUBSCRIPTION LISTS: A complete, up-to-date, player list is available  
at any time for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.  
HOUSE RULES: The second edition is available upon request. All  
games except RW #1 are, or will be, run using version 2.1.



"Thistle and Shamrock"

MENSA #35 -- BN: 1991A

Winter 1907

Turkey: F Con  
Russia: F Sev  
France: Build Refused  
Austria: Remove A Ven

**Tracking the Celtic  
Connection - Thistle  
and Shamrock**

*Sundays, 9 PM, KSTX*

Spring 1908

Turkey (Grose): F tri-ADR, A BUL-rum, a ser s a bul-rum (ann),  
F ank-BLA, F AEG-ion, F GRE s f aeg-ion,  
F CON s f ank-bla  
Russia (Kohnke): A NWY holds, F SEV-bla, F arm-ANK, A rum-SER,  
F bla-bul (r-arm/otb), A GAL-rum, A mos-UKR,  
A sil-BER, A BOH holds, F kie-HOL  
France (Hight): A YOR holds, F hol-BEL, F mac-WME, A ruh-MUN,  
A mun-TYL, A tyl-TRI, A spa-TUS, F LYD c a spa-tus,  
F wme-TUN, F tun-ION, F TYN s f tun-ion,  
A pie-VEN, A ROM s a pie-ven  
Austria (Lewis): A VIE s french a tyl-tri, A BUD s russian a rum-ser,  
A ALB-gre

CENTERS

Turkey (7): Con/Ank/Smy/Bul/Gre/Tri/Ser  
Russia (10): Mos/StP/Sev/Nwy/War/Swe/Den/Kie/Ber/Rum  
Italy (0): ELIMINATED FALL 1907  
England (0): ELIMINATED FALL 1904  
France (14): Par/Bre/Mar/Por/Spa/Lpl/Lon/Edi/Bel  
Hol/Nap/Tun/Mun/Rom  
Germany (0): ELIMINATED FALL 1906  
Austria (3): Vie/Bud/Ven

ADDRESSES

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(613) 728-8493  
Hight, Marc; 446 Conradi, #A-317; Tallahassee, FL 32304; (904) 222-9521  
Kohnke, Peter; 340 Fruitwood Dr.; Bethel Park, PA 15102 (412) 854-1835  
Lewis, Jim; 14741 Balsam; Southgate, MI 48195

PROPOSALS

F Win -- 2 Yes, 2 No

Reproposed -- F Win  
(NVRs--Yes; NMRs--Yes)

New -- F/R, F/R/T  
(NVRs--No; NMRs--Yes)

DUE DATE for

Summer/Fall 1908 and Proposal

July 23, 1992 at 12:00 noon

PRESS

A/H-Tur: Dot swapping will get you nowhere, enjoy.

(Paris): Turkey, having "renewed" its alliance with Russia, ordered an attack on the Ionian last fall. The Sultan laments the treachery of the French, yet he has the gall to flaunt the fact that he also broke the treaty by entering the Ionian! Le Pin, in discussing the French foray, was at least forthright in his justification of the action. Having learned of the Turkish treachery, we moved to protect ourselves, and foiled the aggressive plot!

(France)--Dateline Berlin (UPI, AP, REUTERS): In a grand ceremony held under the Brandenburger Tur, where Russian and French armies first met and joined together in the cause of peace and prosperity, Tsar Peter and President Le Pin signed a treaty establishing a "Society for the Advancement of Love, Understanding, and Trust" (also known as Salut!) to rule over Europe.

Dateline St. Petersburg: The people of Holland are happy to invite in the Russian fleet. They remember fondly Peter the Great who not only learned shipbuilding in Holland, but also founded St. Petersburg.

(Turkey) Turkey fully expected to be betrayed in the Ionian by France, but the Sultan was speechless when informed that at this late stage in the conflict, Russian forces were still battling for domination of the Black Sea region.

Contrary to the libellous foreign image of an irrational, intransigent Turkish leader, it was the Sultan who carefully explained to Czar Peter that the latter had but two choices: an F-R-T draw or an F win. It was the CZar who in effect chose the latter by attacking Turkey. What does he expect Turkish forces to do now - continue moving west? What does he think French forces will do - twiddle their thumbs?

Apparently that polluted drinking water has spread from Vienna to St. Petersburg!

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NEW SUBBERS (add to your list)

Brush, Mark; 476 Edith Ave.; Johnstown, PA 15906

Hall, Vick; 49 Vartry Rd.; Stamford Hill; London N15; ENGLAND  
(PUB--A Little Original Sin)

Hendricks, Paul A.; 3506 B King James Ct.; Richmond, VA 23223  
(804) 644-5729

Stuart, Rick; 33 Sutton Pl; Cincinnati, OH 45230

Changes (please note on your sub list)

(after 7/18) Reynolds, Phil; 2896 Oak St.; Sarasota, FL 34237  
Wallace, Russell -- phone number (617) 595-7433

"WHAD' YA KNOW"

RW #2 -- MN: 1991Wrb32

Autumn 1904

Italian F tyn-NAP

Winter 1904

Turkey: NBR; plays two short  
England: Removes F Bal  
Germany: Builds A Mun



Spring 1905

Turkey ( ): NMR; F AEG, A SEV, F RUM, F GRE, A ALB, A SER all hold  
Russia ( ): F BOT-swe, A war-MOS, A UKR s a war-mos  
Italy ( ): F nap-TYN, F TUN s f nap-tyn, A TYL-ven, A VEN-rom  
England ( ): F nwg-NWY, F NTH s f nwg-nwy, F mao-POR  
France ( ): A mar-PIE, F LYO-tyn, F tyn-rom (r-wme/ion/tus/otb),  
A bur-MAR, A BEL holds, A BRE holds (unordered)  
Germany ( ): A kie-RUH, A MUN s a kie-ruh, A HOL holds, A BER holds,  
A DEN-swe, F swe-SKA, F nwy holds (r-bar/stp(nc)/otb)  
Austria ( ): A VIE s f tri, A BUD s f tri, F TRI holds  
If you're playing, a red checkmark will be next to the country's name.

#### CENTERS

Turkey (8): Con/Ank/Smy/Gre/Bul/Rum/Ser/Sev  
Russia (3): Mos/Stp/War  
Italy (4): Rom/Nap/Ven/Tun  
England(3): Lon/Edi/Lpl  
France (6): Bre/Mar/Par/Spa/Por/Bel  
Germany(7): Kie/Ber/Mun/Hol/Nwy/Swe/Den  
Austria(3): Vie/Bud/Tri

DUE DATE for

Summer/Fall 1905

July 23, 1992 at 12:00 noon

Note

01) A standby has been called for Turkey.

Press

Mos-Bud: How about cutting Turkish support to Sevastopol. Perhaps  
Russia can liberate a port and send the infidels packing.

(Russia) Baltic Fleet-English Admiral: Although we find your intrusion into the Baltic disquieting. We are now willing to work with the English to rid the Scandinavian countries of the German blight. At the first opportunity we would appreciate your support into Sweden. For now we will continue to bombard the Swedish coast causing the German fleet there to stay in port.

Rus-Tur: The people's army is disappointed by your obvious land grab while our country was in the middle of a civil war. In order to stave off the black plague, we request the return of our southern port.

Palazzo Viento, Rome: "Padre, Count Luigi returns with the armies as you ordered. I must ask why we are retreating."

"A combination of events, my son. The Sultan's treachery and the foolish French advance into our waters have required a change in policy. Find Montessori, I wish him to travel to London."

[Henri, musing alone] "I am deeply aggrieved that the Sultan not only failed to attack Budapest, he actually supported our enemy against us. I must devise a means to repay this insult."

"Milord, I am at your service."

"Ah, Montessori, there you are. I want you to congratulate the English ~~ix~~ person for their courage in keeping a fleet in the Atlantic. Their certain conquest of Portugal should force the French to withdraw from their hopeless attack on our shores. To show our gratitude, offer to support them into Spain at the first opportunity."

"Yes, milord. You were speaking of the Turks as I entered. It is obvious the Sultan intends to conquer Austria as soon as he moves armies into position. Would foiling his plans be a satisfactory revenge?"

"Indeed it would, Montessori! How can we accomplish this?"

"Well, milord, our armies could help prevent the Sultan's advance by SUPPORTING the Austrians."

"Hmmm...very well, I value your advice. Send such a proposal to Vienna - they just might listen to a plan to join against a greater threat."

Eng-Tur: "It seems our Royal navy remains strong while our foot soldiers have melted away. Because of this you should be able to take all of the Czar's dots for yourself."

(England) Ollie-Stan: "I think the mess we're in should be blamed on both of us Stanley."

Eng-Ger: "My boats are bigger than your boats. My boats are bigger..."

Fra-Eng: I see that my trust was misplaced.

Fra-Ger: OOPS, I didn't realize you were counting on me.

Fra-Tur: Do you like Italian cooking?

Ger-Rus: We will turn over Sweden to you shortly. First I must rid the area of the British.

Ger-Fra: Don't bother the Italians - they are shielding us from the Turkish barbarians.

Ger-Eng: I'm ready to negotiate.

Aus-Ita: O.K. Dumbo, now my trained Turkey will tear you limb from limb.

Aus-Ita: O.K. Dumbo, now my trained Frog will tear you limb from limb.

Aus-Tur: What can I say, but thanks and I'll be glad to support you where possible.

"My Word!"  
Orphan from THE MESSENGER

BN: 1987IR

GAME OVER -- AUSTRIAN VICTORY!!!!!!  
(Congrats to Steve Courtemanche)

Fall 1911

Italy (Gaughan): A APU s f nap, F NAP s a apu  
England (Anderson): F POR holds, F LYD holds, F TYN-wme, F TUN holds  
A STP holds, F ska-DEN, F SWE s f ska-den  
France (Reynolds): A GAS s a spa, A SPA s austrian a pie-mar,  
A BUR s austrian a pie-mar, f mar-lyo (ann),  
A RUH s austrian a ber-kie, A BRE hold (unordered)  
A HOL s austrian a ber-kie  
Germany (Koehler): a kie s f den (r-otb), f den s a kie (r-otb)  
Austria (Courtemanche): A MOS s a war-lvn, A war-LVN, A ukr-WAR,  
A ber-KIE, A pru-BER, A SIL s a mun,  
A BOH s a mun, A MUN s a ber-kie, A tyl-VEN,  
A pie-MAR, A TUS s a ven-rom, A ven-ROM,  
F ADR-apu, F ION-nap, F EME-ion,  
F AEG s f eme-ion

#### CENTERS

Turkey (0): ELIMINATED, Fall 1905  
Russia (0): ELIMINATED, Fall 1906  
Italy (1): Nap  
England (9): Edi/Lp1/Lon/Nwy/StP/Swe/Tun/Por/Den  
France (5): Par/Spa/Bel/Hol/Bre  
Germany (0): ELIMINATED, Fall 1911  
Austria (19): Bud/Tri/Vie/Ank/Bul/Con/Gre/Mos/Rum/Ser/  
Sev/Smy/Ven/War/Ber/Mun/Mar/Kie/Rom

DUE DATE for

End-Game Statements

July 23, 1992 at 12:00 noon

PRESS

Fra-Eng: What gives? You must really want Austria to win, huh? Well, I've now done my best to effect such an end. You're really screwy if you favor a 2nd place in dots - which is STILL a loss - to part of a 5-way draw! Good riddance!

Aus-GM: Into the Valley of Death rode the 600 but would they all come out alive?

GM-Aus: It seems they came out smelling like roses!!

(Austria) Cheerleader-Infantrymen: Push 'em back, push 'em back, push 'em all the way back. Go Team!

(cont. on next page)



"Mountain Stage"

RW #3 -- MN: 1992Erb32  
(No Press-Gunboat Game)

Spring 1902

Turkey ( ): A con-BUL, F AEG s a con-bul, F smy-EME,  
A GRE s a con-bul  
Russia ( ): F STP-nwy, F SWE s f stp-nwy, F rum-BLA, A ukr-RUM,  
A GAL s a ukr-rum, A mos-LVN  
Italy ( ): F rom-TYN, A tun-ALB, F ION c a tun-alb, A VEN s a tri,  
A TRI s a tun-alb  
England( ): F NTH s f lon-eng, F lon-ENG, F NWG s a nwy,  
A NWY s german f den-swe (nsc)  
France ( ): F spa-WME, F bre-MAO, F mar-LYO, A por-SPA,  
A BUR s german ruh-bel  
Germany( ): A ruh-BEL, A HOL s a ruh-bel, F DEN s f ber-bal,  
F ber-BAL, A MUN s french f spa-rom (imp)  
Austria( ): F alb-tri (r-adr/ofb), A SER s f alb-tri, A bud-VIE  
If you're playing, a red checkmark will be next to the country's name.

CENTERS

Turkey (4): Con/Ank/Smy/Gre  
Russia (6): War/Stp/Mos/Sev/Swe/Rum  
Italy (5): Rom/Nap/Ven/Tri/Tun  
England(4): Lon/Edi/Lpl/Nwy  
France (5): Bre/Mar/Par/Spa/Por  
Germany(5): Kie/Ber/Mun/Den/Hol  
Austria(3): Vie/Bud/Ser  
Neutral : Bel/Bul

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**Mountain Stage at  
the Cutting Edge of  
New Music**

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Sundays, 10 PM, KSTX

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DUE DATE for

Summer/Fall 1902

July 23, 1992 at 12:00 noon

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(Press from "My Word" cont.)

Fra-All: Well, it seems to me nobody else was actually being effective in stopping Austria, despite lots of talk. If you guys don't care, why should I, a stand-by, care? I've got a feeling that England thinks he wanted to stop Austria, too, but he and I clearly have different way of going about this. I wanted to maximize the E/F/G/I units and create a stalemate line efficiently. England was more interested in dots. His loss, Austria's win.  
Eng-Fra: Your press sounds quite like that issued by a German dictator circa 1939...I'm not buying.  
Aus-All: Issue 19 hasn't arrived yet (6/21). Makes it difficult to respond to any press my way.  
Aus-Eng: This is either a great fakeout or you and France have had a falling out. There's only thing to do...Charge!  
Aus-Fra: Thanks for the invite. A week of vacation and a week-long roadtrip have played havoc with my games.



"RiverWalk: Live from the Landing"  
RW #4 -- BN: 1992L

Spring 1902

Turkey (Gonsalves): F bla-bul (r-ank/otb), A CON s f bla-bul,  
A smy-ARM, A BUL-rum  
Russia (Brooks): A nwy-FIN, F SWE s f stp-nwy, F stp-NWY, A mos-UKR,  
A ukr-RUM, F rum-BLA, F SEV s f rum-bla  
Italy (Koehler): F nap-TYN, F ION c a tun-apu, A tun-APU, A PIE-mar  
England (Stone): F lon-ENG, F BEL-pic, F NTH-nwy, A yor-LON  
France (Wallace): F por-SPA(sc), A BRE-pic, A spa-GAS, A PAR-bur,  
A MAR s a par-bur  
Germany (Voogd): F den-SKA, A kie-DEN, A MUN s a ruh-bur, A ruh-BUR,  
A hol-RUH  
Austria (Eastep): F gre-AEG, A ser-GRE, A tri-SER, A vie-TRI,  
A BUD s russian a ukr-rum

CENTERS

Turkey (4): Con/Ank/Smy/Bul  
Russia (7): War/Stp/Mos/Sev/Nwy/Swe/Rum  
Italy (4): Rom/Nap/Ven/Tun  
England (4): Lon/Edi/Lpl/Bel  
France (5): Bre/Mar/Par/Spa/Por  
Germany (5): Kie/Ber/Mun/Den/Hol  
Austria (5): Vie/Tri/Bud/Ser/Gre



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DUE DATE for

Summer/Fall 1902

July 23, 1992 at 12:00 noon

Press

Rus-Tur: "I'm coming to the dance in the Black Sea now. Mind if I bring some friends?"  
Rus-Ita: "So, how is the French Riviera this time of year? Too many French-speaking people for me."  
Rus-Eng: "Sorry, I wasn't aware that Norway was rightfully yours. It doesn't have your name on it!!"  
Fra-Ger/Eng/Ita: Are we having fun yet?  
Ger-Fra: OK, I'll bite. Who is Doris Mortman?  
Ger-Aus: I'm dying to see what you do. Of course, if you are in Bohemia, I'll be dying all right.  
Ger-Rus: Why don't you go and get your own English Ale...from the source.

MODERN DIPLOMACY, by Michael V. McCabe (Tokyo, Japan)

This is the 7th issue of this subzine. Except where otherwise indicated, the views and opinions expressed are solely mine and are not necessarily those of the Department of State or any other U.S.G. agency.

(Continued from last column, the Mukden Incident.)

Even though the Japanese Cabinet and the Prime Minister had demanded that War Minister General Minami terminate the affair at once, "the Army continued to race across Manchuria," and "on September 23, the Japanese troops in Korea crossed into Manchuria, without the Emperor's sanction, to join the Kwangtung Army." The League of Nations dispatched the Lytton Commission, which condemned the invasion. Japanese public opinion would have none of that, however. On December 19, 1932, a challenge appeared in 132 newspapers throughout Japan. "The press hereby declares that the (League) resolution which imperils the inviolable existence of the state of Manchukuo is absolutely unacceptable." Japan walked out of the League in 1933 after the League of Nations had condemned Japan as an aggressor in Manchuria.

Brackman devotes a chapter on the invasion of Manchuria and another one on the massacre in China. In the latter, he wrote about two significant events in 1937. The Marco Polo Bridge Incident occurred on July 7; it "is remembered to this day in the Far East as Sarajevo is in Europe." In the evening, about 10 miles southwest of Beijing, the Japanese Army was maneuvering, "shots were fired," the Japanese claimed that the Chinese had fired on them, and the Japanese Army launched its invasion of China.

From 12/13/37 to late January 1938 occurred "The Rape of Nanking...a ruthless reign of terror." In 1928, the Chinese nationalists had moved their Capital from Peking to Nanking. Nanking, a cultural and intellectual hub on the southern bank of the Yangtze River, contained about a half million people when the first Japanese military columns entered, the day after all Chinese forces, and about half the population, withdrew because Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek decided not to defend the Capital. During the next six weeks, according to witnesses at the trials: Japanese soldiers raped 20,000 to 60,000 Chinese women; the Red Swastika (Chinese Red Cross) buried at least 43,000 bodies; and the streets truly were littered with corpses. Japanese soldiers killed tens of thousands of civilians "without any provocation or apparent reason whatsoever." Brackman wrote (p. 17) "...during the Rape of Nanking,...no less than a quarter of a million men, women, and children were slaughtered over a six-week period." And (p. 180) these actions took place with the full knowledge of the Japanese High Command and the Japanese Embassy in Nanking.

The 8/16/91 Mainichi Daily News reported on an exhibition in Tokyo with an article entitled "Ex-soldiers Admit Slaughtering of Chinese." The article contained a picture captioned "A Japanese Imperial Army soldier tests his sword by beheading a Chinese during the occupation of China," and interviews with 3 officers involved in the Sino-Japanese War. Two told of chopping off the heads in public of innocent Chinese, while the other one said he tried every kind of torture on the Chinese to get promoted as quickly as possible. One said, "We believed in Japanese superiority over other races. We were taught that killing inferior people was an honorable act, something our parents could take pride in."

Brackman wrote (p. 17, 172) that Japan's 8-year war in China cost over 3.2 million Chinese Army killed and wounded, over 1 million Japanese Army casualties, and an estimated six million Chinese civilian deaths.

"My Music!"  
Orphan from BEEN THERE, DONE THAT  
(formerly Duke Snyder)

BN: 1989KH

Spring 1905

Turkey (Gonsalves): F ANK s f con-bla, F con-BLA  
Russia (Kent): A ber-KIE, A mos-sev (r-stp/lvn/war/otb), F BOT-swe  
Italy (Schultz): A TUN holds, A VEN-tri, F smy-CON, F ion-TYN,  
F bla s f smy-con (r-rum/arm/otb)  
England (Zarr): A LPL holds, A stp-FIN, F NWY s f ska-swe, F ska-SWE,  
F NTH s f bel-hol, f bel-hol (ann), F hol-HEL  
France (Wallace): A pic-BEL, A BUR s a pic-bel, F iri-MAO,  
F ENG s a pic-bel, A MAR-rr on the Riviera (imp)  
Germany (Lutterbie): F kie-HOL, A RUH s a kie-hol, F DEN-nth  
Austria (Grose): A ukr-MOS, A SEV s a ukr-mos, A bud-GAL, A war-SIL,  
A PRU s a war-sil, A vie-BOH, A TRI holds, F aeg-GRE,  
A BUL s italiañ f smy-con

CENTERS

Turkey (2): Con/Ank  
Russia (3): Ber/Mos/Mun  
Italy (5): Ven/Rom/Nap/Smy/Tun  
England (7): Edi/Lpl/Lon/Bel/Nwy/Hol/Stp  
France (5): Par/Mar/Bre/Por/Spa  
Germany (3): Kie/Den/Swe  
Austria (9): Bud/Tri/Vie/Ser/Gre/Bul/Rom/War/Sev

DUE DATE for

Summer/Fall 1905

July 23, 1992 at 12:00 noon



ADDRESSES

Gonsalves, Michael; 530 Treasure Lake; Dubois, PA 15801  
Grose, Jim; 3-1313 Wellington St.; Ottawa, Ontario, CANAD K1Y 3B1  
(613) 728-8493  
Kent, Doug; 54 W. Cherry St.; #211; Rahway, NJ 07065  
Lutterbie, Vince; 1021 Stonehaven; Marshall, MO 65340  
Schulz, John; PO Box 41-19390 ICH 308; Michigan City, IN 46360  
Wallace, Russell; PO Box 256; West Lynn, MA 01905  
Zarr, Harold; 215 Glen Drive; Iowa Falls, IA 50126-1957

Notes

01) Would any of the original players send me copies of the previous season adjudications? It would be very helpful.  
(Press after "All Things Considered")

## INTERNAZIONALE

Italian Politics: And All The Kings Men...  
by Charles Green

Italian politics is rarely reported on in this country, and perhaps for a good reason: it is almost impossible to understand for outsiders and none too easy for insiders. In last issue's quiz, we went over some of the bare facts of Italian political life. It is important to understand that Italy is in essence a partyocracy, in which the division of power is controlled by various parties at all levels of government. This extends even to state-run enterprises such as universities and hospitals. For example, the University of Bologna is heavily influenced by the PDS, the ex-Communist party, which enjoys an electoral plurality in Bologna. However, the other major parties - Christian Democrats, Socialists, Republicans, etc. - are cut in for their share as well!

This is the kind of system that reigns in most of Italy. In the South, though, the government has very little control as the Mafia, N'drangheta (Calabria) and Camorra (Naples) have a tight grip on people's political behavior. They will go to great lengths in order to keep their privileged position, which guarantees them political and economic power in those regions for the foreseeable future. To illustrate: despite the fact that elections are conducted by secret ballot, the Mafia has always managed to circumvent this "secrecy" by comparing returns from elections to their assigned votes. Recently, an electoral reform law was passed in order to try and stop this. Instead of voting by number for party and representative (i.e. you would write the number of a particular candidate next to the party symbol on the ballot) the name of the candidate would have to be written. The Mafia would have trouble identifying exactly who wrote what - or would they? Their leaders came up with a novel solution: handing out stencils with the names of the chosen candidates. Thus, they could tell by the shape of the name on the ballot who was and was not voting for the Mafia's choice in a particular voting section. Another example of criminal ingenuity at its finest.

As one might expect, the electorate (as in much of the Western World) is fed up with the traditional way of conducting politics and has been demanding change. Fringe parties - or what were fringe parties - have been gathering steam and new parties have sprung up. The biggest winner from this process so far has been the Lega Lombarda, or Lombard League, which seized over 10% of the votes nationally and is now in the same league (sorry) with the traditional big parties. Their platform is based on a complete restructuring of the Italian political system, which would metamorphose into a three-region decentralized republic in place of the current unitary system. The good news in all of this is that the Fascists have not made any overall gains, not wavering from their usual 5% nationally. Since another election will have to be called soon after the Italians form a government (which will hopefully happen soon - it's been over two months since the elections), the political situation will probably get even more muddled.

With a United Europe still on track, the Italian system will have to go through some big changes, both political and economic, in the coming years. Italians, as a recent national attitude poll suggests, are beginning to doubt their old ability of pulling off last-minute political and economic miracles. Perhaps they are just getting more serious. Then again, perhaps Humpty is beginning to teeter.

"All Things Considered"

RW #5 -- BN: 1992V

Spring 1901

Turkey (Castille): F ank-BLA, A con-BUL, A smy-ARM  
Russia (Hyatt): F stp-BOT, A mos-UKR, A WAR-gal, F sev-RUM  
Italy (Young): F nap-ION, A rom-APU, A VEN holds  
England (Goodwin): F lon-ENG, F edi-NTH, A lpl-YOR  
France (Nesbitt): A par-BUR, F bre-MAO, A mar-SPA  
Germany (Chrones): F kie-HEL, A ber-SIL, A mun-RUH  
Austria (Rosenthal): F TRI-ven, A VIE-gal, A bud-SER



CENTERS

Turkey (3): Con/Ank/Smy  
Russia (4): War/Stp/Mos/Sev  
Italy (3): Rom/Nap/Ven  
England (3): Lon/Edi/Lpl  
France (3): Bre/Mar/Par  
Germany (3): Kie/Ber/Mun  
Austria (3): Vie/Tri/Bud  
Neutral : Bel/Bul/Den/Gre/Hol/Nwy/Pol/Rum/Ser/Spa/Swe/Tun

ADDRESSES

Castille, Michael; 3201 Tenth St.; Port Arthur, TX 77642  
Chrones, Jamie; 2117 Wildwood Dr., RR1; Duncan, BC V9L 1M3 CANADA  
Goodwin, Deon; 1901 E. 1st, #B; Post Falls, ID 83854  
Hyatt, Fred; 60 Grandview Pl.; Montclair, NJ 07043  
Nesbitt, Will; PO Box 1231; Front Royal, VA 22630  
Rosenthal, Jon; 35 Mayer Dr.; Suffern, NY 10901  
Young, Eric; 4784 Stephney Rd., RR#2; Armstrong, BC V0E 1B0 CANADA

DUE DATE for

Fall 1901

July 23, 1992 at 12:00 noon

Notes

- 01) Michael Castille's last name is NOT Castillo. My apologies to him.
- 02) A note to all players, only orders may be submitted via phone. I do not transcribe press over the telephone.

Press

London: English fleets begin annual exercises....

(French): Napoleon Bonesbitte, France's newly elected leader, asks

pariliment [sic] for greater presidential powers in the Second Republic of France. He claims that this is to bring a quick end to the French recession through decisive use of the government. Napoleon predicts many years of peace in Western Europe with such great peoples as the English, Germans and Italians. He is not so certain about those distant barbarian peoples such as the Turks, Hun, Slavs and the Russians. French moral support goes out to the Austrians who are situated precariously on the frontier of civilization.

(Austria) Halifax-Milky Way: "Rumors of eminent [sic] destruction at the hands of a giant meteor hurtling towards the earth, were quickly dispelled by NASA scientists, who assured the general population that they would die from global warming with [sic] the week."

(Austria) Sicily-EEC: "The Italian ministry vowed to respect the dwindling numbers of elk in Northern Africa, by declining to occupy Tunis within this century. DeFetticcini of the Italian ministry was quoted as, "Heck, we can't fight anyway - History has finally proved that. We don't need more elk, let's just stay home and eat our beavers."

=====  
Press for "My Music"

Ita-Fra: The army in Piedmont? Just security that's all. The fleet Tyrnhenian? Simple fleet maneuvers. Don't worry about it.

Eng-World: Glad to all the old faces and some news ones as well! Hope we don't have anymore delays!

Ger-GM: "My Music" should be "My Swan Song" in this case.

GM-Ger: More than one swan has found that they weren't the "Ugly Duckling"; with the right friends, that is.

Ger-Fra: Go get 'im tiger.

Ger-Rus: Get off my back and MYOB.

Ger-Eng/Aus: If you two are really tight, let us know, otherwise, the question becomes, does Austria ever get enough fleets or England enough armies to win this thing?

=====  
CON LISTING

July 24-26- PeeriCon, San Diego, CA. Contact Larry Peery (PO Box 620399; San Diego, CA 92162).

July 24-26- DallasCon, Fort Worth, TX. Contact DallasCon (PO Box 867623; Plano, TX 75086). No Dip planned, \*\*I'll be here\*\*

July 30/ - CanCon V, Scarborough, Ontario. Contact Cal White (1 August 2 - Turnberry Ave.; Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M6N 1P6).

Aug 20-23 - GenCon/Origins, Lake Geneva, WI. Contact Mark Olson (c/o TSR, Inc.; PO Box 756; Lake Geneva, WI 53147).

Sept 5-7 - PacifiCon, San Mateo, CA. Contact Don Del Grande (142 Eliseo Dr.; Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339).

Sept 5-7 - AlamoRG, San Antonio, TX. Mensan Regional Gathering. \*\*Contact me\*\*. Dip (and other) games can be organized.

Dec 13 - BeethovenCon, San Diego, CA. Contact Larry Peery (above) An anything but Dip con

## 1992 People's Diplomacy Organization Relief Auction

- O-001 Gamestart in Rebel. \$2 minimum. 2 LOTS.
- O-002 Diplomacy game opening to be run in Down at the Mouth by the lovely and talented Vince Lutterbie. Includes the cost of the zine for the length of the game. No minimum. 7 LOTS.
- O-003 Game opening in Canadian Diplomat, plus 10 issues of the zine. No minimum. 2 LOTS.
- O-004 Gamestart in the new "readable" Ter-ran. 2 LOTS.
- O-005 Gamestart in Ramblings By Moonlight. Must sub to play. \$3 minimum.
- P-001 Autographed pictures of Melinda Holley. I'm assuming these are suitable for children, but I really have no idea. Let your imaginations run wild. Always popular in the auctions. \$3 minimum. 3 LOTS.
- Z-001 Gamesman #9. Yet another copy of the last issue by the late Don Miller. 64-page mimeo issue contains articles on Diplomacy, chess, and other games, plus a 10-page article on the accomplishments of the world's navies in the 2 World Wars. \$3 minimum.
- Z-002 Any two issues of Diplomacy World from #60 to #63 - your choice. \$2 minimum. 10 LOTS.
- Z-003 Diplomacy World #60 - 63 (4 issues total). \$3 minimum. 10 LOTS.
- Z-004 Prince #100, a spiral-bound "special" issue that includes comments from past and present subscribers, plus photos. \$2 minimum. 5 LOTS.
- Z-005 Kathy's Korner #136, 143, 145, 154, 158-160. \$2 minimum.
- Z-006 Kathy's Korner #161, 163, 165, 171, 177, 178. \$2 minimum.
- Z-007 Diplomacy World #62, 63, and 65. \$2 minimum.
- Z-008 Zine Register #15 and the 1989 North American Variant Bank catalog. \$2 minimum.
- Z-009 Your Zine of Zines #1-8. \$2 minimum. 5 LOTS.

That's it for this year. Regardless of the number of folds we've seen recently, and the small number of new zines, we've got a good bunch of items for auction. Get those bids in, and take care!

### RULES

- 1 - The deadline for bids is October 2, 1992. Send all bids to: Douglas Kent at 54 West Cherry Street, #211 Rahway, NJ 07065.
- 2 - Anyone may participate in the bidding. All you have to do is submit a bid on an item (send no money now please). If you are the highest bidder the item will be yours, and you'll be notified when to send the money and how much. You may submit conditional bids on total amount to be spent, or if you win or lose another item. You can't submit conditionals that say to outbid the next highest bidder by an amount of money. This is only a one round auction, so plan wisely. Also, all bids will be secret.
- 3 - In case of tied bids, postmark will decide. If postmarks are the same, the auctioneer will flip a coin or roll a die to determine the winner. I'm told tied bids are extremely rare.
- 4 - All items are postage paid or will have the postage figured into the minimum price.
- 5 - All donations collected will go to hobby services as decided upon by the PDORA Financial Committee. I will receive no money for the costs I incur. No one on the committee is eligible to receive any of the money either.
- 6 - Allow 4-6 weeks after the auction deadline for the item to get to you. The faster everybody gets their payments in to me, the faster I can have the items sent out to the successful bidders.
- 7 - Input is welcome and encouraged.
- 8 - Additional catalogues can be had for a SASE from me.
- 9 - Good luck and have fun.
- 10 - PDORA Financial Committee: Robert Acheson, Steve Arnawoodian, Don Del Grande, Steve Heinowski, Michael Lowrey.

<u>Item #</u>	<u>Description</u>
A-001	A 9-issue sub to Melinda Holley's <u>Rebel</u> . \$3 minimum. 2 LOTS.
A-002	A 12-issue sub to <u>Son of Flip</u> , the ideal newsletter for fans of professional wrestling. Oh, and aside from wrestling news, trivia, and inside information, <u>SoF</u> also runs a Machiavelli game as well. A \$12.00 value. No minimum.
A-003	An 8-issue sub to <u>Carolina, Command, and Commentary</u> . \$8 value, \$5 minimum.
A-004	A 4-issue subscription to <u>Diplomacy World</u> , Dipdom's "flagship" zine. \$10 value. 5 LOTS.
A-005	A 5-year subscription to <u>War Fair</u> - the up & coming zine big on maps. Normally \$3 for 10 issues/year. No game fees, always openings in "The Bourse" variant, and new openings coming in 1993. \$5 minimum.

- B-001 A manuscript of Fred Davis' "A Diplomacy Chronology, 1958-1983." This was printed in Diplomacy World #35 in 1983. A background look at the origins and middle years of the game and Dipdom. \$2 minimum.
- B-002 NADF (North American Diplomacy Federation) Charter as verified by Rod Walker and a handful of his friends in 1979. This was Rod's attempt to organize and control Dipdom. No minimum.
- B-003 The Covenant as drawn and originally signed in 1979 governing the transfer and operation of the MNC. A collector's item! No minimum.
- B-004 A set of a PreCon Booklet and a Results Booklet from the 1990 World DipCon/DipCon event. 5 LOTS.
- C-001 An internal 2400 baud modem. IBM compatible. \$20 minimum.
- C-002 An internal 2400 baud modem. IBM compatible, and MNP 2-7 compatible. \$25 minimum.
- C-003 A set of five computer programs on 3 1/2" disks for the Apple IIGS. These are programs purchased for a computer that had 5 1/4" drives, and never returned. Three have been opened, but none have ever been used in any way. "Paperboy", "Marble Madness", "BlackJack Academy", "Writer's Choice Elite", and "Cartooners". "Paperboy" requires 256K, "Cartooners" requires 1M, and the other 3 require 512K. Original cost over \$150. \$25 minimum.
- C-004 PCTools Ver. 7.1 by Central Point Software. For DOS and Windows. The new version, requires DOS 3.3 or above and 640K. Supports up to DOS 5.0. For Windows applications requires Windows 3.0 or above and 2 Megs of RAM. Hard disk is required. 3 1/2" disks. I got this as a "premium" when I bought a card from Intel. Unopened. Suggested retail of \$179. \$90 minimum.
- G-001 A copy of Dreadnought by SPI. Unpunched. Contains counters for every capital ship built from 1906-1944. For the real battleship fan. \$10 minimum.
- G-002 A Dutch version of Diplomacy. Excellent condition, flat box, printed by Jumbo in 1981. Collectors item. \$15 minimum.
- G-003 A copy of Diplomacy. 1961 Games Research version as marketed in Britain. Flat box, some wear, plastic pieces and a God-awful map in primary colors. \$15 minimum.
- G-004 A copy of Diplomacy. The "classic" 1971 Games Research version. Good condition, flat box, wooden pieces. Another collector's item. \$15 minimum.
- G-005 Used but complete copy of Magic Realm. \$5 minimum.
- G-006 Avalon Hill's Tobruk. Unpunched. \$5 minimum.
- G-007 Avalon Hill's Panzerblitz in good condition. \$5 minimum.
- G-008 A copy of Car wars. Unpunched. \$5 minimum.
- G-009 A used copy of Diplomacy in good condition. \$5 minimum.
- G-010 Unpunched copy of Air Superiority. \$5 minimum.
- G-011 Alpha Omega, unpunched. \$5 minimum.
- G-012 1963 version of Stalingrad in decent condition. \$5 minimum.
- G-013 1961 version of Tactics II. Fair condition. \$5 minimum.
- G-014 1965 version of Battle of the Bulge. Fair condition. \$5 minimum.
- G-015 1964 version of Africa Korps in good condition. \$5 minimum.
- G-016 1965 version of Blitzkreig in good condition. \$5 minimum.
- G-017 Another copy of Dreadnought. Good condition. \$5 minimum.
- G-018 Cage Match Wrestling Trivia Game from On The Mat Company. \$2 minimum.
- G-019 Murder to Go game by Ideal. This is one of those "murder party" mystery games. Excellent condition. \$4 minimum.
- G-020 Melody Dicer game by Mozart. Wolfgang himself created this game, where you roll dice and create music. Good condition, \$2 minimum.
- G-021 Strat-O-Matic Baseball with 1986 teams. Very good condition. \$5 minimum.
- G-022 Crosscheck game by TSR. A crossword board game. \$3 minimum.
- M-001 Copy of the book "Methods of a Wall Street Master", direct from the author's personal supply. \$24.95 cover price, \$7 minimum.
- M-002 Personal horoscope as done by the marvelous Melinda Holley. She'll need your date, time, and place of birth. \$3 minimum. 3 LOTS.
- M-003 Magnetic Dip board as produced by Eric Brosius. This is one of those great magnetic sets that Eric makes, and everybody wants. Tired of having your cats knock all your plastic or wooden pieces around? Get this! \$5 minimum.
- M-004 Audio cassette of "The Simpsons Sing the Blues" by the Simpsons. \$1.50 minimum.
- M-005 Audio cassette of "Life's Rich Pageant" by REM. \$1.50 minimum.
- M-006 Audio cassette of "Alpha Centauri" by Tangerine Dream. \$1.50 minimum.
- M-007 Audio cassette of "Danse Macabre et al" by Saint-Saens. \$1.50 minimum.
- M-008 Audio cassette of "The River" by Bruce Springsteen. \$1.50 minimum.
- M-009 10 Trees! Maple, Oak, Dogwood, and Pine seedlings. Mailed to your house at best time for planting within next 12 months. This could be your "green" good deed for the year! \$10 minimum.



## POLL QUESTION

Note: my comments within individual responses will be in "[ ]".

July's Question: Regarding Gaming Conventions, have you been? If so, what did you like; if not, why not?

Russell Wallace: Yes, I have been to several gaming conventions. Meeting people and making new friends is the best thing about a convention. The tournaments are secondary. Learning to play new games is also most enjoyable [I've found great games this way].

And, while I'm at it, let me plug the best convention in the country, which is "The Gathering of Friends," which is held in April every year. The tournaments are loosely run, every player wins a prize, there is plenty of open gaming and the latest games from Europe are always being played. [All I've heard about that con has been VERY positive. I wish I could arrange to attend one.]

John Breakwell: Yes, I go to Gaming Conventions. The two main ones (GamesFair [TSR] and Colours [Independent]) are in Reading (where I live) so transport and accommodation are no problems. There used to be a lot in London, a half-hour by train, but the popularity of cons has dwindled and they no longer appear that often. I do not go to ManorCon and the like due to the expense (Sue would want to come too) - blowing over 100 quid on a convention is not my idea of fun. I go to meet people I made friends with in the past. For example, GamesFair is almost the only time I see a lot of gamers I knew when I lived at home with my parents. I don't usually get real satisfaction as I rarely run a game myself or arrange in advance to be in one. I spend too much time wandering around watching people enjoying themselves until the bar starts filling up again. But next time will be different. Next time I'll be prepared. Next time...

Jack McHugh: I go to AtlanticCon and one other con in the US once a year. This year it was DixieCon and AtlanticCon. I usually prefer to socialize more than play games. I go to the cons to meet people and talk to them. I usually GM at AtlanticCon. I try and run my events the way I want them run. With a firm but fair hand and with strict time limits.

Phil Reynolds: I went to DixieCon on Memorial Day weekend. It was very enjoyable, somewhat more so than 2 years earlier when it was also paired with World DipCon. Set at the U of NC, there were roughly 50 people, and with only 3 Dip rounds, plenty of time to socialize and play other games. The nearby campus perimeter offered restaurants, shops and a sports bar where I played foosball and pool with Tom Swider and Jack McHugh. David Hood did a good job - I have no significant gripes. I do like the small con - haven't been to a major one so I can't compare. [You should try the larger ones, they have a character all their own. Origins is being held in Fort Worth in '93, and I plan on making it my fourth Origins. Maybe I'll see you there?]

Me?: Well I've attended a number of conventions since my first in 1976 (Origins II). I must say I agree with the others, I go mainly to meet people, have fun, play games and enter tournaments (in that order). I would attend a con even if NO particular organized activity was planned -- as long as there would be plenty of open gaming.

Saying that, I am limited by time and money (as we all are) on how many conventions I can attend, and how far I can travel to them. Maybe when I retire....

Regarding "A Businessman for President" (June, 1992):

Russell Wallace: I'm puzzled by the popularity of Ross Perot. I could not support an independent candidate. How could he possibly control a Congress? How could he be sure that he could sustain a veto? If he couldn't, how could he pass what he wanted while blocking what he didn't like? [You're the first I've heard ask these tough questions, though I don't follow the political arena as I should. Maybe the next time Perot has a call-in hour you should call!!]. He would be powerless to make deals and let's face it, politics is a game of "Let's Make a Deal". There is no sense of voting in someone who won't be able to govern, unless he of course affiliates himself with one party or the other after the election. Of course if Perot was going to align himself with one party or the other, I would guess he would align himself with Big Business and the Republican Party rather than Labor and the Democratic Party. [I'm sure he would go with the Republicans, if he aligned himself].

The big question we have to ask ourselves is not where a Third Party Candidate stands on the issues, but will he be able to govern.

It seems to me that as voters we are incredibly ignorant. When the President's party is also in control of the Senate and Congress a President wields enormous power and can thus push forward his policies. When we elect a President who does not control Congress, such as Reagan and Bush, what should we expect? What will happen if we end up with Ross Perot? An impotent President I would guess.

Jack McHugh: I will not vote for Perot because of his "anti-politician, no position, easy answer" stance. I don't believe in either worshipping or attacking people just because they are or are not wealthy. If a Lee Iacocca can do the job, fine, as long as he goes thru the democratic process--that's fine with me. Who says only professional pols and lawyers are fit to serve in office? The bottom line today is money anyway...the state and federal governments are dominated by the wealthy, so to me its a moot question, we already have an oligarchy of the rich.

As for Perot and his bullshit, "we can spend two billion and balance the budget deficit", answers, I'm not interested but the American people are. They seek a demagogue and they got one. The American electorate is simply not interested in making hard choices...they simply want more government for less taxes...good luck!

Steve Courtemanche: Yes, I would vote for a highly successful businessman for President of the United States. Before I would do that, however, I would want to know something of his intended politics. If he (or she), in my opinion, is not a good candidate then a won't vote for him. If the candidate skirts the issues, then why write him/her a blank check?

Regarding "Maps in DipZines" (May, 1992)

Vick Hall: It was interesting to read your debate on Diplomacy maps as they seem to have become more and more the norm over here [England]

to the extent they are now sort of expected. Personally, I don't mind providing them as they take very little time to produce and as long as people realize they are just an aid and that they should only rely on the accuracy of the adjudications and not the maps, there is no harm in including them. Having said that, I only have two dippy games running [in A LITTLE ORIGINAL SIN] so it does not take up much space or time. If I wasn't keen on producing loads of maps in the 'zine then I suppose the alternative would be to stick a blank photocopy of a map in with the 'zine and let the players fill it in themselves. [All our copies of DIPLOMACY have blank maps supplied with them at purchase. A friend of mine just photocopies that and shades in the areas for all the games he's in and puts them in the game file for easy reference].

Regarding "The State of the Union" (March, 1992):

Mark Nelson: I don't doubt that the average American has never had it so good, or that almost all (if not all) of your readers are at least average Americans, most of them are probably a fair way above average. If you happen to fall into this, predominantly WASP, group then your personal future is looking good.

And although I have written nasty anti-American diatribes in numerous American fanzines over the years I would be perfectly willing to work/live in the States. In fact I seriously considered going to an American University for my doctorate.

But although the picture may appear to look rosy on the surface, on the inside the State of the Union is bad. It might not be rotten to the core but the skin is decaying. High crime rates (particularly involving guns --- now, I wonder why that might be?), ever increasing drug problems (fuelling the increase in crime), declining levels of literacy, problems caused by mass illegal (and legal) immigration and an Economic that is not as sound as it once was. These are serious problems, but that politicians ignore because they aren't going to blow up under the present administration or even the next one, but at some indeterminate time in the future.

It is, of course, a facile argument to suggest that because ever increasing numbers of people want to emigrate to America that things must be getting better. The answer is simple, no matter what the state of the American economy it is considerably better than those in Central and Southern America, etc.

Many of these problems are problems faced by most of the Industrialized World, particularly Western Europe. I don't see things getting better in the States, because I don't see politicians being concerned with the issues.

And whilst the average American may be getting wealthier not only are those at the bottom getting poorer, but there are ever increasing numbers of them. But as long as we don't fall into that category, who cares about them?

Regarding "New Year's Resolutions" (February, 1992):

Mark Nelson: I don't make them, if I want to make a positive change in my lifestyle I am sufficiently strong-willed to be able to make the effort when it needs to be made. The turning over a new page at the start of a new year argument is for people who are unlikely to be able to maintain any such promise.

Regarding "Gun Control" (November, 1991):

Mark Nelson: It's undeniable that the reason why there is so much heavy duty crime in the States is the ease of access to Guns. American streets more dangerous than the streets almost anywhere else in the Western world because of ease of access to Guns. The solution is simple, move towards a system where the onus is on the owner to justify ownership and where most weaponry is unavailable.

Unfortunately this naive solution fails to take into account the political situation in the States. It seems highly unlikely that there will be significant reform of the law covering gun ownership because of the large special interest groups. Then there is also the myth of personal freedom to do what you want as long as it doesn't impinge on somebody else's personal freedom.

A compromise solution? How about making it more difficult to obtain a gun license and requiring some kind of road-test on basic aspects of gun-safety. Also tougher penalties on people who make repeat offenses.

Question for August's issue: Rap music has gotten quite a bit of bad press recently in the US. Two examples are Rapper "Ice T" and the "Body Count" rap group's song "Cop Killer" and the female rapper's (I don't remember her name) comments about 'having a week to kill white people' (she also had a song that mentions killing cops). How accountable should those singers be for any action others take in response to their songs? Should the promoters, record companies and other sponsoring individuals be held accountable?

*Zine Register*, the self-proclaimed zine that "helps the hobby look at itself," is back! Issue #20 (Summer 1992) is hot off the presses—and even bigger than last fall's mammoth issue. Get your own copy of this expensively overproduced piece of trash for the incredible deal price of just \$2.50 (\$4.00 for overseas purchasers).

Hundreds of reviews from a wide variety of hobby members include all the latest news on gamestarts, zine folds, new zine startups, etc. There is just no better picture of where the hobby is right now than *Zine Register*! Find out what the fuss, er, *fun* is all about! Send \$2.50 to:

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Summer  
1992**

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Phone/Fax/Data: (718) 852-6574

HOBBY NEWS

- 01) Enclosed is a copy of the PDORA bid sheet and rules. Please support this effort to fund various hobby activities. I can recommend any of the subs (except SON OF FLIP, which I've never seen). Also the horoscope is VERY complete and interesting. I had the high bid last year, and enjoyed reading it.
  - 02) Inside, as well, is an ad announcing the release of ZINE REGISTER #20. It is an excellent product, with reviews of just about every 'zine in the North American hobby. For the price, you just can't beat it. The review of RW was very nice!! Thanks, Garret!
  - 03) The ENCYCLOPEDIA OF POSTAL DIPLOMACY ZINES, Jim Meinel's long-term project to compile information on all North American Diplomacy 'zines, is at the printers. See the ad to order a copy for yourself.
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**From Einstein To Bernstein**

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WHITE WIND INC.

15 BURNSIDE ST.  
LANCASTER, NH 03584  
(603) 788-3255



Spring 1992

Dear Collector,

As someone interested in games and/or cards, I thought you'd want to know about some future collectibles.

I started my own game company last year called White Wind, Inc. The first two games, ELFENGOLD and FISHY, were released at the Essen Game Fair in Germany in October, 91. Both games are individually numbered, limited editions of 1200 copies. They were made in Europe, come in bookcase boxes, and have quality wooden and plastic components. Price is \$30 each or both for \$55 (prices include shipping). Less than 200 will ever be for-sale in the USA, so I expect the price and value to rise dramatically as soon as they are all gone, probably sometime later this year. Two more limited edition games will be released at Essen this year.

ELFENGOLD is for 2-6 players, best with 3-5. Players are elves digging in a mine for gold. Each turn, players place rocks and blanks on the board, choose where to move, choose whether to dig or not, and if digging choose whether to dig with a shovel or a pick axe. If a player digs in a space with a rock he breaks his shovel or pick axe. If he digs in a space without a rock, he gains gold. The game ends when one player has 50 gold. Playing time is about 60 minutes. Components include a gameboard, 6 wooden miners, 30 plastic shovels, 18 plastic pick axes, 30 wooden rock counters, a wooden dragon, 75 gold chips, and rules.

FISHY is for 3-6 players, best with 5-6. This is really three simple card games in one. In game one, players are fishmongers trying to sell their fish before they become too rotten to sell. In game two, players are chefs at the fish market trying to buy the freshest fish to cook in their restaurants. In game three, players are fishermen trying to sell their fish to the fishmongers. Playing time is 15-30 minutes. Components include a gameboard, 6 sets of 20 wooden fish, 42 barrel cards, 13 cat cards, and rules.

For \$5, you may become a member of the 1200 Club. You will then be entitled to select an individual number, and you will receive this individually numbered copy of each White Wind limited edition. Other benefits include a free subscription to the White Wind Newsletter, automatic entry into any and all White Wind raffles, and reduced prices on future White Wind unlimited edition games. A fourth game for FISHY and a variant for ELFENGOLD will appear in issue #1 of the newsletter. There are still a few of the more desirable low numbers available.

Prices on orders for multiple copies available on request. Dealer inquiries welcome.

Best Wishes,

Alan R. Moon  
President



WHITE WIND INC.

15 BURNSIDE ST.  
LANCASTER, NH 03584  
(603) 788-3255

ALAN R. MOON  
PRESIDENT

# THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF POSTAL DIPLOMACY ZINES

It's been over a year in the works, and the Encyclopedia of Postal Diplomacy Zines is almost ready for distribution! This publication lists every North American postal Diplomacy zine ever published since the hobby's founding in 1963 and has entries describing over 800 zines. This Encyclopedia is the product of dozens of hobbyists' contributions in addition to a visit by the editor to the famed "Hoosier Archives" in Indianapolis, Indiana! Other features include:

- Over 800 postal Diplomacy zines listed.
- An index referencing over 500 hobbyists names over the years.
- Sidebar describing various aspects of the hobby.
- 115 pages; full faced, laser printed, spiral bound.

The following is a sample of a typical entry in the Encyclopedia:

## Black Frog

Jack H. Masters

October 1979

Valencia, CA

LKI: #60 October 16, 1982

A digest-size zine which quickly became immensely popular in the hobby as a literary zine, finishing first in the 1981 Runestone Poll. The publisher's fall from grace was just precipitous; it was discovered he plagiarized a famous author's work and passed it off as his own in his zine. Needless to say, the zine's days were numbered after that revelation. Jack ran his Diplomacy games in a separate publication, *East of Eden*.

Price? Only \$9.10 for the actual publication, plus \$2.90 for first class postage to come to a total price of **\$12.00**. (Canada: US\$12 -overseas price: US\$20) The publication will be ready for distribution by the July 31, 1992 so if you'd like to order early, send \$12 to:

Encyclopedia of Postal Diplomacy Zines  
% Jim Meinel  
2801 Pelican Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99515-1364  
hm (907) 243-8337

tear here

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your Encyclopedia will be mailed via USPS first class in late July. Money back guarantee (less postage) if you're not satisfied for any reason.

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ x \$12.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed. (overseas US\$20)

Mail to: Jim Meinel 2801 Pelican Drive Anchorage, AK 99515-1364 (907) 243-8337

GAME L JS

Gunboat (w/Press): four openings, \$5.00 NMR fee required. If you are signed up, there will be a red check ==)

Regular: Two openings, \$5.00 NMR fee. Signed up: Clingman, Nesbitt, Hendricks, Brush, Stuart

Regular, International: Four openings, \$5.00 NMR fee with two month deadlines and no split seasons. Signed up: Breakwell; Grose; Duarte

Nuclear Destruction: one openings, NO NMR fee. Signed up: Nelson, Koehler, Wallace, Reynolds, Grose, Breakwell

Standbys: V. Lutterbie, DePalma, Reynolds, Schultz, Koehler, Wallace, Lewis, McHugh, Grose, Young, Gonsalves, Kent

\*\*Please notify the editor if you want on or off the list.\*\*

Other game openings upon request of the readership. Contact the editor if you have a favorite game or variant.

=====

# Rambling Way~

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