



# R a m b l i n g   w a y

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Issue #30

May 1993

Circulation: 82

Well, it seems one of the changes I implemented a few issues back went over like the proverbial lead balloon. Thus, I've rolled back the game fees and discontinued the practice of the donation to Texas Public Radio. Those who previously paid for a game fee have had their subs credited with the difference.

Speaking of game openings, I've opened one for a variant of Excaliber. This one was brought to my attention through Stephen Agar's 'zine Spring Offensive. It looks like an interesting one based on events in England around 450AD. The rules are available for a SASE. Any other variants of interest to the readership? How about Railway Rivals, Bus Boss, EuroRails/EmpireBuilder, or such type game? I'm willing to GM just about anything.

I made a mistake about the Fog of War game. I'd originally intended it to be a Gunboat version. Then, I promptly listed the one person who signed up. Because of this faux pas, I'm going to make it a regular Fog of War game (that is if you can call Fog of War regular).

The current subscriber list is reprinted. Please remove and save it for future reference. Unfortunately, it wouldn't all fit on a single sheet of paper, so the remaining three names are listed below. You may just want to tear the bottom of this off and staple it to the other sheet.

I anticipate printing version 3.0 of my house rules next time. As always, suggestions are welcome to improve them. There will be a number of changes based on my experiences in GMing over these past couple of years.

Once that project is completed, I'm going to work some more on the format of RW. I'd like to learn more about the DTP program I have, and apply it to improve the looks of things.

Also, I've had a number of requests for more "personal" insights and commentary. Look for a bio coming up (they seem to be popular these days), some thoughts on current issues and an on-going list of what I've been reading (you can learn a lot about a person by what he reads). I welcome any constructive feedback or your own thoughts on topics. Maybe a real lettercol will result!!

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## Subscriber List (cont.)

Whiskeyman, Earl; 27 Mark St.; Milford, CT 06460

(Pub - The Gamers' 'Zine)

White, Cal; 1 Turnberry Ave.; Toronto, Ontario M6N 1P6 CANADA

(Pub - Northern Flame)

Young, Eric; 4784 Stepney, RR #2, C2; Armstong, BC V0E 1B0 CANADA

(Pub - The Tactful Assassin)

Except where otherwise indicated, the views and opinions expressed herein are solely mine and are not necessarily those of the Department of State or any other U.S. Government agency.

Although fewer than two percent of India's people are Christians, the country has a long Christian history. The Apostle Thomas is said to have landed on the southwest coast of India (Kerala), and traveled across lower India to Madras where eventually he was killed. When the Dutch landed in SW India in the 1500s, they were astonished to find Christian communities who were descendants of converts made by Thomas.

India. An adventureland, yes, but not a vacation land. If you want a vacation, go to Switzerland or Hawaii. Here are some highlights of our family vacation in Srinigar, Kashmir. Many Embassy families visited Srinigar. I'm not sure whether their standards were lower, they didn't care when things went wrong, or whether less went wrong on their trips, but few seemed to have as bad an experience as we did.

The five of us had planned a four-day vacation with the three nights being spent on a houseboat on Dal Lake. We arranged the flight and the first-class houseboat rental through an Indian-staffed American Express office in New Delhi. The flight up was fine. The houseboat, according to its owner, was the same one in which Mick and Bianca Jagger stayed some years before, and the bedsheets were the very same ones the Jaggers had used, he said. We thought that was pretty neat until we saw that the sheets looked as though they hadn't been washed since the Jaggers had used them.

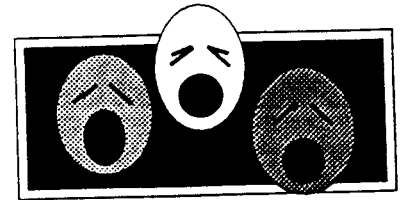
We took a nice boat ride on Dal Lake; the scenery and vegetation were very pretty. We also visited a mountaintop fort which overlooks the town. Both these were enjoyable, but the city is located in a basin which helps trap the city's badly polluted air, which principally comes from dung and wood burning and especially from vehicle exhaust. On another day, our local rented car and driver came a couple of hours late to begin our visit to a ski and horsebackriding resort. The resort itself, however, was quite satisfactory.

Since the houseboat was dirty and its beds were uncomfortable, we spent our last night in the local five star hotel - quite nice; more expensive. On our departure day, we went to the airport only to find we had no seats on the return flight to Delhi -- our return reservations were for several days later! After several phone calls, several hours of negotiation (but no baksheesh, or bribes, were paid), an extra night in another hotel, and lots of worry and stress, we were able to leave the following day. American Express did give us a letter of apology and an appropriate refund, but the whole thing definitely was not a vacation experience.

We did find, however, that most people when they traveled most places in India had to put up with unexpected problems. Unexpected problems were the norm. That's okay if you're going on an adventure, but not if you're taking a vacation. We also found that we could not rely on the evaluations of others about their experiences in India (or in Japan, for that matter). People would tell us that this servant was so wonderful, this place was so great, and this food was so delicious, and most of the time after we had the same experience we did not agree with them.



"WHAD' YA KNOW"  
RW #2 -- MN: 1991Wrb32



CONGRATS to Doug Kent, Winner by Concession  
in Winter 1909

Final Players

Turkey -- Doug Kent; England -- Joe Brooks; France -- James Logue;  
Germany -- Mark Simonitch; Italy -- Stephen Glasgow

Final Centers

- Turkey (14): Con/Ank/Smy/Gre/Bul/Rum/Ser/Nap/Tun/Sev/Tri/  
Mos/Bud/Vie
- Russia (0): Eliminated Fall 1909
- Italy (1): Ven
- England (4): Edi/Spa/Por/Stp
- France (2): Mar/Rom
- Germany(13): Kie/Ber/Mun/Hol/Swe/Den/Bel/War/Par/Bre/Nwy/Lon/Lpl
- Austria (0): Eliminated Fall 1909

DUE DATE for End-Game Statements: May 27, 1993 at 12:00 noon

Proposals: Concession to Turkey 0 No, 5 Yes;  
G/T Draw 1 No, 4 Yes; G/E/T Draw 2 No, 3 Yes

NOTE: Final information and center chart will be published next  
turn along with the end-game statements.

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Poll Question (cont.)

Me: I think the US does have responsibility to the rest of the world. Isolationism isn't the answer, just as it wasn't the answer between the First and Second World Wars. I don't want a world that runs to the US every time internal turmoil creates a difficult political climate; however, on the other hand, I don't want to see the US's only interest in the world being international trade.

The UN is a good organization; however, it isn't able to respond to a crisis in a timely manner. Depending on the US to provide that "service" to the UN and the world seems reasonable (or maybe a NATO type organization). Then, once the UN has had time to mobilize troops from the member nations, they should replace a majority of the US troops (akin to the plan in Somalia).

It's too bad we can't replace much of war with a healthy sense of competition. We (and the world) gained more out of our rivalry with the Soviet space program than our meddling in the third world political/military scene.

Question for June: The first hundred days of the Clinton Administration are over. What do you think of it?



## POLL QUESTION

May's Question: Our Superpower responsibilities?

Jack McHugh (PA): None, the US has no responsibilities outside very narrow strategic interest. The justification for caring about events worldwide was because, being in competition with another nuclear armed superpower, we had to care. The Soviet/US competition was literally spread all over the planet. No country was outside of you caring. However, the Sovs are gone and they aren't coming back soon. Even if the communist/nationalist get rid of Yeltsin they will find that the old Sov military-industrial complex is gone and the military is in no shape to attack anyone. (In fact I doubt the Russian military could defend Russia against the Chinese or the Germans in its present form.)

The US must not allow itself to be dragged into conflicts all over the world that are not of compelling interest to the US. It is all too easy for the rest of the world to cop out and turn to the US via the UN to solve problems. The historical purpose of war has been to solve political disputes between states--that hasn't changed. To stop all war is to stop all political change between nation states that cannot be agreed upon at the conference table. I don't see how stopping war will stop the root causes of war.

What I fear is an unholy alliance between the bleeding heart goody-goody left and the macho, muscle flexing right to use military force all over the world for reasons other than defending US interests. The left wants us to give us a reason to leave intact the overkill capacity of the Reagan era. Unfortunately, I fear, with encouragement from lazy, politically gutless, they will succeed and it will continue until we run across another Vietnam and get our nose bloody. The fact that we lost 50,000 American dead in Vietnam before we declared 'victory' and left is what bothers me. What will we tell their parents/siblings/friends this time (and where will the UN be then?)

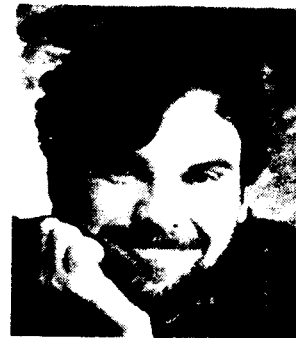
Will Richardson (AL) Who said we were the only superpower left on the planet? And who thinks superpower status is a good thing? The fact is, the US is not a "superpower". Our economy has been on a slide since the early 70's, and Germany and Japan have had stronger economies than our own for years. Granted, we may still have a strong military, but that is a holdover from the "military industrial complex" days, when our economy could bear the strain of an inflated military. We can't do it anymore, folks. We lost the meaningless title of "superpower" the day the Soviet Union collapsed; the USSR was the American Empire's reason for living. Do we have a responsibility to the world? No. We never did. At the height of the Cold War, the US and USSR never did anything out of a feeling of "responsibility" for the world. It was a game of power plays, not charity. Anybody who believes otherwise is living the "nostalgia of impermeability", I believe is what Sartre called it (and if I am using his phrase correctly). Logically speaking, the premise of US as superpower is moot, so the rest of the question is meaningless.

<<Continued after "Whad' Ya Know">>

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

Sundays, 10 PM, KSTX

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



Mountain Stage host, Larry Groce

<Summer 1906>; Fall 1906

- Turkey ( ): NMR; F BLA, A GRE, A ARM, F CON all hold
  - Russia ( ): <F nwy-NTH>; A stp-LVN, A WAR s a stp-lvn,  
F BUL(EC) s f rum, F RUM s f bul(ec), A tri-VIE,  
A SER s f bul(ec), A mos-SEV, A UKR s a mos-sev,  
F NTH-nwy
  - Italy ( ): A VEN holds, F TYN s f nap-ion, F nap-ION
  - England( ): A YOR-edi, F eng-BRE
  - France ( ): F TUN holds, F CLY-edi, F LON holds, F wal-ENG,  
A TYL s it a ven-tri (nso), F wme-MAO, A BUR holds
  - Germany( ): NMR; A BEL, A RUH, A BOH, F SWE, F NWY, A MUN all hold  
A lvn holds (r-pru/mos/otb)
  - Austria( ): A vie-BUD
- If you're playing, a red checkmark will be next to the country.

CENTERS/BUILDS

- Turkey (4): Con/Smy/Gre/Ank/bul = even
- Russia (8/9):War/Stp/Sev/Rum/Ser/Tri/Mos?/VIE/BUL/bud/nwy = even  
or -1 <depending on retreat>
- Italy (3): Rom/Nap/Ven = even
- England(2): Edi/BRE/lon = even
- France (7): Mar/Par/Spa/Por/Tun/Lpl/LON/bre = even
- Germany(8/9):Kie/Ber/Mun/Den/Hol/Bel/Swe/NWY/MOS? = +1 or +2  
<depending on retreat>
- Austria(1): BUD/vie = even

DUE DATE for Autumn/Winter 1906, Spring 1907 and Proposal:  
May 27, 1993 at 12:00 noon

Proposal: R/G (NVR=No; NMR=Yes)

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New Subbers  
(Add to Your List)

- Agar, Stephen; 79 Florence; Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 6DL; UK  
(pub - Spring Offensive)
- Hassler, Chris; 285 N. Holliston, #2; Pasadena, CA 91106  
(pub - S.O.B.)
- Sergeant, Bob; 3242 Lupine Drive; Indianapolis, IN 46224

New Address  
(Update Your List)

- Ouellette, Ed; 22400 Haskell; Taylor, MI 48180
- Richardson, Will; 1913 Old Government St.; Mobile, AL 36606
- Thomas, Christian; 146 Jacqueline Dr.; Johnstown, PA 15904

# Riverwalk, Live From the Landing

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

<Autumn 1906>; [Winter 1906]; Spring 1907

Russia (Brooks, Joe; 300 Market St.; Navarre, OH 44662)  
[builds F STP(NC), A WAR]; F tun-NAF, F ion-TUN, A BER s a kie,  
A KIE s aus a mun-ruh, A SIL holds, F bal-DEN, A WAR holds,  
A SWE s f bal-den, A FIN s f nwy, F NAO-nwg, F stp(nc)-BAR,  
F NWY s f stp(nc)-bar

Italy (Koehler, Stephen; 6166 Winged Elm Ct; Charlotte, NC 28212)  
[removes a pie]; F SPA(SC) s a por, A POR s f spa(sc)

England (Lewis, Jim; 14741 Balsam; Southgate, MI 48195)  
[builds F LPL]; F ENG s it f spa(sc)-mao (nso), F LPL-nao,  
F den-swe (r-hel/otb), F NTH s ger f ska-nwy,  
F NWG s ger f ska-nwy

France (Wallace, Russell; 67 Lakeview Ave.; Lynn, MA 01904)  
[NRR; a gas removed]; NMR - F LYO, A MAR, A BUR all hold

Germany (Voogd, Eric; 22620 Byron St.; Hayward, CA 94541)  
<A kie-HOL>; [removes a hol]; F SKA-nwy

Austria (Eastepp, Roger; 14715 Soft Wind Dr; North Potomac MD 20878)  
[builds F TRI, playing one short]; F nap-TYN, A VEN s a tyl-pie,  
A apu-ROM, A rom-TUS, F WME-lyo, A tyl-PIE, A boh-MUN, A mun-RUH,  
A ALB holds, A mun-RUH, F tri-ADR

## CENTERS

Turkey (0): ELIMINATED FALL 1904  
Russia (12): War/Stp/Mos/Sev/Nwy/Swe/Rum/Con/Ank/Ber/Kie/Tun  
Italy (2): Spa/Por  
England (5): Lon/Edi/Lpl/Bel/Den  
France (3): Bre/Par/Mar  
Germany (1): Hol  
Austria(11): Vie/Tri/Bud/Ser/Gre/Bul/Smy/Ven/Mun/Rom/Nap

DUE DATE for Summer/Fall 1907: May 27, 1993 at 12:00 noon

PROPOSAL: Concession to Austria 3 No, 4 Yes; A/R Draw 3 No, 4 Yes  
None are reposed

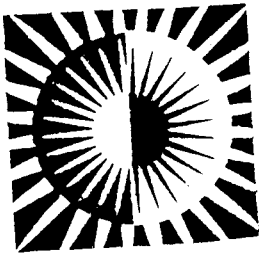
NOTE: Would Dan Mathias (509 Bayview; Lusby, MD 20657) standby for France?

## PRESS

Ita-Fra: I saw The Crying Game too.  
Eng-World: Are there true diplomats who would pay a courtesy call  
on the English embassy?  
Eng-Rus: You write "to write" right?

**Riverwalk, Live  
From the Landing  
Blows Own Horn**

Saturdays, 8 PM and Sundays at  
12 noon, KSTX



"All Things Considered"  
RW #5 -- BN: 1992V



<Summer 1904>; Fall 1904

Turkey (Castille, Michael; 3201 Tenth St.; Port Arthur, TX 77642)  
F ion-ADR, F BLA-rum, F bul(sc)-CON, F eme-ION, F gre-BUL(SC),  
F AEG s f gre-bul(sc)

Russia (Hyatt, Fred; 60 Grandview Pl.; Montclair, NJ 07043)  
F SWE holds, A RUM s a sev, A stp-FIN, A WAR holds, A SEV s a rum

Italy (Young, Eric; 4784 Stepney Rd., RR#2, C2; Armstrong, BC  
VOE 1B0 CANADA)  
F alb-GRE, F APU s a ven, A VEN s ger a pie-tyl (nso, F tun-TYN)

England (Mathias, Dan; 509 Bayview Dr.; Lusby, MD 20657)  
F ENG c a yor-bre, F MAO s a yor-bre, A yor-BRE,  
F NTH c a yor-bre

France (Nesbitt, Will; PO Box 1231; Front Royal, VA 22630)  
NMR; A GAS, A MAR, F SPA(SC) all hold, A bre holds (r-par/otb)

Germany (Chrones, Jamie; 2117 Wildwood Dr., RR1; Duncan, BC  
V9L 1M3 CANADA)  
<A mar-PIE>; F den-SKA, A RUH s a bur, F hel-DEN, A bel-PIC,  
A BUR s a bel-pic, A kie-MUN, A PIE-mar

Austria (Weiss, Richard; 554 Liberty St.; San Francisco, CA 94114)  
A TRI-ven, A BUD s a ser-rum, A SER-rum, A TYL s a tri-ven

CENTERS/BUILDS

Turkey (4):	Con/Ank/Smy/Bul/ <u>gre/sev</u>	= -2
Russia (6):	War/Stp/Mos/Swe/Rum/SEV	= +1
Italy (5):	Rom/Nap/Ven/Tun/GRE	= +1
England(5):	Lon/Edi/Lpl/Nwy/BRE	= +1
France (4):	Par/Spa/Por/MAR/ <u>bre</u>	= even or +1
		(depending on retreat)
Germany(6):	Kie/Ber/Mun/Den/Hol/Bel/ <u>mar</u>	= -1
Austria(4):	Vie/Tri/Bud/Ser	= even

DUE DATE for Autumn/Winter 1904 and Spring 1905: May 27, 1993  
at 12:00 noon

NOTE: Would Joe Brooks (300 Market St.; Navarre, OH 44662)  
standby for France?

PRESS

Rus-Ita: The patience of the Great White Bear is legendary, but not infinite. The Great White Bear moves at its own pace; to good <?> it could be dangerous.

Rus-Ger: A Nwy-Yor was known to me well in advance. I could have taken Norway and held it.

Ger-Aus: You weren't thinking of dropping in, were you?

Ger-Ita: I told you not to be so optimistic. Just got lucky, that's all. Yes maybe we can get along.

Ger-Eng: I am glad you can, unlike the Austrian, appreciate the realities of our position.

Ger-Fra: Why is every nation annoyed with you? Don't blame me for being the most annoyed. The English summed it up pretty nicely.  
Ger-Rus: We wait to see how the wind blows.  
Tur-Rus: Though you told me otherwise, I interpreted your second letter as an indication that you are going to attack me, with Austria's help of course.  
Tur-Aus: I wouldn't be surprised if you attacked Bulgaria instead of Rumania. Your letter fooled me for about two hours before I realized what you are up to. I admired the sneakiness in your letter -- it's the type of letter I would write!  
(Austria) Bud to Everybody's Bud(dy) (Russia): How do you get everybody to believe you are a tamed bear? Or, as I heard someone say once, "not dangerous like a cobra!"  
(Austria) Bud-Con: Gee, where'd all those ships go? No men to man the oars?  
(Austria) Bud-Mun: An unusually early opportunity to work together, here. Thanks for the offer. I hope you did it.  
(Austria) Bud-Yor: You're sure playing strange. Nor would I trade a Brest for a fjord. How much did the Bear trade you?  
(Austria) Bud-Par: You have quite a pair attacking you. If you were very lucky this year you might get a Christmas present.  
Italy-World: Sorry mail's caught me & I didn't get things in.

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#### HOBBY NEWS

01) S.O.B. is the latest offering from the D.O.G.S. of War crowd in southern California. Replacing the subzine "Hound from Hell", Chris Hassler (285 N Holliston #2; Pasadena, CA 91106) has openings for New World and Machiavelli Stock Exchange. Other games currently running include Merchant of Venus, Midway Campaign and Dune. Cost is \$0.75/issue, or \$1.00/issue which includes Niccolo (the zine for the Machiavelli Custodian).

02) I forgot, last issue, to note that Pete Gaughan (1521 S Novato Blvd., #46; Novato, CA 94947) is compiling the latest issue of Zine Register. If you're a pubber and haven't received a sheet from Pete, do so quickly. He's also looking for guest reviews of any hobby publication.

03) The Canadian Diplomacy Organization is holding their election for Committeeman. Votes are due by May 15th and may either be for or against Brent McKee.

04) The fold of Bruce McIntyre's Excelsior was recently announced in Northern Flame. I, for one, will miss it.

05) Maniac's Paradise (Doug Kent; 54 West Cherry St., #211; Rahway, NJ 07065) has reached the milestone of 50 issues. If you're interested in the new, draft, version of the World DipCon Charter (by Iain Bowen), it is printed in toto in this issue.

06) Fred Davis (3210-K Wheaton Way; Ellicott City, MD 21043) is now handling the SUPERNOVA packets. Cost is \$1.00 for Mensa DipSIG members and \$1.50 for everyone else.





Responses this time were received from: Steve Koehler, Will Richardson, Hugh McAloon, Jack Jewart, Richard Weiss, Stephen Glasgow, Kirk Irby, Stven Carlberg, David Charlton, and Curt Milbourn. Thanks to Richard Weiss for suggested categories!!

AND THE WINNER IS: Jack Jewart with 9 unduplicated answers.

The Runners Up were: Stven Carlberg and Richard Weiss with 8 each.

Duplicate responses are marked with an asterix, disallowed entries are underlined. Those with question marks have comments below.

Manufacturing Companies: Westinghouse, Winchester, Weyerhaeuser Aluminum/Weyerhaeuser\*, West End Games?, Willamette Industries, Winthrop, Wrigley's\*

Drug Names: Weed/Wacky Weed\*, Wingel, Wytensin, Wymox, Winstrol, Windowpane

Extinct Animals: Whooping Crane\*, Wooly Mammoth\*, Wooly Rhinoceros\*

Battles w/US: Wilderness\*, War of 1812?, Wounded Knee\*, Wake Island\*, Wilson's Creek

Things in Bedroom: Wardrobe\*, Windows, Wallpaper\*, Wall Socket, Wind-up Alarm Clock, Wire Hangers, Wall-to-wall Carpeting

Child Actors/Actresses: Natalie Wood\*, Winona Ryder\*, Jaleel White, Alec Weston, John Wayne, Elijah Wood

Sun Words: Winter Solstice, Worship of, Wind (solar)\*, Wilt, West, Wavelength, Water Cycle, Warmth/Warm\*

"Get Away From it All": Whitewater Rafting, West Indies, Wishful Thinking, Williamsburg (VA), the Wilderness, Waterskiing, "Wine, Women and Song", Windjammer Cruises, Windsurfing

10-letter words: Wallflower, Watermelon\*, Watercraft, Wretchedly, Witchcraft, Whatsoever, Wavelength, Wilderness

Parlor Games: Whist\*, Who am I?

Dead Scientists: Watson, Ernst Weber\*, Eli Whitney?, Booker T. Washington, Werner von Braun\*, Wheatstone, Walter Reed

Occupations: Whaler\*, Welder, Wheelwright\*, Wharfinger, Window Cleaner/Washer\*, Word Processor, Watchmaker

Police Terms: Wanted\*, Warrant, Wail, Wrongful Death, Watch, Weapons Range, Watchhouse, Weapon

Rivers: Winnipeg, Wabash\*, Washita\*, Winooski, Welland, Waikato

Plants: Water Lily, Weltwitchia, Willow Tree, Woad, Wandering Jew\*, Wisteria, Wonga Wonga Vine, Wallflower, Watermelon

Comments: West End Games - A game publisher, not a manufacturer.  
 War of 1812 - it was pointed out I did say "Battles" instead of the singular. Oh well.  
 Eli Whitney - an inventor, not a scientist.

Sorry, I know this was a tough one, I'll try to "lighten" up in the future. ...and no one thought of Wil Wheaton (of Star Trek) or Warrant Officer (my job).

RULES: Each issue, fifteen categories will be listed along with a letter. Without research, you must pick something that matches the category and that starts with the indicated letter. For persons, either the first or last name is eligible. Your goal is to pick a unique answer for each category - whomever has the most unmatched answers will receive the next issue of Rambling WAY free. A particular answer or word can be used only once per round. If the answer is obscure, please give me a reference for it, otherwise I'll use materials I have handy to verify it. Rulings by the GM are final on whether an answer is acceptable or not. Suggestions for future categories are welcome.

DEADLINE for the next round: May 27, 1993 at 12:00 noon

The Letter is "G":

- 01) Foreign Words
- 02) Cancelled TV Shows
- 03) Wargames
- 04) Capital Cities
- 05) Financial Terms
- 06) Fish
- 07) Adjectives over 8 letters
- 08) Beverages
- 09) Historical Sites
- 10) Magazine Names
- 11) Colors
- 12) Live Entertainment
- 13) Sports Team Nicknames
- 14) Weapons
- 15) Things You Join



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Displaced Front Page Stuff

DISCLAIMER: DIPLOMA is published and copyrighted by The Avalon Hill Game Company of Baltimore, MD; inventor Allan Calhamer.

SUBSCRIPTION: Cost per issue is \$1.00 in the US, \$1.25 for those in Canada/Mexico. Other countries are \$2.25/issue. Trades are welcome, contact the editor. Back issues are \$1.50 each. Samples are free, though a stamp or two is appreciated.

GAME FEES: Listed with each game.

SUBSCRIPTION LISTS: A complete, up-to-date, player list is available at any time for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

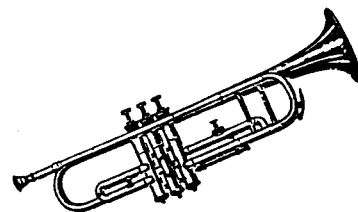
CON LIST: A listing of all conventions known to me is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

HOUSE RULES: The second edition is available upon request. All game are currently run using version 2.1.

**This Month on  
BluesStage**

Saturdays, 11 PM, KSTX

"BluesStage"  
RW #6 -- BN: 1992AG



Spring 1904

Turkey (Nesbitt, Will; PO Box 1231; Front Royal, VA 22630):  
NMR; F GRE, A RUM, A BUL, F BLA, A ARM, F AEG all hold  
Russia (Hendricks, Paul; 148 Sunny Drive; Ashland, VA 23005):  
A ukr-MOS, A stp-LVN  
Italy (Stuart, Rick; 33 Sutton Pl.; Cincinnati, OH 45230):  
A vie-BOH, A BUD s a ser, F ION c a alb-tun, A SER holds,  
F ADR s f ion, A alb-TUN, A ven-TYL, F nap-TYN  
England (Koehler, Steve; 6166 Winged Elm Ct.; Charlotte, NC 28212):  
a pic-bre (ann), F eng-MAO, F nth-NWY, F IRI s f eng-mao,  
F FIN s ger f bot-stp(sc) (nso), F lon-ENG  
France (Anderson, Lance; 696 Fox Ave., #100; Lewisville, TX 75067):  
F mao s f bre (r-nao/spa(sc)/spa(nc)/por/wme/naf/otb), A par-PIC,  
A GAS s a par (nso), F BRE s a par-pic, A mar-BUR  
Germany (Brush, Mark; 476 Edith Ave.; Johnstown, PA 15906):  
F hol-HEL, A BEL s fr a par-pic, A mun-KIE, F bot-SWE,  
A WAR s rus a ukr-mos, A bur-MUN  
Austria (Gonsalves, Michael; 530 Treasure Lake; Dubois, PA 15801):  
A mos s ger f bot-stp(sc) (nso; r-stp/sev/otb)

CENTERS

Turkey (6): Con/Ank/Smy/Gre/Bul/Rum  
Russia (2): Stp/Sev  
Italy (8): Rom/Nap/Ven/Vie/Tun/Tri/Bud/Ser  
England(6): Lon/Edi/Lpl/Nwy/Den/Swe  
France (5): Bre/Mar/Par/Spa/Por  
Germany(6): Ber/Kie/Mun/Hol/War/Bel  
Austria(1): Mos



DUE DATE for Summer/Fall 1904: May 27, 1993 at 12:00 noon

NOTE: Would Jim Lewis (14741 Balsam; Southgate, MI 48195) standby for Turkey?

PRESS

(Italy) Oberamagurgle, Occupied Burgundy, (Rutters Press):  
Shooting began today in the latest joint Franco-Italian film venture entitled, "Show Them The Way To Go Home", starring in the title roles the acclaimed French actor, the Marquis De Suede and the self-acclaimed Italian film star, Dom Addenoid. The Marquis and the Dom play two bumbling, would-be spies, thrown out of a biplane over the Black Forest to discover the whereabouts of a monster cannon manufactured by Kroups, capable of striking any capital in Europe. Little do they know that they are actually being sent out as decoys by the head of Bohemian intelligence,

General Wilhelm von Haphazard, while the real team of agents attempt to cause chaos throughout Germany by the assassination of the Minister For Ribberbands & Miniskirts. The movie scheduled for release in early 1905 is billed as a comedy though the two stars, when interviewed for this paper, were more than willing to give their best rendition of some of the film's lighter musical moments:

"Hey, Hey wha 'do ya' say?

"No one else in the I-T-A....

"Can do what we do,

"Nobody else are Spies Like Us!"

Rus-Europe: Well, I am happy about only one thing -- that I have lasted against (now) 4 enemies combined for 4 years now. (That doesn't say much for my diplomatic skills though does it???) I very much hope that in the future, I can be on the side that gangs up, as opposed to the target. By the way, I sincerely hope that no one asked for a separation of seasons, but the way this game has gone, I'm sure someone wants to preserve my agony.

Rus-Aus: It seems you managed to outlast me in the race to the pasture. Congratulations! I can only imagine what this game would have been for BOTH of us if we had continued on our original game plan.

(Russia) Czar Bunker: What's with all this serious press? (see 2 Russian missives above). I plan on attacking from the Russian Empire INTO Europe!! HA HA HA!! [Aside] (to nervous Sub-Altern, the only non-deserter in the Czar's private guard, also his nephew) Psst....is the escape submarine still waiting? Yes? Good! Where was I? Ah, yes, beware all of you cowardly aggressors, the Cossacks ride forth!!

Ger-Aus: Sorry, business.

(Russia) Capri (Rutters Press): In a previously unscheduled press conference the President of the Italian nation today announced that the Italy has categorically rejected any plans to annex territories along the Greek border as a move towards furthering a defensive position against future, potential enemies. When queried as to what the anticipated Turkish response might be the President's spokesman, Duke M'Govern replied, "They are behind us on this one, one thousand percent!"

Fra-Tur: I'm not so sure about this English 'ally' of yours...perhaps I'll be able to do better with the new one, assuming he the office <?>.

Ger-Tur: Well, pal, looks like someone is gonna be saving up their allowance for a little trip.

Ger-Aus: My thanks to you. - I completely overlooked your unsupportive action as a part of the confusion caused by my "ally"'s absence.

Ger-Eng: Sorry; my offer is still on because beer numbs pain.

# Texas Public Radio On The Move!



"Crossroads"  
RW #8 -- MN: 1992HRrb32

<Summer 1903>; Fall 1903

Turkey ( ): <A bul-CON>; F BLA s a con-bul, A ank-SMY, A CON-bul,  
F AEG s a con-bul  
Russia ( ): NMR; F SEV, A WAR, A UKR, A MOS all hold,  
F swe holds (r-nwy/bot/bal/fin/otb)  
Italy ( ): A MAR s f lyo-spa(sc), A ven-PIE, F TYN-tun,  
F LYO-spa(sc)  
England( ): <F ska-NWY>; A wal-LON, F IRI s f lon-eng, F lon-ENG,  
F nwy-STP(NC)  
France ( ): <A mar-BUR>; F TUN s tur f aeg-ion (nso), A naf-GAS,  
F SPA(SC) s a bur-mar, A BUR-mar, F MAO c a naf-gas  
Germany( ): F nth-EDI, F SKA s f den-swe, A BEL holds, A kie-DEN,  
A mun-SIL, F den-SWE  
Austria( ): A BUD s rus a ukr-rum (nso), F GRE s a bul, F adr-ION,  
A BUL s rus f sev-rum (nso), A tri-ALB, A SER s a bul,  
If you're playing, a red checkmark will be next to the country.

CENTERS/BUILDS

Turkey (3):	Con/Ank/Smy/ <u>bul</u>	= -1
Russia (3/4):	War/Mos/Sev/NWY?/ <u>swe/stp</u>	= -1 or -2
		<depending on retreat>
Italy (4):	Rom/Nap/Ven/MAR/ <u>tun</u>	= even
England(4/5):	Lon/Edi/Lpl/Nwy?/STP	= even or +1
		<depending on retreat>
France (5):	Bre/Par/Spa/Por/TUN/ <u>mar</u>	= even
Germany(7):	Kie/Ber/Mun/Den/Hol/Bel/SWE	= +1
Austria(7):	Vie/Tri/Bud/Gre/Ser/Rum/BUL	= +1

DUE DATE for Winter 1903/Spring 1904: May 27, 1993 at 12:00 noon

NOTE(1): Thanks to the standby for the unneeded orders.

NOTE(2): A standby is being called for Russia.

PRESS

Eng-Fra: Here I come monsieur, I'm more vindictive than the person you think I am. I don't give up, I get even.

Eng-Ger: Welcome to Edinburgh. The House of Hanover will soon be restored at Windsor Palace.

Eng-Ita: All I want is France's Brest.

Eng-Rus: Enjoy your honor while you've got it.

Ita-Fra: And what hath the Yammering Yee-Haw accomplished? Even given the total collapse of Anglican resistance, you have merely traded Marseilles for Tunis. The Riviera or North Africa? We know which we prefer. And we know which we have!

Ita-Eng: The King is dead. Long live the new King! Whilst the Hun is camped upon your doorstep, neglect not the newly created openings into northern France. We will do what little we can to ease your troubles. Let us know your desires.

Ita-Aus: Once again we demonstrate our passive intentions and trust in our alliance. Do you desire our support for a northward thrust? The Tsar seems disinclined to support our actions and is petrified of a campaign against the Prussian. Perhaps it is time to open negotiations with the Ottoman.

Ita-Tur: Greetings to the noble Sultan and ruler of Byzantium. We note with interest the stalemate that has developed between the Sultan and the Orthodox. Perhaps there are items of mutual interest which might serve to break that stalemate? We await your missives.

Ita-Ger: No doubt you have noticed the vacuum on your border to Yee-Haw-land. Enjoin the Frog in combat and you will have our support.

Aus-Rus: I am an honorable man too! My last 2 moves have shown I keep my word and I tell it like it is. So you better be in Rum! What are you worried about? This is gunboat: there are no secret devious plans with the Turks unless you read it first in the Press! So stop listening to Rasputin! If you're not in Rum, Nicko, we better renegotiate.

Aus-Tur: Damn Russian Clocks! I bet their calendars are bunged up too.

Aus-Ita: I am an honorable ally. I am trying to send my fleet into the Ionian. If it did not get there could I ask for your support next season? I do hate to have it sitting idle in the Adriatic, right beside Venice.

Aus-Fra: If the Italians don't help me, who will?

Aus-Ger: Thank you, but tell me it wasn't my fine Generals in drag that scared you away!

Fra-Ger: Lucky break, old man, Edinburgh will have its first minority. Please, do not disappoint me in Rhineland; greed, like speed, kills. And if ye traversed the goat paths again, don't be selfish - think of my needs! (Every press release paints me more feministic).

Fra-Aus: It was just a joke - sorry if it worked.

Fra-Ita: <Pant, pant> I bet that you probably voted for Bush!

Fra-Rus: Thank you. However, you deserve the credit for being in the driver's seat (-while I'm still carjacking this Yugo!).

Fra-Eng: Dear Sir, take the Channel, - but hands off my Brest!

Fra-Original Eng: I apologize for my offensive press releases. You are the victim of a mistaken identity. As it turns out, the dolt who I mistook you for in another game got his orders in last turn....

Tur-Rus: Your messages to Aus and Ger noted. Such indecision means you should take a year's sabbatical and visit Freud in Vie. PS I am at home and not a Yankee.

Tur-Aus: Such a waste of a nso. Are you sure Rus is your ally?

Tur-Eng: Welcome new leader. Any pressure you can bring to bear on the Russians will be appreciated.



"AfroPop Worldwide"  
RW #9 -- BN: 1992AH

Winter 1901

Turkey (Breakwell, John; 62 Shackleton Way; Woodley, Reading  
RG5 4UT ENGLAND)  
builds F CON; has F BLA, A GRE, A SMY, F CON  
Russia (Duarte, Luiz Claudio; SHIS-QI 19-Conjunto; 7-Casa 35;  
71655-070; Brasilia-DR BRAZIL)  
builds F STP(SC); has F BOT, F RUM, A UKR, A LVN, F STP(SC)  
Italy (Charlton, David; 150 The Parade; Island Bay, Wellington;  
NEW ZEALAND)  
builds F NAP; has F ION, A TUN, A VEN, F NAP  
England (Mathias, Dan; 509 Bayview Dr.; Lusby, MD 20657)  
builds F LON; has F NTH, F NWY, A EDI, F LON  
France (Jewart, Jack E.; 24508-38th Ave Ct E; Spanaway, WA 98387)  
builds F MAR, F BRE, A PAR; has F POR, A BEL, A SPA, A PAR,  
F MAR, F BRE  
Germany (Anderson, Lance; 696 Fox Ave., #100; Lewisville, TX 75067)  
builds F KIE, F BER; has F DEN, A HOL, A RUH, F KIE, F BER  
Austria (Grose, Jim; 3-1313 Wellington St.; Ottawa, Ontario;  
K1Y 3B1 CANADA)  
builds A BUD; has F TRI, A GAL, A SER, A BUD

CENTERS

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

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**Latin and African  
Sounds on AfroPop  
Worldwide**

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Saturdays, 10 PM, KSTX

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DUE DATE for Spring 1902: May 27, 1993 at 12:00 noon

PRESS: Not repeated, see previous issue.

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Convention List (cont.)

Aug 19-22 - Gen Con 1993, Milwaukee, WI. Contact (1993 GENCON Game  
Fair; PO Box 756; Lake Geneva, WI 53247)  
Sept 3-6 - PacifiCon/DipCon XXVI, San Francisco, CA. Contact Don  
Del Grande (142 Eliseo Dr; Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339)  
or Pete Gaughan (1521 S. Novato, #46; Novato, CA 94947)  
Sept 3-6 - Vertigo Games, Paoli, PA. Contact: Brad Wilson  
(PO Box 126, Wayne, PA 19087) May move to Chicago, IL  
Nov 12-14 - PhilCon, Philadelphia, PA. Contact: Oz Fontecchio  
(PO Box 8303; Philadelphia, PA 19101)  
Nov 19-21 - MidCon, Birmingham, England. Contact: Brian Williams  
(30, Rydding Lane; Millfields Estate; West Bromwich,  
England, B71 2HA)

## Brazilian Political Scene

Part 1 of 2

Recently, I have been reading *The Age of Empire 1875-1914*, by Eric J. Hobsbawm. I began to read it partially for a perennial curiosity for history and partially because I have been playing *Pax Britannica* for some weekends. Hobsbawm's book is a finely written history of the period of the game, but what prompted me to write this has no relationship whatsoever with the game.

Rather, it was the fact that I found a peculiar similarity between the political scene in the "first world" countries of that period and present-day Brazilian political scene. In chapter four, Hobsbawm writes about the big change in the western democracies, from a liberal-bourgeois *regime* to a mass-party one. The political parties created after 1848 -- characteristically conservatives and liberals, which dominated politics by carefully controlled ballots and voters -- were then at odds with the new popular parties (socialist, Marxist, etc.), which threatened to overthrow the nice stability of the aristocracy and the middle class.

Of course, the revolution feared by the middle classes did not happen -- with the notable exception of Russia -- and the proletarian parties were incorporated to the political scene, like England's Labor Party, accepting the *status quo*.

Brazilian politics today is very much in the same state. Since the independence (1822), through the Empire and the Republic (since 1889), even in the so-called "democratic" periods Brazil was ruled by an oligarchy. There were changes of oligarchies, but the result was always much the same.

In the days of the Empire, franchise depended on property -- the more rich you were, the more votes you had. Ballots were in the open; the electors voted in a list of names, which was sent to the House of Representatives, which in turn selected the candidates of its choice. The "democracy" of the Empire was so in the hands of the rich merchants and farmers of the South.

The Republic changed the picture, rejecting the property requisite for franchise, but allowing only literate people to vote. This shifted the political center to the North, poorer, but with a greater oligarchic control.

(In the Empire and the First Republic -- 1889 to 1930 -- there was a National Guard in Brazil. The officer ranks to colonel were sold, so the local oligarchs usually were colonels of the Guard. It was also a convenient excuse for the armed men that were the true badge of a colonel's power. Even after the disbandment of the National Guard, the title "colonel" retained a popular meaning akin to "lord".)

In 1934, a new Constitution extended the franchise to women. Until very recently (1988), though, illiterate people could not vote, thus excluding a great part of the population. Even today, official figures estimate that 30% of Brazilian adult people can't read or write. But this is an underestimate: today, as ever, a man is legally literate if he can read and write his own name.

Next month, we'll see some of the means used by this oligarchy to keep the ballots under its control.



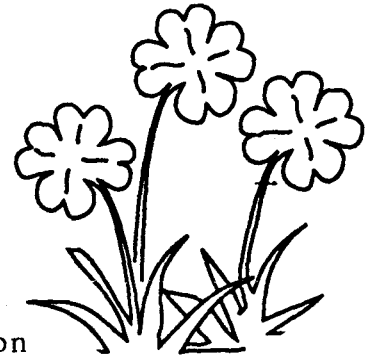
Spring 1902

Turkey ( ): F BLA s a bul-rum, A CON-bul, A BUL-rum, A ank-ARM  
Russia ( ): F SWE s f stp(nc)-nwy, F RUM s f sev-bla, F SEV-bla,  
A FIN s f stp(nc)-nwy, A UKR s f rum, F stp(nc)-NWY,  
Italy ( ): F tun-ION, A tyl-VEN, A boh-TYL, F ven-ADR  
England( ): F NTH s a nwy, F NWG s a nwy, a nwy holds (ann),  
F edi-YOR  
France ( ): F spa(sc)-MAO, A BUR s a par-pic, A por-SPA,  
A par-PIC, F bre-ENG  
Germany( ): F HOL-nth, A den-KIE, A BEL-pic, A kie-RUH,  
A BER s a mun, A MUN s a kie-ruh  
Austria( ): F GRE-ion, A VIE s a bud-gal, A SER s a tri,  
A bud-GAL, A TRI s a vie

If you are playing; a red checkmark will be next to the country.

CENTERS

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



DUE DATE for Fall 1902: May 27, 1993 at 12:00 noon

NOTE: Last turn, Turkey had A Ank (not fleet) and France had A Bur  
not A Bel. All players notified by postcard.

PRESS

Tur-Aus: Do you always write like this or did you swallow a copy  
of Ms. Manners. Where I am going depends on your support. Now  
why don't you do something besides trying to talk the rest of us  
to death. My moves make my preferences clear--what about you?  
Tus-Rus: To paraphrase that great American diplomat, Bugs Bunny,  
You realize, of course, that this build of F Sev means war.  
Aus-Tur: I do not think you are a novice -- as a matter of fact,  
I would be glad to hear any proposal from you as to the Med Sea  
Theater. The blatant alliance you mentioned may be I/R - think  
about it. Italy advances on my borders, occupying my attention  
while Russia builds & advances toward you; what do you make of  
that? I submit you and I have more to gain together than opposed.  
Aus-Ger: I have heard nothing from you of late...Communication is  
urgently requested.  
Aus-UK: Noted your missive, the route through Scandinavia may be  
tough. Good luck.  
Aus-Fra: We look forward to seeing the bright sails of your armada  
or perhaps the bayonets of your armies marching to join Austria's

Imperial Troopers in conquest.

Aus-Ita: I am concerned over the possibility of a border clash, lets discuss ways to deescalate the border regions. I am willing to talk seriously if you are.

Aus-Rus: Don't get jumpy, I am not planning a permanent occupation of Galicia but need it only to watch the Green.

(Russia) Nick to World: OK, OK, I'll cut the chatter.

Rus-Ger/Fra: Can you to avoid bashing heads long enough to eliminate the Anglo-Saxon scourge?

Rus-Eng: I hasten to remind you that your move to the Norwegian Sea did not go unnoticed either. What did you expect from me?

Rus-Aus: Pay no attention to that man behind the curtain. It was only the Nick Romanov running at the mouth. The only Triestian wine I am interested in is that which you bring with you for our toast in Constantinople. If my fleet ends up in the Black Sea then Rumania will support Serbia to Bulgaria in the Fall. What more could you ask from a true friend?

Rus-Ita/Tur: If you are not novices then how did you get stuck in such awkward positions?

Fra-Ger: "London Bridge is falling down, falling down, falling down..."

Fra-Aus: No. I got talked out of that possibility by the smooth talk of a common fiend, err friend. It will now be the fall at best.

Fra-Ita: I think that Mun will be lovely this fall. It will be a pleasure to invite the commander of your most northern army to a wine and cheese party on the Bur-Mun border after he has had a chance to stroll through the Mun countryside.

Fra-Rus: DEAR NICKY, I NEED YOUR HELP STOP PLEASE SEND ME SOME DREADNOUGHTS STOP I WILL MEET YOU AT TSUSHIMA STOP I HOPE TO MET YOU AT LOCH NESS SOON AFTERWARDS STOP EMILE

Fra-Eng: You are right! I now fear the silent +3 Kaiser more than I do the fog horn of the Czar. I still think that both are real problems, though. I think that together, we will have to work hard to make Northern Europe safe for civilized forms of government. Oh, by the way, I agree to the DMZ that you asked for with the requirement that you mentioned.

Fra-Tur: Hi.

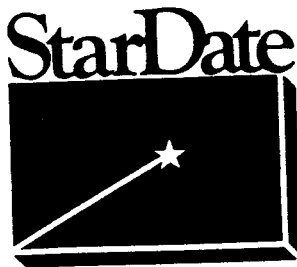
Ger-Eng: Silent? This is Gunboat, right? What difference does it make? LOOK AT THE BUILDS.

Ger-Aus: Nope. It don't bother me if it don't bother you. Besides, I've heard that green slime can be fun to have all over yourself.

Ger-Eng: I did that not to get the North Sea or simply to attack you, or for any other reason one might suspect. I did that because if you are not going to appreciate my builds then I'd rather you not have Norway, either.

Ger-Fra: I'd ask a non-aggression pact with you but neither of us might have anywhere else to go. We don't want to attack England and, unless you help him out, holding back the SLIME will be no problem. You know. we could quite this mess/mess-to-be and simply attack Italy. Think of it: France, Austria, and Germany all attack the little green snake. That would work for a few turns, anyway. And probably would not take very long either.

Ger-Rus: Romp, Russia, Romp!



"StarDate"  
RW #11 -- BN: 1993G

Winter 1901

Turkey (Smith, David; 5038 Boca Raton; Garland, TX 75043)  
builds A SMY; has F AEG, A BUL, A CON, A SMY  
Russia (Stuart, Rick; 33 Sutton Pl.; Cincinnati, OH 45230)  
builds A WAR, A MOS; has F SWE, F RUM, A GAL, A PRU, A WAR, A MOS  
Italy (Richardson, Will; 1913 Old Government St.; Mobile, AL 36606)  
builds A ROM; has F ION, A VEN, A TRI, A ROM  
England (Ritcey, Jerry; 9 Windemere Ct.; Truro, Nova Scotia  
B2N 5Y1 CANADA)  
builds F EDI, A LON; has F NTH, F NWY, A BEL, F EDI, A LON  
France (Thomas, Christian; 146 Jacqueline Dr.; Johnstown, PA 15904)  
builds A MAR, A PAR; has F POR, A MUN, A GAS, A MAR, A PAR  
Germany (Phelps, Andreas J.; 4544 Cadison St.; Torrance, CA 90503)  
builds A BER; has F HOL, A DEN, A BOH, A BER  
Austria (Marcinonis, Ken; 322 Sheri Dr.; Brunswick, OH 44212)  
has F ALB, A VIE, A SER

#### CENTERS

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



Sandy Wood, host  
of Star Date

DUE DATE for Spring 1902: May 27, 1993 at 12:00 noon

#### NOTES

- 1) Will Richardson and Christian Thomas are back at their home addresses. They are listed above.
- 2) Ed Ouellette is leaving for Paris for a year's graduate studies. Would Ken Marcinonis take over for Austria?

#### Press

(Italy) Agamemnon, King of Italy to Austria: So much for me.  
(Italy) King Arthur of Rome to Brave Sir Robin of Petersburg: How was it written: "And the Lord did grin..."? What say you and I feast upon some fruitbats, breakfast cereals, and small woodland creatures as part of our reconciliation? I hear all three are low in fat.  
(Italy) Lynyrdo Skynyrdo to Austria: Gimme three steps, gimme three steps mister, gimme three steps towards the door....  
Geneva: International political observers are warning England of DEFINITE Russian moves against Norway.  
Eng-Rus: Last time I saw a mouth that big, it had a hook in it.



**"Look, Up In The  
Sky..."**

## CHOOSING UP SIDES IN GUNBOAT

by Joe Brooks

Country selection before a Diplomacy game gets started should not be taken lightly. In a regular Diplomacy game Austria and Germany should only be picked if you have confidence in your own ability to form strong alliances. The lone wolf attitude doesn't bode well when playing either of these countries. If you are the lone wolf player you should pick Turkey as this position is better suited to go it alone more than any other. If you are a one dimensional player who is good at focusing all your attention on one task, completing the task then going on to the task - stay away from picking Russia. The Russian position requires a split personality to be played successfully. Focusing only on Scandinavia or the Black Sea region or an overland excursion to Germany will lead to defeat as all of these fronts must be not only considered but acted upon.

After saying all this it is wrong to think the same holds true for a Gunboat game. The lone wolf attitude prevails at the start for all countries. In no-press Gunboat this continues for the whole game but in Gunboat with Press open negotiations really don't get rolling until someone emerges as a leader in the game. At this time cries for help and plans for stopping the leader start appearing in the press where before this the only press releases were breast-beating speeches and curses toward "those infidel neighbors."

In Gunboat you should consider what your own strengths in tactics are. Since you have only yourself to rely on, you have to gamble on moving to the unexpected avenues of attack. Because of this you must pick the country that reflects your own personality. If you like to be the center of attention you should try Austria or Russia as these countries' movements will influence how the others proceed. If you like to sit back and react to what happens around you then choose France or Germany. These two are good reactionary countries because they both have easily reached neutrals that make it possible for you to sit back and wait to see how the others are acting, then react to these movements. Choosing England is for those who think they're pirates at heart. Stealing, stabbing, and invading foreign ports are in store for the English player if you want to get beyond three or four centers. Choosing Turkey means you like to sit in the back row and watch the others stumble around while you slowly grope forward. Italy, like a deadly poison, must be played with a lot of care. Go with the flow and don't rock the boat and Italy will last at least a few years.

Choosing what country to play usually is done without much thought by many but if you don't pick a country that plays to your own strengths you may be fighting your own personality as well as your neighbors units.

## CONVENTION LISTING

- May 14-16 - LepreCon, Philomath, OR. Contact Joan Extrom (35096 Kings Valley Hwy; Philomath, OR 97370). HouseCon.
  - May 15-16 - Madison Games-Con, Madison, WI. Contact Bill Bodden (6640 Odana Road; Madison, WI 53719)
  - May 21-23 - Conwest, Albuquerque, NM. Contact Conwest '93 (c/o The Weregamer's Guild; SAC Box 48; UNM, NM 87131)
  - May 21-23 - Adventure Game Fest 93, Portland, OR. Contact Adventure Game NW (6517 NE Alberta; Portland, OR 97218)
  - May 22-23 - Enfilade!; Lynnwood, WA. Contact: Mike Pierce (15315 SE 25th St.; Bellevue, WA 98007)
  - May 28-30 - Nashcon 93, Nashville, TN. Contact Gavin Gossett (2713 Lebanon Road; Nashville, TN 37214)
  - May 28-31 - Furrycon, London, England. Contact Paul Evans (SFCP; 42, Wynndale Rd.; London, England E18 1DX)
  - May 28-31 - Gamex, Los Angeles, CA. Contact Strategicon (PO Box 3849; Torrance, CA 90510)
  - May 28-31 - Northwest GameFest, Clackamas, OR. Contact NRMR (PO Box 6068; Salem, OR 97304).
  - May 28-31 - GamesCaucus II, Walnut Creek, CA. Contact Trigaming Assoc. (POB 4867; Walnut Creek, CA 94595)
  - May 29-31 - DixieCon, Chapel Hill, NC. Contact David Hood (2905 20th St., NE; Hickory, NC 28601)
  - May 29-30 - MIGSCon XIV, Hamilton, Ontario. Contact: MIGSCon - (c/o Apt. #8, 142 Caroline St., S.; Hamilton, Ontario, L8P 3K9 CANADA)
  - Jun 2-9? - ShoreCon, Wayne, PA. Contact Brad Wilson (PO Box 126; Wayne, PA 19087) VERY TENTATIVE - HouseCon
  - Jun 11-13 - Tacticon, Stratford, CT. Contact Jim Wiley of Stamford, CT. (no address known)
  - Jun 18-20 - AtlantiCon, Baltimore, MD. Contact: Atlanticon (PO Box 91; Beltsville, MD 20704-0091)
  - Jun 18-20 - Wyvercon 93, Vernon, WA. Contact SVGA (POB 2325; Mt. Vernon, WA 98273)
  - Jun 18-20 - Glathricon 93, Evansville, IN. Contact Evansville Gaming Guild (POB 15414; Evansville, IN 47716)
  - Jun 18-20 - Hexacon III, Scottsdale, AZ. Contact Gregg Fischer (POB 62612; Phoenix, AZ 85082)
  - Jun 18-22 - PoolCon, Marshall, MO. Contact Vince Lutterbie (1021 Stonehaven; Marshall, MO 65340-2839). HouseCon.
  - Jun 25-27 - EastCon, Radnor, PA. Contact Flying Buffalo, Inc. (PO Box 1467; Scottsdale, AZ 85252)
  - Jul 1-4 - Origins/DalCon, Fort Worth, TX. Contact GEMCO (Box 609; Randallstown, MD 21133)
  - Jul 9-11 - MadCon, Sun Prairie, WI. Contact Marc Peters (370 North St.; Sun Prairie, WI 53590) Housecon
  - Jul 16-18 - DragonCon '93, Atlanta, GA. Contact John Froehlich (140 Village Lane; Fairburn, GA 30213)
  - Aug 5-8 - AvalonCon '93, Huntington Valley, MD. Contact TAHGC (4517 Harford Rd.; Baltimore, MD 21214)
  - Aug 6-8 - CanCon VI, Toronto, Ontario. Contact Cal White (1 Turnberry Ave.; Toronto, Ontario; CANADA M6N 1P6)
- <<Continued after "AfroPop Worldwide">>

RV ME OPENINGS  
<<p-gamefee paid/np-gamefee not paid>>

Gunboat (w/Press): seven openings, \$3.00 gamefee. Signed up, a red check==>  
Regular Dip: One opening, \$3.00 gamefee. Signed up: Herbst(p), Martin(p),  
Sergeant (p), McAloon(p), Hendricks(p), Koehler(np)  
Regular Dip, International: six openings, \$3.00 gamefee with two month  
deadlines and no split seasons (except W01). Signed up: Grose(p)  
African Dip: five openings, \$3.00 gamefee. Signed up: Hyatt(np), Brush(p)  
Nuclear Destruction: five openings, NO gamefee. Signed up: McHugh, Brush

#### FLYER GAME OPENINGS

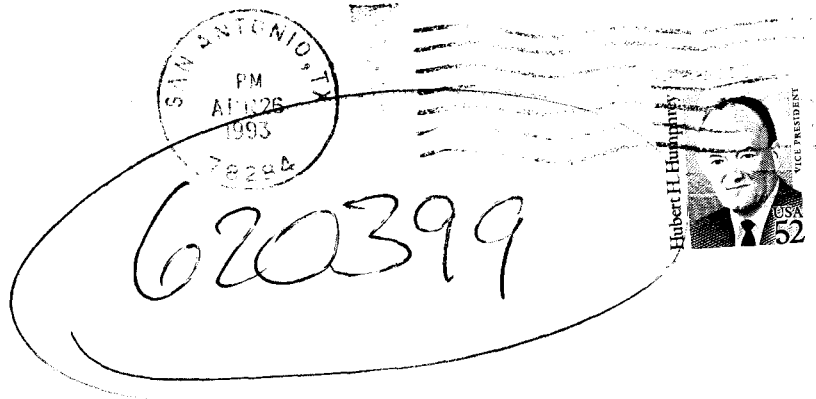
Acquire: four openings, \$3.00 gamefee. Signed up: none  
Don Diplomacy: seven openings, \$6.00 gamefee. Signed up: none  
(Adults only, off-color overtones. Almost anything goes for press).  
Excalibur: seven openings, \$6.00 gamefee. Signed up: none  
Fog of War: five openings, \$6.00 gamefee. Signed up: Hyatt(np), Irby (np)  
Origins of WWII: five openings, \$6.00 gamefee. Signed up: none  
This is an old A/H game - not a variant.  
Youngstown IV: eight openings, \$6.00 gamefee. Signed up: Hyatt(np),  
(I will take preference lists for this game) Brush(p)

- To obtain rules for Variants offered send a SASE to the editor.
  - Other game openings considered upon request of the readership.
- Contact the editor if you have a favorite game or variant.

Standbys: Lutterbie, Schultz, Koehler, Kent, Lewis, McHugh, Wallace, Grose,  
Young, Gonsalves, Brooks, Mathias, Acheson, Weiss, Marcinonis, McQuinn  
\*\*\*\*\*Please notify the editor if you want on or off the list\*\*\*\*\*

## Rambling Way

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