

STRANGE BREW

Issue #29

February 24, 1980

Deadline remains the same (March 19, 1980). Game will run on 3-week deadlines in future.

STRANGE BREW is an occasional bulletin concerning postal Diplomacy (and its variants) put out by Konrad Baumeister, 11416 Parkview Lane, Hales Corners, WI 53130 (Ph: 414-425-4631) all too often. It is supposed to keep the other things in line, but ends up simply correcting stupid mistakes all the time. This time, for the second issue in a row, the topic of discussion is the Youngstown game to be started in POLITICIAN. This is EGGNOG Enterprises Production #97, for those who care.

JUST GUESS WHAT HAPPENED

As you can see in the enclosed issue of EGGNOG (in most cases; some were luckily not mailed out at the same time, due to lack of 15¢ stamps, which I now consider to be a blessing in disguise), the Youngstown Variant game has indeed started. Or has it? Well, not exactly, but just as good. As it happens, the very day after I ran off and sent out some of the EGGNOG issues (which were in themselves somewhat unexpected, since it was an off-deadline thing) I get a postcard from John Zipper, who would play Austria-Hungary in the game. It reads:

Time pressures of my job have gone up dramatically. I am also finding that I don't care for the large amount of mail 9 and 10 player games require. I like the 7 player game of Dip (you don't have to interact with all on every turn). Count me out, sorry! It is not for lack of trust, rather time and inclination to play 10 player postal. (Now for a FTF how about next week...?)...

Well, that pretty much sets it straight: John can't play. I called up Vernon Schaller's house on Saturday, because I happened to know that John and a few others were having a FTF Colonia stab-fest there, and tried to ask John if he would reconsider, but unfortunately he said that he absolutely didn't have the time to play a Youngstown game. Who'da thought?

Naturally, I can't exactly throw the man into a game he doesn't want to be in. (He did say that later on he'd be a standby if needed -- thanks.) So what do we do? Call up the first standby, of course. And who's that? Well, there is Gene Paulson's brother, Phil Paulson. Phil lives in the same town as Gene, share the same PO Box, but don't actually live together. Additionally, they have played in the same variant before and have been found to have stabbed each other just as quickly as they attacked anyone else. So you can be sure that they won't approach the game with any different alliance ideas than you will. I trust 'em; and I don't trust everybody, so that's something right there. Besides, France and Austria are sufficiently separated as to be almost unable to ally, except against Italy, and that would be an unusual alliance indeed. And who knows? So that's the way it is.

The game is thus still begun. Players are as follows:

- AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Phil Paulson, P.O. Box 147, Clayton, WI 54004
 - CHINA: Victory Dupont, 24 Old Lamaroneck Rd, White Plains, NY 10605
 - ENGLAND: Phil Cooper, 19 Dahlgren Ct., Brooklyn, NY 11228
 - FRANCE: Gene Paulson, P.O. Box 147, Clayton, WI 54004
 - GERMANY: Fred Hyatt, 400 State Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217
 - INDIA: Bob Kluge, 9521 Craigwood Terr, St. Louis, MO 63126
 - ITALY: Bob Cheek, 10392 Ladera Senda, Santa Ana, CA 92705
 - JAPAN: Salvatore Colombo, 60 Grand Street, New York, NY 10013
 - RUSSIA: Gene Prosnits, 200 Clinton St, Brooklyn, NY 11201
 - TURKEY: Chip Charnley, USNF, Box 7 (Keflavik), FPO NY 09571
- ... Now if someone else sends a card in to me, I'll...