

Opening Shot

Trust you all enjoyed the holidays? Super thanks for all the cards and well-wishes. It's great to hear from people from such diverse locations and interests.

We spent Christmas alone together for the first time. Christopher is at an age when long trips would be awkward; besides, we couldn't afford to go anywhere. He had a great time, carefully testing all the wrappings. He's got four teeth now and a vicious bite; and can crawl wherever he wishes. I'm still unemployed, so I get to babysit. A bit of role reversal shouldn't hurt any. I'm "short-listed" for a few interesting positions, so this shouldn't last too long.

Meanwhile, Waddington's has a new flyer describing postal play in both French and English. I gave my name and address as the contact as we plan to be at the same address for a while. I can forward names and addresses to Bruce Linsey so he can send the novice package, SUPERNOVA, to newcomers. Hopefully we should be getting some new blood before too long.

STANDBY ORDERS REQUESTED FROM:

James Keeley	1982 J	p. 7
Steve Berrigan	1980 HM	p. 13
Bob Albrecht	1982 IF	Insert
Robert Acheson	1982 IF	Insert

If you get NO FIXED ADDRESS, you'll have learned that the Co-ordinator of the CDO is God —giving and taking away rights

to GMs. So, if any of you out there have big plans for yourselves now's your chance. That's right: I intend to resign as soon as people start clamouring for the job. I will definitely be quitting at the end of my term in December. I hope some of those who feel the hobby is run by an in-group will leap at the chance—and maybe learn a bit about reality.

Basically, I'm stepping aside as I enjoy this hobby. However, it's getting to the point where administrative details are cutting into the time I can give to games. I like GMing and I like playing—and that's what I want to save my time for. Besides, I feel I've done my bit and now it's someone else's turn.

I guess we'll need an elections officer to work this out, so, do we have any volunteers? If you're interested in the Co-ordinator's job, you can let me know for now. The Co-ordinator must be a Canadian resident (it is the Canadian Diplomacy Organization), but I'll consider anyone for election officer.

Please give it some thought.

SNAFU! is a zine devoted to the postal play of Diplomacy and its variants. The board game, invented by Allan Calhmer, is produced in Canada by House of Games in Bramalea, Ontario.

SNAFU! is published by Ronald J. Brown, 1200 Summerville Ave., Ottawa, Ontario K1Z 8G4. Telephone 613: 722-5059 (before 10).

Subscriptions: 10 issues for \$8.00 CDN; \$10.00 US overseas.
Game fees: \$4.00. Game openings listed on page 20.

Hobby News

Lots of changes to ring in the new year. First off, the new Miller Number Custodian is Lee Kendter. Lee did a fine job with the Boardman Numbers a few years ago so this should mark the end of the fuss over the NMC. The address I have for him is: 4347 Benner St., Philadelphia, PA 19135.

Randolph Smyth will be running the North American Zine Poll and GM Poll which we usually called the Leeder Poll. He's buying a computer which should enable him to get the results out quicker. More details later.

Speaking of John Leeder, I understand that almost all of his games are now rehoused. If you've time to GM one or two more games write him at 605 15th St. NW, Calgary, Alta T2N 2B1 to see what he has left. I do know he needs someone to GM a game in French.

On the subject of polls (notice how these items are dove-tailing), Scott Hanson is now running the Freshman Poll. You get to rate new zines, which began in 1982, on a scale of 0 to 10 (0 being absolutely horrible; 10 being a masterpiece). Send your votes to Scott at: 939 18th Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414 before February 19.

The ZINE DIRECTORY will be put out by Roy Hendricks this year. Send zine info to Roy at 128 Deerfield Dr., Pittsburg, PA 15235. The ZD is an invaluable guide to zines in both North America and Europe.

1980 IC - Mensa 12

WINTER, 1909: ENGLAND-AUSTRIA DRAW PASSES DUE TO INDIFFERENCE.

We had two draw proposals last time: A-E-G-T and E-A. I said, "No vote received means 'Yes' for the proposal which is unopposed." The A-E-G-T had one vote against; the rest didn't vote. E-A had one vote for; the rest didn't vote.

The fact that there were three NMRs may have something to do with it and I kept putting off typing this up, hoping I could contact someone with NMR Insurance, hoping to at least have two votes in favour. Alas! I phoned Sharon three times, and there was no answer. Dan Wilson's phone has been disconnected and the operator couldn't give me a new number as I had only a box number. I can't call Darryl as he's at school. He never gave permission for NMR calls in any case.

I guess this means the draw passes. So, congratulations to Sharon and Charles. As this caught me off-guard I don't have a map ready, so I'll print that and all the stats along with your endgame statements next issue.

I get to make all my choice comments then too, but, for now, I want to say I'm really going to miss this game. If you detect a note of surprise in this it's because I thought there was still lots of life left in the game. Everyone with "80IC" on

his address label has a letter already in his envelope asking him to consider taking a regular sub. I guess that's redundant now, as all 80IC subs expire with next issue. (Of course, those with "+1" or whatever after the 80IC will have credit for those extra issues.)

I hope you'll all hang around and get into other games when possible. After almost three years I feel quite close to you and have enjoyed all the positive vids in our telephone conversations or in your notes to me. When I think of it, Dan is the only one of you I've actually met face to face, and he lives the furthest away, so the rest of you have no excuse not to get together with the GM you created.

Meanwhile, I understand that Mensa #18 is filling quickly (M #17 is about to start under Scott Hanson—he could probably use M standbys), so how about sending Ed a note to get into another SIG game? I probably won't take another until #20.

1982 I - Mensa 16

SPRING, 1904: FRANCE INVADED ON TWO FRONTS; RUSSIAN FLEETS SWEEP OVER THE TOP.

ENG (Mike Mazzer): F Nth* - Nwy; F Ska* S A Den - Swe*; A Yor - Lvp*.

FRA (Robert Young): A Spa* § A Mar /A/; A Mar § A Spa; A Par - Gas*; F MAO - Por*; F Bre - MAO*; A Bel - Bur /d/ (R: Pic, OTB).

GER (Windy Windbled): A Bur* § ITA A Pie - Mar; A Kie - Den*; F Hol* S A Ruh - Bel*.

ITA (Keith Sesler): F NAO* S RUS F Bar - Nwg; F WMed* - Spa(sc) F Lyo* S A Pie - Mar*; A Tus - Pie*; A Ser* H.

RUS (Dave Lincoln): F Bar - Nwg*; F StP (nc) - Bar*; A Nwy* § F Swe /d/ (R: Fin, Bot, Bal, OTB); F Swe § A Nwy; A Lvn - StP; A Gal - War*; A Rum - Gal*; F Bla - Bul (ec)*.

TUR (Paula Dodge): F Tun - Naf*; F Ion - Tun*; F EMed - Ion*; F Aeg* S A Gre*; A Gre S A Alb*; A Alb S A Gre.

Summer Retreats and Fall, 1904 due Friday, 18 February, 1983.

PRESS

Turkey to St. Petersburg: Your apology is accepted, but your actions will be the proof of the pudding.

London to Moscow: Gee, Dave. I hope I don't make you mad about Sweden. I read the rules and it said that's what I was supposed to do. Oh, by the way, now that you mention it, yes, I do want Norway back.

Moscow to London: Nice bear story, but first you have to chain me. By the way, have you looked behind you lately?

F NAO ((Italy)): Alas! My fleet has strayed far from its homeland and has run perilously low on supplies. Oh! If only there were some nearby island at which it might land.

London to Paris and Constantinople: The Crown Jewels for the "cojones" of the Italian blackguard!

Turkey to England: I say, would you care to join me in a spot of tea? If Italy and Russia keep pushing on me, I may have to sail in your direction.

St. Petersburg to London: Separated lovers, eh? I'll see what I can do to bring you two together.

Rome: The Pope today announced that the crews of any Turkish vessels landing in Italian ports will be killed and chopped into fish bait so that they may assist in the capture of the fabled holy mackerel.

Turkey to Italy: Watch your rear when the big Russian bear starts moving.

London to Moscow: Had enough? Or must I slap you around some more?

Italy to France: Shame on you for forcing my fleet to retreat into the backyard of my 'pal' (England) because of your 'surprise' (?) move to MAO last fall.

London to Berlin: The scuttling of the fleet in the Channel is duly noted and appreciated. It is indeed a pleasure to reinstate the Treaty of Cooperation with such a fine and astute statesman as yourself.

London to Moscow: That's Olsen, Bob Olsen. Only the most consummate genius ever to play the game. And I did not say "insane revenge wins games," just a reputation for insane revenge.

Bourse (82 I)

SPRING, 1904: IS THE WESTERN RECESSION A RUSSIAN PLOT?

	US\$	£	Fr	DM	L	R	Tp
MI (Cusack)	75.85	0	2850	550	1000	1700	1065
JILT (Gaughan)	396.96	166	200	1300	1460	2500	1500
VIC (Jensen)	66.62	600	0	2000	2000	2000	1200
OIL (Lowe)	1165.70	1060	1000	1005	1010	2600	1610
MINE (Phillips)	102.00	700	1000	1000	1500	1000	2500
CRAP (Smith)	7840.00	0	0	500	0	0	0
SBA (Wilson)	402.00	2000	0	0	1000	2400	0
Purchases:		0	200	0	1000	695	100
Sales:		1000	500	500	500	0	1000
Net Purchases:		-1000	-300	-500	+500	+695	-900
Old CMP:		.91	.88	1.08	1.17	1.61	1.28
Net Change:		-.10	-.03	-.05	+.05	+.06	-.09
New CMP		.81	.85	1.03	1.22	1.67	1.19

Fall, 1904 due Tuesday, 15 February, 1983.

NOTE: Please remember the Tuesday deadlines for this game. That means Monday evening is the latest I can accept telephone orders. Also, NMR Insurance doesn't apply to this game. This message is a public service (and also a warning).

1981 W - North 1

FALL, 1907: ITALIAN TAKES MID-ATLANTIC (WITH A LITTLE HELP).

AUS (Bob Olsen): F WMed* S ITA F Naf - MAO; A Bud* S ITA
A Vie; A Ser* S A Rum*; A Rum S TUR A Sev - Ukr.

ENG (Errol Platt): A Par* S A Bel - Bur*; A Gas* S F MAO -
Spa (sc) /d/ (R: Iri, OTB); F NAO* S & F Bre* S F Eng* -
MAO; F Nth* H.

ITA (Bill Young): F Por* S & F Spa (sc)* S F Naf - MAO*;
A Mar* S F Spa; A Vie* S A Tyr* - Boh; A Pie* S A Ven* -
Tyr.

RUS (Garvin Boyle): A Den* H; A Mun* S A Boh*; A Boh &
A Sil* S & A Ukr* & A Gal*; A Mos* S A Ukr.

TUR (Steve Hutton): F EMed - Ion*; A Sev* - Ukr; F Bla* S
A Arm* - Sev; A Bul* S AUS A Ser - Rum (NSO).

SUPPLY CENTRES, WINTER, 1907

AUS (4 - 4, even): Bud, Ser, Gre, Rum.

ENG (8 - 8, even): home, Nwy, Bel, Hol, ~~Denmark~~, Par, BREST.

FRA (2 - 0, out): ~~Portugal~~, ~~Brest~~.

ITA (8 - 9, build 1): home, Tun, Vie, Tri, Spa, Mar, PORTUGAL.

RUS (7 - 8, build 1): Mos, War, StP, Swe, Ber, Kie, Mun, DEN.

TUR (5 - 5, even): home, Bul, Sev.

Autumn Retreat, Winter, 1907 AND Spring, 1908 due 18 February.

NOTES: Two COAs. Steve Hutton, 11 Nealon Ave., Toronto, Ont.
M4K 1Y8. Bill Young, PO Box 907, Clearfield, PA 16830. I just
noticed that this pair moved to those same addresses in the
Fall, 1905 report. I don't know if it's significant, or even
interesting.

Draw proposals. We have an E-I-R-T-A draw and we have a
E-I-R-T draw. No vote received now means "Yes."

PRESS

Moscow to World: It looks like a long, slow, uneventful war.
I will consider any offers to get this moving.

Austria: Looks like a stalemate line to me. What do you guys
think? How about another annihilation?

Sultan of Turkey to Tsar of ~~All/the/Russias~~ Three Quarters of
the Russias: Go ahead and crush me! But first you'll have to
retake your own country. The mighty Russia Bear has only three
legs and will be pecked and tongued to death by the lowly
turkey and toad.

Constantinople to Moscow: Austrian usurper?? You're talking a-
bout the rightful Toady of the Year!

Austrian Fleet to Russia: We prefer to drink the sweet wine of
virtuous loyalty, and will leave to you the imbibing of the
bitter waters of well-merited defeat.

1981 KA - North 2

SUMMER, 1904: GER: F Nwy R Bar.

FALL, 1904: TURKEY AND AUSTRIA STRIKE BACK. ENGLAND AND ITALY JUST QUIETLY FADING AWAY...

AUS (Nelson Millar): A Gal - Ukr /d/ (R: Bud, OTB); A Bud - Rum*; A Vie* - Tyr; A Tri* § F Adr - Ven*.

ENG (Jan Jensen): NMR. F StP (nc) /A/; A Nwy*.

FRA (Jack Jung): A Lon* H; F Eng* - MAO; F Spa (sc)* S F MAO - WMed; A Gas - Mar*; F Lyo* - Tyr; A Ven § A Tus* - Rom (A Ven /d/, R: Pie, OTB).

GER (Blair Cusack): A Boh* - Vie; A Sil* S RUS A War - Gal; F Swe* - Nwy; A Edi* H; A Tyr* - Tri; F Bar* S RUS F Bot - StP (sc).

ITA (Dan Wilson): NMR. F WMed*; F Tyr*; A Rom*.

RUS (Pete Gaughan): F Bot - StP (sc)*; A War - Gal*; A Ukr* § F Sev /A/.

TUR (Paul Rauterberg): F Bla* S A Arm - Sev*; A Bul* S AUS A Bud - Rum; F Apu* S AUS F Adr - Ven; F Tur* S ITA F WMed.

SUPPLY CENTRES, WINTER, 1904

AUS (5 - 6, will be 1 short): home, Ser, Rum, VENICE.

ENG (2 - 1, even because of /A/): *Edinburgh, St. / Petes*, NORWAY.

FRA (8 - 7, Disband 1): home, Bel, Spa, Por, Lon, *Naples*.

GER (7 - 8, build 2 because of /A/): home, Den, Hol, Lvp, *Norway*, EDINBURGH, SWEDEN.

ITA (3 - 2, disband 1): Rome, Naples, *Tunis*.

RUS (4 - 3, even because of /A/): Mos, War, *Sweden, Sevastopol*, ST. PETERSBURG.

TUR (5 - 7, build 2): home, Bul, Gre, TUNIS, SEVASTOPOL.

Autumn Retreat, Winter, 1904 AND Spring, 1905 due 18 February.

NOTES: If Jan or Dan fail to submit the next set of orders, both England and Italy will be in Civil Disorder. See the note with 1980 IC regarding Dan. I hope Dan will continue, but if he fails to submit a disband order, I will remove F WMed, in accordance with the house rules.

For those who asked, Jack Jung's address is: 402 Cole Rd., Guelph, Ontario N1G 3J8.

PRESS

Budapest (Imperialist Press): Medical experts report that the total paralysis of the Roman demi-god Wilsoni may soon come to a miraculous end. These same experts have reported that the three German officers who crossed THE line have contracted the dreaded Blue Danube Disease and will soon be waltzing madly back to Germany where it is feared they will start an epidemic which will topple the present government, the fabled Nein Reich.

1982 J - North 3

AUTUMN, 1903: ITA: F Tun R Tyr.

WINTER, 1903: FRA: NBR (will be 1 short); GER: B F Ber;
ITA: D A Tri; RUS: D A Nwy; TUR: B A Ank, A Con.

SPRING, 1904: RUSSIA SLIPS FLEET INTO KIEL; ENGLAND BARGES INTO UNDEFENDED NORWAY; FRENCH LEADER NAPS.

AUS (Nelson Millar): A Bud* S A Ser - Tri*.

ENG (Doug Millstone): F Eng* S F Nth*; F Nth S & A Swe* S & F StP (nc)* S F Ska - Nwy*.

FRA (Darryl Phillips): NMR. F WMed*: F Tun*; A Pic*; A Mar*; A Pie*.

GER (Martin Taylor): F Ber - Bal*; A Den* H; A Ruh* S F Bel*; A Mun* H; A Sil - Pru*; A Vie* S AUS A Bud - Tri (NSO).

ITA (Roy Smith): A Ven - Tus*; F Tyr* S F Tus - Lyo*; F Nap - Ion*.

RUS (Bob Olsen): F Bal - Kie*; A Gal* - Ukr; A Mos* S F Sev*.

TUR (Dennis Duncan): F Bla* S A Ank - Arm*; A Rum* - Ukr; A Bul* - Rum; F Gre* S A Con* - Bul.

Fall, 1904 due Friday, 18 February, 1983.

NOTES: Will James Keeley, 310 - 4004 19th St NW, Calgary, Alta T2L 2B6 please submit standby orders for France? Thanks. I'll send James the addresses.

I made a boo-boo in typing last month's press release datelined from Turkey. My eye skipped a line as I was typing, changing the meaning. The first paragraph, corrected, is the first press item given here. Apologies.

PRESS

Turkey: TURKISH DIPLOMATS DRIVEN FROM MOSCOW. Ibn-Bismullah-Duncan, the Turkish ambassador to the court of the new Tsar, was forced to carry an Ultimatum to the Sublime Porte demanding the return of Rumania and Bulgaria to the Russian Empire, in exchange for a non-aggression pact with the Olsenoff rulers.

Constantinople: STRANGE HAPPENINGS IN RUMANIA! On December 7, 1903, a bedraggled figure lurched into the Turkish embassy in Rumania. His desire to meet with the Ambassador was met with distain as the unfortunate could obviously not be admitted in his current state of dishevelment (and smell).

With a courtesy rarely seen anywhere, the tramp gave the clerk an envelope with a wax seal on it asking that it be delivered to the Ambassador and stating that he would wait outside until such time as the Ambassador would read the letter.

Roughly an hour later, the wretch was summoned by the Ambassador. As they entered his office, the Ambassador was heard to say, "My dear Thomas, welcome to our country." To which the tramp was heard to reply, "Thank you, Bismullah, but first a bath. I had to disguise myself to escape with my head remaining on my shoulders." The door was closed and no more was heard.

Austria: It was with a tear in their eye and a beer in their throats that the great peoples of Austria-Hungary listened to the death-bed speech of their beloved leader, Nelson the Lyin' Hearted. These immortal words were uttered, "Hell no, I won't go, until the Italians are brown and the Russians are yellow."

Russia to Germany: Be satisfied with Warsaw for this year. I should have A Mos, A Ukr, F Sev at the end of the season; if so, then you can't get Moscow for yourself or your English ally this year. Don't be a dolt and hand Sevastopol to Turkey. Moscow, perhaps even Sevastopol, can fall to you and yours next year. You've got Turkey nicely bottled—don't let him out. Why am I telling you this? Because while Turkey seems to be a nice guy, his style of play ticks me off. And anyone who would attack poor innocent Tom Swider every season of the game deserves to have a tough time.

Constantinople to Moscow: You're right Bob. It is much more fun trading taunts and tossing insults and scabby press at each other. Your turn.

Russia to Turkey: Sorry coach, I lost my head. I know that my demands were extravagant, silly, out of bounds, beyond human reason. Imagine—asking you to keep an agreement for one season! I must be losing my mind.

A Russian's prayer: Now I lay me down to sleep
Because I am a silly geek
If I should die 'fore Dennis wakes
I pray the West my dots to take.

1982 J Continues page 19.

1979 HA - Orphan 1

ENDGAME STATEMENTS

Tom Swider, FRANCE, Wins by Concession Winter, 1911

I'd like to first make comment to your commentary, give a brief description of what happened, and then elaborate on what I think should have happened.

Russia should have been a leader. It seems that games are lost by incompetence. My first postal win was due to Dan Palter's incompetence. My Italy and his Austria were allies. He kept in touch with the game mainly because I had to call him for NMR insurance for his games. Later on he was tied down with business from West End games and started to send me blank order sheets with his signature. I eventually raped his country. I had a FAIR alliance and had so much control over it that there was not a single foreign unit within two spaces of any Italian home center. Needless to say, with a bad villian English type (Tim Haffey—a good player) bullying me, France allowed me to take his home centers in preference to England. I went from 10 to 18 centers. Game given to me on a platter. In this game, I felt it was basically the same, but due to player apathy. Austria and Russia were fighting, I stabbed Germany with nobody in a position to bail him out (especially since Bern Sampson—Germany—took Sweden from Russia in the same season.)

I have to agree with Ron: this game was rather dull. I had tried to make it interesting. That's why I attacked Germany. That's why I accepted an Italian puppet. When I took over France back in the TORONTO TELEGRAM, it was also dull; nobody was writing. I began to write the players, Dave Carter being the most notable. He should get some kind of award. The alliance I had with him gave me enough of an edge over Germany to kill off his navy. If the players couldn't tell by now, I think that gaining naval superiority is the most important facet of the game for most countries (with the exception of Germany—and even then he needs a good number of fleets—and Austria).

Most of my diplomatic efforts in my early days of the game were towards Russia. My first season in 79 HA saw a Russian F Nth dislodged, with the English Channel being a possible retreat. I convinced him to take it off the board and we had the formings of a F/R alliance against Germany. Victor never wrote much though and neither of the Mills bothered to do much.

Near the years 1909 - 1911 I began to put this game on the back burner since nobody was bothering to write me except Italy. So, I guess it was not among the most dynamic games in dipdom.

As for my press, I think that press is one of the most enjoyable parts to a game. It gauges player interest for one thing. If somebody doesn't write much press I can safely say that he'd be a likely target for attack since he probably won't write and may even NMR. True, you can make coded messages through the press and all that other good stuff, but how often does that happen? Press also is a good weapon against the egos of other players. If you say the right things to a specific player, he may change his alliances or feel emotionally hurt (resulting in a possible tactical error, or even an NMR if you zapped him good). Most of the time the press doesn't have much effect, but it can't hurt to try. I do have to express amazement in the fact that back in TORONTO TELEGRAM, I insulted most of the players in the game and yet nobody bothered to resist France. Talk about apathetic....

I continued making the endgame proposals for several reasons. 1) I wanted to get the game over with. 2) I feared that Nelson might succeed in converting Italy to his cause and I'd be left facing a hostile board. 3) To discourage cooperation amongst the allies. If they kept seeing a concession to France being proposed perhaps they might get the notion that "the sky is falling" so that they'd grant a concession to France which didn't have a win secured as of yet. Sort of a propaganda technique.

Nelson Miller was the one player I feared most. It was he who tried to get me to stab my own puppet. It's not a smart thing to do to stab your own allies when you have only one or two (this was before Dave's stab). Bern kept on raving at me for lying to him, but as I told him, he would have done the same thing if the tables were turned the other way around. (It was Dan Wilson's offer to puppet to me that confirmed my invasion; it assured that I'd be fighting a one front war.) Dan also didn't have much to say in the whole deal anyhow. He recognized that he couldn't do much against me. He gave me Tunis, and I agreed to let him live. He agreed to help me to a win, and I'd see about making him the second largest power. Why else would I try suicidal convoys into Russia? If Italy was to become the number two power, Russia had to be whittled down quite a bit.

Well, I think from what I've said, a description of game events would be redundant. However, I think 79 HA could have ended much differently. The most probable, in my opinion, was a F/R draw. For a good part of the game, I felt it was important to have good relations with Russia. If things didn't work out as well as they had, I could have just started renegotiations with the new Tsar. Since there was a new Russian player, I would have been on level ground with Nelson in competing for his allianceship. A deal to split the board 17-17 is not a bad deal, and one I'd probably live up to. Even if I got stabbed and the Tsar won, I would still feel that I played a good game, building a France with Germans in Burgundy into a strong contender (let alone winner), I know some may say, "Sure, Swider, you are in the winning position and the Tsar's going to be willing to toady to you!" This is wrong! A 12-13 center country does not mean he is in a winning position. The game isn't over until the 18th center is taken, or the last YES vote is cast. I'm sure that France and Russia might have been able to make some sort of treaty, and then divide up Italy and Austria and Germany in an agreeable manner.

I would like to thank Dave, Nelson, and Dan for making this a good game (although it wasn't the most exciting; I think that things might have livened up if Russia had a good leader). Also, our illustrious GM deserves a round of applause. True, fleets can't get to Munich and I'd prefer all of the French moves printed in the xyn, but Ron was very conscious about his GMing, and I can only ask a GM to give 100% of himself, which Ron did. Sorry this is so long, but this is my first winning endgame statement that will appear in print.

Vive la France!

Dave Carter, ENGLAND, Survives

This game should have been over a long while ago but the promise of a concerted stop-the-leader alliance prolonged it. The only reason that I turned on Tom Swider was that George Mills and I figured out a way for it not to end up in suicide for me. Things did not turn out the way that we planned and plans in other parts of the world also started to go astray.

Congratulations Tom, you were Terrific. Nice try George. For a while I thought that you could rally the troops around you. May your Dippy set develop mildew, Mike Hohnadel, for stabbing me for three centers and then dropping from the hobby.

Thus ends 79 HA, my very first ever postal game. May I never hear of it again.

Nelson Millar, AUSTRIA, Survives

The Emperor of Austria-Hungary extends his heartfelt congratulations to Le Roi Swider for his victory. Never has one man shown so much courage, created such brilliant schemes, and fought so valiantly against an enemy which never existed.

When Ron Brown asked me to substitute in 1979 HA, I had never played postal Diplomacy before. My one goal was to at least stay even (4 centres). Little did I know that the legendary Dave Carter was involved as well as such notables as Dan Wilson and George Mills.

I never understood why Carter and Wilson would not go for a stab on Swider early in the game. Tom was in excellent position when I started the game and with a little imagination and just a pinch of logic he could have had the game locked up by 1909. Carter saw that and his stab showed it. It also showed that Swider should have his press edited by someone more tactful, like Attila the Hun. George Mills was the only one that seemed to deserve his reputation in this game. He even overlooked a rather serious series of errors I made, and I am persuaded that if George could have hung in the end would have been different. The Russian NMRs put us in a poor position. If the agreed-on plans would have been sent in, F/I would have lost centres, instead of gaining and the tide would have turned.

Anyway, I thank all the players in the game (yeah! you too, Tom) for an initiation to post Dip that taught me many, many things.

1979 AE - Orphan 2

SUMMER, 1909: FRA: A Bur R Bel.

FALL, 1909: AUSTRIAN-TURKISH STEAMROLLER NEARS ENGLISH CHANNEL. CAN AUSTRIAN TROOPS SWIM?

AUS (Dan MacLellan): A Alb* H; F Tyr* H; A Tus - Pie*; A Rom* H; A Bud* H; A Tyr* S & A Sil* S A Boh - Mun*; A Mar* S A Mun - Bur*; A Bur - Pic*.

ENG (Bob Acheson): A Nwy* - Swe; F Den - Ska*; F Nth* C A Edi - Den*; F Lon - Eng*; F Iri* - MAO.

FRA (John Davies): A Bel* - Bur; A Hol* S A Ruh - Kie*; F MAO & A Gas* - Spa. (F MAO /d/, R: NAO, Bre, OTB).

TUR (Dave Carter): F EMed* S F Aeg - Ion*; F Por* & F Naf* S F Spa(nc) - MAO*; F WMed* S F Lyo - Spa (sc)*; A Fin* - Swe; A StP* - Fin; A Mos* - StP; A Ber* S AUS A Mun - Kie (NSO).

Supply Centre Chart: Winter, 1909

AUS (11 - 11, even): home, Ser, Gre, Rum, Ven, Rom, Nap, Mun, Mar.

ENG (6 - 6, even): home, Nwy, Swe, Den.

FRA (6 - 5, even because of /A/): Par, Bre, ~~Portugal~~, Bel, Kie, Hol.

TUR (11 - 12, build 1): home, Bul, Sev, War, Mos, StP, Tun, Spa, Ber, PORTUGAL.

Autumn Retreat, Winter 1909 AND Spring, 1910 due 18 February.

NOTE: The A-E-F-T draw was defeated. We now have a proposed Turkey-Austria draw. No vote received = "yes." If it passes, we'll end with Winter, 1909. Send spring orders just in case.

PRESS

London to Paris: John-boy, let's end this one.

London to Vienna: You're lucky in that you've got a good ally!

1980 AM - Orphan 4

FALL, 1908: GERMANY OUT! FRANCE GIVES ITALIAN CENTRE TO TURKEY WHILE ENGLAND CLOSES IN.

ENG (Jan Jensen): F Bal* S F Ber*; A Kie* S GER A Mun; A Hol - Ruh*; F Nth* H; A Nwy* S A StP*; A Par* S A Bre - Gas*; F Lyo* - Mar; F MAO* S F WMed* - Spa (sc).

FRA (Pete Gaughan): A Por* S & A Mar* S A Gas - Spa /d/ (R: Bur, OTB); A Ven* - Rom.

GER (Claude Gautron): A Mun S RUS A Pru - Ber (NSO) /d/ (R: Bur, OTB).

ITA (Bob Albrecht): A Rom* S F Nap /d/ (R: Tyr, OTB); F Nap S A Rom; F Tyr - Tun*.

RUS (Dave Carter): A Sil* S & A Boh* S A Tyr - Mun*; A Tri - Tyr*; A Mos* S A Lvn*; A Lvn S A Pru*; A Pru S GER A Mun - Ber (NSO).

TUR (Rob Lowes): F Adr* S & F Aeg* S F Ion*; F Ion S F Apu - Nan*; A Ser* S A Alb*; A Alb S A Ser.

SUPPLY CENTRES: Winter, 1908

ENG (13 - 13, even): home, Nwy, Swe, StP, Den, Kie, Hol, Bel, Bre, ~~Paris~~, Ber, PARIS.

FRA (4 - 4, even): ~~Paris~~, Mar, Spa, Ven, PORTUGAL.

GER (1 - 0, out): ~~V. A. A. A.~~

ITA (3 - 2, disband 1): Rome, ~~Naples~~, Tunis.

RUS (7 - 8, build 1): War, Mos, Sev, Rum, Bud, Vie, Tri, MUNICH.

TUR (6 - 7, build 1): home, Bul, Ser, Gre, NAPLES.

Autumn Retreats, Winter, 1908 AND Spring, 1909 due 18 February.

NOTES: The concession to England was defeated. France wants it noted that his vote is as follows: "A long, loud, hearty laugh! (My first in this game...)"

PRESS

Rome to Moskva: Your time will come.

Marseilles to Rome: Let's see a little less decorum and a little more mori-ing!

Munich to London: Best of luck in wiping those back-stabbing Frenchmen off the face of Europe.

Munich to Marseilles: Bavaria is still alive and kicking, but not thanks to you! There will be much rejoicing here when English troops enter Marseilles!

Rome: The early dawn streamed in through the broken palace windows. One by one the early morning revelers staggered out of the ornately carved doors, of which only one still stood upright.

The corruption and filth were evident (nothing had been cleaned in weeks), but not nearly as evident as Adm. Kinetti's breath, which awoke the Emperor.

"Sire," the lipstick and alcohol slathered mouth blurted out. "We will crush the Turkish dogs infesting our shores! I will avenge our Austrian conquests!"

But it was too late. Just then an enormous hob-nailed boot shattered the roof of the great edifice, killing everyone, à la Monty Python.

"And now for something completely different," a voice was heard to say in the early dawn.

Munich to Constantinople: The German Kaiser would like to present the Sultan with the Camel's Nose—the highest award for meddling in other states' affairs by giving out prizes that bore us all to tears. The stuffed trophy is being sent to His Magnificence carefully wrapped by Reichpost. We accept no CODs.

1980 HM - Orphan 5

FALL, 1907: TURKEY AND RUSSIA SUFFER LOSSES AS GERMANY FIGHTS TO REGAIN HOMELAND.

AUS (Mark Keller): F WMed* § F Ion - Tun*; F Tyr* S & F Lyo* S
F WMed; A Pie* - Mar; A Tyr* S RUS A Mun; A Boh - Sil*;
A Rum - Gal*; A Bul* S F Aeg - Con*; A Gre* H.

ENG (John Horn): F Por* S F Spa (sc)*; F Spa (sc) S GER A Mar;
F Naf* S F MAO* - WMed; A Bel - Ruh*; F Bar* S A Nwy* - StP;
A StP* - Lvn; F Nth - Eng*.

GER (Claude Gautron): A Mar* § ENG F Spa (sc); A Bur* - Mun;
A Ruh - Kie*; F Bal* S A Kie - Ber*.

RUS (Steve Colombo): NMR. A Ber /d/ (R: Pru, OTB); A Mun*;
A Mos*; A Lvn*; F Sev*.

TUR (Pierre Touchette): A Arm - Smy*; F Con § F Smy - Aeg*
(F Con /d/, R: Bla, Ank, OTB).

SUPPLY CENTRES, WINTER, 1907

AUS (11 - 12, Build 1): home, Ser, Gre, Rum, Italy, Tun, Bul,
CONSTANTINOPLÉ.

ENG (9 - 9, even): home, Nwy, Bel, Bre, Spa, Por, StP.

GER (6 - 7, will be 2 short): Kie, Hol, Den, Mar, Par, Swe,
BERLIN.

RUS (5 - 4, Disband 1): Mos, War, Sev, ~~Berlin~~, Mun.

TUR (3 - 2, Disband 1): Ank, Smy, ~~Constantinople~~.

Autumn Retreats, Winter, 1907 AND Spring, 1908 due 18 February.

NOTES: Thanks to Keith Sesler for submitting unneeded standby orders. Will Steve Berrigan, 100 Leacock Dr., Kanata, Ont. K2K 1S6 please submit standby orders for Russia? Thanks. Player addresses were printed last issue.

The A-E-G draw was defeated.

PRESS

Ankara to London: Well, hope you will be here soon as possible. We and Germany have a victory to celebrate next year.

1976 CX - Orphan 6

FALL, 1922: NEW FRENCH PRESIDENT TRIES, BUT NOTHING HAPPENS.

ENG (Steve Berrigan): F Kie* - Ber; F Nth - Eng*; F Bar - Nwg*;
F Bot* S A Lvn*; A Lvn S A StP* - Mos; F Bal* S A Pru*;
A Pru S A Ber* - Sil.

FRA (Eric Kirchner, John Davies): A Ruh* - Kie; A Mun* - Ber;
A Bur* - Mun; A Pie* - Ven; F Tun* - Ion; F Tus* S F Tyr*
- Rom; F WMed* - Tun.

RUS (Steve Hutton): F Aeg* S F Ion*; F Nap* S A Rom*; F Apu*
S A Ven*; A Vie* S A Tyr*; A Gal* S & A Boh* S A Sil*;
A Ukr* S A War*; A Sev* S A Mos*.

SUPPLY CENTRE CHART, WINTER, 1922

ENG (9 - 9, even): home, Den, Swe, Nwy, StP, Kie, Ber.

FRA (9 - 9, build 1, as short): home, Por, Spa, Bel, Hol,
Tun, Mun.

RUS (16 - 16, 1 short): Mos, War, Sev, Austria, Turkey, Italy,
Rum, Gre, Ser, Bul.

Winter, 1922 and Spring, 1923 due Friday, 18 February, 1983.

NOTES: Special thanks to Ben Schilling, Claude Gautron, and Mark Berch who looked up the missing stats for this game. It's dedication like that that makes this hobby a pleasure.

Okay, we have a proposed three-way draw. Do I have to spell out who's involved? No vote received means "yes." If this draw passes, we will end up with Winter, 1922 just to round things off, but send spring orders just in case.

PRESS

Moscow to London and Paris: I have a stalemate line. Please vote "yes" to the draw proposal.

London to Paris: Don't be alarmed! Two fleets to the rescue and are entirely at your disposal.

London to World: Even NMRs won't make a difference to this stalemate. How about a three-way draw and get this idiocy over with. I vote yes. Eric? ((I think you mean John now.)) Steve? Please make vote public.

Seven Nations

As of today's date (15 January), the following players have subscriptions and are waiting to play in this game: Frej Wasestjerna (Finland), Gary Coughlan (USA), Walter Compton (Venezuela), and Randolph Smyth (Canada).

The following have said they would like to play, but they do not yet have subscriptions: Bucheron Frank (France), Axel Halfmeier (W. Germany), Sellick Davies (Union of Arab Emirates) and Hauke Jansen (Holland). Hauke is attempting to find another Dutch player for this spot, but may consider playing himself.

I know that adds up to eight players. Not to worry. Randolph said he would take a position if I needed a seventh player, but will step aside if the game is filled by others. I wouldn't be surprised to learn that France is closer to Ottawa than Medicine Hat, Alberta is. Comparable distances anyhow.

I assume that subscriptions, preference lists, and comments on the European versus North American systems of season combinations are winging their slow way across the Atlantic as I write and that we will have seven players with starting positions next deadline (February 18). I imagine some of you discovered your last issue of SNAFU! took a very long time to reach you. We have an annual ritual in December called "The Post Office Screw Up." Some people call it Christmas. Ten week deadlines ought to get around that.

Postage has just shot up in Canada again! If you feel my asking \$1.00 an issue is a lot of money, consider it costs 64¢ if I stay under 30 grams—and 99¢ for 50 grams! That's where the sub money goes!

A final note: Canadians are deeply insulted when you refer to them as "Americans." You can call us "North Americans" if you wish, but "Americans" are the gringos we had to fight in a couple of wars to retain our independence. No harm done this time, but next time my United Empire Loyalist ancestors will rise from the grave!

1981 Qwc02 - Variant 1

(Conquest of the New World II)

"I have no more anxiety about Québec."

(Louis Joseph, Marquis de Montcalm. Aug., 1759 (a month before Québec's defeat))

1630

AZTECS (Chip Charnley): A Huron - Delaware*; A Saskatchewan - Hudson*; A Texas* S A Central America - Mexico*; A Cartagena - Panama*; A Panama - Central America*; A Venezuela - Peru /d/ (R: Cartagena, OTB).

ENGLAND (Fred Davis): F Bay of Fundy* S & F Bermuda* S A Québec - Nova Scotia*; F Virginia* - Bahama Sea; A Ohio - Louisiana*.

FRANCE (Rick Young): F Nova Scotia § (/d/, R: Maine, OTB) & F St Lawrence* S A Maine - Québec*.

PORTUGAL (Steve Hutton): F South Pacific - Central Pacific*; A Bolivia* - Peru; F Antilles* S A Amazon Delta - Venezuela*; F La Plata - Falkland Sea*; F Jamaica - Caribbean*; F Cuba - Gulf*; F Hispaniola* - Bahama Sea*.

1632 (Retreats) and 1634 (Fall) due Friday, 18 February, 1983.

NOTES: We have a proposed draw involving England, Portugal, and Aztecs. We also have a proposal for a concession to Portugal. Please vote with next orders. No vote received means "No."

Guess what? Steve Hutton moved again, back to: 11 Nealon Ave., Toronto, Ontario M4K 1Y8. That should be good for a few months.

Chip Charnley's new address is: 4065 Concordia way, Virginia Beach, VA 23456. (That Zip code should be easy to remember.)

PRESS

Maine: A group of sturdy English settlers have just founded a town called Boston in the southern part of this province. Their first act has been to ban all books written by French authors.

Portugal: His Most Exalted Majesty, the King of Portugal, Destroyer of the Spanish Armada, Conquerer of the Incas, Prince of the Pampas, Lord of the Amazon to: the last pathetic remnants of the once-mighty Aztec empire: Surrender!

Blowup

WINTER, 1900: MINE FIELDS MAKE EUROPEAN LEADERS JITTERY.
ITALY, ENGLAND, TURKEY SET TO EXPLORE THE SEAS
WITH SOME GERMAN HELP. WHERE'S FRENCH PREZ?

AUS (Bruce Poppe): A Vienna, A Triest, A Budapest.

ENG (Steve Hutton): F Edinburgh, F Liverpool, F London.

FRA (Mark Keller): See Note. A Paris, F Brest, A Marseilles.

GER (Keith Sesler): F Kiel, F Berlin, A Munich.

ITA (Dave Lincoln): F Venice, F Rome, F Naples.

RUS (Nelson Millar): A Moscow, A Warsaw, A StP., A Sevastopol.

TUR (Dave Carter): F Con., F Ankara, F Smyrna.

The slaughter, er...Spring, 1901 is due Fri., 18 February, 83.

NOTE: I received a post card from Mark on Jan. 13 (the day before the deadline) saying his Blowup orders were following, so I assume he's still in this. I checked around and everyone I spoke with agreed that when someone NMRs in a game which begins in Winter, 1900, the country should be assigned the rulebook units. Seems only fair. I'm not calling for a standby, so don't let us down again, please Mark?

Oh, I guess the rest of you don't know it, but this game filled when last issue was at the printer's so the players got the starting lineup via insert. I'll apply for a Miller Number, but let's give our MNC a chance to settle into the job.

You better get used to this in this game, but Steve Hutton has moved to: 11 Nealon Ave., Toronto, Ont. M4K 1Y8. I suggest you leave lots of space in your files for his addresses, but don't throw old addresses out as sometimes he recycles them.

PRESS

Russia: News of mad terrorists has reached the Tsar. In an exclusive interview from under his bed the Benevolent One was quoted as saying, "No mercy shall be shown those who have or may in the future destroy Russian territory. Let the world know that the Tsar is scared ~~shittless~~ of no miner."

Letters

Let's start off with a letter from John Leeder in response to what I said about him and the MNC last issue:

"Just received #26-27 of SNAFU!, and wanted to correct a couple of tiny misconceptions concerning the MNC situation. I was MNC for about 15 months and my number assignments were up to date for the first nine of those. I wouldn't say I 'soon' found myself unable to carry on. Also, it wasn't my other hobby activities which got in the way of the MNC job, but rather my changing family situation plus suddenly acquiring a major responsibility in the Canadian Fold Music Society.

"It's not accurate to say that Robert Sacks 'refused to recognize' me as MNC right from the start. He objected to some things I did but he continued to recognize me while putting in motion a bunch of cumbersome procedural measures designed to convince me that he had the power to make me quit doing them (and to convince everyone else). He may or may not have 'fired' me towards the end--I'm not sure and I don't especially care. I feel Robert has no power over the MNC, despite what he may believe or wish and despite what he may have conned others into signing or doing in the past."

Thanks, John, for clearing everything up. Everything I said about Sacks was based on statements he's made in KNOWN GAME OPENINGS which, fortunately, few people bother with anymore. I've finally consigned Sacks to the Gibson-Oaklyn file. Anyhow, Lee is an excellent choice for MNC, whether Sacks approves or not, and I wish you luck with your family and other hobbies.

Gee, heavy stuff to begin the letter section, eh? Might as well keep it going.

From Pete Gaughan: "I'm sorely offended and saddened by your 'Christmas' story. I once thought that nobody could be so jaded; at least I had that misconception broken five years ago. Above all, you should not have said that Y'shua's divinity was not at question, since you went on to make it the central question of your essay."

Jaded? Where did I discuss Jesus' divinity? When I mentioned his brothers? When I said the miracles were hogwash? The more I learn about this universe we're in, the more I come to appreciate what an astounding achievement it is--and yet many "religious" people are trying to prevent children from learning about that, insisting that they study fairy tales that demean and belittle God, like "creationism." Similarly, the more I learn about Jesus, as a man, the more I can appreciate God in him. If he was, indeed, a starry-eyed blue-eyed beatifically smiling creature in a spotless white robe floating about Palestine, then the sacrifice on the cross is meaningless. Doug Millstone understood what I wrote when he responded:

"My faith is, as yours, firm. As well, superstition seems to be a bar to real faith and the real benefits that religious observance can bring.

"I found your interpretation of the birth of Jesus and your comments about Paul to be realistic and reasonable. They do not, however, lead to a contradiction of any of the basic tenets, or lessening of any of the values, of Christianity.

"I think that really all I'm saying is that I quite respect your view and it makes me feel a greater respect for your religion and as well continue to feel the strength of my own commitments."

Thanks, Doug. I needed to know that someone understood what I was trying to say. It's a difficult subject to write about without rousing deep emotions and risking offending someone. My father told me never to discuss politics, sex, or religion with strangers. Guess I've covered all three now. Anyhow, Rod Walker was kind enough to send a six page letter in which he dealt with every point I raised. I wish I could print the whole thing, but here's a sample:

"First, that's Joshua bar-Joseph. The language of his time and place was Aramaic, not Hebrew. And, in any event, he may have actually gone by the Greek version (Jesus) of his name (well, not Greek; Graeco-Latin), since so much in that area was being Hellenized anyway. Galilee was particularly under heavy Greek influence.

"The 'virgin birth': This really has two roots. One is the misreading of a passage in Isaiah, found in Matthew. The other is the tendency of mythic tales told of important persons to migrate from person to person. Mary was a 'virgin' (in the view of Matthew and Luke) who was impregnated by the miraculous intervention of God. The same story is told of Alexander the Great's mother and also of Abraham's mother (but not in the OT). However, it's clear that neither book is depending, at that point, on received tradition. Neither of them agrees at any point with the other."

Rod went on through my whole essay expanding on this and that, making corrections, etc. One thing both Pete and Rod agreed on, though they're writing from very different viewpoints, is to reject any connection between the Essenes and Jesus. I had said "there are strong suggestions" of such a connection, as, when I was a student, way back in those dim primitive pre-computer days, the Dead Sea Scrolls were just becoming available and professors were quite enthusiastic at exploring a Jesus-Essene link. I assume from what Rod said that this possibility has since been discarded.

Thanks to everyone who wrote. Nothing else I've written in SNAFU! has gotten such a strong reaction. If I made a few people stop and think, then I achieved my purpose. If what I wrote offended your beliefs, then we'll have to accept that you have your way and I have mine. But you cannot conclude that I am not a religious person or that I reject the divinity of Jesus—as if that had anything to do with the article or anything else. I guess we had better drop it.

Re. the picture that I thought was Ben Schilling, Ben writes: "The cap I was wearing at DipCon was (and is) a Milwaukee Brewers home cap. The cap Steve Duke has on in that picture appears to be a Miller Beer cap."

Okay, you win.

Re. last month's cover, Roy Smith said: "You look different than you did in Baltimore. Must be the way you comb your hair."

Oh, you noticed the family resemblance, eh?

Dave Carter: "Ron, you don't get into the top 10 with baby pictures. The North American public wants Nudes! Sex! Graphic Violence! Sick Jokes! 50 cent sub rates! I must say tho' that the little booger looks charming. He even has as much hair as I do."

That picture is now four months old, so he has more hair than you do! Just wait, Carter, till your little booger's born. I bet that not only will baby pictures push the nudes out of SLEEPLESS KNIGHTS, you'll probably spring for colour! Hope yours isn't born on deadline weekend, as mine was.

Bob Olsen adds: "Christopher is a doll; a thousand comments of the 'Why is Woody on the cover of the zine?' sort come to me but I will try and resist the temptation."

Thanks, Bob, on both counts.

In the continuing story of the Dippy baby boom, Doug Millstone writes, "My wife Terri and I are expecting our first in April. I sure hope it's as pleasant an experience as Christopher has been to you and Ann."

I've just learned that Nelson Miller's wife is expecting their third in late August. Best of luck to everyone and remember to be nice to the new mommies. I want all subbers out there with kids to send a small photo, black and white if possible, to me before the end of October. I'd like to put something together for next Christmas' issue. I can't promise to return them, but will try if you request it.

1981 W CONTINUED

UPI (Turkey): The Turkish capital is alive with coup rumours following the Sultan's recent bout of mental illness. He has apparently taken to sending messages about bears, turkeys, and toads to foreign leaders. No one dares guess what he'll do next.

1982 J CONTINUED

Constantinople: SURPRISE PARTY AT THE PALACE! Before the assembled ambassadors of Europe, Grand Vizier Abdullah entered the ballroom. Beside him, Thomas, ex-Tsar of all the Russias! There was a stunned silence as Thomas the Terrible was reputedly dead.

The Russian ambassador, livid with rage, accused the Turkish Empire of misrepresentation and fraud. The Tsar roared out, "What! Misrepresentation!? Fraud?! The current leader of Russia is not even an Olsenoff...his real name is Robert Rasputin. Have you never wondered why there are no photographs of him and why he shuns photographers? His government is like himself...illegitimate. My ex-enemies are now my only allies. Together we will purge Russia of the influence of this devilish clique and restore Russia to its rightful rulers. Tomorrow I go to the front to show the people of Sevastopol who the real Tsar is and give the lie to the reports of my death.

Battle Stations

Expiring Subscriptions: Those who expired at #26-27 and have not yet renewed are: Peter Ashley, Blair Cusack, Eric Kirchner, Steve Spedakos, Windy Windblad. I haven't yet decided whether I'm going to send them this issue or not. I usually don't.

With this issue (#28) we have Doug Beyerlein, Gary Ferguson, Wayne Norton, Robert Young. At #29: Dave Lincoln, Doug Millstone. At #30: Steve Colombo, Paula Dodge, Scott Hanson, John Leeder.

Please note that all "80IC" subs expire next issue (#29).

Waiting for Game Starts: Waiting for North-4 (regular Dip): Steve Berrigan, James Keeley, Bob Acheson, Keith Sesler, Dennis Duncan, Scott Marley. I had seven, but two players lived in the same city. One more needed. It will go to the first one who gets in the game fee.

Waiting for WOOLWORTH (a variant where you play two powers, one secretly owned, one publically-known—a good game for good liars): Steve Hutton, Dave Carter, Keith Sesler. Two more needed. I'll assemble maps and rules soon.

Standbys: Add Steve Berrigan, James Keeley. Thanks fellows!

Quiz

Dave Carter, Jack Jung, Dennis Duncan, Rod Walker, and John Davies all realized that what Reginald Owen, Alastair Sim, and Albert Finney had in common was that they played Scrooge in movie versions of "A Christmas Carol." By the way, "An American Christmas Carol" was shot in my home town of Elora, Ont. It looks exactly like that. I even used to cross the bridge in the movie on the way to school every day.

"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and "Frosty the Snowman" were Gene Autry hits. Rod said "Vaughn Monroe" was the answer—he may be right too. I can't check that out.

No quiz questions this month. In fact, I'm thinking seriously of dropping it altogether. Check out SLEEPLESS KNIGHTS for trivia quizzes and NO FIXED ADDRESS for word puzzles. I find the quizzes are taking too much of my time when I would rather be working on GMing.

Parting Shot

Please note this change of policy: In the past the deadlines for telephoned orders was the night before the printed deadline, yet I could make calls to those with NMR Insurance for 24 hours after the deadline. This bothered me for a number of reasons. In future, I will make the calls for NMR Insurance the night before the deadline, so that there will be absolutely no calls accepted from players after 10 pm Thursday. It is very rare that a set of orders arrives in Friday's mail so assuming a NMR on Thursday is a safe bet.

I had to cut lots of material to stay within the 20 page limit imposed by the post office (and the rates just went up again!). Coming up, as space allows, is an article by Ann on cod tongues, my regular features, and lots of left-over letters. Hope you all enjoy '983. It can't be worse than '82! *Ron*