SNAFU!

Opening Shot

A few firsts this issue. For the first time a game has gone to arbitration (1980 IC). The issue is over ending games with several NVRs. Players are getting an update on the situation via an insert. Trust this will all be cleared up by next issue. For the first time, an international game has begun. That ought to be interesting to follow. The first case of forged orders has occured in these pages (1982 I). No, I'm not going to say how I knew, as that might reveal how such things are uncovered and give potential cheaters ideas on how to get around the system in future. I'll point out though that the GM is not part of the game and any attempt to fool him is absolutely forbidden. When in doubt about

1976 CX Ends page 13
Seven Nations Begins page 15
North-4 Began (mailed Feb. 4)
Hobby News: The Latest page 2
Other Zines: Anwyl Arrives page 3
Rules: No. V page 4
Travel: Homesick page 4
Ann's Column: Cod tongues? page 5
The Games pages 6 - 17
Mensa #16 page 6
Mensa #12 Update (Insert)
North games page 8
Orphaned games page 11
Variants page 16
1982 IF and 1979 HY (Imsert)
Letters pages 18 - 19
Battle Stations page 20
Parting Shot page 20
STANDBY ORDERS REQUESTED FROM...

a possible course of action, ask first. And, 1976 CX ended, which must be big news to those who have been wondering when that would occur for the past five years or so.

There is only one game opening at present, in the WOOL-WORTH variant. It will be a while before I offer another game, as a number have begun recently and I still don't know how much time \bar{I} will have in future.

Speaking of the future, I'm still collecting Unemployment Insurance. We're okay for now. Jobs are not easy to find these days, but I'm still plugging away. The hardest part is being unable to make plans, as I never know when I'll be called for an interview or begin working.

On the subject of work, some of our numbers are caught up in the struggle in Québec. (Glad I got out when I did.) If you don't follow the news, the government of Québec unilaterally imposed a contract on its employees and has refused to negotiate. The terms were quite onerous. Public employees went out on an illegal strike to force the government to start talking. Settlements were reached with some groups, but the teachers were left out in the cold. The Québec government passed legislation ordering them back to work. This legislation, called Law 111, strips teachers of all rights, in violation of international human rights treaties, the Ganadian constitution, and Québec's own Bill of Rights.

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

SNAFU: is published by Ronald J. Brown, 1200 Summerville Ave. Ottawa. Onterio K1Z 864. 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.

The fight against this law, unprecedented in North America, is moving across Canada and internationally. It could be we will be faced with postal disruptions (see the Houserules on the procedure in such cases), but two of our group, Nelson Millar and Gary Ferguson, are in the front lines of this battle. They have already been on strike for three weeks, and are facing punitive fines, loss of seniority and pension rights, and their jobs. They have accepted the necessity of a temporary 20% wage reduction and a virtual salary freeze for three years. The fight is over who controls the classroom: teachers and parents or the government. The government will not admit to any dialogue on the question; instead, it passes laws trying to bend everyone to its will. Please support Gary and Nelson. "1984" has arrived a year early in Québec.

Hobby News

Women dominate the news this month. Kathy Byrne was rushed to hospital for emergency surgery, but came back to write her usual subzine in WHITESTONIA, describing the horrors of modern medicine. Kathy's not one to let a little thing like major surgery keep her from writing her zine. Glad to hear she's recovering.

CHEESECAKE arrived with a cover photo of a stunningly beautiful women who, for some unexplained reason, has decided to marry Andy Lischett. Best wishes to both.

And, Alex Lord made the cover of VOICE OF DOOM when she was selected Doomie of the Year. Alex joins Bob Olsen and Garry Hemlin as victims of this award. Congrats.

The Don Willer Memorial Award will be given the person who has made an outstanding contribution to the hobby at this year's DipCon. Named after the fellow who originated the system of classifying variant games, which we call Miller Numbers, this award will be the highest honour the hobby can confer. Fred Devis is responsible for buying the plaque and is accepting contributions towards the cost. Send Fred a dollar or two. His address is: 1427 Clairidge Rd., Baltimore, MD 21207.

Just received a flyer from Randolph Smyth giving details for this year's North American Zine & GM Poll, which we used to call the Leeder Poll, but now have to call the Runestone Poll. I'll try to put together ballots, with more complete rules later. Meanwhile, it will be similar to other years, except subzines will be rated separately from main zines and results will be available equally to all askers.

There have been a lot of rumours lately that July's DipCon will be moved to Chicago. Apparently, that is not the case, and DipCon will be held with Origins in Detroit after all. (Sigh of relief: Chicago is a bit too far away, but Detroit is quite handy.) More details later.

People aren't exactly beating at my door to be the next Coordinator of the CDO. I have heard from one eligible cendidate to date. Seeing as no one's much interested, I'll handle all the submissions. So, if you are interested in this position, let me know by, ah, um, April 30. I can then print up the list

of all the candidates, etc. in the issue I'll be putting out that weekend, and set dates for elections, electoral college voting, assumption of office, and so on.

Speaking of the CDO, no one wants the \$140.00 donated by IMFIDEL's subscribers. I'm not even sure participants in the Prize Game, ripped off by someone unmentionable, want a share of it. Custodians have turned down or ignored my suggestions that some of it be used to offset their expenses. I guess I'll pass that item on to my successor and let him figure out what to do with it.

I usually reserve the Dip SIG news for DIPLOMAG, but this is important and next issue of DIPLOMAG isn't due out for another six weeks or so. Keith Sesler, on learning of Glenn Overby's reluctance to part with SIG records and funds, paid Glenn a little visit and actually managed to extract the records, and a promise to mail the funds to Ed Bapple very soon. Thanks Keith.

A lot of collection agencies could use someone with your talents. This doesn't change my (very low) opinion of Glenn who told me to my face in Baltimore last July that all this was "already taken care of." Still, glad to see something happening in that sad affair. If Glenn does send Ed the money, our new DIPLOMAG editor, Bruce Poppe, won't have to scrimp on every issue to avoid bankruptcy like I did.

Other Zines

WIESMARK DIP-PRESS, issue #0, has just arrived. Canada's latest contribution to the Dippy world, WDP is put out by Anwyl of Weismark, Weismark Publishing, E-6 Pinewood Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M6C 2V1. Subs 10/\$7.50 in Canada, \$8.50 in the USA, and \$12.00 elsewhere. All amounts are in Canadian funds. If you want to get into a game these days, this is your best bet, as he has lots of openings. Game fee \$5.00 CDN.

Anwyl is a good friend of Dave Carter's—which may or may not be a recommendation. Sorry, Dave, I told myself I would be nice to you this month because you didn't say anything nasty about me in SLEEPLESS KNIGHTS #20 and you haven't used "standbies" for a long time. Plug: SLEEPLESS KNIGHTS, banned in Stoney Creek, Hamilton, & Dundas, is Canada's fanniést, best, teniést, cheapest zine. (I knew the word would come to me.) Try 118 Horsham Ave., Willowdale, Ontario M2N 129. (Willowdale is a pseudonym for Toronto.) 3 issues/\$2.00.

Another pubber who sometimes lives in Toronto, Steve Hutton, has agreed to 6M Randolph Smyth's games for a few months while Randolph takes advantage of the government's largess to take courses in Ontario. Steve could probably use standbys, so write him, very soon, at 11 Nealon Ave., Toronto, Ontario, M4K 1Y8. If you wait too long, NO FIXED ADDRESS will have wandered off to another location. Subs 10/\$6.50 in Canada, \$6.00 US in the US, \$7.00 US elsewhere.

Randolph Smyth's FOL SI FIE will be in suspended animation for a few months, as mentioned above. A horrible thought has occured to me: when Randolph is taking his courses, all English pubbers in Canada will be in Ontario. Enough to make me want to emigrate to New Brunswick!

Rules

V. UNDERLYING ECONOMIC STRUCTURE OF THE GAME (SUPPLY CENTRES)

This rule describes supply centres, how they are designated, "Each of these provinces produces supplies sufficient to keep an army or fleet in being," that a country is entitled to the number of units equal to the number of supply centres it controls, and that he loses and gains in accordance with them.

Interesting to note that all home supply centres are cities, and the twelve neutral centres are countries. The non-supply areas are the only ones which can be described as "provinces," yet that term is used throughout the rule book to refer to all land areas. That doesn't mean anything, but there's not much one can say about this rule.

Thirty-four supply centres is a reasonable number for seven players. If divided evenly, each power should have 4.86 centres. Mention that next time an ally wants support into a fifth centre. Of course, the fewer powers left, the greater number you should have to be "even." Maybe that should be considered in draw votes, but then, centres aren't everything.

The premise behind the supply centre idea is that control of certain areas would make the material and services of that area available to you, adding to your economic situation to enable you to pay for more armies and fleets. Deficit financing wasn't very popular then so you had to actually have the resources. In reality, though, Austria would probably expend so much energy just holding onto Serbia, it would hardly enable her to raise another army.

But the possibility of growth is an interesting concept for a game. In many games, like chess, each side begins with an equal setup and then loses units. The idea is to lose less than the other guy. Diplomacy is much more dynamic in that regard. A power can have nine units on the board one year, three a few years later, and still come back and win. One can afford to give up units in exchange for tactical advantage, then recoup the loses later. In chess if you gave up a rook to gain a section of the board, you'd never get the rook back. The ebb and flow of different colours across a Diplomacy board at least makes interesting patterns to watch.

Travel

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

Sitting on a wooden bench outside the hostel as the sun set, waiting for it to open. Scruffy young people drifted in, alone and in pairs, most sitting quietly, staring into space. A few entered into animated conversations with people they obviously knew. I guessed most of them were students from local universities returning after a summer's travels.

Finally a young man who looked like he had been saved more than the usual number of times unlocked the door and allowed us to shuffle in. For some reason I was reminded of Salvation Army lines. He took down data like name and origins and asked for a dollar. If you didn't have the dollar you could work it off by cleaning the place up. He demanded the knife I was wearing. Again, I reacted with incredulity. He put it to me straight: give him the knife or find somewhere else to sleep.

The hostel was divided into two barracks: one for males, the other for single females and couples. There was a small anteroom with a couch, chairs, and TV set where everyone gathered. No one was interested in talking with me; I wasn't much interested in talking with them. So about ten I decided to go out to eat. I asked the born-again Christian guarding the front door where I could go. He looked very worried, but told me there was a MacDonald's a few blocks away. "I better give you your knife back," he said. "Why for?" He told me it was a rough area and people simply didn't go out at night. Damned if I was going to walk around in civilization armed. The knife was for camping out, not for dealing with muggers.

It was dark and spooky out; no street lighting, gutted buildings looming into blackness. I didn't see anyone. The MacDonald's

Travel Continues page 8

Ann's Column

I'se the Bye

Inge Davis' questions about Canadians' blubber-eating habits prompted me to think of some lesser known and equally odd delicacies I've sampled. One dish which sticks in my mind (not to mention my craw) is cod tongues. I was introduced to this particularly odd repast when visiting an ex-university-roommate in St. John's, Newfoundland.

St. John's is, of course, Newfoundland's provincial capital. The city has sprung up around what must be the world's most remarkable natural harbour. Two tall cliffs rise from the rough Atlantic waves, leaving a passage barely wide enough for a ship to pass into the calm bay beyond. The city itself creeps up the surrounding hills in row upon row of wooden frame houses painted in a wide variety of pastels. Sprinkled among these are a few in darker greens and browns, making the whole appear like a giant kalidoscope whose focal point is the jumble of ships in port.

Dominating one hillside is the Roman Catholic cathedral, an imposing monument to the fishermen's faith. The building is as beautiful inside as it is impressive out. Many of the most lovely adornments have been donated by the Portugese "White Fleet" (so named for the colour of the ships and sails) which visit St. John's every summer.

I visited in March of 1973, and was given a royal tour by my girlfriend. There simply isn't enough space here to describe the number of things to see and do in either the city or the province. It was my friend's mother who fed me the cod tongues. The whole family was trying hard to introduce me to Newfoundland traditions.

You may already know that cod, like any other true fish, have no tongues. What are called "cod tongues" are really the cheeks of the fish. They are served fried, usually accompanied by fried brewis (pronounced "brews").

Although I am a seafood lover, I couldn't choke down more than one mouthful. Cod tongues are not very fleshy; rather, they appear very gelatinous, glistening with fatty particles. I knew then and there that I'd never pass my honourary Newfoundlander initiation.

On the other hand, I really enjoyed the brewis. Brewis is hardtack (ship's biscuit). To fry the stuff, you soak it overnight in milk and crumble it into the skillet. It looks and tastes much like crumbled pancake, although somewhat less sweet. Bacon and brewis for breakfast is terrific. If you can find a store that stocks brewis, and enjoy trying unusual foods, I'd recommend you try it. It might even become a staple of your diet!

Someday, I hope to go back to Newfoundland on vacation. There's so much more there that I'd like to see — particularly the excavations at L'Anse aux Meadows where a Viking colony has been uncovered. When I go, you may be sure that I'll be feasting on all the local bounty of seafood — all, that is, except cod tongues.

1982 I - Mensa 16

- SUMMER, 1904: FRA: A Bel R Pic; RUS: F Swe R Bal.
- FALL, 1904: ENGLAND AND FRANCE CAUGHT IN A VISE WHILE TURKEY TAKES IT EASY. BELGIUM OPEN IN AUTUMN AGAIN.
- ENG (Mike Mazzer): A Jvp* Edi; F Nth Edi /d/ (R: Hel, Bel, Eng, Lon, Yor); F Ska* S A Swe /d/ (R: Fin, OTB).
- FRA (Robert Young): A Pic Par*; A Spa* & A Gas Mar /d/ (R: Bre, OTB); F Por* S A Spa; F MAO* WMed.
- GER (Windy Windblad): A Bel Pic*; A Bur Gas*; A Den* S RUS A Nwy Swe; F Hol* S RUS F Nwg Nth.
- ITA (Keith Sesler): F NAO* S & F WMed* S <u>TUR F NAf MAO</u> (NSO); <u>F Lyo* - Spa (sc)</u>; A Mar* S GER A Bur - Gas; A Pie* S A Mar; A Ser* S <u>TUR A Gre - Bul</u> (NSO).
- RUS (Dave Lincoln): F Bal* S A Nwy Swe*; A StP* S F Bar Nwy*; F Nwg Nth*; A War* H; A Gal* H; F Bul (ec) Bla*.
- TUR (Paula Dodge): NMR! F NAf*, F Tun*, F Ion*, F Aeg*, A Gre*, A Alb*.

SUPPLY CENTRES, WINTER, 1904

- ENG (4 3 or 4; Disband 1, or even, depending on retreat): home, Dénnérk, Belgium?
- FRA (6 5 or 4; even or Disband 1, depending on Eng retreat; was 1 unit short): Par, Bre, Marsellles, Por, Spe, Belgium?
- GER (4 5, build 1): home, Holland, DENMARK.
- ITA (6 7, build 1): home, Tri, Vie, Ser, MARSEILLES.
- RUS (8 8, even): home, Bud, Rum, Swe, Norway.
- TUR (6 6, even): home, Bul, Gre, Tunis.
- Autumn retreats and Winter, 1904 ONLY due Fri., 25 March, 83.
- NOTES: I separated seasons this time, as last time we had this situation in Belgium, I had a number of requests for separated seasons—and I think the situation is even more complicated this time.
- Will Scott Hanson, 939 18th Ave., SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414 please submit standby orders for Turkey? Thanks, Scott, I'll send you the addresses.
- To those who inquired, submitting joint orders is perfectly legal according to my house rules. When someone sends you his orders, or part of them, for you to fill in blanks, you should sign them too, but the original player may still submit amended orders over-riding the joint set.
- For the first time I received a set of orders which I have very good reason to believe are forged. If the party behind them is ever uncovered he will immediately be expelled from the game. Be warned. Because of this, I am requesting that all players in this game use their player codes (I'm sending reminders with this issue) on all correspondence. I am changing some player codes and strongly urge everyone never to reveal their code to another player.

I notice a number of you haven't renewed your SIG membership. That means you're unaware that DIPLOMAG has a new editor and you missed getting last issue with a very fine strategy article. (Who said I had to be humble?) Ptease send Ed your \$4.00 soon.

PRESS

London to Munich: East, Windy, East!

Berlin to London: Remember Denmark?

Moscow to London: Hey, it's okay, Mike. I'm not mad about Sweden. In fact, I'm not mad about anything. Are you?

Italy to France: If you ever bothered to write me, perhaps things might have turned out differently for you.

London to Paris: Thank goodness for Austria or you and I would be bucking for first out.

London to Moscow: And to think I could have had you when you were down and out. That's me, Mr. Safety.

Moscow to London: Okay...Olsen, yeh...let me write that down... This Legend of Dipdom got you pretty good, huh?

1982 I Continues page 9

Bourse (82 I)

FALL, 1904: OIL, JILT, AND MI SINK EVERYTHING INTO MARKET WHILE CRAP BACKS OUT COMPLETELY

			****		001 00111 22-1-2-1			
	US\$	£	\mathbf{Fr}	DM	L	R	$\mathbf{T}\mathbf{p}$	
MI (Cusack)	0.04	0	2350	550	1000	1700	1485	
JILT (Gaughan	0.61	1	1	1001	1893	2501	1901	
VIC (Jensen)	66.62	600	0	2000	2000	2000	1200	
OIL (Lowes)	7.80	560	500	2935	1010	2600	1610	
MINE (Phillip		700	1000	1000	1 500	1000	2500	
CRAP (Smith)	8355.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	
SBA (Wilson)	402.00	2000	Ō	Ō	1000	2400	0	
Purchase	:5	0	0	1930	433	1	821	
Sales		665	1199	799	0	0	٠٥	
Net Chan	ige		-119 9	+1131	+433	+1	+821	
Old CMP	-	.81	.85	1.03	1.22	1.67	1.19	
Net Change		06	11	+.11	+.04	0	+.08	
Game Effect		03	03	+.03	+.03	0	0	
New CMP		.72	.71	1.17	1.29	1.67	1.27	

Winter, 1904 due Tuesday, 22 March, 1983.

NOTES: Once again, in the parent game, we have a retreat due which could change the supply centre chert, on which your "game effect" is based; however, the retreat can have no effect on the CMP here, as calculations are made before retreats.

Some of you are still having problems remembering that one cannot sell more than 500 units per turn. There's a good reason for this rule; it prevents total chaos in the market and forces you to plan ahead.

By the way, Dan has NMRed out in his last game in SNAFU! His portfolio here (SBA) has been inactive for quite some time, so SBA will most likely be removed from the listings next time.

1981 W - North 1

AUTUMN, 1907: ENG: F MAO R OTB.

WINTER, 1907: ENG: B A Lon; ITA: B F Rom; RUS: B A War.

SPRING, 1908: RUSSIAN ARMY ANNIHILATED AS EVERYONE DIGS IN.

AUS (Bob Olsen): F WMed* S ITA F MAO; A Rum* S A Bud - Gal*;
A Ser* S A Rum*.

ENG (Errol Platt): F NAO* S F Eng - Iri*; F Bre - Eng*;
A Gas* S A Par - Bre*; A Bur* S A Gas; F Nth* C A Lon Bel*.

ITA (Bill Young): F Rom* - Tyr; F Por* S F MAO*; F Spa (sc)*
S A Mar*; A Pie* S A Ven* - Tyr; A Tyr* - Boh; A Vie* S
AUS A Bud - Gal.

HUS (Garvin Boyle): A Den - Kie*; A Mun* S A Boh* - Tyr;
A Ukr* & & A Sil* S A War* - Gel; A Gal - Vie /A/;
A Mos* S A Ukr.

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

Fall, 1908 due Friday, 25 March, 1983.

NOTES: Both the E-R-I-T draw and the A-E-R-I-T draw were defeated, but both draws are reproposed. No Vote Received means "Yes."

PRESS

Moscow to Turkish Fleet Edging Along Italian Coast: We recommend a visit to the ruins of Carthage or Athens, or an expedition to Naples for a little excitement.

Moscow to Rome: I don't understand it. Your barn door is wide open but the flies don't go in!

TRAVEL CONTINUED

was a bright oasis of plastic glitter with a handful of customers. When I returned a few people expressed surprise that
I actually went out in the dark. I snapped that I got over my
fear of the dark when I was three years old. I wasn't feeling
too friendly.

Lying in my bunk that night I realized why: I was homesick. Sick of people with funny accents, sick of their paranoia, sick of wandering around with no sense of direction, just sick of strangeness. It was over three thousand miles home. What if I got sick, or hurt? What if the car gave out? A couple in the other barracks were grunting and moaning and a skinny fellow in the next bunk was up on tiptoe peering over the partitian. I guess it was sort of funny, but I was in a real blue funk. "Knock it off man," I growled. "Screw you," he snapped and went back to watching. Then it started to grow in me: a laugh bubbled up from deep inside. It was funny: I came all this way and that was the conversation at the end of the road. I was going to head home in the morning. I don't recall if I dreamed of pine trees that night, but it would have been appropriate.

1981 KA - North 2

AUTUMN, 1904: AUS: A Gal R Bud; FRA: A Ven R Pie.

WINTER, 1904: FRA: D A Lon; GER: B A Mun, A Ber; ITA: D

F WMed (by GM): TUR: B F Con. F Smy.

SPRING, 1905: RUSSIA CLOBBERED BY THREE POWERS, TURKS AND

FRENCH MEET IN AFRICAN DESERT.

- AUS (Nelson Millar): F Ven* H; A Tri* S A Vie* Tyr; A Bud* Vie; A Rum Ukr*.
- ENG (Jan Jensen): A Nwy* H.
- FRA (Jack Jung): F Eng* MAO; F MAO* NAf; F Lyo* S F Spa (sc) WMed*; A Mar* Pie; A Tus* S A Pie* Ven.
- GER (Blair Cusack): A Ber Pru*; A Mun* S A Tyr*; A Boh* S A Sil Gal*; F Swe* Nwy; A Edi*? (H); A Tyr S FRA A Tus Ven (NSO); F Bar Nwg*.
- ITA (Dan/Wilson, CD): A Rom*, F Tyr*.
- RUS (Pete Gaughan): F StP (sc) Bot*; A Gal & GER A Boh Vie (NSO) /d/ (R: War, OTB); A Ukr & A Gal /d/ (R: War, Mos. OTB).
- TUR (Paul Rauterberg): F Smy EMed*; F Con Aeg*; A Sev* S AUS A Rum Ukr; F Bla* S A Bul Rum*; F Tun* NAf; F Apu* S AUS F Ven.

Summer retreat and Fall, 1905 due Friday, 25 March, 1983.

NOTE: I couldn't read what Blair had written for his A Edi, but it didn't look like a move or support order.

PRESS

Budapest to Paris: The news of the French defeat in Paris has greatly bolstered the morale of the proud people of Austria-Hungary. The warmongers of France and Germany have gained their power by massacring the weak and down-trodden, but now they will be smitten by the sword of justice.

1982 I CONTINUED

Berlin to Parisa Sorry old frog. But I must insist on the right of self determination for the Burgundy Wines—especially in that the Kaiser may enjoy them with every meal. It is WAR to the DEATH—or their complete liberation.

Russia to Turkey: While Italy is watching his rear, can I watch yours?

London to Moscow: You might take a look over your shoulder, ecross the Black Sea, yourself!

Berlin to Russia, Italy, Turkey: I realize PMD is a very pretty lady, but what is the meaning behind this Danse Macabre in the SE of Europe?

London to Rome: You've underestimated the awesome powers of Lady Podag. She is no mere Mensan, she's a member of the Triple-Nine society! Why, according to her letters, she's devised a way to launch a naval assault on Serbia! What a woman! Kathy Byrne, move over!

1982 J - North 3

- FALL. 1904: AUSTRIA HITS BACK WITH A VENGRANCE: RUSSIA HURT! FRANCE CHANGES DIRECTION WHILE BRIT & TURK GROW.
- AUS (Nelson Miller): A Tri* S A Bud Vie*.
- ENG (Doug Millstone): F Eng* Bre; F Nth* Eng; F Nwy* S A Swe*; F StP (nc)* H.
- FRA (Darryl Phillips): A Pic* Bre; F WMed Spa (sc)*; F Tun WMed*; A Mar* H; A Pie* Ven.
- GER (Martin Taylor): F Bel Hol*; A Den* S A Ruh Kie*; A Mun - Ber*; F Bal* S A Den; A Pru* - War; A Vie H /d/ (R: Boh, Tyr, OTB).
- ITA (Roy Smith): A Tus* Ven; F Lyo* S FRA F WMed Spa (sc); F Tyr* S F Ion Tun*.
- RUS (Bob Olsen): F Kie H /d/ (R: Hel, OTB); A Gal* S A Mos War*; F Sev B AUS A Bud Rum (NSO) /A/.
- TUR (Dennis Duncan): F Bla* S & A Arm* S A Rum Sev*; A Bul Rum*; A Con Bul*; F Gre Ion*.

SUPPLY CENTRES, WINTER, 1904

- AUS (2 4, only room for 1): Bud. Ser. TRIEST. VIENNA.
- ENG (5 6, Build 1): home, Sweden, St. Pete's, NORWAY.
- FRA (6 5, even as was short): home, Spa, Por, Thile.
- GER (7 6, Disband 1): home, Hol, Den, Bel, Yienna.
- ITA (4 4, even): home, Itiest, TUNIS.
- RUS (4 2, disband 1, because of ///): Moscow, Warsaw, Setastopol, Morway.
- TUR (6 7, Build 1): home, Bul, Gre, Rum, SEVASTOPOL.
- Autumn Retreats, Winter, 1904 AND Spring, 1905 due 25 March.
- NOTE: Thanks to James Keeley for unneeded standby orders.

PRESS

- F Sevastopol: <u>Uh-oh...</u>
- Germany to Russia: A bald stroke by the Russian Czar, which unfortunately caught his Imperial Highness napping. You are to be commended for your audacity in plunging so abruptly into our territory. Now get the hell out.
- Russia to Germany: As in karate and other martial arts, the trick is to know when to fall and use the attacking goon's strength against him. Look at all those moves you and England made for no reason, ha, ha, ha. Fool! Did you seriously think you were dealing with someone rational? Hahahahahahaha!

Turkey: Bad "Poetry" Section:

There once was a Tsar of Russia Who created a terrible fuss-a Pointing at the Turk Said, "Watch out for that jerk" Then slid a fleet past Prussia.

Russia to Turkey: Big mouth! I wanted everybody to think I actually hated your guts. Now they'll all know you're actually a fine fellow and all round good human be...oops, pardon me, I just bit off the tip of my tongue.

Free Triest to the World: The sudden retreat of Italian, German, and Russian troops from Austrian soil has been attributed to their fear of the dreaded Turkish Yellow Fever. Experts relate that the combination of it with a small amount of Austrian Red Measles causes instant death to all invading forces.

Russia to Turkey: I changed my mind. You can have Sev after all. ANTIC lives: (That's an in-joke.)

Sevastopol ((Turkey)): TSAR KILLED!

After a prolonged struggle involving land and sea elements of the Turkish Empire, Sevestopol was regained for Tser Thomas. During the ceremonies marking the capitulation of the city to its rightful sovereign a group of madmen, dressed as Orthodox priests, assassinated the Tsar and a large group of nobles and attendants using a cart-bomb.

The Sublime Porte has declared a ten-day mourning period throughout the Empire and has given permission for the Turkish forces to raise the black flag against all remaining Russian forces until such a time as Russia is reduced to begging for forgiveness for the dastardy takeover by the evil one.

The Sublime Porte also invites all legitimate relatives of the Tsar (long may Allah sing his praises) to the city of Sevastorpol.

Olsen to Duncan and Swider: Hey listen, if Tom wants this position back all he has to do is ask: I'm very reasonable:

1982 J Continues page 16

1979 AE - Orphan 2

AUTUMN, 1909: FRA: F MAO R NAO.

WINTER, 1909: TUR: B F Con.

SPRING, 1910: AUSTRIA SACKS PARIS, TURKEY AND ENGLAND CLASH IN SWEDEN AND NORTH ATLANTIC.

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

ENG (Bob Acheson): A Nwy* S & A Den* S F Ska - Swe*; F Nth* S A Nwy; F Eng - Pic*; F Iri - Eng*.

FRA (John Davies): F NAO* S F Eng (?); F Iri - MAO (NSU); A Gas - Mar /d/ (R: Bre, OTB); A Hol - Ruh*; A Bel* - Bur; A Kie* - Ber.

TUR (Dave Carter): F Con* H; F EMed* H; F Ion - Tun*; F WMed* S

F Spa (sc)* - MAO; F Por* - Spa (nc); A StP* - Fin;

A Mos* - StP; A Fin* - Swe; F MAO* - NAO.

Summer Retreat and Fall, 1910 due Friday, 25 March, 1983.

NOTES: The Turkey-Austria draw was defeated. Both Dave and Dan want it publically known that they voted in favour of it. We have another proposal for a four-way draw involving all the survivors. Please vote, as No Vote Received means "Yes."

1980 AM - Orphan 4

AUTUMN, 1908: FRA: A Gas R Bur /A/; GER: A Mun R Bur /A/;

ITA: F Nap R Tyr.

WINTER, 1908: ITA: D A Rom; RUS: B A War; TUR: B F Smy.

SPRING, 1909: ENGLAND AND TURKEY STILL GAINING; RUSSIAN BOMBARDING OF BERLIN IN VAIN.

- ENG (Jen Jensen): F Lyo* S A Gas Mar*; A Par Bur*; F MAO* S F WMed* Spa (sc); A Nwy* S A StP*; F Nth* Bel; A Kie* S & F Bal* S F Ber*; A Kie* H; F Bel* U.
- FRA (Pete Gaughan): A Por* S A Mar Spa /d/ (R Pie, OTB);
 A Bur S RUS A Mun Ruh (NSU, NSO); A Ven* S TUR F Nap Rom.
- ITA (Bob Albrecht): F Tun* S F Tyr*; F Tyr S FRA A Ven Rom (NSO).
- RUS (Dave Certer): A Pru* S & A Sil* S A Mun* Ber; A Boh* S A Tyr* Mun; A Mos* S A Lvn*; A Lvn S & A War* S A Pru.
- TUR (Rob Lowes): F Nep Rom*; F Smy EMed*; F Aeg Ion*; A Ser Alb*; F Adr* C A Alb Apu*; F Ion Nap*.

Summer Retreat and Fall, 1909 due Friday, 25 March, 1983.

NOTES: We have a proposal for a three-way draw involving Russia, Turrey, and France. Rob Lowes wants it known that this is his idea. Vote with next orders. No vote received means "Yes."

England had a F Bel in Fall 07, but didn't order it for the next two seasons. Everyone ignored it and I overlooked listing it as an unordered unit. Anyhow, it's still there awaiting instructions.

PRESS

Pris Marseilles: I sincerely hope Claude gave up and didn't submit a retreat, since we'd both then go OTB, and I have nowhere to rebuild. (Sound of a frog chewing nails and knocking knees.)

Rome (for now) to Marseilles (for now): And a long hard belly-laugh to you, you French pig. It was uproariously funny to see your A Gas destroyed like a burst boil. By Dec '09 you should have A Ven (or Rom) left to you. But that is all, as England will have removed your backstabbing heritage from Iberia and the Gulf territories. It'll be fun watching you rot on your little exiled Elba for a while, until Turkey grows tired of your presence, and crushes you like a maggot in an otherwise perfect apple.

Turkey to France: Many thanks for your timely move. The favours will be reciprocated—soon.

Rome to Britain: Never have so few owed so much to so many.

Turkey to Former German Kaiser: Aw, what a shame. I was all set to present you with another award. Oh well, at least receiving a nose is better than a finger.

1980 HM - Orphan 5

AUTUMN, 1907: RUS: A Ber R OTB; TUR: F Con R OTB.

WINTER, 1907: AUS B A Vienna.

SPRING, 1908: NEW TSAR LOSES ARMY; TURK PUSHES AUSTRIA INTO BLACK SEA REGION.

AUS (Mark Keller): F WMed* S F Tun* - NAf; F Tyr* S F WMed; F Lyo* S A Pie* - Mar; A Tyr* - Pie; A Sil* S RUS A Mun (NSO); A Bul* - Con; A Gre* H; F Con - Aeg /d/ (R: Bla, Ank, OTB); A Gal* - Boh; A Vie* - Tyr.

ENG (John Horn): F Por* S F Spa(sc)*; F Spa(sc) S GER A Mar; F MAO* S F NAf*; F NAf & & F Eng* S F MAO; A Ruh* S GER A Kie - Mun; A StP - Lvn*; F Bar* S A Nwy - StP*.

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

RUS (\$tere/\$616mb6, Steve Berrigan): A Mos* S A Lvn - War*;
A Mun - Boh /A/; F Sev - Rum*.

TUR (Pierre Touchette): A Smy* S F Aeg - Con*.

Summer Retreat and Fall, 1908 due Friday, 25 March, 1983.

NOTES: We have a proposed five-way draw involving all the survivors. No Vote Received = "Yes." Note to Mark: your orders arrived on Feb. 7. I have no idea what happened to Steve Colombo—his last orders never arrived at all.

1976 CX - Orphan 6

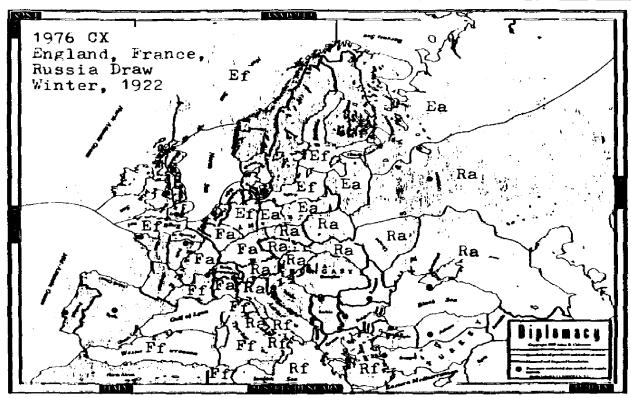
WINTER, 1922: THE DRAW PASSES & EVERYONE VOTED:

England (Steve Berrigan), France (John Davies), and Russia (Steve Hutton) opted to end this game by sharing a draw. The last item is that France built a F Marseilles, the other two having no builds they could make. Eric Kirchner sent orders last season, erriving too late, with a note that he was resigning. However, he had already been replaced.

I wonder if this game sets a record? It's 6 1/2 - 7 years old—which is a fair bit of time. The stats tell an amazing story of how custodians keep games going despite many changes of personnel. Only one player lasted from the beginning until his elimination—Bob Acheson. Both Steves have played for over half the length of the game, and John Davies took part in a draw by playing only two seasons.

Steve Hutton mentioned that a concession to Russia was proposed in Winter, 04 (July 31, 1977). Not knowing what moves were made, I assume an unstable stalemate line was set up early and held all game. Must have been frustrating for the Russian player to be so close to a win for so long.

End game statements are welcome for next issue. (I just hope they're not as long as this game!



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The Statistics
Zines: JANUS (to F 03); ELECTRA GLIDE BIME (to S 09):
         PASSCHENDAELE (to S 21); SNAFU! (to end).
        Cal White (to S 06); Robert Roaldi (to S 09); François Cuerrier (to S 21); Ronald Brown (to end).
GMs:
AUS: James Farrell (Dro SO3); CD (Out WO5)
ENG: Walter Blank (Dro? Res? ?10); Steve Berrigan DRAW
FRA: Norman Weinstock (Dro? Res? ?10); Eric Kirchner (Dro S22);
       John Davies DRAW
GER: Bob Acheson (Out ?16)
TTA: Greg D'Amico (Dro WO1); Ron Kelly (Dro F19); Mike Carrol (Dro W19); Dave Grabar (Res F20); Dave Carter (Out F21) RUS: Ron Killeen (Dro W10); Steve Hutton DRAW
TUR: James Hymas (Dro FO4); Jan Jensen (Out ?06)
       01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18
AUS:
            2
ENG:
                        6
                                 6
                                                 8
                                             8
                                                     8
                             52
FRA:
                                 535
                                     6
                                         8
                                             7
                                                 6
                                                     7
                                                                  8
                                                                     6
                                                                              8
                                                     3
2
                                         3
2
                                             3
2
                                                 2
GER:
                                                                  1
                                                                      0
ITA:
                             5
                                                 2
                                                         3
                                        13 14 16 14 14 14 14 15 16 14
RUS:
TUR:
            6
        5
       19 20 21 22
                                       NOTES: * = 1 short (unknown
AUS:
                                       prior to 1921).
ENG:
                    9 DRAW
            9
                9* 9 DRAW
FRA:
        8
                                        The season for some drops or
GER:
                                       resignations is unknown.
TTA:
            2
                                        Thanks to Steve Hutton, Mark
RUS: 14 14 16*16*DRAW
                                       Berch, Ben Schilling, and
TUR:
                                       Claude Gautron for these stats.
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Seven Nations

PRE-SPRING, 1901: INTERNATIONAL CAST GATHERS, PREPARED FOR WAR!

AUS: Randolph Smyth, 212 Aberdeen St. SE, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada T1A OR1

ENG: Richard Gee, 9 Glanmead, Shenfield, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 8ER, England

FRA: Axel Halfmeier, Stapelstrasse 13, D-2000 Hamburg 54, West Germany (FTRAGEI)

GER: Roland Bakker, de Sillstraat 202, 25g3 VC Den Hagg, Netherlands (GFTRAIF)

ITA: Frej Wasastjerna, Makslahdentie 14 A, SF-02140 ESP 14, Finland (not A, F)

RUS: Walter Compton, Apartado 2940, Caracas 101, Venezuela (\underline{R})

TUR: Gary Coughlan, 4614 Martha Cole Lane, Memphis, Tennessee, 38118, United States (GTAFERI)

Spring, 1901 due Friday, 29 April, 1983.

NOTES: Countries were assigned by preference lists, as shown, or random for those who didn't submit them. Trust all are okay? I don't know what happened to Bucheron Frank or Sellick Davies, as they were both very enthusiastic, but I haven't heard from either since November, despite all the free issues and notes I sent them.

Please note that Randolph will be taking courses away from home from mid-March until July. We don't yet know his address and I understand he may be moving about during those months, so if any of you wish to write him after the beginning of March you can send your letter to me and I'll forward it.

Anyhow, no one said he was opposed to using the European system of combining seasons, often called "Prophetic retreats." That means you'll have to send retreats with your spring moves, and retreats and builds with your fall moves.

On what to do with dislodged units lacking retreat orders, the concensus seems to favour using Just's Right Hand Rule. Okay. If you're unfamiliar with it, it goes like this: when a unit is dislodged, it will be retreated to the space to the right of the attacking unit. If that is not possible, it will retreat to the space to the left. One keeps this up until a legal retreat is found. If you list your prefered order of retreats for any units which could possibly be dislodged, then we shouldn't have to use this rule.

Regarding standbys, I have received an appeal to use them, even if it means violating the Seven Nations aspect. Alright. I will try to line up standbys from various countries (thanks, to those who suggested names of those who may be interested). If I do, have to use standbys from North America, I'll keep them as far apart geographically as possible.

Good luck to all, and to all a good fight!

1981 Qwc02 - Variant 1

(Conquest of the New World II)

"...the natives flocked around us in great numbers as friendly as we could wish, only that they showed a great inclination to pick our pockets."
(James Cook, April 14, 1769, in Tahiti)

1632

AZT: A Venezuela R Cartagena; FRA: A Nova Scotia R Maine.

1634

AZT (Chip Charnley): A Cartagena - Peru /A/; A Central America* S A Panama*; A Panama & A Central America; A Texas* S A Mexico*; A Mexico & A Texas; A Delaware* S A Hudson* - Québec.

ENG (Fred Davis): A Nova Scotie* - Québec; A Louisiana* H; F Bay of Fundy* S F Bermuda* - Nova Scotia; F Virginia - Bahama Sea*.

FRA (Rick Young): A Québec* & F Maine* - Nova Scotia; F St. Lewrence* S A Québec.

POR (Steve Hutton): F Falklands - South Pacific*; F Central Pacific*- Panama (wc); A Venezuela* S A Bolivia - Peru*; F Carribean* S F Antilles - Cartagena (nc)*; F Hispaniola - Jamaica*; F Gulf* - Mexico (ec).

SUPPLY CENTRES (*build centres)

AZT (7-6, even as 1 /A/): Mexico*, Pétát, California, Texas, Pétátégéna, Panama, Saskatchewan, DELAWARE.

ENG (5-5, even): 1 home*, Virginia*, Ohio, Louisiana, Mnépéé, NOVA SCOTIA.

FRA (3-2, disband 1): 1 home*, Nova/Scotie, Delawate, QUEBEC.

POR (8-10, build 2): 1 home*, LaPlata*, Brazil, Matto Grosso, Chile, Cuba, Jamaica, Antilles, PERU, CARTAGENA.

1638 (Adjustments) and 1640 (Spring) due Fri., 25 March, 83.

NOTES: Both the three-way draw and the concession were defeated, with all but one voting.

1982 J CONTINUED

Vatican City: His Supreme Absurdness, Pope George Ringo II, was reported to be in a state of shock over the poor quality press seen so far in this game. "Quantity, yes, but no substance. That crazy Ibn-Whatisface-Duncan spouts drivel which makes no sense, and not only that but we have to read it two seasons in a row. It's not like it used to be. I remember the stories my daddy, Pope George Ringo I, told me about '76IJ. Now there was a press war! Seething tirades, personal attacks, character assasinations (and if you order now, we'll throw in six steak knives at no extra cost). Ah, for the good old days."

Russia to Turkey: I just noticed that your initials are DD (okey, I'm not the swiftest). Does this mean you are Mark Berch?

Blowup

SPRING, 1901: FRANCE AND GERMANY FIRST TO BLOW UP!

AUS (Bruce Poppe): A Tri - Alb*; A Bud - Ser*; A Vie - Bud*.

ENG (Steve Hutton): F Edi - Nwg*; F Lvp - Iri*; F Lon - Eng*.

FRA (Mark Keller): A Mar - Spa /A/; F Bre - MAO*; A Par - Gas*.

GER (Keith Sesler): F Kie - Den /A/; F Ber - Bal*; A Mun- Kie*.

ITA (Dave Lincoln): F Nap - Ion*; F Rom - Tyr*; F Ven - Adr*.

RUS (Nelson Millar): A StP - Nwy*; A Mos - StP*; A War - Gal*; A Sev - Rum*.

TUR (Dave Carter): F Con* - Bul; F Ank* - Con; F Smy - EMed*.

Fall, 1091 due Friday, 25 March, 83.

NOTES: The Tur order F Con - Bul failed because the coast was not specified. I may change the format of reporting builds due as annihilations will probably be numerous.

PRESS

Rome: It has been learned that Italian Emissaries have been denied diplomatic immunity by the Turkish government and are believed to be imprisoned. The Italian government requires the return of its diplomats as a prerequisite for the establishment of normal relations with his "wholeness," the Sultan of Turkey.

Austria: The Grand Duke of Austria-Hungary wishes to announce the start of his holy war against the infidel Ottomans. The only thing that an ottoman is good for is as something upon which to place one's behind.

Russia: Reports of a gold rush in Moscow seem to be unfounded. Even his most noble majesty, Nelson Ivegotonich Millarov, has been seen roaming the Russian countryside ranting, "Where are those mines? Where? Where?" Some unfaithful citizens have suggested that he try Siberia.

Turkey to Russia: Actually, I lied! It's Armenia that I mined!

Venice to Triest: Thanks, You were right.
They put to sea,

Seafarers three, To see what they might find.

The move was free As it could be, Until they tripped a mine.

France: Sorry about the NMR. I did mail orders on January 6. That would have been enough time in the past, but I've been getting really lousy mail service recently.

Rome: Rumors abound in Vatican City that his "Wholiness" has been overheard late at night in the mystical Hall of Thought conversing with the shades of the Ancient Wholy Roman Empire.

France to Neighbors: The French coastline is very dangerous. We highly recommend you keep your fleets very far away.

Letters

I occasionally get suggestions from players suggesting changes to the way I handle things. All players have received a sheet listing changes to house rules which have resulted from some of these suggestions. I've faced something of a fuss over people overlooking draw and concession votes lately, so Rick Young sent this suggestion:

"Perhaps in future you could give those who fail to send in votes which are critical to the conclusion of a game the same kind of insurance you give to those who fail to send in orders. INVR Insurance."

Absolutely and unequivocably NO. If a player's orders arrived on time there is no reason why his votes couldn't arrive at the same time. And, if I started calling when players overlooked votes, why shouldn't I call when a player misorders, or doesn't order, a unit? Where is the limit? I am not responsible when players fail to read an entire game report or have a lapse of memory when writing their orders. I have bitched and complained often enough about players not voting on draws and concessions, but no matter what I say or how many games end with the majority of players not voting, it has no effect at all. I_n a recent case where a player complained about a draw vote passing, a proposal was put forward in another game the next season and he didn't vote that time either. I think there's a certain confusion here about the extent of a GM's responsibilities. whatever the players say, or don't say, on the deadline is what has to stand-or else the entire system breaks down into chaos. It is the GM's responsibility to report the situation as it stands on the deadline. I am not required by any convention in the hobby to offer NMR Insurance -end if the revision to its regulations, which players should have received, does not solve the problems it has created, I will drop it altogether.

On the American inability to distinguish the words "check" and "cheque," Bruce Poppe wrote: "250 million Americans can't all be wrong." Oh yeah? When the USA was still part of the civilized world, they used to brew tea with cold salt water. Small wonder Britain was willing to let them go their own foolish way. But don't expect the rest of us to follow your errors.

Ben Schilling says: "U.E.L.? One of my ancestors (William Williams) signed the Declaration of Independence." I'm telling you, you guys will rue the day you left the Empire.

Derryl Phillips adds a few words to the great American-Canadian feud: "Not all Mericans panic at a mere 0°C. People from Wisg & Minnesote generally don't come alive until 0°F (-17.777778°C). Are you refering to 40 below with or without windchill? -20°F is great. Unfortunately we had a warm December; I don't think it got below 5° below F."

You too eh? Here I thought the Americans had stolen winter from us, as it just didn't happen here--yet. kecord highs and very little snow. By rights Minnesota and Wisconsin should be part of Canada: they've the proper attitude towards the weather. The coldest I ever experienced was -100°F (with windchill) in

Winnipeg. Now that was getting a mite too much. One night my first winter in Maniwaki it hit -55°F and froze the transmission fluid in my car. Another time I stepped from a 70°F house into a -50°F outdoors and my glasses cracked. It's just something you learn to live with.

Bleir Cusack wants to know where I'm playing these days. Let's see. I'm in a game in RESTLESS DAYS (a subzine of SLEEP-IESS KNIGHTS); one in MIGRAINE; and one GMed by Chin Charmley via flyer. Two variants in BUSHWACKER, (though one should have ended in a two-way draw lest season); a Bourse in EMHAIN MACHA and another in SHOGUN'S SWORD. Bourses are great when you're not sure how much time you'll have, as you can just sit and hold for as long as you like. Occasionally Andy Lischett will ask me to submit standby orders for a one-centre power. Guess that's it. There are lots of games around I'd like to get into, but I have to hold the line, especially when I cen't predict how much time I'll have six months down the road.

Funny that Gary Coughlan should ask about 1979 KW, as that was my first game—the one in which I made the acquaintance of the incomparable Bob Olsen, Mike Mazzer, and Eric Ozog. It really helps to have had top players in one's first game. You learn more that way.

A new subber, Richard Gee from Essex, England asks: "I hear a lot of bad economic news of Canada from our relations—are things really that bad? I would have thought that in a government city (Ottawa) things would have been fairly secure."

The day I got your letter, Richard, I read a story in the local paper saying three million Canadians are now living in poverty. (I enclosed it with your copy.) Our total population is about 24,000,000—to give you a basis of comparison. 1.6 million are now out of work—for more than during the "great" depression of the '30's. I guess it's the same story everywhere in the so-called "free" world.

Yes, Ottawa is somewhat isolated from the effects of Reegenomics. The government offers job security to huge numbers of people (I just passed my civil service exams, by the way) and high tech is in high gear in Ottawa. It's all great if you're working, but tough on those of us trying to get started in a new career. No lay-offs, but, then, no one's hiring.

Axel Halfmeier sends this news: "It is now sure that I will stay in the USA from summer 1983 to summer 1984. I'll go there with an organization called 'Youth for Understanding.' (They manage student exchanges between the USA and West Germany.) But it's still open to what city or state I'll go to—that depends on where YFU finds a suitable guest family for me. I really look forward to that year. It doesn't spoil the "7 nations" aspect of the game if the German player lives in the US for a time, does it?"

No. One can consider only where people are living when the game begins. For example, I avoid having players together in a game if they live in the same city at the start, but, if they move during the game it can't be helped—unless they move to the same address—in which case I think one shruld resign. So, unless you move to Memphis, I can't forsee any problems. Good luck with the exchange. It will be interesting to get your impressions of life in America.

Battle Stations

Expiring Subscriptions: At #29 (this issue) None.

At #30, the following subs expire: Charles Byrne, Charles Letcher, Steve Colombo, Scott Hanson, Paula Dodge, John Leeder, Dan Wilson, and Rick Young. Please renew now.

At #31, all by himself, out there in left field: Mike Mazzer.

Game Openings: One opening left in WOOLWORTH. I've sent maps and rules to the four who have signed up and will send them to anyone requesting a chance to look at this variant where five players control ten countries, each one getting a public and a secret power. Let's get this show on the road.

Standbys (The Heros of Postal Dip):

Bob Acheson (NO), Bob Albrecht (OV), Steve Berrigan (NO), Dave Carter (NO), Chip Chernley (MNO), Blair Gusack (NO), John Davies (NO), Gary Ferguson (FO), Claude Gautron (NO), Scott Henson (M), Jan Jensen (NO), Jack Jung (NO), James Keeley (NO), Mark Keller (NOV), Mike Mazzer (M), Gerry Paulson (NO), Paul Reuterberg (NO), Keith Sesler (MNV), Pierre Touchette (NO), Windy Windblad (MNO), Rick Young (NOV), Roy Smith (MNO).

The letters after the names refer to the types of games they are standbys for. (If you notice, games in SNAFU! are arranged in alphabetical order by house name.)

I'm never sure how up-to-date this is, as some people change their minds and forget to tell me. On or off? Let me know.

THE DIPPY BABY BOOM

Following the example of their beloved GM, the following SNAFUites will be new daddies in the months indicated. You are all forgiven in advance for any displays of unmitigated sentimentality, unwarranted pride, and general goofiness for 6 weeks following the event. After that time you will be expected to return to your usual bloodthirsty, lying, back-stabbing selves. Good luck, guys!

Rob Lowes: March .Dave Carter: June Doug Millstone: April Nelson Millar: August

Parting Shot

Thus endeth another issue. Going out as inserts to all players is a page describing changes to the house rules. These were arrived at after considering requests from players. You're also getting reminders about your player code. Please remember to use them when required.

Next issue I expect will be filled with end game statements and letters. Things have been in a state of flux lately with a number of games ending so close together, but I expect it will all even out soon. I was very pleased, by the way, with the way people adapted to Thursdays for NMR Insurance. It makes a big difference. See ya in five weeks.

Rom