

## Opening Shot

I've just discovered how to get some attention in this hobby: produce your zine on a word processor. I'm not sure how permanent this arrangement will be. Actually, this may well be the last for a while. After months of getting nowhere on the job market, I now have two positions upcoming.

The first I mentioned on the last page last issue. I placed second in a competition for a computer operator's job with the Department of Energy Mines and Resources of the Federal Government. That was about six weeks ago, and I was told I'd get the next available position—in about a month from then. So, could be any time, or, it could be months. One never knows with the government. Also, just was offered a five-week position teaching grade twelve English half days in July. Haven't signed a contract yet, so that's not 100% either.

### THE "BABY CUSTODIAN" ZINE...

#### Endgame Statements

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But, it does look like I'm going to be working at something before too long. If given a choice, I'll take the operator's job. Even though it's shift work and poverty wages, at least it can lead to other things. Meanwhile, I'm still applying for whatever I notice—and there seems to be a lot of teaching jobs advertised right now. All of which means, the pressure is building towards something. It may turn out that I'll have two jobs for a few weeks in July. If that is the case, then next issue will be put off until August. However, games will be adjudicated on their deadline and results mailed by flyer. No one will be charged for that issue if that's what I have to do. The August issue will be, of course, the anniversary issue, so get guest articles, variant rules, pictures, etc. to me soon as possible.

Anyhow, Origins is definitely out for me this year. Either I'll be working, and unable to take the time off; or not working, and unable to afford the trip. Maybe next year.

I was hoping I'd be able to announce when Anwyl would be taking over the Co-ordinator's position of the Canadian Diplomacy Organization. But, just after last issue was about to be mailed I received word that he would be folding his zine after two issues. Attempts to find out what's happening have met with more confusion and uncertainty. I did receive a letter from Anwyl saying he was still interested, and that he would be putting out a subzine in Sleepless Knights. Now I hear that is not the case. So, I don't know what's going on. Steve Hutton originally said he'd take on the job if no one else wants it; now he says he's interested unconditionally. At this point, I simply don't know what to do. All I know for sure is that I'm still Co-ordinator until I resign—and I haven't done that yet. Hope to have this all straightened out by next issue.

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

**SNAFU!** is published by Ronald J. Brown, 1200 Summerville Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1Z 8G4. Telephone: 613: 722-5059 (Before 10 pm Eastern Time.)

Subscriptions: 10 for \$8.00 in Canada or the USA, \$US10.00 overseas.

See the **Battlestations** section for any game openings.

## Hobby News

I understand that pre-registration forms for **Origins 83** (where **DipCon 83** will be held, this July, in Detroit) will soon be available. Write: **Origins 83**, PO Box 656, Wyandotte, Michigan 48192.

Just received the first Miller Number Custodian report from Lee Kendter. He is calling it **Alpha and Omega**. He lists variant game starts and finishes and is looking for articles on variant games. Every GM running variants ought to be getting it (as well as getting Miller Numbers, guys!), as well as anyone just interested in variant games. Write Lee at: 4347 Benner Street, Philadelphia, PA 19135. Miller Numbers are free, though donations are accepted. Subs are 3¢ per page plus postage.

## Other Zines

A few new zines have arrived. Delighted with **Manifest Destiny** by Keith Sesler, PO Box 158, Fraser, Michigan, 48026. No. 1 had great book reviews, excellent jokes (a nice change), movie reviews, interesting facts, and cartoons; as well as a game that Keith took over from another GM. He is offering regular **Diplomacy**, **Blowup**, and **Woolworth**. Published every four weeks and subs are 10/\$3.00. Game fees: \$1.00, plus \$2.00 refundable NMR deposit. I like it.

**Raging Main** by James Woodson, NASC, AI-32, Building 633, NAS Pensacola, Florida, 32508 has begun as well. Besides regular **Diplomacy**, James is offering a game open to members of the armed forces. He didn't say which armed forces though. Good printing and nice format. Subs: 12/\$5.00.

Tom Mainardi has gone to full-zine status with **Bersaglieri**, a former subzine of **Coat of Arms**. Tom's the one who prints pictures of celebrities as Dippies—or is that Dippies as celebrities? Fun and well-established. No game openings. Subs: 10/\$6.00. You might want to take a look at **Psychopath** from Scotland. This one's put out by Mike Dean, Room 38B West Park Hall, 319 Perth Road, Dundee, DD2 INN, Scotland. Subs are 60p if you live in North America. (Get your bank to translate that into your currency; don't ask me to do it!) Good printing and some interesting-looking role-playing games.

Scott Hanson of **Irksome** has some game openings. A four-week deadline game costs \$5.00 and a two-week game costs \$8.00. (I assume you have to live within a block of Scott for the latter game.) **IRK** is always entertaining. Write Scott at his new address (effective 20 June): 233 Oak Grove, Apt. 306, Minneapolis, MN 55403. Subs: 40¢ per issue.

## 1982 I - Mensa 16

SUMMER, 1905: FRA: F MAO R Eng; ITA: A Ser R Tri.

FALL, 1905: LADY PODAG ARRIVES IN ENGLAND! KAISER CRUSHED,  
BUT TSAR HAPPY. NORTH SEA SNAFU AGAIN.

ENG (Mike Mazzer): F Nth 3 F Yor - Edi\*; A Lvp\* H. (F Nth /d/,  
R: Ska, Hel, Hol, Bel, Eng, Lon, Yor, OTB).

FRA (Robert Young): F Por\* S ITA F WMed - Spa (sc) (NSO);  
F Eng - Bre\*; A Gas\* S A Bre - Par\*.

GER (Windy Windblad): A Pic\* S A Par - Bur\*; F Hol - Kie\*;  
A Mun - Ber /d/ (R: Ruh, Sil, OTB).

ITA (Keith Sesler): F NAO\* C & F WMed\* C TUR A Alb - Cly; A Tyr  
- Mun\*; F Lyo\* S A Pie\* - Mar; A Mar\* - Bur; A Tri - Tyr\*.

RUS (Dave Lincoln): F Con - Aeg\*; A Boh\* S ITA A Tyr - Mun;  
F Bal\* S A Sil - Ber\*; F Nwg\* S F Den - Nth\*; A Swe - Den\*;  
A Nwy\* H.

TUR (Paula Dodge): F MAO\* C & F Tyr\* C & F Ion\* C A Alb - Cly\*;  
F Naf\* S F MAO; A Ser\* H.

SUPPLY CENTRES, 1905

ENG (3 - 3 or 4; even or build 1): home, Holland? or Belgium?  
 FRA (5 - 5 or 4; one /A/, but no room to build, so no change this season either way): Par, Bre, Por, Spa, Belgium?  
 GER (5 - 2 or 1; one /A/, disband 2 or 3): Berlin, Kiel, Munich, Holland? Denmark?  
 ITA (7 - 7, even): home, Tri, Vie, Savona, Mar, MUNICH.  
 RUS (8 - 10, build 2): home, Bud, Rum, Swe, Nwy, BERLIN, DENMARK  
 TUR (6 - 7, build 1): home, Bul, Gre, Tun, SERBIA.

Winter, 1905 AND Spring, 1906 due Friday, 8 July, 1983.  
 (Next deadline: Aug 19.)

NOTES: Robert Young has moved back to: 49 - 16 Annandale Lane, Little Neck, NY 11362.

I should have included Autumn Retreats in the call for next season. (I assume you know that.) I know the supply centre chart looks like a mess, but, it looks to me as though the only conditional orders you'll need will be for what England and Germany do. However, I'll separate seasons if I receive two or more requests. Send Spring orders anyhow.

PRESS

London to Ankara: Welcome back, Lady Podag. The place just wasn't the same without you.

Liverpool to Italian Fleet, North Atlantic: Well, are you going to do something, or just sit there?

Russia: Under the friendly auspices of the Grand Dukes of Italy and Russia, Lady Podag, betrothed to the King of England, has arrived in that fair land. It is expected that the lovely Lady will winter at a palace in Clyde presently being prepared for that purpose by His Majesty. The wedding is expected to take place some time next year in London or Liverpool.

Germany to All: Likely a richly deserved STAB. Sigh! Just when I was prepared to be friendly. Hope these lessons learned have minimum carry over to the future?

Continues, page 5

Bourse (82 1)

FALL, 1905: PIASTRE TAKES OFF, MARK DROPS DRAMATICALLY. NEW COMPANY ENTERS MARKET.

|                 | US\$    | £    | Fr    | DM    | L     | R    | Tp    |
|-----------------|---------|------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|
| OIC (Briggs)    | 35.00   | 500  | 500   | 500   | 500   | 500  | 3750  |
| MI (Cusack)     | 1.16    | 0    | 1850  | 50    | 1000  | 2224 | 1485  |
| JILT (Gaughan)  | 3844.78 | 0    | 0     | 500   | 1400  | 1600 | 1000  |
| VIC (Jensen)    | 66.62   | 600  | 0     | 2000  | 2000  | 2000 | 1200  |
| OIL (Lowes)     | 80.80   | 0    | 0     | 1435  | 1490  | 3100 | 2610  |
| MINE (Phillips) | 106.50  | 0    | 1000  | 300   | 1300  | 1000 | 2850  |
| CRAP (Smith)    | 8355.00 | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0    | 0     |
| Purchases       |         | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0     | 1124 | 4750  |
| Sales           |         | 500  | 1000  | 1500  | 1000  | 500  | 0     |
| Net Change      |         | -500 | -1000 | -1500 | +1000 | +624 | +4750 |
| OLD CMP         |         | .60  | .65   | 1.05  | 1.31  | 1.62 | 1.12  |
| Net Change      |         | -.05 | -.10  | -.15  | -.10  | +.06 | +.47  |
| Parent Game     |         | 0    | 0     | -.15  | 0     | +.08 | +.03  |
| NEW CMP         |         | .55  | .55   | .75   | 1.21  | 1.76 | 1.62  |

Spring, 1905 due Tuesday, 5 July, 1983 (Next: 16 August)

NOTES: Companies and addresses (a few changes) are: Oriental Investment Company, Jim Briggs, PO Box 6243, El Paso, TX 79906. Mithrill Industries of Kelowna, Blair Cusack, C/O General Delivery, Revelstoke, BC, VOE 2S0. Japan Industries of Osaka, Pete Gaughan, 12024 Penford Dr., La Miranda, CA 90633. Viking Investments Consortium, Jan Jensen, 115 Albro Lake Road, #3, Dartmouth, NS, B3A 3Y7. Otonabee Industries, Ltd., Rob Lowes, RR #9, Peterborough, Ont., K9J 6Y1. Minnesota Economies, Inc. of Lake Wobegon, Darryl Phillips, 37 Kimball St., Concord, NH 03301. Consolidated Roubles and Piastres of Ulan Bator in Outer Mongolia, Roy Smith, 64 Addicks Rd., Westwood, NJ 07675.

### PRESS

OIL: What this game needs is a good, old fashioned, down and out, dirty and sneaky STAB. I hope there's one in the making. Let's go, Sultaness Paula.

## 1981 W - North 1

FALL, 1909: SOUTHERN ALLIANCE SNAFU BLOWS OPPORTUNITY.

AUS (Bob Olsen): F WMed\* S ITA F MAO; A Gal\* S TUR A Sev - Ukr (NSO); A Bud\* S & A Rum\* S A Gal.

ENG (Errol Platt): F NAO\* S & F Eng\* S F Iri\* - MAO; A Bre\* H; A Bur\* - Mar; A Gas\* - Spa; F Nth\* S A Bel - Hol\*; F Den - Swe\*.

ITA (Bill Young): F Por\* S & F Spa(sc)\* S F MAO\*; F Lyo\* S A Mar\*; A Pie\* S A Tyr\*; A Ven\* H; A Tyr S & A Vie\* S AUS A Gal - Boh (NSO).

RUS (Garvin Boyle): NMR! A Mos\*, A War\*, A Ukr\*, A Sil\*, A Mun\*, A Boh\*, A Kie\*.

TUR (Steve Hutton): F Ion\* H; A Bul\* H; A Sev\* H; F Bla\* H; A Arm\* - Sev.

### SUPPLY CENTRES, WINTER, 1909

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

ENG (9 - 10, build 1): home, Nwy, Bel, Hol, Par, Bre, Den, SWE.

ITA (9 - 9, even): home, Tun, Vie, Tri, Spa, Mar, Por.

RUS (7 - 6, disband 1): Mos, War, StP, Germany, ~~Sweden~~.

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

Winter, 1909 AND Spring, 1910 due Friday, 8 July, 1983.  
(Fall, 1910 due 19 August)

NOTES: Will Mike Mazzer, 1338B Harvard St., Santa Ana, CA 90404 please submit backup orders for Russia? I'm sure Garvin's NMR is an oversight, as I was talking to him a few days before the deadline. Bill Young has a COA, so might as well give 'em all.

Bob Olsen, 6818 Winterberry Ct., Wichita, KS 67226

Errol Platt, 3270 Havenwood Dr., Mississauga, Ont. L4X 2M1

Bill Young, PO Box 15746, Pittsburg, PA 15244

Garvin Boyle, #6, 1432 Coldrey Ave., Ottawa, Ont. K1Z 7P9

Steve Hutton, 103 Dunbar Rd. S, Waterloo, Ont. N2L 2E4

I've been asked if I can impose a draw if no centres change hands for a given number of seasons. Nope. Never thought of that when I wrote the House Rules. I assume that's hypothetical, as such a situation has not occurred in this game. There's been action every year. I realize that some of you are bucking for a draw, but some are opposed. You'll have to work it out amongst yourselves.

## 1981 KA - North 2

SUMMER, 1906: ENG: A Nwy R StP.

FALL, 1906: ITALY BEING RIPPED APART. AUSTRIA STABBED BY POST OFFICE, TOO. TSAR OFF TO JAPAN.

AUS (Nelson Millar): NMR. F Ven\*, A Tri\*, A Vie\*, A Bud\*, A Ukr\*

ENG (Jan Jensen): A StP\* H.

FRA (Jack Jung): A Mar - Spa\*; A Tus\* S A Pie\* - Ven; F WMed\* S F Lyo - Tyr\*; F Tun\* - Ion; F Naf\* - Tun.

GER (Blair Cusack): F Nwg - NAO\*; F Swe - Bul\*; A Nwy\* S RUS F Bot - StP (sc) (NSO); A Tyr\* MS A Boh\*; A Mun - Sil\*; A Pru\* S A Sil - War\*.

ITA (CD): A Rom\*.

RUS (~~Pete Gaughan~~, CD): F Bot\*, A Lvn\*, A Mos\*.

TUR (Paul Rauterberg): F Bla - Rum\*; A War - Lvn /d/ (R: Gal, OTB); F Apu\* S AUS F Ven; F Tyr - Nap\*; F Ion - Adr\*; F Gre\* - Ion; A Sev\* - Mos.

SUPPLY CENTRES: WINTER, 1906

AUS (6 - 5, even, as was short): home, Ser, ~~Kanania~~, Venice.

ENG (1 - 1, even): ~~Norway~~, ST.PETERSBURG.

FRA (7 - 8, build 1): home, Bel, Spa, Por, Lon, TUNIS.

GER (8 - 10, build 2): home, Den, Hol, Lvp, Edi, Swe, NORWAY, WARSAW.

ITA (2 - 1, even because of /A/): Rome, ~~Naples~~.

RUS (3 - 1, disband 2): Mos, ~~St.Petersburg~~, ~~Warsaw~~.

TUR (7 - 8, build 1): home, Bul, Gre, ~~Tunis~~, Sev, RUM, NAPLES.

Autumn Retreat, Winter, 1906 AND Spring, 1907 due 8 July.

(Fall, 1907 due 19 August)

NOTES: Will Dale Bakken, 420 W. Wilson #203, Madison, WI 53703 please submit backup orders for Austria? I'm sure Nelson is still in this, as he told me Monday before the deadline that his orders were in the mail and I couldn't get in touch with him when they failed to show up on time. I'll send Dale the addresses.

Pete Gaughan has gone to Japan for the summer and so had to resign from his games. Unfortunately, I didn't know his intentions re. his games until after last issue was in the mail and he didn't submit final orders.

Regarding the situation in Russia, I will disband F Bot and A Lvn, in accordance with the House Rules. However, Turkey cannot retreat to Livonia, as the Russian army will be there until the Winter season.

The E-G-T-A draw was defeated. An A-T-F-G draw has been proposed. No Vote Received = "Yes."

1981 I CONTINUED

London to Berlin and Ankara: Welcome to the "I've been shafted by Dave Lincoln society," one of the fastest growing organizations.

## 1982 J - North 3

CORRECTION: In Fall '05, I inadvertently allowed the Russian order "A Boh MS A War" to stand. Every player, except Russia, pointed out the error, so it wasn't necessary to send out a correction. Consequently, the German order "A Sil - War" was successful, Russia was eliminated, and Germany had only one removal to make, not two.

AUTUMN, 1905: GER: F Hol R OTB.

WINTER, 1905: ITALIAN RETURNS WHILE AUSTRIAN TAKES A BREAK.

AUS (Nelson Millar): NBR (now 2 short). Has: A Vie, A Ven, A Bud.

ENG (Doug Millstone): B A Lon, F Edi & has: F StP(nc), F Ska, F Hol, F Bel, F Eng, A Swe.

FRA (Darryl Phillips): even. Has: F MAO, F Spa(sc), A Bre, A Mar, A Pie.

GER (Martin Taylor): now even. Has: F Bal, A Den, A War, A Pru, A Lvn.

ITA (Roy Smith): D F Tyr. Has: F WMed, F Lyo, A Tus.

TUR (Dennis Duncan): B A Con & has: F Sev, F Aeg, F Ion, A Apu, A Gal, A Rum, A Mos.

Spring, 1906 due Friday, 8 July, 1933 (Fall, 06 due 19 August)

NOTES: Thanks to Jim Briggs for unneeded standby orders. Now, will John Davies, Box 968, Port Hardy, BC VON 2P0 please send in standby orders for Austria? I'll send John the addresses. Darryl Phillips has moved to: 37 Kimball St., Concord, NH 03301.

PRESS

Grand Vizier to Grand Duke Nelson ((Turkey)): Please accept my public apologies for the mix-up in Galicia. I saw a chance to rapidly remove the rotten, rapacious, rascally Russian with Germany's assistance. My letter, detailing the chance, obviously did not arrive in time for you to prevent the bouncing blocks. Again, my most fulsome apologies.

Duncan to Millstone: Congrats, Pops!!! Maybe you could introduce her to Christopher some time later on and start a Dippy Dynasty.

Ibn-Abdullah-Duncan to Rasputin Olsenoff: It is true...You do have the power to cloud men's minds!!!

## 1983 Q - North 4

WINTER, 1901: ARMS BUILDUP IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

AUS (Bob Acheson): B A Vie, A Bud & Has: A Tri, A Ser, F Gre.

ENG (Paul Watson): B F Lon & Has: F Nwy, F Nth, A Yor.

FRA (Scott Marley): even. Has: F MAO, A Spa, A Par.

GER (Keith Sesler): B A Mun, A Kie & Has: F Den, A Hol, A Bur.

ITA (Dennis Duncan): B A Rom, F Nap & Has: F Tun, A Mar, A Ven.

RUS (Steve Berrigan): B A War & Has: F Bot, F Bla, A Rum, A Arm.

TUR (James Keeley): B A Smy & Has: F Con, A Bul, A Ank.

Spring, 1902 due Friday, 8 July (Fall 02 due 19 August).

NOTE: Bob Acheson has moved back to: c/o Echo Bay Mines, Lupin, NWT XOE 1MO. I have Spring '02 orders on hand from Austria.

PRESS

Rome to Paris: This was not, repeat not, the way things were supposed to work out. Ah, well. "Be thou white as the snow, thou shalt not 'scape calumny..." Hamlet, III,ii. (Classical quote there, gang.)

Rome to Moscow: Remember 1914? Remember 1941? Verbum sapientiae.

## 1979 AE - Orphan 2

## ENDGAME STATEMENTS

**Dave Carter (Turkey), Draw**

The "Head" in the stats for GM is probably the Dave Head who currently subs to **Sleepless Knights**. Briand Johnson and Dave Head are ex-Arrakas people who dropped out and were born again.

When I first took over the position in 1901 I had a working agreement with Dan MacLellan (Austria). I did not expect him to keep it for very long, but I had little choice but to trust him. As the game went on, Dan not only proved to be trustworthy but also a pretty good player. There is not much else to say because other than turning on each other the game was decided long ago. Dan, I enjoyed working with you on this one. A two-way draw was the only outcome I would be happy with. Bob, grovel, grovel, grovel...another game where we did not get it together? Will we ever be able to work something out? John, I think you let this game drag on longer than it should have by vetoing the draws...but that was your prerogative.

My thanks to you, Ron, for running this game to its conclusion. You did a great job and I may give you a 5 in the **Runestone Poll**.

**Blair Cusack (Italy), Drop, Spring, 1903**

I was dropped in this game after sending in phone orders too late for one season (ie., deadline day) and the GM not retaining them for the next season. All units held, so the phoned orders were valid and "in file."

Needless to say, "miffed" was an understatement at being a 1903 Italy at 6 centres, a German ally and a neutral Austria.

It would have been a very interesting southern game with myself, Carter, and MacLellan at 6 centres jammed in there. Sigh! Congrats you guys.

**Ronald Brown, GM**

Thanks, Dave, that really made my day. You're lucky that Randolph doesn't like negative numbers.

I really haven't much to say about this game. When I took it over in 1903 it looked like anyone's game, but then we had some NMRs and dropouts which, unfortunately, seem to determine the outcome of a lot of games. I was pleased to see Austria and Turkey hang together as such alliances seem rarely to work out. Dan and Dave seemed to have it worked out though, with Turkey taking over the seas and sending a few armies north, while Austria built armies to barge through the middle.

So, congratulations to Dan and Dave, and thanks to the rest of the players who saw this one to the end,

**Blair:** I would not "hold over" orders for another season either. As far as I'm concerned, if orders are submitted for one season, even late, they do not apply to another season. I wonder what was said on the phone in Blair's case though? He knew his orders were late (and I assume his GM told him that when he called), so if he said something like: "Keep these for next season," Blair has a legitimate beef. I wonder why Nick would even let Blair read his orders over the phone if they were for the season in question and late?

## 1980 AM - Orphan 4

SUMMER, 1910: ITA: F Tyr R OTB.

FALL, 1910: ENGLAND PASSES UP PORTUGAL; TURK TAKES LAST ITALIAN CENTRE; FRENCH SURRENDER.

ENG (Jan Jensen): F Spa(sc)\* S F WMed\*; F MAO - Naf\*; F Por - MAO\*; A Nwy\* S A StP\*; F Bal\* S & A Kie\* S F Ber\*; A Bur\* S A Ruh\* - Mun; A Bel\* - Ruh; A Mar\* U; F Eng\* U; F Nth\* U.

FRA (Pete/Gaughan, CD): A Ven\*.

ITA (Bob Albrecht): No units left.

RUS (Dave Carter): A Tyr - Pie\*; A Lvn\* S A Mos\* - StP; A Pru\* S & A War\* S A Lvn; A Sil\* S A Pru; A Boh\* S A Mun\*.

TUR (Rob Lowes): F Aeg\* H; F Ion\* S F Tyr - Tun\*; F Lyo\* S F Nap - Tyr\*; A Rom - Tus\*; F Adr - Apu\*; A Alb\* H.

SUPPLY CENTRES, WINTER, 1910

ENG (15 - 15, even): home, Nwy, Swe, StP, Den, Kie, Hol, Bel, Ber, France, Spain.

FRA (2 - 2, 1 short): Venice, Portugal.

ITA (1 - 0, OUT): ~~Tunis~~.

RUS (8 - 8, even): Mos, War, Sev, Austria, Rum, Mun.

TUR (8 - 9, build 1): home, Bul, Ser, Gre, Nap, Rom, TUNIS.

Winter, 1910 & Spring, 1911 due Fri., 8 July (Fall due 19 Aug)

NOTES: Pete Gaughan has resigned. No replacement will be called, so France is in Civil Disorder.

We have a proposal for a draw of England, Russia, and Turkey. No Vote Received = "Yes."

## PRESS

Italy to World: I refuse to retreat to my traitorous homeland. Ciao!

Moskva to Italy: Anything to say? How about...goodbye?

Turkey: The Sultan heaved a sigh of relief as his commanders informed him that the last Italian fleet was gently sliding beneath the waves. His feverent hope was that submarines haven't been developed yet. He was also heard to mutter, "Do I have to be Pope too now?"

## 1980 HM - Orphan 5

FALL, 1909: THE BIG THREE GAIN WHILE THE TURK AND RUSSIAN LOSE.

AUS (Mark Keller): F Tun\* S & F Lyo\* S F WMed\*; F WMed S GER A Mar - Spa (NSO); A Pie\* - Mar; A Tyr\* S A Gal - Boh\*; A Ukr - Gal\*; F Ank\* S & F Aeg\* S A Bul - Con\*; A Gre - Bul\*.

ENG (John Horn): F Nth\* C A Bel - Nwy\*; A Lvn\* S A StP - Mos\*; F MAO\* & F Por\* S F Spa(sc)\*; F Spa(sc) S F Naf\* - WMed; F Eng\* S F MAO.

GER (Claude Gautron): F Bal\* S ENG A Lvn; A Sil\* S A Pru - War\*; A Mun\* - Boh; A Kie\* - Mun; A Bur\* S A Mar\*; A Mar & ENG F Spa(sc).

RUS (Steve Berrigan): NMR. A War /d/ (R: Ukr, OTB); A Mos /d/ (R: Ukr, OTB); A Sev\*, F Rum\*.

TUR (Pierre Touchette): A Smy\* MS F Con /d/ (R: Bla, OTB).

SUPPLY CENTRES: WINTER, 1909

AUS (11 - 12, build 1): home, Ser, Gre, Italy, Tun, Bul, Ank, CONSTANT.  
 ENG (9 - 10, build 1): home, Nwy, Bel, Bre, Spa, Por, StP, MOSCOW.  
 GER (8 - 9, has 2 builds due, room for 1): home, Hol, Den, Mar, Par, Swe, WARSAW.  
 RUS (4 - 2, disband 2): ~~Warsaw~~, Sev, ~~Warsaw~~, Rumania.  
 TUR (2 - 1, disband 1): Smy, ~~Constant~~

Autumn Retreats, Winter, 1909 AND  
 Spring, 1910 due Fri.. 8 July, 83.

(Fall due 19 August)

NOTES: The Austria-England draw was defeated. We have a proposed draw of Austria, England, and Germany. No Vote Received = "Yes."

Russia will be in Civil Disorder if Steve misses again.

PRESS

Constantinople to London: The way is too far for you. Sorry...

Vienna to London: I voted yes on the draw. How 'bout you?

Berlin to Warsaw: Sorry about the attack, but you should have replied to my proposal and joined our alliance.

Berlin to Sevastopol: It still isn't too late!

## 1981 Qwc02 - Variant 1

## (Conquest of the New World II)

## END GAME STATEMENTS

**Steve Hutton (Portugal), Winner**

This is my first win in a **Diplomacy**-related game. If it's this easy, I wonder why I haven't been able to do it before.

I think that Portugal has the best chance of winning this variant, which is why I placed it first on my preference list and was surprised that no one else did. Portugal should be able to carve out a four-centre fief (Chile, La Plata, Matto Grosso, Brazil) without getting anyone else upset. He will then have a corner position where he can only be attacked from the north or by raiding fleets from the east. He will also have exclusive access to the Pacific Ocean.

I first allied with the Aztec because he was the only power who could have any realistic ambitions in South America. We agreed to fight Spain together. Aztec armies took Central America while my fleets fought Spain in the West Indies. Meanwhile, in North America, England and France were fighting each other and were deadlocked. This was fine with me. But North America was the only place the Aztecs could get any SCs, so we had to pick a side in the E-F war. We ended up allying with England.

The next few seasons I fought Spain, and England and the Aztecs fought France. My war went very well, and was aided by some NMRs and tactical blunders on the part of Spain. The Aztecs were also growing, and England was afraid they might go for a win. Everytime he said this, I told him that the only centres the Aztecs could gain were in his area, so it was his responsibility to keep them from winning. I wanted to create a certain amount of dissention between England and the Aztecs.



Pierre Touchette

The question I kept asking my allies was: what do we do after Spain and France go? England said he wanted a three-way draw, which is not surprising since he was the weakest member of the alliance. The Aztecs never indicated a willingness to attack England. Since I didn't think a three-way draw was very impressive in a five-player game, I began to seriously think about stabbing the Aztecs.

The turn I eliminated Spain, I positioned my other units against the Aztecs. By coincidence, England had just asked me to move some units near the Aztec to "keep him honest." That was just the icing on the cake. If England and the Aztecs had allied with France that turn they could have stopped me. But, England continued to fight France and write to me asking me to take only a few centres and settle for a three-way draw. I don't think he realized just how good my position was or how bad the Aztec position was.

The Aztecs had good tactics, but Central America is a totally indefensible position. England's efforts to stop me were far too little and far too late. Had he made peace with France two years ago, he could have had a three-way draw (England, France, Aztecs), but he blew it.

I'd like to thank Ron for being a good GM, and Chip Charnley (Aztecs) for being a good ally and a worthy opponent.

#### **Fred Davis (England)**

It was an interesting experiment to see the use of the optional Indian Power in this version (Chip rechristened them "Aztecs"). This changed the game slightly in that the invading Europeans had to take account of someone else already being there. This had less effect on England and France than on the others, as the Aztecs tended to be strongest where the Spanish and Portuguese tried to land. The Indians started off strong, as they had no opposition to their occupation of certain Western SCs, such as California and Saskatchewan. However, when the mid-game period arrived, they were greatly constricted by their inability to build any fleets. This virtually gave the southern half of the board to Portugal after the Spanish disappeared.

For some reason, France (George Mills), decided to attack me from the beginning. I have no idea whether it was purely for tactical reasons, or whether something more subtle, like an attempted alliance between the two Canadian players (France and Portugal) in the works. Anyway, Mills never wrote me, attacked heavily, and lost the gamble. I was able to form a good alliance with the Aztecs, and together we were able to reduce France to a single on-board center.

Continues, page 13

## **From The Diplomatic Pouch**

### **UPCOMING POLLS**

#### **The RUNESTONE Poll, 1983**

##### **The Seventh Annual North America Zine Poll (Rules)**

You may rate any publication substantially devoted to **Diplomacy** (including genzines, house zines of organizations, etc.) which has published more than two issues since April 1, 1982. Rate the series, not the individual issues. Rate only zines of which you have seen enough issues to form an objective assessment of the quality of the publication; do not base votes on hobby feuds, agreement or disagreement with the editor's opinions, etc. Rate each zine on a scale of 0 to 10 (0 being the lowest possible rating, 10 the highest). No fractions, please. Specify subzines and rate them separately from the parent zine; subzines will be listed separately in an independent list.

Publishers may not rate their own zines. Violation will result in invalidation of the entire ballot. Sign your ballot and indicate one way in which you participated in the hobby (to establish eligibility). All votes will be kept confidential. Please list the zines in alphabetical order to make tabulation of the results easier. The pollster reserves the right to tabulate ballots which do not follow the format outlined above.

### The Sixth Annual North America Gamesmaster Poll (Rules)

You may rate any GM in whose postal game or games you were a player during the period beginning April 1, 1982, and whom you played under long enough to gain an objective assessment of his or her competence as a GM. Rate each GM on a scale of 0 to 10 (0 being the lowest possible rating, 10 the highest). No fractions, please. Gamesmasters may not rate themselves. Others may not rate GMs in whose games they were not active players during the poll period. Violation of these rules will result in invalidation of the entire ballot.

Rate each GM by name, not by zine. Votes which do not use the GM's name will not be tabulated. To help in tabulation, please list the GMs in alphabetical order by surname.

**In General:** The deadline for both polls is July 4, 1983. Results will be tabulated as soon thereafter as possible, and will be released as they become available to anyone wishing to phone 403: 526-7963. A complete written report should be ready by the end of July, sent to any voter who includes \$1.00 with their ballot (no USA stamps, please).

Please rate only North American zines and GMs, though any readers living outside of North America are welcome to participate. Send ballots to: Randolph Smyth, "Runestone Poll," 212 Aberdeen St. SE, Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 0R1, CANADA.

**Continued on reverse**

### **The 1983 DON MILLER MEMORIAL AWARD**

This award will be granted at DipCon 83 to the individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the **Diplomacy** hobby. The nominees are listed below. Vote for one individual only. The source of each ballot must be identified. Include your name and address and return the ballot to: Larry Peery, Box 8416, San Diego, California 92102 by July 4, 1983.

Mark Berch (Alexandria, VA): For service as chief organizer for DipCon XV and Tournament Director, including designing the scoring system and organizing the panel discussion; for publication of **Diplomacy Digest** which has reprinted many fine articles from the past for new audiences; for production of special publications such as the **Lexicon of Diplomacy**; and Ombudsman services to the hobby.

Kathy Byrne (Flushing, NY): For service on the U.S. Orphans Service during 1981-1982; for hosting numerous "Byrnecons" for FTF play in New York; and for making everyone in the hobby aware of the fact that **Diplomacy**, both postal and FTF, is not restricted to the enjoyment of those of the male gender.

Don Ditter (Florida, NY): For service as Boardman Number Custodian during 1981-1983; the assigning of Boardman Numbers to new sections of postal **Diplomacy** in North America; compiled statistics on completed games; and arranged for their publication in **Everything**, the official record of the Boardman Number Custodian.

Lee Kendter, Sr. (Philadelphia, PA): For service as Miller Number Custodian during 1983; the assigning of Miller Numbers for postal variant **Diplomacy** games; compiling statistics on completed games; for past service as Boardman Number Custodian and Ombudsman services to the hobby.

Rod Walker (Encinitas, CA): For service as President of the North American Diplomacy Federation; editor of **Diplomacy World** from 1981 to present; and custodian of the the North American Variant Bank; and for past service as Boardman Number and Miller Number Custodian; designer of the **ARDA** Catalogue for Variants.

**Continued on reverse**

### **The SECOND ANNUAL EMINENT AWARDS**

For each category on the ballot, write in the name of the zine which you believe is the best in that category, sign, and return to: Mike Mills, 26 Laurel Rd., Sloatsburg, NY 10974 before August 5, 1983.

**Continued on reverse**

**The Runestone Poll Ballot**

List zines, subzines, and GMs in alphabetical order, giving each a vote of 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest) and return to: Randolph Smyth, "Runestone Poll," 212 Aberdeen St. SE, Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 0R1, CANADA by 4, July, 1983.

Zines

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Gamesmasters

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Subzines

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| _____ | _____ | _____ |

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Position in hobby: \_\_\_\_\_

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**The 1983 Don Miller Award Ballot**

Indicate the person you believe should win this award and return to: Larry Peery, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102 by 4 July, 1983.

Mark Berch: \_\_\_\_\_ Lee Kendter, Sr: \_\_\_\_\_

Kathy Byrne: \_\_\_\_\_ Rod Walker: \_\_\_\_\_

Don Ditter: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

----- Cut Here -----

**The Second Annual Eminent Awards Ballot**

Best Zine: \_\_\_\_\_ Most Improved Zine: \_\_\_\_\_

Best New Zine: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Letter Column: \_\_\_\_\_

Best for Hobby News: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Looking Zine: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Zine for Games other than \_\_\_\_\_ Best Zine for Diplomacy: \_\_\_\_\_

Diplomacy: \_\_\_\_\_

Distinguished Service: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Gamesmaster: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

1981 Qwc02 CONTINUED

Meanwhile, Dan Wilson's Spain suffered from two NMRs, which soon caused him to lose all his on-board SCs. Under the rules this eliminated Spain, although his off-board (European) center would have entitled him to keep one fleet on the board. Spain's ineffectiveness and rapid demise left the entire South American continent to Portugal.

I did not hear from Portugal (Steve Hutton) in the early part of the game, although I'd written to him. Finally, I moved a F to the South American coast to "attract his attention." When Steve protested, I reminded him of the old joke about hitting a mule with a 2 X 4 to get his attention. We then had a good correspondence.

I tried to form a three-way alliance between the Aztecs, Portuguese, and myself. Had we been able to eliminate France sooner, the Aztecs and English could have moved some units southward to protect our positions. The board is so linear in the north-south direction, however, that units committed to North America cannot easily go back to Central America or the Caribbean. At the end, Rick Young came up with a good plan for a joint English-French-Aztec move against Portugal, but it was too late to prevent Portugal from getting his 12th and decisive SC from the Aztecs, as we had failed to retake Antilles.

I think the game would play better with five European powers instead of using the Indians. This game was a demonstration of how weak a power can be when it has no ability to build fleets, in a game where fleets are as important as they are here. (There are only three in-land SCs in the game.) It also needs some "rounding" to make it more circular. Someone suggested fattening up the middle of the board by adding more SCs in the Caribbean and Central America. My idea was to add some SCs in West Africa and the Pacific, and perhaps adding a Panama Canal. This would have the advantage of not distorting the shape of the middle of the map.

A few more SCs would also make it more difficult for anyone to win. A 12-Center Victory Criteria (11 on the board and one in Europe) just seems too easy. I think that Portugal would have been more interested in a three-way draw had he had to gain, say, 14 centers, and had we been able to switch some units down south.

Lew Pulsipher designed the original Conquest variant, which was even smaller than my "II" version. As designer of "II," I guess it behooves me to see what I can come up with in the way of improvements. If I do so, I'll send copies to all of the participants of 1981 Qwc02.

One thing I found confusing was the use of a different year for each season. It was sometimes difficult to remember whether a certain season was a Spring or Fall move. I think I'll go back to using just the decennial years, with a Spring, Fall, and Winter in each of 1590, 1600, etc. It's still not clear whether Portugal won in 1644 (the "Fall" season) or 1648 (the Winter the SCs changed hands). I'd say the latter is correct. However, for SC count purposes in the zine, Ron had to show "1650," which is really the date the next set of Spring moves would have been made. We eliminate this by going to a straight three-season year. For the record, the game lasted through six regular cycles ("1906" in standard terminology).

Anyway, it was enjoyable to correspond with both Chip Charnley and Steve Hutton, and to receive the last minute well-thought-out plans from Rick Young, which gave a touch a real diplomacy to the last set of moves. Also, thanks to Ron Brown for his excellent job as GM. Thanks for a good game, guys.

**Rick Young (France, 1620 - end)**

It should please Ron Brown that the French were able to maintain control of Quebec, thus assuring him of a progressive Canadian province in 1983. For this I accept his undying gratitude.

Chip, Fred, and Steve: Let me make this perfectly clear (where have I heard that before?), I was trying to stab all of you on that last move. That was hard to do since I only had two units.

**Ronald Brown (GM)**

So much to respond to in all that! When I first saw the lineup for this game, I was looking forward to a classic battle. However, George Mills, the original France, was one of those brief sparks in the hobby, signing up for every game he could until the inevitable burnout hit. I'm not surprised Fred never got a letter from him; I never did either--George appeared to conduct his diplomacy entirely by telephone. Ditto for Dan Wilson once he was released from prison--the letters stopped and the reliance on the telephone began. I was pleased when Rick Young offered to stand-by, as I hoped to see this develop into more of a diplomatic and less of a strategy game. Not knowing what was going on between players, it looks as though Rick did start conducting negotiations, though his input came too late in the game.

I'm not surprised at Portugal's win. When I first studied that map for this game, my first thought was that one had to control the Cape. I expected to see a battle for control of the Falkland Sea, but, the way it developed, with a weak Spain, and an English-French battle, Portugal had control of the Pacific to himself. The Indians appeared strong in the beginning, but the lack of fleets eventually caught up with them.

Fred has sent me suggested changes, and I have ideas of my own which I'll include with other suggestions I've received. We all seem agreed that there are weaknesses in the design of the game, mainly geographic. I'm willing to give this one another go once all the changes are decided upon. Rick has already expressed interest. Any other takers? (I don't think I'll use historic quotes as headlines next time; I was running out of sources towards the end.) Thanks to everyone involved.

## 1983 Brn16 - Variant 2

### (Blowup)

SPRING, 1902: TURK DOUBLE-WHAMMIED! GERMAN FLEET HITS MINE FIELD TOO. BATTLE FOR ENGLISH CHANNEL WHILE RUSKIES DRIVEN OUT OF VIENNA.

AUS (Bruce Poppe): A Ser\* - Rum; A Bud\* S A Tri - Vie\*;  
A Rum\* - Gal.

ENG (Steve Hutton): F Nwg - NAO\*; F Iri\* S F Lon\* - Eng; F Bel - Pic\*.

FRA (Mark Keller): F MAO\* S F Bre\* - Eng; A Gas - Spa\*.

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

ITA (Dave Lincoln): F Gre\* - Ion; F Adr\* - Ion; F Nap - Tyr\*;  
A Ven\* v.

RUS (Nelson Millar): NMR. A War\*, A Vie /d/ (R: Boh, Tyr, OTB),  
A Gal\*, A Sev\*, A Fin\*, A Nwy\*.

TUR (Dave Carter): F Con - Bul (sc) /A/; F EMed\* S F Smy - Aeg /A/.

Fall, 1902 due Friday, 8 July, 1983. (Next deadline: Aug. 19)

NOTES: Will Rick Young, 1789 Kirkway, Lapeer, Mich 48446 please submit standby orders for Russia? I'll send Rick the addresses along with certain secret information known only to the Tsar. I'm sure Nelson will continue though, but this is the standard procedure.

Just as I was typing this Dave called to say he is the father of a 6 1/2 lb boy. Congratulations, Dave. Maybe you could train him as a radar operator?

PRESS

Berlin to Moscow: Yes, we are all very proud of Adolph. He is already learning to speak, and was trying to communicate to us his thoughts about Russia and its Tsar just the other day. As his vocabulary is still quite limited, he was forced to use a number of interesting gestures to accompany his words. Adolph thoroughly enjoys strangling puppies with his bare hands. Everybody needs a hobby, and I'm pleased to see that he's taken up on one of my favorite ones. Other than his strange habit of scrawling American Indian good luck symbols all over the palace walls, young Adolph seems to be a model child.

Italy to Turkey: Your intentions have been perfectly clear. I just thought you might want to reconsider your decision in light of passing events.

Turkey to Italy: There is no longer any Italian Embassy in Constantinople. I have plowed the Italian diplomats back into the soil to become the future site of vast oil reserves.

## 1983 Ecb19 - Variant 3

## (Woolworth II-D)

FAIL, 1901: WITH THOSE SECRET POWERS ATTACKING EVERYTHING IN SIGHT, MAYBE THE TURK HAS THE RIGHT IDEA?

AUS (???): A Gal - Vie /d/ (R: Sil, Boh, Tra, OTB); A Bud\* - Vie; F Ven\* H.

BAL (???): F Gre\* S & A Rum\* S A Ser - Bul\*.

ENG (Steve Hutton): F NAO - Ice\*; F Nth - Ska\*; F Lon - Nth\*.

FRA (Keith Sesler): A Swi\* S A Bur - Mun\*; F Bre\* - MAO.

GER (???): A Kie & F Hel - Den\* (A Kie /d/, R: Ber, Ruh, OTB); A Ruh - Hol\*.

ITA (???): A Tyr\* - Vie; F Nap - Ion\*; F Tyr\* - Tun.

RUS (???): F Sev - Bla\*; A Fin\* - StP; A Ukr\* S A War - Gal\*.

SCA (Dave Carter): F Bal\* S A Den - Kie\*; F Lap\* - StP(nc).

SPA (Bob Albrecht): A Bas - Mar\*; F MAO\* - Bre; F WMed\* - Tun.

TUR (Nelson Millar): NMR. F Ank\*, A Con\*, F Aeg\*.

SUPPLY CENTRES: WINTER, 1901

AUS (3 - 4, build 1): home, VENICE.

BAL (3 - 4, build 1): home, RUMANIA.

ENG (3 - 4, build 1): home, ICELAND.

FRA (3 - 4, build 1): Par, Bre, ~~Marseilles~~, MUNICH, SWITZERLAND.

GER (3 - 3, even): ~~Kiel~~, Berlin, ~~Munich~~, HOLLAND, DENMARK.

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

RUS (4 - 5, build 1): home, GALICIA.

SCA (3 - 3, even): Norway, Sweden, ~~Denmark~~, KIEL.

SPA (3 - 4, build 1): home, MARSEILLES.

TUR (3 - 3, even): home.

Autumn, Winter, 1901 due Friday, 8 July. (Spring due Aug. 19)

NOTES: Thanks to the secret Secret Power Standby. Didn't think we'd need you so soon. Will Claude Gautron, 620 rue St-Jean Baptiste, Winnipeg, Man R2H 2Y1 please submit "just in case" orders for Turkey and a certain other power? Thanks. I'll send Claude the addresses.

It just occurred to me that I cannot use the same standby for two different powers in this game or in Blowup, because they get secret information making it unfair of them to take another power later. So, we'll either need a lot of variant standbys, or you guys make sure you don't NMR. Three or four NMRs would wipe out the variant standby list and games will be delayed until I can find more--if it comes to that.

### PRESS

Scandinavia to Russia: I could not take the chance on you moving to Sweden so I moved to St. Petersburg. We will either bounce or exchange centers. Either way there is no harm done and we can still be buddies. Right?

Spain to Italy: Die, scum!

Italy to Spain: Fuck off!

Russia: I can't believe I did that last turn.

Germany to France: You want peace, so I'll give you peace.

Germany to Scandinavia: You want war, so I'll give you war.

Italy to Austria: All is forgiven if Fleet Venice is removed.

Austria to Italy: Guess I've burned my bridges, huh?

Spain to England: Care to participate in the slaughter? We have some great centres available, but for the best selection, please hurry.

Marseilles: The plague-infested city of Marseilles welcomes the doomed Spaniard army that stumbled into the city today despite warnings to stay away. May your days be short in number and your agony great.

Balkans to Turkey: That should keep the Turkeys out of my territory! I don't like bird feathers.

## Letters



From Doug Millstone (Scarborough, Ontario):  
"This is **Aviva Malka**. Aviva is Hebrew meaning spring. Malka is Hebrew meaning queen. She was born 7 lb, 3 oz Saturday morning, April 30, 1983.

"The experience of her birth is impacted indelibly on my psyche. The reality of her existence after 25 days is a mixture of overwhelming joy and anxiety.

"No matter how much I had thought about the changes in my life, the reality still requires adjusting.

"But each new move, like seeing straight or trying to hold her head up, or just plain smiling makes it all worthwhile and each day I feel more relaxed....

"I guess just holding her and helping with the bathing and changing and going for a walk makes it all seem worthwhile."

Thanks, Doug. That's a beautiful picture. I really wish I could share the colour with our readers. She's very attractive for a new-born. (Ann agrees.) You've lots of great adventures ahead. Take it from me; after a year, I'm an old hand.

**Scott Hanson** has described me as "The Official Baby Custodian." I'll get back to Scott in a minute, but, in keeping with this title, let's hear from **Dave Carter** (Willowdale, Ontario) who is about to enter the domain of parenthood: "Baby is coming along nicely....No, I'm not particularly nervous. We have been waiting ten years for it so we have done everything that is necessary and, above all else, we are completely ready to accept a third party. It may be difficult for a newlywed couple who may have doubts about taking such a large step, but we are sure. The actual birth itself does not unduly bother me because so many babies are born without any problems that the law of averages is with us....I haven't quite got that through to Julie yet."

Just remember, Dave, they're supposed to be blue, covered with gunk, and pointy-headed when born. I wasn't nervous either--it only took a few days to stop shaking. Best from all of us to all of you. Looking forward to the news.

**Rob Lowes** (Peterborough, Ontario) is making the adjustment nicely: "Just a little note to tell you how the baby is doing--which is fine. She was sitting on my knee 'helping' me write my orders--at 6:30 in the morning. What did I used to do before her? I must have had all kinds of time and didn't realize it."

Glad to hear it, Rob. Many of you out there have gotten letters from me that Christopher has 'helped' with. (You don't think my typing is that bad, do you?) Hey, what happened to all the baby pictures I was supposed to start receiving in time for next Christmas' issue? Don't forget, eh?

**Dave Lincoln** (Cumberland, Rhode Island) has this to share with us: "How about that Dippy Baby Boom. Mine is ten months now. He walks very well and babbles cutely. My oldest daughter, Rebecca, is seven, in second grade, and just brought home some very high scores from the national testing program. 99th percentile. Wouldn't be surprised to discover I have a little Mensan in the house."

Congratulations, Dave. Aren't kids great?

Some stuff about the Canadian Diplomacy Organization: **Larry Peery** (San Diego, California) writes: "Had I known about the CDO opening I would have gone for it or nominated one of my Mexican friends for the job. We really need a true North American organization." And **Scott Hanson** (Minneapolis, Minnesota): "How can you name someone without a last name as president of the CDO? What support does he have? I have been endorsed by Kathy Byrne and Dave Carter. I wanna Ombudsman!"

Yeah, maybe we do need an NA organization; however, we have to make do with what we have. The CDO constitution clearly states one has to be a resident of Canada to be Co-ordinator, but it doesn't say anything about last names. What support does Anwyl have? He's been endorsed by the great silent majority who never vote. Ombud-away, Scott. Who are you going to argue with though? Remember, I'm retiring.

Re. last issue, which caused a minor ripple in the hobby, **Keith Sherwood** (La Jolla, California) wrote: "Just got **Snafu!** today so I thought I'd write. Wow! No. 31 was really sharp. I mean, your zine looked great before, but done with a word processor it looks awesome. You didn't mention, but will you be able to continue use of it? You look nothing short of professional. Only, I dislike the tails on the 'J's'...I like the pictures in **Snafu!**, especially the one of you and your son. How do you get such good repro on pics?"

A lot of people have been asking that--especially other pubbers. Use of the word processor depends on my schedule (once I'm working) and Ann's schedule, as one of us has to be home. There's other factors, like how much time we're spending together, as I wouldn't want to use my one night off, if it comes to that, to rush off to do this when I could do it on the rickety old manual at home other times. We'll see how it goes. I expect we'll have a mixture, as I've got articles typed up ahead. Pictures are easy if you go to the best printer in Ottawa. I've just been lucky on that score. As for the type-face, I'm using "Canadian Roman," so don't knock it.

Responses to items mentioned last month: **Gary Coughlan** (Memphis, Tennessee): "What was the 'super-human race' you mentioned in **Snafu!** 31? They just popped out of nowhere." Way back in the **Travel** articles I mentioned a couple I met in Nevada who told me about the super-human race living in Mount Shasta. I don't recall the

names, but these creatures apparently were discovered by early Russian explorers and are mentioned in Indian legends. They are supposed to be super-intelligent, about three foot tall, with enormous heads. They've built a paradise under the mountain, but you have to be "purified" before they let you see them--which is what all the hippies were doing up on the mountain. The Indian students in Maniwaki enjoyed that story and told me much more interesting ones about the creatures that inhabit the woods where they live.

**Bob Olsen** (Wichita, Kansas): "What's all this nonsense about Americans, quote 'glorifying punks, criminals, and assorted riff-raff' when you yourself propose to publish letters from Dennis Duncan? Better get your own house in order first, Ron!" Hey, Bob, you mean you never saw an American-made movie?

**Gary** again: "There can be no coalition with Olsen or Hanson. No matter how they may toady to Canada, they retain the Yankee's hatred of the South. And, if it weren't for people like Olsen, Kansas would rightfully be a part of the South now. Canada and the Confederacy has a better ring to it. Minnesota and Kansas can join Québec."

Oh, oh, what have I started here? **Kathy Byrne** (Flushing, New York) jumps in: "Now look, I might tease the Canucks, but how you could join the South is beyond me. There is no comparison between the South and the Canucks! When our country was in a bad spot, the Canucks smuggled American hostages out of Iran. What did the South ever do for America? It started a Civil War! And then it couldn't even win it! So why not become a Yankee instead? Besides, we have better hockey teams!"

I wouldn't go dredging up history, Kathy. I mean, what about 1812 when Yankees invaded Canada and got their asses kicked, but good! I don't know what Canada's (actually, Britain at the time) policy was re. the Civil War. Probably sympathized with the South, except on slavery, which wasn't even much of an issue then. As for hockey, how many Islanders are Canucks? We win either way! Now these two want to argue about fish. Is there no end to it?

**Kathy**: "...eating catfish is gross! They have these big eyes which stare at you, and these ugly whiskers and besides it's just plain torture to eat the stuff! Woody eats it for a steady diet and look what's happened to him!" Sounds like some people I know.

**Gary**: "Ron. Ron. Ron. Haven't you heard of catfish ponds? This has become a very profitable industry down here in the South. The fish are mass-fed and produced. They don't slink off and scrounge stuff off of the muddy bottoms of rivers. At least not most of the fish consumed here." How be, when I'm in New York, I will not eat catfish, but when I'm in the South, I'll give 'em a try. Will that satisfy everyone?

**Jim Briggs** (El Paso, Texas): "...I'd just like to say that I enjoyed the Me'ANN'derings column. My sentiments exactly." **Dave Carter**: "Ann's comments about 'Christians' echo my own sentiments. I believe in a God, but I do not believe in Religion." **Kathy Byrne**: "Three cheers to Ann for 'Heaven Can Wait.' I have had my run-ins with these self-proclaimed Christians and my only comment is that most of them are hypocrites. I agree with Ann: intelligence, common courtesy, and concern are the most important attributes a person can have. Also, common sense--I'm a firm believer in that."

**Dave Lincoln** (Cumberland, Rhode Island): "I really enjoyed Ann's article once again. (Yes, Ron, I enjoyed yours too.) It's amazing what a sensitive nerve you hit with your Christmas story, isn't it? For many people, religion describes the nature of the world beyond the range of our physical senses. For many, it seems to be a hostile and dangerous environment....I thought that way once, but now I'm more content just to be a man here and now. But perhaps the world is changing now, and the future that we all create for ourselves will be a kind one. Hope to see you all there."

Thanks. I agree with all of you, especially Dave's comments about us making the future. Whatever we are, or will become, is our own creation and we must bear responsibility for that. Maybe there's a God directing things, but as long as we depend on a "Big Daddy" in the sky to look after us, we're in trouble.

If you're wondering what the following is about, I have a House Rule governing press releases which says, in effect, that I do not accept Black Press, reserve the right to change datelines to show authorship, and am not obliged to print any item. There have rarely been problems, as, when people submit press releases datelined from somewhere other than their home countries, I've added the country of origin myself. I've occasionally cut items, but in Issue No. 30, I had a real space problem. The



Fine. Three weeks later and still no recorder. I asked them why. First they have to write the head office in Toronto who then contact the Atari plant in California, who then send a batch of replacements to Toronto who then decide, on the basis of pre-established priorities, who and when. Guess which region is on the bottom? Right!

"I get the feeling, more and more, that we in the West are regarded as little more than organic purchasing units. The system, as established by the East (by and for the East) was in place before the West was settled. So were the dinosaurs before the mammals."

## Battle Stations

### Standbys

It's been a few issues since I ran this, so please check to make sure you're on if you want to be, for the games you want, or off if you want off the list.

Bob Acheson (NO), Bob Albrecht (OV), Dale Bakken (NO), Steve Berrigan (NO), Jim Briggs (NO), Dave Carter (NO), Chip Charnley (MNO), Blair Cusack (NO), John Davies (NO), Gery Ferguson (NO), Claude Gautron (NO), Scott Hanson (M), Jan Jensen (NO), Jack Jung (NO), James Keeley (NO), Mark Keller (NOV), Mike Mazzer (M), Gerry Paulson (NO), Paul Rauterberg (NO), Pierre Touchette (NO), Windy Windblad (MNO), Rick Young (NOV), Roy Smith (MNO).

"M" = Mensan games; "N" = North (regular) games; "O" = Orphaned games; "V" = Variant games. Standbys for Seven Nations listed with that game.

### The Dippy Baby Boom

Aviva Malka Millstone was born April 30. See the father's reaction in the Letter Section. Congratulations to Doug. May your spring queen always bring you happiness.

**NEWS FLASH:** Dave and Julie Carter are the proud parents of a 6 1/2 lb boy born June 3, 1983. All are well. Hope they don't have too many "sleepless nights."

Nelson Millar already has two wee ones, so he's not sweating the arrival of his third in mid-August. Angele is a nurse, so he's got it made.

Also in August, we have another first-timer: Mark Berch. We look forward to an issue of *Diplomacy Digest* with articles on Babies and Diplomacy.

Mike Mazzer's expecting his second in September. He will not name him or her "Brux."

### Waiting for Game Starts

Gerry Van Alkemade and Bill Young are awaiting five others to join them in another 10-week deadline international game. Preference given to players living outside of North America.

No other game openings for now.

### Expiring Subscriptions

With this issue (#32): Blair Cusack, Andy Lischett, Dan MacLellan. (Last issue, guys.)

At #33: Don Tinker.

At #34: Konrad Baumeister, Mark Berch, Jan Jensen, Eric Ozog, Randolph Smyth.

## Parting Shot

Sorry to have to leave out my regular columns and Ann's column. Actually, Ann didn't have time to write one as she's been working overtime for a few weeks. Next time. Late news: I have an interview Monday for a job designing courses for a consulting firm. Hope I get it. I'm not too crazy about all these short-term jobs I'm being offered. Steve Hutton is re-writing the CDO constitution and now Claude Gautron is also interested in the Co-ordinator's position. Maybe an election would solve everything? All my best,

Ron