

## Opening Shot

Glad that's over with! Don't ever move if you can help it! One snafu after the other. Christopher got an ear infection the weekend we were moving and clung to Mommy for some three hours before the movers found his bed. Not so bad for him, really, but poor Mommy. She's still stiff.

Little things, like the waterbed not draining by the time the movers were ready to go; then the frantic search for the plug the next day. Thanks to friends like Garvin and Ann's sister, it all got done. Christopher is delighted with his new home and baptized it by flushing the toilets a few million times. Guess they're broken in now.

I don't know which we appreciate more: having tons of space, or getting out of the slum where we had sojourned for 18 months. Well, if things work out, we're here until the big day when we move into our own place. We've already made some investments towards that end. Now that we don't pay Québec taxes any more such things are possible.

### Nepean's Newest Zine...

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Of course, unpacking is a whole different story. It's slowly getting there, but when you've a rambunctious two-year-old underfoot, such things take time. Amazing how many screws you have to insert when settling into a new place! Got wrists like Popeye.

Baby's due the end of May. Ann's started working reduced hours and goes on full maternity leave May 18. She swears there's twins there, judging by the kicks and wiggles. My brother's wife had twin girls a year ago, so, it's possible...

Regarding the hobby, I owe an apology. Two issues back I made some cracks about the U.S. hobby census. The things I said about it were based on secondhand reports I had been getting from a few different sources. I have now

seen the census report for myself and realize that the reports of errors and omissions were exaggerated. Also, Dick Martin has informed me that he is not looking for someone to take it over for this year. You can get a copy of the census for 1984 from Dick at 26 Orchard Way N., Rockville, MD 20854 for \$1.00.

I should like to add a note of explanation here. I have had a negative emotional stance towards Dick Martin for the past few years. This was because of the feuds of a few years ago in which Dick said some very nasty things about some of my closest hobby friends. They said nasty things about him too. But when there's a battle between friends and someone you don't know, there's a natural tendency to discount everything said by the one you don't know and to share the feelings of your friends. This is not to say that one side or the other was right or wrong. It just shows how you can develop a dislike of someone you don't even know and regard everything he does with suspicion.

Also, for some reason I receive a lot of photocopied letters and "Do Not Quote" letters filled with gossip and innuendo. No one special person does

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NO GAME OPENINGS. NO SUBSCRIPTIONS PAST NUMBER 50.

Standbys, especially for variant games, urgently needed.

this: several do. I don't know if this is a hobby-wide tradition or if I have been selected especially for this honour. Dick Martin has been the target of much of this mail and I was basing my assessment of the census on what was said behind his back. Well, Dick deserves better treatment than that. In future I will try to stick to reporting what I know, rather than what I have been told.

As for Dick, I doubt we'll become bosom buddies, as we operate on quite different tracks, but there's no need for any animosity. End of sermon.

## Other Zines

There are two other Canadian zines I should have mentioned in my list last month. One is *Ouinipique*, by Claude Gautron, 150, rue Masson, Winnipeg, Man., R2H 0H2. This one is published in French. In fact, it's the only zine in French in North America.

The other is *C. F. Machiavelli* by William C. S. A. A. Lowe, P.O. Box 460, Trail, BC, V1R 4H7. This zine is primarily for the postal Machiavelli player, though it does offer one or two Diplomacy games. It's a good-looking zine as well.

There are two other Canadian zines which everyone would be well-advised to avoid. I haven't seen a copy of Peter Walker's zine for a few years, though I've received the occasional complaint about GM irregularities. Peter refuses to acknowledge any of the hobby structures designed to protect player rights, has his own unique concept of the rules, and publishes Curt Gibson's end-of-the-world nonsense. (At least the issue I saw was filled with the hobby's resident nut's ravings.) Best just to stay away from the whole scene.

I'm sure none of the older players will be subscribing to *Passchendaele* by François Cuerrier, but people newer to the hobby ought to be warned. *Passchendaele* folded very messily a few years ago amidst a lot of bad feelings. It has since resurfaced, but no satisfactory arrangements were made to refund the considerable sums François owed players, including \$180. for a prize game François had started. Until full refunds are made I cannot recommend this zine.

Some of the newer zines coming out of the USA are well worth a look. Most impressive is *Thirty Miles of Bad Road* by Mark Luedi, P.O. Box 2424, Bloomington, IN 47402. I just received a 28-page issue filled with interesting articles, good humour, and apparently well-run games.

Similar to *TMOBR* is Paul Rauterberg's *Midlife Crisis*. You can get a sample by writing Paul at 4922 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53208.

*Perelandra* by Pete Gaughan, 509 Sandpiper Dr., Apt 130, Arlington, TX 76013 has now published 19 issues. Seems like it just began yesterday. Quite funny and intelligent. Like all newer zines, it's very attractive with care paid to layout and good reproduction.

*Cathy's Ramblings*, pubbed by Cathy Cuning, c/o 1526 N. Lawler Ave., Chicago, IL 60651, is very new, fresh, and interesting.

*Erehwon*, by Rod Walker, 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas, CA 92024 is a rebirth of an older zine. Besides current games, Rod has been reprinting articles from the ancient days of the hobby, all quite interesting and worth reading.

Generally speaking, if you're looking for a new place to play Diplomacy, get a copy of *Pontevedria* from Rod Walker at the above address. All it costs is a stamped, self-addressed envelope. *Pontevedria* is constantly updated and lists 2-3 dozen GMs per issue.

Sometimes you'll read about another "games opening service." I'm afraid *Pontevedria* is the only one. Robert Sacks publishes something he calls "Known Game Openings," but it's not, if you follow. Mainly KGO exists as a vehicle to promote Sacks' fantasies. Robert does list half a dozen zines, but some of them don't exist. Not worth the paper it's printed on.

## 1981 W - North 1

ATLANTIC STRANGELY QUIET AS ITALY, ENGLAND QUIT THEIR BATTLE TO FACE TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

AUTUMN, 1912

ENG: F MAO R Iri.

WINTER, 1912

ENG: D F Iri.

RUS: B F StP(nc).

ITA: D A Spa.

TUR: B F Con, F Smy.

SPRING, 1913

AUS (Bob Olsen): A War\* S RUS A Mos.

ENG (Chris Rees): F NAO - Nwg\*; A Bre - Pic\*; F Eng\* S A Bur- Bel\*; A Gas - Bur\*; A Hol - Ruh /A/; F Ber\* - Kie.

ITA (Bill Young): A Mun - Boh\*; F Lyo - Tyr\*; F WMed - Tun\*; F Adr - Ven\*; F Por\* S F MAO - Spa(sc)\*; A Vie\* § & A Tyr\* S A Alb\* - Tri.

RUS (Garvin Boyle): F StP(nc) - Nwy\*; A Mos\* S AUS A War; A Swe\* H; A Den\* S A Kie\*; A Ruh\* S & A Kie § A Bel - Hol\*.

TUR (Paul Rauterberg): F Smy - EMed\*; F Rum - Bla\*; F Aeg\* S F Gre - Ion\*; A Tri\* § A Gal\* - Vie; A Ser\* S A Tri; A Bul - Rum\*; A Ukr - Sev\*; F Con - Bul(sc)\*.

Fall, 1913 due Friday, 25 May, 1984.

NOTE

Bill Young has moved to: 1000 Westpoint, No. 325, Pittsburg, PA 15205. He promises to settle down once he retires next year.

PRESS

Unk Mo to Olsen: *Be a Rauterberg Toady, and LIVE!!!*

Russian Czar to Austrian Emperor: *Thanks for hanging around!*

England: *Due to extenuating circumstances, not all offers were observed. I am trusting that allies will remain such, regardless of differences.*

## 1981 KA - North 2

AUSTRIA SURVIVES WITH NO UNITS! FRANCE, GERMANY SWAP CENTRES.

FALL, 1910

AUS (Nelson Millar): No units.

FRA (Jack Jung): F Tun - WMed\*; F Tyr - Lyo\*; F Nap - Tyr\*; A Mar\* S A Tus - Pie\*; A Gas\* S F MAO - Bre\*; F Spa(sc)\* - MAO.

GER (Blair Cusack): F Lon\* H; A Mun\* S A Bel - Bur\*; A Pic\* S A Bur - Par\*; A Boh\* S & A Ukr\* S & A War\* S A Gal\*; F Den- Nth\*; F Bre /d/ (R: Eng, OTB) § F NAO\* - MAO; A Mos\* S & A Gal S A Ukr; A Tyr\* - Pie.

TUR (Paul Rauterberg): A Bul\* S & A Sev\* S A Rum\*; F Bla\* S A Sev; A Rum S A Vie - Bud\*; F Ven\* S & F Alb\* S F Tri\*; F Aeg - Ion\*; A Bud - Ser\*; F Apu\* S & F Tri S F Ven.

SUPPLY CENTRES, 1910

AUS (1 - 1, B 1, as short!!!): Vienna.

FRA (8 - 7, D 1): Paris, Marseille, Spain, Portugal, London; Tunis, Rome, Naples, BREST.

GER (14 - 16, B 2): home, Denmark, Holland, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Sweden, Norway, Warsaw, Brest, St. Petersburg, Moscow, Belgium, PARIS, LONDON.

TUR (11 - 11, even): home, Bulgaria, Greece, Sevastopol, Rumania, Budapest, Trieste, Serbia, Venice.

Autumn Retreat, Winter, 1910 AND Spring, 1911 due Friday, 25 May, 1984.

## NOTES

Super thanks to John Davies for unneeded standby orders.

We have a proposal for a three-way draw (France, Germany, and Turkey—if you had to ask). As we've had several draw proposals before, No Vote Received means "Yes." If it does pass, we'll end with the Winter Adjustments. Send Spring orders just in case.

## 1983 Q - North 4

ITALIAN-BRIT CONFLICTS IN DIFFERENT THEATRES. AUSTRIA TAKING A BEATING.

AUTUMN, 1904

AUS: F Gre R OTB.

FRA: A Par R OTB (by GM).

RUS: A Mun R Sil.

WINTER, 1904

AUS: now even.

GER: D F Bal.

FRA: OUT.

TUR: B A Ank, A Con.

ENG: B A Lon, F Edi.

SPRING, 1905

AUS (Bob Acheson): A Tri - Ser/A/; A Boh - Vie\*; A Bud\* S A Gal - Rum /d/  
(R: Boh, Ukr, OTB).

ENG (Paul Watson): F Nwy\* H; A Den - Kie\*; F Kie - Bal\*; F Edi - Nth\*;  
F Bre\* H; F MAO\* - WMed; A Ruh\* S A Bel\* - Bur; A Lon\* H.

GER (Mark Keller): A Mun\* MS A Ber\*.

ITA (Dennis Duncan): F Spa(sc) - Por\*; F Tyr\* - WMed; F Apu\* - Ion; F Ion\* - Tyr;  
A Tyr\* S A Ven - Tri\*; A Par\* S A Gas\* - Bur.

RUS (Steve Berrigan): A Sil\* S A War - Gal\*; A Mos\* H; F Swe - Bal\*.

TUR (James Keeley): F Gre - Alb\*; A Bul\* - Ser; A Con\* - Bul; F Bla\* C &  
A Sev\* S A Ank\* - Rum; A Arm\* H.

Summer Retreat and Fall, 1905 due Friday, 25 May, 1984.

PRESS

Italy: *Ah, Portugal and the olive oil wells*

*Ah, summer in the drilling rigs*

*Drinking wine and eating figs...and booting out the occasional,  
manic, Englishman with his dog made of bull.*

## 1983 HT - North 5

TURK BEING SQUEEZED? GERMAN MARCHES SOUTH. ENGLISH TRY TO LAND IN EUROPE.

SPRING, 1902

AUS (Jan Jensen): F Gre\* S ITA F Ion - Aeg (NSO); A Bud\* S RUS A Gal - Rum (NSO); A Ser\* S F Gre; A Vie\* H; A Tri\* H.

ENG (Dan Adams): F Eng\* - MAO; F Nth\* C A Yor\* - Bel.

FRA (Gerry Paulson): A Par - Bur\*; A Mar - Pie\*; A Bre\* H; A Spa - Mar\*;  
F Por\* - MAO.

GER (Dale Bakken): A Mun - Tyr\*; A Bur - Mun\*; A Hol\* - Bel; F Den - Ska\*;  
F Kie - Den\*.

ITA (Rob Lowes): A Ven\* - Mar (IMP); F Nap - Ion\*; F Ion - EMed\*; A Tun\* H.

RUS (Rob Peart): A StP\* S F Swe - Nwy\*; F Rum - Bla\*; A Gal\* S A Ser - Rum\*;  
A Ukr\* S A Gal.

TUR (Claude Gautron): A Bul\* S F Aeg\* - Gre; F Smy\* - Aeg; A Con\* S A Bul.

Fall, 1902 due Friday, 25, May, 1984.

PRESS

Constantinople to Vienna: *Are we sworn enemies, or what?*

# 1983 Brn16 - Variant 2

## (Blowup)

ENGLAND ELECTS THIRD PM SINCE WAR BEGAN! POLITICAL UNREST IN GERMANY MAY INDICATE LEADERSHIP CHANGE. ITALY CONVOYS AUSTRIAN ARMY TO DISASTER!

### CORRECTION

In the Fall, 1905 report I inadvertantly typed "F Ion - Pie" instead of "F Ion - EMed." The players involved caught the error, though I didn't know about it until it was too late to send a correction.

### WINTER, 1905

AUS: B A Vie.                    GER: NBR! (3 short)  
 ENG: B F Edi.                    ITA: B A Ven.  
 FRA: even                        TUR: even.

### SPRING, 1906

AUS (Bruce Poppe): A Ukr\* S A Gal - War\*; A Vie - Gal\*; A Sev - Mos\*;  
 A Rum\* H; A Bul - Syr /A!/; A Ser - Bul\*.  
 ENG (Bob Albrecht, Claude Gautron): F Eng\* C & F Pic\* S A Wal - Bel\*;  
 F Edi - Nth\*.  
 FRA (Mark Keller): F MAO\* § A Bre\*; F Por\* S F MAO.  
 GER (Keith Sesler): NMR! F Nwy\*, F Swe\*, A Den\*, A Ruh\*, A War /d/ (R: Pru,  
 Sil, OTB), A Lvn\*, A StP\*.  
 ITA (Dave Lincoln): F Aeg\* C & F EMed\* C AUS A Bul - Syr; F Spa(sc)\* S  
F WMed\* - MAO; A Mar - Gas\*; A Pie - Mar\*; A Ven - Pie\*.  
 TUR (Dave Carter): F Bla\* S F Smy - Con\*; A Ank - Smy\*.

Summer Retreat and Fall, 1906 due Friday, 25 May, 1984.

### NOTES

Bob Albrecht NMRed out without ever submitting orders. Both Claude Gautron and Bob Acheson sent unsolicited backup orders for England, but Bob's were for the Winter only. However, will Bob Acheson, c/o Echo Bay Mines, Lupin, NWT, XOE 1MO please submit standby orders for Germany? Thanks Bob. Rules and the histories of their respective country's mining operations will be sent to both Claude and Bob.

### Addresses, 1983 Brn16

Bruce Poppe, 1204 Heartwood Court, Arnold, MD 21012.  
 Claude Gautron, 150, rue Masson, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2H OH2.  
 Mark Keller, 9536 Shumway Dr., Orangevale, CA 95662.  
 Keith Sesler, P.O. Box 158, Fraser, MI 48026.  
 Dave Lincoln, 25 Sun Valley Dr., Cumberland, RI 02864.  
 Dave Carter, 118 Horsham Ave., Willowdale, Ont., M2N 1Z9.

### PRESS

Turkey: *I'd like to standby for Austria. Stand by and watch him die, that is.*

Italy to England: *Are you there when I need you most?*

Budapest: *The Grand Duke thanks the GM for cleaning up his terrible French spelling.*

France to Germany: *How 'bout some help against the Italian?*

Turkey to Russia: *Does this mean you won't be helping me out now?*

Austria to Turkey: *Right, there is no God. Reagan is living proof.*

## 1983 Ecb19 - Variant 3

## (Woolworth II-D)

THREE LEADERS ASLEEP AT THE SWITCH. IF SECRET POWERS HEAD OFF IN WRONG DIRECTIONS, WHO'S TO BLAME? ITALY TAKES THE ATLANTIC, SCANDINAVIA AIDS IN THE DESTRUCTION OF AUSTRIA BEFORE EXPIRING. LOOKS AS IF FRANCE'S IN TROUBLE!

SUMMER, 1904

AUS: A Tri R Ven.

FALL, 1904

AUS (???): A Ven /d/ (R: Pie, Tus, OTB) § & A Vie\* § A Tyr\* - Tri.

BAL (???): F Adr\* S A Tri\*; A Bud\* S A Bul\* - Rum.

ENG (Mark Keller): F NAO - Lvp\*; F Nth - Lon\*; F Den - Nth\*; A Nwy\* S GER  
F Swe; A Bel\* - Bur.

FRA (Keith Sesler): NMR! F Eng\*, A Wal\*, A Bas\*.

GER (???): F Swe\* H; A Ber\* S A Mun\*.

ITA (???): F WMed\* S F Mor - MAO\*; F Apu\* S A Rom - Ven\*.

RUS (???): A Gal\* S A Ukr\* - Rum; A Fin\* S A Lap\* - Swe.

SCA (Dave Carter): A Boh\* - Vie.

SPA (Bob Albrecht): NMR! F Bre\*, A Swi\*, A Bur\*, F Por\*.

TUR (Nelson Millar): NMR! F Bla\*, A Arm\*, F Sev\*, F Aeg\*, F Alb\*.

SUPPLY CENTRES, 1904

AUS (3 - 1, D 2): Trieste, Vienna, Venice.

BAL (4 - 5, B 1): home, Budapest, TRIESTE.

ENG (7 - 8, B 3 as short): home, Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Holland, BELGIUM.

FRA (3 - 1, D 2): Paris, Brest, Belgium.

GER (3 - 4, B 1): home, SWEDEN.

ITA (4 - 5, B 1): Rome, Naples, Tunis, Morocco, VENICE.

RUS (5 - 4, even /A/): St. Petersburg, Moscow, Warsaw, Sevastopol, Galicia.

SCA (1 - 0, OUT): Sweden.

SPA (4 - 5, B 1): Portugal, Madrid, Switzerland, Marseille, BREST.

TUR (5 - 6, B 1): home, Crete, Rumania, SEVASTOPOL.

Autumn Retreat and Winter, 1904 ONLY due Friday, 25 May, 1984.

NOTES

Just last season I pleaded for no more NMRs! Well, it's your game, if that's how it's to be played. Standbys are now URGENTLY needed, as I simply have no more and I expect some called this time will get the positions.

First, will Gerry Paulson, Box 6, Amisk, Alta, TOB OBO standby for France and ????. As Keith's zine is two months late and he's been very uncommunicative, I suspect this is for real.

Will Bob Acheson please standby for Spain and ????. Bob Albrecht has NMRed out in another game here, so, it looks like that's it, unless he can come up with an excellent reason that will move me to tears to explain his behaviour (or, lack of it!). That's: Bob Acheson, c/o Echo Bay Mines, Lupin, NWT, XOE 1M0.

Looks like Claude Gautron gets another crack at Turkey and ????. He's already been called for this country combination before, so nothing new will be revealed when he learns who ??? is. Claude Gautron, 150, rue Masson, Winnipeg, Man, R2H OH2.

Because of all the standby calls, I'm splitting seasons so we'll have a better idea of who's playing which country. The most secret secret power standby has been overworked!

Rather than type addresses three times, here they are:

Player Addresses, 1983 Ecb19

Mark Keller, 9536 Shumway Dr., Orangevale, CA 95662.  
 Keith Sesler, P.O. Box 158, Fraser, MI 48026.  
 Dave Carter, 118 Horsham Ave., Willowdale, Ont., M2N 1Z9.  
 Bob Albrecht, 1001 - 1239, 12 Ave. SW, Calgary, Alta, T3C 3R8.  
 Nelson Millar, 327 Wilfred Leblanc, Maniwaki, PQ, J9E 1X7.

PRESS

England to Scandinavia: *Sorry, I had to give your last center to the German.*

Italy to Spain: *C'mon Robert, this is too easy!*

Acheson to Scandinavia: *No, I'm not playing Germany, but if I was, you'd be in this game no longer.*

## 1983 HW - International

ENGLAND IGNORES NORWAY TO CONCENTRATE ON FRENCH BORDERS. ITALY HEADS NORTH WHILE AUSTRIA ENGAGES IN SKIRMISHES WITH TURKEY AND RUSSIA. GERMAN LEADER TAKES A BREAK WHILE THE FRENCH LEADER DEPARTS FOR LEBANON.

FALL, 1901

AUS (Gerry Van Alkemade): A Gal\* - War; A Ser\* S F Alb - Gre\*.  
 ENG (Walter Compton): F Eng\* S F Nth - Bel\*; A Lvp - Wal\*.  
 FRA (Bucheron Frank): A Spa\* H; A Par - Bre\*; F Pic\* - Bel.  
 GER (Sellick Davis): NMR! F Den\*, A Kie\*, A Mun\*.  
 ITA (Pierre Touchette): A Tyr - Boh\*; A Ven - Tyr\*; F Ion - Tun\*.  
 RUS (Bill Young): F Bot - Swe\*; A StP - Fin\*; A Ukr\* - War; F Rum\* S TUR  
 A Con - Bul.  
 TUR (Paul Watson): A Bul\* - Gre; A Con\* - Bul; F Ank\* H.

WINTER, 1901

AUS (3 - 5; B A Bud, A Vie): home, SERBIA, GREECE.  
 ENG (3 - 4; B F Lon): home, BELGIUM.  
 FRA (3 - 4; B A Par): home, SPAIN.  
 GER (3 - 4; NBR, 1 short): home, DENMARK.  
 ITA (3 - 4; B F Nap): home, TUNIS.  
 RUS (4 - 6; B F StP(nc), A War): home, SWEDEN, RUMANIA.  
 TUR (3 - 4; B F Smy): home, BULGARIA.

Spring, 1902 and any Summer Retreats due Friday, 29 June, 1984.

NOTES

Received a note on the deadline from Sellick saying he hadn't received issue No. 41, but the last report was in No. 40, so it looks like a regular NMR. So, will John Marsden, 17 Church Road, St. Leonards, Hastings, TN37 6EF, England please submit standby orders for Germany?

Bucheron Frank wrote to say he might be posted to Lebanon and so might have to drop from the game. So, will Richard Devereux, 8a, Sutton Grove, Sutton, Surrey, SM 14 LT, England please submit "just-in-case" orders for France?

Gerry Van Alkemade's subscription expired at issue No. 40. I've sent him the last issue and this one as "grace" issues in view of the slow communications overseas. (North American players do not get any grace issues. In case he does not renew before next deadline, will Ake Jonsson, Regementsgaten 53, S-723 45 Vasteras, Sweden submit orders for Austria?

Thus endeth my standby list for international games!

Oh, Gerry complained that the first deadlines for this game have been "awfully" long. I agree. However, first we had Christmas to work around, then our moving date. My plan was to have this game and Seven Nations alternating in every second issue. I think, though, Gerry's right and I will try to stick more closely to the ten-week deadline pattern. He suggested 8-week deadlines. That would be fine except for my scheduling of Snafu!. Perhaps, once I've folded that publication and we're on flyers the players can vote on shorter deadlines if they wish. Fair enough?

Bill Young has moved again and, with so many standby calls, here's the addresses:

Player Addresses, 1983 HW

Gerry Van Alkemade, P.O. Box 65036, GR 154.10, Athens, Greece.  
 Walter Compton, Apartado 70774, Caracas 1071A, Venezuela.  
 Bucheron Frank, GOSO 10: Compagnie, 1er section, Ecole d'Application de l'Infanterie, Quartier Guillant, 34057 Montpellier, CEDEX FRANCE.  
 Sellick Davies, ZADCO, LM, P.O. Box 6808, Abu Dhabi, Union of Arab Emirates.  
 Pierre Touchette, 1, rue Georges, Masson, Québec, Canada, JOX 2H0.  
 Bill Young, 1000 Westpoint, No. 325, Pittsburg, PA 15205, U.S.A.  
 Paul Watson, RR 5, Stony Plain, Alberta, Canada, TOE 2G0.

PRESS

Turkey to Austria-Hungary: *Sorry Gerry. Writing to Greece is much more exotic than writing to America, but I can read his writing, and...*

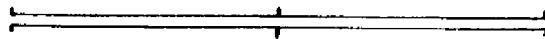
Somewhere at Sea (England): *Why do the French want Germany?*

Vienna: *Once again, Kaiser G. P. J. III was greatly annoyed and extremely upset. The object of his wrath this time was the Secretary General of the League of Nations, who had pretended not to be able to read the Kaiser's beautifully crafted calligraphy (or is that: graffiti?) last season, thus depriving Europe and the world of precious, immortal pearls of wisdom!*

*If it was not for the fact that G. P. J. III has fallen incurably in love with the Secretary's lovely wife, he would have initiated a movement for his ouster (the Secretary's, that is). Under the circumstances, the Kaiser is willing to forgive and forget--just don't let it happen again, ever, Mr. Secretary!*

Special Note to GM (and other interested parties): *There is a possibility that I may be able to attend DipCon! If Me"Ann"derer is going to be there, I'll move heaven and earth to come (read: the U.S.A. and Greece). You can bring the baby, and I'll be happy to help diaper him/her. I'm sure I have not forgotten how, even after doing it last some thirteen years ago!*

A Rare GM Response: *Sorry, Gerry. Texas is half-way round the globe from us. And, with two little ones in tow, it would be near impossible for us. We appreciate the gesture though and hope you enjoy your visit there. As for your handwriting, I have to guess at it, word by word. I'm fairly good at it after grading English essays for eight years, but when you switch to another language, I haven't a clue.*



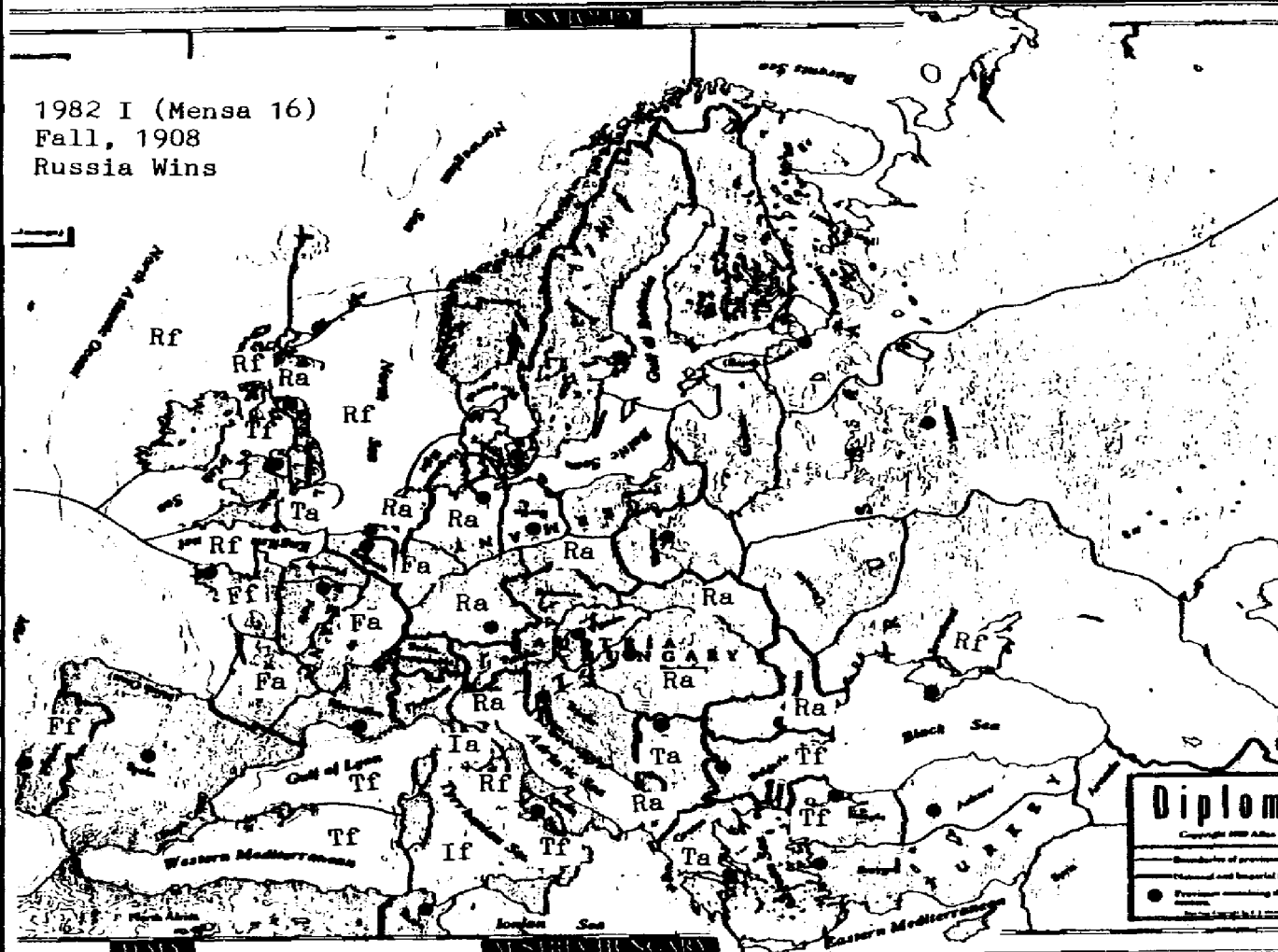
SNAFU! FACTS

From November 1st, 1983 to January 31st, 1984 I kept a log of my hobby activities. During that three-month period I published three issues. My total hobby time was 206 hours. I spent \$396.00 and received \$71.00 (though this doesn't count previously paid subscriptions). 13 hours were spent on the telephone on hobby-related matters. I mailed 103 letters and received 171. I mailed 269 copies of Snafu! and received 68 copies of zines. Of the total hours spent, 16 hours were spent on my own pbm games, and 28 hours were spent on actual GMing.



1982 I - Mensa 16

1982 I (Mensa 16)  
 Fall, 1908  
 Russia Wins



THE STATISTICS

Zine: Snafu! GM: Ronald James Brown

- AUS: Walter Compton (Out W02)
- ENG: Steve Geislinger (Dro S01); Mike Mazzer (Out W07)
- FRA: Robert Young (survived)
- GER: Windy Windblad (Dro W07); CD (Out F08)
- ITA: Keith Sesler (Res W06); Bob Olsen (survived)
- RUS: Dave Lincoln (WIN W08)
- TUR: Paula Dodge (survived)

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	
AUS:	4	0	-						
ENG:	3	5	4	3	4	1	0	-	
FRA:	4	5	6	5	4	4	5	4	
GER:	5	5	4	5	2	1	1	0	* One short
ITA:	5	6	6	7	7	5	2	2	\$ Two short
RUS:	4	7	8	8	10	15	17*	19	WINS
TUR:	4	6	6	6	7	8	9	9	

GM NOTES

The season given for drops or resignations is the final season for which that player was responsible.

This game was sponsored by the Mensa Postal Diplomacy Special Interest Group and starting players were members at game start. The two standbys are former members of this group. This is the sixteenth game to be sponsored by the Postal Diplomacy SIG.

ENDGAME STATEMENTSRussia, Dave Lincoln, Winner

This game was very exciting and somewhat unusual, and I feel lucky to have won. Any thoughts I may have had for quick expansion in the opening were shattered by an NMR in the Fall of 1901. If my orders had arrived in time, I would have begun 1902 with seven units instead of four. Negotiations suddenly became vitally important.

Austria's inability to earn the trust of any of his neighbors helped a great deal. I quickly found common cause with Italy and Turkey at Austria's expense. In coordinating our plans, a remarkable camaraderie developed, and the seeds of an I/T/R alliance were planted early.

The key to this alliance was providing Turkey with a role which provided her with equitable growth without threatening her allies beyond reasonable endurance. As the plans developed, Turkey was to build fleets, establish a convoy route to the West, assist Italy against France and use her armies in a fake war in the Balkans until they were needed in the West. Turkey's Paula Dodge executed the plan most faithfully. The only glitch was an NMR in the Fall of 1904. We would have had the board surrounded and been able to launch the Turkish armies in the following Spring. It was a short delay, but it gave me an advantage in development that would be important later.

Italy's Keith Sesler deserves most of the credit for the success of the Alliance. His sound generalship directed the Westward expansion in the war against France and he orchestrated the "Danse Macabre" in the Balkans as a smokescreen to conceal our real cohesiveness. He also accepted most of the risk in the Alliance, but his judgement in trusting Turkey was certainly proven to be sound. Keith deserved better than he got in this one.

So, by the end of 1902, Austria was gone and we were ready to disengage in Austria and the Balkans. My role was to go over the top and attract England's attention. Mighty Mike Mazzer had taken over England and had offered me a good plan. Under most circumstances it would have been the plan of choice, but exceptional circumstances made it second best in this game. Mike and I got acquainted and we had a great press war. The battle was fun, but it wasn't really a fair fight. I had many units to throw at him and timely help from Germany in the Fall of 1904. I also had help from the Italian fleet behind him and the landing of the Turks; and he was STILL around in 1907! Let me tell you, I wouldn't want to meet this guy in a FAIR fight.

The Great Franco-German War of the Grapes was much to our liking. I never heard much from France. Robert Young was under attack the whole game, kept his own counsel, and still came in third. Not bad.

Relations with Germany's Windy Windblad were erratic at best. Correspondence was sporadic and postcards for countersigned half-orders clouded the relationship with uncertainty and mystery. In the Fall of 1907 I could have eliminated his army for the win. Instead, I tried to win while keeping his army alive, but Windy's NMR left me one short. It required 1908 to mop up but it would have been a cleaner win in 1907. But I am getting ahead of myself.

By the end of 1905 the board was encircled, the Turks were in England, Germany was crushed, and France was about to be. The Plan was to culminate in 1906. The I/T/R Alliance could easily divide what was left while maintaining rough parity among ourselves. It was time to declare a draw, wrap it up, congratulate each other and look for another game. It would have been the honorable thing to do.

It was nice to cross paths with Bob Olsen/Olson/Wilson after he took over Italy, especially after having read so much about him. Another time perhaps. Soon.

Thanks to all the players who shared this experience and for Ron Brown's excellent service as GM. The game was exciting and unusual, featuring grand alliances and brutal stabs, daring plans and rapid movement, soaring hopes and shattered illusions. It was short too, so it makes a nice replay from time to time.

England, Mike Mazzer

There's not much to say about this game except we were all completely outclassed by "Honest Abe" Lincoln who ruled the East with an iron hand. I stabbed Germany at the behest of Russia, then Russia quickly stabbed me. Germany was too slow to see the Russian danger and couldn't defend himself against Russian Stab No. Two. An altogether disappointing performance on my part. I wasn't even around long enough to stab Olsen!

One positive thing was getting a phone call from Paula-Marie Dodge. She gets my vote as having the hobby's sexiest voice. No wonder she had Italy enslaved. Sigh! I still have fantasies!

Thanks for the game, Ron.

France, Robert Young (Survived)

Congratulations to Dave and everyone else for a good game.

GM, Ronald Brown

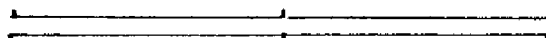
Whew! After Dave's statement, there's not much to say. I agree with most of his comments on the other players. If you want to liven up a game, bring in Mike Mazzer! Even when surrounded and being eliminated, he keeps making things happen. The Turkish-British War was a joy to watch. That doesn't happen too often!

Basically, we had a three-country steamroller against a divided opposition, with a stab for a win. Clean and simple. But the dynamics of convoying a Turkish army to England and getting Russian fleets into the Med demanded close cooperation. Turkey really went out on a limb, allowing her forces to be divided. I kept wondering when Dave was going to hit Turkey for four or five centres on one move. He didn't, but Turkey had nothing other than diplomatic skill to prevent it.

Dave's complaint about Windy is well-taken. Imagine my position as GM receiving four or five postcards per season with partial orders on each, scratched out, over-written, with ambiguous instructions on which set they overrode. When one of these cards arrived from a different source, without code word, I cried "Enough!" and raised a stink about it. Windy settled down somewhat after that until he NMRed out.

Other than that, it was a very enjoyable game. Interesting cast. Keith went on to found a very good zine, and Dave and Paula signed up for many more games. Walter, Mike, and Bob are old hands, of course, and are very active elsewhere. I don't know about Robert's other involvements in the hobby. I've played games with the majority of players here and look forward to playing against the rest sometime.

Again, congratulations to Dave and thanks everyone.



SNAFU! FACTS

The following people still receiving Snafu! all received Issue No. 1 in July of 1980: Pete Gaughan, Sharon and Bruce Poppe, and Fred Davis. I may have sent a copy to Lee Kendter, Sr. who was the BNC at the time. If there's anyone I forgot to list, let me know.

## Bourse (82 I)

### ENDGAME STATEMENTS

#### Otonabee Industries, Limited, Rob Lowes, Winner

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Mostly, thanks to Dave Lincoln for taking his country on to victory. Anything could have happened if the game had lasted any longer.

I was surprised that he didn't take any of Paula's centres and I was quite pleased when they finally attacked Italy.

My big break came when I got rid of all of my Austrian funds and the terrible trio finished him off. Everyone else lost some (or a lot) in that. It was hard to recover from the loss.

Mr. Gaughan, congratulations. You had me scared a number of times. The big buy just about did it. If you could have got others to sell the Rouble when you wanted to it would have worked.

Thanks very much to Ron. I really enjoyed this game. You did a fine job and I'm glad you decided to run it. Now, if I could have some of the same kind of luck against you in the Barbarossa Bourse.

#### Japan Industries, Ltd., Pete Gaughan, Second

Rob went out of reach as soon as Austria was eliminated (Fall '02). I tried to stay close by 'buying low, selling high' until I left to visit JILT's headquarters. By the time I got back, I had figured out that you had to create your own breaks. I started selling 500 Roubles each Spring, keeping the price down, then buying them back just in time for Fall adjustments. It usually worked okay.

The Franc gambit didn't seem worth it to me because I had forgotten we'd get anything for currencies other than the winner. But after Fall, 1907, when Dave failed to take his 18th dot, it didn't matter. Congrats to Rob and thanks to all.

#### Ronald Brown, GM

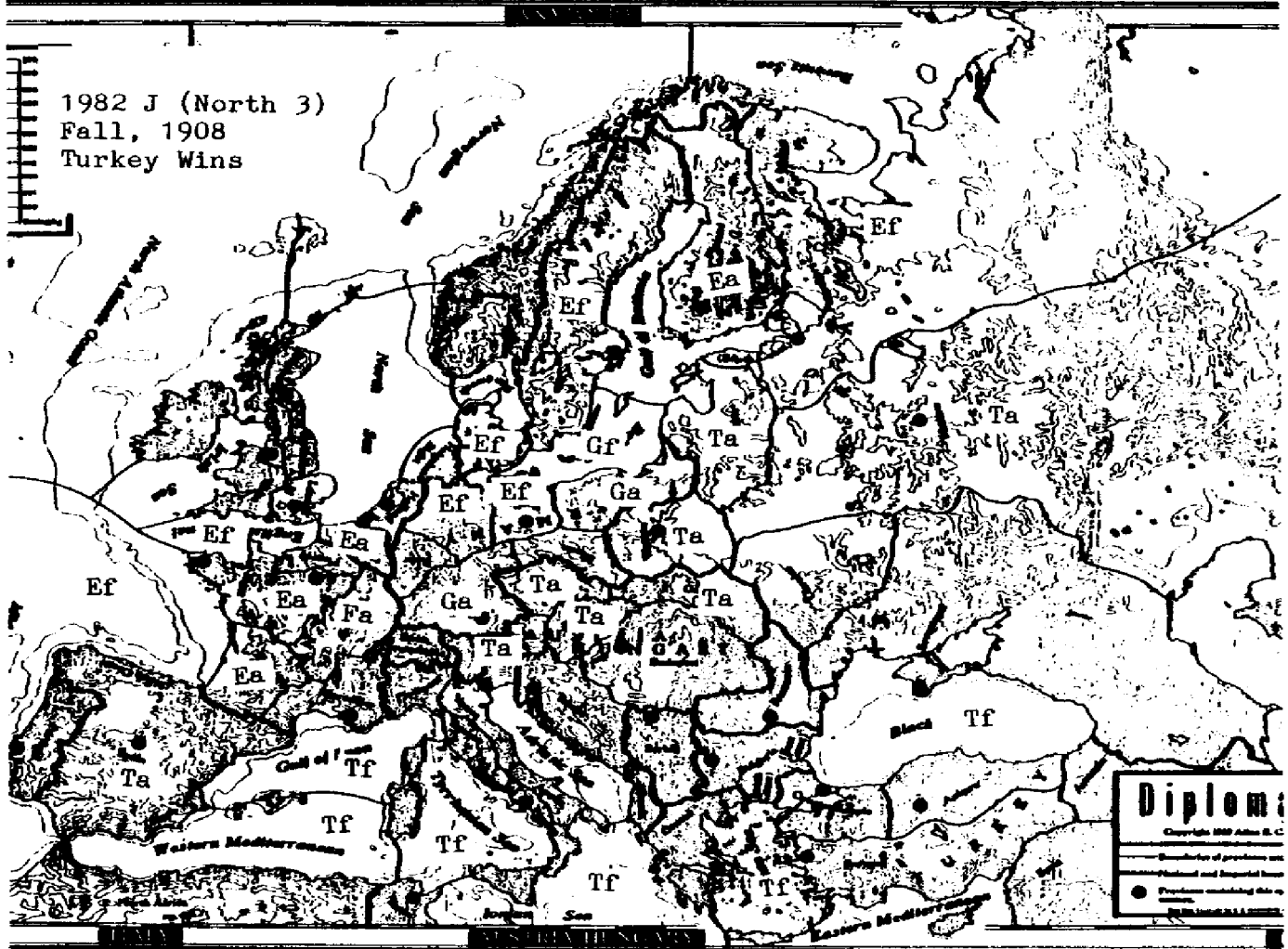
After two years of playing this, I still haven't discovered whether or not it counts as a regular variant game (and hence to be entered in Alpha and Omega, the MNC zine). Drawing up any kind of summary statistics would be very difficult.

Anyhow, I also think the elimination of Austria in 1902 gave Rob the big break. However, he still had to maintain accurate buying and selling after that. BOT and YUK's dramatic purchase of Francs, artificially driving up the price, is the kind of action which could have made a big difference if it had occurred earlier in the game. As it was, it happened too late to allow them to sell off Francs for an enormous profit. Both players came into the game fairly late. It would have been interesting if they could have pulled that off in 1902 or 1903.

Generally, I found the trading very conservative, but the rules do limit one to some extent. I wonder what it would be like if the 500 unit ceiling for sales were lifted? I think the reason that rule was included was to force players to plan ahead and predict which country is going to be eliminated a few years before it happens. Some GMs rewrite the rules to minimize the impact of the parent game on prices, but that takes half the fun out of it, in my opinion. Might as well play Stock Ticker if you don't have to study the game map to decide who is going to lose or gain centres.

Again, congratulations to Rob and Pete, and to Claude and Julian for adding some interest. Thanks to those who finished the game. Having seven active players at the end is respectable when you consider how many dropouts there were. I enjoy playing Bourse and am glad you enjoyed it too.

1982 J - North 3



THE STATISTICS

Zine: Snafu! GM: Ronald James Brown

- AUS: Nelson Millar (Out W07)
- ENG: Doug Millstone (survived)
- FRA: Bern Sampson (Res F01); Darryl Phillips (Dro W07); Blair Cusack (sur)
- GER: Martin Taylor (Dro S07); Paula Dodge (survived)
- ITA: Roy Smith (Dro S 07); CD (Out W07)
- RUS: Tom Swider (Res S03); Bob Olsen (Out W05)
- TUR: Dennis Duncan (WIN W08)

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	
AUS:	4	2	2	4*	5\$	2	0	-	
ENG:	4	5	5	6	8	9	11	13	
FRA:	5	5	6*	5	5	4	3	2	
GER:	5	6	7	6	5	6	4	1	* One short
ITA:	3	5	4	4	3	1	0	-	\$ Two short
RUS:	5	6	4	2	0	-			
TUR:	4	4	6	7	8	12	16	18	WINS

GM NOTES

No orders were received for France's retreat in Autumn, 1908 and so England retains Brest, giving him 13 supply centres and France two.

The season listed for resigns and drops is the last season for which that player was responsible.

ENDGAME STATEMENTS

Turkey, Dennis Duncan, Winner

First off, I want to express my sincere appreciation to all my opponents for making the game both possible and enjoyable. A special thanks to Ron for almost error-free adjudication. When you consider the other games, the job responsibilities, the moving dislocation, and the arrival of two doubtless exuberant children, it's a wonder he's still functional.

In 1901 my only objective was to seize the Black Sea and try to keep Italy off my back(door). I was successful and lucky, respectively. The next 3-4 game years were spent trying to keep Austria alive. If I did not succeed I knew I was next on the menu. Austria was invaded by everyone of his neighbours except me. With Italy and Russia being attacked by France and England the A/T alliance was able to make gains in Italy and Russia.

Then came the turning point...Austria's NMR in 1905. It was a golden opportunity and I grabbed it. I knew that Austria would have to be really reduced or eliminated because of his tenacity and excellence in defence. The conjunction of this event, along with the elimination of Russia and the successful landing in Apulia, essentially gave the win to Turkey, especially as the English were already deeply committed in the West.

The next 2-3 years saw the blitzkreig in action, as I gained four centres/turn. This was due mostly to the weakened condition of my opponents who were sapped by intercine warfare or already in the process of being conquered.

Basically, I feel that as the Turk, I was very lucky. If Austria had either been eliminated early, or had not the post office been diddling him about, it would have been very iffy. I doubt if I would have survived myself. I certainly would not have grabbed the bottom half of the board as I did.

The one thing I did "correctly" was to write every player, every season. Most of them stopped writing after they saw what a "scoundrel" I was... which I was a little disturbed by. But it is understandable.

Yes, this is my first PBM...but I have been in several play by phone games, both as player and GM. I've also set up a small BASIC program to evaluate the performance of the countries and to make decisions on that basis. The chart below shows the performance in this game, giving the order of finish as T,E,F,G,A,I,R.

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08
A:	-19	-34	-16	-13	-30			
E:	-19	-18	-17	-2	+2	+6	-15	+23
F:	-9	-20	-13	-17	-16	-15	-22	-50
G:	-22	-22	-12	-18	-41	-34	-51	-64
I:	-27	-21	-21	-26	-34	-36		
R:	-20	-22	-33	-44				
T:	-10	-12	+8	+2	-3	+24	+7	+36

GM, Ronald Brown

First off, I don't understand Dennis' chart either....

Interesting that the three novices in this game (Dennis, Martin, and Doug) did better than the old pros. I was very disappointed when Bern Sampson resigned, saying he was dropping from the hobby. He has continued to publish; however, he has never answered any of the letters I sent him. Did I do something to annoy him? I simply don't know. Roy Smith dropped in a huff when I rejected one of his press items. It was a cartoon cut from a daily newspaper. I had always made my position clear on reprinting copyrighted material without permission (I simply will not knowingly break the law for such trivial reasons), but he apparently thought it was my duty to print everything he sent me. Maybe he can find some other more agreeable

GM... On the other hand, some of Dennis' press items were cut for lack of space, but he accepted that gracefully and apparently understood my situation as a publisher.

The reason I offered this game to begin with was because I had just met Doug at a face to face game in Toronto and he wanted to get into a postal game. Also, I had been corresponding with Martin, whom I had worked with in Maniwaki, and he wanted to get into a game. So, it was really brought about in an effort to get these newcomers into the hobby. I was delighted to see Doug do so well. If things had been a little different in the South-East corner of the board he had a good shot at a win. Dennis got to the magic number first, however.

Poor old Nelson, stuck with Austria again, had a rough time trying to survive. He had a fighting chance, except for an attack from a very unusual position: Germany. Martin had not played Diplomacy at all before and I think it showed. Germany is quite difficult to play well and he didn't seem to have the grasp of the game, as evidenced by his lack of direction and policy, grabbing whatever centres looked available at that moment. Any conflict between Germany and Austria spells doom for both of them and Martin stumbled into it.

Darryl's France also seemed to lack direction, but that was likely due to him being very busy at school. He has shown more promise in other games. Bob Olsen didn't stand much of a chance, as Russia was already on the skids when he took over. Both Blair and Paula came into the game too late to affect the outcome; by then the NMRs had given Dennis the game.

As for Dennis, he played well and consistently. Other than trying to help Austria in the early game, he didn't seem to need any allies in his steady expansion. Those who take their games seriously enough to write to the other players, as he said he did, usually do well.

So, thanks to the players who stuck it out, and a Bronx cheer to the drop-outs. Congratulations to both Dennis and Doug. Hope to meet you both in a game sometime.

## Hobby News

It's Runestone Poll time again. List the zines you have received in the past year, rate each one on a scale of 0 (terrible) to 10 (fantastic), then do the same with all the GMs you've played under in the past 12 months, sign it, and mail to Randolph Smyth, 212 Aberdeen St. SE, Medicine Hat, Alta, T1A 0R1 before June 29, 1984.

Don't use fractions, rate subzines separately from mainzines, and put everything in alphabetical order. Try to be fair in your assessments.

Also, it's time for the Don Miller Memorial Award voting. This award is made for outstanding hobby service. The nominees are: Ronald (Snafu!) Brown, Gary Coughlan, Roy Henricks, Lee Kendter, Sr., and Mike Mills. Please vote for one and send your choice to DMMA, c/o Larry Perry, Administrative Secretary, Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102. Please sign and include your address.

I'll have something to say about my nomination in Parting Shot....

## Battle Stations

### Expiring Subscriptions

Pay attention to your address label. It shows your outstanding credit. If less than a dollar, or "Expired" is written after your name, you're about to be cut off. No more warnings.

### The Dippy Baby Boom

Just when we had about given up, Dan Adams, of London, Ontario, wrote to say he and his wife were expecting in November. Way to go, Dan. Keep us posted.

## Parting Shot

Ann would like to thank all those who gave her such high votes for Me"Ann"derings in the recent Freshman poll, but would like to point out that her column is not a subzine. It's simply a column which appears when she can find time. She's working on another travel one now which might be ready in time for next issue.

Seeing as we're into the final few weeks before baby no. two is due to arrive, it could be any time. (Christopher caught us by surprise by arriving three weeks early.) That might have some effect on next issue, but deadlines will remain unchanged. If Snafu! seems to be taking a long time to get to you next issue, you'll understand....

Regarding the Don Millar Memorial Award mentioned somewhere in this issue, I am flattered to have been nominated. However, I was a bit put off that I was nominated for "maintaining the operation of the Canadian Diplomacy Organization almost single-handed when several publishers dropped out." I assume this is in reference to the 1981-82 period when things were, indeed, dark in the Canadian hobby. But Dave Carter, and his guest GM, Barry Hickey, were great contributors then—and still are. Without them running dozens of games, I shudder to think of the strain on the rest of us. There was also Randolph Smyth, John Leeder, and Andy Lischette ensuring that every orphaned game had a home. I think I may have had something to do with restoring the Canadian reputation in the USA after the bitter and nasty folds of the late 70's, early 80's, but, as for my contribution within Canada, I don't think it was any more or less than anyone else's.

Anyhow, thanks for the shows of support Ann and I receive. It does make it all worthwhile. We don't need awards as long as we continue to receive such nice letters.

Players in 1982 IF: as I finish this up I have not received the game report from Nelson. Probably delayed by the Easter holidays. If I haven't got it by the time I mail this, I'll mail it to you as soon as I get it. Shouldn't be long.

Was interested to read in Fred Davis' Bushwacker that because it is politically undesirable to hire more public service employees in the USA and, because the work still needs to be done, work is farmed out to private contractors at twice the cost to the taxpayer. If the Americans are getting away with paying private contractors only twice what they'd pay an employee, they're getting a fantastic deal. It's the same situation in Ottawa. Everyone screams so loudly about the public service that the government doesn't dare expand it (though everyone still expects the same, and more, services). Hence, private firms thrive on government contracts. I estimate it costs three to four times to pay for contracted work than for a regular employee...just in case you were wondering why the government spends so much money but doesn't seem to produce any more. Under the Conservatives the situation will become worse, as they are dedicated to reducing the civil service—which will mean even more contracted employees, and even higher costs. Why no one understands that simple fact is beyond me.

Oh well, 'tis spring. My acting appointment as consultant has been extended to August. Meanwhile a permanent position has opened up—which means another round of exams. Sigh! Is there no end to it? I'm enjoying the job and doing well. Besides advising users all day on how to use the system, I write articles for inhouse publications, and perform services like massive reloads or archiving of files. I also keep the system bulletins up-to-date. I was glad that no one knew I'm the guy who causes those messages to flash on people's screens when they log on to the system, as telephones were ringing all through the centre the other day when users were greeted with "Joyeux Pâques" when they logged on. A call from the Minister of State was made to inform me that "Paques" is feminine. So, now I know. A belated "Joyeuses Pâques" to everyone!

Rm