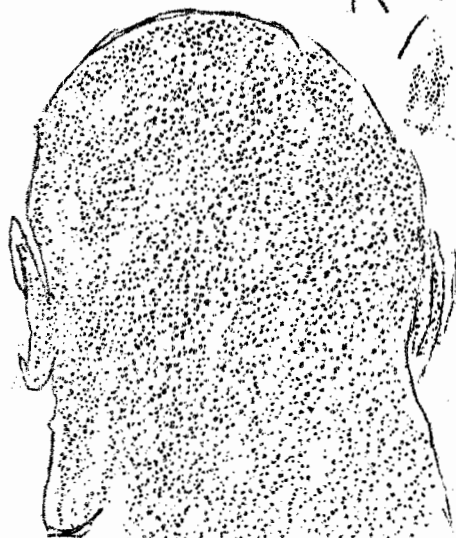
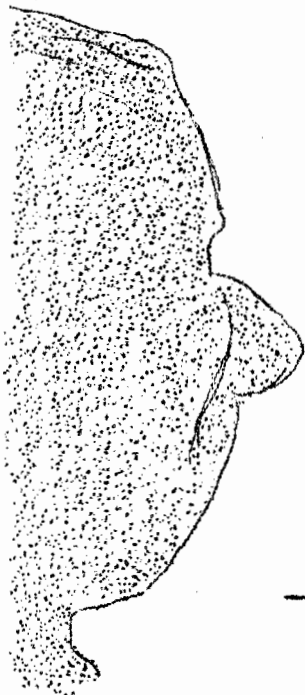
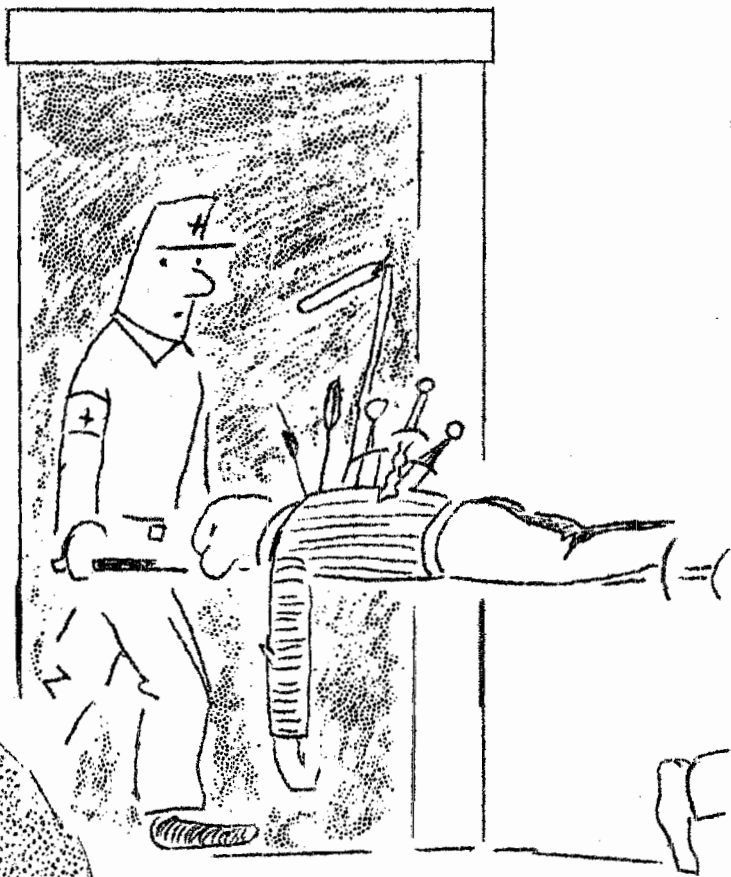


S I A B #1

DIPLOMACY IN SESSION

Quiet



Tsk... Tsk... Poor CONRAD lost AGAIN.....

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sTab is a bi-weekly mail Diplomacy journal, currently chronicling Games 1964D (Trantor) and 1965E (Massif). A new game, 1965R, is about to commence in the Trantor section. Subscriptions to sTab are 10/\$1 from John Koning. Cover this issue is by John Smythe.

John A. McCallum ("A Qtrs," SES, Ralston, Alberta, Canada) announces that he is taking over publication of Dick Schultz's Brodingnag, containing game 1964C. His first issue is due out immediately. Subscriptions are, we suppose, at the usual 10/\$1.

Diplomacy players who can make it are invited to attend a small SF con October 30-31 in Sandusky, Ohio (address and room rates to follow -- or write Dick Schultz, 19159 Helen, Detroit, Michigan, 48234), where, if enough players show up, a Diplomacy session may be run.

○ MASSIF "o" □ □ ○

GAME 1965E

"Spring 1904"

9 October 1965

TUAKS TAKE IONIAN, RUMANIA

RASTATT (AP) Rastatt is one of the old fortress cities of the Thirty-Year's War, in the scenic Grand Duchy of Baden. It's cantilevered walls overlook the Murg River and view the Rhine plain. Across that river lies France and the "lost province" of Alsace-Lorraine.

Manning the walls are troops of an Army not seen on the Rhine in a century. The Grand Duchy of Baden is again an independent state and Austrians look out upon the Rhine.

While much of central Germany enjoys the ravages of civil war, the southern kingdoms bask in the summer of Austrian expansion, lying under the warming embrace of the Hapsburgs.

For centuries these Catholic kingdoms have looked to the Hapsburgs for their protection and their cultural ties. Now they have forsworn the barely 30-year-old German Reich and cry for an end to the Protestant-Prussian domination and war with Russia.

Prince Henry of the Sausenberg line of the royal Badenese family has cut himself off from his "traitorous" brethren and at present is the Kaiser's pretender to the Ducal throne at Carlsburg. But he calls

(continued on page 3)

- ENGLAND: A Nor-StP; F Bar (S) A Nor-StP; F Swe-Fin; F Den-Bal;
 F N.S. (C) A Lon-Nor; A Lon-Nor
- FRANCE: F Tyrr-Tus; F Tun-Ion; F WMed-Tyrr; F Bre-Mid; A Mar-Bur;
 A Spa-Mar
- GERMANY: F Kiel (S) ENG F Den-Bal; A Ber-Mun; A Liv-Mos; A Gal-Ukr
- ITALY: A Rom-Nap; F Ion-Nap
- AUSTRIA: A Ven-Rom; F Adr (S) TURK F EMed-Ion; A Mun-Ruhr; A Tyr-Mun; A Tri-Vie; A Bud-Gal
- RUSSIA: A Fin-Nor; F StP (S) Fin-Nor; A Mos (S) F StP; A War (S)
 AUS A Bud-Gal; F Bal-Kiel
- TURKEY: F EMed-Ion; F Gre (S) F EMed-Ion; F Con-Aeg; A Bul-Rum;
 A Smy-Con

=====

The Italian Fleet in the Ionian is routed, and must retreat to either Albania or Apulia. The Russian Fleet in the Baltic Sea is likewise routed, and must retreat to either Prussia, the Gulf of Bothnia, or Sweden. The routed Russian Fleet St. Petersburg is destroyed, having no available retreats (it was on the North Coast). The Italian and Russian players are urged to get their retreat orders in to the Gamesmaster immediately; other players are requested to submit moves taking into account the relevant possibilities, in case the retreats are not forthcoming.

 DEADLINE FOR "FALL 1904" MOVES IS SATURDAY, 23. OCTOBER 1965

(continued from page 2)

the Badenese Declaration of Abjuration an infamous document, stabbing Germany in the back at the moment of her greatest need.

Grand Duke Carl has declared his cousin Henry an outlaw, but at the moment he is out of Carl's reach.

Duke Carl denies rumours that Badenese levies presently being formed into regiments will be used against German troops in central Germany. He also denies that they will be used against French troops. Evidently the regiments will be used entirely to parade in front of the Duke and the Austrian Ambassador on Saturdays and holidays.

TRIER, The Rhine Palatinate (AP) Music filled the Nigra Porta today. Two Regimental bands led the troops and another beat out a cadence near the rear. The troops were smiling and were spic and span neat. But almost no one was out in the streets to watch the procession.

The bands played on down the Meisterlahn, the helmeted infantry carefully marching past the occasional crater, their jackboots crunching the fine glass underfoot.

Down at Bismarckplatz, the officials, the nobles resplendent in their ornate uniforms, the smiling generals in their bemedalled tunics and the younger officers already visualizing the conquests their

handsome manners and dashing locks would gain them. The officials made a few speeches to the gathered troops. A platoon guard in black and grey tunics presented the flag before a broadly smiling young noble, all bowing their knee in salute.

It was indeed a festive occasion, there even being festive grey and red bunting hung from the lampposts and an odd red crown on a grey field flag being conspicuous thereabouts.

But the people did not rejoice. They had little to rejoice about.

Yesterday the III Battalion, IV Battalion and Argommer Independent Artillery Brigade together with the Fortress Troops surrendered to the Austrians.

The mighty fortress of Trier, the medieval Treves, had fallen. For the first time in centuries Austrians had assaulted this fortress town and taken it. With it went control of the upper Moselle River, the gateway to Luxembourg and the Low Countries. Behind it now lies an expanding Austrian-dominated series of principalities, each complete with ruler, army and formal alliance to Austria. Each also containing a formal renunciation of all ties with "Prussia" and the Hohenzollern Reich.

Struck by civil war and a disastrous Russian war, the New German Empire already seems to be crumpling into a pile of dust.

Today Austria added another landmark to her growing string of puppet duchies by re-creating the Duchy of Treves, once known as the Archbishopric of Treves. Installed into this Duchy is Guntram, a member of the Hohenstauffen line and previously the Lord of Numburg in Bohemia.

Complete with flag, miniscule army, coat of arms and history, the new Duchy has aligned itself with the Austro-Hungarians and become the 21st state to be carved out of the quivering hide of Imperial Germany.

Presumably these modest Austrian map-redrawers plan to leave Prussia in existence, such as it may be. Though in reparations for the war, the Austrians have already stated they will grudgingly settle for Posen and Silesia, and the rest of Poland from Russia for their invaluable aid in the war.

One wit pointed out that Germany is particularly blessed, as there will be only a modest twenty-four states in Italy "after the war" versus the present sixty-four planned for The New Resurgent Imperial Germany. It was opinioned that the French thought up the Austrian Master Plan in order to impoverish Austria after the war in maintaining all those embassies and their staffs.

KIEF, Ukrania (AP) Marshal Mencksen is a haunted man these days. The strain of trying to hold up an independent command in this era of debacles and civil war, cut off from home and dependent on his own initiative and the highly efficient German army behind him, he is attempting to hold on to some of the most astonishing military gains in history.

Whilst behind him Crackow and Radom bend before the combined Austro-Russian assaults, and in Silesia Silberberg and Glatz fortresses trade cannonades, the Marshall tries to hold together a disintegrating province.

Largely abandoned by the Russians to recapture Warsaw, the western Ukraine lies quiescent under a cautious German occupation force.

Where it shall go from here is unknowable. Some say the Marshall should go back, strike back at the Austrians, but he keeps his own council.

To the north lie the immense Russian steppes and behind them Moscow and the hard-driving British forces who have captured St. Petersburg. We can only sit here in Kief, unknowable Mencksen plotting a miracle to perhaps save what is the most audacious German military force in history.

TRANTOR

#24/SVC #24

"Winter 1908"

9 October 1965

COMMUNICATIONS BLACKOUT HITS FRANCE, ITALY!

AUSTRIA: Builds Fleet Trieste, Army Budapest

ENGLAND: Builds Fleet London, Army Edinburgh

FRANCE: No moves received; Gamesmaster removes Fleet N. Africa

ITALY: No moves received

TURKEY: Removes Army Armenia, Fleet Syria

 DEADLINE FOR "SPRING 1909" MOVES IS SATURDAY, 23 OCTOBER 1965!!

A MODEST PROPOSAL

I've been reading over the systems for rating Diplomacy players suggested by John Smythe, Charles Reinsel, and Frank Clark in John Boardman's Graustark. All of them possess certain merits, of course, but all suffer from a common flaw: they are based on a too-literal construing of what constitutes success in Diplomacy. Each system assumes that, because the rule book defines the object of the game as "to gain control of Europe," accumulating more than half the supply centers on the board is something meritorious. So much for western logic.

I, on the other hand, have studied the entire problem carefully, and after delving deeply into and observing from all angles the name of this game (which is, of course, "Diplomacy") I have come up with the rating system... a rating system which takes into account the intentions of the game instead of its superficial characteristics. And my system, unlike those others mentioned above, does not suffer from a superfluity of reasoning between its initial premises and its final conclusions. My system is purpose oriented, not goal directed. My system is subtle. My system is devious. My system is designed to make me look good! My system works just like Diplomacy itself!

The name "Diplomacy" indicates that prime virtues in this game

are skill, tact, and cunning. Therefore, while the winner of a game holds the most supply centers, he may have achieved his victories through the use of brute force rather than Diplomacy. (It would be difficult to find a game winner who had merely talked his way into the winning seat.) Nothing special in winning a game then, so we award technical winners one point.

However, as a player in chess faced with a hopeless situation resigns rather than prolong a game dull to both his opponent and to himself, a Diplomacy player with little hope of accomplishing anything displays great tact, of "diplomacy" in resigning an untenable position. We give such a gracious player five points.

Moreover, since expectation is so important in Diplomacy, a player who resigns while in a strong position obviously does so because he knows his good fortune cannot continue. For such remarkable foresight we award ten points.

Most remarkable of all is the player who foresees the catastrophe before the game begins, and resigns to let another take on his bad fortune. To a player of such phenomenal skill we give twenty points and a gold star. (Points should also be given players who turn down invitations to join Diplomacy games, but that is beyond the scope of this present system. Soon, however...)

Finally, since confusing your opponents is a primary objective in Diplomacy, we also recognize skillful obfuscation by awarding five points for each move for which orders are not submitted. Skillful readers will not that it is, by skipping a large number of moves, to exceed the large point total given for pre-game resignation (but no gold star is awarded in this second case). This is only logical since it takes more diplomatic skill to remain in a game and confuse everyone that to resign early and confuse only a few people momentarily. (This year the committee has decided there is no merit in confusing the Gamesmaster, so we have discontinued the 3 points awarded in the past for badly worded or illegible orders.)

Supply centers, having nothing to do with Diplomacy, get no recognition. Ditto staying power. Ditto maneuvering ~~SKILL~~ luck. We are considering points for good press releases, though.

Under this infallible system I -- John Koning -- am surpassed in Diplomatic Skill by only one player. And I have hopes of catching up to Paul Harley soon.

-- John Koning

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FLASH!!! The United States of America, in a surprise move, has declared war on Switzerland, as of 31 April 1904, it was announced today. President William Jennings Bryan justified the declaration by citing Switzerland's continued refusal to become embroiled in the European conflict. Bryan said that such do-nothingism was "a clear indication of the seditious intent of the Swiss," and stated that their "scandalous actions" would "not go unpunished."

Finishing his speech before the press with a recounting of how God, disguised as a large black conical hat figured with stars and crescents, had told him to "cleanse Switzerland," President Bryan recited several neo-Biblical compositions for the reporters, then scuttled back into his office.

Unofficial opinion is that Bryan is attacking Switzerland because of their rejection of the Darwinian "theory of evolution," which the liberal President champions so strongly.

DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL, LAST*MINUTE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The SF con, or "Lunacor," mentioned on page two is being held October 30 and 31, at:

The Green Tree Inn
1935 Cleveland Road
Sandusky, Ohio

Room rates are as follows:

Double Room -- \$12.00

Room with 2 Doubles -- \$16.00

Four people -- \$20.00

Six people -- \$20.00

Dick Schultz says floor space will be available here and there for those short of cash.

And, by the way, the YUDC challenges anyone and everyone to Diplomacy, team or individual style. Even you Scarboro blokes... if you can get off your cycles long enough. We'll have along a car-load of Avalon-Hill games too.

FROM:

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U.S.A.

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE