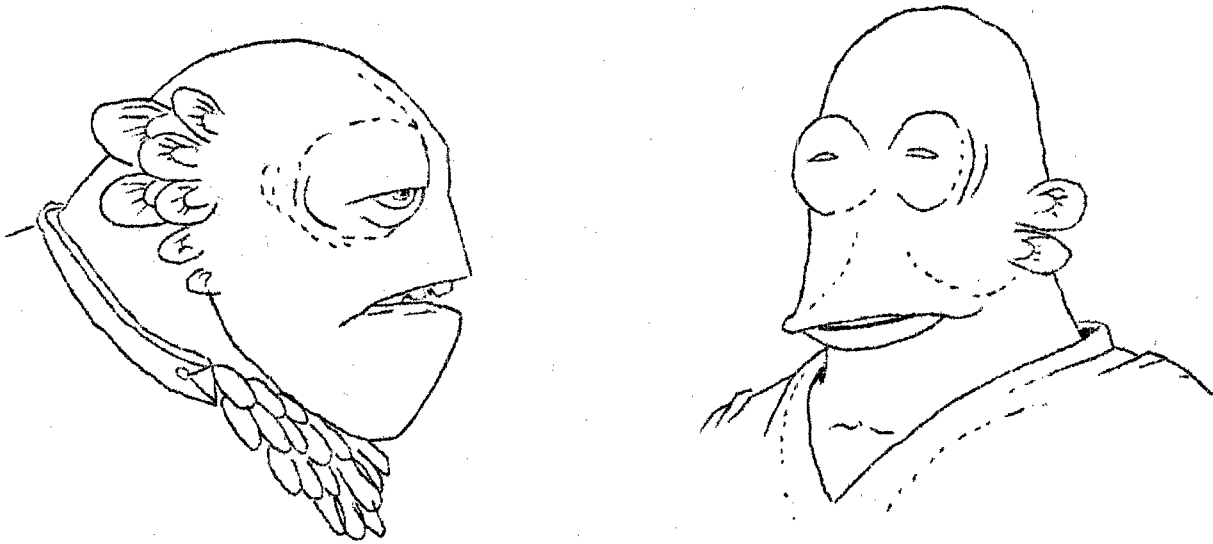


S AB 5



"I've been watching them for some time. The poor fools think it's a game called Diplomacy. They don't realize how symbolic of Man their little pagent is. Smythe, the big jovial one, represents Aggression. Pattee, the short blond, is Stubbornness. Koning, the skinny one in the corner, is a Rational Idealist.... don't let him behind you. Ovilla, that brunette, is of course Woman. The other three represent various shades of Indecision. They don't realize it, but they're acting out the Fall of Man."

Trantor

John W. Smythe, Jr.
621 E. Prospect
Girard, Ohio

Massif

John Koning
318 So. Belle Vista
Youngstown, Ohio 44509

sTab is a bi-weekly mail Diplomacy journal, currently chronicling Games 1964D (Trantor I -- Spring 1910), 1965E (Massif -- Fall 1905), and 1965U (Trantor II -- Fall 1901). Subscriptions to sTab are the usual 10/\$1 from John Koning. Cover this issue by William Retsler.

Deadlines for the next moves in all games fall the day before Christmas. We apologize deeply for this, but almost immediately after that holiday I will be leaving for New York, and rather than delay all games another two weeks we are choosing this alternative. The next issue of sTab will be very small, especially with two Winter moves coming up, so no press releases please.

#28/SVG #28

"Spring 1910, Game I"

11 December 1965

TURKS RETAKE CONSTANTINOPLE

ENGLISH OFFENSIVE FAILS IN NORTH

AUSTRIA: A Tyr (S) ITA A Mun; A Vie-Boh; A Gal-Sil; A War-Pru;
A Ukr-War; A Livo (S) TURK A St.P; F Tri-Adr; F Ion-
hold; F Gre-hold

ENGLAND: F Bre-Eng; F Bal (S) A Kie; F Both (S) A Fin-St.P;
A Pic-Bel; F Spa-Mar; F Mid-NorAf; F Por-Spa (SC);
A Ruh-Mun; A Fin-St.P; A Nor (S) A Fin-St.P; A Bur (S)
A Ruh-Mun

FRANCE: A Par and F WMed hold

ITALY: F ap-Tyrr; A Ven-Pic; F Tun-NorAf; F EasM-Aeg; F Con-
Black; A Mun (S) TURK A Ber-Kiel

TURKEY: A Ber-Kiel; A St.P-hold; A Mos (S) A St.P; A Ank-Con;
A Smy (S) A Ank-Con

Underlined moves do not succeed.

DEADLINE FOR "FALL 1910" MOVES IS FRIDAY, 24 DECEMBER 1965

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Charles G. Brannan
224 South Lincoln
Spokane, Washington 99204

(Brannan plays Turkey in Trantor I, Russia in Massif)

"Fall 1901, Game II"

M A J O R P O W E R S C L A S H

GERMANY IN BURGUNDY: RUSSIA IN GALICIA

ENGLAND: F Norwe (C) A Edi-Nor; A Edi-Nor; F N.S. (S) FRE A Bur-Belgium

FRANCE: A Mar-hold; A Bur-Bel; F Mid-Spa (SC)

GERMANY: F Hol-Bel; A Kie-Den; A Mun-Bur

ITALY: A Pie-Mar; A Ven-Tri; F Tyr-Tun

AUSTRIA: A Ser (S) F Alb-Gre; F Alb-Gre; A Bud-Tri

RUSSIA: F Both-Swe; A Ukr-Gal; A Sev-Ukr; F Rum-hold

TURKEY: A Con-Arm; F Bla (C) A Con-Arm; A Bul-Rum

DEADLINE FOR "WINTER 1901" BUILDS IS FRIDAY, 24 DECEMBER 1965

BUILDS:

ENGLAND:	Lon; Edi, Liv, Nor	((4))	(Build one)
FRANCE:	Bre; Par, Mar, Bel, Spa	((5))	(Build two)
GERMANY:	Ber; Kie, Mun, Hol, Den	((5))	(Build two)
ITALY:	Nap; Rom; Ven; Tun	((4))	(Build one)
AUSTRIA:	Vie; Bud, Tri, Ser; Gre	((5))	(Build two)
RUSSIA:	Mos; War; StP, Sev, Rum, Swe	((6))	(Build two)
TURKEY:	Ank, Smy, Con, Bul	((4))	(Build one)

ST. IVANSBURG (14 November 1901) Ivan VII, proclaimed Tsar only 10½ months ago, was deposed today by an officers' revolt led by Ivan Ivanov, a captain in the Semenovskiy Regiment.

Ivanov proclaimed that he was the heir of a secret marriage contracted while in prison by Ivan VI, who was murdered in 1764 by orders of Catherine II. "As such, I am senior in the Imperial Succession to the so-called Ivan VII," he told the army after his coup. "Moreover, the Pugachev claim from which Ivan VII derives was known to be fraudulent even when it was first advanced by the original Pugachev. At last a legitimate Romanov, after 138 years, occupies the imperial throne."

The new Tsar, who takes the title of Ivan VIII, has ordered his predecessor to be exiled to Novaya Zhemlya. He also intimated that the pro-English policies of Ivan VII will be abandoned in favor of a Turkish alliance.

CONSTANTINOPLE (DWE) Sultan John Lewis, speaking for the first time in public without the use of his mouth-piece Gunther Schuller, congratulated Ivan VIII on the success of his coup. Lewis seemed most amazed, however, when informed by his

Grand Vizier, Charles Ben al Mingus, that according to his papers, Ivan VIII, son of Ivan VI, is 137 years old. "New secrets will have to be discovered," he said, shaking his head cryptically.

ANKARA (DWE) No word of the famous Wooden Fleet Squadron, which left port here in April under the command of the well-known pirate and Turkish nobleman Miles Davis, has been received since news of a violent battle with two Russian fishing boats in June. Experts in the Admiralty here fear that a fate similar to the last Turkish Squadron commanded by Davis may have befallen the Wooden Fleet. Naval buffs will recall the famous Incident of 1897, in which Davis lost his entire command to an Arabian trader named Nat Hentoff in a four day dice game.

Rumors are that Davis may soon be replaced by the brilliant naval genius, John Coltrane.

○ MASSIF^{no} 15 ○

Game 1965E

11 December 1965

"Fall 1905"

FIRST GREAT POWERFALLS ITALY ELIMINATED

LONDON (August 7) The Belial Government handed the Austrian Ambassador a declaration of war. Since 10 o'clock this morning the two Empires have been at war.

For the last few months the relations between the two Empires have been very strained. Repeated efforts by both governments to ease the situation have failed. The major conflict of interests was over the Lowlands. Belial wished Belgium and Holland to remain neutral; Franz Joseph wished Belgium and Holland to pass under Austrian control. With the occupation of Holland by Dankl's 1st Army Vienna served notice that they were finished with negotiations and were willing to back their claims by force of arms. Lord Belial had little choice but to declare war.

ANVERS, BELGIUM (August 8) England's long awaited Fall offensive commenced today at dawn. French's 3rd Army crossed the Holland frontier near Wuustwezel and further east at Valkenswaard. The IX Corps is moving rapidly toward its main objective of Breda.

Sir George King-Hall's squadron of M-class battleships is reported to have cut the retreat of the Austrian garrison of Breda. The warships sailed up the Grevelingen Krammer, and off Dintelgord commenced to shell the Breda-Rotterdam causeway and approaches.

EINDHOVEN, HOLLAND The Indian Divisions of Sir Nixon's XXI Corps have secured the city. Already the lead elements of the Peshawar Division are reported to be within sight of the Wilhelmina Canal. So far no serious resistance has been met. The Indian infantry has had only to march through an empty land of deserted small farms and vill ges.

ENGLAND: A Bel-Hol; F N.S. (S) A Bel-Hol; F Bal (S) GER A Ber; F Swe-Den; F Norwe-hold; A Livo (S) A StP-Mos; A StP-Mos

FRANCE: F Rom-Nap; F Tun-Ion; F Tyr (S) F Rom-Nap; A Bur-Mun; F Lyon-hold; A Pie-Ven; A Tus-Rom

GERMANY: A Ukr-War; A Kiel (S) A Ber; A Ber (S) A Kiel; F Helgo-(S) A Kiel

ITALY: No moves possible

AUSTRIA: A Sil-Gal; A Hol-Kiel; A Mun-Bur; F Ven-Apu; A Tyr-Ven; A Boh-Tyr

RUSSIA: A War (S) TURKISH A Mos

TURKEY: A Rum-Sev; A Mos (S) A Rum-Sev; A Bul-Rum; F Ion-Adr; F Gre-Ion; F Aeg (S) F Gre-Ion

Underlined moves do not succeed. The Turkish Army Moscow is annihilated, having no place to which to retreat. The Austrian Army Holland is routed, and forced to retreat to the Ruhr, as the only open position. With the fall of Naples, all the Italian supply centers have been taken by hostile forces. Italy, through failure to build in Winter 1904 for the Army which had been annihilated the previous Fall, was for a year a Power with one supply center but no forces.

DEADLINE FOR "WINTER 1905" BUILDS IS FRIDAY, 24 DECEMBER 1965

BUILDS: (underlined centers are newly acquired, crossed out are newly lost)

ENGLAND:	Lon, Liv, Edi, Den, Swe, Nor, StP, <u>Hol</u> , <u>Mos</u>	((9))(Build 2)
FRANCE:	Mar, Par, Bre, Spa, Por, Tun, Rom, <u>Nap</u>	((8))(Build 1)
GERMANY:	Kiel, Ber, Wol , Bel, Mos	((3))(Lose 1)
ITALY:	Nap	((0))(OUT)
AUSTRIA:	Tri, Vie, Bud, Ser, Ven, Mun	((6))(none)
RUSSIA:	War, Mos	((1))(none)
TURKEY:	Ank, Smy, Con, Bul, Gre, Sev, <u>Rum</u>	((7))(Build 1)

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BREDA (August 9) After a twenty minute spirited defense by his small, heavily outnumbered garrison, Colonel Greiner surrendered his command to Major-General MacKenzie. The surrender marked an end of all Austrian resistance south of the River Waal.

BREDA (August 10) It is becoming ever more apparent that Dankle was taken completely by surprise by French's lightening offensive through southern Holland. With his heavy losses attempting to reduce the German fortifications near Emden and Leer, Dankle was unable to adequately protect his supply lines. And it seems that he must make an attempt to escape the forming trap

by fleeing up the Ruhr before Dusseldorf and Essen are taken by advancing French infantry. As it is the fate of the Austrian 1st Army is in doubt.

ARNHEM (August 12) The 3rd Battle Squadron took control of the city today. No Austrian resistance was apparent as the Imperial Marines secured the defenses of the city.

LONDON (August 13) The government announced today that General French's fall offensive was an unexpected success. The provinces of Holland were freed of all Austrian interference after five days of uninterrupted English advance across the country.

Loss of life was small. English casualties were posted at 1720 killed, 3,420 wounded, and 17 captured and missing. Austrian losses were not accurately known, but it's thought that Dankl lost 4770 killed, 6,000 wounded, and over 8,000 prisoners. His losses before the German guns of Leer and Emden were estimated at over 100,000 men. The Habsburgs suffered a high price for their short-lived occupation of Holland.

GEMMENICH, BELGIUM (AP) A kilometre north lies the Dutch border, to the east a mere two kilometres lies the shattered concrete posts which once held a customs gate, the one between Belgium and Germany.

A few years ago it swung up to pass a trainload of German soldiers, on their way to new treaty posts within Belgium itself. A few weeks ago, just twelve days ago, General Steinkammer's elite Czech XXIX Corps brushed aside the corporal's guard of mixed Belgian and German troops to complete the surrounding of Aachen, just five kilometres from here.

In that twelve days General Weissern surrendered to Steinkammer and the Czechs invested the old Dutch fortress town of Maastricht.

But in that twelve days something new occurred. The British landed at Antwerp twelve days ago. And two days ago tin-plated Englishmen traded bullets with blue-coated Austrians and Czechs for the first time.

Yesterday history was made by a corporal's guard of khaki soldiers and this reporter thought he could feel the gates of history starting to close in the face of the mighty Habsburg dream of an Austrian Europe.

Yesterday three British regiments met the shining sun of Habsburgian Empire for the first time and crumpled it.

According to official sources, the Canadian Essex Guards regiment de-trained at Homburg, on the Aachen-Liege rail-line, held by the Churaissiers Ardennes and formed into battalion groups during the night. During the morning the Warwick Light Infantry arrived at Heinickskapelle, to the south of Homburg, on an alternate line from Aachen to Liege. By that time, 9:00, forward elements of the 1st battalion, Stafford Greens, met an Austrian combat patrol of apx. 30 men on the main road out of Eupen, towards Aachen.

These men of the 1st battalion took the opportunity to overwhelm the Austrians with an immediate charge, heedless of cost, directly at the patrol. Through this the regiment soon learned of Austrian main positions.

By 11:00 all three regiments were in vigorous contact with the enemy and runners had been exchanged between them, Lt. General Girardin establishing a command post at Looswitch on the Homburg-Aachen road.

By noon men of the Stafford's could see the houses of Eynatten, on the Eurpen-Aachen road. Casualties had already been moderate, due to the Stafford process of direct contact with any Austrian unit that showed its face.

A platoon of Maxim-men had spied a company of blue-coats in a corpse of brush off the road and had crawled to two sides of it, one slum dweller from the High Gas district of Birmingham disposing of five Czechs by stealthy bayonet in less than ten minutes, all within sight of the main company. Then the four Maxims opened up upon the corpse and fired non-stop for minutes, until a frantic white flag was raised by a wounded sergeant.

An Eton graduate, the Lieutenant commanding, distinguished himself by shooting down with a rifle at over 400 yards range, a squad of five bluecoats making for cover in the woods distant, when the platoon opened fire.

All along the road, the Austrian positions were swamped by bayonet and surprise, and ingenuity. Birmingham has reason to be proud of her city boys.

At the railway crossing at Eicheinzehnstelle, a complex bunker arrangement provided the Austrians with a seemingly impregnable position. But a team of twenty men volunteered to carry satchel charges upon the bunker. With Belgian artillery inaccurate and mortars short of ammo, the company commander had another team of twenty expose themselves to the withering fire of fourteen Maxims and a company of riflemen within the bunker complex and heave smoke grenades towards the position. Smoke also came in from the mortars and Belgian artillery, though much of it fell short into the British positions, seriously wounding a dozen men.

The twenty Brums were able to reach the slope to the bunker before they were seen by the Czechs inside. Half fell almost immediately but the rest reached the top of the bunker, where they heaved their charges within, exchanging shots with the Czechs who emerged to eject the intruders. Within seconds the bunker blossomed with smoke and fire and half of it disappeared as one of the charges took an explosives depot inside.

At Eynatten, by 2:00, the regiment was by-passing the now heavily defended town and leaving it as a problem for the Belgians behind them.

They found the countryside above Eynatten a hornet's nest of Maxim nests and snipers and solitary bunkers and pillboxes, each demanding its own individual solution.

By 5:00, the forward elements made contact with the right wing of the Warwick Light Infantry, which was in itself now in contact with the Canadians of Ontario's Essex Guards. All day long, the Canadians had blown out pill-box after pill-box and butchered the patrols and groups wandering in the hilly forests of northeast Belgium. Their method was simplicity itself, namely to heave satchel charges in or upon the pill-box until something cracked.

The Warwick's soon were competing with them for the number of pill-boxes knocked out, and soon prisoners were pouring back along

the roads and trails, trench lines and even a battalion HQ staff overrun.

Burning with a white heat, these three regiments seemed to be meeting this struggle as some sort of a personal challenge, a game, not a business at all. Losses were utterly disregarded as long as it did not impair the operation of the company or battalion, speed was of the essence.

And it was. For the Austrians were caught completely off-guard. Only twelve days ago these same men were disembarking at Antwerp, totally new to land-warfare. They were green as grass, for all their year and more of training in England. They were troops well-honed but untried. They would have to acquaint themselves with the area first, they thought.

Instead they have immediately pushed on into the heart of the Austrian defenses about Aachen, whole companies becoming lost but themselves destroying any and Austrians they find, regardless of the disparity of the unit sizes. As did a lost company of Canadians who blundered into an en-route battalion of reserves and promptly bayoneted the head of the column, throwing it into confusion and prompting the surrender of almost the entire column.

The Canadians were practising a type of warfare not seen on the European continent in thirty years: the ride of the six hundred do-or-die clan, which sometimes can sweep all before it.

Yesterday and today it did.

Yesterday morning a thin screen of Belgians masked the sleepy flank guards of Czechs and Austrians. Today the prisoner bag topped the 5,000 mark for the three regiments and the very badly depleted columns took "205" station on the Belgian German border.

Today the main Maastricht-Aachen road was reached by the Canadians and they reported capturing a Brigadier General, complete with staff, headed to organize the desperate Aachen defenses.

Today a whole new ball game was in progress with a whole new cast of characters. For today word has reached here, in this town packed with prisoners and wounded and staff personnel, that the 1st Canadian Division has assaulted the Austrian-Czech lines surrounding Maastricht, and that the 8th British Indian Division has captured a minor town called Bastogne, west of Luxembourg, in the Belgian Ardennes.

BRUSSELS (AP) British HQ here today reported that the 3rd and 41st Canadian divisions had successfully thrown back massive Czech assaults on the Aachen bulge, and the Hurtgen forest.

The hardest Czech assaults were between Eschweiler and Stolberg directly east of Aachen as well as Vicht and Zweifall to the southeast. The Hurtgen Forest assaults were quickly broken up by a counter-attack in force which managed to give the Canadians possession of the forest crossroads of Huckelhoven, approximately 32 Kilometres north of Aachen.

BRUSSELS (AP) Casualties were reported heavy by HQ here, as the news of increasing Austrian pressure on St. Vith came to our ears here. Increasing their commitment to the Belgian border front, the Austrians had through the incredibly dense and twisted Ardennes to reach Amel on the Bullingen-St. Vith road and

overran the post there. Subsequent British counter-attacks, principally with the 8th Indian division from the northeast, proved impossible due to lack of proper guides and maps. Nevertheless, the Welsh Fusilliers, Welsh Grays and elite Cameron Highlanders took the Maid-Schnikee ridge east of Amei despite fierce Czech counter-attacks, and were then able to oust the Czechs from the town and re-establish their positions in the midst of the forest. Some units of the Gimbrinnian Regiment of the 8th Indian, holding the area, had been unaware that they had been overrun, not having seen any Austrians in the dense forest during the entire struggle.

AN UNFORTUNATE NEWS BLACKOUT PREVENTS CONTINUATION OF OUR REPORTING OF ACTION IN NORTHWESTERN GERMANY. AS SOON AS SERVICE IS RESTORED THIS REPORT WILL BE CONTINUED. WATCH FOR IT IN OUR NEXT EXCITING ISSUE.

* *
 * DO NOT FORGET -- THE NEXT DEAD. *
 * LINE IS FRIDAY, 24 DECEMBER, THE *
 * DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS. *
 * *

FROM:

John Koning
 318 So. Bello Vista
 Youngstown, Ohio
 44509

FIE VIA AIR MAIL



Youngstown, Ohio
 44509
 44509
 44509