

# THE TACTFUL ASSASSIN

## THE FRONT PAGE

Remember: Short Deadline this time. Mail is the most sure fire way to get your orders in. E-mail seems to be working fairly well from school but is no good from home. And, Fax only is at school. Of course I'm NOT going to BE at school, I'm going to be in Victoria marking papers. So, Send Early! You can always revise what you've sent, but at least I'll have something to work with. Also of note, there are some address changes for some players.

I am really looking forward to summer. It will be very busy but the stress level should be manageable. I'll mark Provincial exams 'til 07/13, for which I'll earn about a Grand. We're off to my sister's wedding in Portland 07/20 which should be a great time. From there we boogie over to Colorado on our bikes for the BMW MOA National Rally from 07/27 to 07/30. We'll take a week looking for every twisty road in the Rockies on our way home. Five days at home and we're off for a week to a wilderness lake with a couple of friends from Germany. Finally about 08/17 we'll get to kick back and laze around our place for a while. But then there are two more BMW rallies on those last two weekends of August, so who knows. Should be a good time.

## DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE:

1995/07/17

J27 M03 A07 M12 J16 J17 S01 006 N10 D15

## GAME OPENINGS:

*Regular Diplomacy:* Have 6 (Wiedermeyer, Gesell, Sorfleet, Renken, O'Reilly, Milewski); Need 1. BRITISH SEASONS

*Regular Diplomacy:* Have 3 (Sorfleet, Wiedermeyer, Power); Need 4. AMERICAN SEASONS Wi&Sp; Su&Fa

*Gunboat Diplomacy:* Have 3; Need 4. This game will be played WITH press. BRITISH SEASONS Sp&Su; Fa&Wi

*Gunboat Diplomacy:* Have 2; Need 5. This game will be played WITH press. AMERICAN SEASONS Wi&Sp; Su&Fa [If no preference stated, I'll put you in the closest to full.]

*Mensa #49: You Can't Always Get What You Want* Have 2 (Renken, Valentine); Need 5. SEASONS TBD.

Jason asked about the seasons in #49; To Be Determined by the players. Berry will like Euro but I suspect the NA's will prefer NA seasons. Take a chance Jase.

## THE TIP OF THE ICICLE

I think that there are a number of different species of animals that play Dip by mail. First there is the Novice. This tends to be younger birds many of whom are college students. Their primary objective seems to be to not piss anybody off in the beginning. They then hope to find some nice alliance in the mid-game that will see them through to a survival in the end. It rarely works. The timid opening is like blood in the water to many more-experienced players who descend like sharks in a feeding frenzy. Advice: Send out the overtures to everybody offering wonderfulness all around, but make up your mind what you are going to do by the end of '01. Postponing a decision beyond then acts as an open invitation.

A related group is the Protectionists. They feel best swimming in a school, safety in numbers. 'Big fish eat little fish', so their objective is not to be a little fish. Gather in some dots, find some buddies and then settle in to picking on smaller fry or wounded neighbors. Survival of the species is paramount, some sort of win would be wonderful if it happens. The strategy is clear, and there is only one tactic: slow and steady wins the day. Advice: Don't be too predictable. A clever opponent can exploit a setting if your moves are obvious. You don't need to take unnecessary chances, but you should broaden your perspective.

Next we have a group of herbivores I call the Allies. They firmly believe the Dip Dictum: Two Against One Wins. They seek out an alliance with one (usually, perhaps with more) of their neighbors and plan all their strategy around the coordination of their moves. They want to stampede to a shared win from the outset. To stab will only enter their minds if it is a 100% sure thing, and even then they will only jump if they are so close to 18 that the path to victory is ironclad. These beasts are just as righteously indignant when they get stabbed. Their mode of operation is centered on trust. Advice: A tried and true method, but pick your partner well. Experience of others playing styles is very valuable. One must accept that sometimes a proper ally will not present himself and a rapid exit may ensue for you.

Then we have the Aggressor. These cats constantly assess the board and seek the best alternatives for their advancement. They will usually ally with some one to start with but will not hesitate to stab in the mid-game if there is even a 2 or 3 dot advantage to be gained. These predators usually have a fairly firm tactical background to support their adventures. The solo win is their objective but a shared win is acceptable if that is what can be achieved. Their nightmare is someone else gaining a solo; so they will jump to an alliance to stop a leader (lead group). Advice:

The Achilles heel is brazenness/overconfidence. Being too bold can push everyone else to gang up against you. Ones reputation can also mitigate against ones chances if this is the only style one adopts. Advice to others: Keep this player honest. They can be a great partner (strategically and tactically) if they never get an opportunity that they feel they can't pass up.

A sub-species is the Opportunist. They survey the scene and choose a course based primarily on its probability of success. Once a target has presented itself they aggressively pursue it as long as conditions remain the same. These omnivores do not purposefully lie to people but one dot tastes as good as another. They fully intend to be a good ally but if the wind starts to blow strongly in the other direction they will drop in for lunch. Any type of win will fill their belly and even a survival leaves no hunger pangs. Tactically they must be strong to survive but their long term perspective may be weaker. Advice: Avoid the temptation to jump ship when the first puff of wind blows up. Quick traitors are despised and to Building is a common reaction [they set their teeth and try to drag you down with them].

Ah, the Loose Cannon. These monkeys play a game. To win is not the objective, it's to have fun. Strategically these primates can go in any number of directions because what will give them Fun can change throughout the game. Often they will choose a course simply to see how it will work out. The Toady position is wholly acceptable because it gives a focus after the possibility of winning is gone. Advice: Avoid this approach in the opening. Fall back to it when other avenues are closed off, or announce it openly, eg. "Press: I'm doing this just cuz I want to see if . . ." Try not to do things JUST to piss people off. That reputation sticks for a long time and will certainly lead to many early exits.

## **LETTER BOMBS**

**Jason Wilke:** I'm glad to know someone out there agrees with me. Those damn smokers seem to be everywhere. I, too, am allergic to the smoke and it pisses me off when people smoke in public - especially in rental cars and hotel rooms and restaurants - since the stench lingers for months after the smokers leave. Businesses that are so worried about losing smokers by infringing on their rights should worry about losing the non-smokers by infringing on their eyes, noses and lungs!

**Ray Grib:** I read with interest your tirade against smokers. For the record: I'm a non-smoker too and I dislike being in close proximity to smokers. However, don't you think your pleas are a little extreme? People who smoke do derive pleasure from it and probably realize they are harming their health. If the guy on the next barstool was wolfing down a box of Twinkies, would you protest too? After all, he is eventually going to eat himself into a coronary that your tax/insurance dollars will pay for just as the smoker's cancer. I realize the Twinkie-eater isn't "blowing" Twinkies into your face and harming you, but do you really want the government to regulate what we humans choose to do to our bodies? After all, whether it be booze, cigarettes,

Twinkies, drugs, etc? I don't want some self-righteous government bastards telling me how to live my life. I know the risks and consequences of over-indulgence and what I choose to do to myself is nobodyelse's business. As for the smoky bars, diners, etc; don't patronize them! Any public business should be allowed to declare themselves smoking, non-smoking, or both and eventually supply and demand business philosophy should level out the playing field. In Canada's case for example, about 30% of all establishments will promote smoking. I realize that being around smokers can harm a non-smoker, so just get up and walk out! Just like if you don't like the program, change the channel, or don't rent the flick, etc. But please, don't encourage the government to rob us of more of our dwindling freedoms.

**ECY:** There are two arguments: In a confined space should one person be allowed to do an action that directly and negatively impacts another? and Should one be covered in the event of 'injury' when one has willingly carried out actions that are known to lead directly to that injury? In the former it is acceptable to have areas that are posted for that activity, just as there are nudist beaches. But this is like saying that we should have pools where pissing and pooping are allowed and others where it isn't. In the latter, an emphatic NO! If you drink and drive your insurance is null and void, you're on your own. If you smoke, you're on your own for health care. Not an infringement of a right. You can do it, just don't come crying when you get burned.

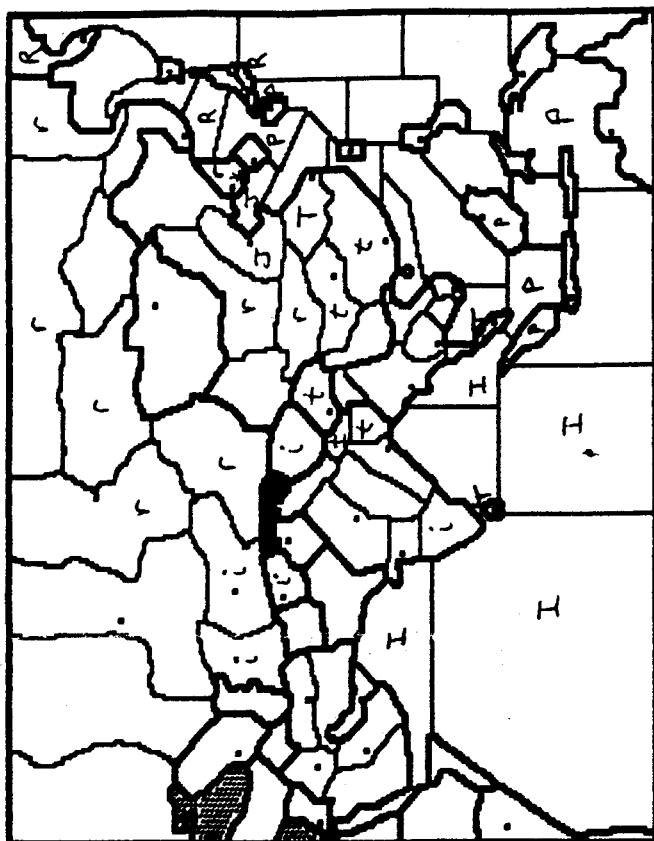
**Dennis Klein:** I agree that the use of cigarettes cause one of the biggest financial drains on our society and we'd all be much better off if they were eliminated. However, I feel that immediate and severe restrictions on cigarettes would produce a debacle like Prohibition. It will take a generation to continuously educate the population (especially the young) as to the horrors of tobacco. I also think it would be smart if cigarettes were taxed so that those revenues would go towards the cost of health care. US taxes on cigarettes (and alcohol and gasoline for that matter) are so ridiculously low for the amount of damage that people do under their influence. In a similar vein, for those motorcyclists who insist on their "right" not to wear a helmet, I would propose that the society in general then has no responsibility to support their mangled and brain-damaged bodies after their accidents.

**ECY:** Amen. You can ride without a helmet, but if you do, then no insurance and no support after your accident. I feel absolutely naked without my helmet and full leathers. I don't even want to go 1 mile down my road without them.

## **NINJISTICS**

No answers from last month so I'll leave it on the table.

1. Draw six line segments of equal length to form eight equilateral triangles, and do it two different ways.
2. A person either always answers truthfully, always answers falsely, or alternates true and false answers. How, in 2 questions, each answered by yes or no, can you determine whether they are a truther, a liar or an alternator?



**Moonlight Mile: 1994Beb03; SUMMER & FALL 1906**  
 Indo-China (Gautron) A Chu-Lha A Nep s A Chu-Lha  
 F Sha s JAP F Pek A Can-Chu A Han-Cam  
 A Ran-Dac F Mal-Kua F Cey sits on the pot.

Islam (Wilke) A Tkm-Sve A Tas s A Tkm-Sve  
 A Kab s A Tas A Him-Tib A Mod-Mad  
 F EIO-Tim F WIO-EIO F Ada-Kar  
 F Abs-WIO

Japan (McKee) F Pek s F Yel F Yel s F Pek  
 F Pyo (wc)-Man(d. ret->Seo, OTB)

Polynesia (Dousette) F TPT-AIS F Kys-Kyu  
 F Kar-Yel F Kar-Tim A Sum H A Bor H

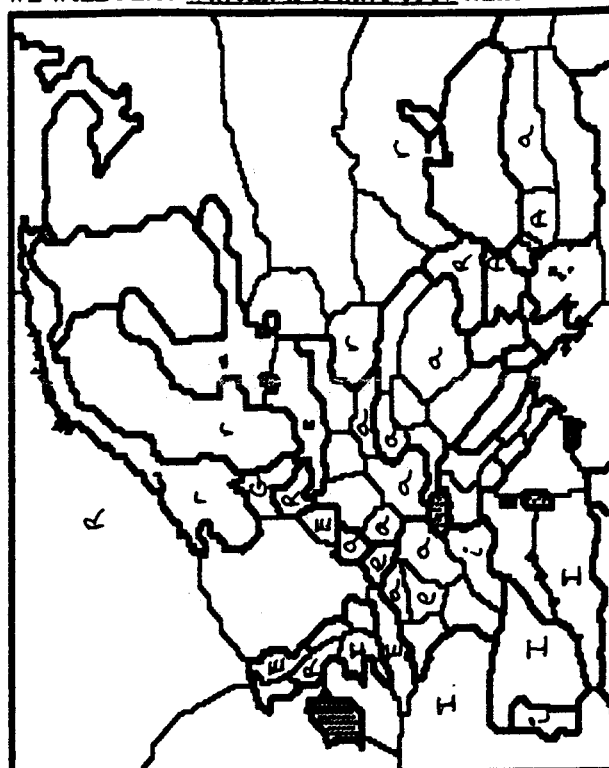
Russia (Reynolds) Retreats: A Tas-Nov; F Pyo(ec)-Jap.  
 A Man-Pyo F Jap s A Man-Pyo F Kyu-Tok  
 A Sze-Pek A Inn s A Sze-Pek F NPO-Kam  
 A Nov-Sve A CSI-Nov A Sin-Tas  
 A Kam-ESi A Mon-Kaz

Press: Rus-Islam: Now we'll see if your double digit strength is too much for others' tastes - and how far your rashness gets you.  
 Rus-InCh: Watch out. You could be next on Islam's blade.  
 ISL-ICH: What happened to my assistance?  
 ISL-ICH: The VC is 20. Wanna race?  
 Jap-Isl: I'm hanging. I just hope it isn't from a scaffold, or in my case, a yardarm!

# SUPPLY CENTRE STANDINGS FALL 1906

China(0)	Out	-0
Indochina(10)	Hom, Cey, Kua, Cal, Can, Sha, CHU, LHA	+2
Islam(10)	Hom, Pal, Cau, Ken, Bom, Del, Kab, TAS	+1
Japan(2)	Pek, Seo	-1
Polynesia(7)	Hom, Aus, Phi, Tai, KYU	+1
Russia(9)	Sve, Nov, Via, Isl, Mon, Pyo, Sap, Tok, KAM	-2

WE WILL PLAY WINTER & SPRING 1907 NEXT TIME



# Beggars Banquet: 1994CC: FALL 1906

Austria (Sorfleet) A Kie-Hol A Ruh s A Kie-Hol  
 A Bur-Pic A Mun-Bur A Tyr-Mun A Boh-Sil  
 A Vie-Boh A Ser-Bud F Con H A Ank H  
 F Bul(ec) H

England (McCabe) A Pic-Bel A Par H F Hol H(A)  
 F Edi-NoS F EngC s A Pic-Bel F Hol s F Hol

France (Schultz) A Gas H German (Wilke) F Sha-NoS

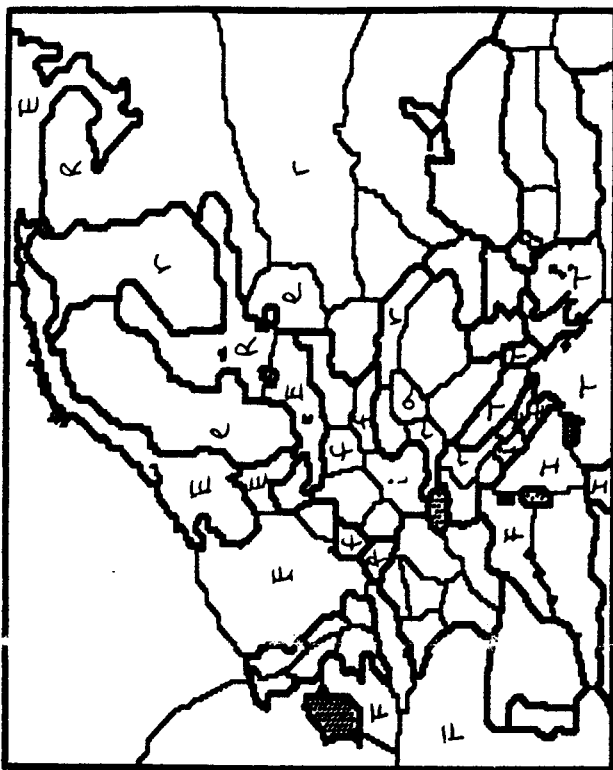
Italy (Marcionis) A Spa-Per F Mar-Spa(sc)  
 F IrS-Wal F MAO-EngC F WMod-MAO A Pie-Mar

Russia (Gesell) F NAO-Lpl F Bar-Nrg F Den-Hel  
 A Swe-Den A Nwy H A War H F Rum H  
 A Sev s F Rum

# SUPPLY CENTRE STANDINGS FALL 1906

Austria(12)	Hom, Ser, Gre, Bul, Mun, Tur, Kie, HOL	+1
England(5)	Lon, Edi, Bel, Bre, PAR	-0
France(0)	Out	-1
Germany(1)	Ber	+0
Italy(7)	Hom, Tun, Mar, Spa, POR	+1
Russia(9)	Hom, Rum, Swe, Nwy, Den, LPL	+1

WE WILL PLAY WINTER & SPRING 1907 NEXT TIME



#### Rock and a Hard Place: 1993 Grb32: SPRING 1906

Austria (Dr. Watson) A Vie s RUS A Tyr  
 England (Arm) A Den-Swe F Bal & F Ska s A Den-Swe  
A Liv-StP F Bar & F Nwy s A Liv-StP F NoS s F Nwy  
 France (Spamster) F MAO-IrS F Spa(sc)-MAO  
 F Mar-Gol A Bur-Bel A Ruh-Hol  
 A Pru-Ber A Sil s A Pru-Ber  
 Italy (S. Spiff) Retreat: A Tyr-Mun. Remove: A Pie.  
F TyS-Nap F Tun-Ion F Nap-Apu(Anni)  
 A Mun H A Ven-Rom  
 Russia (Hillary C.) Build: A Moscow. A Swe-Nwy(Anni)  
F StP & A Fla s A Swe-Nwy A Mos & F GoB s F StP  
 A Bud-Gal A Tri-Ven A Tyr s A Tri-Ven  
 Turkey (Wheeler Dealer) F Aeg & F Alb s F Ion  
 F Adr s RUS A Tri-Ven

A Gre-Nap F Ion c A Gre-Nap A Apu s A Gre-Nap  
 Press: Arm-Spam: As you've got Warsaw by now, please support my army (in Lva or StP) to Mos as per you last press. 1907 will be a very good year for S-A-S.

Arm-Spiff: Hang in there. Both Spam and I will be in a much better position to directly help you in 1907.

Spam-Arm: Your stab attempt a few turns ago was very poorly done. Here, let an expert show you how it is done. Please continue with your attack on Russia.

Spam-Spiff: My Fleet in the GoL is there to help you against Turkey. More units will be on their way next turn. Please don't be angry about me turning on Arm, but he has presented an opening I just couldn't pass by. As far as I'm concerned, Spam & Spiff are allies forever.

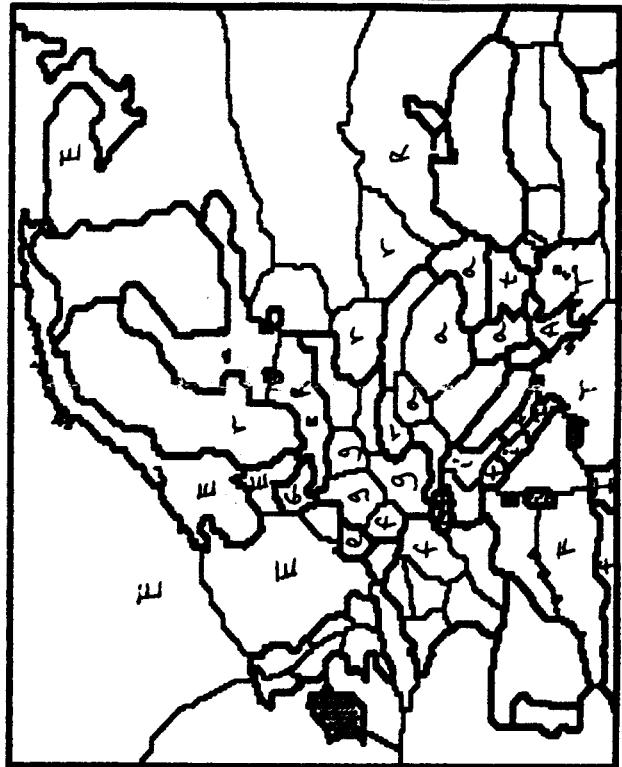
Spam-Hill: Hmm, BDSL (BritDotSuckingLeach) just don't sound as good as "The Spammer!". But feel free to submit more suggestions.

Spiff-Arm: Happy hunting in the north. Ruskies are in season with no catch limit.

Spiff-Spam: I will continue to focus on containing the Turk until pressure can be brought to bear on him from the north. To do this I'll need your maximum assistance. Fill in any spaces that I vacate.

Spiff-Arm&Spammer: I'm pleased to see our reconciliation. Our best chance for success lies within a strong S.A.S. alliance. I too am back on side.

WE WILL PLAY SUMMER & FALL 1906 NEXT TIME



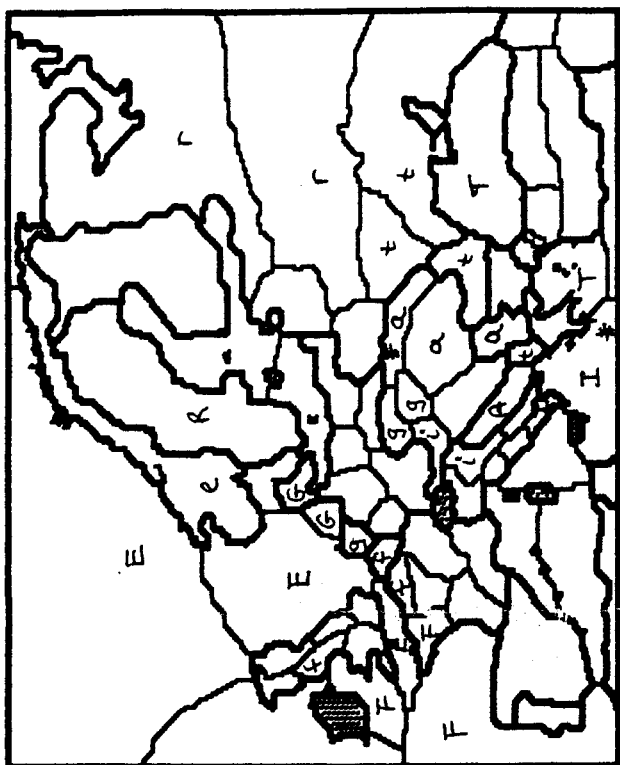
#### Slipping Away: 1994 ADrb32: FALL 1903

Austria: A Vie-Gal A Rum s A Vie-Gal  
 F Gre s TUR F Ion A Ser s A Rum A Bud s A Rum  
 England: F Nwy-StP F Nrg-Nwy F Edi-Nrg  
 F NoS-Ska F Bel-NoS A Hol s FRE A Ruh  
 France: A Spa-NAI F WMed c A Spa-NAI  
A Bur-Mun A Tus-Rom A Ruh s ENG A Hol-Kie  
 Germany: A Ber s A Mun A Kie s F Den  
A Mun s A Kie F Den s A Kie  
 Italy: A Ven s A Rom  
F Tun-Ion F Nap-Apu A Rom s F Nap-Apu  
 Russia: Retreat: F Rum->Sev.  
F Sev-Rum A Ukr s F Sev-Rum A Gal-Bel  
A Swe-Den F Bal s A Swe-Den A War-Gal  
 Turkey: A Aeg-Nap F Ion s A Apu-Nap  
 F Aeg s A Bul A Bul s RUS A Ukr-Rum

#### SUPPLY CENTRE STANDINGS FALL 1903:

Austria(6)	Hom, Ser, Gre, RUM	+1
England(7)	Hom, Bel, Hol, Nwy, STP	+1
France(5)	Hom, Por, Spa	+0
Germany(4)	Hom, Den	+0
Italy(4)	Hom, Tun	+0
Russia(4)	Mos, War, Sev, Swe	-2
Turkey(4)	Hom, Bul	+0

WE WILL PLAY WINTER & SPRING 1904 NEXT TIME



**Blinded By Rainbows; 1994CD; M#47; SPRING 1903**  
 Austria (Morris) NMR Third party orders: A Ser-Tri  
 A Vie-Gal A Bud s A Vie-Gal F Tri-Adr

England (Lewis) F NoS s F EngC F EngC s F NoS  
 A Nwy s GER F Den-Swe F Nrg s A Nwy

France (Burns) Build: F Brest.  
 A Gas-Lp1 F MAO & F IrS c A Gas-Lp1  
 F Bre s F MAO A Bel H A Pic s A Bel

Germany (Byrne) F Hel-NoS F Den s F Hel-NoS  
 A Boh-Vie A Mun-Boh A Hel H

Italy (Belfay) Build: F Naples. A Tyr s GER A Boh-Vie  
 F Tun-Ion F Nap s F Tun-Ion A Ven-Tri

Russia (Grib) A Ukr-Mos A StP s F Swe-Nvy  
A Gal-Bud(d. re->Sil,War,OTB) F Swe-Nvy

Turkey (Tomlinson) Build: F Smyrna, A Constantinople.  
 A Rum-Ukr A Sev s A Rum-Ukr A Con-Rum  
 F Bla c A Con-Rum A Alb s AUS F Tri F Smy-Aeg  
F Ion H(d. re->TyS, Apu, Gre, EMed, OTB)

Press: Fra-Itl: What's going on down there?

Fra-Eng: Sorry for just dropping in on you, old chap.

Ber-World: I am sorry that my correspondence has been so weak lately, but I have been having some health problems. Due to them, Frau Kaiser will be acting as regent for the next month or two. Since Frau Kaiser has (A) a brain the size of a planet, and (B) a life, she is not exactly whelmed by this promotion. Therefore, anybody who wants me to do

something (or not do something) should write short, LEGIBLE, notes; being very clear about what you want, i.e. move fleet Den to Swe; or, Do not move army Bel to Pic; or whatever. I am truly sorry for the inconvenience.

E-R: What's up?

E-G: Your first letter was very interesting.

E-AH: I hear you make 7-10 splits 9 out of 10 times.

E-T: Have you seen "True Lies"?

E-I: It's difficult to choose!

E-F: Why indeed?

Rus-Eng: Hope you can tread water, Jimbol

Rus-Tur: You'll regret your choice, Denise.

Rus-AH: Woof! Woof!

Rus-Ger: Obviously you enjoy Viennese opera!

Rus-Itl: Denise likes cats - typical woman.

Rus-Fra: Very nice, it's just a matter of time now.

**WE WILL PLAY SUMMER & FALL 1903 NEXT TIME**

*It must be June!*



"Mr. Osborne, may I be excused? My brain is full."

*Young*

**COVERTIS PERSONAE**

<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CITY STATE CODE</u>
Acheson	Robert	15715 - 92 Avenue	Edmonton, AB, T5R 5C5
Andruschak	Harry C	PO Box 5309	Torrance, CA, 90510-5309
Baty	Ralph	4551 Pauling Avenue	San Diego, CA, 92122
Bellay	Roger	8256 Beehive Circle	Liverpool, NY, 13090
Burns	Frank NB	83 Sally Drive	South Windsor, CT, 06074
Byrne	Charles	3712 Lockwood Lane	Annandale, VA, 22003
Davis	Fred, Jr	3210-K Wheaton Way	Ellicott City, MD, 21043-4254
Dousette	Tony	530-A Bruton Bends	Richardson, TX, 75081
Gaddy	Stephen	211 Irvin Hall	University Park, PA, 16802
Gaughan	Pete	1236 Detroit Avenue #7	Concord, CA, 94520-3651
Gautron	Claude NB	20475 - 120 B Avenue	Maple Ridge, BC, V2X 1A9
Gesell	Chris	628 Furby Street	Winnipeg, MB, R3B 2W2
Glasgow	Stephen	32009 Pendley	Willowick, OH, 44095
Gray	Darrin NB	3274 West 15th Avenue	Vancouver, BC, V6K 3A9
Grib	Raymond	2424 Penton Court	Deltona, FL, 32725
Grose	Jim	3-1313 Wellington St	Ottawa, ON, K1Y 3B1
Kendter	Lee A	1503 Pilgrim Lane	Quakertown, PA, 18951
Kent	Doug	6151 Royalton Drive	Dallas, TX, 75230
Ketola	Tom	Martinkatu 12 as. 8	FIN - 20810 Turku, Finland
Klein	Dennis	2438 South 56th Court	Cicero, IL, 60650-2720
Lawrie	Doug	61 Wharton Blvd	Winnipeg, MB, R2Y 0S9
Lewis	Jim	P O Box 2222	SEPA, PA, 19399
Lesco	Robert	49 Parkside Dr.	Brampton, ON, L6Y 2H1
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McKee	Brent	901 Ave. T. North	Saskatoon, SK, S7L 3B9
Marcinonis	Al	324 North Clairmont Ave	Springfield, OH, 45503-4845
Milewski	Paul	4154 Allendale Drive, Apt 2	Cincinnati, OH, 45209-1439
Morris	Michael	3877 Lake Run Blvd	Stow, OH, 44224
O'Reilly	Philip	1520 Regents Place	Victoria, BC, V8S 1Y4
Ozog	Eric	P.O. Box 1138	Granite Falls, WA, 98252
Paulson	Gerry	10236 Fulton Road	Edmonton, AB, T6A 3T6
Peery	Larry	PO Box #620399	San Diego, CA, 92162
Power	John	1245 Cortlandt Street	Houston, TX, 77008
Renken	Berry	van Nootenstraat 6	7981 DG Diever, the Netherlands
Reynolds	Phil	2896 Oak Street	Sarasota, FL, 34237
Schultz	Randall Lee	HC 74 Box 4136	Mayer, AZ, 86333-9504
Slaminko	Kate	14708 56th Avenue S.	Tukwila, WA, 98168
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White	Cai	1 Turnberry Ave.	Toronto, ON, M6N 1P6
Wiedermeyer	Fred	4311 76th Avenue	Edmonton, AB, T6B 2H7
Wilke	Jason	2042 Dalton Avenue	Deltona, FL, 32725
Wilson	Graham	22 Magwood Court	Toronto, ON, M6S 2M5
Wilson	Kevin	373 Gateford Drive	Ballwin, MO, 63021-8345
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