

Right here from the sun and fun capital of Ohio, we bring you ... no not that, just issue 44 of this zine, but you can always dream ... It is produced by Steve Heinowski, 1630 W28th St., Lorain, Ohio 44052, and contains 97% of the following information:

1978 CC Spring 1911

E(Hardisty) f cly-nwg, a lpl-yor, f eng-nao, f bal-nth, a kie-den(f bal s), a ber-??order illegible-hold, a ruh s(F)a mun  
F(Kelly) f mao-h; a mun s(E)a ber, a bur-mar(a gas s)  
I(Flory) f con-bla, a bul-con(f aeg s), a gal-sil(a boh, wxy s), a tyo sa gal(improper), a ven-pie, f rom-tyr, f nap-ion, f spa(sc)-h(f por s), a run-sev  
R(White) a pru-war, a sil s(E)a ruh-mun\*retreat-pru,otb; a nwy-stp, a swe-nwy, a syr-say a ank s), a ara-sev  
T(Alden) f smy-aeg\*Retreat-and,otb

1978 HJ Winter 1908 Separation asked for / A/H concession = 1 yes, 1 no, 2 abstain

A(Caruso) = build a tri; E(Service) = even; R(Smyth) = build a sev; T(White) = lose a nap

A a = tyo, ruh, par, rom, bal, aar, rum, gal, tri; f = gre, tun, ion, aar

E a = pie, bal; f = wmd, tyr, bre, kie, bal, den, nao, nth, hol

R a = swe, fin, ber, ukr, war, sev; f = ank, nwy

T = sa = ---; f = naf, bla

1. An EAR draw has been proposed; vote with the next issue

1978 IN W/Spring 1911

((W)) A(Henry) = build a hui; F(Hardisty) = remove f tun; I(Snodgrass) = build f nap

A(Henry) a run-bul(a ser, a gre s), a bul-run, a tri-h, f alb sa gre

E(Caruso) f eng-bre(f mao s), f wmd s(I)f tyr-tun(nao), f spa(sc) s(G)a bur-mar, f nwy-nth,

a liv-war(a pru s), a stp-mos, f bal-den

F(Hardisty) a war-pie, a gas-mun(improper), a bre-pie(a par s)

G(Rohde) a bur-mar, a pie-par\*annihilated, a ruh-bur(a mun s), f bal-h

I(Snodgrass) a ven-h, f nap-ion(f tyr s)

R(NMR) a = ukr, mos, war\*Retreat

T(Salsberger) a bul-h(f bla s), a ank-con, f ion-gre\*retreat = multi

Press: (London) No fool -- but you could have had your cake and eaten it too if you weren't so greedy. Next you lose sev.

(Vienna) Quantum Abutere patientia nostra, o sultanberger?

1978 KH Winter 1907 Separation called for

F(Kevern) = build a par, f bre; G(Eltazar) = remove a boh; I(Bogges) = remove f ion;

R(Caruso\*\*\*) = R a ara-syr, build a mos, a stp; T(Henry) = even

1. Note: Russian did have a retreat option for a ara, which was a ara-syr.

2. A F-R draw has been proposed; vote with the next issue.

F a = bur, ven, pie, par; f = nwg, hol, bal, tyr, tun, wmd, bre

G a = bar, gal, tyo, mun; f = swe

I a = rom, nap

R a = vie, tri, bud, ukr, war, syr, mos, stp; f = sev, bla, edi

T a = arm; f = ank, con, bul(se), gre

1979 AP W/Spring 1907

W: G(Byrne) = build a mun; R(Salsberger) = was even, no removal needed

A(Bogges) a gal s(G)a war; a tyo s(G)a mun, a boh-sil, a vie-boh, f tri-h

E(Eltazar) f nth-nwg, a ruh-mun, a bel-ruh, a nwy-stp, f naf-wmd, f mao s(F)f por-spa(nc)NSO  
F GAS S(F)f par-spa(nc)\*retreat-bre,otb

F(Kevern) a bur s(E)a ruh-mun, f por s(E)f mao

G(Byrne) a war s(A)a boh-sil, a mun s(A)a boh-sil

1979 AP (continued)

44-2

I(Eich) a ven-pis, a mar-gas(a spa s), f lyo sa spa, f mao-mao, f tun-naf  
R(Sulsberger) a pru-bar, a stp-fin, f den-swe, f kie-den, a mos-stp(a liv s)  
T(Fassio) a sev-mos(a ukr s), a rum-sev, f bla-con, f aeg-icu, f end-aeg

Press: (Turkey) to E: Sorry for sowing so nasty last press, old bean. Must maintain that Islamic ferocity, you know. OK? Good ... now, unless you have the IQ of a toaster, please leave the Southern waters. to F: Are you still around Pierre? to A: Hope your train arrived in SIL on time, oh Archduke of the Century. to I: Pope Carl, somebody must be saying Quantum novenas for you somewhere -- your defense is an inspiration to all. to R: Rumors from the Human Rights Committee say your Gov't is torturing Air Force appointees at a sinister place called "Whitey's Exercise Farm". Any truth to these allegations? to G: Sure wish I could double the size of my ... uh ... units, like you did.

(Note on the Krelia door) It's all yours, Faz. The key's under the mat and vodka in the cellar. Moscow! Ptuh! On my way to London to see the cricket matches. Closest thing to baseball this side of the Atlantic. Yours, the Climbing Hill Clown.

(Italy) to E: Waitout for what? Everything seems fine. to A,T,&G: (far from the Pope) I know what you epeople are like, but since you're my allies, I absolve you of all sins. Matter of fact, I absolve you in advance for this weekend. Enjoy yourselves, it's on the house.

(Dad (or Schlitz) ) to T: Q. What political slogan comes to mind when you see an average-looking wildebeast standing next to a man laying ceramic tile? A. "Typical gnu and a tiler, too."

(Man) to R: Never underestimate the power of the pen! to Bud: Now that I've supported you, could we please get on a first name basis? to Con: Since you refuse to let me die in peace, my tremendous force of 2 is at yours and Aust's disposal. to Eng: You know you're picking on the wrong person -- didn't anyone ever warn you about me!!

((Lorain)) We herald the return of the Prince of Puns.

1979 AV Spring 1906

E(Byrne) a edi-den(f nth e) f lpl-wal, f lon-eng(f bre s), f spa-mao(improper), f swe-  
unorderd

F(Bogges) a pie-tus, a mar-pis, f tun-tyr

G(Radisill) a mun-bar(a ruh s), f den sa kie\*R-hel, aka(a kie s), f eng s (no listing)\*R-multi

I(Alden) f rom-tyr(f nap s)

R(Rohde) f nwy-h, a stp-h, f bal s(E)a edi-den, a bar-kie, a vie-tyo, a sil-mun(a boh s)

T(Ragsdale) a tri-bud(a ser s), f adr-tri(a ven s), f any-con, f ion-apu, f aeg-icu(f gre s)

Press: (England) to G: I hope you didn't think I bought that story. to F: Ms Byrne -- how about Kathy! to R: Boy did I screw up!

1. A R/T draw has been proposed. Vote with the next issue.

1979 CA Fall 1905

E(Brophy, M) a gas-spa, a nwy-stp, f nth-eng, f nwg-owy, f swe-nwy, f naf-tun(f wmd s)

A(White) f con-bul(sc)(a rum s), a sev-mos

G(Hardisty) f liv s(E)a nwy-stp, a sil-war, a gal-vie, a boh-tyo(a mun s), a kie-ruh, a mar-h  
a bur sa mar

I(Burnett) f mao-eng, a pie-mar(f spa(sc) s, f lyo s), f tyr-tun, a tyo-vie, a vie-bud(a tris  
f bul(sc)-con(f aeg s)

R(NMR) a = ukr, ser, fin

T(NMR) f = bla, any

A sev, con, mos, rum

E Home + bre, par, swe, nwy, tun, stp

G Home + bel, den, hol, mar, war

I Home + spa, tri, gre, por, vie, bal, bud

R ser

T ank, any

4 no place to build

9 build 2

8 even

10 even

1 keep 1

2 even

1979 CB Spring 1905 E/F/T = 2 yes, 1 no, 2 abstain, 1 NMR

443

A(Eich) a ser-rum(a bud s), a tri-ser, a vie-gal  
E(Alden) f nth-bel, f nwy-bar, f edi-nwg, a den-kie, f ber-bal, f lon-nth, a bel-ruh,  
f swe-bot, a lpl-edi  
F(Henry) a mun-tyo, a bur-mun, a par-gas, a pie-tus, f mar-lyo, f wmd-tyr, f ion-apu(f and<sup>s</sup>)  
f(CD) a tus, a ven  
R(Burnett) a gal-sil(a boh s)  
T(Rudisill) f any-end, a con-bul(f aeg s), a gre-ser, a rum-galR\*\*ukr,otb, a ank-sev(f bla c),  
a mos-stp

Press: (Paris) Pleas for aid from the Episcopalian Communim in Moscow have been forwarded to King Brian for action.

1979 CL Winter 1904 Correct: E could retreat a den-kie

E(Snodgrass) = retreat a den-kie, lose f irs; F(Henry) = build a war; G(Stockery) = remove a bel; I(Kevern) = build f rom, a ven; R(Byrne) = build a war, a mos, f stp(nc)

1980 N Fall 1903 Pope Trounces Trieste

A(Fassio) f bul(sc)-h, a ser sa rum, a gal-ukr(a rum s), a sil s(G)a pru-war, a pie s(G)F  
a spa-mar(nso)  
E(Ragadale) f nwy-swe, a bel-hol(f nth s, f hel s), f eng s(F)a pic-bel, f stp(nc)-unordered  
F(Macleod) /A/gas/A/has a spa, f mao sa gas(nsu), a pic-bel, a bur-ruh, a mar-pie  
G(Kevern) f den-nth, a mun-kie, a hol-kie\*annihilated, a ruh-bel, a pru-war  
I(Coughlan) a tyo-tri, a naf-spa(f wmd c), f aeg s(A)f bul(sc)  
R(Carusio) a sev-mos(a liv s), a ara-sev, f swe-nwy  
T(Eich) a any-ara(f bla s), f con-ank

A gre,ser,bul,rum,bud,vie	6 even
E Home + nwy,stp,hol	6 even
F Home + spa,por,bel	6 build 1
G Home + den,war	5 build 1
I Home + tun,tri	5 build 1
R mos,sev,swe	3 remove 1
T Home	3 even

Press: (Voenna) Archduke Fasdorf would've supported another country this turn, too; but faced with lack of support himself, has prudently decided to wait 'til '04. to T: No hostile action on you, as promised. to I: What's this I hear from another country about you "getting even" for Venice? Don't try anything funny. Speaking of funny, I hear Russia is still being considered a potent force in this game. Now that's funny! He could be if the master puppeteer (England) will float him a loan into Den and StP. to E: Thing is, how generous are you, Rick? to F: Remember the last time you Gauls tried crap with the Romans? 'valon Hill even made a game about it. Vercingetorix versus Julius Coughlaunus, I think. (Rome) Italy's bold attempt to place yet another Italian on a European throne (Faz was our first success) seems doomed to failure in Russia because of opposition by the old Tzar, the Germans, and the Bourne. But Italy always rewards her friends so "Enrico Caruso" come on home to Italia! Perhaps we'll make you an opera star or something if our political plans for you collapse.

(Italy) to E: What kind of cheapskate are you? John Kador is investing the bulk of his fortune in EMUs (3043 at last count) and you don't give him anything (he's only got \$254, have mercy) You could give him a title like "Little John", who was also a "stout" supporter of the true-blue English. to A: Got tired of the mountains, thought I'd try the seacoast. to KB,AS,DW: Italy's treasure trove is running dry but despair not! Each of you will receive a xerox of a copy of a very old, ancient and rare postcard. An Eichelberger original. to BB and TB: You call 25 EMUs and 100 EMUs an investment? I call it a joke! Be serious!

NEW GAME becomes 1980 HQ

1. I have moves on file for A-E-F-G-T. Both I and R should take note.  
The Spring 01 move is due next ish.

Bids:	Buy/Sell	Trade
A - 100/1.50JK	A - xxxxxxx	JK 100R/E070
100/1.00DW	E - 900 unsold	100T/G021
E - xxxxxxx	F - 100 unsold	100T/E014
F - 100/0.95/FO	G - 400 unsold	100T/I015
G - 100/0.75/FO	I - xxxxxxx	KB 200E/A203
I - 100/1.00/DW	R - 200 unsold	200F/I155
R - xxxxxxx	T - 200 unsold	WB 80T/E011
T - xxxxxxx		JA no action
		WB 320R/E224
		AS 400R/E280
		TB abstain
		FO abstain
		DW 400R/E280
		TH No action
		BB No action

1. It has been proposed that something be done to generate some income for the players. This idea was proposed. Players would receive an income based upon the # of MUs they hold times the quantity (1 cent X the number of SCs owned). For example a six-center country in which you hold 1,000MUs would generate (1,000 X \$0.06) \$60. Note that if this is done I would implement an interest rate of "0.06" for any unused money held by a player. You should all let me know with your next turn how you feel about this

	A	E	F	G	I	R	T	\$
JA	0400	1665	1555	1300	0465	0750	1150	1672
BB	2402	1230	0900	1497	0960	1101	-----	0992
WB	1426	0853	1321	1040	1096	0550	-----	2280
TB	0450	1816	1705	1400	1074	1710	0667	0571
KB	2103	0500	1089	-----	3072	1219	-----	0942
TH	1000	1300	1680	0678	1482	1944	0500	0155
JK	1131	3627	1000	1293	0315	1063	0070	0094
FO	1300	1360	1700	1878	0800	0630	1195	0042
AS	2082	1480	-----	2000	2503	0468	-----	0141
DW	1805	1228	0888	0700	2740	0870	-----	0547

Note: These, as usual, are tentative, pending corrections. If you have any, just write -- but not all at once, please...

Note: an example of the ~~max~~ \$0.01/SC income would yield JA \$463 for the 1904 year - ie he would get it with the Winter turn.

WS&IM Hardisty/Caruso: John did not have sufficient time, due to the strange mailing time to NYC to get his "zine" turn back. It will be handled as the interzine turn for next ish.

#### GAME OPENINGS

1. Regular Dip (one only) 3 in, 4 openings, 1 "I don't know"
2. Fast Dip (two-week deadlines): 2 openings  
(Hm, it would seem that each time I'm ready to hang it up, someone else joins. so I will hold the game open for another turn or so.
4. AREA rated Dip - open field

\*\*\*\* 5. I am taking an interest poll for a FANTASY GAME. Interested parties should let me know, whenever they can. --send NO money!-- If started I will be using a system similar, if not exactly like DI. Anyone wishing to retain their DII character should let me know WELL in advance as some ((a lot in others)) conversation will have to be done.

Entered: Stockert(?).

#### END GAME COMMENTS:

1979 AO

(Dave White) This wasn't the way this game was supposed to go! I found myself in reversed positions with John Caruso from the way we were in 1978AB, which I won as Austria. John ran into problems early with what (now) appeared to be an iron-clad R/T alliance. To top things off, Canniff's early replacement by Hardisty when the triumvirate of Faz, Brownfield, and Hardisty had just copped a 3-way draw in another game did him in. I got off to a fast start combined with England(Henry) to destroy dougie Fuller. The satisfaction was short-lived though as Henry and Faz combined, each grabbing one end of Germany and making a wish. It was totally unexpected. I took an all-or-nothing gamble going with Henry to stab Faz and got stabbed myself, ending up with nothing. Also complicating matters was the fact that Faz was in Beaumont on a "work" study program and we had the chance to meet one another. It was vividly apparent that we couldn't trust each other! Congratulations to Faz and Bill for an excellent R/T alliance. I still think Decker should have won ((me too))

(Cliff Hardisty) to Mark and Bill, congrats on your win. to Lu and Dave, maybe we'll be lucky next time. to all, thanks for a very enjoyable game.

(Lu Henry) We'll meet again, don't know where, don't know when, but I'm sure we'll meet some bright and sunny day.

(Faz) I enjoyed the game, although some feelings appeared bruised in an instance or two. For just a game, Diplomacy brings out lots of emotion in people, myself included. I'd like to thank loyal ally Wm. Brownfield, and Dave and Cliff for helping me, too. I hope Lu doesn't sic Hans or me, for I enjoy his (Lu's) Diplomacy company too, believe it or not. Above all, I hope John didn't take me for a stab-happy fiend after the early years. I like top play, and I liked the guys in this one. Too bad we all couldn't have won in Winter '00 ... Bill Brownfield finishes 2nd in the nice-guy-of-Diplomacy contest in my book. No one can out-do Don Hunter for that kudo.

(GM) Game will be processed as non-verified. I'm going to miss having a game that could 9 times out of 10 be done before that twilight period from due date onward -- it helped.

(Abd-ein-sji) to Faz: May you spend the rest of your life as a 2nd Lt.

1978 CD

(Lu Henry) My thanks to Dave Rohde (who is always a fine pbm opponent in Tre & Sq Ldr.) for propping me up to the end.

(John Kevern) First, I would like to take care of the thank yous. Tanks Steve for giving me a country ready for the scrap pile. Thanks to John and Rich for isolating me and letting me stay in the game knowing full well that sooner or later I would turn on one of them. Thanks Dave for your help and cooperation. Thanks Ron for just putting up the good fight I know you are capable of doing. Thanks to all of you for letting the draw pass uncontested. Since I was at the point where I had to stab either John or Dave, both having been a great help to me, this was the only way out. Now the question of whom I was stabbing is known only to Steve and myself. I won't tell and he shouldn't.

1976JG

(John Kador) As one of the two original players in this old game, I can, with some effort, recall the early days of 1976JG. Poking through the haze I recall friendly relations with England throughout the game. Austria stabbed me in Fall '02 after I rebuked his attempt to form a cross-game alliance. David Meuth his name was and we were in another game together. I told him I didn't work that way. So he stabbed me. With my help, one lone Russian unit managed to be quite a pain in his side for a long time. Actually, most of the drama in the game came with England's growth to 15 or 16. I was anxious to end the game at that point (maybe three game years ago), but he had made a commitment to Germany and he was going to keep it. Germany was to come in second before me. I believe Randolph might have taken the three more game years to whittle me down to secure that end had Germany not screwed up with NMRs. But I believed I deserved second place and I argued forcefully for it. That went back and forth about six times before Randolph saw it my way. Then he asked for 2 of my centers in the bargain! Why not? I came in second and the game is over. I'd like to congratulate Randolph for a good game, but in all conscience (and I don't think he'd agree with me), the competition in this game was poor. I'm proud that throughout the game, E and T never fought over a center and never lied to each other.

(Randolph Smyth) This was one of the more interesting postal games I've ever played in; I got to use some tactical resources that I've never used before, resulting in my 1st ever victory as E. The game got off to a good(?) start with a G alliance, since both F & R proved unreliable and dropped out within a few game years. Meanwhile the original I embarked on an interesting, but not very smart northern campaign against G, occupying tyo, bih, & sil. Unfortunately for him G had no other enemies and never lost a home center to this pressure. I loved it because nominal G diversions allowed me to get the jump on R, then F, while G himself went nowhere. The southeast wasn't moving either -- I believe A (with some I help) was fighting T/R.

At this point, TMM folded, and the game went into limbo for almost a year before Steve picked it up. John Kador(T) and I were the only players to survive the stay in orphanage ((+EV, DM)) so we were playing a whole new game. Oddly I thought the replacements were all better players than their original counterparts, yet within another year my position had really taken off. This was due mostly to a loyal new G ally, and waning I interest in attacking him. R was driven from his home centers, then F collapsed quickly as well. I was able to grab most of the gains myself as G had agreed to a second place finish. Meanwhile A/I vs T/R continued,

providing no opposition.

It wasn't until I swept into the Med. and G attacked A that they realized they were next. The entire southeast combined against us, but it was too little too late.

Resistance stiffened against G and I became determined not to let a last minute surprise deprive me of victory. I set up a huge block of "hostage centers" -- all were German but under firm E control. G's cooperation was then assured and I could always fall back on those centers to carry me to a win. I had plans to continue this strategy, ceding nap, ven, and turn to G. Unfortunately, Tom's interest seemed to drift. When the letters stopped coming and a few NMRs crept in, I took the hostages permanently to win ahead of schedule. (I believe the capture of 9 centers in a single game year may be a hobby record). My particular thanks to Tom for making the win effortless, and congratulations to John who stuck with the game for 4 years to take a convincing 2nd place. Lest we forget, the game might still be in orphanage if not for Steve GMing it to completion (with never an err that I can remember). That and the long deadlines ((4 weeks)) have made Ter-ran my favorite "playing" zine in the US. A final note of thanks to the other Ter-ran opponents who made the best of some pretty poor standby positions, and made some facets of the game interesting until the final season.

## PLAYER NOTES

### 1. Player Board -- About time! by: Kathy Byrne

I have been an active Diplomacy player for over a year and a half, and during that time I found myself in the position of needing a place to go with a problem in one of my games. In all honesty, there is no where to go.

If you have a problem, forget the publishers; there seems to be a code of ethics among them that dictates they back one another. No one wants to get involved in anyone else's zine's problems. Each publisher feels a guy can run his zine however he chooses. Legitimate complain by players are put down as "the GM is always right".

In my case I managed to find a few GMs who would listen and one, Lee Kendter Sr., went out of his way to help me. In no way, however, would I suggest everyone writing to Lee; he is not the ombudsman, and he hasn't the time to help all of us. (Jerry Jones is another good listener and problem solver, forever bothered by our problems.

It is about time that we the players join together and try to help each other out. If we unite, we have a glimmer of hope, that a publisher will listen. As it is now, if 4 players have legitimate complaints in the same game/zine, no one will listen. If we band together I don't see how publishers can refuse, at least, to listen to our side.

What is becoming the current player-solution? PROTEST RESIGNATIONS! I was and am as guilty as the rest of you when it comes to protest resignations. I do not condone resignations nor NMRing out as a form of complaint; but I found no solution to the problem I was having with a GM and therefore decided the only way to avoid the hassles was to resign. Another player in that game, who was also having problems, resigned with me. A third player just never sent in orders again. A full 7-player game now had 3 new players in 1903. Could this have been avoided? If we had been able to find someone who could help, at least listen, or maybe speak to our GM, it might have helped.

I, therefore, say let's give these players a chance. If publishers can stick together why not us (besides I hated giving up a terrific position).

I ask everyone, who has an opinion of this, to contact Jerry Jones at 1854 Wagner St., Pasadena, Calif. 91107. Jerry will have my total support, and I will do everything I can to make this player board a reality. I ask all of you to help with this project -- what's one more letter -- let Jerry know that we appreciate his efforts and intend to follow through for him. This is our hobby, lets get involved in making it a better one -- especially for the players! A player board may be just the solution we need to get our side heard.

((KB asked me to make a comment or 2: First, I feel you should drop Jerry Jones a note, regardless whether you are pro, con, or completely apathetic -- it helps to hear from all the viewpoints. Second, in most of the zines you are in, I would hope that you could talk to the GM 1:1; if you can't then KB's point is valid. If you find someone to say you're right, he will find someone to say you're wrong, and the point remains unresolved; and a GM to enter the fray would be akin to that old proverb of "living in a glass house and throwing rocks". I can't imagine someone so presumptuous that he would dictate to the entire field of GMs -- this more so than the "code of ethics". As to the worth of such an organization, it, like anything will be as worthwhile as the sum of the measure of the people involved, no more, no less. As to the need, in some cases, yes. I personally can remember 2.

2. John Caruso, 42-34 Saull St., Flushing, NY 11355, is running a playtest of a tactical orientated game, based on the 1940s period. The game will last 10 turns and the field is limited to 10 players. Interested parties should ask John for further details. It will give you all a chance to blow your GM away as I'll ~~ik~~ be there somewhere.

# THE WHATEVER

1. Standby positions:  
1978 IN Russia: Keith Kendall, 99 Forest Dr., Jerico, NY 11753  
-the rest by volunteer or CD-
2. The Collect Call List (one attempt per due date, for Dip) Boggess, Alden, Becker, Canbyr Hardisty, Rudisill, White, Sulsberger, Brophy, Ornstein, Fas, Flory, Hunter, Snodgrass, Stocker Baltazar. This time successful @ 1:3
3. The due dates: September 3 - non Dip; Spetember 5 Dip games
4. At the suggestion of Fr Hal, unit tabulations were begun for Winter only seasons; if anyone feels they're valuable or worthless, let me know. Tabulations were used several years ago but dropped as the game load increased.
5. I want to thank all those who sent cards commemorating my turning into an old man. My special thanks to M Fas, but it wasn't a surprise. When I saw the 10¢ stamp (5¢ PD) on the envelope I knew it was you.

How to Win at Dipcon in your Spare Time (or I go to Moon and expose myself): Carl Eichelberger

Well, I suppose you are all wondering how someone who has never won a game in his life could win an "International Championship Tournament" (quote from the program book). Darned if I know, I was ~~at the tournament~~ so in one of all these "big name" gamers (Davis, Barch, Walker, Calhauer) that I wasn't very attentive.

The tournament started at 10AM, which didn't bother me much since I was up all night playing D&D. In the first round I drew France on the same board with Bill Becker as Austria. He looked fairly normal, but with Ter-ran players, you can never tell. I immediately allied with England, since he asked politely; this turned out great as I proceeded to go 3-6-8-10-11. Becker finally organized ITA to stop me in Italy, so the last three years were mostly E globbling up Russia to finish with an 11-11 tie. E could have easily stabbed me in the last turn, but he didn't (I consider this a sign from God that this was my day.)

The 2nd round was arranged with the top 7 players on the first board, the next 7 on the 2nd, etc. My 2nd board was populated with 3 guys who were allied in the first round and had achieved a 10-10-10 tie. Luckily they drew FGR and nothing more deadly; needless to say though seeing them walk in together, smiling, gave me a bit of paranoia. On the first turn everyone attacked Russia, even E made an anti-Russian move (so much for the 3 musketeer's theory) Though Austria and I(T) stabbed each other 4 times in 02&03, I finally managed to get the upper hand and started rolling over the countryside. Meanwhile I had managed to annoy A/F enough for E and myself to gain centers without much resistance at all. Round about 06 E and I realised we could get a 17-17 draw by the last official game year. We finished off It and stood there looking suspiciously at one another. "Draw?" he asked. "Sure." says I (with relief). (It was now about 10PM and I was getting exhausted.)

Once again fortune smiled on me as the first board game ended with no one having more than 10. This gave my 28 score top billing. Even Bill Becker managed something by copping best Germany, somehow. My prize was an English Diplomacy game (appropriately enough) which is the same as AHs except that the armies are bullet shaped and the fleets are ships (all plastic). The board is multi-colored (about 20-30 colors) with drawings of the different nationalities' soldiers (note: the turks seem to be smoking something out of a hookha /pipe/) I also won \$25. This money was supposed to be divided among the top 3 winners, but I got there first with my certificate and asked for the prize money (I have no idea if the others were paid or not -- the guy in the booth was visibly tired, so when he handed over the check, I took it and ran.)

XIII always was my lucky number.

44-8

((As you all know our "unknown critic" was exposed last June in Origena. Since that time I was swamped with letter asking for her replacement; this is the first such effort:))

Son of the Unknow Critic, or Unknown Critic II

This month U2 starts off by examining Tarran's favorite scapegoat!

After a long and arduous journey, this reporter finally touched down in the land of steel, home of the world's luckiest football team, the Pittsburgh Steelers. Renting an all-terrain vehicle, I travelled a short distance through the boondocks to an outlying burg, appropriately named in view of who I was planning to talk to today: The FAZ! ((who?)) That's Mark Fassio of leech burg.

Expecting to find a strong, burly steel-worker type, you can imagine my surprise and disappointment when I finally met this scrawny runt, with prematurely thinning hair and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick glasses. Could this really be the Faz??? I was determined to find out.

U2: So, you're Mark Fassio, known far and wide as the Faz?

Faz: You were expecting maybe John (Barlco) Caruso?

U2: Well, I certainly wasn't expecting what I see before me. How do I know you really are the Faz and not somebody like K Byrne wearing a Faz suit? Prove you are the Faz!

Faz: You know the difference between a pregnant lady and a light bulb? (I shook my head "No" while wondering what the Hell that had to do with my question ... I soon found out) No huh? Well, it's simple; you can unscrew a light bulb. (I felt a twinge of pain in the base of my spine)

U2: OK, OK, I'm con/

Faz: You know how many cowboys it takes to screw in a light bulb? (again I played along, hoping that I would be subjected to much more of this torture)). Oh come on U2, that's simple too, it's 4. 1 to put the bulb in the fixture, 1 to sit down and write a song about it, and 2 to have a bear over it, then go out into the parking lot and have a fight over it. (This one really did hurt but I did my absolute best not to show it. lest it encourage him further)

U2: Enough, enough! Listen, I wanted to ask you about your Diplomacy games/

Faz: Y'ens just don't appreciate good humor. Did you know that you can lead a horticulture, but you can't make her think.

U2: The GAMES, Faz, the Games ...

Faz: Hey, do you know what the Illinois farmer said to the doctor when he heard his wife was pregnant: Without blinking n eye, he said, "Aint a bit surprised, Doc; I've given her every opportunity."

U2: Arggh!

Faz: What's the matter U2, don't you like this type of joke? Do you think sex is dirty -- I do ... if you do it right.

U2: Argggh!

Faz: Did you hear about the two bulls who were standing on the crest of a hill, looking down into a valley which contained a herd of the most delectable cows they'd ever seen? The young bull said to his father, "Let's run down this hill full speed, snorting and bellowing & have us each a cow." To which the elder (wiser) bull said, gravely, "I have a better idea. Let's walk down this hill slowly, breathing quietly, and have us each every cow."

U2: Mercy! Mercy!

Faz: OK, no more jokes like that -- say did you hear what happened at the Italian War Ministry when Russia invaded Afganistan? ((Silence)) No? Well, according to the Rome Gazett they walked across the street to the Russian Embassy and surrendered. ((silence)) Say, do you know the best way to grease a Ferrari? ...

((Ed: It was somewhere at this point that U2 mercifully passed out.))



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(tear here) (and here) (and here) (keep going) (God, I can't believe you made it, stupid)



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1	Date of Birth Month Day Year	If not born, check the appropriate box Hatched Laid Found Unfound Mistake Other(list)
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3	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER If you can remember when gas was 50¢/gallon, use 000-00-0001 If you can remember seeing a non-rarum I Love Lucy show, use -4	
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9	SERVICE RANK If you woke up to find 1,000,000 Chinese storming your foxhole, you: would run like Hell (PRIVATE) would stand firm and fight for God and Country (SERGEANT) would clean the mess in your pants (2nd LT.)	
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\_\_\_\_\_ You have been asked to make a standby move  
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