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NUMBER 11

APRIL 30TH, 1976 / JUNE 28TH, 1976

# KOVAL PUBLICATION NUMBER 33

MEMBER OF TDA, IDA, DNYMPA, AND MITSGS

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A tetracuspid is the graph of an equation of the form  $x^{2/3} + y^{2/3} = a$ .  
 The TETRACUSPID is a Diplomacy\* oriented zine published on the  
 last Friday of every month by Richard Kovalcik, Jr., Room G316,  
 450 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA 02139 who may occasionally be  
 reached by calling (617) 253 1000 any day of the week between noon  
 and midnight and asking for dormline 5-9336.

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Subscriptions are available at the rate of 1¢ per page plus postage.  
 When subscribing please specify how you want me to mail your issues  
 to you (ie. First Class, Airmail, Printed Matter, or Third Class)  
 and send a lump sum of at least \$2.00. Please make all checks  
 payable to me. Send cash at your own risk.

All trades are quite welcome. I like to thank all my traders for  
 continueing to send me their zines over these past four months or  
 so. Things should improve shortly.

I now have gameopenings in one game of regular Diplomacy which I  
 believe will be guest GMed by a friend of mine from high school  
 who is now attending Cornell University. The houserules used  
 will basically be those which were briefly explained in the last  
 issue with the exception that no phone calls will be accented.  
 To play you must maintain a subscription or trade, pay a \$2.00  
 gamefee, and maintain a \$3.00 deposit which will be deposited in  
 the ISE (Internation Subscription Exchange). This deposit will  
 (continued on page 6)

\*Diplomacy is the registered trademark for the game invented by  
 Allan B. Calhamer and manufactured by Avalon Hill, Inc.

## RANDOM RAMBLINGS

(1) Everyone should note my new address on the first page. From July 22nd to July 29th I will be at the following address:

Richard Kovalcik, Jr.  
Box 245, RD # 1  
Tobyhanna, PA 18466

This address should be used only for mail pertaining to games I'm in. All other mail should still be sent to the Memorial Drive address.

(2) In case you haven't noticed this issue is late. From the excuse department we learn that this is due to finals, my job, going home to visit my family, my job, and moving in that orders of interference.

(3) Circulation for this issue is approximately thirty.

(4) Page three of this issue was mailed out to the players in 1974FQ quite a while ago.

(5) With this issue I have begun to use computer printed address labels. Everyone who hasn't had a COA recently should find one of these on the envelope this was mailed in. If your address on this label is incorrect you should contact me as soon as possible.

(6) Houserules should be enclosed with issue number 12. A draft copy was made up about a month ago. I sent this out to various other GMS for comment. As soon as I hear from one last person I will type the final version.

(7) Standbys are needed. The only person on my standby list at the moment is Rod Walker.

(8) If anyone out there is interested in taking over an orphan game please let me know as I may have orphan games to transfer from time to time as Games Compensation Officer of THE DIPLOMACY ASSOCIATION. So far Rod Walker and Jim Benes have expressed an interest in taking over an orphan game.

(9) THE SUMMER PLANS: I have made plans to attend Dipcon in Baltimore this summer. As my plans stand now I will travel to New York by Amtrack on Thursday July 22nd. On the 23rd I will travel with Fred Bronner to Baltimore again by Amtrack. I will stay in Baltimore until Monday. On Monday morning I will take Amtrack to Philadelphia. I will then travel by Greyhound bus to my family's summer home in the Pocono Mountains. I will stay there until Friday when my parents drive me back to Cambridge.

(10) My schedule for the TETRACUSPID for the rest of the summer is as follows:

June 30th - the TETRACUSPID, # 12 published  
July 4th - the TETRACUSPID, # 13 published  
July 23rd - the TETRACUSPID, # 14 published  
August 27th - the TETRACUSPID, # 15 published

(continued on page 3)

1974FQ

Fall 1905

## GAME FINALLY UNDERWAY AGAIN!

## England (Civil Disorder)

FCly H

France (Ken Johnson, 17605 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037)

AMar S ABur, ABur S FBel, APic S FBel, FEdi - Nth/dislodged  
and may retreat to Nwg or OTB/, FBel S FHol, FEng - Lon,  
FBre - Mid, FHol HGermany (Ira Rosen, 3405 University Hall 3, Cornell University,  
Ithaca, NY 14853)

Retreat dislodged FHol - Hel

FYor S FNth - Edi, ARuh - Kie, FNth - Edi, FHel - Den, AMun H

Italy (David Lagerson, 19017 Vanowen Avenue, Reseda, CA 91335)

ABud S ATri - Vie/dislodged and may retreat to Gal, Ser, Tri,  
or OTB/, ABul S FAeg - Con, FGre S ABul, ATri - Vie,  
FAeg - Con, FEas - Smy, FIon - AegRussia (Wayne Callahan, 156 Main Street (Rear), Whitesboro, NY  
13492)ARum S AVie - Bud, ASev S ARum, AMos S ASev, FSwe - Den,

ALvn - War, AVie - Bud, FNwy - Nth

Turkey (Ron Kelly, #120, 225 Virginia Avenue, SE, Washington, DC  
20061)FBla C ACon - Sev, AArm S ACon - Sev, ACon - Sev/annihilated/,  
ASmy - AnkSupply Center Chart

England - Lvp. Even.

France - Bel, Bre, ~~Edi~~, Lon, Mar, Par, Por, Spa, Hol. Even.\*Germany - Ber, Den, ~~Nth~~, Kie, Mun, Edi. Even.Italy - ~~Bud~~, Gre, Nap, Rom, Ser, Tri, Tun, Ven, Bul, Con, Smy. +2.\*Russia - Mos, Nwy, Rum, StP, Swe, Vie, War, Bud, Sev. +2.Turkey - Ank, ~~Bul~~, ~~Con~~, ~~Smy~~, ~~Smy~~. -2.\*Assuming the dislodged unit is not retreated OTB. If it is, then  
the country gets one more build.Winter 1905 orders are due to the GM, Richard Kovalcik, Jr., by  
May 21st, 1976.

## RANDOM RAMBLINGS (continued)

(11) Issue # 13 of the TETRACUSPID will be a special first anniver-  
sary (of the TETRACUSPID) / 200th anniversary (of the United States)  
issue. Hopefully it will be something to remember.(12) For those of you who have been wondering, the TETRACUSPID is  
produced by xerox not offset. It is done on a Xerox 3100 LDC  
copier.

PRESS FOR 1974FQ:

(Somewhere in Europe, September 1905 (Black Press)): The room was dimly lit. Three persons sat around a small table. One was a tall, strikingly beautiful woman in her late twenties. She had long black hair which was crowned by a small white skullcap; her ears were adorned with delicate little skulls wrought in the finest chalcedony.

Next to her sat a wizened, white-haired old man dressed in grey and holding a golden staff adorned with a single 965-carat ruby. He was idly munching on a lump of coal.

Across from both of them sat a tall figure robed in carmine, his whole body folded in velvet. On his head was a red cardinal's hat from which hung a black veil which obscured his face. His figure seemed otherwise unremarkable, save that the shoulder blades were ~~overly-prominent, as if the robes had been folded peculiarly or,~~ perhaps, some deformity were hidden beneath the crimson cloth.

The little old man was speaking. "Where did you get the idea of a tunnel, Lady?"

"Oh, the Americans have been talking about a tunnel under the Atlantic for years; you know the usual rumors. However, we shall not require anything so elaborate."

"It seems to me, Lady, you should have a definite destination in mind."

"A lot depends on the future situation in Europe, Ruggedo. We must be sure that when and where We make Our appearance, We will be regally welcomed by an ecstatic populace. Would Your Eminence not so advise?"

The red-cloaked figure, who was indeed the Cardinal-Abbot of Leng, spoke in a deep, almost ethereal voice, with an accent which was hard (if not impossible) to pin down as to its place of origin. It is certain that wherever Her Holiness chooses to appear, those who do not greet Her with due ecstasy will soon wish they had." One could sense a sort of grim smile behind the words. The Cardinal-Abbot toyed idly with a cattle prod.

Pope Joan II, for it was certainly She, turned to the King of the Nomes. "We tire of being in exile. While certainly a greasy backwater like Rome is boring, We find Sicily even more tedious. While We must reserve judgement as to the final destination, there is no harm in striking the tunnel due north from Palermo to some point in the middle of the Tyrrhennian Sea. By the time your industrious Nomes have completed that little task, We will have made up Our mind, no doubt."

Ruggedo took another sip from his cup of boiling mud. "So long as the Nomes are properly rewarded for their services, Holiness... eh, Cardinal?"

The Abbot of Leng was silent for a moment. He delicately removed a fried baby finger from his plate and carried it up underneath his veil. "Well, King Ruggedo," he finally began, "you may be assured that the Abbey of Leng can provide you with sufficient means of carrying out your projected revenge against the goody-goody two-choes of Mu."

"Oz."

"Well, whatever. I always forget whether you're in comic strips of fairy tales."

"Grump."

(continued on page 5)

(Editor's Note: The following is the conclusion of the third of a series of articles on life in my dorm at MIT, Bexley Hall. The stories told in these articles are, to the best of my knowledge, true although some names have been changed to protect the guilty. This is the last article in this series to be published until September because I will be away from Bexley for the summer and I don't have any stories in reserve.)

I THINK YOU SHOULD LOOK AT YOUR BACK DOOR  
by Richard Kovalcik, Jr.

We looked around the room checking carefully for any evidence of the stereo. We didn't find any evidence of it. Of course we examined all the closets, the dressers, and a locked trunk but we decided that it couldn't be in there because it was too light.

At this point we decided there wasn't much we could do but wait for Max to come back. So I went back to my room while Alex and Jerry waited for Max in his room.

About an hour later Max came back. He had apparently gone to get a haircut. He went upstairs and I followed him.

When he got to his room he asked what everyone was doing there. After we told him he seemed rather amused. He explained that he was the one who had come into the room and shut the stereo off to put it away for the vacation. Naturally we asked him where he put it. He said that it was in the trunk. When we explained that we had looked everywhere he just about broke out laughing. At this point Alex said "If you think it's so funny, I think you should look at your back door."

////////////////////////////////////  
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(Another Editor's Note: Yes, I should have put the in the last issue and not broken the article up into two parts but I didn't think that it was going to be that short.)

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1974FQ PRESS (Continued)

Well, dear reader, what have we here? A plot to undermine somebody? How will Europe react to the return of the notorious Pope Joan (not to mention Her friends)? Tune in to the next issue ((let's just say a future issue)) for Chapter II of this peerless Epic,

There Once Was a Pope Named Joan,  
Who Had A Swiss Guard on Her Throne.  
"Let's Go to Bed,"  
She Quietly Said,  
"It's a Much More Erogenous Zone."

## GENERAL INFORMATION (Continued)

only be refunded if you stay in the game until you are eliminated or the game ends. Please send me your preference list and a lump sum of money if you want to play.

Standbys are needed. To be eligible to standby the only requirement is that you regularly receive the TETRACUSPID. If you're interested in standbys please let me know.

Anyone writing an article which is published herein will receive two cents of credit per line used toward anyone's account. Hence a trader who writes an article can use the money he makes from the article to provide a subscription for someone else. However, this money may not be refunded.

I am a member of DNYMPA. This means that should I be forced to fold the games contained herein will be rescued by the other members of DNYMPA.