



Winsome Losesome



ISSUE TWENTY-TWO

APRIL 23, 1984

I'M LATE - - SORRY

Because of some personal commitments, this issues is late. I apologize for that. This issue is free to subscribers. Standbys get 40 cents credit. WINSOME LOSESOME is a gaming publication dedicated to the play of Postal DIPLOMACY. DIPLOMACY is a multi-player political conflict game invented by Allan Calhamer and currently owned by the Avalon Hill Game Co. This 'zine is devoted exclusively to Postal DIPLOMACY. WINSOME LOSESOME is published by me, Judy Winsome, at 3902 Lakemead Way, Redwood City, CA 94062. Subscriptions are 40¢ an issue. I suggest you send a check for \$5.00 and I will credit your account accordingly. There are no game fees, you can play as long as you maintain a subscription. I use five week deadlines. The deadline for this issue is Thursday, May 24, 1984.

STANDBYS

Standbys to WINSOME-LOSESOME get free subscriptions when they are called and for as long as they are playing a standby position. Any other standbys out there? Roland Louie, Terry Tallman, Mark Keller, Lynn Torkelson, Ken Peel, Chris Hawkins, Charlie Morris and John Michalski are receiving 40 cents credit for being a standby or for being called as a standby.

Standbys: Steve Knight, Joe Stark, Johnny Pfukerfaster, Jack Jung, Terry Tallman, Jerry White(ns), Ken Gestiehr (ns), Ron Galicia(ns), Jim Stevens(ns)

SECOND ANNUAL DAVE CARTER AWARD CONTEST

The time has come to make nominations for the second annual Dave Carter Award. This award was inaugurated last year to give recognition to the most sexist person in the hobby. Last year it was won by Scott Hanson, pubber of IRKSOME, who not only portrayed a nude woman as a stick figure, but also wrote the following words: "What's the fun of having a woman if you can't exploit her." The deadline for nominations, according to tradition, is Mother's Day, Sunday, May 13, 1984. So please submit your nominations to me by that date.

There are some likely candidates for the award. Dave Carter is always a possibility. Even though the award is named after him, he has never won it. Charlie Morris self-nominates himself in his press on page 6.

WOMEN ARE TOUGH

I have been watching with interest the actions of the Girl Scouts regarding their cookie sales and the pins, needles, staples and glass that have been found in their cookies throughout the country. Still, cookie sales go on. Nobody has been hurt....yet. There seems to be a double standard here. If you are profit making, you must pull your product from the shelf, but if you are non-profit, it's ok to hurt people. If any of you wish to support the Girl Scouts, I hope you give them your money and destroy the cookies. Don't get hurt! My sick mind tells me the Bluebirds are doing it.

1982 AF

* ENGLAND - - - Mark Duarte, 4738 E. McKenzie, Fresno, CA 93702
 GERMANY - - - Robyn Finley, 1466 Bonair Rd. #71, Vista, CA 92083
 ITALY - - - John Michalski, RT 10 Box 526 Q, Moore, OK 73165
 RUSSIA - - - Chris Hawkins, P O Box 45398, Seattle, WA 98145
 TURKEY - - - Mark Keller, 9536 Shumway Dr., Orangevale, CA 95662
 GAMES PERSON Judy Winsome, 3902 Lakemead Way, Redwood City, CA, 94062

* Will Charlie Morris, 14238 Sylvania Dr., Cypress, TX 77429 please submit standby orders for England.

1982 AF

FALL 1908

England (Duarte) NMR! A PAR H, F EDI H, F NAO H, F IRI H,
 F SKA H, F MAO H, F SPA(SC) H, F MAR H
 Germany (Finley) F DEN S Russian F Nwy-Nth nso, A SWE H, A HOL S A Bel,
 A BEL S A Hol, A BRE H
 Italy (Michalski) F Wal-LON, F NAF S Turkish F Tun-Wes nso
 Russia (Hawkins) F Bar-NWG, F NWY S F Bar-Nwg, A Stp-FIN, A MOS H,
 A BER S A Kie, A Mun-BUR, A Sil-MUN, A VIE H,
 A KIE S A Sil-Mun, A GAS S German A Bre
 Turkey (Keller) A PIE-Mar, F Tys-LYO, F WES S F Tys-Lyo,
 F TUN S F Wes, F Ion-NAP, A TYO-Pie,
 A BUL & A TRI unordered, F Aeg-ION

Supply Center Chart:

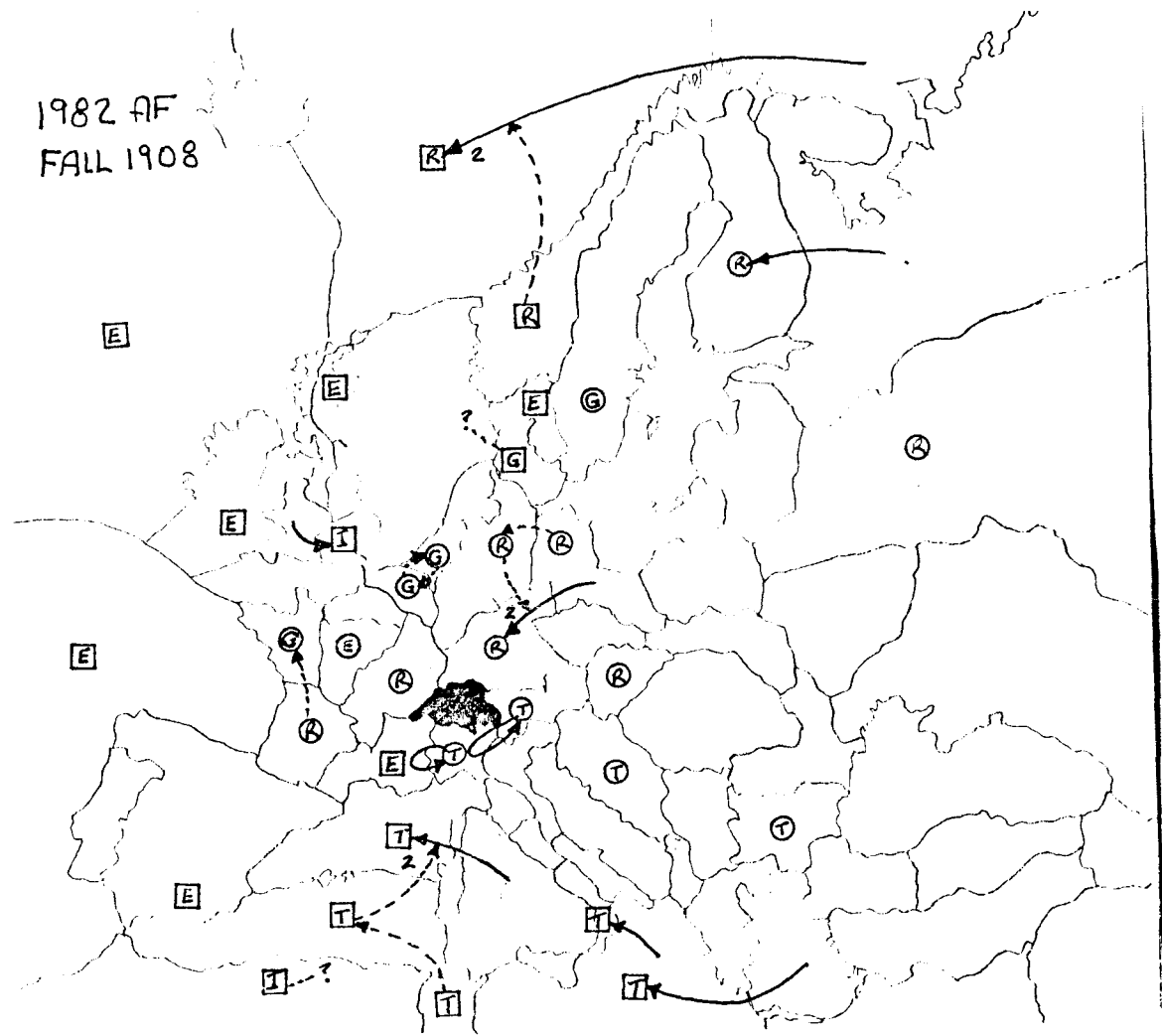
ENGLAND	Lon , Lpl, Por, Br , Par, Edi, Spa, Mar	6	remove 2
GERMANY	Den, Hol, Swe, Bel, Nwy , BRE	5	even
ITALY	Rom, Map , LON	2	even
RUSSIA	Mos, Sev, War, Rum, Bud, Vie, Stp, Ber, Mun, Kie, NWY	11	build 1
TURKEY	Con, Ank, Smy, Bul, Gre, Ser, Tri, Tun, Ven, NAP	10	build 1

34

Deadline for Winter 1908 builds and removals and Spring 1909 moves is Thursday, May 24, 1984. T/R draw fails and is repropoed. Concession to England is proposed. NVR means NO unless you NMR then it's YES.

PRESS:-----

Italy-Germany: Robyn? You still in this? Great goin', kiddo, keep after him.
 New London Garrison-England: Hi Ed. See what sticking your allies gets you?
 Rome: Say, I loved that "Concession? - Fish & Chips" line. Keep it up.
 82AF-83N: Terry, Fluff loved that story too!
 Judy-Robyn: I don't know what I did to deserve that nice note with your moves, but thanks. You made my day. I loved your Femme Fatale in Europa Express. Hope to see more.



PLUGGING OTHER PEOPLE'S OPENINGS

MURD'RING MINISTERS, Ron Brown, 1528 E1 Sereno P1, Bakersfield, CA 93304. Ron has a regular diplomacy game opening as of March 9. The gamefee is \$6 plus a refundable \$3 NMR deposit. You get your \$3 back if you don't NMR during the game. You must also subscribe for the duration (\$5.50 for 12 issues) MM is my first and favorite 'zine. Ron is an excellent GM. You couldn't do much better than to get into this game.

SLEEPLESS KNIGHTS, Dave Carter, 118 Horsham Ave, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada, M2N 1Z9. Dave is known for upside-down raunchy, sexist and ethnic humor. As of the March 1984 issue, he has two 5-week game openings, WUCKI and XANTH, both GMd by Dave himself. WUCKI needs 3 players (Barry Hickey, P. Watson, Andre Torres and Ed Innes are signed up). XANTH needs 7 players, \$2.00 game fee. Subs are 3 issues for \$2.00.

1982 CA

AUSTRIA - Mark Keller, 9536 Shumway Dr., Orangevale, CA 95662
 ENGLAND - Terry Tallman, 820 Armour St, Seattle WA 98119
 FRANCE - Ken Peel, 8708 First Ave #T-2, Silver Springs, MD 20910
 RUSSIA - Jack Jung, 402 Cole Road, Guelph, Ontario, CANADA N1G 3J8
 GAMES PERSON Judy Winsome, 3902 Lakemead Way, Redwood City, CA 94062

1982 CA

SUMMER 1907

Russia (Jung) Retreat Army Silesia to Bohemia

FALL 1907

Austria (Keller) A VIE-Tyo, A TRI S A Vie-Tyo, A Bud-SER,
 England (Tallman) A GAL S Russian A Boh-Sil, F GRE S Russian F Aeg-Ion nso
A Hol-RUH, F NTH fish for cod, A KIE S French A Bur-Mun,
A BER S French A Bur-Mun, A Sil-War annihilated,
A PRU S A Sil-War, A Stp-LVN, F BAR S A Fin-Stp,
A Fin-STP, F BAL S A Stp-Lvn
 France (Peel) F Ion-ADR, F TUN-Ion, F Tys-NAP, F Wes-TYS, A Mar-PIE,
A VEN-Tri, A APU-Ven, A TYO S A Bur-Mun, A Bur-MUN
 Italy (Hail) NMR! F ALB H
 Russia (Jung) A WAR S A Boh-Sil, A Lvn-Pru annihilated, F Eas-ION,
A MOS-Stp, A Mun S A Boh-Sil annihilated,
F AEG S F Eas-Ion, A Boh-SIL

Supply Center Chart:

AUSTRIA	Vie, Bud, Gre, Ser, Bul, Rum, Tri	7 build 2
ENGLAND	Edi, Lon, Lpl, Nwy, Hol, Swe, Kie, Stp, Den, Ber	10 build 1
FRANCE	Mar, Par, Bre, Bel, Por, Spa, Ven, Tun, Rom, NAP, MUN	11 build 2
ITALY	Map	0 gone
RUSSIA	Mos, Sev, War, Ank, Con, Smy, Mun	6 build 1
		34

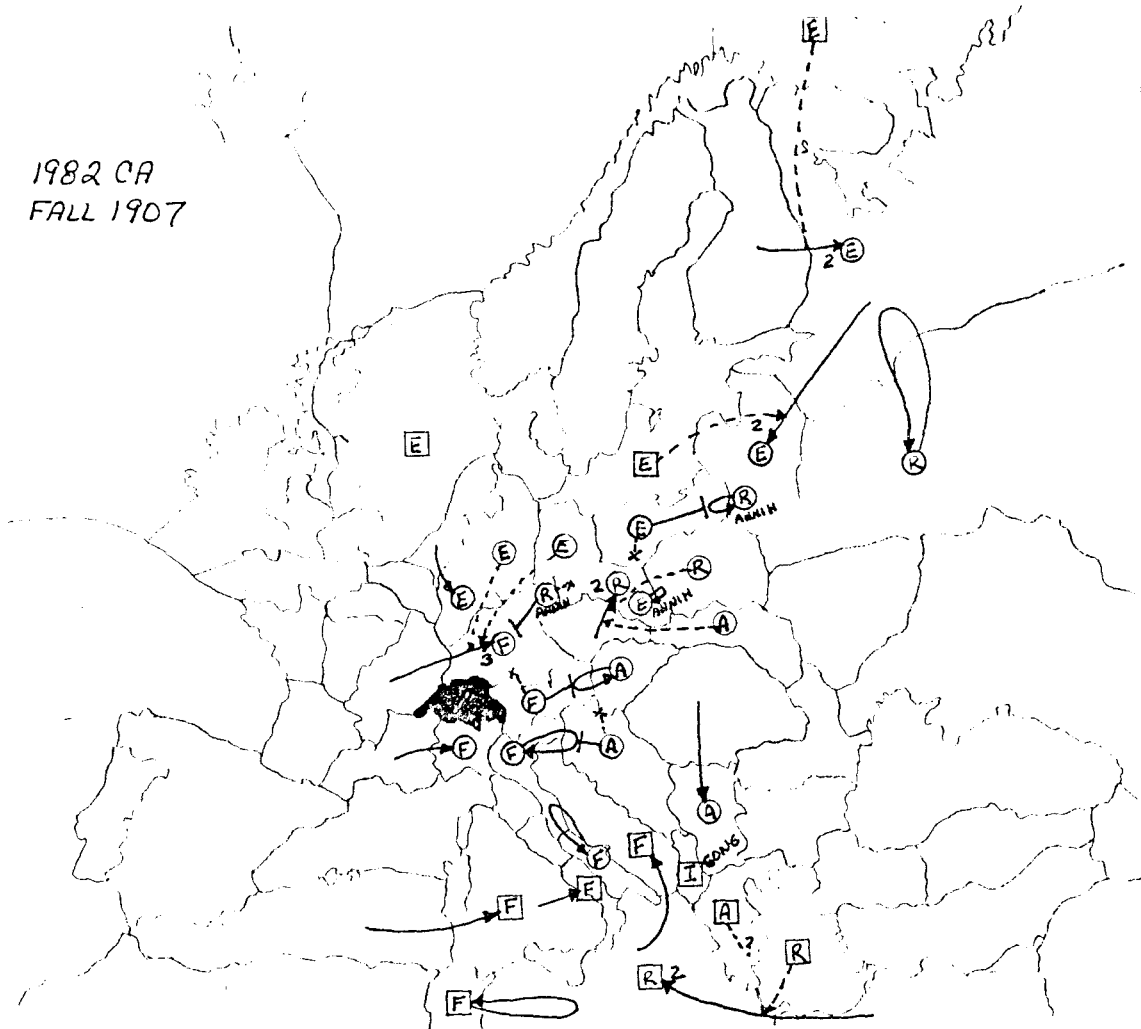
Deadline for Winter 1907 builds and Spring 1908 moves is Thursday, May 24, 1984.
 F/E draw fails and is repropoed. FEAR draw fails and is repropoed. NVR is NO
 unless you NMR then it's YES.

PRESS:-----

Peel-1982CA: Hmm...I've seen worse standby positions...
 England-France: Welcome aboard.

DON'T FORGET TO NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR THE DAVE CARTER AWARD BY MOTHER'S DAY

1982 CA
FALL 1907



CHEAP ANSWERS

Eric Kane - Congratulations on your win in 1982 X in Voice of Doom. Did you find those infamous house rules so bad?

Fred Davis - Another joke for you. During a physical examination, a doctor felt driven by the excellent physical condition of his elderly patient to comment,

"You know, for a man of your age, you're in wonderful shape."

"Thank you, doctor."

"I have never seen a person in better shape than you, even men much younger than yourself", remarked the physician.

"Thanks."

"For a man of 65, you're more fit than a man half your age."

"Did I say I was 65? I am 75 years old."

"That's amazing, how old was your father when he died?"

"Did I say my father was dead? My father is very much alive. He just turned 95 last month and still plays softball with the gang every day."

"Well then, how old was your grandfather when he died?"

"Did I say my grandfather was dead? My grandfather is a man of 125 years. He's very active, in fact, next month he's marrying a 20 year old woman."

"Why would a 125 year old man want to marry a 20 year old woman?"

"Did I say my grandfather wanted to get married?"

1982 HV

=====

AUSTRIA Charlie Morris, 14238 Sylvia Dr., Cypress, TX 77429
FRANCE Roland Louie, 322 Larkspur Plaza, Larkspur, CA 94939
GERMANY Jim McPhail, 104 Castleridge Dr NE, Calgary, Alberta, CANADA T3J 1Y8
RUSSIA Bill Hawley, 227 S. Canal St., Newton Falls OH 44444
GAMES PERSON Judy Winsome, 3902 Lakemead Way, Redwood City, CA 94062

=====

1982 HV

AUTUMN 1906

France (Louie) Retreat Fleet Rome off the board
Russia (Hawley) Retreat Fleet North Sea to English Channel

WINTER 1906

Austria (Morris) Build Fleet Trieste, Army Vienna
France (Louie) Build Army Marseilles
Russia (Hawley) Build Fleet St. Petersburg(NC)
Build Army Moscow

SPRING 1907

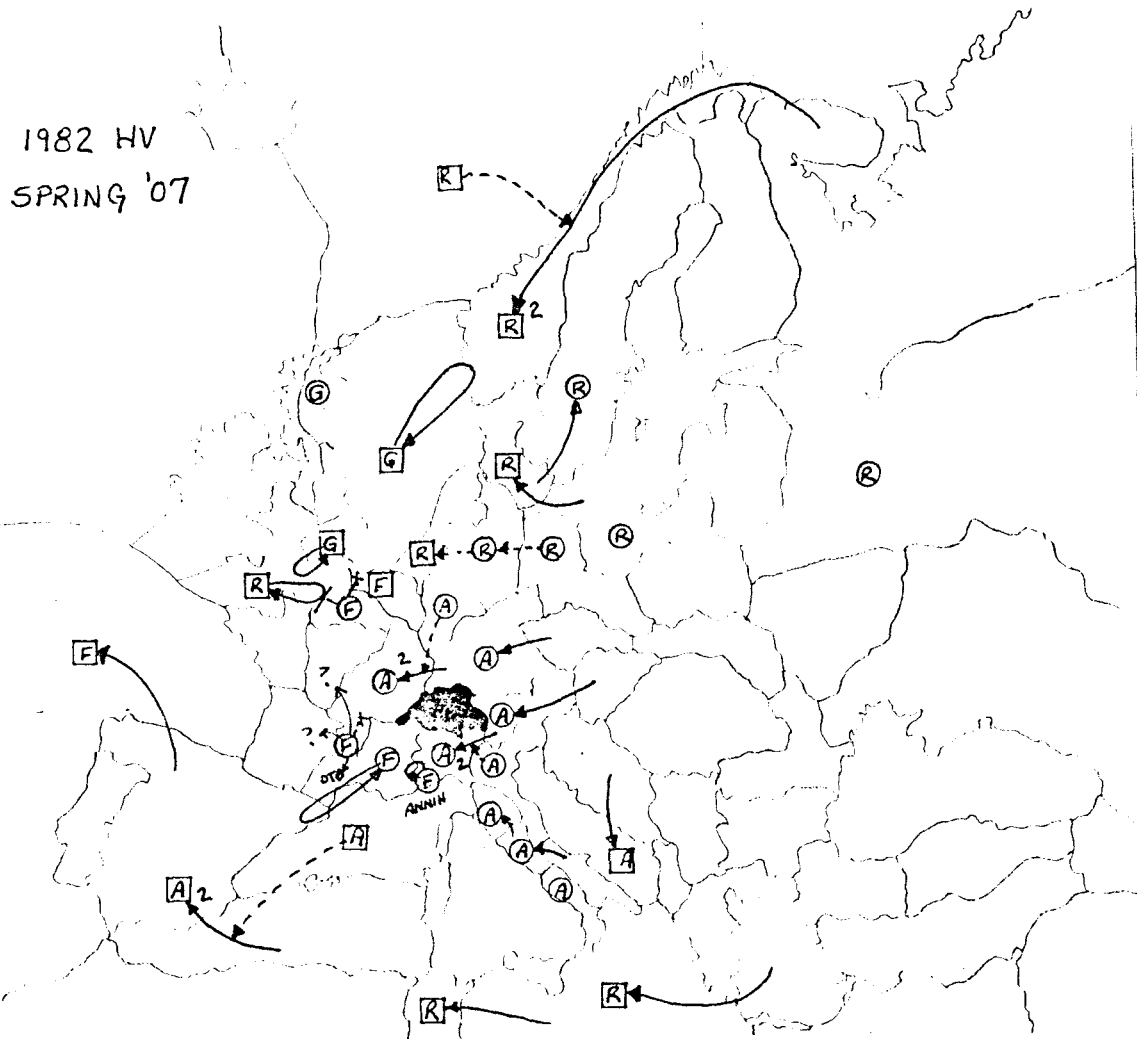
Austria (Morris) F LYO S F Wes-Spa(sc), F Wes-SPA(SC), A Apu-ROM,
A Rom-TUS, A VEN S A Tyo-Pie, A Tyo-PIE, A Boh-MUN,
A Mun-BUR, A RUH S A Mun-Bur, A NAP H, F Tri-ADR,
A Vie-TYO
France (Louie) A Pie-Mar annihilated, F Spa(nc)-MAO, A PIC S F Bel,
A MAR-Spa, A Bur S F Bel disl retreat Par Gas Otb,
F BEL H
Germany (McPhail) F LON-Eng, F NTH-Nwy, A EDI H
Russia (Hawley) A Den-SWE, F ENG-Pic, F Bal-DEN, F HOL H, A KIE S F Hol,
A BER S A Kie, A PRU H, F Aeg-ION, F Ion-TUN,
F Stp(nc)-NWY, F NWG S F Stp(nc)-Nwy, A MOS H

Deadline for Summer 1907 retreat and Fall 1907 moves is Thursday, May 24, 1984.

PRESS:-----

Russia-Germany: Give it up, Jim. Further resistance is useless. Trust me, I will be mercifully quick.

Charlie-Judy: Yes, I still love you and no I'm not trying to get your goat. I didn't even know you had a goat and wouldn't want it anyway. Goats are nasty. It sounds like your California soccer players are as hot as my chili. The best thing about my chili is that it makes your mouth as dry as a fish turd rolled in sand and more than ready for a few Lone Star Beers. As far as me being a cheerleader, I'm nothing compared to the girl who used to give our high school team the game ball before the game. That sure made your school spirit stand up! Please consider me in the running for the Dave Carter Award. In recommendation let me tell you about me supervising my wife's cutting of the grass 3 days after our son was born or my mother taking in laundry to pay for by \$300 ostrich skin cowboy boots and assorted bar bills.



1982HV Press continued

Judy-Charlie: It's too bad you're not interested in my goat. At least it looks like a goat. I guess it is pretty nasty now that I look at it. I love chili, and hope someday to taste yours, accompanied by some Lone Star of course. I make a Portuguese style chili - do you use cumin in yours? Sounds like your cheerleader friend knew the score before the game started. Charlie, you are a prime candidate for the Dave Carter award. Keep up the good work. Your exploits remind me of a local newspaper article from a few Christmases ago. This guy had broken his arm from falling off of his garbage can. He was trying to compact the Christmas wrappings by standing on them. The reporter asked if he learned anything from the incident. His reply was that he would let his wife do it next year.

Germany-Judy: We had Spring Jan & Feb, up to 75 degrees F. Now Winter has set in - hard to follow our seasons. My turtles are out of hibernation and eating again. Saw the 1st run-over gopher of the season - better than the 1st Robin.

Judy-Germany: I think El Nino has upset the weather pattern pretty significantly. I like it better. I'm not so sure your gopher would agree with me. How many turtles do you have? I know your note wasn't press, but I liked your way of determining the turn of the season and thought the others would enjoy it as well. Hope you don't mind.

1983 N

AUSTRIA Richard Edison, 1535 B-1 Gatehouse Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80904
ENGLAND Lynn Torkelson, 992 Rosedale Road NE, Atlanta GA 30306
FRANCE Ron Brown, 1528 El Sereno Pl, Bakersfield, CA 93304
GERMANY Mark Hogue, 5820 N. Murray Ave, Apt C-17, Hanahan, SC 29406
ITALY Civil Disorder
RUSSIA Terry Tallman, 820 Armour St., Seattle, WA 98119
* TURKEY Tim Winger, P. O. Box 13043, Denver, CO 80201
GAMES PERSON Judy Winsome, 3902 Lakemead Way, Redwood City, CA 94062

* Will John Michalski, RT 10 Box 526Q, Moore, OK 73165 please submit standby orders for Turkey?

=====

1983 N

AUTUMN 1904

Italy (Duarte) NRR! Retreat Fleet Tyrrhenian Sea off the board

WINTER 1904

Austria (Edison) Remove Army Budapest
England (Torkelson) Remove Fleet Norwegian Sea
Germany (Hogue) Build Fleet Kiel (Plays one short)
Russia (Tallman) Build Fleet St. Petersburg (north coast)
Turkey (Winger) NBR! (Plays 2 short)

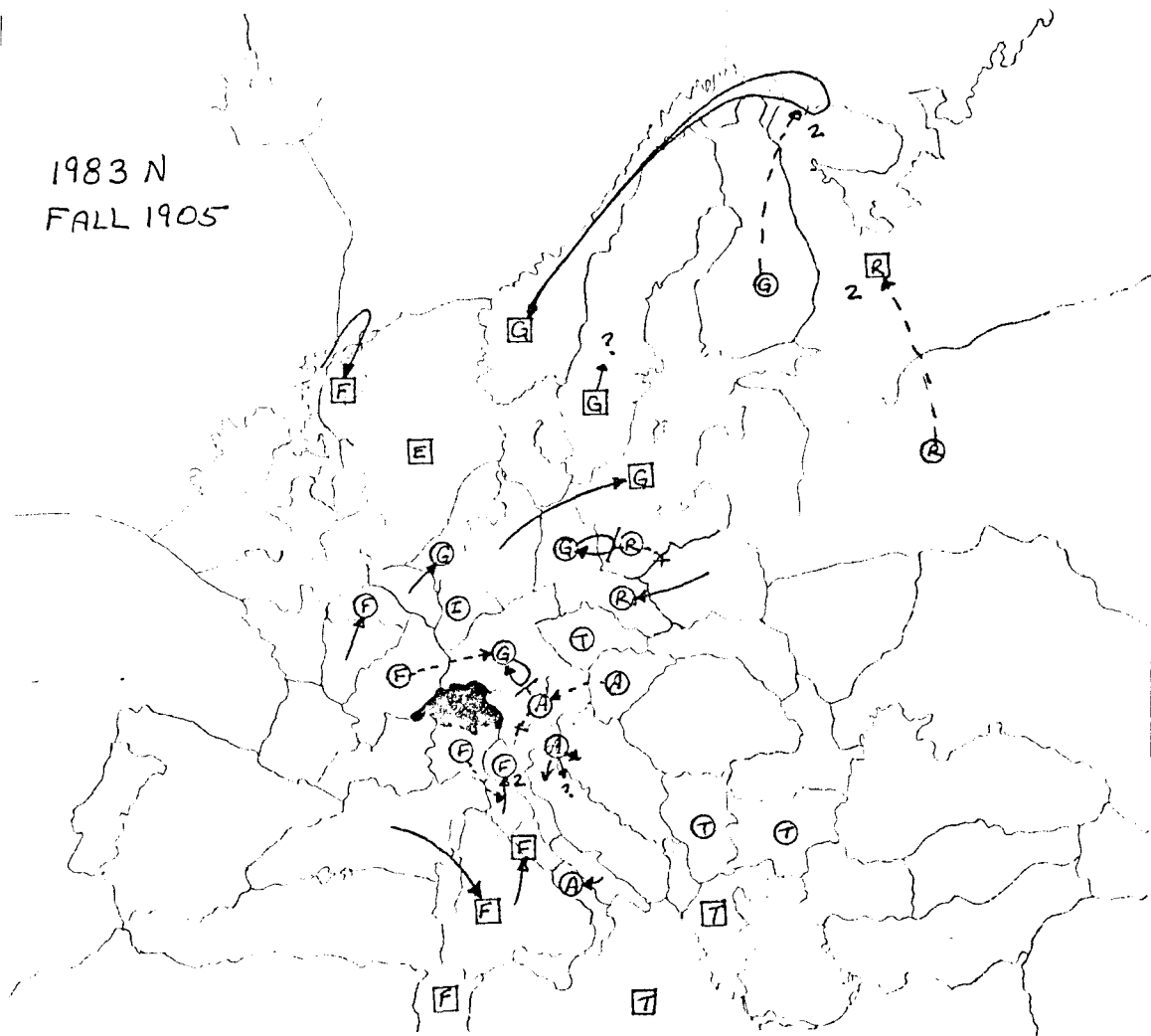
SPRING 1905

Austria (Edison) A Apu-NAP, A TYO S A Ven, A VIE S A Tyo,
A Ven S Italian F Nap-Rom disl retreat Tri, Apu,
Otb,
England (Torkelson) F Hol-NTH
France (Brown) A BUR S German A Mun, A Par-PIC, F Lyo-TYS,
A PIE S A Tus-Ven, F Tys-ROM, F TUN S F Lyo-Tys,
A Tus-VEN, F Cly-EDI
Germany (Hogue) F NWY-Stp, A FIN S F Nwy-Stp, F SWE-Bar imp,
A MUN-Tyo, A BER-Pru, A Bel-HOL, F Kie-BAL
Italy (Duarte) NMR! Civil Disorder A RUH H
Russia (Tallman) A MOS S F Stp(nc), A PRU S A War-Sil, A War-SIL,
F STP(NC) H
Turkey (Winger) NMR! F ION H, F GRE H, A BUL H, A BOH H, A SER H

Deadline for Summer 1905 retreat and Fall 1906 moves is Thursday, May 24, 1984.
Concession to Italy fails.

PRESS:-----

North Sea: Admiral Lightarmour and General Blackbluster reviewed new intelligence reports. "It looks like our last maneuver helped to weaken the Kraut enough to turn the tide on the continent. Now I suppose we have no choice but the obvious. Hmmm... Let's have another look at those reports."
"Right, right, and right again," agreed Blackbluster. "I say, it's good to see the Ottoman army so far north. The Krauts will learn the wisdom of the old proverb, 'One man's Mede is another man's Persian!'"



1983N Press-----

Russia-Turkey: I sure hope you know what we're doing.

Russia-France: What do you mean you want me to stab Germany first?

Austria: He's no fun, he fell right over.

Vienna: What did I do to deserve this? No, don't answer that. Witness the effect of not writing.

MARK BERCH DEPARTMENT

One of the irresponsible things I did to delay this issue was go skiing last week. It was a great week in Squaw Valley. We had Spring skiing for four days and winter skiing for three. Saw lift operators in Bikinis and was hailed and snowed upon. Discovered that you have to tighten your boots to ski well. But then, you probably already knew that. I think skiing is about the most expensive sport there is. Thank God I don't golf. I'm looking forward to the beginning of the Earthquakes season, and Olympic Soccer at Stanford. Any of you going to the Olympics?

1983 CK

AUSTRIA Mike Mazzer, 1338-B Harvard St., Santa Monica, CA 90404
 ENGLAND Joe Stark, 15925 Quarry Rd., Oberlin OH 44074
 FRANCE James Wall, 27 N. Mills Apt #3, Madison WI 53715
 GERMANY Ben Schilling, 24730 Roosevelt Ct APT 315, Farmington Hills MI 48018
 ITALY Steve Knight, 11905 Winterthur Lane, Apt 103, Reston VA 22091
 RUSSIA Roland Louie, 322 Larkspur Plaza, Larkspur CA 94939
 * TURKEY Cathy Cuning, 1526 N. Lawler Ave, Chicago, IL 60651
 GAMES PERSON Judy Winsome, 3902 Lakemead Way, Redwood City, CA 94062

* Change of address.

1983 CK

SUMMER 1903

Russia (Louie) Retreat Army Moscow to Livonia

FALL 1903

Austria (Mazzer) A GAL-War, A Ukr-RUM, F ADR S A Tyo-Ven,
 A Tyo-VEN, A Ven-APU, F Tun-TYS
 England (Stark) A Bel-HOL, A Pic-BRE, F ENG S A Pic-Bre, F Nwy-SWE,
 F Nth-DEN
 France (Wall) F Nao-LPL, A GAS-Bre
 Germany (Schilling) F BOT S English F Nwy-Stp(nc) nso, F HEL H,
 A Ruh-BUR, A SIL S Austrian A Gal-War,
 A MUN S A Ruh-Bur, A Bur-PAR
 Italy (Knight) F Spa(sc)-POR, A Mar-SPA, A Pie-TYO, F Tys-ROM
 Russia (Louie) A STP S A Lvn, A WAR H, A LVN S A War
 Turkey (Cuning) F Bul(ec)-CON, F BLA S Austrian A Gal-Rum nso,
 A MOS S English F Nwy-Stp(nc) nso, A SEV S A Mos,
 A GRE H, F AEG S F Eas-Ion, F Eas-ION

Supply Center Chart

AUSTRIA	Vie, Bud, Tri, Ser, Ven, Tun, RUM	7	build 1
ENGLAND	Lon, Edi, VØI , Bel, Nwy, BRE, HOL, SWE, DEN	9	build 3
FRANCE	Par , Bre , LPL	1	remove 1
GERMANY	Kie, Mun, Ber, DEN , NØI , SWE , PAR	4	remove 2
ITALY	Rom, Nap, Mar, Spa, POR	5	build 1
RUSSIA	Stp, MØI , War	2	remove 1
TURKEY	Ank, Con, Smy, Sev, Bul, Gre, RUM , MOS	7	even
FREE	PØI	0	
		<u>34</u>	

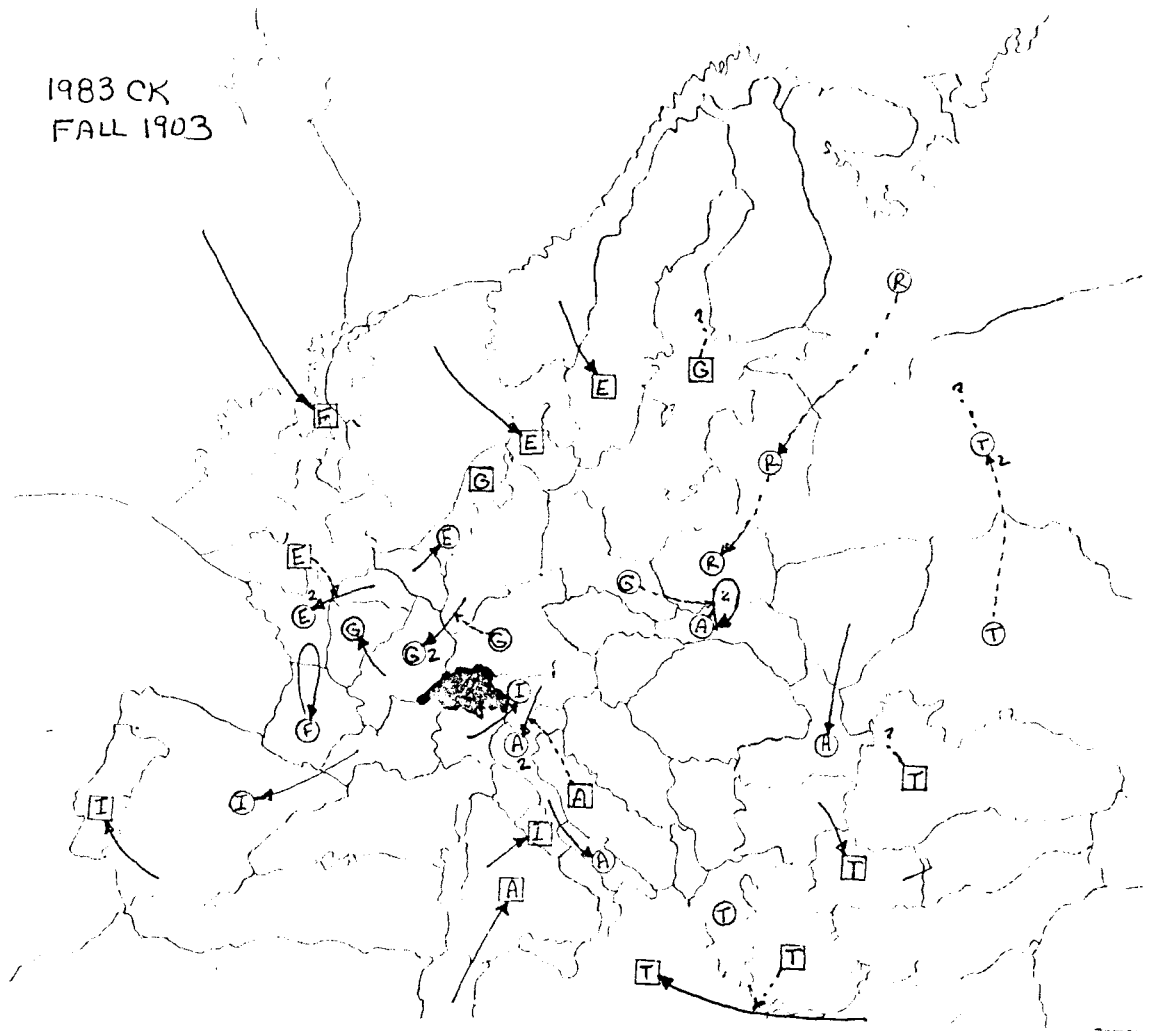
Deadline for Winter 1903 builds and removals and Spring 1904 is Thursday, May 24, 1984.

1983 CK Press: -----

Vienna-London: How about England ruling the seas and Austria ruling the supply centers, Deal?

Vienna-London: The first official stab? I don't know. I've counted several stabs already, they must have been unofficial.

Vienna-Switzerland: If you've ever lived in Italy, you'd know why Cupcake is abandoning it.



1983 CK Press Continued -----

Mr. Nixon-Queen of Deceit: We make a great team.

Berlin-Paris: Just like the old days of thirty years ago...

Berlin-Judy: If you want cheesecake, you'll have to ask Turkey for some.

Judy-Berlin: I've got all the cheesecake I need. I'm printing it here and returning the photo. Thanks.

You've got some nice support.

The Wall-Cathy: Thanx for the moral support. But have a little faith, I tend to be more of a pain dying than I am alive and prospering. Just ask the Orc.

France-Turkey: Elton John? Maybe the day you agree to looking like Rosy Grier.

Con-World: Well, kiddies, I'm going to be in Limbo for awhile. Try Phoenix or Chicago. Or whatever Judy lists as my COA.



Our own Ben Schilling with Phyllis Byrne, the daughter of Boardman Number Custodian, Kathy Byrne. Ben, is that lens cap in your pocket or were you just happy to be there?

1983 CK Press Continued:

Vienna-Con: I didn't say you look like Steve Langley, just that you play like Steve Langley.

Vienna-Rome: She has my soul, there's nothing I can do about it. Sorry!

The Wall-England: If I remember correctly you have a couple of little ones at home. Obviously you heard of the get together from someone/somewhere else.

Sorry I didn't think to invite you but what advertising there was were along the lines of blanket invitations. All you had to do was call for info...

The Wall-England: This is a personal invitation to you from me inviting you to attend Mad-Con Memorial Day weekend. Write if you'd like to get info on it.

As things stand now it will be at my place with Frueh's being used for a place to set up one board and the rest at my place. Be there, aloha.

The Wall-The Rest: The same invite goes to all of the rest of you.

Paris-Berlin: I don't answer letters sent to me demanding that I come up with a plan. Not in this one, not ever. Comprendez?

The Wall-Mazzer: If you aren't promoting Frueh for the Nixon Award then you haven't played with Frueh. Just ask our own little scaly skinned wonder here in this Zine.

The Wall-Stark England: All right if you want to exchange homelands we'll exchange homelands but I stil think that it is a funny way to run an alliance.

Paris-Rome: O.K. I'll pass the nipple, that'll give you something to suck on besides your schedule.

North of the Canadian Border to the Wall: You want to send out directions to your Memorial Day get together?

Berlin-Vienna: What about scrupulous females?

Berlin-London: Are we talking about the same thing? I don't know what to believe any more. Reality is alright, provided you don't make it a habit.

Germany-Turkey: I'm beating on France because he's from Madison? I used to live there myself, well before he did I'm sure...

National Enquirer: We print only the truth. You have to figure out to which reality that our news belongs.

Austria-France: Liverpool in Autumn can be very pleasant.

Austria-Con: You're right, never mind this Teenage Romance. How's about an alliance based on pure lust?

Rome-The Wall: But...but...this is how Puppy told me I was supposed to play as your neighbor! Haven't I done it right?

Rome: So much for my bid as the Great Conciliator.

Rome-Constantinople: Count the dots - which end of the strings did you say you're on?

Rome-Everyone Except A/T: How's about starting a betting pool - how long before the scum Queen or Mr. Nixon Award Winner let their true natures get the better of them? Picking which one succumbs first pays double, okay?

Rome-Con (re: Con-Vie): But you left off the words "...as far as you can throw me!" at the end!

Rome: Heehee! Boy. this righteous indignation stuff sure is fun!

England-Germany: Sorry Ben, but my letter explained my reasons.

London-Liverpool: Important message to all shepherders in Liverpool. A French fleet has been sighted in the North Atlantic. There is a good chance a landing is forthcoming (unless the gods cause a NMR). It is recommended that all ewes be placed in safe areas until the fleet has been sunk.

Judy-London: Is it true the French like to take U-turns?

Cathy-Judy: Well, did I make it on time or did the post office fail me.

Judy-Cathy: You made it, the pony express person had to carry her horse the last three miles, but she delivered on time.

Turkey-England: Surprize, surprize.

Turkey-Germany: Why don't I trust you?

Turkey-Italy: Why don't I trust you?

Turkey-Austria: Why don't I trust you?

READER'S COMMENTS ON DIPLOMATOID CONFESSIONS

In my last issue, I printed an article by Mark Hogue and asked for your comments on it. Here in their entirety are some letters I got of which portions concern the Diplomatoïd article. Those portions are highlighted with double slantbars (//) surrounding them. ((My comments are surrounded by double parentheses)).

John Michalski, Moore OK,

Say, I almost missed that great press piece about me and the Fluff in 83N. I read it to him over the phone when I found it; terrific. "Turn it over" - right.

//Re Diplomatoïd: I'm not sure I understand his exaggeration and hyperbole, but I do understand yours. I too prefer draws with allies/friends to "wins" over betrayed acquaintances. But I've also found this a minority in practice. I think I'm just mellowing with senility, er, I mean age. There may be a lot of people like that, but we are in few games, while the cut-your-throat-for-Munich kids are in 20 apiece, so we are a minority of positions. Also, everyone is greedy and rotten now and then.//

Let me say again that your practice of listing addresses, including yours, each season and each game, is a big help to people like me. The maps are a big help too.

Say, why not use those Recipe Ready stickers on other people's issues instead? If only one, use it on Caruso's, what do you think?

I'm out of town again this week, trying to contain my excitement here in thrilling Bartlesville, Oklahoma (an hour north of Tulsa). After supper we hit the all-night night spot here, Winchell's Donuts, and had a cup of coffee and a donut each, doubling the night's retail sales in town. Ughh...

((Sorry, I should have alerted you to Tallman's press on the mail cover page of the last issue. You say you read it to him over the phone when you found it. Why did you have so much trouble finding your phone? You make a good point in noting that the great majority of positions are played by people bent on winning at all odds. In fact, you will find that some of them get very upset with you if you don't play the game in the same manner. As I stated in the last issue, my challenge is in guessing what others will do. Part of that challenge is in discovering their basal strategy (sort of like basal metabolism) - and when so few have our sets of priorities, it is difficult for others to guess what we will do. And then when they begin to suspect we are soft-hearted, we get greedy and rotten. Fun.

Thanks for the nice comments about the addresses and maps. I'm out of those Recipe Ready stickers that you sent me when you were a meat cutter. I sent them to you to show you connected. Now that I give it some thought, I should have sent those pork recipes to some of our non-pork-eating readership.

Bartlesville OK sounds as exciting as Redwood City CA. At least you don't live there.))

Mike Barno, Endwell NY,

How's everything in scenic Winsome River Valley? Thought I'd write to inform you of my COA above (I left school and moved back home) and to comment on some things in WL-21. (Might as well make some contribution if you're sending me the zine.)

//On "Confessions of a Diplomatoïd": I seem to have gone through three stages in perception of my fellow players, back when I got started in postal play. Initially, everyone else (excluding the locals with whom I learned the game) was a faceless name, an address to which to send messages of persuasion enabling me to succeed at my private little game, played between me and the game board.

More Comments on "Diplomatoid"

As negotiations led to friendly letters, the people became important to me. It grew hard to consider the stab of an ally, especially after one fellow took such an event far too seriously. I experienced the emotions and concerns that inspired Mark to write "Confessions".

But as I spread out into the hobby, meeting many people through a number of zines, it became clear that the hobby really transcends the game. Sharing enjoyment with friends is far more important to me than the next supply center chart. I'm not playing any postal games now and I won't for quite a while - but I can name fifty postal players off the top of my head whom I count among my most valued friends and whom I'll gladly drive across half the country to see.

So have faith, Diplomatoids, and be active. Find zines that fit your tastes, Dipdom can be so much more than a game, an experience in which "lies" and "stabs" naturally fall into perspective: something to have fun with as good times are shared.//

Conrad Minshall's letter got my attention. Love the guy's tastes.

Foundation's Edge is a remarkable look at the decision-making process of characters of widely differing heritage and motivation. I found myself yelling for the choice I wanted at the climactic decision point; thankfully, the Good Doctor granted my wish. I found Friday to be enjoyable, if less significant than other Heinlein works. I don't find it sexist at all; Friday is intelligent and capable in a very rough business; her weakness is an understandable sensitivity regarding her origin as a parentless product of genetic engineering. Her sex-role attitudes seem reasonable enough for her. Heinlein understands a sometimes unpopular fact: men and women are different, mutually dependent, and strongly affected by their varying capabilities and weaknesses. And for all the problems caused by this bipolarity, vive la difference!

I'd like to recommend Harrison's Stainless Steel Rat books, Douglas Adams' Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy trilogy, anything by Larry Niven, and Spider Robinson's Callahan's Crosstime Saloon stories. Have I mentioned these before?

I read Haldeman's Mindbridge and The Forever War when I was younger; I enjoyed them. I can't find them in local bookstores, so I guess I'll have to hit the library.

Oh well, gotta run. Take it sleazy.

((Your Diplomatoid comments caused me to reflect that the process you went through is not unique to Diplomacy or you, but is a process that occurs when anyone interacts with anyone else over something of mutual interest. At least for me, this happens. At first it is the mutual interest that creates the bond, and later the relationship that transcends the initial bond. The funny thing about it is that the awareness of the new bond always seems to take me by surprise. Thanks for the great comments.

With both you and Minshall recommending them, I've been looking for the Vonnegut and Harrison "Stainless Steel Rat" stories. I'll have to reevaluate my comments about Heinlein being a sexist after reading your comments. Obviously I saw something in the story that others don't. It's been so long since I've read it that I can't be specific about what caused me to have that opinion. Better to say nothing. I've read Adam's Hitchhiker's Guide recently and am delaying reading the next two in the trilogy. To read all three at once would have felt like playing all of Bill Cosby's records in one evening or eating ten cucumber sandwiches at one sitting.

Thanks for the other book to look for - - I've never read anything by Spider Robinson. Did you know Niven has a new novel - The Integral Trees. I'm almost done with it and it is great! The cover art reminds me of Peter Pan. I was so intrigued I paid for it instead of waiting for it at the library.