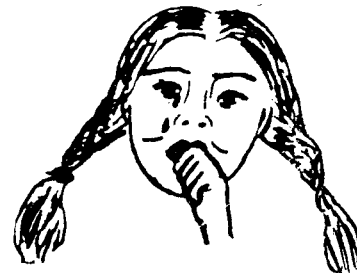




Winsome Losesome



ISSUE THIRTY-FIVE

SEPTEMBER 26, 1985

INTRODUCTION

WINSOME LOSESOME is a gaming publication dedicated to the play of Postal DIPLOMACY. DIPLOMACY is a multi-player political conflict game invented by Allan Calhmer and currently owned by the Avalon Hill Game Co. This 'zine is devoted exclusively to Postal DIPLOMACY. WINSOME LOSESOME is published by the me, Judy Winsome, at 3902 Lakemead Way, Redwood City, CA 94062. Subscriptions are 40¢ an issue. There is only one game left in the life of this 'zine. I will gladly refund the remaining subscription fee of anyone who no longer wishes to subscribe. Your address label contains the total (TL) balance in your account which includes the credit (CR) you may have earned for standing by or submitting articles. The number in parentheses is for my use in retrieving your account from my computer file. I normally use five week deadlines. The deadline for this issue is Thursday, October 24, 1985.

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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? Lynn Torkelson, John Michalski, and Robyn Finley are receiving this issue free for being a standby or for submitting standby orders.

Standbys: Terry Tallman, Charlie Morris, Robyn Finley, Joe Stark, Dave Rice, John Michalski

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EPILOGUE

This is a strange place for an epilogue, but not so strange for me. I did a lot of reading on vacation, and would like to share some comments with you. My most memorable reading was "Footfall" by Niven and Pournelle. It's about contact with extraterrestrials that apparently descended from elephants. I think I work for a couple of them. I also read Ramsey Campbell's "The Doll Who Ate His Mother". I am now reading his "Incarnate". I am very fond of Steven King, and so it is not unusual that I enjoy Campbell. He writes in a similar manner about a similar subject. Of the two books, I favor "Incarnate". I am 360 pages into the 500 page book and I still don't know where he is taking me. It's about a group of people who participated in an experiment about dreams and their ability to foretell/modify the future.

I tried a Piers Anthony book, "On a Pale Horse" which is about the personification of Death. It was a very interesting system of incarnate beings. I understand there is a series of such stories, but I found his style of writing to be too flippant for me. I was reminded of Max Schulmann, "Barefoot Boy With Cheek" for some reason. I like that type of humor, but in a book I find it doesn't carry me on to want to read the next book. On the other hand, the humor of Patrick McManus ("The Grasshopper Trap", "Never Sniff a Gift Fish", "They Shoot Canoes, Don't They?") carries me from book to book.

1983 CK

AUSTRIA - - - Mike Mazzer, 1900 Kelton Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90025
 ENGLAND - - - Joe Stark, 15925 Quarry Rd., Oberlin, OH 44074
 FRANCE - - - James Wall, 114 N. Franklin St, Apt 1, Madison WI 53703
 RUSSIA - - - Lynn Torkelson, 992 Rosedale Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30306
 TURKEY - - - Cathy Ozog, 1526 N. Lawler Ave., Chicago, IL 60651
 GAMES PERSON Judy Winsome, 3902 Lakemead Way, Redwood City, CA 94062

1983 CK

SEASONS SEPARATED BY VOTE OF TWO OR MORE PLAYERS

WINTER 1908

Austria (Mazzer) Build Army Trieste
 England (Stark) Build Army Edinburgh
 Russia (Torkelson) Remove Army Finland

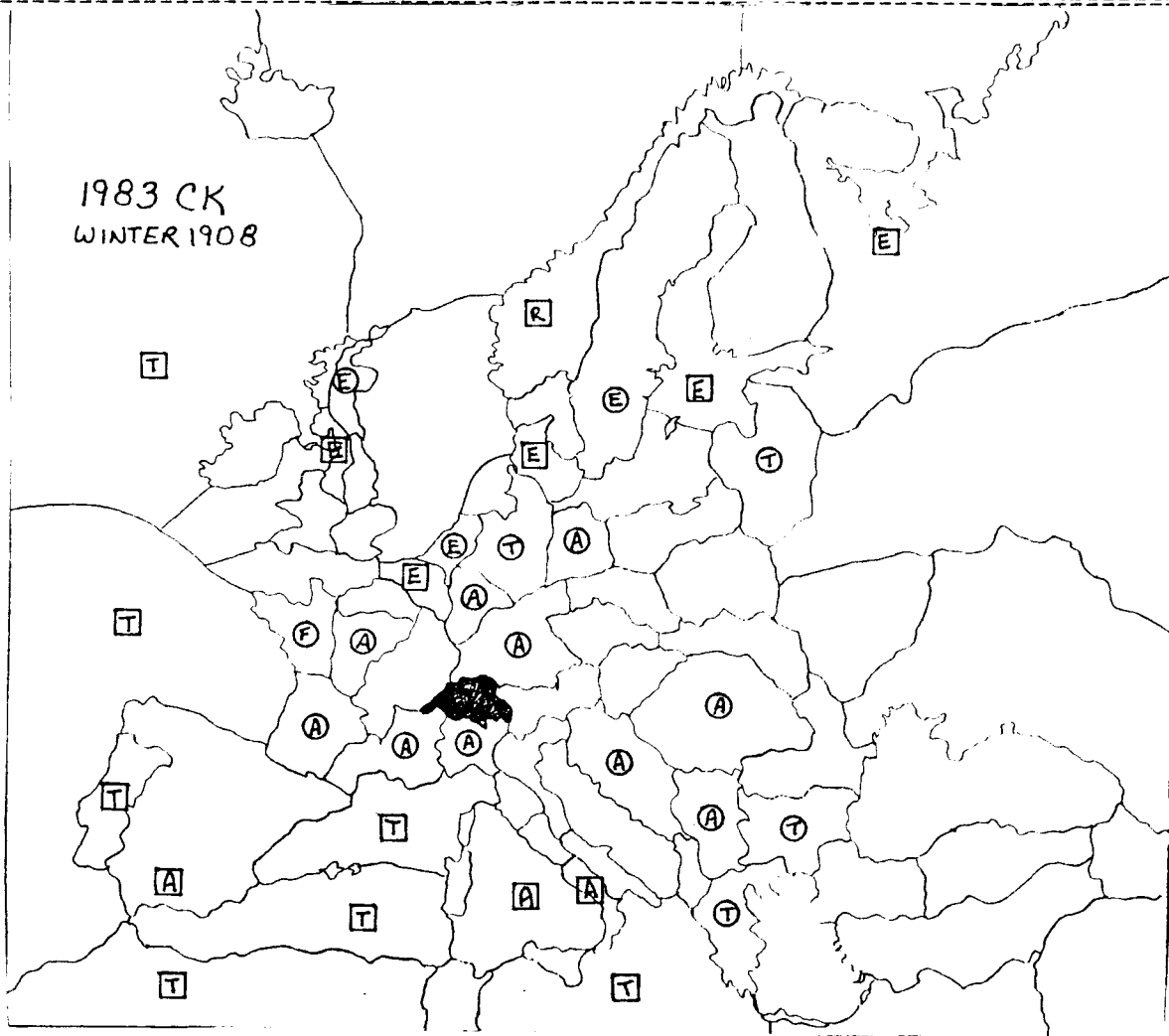
Deadline for Spring 1909 moves is Thursday, October 24, 1985. AT draw fails and is reproposed. NVR means NO, if you NMR it's YES.

Press:-----

Finland: Tsarina Xherpes II met with her advisors to plan the defense against the marauding English. "As a young sailor, I learned an important principle," explained Admiral Popoff. "Spring forward; fall back." The Tsarina looked amused. "Spring forward then, Popoff!" she ordered.

Eng-A/T: I still vote no: come and get me.

Turkey-Russia: I'm a twit! Forgive me?



1983 N

Boardman Number: 1983 N

Zeen: WINSOME-LOSESOME GM: Judy Winsome

THE PLAYERS

AUSTRIA Richard Edison (Out F07)
 ENGLAND Steve Birch (Drop S02), Lynn Torkelson (Sur S11)
 FRANCE Ron (MM) Brown (Draw S11)
 GERMANY Mark Hogue (Drop S05), John Michalski (Sur S11)
 ITALY Mark Duarte (Out F05)
 RUSSIA Susie Tarkelson (Drop F01), Terry Tallman (Drop F08), Sigourney Street (Out F10)
 TURKEY Tim Winger (Draw S11)

SUPPLY CENTERS

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
A	5	6	5	4	2	1	0			
E	3	3	2	1	1	2	2	3	3	4
F	6	6	8	8	11	11	11	9	8	8
G	5	6	7	8	6	6	6	8	9	7
I	4	4	2	2	0					
R	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	2	1	0
T	5	5	6*	7	9*	9	10	12	13	15

* means played one short.

Endgame Statements

John Michalski (Germany - survived) Quite honestly I don't recall the situation when I entered in 1905. The chart says Germany dropped from 8 to 6, but I held my own and went up a little at the end (6-6-6-8-9-7). The remarkable thing is that most of this play gain is due to my puppeting to the English standby, Lynn Torkelson. Did any of you know I signed and sent in his dictated orders as far back as I can recall? (Did anyone care?) Lynn was very good about sending me a set, and often had a letter to go with it, despite my really responding only once. Observors of the game might wonder why a country would puppet to one which is a third or less its size; let this be a lesson to you. A lot can be done by one player who cares, in midst of many who either don't, or, are already so locked up into their alliance that they don't even want to talk to you. I followed their example then: I told England that if he would put the orders he wanted on a postcard to me, I'd sign and send them in. When I entered in 1905, England was 1, my Germany 6, according to the chart. At the end, we were 4 and 7, and were both standbys. I also see that the draw was shared by the only two original players to survive. Not untypical, and sort of just.

I believe Ron Brown/France wrote once, early on, but we were tactically locked into struggle against each other, I think. Tim Winger, Turkey, wrote a couple of times, but was distant and had little to say. The last Russian wrote too much in the style of those players who write for their empire, with treaties/deadlines/written alliances/you-must-do-this-or-that, and that style has always been a complete turnoff to me. I referred him to my master, or ignored him.

I'd like to thank Judy for a well-run game with a lot of little extras that really help; maps, address lists each season, etc. As a former GM and publisher, I know that that "little" stuff is a lot of work, as is reasonable timeliness, and like a well-run game, it is not really common. Thus I am more appreciative, and pleasantly surprised to find it.

((Thanks, John, for the nice comments. I would like to take you up on your offer to rejoin the standby list. I don't know how long my last game will last, and don't want it to suffer for lack of a standby.))

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Another Endgame Statement

Lynn Torkelson (England - survived) First I must commend Tim Winger on his strength of character. Not every player would honor an agreement to vote for a two-way when he had a forced win clearly available! In his position I would do the same, but I know from experience that few appreciate a player who consistently puts principle above shallow opportunism.

But Ron Brown deserves special congratulations: He led his eight-center France to a draw with Tim's fifteen-center Turkey, and he did it with skillful and well-judged diplomacy. Although everyone in the game except Tim answered at least one of my letters, Ron was the only one who maintained communication throughout. And even though our objectives were often in conflict, his letters were always a pleasure to receive.

I inherited the English position in Summer 1902 - - I had to figure out where to retreat F Nth! Somehow Ron had convinced the original English player to go after Russia with three units while France moved F Eng-Lon in Fall 1901. That set up F Lon S German F Hol-Nth in Spring 1902.

Luckily for me, Italy was in Tyo and Den was still vacant. So I let Germany know I was retreating to Den instead of Edi, and I let Italy know my plan also. Germany had to leave Mun unguarded to double up on Den, so Italy waltzed right into Mun and then Bur. Too bad Austria mindlessly stabbed Italy the same season! But that Italian army forced Germany and France to relieve the pressure on me enough to keep England alive.

My toughest challenge at the beginning was to convince Terry Tallman that I was not going to go after StP after I took Swe in Fall 1902. We did disengage, but his suspicions led to indecisive Russian play at that crucial point. In fact, Terry was obviously not playing for money! For example, in Fall 1903 we had an arrangement that would get either Den for England or Ber for Russia. Germany defended Den; but instead of moving directly into Ber, which would have succeeded, Terry changed his mind and supported a non-existent unit instead.

Although I was able to disengage with Russia, my efforts to make peace with Germany and/or France met with no success. When I was down to two centers and in position to reclaim Lon unopposed, Ron Brown offered to let me take Edi and Hol from Germany if I'd leave him Lon. I complied, but he stood me out of Edi anyway, reducing England to one center.

When the original Germany dropped out and John Michalski took over, I had agreed to puppet for France to survive; but the Edi standoff incident swayed me to work with John instead. He was burned out on Dip at that point and was willing to go along with most of my suggested moves. With his help, I got England and Norway back, and John captured Tunis in 1909.

All we needed was reasonable play by Russia to establish a northern line, but Terry continued to play weakly, then NMRed out. His replacement ordered all units to hold (!) while Turkey overran Russia.

Because Turkey was very close to a forced win then -- and not realizing that Tim would decline to accept it -- I put all my effort into forming an E-F-G to contain Turkey. John and I pulled back to counter the Turkish advance and to free Ron's units to defend his Italian conquests, but Ron just kept coming after us and did not bother to defend Italy at all. When Ron wrote that Turkey would accept F-T instead of the win, I had my doubts, I admit it! But Ron had Tim figured exactly right, and the draw passed.

My thanks to all the players for making this game an enjoyable one for me -- with double thanks to John Michalski and Ron Brown. But most of all, thanks to Judy Winsome for a great zine and great GMing! ((Thank Lynn, I certainly enjoyed your play in this game and the great press you wrote. It was a most enjoyable game to GM!!!))