

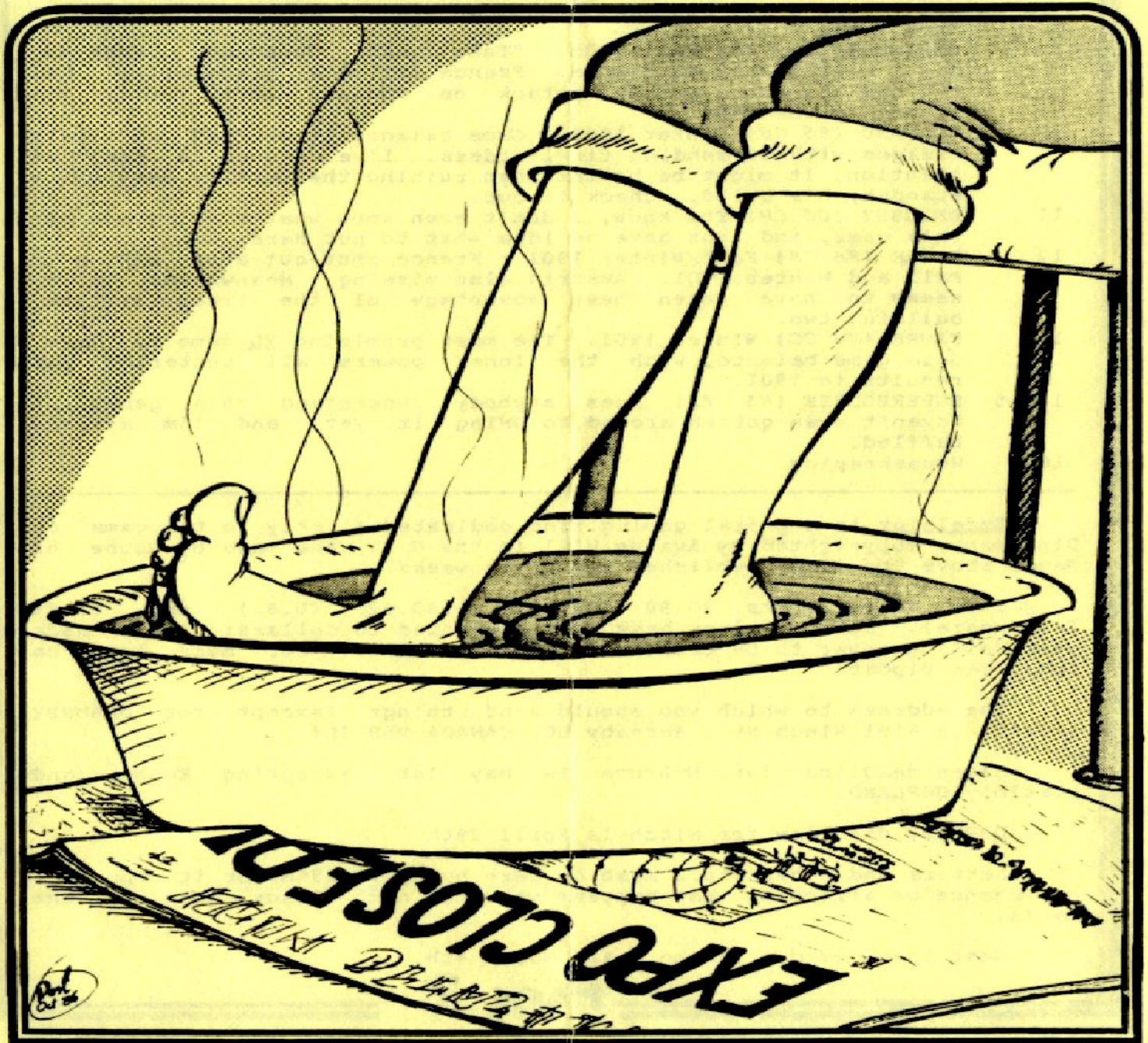
How could I quit when I was having so much fun?

excelsior

Price
in Canada...\$8.98
In the U.S...\$8.62
elsewhere...\$124

APRIL 1987

ISSUE No. 16 by BRUCE MCINTYRE



DIRECTORY

EXCELSIOR #16 (finally!) by Bruce McIntyre with a whole heaven of a lot of support from Nancy Hurrell, printed March 29, 1987 by the Superhero of the Xerox 9500, Chris Buck, in Vancouver, BC, Canada.

| Page | Contents |
|-------|--|
| 1 | The cover art is very old, but I decided to go with it anyhow. It'll be the last cover Patricia draws for awhile, because I haven't room in the budget even at her friendly prices. |
| 2-6 | Directory, followed by DipGab |
| 7 | Most (Some {One}) of the Post. A letter from Patricia Post. |
| 8 | ALBINONI (85 AA) Fall 1906. Two more new players in this game, just in time to see a very creative set of French orders from Ron ("What's so unusual about a French army in Albania?") Krukowski. |
| 9 | BEETHOVEN (85 AB) Fall 1905. "Take Tunis. Go ahead. Make my day." says Turkey to France. France declines gracefully. Has the now abandoned French attack on England left Turkey too strong in the Med? |
| 10 | COPLAND (85 CG) Winter 1903. Game balance threatened as Italy resigns without sending final orders. I've offered a sort of solution, it might be better than ruining the game by denying a stand-by his build. Check it out. |
| 11 | DEBUSSY (85 CH) You know, I don't even know what's going on in this game, and thus have no idea what to put here.... |
| 12 | ELGAR (86 CB) Fall/Winter 1901. France shut-out after NMRing in Fall and Winter 1901. Austria also missing. Meanwhile, Turkey seems to have taken best advantage of the irregularities, building two. |
| 13 | FAURE (86 CC) Winter 1901. The most promising XL game to date. Good game balance, with the inner powers all bettering par results in 1901. |
| 14-15 | SUPERBOURSE (85 SS) Does anybody understand this game? I haven't even gotten around to GMing it yet, and I'm already baffled. |
| 16 | Housekeeping. |

Excelsior is a postal gaming zine dedicated firstly to the game of Diplomacy, copyrighted by Avalon Hill in the U.S., and made by House of Games above the line, published every six weeks.

This issue costs \$0.90 (Canada), \$0.62 (U.S.) and \$1.24 (elsewhere). Subscriptions have been converted to dollars: please check your mailing cover to be certain I'm not in error. For more info on subs, see DipGab.

The address to which you should send things (except for DEBUSSY orders) is 6191 Winch St., Burnaby BC, CANADA V5B 2L4.

Games deadline for M^cBruce is May 1st, excepting ELGAR, and possibly COPLAND.

DEBUSSY deadline for Mitch is April 29th.

Letters and other stuff must be here by April 29th for it to have any chance of affecting what happens when the next issue goes to the mails.

Next issue is due in the mails March 4th.

DipGab

Shorter, but still essentially the same, we're back after almost seven months, and I suppose I've got some explaining to do....

Just in case there are any of you who don't know what the problem was, I'll recap quickly. Those of you who are in games will know, because I told you with the first set of game reports I sent out. Unfortunately I didn't have the funds to send that notice out to all the rest of the XL subbers, and word just didn't get around as well as I'd hoped it would. I did inform a few publishers, but didn't specifically ask anyone to print my bad news, because zine space costs money.

Anyhow, the story, in a nutshell, is that upon returning from a fantastic three weeks in the east, I found that I had been replaced at work. Fired without reason or notice is the official version; the reality is: fired to save money. I could eke out a reasonable living on the \$5.00/hour they paid me, but they chose simply to hire someone who would work for seventy-five cents less per hour. Things quickly deteriorated after that: I was unable to obtain a record of employment from the manager I'd worked under through August, until just before Christmas, which meant two months without any income at all, other than Nancy's Unemployment Insurance cheque (remember, she was working for Expo, so she's out of a job as well). I am now receiving UI, plus a settlement of four weeks severance pay thanks to the intervention of the B.C. Employment Standards commission (I decided not to wait for a hearing to come up and take four weeks now, instead of six weeks later.), and I think just maybe, if I keep XL to 12-16 pages, I can a) keep the zine going, and b) reduce my debt to the subbers a bit.

However....

I'm afraid I have no choice but to increase the sub fee and account structure a bit. The economic balance sheet of producing XL showed about a 50% loss; I'd simply like to try to reduce that to about 10%. So, you'll find on your mailing cover, not a T for trade or a number indicating your last issue, but a dollar figure. This is in Canadian dollars unless you live in the U.S., in which case it is in American dollars. The new subscription rates will be as follows. The price of each issue will be stated on the front cover. This will be calculated as follows:

Canadian dollars: 3.5 cents per page, plus postage: 34 (51) cents if you live in Canada; or 68 (\$1.06) cents if you live elsewhere.

American dollars: 2.5 cents per page, plus postage: 22 (39) cents.

The bracketed postage figures are for those who prefer to get their XL as before (unfolded). [Late note: Canadian postal rates will be going up on April 1st (and I guess all of us who use Canada post really are fools) so the sub rates will rise slightly next issue for non-Americans, probably by 2 (3) cents in Canada and 4 (6) elsewhere. Of course, Americans don't have to worry, until the USPS ups their rates.] The last page you will be charged for is the 28th, but I doubt I will be going that far, at least until I get a job. If you haven't enough money in your sub account, I'll send the issue anyhow, but won't send another until sufficient funds are recieved.

Just for examples sake, a 16 page issue will cost 56 Canadian cents, and 40 American ones, plus postage. This is just about what I pay (6 cents a side, but the average goes up considering reductions, colour covers, etc.) to get XL printed.

I sure hope this is not asking too much of y'all. Most of you have won a free issue here or there, which is being converted into real money now, so I don't think you can justify complaint. If anyone does, though, I'll send off a cheque to you, provided there aren't hordes: if there are, I'd have to pay them each off one by one as I could afford it.

As an incentive to stay on, then: the second issue I do after

landing a job will be absolutely free to all, and probably rather large. (I say second to allow time to put some paycheques in the bank.)

I'm not going to have time to go through the trades this issue, so, publishers, we'll still remain as simple trades for now if that's O.K., but by next issue, I'll have figured out how much I owe you for the one-sidedness of our "trade" for the past while. I may have to pay up and cut a few trades temporarily; I hope there's no hurt feelings there. Eventually, you'll have a dollar account as well, and we can mutual sub or I can add the value of the zines I receive, and subtract the value of XL's I send out.

Between September and November 1896, I got more sample requests than I had in XL's history. I couldn't very well send out samples with no money, so I've kept a list, and will send all of those interested parties this issue and a previous one, as this issue is likely to be uncharacteristically administrative. I thank you all for your interest and apologize profusely. Those of you who sent cheques: I haven't cashed any of them, and since they're quite old now, I'll return them to you with the samples.

There are a lot of good looking new zines out there as well, something I predicted in print with my review of Bruce Linsey's Publishers Handbook. Jeff Zarse, Les Casey, Rory Noble, and a few others are all appearing with astonishing frequency. I'll be sending all these new pubbers this issue of XL, and I'll ask them to send me an issue of theirs in return, but that may be all I can offer at this time; unless a mutual sub is irresistable. I wish you the best of luck in publishing, though: we longtime publishers are only kidding (eh, Ron Brown), when we say things like "my condolences at your newfound burden..."

The nicest new thing about XL, as you may already have noticed, will be the game reports' new look. With the aid of new software and a mouse (a mouse is an input device consisting of an overturned trak-ball and a button--mine actually has two. The main characteristic of mouse-compatible software is the dual action known as the point-and-click. The mouse ball moves around on the desk, and the on-screen pointer moves similarly, and you press the button when you want to select something resting under the pointer), I designed the map pages which you'll see on game report pages. They may require some explanation, so let me remind you of the following.

--On the map, units are represented by squares (fleets) and circles (armies). The bit-mapped pattern inside will show which nationality these units have. The pattern for each country is shown on the left, beside the name of the country. However, some units from the same country may appear slightly different. For example, you might look closely two English fleets and find that one has stripes in columns 1, 3, 5, and 7, and the other has stripes in columns 2, 4, 6, and 8. Similarly, two French armies may not have the same number of white dots inside. This is because the patterns are fixed on the full field: if a unit is moved over one pixel, the pattern doesn't move with it. I tried making the units a bit bigger, but this turned the armies into octagons, which looked bad.

--The addresses are, for the most part, as you should write them on an envelope. If there is not enough room in the box for an address, I'll try the following: a) use a smaller size typeface, b) use indentation to indicate where one line continues, or c) put the full address in the game report.

--There may not be enough room for all press, but I'll find a place for it somewhere. Hopefully I'll remember to tell you where it continues.

--I apologize to those of you who think the map looks like it has no concern for geographical detail: you're absolutely right. As I think I said before, my aim in creating a Diplomacy map for reproduction has

always been to distort the geography a little so mortals can detect Austrian fleets in Albania, to cite a common example. But I think that this one is better than the ones I was using (despite the fact that--horrors--I used the last one as a guide). I won't even mention the fact that this was my third attempt. Well, now that I have, I may as give you the excuse: pixels on the screen are rectangular; dots on the printer are square. Until you learn this, the result is a squashed map. As it is, the screen version is expanded up and down-wise.

--During the next few issues, I may experiment a bit with the format, but the orders as printed are always the last word.

If you think the new software that produced this is worth buying for your C-64 or C-128, you're wrong. GEOS (which stands for Graphic Environment Operating System) is very attractive until you get serious with it. The word-processor, geoWrite is painfully slow, and rather primitive compared to PaperClip. The graphics editor, geoPaint, is useful if you're into computer art, but I personally have almost no other use for it other than the Diplomacy map and perhaps as a place to store graphic displays of Chess, Backgammon, etc, if I want to fill XL with a problem or two.

But by far the biggest problem with GEOS is the limitations imposed by the system. With GEOS, you get the following:

- geoPaint, a graphics editor
- geoWrite, a word processor
- DeskTop, a disk housekeeper
- Text manager, to store text to be added to a geoPaint file
- Photo Manager, to store pictures to be added to a geoWrite file
- Preference manager, used to select system parameters such as screen colour, pointer speed, time and date, etc.
- Accessories which can be called up during execution of a full-scale application like geoWrite: a note pad, alarm clock, and calculator.
- Five extra fonts (typefaces)
- Printer drivers for most Commodore compatible printers, and input drivers for the various input devices you can use with GEOS (joystick, mouse, light pen, etc.)

The problem: you must tailor work disks to suit your needs, which makes things cumbersome. Any WP stuff must be done on a disk which already has geoWrite on it, plus any accessories I may want to use. This leaves precious little room to store WP files. By comparison, with PaperClip, I load the word processing program into the computer, and it's there for good: I can take the disk out, and store my writings on another disk. As a result, I have a disk for each XL game, which is cumbersome.

Hopefully, though, the end result is worth it. Please write and let me know. My idea of the purpose a zine should fulfill is that of a sort of postal club, where Diplomacy can be played, watched, and discussed. It's important to me that I make it not just *possible* to watch a postal Diplomacy game in progress, but also that I make it *easy* to do so.

What have I been doing since XL last appeared? Lots of reading; plucked the Len Deighton Game, Set, and Match spy trilogy from the library and devoured that. I still prefer John Le Carre's style, but Deighton is much easier to read without being on the James Bond level of unrealism. I've also been heavily into Isacc Asimov's fiction: I can't seem to find The Naked Sun anywhere, but have read the other robot novels, and even sampled his excellent knack for short mystery stories. Some of Asimov's best fiction is in his formatted mysteries: for example, in the Black Widowers series, he sticks closely to an overall story format: the Black Widowers invite a guest to a banquet dinner, and, after dinner, grill the guest, starting with the imposing question

"How do you justify your existence?" The grilling invariably leads to a mystery, sometimes trivial, sometimes important, but always intriguing. The reluctant but consistent solver is always Henry, the Widowers' peerless waiter.

A lot of my reading has consisted of bridge books, as Nancy and I are playing quite a bit. I'm rather more serious at it than she is, but then she's miles ahead of where I was after a year of playing. This is more due to the fact that I'm a good critic than the fact that I'm a good teacher. We've been playing two to three times a week at the local clubs, and are pretty consistent in the novice games, winning often in the easy one in ritzy North Vancouver, and close to the top at the novice game at Vancouver's Haida club, which is where the serious players play, but apt to get crushed in the better quality games. Are there any other duplicate bridge players out there? We'd be interested to know how many master points you've accumulated (don't be shy: we're no giant-killers ourselves; I have about 10 points, and Nancy has about 3), and what bidding systems you employ with your favorite partner. Nancy and I play 15-17 notrump openers with Jacoby transfers and minor-suit Stayman, five card majors, limit raises (2NT is our strong raise to 1 of a major), forcing one notrump responses to one of a major, weak twos, and otherwise pretty standard. When Nan gets the system down (she bids accurately for the most part, but tends to overlook calls like negative and takeout doubles, and seldom probes for slams on her own), we'll work on Roman Key Card Blackwood, Inverted minor-suit raises, and the Unusual No-trump, but for now we're doing fine with what we've got.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank those of you who have phoned with kind offers of assistance; I'm sure you'll understand that I had enough debt and didn't need anymore. In fact, this issue is a sort of rush job: it's being put together in a three-day period. I doubt I'll be doing much of a letter column with only 10-odd pages to work with, but I hope to squeeze the odd contest in now and then. One idea is an Excelsior Poll, whereby everyone fills out a Poll questionnaire on the back of the mailing cover. We'll think of something...

Tomorrow, Friday, I have to GM Superbourse (which might just take until Sunday...), then it'll be time to figure out how much credit you've all got remaining in dollars. This issue will cost \$0.90 Canadian, \$0.62 US, and \$1.24 Canadian overseas. I will be crediting you with \$0.67, \$0.60, and \$1.00 per issue remaining respectively. Please let me know a) if there is any error, and b) if you wish to pay the higher prices to have your issues delivered as before: unfolded.

Before I close out this page, I'd better mention that this issue ends Patricia's contract for XL covers. Hopefully this is temporary, because I consider this the greatest loss of all. The cover depicts most of greater Vancouver on October 14, 1986, the day after the end of Expo. I've been trying without much success to put all our Expo/Montreal/BRUXCon experiences into one huge article, but I suppose it'll have to be run serially now that XL is down to 16 pages max.

The answers to the Perelandra quiz last time: 1. Jim Unger (of Herman fame), 2. Woody Allen, 3. Jim Bouton, 4. Isaac Asimov, 5. Jerzy Kosinski, 6. Martin Gardner, 7. John Le Carre, 8. Sid Sackson, 9. Steven Leacock. The music quotes last time were from Claude Bolling's Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano. Patricia wins herself zillions of freebees for scoring high on the quiz (I think she got 'em all, actually), and recognizing the quotes.

Most (Some [One]) of the Post

Despite the fact that there's only one letter this month, this really is "Most of the Post". Course, I don't really blame you all: guy doesn't publish for seven months, doesn't really deserve to get letters.

PATRICIA POST: I hope you enjoyed Montreal, and also hope that (as a predictable consequence) this cover produced without benefit of consultation does not supercede any ideas you may have otherwise desired to see drawn out. The drawing depicts either my feet or Nancy's feet the afternoon of October 13th. I too worked at Expo this [last] summer: the first half of the fair as a musician in the Plaza of Nations and the second half of the fair as a kitchen nigger in the Horizons Restaurant, which was in the Expo Centre. After making beef pot pies and burritoos for in excess of 8 hours a day, I sure needed a good foot soak at the end of the fair. Nancy, I'm sure, had it even more difficult--she had to deal with THE PUBLIC, no?

XL #15 was an exceptional issue--congrats! The only downer was BRUX's tooting and blowing about **XL#13**, which just happened to be the only issue thus far without one of my drawings on the cover...! Hmmmm....

Feedback: my fave **XL** article was Morals Test. Best **XL** issue: toss-up between #13 and #15, even without my cover drawing. I believe that part of the draw for me with these two issues is the Quiz section. If you can keep dreaming up super quizzes like the ones in those two issues, you'll keep those who are Diplomacy ignorant (like me and Carl) won over and anticipating the arrival of each issue.

Here's a polling idea you missed. Here we go with Narcissism at its best--what do your readers think is the best cover drawing to date, and why?

Bye the bye, La Scala [the Milanese opera company that produced an opera in Vancouver during Expo as part of the World Festival] was excellent. And I agree that the plot for I Lombardi [the opera they produced here] is ridiculous. So is the plot for Carmen and a hundred other operas. They weren't written by great novelists, but by composers. So you go to an opera for the following reasons:

- 1) to listen to outstanding, albeit somewhat irritating vocalists.
- 2) to listen to outstanding orchestral renditions
- 3) to be overwhelmed by extravagant costuming and scenery

....but not for the following reasons:

- 1) to enjoy a thought-provoking and meaningful plot
- 2) to observe outstanding acting, or even mediocre acting
- 3) to leave without being milked for applause by endless curtain calls

La Scala was once-in-a-lifetime, and I got my tix half price. No reason to not go.

BM: I think that resoundingly puts me in my prejudicial place on the subject of opera, but I still think many more would have been enticed to go had they done a more famous work. How were the acoustics in the Coliseum? Did they put subtitles on the scoreboard? Sorry... I'm being unreasonable and sarcastic again.

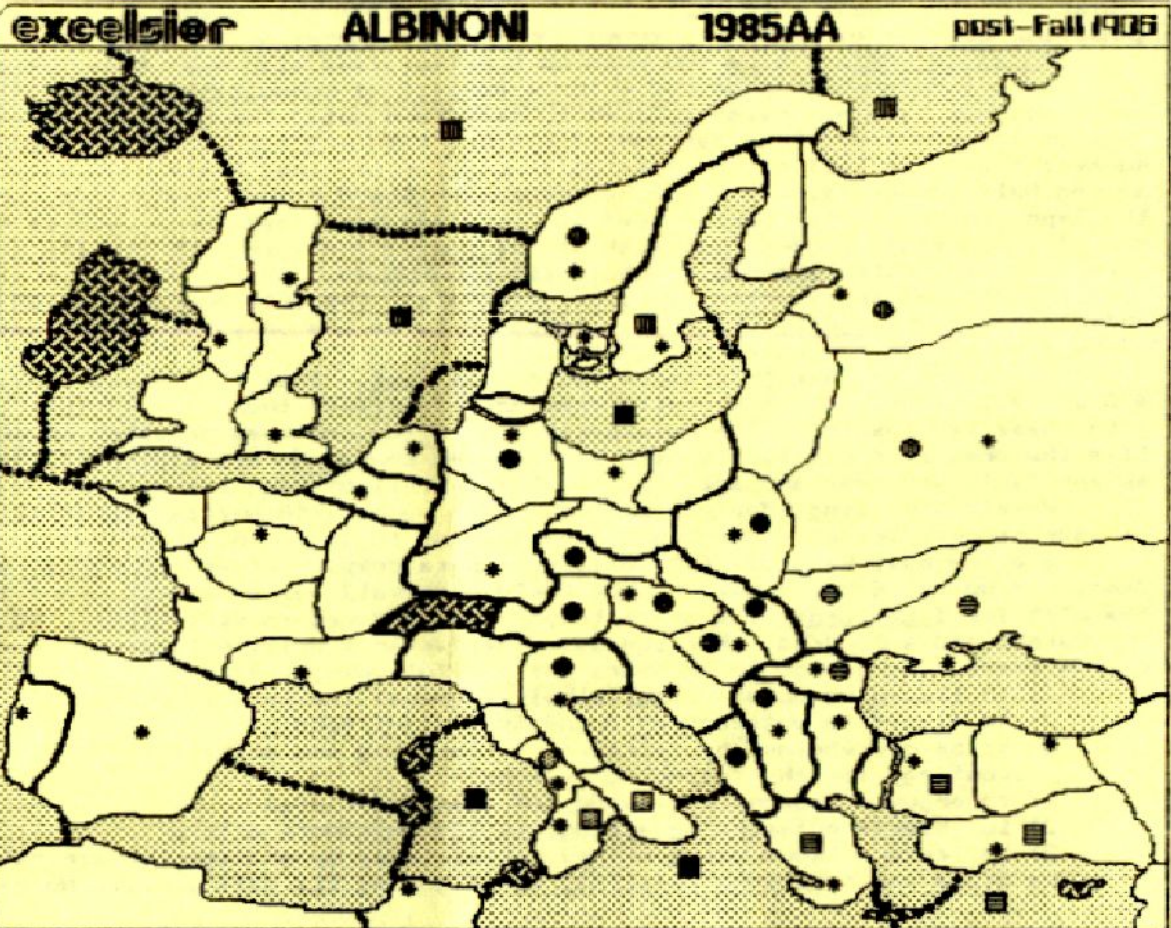
Nan wasn't the only one who had to deal with the public, although admittedly I didn't have a lot to do except give directions. Nancy actually was promoted from ticket-taker to cashier, which got her away from the gates and back in a booth, where the potential for meeting up with public nuisances was at least confined to one jerk at a time. From where I was, I found most of the tourists to be quite taken with Expo, and Canada in general. Many were quite surprised to hear that the area just north of the site was the slum area of town: to them there was no comparison with American cities. One fellow insisted that the Trans Canada highway was free of trash from Toronto thru Vancouver, something he found amazing.

I'll have to try to do some sort of quiz each issue now, probably this time on the mailing cover, as there ain't no space left now. I think you have every right to want to know what your best cover so far has been. Cast my vote for #10, the "McBruce dying from common cold" issue. I hope that you'll continue to do the covers when I get the money to pay you for them; until then, you've won enough **XL's** in the contest to carry you through.

AUSTRIA REMOVES FRENCH THREAT!!

France creates another...

| Dramatis Personae: | |
|--------------------|---|
| ENGLAND | Bill Shirley 618 Main St. Vermouth, NS CANADA B5A 1J9 |
| GERMANY | Pierre Touchette 1 rue Georges Masson PQ CANADA J6X 2H8 |
| RUSSIA | (eliminated) |
| TURKEY | Melinda Holley P.O. Box 2793 Huntington W.V. USA 25727 |
| AUSTRIA | Paul Milewski P.O. Box 668 Yellow Springs OH USA 45387 |
| ITALY | Robert Acheson Box 4622, 5th SE Edmonton AB CANADA T6E 2A8 |
| FRANCE | Ron Krukowski 5339 W. Eddy Chicago IL USA 60641 |
| Armies | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fleets | <input type="checkbox"/> |



GM: Bruce McIntyre, 6191 W. Finch St., Burnaby B.C., CANADA, V5B 2L4. (phone 604/299-2382).
NEXT DEADLINE: Noon P.S.T., Friday May 1st, 1987.

Orders & Press.

XXXXXXXXXX Fall 1906 Orders

ENGLAND (Bill Shirley):
A StP S A Mos, A Edi-Nurj,
F Nrg H, A Mos H, F Swe H,
F Bar H, F Nrh C A Edi-Nurj,
GERMANY (Pierre Touchette takes over):
A Sil-Har, F Bal-Deo, A Kie-Deo,
A Gal S A Sil-Wir, A Boh S A Gal
TURKEY (Melinda Holley):
F Gre-Ion, A Sev S A Ukr,
F Bl-Coa, F Smg S F Aeq-EMe,
F Aeq-EMe, A Ukr S A Rum-Gal,
A Rum-Gal
AUSTRIA (Paul Milewski takes over):
A Bud S A Tri-Uie, A Tri-Uie,
A Ser-Iu

ITALY (Robert Acheson):
F Ann-Ven, A Rom S F Nap,
F Nap S A Rom
FRANCE (Ron Krukowski):
F EMeS F Ion, F Ion C A Tus-Alb,
A Ven-Iu, F TyS C A Tus-Alb,
A UerS A Ven-Tri (**ROOM!**), A
Pie-Tyr, A Tus-Alb
OOO
GM: No press this time. An English A
Edi was unordered and unnoticed last
time. Both proposals failed due to
abstentions: the 3-way E/F/G got 1 no,
2 abstentions; the 4-way E/F/G/I got
2 abstentions. Only the 4-way
E/F/G/I is repropose.

Master's retreat for next time:

FRA: F EMe r (Sur, OTB)
Winter 1906 Supplies
ENGLAND: No change.
HOME (3), Mos, StP, Nurj, Swe=7.
GERMANY: No change.
HOME (3), Den, Hol, Bel, Wlr=7.
TURKEY: No change.
HOME (3), Sev, Bul, Gre, Rum=7.
AUSTRIA: Gained Uie.
HOME (3), Ser=4.
ITALY: Lost Ven.
Rom, Nap=2.
FRANCE: Lost Uie, Gained Ven.
HOME (3), Tun, Ven, Por, Spa=7.
RESULT: Austria builds one, Italy
removes one, France builds one, and
another if they retreat F EMe OTB.

FRANCE ABANDONS ENGLISH ATTACK

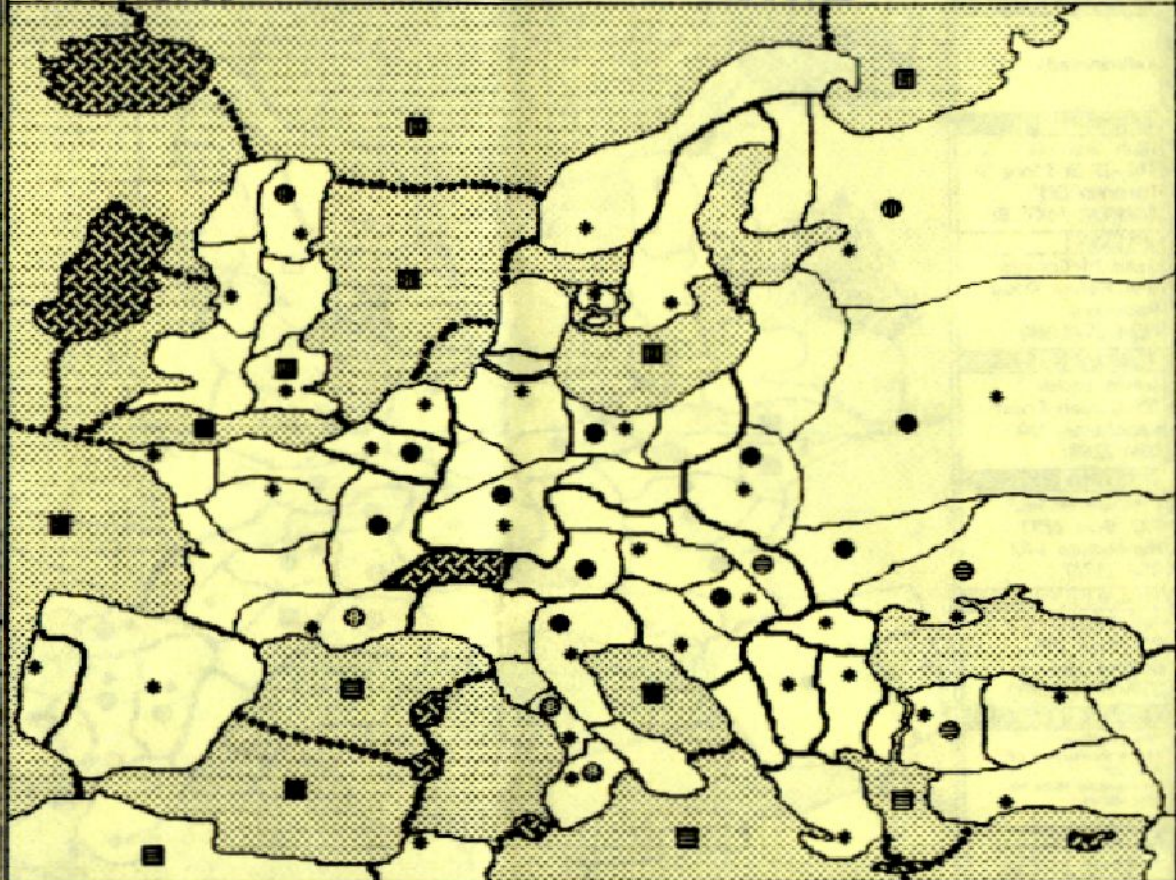
Turkey dominates Medditeranean seaways.

| Dramatis Personae: | |
|--------------------|--|
| ENGLAND | Mitch Wageler 3623 School Ave. Vancouver B.C. CANADA V5R 5N6 |
| GERMANY | Mike Byrne (c/o Peters) 1914 Cameron Drive #3 Madison WI USA 53711 |
| RUSSIA | [eliminated] |
| TURKEY | Alan Stewart 782-25 St Mary St. Toronto ON CANADA M4Y 1R2 |
| AUSTRIA | Robert Acheson Box 4622, Stn. SE Edmonton AB CANADA T6E 2A8 |
| ITALY | Melinda Holley, P.O. Box 2793 Huntington W.V. USA 25727 |
| FRANCE | Steve Cooley 3551 Casamia Ave. Palmsdale CA USA 93558 |
| Armies | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fleets | <input type="checkbox"/> |

excelsior BEETHOVEN

1985AB

after Fall 1905



GPI: Bruce McIntyre, 6191 Winch St., Burnaby B.C., CANADA, V5B 2L4. (phone 684/299-2382).
NEXT DEADLINE: Noon P.S.T., Friday May 1st, 1987.

Orders & Press:

BEETHOVEN Summer/Fall 1988

SUMMER 1985 Retreats:

TURKEY: A Mos + Sev

FRANCE: F Clj + OTB

FALL 1985 Orders:

ENGLAND (Mitch Wageler):

A StP S Gr A Mos, A Lpl-Edi,

F Nth S F Lon, F Den-Bel, F Nrg-Bar,

F Lon H, F Clj-Nrg

GERMANY (Mike Byrne):

A Gal-Ukr, A War S A Gal-Ukr,

A Bar-Mun, A Mos S A Gal-Ukr

TURKEY (Alan Stewart):

A Rum-Gal, A Ukr-Bel, A Con H,

A Sev-Mos, F Tun-MAN, E Rom-Ion,

F Ion-IuS, F TuS-Clj

AUSTRIA (Robert Acheson):

A Rom-Ucr, A Mun-Bar, A Tur-Ucr,

A Tri-Uen, F Ukr S A Tri-Uen

ITALY (Melinda Holley):

A Pie-Mar, A Nap S A Rom,

A Rom S A Nap

FRANCE (Steve Cooley):

A Wal-Bel, E Hope-IuS, A Bel-Bar,

F US-MAN, F Eng C A Wal-Bel

1985AB

Iuc-Ger: You win the Hope-nobody'll-check-this-excuse-too-closely stab justification story of 1987. Why not just come out and say you wanted the dot.

En-Ger: Satisfied?

En-Eng: If you're not, let's concede now.

Bar-Ger: That's not a nice compliment to pay Melinda.

Maestro's retreat for next time:

TUR: A Ukr + (Rum, OTB)

Winter 1981 Sapphon

ENGLAND: No change.

HOME(3), StP, Den, Nuy, Swe+7

GERMANY: Gained Mos.

Kie, Bar, Mos, War, Hol-5.

TURKEY: Lost Mos.

HOME(3), Sev, Bul, Rum, Tun+7.

AUSTRIA: Gained Uen.

HOME (3), Mun, Uen, Gre, Ser+7

ITALY: Lost Uen, Gained Mar.

Nap, Rom, Mar+3.

FRANCE: Lost Mar.

Bre, Par, Por, Bel, Spa+5.

RESULT: Germany builds one, Austria builds two. Hey, this is getting pretty interesting, and is by no means over!

WHADDA WE DO NOW?

Is this solution reasonable?

| | | | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Dramatis Personae: | excelsior | COPLAND | 1985CG | post-Winter 1983 |
| ENGLAND | | | | |
| (eliminated) | | | | |
| GERMANY | | | | |
| Alan Stewart 782-25 St Mary St. Toronto ON CANADA M4V 1R2 | | | | |
| RUSSIA | | | | |
| Sean McGonigle 448 Kelvin Road Papakura NEW ZEALAND | | | | |
| TURKEY | | | | |
| Travis Laster 125 Garden Court Winchester VA USA 22601 | | | | |
| AUSTRIA | | | | |
| Melinda Holley P.O. Box 2793 Huntington WV USA 25727 | | | | |
| ITALY | | | | |
| Jeff Albrecht P.O. Box 295 Doland SD USA 57436-8295 | | | | |
| FRANCE | | | | |
| Ben Schilling 24728 Deerecroft Ct., Apt. 215 Farmington Hills MI USA 48334 | | | | |
| Armies | Fleets | | | |
| ○ | □ | | | |

GM: Bruce McIntyre, 6191 Winch St., Burnaby B.C., CANADA, V5B 2L4. (phone 604/299-2782).

NEXT DEADLINE: Noon P.S.T., May 1st, 1987. Can be extended to May 15 by player request.

Orders & Press:

COPLAND Winter 1983

Winter 1983 Retreats/Adjustments:

ENGLAND: removes A Wolf, F Hq (out).

GERMANY: builds A Bar.

RUSSIA: builds A Mos.

TURKEY: builds A Ank.

AUSTRIA: removes A Boh and F Tri after making these retreats: A Rum / Bud, A Ser / Alb, A Ven / OTB.

ITALY: NBR. See game notes.

FRANCE: builds A Par, F Mr.

NEWS:

GM: Jeff Albrecht sent me a letter expressing discontent with the way the game is being run, and has resigned from both games he is currently in.

The letter appeared to be specifically composed with maximum venom, and that combined with the fact that he did not leave orders on file for either of the positions he was resigning from, prompts me to refuse his request for a refund of the game fees. I will of course return his sub fee immediately, despite the fact that I am on a tight budget these days. What this means for this game is that we need a new ITALY, and the newcomer will not get his build, unless I can appeal to the rest of the players to uphold the game balance by the following solution:

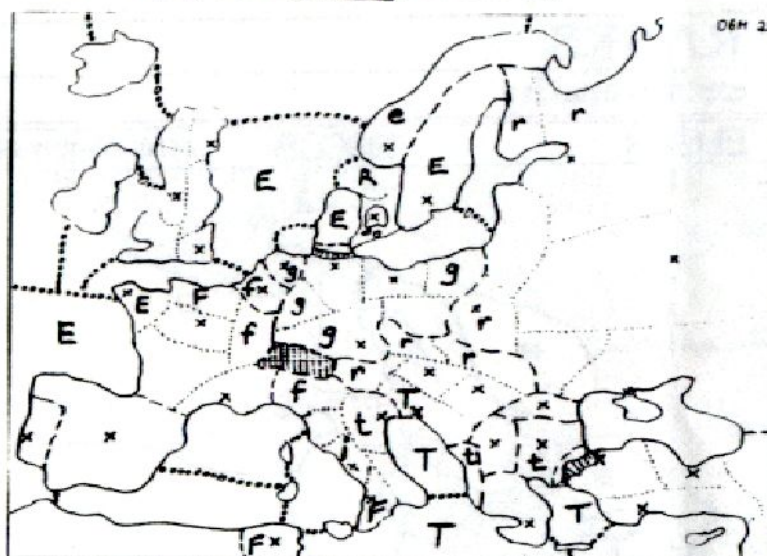
-I will send all players this copy of the results and new position except for the new Italian player.

-The new Italian player will receive only the game reports up to Fall 1983, and will be asked to make his build, as well as conditional orders for Spring 1984.

-If any player disagrees with this arrangement, the Italian player's build will not be used, and he will have to play a unit short.

That is the new arrangement. The new Italian player is **Claude Coctron, 150 rue Masson, Winnipeg MB, CANADA R2H 0M2**. I realize that there are possible flaws with this arrangement: for example, Claude could be intentionally misled about the builds made by the others, so I'm giving all the players and the BNC the veto on this.

DEBUSSY (uh, that's DEBUSSY) SPRING 05



- GM: Mitchell Mageler, 3263 School Ave
Vancouver, BC V5R 5N6
- E: Claude Gautron, 150 rue Masson
Winnipeg, Man R2H 0H2
- G: Pierre Touchette, 1 rue Georges
Masson, P.Q. J0A 2H0
- R: Alan Stewart, 702-35 St. Mary St.
Toronto, Ont M4Y 1R2
- T: Ron Krukowski, 5339 W. Eddy
Chicago, IL 60641
- F: Bruce Waddell, 4247 Winnifred St.
Burnaby, BC V5J 2B5
- I: See McBruce's standby list (p.16)

RETREATS - FALL 04

I: F Adr OTB, A Tyr OTB

BUILDS - WINTER 04

S: None (NMR!) T: A Con

I: None (NMF!)

MOVES - SPRING 05

E: NMR - F Mao, F Bre, F Nth, A Nwy, F Den, F Swe

I: NMR - A Rom

R: NMP - F Ska, A Fin, A Stp, A Tyr, A Boh, A Gal, A War

G: A Hol S A Kie-Ruh, A Mun S A Kie-Ruh, A Kie-Ruh, A Sil-Pru

F: F Pic-Bel, A Bur S FPic-Bel, A Bel-Ruh, A Pie-Tyr, F Tys-Nap, F Tun-Ion

T: A Apu-Ven, F Tri S A Apu-Ven, F Alb-Ion, F Aeg S F Alb-Ion, F Adr S F Alb-Ion,
A Ser-Alb, A Con-Bul

PRESS

GM - WORLD: Clearly one of the more disappointing turns from my point of view. The deadline was extended because I tied my deadline to the Beethoven game and no report was put out for Beethoven. So it is four months between reports. With all this time I expected everyone's move. Alan phoned me in January or late December to confirm that the game would be held over but did not send in his moves. Claude send a letter to McBruce questioning the status of all the games he is to standby in. There he said that he would call me; he didn't. And I never heard from Bill at all. He is gone.

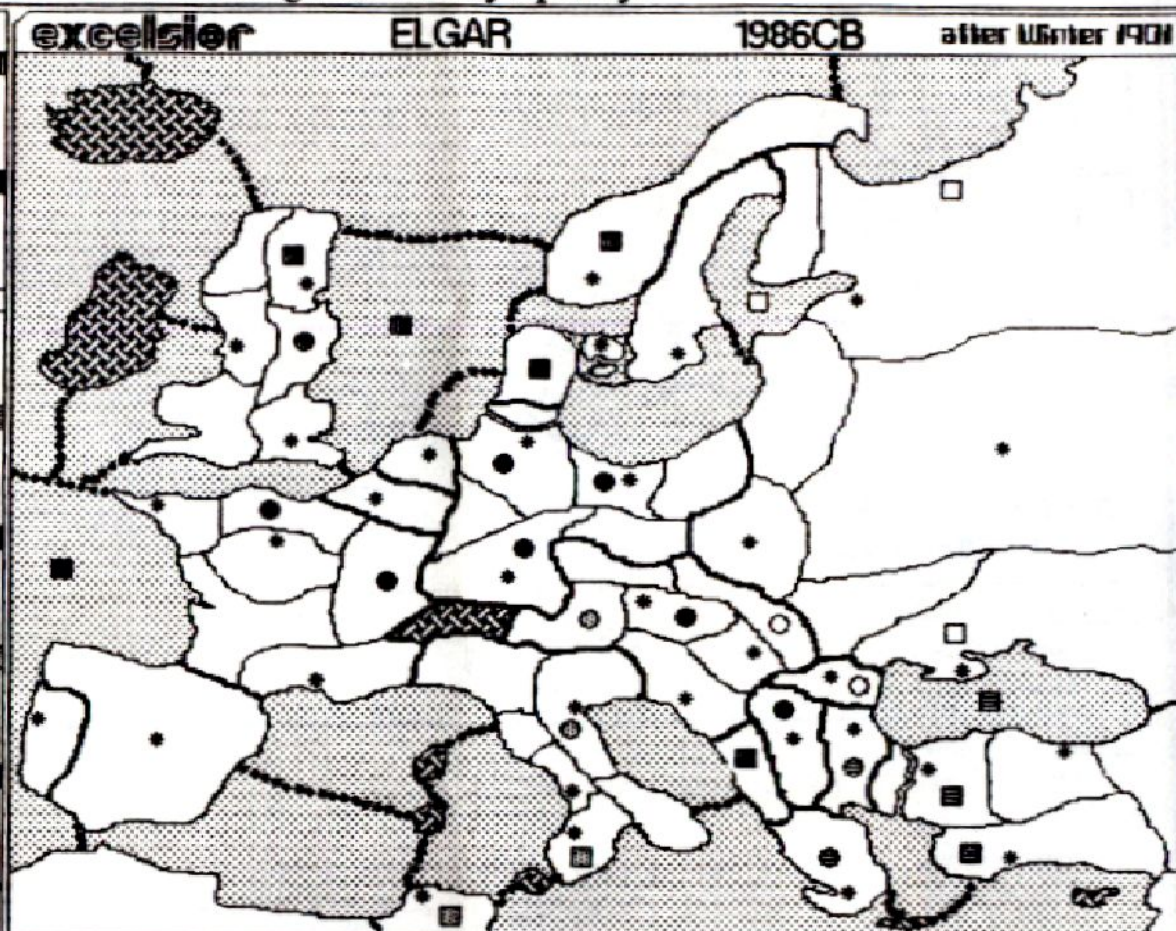
DEADLINE - APRIL 30, 1987 - FIRM

Standbys: ENGLAND: Craig Reges 16W761 White Plains Rd., Bensenville IL, USA 60106.
RUSSIA: Bob Acheson, Box 4622, Stn. SE, Edmonton AB, Canada, T6E 2A0.
ITALY: Paul Milewski, Box 660, Yellow Springs OH, USA 45387.

CONFUSION IN THE RANKS

Turkey takes best advantage of enemy apathy.

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Dramatis Personae: | |
| ENGLAND | Alan Martine 47 Chartres Dollard-des-Ormeaux PO CANADA H9A 1K |
| GERMANY | Malcolm Smith Oliver Salabegros, 204 R-9772 Oms 1 MORON |
| RUSSIA | Rosie Roberts Ziegeleiweg 4 2126 Adendorf WEST GERMANY |
| TURKEY | Sean McGonigle 44B Kelvin Road Papakura NEW ZEALAND |
| AUSTRIA | Charles Arsenault Des de la Soriette, 4/102 1348 Louvain-La-Neuve BELGIUM (COOP) |
| ITALY | Jacques-Henri Strauss 12 rue Rene Bazin 75016 Paris FRANCE |
| FRANCE | Jeff Abrecht P.O. Box 295 Doland SD USA 57436-8295 |
| Armies | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Fleets | <input type="checkbox"/> |



GM: Bruce McIntyre, 6191 Winch St., Burnaby B.C., CANADA, V5B 2L4. (phone 604/299-2382).
NEXT DEADLINE: Noon, P.S.T., Friday May 15, 1987. Daylight savings time in effect thru October.

Orders & Press.

1986CB Fall/Winter 1901
Fall 1901 Orders:
ENGLAND (Alan Martine):
 F 100 C A Vor-Hol, F 100-Murq.
A Vor-Hol
GERMANY (Malcolm Smith):
 F 100-Sun, A 100-Hol, A 100-Mun
RUSSIA (Rosie Roberts):
 A 100-Gal, A 100-Rum,
 F 100-Sun, F 100 S A 100-Rum
TURKEY (Sean McGonigle):
 A 100-Cra, A 100-Bul, F 100 H
AUSTRIA (Charles Arsenault):
 100-R A Ser, A 100, F 100 all
 stand unordered.

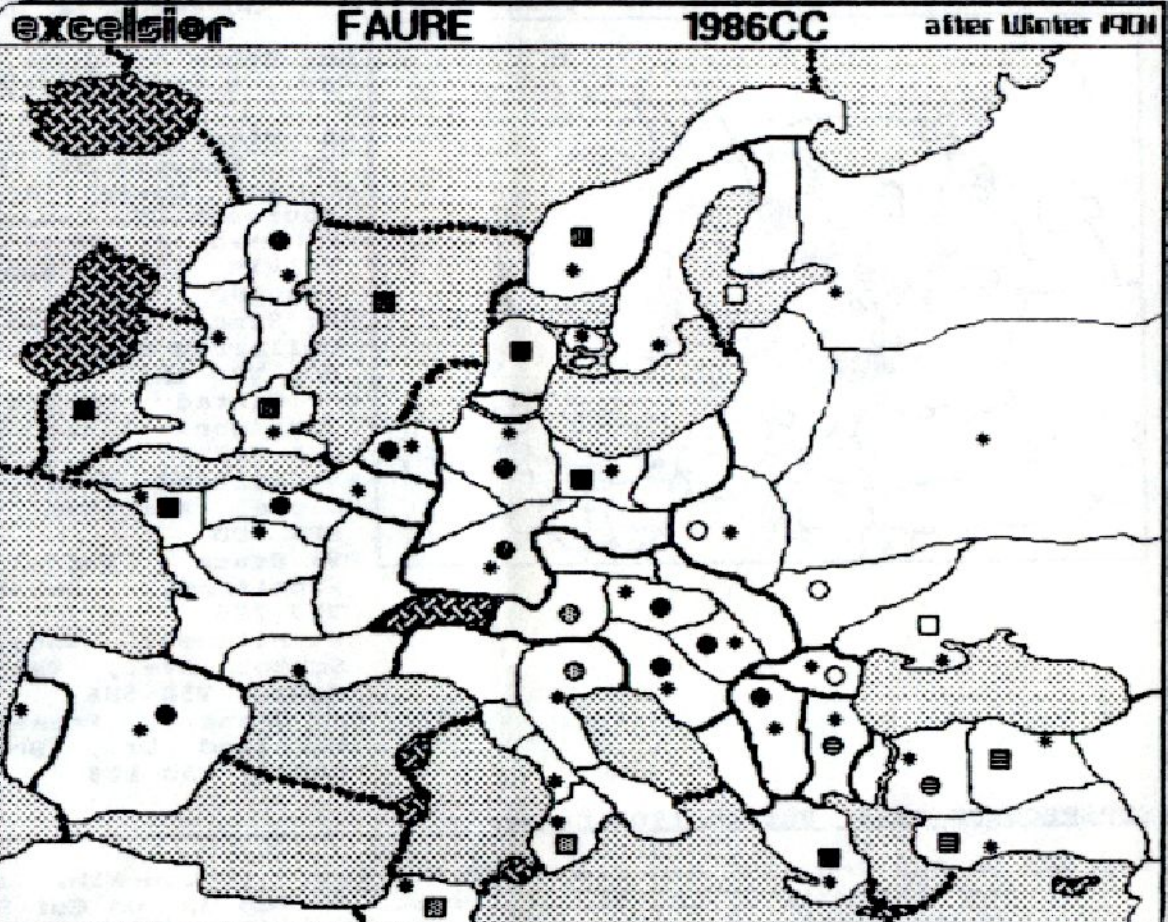
ITALY (Jacques-Henri Strauss):
 A 100-Ute, A 100 S A 100-A 100-Tri
 (no such order), F 100-Tem
FRANCE (Jeff Abrecht):
 100-R A 100, A 100, F 100 all
 stand unordered.
PRESS
GM: We have the same problem in this
 game as in COPLAND, so I'm asking you
 all to turn to that game and check out
 the GM comment there as to the
 reasons for the disappearance of Jeff
 Abrecht. It appears that there is no
 way for me to avoid having a stand-
 by lose both Fall 1901 moves, and
 Winter 1901 builds, as the French
 position has been resigned without even
 the courtesy of sending final orders.
 Anyhow, this game is being played

under a no-stand-by rule, so there's
 nothing I can do. Nothing that would
 be polite, that is...
 If the consensus is that the game is
 badly unbalanced because of this
 abnormality, I will offer the six (perhaps
 five, if Austria goes into anarchy as
 well) remaining players another
 international game, and I'd be willing to
 consider any suggestion to save this
 one.
Winter 1901 Supplies
ENGLAND: Gained Murq.
 HOME(3), Murq=4
GERMANY: Gained Den.
 HOME(3), Den=4
RUSSIA: Gained Rum.
 HOME(4), Rum=5.
 continued on page 13

MAESTRO REFUSES TO POST WIN ODDS

Claims game too balanced to predict

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Dramatis Personae: | |
| ENGLAND | |
| Wayne Hittall 5251 Argyle St. Pt. Alberni B.C. CANADA U9Y 7M9 | |
| GERMANY | |
| Robert Acheson Box 4622, Stn SE Edmonton AB CANADA T6E 2A8 | |
| RUSSIA | |
| Craig Reges 167751 White Plains Rd Beverlyville II USA 60104 | |
| TURKEY | |
| Paul Milewski P.O. Box 668 Yellow Springs OH USA 45387 | |
| AUSTRIA | |
| Pierre Touchette 1 rue Georges Masson PQ CANADA J8X 2H8 | |
| ITALY | |
| Claude Gautron 158 rue Masson Winnipeg MB CANADA R2H 8H2 | |
| FRANCE | |
| Jerry Falkner 281 Hillmer Rd. Cambridge ON CANADA N1R 6N6 | |
| Armies | Fleets |
| ○ | □ |



GM: Bruce McIntyre, 6191 Finch St., Burnaby B.C., CANADA, USB 2L4. (phone 604/299-2382).
NEXT DEADLINE: Noon, P.S.T., Friday, May 1, 1987.

Orders & Press:

PARIS **Monday 1901**

- ENGLAND** (Wayne Hittall): +F Lon
- GERMANY** (Robert Acheson): +A Mun, F Ber
- RUSSIA** (Craig Reges): +A War
- TURKEY** (Paul Milewski): +F Smy
- AUSTRIA** (Pierre Touchette): +A Uie, A Tri
- ITALY** (Claude Gautron): +F Nap
- FRANCE** (Jerry Falkner): +F Bre

GM: This one is beginning to look quite interesting, what with the traditionally weak inner powers getting above par results and an otherwise fine balance. I hope that the promise of a fine balanced game is not killed by NMRs,

but I think that unlikely considering the personnel involved.

Now, there's something I better say now that I've buttered you all up. Got a letter from Pierre Touchette, who was understandingly quite indignant to find out that he was being replaced! The last flyer contained a lovely screw-up, in which I thanked Derek Daniels for sending final orders for *Austria* (I should have said Russia, of course) and naming the new *Austrian* player as Craig Reges. This screw-up appeared to have been obvious to everyone but Pierre, and Craig, who sent orders for Austria. Luckily we got the thing straightened out, Craig understandably chagrined to find only one build, but at least he's got a share of the lead at 5

centres, so should have as good a chance as anyone! Now if I could only find out how to pronounce his last name...

ELGAR continued...

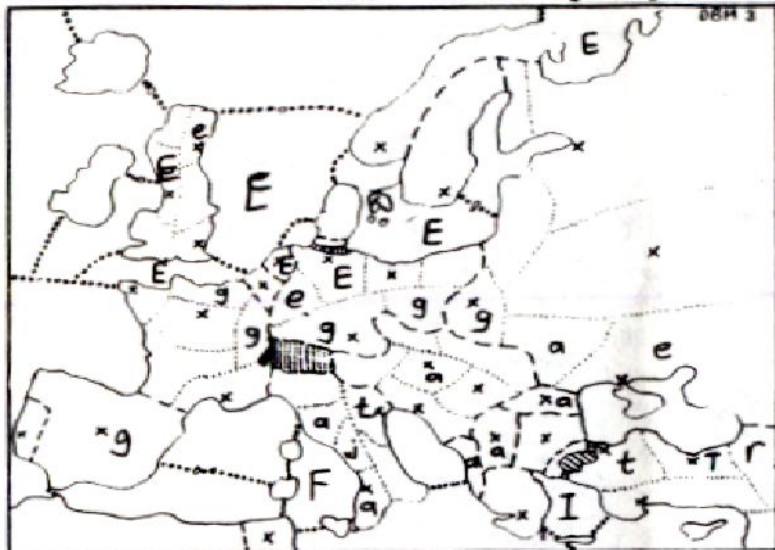
- TURKEY:** Gained Bul, Gre.
- HOME(3):** Bul, Gre=5.
- AUSTRIA:** Gained Ser.
- HOME(3):** Ser=4.
- ITALY:** Gained Tun.
- HOME(3):** Tun=3.
- FRANCE:** No change.
- HOME(3)=3.**
- RESULT:** England builds F Edi, Germany builds A Ber, Russia builds F StP (nc), Turkey builds F Smy, F Con, Austria has waited too long, and Italy builds F Nap.

ENGLAND CONTINUES RUSSIAN ATTACK

Russia prepares for Armenian last stand

SUPERBOURSE! 1985\$\$ after Spring 1904

SUPERBOURSE! participants



GM: Bruce McIntyre, 6191 Winch St., Burnaby BC, V5B 2L4

MB: Mike Barno, 2811 Robins St., Endwell NY, USA 13760

RL: Rob Lowes, RR#9, Peterborough ON, Canada K9J 6X1

SP: Sean P. McGonigle, 44B Kelvin Rd., Papakura, NEW ZEALAND

SM: Simon Matthews, 432 N. Dollarton Hwy, N. Vancouver BC, V7G 1N1

CM: Conrad Minshall, 3702 Tarragona Lane, Austin TX, USA 78727

RS: Richard Sharp, 27 Elm Close, Amersham Bucks, UK HP6 5DD

BW: Bruce Waddell, 4247 Winnifred, Burnaby BC, V5J 2S5

MW: Mitchell Wageler, 3623 School Ave., Vancouver BC, Canada V5R 5N6

GF: Grant Fraser, 5374 Moreland Dr., Burnaby BC, Canada V5G 1Z8

SUPERBOURSE 85\$\$ Spring 1903 Orders

ENGLAND 3F Bre-Eng, 39F Den-Kie, 14A Mos-Sev, 1F Lon-Nth, 1F Swe-Bal, 44F Bel-Hol, OF Lpl S, OF Bar S, OA Ruh S, OA Edi S, all of these unordered.

GERMANY 15A Holt-Bel (BOOM!), 2BA Par-Pic, 1A Por-Spa, 1A Pru-War, 10A Kie-Mun, 6A Mun-Bur, 1A Ber-Sil

RUSSIA 6A Sev-Arm

TURKEY 3A Bul-Con

AUSTRIA 6A Vie-Boh, 18F Nap-TyS, 29A Rum-Ukr, 7A Bud-Rum, 2A Tri-Alb, OA Rom*S doubly ordered, OA Vie S unordered

ITALY 3F Con-Aeg, 88A Ven-Rom

FRANCE 32A Pic*Gas (impossible), 9F TyS-Nap

RETREATS: ITA: A Rom r Tus, FRA: A Pic disbands.

NEXT DEADLINE (Spring 03) is Noon P.S.T., Friday, May 1st, 1986.

PRESS:

GM: I found 34 units on my board when I set it up from the last report. Since Italy and Turkey have one unit less than they should have, and there are 34 centres only, there are two extra units. An investigation turned up the fact that France had not a build but a removal. So the French A Mar was disqualified from existence, and a

check back in the records showed the correct French removal to be A Gas. Still, the board is the most amazing I've ever seen. (Course, it helps a bit that I've only 4 English fleets left--it's always them that get lost first--so I'm using some red ones up north, which only contributes to the strangeness....) By the way, we were going to have a map like the others for this, but GEOS was acting up inexplicably on Printing Eve, so I gave up after thirty wasted minutes, and went back to PaperClip. NMRs this time: GF and CM. CM left without sending final orders: which may cost him a bit of money.

SUPERBOURSE! continued

| SUPERBOURSE | | Total Credit: \$159.80 | | | | | | | | Total | Total |
|-------------|--------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Player | Credit | Current | -----Current shares owned in----- | | | | | | | Shares | Assets |
| | | Cash | ENG | GER | RUS | TUR | AUS | ITA | FRA | | |
| GM | | 89.97 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 90.37 |
| Sharp | 24.00 | 0.71 | | | <u>41</u> | <u>92</u> | <u>44</u> | | | 177 | 16.04 |
| McGonigle | 6.00 | 6.98 | | | | | | | | 0 | 6.98 |
| Lowe | 10.00 | 1.47 | 3 | 20 | | | | 3 | 32 | 58 | 6.53 |
| Barno | 6.80 | 2.93 | | 11 | | | 19 | 3 | | 33 | 5.13 |
| Matthews | 35.00 | 11.79 | <u>93</u> | 5 | 25 | 6 | 10 | 5 | <u>41</u> | 185 | 34.17 |
| Minshall | 8.00 | 2.92 | 4 | 1 | 19 | 1 | | 4 | 26 | 55 | 5.71 |
| Wageler | 40.00 | 28.15 | 16 | <u>48</u> | | 1 | 26 | | | 91 | 44.53 |
| Waddell | 20.00 | 8.21 | | | | | | 83 | | <u>83</u> | 13.53 |
| Fraser | 10.00 | 6.70 | | 14 | | | | | | 14 | 8.77 |

Market Prices 19 14 11 12 14 14 10
 Actual Value / Share 8.25 4.32 2.49 8.47 4.82 6.41 4.23
 (add ten cents/ share to all underlined values)

In case you don't realize it, I take 5% (rounded down) of each NMRing players shares, and all of their shares the second time they NMR. These shares are then put up for sale at 10 cents the next time.

The Stock Exchange

RUSSIA Offers: RS(1 at 12), MW(11 at 1). Bids: RS(70 at 5). Result: RS buys 11 from MW at 3.
 FRANCE Offers: RL(32 at 9), SM(2 at 10). Bids: None. Result: no sales.
 ENGLAND Offers: RL(3 at 22), SM(4 at 17), GM(10 at 10). Bids: SM(33 at 19). Result: SM buys 10 from GM at 15.
 AUSTRIA Offers: MB(19 at 20), RS(2 at 7), MW(26 at 14), GM(1 at 10). Bids: None. Result: no sales.
 ITALY Offers: RL(3 at 9), MB(3 at 20), BW(83 at 14), GM(1 at 10). Bids: None. Result: no sales.
 GERMANY Offers: MB(11 at 20), MW(2 at 14), GM(1 at 10). Bids: RL(15 at 14). Result: RL buys 1 from GM at 12.
 TURKEY Offers: RS(4 at 12), MW(1 at 1). Bids: none. Result: no sales.

HOUSEKEEPING continued

Address Changes: Quite amazingly there are but four of these, even with the long layoff:
 Charles Arsenaull, rue de la Sariette, 4/102, 1348 Louvain-La-Neuve, BELGIUM.
 Mike Barno (c/o Peters), 1814 Cameron Drive #3, Madison WI, USA 53711
 Simon Billeness, 630 Victory Blvd. apt 6F, Staten Island NY, USA 10301 (another palindrome zip code).
 Fred Davis, 3210 K Wheaton Way, Ellicott City MD, USA 21043
 Of course, Malcolm Smith is not strictly a change of address, since he's back where he was, having moved twice since. I think....

HOUSEKEEPING

I've changed over all subs from "last issue" to a dollar figure. Please check your mailing cover to make sure I'm right.

Welcome to:

Nhan Vu, 626 Heather Ave., Placentia CA, USA 92670.

Bruce Geryk, 5748 S. Blackstone Ave., #206, Chicago IL, USA 60637 (*Blunt Instruments*).

Nelson Heintzman, P.O. Box 203, Bowmansville NY, USA 14026 (*Only Yesterday--subzine in Europa Express*).

Good-bye to:

Jeff Albrecht

James Early

Conrad Minshall

Dennis Quine

Glover Rogerson (*Denver Glont*, I'm sorry to say, has ceased to be)

Stephen Swigger

Terry Tallman

Assorted items of subscription-extending monetary value received from:

Nelson Heintzman, Nhan Vu, and three people whose cheques I am sending back (they're too old with this issue: Rod Walker (welcome back!), Fred J. Chang, James Robertson. Craig Reges sent a cheque earlier that I'm sending back--as he's playing out a stand-by position, he gets **XL** free until his part in the game is over. And I've received requests for samples from Jack MCHugh, Jacques Belanger, Warren K. Ball, Norrin Ritsman, and John Brennick. Glad to have you all aboard, gents!

Sub Warnings: this department has been discontinued; you can check your mailing covers to see if you'll have another issue coming. To get the last issue in your sub you need 1 cent; to renew a sub you have to cover your deficits.

Stand-bys for regular Diplomacy are: Bob Acheson, Charles Arsenault, Claude Gautron, Paul Milewski, Craig Reges, Bill Shirley, Alan Stewart, Pierre Touchette. Want in or out? Just ask! Stand-bys play for free--including their subscription. If you're called here, you will receive one free issue of **XL** tacked onto your sub for each season you played, including holdovers, provided you do not drop. Could use lots more stand-bys. Chances are if you sign up, you'll be in a game (and consequently receiving **XL** for free) soon, because I've used most of the above in the games already.

Gamestarts:

Diplomacy: GREGORY: (6-week deadlines): Don Wagner. 6 needed. First priority to new **XL** subbers. \$3.00 gamefee + subscription.

HANDEL: (9-week deadlines, seven nation, no stand-bys, British system of season combination): I can see the ELGAR game is being unbalanced, so this is free to all remaining ELGAR participants and there is room for one American player.

Superbourse: Anyone can enter at any time, rules straddled betwixt **XL#6-7**.

Stand-bys called: Claude Gautron has been called for ITALY in COPLAND (see game notes for the exact game situation), and in DEBUSSY I've been asked to call no less than three. These are Bob Acheson for RUSSIA, Craig Reges for ENGLAND, and Paul Milewski for ITALY.

continued on page 15.