

Eternal Sunshine #119

December 2016

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On the web at <http://www.whiningkentpigs.com/DW/>. Also be sure to visit the official Diplomacy World website which can be found at <http://www.diplomacyworld.net>.

All Eternal Sunshine readers are ***encouraged*** to join the free Eternal Sunshine Yahoo group at https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/eternal_sunshine_diplomacy/info to stay up-to-date on any subzine news or errata. If you don't like the sign-up process just send me an email and I will send you an invite which cuts through the red tape. You should also join the Eternal Sunshine Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/270968112943024/>

Check out my eBay store at <http://stores.ebay.com/dougsrarebooksandmore>

My book "It's Their House; I'm Just a Guest" is available in softcover and Kindle from Amazon at http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1501090968/ref=ox_sc_act_title_1?ie=UTF8&psc=1&smid=ATVPDKIKXODER

Welcome to the latest issue of Eternal Sunshine, as we continue to run down to a fold. See you in January!

XENOGOGIC : A Journal of dip&DIP
December, 2016

LOOKING BACK TO LOOK AHEAD, AND LOOKING AHEAD TO LOOK BACK
By Larry Peery

While most people think of "We Are the Champions" as the international anthem of sport, I've always thought the Freddie Mercury – David Bowie 1981 classic "Under Pressure" was a better choice for Dippers, particularly those who publish, editor and write the hobby's media.

When I realized I had two days until the next ES deadline I knew I had to, in one Dipper's favorite phrase, "Cut to the chase!" (Do you remember who used to say that all the time?) This issue of XENO is the catch from that chase. So the issue that I had originally planned as a look back at 2016 instead has become a look ahead to 2017. Is that being two-faced? If so, I should be doing it in January, right? But by the time January gets here I'll probably be too sick to even think about the future.

So, here's a look at some of the items current in the freezer, in the refer, on the stove, in the oven or even in the slow cooker waiting for the New Year to roll around. Generally speaking the items at the top of the list are the newest ideas and those at the bottom are the ones that have been around a while. However, that doesn't necessarily mean the ones at the bottom are complete or almost complete and vice versa.

All of that will be explained in "A Year in the Life of a Hobby Old Fart Reduced to a Single Day," or for

short “Peeriblah Peerisonified.” This topic was suggested by a hobby newbie who had the nerve to ask me “What exactly does a hobby Old Fart do?” I’ll show him!!

“Yes, 17 Intelligence Agencies Really Did Say Russia Was Behind Hacking,” was suggested by an article I read somewhere recently that made its way to my Facebook page (Shameless Doug Kent-like plug here.) which looks at why Intelligence Agencies seem to lack the intelligence that intelligence agents seem to have. Eric Snowden is a good case in point, I think.

“Monopoly in London, anyone?” is a promo piece and sop for Toby Harris in the hopes that he’ll persuade Jean-Louis Delattre to let me have Belgium if I make it to WDC at Oxford next year. It’s also a comparison of the US and British approach to the game we all grew up playing on our way to building our own Trump Towers.

“Terry Tallman: Diplomacy’s Rasputin?” should give hobby old timers pause to think. Normally speaking or writing ill of the dead is considered bad form but among Rasputin’s historians it’s a no-brainer choice. Comparing Terry to Gregor may seem like a reach but the more you get to know about both of them, the more you’ll see the only difference was the opals they found on the bodies of the Romanovs when they dug them up.

“John Wooden as a Diplomacy Motivator.” Not a question, but a fact. Wooden could motivate anybody given an hour or two. Given a whole school year he could produce an NCAA champion. Do his ideas carry over to Diplomacy? Could Dippers form them? I think so and I’ll show you why I went to UCLA to visit his shrine and his daughter went to USC to play basketball.

“Gordon, Still and Mesny” is about three Englishmen who helped keep the “Rah, Rah, Rah for the King” in the Raj as the Queen/Empress and kings/raj soldiers, mercenaries, diplomats, explorers, etc. in The Empire that Merchant Ivory only dreamed of. How they’d stack up as Dippers against the like of Tobby, Matt and what’s his name remains to be seen.

“The Russian Navy Grand Cruise of 2016” is unusual in that it is very much a work in progress, even though the Russian fleet has been sitting off the coast of Syria for weeks. It’s a fascinating look at the modern Russian Navy, especially when compared with the epic voyage of the Russian Baltic Fleet to Tsushima that took 18 months and ended in a half-hour sea battle that wiped out the Russian fleet. All of this (and there’s a lot to it since the preliminary manuscript is at 137 pages right now) came about because I was curious how many game seasons it would take to get from St.Petersburg n.c. to Syria. You’ll find out, I hope, before the Russian fleet gets home for Easter.

“Doomsday & Nuclear Codes” was an interesting subject, I thought, and one I designed a PMW game about in the 1970s. That effort got me an all-expenses-paid trip to the Pentagon and a warning to “Never do that again!” from an irate Navy captain who was well aware he was speaking to a very, very junior Air Force ROTCer. But consider the changes coming to the Football’s possession in January, it’s a very timely subject I think.

“Canada and China: a Study in dip&DIP” is another real life case study that makes a great object lesson for a Dipper; whether playing a Big Power or a one-center nobody. The lesson offered is simple and timeless, like one of Comrade Peng’s dresses: diplomacy and Diplomatic are both as much about how something is said as what is said.

“The Hundred Hours War” is my attempt to out Tolstoi Tolstoi. The manuscript is now approaching 1,000

pages. All that to cover what might happen in a war between the Koreans and their friends that just might break out by the time you read this. I project the war will be decided by the end of the first 100 hours. That might seem like a short time, but keep in mind that the Cold War would have ended in 33 minutes if it had got hot. Can diplomacy prevent such a war? What if Kim and Park sat down and played a game of Diplomacy and the winner got the whole peninsula for its very own black dot?

“The Space That Was and the Space That Wasn’t” is all about the role of Switzerland in dip&DIP. It was inspired by the efforts of Hans-Christian Reichardt to find enough players to host a Diplomacy event in Switzerland, in Winter, with suits and ties required! Check out his posts on the FB Diplomacy in Europe site and send him some encouragement. If not, a Toberlone bar or two will do. But seriously, the role of Switzerland in both diplomacy and Diplomacy gets more and more fascinating the more and more you think about it. I started with a “what if question” about that Impassable space on the board and eventually realized that the real country is a Dipper’s dream world.

“Monet and Mettel” brings together two of my favorite artists and two of their works: one worth \$81 million and bought a few weeks ago by a telephone bidder who never saw it before buying it and the other worth, perhaps \$30, if you’re lucky. Still, there are lessons to be learned for the Dipper here. You just have to dip your brush into the wet paint to reveal them.

Finally, “Onions and Diplomacy.” Yes, I’m serious. This article will make you cry and serves as a perfect dish for any post-con feed. The winner drinks Champagne, the losers eat crow, and everyone else chows down on onion soup. Sounds like a EDC in Paris from 1993, right Xavier?

That’s it. If you can’t find something on that list that appeals to you let me know and I’ll send you the peelings from my next batch of onions.

Hope you had a good Thanksgiving and have a splendid Beethoven’s Birthday, and a blessed Christmas!

Where in the World is Kendo Nagasaki? End-Game Comments

Dane Maslen: I think it’s fair to say that I was surprised to win this game. After rounds 1 and 2 I was mistakenly looking for a 19th century politician or military man in Asia. Although after round 3 I realised that this had been wrong, I had little idea of what I should have been doing instead. The round 4 report changed everything: I could rule out:

- Quebec City because I hadn’t received the clue.
- Rio de Janeiro because the clue couldn’t apply to all three people guessed in that location.
- Hanoi because I had already been there in round 3 and not received the clue.
- Bangkok because the clue couldn’t fit the person there.

That left St John’s as the most plausible location that at least two people could know was correct, though Manila and Dublin were in principle also possible as they had been guessed in both round 2 and round 3. From the round 5 guesses it’s apparent that just about everyone went through a similar process of elimination.

Based on the assumption that St John’s was the location, it seemed that I was looking for a male (R3 clue) screenwriter (R4 clue) who died in the early 2000s (R3 clue) and had known Mickey Rooney (R1 clue). I typed ‘famous screenwriters’ into Google and found myself looking at a set of photographs, one of which was captioned not only with the person’s name but also ‘1906-2002’. It was Billy Wilder, so I thought I might as well make him my guess, even though I couldn’t quickly establish a connection to Mickey Rooney. So, pure luck that I got the right screenwriter.

Rick Desper: I had no idea Billy Wilder lived that long! If I had, I might have stumbled into that guess. Let's go back to the beginning: I think I made my first guess on a day I saw a trailer for the Pete's Dragon remake. That put me on Mickey Rooney (imagine if I'd guessed Helen Reddy instead!). So what are the odds that the first wild guess would put me not only closest to the location, but also give me somebody who knew "Kendo" in real life? So I tried to confuse the issue by putting my second guess in Ireland, but Richard and Mark both made guesses in eastern Canada, and one of them nailed the location. I guessed wrong about which of the two, but by then my mucking about through the Golden Age of Hollywood probably made it clear that I was close. Maybe I shouldn't have guessed Ava Gardner in turn 2? I could have really committed to the path of deception a bit more. The combination of the clues from turns 3 and 4 made me think it was a director/writer, and somebody who knew Vincente Minnelli. But Garland and Minelli died back in the 60s, so who could it be? I was so proud to discover Robert Altman died at roughly the right time and had done a Mickey Rooney TV episode back in the early 60s. It didn't feel like a great guess (what was his connection to Judy Garland's personal demons?) but I had nothing else. And really, anybody who drank a lot could be said to have a connection to one of Judy Garland's personal demons. I didn't know whether Altman drank a lot, but maybe he did?

Jim Burgess: Doug, you are still by far the best person running Kendo, with the best choices and the best clues. I hope you run another game, but you have not called for new games since you are going to the fold (which we all regret). May I invite you at that point to do Kendo as a guest GM in TAP? Think about it.

On this game in particular, I thought this was a great example of your great clues. Yes, we all figured out it was St. John's (and really EVERYONE should have gotten that... I don't know where Mr. Galt's head was!), but then only ONE person grabbed the right person. VERY cool!!!

And then Mark Firth, was he just tricking us out, or did he forget in the middle where we were, I think the former, it did fool us for a bit, but boy what a guess out of the blue to start, has that ever happened? But still he didn't win.

Anyway, I always love your Kendo games and will miss them!!! You're the best.



THE ABYSSINIAN PRINCE #377

November 6, 2016

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E-MAIL/WEB ONLY ISSUE! PDF will be available on the website. We also are being reproduced in *Eternal Sunshine*.

Web Page Address: <http://www.diplom.org/Postal/Zines/TAP/index.html>

YOU can still join Kendo Nagasaki, hop in!!! This issue was delayed partly by my health (update at the end) and partly by LOTS of late orders. I didn't change the next deadline (which is Summer for the two Diplomacy games), but I do want to get things done before/around Thanksgiving, so think about getting orders in that you owe quickly!

This issue continues the szine/subszine inversion. As most of you know, this thing began as a "subszine" to Terry Tallman's *North Sealth*, *West George* in *NSWG* #16, then became its own szine with a host of subszines. Since Terry's passing, we lose our thirty year fervent hope that someday *NSWG* would have been resurrected and I could go back and swear my fealty to the Toadfather. The subszines remaining will appear as sub-subszines to our flipfopped home in Doug Kent's *Eternal Sunshine*. I'm set on continuing my GMing, and I'm starting to write a bit, hope there might be more, especially when I feel better. Feel free to communicate with me about how you want to help or what you want to play, or if anyone else wants *TAP* subszine status.

For production, in addition to the HTML's of each separate product on the web page, I also have a PDF that you can print of the entire subszine (including my famous handdrawn maps!). You can just print the maps if you like, but remember maps are for pikers anyway, you don't need no steenkin' maps, keep them up in your head where they belong. I'm having trouble with the upload interfaces, part of the diplom.org site move consequences. I'll get it fixed as soon as I can. I need to stay within the security of the site (which is very important!!!!) while getting access to change the web site's index and files for the szine. It shouldn't be that hard, but my first, second, and third attempts didn't work.

The website address is still: <http://diplom.org/>. I had a glitch in the webpage update process, but I hope it will be fixed soon.

There are currently 77 members of the official *TAP* subscriber list, which is starting to come back up. <http://lists.asciiking.com/mailman/listinfo/tap> is the current list website. YOU need to make sure you're on this list. I'm trying to add some of the newer subscribers who aren't there. It's really easy, just click on that link or copy and paste it into your browser. If you have questions or problems, PLEASE ask. There you can check your subscribing options and whether you're registered. Register if you want to get *TAP* E-Mailed regularly. Some people have had trouble with the attachments, so I have switched to sending the link in the announcements, I see that does help. Please let me know about other issues, but it puts priority on getting the link up again. Apologies for the recent confusions.

THE ABYSSINIAN PRINCE FEATURES SECTION (CONS/LETTERS/MUSIC)

((For upcoming cons around the world: <http://www.diplom.org/Face/cons/index.php>, success, we have badgered all the Con directors to post their Cons, so it is reasonably up to date now. And there remains lots of interest in the FTF community, and linking E-Mail/Web players to FTF. Also, the Facebook page for European Tournament Diplomacy, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1500292310187264/>, Diplomacy in Europe, has been really active and the place to be in the hobby these days. If you're on Facebook, hook up there! The Nor'Easter sequence of four tournaments will be continuing next year, culminating in North American DipCon this next year at Carnage in Vermont!

Carnage (<http://www.carnagecon.com/>) is now over and TAP favorite Chris Martin is the champion! It sounded like they had a great crowd of more than 40 players. Remember that I'm leading TotalCon again, which has MOVED! TotalCon will be February 24-26, 2017 at Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel, 181 Boston

Post Road West, Marlborough, MA. For those following closely, this is basically where the Boston tournament was last year, before Randy and Alan Levin moved it to Cambridge.

TotalCon is New England's largest general gaming convention and is one of the places that we as a hobby reach out and make the Diplomacy tournament circuit known to other gamers. We picked up quite a host of brand new players last year, and expect to do more of that this year. Thanks to the entire TotalCon staff for their hospitality and helpfulness. The Rounds will be: Round 1 on Friday night at 7PM, Round 2 at 10AM on Saturday morning, Round 3 at 7PM on Saturday, and Round 4 at 1PM on Sunday, with an ending by 5PM. The first three rounds are unlimited in length. Please think about making plans to come. Pre-registration for the whole weekend is 65 dollars or 75 dollars at the door. I will be having two crash rooms with pay what you can, feel free to start reserving your spot now!))

NEW FEATURE: ROCK AND ROLL BANDS AND MOMENTS THAT MATTER

((If anyone from TAP or ES has ideas for more things to talk about here let me know. I do have four or five ideas lined up here already that I just have to write. I have been nudged... comments from any of you also are welcome.))

THE ABYSSINIAN PRINCE LETTERS SECTION

More are welcome!!!

THE ABYSSINIAN PRINCE GAMES SECTION

Standby lists: Brad Wilson, Jack McHugh, Drew James, Paul Rauterberg, Doug Kent, Paul Kenny, and Hugh Polley stand by for regular Diplomacy. Just let me know if you want on or off these lists.

GAME OPENING INFORMATION

I'd love to do another game of Spy Diplomacy, but it requires commitment that seems in short supply these days, but let me know if you want me to reprint the rules. Especially with Doug Kent bowing out, is there some other Variant in which there is interest? Please ask!!!

REGULAR DIPLOMACY: Two games continue. Is there something else we want to start? I have some ideas on how to do "By Popular Demand" differently... Let's see if there is interest in a new regular game. Signups please?

BREAKING AWAY: Keeps going with most people now over the second sprint line.

KENDO NAGASAKI: Send in your guesses!!!

THE TERRY TALLMAN MEMORIAL: 2016A, Regular Diplomacy

THE DUE DATE FOR SUMMER 1903 IS NOVEMBER 19TH, 2016

Spring 1903

AUSTRIA (Black): *a VIE-gal, a BUD S a vie-gal, f ALB h, f aeg-GRE, a BOH-sil, a con-BUL.*

ENGLAND (Cohen): *f iri-WAL, f lon-NTH, f nth-NWG.*

FRANCE (Begbie): *f ENG S f pic-bre, f spa(sc)-POR, f pic-BRE, a MAR h, a GAS S a mar.*

GERMANY (Polley): *a BER-sil, f den-BAL, a MUN-boh, f bel-HOL, a KIE S f bel-hol, a ruh-BUR.*

ITALY (Ellinger): *f gol-WES, f MID-bre, a PIE-mar, a TYO-mun.*

RUSSIA (Zarr): *a WAR-gal, f NWY S f swe, a stp-FIN, f SWE S a stp-fin, a SEV-arm, a UKR S a war-gal, f RUM-bla.*

TURKEY (Wiedemeyer): *f eas-AEG, f BLA s AUSTRIAN a con-bul, a SMY-arm.*

E-Mail Addresses of the Participants

AUSTRIA: Thaddeus Black, thaddeus.h.black of gmail.com

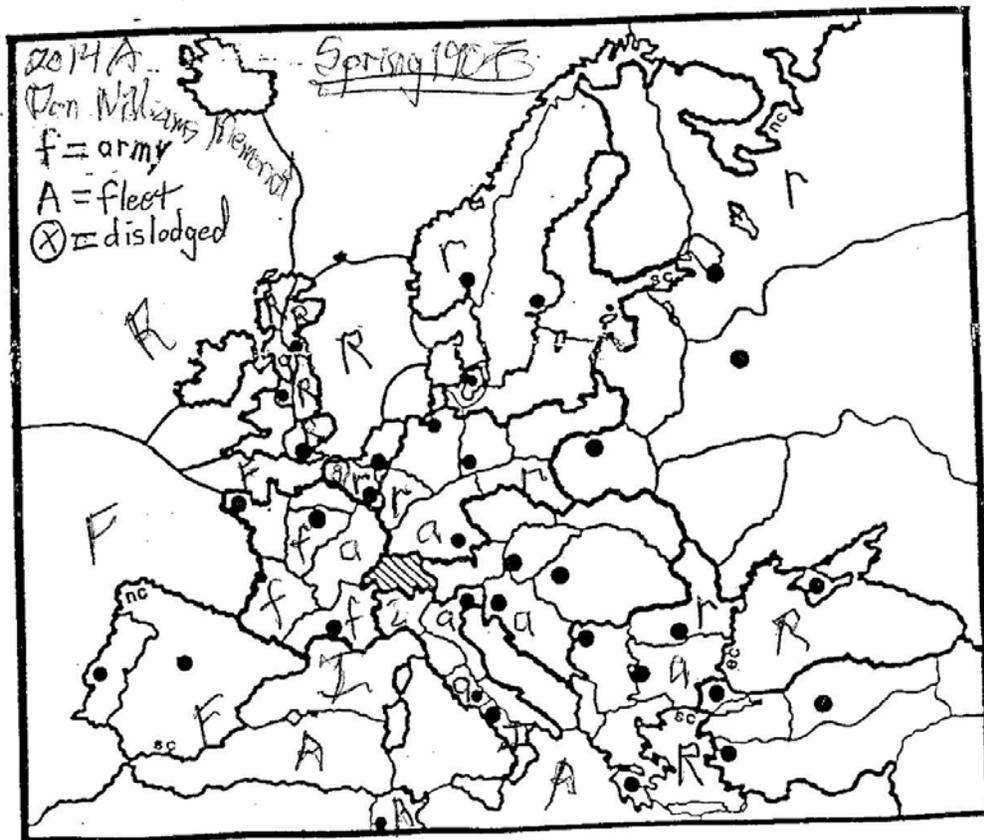
ENGLAND: David Cohen, zendip18 of optonline.net

FRANCE: Gavin Begbie, gavinbegbie of gmail.com

GERMANY: Hugh Polley, hapolley of yahoo.ca

ITALY: Marc Ellinger, mellinger of blitzbardgett.com

RUSSIA: Harold Zarr, skip1955 of hotmail.com



TURKEY: Fred Wiedemeyer, wiedzem of telus.net

Game Notes:

1) Note Summer comes very fast, but there are NO retreats, if people would rather submit Fall orders this month, we can move on. Your choice.

Press:

(TURKS to THE WORLD): Don't worry everyone. I've got Syria protected!

THE DON WILLIAMS 57 MEMORIAL: 2014A, Regular Diplomacy

THE DUE DATE FOR SUMMER 1907 IS NOVEMBER 19TH, 2016

Spring 1907

AUSTRIA (Ozog): a bud-TRI, f adr-ION, a ven-ROM, f naf-WES, a BUR s ITALIAN a pie-mar (nso), a tri-VEN, a con-BUL, a MUN S a bur, f TUN-tyh.

FRANCE (Ellinger): f SPA(SC) s a gas-mar, f ENG s GERMAN a bel (otm), a PAR s a gas-mar (imp), f MID S f eng, a gas-MAR, a bre-GAS.

GERMANY (Abbott): a LVP-edi, a bel-hol (d r:pic,otb).

ITALY (Wilson): f GOL C a pie-spa, f NAP-tyh, a PIE-spa.

RUSSIA (Rauterberg): a stp-NWY, f sev-BLA, a war-SIL, a mos-STP, f nwg-NAO, f EDI h, f YOR S f nth-lon, f nth-LON, a hol-BEL, f CLY S f nwg-nao, f hel-NTH, f bul(sc)-AEG, a RUH S a hol-bel, a RUM S AUSTRIAN a con-bul.

E-Mail Addresses of the Participants

AUSTRIA: Eric Ozog, elferic of junos.com

ENGLAND: Fred Wiedemeyer, wiedzem of telus.net

FRANCE: Marc Ellinger, mellinger of blitzbardgett.com

GERMANY: Will Abbott, wjja9 of yahoo.com

ITALY: Brad Wilson, fullfathomfive675 of gmail.com

RUSSIA: Paul Rauterberg, paul.rauterberg of att.net

TURKEY: David Burgess, burgesscd of roadrunner.com

Game Notes:

1) The Russian concession and DIAS draw are both vetoed.

Press:

None spotted...

THE DIPLOMACY GAME: Breaking Away, Designer's Rules

THE DUE DATE FOR TURN 10 IS NOVEMBER 19, 2016!!

Turn 9

96 (replenish with a 3)	Christian Doppler (Breaking Away!)
95 (no replenishment)	Empty
94 (no replenishment)	Empty
93 (replenish with a 3)	Alpha, Baker, Anastasia
92 (replenish with a 6)	Jerusalem
91 (replenish with a 7)	Nicholas II, Rousseau, Raphael, Smirky
90 (replenish with a 11)	Lafayette, Heart of Oak, Terrorised
89 (replenish with a 14)	Hope and Glory, Alexis de Tocqueville, Jefferson, Charlie, Constipated
88 (replenish with a 19)	Angst
87 (replenish with a 20)	Donatello
86 (replenish with a 21)	White Cliffs, Leonardo, Alexandra
85 (no replenishment)	Empty

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS KENDO NAGASAKI

DEADLINE FOR TURN 5 OF THIS GAME IS NOVEMBER 19, 2016

Kendo Nagasaki for me comes from the series in *Eternal Sunshine...* The full rules for Where in the World is Kendo Nagasaki are in: <http://www.whiningkentpigs.com/DW/es58.pdf>. Send a guess!!!

TURN 1

Brendan Whyte:

Bernie Sanders, on Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean

Tom Howell:

No Guess Received

Hank Alme:

Hank Alme in Ellicott City, MD

Marc Ellinger:

Christian De Castries in Caracas, Venezuela

Rick Desper:

Wavy Gravy in West Hartford, CT

Doug Kent:

Robert E. Lee in Lhasa, Tibet

Andy York:

Jim Burgess in Portland, ME

Peter Sullivan:

Joan Collins in Dallas, TX

HINT to the Person with the Closest Geographic Guess: You have my gender correct, but I did most of the things I'm famed for a decade or two before your active period.

TURN 2

Brendan Whyte:

Eleanor Roosevelt in Baton Rouge, LA

Tom Howell:

No Guess Received

Hank Alme:

Boris Johnson in Moscow, Russia

Marc Ellinger:

F.D.R. in Lagos, Nigeria

Rick Desper:

Eleanor Roosevelt in Belize City, Belize

Doug Kent:

Eisenhower in Gettysburg, PA

Andy York:

Al Capone in Rio, Brazil

Peter Sullivan:

Dwight D. Eisenhower in Culzean Castle, Ayrshire, Scotland

Jim Reader:

Nelson Mandela in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

HINT to the Person with the Closest Geographic Guess: I had a somewhat more formal leadership position than you.

TURN 3

Brendan Whyte:

Huey Long in Baton Rouge, LA

Tom Howell:

No Guess This Time

Hank Alme:

Eleanor Roosevelt in Los Angeles, CA

Marc Ellinger:

Herbert Hoover in Santiago, Chile

Rick Desper:

Simon Bolivar in La Paz, Bolivia

Doug Kent:

Rommel in La Paz, Bolivia

Andy York:

Kenesaw Mountain Landis in Sao Paulo, Brazil

Peter Sullivan:

Dwight D. Eisenhower in Buenos Aires, Argentina

Jim Reader:

Donald Trump in the White House

Mark Firth:

Lyndon B. Johnson in Salonika, Greece

HINT to the Person with the Closest Geographic Guess: We knew each other and interacted with each other in our professional lives, but there was a famous meeting I once helped to orchestrate that you were not invited to.

TURN 4

Brendan Whyte:
No Guess This Time

Hank Alme:
FDR in Valparaiso, Chile

Rick Desper:
Teddy Roosevelt in Brasilia, Brazil.

Andy York:
George Marshall at Asuncion, Paraguay

Jim Reader:
Che Guevara Nazca Desert of Peru looking at lines

Tom Howell:
No Guess This Time

Marc Ellinger:
Vyacheslav Mikhailovich Molotov in Ascuncion, Paraguay

Doug Kent:
No Guess This Time

Peter Sullivan:
No Guess This Time

Mark Firth:
Winston Churchill in Beverly Hills

HINT to the Person with the Closest Geographic Guess: You were dead before the famous meeting I alluded to last time, but of course I did work with you closely across our careers.

LAST WORD: So, really, it mostly was because some of you were slow getting me orders that delayed this issue; however, I have had a VERY active medical month. Following up on my back surgery, I had two weeks of radiation treatment to knock out some remaining cancer in my back. This was not horrible, but tiring and seems to have contributed to messing up my fragile digestive system, so I'm having trouble putting back on the weight I need to gain. I'm a total of more than 30 pounds down from my original weight before being sick. With more diligence and planning I'm making some headway on this though. Another issue is the strength and coordination in my legs from the damaged nerves in my back. I have a great set of physical therapists and with diligent work the last two weeks give me real hope for regaining full mobility, from a place before the surgery where I couldn't walk. Let's call that a bit of a miracle.

But the big issue is that I'm fully engaged in a new immunotherapy targeted treatment that has the potential to take this whole thing out entirely. In about a month I should know if I'm making good progress. I'm sure you've all been hearing about these issues, there seems to be really low side effect potential from this specific one, but you have to watch for immune systems run wild issues. But it gives a lot of hope for going forward. But if all this sounds complicated, still, it really is. I'm always happy to hear from any of you individually and I really do feel everyone's support! This whole thing is difficult in any case, but knowing people are thinking about you really helps keep me calm.

Otherwise, of course, there seems to be this election thing coming up in a few days. I think one speaks for everyone except perhaps Donald Trump, who definitely gets off on all the attention, that we are glad this is all about to end. Almost no matter what happens it will be better than what us and the World have been going through.

Hobbywise, as noted above, we are near the end of a great 2016 in the Diplomacy FTF tournament hobby, both in the US and around the World. Showing that fairness prevails, if you've been following the Chris Martin produced videos of the Top Board at this summer's World DipCon, you know he has put in countless hours to entertain us and deservingly he wins the last tournament of the North American year, at Carnage in Vermont. Thanks, as always, to Robert Rouse and Dave Maletsky and anyone else who helps support our involvement at Carnage every year. Anyway, Chris just got Spring 1908 from the summer World DipCon reviews up this past week. But Chris is one of the real mensches of the hobby, and he doesn't get the credit he deserves enough. He took in a big Turkey board top in the last round to take the title. I offer my sincerest and most special congratulations!!!

Game Openings

No openings at present.

Eternal Sunshine Game Section

Diplomacy, "Milk and Trash", 2015A, F 09



Austria (Jack McHugh – jwmchughjr "of" gmail.com): A Ankara Hold, A Bohemia – Munich, F Eastern Mediterranean Supports F Apulia - Ionian Sea (*Void*), A Rumania Supports A Ukraine – Sevastopol, A Silesia Supports A Bohemia – Munich, A Smyrna Hold, A Trieste Supports A Tyrolia, A Tyrolia Supports A Bohemia – Munich, A Ukraine - Sevastopol.

England (Mark Firth – mogcate "of" me.com): A Armenia Supports A Ukraine – Sevastopol, F Gulf of Lyon Supports F Tuscany - Tyrrhenian Sea, F Holland - Belgium (*Bounce*), F North Africa - Tunis (*Fails*), F North Sea - Belgium (*Bounce*), A Norway - St Petersburg (*Bounce*), F Tunis Supports F Tuscany - Tyrrhenian Sea, F Tuscany - Tyrrhenian Sea, F Western Mediterranean Supports F Tuscany - Tyrrhenian Sea.

Germany (Jim Burgess – jfburgess "of" gmail.com): F Baltic Sea Supports A Prussia, A Berlin Supports A Kiel - Munich (*Void*), A Burgundy - Munich (*Fails*),

F Gulf of Bothnia - St Petersburg(sc) (*Bounce*), A Kiel Supports A Kiel - Munich (*Impossible*),
A Marseilles - Piedmont (*Fails*), ~~A Munich - Tyrolia~~ (*Dislodged*, retreat to Ruhr or OTB),
A Piedmont - Tuscany (*Fails*), A Prussia Supports A Silesia - Warsaw (*Void*).

Italy (John Biehl – jerbil “of” shaw.ca): F Apulia Supports A Venice,

F Naples Supports F Tyrrhenian Sea - Ionian Sea, F Rome – Tuscany, F Tyrrhenian Sea - Ionian Sea,
A Venice Supports F Rome - Tuscany.

Russia (Kevin Wilson – ckevinw “of” comcast.net): A Moscow - St Petersburg (*Bounce*),
A Warsaw - Prussia (*Fails*).

Deadline for W 09/S 10 is December 27th at 7am my time

Supply Center Chart

Austria: Ankara, Budapest, Constantinople, Munich, Rumania, Serbia, Sevastopol, Smyrna,
Trieste, Vienna=10, Build 1
England: Brest, Denmark, Edinburgh, Holland, Liverpool, London, Norway, Spain, Tunis=9, Even
Germany: Belgium, Berlin, Kiel, Marseilles, Paris, Portugal, St Petersburg, Sweden=8, Remove 1 or Even
Italy: Bulgaria, Greece, Naples, Rome, Venice=5, Even
Russia: Moscow, Warsaw=2, Even

PRESS

JIM-BOB to KEVIN: Yeah, so are you going to do anything? Why don't I just see if Jackie-cakes wants a center....

JIM-BOB to TURKEY: So had you wrote so much when you were IN the game....

JIM-BOB to DOUG: I won't let us be press-less especially since you are the kindest, caring person that no one believes you to be....

GM – Boob: Lies.

Black Press Gunboat, “Noah’s Titanic”, 2015Arb32, W 09/S 10

Austria: Retreat A Prussia - Silesia..Build A Vienna.. A Bohemia Supports A Munich,
A Galicia - Warsaw (*Bounce*), A Munich Hold, ~~A Silesia Supports A Warsaw – Prussia~~ (*Disbanded*),
A Trieste Supports A Tyrolia, A Tyrolia Supports A Munich, A Ukraine – Moscow, A Vienna - Galicia (*Fails*),
A Warsaw - Prussia.

France: A Burgundy Supports A Marseilles, A Gascony Supports F Spain(sc), A Marseilles Supports F Spain(sc),
F Mid-Atlantic Ocean Supports F Spain(sc), F Spain(sc) Supports A Marseilles.

Germany: Retreat A Munich - Kiel.. F Baltic Sea Supports A Berlin, A Belgium Supports A Ruhr,
A Berlin Supports A Prussia – Silesia, F Clyde - Norwegian Sea, F English Channel - North Sea,
A Kiel - Munich (*Fails*), F Liverpool - Irish Sea, A Livonia - Warsaw (*Bounce*), A Prussia – Silesia,
A Ruhr Supports A Kiel – Munich, F St Petersburg(nc) Hold.

Italy: F Aegean Sea Hold, F Apulia - Ionian Sea, A Greece Hold, F Gulf of Lyon Supports A Piedmont,
F North Africa Supports F Western Mediterranean, A Piedmont Supports A Venice, A Smyrna Hold,
A Venice Supports A Piedmont, F Western Mediterranean Supports F Mid-Atlantic Ocean.

A/F/G/I Draw Proposal Fails

Now Proposed – A/F/G/I. Please vote. NVR=No.

Deadline for F 10 will be December 27th at 7am My Time

PRESS

Paris to Berlin: A Bel-Bur? Are you trying to throw this thing to Italy after all your caterwauling?

French Prez to Zee Pope: So Nice of you to help a brother into the Mid! Now, would you mind supporting me perpetually? Merci beaucoup!



By Almost Popular Demand

The goal is to pick something that fits the category and will be the "second most popular" answer. You score points based on the number of entries that match yours. For example, if the category is "Cats" and the responses were 7 for Persian, 3 for Calico and 1 for Siamese, everyone who said Persian would get 7 points, Calico 3 and the lone Siamese would score 1 point. **However, the most popular answer in each category scores zero points!** The cumulative total over 10 rounds will determine the overall winner. Anyone may enter at any point, starting with an equivalent point total of the lowest cumulative score from the previous round. If a person misses a round, they'll receive the minimum score from the round added to their cumulative total. **In each round you may specify one of your answers as your Joker answer. Your score for this answer will be doubled.** In other words, if you apply your Joker to category 3 on a given turn, and 4 other people give the same answer as you, you get 10 points instead of 5. **Players who fail to submit a Joker for any specific turn will have their Joker automatically applied to the first category.** And, if you want to submit some commentary with your answers, feel free to. The game will consist of 10 rounds, with the 10th round being worth double points. A prize will be awarded to the winner. **Research is permitted, but cooperation or collusion between players is not!**

Round 7 Categories

1. A character on Seinfeld.
2. Something you see in a courtroom.
3. A defunct department store chain.
4. An insect.
5. A famous boxer (past or present).

Comments By Category

Seinfeld – Brendan Whyte "Tempted to say The Drake." Mark Firth "From a knowledge base pop of 1."

Courtroom – Brendan Whyte “Justice?” Mark Firth “Felt like saying guilt but that’s more a feeling.”

Insect – Dane Maslen “I’m hoping for ant or bee to be the top scorer.”

Boxer – Brendan Whyte “The Empress Dowager?”

<u>Player</u>	<u>Seinfeld</u>	<u>Courtroom</u>	<u>Defunct Store</u>	<u>Insect</u>	<u>Boxer</u>	<u>Turn</u>	<u>Total</u>
Andy Lischett	Elaine	Gavel	Montgomery Ward's	Grasshopper	Jake LaMotta	3	92
Jack McHugh	Elaine	Gavel	Gimbels	Fly	Joe Frazier	5	72
Martin Burgdorf	Jerry	Chairs	Fedco	Ant	Tyson Fury	13	72
Mark Firth	Jerry	Judge	Woolworth's	Cricket	Joe Louis	16	72
Allison Kent	Newman	Lawyers	Bamburgers	Mosquito	Evander Holyfield	13	71
Dane Maslen	George	Defendant	Woolworth's	Wasp	George Foreman	7	69
Brad Wilson	Newman	Lawyers	John Wanamaker's	Ant	Marvin Hagler	8	69
Carol Kay	Jerry	Judge	Marshall Fields	Ant	Sugar Ray Leonard	10	69
Steve Cooley	Newman	Bailiff	May Co.	Mosquito	Marvin Hagler	15	64
W. Andrew York	Elaine	Bailiff	Joske's	Mosquito	Max Schmeling	8	62
Don Del Grande	Jerry	Jury	Montgomery Ward's	Mosquito	Thomas Hearns	17	59
Dick Martin	Elaine	Judge	Hechts	Ant	Joe Frazier	6	57
Melinda Holley	Elaine	Gavel	Marshall Fields	Grasshopper	Sugar Ray Leonard	4	55
Kevin Wilson	Kramer	American Flag	Montgomery Ward's	Cricket	Sugar Ray Leonard	7	55
Brendan Whyte	Elaine	Evidence	George Courts	Ant	Sonny Liston	3	53
Jim Burgess	Jerry	Gavel	Jordan Marsh	Ant	Joe Louis	10	53
John David Galt	NMR	NMR	NMR	NMR	NMR	3	52
Hank Alme	Kramer	Witness Stand	Montgomery Ward's	Fly	Mike Tyson	9	52
Rick Desper	Elaine	Jury	G. Fox	Ant	Mike Tyson	5	42
Geoff Kemp	NMR	NMR	NMR	NMR	NMR	3	20
Richard Weiss	NMR	NMR	NMR	NMR	NMR	3	17
Roger Cox	NMR	NMR	NMR	NMR	NMR	3	16
MOST POPULAR	Elaine	Gavel	Montgomery Ward's	Ant	Sugar Ray Leonard		

Don Del Grande pulls the high score of 17 (out of a possible 21). Current leader Andy Lischett and Brendan Whyte hit the bottom with a score of 3.

Round 8 Categories

1. A character on The X-Files.
2. A mode of public transportation.
3. A song by Fleetwood Mac.
4. A measure of weight.
5. A food associated with Thanksgiving.

Deadline for Round 8 of By Almost Popular Demand is December 27th, 2016 at 7am my time.

General Deadline for the Next Issue of Eternal Sunshine: December 27th, 2016 at 7:00am my time. Hope to See You Then!