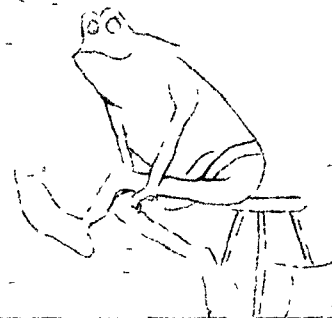


11-1
1st August, 1972

ethil 11

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ETHIL THE FROG 11, from John Piggott, 17 Monmouth Road, Oxford, OX1 4TD, U.K.
Duplicated once again by Ian Maule. Subscription rates: Inland, 10/50p.
Europe, 10/50p surface, 10/70p air. Elsewhere, 8/£1 surface, 4/£1 air.
Game fee 25p for all games except the first, which is free. This is Tapeworm
Publication No. 15. Our telephone number is 0865-45045.

The number on your mailing label is your last issue on your present
subscription. If that number is '11' and you wish to continue receiving
Ethil, take action now!

Third Age

If Ian has had time to run it off, the rules and map for this game will
be enclosed with this issue. Lists are now open for Third Age games.

Because of the widely differing strengths of the various Powers in this
game, I shall once again be asking each prospective player to submit a list,
in order of preference, of the six Powers. The assignments will then be made
on the basis of those lists. Prospective players may be interested to know
that I have already positioned the Ring for the first game!

This game was originally brought to my attention when it appeared in
Michel Liesnard's gazette Les Dossiers de l'Hyène Harra (address p.4). Issues
of this zine will contain at least one variant each, in French, of course.
The schedule is 'irregular', but appears to be every couple of months. I get
it in trade, of course... I've looked right through the latest issue but
can't find a subscription rate -- probably it's free?

I translated the rules back into English from Liesnard's impeccable
French, and any inadequacies in the translation should be laid at my door.
Any queries about the rules, if passed to me, will be forwarded to Brian
Libby, the designer; I may also attempt to answer some of them myself...

The new Diplomacy Rulebook has now been published in this country. The BDC
has a limited number of copies for sale, price 30p each. I don't know whether
these will be sold to non-members, however. Hartley Patterson still has a
few copies also.

Der Krieg (Graham Jeffery, 8 Rusholme Road, London SW15 3JZ) may run a section
of the latest version of Diadokhi, slightly revised and improved on the version
currently running in WB

I've just received a copy of Foreign Office Journal from Bernie Ackerman
(%Cheshire Home, 890 Main Rd, Mosely, Natal, South Africa) containing a
few things of interest. There's an article by Allan Calhmer on the gradual
development of Diplomacy, with comments on some of the points by Don Miller,
there's an article by Gene Prosnitz entitled "Alliance-breaking, double-crossing,
and the balance-of-power principle"... All good stuff, and interesting. The
zine is run in conjunction with Foreign Office Report, which reports on SA's
first postal Dippy game. FOJ by itself is \$1.00(US) and the two together
\$1.50(US) for six game years. Don Miller is the US subscription agent, not
that it really matters to us lot over here, though

COA: Ian Maule is now at. 13 Weardale Ave, Forest Hall, N/c NE12 OHX.

BDC Part 3....

Shortly after I stencilled Ethel 10, another issue of the Backstabber, dated 10 July, arrived. With it came a letter from Graeme Levin, organiser of the BDC, which is reproduced in full below.

Graeme Levin

Dear John,

I thought that I had clarified the British Diplomacy Club's function clearly to you. However, from what you have said in issue 9 of Ethel the Frog, it appears that you still labour under many misconceptions.

The main objective of the BDC is to recruit large numbers of Diplomacy players who would otherwise never have access to specialist publications such as your own. You hit the nail on the head when you pointed out that it would cost you too much money even to circularise existing BDC members. Consider how much more it has cost me to obtain these members. I had hoped to recoup all advertising costs within a year. However, it appears that the funds spent on advertising, leaflets, postage etc will only be recovered after about two years. How else do you recover the outlay if not by means of the annual subscription and joining fee?

Many Diplomacy enthusiasts have commented that most of the present publications draw their memberships from more or less the same group of people. The BDC provides the opportunity to play against a wide variety of players. Furthermore, because of the ever-increasing number of members, you are quite correct that the BDC will impose a burden on gamesmasters. I can hardly expect GMs to be as philanthropic as yourself, and continue to offer games at a fee which just covers costs. As it is, the £1 game fee plus 20 SSAEs barely leaves a GM with much profit, particularly since all costs are borne by the GM. You cannot simply compare overall costs without comparing the system being used.

Furthermore, once again to clarify the situation, the Backstabber is not (and never has been) intended as a reporting publication. It has never been intended to use the Backstabber for any purpose other than to circularise members with lists of other members and to provide the set of House Rules. Naturally, once the initial costs are covered, perhaps the BDC will be able to provide a more substantial type of magazine. At the moment, members receive game reports direct from the gamesmasters.

I thought that our previous correspondence indicated that you would be prepared to GM subsequent BDC games. If your article was meant to indicate that you are prepared to act as GM for an amount of less than £1 plus 20 SAEs, please let me know. However, I am sure that on the whole the BDC members realise that the additional costs have to be paid simply because without the efforts and expenditures of the BDC they would never have had the opportunity of playing Diplomacy by post, or of meeting other Diplomacy players in their area. Also, the BDC relies very heavily on the time of existing GMs. I am sure that BDC members recognise this and are prepared to pay more per game. Perhaps you would care to let me know if you are prepared to GM BDC games for less than £1 plus 20 SAEs. I have a feeling, however, that your reaction will be that your time is heavily committed. However, at the present BDC rate you would probably be prepared to take on a couple of games. I am not quite sure what more you expect from the BDC. I have stated repeatedly that the main function is to recruit members and to provide members with the opportunity to play games by post, and to meet other members.

You are quite correct when you say that you could easily circularise existing members. I have always been aware that there was this risk in publishing lists of members, but up to now have been confident that others will recognise the cost in recruiting BDC members and will not try to take advantage of the funds and efforts expended by the BDC. I would hate to even contemplate falling into the same trap as our American friends by keeping lists of members secret. I have no intention of doing so.

A very real advantage to BDC members is that standby players can be relatively easily organised. Furthermore, standby GMs can be arranged far more easily than by each independent magazine. I am sure you are sincere when you say that you would like to see the BDC a success. Costwise, we are forced to keep our present form. Furthermore, the BDC has no intention of usurping any of the functions of existing GMs

However, as a member of the BDC you are quite entitled to criticise the organisation, and if you can offer any constructive improvements I will be the first to consider them and to put them into effect. Suggestions have come from many members and I am sure you will find that as the BDC grows and becomes more financially sound, members will receive more from the Club

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Graeme Levin

P S. Please publish my letter in full or not at all. I look forward to your reply, and would greatly appreciate it if you tried to avoid starting any form of conflict or dissension amongst the various Diplomacy groups. The BDC simply wants to recruit members. Given time and co-operation from people such as yourself, I am sure that it will succeed.

((I still feel that the BDC ought to be offering its members full information on all aspects of the postal Dippy world -- something which, up till now, it is not doing. For instance, the latest Backstabber mentioned variants in passing. I quote. "Some specialist groups offer variants to their members. At this stage, we would like to stick to the basic game. However, once a sufficiently large number of BDC games have started we will publicise and arrange variant games through the variant gamesmasters." All very well, but perhaps some BDC members would be interested in at least seeing some variants? They can even be played face-to-face -- the Cambridge group organised by Andy Davidson have played games of both Abstraction and Diadokhi -- and to deny such people the opportunity to get these variants simply by withholding (even unintentionally) the information as to their whereabouts seems, to me, ignoring the BDC's purposes somewhat.

((The most important thing the BDC could provide at the moment is an information sheet, I think. It would contain details of the various publications available, with perhaps short reviews, a little information on postal Dippy in general... something on the lines of Hartley Patterson's Niflheim. Perhaps Niflheim itself could be distributed to each member in the next BDC mailing. Hartley is reprinting it shortly.

((Okay, so I'm arguing from the standpoint of the independent zines. . . tell all the members about us so we'll get lots of readers, etc. etc. But there are advantages with being involved in both organisations. The magazines have given the BDC plenty of publicity among their readers... how about a little publicity for us in return?))

Hartley Patterson

I suspect the basic problem may well be a fannish one. You and I were brought up in SF fandom, the customs and traditions of which are very similar to those of US postal Dippy fandom. Since I took over WF last year, I've been moving into conformity with the US zines I trade with. Postal games in the USA are much more advanced, and, in my opinion, more interesting for the players than those currently running in this country -- the quicker we catch up, the better. I imagine that you are following the same general path.

The BDC is inevitably outside fandom. As far as I know, when it was set up the only postal games Levin had seen were those in Courier -- and Don Turnbull isn't a fan, either. The BDC therefore bears little resemblance to the US Dippy organisations, or to any fannish group.

Your gamecosts calculation omits one vital point -- BDC games have at

least three mailings per game year, 'Winter' being separate. This reduces BDC games to the same level as our own

Ethil -- 24 issues x 5p = £1.20
 WB -- 24 x 4p, + 25p = £1.21
 BDC -- 36 issues x 5p = £1.80 !!!

In other words, if you take on a BDC game you will take less income on average than from one of your own games.

My own opinions on what a Dippy organisation should be doing are well-known. I'd like something resembling the US pattern. A magazine with news, articles etc. and various departments performing service functions for the hobby in general, such as an information sheet, adsheets, orphan games, data collecting, and so on. I still hope this will come eventually. A £1 sub for such an organisation might be possible -- for example, the Tolkien Society and the British Fantasy Society are viable at this level. The BFS has a magazine and monthly newsletter, the TS has in effect two magazines and eight mailings per year.

Whether Dippy players want this at present is debatable, of course. Perhaps your readers would care to discuss it? As you may recall, I proposed such discussions in WB before the BDC was sprung on us, and no-one wanted to talk about it...

((I should have thought the ones who should debate it are really the BDC members.. after all, there are far more of them than there are of us. I suspect most of those already involved with the independent zines don't really like the idea of organisations of any kind connected with the hobby. Perhaps a questionnaire circulated among BDC members in the next BDC mailing might be a good idea. I would be prepared to devise one if necessary....))

New Belgian organisation

"The BELGIAN STRATEGY GAMES ASSOCIATION has been set up in Trieste during Eurocon 1. Our main purposes are favorizing meetings between the Belgian fans, advertising Diplomacy, Avalon Hill and S&T games among the SF fandom, and trying to persuade the retail shops to have them put on the market. We also offer several facilities to foreign players visiting Belgium (free food and bed, showing around, etc)." -- Michel Liesnard.

Naturally this organisation has the full support of Ethil. Further information is no doubt available from Michel Liesnard, the President

Eurocon 2, the second European SF convention, takes place in Brussels in 1974. I hope to be able to attend if degree day doesn't interfere. 500 are expected to attend, and there are two hotels -- a cheap one and an expensive one. A good idea. Michel Liesnard can probably furnish more information if required. (Ave E. de Moersman 43, 1080 Bruxelles, Belgium).

New Game Openings

Colin Homming announces that his zine XL will now be offering regular Diplomacy games to anyone who wants one. The gamesmaster will be Jeff Oliver, already familiar to some of Ethil's readers. The deadlines will be longer than those currently running in Ethil and the other mags, to conform with the more leisurely pace of the Myopia (Andy will hate me for calling it that) game currently running. XL is 5p per issue from Colin at 20 Hilltop Court, Wilmslow Road, Fallowfield, Manchester M14 6LH. The game fee will be 60p, which will cover issues of XL for as long as your game lasts.

Meanwhile, back on 61 Cygni

we report that the world's first postal 4000 AD game has started. The King of Antares eagerly awaits the results of his Autumn 4001 moves .. The game is running in War Bulletin.

'B' Game (Abstraction -- 1972Kco) -- February/March 1915

Versailles Napoleon IV, who is alive and well and living in ~~his~~ his recently rebuilt palace, has been ruminating (an obscene activity involving cows) on the situation in the Mediterranean. "The present free-for-all cannot be tolerated; we undertake to restore peace and make it an idyllic French lake. We trust all of Europe will co-operate with the French fleet in clearing away homeless Turks, dead Duces, encyclopaedias, Austrian fleets -- sorry, fleet -- and all the other flotsam and jetsam presently polluting the Mediterranean."

St Petersburg (Govnt) A report that Russian authorities in Sinope have banned the wearing of the Turkish fez was flatly denied in a statement from the Ministry of the Interior. It continued: "We have merely stipulated that all fezzes should bear a statuette of the Russian Imperial Eagle, weighing not less than 30 lbs., in place of the traditional tassel."

Sicily. Napoleon may think he's captured this state, but he's got another think coming. There's still a very strong Mafiosi presence here. The Mafia have a morbid hatred of knowledge, among other things, and anyone attempting to sell encyclopaedias here will die a violent death!

ENGLAND (Stuart). F Ska-Swe S by A Nwy, -A Ang-Den S by F Ang;
F Nrg-Nth; F Hel-Hol; F Eng-Bel; F Cly-Nrg.

GERMANY (Davis): A Kie-Ber.

RUSSIA (Feintuck). F Den-Kie* S by A Ber; F Rig S A Swe, F WBS-Con;
A Arm-Dam, A Swe, A Dre & F Sin-stand.

TURKEY (Maule). A Cic-Dam; F MaS-Sic; F CMS S A Nap, A Nap stand.

AUSTRIA (D.Christianson): A Con-Smy; A Bul-Con; A Gre-Mac, A Rum-Ode;
F Adr-Alb; A Mun-Ber; A Ven-Pie S by A Zur,
A Tyr S A Zur; A Cro-Ven.

ITALY (Jeffery). F Ion-Nap S by A Rom, A Pie*, F Mor* & F Tun stand.

FRANCE (A.Davidson) F WMS-Mor S by F SAO; F Tys-Tun; A Sic stand,
A Swa-Zur, A Par-Lor; A Mar-Pie S by A Obe.

*Retreats: Russian F Den-Bal; Italian A Pie-Tus, Italian F Mor disbanded.

E: 9 bases Ply, Lon, Lpl, Edl, Ire, Nwy, Bel, Hol, Den. Build A Lon.

G: 1 base: Kiel. No change.

R: 8 bases Ark, StP, Mos, War, Swe, Dre, Ber, Sin. No change.

T: 4 bases Con, Dam, Egy, -Nap. No change.

A: 13 bases Zar, Pec, Bud, Vie, Mun, Zur, Gre, Ser, Rum, Bul, Smy, Ode, Ven.
Build A Pecs, A Bud & A Vie.

I: 2 bases: Rom, Tus. Remove F Tun, A Rom.

F: 9 bases Ere, Par, Lyo, Mar, And, Cas, Por, Sic, Mor. Build F Mar.

'C' Game (1972EK) -- Autumn 1903

Galveo: The victorious army of General Henry P. John has taken the city with little or no loss of blood. Squads of soldiers are now making house-to-house enquiries in the hope of finding the perpetrator of certain outrageous letters written under the pseudonym of Henry P. John.

Fleet Street That scruffy, decadent publication, whose name once again escapes me, continues in even more terrifying fashion than before.

Olympic Games, Constantinople. The marathon this year seems likely to be won by the home competitor, that man of untiring strength, I. Mustaphakip. Throughout training he has been clocking up phenomenal times for the event.

Manchester: "Hey! Anyone want some insurance?"

Paris Latest plans of the glorious Government include Operation Walroy, designed to create stable government throughout the world.

((Moves-overpage))

ENGLAND (Taylor): A Nwy-StP S by F Bar; A Lon-Nwy C by F Nth;
F Ska-Swe.

GERMANY (Maule) A Mun-Tyr, A Boh-Gal; A Sil-War S by A Pru & A Mos;
F Bal-GoB.

RUSSIA (B. Davidson)· F GoB-StP, F Rum-Sev, A StP-Mos* S by A War*;
A Gal S A War.

TURKEY (Jeffery) A Con-Gre C by F Aeg, S by F Ion & A Bul.

AUSTRIA (M. Christianson)· F Gre-Bul;* A-Bud-Rum S by A Ser, A Vic-Gal.

ITALY (Davis) A Apu-Rom S by A Tus. A Pie-Mar.

FRANCE (Bell)· F WMS-GoL; A Mar-Spa, A Bur-Mar, F TyS-Rom,
A Tun stand.

*Retreats Russian A StP-Fin, Russian A War-Ukr, Austrian F Gre disbanded.

- E· 7 bases. Lon, Lpl, Edi, Bel, Nwy, Swe, StP. Build A Lon, A Edi.
- G· 7 bases· Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol, Mos, War. Build A Mun.
- R· 1 base Sev. Remove F GoB, F Sev, A Fin, A Gal.
- T· 5 bases: Con, Ank, Smy, Bul, Gre. Build A Con.
- A: 5 bases: Bud, Tri, Vic, Rum, Ser. Build A Bud, A Tri.
- I: 3 bases Rom, Ven, Nap. No change.
- F: 6 bases: Bre, Par, Mar, Por, Spa, Tun. Build A Par.

Standby moves for England were received from Andrew Waldie. They were not needed, but thank you for submitting them nevertheless, Andrew.

'F' Game (1972??) -- Spring 1901

London (Times)· Letters to the editor:

Sir, I object most vehemently to any suggestion that cats, or any other of God's creatures, come to that, should be named after a 'Dippyzine'. This practice must be stamped out at all costs. Yrs., &c.,

Major W.B. Backstabber-Albion Q.M. (Ret'd)(Mrs).

Kiel (Govnt): The warship 'Doggo' was launched here today. The ship failed to stop after reaching the end of the mile-long slipway, and was last seen heading towards Denmark.

Marseilles (Underground Weekly) A White Elephant arrived here last week, en route to England. It is a birthday present from the Kaiser to the King.

Paris (official sources): We have the honour of delivering a valuable present from Germany to England. Unfortunately, the escort fleet would prove too expensive, and the animal is being returned to Germany. Perhaps a British escort will be found.

Vienna. Crowds gathered in Tyrolia today to watch a 'running backwards' race being held just over the border in Italy. Later, Italian press releases denied all knowledge of the event, pointing out that the area in question is a training-ground for the Italian army.

Wimbledon No. 1 seedy Dan Druff was taken to hospital today after beating Sam Stiff 6-0, 21-23, 38-40, 6-0, 6-0. When jumping the net Dan landed with one leg on either side. There were cries from the crowd of 'Ooh' and 'Aah' and from the umpire of 'New balls, please'.

Longfordia Oooh! Disgusting! Depraved! What will these evil minds think up next? Censor it! Ban it! Grind it into the ground! Drive it from the streets!

Salé "Wot, no encyclopaedias?"

Venice (Govnt) We deny all knowledge of the event. The area in question is a training-ground for the Italian army.

((Moves are on p.7))

ENGLAND (Durrholm) F Lon-Nth; F Edi-Nrg; A Lpl-Edi.
 GERMANY (Morrison) F Klc-Den, A Ber-Klc, A Mun-Ruh.
 RUSSIA (Williams) F StP-GoB; A Mos-Lvn; A War-Ukr, F Sev-Run.
 TURKEY (E.Davidson): A Con-Bul, A Sily-Ank, F Ank-Con.
 AUSTRIA (Davies) F Tri-Alb, A Vle-Bud, A Bud-Ser.
 ITALY (Oliver): A Ven-Pie, A Rom-Ven; F Nap-Ion.
 FRANCE (Alexander) F Bre-MAO, A Par-Bur, A Mar-Spa.

No conflicts at all here, perhaps it is too early to tell who is stabbing who?

 'E' Game (1972CI) -- Autumn 1901

Munich (Die Sonne) The political situation is rapidly deteriorating, the filthy Slavonic hordes have swept right into our country, and what, the people ask, is the Mad King doing about it? Has he some subtle diplomatic plan? Far from it! He is preoccupied with shapely (36-28-35) Fräulein Anna von Sudhaven. On Tuesday, it is rumoured, the two of them (cont. p.94)

Inrryr Astral is dead. But from the ashes of the old there comes the new, rising like a phoenix.

Paris. The Emperor recently took a short break from his official duties to glance at a report from Marseilles. A frog-hunting expedition from the Marseilles institute for Zoological Studies had seen a fleet of ice-cream vans approaching our south-eastern border. They are believed to be testing a new four-speed gearbox (one forward, three reverse) for the 'army' of a tiny kingdom situated somewhere along the Mediterranean coast. Little is known about this country except that the inhabitants, who call themselves 'wops' have the ability to run backwards at high speed.

Ankara (Govat). Our most severe Sultan, when told of a sudden Austrian threat to our forward-looking policies for world domination, panicked and ordered immediate mobilisation of our armed forces. A less courageous member of our forces (the commander-in-chief) pointed out, however, that in a battle against the rats some of our people might get hurt. He has, therefore, suggested the use of the Sultan's personal bodyguard, a battalion of trained moles, in our counter-attack. He further stated that even if our moles do not scare the Austrians into retreat, we may be able to bore them to death.

Athens Crowds of virile young sailors, on leave after their arduous campaigns in Albania, arrived yesterday to see the sights of this beautiful city. A detachment of marines visited the Royal palace, and soon afterwards the jubilant populace received confirmation that Greece is now part of the glorious Empire of Austria-Hungary.

Apulia Il Duce Musselliani has stated that the Italian Empire may go to the aid of the other half of Europe (the barbaric part, consisting of Russia, Turkey, England, Germany, Austria and France).

ENGLAND (Maule) A Edi-Nwy C by F Nrg, F Nth-Hol.
 GERMANY (Mellish) F Den-Swe; A Kie-Hol, A Mun stands*.
 RUSSIA (Douglass) F GoB-Bal, A Lvn-Pru, F Rum S Bul-Ser;
 A Sil S (Austrian) Boh-Mun.
 TURKEY (Pijohn) A Bul stands S by F Bla and A Con.
 AUSTRIA (R. Lawson) A Boh-Mun, A Ser-Bul; F Alb-Gre.
 ITALY (I.Lawson) A Tus-Tun C by F TyS, A Pie stands.
 FRANCE (Walkerdine) A Bur-Mar; A Spa-Mar; F MAO-Por.

*Retreat. German A Mun-Ber.

((Builds, &c., on p.8))

E. 4 bases: Lon, Lpl, Edi, Nwy. Build F Lon.
 G. 3 bases. Ber, Kle, Swe. No change.
 R. 5 bases. StP, Mos, War, Sev, Rum. Build A War.
 T. 4 bases. Con, Ank, Sny, Bul. Build F Smy.
 A. 6 bases. Tri, Vie, Bud, Ser, Gre, Mun. Build A Tri, A Vie, A Bud.
 I. 4 bases. Ven, Rom, Nap, Tun. Build F Nap.
 F. 5 bases. Bre, Par, Mar, Spa, Por. Build A Par, F Mar.

 'A' Game (1972K) -- Autumn 1905.

Tunis (Ex-govnt): I blame the Runts!

Galicja (Dung Flingers, Fingernail Cleaners Magazine): The recent flinging championships over the border were halted when news came that the city was full of German excrement. A division of cleaners will be sent to help clean up the area.

Vienna (Lavatory Engineers' Gazette) After piecing together scraps of soggy paper from a high-class convenience which were blocking the main pipe, a secret treaty was revealed which indicates that Russia and Austria are no longer 'good friends', but are firm allies in the struggle against German aggression.

Rome (Spaghetti Knot Untiers' Federation Monthly Broadsheet) The award for Spring 1905 was presented to the French government for successfully tying themselves in knots on the Italian border. Offers have poured in all week from people anxious to help them sort themselves out.

Iceland *silence*

Iceland (later): *silence*

Iceland (much later): **COUGH!!**

Offices of Deutsche Freipresse. Rattattattattattat.... scream, thump, gurgle...

Iceland (later still) *silence*

Paris Acting in his official capacity as leader of the Russian armed forces, General I. Cantski has managed to secure an alliance between Russia and France aimed at a total massacre of German-held territory.

GERMANY (A. Davidson): F Lon-Wal; F Nth S F Nwy, A Swe S F Nwy,
 F Nwy S F Nth, A Ber-Sil S by A Mun; A Pru S A War;
 A Sil-Gal S by A War, A Edi stands.

RUSSIA (Jeffery): A Mos-War S by A lvn, A Con-Sev S by F Bla;
 F Ber-Nwy S by F Nrg & A StP.

AUSTRIA (Robertson): F Nap-TyS, F Adr-Ion; A Alb-Tri, A Rom-Tus,
 A Tyr-Pie S by A Ven; A Gal S (Russian) Mos-War,
 A Boh-Sil; A Bul S A Rum; A Rum S A Bul.

ITALY (Maule): F Tun stands*.

FRANCE (D. Christianson) A Mar-Spa; F GoL-TyS, F WMS-Tun S by A Naf;
 A Bur S (German) A Mun.

*Retreat Italian F Tun eliminated -- nowhere to go.

G: 12 bases: Mun, Den, Kle, Ber, Hol, Bel, Lpl, Lon, Edi, War, Swe, Nwy.
 Build F Kiel. No room for second build.

R. 6 bases: StP, Mos, Sev, Con, Ank, Sny. Remove F Bla.

A. 10 bases: Tri, Vie, Bud, Ven, Rom, Nap, Rum, Bul, Gre, Ser. No change.

I. Eliminated. No change!!

F. 6 bases: Bre, Par, Mar, Spa, Por, Tun. Build F Mar.

'D' Game (1972BV) -- Autumn 1902

London. We are at war with Germany. The Government has decided to put a stop to the German attacks on small neutral countries. After forgetting to send an ultimatum, to which no answer was received, our Government declared war. Beware, teutons.

Berlin (Pig Fanciers' Weekly) Disturbing rumours reach us that an unknown foreign power may wage biological warfare on us by infecting our pigs with a fatal disease. If this occurs, it will mean no more home-grown sausages for Germany, and what is a German without his sausage? Thus, no pigs = no Germans! Geddit?

Moscow (Peasants' Herald & Information Letter): The Imperial fleet was granted entry to Sweden after representations were made to the Swedish court by the English ambassador. The sailors were taken to hospital to recover from seasickness and hangovers.

The Czar is still seriously ill, though, and is showing no sign of improvement, although he is receiving continuous transfusions of caviar suspended in plasma.

Warsaw Several Germans were arrested today for spying on military establishments. They had gained entry by posing as Austrian doctors.

Munich (Chancellor of the Exchequer) The country is now in a precarious state of financial imbalance, because the Kaiser has come out on strike after an industrial dispute. It is felt he may pass his time selling 'Bettawear' brushes from door to door, or even change his drinking habits from Newky Brown to Mild. Eecccch'!

Buenos Aires Grand Admiral Henry Pijohn is said to be advancing at high speed on the stronghold of the Lusaka Girls' Choir at Galveo, in the hope of bringing succour to members of the British Landrace Pig Society.

ENGLAND (I. Lawson). F Lpl-Iri; F Lon-Eng, F Nth-Hol;
A Nwy S (Russian) GoB-Swe.

GERMANY (Jones) F Den-Swe, A Ber-Pru, A Ruh-Bur S by A Mun,
A Bel stand.

RUSSIA (Shaw). F GoB-Swe; A Ukr-Rum S by F Sev, A War-Gal.

TURKEY (Oliver) A Con-Bul, F Ank-Bla; F Bla-Sev S by A Rum.

AUSTRIA (A. Davidson): F Ion-TyS, A Tri-Ven S by A Tyr; A Gal-Ukr,
A Bud S (Turkish) A Rum.

ITALY (Waldie) F TyS-Nap, F Tun-Ion, A Naf-Tun, A Pie-Tus.

FRANCE (Hemmings) F Eng-Bel S by A Bur; A Mar S A Bur, A Spa stand.

E 5 bases. Lon, Lpl, Edi, Hol, Nwy. Build F Edl.

G: 5 bases. Mun, Kie, Beí, Den, Bel. No change

R 5 bases. StP, Mos, War, Sev, Swe. Build A Mós.

T 5 bases. Con, Ank, Slay, Bul, Rum. Build A Smy.

A 6 bases. Ven, Tri, Vie, Bud, Ser, Gre. Build F Tri.

I. 3 bases. Rom, Nap, Tun. Remove A Tun.

F. 5 bases. Mar, Per, Bre, Spa, Por. Build F Bre.

***Whoops! Forgot the following two press releases:

Cambridge It is rumoured that a new Dippyazine is to start soon, run by Jeffery Piggottersonbull. It is to be called 'Andy Davidson's cat'. (Gee, Rod, is this the first time a Dippyazine has been called after a pet named after a Dippyazine whose nomenclature is that of an animal? Wow!) ADC, not to be confused with BDC, will be non-profit-making.

Almost everywhere Yes, who is Henry Pijohn?!

Waiting Lists

THIRD AGE. Phil Jones
 ABSTRACTION Harry Bell, Phil Jones, Jeff Oliver, Robert Alexander,
 Phil Shaw Two more needed!
 TWIN-EARTH: Graham Jeffery, Michel Feron, Phil Jones.

Standby players

'A' -- Jeff Oliver, Andrew Waldie, Gregory Ward.
 'B' -- Richard Walkerdine
 'C' -- Andrew Waldie, Jeff Oliver
 'D' -- Harry Bell, Richard Walkerdine
 'E' -- Harry Bell, Kevin Feintuck
 'F' -- Gregory Ward, Kevin Feintuck, Andrew Waldie.

Editorial

Those among you who sent long screeds of press releases for inclusion in this Ethil may find that I have cut out huge chunks of it. (Yes, Graham, this means you...) I shall be doing this more and more in future -- Ethil is starting to get a small bit unwieldy (there's no room this issue for quite a lot of stuff I'd like to include) and to print only the best of all available PR's is one way of economising.

Just to reiterate anyone may submit PR's for any game. However, please keep material pertaining to different games on separate sheets, and on one side of the paper only if possible. That way, I can sort the material by games as soon as it arrives without undue trouble, and I'll be able to produce Ethil a bit more easily. Ta.

I am agreeably surprised at the very low drop-out rate (in-fact, non-existent!) in Ethil's games. Even in cases where I have not received orders by the deadline, it has always been the case that these orders were posted late, not forgotten altogether. In view of the excellent record of Ethil's players, I shall rule that no more standby players are needed presently for any games now running, except 'B', the Abstraction game

There's just room to note a few points of interest. Both Andy Davidson and I were placed in the third class of the 1st year Tripos at Cambridge -- while not a brilliant result, this will enable us to return to waste the taxpayers' money for one more year. Andy has now finished selling encyclopaedias, readers of Ethil's PR's will be relieved to hear, and is now considering flogging insurance... All enquiries direct to Andy, please!

I can't resist a couple of quotes from a FTF game in which Jeff Oliver participated "Compared with this game, World War II was nothing!" and, after 9 minutes of diplomacy time had elapsed, "I'd love to, but we can't do it in one minute."

Next deadline is 8.30 a.m. on Saturday, August 19, 1972.

Hannibal conferred with his advisers
 at the barracks in Lutetia.

"You're not serious about going
 to Beaconsfield, are you?"
 spluttered Hasdrubal.

"I most certainly am," said
 Hannibal affably. "This Patterson
 fellow gets away with too much."

Hasdrubal gulped. "But don't you
 realise you'll be rewriting history?"

This is
 ETHIL THE FROG 11 from
 John Piggott, 17 Monmouth Rd,
 Oxford, OX1 4TD, U.K.