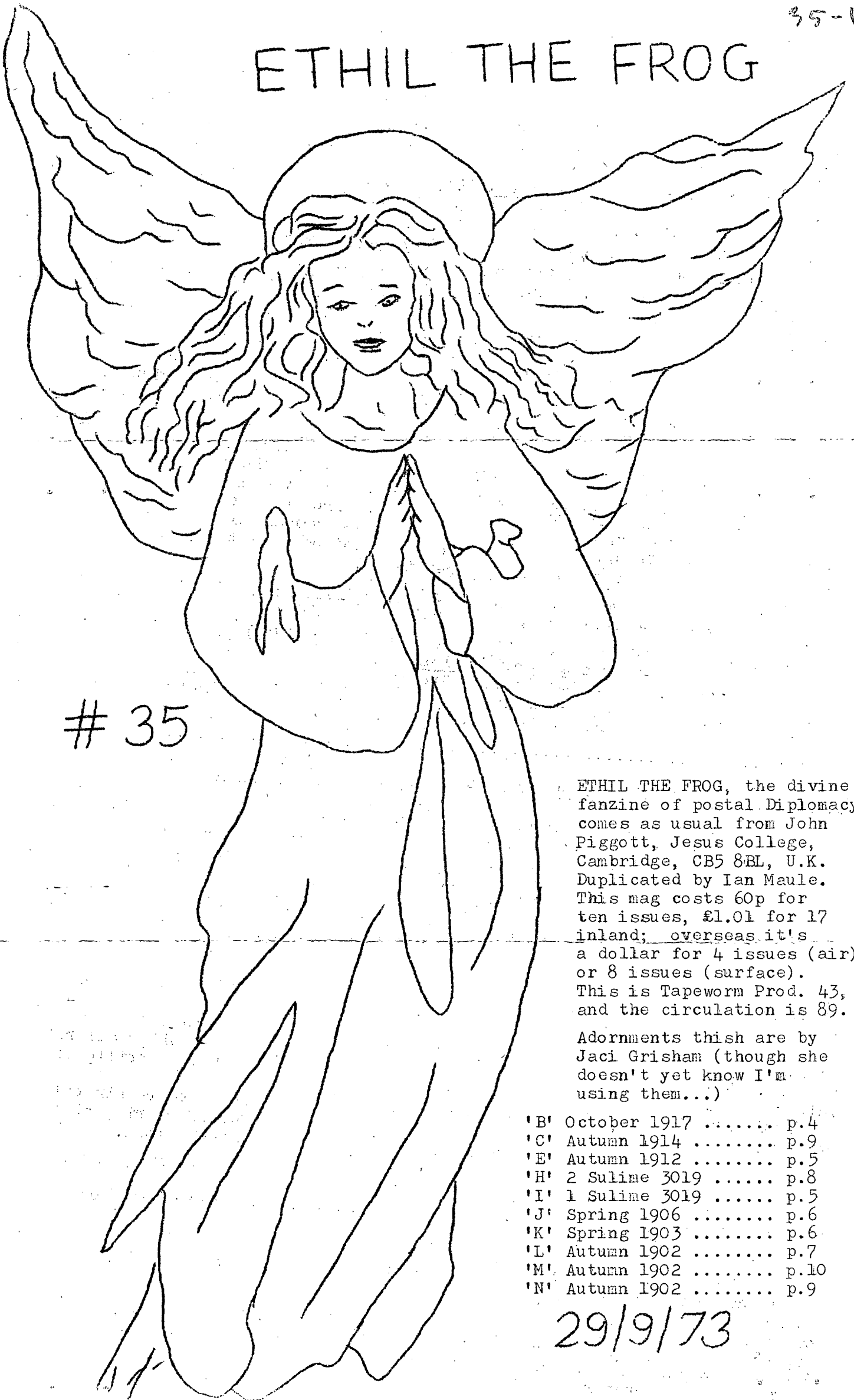


ETHIL THE FROG



35

ETHIL THE FROG, the divine fanzine of postal Diplomacy, comes as usual from John Piggott, Jesus College, Cambridge, CB5 8BL, U.K. Duplicated by Ian Maule. This mag costs 60p for ten issues, £1.01 for 17 inland; overseas it's a dollar for 4 issues (air) or 8 issues (surface). This is Tapeworm Prod. 43, and the circulation is 89.

Adornments thish are by Jaci Grisham (though she doesn't yet know I'm using them...)

- 'B' October 1917 p.4
- 'C' Autumn 1914 p.9
- 'E' Autumn 1912 p.5
- 'H' 2 Sulime 3019 p.8
- 'I' 1 Sulime 3019 p.5
- 'J' Spring 1906 p.6
- 'K' Spring 1903 p.6
- 'L' Autumn 1902 p.7
- 'M' Autumn 1902 p.10
- 'N' Autumn 1902 p.9

29/9/73

New Zines

PENDULUM (John Coombe, address etf 34) is to be the next NGC zine; this presumably means it will not be open to non-members, but I'll report on the first issue when I see it.

FRIGATE (Duncan Morris, 19 Doocot Rd, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 8QP): First issue out soon. Price will be 2p plus postage initially; openings in Regular and Third Age games. Game fees will presumably be the same as everyone else's, about 30p-50p.

HANNIBAL THE CANNIBAL (Andrew Herd, 35 Austin Drive, Didsbury, Manchester M20 OFA): First issue due out about now. Subscriptions are 2½p plus postage per issue, with openings in Regular Regular Diplomacy (purer than the natural kind? One of my better typos, I think...) and 'pretty well any variant'. Regular game fee is 50p, variants will be more. Like that title!

TALES FROM THE BLACK FOREST (Geoff Corker, address in list) merely reinforces the undisputed fact that Cambridge is the centre of the universe, and Jesus College the hub cap thereof. It's produced on the same infamous ~~hctograph that blurs Bolshevik Star - must be a plot by John Lettice to destroy my eyesight - but apart from that it seems okay. Presently carries Grafetti's variants, with little other content, though it must surely expand once Geoff discovers that as a Cambridge student one has a lot of free time. Openings in any variants you care to name. 5½p per issue.~~

I've just received some copies of the latest Game Openings from Richard Walkerdine; anyone who wants one, just write in and ask.

Subzines: Peter Swanson (6 Welford Place, London SW19) probably still has openings in his Der Krieg subzine Flashpoint; the first game is full starring myself, Davidson, Lettice... Gregory Ward says he's going to do a subzine in Bolshevik Star - no further info at present. (Lindisfarne, St Nicholas Hill, Leatherhead, Surrey.)

.....

DAY OF CRISIS WEATHERED BY OUR BRITISH COUSINS ((Baltimore Sun, 21/8/73))

The sun was observed over England at 10.13 a.m. (GMT) Tuesday last. Dogs bayed, cats hissed and in Devon cows gave aught but clotted cream.

The phenomenon was first observed by the Vicar of Twilling-on-Water while feeding his budgies. He immediately composed a letter to The Times deploring this 'still another desecration of the traditions true Englishmen hold dear'.

By 10.28 a.m., the Vicar's sighting had been confirmed by reliable observers from M'rt'n'h'np'sh'r in Cornwall to Budding-on-Crouch.

"I saw a great ball of fire in the sky, Mummsy," sobbed frightened little Betsy Peacock of Womble-in-Wold. "Is it the end of the world then?"

~~"I don't know, Luv," said Mrs. Peacock somberly. "I told your dad we should have voted Labour."~~

In Llewellyll, Wales, 98-year-old Llyll Ll. Llyll claimed to have seen the sun once himself when he was a lad. "'Tis but the same, but a bit smaller," he said. Neighbors, however, said the old boy had been getting a trifle potty lately and his memory was not to be trusted.

Acting swiftly in the emergency, the BBC urged the nation to remain calm and broadcast warnings every three minutes as to the danger of staring at the celestial phenomenon with the naked eye or even through smoked glass.

But despite such official pleas, the awesome spectacle unnerved many a usually-unflappable Englishman.

"SCANDAL IN DARTMOOR", headlined The Daily News. The story told how E. Heathcliff Burton-Taylor, Esq., became so addled by the sight while on a day's hike across the deserted moorlands that he actually removed his necktie. He was, of course, promptly arrested for indecent exposure.

In Brighton, an unidentified couple enjoying a seashore holiday was photographed by the press while sitting on the rocky beach with their overcoats removed. Unfortunately, the film, like all that taken in England during that day, was overexposed. And reports persist that they were merely foreign tourists who knew no better.

With the temperature soaring into the seventies, customers in many pubs requested a cube of ice in their drinks. "Lor lumnee!" said barmaid Polly Peachum of the Ass's Head, after exhausting her entire supply of 12 cubes

in 83 minutes. "Wot'll they think of next?"

In London, a Beefeater at the Tower refused to put on his Elizabethan pantaloons because "They make me look silly". Two constables were dismissed for failing to say "sir" six times while giving directions.

A group of 23 panicky Anglicans attempted to go to church despite the shocked clergy's admonition that it was only Tuesday. And traffic came to a standstill when motorists, fearing Judgement Day at hand, stopped for pedestrians at crosswalks.

It seemed like the end of England as the world had come to know and love it. But by 2.13 p.m., the comforting blanket of clouds had returned, the soothing rain began to fall and English life was back to normal.

In a BBC address that evening, the Prime Minister congratulated everyone for their "fortitude during the crisis".

"Once again, we may proudly say," he concluded, "that the sun never sets on the British Empire."

---Arthur Hoppe

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Address Changes

It being the season when students return to their places of study, there are masses of movement orders among Ethil's players.

John Piggott, Jesus College, Cambridge, CB5 8RL.

Geoff Corker, Jesus College, Cambridge, CB5 8RL.

Andy Davidson, Jesus College, Cambridge, CB5 8RL.

Roy Lawson, Jesus College, Cambridge, CB5 8RL. *gasp!*

John Lettice, David Russell Hall, St Andrews, Fife.

Bob Harris, St Regulus Hall, St Andrews, Fife.

Joe Connolly, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge.

Martin Mellish, Christ's College, Cambridge.

Larry Pringle, Hulme Hall, Oxford Place, Victoria Park, M/cr M14 5RR

Kevin Feintuck, 14 Glenluce Rd, London SE3.

David Pratt, The City University, St John St, London EC1.

Jeremy Elsmore, School of Environmental Sciences, Univ of East Anglia, University Plain, Norwich NOR 88C.

and Phil Shaw's address is London SW8, not as erroneously given in etf 33.

Don't forget to send your next sets of orders to me at Cambridge, not to Oxford. I will not be responsible if misdirected orders fail to arrive on time.

Standby players

Quite a few needed this time, as you can see. Several sets of orders arrived on Saturday, though all were posted on time. Record-breaker this time was Joe Connolly's orders, which took three days to arrive with 5½p on the envelope. Dunno why you people can't stick 3½p on your envelopes like any normal people...

'B' Jeremy Elsmore, Bob Harris.

'C' Gregory Ward.

'E' Howell Davies, Bob Harris.

'H' Jeremy Elsmore.

'I' Allan Doodes, Colin Hobley.

'K' Jeremy Elsmore, John Morrison.

'L' John Lettice.

'M' Gordon Neilson, Gregory Ward.

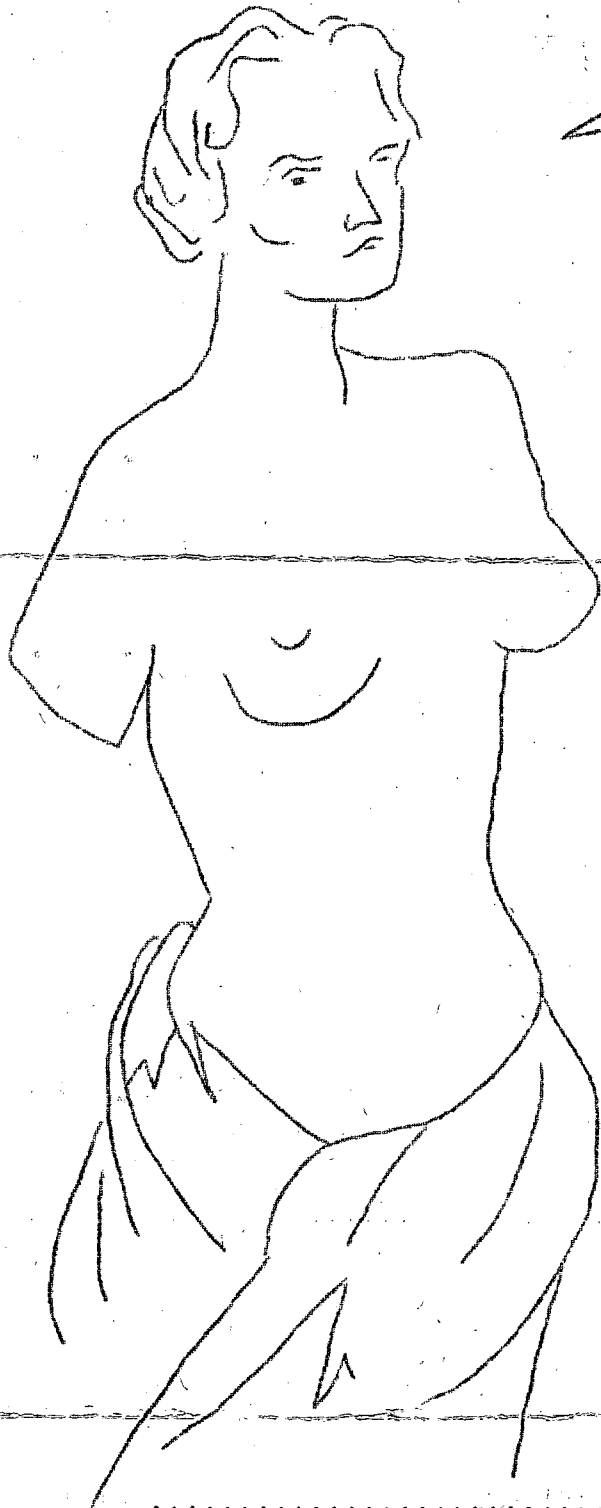
'N' Allan Doodes, John Lettice.

I could do with another one or two for certain games - any offers?

Postal rates revisited

The advance information which I published in etf 33 (it was advance information when I stencilled it, dammit!) was, I regret to say, slightly inaccurate in some respects. Airmail rates have been changed; despite Graham Jeffery's whitewash in the last DK an average air letter has gone up. Printed matter rates, however, have come down slightly - not enough to pull the price down, but sufficiently to ensure that it doesn't go up for some time.

Some of you reading this may not have received etf 34 yet. Worry not - it will come, but has been delayed somewhat.



You know, I'm quite
'armless, really

The Black Spot

It seems ages since I last awarded the Black Spot to anyone. A lot of water has passed under the bridge since then; and a lot of despicable characters have done despicable things to me, all of them deserving recognition. Maybe if I push this thing out about twice a week I'll be able to award the Spot often enough to keep everyone satisfied.

~~Who have we got as candidates,~~ anyway? Well, there's silly BRIAN YARE again, who, seeing the competition he faces, suggested I award him a special 'grey spot'; RICHARD WALKERDINE has been a terrible nuisance again, but his kind of actions now deserve something far more than a mere Black Spot; unfortunately I am not in a bad enough mood to do justice to him at present. Then there's JOHN LETTICE and MIKE SHERRAD, who've both criticised my erudite publication in their respective bogrolls; LES PIMLEY, for not bringing his Black Spot out on time; ANDY DAVIDSON, who snores; MIKE SHERRAD (again) who stammers; GARETH LODGE, who just stabbed me in an Our 'Enry game (and all I did was stab him, too); all this issue's move-missers; and MICK BULLOCK, for trying to beat Ethil's circulation.

Sometimes I get the impression that one award isn't enough...

Anyway, there's only one guy up there whom I've mentioned twice; so SHERBET gets the award this time. To the others: ~~well, no doubt we'll see you again next time...~~

1972Kco ('B'): October 1917

TURKEY CAPTURES ODESSA!
ENGLISH FLEETS CONTINUE THE ATTACK...

ENGLAND (Stuart): a lor-par* s by a bre; a ruh-swa s by a mun*;
a lon boards f eng -- a/f eng-ang -- a ang-hol s by a bel;
a kie s a mun; a por-leo; f cou-pru; f sao-por s by f mao;
f azo-sao; f bal-ber; f iri-eng.

TURKEY (Corker): f lib ms f cms*; a cau-ode s by f wbs;
a ser stands s by a bul, a mac & a alb.

AUSTRIA (Walkerdine): a dre & a boh s (french) a tyr-mun; a vie-gal;
a pec s a zar; a ukr & a tra s a rum; a zar & a rum stand;
a vol-cau s by a ode*.

FRANCE (Davidson): a tyr-mun; a hol-kie*; a swa-ruh; a lyo s a par;
a bur-lor s by a par; a mar-gas; a cas-por; a and-mior; f wms-tun;
f mas-cms s by f nap & f sic.

*Retreats: French a hol annihilated. English a lor & a mun annihilated.
Turkish f cms=aeg. Austrian a ode-mos.

NB. In August 1917 (etf 33), the English move a lor-par failed. In error, it wasn't underlined in the report.

1972ADde ('I'): 1 Sulime 3019

RHOVANION GOES TO SLEEP;
NURN ARMY DROWNS

ERIADOR (Waldie): a isn-anf; a dun-isn s by a igd; a gwy-dun;
a bra-gwy; a shi-sdo; a eve-shi; a lhu-eve; a mor-wiz;
a wem s a eas; a edo s a eas; a eas s (rhovanion) a eem-me;
a min ms a ene.

MORDOR (Durrheim): a msh-nur s by a kha & =3a mmo; a nin-nit s by a sit;
2a rau-nin s by 2a cai.

RHOVANION (Pijohn): nmr // a ere, a lor, a wol, a eem, a bar, a udu,
a nur*, a smi, a rhn, a wil, a ash, a dag, a bro & =a cel stand.

UMBAR (Morrison): a lam-anf; =a mti-lam s by f tol; f sgo-bel;
a hrd-sgo; a hum-hdw.

((ALLAN DOODES - standby
orders for Rhovanion please.))

*Retreat: Rhovanion a nur annihilated.

Michel Delving: The General Staff today announced the results of this year's competition for the most active unit in the Eriador armed forces. Joint winners were the 13th (Bilbo Baggins' Own) and 14th ("The Forgotten Army") army corps stationed in Enedwaith and Minhiriath respectively, and commanded by generals "Fatty" Bolger and "Billy" Slim.

Lhun: Yesterday the admiralty issued the dreadful news that the entire Eriador fleet had been sunk without trace off the island of Tolfalas, by the Corsairs led by Arphiteethis. Admiral "Bouncer" Baggins, whose flagship, the 'Inflatable', was the first to be sunk, warned the Corsairs in a statement issued today that he would "be back!".

1972CI ('E'): Autumn 1912

FRENCH SAILORS LAND AT LIVERPOOL
RUSSIA CAPTURES IONIAN SEA AT LAST

ENGLAND (Feintuck): a stp-mos s by a war; a pru s a war; f bal-kie;
a ber-mun s by a sil; f nwy-nrg; f hol-bel s by f nth;
f kie-hol.

RUSSIA (Elsmore): a ukr-war s by a mos; a sev s a mos; f aeg-ion.

AUSTRIA (R.Lawson): a bud-vie s by a gal; a tri-tyr*; a ser s f alb;
f alb & f gre s (russian) f aeg-ion.

ITALY (I.Lawson): f ems s (russian) f aeg-ion.

FRANCE (Walkerdine): f iri-lpl; f was-mao; a ruh s a bel; f ion-alb*;
f adr-ion s by f apu & f tun; a vie-tri s by a tyr & a ven.

*Retreats: French f ion-nap; Austrian a tri-bud.

E: 11 bases: lon, edi, hol, kie, ber, mun, den, nwy, swe, war, stp.
Builds f lon.

R: 4 bases: mos, sev, rum, ank. No change.

A: 6 bases: tri, bud, ser, gre, bul, con. No change.

I: 1 base: smy. No change!

F: 12 bases: bre, par, mar, spa, por, tun, nap, rom, ven, tri, bel, lpl.
Builds f bre.

Contributions required

Yes, Ethil the Frog requires contributions from its readers in the form of articles, comments, satires, or indeed almost anything else. Doesn't have to be dirty or about Diplomacy, but it helps. So don't be shy, don't let Lakofka do all the donkey work while you all sit on your arses; put pen to paper and send me your latest gem. Have you an eccentric opening you are proud of? Do you think you could out-manoeuvre Diplomacy's top names in a tactical game? Yes? Then prove it, and see whether your proposals will stand up when set out in cold duplicator ink.

I can also use artwork for stencilling. Cartoon rather than serious, preferably, without shading or solid black areas. (I can't get those on stencil, unforch.)

Be warned that my standards of acceptance may be higher than those of some self-styled 'editors'; however, don't let this put you off. It should, after all, do quite the reverse!

1973DC ('K'): Spring 1903

GERMANY TAKES ST PETERSBURG; ITALY SENDS FLEET TO ATTACK TURKEY!!!

ENGLAND (Waldie): f nth-hel; f eng-nth; f nwy s (russian) f stp(s); a lon stands.

GERMANY (Sherrad): a lvn-stp s by f swe & f gob; a mar-spa; a ruh-hol; a sil-mun.

RUSSIA (Holt): f stp(s)-lvn* s by a mos; a war-sil; a ukr-war; f rum makes rude noises at the Kaiser.

TURKEY (Connolly): f gre-alb s by a ser; a bul s a ser; f con-aeg; a ank-con; f bla stands.

ITALY (Bullock): a tri-ser s by a bud; f ion-ems; f nap-ion; a rom-apu; a ven-tri; a vie says NYAAH to John Lettice, and gulps at Ethil's circulation of 87.

FRANCE (Pratt): f bel-hol; a pic-bel s by a bur; a por-spa; a bre-gas.

*Retreat: Russian f stp(s)-fin.

Moscow: "Come back, Austria - all (almost) is forgiven!"

A certain university: "These orders are computer controlled, and cannot fail cannot fail cannot fail..."

French Connection: German armies stoned out of their tiny minds on Marseilles heroin...

Diracta: Lettice was the first - the list is long. D.A.G.

Ethil the Frog: Unfortunately, it seems he isn't quite gone yet...

Dear Ethil the Frog: My, my. We are lifting our replies from high-flown literature, aren't we? ---Hobbiton (he went thataway dept.)

Dear Hobbiton: I'm quite b-emu-sed by your starling comments; feather or not you agree with me, however, I'm afraid Ostrich (as its inhabitants call it) has already got the bird. And from Turkey, too! ---Ethil the Frog.

Ethil the Frog: Meanwhile, Mick Bullock has joined the O.EtF.S.:

Don't Put Your Paddy on the Stage, Mrs Worthington, he's sure to go down a bomb:

My first is in Ethil, but never in frog;
 My next is in bark, but not from a dog;
 My third is in twig, but isn't in log;
 My fourth is in squelch and also in sog.
 My fifth is in wheel, but isn't in cog;
 My sixth is in milk, but never in grog;
 My seventh's in rain, but not in the fog;
 My last is the 'n' in Noggin the Nog.
 My whole is found funny from Land's End to J.o'G,
 But not if you happen to come from the Bog.

Ethil the Frog: My first is in one, and also in two;
 My second's in one, but isn't in two!
 My third is the bend at the back of the loo;
 I hope those three letters will give you a clue.
 My whole is the body - I'm sure you know who -
 That teaches Mick Bullock the right thing to do.

FOLD 1901 AND ALL THAT!!

Somewhere: "Will nobody write to me?"

Ethil the frog: Somebody write to him, if only to shut him up...

1973Uda ('J'): Autumn 1905/Spring 1906

No press received! Cor, wot a lazy lot you all are... I hate to exert pressure on you, but unless all of you have pressing commitments elsewhere I'm afraid this inarticulate display is pretty unimpressive. I get depressed when so many people fail to express themselves, so I may get repressive...

Since there's nowt to go here, rather than inflict my eccentric enthusiasms on you any further I'll end here.

1973DD ('L'): Autumn 1902

TURKEY FOILS RUSSO-ITALIAN ATTACK; NOW
IT'S ENGLAND'S TURN TO GET CLOBBERED...

ENGLAND (R.Sharp): a pic-bel s by f eng; f nwy stands*.

GERMANY (Durrheim): f nth-edi; a den stands; a hol-bel s by a bur;
a mun-ruh.

RUSSIA (Harris): f bla-con s by a ank; a rum stands s by a ukr;
a stp-nwy s by f swe.

TURKEY (Bott): f smy-con s by f aeg.

AUSTRIA (B.Sharp): nmr // a bul, a ser, a bud, a tri & f gre stand.

ITALY (Davidson): f ems-smy; f nap-ion; a ven & a tun stand.

FRANCE (Doodles): f bre-pic; f mar stands; a spa-gas s by a par;
f por-mao.

*Retreat: English f nwy-nth.

E: 2 bases: lon, lpl. GM removes a pic.

G: 6 bases: kie, ber, mun, den, hol, edi. Builds f kie.

R: 8 bases: stp, mos, war, sev, rum, ank, swe, nwy. Builds a sev & a mos.

T: 2 bases: con, smy. No change.

A: 6 bases: tri, bud, vie, ser, gre, bul. No build requested - 1 short.

I: 4 bases: ven, rom, nap, tun. No change.

F: 5 bases: bre, par, mar, spa, por. No change.

Standby orders for AUSTRIA from John Lettice, please. Address in CoA list.

St-Juire: Had to get rid of the McStag woman. Woke up to find her strokin' my hair! Well, damn it all, there are limits. Remember a feller at school, Aysher minor his name was, doin' that to his fag. They kicked him out, of course, and he had to go to Eton. Perhaps I was a bit hasty, whippin' poor old McStag like that. Never thought his gel would go in for that kind of beastliness. Not a very good judge of women, I suppose. Well, she's dead now. Got her with the .303 - damn fine shot, though I say it meself, with the light going and her running like a hare. Must have been all of 500 yards, too. Think I'll be movin' on soon, though. No game worth havin' round here. Bloody awful country, Russia. Damn krauts.

Hutton: Dear John, Do I get Jeff's deposit? Allan.

Ethil the Frog: 'Fraid not, old bean, that stays in the treasury. *pant* I need it!

Lincoln's Inn: Dear Sir, Our client requests that correspondence about Irritating Jeff Oliver should now cease. De mortuis.... Yours faithfully, Davidson, Davidson, Pimley, Davidson, Bedbug, Frog, Greep and Sherrad.

Paris: My name is not Oliver.

Ethil the Frog: Maybe 'Doodles' spells 'Doom' in your case...

The Bosphorus: Having dragged Super Crusader aboard the ferry with a boat-hook, the Turk stood before the armoured figure with his hand outstretched to receive some money. — Misunderstanding the gesture, Super Crusader merely shook hands with the heathen and walked off, muttering, "Damned friendly, these Turks."

After the ferry had landed, Super Crusader quickly made his way to the seaside resort of Smyrna, where, a short distance out to sea, he saw Andy 'Snorer' Davidson sitting in a rowing boat.

"I'll bet you're surprised to see me here," said the Italian.

"You can say that again," replied Super Crusader. "I always thought you were just a Diplomacy variant."

"What about the support I was promised?" whined Davidson. "It hasn't arrived."

"I don't know about that," said the Crusader. "By the way, is it true that you snore?"

In reply, the Italian screamed and scuttled himself.

Ethil the Frog: I wonder whether we may be going too far in continually berating Davidson for his snoring. I'll sleep on it...

Constantinople: Treaties of eternal friendship - for sale, cheap.

Ethil the Frog: Yes, please!! I could do with a few of those for the NGC demonstration game.

1972ACde ('H'): 2 Suline 3019

MAURON EXPLORES RHUN!
SARUMAN: THE TRUTH REVEALED

ERIADOR (Lettice): a bra-min; a shi-bra; a eve-fnt; a fan-wem;
=a rau-bro s by a wol & a smi; a and-cel s by a dg; a car-rhm;
a rhn-wil s by a run; a mnd-and; a rhd-gm; a hol-mm; a wea-ett;
a edo s a eas; a eas stands; a isn-anf; a dun-isn;
f dar pickles gherkins.

MORDOR (Ward): =3a bar-rhm s by a nur; a bro-rau s by 2a nin;
a lam-eas s by a cai; 2a sit-sgo s by 2a mti & a msh*.

UMBAR (Harris): a sgo-msh s by a kha; f tol-sgo s by a hrd & f bel.

*Retreat: Mordor a msh-mmo.

E: 27 bases: shi, eve, lhu, ang, arn, rhd, hol, bra, gm, and, gf, mor, lor,
ere, dg, cel, isn, edo, wol, smi, igd, lam, wem, run, car, rau, riv.
Builds a eve, a lhu, a shi - now only 3 units short...

M: 9 bases: bar, udu, mmo, sgo, cai, mti, lam, nit, sit. No change.

U: 5 bases: hrd, hum, cit, kha, msh. No change.

Barad-Dur (inner recesses thereof): In a fit of totally unbecoming generosity, ~~Mauron had presented his loyal and intrepid helper, Frodo son of Dodo, with a~~ silver medallion portraying a Papal Nuncio riding sidesaddle on Andrew Carnegie, and a tape recorder which played Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, with a gap of five minutes between each performance, solidly and uncontrollably for all of every day. For how many other Lords have servants who would be prepared to walk through perilous dangers for 800 miles just to give them a present? Now he wanted to see how his gifts were being appreciated.

When he reached the young hobbit's cell, he found the poor Frodo incoherently babbling in German. Apparently he was trying to write a poem in German about Eugen Levine's famous dictum "Alle menschen werden Brüder..."

"Well, young Frodo, how is life treating you, eh? Bogbrush being lenient on your birthday, is he? Oh, you can sit if you want" - it was hard being a Dark Lord when everyone else was bigger than you - "Is Beethoven pleasing to your ear? And those five minute pauses - are they blissful? You know, I find that one of life's most exhilarating experiences is..."

Frodo screamed.

Hobbiton: You Britisch are so stupid...

Ethil the Frog: Ici on parle français, s'il te plait. Comme tu es stupide!

Orthanc: When Ar Phasixpence and the Thing from Beyond Space reached the Tower of Orthanc, a makeshift sign pinned to the door caught their eyes. It read: 'Saruman: Elocution lessons cheap'. From within, there came an orkish voice, growling, "The rain in Spain stays mainly on the plain," followed by a silken smooth voice which exclaimed, "He's got it! By George, he's got it!"

As the pair entered they passed the orc, who was drooling delightedly over a diploma he had just received from the magician. Sarumna looked up from the money he was counting.

~~"So you've been reduced to this," said Ar Phasixpence.~~

Saruman shrugged. "We've all got to make a living. How did you two get here, anyway? In the last issue of Ethil, you were being attacked by an army of orcs."

"Oh, we handled that easily," said the Thing. "We simply told them we were Howell Davies and Jeremy Elsmore. They fled in terror of being reduced to a pile of mistakes and misprints."

Saruman shuddered, and said: "I must admit, you look the part. But what do you want with me?"

"Since it's top secret," declared Ar Phasixpence, "I'd better whisper the plan to you." And he bent down and uttered some words into Saruman's ear.

"Good grief!" exclaimed the magician. "That's the most frightening thing I've ever heard!"

Hobbiton: D-o-o-o-n! You are all DOOOOOMED!

Ethil the Frog: You reckon? Quite frankly, I reckon this game's never looked better. Ouvres un oeil, bete, and take a glance at this page - I don't see any poetry, do you?

PS: Greg, how come you managed to get into Clockwork Orange? Nobody could possibly be fooled into thinking you were 18!

1973EB ('N'): Autumn 1902

AUSTRIA AND ITALY ARE FRIENDS AGAIN!
DOLCHSTOSS ENDOWED BY CHURCH

ENGLAND (Davies): f nwy s (german) f den-swe; a pic-bre s by f eng.

GERMANY (I. Lawson): f den-swe; a hol-bel s by a ruh; a sil-war;
a mun-bur.

RUSSIA (Herd): a gal-war; a fin-swe s by f gob; f sev-rum; a rum-ser.

TURKEY (Davidson): a bul & a gre s (russian) a rum-ser; f aeg s a gre;
f ems-ion.

AUSTRIA (R. Sharp): f tri-alb; f alb-gre s by a ser; a bud s a ser;
a vie s a bud.

ITALY (Ferguson): a ven-tus/rom; a tyr-pie; f apu s f ion;
f ion s (austrian) f alb-gre.

FRANCE (Feintuck): a gas s f bre; a bur-bel; a por & f bre stand.

Hope I've sorted out the mess in the Balkans correctly... Last move, the Italian move f tun-ion didn't fail, as was erroneously reported in etf 33. This move, the Italian a ven stands since a unique destination for it was not specified.

E: 4 bases: lon, lpl, edi, nwy. Builds f lon.

G: 6 bases: mun, kie, ber, den, hol, bel. Builds a ber.

R: 5 bases: stp, war, mos, sev, rum. No change.

T: 5 bases: con, ank, smy, bul, gre. Builds f smy.

A: 4 bases: tri, vie, bud, ser. Removes f tri.

I: 4 bases: ven, rom, nap, tun. No change.

F: 5 bases: bre, par, mar, spa, por. Builds f mar.

Rome: Austro-Italian friendship continues to progress. The hapless Dolchstoss von Hinten, so unfortunately castrated by the Ungluck's tow-rope, underwent a successful transplant operation in the St Peter's Clinic.

The Director, Cardinal Newman, stated: "It seemed the decent thing to do, and we had plenty of donors to choose from. That piece of the anatomy is really superfluous round here."

Vienna to Constantinople and St Petersburg: REPENT! for the end is at hand!

Trieste, Albania: Grand Admiral Rathadizy's inspired notion of fitting an outboard motor and spinnaker to the Ungluck has produced rapid results, and the errant city of Trieste is well on the way home. Before leaving Greece, the city was treated to a rare spectacle, when Minister Dolchstoss entertained Sultan Andi Baba to a ceremonial banquet. The menu was classically simple: rat soup with string; very old cod in blood sauce; sweet-and-sour tarantula balls with rhubarb leaves; ripe sow's milk cheese; and the crowning triumph, a worm souffle tastefully decorated with old LP styluses and powdered glass. The Sultan ate heartily, and the evening was marred only by the failure of the kitchen waste-disposer, which had to have its stomach pumped out.

Ethil the-Frog: Pretty poor banquet; in my opinion. Didn't you even give him crottled greeps?

1972BK ('C'): Autumn 1914

RUSSIA STILL SURVIVES!!
GOODNESS, HOW STRANGE

ENGLAND (Elsmore): f eng-mao; f lon-eng; f lpl-iri; f edi-nth;
a den-kie; a war-ukr; a lvn-war; a mos s a sev; f ber-bal;
a sev stands; a hol-bel s by a ruh; a sil-mun.

RUSSIA (Anarchy): a rum stands.

TURKEY (Jeffery): a con-bul; a arm-sev; a bud-gal s by a vie;
a tri-bud; f adr-tri; f ion stands s by f alb; f aeg-con.

FRANCE (Haven): f bre-eng; a bur s a mun; a bel-ruh* s by a mun;
a mar-pie s by a ven; a apu s a ven; f nap ms f tys; f tun s f tys.

*Retreat: French a bel disbanded.

E: 14 bases: lon, lpl, edi, nwy, swe, stp, mos, sev, war, bel, hol, kie, den,
ber. Builds a edi.

R: 1 base: rum. No change.

1973DE ('M'): Autumn 1902 AMNESIA ENDEMIC AMONG SOUTHERN POWERS
FRANCE, UNDER SIEGE, TRIUMPHS

ENGLAND (5201384 Ovens, A.J.): a nwy-stp s by f bar; f nth stands;
f eng-bre; a pic-par.

GERMANY (Charlton): a bur-par; a hol-bel; f den-swe; a pru-lvn;
a mun stands.

RUSSIA (Pringle): f stp-lvn s by a war; a sev-mos; a gal-rum;
f rum-sev.

TURKEY (Mellish): a bul-gre s by f aeg; a con-bul s by f bla.

AUSTRIA (Lowe): nmr // f gre*, a ser, a bud, a tyr & a tri stand.

ITALY (Pimley): nmr // a ven, a pie, f tys, f nap & f naf stand.

FRANCE (Shaw): a par-bre; a gas-bre; a spa-mar; f mar-gol.

*Retreat: Austrian f gre disbanded.

E: 5 bases: lon, lpl, edi, nwy, stp. No change.

G: 7 bases: kie, ber, mun, hol, bel, den, swe. Builds f kie & a ber.

R: 4 bases: war, mos, sev, rum. Removes f lvn.

T: 5 bases: con, ank, smy, bul, gre. No build requested - 1 short.

A: 4 bases: tri, vie, bud, ser. No change.

I: 4 bases: ven, rom, nap, tun. GM removes f naf.

F: 5 bases: bre, par, mar, spa, por. Builds f bre.

Standby orders, please: GREGORY WARD (Austria) & GORDON NEILSON (Italy).

Muchas gracias...

This time I've given Allan Ovens' real number... 60746185 is, of course, the number of my bank account. Contributions welcome...

Gibbon Press: During a power struggle among the secret societies of Marseilles' Chinatown, Lees Pim Lee, a prominent 'Mr Tripee' shop owner, was earmarked for liquidation. On the appointed day, bullets spattered a nearby wall as Mr Lee climbed into a taxi to go to his vineyards. He was unscathed, but a ricochet struck down an innocent bystander, Fi Lip Sho. The next day, Fi Lip Sho's widow received a telegram: "Condolences, please excuse, mere slip of the Tong."

DEADLINE: Wednesday, 17 October, 1973.

Next issue: Final report for 'A' Game (at last!), Len Lakofka on Austria, a few letters, and other stuff. "It's worth it, folks!"

ETHIL THE FROG 35

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