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 ||| ETHIL THE FROG |||
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A subzine to Rhubovia? ✓

ISSUE 17

6 May, 1978

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 Tel (daytime) 01 928 9222 x 2332. Usual price 25p/copy, but this one costs much less and is worth much less.

It was ten o'clock this morning when I sat down at my desk to start typing Ethil 17. I had prepared nothing in advance, but there was plenty of material for me to include. I should shortly be composing a trenchant, witty editorial on the subject of Roy Taylor, but before that there would be the games to adjudicate.

I sorted out the moves for the first one and turned on my chromium-plated, ultra-modern typewriter. Not for the first time, I congratulated myself on owning the only reliable Smith-Corona fully-automatic in the entire world.

But something was wrong. From within the machine's abdomen the steady whine of the motor was dropping in pitch; as I lifted the ribbon guard the treacherous mechanism juddered and died.

It resisted all my efforts to restart it for fully a quarter of an hour before I finally gave up the task as useless. I uttered foul oaths as I pondered the problem of how I would publish my zine now that I'd been stabbed by Smith-Corona.

Then bethought me of an idea, and once again I gave tongue to a four-letter word: TONY. And so it is that I now sit in Tony Crouch's flat, perched precariously on a rocking-chair, while I type six Ethil stencils for inclusion in the latest issue of Rhubarbia (whose deadline thankfully coincided with my own this particular time).

So: Rhubovia's readers are getting this as a once-only (I hope!) addition to the regular Crouchian fare. As for the Ethil subbers who don't get R... well, the players will receive this now so that their games will carry on as if nothing had happened, and the rest will have to wait 4 weeks, when they'll get it with the back-to-normal issue 18 (even if the typer isn't repaired by then I'll work something out). In any case this emergency measure won't cost readers anything: Ethil subbers will have their credit extended for one issue.

Deadline for next Ethil seasons - Friday (9 am) 2 June 1978

GAME FOUR 1977-EE Diplomacy Spring 1906

- GERMANY (anarchy): Has: F(Swe), A(Sil), A(Ruh)+... 3
- RUSSIA (Malcolm Shaw): A(Kie) S Turkish A(Pru)-Ber; A(Mun)-Tyr; 3
F(SKA)-Nwy.
- TURKEY (Cliff Kennedy): A(Ser)-Tri S by A(Vie) & A(Bud); A(Bul)-Gre+; 11
 F(Con)-AEG S by F(Smy); A(Ank)-Rum C by F(BLA); F(Syr)-EMS;
 A(Pru)-Ber; A(Mos)-StP.
- ITALY (Nuneaton Neurosis): A(Tyr)-Boh; A(Tri)-Vie+; A(Ber)-Pru+; 7
 F(ADR)-Alb; F(ION) S F(Gre); F(AEG)-Bul:sc S by F(Gre).
- FRANCE (Norman Williams): F(Edi)-NWG; F(Yor)-NTH; F(NTH)-Nwy; 10
 F(MAO)-ENC; A(Bur)-Ruh S by A(Hol); A(Gas)-Bur S by A(Mar);
 A(Par)-Pic; A(Spa) stands.
- +Retreats: German A(Ruh) disbanded; Turkish A(Bul)-Ser;
 Italian A(Tri)-Ven, A(Ber)-Mun

Spectators will note that the position at the start of this season is different from that reported in Ethil 16. This is because Cliff Kennedy's Autumn orders were delayed an unconscionable long time by the Post Awful, and when they finally turned up I accepted 'em.

with what consequences?

GAME ONE 1977-DB Diplomacy Spring 1908

ENGLAND (Keith Loveys): A(Edi)-Den C by F(NTH); A(Lpl)-Yor;
 F(Lon)-ENC; A(Lvn)-Pru; F(BAL)-Pru; A(StP)-Lvn; F(GoB)-Lvn;
 A(Ber) S French A(Mun); F(Nwy) stands.

RUSSIA (Simon Dally): A(War) stands+.

TURKEY (Leather Tuscadero): A(Ukr)-War S by A(Gal), A(Sil) & A(Mos);
 A(Boh) S A(Sil); A(Sev) S A(Mos); A(Con)-Rum C by F(BLA);
 F(AEG) stands.

ITALY (Allan Owens): F(TYS) MS F(Tun); F(Tus) S F(TYS);
 F(ION) S F(Tun); A(Pie) stands S by A(Ven); A(Tyr)-Mun.

FRANCE (Steve Plater): A(Mun) stands S by A(Bur); F(Mar) S F(GoL);
 F(WMS)-TYS S by F(GoL); F(MAO)-WMS S by F(NAF).

+Retreats: Russian A(War) annihilated!

GM: A 4-way draw has been proposed - will players please vote on this with their next orders. As usual, failure to vote will be counted as agreement with the proposal.

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GAME SIX 1977-GO Diplomacy Spring 1905

ENGLAND (Phil Stimpson): F(IRI)-MAO S by F(ENC) & F(NAO); ~~F(NTH) S F(ENC)~~

GERMANY (Stuart Dagger): F(GoB)-StP:sc; F(Den) stands; A(War)-Gal;
 A(Lvn)-War; A(Kie) S A(Mun); A(Sil)-Boh S by A(Mun);
 F(Bel) stands S by A(Ruh).

RUSSIA (Andy Tringham): A(Mos)-Ukr S by A(Sev).

TURKEY (Stephen Docwra): NMR! Has: A(Smy), A(Ank).

AUSTRIA (Brian Williams): A(Bul) MS F(Con); A(Ven) stands;
 A(Tyr)-Pie; F(Tri)-Alb; A(Vie)-Tyr; A(Bud)-Gal S by A(Rum).

ITALY (anarchy): Has: F(ION), F(Nap), A(Tun).

FRANCE (Andy Norman): F(MAO) stands+ S by F(Bre); A(Bur)-Gas;
 A(Pic)-Bur S by A(Par).

+Retreat: French F(MAO)-Por.

CoA: Andy Norman, 32 Ashdown Dr, Walton, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

I have received the following game-end proposal: 1= A,G; 3 E; 4= F,T,R. Will players please say yea or nay with their next orders.

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Spacefiller. My electric typewriter isn't the only thing of mine that's gone wrong recently. My sthondat-begotten TV is also on the blink, with appalling results: the colour is all out of true, so that a black-and-white film appears in delicate shades of pink, football pitches are burnt umber and Angela Rippon looks jaundiced. (So does Anna Ford, but I try to avoid looking at her.)

Worst of all has been the World Snooker Championship, which I naturally watched avidly. Wasn't it good?! But my enjoyment was limited by the way my errant TV mucked about with the game: the reds varied between chrome yellow and pink depending on their position, the colours (in potting order) were yellow, invisible, crimson, a 3-times-natural-size sky-blue blob, white and invisible; and the delicate green baize playing surface was a livid royal blue!

Old Ethil hands will know how dilatory I am in these situations; nevertheless I did eventually get around to calling for a repairman. And guess what? DER's bloody engineers are out on strike! So it seems I'm in for several more weeks worth of strained eyeballs yet.

Still, at least it'll stop me watching 'Days of Hope'. Christ, what an utter load of cobblers - thinly-veiled science-fiction with an uninteresting plot and characters, I call it.

BDC 41-I 1974-N Diplomacy Spring 1921

GERMANY (Richard Sharp): A(Mun)-Bur+; A(Vie) S Turkish A(Tri)-Tyr+;
A(Pru)-Den C by F(BAL) & S by F(Kie).

RUSSIA (Roland Prevot): A(War)-Lvn S by A(Mos); A(Sil)-War;
A(Bud)-Vie S by A(Gal).

TURKEY (Robert Correll): F(Smy)-AEG; A(Con)-Bul; A(Tri)-Tyr;
A(Ser)-Tri S by F(Ven); A(Apu) S F(Ven); F(Tus)-Pie;
F(Rom)-TYS; F(Tun)-Naf S by F(WMS); F(GoL) S F(WMS).

FRANCE (Dave Johnson): F(BAR)-Nwy; A(StP)-Lvn; A(Nwy)-Swe;
F(HEL)-Kie; F(MAO)-NWG; A(Tyr)-Mun S by A(Ruh); A(Pie)-Mar;
A(Mar)-Bur ~~S/BY/A/G/S~~; F(MAO)-WMS S by E(Spa:sc);
F(Gas) unordered.

+Retreats: German A(Mun)-Ber; A(Vie)-Boh.

CoA: Dave Johnson to 852 Forest Hills Dr, Nashville, TN 37220, USA.

Last issue's draw proposal was defeated: 3 in favour, 1 against.

This time, will players please vote on the following game-end proposal:
1 F, 2 T, 3 R, 4 G.

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GAME EIGHT 1977-JF Diplomacy Autumn 1903

ENGLAND (Paul Hurtely): A(Den)-Swe; F(SKA)-Nwy S by F(NTH);
F(Kie)-Ber.

GERMANY (Matthias John): A(Ber)-Pru; A(Mun)-Sil; F(HEL)-Kie.

RUSSIA (Alan S Watson): A(Rum) stands S by A(Ukr) & F(Sev);
A(Mos) S F(Sev); F(Swe) MS A(Nwy)+

TURKEY (Terry Hill): A(Bul)-Gre; A(Con)-Bul S by F(BLA);
A(Arm)-Sev.

AUSTRIA (Chris Tringham): A(Ser)-Gre; F(Tri) stands+ S by A(Vie);
A(Bud) S A(Vie).

ITALY (Gary Silk): F(ION)-Gre; A(Ven)-Tri S by F(ADR);
A(Boh)-Vie S by A(Tyr).

FRANCE (James O'Fee): A(Bur)-Mun S by A(Ruh); A(Hol) S A(Ruh);
A(Mar)-Bur; A(Pic)-Par; F(MAO) stands.

+Retreats: Russian A(Nwy)-Fin; Austrian F(Tri)-Alb.

E: 6 bases: Lon, Lpl, Edi, Den, +Ber, +Nwy. Builds F(Edi), A(Lon).
G: 1 base: Kie, ~~Ber~~, ~~Pru~~. Removes A(Sil), F(Kie).
R: 6 bases: StP, Mos, War, Sev, ~~Nwy~~, Swe, +Rum. No change.
T: 4 bases: Con, Ank, Smy, Bul, ~~Naf~~. No change.
A: 4 bases: ~~Tus~~, Vie, Bud, Ser, Gre. No change.
I: 5 bases: Ven, Rom, Nap, Tun, ~~Naf~~, +Tri. No change.
F: 8 bases: Bre, Mar, Spa, Por, Bel, Hol, +Par, +Mun.
Builds F(Bre), F(Mar).

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NGC 190 1976-HW Diplomacy Game ends!

Last season's game-end proposal was carried unanimously. (Come, let us be honest with ourselves... only one person bothered to vote.) So the result of this game is a two-way draw between England and Germany, with Turkey third and Italy fourth.

I'll be printing the builds chart, etc, in the next Ethil, so any final statements should be sent in as soon as convenient - meanwhile, congratulations to Bob and Chris.

Totto - Turn 7

Mike Close		2-1-1-0-5-2	Barry McManus	3-1-0-2-2-4
Tony Crouch	(6)	2-2-0-2-1-2	Steve Plater	3-1-1-0-4-2
	(7)	NMR	Roland Prevot	1-3-1-0-3-1
Paul Hurtley		2-2-2-2-0-2	Richard Sharp	1-3-2-2-1-1
Cliff Kennedy	(6)	6-1-1-2-2-4 +	Gary Silk	2-3-1-2-0-1
	(7)	1-2-2-2-2-1	Patrick Thompson	2-2-3-3-1-2
Keith Loveys		4-1-1-2-2-3	Tom Tweedy	2-4-0-1-1-2

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NGC 217 1977-EX Diplomacy Autumn 1905

ENGLAND (Geoff Hardingham): F(Lon)-NTH S by F(Edi); A(Kie)-Hol; F(Lpl) stands.

GERMANY (anarchy): Has: F(ENC); A(Mun), A(Den)+.

RUSSIA (Gary Silk): A(Arm)-Smy+; F(NAO)-NWG; F(Nwy)-NTH; F(NTH)-Den S by A(Swe); A(Rum)-Sev+; A(Sil)-War.

TURKEY (Patrick Thompson): A(Sev) S Italian A(Bul)-Rum; F(BLA)-Arm S by F(Ank).

ITALY (John Marsden): A(Gal)-War; A(Bud)-Rum S by A(Bul); A(Tri)-Ser; A(Ven)-Tyr; F(AEG)-Smy; F(Naf)-MAO; F(TYS)-ION; F(Tun) stands.

FRANCE (Terry Hill): F(Bre)-MAO; F(WMS)-GoL; A(Bur)-Ruh; A(Mar)-Pie; A(Spa) stands; ~~A(Bel)~~; F(Bel) stands.

+Retreats: German A(Den) disbanded. Russian A(Arm) disbanded, A(Rum)-Ukr.

E: 4 bases: Lon, Lpl, Edi, Hol. No change.
 G: 3 bases: Kie, Ber, Mun, ~~Pie~~. One unit short.
 R: 6 bases: StP, Mos, War, ~~Sev~~, ~~Ank~~, Swe, Nwy, ~~NTH~~, +Den. No change.
 T: 5 bases: Con, Smy, Gre, +Ank, +Sev. Builds A(Con), A(Smy).
 I: 10 bases: Ven, Rom, Nap, Tun, Tri, Ser, Bul, Vie, Bud, +Rum.
 Builds A(Ven).
 F: 6 bases: Bre, Par, Mar, Spa, Por, Bel. No change.

CoA: John Marsden, 79 Kingsway Ave, Kingswood, Bristol BS5 7PY.

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NGC 184 1976-HI Diplomacy Spring 1909

ENGLAND (Chris Side): F(NWG)-BAR.

GERMANY (Stephen Agar): F(Cly)-NAO; A(Edi)-Lpl; F(Den)-Swe; F(NTH)-NWG; F(Lon)-ENC; A(Ruh)-Bur S by A(Mun); A(Bur)-Pic; A(Lvn) MS A(Mos); A(Boh) MS A(Gal); A(War) S A(Gal); A(Tyr)-Ven+; A(Ber)-Sil.

TURKEY (Der Garvey): F(ION)-TYS S by F(Tun); A(Con)-Bul; F(Smy)-EMS; F(BLA)-Con; A(Sev) stands S by A(Arm); A(Rum) S A(Bud); A(Bud) & A(Tri) S A(Vie); F(Alb)-ADR; A(Ven)-Tyr S by A(Vie).

AUSTRIA (Phil Dyson): A(Gas)-Par; A(Spa)-Gas S by A(Mar).

ITALY (Rod Wheelans): A(Nap)-Rom; F(TYS)-WMS.

+Retreats: German A(Tyr)-Pie.

Last issue's game-end proposals were all defeated: (A) with 1 against, (B) with 3 against and (C) with 2 against. Will players now vote again on (C), please - that's 1 G, 2 T, 3 A, 4 I, 5 E.

GAME 10 1978-?? Diplomacy START

E: John Balson, 56 Alexandra Rd, Kew, Richmond, Surrey
 G: Alan Watson, 38 Hummersknott Ave, Darlington, County Durham
 R: Barry McManus, 10A Benhilton Gdns, Sutton, Surrey
 T: Tom Tweedy, 16 Chessfield Park, Little Chalfont, Buckinghamshire
 A: Pete Birks, 39 Handfroth Road, London SW9 0LL
 I: Phil Dyson, Paddock Way, Howell Hill Grove, Ewekl, Epsom, Surrey
 F: Alan Bustany, L3 Whewell's Court, Trinity College, Cambridge

Spring 1901 orders

EEFJCE

ENGLAND (John Balson): F(Lon)-ENC; F(Edi)-NTH; A(Lpl)-Yor.
 GERMANY (Alan Watson): F(Kie)-Den; A(Ber)-Kie; A(Mun)-Sil.
 RUSSIA (Barry McManus): F(Sev)-BLA; A(War)-Ukr; A(Mos)-Lvn;
 F(StP:sc)-GoB.
 TURKEY (Tom Tweedy): A(Con)-Bul; A(Smy)-Arm; F(Ank)-BLA.
 AUSTRIA (The Brixton Bomber): F(Tri)-Alb; A(Vie)-Gal; A(Bud)-Ser.
 ITALY (Phil Dyson): A(Ven) stands; A(Rom)-Apu; F(Nap)-ION.
 FRANCE (Alan Bustany): F(Bre)-MAO; A(Par)-Bur; A(Mar)-Spa.

GAME SEVEN 1977-GV Diplomacy Spring 1904

ENGLAND (Chris Miller): F(Cly)-S_German F(NTH)-Edi!
 GERMANY (Roger Collins): F(Nwy)-BAR; F(NTH) C French A(Bel)-Nwy;
 F(Den) stands; A(Ber)-Prü; A(Sil)-War; A(Mun)-Tyr; A(Kie)-Ber.
 RUSSIA (Rick O'Fee): F(Rum)-Sev S by A(Ukr) & A(Mos); A(StP)-Nwy.
 TURKEY (Horst John): ~~A(Arm)-Bul~~ C by F(BLA); S by A(Con);
A(Smy)-Gre.
 AUSTRIA (Norman Nathan): F(Tri)-ADR; A(Bud)-Rum S by A(Bul);
 A(Ser) S A(Gre); A(Gre) S A(Bul); A(Vie) stands.
 ITALY (Tom Davies): F(ION)-TYS; F(AEG)-ION; A(Pie) MS A(Ven).
 FRANCE (Simon Dally): F(Lpl)-IRI; A(Lon)-Pic C by F(ENC);
 F(Bre)-MAO; F(WMS)-TYS; A(Par)-Gas; A(Mar)-Spa; A(Bel)-Nwy.

(Note that your foolish GM misspelled France's second build in this game last issue. It was, of course, an A(Par), not a F(Mar). Those close enough to be affected were informed.)

Spacefiller. By now everyone surely knows that Ethil came second in the Zine Poll, beaten only by Dolchstoss of all the zines in the kingdom. This is a higher place than I expected to achieve, and needless to say I'm enormously chuffed - I should like to thank everyone who voted for Ethil, including the 9 people who included it on the lists they sent to Mick even though they have never been sent a copy. And, of course, hearty felicitations go to Mick for organizing the whole thing.

For once, though, I think we'd have been happy if Mick were a trifle less keen. New Statsman 4 is a veritable maze of grids, columns, tabulations and matrices; picking one's way through it was a struggle, and the eventual discovery was that Mick had calculated the results 5 - yes, five - different ways...

Naturally people like Roy Taylor have been sifting these results in order to find the one which puts their own zines in the most favourable light. Little things please little minds. Fortunately, Mick had the foresight to label one set of results (which gave Jigsaw 7th place) the 'official' ones. And my attitude is simple: I believe that as Mick took the trouble to run the Zine Poll it is he who should tell us what the results are. And if Roy Taylor or anyone else should disagree; that's tough.

CIVIL SERVICE GAME 1977-JE Diplomacy Spring 1905

ENGLAND (Andy Norman): A(Lpl)-Yor.

GERMANY (Terry Hill): A(Kie)-Hol; A(Tyr)-Mun; A(Sil)-Ber.

RUSSIA (Andy Wright): A(Ukr) stands; A(War)-Sil; A(Nwy)-Swe;
F(Den)-Kie; A(Mos) S A(Ukr).

TURKEY (Geoff Challinger): A(Sev) stands S by F(BLA); F(ION)-Nap;
 F(AEG)-Gre; F(Con)-AEG; A(Bul) stands.

AUSTRIA (Dave Allen): A(Tri)-Ven S by F(ADS); A(Bud)-Tri;
 A(Gal)-Boh; A(Rum) S Russian A(Sev).

ITALY (anarchy): Has: F(Apu), A(Ven).

FRANCE (Podhgorny Crouch): A(Bre)-Pic; A(Par)-Bur; A(Mun) stands;
 A(Rom) S Italian A(Ven); F(Bel)-NTH S by F(Hol); A(Lon)-Yor;
 F(WMS)-Tun S by F(TYS); F(Mar)-GoL

GAME NINE 1978-BW Diplomacy Spring 1902

ENGLAND (Tadek Jarski): F(NTH)-SKA S by F(Nwy);
 F(Lon)-NTH S by F(Edi); A(Bel) S French A(Par)-Bur.

GERMANY (Ian Gibson): F(Ber)-BAL S by F(Den); A(Mun) S A(Ruh);
A(Hol)-Bel S by A(Ruh).

RUSSIA (Terry Hill): F(GoB)-Swe; A(War)-Gal; F(Rum)-Sev S by A(Ukr).

TURKEY (The wretched Openshaw): A(Bul)-Rum S by F(Sev)+; F(Ank)-BLA;
 A(Smy)-Arm; A(Con)-Bul.

AUSTRIA (Sellick Davies): F(Alb)-Tri S by A(Bud) & A(Ser)+.

ITALY (Ian Macdonald): A(Tri)-Ser S by A(Gre); A(Ven)-Tyr;
F(Nap)-TYS; F(ION)-Alb.

FRANCE (George Kingston): A(Mar)-Pie; F(Por)-Spa:sc; A(Par)-Bur;
 A(Spa)-Gas; A(Pic) S English A(Bel).

+Retreats: Turkish F(Sev) and Austrian A(Ser) both squashed.

CoA: Sellick Davies, Davy Powergas Ltd, c/o Zaklady Azotawe, Wloklawek, 87-800 Brezie K/Wloklawka, Poland. (This is true.)

GAME FIVE 1977-EK Diplomacy Spring 1906

ENGLAND (Phil Bass): F(Lpl)-NAO S by F(IRI); F(Kie)-BAL; F(Den)-Kie;
 A(Bre)-Bel C by F(ENC), S by F(NTH) & F(Hol); A(Lon) stands.

RUSSIA (Chris Tringham): F(BLA)-Con S by A(Smy); A(War)-Sil;
 A(Boh)-Mun; A(Vie) S Italian A(Tri)-Bud; A(Mos)-Ukr; A(Sev)-Rum;
 F(Ber) stands.

TURKEY (anarchy): Has: F(Ank), A(Con).

AUSTRIA (Geoff Challinger): A(Bud)-Ser; A(Bul)-Con S by F(AEG).

ITALY (Richard O'Fee): A(Tri)-Bud; A(Ven)-Tri; A(Rom)-Ven;
 F(Nap)-ION S by F(Tun); F(Gre) stands.

FRANCE (Mike Lay): F(WMS)-MAO; F(MAO)-ENC; A(Mar)-Gas; A(Bur)-Pic;
 A(Pic)-Bre S by A(Par).

WAITING LISTS for Ethil the Frog...

Game 11 (Regular) will feature Stephen Agar, Sellick Davies, John Marsden, Chris Side. Three needed. To join, send your game fee of £1.50 (no deposit) with your application.
 Plus Third Age II, as before... Oh, god!