

SPRING OFFENSIVE No. 55



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DEADLINE: FRIDAY 21st NOVEMBER 1997, Midnight

SPRING OFFENSIVE No.55

Editorial

Time to bite the bullet, get this issue out of the door and explain why it has taken so long – indeed the longest delay in 55 issues of Spring Offensive! Don't worry, I am not going to announce one of those catastrophic life events that take over all of our lives sometime, this is just a story of cock-ups. In retrospect my first mistake was to put all my current correspondence in a "safe place" before the move. Although I had had very few sets of orders in, I had had several enquiries about the zine, plus all the orders for Berthier S01 (a complete set) so I didn't want to lose them. My second mistake was not to write on the box concerned that the correspondence was inside. My third mistake was to forget where the "safe place" was.

The move was as fine as could be expected – it took 4 people 1½ days to pack the house up (over 250 boxes plus furniture). However, the house we were moving into was not in the sort of condition where you could start unpacking immediately. Many rooms had no carpets in at all, others had carpets in which were so dirty that you couldn't really let the baby crawl on the floor. The carpet in the kitchen (yes, a carpet in the kitchen) was originally green, but had turned a brownish-black from the dirt and grease smeared all over it. All very repulsive. So a priority was to get carpets in the house before we could really start to unpack. £4,000 and three weeks later the carpets were down. The two weeks between moving and the deadline went very quickly indeed – lot of things to do, such as attacking built in wardrobes with a sledgehammer (very therapeutic) and organising building work to the kitchen and a new boiler. Then, just as deadline arrived I had to go to the USA for a week on business – Washington DC is a great place to visit, but the trip could have come at a more convenient time.

So a week after the deadline I hadn't unpacked any of my stuff. I had some mail coming to the new address, some mail being redirected and some mail failing to be redirected at all (and having to be picked up) – not forgetting the earlier correspondence which was still in a "safe place". I then tried to sort the zine stuff out. A week later and I had a functioning computer and some shelves put up. Two weeks later (i.e. now) things are almost unpacked, but the letters in the "safe place" remain lost. This is all very depressing. The zine is three weeks late and I can't even get all the games adjudicated because I've lost some orders. And there are still 60+ boxes to unpack in the cellar. I have scouted around, making good use of directory enquiries, but some people have defeated me. This problem is all the more distressing as Berthier had already had a double deadline and could do without any further delays. Well, I thought, the issue is already 3 weeks late, so I'll write to the players whose orders have been mislaid in the move and get them to confirm them by return. So that is what I have done. Only one player has failed to respond – so Berthier is temporarily held over for another week or so. If I cannot get the remaining player to submit orders within 7 days, I will replace him and put a new player in with a final and irrevocable deadline set for the next issue. More details are on a separate letter to the players affected.

A big thank you to the several people who have sent me some zines over the past few weeks to plug holes in the Archives. Much appreciated. An update will appear after Xmas.

Given all the hassle I've had getting things sorted out, this is going to have to be pretty much a games-only issue. What with ripping out sinks, cupboards, demolishing walls, getting a new boiler and installing a new kitchen, Diplomacy has had to take a back seat. ☹ Still, better to put out a sorry excuse for a Diplomacy zine now and get back on an even keel. At least it gives me a decent excuse not to comment on some of the wilder articles that have been appearing in Dippy zines over the past few weeks, some of which have been distinctly weird. It goes without saying, that I will more than make up for all this next time. In the meantime, by way of compensation for the delay, this issue is being charged at postage only. ☺

LETTERS



Tony Reeves

I hope you have settled into the new house and are not suffering undue agoraphobia. I just thought I'd type a few lines to let you know how much I'm enjoying the 'zine and Berthier (despite the fact that we have yet to start in earnest). Whilst being a newcomer to the hobby and (blissfully) unaware of the attendant politics my conciliatory nature leads me to applaud your lead article in SpOff 54. I suppose that many people who come into the hobby at least think of editing their own 'zine and I'm no exception.

SA Berthier does indeed appear to be a little jinxed. All will be settled within the next week..

I've already got my title (The Pine Rider if you must know) and an idea of what I'd like to run (Phantoms of the Ice, Statis Pro Baseball and Football, Breaking Away and a couple of my own games to inflict on an innocent readership). I was therefore enthralled by "My Personal Fetish". I would put myself in the "Editor as a Games Player" category but even more so as a stationery fetishist. Yes, files, electronic DynoTape machines, pens - I LOVE THEM! One of the perks of being a head of department is an expense account in the local stationery shop. Have you seen the recent TV ad for the Staples chain? - I AM that father. There, I feel better already. So much cheaper than a therapist and less of an ordeal than the confession box.

SA Ah, a kindred spirit.

Peter Berlin

I see you've followed Sharp's lead and started printing preference lists in waiting lists. (TG should do it because none of the other players has those on their list.) This gives an advantage to players who sign up late for a game. It's an unfair advantage and may also make waiting lists slower to fill as players wait so they can select their neighbours as well as their countries. I told Sharp this but he didn't seem to get it.

SA I suppose you've got a point. I will stop printing them if people would prefer, though it makes life easier for me.

Good to see both you and Sharp are acting the mature older statesmen and burbling on about your mutual respect for each other. Talking of editors: the apogee of the editor as games player is Keith Thomasson editor of For Whom The Die Rolls (which runs mostly train games, as well as Acquire, Titan, Snakes and Ladders etc). It's beautifully produced (touch of the technocrat too). Last issue was s 52 pages long and, responding to reader requests for more chat, he cranked up to nearly 2 pages of non-game material - and even that was interrupted with COAs and included the pop quiz (Nils Lofrgen and Keith Richard is the answer - what's the question?) which I think counts as gameish.

When you say 3,000 LPs, do you mean vinyl, or are you including cassettes, CDs (and maybe cartridges and minidisks)? I have about 1,000 all told. 700 of which I've not listened to in years and were a nightmare to move (but the books were worse).

SA I mean 2,000 LPS, another 3,000 singles and about 1,000 CDs. Which all adds up to a lot of boxes. I used to have a list of what I've got, but it's seven years out of date now, and I don't buy as many records as I used to.

Chris Tringham

I am still here in Hong Kong. I have changed jobs and apartments (at the same time). I will put my new address and phone numbers at the bottom of this message. The new apartment is nearer to the centre of HK, a few yards from Diamond Hill MTR station and just across the road from a huge new shopping centre with a 6-screen cinema and lots of restaurants. It is on the 36th floor, is just over 10 years old, and has been totally refurbished quite recently. It is small, but quite adequate.

The new job is Principal Consultant with JBA in Hong Kong. The head office of the company is in the West Midlands, and they have offices close to Birmingham University as well as all over the UK, Europe and US. Asia is a relatively new market, and in Hong Kong and Malaysia they have taken over offices formerly operated by agents. The business is selling package software (AS/400, Windows NT and Unix) covering Accounting, Distribution and Manufacturing, with focus on various vertical markets (Drinks, Automotive and Footwear/Garments). As Hong Kong has a large garment and footwear industry we are concentrating on that, and hence their interest in my cv when they saw it, as I have worked in that industry for most of the last 6 years, with Pentland/Asco (this is the package that I helped implement for Pentland in 1991-92 and worked with up to about 3 years ago).

I started with them five weeks ago, and spent the first 2 weeks in Sri Lanka on a training course (my hotel was about half a mile from the site of last week's bomb). It now seems that they are planning to send me to the UK to learn more about the package and the industry. I'll let you know when/if that happens. My other planned trip is to Mauritius at the end of November.

SA *It would be great to meet up again. I notice you are not on the list of those likely to attend MidCon. Sad that yourself, John and Brian are no longer on the committee, though I'm sure that the new committee will do a sterling job. You're quite an international jet-setter these days! Let me know when you return as that Costello 5 CD live set is waiting for you.*

Roland Cooke

I was interested to hear that you have recruited a few more wargamers. I hope they don't get put off by the continued bickering that seems to be affecting the hobby. I did appreciate your reply to Gihan, he did sound a little OTT. Then again, judging by the letter from Ian Lee (and others) which discussed problems two decades ago, it just seems to be the usual never-ending minor bitchiness that permeates all gaming groups!

SA *I just hope they don't get put off by the delay they've suffered this issue!*

I actually get down your way occasionally to play with the local wargames club, so if you like, I'll raise some interest the next time I am there. Perhaps you might like to attend one of their sessions. (There are as many geeky trainspotters there as you as a gamer yourself might expect - i.e. none!). If so, I'll pass you on the e-address of the main guy there so that you can speak direct.

SA *Where does the local club meet? I know of one in Eastbourne, but that's not that close. I am always ready to do my bit to find new players.*

Paul Barker

I hope that the move went well for you and the family. Moving house can be so traumatic. Then comes the aftermath when you realise that there are a lot of unanticipated tasks which need to be done.

The "My Personal Fetish" article was good. We must beware of falling into the trap of thinking that other people share our outlooks and motivations. Here are a few player categories.

The Player as Non-communicator.

The Player as "Your Best Friend" (until the stab).

The Player as Wordprocessing Freak.

The Player as Ratings Chaser.

The Player as Kaiser ("His Majesty requires and requests that you send your fleet.....") zzzzz.....

The Player Who Writes Before You Have Received The Zine (naming no name here).

The Player Essayist.

The Player by Habit (as in "oh no! I didn't write but here are some orders - maybe") - a relative of The Player Who Is Overextended.

SA *So are you volunteering to write the article?*

Regarding the being nice to each other thing: still sitting on the fence myself. The last thing I want is a sterile hobby where there is nothing but a stack of game reports heading out on the last train to Oblivion Central. On the other hand I would feel ashamed of any aspects of the hobby that would make a newcomer head straight for the emergency exit.

As for criticisms of Richard Sharp. Well I don't travel around Europe by car. Neither am I into the ecstasy scene. I think I can cope with both types of literate soul in my hobby. Somewhere in the middle of these extremes but far removed from many hobbyists are the "then we left the Reykjavik convention centre for a curry, followed by a trip to a bar where Moby mounted a cactus and I fell asleep listening to Rick's description of his Juggernaut earlier in the day" crew.

SA *I can't think who you are talking about...*

What's so funny about peace, love and understanding - or do I mean pluralism?

SA *Ah, an Elvis Costello reference. There are only two artistes of substance of which I have absolutely everything they've produced - Elvis Costello and Peter Hammill. There is always at least one Elvis CD in the car (currently Extreme Honey the recent Warner Bros. Compilation). If I could be a "pop star" it would have to be Costello.*

Allan Gordon

I have always believed that the Yanks are the most nauseatingly sentimental race under the sun..... but they're not in the same league as the Brits, I watched in stunned disbelief as the entire nation -- whipped up by the hypocritical media -- made total assholes of themselves over the late Princess of Wales.

I'm sorry she died, and I'm sorry for her kids... but then I always was. Poor little sods had the parents from hell. But that is beside the point. What the hell happened to British dignity and reserve in handling events like this? I could have understood such a very public display of grief that is always more genuine if private) and deification if the subject had been mother Teresa..... but I guess the answer is that that very worthy lady was no calculating glam-job.

My God, how shallow and superficial the British have become!

SA *Yes, quite puke-making, wasn't it.*

Dave Newnham

I enjoyed your editorial and I think it would be great if we could be nice to each other. The one thought of yours that amused me is, "Don't let it get personal". I suspect that some editors use the plea in an attempt to avoid the consequences of their actions. Firstly, when an editor makes a derogatory comment about you, quoting you by name and doesn't have the courtesy to send you copy of the editorial in which this appears; how else can you take it but personally? Second, Gihan states that he was referred to as "the itinerant photocopy-stealer from Ceylon". He has been completely open within the hobby as to his actions that led to the demise of Carpe Diem, so everyone must recognise that this comment is directed at him. In view of his openness, a completely unnecessary, sneering reference and I'm not surprised he took it personally.

I assume that your comments are mainly directed at some editors since it is they who, usually, start the ball rolling. I don't believe that you should criticise subscribers or hobby members too much for reacting to vilification. Inter-editor feuds maybe able to take place without letting it get personal but

I'm sure that you would agree that being an editor does not justify rudeness to ones subscribers or other members of the hobby.

SA *Being an editor per se doesn't justify rudeness, but it does make it somewhat easier to be rude on a grand scale.*

I applaud your suggestion of making a Diplomacy zine list (your suggestion 1 in *News From the Archives*). It would seem that this is merely an A-Z without the descriptive paragraph; so you have some of the required material already typed up! OK, OK not quite that simple. I for one would be delighted to obtain a copy and further, I suggest that you concentrate on this listing immediately: and then in due course, once the A-Z has been completely serialised in the zine, you provide copies of the complete zine listing and the A-Z for an appropriate fee. I would certainly purchase a copy of both as soon as they become available.

SA *That is my plan. The existing Zine Archive catalogue almost performs this function, but there is some more research to be done.*

Your reply to my provisional orders article. Well I was about to respond to your comments. Is the correct legal term, a "re-examination"? But then I thought: No, you've been good enough to allow me to say my bit... We obviously perceive this subject from different view points. And re-reading your reply (for the third time) I suspect, from some of the phrases you use, that you are riding your hobby-horse just as strongly as I was riding mine.

One thing I must make clear is that when I wrote the article I was considering all the occasions that I have been asked to submit provisional orders since I joined the hobby in 1983 - somewhat before your return! I would accept that the instances have not been a majority but there have most definitely been several occasions other than your own. I had no intention of targeting you; rather ALL the editors who require Provisional orders.

Finally, let me draw your attention back to your reply to my letter on page 6 of SO.53. I'd started the ball rolling in an article in TCP when I said that ALL zine mentions were mutual admiration. Your SO.52 "Backbit" said Horseshit (in a very nice way)! My response (printed in SO.53 LetterCol agreed that I had deliberately been OTT but gave a couple of examples of actual events. Your comment to that was, "I think I have only started to realise how even slightly negative things can be taken out of context and blown up out of proportion..." You went on to say that even loveable Nick had had a go at you. I didn't react at the time as I didn't understand your comment but thought that the subject wasn't worth pursuing. Since then I have had a bit of flack from others?

Slightly negative and I blew it out of proportion? Surely, "Aw come on Stephen, a bit of poetic licence there" indicated to you that I admitted being OTT and wasn't seriously criticising your "Backbit"? No, I still can't believe that you (an editor and player of long experience) thought that my reaction was "negative", and critical of yourself. So; I am still completely confused. Was your comment directed at me and if so what point were you trying to make? If I'm being slow, forgive me but I really would like to know since I believe there is a communications breakdown here.

SA *I had to go and find my copy of SO 53 to see what you're getting at. No, I wasn't having a go at you at all - I was just musing on the dangers of being anything other than 100% complimentary about other zines and suggesting that maybe the safer approach was to say nothing. I can't offhand think of anything that you've ever said of myself that I thought unfair. Looks like a communications breakdown to me.*

Your discussion of Dropouts suggested that you believe that a player who drops out of a game without adequate reason/excuse will be slung out of the other games that he is playing and out of the zine. Is this what you meant; that a drop-out in one game will result in being booted out of the zine (and all other games one is playing in)? This is the editorial attitude that was prevalent when I joined the hobby. You end up by asking whether the drop-out black list should be re-introduced.

SA *In practice, you don't have to throw a dropout out of the zine as I have never encountered a dropout who selectively dropped out of only one game in a zine. I suppose the odd eccentric resigns from the occasional game in a fit of pique, but that's life and you just have to take account of such people. The merit of a blacklist would be to warn a GM that Fred Scoggins who has just signed up for Diplomacy and two variants has already dropped out of six games in the past two years. What a GM chose to do with that information would be up to them. That's why I continue to print the names of players who have dropped out for all to see.*

I'm for it but would it be of any use? I detect a shift away from traditional values by the "modern" GM's. It seems that they do not regard an NMR or drop-out as of any importance or at least not requiring any GM activity. I have noted multiple NMR'ers still continuing to play and drop-outs continuing to play in other games in the zine, and last but not least, dropouts being signed up for new games shortly after having dropped out! I don't know how prevalent this is in the hobby today, as I don't take many zines but if this attitude is gaining ground, then a black list isn't worth the time it will take to prepare.

SA *I would be very reluctant to take back a player who was a previous dropout without a good excuse and a decent interval of time. After all I dropped out of a few games myself 17 years ago.*

Richard Sharp

I enclose copies of D 91-3, 95 and 106. I'm sorry that I only seem to have one copy each of the others you're missing. If no one else comes across with them, I could photocopy them for you.

SA *Many thanks, Richard!*

Regarding your comment on my House Rules ... touché! No one's ever noticed before. You're quite right: no unit could ever be removed from a supply centre.

If a Bullock-type blacklist were to be revived, I should support it, but I doubt if many would. There have been several recent cases where a blacklist would have avoided an aborted gamestart.

SA *If you provide me with a cumulative list of dropouts, I'll print it. I'll even add in the variant dropouts myself.*

What's this "Anschluss" game that's suddenly turned up in SO having apparently reached 1904? I don't know anything about it and so can't give you a Boardman number until I have further details.

SA *It's the game from T2W3 that you refused to give a BN to at the beginning of the year!*

Horrified to see it's apparently costing you £1500 to move within the same town. Ten years ago it cost me £120, and I had 6,000 books, which probably consume as much space as 13,000 zines. We had one van and two men, making two trips, and the whole thing only took them about six hours, to my amazement. Of course, I'm only a poor conservative without much in the way of worldly goods.

SA *Our move was simply massive. That's what comes of being a child of the consumerist generation.*

Allan Stagg

Thanks for Spring Offensive 54. I have some time to send more comments - a hiatus in other games at the moment. The cover was excellent (although I did have to look twice to confirm that it was not an issue of SNOT). How true - children do pick up what you least want them to. At present my son (6 years old) is asking what Durex is. At least he hasn't asked yet why it comes in different flavours, although he has commented that it is expensive at £2.

Editorial - well, if you ask people to be nice to each other, you run the risk of driving some people out of the hobby. Blessed are the peacemakers, Stephen? I don't know the personalities involved, and any (reported) bickering seems to me irrelevant to my enjoyment of your zine. If you don't like people carrying on their feuds in print, it is best not to carry their latest salvo in your zine.

SA *No good tempered feuding is fine. It's just when people start writing about how they'd like to see others die whilst lying in their own excrement that I think things are starting to go too far.*

I enjoyed the 'Personal Fetish' article. I look forward to someone coming up with an equally witty article (that rules me out) about Subscribers. Can I suggest that some of the categories you have allocated to Editors could equally be shared by Subscribers?

SA *See Paul Barker's letter above.*

One slight query about the River Diplomacy variant - does the Rhine run through Holland or Belgium? At the start it says Holland, but in paragraph 2 it says that a fleet in Belgium can move into Ruhr.

Pete Birks

Your editorial on "*Can we all be nicer to each other?*" once again, harks back to the late 1970s. I'm sure a number of games players are sure that you, I, Sharp and whoever makes this hobby look like a social thing rather than a games playing thing are part of some grand "hardcore" conspiracy I have re-read my early writings (which, of course, embarrass me immensely) and I wonder how I could possibly take the hobby so seriously. But, some people do, and since I did it, I will not criticise those who do it now.

Having written that, I'm afraid that I did not find what Gihan and Toby wrote particularly nasty. Perhaps my skin has thickened over the years. I would be quite proud to have GH described as an "old fart" zine. It's as good a description as any. What neither Gihan nor Tobes ever actually said is that I should be drummed out of the hobby because I do not run any games.

SA *I was really disappointed that Gihan went to all the trouble to say that Spring Offensive wasn't an old farts zine!*

I suppose I can understand their resentment against Richard Sharp, who never turns tip to conventions and never mentions other zines in Dolchstoß, but Richard admits that he is no longer part of the mainstream hobby and the subs to Dolchstoß are suffering as a result. GH has kept itself alive (rather than me keeping myself alive) by me turning up to cons and getting several tenners each time because it's the best way to generate subs.

DIPLOMACY GAMESTART 1997?? CORNWALLIS

AUSTRIA: Tony Elbourne, Old Southmead Farmhouse, Keinton Mandeville, Somerset, TA11 6EW

ENGLAND: Anthony Coogan, 19 Cambridge Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6, Republic of Ireland

FRANCE: Brad Martin, 15 Turo Close, Willetton 6155, Western Australia, Australia

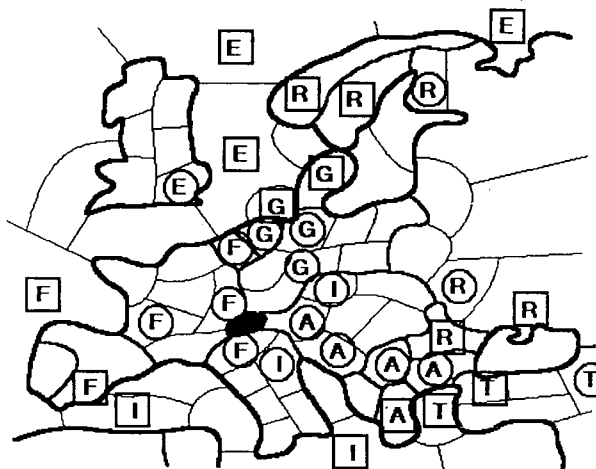
GERMANY: John Miller, 53 Kingsway, Euxton, Chorley, Lancs., PR7 6PR

ITALY: Paul Harrison, 16 Constable Close, Woodley, Reading, Berkshire, RG5 4US

RUSSIA: George Hornby, 139 Bettescombe Road, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 9HS

TURKEY: Peter Berlin, 64 Rue de Rochechouart, Paris, 75009, France

This game is named after Charles, Marquess Cornwallis (1738-1805) who was the best British general in the American War of Independence. This game has quite an international lineup! It would be helpful to have conditional A01 orders with your S01 orders, just in case you fall under a bus.



97?? ANSON (Spring 1902)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Pete Duxon) A(Vie) - Tyr; A(Bud) - Ser; A(Ser) - Bul; A(Tri) s A(Vie) - Tyr; F(Gre) s A(Ser) - Bul

ENGLAND (Michael Goldthorpe) F(Nwy) - BAR; F(NTH) - NWG; F(Lon) - NTH; A(Yor) - Lon

FRANCE (Dave Newnham) A(Bel) Stands; A(Mar) - Pie; A(Par) - Bur; A(Spa) - Gas; F(Bre) - MAO; F(Por) - Spa sc

GERMANY (Paul Barker) A(Hol) Stands; F(Kie) - HEL; F(Den) s F(Kie) - HEL; A(Ber) - Kie; A(Mun) s AUSTRIAN A(Tri) - Tyr (MISORDER)

ITALY (John Wilman) A(Pie) - Ven; A(Tyr) - Boh; F(Nap) - ION; F(Tun) - WMS

RUSSIA (Jimmy Cowie) F(Rum) s AUSTRIAN A(Ser) - Bul; F(Sev) - BLA (FAILED); A(Ukr) - Sev (FAILED); A(Fin) s F(StP) nc - Nwy; F(StP) nc - Nwy; F(Swe) s F(StP) nc - Nwy

TURKEY (Allan Gordon) F(Con) - BLA (FAILED); F(Smy) - AEG; A(Arm) - Sev (FAILED); A(Bul) s AUSTRIAN A(Bud) - Rum* (MISORDER, DISLODGED - DISBANDED NRP)

Press:

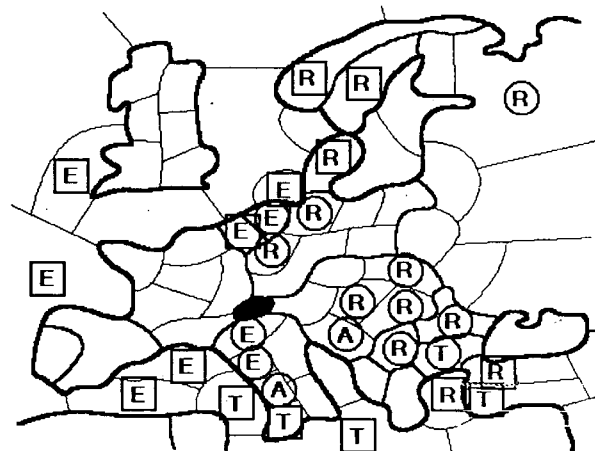
El Thid: "Look here, Wazir — when I athked for thomeone to fight, I expected you to find thome weak, little wunt to give a good whacking to. And you bring me legionth of gowillath!" "I am abject, Wonderfulness — but perhaps all is not yet lost." "Thpeak plainly, Wazir, or I'll have you thkewered with wed hot iwonth." "Perchance, Benevolence, one of the oppressors can be persuaded to be friendly?" "Thee to it,

then... .. why are you fingerth cwothed behind your back?!"

Agony Aunt-Little Yello One: I feel really bad about doing this.

Fra-Ita: Wassa matta; no spika da English?

Anon: Well everything is rattling along just fine, isn't it? Some of you are so duplicitous! Or quiet.



1995DG SAILOR (Spring 1910)

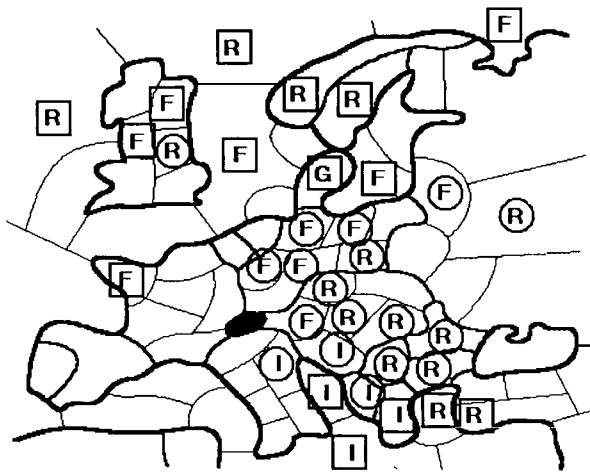
AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Anarchy - Ex-Steve Walton-Stein) A(Rom) Stands; A(Bud) Stands* (DISLODGED - DISBANDED NRP); A(Tri) Stands

ENGLAND (Veronica Conboy) F(Nwy) s F(Bel) - NTH* (CUT, DISLODGED - DISBANDED NRO); F(IRI) c A(Wal) - Pie; F(NTH) - HEL; F(MAO) c A(Wal) - Pie; F(GoL) c A(Wal) - Pie; F(Bel) - NTH (FAILED); A(Pie) - Tus; F(WMS) c A(Wal) - Pie; A(Hol) Stands; A(Wal) - Pie

RUSSIA (Andrew Clawson) F(Swe) s F(StP) nc - Nwy; F(StP) nc - Nwy; F(Den) - NTH (FAILED); A(Kie) s A(Mun) - Ruh; A(Mun) - Ruh; A(War) - Gal; A(Mos) - StP; A(Ukr) - Rum; A(Gal) - Bud; A(Rum) - Ser; A(Vie) s A(Gal) - Bud; F(Ank) - Con; F(Con) - AEG

TURKEY (Anarchy Ex-Mark Golby) F(Nap) Stands; F(ION) Stands; A(Bul) Stands; F(TYS) Stands; F(Smy) Stands

Wilfred: The 2-way draw was defeated, 1 yes, 1 abstention. We now have (a) a 2-way E/R draw and (b) a concession to Russia. This time abstention = yes! That said, I don't see how Russia can fail to win next move...



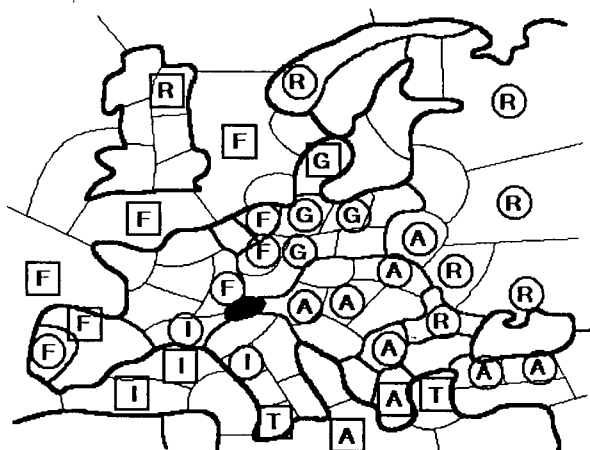
1995DS TRAPEZE (Spring 1909)

FRANCE (Roy British) F(Bre) - MAO (FAILED); F(Lpl) - NAO (FAILED); F(BAR) - Nwy (FAILED); F(NTH) s F(BAR) - Nwy (CUT); F(Edi) - NWG (FAILED); F(BAL) c A(Kie) - Lvn; A(Hol) - Kie; A(Ber) - Sil (FAILED); A(Mun) s A(Pie) - Tyr; A(Pie) - Tyr; A(Bel) - Ruh; A(Kie) - Lvn

GERMANY (David Evans) F(Den) Stands

ITALY (Richard Scholefield) A(Tri) s FRENCH A(Pie) - Tyr (CUT); A(Alb) s F(Gre); A(Ven) s A(Tri); F(ADS) s A(Tri); F(Gre) Stands; F(ION) s F(Gre)

RUSSIA (Paul Reeves) F(StP) nc - Nwy; F(NAO) - MAO (FAILED); F(Swe) s F(StP) nc - Nwy; A(Lon) - Yor; A(Bud) s A(Rum) - Ser; F(NWG) - NTH (FAILED); A(War) - Mos; A(Sil) s A(Tyr) - Mun (CUT); A(Tyr) - Mun* (FAILED, DISLODGED TO Boh); A(Rum) - Ser (FAILED); A(Ser) - Gre (FAILED); A(Bul) s A(Ser) - Gre; A(Vie) - Tri (FAILED); F(AEG) s A(Ser) - Gre; F(Smy) s F(AEG)



1995EN WIZZARD (Autumn 1908)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Richard Scholefield) A(Rum) - Ukr* (FAILED, DISLODGED TO Ser); A(Bul) - Con; A(Ank) s A(Bul) - Con (CUT); F(ION) - Nap (FAILED); F(Alb) - Gre; A(Tyr) - Mun (FAILED); A(Boh) - Vie; A(Sil) - War; A(Gal) s A(Sil) - War

FRANCE (Peter Dunnett) F(NTH) Stands; F(ENG) - MAO (FAILED); F(MAO) - WMS (FAILED); F(Spa) nc s F(ENG) - MAO (CUT); A(Por) s F(Spa) nc; A(Bur) - Mar (FAILED); A(Bel) - Hol; A(Ruh) s GERMAN A(Mun)

GERMANY (Steve Bibby) F(Den) Stands; A(Mun) Stands; A(Ber) s A(Mun)

ITALY (Allan Stagg) A(Tus) - Rom (FAILED); F(GoL) - Spa sc (FAILED); A(Mar) s F(GoL) - Spa sc (CUT); F(NAf) - MAO (FAILED); F(WMS) s F(GoL) - Spa sc (CUT)

RUSSIA (Rob Walk) A(Swe) - Nwy; A(War) - Gal* (FAILED, DISLODGED TO Ukr); A(Ukr) - Rum; A(Sev) s A(Ukr) - Rum; F(NWG) - Edi

TURKEY (David Harris) F(Nap) - Rom (FAILED); A(Arm) - Ank (FAILED); F(Smy) - AEG

Autumn 1908 Adjustments:

A: Ser, Con, +Ank, Gre, Vie, +War, Bul, Bud, Tri -Rum, -Sev, -Mun = 9; Loses 1.

F: +Spa, Por, +Hol, Bel, Lpl, Lon, Bre, Par - Den, -Edi = 8; No change.

G: +Den, +Mun, Ber, Kie, -Hol = 4; Gains 1. Builds A(Kie).

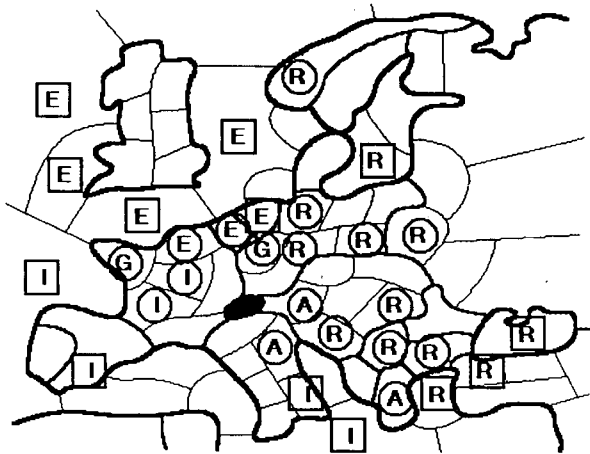
I: Mar, Tun, Rom, Ven -Spa = 4; Loses 1. Removes F(NAf).

R: Nwy, +Rum, +Sev, +Edi, Swe, Mos, StP, -War = 7; Gains 2. Builds A(Mos), A(StP).

T: Nap, Smy, -Ank = 2; Loses 1. Removes A(Arm).

Press:

Ernest Bevin-Italy: Beware of Austrians bearing Greek gifts. Once you open that Pandora's Box you'll find it full of Trojan Horses.



96BJ X-RAY SPEX (Spring 1906)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Anarchy - Ex-Chris Stone) A(Tyr) Stands ; A(Ser) Stands* (DISLODGED - DISBANDED NRO); A(Ven) Stands ; A(Gre) Stands

ENGLAND (Brad Martin) F(ENG) s F(NAO) - MAO; A(Bel) - Pic; F(Hol) s A(Kie) (CUT); F(NTH) c A(Lon) - Bel; F(NAO) - MAO (FAILED); F(Lpl) - IRI; A(Kie) Stands* (DISLODGED - DISBANDED NRO); A(Lon) - Bel

GERMANY (Paul Harrison) A(Ruh) - Hol (FAILED); A(Bre) Stands

ITALY (Geoff Norwood) F(MAO) Stands; F(Spa) sc s F(MAO); A(Mar) - Gas; A(Bur) - Par; F(ION) - AEG (FAILED); F(Nap) - Apu

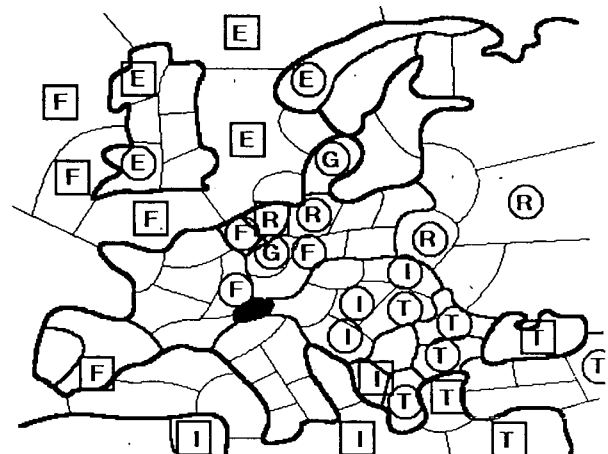
RUSSIA (Paul Ridout) A(StP) - Nwy; F(BAL) s A(Ber) - Kie; A(Mun) s A(Ber) - Kie; A(Ber) - Kie; A(War) - Sil; A(Vie) - Tri; A(Bud) s A(Rum) - Ser; F(Bul) ec - Con; F(Sev) - BLA; F(AEG) c A(Smy) - Bul; A(Rum) - Ser; A(Mos) - War; A(Smy) - Bul

Wilfred: The concession was defeated, 1 against, 1 abstention, rest for.

Press:

Eng-Rus: Rather than a concession I reckon you deserve the honour of a genuine 18-centre win - which you should achieve this year.

Eng-Ger: Sorry Paul for picking on you, but thanks for sticking with the game.



ANSCHLUSS (Spring 1905)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Gihan Bandaranaike) A(Bud) Stands* (DISLODGED - DISBANDED NRP)

ENGLAND (Roy Burnett) F(NWG) - Cly; A(Lon) - Wal; A(Nwy) - StP (FAILED); F(BAR) - NWG; F(NTH) s GERMAN A(Ruh) - Hol (MISORDER)

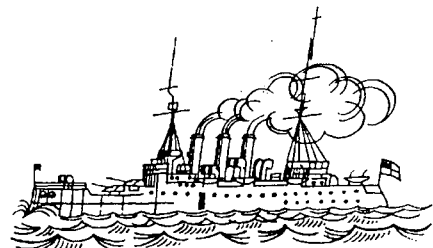
FRANCE (Emeric Miszti) F(ENG) - IRI; A(Bel) s RUSSIAN F(Hol); A(Bur) s A(Mun); A(Mun) s RUSSIAN A(Ber) - Kie; F(MAO) - NAO; F(Bre) - ENG; F(Mar) - Spa sc

GERMANY (Ian Coleman) A(Ruh) s A(Kie) - Hol; A(Kie) - Hol* (FAILED, DISLODGED - DISBANDED NRP); A(Den) - Kie (FAILED)

ITALY (Colin Smith) F(Tun) s F(ION); F(ION) s F(Alb) (CUT); F(Alb) s A(Tri); A(Vie) - Gal; A(Tri) s A(Tyr) - Vie; A(Tyr) - Vie

RUSSIA (Pete Birks) F(Hol) s A(Ber) - Kie; A(Sil) - War; A(Mos) - StP (FAILED); A(Ber) - Kie

TURKEY (Jeremy Tullett) F(Sev) - BLA; A(Ank) - Arm; A(Con) - Bul; F(AEG) s A(Gre); A(Rum) s A(Ser) - Bud; A(Ser) - Bud; F(EMS) - ION (FAILED); A(Gre) Stands



SPRING OFFENSIVE



COAs

Sandra Bond to 27c Outram Road, Southsea, Hants., PO5 1QS.
Colin Bruce, Flat 10, Causewayside, Fen Causeway, Cambridge, CB3 9HD.
Geoff Norwood, 146 Watney's End Road, Wintersborne, Bristol, BS17 1QH.
Tony Reeves to 15 Oakfield Park, Cradoc, Brecon, Powys.
Graham Staplehurst to 203 Leam Terrace, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV31 1DW.
Tel: (01926) 312 331
Chris Tringham to Apt 9, 36/F, Block B, Lung Poon Court, 8 Lung Poon Street,
Kowloon, Hong Kong. Home: 2351 5412 Mobile: 9268 8756 Work: 2811 3503

WAITING LISTS

Regular Diplomacy (7 wanted). No gamefees.

Variant Lists (first to fill only) No gamefees.

Cline 9-Man VIII (5 wanted) Rules in issue 52. Chris Latimer (PGEB), Roland Cooke (BTIA), Graham Tunnicliffe (BP), Brad Martin (PBTR) To be abandoned next time unless more come forward.

A Tolkein Variant? Anyone interested?

Centenary (5 wanted) Rules in issue 53. Chris Latimer (OspSwE) Brad Martin (O,Sw,G,Te). Abandoned due to lack of interest.

River Diplomacy (6 wanted) Rules in last issue. George Hornby.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

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A top up would be nice...

Personally, I can't see you
getting the next issue...

DEADLINE: FRIDAY 21st NOVEMBER 1997, Midnight
