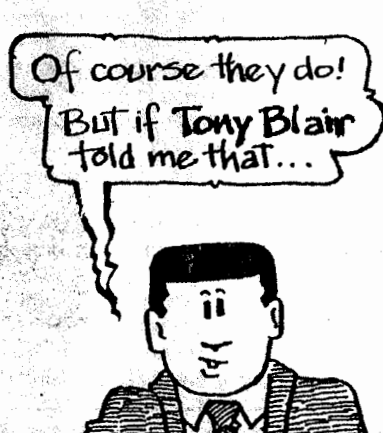
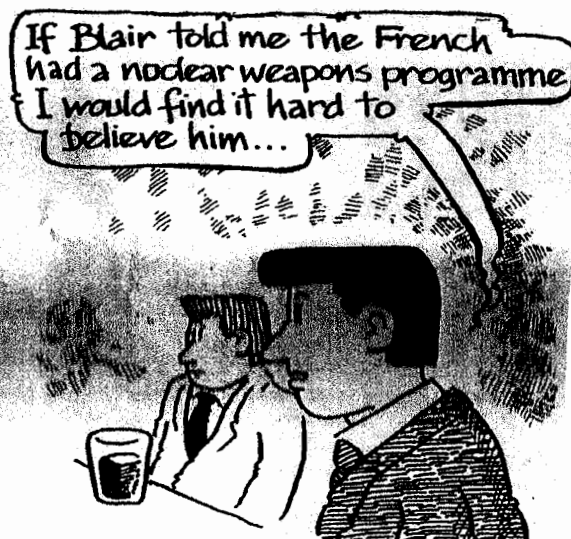
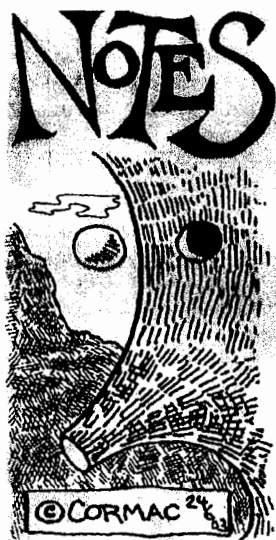


# The Cunning Plan 115

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**DEADLINE = FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> OCT 2003**

Your Credit is:

T?

## TCP Waiting lists:

**Note:** Players should submit a preference list for any game on offer.

**Std Diplomacy:** 7 Wanted.

**Gunboat Dip:** 7 Wanted.

**Kraken:** (GM Jeremy Tullet) Neil Duncan, Doug McClure, Pete Mason and Nigel Pepper - couple more maniacs needed..... please, come on, we wanna get started!

**TCP:** Sorry about the missing page 2, somehow my bits got all cocked up. Bloody great news is that Campbell has resigned today! Just need to get Blair and Hoon out now!

I might need a stand-by player for England in Umm Qsar - anyone interested, send in orders and first come, first served (if the original player fails to deliver again...)

# TCP 115 Ed's Bit

## So much to say, so little time...

Things have become such a bundle that it I just untrue. Two Cons, and some more life changes, the war against 'whoever we don't like at the time', where does one begin? My thanks to James for doing some extra bits last time. I wondered if it might light a fire under him and that may be SNOT would hit the big times again. But alas no, I think he is happy being a 'semi' ed.

## Nose to the grindstone:

Well, I found this unbelievable, even if you guys don't, but I am actually working again. Only a temp job mind, but it's where I am working which is the funny bit. That's right, back at the AA, in my old department and doing about a third of exactly what I used to do! Namely dealing with complaints. I can't believe that they got so little done in the five months or so since I was there. The background - which I don't think I mentioned last time - is that one of the newbie's to replace me has actually gone and a second newbie has handed in his notice, as he is returning to Uni to do an MA! So they were in a pickle and asked if I would come back for 2-3 weeks, part time, 3-4 hours a day to clear the back log of complaints. Well, what the heck, the bank balance is pretty low, I said yes.

There is a mountain of stuff there, piled into boxes, some dating back to my day! Omigod. And the manager put on more form, "until the end of September" (which would make it six weeks.) Even so, I will not be able to get all this crap sorted out. It also subsequently emerged that the department is now going to move to Farnborough at the end of October. Also that I can only work for the AA for the equivalent of 20 working days within two years of being made redundant. These facts mean they can have me for an average of 3 hours a day for ten weeks, until the end of October. (Unless of course I find something new in the meantime!)

Anyway, they newbie Manager who replaced me has designed such a wonderfully archaic, bizarre, long-winded system for processing complaints that I am not really surprised they are in such a pickle. It's a real trade-off between the 'perfect' documentation - any actually getting things done! I am opting for the latter and have done, literally ten times more in my five half days than they managed in the full five months previously. Ok, so it's a shit job, but it's a legal requirement, they can't just ignore it!

## Operation Iraqi Liberation:

I think that I would be saying that all these goings on were unbelievable, if it weren't for the fact that what we are seeing was pretty much predicted. I suppose that the 'twist' was the attack on the UN HQ. I didn't see that coming, like most people, I guess I saw the UN as pretty much immune from such 'in-your-face' aggression. But as you think about it, it does start to make some perverse sense. The UN did inflict the sanctions (at the behest of the US) and it has given the nod to the 'coalition' - but it still seems very harsh and unjustified to me. But if the guys with the guns wanted to do something to grab world attention, embarrass the Yanks, get the West

to turn on itself, then I guess a better target would have been hard to find. I had a feeling that a 'spectacular' was on the cards, like the Beirut bombing in the early 80's, but I figured it would have been directed at the Americans.

The fact that it happened on the same day as the Israeli bus bombing was, I am sure just a coincidence, but it certainly hammered home the sorry state of the Middle East. The worst bit is that the main player(s) will not change their tactics, or strategy, so I merely predict more of the same. Israel may knock out 'Hamas' as an organisation, but it doesn't take much for one zealot working on his own, or with one or two buddies to do some major damage. It would have been far better to deal with the PLO ten years ago, when it had the power to uphold the Palestinian side of the deal. Today, I doubt that there is any one man or organisation on the Palestinian side, which can deliver anything to anyone on either side. I guess Israel believes it is better off with a weak enemy.

## Mini ManorCon review:

No time (or space) to do the full monty, but for reasons which will shortly become clear, I have to say a little something about it. It many respects it was a pretty bog-standard ManorCon, which I greatly enjoyed. A high point definitely being the 'Pop Quiz' on the Saturday night. Dunno why this event always gets such a high 'fun' rating in my books, but this one was great. We didn't win anything, but that didn't seem to matter.

Perhaps part of the joy came from the fact that earlier in the day, your very own zine reps won the team Dip event. Yahoo! Even better, no Dave Horton this time around, so that the 'begrudgers' couldn't sneer, "Oh well, you only won it cos you had Dave in your team!" The team were;

A: Jeremy Tullett  
E: Richard Williams  
F: Doug Massie  
G: Ivan Woodward  
I: Neil Duncan  
R: Pete Mason  
T: Andrew Greco.

The star player was Ivan - many thanks mate, but it was a team effort all the same. I am delighted with the win of course and pleased that the TCP have been the most consistent team (in terms of personnel) None of your mercenary poaching and hopping into and out of bed looking for the best T-shirts like other teams!

Of course we'll get milled next year - which will be part of the WDC and I expect they'll be 17 teams rather than just 7.

Scores were; TCP = 170.90, United Bastards of B = 134.76, Return of Olde Guard = 125.68, Snotty Fast Bastards = 95.48, The Disciples of The = 72.25, Last Year's winners = 46.23 & Evevolution = 28.19.

Pos	Name	Score	Best?
1	Ivan Woodward	96.90	G17 / T12
2	Yann Clouett	80.64	
3	Phil Day	76.92	E14 / I11
4	Simon Bouton	75.64	
5	Vick Hall	63.86	
6	Dave Wreathal	63.70	F13
7	Ian McKelland	57.27	TD award
10	Brian Dennehy	54.01	R11
16	James Hardy	33.52	A11

The second hand games sale had less of interest to me this year, but it is good to have a rummage around and see what some of the more obscure games look like. Some of the prices being asked are very odd.

Many thanks to the Committee for doing a brilliant job again (as usual). Damn pleased that the weather had not started to get too hot at that time.

The big raspberry goes to the long-standing hobby member who treated me with such rudeness and contempt after asking for my help, that it took my breath away. I kept my cool at the time, but on reflection - I kind of wished that I had just walked away from the ignorant git.

### Oh I do love to be beside the seaside!

Our family holiday at the seaside started just as the hot weather started to crank up. My France dwelling brother, his kids and mine (plus my mum thrown in for good measure) were to make this pilgrimage to the old family resort of Broadstairs in Kent. It was quite strange being back there, having not been for 17 years perhaps (and that was with my first batch of sprogs). I think they must have banned dogs from the beach or something, cos I was delighted at finding no dog crap (or dogs) around - a vast improvement on my childhood days.

Of course, I took a ton of MA work with me, come on, I still have a deadline to hit and tons of work to get done. Sure enough, I refused to even take it out of my bag the whole time I was there. Eek. Definitely feeling a bit of fatigue I can tell you.

Apart from rowing the kids around the bay in a dingy, building huge sandcastles and looking for fossils, I did (in a moment of madness) join the 'youths' in jumping off the pier into the sea. Look outs would shout a warning when ever the lifeguards approached and we would all vanish. Dunno if it wasn't allowed, but no-one wanted to take any the risk!

The most notable event/feature - whatever of the holiday in fact had its roots in ManorCon. I refer to the "Werewolf" game, which I observed (confused) but had explained to me by Andrew Greco in the car coming home. Since there were 8 games playing people at the seaside, conventional games were not much good. The Werewolf game is better the more people you have - and so I introduced it. For those of you unfamiliar - think of the "Balloon debate" game and you have some idea what it's like. You have a 'gamesmaster' to run the thing, two players are secretly chosen to be the werewolves and one player secretly chosen to be the 'wise-woman' (in the game as explained to me, it was a 'king' which didn't sound right - so we opted for a 'wise-woman' instead). The object of the game is to hang the werewolves before they kill all the villagers. During the day, villagers haggle and then vote to lynch some-one (you need a majority of votes). During the night the werewolves bump off a helpless victim. Perfect for Dippers, cos it involves negotiation, mindless (symbolic violence) and total player-interaction. It was a massive success, we must have played dozens of games over the week and by the end of it some of us were getting rather too good (and evil). It might make a good all-reader game I guess - but would any of you guys play it? I'll have a ponder.

### BoruCon IV:

Another Con and again, I will have to be brief and not do this full justice. It was held on the August bank holiday weekend - which was a total nightmare for me. Also, I had hoped that by going to Dublin, I would be escaping the hot weather. It's always grey and raining in Ireland. But not this time - damn.

I was a little disappointed that I and Gihan were once again the only people to attend from the UK. The event is being held in an excellent central location, with cheap booze and snacks on site. I really can't praise it highly enough. I will have to try some serious arm-twisting next year, cos I feel it does deserve better support. Three Dutchmen made it, along with four Frenchmen, the rest were local lads. (They are hoping to pick up some extra WDC bodies next year.)

Last year we managed 6 boards over the whole weekend - this year with a couple of extra players, that was up to 8. I would hope that we can make that 9 or even 10 next year. Oh yeah, I ended up playing on a couple of the days, which was the only bummer, as I was not really in the right frame of mind.

After the Dip there were some other games, Puerto Rico being the main offering. (Just like any other Con these days). For some bizarre reason, I just did total crap on every game?! Dunno what I was doing wrong.

The high point for me was the playing of my Northern Ireland Assembly Election game by six of the Irish lads. I really, really wanted to get the feedback off six local gamers so this was a real coup for me. I have to say that it went down much better than I dared hoped. The praise I got really meant a lot to me and should spur me on, once I get the damn dissertation finished. Curiously the Sinn Fein player managed to storm to an individual victory, whilst the three Unionist players were able to gloat at collectively trashing the Nationalists. It was just like a real election, with everyone claiming to have won! The evil play also gave me some great insights into possible rule tightening up that I'll need to do.

This year I passed up to opportunity to stay with a Dublin host, to try out the "Kingfisher" B&B about one minutes walk from the venue. At 55€ per night, with en suite, TV+video - I thought it was brilliant. I was able to leave at a reasonable time to chill out on my own before crashing out. I highly recommend this place to any Brits thinking of going to Dublin next year.

Oh yeah - I also got to see the infamous 'Spire in the mire' this x hundred metre stainless steal spike in the middle of the city. I was always a bit dubious about such a thing, but I have to say, that having now seen it close up, I was well impressed - it does look spectacular.

The final note from Dublin is the results;

- 1<sup>st</sup> = Brian Dennehy.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> = Gihan Bandy (again!)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> = Fearghal O'Donohue.

I did try to give the TD's award to myself, for being such a hell of a nice guy, but this was vetoed (by the player who is going to come LAST next year!) So in the end I gave it to a totally new (Irish) guy, Aiden Larkin, who was only going to come on the Friday night, but ended up coming

to all three rounds and put in a damn fine (and enthusiastic effort.)

Oops - one other Dublin note: In spite of all the posters saying that, "The Two Towers" was due out on 26<sup>th</sup> Aug, it was out on 22<sup>nd</sup> and playing in just about every shop you walked into! I must have seen the film twice whilst I was there - but in a 'Pulp Fiction' sort of sequence. Needless to say, I got the thing for myself on my return and have thoroughly enjoyed watching it properly.

#### Other stuff:

My e-mail seems to be performing ok (still) - the problem now is that I am just getting too much stuff! Discussions take place between people who have e-mail at work, so that when I log on, say, every other day, I get around 30 messages, "RE: That topic that we are all going on about." I don't think they'll give a part time temp an e-mail address at the AA, alas - so forgive me in advance if I don't join in the jolly debates, I just don't have the time.

I haven't mentioned my dissertation much. Mainly because I am shame-faced. I have missed the 29/08/03 deadline and so will have to get it done by 07/01/04, which means I do not graduate until next year. Bummer but it just cannot be helped. I have done sod all for a week now and I am getting really ratty about it. Making careless mistakes, forgetting stuff. I will just have to knuckle under, really.

That'll do for now - see you next time.

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER 2003**

## Con Corner

South Hants Hobby meet: Is set for Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Oct 2003 at around 10 o'clock at Richards. Contact me for further details.

North Hants Hobby meet: I'll try and arrange something for this month.

MidCon: 14 th - 16 th Nov, Thistle Birmingham City Hotel. £12 registration fee to Jeremy Tullett, 7 Midland Place, Derby, DE1 2RR.

OxCon: I guess it's late Jan 2004? I'll try and get you the details for next time.

## **THE TCP 115 LETTER COL**

TCP: As I start this, the sodding heat wave has abated. Thank god for that - I was about to flee to Iceland.

John Wilman (from the poolside):

I'm writing this letter on my hols, having just moved, (please publish COA.) (12 Ladybridge Street, Arbroath, Angus, DD11 1AR).

I'm sure there were proto-scientists around in ancient Greece. Everyone has heard of Archimedes and his famous, "Eureka" principle (though, how difficult was that to work out??), while some of their building techniques, from temples to triremes, required a working

knowledge of what we now call Newtonian physics.

Most of this knowledge, I suspect was imparted from an even more ancient Egypt. My point was that neither Plato nor Socrates regarded as the founders of philosophy, knew nothing about science and cared even less - religion was the only game in town. Whereas now-a-days we have a whole body of work on the philosophy of science, led when I was studying by Thomas Kohn (author: The structure of scientific revolutions) and mainly founded by the late Karl Popper ("Logik der Forschung" and other works).

Greece was less religious than Rome, which regarded early Christians as no better than cannibals, because they symbolically ate their god and fellow human (still don't quite get that one myself), but it didn't do to diss the Greek gods, as Socrates found out!

TCP: It is a bit strange I'll grant you. I'll have to bow to your superior knowledge about the Greeks and Romans. Dunno whether Alan will do likewise mind.

Anyway, hope I got all the spellings correct, your handwriting was a little tricky. A quick word to hand-writers, please assume that when you write to TCP, you are writing to the stupidest man in the world and make it very clear. (Crayon is best - cheers!)

Allan Gordon (with food for thought):

I have been pondering on life, the universe and everything, and why it's going to hell in a slop-bucket. Suddenly, the truth came to me in a blinding revelation! - there's way too much 'thought' going on..... think about it!

TCP: But I was under the impression that the government was trying to get us to stop thinking? Or perhaps that's just re certain things.

More Allan more provocation:

Breaking new! After empty-dozen years of slugging-off and flailing handbags, Tricky Dicky Williams and I have found the perfect way to rub along in Dip games. It's all so beautifully simple - PRAISE! Monster, glutinous globs of insincere, stomach-churning "Dahling, you were wonderful!" Doesn't matter a sod whether it's believed or not (though in my case, glowing compliments are always taken on trust, because they're so richly deserved) - the point is, you're both sitting chatting on top of the wall instead of being deeply entrenched either side of it. I think there's a lesson here for others... Fergie and Wenger... 'Blogger' Blair and I.D.S... Jeffrey Archer and everyone... What do you think?

TCP: I have to say that I am all in favour of anything that helps everyone get along. (Perhaps you should have listed; Sharon & Arafat, and, Bush & Saddam?!) However, the news that you and Tricky are begging nice to each other is very frightening indeed. In all my time in the hobby, I've gotten used to you sparring off each other - so being nice is, well, it's... err, it's the end of the hobby as foretold in John XIII, "...and the sheep with lay down with the lion..." and all that stuff. Perhaps

somewhere the 666<sup>th</sup> game of postal Dip in the UK has just started?

**Rosie Roberts (with sad news):**

I haven't written a game end statement for D108 yet, maybe I will have by the time the rest of this gets finished. I have attached one instance of your survey, sorry it took so long. I did promise you more than one, but I'm such a peaceful person nothing else comes to mind.

Now that the game is over I guess I will just fade out, I don't feel inclined to start another, at least not at present. It must be my age but the stress of writing half a dozen e-mails every few weeks is just too much, and snail correspondence is even worse. I shall be sorry if my subscription expires before I get to see the final reports, but that's life.

**TCP:** I have since had the GES, but sad to hear that you are leaving TCP after so brief a stay. All my Dolstoss acquisitions seem to be falling by the wayside. I shall ensure that I run the GES's before your subs run out, closure is important.

**More Rosie and the G/I spat:**

To answer your question about Berlusconi v. Schulz: Certainly the German nation did not appear to feel insulted. There was quite a lot of "what can you expect from someone like Berlusconi" but it was felt he had overreacted so much he had made a fool of himself rather than really insulted the other guy. Interestingly, the Italian word that caused all the trouble is (I understand) subject to several interpretations, and as you may expect the translating fraternity picked that up and ran with it. The word that most UK newspapers appear to have understood is "capo", meaning something like "head" or "boss", i.e. commandant, but what he actually said was "kapò" (with the stress on the second syllable). Now, there is an Italian word "kapò", apparently derived from the Nazi term "Kameradschaftspolizist" (a prisoner who supervised his fellow-inmates and enjoyed special privileges in return) and - to add to the confusion - a quite independent German word "Kapò", meaning (roughly) "corporal". From his initial response, Schulz (that is, his simultaneous interpreter) assumed the second meaning, a collaborator or SS henchman, which doesn't make much sense in terms of recommending someone for a film role! Immediately prior to this interchange a lot of other people had been complaining at Berlusconi because he had not yet published the programme for his period in office. So Schulz's rather minor dig at Berlusconi's parliamentary immunity may have touched an unusually sensitive nerve. As somebody said at the time, "it makes Bush look like a mature statesman".

**TCP:** Indeed. I'm just glad that Berlusconi is on the 'Bush' side of Europe - guilt by association and all that. Cheers to the translation/interpretation - where will we go for the European perspective once your subs run out?

**Richard Young (pulls the other one):**

This really is just a quickie... so to speak.

**TCP:** Yes, that was a quickie, but the following three pages are not...

**Richard again - Yanking rather than pulling:**

Is an American Empire so bad? Well, er... yes, as a matter of fact: any empire is bad. Empires don't do a good job, they have a limited life span (and these days they last for a much shorter period than in the past), they collapse with the breakdown of the 'mother' country and they leave economic failure, political frailty and warfare behind them. They also aren't very good at running themselves because they have to resort to military might, removal of political rights and social control to maintain their existence. They rape the subject peoples and land they control. They destroy native cultures and impose their own. It isn't surprising that post-imperial Africa is a shambles! So is post-Imperial Russia; so was post-Roman Empire Europe; post-Grecian Empire Asia, post-Ottoman Empire Balkans and - not coincidentally - post-Yugoslav 'Empire'... well, former-Yugoslavia.

**TCP:** I tend to agree with you there. I would add to that, that part of the reason for the chaos, is that many of these Empires collapse from within rather than being brought down from without. (I would cite the defeat of Japan in WWII as an Empire destroyed from the outside and there was not nearly the usual chaos.)

**More Mike:**

The suggestion that we didn't cause the problems in Africa is specious. Of course the African nations are fighting amongst themselves; but is that any different to the European states and nations, or the Asia, or the American? Nations - and here I'm referring to peoples, no states - have fought each other throughout history: we're still doing it today! The legacy of the Imperial age in Africa is the nation-state, centralized government, state religion, corporate interest and Western ideologies. None of these existed in Africa before colonialization: All have become the methods through which modern African - as well as Asian, European and American - dictators seek to attain their goals. So it is untrue that there always has been conflict in Africa; but it is untrue to say that we didn't cause the problems Africa now has, or at least exacerbate them.

This is what Empires do: They prevent their subject peoples from evolving their own cultures, by imposing change. They import industrial, economic, financial, political, social, religious and ethical ideals which don't fit into the cultural pattern of the subject nations. They stagnate, spreading economic hardship across the empire. They collapse, leaving behind a military, economic and political vacuum.

Having said that, there is very little chance of any empire in today's world; certainly not on the scale of past empires. Today, the world is not controlled principally by political means, but by economic means. National - or state - policy is formed by economic necessity: hence, whether we like it or not, Britain will be drawn further into the EU because we simply cannot survive economically outside it. We don't have to concern ourselves with a world empire, but with a world economy. It is the world economy which leads to political decisions to make war on rogue states like Iraq, because rogues have the potential to overturn the status quo.

"Phew! That taught me a lesson - I won't do that again in a hurry!"

**TCP:** I think we merely quibble over terms. I feel that the US is a global empire. Ok, so they use economic means to control rather than military (in the main). But during all the build up to war I saw an interesting 'fact'. Since the end of WWII the Americans have bombed something like 50+ other countries. Speak softly, but carry a big stick, methinks.

**More Richard:**

I have two examples of how the world economy affects political issues. The first is in India. I can't remember exactly where, but Coca-Cola have opened a plant. They are using reserves of underground water to make their products, using local labour of course. However, there is a problem in that they are taking so much water from the system that local people no longer have safe drinking water, even though they have these 'Blue Peter appeal' type wells. So the local authority revoked Coca-Cola's license. However, the higher authority - reversed this decision because of the economic boost Coca-Cola provide. And such is the power of CC, that the US ambassador wrote to the Indian Prime Minister on their behalf.

**TCP:** Saw the article in the Independent. Conclusive proof, if proof were required, that the USA is an evil rogue state and should be brought to book.....

**Uh-oh, Richard again.....:**

The second example needs some background, so bear with me. A few years ago the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority - the QCA: a quango which sets standards in education of DfES - produced the National Numeracy Strategy (NNS). This lays out very clearly what primary teachers should teach year-on-year in maths. Last year the NNS people produced what are called "Unit plans" for the final three years of primary education - years 4-6. These plans are lesson plans, basically, providing teachers with a scheme of work. Of course, they weren't perfect: any scheme cannot exactly meet the needs of pupils across the whole of the country but they provided a solid basic scheme which teachers could adapt, taking a hell of a lot of pressure of teachers in one subject at least.

From September this year, the NNS were set to release Unit Plans for years 1-3. They are, I understand, written and ready to be published via the internet. Such has been the success of years 4-6 Unit Plans that we were waiting eagerly for the next instalment. But then the DfES, put a stop to it. Why? Economic interest, of course.

You see the Unit Plans were free. And they were good - they fitted exactly what the NNS wanted to be taught. And this meant that schools were not buying commercially produced schemes. So the publishers - Heinemann Collins, Ginn, etc - demanded a meeting with the DfES and the upshot was, the DfES told the NNS not to publish any more plans.

Makes Tony's "Education, education, education" look a bit more like, "Education..... well, commercially produced, education anyway."

**TCP:** Well I found Tony and co educational - after voting for them last time, I said,

**Richard Williams (spots a faux pas):**

Did you spot in ODE that the Poodle had been replaced by Mark Wightman in your winning team?

**TCP:** I think I can hear you tittering! No I hadn't noticed - but that was my cunning plan, I put it about that Mark (and others) were in my team - they got jumped on, whilst my plucky lads cruised to victory behind Ivan's bow-shock-wave!

**Mike Dommett (just a tad confused):**

I don't recall the hobby feuds though, so were these before my time. I thought I'd been playing from early issues of TCP, and I don't remember them.

**TCP:** I'm pretty sure that you have been in the hobby longer than I have Mike. I remember our first encounter in "Holy Roman Empire" in CUT'N'THRUST. (I first met Stretchy and Keyf in that one too! I had the impression back then, that you had been in the hobby for a fair few years. Anyway, we've had loads of feuds in TCP since it hit the streets in 1993 and again, I always had the impression that there had been loads of feuds before my time too. I guess you were too small and furry back then.

**More Mike on the UK X-Ray suspects:**

Apparently the British citizens and residents can't be tried in Britain - why? Are our judges political appointees? Do we use certain assumptions like innocent till found guilty, do we at least try to avoid torturing prisoners in foreign countries to avoid censure, do we require things like evidence, is it that we don't have a death penalty. Surely one of the US and UK supporters in the "war against terrorism" will explain why British Justice is only as good as that in China perhaps.

**TCP:** Well indeed. Just shows what kind of 'reward' Blair gets for his rampant poodling - a good solid kick in the teeth. To me, the whole 'Camp X-Ray' set up sounds like one of those, 'really good ideas' the Washington Neo-cons had late one night, when there was nobody around to reality check it. Then by morning it had become enshrined as 'policy'. Now I dunno, some of these guys in this place are probably pretty nasty pieces of work, but we are supposed to be the 'good guys' and have a little thing called 'due process' and it is one of the things that separates us from the bad guys. If we don't have due process, how will the world know that we are the good guys and not just really rich and powerful bad guys?

**Mike continues:**

It would be best for the US and UK if Saddam Hussein was shot and killed too - what would a trial be like, with (and this is a guess) an open trial in front of witnesses and not just American soldiers, with all the horrors being revealed, all the weapons of mass destruction - materials, equipment, biological killing agents, factories, supplied by US, UK, France, Germany, Gassing of Iranian Soldiers - funny how that one isn't brought up that often - and Iraqis - a pity that Mr Rumsfeld went and shook

his hand afterwards - no, an open trial has the potential to show too much UK and US lying and deceitfulness, so best if he's tried privately, and better still just killed.

**TCP:** I agree, if the US/UK, were lying, cheating, deceitful cowboys, it would be better if Saddam was killed off pronto. Since that seems his most likely fate sooner or later - I see the case against the coalition of the wilful as proven. One of the whole points of the war (I thought) was for the Iraqis to take back control of their country. Therefore it would be far better if they tried him and executed him (if that's what they opted to do). The Yanks would fair much better both inside and outside of Iraq. But that's a long-term view, certainly well beyond the next US presidential election anyway.

#### Still more Mike on the same topic:

Saddam's sons are dead, so there goes surely some good sources of information on WMD. They refused to surrender. If the Soviet Union can find knock out gas for a cinema in Moscow, are you telling me that the US hasn't got similar resources? The US are developing crowd control gases, and the specification for what the US are developing has been described as infringing on the chemical warfare treaties. (Not that treaties matter when you are strong). I reckon that Saddam's sons could have been captured. I also think that it is not in the US interest to have them captured.

**TCP:** I don't suppose there is anyone on this planet who does not believe that the sons probably 'could' have been taken alive. Did the Yanks definitely intend to kill them come what may? Possibly. Probably. But I could well believe that they were so hyped up on their own hype, that these two boogie men were seen as such great threats that they dare not risk anything other than maximum force. They may not have even believed that it was really them there - after all, they had so many false alarms already.

The only info they probably had was no use to the US/UK - namely that there are not WMD's. No doubt these guys would have loved to have them, loved to have nukes et al, but I don't think they stood a chance of ever getting them after the first Gulf war.

Also did you see that bit about the Americans removing the Iraqi flags from their graves? Not too sure that'll do any good - it will just reinforce their status as 'martyrs'. Far better to just ignore them, pay them no heed.

#### And the final Mike:

Look at the US pack of wanted cards. I believe that the US have captured half or better of them. Are we to believe that none of them know anything about the WMD? That offered a short jail sentence, or transfer to work in US labs, no one will reveal the truth to the US (A sound policy carried out with Werner Von Braun and his ilk after WW2).

**TCP:** I think they only want these guys so that they can't tell anyone that the Iraqis had bugger all.

#### Alan Frost (gets inspired):

The resurrection of SNOT produced a couple of resonances:

James' pic of himself using a mirror to use the toilet reminded me of me. I've gone through the stages of "well-built", "stocky", "big-boned", "stylishly stout", "cuddly" to outright fat. When it reached the stage where I had to be sexually aroused to find the end of my todger (and that's fat, girls) I decided I'd better do something. Anyway, I tried this Atkins diet and, fatties everywhere, it actually works. You get to eat a full English breakfast (minus fried bread) every day, too. A most unusual experience, though. You're supposed to lay off booze, which I did manage for the first couple of weeks. I think it must be the first time since I was 17 that I've gone to bed stone cold sober on a Saturday night. Very odd. Almost like a drug trip. I was wandering round the garden at 9.30pm wondering if I should mow the lawn. You'll be proud of me; I resisted.

**TCP:** I'm glad to stayed off the grass Alan. I am however shocked to discover that you are a 'fattie'. I had always assumed a handsomely-chiselled specimen were women swooning as he walked by.

Being a bit of a pip-squeak, I've yet to bother with diets and the like. No doubt that as old-age hurtles towards me everything will head south.

#### More Alan gets religious:

The other thing was resurrection itself. I caught part of a TV programme about it. I hadn't realised that none of the gospels actually says that Jesus died and was resurrected. Nor does any say that he went to heaven afterwards. It's in Acts, which, of course, is totally suspect because it was written well after Paul had warped the original message out of all recognition.

Well, the whole edifice is suspect for that reason, too, and the gospels are hardly independent evidence but, insofar as the evidence they give can be trusted, they don't even seem to have Jesus dying at all. He "gives up the ghost", whatever that may mean, but it's all consistent with his having been unconscious (drugs in the vinegar?) and, if the chronology is correct, "died" astonishingly quickly, several days being the norm for crucifixion unless the victim's legs were broken, which we're specifically told didn't happen.

Conspiracy theory like that always makes good TV but then it went on: after the crucifixion, Jesus is seen by the disciples and says he's going away (not that he's dying properly and going to heaven) that's all.

Then it went really wild: the initial suggestion was that he'd got out of the Roman Empire (well, he would, wouldn't he?) and joined a Jewish community in the East. Oddly enough, the Kashmir is believed that they are Jewish (one of the lost tribes) and, in the first century, a holy man arrived with a name that sounded rather like Jesus and lived and died amongst them. His tomb was later used for

a Moslem saint and geophysics has shown that there are indeed two burials. The top one is north-south, which is apparently the Islamic style but the lower one is east-west, Jewish style. There are even carvings which purport to be this guy's footprints showing what could well be scars from the nail. (Mind you, what the programme didn't point out is that Jesus is an important prophet in the Moslem tradition, too, although he's not divine. It would be quite reasonable for the local community to claim that the ancient burial was that of a prophet in much the same way that Santiago de Compostella claims to be the burial site of St. James. The co-incidence of names and teaching and scarred feet isn't so surprising.)

Far out? It gets better: Where Jesus' teaching diverges from Orthodox Judaism, it resembles very closely Buddhism. They suggested that the Wise Men were the Buddhist priests sent out when the Dalai Llama dies to find the child who is his re-incarnation and that Jesus was that man!

Is any of it true? Unlikely, I'd have thought, certainly towards the end, although anything's possible. The thing is that it's a valid interpretation of the available data and the traditional Christian version is no more justified on the basis of the evidence.

And this is strange, because I heard another factoid the other day: It seems that, in the early days of the Church, there were many different writings, alternative gospels and so on, which didn't agree amongst themselves. So the church leaders piled up all the books in a church, locked it and went away to pray all night. When the church was unlocked, behold! The "correct" books were on the top of the pile. This was a message from God, so all the rest were taken away and burnt.

This explains how something as weird as Revelations could get into the Bible. It doesn't explain how the books were piled up in the first place, given that books were cylindrical scrolls, and it certainly doesn't explain how the priests knew how far down the pile to go. Of course, if you believe, you'll simply accept that God told them how to do it and it's perfectly correct.

Well, if you'll believe that, you'll believe anything. But then Christians will believe anything. Still, having organised such a scam, you'd think they could have arranged for the chosen texts to be a bit more on message, wouldn't you? It suggests that none of the existing material contained the "correct" message and the material was too well-known to be simply dismissed.

**TCP:** I didn't see the prog myself, but would have been interested to see some of these stories for myself. It is strange that there are a bunch of writings, from the same sort of time as the New Testament, but which did not find their way into the Christian bible. So much time has passed and of course there were all sorts of political and power-struggle considerations on the way.

The biggest mystery though, is why this subject has just popped up here again?! Were we talking about this stuff last

time? I don't remember it - my mind must be going.

#### **And the final (PC) Alan:**

Are you happier with NTL now? I'm wondering whether to get cable TV (Sky are annoying me although why I bother to simply extend the range of available crap anyway, I'm not sure) and, if so, the whole package probably comes cheaper (phone, broadband etc) but if it's rubbish, I won't bother. I gathered from what you said that it's tailored to Outlook Express, which is what I use anyway. What's your advice?

**TCP:** Not sure I'm qualified to offer any kind of techie advice, but here goes. I would not describe myself as 'happy' with NTL in a sort of verby way, it's just a question of it probably being as good as it gets for the money I can spare. My TV watching is so limited that I don't think I could justify the getting of 'cable' or SKY for myself. I did have it before and the feeling was that there are far too many adverts and I resent paying good money to watch some stupid adverts. You want me to watch your ads, then you pay me! But you are right that an all in one package is cheaper than the individual services. My initial NTL connection was so slow that I considered 'Broadband' but even ten times quicker would still be way too slow. The 'Outlook Express' solution was just so much quicker that I stopped considering broadband altogether. Of course, it might be different in your area. Do you not have internet access at your school? Apart from the porn, you should be able to get whatever you want surely?

**TCP:** Hhmm, let me see - have I got any jokes handy?

Subject: Things That Are Difficult to Say when you are drunk

Things That Are Difficult to Say When You're Drunk:

Indubitably; Innovative; Preliminary; Proliferation; Cinnamon.

Things That Are VERY Difficult to Say When You're Drunk:

Specificity; Cogito ergo sum; British; Constitution; Passive-aggressive disorder; Loquacious; Transubstantiate.

Things That Are Downright IMPOSSIBLE to Say When You're Drunk:

Thanks, but I don't want to have sex; Nope, no more booze for me; Sorry, but you're not really my type; Good evening, officer, isn't it lovely out tonight? Oh, I just couldn't - no one wants to hear me sing...

**TCP:** I'd like to thank ex-hobby-itte Pete Duxon for that little gem. See you all next time.



Hi folks. The first and most important thing to note is that my breathermail email address is dead. Or rather the Cdrive is and whoever it was that sent me a big email has ensured that the PC crashes before I can download all my emails. If you have sent me anything in the last few weeks, then I ain't got it. Last time I checked there were 194 messages queued, 190 of which are probably penis enlargement, young unattached females in my area or mortgages in Missouri type messages. So please, if emailing, use the works one at the end of this rubbish UFN.

I have bought me a brand spankin' new Cdrive, which I have fitted and loaded W2000 on to. However try as I might I cannot get the modem to be detected nor the soundcard to work. The bloke in work said it'd be dead easy to install a new Cdrive so that's what I bought – now all I get when I say my PC's crocked is queries about software installation and hardware configurations – I DON'T BLOODY KNOW THAT'S WHY I'M PESTERING YOU!!!

Anyway, despite the whiter than white rantings of our main editor regards the American censorship of Iraqi freedom to be ruled as they see (un)fit, it would appear Mr D is just as bad. Only *most* of the cartoons that I submitted for inclusion with SNOT 50 were passed as acceptable to his flock (ie you lot), even though none of those omitted had any reference to any kind of weapon of mass destruction. OK they were pretty sick but hey, so was Saddam wasn't he? Looks like he likes his double standards as much as his double entendres?

Interesting start to the season (ahem). I thought we were marginally the better side against Chelski and the defeat was bearable in that we actually looked like an attacking side for decent chunks of the game rather than the usual 2-3 minutes in each half. One also wonders how much better we might be should Mr Kewell actually be played somewhere other than on the completely wrong wing?!! Icing on the cake though has to be Mr Houllier's criticism of the team for losing the game because they were trying to score a winning goal rather than defending the point they had. WHAAAAAAT?!!! I suppose he was delighted with the performance against Villa therefore; a point off a relegation contender? Result!

ManorCon was most enjoyable. I got my best Dip result there for a very long time even scraping best Austria with a pathetic 11 centres. We still only managed 5<sup>th</sup> though overall but many congrats to the TCP team for their fine victory in the team tournament – might as well paint big targets on your backs now chaps for next year!

James Hardy, 71 Bonchurch Drive, Liverpool, L15 4PW  
james.hardy@cdms.co.uk 0151 734 0667 or 0777 5588 920

## Duncan Spring 1905

### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Vick Hall)

F(Naf) - MAO (FAILED); A(Tri) - Ser; A(Bud) s A(Tri) - Ser

### ENGLAND (Gihan Bandaranaike)

F(NTH) s F(Den); F(Den) s GERMAN F(Hol) - Kie (MISORDER); F(ENG) - MAO (FAILED); F(NAO) - NWG; A(Nwy) - StP (FAILED)

### FRANCE (Jeremy Tullett)

A(Por) Stands; A(Mar) - Bur; A(Bre) Stands; F(GoL) Stands; F(Spa) sc s ITALIAN F(Naf)-MAO (FAILED NO SUCH UNIT)

### GERMANY (Alan Frost)

A(Bel) s F(Hol); F(Hol) s A(Bel)

### ITALY (Andrew Greco)

A(Ven) - Tri; A(Rom) - Nap (FAILED); F(TYS) - Nap (FAILED); F(Tun) Stands

### RUSSIA (Colin Hobbs)

A(Swe) s F(Kie) - Den; A(Ber) - Kie (FAILED); A(Mun) - Ruh; A(Mos) - StP (FAILED);

A(Gal) - Vie; A(War) - Gal; F(Kie) - Den (FAILED); F(Sev) - BLA (FAILED);

A(Rum) s AUSTRIAN A(Tri) - Ser

### TURKEY (Neil Duncan)

F(Alb) s A(Ser) - Tri; A(Ser) - Tri (FAILED, DISLODGED - DISBANDED); F(ION) - AEG;

A(Gre) - Ser (FAILED); F(Bul) ec - BLA (FAILED); A(Ank) - Con

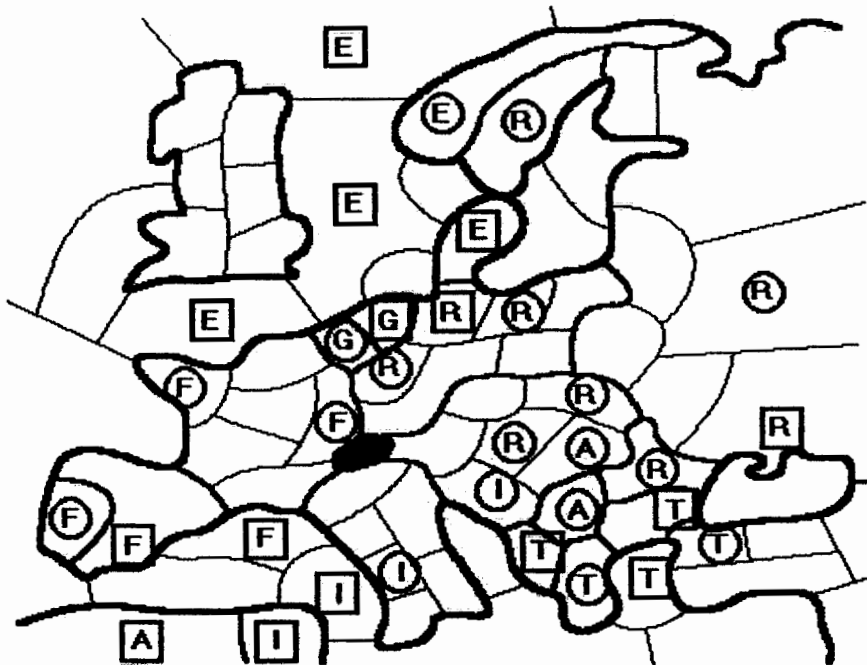
**Retreats:** TURKISH A(Ser) disbands NRP

**Press:** Germany-All: After a tantrum like that, he has the gall to say that I've thrown my toys out of the pram?

Germany-England: Is it something I've said? You *will* tell me if I'm getting on your nerves, won't you?

Alan-James: Serious question: Hey, do you really think it's an unacceptable (or, maybe, unethical) ploy to make the game so unpleasant that your opponent(s) drop out? The whole point about the game is that it's *not* nice and I reckon it's a legitimate tactic although I've never yet quite got it to work as far as I know. I have no idea why people are so sensitive. If fff is the only way they can find friends who won't be mean to them, I pity them. OK. No more Mr. Nice Guy.

SG-Alan: I do dread playing certain people fff simply as I know I will get so much abuse if I attack them, unless I wait for someone else to attack them first (usually the former in about A01 - might as well get it over with!). The most upset I ever got in a game though was when someone purposefully cheated and half way through I found out - now THAT was toys out of the pram...





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TCP 115

**MACHIAVELLI**

**VALOIS** Spring 1461  
Note: An important turn as John S (Milan) has attempted to pay off a debt he doesn't have the money for and can't borrow as much as he requested. As I can't follow the orders he has submitted, the turn proves disastrous for him and the other players!

**AUSTRIA:** John Marsden, 91 Westwood Avenue, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 9RS  
Expenditure: Treasury: 8½

**A(Hung)-Aust, EMA(Mars)-Prov, F(EGL)-Geno**

Home: AUST, HUNG, -TYRO, -Cari, Swis, AVIG, MARS, Prov  
Conq: SALU, Sard, Cors, GENO Cities: 9

**FLORENCE:** Des Langford, 8 Hornbeam Lane, Barnehurst, Kent DA7 6HH  
Expenditure: (Owe 38d Sum62) Treasury: 3½

**EPA(Flor)-Urbi (See Naples)**

Home: FLOR, -AREZ, -PISA, Pist  
Conq: SIEN Cities: 0  
Eliminated due to loss of all home centres!

**MILAN:** John Stratford, 27 Farrar Court, The Old Schoolhouse, Leeds LS13 3SP  
Expenditure: (Owe 6d Spr 61 & 18d Aut 62). Receive 2d from Turks, but not enough to pay off debt, so is assassinated! Rebellion in Berg, Forn, Lucc. All units frozen Treasury: ½d

**Has EPG(Pavi)\*, A(Como) (see Venice)**

Home: -MILA, -CREM, PAVI/c, Como, -Forn, -Parm, -Pian  
Conq: Berg, Pont, LUCC Cities: 0  
Eliminated due to loss of all home centres!

**NAPLES:** Neil Duncan, 25 Sarum Hill, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 8SS  
Expenditure: Repay 6d due. Borrow 15d for 2 years and spend 27d to disband Florentine EPA(Flor) (Owes 15d Aut 61 & 23d in Spr 63) Treasury: 1d

**EMA(Dalm)-Croat, A(Herz) S Turk F LAD-Dalm, F(Ragu)-LAD, F(Anco)-UAD, A(Peru)-Sien, A(Urbi)-Flor**

Home: NAPL, BARI, MESS, -PALE, Aqiu, Capu, Otra, Sale, Patr, ROME, PERU, Spol, Roma, ANCO, -BOLO  
Conq: Tivo, AREZ, Dalm, Urbi, Bosn, RAGU, Herz, SIEN, FLOR, Croa  
Cities: 12

**TURKS:** Steve Cox, 71 Hazelhurst Crescent, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1XB  
Expenditure: Give 2d to Milan Treasury: 0d

**F(Savo) S Austrian F EGL-Geno, F(Pisa) convert A, F(Tuni)-WMS, F(LAD)-Dalm, A(Alba) std**

Home: TUNI, ALBA, DURA, -Busn. -Herz  
Conq: PISA, PALE, PIOM, SAVO, Dalm Cities: 8

**VENICE:** Mike Pollard, 1a Cochrane Road, LONDON SW19 3QP  
Expenditure: Repay 5d and 3d debts. Borrow 7d for 2 years and spend 15d to disband Milanese A(Como)(Owes 27d Sum 62 & 11d Spr 63) Treasury: 0

**A(Croat)-Dalm\* (retreat Slav), F(UAD) S A Croatia, F(LGN) S F UAD, A(Padu)-Vice, A(Trev)-Friu, A(Pian)-Mila, EMA(Pavi) B2, A(Geno) std\* (retreat Mode)**

Home: VENI, -DALM, PADU, TREV, -Berg, Bres, Friu, Istr, Vero, Vice  
Conq: FERR, Cari, TREN, Slav, Carn, -Croat, CREM, MANT, BOLO, MILA, Parm, TYRO, Pian, Forn, -GENO, MONT, TURI, PAVI, MODE Cities: 15

Plague 6,1 Good year Row only; 1,4 in Savo, Friu, Rome, Mars, Pavi. Remove Turkish F(Savo) and Venetian A(Friu) - after die roll with Pavia.

GM: Commiserations to Des and John S for being eliminated this time. Neither of you expected to go out, I'm sure, but this leaves just half the players in, what I can see to be, a great finale.

**PAX BRITANNICA**

Run on the following website...  
[www.geocities.com/shaunderrickuk/PaxBuk.html](http://www.geocities.com/shaunderrickuk/PaxBuk.html)

**PAX FFESTINIOG**

Britain: Dave Rubin  
France: Ned McIver  
Germany: Steve Wampler  
Italy: Carlo Amato  
Japan: Doug Massie  
Russia: Robert Rabey  
USA: Tony Sait

With the lack of a report last time, this game has been concluded. So, I will just give a brief synopsis of what happened...

There was a Chinese rebellion in 1892 – not much of one as only one Chinese unit appeared, attacked Burma, got eliminated and gave the Great Powers allies of Britain, France, Japan and Russia just one turn to grab what they could. Despite occupying Manchuria, Yunnan and Kwang-Si, they could come to no agreement, so these areas were returned to China.

Not a lot happened in the 1896 turn, nor indeed in the 1900 turn. The game ended in 1904 when the ETI threshold was lowered below that of the current ETI.

The placings were as follows...

- 1<sup>st</sup> Britain
- 2<sup>nd</sup> France
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Japan
- 4<sup>th</sup> Russia
- 5<sup>th</sup> Italy
- 6<sup>th</sup> Germany
- 7<sup>th</sup> USA

In the meantime I have started the next Pax game as follows...

- Britain: John Guthrie
- France: Doug Massie
- Germany: Ned McIver
- Italy: Keith Bowen
- Japan: Michael Parkhurst
- Russia: Albert Boada
- USA: Kevin Street

1880

6 events including both Australia and New Zealand looking for Dominion status, but were ignored by the British government. The Italian Irredentists saw their country's colonial office income double for Military builds.

The French invaded Kongo in which the Belgians had Influence, so the British supported them taking the matter to the Congress of Palermo.

Overwhelmingly, the Great Powers saw fit to let France have control and asked Belgium to reduce their Influence to mere Interest!

1884

Just got started. Another 6 events. Britain gets a Liberal government cutting military spending – just when they could do with it! Serbia has defied Austria-Hungary, so expect fireworks there. Alaska has asked for statehood from the USA government. The Spanish have a big rebellion on their hands in

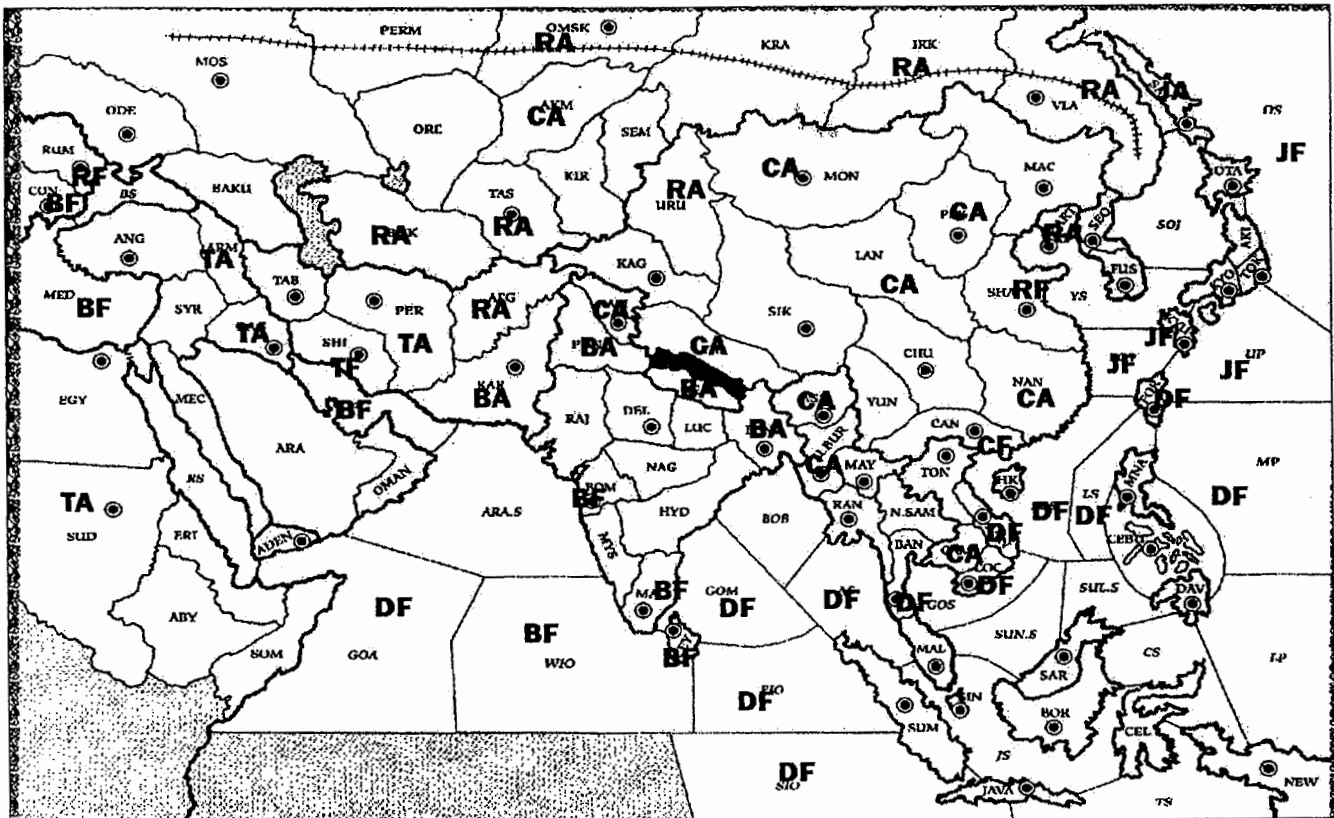
the Philippines. The Portuguese have taken Sudwest Afrika which scuppers plans for a North-South African path for some.

**COLONIAL DIPLOMACY**

FIJI

1898

**BRITISH:** Alan Poulter, Dolphin Cottage, Dolphingstone, East Lothian EH33 1NH (email: [grogard@grogard.com](mailto:grogard@grogard.com))



(12)

**F(Con)-Rum, F(MED)-Syr, F(PG)-Bag, F(Mad) & F(Cey) S F GOM-WIO, F(GOM)-WIO, F(Coc) S F SCS-Ann\*, A(Ben) MS A(Nep), A(Kar) MS A (Pun), F(Bom) std unordered**

**CHINA: John Wilman, COA: 12 Ladybridge Street, Arbroath DD11 1AR (email: jgwilman@lineone.net) A(Akm)-Kra, A(Afg)-Kam, A(Kam)-Tib, A(Ass) S A Kam-Tib, A(U.Bur)-Ben, A(Mon)-Kra, A(Irk) S A Mon-Kra, A(Pek)-Mac, A(Lan)-Sha, A(Chu)-Nan, F(Can) S A Chu-Nan, A(Cam) S Dutch F GOS-Coc**

**DUTCH: Chris Latimer, 79 Chapel Street, Pelsall, Walsall WS3 4LW (email: private\_joke@hotmail.com) F(WIO)-GOA, F(SIO)-WIO, F(EIO) S F BOB-GOM, F(BOB)-GOM, F(AS) S F EIO, A(Ran) std(No such unit), F(Banec) std unordered, F(GOS)-Coc, F(SCS)-Ann, F(SUN.S)-SCS, F(LS) & F(For) S F SUN.S-SCS, F(MP) S F For**

**JAPAN: Steve Cox, 71 Hazelhurst Crescent, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1XB (email: Coxsteve@btopenworld.com) A(Sak) S Russian A(Vla), F(Kyu) S F OS-UP, F(OS)-UP, F(UP)-For, F(ECS)-YS**

**RUSSIA John Stratford, 27 Farrar Court, The Old Schoolhouse, Leeds LS13 3SP (email: john.stratford@freemans.com) F(Rum)-Con, A(Ore)-Tas, A(Mos)-Bok, A(Omsk)-Akm, A(Tas)-Afg, A(Kra)-Uru, A(Vla) S A Mac-Irk, A(Mac-Irk), A(P.Art)-Mac, F(Sha)-YS, F(Nan)-Sha\***

**TURKEY: John Marsden, 91 Westwood Avenue, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 9RS (email: jandcmarsden@iclway.co.uk) A(Bag)-Syr, A(Egy)-Sud, A(Tab)-Arm, F(Shi) MS A(Per)**

**Retreats: British F(Coc) dead NRP! Chinese A(Irk) dead NRP! Russian F(Nan) dead NRP!**

**PRESS**

**China – World: Apologies for lack of communication – I’ve been moving house. Anyone for a 6-way draw?**

**((GM: I won’t take John’s comment about a 6-way draw as a request for a vote, but if you want to propose it John, you can do next time!))**

**Kingmaker**

**ZACHARIUS**

**Spring 1459**

**Quick key:**

**NOBLE/Office/Title/Bishop (Troop strength, Commons votes, Lords votes, City, Towns or Castles owned)**

Extra troops in certain areas shown in { } e.g. {2}50 is 50 normal troops and 200 extra according to card. Extra Commons votes shown {C?} for Offices and Titles with cities or towns attached.

Relationship matrix...(Friendly, Neutral or Hostile)

	ND	JM	JS	JT	AP
ND	xx	N	H	F	N
JM	H	xx	N	N	F
JS	F	H	xx	F	H
JT	H	N	N	xx	N
AP	N	F	F	H	xx

**Neil Duncan: ‘The Knights who say Nee’ (TKWSN) 25 Sarum Hill, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 8SS (neil.duncan@theaa.com) PERCY (100, C2, L3, Alnwick, Cockermouth) / Treasurer of England (50, Wallingford, Beaumaris) GREY (20, L1, Chillingham, Rockingham) / Le Swan Ship of Berwick HERBERT (10, L1, Llanstephen) / Bristol (C4) / Le Michael Ship of Bristol HOLLAND (20, L1, Kimbolton, Compton) Edmund of Rutland George of Clarence Commons: 6 Lords: 6**

**Percy on board Le Swan & Le Michael Grey Beaumaris std Herbert & Edmund of Rutland / George of Clarence Beaumaris std Holland Compton-DEV-SOM-WIL Le Michael Preston-LIV-CDB-Beaumaris Le Swan Preston-LIV-CDB-Beaumaris**

Crown Cards: 8

**John Marsden: (ODE) 91 Westwood Avenue, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 9RS (email: jandcmarsden@iclway.co.uk) FITZALAN (30, C1, L2, Arundel, Chirk) / Le Lucas, Ship of Whitby POLE (30, C1, L2, Wingfield) / Scots Archers (20) / Archbishop of York ({30}, L5, York(C4)) / Flemish Crossbowmen(20) HASTINGS (10, L1, Tutbury) / Earl of Kent (C1) / Scots Archers (20) Richard of York (Sandal, Stokesay) Faction ownership: Kenilworth Commons: 7{27} Lords: 10{20}**

**Pole & Richard of York(King Richard III) Maldon Fitzalan Maldon-ESS-SUF-Wingfield Hastings Maldon-ESS-SUF-Wingfield Le Lucas Ravenser**

Crown Cards: 4

**John Stratford: ‘The Blue Oyster Faction’ (BOF) 27 Farrar Court, The Old Schoolhouse, Leeds LS13 3SP (email: john.stratford@freemans.com) BERKELEY (10, L1, Berekeley) / Earl of Worcester(30, C1) / Lieutenant of Ireland ({2}50) / Archbishop of Canterbury (L7, Canterbury{C3}) / Saxons (10) / Le Rose, Ship of Plymouth CLIFFORD (10, L1, Conisborough) / Bishop of Lincoln (L2, Lincoln{C3}) / Flemish Crossbowmen (20) / Saxons(10) /Leicester (C3)**

13

**Audley** (L1, Tickhill)  
**Scrope** (L1, Masham)  
Commons: 10 Lords: 13

**Berkeley** LAN-CHE-DEN-MER  
**Clifford** DEN-Wait-Wait-MER  
**Audley** LAN-CHE-DEN-MER  
**Scrope** LAN-CHE-DEN-MER  
♣ **Le Rose** Preston

Crown Cards: 4 Event Cards: 1 Writ

**Jeremy Tullett: Might is Right (MIR)** 7 Midland  
Place, Derby DE1 2RR email:  
[Jeremy.D.Tullett@btinternet.com](mailto:Jeremy.D.Tullett@btinternet.com)  
**STAFFORD** (30, C1, L2, Leeds, Newcastle) /  
Chancellor of England (50, {C20}, Caernarvon) /  
Northampton (C3) / Carisbrooke  
**ROOS** (20, L1, Belvoir, Helmsley) / Earl of  
Salisbury(30, C1) / Warden of the Cinque Ports (50, C5,  
Ships Le Trinity & Le George in Rye, Pevensey) / Bishop  
of Norwich (L2, Norwich{C4}) / Coventry (C3)  
**Margaret of Anjou** (Windsor)  
Commons: 17 {37} Lords: 5{25}

**Stafford & Margaret of Anjou** COR-Penzance  
**Roos** COR-Penzance  
♣ **Le Trinity** Dartmouth-CEC-WEC-ATL  
♣ **Le George** Dartmouth-CEC-WEC-ATL  
Crown Cards: 8 Event Cards: 2 Writ

**Alan Poulter: 'The Falcon Faction' (TFF)** Dolphin  
Cottage, Dolphingstone, East Lothian EH33 1NH  
(email: [grogard@grogard.com](mailto:grogard@grogard.com))  
**TALBOT**(30, C1, L2, Ludlow) / Const of Dover  
Castle(50, Dover)  
**NEVILLE**(50 C3, L4, Ogmole, Richmond, Warwick,  
Raby) / Chamberlain Co. Pal. Chester({2}50, Rhuddlan,  
Chester) in Warwick  
**BOURCHIER** (10, L1, Pleshy) / Duke of Exeter (20,  
L1, Exeter {C3}) / Admiral of England (50, Lynn {C3},  
Southampton {C3}, Le Margaret & Le Christopher),  
Burgundian Crossbowmen (30)  
**Edward of Lancaster**  
**Faction ownership:** Harlech  
Commons: 16 Lords: 8

**Talbot & Edward of Lancaster** board Le Margaret &  
Le Christopher  
**Neville Lancaster** board Le Margaret & Le  
Christopher  
**Bourchier** on board Le Margaret  
♣ **Le Margaret** Milford Haven-SGC-SEV-ATL-WEC-  
Plymouth  
♣ **Le Christopher** Milford Haven-SGC-SEV-ATL-  
WEC-Plymouth

Crown Cards: 3 Event cards: 1 Writ

Combat: **TFF faction besieges Plymouth. 290 v. 200. 3-1 – failed. TFF faction sits outside Plymouth in Devon**

### **Summer 1459**

**Event:** Peasant Revolt. Mowbray to Castle Rising and  
Marshal to Thetford. None in play.  
**Storms at Sea:** No effect  
**Extra Plague:** Shrewsbury & Hereford; Northampton  
& Oxford

**Chancery:** 5 cards – Const Tower of London, Earl of  
Essex, Earl of Westmorland, Chancellor of Duchy of  
Lancaster, Warden of the Northern Marches.  
**Crown Cards:** No Crown cards left!

### **Royal Heirs: In order of succession** **House of Lancaster**

1. **Margaret of Anjou with MIR in Penzance**
2. **Edward of Lancaster with TFF in Devon**

### **House of York**

1. **Richard III (Duke of York) with ODE in Wingfield**
2. **Edmund of Rutland with TKWSN in Beaumaris**
3. **George of Clarence with TKWSN in Beaumaris**

**Ship capacities are all 100 except Le Trinity and Le George which are 150. If and when the Admiral of England is declared, his ships will have a capacity of 200.**

### **Some additional information:**

**Capacities for Cities, Towns and castles...**  
**Cities:** Unlimited capacity / 300 garrison  
**Towns:** 400 capacity / 200 garrison  
**Royal Castle:** 300 capacity / 200 garrison  
**Castle:** 300 capacity / 100 garrison

### **Miscellaneous**

With the Valois Machiavelli game likely to finish fairly soon, I will definitely be looking to start something new. I know I keep on about it, but over the summer, I have had so little time with my energies being required elsewhere.

I will definitely NOT be running another Kingmaker as it takes too long to adjudicate, and I am not convinced that the alternative rules are that good (Sorry Neil!). It is one of those games that are not really suited to postal play. I am playing a Cyberboard game of Kingmaker with three other guys from the US/Canada and it seems to be working reasonably well. Even so, we have a few disagreements about rules, and we are only playing the Basic game!! One really positive aspect of Cyberboard play is that you have a real copy of the map on which to move pieces as well as card drawing and setting ownership so that other players can't see your cards. Although it is a little cumbersome, it works quite well. Took a heck of lot of setting up though!

I must admit, a month or so ago, I was not really sure I wanted to continue with Globetrotter after these games ended, but I do still get the buzz, even if the electric is not such a high voltage these days! So, as long as TCP is running and Neil wants my subzine, it will continue to run something or other.

I will give Machiavelli a break for now too, as it is another drain on the brain on deadline weekend.

I need a holiday!!

Bye.

## The Games Section

### D108 - Std Dip – not GES

GM = Neil Duncan(Biggles) BN: 02-BD

Biggles – All: Only ONE statement c'mon fellas, surely you got something to say?

### Raspberry - Std Dip – Sp07

GM = Neil Duncan(Biggles) BN: 02 BB

#### Austria (Allan Gordon):

A(Tyr) hold, A(Boh) – Gal, A(Gal) – War, A(Rum) – Ukr, A(Bul) S RUSSIAN A(Smy) – Con, F(AEG) – Smy, F(Tri) – Alb.

#### England (Mike Pollard):

F(StPnc) – Nwy, F(SKA) – Den, F(NTH) S F(SKA) – Den, F(NAO) – NWS, F(MAO) – ENG, F(WMS) – MAO, F(Spasc) – Por, F(GOL) – Spasc.

#### Germany (Tony Sait):

F(Den) S F(Swe) – SKA, F(Swe) – SKA, F(Ber) – BAL, F(Kie) – HEL, A(War) – Lvn, A(Sil) S AUSTRIAN A(Gal) – War, A(Bel) – Hol, A(Mun) – Bur, A(Bre) hold, A(Gas) – Spa.

Italy (Richard Williams): F(TYS) S F(Nap) – ION, F(Nap) – ION, A(Pie) S TURKISH F(Mar).

#### Russia (John Marsden):

A(Ukr) – War, A(Mos) S A(Ukr) – War, A(Sev) hold, A(Smy) – Con, F(Ank) – Con.

Turkey (Bob Wills): F(Mar) hold.

RETREATS: GERMAN F(Den) disbands NLRO.

#### PRESS:

Oz-Satan: Get thee behind me, you big tease!.... er, without the knife, if you don't mind!

Omar's finger: And lo! – deliverance!... the evil pestilence that was Mikentone didst stub its toe, and great was the rejoicing in the lands of the oppressed. But beware! O my brothers! Remember and mark well the cautionary happenings in Troy when a wooden horse didst sick-up a horde of gorillas!

Germany – Turkey: Another year on the Riviera... bet those fires keep you warm in the winter.

Germany – Russia: Ok, so I'm being a little inconsiderate, but not really nasty.

Germany – Italy/Austria: By the time this is printed, we could be top of the premier league. Or bottom. What an exciting time for all the old men on the south coast... I mean my Dad, not the team!

Admiral Tirpitz – Admiral Jellicoe: Maybe we can take you out on the high seas... see you in Jutland, 16" guns at dawn. Bring your own Cruisers.

Turkey – All: It looks like a long lingering death is my lot.

### Sharp – Std Dip – Sp 1902

GM = Neil Duncan(Biggles)

Austria (Richard Young): A(Bud) – Tri, F(Alb) S A(Bud) – Tri, A(Gal) – Ukr, A(Rum) hold.

England (Nigel Pepper): F(NWS) – Nwy, F(NTH) C A(Nwy) – Yor, F(Lon) – ENG, A(Nwy) – Yor.

France (Andrew Bryce): A(Bel) – Wal, F(ENG) C A(Bel) – Wal, F(Bre) S F(ENG), A(Par) – Bur, A(Spa) hold.

Germany (Mike Dommett): A(Hol) – Bel, A(Ruh) S A(Hol) A(Hol) – Bel, A(Mun) – Bur, F(Den) S F(Kie) – BAL, F(Kie) – BAL.

Italy (Tony Sait): A(Ven) – Pie, A(Tun) hold, F(Nap) – TYS, F(ION) – AEG.

Russia (John Wilman): A(Sil) – Gal, A(StP) – Fin, F(GOB) S A(StP) – Fin, F(Sev) – BLA.

Turkey (Allan Gordon): F(Ank) – BLA, F(Con) S F(Ank) – BLA, F(Smy) – AEG, A(Gre) hold, A(Bul) S A(Gre).

RETREATS: none.

#### PRESS:

The Grand old Duke of York,

He had 10,000 men,

He marched them up to the top of the map,

And he marched them back again.

> So, at last the grand masters plans were to be revealed. The woman tied to the alter was silent at last.

> It has to be said that the cheese eating surrender monkeys are doing rather well out of it.

> Russia has committed suicide to benefit Turkey. Has he been 'got at'?

Der Berliner: The threat of the Russian Bear was proven to be no more than an enlarged mouse that found the cheese it had so carefully stolen to be stale.

Germany – England: Moscow by Aut'03?

Toni the Ice-cream seller: Who's idea was this... it's all very well having a hot climate and loads of potential customers... but when was the last time you saw a Toureq with a mivvi, and a melty one at that, covered in grains of sand? Luigi was being very quiet after that initial 'brilliant' suggestion to go to North Africa. In fact, Toni was becoming a bit suspicious of his frequent returns to Naples on 'Marketing Courses' and 'Sales Conferences'. The only marketing course they

needed was the road to the local souk, and who needs a conference to sell ice cream in a hot climate. Was Luigi up to something?

**Yellow Peril:** Bulgarian and Greek separatists had requested Italian and Austrian assistance, which was quickly provided.

**Turkey – Austria:** Moscow by Spr'03?

**The Gorgan:** angrily lashed her serpent's tail. Her favourite delicacy was pasta-balls, yet Il Castrato of Naples seemed out of stock... and the fabled Saffron-tinted Rum was on the point of extinction at the hands of the wild-haired Mr Chips. She screeched in fury – "A monster! A Monster! – My Kingdom for a monster!"

## Titanic - Gunboat – not GES

GM = Neil Duncan (Biggles)

Biggles All: Only ONE statement for this one too! C'mon have pity on a poor student zine ed...

## Umm Qasr - Gunboat – Sp 1902

GM = Neil Duncan (Biggles)

**Austria (Lil' Corporal):** A(Vie) – Gal, A(Bud) S A(Bud) – Gal, F(Tri) – Alb, F(Gre) – ION, A(Ser) S TURKISH A(Bul) – Rum{ns0}.

**England (Bush's Poodle):** NMR2! Sigh F(NTH), A(Yor) and F(NWS) stand unordered.

**France (Tadpole):** F(Bre) – MAO, F(ENG) S A(Bel), A(Bel) S A(Par) – Bur, A(Par) – Bur, A(Spa) – Mar.

**Germany (The Black Watch):** A(Kie) – Ruh, A(Hol) – Bel, A(Bur) S ENGLISH A(Yor) – Bel{ns0}, F(Den) – Swe, F(Ber) – BAL.

**Italy (Lampedusa):** F(ION) S AUSTRIAN F(Gre) – AEG{ns0}, F(Nap) – TYS, A(Ven), - Tyr, A(Tun) hold.

**Russia (Tattytoo):** A(Mos) – StP, F(Fin) – GOB, F(Rum) – Bulec, A(Sev) – Arm, A(Ukr) – Gal.

**Turkey (Euro Champ):** F(Smy) – AEG, F(BLA) S A(Bul) A(Con) S A(Bul), A(Bul) hold.

**RETREATS:** GERMAN A(Bur) – Mun.

### PRESS:

Biggles – All: Damn what the fuck England is up to. Technically a second straight NMR means outta the game, but I'd rather not spoil things. So I will chase him next time – or drag in a stink-bomb – so be warned – ENGLAND WILL ORDER NEXT TIME, come hell or high water.

**Lil' Corporal – Euro Champ:** I like what I see so far, Turks with boats are fine by me. By the way, did you see the CH5 prog re Battle of Balaclava 6<sup>th</sup> Aug? Apparently, Johnny Turk was a fine fighting man who's determined resistance at redoubt I and then again on the "thin red line" saved the day for the bumbling knitwear brigade (you know – Raglan, Cardigan etc).

**Lil' Corporal – Lampedusa:** I think we have the kernel of a working relationship here. I will be off to the north, always found it a tad too warm in the Med for my aching feet

**Lil' Corporal – Tattytoo:** Cut it coming about England, Lil' Corp! they're not headed anywhere!

**Tadpole – Blackwatch:** Why are you in French territory, when there's lots of room in the North?

**Tadpole – Poodle:** If you don't want your centres, can I have them, please?

**Blackwatch – Poodle:** More support to Bel to come – fleet or army? I hope you've said.

**Blackwatch – Tadpole:** Sorry about Bur, do you want me to move out?

**Blackwatch – France:** Split England between us, he deserves it?

**G – A:** Glad to see the good start, good luck in the South.

**G – T:** Let's keep the pressure up.

**Lampedusa – Lil' Corp:** Looks like you're going to have company in the Balkans! I'd like to be helpful, so I'll take a punt at your next move.

**Lampedusa – EuroChamp:** Sorry to be playing favorites, but I thought a chap in your position would be expecting a land campaign at this point Lampedusa – Tadpole: Sad to see the Germans on French soil (again) ... but with England apparently out to lunch at least you know where your enemies and opportunities are. Do you know the same about your friends?

**Lampedusa – Black Watch:** Don't assume the worst

**Boris the Mad – Napoleon:** Vive la France.

**Russia – Turkey:** Your build of F(Smy) suggests that we can work together. (My move to Arm was purely defensive) Just lose the F(BLA) comchow!

**Tsar – Corporal Lilian:** Little you may be, but you're getting too big for your boots!

**No more Mr Nice Guy – Germany@:** The English NMR, the French are in the Channel and you are building a F(Ber)?? Try looking behind you!

**Euro-Champ – Lil' Corporal:** The Russians are always the problem. Let me have the Balkans so I can deal with them?

**Euro-Champ – Tattytoo:** I'm looking to purchase a big ten or twelve chassis track to travel across Europe in; see the sights, you know? However, I'm looking for a partner to combine with me – interested?

**Euro-Champ – Lampedusa:** Do you really want heaps of brown stuff floating around in the Med and washing up on yur shores? I'm happy to Greece your palm if you want to prevent it.

**Euro-Champ – Tadpole:** If you like, you could always sign control of your units to England and THEN see how not to do it.

**Euro-Champ – All:** If any of you want to have a team of belly-dancers come perform in you cities, please let me know. It's be much cheaper than travelling to the far South East.

**Euro-Champ – Biggles:** Turkey? Did I really choose Turkey? F!

**Biggles – Euro-Champ:** F'riad so, no foul play.

## Extra Eds Bit

Not this this