

Yours Sincerely, Wasting Away...

((PS : First off, some final comments on the R.R. Map J game, "GEORGE CLINTON" that didn't make it into the game-end report. :))

MICHAEL HATHAWAY, Birmingham : I was convinced at one stage that I could win this game -- probably before it started. That I came last is no great shock, but the gap between me and other players is proof that NMR'ing seriously damages your score. I mean, I'm not really that bad. Am I? Usual magnanimous thanks and congratulations to all and sundry.

FRED C. DAVIS Jr., Baltimore : I expect to attend this year's Dipcon XXVII at Chapel Hill, N.C., and will be looking forward to seeing you there. I plan to fly down for 3 nights, having already made my reservation and registration, although I haven't booked my plane flights yet.

In case you haven't heard, Atlanticon, which is normally held in the Baltimore Convention Centre Downtown, is dead. Robert Sacks' New York Games Board will, instead, run a small gathering on the campus of the University of Maryland in College Park in October. (My son, Kevin now goes to school in College Park, which is a suburb of Washington. When the school was founded some 70 years ago, it was out in the country, but now it's surrounded by suburbia, and by 1995, the Washington Metro will arrive there.

However, Sacks & Co. have already made arrangements to run the Diplomacy and other multi-player tournaments at the big Origins Con in Philadelphia in 1995. Origins has decided to stop running around the country, and to settle permanently in Philadelphia. So, Sacks etc. will still be bidding to host the 1995 Dipcon at Origins next year.

I'm guessing that Origins will not be in Central City Philadelphia, but rather in one of the huge suburban shopping malls, such as the one in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, where prior gaming cons have been held. I hope to have more details in time to print them in the next Diplomag.

((PS : At the moment, it looks as if the World Dip Con rotation will end up as 1995 Continental Europe ; 1996 North America. Given that I've heard nothing about specific cons wanting to bid for 1996, I'm assuming that David Hood, as the current Dipcon chairman, will put in a pro-forma bid for "1996 Dipcon -- wherever it turns out to be." This means that the WDC Society will effectively be "delegating" the choice of the 1996 WDC to the 1995 Dipcon society.))

((This is a rather neat way of preserving the rights of each group to choose their own sites, whilst making sure that WDC and Dipcon end up in the same place in 1996. Having a WDC and Dipcon at separate locations in North America would simply harm both -- indeed, I am slightly surprised by the extent that WDC in England in 1994 seems to be harming the 1994 Dipcon at Dixiecon, with several prominent no-shows caused by people choosing to go to WDC instead.))

We had a good time in Germany, although it was a bit cooler than we expected. We found Inge's mother to be in better physical shape than we expected. We were very unhappy with the treatment we received from Continental Airlines. Hope you never have to fly it. We flew home from Frankfurt to Newark, and were supposed to transfer to another flight to Baltimore,

leaving Newark at 4.10 p.m. They kept us sitting around until 9.30 p.m., while the plane was "under repair," before they gave up and told us that it was canceled. They had to pay for our hotel room and breakfast, and then put us on a flight at 8.30 a.m. the next morning. The flight took only 36 minutes. Had they told us earlier, we could have taken another flight, or taken Amtrak to Baltimore.

((PS : This is very bad business from Continental's point of view-- not only do they have two very disgruntled customers (or, I gather, now former customers), but they have to pay out for hotel rooms as well. Multiply this by the number of people on the flight, and you begin to understand why so many U.S. Airlines are in Chapter 11 bankruptcy.))

IAIN BOWEN, York : As you've sort of indirectly dragged up the 'Georgia Gas Station Incident', I feel that it is my bounded duty to regale the readership of CMag with this little drollity.

It was after World Beach Con in 1990, Sullivan had fled back to the UK whilst yours truly, Steve Nicewarner and John Ellman were heading to Atlanta for Origins and to meet back up with the rest of the UK Lushes JetSet Crew. My apologies to my Southern friends for any inaccurate rendition of their accents, but it is difficult to represent them without using IPA phonetics. Also no slur is intended, if I were to live in another English speaking country - then the former Confederacy would be my first choice.

It isn't the world's shortest drive from St Simon's Island to Atlanta and even Nicewarner's Rice Rocket needs refuelling, never mind rest-stops and food-stops. Anyway, as I was generously being conveyed for free across Georgia (saving the cost of a Greyhound ticket), I offered to pay for the gas. So we swung off the Interstate somewhere in the middle of rural Central Georgia to find a '76 gas station. It had all the usual signs about no out-of-state cheques, so I decided to tender my Access card - what it didn't have was "You are now entering the Cracker Zone" sign. So I picked up a Mars bar and a packet of Kool Lights and walked up to the counter.

As I recollect, I had forgotten that I was deep in the heart of Dixie, where the Stars and Bars flies more often than the Stars and Stripes and where first question is usually "Whuh yoh fro' " or "Yoh ain't fro' round heah' are yoh, boyh" . Indeed, I had forgotten that I was in the United States and made the terminal mistake of saying something to the effect of "I'll have these and add on the petrol for the car". Well, at least I didn't say fags.

The result was a blank look of incomprehension, so I said "I'll take these and the gas for that car". At this point, the harmless drudge behind counter, worked out that I was probably going to pay and muttered something to the effect of a ludicrously low price (this was back in the days of the \$1 gallon of gas and before cigarettes had been declared a Clear and Present Danger to the Safety of the United States by President Hillary Rodham ~~Hitler~~ Clinton).

So I flashed out my flexible friend, now you will remember that this was back in the days when an Access card looked nothing like a Mastercard. So she took a look, didn't spot the teeny MC hologram thang, and muttered "don't take that huh, fuh shuh". So, I, possessor of a reasonably clear accent and command of English, said, "It is a British Credit Card". She muttered again "Uh-huh, only take Mastuhcard an

Visah". I said, "It is a British Mastercard". she said "whuh yoh from, we only take Mastuheard an Visah". Anyway, with visions of Boss Hogg turning up and clapping me in the local slammer for being a suspected Yankee in this particular version of Cracker Hell or alternately, she deciding that I was a dangerous loon and blowing me away with the .22 that was undoubtedly under the counter I decided to try the only British accent that she was likely to have heard, stage Received Pronunciation.

So, quoth I in dulcet RP "This heah is a British Marrstercarrd, one would like to pay for one's gas with it". A sudden light came into her eyes and with the habitual "yuh English?", I was served.

Getting back to the car, Nicewarner in particular found all this very funny, but I have noticed that whenever I am south of the Smith and Wesson line, I now instinctively match the sound of ground (grind) with pound (pind), say trizers for trousers and use the First Person Posh much more than normally. Well, one does, doesn't one?

((PS : Presumably this is all somehow related to the assertion that the best chat-up line to use in the United States is "Hi! I'm from England and I have a Cute Accent!"))

DENIS JONES, Tooting : Noticed the 10 p.m. GMT comment, those of us who reckon you should use BST when telling British readers what to do will break the legs of smartarses.

I thought the visits to overseas conventions was a war of posing by a couple of Englishmen. Anyway, it shows off the long holidays we get to foreigners with less rights than us. And with the way exchange rates are going it might be very expensive to visit other countries soon.

((PS : Greenwich Mean Time it is ; British Summer Time is not an official international standard, so I'd have to refer to it as GMT +0100.))

JOHN DODDS, London : I think you are unfair to Stephen Agar (but I can see your point). Stephen has a very hands on approach to life. In some ways that is admirable: there are far too many people in this hobby who prefer to pontificate about things rather than getting off their backsides and doing them. Result: suckers like you and me end up doing half the necessary jobs. Insofar as Stephen is a doer as well as a commentator, that is very welcome, and he has made a huge contribution to revitalising the hobby in the last two years.

Where I worry is that he seems to want to take on something new every month. I don't think this is an advanced form of megalomania. I think he just sees things which are not being done as well as they might be (or in a way that he doesn't agree with) and wants to "improve" the world.

The risk of course, is that sooner or later he will take on one thing too many and go supernova, and the rest of us will be left to try to pick up the pieces. I have suggested to Stephen on several occasions that he might be taking on too much. The hobby needs his valuable input over a sustained period rather than for a brief instant.

You picked up two of Stephen's latest wheezes: the Zine Poll and the Hobby Archives.

On the Zine Poll, I think Stephen is, frankly, living in the past. This is a multi-games hobby and has been for fifteen

years. A zine like Cut and Thrust would be part of the hobby and should be included in the zine poll even if it didn't run a game of Diplomacy (just as Take That You Fiend is eligible).

Where I think Stephen has a point is that there is a world of difference between zines which run board games (of all kinds) and zines which are exclusively devoted to Soccerboss or United! (The same could be said about zines which are entirely focused on En Garde!) Although there is some overlap, I think a good case can be made for saying that as far as the Zine Poll is concerned we should stick to a definition based around board games.

((PS : But that is no more than Ryk Downes was suggesting in his original comments. Given that Stephen was passed over for the Zeeen Poll custodianship, it's easy (and possibly wrong, but who knows?) to deduce that he was looking for the slightest sign of deviation from Ryk so that he could try to get the custodianship issue re-opened. Especially since he wrote initially to Iain, rather than Ryk.))

((Also, as you say, Stephen's criticisms ignore the changes that have taken place during the 1980s, and the move to a multi-games hobby. Not unreasonably, Stephen's knowledge of the hobby during the 1980s is fairly limited, as he wasn't active then. Contrariwise, the same applies to my knowledge of the 1970s. But rather than recognise that there is a gap in his hobby experience that he could fill by discussing things in private, he rushes into print, like an Internet newbie who can't be bothered to wait for the FAQ to be posted.))

Turning now to the Archives. I was a bit concerned that what Stephen wrote in the latest Spring Offensive might be interpreted as a MidCon/ManorCon war. I should say that I think that the way the Hobby Archives have become marginalised in recent years is a disgrace, and if Stephen wants to set up an alternative reference source, then fine. But I don't agree with Stephen's analysis that the present state of the Archives is in some sense the fault of ManorCon, or that it is really the role of MidCon to put this right. (In calling his new collection the MidCon Archives, I think Stephen is just trying to establish that they are common property and not his private possessions).

((PS : A Manorcon/Midcon feud is far more likely to be sparked off by Stephen's comments that "the Manorcon Committee just seem to indulge him because he's been on their committee for years". The idea that there is some kind of omerta is wonderfully silly. It is also rather difficult to square with the fact that Stephen was warned by both me and Iain Bowen in private conversation not to trade with Froggy, as it would be trading with a black hole.))

((Stephen looks around, and sees that several hobby services are being run by members of the Manorcon and Midcon committees. He therefore deduces a causal link between the two. However, the link (such as it is -- there are plenty of other hobby services out there) is simply that people who are active hobbyists are more likely to run hobby services, and are also more likely to be on convention committees. It's like saying that people taking their shirts off causes higher ice-cream sales. Well no, it's a third factor (sunny weather) that causes both the others.))

Personally, I would much prefer to have one comprehensive Hobby Archive rather than two. But if the "official" archive remains inaccessible (and I believe it is no longer being added to on a regular basis) then am not surprised that someone like Stephen with a genuine interest in hobby history tries to set up an alternative reference source. As you might expect, had I the time or the interest, I would have approached the problem in a different way, trying to build a consensus that Andy Bate was no longer the best person to look after the official archives, rather than going off and setting up my own in competition. But that just highlights the difference in approach between Stephen and I.

((PS : I actually have no problems with having a second "Hobby Archive" -- like the UK Variant Bank, there is a benefit in having a back-up in case anything ever happens to the original (see various discussions on this topic in Costaguana in 1986). However, Stephen then goes on to criticise Andy Bate for not producing catalogues, reprints of archive material and so on. Once again, if he was clued up on hobby history from 1981-1990, he would know that RJW never did much of this either when he was looking after the Archives, certainly not after he took over as Manorcon head honcho. However, the Archives were always there if anyone wanted to refer to them (as some did - I built up the original base of Miller Numbers from it in 1985). The main task of the Archivist is to keep the new zeens flowing in and maintain the collection. I have no idea (although I might suspect) how well Andy has been doing this, as I haven't spoken to him on the matter. Has Stephen?))

STEPHEN AGAR, Brighton : Dear John and Pete :

This letter is to both of you because John has copied his recent letter to Pete on the subject of Pete's attack on me in C'est Magnifique 139.

Actually I'm not trying to compete with Andy at all. I do find him frustrating because he is all promises and no action - and this goes for the Miller Nos. and the Archives. The way he has treated Froggy subscribers is a disgrace which would have had him more or less drummed out of the hobby if he'd been anyone else.

((PS : This is true, but only in the sense that Andy is *known* to be unreliable, and has been ever since the second issue of Froggy took 6 months to arrive. Hence, people discount their expectations. To imply that Andy is protected by some kind of wicked and dastardly Manorcon cabal is facile, and virtually actionable. In effect, you are implying that I am party to a conspiracy to commit fraud.))

((Note that during the time I was OGRE, only one player in Froggy ever asked me what was going on, and given the person involved, I suspect it was merely a case of an editor on the trawl for some orphans. Sounds like discounted expectations to me. As it was, I made several attempts to try and rescue the Froggy games, but it proved impossible. Andy was never quite totally out of the hobby, and I got the distinct impression that he would resist any attempt to take over his games unilaterally. This could lead to a situation where half the players would send orders to me, half to Andy, and all drop out of one or other games. So in the end I had to back off. I'm not so sure in retrospect that this was the right decision.))

But no, I'm not trying to compete, because it is a good idea to have a back-up collection in any event, and if we don't take further steps to put such a back-up collection together now, then it will be too late. I've had offers of help from Pete Birks, Richard Sharp, Andy Davidson, Mark Nelson, Toby Harris, Haz Bond, Ryk Downes and many others, so there is a reasonable chance of getting something together. My chief aim is to reprint old, but interesting, articles, hopefully in a couple publications a year (one for MidCon, the other for ManorCon). I will certainly have some sort of publication available for ManorCon (at which I will be in search of more promises to help).

By the way Pete, what are the "merits of Andy's custodianship" with regard to either Miller Numbers or the Zine Archive?

((PS : This was intended to be ironic, or, if you prefer, post-ironic. You're not American, are you, Stephen?))

No doubt you are talking about the up to date Miller Numbers he allocates (?), the way he has published regular (any?) Miller Number publications (?)

((PS : A few, but you are basically right.))

and his up-to-date publication of a Zine Archive catalogue (?). You know full well that Andy has done nothing but make promises for years and the hobby has just sat back and patted him on the back.

((PS : No, they have just ignored him and gone on to better things.))

For better or worse, hobby history really interests me, and I want to publish a relational catalogue database open to all (written in MS Access) which will include listings of relevant articles and which is backed up with a zine archive article service. I am dropping all of my Labour Party commitments after the elections in two weeks time, which will free up more spare time. If either you (John) or Pete want to help, I will attach a file to this message with the contents of the zines I got from Nick Kinzett. Can either of you help me fill any gaps?

Pete's comments on my attitude to the Zine Poll were just silly. His basic criticism of me was that when Ryk Downes said in Shadowplay (and this is verbatim) "the rule whereby a zine must run a game (or variant) of Diplomacy is likely to be relaxed..." I then "either wilfully or accidentally misinterpreted this to mean that Ryk intends to relax the entry criteria to allow in zeens that don't run Diplomacy." Now am I missing something here, or is my "wilful misinterpretation" in reality EXACTLY WHAT RYK SAID!

((PS : The point is that this is not a "relaxation" of the criteria, since non-Dip zeens are already part of the Poll. The Poll criteria since John Piggott took over have been fairly tight, certainly compared to when Richard Walkerdine ran the poll -- was it 150 zeens that qualified in 1985, Richard?))

It is a red herring to say that there are non-Diplomacy zines in the Zine Poll already, as I accept that zines which are substantially connected to the postal Diplomacy hobby should be included (e.g. Take That You Fiend, Greatest Hits etc.). However, I would rather not see zines which neither run Diplomacy nor are substantially connected to the postal

Diplomacy hobby be included in the Zine Poll, as I prefer to see the Diplomacy section of the postal games world have its own awards system. No, if anyone is indulging in "wilful misinterpretation" it is Pete, as he tries to voice (in a garbled way) second hand news passed on by Iain Bowen. For Pete's information, I have squared things with Ryk and offered to help him in checking ballots and eligibility for next year's Poll.

As for my offer to run the Zine Poll being megalomania, if Pete had probed Iain further, Iain would no doubt have confirmed that (a) my offer was on the basis that if I ran the Poll I would disqualify Spring Offensive as it was my zine (hardly self-aggrandisement), (b) my offer (like Richard Walkerdine's) was on the basis that I'd do it if he couldn't find someone better and (c) when Iain told me who the other candidates were I suggested Ryk Downes would be the best choice! No, I just can't win, can I?

((PS : This is irrelevant, since, if you *were* a megalomaniac, the ego boost from running the Poll every year would more than outweigh the occasional boost from winning it. Unless, of course, you intend to win the Poll every year...))

I don't suppose that Pete may consider he owes me just the tiniest glimmer of an apology? No, I thought not.

((PS : I accept that I was being a bit naughty in attributing motives based on actions, but the gap between Ryk taking over and your clarion call to the hobby invites misinterpretation. I am perfectly willing to trade apologies, if you wish to clarify your remarks about "If it wasn't for his position on the Manorcon committee, I don't think he would have ... got away with it for so long."))

((To which Stephen replied :))

STEPHEN AGAR, Brighton : 1. Saying that you just discount your expectations doesn't exactly ensure that Miller Numbers and the Archive are run efficiently, does it? You end up writing them off, in much the same way the hobby has written off the Froggy games. I know some people who subbed to Froggy when it reappeared who didn't have the benefit of your insight into Andy's personality who now feel aggrieved.

((PS : I am not responsible for ensuring that the Miller Numbers and Archives are run efficiently. Nor, I might add, are you. Hobby services are usually considered to be the responsibility of their custodians, for good or ill. And people were "warned off" the revived Froggy in just about every zeen I saw at the time. They can't say they weren't warned!))

Doing a Froggy is even becoming a term of abuse in the US now! Of course none of this is usually a problem because when someone does nothing and more or less drops out, they tend to abandon interest in the hobby and thus allow others to fill the gap. However Andy keeps a hobby profile through the ManorCon Committee and I don't think he would relinquish anything without an unseemly fight, so nothing is done.

2. I WAS NOT saying that the ManorCon Committee protects Andy, merely the fact that he is connected to the hobby's most prestigious event gives him respectability which makes any concerted effort to do something about the problem less likely. After all, it is difficult to accuse someone who is on the Committee running the biggest con in the country of not pulling his weight.

((PS : This is not necessarily true, but I take your point, and I welcome your clarification.))

3. Re: Zine Poll. No, I think you are missing the point here. The criteria that has been operated for the past few years for Zine Poll qualification is an "either... or" formula. Either you run a game of Diplomacy or you are connected to the Diplomacy hobby. The second limb has been used to justify the inclusion of GH and TTYF in recent years and I am all for zines which don't run Diplomacy being included if they satisfy this criteria of being intimately connected to the postal Diplomacy hobby. My point is that the zines Ryk wants to introduce could not qualify under this second criteria, hence the need to relax the current criteria in order to include zines which have nothing to do with the postal Diplomacy hobby and which don't run Diplomacy. If this rule about running a Diplomacy game has already been relaxed, why did Iain print it on all the ballot papers he issued as Zine Poll custodian?

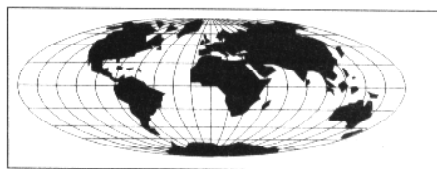
((PS : I like the phrase "intimately connected" -- it's the first time I've heard it! The idea that you have to be intimate sleep with the Zeen Poll Custodian in order to qualify is a nice extension of the Hollywood "casting couch" principle!))

((The point is that what constitutes "connected" is a matter of opinion. To take a couple of examples Ryk quoted, Scorpio has run Diplomacy in the past (I'm sure everyone still around from 1986 remembers Mark Boyle!) and may well still do so. Whilst Rhubarb Rhubarb runs "hobby" games such as Railway Rivals, which once again links it to the hobby.))

((The problem is that there is no such thing as "the" Hobby - there is Peter Sullivan's hobby, Stephen Agar's hobby, Ryk Downes' hobby and several hundred others. The Poll causes controversy because it requires us to come up with a definition of "the" Hobby for the purposes of the Poll. This far more so than the old arguments about voting systems, which seem to have died away. Especially since people seem to assume that we are coming up with a definition of "the" Hobby which applies to everything -- including what they are and are not allowed to consider part of "their" hobby.))

((More letters next time?))

IMPORTANT NOTE : It won't be long now until Thursday 21st July 1994, the start of :



WORLD DIP CON IV at Manorcon 1994.

Woolworth II-D

((This variant designed by Glen Overby & Fred C. Davis Jr., 1981. Rules re-written and map drawn by Andrew Poole.))

1. All the usual rules of Diplomacy (1971 rulebook) apply, except where amended below.
2. Woolworth Diplomacy is a five-player variant. There are ten Great Powers in the game, each player controls two of these : a 'public' power which is known to all players, and a 'secret' power known only to the controlling player and the g.m.
3. Three Great Powers (Balkans, Scandinavia and Spain) are added to the regular seven. The initial set up for all the powers is as follows :

AUSTRIA	F(Trieste),	A(Budapest),	A(Vienna).
BALKANS	A(Bulgaria),	A(Serbia),	F(Greece).
ENGLAND	F(London),	F(Edinburgh),	A or F (Lpl).
FRANCE	F(Brest),	A(Paris),	A or F (Mar).
GERMANY	F(Kiel),	A(Munich),	A(Berlin).
ITALY	F(Naples),	A(Venice),	A or F (Rome).
RUSSIA	A(Moscow),	A(Warsaw),	F(Sevastapol), A or F (StP).
SCAND.	F(Norway),	A(Sweden),	F(Denmark).
SPAIN	A(Portugal),	F(Morocco),	A or F (Mad).
TURKEY	F(Ankara),	A(Con),	A or F (Smy).

4. All 'choice' set-ups need not be announced until the Spring '01 orders are revealed. Either an army or a fleet may start in these spaces; if the space has two coasts, the fleet may start on either.
5. Woolworth uses a version of the regular board with significant modifications.
6. The Powers are assigned to players using the following procedure :
 - a. Each player submits a list of the ten Great Powers in order of their preferences. Ties are not permitted.
 - b. Control of the 'public' powers is decided first. Players' first choices are compared : unique first choices are granted, lots are drawn between players where their first choices are identical.
 - c. Once a player is assigned a power, it is removed from all the players' preference lists.
 - d. For players who failed to gain their first choices, the process as outlined in b. above is repeated, using the highest choices still available, continuing until all the players have a public power.
 - e. When there are only five powers remaining, the process is repeated so as to assign the 'secret' powers.
7. The control of secret powers is never revealed by the g.m, though NMR's may make the relationships apparent. Players may do as they like in this regard, telling or not telling as they please.
8. As the game is not historically based, it begins in Spring '01 rather than the year 1901.
9. There are 39 supply centres on the board. The victory condition is 24 centres, which may be reached by a combination of the strength of the public and secret powers belonging to a player. Adjustments are always separately counted for each power, however.
10. There is a 'Direct Passage' link between Sicily and Naples. This allows units to move directly from one of these provinces to the other without in any way affecting fleet movement between TYS and ION.

11. New Province Abbreviations :

Alg	Algeria	Ire	Ireland	Per	Persia
Bas	Basque	Kaz	Kazakhstan	Sic	Sicily
BOB	Bay of Biscay	Lap	Lapland	Swi	Switzerland (s.c.)
Cre	Crete (s.c.)	Mac	Macedonia	Tra	Transylvania
HAO	High Atlantic Ocean	Mad	Madrid (s.c.)	WAO	West Atlantic Ocean
Ice	Iceland (s.c.)	Mor	Morocco (s.c.)		

Notes by Andrew Poole : Woolworth Diplomacy gains its title from the shops of the same name, which originally sold all their goods at prices of 5c and 10c and were commonly called 'fives and tens'. The idea of Woolworth is for each player to be able to control both one 'public' and one 'secret' power. To allow this, the number of Great Powers was increased to ten. The three extra powers were created from groups of neutral supply centres in Scandinavia, the Balkans and Iberia.

However, with the ten Great Powers, from the start of the game there is conflict. The Secret powers make it easier to start wars, whilst each player starting the game with six units make it also more necessary. The Secret powers must do all of their diplomacy through press releases, producing some interesting press. The Secret powers need careful play so as to avoid the identity of their owner being revealed, too much co-ordination between a public and a secret power may give the game away (literally !). There are sudden shifts of alliances as players try to find out who their opponents are. There have been mock wars, and a player may have his public power deliberately eliminated so as to continue the war with just the secret power !

Spring 1909 (93 ??) Regular Diplomacy "YELLOW SUBMARINE"

AUSTRIA (Iain Bowen, 5 Wigginton Terrace, YORK, North Yorkshire, YO3 7JD.)

F(Nap) S F(ION)-TYS, A(Gal)-Boh, A(Arm)-Sev, A(Ser) S A(Tri), A(Ven) S A(Rom), A(Rom) S A(Ven), F(Tun) S F(ION)-TYS, A(Ukr)-Gal, F(ION)-TYS, A(Sev)-Ukr, A(Vie) S A(Gal)-Boh, F(ADR) S A(Ven), A(Tri) S A(Ven), A(Bud) S A(Vie).

ENGLAND (Chris Davis, 18 Regent Avenue, Tividale Hall, Warley, West Midlands, B69 1TJ.) :

NMR! F(BAL), A(Sil), F(Pru), A(StP), F(NTH), A(Lvn), F(BAR), F(Naf), A(Den), A(Kie) all stand unordered.

FRANCE (Edward Ainsworth, 4 Park Avenue, BEDFORD, Bedfordshire, MK40 2JY.) :

F(TYS)* stands, A(Tus)-Ven, A(Mun)-Tyr, A(Tyr)-Vie, A(Pie) S A(Tus)-Ven, A(Boh) S A(Tyr)-Vie, F(GOL) S F(TYS).

RUSSIA (Pete Smith, 2 Ashley Gardens, Stakeford, Northumberland, NE62 5AG.) :

A(War) S A(Mos), A(Mos) S A(War).

RETREATS : FRENCH F(TYS)-WMS

GENEVA : *We have proposed an extrapolated AUSTRIA/ENGLAND/FRNACE draw. The deadline for votes, Fall 1909 orders, retreats and adjustments is FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE, 1994, to Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, DARLINGTON, County Durham, DL1 4EN. Telephone (0325) 364153.*

Round 8 (RR ??? LE) International R.R. London & South East "ZAPPLE"

KISS [black] (Martyn Hathaway, UK [Y]) : TTE&F [blue] (Steve Thomas, UK [N]) : TRUST [green] (W. Andrew York, USA [Y]) : HICK [red] (David Hood, USA [Y]) : COXES [brown] (Tom Smith [N])

GENEVA : *Just a reminder that the deadline for Round 8 orders is FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE, 1994, to Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, DARLINGTON, County Durham, DL1 4EN. Telephone (0325) 364153.*

Spring 1909 (93 ??) Regular Diplomacy "THOMAS JEFFERSON"

FRANCE (Andy Mansell, Flat 64-A, Fair oak Road, Fair oak, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO5 6LH.):

F(MAO) S F(SpaNc), A(Pie)*-Mar, F(SpaNc) S F(MAO), F(NAf) S F(MAO), F(GOL) S
A(Pie)-Mar.

GERMANY (Tony Sait, 15 Alphington Green, Frimley, Surrey, GU16 5LQ.):

F(ENG) S F(Bre)-MAO, A(Gas)-Mar, A(Tyr)-Pie, A(Lvn) S A(War)-Mos, F(NAO) S F(Bre)-MAO,
A(StP) S A(War)-Mos, F(Bre)-MAO, A(Sil)-War, A(Tus) S A(Tyr)-Pie, A(Par)-Gas, F(Lpl)-IRI,
A(Boh)-Gal, A(Bur) S A(Gas)-Mar, A(War)-Mos, A(Mun)-Tyr.

TURKEY (Peter Dunnett, 328, Old Road, CLACTON-ON-SEA, Essex, CO15 3NU.):

F(BLA) C A(Ank)-Rum, A(Bud) S A(Gal), A(Mos)*-War, F(Apu)-Nap, A(Ven) S A(Tri)-Tyr,
A(Tri)-Tyr, F(ADR) S A(Ven), A(Vie) S A(Tri)-Tyr, F(WMS) S FRENCH F(MAO), A(Sev)-Mos,
A(Gal) S A(Mos)-War, A(Con)-Bul, F(Smy)-AEG, A(Ank)-Rum.

RETREATS : FRENCH A(Pie) disbands, no retreat possible.

TURKISH A(Mos)-Ukr.

GENEVA : *The deadline for Fall 1909 orders, retreats and adjustments is FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE, 1994, to Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, DARLINGTON, County Durham, DL1 4EN. Telephone (0325) 364153.*

PRESS :

GERMANY -- FRANCE/TURKEY : One last try - then maybe we'll call it a day!

Spring 1908 (93 ??) Regular Diplomacy "AARON BURR"

AUSTRIA (Bruce Maclean, 1 Sunflower Cottages, High Street, Bray, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 2AL.)

F(ION)-TYS, A(Ank)-Con, A(Bul) S A(Rum), A(Arm)-Sev, A(Ser)-Bud, F(AEG)-ION,
A(Ven)* stands, A(Rum) S A(Ser)-Bud, A(Tyr) S A(Tri)-Vie, A(Tri)-Vie.

ENGLAND (Mark Underhay, 65 The Chase, Holland-on-Sea, Essex, CO15 5PZ.):

F(Bre)-MAO, A(Hol) S A(Den)-Kie, F(Por)-SpaSc, F(SpaSc)-WMS, A(Bur)-Mun, F(HEL) S
A(Den)-Kie, F(NTH) C A(Lon)-Bel, A(Den)-Kie, F(Nwy)-Swe, A(Lon)-Bel.

GERMANY (Johnathan Barber, 68 Homesteads Road, Kempshott, BASINGSTOKE, Hampshire, RG22 5LJ.):

F(Ber) S A(Kie), A(Mun)-Ruh, A(Kie)* S A(Mun)-Ruh.

ITALY (Tim Deacon, 11 Murdoch Rise, LOUGHBOROUGH, Leicestershire, LE11 0YL.):

F(Pie)-Tus, A(Gas)-Mar, F(TYS) stands, F(ADR) S A(Rom)-Ven, A(Rom)-Ven.

RUSSIA (Mick Dunnett, 24362888 Sgt Dunnett, TRG Wing, 12 Engr Bde, Waterbeach Barracks, CAMBRIDGE.)

A(Mos) S A(Sev), A(Sev) S A(War)-Ukr, A(Gal) S A(War)-Ukr, A(War)-Ukr.

TURKEY (Chris Q. Hardy, 18 Regent Avenue, Tividale Hall, Warley, West Midlands, B69 1TJ.)

F(Smy) stands.

RETREATS : AUSTRIAN A(Ven)-Apu.

GERMAN A(Kie) disbands, no retreat possible.

GENEVA : *The deadline for Fall 1908 orders, retreats and adjustments is FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE 1994, to Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, DARLINGTON, County Durham, DL1 4EN. Telephone (0325) 364153.*

PRESS :

GERMANY -- ANYONE : Help!

Round 5 (RR ??? IN) International R.R. India "ELBRIDGE GERRY"

RAJPUT [yellow] (per pro Robin ap Cynan, The Store Barn, Church Street, Maderley, TELFORD, TF7 5BU, Gt.Britain.)

5a) (Mangalore) - J8 - Calicut ; (Jaipur) - P50 ; 5b) (P50) - R51 - R52 - S53 - Delhi ; (M12) - L12 ;
5c) (L12) - L13 - Bangalore ; (I45) - J44 - J42. =50

BADIS BADIS [orange] (Conrad von Metzke, 4374 Donald Avenue, San Diego, CA 92117, UNITED STATES.)

5a) (H59) - Japalpur - G58 - F57 ; (L45) - K46 ; 5b) (F57) - D56 [-1 D] ; 5c) (K46) - J46 - I46 - H46
- Ahmadabad - F45. =63-1[D]+2[S]+2[D]=66

DAVE [black] (Dave Erridge, 47 Edridge Road, CROYDEN, CR0 1EG., Great Britain.)

5a) (M57) - Q55 [-1 B] ; 5b) (Q55) - R54 [-1 A] - S55 - U54 [-1 B] ; (N71) - O72 ; (M71) - M72 ;
5c) (M57) - M59 - Kanpur ; (F66) - F68 [-1 S]. =75-2[B]-1[A]-1[S]+9[S]+1[B]=81

AIR [brown] (Martyn Hathaway, 19 Gresham Road, Hall Green, BIRMINGHAM, West Mids.,B28 03A, Great Britain.)

5a) (O16) - K18 [-11 S] ; 5b) (S13) - W11 - W9 ; 5c) (W9) - Pune - W7. =50-11[S]+1[D]=40

SAHIB [red] (Eric Brosius, 41 Hayword Street, Milford, MA 01757, UNITED STATES.)

5a) (N16) - L17 ; (E68) - F68 - Jampshedpur ; 5b) (B58) - B54 [-2 D] ; (E59) - F59 - Japalpur [-7 D]
; 5c) (Jabalpur) - H59 [-2 B] -I59 - I58 - J57 [1 short] . =4-9[D]-2[B]+11[A]+1[D]=5

GENEVA : *Firstly, BADIS should only have built to H59 last time. This turn's builds duly adjusted. Also, note that Robin has been recovering after a nasty bout of flu, so the above orders have been supplied by a neutral third party. If Robin isn't back with us next time, I will appoint a named temporary substitute until he's back.*

Please show "known" payments to others in your builds -- if nothing else, it helps reassure me that yes, you have decided to splash out on a longish parallel, rather than just you having a map error... Rolls for Round Five : 4, 6, 5. The deadline for Round Five orders is FRIDAY, 24th JUNE 1994, to Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, DARLINGTON, County Durham, DL1 4EN, Great Britain. Phone (+44) 325 364153.

PRESS

SAHIB - PETER : In for a penny, in for a pound...

Fall 1904 (93 ??) Regular Diplomacy "JOHN C. CALHOUN"

AUSTRIA (Chris Q. Hardy, 18 Regent Avenue, Tividale Hall, Warley, West Midlands, B69 1TJ.)

F(BulSc)*-Con, A(Bud)-Ser.

ENGLAND (Mike Day, 33 Gilmore Way, Great Baddow, CHELMSFORD, Essex, CM2 7AW.) :

F(Swe)-Nwy, A(Mar) S F(MAO)-SpaSc, F(Lon)* stands, F(MAO)-SpaSc, F(Lpl)-Cly.

FRANCE (Peter A. Talbot, 2 Park Road, ACCRINGTON, Lancashire, BB5 1SU.) :

F(SpaNc)-Por, A(Hol)-Kie, A(Yor) S F(ENG)-Lon, F(NTH)-Den, A(Gas)-Spa, F(ENG)-Lon,
F(Bre)-MAO.

GERMANY (Donald Scarr, Flat 3, 13 West Pilton Drive, EDINBURGH, Lothian, Scotland, EH4 4HR.) :

NMR! F(Den), A(Kie)* stand unordered.

ITALY (Jim Goulsbra, 72 Moor Lane South, Ravenfield, ROTHERHAM, South Yorkshire, S65 4QN.) :

F(EMS)-Smy, A(Sil)-War, A(Ber) S FRENCH A(Hol)-Kie, F(ION)-ADR, A(Tri) S AUSTRIAN
A(Bud)-Ser, A(Vie)-Gal, F(AEG) S F(EMS)-Smy, A(Alb) S AUSTRIAN A(Bud)-Ser.

RUSSIA (Tony Sait, 15 Alphington Green, Frimley, Surey, GU16 5LQ.) :

F(BAL)-Swe, A(StP)-Fin, A(Gal)-War, F(Sev) S TURKISH A(Rum).

TURKEY (Andy Mansell, Flat 64A, Fairoak Road, Fair Oak, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO5 6LH.)

F(BLA)-Con, A(Ser)* S A(Con)-Bul, F(Smy)-Syr, A(Rum) S A(Con)-Bul, A(Con)-Bul.

RETREATS : AUSTRIAN F(BulSc)-Gre [disbands]

ENGLISH F(Lon)-Wal.

GERMAN A(Kie) disbands, no retreat ordered.

TURKISH A(Ser)-Gre [disbands].

WINTER 1904 ADJUSTMENTS :		s.c.s.	
AUSTRIA	Bud, Ser, Gre.	3	+A(Bud), 1 short
ENGLAND	Lon, Lpl, Nwy, <u>Swe</u> , Mar, +Spa	5	no change
FRANCE	Par, Bre, <u>Spa</u> , Por, Bel, Hol, Edi, +Kie	7	no change
GERMANY	Kie, Den.	1	no change
ITALY	Rom, Nap, Ven, Tun, Mun, Ber, Tri, Vie, +Smy	9	+F(Nap)
RUSSIA	StP, Mos, War, Sev, +Swe	5	+A(Mos)
TURKEY	Con, <u>Smy</u> , Ank, Bul, Rum.	4	no change
		34	

GENEVA : *You are notified that the AUSTRIAN orders were written on a valid proxy by ITALY, in accordance with the houserules. Rule IX(2) states "If two or more units are ordered to retreat to the smae space, they are all disbanded. "The deadline for Spring 1905 orders and retreats is FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE, 1994, to Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, DARLINGTON, County Durham, DL1 4EN. Telephone (0325) 364153.*

PRESS :

CLEUDO UPDATE : Dr Black dying of inertia.

CLEUDO CLOT -- RUSSIA : I've tried to report to Mr. Drzersinsky for a fit up, but I couldn;t find the social workers club in Nevsky Prospekt!

RUSSIA -- ALL : Sorry for any lateness/lack of letters. These three week sojourns in Sweden are good for my buisness but they play havoc with my personal life and getting off Dippy letters comes down the list from seeing family at weekends. Back to normal(ish) soon.

ITALY -- TURKEY : Serbia is west -- Sevastapol is north!

Round 11 Postal Monopoly "DANIEL D. TOMPKINS"

Bank Receipts : Peter receives £200 for passing "Go."

Bank payments : Tom pays a fine of £50 to get out of Gaol.

Player payments/receipts : Peter pays £50 to DAS BOOT for Mayfair, and £25 to Mick for Kings Cross Station. Tom pays Mick £14 for Marlborough Street

Purchases : Peter buys Bow Street for £180.

Round 12 movement :

RIGHT BOOT (Peter Dunnett, 328, Old Road, CLACTON-ON-SEA, Essex, CO15 3NU.) :

Has £820+200-50-25-180=£765 & GOOGF card. Moves to Coventry Street and on to Regents Street.

DOG (Mick Dunnett, 24362888 Sgt Dunnett, TRG Wing, 12 Engr Bde, Waterbeach Barracks, CAMBRIDGE, Cambs.)
Has £235+25+14=£274. Rolls to get out of gaol and fails - must pay a fine. Moves on to Community Chest "B" (*12)

SHIP (Tom Smith, 16, Thumwood, Chineham, BASINGSTOKE, Hampshire, RG24 0TE.):
Has £1647-50-14=£1583. Doubles to Free parking and Leicester Square. Then moves on to Liverpool Street Station.

DAS BOOT (In Receivership.):
Has £462+50=£516. Must pay a fine to get out of gaol. Moves on to Marlborough Street, then doubles on to Chance "B" (*10) and Piccadilly.

CHANCE : (*10)"Drunk in Charge" Fine £20.

COMMUNITY CHEST : (*12) From Sale of Stock you get £50.

GENEVA : *To clarify : Das Boot will continue to be run on "autopilot", collecting and paying rent until it goes bankrupt, mortgaging as necessary under the Involuntary Mortgaging Rule. The proposed concession win to RIGHT BOOT was vetoed. The deadline for Round 12 orders is FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE, 1994, to Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, DARLINGTON, County Durham, DL1 4EN. Telephone (0325) 364153.*

PRESS :

NO DATELINE : Round 10 was exciting, wasn't it?

PETER - MICHAEL : I've just bought Bow Street, your last chance to win. I expect you voted for me to win. You know I will anyway.

DOG : As long as I breath, the Dog will never give in to any boot, especially a right one!

Round 8 (RR ??? FR) Railway Rivals France Map "MARTIN VAN BUREN"

8) (66-45) Nice - Lyon : PdS 20

9) (44-52) Lyon - Limoges : IDLE 20-2 ; PdS 10-6 ; JIR +6+2

10) (53-11) Toulouse - Paris : JIR 20 ; IDLE 10-8 ; PdS 0+8

11) (33-22) Lille - Cherbourg : PRESTO 20

12) (16-36) Le Harvre - Nancy : JIR 20-7 ; IDLE 10+7

13) (24-@5) Nantes - Italy : JIR/PdS 20

14) (@1-62) England - Montpellier : PRESTO 20-4 ; JIR 10-8 ; PdS +8+4

PdS [red] (Iain Bowen, 5 Wigginton Terrace, YORK, North Yorkshire, YO3 7JD.)

(I59) - Amiens [-2 Pr] - N60 ; (L59) - M59 - M58 - Calais & buys Ferry. -8-6-2

JIR [purple] (Ulf Jiretorn, Vastergaten 12-B, 332 32 GISLAVED, Sweden.)

(G68) - H68 - I68 ; (H15) - H16 [-1 Pd] - H20 - G21 - Montpellier. -14-1

IDLE [blue] (Peter Ritchie, 241Days Lane, Blackfen, Sidcup, Kent.)

(S14) - Bordeaux - H8 - G9 [-1 J]. -14-1

PRESTO [orange] (Andy Cripps, 62 Jepson House, Pearscroft Road, Fulham, LONDON, SW6 2BG.)

(La Rochelle) - N11 - Bordeaux - J9 - H10 [-1 J]. -13-1

Races for Round Nine :

15) (56-26) Lourdes -- La Rochelle	16) (23-46) Rennes -- St Etienne
17) (12-@4) Paris -- Switzerland	18) (34-64) Reims -- Marseille
19) (42-13) Mulhouse -- Paris	20) (63-55) Marseille -- Bayonne
21) (@3-31) Germany -- Amiens	

SCORES	b/fwd	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	builds	c/fwd	
PdS	63	20	4	8			10	12	-16	1	102
JIR	154		8	20		13	10	2	-15	2	194
IDLE	30		18	2		17			-15		52
PRESTO	119				20			16	-14	2	143
	366	20	30	30	20	30	20	30	-60	5	491

GENEVA : *IDLE's entry for race 14 invalid, as the Boulogne - Folkstone ferry has not been bought. I can confirm that IDLE has track (I60) - I62 - Reims, and PdS has track (Z28) - Y28 - X27. You may enter four of the above races, then build up to 12 physical points of track. The deadline for Round Eight orders is FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE, 1993, to Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, DARLINGTON, County Durham, DL1 4EN. Telephone (0325) 364153.*

pre-Solmath I 3019 (93?? ts??) Downfall XIII "RICHARD M. JOHNSON"

DWARVES/good (Mike Gonslaves, USA [Y]) : ELVES/good (Donald Scarr, UK [N]) : GANDALF/good (Iain Bowen, UK [Y]) : GONDOR/good (Chris Q. Hardy, UK [Y]) : MORDOR/EVIL (Michael Quist, USA [Y]) : ROHAN/good (Mark Weseman = RESIGNS) : SARUMAN/good (Lance Anderson, USA [Y]) : UMBAR/neutral (Keir Hodgson, UK [Y])

GENEVA : *Mark Weseman resigns, saying he has becoem over-committed in the hobby. Donald phoned one day after the deadline to apologise for NMR!ing, but didn't leave any orders...*

The new ROHAN player will be : Pete Gaughan, 1521 South Novato Blvd. #46, Novato, CA 94947, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, who can be e-mailed at irishpete@aol.com. The revised deadline for Solmath/Nënimë/Ninui I 3019 orders & retreats is FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE, 1994, to Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, DARLINGTON, County Durham, DL1 4EN, Great Britain. Telephone (+44 325) 364153.

Gamestart (RR ???? LW) Railway Rivals London & West "JOHN TYLER"

PLAYERS : Paul Barker, Peter Ritchie, Andy Cripps, Phil Callow, Martyn Hathaway.

GENEVA : *Players should find a map enclosed. Please can I have company names, preferences for colours and preferences for start towns (choose from Gloucester, Bristol, Bridgewater, Chard, Poole or Portsmouth) by FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE, 1994, to Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, DARLINGTON, County Durham, DL1 4EN. Telephone (0325) 364153.*

SPECIAL HOBBYMEET ANNOUNCEMENT

The **NORTH YORKSHIRE HOBBYMEET** continues to meet at the Tap and Spile, Monk Bar, York, on the second Sunday of each month, starting at 12 noon. (Thus, the next one is Sunday, 12th June). Details and/or directions available from myself or Iain Bowen (0904 640095).

However, there will also be a special **JOINT NORTH YORKS/LONDON HOBBYMEET** to be held later this month, starting at 8 p.m. on Thursday, 28th May. The venue will be neither of the normal York or London ones, but will instead be the Original Carolina Sports Bar, Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Most of the British contingent at Dixiecon will be there, and we'd be delighted to see as many Americans there as possible.

Is this the hobby's first Transatlantic Hobbymeet?

While My Guitar Gently Sweeps...

...being the section of the zeen wherein I leaf through some of the zeens that have come through the door these past few weeks, and try and make some vaguely intelligent comments upon the same...

THE ABYSSINIAN PRINCE #144¹ is the latest issue of the only zeen to be distributed both postally and by electronic mail. There's therefore quite a bit of crossover discussion. This time, why the term "Gunboat" doesn't mean the same in the e-mail hobby as it does in postal play. Because of the way e-mail works, it's quite easy to set up a game where players can communicate privately with each other without knowing who they are, via the adjudicating computer. Thus, e-mail players talk about "No-press Gunboat," "Broadcast-press Gunboat" (what postal players would call "Press Gunboat," or just "Gunboat") and "Private-press Gunboat" (effectively a normal game, except you don't know the names of the other players, even though you can communicate with them). Lots of scope for confusion there!

BACKSTABBERS' UNITED MONTHLY #59² is a sample issue that came my way of this massive En Garde! zeen. As well as the En Garde! game, which takes up the first 20 pages of the zeen, there are also games of Railway Rivals, Gunboat Stab, Regular Diplomacy, Bourse, Columbus, Gunboat, Das Boot, Dangerous Liaisons, Lift Off, Speed Circuit, Top Gun, Kingmaker, Gridiron Morons, Machiavelli, Grand National and a Trivia Quiz being played, many of them run by outside g.m.s. Editorial content mainly comes from Frank Blades' contribution, which this time is a commentary on the Zeen Poll results. A deeply impressive production -- sort of the En Garde hobby's answer to Smodnoc.

COSTAGUANA #239 is a lettercol-dominated issue, although Conrad mutters on a bit about old Klingons, and I contribute a piece about the contribution of Mr. Ringo Starr to western musical culture (said piece is a page and a half, which sounds about right). Conrad seems to have decided to go ahead with his plan to carry all the games on flyers outside the main zeen, which given the expense of his copy-shop is probably a wise move. However, we still wish he'd use a page to give summaries of the current positions and waiting and standby lists, in a similar way that Fred C. Davis does in Diplomag for the Mensa games, and Richard Sharp used to do for the Dolchstoß supplement games.

DOLCHSTOß #185³ sees Richard Sharp's account of his latest trip to France, and also the traditional Easter meet at Amersham, where a whole gaggle of Richard's friends turn up to play bridge, snooker, and eat and drink. Meanwhile, Game D55 continues on into Spring 1944, although this time the game-end proposal was defeated by abstentions only, and so is re-proposed. What, they can't be fed up with it already?

MAKING LOVE IN A CANOE #11⁴ is a new trade (hi, Brent!), and yet another zeen with a Monty Python-influenced title. This issue contains a tribute to actor/comedian John Candy who died recently, a lettercol chokka with politics and other topics, and an article on the Winter Olympics. The games load is currently fairly light, as you'd expect from a newish zeen, although Brent does already have a game-end statement for one game, which was orphaned from another Canadian zeen, Countermeasures.

PERELANDRA #118⁵ features a front page tribute to editor Pete Gaughan's wife's 30th Birthday. We obviously have a brave man here. There's an article from Canadian sub-zeen editor Bruce McIntyre on the possible expansion of the American basketball NBA into Canada, and the lettercol features lots of baseball talk. Meanwhile, Pete gives us a full account (with photos!) of his bird-watching trip to the Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuge.

SPRING OFFENSIVE #22⁶ features lots of hobby chat on various topics, including how Stephen Agar and Iain Bowen stitched up the new editor of A Little Original Sin, James Hardy, in the Diplomacy tournament at Mastercon There's also the latest news on Stephen's zeen archive, together with some reprints from the same. Stephen talks about playing Diplomacy on CompuServe, and there are also rules for yet another Middle-Earth Diplomacy variant, Graham Staplehurst's War of the Ring. This one is so complicated that even the Personality Unit Table takes up a whole page! Meanwhile, Chris Q. Hardy whines about prejudice against cack-handers and suggests a few new "politically-correct" alternatives (e.g. sad socialists, not loony left ; rude, not gauche).

And there are probably a couple of other zeens I've received over the past few weeks I've forgotten to mention above. It's been that kind of month...

¹ The Abyssinian Prince, 3-weekly, A4-ish photocopy, 30 pages, US\$1.50
Jim Burgess, 100 Holden Street, Providence, Rhode Island, RI 02908-5731, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

² Backstabbers' United Monthly, 5-weekly, A5 photocopy, 72 pages, £1.00 + postage.
Malcolm Cornelius, 3 Gretton Close, Longsight, MANCHESTER, Greater Manchester, M13 0YR.

³ Dolchstoß, 4-5 weekly, A5 photocopy, 28 pages, 75p.
Richard Sharp, Norton House, Whielden Street, AMERSHAM, Bucks., HP7 0HU.

⁴ Making Love In A Canoe, 5(?) weekly, A5-ish photocopy, 20 pages, US\$1.50
Brent McKee, 901 Avenue T North, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7L 3B9, CANADA.

⁵ Perelandra, monthly, A4-ish photocopy, 16 pages, US\$2.00
Pete Gaughan, 1521 South Novato Blvd. #46, Novato, CA 94947-3629, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

⁶ Spring Offensive, 4-weekly, A4 photocopy, 32 pages, 95p.
Stephen Agar, 79 Florence Road, BRIGHTON, East Sussex, BN1 6DL.

IT'S GETTING VERY NEAR THE END

HELLO, good evening and welcome to issue 140 of C'est Magnifique, a postal games zeen which runs Diplomacy, Railway Rivals, and other stuff. It is edited by Peter Sullivan, of 55 Brunton Street, DARLINGTON, County Durham, DL1 4EN. Telephone (0325) 364153 (but see page 1). Internet : peter@manorcon.demon.co.uk. PGP Public Key available.

DEADLINE for issue 141 is FRIDAY, 3rd JUNE, 1994. See front page for telephone orders.

YOU NEVER GIVE ME YOUR MONEY : CMag costs 50p an issue within the UK, or "buy in bulk" at £5 for 11. Overseas copies are 75p an issue. Cheques should be made payable to "Peter Sullivan," and may be crossed "A/C Payee Only" if you so desire. Alternatively, send a book of stamps. Cash or postal orders are not recommended. Americans should use the International Subscription Exchange ; the United States I.S.E. representative is Jim Burgess, 100 Holden Street, Providence, Rhode Island, RI 02908-5731, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA..

Running low : Chris Davis, Mike Day, John Dodds, Jim Goulsbra, Tony Sait, Pete Smith, Chris Tringham, Mike Gonslaves, David Hood, Jack McHugh.

Thanks for the resubs : Donald Macleod, Donald Scarr, Ken Simpson.

WAITING LISTS

Regular Diplomacy : Keir Hodgson, Peter Dunnet, Paul Leyland, Martyn Hathaway, Donald Macleod. (2 wanted) [no gamefee].

Railway Rivals (Map LW - London & Western) : Paul Barker, Peter Ritchie, Andy Cripps, Phil Callow, Martyn Hathaway. (FULL! - gamestart inside) [Mapfee 2 issues]

Railway Rivals (Map YO Yorkshire - Bus Boss Scoring) : Damien Cosgrove, Donald Macleod. (more wanted) [Mapfee 1 issue]

Government : Iain Bowen, Ulf Jiretorn, Mike Day, Keir Hodgson, Denis Jones. (just 1 wanted) [no gamefee]

International Woolworth II-D (rules inside) : Douglas Kent (4 wanted) [no gamefee]

International Railway Rivals : Michael Quist (4 wanted) [Mapfee 1-2 issues]

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