

Chronicle

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Let us not beat about the bush....

GARGRAVARR Spring 1909

90DG

FRANCE (Rob Williams): NMR! Has A Bre.

GERMANY (Stephen Knowles): F NTH-Den, F Hel S F Hol-Kie, A Bel S
A Ruh, A Ruh S F Hol-Kie, F Hol-Kie.

ITALY (David Farrar): A Boh S A Tyr-Mun, A Par S A Gas-Bre,
A Mun-Bur, A Tyr-Mun, F GOL Stand, F MAD-
ENG, F NAO-Cly, F Por-MAD, A Gas-Bre, A Mar
S A Mun-Bur, F WMS Stand, A Cly-Lpl, F Tun
Stand, A Ven-Pie.

RUSSIA (Jonathan Moseley): F Kie Stand, A Lvn Stand, A Fin-Nor,
F Den S F Nor-NTH, A War Stand, A Sil
Stand, A Sev-Rum, A Ber S F Kie, A Swe
S F Den, A Pru Stand, A Mos-StP,
F Nor-NTH, F StP(ac)-GOB.

Retreats: German F NTH-Lon.
Russian F Kie-BAL.
France A Bre disbands (nro).

Press

Russian Gvnt-Andrew: You failed to answer my comments about GEP,
instead picking up on the obvious anachronism; this implies you
had no better argument against them....

Russian Gvnt: In an attempt to liven up this war, would all
remaining players and the GM please note the bold and exciting
move A Sev-Rum.

Anon: Ghost ship sighted? Italian shipping conducting
operations in the North Atlantic Ocean/Irish Sea regions recently
reported sighting a German ship - when they approached closer the
ship mysteriously disappeared!

A Psychologist notes: never were the tortuous workings of the
GM's mind more clearly revealed than by his transmission of the
convoy orders for Italy's A Pie-Cly last move. What havoc he
would cause if he were on the battlefield himself one dreads to
think!

POSTBAG

Stephen: Had it just been the apathetic minority who caused the GEP to be rejected then David's and Jonathan's observations may have been worth considering. As it turns out this wasn't the case! Like all good politicians and/or members of the media, Jonathan's quick delve into history to select an example to suit his argument ignored what must be the most recent war to spring to mind, namely the Gulf War. Saddam Hussein may have eventually, and rather reluctantly, conceded defeat, but only after massive devastation to his country and people - it's not as if the opposing forces were reasonably well balanced in Iraq's favour!

(AMK: There being over 2000 years of recorded history, it is not difficult to select an example to support any particular point of view. However, both sides of the argument have referred to the suffering inflicted on the civilian population by prolonging the conflict and by doing so have missed the point. Germany is now almost entirely under occupation so the war is being fought mainly on 'neutral' territory (so who cares about the locals?), Having reached this point the remaining 'free Germans' will have a greater incentive to fight on to regain their 'Fatherland'. To pluck yet another twentieth-century example, which is perhaps the most pertinent yet, the Germans fought on in 1945 despite having clearly lost the war. Only when their fanatical leader was dead did they give in. Stephen, watch out!)

The Tortured Mind

It is all down to Technology. You see, if these were the Good Old Days and I prepared the adjudication using a typewriter or even By Hand, it would be simpler. Starting from afresh each month I could list the orders exactly as they were supplied, having checked in detail that all units were accounted for, and that all were where the players claimed them to be.

However, I have a Computer. And a word processor. And they do much of the work for me. By working from the previous adjudication I simply update the position of each unit, which means I can spot if a unit has been overlooked or the player has forgotten where he left it (see Russian orders a couple of seasons ago for a good example of this).

The result? The now infamous 'tortured mind' adjudication; offensive to the eye, unfriendly to the player, but easy for the GM. And as the GM prepares the thing the rest of you will have to put up with it.

Seriously, the point is taken. Next time, perhaps...

CREDIT: (Thanks for the stamps, folks): DF 1, JM 4, DP 2, SK 1, TC 4. This is the situation after this issue of *Chronicle*.

WAITING LIST: Timothy Collinson, Jonathan Moseley, Graeme Hannan, Stephen Knowles, Denham Pearce, David Farrar. It could be a long wait....

Due to exams, weddings and life the next issue could be late. See you in 1992.

The deadline for Autumn 1989 is: **Friday 20th December**

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