

# MAD POLICY

ISSUE  
NUMBER  
37.

'Ello and that... Once again the day has come when MAD POLICY chooses to soil your doormat. Assembled with loving care by Richard J. Walkerdine of 'Cheriton', 15 Crouch Oak Lane, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 2AN, UK, it costs a mere 3½p (5p from next January) plus postage per issue. No game openings until next spring. Back issues are now 3½p each.

Today is Monday, November 4th, 1974.

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Don't forget the poker game here on Nov. 9th - any time from about 7pm onwards and bring your own drink (and money!).

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### KONTENCE

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### The Deadlines

For all Mad Policy games: WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH, 1974.

For the three Annexe games: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH, 1974.

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### Some CoA's:

- GRAHAM BUCKELL to St Catherine's College, Cambridge, CB2 1RL.
- ANDY DAVIDSON to c/o G. Jeffery, 8 Rusholme Road, London, SW15 3JZ (to Nov 9th).
- WILL HAVEN to 4 Victoria Street, Chorley, Lancs.
- JOHN LETTICE to 46 Fife Park, St Andrews, Fife, Scotland.

\*\*\*\*\*

### MP37 & Annexel9

Richard J. Walkerdine  
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England (U.K.)

REMEMBER  
to use the  
POST CODE



Richard Sharp  
27 Elm Close  
Amersham  
Bucks.

RETURN REQUESTED  
IF UNDELIVERED  
(Return Postage Gt'd)

Calhamer Awards Results (Again!)

I know I printed the list last issue, but since then I've received Diplomacy Review and seen the full results for all the nominees - they make rather interesting reading:

<u>Category</u>	<u>British Nominees &amp; Votes</u>		<u>Non-British Nominees &amp; Votes</u>	
Best Publication	Dolchstoss	50	Dip. World	34
	Ethil	14	Costaguana	18
	MP	12		
Best Gamesmaster	Bullock	36	von Metzke	23
	Walkerdine	30	Boyer	20
Variant Zine			Boardman	18
	Orion	52	Blood & Iron	28
	Hannibal	6	Bushwacker	17
Press Release			Rename	8
	Cricket Team	72	Blemings	18
Press Series			Kiev	17
	James Bond	56	Dream Maker	20
	Cricket Tour	13	Rosmilenkov	15
Regular Game			Michigan Dip.	14
	-		1973BI	58
			1971DP	12
			1971R	9
Variant Game			1971DN	9
	1973/5V	36	1972Abu	22
Player	BDC-33V	11	1972Dex	20
	Davidson	43	Rocamora	27
			Kelly	23
Meritorious Service			Birsan	13
	Walkerdine	51	Buchanan	12
			von Metzke	42
			Boyer	24
Variant Design			Buchanan	16
	Intimate Dip.	47	Birsan	1
New Zine	Third Age II	16	Middle Earth V	21
			Westphalia	15
			North-Am. Dip.	8
			Dip. World	49
		Fighters Home	33	
		El Conquistador	19	
		Domination	13	
		Alt. Reality	9	

Bearing in mind all the moans and groans about 'ballot rigging' and 'block voting' that have been flying about, it's worthwhile studying these results a little more closely.

Consider this: if a potential voter - be he British, American or Chinese - is faced with a choice of a fellow national who he has heard of and knows about and a foreigner who he doesn't know from Adam, who do you think he's going to vote for? The bloke he knows of course!

Now consider the fact that the total votes cast in these Awards were made up of, roughly, 75 British votes (out of a Diplomacy population of 400) and 50 American votes (out of a Diplomacy population of 2000!). Consider also the fact that in only one of the 11 categories were there more British nominees than non-British - and hence more chance of a split vote between them - and it soon becomes obvious who's going to win! And of course we did....

Take it a stage further if you like, and work out what would have been the

worst possible result for the British entries. In each category, add up the total votes cast for the British entries, divide by the number of British entries and compare this 'lowest possible British vote for any one entry' with the actual votes cast for the highest placed non-British entry. You'll find that in only one case, the Outstanding Publication, was it possible for the British entries to lose!

So the reason the British won was that 75 of us took the time, trouble and considerable expense to send off an airmail letter containing our votes whereas only 50 Americans bothered to support the scheme in spite of the fact that it was being held on their own doorstep! Don't you think we should all be congratulating ourselves rather than making apologies and excuses for the results? I think we've done damn well and if various Americans (Birsan, Pulsipher etc.) and British Americophiles (Patterson, Piggott etc.) don't like the results I suggest that they try to ensure that, next year, the Americans give the Awards the same amount of support that we British have done - don't criticize British conduct when the basic fault is American apathy!

And there's also a couple of unanswered questions:

Why did Edi Birsan try to suppress the fact that 75 Britons voted but only 50 Americans - ashamed perhaps?

Why did not a single one of the British winners receive any direct communication from the organisers of the Awards telling them they had won - sulking perhaps?

The proposal to split next year's awards into an American and a non-American section has been resoundingly defeated by the IDA Council. Instead they will be run by a multi-national committee whose job it will be to ensure that the various entries in the press categories etc. are printed in full so people know what they're voting for - I would hope they'll give a short picture of the entrants in some of the other categories as well. Obviously this will help people to make a fair judgement of the rival nominees, though I can't see that it's going to do much good in the 'Best Game', 'Best Variant', 'Best Zine' etc. categories - we'll still see people voting for what they're familiar with, which means along nationalistic lines. I would have thought that separate national sections would give a far more meaningful result....

.....SALLY::CAN'T::DANCE::NO::MORE::.....

'K' Game Final Report

1973HV (MP'K'). Zine: Mad Policy. GM: Richard Walkerdine. Players: A- John Lettice (out S03). E- Ron Kelly (out A05). F- Charles Burton (drew A07). G- Robin Churchill (drew A07). I- Norman Nathan (drew A07). R- John Piggott (drew A07). T- Clive Spark (dro A04), John Coombe (out A07). Started: 15/10/73. Finished: 9/9/74.

	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	
A	3	4	2	-					
E	3	3	4	3	1	-			
F	3	4	5	5	6	7	8	9	
G	3	5	6	7	9	9	9	9	F/G/I/R draw by
I	3	4	5	8	9	8	8	8	player vote.
R	4	5	7	7	8	9	8	8	
T	3	4	5	4	1	1	1	-	

French Comments

It would be an understatement to say that this turned out to be a rather disappointing game both in conduct of the campaign and its final outcome.

From the outset Germany and I were intent on pursuing a joint strategy which was only to be abandoned once effective resistance from all other countries had been broken - if then, since it was quite likely we'd both have settled for a two-way draw. As part of this strategy it was arranged to persuade England to attack me, thereby allowing Germany to expand at an early stage. There was little risk of England's attack coming to anything since all communications from Ron Kelly were passed from one to the other.

By the time it was obvious Germany was double-crossing England it was too late for him - his switch in seeking my help only led to his final elimination. Great! Everything going to plan. But the last thing smart-arse me and

bright-spark Germany had catered for was an equally strong alliance developing in the east. The efficient mopping-up of Austria and gradual chipping away at Turkey, apart from increasing their respective strengths, served to show the need for mutual assistance between Russia and Italy.

No amount of persuasion could shake them in the determination to stick to their alliance which made the draw inevitable. And then there was that infernal Coombe bloke. I'm sick of hearing of darkest bleeding Cornwall....

Germany - The Battle of the Alliance

No folks, it's not another trailer for a 'Sink the Bismark' film, but a few platitudes about a game of postal Diplomacy.

I won't bore you with trite statements about this being my first game of postal Diplomacy etc. The major, and some would say only, factor in this game was the strong alliances between France/Germany and Italy/Russia, which eventually ensured a stalemate.

Enough of strategy, now for a grouse. One of the most noticeable features of Dippy is the number of people who appear to bear grudges. Half the fun of the game surely is to deceive people, and if one can't play for fun one may as well not bother.

Russian Comments

I haven't really got a lot to say. Of course I'm pleased to be part of a win; Norman Nathan proved a better ally than Robin Churchill and the game confirmed my suspicions about Ronald Kelly....

GM's Report

It's long been a firm belief of mine that almost any two countries in Diplomacy, if they have a really long-term and trusting alliance, can be almost certain to finish up on top. About the only way they can fail to achieve this of course is when they find themselves up against another, equally strong and determined, alliance, as happened here. Given that neither alliance was keen to break up, the four-way draw became the only possible result!

The game itself contained no great surprises, Russia, Italy and, at first, Turkey, combining to eradicate Austria 'at a stroke', and France and Germany doing the same, though a little more slowly, to England. Clive Spark dropping out changed things very little I think, though the standby, John Coombe, managed to hang on to his last unit far longer than most people would have done. Good piece of defence, that. Little or no trouble with missed orders (with the exception of Spark of course), which makes a nice change these days, and moves which were always straightforward and easy to adjudicate. Boring? No, though I wouldn't exactly call it exciting....

:::PROPHETS::SEERS::AND::SAGES:::::::::::THE::ANGELS::OF::THE::AGES:::::::::::

News Summary

The 1974 edition of the IDA's Postal Diplomacy Handbook is now on sale in this country. For 80p (members) or £1.20 (non-members) you can buy what is probably the most informative, interesting, widest-ranging, information-packed publication available anywhere in the hobby today. This 80-page book contains articles and information on all aspects of the hobby including history, tactics, publishing, press, statistics, humour, variants (rules and map for Witch World II are included) etc by such names as Walker, Calhamer, Walkerdine(!), Boyer, Lakofka, Pulsipher, Birsan, Buchanan, Beyerlein and others. I thoroughly recommend this publication to you - it's worth every penny.

Please send all orders and money to Pete Swanson, 6 Welford Place, Wimbledon, SW19 5AJ.

It's probably a bit too soon to mention this, but there's no harm in being early I suppose... Norman Nathan (3 Brooke Close, Bushey, Watford, Herts) is holding a FtF meeting on Saturday, January 18th 1975 between the hours of 3pm and midnight. If you're thinking of going please let Norman know in good time - but be warned that you'll probably find me there!

Conrad von Metzke has now resigned as custodian of the Boardman Numbers and handed them on to Doug Beyerlein (330 Curtner St., Apt. 8, Palo Alto, CA 94306). This doesn't change my position with regard to them for this country.

of course and I don't expect it to cause any upsets over here. Conrad has also recently suffered a couple of attacks of pneumonia which have kept him in hospital for a while - let's hope he's now made a full recovery.

Walter Luc Haas (Achilles Bischoff-Strasse 6, CH-4053 Basel, Switzerland) seems to be doing a good bit more than just producing Europa. Currently he's trying to get a discussion going concerning the merits of 'Europeanising' the various institutions and services such as NGC, IDA/UK, TFT, QR, GO, Variant Bank etc and seems to have picked on me to get the ball rolling on this side of the Channel! Copies of a recent letter of his are going out with this issue to several prominent Britons and I ask them to please contact Walter themselves if they have anything to contribute. If anyone else is interested in this subject - either for or against - then either drop Walter a line or ask me to send you a copy of his letter.

For a subscription to Europa (which is good value for money, though more for the wargamer than the Dippy player) I suggest you send him a £1-note and let him work out the finances.

Misteiner is the latest NGC zine and comes from Doug Wakefield (115 Acre Lane, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Cheshire, SK8 7PB). The first issue should appear in mid November and will cost 5p plus postage (SAEs) - minimum sub is 10 issues. Doug will be running several Regular games plus a couple of variants, one of which will be 'Mercator'.

The next NGC zine looks like coming from Pete Birks if he manages to get a duplicator fairly soon. John Lettice was also going to run some NGC games, but I've not heard any more from that quarter recently.

Factsheet is exactly what it says, a fact sheet. It comes from Tim Roberts (85 Elers Road, Ealing, London, W13 9QN), is approximately bi-monthly, and costs 2p plus postage. The first issue ran to two pages and gave details of the quickest wins so far for each country in British games, supply centres gained in 1901, the number of victories for each country and a list of zines available in Scotland and the North of England. All very interesting and a useful addition to the growing number of British genzines.

.....SAD-EYED::LADY::OF::THE:LOWLANDS:.....

Youngstown ('C') - Autumn 1915

GERMAN FLEETS PUT TO SEA!

Austrian fleets put to flight.

AUSTRIA (Waldie): A Sev S A Arm, A Arm S F Sny, A Ank S A Arm, F Sny S F EMS,  
F EMS S F Ion, F Ion MS F TyS, F Nap S F Ion, F Gre S F Ion,  
A Pie S (GERMAN) A Mar, A Tus S A Pie, A Ven S A Pie, F Adr S F Ion,  
A Com S F Sny, A Tri farts ((its name isn't Duncan Morris by any  
chance, is it?)).

CHINA (Buckingham): F Alg A Can A Ira A Sah A Sah(OBB) A Mor A Mor(OBB) A Eaf(OBB)  
& A Ons all stand, A Sib S A Ons, A Syr - Sny, A Tur S A Ira, A Bag - Syr,  
A Nej - Bag, A Yen - Nej, A Fez - Sud, A Lib - Fez, F Tun S (JAPANESE)  
F WMS - TyS.

ENGLAND (Meadon): F Edi & F Lon both S F Nth, A Wal Stands, F Bar - Nwy.

GERMANY (Davies): A Mos S A StP, F Swe - Nwy S by A StP & A Fin, F Nwy - Nth  
S by F Ska F Den F Hel F Hol & F Bel, A Ruh - Bur, A Pic S F Bel,  
A Bre Stands, A Gas - Spa, A Mar Stands.

JAPAN (Happe): F SoJ - NPO, F ECS Stands, F SPO Stands, F EIO - WIO, F GOA - Red,  
F WIO - SAO(OBB), F Pen - Lib, F Sue - EMS S by F Jor(WC) & F Egy(NG),  
F WMS - TyS S by F GoL, F Spa(SC) - WMS, F MAO - Spa(NG) S by F Por,  
F SAO - MAO, F SAO(OBB) - SAO, F Eng & F Nrg both S (ENGLISH) F Nth.

Retreats: Austrian F EMS - Aeg, Austrian F TyS - Rom.  
English F Nth - Yor.

Supply centres over de page....

Winter 1915 Adjustments

- A:15 Centres: Bud, Clu, Tri, Vie, Ser, Gre, Rum, Ven, Bul, Con, Sev, Ank, Sny, Rom, Nap. No change.  
 C:18 Centres: Can, Han, Pek, OMo, Snk, Man, Vtm, Oms, Tha, Cam, Cal, Del, Mor, Bag, Ira, Eth, Tun, Yem. No change.  
 E: 5 Centres: Edi, Joh, Lpl, Lon, Ire. No change.  
 G:15 Centres: Ber, Kie, Mun, Pos, Bel, Hol, Den, Swe, Par, War, Bre, Mos, StP, Nwy, Mar. No change.  
 J:19 Centres: Kyo, Osa, Tok, Kar, Phi, For, Kor, Vla, Bor, Sai, Jav, Cey, Mad, Mog, Bma, Egy, Pen, Spa, Por. No change.

:::::SATURDAY::NIGHT'S::ALL::RIGHT::FOR::FIGHTING:::::~::~:

1973DB ('G') -- Spring 1911

ITALY/RUSSIA ZAP ENGLAND!  
 And England zaps himself...

A word of congratulations first. Due to the inadequacies of either the British or Canadian post office Terry Knowles didn't get the last MP. But by making some very expensive phone-calls he managed to find out the position in his games and still get his moves in on time. Now that's what I call real dedication - thanks, Terry.

ENGLAND (Lettice): NMR!! A Fin, A StP, F Bel, F Den, A Hol, F Nth, F Lpl, F Nrg all stand unordered.

ITALY (Knowles): F NAO - Lpl S by F Iri, F MAO - NAO, F Eng - Lon, F Gre - Bul(SC), F WMS - MAO, A Mun S (RUSSIAN) F Kie, A Ber S (RUSSIAN) F Kie, A Bel - Hol, A Bur - Bel S by A Pic, F Bre stands unordered, A Bud wishes to remind the gentle reader also of the undeniable talent of Joni Mitchell, A Tyr concurs but cannot fail to point out that Santana is great!, ((no doubt sultana is great - but whoever you name, Dylan is greater!)) F Por curses the Canadian Post Office, A Gas concludes by observing that von Metzke himself is Skaro ((but Terry, we agreed - we'd both be Skaro, remember?)).

RUSSIA (Meadon): F Kie S (ITALIAN) A Bel - Hol, A Lvn - StP S by A Mos, A Pru A Sil A War A Ukr A Sev F Bul(EC) all stand.

Retreats: English F Lpl, A Hol, A StP all annihilated.

And that, I suggest, is that. It's a shame that John Lettice had to miss the deadline this time, but the final outcome was never in any doubt anyway. I see absolutely no point in playing out the autumn season so, unless any of you have really strong objections, I'm going to assume that all players order all units to stand next season which will make the final position as it is now: Italy first with 20, Russia second with 10 and England third with 4.

So would anyone who wants to, please send in any final comments they may have on the game by next deadline for inclusion in the final report I'll be publishing in one or two issues time. Ta.

Splendidhamstaffshire-on-Trentoncalf: "Alright, Swanson," snarls Professor Crinklecrud, Mad Scientist, Enemy of All Mankind, Outcast from Every Country and Ex-Member of the IDA, to the diminutive dimwit cowering before him, "we've dallied about in this damned cell long enough. I think it's about time you got us out."

"No, I won't," sulks the tiny twit. "I didn't get my survival in 'DB."

"Well then..." the Mad Menace strokes his dirty beard thoughtfully. "This obviously calls for a bit of persuasion. Grud," he orders, "reach into the 3rd pocket from the left in my utility belt and pull out what's in there."

Trembling, Grud does as bidden. "Hey!" screams John Lettice as he is dragged out, protesting and shouting, "that's me!"

"Third pocket from the left, Grud," sighs Crinklecrud. "Left."

"Oh". Again, Grud reaches into the Perverted Professor's belt and pulls out a silver mechanism looking something like an automatic spatula. He gives it to Crinklecrud.

"Would you care to guess, Swanson, what this fiendish device is?" he asks with an evil gleam in his eye.

"An automatic spatula?" hazards Swanson.

"Everyone says that," sighs the Master of Mayhem. "Grud, tell him what it is."

"I don't know, Master," cringes Grud. "I thought it was an automatic spatula too."

"So did I," cringes Lettice.

"On the contrary," exclaims Crinklecrud, "this is a combination automatic battery operated rechargeable super Bat-testicle atomiser and can opener!"

"Oh no!" gasps Swanson. "Not the combination automatic battery operated rechargeable super Bat-testicle atomiser and can opener?"

"Combination automatic battery operated rechargeable super Bat-testicle atomiser and can what?" cringes Grud.

"Looks like an automatic spatula to me," shrugs Lettice. "And by the way, is that mouse still around?"

.....WIPEOUT!.....

Multiplicity ('I') -- Autumn 1906

FRENCH STOCK NOSEDIVES!

Now he's really in the soup!

ENGLAND (Doubleday): A StP - Lvn, 2A Den - Kie S by F Ber, F Swe - GoB,  
F Nwy - Nth, F Nth - Eng, 2F Kie - Hol, F Tun. Stands unordered.

FRANCE ('Farter' Morris): 3A Tyr SPLIT = 2A Tyr + A Tri, 2A Tyr S A Tyr - Tri ((one support cut)), F Spa(SC) - Mar, F Naf - MAO, A Bur - Bel.

ITALY (Meadon): A Gre - Ser, A Bud - Tri S by A Ven, F TyS - Ion,  
2A Mar SPLIT = A Bur + A Mar, 2A Mun SPLIT = A Mun + A Tyr,  
F GoL + F WMS MERGE = 2F Spa(SC), A Mar S F WMS - Spa(SC).

RUSSIA (Buckingham): A Ukr - Mos, 2A Arm - Smy.

TURKEY (Davidson): 2F Con SPLIT = F Ank + F Smy, 2F Bla SPLIT = F Bla + F Rum,  
A Sev S F Bla - Rum, F Bla S A Sev.

Retreats: French F Spa(SC) - Por.

Supply Centre Chart

E:11 Centres: Edi, Lpl, Lon, Hol, ~~Bel~~, Den, Nwy, Swe, Ber, StP, +Kie, +Tun.  
Builds 1.

F: 4 Centres: Bre, ~~Mar~~, Par, Por, ~~Spa~~, ~~Mun~~, +Bel. Removes 2.

I:11 Centres: Nap, Rom, Ven, Vie, ~~Tun~~, Ser, Tri, Bud, ~~Kie~~, Gre, +Mar, +Mun,  
+Spa. Builds 1.

R: 3 Centres: Mos, War, ~~Spa~~, +Smy. No change.

T: 5 Centres: Con, Bul, Ank, ~~Smy~~, +Sev. No change.

Provisional adjustments are on file for England. France and Italy alone need send orders next time.

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Scottish Crash Shock Horror - Lettice Quits!

I got a letter from John Lettice this morning (Nov 1st) - too late for his moves in 'G' game I'm afraid but not too late to mention here.

He's quitting as a GM. Many reasons, he says, but the main one seems to be that he's just got fed up with it. He doesn't know if Gordon Neilson will be taking over his games and if he doesn't, and John can't find some other replacement, then he'll probably at least do a last issue - though we shouldn't expect it too soon.

All trades with John are henceforth cancelled but he says he'd be grateful if other publishers would send him the next issue of their zines and he'll send money for a sub.

So there we are. It's good of John to let people know the position - are you reading this, Corker? - rather than leave them to scratch around in the dark: thanks John. I'll drop a line to Gordon Neilson to find out if he's intending to take over or not and what the chances are of finding another replacement GM if he isn't. In the meantime I suggest we wait until either Gordon says something or John's final issue appears, or both, but prepare ourselves for the possibility of having some more orphans to find homes for.

.....

1973IQ ('M') -- Spring 1907

FRANCE STILL SURVIVING!

'Easy' cries Coombe....

AUSTRIA (Davies): F Ion - Tun S by F WMS, F GoL S F WMS, A Tyr - Mun S by A Boh, A Bud Stands, A Ser S A Gre.

ENGLAND (A.Davidson): F Eng & F MAO C (GERMAN) A Bel - Gas, F Nth Stands, F Bre S (GERMAN) A Bel - Gas, A Lvn S (GERMAN) A War, F Naf S (ITALIAN) A Tun.

FRANCE (Coombe): A Por Stands, A Spa - Gas, A Par - Bur S by A Mar.

GERMANY (B.Davidson): A Pic - Par S by A Bur, A Bel - Gas, A Kie - Mun S by A Ber, A War Stands, F StP(SC) Stands.

ITALY (Birks): A Tun Stands.

TURKEY (Black): A Sev - Rum S by F Bla, A Ukr - War S by A Mos, A Bul = Ser, F EMS - Ion, F Aeg - Gre.

Retreats: German A Bur - Ruh.

Darkest Cornwall: Suicide? Never! I might surrender at a reasonable price...

Inrryr: Why bother? The way you're conducting this campaign you'll probably end up winning!

Ankara (Gvmt): The Sultan today proclaimed his full backing for any measures taken by Marshall MacGregor in his attempts to eradicate the attacking infidel Krauts who dare invade our sacred territory.

Govan to Germany: You can sue for peace now Bruce, before I move back to the Gorbals and enlist aid there!

.....I'M::FOREVER::BLOWING::BUBBLES::.....

1974BD ('N') -- Spring 1904

AUSTRIA DEAD AND BURIED!

England's grave now ready...

AUSTRIA (Buckell): F Gre - Ion.

ENGLAND (Wyatt): NMR!! F Lon Stands unordered.

FRANCE (Meadon): F Lpl - Wal S by F Eng, A Gas Stands, F MAO - Spa(SC), F Iri - NAO, F Bre - MAO, A Edi Stands.

GERMANY (Cousins): A Bel Stands, F Nth - Nwy, F Ska - Nwy, A Swe - Nwy, A Ber - Sil, F Kie - Ber, A Mun - Tyr S by A Vie.

ITALY (Ball): F Alb - Gre S by A Ser & F Ion, F Nap S F Ion, A Ven - Tyr S by A Tri.

RUSSIA (Waldie): A StP - Lvn, A Mos - Sev, A Ukr - Rum S by A Bud, A War - Gal.

TURKEY (Swanson): A Bul - Rum S by F Bla & A Sev, A Arm S A Sev, A Con - Bul S by F Aeg.

Retreats: Austrian F Gre annihilated.

GM to standby (Richard Sargent). Quite frankly Richard, I wouldn't bother to send in a move for that English fleet - it isn't worth the price of a stamp. Of course, you can if you really want to....

Austria to the World: AAAAAAAAAAAAAA

a  
a  
a a a  
aaa  
aaaaa  
R  
RIP  
.P.  
...



Mount Olympus: As the last fleet prepared to sail for the Styx two sailors lit the last Olympic torch while a party honeycombed the area with dynamite.  
"Just let those Wops try coming here!"

Paris (Gvmt): France hopes that all her allies bear her no ill will, and ~~assures~~ assures all interested parties that none is borne to them.

Berlin: Peace to all; and I mean all (for now!).

Imrryr: Is someone trying to make out that this is a nice friendly game? Ha!

::::::::::SCOOBEDOOBEDOORBEDOORBEDOORBEDOORBEDOORBEDOORBEDOORBEDOORBEDOORBEDOORBEDOOR::::::::::

1974BE ('0') -- Spring 1904

WHERE THE HELL IS ITALY GOING?

Or any of them for that matter...

AUSTRIA (Lindsay): A Gal - Rum S by A Bud, F Alb - Gre, A Ser - Bul.

ENGLAND (Coombe): F Nwy - StP(NC), F Nth - Ska, F Lon - Eng, F NAO - MAO,  
A lpl Stands.

FRANCE (Birks): A Pic - Wal C by F Eng, F Bre - MAO S by F Iri, A Bel Stands,  
A Gas Stands.

GERMANY (Burton): A Ber S A Mun, A Hol Stands, F Den - Nth,  
F Ska S (RUSSIAN) F Swe - Nwy.

ITALY (Knowles): A Boh - Sil, A Tyr - Mun, F Ion S (AUSTRIAN) F Alb - Gre,  
F Tun S F Ion.

RUSSIA (Bullock): F Swe - Nwy, A Mos - StP, A Sil - Gal S by A War, F Rum Stands.

TURKEY (von Metzke): A Bul - Ser S by A Gre, F EMS - Ion, F Aeg S A Gre,  
F Con. rots.

Retreats: Russian F Rum - Sev.

Skaro to Jamul (1): Whether I'm Jeff Oliver.

Skaro to Jamul (2): Sorry, you'll have to wait a little longer for the repartee: ghost writer on strike and 5 minutes to catch the post....

Darkest Cornwall: Due to enemy naval action in the English Channel, Irish Sea, Denmark, Sweden, Skagerrack, Mid Atlantic and Brest, the Leader of our glorious country has reason to expect an all-out attack on England within a few months. Yet he insists that there is no reason to fear invasion by these enemy forces. Units of the High Fleet are engaged in a valiant effort in the seas surrounding this proud land and there is every reason to expect a happy outcome to these engagements. Even if the battle on the High Seas goes against us we can rest assured that the Imperial Army stationed in Liverpool will rout any invading forces before they have time to push farther inland.

Our Leader (long may he live) has decided to move his headquarters to Cornwall. Official reasons for this are ... 'it ain't on the bloody Dip map so you can't get me' (and in the great tradition of School-boy Annual)...YAAA  
B000 SUCKS!

Imrryr: Does he?

Rome (Gvmt): The Italian government apologises profusely to the German Empire for the (unsupported) attack on Munich - we deemed it necessary because of your threats of southern expansion, or aid to Russian southern expansion. Obviously, had we been bent on real aggression, we would have supported ourselves in. Our non-support is to indicate that this was a preventive and pre-emptive attack only. If you are willing to comply or at least discuss the ideas in our last communique, we are sure that our two peace-loving countries can come to some sort of agreement. Thank you.

Paris: "DE FACTO! Come here this instant, you lump of indescribable excrement!"

"You called me, most illustrious sir?" cringed De Facto to his master, Paul d'Apart, President of all France and the better half of Belgium.

"You bet I did you (expletive deleted)!" By now d'Apart was almost purple with rage, and De Facto was at last beginning to get the impression that something might be a fraction amiss. He enquired:

"Is there something wrong, sir?"

"Wrong? WRONG! Everything's wrong! You and your bright ideas about how to oitflank England. What did I say last season? Come on, what move did I suggest?"

At last De Facto realised what had happened; "Well, sir (gulp) you suggested am ... um ... sort of a ... well ..."

"I suggested a convoy into Wales, didn't I? DIDN'T I?"

"Wel ... yes sir."

"And do you remember what you said when I suggested it? Let me quote you from the last MP: 'I would have thought that Coombe would have been bound to move to Wales. I mean, well, it's so obvious' unquote! Do you deny saying that, De Facto?"

De Facto was now visibly shrinking. "No sir," he replied tremulously.

"And do you know what Coombe did? He left Wales vacant, that's what he did! And on top of that he moved A Edi - Lpl, so we can't even support ourselves in for certain. If we had followed my moves, Mister know-it-all De Facto, we would be sure of gaining a centre. As it is at the moment, we might not gain one until 1905! Get out of my sight, De Facto. I'm making the moves from now on in this game. You can clean my boots, though I'm not sure you could take the responsibility. Go on, PISS OFF!!"

"Yes sir." And with that final cringe, De Facto left, not knowing what d'Apert had up his sleeve....

Splendidhamstaffshire-on-Trentoncalf: There is a quiet hum, the formidable weapon trembles in Crinklecrud's hands, and a scream of mortal agony. A cloud of steam clears to reveal the tall thin stranger rolling about on the floor, turning slowly greener.

"Who the hell is that?" demands Crinklecrud.

"They're still there!" marvels Swanson, withdrawing his hands from the front of his pants.

"Looks like a tall, thin green stranger to me," comments Lettice.

"What are still there?" asks Grud curiously.

"Well, where the devil did he come from?" questions Crinklecrud.

"My balls!" cries Swanson joyfully. "The testicle atomiser didn't work!"

"I don't know," shrugs Lettice. "He must have been here all along."

"Oh, my God!" squeaks the tall, thin stranger. "They're gone!"

"It didn't work?" cringes Grud. "Here, let me see."

"What are gone?" demands Lettice.

"Get your hands the Hell out of my pants!" screams Swanson.

"My balls!" cries the tall thin stranger painfully. "The testicle atomiser worked!"

"I was just trying to see whether it worked or not..." cringes Grud. "Your voice sounds higher than normal."

"It worked?" cries Crinklecrud. "Great - now we can get out of here!"

"So would yours..." cries Swanson, "if some misshapen lout walked up and stuck his hands down your pants!"

"What are those two little piles of dust?" screams the tall thin green stranger. "My balls!"

"Alright," snaps Crinklecrud. "Now where's that guard?"

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1974F ('P') -- Autumn 1905

THEY'RE STILL ALL THERE!  
Just....!

AUSTRIA (Sherrad): A Tri MS A Vie, F Aeg - Con S by A Bul, A Gre rips up forged letter in disgust - come, come, Sharp; surely I'm not that bad?

ENGLAND (Patay): F Lpl wishes Knowles would choke on his Glottled Gleeps, F Nth ditto, F Eng S F Nth.

FRANCE (von Metzke): A Spa Stands, F Iri - Lpl S by F NAO.

GERMANY (Knowles): A Boh - Vie, A Gas - Spa, A Bre prays that Meadon cooperated, A Sil - Boh, F Hol S A Bel, F Den - Nth, A Kie - Mun.

PTO for the others....

ITALY (Meadon): F Mar S (GERMAN) A Gas - Spa, A Tyr - Tri S by A Ven,  
A Pie - Tyr, F Ion - Gre.

RUSSIA (Kelly): F Nwy S (GERMAN) F Den - Nth, F Bal - Den, A Lvn - Mos S by A StP,  
F Rum - Sev, A Gal S (GERMAN) A Boh - Vie.

TURKEY (Sharp): A Con MS F Smy, A Sev S (RUSSIAN) F Rum, F Ank - Bla.

Retreats: Austrian A Tri - Ser, A Vie - Bud.  
English F Lpl .... bloooie!  
French A Spa - Por.

Winter 1905 Adjustments

A: 4 Centres: Bud, ~~Vie~~, Ser, Gre, Bul. Removes F Aeg.  
E: 2 Centres: Edi, ~~Lpl~~, Lon. No change.  
F: 2 Centres: ~~Mar, Spa~~, Por, +Lpl. Removes F Lpl.  
G:10 Centres: Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol, Bel, Par, Bre, +Vie, +Spa. Builds "A Kie", F Ber.  
I: 6 Centres: Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun, Tri, +Mar. Builds F Rom.  
R: 6 Centres: Mos, StP, War, Swe, Rum, Nwy. No change.  
T: 4 Centres: Ank, Con, Smy, Sev. No change.

'Diplomacy's a bloody silly game anyway' dept., Vienna: Your Crinkle is a load of Crud, and if you win it's Sharp's fault for not giving up. (Thinks: HATE)

Dear Imrryr: I'm in love with this American girl but she doesn't seem to notice me. I write her lots of letters, offering her all sorts of things I know she wants; I even post some of them. I interfere when I see other men annoying her; I even try to vacate her supply centres and prop up her whatsits. But she goes on trying to beat hell out of me. Should I change my hair restorer?  
-- Worried, Mirkwood.

Dear Worried, Mirkwood: You poor dear. At first sight this seems a simple case of unrequited love. But I wonder if there is not more to it? In these days of inflation, migration, ~~distra~~ vexation and baldness the course of true love can oft times meander. Could it be that your heart's delight actually enjoys a bit of the old flagellation? Perhaps she so enjoys you constantly stabbing her that her numerous attacks on you are just a way of saying thank you? And if she really is that way inclined, the best thing you can do is give her even more of it. So shoulders back, hold yourself erect and thrust deep into her territory giving her all you've got - I'm sure she'll thank you for it.  
-- Auntie Imrryr.

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1974BT ('Q') -- Winter 1902

HOW THE HELL DO YOU WRITE A HEADLINE FOR A PILE OF BUILDS?

AUSTRIA (Samson): Builds A Bud; has A Tyr, A Boh, A Gal, A Bul, A Bud, F Gre.  
ENGLAND (Knowles): No change; has A Nwy, F MAO, F Bar, F Eng, F Bel.  
FRANCE (Tatay): No change; has A Bre, A Mar, A Par, F Pic.  
GERMANY (Prevot): Builds A Mun; has A Gas, A Bur, A Ruh, A Pru, A Mun, F Swe.  
ITALY (Kelly): No change; has A Pie, A Tun, F Ion, F WMS.  
RUSSIA (Pimley): Removes A Ukr; has A StP, A Mos, F Fin.  
TURKEY (Boymel): Builds A Smy; has A Sev, A Rum, A Smy, F Bla, F Con.

Spring 1903 moves on file for England, France and Germany.

Note that France is now in the hands of RUDOLPH TATAY, 8755 Woodcrest Drive, Greenfield, IN 46140, USA, and David Jones is blacklisted unless I hear from him in the near future.

Mitch McCormick has written apologising to me and the other players for his recent dropout - thanks, Mitch, obviously you're no longer blacklisted now.

Splendidhamstaffshire-on-Trentoncalf: "Guard," cries Crinklecrud, "Help!"

"What's the matter now?" demands their captor wearily. "It's not that mouse again is it?"

"No, there's a tall thin green man in here with no balls!"

"Boy," grumbles the guard as he unlocks the door, "I've heard of restaurants that wouldn't let you in without you were wearing a tie - but to not let you in just cause you got no balls...that's a bit much."

The rest of this ridiculous reverie is lost to us forever as the guard collapses, screaming, a victim of a vicious (and involuntary) vasectomy. Crinklecrud et al step out once more to pollute the fair air of Britain.

"Ahh..." sighs the Master of Mayhem. "Now to start doing evil again."

"Master..." wails Grud, "I want to go home!"

"We are going home Grud," snarls Crinklecrud. "Back to our cell in the British Alps."

"No, I mean I want to go back to our cell here in the asylum," cringes Grud. "We've been there so long it feels like home."

"Forget it, you misformed miscanthrope, we have work to do," snaps Crinklecrud. And they turn towards the British Alps, far off in the sunset....

Zurich: The pulsing pirate demands no perfidious press for this game. Prosecuters will be violated.

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1974EB ('R') -- Autumn 1901

AUSTRIA SHORT ON CENTRES.  
Russia short on units!

AUSTRIA (Challinger): A Bud - Ser, A Vie - Tri, F Alb - Gre.

ENGLAND (Meadon): A Edi - Nwy C by F Nrg, F Eng - Bel.

FRANCE (Nathan): A Pic - Bel, F MAO - Bre, A Mar - Spa.

GERMANY (Boymel): F Hol S (FRENCH) A Pic - Bel (what did you expect, John? You never wrote to me in spring 1901!), A Kie - Den, A Mun - Boh.

ITALY (Churchill): F TyS - Tun, A Ven - Tyr, A Tri Stands.

RUSSIA (White): F GoB - Swe, A StP - Fin, A War - Gal, F Sev - Rum.

TURKEY (Morris): A Bul - Gre, A Con - Bul S by F Bla.

No retreats.

Winter 1901 Adjustments

A: 3 Centres: Bud, ~~Tri~~, Vie, +Ser. No change.

E: 4 Centres: Edi, Lpl, Lon, +Nwy. Builds F Lon.

F: 5 Centres: Bre, Mar, Par, +Bel, +Spa. Builds A Par, F Mar.

G: 5 Centres: Ber, Kie, Mun, +Hol, +Den. Builds F Kie, A Mun.

I: 5 Centres: Nap, Rom, Ven, +Tri, +Tun. Builds A Ven, F Nap.

R: 6 Centres: Mos, Sev, StP, War, +Swe, +Rum. No builds requested - 2 units short!

T: 4 Centres: Ank, Con, Smy, +Bul. Builds F Smy.

Sorry Lowell, but I have told you I use prophetic builds and retreats - it's in the house rules I sent you, too.

St. Petersburg, Sept 10, 1901: Tsar Nicholas announced today that the 2nd army had been detached to Finland to guard against English Imperialists in Norway. He warned that the landing of an English army in Norway would constitute a grave threat to the security of Russia and would be repelled and punished with all available forces.

The Tsar also pointed out that he was most annoyed at Austria's highly aggressive surprise attack against Russia's forces. Fortunately no serious damage was done but unless we receive a formal apology post haste, we shall have no choice but to consider ourselves at war with this treacherous nation.

.....

The time is a couple of weeks ago. The place is the inside of a car, at some point between Rhu and Amersham. The characters are Birks, Doubleday, Morris and Sharp. The sounds are cries of 'Poooh!', 'Gawd!', 'Open the bloody windows!' and 'Help! I've been gassed!' The result is that at last the terrible truth has been revealed: DUNCAN MORRIS FARTS!!

*MP*



Now we've got a whole page to fill with....

1973GI('J'): Autumn 1909..TURKS PUSHED BACK, FRENCH JOINS ALL POWERFUL

AUSTRIA(Meadon): F Nap S(FRENCH)F Tun-Ion, A Rom S(FRENCH)A Pie-Ven.

FRANCE(Swanson): F Kie-Hol S by A Bel, A Mun stands, A RuhS A Mun,  
F Lpl-Cly, F Yor S(RUSSIAN)F Nth-Edi, A Pie-Ven,  
F Tun-Ion, F TyS S(AUSTRIAN)F Nap, F MAO}WMS.

GERMANY(Coombe): NMR! F Edi & A Hol stand unordered. (Not to worry John, as there was nothing you could do anyway. All is forgiven....byeeeeeeee.)

RUSSIA(Pimley): A StP-Mos, A Sil-War S by A Lvn, A Ukr-Sev,  
A Ber-Pru, F Nth-Edi, F Den-Kie, F Nwy swims in the  
Alten Fjord.

TURKEY(Sharp): F Ion-Nap S by F Apu, A Ven-Rom, F Gre-Ion S by F Aeg,  
F Bla-Rum, F Con-Bla, A Tyr-Pie, A Gal-Ukr,  
A War-Sil S by A Boh, A Sev-Mos.

Retreats: TURKISH F Ion-Ads.  
TURKISH A Ven-Tri.  
ENGLISH F Edi disbands.  
ENGLISH A Hol disbands.

WINTER ADJUSTMENTS 1909:

AUSTRIA: 2 Centres: Rom, Nap. NO CHANGE.

FRANCE : 12 CENTRES: Bre, Par, Mar, Spa, Por, Lpl, Tun, Bel, ~~Kie~~,  
Lon, +Hol, +Ven, +Mun. Builds A Mar, F Bre.

GERMANY: 0 Centres: ~~Edi~~, ~~Hol~~. Out! Adios John, and many thanks for  
taking part.

RUSSIA : 8 Centres: ~~War~~, Swe, Nwy, Mos, StP, Den, Ber, ~~Mun~~, +Edi,  
+Kie. NO CHANGE.

TURKEY : 12 CENTRES: Ank, Smy, Con, Bul, Gre, Ser, Rum, Sev, Bud,  
Tri, Vie, ~~Gal~~, +War. NO CHANGE.

Dirty Bucket, Bayswater: Pete Swanson(17) and Richard Sharp(43) were drinking Guinness and Whitbread respectively, waiting for Pete Birks (12) to arrive from his bread-cutting lessons. "Oh rats, there's the end of visiting hours bell. I hope you can come and visit me again soon," pleaded Richard. "Well....." "Please come. And," whispered Richard, "do you think you could bring me some special when you come next?"

"Jesus, do you know what the penalty is for smuggling special into this prison? Do you think I'm some kind of fool?"

"I'll do it!" said Pete Birks as he wandered in through the door.

Constantinople: Oy! Stop resisting will you?

Conversations in a Volkswagen:

Rhu, 4 p.m.: "Look chaps, is it all right if we go back to London via Ochill Hills and pick up my duplicator?"

"Isn't that a bit out of the way, Duncan?"

"No, no, it just means going across then down instead of down then across".

"Humm."

Ochill Hills, 7 p.m.: "I think we ought to be going down now Duncan. ....Duncan?.....DUNCAN!!"

"Eh? Oh, yes, all right.... Just nip down through Edinburgh to Jedburgh, then it's straight down the A1."

"Hmmm."

Otterburn, 9.55 p.m.: "Into the pub for God's sake - they shut at 10 in Scotland on Sundays."

"Jesus."

Gulp, slurp, splutter.

"I don't think this chap knows about 10 o'clock closing Duncan."

"No, I think we must be in England...."

"We could have been in Leek now if we'd --"

"Shut up Birks."

NEWcastle, midnight: "Not far now - only another 300 miles"

"We could have been in --"

"Shut up Birks."

Amersham, 6 a.m.: "Oh, God."

"Ughhhh."

"I feel awful."

"Serves you bloody well right Morris."

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1973DEfa('L')

Sorry to have to inform you chaps, but this game has had to be held over due to the fact that Terry Knowles did not get his copy of MP until a couple of days ago, at least that's what Walkerdine tells me. This means that he has not had time to send his orders in, and to be fair, I think I must hold the game over. Okay! I knew you would understand. Now then, where's Walkerdine. Come on, hold out your wrists to be slapped!

Point two. I have not heard from Paul Cook (Beauforts), and so he is black-listed, unless Richard knows something! Anyway, Beauforts are now taken over by DAVE ROSS, Supt. Trp. C Sqn., 16/5th Lancers, Sek Kong Camp, BFPO 1. (Hong Kong).

Thanks very much Dave for sending in the Stand-by moves. Welcome to the game.

In fact, I have not received the SCOTS moves either, and it is 2 days after the deadline. DUNCAN MORRIS but have been really ill in Amersham.....Ho Hum.

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Right then, thats all for now. Sorry to L game participants, but what could I do. Anyway, I'm pleased that Ali has won the fight, and that Geoff Arnold has taken the first wicket of the mcc tour.

P.S. Must mention the VARIANT BANK, now being run by the Hannibal Herd. Address is well known. SUPPORT IT. Hey, I can do some map drawing fellahs, if you tell me what you want!!

.....TAFTAN.....

100-100

