

URF DURFAL

GRANDSON OF POUCH

#10

This is URF DURFAL, like a Phoenix arisen from the ashes. It is published to carry the games that are remaining from THE POCKET ARMENIAN and THE POUCH, and the playtest variants. Presently there are openings in EXCOMMUNICATION at \$3, and in NEAR UTTER CHAOS at the same fee. There is no such thing as a subscription; it is only possible to receive the zine by writing for it, by trading, or by playing in a game. For every page of an article that is printed, the author will receive one issue; for every issue in which press or a letter is printed, the writer will receive that issue; a person who submits something for publication that is rejected will receive the issue that his writings would otherwise have been printed in. Back issues are 25¢ a piece. Issues 1-3 and 5-8, as well as 2-6 of The Conglomerate are available. Copies of EXCOMMUNICATION, DIPLOMAFYA, NEAR UTTER CHAOS, INDONESIAN DIPLOMACY and the House Rules are available for an SSAE. The same person prints GIGO, an irregular sf/wargaming personalzine (50¢, 6/\$2.50), and FIRE THE ARQUE-BUSIERS!, an irregular 36 page / D&D zine (50¢, 6/\$2.50).

All of the above are available from Greg Costikyan, 1675 York Av, NY, NY, 10028.

This is ISSUE #10 Deadline for next issue is DECEMBER 3. ←

THE CONGLOMERATE

This, as you may have guessed, is the zine resulting from The Conglomerate. Jerry Paulson, erstwhile publisher of The Conglomerate is moving out of New York in a couple of months to attend some college outside of New York. As Scott has sold his mimeo to me and, as far as most of the hobby is concerned, is dead, the job of publishing a zine has fallen to me.

Firstly, because Jerry is no longer GMing any games, the GM listing is now as follows:

Scott Rosenberg 182 31 Radnor Rd Jamaica, NY, 11432 212-969 3555 GMs: 1974FM and 1974AGcv	Dave Barlow 107 Gladwin Av Leonia, NJ, 07605 201 947 8840 GMs: 1974GH, 1974ID and 1975B	Greg Costikyan 1675 York Av NY, NY, 10028 212 860 8818 GMs: 1974CS, and 1973HN	Tom Gould 40 W 77 NY, NY, 10024 212-874 3633 GMs: 1974HJ
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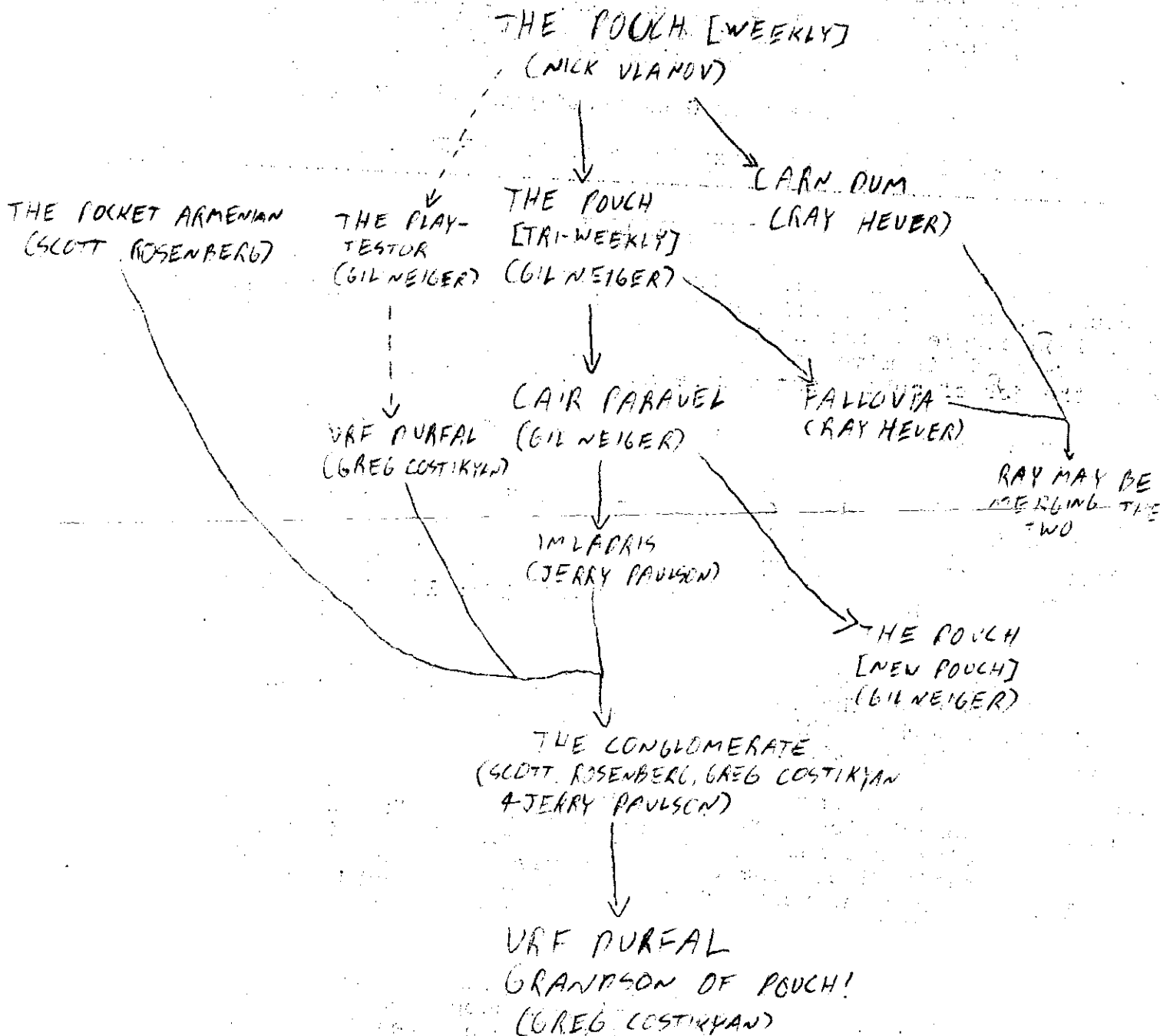
Secondly, I hope to put URF out on something approaching a triweekly schedule. Ever since the merger, The Conglomerate was put out on a lackluster schedule, and I think that perhaps this was one of the reasons for the lack of interest in the games and in the zine.

Thirdly, as you can see from the masthead, I WILL NOT ACCEPT SUBSCRIPTIONS. If you have a subscription, you will continue to get URF until your sub has run out. If you're in a game, you'll get the magazine until the game is over. If you trade, that's fine. The only other way to get URF is to write something. I hope to have as many articles on as diverse subjects as THE POUCH or the POCKET ARMENIAN had; in short, I want to make this a decent zine again.

One of the big problems in producing a good Diplomacy zine is that nobody really gives a shit. It is necessary to beat people before they will produce articles; it is necessary to produce good materiel steadily for several years before anybody will get involved enough in the zine to care if it lives or dies. With the demise of THE POCKET ARMENIAN, for instance, Scott got one ---one---letter of condolence.

Anyway, write.

THE POUCH FAMILY TREE



The Pouch-Pouch-Cair Paravel-Imladris-Conglomerate-Urf Durfal succession passes on three games from the original Pouch, while only one is passed from Cair Paravel to the [New] Pouch; therefore, I maintain that URF DURFAL, GRANDSON OF POUCH is the One True descendant of THE Pouch.

* 1975 CALHAMER AWARDS *

For several years, the Calhamer awards were voted on by the members of the hobby. The 1973 Calhamer awards ~~raised a controversy because heavy voting~~ as by the British portion of the hobby lead to a British sweep of the awards. In the resulting confusion, the democratic nature of the awards seems to have been lost, and they are now awarded by an independent Awards Panel.

INTERNATIONAL PANEL: Voting were Ray Heuer and Edi Birsan for the US; Cal White for Canada; Richard Walkerdine for Britian; an ad hoc panel of one, working from suggestions in a letter from Walter Luc Haas, for Continental Europe. Jeremy Maiden of Britain's votes arrived too late to be counted.

OUTSTANDING 'NON-TECHNICAL' ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN A DIPLOMACY ZINE: "Rocamora Captures Hazelrigg," Gil Neiger and Scott Rosenberg, Diplomacy World II, 3.

OUTSTANDING 'TECHNICAL' ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN A DIPLOMACY ZINE: "The Tunisian Opening," Robert Lipton, Mixumaxy Gazette #40.

OUTSTANDING ZINE OF THE YEAR: Runstone, John Leeder.

JOHN MCCALLUM MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD: John Boardman (Inventing Postal Diplomacy).

OUTSTANDING SINGLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE HOBBY FOR THE YEAR: John Leeder (IDA Ombudsman).

OUTSTANDING PRESS RELEASE: "Any part of any issue of Slobinpolit Zhurnal"

BRITISH REGIONAL PANEL:

OUTSTANDING NEW ZINE OF THE YEAR: Chimaera, Clive Booth

OUTSTANDING PLAYER: Tony Ball

OUTSTANDING VARIANT DESIGN: Atlantica, Fred Davis.

CANADIAN REGIONAL PANEL:

OUTSTANDING NEW ZINE OF THE YEAR: Paroxysm, Correl, Ronson & Drews

OUTSTANDING PLAYER: Blair Cusack

OUTSTANDING VARIANT DESIGN: Napoleon's Europe.

US REGIONAL PANEL:

OUTSTANDING NEW ZINE OF THE YEAR: Stab, Charles Spiegel.

OUTSTANDING PLAYER: Mike Rocamora.

OUTSTANDING VARIANT DESIGN: Excommunication!, Greg Costikyan.

URF DURFAL #1432

((This article is reprinted from UD #1432, printed November, 2076)).

DATELINE NEW YORK: President Machinery of the million member International Diplomacy Association announced today that the membership of the IDA had voted for Lunagrad as the site for the next DipCon. The vote was divided as follows:

Lunagrad: 132,047
Magnitogorsk: 67,842
Hong Kong Luna: 39,708
New New York: 16,004

The results were tabulated by IDA's IBM 444400078. Next year's DipCon must, of course, take place in the Extra-Terra Region of the IDA, unless set out of rotation by majority vote. Magnitogorsk, site of the DipCon several years ago, failed in its bid to set the rotation aside.

The IDA has never had a DipCon in Lunagrad before; therefore, Treasurer William Buchanan II has opened negotiations with Ares Cprporation for the building of another of the IDA's chain of DiploHotels in which to hold the convention. Since 2032, the IDA has been constructing DiploHotels in competition with the World Science Fiction Society's WorldCon Motor Inns; the Hotels serve the dual purpose of providing a site for the convention, and of providing a source of revenue for the IDA for years to come.

A BRIEF SELF-DESCRIPTION

by Adam Kasanof

Adam and I (as well as numerous readers, no doubt) are currently high school seniors, and thus going through the lengthy, drawn-out puberty rite of applying to college. One of the more stupid questions that we are asked to answer in order to aid colleges decide we are the cat's meow (so to speak) is "Could you briefly describe yourself." This is how Adam answers the question:]

I have never been arrested, nor detained for questioning, do not smoke, use or sell marijuana or any other drug, do not drink or smoke cigarettes, and do not, as a rule, gamble. I have killed two men in self defense, one with a knife and the other with piano wire and a brick (see diagram A).

I enjoy reading magazines, and read the following regularly: Guns, Guns & Ammo, Gun World, Popular Guns, Shooting Times, The American Rifleman, Shotgun News, Guns Annual, Gun Digest, Karate Illustrated, Official Karate, Black Belt, Action Black Belt, Kodokan Review of Judo, Boxing Illustrated, Strategy and Tactics, Argosy, and the National Review. My hobbies are marksmanship, recreational demolition, ballistics, amateur counterinsurgency, sport parachuting, Paraspsychological symbolic manipulation (Black Magic), Haitian cultural ceremony (Voodoo), and Parchesi.

I like to collect unorthodox knives, spearguns and Coca-Cola bottles from around the world. Although my mother was a Snake-Chunker and my father adhered to Tibetan Lamaism, I have no particular cultural beliefs.

Last summer I worked as a cultural exchange program advisor in Angola until my platoon was wiped out by mortar fire, and I may go on a multi-national tour of Africa through South Africa and Rhodesia this summer, if the political situation allows; if it cools off, though, then I'll just stay home and get a job with the Parks Department again as a Horticultural Maintenance Engineer (I still have my sack and pointed stick from last year). I have a platonic relationship with a girl named Muffin, and my greatest ambition is to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

#####

IDA SPACEFILLER: As most of you know, because of the IDA President's recent hasty attempt to replace the IDA Constitution, the IDA looks as if it's falling to pieces. The President, Vice-President, Ombudsman and Canadian Secretary have resigned; as well as the Editor. The Canadian group is threatening secession from the IDA, and Robert Sacks is attempting to organized an independent IDA/NY-New England.

Thus there is effectively no Council. Ben Grossman and I, as sole remaining members of the IDA Publications Committee have issued a Diplomacy Review in which the Constitutional Question should be settled once and for all; Stephen Tihor, as Membership Secretary, says he will issue a Council Courier to get the Council moving; and Doug Beyerlein will collect the votes.

However, even if the Constitutional Question is decided, the very real problems plaguing the IDA will not be. If the Lakofka constitution passes, there is still the threat of dissolution, as many will object to certain parts of the Constitution, as there was no real time for amendment. The Canadians and New Yorkers will object to lack of regional representation; many will object to the quiet replacement of a democratic institution with one that is less so; some will object to the de facto accomplishment of federation.

On the otherhand, if the constitution fails, many of the problems facing the IDA will remain unsolved.

Whatever the case, we need to hold elections as promptly and smoothly

KASANOF

Gladstein swung the padded swivel chair around so that he could face the right side of the three-section control panel. He lifted his beer can from the glass desktop in front of the panel, took a deep swig, and replaced it exactly on the glittering circle of condensed water that had marked its resting place. His hand moved to the uppermost division of the grey steel panel, directly beneath the black-stenciled "Wt. 70 lb". He put his index finger on the ridged disc of the thumbwheel switch, and began. 9. 7. 6. 9. 9. 4. 4. 0. One after another the numbers popped up in their little windows.

He moved his hand downward to the "ENABLE PANEL", and swung open the clear plastic door covering the triangular plast knob, pointing straight up. He grasped the arrowhead knob and turned it down to the right. The blue test-light next to the switch recess lit.

He shifted his hand down to the plate marked "LAUNCH CONTROL", and opened the plastic door on the left, revealing a keyhole set dead-center in a black-painted outline of a triangle. He shoved a shiny steel key into the keyhole, and twisted it down to the right. The twin red test-lights next to the switch lit. He pulled open the door shielding the last triangular switch, which stood next to the keyhole. He grasped the hard, white triangle firmly, and then began the speech, as he had so many times before.

The entire Communist world was his inted audience, but at the moment, he was the only person present.

"This here's the Minute Man II," he pronounced evenly. "The most powerful ICBM in the world. It could blow your head clean off. Do you feel lucky?" The telephone rang. Gladstein's hand jerked involuntarily. There was a loud siren-blast as the cluster of green Primary Flight Group Status Lights set into the center of the console blazed on.

"What the hell is going on!?" came the horrified scream from Blackwell, over at the Deputy Combat-Crew Commander's position. "I've got all my P.F.G. Status Lights green! The goddamn alarm's going off!"

The ringing of the phone was complemented by the jangling report of Blackwell's. Blackwell picked up and the ringing from his phone ceased. "Jesus Christ!" he said. "It's Base Command. They want to know what's happened!"

"Tell them that we seem to have launched some missiles....."

TO PLAYERS IN 1974FM and 1974AGcv:

DOD IS A DUD

Theoretically, Scott was supposed to adjudicate his games, type them up on stencil, and get them to me last Friday. It's now Wednesday. I'm printing URF anyway, because if I get it out much later than tomorrow, the deadline is going to be far too early.

The results of last season will be printed in the next issue. If you haven't gotten your moves in, I suggest you do so. If and when 74HJ, 74CS or 73HN ends, 74FM will be transferred to either Tom Gould or myself, which should reduce the work load on Scott further.

PAULS IS A DUD TOO

He refused to mail me the mailing list, so I've got to go out to Queens to get it. I've got a little list. I got the dirt on them. Nobody knows the trouble I've seen. I'm gonna tellit to the Lord.

1974GH

PA2

GM: Dave Barlow

W1 1909

Austria (~~Biryan~~ Civil Disorder) Ret A Tri-OTB, Ret A Rom-OTB
 England (Fox) B A Lon
 Russia (Zimmerman) B A StP
 Turkey (Penn) B A Con, F Smy

There was an error in last issues' adjudications; Turkey was listed as having A Con and F Smy (both of which "held unordered"); in reality, he had neither.

1974ID

PA4

GM: Dave Barlow

Limbo-Purg.

This game has ended; a concession to Russia was proposed and carried. David Malmquist is the winner. A Supply Center chart etc. will be printed nextish.

1975B

PA6

GM: Dave Barlow

W1 1906

England (Gruen) B A Lon
 Germany (Ditter) B A Kie, A Ber
 Russia (Rosenberg) NMR; in accordance with House Rules, GM carried out removal. R A Ukr
 Turkey (Torey) B F Smy

A Draw between England, Germany and Turkey has been proposed. It required unanimous approval to carry. Any not voting will be considered to favor the proposal. Vote with your next moves.

 I'm currently working on BATTLEFLEET: MARS for SPI, as developer. Brad Hessel (editor of DIMAN) is designing it. The basic premise of the game is that Martian colonists, together with Belter miners, decide to revolt against the Terran-chartered Ares Corporation, which is a state-owned company designed to exploit the resources of the solar system for the benefit of Terra. This obviously leads to mercantilist policies and the like, which obviously causes friction.

While Terra has a much larger industrial base, it depends on the Asteroids and Mars for natural resources. And its industry--mostly satellites in near-Earth orbit--is vulnerable to Martian attack. And as well, large segments of the Terran population sympathises with the Martians, as Area Corporation is not terribly well-loved at home, either.

We're assuming mass-reaction rockets, with two types of engines---a nuclear one (along the Rocketship Galileo lines, substituting fusion for fission) capable of an acceleration of no more than .01 g's, and a chemical (probably hydrogen-oxygen) one, used for lift-off and close-combat manoeuvring. The predominant weapon types are high-power lasers and nuclear homing missiles.

The game will sell for \$12, and thus we can have the luxury of two maps---one for the strategic game, and the other for the tactical one. The tactical movement system we're using is rather interesting; there are two boards, each using squares (rather than hexes). The first board portrays the x-y axes, and the second portrays the y-z axes. By aligning the two boards along the x axis and forcibly visualising the second board sprouting from the table (rather than lying on it, as it actually does), one can almost visualize three dimensions.

All though the game has had its problems, it's coming along nicely.

THE GAMES

GM: Greg Costikyan

Sp 10

Austria (~~Mike Hinmon~~/Ron Kelly) A Tus S A Pie, A Pie S A Rom-Ven, A Rom-Ven
A Ven-Tyo, F Tri-Adr, F Nap-Tyn, F Tun S F Nap-Tyn, F Ion S F Nap-Tyn,
A Vie-Boh, A Bud-Gal, A Alb-Tri, A Gre-Bul, A Ser-Rum, A Bul-Con.

France (Mike Hinmon) F Wes-Tun, A Mar-Pie, F Lyo S A Mar-Pie, A Bur-Rhh,
A Bel S A Bur-Ruh, F Eng S A Bel.

Germany (Frank Bero) Has F Cly, F Nth, F Hel, F Hol, A Lvp, A Yor, A Mun,
A Sil, A Pru, A Ruh (R-Kie, Ber, OTB). NMR.

NOTES:

- 1) Jerry was having problems with Kiebh Thompson, and in any case he failed to get his moves in this issue. Therefore Ron Kelly takes over the position.
- 2) I called up Frank Bero collect to get his moves, and he said something about having Austria make his moves. As far as I am concerned, if a player wishes to make valid moves, I've got to see a copy of those moves with his signature on it (or receive them from him via phone). Having someone else submit orders for one's own position is not valid. If Frank Bero misses next season, he will be replaced.

Will Tom Gould, 40 W 77, NY, NY, 10024 stand by for Frank Bero.

1973HN

GM: Greg Costikyan

Limbo

Nobody got their Wi 1911 builds in. Therefore, the game is delayed. Winter and Spring will be combined next issue. Please get your moves in.

Austria (C.D.) Has A Bud, A Rum, A Arm. Owns: Bud, Ank, Con, Rum, Smy. Owed two.

Germany (Gary Peterson) Has F Nwy, A Fin, F Bot, F Swe, A Lvn, A Mos, A War, A Gal, A Boh, A Sil. Owns: Kie, Mun, Ber, Bel, Den, ~~Edi~~, Hol, ~~Lon~~, ~~Ser~~, Swe, Mos, War, Nwy. BUILD 1.

Italy (David Tutacko) Has F Edi, F Lon, A Bul, F Gre, A Ser, A Tri, A Vie, F Adr, F Aeg, F Eas, F Ion, Has Nap, Rom, Ven, Bre, Gre, Lvp, Mar, Par, Por, Spa, Tri, Tun, Vie, Bul, Ser, Edi, Lon. (17) BUILD 6 (can only build three).

Russia (C.D.) Has A Stp, Owns Stp.

Turkey (C.D.) A Sev. Owns Sev.

NOTES: Last issue, Ser, Edi and Lon were mistakenly listed as belonging to Germany. They obviously cannot belong to Germany, as Italy has units in all three provinces. In addition, F Edi was not listed as belonging to Italy last issue.

I suggest that Italy, at least, get moves in; he should have no trouble winning in a year.

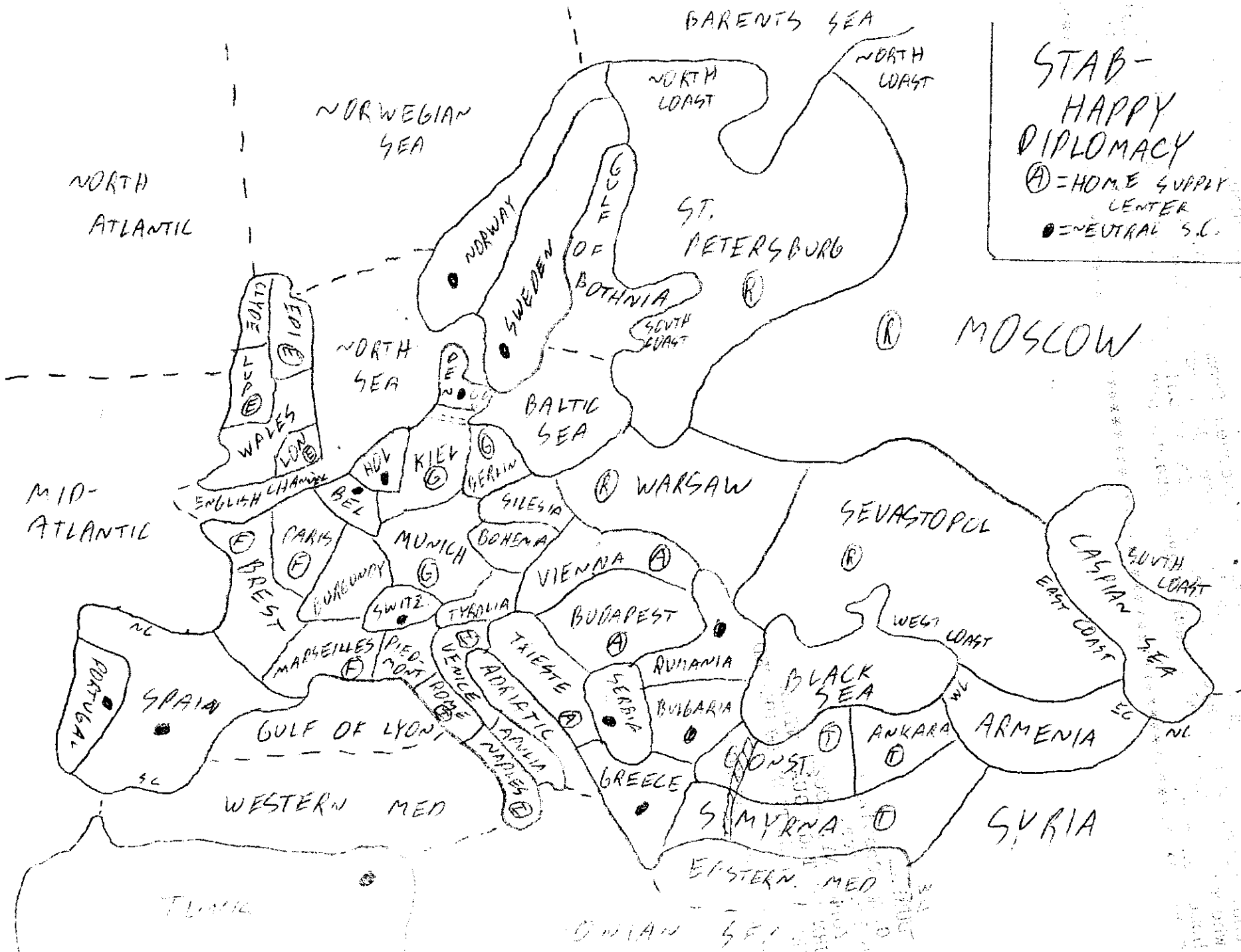
1974RJ

GM: Tom Gould

F 07

France (Kieth Danke) A Pic-Bel, A Bel-Ruh, A Yor S F Iri-Lvp, F Iri-Lvp, A Par-Pic, F Mid-Iri, F Edi S F Eng-Nth (R-OTB), F Eng-Nth. Owns: Par, Bre, Bel, Lon, Lvp, Por, Spa, ~~Edi~~. EVEN

Italy (Gary Burce) NMR. Has A Bur, F Ion, F Adr, A Ven, A Tri, A Tyr, F Alb (R-OTB). Owns: Home, Mar, Tri, Tun, ~~Gre~~. Even.
(con't next page)

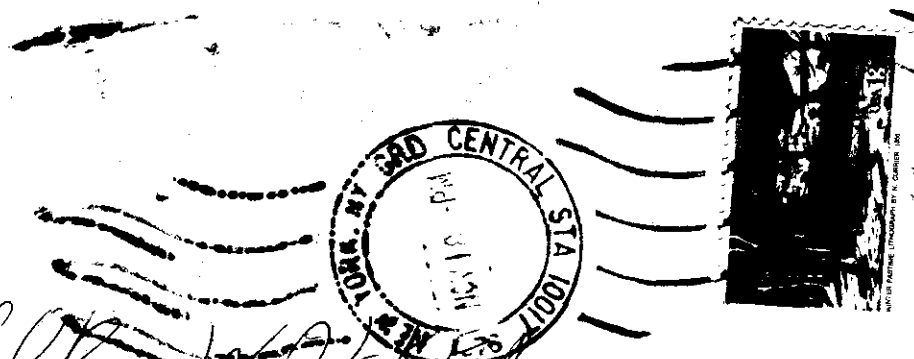


STAB-
HAPPY
DIPLOMACY
 (A) = HOME SUPPLY
CENTER
 ● = NEUTRAL S.C.

1. The rules of the 1971 edition of the Rulebook apply, except as noted herein and below.
2. The seven players remain the same, as do their home Supply Centers, as in the regular game.
3. A number of provinces now have two coasts: Moscow, Armenia, Syria, Wales; Bulgaria no longer has two coasts.
4. Fleets may move from: Bul, or Bla, or Ank to: Con (and vice versa); from Con to Smy (and vice versa); from Gre, Eas and Syr to Smy (and vice versa). Thus Smyrna is treated the same way Constantinople is in the regular game. Note that armies may move through Smyrna and Con as if they were all land; thus, A Arm-Smy-Gre, or A Ank-Con-Gre and so forth, are all allowed.
5. Switzerland is now passable, and a neutral Supply Center.
6. Caspian Sea is now passable.
7. Other changes may be observed from the map.
8. The game starts in Winter 1900, rather than in Spring 1901. At that time, each player chooses his mix of units by ordering what to be built where; in other words, each player starts off with no units, but owns his home centers.

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