

COURIER*COURIER*COURIER*COURIER*COURIER*COURIER*COURIER*COURIER*COURIER*

COURIER is a magazine which reports on the progress of certain postal games - all the things you see in this issue plus Jutland, where the reports are secret to the players for intelligence reasons. To get COURIER you must let me have a stamped addressed envelope by the date of publication; in addition, players pay a one-off game fee and 3p per issue while non-players pay 3p per issue plus 2p per sheet.

This is issue 237, dated 10 May 1986.

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REPORT

JUTLAND 86/5

0100-1000 30 May

News has simultaneously reached the two Admiralties of a minor action off the coast north of Sunderland. Apparently one of the proud British Battlecruisers has been sent to a watery grave by German submarine action. Vice-Admiral Arthur Nunn just managed, with his water-wings, to get to another vessel before his hair got wet. The Germans report no losses on their side, but one of their U-boats isn't answering the phone at the moment and the operator can't be found in the heads.

Though I must keep details of this action secret to the players, I will irritate everyone by printing vaguely accurate, but probably erroneous in places, reports in each COURIER.

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REPORT

BUSINESS STRATEGY game 4

I still haven't heard from Mike Brocklehurst, so have to conclude that he has decided to quit. In which case the game goes to DAVE TANT, who may well be breathing a sigh of relief.

A disappointing conclusion (sorry Dave - I don't mean because you won) because of two drop-outs in a 4-player game.

I will start another BUSINESS STRATEGY immediately if anyone is interested. I believe Dave Tant and Alan Youde want another crack, so two more players please. Please note that players are expected to name their company and give me an account of the dubious merchandise they are manufacturing.

If there isn't enough demand for another BUSINESS STRATEGY at the moment, I could offer another new game so long as it isn't a complex one to adjudicate (which rules out another 1829, I'm afraid). Any thoughts? Please let me know just in case a BS doesn't get off the ground.

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Which leaves me only space to say that this issue is the first produced on a screen-based word-pro (Apple IIe and Format-80; I could hope for more sophisticated software but 'twill do for the moment). Which means, of course, that you won't get any mistakes at all from now on, will you?

REPORT

COURIER 81/36 (1981GS)

Autumn 1908

Austria (Sellick Davies): No orders received. A(War,Ukr,Sil,Boh,Tri, Vie,Tyr) stand.

France (Stephen Brophy): F(Nap) stands. F(TYS) S F(NAP). F(Tun)-IOS A(Tus)-Rom. A(Pie)-Tus. F(GoL)-Pie. F(MAO)-WMS. A(Pic)-Bel. A(Mun) stands. A(Bur) S A(Mun). A(Kie) S A(Mun). A(Pru)-Ber. F(NTH)-Nor. F(ENC)-NTH. A(Den)-Swe.

Germany (Anarchy): A(Ber) stands

Italy (Guy Fraser-Sampson): No orders received. F(Apu), A(Ven) stand.

Russia (Peter Robertson): F(BAL) S French A(Pru)-Ber. A(Liv)-War. A(Mos) S A(Liv)-War.

Turkey (Alan Puddick): No orders received. F(IOUS,EMS,ADS) stand. A(Gre,Alb,Sev) stand.

Retreats: Austrian A(War) to Gal or Rum. German A(Ber) eliminated.

RUSSIA: How they wish they had finished off brave little Russia before lurching westwards on their orgy of destruction and conquest! During the darker days of the Battle of Britovsk, when all that stood between the free ~~free~~ world and barbarism was a few squadrons of Spitzfies, they could not break us. Now our mighty armies (with a little French help) return to the attack. Surging - No! Sweeping - No!! Careening - No!!! Oh bugger what's the word? Ah yes! Juggernauting down the slow lane of the Minsk by-pass comes the Imperial Army! Throwing back Austrian and Turkish forces (while France manages to hold Berlin and Italy in check - mind, we have helped France a bit with Berlin you know). Still, credit where due - France had the foresight, intelligence, courage and ~~for~~ ordacity to accept Russian help which has secured us (and France, of course) a great victory.

(Seriously Stephen - wizard show, wot?)

Builds:

Austria controls:	Vie,Bud, War ,Tri,Rum, Mos ,Ser.	Removes 2 for 5
France controls:	Par,Mar,Bre,Por,Spa,Lpl,Edi,Bel, Lon,Hol,Kie,Mun,Rom,Den,Tun,Ber, Nap,Swe,Nor	Builds 4 for 19
Germany controls:	Ber	ELIMINATED
Italy controls:	Nap ,Ven	Removes 1 for 1
Russia controls:	StP, Swe , Nor ,War,Mos	No change for 3
Turkey controls:	Ank,Con,Smy,Bul,Gre,Sev	No change for 6

And so Stephen Brophy brings France home to victory, with Alan Puddick second (Turkey), Sellick Davies (Austria) third, Peter Robertson (Russia) fourth, Guy Fraser-Sampson (Italy) fifth and Colin Graham (England) sixth. No credit to Germany which went into anarchy (and a few other countries only just avoided doing so).

So congratulations to Stephen and commiserations to the others. Victory statement from France next time please, plus any other comments anyone else wants to make.

REPORT

COURIER DIPLOMACY 83/37

Winter 1905

Austria (Anarchy): No change for 1
 England (Mike Brocklehurst?): 2 short for 12
 France (Anarchy): 1 short for 2
 Germany (Anarchy): Removes F(HEL), A(Ruh) for 1
 Italy (Paul Tarrant): No change for 6
 Russia (Bob Stuart): Removes A(Liv) for 1
 Turkey (Arthur Nunn): Builds A(Con), A(Smy) for 11

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REPORT

RAIL BARON 21 (C12)

Period XXXVII - 92-95

ALAN YOUDE - WIGAN Railroad - Yellow

Turn 92: GN to 2 west of Fargo. #1,000 to bank. Cash #113,000

Turn 93: GN to 8 west of Fargo. #1,000 to bank. Cash #112,000

Turn 94: GN to arrive Seattle. #1,000 to bank. Income #26,000. New destination - Portland Ore. Bonus: GN to 1 east of Spokane. Cash #137,000.

Turn 95: GN to 2 west of Fargo. #1,000 to bank. Cash #136,000

STEPHEN BROPHY - DREADNOUGHT - Black

Turn 92: UP to 3 south-east of Pocatello. #1,000 to bank. Cash #70,500

Turn 93: UP to 4 west of Pocatello. #1,000 to bank. Cash #69,500

Turn 94: UP to arrive Portland. #1,000 to bank. Income #25,000. New destination - Atlanta. Bonus: UP to 4 east of Portland. Cash #93,500.

Turn 95: UP to Butte, CMStP&P to 1 west of Spokane. #1,000 to bank. Cash #92,500.

Summary

Baron	Runs	Current destination	Next destination	Railroads owned	Cash
WIGAN(S)	25	Omaha	Portland Ore	CB&Q, SAL, WP, L&N, GM&O, NP, GN, AT&SF, PA, SOU, MP, CRIP, SP, D&RGW, IC, C&O, NYNH&H, RF&P	136,000
DREADO(S)	27	Seattle	Atlanta	B&O, CMStP&P, SLSF, N&W, T&P, UP, ACL, NYC, C&NW, B&M	92,500

Rolls for period XXXVIII - turns 96-99:

Turn	Roll	Bonus	Yellow	Black
96	3+2=5	4	-1	0
97	6+2=8	1	-2	0
98	6+6=12	4	+1	0
99	3+2=5	4	0	+1
Accumulated bonus			-9	0

No-one needs a third destination, I think.

REPORT.

RAIL BARON C13

Period XXIII - 49

OAP purchases NYNH&H from TZUKE for #3,500.

ARTHUR NUNN - OAP - White

Turn 49: C&O to Chicago, C&NW to 1 north Des Moines. #1,000 to bank.
#5,000 from WIGAN. Cash #235,000.

STEPHEN BROPHY - TZUKE - Blue

Turn 49: AT&SF to 1 south Oklahoma City. #1,000 to bank. Cash #2,000.

ALAN YOUDE - WIGAN Railroad - Yellow

Turn 49: CB&Q to 1 east Casper, C&NW to arrive Rapid City. #1,000 to bank. #5,000 to OAP. Income #15,000. New destination - Boston. Cash #153,500.

** WIGAN has now passed the magic 150,000 mark **

djt - OAF - Red

Turn 49: UP to 3 west Omaha. #1,000 to bank. Cash #170,500.

Summary

Baron	Runs	Current destination	Next destination	Railroads owned	Cash
OAP(S)	15	(Portland Me)	(Baltimore)	D&RGW, NYC, C&NW, WP, NP, C&O, B&O, NYNH&H	235,000
TZUKE	16	Houston	Las Vegas	ACL, AT&SF, CMStP&P, SLSF	2,000
WIGAN(S)	15	Atlanta	Boston	PA, CB&Q, T&P, L&N, SOU, IC, GN, SP, RF&P	153,500
OAF(S)	19	Kansas City	El Paso	B&M, UP, GM&O, MP, N&W, CRIP, SAL	170,500

Rolls for period XXIV - turn 50:

5+2=7; bonus 3; white 0; black +1; yellow +2; red 0.

Clarification: in the postal game 'catching' a declared opponent is not just a matter of landing on his dot (since turns are not sequential in the postal game) but of being in the same place as he is at the same time. So passing along the same line in opposite directions allows a capture even if 'between mileposts'. Sorry Arthur, but trains aren't allowed to leap-frog!

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Which leaves me only room to say that this new way of typing these reports isn't all that convenient. For a start it isn't as economic, and this issue is going to run more pages than others. Also I can't 'cross out' something, as required in the Diplomacy build charts for instance. Finally, unless I can work out the proper string to send to the printer, I can't get a 'pounds' sign, and I'm damned if I'm changing to dollars (\$ - see - that works! It's all part of a plot to make us the 5xth state).

So I'll almost certainly go back to the old SE6000 again next time, to forestall the complaints

REPORT

RAIL BARON C14

Period XVII - 35-36

In Absentia - DUCKHOLE - Red

Turn 35: AT&SF to 2 east Los Angeles. #1,000 to bank. Cash #74,000.
 Turn 36: AT&SF to arrive San Diego. #1,000 to TZUKE. Income #24,500.
 New Destination - Spokane. Cash #97,500.

ALAN YOUDE - WIGAN Railroad - Yellow

Turn 35: Can't do stated order since this would require a reversal.
 CB&Q to St Louis, MP to Kansas City, AT&SF to 2 west of Kansas
 City. #1,000 to bank. Cash #29,000.
 Turn 36: AT&SF to 1 south of Pueblo. #1,000 to TZUKE. Cash #28,000.

STEPHEN BROPHY - TZUKE - Blue

Turn 35: SOU to arrive Atlanta. #1,000 to bank. Income #8,000. Buys
 AT&SF for #40,000. New destination - Houston. Cash #18,000.
 Turn 36: SOU to 2 north of Charlotte. #1,000 to bank. #1,000 from
 WIGAN and DUCKHOLE. Cash #19,000.

RAY MILLER - GREENGAGE - Green

Turn 35: SP to New Orleans, L&N to 2 south of Birmingham. #5,000 to
 HONKY. #1,000 to bank. Cash #57,000.
 Turn 36: L&N to 1 west of Chattanooga. #1,000 to bank. Cash #56,000.

djt - ANON - White

Turn 35: B&O to St Louis, SLSF to 3 south of Kansas City. #1,000 to
 bank. Cash #35,500.
 Turn 36: SLSF to arrive Dallas. #1,000 to bank. Income #14,000. Buys
 Superchief for #40,000. New destination - Boston. Cash #10,500

PAUL TARRANT - HONKY - Black

Turn 35: D&RGW to 1 north of Salt Lake City, SP to 1 east of Sacramento
 #5,000 from GREENGAGE. #1,000 to bank. Cash #44,500.
 Turn 36: SP to arrive Sacramento. #1,000 to bank. Income #25,000. Buys
 UP for #40,000. New destination - Phoenix. Cash #28,500.

All railroads are now sold so we move onto 4 turns per period.

Summary

Baron	Runs	Current destination	Next destination	Railroads owned	Cash
DUCKHOLE	8	Pittsburgh	Spokane	PA,N&W	97,500
WIGAN	9	Phoenix	Milwaukee	CB&Q,B&M,NYNH&H,MP	28,000
TZUKE(X)	10	Boston	Houston	C&NW,NP,SOU,GM&O AT&SF	19,000
GREENGAGE	10	Knoxville	Miami	NYC,C&O,L&N,WP	56,000
ANON(S)	11	Portland Ore	Boston	SAL,B&O,T&P,RF&P, ACL,CMS&P&P,GN, SLSF,IC	10,500
HONKY	8	Albany	Phoenix	CRIP,D&RGW,SP,UP	28,500

Rolls for period XVIII - turns 37-40:

Turn	Roll	Bonus	Red	Yellow	Blue	Green	White	Black
37	6+3=9	6	-2	-1	+1	0	0	+2
38	4+3=7	5	-2	+1	+2	0	+2	0
39	5+2=7	2	0	0	+1	+1	0	0
40	5+3=8	4	+1	+1	-2	-1	0	-2
Accumulated bonus			-12	-10	0	-1	-9	+3

REPORT

COURIER 1829QI

14th OR

First, I should explain that Tom Kirby has left TSR UK in circumstances which I don't particularly want to be glorified in print. Suffice it to say that he won't be continuing in this game.

I thought the best way of resolving this was to sell off his shares - 3 LNWRs @ 320 gives #960 income, and 5 GNs @ 67 gives #335. These have been credited under dividends. LNWR and GN therefore are run by the bank until such times as a new director takes over. I apologise to shareholders in these two unfortunate companies, who don't get dividends, but I suppose that's the way things are when a director decamps (you should count yourself lucky he didn't take your dividends with him).

I have therefore delayed SBR 12 until next time to give punters the chance to change their bids. Particularly if everyone else gets involved it could be a mighty interesting SBR.

- LNWR: token to L9; lay 24K5:1; run #160 and retain; price #300; credit 320; three '2s'
- GWR: token to G5 (or is it C5 Alan?); lay 9E6:6; run #200 and pay; price #250; credit 220; one '3' and two '2s'
- Mid: token to H7; lay 9H8:1; run #160 and pay; price #160; credit 340; one '3' and one '2'
- LSWR: token to E5; lay 19E6:3; run #170 and pay; price #76; credit 110; two '3s' and one '2'
- GWR: token to M9; lay 10K8:2; run #80 and retain; price #64; credit 490; one '3'

Cash position:

Player	B/f	Dividends	Cash c/f	Worth	%age
Ray	73	42	115	1287	11.6
(Tom)	144	1347	1491	2061	18.6
(Martin)	567	30	597	1522	13.8
Sellick	512	136	648	2108	19.1
Ian	137	121	258	2260	20.4
Alan	177	182	359	1815	16.4

I have orders on file for some folk for SBR12 but I think it's best if everyone renews, in the circumstances. SBR12 only next time.

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Which concludes the games.

I had an extremely funny account from Ray Evans of the trauma he encountered in moving house, and particularly the reactions of the removal men on seeing the games room. Apparently his copy of "The Longest Day" is now missing, and there must at least be the germ of a suspicion that it has been 'collected' as a souvenir. Anyway, glad to hear you are finally settled, Ray. I must say the thoughts of moving house again bring me out in a cold sweat and an urgent desire for clear liquid in a large glass.

Received issues 116 and 117 of MAD POLICY from Richard Walkerdine, 144 Stoughton Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6PG. Worth getting - newcomers and veterans alike. I recently found an excellent new Chinese (Peking/Szechuan) near you, Richard - what am I offered for a further clue?

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Also received is issue 2 of the Zine With No Name from Martin Le Fevre, 1 Wellesley Nautical School, Blyth, Northumberland NE24 3PF. In the main, this is a listing of all known magazines remotely connected with the postal games hobby. Worth getting, particularly for newcomers.

Also received is In The Beginning issue 20 from Nick Kinzett, 11 Daleway Road, Green Lane, Coventry CV3 6JF. This is now the repository of postal Diplomacy statistics and Boardman Numbers.

Finally, Derek Sarath writes from Flat 3, 6 Victoria Road, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 1RP. Derek is a relative newcomer to the hobby and wants to get started. Well, Derek, as you will see from the above I am not offering any new Diplomacy games at present (and precious few new anything games) but Mad Policy is a good start and for further info about other magazines a line to Martin Le Fevre should bring home the goodies. Best of luck, and I hope you enjoy your gaming.

Which brings me only to the deadline - MONDAY 9 JUNE. 1986, that is.

All the best to everyone

Don Turnbull

