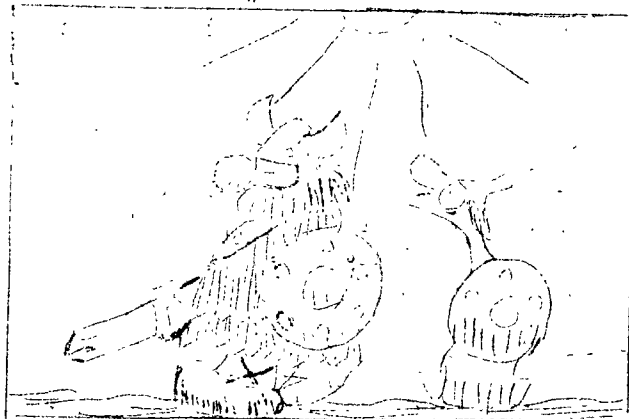


# DIB DIB DIB

ISSUE

12



This is issue 12 of a Diplomacy zine (which includes a touch of Sopwith) called Dib Dib Dib. Which comes to you from an editor, who frankly, is at a loss for words (at this present time), called Tom Tweedy. The price for getting this excellent piece of literature to you, costs you but a mere 1p a sheet + postage - surprising value for money these days (even with my letter column!). If for some obscure reason you have to get in touch with me (for a chat or to send money) my address is: 29 Stanley Hill Avenue, Amersham, Bucks, HP7 9BD. Tel. 02403 4513

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#### EDITORIAL

Ah, what a month this has been. Riots, in New Zealand, Dublin, and major cities of our own country... Chaos rules. And/for what? Thank goodness we had THE WEDDING to focus the world's attention instead of war. It was like a breath of fresh air: people enjoying themselves just for the hell of it. Did anyone NOT see it? (Jan didn't. She got sick of hearing, reading and seeing so much stuff about it, she couldn't be bothered to actually view the ceremony. Of course, I enjoyed every minute.)

But getting back to the riots for a moment. It rattles me to see so many of our police abused and injured without anyone apparently to stand up for them. Even their own superiors seem to be against them - the poor old bobby seems to be perched out there on a rotting limb all on their own!

Maybe I've been reading too many Daily Mail articles. Perhaps I'm just biased by their way of thinking, but it does get me angry seeing the respectable, middle-of-the-road politicians getting away with blaming the police for the riots by saying they "over-reacted"; using them as scapegoats because they don't want to face up to their own inadequacies. To many, just for the police to be there, is an over-reaction! How on earth are they supposed to do their job?

What makes it so sickening though, is the fact that if you were to ask the people who are trying to destroy our police force (for that is what they are surely doing) what they would do if they were set upon by thugs; have their house burgled etc; their reply would be: "Oh well...yes..but the police have to do their duty..."

Yes. As long as they don't 'over-react' by picking up a suspect, etc. But enough of this - don't want people to accuse Dib of becoming serious....

It's come to my attention that Hopscotch (a 'games' zine edited by Alan Parr) not content with just shocking the hobby by becoming a chat zine, is also considering the prospect of including Sopwith games in ~~xxx~~ its lists of other games. This is certainly good news from my point of view because now I can have a game. Anyway, I've put my name down. Nicholas Clifton will be Gfing them I believe. And if you want my advice, anyone wishing to play in a game better get their names down quick, as it's my guess (if my list is anything to go by) that the games will fill up quickly.

Talking of my Sopwith waiting list, it occured to me that it might be a little unfair to make those waiting on the list (Sandy Peters, George North, Keith Loveys, Dave Tant, Paul Simpkins, Peter Davies and now - ready for the next game - Richard Bass) wait any longer. If those on the list wanted the game to start straight away, then I could start it as a Dib supplement (adjudicated on a separate "Idem" sheet). Every now and then when Dib ends on an odd number, or when one of the other games finish, I can include the game in the zine. Mind you, before I start it as a supplement, ~~all the players will have to agree.~~

Although I mentioned last issue that I was taking over the CGS (Central Gamestart Service) job, I forgot to ask other editors to publish the fact (although some of the more observant have). Because there's still people out there (which recently included one zine editor!) who don't know that the CGS exists, I would appreciate it if other editors spread the news.

I've just sent off my last seven names to Puppet Theatre News, but there should be more coming in. Paul Simpkins asked me to keep a fatherly eye on Richard Sharp (for the benefit of newcomers - an old Gf and original custodian of the CGS), which I did. I gave Richard a ring just before he went to EuroCon and it turns out he's got half a dozen or so enquiries - which he'll let me have when he returns. The zines I have on my list requesting gamestarts are:- Duel Purpose, Last Stand, Bats,

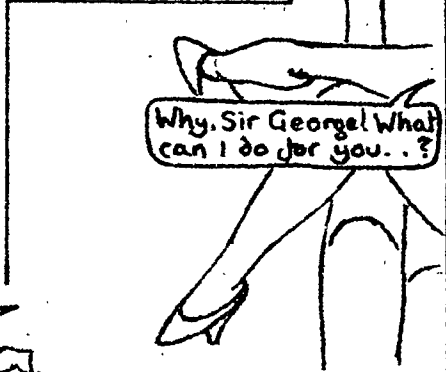
LONDON, 1901. THE PRIME MINISTER, SIR GEORGE DAVES, RECEIVES AN URGENT CABLE FROM FRANCE:



"Worried about Germany's moves. Could you send someone to have a look?"

Operator? Get me Barchester 42 42

AT THE OTHER END OF THE PHONE — GABRIELLE THORNE, TROUBLE-SHOOTER!



Why, Sir George! What can I do for you...?

Maurice — Prepare the Plane...



Right away M'Lady

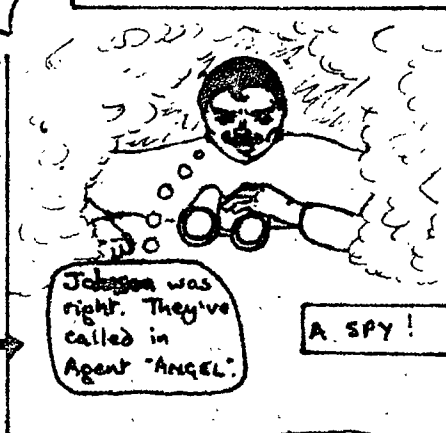
# ANGEL

in THE BRIGIDA INCIDENT

THE PLANE: A MIRACLE OF MODERN ENGINEERING, YEARS AHEAD OF ITS TIME, BUILT ON A DESIGN THAT IS LATER TO BECOME KNOWN AS

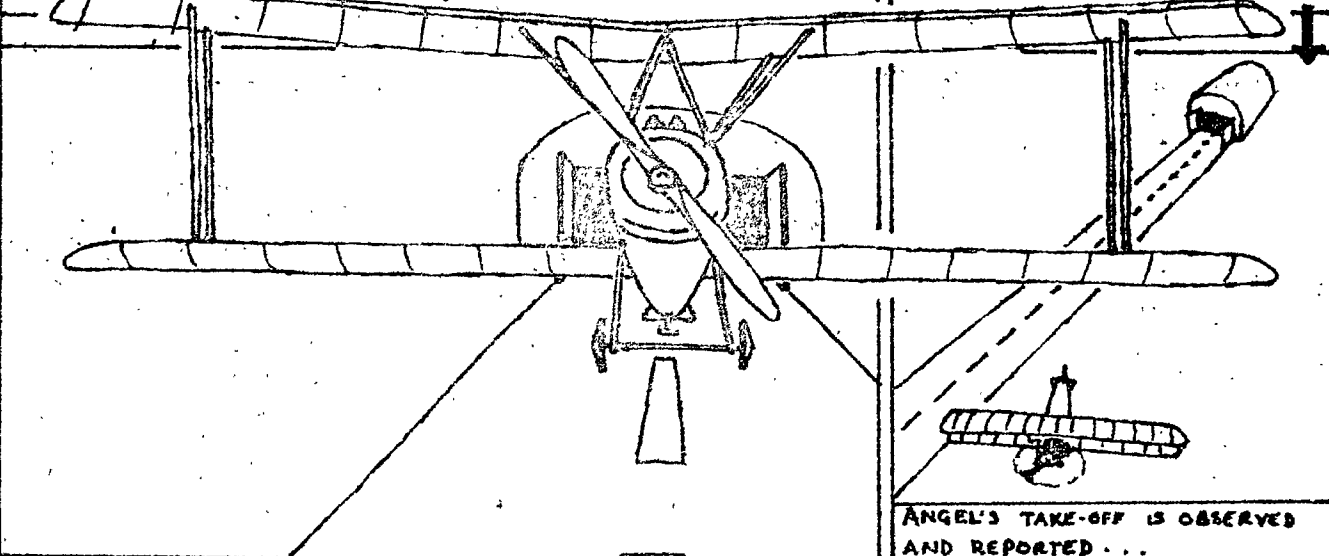
THE SOPWITH CAMEL!

BUT NOT VERY FAR AWAY A HEDGE CONCEALS:



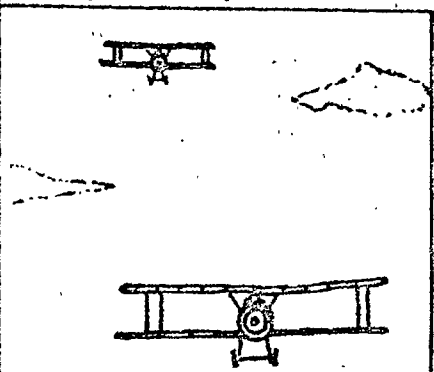
Johnson was right. They've called in Agent "ANGEL".

A SPY!



ANGEL'S TAKE-OFF IS OBSERVED AND REPORTED...

LATER, OVER BELGIUM — A PURSUER: "GOD'S HAMMER" JOHNSON!



Venio, volens, volens!

ROUGH TRANS: "HERE I COME, READY OR NOT!"



Time I wasn't here...!

THE NGC RATING SYSTEM (for May 1981)

Originally printed in Ode and copied by kind permission of John Marsden (editor of Ode) and Wink Thompson (who compiled the list).

It seems a long time since the Diplomacy player ratings list was last published - the last time, I believe, was in Mick Bullock's stats zine New Statsman (which, sadly, is no more). It has been said (by John Marsden if no other) that the list has been allowed to fall by the wayside because of lack of interest by other editors. This hardly seems likely, because most GM's/editors are, so it appears to me, quite keen to give their subscribers a good service. (Of course, there are exceptions....)

Mind you, talking to Wink it did seem as though he isn't getting the help he needs to make this sort of job easier. It's essential to get all his information (game-ends etc) from the Boardman Number Custodian - namely Pete Calcraft.

Pete went after, and accepted, the job from Mick Bullock, but seems to be having some trouble finding the time to do the job (due to exams and suchlike). Fair enough I suppose, but it does leave things a little up-in-the-air. Perhaps when Pete manages to wind down sota (which he firmly intends to do) he'll have more time to do stats - which he likes. I hope Wink and Pete eventually get together on this, as I think both jobs are very worthwhile.

The purpose of rating players in Diplomacy games is, quite simply, to provide a sort of players "form". It's also nice to see your name at the top of the list. Whatever, I think it's worthwhile publishing it because it's an 'easy check' to see how good, or dangerous, the players are in your games.

**METHOD:** To qualify for inclusion a player must finish 4 games. New players start with a nominal 100 rating (which acts as a damper). Game rating (total of 7 individual ratings) is shared 30%, 20%, 15%, 10%, 5%, 5% and 5% (DAMN this sodding machine - the percent key keeps missing) in finishing order. Remaining 10 percent apportioned by final S.C. holdings. New rating = cumulative points/games played +1. POS = Position; R = Rating; G = Games.

<u>POS</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>POS</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>POS</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>G</u>
1 David Phillips	274	7	32 Simon Dally	183	13	63 John Effemey	145	4
2 James O'Fee	274	8	33 Allan Ovens	180	22	64 Stewart Wright	144	6
3 Martin Feather	260	16	34 Richard Scott	176	16	65 Dave Tucker	144	9
4 Rob Chayman	238	5	35 Chris Rick	174	5	66 Clive Booth	142	5
5 Andy Holborn	238	7	36 Peter Hawkins	173	5	67 Ian McDonald	141	6
6 Steve Pratt	225	8	37 Harry Turner	171	7	68 Andy II Evans	140	6
7 Richard Walkerdine	221	14	38 Mike Ingham	171	11	69 Lionel Bidwell	140	4
8 Gary Silk	221	6	39 Peter Croft	170	5	70 John Miller	138	8
9 Ray Evans	216	10	40 Jon Palfrey	164	8	71 Mike Lean	136	11
10 Mike Close	215	5	41 Mike Nicholas	163	9	72 Iain Forsyth	136	7
11 Bob Tucker	214	5	42 John Marsden	162	4	73 Bob Lloyd	135	8
12 Norman Nathan	212	9	43 Mike Lay	161	6	74 Paul Simpkins	135	11
13 Tony Ball	209	10	44 Ron Fisher	160	9	75 Colin Harden	132	6
14 Alan Watson	209	10	45 Alan Bustany	160	9	76 Ken Williams	131	17
15 Roland Prevot	206	6	46 Brian Williams	159	5	77 Dave Tant	131	15
16 David Barnes	205	14	47 Nicky Palmer	159	8	78 Vic Smith	130	9
17 Tim Sharrock	205	5	48 Graham Buckell	159	5	79 Richard Sharp	129	27
18 Richard Hucknall	203	14	49 Pete Swanson	157	14	80 Denis Love	129	4
19 Tim Roberts	201	9	50 Bob Brown	155	12	81 Paul Cook	128	10
20 Neil McDonald	200	8	51 Pete Hearn	154	6	82 Roy Taylor	128	23
21 Mick Bullock	200	16	52 Graham Jeffery	154	5	83 Bill Orr	127	6
22 Alan Sedgewick	199	7	53 Peter Robertson	153	7	84 Martin Styler	127	6
23 Stuart Dagger	198	5	54 Greg Hawes	153	7	85 Edwin Godfrey	126	7
24 Doug Wakefield	196	8	55 Willy Haughan	152	18	86 Arthur Nunn	126	6
25 Roger Collins	195	5	56 Laurance Barrat	152	8	87 Norman Williams	126	7
26 Chris Farmer	193	4	57 Bruce Little	151	7	88 Nick Clennett	125	6
27 John Balson	190	7	58 Tony Mitchell	151	7	89 Eric Willis	124	26
28 Tadek Jarski	189	8	59 David I Johnson	149	6	90 John Herlihy	121	7
29 Paul McGivern	187	7	60 Frank Dashwood	148	10	91 Clive Waterhouse	119	9
30 Chris Day	184	4	61 Paul Ward	147	19	92 John Piggott	119	34
31 Phil Stimpson	183	5	62 Kim Bailey	146	12	93 Chris Tringham	119	10

<u>POS</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>POS</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>POS</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>G</u>
94 John Horst	118	4	135 Peter II Smith	95	4	176 Ian Jones	75	8
95 Stephen Dowcra	117	26	136 Steve Plater	93	24	177 Craig Ilyc	74	9
96 Chris Bishop	116	18	137 Paul Hurlley	93	4	178 Nick Baker	74	4
97 Andy Davidson	115	64	138 Pete Sydenham	93	11	179 Tony Scrace	73	4
98 Jim Roberts	115	8	139 Mike Allaway	92	19	180 Colin Walsh	73	14
99 Paul Willey	115	9	140 Graham Box	91	9	181 Stephen Andrews	73	4
100 Andrew Parsons	114	5	141 Steve Doubleday	90	10	182 John Robertson	73	5
101 Jeremy Tullett	114	4	142 Nick Shears	89	6	183 Larry Pringle	73	6
102 Mike Groom	114	9	143 Steve Howe	89	4	184 Andy Wright	73	7
103 Adrien Baird	113	4	144 Scott Horis	87	4	185 Peter Munn	72	4
104 Peter McDonald	112	9	145 Bob Armitage	87	4	186 Bill Dove	71	15
105 Wink Thompson	112	6	146 John Walsh	86	4	187 Tony Cox	70	4
106 Doug Mills	111	5	147 Ray Miller	85	5	188 Chris White	70	4
107 Peter Charlton	110	21	148 Jeff Garret	84	7	189 Eddie Goffin	70	4
108 Alan Humphrey	110	5	149 Martin Rundlc	83	17	190 Tony Woodrow	70	4
109 Andy Norman	110	10	150 Richard I Sykes	82	5	191 Michel Feron	69	7
110 Pete Birks	109	16	151 Chris Side	82	18	192 Terry Hill	68	11
111 Peter Berlin	108	6	152 Richard Jarvinen	82	4	193 Paul Willis	68	10
112 Geoff Challinger	108	12	153 John Lettice	82	17	194 George North	68	5
113 Peter Tyrell	107	9	154 Iain Drylie	81	4	195 Allan Powis	66	9
114 Paul Humphreys	107	4	155 Adam Quanton	81	10	196 Dave I Allen	66	14
115 Anthony Taylor	107	4	156 Pete Cousins	81	14	197 Tony Crouch	65	15
116 Ian Ossaway	106	6	157 Eddi Birsan	81	6	198 Rich Sealy	64	4
117 Stephen Agar	105	14	158 Hans Swift	80	4	199 Doug Pringle	63	7
118 Andy Tringham	105	7	159 Duncan Adams	80	4	200 Brian Yare	62	3
119 Andy Allars	105	5	160 Steve Side	80	9	201 Richard Bartle	61	9
120 Duncan Morris	105	9	161 Barry McManus	79	15	202 Dave Ross	60	3
121 Shaun Derrick	104	9	162 John Meadon	79	17	203 Steven Frow	59	4
122 Gary Hurkin	103	14	163 Ray Lee	79	4	204 Keith Smith	59	9
123 Jon Lovibond	102	8	164 Bruce Davidson	78	6	205 Mike Jarvis	57	8
124 Malcolm Brown	101	10	165 Ian McLaren	78	5	206 Geoff Page	56	6
125 Martin Hammon	101	10	166 G. Hardingham	78	7	207 Brian Clark	55	5
126 John Rayns	101	9	167 Ian Pringle	77	25	208 Sellick Davies	54	5
127 Jim Botten	100	6	168 Dave II Pratt	77	6	209 John Foulger	54	11
128 John Gough	100	4	169 David Sinclair	77	4	210 Don Brown	53	9
129 Richard Nash	100	31	170 Ian Hardle	76	5	211 Henry Olsen	52	6
130 David March	100	5	171 Hark Sandler	76	4	212 Hans Vermulen	50	4
131 Ron Keitz	98	4	172 Dave Pollard	76	7	213 Pete Lindsey	49	10
132 Bob Howes	97	16	173 Ray Harper	75	9	214 Colin Grubb	45	5
133 Keith Loveys	97	25	174 Howell Davies	75	16			
134 Tony Bartle	97	8	175 Boh Innes	75	5			

Phew! that was harder to do than I thought. Make of the list what you will. I would have thought that if one player had the same rating as another, but scored it in less games, that his position should be higher. This appears not to be the case. Perhaps it's just a rough guide... I shall see.

Any and all enquiries of the rating list should be sent to: Wink Thompson, 7 Peat Road, Bridge of Weir, PA11 3LU, Scotland. (Tel: 0505 613930)

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EDITORIAL (cont.)

Perspiring Dreams, Dib Dib Dib, Outposts, Bohemian Rhapsody, Fall of Eagles.

If anyone else wishes to go on the list please let me know.

I've just seen the results of Dib's own personal cartoon strip, "Angel" - it's turned out very well. Chris is using a full page for the cartoon to get the story started, it may stay as a full page spread or he may cut it down to a block of six at a later date - he's not sure yet. Whatever, it looks a good start (although he did forget to print: "Continued next issue." on the bottom). Well done Chris...

Don't think there's anything else to include in this section (if I've forgotten anything ~~xxxx~~ I'll have to remember to put it in 'Dibs and Drabs'), so it's on to...

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RESULTS OF THE GLADYS AWARDS

I'll just give the results on who came first and second in each category. To do any more than that would take up two or three whole pages (as it did in Pyrrhic Victory). Those who do wish to see the full results should write to, Mike Allaway, 60 Poynter Court, Gallery Gardens, Northolt, Middx. UB5 5PA.

- 1. BEST ZINE (max score 5).....1st Greatest Hits 3.52  
2nd NMR! 2.645
- 2. BEST GM (max score 3).....1st Bob Brown 1.91  
2nd Richard Hucknall 1.61
- 3. BEST LETTERCOLUMN (max score 5).....1st Greatest Hits 3.95  
2nd NMR! 2.84
- 4. BEST FOR HOBBY NEWS (max score 4).....1st Ode 2.88  
2nd NMR! 1.98
- 5. MOST IMPROVED ZINE (max score 5).....1st Pyrrhic Victory 2.938  
2nd Voice in the Wilderness 2.791
- 6. BEST NEW ZINE (max score 3).....1st Ripping Yarns 2.12  
2nd Perspiring Dreams 1.81
- 7. BEST FOR DIPLOMACY (max score 4).....1st Tinamou 2.503  
2nd Fall of Eagles 2.283
- 8. BEST FOR GAMES--PLAYING (max score 4).....1st Chimaera 2.97  
2nd Hopscotch 2.31
- 9. BEST DIPLOMACY VARIANT (max score 4).....1st Mercator 2.64  
2nd Rather Silly Diplomacy 2.17
- 10. BEST LOOKING ZINE (max score 5).....1st Ripping Yarns 3.298  
2nd Pyrrhic Victory 3.226
- 11. ELDER STATESMAN OF THE HOBBY (max score 4).....1st Mick Bullock 2.672  
2nd Don Turnbull 2.065
- 12. LES PINLEY MEMORIAL AWARD (max score 4).....1st Mick Bullock 2.60  
2nd Paul Simpkins 2.38

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOTERS: 48

Not a great turnout. Although Mike's to be congratulated on taking on this onerous task - and it must be remembered it is his first go on the awards - I think he's made a couple of mistakes this year: (a) he treated the Awards far too seriously, and (b) the results came after the Zine Poll. I've always thought the Gladys were supposed to be a fun-type sort of National Opinion Poll, leading up to the main one.

I'm not too sure whether it's a good idea to include the Les Pinley Memorial Award in with this list (Les was a well-known, long-standing hobby member, who died, of Cancer I think, at an early age). After all, the Gladys Awards are supposed to be light-hearted. On the other hand, where else can it be included? Anyway, to a couple of points about the Awards.....(Have to cram them in here -- no space anywhere else!) I was a little surprised to see Bob Brown get the BEST GM and BEST FOR DIPLOMACY awards. Although I don't manage to subscribe to Tinamou, all I've ever been reading whenever anyone mentions 'efficient Diplomacy games', is how good Richard Hucknall and FOE is. Now someone pips him to the post? Ummm.