

WAR BULLETIN

ISSUE NUMBER 16

A postal Diplomacy zine produced by Hartley Patterson of 'Finches', 7 Cambridge Rd, Beaconsfield, Bucks, UK. Tel 04.946.4116. For sub, game fees etc see elsewhere. This is Fred's Press Pub.15.

The Fog of War

No, I'm not referring to my state of mind when sorting out the moves, but to Diplomopia, the Colin Hemming game; provisional rules for which you will find enclosed. Colin pointed out when he sent them that he still only had six players. Come on someone - I wanna play!

Youngstown

Michel Liesnard says he now has six out of the required ten players. Since one of these is himself he would prefer an independent GM, and would welcome any offers. The fanzine will be produced by Michel himself - indeed Press releases have already started, with countries being allotted on a 'first come, first served' basis.

'E' Game

Will Haven, Charles Burton, Michel Liesnard.

KEV FEINTUCK In your house rules I'm slightly baffled by 25, the Coastal Crawl. Firstly I take it that it only applies to provinces with two coastlines, and that such moves as A Bel-Pic, A Pic-Brest are still legal.

((Yes))

However, can't really see reason for ruling and feel it should be abolished -

In the rules on movement of fleets part (ii), a fleet in a coastal province is assumed to be occupying the entire coastline of that province and since using your example Portugal only has the one coastline and borders both coasts of Spain the move seems legal.

Also in the part headed "Other Provinces having two coasts" it says "a fleet which may move to one of these provinces may 'support' in such province without regard to the separation of the coastline into two stretches," and it follows that since it may support it must be able to move to such a space.

MOVES 'B' (1970BU) SPRING 1907
'C' (1971Y) SPRING 1905
'D' (1971BU) AUTUMN 1901

((On your second point you are certainly wrong. The ability of a fleet on one coast to support as though it were on the other as well is a specific exception to the general rule that units can only support into spaces into which they could have moved. Earlier in that Two Coast rule it says "(a fleet) enters along one coast and may leave only from that coast."

I think Don Turnbull expresses it best by saying it is the Marines from the Fleet that have occupied the province.

The Coastal Crawl is, as the House Rules point out, a matter for dispute in US zines. Consider: if you allow Spain and Portugal to change places, how about a Crawling Retreat? If Portugal dislodges Spain, can Spain then retreat to Portugal?

I'd prefer to rule that there is only one way in which units can exchange positions, and that is by one of them being an army under convoy.))

Variants

Only one person responded to the request for anyone interested in variant Diplomacy games to write in. From this I must assume that there is little point in attempting to start any.

Nevertheless I intend to acquire the rules for at least some, and possibly summarise them in WB.

Standby Players

...are conspicuous by their absence. To restate: a standby player takes over the position of a player who has dropped out of a game. He pays no game fee. It is in fact a cheap way of gaining experience in Diplomacy. I would like to start this system for 'D' and all future games, but that depends on you.

That sinking feeling

The current (August) issue of Practical Electronics features the first part of a series on building a War Games Computer. This one is specifically designed for naval engagements a la Fletcher Pratt, and cuts out all the somewhat tedious referring to tables. The first part describes the system in general terms and is worth buying just for that.

'B' Game (1970BU) Spring 1907

GM: One minor correction, courtesy of John Piggott: last move Bul-Gre should have been fail, as Gre-Ion failed. Only three moves received.

GB: F's Hel,Nth,Eng,Bre. As Nor,Lon all in anarchy.

G: A Bel-Bur. A Sil-Gal. A Mun-Tyr. A Kië S A Ber stand.

R: As Pru,Mos F Bal unordered.

T: F Con-Aeg. F Eas-Ion S by F Tun & F Gre. F Bla-Sev. A Gal-Vie S by A Bud.
A Rum S A Bud. A Ser-Tri. A Bul-Ser.

I: A Apu-Ven. A Vie MS A Tri. A Boh S GERMANY A Sil-Gal. F Liv-Cly. F Rom-Tyr.
F Nap-Ion S by F Adr. F Wes-Tun.

F: A Bur anarchy.

Retreats: I/A Vienna is surrounded and eliminated.

T: The Sultan apologises for not answering correspondence, but this is due to the fact that he has been of no fixed abode and consequently has not received letters in time to reply. Note new address: J.Parker, Maths Institute, Univ. of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL.

'C' Game (1971Y) Spring 1905

GM: During last move the GM received a false movement order. Purporting to come from France, it was in fact the work of Charles Burton (Italy), who confessed after the game had been suspended. Italy is removed from this game. Corrections: France last move should have been

F: A Gas S F Spa(S). F Spa(S)MS A Mars. A Bur S A Mar. F Eng-Lon.

This means that Italy fails to take Marseilles, and instead loses a unit.

Both GoL and Wes are two spaces from a home base, both are fleets, so alphabetically GoL is removed. France raises a Fleet at Brest as requested. Germany can move Kiel-Munich.

GB: F Edi-Nrg. F Yor-Nth. F Nor-Bar. F Swe-Bal.

G: F Fin-Swe S by A Den. F Ber-Bal. A StP-Nor. A Mos S RUSSIA F Sev. ~~A Vic-Mun~~
F Bel-Eng. F Nth-Lon. A Ruh-Bel.

R: F Sev anarchy.

T: Two moves missed - anarchy! Fs Bla,Eas,Aeg. As Arm,Rum,Ser.

I: Now in anarchy. Fs Wes,Ion. As Pie,Tyr.

AH: As Vie,Bud,Tri in anarchy.

F: F Lon-Wal. F Bre-Eng. A Gas-Par. A Mar S A Bur stand. F Spa(S)-GoL.

Retreats: GB/F Swe-GoB (GB).

GB: The Kaiser's speech at the Bavarian beer festival: The Kaiser was in a rather merry mood as he addressed the crowd. He declared that henceforth beer festivals were to be held every week (cheers), and promised to lift all duties on the import of Newcastle Brown (many cheers). He then went on to talk persuasively of the evidence for the belief that the Germans were the Master Race. "...an' we beat dem commie bas (hic)" (pause) "'nt we? An' we're whompin' dem En'lish fairies, ain't we?" (Cheers)
After passing a few more comments on the validity of Janes Fighting Ships in the context of swords and sorcery, he ended with a rousing chorus of "Deutschland, deutschland uber alles" and sank to the floor, receiving a standing ovation of some eight minutes.

'D' Game (1971BU) Autumn 1901

GB: From Hansard, 15th October 1901. The Prime Minister: "It is my grave duty to inform the house that I have as yet received no answer from the Governments of France and Germany to my note requesting an assurance from each party that the neutrality of Belgium will be respected. During the last great conflict between the Latin and Teutonic peoples my predecessor, Mr Gladstone, was able to maintain that neutrality of which we are the guarantors by the Treaty of 1839. In reply to a request from His Majesty the King of the Belgians, I have ordered the Channel fleet into Ostend, where it will stiffen his peoples' resolve.

'This much then Members may know. What they are not aware of is that I have this morning received a desperate plea from the Norwegian government asking for aid against the Swedish invasion. After much deliberation I have decided to grant this and a British Expeditionary Force will sail in the morning, protected by the North Sea Fleet. The torch of democracy, particularly as embodied in the rights of small nations, is a heavy burden - but one which Her Majesty's Government is determined to bear until it is torn from their dying grasp. (Cries of 'hear,hear'. The House rose and gave a standing ovation. The PM was chaired from the chamber)

G: The Imperial Government of the Holy German Roman Empire offers to the French Government it's most sincere apologies for the recent moves of some of its armed forces towards Burgundy. It was of course a stupid mistake. Some recently enlisted man, working as a typist at Munich Army HQ, was supposed to prepare a written order for some of the men to bury the corpse of the pet goat of the 9-year old daughter of the Colonel in a nearby field. The clerk wrote "go to Burgundy" instead of "go to bury Gundy", Gundy being the name of the deceased animal. As the clerk has been hanged, such a mistake will not happen again.

Holland was today proclaimed the 7th province of the Holy German Roman Empire. His Imperial Highness Michael 1st added: "Germany does not want war. If only other European nations would allow us to annex peacefully all the territories that are historically part of our Empire, we would never make war."

T: HSM the Emperor of Byzantium has issued the following orders: 'The Balkan lands must be kept free from the influences of the Austrian Emperor, and the cur himself deposed without delay. I want his balls brought to me in a silver goblet within the year!'

F: From the French Press: The French Government has viewed with increasing amusement the attempts of certain powers to goad the peaceful French people into committing acts of violence. Witness the recent abortive invasion of Burgundy, perpetrated by the Kaiser. Does the Kaiser not know of the invisible force-field invented by our ingenious French scientists which has been strung across the border?

At the request of the respective governments France today occupied Portugal and Spain. Large crowds lined the streets of Lisbon and Madrid to cheer their gallant allies.

GB: F Eng-Bel. A Yor-Nwy. C by F Nth.
 G: A Kie-Den. A Mun-Bur. F Hol stand.
 R: F GoB-Swe. A Gal S ITALY Tyr-Vie. A Ukr-Rum S by F Sev.
 T: F Ank-Bla. A Con-Bul. A Bul-Gre.
 AH: F Tri stand. A Vie-Bud S by A Ser.
 I: A Ven stand. A Tyr-Vie. F Ion-Adr.
 F: F MAO-Por. A Bre stand. A Mat-Spa.

Retreats: none.

GB: 5 bases: 3 Britain, Nor, Bel. Builds A Lon, F Lpl.
 G: 5 bases: 3 Germany, Hol, Den. Builds A Kie, A Mun.
 R: 6 bases: 4 Russia, Swe, Rum. Builds F StP, A War. (Fleet on N Coast)
 T: 5 bases: 3 Turkey, Gre, Bul. Builds F Smy, F Con.
 AH: 3 bases: Ser, Bud, Tri. No change.
 I: 4 bases: 3 Italy, Vie. Builds F Nap.
 F: 5 bases: 3 France, Por, Spa. Builds A Par, A Mar.

* Next deadline Tuesday August 17th. This will probably be delayed by Mallorn being run off the following day.

* An information sheet for new people is planned, possibly in conjunction with Albion. Suggestions welcomed.