

Diplomacy World #146



Between-Round Fun at DixieCon

Summer 2019 Issue
www.diplomacyworld.net

Notes from the Editor

Welcome to the latest issue of **Diplomacy World**, the Summer 2019 issue. Summer is an odd season. Everything seems to slow down. It's 100 degrees here in Dallas, and 100 degrees in France (except I think that's 100 degrees Celsius for them). People who have actual lives (i.e. people who are not me) are planning vacations, spending time with family, and laying out by the pool.



Fortunately for us, it's also an active time in the face-to-face Diplomacy universe. That seems to be the focus of this issue, as we have reports both from DixieCon and Boston Massacre. Diplomacy conventions can be a great place to make new friends, reconnect with old ones...and ruin friendships, if you want to take things too seriously.

Of course, there's more to this issue than face-to-face Diplomacy. For example, we have David Hood delving back into hobby history to discuss the odd Bernie Oaklyn/Buddy Tretick mystery of the 1980's. I try not to

fall into good ole days syndrome when looking at the age of Postal Diplomacy, but as that was my introduction to the hobby it can be a bit difficult. While more fractionalized in ways, the advent of playing online has exposed the game to a much larger audience. It's the "big personalities" that I miss more than anything. There were some names everyone was familiar with in one way or another. Either you played in their zine, or they played in yours, or you encountered them all over the postal landscape. And because Dipzines were often much more than the games themselves, you developed a much better sense of who these people were. Some had a "hobby persona" which was much different than the one you'd encounter in private conversation. I do hope we can one day find a way to tie all the pieces of the hobby loosely together again, removing a bit of the anonymity that is so prevalent on the Diplomacy web sites.

Speaking of personalities, this issue also includes the final contribution from the late Larry Peery (part three of his lengthy piece on great speeches of the World War I era). Time may be a human construct, but as things stand right now it only moves in one direction. Sometimes we lose people in rapid succession and it all seems to run together. What was it that Martin Sheen as General Robert E. Lee said in the film "Gettysburg"? "Oh, we do expect the occasional empty chair. A salute to fallen comrades. But this war goes on and on and the men die and the price gets ever higher. We are prepared to lose some of us, but we are never prepared to lose all of us."

On a more upbeat note, the current Demo Game comes to an end this issue, and next time out you'll get to read all the end-of-game thoughts from the players and the commentators. There are always some gems hidden in those notes!

I'll close by reminding you the next deadline for Diplomacy World submissions is October 1, 2019. Remember, besides articles (which are always prized and appreciated), we LOVE to get letters, feedback, input, ideas, and suggestions too. So, email me at diplomacyworld@yahoo.com! See you in the fall, and happy stabbing!

Diplomacy World Staff:

Managing Lead Editor:	Douglas Kent, Email: diplomacyworld of yahoo.com or dougray30 of yahoo.com
Co-Editor:	Vacant!!
Strategy & Tactics Editor:	Fang Zhang, Email: truballer59 of yahoo.com
Variant Editor:	Bob Durf, Email: playdiplomacymoderator of gmail.com
Interview Editor:	Randy Lawrence-Hurt, Email: randy.lawrencehurt of gmail.com
Club and Tournament Editor:	Will J. Abbott, Email: wabbott9 of gmail.com
Demo Game Editor:	Rick Desper, Email: rick_desper of yahoo.com
Technology Editor:	Markus Zijlstra, Email: captainmeme1 of googlemail.com
Original Artwork	Vacant!!

Contributors in 2019: Thaddeus Black, Chris Brand, Steve Cooley, Joshua Danker-Dake, Rick Desper, Bob Durf, The GM, Jon Hills, Melinda Holley, David Hood, Randy Lawrence-Hurt, Christopher Martin, Michael Maston, Jack McHugh, Luiz L.S. Neto, Siobhan Nolen, Larry Peery, Gerry Sturley, Erik van Mechelen, Markus Zijlstra, Fang Zhang. Add your name to the 2019 list by submitting something for the next issue!

Contributions are welcomed and will earn you accolades and infinite thanks. Persons interested in the vacant staff positions may contact the managing editor for details or to submit their candidacy or both. The same goes for anyone interested in becoming a columnist or senior writer. Diplomacy is a game invented by Allan Calhamer. It is currently manufactured by Hasbro and the name is their trademark with all rights reserved.

In This Issue:

Editorial: <i>Notes from the Editor</i> by Douglas Kent	Page 2
Convention News: Selected Upcoming Conventions	Page 4
Feature: <i>Ask the GM</i> by The GM	Page 4
Face-to-Face: <i>DixieCon Report</i> by David Hood	Page 5
Feature: <i>What I Have Learned from the Game (Part II)</i> by Fang Zhang	Page 8
Face-to-Face: <i>Boston Massacre Report</i> by Randy Lawrence-Hurt	Page 8
Feature: <i>Ask the Hobby Historian</i> by David Hood	Page 10
Feature: <i>Airstrip One Goes Unicorn Hunting!</i> by Jon Hills	Page 11
Variants & Technology: <i>The Online Reality of 1v1 Diplomacy</i> by Markus Zijlstra	Page 13
Letters: Knives and Daggers, the Diplomacy World Letter Column	Page 14
Variants: <i>Variant on the Horizon: Dawn of the Enlightenment</i> by Bob Durf	Page 15
Interview: <i>NADF: An Interview with Chris Davis and Siobhan Nolen</i> by Randy Lawrence-Hurt	Page 17
Feature: <i>From Great Speeches of WWI to Shells and Words - Part III</i> by Larry Peery	Page 20
Demo Game: <i>"Eclipse" 1907 Results and Commentary</i>	Page 38

Selected Upcoming Conventions

Find Conventions All Over the World at <http://diplomacy.world/> and at <http://petermc.net/diplomacy/>

I am trying to locate additional sources for Upcoming Conventions. PLEASE, if you have an event coming up, notify me, and why not make up a one-page flyer for inclusion in Diplomacy World?

SkyCon1 – Thursday July 11th – Sunday July 14th – Big Sky Resort, Montana - Craig.Mayr@gmail.com

2019 Liberty Cup – Friday August 2nd – Sunday August 4th – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - <https://liberty-cup.com/2019-liberty-cup/>

World Dipcon 2019 – Friday August 30th – Sunday September 1st - Frioul Islands, Marseille, France – www.worlddipcon.com

DipCon 2019 – Friday September 6th – Sunday September 8th – Seattle, Washington – www.dipcon2019.com

Tempest 2019 – Friday October 11th – Sunday October 13th - Washington DC – <http://www.ptks.org/>

Carnage 2019 – Friday November 1st – Sunday November 3rd - Killington VT – <http://carnagecon.com/>

Ask the GM

By The GM

Dear GM,

I am worried that climate change will prevent me from enjoying Diplomacy by distracting me from the importance of Diplomacy. I feel spend too much time worrying about the future of humanity and not enough about how to get Bel in every game.

Sincerely,

A Gamer Who Feels Too Much

Dear Feels,

Finally, a Diplomacy player who has his priorities in the right place. Yes, you should concentrate on the important things life like why the other players aren't giving me supply centers and let the trivialities, like can humanity survive our own stupidity, fall by the way side.

Keep up the good work.

Your pal,

The GM

Dear GM,

Now that Games of Thrones is finally over with—do you think we can replace that show with a dramatic look of our hobby? I'd love to see a series on the "Diplomacy: The Power, the Glory, the Drama."

Do you think TLC or Showtime will pick it up?

Sincerely,

Drama Diplomacy Queen

Dear Queen,

I don't think it has much of a chance of getting picked up unless you include Doug Kent's depraved sexual memes and Jack McHugh's biting satire, without them the Diplomacy hobby is just a bunch of nerds trying to talk each other into having fun by taking Bel.

Your pal,

The GM

DixieCon Report

By David Hood

Memorial Day weekend 2019 saw the running of the thirty-third annual Dixiecon, which included the usual Diplomacy tournament and Iron Man event for non-Diplomacy gaming as well as the brand new, first ever, Terradipping Mars tournament. We had fifty-three folk in total, including thirty-six who played at least one round of Diplomacy. Other important stats: we had five Dip players completely new to Dixiecon, as well as several returning after years away (including Keith West and his boys Colin and Christian as well as Diplomacy veteran Vince Lutterbie returning after over twenty years!)

The action began on Thursday afternoon as Congoers began to arrive ahead of the 6pm start time for the Terraforming Mars event. Let's go ahead and discuss how that went. TM is a very popular game at Diplomacy tournaments, so Bill Hackenbracht and I decided it would be good to feature a side tournament for the fun of it and also to give folk something specific to come for in addition to the Diplomacy itself. The Terradipping went well, I think – we had 23 qualifying games played in addition to the championship board on Saturday night. For those who had not seen the tournament rules, these are all four player games using the base game plus Preludes expansion. In addition to the tournament itself, I kept track of everyone's individual scores and (for most games) the corporations played so that we can keep up with that over time, again mostly just for fun.

A quick aside – of the 19 games where we recorded the corporations played, Cheung Shing won 4, Mining Guild and Vitor 3 each, Credicor with 2 wins, and a slew with one win each.

Enough of that. In addition to TM on Thursday evening, there were also games of Tichu and Bang played, so that's a pretty good variety for the opening night!

Friday during the day many more gamers began to arrive, and therefore so did many other boardgames hit the tables. In addition to more TM and Tichu, there were games of Innovation, Skull, Azul, Family Business, Splendor, Mint Wars, and some obscure game that no one had ever heard of before called "Chess" or some such. There were also several folks who arrived with really only one goal in mind – the Diplomacy starting at 6pm Friday evening.

The round started with the obligatory awarding of, well, awards, from past Dixiecons. Still waiting on Adam Meldrom to come back and claim his I Got Hammered award from 2004 but I digress. Four board of Diplomacy were announced, with all the usual comments about how

"this" board or "that" board sure looked interesting. In truth, they were all pretty interesting. Game 1A featured Tanya Gill, Doc Binder and Emily Pollock in the west, facing off against an RT played by Edwin Turnage and Hudson Defoe. Emily ended up out of the draw at the end, but it was still a pretty blocked up result as a 4way. And the EXACT same result finished Game 1B, with the EFRT draw this time featuring Eric Erikson, Emmett Wainwright, Derek Hanlin and Todd Craig. In another odd coincidence, the other two games finished with AET draws – including Bill Hackenbracht's England being stopped at 17 centers in Game 1D.



Friday Night – "Seersucker" Round

As far as Iron Man gaming on Friday night was concerned, of course more TM was played but in addition, we saw Hoax, Lotus, Coloretto, Castles of Burgundy, Lifeboats, Airlines Europe and the Great Dalmouti. There were a lot of games new to Dixiecon, which just added to the fun, I think.

Saturday morning saw Round 2 of the Dip event, which also doubles as the Team Tournament. Adding a few more Dippers, the round swelled to five boards. Results important to tournament standings included the AR in Game 2A between Hackenbracht and Emily Turnage, Brad Blitstein's France getting to 13 centers before being forced into a 4way in Game 2B, and the reasonably significant solo win achieved by David Miller as Austria in 2C. Iron Man titles played during the day on Saturday included World's Fair 1893, Fox in the Forest, Twilight Struggle, Lifeboats, Settlers of Catan, Splendor and, I kid you not, "Pigtickler." No, I have no idea.

By the time the 5pm BBQ started on Saturday night all the Dip games were over, so after there was MUCH eating of pork, chicken, hush puppies and a bunch of other stuff, the Sat Nite activities commenced This

included the Terradipping final in which Andy Bartalone took the inaugural trophy against a field of Ed Rothenheber, Greg Fairbanks and Graham Woodring. This also included our Diplomacy variant game, Alex Ronke's 1812 Overture, which seemed to be just as much of a blast as it was when we played the earlier version during the 2016 Dixiecon. And, of course, Iron Man gaming continued with newer games like Viticulture, medium age classics like Railroad Tycoon and Dominion, and blasts from the past such as Conquest of the Empire. We also had a repeat of last year's big hit Stratomatic Baseball, which looks now to be a Saturday evening tradition.



1812 Overture – Variant Game

Round Three of the Diplomacy tournament began AS IT ALWAYS DOES at 9:30 am Sunday, this time with three boards of hearty Dippers playing in the only time-limited game. 3A sealed the eventual tournament victory for David Miller as his Turkey got into the three-way draw. The other two games were also three ways in which the top participant was stopped at 13 centers, Brad Blitstein's Turkey in 3B and Tonya Gill's Russia in 3C. When all the dust settled, we had the results shown below over 12 games of Dip, which included Blitstein cracking the top three at his first Dixiecon (we call that the Hall of Fame) and Miller doing the almost unheard-of repeat winner thing as he also won last year's Dip event. Kudos to all our Dip participants!

Dan Mathias won his first Iron Man championship, with Michael Lowrey coming in 2nd and Bill Morgan 3rd. The other winners are listed elsewhere, but I did want to highlight Bill Hackenbracht winning the Players Choice award as the person most folk enjoyed playing Diplomacy with the most over the weekend. Well deserved.



David Hood with Winner David Miller

After the Sunday night dinner and socializing, the many folk who were staying on into Monday then settled down for even more open gaming. Viticulture made a reappearance (was the most popular new-ish game this year I think) as well as 1846, Escape from Colditz, and others. My brother John and I even got in a game of Swords and Sorcery with Mitch McConeghey, a game we probably haven't played together in decades. So that was fun, particularly since I clearly, clearly won.

I hope everyone had a blast, and will return next year. I also hope that everyone goes to others of our fine selection of tournaments this year – we are truly blessed to have some many chances, now, to play Diplomacy, see old friends, and make new ones!

Full Results:

- 1) David Miller 516
- 2) Bill Hackenbracht 416
- 3) Brad Blitstein 340
- 4) Peter Yeargin 328
- 5) Jeff Ladd 324
- 5) Edwin Turnage 324
- 7) Tonya Gill 320

8) Brian Ecton 308
 9) Michael Doc Binder 296
 10) Todd Craig 292
 11) Emily Turnage 253
 12) Derek Hanlin 185
 13) Keith West 180
 14) Emmett Wainwright 166
 15) Mitch McConeghey 162
 16) Jason Mastbaum 158
 17) Eric Erikson 154
 18) Alex Ronke 148
 19) Hudson Defoe 144
 20) Vince Lutterbie 124
 21) Dan Pollock 101
 22) Clem Jayne 96
 23) Scott Crook 89
 24) Alex Mazlow 78
 25) Rob Kohr 67
 26) Vince Agosta 28
 26) Christian West 28
 28) Tim Richardson 20
 29) Colin West 15
 IN Robert Koehler 162
 IN Dave Maletsky 154
 IN Tom Kobrin 138
 IN Andy Bartalone 126
 IN Graham Woodring 62
 IN Emily Pollock 40
 IN Jim Yerkey 0

Death With Dignity Awards:

Christian West, Brad Blitstein, Colin West, Vince Agosta, Tim Richardson, Jim Yerkey, Emmett Wainwright, Keith West

Team Champions: "Overrated" - David Miller, Peter Yeargin, Andy Bartalone

Best Countries:

Austria David Miller
 England Bill Hackenbracht
 France Jeff Ladd / Edwin Turnage
 Germany Todd Craig
 Italy Jeff Ladd / Brian Ecton
 Russia Emily Turnage
 Turkey Brad Blitstein

Iron Man Tournament:

1) Dan Mathias

2) Michael Lowrey
 3) Bill Morgan

Golden Blade Award: Brad Blitstein
 I Got Hammered: Graham Woodring
 Brick: Alex Mazlow
 Players Choice: Bill Hackenbracht

Terradipping Mars Final Board:

Andy Bartalone, Champion
 Greg Fairbanks
 Ed Rothenheber
 Graham Woodring
 Players Choice: Bill Hackenbracht



Second Place and Players Choice Winner Bill Hackenbracht

What I Have Learned from The Game (Part Two)

By Fang Zhang

1. Always keep an eye on the French when you play England. Remember for England, a French fleet in SPA is as far as a fleet in BRE!
2. As England, preventing my neighbors from building fleets in BRE. STP, KIE and BRE is always on the top of my to do list.
3. England needs fleets to survive and armies to win.
4. I learned from Milan WDC in 2015 that your first build should be a fleet when you play Turkey.
5. Diplomacy is to a large extent a social game in which we interact with others by sharing and exchanging what we have in and out of the game.
6. Respect all the players, friends or enemies, because respect is the key element of successful cooperation.
7. You win a game or a tournament tactically, strategically, diplomatically and SOCIALLY
8. Admit it or not, at the very beginning of the game, every player starts with fear. If you could help others clear it up, militarily or diplomatically, you will likely earn their trust.
9. One of the main reasons I'm unable to act like the best players is that sometimes I get too emotionally involved to make wise decisions.
10. It's the feeling of achievement that most diplomacy players seek in playing diplomacy games. There are various forms of achievements, praises, social recognition, self-identity, successful persuasion, topping the board, being respected, etc.
11. Theoretically, in 1901, England/Turkey/Italy each can lose one supply center at most while Germany/Russia two, France/Austria all three. On the other hand, in 1901, England can only build twice at most while France/Germany/Italy/Austria/Turkey thrice and Russia four times.
12. It's the guys who you play with make a diplomacy game unique and memorable. You will likely forget how you played a specific game in detail but the facial expression of the guy who you ever stabbed, the flowers Cyrille SEVIN bought for your wife, and those small mistakes Edi Birsan found and corrected on the map hardly fade from our memory.
13. There is no absolute right or wrong in playing diplomacy game. There are only orders you like and dislike.
14. You won't truly hurt someone technically within the game, but someone would hate you for you hurt him socially in or out of the game.
15. Sometimes life sucks, we are having a bad day, and hope is less and less clear, just like how we always feel in playing diplomacy games. But if we could face it in a way that we are just playing an imperfect game of life, maybe it helps for us to hang tough through thick and thin.

Boston Massacre Report

By Randy Lawrence-Hurt

The 2019 iteration of the Boston Massacre was held over the weekend of June 21-23, and though I am a biased observer (being the TD), in my opinion it was a smashing success! We had 23 players over the three rounds, including five first-time FtF tournament goers (who all acquitted themselves quite respectably). The full results are posted at www.BostonMassacreDiplomacy.com, but for the immediately curious, our Top 3 and Best Country winners were:

1st Place: David Maletsky

2nd Place: Brad Blitstein

3rd Place: Andrew Katcher

Best Austria: Lucian Gagliola

Best England: Kevin Yang

Best France: Alex Maslow

Best Germany: David Maletsky

Best Italy: Michael Whitehouse

Best Russia: Alan Levin

Best Turkey: Andrew Katcher

Friday night got started a tad later than expected, due to technical issues with the seeding software (completely user-related), but shortly after 7:30pm three boards kicked off. Due to a few unexpected player absences, the TD had to play on all three boards, and David Maletsky graciously agreed to play on two. While still in 1901, though, another player showed up and took one of the TD's positions, which was obviously beneficial to the board, and the TD's sanity.

Board One had the biggest result of the evening, as Lucian Gagliola topped with a 13 SC Austria. He was hesitant at first to accept the draw, as there were probably a few more centers he could have forced on the board, but the rest of the players convinced him they were going to put aside their differences and stop the solo. With an outright win on that board looking unlikely, he accepted the draw (and eventually Best Austria).

Board Two was significantly less exciting; per reports after the game, a combination of fatigue and frustration resulted in a four-way tie for board top between Rachael Storey (Turkey), Zak Hammond (Italy), Brad Blitstein (Germany), and David Maletsky (France), all with 7 SCs. No one doubted there was more play on the board, but all apparently preferred an easier Friday night game, and a more aggressive Saturday morning.

Board Three saw (at least from my perspective) a bit more drama than the other two, as the TDs Germany and Matt Langer's England initiated an attack on France that did not go according to plan. After I was dislodged from Picardy and disbanded the unit instead of retreating to the English-held Belgium, my ally repaid that favor by taking one center off of me (I believe it was Sweden). I did not react well to this one-dot stab on the heels of my gracious disband, and pledged my units to France's cause. Long story short, I got a small measure of revenge, and was able to push Andrew Katcher's France to the board top, while my erstwhile English ally had to settle for a three-way tie for second with just 5 centers. Victory (of a sort) was mine!

Round two started in a much more timely fashion the next morning, kicking off just after 10am. We again had three rounds, and this time I only had to play one board, which was a significant relief. I drew Turkey, and settled into a game-long alliance with my neighbor Russia. This proved profitable for me, and worked out well for Matt Langer in England as well. The game ended with me topping and Matt in second; I think he debated keeping the game going for a few more years, to see if he could catch me, but decided it was unlikely.

On the other boards, David Maletsky topped one as Germany, and a new (to FtF tournaments) player, Kevin Yang, topped another as England. Kevin was

unfortunately only able to play that one round, but still walked away with Best England for his efforts!

These boards went into the late afternoon, as players took advantage of the relaxed schedule to pause for lunch. While I certainly understand the appeal of drop-dead timing, I'm increasingly of the opinion that allowing boards to set their own times, at least in a non-DipCon or WDC tournament, is more conducive to a fun and inviting atmosphere. It's all well-and-good if the experienced tournament-goers can handle 15-minute drop-dead rounds without stress, but if we're to grow as a hobby we need to appeal to more casual players and the online crowd, and neither of these groups is typically prepared for the pressure that drop-dead timing creates.

After the rounds, I'm told, there was ongoing gaming in the event space, and some people went into downtown Waltham (a fun suburb of Boston) for dinner and drinks. I went home, had dinner with my wife, and watched the USA drop six goals on Trinidad & Tobago, which was very cathartic given our ignominious loss to them eighteen months ago.

Sunday morning and the third round arrived, and the tournament was very much up for grabs. Ten players had at least 9000 points, so one big board top (and the right result on another board) was all it would take to secure a tournament victory. I again had to play one board, due to a few last-minute drops, and I ended up with Russia. This gave me the opportunity to prove that Russia could have good results, since every previous Russia had gotten clobbered. This I did, taking second to Brad Blitstein's England, but being the TD I was of course not eligible for awards; Best Russia ended up going to Alan Levin's 6 SC 3rd-place Russia from the first round, which gives you an idea of how tough this tournament was for the white pieces.

At the end of the day, the Top 3 finishers all did what they could to win. But because they were all on different boards, Brad Blitstein and Andrew Katcher weren't able to drag David Maletsky down enough to catch him. Though the two of them topped their boards, David got a second-place finish on his, and earned the victory.

In addition to the usual Top 3 and Best Country awards, I also handed out two special prizes. Rachael Storey, who survived for six consecutive years on 3-or-fewer centers, won Most Dogged, and Stephen Mondak, who played all three rounds but couldn't avoid getting smacked around despite his best efforts, won the Cannon Fodder prize (which was originally going to be the Loose Cannon award for the player who made the most unexpected or unusual move, but so far as I could tell no one really earned that distinction). Better luck next year, Stephen!

Overall, I'd consider the 2019 iteration of Boston Massacre to have been a success. We were at a new venue, slightly farther outside the city than usual, but with plenty of room for all the boards (and could have easily fit four more; room for growth next year!), and everyone I spoke to praised the hotel as being clean, comfortable, and the bar and restaurant for being as good as hotel bars and restaurants ever are. Though outside the city, the venue was still easily accessible by road or public transportation, and the abundance of free parking at the hotel was certainly welcome. The hotel's

close proximity to Waltham was taken advantage of several times; both In A Pickle (for breakfast) and Buffalo County (for dinner and 18% ABV beers) were frequented throughout the weekend. If all goes well, I do plan to hold Massacre at the same location (and same time) next year, and look forward to getting at least four, if not five or more boards!

So once again, thank you to all the attendees, congratulations to the winners, and hope to see you all next year!

Ask the Hobby Historian: The Bernie/Buddy Affair

By David Hood

Diplomacy Hobby History is full of fun facts and interesting weirdness. Perhaps none though is more bizarre than the Bernie/Buddy Affair, or what was also known as the "Oaklyn Is Tretick" incident. First, though, let me set the stage for all you young'uns out there who don't know what the Hobby was like in 1979.

You see, there was a time when the only two ways you could play Diplomacy were in person, or by actual physical mail. The Hobby basically relied upon the play-by-mail folks to organize and promote everything, with the face-to-face crowd being essentially connected through Avalon Hill itself or through folk they knew who also played by mail. PBM games were run in fan magazines, or "zines" for short – originally an outgrowth of the SF/Fantasy world. In fact, many early Dip zines were actually SF or fantasy folks who started running games in addition to their fiction or other content.

A GM/publisher would accept all the orders in the mail by a certain deadline. It went without saying that you trusted the GM to run the game fairly. It seems radical, but one "fairness" expectation that some had was that the GM would not himself play in a postal game UNDER A PSEUDONYM! In the late 70s, coming to a head in 1979, it began to seem that the GM known as Bernie Oaklyn, running the zine Le Front, may indeed be playing, himself, in some of the games under several other names - with the primary one being "Buddy Tretick". Both had addresses in Silver Spring MD, they had very similar handwriting when negotiating by pen, their typewriters seemed to be exactly the same, and Buddy and his other pseudonymic players seemed to do really, really well in games.

There were various fun writings in a number of different zines about all this, which you can find yourself if you do a Google Search with either or both names. Bernie wrote in issue 23 of Diplomacy World, Fall 1979 edition, that he was not in fact Buddy Tretick but that he had lived with Buddy, looked through a bunch of Buddy's

correspondence, copied Buddy's playing style, and other arguments designed to prove that he was not the same person but which in fact sounding suspiciously like he WAS the same person. He claimed Buddy did have a birth certificate, but that he himself did not because he was born so poor. As I said above, Diplomacy Hobby History is weird.

Opinions differed within the Hobby about all this, but pretty much everyone had some sort of opinion. Going into the 1982 Dipcon in Baltimore. Where the story got weirder.

The 1982 event was massive, certainly in comparison to the size of most Dipcons. It was SO large, in fact, that both Bernie Oaklyn AND Bernard Tretick are listed as players! As I understand it, Oaklyn/Tretick actually played under the two different names, so that's fun. Or perhaps he had recruited a surrogate to play one of the roles, it's unclear. Oaklyn is actually listed on the World Diplomacy Database as "not counted" so I suspect eventually this all got figured out. Or, maybe just maybe, there really were legitimately two different folk and all this was a bunch of hokey. Some of the 1982 participants are still kicking around, especially at Dixiecon, so next time you see Jim Yerkey or Mark Franceschini or Dan Mathias or Fred Townsend, ask them!

Which brings me to my own personal connection to the story, as brief as it was. In 1989 I was running the third annual Dixiecon in Chapel Hill, and was excited to receive in the mail (yes, folks, again, there was a world before interconnectivity) a registration from one Bernie Oaklyn hailing from Silver Spring MD. Hell-O, what's this, I wondered. Who would show up, what would he look like, would he feel any shame, etc.? This whole Bernie/Buddy Affair was before my time, so I had only read the stories. My friend Michael Lowrey and I wondered just what the heck would happen.

He showed. He introduced himself. AS Bernie Oaklyn. Seemed relatively normal, except that he talked a little formally. And then he started his Round One game.

A couple of hours later he comes storming at me, having tracked me down in a different room of the Department of Classics building in which we held the event that year. "How dare he" screamed our friend Buddy, or Bernie, or Bernard, or James, or Becky (yes that was another one he apparently used). "He lied to me!" I wondered just what in Hades he was talking about. He then went on to describe that someone had, gasp, lied to him in the game. Had stabbed him, as he related, "with no sense of honor." And that he was quitting the game right then and there and going home.

I'm not speechless very often. This was one of those times. Even if everything folk said about Bernie was

wrong, he had been in the Diplomacy hobby at that point for like 15 years or so and certainly knew the game. And if what folk said were true, the guy was perhaps the most persistent and shameless liar that had ever graced the Hobby. It was utterly bizarre. We have another high school friend of mine, Morgan Gurley, to blame because I think he was the dishonorable lout who sent Bernie/Buddy into orbit. But the guy really did go get his stuff, check out of his dorm room, and go back to Silver Spring, leaving Dixiecon 3 sometime around lunchtime on Saturday.

And that's the last I think the Hobby has ever heard from our intrepid Oaklyn/Tretick. Unless...has anyone actually ever SEEN both Doug Kent AND Bernie Oaklyn in the flesh? Perhaps our Buddy just moved to New Jersey and eventually took over Diplomacy World. Not an accusation at this point, just a question.

Airstrip One Goes Unicorn Hunting!

By Jon Hills

Hello again from Airstrip One.

As I may have mentioned before, in attempting to write a topical column I'm rather dependent on events happening at the right time. Sometimes a perfect story lands just as I'm preparing to write but that's quite unusual. More often, something suitable arises quite early in the quarter and I then spend eight weeks or so agonizing on how to make it work.

This quarter, though, things were a bit different. Not only did an interesting story land almost immediately but similar ones kept cropping up again and again. Never let it be said that I can't take a hint so this edition of Airstrip One is therefore dedicated to ... the comeback!

It all started with Tiger Woods. Within a week of Diplomacy World #145 coming out, he went and won the US Masters. This was his first victory in a Golf Major in 11 years and some commentators were suggesting that in doing so, Woods had 'won' comebacks forever. No one would be able to match such an achievement.

But, no sooner had he done this than two British soccer teams, Liverpool FC & Tottenham Hotspur FC, reached the Final of the European Champions League – possibly the ultimate club soccer competition. Each staged magnificent comebacks in their semi-final games. Tottenham stormed back from being two goals down in their semi-final to win 3-2 with a goal in literally the last minute. Impressive stuff! However, Liverpool went one better by clawing back a three-goal deficit. Not only was that the first time a team had managed this in that

competition (or its predecessor) for 33 years but it was achieved against the Spanish side, Barcelona – arguably the best club soccer team in the world at the moment.

(Incidentally, Tottenham reaching that Final was a bit of a comeback in itself as it was their first European final for 34 years. From this column's point of view it's a shame Liverpool won!)

Perhaps my favourite recovery, though, came from Tara Moore, a British tennis professional ranked #479 in the world. In early April, having lost the first set 6-0 against a player ranked about 300 higher than her, she saved match point at 5-0 down. She then went on to win that game, the next five on the bounce and, ultimately, the match. This echoed a similar feat by an American player, Chanda Rubin, in the 1995 Ladies French Open, who saved an amazing nine match points in the process!

All of these achievements are quite remarkable, and this set me thinking about whether there is an equivalent in *Diplomacy*?

We are probably all familiar with the legendary tale of a Diplomat battling back from a single centre to achieve a solo. This is routinely trotted out – particularly by me - as evidence as to why one should never give up on a position. However, in *Diplomacy*, games ebb and flow all the time. It is quite usual to find an early leader being pegged back before regaining ground. Does that mean that comebacks may be more common than we think?

Before we go any further, we need to set some parameters as to what a genuine *Diplomacy* comeback would look like. To my mind, this would be defined by two factors; the depth of the demise and the scale of the recovery.

First, let's consider the depth of the demise. At any point in the game it is not wholly unusual for a player to lose a centre here and there and recovering from such misfortune doesn't deserve particular credit. I'd suggest, therefore, that the threshold is where a player's SC count has been reduced to at least half of their starting strength (i.e. Russia going down to 2 dots or everyone else to 1). In that situation, they will face an uphill struggle to secure anything from the game. Applying this 50% rule eliminates the smaller fluctuations that can often occur in a fluid game and, of course, it can easily be applied to any variant.

Turning to the other half of the equation, how well does a player have to do to be regarded as having 'come back'? It's perhaps obvious that an outright win would fit the bill whereas mere survival wouldn't - but what about tied games? Not all draws are equal, but credit is surely deserved for those who can fight back to claim a decent share of the spoils.

Although not everyone counts a draw as a 'success' I would suggest that a draw would be an acceptable outcome provided the player concerned has the (joint) highest centre-count.

Based on these fairly arbitrary standards, how often will a comeback occur? Frankly, I have no idea. My expectation, however, is that these should be extremely rare - rather like the unicorn in today's title.

So that's where you come in. Will you join me on a unicorn hunt so that we can find a recorded example of a genuine *Diplomacy* comeback to rival the sporting achievements of Tiger, Tara and the rest?

In this digital age and with so many games now being played on-line, it should be relatively easy to identify those that meet the parameters above. If you have access to relevant data, please run some numbers and let me know. You can send your results to jon.airstrip1@gmail.com

Alternatively, if you have records of past PBM or PBEM games, perhaps you can take a look back. For my part, I'm trawling the *Diplomacy World* archive to see if I can find any examples - or even hints of one.

So far, I haven't had any success but I have only just cleared the first 40 editions!

Likewise, if you can remember anything like this happening before - maybe at an obscure DipCon or house game 40 years ago - please drop me a line. Or write in to Doug at *Diplomacy World*. That apocryphal story of a solo from a single centre must have started someplace and the truth is definitely out there somewhere! I want to find and celebrate what would undoubtedly have been a fine, and possibly unique, achievement.

Whilst on the subject of comebacks, it's also time for a quick preview of *Dip*-related activity coming up here in the UK, which I had omitted from the Spring Edition. Sadly, there was nothing to report as even that stalwart of UK Diplomacy, the London Diplomacy Club, was having a brief hiatus - being based at the London School of Economics, I guess this was to accommodate the main revision/exam period.

However, I'm pleased to report that LDC is back with two dates for forthcoming games being announced. The first is on July 6th - that's next weekend, folks, so if you're in the vicinity, look sharp and get along.

The other is on August 3rd. That's summer holiday season so I'm sure that Marvin Fried would appreciate seeing some new faces in case his regulars can't get along.

As ever, full details of both events are on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LondonDiplomacyClub/>

The other event to flag - although not strictly a UK happening - is World Dip Con 2019 in Marseilles, France, taking place at the end of August.

Again, you'll find full details here: <http://diplomied.free.fr>

The organisers are returning to the Frioul Islands, I think for the first time since Euro DipCon 2007 which featured one Edi Birsan as a visiting player. You can read about that in *Diplomacy World* #100 (arguably DW's best-ever edition and always worth another look).

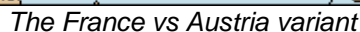
To date 35 players are registered as attending, including the force of nature that is Tanya Gill and several other well-known hobby names. I'm sure it will be a cracking event and wish I could get there myself. Sadly that's not to be but perhaps you can instead. You could even use LDC's August match as a warm-up!

Happy Stabbing!

By Markus Zijlstra

It turns out, though, that good 2-player variants can be made by sticking entirely to the standard Diplomacy rules, and even on the standard Diplomacy map. Two of the most popular 2-player variants are ones that you can set up and play on your Diplomacy board at home, although having played one in person, I can safely say that I prefer the online experience - the main advantage of face to face in my opinion is the ability to talk to and meet with your opponents, and in 1v1 there's no reason to do this, so there's no reason not to use the easier order entry and automatic adjudication you find online.

One of those variants, France vs Austria, is my speciality, and in my eyes the most balanced 1v1 variant on the standard map. The setup is very simple; in fact, it's given in its entirety by the title of the variant. Set up the board as you usually would, but only place F Bre, A Par, A Mar for France, F Tri, A Vie, A Bud for Austria, and leave the entire rest of the board empty. For the purpose of the variant, every Supply Center outside of France and Austria starts neutral, and as per usual in Diplomacy, the objective is to reach 18 SCs. An optional rule, implemented on some sites and that I'm very much in favor of, is that if no player has reached 18 SCs after 12 years of play, France is awarded the win.



There is a surprising amount of strategic depth in this variant. First and foremost, the majority of the fight occurs along the Major Stalemate Line, with the most heavily contested provinces generally being Munich, Berlin, St Petersburg, and Tunis - veterans will notice that this should give Austria the advantage, since if Austria can take everything behind that line, the player will only need to take 2 of the 4 contested provinces to win the game, whereas France needs to take all 4 (or lock down 3 in a stalemate if the optional win condition is in play). This is balanced out by the fact that it's very difficult for Austria to effectively hold these provinces - for example, Austria can generally reach St Petersburg first, but it's not holdable in the long term because they have no prospect of getting fleets into the Gulf of Bothnia or the Barents Sea.

If you've soloed standard Diplomacy, or gotten close, you'll probably recognize that dilemma, because StP acts in exactly the same way in late game there - from the south, it's a temporary gain that you could take and potentially hold long enough to reach 18, but it's not a province you can hold forever, so you're on the clock to win before the northern power or powers can surround it with 4 units and take it back. Likewise, from the north, it's a province that can take a while to take, but which you can always get eventually if you can get the units there, and once you've taken it you can easily hold it forever assuming there are no enemy fleets in the north.

This similarity is exactly why FvA works so well. While the early game is completely different to Classic Diplomacy, with the players attempting to balance getting enough forward momentum and picking up enough supply centers to keep that momentum, the later game fairly accurately simulates the end of a game with a player close to a solo. In that kind of game, the other powers will often attempt to unite into a single force, with their win condition being stalemating their opponent at fewer than 18 centers - with the exception that France can also win the game by temporarily holding 18 in this variant, France essentially fulfills the role of this coalition in a standard game. Since the board is built around this kind of late game conflict, it works spectacularly well for 1v1 without any rule changes in this variant.

To conclude, you really don't need any special event cards, die rolls, or any other rule additions to make 1v1 Diplomacy work - you just need a well-designed variant that makes the most of the All vs 1 aspects of the classic Diplomacy endgame. If you haven't tried 1v1 Diplomacy, I'd strongly recommend you jump into an FvA game online and give it a go; they usually aren't very time intensive (since negotiation doesn't happen) and since you only need 2 players to start, they tend to get off the ground very quickly. By reducing the field to two players, you definitely take out a lot of the interesting parts of the game, but the variant itself is a great way to challenge your tactical ability without having to commit to the effort requirement or time investment of a full press game.

Knives and Daggers - The Diplomacy World Letter Column



Fang Zhang - Can you recall one story about revenge in the hobby?

Also, as a DW reader, how does one join the DEMO game?

[[Revenge is a broad word. Parts of the "Great Feud" in the 80's had plenty of revenge tied to it, depending on your point of view and who you talk to. But most of the revenge stories that come to mind are payback strategies during postal games, where you had a lot more time to put something

together. Perhaps some of our readers will write in with their favorite Diplomacy-related revenge stories?

As for the Demo Game, Rick Desper (and myself) choose the players for each game based in part on the flavor of the game we're trying to put together. Sometimes it's players that have done very well in face-to-face tournaments, other times a players from a variety of playing forums. It just depends on what our focus is each game. Of course, we don't direct how the game how the game plays out. We just choose the players.]]

Variant on the Horizon: Dawn of the Enlightenment

By Bob Durf

For this issue, I had the chance through Discord to discover and discuss a new variant under design by David Cohen. Dawn of the Enlightenment is a world map variant which takes place at the start of the eighteenth century. The variant has players take control of fifteen various world powers. Some of the more unique powers available to play include Persia, Poland, and Oman. The game also contains two mechanics introduced to balance some of the issues world map variants are predisposed to have—High Seas provinces and variable victory conditions for each power. The full rules are located at

<https://davidcohen.wixsite.com/diplomiscellany>.

David Cohen has previously designed several variants, including Known World 901, East Indies, Maharajah's, and Conquest of the Americas, which are available on his main site, <http://diplomiscellany.tripod.com/index.html> (also on that site is a fantastic essay on Soloism, but unfortunately that is beyond the scope of my article here). I got in contact with David, we exchanged emails, and I asked him some questions about his new variant, which is currently undergoing its second playtest.

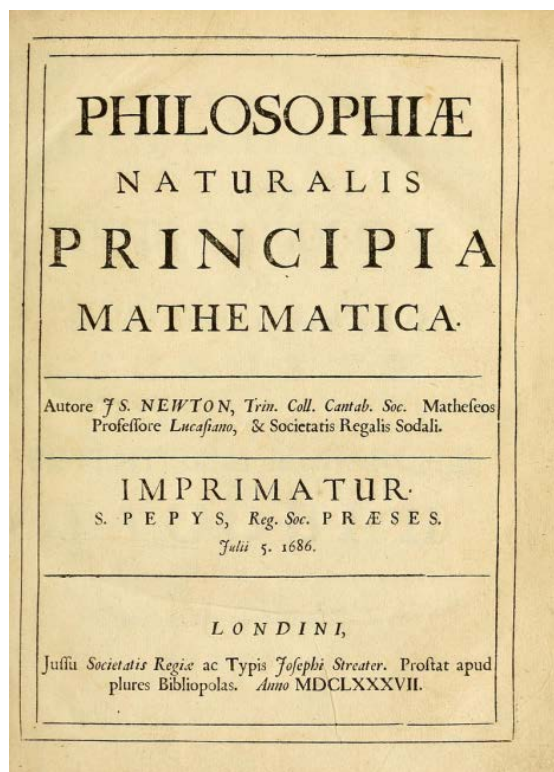
What inspired you to create a variant for this time period? Is it a general interest in the colonial period?

I have had the urge to make a truly global, wraparound variant for a long time. I was involved in the failed attempt to group design the 1648 global variant in the old Diplomacy Variant Workshop Yahoo group back in 2003. The archives are still there if people want to look. While Known World 901 and West Indies are large variants, neither was global. After I finished East Indies (combining Maharajah's and Spice Islands, and soon, I am told to be available on vDip), I kept thinking back to 1648. But there were a lot of variants which deal with that period. I decided to set my sights somewhat later, where there was more undisturbed ground, but you still had a bunch of plausible Asian Powers.

How have your previous variant designs taught you lessons for this particular variant?

I wanted a variant which was stalemate free or nearly so and which draws would be strongly discouraged or even impossible to establish. Both map and rule design experience fed into this. A much less dense map, Chaos builds, no impassable areas, stacked high seas provinces (a change from multiple units being able to enter a high seas province simultaneously in the previous version) and reduced victory criteria were all ways to get to this, which I had either previously

employed or considered employing in other variants. I think they are working well here, though it is only the second playtest.



Some consider Newton's publication of Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy in 1687 to be the 'Dawn of the Enlightenment.'

When I read your special rules for Dawn of the Enlightenment, I was reminded of my own encounter with Imperialism 2, another older world map variant. I remember approaching that variant and trying to find solutions to balance it more effectively. You have used High Seas and variable victory conditions as solutions to the sort of balance and distance issues world variants have. Let's talk about High Seas first, and what your stance is on how they impact stalemate lines and naval tactics.

The High Seas rule, which is simpler than the similar Sealanes rule, is specifically in there to provide fluidity of movement which hinders stalemate line formation and to make this very large map more integrated and quicker to traverse. The trade off is that the high seas provinces, while giving a player access to many, many areas of the board, do not border any Supply Centers. One has to be willing to make a commitment of time for a particular unit sent to a high seas province.



issues penetrating inland due to tropical disease, hence in part why the Scramble for Africa held off until the mid 1800s. What went into that design choice?

For avoidance of stalemates, I did not want any impassable areas. Additionally, most of the units on Africa are fleets, with only a minority of armies, so the full takeover of Africa, will be delayed. Two to three years or more for all the dots to be taken, similar to the more remote areas in Asia and the Western Hemisphere.



Fort Jesus, the site of a successful siege of the Portuguese fort by the Imam of Oman.

Now, turning to variable victory conditions, I really like the idea of those for these big world variants. I remember trying to come up with some for my own group who wanted to play Imperial II, but I believed there was no way I could guesswork create them for an existing variant map without playtesting. How difficult has it been to balance those?

Using lower (anywhere from a third to a 4th of the Supply Centers) and variable victory criteria is indeed educated guesswork. That said, the variant might well be able to work on a pure majority winner basis, though the relationships of the Powers would probably be different.

I'd like to talk about the inclusion of Oman as a Power. Reading up on that country during this time period was fascinating for me. How and why did you decide to put them on the world stage?

I had wanted an African Power, but when I considered Ethiopia or one of the other purely African polities of the period, they would all be inland Powers, which I could not easily balance with the holdings of the colonial Powers I wanted to place there. Oman in this period could "hang with the big boys", having just kicked the Portuguese out of Zanzibar, and I could set them up with just one army in mainland Africa. It also gave the Ottomans competition in Ethiopia.

Africa on your map is completely open, but in the 1700s non-natives to the continent had tremendous

Which Power is most interesting to play, in your mind?

That is like asking a parent which child is their favorite! They are all interesting to play, in my mind. If they weren't, I would be redesigning the map. There are Powers for every taste. A half dozen global empires, and another handful of nice compact ones, with some interesting hybrids as well. There are Powers which are very land oriented and those which are quite fleet heavy, but emphasis can be changed, since there are Chaos builds and many avenues for expansion.

Which Power has been the most difficult to balance thus far?

I am not sure a single Power has stood out in that way. I did make a lot of tweaks for many of the Powers after the first playtest, though a number of them were the result of me abandoning the multiple strength unit and Supply Center rules in order to simplify play and adjudication. I have only a very few additional tweaks in mind right now, though the second playtest has only just started.

My Take:

The variant is only in its second playtest, but it is clearly heading in the right direction. Many game designers have lots of great, but potentially unwieldy ideas when first creating prototypes of games, and this is one of those cases where the first playtest seems to have ironed out some mechanics that may have pushed the variant a bit too far into the 'messy slog' department (see the original rules and map here if you are curious: <https://image.ibb.co/kKBMSf/Dot-E-v1-2.png>). The current version has special mechanics, but they serve to make such a large world variant more playable. Variable victory conditions may still need some adjusting, but I think the inclusion of such a rule, along with chaos builds and high seas provinces will keep the game from denigrating into a slog with no end in sight.

As I garnered from my discussion with David, he clearly has an appreciation for this historical period, yet when gameplay has butted with historicity, he has chosen to improve gameplay, hence the chaos builds and what some could say is an overly open and valuable African interior. That bodes well for this variant's future, and I in particular look forward to hopefully seeing how the high seas mechanics work in practice. Several theatres created in this variant look like they will be very interesting to play out, such as Southeast Asia, with India, China, and the colonial powers. The whole area around the Ottoman Empire has a lot of powers with competing interests, and the smaller ones, such as Oman and Persia look like they should have good chances to build up before being crushed by the big bad Europeans and Turks. The map set-up for these smaller powers is thus commendable. The game, as most

colonial ones, suffers from European cram (along with the Netherlands having one lone home center in Europe that seems doomed for capture), but chaos builds mitigate the danger the Netherlands, Portugal, and Denmark face in their homelands.

David, as seen from his attempt to goad the Diplomacy Reddit page into action, is always open for communication and critique on his variants. He is available at zendip18AToptonlineDOTnet. I'd keep an interested eye out for this one—the mechanics put in place by David seem key to solving the stalemate and balance issues so many world variants can be plagued with. Any attempt to make such an epic sized map playable is commendable, and Dawn of the Enlightenment has been thoughtfully put together thus far.

Full Game map:

https://static.wixstatic.com/media/627722_be120a753242480fa74d8fccf8de655a~mv2_d_6000_3300_s_4_2.png/v1/fill/w_2500,h_1375,al_c,q_90,usm_0.66_1.00_0.01/DotE_v2_0.webp

To show you that even young people can be blind to the march of technology, it was just this quarter that I discovered the wide range of Discord servers created for the purpose of facilitating the playing of Diplomacy, as well as fostering new communities for Dip players. It was through one of these servers that I was able to get in contact with David and discover this great new variant in progress. So, if you're reading this paragraph, I have two comments—get on Discord if you'd like to discover active Diplomacy communities, and get in contact with me if you'd like your new variant featured here!

NADF: An Interview with Chris Martin and Siobhan Nolen

By Randy Lawrence-Hurt

With the recent departure of the long-serving President of the NADF Chris Martin, and the election by TDs of his successor, Siobhan Nolen, I thought it the perfect time to sit down with both of them and get their thoughts on their role, the NADF's future, and the Diplomacy face-to-face tournament hobby in general. Hope you enjoy it!

This first question is directed to you, Chris. What were the biggest challenges you faced as President of the NADF?

Chris: Frankly, the NADF doesn't have funding or much formal infrastructure. As the President, you rely entirely on volunteers, and your ability to organize people to get things done. I think I had a decent amount of success

getting some things done, but faced challenges accomplishing some of the bigger projects in the time frame I hoped for.

Do you have some examples?

Chris: Chief among my goals were getting a website up, improving advertising of local & national events, and drawing online players into the FtF community. Some of this required minimal help or I was able to myself, but I found it hard to get volunteers for long-term or larger projects. On the other hand, the power of volunteer efforts has been demonstrated by the increased success we've had drawing online players into the tournament scene, and when we were able to create a NADF-wide

Code of Conduct and sanction system. Though even that took far longer than anticipated.

Move to our new President, Siobhan; what are your main priorities as incoming President?

Siobhan: I'd really like to continue to piggy-back off Chris's work. There've been great strides towards increasing our involvement with the online community, and I'd like to expand on that. And I'd definitely like to get a website done.

Is there anything we can expect or hope to see out of the NADF in the next six months to a year?

Siobhan: Honestly, at this point we're on a fairly loose timeline. I'd definitely like to get the website created within the year, though. I think it would be incredibly valuable to have one central repository for info on the NADF and hobby, upcoming tournaments and results, etc.

What do you both see as the biggest hurdles to creating an NADF website?

Siobhan: I'd say the biggest challenge will be finding someone to manage it. For my vision of the website to work, it would need updating, frequent content, things that keep people interested. And of course, who is going to pay for it? If I as the President take it upon myself to pay for it, is there any guarantee that the next President will want to or be able to assume that responsibility?

Chris: If you look at websites that've been successful over the years (the Diplomatic Pouch and Diplomacy World come to mind, some European sites, the Windy City Weasels), they have volunteer admins donating time to work on it on a regular basis. Even so, they can sometimes go a long time without updating. It's very hard to wrangle people. I'd also add that it's harder today to keep a website secure from hacking than it ever was before; if you miss one update to your platform, someone will exploit it.

What are some changes to the hobby or NADF you'd like to see happen in the next few years?

Chris: One positive movement over the last couple of years has been an increasingly diverse player base, thanks in large part to crossover from online players. If you think of the evolution of the hobby over the last several decades, it was pretty much a white male demographic. Certainly, those weren't the only people who played the game, and the tournament-going demographic wasn't something that was done by design, that was just where and how the game happened to thrive face-to-face. On the internet, that's not the case. There are much broader demographics. I'd like to see

that trend continue, see the hobby become broader, younger, more diverse. I think that sort of change brings a richness to it. The more we can reach out beyond the borders of our existing base to people who can learn to love the game the way we play it, the better off the hobby will be.

Siobhan: Completely agree. When I joined this hobby, it was mostly middle-aged white men. And there was no maliciousness about how or why that was the case, but it can be overwhelming if you're a person of color, or a woman, or a member of the LGBTQ community, etc. And in the last five years, we've seen the hobby take great strides towards bringing in a more diverse and younger crowd, and more and more people are saying they're feeling more comfortable, and more "seen" at events.

What are your respective thoughts on standardization among NADF tournaments? E.g., specific mandated scoring systems, seeding procedures, etc?

Chris: In the past, there's been a lot of resistance to any kind of standardization. The argument was that through diversity we have a sort of strength. Anyone who wants to host a tournament can, and can choose to emphasize what they find important or good about the game and tournament play. This has created a situation where conventions and tournaments have enough variety that we end up having not just a variant of Diplomacy (which I'd argue any tournament situation is), but a different variant at every tournament. That's neither good nor bad, but doesn't lend towards standardization.

One idea I considered when I became president was to move to a situation where the NADF said, "this is the variant of Diplomacy that we will play at tournaments in North America." The only way to do that would have been to put it out there, let people debate and adopt if they want, and let those who don't form a different league. If you look at any other hobby, be it bowling or ballroom dancing, that's what happened: some organizing body took the lead and declared how things would be handled. In my time, I decided that was too much of a task, that we did not have a robust enough hobby to build a structure like that. In the last few years, we've had maybe 200-250 different people show up at tournaments. I think we need to double that. If we have maybe 500-600 people showing up, we would have a robust enough situation to create demand for a more formalized structure, and the benefits you'd get from that.

Siobhan: There's been a lot of talk on the Teams channel about DipCon this year (*interviewer's note: Webex Teams is a social messaging app, with a great many Diplomacy players active on it to discuss the hobby, upcoming tournaments, etc. Download it and join*

the conversation!)). The scoring system will be randomly drawn each round. The younger crowd largely thinks this is hilarious and fun, but there are people who've been in the hobby longer and have tried this before, and it didn't go very well. Chris, do you remember, can you speak to that?

Chris: If I recall, the issue was that people didn't know the scoring system till after the round, so didn't know what their objective each game was, which caused a lot of consternation, as people didn't know how to maximize their score each round.

Siobhan: I'm very wary of mandating a scoring system. As we know, Dip players like to argue about scoring systems, and I'd hate to be the one to tell David Hood he can't use draw-based, for example. I think maybe DipCon should have a standard system that's announced months ahead of time, and tournaments in general should have to announce ahead of time. As for board seeding, I think there has to be some degree of randomization. The TD shouldn't be picking boards every time, particularly in a tournament with a wide range of experience and skill levels, as that could cause at least the perception that the TD basically gets to pick who will probably win each board.

Chris: The issue with completely random boards is that you end up with situations where, say, people who are related to each other are on the same board. On the other hand, if it's a TD seeding the boards manually, they could be affected by various biases for or against certain players, whether intentionally or not. We've had some success with controlled randomization, keeping certain people from playing on the same boards together, or from playing more than one board together in a tournament. But again, that's all being developed by volunteers.

Siobhan: There's always a debate between how random a tournament should be. What is the standard of acceptableness? What I've been thinking about is not setting down a specific mandate from on high, but creating a minimum viable standard or requirement; if you meet all of these, then whatever you do outside of that is ok. And I'm not sure exactly what that would be, but some things I've been thinking is having a scoring system that is announced maybe two weeks or a month ahead of time, publishing how you'll seed the boards ahead of time, things like that.

Chris: I think what we're both saying to a certain degree is that standardization might be great, but the amount of work it would take, and fights it would cause to create and enforce, might not be worth it.

There are recurring fears or suggestions that the NADF can operate like a black box. What is your reaction to that, and what if anything would you like to do to change that impression?

Siobhan: That's definitely been a conversation in the past, the impression that's there's a sort of conference of elders that speaks down from on high. I'd like to see the NADF have more active communication with the hobby itself. As I get to forming the Board I'd like to have, and reaching out to the people with connections throughout the hobby, I want to create a more democratic approach, to make people at all levels feel included, feel involved. I want people to come to me or the NADF, and say here are my concerns, here's what I'd like to try or see happen, and know that they'll be heard.

Chris: And I think that's laudable, but I would say that it's very hard to do that with an all-volunteer community. Just look at how DipCon gets selected. Much of the time, it involves contacting a TD and "telling" him or her it's their turn to host DipCon. The kind of buy-in needed to create any sort of formalized structure with feed-back from all levels of the hobby is very hard to do in an all-volunteer organization spread across the country.

Chris, as outgoing President, do you have any thoughts or advice for the incoming President you'd like to share publicly?

Chris: GET OUT WHILE YOU STILL CAN! No, but seriously, every President has to handle things their own way. The biggest thing I could suggest is, don't be afraid to ask people for help, and don't be afraid to remind them when they said they would assist. And the more concrete goals you can set, the more results you'll achieve. Find the thing that makes it fun for you, and keep doing it.

Thank you both so much for your time. What are the next tournaments the community can expect to see you at?

Chris: I am going to be in Philadelphia at the Liberty Cup in August (8/02-8/04), at DipCon in Seattle (9/06-9/08), at Tempest in D.C. (10/11 - 10/13), and of course Carnage in Vermont in November (11/01-11/03).

Sio: Much less travel for me this year, because I have a young child, but I'll be at the first ever Big Sky Con in Montana (7/11-7/14) which I'm very excited for, I'll be in Seattle for DipCon, and then I'm honestly unlikely to make it to another event till I host Whipping in San Jose next April.

From Great Speeches of WWI to Shells and Words: The Weapons and Tools of WWI – Part 3

By Larry Peery

Georges Clemenceau's Opening Address at the Paris Peace Conference, 18 January 1919

Gentlemen, you would not understand it if, after listening to the words of the two eminent men who have just spoken, I were to keep silent.

I cannot elude the necessity of expressing my lively gratitude, my deep gratitude, both to the illustrious President Wilson and to the Prime Minister of Great Britain, as well as to Baron Sonnino, for the words which they have uttered.

In the past, in the days of my youth - long ago now, as Mr. Lloyd George has reminded me - when I travelled over America and England, I used always to hear the French blamed for that excess of politeness which led them beyond the boundaries of the truth. Listening to the American statesman and the British statesman, I asked myself whether in Paris they had not acquired our national vice of flattering urbanity.

It is necessary, gentlemen, to point out that my election is due necessarily to lofty international tradition, and to the time-honoured courtesy shown toward the country which has the honour to welcome the Peace Conference in its capital. The proofs of "friendship" - as they will allow me to call it - of President Wilson and Mr. Lloyd George touched me profoundly, because in these proofs may be seen a new force for all three of us which will enable us, with the help of this entire Conference, to carry through the arduous task entrusted to us. I draw new confidence from it for the success of our efforts.

President Wilson has good authority for his remark that we have here for the first time a collection of delegates from all the civilized peoples of the earth. The greater the sanguinary catastrophe which devastated and ruined one of the richest regions of France, the more ample and more splendid should be the reparation - not merely the reparation for material acts, the ordinary reparation, if I may venture to say so, which is due to us - but the nobler and loftier reparation - we are going to try to secure, so that the peoples may at last escape from this fatal embrace, which, heaping up ruins and sorrows, terrorizes the populations and prevents them from devoting themselves freely to their work for fear of the enemies who may spring up at any moment.

It is a great and noble ambition that has come to us all. We must hope that success will crown our efforts. This can only be if we have our ideas clear-cut and well defined.

I said in the Chamber of Deputies some days ago, and I make a point of repeating the statement here, that success is possible only if we remain firmly united. We have come here as friends. We must pass through that door as brothers. That is the first reflection which I am anxious to express to you. Everything must be subordinated to the necessity for a closer and closer union between the peoples which have taken part in this great war.

The Society of Nations has its being here, it has its being in you. It is for you to make it live, and for that there is no sacrifice to which we are not ready to consent. I do not doubt that as you are all of this disposition we shall arrive at this result, but only on condition that we exercise impartial pressure on ourselves to reconcile what in appearance may be opposing interests in the higher view of a greater, happier, and better humanity.

That, gentlemen, is what I had to say to you.

I am touched beyond all expression by the proof of confidence and regard which you have been kind enough to give me. The program of the Conference, the aim marked out by President Wilson, is no longer merely peace for the territories, great and small, with which we are directly concerned; it is no longer merely a peace for the continents, it is peace for the peoples.

This program speaks for itself; there is nothing to be added to it. Let us try, gentlemen, to do our work speedily and well. I am handing to the Bureau the rules of procedure of the Conference, and these will be distributed to you all.

I come now to the order of the day. The first question is as follows: "The responsibility of the authors of the war." The second is thus expressed: "Penalties for crimes committed during the war." The third is: "International legislation in regard to labour."

The Powers whose interests are only in part involved are also invited to send in memoranda in regard to matters of all kinds - territorial, financial, or economic - which

affect them particularly. These memoranda should be addressed to the general secretariat of the Conference.

This system is somewhat novel. Our desire in asking you to proceed thus is to save time. All the nations represented here are free to present their claims. You will kindly send in these memoranda as speedily as possible, as we shall then get on with the work which we shall submit for your consideration. You can deal with the third question from the standpoint of the organization of labour.

It is a very vast field. But we beg of you to begin by examining the question as to the responsibility of the authors of the war. I do not need to set forth our reasons for this. If we wish to establish justice in the world we can do so now, for we have won victory and can impose the penalties demanded by justice.

We shall insist on the imposition of penalties on the authors of the abominable crimes committed during the war. Has any one any question to ask in regard to this? If not, I would again remind you that every delegation should devote itself to the study of this first question, which has been made the subject of reports by eminent jurists, and of a report which will be sent to you entitled, "An Inquiry into the Criminal Responsibility of the Emperor William II."

The perusal of this brochure will, without doubt, facilitate your work. In Great Britain and in America studies on this point have also been published. No one having any remark to make, the program is adopted.

It only remains for me to say, gentlemen, that the order of the day for our next sitting will begin with the question of the Society of Nations. Our order of the day, gentlemen, is now brought to an end. Before closing the sitting, I should like to know whether any delegate of the Powers represented has any question to submit to the Bureau. As we must work in complete agreement, it is to be desired that members of the Conference shall submit all the observations they consider necessary.

The Bureau will welcome the expression of opinions of all kinds. and will answer all questions addressed to it.

No one has anything further to say? The sitting is closed.

Source: *Source Records of the Great War, Vol. VII*, ed. Charles F. Horne, *National Alumni* 1923

No use of the word diplomacy.

Wilson's The Pueblo, CO Speech on Ratifying the Treaty, 25 September 1919



Wilson returning from the Versailles Peace Conference, 1919.

[1] Mr. Chairman and fellow countrymen, it is with a great deal of genuine pleasure that I find myself in Pueblo, and I feel it a compliment that I should be permitted to be the first speaker in this beautiful hall. One of the advantages of this hall, as I look about, is that you are not too far away from me, because there is nothing so reassuring to men who are trying to express the public sentiment as getting into real personal contact with their fellow citizens. I have gained a renewed impression as I have crossed the continent this time of the homogeneity of this great people to whom we belong. They come from many stocks, but they are all of one kind. They come from many origins, but they are all shot through with the same principles and desire the same righteous and honest things. I have received a more inspiring impression this time of the public opinion of the United States than it was ever my privilege to receive before.

[2] The chief pleasure of my trip has been that it has nothing to do with my personal fortunes, that it has nothing to do with my personal reputation, that it has nothing to do with anything except the great principles uttered by Americans of all sorts and of all parties which we are now trying to realize at this crisis of the affairs of the world. But there have been unpleasant impressions as well as pleasant impressions, my fellow citizens, as I have crossed the continent. I have perceived more and more that men have been busy creating an absolutely false impression of what the treaty of peace and the covenant of the league of nations contain and mean. I find, more-over, that there is an organized propaganda against the league of nations and against the treaty proceeding from exactly the same sources that the organized propaganda proceeded from which threatened this country here and there with disloyalty. And I want to say—I cannot say it too often—any man who carries a

hyphen about with him carries a dagger that he is ready to plunge into the vitals of this Republic whenever he gets ready. If I can catch any man with a hyphen in this great contest, I will know that I have caught an enemy of the Republic. My fellow citizens, it is only certain bodies of foreign sympathies, certain bodies of sympathy with foreign nations that are organized against this great document which the American representatives have brought back from Paris. Therefore, in order to clear away the mists, in order to remove the impressions, in order to check the falsehoods that have clustered around this great subject, I want to tell you a few very simple things about the treaty and the covenant.

[3] Do not think of this treaty of peace as merely a settlement with Germany. It is that. It is a very severe settlement with Germany, but there is not anything in it that she did not earn. Indeed, she earned more than she can ever be able to pay for, and the punishment exacted of her is not a punishment greater than she can bear, and it is absolutely necessary in order that no other nation may ever plot such a thing against humanity and civilization. But the treaty is so much more than that. It is not merely a settlement with Germany; it is a readjustment of those great injustices which underlie the whole structure of European and Asiatic society. This is only the first of several treaties. They are all constructed upon the same plan. The Austrian treaty follows the same lines. The treaty with Hungary follows the same lines. The treaty with Bulgaria follows the same lines. The treaty with Turkey, when it is formulated, will follow the same lines. What are those lines? They are based upon the purpose to see that every government dealt with in this great settlement is put in the hands of the people and taken out of the hands of coteries and of sovereigns who had no right to rule over the people. It is a people's treaty, that accomplishes by a great sweep of practical justice the liberation of men who never could have liberated themselves, and the power of the most powerful nations has been devoted not to their aggrandizement but to the liberation of people whom they could have put under their control if they had chosen to do so. Not one foot of territory is demanded by the conquerors, not one single item of submission to their authority is demanded by them. The men who sat around that table in Paris knew that the time had come when the people were no longer going to consent to live under masters, but were going to live the lives that they chose themselves, to live under such governments as they chose to erect. That is the fundamental principle of this great settlement.

[4] And we did not stop with that. We added a great international charter for the rights of labor. Reject this treaty, impair it, and this is the consequence to the laboring men of the world, that there is no international tribunal which can bring the moral judgments of the world to bear upon the great labor questions of the day.

What we need to do with regard to the labor questions of the day, my fellow countrymen, is to lift them into the light, is to lift them out of the haze and distraction of passion, of hostility, into the calm spaces where men look at things without passion. The more men you get into a great discussion the more you exclude passion. Just so soon as the calm judgment of the world is directed upon the question of justice to labor, labor is going to have a forum such as it never was supplied with before, and men everywhere are going to see that the problem of labor is nothing more nor less than the problem of the elevation of humanity. We must see that all the questions which have disturbed the world, all the questions which have eaten into the confidence of men toward their governments, all the questions which have disturbed the processes of industry, shall be brought out where men of all points of view, men of all attitudes of mind, men of all kinds of experience, may contribute their part to the settlement of the great questions which we must settle and cannot ignore.

[5] At the front of this great treaty is put the covenant of the league of nations. It will also be at the front of the Austrian treaty and the Hungarian treaty and the Bulgarian treaty and the treaty with Turkey. Every one of them will contain the covenant of the league of nations, because you cannot work any of them without the covenant of the league of nations. Unless you get the united, concerted purpose and power of the great Governments of the world behind this settlement, it will fall down like a house of cards. There is only one power to put behind the liberation of mankind, and that is the power of mankind. It is the power of the united moral forces of the world, and in the covenant of the league of nations, the moral forces of the world are mobilized. For what purpose? Reflect, my fellow citizens, that the membership of this great league is going to include all the great fighting nations of the world, as well as the weak ones. It is not for the present going to include Germany, but for the time being Germany is not a great fighting country. All the nations that have power that can be mobilized are going to be members of this League, including the United States. And what do they unite for? They enter into a solemn promise to one another that they will never use their power against one another for aggression; that they never will impair the territorial integrity of a neighbor; that they never will interfere with the political independence of a neighbor; that they will abide by the principle that great populations are entitled to determine their own destiny and that they will not interfere with that destiny; and that no matter what differences arise amongst them they will never resort to war without first having done one or other of two things—either submitted the matter of controversy to arbitration, in which case they agree to abide by the result without question, or submitted it to the consideration of the council of the league of nations, laying before that council all the documents, all the facts, agreeing that the

council can publish the documents and the facts to the whole world, agreeing that there shall be six months allowed for the mature consideration of those facts by the council, and agreeing that at the expiration of these six months, even if they are not then ready to accept the advice of the council with regard to the settlement of the dispute, they will still not go to war for another three months. In other words, they consent, no matter what happens, to submit every matter of difference between them to the judgment of mankind, and just so certainly as they do that, my fellow citizens, war will be in the far background, war will be pushed out of that foreground of terror in which it has kept the world for generation after generation, and men will know that there will be a calm time of deliberate counsel. The most dangerous thing for a bad cause is to expose it to the opinion of the world. The most certain way that you can prove that a man is mistaken is by letting all his neighbors know what he thinks, by letting all his neighbors discuss what he thinks, and if he is in the wrong, you will notice that he will stay at home, he will not walk on the street. He will be afraid of the eyes of his neighbors. He will be afraid of their judgment of his character. He will know that his cause is lost unless he can sustain it by the arguments of right and of justice. The same law that applies to individuals applies to nations.

[6] But you say, "We have heard that we might be at a disadvantage in the league of nations." Well, whoever told you that either was deliberately falsifying or he had not read the covenant of the league of nations. I leave him the choice. I want to give you a very simple account of the organization of the league of nations and let you judge for yourselves. It is a very simple organization. The power of the league, or rather the activities of the league, lie in two bodies. There is the council, which consists of one representative from each of the principal allied and associated powers—that is to say, the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy, and Japan, along with four other representatives of the smaller powers chosen out of the general body of the membership of the league. The council is the source of every active policy of the league, and no active policy of the league can be adopted without a unanimous vote of the council. That is explicitly stated in the covenant itself. Does it not evidently follow that the league of nations can adopt no policy whatever without the consent of the United States? The affirmative vote of the representative of the United States is necessary in every case. Now, you have heard of six votes belonging to the British Empire. Those six votes are not in the council. They are in the assembly, and the interesting thing is that the assembly does not vote. I must qualify that statement a little, but essentially it is absolutely true. In every matter in which the assembly is given a voice, and there are only four or five, its vote does not count unless concurred in by the representatives of all the nations represented on the council, so that there is no validity to any vote of the

assembly unless in that vote also the representative of the United States concurs. That one vote of the United States is as big as the six votes of the British Empire. I am not jealous for advantage, my fellow citizens, but I think that is a perfectly safe situation. There is no validity in a vote, either by the council or the assembly, in which we do not concur. So much for the statements about the six votes of the British Empire.

[7] Look at it in another aspect. The assembly is the talking body. The assembly was created in order that anybody that purposed anything wrong would be subjected to the awkward circumstance that everybody could talk about it. This is the great assembly in which all the things that are likely to disturb the peace of the world or the good understanding between nations are to be exposed to the general view, and I want to ask you if you think it was unjust, unjust to the United States, that speaking parts should be assigned to the several portions of the British Empire? Do you think it unjust that there should be some spokesman in debate for that fine little stout Republic down in the Pacific, New Zealand? Do you think it unjust that Australia should be allowed to stand up and take part in the debate—Australia, from which we have learned some of the most useful progressive policies of modern time, a little nation only five million in a great continent, but counting for several times five in its activities and in its interest in liberal reform? Do you think it unjust that that little Republic down in South Africa, whose gallant resistance to being subjected to any outside authority at all we admired for so many months and whose fortunes we followed with such interest, should have a speaking part? Great Britain obliged South Africa to submit to her sovereignty, but she immediately after that felt that it was convenient and right to hand the whole self-government of that colony over to the very men whom she had beaten. The representatives of South Africa in Paris were two of the most distinguished generals of the Boer Army, two of the realest men I ever met, two men that could talk sober counsel and wise advice, along with the best statesmen in Europe. To exclude Gen. Botha and Gen. Smuts from the right to stand up in the parliament of the world and say something concerning the affairs of mankind would be absurd. And what about Canada? Is not Canada a good neighbor? I ask you. Is not Canada more likely to agree with the United States than with Great Britain? Canada has a speaking part. And then, for the first time in the history of the world, that great voiceless multitude, that throng hundreds of millions strong in India, has a voice, and I want to testify that some of the wisest and most dignified figures in the peace conference at Paris came from India, men who seemed to carry in their minds an older wisdom than the rest of us had, whose traditions ran back into so many of the unhappy fortunes of mankind that they seemed very useful counselors as to how some ray of hope and some prospect of happiness could be opened to its people. I for my part

have no jealousy whatever of those five speaking parts in the assembly. Those speaking parts cannot translate themselves into five votes that can in any matter override the voice and purpose of the United States.

[8] Let us sweep aside all this language of jealousy. Let us be big enough to know the facts and to welcome the facts, because the facts are based upon the principle that America has always fought for, namely, the equality of self-governing peoples, whether they were big or little—not counting men, but counting rights, not counting representation, but counting the purpose of that representation. When you hear an opinion quoted you do not count the number of persons who hold it; you ask, “Who said that?” You weigh opinions, you do not count them, and the beauty of all democracies is that every voice can be heard, every voice can have its effect, every voice can contribute to the general judgment that is finally arrived at. That is the object of democracy. Let us accept what America has always fought for, and accept it with pride that America showed the way and made the proposal. I do not mean that America made the proposal in this particular instance; I mean that the principle was an American principle, proposed by America.

[9] When you come to the heart of the covenant, my fellow citizens, you will find it in article 10, and I am very much interested to know that the other things have been blown away like bubbles. There is nothing in the other contentions with regard to the league of nations, but there is something in article 10 that you ought to realize and ought to accept or reject. Article 10 is the heart of the whole matter. What is article 10? I never am certain that I can from memory give a literal repetition of its language, but I am sure that I can give an exact interpretation of its meaning. Article 10 provides that every member of the league covenants to respect and preserve the territorial integrity and existing political independence of every other member of the league as against external aggression. Not against internal disturbance. There was not a man at that table who did not admit the sacredness of the right of self-determination, the sacredness of the right of any body of people to say that they would not continue to live under the Government they were then living under, and under article 11 of the covenant, they are given a place to say whether they will live under it or not. For following article 10 is article 11, which makes it the right of any member of the league at any time to call attention to anything, anywhere, that is likely to disturb the peace of the world or the good understanding between nations upon which the peace of the world depends. I want to give you an illustration of what that would mean.

[10] You have heard a great deal—something that was true and a great deal that was false—about that provision of the treaty which hands over to Japan the rights which Germany enjoyed in the Province of Shantung in China.

In the first place, Germany did not enjoy any rights there that other nations had not already claimed. For my part, my judgment, my moral judgment, is against the whole set of concessions. They were all of them unjust to China, they ought never to have been exacted, they were all exacted by duress from a great body of thoughtful and ancient and helpless people. There never was any right in any of them. Thank God, America never asked for any, never dreamed of asking for any. But when Germany got this concession in 1898, the Government of the United States made no protest whatsoever. That was not because the Government of the United States was not in the hands of high-minded and conscientious men. It was. William McKinley was President and John Hay was Secretary of State—as safe hands to leave the honor of the United States in as any that you can cite. They made no protest because the state of international law at that time was that it was none of their business unless they could show that the interests of the United States were affected, and the only thing that they could show with regard to the interests of the United States was that Germany might close the doors of Shantung Province against the trade of the United States. They, therefore, demanded and obtained promises that we could continue to sell merchandise in Shantung. Immediately following that concession to Germany there was a concession to Russia of the same sort, of Port Arthur, and Port Arthur was handed over subsequently to Japan on the very territory of the United States. Don't you remember that, when Russia and Japan got into war with one another the war was brought to a conclusion by a treaty written at Portsmouth, N.H., and in that treaty, without the slightest intimation from any authoritative sources in America that the Government of the United States had any objection, Port Arthur, Chinese territory, was turned over to Japan? I want you distinctly to understand that there is no thought of criticism in my mind. I am expounding to you a state of international law. Now, read articles 10 and 11. You will see that international law is revolutionized by putting morals into it. Article 10 says that no member of the league, and that includes all these nations that have done these things unjustly to China, shall impair the territorial integrity or the political independence of any other member of the league. China is going to be a member of the league. Article 11 says that any member of the League can call attention to anything that is likely to disturb the peace of the world or the good understanding between nations, and China is for the first time in the history of mankind afforded a standing before the jury of the world. I, for my part, have a profound sympathy for China, and I am proud to have taken part in an arrangement which promises the protection of the world to the rights of China. The whole atmosphere of the world is changed by a thing like that, my fellow citizens. The whole international practice of the world is revolutionized.

[11] But, you will say, "What is the second sentence of article 10? That is what gives very disturbing thoughts." The second sentence is that the council of the league shall advise what steps, if any, are necessary to carry out the guaranty of the first sentence, namely, that the members will respect and preserve the territorial integrity and political independence of the other members. I do not know any other meaning for the word "advise" except "advise." The council advises, and it cannot advise without the vote of the United States. Why gentlemen should fear that the Congress of the United States would be advised to do something that it did not want to do I frankly cannot imagine, because they cannot even be advised to do anything unless their own representative has participated in the advice. It may be that that will impair somewhat the vigor of the league, but, nevertheless, the fact is so, that we are not obliged to take any advice except our own, which to any man who wants to go his own course is a very satisfactory state of affairs. Every man regards his own advice as best, and I dare say every man mixes his own advice with some thought of his own interest. Whether we use it wisely or unwisely, we can use the vote of the United States to make impossible drawing the United States into any enterprise that she does not care to be drawn into.

[12] Yet article 10 strikes at the taproot of war. Article 10 is a statement that the very things that have always been sought in imperialistic wars are henceforth forgone by every ambitious nation in the world. I would have felt very lonely, my fellow countrymen, and I would have felt very much disturbed if, sitting at the peace table in Paris, I had supposed that I was expounding my own ideas. Whether you believe it or not, I know the relative size of my own ideas; I know how they stand related in bulk and proportion to the moral judgments of my fellow countrymen, and I proposed nothing whatever at the peace table at Paris that I had not sufficiently certain knowledge embodied the moral judgment of the citizens of the United States. I had gone over there with, so to say, explicit instructions. Don't you remember that we laid down 14 points which should contain the principles of the settlement? They were not my points. In every one of them I was conscientiously trying to read the thought of the people of the United States, and after I uttered those points, I had every assurance given me that could be given me that they did speak the moral judgment of the United States and not my single judgment. Then, when it came to that critical period just a little less than a year ago, when it was evident that the war was coming to its critical end, all the nations engaged in the war accepted those 14 principles explicitly as the basis of the armistice and the basis of the peace. In those circumstances I crossed the ocean under bond to my own people and to the other governments with which I was dealing. The whole specification of the method of settlement was written down and accepted beforehand, and we were architects building on those specifications.

It reassures me and fortifies my position to find how, before I went over men whose judgment the United States has often trusted were of exactly the same opinion that I went abroad to express. Here is something I want to read from Theodore Roosevelt:

[13] "The one effective move for obtaining peace is by an agreement among all the great powers in which each should pledge itself not only to abide by the decisions of a common tribunal but to back its decisions by force. The great civilized nations should combine by solemn agreement in a great world league for the peace of righteousness; a court should be established. A changed and amplified Hague court would meet the requirements, composed of representatives from each nation, whose representatives are sworn to act as judges in each case and not in a representative capacity." Now, there is article 10. He goes on and says this: "The nations should agree on certain rights that should not be questioned, such as territorial integrity, their right to deal with their domestic affairs, and with such matters as whom they should admit to citizenship. All such guarantee each of their number in possession of these rights."

[14] Now, the other specification is in the covenant. The covenant in another portion guarantees to the members the independent control of their domestic question. There is not a leg for these gentlemen to stand on when they say that the interests of the United States are not safeguarded in the very points where we are most sensitive. You do not need to be told again that the covenant expressly says that nothing in this covenant shall be construed as affecting the validity of the Monroe doctrine, for example. You could not be more explicit than that. And every point of interest is covered, partly for one very interesting reason. This is not the first time that the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate of the United States has read and considered this covenant. I brought it to this country in March last in a tentative, provisional form, in practically the form that it now has, with the exception of certain additions which I shall mention immediately. I asked the foreign relations committees of both houses to come to the White House, and we spent a long evening in the frankest discussion of every portion that they wished to discuss. They made certain specific suggestions as to what should be contained in this document when it was to be revised. I carried those suggestions to Paris, and every one of them was adopted. What more could I have done? What more could have been obtained? The very matters upon which these gentlemen were most concerned were the right of withdrawal, which is now expressly stated; the safeguarding of the Monroe doctrine, which is now accomplished; the exclusion from action by the league of domestic questions, which is now accomplished. All along the line, every suggestion of the United States was adopted after the covenant had been drawn up in its first form and had been published for the criticism of the

world. There is a very true sense in which I can say this is a tested American document.

[15] I am dwelling upon these points, my fellow citizens, in spite of the fact that I dare say to most of you they are perfectly well known, because in order to meet the present situation we have got to know what we are dealing with. We are not dealing with the kind of document which this is represented by some gentlemen to be; and inasmuch as we are dealing with a document simple-pure in respect of the very principles we have professed and lived up to, we have got to do one or other of two things—we have got to adopt it or reject it. There is no middle course. You can not go in on a special-privilege basis of your own. I take it that you are too proud to ask to be exempted from responsibilities which the other members of the league will carry. We go in upon equal terms or we do not go in at all; and if we do not go in, my fellow citizens, think of the tragedy of that result—the only sufficient guaranty of the peace of the world withheld! Ourselves drawn apart with that dangerous pride which means that we shall be ready to take care of ourselves, and that means that we shall maintain great standing armies and an irresistible navy; that means we shall have the organization of a military nation; that means we shall have a general staff, with the kind of power that the general staff of Germany had; to mobilize this great manhood of the Nation when it pleases, all the energy of our young men drawn into the thought and preparation for war. What of our pledges to the men that lie dead in France? We said that they went over there, not to prove the prowess of America or her readiness for another war, but to see to it that there never was such a war again. It always seems to make it difficult for me to say anything, my fellow citizens, when I think of my clients in this case. My clients are the children; my clients are the next generation. They do not know what promises and bonds I undertook when I ordered the armies of the United States to the soil of France, but I know, and I intend to redeem my pledges to the children; they shall not be sent upon a similar errand.

[16] Again and again, my fellow citizens, mothers who lost their sons in France have come to me and, taking my hand, have shed tears upon it not only, but they have added, "God bless you, Mr. President!" Why, my fellow citizens, should they pray God to bless me? I advised the Congress of the United States to create the situation that led to the death of their sons. I ordered their sons overseas. I consented to their sons being put in the most difficult parts of the battle line, where death was certain, as in the impenetrable difficulties of the forest of Argonne. Why should they weep upon my hand and call down the blessings of God upon me? Because they believe that their boys died for something that vastly transcends any of the immediate and palpable objects of the war. They believe, and they rightly believe, that their

sons saved the liberty of the world. They believe that wrapped up with the liberty of the world is the continuous protection of that liberty by the concerted powers of all civilized people. They believe that this sacrifice was made in order that other sons should not be called upon for a similar gift—the gift of life, the gift of all that died—and if we did not see this thing through, if we fulfilled the dearest present wish of Germany and now dissociated ourselves from those alongside whom we fought in the war, would not something of the halo go away from the gun over the mantelpiece, or the sword? Would not the old uniform lose something of its significance? These men were crusaders. They were not going forth to prove the might of the United States. They were going forth to prove the might of justice and right, and all the world accepted them as crusaders, and their transcendent achievement has made all the world believe in America as it believes in no other nation organized in the modern world. There seems to me to stand between us and the rejection or qualification of this treaty the serried ranks of those boys in khaki, not only those boys who came home, but those dear ghosts that still deploy upon the fields of France.

[17] My friends, on last Decoration Day, I went to a beautiful hillside near Paris, where was located the cemetery of Suresnes, a cemetery given over to the burial of the American dead. Behind me on the slopes was rank upon rank of living American soldiers, and lying before me upon the levels of the plain was rank upon rank of departed American soldiers. Right by the side of the stand where I spoke there was a little group of French women who had adopted those graves, had made themselves mothers of those dear ghosts by putting flowers every day upon those graves, taking them as their own sons, their own beloved, because they had died in the same cause—France was free and the world was free because America had come! I wish that some men in public life who are now opposing the settlement for which these men died could visit such a spot as that. I wish that the thought that comes out of those graves could penetrate their consciousness. I wish that they could feel the moral obligation that rests upon us not to go back on those boys, but to see the thing through, to see it through to the end and make good their redemption of the world. For nothing less depends upon this decision, nothing less than the liberation and salvation of the world.

[18] You will say, "Is the league an absolute guaranty against war?" No; I do not know any absolute guaranty against the errors of human judgment or the violence of human passion, but I tell you this: With a cooling space of nine months for human passion, not much of it will keep hot. I had a couple of friends who were in the habit of losing their tempers, and when they lost their tempers they were in the habit of using very unparliamentary language. Some of their friends induced them to make a

promise that they never swear inside the town limits. When the impulse next came upon them, they took a streetcar to go out of town to swear, and by the time they got out of town they did not want to swear. They came back convinced that they were just what they were, a couple of unspeakable fools, and the habit of getting angry and of swearing suffered great inroads upon it by that experience. Now, illustrating the great by the small, that is true of the passions of nations. It is true of the passions of men however you combine them. Give them space to cool off. I ask you this: If this is not an absolute insurance against war, do you want no insurance at all? Do you want nothing? Do you want not only no probability that war will not recur, but the probability that it will recur? The arrangements of justice do not stand of themselves, my fellow citizens. The arrangements of this treaty are just, but they need the support of the combined power of the great nations of the world. And they will have that support. Now that the mists of this great question have cleared away, I believe that men will see the truth, eye to eye and face to face. There is one thing that the American people always rise to and extend their hand to, and that is the truth of justice and of liberty and of peace. We have accepted that truth and we are going to be led by it, and it is going to lead us, and, through us the world, out into pastures of quietness and peace such as the world never dreamed of before.

Jan Smuts

Jan Smuts was a remarkable figure in history and human being, not least because he was the only person to sign both the documents ending WWI and WWII. Not without controversy in his own time in his own country, he still deserves the attention of students of diplomacy.



A true statesman, Jan Smuts addressing the British Parliament – 1942

- When in doubt, do the courageous thing.
- This is a good world. We need not approve of all the items in it, nor of all the individuals in it; but the world itself-which is more than its parts or individuals; which has a soul, a spirit, a fundamental relation to each of us deeper than all other relations-is a friendly world.
- What was everybody's business in the end proved to be nobody's business. Each one looked to the other to take the lead, and the aggressors got away with it.
- A man is not defeated by his opponents but by himself
- Democracy, with its promise of international peace, has been no better guarantee against war than the old dynastic rule of kings.
- When I look at history, I am a pessimist...but when I look at prehistory, I am an optimist.
- History writes the word 'Reconciliation' over all her quarrels.
- If a nation does not want a monarchy, change the nation's mind. If a nation does not need a monarchy, change the nation's needs.

My WWI Propaganda Speech

"Fellow Americans! Too long have we maintained neutrality in this war! We must fight now. Why? Listen to this message intercepted by our friends across the seas: [read [Zimmerman Note](#)]

What an outrage! The Germans wish to forcibly take *our* land. These states have been ours for years upon years. Think of the large chunk of land they represent. Mexico has no claim to these vast territories. They have absolutely no right to steal those stars from our flag!

How can there ever be peace when the Germans continue plotting and signing secret treaties that threaten our borders? Our neutrality is constantly threatened by Germany! United States civilian ships are destroyed by German U-boats without warning or provocation in their ruthless campaign of unrestricted submarine warfare. Think of the possible women and children minding their own business on a ship that's *not even in the war*. From nowhere, a torpedo takes out the ship in a giant explosion. A blaze quickly overtakes the ship. There's no chance for survival. Some are annihilated without ever knowing what happened. Some are horrendously burnt and then cast into the sea, left to drown in the cold

Atlantic. Could it be *your* sweetheart, your wife... your *children* who go on a trip and never come back — because of the Germans! The German U-boats! The German treaties! The German war! Will you stand for this?

That's why you must back Wilson, to put a quick end to this heartless, inhumane violence caused by the Germans and their war. America will not let herself be continually harassed. Enlist now! Defeat the Germans! And join the many defending our great country!"

This was written last year for a history project. It hasn't been edited for the display on this website.

I still think it's rather good. I'm particularly fond of the image of stealing stars off the flag. Painting the war as the German war makes even those opposed to the war see the Germans as the villain. It twists the truth by making the listener (or reader) believe that the German's attacked civilian ships for no reason. The US was shipping supplies to Britain, and that's why the Germans attacked them. For a time, they did have to stop ships and tell all persons from neutral countries to leave, but one can imagine how useful this was in a war-time situation for the Germans. The intercepted Zimmerman Note was very persuasive in making the Americans go to war.

No mention of the word diplomacy.

David Cameron's Speech at the Imperial War Museum on First World War centenary plans

The Prime Minister gave this speech at the Imperial War Museum in central London on 11 October 2012.

Thank you very much, Andrew, for those words and thank you for all the work that you've done. This is, I think, a very exciting time for one of the finest museums in the world. It is a museum I particularly love. I will never forget when my mother brought me here as a boy and being absolutely captivated by everything within the museum. But almost more interesting was bringing my own children here, quite recently, they've come twice, I think, altogether. And realising that even when I was a boy there were still people alive who had fought in the Great War. There aren't now, but my children were just as captivated and interested as I was. I think that speaks volumes about what we are discussing today.

The completion of transforming IWM London will see the Imperial War Museum reopened as the centrepiece of our commemorations for the centenary of the First World War. With that transformation, new generations will be inspired by the incredible stories of courage, toil and

sacrifice that have brought so many of us here over the past century.

From the breathtaking sights of the hanging gallery to the unforgettable smell of the trenches, from great art - like this painting of The Menin Road by Paul Nash - to the many moving stories recorded from the front line, the Imperial War Museum is not just a great place to bring your children - as I said, as I've done - it is actually a special place for us all to come, to learn about a defining part of our history and to remember the sacrifice of all those who gave their lives for us, from the First World War to the present day.

We should also recognise that in the decade since the introduction of free access to our national museums, the annual number of visitors here has increased by almost two-thirds. I passionately believe we should hold on to this heritage and pass it down the generations. That is why, even in difficult economic times, we are right to maintain free entry to national museums like this. It is why we will continue to do so.

Today, I want to talk about our preparations to commemorate the centenary of the First World War. I want to explain why, as Prime Minister, I am making these centenary commemorations a personal priority, and I want to set out some of the steps we are taking to make sure we really do this properly as a country.

Let me start with why this matters so much. Of course, as Andrew said, there will be some who wonder: why should we make such a priority of commemorations when money is tight and there is no one left from the generation that fought in the Great War?

For me there are three reasons. The first is the sheer scale of the sacrifice. When they set out, none of the armies had any idea of the length and scale of the trauma that was going to unfold. For many, going off to war was a rite of passage. Many of them were excited; they would eat better than they had when they were down the mines or in the textile mills. They would have access to better medical care, and many thought they'd be home by Christmas, anyway. There is the story of the Russian High Command asking for new typewriters and being told the war wouldn't last long enough to justify the expenditure.

As Major J V Bates from the Royal Army Medical Corp wrote:

Being our first experience of war, we men were not so much frightened, as very excited. It wasn't until after two or three weeks of continually fighting rear-guard action, reconnaissance patrols and seeing our mates killed and

wounded that the real horror of it came home to us. And if everyone else was as frightened as I was, then we were all petrified.

Four months later, one million had died in the heavy artillery battles that actually came before the digging of the trenches. Four years later, the death toll of military and civilians stood at over 16 million, nearly 1 million of them Britons. 20,000 were killed on one day of the Battle of the Somme. To us, today, it seems so inexplicable that countries which had many things binding them together could indulge in such a never-ending slaughter, but they did. The death and the suffering was on a scale that outstrips any other conflict. We only have to look at the Great War memorials in our villages, our churches, our schools and universities.

Out of more than 14,000 parishes in the whole of England and Wales, there are only around 50 so called 'thankful parishes', who saw all their soldiers return. Every single community in Scotland and Northern Ireland lost someone, and the death toll for our friends in the Commonwealth was similarly catastrophic. In the 1920s over 2,400 cemeteries were constructed in France and Belgium alone, while today there are cemeteries as far afield as Brazil and Syria, Egypt and Ireland.

Rudyard Kipling, whose own son was lost, presumed killed, at the Battle of Loos in 1915, described the construction of these cemeteries as the biggest single bit of work since any of the pharaohs, and as he pointed out, the pharaohs only worked in their own country. Such was the scale of sacrifice across the world. The then Indian empire lost more than 70,000 people; Canada lost more than 60,000, so did Australia; New Zealand, 18,000. And as part of the UK at the time, more than 200,000 Irishmen served in the British forces during the war, with more than 27,000 losing their lives. This was the extraordinary sacrifice of a generation. It was a sacrifice they made for us, and it is right that we should remember them.

Second, I think it is also right to acknowledge the impact that the war had on the development of Britain and, indeed, the world as it is today. For all the profound trauma, the resilience and the courage that was shown, the values we hold dear: friendship, loyalty, what the Australians would call 'mateship'. And the lessons we learned, they changed our nation and they helped to make us who we are today.

It is a period of our history through which we can start to trace the origins of a number of very significant advances: the extraordinary bravery of Edith Cavell,

whose actions gained such widespread admiration and played an important part in advancing the emancipation of women; the loss of the troopship SS Mendi, in February 1917 and the death of the first black British army officer, Walter Tull, in March 1918, are not just commemorated as tragic moments, but also seen as marking the beginnings of ethnic minorities getting the recognition, respect and equality they deserve.

The improvements in medicine were dramatic. In 1915 wounds which became infected resulted in a 28% mortality rate; by 1917 the use of antiseptics saw the death toll drop to just 8%. Plastic surgery developed into a well-established speciality over the course of the war.

At the same time there were hugely significant developments in this period, which, frankly, darkened our world for much of the following century. The advance in technology transformed the nature of war beyond recognition. The tanks and aircraft of 1918 were the forerunners of those that fought with such devastation in World War II. They would have been almost unimaginable for the cavalry regiments that set out in the autumn of 1914.

The war's geopolitical consequences defined much of the twentieth century. It unleashed the forces of Bolshevism and Nazism and, of course, with the failure to get the peace right, the great tragedy was that the legacy of 'the War to end all wars' was an equally cataclysmic Second World War, just two decades later.

So I think for us today to fail to recognise the huge national and international significance of all these developments during the First World War would be, frankly, a monumental mistake.

There is a third reason why this matters so much. It is more difficult to define, but I think it is perhaps the most important of all. There is something about the First World War that makes it a fundamental part of our national consciousness. Put simply, this matters not just in our heads, but in our hearts; it has a very strong emotional connection. I feel it very deeply. Of course, there is no one in my family still alive from the time, or anything close to it. My grandfather, my uncle, my great uncle all fought in the Second World War. I have always been fascinated by what happened to them and tried to listen to their experiences.

Even though the family stories that I've heard direct from the participants, as it were, were all from World War II, there is something so completely captivating about the stories that we read from World War I. We look at those fast fading sepia photographs of people posing stiffly and proudly in their uniform. In many cases it was the

first and last image ever taken of them, and this matters to us.

The stories and the writings of the Great War affect us too. That mixture of horror and courage, suffering and hope; it has permeated our culture. From the poems of Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon, my favourite book, Robert Graves's memoirs recounting his time in the Great War, Good-Bye to All That. To modern day writers like Sebastian Faulks, from Pat Barker's Regeneration trilogy, focusing on the aftermath of trauma, to War Horse, showing the sacrifice of animals in war. Current generations are still absolutely transfixed by what happened in the Great War and what it meant.

The fact is, individually and as a country, we keep coming back to it, and I think that will go on. This is not just a matter of the heart for us in Britain. It is a matter for the heart for the whole of Europe and beyond. From The Last Post Association, whose volunteers have played every night at the Menin Gate since 1928, to Tyne Cot Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery, to the Memorial to the Missing, in Belgium, which is the largest British war cemetery in the world, visited by nearly half a million people every year, still today, to the battlefield memorials right across Western Europe.

For me, when asked: what is the most powerful First World War memory you have? It is going to visit the battlefields at Gallipoli. I'll never forget going, having a fantastic Turkish guide who showed me the beaches we were meant to land at, the beaches we did land at, the fight that went on up those extraordinary hills. One of the most powerful things I've ever seen is the monument erected by the Turks in Gallipoli. Before I read you the inscription, think in your mind, think of the bloodshed, think of the tens of thousands of Turks who were killed, and then listen to the inscription that they wrote to our boys and to those from the Commonwealth countries that fell. It is absolutely beautiful, I think. It goes like this:

'Those heroes who shed their blood and lost their lives, you are now lying in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore, rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmets to us, where they lie, side by side, in this country of ours. You, the mothers, who sent their sons from far away countries, wipe away your tears. Your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost their lives on this land, they shall become our sons as well.'

So beautiful, beautiful words on this First World War monument. For me, those words capture so much of what this is all about. That from such war and hatred

can come unity and peace, a confidence and a determination never to go back. However frustrating and however difficult the debates in Europe, 100 years on we sort out our differences through dialogue and meetings around conference tables, not through the battles on the fields of Flanders or the frozen lakes of western Russia.

Let me turn to the plans for the centenary. Last November I appointed former Naval doctor Andrew Murrison as my special representative. I am very grateful to him for the excellent work he has been doing in assembling ideas from across Government and beyond, and for putting the UK among the leaders in this shared endeavour and for laying the foundations of our commemorations. Today, I am honoured to be able to say that he is going to be joined by some of the most senior figures in British public life, including Tom King, George Robertson, Menzies Campbell, Jock Stirrup and Richard Dannatt. That's two former Secretaries of State for Defence, one of whom was also a Secretary General of NATO, a former Chief of the Defence Staff, a former Chief of the General Staff. They'll be joined by others, including world leading historians, like Hew Strachan, and world class authors like Sebastian Faulks. I hope they'll provide senior leadership on a new advisory board that is going to be chaired by the Secretary of State for Culture, Maria Miller.

Our ambition is a truly national commemoration, worth of this historic centenary. I want a commemoration that captures our national spirit, in every corner of the country, from our schools to our workplaces, to our town halls and local communities. A commemoration that, like the Diamond Jubilee celebrated this year, says something about who we are as a people.

Remembrance must be the hallmark of our commemorations, and I am determined that Government will play a leading role, with national events and new support for educational initiatives. These will include national commemorations for the first day of conflict, on 4th August 2014, and for the first day of the Somme, on 1st July 2016. Together with partners like the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the custodians of our remembrance, the Royal British Legion, there will be further events to commemorate Jutland, Gallipoli and Passchendaele, all leading towards the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day in 2018.

The centenary will also provide the foundations upon which to build an enduring cultural and educational legacy, to put young people front and centre in our commemoration and to ensure that the sacrifice and service of a hundred years ago is still remembered in a hundred years' time.

Now, the Imperial War Museum is already leading the First World War Centenary Partnership, a growing network of over 500 organisations, helping millions of people across the world to discover more about life in the First World War and its relevance today. Today we are complementing that with a new centenary education programme, with more than £5 million of new Government funding. This will include the opportunity for pupils and teachers from every state secondary school to research the people who served in the Great War, and for groups of them then, crucially, to follow their journey to the First World War battlefields. I think that will be a great initiative and really welcomed by secondary schools and secondary school pupils.

We are also providing a further £5 million of new money, in addition to the £5 million we have already given to support transforming IWM London - this project right here at this incredible museum. It will match contributions from private, corporate and social donors.

So our commemorations, if you like, will consist of three vital elements: a massive transformation of this museum to make it even better than it is today, a major programme of national commemorative events properly funded, given the proper status that they deserve, and third, an educational programme to create an enduring legacy for generations to come. All of this will be overseen by a world class advisory board chaired by the Secretary of State for Culture, supported by my own special representative Andrew Murrison.

And that is not all, because we stand ready to incorporate more ideas because a truly national commemoration cannot just be about national initiatives and government action, it needs to be local too. So the Heritage Lottery Fund is today announcing an additional £6 million to enable young people working in their communities to conserve, explore and share local heritage of the First World War.

That is in addition to the £9 million they have already given to projects marking the centenary, including community heritage projects. And they are calling for more applications; they are open to new ideas, to more thinking. So whether it is a series of friendly football matches to mark the famous 1914 Christmas Day truce, or the campaign led by the Greenhithe branch of the Royal British Legion to sow the Western Front's iconic poppies here in the UK, I think we should get out there and make this centenary a truly national moment, but also something that actually means something in every locality in our country.

So, in total over £50 million is being committed to these centenary commemorations; I think it is absolutely right

they should be given such priority, as I have explained. As a twenty-year-old soldier wrote just a week before he died: 'But for this war, I and all the others would have passed into oblivion like the countless myriads before us, but we shall live forever in the results of our efforts.'

Our duty towards these commemorations is clear: to honour those who served, to remember those who died, and to ensure that the lessons learnt live with us forever. And I think that is exactly what we can do with these commemorations.

I think we have got a moment or two for questions or points or any observations anyone would like to make.

I mean what I said about wanting ideas; I think we have a good framework here of national commemorations, the Heritage Lottery Fund I think can fund a lot of local activity but I am sure out there there are still some great history or commemorative projects that can be brought to book. So I hope people can come up with them.

Question

Prime Minister, one key element I think of the commemorations is reconciliation, and on the island of Ireland of course you referred to the huge sacrifice of Irishmen North and South who died in the Great War. Following on from Her Majesty the Queen's visit to Dublin, I think there is a great opportunity here not to exploit the commemoration but the commemoration can be a means of recognising the contribution that those thousands of Irishmen from the Irish Republic made in defending our freedom and drawing them ever closer in harmony with the United Kingdom.

Prime Minister

I think you are absolutely right. It is always one of the figures that I think people find most staggering when you look at how many people from the island of Ireland, then part of the United Kingdom - even though there was the great argument raging before the First World War that was then put on hold - how many people volunteered to fight in the First World War.

And I am hoping with the Taoiseach to go and visit some of the sites in Belgium where a lot of Irishmen gave their lives. Because I think there is a relevance today of what happened then about working on the Reconciliation Agenda which is, I think, going extremely well; the Queen's visit and all the other things that have happened recently are part of that. So I think that is a very, very good point.

Question

Are you able to say anything about the plans for the marking of the start of the centenary programme on the weekend of the - Monday, August 4th 2014? And just to say that you would be more than welcome to join us at our centenary march in Folkestone down the Road of Remembrance down to the harbour.

Prime Minister

That is a very good point because we have got these big national events, obviously the day of the outbreak of the First World War, the first day of the Somme, Gallipoli, Jutland, and I think we are working very closely with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission - I think Andrew might want to say something and tell us about what the thinking is on 4th August.

Andrew Murrison

Yes, we have a marvellous Commonwealth War Grave Commission site that I don't think enough people know about. It is Brookwood; it is the largest one we have in the United Kingdom, Prime Minister, and working with our Commonwealth War Grave partners the idea will be that we shall commemorate the first day of Britain's involvement in the Great War at Brookwood.

But also working with Damian Collins who chairs the Step Short project in Folkestone, which is a wonderful, wonderful example of the sort of thing you were discussing in terms of projects for the future. I think that is a wonderful way of commemorating the logistics down there and, of course, it is the major port of embarkation for most of the young men leaving for the continent.

So that is an example of one of the projects I think we need to see more of in the two years available to us, and I look forward to seeing the Step Short project as a very important part of the 4th August 2014.

Lord Faulkner (All-Party War Heritage Group)

I am Richard Faulkner, I chair the parliamentary All-Party War Heritage Group and you will remember, Prime Minister, that I wrote to you in July last year after we had had a meeting addressed by representatives of other countries, particularly Australia and Belgium on what their plans were. We were expressing concern then that we seemed to be a little bit behind what other countries were doing.

I just want to comment to say that I think your appointment of Andrew Murrison later in the course of

2011 and the announcement you made today, I think, puts us right back at the heart of what is happening. We shall be very grateful to you for that and we would like to help in any way we can to make sure it is a great success.

Prime Minister

Well, thank you very much, Richard; I am very pleased you say that. I think Andrew has done a great job. We are working very closely, obviously, with Australians and New Zealanders and others - Canadians - to make sure that we are all doing similar types of things and also joining in for so many of the commemorations.

I have obviously thought about this carefully and I have tried to sum it up at the end there, it seems to me the three keys to this are, first of all, what is happening here at the Imperial War Museum. There is no point in building a whole new museum, we have got this fantastic museum here and I think the best legacy we can possibly have is actually to improve it in the way that is being suggested, and the new money being announced today, I think, will make an enormous difference to what is already a fantastic museum.

I think then the individual events commemorating those things that happened between 1914 and 1918, and I identified some of them, I think that is the second part of it. The third, and the bit that I think can still expand further, is all of the local initiatives that the Heritage Lottery Fund and others can help fund, because I am sure people will come up with extraordinary interesting and exciting ideas.

If you look at all the interest there is in people tracing family trees, understanding family history; I am involved in a constituency case in my own constituency at the moment about someone has got a particular person who died in Chipping Norton at the end of the War and there is an argument raging about whether he should be included on the War Memorial or not.

And so to say that people aren't interested - they are, there is a fascination with these things that I think we can tap into and I think we have got the framework now for making sure we get this right and I am very, very grateful for what you say.

Thank you again for coming, thank you Imperial War Museum for hosting us, and let's get on and do it right. Thank you very much.

CONCLUSION

Informative? I hope. Inspirational? I wish.

Diplomacy World Demo Game

“Eclipse” – 2017A

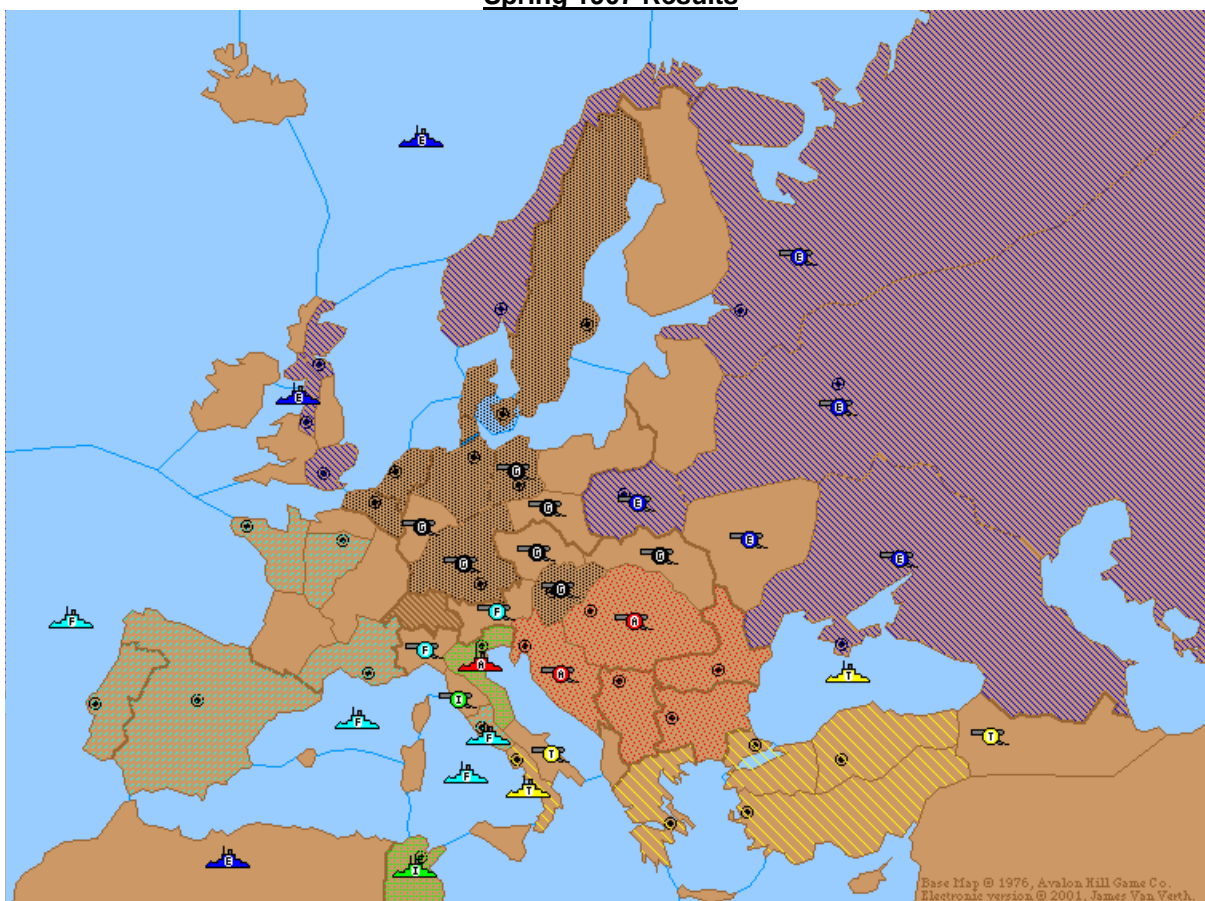
The Players:

Austria: Nicolas Sahuguet
England: Edi Birsan
France: Andrew Goff
Germany: Conrad Woodring
Italy: Chris Brand
Russia: Doug Moore
Turkey: Tanya Gill

Commentators by Typeface:

Rick Desper
Christopher Martin
Jack McHugh

Spring 1907 Results



Austria: F Adriatic Sea – Venice, A Budapest - Vienna (*Bounce*), A Trieste - Vienna (*Bounce*),
~~A Ukraine – Galicia~~ (*Disbanded*).

England: A Livonia – Warsaw, A Moscow Supports A Warsaw – Ukraine, F North Atlantic Ocean – Liverpool,
F North Africa - Tunis (*Fails*), F Norwegian Sea Hold,
A Sevastopol - Rumania (*Bounce*), A St Petersburg Supports A Moscow, A Warsaw - Ukraine.

France: F Brest - Mid-Atlantic Ocean, F Marseilles - Gulf of Lyon, A Piedmont Supports A Venice – Tuscany,
F Rome Supports F Western Mediterranean - Tyrrhenian Sea, A Tyrolia - Trieste (*Fails*),

F Western Mediterranean - Tyrrhenian Sea.

Germany: A Berlin - Munich (*Fails*), A Bohemia Supports A Vienna,
A Galicia Supports A Sevastopol - Rumania (*Cut*), A Holland – Ruhr, A Munich - Tyrolia (*Fails*),
A Silesia Supports A Galicia, A Vienna Supports A Tyrolia - Trieste (*Cut*).

Italy: F Tunis - Ionian Sea (*Bounce*), A Venice - Tuscany.

Turkey: A Apulia - Naples (*Fails*), A Armenia Unordered, F Black Sea - Rumania (*Bounce*),
F Naples - Ionian Sea (*Bounce*), ~~F Tuscany - Tyrrhenian Sea~~ (*Disbanded*).

E/F/G Draw FAILS. Reproposed. Please vote. NVR=No.

Spring 1907 Commentary:

Commentators by Typeface:

Rick Desper

Christopher Martin

Jack McHugh

At least we know Goffy and Chris are talking to each other. Another step on the relentless march towards the draw. Holland - Ruhr seems ... unlikely to be the prelude to the stab of France that makes sense for E/G, if either of them thought they could bull their way to 18. Austria can't quite be kicked out of all his dots this turn, but he should lose Budapest and not gain Trieste. Who is voting down this draw? Tanya seems most likely?

I think any stabs by the big Three in the west are wishful thinking at this point. All three appear to be determined to stay the course with this alliance. However, I do think that Turkey and Austria have a shot at being part of a four- or five-way draw.

I think Italy, while Chris has played his position very well, is not long for this game. I don't think even with the help of Tanya's Turkey, Italy can hold out for much longer. Austria will be needed by Turkey to hold off the German/English assault on the Balkans that is building as the Western powers get into position. Austria's armies will be driven back into the Balkans and Austria will likely lose his home centers but Tanya may find it useful to keep the exile Austrian

army around to help hold the Balkans.

Now, it becomes a guessing game as the Austrian-Turks are relentless pushed back into a smaller and smaller box which makes the defense that much easier. We will see if the Western Triple has the determination to wipe out the eastern powers and take their three-way draw.

The forcible disband of the Austrian army will lead to the total collapse of that front. Budapest should fall, along with one of Venice/Naples. Turkey could take Rome if she's willing to trade Naples for it (bad idea). The rest of Italy will fall soon along with Trieste. Rumania cannot be held.

I can't tell what Chris is up to, but it doesn't really matter. The only thing that will keep this from being an E/F/G draw is an internal stab, and there's no hurry to do that. If I were one of the Western powers, I wouldn't think of stabbing unless 18 were close, and to get close they need to take out Austria and Turkey anyway. Or at least push Turkey back to Asia Minor. Edi could still stab for a solo but I don't see him motivated to do so.

Prior to Fall 1907 – E/F/G Draw Passes

Next Issue – The End-Game Report, Player Notes, and End-of-Game Commentary