MAKING CONNECTIONS - SOLUTION TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLE

In last issue's puzzle, fifteen unclued entries had to be identified by crossing letters and their relation to a particular theme. These entries were divided into five groups of three. Within each group, two words could follow a particular nationality to make a familiar phrase; these nationalities correspond to those of the ambassadors in the song "Please, Hello" (identified in the grid at 35D and 38A, and crossed by performer MAKO at 45A). The extra word in each set, in ambassadorial order, made the final clue AWFULLY RENEGOTIATE FIRST ENDLESS ACCORDS, the answer to which is FOREIGN TREATIES (renegotiate firs[-t]*).

Groups are (American) GOTHIC, IDIOT + AWFULLY; (English) MUFFIN, CHANNEL + RENEGOTIATE; (Dutch) COURAGE, ELM + FIRST; (Russian) ROULETTE, ORTHODOX + ENDLESS; (French) KISS, OPEN + ACCORDS

Clue Notes

(* indicates an anagram; " " indicates a homophone) Across 1. CAMEL IF* 11. brocCOLI Caused 13. H(+C)OOP reversed 14. "Forum ... Marcus" initials 17. F(-I)AKES 18. (-b)ANAN(-a)* 22. AN APE* 24. (-r)AN INTO* 32. WORDS IN* 34. PEONS*+C 37. CAFE*+T 38. (-ot)HELLO 39. (-h)UMA(-n) 42. E(MEN)D 45. AMOK* 46. ULTRA* 47. "raze" 48. Y(+E)ARNS

Down 2. LOO+KIT 5. esoteriC PUzzle 6. GLOAT* holding E 8. THOSE AT* 9. vICE Squad 12. COIN*+NG 16. TSARI(-n)A* 23. (-p)AGE(-s)+E 25. (-m)ARIA 26. bIIND ENTertainer 30. TRACE AN* 31. (-c)ONSORT* 33. OD+IOUS 35. P+LEASE 36. CO(+D)ONS 38. HEX+A.D. 40. MO(-rg)UE 41. "con" 44. DUE(-t) 45. MIR changing R to L

^{1}M	А	² L	³ Е	⁴ F	Ι	⁵C	⁶ G	⁷ 0	Т	⁸ H	٩I	10 C
U	1 ¹ C	0	L	Ι	¹² C	Ρ	Е	¹³ P	0	0	С	Н
¹⁴ F	R	0	Μ	¹⁵ R	0	U	L	E	¹⁶	Т	Е	А
¹⁷ F	Α	Κ	Е	S	¹⁸ N	¹⁹ A	А	Ν	Ι	20 5	S	Ν
²¹ I	D	Ι	0	Т	Ι	С	Т	²² P	A	Е	²³ A	Ν
²⁴ N	²⁵ A	Т	²⁶ 1	0	N	²⁷ C	0	U	R	А	G	Е
²⁸ Å	²9 R	30 E	N	Е	G		³¹ T	I	Α	Т	Е	L
³² W	I	Ν	D	S	³³ 0	R	³⁴ 0	Ν	S	³⁵ P	Е	36 C
³⁷ F	А	С	E	Т	D	D	Ν	³⁸ H	Ε	L	L	0
39 U	40 M	А	Ν	⁴¹ K	Ι	S	S	⁴² E	М	E	Ν	D
L	⁴³ 0	R	Т	Η	0	⁴⁴ D	0	Х	⁴⁵ M	Α	Κ	0
46 L	U	Т	R	А	U	U	⁴7 R	Α	Ι	S	Ε	Ν
⁴⁸ Y	Ε	А	R	Ν	S	⁴⁹ E	Ν	D	L	Ε	S	S