

# Anduin

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\* #17 By Eric Kane 25 January, 1983 \*  
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There's been an awful lot happening recently, in both my life and in the hobby. Most of it is good but let me start off by explaining last issue. I bet that was a surprise! 48 action-packed pages, including 12 pages of letters!!! Well, it looks like I've stirred up a bit of trouble so there should be even more this time. No nasty, dirty feuds or anything like that, just some good, healthy, interesting topics that can be debated without resorting to name-calling. In case you didn't see, last issue was actually a double issue (15/16). I'm sure this came as a surprise to many of you since I had never published a double issue before this. Well, I didn't want to this time either, but when I got the bill back from the printers (over 100\$, and that doesn't include postage!), I realized that I had to do something to avoid losing a lot of money. I felt that the best alternative was to make it a double issue. After all, this issue was twice the size of any previous issue, so I hope you all understand my reasoning and except it. As for my policy regarding double issues in the future, Any issue with 40 or more pages will be a double. (you will never believe a triple, because if it's that big, then it's probably an anniversary ish in which case it will be a single. Since I photograph, page numbers run in multiples of four so you can look for "normal" issues to be about 32 pages long in the future. This issue looks to be a double already! As for the lateness last ish, I apologize but it really was unavoidable. I got hit with an incredibly large workload in school forcing me to put everything else aside. I had to keep putting Anduin off again and again until I finally got a break and was able to collate and mail the issue. I hope that explains everything, sorry for the delay. Personally, I thought it was the best issue I've put out to date and this one ought to be equally good. I would like to apologize to all the players for forgetting to put in what page they could find their press. I got kind of screwed up near the end and totally forgot about it.

Anyway, so much for the bad news, now for the good news. I had one of the best Christmas vacations I've ever had in my entire life! I went up to Albany to visit Bruce Linsey and meet Alex Lord at long last! That was a pleasure I won't forget for a long time and I wrote a complete description of my trip which you will find inside. We then came down to Flushing for a ByrneCon over New Year's, and that also turned out to be a blast. I created a really funny hoax while I was there which you'll find out about in the article!

My PSAT scores did finally come. Not too good--1190 total. I'm hoping to raise my SAT scores by at least 150 points this May. In fact, I might as well tell you all now, there will not be a May issue this year, and the June issue will probably come late in the month --after I'm done with my testing.

### WHAT?? ANOTHER CON REVIEW?!?!

Not one, but two con reviews! During the Christmas vacation, I went up to Albany to visit Brux Linsey. Very early Monday morning I caught a bus and was soon greeted in Albany's bus terminal by Brux. So started LinseyCon I. I was the first to arrive, and the others would not be coming until Tuesday so we decided to do a little sight-seeing. We called Alex Lord (who writes for Bruce in VqD) and then drove out to Hannacroix to pick her up. Hannacroix is about 25 minutes from Albany and is a collection of hills, trees, unpaved roads, and farm houses. Not what you would call a bustling city but I liked it. Nice and quiet. Too bad Alex isn't that way! Anyway, I met Alex and her family who are all very nice, normal people. What they see in Brux I can't say but they do seem to like him. Alex's mother runs an antique store and so their house, like mine, has many old antique furniture and decorations in it. Antiques are usually very expensive which I guess is why they tied Bruce's hands together when we entered--so he couldn't break anything valuable! After a while, Bruce took Alex and I out to see downtown Albany. We went to this newly designed complex where we were going to see a film on the Adarondacks and go up the famed tower to get a view of the surrounding environs. It was roughly two by the time we got there and we wanted a bite to eat but it turned out that all the cafeteria's inside the complex were closed so we decided to go out and eat at Pizza-Hut. Good old Bruce had forgotten where we had parked and by the time we had found the car, and then eaten, it was already past four so we decided to skip it and drove Alex home. Bruce then took me back to his house where he introduced me to his mother, brother and sister. This was VD headquarters! Boy was I excited! Just thinking about all the controversy and feuds that had sparked from this humble abode called 24A Quarry Drive! Bruce showed me his files and all his old zines--those that he had kept! He had discarded more than three-quarters of his entire collection and he still had a box full (large box!) left. All in all it was a pretty uneventful day. Meeting Alex was the highlight for sure. Next morning Bruce and I drove back to the complex and did what we had planned to do the day before. We grabbed a bit of food and drove back where we met Mikey Barno. Bruce took M.P. and I out to see Howe Caverns which was fairly interesting. Of course being with Bruce added a bit of flavor due to his good(?) jokes. I'll spare you the details though which is about the nicest thing I can think of to do. Back to Linsey's where Bruce put Mediocre Person and I to work at licking stamps for his next issue. Just as we finished in walked Mark Larzelere and Willie Hightower (what timing!). Bruce went out to get the issue back ~~for~~ the printers and he soon put us all to work on an assembly line for VD. While Bruce corrected a printing error on page one of each and every issue, the rest of us collated and stapled the issues together. Some host, he really knew how to make us all feel at home since we all publish also! After we finished our hard slave labor, Bruce took us to this really strange restaurant. It was sort of like a pizza place except it had a large dining area which was dimly lit and there was a man playing an organ. The food was fair and the music was bad, but we

stayed for a while. At one point the musician(?) took a break and Bruce got up to go to the bathroom. When he came back we were ready to leave but Bruce said he wanted to stay a while. It never occurred to us just what Bruce was up to but we found out soon enough. The musician got back and pulled a little piece of paper out of his pocket. He said "Hey I'd like to wish a Happy Birthday to little Billy Highfield who is 12 years old today!" He then began to play happy birthday for Willie and in the meantime, we all pointed him out for everyone in the audience. Poor Willie turned into an elegant shade of red in embarresment! This taught me an important lesson--never trust Bruce! From then on I was always a little paranoid and especially cautious of him! We finally got to play our first game of Dip. We didn't have enough for a full game and Bruce wanted to finish putting the issues in the envelopes, so the four of us played a game of gunboat anarchy. We each got two random centers on the board which were our home and only build centers. I got lucky and drew Greece and Tunis. Since I was the only one in the South, I was able to quickly expand and I think I won that game with 18 centers in 1907, maybe 1908! Bruce joined the next game and I didn't fair as well. I think Modern Patriot Barro won that one. The next morning I was introduced to Rail Baron. This is a pretty decent game and I hear that some gms are trying it postally. Personally, I don't think it would make a good PBM game but it is a lot of fun FTF. The game takes quite a while though. We basically fooled around most of the afternoon playing this and other games. Around 5:30, Alex and her brother Howie came over and we all ate dinner. After dinner, Bruce's sister Judy informed us that we had to jog once around the block because it was good for our digestive systems. Sure, after you finish jogging, you feel like puking! After that exhilarating experience, Bruce's brother, Brian taught us all how to play spoons. This is a really neat game played with spoons and a deck of cards but I won't go into detail here and explain how you play it. Highfield will probably do it in his zine when he reviews this con so I won't bore you! Let it suffice to say that after you lose, you can still participate by trying to get players who are still in to talk to you. If they do, they lose a point so to speak. This makes for some good entertainment let me tell you! Bruce is an expert at this part of the game and well he should be since he loses a lot. He actually went next door and called up saying he was someone else to get someone to talk to him! Alex almost got Willie once by saying "Bill, your underpants are showing!" Remember the shade of red Bill turned in the restaurant?! Poor Willie is always the most abused person at a party, he deserves it for backing Reagan! Tapeworm Larzelere was winning because he never says a word anyway. After a while, the only contestants left were Lousy, Brian and me. Then a miracle occurred. Somehow Bruce and MF caught Lousy off guard and got him to say something to them. Two quick points down the drain and Lousy went out. Now there was just me and Brian. Let me explain that this game requires physical force and Brian was about twice my size. I thought I was dead but by some miracle I managed to get a point off of Brian and I got up screaming for joy. I bowed as everyone was saying congrats when Brian said "I'm not out yet Eric". What was this? I couldn't ask anyone if he was out or

not because that would mean I would lose a point for talking to them. I thought for sure it was some kind of trick so I didn't say a word. I was prepared not to say a word for the rest of the night until Brian showed me the scoresheet which indicated that he did indeed have one point to go. We got back down and started playing again. Brian won the first point and now we both had only one point to go. Victory was slipping from my grasp but somehow I managed to pull it off. The game had lasted longer than we had expected and everyone was pretty tired from playing so we called it a night. Alex and Howie went back home and we spent what was left of the night reading old BB's and other zines Bruce had. Bruce even had me and Highfield write an essay for his doomie of the year contest. Bruce sure is a demanding host! Thursday morning we all got up and went over to Alex's. We had to kill some time before we went down to ByrneCon so we sat around with Alex for a while as Bruce went out to get sandwiches for lunch. At last, the time to say goodbye finally came. I was packing my stuff up in Bruce's car as I saw Alex shaking everyone's hand goodbye. "(Shaking hands?!)" I thought. Oh no, I wasn't going to be deprived of a kiss! "But where should I kiss her?" I thought. On the cheek would be awkward, on her forehead would seem condescending. Certainly not on the lips, I might get slapped in the face! So as she shook my hand I simply held on and planted one on her hand-- What a gentleman I am! Actually, I had chickened out and it was the only thing I could think of! So we said goodbye and left Albany. Naturally Bruce managed to get us lost for a while before we got out but at last, we were on our way to ByrneCon.

I suppose that now would be a good time to let y'all in on mah hoax. Though I'm from New York, I can do a pretty good imitation of a Southern Dialect. In particular, I sound a lot like Gary Coughlan, and I mean a lot! Anyway, we decided to give Kathy a call when we got into Flushing to see if we could fool her. I got on the phone and said in my best Southern voice "Can ah speake to Kathee?" Francine answered and I managed to fool her. Kathy got on and I said "Hi Kathee it's Geary!" To which she replied "Your not Gary, your Eric." My jaw hit the floor. How could she have known!!!! She later explained that she could pick up my New York accent. Boy, there's no fooling a New Yorker! This wasn't the end of it though. I was determined to fool someone, anyone that I was Gary!!! Any time anyone called on the phone, I got on and tried my imitation. I wasn't having any luck until finally, I got my break. The people at ByrneCon 21b (In California) gave us a call around 4:00 in the morning our time. Naturally, we were still awake (in the middle of a Dip game in fact). Well, Hightower's on the phone so I told him to give me an intro. He was talking to Langley and he said: "Hey, guess who's here Steve! Gary!" I got on and started talking to him!! I did my best to contain my laughter which was pretty difficult considering that I had gathered a small crowd and they were all laughing their damn fool heads off! I gleefully stirred up a lot of trouble by telling him that Martin was here, as was Brux and that everyone was getting along just fine. After I talked to him for a few minutes, I then talked to Pete Gaughan for a bit and then I told him that Eric wanted to talk to Steve. So I got on as

myself and talked to Langley again. This was just to insure that I had fooled him. I even told him that Gary and I were allied as France and Germany! I hope I fooled y'all! As I'm typing this (It's only January 5th), I've yet to see any zines with a con report saying that Gary was at Byrnecon but I'm hoping that something similiar to this will be printed in Perelandra and Magus. We shall see, we shall see! Back to the con. The first game we played was Gunboat and I ended up with Austria. Kathy was Russia, John Italy, Lousy Turkey, Highfield was the Krauts, MP was France, and Mainardi England. Kathy and John went after Highchair leaving their backs open to me and Lousy so I got off to a good start. Around 1906, Italy was out and Tukey and I combined had 21. Kathy was down to one fleet in the North Sea(!) and Highchair had two units stalemating Turkey in St.Peteys. France and England finally made peace and it seemed as if the four of them were solidly allied to stalemate us. However, I felt that there was still some possibility of them screwing up. After all, it was a gunboat game so they couldn't co-ordinate very well, but still, there really wasn't much that they had to do anyway. Somebody called for a six-way draw and to my surprise, Lousy voted yes to it! I didn't know what to do but all four of the others cast their vote "yes". Everyone was waiting for me to make my decision. Kathy kept goading me on trying to find out why I wasn't voting for the draw. She thought I was out to knock one of the allies off so it wouldn't be such a large draw but that wasn't what I wanted at all. I was just hoping to break the stalemate line. Anyway, I voted no and... well, have you ever seen a ten unit Austria go to zero centers in three years!!! That's what happened to me as Lousy went for the win. The Western quadruple stopped him (barely) at 17 and the game ended in a five way draw. I had learned my lesson! Next game I was back with a vengeance! As France, I moved quickly on Caruso's England with Byrne's support (she was Germany). I then turned on Italy and the game ended in a swift F/G draw (this was also Gunboat). Early next morning the adrenalin was still flowing and as Italy in yet another gunboat game, I moved on Austria immediatly and then on both France and Turkey in the same turn. I allied myself with Brux's Russia against Mainardi's Turkey. Lousy was France and he held fast for a while with Dan Mathius (playing England) lending support. Eventually however, Bruce and I broke through on all fronts versus E/F. There only hope had been that Turkey could tie us up long enough for them to set up a stalemate line. I must admit that Mainardi fought hard. He didn't yeild an inch and it took me four years to make any head way. In that amount of time though, Bruce and I had managed to make big gains and we had reduced France to two units. A fleet in Portugal and an Army in Moscow! A lone army had managed to slip through the lines and harass the Russian homeland. I must also point out at this time that Highfield (Germany) probably won the day for me with his lone fleet in Brest. He helped me to break the Atlantic and then hold it. Yay for Willie! In the meantime, I had grown unchecked while Russia, who was still reeling from the bothersome French army was just beginning to get back on his feet. I decided to go for the win and the same turn that I made this decision, Bruce turned on me also. I could understand why though (I was at 14 and he was

only at 6!! I made it up to 17 centers at which point a 4 way I/E/R/T draw was proposed. They all voted yes and I voted no! Kathy came in to see what the ruckus was and gave me a look of such utter disbelief. "Don't you ever learn?!" She exclaimed! Well, she was probably right but next season, Turkey and Russia both supported into Italian owned Rumania thus bouncing each other, and I collected my 18th center! I was still on a game-high when by this time, there were over 20 people present, and me and a few others decided to play a game of Risk. Yes folks, you know how I hate to brag but I won that won too! Next came a big game of spoons (remember that game?). Uh, this is getting repetitive, you know what I mean!! Winning that game infuriated Phyllis, Frank, and Francine (who was still mad at me for fooling her with my Coughlan act) and they got their revenge in a game of Family Buisness. Yet another game of Dippy, this time talking and on a HUGE board that Dick Martin had brought with him. It covered the entire table. Once again I drew France. I allied with Brux's England against Carl Russel's Germany and engaged in a side war with Jeff Bohner's Italy. Not much happened for a couple of years but eventually, me and Bruce broke through (at five-thirty in the morning!) and the game was called a two-way between me and Bruce. Ho-hum, another game, another win! Well, that was all the gaming for me that weekend. I went home Saturday afternoon, still basking in my victorys! Naturally, the games weren't the only thing going on, my favorite part of these get togethers is just getting to sit and talk with some of the people, and make new friends. All previous attendance records were shattered at this Byrnecon, here is a list of the people who attended (that I can remeber!): Tom Swider, MP Barno, Highjerk, Brux, Dan Mathius, John Banke, Carl Russel, Stu Schoenberg, Woody, Tom Mainardi, Dick and Julie Martin, Jeff Bohner, Mark Larzelere, Pat Conlon, Greg Fritz and Gary Coughlan! Once again, I would like to think my hosts, Bruce, and then Kathy and John. Who had the first stab of the year you ask? I think that honor goes to Pat Conlon who as Russia went to Gal in S'01.

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Anduin, is published every 5 weeks by Eric Kane, 109 Hicks Lane, Great Neck, NY, 11024. Phone # is (516) 466-0797. It is dedicated to the play of Postal Diplomacy and other related games and to having fun. Diplomacy is a game invented by Allen B. Calhauer and is published by the Avalon Hill company. Subscriptions are \$6/10 issues, \$11/20 issues, or \$20/45 issues. There are no game openings at present nor will there be any for quite a while. Subscriptions for Europeans are the same unless you want it sent by airmail, in which case the sub rate is \$10/10 issues.

Stand-by list for Regular Dip: Stone, Tallman, Ellis, Murray, Hakey, Slaughter, Quirk, Chisholm, Scheifler, Stewert, Jung, McCloud, Brachman, and Anderson. Any more?

Stand-by list for Variants: Slaughter, Scheifler, Fleming, Stewert, Anderson, and Dupont. Thanks folks.

If you complete a stand-by position, you will be rewarded 2 free issues.

## LETTER\_BOMBS

From John Michalski ((12/28/82))

Dear Eric-

First, let me thank you for the generous extension for that last MOS EISLEY. Keep that sort of thing up, and you threaten to get stuck with another some day!

I think the idea of going to letters as a source of both nonplayer interest as well as filler value is an excellent idea. I started that with my old BRUTUS BULLETIN more for filler than anything else--I was too lazy to come up with anything of my own all the time--and goodness, look what it lead to! Your necessarily slow turnaround will definately stifle some of the hotter topics the old BB got into, but avoiding that might not be a bad idea either. Printing everything that arrives in your box does a lot to encourage people to write, and encouragement is definately needed, but the bad part is that you get a lot of chaff along with the wheat as it were. Take for example, Roland Morris' letter last time in which he said "America could feed the world, but does it? How is it we blame God for our own failures when he's given us the resources to do what we should do?" Boy, idiocy like that really gets to me, as I don't know whether to laugh or shit first! Where do you begin you know? Old age causes me to fall back and take the nice tack of just saying that America has done her part by being ready; now its up to the scum of Bangladesh to do something to earn the price of all the cheap American wheat available. Let the Bangis blame God for not giving them the resources to buy it! When I was younger, I would have been more controversial and attacked his "thinking" instead. But now, I'm not so sure its worth the effort.

Keep up the good work

-John M.

((I'm really not sure how I feel about this "who gets the blame" bit. I'd say that at this stage of the game, America can't afford to go around giving handouts to every two-bit country, then again maybe we could do more than we are doing now. Anybody else care to comment on this?)

Your welcome and thanks for the MES. Like I said, send me another some day and I promise you will be well paid! As far back as Anduin #2, I was printing letters en masse. I always liked the idea because it got the readers involved with the zine to some extent. Personally, I don't consider letters as filler. My policy is basically I'll print anything I'm sent as long as it's of some interest. And most things I get are worthy of print. Naturally, my views may not be the same as those of the writers, but don't let that stop any of you potential letter-senders out there. I'm not above criticism and if I don't agree with your point of view won't stop me from printing your letter. Your right about my slow turnaround rate. It's pretty much unavoidable but I think I mentioned on the front page that next year Anduin may go to 4-week deadlines. If not, I may start printing mid-monthlys. We'll see what develops.))

From Pete Gaughan ((12/29/82))

Lesse- think I'll write to Ericane first...

Know what I'm doing right now? No, besides listening to Beethoven's Sixth Symphony (F major, Opus 68; "Pastoral"). No, no, besides reading ANDUIN #15. No, I already figured out how you get underlined characters in a print-out. Okay, I'll tell you.

I'm psyching up for Steve Langley's "New Year's in River City."

That's right - ByrneCon 21B, the first to be held west of the Continental Divide. And even if Langley's favorite moll (look it up) isn't going to be there, it will be a blast. I'm here with a bottle of root beer and a box of cassettes--just sent off the abjuration for the one game I'm gm'ing--don't have to work tomorrow. This is the way to spend a vacation.

Then imagine recieving two "MOS EISLEY SPACEPORT'S" in one day - one with A and one I bought from Steve Hutton's auction (don't razz me; I'd never seen it and figured it was worth 25 cents to say I had).

Well, now, to the zine (note official hobby spelling here) at hand. I don't like photoreduced Dipzines, but if you have to reduce it looks better on a (word-processor) printer. I like your method of dealing with press-but you really shouldn't send the players hunting for it. ((Ooops heh heh! Sorry about that!)).

My first letter said it all, really. I think you prove my point about "what's important to you will show up in your zine" by spending several paragraphs answering me and Roland Morris. Also, it's easier than usual to identify you as a "young adult" (read as: high school up through collage sophomore) because you go on long after your point is made. Examples? Coughlan/Martin (pp. 18-19), and U.S.O.S. (pp 1-2, 20-21). Not that those subjects didn't merit the time you gave them--you simply didn't have enough material to stretch that far. Most people don't learn to be concise (see Linsey, Coughlan, Peery), but if they do it's usually during collage.

By now I'm in an excellent mood to drive 500 miles for a Dip game--the Ninth is on, and I've critiqued a fellow pubber. Which reminds me: Ferejandra (spell it correctly).

Check out a forthcoming Magus if you want my "modest proposal" for polls. "Arousing article" it may not be, but it will certainly draw flack.

Final notes: I can't believe you really called a standby for a one-unit power. (82AK).

>White to move (p. 41)? How 'bout (K-N2)/P-KB4?

> I couldn't read anything on the back of my copy 'cause the Flushing postmark is so large - it's a miracle that the U.S. Snail got it to me at all.

Best wishes for a happy new year--  
Pete Gaughan

((I don't remember what I wrote on the back of the ish, sorry. Why can't you believe I called for a 1 center SB? I do have 14 standbys to spare, and I feel it's better to keep the game flowing as smoothly as possible. CD can do a lot to hurt a game, even if it is only a one center power. I remember being called as a stand-by for Austria (1 center) in Graustark and I turned out to be vital in stoping an English win. I ended up getting part of a four-way draw! Your right about me going on after the point, I



guess I'm conditioned that way after writing essays in which I had very little to go on and yet managed to drag them out a couple of extra pages and get a high grade on them.

I don't think I talked to you as myself on the phone, but I know "Gary" did speak with you and he wants me to tell you that he enjoyed talking to you!))

From Tom Swider ((No date, around 12-27-82)).  
Eric-

First of all, I think I can now provide for another xyn. A check is enclosed for one year sub to Anduin. I take A goes back to "the long tradition of naming a xyn after a fictitious place." I'm not much of a Tolkien fan (although I used to FRP a lot a few years ago). I like DUNE; despite what Ron Canuck Brown says, it's an excellent work. Naturally, all of this is besides the point. With finals and a new job (Why work? So I can support my habits, such as Dippy), I'll probably digress somewhat. Am I making sense?

Hope you did okay on the PSATs. SATs are no sweat. My lowly 1240 got me a Regents scholarship. If I remember correctly, Mykey Barno got a 1560-1580 on the SATs. That's what I call sickening! Guess you can't win them all.

I guess you are the youngest pubber. I have to congratulate you on going this far. Pubbers under 20 usually fold within a year (eg. The Chamber, Born to Dip). I somehow managed to run TSS for 17 issues. I became frustrated without xeroxing & gave the helm to MP Barno, who has just pubbed ish #38. It must be even harder since you have a large number of games going. I don't think I'd ever get as involved as I was at one point. My COA subxyn keeps me busy enough.

As far as controversy, I'd prefer to stay away from it. Gary C wrote me a letter for print, which has the potential of getting me into some affair with him (poor choice of words, huh?). Hopefully, it won't go very far. This hobby is supposed to be for fun, and making a stand on a subject of any sort makes the beginnings of controversy. I prefer to be a bystander. I, for once, made a comment, and I get a slap in the face. Last time I say anything!

By the way, have you ever considered giving names to your games (eg. Jupiter, Tempest, Swedish Roundabout, Pressgang)? Here's some possible ideas. Name your games after: Brands of beer; Veneral Diseases; Amway products; Boardman toadies; Elfs who publish (that one's sort of limited, though...); People BRUX threw out of VoD; Female mudwrestlers; Shopping Malls.

I'm sure you might eventually find appropriate names, or perhaps I've convinced you not to name your games...

Best, Tom.

((At one point, I was giving names to games that didn't yet have Boardman Numbers. The names also came from Middle Earth, usually cities or provinces. Maybe someday I'll start doing it again. For now, I'll stick with just the plain old #'s.

Forget it Tom, once you say something in this hobby, you open yourself up to controversy. The only people who avoid it are the

ones who never say anything! Personally, I don't mind a little controversy, it adds a little flavor to it all. I hate feuds and can't imagine why anyone likes them. Yet there are a great deal of them currently going on. A funny paradox.

I used to be heavily into D&D, for about 2 years, but we got tired of it all. Anyway, thanks for writing and welcome to Anduin.)

From Gary Coughlan ((The real one! No date.))

Dear Eric-

Well it's been awhile since I've written you and, since I'm on a long break here at work, I thought I would (You miss the typewriter already don't you? Don't lie to me, boah!).

I'm sorry you thought I would be offended by Anduin 15. I have always considered you, especially after your comments on my faking of zines, to be a fair and even-handed person. Anduin 15 only reenforced that impression. No, I'm afraid you're going to have me as a subber for a long time.

And it looks like you're getting into the European subber market too. I notice your trading with British, Dutch and Belgian zines now. Good deal! I enjoyed Michel Liesnards letter last time. All those comments about Southerners and Northerners in other countries.

Speaking of Southerners, what's this I hear about you imitating my Memphis accent at various sites in New York and over the phone long distance!!?!

Don't you remember telling me at Origins when we were allies that I didn't have that pronounced of a Southern accent but rather spoke softly? (Or was that hype and flattery to get me to agree to continue the game as your ally).

Anyway one of my fellow players in a game called me for the first time recently and he said that he expected a real strong Southern accent like he had "read about" and that it wasn't that pronounced. I told him not to believe everything he reads about me, ha ha.

Anyway, down here, we don't think we have accents. Have you seen Filthy Rich which is supposedly set in Memphis? We mock that accent. No one talks that way.

Have you ever heard Woody (Steve Annawoodian) imitate a Southern accent? It's awful. He was down here about a year or so ago and people here could hardly understand him ((What's so strange about that?!)). I got a laugh out of that but he and Tom Mainardi did it to me when I went to Philadelphia.

Now you, Eric have a nice accent. For a yankee, ha ha. Til later keep putting out the excellent anduins! -Gary.

((Me? Imitating you?! Like you yourself said Gary, don't believe everything you read, especially in here!!! Nope, I've never seen ER. Who's got time for TV these days?! As for what I said at Origins, it's true, you do speak softly (but do you carry a big stick?!). However, one can still pick up a rather strong accent. Now if I were to imitate you (notice how I deny everything?!) I'd say I could probably do a good job of it!

Yeah I'm starting to get involved with the European hobby. So far I'm trading with about five zines over there. In case nobody

knew already, I'm a devout anglophile. I love the English people! Needless to say, I'm not very popular in my US history class!))

From Brux Linsey ((12-24-82))

Dear Eric-

Anduin #15 was easily the best issue you've published to date. You have a lot to be proud of -- you are now publishing one of the finest zines in the hobby.

I'm afraid that you have misrepresented my philosophy of houserules on page 14, though. You say that "the idea of houserules...is to make the game flow more smoothly, and to avoid disagreements or misinterpretations," and later you ask, "Why bother trying to screw a player in the first place?". For the record, my view concerning houserules is that they should have one function: to specify how a GM will rule on certain points which are not covered in the Rulebook, either because the Rulebook is not specific enough (as in the "farthest from home" rule) or because it was not written with postal play in mind, (as in the rules governing press, e.g.). Whether they make the flow of the game more smooth is in my book irrelevant -- that's not their function. What they should do is clarify the rules which the GM is going to apply to the games he is running.

As for trying to screw a player, I'm sure most GMs, myself included, have never intentionally tried to screw any of their players. In the case of Ed Wrobel, you say that you think other GMs would have agreed with you. Some would; some wouldn't. That doesn't make my ruling wrong, nor does it indicate that anybody was trying to screw anybody. The point is that my houserules specifically allow the notation A Gre H (A Bul S), and treat such notation as valid orders for two units. Therefore, there is no other interpretation possible than the way I ruled, unless you want to go the route that a hold order can be superceded by a support order. The only way I could justify ignoring Ed's order to hold in favor of the support order would be to change my houserule regarding that notation, and I have no intention of doing so. The parentheses notation has served me and my players well for over three years, and I have had very few problems with players misinterpreting it. So it stays, and therefore there was really no other possible ruling on Ed's orders, as double-ordered units are always treated as holding.

As for my fifth-place finish; I think I can answer your surprise as to how it came about. It is true that I have quite a few critics for my strict style of GMing. So I imagine that most of them didn't vote for me. But the Marco Poll, unlike the Leeder Poll, doesn't take that factor into account. It is also true that I have several dozen happy players over the past year, and many of them apparently did vote for me. So, to answer your question, my finish in the Poll was due to two factors: the format of the poll and the quality of my GMing. I would guess that the factors weighed about equally in the final analysis.

As for whether Alex is a ten, of course she is! But you'll see that for yourself when you get here. We're looking forward to having you.

Best, -BRUX.

((And find out I did. Thanks again for letting me stay with Y'all Brux. I'm afraid that I disagree with you on HRs. Yes they do serve the purpose that you indicated. But I feel in addition to this that they should also be designed keeping in mind that your trying to provide the players with the best you can (i.e. an uninterrupted game, quick results (or at least results that are out on time), etc.). Bruce, I know you don't intentionally try to screw your players (else why be a GM right?), but you do do it. I admit that you are right in following your houserules, my questioning is whether you should have these houserules or not. Answer me this Bruce, who are you hurting by letting A Bul S A Gre and A Gre S A Bul? Austria and/or Italy? You might argue that because they are enemies of Turkey. But then again, it is a fairly cheap victory for them, one they did not gain by playing a superior game. You are hurting (screwing) the player. The same holds true for other little HRs that you have like this. Please understand my position. I'm not trying to convince other players not to play under you. Perhaps though, it might not be a good idea for novices to play under you. Should they get screwed by your "unusual" HRs, they may grow frustrated and quit the hobby before they really ever get into it. You say that some GMs would not agree with you while others would. I disagree. I'm asking all GMs (and players if they wish to comment) to write in and tell me how they would have abjudicated A Gre H (A Bul S); A Bul H (A Gre S). While we're at it, tell me how would abjudicate: F Bel S Hol, F Hol S Bel. Don't hesitate to elaborate by citing other examples if you wish. I would have accepted them both, along with a warning to a player to be more careful in the future (actually, I might not have accepted the second set, because I've already discussed this in past issues of A). You will notice in the last issue that I did not accept one player's order to support another country's unit into a province without specifying which country it was (1982HF, Germany). Naturally Bruce, please don't take any of this personally (in fact I bet your happy to see a little controversy eh?!).))

From Larry Heery ((28 December, 1982))

Dear Eric:

I suppose I should warn you. Once I start writing letters to someone in the hobby it tends to get out of hand. If you don't believe me, just ask Pete Gaughan. I'm probably one of the few people in the hobby that still believes in the art of communication vis-a-vis the letter. That was something we practiced in the by-gone years. But, in the past two years, I've noticed that the number of people in the hobby who can and do communicate by letter has dwindled to an alarming few. Sigh....

I want you to go back and re-read the last paragraph of page 19 of Anduin, before you go on reading this. Then I want to tell you a story. ((I'm tempted to say "Oh good, fiction!" But I'll refrain! OK, I reread the paragraph, go ahead.))

Although I agree with the sentiments you express there is more to be said about this.

Last summer, when I was preparing for PEERICON II, I did a bit of research into San Diego's gaming and toy stores, particularly those that carry Avalon Hill games and Dippy. I

found, in my survey (called or visited each store in the greater San Diego area that was listed in the Yellow Pages under games or stores) that there were about 100 stores in San Diego that carried games of one kind or another on a fairly substantial scale. Of those about half carried the Avalon Hill line. Of those about half, or round 25, carried Dippy. Now, when I started making a list I plotted them out on a city map so I could visit the various stores with flyers for PEERICON II. Imagine my surprise, when I was done. I discovered that of the 25 stores that carried Dippy, all but one were located in the half of the city/county north of I-8 (a freeway that divides the city/county population in half; north of the freeway is the WASP, upper-class modern area, south of it is the Black/Hispanic, older area). In other words, about 1.6 million people in San Diego had access to the game in one store (if they lived south of the freeway). It was no coincidence that most of the stores carrying the game were located in the more affluent parts of town, seven in La Jolla (one store for every 5,000 people) vs. one store for 700,000 blacks, browns, etc....

And who showed up at PEERICON II. During the two days some fifty people appeared. Three were women. There were no blacks, no browns, etc. But there were an awful lot of kids from La Jolla, etc.

But perhaps, I'm wrong. I understand, from Conrad von Metzke and Rod Walker that one of the players in the first FBM Dippy game was black (His name was Peery, by the way). As far as I know he is/was the only black ever involved in the game. As for women. We have Kathy Byrne and.....WHO? I know of at least one other superb female player, Robyn Finley. I'm in the process of training a women player who has the potential. I think, to out-Byrne Byrne. If I can get her interested she may whip us all. She's got it all. Still, these are exceptions. So much for blacks and women.

What about gays? There are gays in the hobby. Not alot of them but still a goodly number. But they are still hiding. I have faced this problem before. Once some years ago in a State election. I solved that in a typical Peericratic fashion. A mass mailing letter. Then, when I went to work with the Fire Department here in San Diego it was an up-in-the-air issue. The only other openly gay person in the department was a typical Gay stereotype who even I couldn't stomach. I had no problems on that score. I demonstrated to one and all that Gays could make better quiche (to their wives) and play soccer (to them) better than straights! So Much For Stereotypes.

So what was my point? It is this. At 16/17 you are looking at a Dippy community which is not different than the one I saw 16 years ago. It was White, WASP (Ah, but there is a Jewish element!), upper middle class, better educated than most, etc. Keep this in mind when you tend to next DIPCON. Tell me how many Blacks, Women, etc. you see there.

I didn't write this for publication although you can publish it if you wish. I wrote it for you. I don't write letters of praise lightly and I meant what I said about Anduin in my November letter. I also have a pretty good idea of what faces you in the next year or two or three.

I have this sneaky suspicion that had there been more communication between Coughlan, Stafford, Ozog, etc. none of this would have ever happened. At least I hope so. One of the reasons I've expanded the Xeno trading policy is to head off just such things in the future, at least as far as I'm concerned. I will say that for a sixteen year old you have shown much more maturity in all this than most of the adults involved. I'd tip my hat to you but I only wear one when I have to.

Regards, -Larry.

((Unfortunately, I don't think that this entire issue would have been avoided even if there had been more communication. I'd like to think so but I guess it was one of those things... I disagree with you about the people in the hobby. True, the majority are white, upper-class, etc., but I believe that it is the minoritys in the real world who have the biggest effect on the hobby. I could be wrong but that's the impression I get. Anyway, I appreciate your writing and those compliments about Anduin can only do you good in this neck of the woods (Great Neck!) ))

From Larry Perry ((Oh no, not again!)) (12-28-82):

Dear Eric-

You can regard this as a letter or an article, whichever you prefer. And you can publish it, or not, as you wish. I just need a bit of a break from working on the January mailing.

One of my Christmas presents this year (to myself) was to have all my back issues of XENOGOGIC permanently bound. In the process I discovered that sometime in the coming year X will publish its 100th issue (Its a rather complicated mess to figure it out exactly. The first five years X appeared 18 times a year (plus special issues, etc.) then there were two years of quarterly publication, then some years of no publication, and now back to quarterly...). Anyway, since the 25th anniversary of the hobby is coming up, and since there won't be a winter DW, and since issue #100 was just around the corner (Somewhere) I decided to make the January mailing a bit special. Heh, heh. Well, at the moment I've got some 88 pages of stuff ready for the printer and I haven't started on the zine proper.

One of the things I did was pull out the results of the first two PEERIPOLLS, back in 1967/1968 which rated zines and players, c. 1966-67. It was quite interesting. Of all the zines and listed in those days only two have survived, Graustark and Xenogogic. Of the forty or so players rated (There were less than 100 postal players in those days) only one is still active in FBM play, and only two others are still active in the hobby: myself, Boardman, and Walker. The others are all gone. The reason for all this was because I'm writing a damnation of the modern polls, surveys, etc. and I wanted to demonstrate that I had some experience in these things. Then I got to thinking about how the PEERIPOLL techniques (Far different then today's messy ways) might be applied to today's zines. So, I may just revive the PEERIPOLL for one time only. Heh, heh...And that led to another article in which I tried to pick my favorite Dippy zines of all time. That was really fun because my list of titles is around 700. But I narrowed it down to 12, or was it 15, or 20? Anyway, it has been

an interesting series of articles. Then there will be the usual surprises, the first issue of PEERILANDRA which tells the true story of the origins of the game of DIPLOMACY, some contributions from Pete Gaughan and Rod Walker, my Christmas contribution, a report on the first BEETHOVENCON, and a lot of other stuff. You'll know when it arrives because your mailbox will be groaning.

Anyway, I read your page 19 comments and I thought I ought to make some comment. I have moved PT out of XENOGOGIC and made it a separate zine (if you can call it that). The first issue includes letters from Stafford and Ozog (since he asked that I publish it) explaining/defending their position. I'm devoting four pages to the whole thing, which is the equivalent for me to long sentence for most publishers. I haven't felt the inclination to elaborate on my position in the first PT. I don't think it is needed. I do know that the last issue of XENO is now out of print, in spite of a double printing, and that it produced an out-pouring of response far greater than anything I'd ever written. One result being that I am now trading with about twice as many zines as I was before that issue. Just why I'm not sure. Maybe they liked my centerfold cartoon. Anyway, I will not hesitate to discuss the issue again if it is needed although, it may shock you to know, I don't feel a discussion of it belongs in the hobby either. The discussion, debate, etc. of the Vietnam War split the hobby badly during the late 1960's and early 1970's and it is still split today. However, some issues are of such importance that that cost must be paid. I happen to believe this was one such issues.

My primary complaint, which Ozog was quick to realize, was that a publisher had erred in publishing something which was libelous. And what Stafford wrote about Coughlan was. Regardless of whether Stafford had good intentions or not. I came down harder on Ozog for that than anything else pertaining to the substance of the issue. A publisher has a great responsibility, especially when dealing with an individual who does not have the ability to defend himself. In this case, of course, Coughlan could and did. To me the lesson that had to be learned was that publishers/writers must be careful of what they write about people regardless of what the specifics are. The gay thing happened to be incidental to this.

Of course you are correct in saying I didn't know any of the people involved. I said that. I'm glad I didn't. It gave me a freedom in my writing to use them as examples and to make this a case study or demonstration in how not to do something. Had I known any of these people personally I wouldn't have been able to do that. So, not knowing them, worked to my advantage. And it gave me a chance to interpret their various actions in a totally objective way. Sure I cast villains and heroes, somewhat tongue-in-cheek, and I made this into a drama. But it was high drama. I do sort of resent that so many people wrote defending Stafford's words as being "humorous and well meaning" telling me that Coughlan was really a "closet fascist." There was an awful lot of amateur psychological analysis floating around in some of those letters.

And yes, I knew the facts. But you are confusing facts with motivations and intentions. Those we can only know from the

horse's mouth. I was impressed with Ozog's letter. I was not impressed with Stafford's. But I have no personal quarrel with either one of them.

This question of what does and does not belong in a hobby zine, or discussion, continues to perplex me. Some zines and some publishers should stick closely to the hobby. Others wander afar from it and can handle it. When I look back at my favorite zines the ones that stand out in my mind are the others that did wander and managed to relate to the game, the hobby, and their world to their readers.

That's about it, I'll have some comments in XENO about hobby factionalism (I can't share them with you because I haven't written them) and that ought to upset a few more people. Sigh.....

Rod Walker says I look like John Boardman but it isn't true. I actually look like Magnum.

And now I can go back to work on whatever I'm supposed to be typing. Was a good issue but I'm sure tired of re-reading re-hashes of all those poll results!!

((Me too, but I think that the way in which I wrote them made it a bit more interesting. I have a number of comments to make about your letter:

Congrats on pubbing your 100th issue (whenever it does come out). That's quite an accomplishment.

Please, please, **please** don't revive another poll! There are way too many polls in the hobby right now. Your right that they could be done better so I would suggest that you contact either Steve Langley or Randolph Smythe and give them some suggestions instead of putting out your own poll.

Yes, it does shock me that you agree that a discussion of this issue does not belong in the hobby. I can't believe you are sincere when you then go on to say "... some issues are of such importance that that cost must be paid. I happen to believe this is one such issue." Huh? C'mon Larry, pick one side or the other!

I agree about a pubber's responsibility to be careful in editing out the bad stuff (i.e. libel, etc.). However, I don't think Ozog meant any harm when he published Stafford's letter.

Please don't tell me you cast heroes and villains somewhat tongue-in-cheek. There was nothing tongue-in-cheek in the PT. I think you may be right about confusing facts with intentions and motivations.

Anyway thanks for writing. Boy, you sure do write a lot! No need for me to ask Gaughan, I believe you!))

From Bill Quinn ((1-10-83))

Dear Eric,

Thanks for the sample of Anduin. It's a technically well done zine and I expect its style and content to improve with your maturity and skills. Hopefully your association with the hobby will be a long one. There are many flashes in Postal Dip and an occasional nova, but these people contribute little more in the long run besides a few outstanding publications and some controversy. The people who make a difference are those who stay



around long enough to create institutions that influence the course of the hobby. Its the John Boardmans, Lee Kendters and Doug Beyerleins, Kathy Byrnes and etc. who bring a small bit of order to an otherwise chaotic pastime.

I'll stop spouting off and cease my boring drivel. Good luck and long participation. -Bill

((Your so right Bill. It takes a long time to gain respectability in this hobby. But you gotta start somewhere right?! I appreciate your comments about A and I find them amusing because they are exactly opposite those of Geoff Chalinger (whose letter appears later in this issue). He thought that I put A together poorly and sloppily. Of course, being from England, that could be expected since the quality of zines over there is generally better than here. Indeed, I might be assumed to be a "bad risk" for players/subbers. After all, I'm only sixteen, and have only been publishing for a year and a half. Not much credibility which is why I appreciate comments like yours; and why I appreciate people in the hobby who are willing to "take a chance on me". My only wish is to live up to their expectations.))

From Keith Sherwood ((No date, around 1-7-83)).

Dear Eric-

Thank you for the sample of Anduin. That is assuming it wasn't a fake. No reason to think that, really, except the Flushing Postmark. Never can be too careful, you know.

Your zine is really impressive, espeically considering the last zine published by a highschooler, Dave Manuel's Chamber. (Sorry, I shouldn't make judgments based on age, I know I don't like that done to me.)

Thanks again, Keith.

((S'all right Keith, I think I said it all concerning this after the last letter. As to the Flushing postmark, that's 'cause Flushing has a large PD which is nearby (you can tell by the stench!) and most mail goes through there. Thanks for writing))

From Cathy Cuning ((1-10-83))

Dear Eric,

Hi cutie -(Oh-oppo-sorry wrong one!). Like it was real getting the sample. You were on my list of editors to write to for samples, but like I didn't get around to it, and then you saved me the trouble - how kind of you.

I did see issue #13 and that was quite nice, but #15 is even better! Then I noticed that my long lost not real brother - Mark Luedi, and my #1 toady Jim-Bob Burgess, turned you down?! Well how could I reject you too? So there should be money enclosed in here.

Ok, so what's the deal wanting me to change Cathy's Ramblings to Cathy's Corner, eh? Are you trying to get my mom mad at me? I would never want to copy anything she has done. Besides, "ramblings" describes my writing style much better. Well that's it. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely and cheers, -Cathy.

P.S. As of Feb 24, my mail should be sent c/o Terry Tallman. This will be till I get a real place to stay.

P.S.P.S. Is your address for real? I mean "Hicks Lane" and "Great Neck"? Really Eric - that can't be serious.

((Oh no? Just ask Alex whether or not I'm a Great Necker?! (That ought to get me in enough trouble!) Gee, a perfumed letter! I never got one of those before! Definately a good idea to use them when writing letters to your ally, maybe I'll try it sometime... No, I don't want you to get into trouble with your mom. After all, she spells hers with K's, not C's. I just think it would be neat to have to KK's (CC's?). "Like it was real"??? Oh no, don't tell me your a Vally Girl!!! I'm in enough trouble with Alex for calling her one without getting another! Say it ain't so!))

((Hmm, I think for the next five pages or so, I'll turn the column over to the foreigners. Shall we start with the Canucks? OK:))

From Ron Brown ((12-7-82))

Dear Eric,

I hope you were able to read that note I scribbled on your copy of SNAFU! Please, if nothing else, print that as it may help clear up the misconception that you and I are feuding.

Re, who elects custodians, etc. In the CDO the Co-ordinator and Ombudsman are elected every two years. Actually elected is hardly the right word, as no one ever wants the jobs, so it's a matter of someone volunteering and if, after a decent interval, no one else steps forward, then he's stuck with it. The other CDO positions (Orphans' Placement, Novice Package Directors, Census Takers, etc.) are appointed by the Co-ordinator. I took the step of appointing Bruce Linsey to Novice Package when no one could get in touch with Nick Russon for something like six months. Bruce has a decent novice package, so why have another? Actually, Novices has been in shambles in Canada for the past few years. Waddington's (who makes the Dip sets in Canada with those neat wooden blocks) sometimes included a flyer in sets giving Nick as the contact person. Trouble is, Nick didn't like to answer letters. I sent Waddington's several letters on the subject and finally went to see them, (just outside of Toronto) last July and they agreed, reluctantly, to let me change the flyer. Being a nationalist, I wanted a bilingual one and it's taken me a few months to get it translated. Now I'm waiting for Ann to get some free time so she can pass it through the word processor at work. Things move slowly in Dippydom. Anyhow, that's the kind of thing the co-ordinator does.

The situation in the US is different. You have the North American Diplomacy Federation. I'm not sure how that started or how it's actually set up, save that when Rod Walker resigns as president, soon, I understand, it probably won't survive very long. Talk is of setting up another group. But no one has ever been able to agree on anything in the US hobby. Too many anarchists or something. Anyhow, at present hobby custodians seem to be hanging on by their fingernails. The Miller Number Custodianship being a

case in point. Traditionally the MNC has appointed his own successor once he finds he's unable to carry on. The transfer this time has been slowed and people are getting impatient, but it should be straightened out soon. The Orphan Rescue Service is voluntary. John Daly is keeping that going since Kathy Byrne resigned after taking a lot of shit for trying to rehouse abandoned games. I'm sure if you'd like to offer to help out, he'd appreciate it. Don Ditter is doing fine as Boardman Number Custodian and he'll appoint someone when he's had enough. Again, if you'd like to volunteer, let Don know. Same for any other American custodian positions. They're just people offering to help out where there's a need. If anyone wants to help out, let 'em know. I'm sure I went on at length in the letter you misplaced about how I cannot understand the attitude a number of Americans seem to have. I get the impression that some people feel it's their patriotic duty to screw up what others are trying to accomplish. Look at Sacks and the way he's messing around with the MNC simply because he has a fantasy about how things should be. Or the crap Byrne took when she told Glenn Overby to stop screwing his players. (By the way, he still owes hobby members a considerable sum of money.) Or how a group of turkeys decided to screw up the North American Zine Poll results. On that subject, John Leeder passed the NAZF on to Randolph Smyth (after all, John began it and in that sense "owned" it). Yet I read zines about others who seem to think they have the rights to it. Well, I was rather down and bitter when I wrote last, but I don't feel that way at the moment.

I don't feel up to getting into the religious conversation at the moment. I wrote myself out on that subject this issue of SNAFU!

Don't feel bad about being a "midget" compared to VOICE OF DOOM and EUROPA EXPRESS. I remember when I thought 8 pages was a monstrous job. Now I have to really fight to keep it down to 20 pages (ideal, as I can mail it for one once then), but I have a feeling it's a losing cause. The trouble is, when I'm working I've got the money for large issues, but no time; when I'm not working, I've got the time but no money. In any case, I'd rather read a small well-put-together zine than one with a lot of pages filled with stuff I'm not interested in. (Now don't Gary and Brux go getting upset! But it does take me hours to read them--mainly because they are so interesting.) Oh well, you know what I mean.

So, you're one of the youngest pubbers eh? You didn't look that young at Origins. In any case, ANDUIN is a remarkable job for one still wet behind the ears (read: anyone under 30). You should have lots of productive years ahead of you.

Your maps are pretty good. Much easier to read than the reduced conference map I tried. I almost started using maps--even had some prepared--but then a bunch of Canadian zines folded and I didn't have room any more. Such is life, I guess.

Best Wishes, -Ron.

P.S. Sorry this gets disjointed towards the end, but Christopher was on the way to bed and I was distracted. You'll understand when you have kids.

((Yes, I'm sure I will. Here are some quick answers to your letter: Thanks for telling me how things tick in the CDO. You guys are much better organized than we are. Let me see if I can explain this strange impression your getting of how things are run here. You see, most people **insist** on having things run their way. And, if they don't get things their way, they do whatever they can to ruin whoever else is doing it. As far as I know, the NADF has done nothing useful for the hobby, with the exception of making a few individuals happy, because "they got to do it their way". (There you go Eric, getting yourself in trouble again!). As for me volunteering my time, hmm. I'll have to think about that. Not this year though, that's for sure. We'll see about next year. I no longer feel bad about being a midget anymore, as you can see, Anduin went through puberty and is now grown up into something much bigger than what it used to be! Again, thanks for writing.))

From Randolph Smythe  
Eric:

I just received your sample of Anduin a couple of days ago. Looks very good- your letter column in particular seems very active, if this is a "normal" issue. I am enclosing the latest Fol Si Fie for you to check over. However, to answer your question, I would prefer not to trade, for several reasons: (1) most important, it screws up my bookkeeping. I've just eliminated my last trade after two years of trying. (2) ESF is presently a shadow of its former self - I don't expect you to be impressed by the enclosed sample - and while I hope to pick up the quality once I start printing it on a newly purchased home computer, it's not really in a class with most of the excellently-produced newer zines, including yours; (3) I already subscribe to both VoD and EE, and after plowing through both of those every month, another zine with a good lettercolumn is almost redundant! I've become increasingly detached from the U.S. hobby after deciding not to enter any new games south of the boarder, and the above two zines keep me oversupplied with the current gossip as it is. I understand that Anduin is fairly new, though, and if you can keep up the present quality you should have no trouble becoming one of the foremost zines on the continent.

It is unclear from the first few pages whether anyone has really clued you in about the Passchendaele fold, the mechanism whereby Ron Brown/CDO took charge of the games, and why the whole mess has nothing to do with either (1) Any U.S. zine, or (2) any GM/Publisher whose players are satisfied with his performance. First of all, Ron Brown is the Coordinator of the Canadian Diplomacy Organization (CDO), which has no jurisdiction outside Canada; in fact, part of the shemuzzle resulted from uncertainty over how much "power" this basically informal service group has within Canada. Procedurally, the organization was unprepared for what happened to Passchendaele, since nothing remotely similiar had ever happened before. Francois was one of the pillars of the Canadian hobby right up to April 1981... then suddenly went

totally strange. Pass simply disappeared until the following September; Francois' explanations for the break were never entirely satisfactory, at least not to me. Issues then sputtered out again for the following six months; there was no problem with the GMing, but the extra space was used for personal attacks on a variety of people, principally Ron Brown and I. The last issue came out in March/82, I believe. Throughout, Francois maintained that "nobody tells me when to publish", despite delays of months which left his 16 games in limbo, driving his players and the CDO officers (who were receiving the complaints) up the wall. Finally, Ron Brown had to resort to sending Francois a deadline: "If you do not publish by xxx (usually 2-3 months after his previous issue), I must assume that Passchendaele has folded and your games will be re-housed." This seemed to greatly incense Francois, who reserved his worst shots for Ron in his final issues. Finally, though, he ignored a deadline, the games were re-housed and he hasn't been heard from since.

You may wish to take this explanation with a grain of salt, since Francois was originally a good friend of mine (and Ron's); his subsequent behavior, which turned off a number of players and almost ruined all his games, has left a bad taste across the entire Canadian hobby, and particularly with Ron and me. As it is, I've just given you the bare bones of what happened, to illustrate the circumstances whereby a GM was stripped of "his" games (of course, if you take that the games belong to the players, I don't know one who would have preferred to wait for further issues of Pass). One assumes from Francois' earlier comments that the re-housing was done "against his will"... but on the other hand, no one (to my knowledge) has heard a thing from him since his last issue, so who knows whether he ever would have bothered to publish again?

Every experience should teach you something, or give you a new opinion. I'm strongly in favor of the establishment of a GM Code of Ethics, with a few teeth, ie "If I fail to measure up to this minimum standard, I understand that hobby officers may proceed to..." For instance, publishing an issue every 3 months doesn't seem to be an unreasonable requirement for a GM, failing which his games will be re-housed. A clear hobby-wide rule would take the flak off the people responsible for executing a necessary action, while letting GMs know where they stand.

This letter has gone on far too long already; but it should be clear that what happened to Passchendaele should have nothing to do with you.

--Randolph.

((I disagree, everything that goes on in this hobby can be related, directly or indirectly to everyone who participates in it. I understand that CDO's jurisdiction does not include me. Since you didn't get other past issues of Anduin, let me just tell you that I had just been curious about how these things worked, and I thank you for explaining it so clearly to me.

I like the idea of a GM code of ethics. Why is everyone so against organization in this hobby. Pete Gaughan, writing in Magus about having a hobby -pollster started out by saying how he was not a "Commie" and was not out to set up an official

institution. His idea is a good-one and I think that we should think about establishing more hobby institutions. That doesn't make us commies (I know you were just using it as a metaphor Pete)! I'm an avid chess player and I'll tell you this much, if the Dip hobby was 1/2 as well organized as the Chess hobby is, I think we would all get at least 10 times as much enjoyment as we do now. Hey, don't get me wrong, I'm all for having fun and I'm not out to set up strict rules on hobby conduct; but there is so much we could do if we only made half the effort! Polls, Rankings, Ratings, Cons, Orphan Services, BN's, all these "official hobby institutions" do (and could do) a great deal to add to the enjoyment of the game. Will someone please tell me why we aren't doing them!!!! Thankx for writing Randolph.)

From Dave Carter ((1-6-83))  
Eric,

Got the issue on Jan 6th with a Dec 22nd date. Strange things happen at the Post Office at Christmas. Even worse than normal. In case you haven't heard, Canadian postage rates are going up again. On Feb 15th it will cost 37 cents for a letter to get (try to get?) to the US. Up 2 cents.

Your zine looked good and I'm sure that you will do better in this years Zine poll. You were vastly underrated last year anyway. At least you have room for improvement. When you are in the top 10 it is hard to improve at all. I might even have to go to colour nudes this year.

I would just love to have a computer for my zine. The Apple computer in Canada is selling for about \$2200.00 CDN and that is without the printer. What kind of a setup are you using? For the games couldn't you just plug in all the orders as they come in (or a week before the deadline anyway) and then on deadline day just call them to the screen and adjudicate? Would you need word processing capability for that. One day...sigh...when I have my own computer I can envision doing the zine part normally but having the game inserts done up by printer for the players. Just adjudicate the games on the computer and tell them who gets a copy. At the conclusion of all the adjudications each player is printed up the games he is playing in. Hell, by then I could probably flick a switch and send it on it's way electronically.

Please.... I have the StPetes nc thing straightened away now. I sure had enough people write and tell me about it. Sheeesh.

I saw the Rangers play Barfalo sabres on Barfalo TV. The rangers stank! Next to Barfalo they have to be the most boring team in hockey! Boston will take it all. The CFL is a league that takes some getting used to. It used to be far superior to thr NFL run-run-run-kick game but now that the NFL is going pass crazy the way that the CFL is I find it (NFL) to be .....almost... as good as CFL. I still prefer the open field, the single point on punts/fg's that go into the end zone and the 12 players. It does take a lot of getting used to and I know that the CFL is not that interested in selling it to the US big networks. US College football is just one step up from Basketball what with all that running. You should see the Canadian Collage games though! They probably compare to US high school football.

Re: Don Ditter and Kingmaker. I tried KM by mail 2 times and I'll never do it again. Almost as fun as watching College Basketball....Yaaaawan. I'll stick to dip for now. -Dave.

((Me too. The zine was postmarked the 22nd? Strange, I mailed them all around the 15th or so. Yeah, the computer sure does come in handy when pubbing time comes around. My setup is basically this: Apple IIplus, 48K (16K language card not included making for a total of 64K), Green and White monitor, Disk Drive, and an Epson MX-80 frictionless printer with graph tracks. I type up Anduin using a program called "Word Handler". Basically, it is a simple but excellent word-processing program. I'm getting an updated copy soon which will allow me to use different types of print (ie, script, italics, etc.). Yes, I could use a program to adjudicate the games but there are two reasons basically, why I don't do this: (a) It would take a looong time to write up an adjudicating program, and (b) I see that Porter Wightman is using one he wrote, and it seems to create more problems than it's worth. Someday though, when I have lots of extra time, I'll write one up complete with maps aussi. By the way, the printer only prints single copy's. I still have to go to the copier to send this all out to y'all. That's really my next objective; to buy a copier that can reduce and collate for me. For that though, I'll need some \$\$\$, which I currently don't have. I'm working on it!

The Rangers stink? The Rangers stink?!?! Watch it sucker! Well, your insults don't really bother me since I know your just jealous! As for the NFL, come on, the only reason they use a bigger field in the CFL is you gotta keep moving up there to keep warm! All college sports are usually boring (watch my opinion change next year when I'm in college!). As for High School football, the Great Neck North Blazers were happy and proud to announce their first victory in some 25 or so games (last four seasons). They finished this season with an impressive 1-5 record!))

((Before we get to the other foreigners, I have this short angry note to print)):

From Terry Tallman ((1-15-83))

Hi Eric-

Is there a particular reason why I recieved your Dec. 5th issue on January 7th? Did everyone get theirs this late? Is this a plot to keep me from responding to Mos Eisley in a timely fashion? Are you one of those low-lives that inhabit the darkest nether regions of the hobby - a zit faced teenager? Why did the desperate man wait till december to report on PudgeCon? Why is he desperate? Won't Highfield go out with him? Highfield really likes sailors!

Hey, I just read this rag and Michalski has the balls to mention Okyhomu in the same breath as Washington? Washington that beat UCLA that beat Michigan? Big 8 - isn't that the girls league?

And get the damn thing here on time! Your deadline was Jan 7 and I get it Jan 7? What if I want to write press about Hithumper (see Down and Dirty)? Heaven save us from teen-szines!

((Ok, that's it. Now you've gone and gotten me really mad you upstart! Who the hell do you think you are telling me to get my zine out on time?! I may be a teen-ager but I'm very responsible about putting the zine out on time, and if it's late, it's usually with a good reason. If you want to know what it is, read the first page again. And another thing, I have more experience than you do even if I am a teen-ager and you better just watch who you give orders to, and who you call zit-faced. As it happens, I mentioned to all players on their copys that the deadline was set back to Jan 21st. I don't know why you got it on the 7th though, you should have gotten it on about the 20th of December! Maybe it's because we had just recently started trading and I might not have put your name on my mailing list. And if you wanted to submit press (Highfield doesn't play here and I don't get DnD) then that would have been tough! Next time, before you go spouting off like an ass, check the facts first-- then go spouting off like an ass! Seriously, I'm not above criticism but I didn't regard your letter lightly; that kind of uncalled for abuse I can do without. I think you owe me an apology.

By the way (don't worry, I'm done yelling at you!), Speaking of Highfield really liking sailors (and gays in general), I've finally found out the truth: Gary is gay. As is Highfield, and Brux, and Michalski, and Berch. Others found to be happy include... What? No not that kind of gay! I mean happy-gay, you know, carefree! (Sound of symbols and drums crashing in background after that knee-slapping joke eh?!).)

From Pete Tamlyn ((No date, probably early December)).

Dear Eric,

Thanks for the sample copy of Anduin and offer to trade. I would be happy to do so. However, Acolyte is a heavy beast and thus needs to be sent Printed Paper rate (i.e. no letter enclosed) and is thus coming seperately. When it arrives you will note that it is in two parts, an articles section and a game reports section. Posting the whole lot, even using the cheaper rate, costs me the equivalent of about \$3 and thus, unless you want to play any games in the 'zine, I would be grateful if you would accept just the articles section (this being the arrangement that I have with Ron Brown and Don Del Grandee). Due to the Christmas postal delays, this letter is unlikely to reach you very quickly, and the next issue is due out in 2 weeks time. I'll send you a copy of the articles section of that issue.

((OK by me. Pete pubs an excellent English zine called The Acolyte. His address is elsewhere in this issue if you want a sample.))

On to Anduin, which was most impressive, you've obviously learnt a lot in your year of publishing. I agree completely with your views on Christianity. The Catholics tend to be worse, since they claim that the Pope is infallible (even though successive Popes often contradict each other) but other sects are almost as bad. Attempts at promoting unity between the various major sects are unlikely to cause much of a stir in England where religion seems primarily a social activity rather than a spiritual one, nor in Wales where there is not Catholic tradition (everyone is a



Methodist), but Ireland and Scotland are a different matter entirely. The Irish situation will doubtless be familiar to you, but the Scots also got fairly close to open violence when the Pope was due to visit. Fortunately they direct much of their aggression into the rivalry between Protestant and Catholic football teams (mainly Rangers and Celtic) and consequently no one takes notice of them except on the one day of the year when they declare a truce and turn their efforts towards beating up the English (yes, the England-Scotland game). How about you guys exporting the idea of footballers going on strike, it would make Britain a much safer place. Looking forward to hearing from you again, and hope that you like Acolyte.

Cheers -Pete.

((We're all done with striking, the football players picked it up from the baseball players but hopefully we've seen the last strike for a while. Thank for writing and welcome aboard.))

From Geoff Challinger ((No date, late December))

Dear Eric,

Thanks for Anduin 13. Somewhere in a boat crossing the Atlantic as I type, is a copy of Home of the Brave 19. This isn't the most recent copy of Home, since issue 20 has almost run out and I have a surplus of issue 19. It's also a better issue as well.

I'll be glad to trade, but what I have in mind is a little different from the normal trade. You see I don't think I can afford to go in for across the board trading with foreign zines as I do with UK zines. There is a postage deterrent to start with and I don't think it's very healthy to trade indiscriminately. I would like to trade with the best of the US zines, but the only way I'll find this is by shopping around.

So what I'd like to suggest is a temporary trade for say, up to April. I'll send you the next four issues or so and you can send me whatever Anduins you produce in that time. I can then move on to another US zine and see what that's like. It gives me more variety and if there are any zines which do really impress me on my "jaunts" then I can stay trading with them. It'll also give me a better viewpoint from which to recommend US zines to my subscribers. Perhaps you could do a similar sort of thing with British zines.

Anduin seems OK to me. Not staggering, since there are a lot of things which you could do better (layout, pre-planning, articles drafted before writing, better delineation between contributor and editor in the letter column, and, to my eyes, American humour). This last one though isn't really a very constructive criticism, but there are really a lot of very simple things you could do to improve the layout, since you have a very high potential with the format your using. I'm stuck with mimeo, but I still reckon that standards of presentation in Home (and most UK mimeo zines) are much higher than in the standard US equivalents. This is admittedly only based on Anduin, Life of Monty, and Bushwacker. Oh, and EE.

Religion in England is a dead dodo. Only about 40% of the population are members of religions and of those 80% are lemmings who go to church etc, without any real conviction. This leaves a few people with a very high profile. Most people just couldn't give a toss whether the Roman Catholic church amalgamates with any established church. And I speak as an ex-Roman Catholic.

Anyway, time to write some more letters. Sorry about the typing but I've got a headache and can't find the Tippex.

Cheers, -Geoff.

((Well, can I offer you some Extra-Strength Tylonol?! (A little American humour there!). Your trade idea is fine with me, so far, I haven't found any European zines that I dislike (except for Oxymoron because I can't read German!). I would say that in general, the standard of quality in a zine is higher in Britain than over here. I sincerely hope you are liking Anduin better these days Geoff. I've gone through quite a metamorphosis since #13! I feel the layout really has improved since then.))

From Malcolm Smith ((No address, early January?)).

Dear Eric,

Thanks for Anduin #14, and I would love to trade with Bohemian Rhapsody. However, please note that I no longer live at HarHepool, but at the above address.

BR will be coming under a separate wrap by surface mail as I won't be able to afford airmail for a while yet! At present, I've been in the above address for 2 months, and I've just finished unpacking today, and now I'm sorting out 2 months of xyns and I've come across yours. So I apologise that I'm not writing a longer note, but I will do sometime in the future.

Incidentally, I hope to run into you soon (I've taken up driving lessons) since I am going to apply for jobs stateside as a computer programmer. If all goes well I hope to be across by DipCon in sunny Baltimore.

The postmark for A14 was Flushing so I assume that you must see Kathy - give her my regards will you?

All the best, Malc.

((Yes, sometimes I unfortunately "must see Kathy"! This years Dipcon won't be in Baltimore. It will either be in Detroit or Chicago. I haven't seen BR yet, but I'm sure it's on the way unless the US postal snail lost it somewhere! Thanx for writing.))

From Bob Olsen ((1-16-83))

Dear Eric,

You sure are a stubborn little dickens. I guess I will have to notice you now, since you keep sending me samples of your zine, and crush you like an insect or something. Actually it has just dawned on me that it's turned into a pretty good zine of late, so I think it's time for me to join your little crew of toadies. After all, I find my name dragged through the mud here and there throughout...yeah, I'm the one who always gets stabbed, what of it? Did I create Mike Mazzer? (No, my name is not Dr. Frankenstein). I might mention though that the reason I won the

Variant poll was that everybody thinks I'm the inventor of the "Fudge Don't Budge" variant. Also notice, Bambino Caruso was so upset with my victory, he has (quite rightly) decided that the Variant Player rankings are unnecessary and silly, and done away with them for next year. I little late Bambino, but a good thought!

I was gratified to note that you had a letter from Jim-Boob Burgess, thw official Hobby Toady. It was, to these experienced eyes, a medium-good job of bootlicking; except of course for the unnecessarily assertive tone of some of his utterances. Just to show Jim-Boob that toadies do not get to dictate what is for "public speculation" and what is not, I will mention the real reason why Burgess no longer subs to Le Front. It's not because he was a Tretick "shaftee" as Michalski speculates; after all as a toady Jim-Boob would have been obligated to take out a second sub to Le Front had he been shafted by Uncle Bernie. No, the real reason he quit was that, having heard of Bernie's large family of sons playing Dip under assumed names, Jim-Boob decided to trick Bernie into adopting him, so that Jim could drop his last name and play Dip under the name James Bob, in the matter of his hero, James Alan. So Burgess got into a pair of diapers and got a 6-foot-long baby basket, and "abandoned" himself on Bernie's doorstep. After yelling and screaming for three hours Burgess finally got Bernie to open the front door, but Bernie, terrified by the sight of a full-grown bearded man wearing a pair of diapers (do diapers come in pairs? beats me) screaming his head off while sitting in a basket on Bernie's doorstep, quickly locked the door and refused to come out for the next seven weeks. At the end of that period, Burgess, despondent, over being rejected by his toad, decided to move to Dallas to forget his hurt, and at the same time, carelessly forgot to renew his Le Front sub. And that's the whole truth.

Oh by the way, on the subject of the SAT; I took it many long years ago and was a finalist. There were eight finalists at my high school, and not one of them got a scholarship. The only people I ever heard of getting a Merit Scholarship were people whose parents worked for companies giving out the dough, or who were otherwise connected. It would be nice to think that things have improved some since those days; have they?

Best wishes, -Bob Olsen.

((I doubt it. Fudge Don't Budge sounds like an excellent variant! I kept trying to get people to play a game of it at Byrnecon, but everytime I mentioned the name Fudge, someone would burst out laughing and would start telling us a story. The only way Jim-Bob's letter could have been a good bootlicking job, would have been if he had taken a sub! But your right, I never noticed that all of Bernie's kids are like that; James Alan, Brian Edwards, Ian Eckloff(?), etc.! Anyhows, I appreciate getting you as my newest toady. Which reminds me, it is ok for me to be a toady and have toadies at the same time isn't it? I figured I'd better ask someone before I get into trouble by breaking the hobby-code of ethics!))

Well, I do believe we are done with the letters! Only 22 pages this time, oh well; I'll try to make it up to you next ish!

Lessee, how about...

NEW SUBBERS AND COA'S

Pete Birks (Greatest Hits), 39 Handforth rd, London, SW9 0LL, UK.  
Cathy Cuning, c/o Terry Tallman 820 W. Armour St, Seattle, WA,  
98119

Terry Tallman (North Sealth, West George) See above.

Steve Langley, 4112 Boone Lane, Sacramento, CA, 95821

Bob Olsen, 6818 Winterberry Circle, Wichita, KS, 67226

Larry Peery (Xenogogic), PO Box 8416, San Diego, CA, 92102

Kevin Stone, Grove City College, Grove City, PA, 16127

Mark Keller (Hai! Jakai!) 9536 Shumurey Drive, Orangvale, CA,  
95662

Tom Swider, 1183 Robinson Hill road, Endwell, NY, 13760

Pete Tamlyn (Acolyte), 6 Broughton Close, Bierton, Ayesbury,  
Bucks, HP22 5DJ, UK.

Geoff Challenger, 100, High Street, Dartford, Kent, DA10 0AH, UK.  
(oops, Home Of The Brave).

Peter Ashley, 760 33rd St, Boulder, CO, 80303

Malcolm Smith (Bhomeian Rhapsody), 22 Edwins Avenue South, Forest  
Hall, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE12 9AX.

+++++

THE DIPLOMAT

By Jim Makuc

((continued from last ish)):

Alfred Strobel surveyed the airport lobby for his boss, ambassador Werner. Presently he spied Kurt struggling with a large object. He strode over to him and said, "I thought you said we were traveling light, Herr Werner." "You know I can't sleep without my pillow!" replied Kurt. "But a life size Kaiser doll?!" exclaimed Alfred. "Are you making fun of your leader?! Besides, you don't know how many low down, dirty, sneaky, knife-wielding, back stabbing, Turkish assassins this doll has fooled." whispered the ambassador. "There are a lot of tricks to learn in this line of work so pay attention, and don't second guess your superiors. Now, where's our plane? You carry this." Kurt moved away leaving a bewildered assistant clutching a full size Kaiser doll.

As they arrived in Paris later that morning, Alfred wondered what new embarrassing situation the ambassador was going to lead him into. But he resigned himself to the fact that Herr Werner was supposedly one of the best in the business, although Alfred couldn't figure out why. The ambassador led him into the airport restrooms. He gave Alfred a bag and said, "Get the doll dressed, hurry now." Alfred peered into the bag and saw a wig and some womens clothes. "You're not serious are you?" asked Alfred dumbfoundedly. "Of course I am you idiot! Just think of him, ah her, as your finacee. That's your cover, you know. Now shave your mustache, and put on this fake beard. We must move incognito. Now move. Schnell! Schnell!"

They emerged from the bathroom 10 minutes later. Alfred minus his mustache, which had taken him 3 years to grow, was supporting a drooping finacee with a wig half off, and an elderly gentleman clutching a suitcase. "Now just act natural," said Kurt out of the side of his mouth, and nobody will get suspicious." Alfred acknowledged the ambassador, and muttered to himself, "If

one of us isn't committed to an insane asylum by the time we're done with this mission, it'll be a miracle!" They made their way through the airport with only a few odd stares. When they were safely in a taxi Kurt said, "Did you notice the man at the door with the Italian ice? Of course not! You were eyeing the ladies! How do you expect to stay alive if you don't stay alert!" The ambassador was right, Alfred had missed the man. But not because of the girls, he was trying to keep the Kaiser's new hairdoo in place.

After they had checked into the worst hotel in Paris, another key to remaining incognito according to the ambassador, Kurt went on to explain about the man at the airport. "He's a Wop, that's Italian you know, assassin. They call him the 'Mad Baller', he assassinated an English envoy three years ago by posing as a chef and feeding the Englishman high explosive meatballs. Quite bizarre, wouldn't you agree?" Alfred did agree, but at the moment he was watching a cockroach make its way across the floor. "It only confirms that we are dealing with a highly explosive situation here. But can the Italians really be involved?" the ambassador said softly. "Is the Mad Pope planning another crusade? We shall see, won't we my boy. Now to get into contact with my friends and see what we can come up with. Come along Alfred, we haven't got all year!"

+++++  
Thankyou Jim, I'll slap an additional issue onto your sub. I suppose now would be a good time to explain this issue. This will be 32 pages long when it's all done, thus a single issue. There are no games and let me explain why. Last issue, the printed deadline was January 7, 1983. Obviously, that had to be changed so I wrote on the back of everyone's issue (those who were playing in games that the deadline was moved back to Jan 21. Or so I thought. Deadline night came and I see that 16 people are NMR'ing!!! So I start making long distance collect calls and the first three people I speak to all think the deadline is the 27th! Also, I had gotten a call from another player a couple of days before who also thought the deadline was the 27th. This convinced me (I wasn't in the mood to make 13 more LD calls) to just set the deadline back to the 27th. Hopefully, everyone will have their orders in by then. Anduin players have a pretty good track record as far as not NMR'ing goes, and sixteen NMRs is far from usual. Still, had this not been my fault (and it obviously is my fault entirely), y'all would have seen 16 NMRs! Anyway, the result is that you will be getting another issue next week! Probably 16-20 pages long with the games, press, and anything interesting I recieve during the week. I apologize for this mix-up but I feel this is the best way to handle it. The way it looks now, I will mail this issue on the 25th, and I'll mail number 18 on the 31st. Thanks for bearing with me.

+++++  
Mark Berch Department: C-c-cold!!! I'm freezing my bloody -beep-s off! ((Sorry, had to censor that now that so many women are getting this thing!)). Still, it could be worse I guess; I could be Dave Carter!

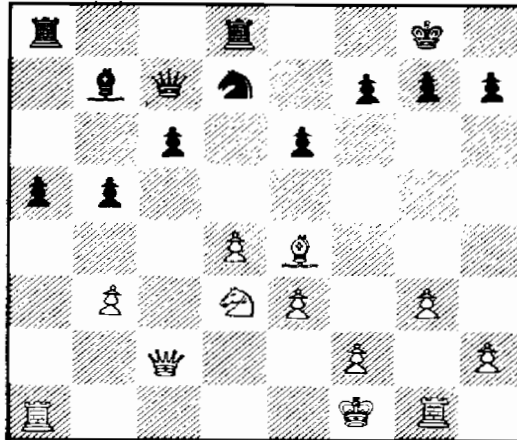
CHESS

White- Kaplan  
17: Q-B2  
18: ...

Black-Kane  
P-QR4

Here is what the board looks like:

BLACK



WHITE

Chuck writes: "Your analysis is backwards. Your extra pawn would win for you in the end game so I must keep pressure on in the middle game."

You may be right there Chuck. On further analysis, I see that the pawn probably is enough for me to win in the end. Especially since it is now undoubled. As far as position, I'm still trying to recover from the initial gambit assault and this has kept me on the defense for most of the game. Not that that is so terrible... Though you control the center, I can mount an attack on it without too much difficulty. My last move is risky but I think it seals the defense pretty securely for now. At least it gives your knight no good squares. It also gives me a little freedom to adjust my big pieces.

++++  
With the space left this ish, I think I'll talk some more about recent events in the hobby and upcoming events.

Remember to vote in Scott Hansons "Freshman Class" poll. In this you vote for your favorite zines that first appeared in 1982 (or december of '81). Rate them from 1 to 10 and send them to 939 18th ave SE, Minneapolis, MN, 55414 (Scott's address of course). The deadline is February 19, 1983, my birthday!

I recieved The Modern Patriot, and as expected Willie made a fool of himself while trying to make a fool out of me. N it he states that he is in a toady war with me as to who can be a better toady to Alex, me or him. Well, let him try for all I care, I'm not that childish... Or am I? All right sucker, if it's war you want,

it's a war you'll get!!! Just keep your eyes peeled to these pages!

Feuds seem to be cooling off as the weather cools off. Both Woody and Brux were at Byrnecon; I remember when Woody called, Brux got on and said "Woody you son-of-bitch, how the hell are you?"! All and well I say, feuds aren't pleasant business anyway.

I recieved Xenogogic from Larry Perry. Mighty impressive. As far as I can tell, it comes out quarterly much like DW. It comes full of added inserts that Larry sticks in like polls, surveys, pamphlets, etc.. It seems Larry is indeed going to conduct a PEERIPOLL. Sigh... This is a well thought out poll, and a damn good idea, but we have **too many polls!!!** I am fully in favor of having a hobby pollster. I think it would be wise to elect one to a two-year term, with nominations and then an election at Dip-Con. (It wouldn't be necessary for one to be present to be elected). The person would run all major polls for two years and then, could if he wished, run for re-election. Perhaps this person could put out a short zine just for the sake of informing people of up-coming polls and results of others. Attention John Caruso, Eric Ozog, and Al Pearson: Can something like this be set up for this year's DipCon. With Leeder leaving the hobby, and the poll changing hands, now would be a good time to get a project like this going.

#### GRIN & BEAR IT

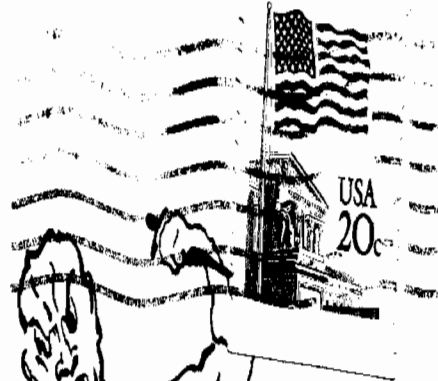


"Politics is the art of compromise, boys  
...You scratch my back, and I stab yours."

17  
c/o Eric Lane  
109 Hicks Lane  
Great Neck, NY., 11024  
(516) 466-0700 (RST)  
U.S.A.

SEND TO:

Larry Perry (T)  
PO Box 8416  
San Diego, CA, 92102

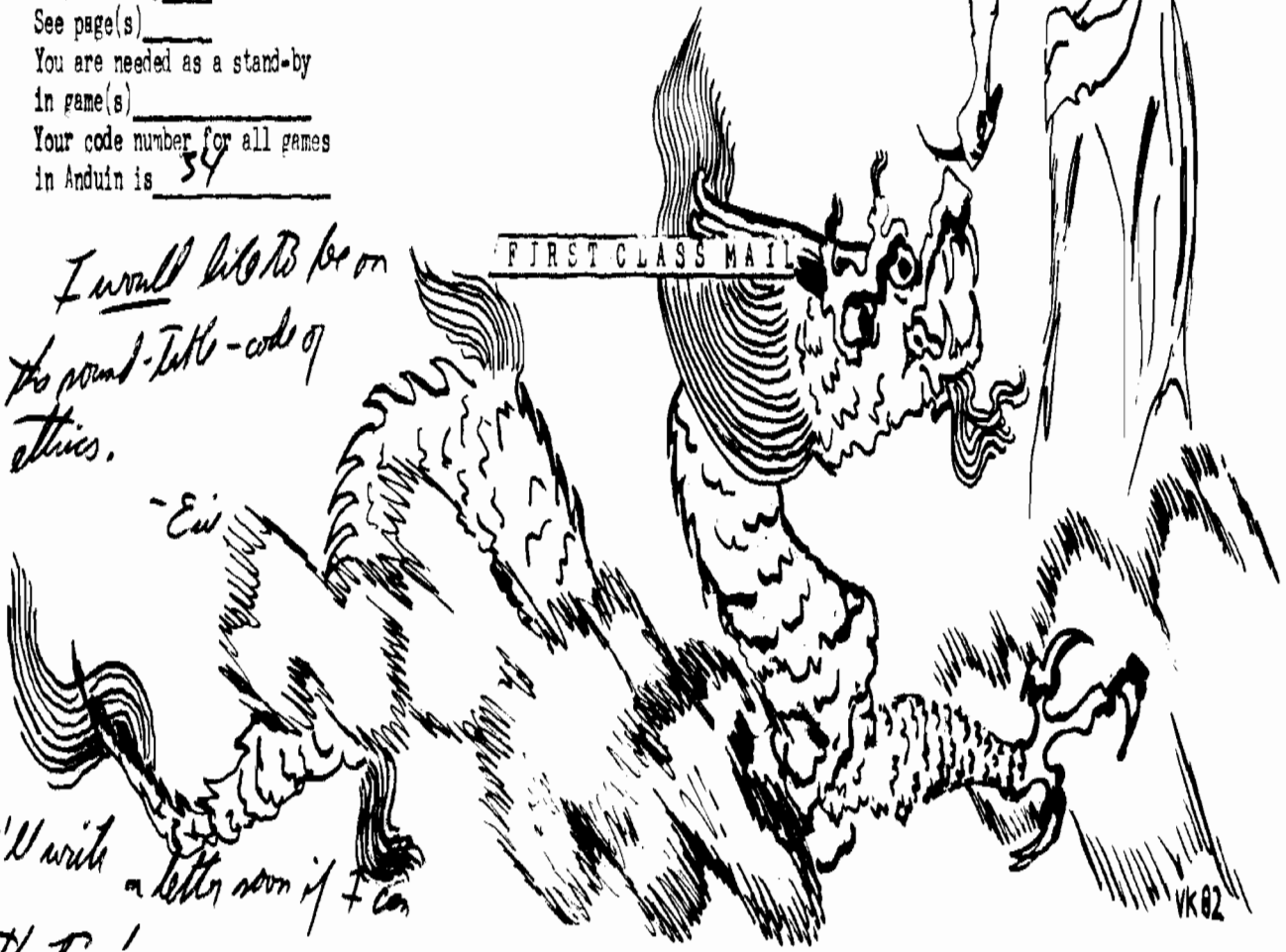


Your sub ends w/issue # \_\_\_\_\_  
Sample \_\_\_\_\_  
Trade \_\_\_\_\_  
Complimentary \_\_\_\_\_  
See page(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
You are needed as a stand-by  
in game(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Your code number for all games  
in Anduin is 34

*I would like to be on  
the round-table - code of  
ethics.*

*- Eric*

*P.S. I'll write a letter soon if I can  
find the time!*



VK82