

title: **The Boob Report #27**

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subject: **Sludge rates records**

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This quasi-szine is produced by:

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A quasi-szine is differentiated from a szine mostly in that it is free for the asking. If you want to continue to see this then just tell me, otherwise I may drop you on whim. My USOS publication *Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus* is available by subscription for \$.25/issue or I'm willing to negotiate all-for-all trades. My standby list consists of Brad Wilson and Kathy Byrne. More help is needed. Standbys for Spy Dip, when they are called, will receive a complete packet of the information provided to the player of that country since the beginning of the game. Once a player has been called, he or she will, of course, henceforth only be eligible to take over that country (if the original player returns).

## Letter Column Section

Letters to this column are always welcome on almost any subject. The editor reserves the right to edit to keep the content to subjects he is interested in. My intent in focusing on music is to give light to the obscure, but you're welcome to try me on anything.

### Sludge (7/24/86)

Dear Jim-Boob,

Time to respond to all the mindless trash you've been sending me. Oh, that was a game? Oh.

Did I understand your indirect reference to mean that the Farce Poll results have been released to a worshipful world? ((Brilliant, Sludge, how did you ever figure that one out? I did, indeed, finish 13th in both the GM and Szine sides of the poll. Since thirteen has always been my lucky number and I received the information just before publishing my 26th (13 times 2) issue, I thought it deserved a mention. Didn't want anyone to be surprised if bad luck befell them.))

I've been freshening up my record collection with some new material. I'm pleased to say that I've avoided mediocrity; some of the stuff is very good, and some is utter crap. To wit:

Big Country--*The Seer*--back to the Big Sound; makes up for their disappointing second album. A-

Blue in Heaven--*Explicit Material*--their first one, produced by former Joy Division producer Martin Hannett, sounded just like early OMD. ((since when is "Enola Gay" bad...why put down OMD all the time...))

The second, now, sounds pretty good, JD thudding beat, sorta Simple Minds-ish, etc. Only drawback is the vocalist's sometimes too-nasal, garage band-sounding voice. B

Cactus World News--*Urban Beaches*--The Big Sound again, much like early U2. Essential for The Sleaze. A-

Smiths--*The Queen is Dead*--I'm very disappointed. This stinks; there's not one candidate for my Best of Smiths tape. They've just not come up with any catchy melodies at all; and the lyrics are dumb. Sorry, but this gets a D

Sparks--*Music That You Can Dance To*--if the Smiths' record was a fiasco, they still have a chance to recover. This Sparks album though sounds like a career-ender. They've totally lost it, and they are not even a shadow of their former selves. This is not just Sparks' worst album. it's Uriah Heep's worst album...Madonna's worst album...Ted Nugent's worst album...and it gets an F-

((After I let my initial reactions to the Smiths' new one sink in, I came around to agree with you. There's nothing that deserves to be played in the same country as "What Difference Does It Make". Unfortunately, the Smiths are touring the US at the moment and I would expect them to be pushing the new album. Morrissey just doesn't sound right when he sings fluffy love songs and I didn't spot any attempts at any degree of depth. I still stand by last issue's impressions though...I warned you that they didn't constitute a full review. I always suspected that Sparks would forever be a cult band. I've never seen a band that puts humor at the heart of their message really take off. Sparks is an LA band...my local Albany, NY favorites, Blotto, issued their own "career-ender" a while back. The first Big Country still sounds fresh to me so I look forward to picking up *The Seer*. Nobody beat the Big Country sound to death after its initial popularity, too many diverse styles were flitting around at the time, I guess.))

By the way, you were right in your Boob-like intelligence, and the Cure tape I got was "Standing on a Beach". Funny that Brian Dolton would mention XTC...you ain't gonna believe this but driving around town the other day I saw that somebody called XTC are playing one of the local night clubs. So Brian, if you wonder what became of XTC, there's your answer; they're playing the club scene in Wichita, Kansas. If that's not scraping bottom, music-biz-wise, I don't know what is (unless it's that \*&\$\$ Sparks record...)

Best wishes, Bob Olsen

Yeah, and what's worse, they're probably playing bad country music. That's a logical progression from the Beatlesque psychedelia of their most recent recorded work.

### Bernie Oaklyn (7/24/86)

dEAR jIM-bOB-bOY,

More admonishment for you here. ((bOY, I can tell this is going to be loads of fun...)) Speaking about aggravating circumstances, I first have to finger your poop quality envelopes, and then go through the pain of a burning rip in my fingers as I try to tear open your envelopes. Gosh, guy, your envelopes have already dulled four pair of envelope cutters. Just what is the paper made of, anyway? ((beats me...I picked them up in bulk at an "odd lot" warehouse some time back. They were mucho cheap. Now, I'm just about out of them and I'm using up the last of some Brown University envelopes I had lying around from job applications this winter. I may go back to the warehouse, but what they have is always unpredictable. As for the strength of the envelopes, you've got to protect these things according to their worth anyway...poop quality?...))

Now, I know that you have never really seen paper made from the product called "anyway", have you. Or have you? ((Sure, if I could figure out what the heck you're talking about anyway))

The worst comes when my staple remover point falls off while trying to remove those 18 mil thick staples you use, causing the staple end to prick my finger. There is now blood all over my copy of the trash you call *THE BOOB REPORT*, issue 26. I suppose you are going to make me use that copy, messy or not. ((Hah, shall I poll the readership on how they want their issues stapled? At least I don't seal them in a dozen staples so you can't figure out which

staples belong to the szine and which ones belong to the packaging. As for blood, I didn't know you had any...))

As for your szine, I think it is really a z-I-n-e in disgust. Just because you finally broke down and got some real class doesn't mean you can insert five extra spaces before and after the word "though". ((I suppose you are volunteering to right adjust all my copy manually...)) And, did you see how many r's you placed in the word "grrrrrrrrr". God, man! Count them if you have that much time. Do you know how much time I was proof reading your double sided double columned page? Why, my eyes just get going when they have to do an about face and drop down a line. ((but they don't have as far to go as they would if the line extended all the way across the page...do they? This is all your fault, SLUDGE...))

Now, if I can just get you to properly identify your mark up and shove in game position maps you so gracefully provide.

Mark (last nameless in your zine) ((what do you think of the way I corrected that problem? Huh??)) was right. The punishment I have for you is a slowly revolving egg shaped glass room tumbling about in a thunderstorm with classical music piped in, and nothing suitable to stuff the pipe with. Of course, the pipe will jut above the glass floor level just waiting for you to slide by. ((sounds like a pleasant evening...very entertaining))

All this because I pricked my finger on one of your staples. Certainly not a triskadekaphobe begone, Bernie

Oh, I'm so overwhelmingly glad... Stay as long as you want. Maybe you'll get "lucky" and then I'll be rid of you. If you think I'm going to send around a checklist for szine packaging and give everyone a choice...forget it. Any more great suggestions out there?

Personal Note to You:

Dear Larry,  
Got your letter, etc. after  
I sent off YVSC #9. Sorry  
I disturbed you as you were  
trying to get DW out. My whole  
point was to bring the funding  
issue out for discussion. I like  
the forward thinking results. Thanks  
for the plug. \$\$\$ already arriving. Fabeca  
Jiv

**THE FREE LUNCH GAME: 1984HL**

headlines of the day:

**BRITS TWIST OFF INTO THE BREADBASKET OF RUSSIA, WILL THEY BECOME TOO FAT TO MARCH?**

**TURKS FIRE A FEW SAILORS, HIRE A FEW SOLDIERS, WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?**

**MEANWHILE, THE FRENCH CONTINUE TO CALMLY MARCH FORWARD**

*Autumn 1908*

RUSSIA(Oaklyn): R a lvn-PRU.  
AUSTRIA(Ozog): R a tri oth.  
ENGLAND(Olsen): R a mos-UKR.  
TURKEY(Gaughan): R f ion oth.

*Winter 1908*

RUSSIA(Oaklyn): dsb a pru, has a MOS, a SEV.  
FRANCE(Henry): bld a mar, has f ION, a MUN, f ADR, a MAR, f TYN, a WAR,  
a SIL, a ROM, f APU, f TUN, a PIE, a VEN.  
AUSTRIA(Ozog): has a VIE, a TYO.  
ENGLAND(Olsen): has a UKR, f BOT, a FIN, f BAR, f BAL, a RUH, a DEN,  
a STP, f NTH, a LVN.  
TURKEY(Gaughan): bld a smy, a con, has f AEG, a RUM, a TRI, a SER,  
f GRE, f EAS, a SMY, a CON.

**THE DUE DATE FOR SPRING 1909 IS AUGUST 21ST, 1986**

*Addresses of the Participants*

RUSSIA: Bernie Oaklyn, 13412 Brackley Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20904-3225, (301) 384-3557  
FRANCE: Ed Henry, 31507 106th Pl. SE, #S207, Auburn, WA 98002, (206) 939-0128  
AUSTRIA: Eric Ozog, 1526 N. Lawler Avenue, Chicago, IL 60651, (312) 237-4650  
ENGLAND: Bob Olsen, 6818 Winterberry Circle, Wichita, KS 67226, (316) 686-7935  
TURKEY: Peter J. Gaughan IV, 3121 E. Park Row #165, Arlington, TX 76010, (817) 633-3208  
GM: Jim Burgess, 100 Holden Street, Providence, RI 02908 (401) 351-0287

*Game Notes:*

1) SLUDGE asked where his tenth unit is and I respectfully point out that he has a fleet in the Barents Sea.

2) The ENGLISH-FRENCH-TURKISH draw has been rejected. Now we are back to an EF proposal. I reiterate that a failure to vote always counts as a no vote unless I say otherwise. Without being specific, a stalemated position over a period of time might lead me to allow NMRing players to count as a yes vote, but I would announce that ahead of time. I don't think much of cheap draws. I bring this up because Bernie writes: "Dear Bob: It is not fair to require a player to vote during a winter season. I vote, forever, not to concede to anyone. It is just not my style. So publish that thought and forego alerting us about any other proposed vote. My constant vote is NO to any proposal, save making Russia the sole victor." I don't think much of perpetual orders, but I assure you that not voting will continue to amount to the same thing for the foreseeable future.

*Press:*

(VIDOMYLA): The boat people living on the lake Jezioro Drawsko, near the township of Czaplinek, somewhere in the county of Koszalin, were surprised when they heard the splash of oars rowing across their lake. Slipping out of their sex life and into their wet suits, the English-French born-out-of-incest peoples of Prussia swam into the murky waters only to discover that Russians were there. Fearing for their pretty town of Berlin, the mixture-people rushed back to save what was not theirs to own in the first place.

(GM to WONDERING WORLD): Eric and Cathy Ozog are on their way to sunny Arizona in a few short weeks. We all wish them a less eventful trip than the trip north to Chicago two years ago (has it really been that long?). As of August 18th you may reach them at P.O. Box 5225, Munds Park, AZ 86017 (I'd guess 86017-5225).

headlines of the day:

## MORE THAN JUST THE ARMIES ARE HARD TO FIND...

### Winter 1900

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| AUSTRIA(Oaklyn):  | has a VIE, f TRI, a BUD, s VIE, s TRI, s BUD.                   |
| ENGLAND(Ozog):    | has a LVP, f LON, f EDI, s LVP, s LON, s EDI.                   |
| FRANCE(Ellis):    | has f BRE, a PAR, a MAR, s BRE, s PAR, s MAR.                   |
| GERMANY(Fleming): | has f KIE, a BER, a MUN, s KIE, s BER, s MUN.                   |
| ITALY(Hise):      | has f NAP, a VEN, a ROM, s NAP, s VEN, s ROM.                   |
| RUSSIA(Martin):   | has a WAR, f SEV, a MOS, f STP(SC), s WAR, s SEV, s MOS, s STP. |
| TURKEY(Gardner):  | has f ANK, a CON, a SMY, s ANK, s CON, s SMY.                   |

## THE DUE DATE FOR SPRING 1901 IS AUGUST 21ST, 1986

### Addresses of the Participants

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| AUSTRIA: | Bernie Oaklyn, 13412 Brackley Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20904-3225, (301) 384-3557 |
| ENGLAND: | Eric Ozog, 1526 N. Lawler Avenue, Chicago, IL 60651, (312) 237-4650                 |
| FRANCE:  | Randy Ellis, 11121 West 72nd Terrace #28, Shawnee, KS 66214, (913) 631-0393         |
| GERMANY: | Matt Fleming, 445 W. Gilman #401, Madison, WI 53703, (608) 256-3225                 |
| ITALY:   | Tom Hise, 3121 E. Park Row #165, Arlington, TX 76010, (817) 633-3208                |
| RUSSIA:  | Dick Martin, 26 Orchard Way North, Rockville, MD 20854 (301) 762-1761               |
| TURKEY:  | Paul Gardner, Rt. 1, Box 2338, Newfane, VT 05345 (802) 365-7635                     |
| GM:      | Jim Burgess, 100 Holden Street, Providence, RI 02908 (401) 351-0287                 |

### Game Notes:

1) Here we go again. Randy Ellis gave me an incorrect address. I had an issue returned and have heard that some players had letters returned as well. Sorry about that. In any case, the phone number is now definitely correct. I called it and talked to Randy's roommate. He gave me the address...but didn't sound too sure about it either. I will entertain requests to delay Spring 1901, but I'd really rather not...let's get those orders in. Matt, Eric, Bernie, and Paul have paid the \$5 NMR insurance fee. The fee will pay for phone calls when moves are not received;

the balance will be returned at the end of the game. I'd appreciate getting the fee from the rest of you with Spring orders without having to make it a requirement.

2) Due on August 21st, in this order, is:

- Winter 1900 spy movement
- Winter 1900 spy assassination and unit capture
- Spring 1901 unit movement
- Spring 1901 spy observations (automatic)
- Spring 1901 spy movement (can be made conditional)
- Spring 1901 spy assassination and unit capture

## Boob's Corner

This issue is pretty short, so the postage to Brian Dolton is held to \$0.44, but I should fill this space... If anything succeeds at generating the national debate on monopoly power that should be part of the upcoming US presidential race, I predict it will be the recently concluded USFL-NFL anti-trust trial. After all, Jack Kemp (former quarterback) and Bill Bradley (former basketball forward) both will be running for president in all likelihood, so what could be a better way to start the debate? The jury trial result made so much sense it's hard to believe that anyone is questioning its rationality. Fairness, though, is another matter... Of course the NFL is a monopoly, as are all sports leagues. Not many people know this, but major league baseball has a specific anti-trust exemption written into one of the anti-trust acts that prohibits suits like the one brought against the NFL. I believe baseball is the only industry that specifically is allowed to engage in monopolistic behavior (keeping control of the location of franchises is the largest

element in the value of sports teams), but the others have de facto permission as well. The USFL was not granted damages by the jury in the recent trial because of their own mismanagement and that may be a just decision under the circumstances; however, the NFL is a natural monopoly and the argument exists for them to be regulated just like a public utility (e.g. electric companies). That's what people mean when they say that the USFL never had a chance competing directly with the NFL. The NFL quietly has tried to get their own anti-trust exemption, but has never managed to push it through Congress. While all sports teams milk the citizens of the communities they play in by getting them to subsidize the construction of stadiums, they just go on earning profits without competition. How different is that from making communities bid against each other for the "best deal" to give to GM for a new plant in the community. Lots of interesting questions...what would Mr. Kemp say to all that?