

"No, that's not it. You want me to stay because you need me."

"Yes. You're a natural leader."

"No, that's not it. You want me to stay to protect you from this ISSUE 103 of

The BRUTUS BULLETIN

ET TU, BRUTE

Mid Sept. 1981

The BRUTUS BULLETIN is a newsletter of postal DIPLOMACYtm brought to you every so often by John Mic lski, Rt 10, Box 526-Q, Moore, OK 73165. Subscriptions are now closed. Re-subbs are 50¢ per regular issue. More details below.

Hobby news: BRUX GOING TO START HIGH SCHOOL! Yes, a recent VD brought the news that the hobby's answer to Ilya Nastase has decided to leave the comforts of home and go to high school. Regretably, he will be teaching. Bruce will teach the full cirricula of Relevance 1A, Look-Say Reading, and Basic Frills. The first two weeks will be devoted to homeroom rules presentation though. He got his 50th issue out the other day, so now he can try doing something useful.

EMHAIN MACHA is closing down with one more issue. The prize game is also cancelled. EM was an interesting reading zine despite being put out by kneejerk Democrat Mike Mills. A shame to see it go.

That's probably as good a lead in as I'll get for the next news. I need your HELP! The BRUTUS BULLETIN will be closing down pretty shortly, as I've decided on for over a year, due mainly to family pressures. I had intended to keep strictly quiet about this right up until the end, because I didn't want any WHY ME? phenomena to occur, where everybody and his brother writes in all this stuff about "please keep going." My decision is irrevocable and not subject to discussion. (My subzine editors got a little advance warning). I wanted to keep just good stuff coming in as usual right up to the last page of the last issue. However, a problem has come up. Despite my doing everything I could think of to keep my debt down for prepaid subscriptions, including leaving off the expiration number from recent mailings, too many people either looked at old ones or are just sending me money saying "I think I'm due." Well, I'm in need of the money right now, so I'm using them all, but to close down even after next issue--and there will be at least one more BB, for I've got $\frac{1}{2}$ of an issue worth of material to carry over--I will owe something around \$100 to you all. I cannot get to the bottom of the bill pile even with my midmonth check (no house payment out of it), so \$100 is quite a bite. SO, here's what I need: those of you whose sub has lapsed or is lapsing (list to follow), PLEASE send only a couple of dollars. I am pleased and flattered to have two subbers signed up for over "BB 130", but that's \$29 or so I owe right there; I'd rather owe 50¢. There will be at least one more BB, maybe two, but not many more than that. I also want to apologize to the new folks who just subbed, but you see, I could hardly tell you I didn't want your money, "go someplace else", could I? So secrecy demanded I accept the subs. I hope you get at least over half the number you signed for before I close shop. Sub status is: EXPIRED WITH #99, Columbo; EXPIRED WITH #100: Mainardi, Lauver, Kirchner, Lipscomb, Olsen, Ragsdale. These folks "owe" \$1.50 thru this issue in hand and should send \$2 to go through at least 104, EXCEPT FOR Mainardi, Lauver, and Olsen, whose subs stopped with 100. Technically, of course, these "unsolicited extensions" are not your liability, since you didn't ask for them--I just gave them to those who I figured would want to stay, and that most would pay up when I closed up. It's not a binding debt then, but you won't get 104 without \$ to date. EXPIRED WITH 101, "owe" \$1, Masters, Morton, Borwn of California. Expired last issue, "owe" 50¢: Heinowski, McMahon, Mills, Leritte, Expiring with this issue, even: Duke. Next issue, OK: Frobisch, Forman, Stephens, Arnawoodian, Stafford, Lew. Everyone else has credit coming. Stamps are OK, or if you

JOHN'S NOTES

publish, just extend my sub to your zine and drop me a card to LET ME KNOW.

Other news: TOM MAINARDI is taking his subz BERSAGLIERI out of EM and starting a new zine COAT OF ARMS which will be half Bersag and half Woody-in-Waiting's DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY. Tom, a former subber, concludes a recent editorial in EM with "Send Linsey to a concentration camp!" Must have confused him with a cat. I have a tactless letter coming in #1 I believe; watch for it. 1403 Lawrence Road, Havertown PA 19083

MARION BATES is back and has put out another issue of her PLAGUE TIMES. Nikita Frobisch, in his subz there STAB IS A FOUR LETTER WORD has openings in "BPCip" I'm told. Uh, whatever that is, here's a plug for it. P O Box 381, Kalkaska, MI 49646, where the trout never bite.

DIAS: Someone asked about that. It is an abbreviation for a policy in GMing dip games wherein Draws Include All Survivors, i.e., you cannot vote a draw to some of the players while leaving others out. I think it's dumb, others don't.

PLAYLIST: KKNG FM 92, 'beautiful music', don't ask me what it is. To me, music is just background. If you can tell what's on, you're not paying enough attention to what you're doing. ("Playlist"s began in English Dipzines, and are beginning to appear here as what some thought was a cute idea. It is supposed to be a list of "what's playing" as the editor did up the zine). You can tell I'm real big on music.

MARK BERCH DEPT. Fluff Shaffer was right, as soon as we got the pool up, the weather would cool and stay that way. The pool is filling with gunge now, but Claudine says she'll do something about it one of these days. I really OUGHT to be painting the house, but...I'm as lazy as she is. Lots of places out here for sale anymore, but none selling. I wish they would, for I wouldn't mind getting rid of some of the asslicks that sit out here. One gang of clowns kittycorner across the street have a cow in the yard plus God-only-knows what else, to judge by the sounds; they're asking \$75,000 for a one-story mediocre place (by this neighborhood's standards) and not likely to get that even with interest rates at normal levels, let alone today's. I'd like to see them go, tho. Too nice an area to be infested by these damn Beverly Hillybilly types. Let 'em go back into town, closer to the cowboy bars.

TONIGHT is the last show of EMPIRE, so of course we'll be going. I don't know how many times we've seen it this round now--maybe 7 or 8 or so--but while I'm about at my "full" level with what I consider definitely the poorer of the two movies, it will be better knowing it's the last time to see it at all for a LONG time. I hope tonight one of you sent me a sub check, cuz we spent Arnawoodian's already last night at Godfather's Pizza (thanks Woody, a.k.a 'Buddyfucker') and I need to hit the liquor store too. Hiram Walker is joining a few others in pulling out its wares from Okla because of a court ruling on marketing here, and I need to stock up (or stock SOME) Canadian Club and some Ameretto & Cognac. With what little I have left, I'll be lucky to afford 1 of each, and Ameretto lasts about a week and a half by us, if Pilant doesn't come over. After this though, obey my call for help and don't send big checks anymore.

IRKSOME theGame this issue has a very poor repro job on the pictures on page 2. The big machine did not do well at all on copying Scott's copy. ONE person out there is the lucky sweepstakes winner of one of the two copies done on our little machine that picked them up well. I would have redone them all, but our little machine is now down for a week, so you get what I've got on hand. The top picture shows a dame sticking her ass out, and the bottom one shows two pregnant Klanswomen purportedly knocked up by Skott, er, Scott. Better luck next time...

I have some space left, so I'll BS more on closing with excerpts from the now-useless statement I'd prepared to use with my final issue sometime. I will NOT be leaving the hobby, only publishing. In fact, I might even publish one more item, if some of you will contribute material for Y'ALL #4. Nothing serious, tho. Also, please don't waste effort trying to change my mind. That's settled. I do hope you will continue to send in a last letter or so though, for again, I want BB to go out as it has always gone on, with good/wierd/assorted rantings and ravings and observations on the world around us. I've got somewhat less than, oh, half an issue for 104 already. I will NOT print farewells, but the usual stuff, or calls to shut down, WILL be considered!

and it's the NATIONAL IRKQUIREE of Diplomacy...

80
LM

IRKSOME!

Aug 29
1981

WINTER 1906 FRANCE builds A MAR; GERMANY rem A Boh; ITALY NRR! GM rem F Ion;
RUSSIA builds F STP(sc); TURKEY NRR! plays one short.

SPRING 1907

ENGLAND(Vaughan?) NMR!! F EDI H.
FRANCE(Sherwood) A MAR S A Bur; F MID H; F Lyo-WES; F TYS S F Lyo-Wes; A Rom-VEN; A LON H;
A BUR H; A CLY S ENGLISH F Edi.
GERMANY(Stephens) F Nwg-NWY; F NTH S A Kie-Den; A BEL H; A Kie-DEN; A MUN S A Sil-Ber;
A Sil-BER.
ITALY(Palter?) NMR! F TUN, F APU, A SER, F GRE, A BUD, A VIE, & A TYO ALL HOLD.
RUSSIA(Gareipy) F BLA S A Rum; A RUN S A Gal; A GAL S A War-Sil; A War-SIL; A PRU S A War-Sil
F StP(sc)-BOT; F Swe-BAL.
TURKEY(Blant) NMR! F NAP, F EAS, A CON, & A BUL ALL HOLD.

That's NMR #2 for Italy, so would ERIC KIRCHNER, 308 ENCHANTED WAY, DEL RIO TX 78840 please submit stand-by orders for Italy. I should really let England fade into Civil Disorder, but I can't resist--would DICK MARTIN, 6103 BREEZEWOOD CT #202, GREENBELT MD 20770 submit stand-by orders for England. This is Kerry Blant's first NMR so ~~no~~ stand-by will be called yet. Now for some COAs

Bobby Stephens, PO Box 340111, Dallas, TX 75234

Keith Sherwood, P O Box 6457, La Jolla, CA 92037 (effective 9/15)

Beth Beaty, 409 7th St SE Apt. 3, Mpls, MN 55414

WINTER 1907 is due at noon CDT on SEPTEMBER 12, 1981. Looks like this here game is in a mid-life crisis or summertime blues or diplomatic menopause or something. Ho hum. Let's see, Italy's SCs are Ven Tun Bud Vie Tri Ser & gre, Eric. On to the...

PRESS...

GERMANY: OK you guys, I'm back. I mean what kind of deal is this? I NMR one time thatns to Scott's roomie and the next thing I know one of my centers is gone. Shit.

BELGIUM: I want to be left alone.

PARIS: The mid game press blues, eh? Okay, I can take a hint. I'll shut up until Beth-darling comes back.((She's back, Keith.))

BERLIN: I will move no more forever.

MOSCOW-CON: The government and peoples of Russia encourage their friends in Turkey to stand fast in their defense against the vicious attacks of the Italian armies. They have fought valiently against overwhelming odds, and are an inspiration to all men who value freedom.

BER-CON: Kerry, is your address the one that was printed when you entered the game? I've had two letters returned to me marked NO SUCH ADDRESS. Let me hear from, but I'll keep trying.

GERMANY-RUSSIA: How many times have I NMR'd and how many times did I stab you in the back? You can tell a jerk even across the country.

GER-FRA: Are we still engaged?

Hum. I have some room so I'll print some addresses for the benefit of the stand-bys.

Jim Vaughan, P O Box 1094, Leominster, MA 01453

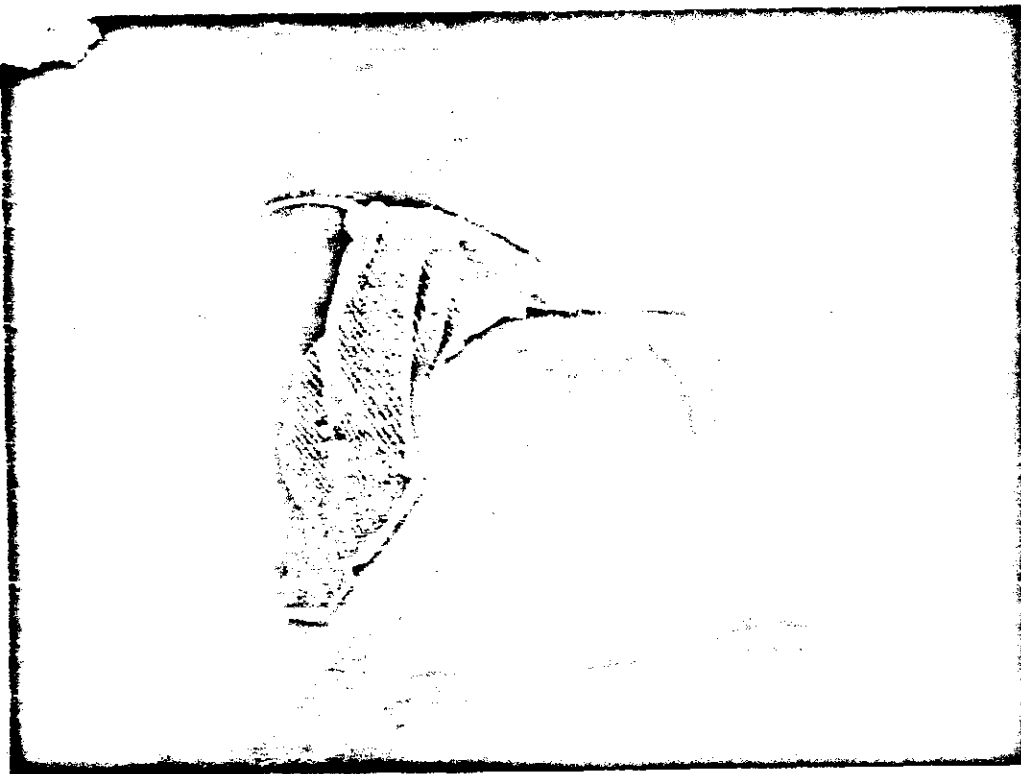
Tro Sherwood(until 9/15) 4332 Sycamore, Los Alamos, NM 87544

J S Palter, Box 156, Cedarhurst, NY 11516

Dave Gareipy, 179 E Maumee Ave, Napoleon, OH 43535

Kerry Blant, P O Box 263, Decatur, IL 62525

Hey, looks like we may have an almost total Post Office box game here. I've never lived in one of those before, doesn't it get a bit cramped? The ones I've seen are awfully small...



(at right) BRUCE LINSEY DEPT. Fresh from his appointment of biggest Turkey at Origins, Bruce is looking for new frontiers to conquer and is campaigning heavily for hobby queen. Seen here in a publicity shot Bruce is getting twice the coverage (right and left): showing off his attributes for hobby queen and why he must publish VD every week or get behind.

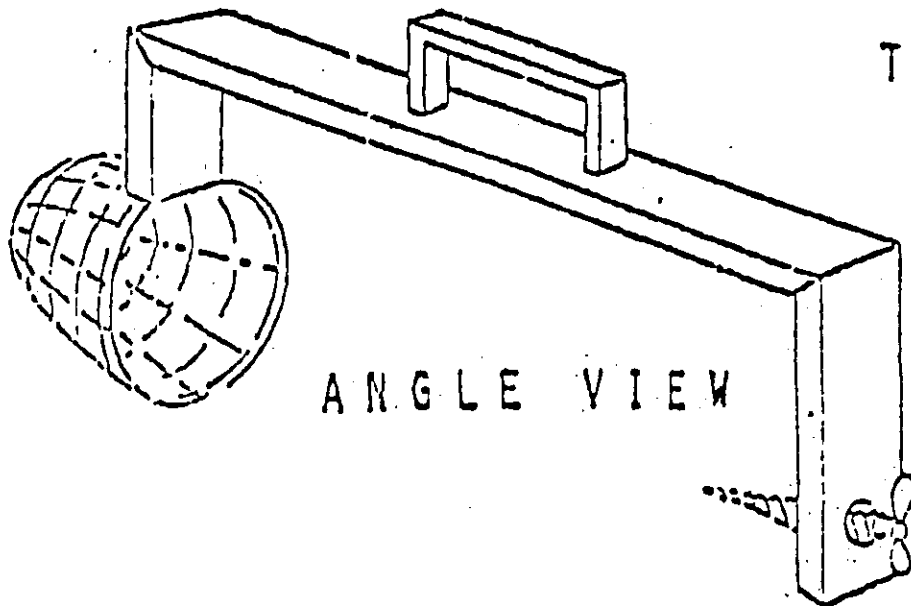
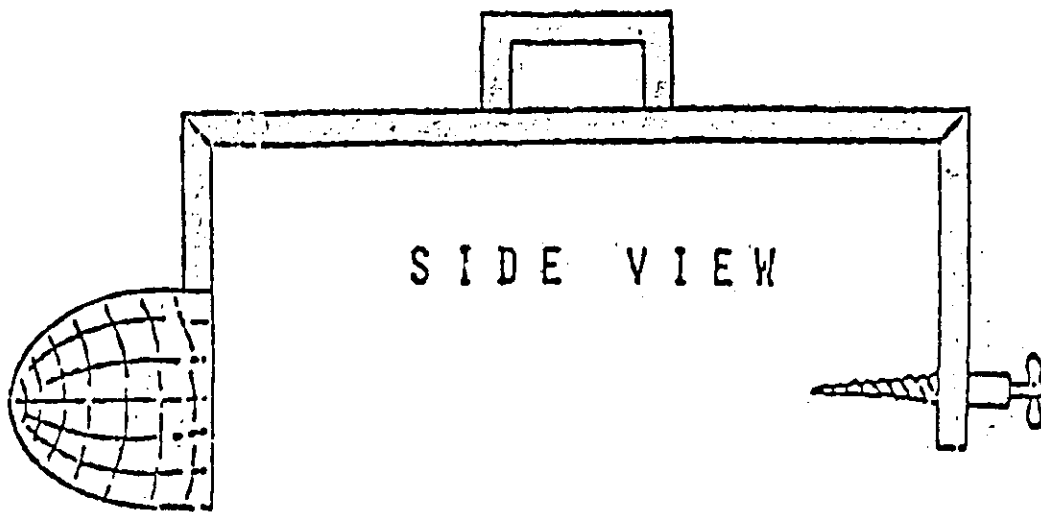
(bottom) TROUBLE FOR KLANSMAN SCOTT HANSON: Oh no! Scott's two girlfriends Frauke (left) and Beth meet for the first time at this rally. Seems they both have the same problem. Scott, meanwhile, has gone into hiding, but is reportedly courting Phyllis Burn. Watch out for Scott, Phyl. Ask Frauke and Beth!

Greetings, this is Gangrene which is a (below-par) subsubzene in Irksome (read: a BB subzene) and will be until Benzene settles when it'll become a sub-subzene there. G's purpose is to provide games (which Bz doesn't) in response to Michalski's "Where have all the 2wk nonDIAS Black press games go?" So we've got an opening for a 2wk, nonDIAS, Blkprss for \$3.00 + \$1 Refundable NMF fee. The price is lower than originally announced because I decided rather than lose money I'll try it on carbon paper so I moved the price down so as not to rip YOU off. This still leaves room for a "profit" if the carbon works out nice but I'm sure it won't (8copies on a manual typer) The real profit is sticking a letter I'd normally pay 18¢ for in with your game report. We've two signed up including Fluff Shaffer, but neither have paid yet (first PAY, first serve) Old timers preferred, no more than two Okies per game please. With your bux tell me how you feel about standbys, publish votes, and sending off results early if everyone has orders in. Ifavor yes on all three counts but hell I favor DIAS too. It's what the players want that matters.
(Mark Lev/3120 W 79th/Anch, AK 99502)

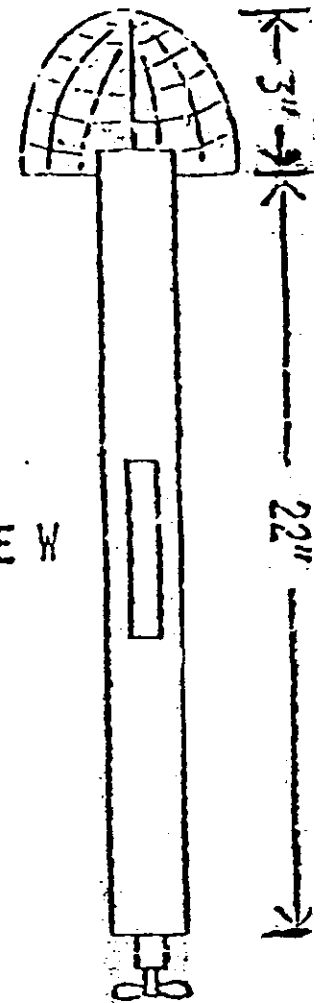


It's sure nice to have friends! That's it for this white sheet...

Scott Hanson 701 15th Ave SE Mpls MN 55414 Ph(612)623-0283(soon to change...)

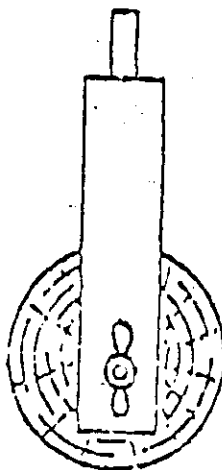


TOP VIEW



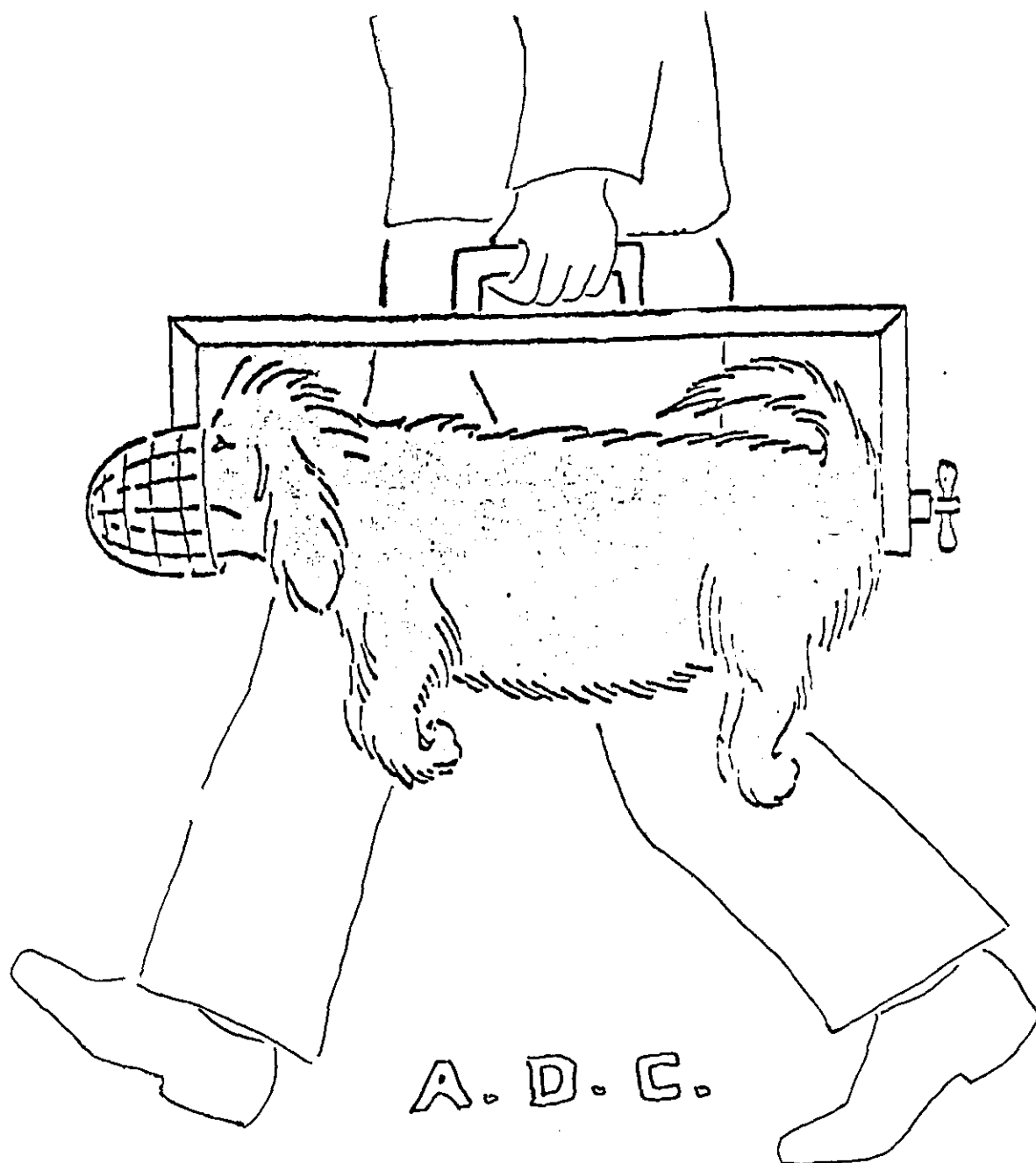
PROJECT: A.D.C.
 DATE: 7-28-81
 WEIGHT: 1 LB. 4 oz.
 PURPOSE: FUNCTIONAL
 COST: \$822 PLUS TAX (RETAIL)
 ALLOY: STAINLESS STEEL

BACK VIEW



Contribution by John Daly, THE DOGS OF WAR

((Adapted for BB))



Aggie Dog Carrier

((Did we print one of these many issues ago?))

ROD WALKER

"alcala"
1273 crest dr.
encinitas ca 92024
2 september 1981

Thanks very much for letting me see John Caruso's recent letter to you. Here is a quick (ha! you know what I mean by "quick"...maybe 2 or 3 pages of yammer-yammer-yammer, right?) response to it.

As to Sacks: I think it is fair to say that what I have said about him in print is invariably a response to something he's said. However, it is also true that I have said nothing in response to his attacks which I would not say in any other place, at any other time, with or without provocation. I just prefer not to start disputes. (And, yes, John C., I know it takes 2 to tango.) The point is perhaps not that important, except to those who are less interested in the issues than in placing blame on people for raising them.

Generally speaking, I am all in favor of mediation in disputes. I generally suggest mediation in any situation I get entangled in. For instance, I proposed mediation to John Boardman numerous times (with no intelligible response, I might add). In this instance, however, mediation is entirely inappropriate. I consider my position absolutely minimal with respect to most things Robert is angry about and since mediation inevitably involves compromise, I'm not very interested. Past experience has also taught me that only a fool makes any sort of cooperative arrangement or obligation with Robert Sacks. Only a fool or somebody who enjoys the endless political maneuvering and countermaneuvering that any relationship with Sacks necessarily entails. No, thanks.

As to associating (by comparison) Sacks' name with that of Buddy Tretick, a.k.a. "Bernie Oaklyn". That's a matter of judgement, of course. My judgement is that the comparison is in some ways apt. Caruso's is that it is not. I assume that those who care to will make their own judgement on the matter. Those who have eyes to see, and ears to hear, will do so.

As to DW: I didn't really want to get sidetracked at this point into endless repetitions of what happened. But let's do it here and then I can refer people to BB. This will, however, be brief.

When Jerry Jones decided to transfer DW, he indicated more or less publically that he was considering it. He asked Mark Berch to serve as his advisor on selecting his successor. Jerry was also obligated to consult Walt Buchanan...it is an absolute condition under which any editor has the rights to the title "DIPLOMACY WORLD" that Walt Buchanan has the right of veto over any editorial succession.

Jerry wound up with only two volunteers: Robert Sacks and another party whose incompetence to do the job comes close to the ultimate. At that point it was Robert or nothing. So Jerry told Robert he was giving the 'zine to him and asked for his work number so Walt could call him (to confirm the transfer).

Walt was not happy with this arrangement. Neither was Mark, who was still trying to find a better alternative. He had another party in mind but had not got a definite commitment from him. Mark then called me and asked me to call Walt and try to sell the third party as an alternative to Sacks. I agreed, although with some misgivings since I didn't know the individual...but of course I have always found that Mark's judgement is excellent. I called Walt, but Walt felt he'd prefer not to provide the nomination of Sacks to replace him with an unknown (to him) quantity. He then flat-out asked me to take the 'zine (which he's asked me to do for about five years or so now). This time I had no valid reason to refuse (as I had in the past). So I agreed. I can't say I haven't wanted to do DW in the past, but my financial situation hasn't permitted it. I can now afford to take a loss on the 'zine if that's necessary.

It would be a lie to say that the alternative of Sacks as DW Editor

didn't make my decision easier. It is my judgement that he is not temperamentally suited to the job. He is pedantic, inflexible, unimaginative, and highly political. He had in fact told Jerry flat-out that he would not publish anything he didn't agree with. Now, probably every editor makes some degree of value judgement as to what to publish and what not to, Robert's range of "agreement" is unusually narrow. His approach to the hobby is typically fannish, which is all right if you're a fan. But DW can't be treated as simply a bigger-and-better fanzine. It needs to be on a par with other semipro wargaming 'zines. I do not insist that I am the only person in the hobby who can do the right sort of job with DW. But there is no question in my mind that Sacks is one of those who can't.

I believe it ought to be understood that I have no personal antipathy for Robert (except insofar as these recurrent disputes are, or have become, emotionally charged). I've always found him sort of sexy, for instance. But we have inevitably clashed because our basic approaches to the hobby are almost mutually exclusive. His answer to problems is always political. As a good for-instance, his proposal for saving the IDA in its last days involved a "bicameral legislature", a "supreme court", plus separate executive and administrative branches. In other words, more and more of what was wrong with the organization in the first place...politics. His attempt to turn the variant hobby into some sort of parliamentary game (the DVC) is another case in point (so much so that today not a single variant hobby custodian will acknowledge a connection with DVC). His conduct as Miller Number Custodian during that period alienated the Custodians of the Central European and North American variant banks (Walter Luc Haas and Dick Vedder), plus several prominent variant GMs (Davis, von Metzke, &c.), and led to the only serious attempt to unseat an active hobby custodian thus far recorded. And it has been consistently true that most people who try to work with Robert generally wind up getting pissed at him. And he certainly can't claim that all of these people simply up and decided for no reason whatever to hate his guts.

My own personal feeling is that Robert does not have good judgement. He compensates for this by creating around himself a system of hard-and-fast rules and administrative systems so that he doesn't have to exercise judgement; instead he just applies the rules. He also prefers systems which are inflexible and hard to change (for the same reasons). He has developed certain concepts and principles which he applies unvaryingly and by rote to every situation, whether it's appropriate or not (and it usually isn't, especially in a basically anarchistic hobby like this one). He ought to be in some more hidebound hobby, like chess or gold, not in Diplomacy or science fiction fandom. He's a pigeon in the wrong hole, essentially. He finds this frustrating and takes it out on those who oppose his systems approach with considerable anger, petty vengeance, and so on.

Sacks is thus out of tune with the most basic spirit of the hobby. That being the case, he would (in my opinion) make a mess of DIPLOMACY WORLD. I do not believe he is a bad person; he is just trying to take a round hobby and jam it into a square hole. I have fought this attempt pretty vociferously for some time now, often with the sort of sarcasm which is generally a trademark of my writing style. Robert has taken personal umbrage. I should have adopted a different tone, but (as those who know me know), I can resist anything but temptation. In any event, I hope this all will explain that my decision to accept Walt's offer of the DW Editorship, as an alternative to Robert, was not a snap thing based on any personal animosity, but instead based on five years of considering previous such offers and a genuine concern that DW exceeds his capabilities in ways that Robert probably will never understand. He is naturally resentful...but he was equally the wrong man for the job.

Forgive bad typing; it's late and I'm tired.

Hello, the other page disappeared, so I'll start again.

It really was 3,720 too. Hotstuff!

Of course cats don't do you any good, they're not supposed to. Why shouldn't they take advantage of you (like welfare bums). No dummies they. Besides, they're fun to throw around, and cute when they're scared. Mine ALWAYS comes back for more abuse.

Coughlan thought BOGEY was REAL. Ha ha ha ha ha ha.

2 signed up with bux in game now, including Fluff.

I didn't say PPS? I usually do.

To Bill Be er: JM sent me a check of "William and Peggy" so you are (hemorrhoids?) just send me 4 bux and you're in. My HRs say no Issue #2 until all orders are in, so BOGEY might be a while.

Why does everyone say "slander"? I thought slander was spoken, libel written.

What about Sir Raygun in Libya. If he wants to pick a fight, well, OK (but don't get ME killed), but don't go saying that THEY started it. "Unp voked" my ass!

Hurray for Mitterand! Maybe people will see "communist" isn't the same as "Soviet".

You (BB) have indeed now passed up GRAB DOTS. It's all pictures and ESM shit now, sigh. VOD is getting dull too, sigh. I'm going to be subbing to FSF, maybe it'll fill a gap.

To Manuel: Shit. I was only in the game one turn after you joined. I only got one letter from you too. And one each from E,F,G (or maybe 2 from F, I don't remember). You're right about the feud not over. Masters won't print my defense in his zeen and continues to tell LIES about me. I can prove one of them at least and you will (have, probably) receive a xerox of a cancelled check for 6 bux (not 4 as Jack says) and if I can come up with proof of any of his other lies as such you can bet your ass you'll see it. Meanwhile, where is his evidence that I rigged the Leeder Poll, etc.?

Whoever said Bates is dead is NOT sick. He did indeed play a nasty trick (and probably has learned his lesson) but is NOT sick. What does everybody have about that word?

Hurray for West Germany then. Scottie still think Communism=Soviet though.

Saw EMPIRE again, 7th one (2d this time around). There was this lady behind me who was afraid of snakes and kept shuddering audibly all through Dagobah.

Coughlan thought BOGEY was real. I probably already told you that.
((another letter))

Thanks for the part of BLACK FROG, Jack didn't send me a copy naturally (so he's not a Brux pseudonym). He's not telling the whole story, since he won't print anything I send him in my defense. I'll say a short bit here. When I asked for a refund, I had thought the same Ozog did. I no longer ask for a refund and told Jack so, in fact have done the opposite, by FORFEITING \$3.50 OF MY BF SUB which should cover Jack's \$((illegible amount)) and his trouble. If he can show me that the second check (\$5) was indeed bad, I'll gladly send another. From my end it looks like Jack just never gets around to cashing it. How much BF costs Jack doesn't matter since I paid him how much he charged plus a lot more to which he gives me no credit. Also I did NOT try to influence anyone's vote to a 0 for BLACK FROG in the Leeder Poll as Jack claims, and I will forever more hold anything Jack says in suspicion of being another LIE.

Whew, um, supposedly the Canadian postal strike is over so expect to hear from Smyth and Carter any time now.

More: I'm now finally convinced of what my fellow liberals have been saying all along: Reagan is an asshole. First he alienates Western Europe (and Australia, NZ, Canada?) with his neutron bomb bit. Then alienate the Middle East by provoking Qaddafi in the Gulf of Tonkin, er, Sidra. And now he decides to start a war with the Soviets by blaming Libya's acts on them and spouting off about how we're such hot shit and we can do anything. Who does Mr Reagan expect to be our allies in this war, or will he just push the button so we won't have to worry about it?

Now the question you're all waiting for: Am I going to run away to Canada? Well, fate has saved me from deciding because it looks like I'll be in Canada, war or not, for employment reasons, which is convenient so it won't look like I'm running away (whether I am or not).

And no, Brux, I'm not going to try to come back if your government doesn't want me to. In fact, if you got the likes of Reagan in office, I don't WANT to come back.

Lew concludes

I see that inflation is at an all time high. I'm sure glad we've got such a brilliant economist as Reagan. And don't give me that "Yeah, it'd be worse if we didn't have him" shit. I said the same about Jimmy.

((I'd normally tear into a lot of the incredible horseshit you dish out here, but in view of the source, it would be ridiculous to argue with you))

PATRICK CONLON

270 Sig Co Box 1212 APO NY 09189

(Pirmasens, Germany)

I AM A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY BUT I AM NOT SERVING DUE TO ANY FEELINGS OF DUTY; A DUTY IS OBLIGATORY, SOMETHING ONE IS COMPELLED TO DO, THE WORD'S CONNOTATION CONJURES UP AN IMAGE OF SOMETHING THAT ONE IS FORCED TO DO; I, HOWEVER, CHOSE FREELY THE SERVICE FOR MY OCCUPATION; I WAS NOT COMPELLED IN ANY SENSE OF THE WORD, THIS WOULD SEEM TO PUT ME AT LEAST ONE STEP ABOVE THOSE WHO HAD TO BE FORCED TO JOIN THE SERVICE; YET YOU HAVE PLACED ME, AND OTHERS LIKE ME, BELOW THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO ONLY SERVE WHEN FORCED TO DO SO; SO THAT MAKES ME A "LATTER DAY ASSHOLE", DOES IT? THAT SOUNDS MORE LIKE PETTY NAME-CALLING THAN CONSTRUCTIVE DEBATE;

YOU CLAIM THAT MUCH OF WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE ALL-VOLUNTEER FORCE IS THAT SOLDIERS TODAY ARE TREATING THEIR TOUR AS A JOB AND NOT A DUTY; THE PROBLEM IS EXACTLY NEAR THE OPPOSITE. IT IS PEOPLE WITH ATTITUDES LIKE YOURS, AT EVERY LEVEL OF THE DEFENSE OF OUR NATION, ACTING UPON THE BELIEF THAT THE SERVICE IS NOT A JOB, THAT ARE THE CAUSE OF SO MANY OF OUR PROBLEMS IN THE MILITARY TODAY;

SO YOU OBJECT TO PAYING 9000 DOLLARS A YEAR TO EVERY "BOOTH" WHO IS SITTING ON HIS ASS ON POST; AND 16,200 DOLLARS TO EVERY STAFF SERGEANT FOR THE SAME; FIRST, LET'S STRAIGHTEN OUT YOUR FACTS A LITTLE; A NEW RECRUIT RECEIVES 6200 DOLLARS A YEAR AND A STAFF SERGEANT RECEIVES 11,200 TO 12,200 DOLLARS A YEAR AND I CAN PRODUCE PAY STATEMENTS FOR BOTH PAY GRADES TO PROVE IT; ALL OF THAT IS, OF COURSE, BEFORE SOCIAL SECURITY, FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAXES; NOW, LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT ALL THOSE SOLDIERS JUST "SITTING ON THEIR ASS(ES) ON POST;" AGREED; TO ONE EXTENT OR ANOTHER, MANY OF THESE SOLDIERS ARE SHAMMING, BUT; FIRST OF ALL, LET'S RECOGNIZE THE FACT THAT, ALTHOUGH IT'S NOT INEXCUSABLE, THE TEMPTATION TO TAKE IT EASY AND NOT WORK AS HARD AS ONE CAN ALL THE TIME IS A FAIRLY NATURAL AND PREVALENT ATTITUDE THROUGHOUT ALL WALKS OF LIFE; BUT WHEN A SYSTEM BASED ON DUTY ALLOWS SHAMMERS TO PROLIFERATE, SOMETHING IS WRONG; IN THE SERVICES TODAY, SHAMMERS ARE GETTING AWAY WITH EVERYTHING SHORT OF MURDER, WHY? BECAUSE NO ONE IN THE SERVICES IS FIRED DUE TO NEGLIGENCE, INCOMPETENCE, OR IGNORANCE, THEY ARE GUARANTEED A PAYCHECK FOR DOING THEIR DUTY, IRREGARDLESS OF HOW POORLY THEY DO THE TASKS ASSIGNED TO THEM, THEY ARE ALSO GUARANTEED A PLACE TO SLEEP, SOMETHING TO WEAR, AND THREE SQUARE MEALS A DAY, AND NO ONE EVER THREATENS TO TAKE AWAY ANY THESE COMFORTS JUST BECAUSE A SOLDIER FAILED TO DO HIS OR HER JOB; THEY DID THEIR DUTY WHEN THEY ENLISTED AND WERE SWORN IN; IN THE CIVILIAN SECTOR, WHERE COMPANIES ARE REQUIRED TO JUSTIFY ALL DEBITS; USUALLY IN TERMS OF THEIR PROFIT MARGIN, THIS CONDITION RARELY CONTINUES FOR LONG; INDIVIDUALS WHOSE OUTPUT DOESN'T JUSTIFY THEIR SALARY ARE FIRED; THE SERVICES NEED TO CORRECT THIS FAULT IN THEIR SYSTEM, NOT BY REDUCING A SOLDIER'S SALARY TO TWO DOLLARS A DAY (BECAUSE THIS DOES NOT AFFECT THE CONDITIONS THAT CAUSE THE PROBLEM), BUT BY PROVIDING A SYSTEM OF INCENTIVES FOR THOSE WHO DO THEIR JOBS WELL AND PUNITIVE MEASURES FOR THOSE WHO FAIL IN THEIR ASSIGNED TASKS;

PERSONALLY, I LIKE THE IDEA OF A UNIVERSAL (MALE AND FEMALE) DRAFT; 18 TO 24 MONTHS COMPULSORY SERVICE WON'T INCONVENIENCE ANYONE THAT BADLY, AND FEMALES CAN BE DRAFTED INTO AREAS OTHER THAN COMBAT ARMS; IF THE IDEA OF FEMALES IN

COMBAT IS UNACCEPTABLE; ANY DRAFTED INDIVIDUAL DEMONSTRATING SUFFICIENT EDUCATION/ABILITY ON HIS/HER ENTRANCE EXAMS COULD BE ALLOWED TO CHOOSE A FIELD OTHER THAN COMBAT ARMS IF THEY DESIRED TO DO SO AND THE SERVICES' QUOTAS IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS PERMITTED; FIRST-TERMERS, DRAFTED OR VOLUNTEERS, DO NOT NEED A PAY RAISE, BUT NOR SHOULD THEY BE FORCED TO SUFFER FROM ANY PAY CUTS; THE CURRENT PAY SCALE FOR THE FOUR LOWEST RANKS IS ADEQUATE AND PROVIDES WORK INCENTIVE; HOWEVER, A BIG JUMP IN PAY IS NEEDED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE INCENTIVE NEEDED TO RETAIN EXPERIENCED PERSONNEL IN THE HIGHER RANKS; THESE ARE THE SOLDIERS WHO HANDLE MOST ALL OF OUR SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT AND ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRAINING AND GUIDANCE OF THE LOWER ENLISTED; THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THE SERVICES GO; AND IT IS THESE PEOPLE WHO ARE DEPENDED ON THE MOST; WHAT ELSE BESIDES PAY AND BENEFITS (AND WORKING CONDITIONS AS NEARLY SIMILAR TO THE CIVILIAN WORLD AS THEY CAN BE WITHIN THE NEEDS OF THE SERVICES) CAN YOU OFFER SUCH A PERSON? DO YOU OFFER HIM THE SATISFACTION OF HAVING PERFORMED HIS DUTY? BULL SHIT; DUTY IS FOR ASCETICS; WE CAN NO MORE RUN THE DEFENSE DEPT ON DUTY THAN WE CAN FIGHT A WAR WITH MONKS; IF YOU ATTEMPT TO MAKE YOUR SERVICES "HOLY", YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE DAMNED LITTLE BESIDES DISGRUNTLED SHORT-TIMERS AND VIRTUALLY NO ONE WITH ENOUGH EXPERIENCE TO HANDLE ALL THAT SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT WE SPEND SO MANY BILLIONS ON EACH YEAR;

ONE FINAL NOTE I CAN'T BEAR TO LEAVE UNMENTIONED; WHEN COMPARING THE WAGES OF SERVICEMEN AND MAILMAN YOU STATED, "THE STATE PAYS ITS MAILMEN ALMOST 2200 DOLLARS A MONTH ON THE AVERAGE NOW, BECAUSE A MAILMAN IS DOING SOME USEFUL TASK"; SOLDIERS SITTING ON THEIR ASS ON POST AREN'T WORTH HALF OF WHAT THEY ARE BEING PAID NOW" DO YOU REALLY VALUE YOUR FREEDOM LESS THAN YOU VALUE YOUR DAILY MAIL? WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE MAIL DELIVERY ON SATURDAYS THAN SOLDIERS IN UNIFORM READY TO DEFEND THE FREEDOMS YOU NOW ENJOY? THAT DOESN'T SOUND VERY CONSERVATIVE TO ME;

OK, I'VE CHEWED ON YOUR EAR LONG ENOUGH; IT'S YOUR TURN NOW; TAKE CARE AND DON'T WORK TOO HARD;

((Conservative or not, the mailman is doing something for me. Some boot on post may have a theoretical value under the fleet-in-being principle, but if my freedom rested on him and his "readiness", heaven help us all, cuz no one else could!

I'm afraid my experience in the Service flies straight in the face of what you declare from yours. First of all, during the Vietnam war the AF lost 4 out of 5, and had plenty of people staying on for the top ranks, and even then, a lot more folks got out after 8. WORK is not done by E7s, Pat, it is done by E3s-E5s. E5 on, all you do is 'supervise', which consists of 1. paperwork, 4. babysitting and housecleaning, and 5. training (there is no 2 or 3) IN THAT ORDER. There may be a few oddball fields where work is done by E6s-E9s, but I can't think of any. (Hmm, chauffeur for a light Bird maybe?). Those young troops turn over everytime, always have, and always will. YOU train the next bunch, that's all. A universal male draft will give you a) people for every slot, and b) people able to learn the job. If there is so much demand "outside" for them, let them go and train more--that happened with computers when I was in, and maybe is so with air controllers now. The "crisis" will pass long before a lot of tours are up; there will be plenty of people willing and able to fill the supervisory slots. All too often now, it is done by people "for the money"--losers who know damn well they couldn't earn car payments on the outside, let alone be supervisors. firing low-ranking bums would only reward them--they don't like this first job, having to do what they're told, report on time, dress right, be held to account for their actions. They would welcome being "fired" so they could go back to being a student-bum like they were before they joined up. Instead, kicking their ass would do better, for they and the Service both. Fire the HIGH ranking types for incompetence instead. There that will have an effect, not on the first-termers. I don't know of anyone who joined up for money, though I do know of some who re-upped for it. Nor did I leave for money. We left because of the sickening way the Service was RUN. Those in command--the senior NCOs, the REAL commanders--were often people not worthy of cleaning urinals with their tongues, yet a Service geared to straight

Response to Conlon, continued

seniority put them in charge. YOU could have offered me \$20,000 a year then (10 years ago) and I'd have told you to stuff it up your ass like I did then, and like I did the high-paying postal "Service" some time later. Do you want people to stay? Then give them 1. Useful/necessary/meaningful work, and 2. competent supervisors, drawn by merit/performance, NOT seniority. Give people a chance to learn and DO something worthwhile, and you will have plenty of people willing to do it. (Sort of a Peace Corps type phenomena). Fuck them high and low when they're not bored to death and you'll have a hard time getting them to serve out 1 tour. You're in, so you must know THAT'S true. Separate pay from rank, kind of like the GS grades/steps have, so that competence can be rewarded without forcing a good truck mechanic to become a piss-poor motor pool supervisor behind a desk to get more pay. Provide work worth doing, cut out the chickenshit that today is the very soul and essence of military life, and you'll keep all you need to do it. Pay people more just to put up with the same old shit, and all you'll do is reward and keep the very scumbags who currently call the shots in service policy and life. After all, how do you think it GOT this bad?

PS Forget the females. The current push to stuff them into the service "mainstream" has shown they're more trouble by far than they're worth. Take any who volunteer, but don't take them all.)) J.M.

DON DITTER, BNC

910 Hope St, Stamford, CT

Thanks for the copies of BB. I've enclosed \$3 to help defray some of your costs for the "complimentary" issues. I appreciate your courtesy in sending the issues to me.

I don't have much to add to my previous off the record comments regarding the Oaklyn situation. You have your opinions, I have mine and I think your zine has expressed both fairly well.

I will add this: Believe me when I say that no pressure from you or any other hobby member(s) can force me to give up my right of freedom of choice--as long as my choice does not infringe on other people's right to choose. I'll get out of the hobby first!

But let me assure you, if Bernie violates my rights in his zine, I would take corrective action ~~pesthaste~~, as I would in any game I'm GGMing.

I intend to perform the duties of BNC in an efficient, thorough manner. I will make all judgements in a fair, unbiased way. Judge my suitability for the post by the job I do in that post. That's all I ask.

While I believe this kind of controversy does the hobby no good, I will agree to let you publish this letter in order to inform people concerned of my position.

On a more positive note, congratulations on your high finish in the Leeder Poll. YOU obviously put much time and effort into the hobby and your position in the poll demonstrates that effort is appreciated. Keep up the good work.

cc: Bernie Oaklyn

((Thanks. Did you add a note to "Bernie's" copy about his well deserved placement in the poll too?

I appreciate your gesture of paying for the copies; however, I have to wonder by your remarks whether you read the stuff or not. I have, and I recall nothing about any challenge to your "freedom of choice". I have seen, and endorsed, a questioning of the choices you have freely made. I am led to believe that your use of high sounding but irrelevant principle is used in lieu of any solid reasoning to back your decisions to continue appearing in the hobby fraudzine, LE FRONT. For someone to point out the figleaf of respectability your presence provides they hobby pariah is their right also, after all. If you wish to challenge that act of theirs, addressing the reasons for your choice of a GGMhome would be more appropriate than getting defensive about anyone's questioning your choice to begin with. It's a two-way street, and you're in the most prominent house on the block. Why place it in the ghetto?

It's obvious nothing will be done about this, unless you changed your mind, and it is questionable if anything could be in a hobby as anarchic as this one (fortunately) is. About all that can be done is to point out the choice you made, and to remark how

Response to Ditter, conclusion

dumb it is. For whatever reason, you have regrettably chosen to stick with your poor choice. I'm earning no brownie points by saying so, and maybe losing some to the many who think "How dare we question the decisions of the BNC?", but if all we can do is publish the discredit you splatter on your office by your association with "Bernie Oaklyn" Tretick, I for one will make no apologies either for doing so.)) J.M.

BOB OSUCH (Perils of Paulina, etc.) 3417 S PAulina, Chicago IL 60608

Linsey kills me! In BB#96, Linsey says "...he (Ditter) should be persuaded to sever his connection with FLD, and if that fails, we should find a new BNC". Yet in BB101, after he has talked with Don and found what a nice guy he is, he reverses himself. In fact, it appears to me to be an outright lie. Bruce says that "...I did not and do not recommend, as Sacks erroneously states, a "referendum to remove the BNC..." and goes on to say that "I have written to Ditter and will support him in his new position". He also verbally slaps Sacks' face with the remark "Leave it to Sacks to rephrase my statement and cloak it in such bureaucratic bullshit". Correct me if I'm wrong, but the chronology of the matter seems to be: Linsey says that Ditter should either leave FLD or the hobby should replace him. Linsey talks to Ditter, a very rational man, and decides that perhaps he was a bit hasty in calling for Don's dismissal. But gee, he has already done so, now what? Sacks, overstating Linsey ever so slightly, says that Bruce suggested a "referendum" to remove Ditter. The word "referendum" means putting an issue to a vote, or similar. Now, if Bruce wanted to displace Ditter, I assume it would have to be voted on by somebody, so Bruce, in fact, did at least imply a "referendum to remove Ditter". Anyway, Bruce decided he can use this tidbit to make an ass out of Sacks. As I see it, Sacks' statement pretty well hit the mark, and Linsey owes him an apology.

I don't know Sacks, but it would seem to me that he is at least TRYING to do something constructive in the hobby. If people are going to make him the whipping boy, their information should at least be accurate.

((I think I went over the "referendum" issue myself in some editorial notes last time so I'll just say that I took Linsey's attack on the vote issue as just that, an attack on the vote issue. He felt it was unnecessary and irrelevant, which is pretty much what I said in pointing out that the post has always been appointive, and often self-appointive. While he was critical of Sacks' suggestion, as was I, I don't see that Brux used it "to make an ass out of Sacks." Brux HAS backed off Ditter, and it is basically a dead issue now, as Don is apparently firm in staying in FLD per above, for his own unstated reasons. There is nothing else to it aside from he saying he'll stay (unless he were to wise up and move, of course!) and me saying I think he's making a dumb decision to not move. I think you may be right in a vote being implied, but I don't think that a personal attack on Sacks was Bruce's reason for criticising the proposal.)) J.M.

STEVE LANGLEY

2154 Fairfield Rd, Sacramento, CA 95815

Sure you are going to slow down. I'm starting a week's vacation tomorrow. I worked all night last night to finish up a project that has to be in production before I get back, and so left work at noon today (as soon as I could sweet talk Dini into giving me my check). I have 'all' of the getting ready to do to leave tomorrow, so naturally when BB 101 arrived, I set it aside to read on the road. Then I glanced through to see if my name appeared. Ah, ego. Naturally I put it down again--as soon as I'd read it all.

I agree that Berch's article is a call for training. But what about the sucker who fired the shot, and then found out ½ hour later he'd hit someone? What kind of shit is that? He shoots someone, and doesn't even know it? I find that part of the incident hard to comprehend. But then, I probably lack a great deal of information about the

Langley, continued

situation.

Enclosed is a counter article which actually makes the same point: training in weapons is a good idea. ((This was printed last issue.))

Re Mark Berch: Will somebody please turn off the heat? I have been living for three months in temperatures above 90, frequently above 100, and I'm starting to tire of it.

Re your sub policy: I don't care how you number these things. I'm getting my money's worth. If I were not, I'd stop subbing. You want to stop getting all the subbers? Simple shot: stop printing all the crap that we send, that's all it would take. Not that I expect you to do so; I'd be dismayed if you did.

Hey, I'm in a mini-feud. John C Robinson--have at you. Actually your letter of 22 June was a criticism of my earlier statements to the effect that governmental tracking of waste was one of the few positive things that government did for us, which you neatly interpreted to mean that I was in favor of governmental red tape. So, naturally, I made fun of your "Mt St Helens" quote just to see if you would derail, or would stick to the point. So you are quoting a retired professor? Super. And you recommend that one should read with COMPREHENSION of the meaning of words? Maybe you and your authority should check up on the meaning of "pollution" and "event".

I once took a psychological profile exam wherein there were fifty statements attributed to 'noted authorities'. I was asked to agree or disagree with the statements I only agreed with "Honesty is the best policy". That was before I discovered DIPLOMACY of course.

Quoting an authority to me will get you about as many points as claiming an inanity as you own, generally speaking.

Particularly speaking, I still feel that "big government" has done little positive good for me, you, us. An attempt to control pollution is better than not, but just barely, so maybe I erred on that point.

((Wow! That's a rarity in this hobby, somebody saying they may have been wrong. Only in the BRUTUS BULLETIN... Thanks for writing.))

BRAD WILSON

302 Friendship Drive, Paoli, PA 19301

I very proudly claim the title of worst GM in the hobby! Who wants to be good, after all? The standard of lousiness is me now! If you're going to be bad, at least be the worst! (History NEVER remembers those who came in second). Bad GMing forever!

((Have no fear on that account. Regretably, there are always new faces coming along who likewise decide to just chuck it for a while, or quit altogether. Your card is tongue-in-cheek of course, but the message really is true. Besides those old hands at incompetence, such as Tretick and Kovalcik, there are always new challengers. Watch out for the Phil Fry's and Steve Shaddix's next year!))

DICK MARTIN (Post No Bills)

6103 Breezewood Ct #202 Greenbelt, MD 20770

What's this? BB #101!! I nearly had heart failure. So all my "reliable sources" weren't so reliable after all, and BB rambles on. Just don't put out too many more issues before my renewal makes it. Very disappointed that I only make #2 offbeat to my clone Nanook, but it's the price I pay for fame.

The Leeder poll is a joke, to put it mildly. Not bad, just not great. Yes, many of the zeens are new--too new. How many issues were there of DOT HAPPY when the poll closed (much less started)? Or EE? Or LSD? Or JAF? True, they are all great zeens (with the possible exception of DH), but to be in the top ten after less than half a dozen issues is absurd. It also makes me feel old when I'm the fourth oldest zeen there. And Gary as the #3 GM without GMing even ONE season in ONE game?! A farce, but what can be done?

Believe it or not, I frown on abortion, but would not outlaw it for much the same reason as yourself. I'd rather pay now than pay double later. Robinson is definitely

Crud continues

a bonzo guy, where did you find him?

Putting out quadruple/quintuple issues, I feel little remorse charging for a double. Better than sending out a weekly zeen, for sure. So what if I'm putting 17¢ less postage than I should be on every issue. Wow, big savings! (Actually, it is...I ain't complainin')

So, will you be playing in MASS MURDERS? Just curious....

((Yes, I haven't learned much yet.

I guess I got my 17¢ back by your letter that had the 1¢er cancelled and the 17¢er not. I think weekly issues are better though. They get read, whereas those big issues of yours are too overwhelming; they get laid aside for "sometime".

I may have jumped on JC too hard, but when someone objects to 1½ dozen sheets as a double being unfair, and my integrity by way of that we-signed-up-for-X-issues stuff, I do not take it lightly. Not after doing all I've done for four years, and all the shit I take for it.

New zines always have an edge: they haven't pissed off anybody or (usually) fucked up badly yet. Still, I thought last year's poll was more messed up than this year's. Those are real problems you mention though.)) J.M.

JOHN CARUSO (Whitestonia)

160-02 43 Ave 2d floor Flushing, NY 11358

I'm back again with more comments. You missed the whole drift that Mark Berch was making. No money can buy a good soldier, but more money can attract more "skilled" personnel, as well as more borderline people who would join the service if they made enough to live on. Your skilled personnel would include medically trained people, communication, etc. If you served you know that 60% or more of a division are not on the front line, that they are support troops involved in medical, communication, fuel, food, ammo supply, etc. The money wouldn't make more people willing to die, but would make more people eager to serve and would put the government on a competitive level with private enterprise. That is for the career minded person. What's the difference if the guy is a liberal, pacifist, homosexual--he can still drive a truck, cook a meal, refuel a tank. And sticking society's "undesirables" on the front line is the first way and most serious way to deteriorate your own fighting force. Basically, you have to have organization--putting a coward on the front line and having him run away would only tend to demoralize the remaining troops. Every man and woman must be placed where he or she is best qualified. Like in business, you wouldn't put an accountant at a typewriter and a secretary in an audit room. Everyone who enters the service should be trained (basic training) in the use of conventional weapons and some hand to hand combat. Money will never bring in the guy who is afraid to become "cannon fodder", but it will attract many who would ordinarily stay civilians. Your theory is as full of holes as a piece of Swiss cheese. The majority of people would become teachers do so for 2 reasons: either out of like children or to impose their views and thoughts to others. Teaching is one of the less time consuming occupations you can major in at school. Once on the job, most teachers fall into 3 categories: 1. Living at home with parents either because of homeliness or recessiveness 2. Married and spouse works 3. moonlighting on another job, whether it be related to teaching or not, and whether it is after hours, night time or summer time. But once a teacher has gained experience, if the money isn't right, they can search around for a higher paying teaching job. That's where soldiering loses out. Even those they do manage to enitce--they lose them due to more money in civilian life. Why should a guy remain an army technician for \$3000 a year when he can make \$30,000 as a civilian? And don't tell me about room and board and meals. The majority view money in hand, ((illegible)) numbers. \$3000 or \$30,000, which sounds more appealing?

As for my gun story 3 issues ago, you missed the whole point. The senseless acts of violence weren't done out of sickness or hatred, but out of love, or loss of it.

Changing the subject, back on to one of your favorite topics--Bernie Oaklyn. If what Bruce Linsey said is true, and we (or you, they,) are trying to get Oaklyn to change, why not give him a chance to change? If he intends to go straight, have respectable GMs in the first step and a good start. Don't get me wrong, I don't

support Oaklyn, and never will, but don't the people who do play in "Le Fraud" deserve to have an honest, fair GM?

I have spoken with Bruce Linsey many times and have exchanged much correspondence. It is "my opinion" that Black Jack Masters statement that Bruce Linsey is concerned with his ratings, is basically, ACCURATE. But then again, aren't we all? Don't we all smile when we see our name near or on the top of a rating list? Oh Bruce, is it Black Jack's turn now? ~~(to be your whipping post)~~ — ((Linsey))

Back to Arnett, eh? Back to what Bob was supposed to have told you after Origins 80. As I recall it, you stood alone on that claim, and printed that you were told that Kathy tried to get people to vote you 0. Neither Kathy or I ever tried to do that to you, EVER. And when you called Bob as your witness and he denied it, you call him a fraud. Why? If he did tell you a "baloney story", its no worse than the "phoney Las Vegas tournament", or "Barker", etc, etc, etc. And correct me if I'm wrong, as I recall, you never publicly gave Kathy the apology she deserved for the insinuation and thrashing you gave her about all this.

About the "quotes on the Volker cover", for your information, I myself have heard or overheard or read some of them. But that's neither here nor there. Even if they are made up, so what? Isn't most of W irrational, illogical and made up? I thought it was a clever cover, you viewed it as an attack on you. I can't see how you came to that conclusion, unless....you know what they say, if the shoe fits...

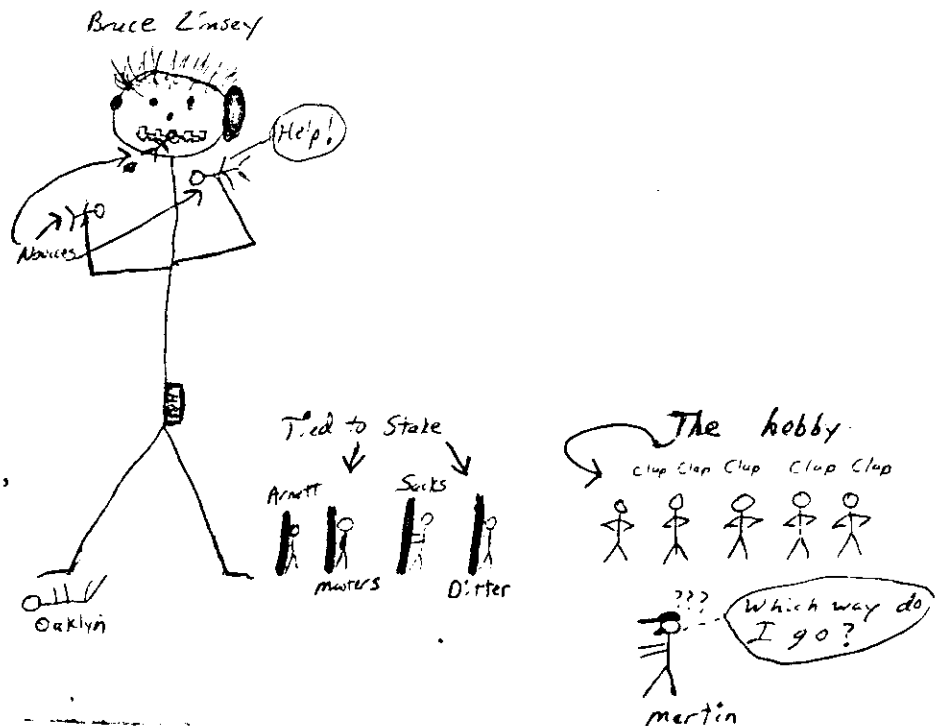
John, being a homosexual may not be normal, or accepted by society, but its a fact. And to try to sweep under the rug or "exterminate" it, isn't the final solution. Homosexuality is disgusting in public, but a hooker giving a BJ on a street corner at 11 am isn't because its male/female? Homosexuality isn't against the law, sex or exposure in public is. I say, so long as they do it in their own privacy, with others thinking the same way, its their business.

Here's a closing idea for you to ponder on. I know you're ultraconservative, and very very very far right, but do you know that without a liberal to disagree with, you wouldn't be a conservative.

((I'd also be happier. There would still be the great apathetic center, so then I'd just be a nationalist. Or a racist. Or whatever somebody might come up with. At least it makes more sense than some of what you said.

Bruxus can defend himself, and perhaps will, but aside from the cartoon (are the staked people supposed to be novices too?) and other personal attacks, there are a few statements you made that deserve comment. I had no doubt that the Volker cover was an outright attack on Linsey, and if there was ever any doubt, hell, open the issue up. The whole thing was nothing but a blatant attack on Linsey, and I find it

is. I see they I forgot, Bruce asked Kathy to put herself in his shoes. She doesn't want to get athletes foot, so I put myself in Linsey's shoes (I already have athletes foot), and this is what I see-



incredible that anyone could claim that it was for any other purpose. Also, whether or not Arnett told Bruce the "baloney story" or not, it is not just another hobby hoax for fun like the examples you list: the "baloney story" is an attack on Kathy's character, made more so by the way it was claimed and denied. It was not for "fun" in practice, although it might have started out that way. However, if the original intent was just to laugh at Bruce getting pissed, then why deny telling the story later? Also, I think Bruce DID apologize, altho I also seem to recall that it was worded conditionally (e.g. "if I'm wrong, I'm sorry" type thing) as it should be. After all, Kathy might be telling him a "baloney story" too, right?

I'm afraid your "Oaklyn" comments struck me as almost ludicrous. "Why not give him a chance to change?" C'mon, John, "Bernie" has been pulling off this shit for over a decade and laughing in the hobby's face for it. He has another chance to change every time the sun comes up; what makes you think hiding him behind some honest GGMS will make any difference in his attitude now?

My gun statements stand. Anyone who goes on a killing spree because he was jilted is a sickie, yes, even if in New York.

The service issue has been beaten half to death elsewhere, so I will only comment on the parts of your letter on it that have something not brought up before. Letting the cowards and queers hide in the back, cooking and driving their truck under a tree for some shuteye, will only insure that all the casualties taken are among the ranks of decent men: all the scum will flourish. Let the coward run away from the front line: when the lieutenant shoots the coward down in the attempt, the others will feel better about the coming fight. Teachers are a dime a dozen, which is why the pay is low and should stay low. Why pay a lot, when you can take your pick for less? Aside from the other insults you direct at them, the lure of teaching I've heard is that it gives one the status of a "professional" person for a lot less than that status would cost as far as entering any other "professional" area. Says he the accountant at the typewriter, while the secretaries eat lunch in the auditor's room...))

RONALD J BROWN (Snafu!)

RR1 Brennan's Hill, Low, PQ JOX 2C0

Saturday morning I was supposed to pick all the beans in our garden, but it's raining and about a million BB's arrived in this morning's mail (actually #94-100). Also got the Leeder Poll results, so, first off, congrats on BB's fine showing. NOW will you stop knocking Canadian zines?

Next issue of SNAFU! (due about Sep 15) I intend to say something along the lines of: BB is the forum in the hobby, publishing almost weekly with hobby news, updates, and letters on evrything under the sun. It's the subzs that made me reserved in my first estimate of BB: for the most part they are foul-mouthed and pointless. Tho you use the same words, you use them in context entirely suitable to your subject. Frankly, I'd like BB even better if the subz's branched out on their own and you stuck to your comments and letters.

But now you've really made me mad! In issue #100 you knock cats! That's going too far. Cats are a hell of a lot smarter than dogs. A cat can always find the warmest place to sleep and manages to get fed without having to do all that silly stick-chasing and beggin' stuff. Where we live, in about a zillion square miles (or is that kilometers?) of wilderness, we've found cats are much better at keeping rodents out of our garden than any dog. The farmers around here have these great viscious-looking dogs that bark a lot and yet their gardens are reduced to a bit of stubble. Our garden is flourishing because we planted catnip which the cat will guard with his life. When it gets too hot, he simply curls up under the pea plants. Not a groundhog or rabbit around! The only thing he's not too good at is keeping deer away, but then, why would we want to do that? They just break a few leaves as they tromp through, but they haven't stopped for a snack. Besides, I thought you like pussy?

Anyhow, I guess my sub is about up, so here's some money, whether you like it or not!

((Uh, thanks. Now we can see EMPIRE one last time. Maybe your garden is in better shape because, after all, you're the only English-speaking family around, right? What French speaker ever grew a garden right? Bill LaFosse told me all about them.))

This listing includes multi-player diplomatic play-by-mail games (e.g., Diplomacy and its variants, SPI Power Political Games) with information not more than 2 months old.

A typical listing consists of the following:

Publisher Name, Address

ZINE NAME, frequency, costs ((month))

GAME (game restriction, different game fee), Variant

frequency: nw = n weeks; m = monthly

month is the month entry was updated

To update, add or correct an entry, send information to
Robert Sacks, 4861 Broadway 5-V, NY NY 10034 USA

Distribution: Diplomacy World, BNC, MNC, OGP, Zine Directory,
Diplomag, Pandemonium, Brutus Bulletin, Mike's Mag,
CGC, any publisher who requests it for publication,
anyone sending a SASE

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AFTER THE HOLOCAUST	Henricks
CRUSADES	Scott
DIPLOMACY	Barno, Boardman, Brown, Caruso, Daly, Hail, Hanson, Heinowski, Lew, McLendon, Mills, Schneier, Sigwalt
Variants	Arnett, Barno, Brown, Davis, Henricks, Mills, Ozog, Wells
Bourse	Barno, Schneier
Parlement	Sacks
EMPIRES OF THE MIDDLE AGES	Boardman
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OUTREACH	Barno
RUSSIAN CIVIL WAR	Scott
SAMURAI	Barno
WOODEN SHIPS & IRON MEN	Caruso, Heinowski, Scott
WORLD CAMPAIGN	Jones

Bob Arnett, 1900 Waterway Circle, Chesapeake Va 23320 USA

RUS-Q?, 3w, \$7 + 10/\$3 ((Jul))

Deadman

M P Barnc, 2811 Robins St, Endwell NY 13760 USA

THE SHOGUN'S SWORD, m, \$2 + \$5/12 ((Jul))

DIPLOMACY (\$1.50 Game fee), GRAND IMPERIALISM, Grand Tournament
(no Game fee), Hyperbourse (\$3 Game fee), KINGMAKER, MACHIAVELLI,
OUTREACH, SAMURAI, Vacation

John Boardman, 234 E 19th St, Brooklyn NY 11226 USA

GRAUSTARK, 3w, \$15 ((Aug))

DIPLOMACY

EMPIRE, 3w

EMPIRES OF THE MIDDLE AGES

Ronald J Brown, RR#1, Brennan's Hill, Low Qebec JOX 2C0 CANADA

SNAPU!, 5w, \$5 + 12/\$6 Can ((Aug))

Conquest of the New World II, DIPLOMACY (\$4 Game fee), Scotice Scripti III

John Caruso, 160-02 43 Ave 2nd floor, Flushing NY 11358 USA

WHITESTONIA, 4w, \$2 + \$5/10 ((Aug))

DIPLOMACY, WOODEN SHIPS & IRON MEN

John & Betty Daly, Rt 2 Box 136-M5, Rockwell NC 28138 USA

THE DOGS OF WAR, 3½w, \$3 + 10/\$4 ((Aug))

DIPLOMACY

Fred C Davis Jr, 1427 Clairidge Rd, Baltimore Md 21207 USA

BUSHWACKER, \$7 ((Aug))

1885, Atlantica III, Clue, East Indies II, Vacation, Woolworth II

Guy & Elizabeth Hail, 1103-B Lorain, Austin Tx 78703 USA

THE GREAT WAR IN MODERN MEMORY, 2w/4w, \$6 ((Aug))

DIPLOMACY

Scott Hanson, 701-15th Ave SE, Minneapolis Mn 55414 USA

IRKSOME!, 4w, 10/\$3.50 ((Aug))

DIPLOMACY

Steve Heinowski, 1630 W 28th St, Lorain Oh 44052 USA

TER-RAN, 4w, \$3/1 ((Aug))

DIPLOMACY (\$3 Game fee), WOODEN SHIPS & IRON MEN (\$1 Game fee)

Roy Henricks, 128 Deerfield Dr, Pittsburgh Pa 15235 USA

ENVOY, 5w, \$4 + \$5 @ 31/8¢/pg + postage ((Jul))

AFTER THE HOLOCAUST, Anonymous (\$8 Game fee), DIPLOMACY (Distaff no fee,
Prize \$23, regular or Area \$4), Grand Tournament, GUNSLINGER,
MACHIAVELLI (Area game)

Timothy Jones, PO Box 338, Dover NH 03820 USA

WORLD CAMPAIGN, 6w, \$8 + \$5/move ((Jul))

WORLD CAMPAIGN

Mark Lew, 3120 W 79 St, Anchorage Ak 99502 USA

GANGRENE, 2w, \$3 + \$1 NMR fee ((Aug))

DIPLOMACY

Steve McLendon, Box 57066, Webster Tx 77598 USA

THE DRAGON & THE LAMB, \$3.50 + \$2.50 Deposit + \$6/10 ((Aug))

DIPLOMACY

Michael Mills, 47 Mayer Dr, Suffern NY 10901 USA

EMHAIN MACHA, m, 50¢/issue ((Jul))

DIPLOMACY (\$23 Prize game), Youngstown (\$2 Game fee)

Eric Ozor, 1526 N Lawler Ave, Chicago IL 60651 USA
DIPLOMACY BY MOONLIGHT, m, \$5 + postage ((Aug))
Air-Sea, Kriegspiel, Winter 1900
Note: Publisher has confessed to committing GM irregularity in one
game in helping one player to win, but has pledged not to repeat it.

Robert Sacks, 4861 Broadway 5-V, NY NY 10034 USA
HANSARD, \$3 + costs ((Sep))
Parlement (w rules amendment rule)

Bruce Schneier, PO Box 5185 River Station, Rochester NY 14627 USA
INVASION, 11/\$5 ((Aug))
Bourse (\$1 Game fee), DIPLOMACY (\$3 Game fee), MACHIAVELLI (\$4 Game fee)

Michael Scott, 1726 Cypress Circle, LaVerne Ca 91750 USA
MIKE'S MAG, 5w, \$5 ((Aug))
CRUSADES, KINGMAKER, MACHIAVELLI, RUSSIAN CIVIL WAR,
WOODEN SHIPS & IRON MEN (\$7 + \$5 Prize fee)

Donald Sigwalt, 125 Hebard St, Rochester NY 14605 USA
HOOF & MOUTH, 4w, \$2.50 ((Aug))
DIPLOMACY

Allen Wells, 1450 Worcester Rd 8109, Framingham Ma 01701 USA
DOT HAPPY, m, \$5 + \$5 deposit + 50¢/issue ((Aug))
Flexible Build

Editorials

1. There have been some rumors that Known Game Openings would no longer appear in Diplomacy World. (Both Walker and I expected the other to cut relations, but neither of us was stupid enough to do so.) These rumors are unfounded. KGO is run as a hobby service, and is therefore available to a major hobby publication such as DW, especially since this aids in the purpose of this project, which is the spreading of information about game openings. DW continues to view the information in KGO as useful to its readers, and will continue to publish the information it considers most useful, given space considerations.
2. It is my policy not to publish openings under GMs and publishers who mistreat their players, though occasionally one will slip in. Where the situation is doubtful, I may publish a note of warning. I do not consider a single aberration conclusive, but repeated misconduct or claims of a right to misbehave bother me to the point that I will not publish openings under that GM or publisher. I consider a GM or publisher who deliberately changes the orders the players submit to be engaging in misconduct. I would appreciate hearing about all cases of misconduct.
3. There have been complaints about my editorials when I have the space. The complaint is rejected in disbelief. This is presently my sole regular hobby publication. When I have something to say I have a perfect right to say it here; in some cases I have the duty to say it here.
4. I am bemused to note that the list of functionaries who receive KGO has been republished in some places as the definitive list of all hobby functionaries, omitting such obvious projects referenced in the same issue as the Novice Project and KGO itself. I will therefore undertake to publish a relatively complete list every few months, if the hobby functionaries will write me every so often and remind me what they are doing.