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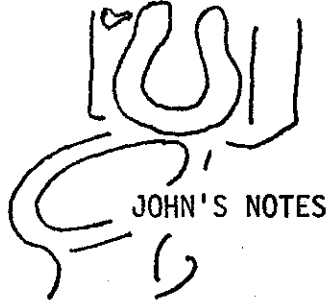
# BRUTUS BULLETIN

ET TU, BRUTE

The BRUTUS BULLETIN is a newsletter of postal Diplomacy<sup>TM</sup> brought to you by John Michalski, Rt 10, Box 526Q, Moore, Oklahoma 73165 every two weeks. It's price has traditionally been two dollars for all issues from now until December 1, 1978, but since that rate approaches 25¢/issue with this issue, I'm going to start calling it 12/\$3, which is 25¢ an issue. LAST issue was the first one which, if anyone had subscribed at that point, would have actually cost more than the postage to bring it! That has never before happened, but always will in the future. Calls are not accepted with orders except in rare, specified cases, but calls are encouraged if & when you think you may have found a mistake in your game. This is POSTAL Diplomacy.

PURPOSE, FORMAT, ETC. Since a lot of people have come on board over the last six issues or so, let me use this cover to rehash the editorial philosophy and what-not of this zine. First, BB exists to run no more than four regular Dipgames, FAST and CHEAP, reflecting what the publisher feels are the two greatest needs in today's publishing ranks. I promise only fast adjudications, nothing more. However, I also believe that a Dipzine without lots of filler is like a day without Anita Bryant, or orange juice makes sunshine, or whatever that slogan is. I like filler, is what I mean to say. I DISlike having to provide most of it, though, so contributions are greatly encouraged. Particularly letters, cartoons; anything humorous or interesting. If you see something cute, don't just grin and go on; tear it out and send it to me so we can ALL enjoy it! Censorship is almost, but not quite unheard of. Most things not printed are skipped because they are dull rather than anything else, although outside of letters (which are wide open to anything you'll sign your name to), I do reserve the right to chuck anything that espouses causes I disagree with, which in general is all liberal stuff. There are more than enough other organs you can find that stuff in; I'll not have it here. Expressions of your OWN views, of course, are completely up to you. I personally prefer a wide open press policy, a policy which flourished here up to a short time ago. At player vote, that policy is now changed, and thus press is currently almost non-existent. In future games, it won't be up to a vote, it will just be wide open to all players, period. (That is, black press will be permitted). But that's for the future. Two games are carried in the zine, one is carried outside it and reprinted here at intervals. This is necessary because of the need for speedy publication--I can't adjudicate 8 games, type press, etc., and THEN publish in time to allow my players at least a bit of negotiating time. Scratch copies of adjudications go to concerned players on the deadline day or the next day, and the issue to everyone follows. Deadlines have been Mondays but are moving to Wednesdays shortly, due to Monday Night Football. Finally, do write in once in a while and let me hear from you, good or bad. And, contributions will be run right up to the 20z weight limit, currently about eleven sheets. Send in anything that will xerox!

J.M.



## JOHN'S NOTES

THE JOYS OF COUNTRY LIVING, part one. Ah, yes, to get away from it all... Unfortunately, so many people want to do so that the big loan you need to get away comes out to be 10.00000 % at closing. So, do like me and don't even ask until afterwards. You know that you're going to get gouged six ways from Sunday anyhow, so why let it bother you? The only hard part about getting a loan is being able to stomach the part where you must convince a doubting and crotchedy 60-yr-old lady that you can afford the payments despite what she and her dog-eared chart show. Little is more galling than to have to have some idiot tell you what you can or cannot afford, unless it is having your realtor come to you three days before closing and say there's a problem with the loan. After three and a half months of jumping to everyone else's tune, I told him it was his job to see that the problems were ironed out, since we'd been told all was hunky-dorry over and over again as the weeks rolled by. Then too, of course, are the joys of having 24 hours to vacate your house while the owner of the purchased home has 72 hours. Since all the deals have to close on the same day to give you money for each succeeding deal, you can see the problem. So did the realtor, finally, the week before we closed. When I then told him that no, we weren't putting anything in storage; no, we weren't spending the weekend in any motel; and no, we weren't going to pay rent for our own house, he seemed puzzled. I explained that despite all the surface problems, he was our realtor, he was getting \$2000+ for all this, and it was up to him to iron out all the bugs. Most people aren't such rotten bastards, but three months of trying to sell the old homestead will do that to you. That, and an unwillingness to be stepped on the way most people often let themselves be. I let Claudine handle the loan business for just that reason: SHE is even less likely than I to let anyone hand us a bunch of poop. A LOT less!

What would moving day be if not a joy? Up early and eagerly expectant: get the kids to the nursery, go back home for the 8AM arrival of the movers; call the movers at 8:25 to learn that "he couldn't find his regular helper, so he had to get a substitute. They're on their way". Meaning his regular wino was too zonked after the weekend to walk Monday morning? But wait, here comes the truck. They ease it in beside the Thunderbird--should have thought to move it first--and out pops the movers. A 4-foot Mexican and his 14-yr-old son. Oh, well. They were used to it, apparently, as they got it all done except the piano, which I had to help with. Even got the triple dresser and kingsized bed to the new upstairs bedroom OK. \$200 and they left before 1pm. I wonder how much the guy reports for taxes? Every third deal? Two a week? But, now it's time to get on to the good stuff like getting something to eat. No time to cook, too much to unpack. "Go run over to McDonalds" Fine. Only McDonalds used to be about 1¼ miles away, while now it is 11¼ miles away. Hmmm. "Hurry up, I'm hungry." Off I go...

The first night. At last, you're in the new place, day is done, you're done... Walk the little one to sleep in his room, and you notice the difference of an upper, wooden floor over the slab you've been on for 6 years: sounds like the deck of a pirate ship at night in an Errol Flynn movie. (Anyone know who Errol Flynn was?). Listen to those night birds. Nope, not birds, just loud crickets. Sure are noisy here in the country. Lay him down, finally, and hit the sack yourself. After a minute you see why those crickets are so loud. "I think its in the bathroom...". Lay back and rest. Finally, peace at last. Unwind, relax...that's when you remember you never DID call the newspaper...

TO BE CONTINUED

# GAME PAGE

SUMMER, 1908 Austrian A Mun r TYO

FRANCO-RUSSIANS GAIN ON AUSTRO-TURKS. WITHER ISLAM?

AUSTRIA (KASSEL): A Tyo-BOH; A Boh-SIL; A GAL S A Boh-Sil; A UKR-War;  
A Tri-VEN; A Ven-TUS; A PIE S A Ven-Tus

FRANCE (DITTER): F Tyn-NAP; F Gly-MAR; F TUN-Ion; F NAF-Tun; F NTH-Hol;  
A Hol-RUH; A Tus-Ven/ann.; A MUN S RUSS A Sil-Boh/NSO;  
A BUR S A Mun

GERMANY (WORKMAN): F Helgoland Bight bites the big one, holds its head high,  
and attempts to yank that damn Dutch boy's finger out of  
the dike by attacking into Holland.  
That's F HEL-Hol for you shorthand freaks!

ITALY (KELLY): A ROM S FRENCH F Tyn-Nap

RUSSIA (McELVANEY): Fs DEN,KIE,BER H: A LVN S A Mos; A MOS & A PRU S A War;  
A WAR S A Sil; A Sil S FRENCH A Mun/ann.

TURKEY (HUESTON): F BLA H; F Ion-TYN; F Nap S F Ion-Tyn/d/r APU; F Eas-ION;  
F AEG S F Eas-Ion; A SEV-Mos

DEADLINE for WINTER, 1908, and SPRING, 1909, for those of you still with us, will be  
my mail received here WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1978. In order to try to save a day on  
getting the preliminary sheets to you, PLEASE SEND ALL GAME ORDERS FROM HERE ON, IN  
ALL GAMES, TO MY WORK ADDRESS:

John Michalski  
Harper Oil Company  
904 Hightower Building  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Those of you who send two copies, a  
habit I encourage, can send the second  
to my home address, plus all general  
correspondence. Spring orders can be made conditional on the builds/removals, with the  
usual caution to list one set as ALL-OTHER-CASES.

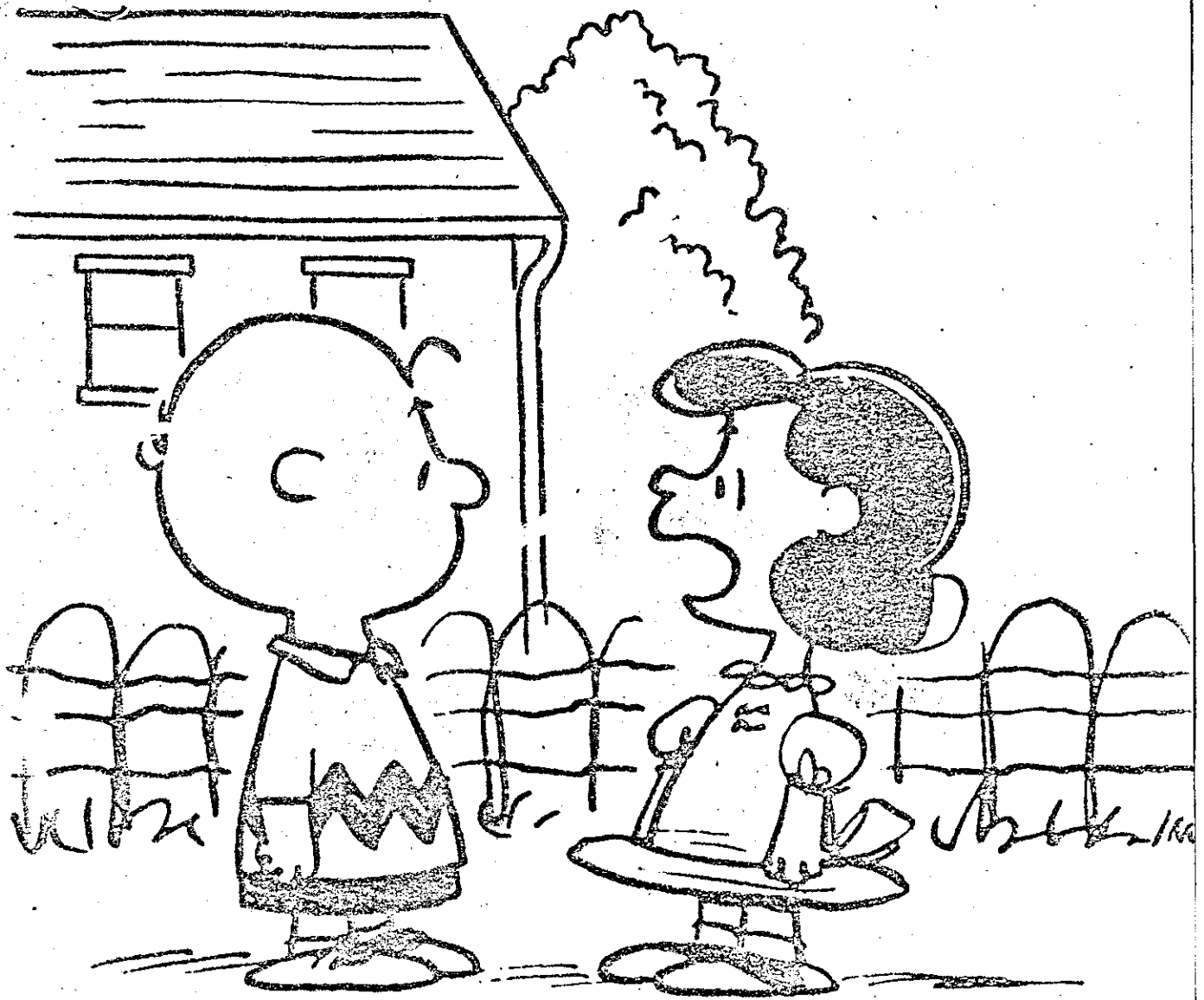
Temporary COA: Dave Ditter, 7340 Xerxes Avenue North, Minneapolis, MINN 55444  
EFFECTIVE AUG 4-20 ONLY!

Press:

WADDENZEE: Instant Karma is going to get you!

1908: Austria: Home Ser Gre Rum Ven <del>Wap</del>	7	1 ann., even
France: Home Spa Por Lvp Bel Lon		
Tun MUN NAP	11	1 ann.,+3,can build 2,plays 1 shor
Germany: <del>Ber</del>	0	Remove one, out
Italy: Rom	1	Even
Russia: StP Mos War Nwy Swe Edi		
Hol Den Kie BER	10	1 ann.,+3,can build 1,plays 2 shor
Turkey: Home Bul Sev <del>Wap</del>	5	Remove one
	34	

CHECK FOR ERRORS! If you find anything that matters, I'm at (405)232-3241 Ext 52,days,  
(405) 794-1604 eves & weekends. Ask for John/leave a number, and don't call after 10PM CST



**HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED HOW  
ANNOYING EVERYBODY IS?**

# 77KS

INFIDELS WAP WOPS! CHRISTIANITY ON THE WANE?

Summer, 1907 Italian F Nap r TYN  
Russian F Bal r PRU

GAME PAGE

ENGLAND (HUNT): NMR! A EDI H

FRANCE (NEWELL, Jr): F Mid-SPasc; A MAR S F Mid-Spasc; A Pic-BEL

GERMANY (REGES): F BAL-Ber; A MUN S F Bal-Ber; F Lon-NTH; F Den H/d/r Helg,Otb;  
F KIE S F Den; A Bel-HOL; A BUR S FRENCH A Mar;  
A War-Mos/d/r Lvn,Otb; F STPsc H

ITALY (SHAFFER): F Tyn-WES; F GLY S A Pie-Mar; A PIE-Mar; A Ven-Rom/d/r OTB

RUSSIA (KASSEL): F PRU S A Sil-Ber; A SIL-Ber; F Nth-DEN; F SKA & F SWE  
S F Nth-Den; A MOS H; A Ukr-WAR; A GAL S A Ukr-War; A Vie-BOH

TURKEY ( KENDTER Jr): F Ion-TUN; F ALB S A Ser-Tri; A Ser-TRI; F ADR S A Tri-Ven;  
A Tri-VEN; F NAP S A Apu-Rom; A Apu-ROM

Deadline for WINTER, 1907, and SPRING, 1908, for those of you still with us, will be my mail received here WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1978. In order to try to save a day on getting preliminary sheets to you, PLEASE SEND ALL GAME ORDERS FROM HERE ON TO MY WORK ADDRESS: John Michalski

Harper Oil Company  
904 Hightower Building  
Oklahoma City, Okla 73102

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correspondence. Spring orders can be made conditional on the builds/removals, with the usual caution to list one set as all-other-cases.

COA: Craig Reges, effective August 23: 1501 Higgins Hall, Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois 61455

\*\*\*\*\*THERE HAS BEEN A CALL FOR AN "A-F-I-R-I" DRAW. No-vote-received will count as a NO in this case. I am presuming AFIRI is the same as an AFIR draw...

Press:

BERLIN All Germany awaits the answer. Pasha Kendter has for two years now talked about "setting up" a certain party. But who has he really been setting up? And it hasn't worked. No information will be passed to the pasha now, nor has any been passed in the past. Strike now or the moment is lost!

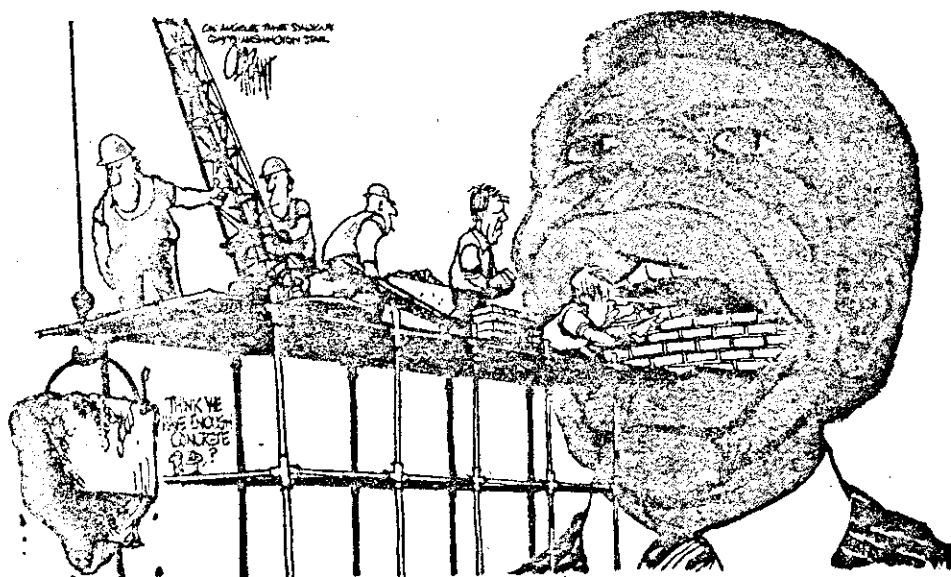
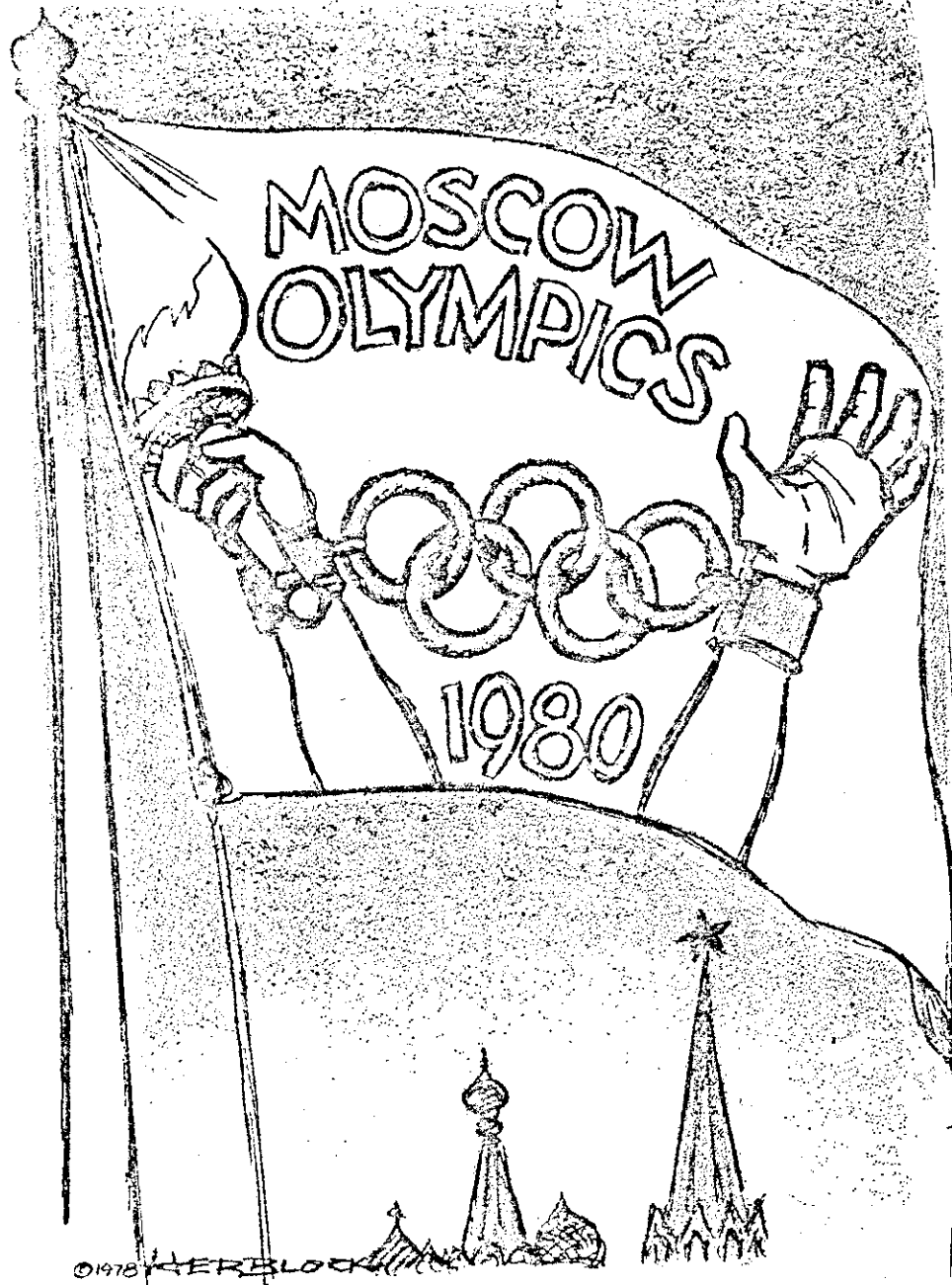
((Italy, no dateline)): Italians abandon Italy: the film festival at Cannes was too much to pass up!

Thank you, dear Frenchie, for Marseilles.

MOSCOW-SWEDEN Must have been the way you play that fooled me.

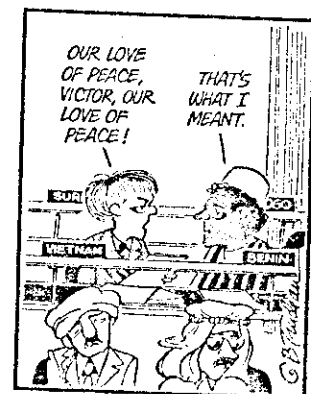
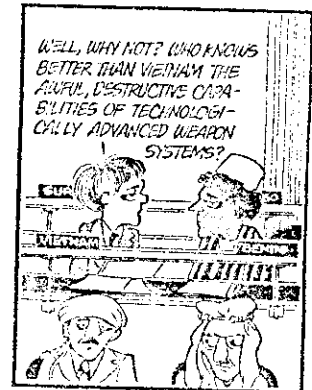
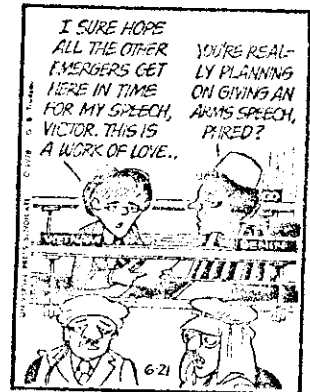
1907 England: Lvp EDI	2	Build one
France: Mar Spa Por Bre BEL	5	+2, can build one, plays 1 short
Germany: Home <del>Ber</del> <del>Den</del> Hol Lon Par	7	Remove 2
Italy: <del>Nap</del> <del>Tun</del> <del>Wap</del> STP	0	Out
Russia: <del>Sil</del> Mos Sev Nwy Swe <del>Vie</del>		
Bud Vie Rum WAR DEN	9	Even
Turkey: Home Bul Gre Ser Tri VEN ROM		
NAP TUN	<u>11</u>	+4, can build 3, plays 1
	<u>34</u>	short

Check for errors! If you find anything that matters, I'm at (405)232-3241, Extension 52, days; (405) 794-1604 eves & weekends. Ask for John/ leave a number, and don't call after 10PM CST!



A CURE FOR ANDREW YOUNG'S HALITOSIS  
((I could think of others...))

## Edonectus



These cartoons, with a few more coming next issue, are by way of STARS & STRIPES, on whose illustrious payroll sits none other than Arturo Guajardo. Thanks, Art!!

These items of goodie gossip are straight in from Craig Reges' AGAINST THE ODDS #11, 10/\$3.50, 16 W 761 White Pines Road, Bensenville, IL 60106.

✓ The big piece of news is that the BNC, Cal White, is planning to turn over the job to Dennis Agosta at the end of the summer. Cal has been under a lot of fire lately due to the slowness of issuing B/s, the acute dearth of issues of EVERYTHING (of which I believe he's turned out two), and general I-don't-give-a-damn as reflected in one of the two samples of his ELECTRA GLIDE BLUE I received. I subbed to the latter, but never got anything for the \$ sent. Cal has given it a good shot, to give him the benefit of a doubt, but I hail the turning of it over to someone else. Cal hasn't had time nor, more importantly, inclination to give the job what it needs, and it has hurt his own zine as well as Everything, the latter of which never was all that hot an item at appearing in any case. Isn't August the end of summer elsewhere? Jump in there, Dennis; you've certainly got your work cut out for you.

Then, of course, there's the business about DW dropping the NEED A GAME list. In a quarterly zine, such a service sure won't be missed. What WILL be missed is the way they listed it: giving publication history, which in turn would allow you some idea of the nature of what you were getting into. Jerry Jones is trying to get something like the NEED A GAME business handled by the IDA-IDANA-IDA/KNOW, which would give the latter something useful and tangible to keep occupied with. The product could also show the rest of the hobby how well they were doing or not doing, which would also be nice to know.

One final note concerned Rod Walker refusing to accept Bernie Oaklyn/Buddy Tretick into a game Rod was to GM in CLAW & FANG. Personally, I think Rod would have been crazy to accept him, since he'd only be asking for trouble. Craig brings up the question of whether or not a GM has the right to do this. Aside from the obvious technical yes (Who can force a GM not to take an unwanted application and chuck it?), I would say yes. If there were someone I thought was a louse, I think it would be my duty to the other players to give them the benefit of his absence, just as I try to spread addresses. It's the GMs job to make it as smooth and (initially) even a game as possible. Would YOU call Bill Shaffer to standby after playing in 77KS, for instance? (✓) J.M.

## Tax Hole Filled, Now Potholes

YUKON, Okla. (AP) — Hands that normally work with nothing rougher than typewriter keys or paper forms were blistered on the handles of shovels Thursday as city workers were ordered to patch potholes or lose their jobs.

"We told the voters that if they would approve a sales tax increase, we would fix the streets. They voted 4-1 in favor of the increase, and we're going to fix the streets," Mayor Harold Dunham, 35, said as he leaned against his shovel in the 95-degree heat.

The increase, from 1 percent to 2 percent, was approved last month in this Oklahoma City suburb.

"Something had to be done to buy a little bit of time," he said. "With 110 miles of potholes and a five-man street maintenance crew, we weren't even getting the temporary patching done

quick enough. With these temporary patches in, we can begin letting contracts to do the job properly."

CITY MANAGER James Branum, 27, Wednesday ordered all municipal employees working Thursday, except those with physical problems, to help.

A police dispatcher handled telephone calls, one woman in City Hall answered calls and collected utility bills and a skeleton fire crew was left on duty.

"Both the firemen and police officers out working have radios in their trucks. If they get a call, they can leave directly from where they are," Branum said.

Branum had said that, without a valid reason,

any able-bodied employee who did not work would be fired.

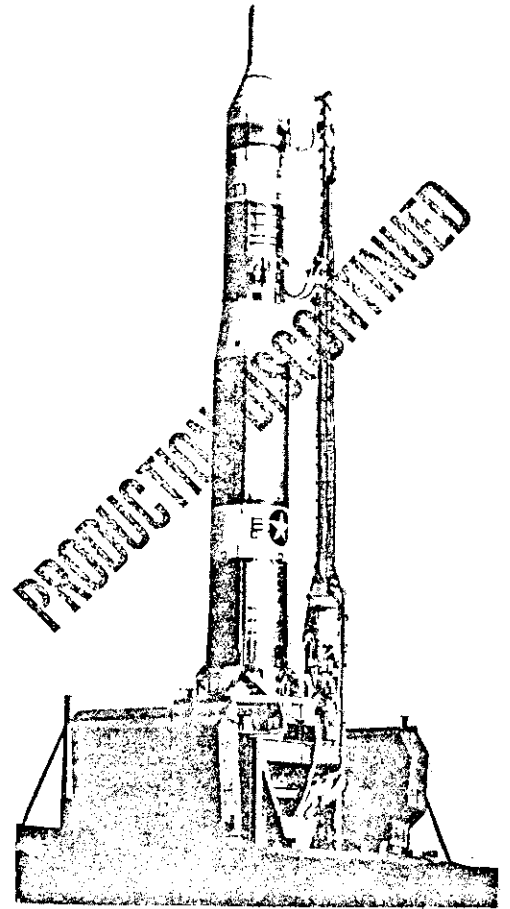
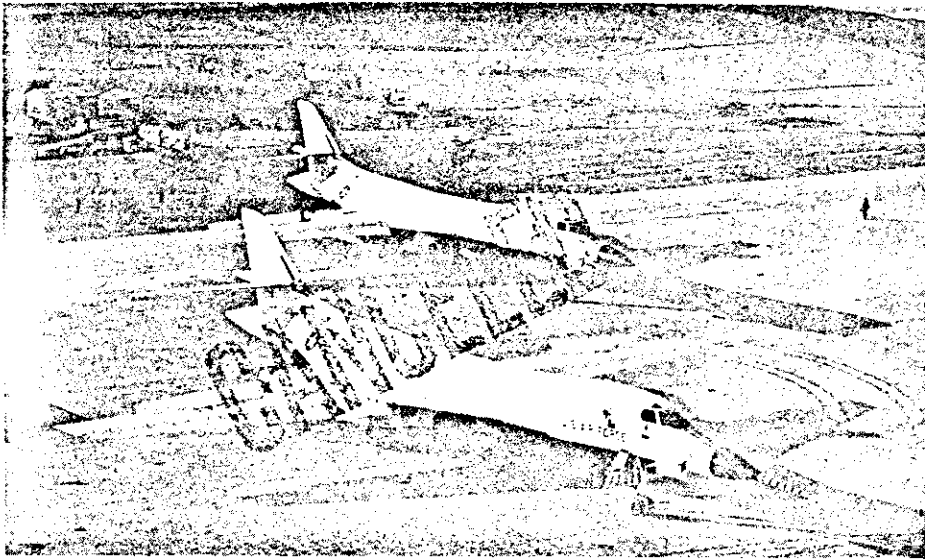
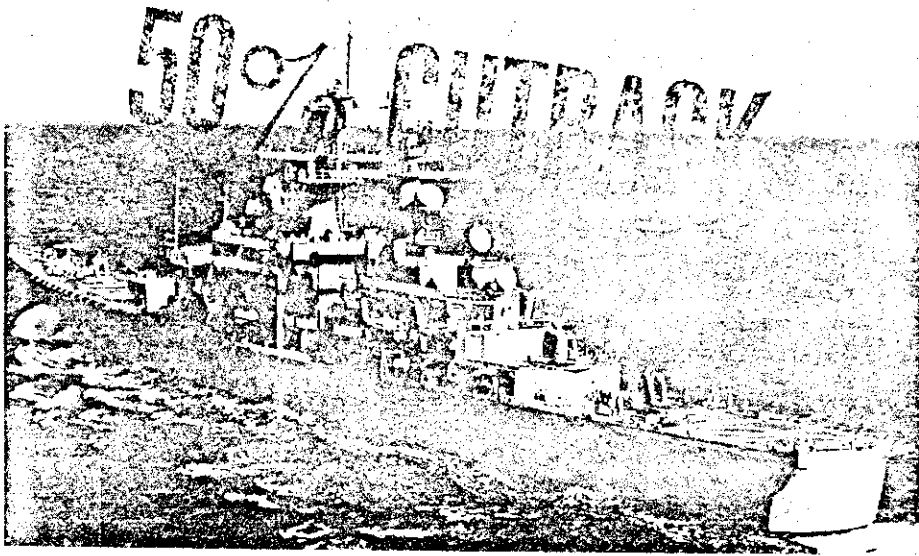
"IF ANYBODY thinks they are too good to work for this city, then they can just go work for another one. We don't want them," he said as he swung shovel.

Dunham said 15 pickup trucks were being used to haul the asphalt and "about 65 persons are out working," including some volunteers. The city of about 15,000 residents has about 100 employees but some had their normal day off Thursday.

"All the council members are out. The city attorney is up the street sweeping rocks out of the potholes. The city clerk, a woman, is around the corner directing traffic.

Most of the women working outside were flagging traffic.

QUESTION: What would the city's unions say if you tried this in New York City?



IMPERIAL DIARY is the name of a column produced by no less than John Boardman himself, mentioned last issue. His samples have since arrived, but will not be reviewed here. I was very disappointed, as I had hoped to use them as a jump-off point for some debate, but frankly, they

(Photos courtesy of National Republican Senatorial Committee)

were just so full of blatant horseshit that they don't merit considering. One example (which is typical, I believe, Mark) should show you why. The lunatic rulers now butchering the people of Cambodia are described as tools of the CIA, the logic there being that Cambodia is engaged in a border war with Vietnam, which the CIA wants to punish for defeating us in that country. How a grown man can put his name to such drivel is beyond me. It is sad that someone who should warrant some respect can fall so low, but apparently he has put himself in the educational cocoon so long that he really is that far away from reality. It would be nice if he'd take a sabbatical and go lay bricks or mend shoes or ANY kind of real work in the world for a while. If contact with reality isn't needed, I can only deduce he's on drugs. It is one thing to disagree over the merits of policy, but when someone can sign the kind of puke he sent me, they are in serious need of some kind of help. When the above photos arrived with some junk mail, it reminded me ironically of his imaginary "inexorable march to militarism" line. Does NYC foster such a never-never land mentality in people?

J.M.



# VARIOUS NOTES

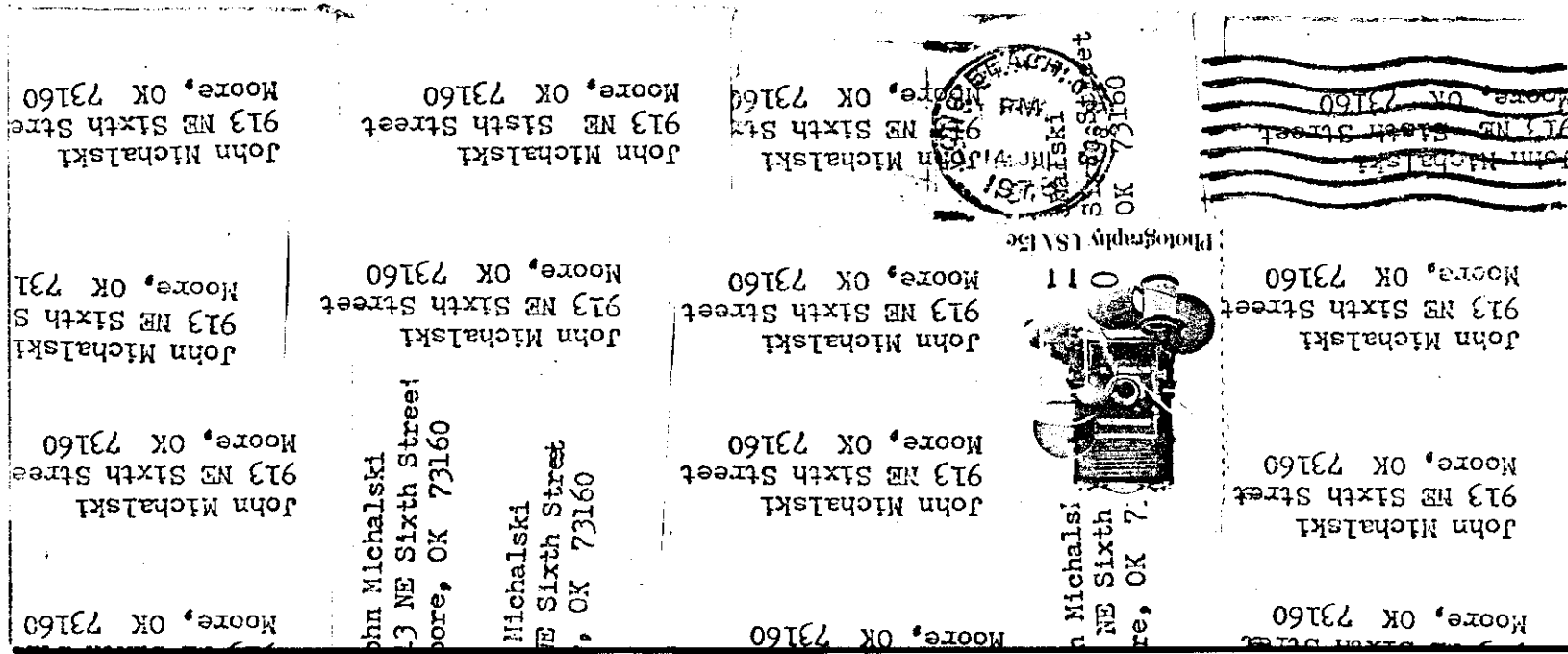
BERNIE OAKLYN-BUDDY TRETICK. Yes, more in the continuing saga of whether or not these are two different people and whether the new LA GUERRE and/or FRONT DE LIBERATION DU DIPLOMACY are real magazines or just vehicles for planned ripoffs of hobbyists. GREG COSTIKYAN, in an URF DURFAL just received, joins Craig Reges and others in defending the accused. On the other hand, the second issue of FdldD had its entire front cover dedicated to 'Bernie' saying 1)"I am not Buddy and Buddy is not me," but then adding 2)Since Buddy is such a close friend, we shouldn't be surprised if Bernie's phone is answered by Buddy Tretick! You take it from there. Personally, I'm now glad that Bernie/Buddy ignored my offer to trade for F-L-D; I'd rather forget this whole affair. At least until people start writing "Where did they go?" Anyone getting the new LA GUERRE or FRONT is asked to send your impressions of it somewhere down the line.

GRASSHOPPERS are big in the news in Colorado, but they're a pest here this year too. This is the greenest I've seen Oklahoma this time of year in all the time I've been here, which should explain why they're so big.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS have pushed circulation of non-complimentary issues almost to the forty level. Galen Workman, in his letter this issue, offers to GM a game to run outside the issue like 78AX now does, should enough of you be interested. See his letter and let me know. Also, new subscribers are NOT automatically on the standby list! I don't put people there unless they request it. If you want on (or off!), you need to say so; this isn't like some zines where S/B calls go out like a naval press gang, dragging in any unsuspecting name on the subscriber list. I believe that a person should be able to sub to a zine and just enjoy it, ignoring the games without botching his record or reputation. Unfortunately, not all pubbers see it that way. Of the games I'm now in, the # of which I joined eager and willing is about 45%.....

The COVER this issue may well turn back to the old tacky kind instead of the new tacky kind I'd been running, unless I can hand-cut some 14" gold paper down to size by the deadline....

ERIC KIRCHNER wrote to ask what he could do with all the old John Michalski address labels now useless. No, I didn't tell him what YOU'RE thinking to tell him! Look below at the front of an envelope Galen Workman sent me just before I moved to see one idea. (The reverse of the envelope was even worse). He darn near got hit for extra postage due to the excessive weight of all those things on it. I showed it to one of my girls here at work, and she looked it over and said "Where's the address?"



# Bureaucratic Blunders

Convict James Lewisohn, serving a life sentence in the Maine State Prison for having murdered his wife, has just received a \$7,500 National Endowment for the Arts grant to write poetry. An Endowment spokesman says the money is meant to ease writers' financial problems so they can concentrate on writing. An outraged Ada Graham of the Maine Commission of Arts and Humanities replies that Lewisohn is already being fed and housed by taxpayers, and asks, "When so many people could use the \$7,500 to work [at writing], why give it to somebody whose basic needs are cared for?"

\* \*

Self-confessed Communist agitator Ron Carter is receiving \$500 per month from CETA (Comprehensive Employment and Training Act) money to, in his words, "try to organize for demonstration and confrontation." Carter, who boasts of "a long history in Atlanta of rabble-rousing, disruption, demonstrations, picketing and threatening," says, "We [Marxist-Leninists] want a revolution in this country. . . . What I and other Communists are trying to do is organize in the trade unions to replace the old sellout leadership with revolutionary leadership."

(Harold B. Johnson)

\* \*

And in Salem, Oregon, the federal government is spending \$31,000 to build a 30-foot high concrete monolith on Minto Island in the Willamette River for rock and mountain climbers to practice on.

(Gary J. Audrey)

\* \*

The Missouri Supreme Court last year ruled that the removal of a bullet from the buttocks of a suspected murderer for evidence against him was an unconstitutional search and seizure.

(L. I. Bagby)

\* \*

Meanwhile, a Cambridge, Md., judge found a woman guilty of welfare fraud, ordered her to repay \$1,511.64 to the state welfare department at the rate of \$15.00 a month and then ordered the welfare department to increase her payments so she could pay off the debt.

(Ray C. Bjorgen)

Photos by Transworld Feature Syndicate



These boulders cost U.S. taxpayers \$43,500.

Sculptor Carl Andre has received \$43,500 from the taxpayer-supported National Endowment for the Arts to arrange 36 boulders in a city park in Hartford, Conn. Hartford Mayor George Athanson calls the artwork abominable and "the lousiest thing that's happened to Hartford." Enterprising youngsters in the area, apparently unimpressed with the rocks' artistic importance, are chipping off pieces of the boulders and selling them for 75¢ apiece with a little sign saying, "Buy a piece of the rock."

(Roger Cook)

\* \*

New York City, now requesting continued federal loan guarantees, argues it has substantially tightened its belt. The "belt-tightening" includes the following pay offers to city employees: sanitation worker, \$28,033 per year; firefighter,

\$35,288; teacher, \$30,288; social worker, \$31,009; climber/plumber, \$27,351; senior clerk, \$18,952; nurse's aide, \$20,093.

\* \*

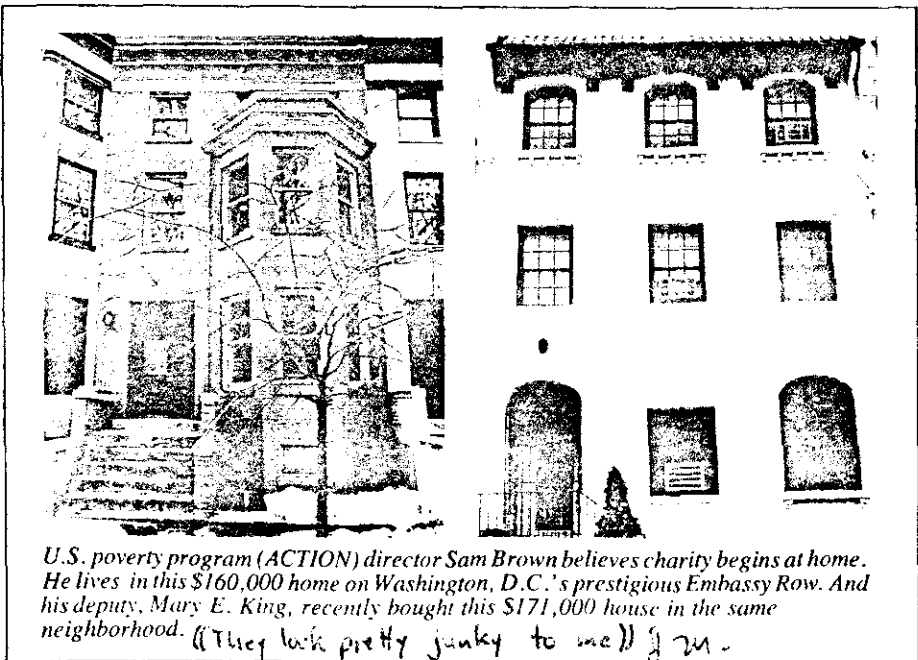
With talk turning to a national health insurance plan, we should be reminded that when the kidney dialysis program was taken on by the federal government, the cost was estimated at \$250,000 per year. It now runs \$1 billion per year.

\* \*

And if President Carter is so eager to cut hospital costs, why has his Justice Department just refused to exempt from antitrust laws American hospitals planning cost-cutting measures? A Justice official told hospital administrators who asked for the exemption, "Our present understanding of this complex industry precludes a definitive analysis. Accordingly, we must decline your request for a statement of our enforcement intentions." Translation: The Carter administration doesn't want private industry to solve the hospital cost problems; they'd rather get the feds involved.

\* \*

Because of a ban on travel to South Africa ordered by Peace Corps director Caroline Payton, two ill Peace Corps volunteers were recently flown to Germany, at a cost of \$1,500 each, for treatment of back problems that could have been treated better in South Africa.



U.S. poverty program (ACTION) director Sam Brown believes charity begins at home. He lives in this \$160,000 home on Washington, D.C.'s prestigious Embassy Row. And his deputy, Mary E. King, recently bought this \$171,000 house in the same neighborhood. ((They look pretty junky to me)) J 24.

GALEN WORKMAN

3531 E Wilton #C, Long Beach 90802

The floor of my one-bedroom apartment is littered with the messages you have sent during the week. Some are only one-paragraph notes, some hold the 77KN game, and still another contains a dastardly letter-bomb for 77IC. Let me work through the backlog.

First, please take me off your list of incredibly simple people who need to have the process of tying their shoes explained each morning. I admit that I should have caught the supply chart error in 77KN. Uncle! Uncle! You can stop penning in "check for errors" and "provisional sheet."

Your expectation that players would check for errors, especially those that concern them, is entirely reasonable. In fact, I thought that I did check for such errors. Until I was caught by my wishful blindness, I would have sworn that I always double-checked the turn sheets as a matter of course.

The problem is that I did not catch the mistake on the original sheet. I do recognize the stupidity of my position as evidenced by the copious subjunctive voice in my request for a remedial action. Regardless of the poor strength of my argument, I do feel justified in uttering at least a whimper. I agree that I would have been surprised and disappointed if you had set back 77KN in response to my complaint, and I hope that I made clear that I did not really expect the game to stop. I still would like to see dates on all turn sheets and on the cover of BB -- my suggested method by which to appease me -- but that is for convenience and not an issue of substance.

Another minor matter: please give me white covers instead of the see-through time sheets.

((Break in text here. Game references deleted)).

In any case, Horton's house rules are somewhat of a disappointment since they allow important positions to NMR easily. You will have a tough time convincing me that Italy truly won 77IC, should you eventually put down the forces of Justice and Light. Players familiar with the game will know that crumbling and stagnant foes contributed to your growth more than anything else. If I go on with this, I am certain to sound as if I am making excuses. My point is that I hope that you will remember 77IC and continue to call upon substitutes in your games even when a country falls below a certain number of centers.

As far as BB itself goes, I still grab it from the Postal Service worker's hands and rip it open to read. (Well, in fact I live in a California apartment where the mail mysteriously "comes" at two-thirty in the afternoon. Suddenly the boxes go from empty to full. I am told that it's considered ill-mannered to admit to having seen your mailman instead of merely receiving the mail in the box. But, I definitely digress.) Recently I have become addicted to the press in 77KS, and I rise with full fury of the First Amendment to argue for its continuance. I am voteless in the matter, and I realize that my "no" vote on black press in 77KN and 78AX makes my position inconsistent at first glance. I dredge up my original position, though, and request that you modify your rules.

I am for open press, but I believe that only the respective Great Power should be allowed to use the dateline of a home supply center. This is the rule used in most of the games I play. True, John Leeder admits any dateline on the press, but he states that he will mark the black press as such: "If you write press that appears to be written by someone else, I'll add the designation 'BP' (Black Press) after the dateline." The open press system allows players to make official announcements and provides room for additional rumors and assorted fun.

It was only when I was given the choice between a wide-open press and player-only white press that I chose my negative position. I hope you will reconsider your all-or-nothing approach. I believe the cutoff of the wild words is contrary to the desires of even the loudest detractors of black press.

((continued))

Galen Workman, cont'd

Shuffling through some back issues I also see that you anticipate with marginal enthusiasm starting up another game for those who spot BB in DW. I offer my services as a GM for such a game if that would help you out. I would be willing to run a game on the same schedule as 78AX, and I would accept the costs and responsibility for reproducing and mailing out the moves the night they come in the mail. Along with copies to players I could send you a turn sheet for inclusion in BB, much like the 78AX outrider. If such a proposal sounds feasible, needed, and desired, you are welcome to call upon me. Oh yeah, I am trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, .... as I hope my record in BB games indicates. I can understand the loathing you may have ~~for~~<sup>in</sup> sharing the responsibility for the reputation of your baby, however.

No politics for now. It's getting towards two, and retyping should use all the mental reserve I have left (3:02 at retyping). Keep printing the omniscient comments on Proposition 13 from people who know the initiative only from Newsweek, though. Those remarks should break through my conscious mental block on the subject and drag me screaming to the typewriter any issue now.

((I'll print anything more that comes in, but with the summer doldrums upon us, I won't hold my breath. On the game offer, two hangups. First, do you have virtually free xerox there? Second, how much interest is there among new subscribers? I think at least one would be reluctant to go under this outside GM, but if 3 or 4 of you are interested, I'm sure the other slots could be filled from players wanting in from the other 3 games. I'll let Galen give it a try if there's interest. Service is my goal. Plus spouting off, having fun, and giving omniscient comments on Proposition 13. Actually, a Workman outrider to BB might be fun in this respect: he being one of the few to admit to liberalism in a zine published by someone Robert Lipton, a hobby/SF grognard, describes as "such a right-wing nut that I wouldn't sit at the same table with", it could be fun to see him run editorials and what-not from the left wing, then have it appear in here at intervals like AX with me blasting the hell out of it, then he responding in turn.... could be like running John's Notes in the same zine as Imperial Diary (John Boardman's freaked-out column). Do write in, folks.

On black press, I have to disagree. You mention John Leeder as an example. Excellent. When he answered my survey in favor of BP with the notation "Provided it is labeled as such", I took it as a joke and had a good laugh at that. Now I find that that is literally TRUE: as you say, he labels black press as black press. To me, that is totally incongruous. Why write BP if it is labeled BP? The only reason for writing it at all is to make it appear as someone else's work. I think a perusal of RUNESTONE bears me out. I get four issues at a time. Looking through them all, how much press of any kind do you see at all? It's like KN & KS here. KS press used to be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pages of any given issue, game aside. Last issue, with BP out, I had your two one-liners. Not that I blame the players; NO zine forbidding BP has much that I've seen. One would think that with no BP and neutral press allowed like now, the present situation is perfect. But what do we find? No press at all! Controls on press are like controls on gas prices or rent levels (in NYC): sure, everyone wants cheap gas. But who will produce cheap gas? NYC rent controls are popular among the mass of NYC denizens, sure. But the result is, who will invest in upgrading or even maintaining decent quarters there at NY prices but controlled rent levels? The result? Decent people in NYC (there really are some, I'm sure) all live out in Westchester County, Connecticut, or the far end of Long Island! No, I'm for all or nothing. If the players want no BP, it's out. NEXT time, though, I may just say, press will be wide open. I miss that KS BS, pain in the 'AS' though it was to do all at the end... ))

jm

LETTERS

ARTURO GUAJARDO

The Stars & Stripes, APO NY 09175

I've been receiving your BRUTUS BULLETIN regularly, and I must admit I thoroughly enjoy your zine.

I'm afraid that I find some of the political controversies raging in BB to be somewhat obscure, but this is understandable when one considers my political convictions, or the lack of them. More precisely, my political convictions are undefined.

There was a time when I marched with various demonstration groups, of dubious character (according to the FBI) against the Vietnam War ("conflict" still sounds facetious to me). Yet I joined the service and was a soldier (of sorts) for five years. I am still working for the military/government as a civilian, but I'm afraid neither the military nor this more palatable form of government service has induced a marked respect for the inner workings of our government (though I confess, any other form of government is less appealing to me).

Politically, I tend to confuse people who prefer to slap labels around with ease and apply the tenets that these labels supposedly represent. I will be found one moment nodding my head in sagacious agreement with the idea that the means of production should belong to the "people", but I will invariably express my fear of big government and caution that the government should not be the medium through which the "people" own the means of production. I am told that this puts me on the fringe of the anarchist category. I am also told that anarchism is no viable political philosophy at all. Perhaps true; perhaps not. I'm afraid it does not concern me in the least. I will go further to shock the label slingers by explaining that I don't believe in Social Security, our government is too big and pretentious and most certainly over protective, etc., etc., suddenly I am a conservative and perhaps a reactionary, depending upon how seriously the particular label slinger I am talking to takes his own label.

Well, I don't care to go into my own undefined and rather demented world view, political or otherwise. I wanted to tell you about Henry Boos.

Enclosed is a flyer that was being passed out by the local Maoist group outside the US Army Kaserne in Darmstadt, West Germany, on the eve of Chummy Carter's visit to this country.

These avid young students, filled with the zeal of their cause risked the cat-calling and less than courteous manner of various NCOs driving off the kaserne who had to stop at the traffic light, enabling the eager students to ply their leaflets with tremendous zeal, yelling in English how the U S occupation force had to "take off".

Now this is all well and good; something I can smile at, and then turn away from bemused by the absurdity of the situation.

Henry Boos, a co-worker of mine felt differently, and perhaps he has reason enough to feel as he does. Henry served with Hitler's armed forces during the Second World War. He was drafted in 1944 at the age of 15 or 16 ( I forget which). He served as a gunner with a Luftwaffe Flak outfit, and fought on both the East & West fronts (not many Germans will admit that they fought in the west. Somehow they were always shooting at Russians, never Americans.) Henry has many interesting stories to tell of the war, and all are full of the flavor of those times. He was a youth who witnessed the world crashing down around him. After the war Henry immigrated to America. He joined the Marine Corps and eventually became an American citizen. For the past 20 or so years Henry has worked with Stripes as a printer here in his native Germany. Henry has some pretty strong feelings about being an American (though I doubt that he will ever return to the New World. Europe is his home), though in most respects Henry is a fairly mellow guy. When Henry was approached by this zealous student with his propaganda sheet, Henry refused it (I did so out of curiosity). The student went through his spiel in English.

"You have made Germany into a prison for the workers," shouted the student. To

Letter from Arturo Guajardo, continued.

which Henry replied in flawless German, which caught the poor student off guard, "Yes, it is such a prison for the workers here that the Italian, Turkish, and Spanish workers are pounding on the door to get in". The student, somewhat taken aback, continued mouthing his memorized slogans, "The US occupation force must take off". "What occupation force?" replied Henry getting a little hot under the collar. "If it weren't for the Americans you would be doing a goose-step now, or worse, you would be in some camp in Siberia". (Presumably because these were Maoist students the Russians are as bad as the Americans). "The workers of Germany..." "Don't talk to me about the workers. I am a worker. I've worked for 35 years". "Then why don't you let us represent you?" "You? Represent me? You shithead, why would I let someone who has never worked a day in his life represent me? Go out and get a job. Work for ten years. Learn the meaning of work, then I'll let you represent me". At this outburst, the student slunk away. Henry got out of the car and started after the student. "You've never worked a day in your life. You can't even represent yourself. You know nothing of working!" At this point the traffic light changed and I had to call Henry back to commandeer his car out of everyone's way. I could tell that the incident upset Henry because he usually refers to Carter as a bumbling idiot. The next day he was proud to have "his" president making a show in Germany. Of course, the week after Carter left, he was downgraded to bumbling idiot again. Actually that isn't so bad. If you are fond of invective language about administration officials then I recommend that you merely mention the name of Andrew Young around Henry. You'll find the resulting diatribe to be music to your ears.

((Hooray for Henry. I like to think that most Germans are like that towards the US, but most of the stories heard are by ex-GIs who resent having been gouged on the economy there and resented the way any townspeople invariably resent local garrisons. And vice versa. I'll reprint the Maoist leaflet following for its curiosity value.

I can see very well your lack of a "marked respect for the inner workings of our government"; word of mouth aside, I know from personal experience that any normal human being will become disgusted in very short order with the stupidity that is the very hallmark of government employment/operation. The oddity is, there are no alternatives in the actual world which work even nearly as good. I heard that said once about bureaucracy: absurd as it gets, it actually works BETTER than say, a command system. Thus the US bureaucracy pulled off administrative miracles in WWII while the Nazi system with its Fuehrerprinzip ("leader-ship principle" of unquestioning obedience to orders from above) failed to organize things as well. Of course, our own then was almost a command system itself in many ways... Still, the Soviet system runs as a bigger farce by far than even our own, one of the few things we have going for us. (For to say that is really something!!) I think if 'worker councils' ran shops better/more efficiently, they would have supplanted the present system at least in measurable part, yet no such thing has occurred.

Finally, on labels. They are slapped around because they are so convenient. Why say "people who favor this, that, and such & such, but not xxx..." when you can say e.g., "liberal"? Or "conservative"? Or, "such a right-wing nut I wouldn't sit at the same table with". (Private joke). Or even "People who slap labels around"?

Thanks for a very interesting letter, and the contributions.))

J.M.

((This is the Maoist handout referred to in Arturo Guajardo's letter, reprinted here as an ex mple of the kind of poop such folks are producing.))

Proletarier aller Länder vereinigt euch! Proletarier aller Länder und unterdrückte Völker vereinigt euch!

# Kommunistische Volkszeitung

Herausgeber: Bezirk Frankfurt-Süd Hessen des KBW, Bezirk Mainz-Rhein Hessen-Taunus des KBW  
verantwortlich: Annette Mönich, Frankfurt, Mainzer Landstraße 147

## The US Mercenary Troops Have no Business in West Germany! They Must Take Off!

Jimmy Carter, the head of US imperialism, is presently roving about West Germany. Next Saturday, he wants to inspect his mercenary troops in Wiesbaden, and in Frankfurt, he plays in an act in which he wants to sell himself as peace-president. If Carter comes to West Germany to preach the friendship of the peoples and the peace of the world, he only dares to do so under the protection of a gang of safety troops which are supposed to creep about him during his entire stay.

This sort of peoples' friendship and world peace is well known: It is the peoples' friendship of US-imperialism that must be brought forward to the German working class and the masses with the help of ten thousands of US troops stationed in West Germany. It is the kind of world peace the US-imperialists always talk about when oppressing other peoples, subjugating and slaughtering them. Carter wants to be rejoiced for keeping West Germany and West Berlin occupied with his troops. He won't get any rejoice from the West German working class and the masses. On the contrary, he will hear that he and his whole gang of troops should take off and leave West Germany.

US-imperialism is wrestling with soviet social imperialism for the control of the world. Both are in sharp concurrence, both are struggling heavily for a new partition of the world. In this struggle it is decisive which super power will swallow Europe. The troops of soviet social imperialism are keeping occupied every part of Eastern Europe, and a considerable part of their mercenaries are stationed in the Democratic Republic of Germany. On the other hand, since 1945 US-imperialism is stuck to West Germany and is systematically building it up to a front state against the other imperialist super power. They have piled up a huge armament in West Germany, turning it into a spring board for their attacks against the Arabian and African peoples. It is owned to the German capitalist class that the US-imperialists are allowed to keep their troops here. It is their reward for the help they received in 1945 in newly establishing their rule over the working class and the masses of West Germany.

If Carter now comes to West Germany the rejoice he can expect will be rather thin because it will only come

from a handfull of West German bourgeois.

For the people of the Third World, being oppressed by US-imperialism, the oppressed national minorities in the USA, the American workers, the working class and the people of West Germany – for all of them the deeds of US-imperialism are clearly to be seen: – the brutal war against the people of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, – the continuing efforts of division US-imperialism is making again to set a foot into Indochina, – the heavy endeavors to keep its position in Africa and South America through bloody suppression, – continuous manoeuvres to swing its scourge more heavily against the people of the Third World, – continuing new efforts to intervene in the countries of the Third World under the pretext of UN peace troops, as done recently in the Middle East.

All this has openly been brought to light. In order to extend its position against the people of the Third World by means of oppression and genocide, the US capitalist class is forced to swing their scourge against the American working class and the American people because the exploitation and oppression of the American people is the basis of US imperialism in its struggle for world power.

Therefore, every kind of resistance against the intensification of exploitation and oppression in the US is bloodily knocked down by their police troops. Their attacks against the striking coal miners and steel workers are known. With their troops in West Germany the US imperialists are following the same aim: On the one hand they are safety troops for the West German capitalist class, allowing them further to intensify their rule of exploitation against the West German working class and to feel safe from the struggle of the working class. On the other hand, West Germany is a good spring board to get ready for aggressions and interventions against the Arabian und African people. This is the purpose of the mercenary troops.

Therefore, Carter will receive no rejoice but the demand to take off real quick. Therefore, the US mercenary troops are hated in West Germany and West Berlin. Carter needs an Army of safety officers. On the other hand the mercenaries are kept behind the walls

of their barracks and behind barbed-wire, the family adherents of the mercenaries are folded in their ghettos. It can be clearly seen what Carter, US-imperialism and the US mercenary troops can expect here in West Germany.

In a heroic struggle the people of Indochina have given heavy strokes to US-imperialism, defeated the imperialists and drive them out off the country. In the Southern part of Africa, chances are poor for US-imperialism because the African people are uniting in armed struggle to drive the imperialists out of their countries.

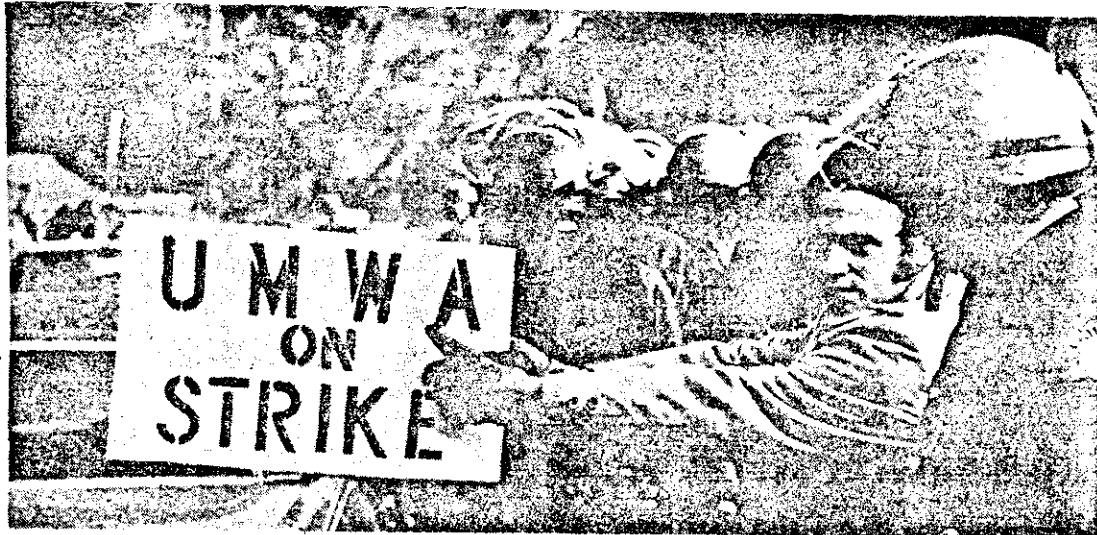
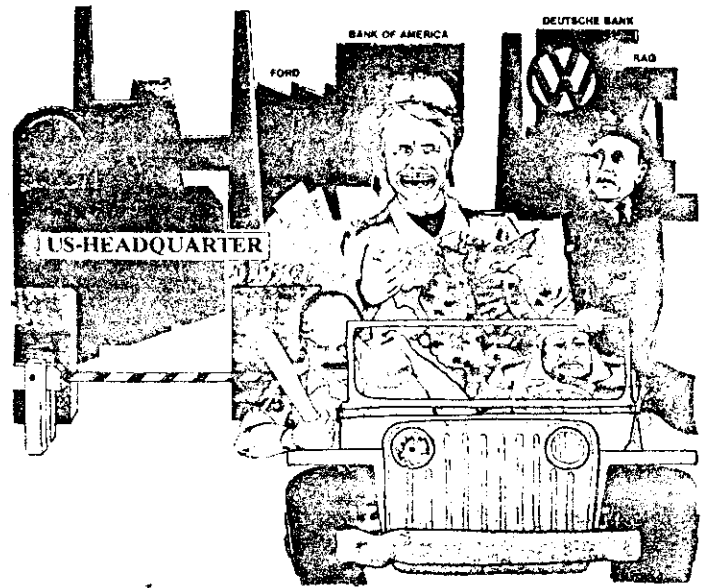
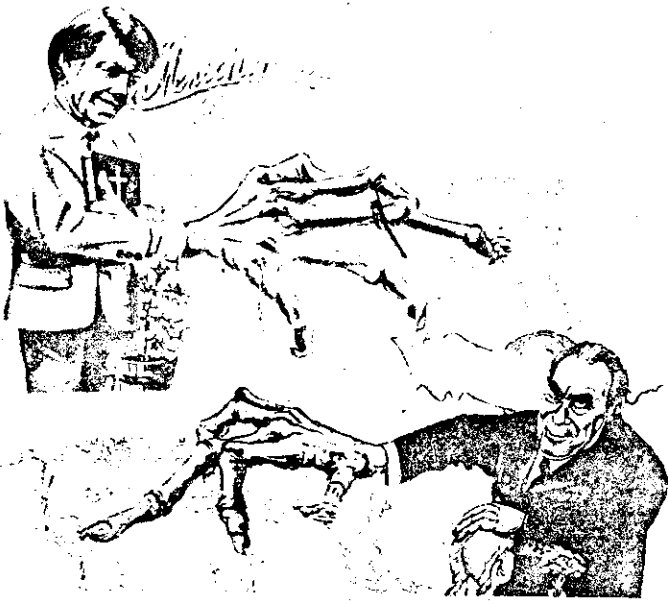
During the last year, the American working class has fought great fights, the coal miners and the steel workers have lead an obstinate strike against the capitalists and could not be intimidated by Carter's threats and clubs: the farmers are uniting and chances are poor for the goals of the American capitalist class. The West German working class is getting prepared for great struggles against their own exploiters and in doing so they cannot forget that US-imperialism is keeping its troops in West Germany. Carter's visit is a good opportunity for the ten thousands of mercenaries pressed into the US Army to remember that they have absolute no business over here.

The people of Indochina have defeated the US-imperialists, vigorous in arms. The US mercenary troops will do well to decide soon which side they are on, on the side of the capitalist class or on the side of the working class. High barracks walls, barbed-wire and safety zones will not keep the West German working class from fighting against the capitalist class. If the mercenaries don't want to be put into action against the West German working class and other peoples, and if they don't want to wait until they will be fought heavily, they should see to take off.

The US-soldiers in Heidelberg who have united against US-imperialism and against the scallawags of officers demand in a declaration published in „fight back“: „Support the struggle for a peace contract! Remember this is the first step to get US-soldiers out of here!“

Carter's visit should be taken as an occasion to remember this. That's all that it's worth.





In 1977/78 the working class in the USA has fought great fights. 160 000 miners in the coal mines went on strike for more safety in the mines and successfully carried out this strike in spite of the National Guard put into action by Carter (see photograph). Through this strike turned the Taft-Hardley-Act into a scrap of paper. Carter, worrying for his imperialist energy program, wanted to apply this law for suspending the strike for 80 days in order to break the fighting strength of the coal miners. The answer to his threat of national emergency was: „Taft-Hardley will be of no use – soldiers cannot dig coal.“



Wounded Knee 1973

Approximately 800 000 Indians are nowadays living in the USA in 276 reservations which are controlled by the „Bureau of Indian Affairs“. Three fourths of the Indian people have been eradicated by the West European Colonialists and the US-imperialists, they have been deprived of 97% of their land. The average income p.a. amounts to 1 500 Dollars and is about 50% under the official limit of poverty. The average life expectancy of the Indians is 45 years, the official US average of life is about 72 years.

The massacre of Wounded Knee in 1890, when 350 Sioux were slaughtered, was meant to put a final end to the suppression of the Indians. This was without success. In 1973 the place was occupied by Indians and defended with arms. Since then, the demand for the reinstatement of land that the Indians were deprived of, and for the right to build their own nation, is getting stronger and can no longer be overheard.



**Kommunistischer  
Bund  
Westdeutschland**



Congrats on your move. Hope it wasn't too much of a hassle for you. I'd be interested in seeing what new level of ~~swivel~~ splendor you're in now, so do run a picture in BB.

BB. here the other day..I'll mosey on through and drop comments as I sit fit.

Captain and Tennille were in Vegas a week or so ago and they did a stint as guest djs on a local station. I was out on a delivery run when they came on and considered changing station 'til I remembered they were one of your favorites. Tennille's personality is kinda cute; she screwed up some commercials rather cutely and got estatic when she played a song by someone sheliked. The same could not be said for her companion; he read some public service announcements and generally sounded bored or moronic. (Sorry)

More on the energy situation: I will agree that the expected mid-80's energy crunch will hit Japan and Western Europe much harder than us. Still, the crunch will be in oil and Americans haven't done diddly to curb the consumption spiral. Coal and nukes are more suitable for electric power generation and powering industrial processes directly. Transportation will still require huge petroleum stocks. Hopefully, we'll be able to more fully and safely exploit our own reserves like the off shore deposits and new sources like shale. Both Carter and Ford were (and I do mean the past tense since Congress riddled the Carter Energy Plan) very much on coal. We do have huge reseves, but the damned stuff is so dirty. I see that the way our eco/socio/political system is set up we HAVE to have continuing high supplies of energy, but I like blue skies and pretty mountains too. Nuclear is a more suitable answer as far as I am concerned. Unfortunately, Carter reacts to nuke power (or neutron bombs for that matter) like Dracula to rosary. Nuke power produces only thermal pollution (though that is pollution) and our fuel supplies are quite adequate and not subject to embargo. Our fuel situation would be excellent if we got our asses in gear and turned out some breeder reactors or learned to control fusion (thermonuclear experiences like in H-bombs). I'd bet that 99.9% of the American public believes that a power reactor will blow up like a bomb. It will---if someone drops an atomic weapon on it first. There is a danger of leakage, but only to confined areas. No one stops the construction of those inefficient coal/oil generating plants and an accident there could be rough on the locality. West Germany has no qualms about generating electricity by nuke power; Christ, even the JAPANESE (who, shall we say, have had more experience with atomic energy than any other nation) are throwing up plants (I beleive they lead the more in power-by-atomic-energy growth.) U.S. red tape and bullshit require impact studies and the embargo so that lead times are 12-15 years to get a plant up and operational. The rest of the rest does the same in 3-6 years. I'm not saying that atomic energy is something to be treated lightly or foolishly; I'm merely saying it should be viewed rationally!

Boardman's letter: You know John, sometimes it is hard to take a conservative stance on something, isn't it? You're called

on to defend your position with facts and rational arguments while the opposition can often popoff with a lot of silliness and get away with it. Boardman's letter is like that. I back you---militancy can be a dually originated phenominon. Pre WWI nationalism as you stated, is an excellent example. Tzking Boardman's position, militancy would decline with removal of policy making power from a central governmental core and transfer of this power to the masses more directly, right? That is, a direct democracy would, theoretically, be less militant than an oligarchy, according to what I percieve as John's stance.

Athens during what I'll call loosely the "classical period" was such a democracy, or about as close as any major group of humans has come. Citizenship entailed the right to the assembly and the obligation to bear arms. You voted on war and you fought in it. Athens after the final Persian war was one of the most imperialistic powers the world has know. Through her fleet, Athens convinced and coerced smaller city states into the Delian League, exacting tribute and troop quotas. The concept of the League was very popular with the voters in Athens; they never hesitated to vote punitive raids on any member who wished to seceed or was lax in tribute payments.

Sparta, on the other hand, ruled by two kings and a select council, was an entirely different matter, though according to Boardman, such a group exerting iron control over a well armed populace, would be a likely candidate for armed aggression and expansion. After the establishment of her predominance in the Peloponnese, Sparta didn't see fit to extend hegemony. You'll note that the major wars Sparta was involved in were defensive in the sense they were wars by a status quo power seeking to maintain that status quo. Thus Sparta fought in the second Persian War against an external threat, a number of minor helot revolts (civil matters really) and against Athens and company in the Big One, the Peloponnesian War, in an effort to curb what they saw as an Athenian attempt to bring all of Greece under her influence. Even after the war, when Athens was conquered and occupied, the Spartans soon withdrew and even allowed Athens to have a semblance of her league again!

I hope you guys are all taking notes; there'll be a test next Wednesday, (I apologize for my verbosity).

So anyway, about the Soviet strategic build-up, we have the following. On one hand, reports of Soviet missiles (the SS-19 series I believe, capable of delivering a 54 MEGaton weapon to U.S. cities), hardened and improved silos, increased weapons accuracy, a 200 interceptor ABM system (we took ours apart!?) and advanced civil defense efforts. On the other, Mr. Boardman's statement that our "growing concern with Soviet weaponry is misplaced". That's it. You can guess which carries more weight with me. I'd like to see Mr. Boardman's arguments; since, damn it, I pridemysself on having an open mind.

I gotta go. I'm going to take a friend down to California for a few days next week (she's never seen Disneyland--culturally deprived, no?) and I have to get Ruri out before then. Hope this garbage fleshes out your letters page.

(John, why not send Tony the samples  
I returned? "Seeing is believing", etc.)) J.M.

\*\*\* AN IMPORTANT LETTER FROM \*\*\*

ROD WALKER

1273 Crest Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024

Thanks for your note of the 19th and the copies of the new incarnation of LA GUERRE. Did you wish the return of same? If so, please let me know.

I assume the "other hobby personality" was Fred Davis, who is the only hobby person to have personal contact with Tretick recently. If not, if you don't mind telling me who it was, I should probably get in contact. I dislike holding the viewpoint I do if there is the slightest possibility it could be wrong.

The ultimate evidence is, of course, the 'zine itself. The style, structure, and syntax of Buddy's prose ~~is~~ are quite distinctive. "THE ~~XXXXXX~~FRONT..." is without doubt being written by the same person who wrote LA GUERRE in the 60s and early 70s.

("Buddy" Tretick, by the way, is Bernard A. Tretick. By sheerest coincidence, I'm sure, one of Washington DC's suburbs is Oaklyn.)

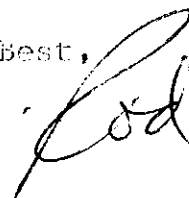
Anyway, it seems to me that there is a danger we might lose sight of the issue. The issue is the right of postal players to have the best idea of what they are getting involved in. Buddy's previous record is probably the worst of all former GMs who have resumed publishing (there is no sense in belaboring the details if you read my letter to Cal). Nobody is questioning (at least I'm not questioning) his reasons for his past behavior. What is being questioned is his motivation in attempting a comeback without at least owning up to his track record. Other ex-GMs who came back at the very least published mea culpa statements warning potential players of possible future unreliability. Most sought out old subscribers and players to give rebates in terms of game fees or subscriptions to the revived 'zine. Buddy has sought to evade his responsibilities in these matters.

Perhaps we'll be lucky and things will turn out better than they did last time. So far, Buddy's been more or less on time with things, it appears. On the other hand, if what one of his players tells me, he is getting ready to go back to using the "Changing of the Guard", a maneuver which has never been legal under any edition of the Rules.

Well, so much for that. (It's interesting that Buddy now lives in Tennessee but can still make casual drop-ins in Washington....)

Thanks for your note & enclosures. I wish there were some quick, easy way to get at the truth and let it go at that.

Best,



((Me too. Other Personality has been informed and may contact you himself; it wasn't Fred Davis.)) / ((Rod received a personal reply after receipt))

\*\*\*\* ((I think the hobby needs to really keep an eye on this Tretick-Oaklyn business. As pointed out last issue, there is far too much fishy business involved in this FRONT de LIBERATION du DIPLOMACY thing to ignore. I recommend you avoid it. ))\*\*\*\*



# LETTERS

TONY WATSON

201 Minnesota St, Las Vegas, NV

...My summer semester ended. I think I did alright, maybe an A and a B, but no sooner than that load is off my mind than my old man jumps into his new Porshe (Can you believe it? The guy lives in a mobile home but drives a 78 Porshe) for a two week vacarion, leaving me with the shop. A bitch; I hate going to work at 6:30 and not getting home until after 5.

Yes, I saw DipWidow, and yes, she is pretty. Dark hair, blue eyes, slim. Jerry and Pat are some really nice people. The kind of people that make this whole routine worthwhile.

My mom says STAR WARS is returning the 21st here. (I haven't seen anything in the papers to that effect, however). I'm going to see it four more times. That'll make it an even 20. Trouble is, I'm running out of people to see it with. Most of the girls I know balk after the second time. Maddog and I were going to see it while we were in LA but Bill didn't want to and anyway we were too drunk.

I'm going to contact Reges about cards. Hope's fading on completing sets 1&2 though.

Hmm, you have the wrong idea about my Spanish TA. She was a Professor de espanol, not una profesona espanola. That is, she was a TA of Spanish, NOT a TA of Spanish who was also Spanish. Though I hesitate to mention names (and I'm trusting you won't in BB), the girl's name was (( U )) and her ancestry was German/Irish. Auburn; green eyes (that was the Irish); tall; and a really nice butt. (I think these qualities are not, thank God, particular to any one nationality). She spent 2 years in Spain/Portugal and a year in Belgium at a music conservatory. Her French is quite passable as well. Now for Mexicans and such native Latin speakers I am at a loss. Probably should ask Maddog. The area around USC is about 75% Latino, 20% black, and 5% white. When we go down there only I can read the signs above most of the stores.

Take heart! Though I said some pessimistic things about the energy outlook for 1985, things may not be that bleak. Some analysts believe that current strategic trends will give the Soviets an advantage formidable enough to coerce us without ever firing a shot. Maybe they'll be able to manage our energy situation better (bye-bye pretty Mustang, hey?)

Better go. RURI following soon.

PS How come my letters to you are so much shorter than yours to me?

((They weren't this time. On the energy, it is easy to see that we can be coerced without firing a shot. We already are. The B1 was junked in exchange for what? Nothing. Now Carter can junk the cruise missile because we have no good delivery system for it. When the B52s drop and satellite technology allows Russ. to pinpoint our subs even better than they now do, there won't be much to resist with. Unless we could conjure up some of Boardman's Imperial Amerika agents, maybe in white plastic armor?

STAR WARS is now at the local theater, and I'm about ready for it again. I need two more for 10. My problem is the opposite of yours, though: I can't go alone! And my 2 yr old really can't sit through the show... I'm in touch with a local Star Trek group, and will run an ad in their next newsletter for trades. As encouragement, I may run it off for them.

I appreciated the DipCon in-depth (?) review this last Ruri; I'll try to remember to plug it somewhere in here. Thanks for writing.))

J.M.

Dear Editor,

It all started five years ago when I moved to a strange town — not knowing a single soul. A man phoned one evening and began asking about the price of pizzas. Couldn't cut him off, I pointed out that my apartment was far from any pizza parlor and that he must

have dialed the wrong number.

One thing led to another and before the conversation ended the caller asked me for a date. On a whim, I accepted. And where did my new-found friend take me? To that same pizza parlor he had tried to call when he reached my number by mistake!

Today, I'm happily married to that man. So to telephones and wrong number calls, I say, "Thank you."

D. D., Tulsa, Oklahoma

Address all correspondence to:

Telephone Talk  
1010 Pine St.  
Room 1222  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Dear John,

2 August 1978

The sample issues of Graustark and Empire arrived here today though I question that they "belong" here in NY rather than any other place. You may be thinking of a few years ago, when there was regrettably a lot of pacifistic opinion around here. This has completely vanished, and New Yorkers who have their own best interests at heart love war just as much as you do.

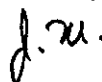
We are each, in our own ways, working to ensure that the menace of World Peace will never again threaten the US. This is the view of every American who understands America's imperial mission in the world, and knows what will happen to the people who oppose it. I shall plug The Brutus Bulletin in a future issue of Graustark and send you a copy. But don't look solely in Conservative Digest for your quotes. We liberals love war just as much as you conservatives do. Remember that Kennedy, Johnson, Rusk, Macnamara, Fulbright, Carter, Humphrey, and Carey all gave their full support to the war with Vietnam.

Stay well,



((I agree that liberals love war as much as I--I doubt they want their or their children's butt shot off any more than I do.

I wasn't thinking of pacifists in NYC when I said the issues belonged there; rather, I felt that such fantasizing about the state of the nation/world might seem to make sense from the depths of central NYC, but certainly don't outside The City. (See also, note at end of Tony Watson's letter). ))



GALEN WORKMAN

Yes indeed. Congratulations on your first place in the RUNESTONE poll.

One of the players in ((--)) being run by Flying Buffalo Inc has admitted to me that his standby position is his first taste of postal Diplomacy. (He even called it "play-by-mail" Diplomacy, so I tend to believe his unfamiliarity with the terms.) Anyway, I hate to think that a new person's first exposure to the hobby is the dog of an outfit, FB. I suggested to him that he might want to shop around for other GMs. In case FB's delays haven't already soured him on Diplomacy, would you please send him a sample of BB?

I realize that Burt Reynolds is on Johnny Carson tonight and I promised to write something for the zine when Reynolds was next on the show. I beg off for now, though. I am too sleepy. All the little housekeeping chores in my apartment went wrong, and I want to forget that this day existed. The winning problem was the discovery after washing the curtains ("Machine washable") and putting them back up that they had shrunk. They now cover from the top of the window to within 6" from the bottom of the window. They look like obscene mini-skirts.

((I'd always heard good about FB, although my main source, I must admit, was FB itself. I used to get their WARGAMERS INFORMATION--perhaps still do--but they got too busy to print it and just let it lapse. Anyone else deal with them?))

RONALD MAZURKIEWICZ

I have spent the last 3 weeks writing an article for LITTLE WARS on infantry tactics. It will apparently be expanded to at least a four part series. Number two is well on the way. It was like writing a research paper for a college course again. I was so busy that I never had time for the BARBAROSSA game or anything else.

I took the gift certificate, if its alright with you, and sent off for an SPI game, which ((Don Lowry)) has now told me is out of stock. I don't know if I'll ever get anything. I'll send you a copy of the article when it is printed in September.

(cont'd middle, next page)

## LAST MINUTE THINGS

BUREAUCRATIC BLUNDERS finally returns again this issue--I hadn't received one in quite some time. I disagree with the item in it about the NYC wages, which, while high, aren't really high for THERE; and the hospital item, wherein the relevance of anti-trust exemption to cost-cutting ability eludes me; but it's always a popular feature and makes good filler, so, good to have it back. BLUNDERS and similar stuff is reprinted with permission of CD, 7777 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA. Other credits as given on the appropriate page. DIPLOMACY is also a trade mark or copyright or both or neither of the Avalon Hill Co, Baltimore, in case that's news to you...

LOTS OF LETTERS have 'come in right at the last minute, most all of which I've tried to get included. Sometimes this causes an overlap, such as two from Boardman and Watson, but I felt better that than let the stuff ride and go stale over another two weeks. A lot of extra work for me, but, well appreciated as well. I know quite well that it takes a lot to sit down and type this stuff out, and thus I try to get it in print in turn as fast as I can.

THIS ISSUE WILL SEEM LATE because the deadline in KN-KS was moved back to Wednesday this week instead of the usual Monday. It will stay on Wednesday now, so your issue will be arriving about this time every two weeks until the end of the football season.

THANKS to all of you who voted for me in John Leeder's poll. It is a shame that more of the hobby didn't write in, but... Anyhow, I think the vote reflects more favorably on you, the readership, than on me. YOU are the ones who are willing to get off your duff and write more than the average Dipzine receives, and it is due to this that I did so well, I'm sure. (At this writing, I haven't seen RUNESTONE yet. I'm going on Galen Workman's letter).

### Ads

- ✓ 50+ assorted Dipzines for sale, \$2. Tony Watson, 201 Minnesota St., Las Vegas 89107.
- ✓ A bunch, # unknown, of assorted Dipzines for sale, \$1.50 postpaid. Write editor. (Either of these is a good deal for those of you that may be new and haven't seen many hobby publications. Tony's, e.g., is like a bunch of subs for 1/7th the cost...)
- ✓ WARGAME zines, current issues, 5-7 or so, \$1.50 postpaid. Write editor.

Letter from Ron Mazurkiewicz, continued.

I purchased a Hungarian rifle recently of the standard type used by their army in WWII, the model 31 rifle, which is actually a converted 1895 rifle. They cut them down to carbine length and rechambered the rifle for their own special caliber. I just bought a bayonet for the rifle and am trying to get ammunition for the damn thing. The old Hungarians were really behind. This beauty was replaced by a brand new design in 1943--a new bolt action rifle! Ten years after the M1 Garand, these guys invent a bolt action rifle. My God, no wonder they lost. I can't wait to shoot the gun. It is a straight-pull, not a turn-bolt action. You just pull the bolt handle back and it has cam which turn the bolt for you. Supposedly the rifle is capable of 35 shots (unaimed) a minute! I can't wait.

((I've heard bad things about TSR's miniatures rules, but I think I've seen at least one copy of LITTLE WARS and was impressed. I look forward to the sample.))

174

Last minute letter just in from

ROD WALKER

"alcala"  
1273 crest dr.  
encinitas ca 92024  
5 august 1978

Dear John:

Thank you for your recent note. Englosed is a couple of bucks for however many issues of BB that will buy, commencing with the last issue (the one in which you mentioned your suspicions about Tretick/Oaklyn).

If I remember to make the copies at the office before I mail this Monday, I'll enclose a few pages from the old LA GUERRE. I believe you will note a certain similarity.

It's interesting how many people have come to this same conclusion. It was first called to my attention by someone who also requested anonymity...and then confirmed by a second party who made the same request. With all this anonymity, and since I've never been the bashful type, you know who got stuck with making the first public notice.

If you wish to publish my last letter, fine; you may wish to add thereto what follows:

It may be, as you say, that the revived LA GUERRE (or whatever it's being called at the moment) is simply "a ploy for a fast audience". I hope not. From the material you've sent me, Tretick/Oaklyn seems to feel that people are out to drive him from the hobby. Nothing could be further from the truth. If Buddy's intentions are otherwise honorable, he should be encouraged, just as every new or reviving GM has been in the past.

I don't believe it is too much to ask that Buddy be requested to drop the charade. However, to insist on the point beyond a reasonable limit may make him feel threatened. This might have the effect of causing him to drop out even though he had no intent to do so otherwise.

Whenever Buddy feels insecure, he tends to resort to making rather fantastic assertions and claims. This pattern seems to be reappearing. At a recent DIPLOMACY session at Fred Davis' place, he is reported to have claimed his "Air-Sea" variant was the most popular ever devised (which is manifestly untrue). He wrote one of his players that 25,000 people were playing postal DIPLOMACY in 1970 (that's more than 10 times the actual figure). I've received a xerox of the most recent issue of his 'zine in which he claims he held a nonexistent office ("President") in the N3FGBDD (of which I was Chairman for a few years), and that I nominated and promoted his election to that position. (In actuality he did run for Chairman, as I recall, I was his opponent, not his backer, and received all of the votes but 2 or 3...I don't have the relevant publications in front of me at this point.)

Anyway, this is a disturbing pattern and I hope it does not mean a return to the earlier situation. I intend to write Buddy an honest but encouraging letter and see if we can't make him a little happier with himself and his position in the hobby.

I do hope you're wrong about anyone getting fleeced. When he's motivated, Buddy can be extremely dependable...I can relate from personal experience that he is one of the most dependable players around.

Best,

*Rod*

*well, I forgot to bring the stupid  
things to the office. Let me know if  
you're interested & I'll send some copies*

Would you plug this for me in your zone? Dave  
THE LAS VEGAS INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY TOURNAMENT

The tournament will be held on Memorial Day Weekend (May 26, 27 & 28 of 1979).

AT LAST! There will be a diplomacy tournament for avid players. This is a diplomacy tournament and nothing else! And, I will only accept 49 players.

ENTRY FEE: The entry fee for the tournament will be ~~\$200.00~~ \$200.00 (two hundred dollars). The entry fee will pay for all meals, lodging and the prize fund.

LOCATION: The tournament will be held at either the Union Plaza Hotel and Casino or the Aladin Hotel and Casino. All lodging and meals will take place in one of the above mentioned casinos.

PROCEDURE: Every player will play every country (A, E, F, G, I, R, T). Thus, each player will play 7 games. No player will ever play the same person twice during the tournament.

TIME ALLOTTED: The first six games will last 4 hours. The seventh game will last 6 hours.

SCORING: At the end of each game, each player will receive his points. There will be two types of points awarded--center and position. Center points are self explanatory. The player will receive 1 point for every center in his control at the end of the game.

Position points will be awarded based on how well the player did at his particular board. If he had the most center points, he would receive 7 points. If he had the second most centers, he would receive 6 points and so forth.

Thus, if you take a first place Turkey with 11 centers, you would receive 18 points for that game. (7 for the position points and 11 for the center points=18 points)

AWARDS: At the end of the 7 games, all points will be added together. The player with the most earned points will take first place and the second highest earned points will take second place and so on.

PRIZES: The prize fund will contain between \$4000 and \$6300. The prize fund will be structured by the 49 players in a poll at a later date. Sample distributions could be:

1st=\$4,000	<u>Or</u> 1st=\$2,000	<u>Or</u> 1st=\$1,200	<u>Or</u> 1st=\$1,000	7th=\$250
	2nd=\$1,000	2nd=\$1,000	2nd=\$800	8th=\$200
<u>Or</u>	3rd=\$500	3rd=\$800	3rd=\$600	9th=\$150
1st=\$3,000	4th=\$300	4th=\$600	4th=\$500	10th=\$100
2nd=\$1,000	5th=\$200	5th=\$400	5th=\$400	11th=\$50
			6th=\$300	12th=\$25

#### SCHEDULES:

<b>Friday 25, 1979</b>	<b>Saturday 26, 1979</b>	<b>Sunday 27, 1979</b>
4:00-8:00pm registration	7:00-8:00 am Breakfast	7:00-8:00am Breakfast
8:00-9:00pm dinner	8:00-12:00am 1st Dip. Game	8:00-12:00am 4th Dip.
9:00-10:00pm tournament	12:00-1:00pm lunch	12:00-1:00pm lunch
explanation	1:00-5:00pm 2nd Dip. Game	1:00-5:00pm 5th Dip.
<b>Monday 28, 1979</b>	5:00-6:00pm Dinner	5:00-6:00pm Dinner
8:00-9:00am Breakfast	6:00-10:00pm 3rd Dip. Game	6:00-10:00pm 6th Dip.
9:00-12:00am Begin 7th Dip Game		
12:00-1:00pm Lunch (and break in game)		
1:00-4:00pm End 7th Dip. Game		
4:00-5:00pm Dinner		
5:00-6:00pm Presentation of Awards		

If you are interested in playing in the tournament, please write to: DAVID NORMAN GRABAR, 4346 E. Armel Ct., Las Vegas, Nevada 89110. (702)-453-5422 1053. Send no money at this time. Money will be collected in January of 1979. I only want to know if you are interested in attending. A detailed information letter will follow.