

SPECIAL

XXI

SEP 22 1978

**Making your
mate an
irresistible
lover**

Page 111

See other side
or special offer.



Page 205

**How
to look
and feel
younger**

((Maybe the Eiffel
Tower For Sale
too?))

ALL THIS
brought to you
by USPS and

THE

BRUTUS

BULLETIN

ET TU, BRUTE

The BRUTUS BULLETIN is a newsletter of postal Diplomacy brought to you every two weeks by John Michalski, Rt 10, Box 526-Q, Moore, Oklahoma 73165. It is available for a paltry \$3 for 12 issues, not much when you consider that this has been voted the NUMBER ONE DIPZINE in all North America in the 1978 Leeder Poll. Formerly, and hopefully next year once again, this was/will be a good press zine. Right now it subsists solely on contributions of all sorts, all of which are EAGERLY SOLICITED from the readership. Meaning YOU!

DIPLOMACY is a game invented by Alan Calhamer and copyrighted by the Avalon Hill Game Co, Baltimore, MD 21214. Excerpts included here from Conservative Digest are with permission of them, 7777 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22304.

VARIOUS NOTES

GAME OPENINGS, unless Galen pulls off a sudden miracle, will be closed and junked. Apparently the dozen or so recent additions to BB aren't too interested in more games, so, due to weak response, openings are skipped. My thanks to Galen Workman for his efforts.

GAME OPENINGS have been announced in Jerry Jones' excellent LIES, DECEIT, & NEFARIOUS SCHEMES, a tri-weekly & prompt Dipzine I recommend. He has 2 games starting. Write to him at 1854 Wagner St, Pasadena, CA 91107.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION: Thinking about publishing? One of the unforeseen rewards of carrying an active letter column is the amount and kind of thing you get labeled NOT FOR PUBLICATION. As a comic used to say, "Vel-ly inter-r-restink". I'd like to anonymously thank those of you who are kind enough to pass on these items. We have a pretty interesting hobby...

BACK ISSUES of BB are unavailable except at prohibitive cost to you.

BATTLESTAR GALACTICA was better than most, but only perhaps a tie with STAR TREK to me. Thinking it over, I think the difference between it and STAR WARS was that SW was "pure": just a clean-cut fight of good-vs-evil. BATTLESTAR brings in spies, traitors, blundering leadership--too close to reality! That lessens its escapist appeal. I caught segments of it, but mostly watched Part 2 of the new King Kong movie on the other channel. I don't regret it.

ADS *****ADS ***** ADS ***** ADS ***** ADS ***** ADS
Ads will be printed free to any subscriber submitting them.

✓ I'm still looking for PBM opponents for SORCEROR or STARSHIP TROOPERS. Any takers out there? Jack Frost, 647 Fenton St., Romeoville, IL 60441

✓ 6 assorted current-ish wargame zines, \$1.50. Write editor. (Ppd).

✓ 1 boxful of old Dipzines, mostly MMGs, Runestones, and some DDs, with a couple of others. These are ones almost everyone subs to, so no one wanted in my earlier sales! \$1.50 will bring you a stationery boxful of these, so if you're new or for some reason unfamiliar with these popular zines, here's a great deal for you. Stamps accepted as payment. Write editor at cover address. (Also postpaid, book rate).

Contribution from JOHN McELVANEY:

"I don't know whether it will xerox too well, but I thought I'd send it along anyway".

((Thanks. I don't either, but it makes a good filler piece for the end of this page!))

J.M.
LIFE IN THE COUNTRY, Part 3, is being held off until next issue. Too many letters and such to process, and lots of game-stuff for me here of late as well.
J.M.



Commercial "coming attraction" trailers are parodied in *Hardware Wars*, now being distributed by Pyramid Films (Box 1048, Santa Monica, Calif. 90406). Ham Salad pilots his flying steam iron through space to the orbiting waffle iron where Princess Anne Droid is held captive. Fluke Starbucker, the Wookie Monster, Augie "Ben" Doggie, Artie Deco and 4-Q-2 battle intergalactic eggbeaters and flying toasters in the 13-minute epic.

1977 KN

The First Game

Winter, 1909: Austrian A Tus r PIE: Austria builds A TRI. France builds A PAR. Turkey builds F CON, F SMY

SPRING 1910

AUSTRIA (KASSEL): A War/d/r Gal, Otb and A UKR S TURKISH A Sev-Mos; A SIL & A BOH S A Tyo-Mun; A TYO-Mun; A PIE S A Ven-Tus: A Ven-TUS: A TRI-Tyo
 FRANCE (DITTER): F HOL-Nth: A MAR-Pie: F Tus S A Mar-Pie/ann.: F Tun-TYN; F WES & F GLY S F Tun-Tyn: F NAP-TUN; A RUH & A BUR S A Mun: A MUN polishes his armor and Holds.
 RUSSIA (McELVANEY): F DEN-Nth: F Kie-HELG: F SER S A Pru: A PRU & A MOS S A Lvn-War: A Lvn-WAR; A STP S A Mos
 TURKEY (HUESTON): F Con-BLA: F Smy-EAS: F NAP S F Aeg-Ion; F Aeg-ION; F Ion-ADR; F ROM S AUSTRIAN A Ven-Tus: A SEV-Mos

Thanks to Jack Frost for submitting prompt standby orders for Russia.

1977 KS

The old Press Game

AFTER A MERE MONTH, WE'RE AT IT AGAIN.
 GERMANS TO ENTER WINTER PALACE AGAIN?

SPRING 1908

ENGLAND (HUNT): F Lvp-WAL; A Edi-YOR
 FRANCE (NEWELL, Jr): F Bre-MAO: F SPAsc-Mos: A MAR-Pie; A Bel-PIC
 GERMANY (REGES): F Nth-SKA: F Helg-DEN: F KIE & F BAL S F Helg-Den; A BUR S A Mun: A MUN H: A Lvn-Mos/d/ r StP, Otb
 RUSSIA (KASSEL): F Ska-NWY; F Den-SWE: A Swe-FIN: A War-LVN: A MOS S A War-Lvn; A Gal-SIL; F PRU S A Sil-Ber; A Sil-BER: A BOH-Mun
 TURKEY (KENDLER, Jr): F Smy-AEG; F Nap-TYN; F TUN-Wes; F Adr-APU; F Alb-ION; A Ank-CON; A Con-BUL; A Tri-TYO; A VEN-Pie; A Rom-TUS

FALL orders are due here with my mail received at work FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1978, for both games. White press not being any fun, naturally, there is none.

LATE TURKISH PRESS: Turkey 20-14? Count again! Craig, what are you talking about? Only thing you said that made sense was Italy fouled up this game.

1978 AX

The Outrider

SEPARATION PASSES!
 CONCESSION ALMOST PASSES!!

SEP 13 1978

Winter, 1906

England (Hueston/Kelly) Fs Mid, Den, Eng r OTB
 Has Fs IRI BEL HOL NTH
 France (Hunt) NRR! A Mar r OTB. GM removes F Por per rules.
 Has F PIC, F BRE
 Italy (Kirchner) F Nap r ROM
 Has F ROM F SPAsc A BUR A MAR
 Russia (Kassel) NRR!! Plays 4 short!
 Has Fs LVP NWY DEN RUM As SWE KIE MUN RUH BOH BUD
 Turkey (Workman) Builds A Con, A Smy
 Has Fs AEG ION NAP ADR TYN As VEN SER PIE CON SMY

Deadline for Spring, 1907, will be my mail received here WEDNESDAY, SEPT 27, 1978. There is another call for a concession to R-T. No-vote-received will count as a YES vote in this instance! (R-T draw, E-I third/tie/, France 5th). I need orders from Hunt and Kassel, others are on file; and Steve Hueston has one last chance, if he gets spring in, though I doubt he now will. Ron's orders for England are on file. Thanks for getting in the adjustments so fast, Ron. Kelly.

((I just noticed: Eric is the only one not a carryover from one of the other games. Humm.))

John Michalski
 Harper Oil Company
 904 Hightower Bldg
 Oklahoma City OK 731

Refugees Tell Ordeals In Document Urging U.N. Cambodia Probe

By Don Oberdorfer
Washington Post Staff Writer

Yim Sol Rannachit, the 18-year-old son of a fish-seller near the famous Cambodian ruins of Angkor Wat, was rounded up with his entire family and several others by soldiers of Democratic Kampuchea, as the new regime in that country is called. Men, women and children were tied up at gunpoint, ordered to sit on the ground and bashed in the head with hoes and other instruments until they were dead.

Yim fainted after being hit and was taken for dead. He managed to get away at night, and after a lengthy trek escaped across the border to Thailand last March 1. His father, mother, five brothers from 6 to 26 years of age, and 27 other families from his Thle town all were killed, without any reason he can imagine except that soldiers distrust former townspeople.

Thach Keo Dara, 20, a former student, was assigned to dig irrigation ditches and separated from his family. He had one day off in every 10, and occasionally met a girlfriend but was not allowed to show any affection or even a sign that they were friends.

The penalty for a minor error, such as being late for work, was a warning. However, the penalty for a third minor infraction, or a more serious initial blunder was being "sent to Angkor Leu," a Kampuchean euphemism for execution.

Thach knew several students and relatives who were "sent to Angkor Leu" and heard that his turn might be coming soon, since former students were being killed as they were discovered among the peasantry. He escaped to Thailand last Jan. 7.

The stories of Yim and Thach and 12 other refugees from Cambodia, as recorded in interviews by U.S. embassy officers in Thailand, are a key part of a 300-page document on the situation in Cambodia presented by the State Department last month to the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations.

The 14 Cambodian refugees permitted the use of their real names in the public document. Eight other refugees told their stories but are not identified by their names. All the accounts tell a similar history of privation, oppression, tyranny and execution at the hands of the Cambodian regime.

Responding to low-key efforts of the United States and several European countries, a U.N. Human Rights subcommittee on prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities has placed the Cambodian situation on its agenda. A discussion of the subject is expected within a week or two in U.N. meetings at Geneva.

"The U.S. government cannot independently confirm any individual story," said a letter to the U.N. commission from ambassador William vanden Heuvel. "We do believe, however, that the number and consistency of such accounts on the public record underscore the need for further investigation."

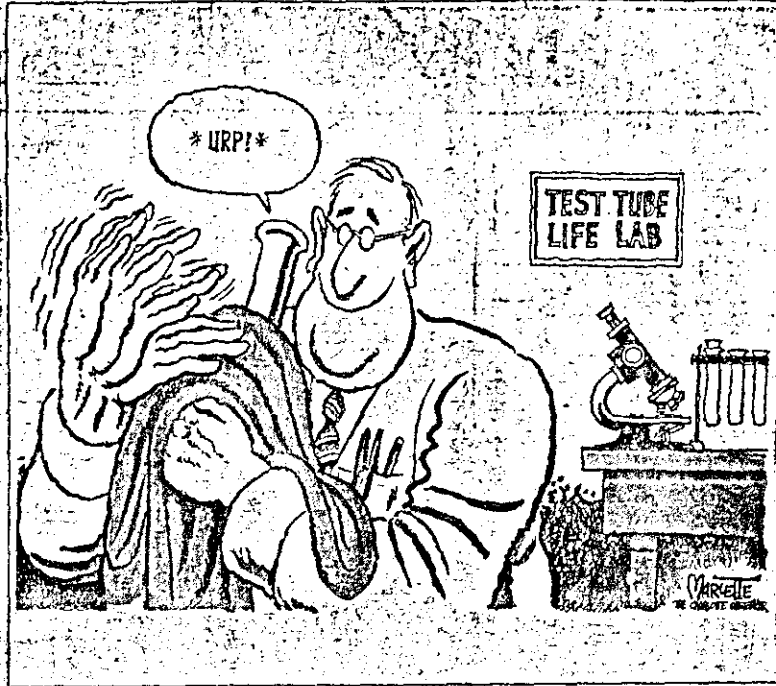
Speaking for the United States, vanden Heuvel expressed hope that Kampuchea would agree to a "neutral, responsible" inquiry on its territory. If not, he suggested the Human Rights Commission should collect evidence of its own from the many refugees.

(Compare this item above to one from John Boardman on Cambodia below.)

Push for Moral Force
Kennedy, chairman of the Senate subcommittee on refugees, said he shared McGovern's concern about reports that the Communist leaders who seized control in Cambodia in 1975 had since been responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands or even millions of their countrymen.

But Kennedy, in a suggestion echoed later by the State Department, said the community of nations could bring their combined moral force rather than military power to bear on the government of Cambodia.

(Courtesy of John Boardman)



Japan awakens on security

For roughly a quarter of a century Japan has been a giant without a shadow, an economic superpower which dedicated about 1 percent of its gross national product to defense. Essentially an American protectorate, the Japanese thrived in an atmosphere of security provided by the conviction of American omnipotence.

After all, the United States had accomplished the impossible by winning the Pacific war; clearly our commitment to Japanese defense provided invulnerability in an otherwise uncertain world.

In the last decade, however, the complacency of the Japanese has been shaken by three political earthquakes: The "shokun" when Nixon and Kissinger opened negotiations with Peking without giving Tokyo advance notice; the 1973 threat of an oil embargo which literally could close down Japan; and American defeat in Indochina.

Japanese leaders began the urgent quest for options to total American dependence in the defense area, increasing in direct proportion to perceived U.S. isolationism, economic and political.

Just as American restrictions on oil exports to Japan in 1941 triggered Tokyo's decision to go to war, our

present dubious sea-control capabilities in the Indian Ocean and South China Sea have led to demands for a Japanese naval build-up. Although the chairman of their equivalent of the Joint Chiefs was recently fired for announcing Japan was naked in the face of its enemies, his political boss Shin Kanemaru, minister of "self-defense," has been urging a budgetary increase on the clearly insimulated ground that the Seventh Fleet can no longer protect Japan's oil life-line.

A look at a map explains this. It is estimated there is a dotted line of Japanese tankers, ships roughly 80 miles apart, to and from the Persian Gulf. A loaded giant tanker has a deadweight of perhaps 400,000 tons, which means it can safely navigate only one Indonesian strait, Selat Lombok. Tankers up to 200,000 tons deadweight can manage the Strait of Malacca between Malaysia and Singapore on one side and Indonesia on the other. At the other end of the journey the Strait of Hormuz into the Persian Gulf is deep but narrow.

Indonesia is not noted for its anti-submarine warfare (ASW) endeavors. The British have a trivial ASW capability in Malaysia, but if the Seventh Fleet can't protect the right of free passage through these choke-

points, nobody now can. Hence the Japanese purchase of our sophisticated Orion ASW aircraft.

The Japanese suspicion that we are over the hill as an East and Southeast Asian power is also reflected in their resurgent diplomacy. For several years they have been hung up between a pact with the Soviets and one with Peking. The problem was the Chinese demanded an "anti-hegemonism" clause in the treaty, a sock in the jaw to "Socialist imperialism." As became evident in Chairman Huo's recent foray to Yugoslavia and Romania, and his calls of "Let's bear it for anti-hegemonism," are taken very personally by Moscow.

Tokyo inched its way forward, torn between fear of Soviet power and the incredible potential of playing the Chinese card and reviving the "Great East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere." The first signal which way the decision would go was the February announcement of a \$20 billion development loan to Peking.

Moscow flummoxed but did nothing to sweeten its offer by, say, offering Japan the return of several Kurile Islands that were taken after World War II and have no conceivable utility to the Soviets.

On its part, the United

States obviously encouraged Prime Minister Fukuda to go the Peking route.

The result, which got virtually no play in our press, was the recent treaty of peace and friendship between Tokyo and Peking, possibly the most significant diplomatic shift of this decade.

Symbolically, Japan has once again launched herself as an Asian power after living with the myth of "Triateralism," with the illusion that she, the U.S., and the European Economic Community had a supra-regional common interest.

When the Soviets protested Japanese acceptance of (slightly camouflaged) "anti-hegemonism," the latter in essence replied that they took this pledge at least as seriously as the Russians did Helsinki's human-rights guarantees!

In other words, for better or worse, the Japanese have not forgotten how to play hard ball, and the thought of 900 million intelligent, mobilized Chinese working in tandem with Japan's superb technological assets must terrify the Kremlin.

The impact of Tokyo's new marriage on American national interest is hidden in the future. But we cannot continue to ignore its existence.

VARIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

Once the stuff of legend

Few people, I daresay, would put the memoirs of generals or politicians on their lists for summer reading along with that Agatha Christie mystery or the adventures of Travis McGee.

So it was with some surprise, especially after the dreadful early reviews, that I picked up those memoirs of Richard Nixon on an August evening and found myself engrossed. Perhaps I should have paid more attention to the readers who put them on the best-seller list than to the critics.

Of course the critics were right on some points. There are no great new revelations to change anyone's mind about Watergate. Mr. Nixon does have a selective memory, and there is self-serving in much of what he recalls and recounts. Finally, he's not a sparkling writer.

But autobiographies on public figures are seldom otherwise. From U.S. Grant to Harry Truman, they offer an apology pro sua. As for prose stylists, Winston Churchill is rare among that company.

What makes the Nixon memoirs nonetheless engrossing is simply the tale he has to tell. It is certainly full of adventures; some would call it picaresque. It ends in mystery. And it sets the mind to brooding.

Consider the bare outlines of the plot:

A young man from a poor family, spurred on by his mother, gets an education at an obscure liberal arts college and a then small Southern law school. He has a respectable but undistinguished career in the wartime Navy. He answers a want ad for a sacrificial candidate to run for Congress, puts on a shrewd and tough campaign and, astonishingly, wins. A few years later he takes on a popular Senator and, once again, wins to everyone's astonishment.

These are interesting in themselves and often provocative in their insights.

You also get an inside view, at least from one man's perspective, of some of the great events that, for good or ill, changed the world. No doubt about it, this man played a role on a huge stage.

The mystery, of course, lies in the wild improbability of the denouement. The basic facts of Watergate, I suspect, are now well known. Anyway, few episodes of like historical importance have been as subjected to so much contemporary probing. What we are left with is not a puzzle of what happened but the riddle of why.

Richard Nixon's enemies have a facile answer. To them he is simply a bad man, or a shallow one, caught in a web of his own machinations.

Yet his refusal to contest that election of 1960, with so much evidence that it was stolen from him, is not the posture of a man whose ambition is totally ruthless. He showed a deep regard for his country in his unwillingness, despite the urging of advisers, to put it through long weeks, perhaps months, of political agony.

In the Senate, he is just another young newcomer until fortune pits him against a shining Lochinvar whom he helps destroy. That makes him a national figure. It also brands him among many influential people as a rough, even unscrupulous, man of ambition, a brand that burns into his consciousness and is to stay with him the rest of his life.

Another twist of fortune propels him, at the age of 40, into the vice presidency under a national father-figure. He tries for the presidency himself but fails by the narrowest of margins in an election still disputed. He is, so everyone thinks, a discredited political discard.

Eight years later he miraculously returns to win the presidency in another narrow election, the first man in modern history to succeed after a first failure.

As president he is faced with the nation's most unpopular war, beguiled by his predecessors. Every effort to end it is controversial and increases the bitter division among the people. There are riots in the streets, and he is exoriated in much of the nation's press.

Nonetheless he is re-elected in a landslide. Then at the very peak he meets disaster. He becomes the first president in history driven to resign that office.

There must have been temptation on the part of the writers helping Mr. Nixon pull his memoirs together to live up his prose.

To their credit, they seem to have resisted. One has the feeling throughout the book that these are Nixon's own words, and you are carried along by the intrinsic melodrama of the tale.

The melodrama is lightened by little vignettes of the dominant figures of his time he came to know: Churchill, De Gaulle, Khrushchev, Mao Tse-tung. These are interesting in themselves and often provocative in their insights.

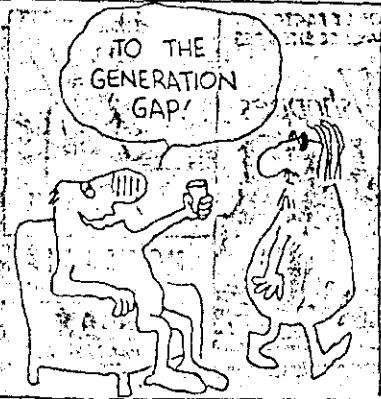
The fatal flaw was blindness to Watergate until it was too late. By then he was ensnared, and every twist and turn only sank him, helpless, deeper into the morass. If there is self-pity in his account of it, that doesn't lessen the human drama.

Indeed, the more you brood upon it the more it begins to echo ancient myths; in another time it would have been the stuff of legend. The legend of a man driven by the furies to assault great heights and who, once upon them, begins to find all mysteriously coming apart, as Icarus's wings melted in the sun.

Not even the direst writing drudge could make such a story dull.

Reprinted from The Wall Street Journal, 1978 Dow Jones & Company, Inc.

(Ron Kelly)



(Ron Kelly)

(Sweet?)

"alcala"
1273 crest dr.
encinitas ca 92024
18 september 1978

To: John Michalski, Craig Reges, Jim Benes, and perhaps
others if I feel like it. Gentlemen, please publish
this if you have room.

An open letter to "Bernie Oaklyn"

I understand you're distressed that I didn't permit you to play
in the game I GGM for CLAW AND FANG. You will be doubly distressed
to learn that you will also not be allowed to play in the game I will
GGM for THE TETRACUSPID. Things are tough all over, it seems.

My House-Rules forbid a person to play in my games under an
assumed name. You were not allowed to enter the games in question
because your entry was unacceptable under my HRs. [And don't get a
swelled head. I didn't do this for your benefit. The HR in question
goes back to 1974.]

You do not have a "right" to enter any of my postal games. You
must accept and observe my HRs as a precondition. I will not accept
any entry from "Bernie Oaklyn". However, you are more than welcome
to play under your real name, Bernard A. (Buddy) Tretick.

Please do not threaten me with phoney appeals to "the law". If
you had really called the FBI, and if they had been able to stop
laughing after you told them what you had called about, they would
have told you to take it up with the USPS.

Your febrile bluff is herewith called. If you wish to take this
to the FBI, or the USPS, or even the UN, be my guest. I dare you, in
fact. Why don't you try the IDA? Heck, "Bernie", as long as you're
making a fool out of yourself, don't stop half-way.

This is my notice to you that I will not allow "Bernie Oaklyn" to
play in any game I GM.

I await in fear and trembling the veritable avalanch of federal
agents and lawyers which will no doubt fall upon me with whips and
chains, not to mention fire and sword. Wurra, wurra, oy, veh, tremble,
tremble.

Ciao,

cc: Fred Davis

P.S. -- Lucretia is thinking about
sending you one of my insidious
hate sheets. You remember that,
don't you?

Rod
Rod Walker

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY from GRAUSTARK #3

Last year Cal White became what seems to be the annual Boardman Number Custodian.
He has neglected this responsibility since February, and there are now rumors that the
job has been transferred, by some shadowy authority impossible to identify, to Dennis
Agosta. As soon as anything official develops, including Agosta's address, I will in-
form GRAUSTARK readers. But there have been so many changes and inefficiencies in
the issuing of "Boardman Numbers" lately that I am not sure whether I will use them
for new games.

In case Agosta's plans don't work out, John Daly has volunteered to take over the
job. If by some time in 1979 he is needed, interested parties can contact him at Apt
47-D, Sutton Hill, Underhill Road, Middletown, N. Y. 10940; 914-342-4017.
Also interested is R.H. Bolton, 71 Carberry Crescent, Brampton, Ontario L6V 2G2, CANADA.

BB#20 arrived today. I suspect that there is an actual Oaklyn, so attempts made to prove his non-existence may backfire. It's just that, insofar as anything enters Diplomacy fandom from "Oaklyn", it's really from Tretick. It'll really be fun when the real Oaklyn discovers that Tretick abandons him, as he has abandoned everything else he's ever done in the hobby, and that he, Oaklyn, is going to have to play some positions in a game about which he knows and cares nothing.

I want to protest in the strongest terms about being lumped with Pacifists on p.15. When the next war starts, my personal liberty and possibly even my life may depend on my not being confused with Pacifists. I have no desire to find myself bleeding to death in the middle of campus.

PS There's a new landmark in Oklahoma history: a cricket club is being organized at OSU. An old friend who teaches physics there was in town last week and happened to mention it.

((This plug appeared in John's GRAUSTARK 386:))

"Like the rest of America, Diplomacy fandom is loyally falling into line behind America's march to world domination, of which Michalski is such a strong and effective proponent."

((I'll send you a copy of Rod Walker's Reges letter that pretty well spells out the Oaklyn-is-Tretick case to date (as I have to Alan Rowland as well) and let you decide.

OK, protest accepted. Let all the world take note that John Boardman wants to be known as a true-blue warmonger, first class, not some runny-nosed Pacifist. Even though John doesn't subscribe, I'll run that notice here for free as a hobby service. Bleeding to death on campus may not be so far-fetched, really. Look at what the fate is of Cambodian students in the article Kelly sent in. And with folks of John Boardman's political line in enough places in this country, a situation here as in Cambodia becomes less a fairy-tale all the time.

So Oklahoma's illustrious Cow University has a cricket team? It being OSU, I'll bet they race real crickets every Saturday afternoon! (Who'd guess I graduated from U of Okla?)

I appreciate the plug. Though incorrect, unfortunately, its nice to be considered a 'strong and effective proponent'. Maybe if we had some national purpose, other than a good car and a cold beer, we'd be better off. A march to world domination would at least set the sights high enough to have some 'crusade' appeal... Sounds good as a theory to me....)) J.M. "I'll drink to that" he said from his Thunderbird...

(MICHAEL B KERSHAW)

reports that he has folded his Dipzine THE MASTER MACHIAVELLIAN. Games will be placed elsewhere, and credits on subs/gamefees will be paid later, at least in good part. Mike is going into his senior year at UCLA, in 2 honors programs, and is shooting for law school; thus Dipz low priority. Too bad, for TMM was kind of cute, but if you have to go, this is the way to do it. (238 N Bowling Green Way, LA 90049) J.M.

(ROBERT BRYAN LIPTON)

reports in the just-received MIXUMAXU GAZETTE 86 that he is taking a job in Boston, and his new address is R.B.L., General Delivery, Boston, MA. Well, unless Boston's PO has some special arrangement, mail to such an address will be returned to sender marked Insufficient Address. Okla City has 19 post offices; without a ZIP code, where would such Gen Delivery mail be held? For the sake of his players, I hope I'm wrong. To save 20¢ postage due on this issue when it returned, I'm holding Bob's copy pending better address. Those of you who may see him or call might mention that. The address, that is. I doubt he gives a damn about the issue. J.M.

(DON MILLER) denies having introduced ^{any} "Bernie Oaklyn" to Buddy Tretick and resents Tretick's using his name to get back into the hobby, according to a report from Rod Walker just received. J.M.

"alcala"
1273 crest dr.
encinitas ca 92024
11 september 1978

ROD WALKER

Some miscellaneous comments. First, the "Oaklyn" letter to Jim Benes. Buddy Tretick was never "President" (nor any other officer) of the National Fantasy (not "Science Fiction") Fan Club Games Bureau Diplomacy Division. There was no such office. I was for some years Chairman of the N3FGBDD. That was originally an appointive position. When it became elective, I won the subsequent election. Tretick was also a candidate; I believe he received 1 or 2 votes. The notion that I would support Tretick for any office in the hobby is silly, even when we were not founding, I never considered him competent for any position of responsibility.

Re: Conrad's letter. He's wrong about what the "Changing of the Guard" was...see my letter, printed same issue, of 14 August...his memory must have slipped...but then the thing was never of any importance, and would have passed into a deserved oblivion had not Tretick actually taken the spoof seriously.

Conrad loves to cling to lost causes...hence his mention of McGovern. Obviously McGovern will never be nominated again.

The '68 election was quite a problem for me. I'll normally vote for the Democratic nominee, but I could not vote for someone who had spent most of the campaign hanging from a cross. So I cast a write-in ballot for Shirley Chisholm.

On 20 January 1969, the day Richard Nixon was inaugurated, I submitted a written resignation of my commission. I said then that I would not dishonor myself by serving under that CinC.

I must confess that I had begun to wonder about Nixon by 1972. The brilliant achievements of Dr. Kissinger, and the excellent selection of Ford as VP suggested that the creep had changed his spots. Alas, he hadn't. I can't say I'm gratified that he became so enmeshed in the threads of his own plots, but I certainly felt vindicated.

As to the 1980 election: Carter will of course be renominated unless he withdraws. A sitting President has never been denied the nomination of his party. Whether he will win the election is problematic. My own estimation is that he could beat Reagan but would lose to Ford. But the whole thing is 2 years off and, were I a betting man, I would not lay any money on anything at this point.

Maybe more later. I have a course outline to do tonight and that damn novel is going so utterly slowly....

((Quite true, a sitting President has never been dumped. However, no sitting President had ever resigned, either. In this case, I wonder if the standard-bearer, being from the South and a "born-again" backwoods fundamentalist etc. to boot, won't just be basically ignored by the power brokers at selection time, and the call go to someone else. If this born-again bull turns ME off, I can only imagine the image he cuts in the East. He and Billy, side by side...plow those peanuts, drink that beer--hell, who will fall in line behind THAT? Personally, I could support an honest buffoon like Billy, but not the more sophisticated (i.e., wearing shoes) brother Jimmy. I think the country is ready to go back to the more normal, wheeler-dealer type candidate. We'll see.))

J.W.

JACK FROST

647 Fenton, Romeoville, IL
60441

Listen, could I Guest-GM too? I'm reliable and strict. If it's all right with you, announce it right away so I can get started. We can work out any financial details later. I think Boardman and Benes would vouch for my punctuality, if nothing else.

For what it's worth, I am the latest person to be blasted by "Bernie-Buddy-James Alan-Steve Andrews-Brian Edwards". I include these last two names for "Buddy" since their mail is hand-scrawled in the same script, or is typed on "Bernie's" old typewriter. I had press to this effect refused by "Mr. Oaklyn", in fact he called me at work, on "Prime" long distance rates, and spent a half hour talking me out of the press I had submitted. Further, despite some very sloppy adjudicating, the games in his zine were running smoothly until my orders for last season were mysteriously "lost". Normally I wouldn't think much of it, but these were fall orders in both games, and "Bernie" has repeatedly taken swipes at me in his GMing press. Also, he has my phone numbers, and although he has standing orders to call me collect if my moves fail to arrive, he deliberately neglected this duty to his customers. I wonder, does this constitute fraud?

On another subject, I'm still looking for PBM opponents for Sorceror or Starship Troopers. Any takers out there?

((Thanks for the offer, but Galen Workman has reported a very weak response to the openings, so apparently all those folks who have signed on of late want something to read rather than games to play in. Fine with me, but it leaves Guest GM jobs at -0-. I suggest you contact middle-type zines, i.e., not brand new but not MMG or GRAUSTARK either, and see if they would like to try it.

On the other names, I shudder to think where this might be going. I'd be careful in making claims on similar typewriters, etc., as there might be some innocent person get pulled into this; conversely, you feel you have a reasonable case, so I print it here. I would simply resign, although if a pattern appeared with those names, some warnings would be appropriate. They don't ring a bell with me offhand, other than Alan. I presume there really is a James Alan, but...even if they're just a group or club in the general DC area, the effect on play would still be considerable. Most GMs, I believe, try for that reason to limit the number of players from the same area, although DC and California always present a problem.

I'll run your ad again this issue with my own. Anyone else with something?))

LEE KENDTER Sr

4347 Benner St, Philly 19135

First, I wasn't as angry as it may have come across in my letter. I AGREE that any publisher should put out more than two sheets for 35¢. I try to put as much as I can in my zine. My reason for writing was to try and make you realize how much work there is in putting out a zine by my method (which 98% of us use). You have never picked on MY zine. In fact, you have always had kind words to say about it, and I appreciate that! You must admit that you DO occasionally put in some disparaging remarks about a lot of others. But, enough already, no real offense intended.

Actually, the amount of letters you get astounds me. Nobody EVER sends me letters to the editor. I guess I'm not controversial enough!

Incidentally, I got a kick out of Alan Rowland's letter. I met him at Penn-Con, and he's quite a character! (But a very nice guy). He polished off a six pack for breakfast at the Diplomacy tournament!

PS Don't print my other letter. It might come across like I'm a raving maniac. (Which I am at times!)

((OK; I was thinking that the elaboration on costs, etc., would be instructive to the general audience as it was to me. As I think I have elsewhere in this issue, using even commercial xerox in volume wouldn't be much more of an expense, a lot less work, and removes that big initial outlay for equipment. I suppose that a five-sheet zine with four-dozen circulation would show the benefits of your equipment, but then, the higher use rate would cause earlier breakdowns, wouldn't it? I myself don't know a

Reply to Kendter, con'td

thing about the business. Only enough to know I think I should avoid anything other than xerox myself. I started to write something like that once for Jerry Jones, but, like my GenCon article for Don Lowry and my cherry pie recipe for Don Horton, it is still on the back burner of a 'someday-idea' and likely to stay there.

Disparaging remarks? Only for real turkey items, as I recall. Other than denouncing IMPERIAL DIARY, I don't recall attacking anyone in particular offhand. Oh, I suppose Tretick's stuff perhaps...what else? If the DNYMPA doesn't start functioning soon and pick up the pieces of the dormant BLACK HOLE (Doug Reif), I may attack THEM sometime, but that's about it. "Two-sheet pubbers" is only a general category. Just like "guys that just push a button and watch copies come out." (J)

I too am (pleasantly) surprised by the letters. Part is no doubt due to controversy, something that motivates many to write but also may show many pubbers that it is a kettle of fish they'd just as soon avoid. Some people might not like finding that to speak your mind causes old timers to denounce you as someone they wouldn't sit at the same table with, for instance. I revel in it, for it shows me I'm right, but I can see where lots of folks would shy away too. (If I was wrong, they'd have arguments of logic and example to use against me, but simple name-calling shows the bankruptcy of their position). Another two important factors, though, are these: First, the letters are run complete and without inserts, giving the writer a "fairer" airing of his views, which in turn encourages them, even (especially?) those that disagree. The second factor is that my fast publishing schedule keeps things "fresh": there's no month-long wait between charge-counter charge. Often I send out courtesy preliminary sheets to people, which allows responses in even the SAME issue. That's another big help.

I'd go on, but I probably ought to cut this off here before I take too much space from useful stuff, like filler...))

((No sooner, hardly, am I done with the above than I find another letter from))

LEE KENDTER Sr

Thanks for the sneak preview of BB #21. Although your idea of using the local library or print shop does have merit, it has a few drawbacks. I had considered this before purchasing a mimeo. 1. All of the xerox machines around here that are available to the public charge 8 to 10¢ a copy. (There is one for 5¢, but only in minimums of 100 of the SAME page). All of these places are ONE sided copy. Thus on four sheets you have 4 sides, not 8 sides. The type that can do 2-sided work are just not available to the public. 2. In my zine, I will soon be up to 6 sheets (12 sides) and I hope to go beyond that. Even if I could get them at 5¢, that would be 6 sheets, or 12 sides x .05 = 60¢ + 15¢ postage = 75¢. I know that none of us make any money at this, but I'm not going to lose 40¢ a copy!! 3. To send you the stuff would delay my zine far too long. I am in the mail with the issue within 48 hours of the deadline.

I think that you missed the whole point of my original letter. I was not defending someone who sends out only 2 sheet issues, but the rest of us publishers in general. You are always making remarks about how you feel that all zines should be like yours, and I was trying to point out that they simply CAN'T. I was also trying to get you to understand the problems of putting out a mimeo or ditto type zine as compared to the ease of xerox. There are many fine zines out here, and I felt that you were unfairly knocking all of them.

I sincerely hope that this clears the air once and for all. I am NOT knocking BB, I enjoy reading it very much. I just feel that there is room for all types of zines out here, and that was my main point.

Incidentally, in my local library, the people waiting in line to use the xerox are ready to kill you if you are making more than 2 or 3 copies. I could just imagine trying to monopolize the machine long enough to do a dipzine! Also, the machines there are coin operated, and could not be reset to print for 5¢ instead of 10¢. That sort of thing would require assistance from a librarian, and you just don't get that

Kendter II, continued.

in the big city!

PS I also think that you misunderstood one other thing. I was not complaining about the cost of doing things by mimeo. Actually, it is very inexpensive once you have the machine. I figure it's less than 2¢ a page. What I was trying to point out was the WORK involved.

Also, the cost of shipping a xerox machine is probably about the same in Phila., but the rental for the space that some of the businesses pay in Philadelphia is very high, and they have to reflect this in their charges. There is a place in center city (the heart of the business district) that charges 25¢ a copy! This is a very bad city for business taxes, and we are constantly losing industry to other parts of the country (much of it to the southwest), and we are probably as close to being bankrupt as NY, but it's not publicized as often. I could tell you some stories about this city that you wouldn't believe, but I don't type that well, and don't have enough reams of paper.

((Good thing I do; I can see #21 won't be a skimpy issue as I was kind of hoping it would be.

Your letter did clear up a lot of things. I see now what you meant by attacking all publishers. You greatly misinterpreted that. Note where that perennial comment is: in the colophon. It is not an attack, but rather, it is part of my statement as to why I publish, kind of like 'The A H Philosophy' in the GENERAL or the 'Playboy Philosophy' section, etc. It is a statement saying why I decided to publish and do publish, not at all meant as an assault on other publishers. As to the implicit criticism in my saying "like I wish ALL Dipzines were published", this is intended to 1. indicate my preference for fast-moving games, and 2. chide the all-too-many publishers who use the term "hobby" to cover up their own laxness in carrying out their responsibility assumed when they offered to GM a game for 7 players. The Leeder voting made a good point to me: by the time I had finished my ballot, I realized that, were ALL the Dipzines I get monthly, I should receive an average of one every weekday of the month, allowing that a couple will be delayed or skip an issue in effect at that. In fact, I get about 3 a week. Some, like BLACK HOLE, just up and die; others, like SAVA DASTI... or WARMONGER or URF DUEFAL either inherently come out "irregularly" or are essentially bi-monthly productions in any case; but obviously a lot of others just don't feel in the mood to publish at any given time. In the case of those I get, this appears to be about half the population. That's pathetic. Other things can come up, but why not run a flyer with the games then, as Tony Watson just sent this week for instance? I think that most of these folks who publish only if and when they're in the mood and can't think of anything better to do just then, really shouldn't be publishing at all. In this regard, though, I am not attacking them as a publisher, saying "I'm better than you"; rather, I am attacking them

THIS IS TYPICAL OF PHILA Rizzo Saves 129

((SEE KENDTER, SC, Contributor))

Political Jobs School Layoffs Halted

By LOU ANTOSH
Of The Bulletin Staff

The city is staging a \$2.2-million rescue operation of 129 Philadelphia School District employees whose patronage jobs were to be axed Sept. 1 to balance the school budget.

Under the Rizzo Administration's plan, the non-Civil Service employees, many of whom have close political ties to the mayor, will not be laid off as scheduled but will continue to

be paid by the School District while the mayor searches for new money to pay their salaries.

In a private letter to school officials last week, city Managing Director Hillel S. Levinson told the district to retain the 129 employees, who are on the school payroll but actually work out of City Hall.

Top school officials could not be reached for comment.

Please Turn to Page 5

City Sets Out to Rescue Patronage Jobs

Continued From First Page

Most of the affected employees work in the collections division of the Department of Revenue, whose school district payroll was called "loaded with political appointees" in an Americans for Democratic Action study last December.

In a report on 188 school employees working in the revenue office last fall, the Southeastern Chapter of ADA found that 81 were Democratic committee persons, 12 were Democratic ward leaders or ward chairman, 24 were Rizzo poll watchers and 34 were Rizzo campaign contributors. (The ADA counted none of the workers in more than one category, although many fell into more than one.)

Contacted by a reporter yesterday, Levinson initially denied having sent a letter to school officials about "patronage" employees. To another reporter, however, he confirmed there was such a letter, but insisted it was not about "patronage employees."

"They're employees who work in the Revenue Department for the collection of taxes," he said. "It confirmed an agreement between the school board and the city Administration that had taken place six months ago that the salaries of certain of these tax collection people would be picked up by the city."

Levinson also confirmed that school officials were informed that the Administration will ask City Council for the \$2.2 million needed to pick up the annual salaries of the employees scheduled for layoffs.

City Council President George X. Schwartz said yesterday he had not been advised of any such request.

Levinson also said that the extra \$2 million for the employees is available in city coffers, "according to (finance director) Irv Davis." Davis is on vacation and could not be reached for comment.

The 263-member roster of schools' City Hall patronage workers, long a source of controversy because of their political backgrounds, was scheduled to be reduced by nearly 50 percent under the budget presented by school officials last April. The 129 layoffs were to occur July 1 and affect an annual saving of \$2.2 million.

But by the end of July, the layoffs had not occurred. Superintendent of Schools Michael P. Marcuse warned that the longer the delay in laying off the employees, the more who would have to be terminated.

The layoffs were to affect 75 persons in collections, 46 in the Board of Revision of Taxes office, six in the city controller's office and two in the city solicitor's office.

Reply to second Kendter letter, cont'd.

as a READER who expects to see either a better effort or a final issue. I don't expect to see 11-sheet bi-weekly issues. I DO expect to see one issue a month, if that's what they promised. And if not an issue, then a one-sheet flyer saying Here-are-the-results, will-send-a-full-issue-next-time. I PREFER lots of filler--that's why I like, say, SAYA DASTI, LILAF, even your own WHY ME?, to which your variants appear to the non-playing reader as an interesting 'filler' piece, no insult intended--but I fully EXPECT an issue when the publisher promised it. Take Bob Sergeant's ST GEORGE & THE DRAGON, for instance. It is only a monthly zine, but lo and behold, it is here EVERY month. Some issues are big, some not so big, but it's here. I wish he ran 3 issues a month, but I just joined a new game because SG&TD is one of my real favorites, even at only 12 a year, about 4 sheets/issue. With all due respect to Bob, that really isn't all that much in physical terms; what is important to me, though, is that he does what he promised to. So many others--again, apparently half--just can't seem to get around to doing that. That's why in BB, you will often see that distinction made. I am publishing this because so few others do it right that even humble ME can do better. I mean this as an explanation; I hope it doesn't come across as an attack on you. (If it comes across as an attack on anyone, let me say, "Does the shoe fit?") It can also be taken up as a challenge to produce as scheduled. One of the reasons I mention WHY ME? is that I think you will in fact do just that, produce as scheduled.

Your letter brought up so much that I can see this will be a doozy. I put your article on the other page and never got around to mentioning it there. Ch, well. I'll get to it this page or next.

On my xerox offer, you might keep it in mind for those special items such as the Ultra map or whatever that was you said you had to xerox. That could be done ahead of time, mailed 3d or fourth class, and still be there in time for timely use.

The contribution and commentary brings up some excellent points I'd been thinking of doing a semi-article on. It IS really bad in the "big city", much more so than I'd imagined. Being back in Milwaukee during GenCon was a real eye-opener. Wisconsin, like Minnesota and NY state, are among the real pacesetters of big taxes-big govt-big welfare. What shocked me was the business drain you mentioned: not just the new expansion facilities going south as I'd thought, but big, heavy industry long established up there, just up and saying, 'This is too much, we're getting out.' Allen Bradley fills block after block with factories there, and has always been an industrial pillar of the community; yet they're winding it down and getting out. (Much to Okla, I understand). That is one hell of a move, and certainly not done for taxes. Taxes are high there--absurd, really--but you don't close down and start all over in effect, just to save on taxes. They are only the most visible symptom. Rather, up there in the NE, you're in a dog-eat-dog society, where everybody gouges everybody bad: workers get \$20,000/year for tightening a bolt all day, take home maybe \$12,000 net, shell out \$40/ft for tacky housing...govt takes more and does less than here, if that's possible it makes the fixed costs of just living very high indeed. Here, that's not YET true. We're working on it. When Hertz moved its national HQ out of NYC to OKC, I know what a joke it is to folks to think of moving to hicky old "Oklahoma City", yet looking at what you say, perhaps you can see why they would. Especially if you're running a company and find that people will quit LONG before considering a transfer to the Northeast. My old barber whom I always visit and BS with in Milwaukee asked if I'd ever move back: "No way!" was the instant response! Why on earth should anyone put up with that bullshit? Old folks don't want to leave what they're "used" to, even though it's a lot different now than it was when they remember it; they're suffering for it, too. Anyone who can, gits. And why not? When I was in the service, Wisconsin hit me for income taxes. I wrote and asked what I got for them and how I got out of them. They answered that Wisconsin prisons are nice, the allys are paved and lit, the professors are highly paid... Just like a company president, though, looking at the Big Picture, I said the hell with it. Here we have no allys. An Oklahoma prison is a hell of a place to be. And the professors here get a lot less than their northern bretheren for those 3 lectures a week they manage to give. To all of which I say, Good. I'll live it up while it lasts, which may not be too long. Thanks again for writing.))

J.M.

LAST ISSUE Alan Rowland submitted a lengthy (and handwritten-darn!) letter that freely attacked everything and-one from BB leftward. One of those, Rod Walker, responds below:

"alcala"
1273 crest dr.
encinitas ca 92024
11 september 1978

Alan Rowland
P.O. Box 2173, College Sta.
Easton PA 18042

Dear Alan:

I find your recent letter in BRUTUS BULLETIN distressing. This is because you seem blithely willing to make any sort of unfounded charge regarding events and/or people about whom I'd wager you know little or nothing.

1. Cal White. I'll admit that what is happening (or, better, what isn't happening) in Toronto is disturbing. There is apparently a degree of sin of omission here. But calling Cal "a liar, an incompetent, rude, and a thief" is not going to help matters. What, specifically, have you done to try to rectify the situation? If you have done nothing, may I suggest that you cease giving vent to your futile rage in such spates of childish name-calling? This hobby needs more constructive action and less blah-blah from the peanut gallery.

2. Doug Beyerlein. Since you obviously don't know, I'll tell you: Doug's transfer of the Boardman Numbers from himself to Cal was the best organized shift in the history of the hobby. He took and evaluated several applications. Cal White was interviewed by several people whose judgement Doug felt he could trust. The entire process took more than 6 months. Now, where do you get off accusing Doug of carelessness because he was in a hurry? His method was excellent. If the result was poor...as it now seems...it was not for lack of planning and trying.

3. Conrad von Metzke and myself. What "ill-fated tenures"? Conrad and I each served as DNC for 3 years. At the end of that time each of us dropped out of the hobby for a while. Even so, the Numbers were transferred relatively smoothly...to Conrad when I dropped and to Doug Beyerlein when Conrad dropped. While Conrad was Custodian he did a damn good job...and so did I, during my stint (false modesty is no virtue). If you have evidence to the contrary, I suggest you produce it; if not, I suggest you produce an apology.

As for Tretick/"Oaklyn": what you believe is not material; for that matter, what I believe is not material. The only important thing is whether ELD will become a respectable and dependable publication. If it does, then Tretick will at least in part have rehabilitated himself hobby-wise. If it does not...well, what can I say?

cc: John Michalski

Best,



Rod Walker

((Alan's letter is also mentioned in passing in Lee Kendter's letter)).

While the tax revolt expresses profound and legitimate anger, it also has undertones of racism.

Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.)

* *

I know it sounds strange, but if you look at where the Russians were when Jimmy Carter was elected and where they are now, there probably has not been a significant expansion. The Russians were in Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia. The Cubans were already in Angola.

Andrew Young, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations

* *

A considerable number of [National Lawyers'] Guild members approve of the Soviet Union and would not want to criticize a Soviet judicial proceeding.

National Lawyers' Guild president

John Quigley, explaining why the NLG wouldn't send a lawyer to the Shcharansky trial

* *

The right wing is stronger, richer and better organized than ever. And they've copied our act. Now, their literature touts an array of "technical assistance" and "consulting services" tailor-made for right-wing candidates. They're ready to give us a dose of our own medicine.

The left-wing (and very effective)

National Committee for an Effective Congress

* *

[Liberalism] is reduced to warmed-over New Dealism.

Rep. Michael Harrington (D-Mass.; ACU rating of 6 percent)

* *

Most of our big business leaders are the gutless wonders of our time.

Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah)

* *

Big business is one of the biggest supporters of incumbents who are tearing down our free enterprise system.

Sen. Harrison Schmitt (R-N.M.)

The prospect of doom exerts a paralyzing fascination [on many liberals]. This death wish, always a sign of failure, implies a profound dissatisfaction with existence. It leads to individual or collective suicide.

Writer Erik von Kuehnelt-Leddihn

* *

Our intellectual class is anticapitalist. In its own vision of integrity, it feels it must criticize its own system, perhaps in direct

proportion to its own affluence and success.

Columnist Michael Novak

* *

Today legislation is originated by bureaucrats who, unlike politicians, are life peers and cannot be voted out of office. There is no coincidence whatsoever between the interest of bureaucrats, who have incentives to enlarge the scope of government, and the public interest.

Economist Paul Craig Roberts

As the Cambodian regime carries forward its genocide and as thousands of "boat people" risk death in the South China Sea rather than remain in Communist South Vietnam, it is useful to recall statements made by American doves about Southeast Asia. Tom Wicker of the *New York Times*, for example, told us that there was "not much moral choice" between the corrupt Lon Nol regime in Cambodia and the Khmer Rouge.

George McGovern said Cambodians would be "better off" if we stopped all aid to them and let them work things out "in their own way." Columnist Joseph Kraft asked rhetorically, "Does it really matter whether Cambodia goes Communist?" He explained that Lon Nol was "unloved and incompetent."

"Even if a Communist regime did take over," added Kraft, "which is by no means certain, it would be divided in character." (No divisions are visible in the barbaric Pol Pot regime). And, on the price of defeat in Southeast Asia, said Kraft, "if that [getting rid of Nixon] means letting go in Cambodia and the rest of Southeast Asia, the price is small."

Then-Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield thought that cutting off American aid was in the "best interest" of the Cambodians. The *New York Times* agreed. Further aid, it said editorially, would "only extend Cambodia's misery." And so the Cambodians should be allowed to devise "their own political future." And *New York Times* writer Anthony Lewis claimed further American aid to Cambodia "can only prolong the agony of Cambodia."

* *

Bella Abzug testified before the House Foreign Affairs Committee that stopping all aid to Cambodia would save 100,000 lives, no less. "So," she said, "let us rescue those to whom we feel a commitment, and leave the others to settle their affairs in peace."

* *

Muhammad Ali, returning from a 10-day trip to the Soviet Union, says that in the Soviet Union "there's no big shots. Everybody's plain and simple. Even Mr. Brezhnev." There are "100 nationalities living in peace." Ali saw "only one policeman. I didn't see no guns. No crime. No prostitutes. Not one homosexual. No hitchhikers, not one beggar, no bad, bad poverty;" and "I never felt so free from being robbed." Ali says it is a "lie" that there is no freedom of religion in the Soviet Union, because he saw houses of worship for Moslems, Jews and Catholics.

* *

Rockwell International has just signed a \$4.1 million contract to deliver 20 Rockwell-Goss presses to the Soviet Office of Party Newspapers and Printing House. Asked about potential political uses of the presses, a spokesman said the company's only interest "is that [the presses] run efficiently, effectively and do the job they're supposed to do. What's printed on them isn't our concern."

SOURCES: McGovern: June 29, 1978, Washington Weekly. Young: June 12, 1978, U.S. News & World Report interview. Quigley: Columnist William F. Buckley Jr., May 23, 1978. NCEC: 1978 NCEC fund-raising brochure. Harrington: July 14, 1978, National Review Bulletin. Hatch and Schmitt: Article in The Washington Star, July 3, 1978. Cambodia: Jeffrey Hart column, May 27, 1978. Young, Evans and Novak column. Ali: John D. Lofton Jr. column, June 28, 1978. Rockwell: July 3, 1978, The Pink Sheet on the Left.

Washington Report

At least 24 states conditioned their approval of ERA on the ratification period's not extending beyond seven years, says Washington University law professor Jules Gerard. All these states' ratifications will automatically lapse next March 22.

* *

Feminist lawyers, frustrated with ERA's troubles, are exploring a tax maneuver to pressure states that haven't ratified the amendment. Women living in unratified states could change their legal address to another state, thereby depriving their home state of tax revenue.

* *

Instructions for participation in the recent Washington, D.C., pro-ERA demonstration, including such information as what color clothes to wear, were mailed out by Bella Abzug's Commission on the Status of Women in franked (taxpayer-paid) envelopes.

* *

Liberals meeting in Washington, D.C., are so concerned with the New Right's successes that they are considering adopting New Right tactics. Said Harold Wolfe, the ADA activist whose booklet on the New Right was excerpted in July's CD, "Maybe we should start forming committees to gather funds for one-issue purposes. Maybe we should do what they're doing—and beat 'em."

* *

More than 6 million workers are paid directly by Uncle Sam if one includes those paid by federal government contracts, research grants and matching payments for the wages of local government officials, reports the *Washington Post*.

* *

Worried by the label "billion dollar Congress," Congress is considering breaking its legislative budget into two bills. In another effort to dupe the public the House recently voted to cut its budget 2 percent but delegated the task to the House Administration Committee, which decided to cut the House itself

only 1 percent and cut related organizations, like the Library of Congress, 10 percent.

* *

The federal government's 15,792 lawyers are lobbying for a "Career Service Plan" which would take government lawyers out of the general white collar pay system and put them in a plan, endorsed by the American Bar Association, that would be administered by the lawyers themselves. Last year the average government lawyer earned \$27,606 plus generous fringe benefits while the average nongovernment lawyer earned about \$26,000.

* *

To raise one person above the federal poverty line of \$4,430 costs \$36,000, according to a study by *Wall Street Journal* editor Robert Bartley. Bartley points out that in 1967 the official estimate of the poverty population was 27,769,000, while transfer payments ran to \$47.1 billion. By 1975 transfer payments had grown to \$115.6 billion—an increase of \$68.5 billion—but the poverty population had only dropped 1,892,000, an annual cost of \$36,000 per person removed from poverty. (All dollar amounts are 1972 dollars.)

* *

The House Committee on Communications has proposed a bill that will give all present TV station owners licenses in perpetuity. In other words, citizen groups could no longer threaten a TV station running vulgar or politically biased programming with loss of its license.

* *

Conservative news critic Reed Irvine has begun publishing *The Washington Press*, a four-page tabloid covering news the Washington media ignore. The first edition included news on a Capitol Hill demonstration by Cambodian refugees, admission by Rep. Donald Fraser (D-Minn.) that he manipulated his staff payroll in violation of the law, and congressional demands for retaliation against Cuba.

* *

Anti-OSHA leader Rep. George Hansen (R-Idaho) recommends the following actions by a businessman when an OSHA inspector shows up: 1) consult with your attorney; 2) demand a warrant; 3) challenge the validity of any warrant with the following questions: Do you have any evidence of unsafe practice? Are you here on a complaint? Are you here because of an accident?

* *

The federal education establishment has finally admitted it's time to get back to the three Rs. A recent National Academy of Education report prepared for HEW secretary Joseph Califano says, "American education should be paying much more attention to doing a thorough job in the fundamentals of reading, writing, and numbers, especially with ages five to eight. . . . The evidence seems to call for a return to group, teacher-led instruction. . . . It appears that easy school programs do not lead to as high pupil achievement as more difficult ones. . . . For beginning reading, a 'code emphasis' [phonics] approach produces better results than a 'meaning emphasis' [look-say method]."

* *

The proposed 1979 White House Conference on Families has been postponed to 1981 because of conference chairman Wilbur Cohen's illness and White House fears that the conference would raise such controversial issues as homosexuality and abortions on the eve of the 1980 elections.

* *

The ultra-left Institute for Policy Studies has announced the formation of the National Security Association or League to provide assistance to members of the intelligence community, "especially those who have signed secrecy oaths" or who "have something that they wish to disclose and need assistance," according to IPS official Ralph Stavins. Founding members of the new group include John Stockwell and Frank Snepp, both of whom recently published sensitive CIA information.

JOHN BOARDMAN

234 E 19 St, NYC

30 August 1978

Brutus Bulletin #19 arrived today. I think we may as well put each other on our regular trade lists, since lately we seem to be sending each other our 'zines anyway.

Congratulations on your Runestone award.

I see from the George Ball quote printed from Conservative Digest that a man with much foreign policy experience sees the Sino-American alliance as a matter of sheer practical politics. From a practical point of view, China as an ally against the USSR makes as much sense now as the USSR as an ally against Germany did in 1941. Political leaders have always seen it this way. In 1941, Churchill said, "If Hitler invaded Hell, I would say a few kind words about the Devil in the House of Commons." This attitude also guides our American leaders today.

The "Human Rights" business is just window-dressing. It applies to dissidents in the USSR, but has nothing to do with countries like Nicaragua or South Korea that are already firmly in our grip.

You are at liberty to reprint anything I say about this Tretick-Oaklyn-Walker-Lakofka business. As I mentioned in Graustark #385, I sent Tretick's letter back to him, and refused his entry fee. I have not yet heard from him about this, and I will hold this letter to the end of this week in case he writes. In the event that he does, I'll pass his reply on to you.

Do you know the story about Buddy Tretick and Edi Birsan? Edi Birsan has for several years been active in NY City Diplomacy and Dungeons & Dragons fandom. He has a rather unusual background; his father was a Lesbian. (Well, what else would you call someone born on Lesbos?)

Some time around 1970, when Edi was just getting into postal Diplomacy, he was placed in a game with Tretick. Buddy, or whatever his name is, assumed that his new acquaintance's name was pronounced "Eedi" and that it was short for "Edith". Edi played along with this for the sake of continuing a useful alliance. Buddy asked him for a photo, and Edi sent one of a man and woman in bathing suits, with the comment "Me and a friend". (This was perfectly correct.) Buddy got quite interested, and eventually tried to set up a date with "Edith" for his next trip to New York. (Buddy is married.) Then Edi published the whole business to Diplomacy fandom, to the general amusement of everyone except Buddy.

(Oh, I can't do this story justice. You'll have to hear Edi tell it.)

I am enclosing a letter I received from Odd Rod, which is self-explanatory. Under separate cover I am sending an old issue of Graustark with my own satire of the "IDA", and a few other items I found lying around, in which you might marginally be interested.

Galen's letters are an overdue antidote for the senseless euphoria over Proposition 13. Only the surplus in California is saving the state from instant disaster, and that isn't going to tide them over for more than a few months. We are now seeing a rush of politicians, from the Zen Jesuit in the state house on down, trying to get on board the bandwagon. Human nature being what it is, in a few years they will be rushing equally fast to dissociate themselves from the disaster that Proposition 13 has caused in the public sector.

Meanwhile, Jarvis is in trouble for drunken driving. I suggest he was in the same state when he wrote that Proposition.

Somewhere around the place I have an Irish letter comparable to the Aggie letter. When I was at a relativity conference in Texas some years ago I heard a number of Aggie stories, including the one about the barmaid. This barmaid, it seems, once told three men that she could identify the universities of three men drinking at her bar. "You are from Princeton," she said, "and you are from Harvard, and you are from Texas A & M."

"You're right!" they told her. "But how did you guess?"

"You," she said, "have exquisite manners. You could only have graduated from Princeton. And you," she said to the second man, "carry on an extremely intelligent conversation. That means you're a Harvard man."

"And how did you guess I was an Aggie?" said the third man.

"I saw your class ring when you were picking your nose."

Locally there are a great many T-shirt slogan. I know a woman who manufactures them in a loft in the garment district and sells them to shops in Greenwich Village, and she says that her best seller is one that reads "Bitch in Heat". There are also T-shirts with lettering in the computer style: "Software", "Does Not Compute", "Garbage In, Garbage Out", etc. And she also has a line of Shakespearean titles: "Much Ado About Nothing", "A Midsummer Night's Dream", "Measure for Measure", "Love's Labor Lost", and, in children's sizes, "The Tempest".

But the best bumper sticker I've seen in the past decade was one that read "America - Love It Or Leave It". It was on a car with Quebec plates. In Manhattan.

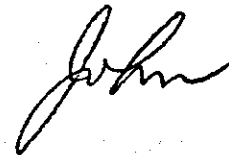
I don't think the Sam Brown quote is at all "absurd". Certainly he ought to know, better than you or I, why the Pacifist movement was such a failure. When they are running as "economy" candidates on every other matter, Congress is willing to vote more for military expenditures than even President Carter wants. This is understandable, as a government study dating from the early '60's (and made public by the usual "leaking" route) says that high military spending is an absolute necessity for the health of the American economy, and that without it we would be in a severe depression.

Several issues of BB have tried to persuade us that the US is in great danger of military weakness. Is the next issue going to persuade us that Arnold Schwarzenegger is suffering from muscular dystrophy?

I like the "Does Ron Kelly exist?" letter. I wouldn't have believed that Peggy existed if I hadn't met her. (I presume that Peggy Gemignani is meant here?)

The 3rd-class-mail bundle will include 2 pages from Graustark #386, which will not go to press until the 9th, but which contains further comment on this Tretick-Oaklyn business.

Stay well,



~~DANN! - I seem to have misplaced, or maybe thrown away, Odd Rod's letter.~~

No - here it is!

PS: I have just found in the library, but have not yet read, a book entitled Operation Dropshot. It is about a plan put together in Washington in the late '40's or early '50's, for a nuclear war with the USSR sometime in the period 1957-59. There's probably another and better one available now, which will similarly become public in some 20 years' time. Ever since the Cold War began, the US has been saying "Lemme at him!" while the USSR, with its peace campaigns, has been saying "Hold him offa me!" Now guess who's going to win.

((For a power that's been so eager to "Lemme at him!", doesn't it seem strange that the number of Commie-vs-Free states in the world has steadily gone in their favor? "Hold him offa me!" is certainly true; 'hold him offa me while I conquer still more.' The ability of you Pacifists to close your eyes to all, recognizing only that which reinforces your own screwy notions, never ceases to amaze me. You have that ability in common with the Communists themselves, hell-bent on destroying a system that has given a better life to more people than anything else in the history of humanity, in order to free their serf-like system from the burdens of war so it can, in theory, try to one day give everyone the kind of life our system already provided in the early 1900s. And they're deadly serious, just as I'm afraid you are. It's like the North Koreans claiming they were invaded by the South in 1950; six hours after being "invaded", the Southern capital fell to what we must presume they'd call their "counter-attack."

((cont'd))

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((cont'd))

(Reply to Boardman, continued)

I think your kind of folks would probably believe that, too. Blame the war on the South's "aggressiveness", their instant collapse on "corruption", and the following bloodbath as we now see in Cambodia as their "just desserts" for being no doubt a "tool of the CIA". Then we see a grown man, physically at least, such as the exalted Edward Kennedy say that rather than military action such as McGovern proposes, we should count on the "full moral force" of the 'community of nations' to keep Cambodian Communist excesses in line. In other words, wring our hands and look the other way. Shit.

What causes this insanity in our system? I wonder what fatal flaw we possess that causes such irrationality. Why this seeming sense of guilt that our system is successful, that we 'have', when so many others are failures and 'have not'? It doesn't bother ME; I'm Proud of our success! Why do so many others, Kennedy for instance, do all they can to destroy it and hand the world over to the barbarians? I'd appreciate the views of any, even all the readership on this general topic.

On the Ball view of "practical politics" making China nothing more than an ally vs the 'common foe': what other view is there? Did anyone think our overtures to China were to enlighten or liberalize the Mao regime?

On Proposition 13, there certainly are problems. Just like when the 13 colonies gained their independence and found they lost the protection of the Royal Navy and the army they'd always taken for granted. And the Articles-gov't couldn't work. Still, did that mean that the War of Independence was a mistake? No, it was only the first step. It had to be followed by a conservative counter-revolution-of-sorts in the way of the Constitution, re-establishing a central government and similar non-revolutionary items. Likewise with 13: the tax pie has been reduced in size, now it must be re-sliced so that the reductions come out of the flanks of the Holy Cows of higher-ups salaries first and foremost, 'street-level' functions last. THAT part will be harder to do, for the Holy Cow of Lots-of-Unquestioned-Goddies-for-the-Top is pretty near the heart of things, I'm afraid. Still, there's no way that even with the troubles under the Articles, anyone would be any better off under George III again.

The humor sections were good, and much appreciated. If there's one thing I want to get more of for BB, it's humor.

I presume Peggy G. was the one, but can't say for certain; the item was a contribution from Ron Kelly, and I ran it as-is.

While we seriously disagree on things such as your "USSR with its peace campaigns", I appreciate the chance to present such other-world views to the readership. Are you folks finding it as incredulous as I do? Thanks for the letter.)) Jm.

CRAIG REGES

1501 Higgins Hall, WIU, Macomb, IL 61455

As to my being schizo, ever met a Dippy player who wasn't? But Conrad is wrong. What "Changing of the guard" is, is a sort of coastal crawl. No convoy is necessarily involved. F Bel-Hol and A Hol-Bel is are legal under the "Changing..." rule. The idea is that since A Hol-Bel is a land movement, (armies not going on water) and F Bel-Hol is a sea movement (most ships not able to go on land, at least 'til we introduce hovercraft to the game) that both moves succeed. So only 2 units are necessary for "Changing...", not three as Conrad suggests.

I also approve of Bernie Oaklyn's zine and GMing, what I've seen of it, in both zines, and since I've seen all of his issues, I feel qualified to judge that. So

contd

Reges, continued

such approval is not based on CLAW AND FANG alone. Further, I can say just about anything I want, claim I know anything, and not have to prove any of it. If I say I know something, then I should have to prove it, but this does not hold true for Diplomacy politics, obviously. I have read or received a dozen different claims that "I have definite proof that Oaklyn is Tretick" or "There is a burgeoning consensus that Oaklyn is Tretick" or some such. If you have definite proof Conrad, Rod, and whoever else, where in the hell is it?! Put your money where your mouth is or SHUT UP! I'm glad to see Steve McLendon is going to print some of it. Perhaps then we can separate fact from fancy.

(By the way, I have definite proof that Rod Walker is really the Easter Bunny!)

((Print it!

Actually, I thought I remember John Boardman saying something about Rod being the same as Len Lakofka. Does that make Len Lakofka the Easter Bunny? Has anyone ever found the Easter Bunny answering Len's phone? Is all this shaking your faith in the existence of Ron Kelly? Stay tuned to this station when next week we present another thrilling episode of TRUTH...(beep,beep) ..or LA GUERRE (bro-o-n-nkk!))

J. M.

RONALD MAZURKIEWICZ (2 letters)

...After all of that wargaming I observed, and our little test game, I have started working again on the BARBAROSSA game. The first project I started was to get all the Luftwaffe counters in order. I am using your light blue blank counters to make my air bases. Enclosed are some mistakes in numbering which show how the airbases look. The air units themselves have the traditional symbol and the combat factors. Getting my list of air units needed in order. I finally looked at a German language book on the Luftwaffe I had purchased a while ago. To my surprise I have found that DIE VERBANDE DER LUFTWAFFE by Wolfgang Dierich is actually a listing of EVERY Gruppe and Geschwader in the Luftwaffe and where they operated! It's everything I've ever hoped to see on the LW. All I have to do is translate all 300 pages and I'll have a complete OB of the LW for the entire war! What a project, though. I'm up to JG5 so far after 2 days.

I was also glad to have your comments on the intelligence and coding question. It clarified a lot of my thinking on the subject since I know so little about the business. I still am surprised, actually, that there is so much unknown and hidden about WWII after all these years. You'd think it would all be old hat by now. But, no, it's still too hot to handle. I just found out that Churchill's and the British government's notes on the German peace feelers of 1939-40 have been locked up for 100 years. What could they be hiding, hey?

The xerox came from the National Lampoon magazine. There really are NO sacred cows as far as they are concerned. They don't stick to laughing and making fun of just the Blacks, Poles, etc., EVERYONE is on their list. I, by the way, put your smoking ad up at work. It had a pretty good reception. As an extra benefit, an older fat slob woman who sometimes works 3d shift and smokes constantly, has stayed away from me. Offended? I don't care.

Seeing that joke of an ETO game ((at GenCon)) made me interested in the BARBAROSSA game again. That's what prompted the LW work; right now I'm working on the supply rules also. The map of the southern $\frac{1}{2}$ of the front is prepared as far east as Zhitomir.

cont'd

Ron Mazurkiewicz (cont'd)

Another thought which occurred to me on the matter of intelligence and WWII. I am re-reading HITLER'S WAR and am struck again by what a mess Canaris made of German intelligence. All of a sudden I was struck by the implication for our present-day CIA. I had always favored the "efficient" centralization of intelligence under one super-efficient organization. How much better this would be than a multiplicity of competing groups. But, look what happens in Germany. Except for the small SD, the Abwehr had control of all intelligence operations. And look what happened! Maybe you need a multiplicity of intelligence organs so they can watch each other as well as the enemy.

((I stayed at Ron's place in Milwaukee, and thoroughly enjoyed the stay. A pure 'bachelor pad' made up of nothing but four--with me--right wing wargaming nuts! If it hadn't been for the AFRICAN CAMPAIGN at GenCon I won, I might have gotten in more gaming than I did. Anyhow, Ron brought out some good points. Primarily, on the ENIGMA machine matter. Assuming you are familiar with the topic, you must realize as I should have but didn't, that no one would make a code machine for general usage by all services which, by the mere possession of one, would completely open access to all coded service messages. Rather, it would work like ours, where possession of a machine would do little more than convince the enemy that breaking the code is a pointless gesture. (When I was in Crypto school in the USAF, they told us the Soviets had the same machines "and probably in better condition than these school models".) However, this requires a daily (or so) card change or something similar, which in the German case was a "strip" of some sort. In effect, a changing of the combination each day. Now, if the Allies were reading it and passing the stuff on on a same-day basis as they apparently were, then obviously the machine, while a vital and necessary link, was superfluous without the Daily Strips! How were THEY obtained? Likely a high-level traitor that was in a position to pass on a month's worth or so at a time. (One would prepare as few ahead as possible for security, yet distribution time and future use for, say, a long U-boat cruise would require some week's worth ahead.) No one has said who this was, or indeed acknowledge that such a person existed. Yet obviously, no nation would have machines in use which, by simply having one, would automatically decode everything you put into it forever when such machines are on every ship and in every battalion HQ in the far-flung empire of the Third Reich at war. There HAD to be more than we're told. Today's crypto is like a nuclear submarine to Fulton's CLERK MONT, yet both are steamboats; the basic operating principles are the same. Thus my conclusions in agreeing with Ron.)) J. M.

JOHN BOARDMAN

((--sent in a couple of items: news clippings about some crook fired off the NYC Mayor's staff for misconduct, and another headlined "US Won't Lead Push To Topple Camb. Regime" to which John penned in "Guess why?". In his leftwing world, the answer to that is because the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia is "a tool of the CIA". Among the items in the press release about the crook being fired, they mentioned he was a draft-resistor-type in years gone by, to which John added "No Pacifists for our mayor!" That's how the world appears through rosy-red glasses of the left. Also included were some samples of other publications of his which were a little better. An old GRAUSTARK had an article in it called "The Incessantly Discordant Aviary", a lengthy spoof of the old IDA, and something called DAGON with a well-written review of a King Arthur game. The latter closed with John's MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY that had two contradictory items, the first a regretful note about the levelling of a slum infested by some 'ecology' freaks who so resented an attempt at eviction that they killed a policeman, not wanting their lifestyle of keeping packs of dogs among their nature-like dropping of human manure in the yard to be interrupted; and a second item attacking the Bakke decision and citing violence against Blacks. On Bakke and the racial attacks, John says "While these things are going on, it is not merely misinformed to claim that something called "reverse discrimination" exists and must be ended. It is inhumane and obscene." As to the dung-loving nature children and the murder they committed, John only decries the destruction of the house, closing this time with "So far other ecologists have not commented on the defeat suffered by their cause.")) J. M.

French fleet bombards Tuscany; Tunis holds against naval assault

PARIS — During a news briefing given by the French government a spokesman for the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs was asked about the increasing hostility with the Kingdom of Italy in the western Mediterranean. The following reply is an excerpt from that press conference.

"The continued confused situation in the western Mediterranean requires strong stabilizing action, as we have mentioned before.

"To this end we are solidifying current lines and positions, and have sent our fleet to the Italian peninsula which may appear to some as a move hostile towards the government of Rome.

"Actually, the fleet is only putting into port to accomplish a limited dual mission: to attempt to drum up support among the

unemployed, but able bodied fellows there, for the coming struggle against the ominous Turk, and to assist a team from the Sorbonne which is digging up some valuable Etruscan pottery in the hills north of Rome.

"This has been done, we might add, with the concurrence of one of the important principalities on the peninsula — San Marino. How about that?"

"We will assist our scientists at their dig, do our recruiting and be on our way to the Levant — if our sailors are unimpaired."

At this point the ministry spokesman signaled for questions from the floor.

"How can the French fleet help these scientists, yer Lordship?" asked one sharp-eyed journalist.

"With ship-to-shore gunnery to soften the topsoil," came the astute reply.

Another reporter, who, quite incidentally, had telephoned his mother the night before informing her that he would talk to the head of the French Foreign Ministry, asked: "The Italians have accused you of deliberate provocation and have essentially declared war on France. What response would you offer to this new Italian obstinancy?"

"I let them eat insects." At this point the briefing was ended so that ministry officials could attend an important state function in Monte Carlo. Rumor has it that they will watch the upcoming naval battles through telescopes mounted strategically near the gaming tables.

The moves

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

Army Bulgaria holds
Army Vienna to Trieste
*Gains Bulgaria and Trieste. Builds one; plays one short for the coming game year since there is only one vacant home supply center in Austria's possession in which to build.

ENGLAND

Army Denmark to Livonia
Army Norway to St. Petersburg
Army Sweden to Finland
Fleet Gulf of Bothnia supports Army Norway to St. Petersburg
Fleet North Sea stands
Fleet Norwegian Sea to the Barents Sea
*Remains even.

FRANCE

Army Burgundy supports German Army Munich
Army Marseilles to Spain
Army Tunis holds
Fleet Gulf of Lyon to Tuscany
Fleet Spain (south coast) to the Gulf of Lyon
Fleet Western Mediterranean supports Army Tunis
*Gains Tunis. Builds one.

GERMANY

Army Munich holds
Army Prussia supports Army Silesia to Warsaw
Army Silesia to Warsaw (dislodged; must retreat to Berlin or disband)
Fleet Baltic Sea conveys English Army Denmark to Livonia
*Remains even.

ITALY

Army Greece supports Austro-Hungarian Army Bulgaria
Army Tyrolia to Venice
Fleet Apulia to Naples
Fleet Ionian Sea supports Fleet Tyrrhenian Sea to Tunis
Fleet Tyrrhenian Sea to Tunis
*Gains Greece; loses Trieste and Tunis.
*Removes one.

RUSSIA

Army Bohemia supports Army Warsaw to Silesia
Army Galicia supports Army Warsaw to Silesia
Army Moscow supports Fleet St. Petersburg (north coast)
Army Warsaw to Galicia
Fleet Black Sea to Sevastopol
Fleet St. Petersburg (north coast) holds
*Remains even.

TURKEY

Army Armenia holds
Army Ankara to Constantinople
Fleet Aegean Sea supports Army Ankara to Constantinople
Fleet Constantinople to the Black Sea
*Loses Bulgaria & Greece. Removes one.
*The deadline for Winter 1903 builds, retreats and removals is Monday April 3, 1978 at 4 p.m.

Retraction

The Empress Thea has demanded a retraction from Das Gropeswill, concerning the article in our last issue written by Walter Wimplesport. According to the Empress she never said that, "all men look alike with bags over their heads."

After questioning our freelance writer, Mr. Wimplesport concurred with the Empress, saying that she had added that, "there are some big differences." Our sources in Vienna, however, flatly deny that she ever made such a statement.

One can only wonder what the Empress' true feelings on the matter are.

Das Gropeswill

A diplomatic journal of the absurd published weekly in the interest of the deteriorating human condition

Vol 1, No. 6

Bern, Switzerland

Fall 1903

Porcine Pasha packs it in

Turkey gains new ruler

By Mohammed Abdul Eberl

Mid-eastern correspondent

BARCELONA — The frivolous Sultan of Turkey, Abdul Ben George, was disposed in a spectacular coup d'etat by one of his ardently admired acquaintances, Princess Chris of the Florentine House of Whitted.

The double-chinned dawdler, well known for his eager pursuit of pleasure while Turkey — "the sick man of Europe" — was crumbling about him, told reporters here that his Swiss accounts would serve him well to the end of his days.

He said he was confident that Princess Chris — who is only half-Whitted as her connection to the perfidious Florentine house is one of marriage only — would acquit herself well in her new role as Sultana of the Turks.

For his part, he said, he had "no time for daddling with armies and fleets when the civilized world was overrun with succulent daisies."

He was known to have a special liking for the Empress Thea of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, suggesting an undercurrent of intrigue. Her fighting forces recently launched a strong assault on Italy, stunning Chief Jeff, royal kukulorum of the House of Whitted.

Abdul Ben George cryptically noted he was laying in a large supply of fudge-sicles. His only explanation was that he anticipated the West shortly would be increasing its demand for that strange natural resource.

Editor's note — Henceforth all diplomatic and political intercourse with the gov-

ernment of Ottoman Turkey should be conducted with Chris Whitted. Chris works in Finance, and is therefore a good person to get to know. It is our understanding that Ms. Whitted does not possess a mail box of her own, but shares one with the head of



Abdul Ben George

the so-called Florentine House of Whitted, the current head of government in Italy. Should any of the great powers desire to correspond with Turkey without the inadvertent knowledge of Italy, it is recommended that all messages be delivered in person or enclosed in a sealed envelope.

We are sorry to see the Sultan Abdul Ben George go into such an early retirement. He has led Turkey through (late) one disaster after another. Such leadership will be sorely missed. Nevertheless, we know that Ms. Whitted is an able and extremely capable stateswoman and fully expect to see the Turkish crescent enter a new ascendancy.

Kaiser displays confidence despite Silesian setbacks

By Lucibtime O'Booze

Berlin correspondent

SVLT (REUTERS) — "We expect all hostilities on our eastern borders to end quite soon." With this casual bombshell, a high ranking German observer shattered the decorum of the perennial English amphibious landing exercises in Scandinavia.

Braving the chilly seas to the extent of wetting the ermine trim of his swimming attire the "neutral observer," who insisted on remaining unidentified, further claims that "Livonia has always been considered part of the German sphere of influence,

and once the matter has been clarified, we will have no further claims in eastern Europe."

Asked about German reaction to the kidnapping of the Italian premier, the anonymous source fondled his imperial beard and chuckled, "We are more interested in the strength of the Italian fighting man and the recent appointment of Admiral Prince Gioris as Minister of Defense. If we can resolve our differences over the Tyrol, there is no reason for our houses to remain divided. Did you notice which way Princess Margaret went?"

This is a reduced sample of an old Dipzine which I gather was put out by GIs in Europe. The newspaper format is cute, as well as practical for folks in a service print shop. I remember GI xerox machines were always hard to use and poor at doing the job... Presented as a curiosity item and public service.

JERRY JONES expects to see his name mentioned here every issue somewhere, so here it is for #21. His zine is the source of the first headline seen last issue. Write him concerning LD&NS or IDA office nominations at 1854 Wagner, Pasadena, CA 91107.

Contribution from Dave Ditter, who reports his Marine brother-in-law is coming home from Okinawa....



SERVICE COMPANY
Headquarters Battalion
3rd Marine Division (-) (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

IN REPLY REFER TO

From: Commanding Officer
To: Family and Friends

Subj: The return home of, _____

Dear Civilians, Draft Dodgers, and Friends:

Very soon the above named person will once again be in your presence. However, this is not the same contented, responsible, loved one you once knew. Therefore, in making your preparation, to welcome him back to the "World" or "Roundeye Society", you must make allowances for his behavior, and keep in mind the strange environment which has been his home for the past twelve months or so. He may be infested with strange Asiatic diseases, but a few trips to the "Land of the Big PX" will relieve this malady. In other words you will have on your hands an "Asiatic Marine".

In a relatively short time he can be taught to speak English, so pay no attention if he prefers Oriental Jabber. He has been away too long. Be especially watchful when he's in the presence of a woman, and even more so when she's a beautiful woman. Show him no attention if he prefers to remove his shoes before entering the house. Don't be alarmed if, during a rain storm, he removes his clothes, grabs a bar of soap, and runs outside to take a quick shower. After all, this has been standard. Don't show surprise if he puts his mattress on the floor and prefers to sleep nude. Pay no heed to him if you should see him padding through the house in nothing but a towel and a rifle slung over his shoulder. He's probably going to the bathroom.

Say nothing about his constantly digging up the front lawn, since chances are he's digging a defensive bunker or machine gun nest. Praise his ability to eat soup with chop sticks, because it took him almost a year to learn. Be calm when he discovers the scarcity of hot saki, slo-gin, and Orion Beer. Pretend you don't see if he mixes Seagrams VO with his peaches. If he happens to utter the word "Didi", with an irritated look on his face, just leave quietly and quickly because it means nothing less than "Get the Hell out of here." Don't be alarmed if he shouts "Working" into the phone during a conversation, wakes you up in the middle of the night for guard duty, or reaches for his when asked to have a seat. Also, never interrupt his "Asiatic Trance" (A thousand yard stare in a ten foot room). He's just reminiscing.

To avoid a violent fit and emotional rage, never ask him why the Marine down the street held a higher rank than he did. Make no flattering remarks about the Army or Air Force and don't even as much as breathe the word NAVY in his presence. Above all, don't tell him he has to be in by midnight. "Cinderella Liberty" has all but driven him out of his rabbit mind.

Keep in mind that inside that now empty shell of the person you loved, there is still a heart of gold. Treat him with "TLC" (Tender Loving Care), patience, understanding, and an occasional fifth of Jim Beam, and you should be able to rehabilitate him in a minimum time.

So with all this in mind, get the civvies out of moth balls, fill the car with gas, the refrigerator with beer and get the women and children off the streets.....

BECAUSE THE KID IS COMING HOME!!

Sincerely yours,

ODDS AND ENDS

LAST ISSUE or so, I mentioned being #1 in the Leeder "and Lipton" polls. The latter was an error, as Bob Lipton conducted no poll. What happened was that Bob's MIXUMAXU GAZETTE reported the Leeder poll results, and someone else (Boardman? Berch? I don't redall) mentioned a 'Lipton poll' or 'Bob Lipton's poll' which was something I thought I'd just missed. (I haven't folloed my MMGs very closely lately.) Just as I did not hear about John Leeder's results until a couple of weeks after others mentioned it to me, I thought, I must have missed Robert Lipton's too, and went on my first erroneous impression. That's where I went wrong. There's been just John Leeder's poll, reprinted here a few issues back. That's the only poll I'm Number One in.

Also last issue, the start of the Oaklyn/Tretick section began with an item titled MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY. I inadvertently chopped off the credit for it, which was, of course, John Boardman's GRAUSTARK mentioned within the piece. And the pamphlet included was the one mentioned twice in BB 19 and then forgotten that issue! Nothing like organization, I always say!

BACK ISSUES of Brutus Bulletin are unavailable except at prohibitive cost to you. The last two issues were in fact short of the number I would have liked to send. Again, if anyone is done with their copy of #18 and would send it to me, I will reimburse your postage and then forward it to Walt Buchanan who was shorted one of that issue. I'm afraid that if this keeps up, I will have to up my print run again. Maybe when this Tretick business fades out, I'll have a few extras...

HUMOR CONTRIBUTIONS are probably BB's biggest need/want. I prefer you avoid the syndicated stuff, since most people have seen it, and copying that kind of thing would probably cause the biggest stink if someone official took exception to its use. I would appreciate jokes, cartoons, and the like from lesser-seen sources, though, and, you'll have a better BB in hand to boot.

LEE KENDTER Sr commented an issue of so back on the high costs and difficulties involved in publishing a non-xerox Dipzine in defending the 2-sheet, 35¢/issue publishers I'd lambasted earlier. Thinking further on his remarks as to the trouble or even impossibility of correcting masters, the inability to run illustrations, the high initial cost of equipment, etc., I wish to point out this:

The local library has a xerox machine that costs 10¢/copy to use. However, anything over ten copies is 5¢ each. Assuming that a Dip publisher will have a minimum of about 30 copies of each issue, we can calculate it at about 5¢ a page. (College print shops have better rates. And, while housing and wages here are lower than in Philly, I doubt that shipping in and operating a xerox machine here is any less than there. Probably more.) Five cents per page times four pages per issue is 20¢. Add 15¢ for a stamp, and you have 35¢. You also have no mess, ability to run illustrations, an easily correctable master, more free time, no high initial outlay, and no maintenance costs at all! Of course you'll lose money on staples and envelopes, but NO ONE can MAKE money at this. And compared to the troubles of the other system, it would be a small price to pay for the greater ease and better product received. Any of you non-xerox publishers care to comment? Anyone at all?

P.S. If anyone can't find a better price than 10¢ a copy, and can spare a week, send ME the master(s) plus a check. I'll run them off here and return them to you for 2½¢ a copy plus postage. Make out check to either me or Harper Oil Company. I can also reduce a master and then mass-run the copy, and USUALLY can darken light originals, though not always. With first class rates what they are, am I really don't know if you'll come out ahead or not, but, I'm game if you are.

J.M.

Dear Cousin,

Your welcome letter was received and me and your Aunt Bridget thank you kindly for the money you sent. We had seven masses said for your grandfather and grandmother, God rest their souls.

You have gone high places in America, God bless you. I hope you'll not be putting on airs and forgetting your native land.

Your cousin Hughie O'Toole was hung in Derry last week for killing a policeman. May God rest his soul and may God's curse be on Jimmy Rogers, the informer, and may he burn in hell - God forgive me.

Times are not as bad as they might be. The herring are back and nearly everyone has a heart in making ends meet and the price of fish is good, thanks be to God.

We had a fine time at Pat Muldoon's wake. He was an old blatherskite and it seemed good to see him stretched out with his mouth shut. He is better off dead and he'll burn in hell until the damn place freezes over. He had too many friends among the Orangemen, God curse the lot of them.

Bless your heart, I almost forgot to tell you about your Uncle Dinny. He took a pot-shot at a turncoat from the back of the hedge but he had too much drink in him and missed. God curse the dirty drink.

I hope this letter finds you in good health and may God keep reminding you to keep sending over money.

The Brennans are 100% stronger around here since they stopped going to America. Father Flaherty, who baptized you, is now feeble-minded and sends you his blessing.

Nellie O'Brien, the brat you used to go to school with, has married an Englishman. She'll have no luck.

Last week the IRA blew up three more mailboxes and drove the tax collector's auto into the river. Everyone concerned had a glorious time.

May God take care of the lot of you and may He keep you from sudden death.

Your devoted cousin,

Timothy

PS: Things look bright again. Every police barracks and Protestant Church in County Tyrone has been burned to the ground. Keep sending money.

A note on Variants from John Leeder's RUNESTONE #216, dated 8/28/78 :

Any GMs who have games which aren't numbered yet should contact Mike Smolin. ((Remember, this is for Miller Numbers for Variants, not B#s, which are currently unavailable from any source.)) My personal feeling is that any GM whose zines carry variants should send complimentary copies to Mike. This is a "trade" for LORD OF HOSTS, which hasn't appeared in some time, but I'm sure Mike has enough material by now to put out an issue, provided all GMs keep him up to date on game starts and completions. The delays so far seem to be occasioned by Mike's move to California, plus inadequate communication between him and Robert Sacks. I don't know who's to "blame" nor do I particularly care: let's just get things back on track.

The address of Michael Smolin, Acting Miller Number Custodian, is now:
868 Russet Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087.

((And, the new address of John Leeder is 2202 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, Alberta T2N 3H8, CANADA))

J.M.