

"Mudhole? SLIMEY? My HOME this is!"
"That's your own fault, Brux. I'd rather be in Issue 70 of

Mid August, 1980

The

BRUTUS BULLETIN

ET TU, BRUTE

The BRUTUS BULLETIN is a newsletter of postal DIPLOMACYtm brought to you every few weeks by John Michalski ("mih-HOLL-skee") usually, though #69 came from the fertile brain(s) of some witty if sick other characters. Subs to this real thing are available at the rate of 12/\$5, 12/\$4 for resubs. Paid subs are increasing again, so those of you still getting complimentarys can start counting the days... Those wishing to send money can mail it to Rt 10, Box 526-Q, Moore, OK 73165. There are no openings unless by some tomfoolery Dave Perlmutter's 7th spot is still open in the hobby's annual SEVEN DAY DEADLINE game. Write Latches Lane Apts #608, Merion, PA 19066 or better yet call (215) 664-1081.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

A LOT of people were taken in by what must have been the best thought-out fake issue of a Dipzine in hobby history. If you don't know now, BB#69 was a FAKE. You should all have received one, altho I didn't... Anyhow, it was such an outrageous hoax that I am accepting it in the numbering and will call this issue #70. In fairness to you, of course, I am extending all subs by one. If you did NOT get a copy, I will send you a xerox of the original but will have to charge your sub 1 issue for it, as it runs 14 sheets and will not likely go for 20¢ (the original was 7 sheets, double printed. I won't do THAT for you though). Check the letters inside to see who else was taken in by it.

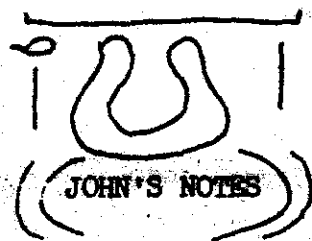
The Ads that appeared there are still true: the wargame zines, now 7 or 8 in number, are still available ppd for \$2, and pretty soon I will have another boxful of assorted dipzines received available for \$3.50. Not quite yet, though.

As I type this, I have 9 sheets done and 3 at work almost ready to go, plus about 3 pages of CANAL DRUGS and 3 pages of my OWN games to run, plus a cover, which adds up to almost 2 full issues. SO, expect a kind of warehousy issue very soon. We have 2 games ending this issue, one the first, ahem, victory Bob Arnett ever got, and the other a gift for yours truly, a win in the second 10-day-deadline game, 1980AQ. Due to the weight of material, the 2 oversized pages of 79lid history I almost have completed will have to wait, plus most CANAL DRUGS, my own games, and maybe even some ~~STORIES OF PAULINA~~ which is growing fast. No Dave Carter goodies this time, altho I do have a number of items yet to run. I am including a full reprint of Tony Watson's recent RURITANIA Empire review, even though the copy I got had a poor first page that reproduced atrociously for me. Still, I think the article merits publication here even with its sad start page. It is worth cutting through the blurs. RURI is available for 10/\$3.50 from Tony Watson at 1481 S Palm #207, Las Vegas, NV 89104, which is cooler this summer than is 73165. This #67 has a drawing of a Darth Vader mask on the cover that my son had me xerox so he could color and paint. If you want one, let me know (a cover xerox to color or paint, that is; write Tony for a RURI.)

HAPPENINGS: The biggest is a non-happening: no TORONTO TELEGRAM has appeared here in a while, so all I have to gross me out are phone calls from Fluff Shaffer, Dave Perlmutter, and George Leritte. There was a Bob Osuch gamestart under Dick Martin's GRAB DOTS!!! banner this time, that had press included with the Winter 1900 gamestart announcements. Should be a good one to watch. "Grey" press allowed, but not black. Watch it to see just how grey gray can be!

Ron Brown is running a poll in his nice MURDERING MINISTERS as to whether people pronounce 'zine as it should be, "keen", or stupidly as "zein". Let him know where you stand by writing 1528 El Sereno Place, Bakersfield, CA 93304.

PS: Cops! Make the following addition to the end of paragraph 3 on the reverse: TORONTO TELEGRAM; TETRACUSPID; DRAGON & the LAMB; ST GEORGE & the DRAGON. Specify that you want to avoid Tretick.



With Konrad Baumeister winding EGGNOG down a little, or maybe a lot, we'll see, I have taken the liberty of extending an invitation to Dave White who puts out a subzine CAT-TASTROPHE there, to move here if and when EGGNOG may no longer have much room for him. I thought it would be nice to have something normal in this thing instead of all the wierd stuff that floats to the surface of CANAL DREGS or PERILS OF PAULINA, and the only other prospective addition to these pages is even worse than these earlier two. Hmm, matter of fact, Perlmutter will also be carried here with his EXTREMISM IN DEFENSE OF LIBERTY (or whatever he may rename it), which will not exactly be something you'd find in the pages of LDNS exactly, either. The more I think about it, the more I think we'll really NEED something normal like CAT-TASTROPHE. (It is so named because Dave is a cat nut like Dave Pilant, tho not like Bill Shaffer. Shaffer likes cats, but only indirectly. "I like to throw them over into the backyard" says Bill, who keeps five dogs behind a stockade fence. I guess Bill keeps meter readers too, as he said he's seen 4 go back there so far, but none have ever come back out...) Anyhow, if any of you are friends of Dave White, you might either endorse EB as a new home, or, warn him it would be better to fold than to get into a pit like this, as you see fit.

MIKE MILLS of EMHAIN MACHA fame is running low on copies of the ZEEN DIRECTORY which lists most every zine available, 75¢ from him at 1585 Quaker Rd, Macedon, NY 14502. If you'd like one, send money soon. I doubt Mike is going to stop to run off a hundred more for latecomers. And while speaking of plugs, Mark Berch has some kind of Dippy Lexicon Directory or something like that, a sort of dictionary of Dip terms I've seen mentioned here and there, available for 3 issue's credit off you sub to DIPLOMACY DIGEST he puts out, or equivalent money, 75¢ or a \$1 or so. I don't have the specifics right here, but I know his address by heart: 492 Naylor Place, Alexandria, VA 22304, right near where the fake issue #69 was mailed from....

EVERYTHING #45, the zeem of the Boardman Number Custodian, has come out again with 24 new game wrapups. For once, no EB games are reported, as all conclusions have appeared 2 issues back. (THIS GM sees to it that they're printed—hint). Anyhow, altho 24 seems like a relatively small number, there are some surprising results. Of the 24 games concluded, 18 of them (75%) resulted in outright WINS! Wins by country are Austria 0, England 3, France 3, Germany 5, Italy 1, Russia 4, Turkey 3. Austria came out dismally, Germany came out astoundingly well. Of 24 games, each country "should" win 1/7 of the time, or have 1/7 of total draws, 3.42 Calhamer Points per country. By this criteria (3.42 being average or normal), Austria did atrociously with 0.58; England did about average with 3.53; France, just above average with 3.95; Germany wowed the world with 5.78; Italy weighed in at half the average, or about what you'd expect, 1.78; Russia and Turkey came in with 'very goods', 4.33 and 4.03 respectively. Game starts showed that the following zines permitted the cheat 'Bernie Oaklyn' Tretick in, and should be considered carefully before you yourself enter into play there:

EVERYTHING is available from the BNC, Lee Kendter Sr, at 4347 Benner St, Philadelphia, PA 19135. (I was about to say that that too is an address I know by heart, when I had to stop and look up the last part of the ZIP code...)

HUMOR is what makes the thing you're reading bearable at times, so if you see something funny or outrageous or gross or such cross your desk or bulletin board at work or school, please send it in to your BRUTUS BULLETIN. I won't have Dave Carter stuff forever.

The TV had something sort of humorous on during the conventions. I didn't watch either one, but luckily GKC has two UHF stations now, and they come to the rescue at such times (Sunday mornings too, something for the kids and unrepentent heathens like me instead of just appeals for money by the Jim Jones types on the major stations). They had on what I guess you'd have to call a late 20th Century revisionist movie of American history called Geronimo that was so sad it was funny. It seems the poor Apaches were forced to attack mean bluecoats for food for their babies; Apaches only defend themselves, only soldiers were attack; a white fortune teller adopted by a white

woman and her children results in the Indians being invited to sit at her table for supper after they take her gun, where she proceeds to teach them how to eat properly; and a fine bearded statesman and Senator representing the Federal government in Washington finally makes all the problems go away, and everyone lives happily ever after. If you think the media isn't run by a pack of assholes the way the government and legal professions are, check this sort of thing out. Too bad for the Indians that there isn't a shred of truth in it, for if a third of such a, uh, 'kindly' view of the Indian way of life and war were true, they would be running half the states west of the Mississippi the way the Mormons control Utah. Instead, sadly, they sit back and live on the government now just like then, hiring more and more brothers into the Bureau of Indian Affairs to dispense handouts to those who don't want to have to come in every day. 'Noble Redman' my ass.

WARGAMING has kind of dropped off here lately; the heat kind of suppresses all activity after a while. We had hoped that hurricane Allen would do us some good, but no such luck. A few clouds appeared the last two days, but that's it. I noted that on the TODAY show though, they trumpet how the southwestern heat wave is broken now that San Antonio and Austin got some rain and 2 70-degree days. I guess they figure that Oklahoma and Kansas and Missouri are kind of like suburbs of Texas, or a scattering of towns around the Ewing ranch. The local TV stations sent some crews to NYC to follow the Democratic Constipation up there, and asked some passersby what they knew of and about Oklahoma. One man knew most of the words to Rogers and Hammerstein's musical OKLAHOMA!; another said 'pretty much like Texas', and when asked what Texas was like, he said "everybody wearing cowboy hats, and horses in the streets". Curtis should take Boardman with him next summer maybe? It all reminds me of a story I heard or read about a year ago of the answers that were given by German schoolchildren before the war on what life was like in next-door Poland. "People there eat grass and live in igloos" one said. He moved to New York after the war, no doubt.

A potential hobby curiosity has perished with the latest BLACK FROG from Jack Masters. Both he and Bob Albrecht (KOBOLD) adopted John Kelley's 79HZ, and just to be a good guy, I was going to submit different orders to each of them. Sadly though, Jack let Bob keep it. Too bad; Lee Kendter doesn't have much interesting stuff like that come his way often. Anyhow, this latest Black Frog has some clever notes and features 6 very entertaining pages of "HOW TO TALK SOUTHERN", a "special aid to those players...who will have to communicate with Bill Hart..(and)also help those of you who have to communicate with Gary Coughlan". You can sub to Black Frog for the outlandish fee of "what they feel the zine is worth". Now THERE'S daring for you! Jack is at 25711 N Vista Fairways Drive, Valencia, CA 91355 when he's not vacationing at the Silver Shamrock casino.

Two paragraphs back I started to mention wargaming. I've tried to let my subs to various wargaming zines lapse, but some, like the BATTLE FLAG that arrived last week, only appear twice every three years, so I guess I still have some to go. Anyone have any news from AH or SPI or such? (Skip any D&D type 'news') I heard that SPI is in trouble; any other good news out there? If they fold, let me know so I can celebrate, OK?

PLEASE CHECK the number on your mailing label. It is the last issue number of BB you will receive, and is adjusted for your +1 for the fake #69. Recent losses include John Kelley who I suspect will return, but maybe not; Alfred Rodriguez, who may have sent a check that wasn't credited, I don't recall; and Tom Mainardi who thought he'd have to sub to get his game in PERILS OF PAULINA I think, and later regretted it. This is the last issue for Bob Albrecht, unless he wants to exchange some credit toward his KOBOLD; no one expires with 71, and only John Lipscomb goes out with #72, but about 5 of you end with #73. Keep alert! Gone are Chatfield and Johnson, but we welcome back John Kador, and a big howdy to our newest subscribers, Robert Olsen, Wichita; Kerry Blant, Decatur; and Michael Fraunces, Pepper Pike, Ohio (my favorite state. Spent a couple of the happiest years of my life stationed in Dayton, not at Wright-Pat, but in Dayton. Almost made a big mistake of marrying a PA girl I knew then, when I should have shacked up with a local girl there in Dayton and saved my money and time instead of commuting across the state every six days...).

Out of space, lucky you. J.M.

78 Tid

DIPLOMATIC STAGE WINDING DOWN, BUT STILL
A COUPLE OF WAYS IT COULD GO.
AUSTRIA DOUBLES!

AUG 6 1980

FALL, 1907:

AUSTRIA (Cartier): A TRI H
ENGLAND (Reese): F NTH & F ENG C A Yor-Bre; A Yor-BRE; F Nwg-NAO; F BAL S A Ber;
A BER S A Kie-Mun; A KIE-Mun; F GoB-STPsc; A Lvn-WAR; F Hlg-HOL
FRANCE (Columbo): F Tyn-WES; F Ion-TYN; F APU-Adr; F TUN-Ion; F NAP S F Tun-Ion;
A VEN S AUSTRIAN A Tri; A TYO S A Boh-Vie; A BOH-Vie;
A SIL-Ber; A MUN S A Sil-Ber
RUSSIA (CD): -no units-
TURKEY (Guajardo): A BUD S A Gal-Vie; A GAL-Vie; A Bul-RUM; A MOS S English A
Lvn-War; A SER-Tri; F ALB & F ADR S A Ser-Tri; F GRE & F AEG
S F Eas-Ion; F Eas-ION

1907:

Austria:	Vie TRI	2	Build 1
England:	Home Nwy Swe Den Bel Hol Kie StP BRE BER KIE	13	Build 3
France:	Par Par Mar Spa Por Mun Ven Rom Nap Tun	9	Remove 1
Russia:	Mos War Ber	0	3 ann., out
Turkey:	Home Bul Ser Gre Rum Tur Bud Sev MOS	$\frac{10}{34}$	even

And I thought this thing would be winding down soon. Hmmm. Let's see what the new year brings, when winter 07 and SPRING 1908 are opened with my mail received at home FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1980. Also, a request. Since the orders are coming in fast and we have some dead time, let me offer this. IF you will write FINAL ORDERS on your orders and I have something from everyone so labelled on Friday, Aug 29, I will run the Spring then. Fair enough? Any orders on file now for the future will be considered Final orders unless I hear otherwise.

Since this isn't FOL SI FIE, you may make your spring 1908 moves contingent upon what transpired in the winter. (personal joke)(but true) Whenever you submit any conditional orders, always label one set as ALL OTHER CASES just in case. Press follows the French COA notice.

COA: Steve Columbo, to 53 Copernicus Drive, Sault Ste Marie, Ontario P6A 6H5 CANADA
(To those of you who have never been near the Great Lakes, that town, or at least the one on the US side by the same name, is pronounced SOO SAINT MARIE, site of the famous Mackinac [or was it Mackinaw?] bridge. Also ore boat traffic, good deer hunting, and winters soooo long and cold that they make a cuddly wife and big fireplace a necessity) (Altho a girlfriend, or friendly at least, will suffice in a pinch) Anyhow...

PARIS-LONDON: You should stop listening to those little voices you hear just before you fall to sleep. They can get me in trouble.

A zine published by Jack Frost
In this issue: 1980 C

ITALY, TURKEY TAKE IT ON THE CHIN

Fall 1908: AUSTRIA disbands F Gre (NRR)

GERMANY retreats F Bel-HOL; disbands F Nwy

Winter 1908: ITALY builds F WAP, F POM

RUSSIA builds F SEV, F STP(sc)

TURKEY builds F CON

Spring 1909:

AUSTRIA (Parker): A VEN holds (NMR)

GERMANY (Osuck): F Hel-BEL; F NTH sup F Hel-Bel; A Mun-EUR; A RUH sup
A Mun-Eur; A KIE sup A Ruh; A TYO sup A Tri; A TRI sup A Tye

ITALY (Hewe): A PIE sup Aus A Vex; F AEG sup Tur A Ank-Con; F Nap-ION;
F Res-TYN; A Yer-WAL; F LON sup A Yer-Wal; A Bel-Pic, dislodged,
destroyed; A Bur sup A Bel-Pic, dislodged, retreat to Gas, Par, War,
or disband; F ENG-Mid; F PIC-Eng

RUSSIA (Sniegowski): F Stp-GOB; A NWY holds; F Bar-NWG; F Wel-IRI;
A Edi-LPL; F NAO-Mid; A ALB sup A Gre; A GRE sup A Ser-Bul; A Ser-BUL;
A RUM holds; F Bul-BLA; F SEV & F ARM sup F Bul-Bla

TURKEY (Jehason): A Sny-ANK; F CON sup F Bla-Bul; F Bla-Bul, dislodged,
destroyed

Deadline for retreats and Fall 1909 is Monday, July 28, at noon. Stan
Jehason advises that the mystery address from #73 is his.

A zine published by Jack Frost
In this issue: 1980 S

SORRY, KENNY!

Winter 1906: AUSTRIA builds A VIE

ENGLAND disbands F Nth

FRANCE builds A PAR

TURKEY builds A CON, F SMT

Spring 1907:

AUSTRIA (Sniegowski): A VIE-Bch; F ION cen Tur A Alb-Apu; A BOH-Mun;
A TYO sup A Boh-Mun; A War sup Tur A Rum-Gal, dislodged, destroyed

ENGLAND (Becker): A KIE sup Ger A Mun; F Nso-MID; F IRI & F ENG sup
F Nso-Mid; A Sil-WAR; A PRU sup A Sil-War; A LVN-Mex; A STP sup
A Lvn-Mex; F BAL-Lvn

FRANCE (Baumeister): A Par-GAS; A Hel-RUH; A BUR sup A Spa-Mar;
A Spa-MAR; F Gas-BRE; F Mid-Spa(sc), dislodged, retreats to POR

GERMANY (Liddell): A MUN holds (NMR)

TURKEY (Osuck): F Nsf-MID; F Wes-SPA; F GOL sup F Wes-Spa; F Tyn-WES;
A Mar sup F Wes-Spa, dislodged, retreats to Pic or disbands; A Alb-APU;
A Rum-GAL; A Bul-GRE; F BLA cen A Con-Sev; A Con-SEV; F Sny-LEG;
A UKR sup A Mex; A MOS sup Aus A War

Deadline for Spring retreats and Fall 1907 orders is Monday, July 28,
at noon. I've got another draw proposed. So vote, OK? PRESS:

LONDON-VIENNA: Your grab of Warsaw is doomed. No back-up troops.

LON-CON: Burnt out key. Actually the silence is welcome relief from your
usual inane profane attempts at Dip humor.

LON-PAR: Don't fail me now.

AND OF COURSE BLACK PRESS: Will the real John Michalski please reveal
which alias he is playing under.

80 D

JUL 24 1980

NEW CZAR RESTORES HOMELAND
GERMANY INVADES ITALIAN AUSTRIA
STILL SIX VIABLE POWERS

Winter, 1906: Germany builds A KIE, A BER. Russian F Swe r SKA, F Bla r OTB. Turkey builds F SMY

SPRING, 1907:

ENGLAND (Mitchell): A Gas-SPA; F Mid S A Gas-Spa/d/r Bre, Nat, Otb; F WES S F Mid; F ENG-Iri; F NWY-Nth; F SWE-Nwy
FRANCE (Johnson): F LVP-Iri; F Spasc-MID; F POR S F Spasc-Mid
GERMANY (Cummings): F DEN S ENGLISH F Nwy-Ska/NSO; A Kie-MUN; A Mun-BOH; A BER-Prü; A PRU-Lvn; A War-GAL
ITALY (Grabar): A Tyo-PIE; A Ser-TRI; A Gal S RUSSIAN A Ukr-War/d/r Vie, Bud, Rum, Ukr, Otb; F AEG S A Gre-Bul; A GRE-Bul; F TUN-Wes; F TYN S F Ion-Nap; F Ion-NAP
RUSSIA (~~Chaffield~~ KIRCHNER): A BUL-Con; A Ukr-WAR; A MOS S A Ukr-War; A STP-Lvn; F SKA-Nth
TURKEY (Becker): F NAF-Tun; F Nap-Tyn/d/r Apu, Rom, Otb; A CON-Bul; F SMY-Aeg

Hmm, you guys are going to wear out my underline key at this rate. Let's see what you folks, and especially the Pope, do for FALL, 1907 due with my mail received at work THURSDAY, August 7, 1980. Press follows.

ROME: Hold on, Russia! I'm coming!

NAPLES: This is the best barroom brawl I've been in since I was arrested for disorderly conduct back in '72. Grabar, that was a mean knee to the groin. I can already tell your shiner will be gone by '08.

CON-BERNE: I see I got my grant. How soon before the \$\$ arrives? I plan to research why Dip players beat on each other's egos so much.

ROMA: I'll gladly vote yes on a four way draw.

DEAR BERLIN BETTE: How can I make up for past transgressions? I apologize for both my barbs and silence even though some of the best came from other sources. Your fickle ally, The Sultan. PS So do it the other way, stab Nate.

NATE: Face it, all you'll ever be able to build is one a year until 1910 or German victory.

DIPDUMB: The gutteral slurs used by my 'allies' show that they're from the gutter.

80

THE CANAL DREGS

July 17, 1980

A zine published by Jack Frost
In this issue: 1980 AQ

ITALY TAKES SPITE SHOT

Winter 1907: GERMANY builds A KIE
ITALY disbands A Mar
TURKEY builds A CON, A ANK

Spring 1908:

ENGLAND (Hewe): F Bar-NWG; F Lpl-WAL; F SPA & F MID sup Its F Tyn-Wes;
A Gas-MAR

FRANCE (Pilart): F Len-ENG; F DEN-Kie; F Wca sup Tur F Ion-Tux,
dislodged, destroyed

GERMANY (Henry): A Swe-FIN; A Kie-RUH; A BUR sup A Mun; A PRU-Kie;
F BAL con A Pru-Kie; F STP holds; A MUN sup A Sil; A Sil sup A Mun,
dislodged, retreat to Ber or disband

ITALY (Mitchell): F Tyn-WES; F Tun-NAF

TURKEY (Michalski): A TYO-Mun; A LVN sup A War; A WAR & A BOH sup
A Gal-Sil; A Gal-SIL; A Ven-PIE; F GOL sup F Nap-Tyn; F Nap-TYN;
F Ion-TUN; A ROM holds; F Gre-ION; A Con-GRE; F AEG con A Con-Gre;
A Ank-RUH; F BLA con A Ank-Ruz; A Sev-MOS

Deadline for Fall 1908 is July 24, at noon. PRESS:

?:"Attitude is the Key"

LOU-GARY: Do you know all 17 stanzas of The Star-Spangled Banner?

1980 Zine + GM Poll Results

Preview peek from Bruce Linsey's VOICE OF DOOM #23

Hobby News

The North America Zine and GM Poll results are out, and I'm very disappointed by them. VOD finished tenth among zines, which isn't all that bad; but I wound up 48th among GMs. (!) I'm disgusted at this; I can only figure that many people seem to disapprove of my enforcement of the "deception of the GM" house rule more than they care about timely publishing and accurate adjudications. GRRRRRRRRRRRR!!!!

In any event, though, my heartfelt congratulations go out to Randolph Smyth, publisher of the continent's #1 zine - Fol Si Fie. I think Randolph deserves this honor; Fol Si Fie has been around for years and is really top-notch. Here's the top ten:

1. Fol Si Fie (Well deserved!)
2. Volkerwanderung (Way to go, Bob! Rookie of the Year!)
2. The National
4. Diplomacy World
5. Emhain Macha
5. Politician (I never saw this one before!)
7. Why Me?
8. Bruxus Bulletin (This one should've been much higher.)
9. Dragon and the Lamb (This surprises me.)
10. Voice of Doom (Aw, shucks!)

Two notable omissions: Grab Dots should have placed in the top 3 zines; and Michalski is the hobby's best gamesmaster!

Don Ditter and Eric Verheiden were tied for first among GMs. Good show, guys!

Well, I too am a little disappointed at least by the outcome. I knew BB wouldn't do too much better than this, altho I was hoping for a 4-6 spot instead of 8; any better is no longer possible when you take solid stands on anything in this hobby, as you will offend somebody along the way. I think GRAUSTARK won top spot last year with 5 total votes, e.g., where most people apparently didn't even think to vote for it. Here we see two strange entrants in the top 10: The National, which is the official zine of the Canadian Dip Organization; and Politician, which is a subzine of EGGNOG that Konrad Baumeister puts out. I'm sure both are fine zines—I've only seen 1 NAT and no POLs, so I can't say definitively—but it leads me to question the number of votes that got them there. Of course I may embarrass myself later when I get the full results and find that BB only drew 6 votes, but my first impression is that a small number of plus-votes for zines which have no "opposition" votes took disproportionately high spots. GRAUSTARK, for instance, won the 1st and last year's 3d poll with top billing, yet this year it didn't even make the top 10. Now I for one did not vote GRAUSTARK very high, but to be up there on top in two of the four polls means that a lot of folks either didn't mention it on their ballots, leaving it only a few high votes, or, a lot of people voted it high for its longevity rather than its content. But if the latter, where is it now? FOL SI FIE, this year's winner, has been a fine reading zine. I don't know about play, as I wouldn't sign up in a game with a cross-border GM or slow deadlines, and especially not when the zine follows the odd GMing practices I've seen Randolph indulge in. It has been a good zine, tho the last year hasn't been as good as other years for enjoyable content. VOLKER and DW are good zines; EM and WHY ME? are sleepers that deserve top 10 spots, as should GRAB DOTS have gone. D&L has slipped some in the last year; MURDRING MINISTERS should have had a top-10 berth too. Well, maybe they're in 11th and/or 12th. I hope TORONTO TELEGRAM is in the top 20; it's in MY top 4. Oh, well.

Thanks to Brux for getting this out so quick. He even beat me and the calls I've been making! Jm.

80AQ wrapup hasn't arrived, and 4 pages of good PERILS of PAULINA must be carried over, sorry. Watch for #71 with 'em in short order!
-John

#1

" EXTREMISM IN THE DEFENSE

July 18,1980

... OF LIBERTY "

(yet another stupid subzine of
The Brutus Bulletin)

GM:David D. Perlmutter
Latches Ln. Apt#608
Merion,PA 19066
(215)664-1081

THE GAME:1978BS

PEACE IN OUR TIME!
ARNETT UBER ALLES!!!
SO ITALY CAN WIN ONE AFTERALL!

Summer 1919:ENGLAND retreats A Nwy-Swe
TURKEY retreats F Rum-Bla

FALL 1919:

(AUSTRIA (James Alan) A VIE + A BUD S A Tri; A Tri H(dislodged/ann.);
F Rum-Bul(ec),A Sev-Arm.

ENGLAND (John Michalski) F BAL S A Swe; A ~~SWE~~ H.

FRANCE (Rod Walker) A BER S A Sil-Mun; A Sil-MUN.

GERMANY (John Boardman) A DEN H; A KIE S French A Sil-Mun;A Mun-RUH;
A HOL S A Bel;A BEL S A Hol.

ITALY (Bob Arnett) F Syr-SMY;F AEG + F EAS S F Syr-Smy; A GRE S A Ser;
A ~~SER~~ S A Gre;A ALB + F ADR + A TYL S A Ven-Tri; A Ven-TRI;A BUR-Bel
A Pic-PAR;F Nth-LON; F Nwg-NWY; F Nwy-STP(nc); F BAR S F Nwy-StP(nc)

RUSSIA (~~Cyrix/Rogers~~ Ron Kelly) A StP H(dislodged ret. to FIN,MOS,LVN
or OTB); A Ukr-SEV

TURKEY (Mark Berch) F BLA S A Con;A CON S F Ank; F ANK S F Bla; A BUL H.

Supply Center Chart for 1919:

AUSTRIA:	Bud,Vie, Txx , Sxx ,RUM	3	-1
ENGLAND:	Lon ,Swe	1	-1
FRANCE :	Pxx ,Ber,MUN	2	even
GERMANY:	Hol,Bel,Den,Kie, Mxx	4	-1
ITALY :	Ven,Rom,Nap,Tun,Mar,Spa,Por,Gre' Ser,Bre,Lvp,Edi,Lon,War,Smy,NWY, STP,PAR,TRI	19	+4 which spells V*I*C*T*O*R*Y
RUSSIA :	Sxx ,Mos,SEV	2	even
TURKEY :	Ank,Con,Bul, Rxx	3	even

Thank god this thing is over. I thought Bob would never luck into the win. Hee,hee. No really,congratulations Bob on a very well played game. This was a good one folks. Too bad you only got to see the end. FYI this is an orphan from Against The Odds and was an orphan before that too. Well now that this is over I am opening a new game. 7 day deadlines. Black Press. Phone orders allowed. Send pref lists. Bill Shaffer allowed. \$4.00 + \$1.00 NMR fee = \$5.00 to send me. C'mon guys. I will print endgame stuff and stats next issue.

PRESS:(what there is that is)

Turkey:If you guys are not going to help me out,just forget this game.
England-Germany:Create a solid wall of units against Arnett and then you decide to get cute.

Rome:Dave Crockett move over!

ZINES RECEIVED sort of

Zines Received is a semi column -type thing I'd like to do every other issue or so, but almost never do. Today is a hot-as-hell Saturday with no wargamers around answering their phones, so with the office typewriter still here, I'll do up a page or three on the zines ("zeens", Ron) that have arrived in the mailbox lately.

THE BALTIC BATTLER #9, Torbjorn Strom, two dots over each "o", Lansmansvagen 19, (ditto on those "a"s) S-370, 10 Brakne-Hoby, SWEDEN. Good English, only some parts in non-translated Swedish, game openings, 80¢ an issue. 26 oversize pages. Discourages non-Scandinavian additions to the rolls as it costs him too much. Trouble is, third class goes across town or to Sweden for 20¢/2 oz, but airmail is 31¢/1/2 oz, and international 3d class means via slow boat, months instead of weeks or days. Issue is filled with articles, a few zine plugs, letters, endgame statements (Swedish), houserules, on an insert, games, press, notes, maps, 1 blank page, 1 page of Swedish in repro too weak to read. Costs, if he'd take you on, are twice what the average here is, but you get 3 to 5 times the material of an average US dipzine. This is always a welcome item to receive here, as it means a good hour of reading to do. Really nice if you can get it.

MURDRING MINISTERS #22, Ron Brown, 1528 El Sereno Place, Bakersfield, CA 93304. 12/\$4, no openings just now, but some coming up as soon as Al Rodriguez admits that 78II is lost to him (Dave Pilant and I are puppeting for Dick Martin's Austria and should soon have the game put away.) Ron is really getting onto this double-sized issue stuff, this being another big fat one coming out on 20¢ postage like your BB. Ditto, with news items, letters, percentile game analysis of MM games/players, mailing list (71, not bad), houserules, games, press, subzine "Twilight Zine #4" by Al Rodriguez (he gets in there a lot, doesn't he?), a drawing of an Aggie dog carrier, a running D&D story column I skip, notes. Pretty good zine and seemingly getting better, as I've been wiped out in his games except for the one game I'll likely pull a 1/2 CP out of, so it always has "good news" for me! Darn few I can say that of anymore, I'm afraid. Definitely worth trying.

FOL SI FIE #130, Randolph Smyth, 275 SE 3 st #314, Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 0G4 10/\$4, I don't beleive he has game openings. Trying to wind down the large number of games running currently, a good idea. 14 full pages, ditto, repro better than it has been. Mailing list, notes, games & press (a bunch this time), letters. FSF has been known for its articles and plans to return to having them; recent issues have been letter-heavy, overburdened with politics. Read up on my arguement with him on GMing practices!

THE VOICE OF DOOM #20, Brux Linsey, 71 Hudson Terrace Apts, Newburgh, NY 12550 10/\$4.50 or 25/\$10, no openings (what else is new?) 12 pages, good repro. Articles, letters, and news only this time, games in every other issue or so. For you nitpickers, you'll love the Smyth-Linsey debate on the legalities of inland fleet builds. These two deserve each other! Both really get off on outrageous extrapolations and pedantic detail, so if neither one poops out, it could lead to a really nice running debate! Just don't take it too seriously. Don't take ANYTHING too seriously in VOICE OF DOOM.

EGGNOG #51 Konrad Baumeister, 11416 Parkview Lane, Hales Corners, WI 53130. 10/\$3.50, no openings "ever again". EGG is getting ready for a reduced schedule as Konrad heads off to college (where?) this fall, an event that some of you may recall does involve a few changes in lifestyle. 10 ditto pages, decent repro. Music column, letters, notes and news, Demo game, press, subzine CAT-TASTROPHE by Dave White, and a two-page attack on the BB policy of allowing standbys the option of accepting or refusing any standby call without being nailed as player of record for the likely mess that the original player dropped out of. All in all, an above average zine indeed, a lot more to it than your run of the mill zine that is just a handful of game results with a cover. I will answer the article in a future EGGNOG.

WHY ME? #31, Lee Kandter, 4347 Benner Street, Philadelphia, PA 19135 10/\$4, sample for a stamp, no openings, but sign up anyway. 79C should end soon, and Lee has a waiting list because he's one of the best around. Not as short a deadlines as I'd like to see, but, can't have it all. 9 pages, good repro. Origins review, editorial, notes, games & press, 2½ pages of articles. This issue was surprising because it had an editorial denouncing Bruce Linsey for denouncing Lee Jr for what Brux claimed was "cross gaming" when Lee Jr said something about 'I'll get you next game' or equally innocuous when stabbed. Normally Lee would be the last person to resort to personal attack, so Brux must have smarted. Not that I mind seeing hobby feuds—I personally think they're more interesting than a lot of what goes on—but I was surprised to see it in WHY ME? Bruce mentioned it in his VOICE OF DOOM, but I thought it was overstated then and paid no heed. Lee compares Brux to Bernie Oaklyn though, so I gather this isn't a Kathy Byrne type complaint that comes on loud this week, then all apologies and backpedalling next week. Just as well. I feel that if you're going to denounce someone, go ahead and denounce them as an asshole and stick to it, or else don't bother denouncing them at all. Both sides here seem to have agreed... Oh, also another note that Origins will be in San Francisco next year and back to Baltimore after that. BLACK FROG says that DipCon may go with BOTH of them (or in other words, don't look for BB's publisher at either one). Nice break for the west coast though. It will give the California gang a chance to get together the way Origins on the east coast gathers in the BosWash gang. Too bad there's not a knot of active hobbyists in St Louis or Louisville or Denver or Dallas or anywhere like that where normal people congregate. But what is all this doing in a review of WHY ME? ?

LIBERTERREAN #140, Jim Bumpas, 3209 Chambers St, Eugene, OR 97405 12/\$5, published twice a month. Fast games, black press, probable openings. (Jim never advertises openings because he says he has enough volunteers without. Join their ranks for a fast game). Jim's games use a 'phantom' unknown player to cover against NMRs, but often the phantom NMRs too, but other than that, the games are well run. The zine carries some other PBM wargames that seem kind of wierd, kind of like the pacifist-hippie slant of the notes and editorial leanings. John Boardman must like LIBERTERREAN. Not much as zines go, but the fast pace, black press, and reliability factors are there even if the sub fee is a tad high. If you want a different home for a fast game, and don't mind the other stuff, give LIB a try.

BUSHWACKER Vol IX, #8, Aug 1980, Fred Davis Jr, 1427 Clairidge Rd, Baltimore, MD 21207. Free with gamefee, otherwise 12/\$3, subs discouraged. 4 pages, openings listed (all variants), Dipcon announcement, mostly articles. I guess if you're a player you get your results along with this main part. Mr Davis is a long-time hobby figure known for his Variant work. If you're interested in variants, check out a sample.

JIHAD! #4, Glenn Overby II, 23096 Tawas, Hazel Park, Mich 48030. 12/\$6, monthly, 2 sheets, 7 digest-sized pages with reduced type. 5 pages of games, press, and zine announcements, openings, and the like. Carries a wide assortment of games. Some reviews, contest, etc. Steep for a new little zine, but should have an appeal to the extra-Dip gaming crowd.

THE DRAGON & THE LAMB #47, Steve McLendon, Box 57066, Webster, TX 77598. Subs \$7/10 (really!) no openings. D&L is slowly winding down, as are a number of others (EGGNOG recently so announced, CLAW & FANG going shortly, etc.) 14½ pages, 10 of which are games and press, 2 pages of letters, plus cover and notes. Some are variant games requiring an extra amount of time and space. Worth trading for for the news and notes, often carrying nice humor pieces, but too costly for the casual non-playing hobbyist. Too bad this one is going down. This new wave of zines will have a lot of shoes to fill within the next year. I hope one or two at least are up to it. These three sinking ones might be good to emulate. (Where in the heck will people find reliable and solid openings? Bob Sergeant won't have openings forever...) Let's "Bernie Oaklyn" in as a player.

THE VOICE OF DOOM #21, Bruce Linsey, Bldg 11 Apt 21, "Leisureville", Watervliet, NY 12189 (note new address). 10/\$4.50 or 25/\$10, no openings yet. 12 pages, ALL good material: letters, articles, etc. Games next time. THIS is one that is filling a shoe. Check it out!

Someone once said that I treated going to see "Star Wars" as a spiritual experience. Though her statement was made in jest, it was not really all that far off the mark, considering the sense of wonder the film brought to me. Even though I saw the movie twenty-four times over a period of about two years, it never failed to

to have it starting for a long time ago. "A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away". I said a few years ago that I may have seen one just as good: "The Empire Strikes Back." I saw "Empire" in LA, during the last week in June. The movie had been playing in two LA area theaters there for over a month, but had just opened in Las Vegas and the lines were long. As I found out, they were long in Westwood as well. Maddog, myself and our entourage had to wait an hour and a half to get it. I can't complain, never had. I waited in line for a better payoff. I expected the movie theater to be packed and noisy; it proved to be the former, but not the latter. The only sounds were the applause the audience gave each of the main heroes as they made their first appearances. Since that night, I've seen "Empire" three more times, done some thinking on it, and am now ready to do some talking about it. Later on (I'll try to warn you when) I'll be discussing some of the things said and done in the film. The movie has a real zinger at the end, and if you haven't heard of it, or seen the movie yet, you may wish to skip that part of this review. I certainly don't want to be the one to spoil it for you.

"Star Wars" would be a formidable movie to follow, and couple this with the inherent problems that sequels are prone to and you can see that "Empire" had many things against it. If Lucas and company had been foolish enough to try to out-"Star Wars" the movie probably would have failed. But that isn't its mission. The film broadens the "Star Wars" milieu and the characters that people it. The emphasis here is not on action (though there is plenty of that, as much or more as the first film) but on the characters and their environment, their universe, and the problems both face.

The story line picks up sometime after the events in the first film. The Rebels are entrenched in a new base on the ice planet Hoth; Darth Vader, in direct command of the Imperial efforts to suppress the Rebellion. These two elements are coming together just as are important conflicts and meshings of the characters. An episode in the ice during which Luke is captured by a yeti-like critter does more than provide some action; it allows Han Solo to show that something good, something sincere exists inside of him (warned of the hopelessness of his task as he leaves the ice base he turns to the doom-saying technician and retorts "Then I'll see you in Hell!"); we see that Luke has indeed been practising with the Force; and finally, perhaps the series' most impressive character, Obi-wan makes a spec-

tral appearance to tell Luke to head for the Dagobah (that's Dagobah, Mr. Michalski, not Dagobass!) system to study from the Jedi master Yoda. The Empire makes an impressive attack on the Rebel base, utilizing All Terrain Transports, known in the vernacular as "walkers" while the Rebels battle on with infantry, fixed gun positions and speeders, small fast, fighting skimmers. The battle scenes are impressive, with special effects that are easily the equal of those in the first film. The Rebels evacuate their base and the story line splits. Luke proceeds to Dagobah and there undertake further advanced training in use of the Force. Princess Leia, C-3PO Han and Chewbacca flee on board the Millennium Falcon. Plagued by a malfunctioning hyperdrive unit, the pirate-turned-Rebel has to elude Imperial Star Destroyer and TIE fighters, and does so with some daring piloting through an asteroid field. But Solo is more than a good rocket jockey, he's a complex character. He has loyalties both to the Rebellion and to the self-centered life he led previously. He's pursued by bounty hunters sent by Jabba the Hut. And even more important, he's in love with Princess Leia, and she with him, more or less. As the plot coagulates. Back on Dagobah, things are much heavier. The Force, and the underlying philosophical structure it implies, are much more important in "Empire", and Yoda is the sage to guide our way. Some of the concepts broached are deep, but what is Yoda if not a cross between a Zen master and Casteneda's Don Juan? Despite his shortness of stature, the peculiar way in which he speaks, he is the teacher, the dispenser, and seeker, of knowledge. Luke grows as a character; we see him gain strength, but we also see fatal flaws in his make up which could be costly to not only himself, but those around him. The movie moves on more than parallel plot lines; there is a third story developing, centered around Darth Vader. In this movie, Vader is much more than a tool of the Empire in the suppression of the Rebellion. Now in total control of the Empire's efforts, he directs his forces mercilessly, seized by a personal obsession to see the Rebellion snuffed as much as he is concerned with carrying out the task charged to him. The three plot threads dovetail at the cloud city of Bespin. Han and his entourage are there because the mining facilities there are run by Lando Calrissian, an old "friend" of Solo's and the previous owner of the Falcon. The Empire there presumably because the bounty hunter Bobba Fett discovered Han's intended destination and filled the Imperials in. Luke is there because of a vision he had of Leia's and Han's peril in the cloud city, and he leaves Dagobah, against Yoda's wishes to help his friends. Events on Bespin move quickly. Han, Chewy and the Princess are betrayed into the hands of Vader and the bounty hunter; in a particularly effective scene he is carbon frozen into a solid block. Han and the Princess serve as an even more valuable commodity to Vader; bait to lure Luke into his hands, for it is Vader's intention to take the half-trained and malleable young Jedi and yield him up to the dark side of the Force. The light sabre duel between the two is exciting both for its action and its implications. Certainly a fitting climax for the film.

I'm now going to discuss some of the elements of the film. If you haven't seen the movie you may wish to skip the rest of this piece.

Despite the emphasis on the characterization, the special effects in "Empire" are as impressive as those in "Star Wars". They are so good, one accepts them as fact, and doesn't notice that what he is seeing a collection of models and matte paintings. The battle scene on Hoth, and the elephantine walkers is very good, as is the Falcon's dash through the asteroid field. (By the way, I don't have any quibble with the walker's design. It's well

known that legs are a superior form of mobility in rough terrain--much better than treads or wheels.) Especially well done was Yoda. Prior to seeing the movie, I had read that Yoda was a puppet, and I really wasn't expecting much. I was pleasantly surprised. Yoda is amazing! Perhaps in some ways he is the most impressive special effect in the movies. The special effects are coupled with some fine camera work. There are some great shots in the movie: the panorama of the Hoth battlefield as the walkers advance relentlessly and the Rebel infantry flees for safety, or the stark view of the abyss of the airshaft and the jutting structure on which Luke and Darth Vader meet at the film's climax.

The thing I liked the best about the movie was the deepening of the philosophical conflict. The Force plays a much more important role than in "Star Wars". More than just a little magic to help Luke hit the exhaust port on the Deathstar (as some of the ignorant purported it to be), the Force is shown to be guiding element in the galaxy (or the universe, depending on how far you wish to stretch the cosmology...). Vader, the Emperor, Luke, Yoda and Obi-Wan are all personifications of the basic, intrinsic conflict between Good and Evil. Fill the galaxy with stormtroopers, X-wings and walkers if you wish; the fate of the Rebellion and the Empire rests in the hands of a few, who, like Diderot's "great captains", are the only ones capable of creating, molding, and changing history. Those who are initiated in the ways of the Force know this: Ben calls Luke their (the forces of good) last hope. Darth Vader realizes the importance of a farmboy from Tatooine; both he and the Emperor are willing to risk a considerable amount of mundane resources to capture one young man. In Vader's final speech to Luke, he tells him that he is the only one who can destroy the Emperor; indeed, that is Luke's destiny. Things that appeared to be pure chance in the first film, (Luke finding Ben Kenobi and being pulled into the Rebellion, for instance) are now revealed to be part of a much more tightly constructed web. The web is tied completely in "Empire" when Darth Vader, in a desperate attempt to sway Luke, reveals to the young man that he, Darth Vader, is his father. A very moving scene in the film, and an incredible twist to the over all storyline.

The film leaves a few questions. First, and in my opinion last in importance, is Han Solo's fate. Perhaps a good portion of the next film will be devoted to the rescue attempt by Chewy and Lando (and perhaps the others as well). I don't have much doubt about Solo's rescue, though. More interesting questions present themselves. Will Luke go back to Yoda to complete his training as he promised? Has he already tainted his chance at being a Jedi by going against the advice of his masters? By leaving Dagobah and heading for Bespin did he inalterably change events? Remember, Yoda said to Luke, when the latter was contemplating leaving Dagobah and going to Bespin, "You must decide how best to help them. If you leave now, you would destroy all for which they have fought for and suffered." (Or something to that effect). Does this mean that leaving in mid-training has cost Luke the chance to be the "savior of the galaxy". Is this why Yoda talks of "another"? And of whom does he speak? A character we know (Leia? Han?). I doubt it. Remember, Lucas envisions the Star Wars saga to include three trilogies, of which we have seen two thirds of the middle set. The final trilogy will not even have Luke, Han, The Princess and their cohorts in it, according to what I've read. Does this mean someone's kid will be around to right things in the final trilogy? This train of thinking certainly aids implications to Han and the Princess' love for one another. Perhaps Luke will

destroy the Emperor in the final film of this set, but die in the effort. He must meet Vader again...and this time with the full knowledge that Darth is his father; what will this portend for that final battle? Will Luke yield himself to the Dark Side? In "Empire", Luke chose the Abyss (and I use the capitalization intentionally) over joining his father? The temptation may be even stronger, especially if Vader can appeal to Luke by saying that together they can right the galaxy, a concept he hints at in that memorable light sabre duel. Finally, is there more significance to Luke losing his hand to Vader's light sabre than an impressive way to end the duel? The prosthetic hand he receives at the end does make him more like his father...

One thing that bothers me about the Star Wars milieu is trying to come up with a consistent chronology. We have five novels and two movies to deal with. The Han Solo novels can easily be written off as happening before he met up with Luke and Ben, but how about Splinter of the Minds Eye? It had some concepts used in the movie (a final meeting between Luke and Vader and the loss of a limb, though in that case, Vader's; a bog planet; strong importance of the Force) but it obviously isn't the sequel. For that we have "Empire". Does Splinter take place before? after? never? I'd be interested in seeing how it fits in.

Pardon my over indulgence in this topic; I had more to say, but I'll have to save it for later. By now most of you will have seen "The Empire Strikes Back" and I'd be very pleased to see your comments.

86

THE CANAL DREGS

July 28, 1980

! line published by Jack Frost
In this issue: 1980 C

ONCE, THERE WAS A TURKEY ...

Spring 1909: ITALY retreats A Bur-GAS

Fall 1909:

AUSTRIA (Parker): A VEN holds (NER)

GERMANY (Couch): A TRI-Ven; A TYO sup A Tri-Ven; F NTH con Russian
Nwy-Edi; A BUR-Par; F BEL sup F Nth; A Kie-DEK; A RUH sup F Bel

ITALY (Howe): F Leg-SMY; F Ion-ABG; A PIE sup Austrian A Ven; F LON
sup F Eng; F ENG con A Wal-Bre; A Wal-BRE; F Tyr-GOL; F PIC sup
German A Bur-Par (iap!)

RUSSIA (Sniegowski): F Kae-MID; F IRI sup F Nae-Mid; A Nwy-EDI;
F GOB holds; A Lel-WAL; A RUM-Bul; A BUL-Con; A GRE sup A Rus-Bul;
A ALE sup A Gre; F Sev-BLA; F Bla-ANK; F ARM sup F Bla-ANK; F Hwg-NAC

TURKEY (Johnson): A Ank-sup F Con, dislodged, destroyed; F CON sup A Jek

Supply Center Chart for 1909:

NET COUNTRY CENTERS

1	0	AUSTRIA	Ven
9	+2	GERMANY	Ber, Kie, Hel, Mun, Swc, Vie, Tri, BEL, DEK
10	+1	ITALY	Nap, Rom, Mar, Tur, Svo, Per, Far, Bre, XX , Lon, SMY
13	0	RUSSIA	Mos, Sev, Sto, Nwy, Ruz, Edi, Ser, Lel, Bud, Bul, XX , War, Gre, ANK
1	0	TURKEY	XX , Con, XX

+ 1910 SPRING

Deadline for 1909 adjustments is Thursday, August 7, 1980, at noon. PRESS

?: I call for a concession to Russia.

ORIGINS '80

The Smell of the Crowd and the Roar of the Money

by Bob Beardsley

Having exposed myself (pardon the expression) to several of these National Wargaming Conventions in the past, I couldn't resist once again and made the 70 mile trek down the NJ Turnpike to Widener College, Chester, PA. And so, for those unlucky (or lucky) enough not to have made it this year, I offer the following sights and sounds of Origins '80. Before I begin, I must note that I did not partake of the Dip tourney, nor pursue those involved in the hobby, so the following may be devoid of information in that area...but if I remember correctly, many Dippers are interested in many things...

...and so....Francis Ford Coppola presents ORIGINS NOW.

- 1) The center of activity, the Exhibition Hall, was located in the large cafeteria this year...but it wasn't large enough. Wall to wall dealers, wall to wall people. God help you if you tried to stop and look at something in a booth, the crowd just carried you along. I kept having visions of the fat lady getting into disco jeans...in fact, I felt like her.
- 2) New games? You said it. Every dealer had the latest, the greatest, the last word on whatever subject the game was on...at least that's what he told you. But I discovered he was wrong, because the next dealer I talked to told me that HIS games were the ultimate. Only \$15.
- 3) MONEY...MONEY...MONEY! Where do all these young people (people less than 20) get all that money. I couldn't believe the number of \$50 or \$100 game purchases being made. And the garbage that was being bought! I know, because I bought that garbage last year. This year many dealers came out with garbage expansion kits to their old garbage (a popular trend now). In speaking with a few dealers and designers I know, I learned the great marketing secret that they all share...to wit: THE YOUNG ARE STUPID. The corollary to that is THE OLD AREN'T TOO BRIGHT EITHER. On those same lines, I noticed that SPI came out with yet another Battle of the Bulge game. I asked one of the designers if this Bulge was one of the old ones, and which one it was, or did they just repackage it. He didn't know for sure. Since I may have owned it, I didn't buy it. It was only \$6 though. I probably should have bought it.
- 4) - IF YOU HAVE A GAME DESIGN, YOU PROBABLY COULD HAVE SOLD IT. A lot of dealers are looking for more designs. In fact, Fire and Movement magazine has come out with a design contest. Based on what I saw at Origins on how discriminating the average gamer is, I've come up with something that will sell. The ULTIMATE in realism, cheap to produce, and original. It's called DOGSHIT! It comes in a one-color box (brown) and has two dice and a real lump of you-know-what, which my dog, Schatze, will gladly supply. The rules are simple. High die wins the foul feces. Game over. Should sell for \$15. The expansion kit will be called COWPIES.
- 5) Due to the centralizing of activities this year, only one thing suffered...open gaming area. There virtually was none, and that was a shame. One of the joys of these conventions is walking around and looking at the happy gamers trying to read the rules to their latest treasure, and then attempting to play same.
- 6) Did I mention that I never saw so many gamers in my life before? Attendance was way up this year, and believe me, there is every human type represented in the gaming ranks nowadays. So, if you feel unique

(Continued Next Page)

for any reason (age, height, weight, or IQ...or lack thereof), you shouldn't. There are many more like you. The most unusual types are those that dress up in Medieval Costume (in the 90 degree heat no less), and then pummel each other with 6 foot fence railings (wrapped in masking tape) that resemble cudgels. Anyone who has ever attended a national convention has seen these guys, and they were there again this year. You'll be happy to know that Maid Marion (or whatever her name was) was rescued again by a crack (ed)band of merry men who indeed smote the Sheriff's varlets with fence railings...., uh, I mean cudgels.

7) Why is it always 90 degrees with 150% humidity during Origins? Do you think God is trying to get us? Also, why are there no good eating places around Chester, Pa? If Origins is held at Chester again, I'm bringing my Alpo rather than buying it there.

8) One of the very good parts of Origins this year was the number of people selling their old games on the lawn, plus they had two auctions of old goodies instead of one. Good buys could be gotten, and that's where I got most of my stuff this year. I hope this tradition continues although I bet alot of dealers wish it would stop.

9) Ran into alot of people from my past at Origins, including John Caruso! As I was leaving the Cafeteria, I heard John yell "CARUSO TO BEARDSLEY---GO SOAK YOUR HEAD!" It was good to see John, and to meet Kathy Byrne. Plus I saw many others. Think I saw John Boardman, who I've never really met. He was editing the sales flyers for grammatical and sentence structure mistakes. Saw Alan Moon, who some of you may remember from Brouhaha, and he's now a successful designer for Avalon Hill. He has a big hit in his "Fortress Europa" game, which proves anyone in America can get to be President.

Well, that's about it! If you have any questions, or want to buy any brand new games real cheap, drop me a line. (17 Moryan Rd., Edison, NJ 08817).

80 Lji

2-Man Challenge Game

JUL 28 1980

Winter, 1903: English A Nwy r FIN, NOT ann. as indicated!
Russian A Mun r RUH, builds A MOS, A SEV
Turkey builds F SMY, A ANK

SPRING, 1904:

Leritte:

ENGLAND: F HLG S German A Mun-Kie; A BEL-Ruh; A Fin-NWY; F BAR S A Fin-Nwy;
F NTH S A Fin-Nwy; F Gas-MID
ITALY: F SPAsc S English F Gas-Mid; F Mar-GLYO; A Pie-MAR; A TYO-Mun
GERMANY: F SWE S English A Fin-Nwy; A Par-BUR; A Mun-KIE; A DEN S A Mun-Kie

Linsey:

FRANCE: F POR-Mid; A Kie S Russian A Ber-Mun/d/r Hol, Otb
RUSSIA: A Mos-WAR; A Sev-MOS; A Nwy S F GoB-Swe/ann.; F STPnc S A Nwy; F GOB-Swe;
A BER-Mun; A RUH S A Ber-Mun; A Bud-TRI; F Nap-ROM
TURKEY: A Ank-CON; F Smy-AEG; A War-GAL; A Tri-VEN; F ADR S A Tri-Ven;
F Tun-NAF; F Ion-TYN

CD: AUSTRIA: A VIE H

Press:

EGI: If I resign, can I call on C. Gibson as my replacement?

FALL, 1904 is due with my mail received MONDAY, August 11, 1980.

David D. Perlmutter

Latches Lane. Apts#608 Merion, PA 19066

Dear David,

How could anyone not like BB; that Kendall was nuts.

That PoP#1 press was incredible. Somebody did a damn good job of setting me up with all that anti-Baumeister stuff. Lucky he doesn't read such mundane things like press.

IF my 7-day jobber does not fill up real soon I will GGM a blind madman game in BB. I hope it's as much fun to GM as you say.

Linsey was both honest and dishonest by not revealing to you he knew the Blind game positions in 1904 until the games was over. Granted he wrote you right away but he put a precondition on the opening of the letter. But really what would you have done if he had told you right away. Reveal the positions to everyone? Stop the game? What?

Yes I and Sue Martin will be married in the fall--no joke. This should only be the second Diplomacy related marriage since Doug and Marie Beyerliën. Right? Or did you and Claudine meet in Tyrolia?

I heard that Baumeister is suing Gibby ~~for~~ for slander. That should explain the old guys "vacation". In E Baumeister denies he's doing it for the money--which I believe since among the guys many faults--avarice is not one. On the surface it seems pretty cruel for a fithy rich guy like Konrad to sue a "pauper" like Gibson. But afterall ole Gibby has given him alot of "slander" over the years. I wonder whether Konrad will sue me too? Or will Uli sue the other players in 1980S, or 1980CX for that matter. Hmmm. Say will you be called to tesify?

It does raise an interesting ? though. What is slander? Gibson calls Baumeister a "nazi". Now Konrads political oppinions are just a tad to the right of George Lincoln Rockwell but that proves little. I don't think he is a nazi in the sense of being very anti-semitic or ultra-racist but you could make a good case that he is a true American facist. I for one will show up to the trial. Should be fun.

But really what constitutes slander? If I say here, where some sixty odd people can hear me that "KONRAD BAUMEISTER IS A NAZI" does that mean I have slandered him? All I can say is that this is yet another example of big gov't in the person of the ~~crass~~ courts butting into things that do concern it.

Boy I'm glad 1978BS is over. Tell me just how did you guys let Arnett win? I thought for sure you would band together to stop him.

Yeah I saw in DipWorld about this newDip organization. The NADF is yet another simple minded idea. The oraganizers talk about "democracy" and how different it will be from the I.D.A. Bull. How democratic can a organization be when all these "leading hobby figures" have already app'ted themselves to all the offices! The only thing open is prez/treasurer. And you can bet they'll get some of their friends for that post.

I just can't understand why people like Walker are such masochists. Isn't it about time the hobby is honest with itself and admits a national hobby organization is impossible. I do not think the hobby will do that ~~any~~ without these big boys controlling our lives. Look most of the people involved in this NADF are, as I have taken, honest men. Yet every single big organization started with lofty ideals and they all floped. Sure I sound harsh but I just don't know why those guys just don't come out and say "Look we want to control the hobby--pure and simple." The reasons for doing so are not bad, I'm sure Walker and the others have good intentions but we know that the path to hell is laden with them. Well I'll send a card to Walker and get more info.

Response to Perlmutter

((I almost dropped the part on Baumeister since I think this 'nazi' business has lost any effect and is just so much nonsense to me anymore. I finally decided to leave it intact in the letter because of the way its worked into an entirely different context, being used as an example rather than a statement.

I agree on the NADF. Lots of good intentions, nice words, etc. Unfortunately, I've seen this all at least once before. Until I see both some purpose and some results, I will stand back from it.

If Sue really looks like the photo in the latest DOGS, why wait for the fall? I wouldn't wait until after dinner. But then, maybe you're just referring to the ceremony part?

I thought your remark about being set up by the PoP press was cute. I think you submitted it all. I think you wrote most of the press that has appeared under 1978BS too. How Arnett got away with the game when he was faking his own zine so many times is easy: it's all Mark Berch's fault.

Oh, I forgot to add that it always seemed to me that Konrad was more to the center than I am.....)) J.M.

Another earlier Perlmutter letter, excerpts:

Say, how does one get Shaffer to sign up for a game? Everytime I call his house I get animal-like grunts. Should I send him a slice of raw meat COD? Someone said he pays his gamefee in dead animal skins. Is it true he lives in a cave somewhere outside Moore in the Dustbowl? Is it true Linsey is having an actual Shaffer letter bronzed? ((Yes, the letter "R")) Is it ture he does not own a Dip board or even a map? Is it true that he threatens to kill anyone who stabs him? Wonder what ever happened to Lipton/Metski/Lakofka? Is it true he works for a slaughterhouse? Is it true he is your son of a second marriage? Is it true that you are responsible for high energy costs in the US? ((No, that's the Jews)) Is it true that you are a fat balding Polish American? Sue Martin says so. ((I'm also a terrific romancer and Serta wrestler. She'll be able to tell you about that right after the wedding, I hope)) Say, "Extremism i.d.o. Liberty" is from a speech by the only hero I ever had-Barry Goldwater.

Well, that covers everything. ((I'll say))...gotta go, my brother Jack is setting fire to the cat again.

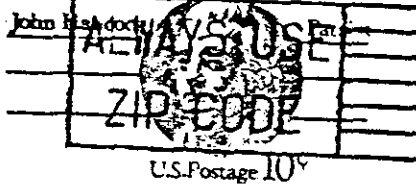
((That's what happens when you leave CAT-TASTROPHE and TORONTO TELEGRAM out in plain sight where minors can find them. It's a dangerous practice. On the other questions, most of them are true, except that Shaffer never threatens anyone. A threat implies communication, and unless a loud belch or rumbling fart can be taken as a message, Shaffer deigns not to dignify Dippy stuff with anything more than that as a response. To sign him up for a game, just do like Leritte and "assign" him a spot. He may well send in orders. Or press. As to fee, well, ask Jack Frost about his payment plan. Fluff just paid \$2 and said he'd get the rest a dollar at a time at the end of each year he still survived after 1903. If not, tough nuts. I don't know if Jack ever broke even on that or not...

Fluff's been called the son of many things, but not of me. He does not work for a slaughterhouse, he only smells like he does. Suave and debonair, that's him. He doesn't own a Dipgame, nor does he care to, but he does have a map I sent him once to show him how to move in 1901 in 80AQ that he may have saved. The moves didn't get him very far, but he may have saved the map. Or maybe not.

Actually, Fluff works as a computer maintenance man. He can tell you some stories that would curl your hair, if not cramp your stomach. Especially the way he tells them. All around great guy. ALL the way around (about 5½ feet...). You should invite him to the wedding, or at least next door from the reception. He'd draw away all the flies from the food...)) J.M.

One of the rewards of publishing is the occasional fan mail you get, whether it be a simple "nice job" or "keep up the good work" to

John Boardman
234 East 19th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11226



John MichalsKKK1

Route 10, Box 526-Q

Moore, Oklahoma

73165

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Michalski, you bigoted son-of-who-knows, you have finally torn it! That racist "Application for Employment" on the last page of Brutus Bulletin #09 has been floating around for years, and gets more and more putrid each time it is reprinted. (I first saw it from an aspiring s-f writer in California named Dian then Girard-since-Pelz-and-now-Crayne.)

Now I have been involved in fighting for equal rights for our black fellow-citizens for nearly thirty years, and I have had to face up to the Ku Klux Klan, which once got me expelled from a Florida university. So I am not afraid of your putrid little operation, and if you show up at some convention where I'm present and repeat this Nazi rubbish I will introduce your adenoids to your gall bladder.

I am not interested in receiving any more of your publications, since I am no longer collecting racist publications for the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League. Why you object to Curt Gibson, when your views on blacks seem identical to his, is a mystery to me - and one in whose solution I am not interested.

We loyal Americans are right and you racists are wrong. Don't ever forget that.

John Boardman

((Where would we be without New Yorkers?))

Here's a different response from
LEE KENDTER, BNC

4317 Benner St, Phila PA 19135

(excerpt)

...the "Gary Coughlin" business is a bit disturbing. I've just had him sign up as a subber in my zine. Would it be possible for you to make some of the evidence public in this matter? ...

((It was a fake, Lee))

Then of course there's
CURTIS GIBSON

c/o A1, 176 Lexington, NYC

(excerpt, believe me)

Altho you do get some fairly serious lettrs, with print-merit, besides mine, your excerpts of mine vs full length of such shit as Linsey's, is a lousy policy. ...

((It was a fake, Curtis))

LETTERS

Here's another view from
KATHY BYRNE

42-34 Saull St, Flushing, NY

I received the fake BRUXUS BULLETIN today and all I can say is that these hoaxes and fake zines are getting a bit out of hand.

This latest attempt at humor (?) was in my opinion in very poor taste. Since I do not get your zine, I have no way of knowing if you frequently carry articles on religion. However, the fake which carried a letter supposedly written by Dave Perlmutter describing the master race was a new time low in this hobby.

I think it is bad enough that certain players go out of their way to find reasons to slanderize others, but I see no reason why a persons religious beliefs need be dragged into this hobby.

The moron who faked your zine (and a very poor fake at that) obviously feels that we need to further split the hobby by dividing it into religious sects.

Tell me, John, do they put Want Ads on Bulletin Boards in mental hospitals asking "For a Jackass who likes to waste his time to fake zines—only those without brains need apply"

((You are at somewhat of a disadvantage in not knowing the usual level of free-wheeling ~~and slinging~~ debate that generally goes on here. From the outside, such use of religion probably does look bad, similar to perhaps my insert about the oil prices in one of the Perlmutter letters this issue. However, Perlmutter, who once described himself as "one of the few Jewish tank commanders in the German Army", is not only very open about his religion, but as you can see, has a broad and incredible sense of humor to go with it. If you'd seen some of Perlmutter's earlier stuff, I strongly suspect that the fake Perlmutter letter would have struck you the way it did me. I thought it was an astounding hoax: the amount of work on the material was incredible, no other word to describe it. Not just the typing and the bulk, but primarily, the way and extent to which it was dug out and keyed to the personality and BB history of the individual named. Even small things, such as the Shaffer Endgame statement, were so well done that, Shaffer being as lazy as he is, I suspect he may well endorse it as his own (even though it is slightly incorrect in fact. Not by much, though). Look at the Berch letter, e.g.: long-winded, well illustrated with examples, on a relevant non-Dip topic—heck, it could be a real letter from him! (And maybe it was...) Even the snide response wasn't too far off base, including a cut referring to an earlier exchange Mark and I had a dozen issues or more back. The Gibson second letter was the perfect place to put the "this is a fake issue" note: 'who reads that stuff?' Arrogant, perhaps, but often correct. Parts of that "letter" were cut out and put in upside down, etc., but it being Gibby stuff, who'd notice, right? I think it was from an issue of ULTSENT (I really read it!) Much of it may well have been in somewhat questionable taste, but all things considered, I thought it was an outstanding job. It was at least close enough to fool a couple of people who you will find elsewhere this issue. I hope Jerry Jones realized it was a fake...)) Jm

MARK BERCH (DIPLOMACY DIGEST)

492 Naylor Pl, Alexandria, VA 22304

In BB#68 you quote Frost as saying, in toto, "Walker is as full of it as Gibson is"... You call this an "interesting observation" and ask "anyone else have some analysis" Sorry, but that's neither an 'analysis' nor an 'interesting observation', its just unadorned name calling and I don't see why you bother to print it. If he wants to explain why, that's a different matter.

I don't agree that the "best stuff" is sent in by readers. Your "John's Notes" is usually one of the best things. You are quite right—notes on the back of a third class mailing is a definite no-no. I once got one with the note on the front—14¢ postage due. With regard to the Blind Madman (getting map to Linsey) game, your comments about how the game would have gone are perforce silly and pointless. Such error as you made are not uncommon. I know of at least 2 Anonymity in which the GM inadvertently revealed an identity. Ah, but you missed the humor in Scott Hansen's article—notice how the margin keeps slipping to the LEFT.

((Re Frost: My sole intent was to be facetious in calling for further such "analysis")) Jm

((Heck with what I said on the front cover notes;. Here's something from Dave Carter [no relation to Jimmy] to tie in with the current political nonsense in the news)) *JM*

Dear Fellow Canadian:

We have the distinguished honor of being part of a committee to raise five million dollars for placing a statue of Pierre Elliott Trudeau in the Parliament building in Ottawa.

The committee was in a quandary as to where to place the statue. It was not thought wise to place it beside the statue of John Diefenbaker who never told a lie - not beside R.B. Bennett, who never told the truth, since Pierre could never tell the difference.

We finally decided to place it beside Christopher Columbus, the greatest new dealer of them all; he left, not knowing where he was going, and upon arriving, didn't know where he was. He returned, not knowing where he'd been, and he did it all on borrowed money.

Over 5,000 years ago, Moses said to the children of Israel, "pick up your shovels, mount your asses and camels, and I will lead you to the Promised Land ". Nearly 5,000 years later, Bennett said - "Lay down your shovels, sit on your asses and light a Camel, this is the Promised Land". Now Trudeau is stealing your shovels, kicking your asses, raising the price of Camels and mortgaging the Promised Land.

If you are one of the few fortunate people who have any money after taxes, we will expect a generous donation as a contribution to this worthy project.

Yours truly,

P.S. It is said that Trudeau is considering changing the Liberal Party emblem from a Maple Leaf to a condom because it stands for inflation, halts production, protects a bunch of pricks, and gives a false sense of security while being screwed.