

"I don't even know where we are"

"We're in the Noeide system"

"Noeide System? There's not much there"

"True, but that should make it all the more welcome a relief from this Issue 74 of

The

Early October, 1980

BRUTUS BULLETIN

ET TU, BRUTE

SPECIAL LEE KENDTER EDITION!

The BRUTUS BULLETIN is a newsletter of postal DIPLOMACYtm brought to you every few weeks by John Michalski ("mih-HOLL-skee"), Rt 10, Box 526-Q, Moore, OK 73165. Subs are available at the rate of 12/\$5, 12/\$4 for resubbers. There are openings with one or two guest GMs. A two-week-deadline game is open under Scott Hanson, 701 SE 15 Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55414 for \$2 plus sub, or \$3 without a subscription. Next, my newest addition is Dave Marshall, who will likely be opening a THREE-week-deadline for those of you a little too far out from civilization to handle two week deadlines. For details, write them direct. Dave, who has GGMed for Don Horton for some time, is an established old hand at this. He is at 1547 Maplegrove Road, South Euclid, Ohio 44121. Scott is a new GM, but I stand behind the game and guarantee its conclusion. No rule against entering BOTH by the way...

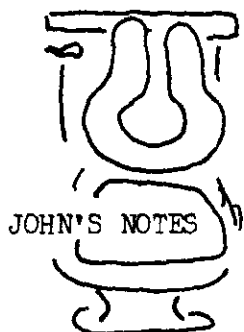
LEE KENDTER Sr, to whom I dedicate this issue, wrote recently asking for letters in his excellent zine, WHY ME? The response was—well, he did print a letter I'd sent him earlier. Made good filler, and "any port in a storm" and all that, hey? Anyhow, I have been getting SO many letters that I fully expect this issue will be virtually all letters except for a page or five. I've been doing little except type for two straight days to put all this stuff into readable form, including two Gibson letters that, for a shortcut, I typed in normal English for a change. It seemed to me then that poor old Lee, sitting back and watching the Eagles being upset this afternoon (Sept 28) with no letters to have to type, should be the one so honored by this wall of schtuff about to land in your lap.

Speaking of FILLER, I thought some of you might object to the long-winded Leeder Poll analysis/commentary I did, but surprisingly, the only ones who have spoken up so far have been persons liking it. John Daly even reprinted parts of it! Hell, maybe I should bore you with my views on everything more often, huh? Another filler piece was submitted by the irrepressible chain smoker DAVE PILANT who, to follow up on the liquor review he did last issue, pops off with a nice gun cabinet review this time. Something a little different. Then there's Bill LaFosse, the Bulletin's only endorsed presidential candidate, with some new commentary on his campaign, and other odds and ends. THIS ISSUE at least will have a non-pink cover, unlike the last two. A little flub there. However, I was in a great hurry to print that last one up, as it had been sitting here camera-ready for almost a week before I could use my new/alternate printing, so taking the first color in the heap resulted in the mistake. Makes it harder for me to tell if I have the right file copies vs. samples, plus makes it easier for you to throw the wrong issue away...

LONE STAR DIPLOMAT is a new zine you should all be familiar with. I think he's sent a copy to everybody around the hobby. LSD #1 was an 8 page, excellent repro zine, 10/\$4.50, gamefees \$3 plus refundable \$1.50 NMR fee. If you didn't get one, ask at 3214 Beverly Rd, Austin, TX 78703, which is here Mike Connor hangs out. Has a page of reviews of 10 other zines incl this one. Also, Bob Sergeant's ST GEORGE & THE DRAGON had a page of mini-reviews in his issue #56, 3242 Lupine Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46224, digest sized.

WELCOME BACK to John Lipscomb who I thought was dropping from our ranks, and a welcome aboard to Keith Sherwood, Los Alamos, New Mexico, and Don Stafford, Columbus, Ohio. Subs expiring with this issue: Heinowski, Osuch, Henry. Next issue, Howe

GONE are Robertson, Goodrich, Gibson. More on Gibson on reverse.



I have so much material to stuff into this issue that I'll comment on what I can here and tuck Bill LaFosse in under this, and then try and run this thing off. THEN I'm going to take a break, because believe me, this business of sitting up until 12 or 2:30 trying to clear my table and desk when the readership is (kind?) enough to keep me deluged with good material somehow, just somehow, gets a little old after a while. On top of all that, what should top off my day but a thoroughly DISGUSTING letter from Curtis Gibson. I have long tolerated Gibby because his outrageous positions provided some degree of interest/controversy, rather like Howard Cossell: someone to hate, if nothing else. On some items, I agreed with him; on others, I labelled his bullshit as just that. This latest attack seems to be as a result of my defaming his beloved NATIONAL ENQUIRER by which he keeps up with the latest UFO happenings, freaks born, and occult predictions. Formerly, of course, I would take criticism from Gibby as I do criticism/attack from Boardman; namely, as a compliment to the correctness of my own position. This time, however, he has overstepped the bounds of decency by ridiculing my family in addition to me, Poland, and Oklahoma. The last three I don't care that much about. I am no stranger to attack; I criticize Oklahoma a lot myself; and Poland is no different than Hungary or Iceland to me. But to dredge up the filth he has is not acceptable, and if it weren't that the two letters in this issue from him were intertwined with those from normal people, I would throw them out as well. In any case, be assured that you will see no more of the fucked up "old Curmudgeon" here, altho I will hold the threat over him that if he should ever send me any more of his rantings, I may go ahead and print that last letter he sent just to expose any who might think he has a shred of decency or honor left.

BRUCE LINSEY has really been in print a lot lately, what with Caruso's attacks on him here (another little spot this issh) and the recent BLACK FROG that devoted a whole issue to a series of outrageous "letters" 'exposing' Bruxus as being a real prick in a number of mythical player-GM and v.v. letters. I thought Brux might have a chance to respond to John Caruso's first blurb in this issue, but I have too much material, and so am cutting this one off here at about the time most of you are receiving #73 from me. For the record, I should state that I neither confirm nor deny the non-humorous criticisms of Brux; I merely offer them^{stace} for consideration. Personally, VD is one of my favorite zines, but if anyone disagrees, they are free to say so. Next issue will have some material regarding Kathy Byrne's Player Board proposals in the form of an excerpt from a recent WHITESTONIA and my response to same, which may appear in WHITESTONIA before #75 gets to print. (74 is about 5 days behind 73, but I intend to take a BREAK before 75 comes out!)

CARRYOVERS refer to material that is ready but has to wait for next issue due to space limitations. Among these are all of MY games except for 80Lji which has been carried over itself for about two issues now. My games, an Osuch game that was destroyed in the mail, an Albrecht cartoon contribution, and the discussion (attack) on the Player Board are all in that status now, plus I hope to finish off the Iid history sometime. Also coming up will be Dave Marshall's first DOWN'N'DIRTY, more EXTREMISM IN DEFENSE OF-, and whatever comes in in the next couple of weeks fit to print (or not too unfit to print). On to LaFosse and PERILS OF PAULINA.

Anderson, Carter, Reagan, where are the leaders? I know, Do you?

/ A Statement from the next President of the United States:

Hi folks, as I sit here typing, smoking my big cigar, I cannot but laugh ha ha ha , at the field of candidates that appose me in the upcoming event. Yet the negro demands his welfare and sees Carter as its source. The mad-man seeks Reagan, who already has one finger on the black box. The pseudo-

intellectual wants Anderson, the man who won't take no as an answer. As I curl my toes around my blue soft rubber tuning fork, I can see the country is in a mess. Again I forward my solution.

We send all the queers, queer lovers, law reformers, left wingers, "give the downtrodden blacks a chancers", criminal layers, criminals and other deprives to Montana. Big country, lots of water. While we are at it we can send the mental patients and welfare bums. Let them impliment their better way. Once a week we can send in the garbage trucks to haul out the bullshit.

Then we can get us normal people back to decent way of life. Mom's apple pie, roast beef dinners. 5-6 guys in a pick-up, with a couple of brooms, little harmless game of broom the coon.

So come election day, remember the guy with the good old days at heart, no big ideas, just lets flow along.....elect me.

Bill LaFosse
15 Cory Cr.
Trenton Ont.
K8V-5J7

from
TORONTO
TELEGRAM
#16

Issue #17
1979N

THE PERILS OF PAULINA
(as featured in the
Brutus Bulletin)

KRAUTS, FROGS SMOKE
PEACE PIPE?

Bob Osuch
3417 S. Paulina
Chgo, IL 60608
312-927-7069
Sept. 9, 1980

Autumn 1905: Austria retreats A Serbia to Trieste, A Rumania Oth

Winter 1905: France removes A Burgundy; Germany builds A Kiel, A Berlin, A Munich; Russia NRR, GM removes A Ukraine; Turkey builds A Ankara, F Smyrna

Spring 1906:

AUSTRIA(Fuchs): A VEN-Pie; A TYO-Mun; A Vie-BOH; A GAL S A Vie-Boh;
A TRI H

ENGLAND(Kelly): F MID-Spa(nc); F LYO S F Mid-Spa(nc)

FRANCE(Howe): A GAS-Mar; F SPA(sc) S A Gas-Mar; F POR S F Spa(sc);
A BRE H

GERMANY(Kirchner): F Swe-BOT; A STP-Mos; A Pie-TUS; A MAR-Pie; A Pic-WAL; F ENG C A Pic-Wal; A Mun-SIL; A BOH S A Mun-Sil/d/destroyed;
A Ber-PRU; A KIE-Mun; F NTH H

ITALY(CD): F NAP H

RUSSIA(Sniegowski): NMR. A WAR H; A MOS H

TURKEY(Mooney): F TUN-Lyo; F ION-Tyn; F ADR-Ion; F Smy-AEG; A Rum-UKR;
A Ser-RUM; A Gre-SER; A Con-BUL; A Ank-CON

No stand by will be called for Russia, as I feel Ken will be submitting orders next time. Don't bet your life on it though. At any rate, it seems that a few powers will be biting the dust soon. As one of you wrote, "The next couple years are crucial ones...". My sentiments exactly. Not much more to say, just wait and see what happens. I'm so fatalistic.

Deadline for Fall 1906 is Tuesday, September 23, 1980.

Issue #19
1979N

THE PERILS OF PAULINA
(as featured in the
Brutus Bulletin)

Bob Osuch
3417 S. Paulina
Chgo, IL 60608
312-927-7069
Sept. 23, 1980

KISSINGER DEPARTS

Fall 1906:

AUSTRIA (Fuchs): A VEN-Rom; A TRI-Ven; A TYO S A Tri-Ven; A Gal-SIL;
A BOH S A Gal-Sil

ENGLAND (Kelly): F LYO-Spa(sc); F MID S F Lyo-Spa(sc)

FRANCE (Howe): A Gas-MAR; F SPA(sc) S A Gas-Mar; F POR S F Spa(sc);
A Bre-PAR

GERMANY (Kirchner): A Pru-LVN; A STP S A Pru-Lvn; F Bot-BAL; A TUS-Rom;
A Mar-BUR; A Wal-LVP; F Eng-LON; A Sil-MUN; A KIE S A Sil-Mun;
F Nth-DEN

ITALY (CD): F NAP H

RUSSIA (~~ONLEGBOWSKI~~): NMR. A WAR H; A MOS H

TURKEY (Mooney): F Tyn-WES; F Ion-TYN; F Adr-APU; F Aeg-ION; A Rum-SEV;
A Bul-RUM; A Ser-GRE; A Con-BUL; A UKR S RUSSIAN A war

Yes, it's true, Ronald Kelly exits as of Winter 1906. I'd like to thank you, Ron, for sticking with your position throughout. Want to stand by for Russia? Only kidding. I will call for a standby though. Sorry for extending Ken's stay, but he said he would be submitting orders. Oh well, no harm done. Let's see now, John doesn't publish his standby list and I'm too cheap to call, so I'll pick a standby out of the clear blue sky. Would Dave Pilant, 3801 SE 23rd St., Del City, OK 73115, please assume the Russian position? I'd appreciate it Dave, and you might too.

Winter 1906 adjustments and Spring 1907 orders will be due Wednesday, October 8, 1980. Center Chart follows.

1906	#	NET	COUNTRY	CENTERS
	5	0	Austria	Vie, Bud, Tri, Ven, Rom
	0	-2	England	Ldn , Lxp
	5	+1	France	Par, Bre, Por, Spa, MAR
	12	+2	Germany	Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol, Bel, Edi, Nwy, Swe, StP, Max , LON, LVP
	1	0	Italy	Nap
	2	0	Russia	Mos, War
	9	0	Turkey	Con, Ank, Smy, Tun, Sev, Bul, Gre, Rum, Ser
	<u>34</u>			

✓ LATE BB NOTES: Good thing Bob left some space here to allow me to squeeze in the important LaFosse message AND some late-breaking hobby news! First, just received the FAKE Voice of Doom #26, "aye, and a powerful (dipzine fake) it is". I hadn't noticed until Brux himself called to falsely accuse ME of printing it! THAT made me look closely at it and, sure enough, it both is a fake as he said, and, it is better than most REAL VDs as he also said. Seriously, it is a good fake, with a lot of work put into the games and press (which I usually skip anymore). Also of note, Bruxus claims that THE NEW NOVICE PACKET IS DONE! Presumably that is the truth, and not just thrown out to slap back at Caruso. Anyway, there's a hobby exclusive for you. (Or a big lie to me...)

Also, I understand that Jim Benes is the latest of the current wave of GMs to warn against or toss out Buddy Tretick under his masquerade as "Bernie Oaklyn". Good news is always welcome. Jim follows closely on the heels of Robert Sergeant and Steve McLendon.

jm

Lost all your wits? Why not read the only Diplomacy zine
endorsed by Billy (White Shoes) Johnson? That is...

EXTREMISM IN THE DEFENSE OF THE K.A. RAMS LIBERTY

*** (Which is yet another stupid subzine
of the one and only Brutus Bulletin.) ***

.....FALL 1901.....

- *PILANT'S PARATROOPS FAIL TO TAKE SEV, GO HOME IN TEARS*
- *SHAFFER GETS TWO BUILDS! WILL WONDERS NEVER CEASE?*
- *LERITTE FLEES IN TERROR FROM CHARGING TURKISH ARMIES*
- *WILL THE RAMS GET TO THE SUPERBOWL WITHOUT TYLER?*

AUSTRIA (Fraunces): F Alb-GRE, A SER H, A BUD-Rum
ENGLAND (Shaffer): F Nwg-NWY, F NTH C A Yor-Bel, A Yor-BEL
FRANCE (Cummings): F Mao-POR, A BUR-Man, A Mar-SPA
GERMANY (Leritte): A Kie-HOL, A Ber-DEN, F BAL C A Ber-Den
ITALY (Wilson): F ION-C A Apv-Tun, A Apv-TUN, A PIE-Man
RUSSIA (Blant): F RUM-Sev, A UKR S F Rum-Sev, F Gob-SWE, A LVn-MOS
TURKEY (Pilant): A ARM-Sev, F BLA S A Arm-Sev, A BUL-Rum

.....Supply Center Chart.....

AUSTRIA: Tri, Vie, Bud, SER, GRE	= Build 2
ENGLAND: Lon, Edi, Lvp, BEL, NWY	= Build 2
FRANCE: Mar, Par, Bre, SPA, POR	= Build 2
GERMANY: Mun, Ber, Kie, HOL, DEN	= Build 2
ITALY: Nap, Rom, Ven, TUN	* Build 1
RUSSIA: Sev, Mos, War, StP, SWE, RUM	= Build 2
TURKEY: Smy, Con, Ank, BUL	= Build 1

Now this is what I call an even game! Once again not all orders were in by the deadline so I had to make a few late night calls. C'mon guys get those orders in on time. By the way, all players who are Democrats and not fans of the Los Angeles Rams must pay an extra five dollars or be ejected from this game. Snicker, snicker.

DEADLINE FOR WINTER 1901 ORDERS IS SEPT. 26, Friday

PRESS:

CZAR NIKOLAI-MERION: "Little father" will try to write more clearly as his typewriter is in CA. and that makes it hard to use. P.S: Capital "B" please.

MERION-blANT: Heil Kerry!

BER: How 'bout that? I would have thought ole Shaffer would bounce himself over the Nth sea.

CON: But Shaffer thinks that's an anti-French opening!

((press continues))

THE PRESS CONT.

RUSSIA-WORLD: What can I do to make you love me? What can I do to make you care? What can I do when lightning strikes me? Only wish that you weren't there.

PAR-ROM: Kiss my Piedmont!

LON: Awrite shitheads, listen up- I can git to fore centers, which too is you going to give me.

MERION-LON: Bel and Nwy. But that's all.

ROM-PAR: Boy are you lucky they both went the other way. Gary Howe tells me it's impossible for France to survive '03 if he's attacked by both England and Germany.

PAR-ROM: Yeah but at least Jack Frost won't also attack France.

ROM-PAR: I never said you were a fag, I simply noted that not many men wear lace panties.

AUS-ITA: Not many men, outside of Hales Corners, give blowjobs for a quarter either.

MERION: Yes but what does this all have to do with the Los Angeles Rams? Who cares about Diplomacy? It's the Rams that are important.

Czar NIKOLAI-TURKEY: Germany and the rest of his ~~greedy assholes~~ Spunky children? I'm not happy, in fact I was saying to "Big father" just this morning "What the fuck are they trying to do to me?". Well "Big father"'s advice was to send Rasputin to fuck their old ladies, but I think it would be better to go to Del City myself, and fuck his old lady.

MERION-TSAR: Kerry I am shocked that you would use such bad language. Tisk, tisk. Besides don't you know? There are no women in OKLA, only oil rigs.

AUSTRIA-RUSSIA: He prefers that you fuck him instead!

RUSSIA-AUSTRIA: He's too ugly.

RUSSIA-GOOD OLE BOYS: You can gang up on the new kid on the block, or you can be smart and gain a strong ally and win the world.

MERION: Or you can ship that typewriter back from CA.

BER-VIE: Did I ever tell you about the time ~~Vixen~~ Grabar was licking Linsey's armpit and Kathy Byrne came in?

VIE-BER: Came in what?

MERION-BER: In time for the fun?

JOKES THAT GARY COUGHLAN LOVES: Q- What single event of the 1970's most contributed to the prosperity of New York junglebunnies? A- The blackout!

JOHN BOARDMAN: Hah, hah. That's funny.

?: Jack Frost loves exhaust pipes.

ANK: Lee Kendter Sr. does not have the slightest bit of ripe plums.

ROME: A fruit with his cruisings and slummings
keeps all the boys pleased with his hummings,
He's so busy they say,
All night and all day,
That you can't tell his goings from Cummings.

And thus another day in the life of EDL#1 ends. I know nothing about postage rates so excuse me for the last mailing. Some of you reported that you got "Postage Due" adjudications from me. If this happens let me know and I'll ~~xxxxx/xxxxx~~ pay you back. Let's get some better press in next time. Remember kibbitz press is allowed, so you degenerates who are reading this but are not in the game-send some in. In the future try to send orders in envelopes, postcards are prone to being lost in the myriad halls of the USP"S". And to all a good night, all except you fluff.

80 Lji

Linsey - Levitte 2-man Game

FRANCE OUT! MASSIVE R-T PUSH GETTING UNDER WAY

FALL, 1904

French A Kie r HOL

Linsey: FRANCE: A Hol-Kie/ann.; F Por-Mid/ann.
 RUSSIA: F STPnc H; F GOB-Swe; A MOS S F StPnc; A WAR H; A BER S A Ruh-Mun;
 A Ruh-MUN; A Tri-TYO; F ROM H
 TURKEY: F NAF S F Tyn-Wes; F Tyn-WES; F Adr-APU; A VEN S RUSSIAN A Tri-Tyo;
 A Gal-BOH; F Aeg-ION; A Con-BUL
 Leritte: ENGLAND: A BEL & F NTH S F Hlg-Hol; F Hlg-HOL; F BAR S A Nwy-StP; A NWY-StP;
 F MID S ITALIAN F Spasc
 ITALY: A Tyo-Mun/ann.; A Mar-PIE; F GLYO-Wes; F Spasc-POR
 GERMANY: A Bur-RUH; F SWE-GoB; A DEN S A Kie; A KIE S ITALIAN A Tyo-Mun
 CD: AUSTRIA: A VIE H

1904: F: Por Kie	0	2 ann., out
R: StP Mos Sev Rum Con Bud Ber Nap		
Myr MUN ROM WAR	11	+2
T: Ank Smy Ser Bul Gre Tun Tri Myr VEN	8	Was 1 short, +1
	<u>19</u>	
E: Home Hol Bre Bel NWY	7	build 1
G: Myr Swe Par Den KIE	4	even
I: Ven Myr Mar Spa POR	3	1 ann., even
	<u>14</u>	
A: Vie	1	even
	<u>1</u>	

Press:

BRUX: Leritte got me on the ropes, Rod. Since he's a smart fellow like you, send him a letter asking him to let me survive.

Addresses:

Brux, Bldg 11, Apt 21, Leisureville, Watervliet, NY 12189
 George Leritte, 403 Myrtle Drive, Laurell, MS 39440

Let's see Winter, 1904, and SPRING, 1905 with my mail received at home MONDAY, SEPT 1, 1980. I will try not to remember that next time instead of catching the wrong Monday as I did this time!

Winter, 1904: England builds A LON; Russia, A SEV; Turkey, F SMY

SPRING, 1905: ENDGAME COMING UP AS THE TRENCHES ARE A-DIGGING!

Leritte: ENGLAND: F NTH C A Lon-Bel; A Lon-BEL; F MID S Italian F Lyo-Spasc; A Bel-BUR;
F BAR-StPnc; A NWY S F Bar-StPnc; F HOL S German A Kie
 ITALY: F POR S English F Mid; F Lyo-SPAsc; A Pie-MAR
 GERMANY: A RUH S English A Bel-Bur; F SWE S English A Nwy-Fin/NSO; A DEN S A Kie;
 A KIE H
 Linsey: RUSSIA: A MUN H; A BER-Kie; A Tyo-PIE; A War-SIL; F STPnc H; A MOS S F StPnc;
 A Sev-UKR; F Rom-TUS; F GoB-BAL
 TURKEY: A Bul-SER; A BOH S Russian A Mun; F NAF S F Wes-Mid; F WES-Mid; F Ion-TYN;
 F Apu-ION; A VEN S Russian A Tyo-Pie; F Smy-AEG
 CD: AUSTRIA: A VIE H

Fall, 1905, will be due with my mail received at home TUESDAY, Sept 16, 1980, if not sooner. No press.

80 Lji

LINSEY-LERITTE GAME

CAN THIS BE THE END OF THE LINE?

SEP 1 1980

Summer, 1905: "Fool Newburgh r WATERVLIET"

FALL, 1905:Leritte E:F Nth-ENG; A Nwy-STP; F BAR S A Nwy-StP; A Bur-GAS; A BEL-Bur; F Hol-HLG;
F MID S Italian F SpascG:A RUH & A DEN S A Kie; A KIE S A Ruh; F SWE-Bal;I:F SPAsc & F POR S English F Mid; A MAR S F SpascLinsey: R:A PIE-Mar; F TUS S Turkish F Tyn-Lyo; A MUN-Bur; A BER S A Sil-Mun; A SIL-Mun;
F BAL-Swe; F StPnc-Nwy/ann.; A Mos-LVN; A Ukr-MOST:F NAF S F Wes-Mid; F WES-Mid; F Tyn-LYO; F Ion-TYN; A Ven-TYO; A Ser-TRI;
F Aeg-ION; A BOH S RUSSIAN A Sil-Mun

CD: Austria: A VIE H

1905:E: Home Bel Hol Bre Nwy STP	8	build 1
G: Swe Par Den Kie	4	even
I: Mar Spa Por	3	even
	<u>15</u>	
R: S/P Mos Sev War Rum Con Bud Ber Nap		
	Mun Rom 10	1 ann., even
T: Ank Smy Ser Bul Gre Tun Tri Ven	8	even
	<u>18</u>	
A: Vie	1	even
	<u>1</u>	

Press:

Leritte-Linseed: Better start praying for an NMR. You're in for one helluva shock.

EGI-FRT: Wanna double that bet? How about 10 issues: I'll bet I take the Baltic Sea for 10.

1906 and/or draw votes are due whenever they get here.....

80 Lji

Linsey-Leritte Game

ST. PETE IN PERIL, REST LOCKED UP

Winter, 1905: England builds F EDI; Russia builds A WAR, A SEV

SPRING, 1906

Linsey RUSSIA:

A PIE S Turkish F Lyo-Mar; F TUS-Lyo; A SIL S Turkish A Boh-Mun;
A BER S A Mun-Kie; A MUN-Kie; F Bal-GOB; A LVN S A Mos-StP;
A MOS-StP; A War-PRU; A Sev-UKR

TURKEY:

F NAF-Mid; F WES S F Naf-Mid; F LYO-Mar; F TYN S F Wes; F Ion-TUN;
A Tri-VIE; A TYO S A Tri-Vie; A BOH-Mun

Leritte ENGLAND:

F ENG S F Mid; F MID S Italian F Spasc; A GAS S Italian A Mar;
A STP H; F BAR S A StP; A Bel-BUR; F Edi-NWG; F Hlg-DEN

GERMANY:

A RUH S A Kie; A KIE H; F Swe-BAL; A Den-SWE

ITALY:

A MAR gets married (H); F SPAsc jacks off (H); F POR S F Spasc

CD

AUSTRIA:

A Vie H/ann.

Press: Gibson-Linsey: Hah! The righteous triumph again!

Leritte-Linseed: Given up yet?

Fall, 1906 due WEDNESDAY, October 8, 1980. Any draw votes?

Letters

DAVE MARSHALL (DRACONIA and
DOWN & DIRTY)

1547 Maplegrove Road
South Euclid, Ohio 44121
September 19, 1980

Just got your 9-16 letter and figured I'd better answer it before plunging into a weekend of housepainting. To get right to the point, I'm ready to go with a BB subzine whenever you say the word -- October, November, or whenever. For reasons you might appreciate after Baumeister's stink over your invitation to Dave White, I'm not going to try removing Draconia or the '78X game from C&F. Don's running the zeen thru #124 incidentally, although I don't expect that particular game to go the full distance (Austria's at 15 with no stalemate likely). Anyway, the BB subzine would have to use a new gamestart, unless you can help me scrounge an orphan from Jack Brawler.

What I propose to put out is something called Down 'n' Dirty. Three-week deadlines (to attract a segment of your readership who seem to get short-shrifted by those 10/14 day games you're so fond of), liberal press policies (very dark grey, if not black; players would decide on latter), ~~and~~ assorted harangues and affronteries by yours truly and hopefully some player reaction. That should fill two pages, shouldn't it? Comments?

Don't fret over the reproduction. I work in the engineering department of a large sewage treatment agency that doesn't have the sense or the organization to put controls on its copying functions. Just today I barged in (secretary was sick) and ran off 5,000 photocopies and nobody said shit. So why don't I publish on my own? Because 10 or 12 pages is lots more work than 2 and I may not work here forever anyway. But whatever happens, getting 10 or 50 freebie photocopies will always be easy. As for a letterhead, I'll see what I can do. The drafting department is right next door and full of creative types who are bored stiff with drawing manhole details. Anyway, I can mail direct to players from here, so your workload shouldn't increase in that area. Let me know when you want to get this thing rolling.

#72 was a good issue. Finally having received the fake (thanks) helped the letters make sense. And I found it amusing in the aftermath of the fake #69 to see that you've acquired an Olivetti Editor 40. Not a common machine, that, but (attention future Brutus Bullshitters) guess what I just happen to have in my office...? Hope yours is better than ours tho; it's used for serious typing only under duress.

The discussion of zines in light of the Poll results was interesting. I was surprised, first of all, to find so many top-rated zines that I don't receive, and secondly, to find Fol Si Fie on top of the heap after a numbing year of political soliloquies/distribes by Smyth and Guerrier. If they have another election up North soon I'm gonna either shitcan FSF or crawl under a rock for the duration. Wonder how many Canadian civics teachers Randolph had to bribe to vote in the Poll? Actually, I gave him a pretty fair mark myself, as I know what a good zine it can be and he seems to have realized the need to appeal to his US readers again.

Speaking of Randolph, his latest FSF (#131) touched on the Poll results and invited comments, deriving from the GM ratings, on what makes a good GM. That's easy, I thought, but it did get me to thinking that it's a lot harder to define what constitutes a good zine. And that's what I believe to be one of the major failings of the Leeder Poll as it's now set up. To know that Volker, for example, finished second with a 7.86 tells you nothing about why it was so rated. If a Poll is to be anything but a simple satisfaction of idle curiosity, it should at least provide a little guidance

Marshall, cont'd

and insight for those poor devils in (say) the 4 range who are dissatisfied with their Poll results and conscientiously want to improve their zines, but don't really know what aspect of the top-rated zines to emulate. Just reading through the top zines doesn't necessarily tell you, either, because even you weren't always able to say in your analysis why a zine ranked where it did. Perhaps John Leeder might give some thought in future to identifying some salient characteristics by which zines might be judged and asking members of the hobby to submit votes for each characteristic for each zine rated. Admittedly unwieldy at face value, but I for one would be willing to look at ways to make it workable. And while he's (we're) at it, it might be well to reduce the "flukes" by separating gamezine and genzine rankings and by mandating compulsory sterilization for miscreants like yourself who render the whole thing meaningless by voting great masses of 10s and 1s. Real 10s are scarcer in zines than in gymnastics or female pulchritude, and 1s...well, there is Ultisent (which in fairness, I've never seen).


I noticed in the fake a comment that Diplomacy World had finally arrived. With so many other things in there bearing a vestige of truth, I got to wondering whether that might too. Did an Issue 26 come out that I just didn't receive? DW's regularity has not been too commendable almost since I can remember. And just between us, it's not the zine it was under Conrad. Or Walt. But then, Jerry's is probably the most thankless job in Dip publishing.

Shit, it's getting dark out already and I'd promised to hang shutters tonight. Guess this is a good place to close. Hope you'll give some thought to the subzine proposals I've made and if any of 'em go against your grain (frequency especially), let me know. BB's yours, after all, and I'm flexible.

((And the subzines belong to their own authors also. Write your own ticket, and welcome aboard!

On DW, no, the last one I show is #25, "Spring, 1980" unless I've misplaced one. I don't expect them regularly, though. Like most of the hobby zines I subscribe to or trade for, I just take them as they come. URF DURFAL comes out about thrice a year, BLACK FROG had three issues postmarked within 8 days in September. So it goes.

Speaking of zines received, I vote for all I'm supposed to get, not just those I do get for the Leeder Poll, plus a few votes for folds and ripoffs and incompetent GMs who've screwed me one time or another. I do NOT vote all 10s or 1s; rather, about a $\frac{1}{2}$ doz of each, with about another $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 doz votes in between. I do not seek "real 10s" in the voting; I give a 10 to someone who does a good job and puts out a product which is about as good as you can expect to get in this hobby. Thus I would currently vote a 10 for GRAB DOTS!!! and BLACK FROG now, altho both are not perfect. They are darn entertaining, and I look forward to getting them, which is more than I can regularly say for most others, so I give them a 10. Hmm, then you castigate me and conclude by giving ULTSENT a 1 without having seen one? I have at least seen LE FRONT.

The "poor devils" in the 4 range know damn good and well what to do. Regularity is probably the main thing, though certainly not the only one. Others botch the job or just flat out don't give a shit often enough (if at all), and it shows. I have to disagree completely with you there. The whole purpose of the poll is to give a simple picture of what zines people like, "for whatever reason". The very vagueness of it is one of its strengths, not weaknesses.)) 

BILL BECKER

810 Turwill Lane, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Since you asked, BOAST is a very regular 3 week zine; it made 150 issues in just under 9 years. Usually carries 6 or 7 games, a list of upcoming game cons, new games released by various companies, one extensive game review per issue.

The problem is, Herb can't type or spell. It is fair to say all players Guest GM when they play in BOAST.

Personally, I think the typos really give it a touch of the eccentric, especially

Letters

Becker, conclusion

when it comes to the press. Recommended reading if you like Curt Gibson's BREVspell.

((Bill sent a sample copy along, thanks. Seemed a tad gameheavy, an average type zine overall, not bad but not exciting. I am impressed by the 9 years though. BOAST is published by Herb Barents, 1142 S 96 Ave, Zeeland, MI 49464)) J.M.

SCOTT HANSON

701 SE 15 Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55414

(excerpts)

I can see ((from the house rules of BB)) you haven't taken any house rules lessons from BRUX—and I thought JOHN'S NOTES rambled on and were hard to read.

I also appreciated the review of your liquor cabinet—though I think Ron Bacardi should have gotten a more enthusiastic rating.

((I don't think so. In a pina colada it is good, but a plain rum&coke or some such just gives me stomach pains at night. Rum seemed good for a cheap drunk, or specialized drinks, but for general purpose drinking, the light Canadians have it all. Tried some Glenlivet at Pilant's new house last night, but he served it straight on the rocks—too strong for me. Might be good with 7Up, but I really couldn't tell.

My HRs are pretty loose because that's the way I am. I view the unambiguous orders rule to be of importance more as a policy than a rule, for instance. Maybe I should call them house policies? Brux's are rules, and fairly ironclad as he applies them. Those who dislike such an iron girdle get out of VD; those who prefer such a policy, or dislike the way my policies take their effect on their play here, can get out of BB. I've had very few problems. That's why I've never retyped them, which I really ought to.)) J.M.

DAVE DITTER

563 Maple Ave N, Fontana, CA 92335

(excerpts)

My own personal feelings ((on the election)) are that the Presidency is a lost cause whoever wins. The Trilateral Commission actually controls most presidential decisions. The most important elections are of Congressmen & Senators who vote Constitutionally, as our founders intended. Yet at times most of these elected individuals get bought off or change their campaign promises once in office.

((That's the problem with this type of system. You must cooperate with those who are wrong and compromise with that which is evil, and try to get SOME good out of the system overall as a result, even if you decline bribes, etc.

I hear more and more about such things as the Trilateral Commission, but aren't very familiar with it. If it is as I get the impression, I have a somewhat fatalistic attitude towards it: maybe they can do a better job than these others have? Outside of my own children, I don't have much interest in the fate of the rest anymore. I think that whatever they get in the years ahead, it will be what they richly deserve.)) J.M.

DAVID PERLMUTTER (Extremism In Defense of Liberty) Latches Lane Apts #608, Merion, PA 19066

It's true. We Jews KNOW we are the "1st String" as far as God is concerned. I mean, let's face it: if New York became a separate nation, the IQ of the US would plummet.

As for Ron Mazurkiewicz's remarks, I could go on and on citing population figures but perhaps it's best to put it in personal terms. Prior to WW2, we knew of over 300 members of the Perlmutter family in Russia and Poland. After WW2 we could find only 4. Case closed. ((Personal response sent. I forgot to reply to this on the following page)) J.M.

Being a GM is fun. I can understand now what Jack Frost had to go through. Shaffer's signatures on his letters are, uh, variable.

Monday Night Football has begun! Plenty of beer and chips. What else can any American ask for? ((Canadian Club, a night with Toni Tennille, a New Order...))

Hey, I'm beginning to think you are right. Southern "stupid" votes, blind blue collar idiots, and blacks who would support Hitler if he said he was a democrat, will

Perlmutter, conclusion

mean four more years of Jimmy. Play taps for America. There's still hope though, Reagan could win the electoral votes if he takes TX, CA, OH, NY, etc. Maybe.

To be honest, this election is important. So important that I don't feel any guilt in saying that Mills is a traitor to America if he votes for Carter. I kid you not.

Osuch's criticism of the "Nigger Application for Employment" was pretty funny considering it was he who provided it for Linsey! Or was it Rod Walker? I forget.

((Reagan has a chance only because those "blue collar idiots" are starting to creep out from the union's bullshit after decades of following it to their own doom, and just might wise up. It is a long shot, though. If Reagan wins, it will be an upset. And without a friendly Senate, it will only stave off collapse a little. See Ditter's letter, e.g. Really, what CAN a President do? On his own, not that much. You can't solve this country's ills with the atomic trigger, and that's about all he has at his direct command. Assuming it would work, that is. With today's military, I have my doubts.

Monday Night Football is a welcome visitor again. EMPIRE is dull the last half now to me (8 trips under the belt so far), and three hours of Howard are a lot cheaper than the same of Lucasfilms Ltd, even if I open the Crown Royal. Then there's always surprises in store like the sign that changed suddenly during the Tampa Bay game that went from "Go Bucs" as the camera came to it, to "Howie Sucks", causing the cameras to shoot away quick. Caught the Giffer off balance too a little. He's the real force behind the show; he, and the abysmal alternatives of the rest of the TV fare.)) J.M.

KONRAD BAUMEISTER (EGGNOG) Box 2231 New S122 Georgetown U., Washington, DC 20057

Just got BB #72 today (the mail is slow around here—took 10 days one way). Not a bad issue—I liked it. However, could you print the following:

POLITICIAN is not now, nor has it ever been, a subzine of EGGNOG or any other zine. It is simply a variant zine, with 8-12 pages per issue, articles, comments, games, and lots of excellent press—and none of the type of people playing in it that sometimes make EGGNOG drudgery. It is totally independent as a zine. I never thought that it would score #5 on the zine poll, but then I always thought that EGGNOG was better than #17 too..it depends on the subbers, of course.

DON DEL GRANDE (Life of Monty)

142 Elisea Dr, Greenbrae, CA 94904

Sorry, not interested in BRUTUS BULLETIN just yet. Remember, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. Also remember that I found a new Xerox service that prints on both sides for the cost of one at the old place, so LIFE OF MONTY (I think Caruso has been hanging around Byrne too long; now neither one of them can spell) is 10 pages a month (on BOTH sides, of course—in other words, 5 sheets of paper) for the same price.

By the way, here's one for the ~~Brutus~~ Brutus Bulletin: "An unnamed source today revealed that the famed Jim Bumpas drinks milk clearly marked "DOG FOOD-NOT FIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION" in the morning."

P.S. By the way, Bacardi Rum mixes with anything-except, of course, driving. Oh yes, if you know anybody that can play Third Reich and wants to teach Perlmutter a lesson, tell me-Perlmutter subs to LOM just to play Third Reich.

PPS Don't touch Daly's DOGS OF WAR pen. It leaks through that hole near the eraser.

JOHN CARUSO (Whitestonia)

42-34 Saull St, Flushing, NY 11355

Maybe you can help me. In recent months I've sent numerous letters and postcards to Mark Berch, and he hasn't replied to me. Since Mark is one of the hobby's most reliable and fair-open minded people, I thought this was strange. Do I have the wrong address? Has he died? No, he didn't die, he wrote you a letter. That also rules out loss of hands due to an accident. Surely he can't be that busy that he can't find the time to even drop me a 10¢ postcard. Even the most tight-pocketed person could afford that. So rather than just think he's avoiding me, I'd rather think he moved. Could you please forward his new address, or at least give me an idea of which rock he's hiding under. ((cont'd))

Caruso, cont'd

PS I promise I'll get you the pictures of Kathy real soon. I have one of Dave Perlmutter with his security blanket, bottle and rattle, standing over the Origins Dip table crying his eyes out, and Kathy standing behind him, pointing her finger at him, laughing hysterically.

((A later letter))

Rec'd issue #72 other day. It was a very fine issue. Now I know why you finished in the top 10 on the survey. I agree with you that a couple of those in the top 10 didn't deserve to be up there, but if 6 or 7 people feel their zine is that good, they showed it. I disagree with you though, that RETALIATION should have been in the top 10. Dick & I are friends and I like him a lot, but quite frankly, RETALIATION five issues ago isn't what it is right now. As my zine is much improved since then as well, with the addition of CAT-TASTROPHE a subzine, and Kathy's Korner, a letter to the nut column (no you can't steal her). Dick has Leap, I have KK.

A vote for Carter is a vote of confidence in all he's done. He's done nothing for us except puch up unemployment, wholesale and retail prices, made us look like fools to our friends and allies. He's not a strong president. Keeping him in the White House another four years and we may as well get used to climbing prices, gas rationing, possibly food rationing, possibly war, more international incidents and growing unemployment. My vote's for Reagan. He may not be 100% right for the job, but 60% is better than Carter's 0%.

MARK BERCH (Diplomacy Digest)

Still 492 Naylor Place, Alexandria, VA 22304

Fast notes on #72: ENVOY also has folded along with FD and Beholder. Glad to hear there will be more of you in BB. Your Zine Poll Commentary was well done—quite a bit of work. NATIONAL is by Guerrier and may be defunct, as he planned to farm it over to Bill LaFosse. POLITICIAN is not a subzine of EGGNOG. INFIDEL is by Nick Russon. BOAST is reliable and prompt but badly printed and carries little but game and wargaming stuff. Supposedly his spelling is worse than mine!! I agree with Osuch on the "Nigger application..."—is too mean-spirited. You can't predict oil gluts. Any such prediction could be knocked out by Saudi dropping to 7½ million bbl/day which they can easily do. If more people who could ride bikes to work((would)), we'd be less in hoc to the Saudis. As for Mazurkiewicz on war, lots of things don't get finished, especially if you are the loser. Who care about witnesses?

((The losing side needs to care a lot more than the winner. They will be held to account, not the victors. (As indeed WWII so amply showed later) Also, witnesses to what? Remember what is being challenged here: the revisionist view is not that the camps existed, but that they were slave/detention camps, not extermination camps. Even now, when official government positions are that the exterminations all took place "in the East", i.e., at Auschwitz and in Russia, beyond examination in other words, there is still this 'problem' of all these people who say, "yes, it was an extermination camp; I know, because I was there from 1943 until the end". Hell, if it really was an extermination camp, there should have been NO survivors at all save perhaps a few handfuls of escapees. (Or turncoat collaborators on the 'staff'). Remember that Auschwitz itself was totally levelled by the Nazis; if they took time to get rid of the camp (which is a stronger argument that is WAS an extermination camp than most of these claims by multi-year "survivors"), they surely could and would have simply finished disposing of 'current inventory' inmates and not accept more, just before demolishing the place. No one should ever have been an inmate of an extermination camp for more than a few weeks or months at most, and even the collaborators would be 'changed' every now and then. Yet there are thousands in America that say yes, I saw it all for 3 or 5 or 6 YEARS. It wouldn't be both ways, just one or the other. They make it look like they are saying what they feel they 'ought' to say in some way, or else are greatly exagerrating their stories. E.g., someone who worked for the Nazis under threat of being sent to a camp might prefer to say they survived Treblinka than to say they survived the bombings of the Krupp plant they worked in the last 4 years of the war. Nothing wrong with that, really, but it casts great doubt on the larger picture via this line of reasoning: if they are lying about perhaps even BEING there, what about what HAPPENED there? This is a small example of the larger question he raised: if six MILLION vanished, shouldn't there be more

Response to Berch, conclusion

evidence than the Nazi's destroying 1 of their dozen camps (all of which were once touted as 'Death Camps' literally), of the thousands of 'survivors' who say, 'sure they were death camps: I watched it for years and years? See what I mean?

The oil 'glut' I predicted is based on US production. We produce half what we use now, and I predict a much higher % in late 81 and thereafter, assuming we use about what we do now. The rest is unpredictable, but if it were up to me, I'd guess the Soviets would take the oil if Carter is re-elected, though perhaps not until the end of his term or into the next dreg's administration that the Demo's scrounge up for us.

Are you sure ENVOY has folded? Bob Sergeant just announced a bunch of openings in it in the Sept 14 issue of ST GEORGE.))

J.M.

CURTIS GIBSON

%A-1, 176 Lexington Ave, NYC 10016

(this first letter is from his vacation in Colo)

I'll start peach harvest work tomorrow, Monday, I guess. Climbed Pike's peak only once last week, and helped in the Marathon, as Red Cross aide.

Tho I've folded up my zine, the Ultsent, after 8 issues, I'm not thru fighting for truth and justice, and here is a letter to the Denver Post, setting them straight re Iran. The hysterical reaction to the embassy seizure has been almost as disgraceful an exhibition of pettiness as the Watergate furor. If people were involved in things as serious and mind-keening as postal Dip, and Japanese Goh, and Bulo, and Calculation solitaire they'd have no inclination to indulge in such silly reactions. Even tennis and bike racing (combined) might be enough to prevent the epidemic of nonsense. But with likely less than 100 tennists who also are bike racers, that kind of immunity is remote.

Enclosed clipping from Denver Post re deprogramming racketeer Ted Patrick has interesting item on the back re the Hare Krishna cult. I always welcome diversity, as long as its decent. The Hare Krishna folks are hippie types, but the truly innocent kind, not drug abusers, not sexually immoral, and not lazy parasites.

Now, in case you'd love to eat some peaches right from the tree, fully ripe, perfect and luscious, and realize the truth that nothing in peaches quite equals Colorado peaches, I'll eat a few for you (besides all those I eat for myself). I'll do it free of charge, too. Aint that genuine generosity??

((Postscript)) Wasn't that Donkeyvention in NYC a grand brayfest! Glad I wasn't in town then. It's noisy enough for me without 3000 donks added.

- - (Another letter, September)

Arriving from Colorado today, I found lots of mail, Dip and non-Dip, including 4 issues of BB. I see in #66 Rod Walker gets two whole pages to exhibit the extent of his confusion re the gnostics and New Testament doctrine, and related matters, so I'd better use 1 or 2 p.s to help us all out of his smog.

First, yes, the Oxford Dictionary is a shallow authority, wrong in thousands of places, and that is why I have to furnish the facts now and then. Only pedantic stuck-in-the-mud scholars are commonly used by such as the Oxford, Encyclopedia Britannica, etc., which such as Walker have to rely on.

The Essenes R.W. is so sure he knows the doctrine of are merely the Judean branch, and only the ones whose scribe-dominated desert communities left those scrolls found in recent decades, a rather stagnant branch compared with the vital hope-powered Galileean sect of Jesus & Co. The latter were of course, with Jessus' help, fully aware that Jehovah was not God the Father, and was, like Lucifer and Michael, only one of the Creator Elohim(=demiurges).

So that leaves Walker and all the 'scholars' he reads lost in confusion. As for theology, he is even more incompetent. Resurrection and reincarnation are perfectly compatible, being parallel facts of life. Resurrection is at least available to all who are graduating from their reincarnation series, and presumably to many who are not, though the latter would be in an oddly irregular class. Understand the transcendent mode of reincarnation and you'll see what great variety of incarna patterns are possible.

As for Jesus and the gospels, I thought I already pointed out that the reply he gave the disciples re the karma of the man born blind does make it clear he and they based their theology on the doctrine of reincarna, and so no need for any statement in the gospels of such an elementary point. And the statement re John the Baptist as the reincarna of Elijah, that was specific. And "whom do men say that I am?" also made clear that the people were well aware of the truth of reincarnation.

The only Essene documents I care to quote from are the Gospels, because all that

Gibson, conclusion

junk found in the desert caves is aberrant Esseneism.

As for 'Dives', since that is the customary term by which the rich man in Hades is referred to, my using it for convenience is OK. Rod wrong again.

I specialize in correcting false 'scholarship', but of course most of the 'learned' don't enjoy finding they must unlearn.

((A letter correcting some wrongs in the way baseball is played was also received, but was originally written to the NY Times and wasn't readily 'translatable' into direction to the readership)) J.M.

JOHN LIPSCOMB (Assorted Garbage)
(excerpt)

I hope you'll continue to print absolutely anything of interest no matter how vulgar, incriminating, derogatory, or untrue it is. One of the neat things about our North American society is that the truth almost always surfaces, so before it does we might as well have as many scandals, accusations, as much anger and deceit as we possibly can. To limit the fun in life is more of a crime than to temporarily tell untruths.

((Do I detect a note of cynicism in there?)) J.M.

BRUCE LINSEY: CLAIM TO FAME by John Caruso

On the eve of Bruce Linsey publishing VOD's 1 year anniversary issue, I thought I'd take some time out to illustrate where I feel his recognition has come from.

It all started about 20 months ago when he 1st dropped into the hobby. Yes, all you newcomers, Mr Personality himself, being an expert on the play of the game, the rule book and all 'round experience, is himself a relative newcomer to the hobby. With his total PBM games played to this date totalling 4-6, including a 1 on 1, he really has diplomacy PBM experience. But we're not here to look at his experiences, but at his notoriety.

His so called 'claim to fame' has come about mainly due to his slander and belittling of others, mostly within his own zine. His zine has the reputation of having an open forum. But theres a big difference between an open forum and the character assassinations, controversy and all around dirt that he usually puts out. Whether hes fallen into the controversy, or started it himself, the controversy seems to find him, and he's made the most of his controversial reputation. He exploits it to become known.

Bruce Linsey also boasts one of the most thorough and longest set of HR's, HR's which benefit him, and only he has the guile to use and abuse.

Bruce Linsey also loves to throw Kathy Byrne's name around, though she doesn't sub to VOD. Linsey knows she's a hobby personality, and is trying to use her name to get and keep people interested in his zine. He can't put out a good issue without mentioning her name, or at least he doesn't think so.

Lets face it, at one time or another, we all like to read some kind of controversy or dirt. And thats what makes Bruce Linsey's fame. Thing is, alot of people don't realize he only prints things which are favorable to him, or things he can rip apart. Sure, he also prints hobby disputes on the rule book interpretation, but aren't those debates, controversies themselves? Who gives a flying what way Bruce Linsey interprets the rulebook? (Personally most GM's myself likewise, interpret the rule book the way Allan Calhamer does. After all, he created the game, not Bruce Linsey)

Think we can safely say Bruce Linsey hasn't built his fame on his playing ability, nor for playing in numerous games, nor for being a well-known and respected opponent. Nor has his fame been built on his fair-honest-openmindedness. Nor has his fame come from his work on the unprecedented Novice Package, which I believe, 10 months later, is still ALMOST READY FOR PUBLICATION! His claim to fame comes mostly from the controversy and dirt he prints.

Amazed the PD got any votes above zero but what can one say...

Think however that you are seeing the politics only half right. Demo convention didn't bring Carter up or Reagan down but merely back to normal. Lame as Carter is, he is personally appealing to many people for a variety of reasons-tries hard, means well, etc. By and large my perception has been that folks who can't cut it in real life find his explanation that the job is impossible appealing. Add a regional and religious base and his ratings go up every time public concern/awareness of the state of the nation goes down. The key number is RR's which keeps inching up. He also has a regional base in the west and an ideological one to boot.

This gives the following as a reasonable break:
SURE CARTER: Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, DC, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Alabama, Pennsylvania, Hawaii & Arkansas = 149 EV's
Leaning Carter: Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Minnesota, Mississippi = 43 EV's
combined 192 EV's

SURE REAGAN: Virginia, Oklahoma, New Hampshire, Indiana, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, Iowa, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, California, Alaska = 132 EV's
Leaning Reagan: New Jersey, Vermont, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oregon, Washington, Texas = 76 EV's
combined 208 EV's

So far close but leaning Ronnie's way

That leaves Michigan, Louisiana, New York, Maine, Ohio, Illinois, and Wisconsin with 138 EV's and the ballgame. Which means that the battleground is not the south or the northeast but rather the midwest. Let's face it: NY is Anderson's to lose, not Carter's to win. Ronnie will get 40-42% of the vote here and either Anderson and the other also runs between them will get enough to hold Jimmy below that or they won't. The betting here is Reagan on a strong Anderson vote and a low turnout among the nominally pro-Carter as in the primary. He's got no organization and the most passive of popular support among those not dependent on White House patronage for their jobs. Still Anderson could always put both feet in his mouth and chomp for a week or two. Alternately Carter could simplify things and give Javits a big enough job to get him off the Seante ballot which will blow 35-40% of Anderson's support.

Now I am also presuming that the current statewide leads will largely hold and in the end cancel out, Carter will definitely make a bid for Texas and Ronnie will probably try to steal a southern state or two (Mississippi and Florida come easily to mind) but the basic battleground is the Lakes states. Per se both candidates figure to run behind their parties showings there in 76. Anderson is going to pull off a lot of Ford-style suburban votes, especially in Illinois and Wisconsin. On the other hand, Carter cannot count on cutting as heavily into the protestant vote a

second time around, especially in south Illinois and south Ohio. Many of these were old Wallace voters following their religious beliefs as opposed to their more traditional voting patterns. Also Ron is going to cut the blue collar vote better than Ford and the economics are going to cut Republican for a change.

On the other hand the media will be increasingly out for his blood the closer you get to election day, and there are too many suburban moderates to whom the class issue will dictate their vote-never forget this is the first clearly working class candidate the Republicans have had in modern times. Nixon went through the conventional route of Wall Street lawyer to validate him-Ron was a union president. The strength of the Bush candidacy long after it was suicidal rested in a class resentment dressed up in minor ideological differences-all else was BS. Ford got extra suburban votes by especially appealing to suburban types on this class, ^{thing} but feelings level-- Ron will lose many of them back even with Bush on the ticket.

In the end the key will probably be Anderson. If he stays viable-above 10% nationally, the regional concentration of his votes in big EV states will carry RR to the White House. If he goes higher it could be a landslide. If he collapses it could be all over but the shouting as Carter sweeps east of the Mississippi.

One last key to remember-the straight polls lie. Jimmy is gonna win big in the states he wins. So he actually needs to be ahead by 4% or more to be winning. Think of election night in '76 (a major event in my life for other reasons)-Carter was 3% ahead and almost lost because of how those votes break out by states. So the current 40-38-15 poll gives RR a comfortable lead. Indeed, if I had to bet it now I'd put the tossups as follows-Louisiana, Maine, NY, Illinois, and Ohio Republican for a safe win. A lot can happen in seven weeks though.

((I especially agree with this last page. The media will be jumping Reagan just as the Demos drag out a filth campaign like they did against Goldwater. Maybe 'Christian' Jimmy will have them hold back just a tad so it will blow up in their face. I'm not at all sure that the electorate is any smarter now than in 1964, but maybe being robbed and stepped on by the liberal power brokers for an extra decade and a half (has it really been that long?) will wake up a few of these neanderthals.

The other key danger is overexposure of Reagan. The more he is pushed as a candidate, the more he will overact like a candidate instead of simply being The conservative alternative. He spoke here to the local party, 1/3 of whom got to look at the backs of cameramen for their fee, and said things like boo-on-the-windfall-tax, etc (fine, but that's not that big a deal), then got warmed up and went on to "there is more oil here still undiscovered than produced in the US so far", which is simply bullshit. There is no more easily recoverable oil, unless you want to talk about shale oil or some such, and that is mining, not drilling, business. Then there was the flap over what Red China thought of his pro-Taiwan position. Hell, just tell them flat out who we support, and be proud of it. Emphasize the difference between doing what's right and doing a bald sellout like Carter did. Red China talks to us only

Response to Palter, conclusion

because we share the same powerful and dangerous enemy; that will not change whether we recognize them or not. We could continue to even condemn them as they have us, and it would maintain our relationship vs Russia. If we licked their pudgy feet as Carter all but has, it won't win us a minute's grace if the Russian threat should ever weaken. So why all the apologizing about supporting Taiwan? Reagan should all but tell them to suck it, and avoid that only because the gay community might come back and say, "Yeah, Reagan, he's our man" as a result...)) J.M.

★ Awright awready. Let's take a little break from the letters and go to an excellent contribution from DAVE CARTER. And keep in mind that when you see this stuff on your bulletin board, or company newsletter, or classroom wall, send a copy in to your BRUTUS BULLETIN. This is the sort of thing that makes it worth reading for us all!

Father Murphy was a priest in a very poor parish. He asked for suggestions as to how to raise money for his church. He was told that horse owners always had money. So he went to a horse auction, but he made a very poor buy: the horse turned out to be a donkey.

However, he thought he might as well enter the donkey in a race. The donkey came in third, and the next morning the headlines in the paper read "Father Murphy's ass Shows." The archbishop saw the paper and was very displeased. The next day the donkey came in first and the headline read, "Father Murphy's Ass Out In Front." The archbishop was up in arms and figured something had to be done. Father Murphy had entered the donkey a third time and it came in second. Now the headlines read, "Father Murphy's Ass Back In Place."

The archbishop thought this too much so he forbade the priest to enter the donkey next day, which inspired the editor to write, "Archbishop Scratches Father Murphy's Ass." Finally the archbishop heard this and ordered the father to get rid of the donkey. He was unable to sell it, so he gave it to sister Agatha for a pet. Now the headline read, "Nun Owns Best Ass In Town." When the Archbishop heard this he ordered sister Agatha to dispose of the animal at once. She sold it for ten dollars. Next day the headline read, "Sister Agatha peddles Her Ass For Ten Dollars." They buried the archbishop three days later.

Seeing as how I'm up for attack by my pal John Caruso, I thought I'd check in with some rebuttals. Actually, this has come at precisely the right time, from my standpoint. All my other controversies were dying down, so I was getting bored. Thanks to John for putting a little excitement back into my life!

Let's see. John seems to think I'm famous, or at least his "Claim to Fame" article would so indicate. Gee, I'm flattered. I wasn't aware of this high achievement. I do know that some people like what appears in VOD aside from controversy, though. Either that, or I'm imagining all those letters from my subbers who tell me to keep up the good work, etc. I'll let my rising circulation rate and the letters I get speak for themselves.

My house rules seem to bother John because they are so comprehensive. Oh, yeah, he says they are full of ambiguities and repetitions, but he hasn't pointed out any of these in particular. I'd be interested to hear which of my house rules need improving, since I'm always open to suggestion.

Later on, we find out that John doesn't care for VOD's discussions concerning the Rulebook. In fact, he asks "Who gives a flying?" Well, maybe the nineteen people who responded to my Rulebook Quiz recently are interested, and probably a large segment of the rest of my readership as well. I find it fascinating to discuss the paradoxes and loopholes in the Rulebook. So do Berch, Smyth, Lischett, and Guerrier, in their zines. Are we all guilty of some sort of crime, because our interests do not jibe with those of Sir John Caruso, His Royal Excellency? I don't believe we are.

Ah, let's see. Next I am criticized for printing only material favorable to myself. Anybody who looks in VOD's letter column will immediately see that this is not so. I have printed letters and articles critical of myself on many occasions, including some of Caruso's own material. In fact, I prefer to print critical material, because it is food for discussion rather than just a dead end like most praise. I would guess that I've printed a couple of dozen letters in the past year that ranged from mild criticism to castigation. John must not have been reading the issues....

Next we discover that Linsey uses Kathy Byrne's name to try to get and keep people interested in his zine. A little bit of egotism to you too, John. I don't see why anybody would sub to VOD because Kathy's name is mentioned therein, and if you still were reading it you'd see that her name has been printed there on increasingly rare occasions of late. Naturally, when she was an active Doomie, her name was mentioned correspondingly more often. I've put out many decent issues without mentioning honeypie's name even once.

Back to the Rulebook. John tells us that he interprets this the way Allan Calhamer does. The only question I have is, how does Caruso know what Calhamer had in mind? VOD's Quiz respondents had trouble deciding that among themselves, on such questions as the "farthest from home" rule, the "unwanted convoy" paradox, and the self-dislodgement rules. Unless John is a mind-reader, I doubt he has any more insight into the resolution of Rulebook questions than do the rest of us.

Actually, my playing experience as a starting player is only two games. This doesn't include variants. Of the two, I will probably finish in a three-way draw in one and win the other. I'll let the record speak for itself. And how many wins does Caruso have in how many gamestarts? Truth to tell, though, I do not consider myself a great player, just moderately above average. In about 20 face-to-face games, I have 2 wins. But who cares? Just because I don't play in as many games as John would like me to, must I resign from the hobby, or what?

I don't consider myself an expert on the Rulebook, either, as John says. I daresay I know more about it than he does, though, by a substantial margin. I've learned a great deal from Berch, Smyth, Walker, Guerrier, et. all; in the recent VOD discussions.

Back to Caruso's piece in #73: I once removed a player from a game, and there was no "phony proof" involved, as John claims. I offered xeroxes to anybody who was interested, and John didn't ask to see them. But ask Berch whether the xeroxes were "phony".

Hm. I'm also accused of "slander". This is hard to answer, since John doesn't say which of my statements are supposed to be slanderous. Try again, John.

And, speaking of hobby achievements, who cares? Not me, really. I measure success in Diplomacy by how much fun I'm having. I enjoy playing, so I play. I enjoy pubbing, so I publish. I enjoyed doing the Novice Packet, so I did that too. Speaking of which... THE NOVICE PACKET IS READY!! 75¢ to me, and it's YOURS! No mentions of honeybunch inside!

If John Caruso's ego is served by attacking someone in order to make himself and Kathy look good, so be it. It might actually convince someone to write for a sample of VOD and see what all this is about, so I encourage you to keep printing it.

In the meantime, of course, we'll have to assume that all my subbers are dirty old geezers who just want an X-rated thrill.

((This should have had to wait for #75, but #74 has been ready for a week and is still here awaiting being run off, so I might as well include it now.))

BRUX THE GREAT

J.M.

BOB SERGEANT (St George & the Dragon)

3242 Lupine Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46224
September 30, 1980

I feel I must respond to the charges that the Postal Tournament is having "a terrible problem with drop-outs." At the present time, 8 positions in 18 games are in CD. One CD position has been eliminated. Since each player is in three games, this is essentially three people NMRing. Since 18 games have 126 positions, this is a 7% CD rate. I do not regard this as a "terrible problem." I must also point out that since John Daly is neither a Tournament GM nor a player in the Tournament, he has NO first hand information. No one who is a player only has information on more than his three games directly. A GM has information on on the game or games he is GMing (a maximum of two) and the ones he is in (if any). The only two people who receive complete information on all the games are Mark Berch, the Tournament Ombudsman, and myself, the Tournament Director, neither of whom are playing.

I think a more serious problem is that Jack Brawner, Dave White, and Bill Buck agreed to GM games, have started GMing the games, and then abandoned them. Further, in spite of requests, none of the men mentioned has responded to a politely worded request to refund the unused portion of the Tournament game fee.

To speak to the point, as I understand it, standbys are not omitted "to keep it (the Tournament) moving reasonably on schedule", but to avoid the hassles attendant upon trying to score the individuals fairly for the amount of their participation in the game. Surely a player who takes over a country in 1902 and wins in 1910 is more responsible for the win than is a player who takes over a country in 1909 and wins in 1910. The only fair way to score these standbys is to use standbys only in the event of a Spring, 1901 miss. If the standby takes over the country in Fall, 1901 for the purposes of scoring he is credited as if he were ##### original player. Thus there are no "freebies" in the Tournament. And there is incentive for standbys to do their best with the country, for if they throw the game to another, they decrease their own chance to win.

((While as I said, I don't readily recall for sure who it was, it almost certainly was either Daly or Dick Martin. I personally support a no-standby policy across the board after 1901. Thanks for setting the record straight.))

J.M.

Ah, sweet success. The accolades continue to roll in. John has again prevailed upon me and I have consented to review my gun cabinet, so hang on all you liberal fags.

The first item is a shotgun—

ITHICH SUPERLITE, 12 gauge pump, 28" bbl, full choke. Superlite means just that, and at six pounds you won't shoot many magnums, but a slug round will stop a charging buffalo or purple Cadillac, and 5 rounds of #6 shot will really clean the sky/street. Strictly short range, under 60 yards.

Rifles—

RUGER MINI-14 Looks like a 3/4 version of the US M14 chambered for the 5.56 NATO round (.223 for you civilians). This is a beauty! Just under 6 lbs and 36" long, it is light and fast handling. While it will reach to 400+ yards, its most effective under 250 yards. With 2 30-round banana clips and a stock 20, it will go a long time. With its high rate of fire, excellent sights, low recoil and low (\$225) price, it is a good choice if you only have one rifle.

SAVAGE 99 Chambered for 7.62 NATO (.308 win) and topped with a 3-9x scope, this one will reach to 450+ yards. If you're good it will go 1000 yards! The Savage is a lever action with few moving parts, so it is virtually indestructible. Excellent choice for remote areas. REcoil is sharper than with the Ruger and it is only 5 shot, but the long range potential makes it a good choice. About \$300 with scope.

Handguns—

SMITH & WESSON Mod 28/.45 My 'house gun', always loaded. This is a conversion, a large frame .357 bored out and re-barrelled to 45 long Colt. I handload a 200 grain hollowpoint to 1000 fps. It's super accurate to about 75 yards. That 200 grain HP really opens up, one went .85" when fired into sand at 20 yds. It's also a safer 'urban' load than the factory 'solid' 255 which will penetrate a 6" post (or about 4 apartments, including doors). A factory version is now available from Smith & Wesson, the 25-5. \$350. Get one.

COLT COMMANDER .45 The shortened version of the government 1911A1. 7 shot clip and 1 in the chamber, carry two extra clips and you've got 22 rounds. It doesn't have the firepower of a P-35 or M.A.B. (15 rounds without reloading!), but a 200 grain 45 is pretty damn impressive at close range. The sharp recoil and poor sights mean lots of practice to stay proficient. Effective range is 40-50 yards with practice.

RUGER BLACKHAWK 45 Long Colt. With a 4 5/8" barrel, it is short, fat, and ugly. It is also impressive as hell. Mine has the steel gripframe from the .44 Mag so it weighs about 3 pounds, which soaks up a lot of recoil. Sights are excellent and it will handle high velocity loads so range is 75-100 yards with practice. A good all-purpose load is a 250 grain solid at 900 FPS. Accurate with low recoil. The best self-defense load of any handgun is the 200 grain HP at 1000 FPS. Very accurate with moderate to low recoil. (See 45 auto above).

For those of you for whom the ultimate is barely acceptable, try a 250 grain HP at 1400 FPS. This gives 1000 foot-pounds of muzzle energy and will really reach out. It can completely penetrate an elk at 100 yards or a Caddy engine block from the trunk. It will also scorch the earth eight feet from the muzzle. Recoil is very heavy.

RUGER .45 7 1/2" barrel. Long Barrel version of Ruger above. While the 4 5/8" model is easy to hide and quick into action, a superb close-in weapon, this one is strictly long range. 14 1/2 inches long, not even John is ~~big~~ big enough to conceal it. ((!)) Same sights and ballistics as one above, the long bbl makes it more pleasant to shoot. You won't believe its real range, so I'll just say 100++yards.

So much for small arms. Tune in next time for a discussion on crew-fired weapons.

Thanks, Dave. Such as the above makes for a more interesting zine I think. Anyone else want to submit one? Review your stack of games, your college classes, your last few dates???

J.M.

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