

Special Pre-election issue! Our slogan: "If you could see tomorrow, the way it looks to us today, you'd say AW, SHIT!"

ISSUE #76 Early November, 1980

# The BRUTUS BULLETIN

## ET TU, BRUTE

The BRUTUS BULLETIN is a newsletter of postal DIPLOMACY<sup>tm</sup> brought to you every few weeks by John Michalski ("mih-HOLL-skee"), Rt 10, Box 526-Q, Moore, Oklahoma 73165. Subs are available at the rate of 12/\$5, 12/\$4 for resubs. There are openings with guest game-masters Scott Hanson, 701 SE 15 Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55414, and Dave Marshall, 1547 Maplegrove Road, South Euclid, Ohio 44121, at 2-week and 3-week deadlines respectively. Write them direct for details. The BRUTUS BULLETIN promises only prompt adjudications, nothing more, but since its publisher also likes filler, this thing is run off whenever I get 10 or 11 sheets full of material. BB specializes in fast games, uncensored black press, and a wide open letters column. All are invited to participate.

LAST ISSUE is, at this writing (Oct 21) sitting in my wife's car ready for reproduction which I'll get to just as soon as my alternate printing facility gets repaired. Also as of this writing, I have more than half of this issue #76 filled. If they don't get the machine fixed soon, you may find two issues coming out at once. Thanks to all of you for showing the interest to write in.

SUBS EXPIRING: #75, Howe; this #76, Kirchner; #77, Olsen, Becker, J. Albrecht, Perlmutter, Smyth. This high rate of publication does tend to take its toll, doesn't it? On the other hand, it keeps sub checks coming at a fairly decent clip, and since it costs \$12 in postage alone to put 1 issue in the mails (and rates are going up in 10 more weeks), it is just as well. So far there has been a certain amount of 'subsidy' via old company envelopes that I used at a discount; these are running out fast, and there won't be any new ones (unless I find a cache of oldies in a nook somewhere someday), so that means that lil' ol' me is going to have to start footing 100¢ on the dollar for postage shortly. The present rates seem high to me, but as Mark Berch brought up in a recent DIPLOMACY DIGEST editorial, the effect of all these new zines (and some old) who charge fees in the 55-70¢ range each to come close to their actual costs will be a move toward fewer zines subbed to by each individual. No problem for me, of course, since I'd sooner handle a lighter load and, BB would in most cases be one of the last zines that a given non-player would drop. However, the HOBBY will suffer, as newer zines will face a tough uphill fight to gain many paying subbers (or even traders) beyond their immediate players when they have an as-yet-unproven track record and quality level to offer vs a \$6/10 issue sub rate, ignoring gamefees. It will tend to push people into only subbing to the zines they MUST to play in, limiting their exposure to hobby happenings and trends, while making it harder for new and unestablished zines to make much headway into circulation. Eventually, of course, people will get used to high fees just as they have adapted to high inflation, unemployment, crime, bussing, and Democratic rule. However, if it takes a year and a half to two years in a hobby where the average stay is about two years, we could face a virtual Dark Ages ahead. What if all that came out the "other end of the tunnel" were such hobby torchbearers as GRAUSTARK and LE FRONT? Quite an odd hobby we would seem to have, if that were the 'core' around which to rebuild...

Speaking of GRAUSTARK, (something I rarely do), the latest issues that I received had an odd but interesting offer. If any of you put any hope in the minor fringe candidates, publisher John Boardman makes this offer: "Send me \$5 so that it arrives on or before Nov 3. If the combined vote for Anderson, Commoner, and Clark in any one of the fifty states is enough so that, if cast for one candidate, it would enable that candidate to do as well as second place, you will get an entry in a postal DIPLOMACY or CONQUISTADOR

game for your \$5. So now you have three to one odds, and if the total would make a second-place finish in any one state, you win. If you lose, I pocket the \$5 with thanks. This offer is void, and the money will be refunded, if any one of these candidates, or the two major party candidates, dies or resigns his candidacy between now and Election Day."

—John Boardman, GRAUSTARK, 234 E 19 St,

Brooklyn, NY 11226

Normally, the LAST thing you will find in BE is news or notices from GRAUSTARK, but the recent set of issues I received contained, oddly enough, some points that I can almost agree with. I'll have to be careful... Anyhow, if you think you can win, you will get a free sub with your \$5 'gamefee', and while the editorial content of G seems to me to often be written straight out of Wonderland, the games themselves are near certain to be run on time to conclusion. If you feel any of these nut parties have a chance, cash in on it at John B.s expense.

Now, by "nut parties" I do not mean to totally degrade them. In those states where the presidential winner is already a foregone conclusion, you can use these freak groups as a vehicle to register an excellent and effective protest vote. Just be sure to vote for those secondary offices too. I personally think that Reagan should be campaigning more now for a Republican Senate than for himself, and for this reason: without at least one house of Congress to support him, he won't be able to do much more than Ford did, namely, veto the more extravagant waste items of the Democratic government. Next, the country would be better off if, had we only one Republican victory to have, the win came in the Senate instead of the White House. And finally, it would be an excellent psychological move for his own win, to seem to be taking it for granted and pushing hard to set up "his" Senate, etc.

\*\*\*\*\*

JOHN DALY

\*\*\*\*\*

is owed an apology for my mistaking him with Dick Martin as the author of the editorial denouncing the Postal Dip Tournament. At first I remembered it as having appeared in his own DOGS OF WAR; later, I wasn't sure whether it was DOGS or Martin's GRAB DOTS!!!, two zines which began about the same time in the same part of the country that I have generally thought of together. (They and Brawler, now defunct, also cooperate in running the Orphan Project). Anyhow, Martin has a letter this issue in which he 'fesses up to the original, and, I had thought that if I was wrong, I'd hear from one of them (I trade with both). However, aside from Martin's letter of a few days ago, the only other thing I heard was a denouncement of me in the latest DOGS just out! Well, basically I am at fault, so I won't belabor the point. I did feel I owed an explanation of why things came out as they did. (Especially in view of the attack in DOGS)

Speaking of attacks, I understand that an ULTSENT #9 has come out denouncing me for denouncing its senile and hate-ridden author, CURTIS GIBSON. I expect to have a copy of it shortly, but the main gist of it follows Gibson's McCarthy style of late, of accusing anyone who disagrees with him as being evil in various ways. I, it seems, am denounced as being both a Fascist and an overly-devout Roman Catholic; other explanations he offers for my giving the old bastard the boot is that I object to his defending the KKK (—this is NOT humor, I'm serious. And so is HE!). These statements range from exaggerations to outright lies, but that's nothing new for Gibson. I don't care if he, or any of you, for that matter, opt to defend the KKK; in fact, I'd be glad to print it! I'm sure it would generate a few rather interesting letters. On Catholicism, I was raised in the Catholic faith, but have not been active in it (or any other, for that matter), for about 15 years or more. As to being a Fascist, well, you might make a case there. I'm so fed up with what I see that I wouldn't mind at all seeing a bunch of asses kicked, and not a few outright shot. That probably makes me a 'Fascist' in the eyes of some. I'm not insulted any more by it than by Gibson's references to "bone-headed Polacks". A real diplomat, he. Write to him c/o A-1, 176 Lexington, NYC 10016 for your copy today... If you want black and white proof that he is an outright liar, by the way, courtesy copies of his letter to me are available upon request for comparison to his statements in ULTSHIT #9. As if proof were needed...

I HOPE that this issue gets to you before the elections; the way things have been going, though, I see it takes a week to ten days to get a completed issue run off, so I can't be sure. Anyhow, I predict a Carter win with room to spare. As always, I hope I'm wrong, but betting on the stupidity of the masses is a pretty sure thing. Everyone wrings their hands and clacks their tongues about oh-how-terrible-things-are, and, golly gee, "it

sure would be nice if someone would do something", etc., etc., ad nauseum, but when it gets down to election time, everyone pulls the jackasses tail stright down the ticket like they always have done. So fuck 'em, let people get the kind of government they deserve—which is probably why it's so piss-poor right now. They've got it.

On another facet of this People-Are-Assholes theme, I was discussing with another publisher the other day the odd aspect of bosses and wives who look so askance at their employees/spouses doing such improper and dumb stuff as sitting around and typing a lot, but would say nothing if you spent the same time walking around BSing with people about basketball scores or the world series. If you're sitting in the living room with your face buried in the newspaper, that's fine; if you're upstairs typing by yourself, you are guilty of ignoring your family. Hmm. Anyone ever figured that out?

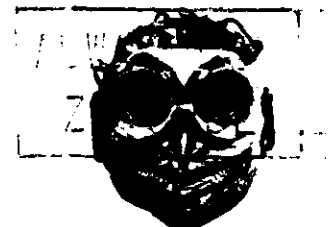
Before I get away from politics altogether, I ought to spout off a little about the movement called MORAL MAJORITY. It is getting a lot of attention here, tho I suspect less so elsewhere. Perhaps you have heard it mentioned though. Basically it is a group of Fundamentalists, real Bible-thumpers, going out and entering the political arena by endorsing those candidates who measure up best vs. their Biblical yardstick. Locally they are getting a lot of low key denouncements—no one in a state like Oklahoma could denounce this type of stuff STRONGLY—but personally, I don't much care. For one thing, their redneck stand parallels my own conservative one on a lot of stuff—defense e.g.,—and disagreeing only on lesser items like abortion. On principle, though, it seems to me that if the holy rollers want to band together for what they see as right, it's no different than unions banding the unthinking membership into contribution-blocks to support the criminals that the AFL-CIO deems worthy of perpetuating their control. The key difference of course is that these new groups, whether "Moral Majority" or the Political Action Committees or whatever, support RIGHT-wing forces, not the left-wing forces that currently rule the roost. Makes a big difference then. No wonder the media heaps abuse on them.

Well, time for a little normal stuff now. At home the big news is the puppy that Claudine brought home from somewhere the other day. It is about the size of a crumpled Crackerjack box, short haired black and white mutt. In 'compensation', it seems, the hamster cr oaked just after the pup arrived. Too bad; the golden hamster was a big and lively fellow who just laid down and died this week, no apparent rhyme or reason. Well, it was a mess to clean up after, and once the novelty wore off (rapidly!), the kids were, uh, less than eager to go at the job. Maybe the puppy will be better once it is housebroken.


I've been really enjoying my vacation in bits and pieces the last few weeks. Whenever there's a nice day that's not too windy, I take the afternoon off to go paint some more of the second story of the house. Not a fun job at all, let me tell you. Standing on a discount-store-aluminum ladder is OK for about 2-3 hours; then your feet start getting as cramped as your hand is from holding the brush, so it is a long and drawn out process. Trouble is, the house really SHOULD have been painted last year. No dodging it anymore, and I have to get it done before the weather turns too cold in another month or so. I get three weeks next year if I'm still working here, my reward for being too dumb to move on 4 years ago. Whoopee.

A few zines have mentioned cable television and related things lately. I cannot really understand the appeal of it myself. Television itself is so limited in its appeal that the opportunity to choose from 5 local stations, or 5 local and 1 Atlanta and 1 Kansas City and 1 Ft Worth station, really seems little different to me. I don't care for much of ANY of it. Why pay for more crap, is what it boils down to. Sure, they play up Home Box Office (and play down the extra fee), but what Shaffer has this month on his HBO for instance isn't anything I'd pay for a week of cable for, let alone a month. Aside from occasional news and Monday Night Football, I'd say most of my remaining viewing is such things as STAR TREK reruns on the new local UHF stations that offer little except 3d rate movies and 10 year old serials. That's still head and shoulders above the rest, whether local network stations or imported stuff from Atlanta. What do you think?

CONTRIBUTION:



Chakur Thngi  
Indian Art USA 15c

GIBBY  
LIVES! 

EUROPE TURNS STAB HAPPY;  
RUSSIA TAKES IT ALL IN

Autumn 1903: England retreats A Norway to Finland

Winter 1903: England removes A Finland; France builds F Brest; Russia NBR,  
plays one short

Spring 1904:

AUSTRIA (Perlmutter): A Boh-TYO; A Gal-BUD; A TRI-Ven; A Ser-BUL;  
F Aeg-ION

ENGLAND (Kirchner): F Bar-NWG; F NTH S F Bar-Nwg; F SKA S F Nth

FRANCE (Bricken): A GAS-Bur; A PAR S A Gas-Bur; A Mar S A Gas-Bur/d/  
destroyed; F Por-MID; F Bre-ENG

GERMANY (Stark): A BUR S ITALIAN A Pie-Mar; A MUN S A Bur; A BEL H;  
A HOL H; F HEL S F Den; F DEN S RUSSIAN F Swe-Ska(NSO)

ITALY (Henry): A Pie-MAR; F LYO S A Pie-Mar; F Wes-SPA(sc); F VEN H;  
A GRE H

RUSSIA (Goodrich): NMR! F RUM, SEV, SWE H; A STP, MOS, NWY H

TURKEY (Petrie): A Arm-CON; F BLA C A Arm-Con; F Con-SMY

Now that's what I call excitement! As soon as Italy makes his move against France, the Austrians move into position to do a little damage of their own. Turkey abandons the assault on Sevastopol at the very time he could have captured it, but may be better off in the long run. Lots of fun coming up.

Eric Kirchner has taken over the English position; Dave Grabar submitted standby orders that weren't needed. Thanks, guys! I tried to reach Paul Goodrich, but failed, so he NMRed. I understand that Paul is usually very reliable, so no standby will be called. Whether you plan on continuing or not, could you please submit Fall 1904 orders, Paul? Thank you.

Fall 1904 orders will be due Thursday, October 30, 1980. Please try to get them in early, or at least earlier. Press follows.

PRESS

VIE-DAVE PILANT: John says that Bob shouldn't be told until after the game is over. Case closed.

BER: I just want to say that I am an asshole, so that's the reason Bob asked an even bigger asshole to standby for me.

SNIDELY-BOB: Satisfied? No disgusting press. Bored, aren't you?

BOB-SNIDELY: ZZZZZZZ...huh? Lifes a drag. Love stinks, yeah, yeah...ZZZZZZ.

NEW TWISTS ON OLD JOKES: This young guy was hitch-hiking just outside Chicago. Every time a car stopped the driver would ask, "Are you Bob Osuch?". The young guy always said no, and then the cars would speed off. Finally, he gave up, and when the next car stopped he said, "Yeah, I'm Bob.". The pretty lady driver smiled and said, "Hop in.". Well, they sped down the road, and soon the young guy noticed that the lady had a real short, loose skirt. The hem of the skirt was slowly riding up her leg, showing more and more of her thigh. The young guy started sweating, and after awhile said, "Look lady, you better let me out of here. I've only been Bob Osuch for ten minutes and I already feel like screwing someone!".

VIE-CHICAGO: Chicago will have a winner as soon as a panel of leading scientists have proven beyond a shadow of a doubt that Hell has frozen over.

CHICAGO: Alas, you're probably right. Thank God I'm a Detroit fan.

LON-PAR: How much will Plan (B) cost me?

MOS-VIE: Shove it, tenderfoot.

ANK-BOB OLSON: Why don't you just get the hell out of this hobby?! We are all sick and tired of you, Coughlan and Oaklyn playing your stupid games. Kendter Sr. was right about you: you don't know your balls from your brains.

ROM: Who is "Mike Mills"? He keeps writing me and telling me to attack "Gary Coughlen". Why, what's going on here? I don't know any Coughlen, and he isn't even in this game. I'm confused.

MID-MOORE: Only a real S.O.B. would pick on a poor, starving old man. Just because Curtis Gibson does not follow your religious beliefs, i.e. He is not a devout Catholic, must you kick him while he's down? When you were a kid, did you pull the wings off baby ducks?

?: Let's just drop this whole crossgaming shit. We both know that the "John and Bob Show" will go on forever. Buddy Oaklyn tried to stop it, see where that got him? So just forget it.

JOKES BOB OSUCH TELLS: These two guys walk into a bar. One says, "Is this Murray's Tavern?". The bartender says "Yes."

DAVE PILANT: Ho, ho, that is truly very funny.

CHICAGO:... that reminds me of the one about the man who was walking across the street when, all of a sudden, a Mack truck comes out of nowhere and smacks right into him. As the guy's laying in the street, a sympathetic old lady rushes up to him and says, "Sir, sir, did you get the license number of that truck?", to which the guy replies, "No, but I'll never forget his face."

Then there was the guy who was riding his motorcycle one fine, summer day, when a fat-cat Jewish guy driving a Fleetwood broadsides him and crushes his left leg. They try everything to save the leg, but after six months or so, the doctor breaks the bad news to him: the leg must come off. Well, in the operating room complications arise, and in their haste to complete the operation, the doctors amputate the wrong leg. Realizing their error too late, they decide to remove the gangrenous leg also. When the patient comes to, he is horrified to find that both legs are now missing. The guy calls his lawyer and they sue for malpractice. The trial is long and costly, but the day of reckoning finally arrives. At last, compensation! But no, it can't be! The judge finds the doctors "not guilty"! The guy is so upset that he falls from his chair and crawls behind the judge into his chambers. He grabs the judge's gown and cries, "Why, judge? Can't you see what they've done to me?". The judge looks at the guy sympathetically and says, "I'm sorry, son, but you didn't have a leg to stand on."

Which brings me to the one about the guy who had both legs crushed in a construction accident and is cautiously awaiting news from his doctor. Well, his doctor comes in one day and says, "I've got some good news and some bad news.". The patient says, "Give it to me straight, doc, what's the bad news." "The bad news", the sawbones replied, "is that both your legs will have to be amputated.". The construction worker breaks into a hysterical fit of tears. "Hey, hey, cheer up!", the doctor injected, "You forgot about the good news.". "What could possibly be good news after what you've just told me?", moaned the patient. "The good news", replied the doctor, "is that the guy in the next bed wants to buy your shoes."

OOPS! I changed tenses in the middle of that joke. So what.

Finally, there were two starving winos roaming the countryside, looking for anything edible. "I'd give anything for a hot meal", said the first wino. His partner agreed. Anyway, they walked and walked, getting hungrier and hungrier as they went, until finally they stumbled upon the maggot-infested carcass of a dead dog. "Food!" exclaimed the second wino, who proceeded to tear away limbs and devour them, barely chewing the whole time. Noticing that the first hobo was just watching, the second hobo asked, "aren't you hungry?". "I'll wait.", he replied. Halfway through the carcass, the second hobo said, "C'mon, dig in!". "I'll wait.", he reiterated. When he was nearly finished, the second wino again offered, to which the reply was again, "I'll wait.". Well, the second wino got so sick that he puked his guts out. "Ah", said the first wino, "Just what I've been waiting for, a hot meal."

80 Lji

Linsey-Leritte 2-man game

BRUX MANAGES TO KEEP A SLIM HOPE ALIVE

OCT 9 1980

FALL, 1906:

Linsey:RUSSIA F GOB C A Lvn-Fin; A Lvn-FIN; A Mos-LVN; A Ukr-MOS; A PRU S A Ber;  
 A BER S A Mun-Kie; A MUN-Kie; A SIL S Turkish A Boh-Mun; A PIE,  
 F TUS U, H  
 TURKEY A BOH-Mun; A VIE-Boh; A TYO S A Boh-Mun; F WES H; F TUN S F Wes;  
 F LYO, TYN, NAF U, H  
 Leritte:ENGLAND F ENG S F Mid; F MID S Italian F Spasc; A GAS S Italian A Mar; A  
 A STP H; F BAR S A StP; A BUR-Mun; F Den-SWE; F Nwg-NAT  
 GERMANY A RUH S A Kie; A KIE says 'Let's draw this sucker' (H); A Swe-NWY;  
F BAL-GoB  
 ITALY A MAR gets divorced (H); F SPAsc jacks off again! (H); F POR S F Spasc  
 CD: AUSTRIA (No units)

1906:Russia: Mos Sev War Rum Con Bud Ber Nap Mun Rom	10	even
Turkey: Ank Smy Ser Bul Gre Tun Tri Ven VIE	9	+1
	Brux 19	
England:Home Bel Hol Bre <del>Nwy</del> StP	8	even
Germany:Kie <del>Smy</del> Par Den NWY	4	even
Italy: Mar Spa Por	3	even
	George 15	
CD: Austria: <del>Y/E</del>	0	1 ann., out
	0	
	<u>34</u>	

Press: (no dateline): OK, Brux, take St Pete and see if you can keep it.

There is a call for a draw. NVR will equal YES, though I don't expect this to pass yet. Brux is making a fine try at the last possible shot to break George's line, and who knows? Anyhow, let's see how it turns out on or before THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1980.

Winter, 1906: Turkey builds A Smy DRAW FAILS, GEORGE HANGS ON

SPRING, 1907:

Leritte:ENGLAND: F NAT S F Mid; F MID S Italian F Spasc; A GAS S Italian A Mar;  
A StP H/d/r Nwy, Otb; F BAR S A StP; F Eng-NTH; A BUR-Mun; F SWE  
 S German A Nwy-Fin  
 GERMANY: A RUH S A Kie; A KIE H; A Nwy-FIN; F BAL-GoB

ITALY: A MAR H; F SPAsc H; F POR S F Spasc

Linsey: RUSSIA: F TUS-Lyo; A PIE S Turkish F Lyo-Mar; A MUN S A Ber-Kie; A BER-Kie;  
 A SIL S A Pru-Ber; A PRU-Ber; A LVN, MOS, F GOB S A Fin-StP; A Fin-STP  
 TURKEY: A Smy-CON; A BOH S Russian A Mun; A VIE commits spermicide (H); A TYO  
 S Russian A Mun; F NAF S F Tyn-Wes; F TYN-Wes; F TUN S F Tyn-Wes;  
F WES-Spasc; F LYO-Mar

Press:

CON: Stand back everyone! I'm gonna BARGE through that line!!!

BRUX to GIBBY: Come back, ol buddy! I need your expertise!

There is a call for a concession to Brux. NVR=no. FO7 due here MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1980. We might also have another draw vote, as George's repairing of the position seems pretty cut and dried.

On who's authority does Bruce Linsey have the right to use a hobby media "The Novice Package", to state his own personal feelings, or to use as his weapon against anyone? Since when does Bruce Linsey run the HOBBY? Who made him judge, jury and executioner? OVERREACTING? I think not. I submit that this is "GODLIKE ACTIONS" and regardless whether he'd do it or not, just the idea he would think of doing it, and stating such, shows irresponsibility. Under these conditions, he should not be allowed to circulate "THE NOVICE PACKAGE", nor should he be allowed to place any contents within its pages. Anyone who would use a hobby media, to exploit his own dislikes and grudges, surely should not be allowed to control such a media. I am being open with this because I have nothing to hide, and to show also, just what Bruce Linsey would attempt to "GET AWAY" with.

Bruce Linsey denies all of my "STATEMENTS" (except repetitious ER's), asks me to show proof of my allegations, and has leveled counter-accusations at me. Bruce Linsey also calls my statements attacks. Attacks or not, my comments are generalities, however, I DO HAVE THE PROOF, and I will produce such proof upon request, including, allowing it to be printed in public, if requested.

One last thing, since Bruce Linsey states he gets Whitestonia and the name Bruce Linsey or Brux is not on my mailing list, he could have signed up under an alias. If so, I would like to know what "ALIAS" he is using so I can warn the people in my zine.

The letter below, submitted by Dave Ditter, is an Americanized version of a similar one printed here earlier from Dave Carter. With the election almost upon us, why not again...

Dear Friend:

We have the distinguished honor of being on a committee for raising five million (\$5,000,000) dollars for placing a statue of Jimmy Carter in the Hall of Fame in Washington, D.C.

This committee was in a quandry where to place the statue. It was thought not wise to place it beside the statue of George Washington, who never told a lie, nor beside Franklin D. Roosevelt, who never told the truth, since Jimmy Carter could never tell the difference.

We finally decided to place it beside Christopher Columbus, the greatest politician of all time. He left not knowing where he was going, and upon arriving did not know where he was. He returned not knowing where he had been and 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, Roosevelt said, "Lay down your shovels, sit on your asses and light up a camel, this is the promised land".

Now, Carter is stealing your shovels, kicking your asses, raising the prices of camels and mortgaging the promised land. If you are one of the fortunate people who has any money left after paying taxes, we will expect a generous donation as a contribution to this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

P.S. For your information, Jimmy Carter is considering changing the Democratic party symbol from a donkey to a condom, because it stands for inflation, protects a bunch of pricks, halts production, and gives a false sense of security while being screwed.

ANSWER TO "VOICE OF BRUXUS" BB #74 by John Caruso

Its Sir Jon, not Sir John. In dip, I'm sometimes called "The Mad General". In NSIM, I'm called "Admiral", among other things. But in Nuclear Holocaust I'm called "Sir Jon". I didn't know you were into NH. What alias are you playing?

Seems you managed to twist some of my words around again. My statement was "Who gives a flying.... what way Bruce Linsey interprets the rulebook?" (Go ahead and debate the rules you like, though I find debating the legality of inland fleets kind of strange. You also misrepresented my statement about printing things "favorable to you", by omitting the part about "or things he can rip apart." (Nice try anyway) Sure you reprinted (without my permission I might add) material which appeared in my zine, written by someone other than myself, and then turned around and "RIPPED THE AUTHOR APART." (VOD#14, pages 2-9)

Regarding Kathy's name- Egotism? Maybe. But thru VOD#26, you were still printing her name and she resigned from her game in #15 and from the zine in VOD#20. Name one descent issue you've put out, in fact, I defy you to name one issue in the last 12, up to VOD#26, in which her name has not appeared.

On most of the rulebook rules, common sense prevails. However, by your admission, the rulebook is ambiguous. If this is true, how can you state that you know "more about them by a substantial margin", than me? How can you possibly know more about a rule than anyone, if by your own definition, that rule has more than one meaning?

Let me clear up one more "AMBIGUITY", that BL keeps hinting at. These letters are written by John only, not John and Kathy as he leads everyone to believe. Comments to me should not include your "slurs" of Kathy. After all, she didn't say these things, I did.

Speaking of which, who is "honeypie" and who is "honeybunch"? Must be that girl Bernice you had mentioned when you were down to visit Kathy and I in March. It sounded like a real "Love Affair", back then.

Now, on to Bruce Linsey's claim that I can't prove my charges. He states the xeroxes are real, not phoney, ask Mark Berch. I never said the xeroxes were phoney, I said the proof was. And that proof, from VOD#14 is quotes from one person labeled "Exhibit A". The difference in the 2 letters is that in one letter, it states HEARING IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE, while in the other it states OVERHEARING IT WHILE THERE. Overhearing the conversation is explaining how it was heard thru the grapevine. The grapevine can be any source, that is informal. A phone call is as informal as you can get. (check with Webster)

Next we come upon "Exhibit B". One slight thing some people might overlook when reading this- the 2 letters were written by "2 Different People", not one. Since when is it a lie, when 2 people recall the chain of events differently, 4 months later? BL couldn't remember what happened 4 months earlier either, regarding this same issue. Prove it you say. Enclosed is a quote from a BL letter dated 2/7/80 (I will supply a copy to anyone upon request) "Moreover, I absolutely do not remember saying anything to Jack about the phone numbers, and I doubt very much that I did (though I can not flatly deny it)." According to this statement, the whole BLACK HOLE AFFAIR could have been avoided with a simple "If I did do it, I'm sorry" from Bruce Linsey. I have had copies of all the "Black Hole Affair" correspondence since about the time it started. Why did I not show any of this earlier? I was never asked to show any proof, until now.

I'm also asked to give proof wher BL has "slandered others" in VOD. (Libel is a better word. Slander refers to spoken falsehoods, libel refers to written ones). Numerous proof exists. I will take but 2 specific cases:

1- VOD#14, Page 10, Paragraph 2: "Dealing with assholes like Dave Barker and Matt McKibbin....."

2- VOD#15, Page 1, Paragraph 3: "John Caruso is guilty of lying about me, and moreover has actively attempted to harm player-GM confidence in this zine."

Bruce Linsey later apologized in VOD#17, stating that John had not "outright lied.." and that this is a far cry from acting in a "...totally unprincipled



manner". Until he printed his "so-called Apology", I had to sit for over a month labeled what Bruce Linsey FOUND ME GUILTY OF. And to top it off, he published the "Phoney Whitestonia" near the end of May, as well. His apology was an admission, then to the error of his ways and his false charges. (VOD#17)

In any case, I do not intend to correspond with Bruce Linsey. All of my answers and proof will appear here, in print in public. I do not believe he can handle that, and must use VOD and his "Power of the Pen" in VOD as a weapon. Attacking me in VOD will only prove my point moreover, that Bruce Linsey can't handle any kind of debate or discussion, regarding himself, on NEUTRAL GROUND.

JACK MASTERS (Black Frog)

25711 N. Vista Fwys Dr, Valencia, CA 91355

Many thanks for all your plugs and praise for BLACK FROG in recent issues of BRUTUS BULLETIN. There is one matter, however, from your issue 74, that could use a little clarification. The special issue of BF dealing with the Linsey-McKibbin-Rodriguez letters was intended as satire and done in pure fun only. I was not intending to "expose" Brux in any way or to add to any "controversy" surrounding him.

There are several upcoming things in BF that will be of particular interest to you and to BB readers. First, Dave Pilant has sent me an excellent photo of one John Michalski which I will pub as soon as I find a method to reproduce color photos. Second, I am going to do a special issue to be entitled "The best of Brutus Bulletin." In this issue, I am going to take the very best of your letters, comments and even press releases from the last twenty or so issues of BB and pack them into one "big" issue of BF.

Since this is my first letter to BB, I don't want to end it here with only two paragraphs; thus I am enclosing a guest review. A review of the contents of the glovebox on my Volkswagen.

#### Assorted papers--

California Registration Papers for VW. I see that registration expired last May. Must try to remember to renew.

Two-for-price-of-one BIG MAC coupon. Expired a year ago. Discard.

Unmailed letter Vic Carpenter. Dated April, contains orders for 79CE, explains my NMR in that game. Discard.

Brochure. Yosemite Visiter's guide. Discard.

#### Hardware--

Swiss Army Knife. Has red handles, toothpick, tweezers, knife blade, can-opener, and corkscrew. Keep.

Sun Glasses. Old with warped frame. Discard.

Screwdriver. Plastic handle, phillips head, rusty. Probably useless but keep. (If I ever encounter anything that will require screwing, I would be very surprised to discover a phillips head on it!)

Casino Chips. Four 50¢ casino chips from El Capitan Casino in Hawthorne, Nevada. Keep.

#### Software--

Grease Rag. Was once orange but is now black. Very dirty and sticky. Keep.

Tampax. Two of them in tubes. Belong to wife (I think), but discard (just in case they don't).

Glove. One, for left hand. Too small for me. Keep. (What the hell, it is a glove box.)

So much for the glove compartment. Next time I could review my dirty-clothes hamper.

(( Uh, thanks.... ))

J.M.

I guess I was surprised to see the stab list also! But—it's the point rather than the actual thing. The way some of these people are treating others in this hobby is not right. Look at good ole Linseed! The guy does not give up. Thus—watch for our hobby issue due to hit the mailbox next Monday morning. Even the cover is something different for an "Original Volker".

About that stab list—watch for us to do the Calhamer point system by the December or January issue. Kelly will just love it—I know. It's like a reverse discrimination response. I personally don't agree with reverse discrimination—But what the hell—It's just for fun! We really haven't tackled any issue in a serious manner since we started publishing VOLKER.

I'm more curious as to why Berch has been "dumping on us" recently—it probably goes back to the Leeder Poll. Berch and Linsey seem to be bent out of shape because of their rating for 1979-1980. Byrne recently called me to state that Linsey accused (in print) 'some female' (her) of rigging the Leeder Poll. I never saw that issue. In fact, she told me that I was Linsey's source. If it is true, I will ask Linsey to make some form of retraction. The nerve of any individual using make believe quotes to support his imaginary argument. I guess Lee Kendter Sr (publisher of that highly respected zine called WHY ME) was right when he said in point that Linsey was the next "Bernie Oaklyn". Lee's comments were in issue #31 of WHY ME. In fact, I know of an imaginary person that Linsy made up. I don't know for what purpose Bruce created this person, but she really does not exist. Have you ever seen the name of Jane Proskin in print? We were fooled at first. I put her on the VOLKER standby list in issue #11. But due to some info from some other people, I found out that June did not exist. Linsy made her up. This is the kind of stuff that Bernie Oaklyn/Buddy Tretick was accused of. Maybe Bruce has gone too far. I wonder how Berch got involved in this. Many people still respect Mark Berch, especially for all of his contributions to the hobby. Has Mark gotten bored, thus joining Linsey's game to slip something over on the hobby. I don't have the answer to this question. BUT, I will be watching these two very carefully over the next year or so. I suggest that you do the same. The poor novices are the ones who get the shaft—case in point, Matt McKibbin.

That brings up another point—the Novice Packet. I recently saw a copy of a letter that Linsey wrote to John Caruso (publisher of WHITESTONIA, a publication which has been getting better and better with each issue) which actually threatened John's future publishing reputation by means of a warning in the Novice Package. The following is a quote from the letter that Linsey wrote John Caruso:

"It is evident to me that you have no interest in peacefully resolving this matter. I base this conclusion on your refusal to speak with me, and also on the fact that your attacks were totally unprovoked to begin with. Therefore, I will have to take matters further than conversation with you. For every lie you wrote about me to another editor, there will be a rebuttal. For every bit of slander you print in WHITESTONIA, there will be a demand to see the proof. (and yes, I do get WHITESTONIA. Please don't be surprised). And if you do not learn from your errors and mend your unethical ways, I will eventually denounce you again in VOICE OF DOOM for what I believe you are—a publisher who has no respect for truth or hobby standards. Indeed, if you persist in your lies and slander, you will earn yourself a mention in the Novice Packet right alongside the name of Bernie Oaklyn, as one of the two current publishers who is to be avoided because he is dishonest."

That's it—Where does this little Napoleon feel that he gets the right to push people around, especially someone like John Caruso—a respected hobby participant. Maybe it's time that we (the pseudo-respected publishers in the hobby) did something to change clowns like this. Do YOU have any ideas?

One last thing before I close this letter. Let me tell you a story which I think

Arnett, conclusion

has some bearing.

It's about a little boy that was not liked by the other kids on the block. He was ugly. The kids would make fun of him and not let him join them in their games. As he grew up, he was an introvert. Probably played in the band. Didn't have many friends. The kids just considered him an oddball. Kids can be so nasty at that age. Didn't date much through high school—Remember—this kid was downright ugly. Couldn't get a date for the prom—etc. He developed this attitude that he was alone and inferior—had to take the last choice, etc. Lo and behold, this unpopular kid gets out of high school, attends a little school, and ends up working in a subservient job. Then he hears about some crazy game called DIPLOMACY. They tell him that a sub-culture exists for playing the game by mail—He checks this out—decides to participate in the gaming. Lo and behold, people accept him as another person. It's the first time in his life that this has ever happened. He goes hook, line, and sinker into the hobby—publishing, gaming, extra projects, etc. He sees power for the first time in his life—a monster is born. This little ugly kid finally gets a chance to get back at all the other kids. He has been put down all his life—Now is the time to put them down—

I rest my case.

((Last page you asked if I have any ideas on what to do. Yes, I do. I agree that the threat to use the Novice Packet was out of line, so I told Bruce that on the phone. He agreed, being a rational person, and has promised a withdrawal of that poorly-thought-out statement. I don't recall if he said it will be in a VOICE issue, or here, or both. We'll see. More below.)) J.M.

PS: "pseudo-respected publishers"??

\*\*\*

This letter below arrived just in time to appear with the rest of the above. It is apparently a general form letter sent all over. I have no idea who "M P Barno" is, tho the cover letter mentioned THE SHOGUN'S SWORD which I believe a Tom Swidler puts out.

#### AN OPEN LETTER TO THE DIPLOMACY HOBBY

by MP Barno

Yes, that word was "Hobby". Isn't it about time that it resumed that status? The subject of this letter is the Bruce Linsey / John Caruso feud, which threatens to move Diplomacy from amateur zines to federal litigation.

When you, I, or any Dipper entered the postal hobby, we did so because it seemed a creative and challenging way to enjoy a game we liked. It allowed us to share entertainment with intelligent people like ourselves, rather than read "Mad" or listen to our roommate, Melvin Mugwump of Grinnell, Iowa, play his disco records. So what does a Fall 1980 novice see? Diplomacy games? Diplomacy strategy/tactics articles? No, the sample zine he receives has several pages devoted to charges and countercharges of persons who likely have never played in that zine. These letters consist primarily of such terms as "blatant lie", "deceit", "innuendo", "play God", "proof", "slander", "phony", "unethical and dishonest", "alias", "bogus", and the ever-popular "Ridicule Kathy Letters", which invariably elicit "Ridicule Bruce Letters".

Now, when one of the individuals takes offense at some allegation or action, does he request that the matter be reviewed by the Hobby Ombudsman, the IDA, the proposed NADF, or any such impartial establishment? No, he convinces third-party publishers to print his side of the story, complete with plenty of accusations. Such "Let's make this public" articles have, to date, taken up large amounts of space in The Voice of Doom (Linsey's), Whitestonia (Caruso's), Passchendaele, The Brutus Bulletin, Retaliation, Murd'ring Ministers, and probably others that I haven't seen. Now, both parties (acting on the principle that each man is his own master) circulate releases, detailing charges and making personal attacks, to several dozen other publishers, expecting them to devote space to these 'mutual critiques'. Obviously, these two gentlemen do not contribute all of the reading material. Mr Caruso's cohabitant Kathy Byrne is sure to write some comments about

Mr Linsey's GM'ing habits or personal ethics, and often is herself responsible for the controversy. Others, involved and not, chip in their two cents, and there is an occasional "Y'all shut up!" letter like this one.

Let's face it. Other than John Boardman, no one lasts forever, and new people take their first look at the hobby every week. What's our image going to be among them? Is "You're an immoral liar!" any better than "Konrad's a fag" or "3 of my GM's folded last month"?

Come on, guys. Let's put this into perspective. Nobody's talking about pushing the little blocks around the board anymore -- they're threatening to denounce their 'enemies' to newcomers by means of the Novice Packet. For the good of the hobby, put down the slingshots, or your players will rebel and condemn you. Give that kid in the book store picking up the box right now his chance. Peace.

((I cannot agree. The writer assumes that the hobby is somehow a friendly retreat from the world, but in fact, Dippydom is not a fraternity of similar people; it is a cross section of the same society you meet out on the street. A majority are OK, though all have some idiosyncrasy. A few are all right types, and at least a few (the most noticable ones) are real worthless bastards! That's just part of the world we live in. Why give the novice a rosy picture and have him find that there are rotten eggs the hard way?)) J.M.

Issue #23  
1979N

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

Bob Osuch  
3417 S. Paulina  
Chgo, IL 60608  
312-927-7069  
October 25, 198

KRAUTS NOD OUT IN PUBLIC

Fall 1907:

AUSTRIA (Fuchs): A Pie-TYO; A Sil-MUN; A BOH S A Sil-Mun; A Rom-TUS;  
A VEN S A Rom-Tus

FRANCE (Howe): F Spa(sc)-POR; F Mar-SPA(sc); F MID S F Mar-Spa(sc);  
A Bur-MAR; A GAS S A Bur-Mar

GERMANY (Kirchner): NMR! F NTH, BAL, HEL H; A YOR, BER, PRU, LVN, STP,  
RUH H; A TUS H/d/r to Pie, Otb; A MUN H/d/r to Bur, Kie, Otb

ITALY (CD): F NAP H

RUSSIA (CD): A MOS H; A WAR H/d/destroyed

TURKEY (Mooney): F WES-Mid; F TUN-Wes; F LYO S F Tun-Wes; F ION-Tun;  
A Gal-WAR; A UKR S A Gal-War; A SEV S RUSSIAN A Mos; A Rum-GAL;  
A GRE H

A costly NMR for Germany may very well have put the west on the defensive. I'm positive that Eric plans on continuing, so I'll not call for a standby. Sorry this is late, I'll try not to let it happen again. That's it for now. Center chart follows. Oh yeah, deadline for 1907 retreats, removals or builds and Spring 1908 is Saturday, November 8, 1980.

1907	#	NET	COUNTRY	CENTERS
	6	+1	Austria	Vie, Bud, Tri, Ven, Rom, MUN
	5	0	France	Par, Bre, Por, Spa, Mar
	11	0, +1, or +2	Germany	Ber, Kie, <del>Mun</del> , Den, Hol, Bel, Edi, Nwy, Swe, StP, Lon, Lvp
	1	0	Italy	Nap
	1	0	Russia	Mos, <del>Mos</del>
	10	+1	Turkey	Con, Ank, Smy, Tun, Sev, Bul, Gre, Rum, Ser, WAR
	34			

# LETTERS

ROBERT SERGEANT (St George & the Dragon)

3242 Lupine Drive  
Indianapolis, IN 46224  
October 14, 1980

Today I received BB and my letter was, of course, printed. I also received in the same day's mail a refund check from Dave White. Please, in fairness to him, announce that he has shown enough class to refund the money. I appreciate it, and he deserves to have the action on the record.

Roy Henricks will, I think, be quite surprised to hear that Envoy has folded. I receive it regularly and I have even received a copy since my issue in which I announced his openings. I don't see how he manages to run so many games, even with the GGM help he has, but he does. I don't know why Mark Berch thinks this has folded, but Envoy is still being published.

It sounds like my run-in with Gibson was mild compared to yours. He merely said I was a naive dupe of Dave Bunke and Konrad Baumeister. I think that's probably because he doesn't know the nationality of "Sergeant" so was heistant to lash out.

((That's probably closer to the truth than most people think.)) J.M.

DICK MARTIN (Grab Dots!!!)

7301 Yale Avenue, College Park, MD 20740

#74 arrived yesterday, as good an issue as any. To get things set straight, Bob Sergeant's letter referred to comments by me on the postal tournament. Maybe I've just been unlucky, but in two of my games there are 4 CD positions by 4 different players, with a possible 5th in the works. In those two games, the course is determined STRICTLY by the CD countries and who can take advantage of them. In one game I get lucky, the other I didn't. That's the breaks. The GMs dropping out is a bigger problem though, and I think Bob should go public more enthusiastically. These folks are right up there with Bernie in the "honest, honorable GM" category, as far as I'm concerned. No standbys is the most fair way to run the show though, I suppose that this just proves to me that a postal "tournament" is not feasible.

This whole Linsey/Caruso battle is pretty silly. They're just inventing issues and claims in the pursuit of self destruction. I'd laugh if the future of my zine was not at stake...Bruce was WAY out of line in threatening to put Caruso next to Oaklyn in the Novice Packet, though. That's probably the stupidest and most unethical thing either one has done yet. Just because somebody has a feud with Bruce does not make them unethical on a par with Bernie as a PUBLISHER. Hey, let's get ridiculous! I'm not gonna get involved this time.

ENVOY has folded? Not unless Mark knows something I don't.... That John Caruso... running around calling us "friends", tsk, tsk....(chuckle).

Well, it's past my bedtime. Good night, John. (Come here, woman.....)

((On Bruce's threat, I agree fully. His personal acrimony is destroying his better judgement and common sense. To put such nonsense actually into the Novice Packet would go far to voiding all the legitimate effort that has gone into it. John Caruso sent me a copy of the original threat letter for verification, and to explain his answer which followed. I reprint it elsewhere in this issue. Thanks for writing.)) J.M.

Michael Mills, 1585 Quaker Rd, Macedon, NY, 14502

C'mon John! When are you going to tell Pearly Dave to take a hike! I mean, he thinks I'll be committing treason if I vote for some dumb peanut-farmer, just because he wants me to vote for some mushroom named Ronnie! Geez...as a matter of fact in the last issue of EM I said to hell with both of them, and John Anderson too---not in those words, but I should have. This will probably be read in BB after the election, so there's no sense in trying to write about the future in the past tense. It should cheer Pearly up to know that Idi Amin Dada is making a comeback in Uganda...that's the way he thinks.

Anyhow, I suppose that Berch made a typo with his ENVOY is also folded remark. I doubt if Roy would call it quits so suddenly. But then again his precious little Steelers have been losing a lot these days, and maybe he's on a binge. (naw!)

Well, now we're at the extermination camps...issue #74. How about this revisionist theory. The Jews saw how well the Nazi theory about 'the Big Lie' worked that they decided to make up their own about nasty-evil death camps. Yea, I doubt it, but if it were true, it would follow logically.

I've read some on the German mentality and it seems that unlike we suckers who pull for the underdog, the Germans like to back winners. Now, the Israelis are the winners in the Middle East, and the Germans have a lot of respect for them being able to kick the Arabs around with relative impunity. As a matter of fact, that's what the Germans would have liked to do in the '40s--kick their neighbors around, etc. Well, this one author has this idea that Israel is in many ways like Germany. Perhaps, the analogy of master to pet-dog is fitting. The Jews just assimilated the traits of their Nazi-Masters. How far one could carry this, I don't know, but is the Israeli absorbtion of East Jerusalem and the West Bank similiar to the Third Reich and the Saar? There is a thread of continuity that both the Israeli occupied territories and most of Hitler's peaceful gains before WW II were taken in order to 'restore' some sort of homeland.

Now, before some 'bleeding heart-type' starts saying, 'You can't write Nazi and Israel on the same line. How could you!', let me just say that it is perfectly natural for a political state to seek the incorporation of territory for a buffer-zone using some pretext or other. Trouble always comes when some idealist runs up against the facts. His attitude always convinces him that the conclusion is wrong. Well, enough of this...

Oh yea, back to Pearly Dave. What he mean? Jews is #1? They're #6! Latvians are #5, Ukranians #4, Germans #3, North Americans are #2, and the Irish are #1. Geez! Extremism in the defense of...my ass.

Well, now to light-hearted banter...just seems I keep spying these little items in BB while I type and can't help but...oh well. How 'bout football. I've noticed you haven't given it much room in BB, 'cept for the bit about Howie.

DIGRESSION 213d: I never liked Howard. He was not the guy I loved to hate, as they say. I just thought he sucked, plain and simple. I was hoping he'd quit and move to Merion, or something, but one night on ABC's NIGHTLINE he talked about Ali's taking drugs before the Vegas Debacle. The uppity little host of the show wanted him to analyze the situation, and Cosell hit him with

Mills, conclusion

a ton of shit. Howie kept saying how the Press was manipulating the thing. They'd hyped the fight. They'd hyped the result, and now were hyping the drug thing. In no uncertain terms, he let that host-sucker know he thought his line of questioning to be abrasive, superficial and exploitive. I now respect Howie, perhaps someday I'll like him...(naw!)

OK...Football. Wierd season. Pittsburgh losing. Buffalo winning. Tampa Bay is hitting the skids--I'm happy for that. I didn't like them for being so lucky last year--no talent team. Anyhow, it looks as if all those rosy pre-season polls are wrong. Oh, maybe Pittsburgh will make it--all the big teams are still in the running, but its mediocre. Everyone loses a game here a game there. If any pro football players are reading this...Keep Dallas cowpokes out of the playoffs.

Well, I've overstayed my welcome. I was going to talk about Hobby Assholes, but they're better left unmentioned. I think they get their jollies when someone takes them to task. Oh...some Diplomacy here. ESTONIA: Geery, any plans for A-H? MANIACLE: C'mon boys and girl get it over with I've got nowhere to run! GTD: Who is Robert Blau, and why is he S0000 paranoid!

I would like to ask, "what's the record for failed moves in Fall 1901, providing that no one NMRed?" In one game there were 13 of them! That's out of 22 units! Leaving 5 neutrals in Winter 1901. Anyone, know diptriv?

All hate mail to: Ron Brown, 1528 El Serino Pl, Bakersfield, CA. Ron could use a change of pace.

One last--I promise--thing. What's the NADF been up to lately.

((Well, now that the organization has been formed, it's main task has been accomplished, and I believe it is in limbo now ready and eager to face the challenges of the hobby, just as soon as someone can think of what they are...

I was just looking at your football preview in EM #12 last night. Not bad: a couple of little adjustments, like Buffalo to the front and Jets to the back, and you'd be darn close. What I don't understand is how everyone sees what they want to see instead of what is. Why is Pittsburgh always left out? Hell, the only question is, who will try and upset Pittsburgh? Their only losses are flukes. No strong team is strong against them. They have too much depth; they are too good at everything they do. They have no weak spots. No one LIKES them, but hell, Stalin wasn't loved either. That doesn't mean you can put him out of the picture.

On Jews assimilating "the traits of their Nazi masters", I'm sure we'll get some comments on that one. Didn't Gibson write something like that once? But I find that most people get as far as his name and then skip on to the next. I guess they were right.))

BOB OSUCH (Perils of Paulina)

3417 S Paulina, Chicago, IL 60608

J.M.

... I just got the most recent BB. I see where you're disassociating yourself with Gibson. His letters didn't seem any more obnoxious than normal, but they are getting old (stale). Well, I say its a good move, as his contributions were so bizarre that I was beginning to believe him!

I see Perlmutter is submitting 3/4 of the press in his EDL game. If you don't recognize it, you're blind. Nothing wrong with it, I guess. And it IS funny.

((Yes, I only wonder about the reaction of people to both seeing what is apparently GM press, and those who submit one thing and see it come out a little different than it was submitted. ~~Sergeant's~~ <sup>this issue</sup>

On Gibson, see ~~the~~ comments ~~above~~. I think he pretty well hit it. A majority of those expressing an opinion have always preferred he be tossed out on taste alone.))

J.M.

Bruce Linsey (THE VOICE OF DOOM)

Bldg 11 Apt 21, Leisureville,  
Watervliet, NY 12189

Upon reading "John's Notes" last ish, I almost threw a tantrum. You are kicking Gibby out of BB? But...but...but don't you realize that the old curmudgeon was the main attraction of your superb zine? That we all enjoyed his rantings and ravings? That it was fun to pick up BB and read something as full of shit as a letter from Gibby? John, my friend! How could you do this to us, your loyal subbers? Why....why I was seriously considering cancelling my subscription! BB without Gibby would be like DD without articles! ((Or shit without stink??))

But I should have known you wouldn't let us down. Later in the issue all my fears were allayed when I saw the letters from John Caruso. No, I will not cancel my sub to BB. The "nuthouse" element is still there. Let's hope Caruso can be as prolific as his predecessor, to keep the zine entertaining. Long live BB!

KATHY BYRNE (Kathy's Korner)

42-34 Saull St., Flushing, NY 11355

*Hi Toote,*  
*I have a question for you lover,*  
*if I suggest the Leeder Poll how*  
*come you didn't rate #1? Why would*  
*I bother to fix the hobby dog mascot*  
*I forget to fix your rating?*  
*Love,*  
*Freckles*

((Arr-RR0000000...))  
J.M.

LEE KENDTER Sr (Why Me?)

4347 Benner St, Philly 19135

Hey, John Michalski....I read the review on guns in the latest ish of Brutus Bulletin with interest. You guys don't know how lucky you are to be able to own stuff like that! In Philly it's illegal to buy an air pistol !!

((Hmm, and here I always thought that the Constitution applied within the city limits of Philadelphia the same as out... Perhaps the ~~Central Committee~~ City Council decided that, Constitution notwithstanding, the good of the city required that such considerations be waived. I'm sure that government knows what is best for its citizens, right? What else have we been hearing for 3 decades? And frankly, what better argument is there for the right of the citizen to own weapons?

Of course I was initially pleased to get any comment on something appearing here, since 1 response is a good indication that something is interesting and two responses is a positive landslide response! And Lee here put his comments into print in WM#34, even better. However, I really am surprised that US citizens anywhere outside of Massachusetts or DC could possibly be unable "to own stuff like that". The best of it is only semi-automatic, so we didn't even cover the stuff you need a dealer's license for (fully automatic weapons, e.g.); hmm, maybe some of the stuff that the people to the right of me say (yes, Virginia, there really ARE people to the right of Darth and I) (though not many) has more validity to it than I would have thought!

Thanks for your views, Lee. Any others?))

J.M.



" NARCOTICS & DANGEROUS DRUGS REVIEW  
-by Anonymous

The first item is marijuana. I'll only get into the basics here:

HOME GROWN "MEAN GREEN": Generally, refers to most pot grown in the good old US of A... Like most other US products, it's inferior to the foreign version. If you pay for it, you're either naive or a sucker. Identifiable by it's light green color, grainy texture, and sparse white seeds.

MEXICAN A notch better in quality than home grown, it is thicker in texture, darker in color (though still green) and is often compacted in bricks of 2.2 lbs (kilos). One joint will give you a mild high. \$20-25 an ounce.

PANAMA RED Grown under ideal conditions (hot, humid, daily rain), I've only seen this stuff once. Not really red, just very dark brown, almost reddish-brown. If you ever come across it, it'll cost you \$50/oz. For special occasions only, like celebrating your divorce.

ACAPULCO GOLD "The legendary Acapulco Gold" is just that. A legend. At least I've never had any.

JAMAICAN Of excellent quality, Jamaican marijuana is some of the more marketable pot around. Usually light and fluffy in texture, light brown in color. The very best rolling available, a bargain at \$40/oz.

COLUMBIAN There is more Columbian marijuana in the US now than any other type. It comes in at various points on the east coast from Columbean freighters, ton after ton of it. Usually dark brown in color and a mixture of flower tops and "shake" (grain), one joint of this alone and you'll be on cloud nine for a good hour. Price varies from \$35-40/oz.

HAWAIIAN Superpot. Looks almost like home grown, but that's where the similarity ends. An oz of this stuff will cost you anywhere from \$120-180. I have yet to buy any. Definitely ozone material.

SENSEMALIA Green flower tops. A study in genetics, this stuff proves the theory that each generation is superior to the previous. It is also very expensive, in the Hawaiian class, and just as potent.

THAI STICK Imported from Thailand, you get about 8 grams of pot wrapped around a stick with string. Price varies from \$15-25/stick, depending on quality, which is usually very good to excellent. Not really worth the money, though.

That's it. Let's see how "open" your forum really is. HA HA Actually a lot of research went into this thing, and your readers may enjoy a little variety. My review was basically on marijuana, "The Killer Weed", this time. Maybe we could start a hobby feud here, changing the name of your zine from Homosexual Bulletin to Marijuana Monthly. "

\*\*\*\*\*

Well, it IS an open forum, and I'm pleased to offer what I hope is as much a piece of news to the audience as it is to me. Unfortunately, many of you may be more familiar with this sort of thing than "Anonymous" is. Well, in any case, your comments will be welcome, either to endorse or object to the opinions we've had presented here. I think it makes an interesting change of pace to the usual pap that most Dipzines are filled with, so don't feel inhibited just because I am an old "stick in the mud" who thinks this drug business is pretty stupid. Don't mail me any samples though, please!

I will print just about anything, tho I won't take up Shaffer's suggestion that we invite Jack Frost to review different tastes of the various sizes and colors of dongs he's known... Meant strictly in humor, I'm sure. .

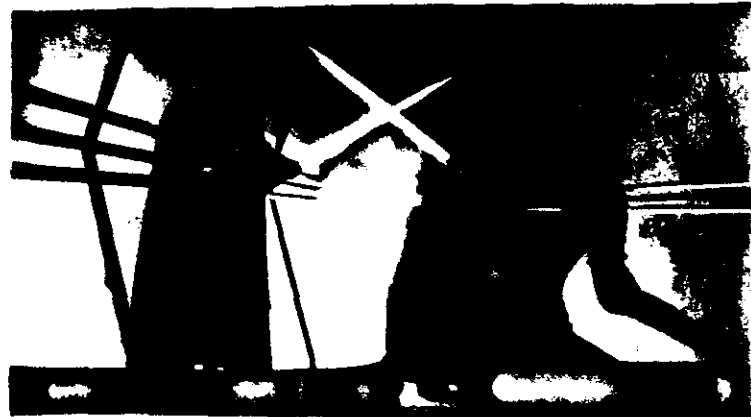
**TO ERR IS HUMAN  
TO FORGIVE  
IS NOT  
DIVISION POLICY**



Brux Linsey enters the Houserules Symposium  
at Origin's DipCon



"Back when I first started publishing..."  
John Boardman gives some tips to novice  
publisher Dave Perlmutter during his  
visit to Brooklyn.



Linsey responds to a question  
from John Caruso



Bob Osuch and Ken Sniegowski accept  
joint honors at the fall convention  
of the American Crossgaming Society

LONE STAR DIPLOMAT, the national Diplomacy  
journal of Texas, appears monthly, a publication  
of Word Services, Inc., 3214 Beverly Road,  
Austin, TX 78703, (512) 451-8929. Publisher,  
Editor, and Chairman of the Board Mike Conner  
lives at the same address.

Subscriptions: Six issues for \$3.00, ten  
for \$4.50.

Game Openings: Standard Diplomacy \$3  
+ \$1.50 NMR deposit (refundable).

Standbys: Wanted. LSD will give a  
2-issue sub credit to a standby who  
plays until the end of the game or  
elimination.

Awards: A sole winner receives 5 free  
issues of LSD; each victor in a 2-way  
draw gets 2 free issues; for lesser  
levels of victory, each participant in  
the draw receives congratulations.

Contributions: All sorts are encouraged.  
LSD will give sub credit for material  
printed.

There's an  
idea

✓ PROBLEMS are evident by the rate at which you will be receiving #75 and 76. If you think it is inconvenient for you to get two dipzines within a week, let me tell you, it is not a joy to put them out either. One way around some of this is to REDUCE the size of the material. I could do masters up on 14" long paper, tape two side by side, and then reduce the whole 11x28 equivalent to a single 8½x11 like the "Discussion page" in #75 was done, or part of the 79Iid wrapup. However, I find a lot of that hard to read, and while a DIPLOMACY DIGEST of 2 or perhaps 3 folded sheets isn't too bad, what would you do with 11 sheets of it? On the plus side, I could go to publishing only once a month, which would allow your subs to last longer, to say nothing of your getting 40 pages of material on less\*12 sheets. My only question is, is it really worth it? I for one am inclined to say no, but putting together two fat issues in very short order isn't something I want to do all the time either, and if it comes to considering cutting out some stuff to fit the average-dipzine mold, I for one would sooner fold. I didn't start out to put out just another dipzine, and I have no intentions of carrying on as just another dipzine. For now I will run what I get as I get it, just like always. However, if any of you have some ideas, I would be glad to hear them.

✓ (Note to new folks: this doesn't mean that any game you're in here is in any danger. Even if I were to close up shop instead of simply seeking possibly superior formats for this thing, your games will run to completion no matter what.)

✓ Speaking of new folks, I need to welcome aboard a number of new and renewing faces. Among these are Norm Schwartz, Briarwood NY; Dan Stafford, Columbus, Ohio (pretty town. I used to drive through it twice a week for a year...); Jim Vaughn, Leominster, MASS (sorry, I've never been beyond NYC-Albany-Rochester, so no plugs); Bobby Stephens, Fort Worth; Bruce Stewart, West Hill, Ontario; and resubbers David Carter and Steve Heinowski.

✓ Some publication information: current print run is 66 to allow for samples. I'm considering letting that drop to 60. 58 issues are committed to either subbers, trades, or complimentaries. Trades constitute 12 of them; 3 shaky complimentaries may soon go to 6 if some/all my GGMs opt to let their paid subs lapse. They will take priority over the other 3. Complimentaries go only to people who seem to be interested IF there are extra copies left. This will not always be the case. Personally, I consider a sample request more important than a complimentary: sample requests from the middle of the country have about an 80% chance of turning into a \$5 check in hand, so I'm not letting them go, and there have even been people on the coasts who like this thing. Since my own costs will be going up even aside from imminent postal increases, paying customers need to be a very hefty % of the audience. TRADES are sometimes a good deal, though these months when I put out 3 issues make that not beyond question. I suspect that the start of next year with its higher rates will cause me to cut about a third of them. I don't expect you to put out 2 or 3 2oz issues each month to "match" me, but frankly, a lot of zines tend to slide into nothing but game results/"sorry-I'm-late"/and a quick "See you next month". Even allowing that my copying and labor are basically "free," the postage alone means that I'm paying, or soon will pay, 60¢ for your zine. Cheaper for me to write you a check, isn't it? Right now I operate on the assumption that the "marginal cost" of "one more issue" is less than what I'd have to pay for your zine. That is coming into question.

✓ SOME SERVICES: I am still able to make sets of labels for you from a free master form(s) I can provide for only the cost of postage to mail them to you, basically. A couple of zines use this as their regular system for saving work. I will continue this until the ever-increasing chickenshit around this office forces me out of the xerox room altogether, which will be about the same as out the door. Also, copies of the old Novice Packet that Craig Reges put together are still available for the asking, though two stamps would be appreciated. I don't have too many left, and hopefully Linsey's will supercede this, but for now, there are still a few there if you want one or know someone who might benefit. Sets of my own completed mailing labels are available for the asking, in case you want to send samples or a fake or whatever. The number that appears on your label is the number of the last issue you will receive. I don't plan any new games for the foreseeable future, as I hope to concentrate on just publishing without deadline interruptions, so if you're waiting on a game here, get in with one of these GGMs I have. I intend to let THEM do all that sort of thing once 79IZ, 80D, 80Lji, and 78Tid are done and gone. Which will hopefully be soon.