

# Bushwacker

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This is the 179th consecutive issue of BUSHWACKER, a Postal Diplomacy\* zine dedicated to the play and reporting of Diplomacy Variants, brought to you by: Fred C. Davis, r., 1427 Clairidge Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21207. Phone: (301) 747-7248. Phone calls accepted for Diplomacy orders and discussions between 7 and 9:30 p.m. weekdays, and between 12 Noon and 9:30 p.m. weekends, Eastern Time. Since there is no guarantee that I'll be home, please submit your orders by mail except in emergencies.

This issue will be appearing slightly late, since I only returned home from a 3½ week trip to Britain late on the evening of Sept. 26th. We're still trying to cope with the mountain of accumulated mail. If we neglect to report some news events this month, it's because several of this month's zines remain unread.

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GAME OPENING: Our next game will be "Balkan Wars III," a scenario set in the Balkans circa 1910. There are no neutral Supply Centers - just the 21 Home ones, so there should be lots of stabbing. Sign up now, but the game won't start until one of the current games ends. Several players are already signed up. We can also use more Standby players for both the TURNABOUT and VACATION DIP games.

This issue contains reports on ZEUS V-F (1984A gf11), VACATION DIP III (1985R rm39) and TURNABOUT (1986C ca02).

## WE VISIT BRITAIN (3-26 September 1986)

We started our visit with a 12-day coach tour of England and Scotland, run by American Express. This began in London. We visited Stonehenge, Bath, Coventry, Stratford-on-Avon, Hangollen (Wales), Chester and the leke District. After crossing the border into Scotland at Gretna Green, we participated in a mock wedding ceremony, at which a couple on our tour married 47 years renewed their vows. We then proceded to Glasgow, Loch Ness, Avienore and Edinburgh. Failed to spot "Nessie," but did note the big British naval base at Ross yth (near Edinburgh). We returned south along the eastern side of the island, stopping at the home of Sir Walter Scott and visiting York and Harrogate. Wound up at the Forum Hotel in West London for a farewell dinner.

There were 31 of us on this tour. We'd come from all over the States, plus two from Mexico. About half a dozen were retired. For most of them, it was their first trip to Britain. Our guide, who was Welch, gave very good commentaries on where we were

going each day, and filled the long bus rides with fascinating information on the history and lifestyles in England, Scotland and Wales. As we rotated our seats every day, we all had the chance to sit in the front and participate in the several discussions and debates which went on almost continuously. We loved the scenery and historic sites, but were puzzled by some of the customs.

It was somewhat like the army in that our wake-up calls were always very early in the morning (6:30 to 7:15). However, they made up for this by serving us full English breakfasts. This always consists of fried eggs, a fried tomato, and one slice each of ham, bacon and sausage. There seemed to be no way to avoid the sausage in some places, where we were served chow-line style. In other places, we were allowed to pick and choose for ourselves. (I can't eat sausage due to indigestion problems). We were always on our own for lunch. I enjoyed some pub lunches with a couple from Connecticut, who were more daring that I would have been on my own. (Soup in Scotland is very hearty!). Our dinners were usually included. Despite the frequent serving of roast beef, most of the food was pretty tasteless. We were always surrounded by more knives, forks and spoons than we knew what to do with, and were amused by the great ritual that our waiters would go through with these implements. (e.g. One is supposed to eat dessert with a large spoon rather than a fork, even if it's cake). And is seems impossible to get your tea or coffee until after you've finished your dessert. Because American Express had warned them in advance, there were always pitchers of ice water on the table, but it was impossible to order something liked iced tea. I must say that England has become much more sophisticated about wine. We were able to get rather good wine with our meals nearly everywhere.

When the tour ended, I stated visiting my American and English relatives and friends, with some interim days spent in London hotels. My American Cousin and her husband literally live on the grounds of Eltham Palace in S.E. London, in a very cozy home. I then took a long train trip to Falmouth in Cornwall to visit an English cousin. Cornwall was a delightful surprise. Beautiful scenery, lovely houses, and quite warm. Would you believe palm treesgrow there? They call it "The Cornish Riviera." Almost unknown to Americans, but frequented by many British and some French vacationers.

Took another train trip to Lowestoft, on the coast in East Anglia. My friendsthere are most fortunate to have a modern flat right at the seaside. A beach and a lovely park right at the door. The weather remained so warm that people were still sumning themselves on the beach and boardwalk in late September. (This is England?). The British trains remained supurb. Almost always on time, with branch line connections always coordinated with the express trains. There were always plenty of seats. There have been threats of cutting back on service, but so far this hasn't happened. One surprising thing is that the passengers don't all get on in London and get off along the way. Many people get aboard at intermediate stations, too, making excellent use of the service throughout the country.

September is the best month for visiting Britain and Western Europe, by the way. It only rained on one day during my trip, and many tourists have gone home (except for the Germans, who were out in phalanxes). Try it, you'll like it.

I met members of the English Pestal hobby on three occasions. Twice, I attended the local London Hobbymeets at the Red Lion Pub near Oxford Circus. These are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. (If you're going to be in London, I'll be glad togive you precise directions). I met several different people on my two visits, since I sat with different groups each time, and there was about a 50% turn-over of new faces the second time. I sat with Peter Sullivan, the UK MNG, on both occasions, so we had a chance to talk a bit about variants. Others whose names I remember were Bryan Betts and Peter Doubleday (who had recently returned from spending two months in Boston, where he'd become a Red Sox fan). I also again met Roberto della-Salla, whom I'd met in Baltimore on his American towr in August.

## MY BRITISH TRIP (Cont.)

On September 25th, I took a commuter train to Gerard's Cross, where I met Richard Sharp, publisher of DOICHSTOSS (#1 on the British Zine Poll) and author of The Game of Diplomacy, the only hard-cover Diplomacy book ever published. Richard advised me that while the book is completely out of print (only 2500 copies were produced), he is negotiating to see whether a second edition could be published. I asked him to let me know ASAP if the book is ever reprinted, as I'm sure there would be a large American market for it.

I arrived on a very bad day for the Sharp Family. The script must have been written by the Marx Brothers. The hot water heater had broken, the car had to go to the garage for its amnual inspection, there was trouble with the phone, and Richard had a big translation job which his boss wanted him to have finished by 11:30 the next morning. Nevertheless, Richard managed to have Steve Doubleday, the Custodian of the UKVB, come over from Watford to pick us up and take us to a pub while Bron took the car in. Then, we picked up Bron, and went to another pub (The Emperor of India, a very old pub), where we stayed, standing up, while I slowly starved to death. The English all seem to prefer to drink standing up. Maybe it helps you to know when you've reached your limit. Finally, thanks mainly to Bron, we got to a Chinese restaurant about 8:30 p.m. We had the most delicious meal I'd had in England. We had barely finished before it was time for Steve to drive me back to the station to catch the 10:10 train back to London. (The English don't go to English restaurants when they want a good meal. They usually go to a Chinese or Indian one.)

In London, I tried to visit places I had not previously seen. This included the Churchill War Cabinet bunkers under a government office building, which have been restored to their appearance during the Blitz. The maps and artifacts are most interesting. I also saw "The London Experience" at an indoor shopping centre called The Trocadero, near Piccadilly Circus. This gives the history of London in a multimedia theatre, from Roman times to the postwar era.

The London Transport Museum has been relocated at Covent Garden. They have a magnificant collection of old busses, trams, and subway cars in the areawhere Eliza Doolittle used to sell flowers. I also saw the Domesday Book on display at the Public Record office. Visited Madame Tussard's and saw the Planetarium show. Afterwards, I went across the street to check on the plaque at 221-b Baker St. This is located at the Abbey National Insurance Co., which employs a secretary to answer the volumes of mail which still come addressed to the world's most famous consulting detective.

I stayed at a hotel called The Great Eastern, which was built in 1884, and only slightly updated since. A tremendous pile of a place, with corridors suitable for playing D & D. I stayed there two nights, as it was very close to the Liverpool St. railway station. One night, I walked down to the Tower and St. Katherine's Dock area with two other guests. An eerie area at night, as all The City workers have gone home. After my return from Lowestoft, I went to the Regent Palace near Piccadilly. A more modern hotel, but with more spartan rooms. One nice thing about many British hotels. They have refrigerators containing a well-stocked bar either right in your room or right outside in the hall. If in your room, you have a special key to open it, and whatever you use is charged to your bill. (I was more interested in the ice cubes, which are a rare commodity in Blighty). Also, every hotel room has an electric pot in which to make hot water for tea and coffee, which is always available in your room. Because of the pot's design, one gets hot water in about two minutes after plugging it in. Many bathrooms also have heated towel racks, which dry your towels and facecloths quickly. These are two features I'd like to see American hotels adopt.

(more)

Unemployment is high in Britain. Many workers, such as the newspaper printers, are resisting being retrained for more suitable work in the computer age. Too many young people are dropping out of school at age 16 and going out into the work-place uneducated and untrained. This can only lead to disaster unless they can get on-the-job training. On the other hand, those people who do have jobs seem to be more prosperous than what I'd seen in the past. Some observers say that the North Sea oil has saved England, for the time being. What will happen if and when that oil and gas is exausted anybody's guess, but right new most English homes have central heating, and petrol is plentiful (but twice as expensive as in the States).

The Conservatives are not very popular because they've tried to tell the cold, hard truth that "the party's over." The Labour Party continues to mouth its outworn doctrines, while the Marxist wing steadily gains in power. There was some hope earlier than a coalition of the Liberals andthe new Social-Democratic Party (called "The Alliance") could come up with some practical non-doctrinaire solutions, but they've recently been split by the Liberals insistance on total nuclear disarmament for Britain. So, we still don't know whether Old England will go down the drain wallowing in hopeless tradition or Marxist ideology, or a new post-industrial Britain will arise and once more become a "land of hope and glory."

\* \* \* \*

## VACATION DIP III COMMENTS

I appreciated the comments I received on the Vacation Dip III Event Cards from several of you. Jeff Hoffman asked whether the proposed mines (Cards #49 & 50) would have a set lifetime, and would be kept secret from all other players. My intent was to have these mines follow the procedures used in the "Blow-Up" Variant, where they remain on the board until they're swept up or blow up an entering unit. Yes, they would be kept secret by the GM.

Robert Cheek suggested that Card #3 be amended to allow the 3 free supports to be spread about 1 to 3 units, instead of being given to just one unit. He also suggests a new card permitting a player to save 3 free supports for 1 to 3 units any time during the game. (I like the first idea, but hesitate to add any cards which could be used after the game year in which they're drawn, since this could result in the accumulation of cards for one very powerful move at a key point in the game).

Robert also recommended a card which would permit up to 3 individual additional moves by a player's units after the Fall season, to unoccupied spaces. Sort of like a special Retreat move. I think I'd like to have two such cards, each allowing a player one such move, rather than one card allowing more than one unit to make such a move.

Bill Young feels that some of the current cards are too disruptive, especially the ones which remove units from the board or put them into Civil Disorder. He recommends the inclusion of more "No event" cards, including, possibly, a card which blocked all such events during a specific game year. (I do plan to add at least one more "Nothing" card, and will consider the idea of a "No events this year" one, too).

Everyone who wrote agreed to the ideas of reshuffling the cards after 1912, even if the "Reshuffle" card has not come up, and of increasing the number of cards in the deck to at least 134. I'll get back to work on this as soon as I've caught up on some other matters. If this game lasts long enough to reshuffle, I may remove most of the "Civil Disorder" cards. They do cause the game to bog down.

(Game Report on next page).

## VACATION DIP III - 1985R m39

EGAD, MORE UNITS IN CIVIL DISORDER! TURKS TAKE VIENNA, FLOOD MED. WITH YELLOW FLEETS. AUSTRIANS START LONG VOYAGE HOLE BY WALLOPPING RUSSIAN FIFET.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS (Boy, are you guys peripatetic!): Paul Kenny (TURKEY): CMS #1860, Rutgers University, 326 Penn St., Camden, N.J. 08102 Brad Wilson (FRANCE): 224 Valley Park Dr., #9, Chapel H111, N.C. 27514 Bill Young (ŒRMANY): 959 Penn Cir., Apt. C41.1-R, King of Prussia, Pa. 19406

ENGLAND (Wallace): Plays Card #52 (Civil Disorder) on Italian F Marseilles. A/F North Africa-Western Med. VF Gulf of Lyon (S) A/F North Africa-(8)(9 units) Western Med. F Eng. Channel-Brest. F North Sea-Eng. Channel. F Norwegiah Sea-NAO. F MAO-Portugal (Card #49, Civil Disorder, played on this unit by Russia). A Sweden (S) GERMAN F Kiel-Denmark. F Livonia (S) AUSTRIAN VF Gulf of Bothmia-Baltic. A St. Pete (S) GERMAN A Moscow.

Alive. No actions taken. FRANCE (Wilson):

(0)

F. Belgium-Holland. F Kiel (S) AUSTRIAN VF Gulf of Bothnia-Baltic. ŒRMANY (Young): A Munich-Bohemia. A Berlin-Prussia. A Silesia-Galicia. A Warsaw-(8)(7 units)Ukraine. A Moscow (S) A Warsaw-Ukraine. (1 short)

F Marseilles (S) ENGLISH VF Gulf of Lyon-Spain(sc). (In C.D. by play ITALY (Hoffman): of Card #52 by England. Also, NSO.) VA Paris-Gescony. A Venice-(5)(6 units) Tyrol. A Piedmont (S) A Venice-Tyrol. A Rome-Venice. F Naples-Tyrr. Sea.

VE Gulf of Bothmia-Baltic Sea. VF Helgoland (H) (in C.D.). AUSTRIA (Rice):

(0)(2 units)

RUSSIA (Cheek): (5)(6 units)

Plays Card #49, Civil Disorder, on ENGLISH F Mid-Atlantic. A Ukraine-Warsaw. A Gelicia (S) A Ukraine-Warsaw. A Sev-Moscow. A Bohemia (S) TURKISH A Trieste-Tyrol. VF Spain(nc) (H). F Baltic-

TURKEY (Kenny): (**\$**)(10 units) (4 short)

Sweden /d/, (R) to Denmark (per Right-Hand Rule).

F Western Med.-N.Africa. VF Tunis (S) F Western Med.-N.Africa.

F Ionian Sea-Calabria. F Aegean-Ionian. F Smyrna-Rastern Med. F Ankara-Con. A Trieste-Tyrol. A Serbia-Trieste. A Bud-Vienna. F Con -Aeg can

(Germany and Frence do not own Vacation (Free) Units at this time). .

#### PRESS:

LONDON to Rome: Once a trust is broken it is a long time mending.

ENGLAND to Turkey: The 1st Air Cav. Div., which was humiliated during the Korean War, distinguished itself during the Vietnam War. They had an unusual insignia. It bore a horse's head, a diagonal line, and a yellow background. The explanation of the patch was simple, referring to its dishonor in Korea. The line that was never crossed, the horse that was never ridden, and the color speaks for itself.

BUSHWACKER: For the sake of historical accuracy, I must add that the 1st Cavalry's patch dates back to World War I, when all units first adopted them. Yellow is the traditional color of the Cavalry Branch, as is blue for Infantry, red for Artillery, etc. It has nothing to do with Korea, the war I am most familiar with.

CONSTANTINOPIE: My drink is a mixture of Sambuce, Bailey's Irish cream and Kahlua, but the big drink around here is the Red Devil.

DEADLINE for FALL 1906 is Wednesday, November 5, 1986. Phone deadline will be Tuesday, November 4th, at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

## TURNABOUT DIP - 1986C ca02

FALL 1902

MAD DUTCHMAN MAKES RUN ON DANISH BOOKSTORES. BALKANS CRASH INTO AUSTRIA, BUT ARE STOOD OFF IN MILAN IN 6-UNIT BATTLE. SLAVS SLICE INTO TURKEY. THE GREENING OF ENGLAND,

BALKANS (Brockmeier): A Gelicia-Austria. A Hungary (S) A Gelicia-Austria. A Bosnia-Milan. F Naples and F Adriatic (S) A Bosnia-Milan. A Rumania-Kiev. BENELUX (R. Brown): F Helgoland-Copenhagen. A Rhineland and A Prussia (S) F Helgoland-Copenhagen. F Antwerp-North Sea. A Luxembourg-Amsterdam. IRELAND (Wallace): A Scotland-England. F Hebrides-Scotland. F North Atlantic-(5) Hebrides. F Iceland-Norwegian Sea. F Bay of Biscay-Channel. MLDDLE EAST (Stewart): Note F was in Jerusalem(sc), not Arabia, as reported here last month, F Eastern Med-Central Med. F Alexandria-Eastern Med. A Libya-Turis. A Turkey-Mesopotamia. F Jerusalem(sc)-Alexand. F North Sea (S) F Oslo. F Oslo (S) F North Sea. F Copenhagen SCANDINAVIA (Cheek): (S) F North Sea /d/, may (R) to Baltic or Skag. A Stockholm ...(S) F Copenhagen. A Caucasus-Turkey. F Black Sea (S) A Caucasus-Turkey. A Klev SLAVS (Cruickshank): (S) A Warsaw. A Warsaw (S) A Kiev. A Austria-Hungary /d/, (R) Switz. (only space open). SPAIN (Rice): . . F Morocco-Western Med. A Milan (S) SLAVS A Austria. F Tyrr. Sea and F Gulf of Lions (S) A Milan. F Algeria (H).

I wish to thank Tony Dousette for submitting back-up orders for Middle Fest, which, fortunately, weren't needed. I may owe Alan Stewart an apology. He had sent me a copy of PRAXIS \$7, but the Post Awful lost it. Alan subsequently sent me another copy, as well as PRAXIS #8, so I'm happy to report that PRAXIS is alive and well. For some reason, much mail coming from Canada to Baltimore is mis-routed through Washington, D.C. first. Some people in Canada Post apparently think Baltimore is a suburb of Washington (humph!).

## PRESS:

SCANDINAVIA to Slavs and/or Spain: I hope you can live with your consciences! You'll have to.

IRISH FREE PRESS: Sincerity is the key to success. Once you can fake that you've got it made.

DUBLIN to Oslo: There is English as well.as Scottish in my family line.

# SUPPLY CENTER COUNT, TURNABOUT, WINTER 1902: GAINS, 108825

```
3 Home, Hungary, Naples, Rumania, AUSTRIA
BALKANS:
                                                        7, Build 1 (+1)
           3 Home, France, Rhineland, COPENHAGEN
BENELUX:
                                                        6, Build 1 (+1)
           3 Home, Iceland, Vineland, ENGLAND, SCOTLAND 7, Build 2 (+2)
IRELAND:
MIDDLE EAST: 3 Home, Libya, MESOPOTAMIA, TURKY
                                                        5, No change (---)
SCANDINAVIA: Oslo, Stockholm, Archangel, COPENNAGEN
                                                      3, Remove 1
SLAVS:
            3 Home, Muscovy, TURKEY, KUSTKIA
                                                        5, No change (--)
SPAIN:
            3 Home, Languedoc, Milan, ALGERIA
                                                        6, Build ! (+1)
```

DEADLINE for WINTER 1902 and SPRING 1903 (if everyone wishes to play Spring) will be WEDNESDAY, November 5, 1986. This is going out a bit late, so I want to give you some extra time. We're going to be away on Oct. 31st & Nov. 1st anyway. (This will also set us up with a Dec. 5th following deadline, which will enable us to miss the Xmas mail rush). Telephone deadline will be Tuesday, Nov. 4th, at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time. We will defer the Spring season if any player so requests.

## ZEUS V-F, 1984A gf11

GAME ENDS IN CONCESSION TO CHINESE-AMERICAN ALLIANCE.

For the record, France removed A Burgundy, and Germany removed F Eng. Channel. No point in listing the Builds and Retreats. Here are a couple of interesting Press Releases:

PARIS to World: Wanted: Foreign territory for army soon to be in exile. Will accept any position, willing to relocate.

USA to China: Let's not fight over Korea, O.K.?

## SUPPLY CENTER COUNT, ZEUS V-F

	Start	1940	<u>1941</u>	<u> 1942</u>	<u>1943</u>	<u>1944</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>
BRITAIN (Paul Larsen)1. (David Anderson)2.	5	8	6	5	3	2	2	1	0	-		
(Gary Floyd) CHINA (Kevin Kozlowski)3	. 3	5	7# <b>#</b>	. 7	9	9	10	9	11	13	13	17 Drew
(David Rice)			'			-			,	-	r 34	
FRANCE (Ken Peel)4. (Mark Trifkovic)5:	3	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	6	5	5*	2
(Karl Brockmeier)				_		,	~~	_	_	40	4.4	8
GERMANY (Ralph Baty)	3	5	6 2	6	6 0	6	8*	9	9	10	11	ø
JAPAN (Pat Pakel)6.	્ 3	4	2	1	0	-						
(Konrad Baumeister				_	_	_	_		<b>يد س</b>		^	
USSR (Paul Rauterberg)	4	7	8	9	9		5	4	5*	- 2	40	45 7
U.S.A. (Robert Cheek)	3	5	7	8	8	10	10	12	11	12	13	12 DIEM

- 1. Larsen resigned w/Fall '41 orders. Anderson took over in Winter '41.
- 2. Anderson resigned w/ Winter '44 orders. Floyd took over in Spring '45.
- 3. Kozlowski resigned following Spring '49 NMR. Rice took over in Fall '49.
- 4. Peel resigned w/ Fall '42 orders. Trifkovic took over in Winter '42.
- 5. Trifkovic dropped for two NMR's, Winter '44. Brockmeier took over in Spring '45.
- 6. Pakel dropped for two NMR's, Winter '41. Baumeister took over in Spring '42.

#### GM's Comments

I was distressed at the great number of resignations and drop-outs in this game. Britain, France and Japan all suffered from NMR's, which were fatal in some cases. France led a charmed life for a while, staying at 7 SC's for four years through three rulers and several NMR's. Only Baty, Cheek and Rauterberg stuck it out to the end. I was especially disappointed when Kevin Kozlowski had to abandon a 13-Center China. Fortunately, David Rice was able to pick up the position and share in the draw which Kevin and Robert Cheek had worked so hard for. My thanks, also, to the other standbys, some of who picked up poor or hopeless positions and played them out.

The game lasted for 11 game years and nearly three calendar years. It started in January 1984 and ended on Sept. 30, 1986. It could probably have ended sooner, as there were many proposals for 2 or 3-way draws made, but some people were quite stubborn in holding out. By Winter 1948, with USSR reduced to two units, the outcome was inevitable. The only remaining question was whether it would be a two-way or 3-way Draw.

It appears that Japan may be too weak, crushed between China and USA. I don't know how much of Japan's collapse in this game was due to poor play, and how much due to its (more)

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precarious position. One party stated that either Japan or the U.S. must die quickly in the Pacific theater. Any suggestions for remedying this condition will be appreciated. On the other hand, France seems to have a good defensive position, as does Germany. And, of course, mather the U.S. nor China was ever seriously threatened throughout the war. While there are no corner Powers, the absence of any land borders does give the U.S. a very secure position in the Atlantic world.

In summary, the game may be unbalanced, but the Pererz getting their moves in every turn and keeping their countries under a single head of state in the opening years seem to have the advantage, as is true in most Diplomacy games. I doubt I'll try to redesign the board to make things more equitable, but will appreciate your comments on this aspect of the game.

I would appreciate having end-game comments from the Co-Winners and statements from the other players by Friday, October 31, 1986.

Now that this game is over, would any of your care to sign up for BALKANS WARS III?

\* \* \* \*

A copy of the updated BUSHWACKER Mailing List will be enclosed with most of these copies. This includes a couple of very recent C/A's. Our regular circulation is now 65, which represents about a 7-reader loss in the past four months.

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BASEBALL WARZ NOTE. We were correct only in predicting that the N.Y. Mets would win the National League East. The other divisions were won by teams coming from out of nowhere (although the California Angels did have a lot of veteran talent, and probably should have been rated higher than 4th place). I was right in predicting 2nd and 3rd place finishes for Toronto and the Yankees in the AL East. They laughed when I said Cincinnati would win the NL West. Well, they did finish second, which isn't bad. I'll go out on a limb and predict that the World's Series will be played between the Mets and the Boston Red Sox, but it gets cold in Boston in October!

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BUSHWACKER c/o Fred C. Davis, Jr. 1427 Clairidge Rd. Baltimore, Md. 21207 U.S.A.