



Another satisfied customer
singing the praises of

CATHY'S RAMBLINGS

"Life is a Flat Tire"

A rather silly starter for the zine isn't it, but somehow it seemed to fit. At least with this issue it seemed to fit. Actually, I was lucky, it could have been a flat tire. Instead, I was just driving about on my steel belts and no tread. Not exactly the best ride in the world. It all adds up you know.

What else you ask? Well, this time I actually have an excuse for being late. You see this is/was the first weekend I have had free for the last two-three weeks. You would think that living in the middle of no where, that people wouldn't come and visit you. But this is not the case. We had the pleasure; of having Mr. Mark Luedi and Mr. Bob Laventure stay with us. Somehow it wore me all down and makes me feel like...yes...here it is...a flat tire.

Mark's weekend was a distaster for me. First off we didn't know he was coming until later and then I forgot to let my folks know that I wasn't going to be going down to Phoenix, that weekend. A call from Phoenix on Thursday night, "Hello, Cathy, When are you coming down? Marie is pregnant and we must have someone stay with her." Marie being my sister-in-law. The problem is she mis-carried last time and we are worried about her this time. "Um...well, you see we have company coming and I don't think I can make it." What? Why didn't you let us know? How can we find someone now?" "Yes, I'll see what I can do. I'll go down one way or other." Enter one Sleepy Mark Luedi at 11:00 p.m. We chat and Mark and Eric eat. Explain that I must go down to Phoenix. Do you know the terror I felt at leaving those two alone? Of course they didn't fix anything to eat, but they did have a wonderful time at the Grand Canyon. Eric should be writing a story about that. As for my trip to Phoenix, well, you can see below for more on that.

Two days grace and we get another phone call. It's Bob Laventure and he's coming in town early. Actually, it was fun having Bob here. I never played so many games. We played Castle Risk one night and Warrior Knights another night. There was only one problem. You see, Eric and I had to get up 6:30 am and pull a full day at work, while Bob got to sleep in with our dog Sheeba. So staying up till 12:30 am or 1:00am every night does wear one down. It was interesting having Bob around though. He's lived in Europe for over 4 years and has some interesting experiences and stories. Of course, Eric couldn't bear to hear any more of our FRUP talk. He would tell me about one of his old characters and I would tell him about one of my. And so it went until Saturday morning and we pack up to go to Phoenix again and Bob goes back to Colorado Springs.

Which brings me up to now. The first chance I've had to get this done. What can I say? This should be a large issue. Lots of letters this time, although I haven't had a chance to go through them all yet. Games, reviews and what ever odd bit I can find to fit into an odd space here and there.

THE DOCTOR WHO CONVENTION

Or maybe the convention that wasn't? It was all apart of that bad weekend mentioned above? You see, at first Mark and Eric were going to come with me to the Convention, but this was all changed. Now there is my car, the one with the steel belts showing? Remember the wonderful GB? Well, GB was making some rather loud noises. Mind you, my car is always making wierd noises, but this was worst then most. Marie and my Cousin's get in the car and say, "Cathy, What is that noise? It sounds like we are driving in a jet air plane. Now arriving at gate 4 is Cathy's car.(giggle, giggle)" Well, what do I expect from my car? But the worst came to worst, when we were leaving a parking lot and a guy yells to me, "Hey, it sounds like you got a bird in your car. What kind of bird is it?" ((giggles, smirk, giggle)) "Ok that did it." Time to ask dad when he gets home.

Meanwhile I get a call from Eric, "Cathy, It's snowing bad up here. You had better get on the road early. I'm taking Max to the bus stop, but i don't want to risk driving to Flagstaff. The roads are really bad." Great. Now you remember the title of this bit don't you? The Doctor Who Convention? That's because on this same day there was a Doctor Who convention in Mesa starting at 2:00 pm. Now it is about a 2 hour drive from Phoenix to MundsPark. Add onto this an extra half hour because Mesa is even further away.. So, there was the weather and the convention and I didn't know what to do. Finally I decided to go to the Convention from 2:00 to about 3:30 and then hit the road. I would be home before dark and before the roads froze up and became dangerous. But there was that bird/jet in my car that I mentioned earlier. Well, my dad and my younger Cousins get together and try to figure out what it is. After quite some time, they decide that it is my water pump and that my belt to go at any moment. It's almost 2:00. "May I go please?" Who needs a water pump after all. I finally get to go.

Now there wasn't much to the convention. Colin Baker was to be there, but much to my dispare he would not even show his face until 6:00pm. Too late for me. So I looked at all the Doctor Who stuff on sale and bought a few things as well. The money they must have made. I saw people even using charge cards. Then they played the last episode of the Trial of a Time Lord. Everyone cheered for the Master, Somehow that didn't seem quite right. By then it was 4:30 and I had to leave. The Weather, god forsaken snow, was against me. So Colin leaves the BBC and Doctor Who and I never even got to see him. And then people wonder why I hate the weather so. Oh, I did. manage to get home. GB's bird is fixed, but now he needs new shoes. Oh, How I love my car!

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LETTERS

PETE TULK: Billenness is, as of old, talking out of his bottom. The Manor house has not been the venue(?) for Manor Con since 84, and there has been no mention of it being booked for 88. Nonetheless, a UK international Con is a great idea. Perhaps even housing a Diplomacy World Championship? As with the Olympics (R.I.D.) there is a big push for Birmingham as the venue, although the wrinkles in the south would have it elsewhere. All human life is in Birmingham, and sometimes, you can even catch a bus after 11pm!
(I know why! It's because once you enter Birmingham, you can't find your way out again! As for the rest, well there's more comment on that...)

BRIAN DOLTON: Be interesting to have the US Hobby over to this country in 88, nice suggestion from Biggles there - after all, you lot are used to flying a few thousand miles to get to a convention! And I'm sure you'd love the opportunity to visit the UK again. Wouldn't you? I'd be interested to meet some of the US hobby, and put faces to names that I read about in CR.
(Please, stop. I would love to go again as well, but it's the money you know. Flights to Britain aren't cheap. Oh and Pete, thanks for your offer and if I make it, I will take you up on it.)

FRED DAVIS: Maybe a lot of us could get a charter Flight to England in 1988 for a World Con. My only objection would be to their taking the name "Dipcon" to Europe. How could they feel if we stole "Manor Con"? I'd love to go. I'm one of the few Americans who knows the way to the Red Lion Pub in London!
(Yes, even I do not know that and I didn't go there when I was in London. But there is real news on all this and I'm leading up to it...)

DEREK CAWS: ((This taken from Globetrotter, edited by Derek)) "The idea of Worldcon is born with the first even scheduled for Britain in 1988, followed by the USA in 1990 and Continental Europe (possibly Eurocon in Holland) in 1992. I am willing to help co-ordinate and promote the idea in any way I can, principally through Globetrotter, but the organisation of the individual events is best left to the local committees. Thus, UK 88 will, presumably, be held by the Manorcon Committee in either Birmingham or on the South Coast of England. The Dipcon Committee for 1990 will then also be responsible for organising US 90, and so forth. Meanwhile, anyone prepared to help arrange air and ferry bookings, with possible group rates, and to help with international publicity, please get in touch.
(Right, now you all know about it. Derek is putting out a zine to cover information on UK 88 and anyone interested in helping or just getting more information should contact him. The address is Derek Caws, The Old Kitchen, Bere Farm House, North Boarhunt, North Fareham, Hants, PO17 6JL England. And yes, that is a real address, so stop laughing!!)

MICHAEL HOPCROFT: Does anybody else in this zine play table sports games? I'm curious. How about a science-fiction PBM baseball league using one of the table-top systems? It would have to be either APBA, Stat-o-matic, or Avalon Hill: luckily I have all three. The science-fiction element would come in the location of teams, which could be anywhere in Time and Space. Imagine if you will: the Skaro Exterminators, the Gallifrey Guardians, the Krypton Supers, or the Vulcan Living Teddybears. The possibilities seem endless.
(Are you wishing to run a game if there was interest? I have I have football and soccer fans and a few baseball and hockey fans. I don't know though, would you like me to ask? Ok... Is anyone interested in an Science Fiction table top sports game? I suppose I could put it in here if you keep it down to one page. CR, the home of many a subzine. I'm beginning to feel like Life of Monty. Of speaking of games and sub-zines...)

DAN SCOTT PALTER: Re McHugh: Paranoia is still running. AYS has been been delayed owing to office problems - here at BUCCI, West End's Parent. We currently have 14 people to fill 24 position - but I expect to have it out within the next week to ten days. There is no fee. The other players already partially know each other. Cathy is MS Nazi. Tom Swider is Sydney. The man in black has yet to be identified. PC's may be of any security clearance and with any skill level. Please note that it may not help much.
(Ok, now you all know the story and I'm sure Dan would take players from Britain as well. Look it's a great game and I need someone else to blow away. It's no fun having no one to play with...)

PETE TULK Why is your lettercolumn full of terminally tedious Brits? I have up halfway through Dolton's witterings, and Billenness is famous for rabbiting on about about anything. Oh, well, never mind
(Ah, yes and then he realized that he has joined the ranks himself. Just watch what you say about one Glover Rogerson. Mind you Dolton and Billenness is cutting it close as well. If you weren't so tall...oh, wait, I have another thought...)
March is here, and with it, the spiders. Huge great buggers belting across the carpet and scaring the crap out of me.
(Spiders, yes. I'll send you a few via airmail if you get out of line. Oh going back to Dolton.)

BRIAN DOLTON: I must say that the cover was wonderful; one of the best I've seen in a long time, and the best on CR yet (at least so far as I can remember). The poem was atmospheric, the art matched it perfectly; what more can I say? Great Stuff.
Not a lot else to say with regard to the zine - I seem to be the main lettercol correspondent and I don't have much to say to myself.
(Never fear. You have an answer this time. See the next page. Thought I'd put the bit on the cover in for Eric. He's the one who's been finding the stuff for my cover's lately.)

MORE LETTERS

DAN SCOTT PALTER: RE Dolton: I am sorry that you have to let your politics stand in the way of looking at Price of Freedom as a game. It is also a pity that you never bothered to at least read the rules book. Had you done so you would have found a note to liberal readers, in which that part of the West End staff with political problems on the topic explained that it is perhaps best to view this as a modern role playing game whose object is to act out fantasies of "making things go boom" in a familiar real world setting. Please further note that no one at West End, including right-wingers such as myself, believe that it is a particularly plausible or realistic setting. Whether or not one believes that a Russian takeover of the U.S. is possible, much less likely (an issue I'll be quite prepared to debate separately), the fact remains that any resistance would in the real world be crushed quite quickly and quite effectively. The U.S. is not Afghanistan or Angola. If Ivan were to go to the risk of both of landing an army of occupation here (please note that West End at no time posits an invasion per se.) the U.S. surrenders. The official and legal government are supporting the occupation. The puppet secret police are called the F.B.I., it is simply inconceivable in real world terms that it would make a botch of the initial securing of the terrain: They would spend what it took to do the job right. In order to make a game of this we admit that we treat the U.S. characters as super heroes and the occupation force essentially as disposable orcs. This is a game. A Serious work on life in occupied America would be regarded as a joke by most of our staff. Those of us who feel it is a possible, although not especially likely outcome, would have written a far more depressing work that would be absolutely no fun to play.

Cathy, I hate to take issue with you, especially as you were defending me and my company. However, this is not the same as the Falklands or Northern Ireland. It is different and for many Europeans especially frightening. This is the only our our RPG lines with essentially no European distribution. We did this knowing that the premises would be unacceptable to Europe, which is one of our major markets. The reasoning is as follows: we wanted to do a modern Bang-Bang RPG. We wanted the universe involved to be sufficiently different from Car Wars or Twilight 2000 so that it could stand on its own two feet and not be perceived in the U.S., still our biggest market, as a clone of either of the above. It was felt that in the current cultural context, the rationale we used was the most saleable for the bulk of our market. So much so that it was worth losing any real prospect of overseas sales or sales through the armed forces PX system. Again a very major market for U.S. game companies. Your zine works to keep contact between the U.S. and European hobbies. As such I am sure you are aware of what follows: while we have many common elements in our linked cultures where U.S. - Canada are nonetheless very different from Europe. This is true even of our English cousins of whom George Bernard Shaw once said we are two peoples divided by a common language. This is more true in world politics than in almost any other area.

((From what you said above I can see why the Europeans are afraid of us. To make it short, you seem to be saying that within the U.S. market the success of this "bang-bang RPG" would be so great that you could lose all your European market and still make a profit. Wonder what that says about the average American. I suppose that brings me to Doug Rowling's letter nicely...))

DOUG ROWLING: I may be wrong, almost certainly in fact, but it will be a while yet before I am able to accept the U.S. as a reformed nation. Medium Range Nukes out of Europe and a sane man into the White House would be a good state, but lets not get too snide. I'll comment on nukes in the POW during a review of "Where the Wind Blows". A film, which whilst rather dull will feature with "The Wargame" at a lot of CND venues (Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.)

((Well, sorry that we can't do anything about the Nukes, but there is President that could be/will be changed. Here's some of our choices.))

ROBERT GREIER: So "Cathy's Ramblings" is the place for politics eh. O.K., I'm a whiz at politics, always posted of the latest events. Here's my list of presidential hopefuls.
 Gary Hart - Daffy Duck George Bush - Dead Duck Ronny Reagan - Lame Duck
 Gov. Cuomo - Don't wanna Duck John Kennedy - Should have Duck
 ((And here are some other views...))

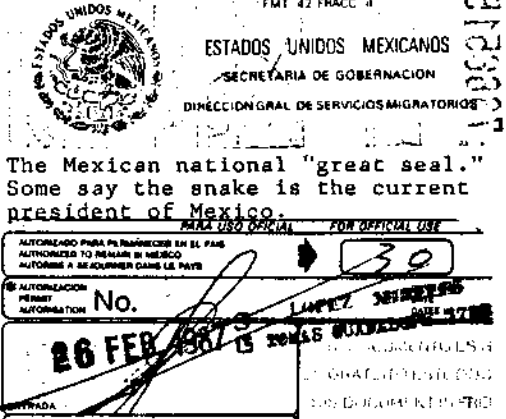
JACK MC HUGH: I feel sorry for the next President since he will be stuck with all of Ronnie's unsolved problems: The Deficit (Trade and Federal). The non-recovery, the disarray in foreign policy. Reagan will go down in history as a do-nothing President, who faked a recovery to get through his two terms. (The recovery is being fueled by an inflated money supply and Cheap gas.)

I guess that's it except to say I was disappointed by Cumio's withdrawal from the race. The only other candidate that interest me are Joe Biden and Dale Bumpers. I don't think Bumpers has much of a chance. We'll see about Biden.

((In this State the world is Bruce Babbit for President. He has a better chance with Cumio out of the race. Bruce is giving out American flags in his stops. Why you say? Because he wants to prove a point. He can get about 15 Korean made flags for the price it would be for one American made flag. It is showing the Trade deficit and how we are importing everything and not buying American why? Because we can't afford to buy our own products. It costs less money to import them than it does to build them in our own land. Something doesn't see quite right.

JACK MC HUGH: I was dissatisfied that the 65-mile-hour speed limit was passed. The government has a duty to keep the roads safe. Second, I'm sure you're shaking your head - stop that, although it is a local issue as you say - the interstates have been built with 95% Federal Funds. If Arizonians want to drive 65 they should not use Federal funds. Yes, you can turn down Federal Funds. ((Real quick. Here in Arizona, we only use 25% of federal funding for our roads. Second, I feel that more deaths on the freeways are from not wearing seatbelts than from speeding. or both. I'd go on and explain it further, but there isn't any room.))

ROCKY POINT, MEXICO FIELD TRIP, FEB 26-MAR 1 / BY ERIC OZOG



The Mexican national "great seal." Some say the snake is the current president of Mexico.

The border official's official signature to let me in the country.

This was my first trip south of the border, and probably not my last because I had a pretty good time. NAU Botany students from Jack States class were offered to go with Stan Wilkes' Invertebrate Zoology class to Puerto Penasco (Rocky Point), to study the marine intertidal zone. Rocky Point is about 65 miles SW of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument on the US-Mexico border, and is situated on the northern end of the Gulf of California.

A total of nine of us, including Dr. Wilkes, departed Flagstaff in a huge Ford Econoline van (with trailer in tow) on Thursday morning. We were on the tail-end of a massive snowstorm which dumped two feet of snow on the Arizona high country, so we were driving on chains for a ways until we dropped below the snow line and into the lower desert region. The total drive of 350 miles was done in about nine hours, partly because an itty-bitsy piece of Interstate 10 does not yet exist, and only now after a couple decades are they finally completing the link through Phoenix. During the drive I learned a colorful tidbit of Arizona state history from a student named Jeff: "You know, Arizona could have had an ocean port if the surveyors hadn't gotten drunk!" Yes, the

west-northwest slant (from Nogales) that makes up Arizona's characteristic southern border was all a mistake, because the survey crew which was mapping out the new international border after the Gadsden Purchase got drunk Saturday night in the Nogales area, and inadvertently veered NW the next day, instead of straight west to the gulf. Well I guess if you were out in the middle of a nowhere's ville desert, you'd get drunk too. I suppose it's for the better, because a thriving shrimp fishery helps the local populace make a living, and besides, we ripped off enough of their land in the Mexican-American War.

The drive was mostly uneventful- the desert scenery in Arizona is quite interesting, because it is a greener desert than most and the terrain is rugged, but the area southwest of Phoenix was very flat, desolate and boring. This is when 8 happy college kids and a sleeping teacher almost met their maker in a head-on collision with an 18-wheeler while passing another, nearly getting squished between the two. My jaw just dropped into my lap and Keith, who was sitting next to me, jumped out of his chair and screamed. All our lives flashed before our eyes, and later we applauded Jesse of his driving skills. Keith: "I'm going to sleep the rest of the way so if I die in a crash I won't feel anything." Myself: "We were all struck dumb with fear." Jesse, Kara's boyfriend, and the only non-NAU student on the trip, was driving because Dr. Wilkes has a disease which involuntarily causes him to fall asleep. He is on medication, but does not take it all the time, so he nods off, so should not really be driving. On previous trips when he did drive a student would always keep talking to him so he wouldn't do a drowse behind the wheel. Some of the kids were trying to assign their teacher a Linnaeus-style scientific name and I came up with *Wilkie's snoozus*.

Twenty-eight miles from the border in a town called Why, Arizona (named such because why would anyone want to live there), Dr. Wilkes purchased insurance for the van and trailer and we filled out our visa passes. No one ever told me to bring a passport or birth certificate to prove my existence and I thought entering Mexico was as easy as crossing into Canada. Not so, but it turned out my Coconino County voter's registration card was acceptable. During the final jog to the border we saw snow on the peak of Sierra del Ajo (elevation 4808 feet) and knew we were going to be in trouble that weekend weather-wise. And I thought Mexico was sunny and warm. Not this far north and at this time of year.

After crossing the border and stopping at the Mexican customs office, we waited a quarter hour for an officer to check us in- finally he sauntered in and signed our forms with his sweeping but crunched up signature. Walking back to the van we discovered the windshield was sparkling clean with a couple grinning kids with outstretched hands awaiting payment. Wilkes was a hard ass and wouldn't give them anything. Heck, I would have given them something, but all I had was a twenty, worth about 20,000 pesos in Mexico, a king's ransom to that small kid. Entering the town of Sonoita I was greeted by a warm, hearty "Welcome to the Third World" in big neon letters in the form of the sad little shacklike houses of the village. Some of these homes could make a tenement in a Chicago ghetto look like a Beverly Hills mansion. There were some very nice looking well-built houses interspersed with the hovels, owned no doubt by either a well-to-do Mexican or a not so well-to-do-but-I-sure-am-rich-if-I-live-in-Mexico American. We stopped at a Americanish store so the college kids could pick up some booze and look for some souvenirs and other assorted junk, probably some of it made it Taiwan. There was some nice stuff too, like some huge clay sculptures and pottery, rugs blankets and ponchos, etc. We loaded up on pop, Corona Extra (Mexican beer) and Tequilla and limes then drove to Rocky Point in the rain, on a narrow (but paved) two lane road. We counted the mileage in kilometers from the wooden and stone mileposts.

We arrived at Rocky Point down a very wide dirt road (constructed that way so one could drive around the potholes) drove onto the sandy beach, then picked a spot to set up camp. The tide was out. It was getting dark. And it was raining. How the wind blew! Cold, damp and shivering we unloaded the trailer. Dr. Wilkes was irrate, and would not tolerate any goofing off at this time: "Okay troops, we have to get organized here and everyone has to help, I don't want any screwing around!" We had four tents to pitch, but not until we could get the lanterns lit so we could see. After "screwing around" with the lanterns for a good half-hour two of the four stayed lit long enough for us to raise our shelters, which took a long while because nearly all of us were unfamiliar with this style of tent. I was thoroughly miserable from the rain and cold, and longed for the cozy cabin, a warm fire and my Cathy to snuggle with, and wondered what the hell I was doing here in the first place, and if the weather would improve at all in the coming days. I felt better though once I got some cold fried chicken, cold slaw and cold potato salad in me.

ROCKY POINT TRIP, CONTINUED (Condensed because Cathy tells me I only get another half a page...)

The weekend turned out to be sunny and clear, but there was a constant vicious wind blowing off the Gulf, dropping the temps. I froze my tail off Friday night, my two home-made sleeping bags couldn't cut it so I bought a blanket from a beach peddler. There were always locals walking up and down the beach selling things- blankets, ponchos, cotton jackets, fireworks (Keith bought some of these and half the batch were duds), burritos (if one was into Montezuma's Revenge), jewelry and little marionettes of a gun-waving Poncho Villa and his Senorita. My memory of the first ten Spanish numerals came back to me (thanks, Sesame Street!) so I bargained the blanket seller down to Ocho(8)

Friday night when the tide was out the whole group of us walked out on the tidal flats with our lanterns to turn over rocks and look in the pools for slimy, slippery critters. Dr. Wilkes knew exactly what to look for and where to find them, and we gathered some specimens: small suckerfish which can live out of water when the tide is out, and some sea anemones with their tentacles drawn in. We also found chitons, limpets, sea slugs, sea squirts, different species of crabs, swimming clams, marine worms, brittle stars, small octopi, assorted snails, etc. Wilkes, a professional marine biologist of many years, knew the scientific names with ease. Kara, who was a whining nuisance at times but over-brimming with curiosity would always ask, "Ooooh, what's this, can I touch it, huh?" and Dr. Wilkes would reply, "That's the monstrously dangerous sea cucumber that ate Los Angeles- touch him and your hand will fall off."

Next we drove over to one of the bays to wade into the water to spear some fish so Dr. Wilkes could check their tissues for parasites the next day. Only six of us were brave enough to venture into the darkness and cold water to face unknown creatures of the briny deep. Wilkes and a girl named Jolene paired up, while Jesse, Jeff, Keith and I went together. Our teacher told us to shuffle our feet as we waded, lest we step on a sting ray and get zapped in the ankle- which could be extremely painful, but not fatal. We each tried our hand at spearing while another held the lantern close to the water- Jeff had the killer, hunting instinct and nailed a guitarfish and needlefish. Dr. Wilkes had more success. Then the excitement started as the incoming tide took us by surprise. The water level rapidly rose from my waist to my chest, and we laughed about it at first, maybe that was a psychological tension release mechanism (Jeff kept referring to his genitals freezing off as the rising cold water covered them up). It all ceased to be funny when the water rose to Keith's and Jolene's necks, who were the shortest ones in the group. We were close to a state of panic, and had to get to shore quick. We couldn't wade directly to shore because there was a steep dropoff between us, so we had to parallel it for a couple hundred yards. Keith yelled to me, "Take the lantern, I can't keep it above the water anymore!" That's all we would have needed, to lose our light. Dr. Wilkes said, "Now nobody panic. This is real odd, I don't quite remember where we should be, but we'll get out okay if you all just follow me." Jesse was an absolute basket case. He gave a wild eyed look at Jeff, who was walking on his tiptoes. Then his eyes shifted to Wilkes, and sensing the end was near said in a scared voice of despair, "fuuuuuuuuck." Then he exclaimed in a fast chatter to our leader, "You're the teacher, you're supposed to know what you're doing!" Turned out we made it to shore alright, but Wilkes said later (as we told the story of our adventure to the others who waited at the van) that he was really wondering if we were going to make it, and if the water was to rise any further he would have had us abandon the lanterns and equipment and then swim for it.

All told it was an enjoyable trip, despite the weather and near drowning. Saturday we went back to the bay and beachcombed for shells, and I picked up several nice ones. We ate big breakfasts and dinners, having brought all our own food and water. Friday we went into the town of Rocky Point, visiting the wharf (where Wilkes bought some Sting Ray from the fish market for us to eat, which much of the meat was ammonia tainted, yuk!) and a Mexican bakery where you can get a bagfull of delicious cookies and rolls all for a dollar. We had campfires on the beach late into the nights and I had my first shot of the Tequilla, salt and lime routine and allowed myself one of those smooth tasting (and inexpensive!) Corona Extras. The sound of the ocean was very relaxing. I'm sure I'll be returning there again.

HOBBY NEWS AND NEW ZINES

Australian Zine Directory: Luke Clutterbuck 16/353A Old South Head Rd, Bobdi Beach, NSW, 2026 Australia

Luke is trying to put together a zine directory for Australia or maybe I should say "Hobby Guide" as Luke refers to it as that. If anyone either Britain or the US or Canada wishes to be listed in this Guide, please write Luke or send him a sample of your zine.

Mission From God: Pete Tulk, 76 Portland Rd, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B16 9QU England

This is the new zine directory for Britain replacing the old 20 years on. It is a joint effort between Pete and I believe three other editors, but you can get a copy through Pete. He does accept Trades and you can sub through the I.S.E. service. That means send money to Steve Knight and say you want Mission From God and he'll take care of the rest.

The Prince: Jim Meinel P.O. Box 240003, Anchorage, Alaska 99524

The Prince has been around for some time and it is a very dependable place to play. Jim currently has game openings for Regular Dip. Game Fee \$5.00 and subs \$5.00 for 10. I highly recommend Jim as a GM. Just in case you are getting tired of my mistakes.

ORKNAIRE UPDATE:

Next turn you will be going to individual turns. I can't get the turns out fast enough the way it is now. With the change in format, turnaround time should be 2-3 weeks at most. There will be a update in CR that will briefly say, what your character has done. No more Group turns though. I think everyone will be happy with this system once I get started.

The Press Denial is missing!

A subzine brought to you in
truly amazing CR VISION!!
Starring: Mike Dean as "GM"
and brought to you from:
32 Newlands Avenue
SCARBOROUGH
North Yorkshire
YO12 6PS
U.K.

THIS IS
ISSUE No.
2

Well, here we are again. It looks as if my little interim report has done the trick, as we are now back on schedule with CR proper. Below, players should find a slightly ammended version of the report for turn five (I incorrectly reported that Gimlet scored 4 points of damage on the Doctor in phase 3 - this actually occurred in phase 2), and also their report for turn SIX.

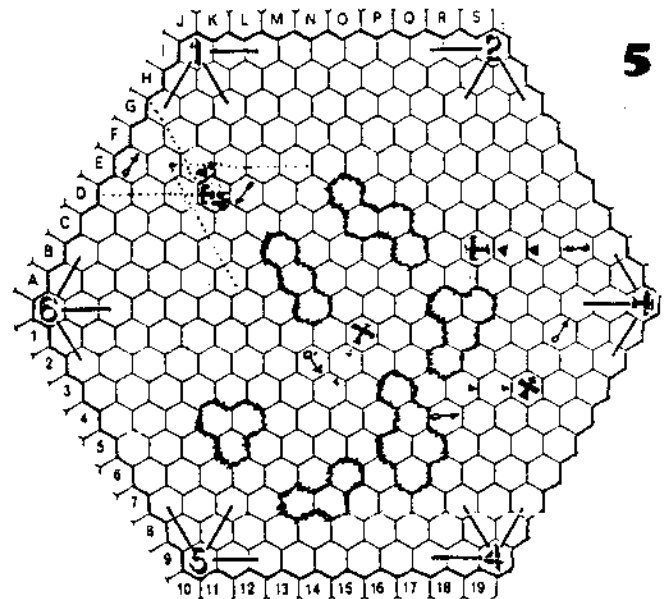
This issue has been a little bit difficult to get done on time as I was in Scarborough on the deadline day, but travelling up to Dundee the following evening - consequently I am currently struggling with this portable type-writer on my outstretched legs - which are not exactly what you would call stable - and I also have no liquid paper to hand. If this is to be done in time, I a lso don't have the time to go and buy any - hence all the terrible typos!! Please bear with me won't you?

Aulus Plautius

FIRST BLOOD TO GIMLET - GM MAKES COMPLETE BALLS UP OF MAP IN AN EFFORT TO SHOW 2 PLANES IN THE SAME SPACE!!

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| T.S.AERONORT (KNIGHT) | | | J11(K11) |
| LW | A | A | 12d16a |
| GIMLET (NICOLL) | | 4 points | H 4(G 3) |
| RT | H FR&A 4 | H FR | 12d13a |
| GREEN BARON (GAUGHAN) | | | S19 |
| RB | A | A (lands) | 12d16a |
| HATATOSK (NORRIS) | NMR! | | 013(N12) |
| A | A | A | 12d16a |
| LT. LOUIS WINGNUT (BECKER) | | | W17(O17) |
| LS | A | LB | 12d15a |
| THE FLYING DOCTOR (OZOG) | | | H 4(H 5) |
| RT FR&A | RB (4) | A | 6d12a |

CLOUD MOVEMENT FOR START OF TURN 6 IS DIRECTION THREE ...



PRESS:

THE DOCTOR - GREEN BARON: Sorry for the late zine. The postal service can be a pain.

WINGNUT - BARON: Could be the Flying Doctor is winging around to join the fracas. Let's see if we can pinch our target in before we feel the pinch.

QUASI - WINGNUT ((that's me, by the way)): Don't reckon much to that thought - methinks the Flying Doctor could have difficulty getting there in one piece with Gimlet on her tail!!

I saw the cartoon shown here in one of the best known quality papers here in the U.K., "The Grauniad" or, as it prefers to call itself "The guardian". I thought it, and the one shown overleaf, would appeal to you. I hope to include a cartoon of this sort on a regular basis from now onwards - if you wish to comment, do so!

"Flight steward Tower here, folks! We're commencing our final approach—by the way, is any of you guys an amnesia specialist?"

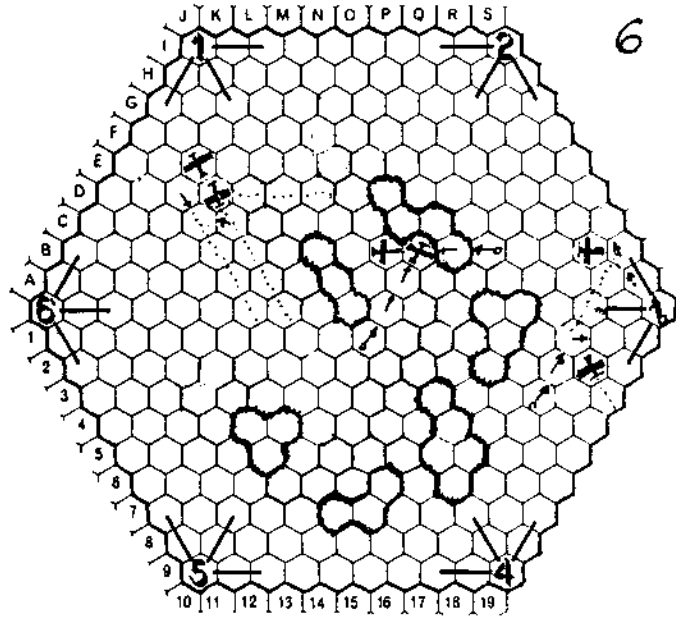


AULUS PLAUTIUS - SOPWITH+ - TURN SIX

NIFTY MANOEUVRES BY THE DOCTOR LEAVE GIMLET TOTALLY IN CONFUSION. WINGNUT SCORES SECOND BLOOD ON THE HAPLESS BARON, WHILE RATATOSK AND T.S.AERONORT SET ON AUTOPILOT ATTEMPT A COLLISION!

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|-------|--|-----------------|
| <u>T.S.AERONORT (KNIGHT) NMR1</u> | | | | <u>M11(N11)</u> |
| A | A | A | | 12d16a |
| <u>GIMLET (NICOLL)</u> | | | | <u>H 4(H 5)</u> |
| LW FLA | LS FA | H | | 12d10a |
| <u>GREEN BARON (GAUGHAN)</u> | | | | <u>R16(Q15)</u> |
| gamma A | A (4) | LT | | 8d16a |
| <u>RATATOSK (NORRIS) NMR:</u> | | | | <u>L10(K 9)</u> |
| A (c) | A | A | | 11d16a |
| <u>LT. LOUIS WINGNUT (BECKER)</u> | | | | <u>F18(F19)</u> |
| A | RB FL2 FL2 | RT FA | | 12d12a |
| <u>THE FLYING DOCTOR (OZOG)</u> | | | | <u>H 3(H 2)</u> |
| RW | RT | A | | 8d12a |

CLOUD MOVEMENT FOR START OF TURN SEVEN IS DIRECTION ONE..



PRESS:

BARON - GM: Amazing! Mail from the U.K. in 4 days (over a weekend, even); from N.Y. to here in 10.

QUASI - BARON: It just goes to show how important it is to put the right person on your stamps - obviously post is not deemed to be as important if you put pictures of dead people on them! ((Note to others - see a copy of PSYCHO (possibly number 8, but I don't have my copies to hand) and note comments on the subject therein!)).

BARON - RATATOSK: Each shell I just loaded up has your name engraved on it!

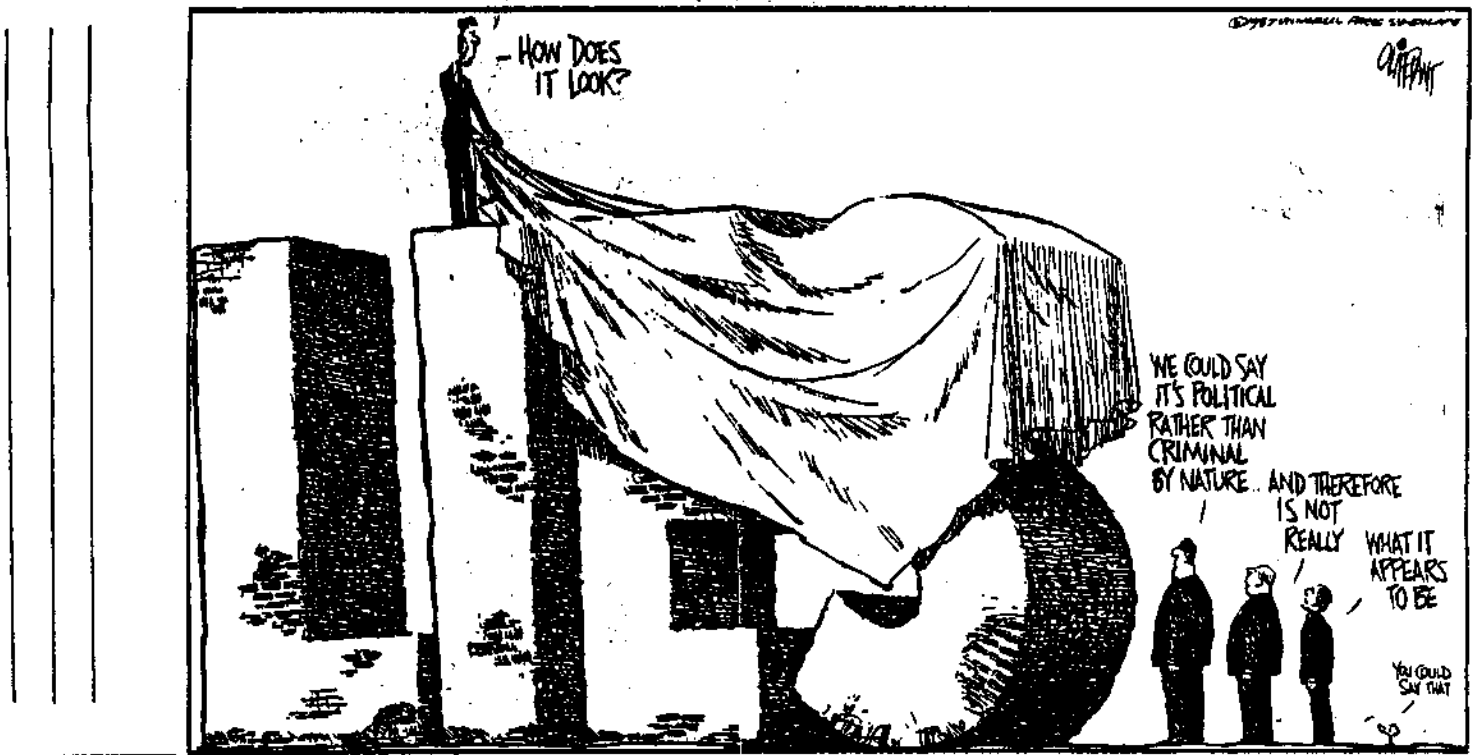
QUASI - BARON: Unfortunately Ratatosk seems unable to hear you through the clouds, however your words will probably be well noted by Lt. Wingnut!

The Doctor - "What? That can't be the Master in that plane called 'Gimlet'? Well, never fear, a turn here and there and we'll leave him behind!"

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Bill Becker has moved to:
1515 Ridgewood, JENISON, MI 49428. USA.

DEADLINEDEADLINEDEADLINEDEADLINEDEADLINEDEADLINEDEADLINE
DEADLINE FOR TURN SEVEN ORDERS IS April 25, 1987
DEADLINEDEADLINEDEADLINEDEADLINEDEADLINEDEADLINEDEADLINE



WAITING LISTS etc.

My little suggestion that a few more of you should take up the challenge of playing a game under the GMing of a foreigner seems to have met with a small, but encouraging response. The waiting list for the second game of SOPWITH+ now stands at:

Doug Rowling, Bill Becker, Jim Nickel, Eric Ozog, and Dan Stafford.

That means that there is still ONE place available for this second game.

First refusal will go to Les Casey. I received a letter from Les asking about the possibility of playing Sopwith. However, Les mentioned POW ((a Great British 'zine from the capable hands of Wallace Nicoll and Doug Rowling)), and playing in POW, so I assumed that he had simply got mixed up with the GME in POW. I therefore sent the letter to them. However, Cathy has sent me a letter asking if I have heard from Les, which tends to imply the letter was meant for me after all. Sorry, Les for

misinterpreting your initial letter - if you do want to play please let me know as soon as possible!

Second refusal will go to Jack McHugh who has also written to me after seeing last issues PBM. Unfortunately, Jack you seem to have got hold of the wrong end of the stick as you seem to be interested only in playing Diplomacy. At present I have only plans to run Sopwith and Sopwith+. If you are re interested in playing either of these then please let me know. If, at a later date I do decide to run Diplomacy aswell, then you can rest assured your name will be the first on the list. Thanks for your interest at any rate.

Please don't let the fact that these two have first and second refusal put the rest of you off writing to me - I will be keeping the lists open for at least a THIRD game, if not more, so WRITE TO ME FAST. If you DON'T, then don't be surprised if you get a letter from me in the near future asking you to join the waiting lists, as I do have a list of a ll CRs subscribers, and I WILL be in touch!!

And so we come to the end of another "issue" of "The President's Brain is Missing". A bit of a mess, I am prepared to admit, but then I am still finding it difficult getting used to the CR format. It would be a little bit easier if my typewriter had a wide enough carriage to take this size of paper, but in fact it can only just take A4 let alone anything larger! Consequently, I am faced with the prospect of first of all typing all the information I want to include in CR on an A4 sheet in a great big long line, and then cutting it all up and pasting it down on a sheet the correct size. (Incidentally, I have to make THAT up by using two A4 sheets as we do not have an equivalent size here in the U.K.) So I don't think I'm doing too badly, though this format certainly has possibilities.....

For those of you who are interested in personal details, and even for those who aren't, since this will affect you too, you will be pleased to hear that I have just got a new job. It is still in Local Government - and indeed is still Housing Benefits, but it is now in LEEDS. I don't know exactly when I'll be starting yet as I haven't received written confirmation and therefore cannot hand in notice at my present job, but it is likely to be within a month - ie. early April. This, will no doubt coincide with the next deadline, so please get your orders to me in good time so that they can be forwarded to my new address in Leeds. Thankyou.

And that's where I leave you for this issue,

MIKE

1985 AD PROMENADE ENDGAME

GM: (COA): Dan Stafford
357 Caruthers RD
Tallmadge, OH 44278

PEACE BREAKS OUT ALL OVER EUROPE!

No one vetoed the draw preposed during the seperation. I did hear from every player after the seperation except one - one that specifically requested the seperation.
The F/G/T draw passes!

AUSTRIA: Richard Anderson (drop W'03); David Pierce (surv W'06)

ENGLAND: John Crosby (elim F'06)

FRANCE: Melinda Holley (DRAW W'06)

GERMANY: Alan Stewart (DRAW W'06)

ITALY: Kathy Byrne (surv W'06)

RUSSIA: Dave Greenlee (res F'01); John Davies (drop F'02);
Derwood Bowen (drop W'03); Robert Greier (elim F'04)

TURKEY: George Graessle (DRAW W'06)

| | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|------|
| AUS: | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | |
| ENG: | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | |
| FRA: | 4 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | DRAW |
| GER: | 6 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 10 | 10 | DRAW |
| ITA: | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | |
| RUS: | 5 | 4 | 4 | 0 | - | - | |
| TUR: | 5 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 7 | DRAW |

Regular Dip 1984 AO

Wetlands

ENDGAME

GAME HISTORY: GM: Cathy Ozog Zine: Cathy's Ramblings Boardman Number 1984 AO

| | 1901 | 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1905 | 1906 | 1907 | 1908 | 1909 | | |
|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---|------|
| Austria | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 13 | 12 | 9 | 7 | 4 | | |
| England | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 10 | 7 | * | Draw |
| France | 4 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Germany | 6 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 8 | * | Draw |
| Italy | 4 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 15 | * | Draw |
| Russia | 6 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Turkey | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |

The Players:

Austria: Jerry Lucas
France: Brian Edwards
England: Melinda Holley

Germany: Ken Corbin
Italy: Steven Courtemanche

Russia: Tom Hurst
Turkey: Robert Acheson

End Game Statements:

England- Melinda Holley:

First of all, I can't believe the draw passed, but I'm glad it did. This was a game where the attitude was- get the leader! Alliances changed and were dependant upon the supply center division. Still, it was an enjoyable game. Thanks to everybody for making it so enjoyable.

Italy-Steven Courtemanche:

I started this game happy to try for a three-way, so I'm not disappointed. The game progressed nicely R/A worked Turkey over while G/E did the same to France. This took care of two potential sea powers. as neighbors. I went in both directions and picked up a few dots. Then it was my pleasure to help Austria against Russia and Germany versus England. The first three-way was about to pas when Jerry Austria - hit Germany. A "Stop- the - leander" campaign was set up against Jerry. At fourteen, I could see the same was going to happen to me. Then we'd have to worry about Ken (Germany). Better to call it quits now then be pushed back for the same result later.

GM: Cathy Ozog:

I must say that I wanted to cry for Jerry, while you lot were tearing him apart. It seemed as though there was alot of mistrust and most of you thought he was going for the win. I saw who was voting for what draw and you were all wrong. If Steven would have trusted Jerry, there could have been a 2-way instead of a three-way. I expect it was all Ken's fault, he does know how to make people listen to him. Thanks to all of you for sticking this out. Note that it was all the original players!

1987 ? Boardman # please!

Highland

Regular Dip Winter 00

And the Lucky players are....

- Austria: Jack Mc Hugh 730 Union Street, Apt 6, Allentown, PA 18101-2212
- England: Scott Barbehenn, 1626 Angus Court, Crofton, MD 21114
- France: Michael Hopcroft, 2190 W. Burnside, Apt.# 108, Portland, OR 97210
- Germany: Bob Laventure, 2744 Montague, Colorado Springs, CO 80918
- Italy: Stephan Dorneman, 95 Federal St, #2, Lynn, MA 01905
- Russia: John Crosby, 1496 Washington Lane, West Chester, PA 19382
- Turkey: Joe Zizek, #1713, 8515-112 St, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 1K7 Canada

Deadline for Spring 01 is May 6, 1987

GAME NOTES:

If anyone needs my houserules, please let me know and I'll send you a copy. This will be a Grey press game as are all of my games. IE: You may date line press from any center except a players home center. In Fall 01, I grant separation of seasons for winter with one request. This separation is not automatic as it is with some GM's. I'm pretty easy with abbreviations, but if you think there might be some question then spell it out in full for me. Everyone wanted R or E as thier first choice and so many got second or third choices. None further back then your third choice though. That's it for now. Go out there and have a good game. Let me know if you have any questions.

International Dip 1984 AX

ANARCHY

Winter 08/Spring 09

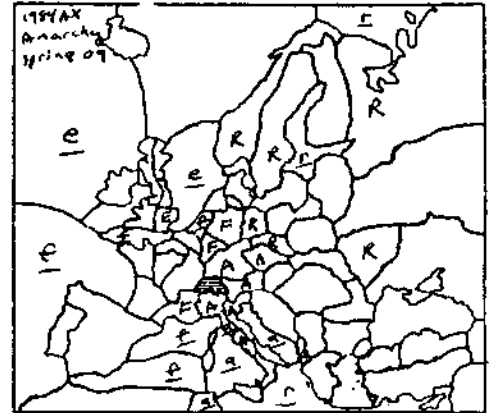
ENGLAND'S BACK, BUT BOTH SIDES GET THEIR POSITIONS SET!?!?

Winter 08:

France: A Ber Retreats to Kie, Remove A Den, Austria: Build F Tri
 Russia: Build A Mos, F StP(nc)

Spring 09:

England-McHugh: F Iri-NAO, F Nth-Den, F Ska-Bal(Imp), F Bel-Nth,
 A Lon H
France-Zizek: A Mun H(dis,ret: Bur, otb), A Kie H, A Ruh S A Mun,
 F Hol H, F Eng H, F Bre-MAO, A Mar H, F WMed-Tyh,
 F GoL S F W Med(otm*) see below
Russia-Holley: A Fin-Nwy, A Urk H, A Sil S Austrian A Boh-Mun,
 A Swe S A Fin-Nwy, A Ber S Austrian A Boh-Mun,
 A Mos-StP, F StP(nc)-Bar, F Bot S A Swe, F Ion S
 Austrian F Nap-Tyh
Austria-Rogerson: F Tri-Adr, F Tun S F Nap-Tyh, F Nap-Tyh, F Tyh-Tus,
 A Pie H, A Ven S A Pie, A Alb H, A Tyr S A Boh-Mun,
 A Boh-Mun, A Vie-Boh

GAME NOTES:

The R/A Draw fails and is reproposed next time. Remember No vote recieved = no and no move recieved = yes. So please vote! Also note the following change of address for Jack McHugh.

Jack McHugh, 730 Union St, Apt 6, Allentown, PA 18101-2212

*otm means "ordered to move". You can not support a moving unit and thus the support order failed.

DEADLINE FOR FALL 09 isMAY 11, 1987

Please let me know if this is too quick,
 I've noticed some delays in transatlantic mail

1986 CH

PINEWOOD

Winter 02/Spring 03

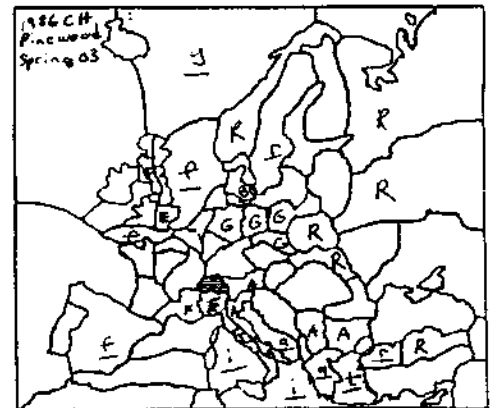
AND THE BOUNCE IS ON! WHO WILL WIN?!?!?

WINTER 02:

England: Remove F Ska, F Bar Germany: Build A Ber
France: Build F Bre, A Mar, Italy: Remove A Tun
Russia: Build A Mos, A StP Turkey: Remove A Smy
Austria: Build A Tri, A Bud

Spring 03:

England-Nickel: A Lon-Yor
Italy-Rush: A Rom S French A Pie-Ven, F Ion H, F Tyh S F Ion
Turkey-Vaporis: A Con-Bul(dis,ret: Smy, otb), F Aeg S A Con-Bul
France-Hood: A Lvp-Yor, A Mar-Pie, A Pie-Ven, F Por-Spa(sc),
 F Nth S German A Kie-Den(neu), F Bre-Eng
Russia-Johnson: A War S A StP-Lvn, A StP-Lvn, A Mos S A War,
 A Rum-Gal, F Swe-Bal, A Nwy-Swe, F Bla-Con,
 A Ank S F Bla-Con
Germany-Gavrilovic: FEDI-Nwg, F Den-Bal, A Pru-Lvn, A Sil-War, A Ber-
Pru, A Ruh-Kie
Austria-Gonsalves: A Tyr S A Ven, A Ven S A Tri-Apu, A Tri-Apu,
 F Adr C A Tri-Apu, A Bud-Ser, A Bul S F Gre,
 F Gre S A Bul

DEADLINE FOR FALL 03 is MAY 6, 1987PRESS:

Austria-Moscow: Why no letter this turn? We really need to communicate better.
Rome-Moscow: Is your idea of "Diplomacy" two letters in Spring 01 and then zilch? Is it my breath or are you waiting for the prive of stamps to drop to six cents? ((Look , I didn't plan that press...))
Moscow-Berlin: The world may hold their breath, but unless Austria stabs me, you'll never even reach the farthest outposts of Moscow. Hoser! ((If you dont write to Austria...))

PINEWOOD PRESS CONTINUES:

Italy-Austria: I thought about you fondly last week. Why? Because, because, because, because, because! Because, the Wizard of Oz was on! ((Did I really have to print that?))
Ber-Con: Since heroic German armies have invaded Russia, all bets made prior to this time are null & void, because the heat is now off the Sultan. ((Actually, it's still rather hot.))
Con-Ber: Given my position I hope you can understand why I must insist upon cash.
Rome-Paris: I shall fight Austira in the fields, I shall fight him in the streets, I shall sign up for a new game if this does not work! ((Lucky for you, I have another game opening.))
Aegean-Ion: Is late really better than never?
Ber-Par: So the sun sets slowly on the English Empire...
Rome-Vienna: Ah c'mon Michael, mellow out. This is a game and I still like you - I probably write you more than anyone and we are enemies here. So what if you were a scum in Fall 02 ((And Spring 03))
Con-GM: Turkey will never "follow behind" England, nor anyone else for that matter, we will be destroyed fighting fthe perfidious strudel eaters to the end! ((That's what I like to hear! "Rage, Rage into that good night".
Scarborough: Any Hockey fans out there? Philadelphia Flyers #1!

Gunboat Dip 1984 DRB 32

LIVEWOOD

Fall 1910

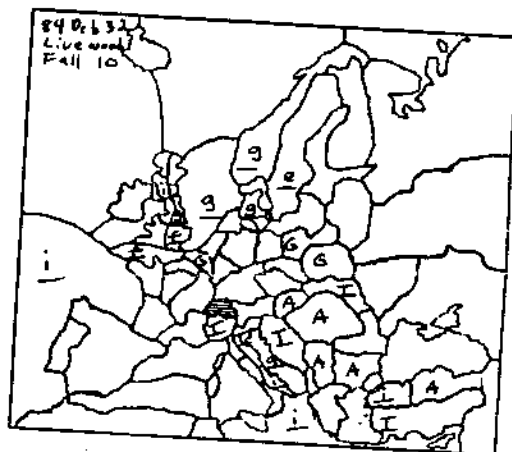
AUSTRIA IS HURTING & GERMANY MOVING OUT!

Summer 1910

Italy: A Vie Retreats to Gal

Fall 1910:

England: F Swe H
France: F Eng-Bre, F Lon-Eng
Italy: F Iri-Lvp, F MAO-Bre, A Pie S A Ven, A Ven § A Tri,
A Smy S F Aeg-Con, F Aeg-Con, F Nap-Apu, F Ion S F
Nap-Apu, A Tri § German A Tyr-Vie, A Gal-Rum
Germany: F Ska-Nwy, F Edi-Yor, F Den S F Nth, F Nth S F Ska-Nwy
A Bel H, A Sil-War, A Pru S A Sil-War, A Tyr-Vie,
A mun-Boh
Austria: A Nwy-Yor(imp)(Dis,ret: Fin, StP,otb), A Arm-Ank,
F Con § A Arm-Ank(dis,ret: Bla,otb), A War-Sil(dis,ret:
Lvn, Mos, Ukr,otb), F Adr-Ven, A Bud-Tri, A Vie § A
Bud-Tri, A Ser-Rum, A Gre-Bul



Winter 1910 Supply Center Chart:

England: Swe = 1, even
France: Lon = 1, remove 1
Austria: StP, Mos, Sev, Vie, Bud, Ser, Bul, Rum Ank = 9, nbp(even if retreats otb)
Germany: Home, Bel, Hol, Den, Par, Bre, Edi, Nwy, War = 11 build 2
Italy: Home, Spa, Por, Mar, Tun, Tri, Gre, Con, Lvp, Smy = 12, Build 2

Deadline is May6, 1987 for Winter 1910, Spring 11

Game Notes:

I/G draw fails. Proposed is a concession to Germany! Please vote next time!

Press:

Berlin-Stockholm: That press release very nearly signed your death warrant. Yqu're lucky that my Italian ally demanded I take two Austrian centers...still I changed my orders half a dozen times. Tri and Sevastopol are nice major port cities. Care to make your wishes known?

Germany-Italy: I did as you requested. It looks like it will take another year to take France, but this is beginning to wind down.

World-France: Give me your dots. Now please!

France-All: Let it hereby be known that as an original player in this game I am not giving up ever. Either you let have a share in the draw or you wipe me out, that's the way it has to be. Uh, what do you mean, "Ok we'll wipe you out?" That isn't what you were supposed to say... go on, have a heart...
Germany-France: My, my what did I do? You're right that begging for mery will have little effect.

Germany-Bosslady: Gee, I don't sound very nice, do I? Let me try to turn it around in my note to Austria...
Germany-Austria: I'd love to help. What can I do for you next?
((I wonder if I am the only one confused?))

A Bad gap in white space here. Not good for anything, except for me to type useless bits like this to fill them up. Windywood on the next page and it is held over due to extreme GM error. Of course none of the players found it. Well, I think this white space is filled. On to the game.

CATHY OZOG
P.O. BOX 5225
MUNDS PARK, AZ 86017



FIRST CLASS



Sub Ends:

ms-36.

Steve Knight
2732 Grand Ave S. A 302
Minneapolis, MN
55408.

This is the "GB's Sick again" version of Cathy's Ramblings #28

Editor: Cathy Ozog P.O. Box 5225, Munds Park, AZ 86017 (602) 286-9009 Evenings only during week
Guest GM: Dan Stafford, 357 Caruthers Rd, Tallmadge, OH 44278
The Prez's Brain is Missing: Mike Dean, 32 Newlands Ave, Scarborough, N. Yorks YO12 England
At Your Service: Dan S. Palter 999 Central Ave #300, Woodmere, NY 11598
Cover & Article: Eric Ozog

DEADLINES: May 6, 1987 for most games, but please check your game.

GAME OPENINGS:

Sopwith & Sopwith II : GM: Mike Dean. First Game is full and I have two more players to add to Mike's waiting list. Pete Tulk and Randy Grigsby. \$2.00 game fee and Contact Mike to make sure you are in the game.

International Diplomacy: GM: Cathy Ozog \$5.00 game fee. Signed up Les Casey - Can, Randy Grigsby-Can, Michael Vaporis - Am, Joe Zizek? Can. I need atleast one British player. Anyone interested? This will start when filled.

Stand-by List: Michael Gonsalves, Jim Nickel, Michael Hopcroft, Stephan Dorneman, Richard Wheat, Steve Rush, David Hood, David Peirce, Robert Greier, John Davies, Jerry Lucas, Robert Acheson, Derwood Bowen, Jim burgess, D.S. Palter, Melinda Ann Holley, Jeff Bevis, John Crosby, Jack McHugh. Please let me know if you want on or off this list. It seems to me that I'm missing some from this list.

Subs: 10 issues for \$7:00 for North America and \$1.20 for the BRits.

Notes to You: