



# THE TROLLMAN SPEAKS



Sermonette--

It's not easy taking over the reins of the Seattle group of several since the semi-informal abdication of Jack Fleming but someone had to do it.

This month's cover is an example of what I go through. It was supposed to be on last month's cover but I was out of town when she went to press so I couldn't walk her through her third issue. Presumably the Orc will have this issue in his control.

Anyway before leaving town I called Cathy and told her that the cover would be in an envelope in one of the cupboards on our back porch because neither me nor my brother would be here to let her in. After placing the artwork (another masterpiece actually) in the envelope and putting her name on the outside in big letters I walked out on the back porch. I decided why make it complicated. The only object on the back porch was a small cardboard box. The porch is an enclosed room with the cupboards on one side, windows opposite, a slider glass door into the kitchen and of course the exterior door. So there on the floor, alone in its glory sat a box with a large brown envelope, marked 'Cathy' in big green letters, and nothing else in the room.

Enter the valley girl. She goes to the cupboards and finds them bare. She looks in the first one and decides that it is too big. She peers into the second and decides it is just too small. She looks into the third through twelfth and decides none of them are just right.

Meanwhile if the box had been a basket and the envelope a cobra a certain Orc would be back in the drug-store copping peeks at Playboy.

And of course she panics. "That ass! He set me up! He knows I need a cover and he skips town because he doesn't have one ready! I'll spend the rest of the month typing exclamation points on his body if I find him!!!!!!!"

And I come home to hear the phone ringing off the hook and the val screaming, "Woody made you do it! Just because I rubbed a little deep-heat into his hamsters fur at Origins and he didn't notice til it was heating HIM up. You fink, how could you toady to the East Coast Clique? Sure they envy us but how could they get to you? I thought they were all pissed at you anyway. Or was it the Mad-Lads? Did they offer you amnesty if you'd torpedoed the first szine pubbed north of Tacoma and west of Spokane by a female who graduated with a Comm degree from ASU but who has never figured out the plot twists in a dictionary? Why Toadman?"

So as you see, Deadwood, it's easy to lead a val to cover, but it doesn't mean she'll print.

Terry Tallman, Hobby  
Sex Ghod and Lawn Furniture  
Enthusiast

## CATHY'S RAMBLINGS

December 23

Phoenix and a manual typewriter. Screams of agony and hate pour from your editor's mouth. I must correct every other word. Why me? Tallman it's all your fault! Just wait till I get my hands on you! Cute way of making a "!", takes twice the time see and... oh you don't care.. I think this typewriter is coming alive. I can feel an evil source trying to take control. Dolton get out of my typewriter! You have your own zine to Ramble in and you're not getting any of mine. Oh I know how to get rid of him. Reagan is wonderful. American use country with the peaceful gun. Nuke all the Commies. Women belong in the kitchen. John Denver rules music. Yes the Beast is gone now. But sadly this typewriter isn't.

December 28,

Well I couldn't take it. Do you know it took me one hour to type the above bit. Now I am not crazy and you lot are not worth going through that agony for 10 odd pages. So off I go and rent a typewriter. The things I do for you. See the smaller print? Boy, I fear this will be tiny once it is reduced, but look at the value you'll be getting for your money!

Oh in case you couldn't figure it out, the above was the Trollman or known to some as Terry Tallman. He claims I've slurred his good name and all that. Well, All I can say is I didn't see it and that's the way it goes. Enough said.

Do you want to know what will be in this issue? Good, so do I. Well, there's an artic@ by my one and only idol-Glover Rogerson, I hope that Father Knows Less will show up soon, no word from Mr Res Theatre and so I don't know what is going on there. You will get me though, lots of me. Me-doing reviews of records and books and zines. Me-rambling on at lengths about anything, like I am now. I wish I could say there was a game start but such good luck has not come my way yet. I'm not a bad GM really I'm not! Why I've studied under the Trollfather and Woody and the British types. Still I should write some house rules one of these days. Lets just say that I'm a lax GM who uses common sense.

What hasn't this page ended yet? The things I must think of to fill space. I'm in Phoenix and the sun is shining and the highs are in 60's. The rest of the world is freezing and I could be out in the sun getting a tan. Hate me don't you, oh I will be at my old address in Seattle at least till the end of January. There's a 90% chance that I will be moving. We won, by the way and the contact person is out, but there are still many problems and I don't want to deal with them when I could live somewhere else. If you have any worries about where I'll be you can always send my mail to Tallman for a time. He gets it to me after I praise him, still that's my problem and not yours.

Well enough of my feeble attempts to fill the page. Someone help me! Let's hope CH goes up from this bit, and that won't be hard to do. By the way this is sbit of a war and nukes issue. but shall we move on?

# NOTES FROM UNDERFOOT THE AMERICAN THUMB

a contribution to transatlantic  
understanding by Glover Rogerson

There would appear to be a few folks in the dear old U.S. of A who firstly doubt my existence, and secondly doubt my politics. The first i can live with, but 'Father Knows Less', an aptly titled piece by John Caruso, has finally stirred me to try and explain the position from Europe; or at least my version of it.

Let me begin with what seems to be the favourite ending question amongst smug Americans: - would i rather live in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics?

An interesting one; because the implied comparison is between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. So. If left with that choice, i would rather live in the U.S.A.: i am in my late twenties, fairly bright, and have reasonable earning potential, and the U.S.A. is one of the countries that (provided i picked my spot) would enable me to live the type of lifestyle i think i would prefer.

Fine. However, at the moment, i don't live in either of those countries - rather, i live in the U.K., which is presently allied with the U.S.A. The U.K. is luckier than some; it is a second-rate country, and as such gets considerably more say in the super-power dialogue than, say, Argentina.

From my viewpoint of the world, what matters is strength. The strong do what they want. There is no question of right or wrong in this. Strong nations impose their will upon weak nations. Tibet. Hungary. Czechoslovakia. Namibia. Afghanistan. Falkland Islands. Grenada. So it goes, and will continue to do so.

Strong nations protect themselves. The U.S.A. protects freedom, justice and liberty, in the U.S.A. It does this by destabilising elected governments like Chile, invading places like Grenada, and supporting people like Samozia. The U.S.S.R. does the same: it matters little if you are butchered in Santiago or Kabul, naplamed in South Vietnam, or crucified in Tibet. Either way, you're dead.

Which is fine, if you live in the U.S.A., because you will do what you percieve is necessary to maintain freedom, justice and liberty in the U.S.A.

But i don't live in the U.S.A. I live in the U.K., a country which has more nuclear missiles targetted on it per square mile than any other in the world. Why? Because we are an advance base, chock full of american hardware.

Here's a question for you America. Which would you rather have, a global nuclear war, or one limited to the European theatre? If i was an American, or a Russian, i know which i'd prefer. I live in Europe: now do you begin to see why i don't want your missiles?

Let me go back to the first question i raised. Would i rather live in the U.S.S.R.? Well, yes, if the choice was Cambodia. And are there countries i would rather live in than the U.S.A.? Yes, there are. And to go one further, are there countries i would rather live in than those which are strong allies of the U.S.A., like the U.K.? Yes.

It is possible, you see, to defy the super-powers: i said earlier that the strong impose their will upon the weak - let me now qualify that. It often requires a large amount of effort for either the U.S.A., or the U.S.S.R. to impose that will, and there are times when that cost becomes too much. Vietnam was a classic case, Ireland and Algeria others. Two examples, Yuoglavina, and Eire.

Yugoslavia was lucky: it had no border with the U.S.S.R., so the tanks couldn't roll. As a result, it could, and did, break from the Warsaw Pact line. It remains a "communist" country, without SS-20's, has a fairly mixed economy, and a nice line in worker control of industry.

Eire did have the armed coercion, and suffered for it. It also had a population strongly opposed to its rulers. It still remains a "capitalist" state, with no Cruise, and a nice line in lifestyles.

Of course, both have inflation, unemployment and various and sundry industrial problems, but who doesn't? You can leave the superpowers to their games. I'm unlucky in that i live in a country that still thinks it is important in some sense other than as an American aircraft carrier. "Our" pathetic victory in the South Atlantic hasn't exactly helped.....

No, Mr. Caruso, i don't want to be a Russian satellite state, but i reject your inference that the only alternative is to be an American satellite state.

I have seen the United States, and the Soviet Union, in action. I believe that if either thought it would preserve their way of life they would not hesitate to turn large parts of western Europe into a radioactive heap.

I believe the best way to avoid this fate is to become neutral - aggressively neutral - because if you think i want to swap the U.S. who are at least supposedly principled bastards for the Soviet Union who are just bastards, then not only have i failed to get my message over, but you have failed to understand what it is to live in Europe.

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## LIFE AND NUKES

First I would like to thank you Glover and tell you how honored I am that you would take the time to write for one such as me. Now to express my feelings. That article leaves me with a sense of sadness and a feeling of new understanding. I consider myself to be an average American, with perhaps a much stronger anglophilic personality than most. Politically I'm slightly to the right, but not extremely so. I am an example of middle America.

The sadness comes from my own beliefs that Britain is still a number one power on the same level as the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. What is in my heart is not necessarily what is fact. I still believe that if any other country were to threaten the U.K., the U.S. would be by her side in a fraction of a second. We know that in fact that will never happen. The Falkland islands is a good example of that. Britain wanted our help and we couldn't decide who we should side with. But let's for a moment accept that Britain is not what she was and never will be again.

That brings me the second point - understanding. It is very hard for the Europeans and the Americans to see eye to eye. The two worlds are so different. I don't care how much mass media the U.S. has, it is still a very isolated country. To us Europe might as well be on another planet. Our own country is so massive that just handling our own problems is hard enough, who has time to worry all those tiny countries that we can't even pronounce let alone know where they are located on a map. Why the whole of Europe is not as big as the U.S.. The U.K. isn't as big as Texas or California and is closer in size to Arizona. Everything becomes distorted. We can not understand the proximity of the European countries and they can not understand the vastness of U.S.

Then take it a step further and limited to Great Britain. I have only visited the U.K. once and most of that time I was in London. There is an underlying feeling of tension in that city. Beauty in some places and death and war scars in others. Buildings being held up by scaffolds. Brand new apartments in one area, right next to some that are very old and almost falling apart. Asking what happened - you find out that a bomb hit this area and completely destroyed the old buildings and the apartments were built to replace them.

Bombs? Yes bombs, a word that doesn't mean much to an American. But it is quite different for the British. While I was in London, there was a bombing by the I.R.A. in Hyde Park, just down the street from where I was living. Some friends of mine were in the park at the time of the bombing. I was in class at the time. Next week, I went to my nearest tub station, only to find police and the whole area closed off, because of a bomb scare. The next week, I went to another of the parks and heard one of the bands playing. A lovely sight, if you don't mind having the band closed off by about 20 police officers and being searched before you are allowed near the band. Every public building of any importance, your handbags are searched as you walk through the door. Signs giving warnings on what to do if you see anything - a package, bag, a briefcase, a purse without an owner and which might be a bomb. London is a terrorist playground. Britain our closest allies. Hit Britain and you can hit the U.S. as well.

The U.S. has never really felt the threat of war on her own soil. So many of us still are like innocent children when it comes to war. Britain has felt war. She knows what it's like to have her cities bombed and her green fields burned. I will never forget when I was in Scotland, visiting a friend of mine and his family. There was a thunder storm outside. Everytime there was a big bang from the thunder, some of Malcolm's family would jump and one of the girls would suppress a scream. I thought it was all rather funny and said it's only thunder, what is scary about that? Then Malcolm's father turned to me and said, "It's only thunder to you, but you have never been in a air raid, as we have been."

Now we ask Britain if we can keep even bigger weapons on her soil. I for one believe that we would never do anything that hurt Britain. But may I remind you that it is Britain who has her neck on the line, not us. I can not blame Britain for keeping an eagle eye on us. Anything that we do, any new enemies that we make, become Britain's enemies as well. And who is the easy target? Who can be hurt without much effort? It's not the United States. Just because of our size, terrorists have a hard time hitting us in our home land. Britain can be hurt. But if there is ever to be another war with nukes then I fear all will loose and yes Glover, even your neutrals will suffer, for even innocents die in war. Let's try to understand each other, so that will not be!

## MARILLON REVIEW

album: A SCRIPT FOR A JESTER'S TEARS

A new album. Different cover- seeming innocent with an underlying evil. A Jester in a room with images of death or other strange things that you would not associate with a Jester. Well, let's turn it on and see what comes on.

The music seems familiar - Peter Hammill? No wait, the music twists, King Crimson in the early days? A twist again, The Straws?, no wait Genesis when Peter Gabriel was still with them? As I listen other groups start to filter through my head - ELP, Le Orme, Fruup, Fireballet, P.F.M. Something is here that I thought was dead and gone. For the first time in a long time I am excited by a new group. Yet, I try to rack my head, while I try to figure out just exactly why they sound like I've heard them before. They don't hold in my grip though.

The music in "A Script for a Jester's Tears", changes at the same speed as the lead vocalist's voice. The is a war song as well, called "forgotten Sons", it really moves you. Very much like U2's "War" album. But this group has a spark that even U2 lacks. I wish I could put my finger on it, but I can't.

I've heard that the critics are calling this group a Genesis clone. Well I'm a Genesis fan from the old days, and I do not see Marillon as sounding like what is now days thought of as Genesis. Yes there is a bit of the old Genesis there, but there is many other groups as well. Genesis just happens to be the one in the top twenty. Who hears of Peter Hammill or King Crimson or Straws now days? But still there is this element which is just Marillon.

I don't generally praise albums now days, but this one I do. I highly recommend that you go out there and get it. It might be hard to find and it won't be in the top twenty, but it will stir something in you. I thought I would never hear music like this again and yet Marillon has given me new hope.

"If it's advice you want, you've come to the right place...."

## FATHER KNOWS LESS

This is the 3rd issue of America's rapidly approaching, #1 subzine, FKL, put out by me, Cathy's everloving Dad, John Caruso I60-02 43rd Ave. Flushing, NY 11358, and for those with enough money to burn- 212 353-9695. For the foreigners, just write and put #I American citizen as you address.

Again this month I will attempt to type my own issue. You've heard the saying about leading a horse to water, I'm not comparing my daughter to a horse, but sometimes, she's as stubborn as a mule, just like her Mom. Why, she even threatened to cut me off at I page! Hear that guys? Gals? My Little Piggy? My daughter wants to cut me off after just I. We can't let this happen to me. Can we? Write in to her and voice your democratic disapproval. She loves to get mail anyway.

Did you know that Cathy says that Terry Tallman likes me now. That and a Commie will get me into Havana. Before you know it, all the West Coast weirdo types, like Peery will like me too! Gag me with the state of Oregon. Better than being gagged by the Thames, or kissed by a British lass!

Well, we finally got the Pershings and Cruise missiles where they belong - in the front yard. Now if only the trigger-happy Brits and Gerry's don't fire them too soon. And the nerve of the Russians. They want to disarm us while they continue to build up, and because we refuse to go along, they walk out of the arms discussions. Let's see them walk off the Earth next.

We had an interesting ByrneCon over Thanksgiving Day weekend, all the celebrities were there- Woody, Bob Olsen, Gary Coughlan, Bobby Sacks, Mike "Commie" Mills, Mike "Arabian trader" Mazzer, James Woodson, Ed Wrobel, Dick Martin, Bruce Linsey and all the rest of the regular crowd. We had 30 in all. The only Biggie to pass up this deal was John Michalski- he was too busy shooting pregnant rabbits. The highlights were when Woody dumped a pot of goober peas over Gary's head, Booby Sacks was caught cheating at Gunboat, and he was the GM, Bob Olsen got even with Gary and Strangled him, Kathy gave Mike Mazzer the Nixon Award, Mike Mills announced the success of the PDO auction- which raised \$300 in bids, Woody got caught cheating at Gming a game of Gunboat Dip, just like his Master, Bob Sacks, then Woody and Sacks put on a boxing exhibition right in my kitchen. Oh there were other high spots, like Olsen winning a game, Mazzer getting eliminated by Olsen, and all of us telling European jokes. The best was looking at all the pictures Gary took of Europe and guessing who the funny looking people are. Even Gary forgot who they were. It's no wonder, they all look the same - BORING!

Let's see! What else do we have? We have letters this month. Yep- you all out there finally wrote in to me for my advice. And modest person that I am, I will generously and graciously give my advise both freely and willingly. And for my little Tommie, and my StepSon to be, Eric, I can only offer this advice- Get it while the getting is good. First up, Joan Extrom, my Little one.....

Dear Cathy's Dad,

We've got to stop meeting like this. I think people are beginning to get suspicious. Love, you Little Piggy.

(( Who cares if they get suspicious or not. We can meet anywhere we want to. In Fact, I may even be able to get to LeperCon, if the airlines cooperate. The time of year is OK for the time off, but the cost is the problem, that is, of course, if you'd like me to come!))

(( From Mike Dean, one of those British types))((Note, this was sent to my Dutiful Daughter, and passed along to me, Thank you daughter!))

I could get myself into deep water if I wrote a long reply to John Caruso's "pseudo-subzine", but I'll just make a few statements instead: (( You are in trouble- what's the matter? Are you afraid to write to someone so knowledgeable about everything? CHICKEN! YELLOW BELLY PINKO!))

1- Isn't it interesting that he talks of Russian "paranoia" and then Americans invade Grenada because of their OWN paranoia! ((Ironic isn't it? Here is a guy who would have us fall into another Iranian-type situation, and bring it to the world court, for them to all sit on their butts while our citizens remain captives for 2 years, as in Iran. Lets face it, the Brits are the hypocritical lot. They voted against ALL invasions by force in the UN, yet vetoed their own condemnation of invasion by force in Falklands. I guess what's good for the Brits, is only good for the Brits.))

2- The Russian fighter planes flew past the cockpit of the plane several times and fired several warning shots before the fatal shot was fired. ((Yeah, and Germans laid ultimatum demands on the table before they invaded Poland in 1939! For your information, the recorded, translated message clearly states the fighter pilots position as 1,000 meters to the rear flank of the airliner. Do you know how far 1,000 meters is and where the rear flank is? And do you remember Poland.))

3- Is it not true that an American plane was pissing about in Russian airspace during that same period. (I believe this was admitted to about 5 days after the incident) I am not saying I think the Russians were right to shoot down the plane! (( Then what in God's name are you trying to say?))

4- I, of course, agree that the Russian's have little freedom of speech, but I would question the fact that the Western world has TOTAL freedom of speech. ((Not the whole Western world, just you and I, and all those nations who elect their officials in an election with more than one party running, or should I say, with different philosophies. I really shouldn't even make a statement like that, because I've never seen European freedom, but here, what I say is true. This zine and the material within is proof, I can say anything I like, even blast my own gov't if I choose, and I won't get dragged off to Anchorage, Alaska, or Minneapolis, Minn.))

5- Eastern Europeans/ Russians being in the postal hobby is irrelevant- more to the point is how many Spanish/ Portugese/Italian hobby members are there? Very few indeed! Nor do I hear of many Venezuelans/Brazilians- do you!! ((Ahh! But there is the key- FEW. The game of diplomany CAN be brought in these places. IT CANNOT be bought behind the so-called, IRON CURTAIN. By the way, the Argentines used to have hundreds of hobbyists, until you Brits invaded the Falklands and stole all their boards.

Maybe I was a bit rough on you, its nothing personal. In fact, I am just happy to have letters like yours to answer, content not important. But I do not understand you. Are you trying to condemn the USA for the Russians shooting down KAL007? That's what the Ruskies did. The truth is, if we, the USA, and they, the Russians, don't sit down soon and talk peace and living together, we are all in for a sudden stop. Canadian Premier Trudeau may be a hotdog, a playboy and everything else, but at least he has common sense and the leaders of all the nuclear powers should sit down and talk disarmament while we still can talk. Thanks for your letter Mike.))

# MORE FATHER KNOWS LESS



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ext E Wing 223

John Caruso  
160-20 43 Avenue  
Flushing  
New York 11358  
U.S.A.

Please reply to the Governor  
Your reference CR3  
Our reference AG/Homicide  
Date 3.12.83.

Dear Mr Caruso,

Recently one of the inmates of E wing showed me a games magazine purportedly run by your daughter Catherine. Therein I find that under the title 'Father Knows Less' your are actively supporting her in this idiotic venture. I earnestly hope and pray that your title was not too accurate else there is little hope for the future. I can only assume that you are ignorant of the fact that the recipients of the newsletter titled 'Cathy's Ramblings' are murderers, rapists, arsonists and other criminals whose like does not bear repeating.

Now it is one thing for experienced psychologists and Social Workers to try and contact these people to try and break through their anti-social behaviour patterns to turn them into functioning members of society on their release, but when an amateur starts to dabble the consequences are quite alarming.

For a start she is encouraging them to take part in a "game in which the sole object is to lie, deceive and cheat to gain control of the world. Such a scenario may seem a "game" to her but for these people such methods are already a way of life and the reason for them being imprisoned already.

There are further consequences from your daughters quite rash printing of her and other peoples addresses in newsletter. For example one of our inmates who is just coming to the end of his seven year sentence for causing Grievous Bodily Harm to an unfortunate person whose only offense was to not support him in another of these silly games. He goes under the alias of Peter Doubleday and at 6'4" and 224lbs of co-ordinated muscle, he usually gets his own way. This 'animal' has expressed a desire to go and work in the USA. Just suppose he decides to go to Seattle and 'visit' young Cathy? What chance would she have with such a monster????

Another inmate under the alias of Glover Rogerson (an artificial name if ever I heard one) has induced your wayward child to start a fan club for him. Fortunately this particular nasty will never see the light of day and it will suffice to say that hardened police officers openly wept in court when telling of their findings at the scene of the crime. I find it truly repugnant that such an individual should be the object of a young girls fantasies.

I can only see one solution to protect you and your family from the degradations these villains would cause if they ever contacted you after their release. You must persuade Catherine to produce one last issue and to publish a false COA and then move somewhere entirely different, preferably in a different country. Some of the resident herein have extensive fortunes with which to pursue the objects of their desires.

Act now before it is too late...

Arthur Golihgly (Chaplain)

((I'm not sure how to answer your. All I can say is that I will do whatever it takes to protect my daughter. Go back to jail. And Michalski says they have no minorities there? They are all minorities- Inferiors))

(( Next up, our resident, clear thinking, calm, quiet, rational, consevative, John Michalski))

Just finished reading your column in Modern Patriot- I mean Cathy's Ramblings. I would have worded it differently. I'd point out there are as many West Europeans as there are us (allowing 15 million for wetbacks, Indians, Haitians and Fags), so, if they don't like us lording over them, hell, let them organize their own superpower. All they have to do is raise and maintain a military machine, equip it well, stock and maintain a nuclear arsenal, and PAY to keep it all up, all the time. But as Shakepeare said, "Ah, there's the pisser". They don't do it because it's easier to sit home, suck wine, grow a beard, and let the Yanks do it. More fun to chide the Yanks than to get up and do it themselves. If they're overrun, I hope they hold their breath for me to enlist again, to go rescue 'em. I'll be there the year Berch prints an "I don't know about that".

So Ripping Farts is folding? Too bad, sounds like a zine Fluff would like. Or print. ((Or eat no doubt. Fluff has to be the grossed of the gross. Even Claudine says he's the pits. And Claudine likes everyone, even you. Yes I can see you'd have said it differently, and in fact, you have right here. You know, it's funny, in the good old days of 1933-1945, Europe was building its very own superpower, and helping to finance and arm it- GERMANY. But then the Germans went weak and gave it all up for our protection. Hell, the Germans were well equipped too. They had better aircraft, despite having less planes, they weren't afraid to launch missiles at other nations who dared to violate their neutrality, they were creating an incinerary holocaust-type weapon. They had all the virtues of modernday, nations. Their only problem is that they were 40 years ahead of time. They'd fit right in with today's world Hmmm. +he United States of Europe. Sounds catchy, don't you agree? Britain can be the Command Central for the Naval branch, France the air branch and Germany the land branch of the armed forces. Sure they have their own minorites- Wetbacks-Poles, Indians-Irish, Haitians-Spanish and Fags-Greeks. See you on the Range.))

(( Ah, but we saved the sweet, dutiful one for last. My daughter, Cathy, Now aren't you just thrilled that you asked me to do a column, a subzine in your zine?)) ((excerpts of 2 letters))  
Dear Dad,

My oh my has Father Knows Less caused some sparks. I knew that my dear British types would only take so much before they would fight back. ((But you said I had to have a European flavor to it)) I called Glover Rogerson last night and he told me that he's writing an article to counter what you have to say. The thing about Glover is he loves to argue such points and does a hell of a job proving his points with pure logic.



# THE GAME

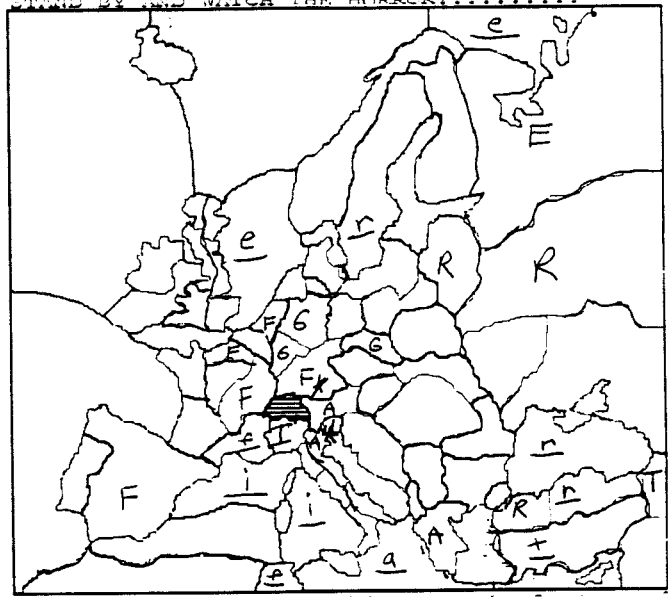
1981 HS International

"It's Not Dead Yet"

Fall 03

THE EAST VS THE WEST!! DISMAYED MIDDLE COUNTRIES STAND BY AND WATCH THE HORROR!!!!!!!!!!!!

- Austria-Davies: F Gre-Ion, A Ser-Gre, A Tri-Ven, A Tyr S A Tri-Ven
- France-Pearson: A Kie-Mun, A Bur S A Kie-Mun, A Bel-Hol, A Par-Pic, F Mar-H, A Spa S F Mar, F NAF-Tun
- Germany-Schroeder: A Den-Kiel, A Sil-WAR, A Mun S A Den-Kiel(Ret-Boh, Ber, OTH), A Ruh S A Den-Kiel
- England-Groome: F Bar S A StP, A StP-H, F Nth-Nwy
- Russia- Grabar: A Mos-War, A Lvn-War, F Swe-Nwy, A Bul-Con, F Blk-Sev, F Ank S A Bul-Con
- Turkey-Olsen: A Arm-Sev, F Con-Smy
- Italy- McDonald: NMR! F GoL-H, F Tys-H, A Pie-H A Ven-H (Ret-Rom, Apu, OTB)



\*\* Would Robert Acheson, C/O Echo Bay Miners, Lupin, Northwest Territories, XOE 1MO, Canada, Please Standby for Italy!!!!!!

### Winter 03 Supply Center Chart

- England- Home, Nwy, StP= 5- Build 2
- France- Home, Spa, Por, Mun, Hol, Tun, Bel, = 9 Build 2
- Germany- Kiel, Ber, Den= 3 - Remove 1
- Italy- Rome, Nap= 2 - Remove 2
- Austria- Home, Ser, Gre, Ven= 6 - Build 2
- Russia- Mos, War, Ser, Swe, Rum, Bul, Ank, Con=8 Build 2
- Turkey- Smy= 1 - Remove 1

Winter Removals/Builds and Spring 04 Moves Due February 10, 1984!!! Send Orders to Terry Tallman's Address see back page for address!!!

### Press:

- Bob-Cathy- Jim-Bob doesn't count as "anybody else". Jim-Boob counts as...well, come to think of it, Jim-Boob doesn't count at all.
- Al-Bob- I thought I wrote some press last time. Maybe the rains in seattle washed the ink off the letter. :(Nope, sorry Al not press last time-GM)
- Al-Bob- "Let's concede to Pearson and Al the Stamps, ok." "Al the stamps?" What's this, some kind of new nickname? ((Ok! It's my fault! It should have been, "save Al the stamps))
- Tur-Italy- I hate shark meat. Toad meet on the other hand...succulent.
- Germany -France- I'll forgive you if you are good on your promise to roll to pasta machine.
- Moscow- I wish to let Austria know that an alliance of necessity is necessary. Your centers are safe. We need coordination.

Don't forget the deadline! Feb 10, 1984! I'll send Robert your addresses and I hope to see Pete back!!!! Till next time it's time for Elf Eric!!!!!!

## THE ELF SPEAKS



And now Cathy says, "Type, Eric, type!" So now I'm typing, I'm typing already. In fact, Cathy-Sweet has handcuffed me to this typer, threatening to have me thrown in a trunk and dumped in the desert...hey, have any of you ever try making love to a cactus before? I assure you it is not much fun.....

Here I am, typing at you from Phoenix, New Year's Eve. Let's talk about the weather. It's 70 degrees here and zero back home, Rrrrrrusnak eat your heart out. I saw my very first palm tree when Cathy picked me up from the airport Thursday night (many hundreds line the streets) and I saw my very first 10' tall cactus. Will wonders never cease? These events are very similar to when I encountered my first slug in Seattle- new experiences in my short little life.

710 Las Palmaritas is a home designed in a classic style of architecture, walls of rough-hewn brick and stone, singlestory and rambling- very Spanish. The front hall's high ceiling reminds me of a castle. Phoenix itself and the surrounding communities are sprawling, spreading out into the desert. Most of the buildings and homes are brick & stone, Spanish architecture. A few 30 story skyscrapers litter the downtown area. The land is pancake flat in what is called "The Valley" and gradually gives way to jagged, rocky foothills. The cities differ only by name. I cannot tell the difference between Phoenix and Scottsdale, Scottsdale and Mesa. If it weren't for signs you would not know what town you were in. It is the epitome of flatlands, my Mad-Lads. Phoenix does not belong where it is. Surrounded by the rugged, mountainous desert it would dry up and blow away without the life giving force of water.

The desert is eerily beautiful. Cathy and I drove to Tonto National "Forest". No trees, but rocks, bramble, sagebrush, shale. We walked along a gully, runoff from the mountains- a trickle of cold, clear water. The walking was fairly easy, except when we had to detour around a big ugly thorny thicket which decided to plant

(( Continued on the bottom of page 8 ))



# RAMBLING LETTERS

(( I will start this by saying that there is a good chance that you will find more letters somewhere else. This has been a confusing issue. The Elf wanted more room. Talked to John on New Years and he informed me that he wrote 5 pages of Father Knows Less, that should reduce down to 2½ pages. I only have room for one page. Which means you'll get a 37¢ stamp and I'll cry in my sleep. And yes this is late. Not all my fault. I'm being easy because of the holidays, but next time my subzines must make the deadline. The same goes to the players. But enough, you wanted letters didn't you...?))

MARK LEW:

I don't want the 2 hobbies to mix either. Oop, Don't tell Gary! (( Don't worry Gary didn't hear a thing. Mind you I can't control what he reads.))

ERIC OZOG:

I think you and Gary created a monster by telling everyone how great the British hobby is. I predict the wave of the future will be all these Americans following the trend and getting in the British hobby because it's the "in" thing to do. The mystique will be gone, feuding will be imported over-seas, the pristine beauty ruined. I see more Americans going over there than Brits coming here.

STEVE KNIGHT:

I also don't think you have much to worry about as far as the hobbies mixing is concerned. Sure, there are always going to be Anglophiles like you and me, and there are going to be people like Mike Dean who, for some unfathomable reason, actually want to fraternize with Americans - but that's a far sight from draining the Atlantic Ocean and building highways... (( But why not? I tend to agree with Steve in this issue. But at the same time I agree with Eric, in the fact, that there are more Americans going over to Britian than Brits coming over here. Except for my brother in spirit Mike Dean. But I'll let him talk for himself.))

MIKE DEAN:

One thing that I must object to is the letter by Don that you printed. It gives the impression I don't want Americans in PSYCHO This is utterly false - I want as many Americans as I can Possibly get!! (After all, they keep the money rolling in!!) (( Ah, and so the real reason comes out and I thought you just liked "us" and now I find you just like our money. Oh Mike where did you go wrong?))

Mike DEAN:

CR will obviously be taken over by the British-, it <sup>has</sup> too much style to be an AMERICAN magazine. CR is the most British looking American magazine I have ever seen!

MARK LEW:

Your zeeen looks like a British zene to me except you use normal size paper, but I'm confused all the same. Just don't start a game of En Garde. (( Don't worry I won't, stupid I'm not. Ok guys, so I'm a BritAm zine! I'm guilty! I wish you could see one of Mark's letters. Oh does anyone know any good secrets about Mr. Ig? See Mark told me this perverse habit that he has and claims I can't tell you lot unless I can find a better secret about him! So if you want all the inside info, someone must find a secret about Mark!))

CARL RUSSELL:

Sorry to see that Tallman has left your zine. His artwork was first-rate. Anyone who's feuding with the Mad city mob can't be all bad. ((Yes, they can! Did I mention that he's feuding with the New Yorkers too. Yes, Carl that means you too! Look I've still got him and he's hard enough to control, I don't need you helping him! Now about the Mad-lads...))

ERIC OZOG:

Cathy, the group in Madison/Chicago should be referred to as our official title of "Mid-West Mob" or MWM - not the Mid West Clique. Mid West Clique sounds too snooty, like those ---people - out East. We don't want to be associated with the ECC and want our own identity. Can this be arranged/announced in CR? (( Oh I've done it now. What will Eric say to the ECC? It's the MWM get it kids? good...Take it away Eric!))

#####  
(MORE OF THAT "ELF SPEAKS")

itself right in our path. The vegetation is quite green this time of year, in a harsh sort of way- but even among the bushes there was room for some grass and clover, right Cathy-Sweet? Nice sunsets in this part of the country- deep oranges and reds. And a shopping mall with an ice-skating rink. And Flying Buffalo, with a group of zit-faced teens playing D&D to the Star Wars movie soundtrack in the back room. Cathy's folks are nice and I think I made a good impression. They didn't throw me out and kept me well fed. Even Cathy's "Red-Neck" brother lent me one of his sweaters so I guess he can't think me all bad. Lot's of old cars around here in great shape. There's no snow & salt to rot the guts out. Mrs. C's '72 Thunderbird is in mint condition, a first class car. Chances are it wouldn't last very long back home. Well, soon it will be time for me to head back to the Windy City, back to the "North Pole", as Osuch calls it. My plane leaves around 3 am this morning and I change planes in Dallas. I'll have an extra day at home to recover from the witch who wouldn't let me sleep. Actually I can't complain.....

Well, until my next unburnout phase it's Elferic Orczog signing off.

## ZINE REVIEWS

Well I said I would do this didn't I? I thought it would be easy. I would just review the zines that happened to make it my door in Phoenix. This was all of three to start and then I got a couple of packages from Seattle, and guess what they were full of? Zines! Mega zines! Well I couldn't do the whole thing so I'll just randomly reach my hand in and see what comes up. Lets start with the Europeans first.

### EUROPEAN ZINES (well mainly British)

LOKASENNA Brian Dolton 6B, Elliston Road, Redland, Bristol, BS6 6QE England

Yeah, well I could say that it is good. I could say that it's people like Dolton who really make me sick. I could say that it's zines like Lokasenna that make me see how sad the American hobby is next to the British hobby. But I promised the Beast that I wouldn't say anything good about Lok, but the problem is that I can't think of anything bad to say about it. Oh yeah, it's late sometimes, but when you get it and start to read it you forget all about those problems.

What's in it you ask? Well let's look at the last issue. 60 pages in digest form. And Brian keeps claiming that he's going to get smaller, and I'll believe that when I see it. There's 13 odd pages of games and 7 pages of a letter column and the rest is Brian and other writers doing articles, reviews and who knows what else. And it's good if you don't mind a left point of view and a few "fucks" here and there. Hell, I love it, and sometimes, every now and then the Beast has these flashes of Brilliance that make me question if I'm worshipping the right idol. But then I saw his picture and I knew I was mistaken. Anyways, send a couple of international reply coupons and don't tell him who sent you!

MASTERS OF THE PRIME Bryan Betts 4A, Whitefield Flats, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL England

MOPS is up to issue #10 and Bryan is right in the middle of University life and he fears that might effect the zine, but that is nothing new. It's hard to describe this zine. It's got all the right elements to make it a top zine. I remember the first time I was reading Mops, I keep thinking, "My ghod, but Bryan sounds just like me!" And so I think that covers it pretty well. Bryan has his moments and there's alot to read. One important point is that there's an En Garde! game and Judge Dredd game in this one. The subs are at 50p per issue for Americans. Just enough to cover postage. I'm not sure how turnabout is to play games, but I'm sure Bryan will do his best. Besides he's got good musical tastes and likes Theatre! What else do you want?

NMR! Brain Creese, 256 Canbury Park Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT2 6LG England

There's always a reason why you get a zine. Sometimes it's for the writing, sometimes it's because you are playing in it and sometimes because you can find out everything that's going on from that zine. I get NMR! because it covers all the hobby news. It is more a main line zine if I can say that about it. It has excellent turnaround. I've subbed to it for over a year now and I think I had all of two missed issues and those were the post offices fault, but Brian sent me an extra copy anyway. By the way this is a co-editorial zine. Ken Bain does the game bits and there are other guest GM's as well. Last issue poor little Brian made the mistake of talking about FRP and was quickly put in his place by the dreaded trio of Rogerson/Dolton/Tamlyn. Well I liked his article, but then it's been so long since I've played FRUP FTF whine, cry and whine. Hey, wait this is a review of NMR! Well Tallman likes it! Which says quite abit since he doesn't like the British normally. It's only 80p and it's a good place to start if you want something more middle of the road and lacking alot of the inside jokes that might confuse you in the other zines.

MACH DIE SPUHL! Luc Dodinval, Parc de Mehagne, Au Passou 18, B-4600 Chénée, Belgium

I hope that address is right. There are times when I wish I could read something besides English and those times are when I get Mach Die Spuhl! The last issue had pictures of Gary and Woody and Woody looked sick the whole time! Now if I could only read what was said about them. There is a small part in English and a few of the games are in English. I'm playing there and that's why I know see. They have had some mail problems in Belgium and the staff of MDS has changed from what I can tell. If you want to see a sample, just send an international reply coupon to Luc and I'm sure he'll get you the right person. This ones in French,(it is in French isn't it? I'm so ignorant about such things) and it's good if you want some practice.

### NORTH AMERICAN ZINES

C.F. MACHIAVELLI William C.S. Lowe, P.O. Box 460. Trail, B.C., VIR 4L7, Canada

This is a new zine which is mainly dedicated to the playing of Machiavelli and there is one "token" diplomacy game. Samples are 37¢ for Americans. This hasn't gotten together yet, but he's got plans for Traveller, Cosmic Dip, Cosmic Machiavelli and Nuclear Monopoly! And from what Tallman says about MR. Alphabet this could turn out to be quite something else. He needs subbers and players and even deadwood! Yes even my sub list can sub to C.F. Machiavelli. So send away for your copy today or tomorrow or well you get my meaning.

#####

By the way that was a line separator and this is a space filler. I'll continue this on the next page. Or maybe the next or maybe in the next zine. Playing Renaissance at the moment. From the "turn of the Cards" album. don't know what else to fill this page with, so I'll end it here and move onto a new page.



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or

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TO:

FIRST CLASS

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92024

Have a happy and wonderful New Year and may we make all the deadlines in life!

(T)

This has been Cathy's Ramblings #4, put out by the late but cute editor - Cathy Cunning

You can get me at ~~1603 NE 50th St., Seattle, WA 98105 USA~~ or even better at -  
C/O Terry Tallman, 820 W. Armour ST., Seattle, WA 98118 USA I'm moving Kids

DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 10, 1984!!!!!!!!!! Get your orders in today!!

Regular Dip, "Wetlands" : Brian Edwards pd, Jerry Lucas pd, Ken Corbin pd, Robert Acheson,  
Still three needed!! Come on kids, it's not that bad!!!!!! \$2.00 game fee.

Gunboat dip, "Deadwood": 5 signed up and 2 needed!!! No game fee! Just goes to show what  
a lazy group you are. This game will allow press.

International Dip, "Anarcry": Dave Rogerson, Robert Acheson, James Allen?, 5 or 4 needed.  
\$2.00 game fee here too! Don't miss your chance to play with funny talking  
people!!

Sopwith, "nuké planes": Irwin Schoeder, Mike Dean, Martin Le Ferve, James Allen, only 2 needed!  
I guess, I had better put out the rules next time, eh? there's a \$2.00 game fee.

Kingmaker: Alex is running these outside of CR. There were two of your who were interested, but  
now I'll have to go back though all the letters and find you. You will be taking a  
stand-by position. There will be no new games started here.

I'm still seriously thinking of running a FRP game. I know that excites all of you and so you  
had better let me know quick if you want to play!! Spaces will be limited.

Stand-by list: Bob Olsen, Russel, Steve Arwoodian, John Davies, Chuch Doehrer, Jerry Lucas,  
Roy Henricks, Robert Acheson, Derwood Bowen, Jim Burgess, Irwin schroeder, Dan Palter

Subs are 10 for \$6.00 for North America and British is \$1.00 an issue or 65p an issue

Note of interest to:

ok - so we trade - but I don't know  
why I'm doing this! maybe I was awed that  
you would even write me!

ats