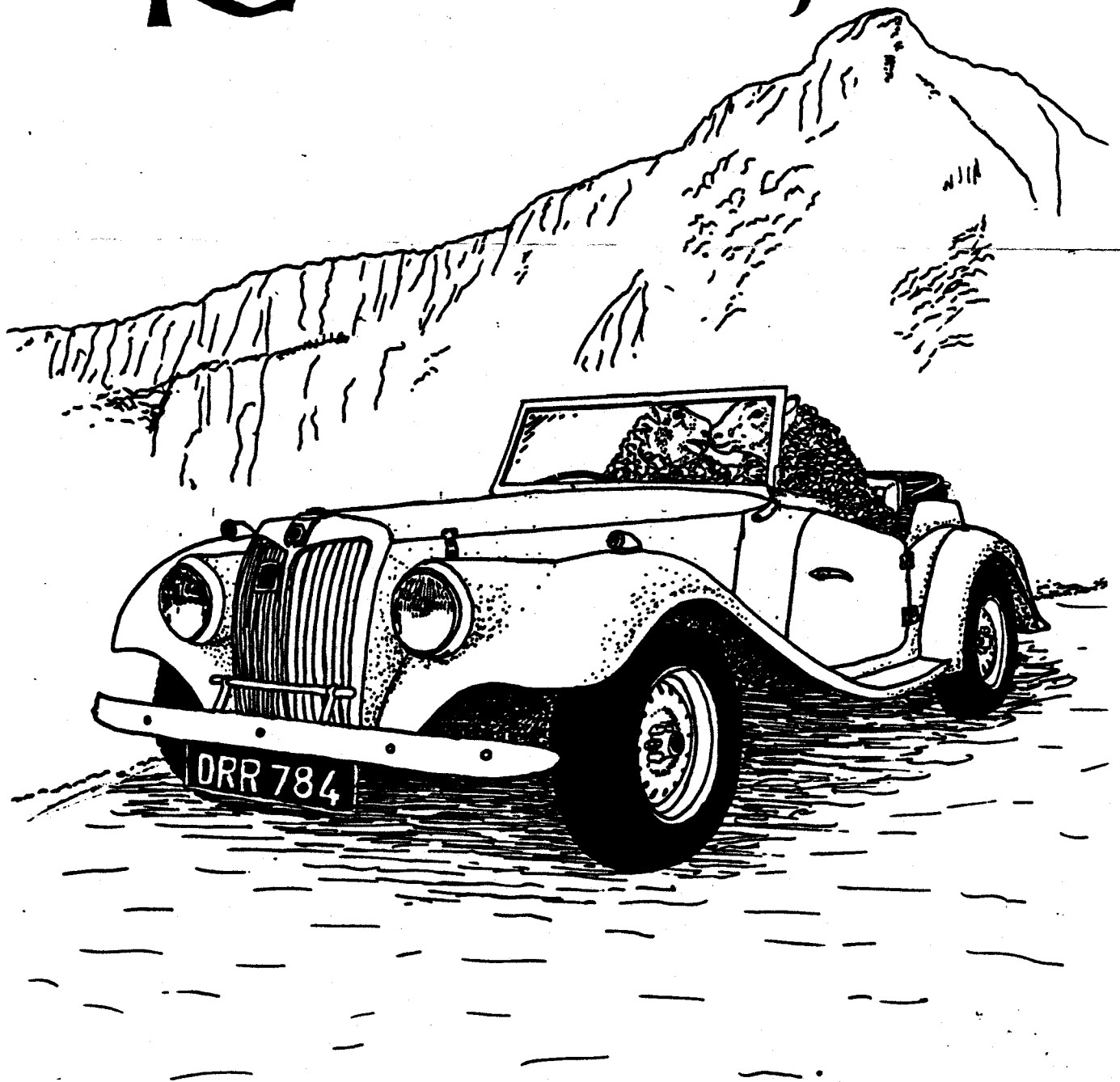




# GATHYS RACCOBLINGS



# Cathy's Ramblings 9

THIS IS CATHY'S RAMBLINGS #9.....

BY CATHY CUNNING  
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Ok, so I'm late again. It is a style that I'm growing use to. Still, I'm not very late. What's a week or so. Lots of things to type about. I was going to comment about the mess downstairs. Imagine two Dip, no games player in one place. We have this rather large table and still we manage to take up the whole space. Mind you, I am abit neater then Eric, when the mood hits me, every few weeks or so. I'm not in the basement now. You see, I have this rather nasty cold and there's something in the air downstairs that is killing me, slowly but surely. I sat down there last night and coughed all night and couldn't figure out what was wrong. Well, tonight I figured it out! It's called dust!!!! Listen, they don't call me Cunning for nothing. And tonight it's raining at last! And god only knows we needed it. I never understood what they meant by air pollution warnings until this week. Walking to and from work in that air, nearly did me in. Ah, but it's raining now. A bit of Seattle just for me. Eric is coming home in 2 days and then I can whine to him instead of you. Not that it does any good, but that's the price he gets to pay. Him running about Illinois on his bycycle ( I have this strange feeling that I misspelled that, but why change my style now and start to spell correctly?) Leaving me here with a cold and a zine to type up.

## GENERAL EVENTS OF THE WORLD AND STUFF LIKE THAT.....

Election time and it's Mondale verses Reagan. Why do I feel sorry for the American People? Ok, so we have the first female VP. That wasn't a surprize. I was only wondering why she wasn't a black, Jewish, female from the South, but raised in California. Still even good 'ld Wally can't fill every gap. And then Burt Lance for the Chairman of the Democratic party?!? I almost died laughing. Not that Reagan hasn't been pulling his own stunts, but when you match one side against the other, I wonder why I should even bother voting.

Then there is the Olympics. I did watch some of it. Still, it's not the same. I mean every event the U.S. seemed to win or at least place. I think the T.V. here did a lot of influence on what was shown. I wondered how it was presented from other countries. Yes, that means Britain too. Still it was good to see. If nothing else, it makes you want to go out there and start exersizing. Well, at least try to spend some time a few days a week doing something. Or if that is too much, then on the weekends when you have nothing else to do. or well, I thought I might at least try to swim again sometime and see if I can still do a back dive.

## GENERAL EVENTS OF THE DAY TO DAY LIFE OF ME, MYSELF AND I.....

Things here have actually been quite busy. This big news is that my brother is getting married in August. Well, August 25 to be exact and I'm going back to Phoenix for the wedding. No, don't worry, I'm not driving. I'm not foolish enough to pull that again. It was hard enough getting a day off work. There's only a 50% chance that I'll make Witcha for the same reason. Eric's work gives him all these wierd days off. While the rest of us get 3 day holidays, Eric gets 4. It really makes me sick. Let me tell you.

We went camping in Northwestern Illinois. Eric swore to me that there was places in Illinois that were quite nice. That even looked quite a bit like England. Well, I had to agree with him. It is quite pretty there. The famous green and rolling hills. One farm after another. Even saw a pig farm and it reminded us of Joan Extrom. Look it, I'm not sure if I'm weird or what, but I have never seen such campers as I did in Illinois. Imagine, if you will, it is night. You are away from the noise of world and city. The stars are shining and it's a beautiful night. Then you must use the rest room before you go off to sleep. As you leave your protected area of trees and quiet, you enter into a whole new world. There are screaming kids every where. And these strange RV's park side by side everywhere you look. Each one with it's own TV and blaring radio and screaming kids. But the strangest sight of all are these muilti, colored lanterns that are every where. These little Chinese type lights that surround the outside rims of each of these RVs It was quite a sight.

There was saddness of our trip as well. We spent the second night at a place called Apple River Canyon. A very lovely place. Eric, wanted to go on all these hiking trails and so I whined just a bit and came along with him. On one of the trails, we heard a man calling some names very loudly. Something like "Jimmy, come on, come on." There was a weak reply and then the man yelling again. It was silent for awhile and then we heard this panic filled voice screaming, "JIMMY, JIMMY!!" It sounded like it came from the other side of the river. Then there was silence. There was nothing we could do but wonder what had happened. Then there was some other trails that Eric wanted to go on and we walked over towards where those trails were. It was just then that the emergency vehicles pulled up and we saw a man yelling "Up here." Shortly afterwards, two fire department vehicles pulled up as well. We then knew what had happened to the voices we had heard. There's a strange feeling to hear something like that happen and yet not be able to act to stop it. It seems that the boy fell off the cliff and was hurt pretty bad. They had to call in a helicopter to take him away. We didn't stay to see the end. I could have killed all the people who came out of no where to see what had happened. We stayed quite a ways back, but some of these other people... holding holding their childern up for a better view. "I don't know dear, I couldn't see any blood could you?" "Nope, looks like the boy, still has all his limbs." "Oh, too bad." It had s strange effect on us. Even Eric decided he didn't want to go hiking any more that day. Funny, how sometimes you can be safer in the South side of Chicago, then you are in the state parks.

# More Ramblings

## GENERAL EVENTS OF THE DAY TO DAY LIFE OF ME, MYSELF AND I.....

Then the next day we went off to see the mississippi river. Atlast I get to see it. Quite a sight really, especially for one who believes that anything to the east of the Mississippi is "back east". we had lunch at the park there. Quite a nice one too. Got to stay right next to a gang of those leather clad motercycle types. You know the type. Still they did have wonderful corn on the cob. The trip back home was sad in a way too. There was another car accident. Looked like a motercycle got hit. Strange how things like that comes in bunches.

There also was my brother's wedding in Phoenix last weekend. Another in the continuing series of "Why Cathy is late this month..." It was a wonderful wedding. Eric got along with my folks just fine. Are you reading this Tallman. Yes, Eric passed all the tests! Also he spent all his time in the swimming pool. Me? I spent most of my time trying to find shoes to go along with my dress. Not an easy task either. You try to find bone coloured shoes in late August! By the way, I caught the flowers and afterwards my Dad said, "oh, Shit, Does that mean I have to do this all over again." You see my parents put on the wedding. Anyways I thought is was funny and who knows what may happen in the future.

## GENERAL EVENTS OF THE HOBBY, BOTH HERE AND THERE AND OTHER STUFF.....

Well, lets start with the there first. There being England. The big news is that Mike Dean will no longer be the editor of Psychopath. I expect that school became too much ~~for~~ him. I was afraid that it would happen, but Mike isn't the sort who would leave his readers high and dry. Now the whole zine is being handed over to the ~~insane, crazy~~, capable hands of Wallace Nicoll with Help from Doug Rowling. It will become Psycho II. By the way, you might have noticed the name of Wallace Nicoll be fore. Atleast I hope it was Wallace and not Doug, but the address is right anyways. They are, I mean he is, the British half of the International Subscription exchange servi ce which if already off and running. Steve Knight is the American half. Anyways, look for good art and design, Doug did the cover for CR this month, and all the chat and games Pyscho had before. Get it at.....

Wallace Nicoll, 228 Kinnell Ave., Cardonald, Glasgow, G52 3RU Scotland

And as long as we're talking about zines that have gone away, Panzerkreuser, by Mike Sharpe has gone away too. It may be old news to many, but it still seems recent to me. I rather liked the letter column. One of the few zines I would read from front to back. Made me laugh at some of the silly things people said, but still a good read. I'm sorry that it's gone.

Speaking of gone, where is Kim Dent of Denver Glont? Will he ever return? Will I be lucky enough to drop two games from my game load that easily? Will Glover be forced to take over? And then what will happen to Denver Glont? Will it become just plain Glont? These questions and many more will be answered next time in.... Oh, I can't do it any more. Too much like Pete Tamlyn and I can't have him start saying that I'm stealing his style.

On the Con scene, that is quite active. Recently there was Rusnak con at russ Rusnak's house. Now Who all was there. Let's see there was Russ, Eric, Andy, Conrad, Paul, Marc and Debbie Peters and a friend of thiers. I can't remember her name at the moment. Mark Frueh, and Mark Luedi. I seemed to have spent quite abit of time with Mark Frueh and Mark Luedi. Luedi talking about life and Frueh telling me how we could still be allies. Then there was Tit an too. Oh dear, I forgot Bill Becker. How could I forget bill Becker? Well, those old folk you know, hard to remember them. Some events? How about being forced to ally with Rusnak and he never told me a lie! Speaking of never telling a lie, Mark the Puppy never lied to me either, but then we never did play dip together. There was the pool raiding party. Russ asking me to go skinny dipping with everyone and telling me I have nothing to me ashamed of because I have a great looking body. And me getting all red and trying to hide while Luedi, the Puppy and K-Bill all laugh at me. The food was great and there was lots to drink. Had to be for a Midwest Mob gathering. There was friends and games and all in all I'd say that Russ puts out a very nice spread. Um, I just realized what that might sound like, but I'll let you guess and try to figure it out. This Weekend is Pudge Con and for the first time I'll meet Bob Olson. That will be worth the trip. It looks like we'll be going with Dan Stafford and Derwood Bowen. With any luck, some of you will be getting this at Pudge Con and if not then I'll have to smooth your fears that I will fold. Nope, not that just a little late, well more then a little, but never fold. I'm trying to beat Roy Henrick and Dan Scott Palter on turn around time. Anyways, Pudge should be a great time and I hope to see some of you there.

The last thing is the American hobby in general. There are problems again. I just want it to be know to everyone, that CR is neurtal in this issue. I don't want the matter brought into my zine. As for Cathy the Person, I am very close to Terry Tallman and some of what was mentioned was told to him by me and I am friends with John Caruso and that is all that needs to be said. I treat other people as they treat me. Personally, I think it's sad when personal affairs get mixed up with the hobby. This is a hobby and we're in this to have fun! If you can't find any joy in it any longer, then why stay in it? But I don't want to go into this issue any farther then that.

Well, Now that I have a few lines to fill what shall I fill it with? How about saying that the Letter column will be on the next page. Did it work?

# The Letters

EDITORS NOTE: I just wanted to mention that this will be the last issue that will have any massive amounts of political letters. One or two may slip through in the future, but I feel that the subject has been covered and more would just repeat and repeat. But for now.....

TERRY SUITOR: First off Rod Walker's letter was mostly accurate, but he did make a major mistake. The West German Army is probably the strongest army in all of NATO, and is probably incapable in increasing any more. In fact it will be short 125,000 men within a decade. One thing most 'NATO bashers' on this side of the ocean forget, is that the U.S. has lived on European capital, during the first few years after Vietnam. For example, during the '70's the U.S. deployed only three weapon systems to Europe, all based upon the same weapon, the T.O.W., while the U.S.S.R. deployed nineteen. Another example is during the Iranian hostage crisis, a Pentagon official made a trip to the carriers in the Arabian Sea and did an inspection of the weapons aboard her. He found out that the newest was a Shrike antiradation bomb made in 1966. Luckily, the U.S. has rearmed, and will hopefully continue, now the Europeans must continue adding newer and better weapons systems.

Finally I can't help but reply to John Norris. His first idea, that Europe is better at diplomacy than the U.S. is, is probably right. However, I would like to remind him that the Europeans all signed and ratified the Treaty of Versailles while the U.S. Senate never did, so I guess both sides have made their mistakes. His second idea, about nuclear war is somewhat more debatable. First off, I should say I am a somewhat believer in MAD. After all, not all nuclear weapons are equal, a conflict at sea using nuclear torpedoes and depth charges might be controllable, compared to a full scale SS-20 strike. My complaint is that neither side is going to use nuclear missiles and artillery until it has been defeated on the battlefield, so it is quite likely that there will be heavy casualties, Europe might survive intact, and if not at least the other continents are bound to survive more or less intact. Finally I have to disagree with his idea of our patriotism being 'knee jerk'. The U.S. has had a different experience gaining its freedom than any of the Europeans, and for two world wars it was the one who pulled Europe's chestnuts out of the fire. Not only that, the the American spirit has been can-do, not sit down and let the government do it as most Europeans seem to do recently. Maybe that Doesn't explain it all, but I would rather take the U.S. spirit over the European model any day, as I believe many of the Europeans would.

Finally I guess I should add a few ideas of my own. First off, why does everybody expect a nuclear freeze to reduce tensions between the superpowers. Even if all nuclear weapons were destroyed, the U.S.S.R. would have enough military force to grab W. Germany for example. I suggest that if we wanted to reduce tensions in Europe both sides should reduce the amount of bridging and pipeline material (the U.S.S.R. has 24,000 meters of Bridging material). That plus a treaty preventing each side from attacking each others bridges would obviously make it harder for each side to attack the other. Of course it isn't as glamorous as nukes, but it would be much more effective. Also why does everybody want only a nuclear freeze. For the last decade plus, the main U.S. advantage has been with accuracy, while the Russians had bigger and better missiles. A nuclear freeze would give the Russians a permanent lead in numbers and size, but wouldn't protect our lead in accuracy. This might not seem important in a world ruled by MAD, but remember there has never been any indication that the Russian political and military leadership believes in such. I don't know, but maybe some of your European readers can answer the questions above. (( Sure I'll try. Funny that I should balance this with Sir Dolton, but that's my job.))

BRIAN DOLTON: Others are at least prepared to discuss things so I ought to give them more time and courtesy. Rod Walker, for instance, can at least provide some reasonable arguments. The trouble is, I don't agree with the premises upon which he argues. For instance his comments about the USA "pulling the West's chestnut's out of the fire" are a little audacious. World War I would almost certainly have lasted somewhat longer without U.S. intervention but I don't think that said intervention was still necessary. An in WW2, the UK was hardly snatched from the jaws of defeat: having failed to mount a successful invasion in 1940, Germany was never going to get another chance; and time favoured the UK and not Nazi Germany. Almost certainly, the USA's arrival on the scene in the form of material help as well as men was very helpful, but probably less helpful than someone assassination Hitler and the high-ranking officials of the SS would have been. War is a very inefficient way of going about things, and has been for thousands of years. The trouble is that people are slow to learn and these days the people responsible for going to war aren't the ones who pay the price. Wouldn't Reagan and Chernenko be a bit more willing to talk if they had to lead their forces to war?

An interesting note to observe is that in WW2, Russia was 'our' ally and Germany our enemy. Now Rod wants Germany to be a major power and join against the USSR. Funny how parter-swapping goes..

On to Jim Burgess: some interesting comments and observation. Odd that he would agree with Rod Walker, because I would agree with a lot of what Jim says and not much of what Rod says. One point I'd take up is the one about "neutrality being an absolute or extreme policy? Doesn't seem to make sense to me. Nice to see someone realising how the American people see the outside world is as much down to 'official' propaganda as how the average Soviet citizen sees things.

John Norris: I mostly agree with, and since (as you, Cathy, point out) he writes far more lucidly and logically than I, perhaps I should shut up...

((Oh, never let me do that. In regard to WW2 and Russia, remember that Russia was under the Realm of Nicholas II at the time of the start of that war. It was the war against Germany that drained and hurt Russia to the point of Revolution. There were other factors as well, but war was one of them. Yes, American's wear fog coloured eyes, but so do everyone, even the British. It is only when we can say, "I see that this way and he sees it that way, but it's still the same." That we can start to talk to each other.))

# More Letters

**ROBERT ACHESON:** Issue No. 8 had some interesting comments in regard to the American presence in Europe. Even if the Americans ~~XXXXXX~~ and their Pershings pull out of Europe. I don't believe that this would completely satisfy the Russians. Whenever the arms limitation negotiations are discussed the U.S.S.R. wants both English and French nuclear armaments included. An American pullout would only solve part of the overall problem.

Withstanding that, if the majority of Europeans want a nuclear free Europe. They should elect governments that would ensure that, instead of griping about the Americans.

John Norris, speaks of the European experience in warfare and the European view. History relates that it was European passiveness that led to almost unwinnable position of World War II. Was Chamberlain negotiation of a minority or did his judgements reflect the general European viewpoint? I hope that we're not seeing another historical cycle here.

In regard to knee-jerk patriotism. I don't believe this is limited to the U.S. The little skirmish that England had with Argentina over the Falklands seemed to be pretty absurd. Yet there was a lot of flag waving across the ocean when the Island was retaken.

I too, would like to see a nuclear free world (not just Europe), but given man's baser ideals it's not realistic. American foreign policy has many faults but I believe that the 'free' world should be thankful that she's there.

(( I just thought it would be interesting to note that Robert is an Canadian. Not just another American. Well, it's time for this kid to go to bed. See you all tomorrow.))

**ROD WALKER:** WHILE I agree with a lot that John Norris had to say, I find it a wee bit presumptuous for him to lecture all and sundry about the supposed political sophistication of Europeans, as opposed to Americans, by alleged virtue of their long, long history of making ghastly miscalculations on the international scene. How quickly we forget that we Americans are Europeans too, and we have the same long-term background as to they-all who stayed behind in the Old Country. If we are to believe that somehow the Europeans are less naive than we are, we must first explain away Munich Agreement of 1938...which represents an act of the grossest naiveté, combined with the most cynical act of betrayal since Lloyd George hoodwinked poor old Woody Wilson at Versailles. It is possible that the Europeans have learned a lot more in the intervening 46 years than we have, but I am inclined to doubt it. Some very sophisticated Americans, such as Bill Buckley, would surely say it is even now the Europeans who are being naive. I do not mean to endorse Buckley generally, but one must recognize that there is no conclusive argument on either side. And this whole business about who's naive and who isn't smacks of (as they say in San Francisco) the fondue pot calling the crepe pan beige.

**SIMON BILLENNESS:** Jim Burgess is a fine man. "There is not 'right' way to live, but accepting that is very difficult." Nicely put, Jim! One of my weaknesses is my tendency to think that my (for 'my' read 'British') politics/lifestyle/music is superior to everyone else's (for 'everyone' else's read particularly American). Sometimes this bigotry is unconscious and Barbara has to point it out to me. Now that I've actually spent time in America and been able to talk to many Americans, I can begin to accept many of their views (yes, even Brux's support for Reagan) even though I don't agree with them. I don't really think my socio-political views have altered by being here, although my dislike of rampant consumerism has intensified. I'm still as left-wing as ever by American standards, though, by British standards, I'm sure I'll still be regarded as a soggy centrist.

(( You're right about Jim, that's the problem we just must accept each other's point of view. Oh, I should mention that Simon puts out a chat zine called Inflammatory Material. I wanted to give it a full review, but space is short. Simon would like to have American subscribers. He would like music fans too. I'd like to attract some American music fans, though I'm not worried about what particular kind of music they prefer. Last issue was 37 pages long and all chat! Simon is open to anything and has connections in all the fandoms. Cost would be 60p for surface or 1.20 for airmail. Remember you can write to Wallace Nicoll and send him U.S. dollars and say, "I want Flame!" Or write to Simon at : 20 Winifred Road, Coulsdon, Surrey, CR3 3JA England.))

**DOUG ROWLING:** One question are you an Engineer or is the grammatical form which you sometimes resort to in CR and letters a version of trans atlantic English to which I am hitherto unaccustomed. ((Oh, I had to put that in. I wish I could say, yes, 'I'm an engineer and thus, I write in short broken sentences. However that is not the case. I don't think you'll find many who write like me. Whether that is good or bad is up to the reader to decide. The spelling is better not to even mention. As for the style...let's call it Cathy style. If I was writing a term paper, you would see a different style, but I'm not and here it is. Thanks for the cover this time and yes, you get free issues. Now, I need to talk to you and Groome about the Sheep and cars. I mean over here they think the English are funny anyways, but it was thought of as being leather and whips, if you keep these covers up, they'll start thinking sheep and cars!))

**DON DEL GRANDE:** How can I get involved in more British 'zines when I happen to be about 5000 miles away? (Remember, that's 6 weeks by surface mail, and 6 7/8 king's ransoms - er, Queen's ransoms - by air mail. That's from Britain anyway - it's only 60¢ an ounce from the US, at least until they raise the rates.) Besides, the only thing I'm noted for is my report of what TSR says they're going to come out with (S&T is good for something after all!). ((Now, that's not true, Tamlyn thinks you're wonderful. Well, I guess you're right, you are noted for very little. Look, you could go on an extreme diet and send yourself airmail before the rates go up. Or change your sex, or just send money to your favorite zine editor and get the zines yourself.))

# FATHER KNOWS LESS

Issue #7

Circulation-The World

July 13, 1984

Yep, that's right, I dared to type this up on Friday, the 13th, my lucky day. And whom am I? Why none other than Cathy's Dad, John Caruso. Anyone wishing to write to me and have their words of wisdom appear here, need just send their submission to 160-02 43Ave Flushing, NY. 11358 USA. Those with a lot of money or no brains, like Gary and Woody respectively, can call any time, day or night, between 7AM and 8PM at 212 353-9695. NYNE is changing the area code for Queens, so as of Sept 1, our area code will be 718. When calling, expect to get a very obnoxious person, with a terrible accent, that will be Phyllis. I don't answer phones- I don't like to talk to people.

This excellent publication appears in Cathy's Ramblings only, and the only way to get CR is to beg, borrow, or steal it. Of course, you can always try the honorable way and sub, but since no one in Dipdom is honorable..... except, of course, the Brits. They put honor among their thieves.

Well its official- Meathead Mondale chose a woman, Geraldine Ferraro as his VP running primate. Its a giant step to the forefront for women, but is Ms Ferraro qualified or the best female for consideration. I don't think so, but who am I? Just an Italian, NY, middle of the road Democrat. Best of luck to the Mondale encampment, but the smart money is on the actor, Uncle Ronnie. He has had more experience at role playing than either Fritz or Gerry. Need I say more.....

The Soviets have put a proposal for discussing Space weapons on the table. With Reagans track record at talks, he'd be a fool to not show up. The Dems are just looking to continue to pin the warmonger label on his lapel, and his stubbornness, no doubt, helped to cause the Russian walkout of the other arms discussions. Lets hope that the 2 Superpowers have enough common sense to talk about the space weapons in a serious tone, more serious than they conducted their other talks. Take the bait Ronnie, it looks good in the American voters eyes, even if you aren't serious.

Gee, last issues were filled with a gambit of comments on things. Since I've already commented on the Arms Race/Discussions already, I may as well follow up on it. Anyone who wishes to discuss this in FKL, feel free to write.

I don't feel we should deploy the Pershings in Europe. For 1 reason, we don't need the overkill capacity they afford us. If these were to be strictly European weapons, controlled by the NATO countries that they are deployed in, fine, that would be there decision to make. Since they are our missiles, deployed on their soil, we should decide, and I don't agree with our decision to commense with their deployment. For another reason, these missiles cost us, the US taxpayer money. Not only to build, but to maintain, and man. Yes, where do you think the money to pay that soldier comes from? Not a European pocket, thats for sure. Yet another reason is that we should let the Europeans decide if they want these missiles. Sure, the gov'ts decided they did, but obviously, their citizens don't share the same jovial feelings. Its time we stop acting like the "Guardian" of the world, or the "Big Brother", and let the other so-called, protectors of freedom, put up their money for their fair share of defense, and help protect themselves, instead of feeding off of us for their defense. It may not sound very fair of me, but that is exactly what is happening. Western Europe has the resources, and the Capital to become the 3rd superpower.

Yes, I really believe that. If the European states would take a lesson from the USA, which took its lesson from the idea of the ancient city-state, Europe could set up a gov't for all of Europe, based on free elections, with each individual state (country) keeping its own separate identity, like our states here do. Just a thought. I don't expect all the European citizens to go knocking down their leaders doors to get this set up. Its much easier to protest against America. I have nothing against Europe, or Europeans, but I must say that if you want to complain, be prepared to make your own suggestions as to how to keep yourselves from being absorbed. Personally, I feel that for all they say, European leaders don't believe another war is likely, and the people feel the same way. They don't feel another war will happen, unless we Yankees cause it, and then it will be a Nuclear War, with no survivors. There are many possibilities Europeans overlook, like the USA coming to their aid, or responding to a Soviet 1st strike. Lets face it, no one really wants a nuke war, and the leaders of all the worlds countries had better realize that fact fast, and sit down and work from the positive point of view that all parties agree upon. I can see how others would view Americans as naive towards warfare and causes, and how some of our leaders appear to be trigger happy, but you others should try for once to look at the world as we see it here in America. We tried isolationism twice before, and look where it put the world today.

I think I spent enough time talking. Lets get on to the letters, and 1st up, of course, my lovely little daughter- Cathy

Dad, ((from Cathy Cunning of CR, excerpts only))

Well, here's your kid almost late again. Why do I enjoy this so much?

Did I tell you that I got a job? Yep, your kid is finally making real money. The only problem is it takes so much of my time. But then, Eric takes a bit of my time too. Not that I'd complain about that. Got to do some more orders. Take care.

((Well my dear, I hope the job helps pay for the car repairs. I know my job doesn't pay enough for that small problem. Oh, my battery was stolen last week from my car while I was at work. Yep, this sure is land of the free-loader, home of the brave-souls who steal things. We all have to work my dear, unless you have a million dollars. I'm sure you find time to squeeze Eric in, so why complain? It wouldn't help anyway. Always there to give you advice. Take care my dear))

Hi there, ((from Luc Dodinval pubber of Mach die Spuhl, a Belgium zine))

Some comments about FKL#3. I don't think the Brits or Gery's could fire the missiles too soon, because the missiles are under American command. If someone pushes the button, it'd be YOU!

## More Father Knows Less

By the way, I think it's a good thing we now have (or gonna have for Belgium), the Cruise and Pershings because the USSR doesn't respect anything. If you're feeble, they'll overrun you. So, let's be strong.

About our faces, do you sometimes have a look at YOURS? This very view should be enough to jump from the Brooklyn Bridge. ((You mean a la Tarzan? Look out Jane, a Real Man is here))

By the way, I completely agree with your reply to Mike Dean's letter. But why was KAL 007 there? I think we'll never be sure. Anyway, you can't shoot a plane this way, you must force it to land.

I know these are comments about things you wrote about 6 months ago, but I have such a lot of things to do, (and when I've finished, I'm too damn lazy to do anything else than reading and sleeping)

You can attack Brits as much as you like, it's funny to see other people being abused.

EKL#5: So you enjoy doing a roving subzine.... I want YOU to do one in my zine too! I publish Mach die Spuhl!, a Belgian zine mainly in French and looking for contributions. Ask Cathy, she's trading with me. Do you want to? Do what you want, when you want, and of course you'll receive the zine for free. Out of space. Take care.

((Nice of you to write, now I can rip you apart- hahaha! True, we'd control the missiles, but personally, I don't think we should deploy them, let alone control them. The cruise is a different weapon entirely. The range is less, but the actual missile is very versatile. We can deploy them on ships, or planes, and what we should do is replace our existing nuke bomber force with cruise missiles. But that's another story. The bottom line is, we must all learn to live and work together. You mean, violating air space isn't sufficient reason for shooting down a plane? Score 1 for civilized man. Now if we could only convince the paranoid Soviets. What was the plane doing there? Our allies, the Brits, have concluded it had to be spying. I mean, planes never lose their way, nor is there ever pilot error, or equipment malfunctions. The US always gambles with the lives of over 200 innocent people, in a game of Russian Roulette, with a paranoid, shoot first, cowboy-type nation. And the Russians call Reagan a gunslinger. Same with the dems here, or should I say the far left wing liberals. KAL was in the wrong, but shooting it down didn't make it right. I can't believe this- a volunteer for FIM. You already have your issue, I hope you enjoyed it. I'm looking forward to my lifetime sub to your zine for free. Thanks for the generous offer. I must wonder tho, what will your French speaking subbers get out of my English rantings. Thanks for the offer.))

I suppose I should end this here. I don't have the slightest idea how much of Cathy's zine this is going to take up typed this way. But I'll soon find out and be able to plan accordingly. Take care you all and have fun.....

## Range War Game

### RANGE WAR

A Wild and Woolly Variant from  
Colin Bruce

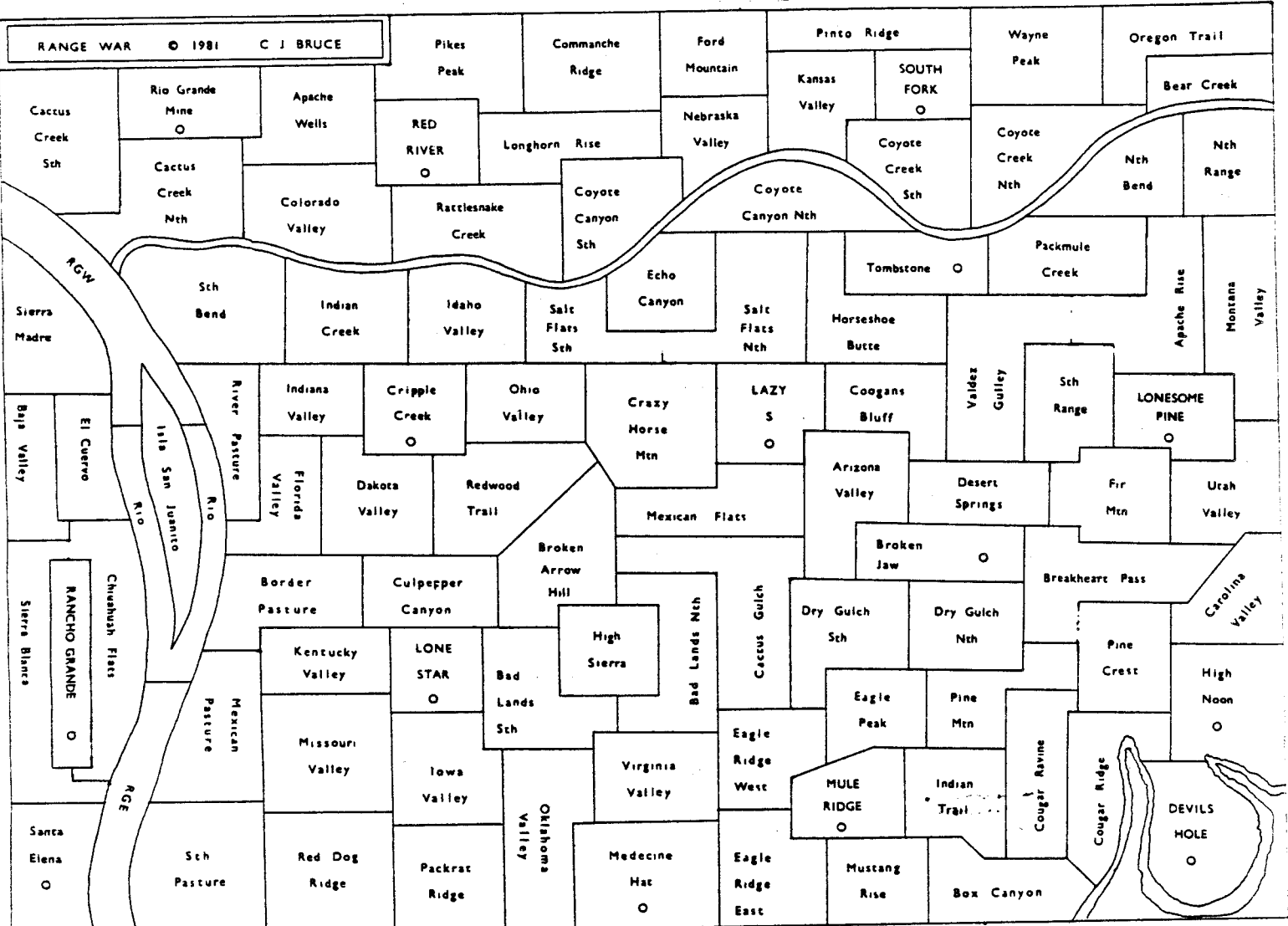
- The standard rules of Diplomacy (1971 Rulebook) apply, except as amended below.
- There are eight players, representing seven powerful Ranches (LOVE STAR, RANCHO GRANDE, RED RIVER, LAZY S, SOUTH FORK, MULE RIDGE and LONESOME PINE) on the Texas/Mexico border, plus the local band of Outlaws (THE DEVIL'S HOLE GANG).
- Printed on the game map are 15 supply centres - 8 home centres (the seven ranch houses, plus the Devil's Hole), 6 neutral centres (the Rio Grande Mine plus the towns of Tombstone, Cripple Creek, Medicine Hat, Broken Jaw and Santa Elena) and one owned centre (the town of High Noon). The latter is exactly the same as a neutral except that when the game begins it is already under the control of the Devil's Hole Gang. These 15 centres do not move.
- Not printed on the game map are, at the start of the game, a further 21 centres - 8 owned and 13 neutral. These centres are herds of cattle, and they can move.  
All the players start with one herd (abbreviated 'H') except for the Lazy S and the DRG. The Lazy S starts with two herds, the DRG with none.
- The only other unit used is the Gang (abbreviated 'G') of ranch hands or outlaws. The Lazy S starts with three gangs, the other seven players have two apiece. Gangs move as do Armies in regular Diplomacy.
- Initial Placement:-  

Devil's Hole Gang:	G(Devil's Hole), G(High Noon)
Lazy S:	G(Lazy S), G(Crazy Horse Mtn), G(Coogan's Bluff), H(Crazy Horse Mtn), H(Coogan's Bluff)
Lonesome Pine:	G(Lonesome Pine), G(Pir Mtn), H(Pir Mtn)
Lone Star:	G(Lone Star), G(Culpepper Canyon), H(Culpepper Can.)
Mule Ridge:	G(Mule Ridge), G(Eagle Peak), H(Eagle Peak)
Rancho Grande:	G(Rancho Grande), G(Isla San Juanito), H(Isla San Juanito)
Red River:	G(Red River), G(Rattlesnake Creek), H(Rattlesnake Creek)
South Fork:	G(South Fork), G(Kansas Valley), H(Kansas Valley)
Unbranded Herds:	H(Cactus Creek Stn), H(Comanche Ridge), H(Nth Range), H(Montana Valley), H(Pine Crest), H(Cougar Ravine), H(Box Canyon), H(Cactus Gulch), H(High Sierra), H(Red Dog Ridge), H(Florida Valley), H(Indiana Valley), H(Boho Canyon)
- A board space may only be occupied by a maximum of one gang and one herd at any time. It may never be occupied by two gangs, nor by two herds.  
Herds may be left unattended.

- Although each player includes any herds he controls in each set of orders (e.g. "G(Coo)-Lay, G(LPR)-Pir, H(Val)") herds may never move on their own nor may they give support in any way. The only way to move a herd is to move it with a gang (e.g. "GH(ISO)-Rio"). Note that "GH" is not a permanent unit - it merely shows that the gang and the herd are moving together. Like gangs, herds may move only one space.
- When a gang is ordered to move to a space with its herd, including the case where it enters the space against opposition (i.e. it is successfully supported into a space) it may take its herd with it (the 'GH' order is used) provided the space entered does not already contain a herd. If it does, the attacking gang's herd remains where it is and the gang moves on its own.  
However, gangs forced to retreat from a space may never retreat their herd with them. If a gang is removed through being forced to retreat but having no retreat orders (or no available retreat spaces) its herd remains in place, intact.
- Any herd in an area occupied by a gang may be moved (as per 8 and 9) by the player owning the gang, who includes the herd on his orders for that turn.
- There are two seasons per year, Summer and Winter, with Branding (i.e. Adjustments) in the Spring. Ownership of supply centres is determined at the end of the Winter move. However, any herd in a space occupied by a rival gang during the Summer move is returned to neutral status unless the owning player can recapture the herd before the Spring Branding count. (This represents the nuisance value of fence-cutting raids, and does not apply to non-movable supply centres.)
- Builds may be of two types - new gangs or new herds (but see 13). These must be placed on the board on a player's home centre if it is available. (Note that a gang occupying a space does not block the building of a herd and vice versa. A gang and a herd may be built in the same space at the same time if it is completely empty.) Failing this, a player may build in any other non-movable supply centres he owns (including captured home centres). If none of these are free, he may build in any space occupied by one of his herds. (Note that these builds must therefore be gangs.)
- Whenever a player captures a rival home centre for the first time, he may choose to make one of his builds a herd (provided he has some builds coming to him) during the following Spring. Herds may not be built at any other time, including the subsequent recapture of that home centre by the same player.  
Herds built in this way do not require a supply centre to maintain them - they are counted, in fact, as supply centres in their own right when the next Spring Branding count begins.
- It is perfectly possible for herds to occupy non-movable supply centres. Any player having control of that space at the end of the Winter move thus controls two centres, and reaps the benefits.
- There are two rivers on the map - the Red River and the Rio Grande. The Red River in no way impedes movement (e.g. "G(CCN)-Ton" and "G(COS)-COH" are both legal) but the Rio Grande, which divides the board into Texas and Mexico, forms three board spaces of its own. Any herd left unattended in one of these at the end of a move is removed from play.
- The Victory Criterion is the sole control of 19 supply centres.  
The game starts in Summer 1870.



# The Map for Range War



## THE GAMES

1981 HS International "It's Not Dead Yet"  
 RUSSIA HAS GONE SILENT, WILL THIS CHANGE THE FATES?

- Russia- Palter: All units hold, NMR; has A ARM, A Rum, F Aeg, F Con, A Mos, A Liv, A Pru, A War F Swe, (Dis, ret Otb, Gob, Balt or Fin
- Austria-Davies: A Boh-S A Tyr, A Gre-Bul, A Tyr S A Tus-Pie. A Ven-Rom, A Rom-Nap, A Tus-Pie, F Adr S F Ion, F Ion S A Rom-Nap.
- England-Groome: A St Pete H, F Bar S A St Pete, F Ska-Swe, F Nth-Den,
- France-Pearson: A Bur-Mar, F MAO H, A Mar-Tus, F GoL c A Mar-Tus, F Tyh S A Mar-Tus, A Ruh S A Kie, A Kie S Eng F Nth-Den, A Ber-Pru, A Mun-S A Kie, F Tun S F Tyh
- Germany-Doehrer: A Den S Russian F Swe dis, ret OTB

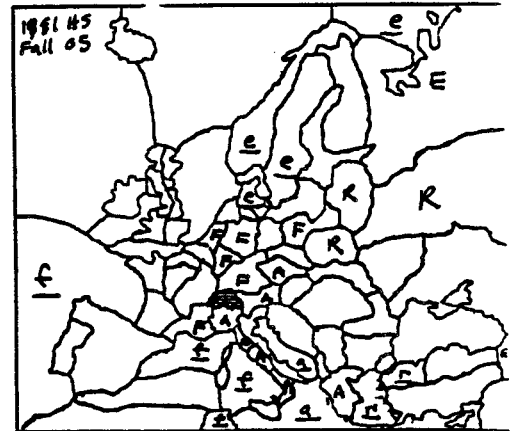
**WINTER 03 SUPPLY CENTER CHART:**

- Germany - 0- Remove 1, out
- England - Home, Nor, StP, Den, Swe= 7, Build 2
- Austria - Home, Ser, Gre, Ven, Nap, Rome = 8 even
- Russia - Mos, War, Sev, Rum, Bul, Ank, Smy, Con = 8, remove 1 or even
- France - Home, Spa, Por, Mun, Hol, Tun, Bel, Kie, Ber = 11, even

**DEADLINE IS September 28!!!**

Please vote on the two way draw.

Fall 05



The ARFE Draw fails. Propose is a F/R Draw.

✱ Would Jeff Bevis, 1129 Washington #1, Muskegon, MI 49441, please stand-by for Russia. ✱  
 I'll send Jeff your addresses. And a special thanks to Chuck for finishing Germany



# MORE OF THE GAMES

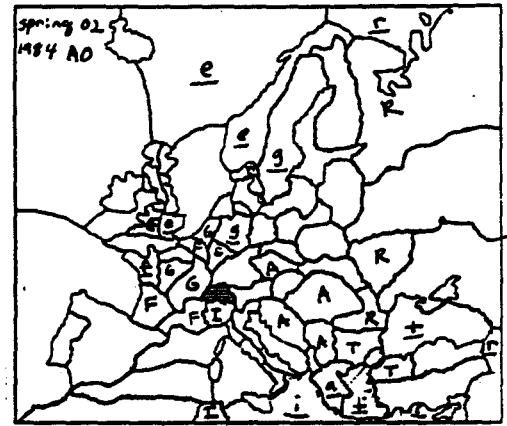
Regular Dip 1984 AO NOW, IT'S TIME FOR WAR!!!!!!  
 "WETLANDS"

Spring 02

Winter 01: Italy Build F Nap, England Build F Edi, Russia Build A Mos, F StP (nc), France build A Mar, Austria Build A Ven, A Tri Germany Build, A Kie, A Mun, F Ber.

## Spring 02

Italy-Courtemanche: F Ion-EMed, F Nap-Ion, A Tun H, APie-Mar  
 England-Holley: A Wales H, F Lon-Eng, F Edi-NWG, F NOR S Ger F Den-Swe.  
 Russia- Hurst: F Sev-Arm, A Ukr S A Rum, A Rum S Aust A Ser-Bul, F Swe-Ska, F StP(nc)-Bar, A Mos-Stp  
 France-Edwards: F Bre-Eng, A Spain-Gas, A Mar & A Spain-Gas, A Bel-Bur  
 Austria-Lucas: A Ser-Bul, A Bud S A Tri-Ser, F Gre S A Ser-Bul A Vie-Boh, A Tri-Ser  
 Germany- Corbin: A Mun-Bur, A Par S A Mun-Bur, A Kiel-Ruhr, A Hol S A Kiel-Ruhr, F Ber-Kiel, F Den-Swe



DEADLINE FOR FALL 02 is SEPT 28, 1984!!!

## PRESS:

(Vichy): with the Fall of the Nation's Capitale, the French military has thought things over and decided to become a fanatical fighting force led by a charismatic jar of Dijon mustard. Suicide squads have been formed, and have all finished training successfully. New recruits are now being enlisted as to fill the first squad's place... The Army of the Holy Dijon is set on retaking the Holy Lands in the province of Burgundy and have armed themselves with loaves of bread and replicas of the Great Jar of Mustard to hurl at the enemy - Dijon or DEATH!

The Peterhof: "Egads!" cried Tsar Thomas, when told that his northern forces had been augmented by another squadron of leaky-hulled rowboats loaded to the gunwales with cranky cossacks. "Get them out of here! They sprout up so fast that I can't get rid of them! They must have heard about that case of '72 that the Pope is sending me. Well, I'd better get them out of here before none of it's left for me!" With that, the Tsar sent them off to get some ice from the Barents to keep the wine cold, saying that they need not return with it personally, just send it via courier. The Tsar doubts that he will get any though, since he realizes that after a few days at sea, his cossacks will need all the ice they can find to cool their hangovers.

Eng-Italy: I'm not only good...I'm the best piece you'll ever get.

ON-DDT: You've told me a lot of things. Which am I supposed to believe?

El Duce-DDT: Let's party! Would you care for some white meat or dark? I'll take a drumstick, potatoes, carrots, some stuffing and lots of cranberry sauce. What? Your glass is empty again? Waiter!

Ragamuffin-Saavik: The GSTAAD Hilton wants a damage deposit. Anything left in the expense account?

Interested Party-Ragamuffin: Don't you ever get tired? All you said last night was 'More, More! Or wa it 'Amore, Amore'? You do have excellent choice in wine. Did you enjoy your truffles?

Interested Party-Ragamuffin: I'll bring the weiners if you bring the buns.

Austria-Germany and Italy: What's all this talk of piece? ((What is going on here?1?))

Hydra Monarch-ElDuce: You were very prophetic in suspecting my heards argue over military strategy. Fortunately, this time we were right.

Russia-The World: Since England has seen fit to blow the cover off of what was probably the worst held secret in Europe, we hereby announce that Mother Russia, being bribed as we were by the French wines, is the ally of France. After all, who else was there for the poor guy to talk to? we had to get what we could before the English, Germans, and Italians drank it all!

Rome-Soave: Where are those Cossacks? Ok, Ok... I'll make it a case of 1872 Don Perlignon and a bottle of 1772 Pink Champagne. Believe me, they are very good years. ((I'll take the deal!!))

The Peterhof: The Tsar barricaded himself in his room today after being told that a fresh (relatively speaking that is) horde of cossacks were making their way from Moscow towards St. Petersburg. "They'll never get my wine from me!" he was heard to scream from behind the door. "Will no one ever leave me to drink in peace?" Further incoherent mumblings and the muffled popping of wine corks were heard throughout the night coming from the royal apartments.

Russia-London: Perhaps the shoe fits, and perhaps it doesn't. Are you waiting for the next one to drop? It sure makes it easier when you keep throwing them back to me!

Eng-Aus: Could it be Russian Tsar speaks with forked tongue?

Budapest: As he entered his conference room, Gemini was shocked to think he had been overtaken by the Church. As his heads turned in opposite directions, he noticed what was different was his staff were all dressed as clergy.

One head smiled as the dominant one roared, "What is this, some sort of joke?"

An embarrassed Arpad looked down at his feet and responded, "Yes, You Highnesses, but it's a joke on

"Don't play word games with me, Arpad. What is this?"

"Sires, we misunderstood a Russian communique. They offered us Cossacks and we orded cassocks. We didn't know what else to do with them."

Such bungling was not new to Gemini, his predecessor had suffered it before.

"Make them into banners. We have negotiated an alliance with De Drunken Tsadine and we will need bright red banners to help his drunken troops distinguish us from the turk."

Lon-Par: You realize you've been snookered, don't you?

Russia-Austria: It is not a rat you smell, it's those damn cossacks! Do you blame me for trying to get them out of the Motherland? What mother would put up with that?

El Duce-Hydra Monarch: The aide that sent you the 'lettle' has been suitably punished. He has been forced to settle in Betal making metal kettles.

Italy-Austria: There was no reason for you to stick your swag in hot coals to give it a hot tip. I can take a hint when I'm not wanted. I can't cool off after reading Rag a muffin's press.

From Cathy Cunning  
1526 N. Lawler Ave.  
Chicago, Illinois  
60651 USA



Your sub lasts till CR Track

TO: Rod Walker  
1273 Crest Dr  
Encinitas, CA 92024

Notes to you:

MORE OF THAT SILLY WETLANDS PRESS:

Russia-The Western Allies: You want Sweden? We give you Sweden! We have even sent those German conscripts overshoes so they wont's get their feet wet this time. How's that for being a nice guy? So what if they're all size 15EEE? So what if they all have holes and lice in them? You just don't know how hard it is to keep cossacks in shoes!  
Italy-France: Kindly remember what I said last time. This is not gunboat diplomacy.  
Lon-Con: Good Luck  
Italy-Turkey: What are you trying to tell me? That post card was very ambiguous. If Austria hits me, I'm sorry that I did not listen to you.  
Queen-Kaiser: Congratulations!  
Iron Crown-Queen of Saxons: "Sniff" I do believe that I've been snubbed.  
DL: Oh, Those French lassea know how to make a man feel good. Hey, Wilhelm, I don't know that you liked leather so much. The commandant better not order us on the march from Paris, there'll be a mutiny

to my other games. I didn't forget you, but I'm doing yours on separate fliers on Tuesday and will send them out to you on Wed, Sept5. To the overseas players. Don't panic, I will accept orders from you up to Oct 5. I'm going to use the Tallman style of turnaround. Your Deadline is one week earlier than mine. But I will get it out sooner sometimes, but you have been warned. I'm sorry about the long delay this time. I'll try to be better, really..... See you at Pudge con! Cathy...

This has been Cathy's Ramblings # 9 Written by me and you and front cover by Doug Rowling  
can be reached at (312) 237-4650 in the evenings before 11:00PM Or by writing to.....  
Cathy Cunning, 1526 N. Lawler Ave, Chicago, IL 60651

There are no current game openings and I don't expect any in the future. Stand-bys are always welcome.

GAME START!!!!!!! WINDY WOOD is Filled! Your Country is                       
Deadline is September 28! And remember this is Gunboat! Number Please and Kathy,  
I know it's not you... Miller number please.

Standby's: Bob Olsen, John Davies, Chuck Doehrer, Jerry Lucas, Roy Henricks, Robert Acheson, Derwood Owen, Jim Burgess, Dan Scott Palter, Melinda Ann Holley, Tom Hurst, Jeff Bevis, Scott Hanson (international game only) Please Let me know if you wish to added to or taken off this list.

Subs are still at the low rates of 10 for \$6.00 and with my deadlines you are getting quite a deal for your money. British are \$1.20 or 70p per issue.