

CIMMERIA

#20 (1973CH), 1974CQ, 1974CR, 1974FK 31 January 1975

CIMMERIA is a zine of postal Diplomacy edited and published by Steve Nozik
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Telephone (716) 636-4617. Subscriptions 10/\$2 or Air mail 30¢ more. No games
currently open, however standby players are needed. All subscribers and traders
have standby status. Trades are welcomed.

Diplomacy is a game registered and published by Games Research Inc., 500
Harrison Ave., Boston, Mass. 02118. It was invented by Allan B. Calhamer.

1974CQ "FALL 1902"
FRANCE/RUSSIA PUT SQUEEZE ON HUNS!

Underlined orders fail!
RUSSIA (Goldston): A Gal-Vie; A Bud S A Gal-Vie; F Rum S TUR A Con-Bul;
A Pru-Sil; A Liv-Kie; F Bal C A Liv-Kie; F StP nc-Nwy.
TURKEY (Petito): A Bul-Gre; F Aeg S A Bul-Gre; F Smy S F Aeg; A Con-Bul.
AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Conn): F Gre H; A Ser-Tri; A Vie S A Ser-Tri.
ITALY (Kelly): A Tri S A Alb-Ser; F Ion Aeg; A Alb-Ser.
FRANCE (Baker): A Spa H; A Bur-Mun; A Par-Bre; F Pic S ENG F Eng-Bel.
ENGLAND (Cunningham): A Lon-Bel; F Eng C A Lon-Bel; F Nwy-StP nc; F Nth-Nwy.
GERMANY (Sawyer): A Mun-Ber; A Sil S A Mun-Ber; A Ruh-Kie; F Bel-Hol; A Swe H.

The AUS A Vie was dislodged and retreated to Tyrolia.

SUPPLY CENTER CHART and "WINTER 1902" adjustments

RUS: Home, ~~Sil~~, Vie, Rum, Bud (7) Even.
TUR: Home, Bul (4) Even.
AUS: ~~Tri~~, ~~Bud~~, Ser, Gre (2) Remove 1. Removes F Gre.
ITA: Home, Tri (4) Build 1. Builds F Nap.
FRA: Home, Por, Spa, Mun (6) Build 2. Builds A Par, F Mar.
ENG: Home, Nwy, Bel (5) Build 1. Builds F Lon.
GER: ~~Mun~~, Kie, Ber, ~~Bel~~, Hol, Den, Swe (5) Even.

Changes of Address:

John P. Cunningham, 7303 26th Ave. NW, Seattle, Washington 98117
Joe Conn, 1655 Biemeret St., Green Bay, WI 54304

The DEADLINE for "SPRING 1903" orders is Friday 21 February 1975 by 9 PM

PRESS RELEASES

FRANKFURT AM MAIN: The Imperial German court, while vacationing at a spa
near Frankfurt am Main, has received word that an undetermined number of
Russian troops have blundered across the border into Prussia, said Kingdom
being an integral part of the German Reich. The Kaiser has notified his cou-
sins Nicholas and Alexandra (may she recover her health very soon) of the
situation and asked them to instruct their officers to find their wayward
troops and take them home again, asking no more than the payment of repara-
tions for any looting, raping, and/or burning which may have taken place
by accident (for the Kaiser understands that boys will be boys). The Kaiser
sincerely hopes that their Imperial Majesties will act on the matter most
expeditiously. At the same time, the Kaiser expressed his concern over the
(continued on page 3)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Yes, we're late again. I won't try to justify the lateness by some flimsy excuse which is totally unjustifiable. Let me simply say that I had a more difficult end of semester than originally anticipated. Suffice it to say, I think that it is unfair that the games should suffer on my account. It will henceforth be my policy to send out moves every four weeks regardless of whether or not CIM is ready. I do this rather than reduce CIM to a purely game report type zine as it is important to me that CIM contain and be a vehicle for political/philosophical thoughts. I might add that part of the reasons for the difficulty in maintaining a regular type of schedule is the almost total lack of contributions and flack, which means I have to provide all of the material myself. I am currently carrying 20 credit hours and working 12 hours a week at a job. Not that I blame anyone else for this problem. I undertook this responsibility and it is mine alone. It would be nice to hear from someone for a change, though. Fortunately, this issue has quite a bit of material, due in part to the long delay in producing it. I hope to hear from some others who have promised me articles though.

2. Due in part to the many recent unanticipated delays, I am seriously contemplating insuring games 1974CQ and 1974FK through the IDA, which would guarantee the continuation of these games in the unlikely event that I am forced to forego publishing activities. Let me make it clear that it is not my intent to discontinue publishing. I would like to make players feel more secure than at the present. I do not intend to insure the Academy games unless I hear a large amount of sentiment in favor of doing so, largely because I feel my personal connections are insurance enough. More will be discussed after I enquire about game insurance.

3. Over Holiday vacation, several attempts were made to have an over the board session of Diplomacy in Rochester, NY. Failing to achieve the required number of seven players, we settled for four games of Origins of W.W. II. The participants in the first game were John Tokoli, playing the U.S., Bill Jarvis, playing Britain, Peter Ferin, playing France, Reb Butler playing Russia, and myself playing Germany. The game was won by Jarvis, and followed by Butler in a tie (I believe...I may be wrong) followed by myself, Ferin and Tokoli. The second game was Butler-England, Tokoli-France, Ferin-US, & Bruce Lyon-Russia and myself as Britain. As I recall, the game was again a tie between Britain and Germany with France third, Russia fourth and the US fifth. If anyone can give a more accurate report I'd appreciate it. Both of the above games were held at the home of John Tokoli. Two other games were held at the home of Ethan Vishniac. Vishniac was Russia, Tokoli was England, Raff-US, Jarvis-Germany, and yours truly played France. Jarvis took first followed by Tokoli, Raff, Nozik and Vishniac. In the second round Nozik and Raff tied for first with Germany and Russia respectively, followed by Jarvis with England, Vishniac with France and Tokoli with the US. Playing OWWII face to face has inspired me to wonder whether or not it would be a possibility to play it by mail through CIM. It is perhaps easier to play by mail than face to face. Anyone interested contact me.

4. DIPLOMACY WORLD is a professionally printed magazine detailing all aspects of the hobby. If you've been vacationing in Siberia and don't know it, DW has been sold out to Games Research Inc., but Walt Buchanan will be retained as editor. DW will go quarterly as of this year and will increase to 40 pages per issue. Subscriptions are \$4/year or \$3 if you're a member of the IDA. Walt Buchanan, R.R. #3, Lebanon, IN 46052. IDA membership is \$2/year also to Walt.

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1974FK "AUTUMN-WINTER 1901"

The AUS A Tri retreats to Bud.
 RUSSIA (Lariton): Build A War, A Mos, F StP nc.
 TURKEY (Kelly): Build F Smy.
 ITALY (Gardiner): Build A Ven, A Rom.
 FRANCE (Berggren): Build F Mar.
 ENGLAND (Baker): Build F Lon.
 GERMANY (McLendon): Build F Kie, A Ber.

"SPRING 1902"

GERMANY STABS RUSSIA; AUSTRIAN COUNTER-ATTACK RETAKES TRIESTE!

Underlined orders fail.

RUSSIA (Lariton): F StP nc-Bar; F Swe-Den; A Mos-StP; A War-Gal; A Rum S
 TUR A Bul; F Sev S A Rum; A Vie S GER A Mun-Tyr. (NSO)
 TURKEY (Kelly): F Smy-Aeg; A Bul S RUS A Rum; A Con-Smy; F Bla-Con.
 AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Johnson): F Gre-Aeg; A Ser S A Bud-Tri; A Bud-Tri.
 ITALY (Gardiner): F Tun-Wes; A Ven-Pie; A Rom-Ven; A Tyr-Vie; A Tri S
A Tyr-Vie.
 FRANCE (Berggren): F Mar-Lyo; A Por-Spa; A Pic-Bur; F Eng-Mid.
 ENGLAND (Baker): F Nwy-Ska; F Nth-Nrg; F Lon-Nth; A Yor-Lon.
 GERMANY (McLendon): A Mun-Sil; A Ber-Pru; A Bel-Ruh; F Kie-Den; F Hol-Kie.

The ITA A Tri is dislodged and may retreat to Alb or off the board.

The DEADLINE for "FALL 1902" orders is Friday 21 February by 9 PM my time.

PRESS RELEASES

MARSEILLES: The French government realises that it is the eventual enemy of Italy, and hereby cancels any agreements of non-aggression that have been made between the two countries. I am not in the habit of being blind to the fact that if Italy gets the first jump on Franze in the Med that it is usually the lights for any French hopes of survival, especially with an English enemy.

1974CQ PRESS RELEASES (continued from page 1)

unstable situation in which his fellow Germanic Emperor Franz Josef (dear Franzl) finds himself. The Kaiser calls for the removal of ~~all~~ all foreign troops from Austrian (and Hungarian) soil and the restoration of order and Germanic rule in the area. The Kaiser hopes that the civilized and cultured nations of Europe will respond to this call for justice and will throw their moral weight behind the forces of the Kaiserlich and Königlich Franz Josef and will give him whatever assistance may be needed to expell the foreign invaders (of whatever nationality). On a more pleasant note, the Kaiser wishes to announced that the German Reich has concluded a trade agreement with the government of his beloved uncle Edward VII of England. This agreement, involving the interchange of millions of crumpets from one side and tons of spätzl from the other, is another example of how Monarchs (and even relatives) can get along with one another when both parties make an effort. The Houses of Hanover and Saxe-Coburg are truly proud to call this amazing English King one of their own. The Kaiser is sure that peace will ever be the first word in Germanic-Britannic relations. "Uncle Bertie" will always have a warm place in the hearts of his German relatives.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued from page 2)

5. The 1974-75 IDA Diplomacy census is out (That's why you've been getting all that junk mail!). It consists of 28 pages of fine quality mimeo with names arranged by geographic location. It's available for \$1 from the IDA census Director, Paul E. Boymel, 3001 Veazey Terr., N.W., Apt. 1014, Washington, D.C. 20008 USA.

6. Also out is the 1974 Diplomacy Handbook. It's 78 pages of articles on the Hobby plus front and back cover. Everything from ratings, strategy and tactics, to variants and publishing. It's a bargain at \$3 (\$2 for IDA members). Available from John Boyer, 117 Garland Dr., Carlisle, PA 17013.

7. The following zines are believed to have game openings:
IMPASSABLE. Openings left for newbloods only. \$7 fee covers game until eliminated. \$8 fee covers whole game. Write John Boyer (address above).
CLAW & FANG. Immaculate zine with a strict 2 week deadline. Fee is \$2 plus a subscription at 10/\$2. Write Don Horton, 16 Jordan Ct., Sacramento, CA, 95826. The fee is only a buck if you are not currently playing in a game in C & F.

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"To Be is to Do." --Plato

"To Do is to Be." --Sartre

"To Be to Be Do!" --Sinatra

"Always be a Do Bee." --Miss Jane, Romper Room

1974CQ PRESS (continued from page 3.)

OSLO HARBOR (via London): After a three week goodwill stay aboard the British RIMMEX flagship HMS Aethelred the Unready, the Norwegian Nobel Prize Committee voted unanimously to present this year's Peace Prize to the King and Protector of Norway, Edward of Hannover, by the Grace of M God King of England, Defender of the Faith, etc, etc. To express their solidarity with their British liberators, the members of the committee voluntarily asked to be fed only bread and water during their deliberations aboard the battleship. In announcing the award, the committee contrasted His Majesty's search for a just and lasting peace with the "criminal activity of the Asiatic/Muscovite assassins, who in their unbounded lust for the foul domination of Maiden Europe, find no atrocity too outrageous and no outrage too atrocious."

OSLO (via London): The British ambassador presented the credentials of the 40,000 cultural attachées, who recently arrived in Norway. The purpose of the attachées is to strengthen the bonds between the two Nordic peoples. The members of the former Norwegian government will be spending a three year sabbatical in the Tower of London, where they will become familiar with parliamentary procedure.

LONDON: The Royal Geographic Society voted unanimously to rename St. Petersburg SXX "St. Edwardsburg."

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(1973CH) "SPRING 1908"

BRITISH, TURKS ADVANCE IN MEDITERRANEAN;
OLD HOSTILITIES SHOW AS GERMANY COUNTER-ATTACKS!

Underlined orders fail.

RUSSIA (Olson): A Mos-War; A Liv S A Mos-War; A Sil S A Mos-War; F Bot-StP sc;
A Tri-Vie.TURKEY (Scribner): F Ion-Tyr; F Tun S F Ion-Tyr; A Rom-Ven; F Adr S A Rom-Ven; F Nap-Rom; F Apu-Ion; F Con-Aeg; A Smy-Con; A Ank-Arm; A Rum-Ser;
A Sev-Ukr; A Gal-Sil; A War S A Gal-Sil; A Tyr-Mun.

FRANCE (Raff): F Lyo-Mar.

ENGLAND (Tokoli): F Mid-Naf; F Wes S F Mid-Naf; F Spa sc-Lyo; F Eng-Mid;
F Bal-Pru; A StP-Mos; F Bar-StP nc; F Nwy H; A Pic unordered H.GERMANY (Lyon): A Bur-Mun; A Ruh-Kie; A Tus; A Fin unordered H.

The TUR A War is dislodged and annihilated having nowhere to retreat.

The DEADLINE for "FALL 1908" orders is Friday 21 February by 9 PM my time.

PRESS RELEASES

CONSTANTINOPLE: Is everybody happy? There really is no lonelier position than a player on the verge of winning. No more funny statements, no more exciting moves or desperate cables. Just systematic movement. Ah, well; maybe I should resign on national TV.

1974CR "SPRING 1902"

HUNS THRUST INTO GAUL;

RUSSIANS REVERSE EARLY TURKISH SUCCESS AS "OLD MAN" STAGNATES!

Underlined orders fail.

RUSSIA (Olson): F Rum-Sev; A Ukr & A Mos S F Rum-Sev; F Bot-Swe.

TURKEY (Butler): NMR. A Sev; F Bla; F Smy; A Con; A Bul all H.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Tokoli): F Gre-Ion; A Tri-Ven; A Vie-Boh; A Bud-Vie; A Ser H.ITALY (Scribner): F Ven-Adr; A Rom-Ven; A Tyr S A Rom-Ven; F Tun-Ion.

FRANCE (Lyon): F Per-Spa; A Bur; F Bre unordered H.

ENGLAND (Hodgson): F Liv-Iri; A Wal-Bel; F Eng C A Wal-Bel; F Nwy H.

GERMANY (Jarvis): A Ruh-Bur; A Mun S A Ruh-Bur; X WEX S A Kie S A Mun; A
Hol; H; F Den H.

The TUR A Sev is dislodged and may retreat to Arm or OTB. The FRA A Bur is dislodged and may retreat to Pic, Par, Gas, Mar or OTB. These adjustments are due with "FALL 1902" orders. Players may make their moves conditional on these adjustments. The DEADLINE for "SPRING 1902" orders is Friday 21 February 1975 by 9 PM my time. Standby orders are requested for TUR.

PRESS RELEASES

LONDON: After completing his relocation to the north woods of England, Prime Minister Heathcliffe Heferdoo began a flurry of activity aimed at consolidating foreign policy and rugby. After suffering defeat at the hands of several foreign teams, the English ruggers, admirably coached by the Earl of Dartmouth, appealed to the Prime Minister. Developments are forthcoming.

In other happenings about the British Isles, the Lancaster swimmer-dentist Percy Spitz apparently became confused and ended up swimming around in circles in the middle of the English Channel. However, he has since procured a water-proof compass and is expected to successfully complete his journey this year or next.

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Letters

From Rod Walker, 4069 Jackdaw St.,
San Diego CA 92103, 1 November 1974:

"CIMMERIA 19 here today and I guess this is in the nature of a reply to your "Commentary" on pp. 6-8. Letter to the Editor maybe.

"There is a kind of political essay which has been popular for three thousand years or so, now; it's called "How Awful Things Are Right Now". It is a real "view-with-alarm", and its theme is always "we're going to the dogs". Now, while I'm not one to gloss over what's wrong, it seems to me we need a sense of perspective.

"Watergate is hardly the worst scandal to hist the American political scene. In fact, there were times when I wondered what all the fuss was about--and I'm not only a staunch Democrat, I resigned my military commission rather than serve under Commander-in-Chief Nixon.

The real lesson to be learned from the affair is not that the country is going to the dogs; far from it. The country is in great shape. I said that Watergate was not our worst scandal. Teapot Dome was much worse, as was the Gold Panic of 1873. The major difference between these past events and the present one is this: the officials responsible were in this case removed from office. After Teapot Dome, for instance, neither Harding nor any member of his cabinet was ever held politically or legally liable. Nixon and company had to accept the consequences of their wrongful acts...an event without precedent in the history of American politics.

"The lesson we must draw from this is that if the power of the Presidency has grown, the counterbalancing power of the Congress and the American public have grown even more. (And consider this parallefact: Congressional and popular opposition did not remove Lyndon Johnson from office, but they kept him from running for re-election.) In short, we are entering an era in which public officials are becoming increasingly accountable for their actions. If that's g "going to the dogs", then my only response is, "woof!!"

"The other factor which we must consider is the transfer of power. I know of damn few countries in which what happened here would have been possible. Nixon resigned, Ford was sworn in, everybody wished him well, and it was business as usual. I am personally constantly amazed at the stability of this country and the general common sense of its political community. I see no reason whatever to be upset over recent events, and every reason to conclude that the responsiveness and fundamental strength of our system of government are on the upswing still.

"By the same token, what is so upsetting about the economy? You've never seen a recession before, maybe? We've seen worse, such as the Great Depression, and we've gotten over them. The end of a war is always marked by a general economic downswing, and that would appear to be what is hitting us now. It has been exacerbated by a phoney oil crisis. But like ~~akak~~ all human situations, I suspect it will iron itself out.

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LETTERS (continued from page 6)

"People tend to view the economy peculiarly. When it's good, they behave as if it will never end; when it's bad, you'd think everything was going to go to pot. The truth is, there are good times and there are bad times and we're in the bad ones right now. It will all seem like a bad dream by 1980.

"I see nothing fundamentally wrong in this country's being wealthy. We happen to be an underpopulated (until recently) country with a super-abundance of natural resources. There is nothing criminal in enjoying this situation. On the other hand, it is appalling to consider the amount of wealth this country has squandered in aiding other countries to make something of themselves. That we have failed is partly a result of the magnitude of the problem, partly the corruption and inefficiency of local governments, and partly resistance by traditionalist elements of the local population.

"Helping a foreign country is always a risky business. If you try to work through the existing mass of corruption normally posing as a government, you're accused of supporting it. If you try to get something better in its stead, you're accused of interfering in domestic affairs. I assure you that the same people who scream about Francisco Franco would scream even louder if we were to intervene in Spanish affairs in an effort to get rid of him.

"One of the reasons the have-nots nations are that way is that they are fundamentally poor. It's kind of hard to industrialize without coal and iron deposits. Those which have desirable natural resources, such as oil, can make hay while the sun shines, if they wish...but they will find that there is usually an alternative to anything, and the technologically advanced countries will find it. In another 10 years, Middle Eastern oil will be irrelevant to our economy, for instance.

"The alternative of the so-called have-nots is to do something on their own. Famine-ridden India is a good example. The local governments has done very little, expecting to exist on foreign handouts. They had jolly well get on the stick. As a minimum:

1. A compulsory birth-control program which includes voluntary sterilization of females after the birth of one child and mandatory sterilization after the birth of the second, higher taxes on families with more than one child, free abortion clinics, and the whole works.

2. Destruction of all non-productive cows in the country and organization of the remainder into dairy co-operatives.

3. Total collectivization of agriculture.

4. Formation of a public industrial sector which will absorb 15-25% of the GNP annually in building up its capital plant.

"I guarantee you that such a program will see a dramatic rise in India's living standard within a generation. So long as the Indian Government does any less than that, I cannot be sympathetic with their claims that they have a problem. Of course they do; why don't they do something about it.

"As for military intervention; what do you do when a country asks you for military aid, tell them to go fish? Every Great Power intervenes to protect its interests, and that would be true regardless of what internal changes it effected. However, you might note that whatever U.S. intervention took place in Korea and the Congo was pursuant to resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, which we are bound by international agreement to support. By the same token intervention in China, Laos, and Cambodia was undertaken pursuant to the terms of treaties previously signed. The only way to get rid of this sort of thing is to make it impossible through an international agency, and until that happens I see no reason why this country cannot exercise the same privileges even such non-entities as Syria and Jordan seem determined to exercise with respect to Palestine. (In fact, outside of San Marino and Andorra, I can't recall a single country which has not intervened in somebody else's affairs, so I see no purpose in moralizing.)

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LETTERS (continued from page 6)

"No nation is truly free anyway, democracy is nice if you can afford it, and self-determination is merely the right to go to hell in your own special handbasket. We have made a lot of mistakes in believing in that sort of thing... that is, in the "freedom, democracy, self-determination" cliché, when in fact it was frequently not applicable. As a good example, the whole Cuban situation arose because of this--we felt the Communist regime there was a foreign imposition, which is partly correct. But we failed to recognize that the closer influence is always the more important and we also failed to recognize how much indigenous influence there was in the Cuban revolution. The Cubans, on the other hand, felt they were seeking freedom and self-determination. They failed to recognize that they are going to have to be dependent on somebody. They have now found out that the Slavs are somewhat harsher taskmasters than we."

((The first thing that strikes me about your letter is a very basic contradiction. You seem to be arguing two very different approaches at the same time. At first you say we are a wealthy country with a super-abundance of natural resources, and you proceed to say that every great power intervenes to protect its interests and that we have the same rights as other countries, such as Syria and Jordan. That strikes me as being a bit of an immature attitude, but beyond that, it also says something about the American conception of what our interests are. Perhaps that is the key phrase in your whole letter. What exactly are our interests? Do they include killing people? How about counter-revolutionary activity, as in Chile, Indo-china and numerous other places? How about exploitation of under-developed areas?

((If we are so super-abundant, why do we need to do these things? Are they really in our self-interest? They don't have to be, but unfortunately they are because they are directly related to the profit motive. Make the bucks, become wealthy, and if something gets in your way, call out the marines. It's good 'ol capitalism--the free market system. The only catch is that freedom is the freedom for the US to be able to do whatever it damn well pleases. If someone opposes the US, well that is totalitarianism.

((It has always amazed me that we have always stood for the so called, "free world" when there is very little about it that can be called free. It has only lately occurred to me that the free world is ~~xxxxxx~~ perfectly consistent with the capitalist definition of freedom. The free world is free all right. Free to be dominated and exploited by the US. Those countries that have had the good sense to remove themselves from this position are evil, nasty and totalitarian!

((It would take a book to put my position into words. Suffice it to say that I disagree with you. I don't think everything is peaches and cream. It is closer to slime and shit. Nor do I think that the US is the epitome of all that is good. I think it is elitist and selfish, and I think the system we live under is designed to keep it that way. NOT that the US is so different from other countries in that respect--it is just that Americans are conditioned into a special kind of ethnocentrism--America is the biggest, the best, the most powerful, the goddest and because of this America must be the world's policeman, defending freedom (read capitalism) wherever it may be threatened by the evil, nasty, and truly deviationist red hordes (flowing like ants from an ant hill). Then Americans don't understand when people around the world truly hate Americans and look at America as the number one imperialist power in the world. "Why don't those ingrates love us?" they ask. Why indeed. Perhaps people don't want to be "protected" from communism, just like we protected South Vietnam. Perhaps they want to be allowed to choose their own government, like we didn't let the Chileans do. There are many more examples.

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LETTERS (continued from page 8.)

((I think you are just plain wrong by illustration of your own examples. How anyone can think of Watergate as a demonstration of how the system works successfully is beyond me. Was Nixon ever punished for his crimes (or even tried)? How can one compare the country clubs the Nixon men were sentenced to with the shit-hole prisons of law-breakers who are not members of the ruling class. Is this equality under the law? One dreads to think what would have happened had there been a more sophisticated criminal in the White House. And what measures have been taken to assure that it can't happen again? How many Watergates have there been that we will never find anything about?

((As for the economy. I agree with you, everything will be fine--provided we go to war with someone quick. Odds are in favor of the Arab oil countries being the lucky victims (see Commentary). The future looks very bright indeed. Or else dead, due to atomic war.

((I also agree with you about our ~~excessive~~ wealth as a country, but I feel that there is no excuse for any person to be basking in luxuries while there are people in our own country unable to meet the basic necessities of continued comfortable existence. The profit motive becomes obscene when you consider that we do not even utilize all of our resources in the interest of keeping prices up, while there are people starving around the world. That is criminal.

((Why do you feel a necessity to aid every petty dictatorship that asks for help? Tell them to go fish, and tell them to go to hell! Why support them or help them at all? The US support for petty dictatorships around the world to "save" the world from communism, is a major cause of world suffering and repression. I point to the continued support of the Thieu regime in South Vietnam, without which the Indochina war could not continue. And now Ford wants \$300 million more in aid! How long must this madness continue?!

((No doubt liberals will be able to effect some legislation once every ten years or so. Unfortunately it is usually the same as taking one step forward and two backward. While one minor ~~prank~~ problem is changed, it serves to reinforce the system and everyone sits back and says, "see, it does work!" Meanwhile, injustice continues. It is going to take more than humanitarian liberals to change things while the interests of the ruling class are rooted in the system.

((No, Rod. The message is not how awful things are now. It is simply that there is no excuse.))

From Peter Scribner, Box 1719-C, Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA 17604. No date:

"I read through your recent CIM political tirade and, like the ones before I agreed with some points and disagreed with others. But most striking to me was the self righteousness of your positions, that you know you're right and that others who disagree, though entitled to their opinion and perhaps sincere are deluded and otherwise wrong or perhaps even immoral.

"An ideal government would advance the common interests. Since our governments are made up of men, an ideal gov't would be made up of ideal men, ~~th~~ that is, men who know (not think they know) what the common interest is. The common interest would therefor have to be an absolute and unchanging standard to be knowable. We only know facts (like 2+2=4); we think ideas. So is there such an absolute and knowable standard of what the common interest is? Perhaps but it is known only to ideal men and we are not likely to find such a person until the second coming (or if you prefer, the first).

"Thus we are governed by unideal men who have no reason to believe they actually know for certain, without question, what the common interest is. If government exists to resolve conflicts of interest, by their very defin-

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LETTERS (continued from page 9.)

ition they admit that no one interest is absolutely true and without question would bring human happiness. In short, everyone's opinion is as bad as M another's and governments will always be more or less unsuccessful. The editorial page of a good newspaper shows us that every argument is open to attack. Therefore why damn someone else as being wrong? Since nobody can possibly be right then everybody is more or less wrong.

"I'm not saying that one should abandon participation in government since it will never succeed in bringing about universal human happiness. I vote, read the Times and hold opinions on the issues of the day, but I do not delude myself in thinking that if only the gov't followed my ideas great success would have to follow. I think success would be likely if they did it my way but rationally I would not be suprised if great failure followed.

"So I advise you be more humble in your opinions on the great issues. For there is no rational reason for you to know you will succeed while others, yes even RMN, failed. I would like to thank Plato for aiding me to this conclusion."

((Since you have studied Plato, perhaps you are also familiar with Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau, who elaborate on man's basic needs...a striving for life's necessities---food, clothing, shelter, continuously within a framework of peace.

((It seems to me that there are certain principles ~~that~~ that are moral and therefore absolute. Thou shalt not kill is one such. It is within the common interst not to get killed. Similarly, thou shalt not stifle the creative interests and potentials of fellow human beings. Doing so, is in a sense "killing" or making life miserable and void of meaning. Not exploiting fellow humans for personal gain is another such absolute/moral principle.

((In short, as humans, yes we are bound by certain absolute principles. To ignore them would be to disavow our humanness. What would differentiate between humanity and mere beasts?

((I tend to see the problems of government in terms of such absolute principles. I would rather be called self-righteous, than compromise my principles in the name of politics. In fact, I reserve the right to BE self-righteous. One must believe in one's self, before one can take a stand.

((I think that too many problems have remained unresolved due to liberals who would compromise away their souls to get elected, rather than take a moral stand. Perhaps it is time to start insisting on our unalienable rights. They are long overdue.))

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1974CQ PRESS (continued from page 4.)

LONDON: Norway's voluntary application to join the Greater North Sea Co-Prosperity Sphere was accepted today by the five member Board of Regents. Norway has been pleased to make an entrance contribution of L 1,000,000,000.00 in gold.

1974CR PRESS (continued from page 5.)

English embassies throughout Western Europe report the disturbing insanity of war that seems to have attacked the leaders of Eastern Empires. It is this writer's hope that these men will come to their senses, chain the dogs of war, and work towards a greater international understanding. Then maybe I can win this fucking game.

(continued on page 7.)

C O M M E N T A R Y : BEATING THE WAR DRUMS

It is mid-winter 1975 and the frost covering the grounds outside twinkles in the clear sun-lit day. Some people are yelling and their sounds drift through the window. Off in the distance a stereo is playing the Allman Brothers.

Things aren't substantially different than mid-winter of a year ago, except prices are higher, gas lines are shorter, and we have a simpleton in the White House instead of a swindler.

Governor Hugh "no-tax-increase" Carey has announced that there will be a new state tax on gasoline at the rate of 7¢ per gallon. Coupled with Ford's federal tax of 10¢ that amounts to a 17¢ per gallon increase. People are angry about this. Of course it is unfair. Of course it will only affect poor people. Of course it is inflationary. So what else is new?

Sometimes I wonder whether the whole thing is contrived. Maybe we're all just playing pieces on the monopoly board of life, except certain people own all the property while the rest of us have to be content with passing "Go" and collecting \$200--if we can.

For instance, it's interesting how the US has always advocated freedom, peace and self-determination (at least verbally). After all, we are a capitalist country, and as Milton Friedman and William F. Buckley will tell you, capitalism and "freedom" are synonymous, because only under capitalism do you have a free market. The rules of the free market say that prices are determined by the laws of supply and demand.

Funny then, that when the Arabs decide that they've been bilked out of profits by exploitive US (and other western countries) companies for too long, and decide to do something about it, Henry Kissinger comes out with a statement saying that he wouldn't rule out the use of military force in opposing oil prices, which naturally Gerry Ford backs up.

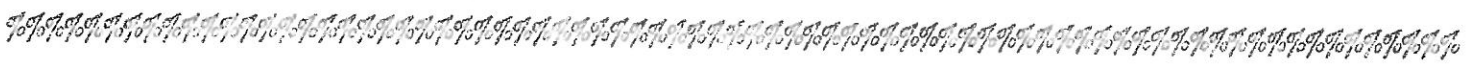
Now it seems to me that this is merely a case of supply and demand. They've got the supply, and we've got the demand. Under these circumstances (and considering that the Arabs don't have much reason to be particularly enthralled with us) I don't think their prices are particularly unwarranted. Not nice, maybe, but unwarranted, no. Don't get me wrong. I am no Arab sympathizer. I am opposed to virtually every policy the Arabs stand for. I do not however, ~~xxx~~ think that the Arabs can be held responsible for the US addiction to $\frac{1}{2}$ oil.

Oil is not a necessity. Nor are automobiles, nor factories, nor industrialization nor big capitalist profits. There are other sources of energy, and there are other economic systems under which to live. Granted, it won't be easy. You can't always get what you want, as the song goes.

Unfortunately, our system, dominated by big business interests as it is, won't take that kind of logic lying down. No sir. A quick scan through history indicates that this country has never gotten out of a depression/recession without either starting a war with someone, or engaging in imperialist expansion (Is there a difference?). Remember good old manifest destiny?

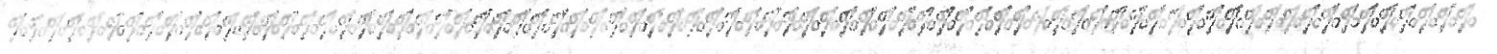
I don't think that beating the war drums and directing the hostility of so many people at the Arabs is a healthy trend or a moral one. In fact, I think it is pretty good evidence of something sick, and I, for one, refuse to be aroused by that sort of rhetoric.

Both Marx and Lenin said that imperialism was a necessary part of capitalism in its advanced stages. That prediction has not been proven to the satisfaction of everyone. But as we are being whipped into a war fever, their observations are worth thinking about as not too far off base.



1974CR PRESS (continued from page 10.)

ROME: The Austrian-Hungarian press has libeled Italy's Tyrolian defensive incursion-reaction as "antagonistic" and "mercurial". Death be to all who call the motherland such! Italians by nature are a reasonable, orderly, and relaxed people and will fight to the death all who disagree. Imagine accusing the beloved President of the Italian Republic, Pietro D'Scribinere of being "pissed off" over such trifles as serving Poggiali '01 instead of the proper Gancia Asti Spumante '97 at last year's friendship dinner. In fact, after the wine dealer and his family were executed last week by being boiled alive in Nozzole Classico Risversa '98 the incident was quite forgotten. Actually Presidentissimo D'Scribinere was most enraged at the disgraceful officiating at the recent football match won by Innsbruck over Bolzano by the narrow 5-4 score. Il Presidente wishes to make sure that such substandard refereeing never again takes place in Tyrolia.



"If the world were a global village of 100 people, 70 of them would be unable to read, and only one would have a college education. Over 50 would be suffering from malnutrition, and over 80 would live in what we call substandard housing. If the world were a global village of 100 residents, 6 of them would be Americans. These 6 would have 1/2 the village's entire income, and the other 94 would exist on the other 1/2. How would the wealthy 6 live "in peace" with their neighbors? Surely they would be driven to defend themselves against the other 94...perhaps even to spend, as we do, more per person on military defence than the total per person income of the others."
--Western N.Y. Peace Center pamphlet

IS THAT SO DEPT.

"The United States now appears to be moving into a recession, President Ford's press secretary, Ron Nessen said today.
"Mr. Nessen's statement made at a regular White House news briefing, marked the first time that the White house had conceded that the year-long decline of the nation's economy had reached the proportions of a recession."
--N.Y. Times, 12 November 1974

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