

Once called the Council Courier under the Editorial supervision of one Edi BirSauron, the Council's organ is now changed to a new format and is controlled by John Saruman Besharaman.

-BirSauron Found Dead In Brooklyn Street-

After almost a year and a half of dictatorial rule over the International Middle Earth Diplomacy Bog, BirSauron has died. Found on the corner of 19th Street and Ave U in Brooklyn with a jade handled knife forced through his back and into his heart. The only clue that the police have of this mercy killing was a small inscription on the dagger: "this publication is not edited under the supervision of Bangs Leslie Tapscott."

In recent months a plague of deaths have scored upon the Council, all of them with mysterious circumstances. More recently, Gandolf LaBofka head of the old time Loyal Opposition was brutally murdered when someone stole the exclamation key from his typewriter. The resultant shock sent Gandolf's blood pressure so low that he was called Gandolf the White for the two days in which he suffered. Finally and with deadly impact an issue of Atlantis came out on time causing a heart seizure that killed him. Later it was discovered that the issue was a fake coming from some unknown publishing outfit in the Dorchester Empire.

On Valentine's day, Walt Legolas Buchanan was killed when he received the only known copy of the TDA's constitution. Unfortunately for Walt the document was spelled out with Bunsen Burners and the following fire destroyed him and most of his archives. His parting words were: "Is Graustark #1 is safe?" unable to tell him that she had replaced all the old Diplomacy zines in his two inch 1700 degree fire proof file with 8x10 glossy photos of the second son of HA, Carol Buchanan whispered quietly: "Yes I sent them to Fred Winter." Upon hearing this Walter dropped dead despite not having been scarred by the fire.

On New Years Day, Marcus Thorin of Weidmark floated ashore at Detroit after what police report as an aborted midnight swim. Unexplained was the 30 feet of correcto tape wrapped around his feet and neck.

Christmas day saw the double murder of Elrond Bower and Beornlein. Bower was found in a bank vault mumbling something about his cards being shuffled before he died of a massive paper cut across the throat. Whether this was in reference to the terrible sports clubs coming from St. Louis or the over 5,000 computer cards strewn about the vault, is still unknown. Beornlein met his fate when he was supposedly run over by an out of control rating system.

Aragorn Feron seemed to have been the subject of a double vengeance strike as spears located in his chest and neck bore the slogans: "Moeshoeshoeus for-ever" and "Free the Indianapolis 500."

These mysterious deaths combine with the 'accidental' driving disaster in which Gimli Hilliker, while taking part in the Mt. Doom to Shire 'ralleye' made a wrong turn and slide over the cliff surrounding Chapel Hill and into the home of Frodo Boyor, crushing him with his 356HP mimeo machine.

The remaining members of the old Council disappeared without a trace and state police have been ordered to avoid finding them by the new police chief Angmar Miller.

From all this chopped up inhumanity comes J. Saruman Besharaman, founder of the Torrid Demented Association, making the following speech to the now empty Council chambers:

"I'VE WON, I'VE WON, I'VE WON!"

Upon coming from the close door meeting, Saruman held a press conference with reporters from the Isengard Wazir and the Mt. Gundabab Grau. Starting with a report on the 'Rights of Man and Grasshopper' drawn up by Morgoth Boardmen, Saruman outlined his new programs for reducing all the previous services of the old Council. A new rating system called the Dorchester Toweror would rate people by giving them one point for every story in which their residence towers over and subtract one for every player on a floor higher than theirs. All of Brent Ver Bilbo Plag's games were declared irregular because of the high headed nature of the winner. The office of the Ombudsman and the President were to be combined along with all the positions of the at Large Sec. and Membership and Tres. The combined responsibility for these posts would be compensated by allowing the President one vote for each office held. Thus Saruman controlled 7 out of the 12 possible positions in the Council. When asked if this might tend to give the organization an undemocratic image, Saruman replied: "When BirSauron had one vote he was called a dictator, maybe when I have 7 votes I will only be 1/7th the evil."

Updates on the activities of the Council will be forwarded to the membership on a regular basis every 35 years unless an extension of 20 years is granted by the President.

See you in 55 years folks....



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