



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS
ALBANY

CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH REGISTRATION

This is to certify that a birth certificate has been filed for

ERIC BRIAN KANE

Born on FEBRUARY 19, 1966, at MANHASSET, N. Y.
(City, Village, Town)

Son
Daughter of JULIAN KANE and
(name of father)

MURIEL KREIZEL
(maiden name of mother)

William H. Ryan Jr.
LOCAL REGISTRAR
TOWN HALL, MANHASSET, N. Y.
ADDRESS

Date Filed FEBRUARY 23, 1966

**Let us jump in the scandal pit together
and drag one another through the mud**

DIPLOMACY BY MOONLIGHT; a zine worth reading cover to cover --- Monday December 7th 1981 -- #36

Most of this issue is devoted to clearing the emotional debris that was strewn about in reaction to issue #34. There is much of it, and part of it is hot to my touch, but nevertheless.....

OZOG VS. HALPERN & BYRNE: HUMOROUS JIBES ESCALATE TO AN ALL OUT WAR

The below article is from EREBOR #3, written by Ken Halpern. I will comment in brackets on specific lines, then give a complete run down at the end of the article; entitled "BOGUS OZOG".

In Eric Ozog's DIPLOMACY BY MOONLIGHT #34, he accused myself, Eric Kane (publisher of ANDUIN), and Brian Lorber (my former partner) of being pseudonyms of John Boardman (publisher of GRAUSTARK), and toadies of Kathy Byrne and John Caruso (publishers of WHITESTONIA). He also made some other moronic allegations pointed at Dan Palter and numerous others in the hobby.

[I did not accuse Lorber of being a Boardman pseudonym. Dan Palter has not responded on my charge against him, other than sending me a \$20 check. Is he upset? Obviously not, for he knew it was a joke. At any rate, Palter can defend himself. Also, you are not listed as a toady under John Caruso, John Caruso and you are in the same class; both are toadies of Kathy Byrne.]

The reasoning behind his accusals is that we are pseudonyms because we thanked Dr. Boardman profusely for his help getting us started as publishers, and toadies because John Boardman is friends with Kathy Byrne & Co. Ozog did concede, however, that there must be some legitimacy to my existence, as I sent him a valid check. May I pose one small, insignificant challenge to your impeccable logic, Mr. Ozog? What the hell purpose would John Boardman serve for himself by making

up pseudonyms of four teenagers from Great Neck!?! Firstly, he doesn't even play postal DIPLOMACY anymore, so it won't afford him the ability to take two positions in the same game. Secondly, it wouldn't help him get more support in the hobby, because none will give much credence to the opinions of a few novices, over the experienced members of the hobby. I can tell you what purpose it would serve, you stupid asshole!! None whatsoever!!

[Don't start the bitter namecalling. I don't like "stupid asshole". I know that John does not have a reason for creating fake Halperns. That is because he never did. This was all a joke, man! Further, I consider anyone's opinion valuable, novice or no, providing it is presented in good fashion.]

The only end your f'n awful 'zine serves, Bozog, is to hurt others in the hobby. The reason I liked it so much when I saw number 33, was because it was mostly humorous prose, and not 100% libelous shit! Whatsmore, the only reason I didn't immediately cancel my subscription to your pooper-scooper publication after seeing #34, was that I always wanted to be up on your latest lies. By the way, readers, I am happy to report that DBM received a big, fat ZERO (0) in the Leeder 'Zine Poll, while our favorite scrotum-licking Mr. Ozog received a 3.67 (out of 10) for GMS. It's just a crying shame that someone didn't give you the same warm welcome to the hobby when you first started publishing, you viper!

[It's old news on my Leeder rating, Ken. And why don't you tell your subscribers the full story which will reveal that I received only one vote for the subzine (when it was two pages)! As for my GM rating, it is probably more accurate. I don't know how many votes I got on that one, but it clearly indicates there were low and high votes involved, creating an average.]

How interesting-while this was being written a few moments ago, I received a phone call from Eric Kane to the effect that one of Osmog's closest friends in the hobby had been told by the malcontent himself that his charges against us were "all in fun". All in fun or not, Eric Ozog, there will be many who will see that issue, unaware of your intentions, and will simply judge us by the information therein. You have permanently blemished our names in this hobby, and have displayed the same complete lack of ethics and judgement that you showed when you, as GM, cheated to give one player in your game, victory over another.

[I fixed the game that enabled a player to win because I wanted to end the game and get out of the hobby, not because I favored one player over the other. And there was no "other" that was deprived of the victory, either. You are bringing up old news again which is unrelated to your current objections. I'll talk more about my crime as a GM later. But as far as "blemishing" your name, wrong. Only 35 people received issue 34, and nearly all of them either ignored the issue or reacted favorably to it.]

Now that YOU have been exposed, Eric Ozog, let's just say that everything I said is also "in fun"

[Ken Halpern, it is clear from your comments above you do not mean "in fun." These comments literally pound me with an artillery barrage, which is unfair for I merely poked you and Kane in the back with a toy pop-gun and cried "Boo!" From your scathing remarks my eyes nearly melted in their sockets! I just couldn't believe it! I felt the blood rising to my ears I was so angered! The longer I stay in this hobby, I find that certain people such as Halpern, Byrne & Masters overreact to what is said about them, whether it is serious or not, then escalate the problems by writing without thinking, letting emotional outbursts rule.

I find it regrettable that you reacted so violently to issue #34, all the people who commented (except you, Eric and Kathy) said it was an hilarious issue, not intended to hurt, especially not serious. I intended #34 to be all of that, and that is all it was....wait, I take it back, the only time I was genuinely serious was when I addressed the problems of Bernie Oaklyn and his zine, Le Front.

As for the future of DBM, I believe the zine will flourish as a reader's zine and will be immensely enjoyed by people who can distinguish between serious and non-serious material, can truly understand the art of humor and know how to react properly to it.

The only instance in which I am wrong, however, is when I wrote the bogus "expose" about Halpern and Kane, I did not take into account that they are new to Diplomacy and that I hardly know the two, thus not knowing how sensitive they were. Now I know, but I know too late...the barn door is closed now after the horse gets away. My horse is named "Wild Creativity" and if anyone sees him running out of control on the great literary plains, please catch him if you can

so he can be kept locked up in his stall where he will do no further harm. It seems that you Ken, have accomplished that already. However, I do not like the amount of force used in dragging him back in the barn. You used too much. His bridal is broken.]

A Letter From Eric Kane, "The other Eric"

I just recieved a copy of DEM. As mad as I am at you, I must admit that I liked your zine very much and would be happy to trade with you. First of all, let me tell you that I do exist! (See enclosed check for 18 cents you jerk.) This letter will probably arrive a day earlier than Anduin #2 in which I covered all of your attacks. However, let me defend myself here as well. First off, you can clarify my existence by asking anyone of the following people: Kathy Byrne, Dick Martin, Conrad Baumeister, Dan Palter or John Caruso. These, among others, are some of the people whom I have met in person. I can't see why you attacked me the way you did. But let me tell you that it was very aggravating. You have a nice, established 'zine with plenty of subscribers, while I am trying as hard as I can to get off the ground. I don't think that you attacks on me are going to help me or Ken very much to establish ourselves in the hobby.

[Of course you are real, and I think that my humorous poke of fun at you and Ken will get you noticed, above all else.]

Also, there was no firm basis for your attacks. It may be true that we in Great Neck are in "Boardman's camp" If you wish to call it that (although I consider myself more or less neutral) but that is no reason to accuse someone of not existing or some other such garbage. Along with this letter, I am enclosing a check for 18 cents and a copy of my certificate of birth. If this doesn't prove that I exist then I don't know what will!!! At any rate, I fell that it would be very considerate of you if you were to apologize for accusing me unjustly. And to print this apology in both yours and my 'zines. I would be very grateful for this because I am afraid that I will lose many potential subscribers if they catch wind of the possibility that I am a pseudonym. You see, I didn't lose my temper in this letter and managed to get through it with only calling you a bad name once! Aw jeez, no one is that nice. You are a slime! I feel much better now.

[Slime? Slime! Much more reasonable, Eric, than being called a "stupid asshole" and other such viscious names by your brother Ken. In fact, when I first read Anduin #2 I was mildly shocked, but I consider what you have said to be complimentary, compared to Ken. I now scratch your name off every line where I blamed you for viscious counterattacks. You have much class in preparing a rebuttal, and are quite calm about it. I am willing to sign a seperate peace with you if you are willing. As for Ken though, I ask that he print my responce to his EREBOR counter-attack and make a generous comment or two to me before I make up with him.

As for losing potential subscribers to Anduin, don't worry about it, it will never happen. Anyone who's somebody with brains can tell my comments in #34 were not serious. And about apologizing? For something I said that was known by most except you that it was bogus? I am sorry that you took it seriously, it was poor judgement on my part and I've indicated such at the top of this page and the bottom of the other. Oh, bye the bye, you and Ken can stop calling me "Mr. Ozog". Hell, I'm only 20 years old, not much more than yourselves, but I guess you called me that because you both sensed a much higher maturity level in my writing, attributing it to someone of greater age. If I may quote Martin, "Hyork, hyork".]

Choice Lines By Eric Kane in Anduin #2:

"Wrong again, jet-set breath!"

"Oh, thank you so much for your fantastic plug Mr. Ozog. I'm sure that this will get us a million more subscribers!"

"That's right, whether I exist or not, I'm still part of the Boardman camp!"

Comments by Gary Coughlan to Eric Kane in Anduin #3:

"I think you [Kane] were a little hard on Eric Ozog. He knows you are not a pseudonym for John Boardman, he merely treated you as John Boardman has treated many of us who have not seen eye-to-eye with John. Now you know how such unfair treatment feels. It is very irritating, isn't it?"

[I did not accuse Kane and Halpern of being pseudonyms of Boardman to show them how it feels when Boardman does the same to others. Truly, Boardman's tactics never entered my mind until Gary mentioned it. I did what I did because I saw two new publishers who were overly gushy-gushy

with their all-glorious founding father. I naturally saw an open opportunity to poke some fun, thus capitalized on it. When I look at Gary's comment, however, I see the relation. Eric and Ken's indignant reactions to being accused of pseudonymism prove that no one, including Jim Williams and I, likes being accused of being not real.]

KATHY BYRNE STICKS HER FOOT IN HER MOUTH DEPT...SHE SHOULD SUB TO "DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY."

Dear Eric, now for DBM, the cartoon was very funny -- but your comment that Bruce & I are feuding is way out of line. Bruce & I are friends. Hard to believe I know -- but true. So I'd appreciate your not stirring up any trouble. Also, your remarks on the Coughlan/Martin feud are totally inaccurate. They are friends also. Are you going for the hobby record of misaccurate reports in one issue!

[Wrong, wrong, Wrong!! Coughlan and Martin did have some serious differences. The reason they are friends now is because I patched things up (see the following letters later in this issue from Bob Olsen, Dick Martin and a jointly written pretty postcard from Coughlan & Martin). And you and Bruce are friends, huh! OK. Riiiiiiight. You are both best buddies and I'm wrong.]

Another thing your comments on the Great Neck boys are totally uncalled for. There is an entire gaming club & now they are going to break into the postal hobby. I see nothing wrong with that, I've met them & they are nice kids. So why not lay off them & go after the real biggies in the hobby or at least go after someone who's been in the hobby for a while & won't get turned off & quit because of your snide remarks. Nice welcome you give people into the hobby -- I hope your beginning in the hobby was just as sweet.

[Why Kathy! My beginning in the hobby was just as sweet! In the beginning when God said, "Eric, you will play Diplomacy and slander people" I befriended Bernie Oaklyn. So why shouldn't your "Great Neck Boys" suffer too? Truly Kathy, this was all in fun. I picked on the "new, nice kids" because I saw they were practically defenseless and I'm tired of all the established old farts (including me, notwithstanding) getting all the bad P.R. Also, I accept the nomination for hobby ombudsman. And I will say that no East-Coasters north of Greenbelt Maryland can take a joke.]

Kathy Byrne writes to Anduin #3:

Now for some positive comments--new zines always take a while to catch on, so stick with it. If your players are satisfied (and your readers) they will tell others about your zine. And don't let someone like Eric Ozog turn you off to the hobby. Remember the source of those statements is a GM who fixed a game, so I personally wouldn't put much stock in what he says. However I did write him a letter, telling him to lay off. I like Anduin and Erebor and I will tell my friends (I do have a couple-not like Eric). Stick with it and I recommend that you not play in DBM, as you never know what might happen in your game.

[Whew! Talk about "positive" comments, Kathy. You do not know what the word means. You have mentioned an unrelated subject of a past GM misconduct by me for the only purpose of trying to hurt me anyway you can because you took offense to my comments of Halpern and Kane. Let me make clear to you that you are beating a dead horse, an issue that occurred last May and was much discussed afterward. You can no longer hurt me. You can no longer hurt me because I am no longer opening games for DBM. The two games I opened only to prove to the hobby that I can indeed GM a game properly, without mishap. Those games filled, and there will be no mishaps. I will become known as an excellent gamesmaster in the coming years. Do not bring up old news now, Kathy, bring it up at the end of 1981 IK and IL, when you can give a less biased judgement.

I realize that some new signed up players for DBM might not know the situation regarding 1979 IW, a game I intervened in to end. I ask people in DBM #31 if they wished information of the matter (which appeared in Brutus Bulletin). However, most of the locals did not get DBM until #32 so I will explain it once again. It causes me great pains to do it all over again, I consider bringing it up again similar to two things:

- 1) Digging out leftovers out of the refrigerator to recook.
- 2) Digging a decomposed corpse out of its grave to rework an autopsy upon it.

I rigged 'IW because I was depressed and wanted to get out of the hobby. The English player was close to a win (17 centers, unopposed) and I wanted to get him an extra center for the win so I called up the German player (who cared not for the game anymore) and told him where to move two units to throw the win to England. He complied and that is that, I regret doing it and have said I was sorry enough. Now it is over.

But apparently it is still not over for Ken Halpern and Kathy Byrne.

I offer the players of IK and IL a choice. If they want out, I will comply. I ask these players to vote whether or not to keep their games GMed by me. I will find another gamesmaster who will take them if I get a majority vote in favor of a transfer. I will also transfer gamefees to the new GM. Send your vote with your orders for the January 8th deadline.]



LETTERS, LETTERS, LETTERS -- In Reaction to issue #34

From Julie Glass (October 11th)-- Dear Eric, I loved issue #34 of DBM! Actually, I enjoy every issue I get a chance to see (I read Dick's copy) but this one was especially good. I can't believe you are planning to air controversies only once a year?! Of course, I get tired of constant controversy too, like VOD [Voice Of Doom] or BB [Brutus Bulletin], but couldn't we compromise? (Yes, Gary, that joke's for your benefit.)

By the bye (that's for you, Mark Lew), I would like to comment on the Coughlan-Martin (or as those of us closer to the controversy call it, the "Poor Gary--Tricky Dicky" issue). Can you imagine how boring it is to collate 2800 pages of material (that is, 70 issues of 40 pages each) at 5:00 in the morning when you've just spent all night copying it off? Wouldn't you just feel like throwing the pages up in the air and then piling them up and stapling them? Mightn't it seem rather funny when you're tired and sleep-drunk? Hey, we don't do drugs--we've got to do something.

Of course, I'm not trying to imply that Gary can't take a joke. I'm sure that he can take a good joke at his expense once in a while, right? All adults can, can't they? Of course, Dick just doesn't know when to quit -- that's the problem according to you. Bull. Bruce Linsey doesn't know when to quit. Brad Wilson doesn't know when to quit. Woody Mainardi don't know when to quit. But I think Dick does know when to quit, just like Gary knows when to quit. The crux of the problem is, as you have realized, that "diplomatic relations" between the two have not "broken down" but rather have "ceased to exist." Gary has chosen to air all his gripes to other people besides those at whom his gripes are directed (not just Dick, but also me, Woody, God knows who else).

So you're setting yourself up as the "sacrificial lamb," eh? Well, if neither Gary nor Dick wish to attack you, I certainly will, you masochist you. Why don't you stop on by sometime for a game of kinky dip? Or do I have to come charging out of your mailbox?

Seriously, Eric, a super issue. I like your style of writing--it flows so nicely that I find myself reading DBM cover-to-cover without ever knowing what hit me till it's too late.

Love ya, Mistress Julie

[Blush, blush, blush. Well, you could mail yourself over here and charge out of my mailbox, I'll supply the first class postage. Or at the very least, I will be at Origins next summer to stir up some more trouble at Dip-Con. I just might take you up on that game of kinky dip. Can Kathy and Bobby Sacks play too? Thanks for your letter, it lightens my black heart, you know.]

From Bob Olsen (Oct 14th & 20th) Well, you've done it again! And this time you've really outdone yourself. Imagine--a whole issue devoted to the subject of toadies--and so timely, too! So appropriate! And profound! Yes, you've made this subject your own, and in the future I am sure that whenever we think of toadies, our thoughts will turn to you.

Really there is so much in your new issue [#34] I hardly know where to start. Nobody I can think of packs so much interesting stuff into such a small zine. You're even developing a good letter column. Could it be? Will Ozog be the next Michalski?

Speaking of which, perhaps I should clear up the origin of the word "toady". As far as I know, the first use of this word was by our own, the one and only John Michalski--you remember, when we started that game in his zine with you and me and Uncle Dan and Mazzerman, and John accused us of...well, I don't know exactly what he was accusing us of, but he called us "Tretick's toadies" and it seems that everybody picked up on it. Previously I had tried to bring the word "sycophant" into circulation, but I guess "toady" was catchier, and closer to the ideal length of

four letters.

I hope you have better luck straightening out the Martin-Coughlan matter than I did. Just the other day I got a letter from Dick saying, "No offense Bob, but you're a lousy peacemaker. You need to be more forceful. You just cant say 'Be nice.'" What I want to know is, why the hell not? It's nice to be nice. It's not nice to be not-nice. Well, maybe you, with your more "forcebul" ways can discipline these two incorrigible miscreants. Let's hope so.

Thanks for the picture of your wonderful self. It's a rather strange picture, you know. There you are, sitting on a large boulder in the mountains somewhere, your hair glowing, almost like a halo as it were, in the sun. In the distance we see a large lake or body of water of some sort, but strangely enough the horizon on the lake seems to be tilted about twenty degrees from the horizontal. And some trees were in the background are likewise crooked. Now when I first looked at this I said, "What's wrong with this picture?" And it took me a long time to figure it out. But finally I did--of course! Eric is sitting on the rock--not under it!

Say, I've got a news item for you which will upset your toady compilation to a certain extent. Yes--believe it or not--I dropped out of Bernie's zine, I'm not a Tretick toady any more. Nothing in particular triggered this except that my sub was out and I didn't think it made sense to send him more money when in the back of my mind all I was waiting for was for him to make another one of his attacks so I could resign in protest. I mean, what kind of sense does that make? So I'm out, out, out, ready to join the ranks of respectable hobby members. Just goes to show how far the hobby has deteriorated these days that I could be considered respectable.

You know, I realized something about Le Front after you left. When you stooped writing for Bernie I came to realize that what I mainly enjoyed about the zine, and I did enjoy it very much at one time, was your contributions and the interplay between you and Bernie. When that was gone it became boredom city. All Bernie ever writes these days are incomprehensible tactical articles, anti-rulebook tirades, and "replies" to people's letters and press that seek to make nonsense out of what they say. Just doesn't make it for me anymore. Ah well, on to greener pastures.

You know, it can't be easy for Bernie to read the stuff you've printed about him. How do you get away with it? He's so thick-skinned with other people--does he really not mind what you say? Or maybe he can't afford to mind.

Oh yes, the answers to the questions your friend Tallman asks are, in order: Stafford, Olsen, Sherwood, and nobody. Got that? Best wishes.

[About my picture, my "buddy" Dan White took that of me, and well, he's not such a hot photographer, thus all the tilted trees, water, hills, even me to a certain extent. As for the halo around my head, I am one of God's chosen ones, snort snort. As Bernie would say, "One must never stray from the light."

Bernie is thin skinned, and it surprised me he didn't say much about it beyond a couple press releases in #35. Bernie, not only have we crucified you, but we've also scalped you, hung you, and burned you at the stake. Seriously, I laid low for awhile, avoiding the issue, but wanted to address the problems once again. Not much has or will happen, other than Bernie sending out more samples to novices (Tallman and a couple Chicago locals got samples of Le Front) to replace the ones such as Bob and I who've dropped out, chance are for good. Below I'll print Bob's second letter.]

Bob Olsen #2: As you may have heard by now, the Coughlan-Martin feud is over, thanks to your friendly intervention. I am so jealous! But who would have thought that by simply insulting these two bozos, all could be made well? Not me, that's for sure. But anyway, now that you have solved this problem, I was wondering if you'd like to take a crack at the Coughlan-Olsen feud, which is much more serious and important, since it concerns me. I know you don't have time to research this matter in detail so I've taken the liberty of providing a summary and conclusions for you:

Why Bob Hates Gary

Gary talks funny.

Gary is a Southerner

Gary has consistently refused to include me on his JAF list of "obnoxious Yankees" even though I have always deserved a place on the list and have gone out of my way to prove it.

Why Gary Hates Bob

Bob talks normal.

Bob is normal.

Bob always makes the North win when he plays Civil War games. Now what's historical about that?

Bob turns the other cheek when I shamefully abuse him, and makes me look bad.

Gary constantly attacks me in the pages of Retaliation, Europa Express, White- stonia, Murderin Ministers and probably a lot more other places I don't know about.

Bob turns the other cheek when I shamefully abuse him, and makes me look bad.

Gary makes Elsie talk on the phone when I call him.

Elsie hates Bob too.

His "hyork hyork" is driving me crazy!

His cool and steady rationality is driving me crazy!

Bob's Problems

Gary's Problems

Bob is 100% right about this.

Gary is 100% wrong about this.

Bob forgives Gary constantly.

Gary shamefully abuses Bob constantly.

Patience with Gary totally broken down.

Brain totally broken down.

There you have it--the "plain truth" as they say. I know you'll be able to see my side of this (there is no other side) and judge accordingly.

In other news, I got a call from Uncle Buddy the other night. Tell you what, the old smarm almost told him to jump in the lake, but didn't quite. Suffice it to say that I'm now a bad guy. I let my co-players in AH down by resigning, hyork hyork (ask Uncle Dan if I've imperiled his position). Let them down, yup yup, sort of like Bernie did when he got kicked out of McLendon's zine because he couldn't remember what name he was using that day.

By the way, in your list of toadies (now whatever brought that up?) you neglected to list me as a Martin toady. Since I am as you say "everybody's toady" I clearly belong on that list as well. Let's try and get this straightened out, okay? Best Wishes.

[Ooops! I've noticed the slight and will fix it for next year. As for me attempting to solve the Coughlan/Olsen feud, no way. Don't throw this into my hands, I've too much blood on them already.

While we're on the subject of toadies, Dan Stafford told me to add another toady to the Bruce Linsey list. That person is Mark Berch, who printed pro-Brux material in Diplomacy Digest #52. In his statements, Mark tells the hobby that the Black Hole Affair is dead and that "nobody is interested in having these events rehashed all over again," referring to Jack Masters' statements that he will expose Bruce Linsey of a new scandal. I say bunk! I'm very interested to what Jack has to say, let him say it, and let's all jump in the scandal pit together and drag one another through the mud. And Mark, you of all people should not be downplaying this! You're the pillar of the hobby, man! Don't try to sweep it under the rug! (I know you won't.)

Also, Uncle Dan said he wanted "off" the Linsey toady list.]

From Gary Coughlan (October 21)-- Let me say that, after reading your DBM "Toadies ect." issue, that you definately have an enemy now. I refer, of course, to Elsie. (I figure if Dick can manage to mention Julie's name in most of his letters, I can do the same with Elsie's).

Elsie (you remember her--the cow of "the old slavemaster from the South still fighting the Civil War") is really "out to pasture" because you didn't list her toadies (and she has some real frogs let me tell you!). I mean Elsie's toadies even send her mail, they print her picture in their zines, they discuss her lovelife in their gossip columns---why she even gets phone calls! (Of course I have to answer those). Please amend your list to read:

Elsie Coughlan Toadies

Steve Arnawoodian, Francine Byrne, Frank Byrne, Kathy Byrne, Caldwell's Dry Cleaners, John Caruso, Featherspring International Corp., Julie Glass, Dick Martin and Zimmerman products.

Before I get into the Martin-Coughlan theme of your last issue, let me just say that there are no Gary Coughlan Toadies. No Southerner (human that is!) has a toadie or is a toady. We're too individualistic for that! I think you owe Steven Duke and myself an apology or you could lose all your Southern subbers! With Elsie's subbership still up in the air, I don't think you can afford to alienate us too.

Hopefully by now you have received Dick's and my joint postcard. (I hope you will print it just for its aesthetic appeal alone!). Your DBM #34 and Kathy Byrne's friendship for both Dick and me helped end this quarrel.

10/15

hyork!-york!



Eric Ozog
1526 N. Lumber Ave
Chicago, IL

60651

Eric, (+ Joint Command?)

Here is our "limited" counterattack
with "relish" you begged for. There is
NO feud. We are pals! ^(hold the mustard) sorry
to disappoint your wishes. Aww!!

Sincerely,
-Fung
Take care,
Dick

I called him and we talked for about two hours. It was clear that we had been working at cross-purposes. What I had considered overtures, he found antagonistic and I felt the same way about his methods. But any two individuals will handle any situation differently.

Since the quarrel is over, I have only one thing I want to mention about Dick's letter and that is the reason why I plugged Retaliation. It was not "outright hypocrisy" or any hypocrisy at all that made me plug Retaliation at the time I did. It was my favorite zine at that time. After I plugged it (but not because of my plug, ha ha), Retaliation came in 5th in the Leeder Poll and 6th in the Marco Poll. It is clearly a favorite with many so why shouldn't it have been mine too? I just didn't like Dick, not his zine! However, I did think that when I plugged Retaliation was an excellent time to do so. Two birds with one stone and all that. I'm sending him a copy of this letter too.

Now for you, Eric! When you said in #34 that "it is extremely valuable to hear the 'other side' of the story", I couldn't agree more; I always do! So, I went straight to Kathy Byrne to get her side about your game with her at GenCon! Oh, how you lied to and tortured that poor child! And to think she trusted you so, you cad!

[Why did you reveal that one? Oh well--this issue is the great "scandal pit". Let's forget about Gen-Con, shall we?]

I don't care what Julie Glass writes about me! I will always be her devoted fan and a proud member of the "Glass Menagerie" (Many steps above being a mere toady). I also ask her forgiveness when I failed to send her a postcard reminding her that she hadn't answered my 7-page letter to her after two months. I'm so thoughtless that way.

Tell Bob Olsen that I will overlook his insouciance this once (I bet he has to look that one up! I know I did). Well tell me about St. Louis. I write this before I meet you and the Chicago Mafia October 24th.

[We were quite a group, weren't we? And why couldn't I print your follow-up note of Oct. 26th? It seemed extremely innocent, were you trying to bait me? (In it Gary said that Elsie mooed to him and said that she would forgive me if I printed her toady list.) What's so hush-hush about that? Oh.....were you joking?]

Three Notes From Dick Martin (10/10, 10/17, 11/7)--

1) Eric de boy! What is this, starting a fight between me + Gary!? Seriously, thanks a lot for your help in the matter. I'll be subbing to DEM soon, too. Really! Have fun in St. Louis! --DM
[See the reward you get from solving feuds and/or starting them? You get more sucker subbers.]

2) I warned you - if you kept pubbing, I'd sub to DEM. Here are my last pennies, the next 10 issues had better be good! Also, put me on your standby list. Does that make me an Ozog Double Toady? C'mon! Please? Take Care, Dick.

[Damned right you're my double toady. Bob Olsen is too. Standby list: Olsen, Martin (hyork, hyork how about some more?). And Dick, did your mouth drop open when you found out you were charged for all the "courtesies" you received? I'm sure others'did too! Hyork, hyork.]

3) Eric, your sub has expired! Time to renew, yes? How was St. Louis? I tried to call you guys, you know.

[Hyork, hyork, we weren't where you called, as you now know! A wasted call, yuk yuk! Enclosed is a check for renewal, steal reimbursement for the call from my check, hyork, hyork!]

From Andy Lischett (October 14th)-- Eric, so you decided to expose me, eh? Well, you'll live to regret it. There have been many tragic and mysterious sewer related "accidents" lately, and if I were you, I'd keep a wary eye on my sinks and toilets!

Changing subjects and pens, in Mike Conner's analysis of the 'zine poll in LONE STAR DIPLOMAT, he classified me as an "old-timer", so I feel qualified to offer some advice to a young pup like you.

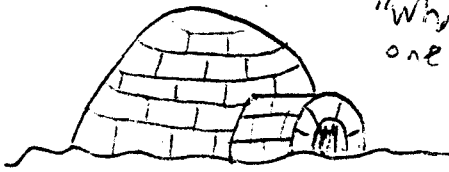
Now then, you whipper-snapper, when you print letters from subscribers, I don't like how you insert your own answers or comments in the middle of the letter. It is rude to the letter writer [huh?] who may have painstakingly composed the letter, and confusing to the reader [yeh, but what if the reader gets used to it?] who has to figure out who's talking. Why not put your comments after the letter, or if it's a long letter with several clear and distinct points, after each section?

[But this way is no fun! Er, when I look on your paragraph I so rudely interrupted, it does look kind of dumb. As you've seen earlier in the issue, I take it section by section now.]

I guess that's about all. I we both drive to St. Louis, do you wanna race? Even without pushing it, I'll bet you on the pit stops alone, since you are incapable of eating a hamburger and drinking a milkshake while driving. Haw, bring on Allen Wells! My "big old American car" will eat his Honda Stivic alive! (and spit out the bones).

[Yeh, you should have drove that *100,000 miled grimy LTD to St. Louis. It would have been quite a challenge and put some spice into your life. Maybe Dip-Con?]

NOCUTE ENVELOPE
THIS TIME!!!



"What? No
one to meet
us."

(3PB)

The Mark Lew Commentary (October 13th)

Well-I'm running out of stuff to talk about, but a letter per issue is a pretty darn good deal.

My apologies to Shreve. I know you, Mazzer, Olsen and Stafford are real, and also Ditter and Kozlowski, and I presume everyone on the Oaklyn toadies list is real, so I ask you! Who isn't real?

Quite a scoop there to get a hold of the Coughlan-Martin stuff. I just heard about it 2 days ago from Dick via phone and was totally surprised. It seems to me Dick made the common mistake of saying something sarcastic to

Boardman. I'll never forget the wise words of John Michalski; when I mentioned an idea to him (the idea was: Make a fake Graustark, send it to JB and say, "you probably never got a copy of the latest fake, so here's a xerox of mine"): "the Graustark idea isn't too good. The main idea of a fake is to have fun, but if it involves Boardman, there's no fun in that." Lesson: Suppress your urge to poke fun at/via JB and ignore him instead. Right.

You'll need to settle more than one dispute for the Dip peace prize. I think. I think Berch is the top competitor at the [illegible, is it nominee?].

NANOOK to UNCLE DAN: Next time you're bored, you're always welcome to call me at (907) BIDINKY, or else my clone Sherwood, he likes you too.

How much does DBM (sounds like BTD) cost anyway?

[I'll reveal that shoking news later. The revised rates may even turn you away.]

You're so right about if Le Front goes "down the tubes completely". I don't think the Brux clones realize the consequences it'll have on the delicate balance in the hobby (but we're expecting the second coming any time now, right?). (Say WATT??)

Who is this Halpern any and where has he been sticking his head all these years? I can't believe that letter! (Why of course, I see it all now that was a hoax).

[That letter Halpern wrote in #34 was his, when he used to like me.]

What you need is a contest, so I'll run it: 3 free issues (of what?) for the first one to guess the word Eric didn't print. You'll get a clue each issue. This month's clue is: It's my favorite word. Send answers to Mark Lew, address above. [See #34 for his address.]

Glad to see the games start so you'll be continuing. I hope they don't take up too much space though, press bores me and I hate the hype it raises.

Mark Lew. P.S. You are in "anarchy" and unnamed "game" in Benzene. Right? [Wrong! Take Care.]

From Keith Sherwood (2 days before postal rates raise again).--

Issue 34 was great! Hilariou! Vintage Ozog. Mazzer would be proud. Yes, I really liked your expose issue. Keep up the good work and great writing, and thanks for the definitive list on hobby toadies. I didn't realize you were "Hobby Toady Custodian." Has Walker asked you to join NADF yet?

Grand as your list was, it did have flaws. Notably, you were wrong every time with me. I am certainly neither a Brux nor Byrne toady, and I resent being called a toady of either. Please print a retractment. I am, however, a Dan Stafford toady. Ask Mazzer or Olsen. Also, Lew once called me a Martin clone. Phooey on him. Just because I was in "Fade Away" and "Mass Murders" Grrr....I'm a toady of Stafford's, Olsen's (if it will keep him writing press I'll do anything), Coughlan's (he's nice to me) and of course, yours. Go back and read first paragraph. See? Ozog Toady.

[So you huffed and puffed and blew my toady house down. Well, with you, It was mostly guesswork, but I wanted to throw you in there, so I had to make something up. I think for next year's toady list I will ask for votes about two or three months in advance from people all over the hobby to get a much more accurate and unbiased picture. Egg on my face again, Keith, so what else is new.]

Hey- I've got a quote of the month for you: Dan Stafford describes Keith Sherwood: "Hard Charging young pudwacker from Los Alamos." I fell out of my chair laughing!

Wow, Mark Lew draws too! Man of many talents.

I heard from Michalski (he has Watts line). Said he enjoyed SleazeCon. Said your hair wasn't too long or anything. (I'm becoming a Michalski Toady- He's so nice to me since we allied in Mass Murders). Hope to hear about ToadCon in #35.

I don't want 1979 IX to ever end. I keep getting DBM free for its existance. And since the price just went up by a ridiculous 10%, it's too damned expensive. The way Bernie plays, we may never finish! (Sorta) Sincerely, Keith.

[God, I hope it ends soon, or else I'm going to be bankrupt. 1979 IX was from the old Claw & Fang hierarchy, so I let the players slip on new sub rates. However, I'm afraid that was an unrealistic luxury for you guys that I cannot afford any more. If the following players of IX wish to be considerate and help out:

Stafford, Nelson & Sherwood

You will at the very least pay for the postage. I also ask for back postage of \$1.10 for issues #32 through #36. After that, send me stamps for postage until the game ends. I don't think I am asking much. Lischett and Oaklyn don't have to pay, for I trade my zine with theirs.]

 SO AS LONG AS I'M ON THE SUBJECT OF SUBSCRIPTION RATES, IT'S TIME TO SOCK IT TO YOU

DEM is xeroxed professionally now. I cannot get away with making a massive amount of copies at my office, thus, I pay to have it done. It costs me roughly 10 cents per double sided page. When postage costs are added, let's take a 10 page issue such as issue #35 costing me 70 cents each. I don't mind taking a loss on this operation, but I want to minimize it. Thus:

Subscriptions, Non Players-- \$6.00/10 issues (a 200% increase this time, Keith, Hyork, hyork.)

Subscription Renewal, Players of 1981 IK & IL-- \$3.00/10 issues (I've taken into account the hefty gamefees already paid.)

Special Standby Rate-- \$5.00/10 issues (when standby takes a position he may renew for \$3.00/10).

Special Orphan Rate-- \$5.00/10 issues (then falling to the renewal rate of 30 cents each until the end of the game).

Meanwhile, I'm to try to make the zine as cost-effective as possible by trying to find cheap xeroxing. Thus far this is the cheapest I've found.

All subscribers who paid the original rate of \$2.00/10 issues, don't worry, your sub will be honored until it runs out. No subscriptions beyond 10 issues are accepted, and the new rates are effective immediately.

Discounts-- There are no discounts, all previous discounts granted in Blackheart Houserules are null and void. I have yet to decide about discounts for articles submitted for print.

.....
OZOG II -- 1979 IX / Winter 1910 only, by two players' requests
.....

Autumn Retreats

RUS: f spa/sc R lyo TUR: a tri R otb

Winter Adjustments

FRA (6): Build f mar, Build a bel IMP (will be 1 short) TUR (6): Build f ank

ITA (4): Build a rom ENG (4): Even

RUS (14): Build a ank IMP, a nap IMP, a bre IMP, a lon IMP

Positions After Winter 1910

ENG [Stafford] a edi, a par, f por, f spa/nc

FRA [Nelson] f enc, a pic, a hol, a vie, f mar

ITA [Lischett] a ven, a rom, f tyn, f wes

RUS [Oaklyn] a nwy, f nth, f lon, f lvp, f wal, a bur, f lyo, a boh, a tyo, a tri, a ukr,
f rum, f bla, a con

TUR [Sherwood] f adr, a ser, f aeg, f bul/sc, f smy, f ank

COA: Keith Sherwood, 4332 Sycamore, Los Alamos, New Mexico, 87544 (From Dec 2nd through Jan 1st)

DEADLINE for Spring 1911 is Friday January 8th 1982. I am bumping the deadline forward one week because New Years Day falls on my first Friday. Spring moves are on file from everyone.

Stale Press Left Over From Fall 1910

(Rome to GM) Gee, I know his first name is Keith, but I've forgotten the Turkish player's last name. Would you happen to know it?

(GM to Rome) Sure would.

(Smy to Mos) Please send me a copy of the Le Front you put my letter in? I'll put a good word in for you with Michalski... (he doesn't think you will- don't you want to prove him wrong?).

Russian press being held until the Spring season.

.....
OZOG III -- 1981 IK / Spring 1901: DULLSVILLE, USA, WHEN COMPARED TO THE DEVILISH LOCAL GAME. . .
.....

AUS [Reynolds] a vie-gal, a bud-ser, f tri-alb

ENG [Ashley] f edi-nwg, f lon-nth, a lvp-yor

FRA [Duke] f bre-mid, a par-bur, a mar S a par-bur

GER [Tallman] f kie-den, a ber-kie, a mun-ruh

ITA [Palter] a ven-pie, a rom-ven, f nap-ion

RUS [Stafford] f stp/sc-bot, a mos-ukr, a war-gal, f sev H

TUR [Burgess] a con-bul, f ank-con, a smy-see press below U H

DEADLINE for Fall 1901 is Friday January 8th 1982

(Smyrna) Naval forces learn that the God of War (the Ozog of Strife) has denied them a fleet in their main port and are building boats to be run on moonlight. They are expected to burn copies of DBM #34 on moonless nights. ETC Winter 1901.

(Smyrna, cont.) Naval commanders are busily teaching foot soldiers how to be good sailors. As such they have been sent on a swim to Crete and back thru the Eastern Med. Results of the marathon swim are forthcoming.

[Ozog--Smyrna] Did I not say that no one North of Greenbelt understood humor? And don't make fun about my 'affliction'! Oh yeh, I'll print your letter next issue. All 'pro Ozog' stuff comes first. Only joking. God, how I hate throwing in that line "only joking." Hell, let the reader determine whether or not I am joking.

(Tallman Press) Well Eric, It's obviously too early to tell if cassette tapes will replace the phone & letter writing in postal dipness. I've felt like the new kid on the block now since the notice for Ozog III came out. I get the impression everyone is trying to figure out whether to be polite or kick me around a little to see what I'll do. Thus far no one has really lived up to what I expected- based on what everyone else has told me.

And yes- I've reached beyond your zine (I hate that word) to gather my data base. I've had to add a whole new drawer in my player-files to keep track of all the stars & non-entities floating around. And as much as you guys bad mouth each other you still seem to play in one another's games. To an uninformed outsider, like myself, there would appear to be some really bizarre personality conflicts.

And then you tell me it's all in fun?

Hmm?? I repeat my earlier question from 2 issues ago...What have you got me into? I suspect the whole crew would have trouble putting together a half rack. Oh well- Keep 'em flying.

[Ozog--Tallman] Of course it is all in fun. On my end anyway. I just received Anduin #4 and John Caruso has labeled me "The hobby's biggest joke of 1981". Charming! How well put! It's my joke on the hobby and I get the last laugh. And a whole new drawer just for us! I hope you filed my name under "Stars". That's where I belong, of course you know.

(France to England) You swine! I know what you plan on doing.

[Ozog--France] Swine? I thought this was all in fun?

.....
OZOG IV -- 1981 IL / Fall 1901; THREE BOUNCES IN MUNICH AND THREE BUILDS FOR RUSSIA
.....

AUS [Shreve] a bud-tri, a ser S a bud-tri, f alb-gre
ENG [O'Donnell] f enc-bel, a yor-nwy, f nth C a yor-nwy
FRA [Gervais] a mar-pie, f mid-spa/sc, a bur-mun
GER [Johnson] a kie-hol, a ruh-mun, f den H
ITA [Kaplan] a apu-tun, f ion C a apu-tun, a tyo-mun
RUS [Amstadt] a gal-vie, f rum H, a stp-fin, f bot-swe
TUR [Glass] a bul-gre, a con-bul, f bla S a con-bul

SUPPLY CENTERS

AUS -3- vie bud tri SER (3) Even
ENG -3- edi lvp lon NWY BEL (5) Build 2
FRA -3- bre par mar SPA (4) Build 1
GER -3- ber kie mun DEN HOL (5) Build 2
ITA -3- ven rom nap TUN (4) Build 1
RUS -4- stp mos war sev SWE VIE RUM (7) Build 3
TUR -3- con ank smy BUL (4) Build 1

DEADLINE for Winter 1901 Only is Friday January 8th 198.

(Austria to Turkey) At least you haven't lied to me. What's in it for you- Greece and an Italian boot in the posterior?

(Austria to the Non-Russian/Italian World) You guessed it, I am not your usual Austrian. I refuse to begin lying for anyone, and I enjoy being obnoxious too much to play the position well. At any

rate, I wish to extend my heart-felt thanks to all these who have not yet attacked me and to voice my continuing confidence in my allies, the brave and stalwart Albanians.

(Russia to Austria) This is an official declaration of war.

A standby for this game is Mike Quirk, 3830 Chester Dr., Glenview, IL 60025. I hope to get at least one other standby. I also will do everything possible to keep the game of local players only

 A dusty July letter from Brux which analyzes my houserules, and a few houserule changes

Dear Eric,

Your houserules: the main problems are many points which are missing entirely. These I won't go over, because you can read my houserules and find out what I'm talking about. So let me diseuss the ones you do have.



I. I dislike the provision for partial credit if the guy is wiped out by '03. To me, that's just encouragement to try to make sure all my centers are gone, if I've done poorly the first two years. I don't think it will help the game any, and indeed it may hurt it.

The rest of this rule is fine.

[I thought about it and decided you were right; I've eliminated it anyhow because I cannot afford it. Attention please! Deleat paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 of part I.]

II. I would be happy to serve as an "unbiased authority" for you if any situations come up. That is, if you consider me to be an expert -- which is highly debatable.

I do not think it is a good idea to require a player to report an error. Reason: it's an unenforceable rule. If the party who is hurt by it is awake, he'll catch it and notify you. The rest of this rule is very well done.

[I think I would use you as a higher authority. You are a little too strict though for my tastes, but I believe you at least know the difference between right and wrong. I think I'll go one step further though and get a second and third opinion just to be safe.

As for requiring a player to report an error, I'm not. It is in his best interest to do so though, and you've pointed that out already. There are no more adjudication errors anyhow, nor will there ever be; deleat paragraph 3 part 1 under part 2, general gamesmastering policy.]

III. I think you should be 100% strict about deadlines, even for collect calls. I find that my policy of "two seconds after 8PM is too late" has worked well.

Thanks for crediting me with part of your houserules design!

[I'm revising my deadline policy as follows: Phone calls to or from the GM to be accepted no later than the Friday deadline, mailed moves no later than Saturday. I will always be home on the Friday deadline to accept or place calls, from 7:00 PM to 12:00 midnight, my time.

I am doing this because Andy Lischett brought up a valuable point: suppose some joker calls his opponent up on the phone on Saturday and asks where he moved? He then can sluff off his own moves until later Saturday and change them. Get it? I can't allow that one to happen.]

IV. You state that a missed removal will be made by the GM, but you don't say how to decide which piece. In VD, I ignore the "farthest from home" rule entirely, because it is hopelessly ambiguous.

Civil disorder stinks. I just finished running a game in VD where a one-center standby Italy played a large and direct role in the final outcome. Every position is important. Call a standby, even for one-center positions.

Your provision for neutral orders is also a very serious error. Never use a "ghost player" -- this denies other players the opportunity for negotiation before the moves. In my opinion, you ought to list seven sets of S '01 neutral moves in your houserules. In F '01 and W'01, all units hold. The way you have this rule now, I would be very reluctant to sign up...

[You sure like to complicate things, but regardless of the dreary details, you're right again. Your houserules for VOD are damned good, despite their length. For missed Winter removals, I will remove units in the following order-- from non-spply centers outside of the home country first,

then units from supply centers not in the home country, then units from non-supply centers in the home country, and finally from home supply centers. Within each of those four groups, I will go in alphabetical order (plagerized from VOD houserules, the finest in the hobby).

As for Civil Disorder for one or two center positions, scratch it. But Bruce, you must admit that most people don't like playing little positions. I'll try it your way anyhow.

Now for neutral orders, you're right again; keep the players informed on how the country will be moved in Spring 1901 if the player NMRs. For missed moves, Spring 1901 only, I will use the below neutral moves:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| AUS: a vie H, a bud-ser, f tri-alb | ITA: a rom-apu, a ven H, f nap-ion |
| ENG: a lvp-yor, f edi-nwg, f lon-nth | RUS: a mos-ukr, a war H, f sev-rum, f stp/sc-bot |
| FRA: a par-pic, a mar-spa, f bre-mid | TUR: a con-bul, a smy H, f ank-con |
| GER: a ber-kie, a mun-ruh, f kie-den | |

Spring/Fall seasons including Fall 1901 will result in all units hold, the result of an NMR.]

V. Is good.

VI. Is good, but you might want to add "AMB" for ambiguous.

[You heard the man, add AMB to my list of abbreviations.]

Again, a glance thru my houserules will show you some of the major points you're lacking; there are too many for me to go over in detail now.

[I've glanced and glanced again through your houserules and I won't glance again. I don't want to get lost in them again. I think you revealed nearly all the rotten wood of my houserules and I've patched the holes that let too much draft in. What I'm trying to say is we've now covered all the major points and let's forget about the little stuff which would only occur in a game situation once in a blue moon...

Speaking of the moon, change houserule VII (from #33). When a full moon or eclipse strikes on the deadline day, I'll still accept the orders, only I won't adjudicate on that night. I'll do that on Sunday, far enough away from doomsday Friday to be safe, yet the monthly schedule will not be upset by delays. By the way, the next Full Moon First Friday is in September of next year. I'll check Chicago's Adler Planetarium about the eclipses, if any. Can't be too careful.

Thanks Bruce, for your helpful comments. I'll stay a loyal Linsey toady.]

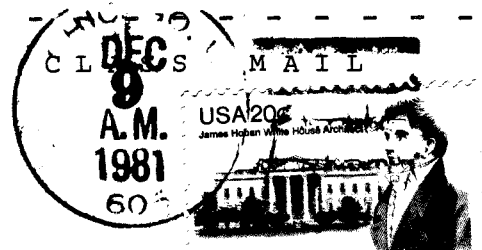
If you too wish to be a Linsey toady, write him, flatter him and sub to his zine, Voice of Doom. Address: 24A Quarry Drive, Albany, NY 12205. Tell him Ozog sent you and get a discount.

Merry Christmas and have a happy new year, ect.

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Charging in where others have already been.

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