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No.23



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 position. Game openings are NOT available.
 Deadline for all games is Tuesday, Oct. 10.

Welcome, bloodfans, to yet another heartwarming issue. This is an especially wrenching volume as several players will find that they have been wiped out. If you look closely at the games you will see painful evidence of some fairly shoddy play. You will also see some play that would make even Patton proud. Can you determine which is which?

We were somewhat disappointed by our mediocre (at best) showing in John Leeder's North American Zine Poll (30th place). But for those of you who did take the time and trouble to send in your vote, we sincerely thank you. Top honors were taken by THE BRUTUS BULLETIN (John Michalski, Rt. 10, Box 526Q, Moore, OK 73165). I would also like to congratulate Mark Berch (DIPLOMACY DIGEST, 492 Naylor Pl, Alexandria, VA 22304) for his 3rd place finish.

But we were somewhat pleased with our finishing first in the GM poll. This is a little misleading, however, as we only received two votes (albeit both votes gave us perfect scores). Now I realize that I am by no means perfect as a GM, but it is nice to know that two of you out there think so. We do thank you. Congrats also are in order for Bob Sergeant (St. GEORGE & the DRAGON, 3242 Lupine Dr, Indianapolis, Ind. 46224) for his fifth place finish.

And now, I have some news of major importance concerning this rag. First of all, we are forced to discontinue the colored maps for each game. They do take quite a bit of time to do but the main reason is because, with seven games going, I no longer have the room to put them in. Each game was taking an entire page, not the most effective use of printing space.

Secondly, we plan on returning to our original 3-week deadlines starting next issue. That is, unless I hear outrageous cries of protest from you the players.

In this issue we have the final chapter (at least in these pages) on the Bernie Oaklyn/Buddy Tretick affair, including some letters from Conrad von Metzke and Rod Walker. Also, we have the requested reprint of the second article mentioned last issue. For you old timers here who have read it before, please feel free to skip it.

And now.....the games.

 DIPLOMACY is a registered trademark for a game invented by Allen B. Calhamer and copyrighted by Avalon Hill Corporation, 4517 Hartford Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21214.

1977CQ

Thermopylae

Fall,1908

SIXTEEN DOWN, TWO MORE TO GO FOR AUSTRIA. ENGLISH ROUT CONTINUES.

- AUSTRIA (Ditter) : A Con-Ank, F Bla (S) A Con-Ank, F Eas-Smy, F Aeg (S) F Eas-Smy, A Sev-Arm, A Gal-Sil, A StP-Nwy, A Fin (S) A StP-Nwy, A Lvn-StP, A Tyo (S) A Mun, A Ruh (S) French A Pic-Bel, A Mun (S) French A Kie
- ENGLAND (Sokol) : A Kie r/Den. F Nwy-H, A Lpl-H, A Den-Swe, F Hol (S) A Bel, A Bel (S) F Hol(anni), F Nth (S) F Nwy, F Gas-Bre, F Wal-Iri F Eng (S) F Wal-Iri
- FRANCE (Morrison) : F Bre-Eng, F Iri (S) F Bre-Eng, F Mid (S) F Bre-Eng, F Nat-Nwg, A Par-Bre, F Spa(sc) (S) F Mid, A Pic-Bel, A Bur (S) A Pic-Bel, A Kie-H
- TURKEY (Carpenter) : A Arm-Smy, A Ank (S) A Arm-Smy

SUPPLY CENTER CHART

1908

- Austria: (16) Home, Ser, Rum, Ven, War, Mos, Sev, Gre, Bul, Mun, StP, Con, Smy, Ank BUILD 3 (1 short)
- England: (7) Home, Nwy, Swe, Den, Hol, ~~Bel~~, ~~Kie~~ REMOVE 1
- France : (11) Home, Spa, Por, Tun, Rom, Nap, Ber, Bel, Kie BUILD 2
- Turkey : (0) Ank, Smy OUT

Winter,1908 and Spring,1909 orders are due by the deadline date. Many thanks to Vic Carpenter for taking over a very beset Turkish position and sticking with it to the end.

1977CQ PRESS

London to Paris and Austria: I will support whoever asks for help first.

1977FL

Cynoscephalae

Fall,1907

CZAR BOTCHES AS GERMANS CONTINUE TO ROLL!

- AUSTRIA (Sergeant) : A War-H(r/Mos or Out)
- ENGLAND(Morrison) : F Lon-H(r/Yor,Wal,OTB), F Swe-Nwy, F Nwg (S) F Swe-Nwy
- GERMANY (Sokol) : F Nth-Lon, A Yor-Lpl, F Eng (S) F Nth-Lon, F Den (S) Russian A Nwy-Swe, A Gas-Spa, A Mar (S) A Gas-Spa, A Bur (S) A Mar, A Ven-Rom
- ITALY (Hayman) : A Mar r/Pie. F Ion C A Alb-Nap, A Alb-Nap, A Tri-Ven, F Adr (S) A Tri-Ven, F Apu (S) A Tri-Ven, A Pie-Mar, F Spa(sc) (S) A Pie-Mar
- RUSSIA (Machir) : A Nwy-Swe, A StP-Nwy, A Ukr-War, A Gal (S) A Ukr-War, A Vie-Bud, A Rum (S) A Vie-Bud(r/Ukr,OTB), F Sev-Bla(nsu), F Arm (S) F Sev-Bla(nsu), A Sev-H(u/o)
- TURKEY (Berch) : F Aeg (S) F Gre, F Gre-H, F Ank-Arm, A Bul-Rum, F Bla + A Ser + A Bud (S) A Bul-Rum

An error was made last time as Russia had A Sev, not F Sev. All players were notified of the error, including Mr. Machir. Winter,1907 and Spring,1908 orders are due by the deadline date. See the supply center chart, next page.

1977FL PRESS

Ankara to Sevastopol: Tit-for-tat.

1977FL SUPPLY CENTER CHART 1907

<u>Austria</u> :(1?) Tun, Mos?	EVEN?
<u>England</u> :(2) Lon , Lpl , Edi, Swe	REMOVE 1
<u>Germany</u> :(12) Home, Den, Bel, Bre, Par, Hol, <u>Mar</u> , <u>Rom</u> , <u>Lon</u> , <u>Lpl</u>	BUILD 3 (1 short)
<u>Italy</u> :(5) Ven, Rom , Nap, Mar , Spa, Por, Tri	REMOVE 2
<u>Russia</u> :(6?) Mos?, War, StP, Sev, Nwy, Spa , Rom , Vie	REMOVE 2?
<u>Turkey</u> :(8) Home, Bul, Gre, Ser, Bud, <u>Rum</u>	BUILD 1

1977KQ Apollyon Fall,1904

FRENCH HALT TURKISH DRIVE WESTWARD. LAST TRUMPET FOR ITALY??

<u>AUSTRIA</u> (Carpenter) :	A War (S) Turkish A Sev-Mos, A Tyo-Ven, A Tus + A Tri (S) A Tyo-Ven, A Vie (S) A Tri
<u>ENGLAND</u> (Pyfrom) :	F Iri-Lpl, F Lon-Wal, F Edi-H, F StP(nc)-Nwy
<u>FRANCE</u> (Carson) :	F Wal-Lon, F Bre-Mid, A Pic-Par, A Mar-H, A Spa-H, <u>A Bel (S) Russian</u> A Mos(sic)
<u>GERMANY</u> (Wolfskill) :	A Fin-StP, F Nwy (S) A Fin-StP, F Den-Nth, A Hol-H, A Mun-Sil, F Nwg (S) F Den-Nth, <u>A Pru-War</u>
<u>ITALY</u> (Kendter,Sr.):	A Ven-Tri(r/Pie,Apu,OTB), <u>A Rom-Nap</u> , F Adr (S) A Ven-Tri
<u>RUSSIA</u> (Rogowski) :	A War r/Lvn. <u>A Mos-StP(anui)</u> , A Lvn (S) A Mos-StP
<u>TURKEY</u> (Hayman) :	A Sev-Mos, A Ukr (S) A Sev-Mos, <u>F Wes-Mid</u> , F Ion-Nap, F Tyr (S) F Ion-Nap F Aeg (S) F Eas-Ion, F Eas-Ion

SUPPLY CENTER CHART -----1904

<u>Austria</u> :(7) Home, Gre, Ser, <u>Ven</u> , <u>War</u>	BUILD 2
<u>England</u> :(4) Home, StP	EVEN
<u>France</u> :(6) Home, Spa, Por, Bel	EVEN
<u>Germany</u> :(7) Home, Den, Hol, Swe, Nwy	EVEN
<u>Italy</u> :(1) Rom, Nap , Ven	REMOVE 2
<u>Russia</u> :(0)/ War , Mos	OUT
<u>Turkey</u> :(9) Home, Bul, Rum, Sev, Tun, <u>Nap</u> , <u>Mos</u>	BUILD 2

Winter,1904 and Spring,1905 orders are due by the deadline date. Thanks to Jerry Rogowski for taking over the Russian position and fighting until the end.

COA: Lt. J.V. Carpenter, PSC 3 General Delivery, Lackland AFB,Texas 78236

-----1977KQ PRESS-----

Paris, Fall 1904: Holy Moly Can't anybody stop those Turkish swines? Teddy R., where are the fleets you promised me? Long live Germany.

What did Col. Harland Sanders and 800 guests at a weekend party celebrating the 88th birthday of Kentucky Fried Chicken's founder dine on? Roast beef, naturally

1977HP

Trafalgar

Spring, 1907

AUSSIES & ITALIANS CASH IN ON ENGLISH BLUNDER!

- AUSTRIA (Crockett) : Builds F Tri. A Mun-H, A Tyo (S) A Mun, A Boh (S) A Mun, A Sil-War, A War-Lvn, A Mos (S) A War-Lvn, A Sev-Rum, A Arm-Sev, F Wes-Mid, F Tri-Adr
- ENGLAND(McElvaney) : F Por-Spa(sc), F Mid (S) F Por-Spa(sc)(r/Por,Gas,Iri,NAI,OTB), F Eng-H, F Nth-H, A Lvn-Pru, A StP-Lvn, A Fin-StP, F Bar (S) A Fin-StP
- GERMANY (Kodman) : Removes A Spa. A Gas-Bre, A Bur (S) A Mar, A Mar-H, A Ruh-Mun, F Swe-H, A Kie + A Ber (S) A Ruh-Mun, F Bal (S) Russian A Lvn-Pru(nsu)
- ITALY (Kelly) : Builds F Nap. F Bla (S) Austrian A Sev-Rum, A Smy-Con, F Nap-Tyr, F Naf (S) Austrian F Wes-Mid, A Pie-Mar, F Lyo (S) A Pie-Mar, A Ven-Pie
- RUSSIA (Hayman) : Removes F Pru. F Rum-H(r/Bul,OTB)

Fall, 1907 orders are due by the deadline date. Moves may NOT be made conditional on the amount of rainfall on Oct. 1 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

1978??

Apocolypse

Fall, 1901

FRENCH OUTGUESS ITALIANS AS GERMANS AND AUSTRIANS HIT PAYDIRT

- AUSTRIA (Sherwood) : A Gal-War, F Alb-Gre, A Ser (S) F Alb-Gre
- ENGLAND(Kazakiewicz) : F Eng-Bel, A Yor-Nwy, F Nth C A Yor-Nwy
- FRANCE (Shreve) : A Spa-Mar, F Mid-Por, A Pic (S) German A Ruh-Bel
- GERMANY(Kendter, Sr.) : F Den-Swe, A Kie-Hol, A Ruh-Bel
- ITALY (Machir) : A Pie-Mar, A Nap-Rom, F Ion-Tun
- RUSSIA (Zornow) : F GoB-Swe, A StP-Fin, A Ukr-Rum, F Sev (S) A Ukr-Rum
- TURKEY (Ledder) : A Bul-Rum, A Con-Bul, F Ank-Bla

SUPPLY CENTER CHART

1901

<u>Austria</u> :(6) Home, <u>Ser</u> , <u>Gre</u> , <u>War</u>	BUILD 3
<u>ENGLAND</u> :(4) Home, <u>Nwy</u>	BUILD 1
<u>France</u> :(5) Home, <u>Spa</u> , <u>Por</u>	BUILD 2
<u>Germany</u> :(6) Home, <u>Den</u> , <u>Hol</u> , <u>Bel</u>	BUILD 3
<u>Italy</u> :(4) Home, <u>Tun</u>	BUILD 1
<u>Russia</u> :(4) War , <u>Mos</u> , <u>Sev</u> , <u>StP</u> , <u>Rum</u>	EVEN
<u>Turkey</u> :(4) Home, <u>Bul</u>	BUILD 1

Winter, 1901 builds are due by the deadline date.

COAs: Tom Sherwood, 3238 Senasal, Long Beach, California 90808
 Dwayne Shreve, 2732 Ezekiel, Zion, Illinois 60099
 Fred Zornow, 315 Pinehurst St., Troy, New York 12182

Press follows on next page.

APOCALYPSE PRESS

London: England apologizes for the lack of communication. Communication should improve next season. //It better//.

Paris: The French government reportedly initiated a Pogroms for Peace Program. British tourists were reportedly being given tours of specially designed family camps in rural Gascony.

Constantinople: The Sultan of Turkey finds it difficult to understand the silence from so many of his neighbors. Is it his imperial bad breath? Why does anyone sign up to play this game and then refuse to negotiate?

1977K

Armageddon

Winter, 1908

THE PAUSE THAT REFRESHES

England: F Spa(sc) r/Por, Builds A Lon. Has A Lon, F Por, F Bre, A Ruh, F Mid, A Bel, A Kie, A StP, F Den, F Bel, A Nwy, F Nth

France : Has A Bur

Germany: F Kie r/OTB. Has A Mun

Italy : Builds A Ven. Has A Ven, F Mar, A Pie, F Lyo, F NAF

Russia : Removes A Lvn. Has A Ber

Turkey : Builds A Ank, A Smy (plays 1 short). Has A Ank, A Smy, F Spa(sc), F Wes, F Tyr, F Ion, A Vie, A Sil, A Gal, A War, A Ukr, A Mos, F Con.

Seasons were separated per player request. There is a proposal for a 3-way draw between E/I/T. Please vote when you send in your orders and remember, absence of a vote counts as YES

Bernie Oaklyn/Buddy Tretick--Final Chapter

Last issue I made an appeal for some concrete evidence to support the claim going around in some circles that Bernie Oaklyn is indeed one Buddy Tretick. As hoped, I received many responses. Letters from Conrad von Metzke and Rod Walker appear herein. I will make no judgements nor issue any warnings. I will let you, the readers, draw your own conclusions. The evidence is as follows:

- 1). I have in my possession a Xerox copy of a mailgram sent by "Bernie Oaklyn" to the GM of a game in which "Bernie" is playing. Western Union shows on its mailgrams not only the name of the sender, but also the name in which the telephone is registered to. In the upper left hand corner, the name shown is "Buddy Tretick".
- 2). A player has his canceled check for subbing to "Oaklyn's" zine. Bernard (Buddy) Tretick deposited this to his account.
- 3). Another player sent "Oaklyn" a registered letter. "Tretick" signed for it.
- 4). I called Long Distance Information (Maryland) myself and, asking for Bernie Oaklyn's telephone number, I was told there's no such listing. I then asked for Bernard Tretick's number and was told it's unlisted. There is a big difference between the two.
- 5). Oaklyn himself says (in his letter published last issue) that he first became acquainted with Tretick by looking him up in the phone book. Any of you people ever found an unlisted number in the phone book?
- 6). I have not seen this myself, but a very good friend just informed me that in one of Oaklyn's recent issues, he moved a player's unit "due to player incompetence". This is exactly what Tretick used to do.

The letters begin on page 9.

#####

"alcala"
1273 crest dr.
encinitas ca 92024
27 august 1978

Steve McLendon
Box 57066
Webster TX 77598

Dear Steve:

Conrad von Metzke mentioned to me that you've gotten involved in the Buddy Tretick/"Bernie Oaklyn" business. He's written you but asked if I might drop you a note on one item.

Actually, I've just written Buddy to inform him that I'm fully aware he is "Bernie Oaklyn", that I don't see what difference it makes at this point, and I'm not involved in the situation any more. I promised several people I would look into the matter and make a determination. I have done so. I believe Conrad rehearsed the evidence: the handwriting, the telegrams, the cashed checks, the writing style, the 'zine format, the story about finding a number in the phone book which was in fact unlisted, and so on.

I believe that Conrad also indicated that, contrary to his expectations, nobody...Conrad and I don't...bears him any ill will at this point. We are hoping that things have chanced since 1971, but we are understandably cautious about this. There are still some people in the hobby, Arn Vagts and Charlie Reinsel for instance, who would gladly wring Buddy/"Bernie"'s neck.

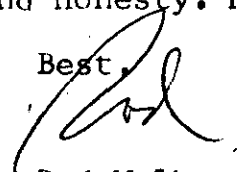
I'm dropping this note just to cover the CLAW & FANG situation. Don Horton bears no responsibility for what happened. I do. Since 1969, my House Rules have had a rule on pseudonyms. The current edition (1 May 1976) states that no person may play in one of my games using an assumed name. Since Tretick violated that rule by attempting to enter as "Oaklyn", he was ineligible to play. I accordingly instructed Don to remove his name from those registered.

As I have told Buddy, this is no reflection on his merits as a player (which, based on past experience, are considerable). However, I am not about to tolerate a violation of my House Rules. If Buddy/"Bernie" seriously believes he has a method of altering my decision, he's welcome to try. I may lose a nanosecond of sleep over it.

In any event, the last two issues of FLD (I.3 & I.4) strongly suggest that we're dealing with a fairly flaky character. The fact that he is the same flake that we were dealing with prior to 1972 is only a complication. For myself, I have more important things to do than ~~WXXX~~ to allow myself to get more involved with Tretick's small potatoes. I have fulfilled a promise I made to others, and having done so I no longer wish to be involved.

(On the other hand, I expect the controversy to continue for a while. It's a confusing question, and few people remain in the hobby who remember Tretick very well. I don't anticipate Buddy is trying to rip anybody off, as has been suggested elsewhere, but I do wish he had chosen to deal with the hobby at large with more trust and honesty. He might have been gratified by the reaction.)

Best,



Rod Walker

Dear Steve,

It may very well be that "Bernie Oaklyn" is a real person, and it may also be that he is a perfectly competent, honest and reliable gamesmaster/publisher. Frankly, the publications of his which I've seen look fairly good, and at least a couple of his players seem happy. But I am concerned with the necessity for all this subterfuge; if Oaklyn is Tretick, why not just say so and quit trying to hide? Tretick was - I emphasize the past tense - easily the worst GM/publisher this hobby has ever seen, and what makes most of us old-timers so mad is not that he made mistakes or abandoned games (hell, we've done that often enough ourselves), but that he had the audacity to abandon games in progress in order to make room in his magazine for new games (involving new fees, of course). He is one of only two GMs ever to have had a game voted out of his magazine by its players - and it happened at least twice with Tretick.

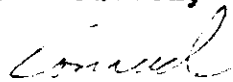
If, on the other hand, Oaklyn is not Tretick, then why the elaborate trail of clues leading most observers to believe otherwise?

I admit I can't prove the truth, though I am quite convinced that either Tretick is Oaklyn, or ~~the~~ the two are so closely linked that it doesn't much matter. I will not, however, allow DW subscribers to be led into this miasma through my failure to issue fair warning. If time proves me wrong, and whoever-he-is turns out to be perfectly competent these days, then I'll change my vote later. Roughly speaking, if "Oaklyn" can manage to publish steadily and accurately (more or less) for a year or so, and see one or two games through to genuine conclusion, then I'll be happy to list him in DW and elsewhere. But not now, thanks.

As for allowing "Oaklyn" equal time (I assume you mean in DW), my pages are awfully cramped. He can, of course, submit a letter to the editor, which may or may not be published (as ~~may~~ all letters to the editor).

In the short run, I don't blame you in the slightest for insisting on more than mere rumor before you decide your own approach. In the long run, I fear you will be doing your readers a gross disservice by recommending, by implication or otherwise, the Buddy/Bernie complex. But we shall see, eh?

Arrivederci,



Conrad von Metzke

PS: One more DWQ bit of evidence that may interest you, since you published it. In his letter to Jim Bones, Oaklyn says that he looked Tretick up in the 'phone book. You can check this out yourself; Tretick has (and has had for years) an unlisted number.

#####

//Well, Conrad, I was not aware that I had recommended ANYTHING in my last issue, by implication or otherwise. My message was simply that any responsible journalist, whether he be a small time dippy publisher or the editor of a big tim newspaper, if he is going to print something like "John Doe is a creep so stay away from him", should also print what evidence he has to support his accusation. If a publisher is not willing to put evidence in print, then the accusation should not be in print either.//

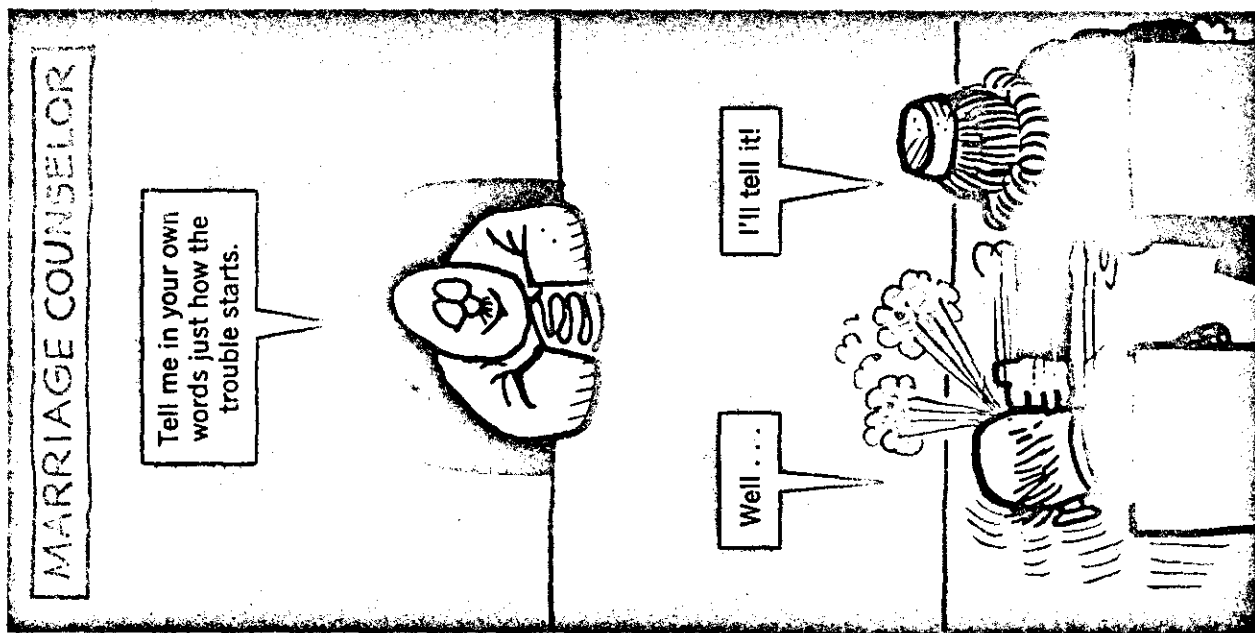
For those of you wondering about the two different type sets appearing in this issue, it's because I typed part of this blasted thing at the office. Well, actually it was in the Control Center during the middle of the night while we were babysitting Skylab.

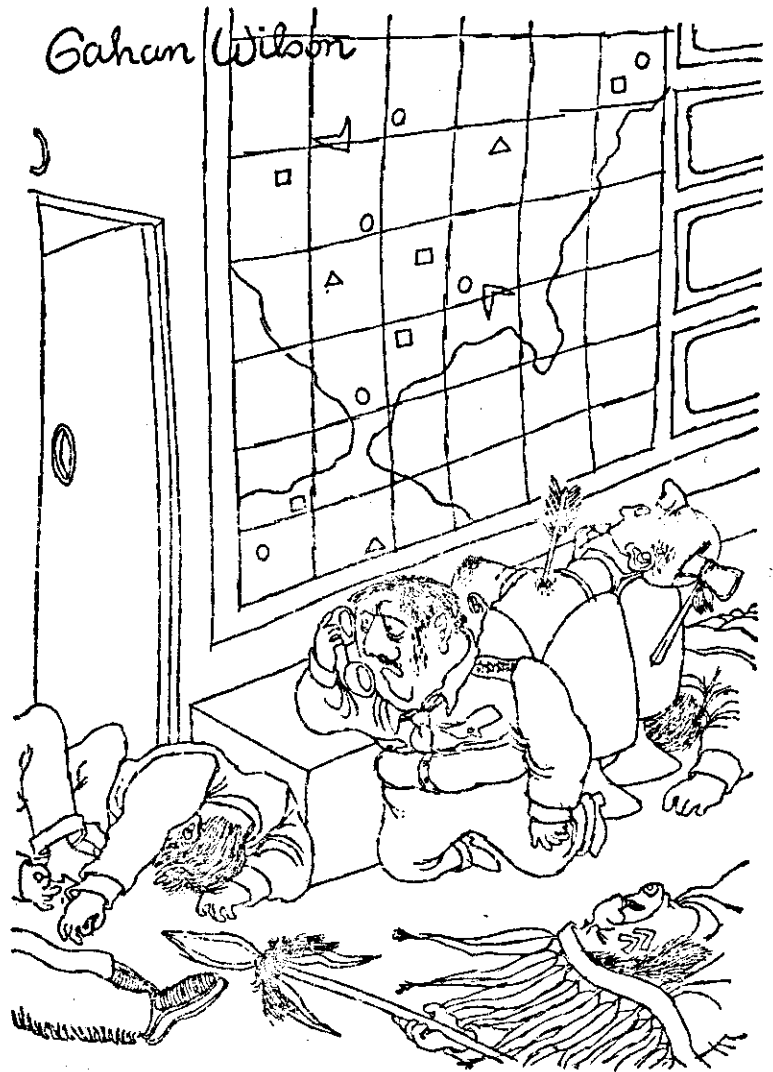
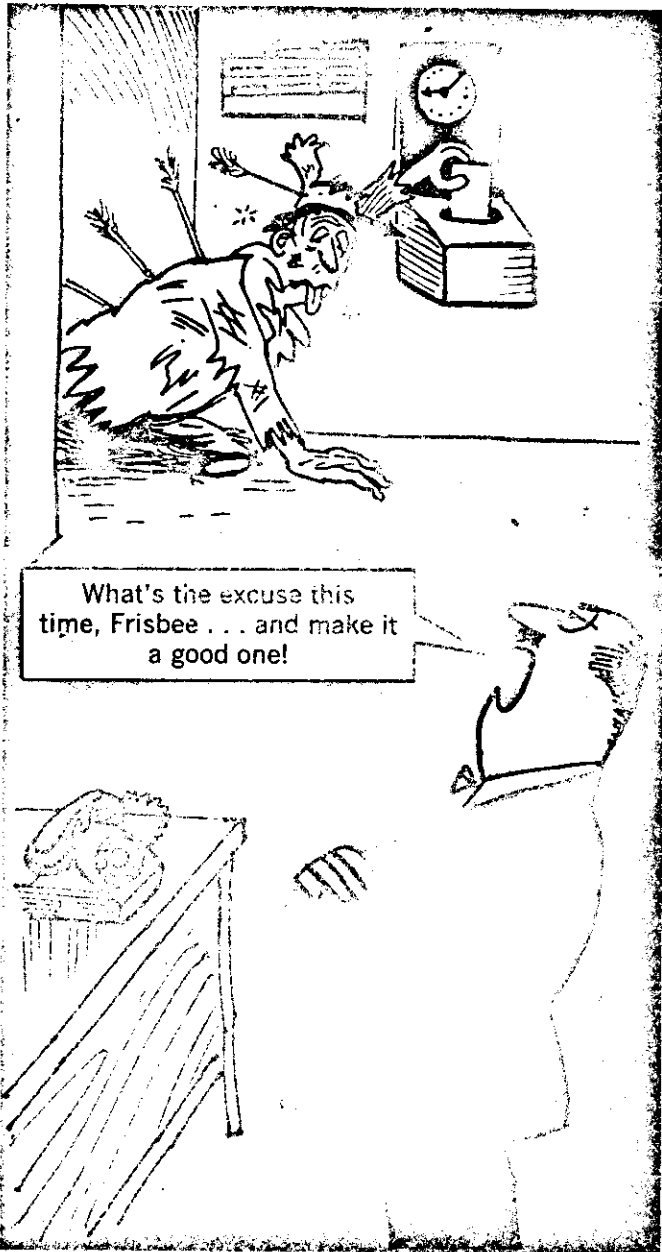
Skylab, by the way, is doing just fine. We have extended its lifetime by at least a year, and calculations show that it will re-enter no sooner than the summer of 1980. Hopefully, we will be able to get a Shuttle Orbiter up to it by the Spring of 1980.

We are now conducting studies to see if Skylab can be used as a base from which astronauts could build a space station. Skylab would be used for the crew quarters while they suited up and sallied forth to join together and weld the large space structures together.

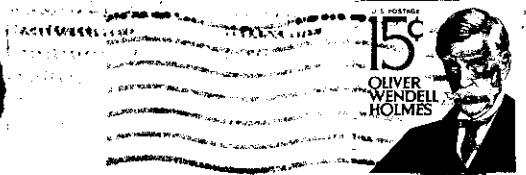
Speaking of astronauts, sometime I am going to have to give you a rundown on what they are really like, especially our new crop of females. Believe me, they are not like any women I have ever met before, and I don't mean that in a complimentary fashion. So just standby. The TRUTH about our world famous heroes will be exposed in these humble pages.

Well, that's all I have to bore you with for now. I'll close this thing out with a few little cartoons. No permission was asked. Sue me.





Steve McLendon
 Box 57066
 Webster, Texas 77598



___Please standby in game___
 ___Your sub expires with this issue

ROD WALKER
 "alcala"
 1273 CREST DR.
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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