

Cheer up -- it could be your girlfriend who was 3 weeks late instead of this

Issue #11 of

DOWN 'N' DIRTY

Sept. 14, 1981

edited by Dave Marshall, who is currently in the process of vacating 1547 Maple-grove Road, South Euclid, OH 44121 for greener pastures (SEE BELOW). Telephone remains (216) 382-6623 until further notice.

1980 LP (DnD-1: The Toadies' Game)

SPRING 1904: FRENCH PLOT FALL RETREAT FROM PORTUGAL AS LIMIES AND KRAUTS SWALLOW REST OF WEST

AUSTRIA(Dave Gariepy,2): NMR! A's WAR, TRI H.

ENGLAND(Dan Stafford,7): A STP S Austrian A war-mos(nso), F NWY-bar, F NTH-nrg, F lvp-IRI, F WES S F mid-SPA(sc), F bre-MID.

FRANCE(Andy McMahan,4*): A rom-VEN, A spa-gas/d/annihilated, F POR-spa(sc).

GERMANY(Keith Sherwood,8): F bal-DEN, A MAR S English F mid-spa(sc), A PAR-gas, A MUN S A ber-SIL, A PRU-war, A LVN S Austrian A war-mos(nso), F PIC u/o(holds).

ITALY(Scott Palter,3): F ion S/d/R(Adr,Alb,Tyn,Tun,Apu) F eas-AEG, A vie-GAL.

RUSSIA(Bob Olsen,4): F BAR-nrg, A mos-UKR, A boh-TYO(TRO), A ser-BUD.

TURKEY(Mike Mazzer,6): F NAP S F aeg-ION, F smy-EAS, A GRE H, A bul-RUM, A con-BUL.

Please vote on the following proposals with your next set of orders: 1) concession to England; 2) E-G draw. SUMMER and FALL 1904 are due with my mail received on Monday, October 12 (that's 4 weeks).

COA for Keith Sherwood: PO Box 6457, La Jolla, CA 92037 (effective immediately)

Before moving on to housekeeping matters, let's see what abominations we have this time for '80 LP PRESS:

BERLIN: I hereby take 1/3 credit for the fake Down 'n' Dirty: I wrote the press. For the identity of whomever did the moves, typing, xeroxing, and mailing (i.e., my partner in crime), you must search the fake for clues. And thanks, Dave, for delaying DnD #10½. My one ambition was to fool Michalski and have him print it up. Now it's got a chance. ((It fooled ol' JM, alright...and just about every-one else too. At least 2 people sent in orders based on the moves you guys printed in there, without batting an eyelash at the fact that the positions bore little or no resemblance to what they'd ordered for the real game. ~~And you should've seen the press/Palter/sent~~ A nice job, Keith, but I've figured Olsen right along for one of your co-conspirators. If he's not, then I don't know who.... Anybody else have an idea? Incidentally, Keith, I delayed this issue solely for the purpose of letting you fake it again. Do I get thanks for this one too?))

GERMANY to BELOW-PAR MP: Hey, clod, I'm taking on your partner Swider in my Diplomacy For Asslickers, so I can take on you here too. Want to join DFA? It's right up your ally.

KEITHER to DAVER: Why don't you just set Mike and Bruce off in a corner together, ignore them, and get on with the game and Olsen's press. I don't know why you subject us good-guys to the likes of Barno and Linsey. ((Sheer perversity, Keith.))

LOS ALAMOS: Down with ESM, ERA, NRA. Up with TTR, ACLU, EEP!

SAID THE SPACE WANDERER to TRAL'AMIDOR: Greetings! It seems we share a common interest. Let us communicate, us the universal will to become. Transmission terminated.

ANKARA to MOSCOW: Wow! That's the greatest self-destruct I've seen since Austria in '79 KW.

ANKARA: Look, up in the sky...could it be?...yes,...YES!!!...it's the KANSAS KAMIKAZE.

THE WALRUS: I'm really John Pack, and I agree with Brux.

WOODY to CARUSO: Don't blame me for that crap. Osuch submitted it to make me look bad, Osuch is such a jerk. ((?))

CHARON STATION: A brief review of the position now seems in order. The Russo-Turkish duality is clearly in trouble. Italy and Austria between them have stalled the Southern drive long enough for the Anglo-German alliance to really get rolling. By rights R-T should have 14 centers by now. Instead they only have 10 and only get back to the right count by making it a triple with France. However, such a triple is inherently unstable. France cannot build at any time in the foreseeable as he not only has no usable home centers but no possibility of being able to first regain enough of them and then leave them vacant for the build. He will have to be liquidated if R-T is to grow but cannot be without losing the rest of the Iberian triangle for them. Italy they should dispose of this year as the loss of two pieces will be fatal--however, it will probably be counterbalanced by further Russian losses. So their key becomes Austria--if they can draw Gariepy into a stalemate coalition they can win later by stabbing him. If he remains as a wild card, then Sherwood will get a solo win in 4-6 game years.

DnD-1 to BRUX & BARNO: Pardon us, but may we get a word in edgewise in this game? After all, we're the ones who chipped in Dave's beer money to be in this game; what have you guys contributed besides boredom? Not only have you imposed your mediocre presence upon us, but I suspect that you're not even toadies!

OLSEN to GM: I noticed a big improvement in quality in #10. Keep up the good work! ((Fuck off Bob. Unfortunately, I think you're right.))

TRO to WORLD: I was the Walrus! Pack wasn't the Walrus! I was just saying that to be nice but I was actually the Walrus!

SWITZERLAND: And now it's time for John Michalski's favorite show, and apparently the only thing he ever thinks about, yes it's TOILET BOWL!!! And now for tonight's questions and answers:

Q: What do you get when you cross Keith Sherwood with a Mexican?

A: An idiot too lazy to drool!

Q: And what do you get when you cross Dan Palter with a Mexican?

A: A Diplomacy player too lazy to write letters--second generation!

Q: And what do you get when you cross Andy McMahon with a Mexican?

A: An Argentinian!

Q: And what do you get when you cross Dave Gariepy with a Mexican?

A: Nostalgic for Eric Ozog!

Q: What do you get when you cross Bob Olsen with a Mexican?

A: I don't know, but who ate all the burritos?

Q: What do you get when you cross Dan Stafford with a Mexican?

A: A puddle of slime with an oil slick on top!

Q: What do you get when you cross Mike Mazzer with a Mexican?

A: A guy that spray-paints Shakespeare on the sides of buildings?

Q: Finally, what do you get when you cross Dave Marshall with a Mexican?

A: A very disappointed Mexican!

((Q: What do you get when you cross John Michalski with a Mexican?

A: Shot. John hates Mexicans.))

RUS to NANOOK: Criticize things you don't know about, get all excited and go to a yawning festival.

JUST BEING HELPFUL to MOORE: Since the gala 100th issue of BB is coming up very soon, I think you are going to need a really socko introductory blurb for that issue. And since you're starting to run just a little thin on Star Wars take-offs, I've taken the liberty of providing a few for you to consider for Issue 100. As follows:

- 1.) "You're a good man, Solo, and we'll hate to lose you. But the death-mark's a hard thing to live with and so is the pubber of this Issue 100 of..."
- 2.) "Luminous beings are we! Not this crude matter like ISSUE 100 of..."
- 3.) "I have felt a great disturbance in the Force, as if millions of voices had cried out and been suddenly silenced. I fear something terrible has happened. I'm afraid it's time for ISSUE 100 of..."
- 4.) "I have the death sentence on twelve systems--just for being a subber to this ISSUE 100 of..."
- 5.) "Adventure--excitement--a Jedi craves not these things! A Jedi just wants to read this ISSUE 100 of..."

POR to EVIL ALLIANCE: Where would you like me to dateline my press from when Portugal falls?

FRANCE to ITALY: Thanks for the good grades. Too bad credibility doesn't win games...right Keith?

LOS ALAMOS: How about calling 1981 CH "Forman's Folly?" ((No need to rub it in. He's doing just fine on his own, Keith.))

FINLAND to NOMINAL FRANCE: Yeah, but nothing could be as bad as Texas. Now that's the pits! ((Texas pish-tosh. Wait'll you catch my description of Logan County, Kentucky in #13.))

NAPLES to ROME: Thank you. Dismissed.

ANKARA to BERLIN: Why don't you and Uncle Bob shove a fleet up Danny-Boy's London derriere.

LINCOLN-FUCKED-UP DEPT.: Q--What do you call 150 darkies hanging out on a street corner at this very moment? A--A pack o' lips now.

ENDGAME STATEMENT: Since it's so close to the end of the line for Russia now, I'd just like to tell each and every one of you how much I've enjoyed this game. I might mention you in particular, Dan Palter--yes, I've enjoyed our extensive correspondence. And then there's Uncle Dan Stafford--it's always a pleasure to be in a game with you. And not to forget our brilliant GM, Dave Marshall--a fine job, Dave! And last but not least, a special greeting to my favorite Diplomacy player in the whole world, my good friend and staunch ally, Keith Sherwood. I learned a lot from Keith--especially how to lie like a sonofa bitch.

YET ANOTHER DARK MOMENT (AN AUTHENTIC TELEPHONE TRANSCRIPT):

Coughlan: I still have that letter you wrote me about six months ago, remember it? The one where you just begged me to send Keith Sherwood copies of my fakes because he was feeling so left out of things... and now he's doing fakes himself, and he won't even send you a copy. I guess he just doesn't think much of you at all now, does he?

Olsen: ? (sniffle)

Before moving on, I want to apologize for this issue being so late. It's not totally without reason, tho. Your sometime GM is in the midst of a mid-life career change, accompanied by preparations for a long-distance move. After 2 years with the utility district and 9 years overall in various government jobs, I recently concluded that the public-sector career path was getting me nowhere fast. A move out of the environmental field and into industry seemed the only logical choice.

Surprisingly, an opportunity materialized almost immediately. Last deadline date found me in Greenville, SC (where I started in the postal hobby, ironically) interviewing for a construction management position with a major aluminum company. The interview came off better than I'd expected, and the offer, when it came, was too good to pass up.

So as of Sept. 28, Down 'n' Dirty & Co. will leave Greater Cleveland for sunnier climes (that could be almost anywhere). In the meantime, all evenings and weekends have been/will be spent in making the house saleable (no small task). Consequently, Dip has had to take a remote back seat for the duration.

Greenville, SC is only a 5-week temporary assignment. Housing (probably a motel) and typing/printing facilities are still unknowns. Russellville, KY will be DnD's permanent home as of Nov. 1 (assuming we sell this house and find another there). In order to minimize the number of deadlines while on transient status, I'm setting the next deadline for both games for 4 weeks from this issue date. Tho I'll be back in Cleveland some weekends until the family is moved, orders mailed to this address may not reach me in time (telephone orders to here will be relayed). So let's try this for a temporary COA, effective Sept. 27:

Dave Marshall
c/o R.J. Hammond
207 Holly Tree Lane
Simpsonville, SC 29681

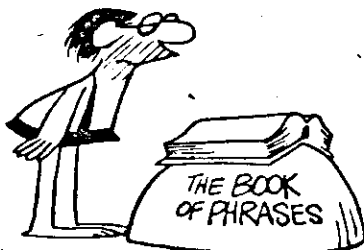
That's a mailing address only; note I won't be staying there to receive phone calls.

Incidentally, I see in today's mail (bringing BB #103) where John has finally made public his decision to close down the zine shortly. As much of a loss as this will be to the hobby, I know that John has some valid reasons for doing so--I can only wish him the best in his diminished-but-continuing hobby activities. As for DnD and its games: the shutdown of BB will not affect the continuation of either of them. I fully intend to see each game through to its conclusion, and in fact will probably start DnD-3 pretty soon (4 entered now). So don't go 'way, 'cause I'm not planning to. And now, a contribution from Flushing-Survivor Gary Coughlan.....

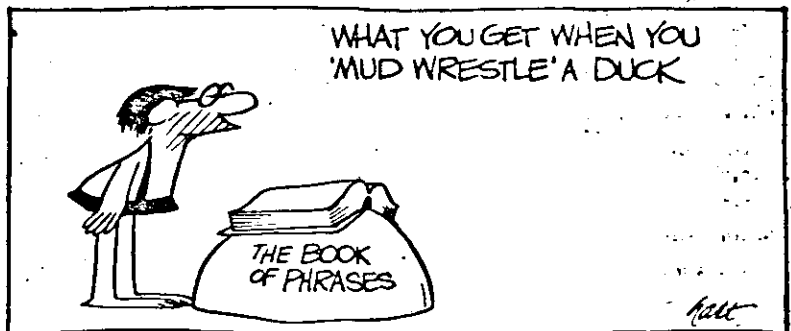
B.C.

John Hart

DOWN and DIRTY



WHAT YOU GET WHEN YOU 'MUD WRESTLE' A DUCK



1981 CH (Dnd-2: The Dodoes' Game)

AUTUMN 1902: AUSTRIA--F gre R ALB; RUSSIA--NMR! GM R A war OTB.

WINTER 1902: SEASONS SEPARATED AN' ALL THAT

AUSTRIA(Steve Cartier,3): Even. HAS F ALB, A's BUL,VIE.

ENGLAND(Steve Langley,5): Builds F Lvp. HAS F's LVP,LON,NWY,NTH, A BEL.

FRANCE(Dave Gariepy,5): Builds F Bre. HAS F's BRE,ENG, A's POR,BUR,PIC.

GERMANY(Mark Cummings,7): Builds A Kie, A Ber. HAS A's KIE,BER,HOL,MUN,PRU,
WAR, F SWE.

ITALY(Stu Lancaster,5): Even. HAS A's TRI,VEN, F's TUN,ION,TYN.

RUSSIA(Bob Forman,5*): NMR!/will play 1 short. HAS F's FIN,SEV, A's RUM,BUD.

TURKEY(Peter Robson,4): Even. HAS F's BLA,AEG, A's ARM,GRE.

Bob Forman's orders did arrive, albeit late, so I won't call a standby. SPRING 1903 is due with my mail received in Simpsonville, SC (see GM temporary COA elsewhere) on Monday, October 12. Note that this is a 4-week season, for reasons also explained previously. PRESS.....

BRUX to DIRTY DAVE: Yeah, I like that hobby movie contest. I nominate my home favorite--Luscious Lila and the Horny Ape.

TURK to ENGLISHMAN: You mean you didn't write the press about Armenia? Sorry about those nasty words I called you. Oh, by the way--if that box arrives, put it in a tub of water before you open it.

ANKARA: Turkish scientists have concluded that the world has grown much too civilized to resort to war.

FRANCE to POPE: Your peaceful relations with France are very honorable and an example to the world.

FRANCE to ENGLISHMAN: Luck, nothing. It is a matter of justice triumphing over evil!

ENGLISHMAN to LORD PASHA SULTAN: Speak not evil, nor rejoice not, but gird thy loins and prepare. Battle is nigh, as is victory. Then rejoice.

SACRAMENTO to DIRTY DAVE: Thanks for the note and the HR elucidation. Take a break. Stretch for a few seconds. Think of something clever to say while relaxing back muscles...then proceed.

DIRT to SAC: Okay--a joke, maybe? Q--What has six legs and goes "Hodedo, hodedo, hodedo?" A--Three black dudes running for an elevator. How's that?

SACRAMENTO to DIRTY DAVE: Not bad....

ENGLISHMAN to RUSSIAN: You have good intuition, despite the fact you don't write enough. I'll bet if you wrote more, you'd be deadly.

BELGIUM: The people of Belgium have invited the English militia into their homes. The joyous people, celebrating their deliverance from a dual-pronged French invasion last Spring, have come to know and love the British liberators. "They are so cute in their puttees," one young Belgian girl was heard to say. ((Maybe, but I'll bet those Belgian chicks still miss those dual-pronged Frenchmen, puttees or no.))

AMERICAN RIVER to SOUTH EUCLID: We call this one "Clues to a Fake" or "Just How Dumb is the Kid, Anyway?" I noticed that the envelope was thin, as if you had creased instead of folding. I loved the "on time" remark ((grrr)). I wondered about Bernie--knowing your HRs. I scanned the Toadies' Game to see how people were doing, and then searched frantically for DnD-2. "Not much press!" was my first thought, then I looked to see what had happened in StP. Whoa! F NWY H. I didn't order that! - did I? No! I didn't - I hope I didn't - those were conditional - sigh - I'll bet I did - damn! Press...hey - somebody killed off Hume - wait 'til Dirty Dave hears about this - I'll kid him for the rest of the game. Shoot - where's my press - whoa - Turkey? - called me -- long distance --? Nah - I'd have remembered that -- no - wait - I called him, he says - hmm - and I'm even more interesting than my press. No way! This has got to be a fake! ((If you figured it out, you're one of a damn few))

DnD-2 to DnD-1: So -- okay! Who did it? Which of you is pretending to be Ozog?

ENGLISHMAN to KAISER: Even fear and anger may be used as diplomatic tools, as may revenge and truth and untruth.

ENGLISHMAN to BRUX: Best Turkey! I love it!

LONDON to CLYDE: The rumors of Lord Hume's death are greatly exaggerated. The old gentleman did not fall from a horse as reported, but rather from a hearse, as he attempted to carry out his pall-bearing duties for the late "Lord Humgh." The confusion of names, along with much wishful thinking on the part of his enemies, has been blamed for the erroneous report.

LONDON to PARIS: King Edward, speaking to a cheering crowd of Liverpudlians, today was quoted as saying, "The ironmills and shipwrights of Liverpool may be proud of their great accomplishment..." when he was interrupted by an agent of The Englishman.

ENGLISHMAN to ITALIAN: I suppose the invasion of France was inevit-- what do you mean: "Sorry about that"?

NORWAY to SWEDEN: How come the press in the Toadies' Game is so much "gamier" than our press?

SWEDEN(on loan to England) to NORWAY: You are the perfect example of the reason. "Gamier" is a fancy way of saying dirty -- foul -- rotten -- uhmm -- there's got to be a word for it.

N to S: Maybe if I called someone a name?

S to N: They won't love you anymore!

N to S: I -- I don't care. Italy -- you're a fink! There, how did I do?

S to N: I'd hate to tell you. ((Call DnD-1 Italy a name. He'd love to tell you!))

"Don't be too proud of this technological terror you've created. The ability to destroy a planet is nothing, next to the wretchedness of this ISSUE 105 of:

The BRUTUS BULLETIN is a newsletter of postal DIPLOMACY™ brought to you every now and then for a limited time yet by John Michalski, Rt 10, Box 526-Q, Moore, OK 73165. Subs are closed. If you want to resub for a few more, you ought to know the rate by NOW, so I'll just give you exciting news like DIPLOMACY being a game invented by Allen Calhamer and copyrighted by the Avalon Hill Game Company, Baltimore, now putting it out with little plastic pieces so it won't be misconstrued as anything other than a dumb game for kiddies on your table.

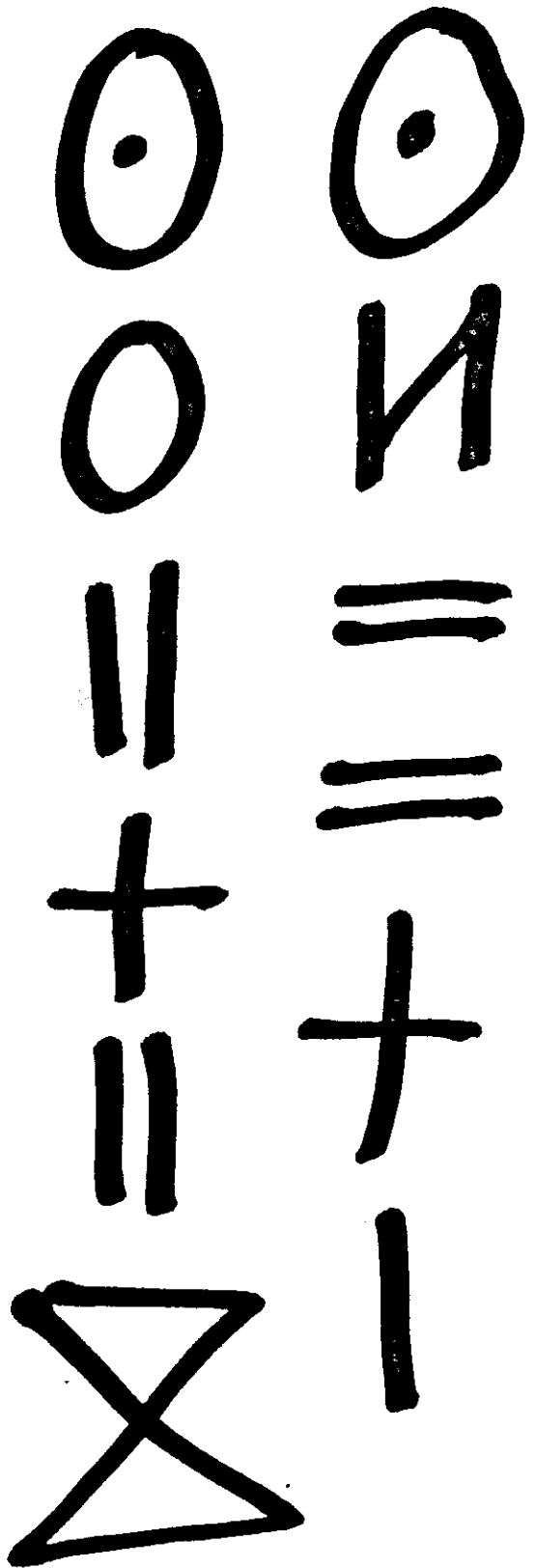
DID you think Dave Marshall had gone to putting out two ounce DOWN'N'DIRTYs? If only he would! No, it's just that it seemed to have a lot more clever stuff in it than my main zine, so there it is as a plug. He has openings in DND#3 yet, by the way, though not many. Did you see the cute suggested lead-ins someone wrote in the press? Too bad they didn't send them to me; they're pretty good. How many of you have seen the films so often you can catch the small error in quote #1?

THIS ISSUE's title comes from Rod Walker's list of transliterations of Brutus Bulletin into some strange languages. The listing at right is Numidian and should be read vertically if that is not readily apparent.

Other stuff this issue: it turned out OK, in that I have those 3 front sheets of game stuff and a goodly turnout of regular material inside. No humor stuff that I can recall having ready to run, but decent letters despite a few from Mark Lew. Don't be afraid of "wasting" your views in commenting on what you see (esp. typewritten stuff!) for I will try to put out a few more as I can to cut down on the outstanding sub debt I owe. Anonymous thanks to the subber who said to drop his allowance on upcoming zines; I really appreciate such gestures. My thanks to Rod Walker too for an item I will print in a later issue.

SUBS EXPIRING: This issue, just Rauterberg. So the rest of you are set through at least 106 IF you got this issue. Paul, if you want a few more, you might just send a buck or 6 stamps or some such. As I wrote in John's Notes on the

reverse, I hope to get through 107 to cut down on my debt. Send in those letters, folks! I'll get 'em out one way or another. Also on the reverse, I started to write about who has good reliable openings, and then forgot the two non-GGMs here that I wanted to mention: John Daly, DOGS OF WAR, Rt 2 Box 136M5, Rockwell NC 28138 and Lee Kendter, former BNC, WHY ME?, 4347 Benner St, Philadelphia, PA 19135. Both reliable and established.





JOHN'S NOTES

I'm kind of disappointed in not being able to put together a good thick ZEENS RECEIVED column, because there have been a lot of interesting ones come out recently. Martin again got a 3-ouncer by for 35¢, Don Sigwalt has an expanded HOOF & MOUTH, both John Daly's THE DOGS OF WAR and Mike Conners' LONE STAR DIPLOMAT have had big anniversary issues, Linsey has 18 straight WEEKLY issues now of VOYEUR OF DOOM, a big SNAFU! is just in, etc., etc., but I have actually had two full (well, almost full) days of WORK at work, plus our new overseer is in the building now, and a bunch of the famous Stuff is about to hit the fan there soon, so publishing hasn't had the free reign of earlier. Time was, I could simply devote half a day to typing a nice 4 or 5 sheet work reviewing the recent stack before Ben Schilling orders it, but despite having taken a bunch to work to do a review on, I never even got to look at them this week. Maybe in 106 or 7. Yes, I'm going to try and push it that far for now, if only to reach the point where the subs outstanding drop below \$100. Depending on how fast you folks can get material in, we'll see the issues roll out.

GAME OPENINGS: Well, the latest list won't be out until after this is, so here are some good ones. First my own subzine editors, Scott Hansen and Dave Marshall, each have 4 and 3 week deadline games respectively. Scott is at 701 SE 15 Ave, Mnpls MN 55414; Dave is at 1547 Maplegrove Road, South Euclid, Ohio 44121. Each of these fellows has shown to be very likely to stick out the game to the end, and I heartily endorse each. I'm tempted to sign up for Dave's 3 weeker myself, but those are a little too long for me. I like getting the D'n'Ds though. On Scott's, I'm going to wait until he has a 2-wk game open. Those aren't as good as a nice 7-day or 10-day, but hell, nobody has them anymore. Maybe when I'm out of pubbing a while, I'll open one myself.

EMILY POST DEPT. This one wasn't really so funny, but it is typical of the source. I'm not even going to mention Fluff's name though. Here goes: A new cub reporter is given his first assignment, to go do a special on the wierdos at the local nuthouse. He talks to the staff, and they invite him to just go down the hall and check out the rooms. In the first room he finds ~~Arnold Palmer~~ a fellow swinging his arms like he was swinging a bat, and saying "Whoosh!" "What are you doing?" asks the reporter. "I'm Mickey Mantle hitting a home run" he says. In the second room is a fellow staring at the floor and moving his arms like he had an invisible golf club. "What are you doing?" the reporter asks. "I'm Arnold Palmer winning the Masters" says ~~Byx~~ he. In the third room he finds a naked man with a bowl of almonds in the middle of the room. The guy throws a handful of them in the air and then whacks off at them as they fall on and around him. "What in the hell are you?" asks the reporter. The wierdo says "I'm—fucking—nuts!"

I told you it wasn't very good now, didn't I?

Despite that, Fluff did come up with one good idea—I think. Since the Bulletin is winding down and money could come in handy in that regard, he suggested I sell my set of file copies. Unless Dave Ditter saved his, or Berch has collected them or some such, I probably ~~do~~ have the only complete set of BBs 1 through 10X around. What am I offered for them? I will consider orders for all or any part. They probably do have a certain memento value here, but Claudine would burn them some time, so I'm better off selling them. If you want just a few, would copies be OK? The "full set" by the way includes copies of the fakes, 69 and 90. The Linsey fake, 69, was included into the normal numbering scheme, so there is no "real" #69. The whole set would probalby run almost \$10, maybe more, for postage alone. What's it worth on the "open market"? Anything?

What does 214 ounces come to at back rate?

Not much going on locally. Claudine quit work a few weeks ago and is just doing substitute teaching now, but they call her about 4 days a week, so she's not really "home" either. Still no painting done, and that damn pool that cost us \$800 on sale is filling up with gunge so bad that even a raw chlorine tablet only burns a small "clearing" in its murkey depths. The weather is cooler now, and the state fair opens tomorrow morning, so there's a little bit of cheeriness to offset our probable loss to USC tomorrow afternoon. I'm keeping the animals out of the garage now, so it doesn't smell so bad from the cat droppings anymore like it used to. When they're a little bigger, I'll send them to Mark Lew so he can marvel at the odor of their "intelligence". The front yard is clear of their stuff too, for my little guy rode the riding lawnmower out there with a bent blade that chewed right into the ground in a lot of places, so you can readily see it is "all clear". Right down into the dust....

From Larzelere's **APPALLING GREED** --

MARCO POLL RESULTS - FINAL

32 ballots were received. Each ballot listed 5 zines, in order of preference. 5 points were awarded for each 1st place vote, 4 points for 2d, 3 points for 3d, 2 points for 4th, and 1 point for 5th. In this listing, the zines' ranking is listed, followed by the name of the zine, the zine's ranking in this year's Leader Poll (in parentheses with an "*" if the zine wasn't ranked), followed by the number of points the zine received

1	ERUTUS BULLETIN(3)	60.	20-21	DRAGON & THE LAMB(32)	5
2	VOICE OF DOOM(26)	40	20-21	PASSCHENDAELE (30-31)	5
3-4	EUROPA EXPRESS (6)	36	22-26	DOGS OF WAR(22-23)	4
3-4	LONE STAR DIPLOMAT(7)	36	22-26	GRAUSTARK(39)	4
5	BLACK FROG(1)	31	22-26	LIBERTERREAN(38)	4
6	GRAB DOTS(5)	29	22-26	TER-RAN(33)	4
7	WHITESTONIA(12)	28	22-26	TORPEDO(18-19)	4
8	DOT HAPPY(2)	25	27-28	INVASION(45)	3
9	MURDERING MINISTERS(4)	24	27-28	PLAGUE TIMES(17)	3
10	JIHAD(9)	23	29-32	GIVE ME A WEAPON(=)	2
11	DIPLOMACY DIGEST(16)	20	29-32	RUNESTONE(30-31)	2
12	JUST AMONG FRIENDS(6)	17	29-32	TETRACUSPID(54)	2
13	EMMAIN MACHA(20)	11	29-32	WHY ME(18-19)	2
14	ENVOY(29)	9	33-38	THE CRAMBER(48)	1
15-18	CHEESECAKE(10)	8	33-38	LIFE OF MONTY(28)	1
15-18	FOL SI PIE(14)	8	33-38	THE SCHEMER(*)	1
15-18	ST GEORGE & DRAGON(15)	8	33-38	SHATTO'S FOLLY(*)	1
15-18	SLEEPLESS KNIGHTS(25)	8	33-38	SHOON'S SWORD(40)	1
19	APPALLING GREED(37)	7	33-38	VOLKERWANDERUNG(22-23)	1

FIRST PLACE VOTES: ERUTUS BULLETIN 5; JIHAD, LONE STAR DIPLOMAT, and WHITESTONIA 3; BLACK FROG, DIPLOMACY DIGEST, EUROPA EXPRESS, GRAB DOTS, JUST AMONG FRIENDS, and VOICE OF DOOM 2, and CHEESECAKE, FOL SI PIE, MURDERING MINISTERS, and ST GEORGE & DRAGON 1. (Diplomacy World 0).

SECOND LIST: I had planned to also give a second list ranking these zines based on dividing the number of points received by the number of subscribers each zine has. I was going to use Glenn Overby's hobby census figures for the number of subscribers, but that info is not available because somebody ripped off Glenn's briefcase! So instead, I will have to ask the individual publishers what the circulation of their zine is and give that info next issue. I will restrict this second list to those zines which were listed on 5 or more ballots. This includes all of the first 18 zines on the above list, and none of the zines below that.

It might be noted that 8 of the zines in this poll's top ten were also in this year's Leader Poll top ten. The exceptions to this are WHITESTONIA, which was very close to the top ten in the Leader Poll (12th), and VOICE OF DOOM. In the Leader Poll, VD had 77 votes cast for it out of 126 ballots. This poll asks voters to rank the zine on a scale of 0-10, then determines a ranking for the zine by averaging all the votes. In this way, negative votes possibly cast by people who don't even receive the zine, can reduce a zine's ranking. It appears that this is what happened to VD. 77 votes for a zine with 64 subscribers?

In issue 101, Bruce Linsey seems to have misunderstood my comments on his position on the draft. He says "I don't see anything wrong with giving guns to soldiers and cops while denying that same privilege to private citizens." But allowing only people like soldiers to have guns is quite different an issue from requiring a universal draft. What I was trying to say in 98/99 is that I think that if you find shooting by private citizens abhorrent, you should also find organized killing by a nation abhorrent. Gun control is difficult unless you can take arms away from everyone--the State, our country's potential enemies, and criminals as well as the average person. Requiring a draft just won't help reach that goal.

J C Robinson wants to know what I meant by asking your stand on abortion. I was asking about whether you agreed with banning them completely, nationwide, regardless of who paid for it, like some people are proposing. "Paying for the result of someone else's fucking" is a different question. The government does this by welfare after a child is born as well as in paying for abortions.

If Mr Robinson would like to play a USCF rated postal match, I'd probably oblige him. I might also play other people in the postal Dip hobby. I'm rated about 1300 postally and 1643 over the board, but I haven't played in over 4 years.

I bet Dick Martin is good at chess. "Grab Pawns".

Begin should just bomb those Syrian missiles. It'd make him feel good.

Berch for President? Well, when Jimmy Carter ran in '76 he had a way of looking serene and smiling which gave the TV viewer the impression he knew what he was talking about. Ronald Reagan's style is different, but the effect is similar--he just speaks as if he has a lot of self-confidence and it gives the viewer the impression he knows what he's doing. Mark Berch, I think, has a similar way of impressing people--only he does it with the written word rather than by appearing on TV. His writing just gets the message across that "I know what I'm talking about." Whether he does or not isn't easy to say. I know Berch isn't always right, because he's only human (I'm not yet ready to raise him to deity status.) But I'd still vote for him over the actor and the peanut farmer because he has more brains than either.

Congratulations on your very impressive showing in the Marco Poll, and on your #3 showing in the Leeder Poll.

As for Japanese Americans, I don't mind them as long as they don't try to pronounce my last name.

((You might have enjoyed then listening to Claudine look over the mailing list the other day. I forget how she mangled it, which struck me as funny since I have never doubted it is "LAR-zeh-LEAR". (If you pronounce it differently, get on the stick!) She also said "O-ZOG? No one is named O-Zog." That's what I always thought.

I don't think brains helps in that job much. Look at Lyndon Johnston, probably the dumbest bastard to have held the office this century. He had crooked connections to get him up in politics, and his years of wheeling and dealing in the Senate made him one of the most "effective" Presidents ever in terms of getting things done. Most of them were the wrong things, that's true, but he did get them through and into effect. He can be accused of many things, but intelligence is hardly one. Mark as President wouldn't work; it would just turn him into a fascist. He holds ideals such that he would be unable to function in the snakepit of governing through the congress. The frustration would lead him more to my attitude of "Round em up and shoot em down, and I'll order things done right", I'll bet. I prefer Reagan.))

J.M.

Steven Duke ^(The Shemer) Rt.3 Fairfield Pike Shelbyville, TN 37160

Howdy, John! I'm trying to submit this one picture-perfect so it will be as easy on you as possible. I just had to say a few more things before you signed off.

Lew (though I haven't met him) makes me shit. We certainly are lucky to be able to receive his comments about Reagan and our world. It's amazing how screwed up one person can be. If Western Europe was alienated, they've needed to be for years. Any time the U.S. starts to talk tough to Russia, NATO pees in their pants. Of course, Europe may be the battleground. That does not mean that America would sit back unscathed. The views of the West Germans and their anti-American riots is infuriating. O.K. Let's pull our army out of Europe and have nothing to do with them. Let 'em cuddle up with the reds for a while and see how they like it. "His neutron bomb bit" is a damn good idea. Sure, it may wipe out 10 or 20 little German villages as it wipes out that Russian Battalion, but is that saying that if the weapon is not used, the villages will not be destroyed? Now, I don't want to come off sounding like I'm saying the villages aren't important and forget the civilians. But if Russia hit full-force into Nato, not a whole lot would be standing anyway. I guaran-damn-tee you that we'd be grabbing for anything we could use to stop them, including regular nukes. And does anyone think that if Russia charged through Fulda Gap and we slowed them enough to start a bottleneck, they wouldn't use what it takes to win the battle. The whole concept of nuclear war and battlefield nukes starting a big nuke war is sad and unthinkable. The possibilities exist that a nuke war could spread from the battlefield. But wouldn't it be a shame if we could prevent the whole thing by having such weapons and making it clear that, if attacked, we'd use them? I think it would. Sure, war is crazy, but if both sides think the other one will use whatever forces it has to stop the other, the craziness could be prevented. The billions spent each year for war material is senseless--with such money, we could have long since discovered a cure for cancer--but it's the price we pay for being at peace.

Now what else can I pick at... Oh, gee. Calling Reagan an asshole... I don't know why, but I won't touch that one. I just hope everyone knows what an incredibly stupid remark that was. Of course, the source for such wit does not surprise me. I just pity Canada for taking another loser but it's one less that we as Americans have to live with. Whooppee! Viva la Canada! I am suprised you let Lew get away with that shit, John. I guess there really is no arguing with an asshole.

Thanks for those Army Reserve stickers. I'll put them to good use, but they're just too good to use on letters. I've got them on books and such.

To Manuel: I wait 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks after deadline and my game has 2 errors in it? It's only 1902. Gosh, I thought you were a twit but this is too much. Try and keep it straight, o.k., boy? Maybe you can skip watching Popeye on Sat morning. I know it'll take some straining, though. I don't think you'll have any problems with Shaddix. He's on his way and his GMing has been good. Don't compare him to Fry. There is no comparison. Have you seen a recent White Duke? If not, I'll have him send you one.

Well, John, I guess that about wraps it up. I'm glad your keeping in the hobby and you know I'm gonna expect some articles outta ya. Keep in touch and take care of yourself.

Response to Duke

((Thanks. Don't bother about the WHITE DUKE tho; I'd just as soon not hear from Mr Shaddix. Like Boardman, the opinion I have of the man goes up the less I have any contact with, or word of, him.

Lew is a sort of a strange case. A lot of it seems satirical, but a lot of it seems sincere too. It's hard to tell where, or IF, one leaves off and the next begins. Were such poop sent in by a normal person, I would have responded, but with Mark Lew, it would be like Reagan debating with what Johnny Carson said about him in the previous night's monologue.)) J.M.

BILL BECKER

810 Turwill Lane, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Issue #94 touched on one of my favorite subjects, the Love Canal. I didn't realize that this was still considered new news as much of what Mr Robinson reported was evident almost from the outset, and had seen print, though we obviously always listen to those who shout rape loudest, and then who hears the facts?

Seems that right after WWII the gov't had lots of extra chemical goodies to dump and made a deal with Hooker Chemical to clay line an old canal and besides the excess war chemicals, Hooker could dispose of its toxics also. And so they filled the Love canal and capped it off in clay. I don't recall the details on how the city picked up the land, but after it became city property they stripped off the top layers of clay. I suppose part of the lawsuit will be based on how strident a warning the city received against doing this.

The Love Canal has oozed chemicals to the surface for at least 15 years. Kids played ball on the canal because it was a good hard surface with nothing growing on it. Every once in a while someone got burned playing on the canal. Doctor's lab reports came back classified. A good many of the people in that residential area work at Hooker. They knew what the canal was. In '78 it was determined that it was leaking dangerously. Now who do we blame?

The Love Canal has become a Diplomacy game as large as life. The gov't defense was ignorance, both at federal and city level. It didn't take reporters long to find out that the US Army dumped there and that the records are (maybe now, were) classified. I believe the official city gov't defense is still ignorance.

So the EPA (Fed gov't) sues Hooker. The whole mess points out that gov't is run by greed and ignorance. To quote an old commercial, "Better things for better living through chemistry". Much of the knowledge as to just what 'things' are bettering our lives is cloaked by ignorance. And much of our ignorance is pretended. Like people living around a dump and calling it a canal. This is only one case of America pulling a vicious stab on itself. Our notion of America the Bountiful has allowed us to believe we are taking care of our problems by affixing blame. The precedent has long been set.

We have ^{us} ourselves be led by ignorance and greed, and even though I agree that drastic changes in gov't are needed, a drastic change in our individual outlooks is needed too.

((Another letter))

Where does the time go? I was able to pull this out of the trash and thus comment on only what would be in normal zine terms, only 3 issues ago. Do you have any recommendations on which zine is closest to BE or can be turned into BE now that you're closing up?

In a last aside to Lew, you force me to sub to "Sor^t of Bogey" in order to figure out if life exists north of the 51st parallel. Besides, I need another crack at Shaffer as his Italy didn't survive long enuf for my England to get there in our first matchup even tho I proposed the divvy

Becker concludes

of France so we could do so. Personally, you should not offend my wife when it comes to wargaming as she's likely to mail you a brat C.O.D. Sure hope your hemorrhoids are better and don't affect your typewriter.

((Just wait until he sees some of the Fluff's press! Was that you in that earlier game that wrote to him and said, "Ha ha, you can't me, so--Fuck off"? If so, you may be in luck. He said someone wrote that to him once, and they are the only player in the hobby he had any nice feelings for. Apparently a person that takes after he himself then, I guess...

Replacements? None. VD tries, but there are limits on the weight of stuff he can produce, and the current weekly zines are filled with letters that have sat for a while. BB type zines would need to have quick turn-around of all that came in, and VD also spends space (or did) on stuff like games and variants, which detracts from what people want (as well as the pubber's time.) Despite its failings in these regards, tho, VD is the closest. Martin could handle the volume, but all he does is xerox a lot; the material is largely just press. I like the pictures and such, but while Dick has the apparent physical facilities (i.e., access to free bulk xeroxing), he lacks the format and the inclination to publish more often. There simply are no substitutes, sad to say. Maybe someday....

I'm glad to hear more about the Canal business. Robinson's letter was the first I'd heard of a lot of that. I always just thought the media picture was correct: "just another case of corporate criminality". I disagree on your call for changes in individuals though. Why? Let gov't take care of these things without bothering the man in the street is the essence of our 'freedom' here--you're free from having to get involved in everything in order to get anything done. Shouldn't you be able to assume that if gov't exists, it is doing whatever needs to be done? That hasn't been the case here, but that is what people want. Our system bogs down in processing all the due-process, but totalitarian alternatives to which even I often longingly look, simply result in unthoughtout commands in most cases. I don't know of a better way, but calling for Jesus to come back and rule would be more hopeful than asking people in a rich and successful system to up and pay lots of attention to everything damn thing that needs, or might need, doing in the world around them. Hell, I wouldn't want to be bothered myself.

Thanks for writing.)) J.M.

SCOTT HANSON (IRKSOME!)
701 15th Ave SE Mpls MN 55414

Sept 15

Got #103 today. So it's finally official. BB will be closing down. Seeing as you won't print any other comments on your folding, I'll just say that it's about time. Those subzines were getting pretty disgusting.

I see Ig Lew mentioned me in his letter in 103, but hell if I can tell what he means. I talked to him on the phone a couple times, and he doesn't sound as wierd as he writes. Seems the liberals in BB confuse me for a conservative, and the conservatives confuse me for a liberal. I'm insulted by both titles! Call me an anarchist anyday (or a Groucho Marxist.)

I've had a couple people ask me if I'm going to take over as a literary shithouse now that BB is winding down (and now stopping.) Noooo way. Tell you what, you send me a xerox machine, and I'll print all the shit people send me. Until then I'll be selective. (I can just hear it, "Why then are you letting Lew have a subzine!".)

Hanson concludes

I hear that the Red Army Faction in W Germany is now taking pacifism into their own hands. If you don't like the nuke, nuke it! I've seen a few people like the views of W German's I reported, but bear this in mind: In choosing between here and there, Frauke and I are choosing to live here.

Now that you are folding, you'll have a little bit time for yourself. Here's a travel brochure you may be interested in, looks like a good place to take the wife and kids....

((Scott included a travel brochure from communist Havana. I've sent it on to the French communist sympathizer Liesnard, a pubber in France or French-speaking Belgium, I forget which. Maybe he'll enjoy it.)) J.M.

ROBERT OLSEN
(excerpts)

6818 Winterberry Circle, Wichita, KS 67226

Got issue 103 with the note in it today. Personally I'm sorry to see the old BB go under, and I suppose everybody else is too, but I won't try and argue you out of it. Actually, in a way, I'm just a little bit relieved. It seemed like you'd deliberately let my sub run out without notifying me, and I kind of figured that it was because you didn't want the business of a bunch of toady bastards anymore. I'm glad to see that instead you have "shamefully abused" (as Gary likes to say) everyone in an evenhanded and impartial manner.

I'll send you whatever Le Fronts I have left, and you can keep them, gratis. What sordid revelations! I've already promised several of the recent ones to Mark Berch, because whoever he had to funnel them to him let his sub run out. What a scandal! Michalski and Berch, the two dedicated Tzetic enemies, sneaking peeks at his zine on the sly! Do you have a little chair in your closet to sit and read Bernie's writings, or what? Yes, yes, I know, just seeing what slander he's coming up with now. I think you'll find the recent run to be rather weak tea, except for the "Kendter incident" of course, not to mention the "Wells memorandum" and the "Lew objection". Ho hum.

So both Mazzer and I resemble "respectable human beings", huh? Well, in this game of Diplomacy, as you know, John, it's sometimes necessary to resort to the most outrageous deceptions, the most Byzantine plots, the most subtle strategems, to lure the enemy to his doom. Sometimes it's even necessary to be respectable. After all, the rules specifically encourage this sort of deception, right?

P.S. I'll send bunch of Le Fronts under separate cover. No return requested especially if you do use them for toilet paper...

((They're not THAT good...)) J.M.

DAVE CARTER (Sleepless Knights)

118 Horsham Ave, Willowdale ONT

Gee, you said some nice things about SK in BR#102. Of course it's all the truth anyway but it's kind of you to say it. Actually, putting out the 'Ohio' issue isn't that dedicated since I was going there anyway but on the other hand, I didn't have to do it. Buffalo is only about 90 miles away which is where I would have put out the next issue if the god-awfull post office hadn't of settled.

One of the reasons why the Canadian Hobby is experiencing problems is the low number of active canadian players. I estimate that there are probably 40-60 of us, whilst in the US it's around 700 (?) Of course it doesn't help when you get zines like TORONTO TELEGRAM, KOBOLD, POWER & THE GLORY etc that fold without giving refunds. Sort of a vicious circle.

Carter concludes

JEHAD is like you say, a nice friendly zine to play in, no controversy, good repro, good English and heavy emphasis on the games. It's definitely a top ten zine though.

INVASION is a NY zine put out by Bruce Schneier. It's very bad on repro, I'm told he's got problems sm'ing. I think that it is a little better than a 5.25 average (Maybe a 5.26?).

INFIDEL is a Canadian zine. Being a Canadian zine, it folded about 7 months ago. Naturally there were no sub refunds and naturally Clive Tonge is refusing to co-operate on the rehousing of his games. Nick Russon's games in INFIDEL were largely rehoused in SNAFU (I suppose I should give Clive some small credit for that but it was Ron Brown who drove to Clive's house to get the stats). Compare that to Francois Guerrier's fold of PASSCHENDAELE. Francois will be giving out refunds and his games are tidied up ready to be transferred, including the games that were left in a mess by Bill LaFosse.

Well, gotta go now. Tomorrow is my day off but I'm 'sick' today. Makes for a nice 4 day weekend. Oh the bountifull joys of a government job (actually I do have a bit of a fever. Yud better sterilize this letter).

((That's OK, I give the masters to Pilant who is too cheap to sub. He smokes, he won't notice the germs. Thanks for writing.)) J.M.

JOHN DALY (The Dogs of War)(#1 GM this year too, wow) Rt2 Box136M5 Rockwell, NC 28138
(cover note on his overweight DOGS 31 that passed for 18¢);

That last BB was a fake, right?

((No, unless you're looking at one that I didn't get a copy of.)) J.M.

DAVID MANUEL (The Chamber)
(excerpts re his zine)

10318 Oakgate, Bellflower CA
90706

Explanation: School starting up, personal problems, lack of time. I now type TC up myself, so it takes me about 30 minutes a page. And my schedule is full between 5:30am-5:30pm (from getting up to go to school to getting home), eat dinner, get full feeling in my senses, do my homework (algebra, History, and science), so during the week, no time. Weekends? After my cleaning and yard duties, sure, so TC will continue until early or mid October. I just don't have time so please bear with me.....

Lew, I can't hear you? If Masters is lying, he's doing it very well. I still believe Jack, but now I'll have one eye on him (joke). No, what Jack said in BLACK FROG is that your "bad" check cost him two bucks out of HIS account.

((From your zine notes, it is hard to tell if you mean to say that the next TC won't be out until mid October, or if the LAST Chamber will be coming out then. I hope it is the former. On the other hand, your problems are EXACTLY why new publishers, and esp. young new publishers, often get more doubt than benefit when it comes to a pinch. "I just don't have time"—it is a familiar tune to those who have spent 3 or more years in the hobby and seen a lot of young and eager fellows start out. Some stick it out; a lot don't. If it does get to be too much, don't do like those Canadian zines Dave Carter elaborates on; pass any games on to John Daly (address above) for rehousing (Free!) and sign off. I'll be watching for the next CHAMBER.)) J.M.

MARK LEW (Benzene)

3120 W 79 St, Anchorage AK 99502

Look, I found some Mike Mills paper. I'd type too, except I like to write as I read the zine and I'm lying in bed while I read. You'll note I'm a bit less illegible than usual.

I assume all that sentimental bullshit on the front about closing down is just a sneaky plot to cut down your incoming material! You can use the opportunity to cut down your sub list too, the only hard part would be to convince the subbers you keep to shut

More Lew

up about it. I know I would, but folks like Brux who are hooked on "honesty" might pose a problem. On the other hand, you could try to fool Bruce on it, but he's one of your more interesting writers (he and Berch). Also note that even if you had really planned to fold, you can still pub a smaller scale (or rather, same scale less often) BB to a select few, UNDERCOVER and get the few to agree to not to tell anyone else. The rest of the hobby would never know the difference.

If all that stuff is really true, oh well, c'est la vie. If you can't even do an overhaul, folding's the next best thing.. BB as it is is going downhill with the percentage of boring stuff ever rising and your replies being cut down to "you're full of shit and since it's obvious I won't bother to reply" or the like.

Conlon is more convincing than you, I'm afraid. You've got a point on getting MEANINGFUL work in the military, but the main issues Conlon has you beat and he has my support. I don't even mind being drafted if you don't have to kill people (or get killed). I'm not overly fond of SUPPORTING killers by doing their paperwork or whatnot, but I view as a viable compromise.

Mark Berch Dept.: Ah, winter is coming. The sun goes to bed before I do again and the temperature is down to a refreshing 50 where I can wear clothes without roasting. This pre-winter is the best time of year with the possible exception of "spring" (up here winter is followed by a 1½ week period called "breakup" when everything melts, and that is followed by a 1½ week "spring" when everything dries up, then it's summer).

Son of Bogy: It turns out I can get Perlmutter to play, but the question is do I want to (this is an invitational game, remember). All of you signed up (Shaffer, you, Hanson, Osuch) let me know how you feel.

Funny, I find myself agreeing with Johnny C. for a change too. Perhaps I'm just agreeable today?

Has anyone asked the players in Ditter's FRONT game? Or even looked at the game? Maybe it's going to end next turn. Queers and cowards are not necessarily lazy. I'm sure there are plenty of ~~us~~ them who could become very diligent truck drivers.

To Ronald Brown: Nobody ever questioned that cats are smarter than dogs, since it's obvious. I'd consider it incongruous if John M. actually picked the smarter being to like (look at his views on liberals...)

A pretty goddam good issue there but not up to the standards of yesteryore. I'd say you peaked on #77 with plateau extending to about 90 before falling back down.

PS I think I'll slow down my letters a bit. Should make some people happy.

((No doubt about that. On the other hand, Linsey thinks you're the height of the zine....

What does the game Ditter runs have to do with anything? The issue is, or let me say, was, the propriety of the BNC lending his name to a subz or GCM spot in LE FRAUD. How the game is going doesn't matter.

I don't care who else is in it, as long as the rules stay the same: no DIAS, fast deadlines, wide open black press, no Martin clones, etc. Hell, you could put in a Kovalcik for all I care. Just low writing for me to have to do.

Ann Landers may oft be suspected of making up letters, (tho not by me), and I can see where someone might think I created Mark Lew to make my positions look good. Only someone defending the Left, the cats, and other social perversions could come up with a line like "I'm willing to be drafted, but damn if I want to risk my life FIGHTING for anything, or

Response to Ig Lew, cont'd

even doing paperwork to support a soldier's evil work" (paraphrased of course). If we draft you, how about if we pay you Conlon's higher salary to sit home and watch "Sgt Preston of the Yukon" on TV? Would you be willing to do THAT for your country, or would it interfere too much with pursuits you feel deserve your attention more than the national defense clearly does? And you wonder at my tossing aside your views with a he's-so-full-of-shit, why-bother?

An "undercover" BB would not help at all. After all, while collating and copying are nuisances, the difference in producing 10 copies and 100 copies consists really in only about an hour's extra collating time and a longer stand at the xerox machine. The burden is producing the first ONE copy, the masters to run all the rest off of. THAT takes weeks (or lately, "week"), many hours of many days. It is that FIRST copy that is the killer to do. As far as a smaller copy, I'll have something like that in the guest columns I'll do. I'll pawn them off on Hanson or Marshall or whoever I can armtwist into accepting some now and then. I had thought of hobby commentary, but a lot of people seem to think JOHN'S NOTES is the best thing around, so hell, I can do those easy enough. Just sit down and ramble on for two pages. But not on any set schedule.)) *JW.*

((Another Lew letter:))

So why'd you advertise my opening? Now I'll be turning away Martin clones for weeks. Oh well, I'll manage. Speaking of which, I still do want to run it here in BB. I do understand that you've got too much shit for BB as it is, but people like to see their game show up SOMEWHERE. Where ELSE is a 2 week black press to go? It just seems to be the place; besides, the whole game is a Michalski set-up, and most of your other games are going away. No comment on Leeder Poll since it'll all appear in BENZENE. Sub to IRKSOME!

I wish you'd elaborate how "women would only disrupt things" in military; I'm still unconvinced.

Not all of the Wh/Ret crowd is for smoke. I hate smoke and I was considered a Ret crowd until recently.

I'm up to a big 7 EMPIRES now. The first third is best and the middle is the worst. I never said I'd negotiate in a 3-15-16, I just send in orders and don't concede 8 to one. I've got something to write to the GM about anyway.

I wish everyone would quit saying Communist to mean Soviet. China is communist, USSR isn't.

Whether you want to kill people and not building or not, the neutron bomb was stupid because it alienated all our allies.

People should learn to not type a letter which fills exactly a page because then you don't reply much.

They still haven't elected a queen yet?!
Osuch has signed up now, if I could just get Becker now. 2 more could be Carter & K Baumeister? Maybe I'll go ahead and call Carter, I want to hear his accent anyway.

((Side note:)) You don't suppose WALKER would play, do you? That'd be excellent. Or how about Berch? I heard he's a serious player like Brux, too bad.

PS MORE words on Wetback/Son of Bogey: This is an INVITATIONAL game, so if you just send bux out of the blue, I may or may not sign you up. We have met our quota of Martin-Byrne clones. Perlmutter is NOT a player in the game. My heading is back to BENZENE again and no others.

((OK. Too bad about Perlmutter. I was counting on him to be a good NMR-

Response to 2d Lew letter, continued

F01 drop to CD. Oh, did we agree to no standbys? I hope so. Who needs 'em? Unless you got a 1 center spot with 1 or 0 units left on a spring turn, when it would be OK to call Bruxus or Boardman (out of the blue). Walker would be an excellent one. I can just imagine what Fluff would put in the press knowing there was a REAL gay in the group, let alone what he writes when he just accuses most others of it! On the other hand, maybe he'd feel inhibited. (Maybe you'll enlist in the USMC and Tretick turn honest too). Let me get this straight: it is a Michalski set-up, Lew invitational game? I think I missed something.

Isn't Baumeister a Martin clone?

If the neutron bomb alienated our allies, it is good that it may prod them then into pulling their heads out of their asses. No thinking gov't opposes it--they know there is no reason to. The only opposition is due to ANY new "bomb" coming out, which brings out all the Lefties, pinkos, Red stooges, pacifists, and other shit into the streets to "protest". So the governments dodge criticism themselves by paying lip service to the masses of fuckheads in the streets and 'opposing' the action. Who cares? What are they going to do, stop drinking Coke or burn their blue jeans? Piss on the "protests".

I think we saw 7 or 8 EMPIRES here ourselves. All but Claudine, who refused outright to even see it once. This counts only this last appearance, not the initial pass. I've had enough of it for a while now. Maybe next spring, after the All-Star game...

A Soviet and a Communist may be different things at a meeting of Asian reds, or Comecon, or the World Council of Churches, or a big rally in Havana or some such, but to people outside of these far left dictatorships, I can't see that it makes much difference. What does matter is that there are now so many of them in so many places that they fight over the differences between them, racial and national, hidden in terms of theory of Marx and/or Lenin. Kind of like the interChristian wars and even current animosity over such shit as whether the pope is a good definer of religious problems, or some gang of bishops, or whether the archangel was Mike or Michael and similar heavy issues. To a Jew or Moslem, they're all foolish Christians; to a non-Communist, a Soviet red or a chink one are equally obnoxious. One may be more useful at the moment than the other, if only versus the other, but it doesn't really matter.

You will probably remain unconvinced about women in the military unless you have occasion to work in a section or be responsible for something in the service; then you won't have questions for long. The dames that are so eager to show they can do "equal" work soon learn to slough off and let the boys do the heavy stuff, the dirty jobs, the remote tours, anything shitty. This puts an inordinate burden on the regular crew, since the girls feel themselves fit for only the cream stuff. One week a month they drop out of the shop "sick"; the rest of the time they do as they please, and no more. The fellas get the rest, or the job doesn't get done. You really should ask Fluff to elaborate for you, as he stayed in for about 11 years and ran into the heavy female influx there towards the end (and often trouble for treating them as TRUE equals). He's got a lot of first-hand examples, and this was from the air force, the softest and most civilian of the services, let alone more combat oriented outfits like the other services. The only good thing I think one can point to is that they are coming up pregnant on their first enlistment to something like the tune of 40%, which is a pretty good indication that they're not lying down on the job and doing nothing at all; SOMETHING is going on when they lay down.

Hmmm, if you too are opposed to smoking, maybe I should review my opposition, hey?))

J.M.