

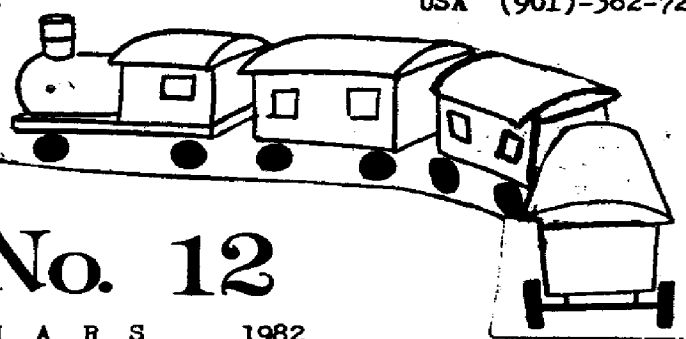
Europa Express

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"For the female of species is more deadly than the male."

Those words by Rudyard Kipling are the inspiration for this issue of EUROPA EXPRESS. Are these words true? You have a whole issue to read to find out the answer to that question!



No. 12

4 M A R S 1982

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§ Welcome to the "Official" Post-Valentine's Day, Pre-St. Patrick's Day issue (note the hearts alternating with the "shamrocks" on this page!) of EUROPA EXPRESS which examines the participation of women in the Diplomacy hobby. Find within articles about women, for women and by women. There are even women in EE's centerfold this time!

§ Well, so I was leading you on about the centerfold just a little. But there is a picture of a beautiful woman on page 21! Hurry!

§ Well, anyway, there is a lot in this issue which is an "oversized" zine according to Mark Berch's standards. I don't see that changing for EE. Since the hobby took its word "zine" from "magazine", perhaps we should coin a new word to describe "oversized" zines. I suggest "mega-zines"! ("Mega" meaning "large", of course). Then Mark can include "mega-zine" in the upcoming Lexicon of Diplomacy, eh Mark?!

§ Mark Lew wrote in: "What?!! Since when is EE white?? A white EE is like a Brutus Bulletin without letters or a digest Voice of Doom..!" Last time, my instructions to the printer got garbled. EE is now a "buff" color once more (Isn't it?!)

§ Mass Murders comes to EE! Mass Murders is the name of the latest 2-week game GMed by Chicago's Bob Osuch and it generates mucho press. The results will be printed in EE although the players get the game report separately. MM will always be on white paper within EE and is completely autonomous. (That means don't blame me for anything that appears there!). If you want to be a standby for MM, as I am, or be in Bob's next game, as I am, see page 22 for information on how to do it. (Jest don't know how Ah'm gonna 'splain a Yankee subzine to all mah friends and relatives...).

§ Subs will be starting to expire hot and heavy soon. EE's rate is 10/\$6. However, \$5 checks are okay too; that gives you 8 issues plus 20 cents credit. Canadians send \$7.00 in Canadian money, no cheques please! The cost to Europeans is 10/\$10 in U.S. dollars, for any coming in after this issue. A word of warning: if you wish to get all the issues of EE, don't wait until the last minute to resub or you may miss an issue. I never have the printer make many more issues than the number of subbers that I have.

§ As you know EE is asking all subbers to tell their national origin. Coughlan is an Irish name for instance. I stated in #10 that I would return the checks of those who had not told me. My thinking in this matter was that people are just forgetting to do this. I have had a most unpleasant situation arise with one subber and I am changing my thoughts on this. If you want to tell me, please tell me. But if you don't want to tell me, tell me that too. But tell me something.

§ See the blocked off square on page 6 about the latest ChicagoCon. Let your vote be made as soon as possible! I hope to see many of you there. The guys in Chicago are opening their homes to us and going all out to make us welcome.

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§ DIPLOMACY is a registered trademark for a game invented by Allan B. Calhaver and copyrighted by The Avalon Hill Company.

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EUROPA EXPRESS is.....a.....Memphis.....MEGA-ZINE!!!!!!!
Let this zine jigglelate your lghtisibles!!!!!

Dear Gary, Be sure and see ⑤ on page 18!
also the top item on page 6.
Gary

SHIT!

Summer 1903: Austria retreats F Aegean to Eastern Mediterranean; Russia retreats A Moscow to St. Petersburg, F Norway to Barents Sea

Fall 1903:

AUSTRIA (Olsen): F Eas-ION; A TRI-Bud; A RUM-Bud; A Ukr-WAR; A Mun-KIE;
A Rom U/d/r to Apu, Tus, Otb

ENGLAND (Michalski): F SKA-Swe; F Nwy S F Ska-Swe/d/r to Nwg, Otb;
F Den S F Ska-Swe/d/r to Bal, Hel, Otb

FRANCE (Sherwood): A Pie-VEN; F Yor-EDI; A LVP S F Yor-Edi; F Lyo-TYN;
F Mid-WES; A SPA U

GERMANY (Mazzer): F Kie-DEN; F NTH S F Kie-Den; A Ruh-MUN; A Boh-VIE;
A GAL S A Boh-Vie

ITALY (Martin): A Ven-ROM; A NAP S A Ven-Rom; F Ion kills any and all units that attempt to infringe on its personal space. Like wow, man./d/r to Tun, Alb, Apu, Adr, Otb

RUSSIA (Larzelere): A StP-NWY; F BAR S A StP-Nwy; F SWE-Ska; A Lvn-STP;
A War-Mos/d/r to Pru, Sil, Lvn, Otb

TURKEY (Byrne): A MOS S AUSTRIAN A Ukr-War; A SEV S A Mos; F BLA S A Sev;
A GRE H; F AEG S AUSTRIAN F Eas-Ion; F Smy-EAS

Yes, I know this isn't the same copy of the adjudications that I sent out originally, along with the short note that read "press later". That's because the original copies were inadvertently discarded by someone other than myself. I must type up this, plus the five or six pages of press one more time. If it gets lost again, I'm dropping out of the Diplomacy hobby and becoming a priest. This is Mass Murders Encore Production #1.

1903	#	NET	COUNTRY	CENTERS
	6	0 or +1	Austria	Tri, Bud, Nie , Rum, Ser, KIE, WAR
	0	-3	England	Edi , Ltp , Den
	9	+3	France	Home, Lon, Spa, Por, LVP, EDI, VEN
	6	+1	Germany	Mun, Ber, Kie , Hol, DEN, VIE
	3	0 or +1	Italy	Nap, Nen , Tun, ROM
	3	-1 or -2	Russia	Mos , StP, Nat , Swe, Nwy
	7	+1	Turkey	Home, Bul, Gre, Sev, MOS
	<u>34</u>			

Deadline for Autumn/Winter 1903 and Spring 1904 is still Monday, February 22, 1982, or at least that's what I think it was.

PRESS

VEN: Oh no, not EE! That's just for faggots, Europeans and retards!

CHICAGO: Oops, that shouldn't be datelined Venice, so that you know. Gray press, not black.

AUS: I'll make A Mun-Kie out of Mazzer!

CHICAGO: Think about it.

???: You saw her dominate in MANIACAL. You saw her victorious in FADE AWAY. Now see her again in MASS MURDERS. Yes, it's the return of Kathy Byrne, as the BLOODSUCKER you love to hate, with an all-star cast. Mark Larzelere is DE VRIES, the unlucky player eliminated so early no one remembers him. John Michalski is PERL, blown out of his home centers but haunting Scandinavia for years. Mike Mazzer is CRUD, who meets early success only to be spread too thin and die an agonizing death. Dick Martin is TOOTS, who succeeds in alienating the entire board and dies quickly. Bob Olsen is DEL GRANDE, gullible enough to trust the Bloodsucker to

MASS MURDERS

???: (cont) the end. And Keith Sherwood is THE KID, who quite by luck grows as fast as the Bloodsucker and will meet her in the terrifying conclusion. Featuring a cameo by SCOTT HANSON, the original kid. This show is coming to a drive-in near you. You know how it's going to end. PAID POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

Down with:

1. The Bounder of Berlin
2. The Weasel of Warsaw
3. The Vulture of Venice

Long live:

1. Vlad of Vienna (soon to be the Bungler of Budapest)
2. The Sweetie of Smyrna

Jury still out on:

1. ~~The Lobster of London~~ The Nebbish of Norway
2. The Goon of Gascony

AUS-GER: I can't believe it! You've done it again! You devil, you cad, you bounder! How much longer must I endure your betrayals? What do you take me for, a total fool? (don't answer that!) Have you no morals, have you no shame? This is the worst--the utterly worst! There's only one consolation for me now--thank God I got you first!

BERLIN-MUNICH: Hah! Fell right into my trap!

BERLIN-BUDAPEST: Very impressive, my dear Count Vlad! A three-front war! And if you retreat to Bulgaria, you raise the possibility of a four-front war. I particularly like your A Trieste, which has to cut Italian support in Venice, keep the French out of Tyrolia and the Germans out of Vienna. What daring! What swash! What buckle! Ah, the things we do for love!

AUS-ENG & GER: Okay, toadies, I'm onto your little charade so you can cut it out right now. This phony "war" between you convinces nobody! Lucky I'm so brilliant, I can see that Mazzer is simply letting Michalski walk into his centers so that he can keep them out of the deserving Tro Sherwood's hands! And that Michalski intentionally let Germany into the North Sea as part of the famous "Gibby" opening. Well, that cat's out of the bag, so we all know about the sinister anti-Olsen conspiracy now!

AUS-ENG: Sounded rather stupid, didn't it? Rather idiotic? Can you recognize the folly of your fetishistic asininity now, or does a ton of bricks have to fall on your head? (I think his name is Sherwood).

AUS-ENG: I really enjoyed your recent letter all about how my stab of Mazzer is actually a secret conspiracy with him. Very amusing, really. Now that you have seen the turn, though, and see that he also stabbed me, I was wondering, how are you going to fit these facts into your pattern of delusion? I'm sure that mere facts will not deter you from continuing to think we're crossgaming. Sad though it is to say, I realize now that you will never be able to transcend your manias. Too bad you will never grow to realize that Mazzer and I are just a couple of people like you (well, maybe not that low), and that we try, and succeed, in treating each other just as we would anybody else (or maybe worse). Hard though this may be for you to understand, we're in the hobby for pleasure---the pleasure of playing the game in our case, though, and not, like you, the pleasures of hate.

CHICAGO: I cleaned my "g" key in the middle of that release. Anybody notice? Anybody care?

BERLIN-CHICAGO: "The German position isn't bad..."? What have you been smoking, and how can I get some?

CHICAGO-BERLIN: It's called "Sensemalia", or something like that. They grow it out your way. Sherwood's always high, I'm sure he can get some for you.

OLSEN-SHERWOOD: Chuckle, chuckle, chuckle.

ROM-PAR & BUD: I hope y'all are as greedy this turn as last!

NAP-CON: Don't blame me for stabbing you! You stabbed me by not resigning!

ITALY-RUSSIA: What does the world have against clones, anyway?

MASS MURDERS

CON-BER: I hope you're proud of yourself. Now that you've made my ally CRY, now that you've made him think about starving himself to death. What type of person would do such a horrible thing? Only a greedy one. So I hereby christen you "Greedy"!

ME-AUSTRIA: Sic 'em, Bob, I'm right behind you! Brave, ain't I?

CON-MOSCOW: I'm sorry, Mark, but I have to help Bob because some greedy twit in Germany is always trying to grab his dots! And you, Lousy, are helping Greedy, so Count Vlad and Bloodsucker must stick together.

LVN-MISS CON: When I said "Take that! And THAT!", I did not mean Moscow and Warsaw!

LVN: European Excrement? I'd rather run it in Appalling Taste. Want my spot Bob?

MICHALSKI-BYRNE TOADIES: Hanson's playing Italy? Shit, now all we need is Woody or Del Grande or some other Stebbins clone in the game, and Kathy will have another win wrapped up by 1903.

FRANCE-NEW ITALY: Sure, I'll prop you up. I need you as a buffer against the Bloodsucker.

TURKEY-NEW ITALY: I can't attack you, I need you in between me and Sherwood.

AUSTRIA-NEW ITALY: I'm pulling out of Rome, I need the unit at home.

NEW ITALY-ALL: I now see Crud's strategy, get nearly annihilated, then become too unimportant to attack. His theory of "Survival of the Dunbest" at work, I'm sure.

LA JOLLA-CHICAGO: Since this is in Coughlan's zine now, can I say "fuckshit" in the press?

WASHINGTON D.C.: Officials today announced that the major cause of the current recession was the unauthorized use of US Government xerox machines in Maryland. Corrective measures were taken in RETALIATION, and the nation's economy should be the better for it.

MPLS-FLUSHING: "... Take one down, pass it around, no more bottles of beer on the wall." Shit, no more beer. Time to buy a new wall.

???: PHYLLIS LIVES.

BERLIN-CON: Don't you think your Wichita Wacko has bitten off a bit more than he can chew?

BERLIN-MUNICH: What a pleasant surprise. How nice of you to drop in. Did you plan to stay awhile, or are you just passing through?

NONEY-PRINCESS: Uh-oh, this is the big leagues now. We've got Mazzer after us.

AUSTRIAN ARMY MUNICH: Count Vlad was celebrating his army's victory over the German traitors when an orderly rushed in with news from home. "Ach!" said Vlad (did you ever notice how Vlad always says "Ach!" and then forgets about his accent after that?). "Der Krauts really know how to live. Such juicy peasants! But ach! I feel so guilty. Der Kaiser begged me to support him to Warsaw, such a stirring appealink he made. And I did not. Will he ever forgive me? I hated to do it to him, but..."

The orderly burst out, "Your Royalness, the Germans have moved against Austria! Already they occupy Galicia and Bohemia!"

"Ach!" ached Vlad. "That scoundrel! To betray me, his closest friend! And after Michalski said I could have Munich, because it was safe and Mazzerman was crossgaming with me (some people know a lot more about crossgaming than others), and gave it to me, and all that bunkum! Ach!"

"What will we do? What will we do?" The orderly moaned. He had a big nose and wore a hat.

"Ach! Anytink! We will live for revenge now! It will be hard-- there will be terrible bloodshed ahead. The army will have to live in damp, muddy tents for years on end. We'll be forced to root under

MASS MURDERS

AAM(cont): logs for grubs to eat. Our clothes will be filthy and smell bad. We will be forced to undergo every possible degradation. Even to the extent of--the ultimate degradation!"

"Sir?" gasped the orderly.

"Give the orders!" thundered Vlad. "We move to Kiel to help Michalski!"

ENGLAND-REINCARNATED FRANCE: Tro! I was quite surprised by your blast in last season's press. Here I thought you were a total idiot, but two of your five lines made sense. Listen to Olsen and maybe you'll survive this one.

EDINBURGH: The mayor laughed at the French forces entering the city unopposed. "Wouldn't it be funny to see Germans entering London or the Channel Too?" he said. "Or Burgundy". "Or even Austrians..."

RUH-HIMSELF: I just can't keep being everyone's friend forever. Someone has to suffer. Larz? Tro? No, too nice. Kathy? Not a girl. Martin? Not the handicapped. Hmmm...who does that leave? I know! I'll abuse myself!

VEN-BER: Consummate genius. Simply consummate. Now what?

ROM-PAR: Thanks for your "help", Tro. Will I continue to be blessed with your gracious presence? Thank you ever so much.

NAP-TRI: Poor Bob. Why won't Mazzerman tolerate any independent thought on your part? You'd think he would reward his sycophants somehow!

NAP-COUNT VLAD: You'd better make your visit to Italy soon. If you want to see it under its current ownership, that is!

I.V.P: As usual, when I play France, The Beatles end up speaking French.

TRIS-TRIESTE: Whatzamatter, Bob? Two fronts in Italy and Russia aren't enough for you, so you open a third in Germany? That fourth in Turkey is going to kill you.

RINGO-BOB: Goodnight, Vienna.

MOS-KIE: To quote Billy Joel, "Vienna waits for you."

DEN-RUSSIA: Now that was stupid, boy. With Warsaw perfectly safe and Moscow under siege, you royally mess up and support Warsaw. Stupid, dumb, insipid play like that is what allows Byrne to get so many wins. Now Moscow is lost forever and your future is exactly what you deserve.

BYRNE-MORAL MAJORITY: Jealous of my honey Bob, huh? Well, Bob is my honey, he even sent me a picture and guess what? Not only do I have the best ally on the board, I have the handsomest! Is that a word?

CHICAGO: Yes, "that" is definitely a word.

CON-???: The plan was for Bob to get three builds on '01 and then give me Greece in '02. Doesn't anyone plan past one season besides us? I thought that was rather obvious myself.

CON-VIENNA: It really is not necessary for you to give me Serbia just because you dropped my picture on the floor. However, if you ever step on it after you drop it, then I want Munich and Paris!

ENG-RUSSIA: Well, you're in real trouble now Lousy. I won't let you live in Scandanavia and they won't let you live in Russia. Let's see if your great German ally will let you live in Berlin!

FRANCE-GERMANY: I'm not as positive as you are about your ability to take Michalski out this season, but good luck. I'll do my part.

PARIS: I hope Hanson's in the game now. Then we'll have good press to read instead of just Olsen's worthless pen droppings.

PARIS-MICHALSKI: With "The Fabulous Duo" coming to rescue you, no wonder you left England. They're more of a comedy team than Diplomacy players.

KEITH-JOHN: For someone who plays so poorly, I sure have a lot more centers than you. And notice the way my last letter goaded you into removing army Yorkshire and leaving England to me. You're so easy to manipulate.

FRANCE-AUSTRIA: Pretty good, Bob. Not great, but pretty good. It stung, not maimed. When do I get revenge? I liked your press last issue, of course, when I say I "liked" it, I mean....

(16)

((Mass Murders continues on page 22))

couldn't keep her. Her name was Catherine and the only reason people thought that her child was Peter's was because it looked so much like Peter. Without too much trouble, she had Peter deposed and then killed and she became Russia's ruler. She was TYPE C. (Who says that women can't stab?!) The Russians preferred a woman to Peter and history shows that they made an excellent choice.

Catherine's "stab" scandalized all Europe. And the fact that she took a string of lovers really shocked Maria T. Maria T. was a good, moral hausfrau (and a holier-than-thou goody-goody) who had many children (all legitimate!) one of whom was Marie Antionette who went to France and lost her head, but that's another story.

Anyway, Maria T. also had a son named Joseph (TYPE D) who became co-ruler with her and was real eager to gain a reputation. By this time, Maria T. was sick of unsuccessful wars for Silesia and only wanted peace. And she was horrified that Joseph wanted to make Catherine their ally. "That woman?" sniffed Maria T. haughtily.

But Catherine, whatever her morals, was powerful and everyone tried to win her friendship. She just smiled and grabbed more and more territory. Except for Poland.

In those days, Poland was between Austria, Russia and Prussia and all of them were like snarling dogs around a piece of meat (or a supply center).

Frederick wanted some of it, Catherine wanted all of it, but Maria T. didn't want anybody to get any of it, which upset Joseph. Remember how I told you Maria T. had a long memory? Well she was remembering how the Poles had helped save Austria almost 100 years before when the Turks had invaded Austria. (Turkey was even a problem for Austria then!). Anyway, Maria T. was still grateful.

But, when Joseph convinced her that Prussia and Russia intended to slice up Poland with or without Austria, she agreed to the partition crying all the way. She got the largest share of Poland too.

Her action, though reluctant, delighted Frederick and Catherine who had resented Maria T.'s holier-than-thou attitude. Frederick, always known for his wit, commented: "Catherine and I are two brigands, but that pious Empress-Queen, how does she settle it with her confessor? The more she cried, the more she took!"

After this, the big wars were over but Joseph was still itching to make a reputation. He provoked a "war" with Frederick of which his mother strongly disapproved, even though she still hadn't forgotten about Silesia. Nobody wanted to fight, except for Joseph, and the soldiers of both sides spent most of their time trying to rustle up food. History calls this "The Potato War" which wasn't good for Joseph's reputation.

Nor was the fact that his own mother wrote to Frederick without consulting Joseph and concluded peace. No doubt Joseph was thinking, "Boy, if you can't trust your own mother, who can you trust?"

And that's a good way to end this story: In Diplomacy, don't trust anyone, not even your own mother."

Well it's better than saying, "The moral of this story is that Poland today owns Silesia." (which is also true!)

FAME IS NOT THE NAME OF THE GAME (PART II)

---by Gary L. Coughlan

All of the games in EUROPA EXPRESS have names deeply associated with World War I, ~~which~~ the era in which our game of Diplomacy is set. Last time, in EE #11, we saw how "Alsace-Lorraine" and "Apis" were associated with World War I and this time we will do the other two games. To repeat, I am a World War I buff and I am afraid that that fanaticism often finds its way into the zine. Bear with me; I'm Southern!

SWEDISH ROUNDABOUT (1981 AM): After World War I started, England blockaded Germany. This was before radio or television, remember, and the German wireless could not reach all of their embassies overseas or present their side of the conflict to the rest of the world.

The United States allowed the German Embassy in the U.S. to have a wireless station on Long Island, New York. But when the Germans were suspected of telling their U-Boats where enemy ships were leaving New York, the U.S. refused to allow them to use any secret codes. Germany worked out a way to get around this, as we will see. The English monitored all of this German wireless traffic because they wanted to disrupt it by finding out where it came from.

At last year's GenCon East, Al Pearson, pubber of Just Among Friends, handed out "I Was BYRNED At GenCon East" certificates with boxes to check for the "Type of Byrne" (1st-, 2nd-, 3rd-degree or Rear End Byrne). This year, Kathy has been awarded the 1981 "Nixon Award" for being the "Biggest Liar of the Year." When it was revealed how she used an "innocent 3rd party to her own diplomatic advantage", this article was born!

Once when Kathy announced she was sharply curtailing her involvement in the hobby, Dave Carter, pubber of Sleepless Knights, wrote: "I'm glad that Kathy isn't completely leaving the hobby. I'd have a hard time explaining to my future grandchildren how I was the only one in the PBM Diplomacy Hobby(circa 70's and 80's) who was not stabbed by the infamous KB." To which Kathy replied: "Thanks Dave, I needed that!"

Her techniques vary in different games. There is no pinning her down. Eric Ozog, pubber of Diplomacy By Moonlight, said: "I was 'Byrned' at GenCon East. I was Turkey, Byrne was Russia. She allied with me at the start and then stabbed me horribly. Kathy's tactics are amazing. She always pulls this 'dumb-broad-I-can't-make-up-my-mind-I'm-a-woman-routine'. And let me tell you is it effective."

After her postal win as Russia, her GM, Scott Hanson, pubber of Irkome, said: "This game should prove to the skeptics that Kathy Byrne is an expert at this game...sure she got all the breaks but someone has to be pulling the strings behind the scenes to make those breaks happen."

So Kathy is an excellent player both postally and face-to-face. Her letters and phone conversation reveal a very friendly and witty personality with a made-to-be-mocked Brooklyn accent. But what is she like in person some of you who have only know her via print may be asking?

Mark Berch, pubber of Diplomacy Digest said after meeting Kathy at GenCon East: "Kathy Byrne: She is even more electrifying in person than she is in print. She can effortlessly galvanize almost any group of people. She virtually wiped up the floor with Sacks((Bob Sacks was the tournament director of GenCon East who intended to ban smoking totally at first. Kathy is a smoker.)) when she did not approve of his no-smoking edict, and when she decided to leave a meeting, WHOOSH, she sweeps half the people out with her. Whether it was getting people to pose for her camera or asking sure everybody noticed that she was going an entire game without stabbing Al Pearson, there was Kathy, an authentic, genuine live-wire."

Within the pages of EE, Kathy has entered her first game with Europeans. Already she is famous in Europe for her letters to Michel Liesnard, pubber of Chantecler in Belgium, whom she calls "Cuddles."

Kathy Byrne is a genuine hobby phenomenon and an original. A quote from an American novelist, Ellen Glasglow, also fits Kathy well: "In her single person she managed to produce the effect of a majority."

But I will end this article with some lines which best describe Kathy to me since I have written to her, talked to her on the phone and met her and am now in a postal game with her. These words are from Billy Joel: The Stranger's "She's Always a Woman."

"She can kill with a smile/ She can wound with her eyes
She can ruin your faith with her casual lies.
And she only reveals what she wants you to see.
She hides like a child/ But she's always a woman to me.
She can lead you to live/ She can take you or leave you.
She can ask for the truth/ But she'll never believe you.
And she'll take what you give her as long as it's free.
She steals like a thief/ But she's always a woman to me.
Oh--she takes care of herself/ She can wait if she wants.
She's ahead of her time.
Oh--and she never gives out/ And she never gives in.
She just changes her mind/ She will promise you more than the Garden of Eden.
Then she'll carelessly cut you/ And laugh while you're bleeding.
But she'll bring out the best and the worst you can be.
Blame it all on yourself/ Cause she's only a woman to me.
She is frequently kind/ And she's suddenly cruel.
She can do as she pleases/ She's nobody's fool.
But she can't be convicted/ She's earned her degree.
And the most she will do is throw shadows at you/ But she's always a woman to me.

and pretend that her being a female doesn't matter. Take no position one way or the other about her being a female. Treat her like one of the guys: threaten, suggest, recommend, order, cajole, and (gulp) even on occasion, plead. Take no notice of her being female. Don't address her as Queen, Kaiserine, or Sultanness; stick with King, Kaiser, Sultan or better still, address her as Sir. This approach puts the female off balance, and it occasionally gets you an ally if she revolts at taking orders from the MCPs.

A final approach is the ERA fellow traveler. As distasteful as the role is, it does pay off in big results on occasion. Tell her how your grandmother marched with Susan B. Anthony, that you write letters to local Congressmen in support of the ERA, how you boycott travel to non-ERA states, and (if you have the stomach for it) how you always admired Eleanor Roosevelt, Bella Abzug and Barbara Walters, even if your real tastes lie more in the area of Suzanne Somers, Cheryl Tiegs and Bo Derek. With a little luck you can get an ally who is on the rebound from the other players.

This next article was written by Kathy Byrne and it first appeared in Ter-ran #37, which is pubbed by Steve Heinowski. A lot of friendly banter goes on between Kathy and Steve and his comments are in double parentheses in this article. What's Blind Pan?

PLAYER PROFILE: Is She For Real?

---by Kathy Byrne

Since I can't stand reading Blind Pan anymore, I am going to attempt to fill up Steve's empty space((slur noted)) with a player profile on none other than that die-hard &*&# from New York. Contrary to popular belief, I am not a creature from outer space sent here to infiltrate the male Diplomacy world. I am a normal(semi-normal, would you believe crazy) 30 year old(whose grey hair is multiplying with every stab) bookkeeper with 3 children including a set of twins. ((perhaps "ab" normal, empty space indeed))

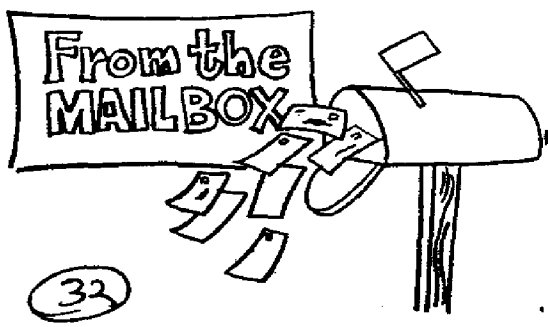
Two years ago I started dating a true dippy addict. Finally I couldn't stand it anymore(if you can't beat 'em, join'em), so I signed up for a game in Ter-ran. (Steve, were you lucky--of all the zines I was getting, I liked yours best--just think you almost lost me to Jerry Jones). ((I've been having luck like that for years))

The odds in Diplomacy are amazing; it's a 100,000 to 1 shot that there will be another female in the game, but it's a 1,000,000 to 1 shot that out of the other 6 guys one will side with me. One such player wrote, "You belong in the kitchen", but I had no idea what his gripe was as I always write my moves and letters in the kitchen.

My first year in Diplomacy is almost completed(I'd be rich if I had a quarter from everyone who said I wouldn't make it); but 4 months ago I was ready to hang it up. Steve ((you promised you wouldn't mention any names)) convinced me to stick it out for a while longer(boy is he a glutton for punishment). He really believed that the players would get used to me. Well, I'm glad now that I listened to him. Last game start, I was considered to be a "normal" player, allies were not so hard to find and people were even listening to my strategies. So, there's hope for the female wargamer yet, and I expect to beg and plead for a long time (this time any bet gladly accepted--I know I'll be around a year from now, the worst is over!)

Na-no, Na-no Earthlings

P.S. Any wife, girlfriend, etc. considering joining the world of Dip, get in touch with me. I will be happy to pass along some tips and words of encouragement.



Space is really at a premium because of the theme about Women in Diplomacy issue so the letter column will probably be rather short this time. Let's get to it with your guesses for the man in the picture in EE #10:

- Bruce Linsey(New York, USA): "The photo on p. 33 is of a radical."
- Dave Carter(Ontario, Canada): "Oh No! Not that picture in EE 10. I mean is that guy got a finger up his nose or is he keeping dinner warm?"
- Don Del Grande(California, USA): Your latest picture contest? I'll take a guess; it looks like Mike Barno."
((Letter column continues on page 33))

Mark Fassio(South Carolina, USA): "Concerning the photo contest--having been unGodly lucky in picking the last contestants correctly, I think I'll cast my vote on this wretched lad. Let's eliminate the obvious stuff first. He could be a European, as they are usually 3-5 years behind the times(the long hair, the wire rims, etc), or he could be Canadian, in that he's average looking; from what I've been told, Canadians are your average-looking people rating consistent "5s" on a 1-10 scale. I can't verify that, having met none of our northern neighbors. I think this winner is an American, however, for some strange reason. Perhaps it's because he's doing the old "fake finger in the nose" routine that is so warmly accepted by our hoods in the US. Judging by his looks, he's either trapped in the Twilight Zone of Puberty, or has decided to forego public opinion and remain looking like a throwback to Woodstock. The opened/closed eyes signify sneakiness(an admirable Dip trait) and he looks like the kind of guy who listens to Black Sabbath records at "78" speed; in other words, my kind of guy! As I don't know half of the yahoos who pollute this zine, I'll take a wild guess and say he's Scott Hanson--he sounds as good a choice as anyone else. I know he's not George Eldridge, as he's too cowardly to even admit his real name, let alone his phot; the scarpavecchia."

Mary Beck(New York, USA): "I would also like to comment on the picture in #10--Surely it is Mike Mills with long hair. True, I only saw him and spoke to him very briefly at GenCon last year, but as soon as I saw the picture, I knew it was him. What with his wanderings all over the East Coast this year, he just didn't have time for a haircut!"

Mike Mills(New York, USA): "That fellow with the finger up the nose is my old friend Rene Schickele of Junglinster. At least, it sure reminds me of Rene. While in London (Summer '77), Rene and I used to cruise the town, but we were always tossed from the pubs because of Rene's affection for his nose. I guess the Brits deported Rene for nose molesting."

Don Sigwalt(New York, USA): "Picture Contest! I'm a Sherlock Holmes fan so let's see what I can deduce about that person from his picture alone. The outstanding feature is that hair. Why is it so long? Is he so engrossed in Dip that he has no time to visit a barber? Possibly. Or maybe he's growing it on purpose. In that case he's probably residing in Sweden but could be from anywhere. Can't tell for sure. He must be a pretty confident player because I can't distinguish any gray hairs which means he doesn't worry too much about his games. What country does he like to play best? How the hell do I know! I'd make a better Dr. Watson than I would a Sherlock Holmes."

Jim Williams(Iowa, USA): "Now, for my guess of the picture person in EE 10. Whoever he is, he looks just like I did when I was about 19, except that I pick my nose with my left hand. He also probably doesn't work for a living(except at McDonalds or a grocery store or something along those lines). He is single (single guys are always doing something with their hands!) and he grew up in an upper middle class environment. He looks like the result of a spoiled childhood, he is still in school and Mommy and Daddy probably bought him a '65 Malibu for his high school graduation. Who else could it be but Keith Sherwood!?"

Keith Sherwood(California, USA) "It's funny, but I just know that picture in EE 10 is Mark Lew. That's my mental picture of him, that picture matches it. I thought he'd have shorter hair and contact lenses, but otherwise that's my picture of Mark Lew. And it all fits too; he finally says pictures are okay and then sends you his for print. All fits like a puzzle, it must be Mark Lew."

Rick Holman(United Kingdom): "The idea of a picture contest I find strangely appealing. I'm fairly certain that the picture in EE 10 is Malc Smith. I've never met him, but it seems to me that someone who includes Rainbow, Deep Purple and Whitesnake on his playlist has to have long hair and plenty of unpleasant habits, i.e. picking his nose."

Garry Hamlin(Michigan, USA): "Re: your mystery personality in #10--this gal is kinky! I've never seen a come-on quite like hers before. It's obvious she wants us to think she's winking at us and picking her nose. But no!--at a closer look, she's really just putting us on; her index finger is safely tucked against her palm. Although she wants to appear unconventional, it's a safe bet she's really just a homebody at heart. What she really wants (although she'd never admit it) is a home with the mandatory white picket fence, in a small town in the Midwest. As for gaming, she probably prefers France, plays along traditional alliance structures, and never stabs, although she may nip a little, playfully. Darling, where have you been all my life? I'll bet you're real cute when you're mad!"

John Caruso(New York, USA): "That brings us to the picture contest. By looking at the picture, our guest obviously has no class(sounds like Mark Fassio again--doesn't it).

PICTURE Guesses continued from page 33.

John Caruso(New York, USA)(continued):..."Picking his nose, just the way Mark does. Notice the GI haircut and the excellent vision. Aha, but there is a clue as to who it is. My excellent perception and keen eye have picked up that--our guest poser is wearing a plaid shirt. Obviously, he is a country boy, probably from the northern part of the country or from Canada. My guess is it's Dave Carter with a wig on."

Allen Wells(Massachusetts, USA): "Let's look at this picture. This person is obviously a very deceitful type. Notice the way that he is winking to make the observer feel off guard as he hides a dagger in his mouth! Look closely at the eyes. His glasses try to conceal it, but it is obvious that the person frequently drinks to excess, and is presently on pot. From the hair and garb, you can tell he's from southern California, probably Los Angeles, but from the furtive way he holds himself, I would say he has fled LA and taken up residence in the central valley, probably Bakersfield. All these clues lead me to suspect Ron Brown or Al Rodriguez, but I've seen pictures of both of them, and this guy is handsomer, so I give up!"

Patrick J. Conlon(West Germany): "And now for my first entry in the picture contest! 'Jersey.' This guy's picture reeks of the oil refineries along the Turnpike. He's just gotta be from Jersey. He looks like one of those hopeless, lower-middle class, urban white punks who is still waiting for a resurgence of the Miracle Mets or Grand Funk Railroad. The finger in his nose is symbolic of the fact that he's always been a snotty little brat. I don't even know the guy. And I don't want to. Looking down your subber list, Bern Sampson's from Jersey and a pubber, a prominent person. And from Middlesex. That does it. He's my guess."

Phyllis Byrne(New York, USA): "The picture is of Joey Vlincy. He was picking his nose when my teacher got his picture."

Simon Billenness(United Kingdom): "The picture in EE #10 was shown to everyone in The Lamb and needless to say we all recognized it as Malc Smith."

□ The picture is of the pubber of the fine zine, Bohemian Rhapsody ^{from England} and is none other than Malc Smith who plays in EE's Windsor and Alsace-Lorraine games! I expect more than Malc to answer some of these guesses which have been the most varied so far. Now do y'all's stuff on the man on page 4. That deadline is EE #14 which is in May.

□□□

Mark Larzelere(Maryland, USA): "I have been to Canada, so I should get parentheses around my number next time."

Keith Sherwood(California, USA): "I've been to Canada and Mexico, but each for only a few hours, so does that count for 'outside home country'?"

Michel Liesnard(Belgium): "About those of your readers who have lived in another country than theirs: Michel Van Lede has been a medical doctor in Zaïre for several years. He should thus get () before his name."

Allen Wells(Massachusetts, USA): "Another comment I have is that you don't have "()" around my number! (Sob!). And I lived in West Germany for a year!! Oh well."

C-G Spare(Finland): (To John Michalski); "I hope that you someday will get the chance to travel and seeing for yourself that every country has its own truth and realizing that you do not really understand a problem before you have seen it from different viewpoints. STAB, STAB, STAB: The lack of parentheses () in the address list indicates that you have never been away from Route 10, Oklahoma! BLOOD AND GORE, BLOOD AND GORE..."

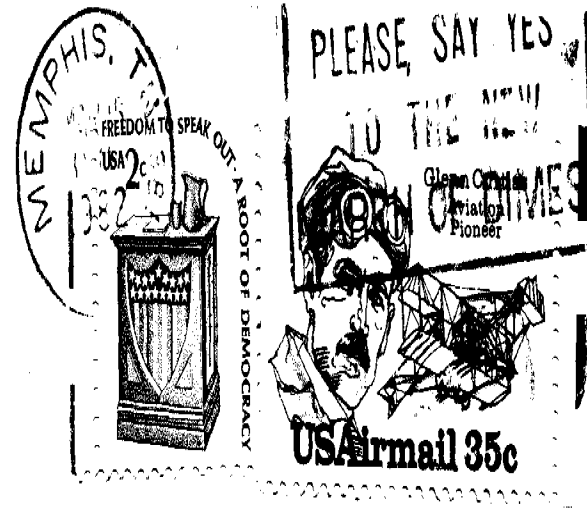
John Michalski(Oklahoma, USA): "About being out of the country...I spent a year in Thailand, and 4 months in New York City(well, near it anyhow)."

Eric Kane(New York, USA): "It just occured to me that when you listed me under your mailing list in EE #10, you made a little boo-boo. I am listed as one who has never been out of my home country. Saaaay what??? I've probably done more traveling than everyone on your list put together(well maybe not everyone!). I have been to England, France, Spain, Portugal, Mexico, Canada, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Ireland, Puerto Rico, Belgium, Holland and Hungary. I've probably forgotten some in addition to these....Haven't travelled eh? That'll teach ya!" By the way, some of these places I visited more than once."

Rod Walker(California, USA): "Your mailing list was interesting. True, I've spent time outside the country. For the record, my Dipzine EREHWON was the first 'zine published outside of North America, the only 'zine ever to have been published in Turkey, and probably the only 'zine ever to have been published in Nebraska."

Jim Williams(Iowa, USA): "Re: your address list. I want parentheses around my number next time! I've been to Canada, Guatemala, and St. Louis. Doesn't that qualify me for being outside my native country?" ((Letters continue on page 35))

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