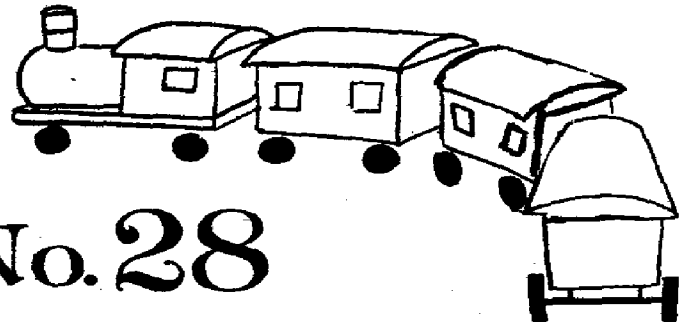


Europa Express

THE PUBBER: Gary L. Coughlan

4614 Martha Cole Lane, Memphis, Tennessee 38118
USA (901)-362-7206

Guess whose typer
quit on him when
he was almost
through and who
had to go borrow
a loaner, ugh a
loaner which
doesn't have
correction ability
and which prints sooo
large that I cant
stand it much longer!
C'est moi!



No. 28

29 S E P T E M B E R E 1983

Well, the zine should be back with my Smith-Corona next time as most of the zine is this time. Since it types so big, I better get on with what I must say, ha ha.

I will be in Europe most of October and while I am gone, Bob Olsen of Kansas will be looking over the EE games. There will be no adjudications so this is really just if the players have COAs. I decided to put the Top Toady (well, he did tie for 1st place!) to work right away, eh Bob. See page 16.

The absolute latest travel schedule is this (And I'm printing this here because I just can't write everyone and I'm very sorry for that): October 8-9-10 is Munich; 11th is Strasbourg; ~~12-13~~ 12-13 is Paris; 14-15 is the convention in Liege, Belgium; Oct 17-18-19 is ~~Brussels~~ Brussels; Oct 20-21-22 will be The Netherlands; Oct 23-24 will be Dortmund and Dinslaken, West Germany, then to Ostend, Belgium for the jet foil across the North Sea and up the Thames River to London for Oct 25-26-27-28. I don't care what I see in London as long as I see The Lamb! Then it's home.

Don't forget the Peoples' Diplomacy Organization (PDO) auction for ~~xxxx~~ raising money for our hobby services like the BNC, the MNC, and the orphan games service. EE is putting up two Dip games among other things. I've heard that fake zines and even a Dutch Diplomacy set are going to be offered. You can find out if there is something you might want to bid on by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Mike Mills, 26 Laurel Road, Sloatsburgh, New York 10974 USA. Mike will send you a list of all items that have been put up for bids. I know it won't be final until November (because I won't be back til then!) but send your SASE as soon as possible if you're interested.

Congratulations to Scott Hanson and Frauke Petersen who are now married..... The 'Apis' Fertility Curse rolls on with the birth of Mike Mazzer's son, Andrew and Jim Williams' note in his latest Straight From The Dimmer's Mouth that he and his wife may be expecting. Having no "apis" connection at all is the birth of Joshua Herschel Berch so I don't know what caused this. Mark?

How many of you saw the new TV show "For Love And Honor" on NBC on Friday nights? I think it is to be a series. If so, I will definitely watch it. It's about Army life today and a lot of it rings very true. You will see why I hate officers (unless they were enlisted men first) from my own Army days and how if someone has a superior rank over you that you must do exactly as they say. Even the running cadences are like what we had to do in Korea. "All the way, every day".

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

Let's get.....small. Turn to page 3! ①

Dear Larry, see page 17. Gary



We have at least 3 articles this time, and maybe more I'm not sure yet as I type this. (Just follow the directions and all should work out). By the time, most of you get this it should be close to Columbus Day, which is a legal holiday in the USA. By then, I will be "discovering" Europe and many of us have "discovered" Diplomacy recently or a few years ago, so I thought this next article was appropriate. It is written by Lydel Sims who does a column called "Assignment: Memphis" in the morning Memphis paper, The Commerical Appeal. It was written several years ago but things concerning children are always funny to me and I thought it would be very topical now. The spelling is just as it appeared in the article.

GOODBY, COLUMBUS

---by Lydel Sims

While other people simply sit around getting excited about the observance of Columbus Day Monday, Andrea Tiscia's second-grade girls at St. Agnes Academy have done something about it.

They've been trying to imagine what it would have been like to be members of the great man's crew on that immortal voyage in 1492. For example what should a rugged mariner carry along on so perilous a journey?

Most of them agreed that food and clothes, and maybe a doll, would come in mighty handy. But that was only the beginning. Catherine added toothpaste and hair brush to her list. Deanne decided she also wanted her mother and father and the ferncher. Mary Anna added underwear, flippers, a book and sunainlotion.

A few other timely additions: Insick peduir. Lifejakets. Fishing pole. Chips and dip. A snorcel. And a pellow, a blinket and a teddy bear.

So much for the traveling equipment. Next they tackled the problem of what to say to the Indians who met the boat. Answers here varied from a brisk "Hlowe, wat is your name?" proposed by Erika to a plaintive "I am thersdy and hugery" by Mary to a brisk "Were did you get that gold?" by Carol Ann.

Ah, but just how would they say it? "Sweet," Stacy responded. "Poont," said Deirdre. "Talk whit my hand." In Indian, said Kathy. In Spanish, said Jana. Others were more sophisticated: In sighn language. Sing Lauge. Sing lagwich. Sinlagweg. Clearly, speech would have been no barrier.

As for why they were going along with Columbus in the first place, motives varied widely. "Beaces the King told me to," Kristine speculated. "Buscase I like to sail," Nickii explained. "I wanted to be famus to," said Christina. But pragmatism is not dead among the very young: "So I will get mony." "Becase I wanted to dusksuver Ameria." "Beacus I wanted to be rich."

And finally, there was the vital question: If you were Columbus's mom, what would you have told him before he left?

"Be carffle son," said Ashley.

Others echoed the loving caution: "Be cafle." "Becaful! I love you my dear!" "Be safe hunny." "Be karfl Clombis." "I love you hune dear."

But some abandoned sentiment. "Good by for ever." "If you don't come back I will spank you." And, worst of all, "If you don't come home before super you will not get any cake."

It sort of brings the whole thing home to you, doesn't it? Those intrepid adventurers went through a lot more to discover America than some of us realized. Good night, not even cake for supper.

Let us remember that when we celebrate their voyage.

((It's funny to laugh at how children view the world, isn't it? I saw a comedy show here and the comedian said that if something happened and he were the only man left on earth, he would not know how anything works and it would soon be back to the caves for him! I've wondered before, in daydreams, that if I were to be sent back in time to say, the time of the French Revolution or Napoleon, how I would be unable to do anything more than describe life in the 1980s, I certainly couldn't duplicate even the simplest things like a radio. With no reference books, how much accurate history of what was to be could I tell them? Think about it sometime.

Next up is an article by Jim "Jim-Bob" Burgess who also went to PudgeCon at Bob Olsen's in Wichita. It begins on page 4.

PUDGECON REPORT FOR EUROPA EXPRESS

By Jim Burgess

So there I was, standing in front of two near legendary hobby pubbers, about halfway through this year's Pudgecon (I hesitate to attach one of those ubiquitous Roman numerals that lend the second-rate air to events and can cause unfair denigration or even, as in the case of a certain Tro, nonattendance. Therefore, I won't), thinking about who might dare to let me write a report for their zine. I made my intentions known in a general way, directed at no one in particular, and much to my surprise got two affirmative responses. So here I am with one half of my Pudgecon review. One of the aforementioned pubbers was our very own Gary Coughlan, but for the other half of my review (for those of you who care to look) see Magus (published by Steve Langley).

I had a great time at this Con. Let me say that right at the top. I had been worried that hobby feuding might get in the way of some great ftf play and a general good time but I'm glad to say that anyone with any other intent stayed home. Bob was a fantastic host, as usual. The general mess was bad but not a complete disaster and the water damage was negligible.

The more innocent of you may inquire, what water damage? Well, let us say that Gary came well equipped again this year and this time Kathy and Woody weren't there to confiscate the 'deadly weapons'. The big fight started soon after all the Friday night arrivals. Gary brought enough squirt guns to outfit a small army and he grabbed the best one for himself and began battling. The field of conflict was Bob's living room (see didn't I tell you Bob was a fantastic host). The noncombatants (including Bob, of course) quickly retreated to Bob's study for safety, as the battle lines swept back and forth across the living room. Informal teams appeared but the Dip style backstab was always lurking just around the corner. Gary was as ferocious as he was fearless and I allied with him. My glasses gave me an advantage in withstanding the deadly shots to the eyes. Blinding the enemy was the most frequently used tactic of attack. Daf and Steve Langley led the opposing forces with great courage and uncanny aim, plus Jim Williams had brought his own weapon, a long barreled monster that was also extremely deadly. Dimmer's advantage was finally snapped, quite literally, by a sopping wet victim (I believe it was Daf Fritz). There were no winners or losers, the water fights just were great fun; I hope no damage was done, we should have squirted each other outside but . . .

After the battle things began to quiet down as tired warriors tried to catch a scant few hours of sleep. Eric Ozog and I prepared to sleep outside (as we did for each of the three nights in Wichita). The clear cool summer nights on the Kansas prairie

(Continued on page 5)

(4)

Burgess PudgeCon Report ((continued from page 4))

PAGE 2

are wonderful for sleeping. Gary came out for awhile and we had a really nice talk. The Cons are always a great time for getting together and talking things out in person that can easily get painfully misunderstood in letters. I would ask all of you judgmental types out there to try to let Gary have his fair say without jumping all over him (Gary, you may want to delete or edit this part depending on how you decide to finally handle your Whitestonia reply, you have my permission to do so). When printed and mailed Dip zines and letters have time delays inherently built into them it is so easy for people to get hurt and never have a chance for a properly timely reply, even in the best of circumstances. Therefore, I would urge restraint of judgment, especially when all the facts are not known. I know that I didn't know them all before and even as I know more now I know that I don't have enough information to make an informed judgment. I hope we can see less and less of these serious, painful feuds in the future. Now let's get back to the fun!

The stars were beautiful, much brighter than you see in most cities (Bob's house is out on the outskirts of Wichita), and they made very nice nightlights. I slept like a rock from exhaustion and awoke soon after dawn to the arrival of two more contingents of dippers. One, a party of one, was expected. Peter Ashley arrived by bus from Colorado. The other was most unexpected. Russ Rusnak arrived with Marc Peters. When Paul Rauterberg canceled because he was out on strike Marc was thought to be out too since his car couldn't make that long a trip. However, he had secretly made plans with Russ to go to Chicago and drive Russ' car to Wichita. A fantastic surprise! Russ had to work on Friday so he couldn't come with me and Eric the day before. I should note that Russ had asked me to leave him out of this review because of bad publicity that he's been getting lately. After careful consideration I decided that I didn't want to add to any deception so I'll report it as I saw it. Besides, I liked Russ very much. He added much needed character to the weekend and so I think this will be good publicity for him. At least I hope so.

The day dawned clear and bright so Eric and I thought it would be fun to play a game out in the back yard. It started off great but as the day wore on, more than just the negotiating heated up. Finally a brisk wind forced us inside. The game was only moderately interesting. I played Russia and remained at 4 centers throughout the game, which ended in Winter 1906 with a concession to Eric Ozog as England. Frauke played Germany and got mashed by Ozog and Pete Ashley (France). Then Eric propped her up as a puppet for the attack on Marc Peters (Austria). I was Eric's ally in that attack until he stole St. Pete in an attempt to go for the win. Marc and I eliminated Frauke and Scott (Turkey) and then we conceded to Eric. Russ Rusnak played

((Continued on page 6))

(5)

Burgess Pudge Can Report . . . continued from page 5

PAGE 3

a very pleasant Italy, getting very angry at me, perhaps rightfully so, because I was playing for third. Well, I got it and you know what they say . . . once a toady, always a toady.

The Dimmer had brought along Civilization, a game of territory and knowledge growth set in the Mediterranean covering thousands of years. Each player took a tribe (e.g. Assyrians, Egyptians, Babylonians, or Cretans) and tried to build cities to define territory while they worked at developing skills necessary to advance as a civilization. We had lots of fun with this game though it was incredibly long. We played one game on Sat. evening and another on Sun. afternoon. We didn't finish either one but in the one on Sunday we reached a relatively definitive point where Eric and I shared in a draw of sorts. If you're getting the idea that Eric had a good weekend then you're right on target. Following closely on the heels of his second place finish at Dipcon I think Eric solidified his position as the King of FTF. The game on Saturday collapsed because of a combination of drunkenness and exhaustion on the part of the participants.

At that point we were also starving and since Randy Ellis had ordered a couple of pizzas for the mob upstairs we decided to do the same. I ordered three pizzas from the same pizza place, including two with pepperoni to satisfy the insistent demands of this pubber. It came to \$3.50 or so a person from our Civilization players. Since Randy had ordered first, their pizzas soon arrived. The two pizzas disappeared almost instantly and the ratio of price paid to pizza eaten turned out to be far from uniform (or so I understand, for example Mike Barno paid \$8 or so for only two slices) which probably set the stage for things to come. I had collected from six other people: Scott and Frauke, Jim Williams, Eric, Carl Russell, and Gary. When our pizzas arrived the animals attacked. I told Mike he could have a piece; after all, beer and other drinks were being bought and passed around without careful accounting of who paid for what in precise terms. But I could see that things were quickly getting out of hand. Scott had passed out in the meantime and though Frauke was trying to force a piece into his mouth Scott didn't get any. He and Frauke ended up paying \$7 for a couple of pieces. As the last of the pizza was disappearing I realized that Gary had gotten only one piece so I grabbed the last of the pepperoni pizza to save it for him. Do you think I got any thanks for this noble and thoughtful gesture? Of course not! All I got was complaints from Gary about not getting his money's worth. It was hilarious!! Little did Gary know that he was providing me with the perfect vehicle with which to get back at him when he offered me the chance to write this review. I'm sure Gary's side of the story is a little different but it all goes to show that making judgments without all the facts can get you into trouble. I'm not mad at all but in another place and time these

(continued on page 7))

(6)

Burgess Pudgecon Report..... Continued from
page 6

PAGE 4

are the kinds of things that start those disgusting feuds.

Let me now come back to Russ Rusnak. Russ has been getting bad press lately. As I said before he wanted me to leave him out of this review completely. When I told him that would be impossible he wanted me to put him in, but call him Mark Frueh because Mark needed the publicity. However, I don't even know Mark and I'm already in somewhat of a hole with Mark's girlfriend, Nancy Irwin, and his good friend, James Wall. Then they would think I was part of a conspiracy to destroy the Madison Mob, while nothing could be farther from the truth. Instead I will be Russ' self-appointed champion and character protector. If any of you out there have something negative to say about Russ send it to me first (66 Hall St., Providence, RI 02904) and give me a chance to defend him (why do I keep doing these things, I'm never going to get rid of the "toady" association at this rate, but I have to do what I have to do). Now let me relate some more of Russ' story since, as we all should know, understanding breeds acceptance.

On Sun. afternoon a Risk game started up. When I was at Eric's house in Chicago on my way to Pudgecon Eric picked up a new Risk set. We chucked the new plastic pieces (see it's not only with Dip where wooden pieces are on their way out) and loaded old wooden pieces into the new boxes. Then Eric brought it along to Wichita. The Risk game worked itself down to three players: Jeff Ellis, Mike Barno and, of course, Russ Rusnak. Barno was in Africa, Russ was holed up in Australia, and Jeff had the rest of the world. Clearly Mike and Russ were in trouble unless they could come up with a Risk match from their cards. They both had enough cards but neither had a match so what did they try to do? Naturally they tried to trade. Jeff protested but suddenly two kibitzers spoke up. Marc Peters and I were sitting on the couch watching the game and we both exclaimed, "Sure they can!!" (referring to the card trading). Not only that but I added, "It's in the rules!". That shut Jeff right up and the game went on. Boy I sure am mean, aren't I? Russ and Mike went after Jeff mercilessly, both on the board and across the board with their verbal attacks. Finally Russ had mercy and conceded the game to Jeff. Now who was the bad guy here? Everyone had a huge laugh with the possible exception of Jeff and he won the game anyway. If anyone takes the blame it should be me for my outright lie. Besides, Russ performs a service. As my girlfriend always tells me when I'm taking abuse from her, the world is a big bad place and you've got to be tough to take it. Since you've got to be able to learn to take abuse anyway you might as well learn from someone who's good at heart, rather than from someone who's really out to get you. Russ is not out to get anyone. If Russ was really mean then Jeff would still be out there thinking he lost that game.

((continued on page 8))

⑦

Burgess Pudgecon Report... continued from
page 7

PAGE 5

Later on Sunday evening Russ GMed a game of Cosmic Encounter Dip. That game is lots of fun. It may not be play balanced but if you give the right countries the right powers it would be reasonably even. For those of you who would like to follow this interesting variant Russ is running one continuing game that used to be housed in Irskome and one new one that I'm playing in. They are in his zine Who Cares? (\$0.60/issue from Russ at 8002 S. Nagle, Burbank, IL 60459), though I don't believe there are any more game openings at this time. I won't describe the Pudgecon game in detail but (to no one's surprise) Eric won again as the Chameleon playing France.

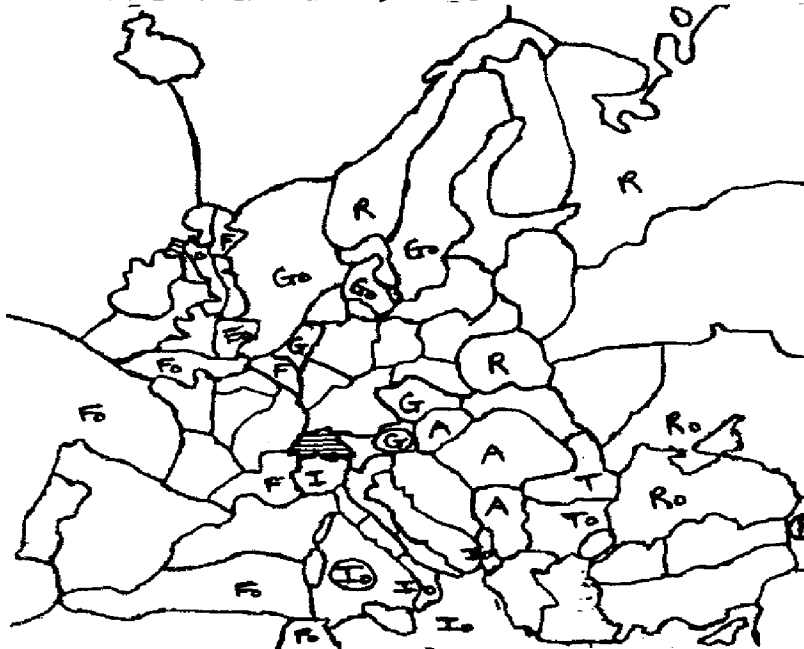
Let me wind this long and windy report to a close by describing the trip back. Providence, RI is a long, long way from Wichita. I had two full days of travel going each way. The first leg of the return trip was by car back to Chicago. We had a convoy with two cars and six people going back: Carl Russell, Mike Barno, Marc Peters, Eric, Russ, and I. We had come down by going through St. Louis and across Missouri but we went back by way of Des Moines, through Iowa. We had a fun trip though at times perhaps it was a bit too daring. Travelling across Iowa I was driving Eric's car and Barno was driving Russ'. Around Des Moines we met up with an ambulance on its way to the medical center in Iowa City (at least that's where it seemed to be going, the U. of Iowa Medical School is there and it's probably the best equipped hospital in the state). Anyway, the ambulance was doing about 70 with its lights flashing so all the cars were clearing out of its way. Mike pulled right in behind him and took off, no traffic problems all the way to Iowa City, 200 miles or so.

We finally pulled into Chicago in the early evening. After getting some good Chicago style deep dish pizza Eric headed off home and the rest of us settled down for the night at the Rusnak home. Russ was a great host, he let us fend for ourselves with a free hand toward whatever was there. In the morning Mike and Carl headed off by car and Marc and I got a ride to the bus stop to catch the bus downtown. From there Marc caught a bus north and I caught the train east, a day or so later I finally got back to Providence. What a trip! I had a great time, I got to see old friends and meet some new ones. The Cons really are the lifeblood of the hobby, go to one or have your own soon! Thanks, Gary, for allowing me to fill up so many pages, I get started with these things and just go on and on. I hope to meet you again sometime, and remember we want a full European report!

((Well, my Europe trip will probably be in the December EE. Thanks for the great article, Jim-Bob! As you see I didn't delete any of your article (I only excerpt letters!). Your comments about feuds are well-taken. Last winter, I was being jumped on by several well-known hobby members, and it has left deep wounds and scarred several friendships. ~~.....~~ I can only stress again that publishers and letter-writers should be very careful what you print about other people. Would you like to see your sex life, your consumption of alcohol, your mental state all become topics of conversations in zine after zine after zine? Then why in the hell do you think anyone else would? It is so easy to ruin someone's reputation with half-truths and outright lies. There may be more about this in the letter column this time.

FRENCH ARMS TRIUMPHANT IN SCOTLAND AND AFRICA!!
 RUSSIANS SHOOT DOWN TURKISH HOT-AIR BALLOON!!
 THE WANDERING MOSLEM FLEET MAY ENTER ROME!!!!!!

Ω POSITIONS IN FALL 1904 Ω



§ GAME: "Rhino" 1982 U

§ GM: Monsieur Gâreaux L.
 Coughlânniqué

§ NEXT SEASON IS: Spring 1905

§ ZAT: Friday, November 4, 1983

§ GAME COLOR: Jaune

¶ GAME NOTES: A long deadline this next time as I will be on vacation in Europe. Bob Olsen will be looking over this game while I'm gone (See enclosure).

Remember you get a Supernova for free or you can have it given to someone else in your name. Supernova is the novice packet but it's not just for novices.

§ Dislodgements This Time: Italy's Army Tyrolia, Turkey's Fleet Tyrrhenian Sea and Turkey's Army Armenia. A dislodged unit is not shown on the map.

See press for supply chart explanation. Cartoon is Bloom County. Joke orders are in press.

§ ORDERS OF BATTLE FOR AUTUMN 1904 §

Russie: Army Galicia retreats to Ukraina

§ ORDERS OF BATTLE FOR FALL 1904 §

ALLEMAGNE: F Ska-(NTH), F (DEN) S F Ska-Nth, A (HOL) Holds (Monsieur Walter Loy) A Mun-(TYO), A (BOH) S A Mun-Tyo F (SWE) Holds

ANGLETERRE: F (LON) Holds, F Wal-(LPL) (Monsieur Jeff Sandelin)

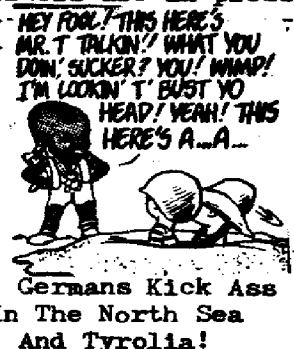
AUTRICHE-HONGRIE: A Gal-(VIE), A (BUD) S Turkish A Bul-Rum (Monsieur Russ Rusnak) A (SER) S Turkish A Bul-Rum

FRANCE: A Yor-(EDI), F Bre-(MAO), A (BEL)-Bur (Monsieur Bert Schoose) F (ENG) S German F Den-Nth(NSO) A (MAR)-Bur, F (WES)-Lyo, F (TUN) S Turkish F Tys-Ion(NSO)

ITALIE: A (PIE)-Mar, A (TYO) ~~KK~~ Holds (r-Tri-Ven-OTB), F Ion-(TYS) (Monsieur James Briggs) F (NAP) S F Ion-Tys, F Gre-(ION), F (ALB) S F Gre-Ion

RUSSIE: A (NWY) Holds, A (STP) S A Nwy, A Rum-(ARM), F (SEV) S A Rum-Arm (Monsieur Ed Jacobs) F (BLA) C A Rum-Arm, A Ukr-(WAR)

TURQUIE: F (TYS) ~~KK~~-Lyo (r-Rom-Tus-OTB), A Bul-(RUM), F Con-(BUL-ec) (Monsieur Marc Peters) A (ARM) ~~KK~~-Sev (r-Ank-Smy-Syr-OTB)



Germans Kick Ass In The North Sea And Tyrolia!

Memphis to Rhino: First the joke orders!.....Italy: Army Tyrolia faces Munich, executes an about face, bends over, and passes gas, en masse!....and Russia: Army Norway gets down on its knees and prays.....I wonder if the Kaiser heard these two!
 Memphis to Rhino: Your supply center chart is on page 12 but the Turkish-Italian count may vary if.....If Army Tyrolia retreats off-the-board, there is no change in Italian strength. If Army Tyrolia retreats to either Venice or Trieste, then Italy must remove one. If Army Tyrolia retreats OTB and the Turks go to Rome, then Italy must remove one. If Tyrolia retreats to Venice or Trieste and the Turks go (11)

§ 1904 Supply Center Chart §

	Gains	Loses	Retains	Has	Builds/Removes
ALLEMAGNE:			Home,Den,Hol,Swe	6	No Change
ANGLETERRE:	LON	Ed	Lpl	2	No Change
AUTRICHE-HONGRIE:			Bud,Vie,Ser	3	No Change
FRANCE:	EDI,TUN	Lph	Home,Bel,Por,Spa	8	+1
ITALIE:		Tph	Home,Gre,Tri	5	SEE GAME PRESS
RUSSIE:		Rph	Home,Ewy	5	SEE GAME PRESS
TURQUIE:	RUM		Home,Bul	5	SEE GAME PRESS
				<u>34</u>	

Memphis to Rhino(continued from page 11): to Rome, then Italy must remove 2. Now for Turkey's SC situation: If both F Tys and A Arm retreat off-the-board, then Turkey may build 3. If A Arm retreats OTB and F Tys goes to Rome, Turkey may build 3. If A Arm remains on the board and F Tys either goes to Rome or retreats off the board(OTB), Turkey may build 2. If A Arm retreats OTB and F Tys retreats to Tuscany, then Turkey may build 2. If both units remain on the board, and F Tys does not retreat to Rome, then Turkey builds one. Gosh GMing can be fun sometimes! Now for your press wars! Keep up them submissions! (Also above, in case it doesn't come out well, Russia has one removal.

England to Memphis: If you think this is holding 'em off, I'd hate to see your idea of a retreat.

Memphis to England: Well your plague rumor certainly got the French out of London!

France to England: Plague.....indeed! Word has it that it may be spreading to Edinburgh, eh?

England to Russia, Austria, Turkey and/or Italy: HELP!

Italy to England: Just hang in there. Help is on the way.

Italy to Austria and Turkey: All for one and one for all, we're the three ~~stoppers~~ defenders of Europe!

Italy to Russia: Hurrah for the Pax Pacifica!! The Pope, James I, supports the peaceful Russians in their efforts for a lasting solution to European problems.

[MOSCOW]- The Tsar announced today that the eagerly sought after Pax Pacifica has been cancelled indefinitely. "Although Russia has tried to adopt a peaceful solution to her problems in the south," stated the Tsar, "it seems that our so-called allies and fellow peace lovers are bent on a war-mangling path of destruction."

Memphis to Rhino: And Russia puts teeth into what he says!.....

[MOSCOW]- General of the Imperial Air Force Leonid Martshenko today expressed Russia's apologies for the downing of a Turkish hot air observation balloon over the Black Sea. "Mother Russia's air space had been violated," stated Martshenko, "and we will not hesitate to punish any such transgression now, or in the future."

Turkish sources were unavailable for comment although an undisclosed reliable source was quoted as saying: "There's a lot of hot air available in Turkey of late and I guess they have to do something with it. Using it to fill balloons doesn't surprise me in the least."

Memphis to Moscow: The hot air balloon incident seems to be the least of the Grand Vizier's problems this month!.....

[CONSTANTINOPLE]- "Well?" queried the Sultan with a raised eyebrow. "What is the agenda for this month?"

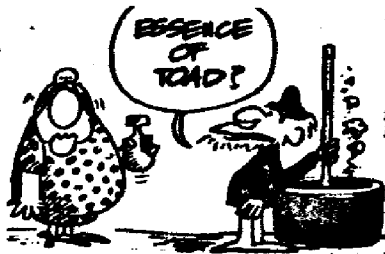
"Difficult to say, Your Exaltedness," responded the Grand Vizier. "We have pressed on in the west with our Italian allies, naturally."

"Ah yes, an excellent bit of work, by the way," the Schzoid Sultan interrupted. "How you managed to ally with both Austria and Italy is beyond me."

"A mere trifle," responded the GV, "but there are real problems on the Russian front. Although the Austrian has agreed to support your elite Janissaries into Rumania, it is difficult to predict where the treacherous Russian will strike at our own homeland. Will he hit Ankara which will be left open? Or move to Constantinople which we must also leave open? Or will he go for Bulgaria? A decision must be made."

"Of course it must!" boomed the Sultan. "Of course it must!" He stood up and strode toward the door. About to exit the room, he turned and studied his Grand Vizier. "And you're just the man to make it." (Continued on page 29) (2)

HOBBY-WIDE NEWS



¶ TOAD & TOADY POLL RESULTS! Mark Luedi, pubber of 30 Miles of Bad Road, has released the results of the 2nd Poll. 15 cast ballots down from 18 last year. Mark Luedi said: "Kathy Byrne repeats as king Toad from last year. Jim Burgess drops from atop the Toady list, to be replaced by a tied pair of toadies: Bruce Linsey and Bob Olsen." The results are: (KEY: Placing---number of points--name))

TOADS:

- 1 - 20- Kathy Byrne
- 2 - 10- Alex Lord
- 3 - 9- Russ Rusnak
- 4 - 4- John Boardman
- 4 - 4- Eric Ozog
- 4 - Paul Rauterberg
- 7 - 3- Bob Olsen
- 3- Rod Walker
- 9 - 2- H.D. Bassett
- 2- Cathy Cunning
- 2- Don Ditter
- 2- Bruce Linsey
- 2- Dick Martin
- 2- Terry Tallman
- 15 - 1- Mark Berch
- 1- Al Giddings
- 1- Mark Luedi
- 1- John Michalaki
- 1- Ralph The Gnome
- 1- Glover Rogerson

TOADY:

- 1 - 10- Bruce Linsey
- Bob Olsen
- 3 - 9- Bill Highfield
- 4 - 8- Jim Burgess
- 5 - 6- Scott Hanson
- 6 - 4- Steve Arnawoodian
- 7 - 3- Konrad Baumeister
- 3- Bill Becker
- 3- Mark Berch
- 3- Dave Carter
- 3- Mark Frush
- 12 - 2- Derwood Bowen
- 2- Chuck Kaplan
- 2- Julie Martin
- 2- Eric Ozog
- 2- Terry Tallman
- 2- James Wall
- 18 - 1- Mike Barno
- 1- Kathy Byrne
- 1- Cathy Cuning
- 1- William Lowe
- 1- Mark Luedi
- 1- Dan Palter
- 1- Dave Schaubert

(WHO VOTED: Acheson, Becker, Byrne, Burgess, Coughlan, Highfield, Kleiman, Quirk, Russell, Sherwood, Stafford, Tallman, Wall, Wightman and Woodson.)

¶ NEW ZINES: Well 2 are really new and one is new to me. Canada gets another zine and pubber in Battle Stations from Bob Albrecht(#1001-1239 12th Ave. SW, Calgary, Alberta, CANADA T30 3R8). BS(ooo these initials!) offers 5 regular Dip games, Conquest of Australia, no gamefee required of the 1st 21 subbers if they become standbys and the next 17 subbers get a 6-issue bonus. If you were a subber to Bob's former zine, Kobold, and send him a copy of a letter from him to you or a copy of the front page of the last Kobold you received, he will refund double the money you lost in Kobold's fold.(Send IRCs, not US stamps!)

Another new zine, long anticipated, is Cathy's Ramblings from Cathy Cuning (1603 N.E. 50th St., Seattle, Washington 98105 USA). CR offers one international game(an orphan from The Shogun's Sword), and maybe one other international game, a regular Dip game and a gunboat Dip game. She needs standbys, she has a good letter column, the Mr. Ree Theatre, several articles. Cathy intends to refund subs to all former TSS subbers, and I think that is going above and beyond the call of duty. I also think it is Mike Barno's responsibility as the pubber of TSS. Subs are 10 for \$6.00 and Cathy says: "Yes all laws in the hobby are now broken--a female becomes a real editor!!!! Well it had to happen someday, now didn't it? The wave of the future is coming--soon there will be hordes of females taking over the hobby. No males will be safe." I traded right away!

The Diplomat comes from Dave Kleiman(3530 Hyannis Port Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana 46224 USA) for 40 cents per issue with game fees of \$5.00. Dave runs diplomacy games and is going to run a variant and wants input from all of his subbers about what it should be. His games have maps(as will Cathy's Ramblings) and the zine features a cartoon and some hobby news. He's at issue 14.

¶ By late October or early November, two U.S. zines will reach issue 200! That's a phenomenal amount of issues by anyone's standards! Already at #198 are Boast(Herb Barents, 317 Chestnut, Batavia, Illinois 60510) and at #197 Liberterrean (Jim Bumpas, 4405 Dillard Rd., Eugene, Oregon 97405). Congratulations, Herb & Jim! (6)

¶ Regional Cons: Besides the ones listed in EE #27, there are two more coming up, both in November. On November 12 there is yet another RusnakCon at Russ Rusnak's home near Chicago. All are invited. Write or call Russ for more information at: 8002 S. Nagle, Burbank, Illinois 60459 USA... (312)-423-2588.....The other November get-together is a Thanksgiving ByrneCon(November 24-27). This time, you can not only watch the Martin Morality Squad(Dick and Julie Martin) drink milk all four days but you can also meet Bob Olsen of Kansas and Mike Mazzer of California who will be there. For more info, write John Caruso or Kathy Byrne at 160-02 43 Ave, 2nd Floor, Flushing, New York 11358 USA... (212)-353-9695.

¶ United, a game not available in play-by-mail zines in North America, but which placed as the number one choice of all games in Europe, is now available from Jim Williams, 2500 6th St., SW, Altoona, Iowa 50009 USA. Jim says: "United is basically a postal soccer game. It requires little knowledge of real soccer to play, and in fact is easily picked up by soccer fans and non-enthusiasts alike. In playing the game, you are the owner and manager of a soccer team that you put together." He needs at least 10 players, so write Jim for more details.

¶ Are you interested in a German/English International game? I'm already signed up. Scott Hanson and Frauke Petersen are the co-GMs for this 6-week deadline game which seeks 3 North American players and 4 Europeans. The only fee is \$6.00 US or DM15 or 15 International Reply Coupons(IRC's which are available from any post office). The game reports, and press, will be bilingual! If you wish to join, write Scott Hanson and Frauke Petersen at: 233 Oak Grove, Apt 306, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403 USA.

X ¶ If you want to get publishing experience or gamemastering experience but don't want to spend your own money putting out a zine, you've got two golden opportunities. Don Del Grande, pubber of Life of Monty(142 Eliseo Dr., Greenbrae, California 94904 USA) wants subzines. You would also get LOM free.....Larry Peery, pubber of Xenogogic(PO Box 8237, San Diego, California 92102 USA) is looking for one to three guest GMs to run one to three play-by-mail Diplomacy games within Xenogogic. You don't have to do a subzine unless you want, Larry says. He also is interested in having a guest commentator for one of the games so here's your chance to analyze a game in progress.

¶ The Zine from Alaska! Jim Meinel is now pubbing the first zine from Alaska where he has recently moved. Jim's zine is The Prince and it has just switched over to a digest format which looks very good. Expect articles from Jim on what life in Alaska is really like. The sub fee is \$5.00 for 10 issues and Jim's address is: 7410 Nancy St., #1, Anchorage, Alaska 99507 USA((See page 30))

¶ If you are not British, your EE will contain a green sheet of paper which advertises a British zine, Psychopath published by Mike Dean. The address on this green sheet is now out-of-date. Mike's correct address is: Mike Dean, "Knockhill Cottage", Newport-on-Tay, Fife, Scotland, UNITED KINGDOM. Psychopath is a very good zine but he is no longer looking for trades. I also don't know if he will accept American money or International Reply Coupons since money orders in British money, at least for Americans, cost heaps. Stay tuned.

¶ Hoof and Mouth, pubbed by Don Sigwalt(125 Hebard St., Rochester, New York 14605 USA) started off as a subzine, then was a zine, then became a subzine again and is now a zine once more. Don says H & M will remain small for awhile and the subs are 25¢ for each issue. He plans to run a zine with no games when his current ones end.

¶ Steve Hutton, pubber of No Fixed Address(2600 Don Mills Rd, Apt #707, Willowdale, Ontario, CANADA M2J 3B4) becomes the new Co-ordinator of the Canadian Diplomacy Organization effective October 31st. Steve replaces Ron Brown, pubber of Snafu! who did an excellent job making the Canadian hobby run smoothly as possible.

¶ Great News! Appalling Greed, published by Mark Larzelere(7607 Fontainebleau, #2352, New Carrollton, Maryland 20784 USA) will not fold after all. This also means that Mark won't be bringing AG as a subzine into EE. All current AG subbers must now join games or a bourse in AG or become a standby, as is the case with Andy Lischett's Cheesecake. And in a couple of months, AG will switch from 3-week deadlines to monthly deadlines. I hated to think of losing AG's great letter column. (17)

THEY'VE BEEN THROUGH IT ALL
(LOVE STINKS)

AUSTRIA (Mazzer): A Bud-TRI; F Aeg-GRE; A BUL S F Aeg-Gre; A Ank-SMY
 ENGLAND (Barno): F Swe-DEN; F NTH-Edi; F SKA-Nth
 FRANCE (Cunning): A Wal-LON; F ENG S A Wal-Lon; F Iri-NAT; F NWG-Edi;
 A Ruh-BEL; A PIC S A Ruh-Bel; A BUR waves at Munich (H)
 GERMANY (Coughlan): A Lvn-BER; F BAL C A Lvn-Ber; A Den-KIE; F HOL-Bel;
 A Mun-TYO; A BOH S A Mun-Tyo; A VIE S AUSTRIAN A Bud-Tri
 ITALY (Ozog): A Tri-Bud/d/r to Alb, Otb; A Tyo-Tri/d/r to Pie, Otb;
 A Tus-VEN; A Gre-SER; F ION-Aeg; F TUN-Ion
 RUSSIA (Michalski): F Nvy S ENGLISH F Ska-Nth; F CON S AUSTRIAN A Ank-Smy;
 A StP-PIN; A Mos-LVN; A RUM U (H)
 TURKEY (Fritz): F EAS-Aeg; F Smy S F Eas-Aeg/d/r to Syr, Otb

Very interesting. I got the impression that not all of you expected these particular results, but there they are anyway. Turkey is first out. Thanks go to Daf for assuming a miserable position and playing it out, all of one season.

I'm glad you all got your orders in by mail this time because I wasn't home to take phoned orders. We headed out to southern Utah Thursday night, saw Zion National Park and Brych Canyon, or was that Bryce Canyon, and then hit Vegas on Sunday and Monday. I didn't have a lot of money, but we had fun anyway, mostly playing the slots. Dawn won \$150 on one of the quarter slots and we spent the rest of the time losing it back, plus some. There was this horse racing machine in each casino that I played. You put a dollar in and it gave you ten horses with respective odds. I was watching one guy play and "Bold One" won at 6-1 odds (The race is replayed on a screen). We walked into another casino later, and when I tried the machine, the same race came up, so I put five bucks on "Bold One". Sure enough, it won, and I got back \$35. Monday morning we went to the Silver Slipper and I tried the same game there. I couldn't believe my eyes when "Bold One" showed up again at the same odds and post. I told Dawn to put in ten bucks and I put in ten, which was the maximum bet. I said "Watch, Bold One gets bumped right at the beginning." Bold One didn't get bumped. Bold One lost. Instead of winning \$120 we lost twenty. I should have known. Still, I loved Vegas and will probably return when I have five hundred or so that I want to blow. I also would recommend southern Utah by merit of the scenery alone. Really extraordinary. Bryce Canyon, yes, that's it, Bryce Canyon (guess I was loaded when we went through, as in "What shay we pash troo Brysh Canyon"). It looked like a bunch of bright red phalli sticking up. Don't plan on drinking anything but beer in Utah though. None of the bars serve hard liquor.

Don't forget Mike Barno's COA, given last time. Look it up.

Autumn retreats, Winter 1904 and Spring 1905 will be due Saturday, 9-24-83.

#	NET	COUNTRY	CENTERS
6	2	Austria	Bud, Tri, Ank, Bul, SMY, GRE
3	0	England	Edi, Ldn , Swe, DEN
8	1	France	Home, Spa, Por, Bel, Lvp, LON
6	-1	Germany	Home, Hol, Ber , Vie, Mos
5	-1, 0 or 1	Italy	Home, Tun, Ser, StP
6	1	Russia	Sev, StP, Rum, Nwy, War, CON
0	-2	Turkey	Con , Smy
<u>34</u>			

Austria will be playing one unit short in 1905 because Mike has only one place to build. Of course, if he NMRs next turn he'll be playing two short.

MASS MURDERS

MICHALSKI-CONLON: Well, before I flush you down the toilet for that final draining, here's another turd-bit from the author both of us love so well --Jan Cremer, and Cremer says: "In crappers on trains there are always signs: "Please do not use toilet while train is standing in station." It doesn't take much gray matter to figure out why, so for that very reason I always make a point of doing just that: when the train stops at a station, I deliberately have myself a nice crap--if I can possibly manage it.

I think of a mournful family group--father, mother, a young girl and a chaplain----waving good bye to someone, the son of the family. They continue to wave until the last car has rattled by the iron rails. Then sudden quiet. And on the spot where their loved one ascended, a large, healthy, steaming heap of shit. When I run into a heap of shit between the tracks along a railroad, I stop to ponder, Where was this one going? To the front? To jail? Maybe he or she will never return and all that will be left behind is a dark, steaming, impersonal heap, unidentifiable, unnoticed, disintegrating after a few days into nothing." Kind of reminds me of your situation right now! Bye buddy.

GERMANY: I might not be more than plain white trash, but GARY is my name!
A MICHALSKI LOVE SECRET: Don't waste time, take the diaphragm from her and insert it yourself. Not only will she think you are considerate (and oh so masterful) but you can quickly get down to doing whatever it is you want to do.

PUNK-POPS: Well, I hope you print this time my press you forgot last time, assface. Do you still want that old typewriter of mine or what? I'll bring it along if I hit next year's Pudgecon. At least meet me halfway on this.

MESA: Sorry, kiddo, but I meant to make Wichita but couldn't due to lack of money. You see, unlike other people I know, I have been out of the house since age seventeen, so I haven't been able to amass the small fortunes necessary to come and go as I please. So no, I couldn't make Pudgecon and thus couldn't pick up the typer. If it's that much of a hassle for you, just shitcan the fucking thing. Any other questions?

OZOG'S DATES BY MAIL SERVICE: Attention all you lonely guys of the Dip hobby, my sisters Carolyn and Paula are available. Prerequisite: No Woody or Brux types allowed.

QUESTION: Why does the lady Daf write such gross press?

ANSWER: That's no lady!

GMS-BLARFO: It's a well known fact that smoking dope lowers one's sperm count. Besides, since you don't "do" women, the number shouldn't matter. The old adage is true: "Those that don't use it--lose it."

BUDAPEST-PARIS: You know, I never really could see the attraction Orczog held for you; I mean he's nice enough, in a wimpy sort of way, but he's no Keith Richard. Then, I heard his sexy whisper at Pudgecon, and I knew.... I just had to go to Italy.

BERLIN: Lord, lord. I hope love is indeed blind.....

GARY-CATHY & ERIC: Gee guys, I haven't had this much fun since I was in a game with Dave Barker and his roommate. Not surprisingly, they held the upper hand in that game too.

MEMPHIS-CHICAGO: Is it really whining because two countries are being played as one and no one else has even a ghost of a chance to detach you and Cathy from one another? By the way, I didn't believe either of you about including me in a 3-way draw, but there was really nothing I could do about it now was there?

BUD-PAR & ROM: Mind you, I have nothing against Teenage Romance, I was a teenage romantic once myself, but this is WAR!

BUDAPEST-BERLIN: Oh Gary, the things I do for you!

GERMANY-BUDAPEST: It's not that I couldn't get laid at the Mensa party, I just wouldn't. The people of Mensa are so ugly with their bottleneck glasses and large foreheads they give up on sex and use their intellect to try to make up for it. It's a poor replacement I say and I'm glad I didn't get into it.

MASS MURDERS

BLARFO: Something's wrong. Ozog drives and drives and drives and gets Cathy. I drive and drive and drive and get a bunch of loonies at Olsen's. Shit. Was I supposed to turn left at Albuquerque?

CATHY-MIKE: Um, well, I could try to explain this, but you wouldn't listen anyway! Look at it this way, I'm helping you lighten your gameload, so you can get "A" in college. You should thank me!

LON-PAR: Who's pulling whose strings? We'll talk.

GERMANY-FRANCE: CATHY, Cathy, cathy, oh, CATHY, Cathy, cathy--what will I do with you? I was the only one on the board who didn't treat you and Eric as if you were allies and see what I get for it? You've probably got your "something German" by now as you violated 2 out of 3 neutral zones to do so. I never "screamed I/F alliance" and I never worried over you invading me as my moves last time clearly showed.

FRANCE-WORLD: Dots, Dots, Dots--oh how I love dots. Especially pretty blue ones. I don't like black dots though.

CATHY-GARY: You should thank me too. Oh what a nice person I am.

BLARFO: Michalski knows what to do... he just forgot how to do it.

A BLARFOID LOVE SECRET: 12 inches. Give a girl a foot and she'll take a smile. Right, Marie Antoinette?

GERMY: Remember, Marie Antoinette loved to dally in the woods too. And look what happened to her.

MAZZER-COUGHLAN: Richard Gosh is wrong. You're much prettier than Cathy.

FRANCE-MALCOLM: Don't worry, I'm coming to save you!

BUD-BER: Yes! Yes! Crap on me some more, Gary! I love it! I LOVE IT!

GARY-MIKE M: Mensa lost its luster for me, not when I couldn't get laid at one of their parties, but when you brains failed to enter the Rod Walker contests in EE. Afraid to put it on the line?!!!

ALL-FAG CITY: Sure Byrne gave you permission to say anything because she guessed you probably wouldn't and she was right. "Verify the signature, Bob?" is hardly daringly independent press.

FRANCE-AUSTRIA: I just wanted to let you know that I voted for you to live! But for some reason Eric doesn't trust you. What have you done now?

BERLIN-ROME: Yes, I agree with you when you say: "I don't mind having an ally I can trust while the rest of the board is busy stabbing away." However, this does not make a realistic game either. I will not continue this practice in other games, but as far as this one is concerned, we'll just have to grin and bear it." The closest I can come to that type of ally is when Mazzer is in a bra or Michalski is in a girdle. It's just not the same.

BERLIN-MESA: I wonder who will do the grinning and who will do the bearing?

RUSSIA-TURKEY: Down the toilet!!!!!!!!!!!!

AUSTRIA-TURKEY: Say hi to the Tidy-Bowl man for me!!

GERMANY-TURKEY: Whyyy Paaat, y'all am all flushed!

CATHY-DAF: I hope you have fun this turn! It will be your last. Nothing like a sandwich between Michalski and Mazzer. What a way to go.

OZOG'S LOVE SECRETS FAN: You forgot to mention the short-shorts! That will get them every time.

UNREALISTIC FANTASY DEPT.: "E/T own home."

BARNO-MESA: I was at Pudgecon, but I didn't make it. Cathy didn't show up and Daf was too busy squirting me with her two big guns. Gary and Frauke put a hole in my condom.

MESA: Damn...I missed all that?

BLARFO-JAN CREMER FANS: "Holy shit!" See, I'm more fanatical than even you.

BOB OLSEN-MESA: Here are some tips in strategy and tactics. When playing Austria, never trust Ozog, Coughlan, Michalski, Conlon, etc. For further advice, see my upcoming article, "A Consummate Genius: Bob Olsen's Tips on Winning Diplomacy" in the upcoming Diplomacy World.

BLARFISIS-MESA: MANIACAL? Where's Wietze?

MESA: Somehow I knew he wasn't going to make it.

BARNEY-MESA: Rauterberg took the wolf for a roll in the grass. To this day, that wolf dribbles between his flanks.

A COUGHLAN LOVE SECRET: "Elsie's Butterfly".

MASS MURDERS

JOHN-BOB: Hey, hush up! You're giving away all my playing secrets!

ELF-WITCH: Yes, I should have mentioned the short-shorts. They and a nice ass go hand in hand.

A MIDWEST WITCH-BAUMEISTER: Your letter in VOD 83 is filled with bitterness, nothing unusual there. One wonders why you bother to stay in the hobby.

BERLIN-BUDAPEST: Next year's Nixon Award? I thought you were a shoo-in for a repeat win!

COUGHLAN-BLARFO: Last time I looked this game was black press and in black press, anything goes. And just who is Blarfo anyway?

MESA-MASS MURDERS: All right, class, it's time to review what we have learned. That's right, some of you haven't been paying attention. Now then, turn your primer to page one, yes that's page one, Winter 1900, third paragraph. Now repeat after me, "This is a grey press game, meaning that you can address your press from anywhere but another country's home center." Now remember that, class, it could very well pop up on the final exam.

BERLIN-MESA: Too bad you missed PudgeCon II as we all missed you. You would have really loved seeing the alliance structure in this game change right before your eyes when Eric brought out pictures of Cathy and his week-long Seattle visit! I even talked to Mazzer, The High Priest of Glib! But alas, without the Martin Morality Squad keeping tabs on my drinking for their various letters to zine letter columns and individuals, not to mention editorials in Retaliation, I just had no real incentive to tie one on.

MESA-BERLIN: Yeah, it's a shame I couldn't make it. I could have inspired you to new heights, er, heights in shitfacedness. And I would have even given you a damn good reason for doing so...like being alive. Oh, I heard "glib" was the word at Wichita. I don't think Dawn likes that word, it rankles her. You know how some words make you wince just from the sound of them? Well, Dawn's pet peeves are "spurt" and "behoove". Whenever I get mad at her I start shouting "SPURT, SPURT, BEHOOVE, IT BEHOOVES ME TO SPURT!"

BUDAPEST-BOB OLSEN: Thanks again for PudgeCon, and for letting me sleep in your closet, the hallowed ground where Woody once slept (though I didn't have Michalski in there with me this time). Say, tell me, what about the whips, handcuffs, and "Merry Widows" I found in there? Are they yours or did Woody leave them in there last time?

BERLIN-VIENNA: Churchill once said he would make a favorable reference about even the Devil if he would help him out. You know Mike, I've always thought, deep-down, that you were quite a wonderful guy! Really, I mean this most sincerely! Wanna be allies?!!!!

BUDAPEST-BERLIN: I'll look forward to your article, "Mike Mazzer: What a Nice Guy!" in the upcoming Europa Express.

ERIC-GARY: We will now have a lesson on how to play Diplomacy. "Sowing lies" is part of the game, smell the coffee Gary! You don't say "I'll ally with him and he'll ally with her and we'll all be very honest and good and true-blue about it." What Mazzer says is "What I'm about to do is fuck around with as much of Gary's mind as possible within the short amount of time between deadlines allotted me." More power to Mazzer, who makes Gary waste his moves, ha ha! Do not underestimate the psychological aspects of the game. Use honesty, sure, but not to extremes, dunderhead.

MESA: Dunderhead? Hmm, where have I heard that one before?

BERLIN-ROME: Behold now, the MazzerMonster that I have created! He eats grass like an ox, his strength is in his loins and his power is in the muscles of his belly. He makes his tail stiff like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are knit together. His bones are tubes of bronze, his limbs like bars of iron! (Some interpretative re-wording of Job 40:15-18, but you get the general idea!)

MESA: Sounds like an ad for a John Holmes movie.

BERLIN-ST PETE: Who is Bob Osuch and why is he saying all those awful things about you?!

BUDAPEST-BERLIN: Remember, Gary, one false move and THE PICTURES appear on page one of Coat of Arms.

BUDAPEST-BERLIN: Oh, I forgot to mention, Woodson is stabbing you in Emilia Romagna.

MASS MURDERS

LONGDONG, er, LONDON: Once, long ago, there was elven life on this world... but it was duller than shit (Sorry John and Pat). So a demon named Rusnak (GASP! goes the audience. He named the demon!) disguised himself as Cupid and led a virginal elf to a cunning witch. She did cast a spell upon his soul and entrap him. Together, dominant and submissive, they set out to conquer the world. But the Witch stole a glance at the List compiled by Daf of Mount Venus and found that her elf did not have what it takes to conquer the world. They would have to make it a threesome. Another was found, and the world was divided up into three parts. The elf got Ozogland awarded to him, the cunning one would reign in Cathy Kingdom, and Gary would receive the Box Behind Curtain #3. Realizing that this was So Much Bullshit, Gary did talk. And somewhere in the Northlands, a husky used its leash to control its mistress. And lo, the threat to the world soon was ended, and everyone started playing games once more.

GARY-ERIC: Gone shootin' off into the woods, eh?

FRANCE-GERMANY: Well now, stop being so mean to Mike. If he wants to give me his centers that's his choice. He wanted to give me your centers too! Mike is a very generous and warmhearted person.

BERLIN-PARIS: Was it something I said? Perhaps the question about your plans after England was eliminated? I didn't realize you were so touchy and would instantly violate 2 of 3 neutral zones with such flimsy pretexts.

BERLIN-RUSSIA, ENGLAND & AUSTRIA: I'll be following Turkey very quickly and don't think the rest of you are very far behind me. That is unless you really believe in the three-way alliance Eric and Cathy are sure to throw your way. My "mistake" was in not believing they were sincere and telling them so and just look what is happening now.

BERLIN-PARIS & ROME: Love hurts, love wounds and I'm getting the brunt of it.

BERLIN-PARIS: Lie all you want to, just don't say that this is going to hurt you more than it does me!

GERMANT-PARIS: Gee, you play pretty good...for a girl.

BERLIN-BARNO: I almost didn't miss Al Pearson at Pudgecon due to your snoring, haha!!

HEARD JUST BEYOND THE BORDER OF "GARY TERRITORY": "The time has come, and so must we."

JAMES WALL NAMES THE PLANETS: F/I/G, "the Cheerleaders' Alliance", so called because one of them will surely get screwed.

GERMANY-UNROMANTIC POWERS: I hope all of you see that we must hang together or we will surely hang separately. As one of the very first ones who will be hung separately, perhaps you can understand my urgency on this matter.

LON-BUD & BER: Love is what counts, you know. Mellow out.

MIKE-MIKE: Gary still thinks you write all this shit.

BUDAPEST: So finally Elf-Eric decided he would eat his Mazzer-Pie all up, all by himself. As he opened the oven door, he heard the Mazzer-Pie say, "Look, Elf-Eric, a Vienna pastry, yum!" "Where?", said Elf-Eric. "In the oven", said Mazzer-Pie. "I don't see it---whoops!", and Mazzer-Pie pushed Elf-Eric into the oven and slammed the door shut. "There", said Mazzer-Pie, "so much for him." Then Greedy Gary and Bad John ate Mazzer-Pie all up. Then they both got sick of indigestion, and lived unhappily ever after, least of all Marie Antoinette, who had 18 centers and no one to play with. The End.

MARIE ANTOINETTE-GERMANY: I always wanted to be a barmaid in Munich! Eins, Zwei, G'suffa!!

BERLIN-MESA: I went back to Munich but my city was gone! Erased by...well, not shopping malls.

MESA: Not parking lots either. Look again. You in the flophouse business?

BLARFO-GMS: First you put me down for 259, then I don't even merit a mention?! You been spraying paraquat on my sources out there or what? Great item, though--continue the series.

ENGLAND-ITALY: OK, let's hear your version of what really happened in this game.

GERMANY-AUSTRIA: Oh! You're so glib, Mike!

MASS MURDERS

BERLIN-PARIS: So it's just "defensive" on your part, eh? Well, we'll certainly see if anyone falls for that one. I keep my agreements with my allies. Mazzer and Michalski weren't my allies; you were and I scrupulously kept every agreement and accepted every neutral zone you proposed (including Piedmont which I now see the reason for). I guess I should have been suspicious when you would keep telling me for weeks and weeks not to be worried about you moving into Burgundy or attacking me when I hadn't even mentioned it. By the way, in your analysis of this game to England last season, you neglected to tell him why France was attacking England.

COUGHLAN-OSUCH: Don't tell me that Martin is now printing sub refund checks of mine! My God, he is desperate for stuff to print. I think I'll put up some void checks of mine in Mike Mills' auction so Martin can bid on them and continue to give his readers high quality material!

MESA: I wouldn't have a thing to say about that, now or ever.

BUDAPEST-BLARFO: I ought to send you a letter one of these days.

CHICAGO: Michalski would like this one- Here at home the cops are strictly enforcing the "no booze on the beaches" law. A friend of mine from work was at Foster Beach a Sunday ago and he watched with glee as the cops arrested some Mexicans for drinking beer-- these guys had their families with them and my friend laughed as he saw the Wet-backs' kids all teary-eyed and running to the paddy-wagon crying "papa, papa!!" as the cops took their daddies away.

GMS-MESA: Clean up detail? Hmm. I'll have to start those tongue exercises again.

GMS-RUSSIA: The first set of pictures is in the mail. The phone call will happen when I see Smyrna left unmolested.

GMS-AUSTRIA: And furthermore, I think meeting you has done more to lighten my life than any other single experience I've ever had.

GMS-RUSSIA & AUSTRIA: Hey, come on! One at a time. Remember, no dot, no fun!

DAF-CATHY: Hang in there Sweetie. Good things come to those who wait.

CATHY: Oh...Eric.

ERIC: Oh...Cathy.

CATHY: oh, Eric!

ERIC: Oh, Cathy!

CATHY: OH, ERIC!!!

ERIC: OH, CATHY!!!

CATHY AND ERIC: OHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH, GOOOOOOOOOOOO DDDDD!!!

BERGH: Yes, my children?

MUNICH-CATHY AND ERIC: Take it easy, but take it.

GERMANY-AUSTRIA: So what if you and I don't trust each other and continually lie to one another! We're both Geminis! Therefore our other personalities can work with each other, right?

MESA: I thought that Astrology stuff only worked in singles bars.

MARIE ANTOINETTE: All right, no more nice girl! This is the way it is. I'll play with the rest of you but my heart belongs to the Italian Casanova. I'm so powerful now that I don't need the rest of you and Eric and I can discuss your destruction right out in the open.

MICHALSKI: Damn, sleeping on the floor at Olsen's has really got my hemorrhoids acting up. I guess you know what it's like Mesa?

MESA: Well, I have slept on Olsen's floor, but all I got out of it was a sore back.

BERLIN-ST PETE: I forgot to give you this t-shirt which was one of your love secrets while at Pudgecon. I'll mail it. Maybe you can give it to Effie.

VENICE-TRIESTE: Coughlan twisted my arm enough at Pudgecon, so I allied with the whiner. Hence you are officially dumped. Now it's time for Mazzer pie now that Rat-Pat can't get his share.

BUD-ROM: Thanks, Brother Elf, but I think I'm big enough to fend for myself without your protection.

GERMANY-ELF: We Germans know that an elf and a witch can make it work.

THE LETTER COLUMN



Now most of the zine is done except for the letter column and pages 1,2 and 40. I still haven't gotten a rebuttal from Simon Billeness to your guesses about his picture in EE #26 but from the latest Home of the Brave, Simon seems to be in Switzerland no doubt collecting himself after the pummeling his picture took! The new picture contest and details for it are on page 10. The picture to the left of this page is the man from EE #27 and your guesses follow below, so take it away.....

Jim Finley(California, USA): "Obviously an aspiring werewolf, this fellow is better F-T-F than P-B-M, relying on being mysterious and obscure but charming and likeable. He looks European, but so do lots of other people, so that doesn't mean much, but we can't rule out the possibility. Not like some of the pictures, who (alas) couldn't be anything but Yanks.

This fellow looks too pallid to have drunk any blood for a while, so he's been a good ally lately; he doesn't look as if he can hold out for much longer, though, so anyone currently playing as his ally had best look out.

He is either ^{an}exceptionally good player or barely competent; nobody average could look that smug, so he's good and knows it, or is so bad he thinks he's good and knows it. His greatest joy in life is having his little sister's friends think he looks like Neil Diamond, and his greatest frustration is that none of them are Neil Diamond fans. His greatest hope is to someday look like Omar Sharif, and his greatest fear is having to wear a tie someday."

Bill Becker(Michigan, USA): "He looks like one of the hobby music custodians. His hair gives that away--he's just whipped off his walkman. At Dip, he's a bit dense--you just can't make him see reason and instead of listening to you, he's fiddling with the tune knob on his radio. I'll probably embarrass myself here when I find out I just talked to him at ORIGINS but didn't recognize him because of his new haircut. For some reason he has the East Coast Clique look, so pur^{us}ing the sub list, let's ~~Larry Neuberger~~ pick Larry Neuberger."

Mark Fassio(South Carolina, USA): "This guy is European all the way: as they are all hung up on 1960ish US TV shows/entertainers/etc., I'll wager this guy thinks he's Gino Vanelli, the oh-so-squealingly-cute-to-pre-pubescent-girls-male-pop-singer. In other words, this bozo is a laugh. The hair went out of vogue in 1970, the shirt(jacket?) looks like Wales sheep-wool or English tweed, and if he's wearing a shirt, he's out-of-color coordination. He could be English; they're some grungy dressers. The face and expression, however, are pure Low Country all the way. He's got the face of a Dutch SS Corporal with the hair of Jim Morrison, and the wolf-face expression is NOT one of a "loyal Dip ally." I say he's a child molester/drug addict on parole from a North German/Dutch prison. So he's either Thomas Franke or Jaap Jacobs. We'll go with Thomas."

Bob Olsen(Kansas, USA): "Yecch! My opinion of EE and its readership has just gone down several notches. This is, provably, the first real lowlife you've had pictured. Obviously a criminal of the most degraded type, this Neanderthal is caught glaring at the camera in his usual gimlet-eyed paranoia. In his hand(not pictured) is a knife, or, more likely perhaps, a chain saw. He's an unsuccessful player, because nobody could possibly trust a face like that. I refused to believe this can be an American because I don't believe in Michalaski's "human dregs from the world's sewers" theory. If this is an American, of course, I will have to reconsider my position. But no, that's impossible. This has to be Cathy's transAtlantic lover, Beast Dolton. No other."

Pete Gaughan(Texas, USA): "This would have been my turn to guess 'Simon Billeness' if he hadn't been in the last picture. The shirt, the hair, the head cocked slightly to the right, all speak of a wild young Briton..but it's not Cathy Cunning either.

So let's check this out. The hair: long, somewhat unruly, but with a pattern all its own. Obviously we are dealing with an excellent Dip tactician, but one who cannot be trusted in an alliance further than he can be thrown. But the calm of the facial muscles and mouth demonstrate either a deviously disciplined false front or a perfectly maniacal assurance.

Either way, the eyes are the real give-away. Seemingly serene, but wide and alert. A man with all these traits can be found in many Dip zines, but fitting the pattern best is Greg Murray."

((Continued on page 27. All picture people are EE subbers))

Letter Column.....continued from page 26 .

Robyn Finley(California, USA): "Ooh, you'd have to watch this one, he'd charm you out of your last center and you wouldn't even notice. He looks European, a poet who daydreams a lot. But when it comes to Diplomacy, he's very crafty. He looks a bit too young, but could this be Michel Liesnard?"

Michel Liesnard(Belgium): "I don't like that man. In fact, I don't like people who look me full in the face with an ironical smile on their lips...I don't know which country he prefers, but I hope it's Austria, or perhaps Italy..Normally, since I do not like him, that clown should be John Michalski, But I know he's not, so he must be that guy who preferred "Bomber" Harris to Jean-Paul Sartre. Dave Perlmutter, before the crew cut. By the way, a "pearl"(perle) in French, is also a howler. How much this name, Pe(a)rmlutter, fits to reality!"

Judy Winsome(California, USA): "This guy is gorgeous! He looks like someone who goes to an art school--no, he's a musician. He's an American, from the Mid-West. He's got a sensitive mouth and erotic ear lobes. The plaid shirt gives me the Mid-West clue and the mouth, bone structure, and hair tell me he's a musician. I think this is Steve Knight, so my thoughts about his job, etc., are colored by that.

This guy plays Austria or Germany best. He loves people, and is not threatened by being surrounded by them. Besides, he deals well with several inputs coming at once. He's a juggler; he's a very competent player, he seems trustworthy, and you'll ally with him, but he's ready and capable to stab at an opportune time. This can't be Woody."

Steve "Woody" Arnawoodian(Pennsylvania, USA): "That photo looks like a picture of a simpleton. Few people actually fit the definition of a "simp". But Mike Mills meets all those requirements! So what we have here is Mike Mills 10 years ago or with a face lift.

One thing positive I can say for Mills when he runs a contest is that he awards prizes. How many times have I guessed correctly in your photo contest, Mr. Coughlan? Have I ever received a prize? No! Not even a reimbursement for the envelope and stamp I used. Perhaps I should write Mills and ask him, as Grand Kommissar of the PDO[Peoples' Diplomacy Organization] to push for a boycott of the EE photo contest!"

Yes, we should have a prize and I'll even make it retroactive. Each time you guess the correct identity of the person in the picture, you will win one free issue of EE. However, I must have in my possession a picture of you for use in the contest, that's the only catch. Of course, unless the picture has already appeared in EE, I cannot announce if you won a free issue or not but then EE subs are only known between me and the individual subscriber anyway.

Now for this contest. The man on page 26 is Mike Mills, pubber of Enghain Macha, named after his great love for Ireland. Mike also did the Zine Directory up until this year and he is currently conducting an auction to raise money for the hobby services(see page 1). He develops variant games, one of which is being distributed by a major gaming company. He's in the publishing business and lives in New York with his wife Mary and son Nathaniel. His favorite music group is The Kinks and he has a wry sense of humor that I enjoy very much. Mike?

[L]

Peter Ansoff(Virginia, USA): "You were wrong to give me a ")" in the address list; I am definitely a "("). I used to have a collection of Diplomacy material dating back to early 1969; however, it all was lost when my parents' house in Nashville burned down in 1978. I believe that I have every Dippy item that I've received since then."

Bill Becker(Michigan, USA): "I have zines back to '76 mostly organized. I have passed along a few zines to interested novice types. And my correspondence table often looks trashy, but all in all I keep all my zines, there is probably 400 or 500 here. You were right before when you chose chicken breast....."

Pete Birks(United Kingdom): "Wrong on me, Gary, I keep every issue of anything, although you're right in the sense that I am seriously reconsidering this policy."

Judy Winsome(California, USA): "You had me as a), trash after awhile, and it's close because I'm actually a (. I threw away early in the game and now save everything. I have every EE and Murd'ring Ministers and Sleepless Knights I ever received. So it's a mixed bag."

Peter Northcott(UNITED KINGDOM): "By the way, I keep all my zines." (27)

((Continued on page 28))

Letter Column.....continued from page 27.

Kevin Stone(Pennsylvania, USA): "On your sub list, you've missed with me twice in a row. I save everything related to Diplomacy that I receive, zines and letters. Last time you didn't peg me as a chicken wing eater. By the way, I do sub to Graustark and I've never been outside my own country, unless you count when I go to Grove City. It's a place different from anywhere else."

□ I'm glad that more people save all their Dip stuff than I would have thought. The guys who rehouse orphan games(Andy Lischett and Scott Hanson) may contact you to get the statistics on games which otherwise might be lost. Kevin, I just know that eating chicken wings is against the grain but you won't admit it!

[]

Mike Close(United Kingdom): "US football season just started again on Channel 4----
---I'm hooked!"

Daf Fritz(California, USA): "I thought the "Hound Dogs" was a much better name than the "Showboats." You were robbed, son!"

Nelson Heintzman(New York, USA): "Keep your eyes on the Buffalo Bills! 10-6 over Cincinnati, now the sky's the limit! (Did you catch the irony?) Maybe you have to be more familiar with Buffalo's unique mixture of hope and cynicism. Your southern USFL interests didn't help matters any by luring Joe Cribbs away from us, either."

Rob Winslow(New York, USA): "I agree with you that the Showboats is a terrible ~~name~~ nickname. I only hope that the USFL eventually folds and that in the late '80s, Memphis will get an NFL expansion team(just wait til Howard Baker's [the U.S. senator from Tennessee widely expected to run for President in '88] president!"

John Michalski(Oklahoma, USA): "Tulsa got the "Oklahoma Outlaws" but "Memphis Showboats"??? SHEESH!"

□ Well, everyone is backing the team here but no one, except apparently the owners and the newspaper, like the name "Showboats". Memphis considered itself rivals with Indianapolis for any expansion NFL team. Dave Kleiman, how has Memphis joining the USFL been portrayed in Indianapolis?!

[]

Mark Berch(Virginia, USA): "In #26, you gave new reasons for why you weren't attending ORIGINS, adding, "I said it was because I was saving for Europe. That was not true." Well, gee, Gary, if we now learn reason #1 "was not true", why should we assume that reason #2 is true? If you didn't want to give the reason originally, fine, just say that you're not going, and don't give any reason at all. It's a great deal better to give no reason at all than to give a reason which "was not true". "

□ That last sentence was one of your better ones Mark. Not only was it all spelled correctly, but I think you might have a future doing fortune cookies somewhere. I only mentioned my reason for not going because I was writing an editorial about all the back-biting that is going on in the hobby presently. Before that, since I have gone to almost all the face-to-face cons in the east for the last 2 years, some might wonder why I wasn't going this year, as some did. Now that we've dealt with this "mountain" of yours, what's your next "molehill"?

[]

Kevin Stone(Pennsylvania, USA): "Congrats on winning the Runestone poll. How in the world did you get two zeros?"

□ Well, I guess it was from the same person who gave me a "1"(EE #26 mistakenly listed it as an "0" in the GM score) in the GM scoring, except in that category his wife couldn't join him in voting, doubtless breaking both of their hearts. In Psycho, #a British zine, its pubber, Mike Dean(see page 17) came up with a nice way to illustrate his votes in the U.K. zine poll. Randolph Smyth(212 Aberdeen St., S.E., Medicine Hat, Alberta, CANADA T1A 0R1...(403)-526-7963), runner of the Runestone poll, will give the breakdown of any zine or GM votes. Here is EE's, ala Psycho. Oh well, I see that I don't have enough room on this side so the graph will be on page 30.

[]

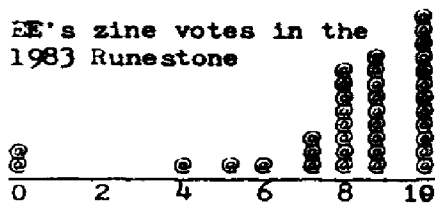
Pete Gaughan(Texas, USA): "We're almost in shouting distance now, aren't we?"

□ Shore 'muff, Podnar! ((Letters continue on page 30))

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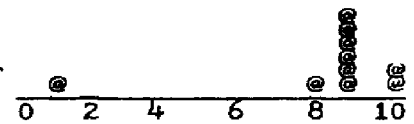
LETTER COLUMN.....continued from page 28.

EE's zine votes in the
1983 Runestone



((These charts go with
Kevin Stone's letter
on page 28. A British
zine Psycho(see page 17)
illustrated his votes from
the U.K. poll in this manner
and I thought I would show
EE's the same way.

Gary Coughlan's GM votes
in the 1983 Runestone.



Jim Meinel(Alaska, USA): "We have frost on the ground here! [Jim's letter was dated September 17!]. Started yesterday. We oughta take bets on the first snowfall! People at work say October 1st at the latest. Went out and bought my son his winter gear--looks like he's ready for snow duty in the Arctic--wait, we practically are in the Arctic. Last year the lowest overnight low here was -35 degrees. We've had 2 power outages so far. I hope it's not a common occurrence.

The salaries and wages up here are very high. For myself, a starting stats accountant for a public accounting firm in Seattle[Where Jim lived before moving to Anchorage] would start at \$17,000 a year, while here in Anchorage I'm getting \$23,000. About a third more. Secretaries, clerks, etc. and the like start at around \$17,000-18,000; in Seattle, I was getting \$12,000. Construction workers make a lot and I am sure doctors, dentists, etc. make a bunch, as I've heard of visits can run \$80-110 per visit. Costs, some typical:

Beer.....\$4.00-4.85/six pack (no generic!)
Milk.....\$2.98-3.02/gallon
Bread....\$.89-1.69/ loaf; or sale \$.69
Gas.....\$1.13 unleaded/gallon
Rents. ..\$450-550/ month one bedroom; \$600-900 for two bedrooms.
One can of Chef Boy Ardee spaghetti sauce....\$1.26!

Food usually runs us about \$175/ month in Seattle for the 3 of us and we'll probably spend \$225-240 up here."

□ Thanks Jim! Ever since I saw the movie Joyride(1977), I'd wondered about prices in Alaska. I did some checking at the grocery store that I go to and here are Memphis equivalents of Alaska(also gas): Beer is \$2.19 to \$4.99/six pack; Milk is \$1.99-2.79/gallon; Bread is \$.81-1.16 a loaf; Gas is \$1.12(pay in cash makes it only cost \$1.08 and some are lower but not by much)/unleaded. And one can of Chef Boy Ardee costs \$.85!

[[[

Kathy Byrne(New York, USA): "I enjoyed your review of Pudgeon in EE #27. Did "Blabbermouth" Woody tell you that Olsen and Mazzer are both coming to ByrneCon in November(Thanksgiving weekend)? Why don't you try and come, it'll be fun."

□ Only if you agree to match me beer for beer and blast out the Martin Morality Squad(Dick and Julie Martin) if they "comment" on my drinking either in Retaliation or any other zine! I'll try my best and I've already got tentative airline plans.

[[[

John Michalski(Oklahoma, USA): "EE came out just in time. Now all the Europeans will have time to think up good excuses for their Russian buddies and can write in about how the US seems "just like the Russians" to them."

Rob Landeros(Oregon, USA): "You should have no lack of debate and discussion over the Korean Airline incident. The amount of speculation is endless, so I will refrain from adding my two cents to the gross national product, other than to say that there seem to be two dominant reactions. The first say, "This was an unconscionable act of barbarism which goes to show that the Russians are inhuman monsters who cannot be trusted to behave in a civilized manner." The second reaction says "This was an unconscionable act of barbarism on the part of the Soviet Union, however rather than throw a blanket of guilt totally over the Soviets, let us examine all the facts and answer all the questions as to our own culpability in this affair. If indeed the KAL jumbo jet was one part of a US intelligence gathering operation, then we would be terribly guilty of holding our own unsuspecting citizens as hostages in addition to lying to the world in order to cover up our own immorality." This may be a case that will require some time and perspective in

((Continued on page 31))

(30)

"order to grasp its true significance. I guess I ended up throwing a couple of pennies in there after all."

Jim Finley(California, USA): "About the KAL 747, I was shocked and flabbergasted at first, but after thinking about it and looking at past events, it isn't so surprising. It's still horrifying--I'll never forget the TV picture of someone fishing a child-sized windbreaker out of the surf amidst the washed-up wreckage--and callous and inhuman. It was also a very stupid thing to do, as has been shown by the effect it has had on the Russians' image worldwide.

I do think the President handled it fairly well; maybe we should have tried to hit them harder economically, but a lot of the actions advocated by various people would have run a real risk of starting a war--and for all of Mr. Reagan's razzing of the admittedly impotent Carter administration, now that the responsibility is his, he can't take too many chances with the lives of his citizens."

Two things really irritated me about the reaction--the crackpots whose recommended reactions are impossible or insanely dangerous, or would even reduce us to similar savagery; and the hack politicians (such as Mr. Peanut) who saw only an opportunity to make cheap points politically by finding fault with whatever we did, with no real regard for any aspect of this tragedy except the chance it gave them to take a cheap shot at a political foe. It nauseates and infuriates me to listen to politicians who put their own ambitions ahead of the nation's welfare or plain honesty and decency. Of course, that's the only kind of politician that can succeed in our system, because anyone with any scruples or conscience can't compete effectively with them."

Well I wouldn't damn all politicians as I believe that are some decent ones. These were all the letters that I've received about the KAL downing so far. As far as I can tell, the European nations were just as outraged as we were, despite Rob's cartoon on page 25. I think denying the Russian airline Aeroflot flight rights for 2 weeks or 60 days and then business as usual, is less than useless. This is a small world and we have to share it with the Soviets, like it or not. This incident doesn't change my view of the Soviet Union; I've always regarded them warily. I do wonder why the plane got off course when there was supposed to be 3 independent systems of telling where the plane was at. Did the pilot feed it the wrong coordinates, coordinates that were supposed to be checked each hour? Lots of unanswered questions but nothing can excuse the Soviets shooting down an unarmed civilian plane. I don't think it was on a spy mission, that's really stretching the imagination.

III.

Claude Gautron(Manitoba, Canada): "Regarding your previous letter, of July 23rd and your question about the French-Canadian hobby. YES, there are only about 10 members of the hobby left! I have six French Canadians who receive my zine, plus some English Canadians. Since last year, when John Leeder ceased accepting new players into French-language games, and was winding down "Batoche", his French zine, the hobby in French Canada has shrunk considerably. Several players who had been active for several years in the Dip hobby have dropped out, leaving only a core of players in the only two French-language games in North America at the present time (both in Quinipique) [Claude's zine].

Since John's zine Batoche folded last month (in July) the hobby has effectively ~~been reduced to my zine~~ been reduced to my zine. I still have very few players, and I am unable to attract new players from Québec. Diplomacy games are hard to find in Québec, which explains perhaps the lack of new blood coming in. All considered, the situation looks grim. It will take some time to build up the French hobby to what it was, say, five years ago.

Finally, the hobby is quite isolated from the rest of Dippydom, even the French hobby in Europe. Postal delays and generally poor service has discouraged North American players from joining European games, and European GMs have become more reluctant in accepting Canadian players because of the delays that are required in playing these games (longer deadlines, NMRs, etc.) So, in a nutshell, this is the sad state of the francophone Diplomacy hobby in North America. When I have more time, I'll write a short article on it."

I would enjoy reading such an article--I thought the "Southern hobby" was so small. It seems to me that one Belgian or Frenchwoman now lives in Québec who is associated with Diplomacy, I think Michel Liesnard told me. Perhaps we can dig her (Continued on page 32)

LETTER COLUMN.....Continued from page 31.

address up and get something going. Also one of the most well-known French-Canadians may be coming back, making amends. According to Doug Beyerlein in EFGIART #168, Doug says: "François Cuerrier wrote to say that he is restarting his zine Passchendaele, which folded in '82. About the time Cuerrier disappeared from the hobby he sent me a check for a subscription refund (I was very disappointed with his many excuses for continuous delays with his zine). The check bounced. I thought that I would never see my refund, but with his letter of 30 August 1983 was a check for \$10.30 (Canadian). I have not tried cashing it yet, but it appears that Cuerrier is trying to make up for some of his past mistakes. If Cuerrier owed you money I recommend that you contact him now. His current address is 12 Corkstown Rd #206, Nepean, Ontario, CANADA K2H 2B2." However, Dave Carter says that the city should be spelled as "Napenee".

Alright, everyone raise their hand that noticed a different type on this page! Well, my old typer went on the fritz this weekend so it's now being repaired while I use this loaner "Remington". That's why pages 1, 2 and 32 and 40 will all look different and why I can't (ARRRRGGGHHHH!!!!) correct my spelling. But at least you will be able to read them very well, ha ha.

Nelson Heintzman (New York, USA): "This cassette project sounds interesting. How are people mailing them? Like tiny packages, I suppose?"

Frauke Petersen (Minnesota, USA): "Wednesday night we were recording a tape for you, i.e. we started out but after a while we decided it was too dull. However, you will be receiving another Petersen-Hanson German-American co-production before you take off for Europe!"

Daf Fritz (California, USA): "I've been talking to Terry Tallman--he's my idol you know--and he told me about a wonderful thing called a Gary Coughlan "Second Tape". He says that your "first tapes" are good, but that your "Second Tapes" are fantastic! Now, I realize I haven't rated a first tape yet, but I would be eternally grateful if I could hear a "Second Tape" just once before I die."

Sorry, but you took sides agin' me in the water pistol fight at Pudge Con! I printed all of this because cassettes are really taking off in the hobby. By the way, everyone except for Charles-André Brouwers of Belgium owes me a tape. Daf has hers by now. Nobody's tapes are dull, just pretend you are the host of a talk show (music in the background, commercials for when you go to the rest room!) and ~~talk~~ "talk" a letter. Nelson, some just put the cassette in a regular envelope and tape it very well. Others put them in a cassette holder and mail that. I buy cassette mailers from Radio Shack for mine. The postage is only 37¢ and it's a lot of fun. I'll exchange with anyone (almost anyone just guess who not) but I'd expect a tape in return. One of the most elusive tapes around, which I've only heard mentioned, is the Terry Tallman "Cookie" tape. It seems only Eric Ozog has gotten one. Someday maybe....

Michael Ditz (Florida, USA): "A Dixie Con sounds like a good idea. Um, how soon were you planning on having this little adventure? The immediate future is not too good for me but then it might end up being fine. The reason for this is for me to come, I would have to travel at least a day each way and work is not too cool about time off because we'll have a big project due to the end of this year."

Well a Dixie Con has been mentioned by James Woodson of Raging Main and Bob Howerton of Festungs Hof, both Florida pubbers. There are several who live in Florida and that state is near several others of us. Talk has been that it should be next year (I couldn't go this year at all) maybe in Pensacola where both Bob and James live or perhaps a Mardi Gras Con in New Orleans. So far it's just talk but let's keep on planning for one. Probably Florida, after I get my income tax refund in April or so would be best for me, ha ha. Well I guess that I'm out of room this time so I'll say bye. ***** (32)

"You will never find a more wretched hive of scum and villany"

W E S T E R N

S P A C E P O R T

Probably #40, Aug-Sep 83

MOS EISLEY is a roving subzine of assorted chatter brought to you for sub credit and space filler value by John Michalski, Rt 10 Box 526-Q, Moore, OK 73165. Your comments and views, especially divergent ones, are welcomed. Not that I will agree with you, but I welcome hearing from you. After all, what will fill the NEXT M.E.S.?

OK, back again. I had to go refill my Coke. I'd like to have put some Canadian Club in it too, but I ran down my liquor while unemployed, and need to conserve what I have left, because it will take a while before I can afford replacements. I am working now, thanks to the Okla Tax Commission's Unclaimed Property Division, but the pay's not that much for luxuries. (Thus I'm drinking coke that was on sale, rather than out drinking and eating at Pizza Inn...I'm not wealthy like Coughlan or Caruso, you know!)

The big news of course was the late PudgeCon II in Wichita. I enjoyed it a lot, even though it was a lot more low key than PCon 1 last year. Only about 20 showed up, and the BMC was the most sorely missed. On the other hand, I did finally get to meet Daphne Fritz, which I had long looked forward to. She was really swept off her feet by my appearance: in the midst of the video game she was playing, she looked intently at the screen (just to fool everyone) and said 'Oh-darn to cover up her gasping at my hunkish appearance, then intently avoided looking my way so as not to faint dead away in awe of me. She's really good at that, since any other observer would have thought she never even looked up and could care less. Only I knew better. Seriously, she was very pleasant. I wonder what she'll be like if I take her last center in Osuch's game though? Oh well.

We did again get a national spread, what with Langley-Daf-Mazzer from the west, Barno and Jim-Bob Burgess from the east, and many from inbetween. Other stars were Coughlan, Peters, Scott and Legs, er, I mean Frauke, the Ellis Bros from KC, Eric Ozog, our host Bob Olsen, I forget who else. Next year we will HAVE to put together a fund to pay half the BMC's air fare though: the con's just not the same without her. Unless I can get Shaffer to come—mmm, there's an idea. He had some great ideas about painting rings on an 18 inch dildo labelled War/Peace/ALLY/Puppet on higher rings as a negotiating tool, but for Gary's sake, I won't explain how you are supposed to use it. Cathy, don't embarrass Terry by asking either. Uh, let's see: then there was ~~Fry~~ Russ Russnak, who had her long slim legs bare—I mean, Russnak, he spent the weekend telling us how to play Dip right and telling a soused Gary to rike off, and a little of her bare rear would peek out if you watched closely like ~~the~~, er, rather, Russnak, yeah, uh, what was I saying? Oh, yeah, Russnak, he was there too. Frauke was a real show-stealer until Gary wrapped himself around her, pretending to be drunk. ~~I sure enjoyed him~~ It was cute watching him pretend to practice German with her, what with his pointing and asking "How do you say this in German?" going from arm to shoulder to chest and...oh, well, you don't want to hear all that.

I'd like to ramble on for another two pages, but I have a lot of material already prepared, so I need to cut this off. See you last half of page 6 of this.

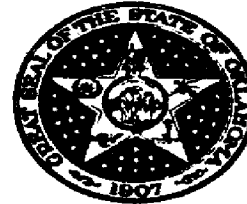
(Continued on page 34)

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LETTERS

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Jim Thorpe Memorial Building 2101 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105



AUGUST 9, 1983

JOHN E. MICHALSKI
RT 10 BOX 526Q
MOORE, OK 73165

LETTER #58

CONGRATULATIONS!

OKLAHOMA TAX COMMISSION

HAS NOTIFIED THE MERIT SYSTEM OFFICE THAT YOU HAVE ACCEPTED
PROBATIONARY EMPLOYMENT AS A/AN:

SENIOR TAX AUDITOR

JOB CODE: D131 (STATE CERTIFICATE # 0000011526)

SINCE YOU ACCEPTED THIS JOB, YOUR NAME HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE
LIST OF ELIGIBLES FOR THIS POSITION. HOWEVER, IF YOU WANT YOUR
NAME PLACED BACK ON THE LIST, YOU MUST WRITE OR CALL THE MERIT
SYSTEM OFFICE.

THIS LETTER APPLIES ONLY TO THE JOB TITLE LISTED ABOVE. IT DOES
NOT AFFECT YOUR AVAILABILITY FOR ANY OTHER JOBS FOR WHICH YOU
MAY HAVE APPLIED.

JE, MICHALSKI

55, 14, 12

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NOTICE OF FINAL "FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL COMPENSATION" CHECK

ENCLOSED IS THE LAST CHECK FOR FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL COMPENSATION. YOU HAVE
FILED ENOUGH CLAIMS TO EXHAUST THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL COM-
PENSATION BENEFITS SHOWN ON YOUR INITIAL DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS.
YOU SHOULD NOT FILE FURTHER CLAIMS FOR FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL COMPENSATION BENEFITS.

IMPORTANT!

IF YOU ARE STILL UNEMPLOYED AND SEEKING EMPLOYMENT, REPORT TO YOUR LOCAL
EMPLOYMENT OFFICE AT LEAST EVERY THIRTY DAYS TO KEEP YOUR WORK APPLICATION ACTIVE.

OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION

34

STEVE HEINOWSKI (Ter-ran)

responding to a THIRD REICH inquiry of mine...

What few Russian Campaigns we had in 3R - few in that games rarely went past 1942 without one side or the other conceding -- it boiled down to whether Germany could force Russia to go below 75 combat factors and surrender. Minor stuff such as the taking of Moscow, Leningrad, or blowing the Russians back to the Urals was so much fluff, to coin a phrase. In this regard Russian positioning of its 27-factor fleet played an important role, for as went the fleet so went the German first thrust. This, then, tended to be towards Leningrad as the Russians at the/ preferred to keep the fleets north to protect the beach hex from invasion - a questionable move but one that as the German I was more than happy to see. The other biggie was to try to encircle mass quantities of Russian troops large enough so that they would in themselves bring the Russian perilously close to surrendering.

About this time AH came through with the idea anyway(not yet official) of assigning 15BR to Leningrad and Moscow and the first Russian response was to still keep those fleets north to protect the city, which in turn made the set German attack on Leningrad as the game was won or lost there, Moscow was a second front, the the critical move came on Leningrad. This in turn forced some strange German moves like starting an AB and a couple or 3 armor units in Finland, which in turn made for some wild turns 39-40, but if France still fell on schedule the Russian was up shit creek.

Rumania as you state it is great in the game ^{that} will end by 1943. If you start going into a 43-44 period those Rumanian units will be sorely missed. If however your goal is to surround and destroy Russian units, by all means give it a try. You can prevent the Russian-Yugo move by having Italy there already, and if Russia must spend BRP for an offensive option or tow what the heck -- you lose the units they the BRP. We would garrison it by all means if the Russian navy were in Sev. as the extra start to swing around the Black Sea was worth the effort. Actually thinking back I vaguely remember Russia more inclined to keep there air units closer the line those few times Rumania were left open, which made them much easier to destroy (kill! Russian air units was always a priority with us as the replacement was so damn costly -- which would you rather have 5air or 15inf??? Myself, let him buy the air units and use those BRP up.

Russia as a conquest varies greatly if Turkey has been conquered. Russia needs a minimum of 5 units to garrison Turkey(2 each for the straights, one the capitol) which means there are 5 less units to make an initial defense and the double garrisoned line can't be maintained, and for two turns if that. You make a gain in that the Russian fleets invariably escape destructively by basing in the Med...such a pity. Oddly enough it was for that more than the BRP that I saw Turkey invaded in 39 ... I did see a game where Russia invaded Turkey/39 and Germany invaded Russia before Turkey fell; Germany was still creamed much to my consternation -- I was Italy.

As I am remembering our games boiled down to several basic points. Germany took Poland and Lux on F39 and more likely than not combined with Italy to attrition Yugo in the Med theater. England/Fr seeing a weak Africa garrisoned France heavier. In W39 Germany generally took Den, Bel, Hol; Italy took Yugo and started SRing to Naf. (to Hell with Greece) -- if the French left any opening at all Denmark was bypassed the AB being used in blitzing the Fr.

In 40 France was the key, if it fell Spr or Sum, the game looked good for the Axis, Fall was considered a draw, Winter or worse an Axis loss usually followed. For me a lot depend on if we were using options and my options were good (like Turkey, Spain, or Vichy). Oddly enough I felt 40 was Italy's time to make or break his game and yet it was the time the German was least likely to send help, myself included. I usually tried for the lent Italian air in exchange for some 3-3 garrisons which the Italian sorely needs, but as my disposition was more inclined towards France. Italy usually sees more opportunity for its air units in Africa. Ah well

This then affected my own Russian campaign, even before the 3-3 loophole was made official W40 was a good time to attack Russia if you could get the units there in time - hence the need to cream Fr by Summer. Under the old system Russia got 12-15 inf in their Winter combat but lost 15BRP, so for 12 BRP you paid for you Winter even if committed heavily.

So, ... I suppose one should watch the Russian defense, usually a line straight up from Odessa. If you just attrition on the E. front, you can take some valuable air fields. If you stagger the attack with an armor unit now and then the Russian could be in for a nasty surprise setting up his Spr41 defense when he can't SR adjacent to you. I would expect a Russian offensive

if for no other reason that Russia is bored to tears by now and for all practical purposes the offensive is free (how much growth can they get from saved 40 BRPS, right?), just remember to have some air units backing up your units to change some of those 1:1s and (egads) 2:1s to 1:2s or worse. For attrition keep some 3-3s on those cities you want most so as to remove as opposed to losing the hex. One thing to remember is that it is very tricky for the Russian trying to get the best possible odds, Attr or otherwise, which means placing front line units on (gasp) the front, and then deploying in depth to prevent a Spr41 slaughter.

Every time you give the Russian a chance to do something you increase the odds that he will do something dumb, so by all means give him the chance.

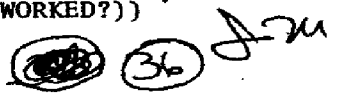
I am surprised your games end so soon. We usually gave each side $\frac{1}{2}$ hour to make a move so were able to polish off 8 game turns in about 5-6 hours -- of course if the game was close we always added another 2 turns. Of course if it is S40 and France just died or the converse, S41 and France is still around, you might as well hang it up, but even so you never know when some stupid move or blatant overconfidence will sift the game back into prespective. I remember a game in Cleveland where a fellow from Madison and I were in Germany as E/F in 40 and almost blew it (down to a draw anyway) because we got overconfident and anticipated dumb moves that never materialized. Anyway ... Russias moves shouldn't take more than a few minutes to execute and once you get into the game, 39 games years should also be quickies, timewell maybe 12 minutes tops, presuming the Allies have set up the low countries and the Axis, Turkey how many possibilities can there be when it comes time to making moves. Also, the inbetween years (between France falling and Russia invaded) should also be quikies as its mostly SR and builds.

On the other hand I remember an AREA game that went on for 12 or 13 hours ... whatever, you ought to be able to play through s42 in two sittings?????

Fourth edition rules, eh? Yes, it does speak for itself. I would add that I checked the local game store and noted that the 3R game proudly displayed the fact that it had 3rd edition rules -- that also speaks for itself. No doubt AH will gladly SELL you the 4th ed., providing you sub to the General and know that such a thing exists.

((Or maybe Larry Peery will sell it to you. Anyhow... I overall see what you mean, altho I don't know what the "3-3 loophole" is/was. Our '39 gameyears are often long and bloody, as no one wants to wait until summer 40 to go big. After the fall of France it is slow, with only offensives in the west in an air blitz of England if possible, with a couple of Spanish campaigns tried. No one is eager to go at Russia at all, esp with the experiences we've had. Turkey would seem to be in great danger of being a quick 30 BRPs for Germany to take, after Russia takes it, because the Russian can only garrison it with his troops, weaker ones than Turkey had to begin with. The one advantage would seem to be that once "allied", the Western powers could SR in some sort of defense, depending on what they had available in Naf/Med. Russia could in effect turn the place over to the allies and say Good Luck. I wonder if Germany could knock out Turkey itself from a short front, or maybe with an Italian landing? I'll have to try it once.

Now Germany and Italy cannot both attack Yugoslavia unless actively allied, which means a big DoW by It the first turn, which means that Italy will have a big two replacement battalions coming out as reinforcements. It is unlikely that Libya would survive with an Italian army necessarily in Yugoslavia, and Germany is usually taking the Alps in W39 (if not F39) or some such, going for bigger fish. Maybe Germany could take it herself, then go on to Turkey in W39 if the allies took the flipflop and had Germany going last in W39. (I know its dumb to give them W39-S40, but we've tried some wild things. And who knows? If Germany pulled it off, what shape would Egypt be in?) We once played a game where Russia took Turkey, then moved the fleets to the Med and looked for new worlds to conquer. What's there? Well, you could waste points and men on Greece, or---SPAIN! Yep, I DoWed on Spain. (This trick is only good ONCE per opponent). He set up the defense and did what I was hoping for: overlooked the Balearic Islands. So I took them, and their port of Palmas, and he realized the problem when SR phase saw an airbase SRed in. It works as long as France is still in the game, but then you're in trouble, unless England can switch from being the French prop to being the Russian prop in Spain. Had I been two seasons earlier, I think I'd have started with the Pyrennes Soviet. He thought it was crazy, and it was, but, what if it had WORKED??)

 36 Jm

DAFNE FRITZ
(excerpt)

Would you really wear cut-off fatigues? Why don't you cut them off about two feet above the knee and then split the side seam up to the waistband. I would definitely be wowed. ((So would the flies...)) We will be driving to Wichita so maybe I can take you and some other fun-loving adventurers and we could go on a 70-mile-an-hour, no brakes tour of Wichita. Sound like fun? I mean, if Linsey can cruise Harlem at two in the morning, we should have a blast cruising that hub of exciting and sleazy nightlife--DOWNTOWN WICHITA! Maybe Olsen could give us directions to the HOT spots. I figure if I can get some compromising pictures of you and Mazzer, my position in MM2 is assured!

I can't tell you how concerned I am about your job situation. It must be demoralizing to not know what you'll be doing next. I'm hoping something comes along soon for you. You're sounding more and more desperate and disgusted with every passing MES. I realize that you probably are desperate and disgusted, but it hurts to have such a sweet, loveable character like you in such a state.

((Well, most of the desperation is gone, leaving only the disgust. I appreciate the concern you, Gary, and so many others have shown. It makes it seem such a shame that so many nice people are stuck under a government that is so fucked up...))

Thanks much for the breakfast in Wichita. With all the Zork you were playing in Wichita, we didn't get into any gaming at all except for the final gunboat game that you were in for 10 or 15 minutes. On the other hand, would it have been that much better to be in my shoes, getting up to about 10 and THEN be eliminated, second yet? Nice to have met you.)) *JM*
((Daf's 'cutoffs' reference was to an earlier note of mine in some other MES)) *JM*

CATHY CUNNING
(excerpt)

I wish I could be at PudgeCon, I really do! Hey, why don't you guys give me a call! We could have a MM gang call. I heard Kathy won't be going. That's really too bad. Barno may not be able to go either now. No New Yorkers? It just wouldn't be the same...

Oh, didn't you get LOKSENNA with the last letter I sent? That was your prize, you silly twit. Now you buy me a plane ticket to Wichita and you might get to hold my hand like Woody did. That is if Eric says its OK!

((Good thing Woody wasn't there, or he would have been throwing himself at Eric's leaner looking bod more shamelessly than Gary was doing Frauke, and believe me, that's saying something! Too bad my camera batteries quit. Barno did make it, along with Jim-Bob Burgess to represent the NE. Kathy was missed though. You and Julie too. We had a call from Duck Williams, but no one paid any attention to him. Friday night we called the insulting WoodyCon, but only succeeded in waking Woody up and hearing him say there was no con yet, it wouldn't begin until after sun-up Saturday. So we said we'd call back in two hours then, and let him go. Never did call back. I consider those Lansdale meeters to be traitors. Imagine, passing up PCon II, to go to WOODY's house! Just wait 'till PudgeCon III.

I did get the LOK, thanks. I just didn't realize it passed as a "prize". Oh, well, I'll take whatever I can get.)) *JM*

KATHY BYRNE, BNC
(excerpt)

Boy, are you getting touchy! John was kidding with 0 issues for MES! Since you typed it, you get like 10 issues. John increases subs BIG for anything typed! So check out your label, I think you got 10 issues! He was joking when he said you got 0!

Check this out: I was invited to a pool party entitled "The Tacky and Tasteless Summertime Bash"--now that's my kind of party--I'm going Saturday! I'm supposed

Byrne continues

to be myself--hurrah! Someone who appreciates my wierdness!

DipCon was fun, only you never have enough time to talk to anyone! One night I got tied up with the Wisc group--plus Becker--Man, what a night! Carter was the only sober one among us, but that was easy to understand, he drank one ginger ale to four beers apiece by us! No innocent person like me should ever get tied up with Dale Bakken, Marc Peters, Bill Becker, and the slimey Dave Carter.

((Whew. All those "!!!" wore me out typing this thing.

Re the Tacky & Tasteless Bash and your wierdness: doesn't John appreciate it yet? Or was it his bash? In Brux's honor?

Speaking of Brux, you missed a few good laughs at PudgeCon at Berch's expense. First, after GARY passed out all the party horns and people were checking them out, I stepped forward and announced "Let's hear it for Mark BERCH!!!" and was greeted by a hellacious and darcimonious "BBRRA-A-A-CK!" Then later, someone was making fun of Frauke's accent, and a defender stepped forward and explained that we were not making fun of her personally, only "your language, culture, and heritage". Straight off the front page of DD! You missed a good one.

Since John gave me sub credit, I've sent him another MES, a two-pager. We talked about it at PCon II, but I messed up a little in the page two part of the Con report. You see, we said it would be funny to write W a review of the con saying who WASN'T there, what DIDN'T happen, etc., but, I'm afraid I let a few facts slip in by inference on page two. Sorry for messing it up. (Did anyone notice?)) JM

BS from page one, continued.

I'm watching a preseason game--well, listening really--while typing this. Brian Sipe is embarassing the Raiders the first half here, 20-3 just now. Other news:

STEVE HUTTON put out a clever little "Special Recession Issue" of his NO FIXED ADDRESS, #11 which was its usual photo reduced xerox, but then cut laterally into thirds, each of which was a full zine. He added the personal message to mine of "what did you do to get Gary mad at you?" which I haven't figured out yet. Maybe he looked at that game somewhere where Gary, my German ally, holds my Warsaw and Moscow and looks to be going for more. Answer: I don't know. Is he mad at me? Don't all allies act like that? Is the bear Catholic?

NEW ZINES are popping up like weeds, always a good sign, but these are tending to variants more than I would like to see (ANY variants are more than I would like to see. Walker is enough, ~~Fear is too much~~ for this hobby.) POLITESSE is a new one (to me anyway--says it began in Nov 82) that is interesting in that it ignores Dip in about 80% of this sample I got (un-numbered, postmarked July 23) which is a definite plus. (This column didn't make #1 on its tactics articles, e.g.) I'd sub if I could afford it. ~~LA/PPPPPP/LA/FRAUKE/LI/LI/COLO/II/II/XXX/Write him at--oops, didn't say who does it yet, did I? It's one Ed Wrobel, 3932 N Forestdale Ave, Dale City VA 22193.~~ KEITH SESHAN put out a 19 page double issue (4-5) of his new MANIFEST DESTINY which already has a circulation of 53 and has filled its third regDip game. It must be the nice rightwing cartoons in it. 10/\$3, cheap. I hope to sub one of these days. Want a MES Keith? P O Box 158, Fraser MI 48026 Just barely space to add THE END JUSTIFIES THE MEANS, a brand new one offering regDip, Machiavelli, Der Fuehrer, Rail Baron, Bourse. 14 pages, all of these zines are full sheet thank goodness, this one put out by a GI shooting for officer candidate while enjoying the bliss of lush El Paso TX. Write James M Briggs, P O Box 6243, zip 79906. Tell all these guys you read about it here so that others will be encouraged to send me free samples too. I sell them to Ben Schilling for \$5 a box.

Just room left for a Quote-of-the-month from PudgeCon II: "Just what do you see in Scott anyhow?"

NOBODY CAN WORK
WITHOUT GETTING
SOME
ACKNOWLEDGMENT



Two ballots for two polls with the same deadline of November 22, 1983 are found on this page. Please use them. They are purposely placed on this last page so you can cut them out, without damaging your EE and mail them off. Please help to make our polls meaningful.

Not all of us are pubbers of zines and subzines or are GMs. But those of us who are like to know where we stand with you. Not everyone can win but it means a lot just to see yourself or your zine mentioned by someone who enjoyed it or your GMing. Everyone needs encouragement. This is essentially the Marco Poll run by Mark Larzelere.

The second poll is the Whitestonia Poll run by John Caruso and this concerns those who are players(that includes all of us!) and those who write, which include many of you. I know that a lot of good writers have given articles to EE that I have enjoyed and written articles in other zines that also I enjoyed. What about you? Did someone write an article that you enjoyed, perhaps someone that doesn't write as often as you'd like? Why not vote for them? Let them see their name in the results. Let them know that someone appreciates what they have done. Both of these polls are very important, but only you can make it meaningful.

WHITESTONIA PLAYER POLL

In this poll, you vote for who you consider the top 5 in two categories which are BEST PLAYER and BEST WRITER. The deadline is November 22, 1983. Mail your ballot to: John Caruso, 160-02 43 Ave, 2nd Floor, Flushing, New York 11358 USA.

BEST PLAYER:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

BEST WRITER:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

MARCO POLL

In this poll, you vote for who you consider the 7 Best Zines, the top 3 Best Subzines and the top 5 GMs. The deadline is November 22, 1983. Mail your ballot to: Mark Larzelere, 7607 Fontainebleau, #2352, New Carrollton, Maryland 20784 USA.

BEST ZINE:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

BEST SUBZINE:

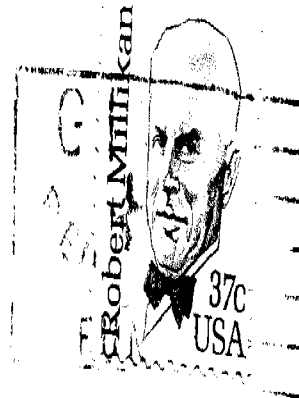
- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

BEST GM:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

"Blessed is he who expects nothing for he shall never be disappointed."--
--by Alexander Pope(1688-1744) from The Dictionary of Humorous Quotations.

x GARY L. COUGHLAN
4614 Martha Cole Lane
Memphis, Tennessee 38118
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



FIRST CLASS MAIL!!!

Larry Peery (T)
P.O. Box 8416
San Diego, California 92102

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Your sub expires with issue (see label)