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EAGLE NOG

SOMETIMES I FEEL VERY LONGELY BEING TO ONLY PERSON IN THE HOBBY TO USE LINEAR SEPARATORS

EAGLE NOG #38-39 is a product of Konrad Baumister, 11416 Parkview Lane, Hales Corners, WI 53130, U.S.A., and of Crossroads Press International. EAGLE NOG is a quad-weekly journal (mine in the vernacular) of postal Diplomacy, which sells for 10 issues for \$3.50, and has some limited game openings for which you can investigate inside. All herein may be reprinted, as long as credit and my address are published, too. This is EAGLE NOG Enterprises Production #75 (of #74, I have to check); #75.

THE OVERSTUFFED RECLINER

(This is the Editor's Column, on which he comments on just about everything under his nose. Enjoy.)

THE HEADING

This time, You Can't Argue With A Sick Mind is the offering. It comes from Joe Walsh, candidate for President (self-proclaimed, on a ticket of free gas for all and rock concerts to replace fireside chats -- but, since he's just 32, he legally can't be elected; too bad!). This was his live album, from 1976, and he works with some of the Eagles on it. Some classics on the album, featuring his excellent guitar, and some decent drumming. Walsh is one of the greats; he was with the James Gang from 1969 to 1972 or so, and then went solo while the James Gang went sour (or at least less wild).

From there on it was a ll uphill, and he now is the leader (I think) of the Eagles (which just put out a top album, The Long Run) while also pursuing a solo career. This guy is, at least good at making both money and albums...

THE WEATHER

It's wierd, folks. No snow on the ground yet! It chills down sometimes, but nothing falls that isn't gone in 24 hours. I kind of like it this way!

VOICE OF DOOM

Bruce Linsey's magazine has been mentioned several times in the last few issues. Watch out for the next issue, which should have an interesting announcement in it! Bruce Linsey, 71 Hudson Apts, Newburgh, NY 12550. Excellent new 'zine!

DOUBLE ISSUE TIME

It couldn't be helped this time. The games took up a lot of space, and before I knew it I had 14 pages, already over the weight limit for one ounce. I decided I'd just draw it out to 20 to make it worthwhile (same rates). While I'd love to give you all a Christmas present and give you the whole thing as one issue, I can't afford it. It would mean over \$2 just on postage alone, let alone paper, etc. Next few issues will be smaller, hopefully. It's not easy to put these monsters together, with so many readers!

The Overstuffed Recliner Cont'd:

GAME OPENINGS

Yah, due to popular demand, I did decide to open one last game of standard Diplomacy. There are currently four innocents signed up to play, so if you want to get in to this last game to open in EGGNOG for at least six months, then hop to it with your \$2 game fee, subscription fees, and preference lists!! I hope that all other pubbers will advertise this opening, but am more realistic than to say that...and this reminds me that I owe Lee Kendter a plug!

ORIGINS OF WORLD WAR II...

That opening has apparently not been drawing too much attention. One person "is interested" in playing, and another said he had the game but did not want to play it postally! If no more interest is shown in playing this simple five-player game by next issue, I will cancel the opening. Fee would be free with subscription to either EGGNOG or POLITICIAN. Historical scenario.

YOUNGSTOWN VARIANT OPENING

But that's in POLITICIAN, my variant 'zine. Subscriptions to this baby are the standard 10/\$3.50, and fee to play the Youngstown game (maps/rules free with entry, if you're new to this, the most popular of any Dippy variant) is the also-standard \$2 plus preference list. Of the ten spots once open, five or six have been taken. I hope to fill this one soon, and then POLITICIAN will also close down openings.

WHY ME?

The universal question is also the name of one of the top gaming 'zines in North America. Lee Kendter, 4347 Benner Street, Philadelphia, PA 19135 runs this. Subs are 10/\$3.50. Lee will also, after one more game, close down his openings for a while. Lee is probably one of the best (if not the best) gamesmasters I've played under, so you won't see many mistakes. His 'zine is also more reliable than most. Appears monthly; primarily for players.

STANDBY LIST

Occasionally I'll print this list, more to keep me informed than you, as I happen to occasionally forget where I put the damned list... In any case, this is a list of the mental cases willing to hop into a game already in progress, to take over positions dropped or resigned out of. While these positions are usually bad, good positions happen to turn up once in a blue moon, and I know that many, many players have picked up ratings and wins through standby positions. (This includes me; I've put away two standby wins, and one of them was a straight giveaway, with only decent tactics needed to take the game.) Yah. If any of you want on or off of the list, please contact me soonest. We have: (No particular order) Harding, Kluge, Verheiden, Cooper, Kelly, Boudon, Cifani, ~~Zip~~, (oops!) Cheek, Gemignani, both Luckanbills, Lischett, Lipscomb, Aucott, Hurst, Zipper, and that's that. 16 names, and it would seem that it's come down from last time. But the best part about a standby list in a 'zine is not having to use it.

POSTAL DIPLOMACY RATING COMMISSION

The PDRC is a defunct project which was once headed by the able Rod Walker (and, for a little while, Lke -- or Len, if you like -- Lakofka), and which had as its main purpose the ascertaining of which postal games were ratable by most rating-masters. The Standard Rating Base resulted (SRB). Well, I am taking over this project, just for the fun of it. There has been renewed interest in ratings; Steve McLendon and Bob Sergeant's Dragon's Tooth system has appeared, and caused some controversy; Doug Hollingsworth has taken over the Calhamer Point Count Rating System; I am working on my own, which has not yet been published; John Leader has remarked wistfully in Bungstone that he might work on his ODIMED system in the not-too-distant future, etc.

(Continued on Page 8)

From STRANGE BREW #21...

REGNOG DEMONSTRATION GAME 1979L

Fall 1905 & Center Chart

AUSTRIA (Malendon): A Ser S ITALIAN
A Gre/a/

ENGLAND (Kendler): F Bel H, A Hol &
F Den S FRENCH A Ruh-Kie, A Yor-
Nwy, F Nth C A Yor-Nwy, F Nwg-Bar,
F Nwy-Swe

FRANCE (Bunke): A Ruh-Kie, A Bur-Mun
A Gas-Bur, F Mid S F Spa(sc), F
Spa(sc) S F Mid

GERMANY (CD): A Pru H, F Kie H/a/

ITALY (Harron): F Tyn-Ion, F Wes-Tyn
F Naf-Tun, A Ven-Tyl, A Gre S AUS-
TRIAN A Ser/R Alb, OGB/, A Vie S

AUSTRIAN A Ser/imp/, A Tri SA Vie

RUSSIA (Hyett): A Sny-Gre, F Aag-C &
A Bul S A Sny-Gre, A Rum-Ser, A Bud
S A Rum-Ser, A Gal S A Bud, A Sib
S A Mun, A Mun & F Ber S GERMAN F
Kie, A Fin S ENGLASH F Den-Swe/nso/
A Lvn-StP

1905: AUS: 6/1, 0, Out. ENG: Edi,
Lon, Lvp, Nwy, Bel, Hol, Swe, Den: 8,
Bld 1. FRA: Par, Bre, Mar, Spa, Por
Kie: 6, Bld 1. GER: 2/1, 1/1, 0, Out
ITA: Ven, Rom, Nap, Tun, Tri, Vie,
A/1: 6, Rem 1. RUS: Mos, Sev, StP
War, Rum, Bud, Con, Ank, Sny, Bul,
Mun, Ber, Gre, Ser: 14, Bld three!!
Draw votes fall of unanimity this time

1979L ANALYSIS FFR FALL 1905

By Eric Verheiden

Fall 1905 saw the end of Germany and Austria and, I should think, effectively of the game as well. Russia, now at 14, is evidently pressing for whatever he can pick up with his massive preponderance of armies. Vienna and Trieste are about it. Italy has pulled back to defend the sea routes, easy enough to block against the lone Russian fleet in the south. Mainland Italy can be locked easily and in the north, the only Russian prospects are negative. Namely Berlin and Munich are, for the moment, lightly held and St. Petersburg can be forced by the end of 1907.

The other powers, England, France, and Italy, have too little to gain and too much to lose by squabbling a-

mong themselves. Each can threaten to give Russia the win if attacked. A three-way alliance against Russia is barely conceivable, however, this would be a very slow process and risky if successful as a new balance of power is formed.

All in all then, I would expect the draw to pass sooner rather than later, probably with the coming season.

Thanks once again go to Eric for keeping up his analysis of the game. Better yet, he's fast with his submission of the stuff.!

LETTER COLUMN

From Dick Martin (11/20): Oh boy! I win the trivia contest! (Well, close enough...) And I know what I want, too! A week of skiing in Missouri! Dennis can have the beach weekend in Nome, Alaska; I'm not greedy.

I've read as many of the Bond books as I've been able to get my hands on. I may still have one or two to go. The movies are getting progressively farther away from the titles. Roger Moore is a perfect Bond, though (I always felt that Sean Connery was too warm for the part), and makes the movies worthwhile.

Thanks for writing, Dick. The vacation is given freely, and you can take as long as you want. I'll even throw in the skis...and a swimsuit for Dennis, of course.

As for the Bond books, I've read all thirteen several times, and a brief synopsis may appear elsewhere in this issue. Other people have indicated interests in that field, too. So let's drink to Ian Fleming (who was a British secret agent in his own right, you know)!

From Bruce Linsey (11/21): Thought I'd check in with a response to your "Oaklyn" editorial.

If Tretick folks, it won't prove a thing more concerning his dis-
(Cont;d Page 4)

honesty -- at least I wouldn't use it against him unless he failed to return his subscribers' fees. But if he would close shop cleanly, I'd be the first to thank him for doing something good, for once.

As a publisher in this hobby, I view it as my dreary responsibility to keep people informed of the fraud; and I shall continue to do so. The main reason is that Bernie preys on unsuspecting newcomers, who just get a free sample with no inkling that the fames are being run unfairly. ((Can't seem to type today...)) This pisses me off, because so many of us GM's take excruciating care to be fair; and one guy just doesn't feel he has to do this, and gives us all a bad name.

Please tell your readers that if any of them haven't seen the cold proof, just write to me. It's not my intention, by the way, to drive Tretick off the deep end, but merely to get him to come clean and until he does, warn folks about him. But if he goes off the deep end in the process, well, he brought it on himself and has no one else to blame.

I like EGGNOG a lot. Keep it up!

Thanks for your letter, Brux. I had to print the last part for my own overgrown ego. You know how it goes, sometimes... Your points are well taken, and I support your 100%. Bruce's address is listed elsewhere in this issue, probably.

A lengthy submission from Tom Hunt (11/9): What's all this brouhaha between you and John Zipper about taste in music? True, I'm new to this 'zine, but can't you guys worry about fiddling with your own knobs -- volume and otherwise -- without burdening my eyes and ears with something which cannot be resolved except to the individual taste of the listener? Every form of music must wait upon such listener's taste, mood, and inclination. To say one type of music, be it jazz, rock, classical, or what have you, is better than another without reference to the taste, mood, and inclination of the listener is to make a

nonsensical statement! Personally, I am quite catholic in my tastes, preferring each type of music as my mood changes. Each has its place. Do not talk about which type of music is the "winning" music. All win! If they didn't, how could they exist? Each type has its adherents, but to talk about one being better than the others is the height of foolishness! Why can't you guys just sit back and enjoy, at whatever volume, whatever the mood takes you to listen in? I can -- and I do! Happy argument, fellahs! Just don't expect a winner!

Another point I'd like to bring up concerns your latest article concerning Dick Martin's letter, where you bemoan the "fact" that these days we have the "shittiest (TV) series' possible." Unfortunately, the human species is subject to "the same damned plot over and over again." Do you think we've changed all that much? Four thousand years ago my ancestors danced around the fire to the beat of thr drums drinking potions known for their aphrodisiac qualities and alcoholic content and called it a religious festival. Nowadays we've gone modern! We use a light show instead of a fire, but the rest remains the same and we call it Thursday night. Some progress in four thousand years! Personally, I'd like to go back to the times when vidence on TV was restricted to innuendo rather than forthright observance on the screen. At least one could posit (?) one's own ideas as to what really happened, and it took a higher form of the actor's out to carry it off. But these days, alas, are gone. But if the human case cannot come up with new plots, it's because we've gone this route before, and to expect new plots is to fly against human nature. I bemoan the lack of acting skill to carry the old plots, which are, after all, a never-changing reflection of what we live through day by day. What do you bemoan?

(To find out, see Page 5)

Lettercolumn Cont'd:

Thanks for an excellent letter, Tom! Your points are all well-made. I s'pose I ought to give you some background.

I am in the habit of giving each and every EGGNOG issue a heading, which is the name of a rock album. Rock happens to be my own favorite kind of music, though I like all music, if it's well done. I give a little bit of info on the album, the artist who recorded it, etc. And that's that. Then people began writing in on their own favorites or just commentary. John Zipper opposed rock altogether, and thus the exchange. It can't really be called an argument. But your point on when one prefers what kind of music, is, of course, correct.

As for movies, I demand bad acting as much as you do. However, I do not oppose violence on the screen as much as you do. Robert Conrad and Clint Eastwood, etc all make for exciting films, and violence (and sex, for that matter) all play a big part in their films. They are never the centerpieces, but that would not be the same without it. Good fist/sword/gun-fights are always welcome on my TV set. What I don't like is when we get the twisted minds giving us garrottings, mutilations, decapitations, etc. I could do without the sick minds that are putting out movies nowadays. That's it. The plots haven't changed they've just gotten bloodier than.

Thanks again for the letter.

More letters printed if/when they come in. Gotta get started early!

TRIVIA ANSWERS FROM LAST TIME

Last issue I didn't have room to print the answers to the trivia quiz printed in EGGNOG #35-36, won by Dick Martin and Dennis Sulsberger. Here is the list of answers at last.

1. 38.
2. Rita Hayworth.
3. Marion Michael Morrison.
4. Pico Pass, April 15, 1862.
5. President Grover Cleveland's daughter.
6. Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Honus Wagner

Christy Mathewson, Walter Johnson.
 7. Billy Rose. 8. "Ben Hur." 9. Mishel Piastro. 10. Mark Twain.
 11. Baby Snooks. 12. Roger Bannister (3:59, May 6, 1954). 13. St. Bernard. 14. Actor Robert Stack's father (but it was originally for Miller Beer). 15. Augustus A. Mutt. 16. Robin. 17. Four. 18. Bell X-1 with USAF Major Charles E. Yeager. 19. Alfred E. Smith, 1928 Presidential candidate. 20. Queen's Cup. 21. "The Aspo." 22. Langtry (for Lily Langtry, famous British actress). 23. Henry Armstrong. 24. Bertha Cool, sixtyish and overweight. 25. Mary Tyler Moore (at age 17).

TRIVIA TIME!

Back on track, we have this month's trivia quiz. If anyone gets over 20 of these correct, he earns himself 5 free issues of EGGNOG or POLITICIAN (his choice). In case more than one person gets over 20, then the higher gets the prize. If one of our overseas subscribers gets over 10 right, then 2 free airmail issues are awarded. Tricky. The questions are as follows:

1. Who invented bifocal lenses?
2. What is the busiest airport in the world today?
3. In what year was Napoleon exiled to Saint Helena?
4. Who invented the television?
5. What US Senator was known as "the Kingfish"?
6. What was the name of Richard E. Byrd's Ford trimotor plane in which he and Floyd Bennett were the first to fly over the North Pole?
7. In what 1977 golf tournament did ex-President Ford shoot a hole in one?
10. In the movie "San Francisco," what was the Barbary Coast club owned by Blackie Norton (Clark Gable)?
11. Who was the midget philip Morris pageboy known for his cry "call for Philip Morris"?
12. How many stars and stripes did our flag have in 1814 when Francis Scott Key wrote the national anthem?
13. Who was the first person to

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Trivia Time Questions Cont'd.

swim round-trip across the English Channel?

14. Who said "Don't give up the ship!"

15. Who played the Lone Ranger 30 years in more than 200 TV episodes?

16. Who wore #24 when he played for the Giants?

17. In "Felix the Cat" comic books, can you name Felix's nephews?

18. Who were the famous feuding hillbillies of Kentucky and West Virginia?

19. In "Breakfast at Tiffany's", Paul Varjak (George Peppard) writes a novel. What is its title?

20. Who was the first man in space?

21. In Greek mythology, what was the only thing left in Pandora's box after she opened it?

22. What "colonel" was Elvis Presley's manager in days of old?

23. What was the first unscheduled TV news event?

24. What is the smallest planet?

25. How many players are there on a hockey team of normal size?

There you have it. Best of luck to all of you!

More Overstuffed Recliner:ON GAME OPENINGS

OK, guys, you've talked me into it. One more game is open, but there are only two spots left in it. This is your last chance to play a game under me from the beginning until at least next October, so sign up now! There may not be a next time...

Fees are subscription (10/\$3.50) and a \$2 game fee. Preference lists are accepted graciously. If so many of my games wouldn't be ending now, I wouldn't open this one, but...

SOME 'ZINE NEWS

1) Infidel, the latest Canadian undertaking, may soon need an undertaking. The publisher announces, in the long-overdue issue #2, that without guest game masters, and lots of them, you have read the last words ever printed in an issue of Infidel. It never ceases to amaze me how often the unexpected comes up...

2) Bumm is a German language 'zine, and probably one of the very best 'zines ever to come out. It's been operating monthly since 1976, and is published by Walter Luc Haas, Postfach, CH-4024 Basel 24, Switzerland. It is surely one of the most massive. It exists in two forms, one being a barebones nothing but moves type deal, and the other is "bumm-spezial," a discussion journal running quite long. Bumm-Spezial is definitely worth the high price you'll pay, even for surface mail, but don't pay it if you don't speak German...

3) Stabsanzeiger is the only other German-lingo 'zine operating at the present. Hartmut Halfmeier, Stapelstr. 13, D-2000 Hamburg 54, West Germany puts this one out, and a good job he does of it. Also solely for German-speakers, he is currently translating some of the articles which have appeared in EGGNOG! Variants, regular games, and Railway Rivals featured. Reasonable air-mail rates, monthly.

4) Conflict Gazet is a Dutch-language 'zine, the only one that I know of. I don't know the rates, but I do know of the quality. Paul Meerts, Alexanderstraat 6c, 2514 JL Den Haag, Holland put this out, and a fine job he does -- each issue has more and more reading material than the one before it. Of course, you'll either have to know how to read Dutch, or will have to learn it, in order to understand what is being written... (I don't speak Dutch, but can read it, mainly by applying my knowledge of German and English to get something that makes sense...) Appears to be monthly.

5) The Baltic Battler is a brand new 'zine out of Sweden, published by Trobjorn Strom, Lansmenvagen 19, S-370 10 Brakna-Hoby, Sweden. I know that this is the only 'zine currently coming out of that neck of the woods. (I remember The Polar Knight, but that is gone now.) Appears in both Swedish and English, so you don't have to worry about learning another foreign language!

CAT-TASTROPHE #8 December 10, 1979

This is definitely a CAT-TASTROPHE. Not the sine so much, but rather the fact that I am trying to put this stupid thing out on my birthday when I'd much rather be out partying. I guess that's the breaks in the big city. Be that as it may, what follows is the responsibility of one Dave White. Editorial offices of this rag have been moved from the Men's room of the Pitt-Pitt Golf Course to the back seat of a '73 Plymouth. Subs to this crap are free unless you consider what Konrad extorts out of you. If you must call, try (713) 895-2325 on Thursdays between 4PM and 10 PM CST or pray for incredible luck.

THANKSTOPEWORTSPARKHIGH SCHOOL FOR LEAVING THIS IDIOTLY INGOURNMENTIC GUILD (ADDED) BASILIRIPETOFF!

- 1979 Q One down, one on the way immediately, one on the way soon... Fall '82
- Austria (Rubinstein) A SIBS-ALB, A TRI S A SEL-ALB, F GRE S A SEL-ALB (dislodged) R-BUL, ARG, OTB), A MID S I TEL, A VIE SA TEL, A ROM H (dislodged) R-BUL, OTB)
 - England (Dupont) F STI-SWE, F NIE-NWI, F ENG-MAG, F IRI S IF ENG-MAG, A BEL-FIR
 - France (Kelly/SWR) A SPI, A SAS, F MAG (dislodged) -see below
 - Germany (Ancott) A BUR H (A MUN S), F BAL-ONE (A DEN S), A SEL-MAR, (ANGOS S)
 - Italy (Gann) A VIE-SEL (A TRO S), A ALB-GRE (F RON S)
 - Russia (Tucker) A GIL-VIE, F SIBS H (dislodged and annihilated)
 - Turkey (Kliett) A BUL-SEL, A CON-BUL (F BLA C+A SEV S)

The Nitty Gritty

- Austria: home, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Bul(?) 3 or 4, remove 2 or 3 subject to retreats
- England: home, Bul, May, 1st, Bul 7, build 2
- France: home, Spa, Por 7, build 2 see to '01 NER ((amazing!))
- Germany: home, Eng, Mar, 1st, May, Bul 7, build 2
- Italy: home, Tel, Apr 5, build 1
- Russia: sibil-COY
- Turkey: home, Bul(?), May, Rom, Mar. 5 or 7, build 2 or 3, subject to retreats

Well, gang, the situation appears slightly hairy to say the least--all kinds of retreats and an NER. OK, here's what happens: the French F MAG will have the LAST right to retreat to the suitable spaces (MAG, NIE, FIR, MAR, MAG), and I'm only going to require autumn retreats and winter builds for the upcoming deadline which is JANUARY 3, 1982. If no retreat orders are received for the French fleet (or other dislodged units, for that matter), it will be disbanded. I'd rather not see a 5-order country go into OD, so, a/b requested of: Jan Luckenbill, 1101 N. 10th St., Phoenix, AZ 85006

- WEN (to MEN) Don't be nervous.
- Zagreb (to Bonn): OK, now try to get what you're going for, (to Sofia) Gann and get it--Rumania is being left unsupported--but or see (is) start depending on board. (to the West)
- Behold the rise of a giant Turkey. (to GM) Thank for addresses ((sure, sweetie))
- LOW - Succinctness sucked! Short snap-snaps to Geneva. (Previous press stands--edit at will)
- BMT - ((OK, I'll do that--your original press will be reprinted one line per issue for the next 19 issues.))
- LOW - Debate in the Commons raged about over the... ((to be continued next month))

SECRETORSEUTEDUESFORMEPOLIOMINUTIPCEALPEAFURSOURREGULARLYSCHEDULEDARTICLEWONTAPPEARTHISMONTH

In the tradition of Bob Boardley and Mr. Proulx, I am proud to announce the first annual GOLDEN PLEAS AWARDS. The trophies bear a remarkable resemblance to used out food in a solid form. My 3 cats are working night and day to turn out these trophies, so I hope y'all appreciate them (the trophies or the cats either one).

THE UNKNOWN PLAYER AWARD for continually submitting unsigned orders--Helena Rubinstein

THE CZAR IS DEAD AWARD for fastest destruction of Russia--Di Tucker

THE WOULDN'T TOUCH IT WITH A TEN-FOOT POLE AWARD to France in 1979, having already gone through one leader, close to going through a second leader and maybe a third!

THE GRUMPY MAILCARRIER AWARD for submitting most sets of orders per game turn-tie between Walt Ancott and Vio Dupont; 3 apiece.

THE GRUMPY GM AWARD for submiting orders just under the wire after I already had the ditto typed up--Walt Ancott.

There's one more award, but I can't read the inscription. Erm. How about WORST HANDWRITING AWARD? I can't think of anyone more deserving than Jerry Van Alkamade!

Overstudded Recliner From P.2:

I decided that it's time to get this project back on the road; for some time, the PDRC was a beautiful project which had the unusual feature of freidly co-operation among its ranks. For the time being, I'll get the group organized, beg Rod Walker to be some sort of advisor, and will put out the first issue of the PDRC journal (probably not La-puta, Rod's journal) sometime in January or early February. I'll definitely have more to report on by next issue of EGGNOG. (If anybody is all that interested in reading about the adventures of the PDRC, then you'll be able to subscribe to the journal, but for the members, it will be free. Or at least close to it...)

EGGNOG STAFF

Lately, EGGNOG has become bigger and bigger, which meant more and more work to put out around deadline day. I must say that I am indebted to my brothers, especially Uli, to Gail at my father's office, for Xeroxing STRANGE BREW month after month, and to various and sundry people who helped collate, stamp, staple, and mail out the issues; but the hardest worker was no doubt the person who typed out the address labels every month; I guess one can always rely on their mother!

(What have I done? Typing, most adjudicating, organization, and the cashing of checks...)

Thanks to one and all! This issue, however, should bring me back to the normal "If you want something done right..." state of affairs.

SPEAKING OF CHECKS...

If/when you subscribe or resubscribe, please make sure to make all checks out to Konrad Baumeister, and not to EGGNOG, POLITICIAN, or anything like that. The bank gives me hassles about that, hassles which I'd like to avoid. I know you'll understand. (Think of people making out checks to Dave Bunke's The Ninth Circle! Don't answer that unless you've read Dante's Inferno (Divine Comedy, actually) Yah.

MORE OF THE LETTER COLUMN!

From Eric Ozog (12/7): First, I want to come to my own defense and say that I am my own man, I cannot be easily swayed by anyone, and I base my own opinions and conclusions from my own mind and judgements. It is rare when I take anyone's advice.

Now are you ready for this one? This is the reason I've backed Oaklyn. I saw that nearly all the prominent ones of the hobby were against him, maybe there was some unblocked-for truth somewhere, and that Bernie Oaklyn was being black-balled. (There is such a process I daresay.)

Also, I took it upon myself to put this issue into its proper perspective. There have been many who have taken the Bernie Oaklyn question to extremes, and were blowing it all out of proportion.

Most importantly, I've come to the decision that there is no amount of money that can compensate a player shafted from a defaulting GM. No amount of dollars can replace the immense effort and time a player spends in conducting a nasty game of Diplomacy.

Therefore, I withdraw my earlier offer to compensate players financially, if Bernie Oaklyn defaults. It is now null and void. I wash my hands of the entire incident.

I don't want to start a panic of the players in Le Front, and I plan to stay in Bernie's magazine. And if tis any comfort to anyone, if Bernie does go down the tubes, out of all the players in Le Front, I probably have the most to lose. The stakes are high, and it is in my best interest, as well as everyone else's, to help Bernie Oaklyn keep Le Front running, and running well.

Letter was printed in its entirety. Much of it refers to a letter Mark Berch sent him a while ago. Specifically, Berch was the one who feels that a game of Diplomacy can not be compensated by money. I do not feel that way, exactly. If someone folds on me, and many have, then I will certainly look friendlier
(over)

The Overstuffed Recliner Cont'D

towards cash than towards nothing at all. But Eric's letter clears him of the problem, as it was supposed to do, I s'pose.

By the bye, some stuff was written up in the last issue of Berch's Diplomacy Digest, under the guise of attacking John Boardman. Write to him to get the "full story."

Not much else to say on the matter. It's Bernie's move now, as it has been for about a year and a half. /

From Bob Osuch (12/7): I'm reading EGGNOG #37 rightnow. I used to be quite a Grand Funk fan myself. I'm from Flint, Michigan, and can remember when they used to be Terry Knight and the Pack, or something similar. Those were the days (sigh).

So much for nostalgia. I hope I do better in your game than I am in Michalski's 79HE. Michalski stabbed me in F03 and he and Kador have been taking turns punching me out ever since (R&A vs. T)...

/Thanks for writing! I don't remember The Pack, so can't write up too much there. But no such mention is on any of my Grand Funk albums, so perhaps you were thinking of something else? Do you have the album on which is a live performance, during which there were two births, and one of the kids was named Grand Funk Railroad? Not half bad, actually, and somewhat of a collector's item. /

From Andy Lischett (11/30): Now for the complaint. I don't think a GM has any business at all calling for concession votes ((as I did in 1976IH last time)). Although I wouldn't suspect you of favoritism (I would suspect many other GMs), it does put an outside influence on the game, rather as if the GM is getting into the negotiations.

When I read a GM requesting a concession, I get the impression that he feels my efforts at survival are a waste of his time. Nobody wants to antagonize other people needlessly (weell, perhaps a few people do), and novices or less experienced players

might be swayed into feeling foolish and inconsiderate for trying to hang on.

Stalemates and all-surviving-player draws are a different matter, but only if there is no reasonable way to break the stalemate.

If any players (who know their own game situation better than the GM) wanted a concession vote, they would have asked for one.

Enough complaining. Your Fife-bird sounds nice, but how can a 454 have a single overhead cam? If you meant a cam over each head, where on earth did you find such animals?

My personal automotive tastes are retrogressing. Ten years ago when Roadrunners and 396 Chevilles ran rampant, I drove an anemic Prosche, followed by various other "sensible" four bangers. Now that owning a V-8 is considered only slightly less anti-social than rape, I have bought a couple of old-fashioned 289 Mustangs in honor of the old-fashioned virtues of torque, high compression, and noise. And whenever I pass a rusty Challenger, Charger, GTO, Mach 1, etc which is for sale, I ponder how much my stinking Civic could be sold for. I wonder if the teenagers of 1979 realize that once upon a time engines weren't designed by plumbers.

Do you know lots about hot engines etc? I may need a brain to pick when I get around to carbs, distributors, etc.

/Thanks for writing on an important topic, Andy. (The car, of course was the important part.) But first things first.

You may have a point about my calling for concessions. I do not make a habit out of it (that was the second or third time I ever propped anything in a season I've GM'd, and I've GM'd a lot of seasons), but for those times... In any case, the only reason I did it was basically because the ending is, as far as I see it, inevitably a Turkish win, giving a Russian ally. I wanted to save you time and money, too, ya know! Some

Lettercolumn Cont'd:

peopla don't like to play any longer than they "have to" in order to find out how the game will end. In some games, I personally only feel like playing until I see how the drift will go. When a conclusion is inevitable, then I would rather move on to something else. But at times, it is important for some reason to play it all the way out, to fight for that last piece of ground. That's exciting, too, and I do respect the people who will play that way. True grit! At the time, I thought I was doing all of us (the players and I) a favor by proposing the game end by concession, but I was obviously wrong. I wish you good luck in trying to stop the Turks and Russians, but don't think that much will come of it. It's too little, too late. But we shall see. In any case I won't propose anything any more. So sorry. (And under no circumstances do I ever want anybody to think that I think His play or continued play is "foolish." Ever.)

As for cars, I meant the latter, in regard to overhead cams. It is possible to have these things made, often at reasonable prices. But, with a 454, who needs 'em?

Porsche's were then, and are now, among the best cars made. And you pay for it, too. It's sda to think that nowadays most American built cars are, putting it bluntly, pieces of shit. Corvettes, Camaro Z-28's, and Firebirds are the only worthwhile cars being put out for 1980, and even the F-Bird is getting worse every year (and the Camaro is simply a copy of the Bird, anyway). Vettes can be junked after a fender bender with a dog, since they're made of fiberglass. We bought a cheap Olds Starfire (1979) for \$5000, brand new, and the thing is already on our list to be sold this spring. It's had a worse record than all of our Birds put together, and we've had it for less than a year now. I don't see how any American built car is worth what you pay for it today. And, as Michalski remarks (but he owns a Thunderbird, presumably later than the 1959 classics, so take it with a

grain or two of salt), most Japanese imports are too weak to make them worthwhile driving. (At least they save gas.) The best cars produced at German cars (and some British, like the Jag, but gas intake prohibits buying one and remaining economically viable). The BMW's and Mercedes' and Porsches (and even VW's, for what they're worth,) are worth their weight in uranium when compared with the US offerings. (C'mon, John Michalski, do you think that Japan's cars are worse than Omnis or Horizons?!) We have owned several German cars, and none of them have ever been troublesome in the least. But for the BMW's, tires alone (Michelins) will cost \$110 apiece. But Pirellis cost just as much on a decent bird.

Oh? Yeah, the topic. Enough editorializing. Yuk, I guess I know a bit about hot engines, but most of my friends know more, so before I would tell you anything, I'd jave to ask my buddies to be absolutely shre... Thanks for weting.

Just for the hell of it, I'm going to squeeze a game in here, and will assume that all players missed it.

1976IH -- Winter 1908/Spring 1909

ENGLAND(Lischett): F Lon S GERMAN
F Eng, F Lvp-Iri, F Nwg-Nat

GERMANY(Cooper): A Bel R Bur, F
Den-Nth, A Bar-Mun, F Hal-Hol, A
Edi H, A Mos-Ukr, A Bur-Bel/R Ruh,
OTB/, F Eng SA Bur-Bel, A Par-Pic

RUSSIA(Kelly): F Yor S ENGLISH F
Lon-Nth/nso/, A Nwy S A Swe, A
Swe S A Nwy, A War-Mos, A Boh-
Gal, A Gal-Ukr, F StP(sc) & A Sev
unordared H

TURLEY(Verheiden): Bld A Con, A
Gas-Bur, A Mar S A Gas-Bur, A Bre-
Par, A Tri-Tyl, A Ser-Tri, A Luk-
Spa, F Wes & F Tyn & F Uon & F Aeg
C A Bul-Spa, F Mid-Eng, F Pic S
F Mid-Eng, F Bel-Hol, F Spa(sc)-
Mid, A Con H

GERMANY TO ENGLANDY Agreed.

(Cont'd Page 11)

GERMANY TO RUSSIA: Four way draw?
GERMANY TO TURKEY: Fat chance.

Needless to say, the concession did not pass. Eric Verheiden has a change of address from 21 December to 6 January: 3245 SW 185th Ave, Aloha, OR 97005. Phil Cooper has changed his address, permanently (as far as he knows) to 19 Dahlgren Place, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11228 (212-680-6260). Fall 1909 orders due January 10, 1980.

Andy, your separation request was turned down on two grounds: 1) There was not enough Winter activity (just one build and one retreat) to warrant extra time for a deadline, and 2) I can't give an extension just because of someone wanting more time to negotiate. One month is more than enough, I feel, and negotiations can not be extended for that reason. Sorry, but that's the way it is.

1979IL (EGGNOG #11) -- Spring 1901
(Notice the Boardman Number -- please use this number in all communication on this game from now on. Thanks.)

- AUSTRIA (Carter): A Vie-Gal, A Bud-Ser, F Tri-Aib
- ENGLAND (Martin): F Edi-Nwy, A Lvp-Edi, F Lon-Nth
- FRANCE (Lee): A Par-Lur, (A Mar 3 A, F Bre-*ENO*)
- GERMANY (Elliot): A Ber-Kie, F Kie-Den, A Mun-Ruh
- ITALY (Luckenhill): F Nap-Ion, A Rom-Apu, A Ven-Tyl
- RUSSIA (Aucott): F StP (co)-Bot, A Mos-Ukr, A War-Gal, F Sev-Bla
- TURKEY (Harst): A Con-Bul, F Ank-Bla, A Smy-Arm

To: Turkey and Austria
From: REGGIE

Beware the Russian Bear!

To: France
From: REGGIE

Beware the Italian Stallion!

To: Russia
From: Turkey

Since you seem to equate "new" with "incompetent" concerning my experience

in international diplomacy, and since you need a lesson in believing what I say -- the neutrality of the Black Sea is, to my mind, a necessary adjunct to a Russo-Turkish pact, and I cannot tolerate a shotgun pointed at my heart -- I hereby declare a JIHAD against you. It's war to the knife! All I can say is that when the last Turkish unit is eliminated, it will be on the Russian Front!

To: To Whom It May Concern
From: Turkey

Russia said without a blush
(To set up Turkey for the crush).
"Please by my ally,
And Austria we'll fry!"
But the Bear said one word too much!

ORLANDO: Residents of City Beautiful are filing complaints and leaving in droves as a result of record temperatures here. They are getting down into the 70's during the day and even into the 50's at night! Sales of long underwear and Stems stoves about record levels. Weather forecasters do predict a warming trend soon to relieve the suffering of our beleaguered people.

EGGNOG TO ORLANDO: For that kind of thing, people have been shot in Russia! Actually, it's not bad here. No snow on the ground, at least. As for Oraldo, may there be snow as far as the eye can see...

BUCAREST: After the formal signing of the Rumanian Austrian treaty (RAT), Rumanian Premier Iadve Gheorghierii delivered a heated speech against the "imperialists in St. Petersburg." Feeling confident of Austrian promises to support his country, Gheorghierii vowed to counterattack mercilessly if "even one quadloo our soil is violated." It is reported that in order to bolster their weak defenses, the famed 1st Foyort Division was placed on alert at the Russian-Rumanian border.

THE ADMIRALTY (LIES); King Richard (XIII), the late Queen Vick.
(Cont'd Page 12)

1979IL Propaganda Cont'dV

ie's successor, today announced the full mobilization of the mightiest navy in the world. First goal of the new war will be to impress those Norwegians with (and into) its irresistible force. Rule Britannian, Britannia rules the waves...

LONDON TO 1979CU:
At Limericks I'm no buff,
My rhythms always seem to muff.
Though I try and try,
I always cry,
"How do you do this stuff?"

Konrad here. Excellent turnout for the first season, guys! Keep it up! This will be an interesting game to say the least. For now, Fall 1901 orders are due January 10, 1980. Hvas a happy stabbing interlude! And keep the press (propaganda) coming...

1977KG -- Fall 1907

- AUSTRIA(Lariton): F Gre H, A Sev-Mos, A Ukr-War, A Gal S A Ukr-Warm A Boh-Sil, A Tyl-Mun, A Rum-Ukr, A Vie-Boh
- ENGLAND(Hollingsworth): F Nat-Mid, F Nwg H, F Iri S F Nat-Mid
- GERMANY(Verheiden): F Bre S F Mid, F Mid H, A Bur-Mar, A Gas S A Bur-Mar, ARuh S A Mun, A Mun & A Bar S A Sil, APru & A Sil S
- RUSSIAN A War, F Nwy H
- ITALY(Schilling): A Pie S F Mar, A Spa S F Mar, A Ven S AUSTRIAN A Tyl/nso/, F Aeg & F Ion H, F Mar S A Spa, F Tun-Naf, F Hyn-Lyo, F Wes-Mid, F Por S F Wes-Mid
- RUDSIA(Cooper): A StP S A Mos, A Mos S A War, A War S GERMAN A Sil

COA's: Phil Cooper, 19 Dahlgren Bascem Brooklyn, N.Y. 11228. Mike Lariton, 8 Buckingham St, #3, Rochester, N.Y. 14607 (617-271-6031). Doug Hollingsworth, 4402 Sheridan St, University Park, Maryland 20782 from 12/14 to 1/4, then back to Bangor. Eric Verheiden, 3245 SW 185th Ave, Aloha, OR 97005 for the holidays. Only four out of five? Can't we do any better?!

Both draws have failed, and both have also been repropozed for voting. I will keep all votes the way they are. You need only vote if you wish to change your previous votes. Simple nuff.

S.C. Chart for 1907: AUS: Home, Gre, Ser, Rum, Bul, Sev: 8, Even. ENG: Home, 3, Even. GER: Home, Den, Hol, Bel, Par, Swe, Bre, Nwy: 10, Even. ITA: Home, Tun, Spa, Por, Mar, Con, Ank, Smy: 10, Even. RUS: War, StP, Nbs: 3, Even.

BERLIN: England is necessary to my stalemate line and if he is in, Russia might as well be too. I suggest the competition accept the draw as presently constutited.

THE SPEDNTHRIFT: Please reiterate the rules on stalemated games.

EGGNOG TO EUROPE (cf Houser's 28c): Stalemated: If there has been no significant S.C. change in three game years, then the GM has the right to declare a draw with all survivors sharing in that draw. The exception to this is if one of the players submits to the GM a game strategy which may be reasonably expected to break the deadlock.

Does anyone have such a strategy? If not, and the position is essentially unchanged by the Fall 1909, then a draw comes about with all 5 players sharing in that draw. Bewarned, and vote this next tiem (should you wish to change your vote). As you see, the 1907 chart has not changed one whit from the chart of 1906. And the word "significant" in the HR means "from one alliance to the other," in a case like this.

Just in case you guys are wondering, Spring 1908 moves will be due on January 10, 1980. PPhone deadline is the 9th, of course. This game and the one preceding seem to have taken up plenty of space, haven't they? Especially when someone like me babbles.

PLAYERS TAKE NOTE:

Many of your co-players will be going home for the holidays, and so there will be many changes of address listed (COA). Keep the old ones, because in most cases, the people will return to them.

1978/9 -- Fall 1908

AUSTRIA (Hyatt): A Mos-Lvn, A Ukr-Mos, A Mar S A Mos-Lvn, A Sil S A Mun-Ber, A Gal-Bon, A Mun-Ber/a/ A Tyl S A Ven-Pie, A Ven-Pie, A Tus-Rom, F Nap & A Apu S A Tus-Rom A Ank H, F Bul(sc)-Gre, F Aeg-Ion

ENGLAND (Zipper): A StP-Mos, F Nwg-Nwy, F Bal S, F Pru-Ber, F Pru-Ber, A Den H, F Mth C the Queen to the front, A Hol-Kie, A Kie-Mun, A Ruh & A Bur S A Kie-Mun, A Pie-Tyl /R Mar, OTB/, F Eng-Mid, F Spa(sc) S F Naf-Mos, F Tun S F Naf-Wes, F Naf-Wes

TURKEY (Lipscomb): F Lyo-Tus, F Rom S E Lyo-Tus/a/, F Tyn-Ion, F Wes-Tyn/R Lyo, OTB/

VIENNA TO LONDON: John, you probably will win this game, but you will have to earn it. I'll not concede.

S. C. Chart for 1908: AUS: Vie, Bud, Tri, Ser, Ven, Gre, Rum, Mar, Ber, Mth, Bul, Sev, Mos, Con, Smy, Ank, Nap, Rom: 17, Bld 4. (three possible.) ENG: Lon, Rdi, Lvp, Bel, Nwy, Hol, Swa, Den, StP, Kie, Bre, Par, For, Mar, Tun, Mun, Spa: 17, Bld 2. TUR: ~~ANK, Mth, Rom, Sev~~ 0, out!

Thus Turkey makes one of the biggest disappearing acts I've ever witnessed, losing 9 centers in two years! Thanks go to John Lipscomb for filling in for David Joy, who dropped out without the courtesy of advance notice to the GM. Amd, despite the Austrian press, someone (guess who?) has asked for a concession vote to England. Votes as I see them are 1 yes and 1 no, but if Fred should change his mind, then the game ends this coming move.

So, when I think about it, one full month is far too much to just have two people send in a set of orders when they probably won't communicate about the game. Sooo, I have set the Winter 1908/Spring 1909 deadline at December 27, 1979, two weeks away. This gives plenty of time to get in those moves, while not dragging the game. The Fall 1909 orders will presumably be due January 10, 1980. OK with both of you? (A STRANGE BREW issue, #23 probably, will come out on the 27th, just to round out the year in real style and class.

1979 IJ (EGGNOG #9) -- Winter 1901

(Note the new Boardman Number -- please use this designator in all correspondence on this game, especially with the Gamesmaster!)

ESUTRIA (Buechs): Bld F Tri, A Bud.

Also has A Vie, F Are, A Ser

ENGLAND (Gemignani): No builds.

Has A Yor, F Ng, F Nth

FRANCE (Collins): Bld F Bre, A Par.

Also has A Pic, A Spa, F Por

GERMANY (Sulsberger): Bld A Ber.

Also has A Ruh, A Hol, F Den

ITALY (Kador): Bld A Rom, F Nap.

Also has A Mun, A Ven, F Tun

RUSSIA (Lee): Bld R StP(nc), A Mos,

A Sev. Also has A Bul, F Bla,

A Rum, F Sve

TURKEY (Boudon): No builds. Has

A Con, A Smy, F Ank

(Spring 1902 orders on file for Italy and England. Propaganda!)

CONSTANTINOPLE: A group of enraged students seized the American Embassy today, holding forty-nine people hostage. They demanded the return of their ex-Sultan, Larry Boudon, who was last seen in Rochester, New York. The Sultan-in-exile reportedly sold Turkey to the Russians in Spring 1901. According to the spokesman of the State Department, "the US has no intension (sic) of sending Boudon back, and has immense confidence in our Russian allies, who are expected to take over Constantinople in a matter of months."

RUMANIA TO BULGARIA: "for the unity of the Balkans and the liberation of the Serbian people," the autonomous governments of Rumania and Bulgaria have declared war on Austria-Hungary, the oppressor of Serbians and Greeks. Although the decisions were made by the two local governments, Russia is expected to contribute to this attack on Austria.

LONDON: We builds armeer on Yorkshir and threes fleet in Norway-gian See.

VIENNA (1 Nov 1901): The sanitation department, today, issued a report to the minister of Foreign Affairs regarding the ter-

1979IJ Propaganda Cont'd:

rible mess left in Tyrolia by the visiting Pope and his party. Pizza crumbs, lasagne and other garbage were found to be thrown all over the countryside. It was further reported that rats from Germany were infesting the area.

Government official will be issuing a formal protest to Italy and demand that Italy immediately return with clean up crews to "remove this garbage or pay for the cost to clean it up." No immediate Italian response was made.

ATHENS (6 Nov 1901): Final arguments were made by the prosecution in the murder trial of the two surviving Serbian terrorists who were captured at late weeks attack at the European Chess Tournament. It is expected that both terrorists will be found guilty and executed by tomorrow morning.

EGGNOG: As in the immortal words of Judge Roy Bean, "A fair trial and a deserved hanging."

VIENNA (3 Dec 1901): The Prime Minister, today, formally accused the Russians of "running our affairs". "They have been demanding and telling us what to do and what not to do for the last time. Just because we have lent them some aid in the past, they feel that they can run our country and dictate our policies." The Minister went on to say that "we will not succumb to their demands and if they persist, we will be forced to take any necessary action as may be required."

BUDAPEST (21 Dec 1901): Reports, today, indicate that Russian troops in Rumansi have crossed the Hungarian border and attacked a local militia unit on tactical maneuvers. It is reported that the unarmed militia men suffered very heavy casualties. Reports also indicate that Hungarian Army forces have been mobilized. Officials declined to comment on the situation.

Konrad here ("member me?"). Spring 1902 due here January 10, 1980, if not earlier (please be earlier...).

1979IK (EGGNOG #10) -- Fall 1901

(Note the new Boardman Number, 1979 IK. Please use this number in all correspondence related to this game, especially with your Gamesmater.)

AUSTRIA (Bassett): A Gal-war, A Ser S F Alb-Grd, F Alb-Gre
 ENGLAND (Luckenbill): F Eng-Bel, A Edi-Nwy, F Nth C A Edi-Nwy
 FRANCE (Pariseau): A Pic-Bel, F Gas-Bre, A Mar-Bur
 GERMANY (Paltor): F Hol S ENGLISH F Eng-Bel, A Kie-Den, A Mun-Ruh
 ITALY (Cifani): F Ion-Tun, A Pie-Mar, A Ven-Pie
 RUSSIA (Russon): F Sev-Rum, A Mos-Sev, A War-Ukr, F StP(sc)-Bot
 TURKEY (Brawner): A Arm-Rum, F Bla C & A Bul S A Arm-Rum

MUNCH: Extra, extra Bavarian army routed in France-Dutch join the Reich.

POTSDAM TO LONDON: On to Paris.

POTSDAM TO ROMA: On to Marseilles.

POTSDAM TO PARIS: F Bre-Gas?

LONDON: In an act of unprecedented self-sacrifice, and out of respect for the people of France, His Majesty has dispatched his personal fleet to guard the waters about France, thus protecting that fine nation from her enemies!

EGGNOG: If a fleet in the Channel is a protective force from a friend, what would you deem an enemy force? Just wondering... maybe we'll play together sometime...!

PAS DE CALAIS (June 6, 1901): It's obvious from whom "C. Luckenbill" learned to play Diplomacy! Luckenbill blood obviously has too much iron in it...

EGGNOG: No comment.

S.C. Gjart for 1901: AUS: Vie, Bud, Tri, Ser, Gre, Wep: 6, Eld 3!
 ENG: Lon, Edin Lvp, Bel, Nwy: 5, Eld 2.
 FRA: Par, Bre, Mar: 2, Rem 2.
 GER: Ber, Mun, Kie, Hol, Den: 5, Eld 2.
 ITA: Rom, Ven, Nap, Mar, Tun: 5, Eld 2.
 RUS: Sev, Mos, StP, Mar: 3, Rem 1.
 TUR: Con, Smy, Ank, Bul, Rum: 5, Eld 2.

It isn't often that you see a country have to make a removal or lose a home center in 1901. Here we have two countries, and (Cont'd Page 15)

1979IK Comments Got'd:

I'm looking forward to what 1902 will bring! An elimination or two, maybe? This looks to be one of the more exciting and bloodthirsty games that I'm currently running... In any case, blood or no blood, the deadline for Winter 1901 builds (and removals!!!) will be January 10, 1980, and the phone deadline, as always, will be one day earlier, in this case meaning January 9, 1980. (I get a kick out of typing "1980!")

Lately, but not least, I want to thank Gerard Van Alkemade for going through writing out standby set of orders for Russia. Nick came through (notice that he only missed on set of moves, so he's still in the game), for which he, too, is thanked. And Jack, guess who called two minutes after you did...? Winter 1901 on file for Italy, but conditions not met ("if I build..."). Nuff said.

1979CU -- Fall 1902

THE POETRY CORNER!)

AUSTRIA(White): A Bud R Vie. A Vie-Bud, A Gal & A Tri (R Alb, OTE) S A Vie-Bud, A Ser S TURKISH A Bul-Rum/nsc/, F Gre H/R Alb, OTE/

ENGLAND(Counselman): A Lon H, F Bar-Nwy, F Nwg & F Nth S F Bar-Nwy

FRANCE(Hollingsworth): A Pic-Bel, F Eng S A Pic-Bel, A Bur-Ruh, A Gas-Bur, F Por-Spa(sc)

GERMANY(Cooper): A Den H, A Ruh-Mun, A Ber S A Ruh-Mun, F Bel H/R Hol, OTE/

ITALY(Pfohl): A Sil-War (I), A Ven-Tri, A Tyl S A Ven-Tri, F Apy-Adr, F Ion S TURKISH F Aeg-Gre

RUSSIA(Harding): F Bla S A Rum, A Rum S A Bud, A Bud S ITALIAN A Ven-Tri, A StP & F Swe S F Nwy, F Nwy S A StP

TURKEY(Van Alkemade): F Aeg-Gre, A Bul-Ser, A Con-Ank, F Smy-Cpn

Changes of address: Doug Hollingsworth: 4402 Sheridan Street, University Park, Maryland 20782 from Dec. 14 to Jan 4, then back to Bangor, Maine. Phil Cooper, 19 Dahlgren Place, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11228, and that's it today.

S.C. Chart for 1902: AUS: ~~Mad~~, Vie, ~~XX~~, Ser, ~~Exp~~: 2, Rem 3 (but one will have to be annihilated* because only one unit can retreat to Albania). ENG: Lon, Lvp, Edi, ~~Nwy~~: 3, Rem 1. FRA: Par, Mar, Ere, Spa, Bel, Por: 6, Eld 1. GER: Hol, Den, Kie, Ber, Mun: 5, Eld 1. ITA: Rom, Ven, Nap, ~~Mad~~, Tri, War: 6, Eld 1. RUS: StP, Mos, Sev, ~~War~~, Swe, Nwy, Bud, Rum: 7, Eld 1. TUR: Con, Ank, Smy, Bul, Grs: 5, Build 1.

(This game is incredible: I've never seen an Italian reach so far in so little time. I'd like to see him pull out of the pinch he'll soon be in, however. But first the propaganda for this turn, which is just as massive as usual.)

GERMANY TO RUSSIA: Agreed.

CONSTANTINOPLE(TYPS): As no reply has been received from the ailing Austrian monarch to the generous Turkish initiative of last Season, Sultan "Dutchie" van Alkemade ordered a limited naval operation in Greek waters, in order to liberate this suffering nation from Austrian and Hungarian oppression. The secondary object of the operation is, of course, to wipe out, once and for all, the dastardly Greek perversions and to establish Islamic decency and morality in this particular den of iniquity. The Sultan, now revered throughout the Muslim world as AYATOLLAH, once again declared Turkey's unswerving commitment to (Kur'anic) law and order, taffy and motherhood (lots of it), and pledged Turkish unstinting support for and fullest cooperation with every other nation committed to these high ideals.

SPECIAL FROM TURKEY TO ALL OF CHRISTIAN EUROPE: Enjoy a Merry Christmas, and then wallow in an unsuccessful New Year!

EGGNOG: Thanks for the call the other night, Gerry!

THE SPENDTHRIFT: Someone over in the East, Gerry perhaps, is obviously a master of deception.

(Continued Page 16)

1979CU Propaganda Cont'd:

AUSTRIA TO EGGNOG.

In EGGNOG there appers this game
Nineteen seventy nine CU is its name.
Through incredible strike
And possibly a knife
My press will live on just the same!

AUSTRIA TO RUSSIA:

In Russia there is this dude.
Last season get an army to Sud.
But now that he's there--
Can't go anywhere!
Yep, it would seem that poor
army is screwed!

AUSTRIA TO ITALY:

There was once a fellow in It.
Got Austria riled up just a bit.
"Thou shalt not steal,
Cuz we had a deal!"
Let's not see any more of that shit!

AUSTRIA TO TURLEY:

This fellow in Racine's a great guy.
Just what you want in an ally.
With incredible guile,
And a shit-eating smile,
That's just what he'll give you:

A LIE!

Konrad here again. This game is be-
ginning to take shape, though I don't
know what shape it's taking! But un-
less I'm wrong, I've already spotted
the power that will make it to the
end and maybe take the tape...but I
refuse to tell who 'tis. Oh, Garry,
before I forget: There is a 99%
chance that I'll be going to the Dip
Con in Michigan next year, driving
through. You going? Maybe we could
work something out. If not, then I
will locate someone in Chicago that
would like to go, but if you're in-
terested (we got some time yet) let
me know. OK, I'll say it then! On-
ly Winter 1982 builds/removals are
due here January 10, 1980, and a day
earlier if by phone. Mail early ov-
er the holidays if you want the or-
ders to come in at all...

And it looks as though we're at the
bottom of this page. However, first
I have to fill said page up with this
senseless babble. Hey, where is that
bottom? Have I misjudged? No...

IDIOTIC OF ME, CUZ I HAVE
STUFF TO PUT IN HERE -
BUT I JUST NOTICED THIS
BLANK SPACE!! SO SORRY!

Last Letter, which I sort of just happened to find:

From Jack Brawner: I like all forms of music very much. But twenty years from now, I'll still be enjoying listening to the many forms of jazz, while rock will be classified as a passing thing, with very few songs surviving.

Even now, jazz is experiencing a resurgence. The other night I was in a bar watching the playboy special, and, looking at the jukebox, I saw Glenn Miller's "In The Mood" listed right there with the disco and rock tunes. I also found Marigone and Benson tunes were available.

✓ Thanks for writing, Jack. I do agree with you that rock will not be as strong as jazz will in the future. However, from rock will come several offsprings, none of which so far have been worthwhile. Things like punk rock and disco have sprung up and slowly died down (thank Ghod). But more is yet to come, methinks. We'll see, of course. Thanks again, and keep up the good work with your zine! ✓

I may have mentioned in this issue, elsewhere, that I've read Ian Fleming's James Bond books (several times), and also that I've browsed through Kingsley Amis' James Bond Dossier and Henry Zeiger's The Spy Who Came In With The Gold (a biography of Fleming). I thought, since others had expressed interest in the Bond books, that I'd just bring up some notes which I thought of when reading these things. For those who haven't read the books on Bond, you can either do so or ignore this section (or both, or read it in utter confusion, if you wish).

Casino Royale: Fleming's first book is weak. Something that totally destroys the suspense is the killing of Le Chiffre before the story has come to an end. So Fleming and the reader are faced with a totally new situation from that assumed at the be-

ginning. One of Fleming's main faults, if that it the word, in all of his writing, is that he tends to pick away at details which have absolutely no importance to the plot at hand. Thus, the gambling scenes in many of his books, and incidental deaths and women occasionally, tend to be superfluous. In the case of Casino Royale the gambling is quite necessary, and well done. However, methinks that his helpers, Mathis and Leiter, are totaly unnecessary to the continuation of the story line, and could have been left out. In fact, sometimes the unnecessary destroys good moods and feelings which Fleming has worked hard to create. Amis cites Chapter 8, where Bond teaches Vesper Lynd how to drink champagne and eat good food, which is all fine and dandy; indeed, taste in Fleming's world of Bond is very important. But by throwing in Chapter 8, Fleming destroys all of the suspense which has been built up with the Bulgars' bombing raid.

Live And Let Die, Fleming's second book, is much better. In this book, Mr. Big manages to stick around until the end, and the final clash is worth the wait. Between the beginning and the end, as with most books of his, Fleming has nothing but incidental meetings, accidentally happening where they make no difference one way or the other. None of the incidents really connect, but are nevertheless interesting, if only to see Fleming build up the character of the various men (which is the only thing the middle parts seem to be used for). In better words, the books are not logically put together, but this can be forgiven.

Lik I say, a weak point is logic. Why, for instance, does Bond go to New York, when all leads point to the Caribbean and Florida? Naturally, as Zeiger says, the point is to have a scene in Harlem; but this is way too obvious. After the New York episode, where Bond discovers that Mr. Big is out to get him, he takes the train? Why not fly? He only takes a risk...which is the only reason Fleming uses the train.

Bond Comments Cont'd:

The logic is nonexistent for Bond, but it does give us an exciting train scene, and that is its only point. It boils down to Bond may as well having been told everything by M and then going to the island to exterminate Mr. Big. But, on its face, a good book.

Moonraker was recently made into a movie. The movie and the book are not alike besides the names used.

So keep that in mind when seeing it. Moonraker is one of the best Bond books written. None of the problems listed in the first two books are here, for the most part, and the plot is a good one. Bond is constantly trying to figure out what is wrong with the Moonraker project, and the incidents on the way arouse suspicion, and are exciting. The bridge game at the start of the book is unnecessary to the plot, but adds to the kind of image Fleming would like us to have of Drax; cheating at cards is unattractive, dirty, and the direct opposite of the British way of life, which Bond is supposed to defend. (In fact, Bond books give us more of a British life vs. all other, less perfect, ways of life than they do a spy story.)

Diamonds are Forever is in the style of the second book, i. e. incident-prone. Bond finds few things out in the beginning besides that he will have to kill the Spang brothers, and then sets off for round-the-world action which turns up nothing at all, except for a few corpses of various hoods that got in his way. As a detective, Bond amounts to very little, but as an enforcer of law, he ends up doing the job. He finds out what he does by blundering into the arms of the hoods, as Zeiger says, and then being informed that this is the end of the smuggling line, etc. Again, there is nothing wrong with the incidental happenings, and we often wonder how they will turn out; but none of them actually mean anything to the plot.

From Russia, With Love is direct and to the point, especially for Fleming.

SMERSH sets out to kill Bond, and sends its best operatives to do so. There is a nice touch of relaxation in the interlude before Bond meets Red Grant, but after he knocks off the Russian agents. This happens again when Grant dies and before Bond is to face Rosa Klebb. This is a good one, with few loose ends (though what Amis may think of the Istanbul scene may have its points...).

Dr. No isn't bad, either. It begins, uniquely, with Bond thinking that he is on just another dull assignment. Bond only finds out slowly exactly what the good doctor is up to in Crab Key. After that, everything is direct, and most of the book does relate to the main plot, which gets deadlier and deadlier all the time.

Goldfinger is back to the mod of Diamonds Are Forever, with the incidents comprising the majority of the book. The reader isn't even sure of the plot until late in the book, when Goldfinger describes the Fort Knox robbery.

The gold and card games are very well done (Fleming was at his best describing gambling scenes), but do not relate to the plot one whit (besides showing, like he did in Moonraker, that Goldfinger is a cheat). The story about how Goldfinger, supposedly one of SMERSH's big men, doesn't know anything about Bond's Universal Export cover, on which SMERSH already has a file in From Russia, With Love, is also quite unbelievable (says Zeiger). With all of the episodic plotting, the weak suspense, and Goldfinger's horrible errors in judgement (why kidnap Bond after the robbery?), this book shows Fleming at his weakest. He was to do much better next time.

Thunderball is the first of the SPECTRE novels, and it begins in what is by now typical Fleming; that is, a chance encounter with the villain. In this case, it means nothing, as Bond would have done exactly as he did do if he had never

Bond Comments Cont'd:

MET him before. (This guy is killed very early in the book anyway, so the combat is hardly made more personal for Bond, which may have been Fleming's motive.) Also, there are some incongruities involving the wierd coincidence that SPECTRE has no idea who Vitali and Petechi are, and concerning the legal rights that Emilio Largo is supposed to have. Assumedly, legal rights would not make much of a difference when it comes to stolen atomic bombs. Nevertheless, the ending is good and Bond seems to get most everything together at the right time.

The Spy Who Loved Me has a good, direct plot, once you learn what the hell it is. Most of the book is taken up with Vivienne's problems, and not with the business at hand. Amis writes it off by explaining that it can't really be called a Secret Service story, and I am inclined to agree with that.

On Her Majesty's Secret Service brings us back to Blofeld and SPECTRE which is quite a welcome change after the Spy Who Loved Me. The work with Drax is exciting, and the Union Corse as an ally is certainly a switch from Goldfinger, where the Marines come to the rescue in the nick of time. However, it is noteworthy that Bond has once again failed in his original task, that of luring Blofeld out of the Alps. In a tightly written book, we would not be led on false scents like we are here.

You Only Live Twice is a good book, in my opinion (if nobody else's). My only complaint is that, while Bond plots are perforce impossible, they are at least imaginable and conceivably feasible (were it not for reason). Here, Blofeld's plot to increase the suicide rate is simply ridiculous. (Looking back I see that Zeiger has said similar.)

The Man With The Golden Gun is the last book, and was a very weak one. Bond and the girl don't get together romantically or sexually; Saaramanga

doesn't live (literally) up to his reputation; and Amis notes that many of the gimmicks are re-worked from older books: the train from Diamonds and the hoods' convention from Goldfinger. It is said that Fleming was having trouble with this one, which the book bears out. The plot is weak, and the logic just as bad. Why couldn't Bond and Saaramanga kill each other anywhere along the path? Bond is sent to Jamaica to do just that, but never gets around to it. Additionally, Saaramanga had plenty of opportunities himself. Of course, the train scene is well written, but, in a tightly written book, would never have taken place.

Overall, then, the typical Fleming book has a beginning and an end to it, but the books are not continuous. In well written novels, once X happens, Y must happen, which must eventually lead to Z. This is not the case in Fleming books. What makes up for it? The characters, of course. Fleming can bring out the full style of Bond and the British, while being able to also show all that is supposed to be evil. You will notice that none of the criminals in the books are British. Goldfinger turns out to be a displaced Balt, Red Grant comes from Ireland, and has a German father, and Sir Hugo Drax is actually a German Count. Also, it is important to see these books as ethical and moral pieces. Bond wins because he is morally and ethically higher, not because he can shoot straighter.

As for the criminals, Bernard Bergonzi has a point, when he says that "When SMERSH are succeeding... I have a strong suspicion that Fleming, on an imaginative plane, at least, admires them for it; for they succeed because they are really tough, more powerful than anyone else, more ready to get in and shoot first, more brilliantly ingenious in their methods. And, of course, quite unhampered by outworn ethical considerations."

(Cont'd Page 20)

Bond Comments Cont'd:

That should wrap it up. I had originally intended just to do some brief stuff for a page and a half, or so, but I guess that I got carried away. Once I was over 14 pages, I may as well fill it out to a full 20, right? If anyone has anything to say on the Bond books, then by all means they are encouraged to write in about it. If the response is heavy enough I'll even write out something that I was afraid to get into at length here, the psychology of the villains and criminals in the books. But I doubt that there were all that many people that actually read the whole thing from start to finish... (Also, I hope you will pardon what may have turned into some not-so-hot writing on my part; it was written ad lib, in the hope that it wouldn't be so long, but I guess I have failed in that...)

KONRAD HAS BEEN DOING RESEARCH

Somebody wrote in months ago about Quicksilver Messenger Service, to which I had to reply that I knew nothing. By now I've forgotten who wrote about them, but now I can say that I've picked up a few albums, and have found that they were quite a good band. Much of their stuff has to be allowed to "grow" on you, however. I'll say more next time.

EGGNOG #38-39
Konrad Baumelster
11416 Parkview Ln
Hales Corners, WI 53130

Guess what Konrad wanted
Pages 17-19 and a bit of
20 on? See Page 17 (of
course -- which other)!!

Jan Luckenbill please
standby for 1979Q (P.7)?

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Little Joe says hi
(but little more)!

Also, George Thorogood has been mentioned, and I can now heartily recommend his stuff, too. Seems he likes to play older rock, and this is a big plus in my book. I don't have the time nor the inclination to go on about either Quicksilver or Thorogood, but I may say something next issue, which I promise to keep very short and to the point! Right?

MORE ON THAT GERMAN SPEAKING GAME

Seems I can't scroung up the last two people needed for this game. Tell you what: If I put the players from this game into the last open regular game, then I can fill it and get it on the road. I will do this next month, unless anybody from this German-lingo game had any objections. I hate to have to admit defeat (notice that I'm not doing it, but merely implying it?), but what can I say? Hope all of you will get back to me. If I do not hear from you, then I will assume that it is OK with you to combine the waiting lists for both games next issue.

LAST WORDS OF THIS ISSUE

In keeping with the holiday season, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all of my readers a Merry Christmas, a prosperous New Year, and everything that goes along with that. Best of luck in the future!

FIRST CLASS MAIL