FEUILLETONIST'S FORUM

October 31, 1987

"If you got all the lawyers in the world in one room, some fool would leave the door unlocked." Stanton Murray 1932

So how did you all like the Chinese version of FF? I don't know what happened. I was in a hurry, so I ran into the Kinko's, handed the masters to the oriental clerk and asked for book form, digest . . . OK, so I do know what happened. In any case, I didn't have to pay for it, so you all don't have to pay for it either. Your subs have all been extended one month.

Just in case you didn't know, on each envelope is the month that your sub expires and subs are now memberships, and memberships are \$5 per year.

Everything in Austin is going OK. I made it into the octafinals of the Benton National Moot Court competition (I guess I have this thing for Octos) and lost to South Texas College of Law. No more competitions until the Spring. Now I only have to worry about three finals and two papers in the next six weeks. Which brings me to the holiday schedule. I can either delay this deadline until after finals, or set this deadline during finals and delay the next one until after the holidays. Since there is definitely going to be a delay, I might as well make it one that benefits me. So all game deadlines will be set for December 18, 1987 with the exception that winter deadlines will be separated and due on November 27, 1987. This way I will get my studying done, the players will keep their games moving, and the readers won't have to pay for another warehouse issue in November. Deadlines should run every five weeks thereafter.

This issue has the letter column with some old and new topics, a new game start, two game finishes (yay!), and some stock broker jokes scattered throughout courtesy of Jake Halverstadt (who has yet to endorse a presidential candidate!). Have a happy Thanksgiving and send me a lot of stuff for Issue #40 because I'll have time to type it up!

What's the difference between the stock market and the Titanic?

The Titanic had a band.

FEUILLETONIST'S FORUM is an amateur monthly zine dedicated to the play and discussion of Diplomacy! (invented by Allan Calhamer and Copyrighted by The Avalon Hill Game Company), and Presidential Politics (invented and copyrighted by Jake Halverstadt). Publisher/Editor: Greg Ellis, 700 Rio Grande, Austin TX 78701-2720. Phone 4: (512) 463--0802 Readers are encouraged to participate in the letter column, which is primarily for the discussion of politics or PBM issues. Ads cannot be purchased, but worthy causes can get a free plug. \$5 gets you a one year membership, about 10 issues.

Standby list: Frueh, Townsend, Pierce, Gaughan, Diehl, Felella, and Holley.

SAM DONALDSON 1986Wrb32

E/G/I/T DRAW PASSES!

	SUP	PLY	CENTER	CHA	RT				
Year:		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
AUSTRIA	Melinda Holley	5	4	2	2	3	2	2	2
ENGLAND	Pete Gaughan	4	4	4	4	4	6	6	6
FRANCE	Mark Frueh	4	5	4	3	2	2	1	1
GERMANY	Nick Felella	5	6	7	8	9	7	7	7
ITALY	Hugh Christie	4	6	7	6	6	6	5	6
RUSSIA	Stephen Wilcox	5	4	4	4	5	4	5	5
TURKEY	Jim Diehl	4	5	6	7	5	7	8	7

SPOCK (1985Q)

FALL 1910

ITALY WINS!

England	A Kie-LVN (F BAL C, F BOT S), A Hol-KIE, F Nth-NWY, F ENG S Fre F Mid, F SWE U, A NWY-Stp (F BAR S)
France	F MID H, A SPA H (F POR S), A RUH S Eng A Hol-Kie, A Bur-MAR (A GAS S)
Italy	A Ukr-MOS, A BUD H, A Tyo-VIE, A MUN MS A BER, F Rum-SEV, F WES-Spa, F NAF-Mid, F TUN-Naf, F TYH-Wes, A
Russia	PIE-Mar (A PIE S) Retreat F Bot-LVN, A SIL, A BOH S Ita A Mun, A PRU S Ita A Ber, F Lvn-Bot (ANN), A STP-Nwy (A FIN S)

SUPPLY CENTER CHART

	Home, Hol, Den, Nwy, Kie, Swe, ber	
FRANCE	Par, Bre, Por, Spa, Bel, Mar	6 Sur
	Home, Tun, Ser, Gre, Ank, Smy, Tri, Con, Bul,	
	Rum, Mun, BUD, VIE, SEV, MOS, BER	18 WIN
RUSSIA	War, Stp, sev, mos, vie, bud	2 Sur

Austria	Howard Christie, drop W'05; David Anderson, Out F'08
England	Jim Petersen, Res. F'05; Scott Cameron, Drop S'06;
	Scott Drane, Drop W'05; Thomasine Bowen, Survive F'10
France	John Mckeown, Res. F'02; Doug King, Drop S'05; Stephen
	Wilcox, Survive F'10
Germany	Bob Sweeney, drop F'04; CD Out F'05
Italy	Phil Cooper, Res. F'02; Steven McKinnon, Drop S'06;
	Ernest Hakey, III, WIN F'10
Russia	Troy Bollinger, Drop F'04; Melinda Holley, Survive F'10
Turkey	J.R. Baker, Out F'05

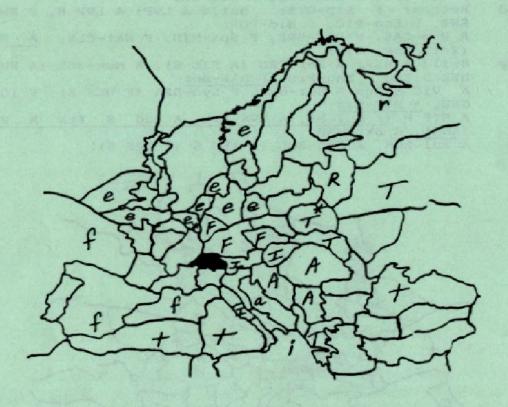
SUPPLY CENTER CHART										
Year:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
AUSTRIA	4	4	6	7	7	3	1	0		
ENGLAND	4	4	4	5	4	6	7	8	9	8
FRANCE	5	6	7	5	6	6	6	6	6	6
GERMANY	5	5	3	2	0					
ITALY	4	5	5	7	7	9	10	12	13	18
RUSSIA	5	6	6	7	10*	10	10	8	6	2
TURKEY	4	4	3	1	0					

End game statements for both games are due December 18, 1987. Congratulations to Ernest³!

DAVID BRINKLEY 1986ASrb32

FALL 1905

AUSTRIA Re	treat A Vie-BUD; A BUD-Vie, F ADR-Ven (A TRI S (A SER
S)	
	Nth-BEL (F ENG, F HOL S (F HEL, F KIE S (F BER S))), F
	I-Mid, F NWY-Stp(nc)
	LYO H (F SPA(sc) S), F MID U, A Bel (Ret. BUR, PIC,
	B) MS A RUH (A MUN S (A BOH S))
	Ven-ROM, A TYO-Ven, F ION-Nap, A VIE-Tri
RUSSIA Re	treat A Mos-LVN; F STP(nc) H, A Was S Fre A Boh-Gal
(N	SO; Ret. PRU, SIL, OTB) (A LVN S)
TURKEY F	BLA H, A Bul-GRE, A Ukr-WAR (A MOS, A GAL S), F
	S-Tun, F TYH-Nap
	SUPPLY CENTER CHART
AUCTOTA Bud	, Ser, TRI, vie, gre 3 -1
BUCK AND HER	, ser, iti, vie, gie
ENGLAND Hom	e, Den, Swe, Nwy, Kie, Ber, HOL, BEL 10 +2
FRANCE Hom	e, Spa, Por, Mun, hol, bel 6 -2
	e, VIE, tri 4
	, war, mos 1 -1
TURKEY Hom	e, Bul, Rum, Sev, Tun, GRE, MOS, WAR 10 +3



DEADLINE FOR WINTER 1905 IS NOVEMBER 18, 1987 DEADLINE FOR SPRING 1906 IS DECEMBER 27, 1987

VOTES: E/F lost 1/3/2; E/F/T lost 1/3/2 (Yes/No/NVR)

Proposals: A/T, E/T, I/F, A/E/T, A/F/T, E/F/T Please vote on these by the next deadline.

JAMES RESTON (1987D)

Austria	Jim Diehl 10530 West Riverview Dr., Eden Prairie MN 55344
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France	David Anderson P.O. Box 3761, Pontiac MI 48059
Germany	David Hood 604 Tinkerbell Road, Chapel Hill NC 27514
Italy	Vince Lutterbie #21 Paulina, Hannibal MO 63401
Russia	Michael Hopcroft 2190 W. Burnside #108, Portland OR 97210
Turkey	Warren K. Ball 107 West Cuthbert Road, Oaklyn NJ 08107-1016

SUPPLY CENTER CHART

AUSTRIA	Tri,	Ser,	RUM,	bud		3	
ENGLAND	Home,	Nwy .	Swe			5	
FRANCE	Home,	Por,	Spa	, bel		5	-1
GERMANY	Home,	Hol,	Den	BEL		6	+1
ITALY						-	
RUSSIA	Home,	BUD,	rum			5	
TURKEY	Home,	Bul				4	
			LITAIR	PPD 1	OO2 AND CODING 1004		

WHERE'S THE FRONT? WHERE'S THE FRONT?

Austria	A Ser-BUD, A Rum-GAL, F Alb-TRI
England	Retreat F Stp-OTB; build A LVP; A LVP H, F NWY MS A
	SWE, F Eng-PIC, F Mid-POR
France	A Bre-GAS, F Pic-BRE, F Spa-MID, F Nat-CLY, A Bur-Mar
	(Ret. PAR, OTB)
Germany	Build A BER; A Ber-PRU (A SIL S), A Mun-BUR (A RUH S) A
	BEL S Eng F Eng-Pic, F BAL-Bot
Italy	A VIE S Aus A Ser-Bud, F Lyo-SPA (F WES S), F ION MS F
	GRE, A PIE-Mar
Russia	A STP H (F BOT S), A LVN-Pru, A Bud S Ita A Vie-Tri
	(ANN), A Ukr-WAR
Turkey	A Bul-RUM, A Con-BUL (F AEG S (F EAS S))



Proposals: DEADLINE FOR FALL 1904 IS DECEMBER 18, 1987
E/G; A/E/G/I

FRA-E/G/I: Consider yourselves off my Xmas card list! (sigh)

WILLIAM RASPBERRY (1986AR)

AUSTRIA
ENGLAND
GERMANY
ITALY
THREEV

Lin Morrisett 5149 Bartlett Place, The Colony TX 75056 Pete Gaughan 3121 E. Park Row \$165, Arlington TX 76010 Evans Givan 8066 Camstock Court, Citrus Hts CA 95610 Derwood Bowen 2140 East State Street, Salem OH 44460 Melinda Holley P.O. Box 2793, Huntington WV 25727

FALL 1905

AUSTRIA DOWN TO ONE, FRONT MOVES SOUTHEAST

AUSTRIA	A VIE S Ger A Boh-Gal (NSO)
ENGLAND	A Gas-MAR (A BUR S), F Mid-SPA(SC) (F POR S), F Wes-NAF, F Eng-MID, F NTH H, A BELH, F NWY H
GERMANY	A TYO S Ita A Tri, A Sil-GAL (A BOH S), F Bot-STP(sc), F Kie-HOL, A LVN-Mos (A WAR S)
ITALY	F ION-ADR, A TRI H (A VEN S), F LYO-Tyh, F TYH-ION (F TUN S)
TURKEY	A Arm-RUM (F BLA C), A Bul-GRE, A SEV-Mos (A UKR S), F

SUPPLY CENTER CHART

AUSTRIA	Vie, tri,			1 -1*
			Por, SPA, MAR, stp	
GERMANY			STP	
ITALY				
TURKEY	Home, Bul,	Sev, Ser, Mos,	Gre, Bud, Rum	10



DEADLINE FOR WINTER 1905 IS NOVEMBER 27, 1987 DEADLINE FOR SPRING 1906 IS DECEMBER 18, 1987

PRESS

AUS-GER: Sorry. I did send orders doing exactly as I promised.

AUS-TUR: Ditto above.

AUS-ITA: I'm glad you appreciate it, if it were not for one errant letter, you would be appreciating it with 2 less dots.

AUS-FRA: Revenge beats hell out of sticking around to the end.

GER-ExFRA: You can never be too sure about Pistol Pete. You can never be too sure about me, either.

GER-ENG: Notice I said "Pistol", not "Blob", kind sir.

GER-TUR: The rumor is true. It greatly reduces your chances.

ITA-TUR: What now, Melinda?

ITA-AUS: Cute NMR. ANd I thought your were going out kicking and screaming.

GME-ITA: You didn't hear him on the phone after he got the results! (Just kidding. Lin isn't the type to scream on the phone. I could hear him without a phone.)

ITA-ExFRA: I offered France a chance to prosper, but it wasn't taken.

GME-ExFRA: Can you spell P-U-P-P-E-T?

Ita-ENG: From last season's press, it seems someone else sees your win there too.

PRESS FROM CHILLY WILLY

RUS-GER: Leave me alone and I'll help against IT!

Old Turk-New Rooskie: Hi, David. Bye, David.

PRESS FROM MOLLY IVINS

MUN-BER: Why are you telling ME that crap. You would be much better off communicating with other players instead of talking to yourself.

The Silesian Sentinel: The commander of the Berlin Garrison upon finding no Russian resistance to his advance into Silesia justified his move by quoting from "Von Kriege" by Von Clausewitz, "Any positive action, even if ultimately incorrect, is better than indecision, and no action at all." And, not wishing to cause confusion among his troops, announced that he would continue forward rather than turning back to Munich.

GAME START ANNOUNCEMENT!!!!!!!!

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DEADLINE FOR SPRING 1901 IS DECEMBER 18, 1987

CHILLY WILLY (1986CR)

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Germany	John Cannon 2011 West Arthur, Chicago IL 60645
Italy	Jim Diehl 10530 W. Riverview Dr., Eden Prairie MN 55344
Russia	David Hood 604 Tinkerbell Road, Chapel Hill NC 27514
Turkey	Marc Peters 4002 Hanover Street, Madison WI 53704

SUPPLY CENTER CHART

ENGLAND	Lvp, edi	1	-1
FRANCE	Spa, Mar, Por, par	3	-1
GERMANY	Home, Bel, Den, Hol, Bre, Lon, EDI, PAR	10	+2
ITALY	Home, Tun, Tri, Vie, Bud	7	*
RUSSIA	War, Stp, Swe, Nwy, mos	4	-1
TURKEY	Home, Bul, Gre, Ser, Rum, Sev	9	+1

^{*} May build one due to annihilation.

WINTER 1904 and SPRING 1905

England	Retreat F Edi-OTB; F NAT-Lvp
France	Remove Fleet Portugal; A SPA-Mar, A BUR-Ruh, A Mar-Gas
	(ANN)
Germany	Build Army Kiel; A Mun-RUH (A KIE S), F Den-BAL, A
	Bel-HOL, F Nth-BEL, A BER-Mun, A PAR-Bur, F Bre-MID, A
	EDI-Lvp
Italy	Retreat A Mun-RUH; A Tus-MAR (F LYO C, A PIE S), A
	Boh-MUN, A Ruh-Bur (ANN), A PRU-Ber, F GAS-Spa(nc)
Russia	A War-MOS (A STP S), F SWE H
Turkey	Build Army Ankara; A Ank-ARM, A Bul-RUM, F Con-AEG, A
	Mos-LVN, A Gal-UKR, A TYO S Ita A Boh-MUN, F Naf-MID (F
	WES S), A UKR-MOS



DEADLINE FOR FALL 1905 IS DECEMBER 18, 1987

PRESS ON PAGE 6

MOLLY IVINS

Austria Kirby Garrett 12449 North 33rd Place, Pheonix AZ 85032
England Garret Schenck 40 3rd Place, Basement Apartment,
Brooklyn NY 11231-3302
France Lin Morrisett 5149 Bartlett Place, The Colony TX 75056
Germany David Pierce 13521 Pleasant Lane, Burnsville MN 55337
Italy John Cannon 2011 West Arthur, Chicago IL 60645
Russia Jeff Zarse Hinman Box 284, Hanover NH 03755
Turkey Vince Lutterbie #21 Paulina, Hannibal MO 63401

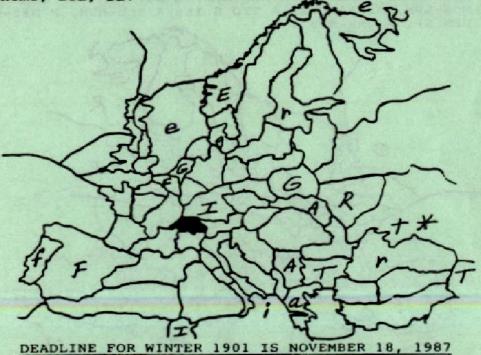
FALL 1901

BET RUSSIA DIDN'T AGREE TO THESE MOVES!

Austria	F Alb-GRE (A SER S), A GAL-Ukr
England	F Nwg-BAR, A Edi-NWY (F NTH S)
France	F Mid-POR, A Mar-SPA, A Bur-BEL
Germany	A Ruh-HOL, A Sil-WAR, F DEN-Swe
Italy	A Tyo-MUN, A Apu-TUN (F ION C)
Russia	F Rum-BLA, F BOT-Swe, A Sev-Rum (Ret. MOS, OTB) (A UKR
	S)
Turkey	F Bla-SEV (A ARM S), A Bul-RUM

SUPPLY CENTER CHART

	Home, GRE, SER	
FRANCE	Home, SPA, POR, BEL	6 +3
	Kie, Ber, HOL, DEN, WAR, mun	
ITALY	Mos, Stp, sev, war	5 +2
	Home. BUL. SEV	



DEADLINE FOR WINTER 1901 IS NOVEMBER 16, 1967 DEADLINE FOR SPRING 1902 IS DECEMBER 27, 1987

PRESS ON PAGE 6

LETTER COLUMN

Melinda Holley (8/23/87)

Regarding the Ollie North Saga, it was my understanding that the sale of arms to Iran's so-called moderates was to influence them to influence the group holding Americans hostage somewhere in the Beirut area. Leaving aside the obvious question of why those people were still in Lebanon after being repeatedly warned they were targets (simply because they were Americans), you have to ask if there are any Iranian moderates in the Iranian government. The answer, logically, is no. The Ayatolla is a fanatic. He commands a fanatical following. Like all good dictators (either left-wing or right-wing), he eliminated all moderates along with other opponents long ago.

Question -- should the U.S. have sold weapons to Iran? It should be evident to everyone the answer is no. Iran is totally opposed to the U.S. Our selling weapons to Iran makes about as much sense as selling weapons to Libya.

sense as selling weapons to Libya.

We would be doing ourselves just as much a favor. With the increased presence in the Persian Gulf, we're likely to find ourselves on the receiving end of U.S. weaponry. Sell weapons to our enemies? Totally unacceptable. They used to hang people for doing that.

Diverting funds to the Contras? As I understand it, there is a law on the books forbidding such an act. That seems clear cut enough.

Was a crime committed? Yes, both morally and legally. Selling arms to Iran (our avowed enemy) is a moral crime. Diverting funds to the Contras was a legal crime. The culprits -- whoever was involved, of course. Should President Reagan be impeached if he knew? Most definitely. Impeached and prosecuted along with the rest. Equality under the law not only means equal protection under the law; it also means equal complicity and responsibility under the law. Everyone is treated equally regardless of their position (political, financial, etc.). No President of the United States (be he Thomas Jefferson, Richard Nixon, or Ronald Reagan) stands above the law. If a certain law is wrong, you work to change it. That's the whole idea, isn't it?

Should President Reagan be impeached for not knowing? I don't think anyone could make a case for impeachment for that. It does, however, raise questions about Reagan's ability to lead. A competent leader knows what his subordinates are doing; he doesn't allow them to run around breaking the law.

Morally, dealing arms to terrorists for <u>any</u> reason is wrong. Legally, diverting funds to the Contras (in defiance of the law) is wrong. I personally think they're equally wrong. If I had to pick one that was worse, I'd say selling arms to terrorists is the kicker.

[[The law on who could and could not give money to the Contras is unclear, and will undoubtedly be decided by a court of law before too long (though I am curious as to why we haven't had any indictments yet). It still isn't clear who the diverted money belongs to; the government had actually sold those arms to Secord, who in turn sold them for a profit to Iran. Even in the budget there is some leeway and the Boland amendment, a rider to the budget resolution, may not apply to the NSC. Again, a court may decide that at some point. It is necessary for Congress to be clear on how it wants the money spent, but riders are a poor habit. The recent defense budget resolution had a number of

riders dealing with everything from the Contras to interpretation of the unratified SALT II treaty. Congress got a little out of hand on that one.

I don't see a logical link that proves there are no moderates in Iran. The entire population can't be fanatics, and the Ayatollah can't live forever. When he dies, someone will replace him, and it would be nice if that person or faction was pro-U.S., though it isn't likely now.

It was a colossal mistake to tie the arms to the hostages. There isn't anything wrong with approaching certain factions in Iran to prepare for a post-Kohmeini regime; using arms is questionable; trading arms for hostages is ridiculous. Reagan and his people should have stuck to the hard-line: no negotiations with hostage takers. The only thing that can possibly stop terrorism is to make it cost more than it's worth, and if it doesn't work it isn't worth very much.

Jefferson had one of the earliest confrontations with the Supreme Court as to who was above the law. The Court subpoenaed several documents and the President himself in the case of Marbury v. Madison. President Jefferson refused to accept the subpoena, claiming that one branch of the federal government couldn't have that kind of power of any other branch, despite the fact that Congress had specifically authorized the court to issue subpoenas. Did Jefferson's actions put him above the law? Can Reagan legitimately question Congress' ability to dictate his foreign policy?]]

Why are all the stock brokers really worried?

Because all the oil men have the best jobs at McDonald's

Michael Hopcroft (?/?/87)

Well, the Democrats are already busy flaying each other instead of the Republicans in the presidential race. The problem is that I can't really foresee a Democratic victory in 1988, or indeed for the rest of the century. The party has very little idea of what it is and where it is going, which is a very sad thing to behold. Sadder still because the Republicans have held the White House for 16 of the last 20 years and have managed t generally botch things. A Republican administration fighting a Democratic Congress for the rest of the century means that NOBODY will have enough of a political base t challenge the important issues of the day, or to answer the tough questions about where our foreign and domestic policies are going.

With an aging Court and likely Republican domination of the White House for the foreseeable future, things do not look that good for civil liberties. The "right to privacy" we can almost kiss good-bye to, as "strict constructionists" will decide that such a right does not exist in the Constitution. The question is as much political as legal. Is "privacy" something worth protecting? Or should we adopt the attitude that " if you don't want something discovered, don't do it."?

SSI has released the 1988 edition of their simulation PRESIDENT ELECT. I won't be able to get a copy since they don't have a version for my computer (the Atari 800XL). Anybody got an Apple clone really, REALLY cheap? Anyway, I did manage to run a demo game in the store with it, and the game works really well. I can attest to its general accuracy. In the test game I ran, Bob Dole defeated Sam Nunn in a rather exciting race. The momentum tended

to see-saw as first one candidate then the other took the lead in the polls. As it was, Dole ended up winning the Industrial Midwest, which proved to be the key. It was a lot closer that the last two races historically have been. If anyone in the Portland area is reading this and has an Apple-compatible computer, they might be able to check this out. They even have a rate-your-own candidates feature, which makes it a nice accessory to a Presidential Politics game; you can use it to test potential opposition. The two systems are rather similar in a way.

[[I consider myself a strict constructionist, and I believe there is a right to privacy in the Constitution. In fact, I contend that the Constitution should be read as it was written, and that is as an authorizing document. Unless the action is specifically authorized, it cannot be done by the federal government. That is where you liberals have problems. It isn't good enough that the feds can't do it, you want to enforce the same restrictions on all 50 states. I don't mind that for the most part, except that it gives the feds power to do things the Constitution didn't authorize, like declare state prison budgets unconstitutional. Your fears may be unfounded though; Congress may never confirm another Republican appointment[]]

What's the difference between a pigeon and a stockbroker?

A pigeon can still make a deposit on a Mercedes

Jim Burgess (August 1987)

To my mind, all of the Republican candidates but Dole are caricatures instead of candidates. Even though that didn't stop Ronnie Raygun, I believe Dole will hang in to be the nominee. On the Democratic side, they just don't have anything. The only one who excites me is Babbitt, and his campaign appears to be in reverse. As usual, no one is interested in discussing the issues, but the more correct way to say that is that the candidates are succeeding in setting up straw men as issues. In a campaign composed almost entirely of "straw polls", I find that macabre, yet fitting. In the prediction category, I see the race for the Democrats being over before the Southern primary (ie. Dukakis is it). The general election in that scenario is a toss up as Duke takes a Southerner (probably Gore, Duke and Gore . . . really grabs you) and Dole takes a far right appeasement type. You know far better than I who would appease you. Guesses?

[[Nope. Well, Kemp is probably the strongest V.P. candidate for either Dole or Bush. The true hawk conservatives would probably like Kirkpatrick, though she wouldn't help bring in the southern good-ol-boy vote.

What I want to know from you, Mr. Burgess, is what is all this stuff about the stock market crash being caused by the deficit? We have been running a deficit for over a decade and somebody just now told the stockbrokers? I was very disappointed in Reagan's reaction. I attribute the crash to two things: too much speculation (as opposed to investment) and automatic sell orders run by computer. The deficit has nothing to do with it. The last thing we need is a tax increase (that ought to soothe those frazzled broker nerves!)]]

How do you call a stockbroker? "Hey, waiter!"

What is the latest greeting among stock brokers?

"Welcome to Wendy's, may I help you?"

Rob Robinson October (1987)

About this Bork thing, I believe that the Administration seriously underestimated the power of the liberal lobbying groups. They mounted an offensive against Bork and the Administration just stood by until it was too late to repair the damage. It will be interesting to see what happens next. I also wholeheartedly supported Bork and I must confess that Senator Warner's vote against him disturbed me very much. I seriously doubt that Virginia Republicans will forget that act of betrayal.

Although I would have supported Bork if I was in the Senate, I can understand why the liberals rallied against him. A great deal was at stake. I also believe that the traditional approach -- judge judicial nominees by their qualifications and "play politics" with a President's political nominees -- is seriously out of focus. Supposedly a Senator cannot question a judicial nominees politics, but he can judge the politics of the nominee for Attorney General or Secretary of H.U.D., for example. Instead of this approach, the very opposite should be the rule. A Federal judge is appointed for life -- if the Senate does not consider his politics no one else will have the chance. On the other hand, a political nominee will serve only at the discretion of the President. Moreover, an elected President should be able to put his own people into his own administration. Until the Bork nomination, it seemed the Senate would put up more of a fight over the nomination of James Watt to Secretary of the Interior that the nomination of someone to the Federal bench. Perhaps the Senate will approach its duty to advise and consent from the correct perspective.

[[It was most interesting that the President went on national radio (the TV networks turned him down) to complain that the Senate had been playing politics with his nominee, and he wanted the American people to call their Senators and tell them to stop it. Politics is going to pervade every appointment, even when it isn't as evident as it has been with Bork.

It has started to seem to me that the Administration really didn't want Bork confirmed; they passed over him to nominate Scalia. Now they will get another conservative who is much younger and in better health. Why make the nomination in July, when the Senate does not have time for the hearings, thereby allowing an extra month to raise opposition? Why wait until 52 Senators have announced they are voting against to give a speech about it? Why not twist a few chosen arms, like Bentsen of Texas, and threaten to hold back the Supercollider unless the proper vote is made? And why force a vote on a decided issue? Watch for the Bork defeat to be used as a major tool by Southern Republicans against conservative democrat Senators.]]

And then there was the stockbroker who was watching the Dow Jones fall 100 points an hour, and finally told his assistant, "That's it, I'm jumping out the window." The assistant reminded him, "But we are on the first floor."

"That's all right," the broker replied, "I'll jump out six times."

Well, that does it for another month. I will see you in December.