



\*Vol.8,No.9;#108\* Troll & Leprechaun Liberation Front \*March 22, 1986\*

## PLUTO ASCENDANT

## Contents

### Shelf

Editor.....March 20, 1986

(ZZZZZZAAAAAAPP !) Whew! Good thing I had that resurrection spell handy. No more oaths about page length until I stock up on them!

Well this is Kaissa; the ever burgeoning. I remind you once again that the official page count for your subscription is 16 pages regardless of what may arrive. I know, 6 of the last 8 issues have run 24 pages - only two were the right size for thier audience, by official page count. With any luck at all (note: Auditing Dept. this is not an oath!) this issue will fall serenely into step: 16!

Speaking of subscriptions, see the Colophon, as I am raising the price. (That got thier attention). If you order in large clumps (12 for \$14 or \$10/8) the price will remain the same, but the lowest rung (4 issues) goes up to \$6. This isn't just to discourage a short term sub, but because it does cost me more (using space in the Accounts column, keeping and then changing the record every 4th issue) so I see no reason to not pass on that burden. As I say those (now the majority) who want the longer term subs will notice no change!

While we're on the subject of the colophon, another announcement of note: effective immediately, an experiment is ended. I find that co-operation actually is lessened by paying for articles (above the traditional rates). The text rate is reduced to 1/10th cent per word (about one free issue per page). The art rate remains as it was though.

And so, without further ado, I will let you get to the features, Contest results, Poll, games &c.

Oh, and if you haven't sent Don Del Grande your Lifers Poll as yet and lost the form - send me an SASE, I have extra ballots. Send in those votes!

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## Missives

(Introduction: The deadline for letters is one week before the game Deadline. This time a few letters may be here which pertain to FOUNDATION. We'll see.)

(Ronald M. Kelly, 3/7/86):

"Note: I think the Dominance Ratings listing sucks. When are you going to publish an updated Boardman Ratings?"

((EH: Well, since there is no such thing as a "Boardman" rating system, I guess never. Beyond which I don't know which systems are active or inactive - nether Wilcox nor Stafford has sent me anything on this, although Wilcox and I are now corresponding.

Thank you also for your well thought out, in depth critique.))

Continued on Pg.4.

# DiProduction

by W. Elmer Hinton Jr.

Part 3; Rule 3.15 0 3.17

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15). Money may be freely given or loaned in most cases.

A government's Leader may give a gift or loan to any other Power. The amount is deducted after all maintenance has been paid but before Bond maturity payments.

A Leader may loan money to a Company headquartered in the same country, and must charge a minimum of 5% annually compounded interest.

Unlike all other orders, transactions, and payments, a Leader may make such a loan to himself, if he is the President of any company (whether or not headquartered in that country) on a secret basis. This loan cannot be for less than 1% interest and will become public if he defaults on any interest payments. Otherwise the loan remains secret unless he is accused of conflict-of-interest under a call for investigation by any stockholder/President of any company in the country (Headquarters or Branch office). If such a call is made the conflict is found out and the Leader is shamed. His debt becomes public, and he must pay this back immediately if possible. No support orders to units in unowned areas succeed.

Since the call and expose occur at the start of a turn, this can be disastrous. Moreover, all owned spaces suffer a value reduction of 5% more when calculating value, that turn.

However...if the accusation is proved false, the accusing President is shamed, instead. He is ridiculed publicly and so his company loses 5% of it's value in calculations that turn. Moreover, he must pay a fine of \$1000, or 2% of the country's final taxable public value that turn, whichever is higher. This is a personal fine not payable by the company.

A government may never loan money to a non-President stockholder. Money loaned to a President by a government is loaned to the company; not to the President as an individual.

A Leader may attempt to embezzel money from the government. As per a loan to a Leader/President's company, this transaction

is secretly done. Also like such a loan, if paid back (but there is no interest) it can never be "discovered" by investigation. However, like such a loan, it may be discovered at any time before then by investigation, if any stockholder of any company makes such a call. The stockholder does not have to be the company President, nor does the company need to be headquartered in that country (merely, branch office).

If such a call is made by someone who could not call an investigation of a possible Leader secret loan, and the Leader has such a loan, to his company, but has not embezzled personally, the investigation is not high enough to reveal this, and the stockholder is shamed for Lese Majeste, and must pay a fine of \$200 or 1% of the country's final taxable public value that turn, whichever is higher. Note that if the Leader has not embezzled, or it is not outstanding, that the same punishment applies.

If the unsuccessful call is made by one high enough to have called the investigation on a Leader secret loan, then he and his company are shamed and his company loses 10% of it's value that year, and the caller must pay a personal fine of \$2000 or 3% of the country's final taxable public value that turn, whichever is higher.

However, if the Leader has embezzled, then he is found out and disgraced; he is immediately removed from office and replaced by standard procedure. The country suffers a 10% loss of value that year to all owned provinces; all units hold; the Leader must pay a personal fine of double that just listed for an unsuccessful President caller, or double his embezzled amount, whichever is more; the Leaders company, if he is a President, loses 20% of value that turn; and any company in which he holds stock loses 2% of value that year.

Shameful!

Note that a call for investigation into possible improprieties

or conflict of interest is not divisible by offence. The caller would state the desire for such an investigation, but not what is being investigated for. The results will depend on the status of the caller and whether or not the offense has actually occurred.

As a salary, the Leader of a country received 1% of all taxes taken in any year. This is paid immediately after collection of taxes, but before collection of Bond Sales, etc.

16). The President of a Company receives a salary also; this is in the amount of 5% of value of the company that year.

A Company may never loan money to another company or to an individual; since it has no precise income. However, it's annual value is used as an indicator of it's annual income and this amount may be used as cash in any one year (though not accumulated) for various purposes.

A Company may loan money to any government, at a fixed minimum rate of 5% interest, to as much as may be agreeable. It may also make a gift of money to any power.

A President may also wish to embezzel this amount, or some amount, or take money from the company as a loan, at 5%+.

Loans of any kind to a government are public. Gifts to powers or loans/embezzelment is secret.

If the President takes such money and it is still outstanding at the time any stockholder calls for an investigation into company improprieties, the President is caught. Any stockholder means, of that company only!

When the President is caught in this way, he must pay back twice what was taken immediately, and loses his Presidency as well.

Also, his company is marred by the scandal and loses 5% of value that turn.

However, if the call is made and the President has no such amounts outstanding, the calling stockholder is disgraced and the company is shamed; the company suffers a 10% loss of value and the stockholder/caller must give up 20% of his stock (via sale) that turn, minimum. (This is not in addition to any stated sale of such stock if he sold that turn; but he may not buy more on that turn, of that company.)

Individuals may get loans from presumed public banks. They

may borrow from \$100 minimum up to a maximum of the current value of thier assets, at a rate of 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ % annual interest.

An individual may also loan or give money to any other player, on a personal basis.

If such loans are between stockholders of companies with an office in the same country, the players may submit such an agreement to the Gamemaster; in the event of default, and if the government of registration still exists, the GM will mediated the problem as judge, so that the loaner is repaid. (See Bankruptcy).

For instance, player A has \$1000 and holds stock in the Bohemia Bank and Trust Co., of Austria, and Munich Pulp of Germany; player B has \$27 but also has stock in both companies, and wants to borrow \$400 from player A. They agree on terms, length of time, interest, and decide to submit this to the GM under the registry of the Austrian Banking Commission. If Austria is defeated, the loan will be uncollectable. However, if player B defaults while Austria exists, then player A has the option of forgetting the loan, or filing suit (with the GM) for collection. In the last case, and if player B. has not declared bankruptcy, the GM will mediate the case and suggest solutions. The case will become public.

Otherwise, such loans or gifts are entirely private. Players may also give the gift of funds to any entity (company, or power) privately or publicly.

17). Note, like improprieties loans or government embezzlement, a gift by a government to another government may be made secretly. However, the Leader may order this to be done publicly if he so wishes.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### ASIDES #4:

Man is not a rational animal, but a rationalizing animal. He doesn't think so much as he reacts. That annoys me. It just strikes me as being careless.

Logic isn't worth much nowadays nor is common sense. The generation past shouted much about going with the flow. They didn't reckon with the flow tumbling over a waterfall somewhere. Sigh.

Call this an ode to lost rationalism.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Colophon

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couraged.

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50¢ each unless noted: House Rules  
in K#104.

Novice Handbook (K#100) "A  
Word To The Wise" available for \$2.

\* \* \* \*

Missives, Cont. from Page 1.

(Linda Courtemanche, 3/10/86):

"Just a quick word of defense  
for a writer I have a soft spot  
for. In your Feedback Poll Re-  
sponses section of #107, you made  
a rather cool remark about not  
wanting to "go on forever about  
music, girls or how I ought to  
carpet my living room." Since  
this was obviously a slight poke  
at Alan Stewart's new Praxis, I  
want to go on the record as heart-  
ily enjoying Stewart's dry self-  
mocking wit, which makes even  
such potential 'yawner' topics in-  
to very fresh, readable commentary.

Other than that, I'm having fun  
poring over Kaissa (before Steve  
comes home and gets his hands on  
the games!), and you are to be  
commended for having the courage  
to invite detailed criticism of  
each issue. I also approve of  
the idea of commentary on the nov-  
ice game; I should think that  
would help the players enormously.

One more comment; Watch your-  
self in the News/Views section.  
Sometimes your couching of "News"  
language takes away from its im-  
partiality.

Steve and I have plugged the  
Postal Locator in High Inertia #5,  
and may add another plug soon to  
cover your game-opening services.  
The first plug zeroed in on the  
standby list."

((EH: Well, I think if I wanted  
music I would join a chorale  
group; politics- I would run for  
alderman; girls...um, well there  
are places for those as well. I  
joined the postal game hobby be-  
cause of games. Some people lose  
sight of this. It isn't that I  
find such topics boring - simply  
out of place. The nature of the  
games makes certain periferal  
matters related to them (like  
history, geography, science fic-  
tion and fantasy to name a few)  
a part of this as well, but not  
the main part. I am involved in  
a number of things, all of which  
I keep seperate. When a small  
item does intrude (3-stooges) it  
is rightfully relagated to a very  
small section.

So speaking of feedback -  
where's yours...? Bet you didn't  
send in a Lifers vote either.

If you can point out a "News"  
item that you feel is impartial  
I will be glad to dissect it here  
for you; source by source!

Thanks for the plug. I'm  
surprised Melinda allowed it.

By the way, when are you going  
to dive in and start playing?))

Warning: The sugeon general has  
determined that the following ex-  
change of views may be damaging  
to your intellectual maidenhead.

(David Staples, 3/15/86):

..."I'm no prude, but use of  
childish four letter words (Kaissa  
#107, Page 9) really degrades an  
otherwise decent magazine. 'take  
that!' gets the point across just  
as well. If you must resort to  
such expressions, simply printing  
"####" or even "f####" would get  
the point over just as well. One  
need not castrate oneself to know  
that the operation is painful."

((EH: Well firstly, 'take that'  
is not what he said. Secondly, I  
don't think that anyone who sees  
f#### will fail to know that it  
means fuck. In fact, it is hardly  
childish - children aren't sup-  
posed to know words like that.

It's a matter of honesty. I  
know what fuck means; you know  
what fuck means. For pete sake  
if there is anyone out there who  
is reading this who doesn't know  
what fuck means, please let me  
know! I would be very surprised!

Honesty is very important. I  
see no reason to mince words. If  
the man says fuck, I'll say he  
said fuck! If the man says shit,

I'll say he said shit! If the man says Goodness Gracious, I'll say he said Goodness Gracious; but I won't say he said Goodness Gracious if he said fuck!

Besides which, it was the funniest thing he said all day...

I mean I suppose it would have been funnier if he was screaming "You mutual-genital copulators!", but, no, he took the easy way.

I'm sorry, but I do think you're a prude after all. I really feel sorry for you if a couple of little fucks spoil your day...)).

\* \* \* \* \*

### Passing The Brux

Bruce Linsey (alias Brux) is a hobby denizen of varied repute (or disrepute, depending upon the source). I have not, heretofore, participated in the Linsey Feud to any extent, nor will that change. Thus the title.

However, Bruce Linsey runs the Leeder Poll (named for the initiator John Leeder, who, modestly did not like that name and called it the North American GM and Zine poll. Sometime later, someone decided that the name of John Leeder was to be replaced with the name of John's zine, Runestone, so it appears under the title of the Runestone Poll).

This poll is included as an insert. Last year Kaissa did somewhat poorly. The results are listed in a main listing (10 or more votes) or a secondary listing (9 or less votes). Kaissa got 5 votes. Lopping off the best and worst would leave 3-5's (a dead average score) for the period of about April '84-March '85. I consider that fair. However, the fact is that, after some investigation I discovered that of the five people who could have legitimately voted, three did.

Where the other two votes came from (one of them a '2') is not known. It is a major defect in the polling that votes are only supposed to come from those who have seen two or more issues in the polling period, but does not request that the numbers and the dates be given in each case.

I did not make the GM poll as apparently no one voted in that area; however only those playing under a GM is supposed to vote in that section, and it was noted in the result that some individuals who do not play were marked as having voted in the GM section.

Some will say I am carrying this and thus support Mr. Linsey. Because of that, another piece appears (here or next issue) on that matter. I want all of you to vote because it is good publicity, nothing more. (Or, well, because it will insure fairer results, perhaps. No '2's this time, I would think.). Vote!

### The Brux Stops Here

Appropos of the previous piece (see Passing The Brux), it has become necessary to review the case of whether or not this should be considered support for Bruce Linsey and/or his products.

Having nothing to do with this feud business, I am compelled to say that I have had to review his activities on a case-by-case basis. I will distribute the Poll he now carries because it represents good publicity. It has problems, but they are not insoluble.

I may participate in his new "publishers handbook" because to do otherwise means to leave those who would use it, lacking as wide a range of voices as would be best.

As to Mr. Linsey personally, my latest opinion is worth very little; consider only that this man, by his own lights, has been involved with what he calls 'the feud' since 1981, with many people (only occasionally cycling back to the same ones in time).

I am on record that feuding is stupid, and bad for the hobby.

Finally, I do not recommend him to novices. His view seems to make no distinction between that which is within a game and that which is the real world. He has advised novices to actually break the law in the course of play (ie: forgery). His novice packet (Supernova) is inferior stuff; it contains three of the best pieces ever written (Verheiden, Sergeant and Smythe) and some of the worst (one not even being coherent enough to allow reading). It is a mediocre item showing no editorial skill or discrimination.

There is a difference between the game and the real world; forgery, cross gaming, deceit of the GM, letter passing; these actions are indefensible and I do not recommend those who recommend them.

Appropos of the title, this is my last word upon the subject.

\* \* \* \* \*

# Trades

&

# Reviews

THE ALAMO CITY TIMES(#11, 2/12/86) Editor: John C. Walker (N1/Ss/Ful/Nil) f: haitus Pc 4pgs.(r)

THE APPALACHIAN GENERAL(#29, 2/4/86) Editor: David McCrumb. (D1/Bs/Red/Ctr) f: 5w Pc 12pgs

THE BOOB REPORT(#20, 2/28/86; #21, 3/14/86) Editor: James Robert Burgess Jr. (N2/Ss/Ful/Nil) f: 3w Pc 6, 6pgs.

BUSHWACKER(v15n3, #173, 3/4/86) Editor: Fred C. Davis Jr. (N1/Ss/Ful/Crn) f: M Pc 10pgs.

THE CANADIAN DIPLOMAT(#10, 2/12/86) Editor: Robert Acheson (N1/Ss/Ful/Crn) f: ? Pc? 17pgs

CATHY'S RAMBLINGS(#19, 2/4/86p) Editor: Cathy Ozog (N1/Ss/Red/Crn) f: 7w Pc? 18pgs

COSTAGUANA(v10n16, 2/15/86; v10n17, 3/8/86) Editor: Conrad von Metzke (D1/B1/Red/Ctr) f: 3w Pc? 24, 60pgs.

EUROPA EXPRESS(#51, 2/1/86p) Editor: Gary L. Coughlan (D1/Bs/Red/Ctr) f: 2M Pr? 36pgs.

EVERYTHING...(#66, 12/85) Editor: David Kleiman; BNC: William Quinn. (D1/Bs/Red/Nil) f: 3M Pc. 12pgs

EXCELSIOR(#11, 3/5/86) Editor: Bruce McIntyre (D1/Bs/Red/Ctr) f: 5w? Pr? 32pgs

THE GAMER'S ZINE(v6n2, #92, 2/15/86; v6n3, #93, 3/15/86) Publisher: Earl Whiskeyman (Connecticut Game Club); Editor: David MacRae. (N1/Ss/Ful/Crn) f: M Pc ?, 15pgs.

LIFE OF MONTY(#61, 3/16/86) Editor: Donald Del Grande (D1/Bs/Red/Nil) f: 3w? Pc 7pgs+6pgs inserts

MACABRE(#31, 1/31/86; #32, 3/10/86) Editor: Mark Coldiron (D1/Bs/Red/Ctr) f: 5w? Pc? 31, 21pgs +2/4pgs inserts

THE MESSENGER(#9, 1/1/85; #10, 5/19/85; #11, 6/30/85; #15, 2/15/86) Editor: Geoffrey Richard. (N1/Ss/Ful/Crn) f: Irr. Pc? 11, 10, 11, 9pgs.

NOT NEW YORK(#11, 3/15/86) Editor: Paul Gardner. (N2/Ss/Red/Crn) f: Irr. Pc 14pgs+1/2pgs insert

POLITESSE(#35?, 3/3/86) Editor: Ed Wrobel; Publisher: Ken Peel. (N1/Ss/Ful/Crn) f: M? Pc 14pgs

PRAXIS(#4, 2/20/86) Editor: Alan Stewart. (N1/Ss/Ful/Crn) f: 5w Pc 16pgs

THE RAZOR'S EDGE(#11, 2/19/86-3/5/86pm) Editor: James Early (D1/Bs/Red/Ctr) f: 5w? Pr? 15pgs.

REBEL(#16, 3/8/86) Editor: Melinda Ann Holley. (D1/Bs/Red/Ctr) f: 4w Pc 23pgs.

TACKY(Flyer 2/3/85r) Editor: Lu Henry (N1/Ss/Red/Nil) f: 5-6w? Pc 1pg.

WARGAMERS INFORMATION(#45, 12/85-2/10/86r) Editor: Richard Loomis (Flying Buffalo Inc). (N1/Ss/Ful/Crn) f: whenever Pr 6pgs.

YES, VIRGINIA...(#5, 2/21/86) Editor & USOS: James Robert Burgess Jr. (N2/Ss/Ful/Nil) f: as necessary Pc 6pgs

ZINE REGISTER(#5, 1/86) Editor: Simon Billenness. (D1/Ss/Red/Spn) f: 4M Pc 28pgs.

Closing Date: 3/20/86

New Trade: Macabre

Refused to Trade: The Diplomat

Overdue: The Canadian Diplomat?

Tacky!

Boy, this thing sure gets longer to type...

Two reviews; up first is a new trade, with Mark Coldiron's zine Macabre. He is phasing down, but even the "warehouse" issue is huge with games and press, and some of them are mighty interestin' variant varmint (Range War for one- with herds of cattle as mobile Supply Centers!). Numerous lifted pix are used in the press section and the format is adequet. Very nice.

Next, though not a trade, I thought that I would review a new zine I'm getting called The Imperium Staple. This is a Traveller (tm, G.D.W.) zine; (#1, 3/86; Herb Petro (D1/Bs/Red\*/Ctr) f: M pc 16pgs). The text isn't actually reduced, just printed out from a dot matrix printer at 18-characters-per inch before copying, so the effect is the same.

An interesting item if you are into S.F. role-play games. You can write Herb at 407 Louise Ave #38;

Belomnt NC 28012, if Traveller is your cup of tea (and see the game openings list).

#### Style Codes:

- 1). Production Style (Digest or Newsletter + # of columns/page)
- 2). Sheet format (Booklet or Single sheet & std or legal size paper used)
- 3). Text copy size (Reduced or Full -about 8pt. type).
- 4). Bindery Style (Crn=Corner Stapled; Ctr=Center stapled; Spn=Spine Stapled; Nil= No Binding).

#### Other codes:

- 5). f=frequency (w=in weeks or weekly; M=in months or Monthly).
- 6). Mode of Reproduction (Pr=Professional Printing; Pc=Photocopy; Mim=Mimeograph; Dit=Spirit Duplicator(Ditto)).
- 7). Number of pages that issue.

Dates are of publication unless none given or not consistent with date of appearance; dates marked "p" or "pm" are postmark; dates marked "r" are dates received.

Zines marked (r) are retro-traders.

#### Explanation of style codes:

1). If we speak of length as being top-to-bottom dimension, and width as side-to-side dimension (across the page) then the standard sheet of paper is  $8\frac{1}{2}w \times 11l$ .

When a zine is closed, but ready to turn the first page, it can be considered Newsletter style ( $8\frac{1}{2}w \times 11l$ ) or Digest style (anything under this).

Often Digest is used to mean a Booklet format, but not in this listing, since it need not be.

2). Single sheet format means that one or two pages are put on a sheet (one per side usually). Booklet means up to 4 pages per sheet, 2 per side, and folded in half.. Very rarely will you get 4 pages set up in single sheet mode (that must be read as if two columns upon one page).

3). Any text smaller than typewriter size is considered reduced.

4). Corner stapling is usually done in the upper left corner. Center binding is done for Booklets by stapling through the center fold. Spine binding is the stapling along one side to make a kind of booklet; or stapling across the center fold of a true booklet, making it harder to open the pages.

Almost every combination of the above has actually been used.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Accounts

Remember to check both your gamefee and subscription account for renewal notices.

Due this issue: Renew Now or next issue will be your last:

None.

Overdue: Renew Now or this issue will be your last!

Paul Kogut(105)

Renewals extend the following:

Michael Grubb(112); David Staples (112); Thomas Adams(110); Greg Lang(113)

#### New Subscriptions:

Ed Edwards(111); Simon A.Lack (\*); Jim McCarthy(115\*)

\* \* \* \* \*

## Game Openings

These are the last new openings for at least  $1\frac{1}{4}$  years.

ROZ=Receipt of zine requirement: you must be a subber, trader or at the address of one.

The El-Cheapo Novice Game:(1 open)

ROZ + \$10 one-shot fee.

(Tobin, D.Lang, Lack)

The El-Cheapo Game:(1 open)

As above; for non-beginners.

(Diehl, Botimer)

No Frills Game:(1 open)

ROZ only; results & address;  $\frac{1}{2}$  page total press; no map.

(Addison\*, Botimer, Coldiron)

The above are all bargain games of Standard DIPLOMACY.

Regular Diplomacy:

ROZ + \$10/5 turns. Open to all. (Street)

Variant of Diplomacy:(1 open)

Cline 9-Man-IV; RoZ only. A standard board plus Persia and Barbary States (No.Af); no severe rule changes. Simple. (Crosby)

Variant of Diplomacy(1 open)

DiProduction: RoZ + \$6/10 turns. Need 21 players to start. (Anderson, Booze)

TRAVELLER: PBM space role-play game from G.D.W. run with zine The Travellers' Aide. About \$1 per turn. Inquire for details. Limit 12 players (2 already).

\* \* \* \* \*

## News & Views

(Pillaged from various sources.)

- 1). News: Ed Wrobel returns to the Editors chair of Polit-esse instead of Steve Nicewarner as previously announced by Ken Peel. Ken remains as Publisher.
- 2). News: On the same subject, Dave MacRae, now editor of The Gamer's Zine clarifies thier division of duties. Letters, articles, sample requests and the like are to go to him, while any subscriptions, Trade issues, coa's go to publisher Earl Whiskeyman.
- 3). News: A very long House Rules forum currently in Costaguana goes into a very long discussion on Preference Lists in v10n17. That issue also ran 60 pages. Conrad von Metzke, the Editor, promises to treat himself better and run shorter issues. He also prefers to have mail at a new post office box, where the mail is sorted (Conrad takes pains to say) by a pretty, single and available young thing...
- 4). News: Europa Express announced a move to bi-monthly issues for readers, (Feb. Apr. Jun. Aug. and Oct., skipping December) with games continuing at the 5-week rate.
- 5). News: At the same time, the zine Macabre also announces going to warehouse issues.
- 6). News: Hobby service concepts are discussed in letters in Whitestonia 108.
- 7). News: Marc Hurwitz adds an article on the German mid-game in his series in Praxis. This also was the issue with the special 'bad' front page containing all mannwr of deliberate errors.
- 8). News: It's reported that Steve Doubleday has passed over to Martin Le Fevre the zine Zine With No Name, the current UK version of the Zine Register. The European incarnation is put out by Jaap Jacobs of the Netherlands.
- 9). News: A new variant "Spy Diplomacy" has appeared by Jim-Bob Burgess in the Boob Report #20. It is very similar to my 1981 "Infiltration" in using hidden agents or spies to report locations in this limited intelligence game. Openings there.
- 10). News: Bushwacker, by Fred Davis, has just reached it's 14th anniversary this month. Fred has published continuously one of the few all-variant gamezines in existence. It is the third continuously published north american zine under one publisher.
- 11). News: In case you were wondering, Kaissa is the 7th.
- 12). News: Both of Jim-Bob's zines are excellently done with two-column, fully justified type that looks typeset. He now reports that he uses the University Xerox 9700 laser printer to accomplish this.
- 13). News: Don Del Grande of Life of Monty fame has announced openings in "1830" which has not quite been released from the publisher, Avalon Hill, yet. "A-H's newest railway game (based on the British game 1829)." "More details when the game is released, which will probably be sometime in March, but that usually means 'any time up until Origins' ".
- 14). News: Bruce Linsey has announced a call for submissions to a new Publisher/Gamemasters Handbook. It will be in the style of most handbooks; a collection of articles by different writers, speaking to this topic.
- 15). News: The annual zine review appeared in Excelsior. Bruce McIntyre reviewed zines using a heavy type for stats and a light type for the reviews. The latter was washed out and mostly unreadable. On the other hand, the last and next-to-last cover pages had a clearly legible note "Excelsior-inside copy blank" at the tops.  
Bruce also is cutting back on his gameload of the unusual, having finally discovered the hobby apathy of song and story.
- 16). News: Not New York #11 eventually appeared, and had a book review of Heinlein's "Job", and a movie review of "Back To The Future", both mostly



favorable. Paul is also running two contests.

17). News: The Razor's Edge is also late; this one due in part to the computer on which it is apparently stored having gone into the shop.

18). News: Excelsior also contained some amusing quirks of the Canadian post awful.

19). Conventions: DIPCON XIX & Marycon contact Ken Peel, 8708 First Ave. #T-2; Silver Spring MD. 20910 (301)495-2799; for more info. (May 30-June 1). June 19-22; Atlanticon. Info; PO Box 15405, Baltimore MD 21220.

July 3-6. ORIGINS'86. At the Los Angeles Airport Hilton Hotel. Info: PO Box 8399, Long Beach CA 90808.

July 4-6. NYCclone. Info PO Box 608, Belle Mend NJ 08502.

after all/

#### Legitimate Hobby Offices

Boardman Number Custodian: He who issues identifying number to games of standard Diplomacy: William Quinn, 301 Conroe Dr., Conroe TX 77301.

Miller Number Custodian: He who issues identifiers to games of Diplomacy Variants: Lee Kendter Sr., 4347 Benner St., Philadelphia PA 19135.

U.S. Orphan Service: Those who try to place abandoned games with new gamemasters: Co-Director: James Robert Burgess Jr., 100 Holden St. Providence RI 02908.

Co-Director; (vacant)

Zine Register; Editor: Simon Billenness, 61A Park Ave., Albany NY 12202. A listing of zines.

Granite Archive: Archivist: W. Elmer Hinton Jr. A collection of zines preserved and available.

American Zine Bank: Custodian: Simon Billenness (see zine register). A set of zines donated to be distributed to novices for \$2; recent samples included.

Ombudsman Service: Where to go for adjudication of a dispute. Director John Caruso, 29-10 164th St., Flushing NY 11358.

Postal Locator Custodian: He who lists players who want positions in games; W. Elmer Hinton Jr.

North American Variant Bank: Where variants are preserved and made available. Custodian: Fred C. Davis Jr., 1427 Clairidge Rd., Baltimore MD 21207.

#### Novice items:

Novice Handbook, \$2, W. Elmer Hinton Jr.

"Masters of Deceit" Novice Package, \$1, Steven Arnawoodian, 602 Hemlock Circle, Lansdale PA 19446.

Diplomacy Introductory Publication, John Caruso (see Ombudsman)

\* \* \* \* \*

## Contest

### Star Trek Trivia

Well, the results are in and, here are the answers:

- 1) A Sehlat
- 2) John Colicos
- 3) Dr. Sevrin
- 4) A Horta
- 5) (Harry) Harcourt Fenton Mudd
- 6) Ted Cassidy
- 7) Cochrane Deceleration
- 8) Platonians or Plato's Stepchildren.
- 9) The Doomsday Machine
- 10) Where No Man Has Gone Before

Steve Courtemanche gets first prize with 8 out of 10 correct (& 3 free issues); Mikel Petty gets second (2 free issues) for 7 OK.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Standby List

Standby list before calls:  
Staples, Holley, Courtemanche,

Standby list before calls:  
Richard, Botimer, Staples,  
Holley, Courtemanche.

Calls:  
1984 IV-FRANCE: Larry Botimer  
(See 85 HU for address).

Standby list after calls:  
Richard, Staples, Holley,  
Courtemanche, Botimer.

Note, in future, rather than calling the next eligible name, I may make an effort to take a new player (rather than one already in games here with the same people) or otherwise use judgment when assigning standbys.

\* \* \* \* \*

### SPECIAL EXPANSION DRIVE NOTE

Thanks for the help- as you can see by the accounts, this is working. We need more people of course but I think the momentum is now sufficient to release this offer. Thank you again.

\* \* \* \* \*

# The Three Stooges In The Great Outdoors

or

The Joys And Hazards of Camping !

Part VI

Though the sun was not visible, the watch said that we had about 2 hours before sunset. Even so, dusk was setting in, and we still had a camp to set up. The rain was returning as well. It spit at us as we considered the next course. Fortunately, I had already changed my shoes for boots, and my feet were still dry. Dry. That was a word which was shortly to lose all meaning.

We considered the coast. It curved into a small 'bay' on the right, before the wood-line reached a couple of hundred yards out to the familiar seeming point David had seen. The direct course would cut across this bay, almost to the end of the point itself.

The sky threatened. The drops grew larger. We crossed.

Up to now, my back, with it's 40 pounds of baggage, didn't feel too badly off, but one of the side bags I had tied on was loose, and kept hitting me behind the thigh.

We slogged across the grassy flat, stepping over the shallow ditches, which ranged from a foot to almost two feet across, eventually making the opposite coast, and around the point.

"That island looks familiar," David said, as we rounded the point and came into a constricted bay, well-sheltered by a tiny island, perhaps a hundred feet across, and about 5 feet higher than the surrounding flat. The mouth of the bay was well back. There we saw a couple of large rectangular stones and decided to park our gear there, and scout around. In the distance was another island. This was the kind of landmark we were looking for.

"This island looks like the one Gus took me out to; it's just opposite Silly Walk," David said.

While he searched for another landmark to follow, I looked about while staying in place. The rain stopped, which made it instantly too hot for a poncho. I pulled it off as David came back with good news.

We went some distance toward the next island before turning

into the 'mainland' and forging up a very steep rise. The ridge showed bare stone but gave no sign of ending, even as we came upon a shelf at the top of a small cliff, completely sheltered in trees.

"Here we are!" David said.

"This is it! Silly Walk!"

I thought, "That applies less to the place, than to the method of getting here." Silly Walk was named for a Monty Python skit in which John Cleese becomes the Minister of Silly Walks, which he can ably demonstrate. Since it seems that the same spot may have been given this name by two independent parties, I am certain it is a comment on the trip! I can't think of a sillier walk I've ever had!

The spot, itself was marvelous. There was complete tree-cover, but not a single deer-fly was in evidence. Not even an errant mosquito appeared. The cliff continued behind us, providing a wall, and a tarp was brought out and strung up for a roof. With a ground sheet in place, we were at home! I didn't even bother to unpack my small tent, which I had brought to ward off insects. I did dig out my netting-hood, for the return trip, though. Sacred as our newfound home might be, I didn't trust our bitter enemies to give us any quarter as we returned to deer-fly country.

In one quick trip we had our gear at the campsite, and were ready to return for Gus and our victuals.

I may have mentioned that the place is crossed by a veritable maze of dirt roads or trails.

Not too far from the camp was one of these roads. On our run down the first road, we thought that we had to make a left turn somewhere, when in fact, the turn would have been to the right.

David thought we must have missed this entirely, especially as we hadn't passed one or two landmarks he remembered.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Feedback Poll & 106 Results

To begin with, I got few of the responses for 107 and I think faster turnaround might be of use so from next issue, the Feedback Poll is due one week before the game Deadline, so I can report the result in the following issue instead of two issues later.

Next issue will have the 107 and 108 results combined; and 109 will carry a Volume 9 retrospective as well. On to 106!

The games still came in at 8 or above in all respects; the maps slipped a bit though- although it could have something to do with who is voting and who is not, as compared to previous results. All came out at 6.5 or better; still untalitarian at least, but no clue as to what is wrong.

Features topped 8.0 for the Star Trek quiz; Through The Window took 7.5, and DiProduction took 6.5. 3-Sttooges were up a point to 6.5 as well (and the early returns for last issues episode may end a point above that!)

Regular feature fell at 7 or better, with length pretty good, but a tiny bit less in the news section. Opinion was exactly split: Any Asides are too many vs it makes a good filler anyway. Terrific.

Both illos (105 and the lifted pix 106) got a 6.5. Desireability is high, but direction is lacking so I'll have to experiment.

Length for the issue, and added length due to articles ran out to 8.0, with little preference on new vs reprints so long as good quality and relevance are maintained.

This tells me that I still have some work to do. It also tells me that I'm going to hold off reports after next issue, and make the feedback results a once-in 3-4 issue thing.

### Poll 108

- 1). Rate this issue overall.
- 2). Rate each of the maps this issue; rate the desirability of end game statements.
- 3). Rate the quality of each regular column: a:Shelf, b:Trades & reviews, c:News & Views, d:Mis-sives, e:Feedback Poll.
- 4). Rate the idea of running the Feedback Poll each issue; rate the plan to report feedback results every few issues instead of each issue.

- 5). Rate the illustration under 1985HU press; 1984IV Press; rate the logo illustration.
- 6). Rate your desire to see a full or  $\frac{1}{2}$  front page illustration instead of using page 1 for columns each issue.
- 7). Rate desireability of having one column rather than two-column text pages (Low 1; high 2).
- 8). Rate the desirability of using 'lifted' artwork (commercial cartoons etc).
- 9). Rate your desire or interest to play boardgames other than Dip (say, King Oil, Civilization, Land Grab, Voice of the Mummy).
- 10). Rate your desire to write an article of any kind. If under 6, tell why (can't write, no experience, no desire, whatever.)
- 11). Rate the main features:3  
Stooges; DiProduction; etc.  
each.

Remeber to use 0-10(0=low or bad; 10=good, best).

\* \* \* \* \*

1982II		DIPLOMACY
Blitz	<u>WAR IS OVER!</u>	GM:Hinton
Game		Spring'10

This game has ended in a voted concession to England and Russia. The vote went: Yes-3, Abstain-2.

Endgame statements due next issue, when the final map will appear. We have one error to correct that went unreported since 1904. After Fall 1904, the Winter 1904 turn appeared with the title "Winter 1905"; the next turn was listed as "Spring 1906" and so on. No one noticed the error. As a result, this game ends in Spring 1910. At 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  years, this game was of average length.

Final press is below. Congratulations to Melinda Ann Holley (England) and Steven Courtemanche (Russia).

BLACK (By territory of issue.)  
PRESS Editor's comments in (( )).

"From France"

\* From France: UNCLE !!!!!!!!!!!

"From Russia"

\* Moscva-Wien: This seperation of seasons could show us each other's hand. Then again, it could all be a ploy. You have some intriguing builds there but Galicia is part of my territory as is Bohemia.

\* Moscva-Queen of Saxons: Do you think the "new" Italian player

will help end this game or will the "old" one do an about-face?

\* Moscva-Rome: Are you going to dissappoint me again? Set the alarm clock this time.

\* Moscva-Paree: This game makes one think doesn't it?

\* Wayward Muscovite - Felhaven: It just goes to show that people who are interested in the game will miss the deadline no matter how generous or tight. ((I do hope that you meant that the other way around.))

"From Elsewhere"

\* Mae-West to Felhaven: Mmmm... don't worry big boy, a letter from Mark Berch, and the latest DW, and Steve's out like a light. How about you, me and the light of the moon?

\* Felhaven Massage Parlour: I just doubled Steve's subscription to DW...

\* Semi-Innocent Bystander to Felhaven Dating Service: You matched up Cochise and Melinda AGAIN!? (For 85HU) Is that because you want to keep me for yourself, or are you trying to scare those poor novices out of thier \*&#!\*s? Those two are the deadliest duo since that first long-lashed hamster caught Woody's eye...

\* Felhaven Dating Service to Penn. Playmate: Well of course it

is you! Only you! You know how these mountain gals are - and after Woody, no man can be the same for Melinda again. Sigh. You know how hamsters are with women; first Phyllis, then Melinda, then...but why go on. Till the next full moon!

\* \* \* \* \*

1984IV	<u>PREZ NAPS AS</u>	DIPLOMACY
Orwell	<u>DUKE ESCAPES</u>	GM:Hinton
Game		Winter'02

Autumn: FRA(NMR) 4A Bur/r/d.  
AUS 1A Ser/r/Bud.

ENGLAND(J.Robert Baker): Build 4F  
Lpl. 1/4 (3100 Meadow Lane N.,  
Dickinson TX 77539). (4Cr).

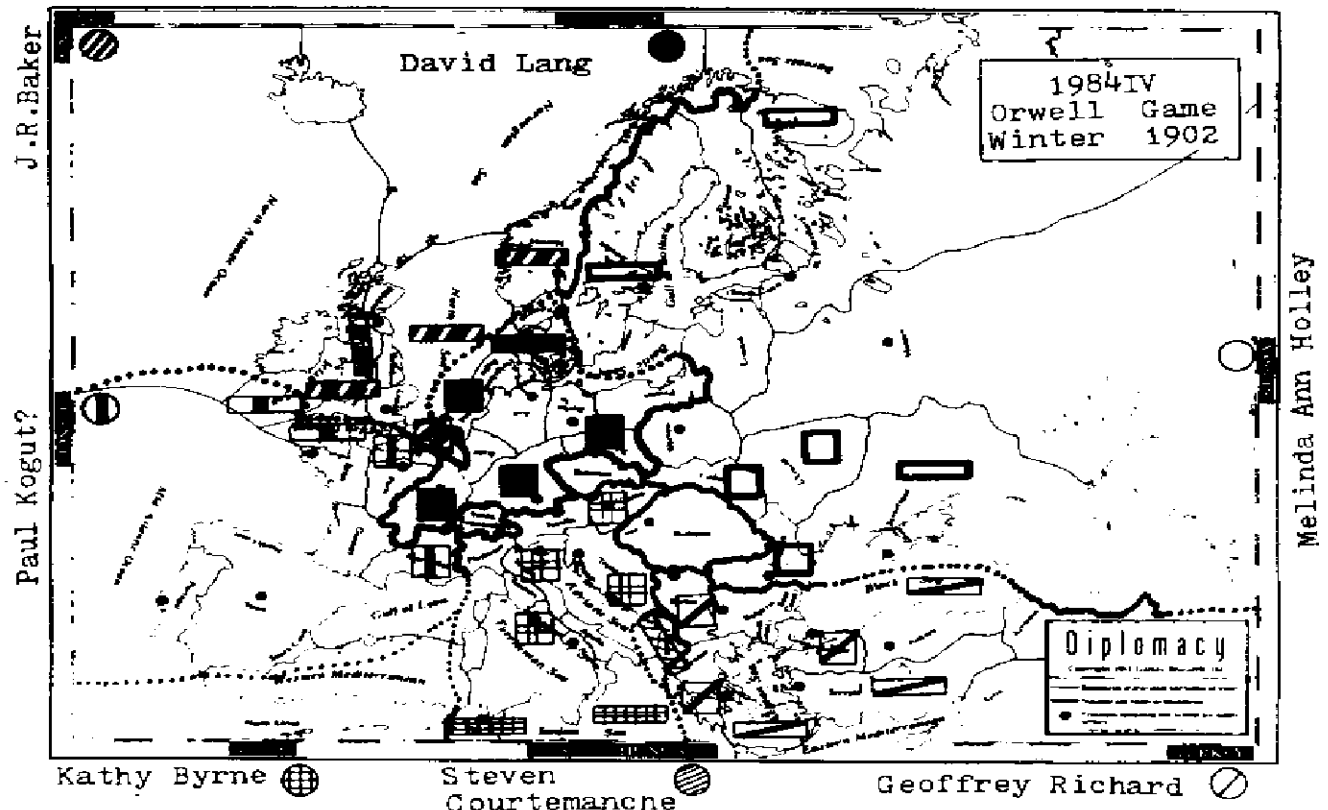
FRANCE(Paul Kogut): N. M. R. ! ! !  
No Build: One Short. 3/2 (155  
N.Harbor Dr. Unit 3809; Chicago  
IL 60601) (0Cr-see below).

GERMANY(David Lang): EVEN. (710  
W.Main St., Mascoutah IL  
62258). %

ITALY(Kathy Byrne): Build 3A Rom,  
4A Ven. 4/2 (29-10 164th St.,  
Flushing NY 11358 (718) 353-  
9695). @

RUSSIA(Melinda Ann Holley): EVEN  
3/3 (PO Box 2793, Huntington  
WV 25727). (5Cr).

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY(Steven Courte-  
manche): Remove 1A Bud, 2A Boh.  
2/1 (1021 Penn.Cir. Apt.E-402;  
King of Prussia, PA 19406). %



TURKEY(Geoffrey Richard):Build 3F  
Smyrna.#3/3).(1501 Harvey Rd.  
#770; College Station TX 77840  
(409)693-7746).(7Cr.)

NOTES:

Error, last season the 1F Eng-Nth should have been underlined. No one was fooled.

We have a seperation. One request does it and we have 1½. (To the latter:the time to request is with Winter orders; doing so after Winter/Spring appears wont make it). Spring 1903 is now called. See standby list for French S/B. See accounts too. Again.

I have spring 1903 orders on file for E/G/I/R/A/T. Goodness!

BLACK (By territory of issue.)  
PRESS Editor's comments in (( )).

"From England"

\* Old Goat - Horny Italian: You once doubted if I could play better than Woody without seeing the map - Hell, I can play better than Woody without even moving!

\* London to World: They tell me Russia and France are really peaceloving countries and that they're ready to destroy anyone who tries to claim otherwise.

\* Eng-Austria: Nice guy? You should know! Nice guys finish last! ((Is that wht I'm doing wrong?!?))

\* London to Paris: We're showing our peaceful intentions by withdrawing from Belgium and invite you to reciprocate by withdrawing from the Irish sea and English Channel.

\* JR-GM: NMR? It can't have been 6 months since my last move!

\* Felhaven Post Office:No, just 6 months since your last orders...

\* London to Moscow: How is it that you want an enemy in the north when you have a plump Turkey pecking at your back door? We could be such good friends. Look at how the Russia/England partnership has paid off in 8211.

\* Eng-Tzarena: And I'd always thought a 6 center Russia had it made in the shade (or is that maid?) ((Could be both...))

Pardon me if I rain on your parade, But I won't turn my back, so you can bury the blade.

\* Felhaven-Board:Check out JR's envelope logo. So, another rodent lover. Or does that mean rodent exterminator?

DIGITAL

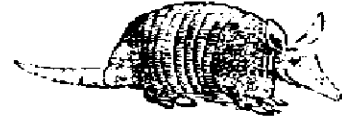
CONTROL

SPECIALISTS

D

C

S



"From Germany"

\* Ger-Eng: You really had me wondering what was going on. Who ever heard of an English Cavalry?

\* Ger-Fra: Don't look now but I think you're going to get it in the behind.

\* Sigmoid Froid: Yuuuch!! I thought we had the last of the Greek jokes a while ago...

\* Sil-Boh:Have you ever had one of those days when it seems everything is going wrong. ((Yeah, about every four weeks...))

"From Italy"

\* Vie-Sil: Have no fear, the new Austrian government in Vie is too cheap to bring care packages to the Germans.

\* Ita-Ber:Be thankful that you are a German with no friends, look at poor Austria. He had friends, invited them to visit, and they decided to take over his country!

\* Flushing Mad Woman-Felhaven: You mean Vie isn't an Italian center?!

\* Felhaven Optometrist to Mad Woman of Flushing: Uh-huh...

\* Ita-Turkey: Score one for me. I actually got the Ger to write- now if only your letter would grace my mailbox.

\* Ita-Horney Old Goat:I'll save you!

\* Ita-Aust:You, on the other hand, can croak. ((He does...all the time!))

\* Ita-Russia: I couldn't help it, Bloodsucker took over! Besides, Elmer paid me \$10 to eliminate Cochise's dibble! ((Arrgh! You told! You told!))

"From Austria"

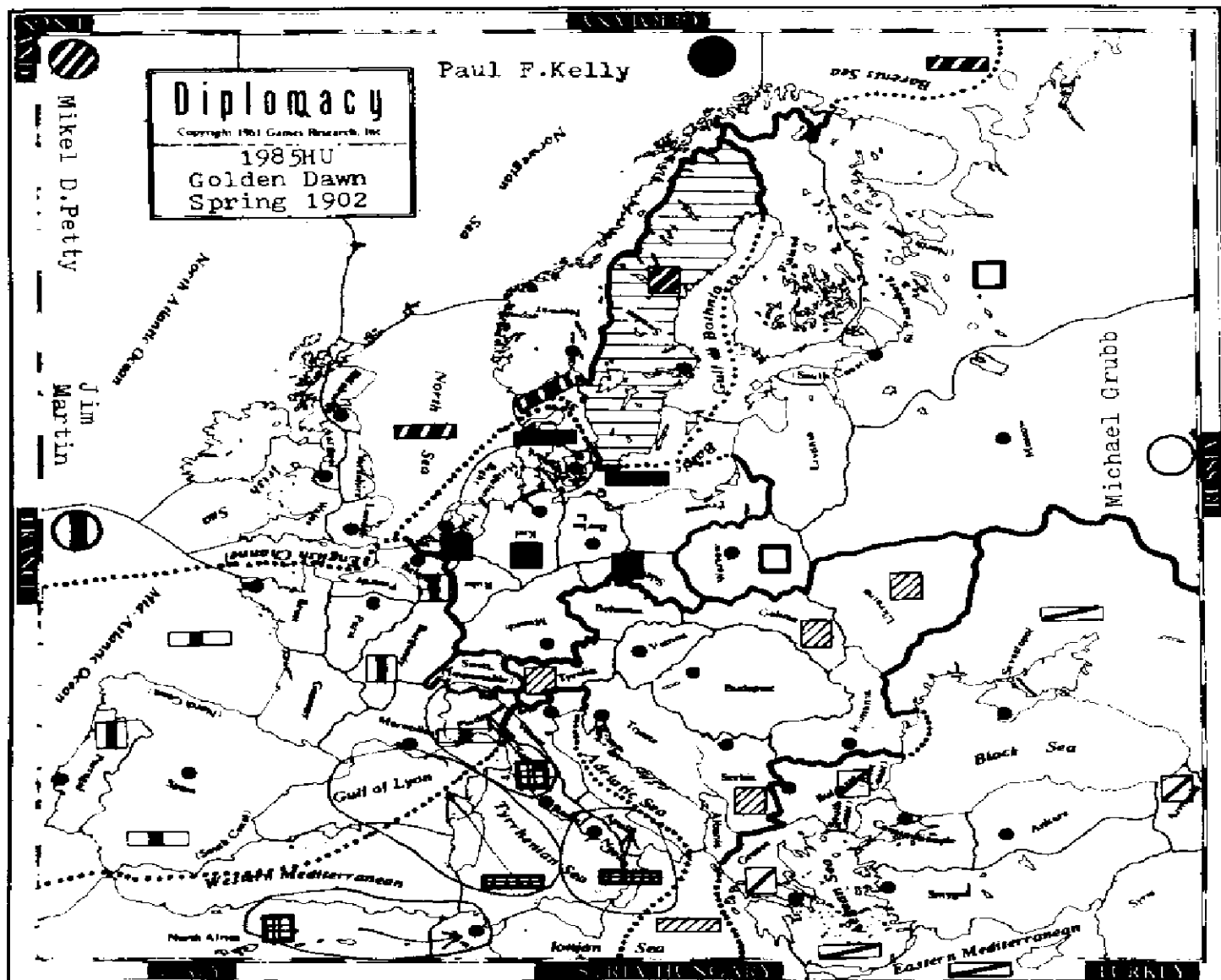
\* Vie-Sil: The welcome wagon got ambushed by white man masquerading as indians. No survivors.

\* Aus-Ger: I may be a friend, but I'll be a "dead" friend. Those may be the best friends in the game of Diplomacy. They don't let you down as often as certain people do.

\* Aus-Ita: The only people who talk to you or write to you about the game get knifed by you. Stop complaining.

\* Aus-Board: You have been warner.

\* Hawk's Castle to MWoff:Which habit would you like to me break



Lance O.  
Anderson

Larry Botimer

Thomas Adams

the right or the left. Hey Luigi!  
I've got a job for you.

\* Aus-Eng: J.R. has been hospit-  
alized from too much good living.  
You need a new Minister of War.

\* Aus-Rus: Not exactly a replay  
but it was sure close. I don't  
want one but my bet is that Kathy  
wants to sepearate the seasons so  
she can gloat. ((You finally win!))

\* Hawk-Chicken Ranch Manager:  
Yes, I can read a map. I may not  
like what it is telling me (You  
Loser!, for one thing) but I sus-  
pected this would happen.

\* Hawk-Con Man: How'd you like  
to go to Trieste?

\* Aus-Fra: I sense a severe sec-  
urity leak. Almost as bad as  
mine was. Now, I don't have any  
security at all.

"From Turkey"

\* Sultan-Hawk: What did you ex-  
pect? You send me a letter tell-  
ing me you are going to help Rus-  
sia take Bulgaria. When are you  
going to learn not to trust Kathy  
when she has Italy? ((What's this  
'when she has Italy' business...))

\* Turkey-Europe: Where did you  
get your philosophy degree?

"From Elsewhere"

\* Europe-Felhaven Guru: The uni-  
verse is Ohm and it is us. Your  
carburetor will be ready on Tues-  
day. That will be \$2 please.

\* Felhaven Guru-Europe: Fine, but  
now the radiator's out...

\* Linda-Felhaven: Ohm, sweet  
Ohm... ((large groan)).

\* Jackie Ass to Pepperoni: I  
saw that! Keep your hands off my  
hubby! You'd better waltz straight  
back home...or else, no more

brownies! What are you trying to do-- give Cochise poison IV?!

\* Felhaven News: Cat fight! Cat Fight!

\* Linda to Felhaven: I have this wierd sense of deja vu...

\* Felhaven: That's odd; I have the regular kind.

\* \* \* \* \*

198 SHU  
Golden  
Dawn

DUKE EXPANDS  
ON ALL FRONTS  
WHILE EAST IS  
MADE SEAWORTHY;  
SWEDEN FALLS AS  
CZAR HANGS ON.

DIPLOMACY  
GM:Hinton  
Spring'02

ENGLAND(Mikel D.Petty):1A Nor-Swe,  
1F Nth-Ska, 2F Nwg-Bar, 3F Lon  
-Nth.(4800 Hinman Dr., Orlando  
FL 32806.(305)275-5096).@

FRANCE(Jim Martin):1A Bel-H, 2A  
Por-Spa, 3A Par-Bur, 1F Sec-  
Wes, 2F Bre-Mid, 3F Mar-Pie.

GERMANY(Paul F.Kelly):1A Hol-H,  
2A Sil-Mun, 3A Kie-Mun, 1F Den  
S 2F Ber-Bal, 2F Ber-Bal.(3330  
Esperanza Dr., Concord CA 94519)  
@

ITALY(Lance O.Anderson):1A Tun-  
Naf, 2A Pie-Tus, 1F TyS-Wes,  
1F Rom-Nap.(5631 Spring Valley

Rd. #134; Dallas TX 75240 (214)  
991-8230).@

RUSSIA(Michael Grubb):1A Fin-StP,  
2A War-Sil, 1F Bal S ENG A Nor-  
Swe/r/Bot,Lvn,Pru,d/.(220 Al-  
exander Ave. Apt.C; Durham NC  
27705 (919)648-1600).@

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY(Larry Botimer):1A  
Rum-Uke, 2A Ser-Rum, 3A Vie-  
Tyr, 4A Bud-Gal, 1F Alb-Ion.  
(13833 N.E. 11th St. #j-3;  
Bellevue WA 98005).@

TURKEY(Thomas Adams):1A Gre S 2A  
Bul, 2A Bul S 1A Gre, 3A Ank-  
Arm, 1F Sev-Rum, 2F Con-Aeg,  
3F Smy - Eas.(705A Salerno Cir.  
Ft.Devens MA 01433).@

#### NOTES:

I seem to have misplaced Jim's  
address from above; it is:(2940 W.  
Julie Dr., Phoenix AZ 85027).@

The Russian first fleet has a  
number of retreat (or the disband-  
ment) options. Fall 1902 orders  
may be made conditional upon the  
Summer retreat result.

Order submission need not use  
these or any abbreviations, so  
long as the meaning is unambigu-  
ous.

Thanks to Melinda and Steve for



To Turkey: Your fleets make me nervous;  
what are your plans? If I continue to see west wind  
ex punction then I might consider political re-alignment.

\* Kiel (January 11, 1902): To renegotiate the opening of German ports  
to Swedish shipping, the Kaiser confirmed his appointment of Baron  
Wilfrid von Nuden to head the bargaining team. Shown above, von Nuden  
welcomes Swedish Ambassador Karl Svensk, from the harbor at Kiel.

thier standby orders.

Mail 1902 orders are now called.

BLACK (By territory of issue).

PRESS Editor's comments in (( )).

"From Italy"

\* It-Ger: See that opening? You go for it.

\* Lance to Jim: Your suggested moves did not insure my safety to an acceptable degree, thus my actual moves.

"From Russia"

\* St. Petersburg to the World: A prolonged illness, involving hospitalization and lasting 2½ months, was the cause of the Czar's recent seclusion. Other heads of Europe should not be concerned that he has broken off relations, in spite of the Southern Invasion.

\* Winter Palace to Sublime Porte: You needn't worry; I won't let anyone know you broke our long-term agreement for a short-term gain in Sevastopol. Who can blame you? Nobody wants an ally on the verge of destruction. No hard feelings.

\* Nicholas to Franz Josef: At this point the game hinges on

which direction you head out in. We're all watching - so make it a good one!

"From Turkey"

\* Tur=Aus: Can we afford to argue? The Italian buffer won't last long against the F/G headache. Drop me a line.

\* Tur-Ita: Just remember that I am prepared to lend a helping hand.

\* Tur-Fra: One would think that you were trying to get control of all Europe. Veni, Vidi, Vici?

\* The Harem-Von Richtofen: Putting another notch on your belt? Be careful out there or you may need those pharmaceuticals.

\* Tur-Rus: So sorry for the intrusion. You may get back to business.

\* Tur-Eng: Who's next on the hit parade?

\* \* \* \* \*

## Deadline

The Deadline for all games is Saturday, April 19, 1986.

\* \* \* \* \*

GAMESMASTERS PUBLISHERS ASSN. 20 Almont St.  
Nashua, New Hampshire, 03060

Inflict  
Upon

Lance O. Anderson  
5631 Spring Valley Rd.  
Apt. #134;  
Dallas, TX 75240

You receive this because:

- ☐ you are mentioned herein!
- ☒ you subscribe or trade.
- ☐ your letter is published herein.
- ☐ this is a free sample; consider it an offer to subscribe or trade.

Please see ACCOUNTS and/or your game(s):

- ☐ because you must renew or this is your last issue.
- ☐ because you must renew or the next issue is your last issue.
- ☐ because you have a gamefee due.

First Class  
Mail

Address  
Corresotion  
Requested

Dated Material  
Do Not  
Delay

Inside: Put Kaissa First  
in the Lifers Poll!

