LEMON CURRY

#139

JANUARY 16, 199

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Another year, another 10 opening lines I have to come up with for this 'zine. This is issue 139 of *Lemon Curry*, the 'zine for people who don't want to bother with things like consistency (well, it consistently comes out within three days of the Diplomacy deadline, if that counts), from Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339, USA, phone (+1) 415 461-2692, but only 6 PM to 11 PM Pacific time (0200-0700 GMT), E-mail ddelgran@nyx.cs.du.edu (but don't expect me to read it every day, especially on weekends).

1994 - a Winter Olympics year, a World Cup year, and a WORLD DIP CON year. Guess which one I'm attending in person? (Hint: it's the one not on television. The WDC committee was worried there for a minute...)

MONTY'S NEWS AND COMMENT is brought to you by THE COMMITTEE TO SPEND THE MONEY THAT AN NCAA DIVISION I NATIONAL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP WOULD GENERATE

One plan calls for the money to be distributed equally among the Division I-A football schools. Good idea, except that some I-AA schools, or schools with other Division I sports but with no business being near a I-A football field (e.g. UNLV, San Francisco), would jump to I-A for the money. Another plan: give 40% to the conference of each school in the championship game, and divide the other 20% among all of the I-A *players*. Problem: an independent like Notre Dame can walk away with a fortune.

Here's my idea: take *all* of the money the bowl games generate, put it into a pool, and divide it among *all* NCAA schools (maybe with weighting factors based on division and number of sports). If this causes a problem by making all bowl games "equal" (what incentive is there to play in the Orange Bowl over the Copper Bowl other than money if there's no national championship at stake - for that matter, why play a bowl game at all?), then give 5% of the money from each bowl to the teams in that game. I can see how football powerhouses would react to this one. Actually, my *real* idea is for the NCAA to let "big-time" colleges form their own league where players can be paid (why not - students get paid for other university jobs, and whoever said "they get athletic scholarships" didn't make any friends from walk-ons) without losing NCAA eligibility in other sports. (I can almost guarantee that the only reason there isn't a separate football and/or men's basketball college league is that the NCAA would ban the school from competing in all other sports, and while some schools might not mind that, enough of the big ones would to make this impossible.) As long as this "super league" makes it clear that each player gets paid the same amount, with no exceptions and no bonuses (other than the fact that athletic scholarships are worth different amounts at different schools), "buying players" wouldn't be a problem. There's an added benefit: college football once again becomes a sport where college students play football, and no longer just a training league for the NFL.

And now for the annual CHRISTMAS PRESSENTS to the hobby...

To KATHY CARUSO: A second wind so KK won't have to fold, instead returning to the days of old when the games were secondary to the gossipy silliness. (Say, who is the Hobby Gossipy Silliness custodian now? I may have to usurp the title (again) to get the real heir to the throne out into the open...)

To ALL NORTH AMERICANS WHO WANT TO GO TO WORLD DIP CON IV: A big bank account and enough time off in July and August so I won't end up being the only one there like in Canberra in 1992. (And not only did a press release have me being from San Diego (i.e. it originally said "Larry Peery" but my name was switched in at the last minute) and giving a quote I never said, but a number of people at the 1992 DIPCON asked Larry how WDC went...) At least the air fare is *much* less to London than to Sydney (from the west coast, it's less than \$900 round trip).

Time for another of those great LOM/ASM&ASK/LC traditions you just think you can't live without:

THE 1994 EDWINA AWARDS

in recognition of THINGS that happened in 1993

By the way...the awards are named for British MP Edwina Currie (yes, pronounced "Curry"), who was notorious for healthy eating and healthy living (there was a "Currie Club" that met for the sole purpose of eating fatty foods and smoking cigars), only to resign from her cabinet post after starting a salmonella scare involving eggs.

The NIGHTMARE OF THE YEAR award is a tie, split between the DIPCON XXVI COMMITTEE for having to get through (a) a hotel that was overbooked a month before the event, (b) trying to set up a round with 36 players in it, and (c) somebody requesting that the tournament results be withheld - in other words, declare the tournament void - because of the "declare your own result" rule (i.e. the players in a board can declare the final SC counts for each player to be pretty much whatever they want, assuming all players agree and the total is 34), and the participants for having to live through it.

As the person has revealed himself, I can now say that it was Larry Peery that wanted the tournament results withheld. I still think my rule allowing players to set final SC counts in a game, as I feel the players shouldn't be wasting their time going through the motions to get a result they all agree on. If somebody didn't like the proposed result, they could just vote against it and have the game played on as usual.

The **BAD SPORTING NEWS** award goes to the jockey who managed to complete the Grand National Steeplechase course at Aintree first, only to find out that the race was declared void as it was a false start (the starting rope didn't raise for all of the horses). The bookmakers were a close second, as the race was not rerun, and all of the bets had to be refunded. As far as I know, there was no Grand National in 1993.

Speaking of horse racing, the **ADDING INSULT TO INJURY** award goes to Loblolly Stable, owners of Preakness winner Prairie Bayou. Going into the Belmont, the only thing standing in the way of Prairie Bayou winning the \$1,000,000 bonus for the best Triple Crown performance was a first or second-place finish by Kentucky Derby winner Sea Hero. Unfortunately, Prairie Bayou broke down during the race and had to be killed. Sea Hero finished seventh, 12 lengths behind the second-place horse. One small detail: the rules stipulate that the million goes to the horse with the best record (10 points for a win, 5 for second, 3 for third, 1 for fourth) that starts and finishes all three races - and Prairie Bayou didn't finish the Belmont. (The intent of the rule is to make sure the top horses don't skip Triple Crown races, after one Kentucky Derby winner skipped the Preakness to go for a bigger bonus offered by the Jersey Derby, or intentionally ease up.)

The NEXT GOOD REASON NOT TO BE PLAYING DIP award goes to Magic: The Gathering, the newest addition to the list of cult-standing games that stores can't seem to keep in stock. For those of you who don't know, you pay \$8 for a deck of 60 cards (out of a set of 300; no two decks are the same), plus you can buy additional sets of 15 cards (including at least one "rare" card) for around \$2.50. Cards consist of "mana" cards (that give you power), "creature" cards (that can attack), and "spell" cards (that affect other parts of the game). The object is to play the right combinations of cards to be able to attack your opponent; the first player to inflict 20 hits on the opponent wins - and gets to keep a randomly selected card from the opponent's deck! The theory is to buy at least two decks of cards and create a "power deck" of cards mainly from two of the five colors of cards (if you limit yourself to one, your opponent might spring an appropriate protection spell and make your deck pretty much worthless). The other main feature is the cards themselves, each a work of art in their own right.

The NON-SPORTSMEN OF THE YEAR award goes to the people who make a big thing about Long Beach being "the first U.S. team to defend the Little League World Series title". Nobody seems to have pointed out that the illegal players the 1992 Philippine team put up against Long Beach also played against Taiwan in the Far East

regional final and *lost* to a Latin American team in the round-robin stage of the World Series, but Little League rules say that a team forfeits "the last game it played" if it is caught using ineligible players, so those games counted; only the last game (i.e. the one against a U.S. team) would be forfeited if, as happened, the illegality was discovered after the tournament. At least in 1993, Little League got its act together, and some teams were disqualified *before* reaching the World Series tournament. (By the way...there is no such thing as an official U.S. Little League champion, especially since a few years ago the "U.S. Title" was won by a team from Mexico - the only time there were two foreign teams in the final.)

The TWO GOLDS ARE BETTER THAN ONE award goes to FINA (the International Water Sports Federation) and the International Olympic Committee for giving a gold medal to Canadian synchronized swimmer Sylvie Frechette while not taking the gold away from USA's Kristen Babb-Sprague. What happened: in an "early" round of the competition, a judge wanted to give Frechette a score of 9, but punched in 8 by mistake, and by the time somebody who could speak the judge's language explained how to change the score, it had already been registered and, according to the rules, could not be changed (there has to be a time when you say "you cannot change the score"; otherwise, someone who sees a score they don't like could bribe or coerce a judge into changing it, and the judge could always claim that the original was a mistake). Had the score been 9 instead of 8, Frechette would have won instead of Babb-Sprague. After the red tape involved in getting both FINA and IOC to agree, she received a gold medal instead of the silver she was originally given. Now, some people might claim that Babb-Sprague didn't deserve her gold medal and it should be taken away. The point is, who knows how Babb-Sprague and Frechette would have done knowing that Frechette was actually in the lead, which she would have been with the "correct" score? Since we'll never really know which of them would have won, you might as well call it a tie and give them both gold medals; in effect, this is what happened.

Speaking of winning, the LAME CLAIM OF THE YEAR award goes to HBO. There was a tie for Best Made-For-TV Movie between two HBO films, so each film received an Emmy. As a result, HBO counted it as two Emmys they received (in a category where only one should have been given), and because of this, HBO finished with one Emmy more than NBC at the top of the "network count". I hope NBC remembers what HBO thinks of commercial television when it decides which cable company will co-carry the 1996 Summer Olympics. (I wouldn't be surprised if a company other than Turner gets the rights and tries to have CNN, TBS, and TNT turned off, or at least moved from Atlanta, during the games as part of their "exclusive cable rights", especially since the basketball will almost certainly be held in The Omni, which is literally next door to CNN/TBS/TNT's Atlanta studios.)

The **NO-SHOWS OF THE YEAR** are Robert Sacks and Chris Carrier, who did not carry their feuding from Worldcon in San Francisco the twenty miles south to DIPCON, which was being held at the same time. There are too many stories (and not enough witnesses) about what these two did in San Francisco to go into here.

The LIKE PUBLISHER, LIKE READERS award goes to Andrew York, one of the winners (along with Michael Tsuk and eight others) of the contest in *The GENERAL* Volume 28 #4. For those of you who don't know, I have three contest wins under my belt, in *Magic Realm*, *Hitler's War*, and (incredibly enough) *Diplomacy*. Of course, now that the contests usually have nothing to do with games, just about anybody can win them... (A close second goes to Brent McKee, who left one small detail out of his sub renewal: the money - something that I was once notorious for doing.)

Finally, the CHEAP EXCUSE TO MENTION THE SIMPSONS IN AN ISSUE award goes to Twentieth-Century Fox, whose Fox Broadcasting Company owns the rights to broadcast NFC football (plus NFC vs. AFC games held in AFC stadiums) on Sunday. The links with *The Simpsons*: one, Fox also produces The Simpsons, so when they sell the syndication rights (beginning this September), they'll have enough money to pay for this contract; two, instead of Jimmy the Greek or Pete Axthelm, they can point out that Lisa correctly predicted the last two Super Bowls in advance. Just don't mention the part about "(I like) the Raiders (to win) because they always cheat"...

TRIVIAL PURSUIT "CARRIE"

DAVE ANDERSON has resigned due to personal problems

- 1. (GR-G2) How many of every five American male babies were circumsized in 1982?
- 2. (BL-80) Who wrote Generation of Swine: Tales of Shame and Degradation in the 1980s?
- 3. (PK-80) What group rapped "Got a group to troop, with a snoop to shoot, shoot hoop to scoop, on the scoop to loop"?
- 4. (YE-TV) On Dallas, whose maiden name was Southworth?

SCOTT CAMERON

- 5. (YE-G2) What was West Germany's currency called before the Deutschmark in 1948?
- 6. (OR-G2) What culinary wizard claims to have devoted his life to creating the perfect popcorn?
- 7. (BR-80) What country's people spent 37 billion hours waiting in line for food in 1985?
- 8. (PK-TV) What Happy Days character once said "Virgins don't lie"?

MELINDA ANN HOLLEY

- 9. (OR-G2) What is "beisuboru" to a Japanese sports fan?
- 10. (GR-80) In 1980, Soviet athlete Aleksandr Dityatin won the maximum number of Olympic men's gymnastics medals possible how many?
- 11. (PK-80) Who is called "the Marilyn Monroe of South America"?
- 12. (BR-TV) What Merv Griffin-created game show had 42 million viewers per show in the 1980s?

DOUGLAS KENT

- 13. (BL-G2) What airline's first departure was from Dobrolyot in 1923?
- 14. (YE-G2) What is Margaret Thatcher's husband's first name?
- 15. (BR-80) How many hours did the average work week increase between 1973 and 1987?
- 16. (GR-TV) Who left Gunsmoke "to be a leading man, instead of a second banana"?

JACK McHUGH NMRed - questions carry over

BRENT McKEE

- 17. (BR-G2) Can adverbs modify adjectives?
- 18. (BL-80) Whay New York Mets pitcher nearly lost 1/3 of his pitching hand's middle finger in a Weed Whacker accident?
- 19. (OR-TV) What car company originally sponsored Route 66?
- 20. (OR-G2) How far is a lap on an Olympic "long-track" speed skating track?
- 21. (BL-80) Who paid Maryland \$268,482 in back taxes in 1982?
- 22. (PK-TV) What *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* character told a grand jury he was the best newsman in the country, because he was under oath?

JOHN SZPYLKA

- 23. (BL-G2) What university town did Albert Einstein call "a quaint and ceremonious village of pure demigods on stilts"?
- 24. (PK-80) What Prince song had baby boomers comparing it to Little GTO and Little Deuce Coupe?
- 25. (YE-TV) What was the first name of the person who apparently killed Laura Palmer on Twin Peaks?
- 26. (BR-TV) Who was almost named Huckleberry Bear, Yucca Bear, and Yo-Yo Bear?

W. ANDREW YORK (7/11)

- 27. (GR-G2) What's the term for a plant that lives more than two years?
- 28. (OR-G2) Which usually hits a golf ball farther, a 3-wood or a 2-iron?
- 29. (PK-80) What 1988 movie had the biggest opening weekend for any independently produced and distributed movie?
- 30. (BR-TV) On *The Price is Right*, when a woman's breasts became exposed, what word appeared on the sign that CBS covered them with?

ANSWERS (* indicates a player miss)

- 1.4 / 2. Hunter S. Thompson / 3. Run-DMC / 4. Miss Ellie / 5. Reichsmark / 6. Orville Redenbacker / 7. USSR
- 8. Fonzie / 9. Baseball / 10. *Eight / 11. *Sonia Braga / 12. *Wheel of Fortune / 13. *Aeroflot / 14. *Denis
- 15. *Eight / 16. *Dennis Weaver / 17. *Yes / 18. *Bob Ojeda / 19. General Motors / 20. *400m / 21. Spiro Agnew
- 22. Ted Baxter / 23. Princeton / 24. Little Red Corvette / 25. *Bob / 26. Yogi Bear / 27. Perennial / 28. 3 Wood
- 29. *A Nightmare On Elm Street: The Dream Master / 30. "OOPS"

RAILWAY RIVALS "GYPSY", ROUND 2 - Everybody wants a piece of Derby

GC (Goode): (J21)-<u>Birmingham</u>-M20-M19; (M19)-N18-N16-A56-<u>Derby</u>-A54; (A54)-A53, (A56)-C55

GC pays 1 to CAMELOT (C55)

HICK (Hood): (B65)-B64-A64-Coventry; (Coventry)-A58-N17-N16; (N16)-A56-Derby-B54

HICK pays 4 to GC (N16-A56-Derby) and 2 to CAMELOT (Derby-B54)

CAMELOT (Stimmel): (Stoke)-I14-L15; (L15)-M16-<u>Derby</u>-B54-C55-<u>Nottingham</u>; (Nottingham)-G53 CCM (Weiss): (A45)-M4-<u>Bradford</u>, (N4)-<u>Huddersfield</u>; (A47)-<u>Sheffield</u>-A51-B51-B52; (B52)-A53-Derby

CCM pays 2 to GC (A54-Derby)

ST-AR (York): (Manchester)-K9, (Burnley)-I4; (K9)-M10; (M10)-M12-N12

<u>Underlined</u> cities indicate receiving the 6 bonus for building there first; <u>double underlined</u> cities indicate two players built there at the same time, so each receive 3

Note that GC and CAMELOT split the bonus for Derby as each got there in the second "build phase" (i.e. on the second building die) of the round, and as all builds based on the same die are simultaneous, they are considered to have built to Derby at the same time. HICK and CCM got there on the third die, which is too late.

TOTALS AFTER ROUND 2 (start + city bonuses - payouts + collected payouts = new total)

GC: 26+9-1+6=40HICK: 26-6+6=26

CAMELOT: 32 + 9 + 3 = 44

ROUND 3 BUILDS: 4 - 4 - 5

CCM: 32 + 18 - 2 = 48 **ST-AR:** 38 + 0 = 38

DEADLINE for ROUND 3 is FEBRUARY 14

PRESS - BIRKENHEAD (from CAMELOT): Employees of Camelot RR sue railroad for stress caused by claustrophobia while building tunnel to Liverpool.



HISTORY OF THE WORLD... DELAYED??!!

What, you actually expected a start? You haven't been reading this 'zine very long!

Five people - Derwood Bowen, Dave Anderson, David Hood, Brad Wilson, and Jim Goode - have expressed interest in playing. Jack McHugh does not have a copy of the game; I think that you need this game to play it by mail as there's no PBM map or listing of the Event cards, but if one of the players thinks he can get away with playing without owning the game (send him a map or something?) and there's still room, I'll change my mind. James Bailey is on vacation somewhere until sometime in February.

A number of people have said that this game really should be played with six people, in much the same way as Diplomacy really should be played with seven. I'm going to hold off until I can get more from Bailey; hopefully this game can be started next issue.

KINGMAKER "ME AND MY GAL", TURN 37 - There's a bottleneck on the road between Blackheath and Rochester, but it's nothing a nice big battle can't fix

PRE-MOVE: Audley and Talbot are executed; Audley goes to discards, Talbot to McHugh's hand

PLANTAGENISTAS (Cameron)

STANLEY remains in Douglas

CLIFFORD, GREY*, NEVILLE*, SCROPE, GREYSTOKE, PERCY, *Edward March, and George* (m9)-Helmsley-Wressle-Towton-m35-Newark

PLANTAGENET-YORK (Barnet) via road to Eccleshall

Le GEORGE (s17)-s16-s14-s13-s11-s9

Le TRINITY (Chichester)-s18-s17-s15-Dartmouth

INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS ASSOCIATION (York)

BERKELEY*, HASTINGS*, HERBERT*, HOLLAND*, MOWBRAY*, and Edmund stopped in Rochester en route to Blackheath

KING'S COURT (Anderson)

BEAUFORT, BOURCHIER, CROMWELL, FITZALAN, ROOS, PLANTAGENET-LANCASTER, and Margaret (Blackheath)-Rochester*

STAFFORD (St. Albans)-London-Blackheath-Rochester*

Le LUCAS, Le MICHAEL and Le NICHOLAS remain in Rochester

ROYAL TOADIES (McHugh) has no nobles on board

COMBAT: The entire King's Court and Individual Rights Association factions bump into each other between Blackheath and Rochester. As KC is the bigger faction, they move into the IRA space, so the combat is in Blackheath. The strengths are 750 and 230, which is 3-1: the KC attack succeeds (EMBASSY PRESTON), and the five IRA nobles along with Edmund are captured by King's Court. IRA only has two transferrable cards, one Flemish Crossbowmen and one Burgundian Crossbowmen, which Dave can distribute among his nobles present in the battle. Also note that King's Court now has a Lancaster and a York royal heir.

YOUR TURN 37 CROWN CARD:

TURN 38 EVENTS: CATASTROPHE (1 turn) - in turn 38, only strengths on Noble and Mercenary cards count; VACILLATING ALLEGIANCE - if Holland is not killed, he cannot move in turn 38; holding card to Anderson; HERESY (*Clifford to Carlisle or Durham; *Neville to Canterbury or London; *Stafford to Norwich - the Archbishop of York, being on an island, cannot respond to the call)

DEADLINE for TURN 38 is FEBRUARY 15 - Remember that catastrophe is in effect; only Noble Cards and Mercenaries have strength this turn

IDTR

INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY TOURNAMENT RATINGS 1994 RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1. International Diplomacy Tournament Ratings (IDTR) exists to encourage tournament play and recognize outstanding play in tournaments through the naming of a "World Tournament Diplomacy Champion". Note this is not meant to be the "World Diplomacy Champion", which is reserved (at least in IDTR opinion) for the winner of the most recent WORLD DIP CON Diplomacy Tournament.
- 2. A tournament must meet all of the following criteria to be eligible to receive IDTR rating points:
 - (a) The results are based solely on the play of individual regular Diplomacy, although a team event and/or an event that includes Diplomacy as a part (e.g. an "overall gaming championship" at a convention) may be held in conjunction with the tournament;
 - (b) The tournament is not in "elimination" format, where a specified number of players from each game in a round advance to the next round (note this does not mean tournaments where the top n players overall, or the top n players who played each country, advance);
 - (c) The location of the tournament must be specified (if it is not a "large" city, it is suggested that its location relative to a nearby large city be included; e.g. "30km south of San Francisco");
 - (d) The results must be received by IDTR no later than 31 December 1994, or 90 days after the event was completed, whichever is later, or IDTR must be satisfied that an honest attempt was made to get the results in on time;
 - (e) At least 31 players eligible to win the tournament participated.
- 3. RATINGS: Ratings for a player in a tournament are based solely on the number of players in the tournament and in what place that player finished. No attempt is made to use individual game scores, as each tournament's different scoring system makes it impossible to know what strategy the player was using. Ratings for each player in a tournament are calculated as follows:
 - (a) The winner of a tournament receives 100 points minus 5 for each person below 50 that participated in the tournament, excluding players who were not eligible to win (because they were part of the staff or did not play the specified minimum number of rounds; note that "didn't play in enough rounds to have a chance of winning" and "not eligible to win under the rules" are two different things);
 - (b) To determine the rating for Nth place (N > 1), calculate the following, where W is the number of points the winner received as determined in (a) and P is the number of eligible players:

$$W \times \frac{(P-(N-1)\times 5)^2}{P^2}$$
 rounded down

EXCEPTION: If P-(N-1)x5 is negative, that player scores zero points for that tournament;

(c) If there is a tie for a position, points are calculated as if the tied players finished in the place equal to the average of the places they would have received had there not been a tie (for example, in a two-way tie for second, the average of 2, 3 is 2.5, so use N=2.5; in a three-way tie for fifth, the average of 5, 6, 7 is 6, so use N=6).

- 4. GEOGRAPHIC LIMITATION ON A PLAYER'S FINAL RATING: There is no longer a "sanctioned tournament list"; all tournaments are now treated equally. (Any tournament that can draw 50 players might as well be called "major".) However, there is one limitation: a player's overall final rating (see below) will not include more than two tournaments held within 100km of any point. If a player competes in three or more tournaments held within 100km of any point, only the two highest-scoring tournaments for that player will be counted for that player. For example, a player competes in three tournaments, all of which fall within a circle with a radius of 100km. That player scores 75, 20, and 100 points in those tournaments. Only the 100 and the 75 will be counted in that player's final rating.
- 5. FINAL RATING: A person's final rating for a year will be the sum of that player's individual tournament ratings, subject to the geographic limitation in (4) above. The person with the highest final rating for a year is the IDTR World Tournament Diplomacy Champion for that year. Should two or more people be tied for the highest final rating, they will be named Joint IDTR World Tournament Diplomacy Champions.



DIPLOMACY "TOMMY", WINTER 1902 - Seasons separated

AUTUMN 1902: Austria retreats A War OTB

WINTER 1902

AUSTRIA (Wilson) is even because of the OTB retreat: has A GAL, A SER, A BUD, and F BUL(sc) ENGLAND (***see below***) is even; has F ENG, A STP, F NTH, and F MAO FRANCE (McHugh) builds A PAR and F MAR; also has A BUR, A BEL, A SPA, and F IRI GERMANY (Bailey) builds F KIE; also has A PRU, A MUN, A HOL, and F DEN ITALY (Goode) builds A VEN, A ROM, and F NAP; also has A TRI, A VIE, and F TUN RUSSIA (Hood) has no space to build and plays one short; has A MOS, F NWY, and A WAR TURKEY (Kent) builds F SMY; also has A CON, A RUM, A SEV, and F BLA

IMPORTANT NOTE! Dave Anderson has to cut back his game load due to personal matters and has to resign from this game. The new England is PHIL REYNOLDS, 2896 OAK STREET, SARASOTA, FL 34237.

DEADLINE for SPRING 1903 is FEBRUARY 17; I have Spring 1903 orders for Austria, England, and France

PRESS

JB-BOARD: The following may be hopelessly out of date, but I meant what I said.

BERLIN TIMES-Personal notices: Lonely European monarch seeks penpal. Interests include politics, chess, literaturem global conquest, and sports. Must be willing to write at least once a month.

GERMANY-ENGLAND: I answered your questions before you asked them. I need a reply if you want me to stop this.

GERMANY-FRANCE: I'm with you. Are you with me?

GERMANY-RUSSIA: I hope you were able to grab my lifeline.

GERMANY-ITALY: We may have common interests. Let's talk.

GERMANY-AUSTRIA: If things remain the way they are, I'd say that you're the odds-on favorite to win this thing. If I can't find anybody interested in trying to stop you, I just may join you.

GERMANY-TURKEY: All I ask is that you keep your eyes open to the big picture (whatever that is).

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PLAY LIST

I got a Sega Genesis with CD-ROM system for Christmas (one good thing about buying my own presents: I don't have to worry about returns) with Sonic the Hedgehog, Sonic II, Sonic Spinball, and the CD-ROM games Sewer Shark, Spiderman vs. Kingpin, and Lethal Enforcers.

SEWER SHARK: I got this one free with the machine. This is more of a movie with a game attached over it; anybody remember the old Arcade game *Foxfire*, which had "film" of the view out of a plane cockpit as the background for a shoot-em-up arcade game? This is set in the future, with the player trying to clear the sewers of assorted creatures like "ratigators" by moving the cursor over them and shooting while continually travelling forawrd through the sewers. The navigator, looking ahead, warns the player of the next three turns to make, but there's not that much warning before the correct turns come up, and the same "joystick" has to be used to move the gun cursor and turn the vehicle. Too many misses and your supervisor shows up on the screen, behind a playe of spaghetti being

covered in Parmesan cheese by his Girl Friday. It's virtually impossible to shoot anything when going around a turn, and even the straight passages require thinking about shooting and turning at the same time.

LETHAL ENFORCERS: This includes the Sega equivalent of the original Nintendo gun. At least this one looks like a revolver. Another in the "kill or be killed" games in the style of Operation Wolf; bad guys pop up on the screen and the player has to shoot them before the player is shot. Watch out for the innocent bystanders.

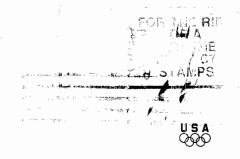
SONIC SPINBALL: I get so used to the pinball aspect that I forget that it's Sonic the Hedgehog being bumped around...and that I can use the joystick to "tilt" Sonic in any direction. The pinball part of this game is pretty good, except that you tend to lose a life more often when Sonic "drains" between the hippers at an angle than when it's straight down the pipe.

GAME OPENINGS

HISTORY OF THE WORLD - In case Bailey doesn't respond in a reasonable amount of time, or if somebody else drops out, there might be an opening. Let me know if you're interested. You must own the game (I already have a non-owner on my list).

STANDBYS - I have one name on my Dip standby list (York); I could use more. Remember that you get a free issue when you submit each of your first two sets of standby orders, plus \$1 credit for finishing the position.

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