

MANIFEST DESTINY is a postal Diplomacy zine dedicated to dominating the hobby for the next 75 years. It is published every four weeks like clockwork by the humble Keith Sesler, PO Box 158, Fraser, MI 48026. Phone (313) 2930223. Subscriptions to MD are 10/\$3.00

NEW Standy Policy: Recently I changed my policy for standbys; this will not affect those of you who had previously signed up as standbys. You will continue to receive MD free if you don't ever NMR. If you do NMR, your designation as standby will be the same as my new policy, which is: Standbys get 1 free issue every time they submit standby orders. This could turn out to be the same as the first type of standby policy if you happen to take over a country which sticks around for awhile. The reason I did this is that I have a good pool of standbys already (about 20), and it seems ridiculous to give out so many free issues when there are so few of you who are called to standby in any given issue. However, as I made a commitment to those of you who agreed to be a standby already, I will honor that commitment and give you MD free. Since I plan on sticking around for a looong time, you will end up saving a fortune in sub costs over the years.

Game openings: I have game openings in Regular Diplomacy (4 signed up), Woolworth II-d (1 signed up), Blowup (6 signed up), Final Conflict (1 signed up), and am now offering a Bourse and also possibly the variant GUSHER, by Fred Davis.

I am offering the BOURSE FREE (rules included this issue), and will attach it to the new game below if I get at least 4 people signed up for it by next deadline. Since this is free, you might as well sign up. It should be fun. You don't have to submit buy/sell orders every turn if you don't want to. You may want to use a company name using your initials or some other initials. For example, I signed up for this in Hai! Jikai! and my company name is ICBM (International Consortium of Bankers and Moneylenders). Of course, you don't need a fancy company name to play.

SPECIAL OFFER: Blowup now has six people signed up. I need 1 more to start. Since I plan on offering other variants and would like to get this one filled as soon as possible, I will be offering this one FREE as an incentive to get that final person signed up. If you have already paid me for this one, let me know if you'd like a refund or a sub extension.

FINAL CONFLICT is a new variant by Tom Swider which is receiving rave reviews. It is so popular a variant, in fact, that it will be running in Diplomacy World as a Demonstration Game, in the same format that the Regular Dip Demo game is being presented. FC is a 7 player global variant similar to the variant Small World, except that there is no western Europe Great Power, and it includes PLANES and NUCLEAR ICBM's!!! If you need the rules, send me a long SASE and I will rush them to you. This one should be loads of fun! Gusher is an interesting 7-player variant using a modified map of Europe in which the values of Supply Centers change in value from 0 (dry Hole) to 3 (Gusher) every time they change hands after 1902. If you are interested, let me know, but don't send any money until I am sure it will fill. Rules available for SASE.

The 2nd Woolworth game is filling up slowly. I had 6 people ask to be my secret power standby in the first one, so why don't some of you join the second one? I chose one local secret standby who I will call in an emergency, and have one other one who will submit moves and press for all 5 secret powers each time. Those picked are being notified with this issue. REGARDING BLOWUP again, Fred Davis, one of the players, has requested that it start no earlier than Sept. 30, so if you sign up NOW, I can rush out the player assignments to everyone, and you will have plenty of negotiating time for the Winter 1900 initial builds/mines, which are very important. I have included an article on playing Blowup this is:  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dip Gamestart MD-3 1983CQ Winter 1900

Seven Bloodthirsty Rulers prepare to fulfill their MANIFEST DESTINY!

AUSTRIA: John Crosly, 830 Hunterhill Trail, Roswell, GA 30075

ENGLAND: Jim Keeney, 1917 - 28th #C, Sacramento, CA 95816

FRANCE: David Anderson, 219 Oakland, Apt. 2, Pontiac, MI 48058

GERMANY: Matthew Fleming, 4290 Chateau de Ville #C, St. Louis, MO 63129

ITALY: Paul Gardner, RR#1-252, Newfane, VT 05345

RUSSIA: Lucien Henry, 6056 Waverly, Dearborn Heights, MI 48127

TURKEY: Randy Duncan (now) 1103 10531 90th St., Edmonton, Alberta CANADA T5H 4E7

Note new address for Gardner, and Duncan. Randy had earlier told me new address wouldn't go into effect until Sept. 1, but his orders which came today have the new address on envelope. Spring 1901 orders due Fri. Sept. 9. Phone orders due Thu, Sept. 8 at 11:59:59 PM EST

MD-2 1983CL Spring 1901

RUSSIA INVADES GERMANY! TURKEY TAKES CHANNEL! ALL-OUT WAR HALTS DISARMAMENT TALKS!  
AUSTRIA:A Vie-GAL,F Tri-ALB,A Bud-SER(David Anderson)  
ENGLAND:F Lon-NTH,F Edi-NWG, A Liv-EDI(Tim Allen)  
FRANCE:(Pierre Touchette):A Par-BUR, A MAR S A Par-Bur, F Bre-MAO  
GERMANY:(Jay Chaiser):F Kie-DEN, A Mun-TYO, A Ber-KIE  
ITALY:(Doug Baker):A VEN H, A Rom-APU, F Nap-ION  
RUSSIA(Ed Henry):F Sev-RUM, A War-SIL, A Mos-WAR, F St.P(SC)-BOT  
TURKEY:(Ken Hager)A Con-BUL, F Ank-BLA, A Smy-ARM

Fall 1901 orders due FRI,Sept.9. Phone orders due Thu, Sept.8 at 11:59:59 PM EST

David Anderson 219 Oakland, Apt. 2, Pontiac,MI 48058  
Tim Allen, 29 Stockbridge Ave., Lowell,MA 01854  
Pierre Touchette: 1,Rue Georges, Masson,Quebec CANADA JOX 2HO  
Jay Chaiser, 3660 S.Lapeer,LT.164, Metamora,MI 48455  
Doug Baker(New Address) 726 Seward, Evanston,Ill 60202  
Ed Henry, 4072 SW Hanford, Seattle,WA 98116  
Ken Hager, 412 Alderdale Circle, Anaheim,CA 92807

Fall orders are on hand from France.

PRESS:

Turkey-Russia: You had your chance and blew it. Now suffer the consequences.  
Sevastopol: The yellow Turks turn tail once more as Mother Russia prepares to destroy the heathen invader.  
Moscow: Who are the enemies of the Tsar? All whose blood is spilled by the mighty Russian army.  
Constanta((Russia)): The United Rumanian Kibitzers erred yesterday, setting the "Ideal Nation" Kibitzing Society ablaze like old tinder. "Not again," United sighed, expressing anguish through idiotic nervous gestures.  
France to England: Like you said? It'll work.  
France to Italy: It's Yes.

\* \* \* \* \*

MD-1 1983AZ Fall 1901

FRANCE DOUBLE-WHAMMIED! GERMANY, RUSSIA GAIN 3! ALL NEUTRAL SCs TAKEN!  
AUSTRIA(Paula Dodge):F Alb-GRE, A Tri-BUD, A SER S RUS F Bla-Bul(ec)  
ENGLAND(Jim Meinel):F Nth-NWY, A Wal-BRE, F ENQ C A Wal-Bre  
FRANCE(Herb Barents):A BUR-Bel, A Mar-SPA, F Mid-POR  
GERMANY:(David Smith):F HOL S A Ruh-Bel,A Ruh-BEL, A Kie-DEN  
ITALY(Ian Strauss):F Ion-TUN, A Apu-VEN, A Pie-Mak  
Russia(David Lincoln):F Bot-SWE, A UKR S A Gal-Rum, A Gal-RUM, F Bla-BUL(EC)  
TURKEY(Joseph A. Flores): A Con-Bul, F Ank-BLA, A Smy-ARM

PRESS:

Moscow-Rome:"An Austrian-Italian non-aggression pact?"  
David the Meek to Herbie, the Flying Dutchy Boy(Rus-Fra):It seems your flittering about drew hostile reactions from all your neighbors. Do they know something that I should know? Have you been drinking Gator-Aid?  
Rome: A French offer of alliance! I can tell this one is really heartfelt, truly sincere, despite its lack of detail(i.e. objectives/limitations). He sincerely wants me to await my turn on the gibbet. Comments, anyone?

Aus-Rus: Just keeping an eye on you, fella!

SUPPLY CENTER CHART WINTER 1901 AUSTRIA:home,SER,GRE(build 2) ENGLAND:home,BRE,NWY(Build 2)  
FRANCE:Par, ~~Ed, Mar~~, SPA,POR(Even) GERMANY:home,BEL,HOL,DEN(build 3) ITALY:home,MAR,TUN  
(build 2) RUSSIA:home,SWE,BUL,RUM(build 3) TURKEY:home(even)

Winter 1901 due Fri.Sept. 9. Phone orders due Thu., Sept. 8 at 11:59:59 PM EST

Paula Dodge,002A814.c/o IBM Corp.(Drop Code 0409), Owego,NY 13827  
JIM MEINEL(NEW ADDRESS!) 7410 Nancy St. #1, Anchorage,AK 99507 Herb Barents: 317 Chestnut, Batavia,Ill. 60510 DAVID SMITH: 28374 Nandina, N.Olmsted,Ohio 44070  
IAN STRAUSS: 1500 Royal Crest Fr.,APT.246, Austin,TX 78741 DAVE LINCOLN: 25 Sun Valley Dr., Cumberland,RI 02864 Joseph Flores, 3220 Fuqua,D-20, Houston,TX 77047  
PLEASE NOTE MEINEL'S NEW ADDRESS MORE GAMES ARE ON PAGE FOUR

MACDONOUGH'S SONG By Rudyard Kipling

Whether the State can loose and bind  
 In Heaven as well as on Earth:  
 If it be wiser to kill mankind  
 Before or after the birth--  
 These are matters of high concern  
 Where State-kept schoolmen are;  
 But Holy State (we have lived to learn)  
 Endeth in Holy War.

Whether The People be led by the Lord,  
 Or lured by the loudest throat;  
 If it be quicker to die by the sword  
 Or cheaper to die by the vote--  
 These are the things we have dealt with once,  
 (And they will not rise from their grave)  
 For Holy People, however it runs,  
 Endeth in wholly Slave.

Whatsoever, for any cause,  
 Seeketh to take or give  
 Power above or beyond the Laws,  
 Suffer it not to live!  
 Holy State or Holy King--  
 Or Holy People's Will--  
 Have no truck with the senseless thing.  
 Order the guns and kill!  
 Saying--after--me--

Once there was The People--Terror gave it birth;  
 Once there was The People and it made a Hell of Earth.  
 Earth arose and crushed it. Listen. O ye slain!  
 Once there was The People--it shall never be again!

\* \* \* \* \*  
 DID YOU KNOW: that Ammonium Nitrate, a very inexpensive fertilizer (less than 20¢/pound),  
 is also a powerful explosive that can be set off with a detonator made from aspirin, battery  
 acid, and potassium nitrate (a common material used in ceramics)? Don't tell this to the  
 anti-gunners, or they'll want to ban cars, pain killers, fertilizer, and pottery.  
 \* \* \* \* \*

A couple of American sailors, on leave for a few days in Norway, decided to go to church.  
 Not knowing Norwegian, they decided to play it safe by picking out a dignified-looking old  
 gentleman sitting in front of them and doing whatever he did. During the service the  
 minister made a special announcement of some kind. The man in front of them stood up. The  
 sailors got to their feet also. Instantly there was a roar of laughter from the entire  
 congregation. When the service was over and they were greeted by the minister at the door,  
 they discovered he spoke English. They naturally asked what the laughter was about.  
 "Oh," said the minister, "I was announcing a baptism, and asked the father of the child  
 to rise."  
 \* \* \* \* \*

Diplomacy is to do and say  
 The nastiest thing in the nicest way. --Isaac Goldberg  
 \* \* \* \* \*

The family was visiting Washington and the boy's father had taken him to see the Senate  
 in session. The Senate was opened by a prayer, offered by the chaplain.  
 "Who is that man?" asked the boy? "That is the chaplain," said his father.  
 "Does he pray for the Senators, Dad?" asked the boy.  
 "No, son," his father said. "When he gets up there and looks out over the Senate, he prays  
 for the country."

WOOLWORTH II-D 1983Hcb19 SPRING '01  
 TEN COUNTRIES HEAD EVERY WHICH WAY! ENGLAND CONFUSED?  
 AUSTRIA(Paula Dodge):A Bud-TRI, A Vie-BUD, F Tri-ADR  
 BALKANS(???): A Ser-RUM, A BEL S A Ser-Rum, F Gre-AEG  
 ENGLAND(???):F Lon-NTH, F EDN S F Lon-Nth, F LIV-Ice(IMP)  
 FRANCE(Pierre Touchette):F Bre-ENG, A Par-BUR, A MAR-Swi  
 GERMANY(Ralph Baty): A MUN-Swi, A Ber-KIE, F Kie-HOL  
 ITALY:(Philip Dancause): A Ven-PIE, F Rom-TYR, F Nap-ION  
 RUSSIA(???):A St.P-LAP, A Mos-UKR, A War-GAL, F SEV-Rum  
 SCANDINAVIA(???):F NWY-Nth, A Swe-DEN, F Den-BAL  
 SPAIN(David Anderson):F Mor-MAO,F Mad-W.MED, A Por-MAD  
 TURKEY(???):A Con-SMY, F Smy-E.MED, F Ank-BLA

PRESS:

Russia-England: Shall we divide Scandinavia and Germany?  
 Russia-France: Do you want a picce of Germany too?  
 Russia-Germany: No offense intended with my words to France and England.  
 Paris to World: It is only a game.((Since when?))  
 Paris to Berlin: A Par to Bur was only a defensive move.  
 BERLIN:Finally, home at last(to those of you who don't know I live in Berlin).  
 England-France: I have no problem. Go somewhere else.  
 Paris to England: F Bre-Eng is to prevent France of a squeeze.  
 Russia-Turkey:We want peace.  
 Russia-Balkans: We want just a little piece.  
 Russia-Austria: Just protecting our backs.  
 Russia-Scandinavia: Same as for Austria.  
 Russia-Italy:Would you like to share Austria with us?  
 Russia-Spain:I'll support Madrid if you support Moscow!  
 Fall '01 orders due Fri. Sept. 9th. Phone orders due Thu, Sept.8th at 11:59:59 PM EST.

Paula Dodge,002A814,c/O IBM Corp.(Drop Code 0409),Owego,NY 13827 Pierre Touchette,  
 1,Rue Georges, Masson,Quebec CANADA J0X 2H0 RALPH BATY,USAFSB Box 9804,APO NY,NY 09742  
 P.Dancause,30 D Hidden Lake, Stafford,VA 22554 D.Anderson,219 Oakland,Apt.2,Pontiac,MI 4805'  
 \* \* \* \* \*

1981AQ MENSA #14 WINTER 1906 and SPRING 1907  
 RUSSIA STABS ITALY! REPORTS OF ENGLISH RULER'S DEATH 'GREATLY EXAGGERATED'  
 ENGLAND(Craig Reges):EVEN.F Lon-NTH,F NWY S F Lon-Nth, A Yor-LIV  
 FRANCE(Eric Strand):B F Bre. A MUN S A Kie,A BER S A Kie, A KIE S A Ber, A HOL S F Eng-Bel,  
 A Bel-HUH, F Eng-BEL, F Bre-ENG, F IRI S F Bre-Eng, F NAO-NWG, F MAO-NAO  
 GERMANY(Errol Platt)D A Pru. F Liv-CLY  
 ITALY(Richard Young)B F Nap.F Ion-E.MED, F Nap-ION, F TUN S F Nap-Ion, A Ser S Rus A Bul  
 (NSO) (/d/ /A/), A THE-ALL, A Vie-Tri(/d/, R TYO,BOH,OTB), A VEN H  
 RUSSIA(Ralph Baty):Even, A Bul-SER, A RUM S A Bul-Ser, A Sev-UKR, F Arm-SEV, A Gal-VIE,  
 A BUD S A Gal-Vie, A War-PRU, A St.P-FTH, F DEN S ENG F Nwy-Nth(NSO)  
 TURKEY(Ken Hager):D A Con..F Bla-CON, A GRE S A Alb, A ALB S A Gre, F AEG S A Gre  
PRESS:

Moscow-Rome: Sorry about that. I can defend against Turkey but not against you.  
 London: ZZZZZ - Huh, Whazzat? Oh, yes, Death to the enemies of France!  
 ((France)):Annual conference of French Debutantes called for peace in the Balkans.  
 Summer 1907 retreats and Fall 1907 orders due Fri.Sept.9.Phone orders due Sept.8 at 11:59 PM

Craig Reges: 16 W. 761 White Pines Rd., Bensenville, Ill. 60106  
 Eric Strand: 203 N. 5th, Delavan, WI 53115(New address)  
 Errol Platt: 3270 Havenwood Dr., Mississauga, Ontario CANADA L4X 2M1  
 Richard Young: 1739 Kirkway Ln., Lapeer, MI 48446  
 Ralph Baty, USAFSB Box 9804, APO NY,NY 09742  
 Ken Hager, 412 Alderdale Circle, Anaheim, CA 92807

\* \* \* \* \*  
 "A government that is big enough to give you all you want is big enough to take it all away."  
 ---Barry Goldwater  
 "Prosperity cannot be restored by raids upon the public treasury."--Herbert Hoover

## BOURSE RULES (REPRINTED FROM HAI! JIKAI!)

1. Each player starts out with 1000 units of each currency: Pounds, Francs, Lira, Crowns, Piastres, Rubles, and Marks. All are equal in value at the start of the game.
2. Deadline for Bourse orders is the day before the deadline for the Diplomacy game. Orders are in two parts: Buying and selling. You must always buy as much as you sell every turn. This is most important.
3. At the start of the game, one unit of each currency is worth one dollar. However, each time 100 units of any currency is sold (net sales) its value in relation to the dollar drops 1¢. Thus, if in the last season the net total of everyone's orders resulted in 500 more Marks being sold than bought, the price for the next season will be one Mark equals 95¢. Each time 100 units of any currency is bought, the price in relation to the dollar goes up 1¢.
4. You must buy as much as you sell in relation to dollars. For instance if, in the second round, you sell 100 Lira worth \$110, you must buy, for example, 115 Marks if they are valued at 95¢ ( $115 \times .95 = 109.25$ —all fractions are lost). You must do these computations yourself, and you must do them on your orders so that they can be checked, and if there is an error, as much as possible will be bought for you. If, for example, 999 Marks are bought, the price goes up only 9¢—all fractions are lost.
5. You may never sell more than 500 units of any one currency in a given season. You may buy as much as you can.
6. Unless a country is eliminated, its currency will never drop below one unit equals 1¢. The value of the currency in the other direction has no limit.
7. Each season the GM will list who sold and bought what, old price, net change, and new price in a convenient table. He will also list the holdings of each player in the game as they now stand.
8. Bourse players may use pseudonyms. Real identities will be revealed at the end of the game.
9. At the end of the game, each player's value will be computed as follows: The number of supply centers each country owns times how many blocks of 100 units you have of its currency (fractions will be carried). Thus, if England wins and you have 2000 pounds (assuming England has 18 centers) you get 360 'credits' for England. The one with the most credits wins. Obviously, once a country is eliminated, its currency becomes immediately valueless and all trade in that currency ceases.
10. Anyone (other than players in the Diplomacy game) may join the Bourse at any time and receive 1000 units of each currency still available.
11. No conditional orders are allowed.

\* \* \* \* \*

To the Editor:

Trust you won't consider me a krone for wishing to settle the matter we discussed tonight at dinar. When the mil was over, the lady who had eaten pie precipitated a debate on the correct form and spelling of the term for a collector of coins. Having consulted the dictionary, I find you are correct about the term, however, it does not contain the letter n in the third syllable (numismatologist, not numismantologist). To be quite franc, it makes little cents that we Mensans peso much attention to words. It may not be our greatest talent aurar most grievous sen, baht it is most certainly amania, and rather lek having a tiger by the tael, never knowing where he will litas. Once a Mensan, poor sol, starts playing with words, his pengos crazy. For instance, tonight, though I tried to ducat, I could not ley down to sleep before I satisfied a need, ora yen, to drachma self to the typewriter and pound this out. It's a rial pain in the colon. So why do we duit? Perhaps it's a way of making our mark, ore possibly it just ticals our fancy.

Sweet Sou (reprinted from MENSA Atocity SIG, submitted by Paula Dodge) \* \* \*

Shin: A device for finding furniture in the dark.

DIPLOMACY WORLD #34 has printed up some interesting tables on the results of how well all of the Great Powers have done in postal play. I have reprinted them here.

TABLE I

(Games Reported in EVERYTHING 51-56)

COUNTRY	WINS	DRAWS (Nway)						SURVIVALS (place)							ELIMINATIONS (place)						
		2W	3W	4W	5W	6W	7W	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th		
Austria	16	9	14	9	7	2	-	13	14	15	6	3	-	-	2	12	22	49	62		
England	23	14	22	18	6	3	-	32	26	19	10	1	-	1	2	2	23	30	23		
France	19	15	20	11	8	3	-	21	40	24	7	3	-	-	1	14	28	20	14		
Germany	15	7	22	7	7	3	-	14	23	25	13	3	-	-	-	16	29	44	27		
Italy	15	9	19	12	7	3	-	25	24	28	15	1	-	-	2	13	27	38	14		
Russia	28	11	20	11	4	2	-	14	17	25	7	3	-	-	-	12	30	38	29		
Turkey	25	11	21	13	6	2	-	27	25	16	6	1	-	-	4	10	19	37	32		

Table II

(all Known Completed Postal Games)

Austria	152	52	68	63	29	6	3	120	113	117	40	9	1	-	10	84	148	241	433
England	155	87	104	95	34	10	3	223	204	127	61	6	1	1	19	60	143	215	139
France	151	72	109	74	37	10	3	189	262	160	61	7	-	-	22	78	167	153	123
Germany	142	67	88	56	36	10	3	134	146	150	55	11	-	-	16	87	201	275	209
Italy	108	44	67	58	38	10	3	154	194	187	87	9	1	-	19	105	264	245	112
Russia	228	64	71	46	29	8	3	129	130	144	56	13	-	-	11	80	206	227	226
Turkey	152	66	103	66	34	9	3	209	228	114	24	10	-	-	29	65	148	214	221

TABLE III

(POINTS ASSIGNED)

20	15	10	8	6	4	2	10	8	6	5	4	2	4	3	2	1	0	-1
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TABLE IV

(Summaries)

COUNTRY	POINTS BASED ON:		TOTAL DRAWS		TOTAL SURVIVALS		TOTAL ELIMINAT'Ns	
	Table I	Table II	Table I	Table II	Table I	Table II	Table I	Table II
ENGLAND	1791	11,871	64	334	88	622	81	577
FRANCE	1739	11,804	57	315	95	679	84	550
TURKEY	1641	11,106	53	280	75	577	102	677
RUSSIA	1540	10,447	48	221	70	476	109	761
GERMANY	1320	9376	46	260	78	496	116	788
ITALY	1515	9291	50	218	93	318	97	748
AUSTRIA	1205	9031	41	218	51	400	147	916

As you can see, England is the best country point-wise and is also the most likely to be involved in a draw. Russia, however, has a commanding lead over the other countries in terms of total wins and is second only to Austria in terms of eliminations. France leads the pack when it comes to survivals. Italy has less than half the victories than Russia, and is sixth overall in total points. Austria is last in points but is a close third in total wins. Standings are the same in total points for both Table I and Table II.

\* \* \* \* \*  
 For those of you interested in variants, ARDA 11 is available for \$1(US) from Rod Walker, 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas, CA 92024. It contains 2 complete variants previously published only in England: BELERIAND (A 10-player, Tolkien Middle-earth variant), and WARWICK, a 7-player Wars of the Roses variant. Also available for \$1 is ARDA 10, which catalogs the many variants available from the North American Variant Bank (NAVB).

\* \* \* \* \*  
 A man woke up with a sore throat, but decided to go to work anyway. His throat gradually became worse during the day until he could hardly talk. On his way home from work that evening, he decided to stop in at the doctor's house between the bus stop and his home.

Walking up to the doctor's front door, he pushed the doorbell. When the doctor's wife opened the door, the man whispered, "Is the doctor at home?"  
 \* "No, he isn't," whispered the doctor's wife. "Come on in." \* \* \* \* \*

Sucker: A man who still has confidence in other persons.

## THE FALLACY OF PROTECTIONISM by Frederic Bastiat

"Explain to me the functioning and the effects of protectionism."

"That is not so easy. Before considering the more complicated cases, one should study the simpler ones."

"Take the simplest case you wish."

"You remember how Robinson Crusoe managed to make a board when he had no saw?"

"Yes. He cut down a tree; then, by trimming the trunk, first on one side and then on the other, with his axe, he reduced it to the thickness of a plank."

"And that cost him a great deal of labor?"

"Two full weeks."

"And what did he live on during that time?"

"on his provisions."

"And what happened to the axe?"

"It became very dull as a result."

"Quite right. But perhaps you do not know this: Just as he was about to strike the first blow with his axe, Robinson Crusoe noticed a plank cast up on the beach by the waves."

"Oh, what a lucky accident!" He ran to pick it up?"

"That was his first impulse; but then he stopped and reasoned as follows:

"If I go to get that plank, it will cost me only the exertion of carrying it, and the time needed to go down to the beach and climb back up the cliff.

"But if I make a plank with my axe, first of all, I shall be assuring myself two weeks' labor; then my axe will become dull, which will provide me with the job of sharpening it; and I shall consume my provisions, making a third source of employment, since I shall have to replace them.

"Now, labor is wealth. It is clear that I shall only be hurting my own interests if I go down to the beach and pick up that piece of driftwood. It is vital for me to protect my personal labor, and, now that I think of it, I can even create additional labor for myself by going down and kicking that plank right back into the sea!"

"What an absurd line of reasoning!"

"That may be. It is nonetheless the same line of reasoning that is adopted by every nation that protects itself by interdicting the entry of foreign goods. It kicks back the plank that is offered it in exchange for a little labor, in order to give itself more labor.

"There is no labor, even including that of the customs officials, in which it does not see some profit. It is represented by the pains Robinson Crusoe took to return to the sea the present it was offering him. Consider the nation as a collective entity, and you will not find an iota of difference between its line of reasoning and that of Robinson Crusoe."

"Did he not see that he could devote the time he could have saved to making something else?"

"What else?"

"As long as a person has wants to satisfy and time at his disposal, he always has something to do. I am not obliged to specify the kind of work he could undertake to do."

"I can certainly specify precisely the kind that probably escaped his attention."

"And I maintain, for my part, that, with incredible blindness, he confused labor with its result, the end with the means, and I am going to prove it to you..."

"You do not have to. The fact still remains that this is an illustration of the system of restriction or interdiction in its simplest form. If it seems absurd to you in this form, it is because the two functions of producer and consumer are here combined in the same individual."

"Let us therefore proceed to a more complicated case."

"Gladly. Some time later, after Robinson had met Friday, they pooled their resources and began to co-operate in common enterprises. In the morning, they hunted for six hours and brought back four baskets of game. In the evening, they worked in the garden for six hours and obtained four baskets of vegetables.

"One day a longboat landed on the Isle of Despair. A handsome foreigner disembarked and was admitted to the table of our two recluses. He tasted and highly praised the products of the garden, and, before taking leave of his hosts, he addressed them in these words:

"Generous islanders, I dwell in a land where game is much more plentiful than it is here, but where horticulture is unknown. It will be easy for me to bring you four baskets of game every evening if you will give me in exchange only two baskets of vegetables."

(cont. next page)

At these words, Robinson and Friday withdrew to confer.

"Friday: Friend, what do you think of it?"

"Robinson: If we accept, we are ruined."

"F: Are you sure of that? let us reckon up what it comes to."

"R: It has all been reckoned up, and there can be no doubt about the outcome. This competition will simply mean the end of our hunting industry."

"F: What difference does that make if we have the game?"

"R: You are just theorizing! It will no longer be the product of our labor."

"F: No matter, since in order to get it we shall have to part with some vegetables!"

"R: Then what shall we gain?"

"F: The four baskets of game cost us six hours of labor. The foreigner gives them to us in exchange for two baskets of vegetables, which take us only three hours to produce. Therefore, this puts three hours at our disposal."

"R: You ought rather to say that they are subtracted from our productive activity. That is the exact amount of our loss. Labor is wealth, and if we lose one-fourth of our working time, we shall be one-fourth less wealthy."

"F: Friend, you are making an enormous mistake. We shall have the same quantity of vegetables, and--into the bargain--three more hours at our disposal. That is what I call progress, or there is no such thing in this world."

\* \* \* \* \*

According to USA Today, there are a number of clues that can tip us off when someone is lying to us. Perhaps you can use these clues in your next ftf game of Diplomacy to see if what the other fellows are telling you is the truth or not:

\*Pupils dilate more. \*Blinking increases. \*Facial expression changes less.

\*More hand movement. \*More speech errors. \*Less pertinent phrases.

\*Sentences are shorter. \*Increase in voice pitch. \*More speaking pauses.

\*Body moves more. \*More negative words. \*More extreme words.

\*Less direct sentences. \*Facial expression doesn't match what's said.

\* \* \* \* \*

QUESTIONS TO PLAGUE THE MIND OF A MEMSA MEMBER by Gary Fisher (M-Pressions)

Do flabby ghosts go to exercise class? Does a watchmaker ever tock to himself?

Did Wells Fargo worry about nudity on the stage? Is geometry as easy as Pi?

Is the Guillotine really a pauper cutter? Do Bingo losers suffer from B-12 deficiency?

Do witch doctors go to hex education classes? Is a lady plumber called a pipe wench?

When a football player fathers twins, is it an infant replay?

Is an optician in Alaska called an optical Aleutian? Does an auctioneer ever bid adieu?

Is an ice cream vendor in Arizona called a Good Yuma man?

Would a Mensa test prove Marquis de Sade to be as smart as a whip?

Is an out-of-sight street in Arabia called a "blind Ali"?

Will a declining music business cause a guitar manufacturer to fret?

Would a lighthouse keeper make a beacon and egg breakfast?

Is a haysced astronaut called a hic-up?

While at a source, would a cannibal call for a medium rare?

If the Wizard of Oz were a pilot, would he be a flying sorcerer?

Has a peach thief ever been captured by the fuzz?

Has a hermit ever been arrested for recluse driving?

Did you hear about the guy who invited his mistress to share a confessional shower with his wife? He said he wanted to make a clean breast of it.

ORIGINAL SCHOOL TEST ANSWERS (REPRINTED FROM ATROCITY SIG)

I pledge a legion to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republicans for Richard Strands, one nation, under guard, invisible, with liberty and justa straw.

A cosine is when 2 guys write their names on the same sheet of paper.

A hyptoenuse is a large animal that lives in Africa. Polonius was a mythical sausage.

The general direction the Alps run is up. The sine of a triangle is "Yield."

A proselyte is a woman of the streets.

Germany is an industrial country because the poor have nothing to do so they build lots and lots of factories.

An isosceles triangle is 2 straight lines coming to a sharp point.

((This humor was submitted by Paula Dodge, so blame her if you don't like it.))



HEALTH AND FITNESS CORNER PART III Today we deal with fat.

Lipids(fats) are the most concentrated form of food energy available. One g. of fat contains 9 calories, whereas a g. of carbohydrates or protein only contains 4 calories. There are about 100 calories in a tablespoon of pure fat. Fats add palatability to food, and give one a sated feeling after eating. The average American gets 40-45% of his calories from fat. People in other countries have gotten by fine on as little as 15% fat, so it is safe to assume that most of us get too much fat in our diet.

Fat is found in animals, nuts, avacados, olives, and vegetable oils, and is used by the body as a carrier for the fat-soluble vitamins A, D, E and K. The fatty acid linoleic acid, once classified as Vitamin F and now called EPA, is usually found in vegetable oils. It is suspected of being important in human growth and in preventing/curing skin conditions such as eczema and dermatitis. Fat is also necessary for hormone production, a fact particularly important for women. Women usually have 25-40% body fat, while men have 15-25% fat.

Fats are made up of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen. They are made up of glycerol combined with 3 molecules of fatty acids. Glycerol molecules have fatty acid chains attached to them which consist of carbon atoms linked together, with the hydrogen atoms attached along their lengths. Carbon atoms have a capacity to pair with 4 other atoms. Two of these bonds are used in fatty acid chains to link up with adjacent carbon atoms.

If a fat is called unsaturated, the 2 free links on the carbon chain have not combined with hydrogen. When these spaces are filled by hydrogen, we call these fats saturated.

Animal fats are mostly saturated, and are solid at room temperature. Vegetable fats are mostly unsaturated, and are liquid at room temperature. Unsaturated fats are beneficial in lowering blood cholesterol and may protect against heart disease. Therefore, they should be used in place of saturated fats whenever possible.

Fat is carried in the blood as tiny droplets. After eating, large amounts of fat entering the blood are withdrawn by the liver for use in the near future. Any excess fat that the liver can't use is stored in the adipose tissue of the body. One pound of body fat equals about 3400 calories. By comparison, running a marathon race will burn off only about 2000 calories. Most stored fat is deposited around the kidneys, liver and heart, and a thin (hopefully) layer of fat under the skin protects the muscles and nerves.

When fats and protein are eaten together, the fat inhibits the secretion of gastric juices; thus impairing digestion.

Lipotropics(Methionine, Choline, Inositol, and Betaine) are fat manipulators which help the body prevent abnormal or excessive accumulations of fat in the liver, increase the liver's production of lecithin(which helps break down cholesterol), detoxifies the liver, and increase resistance to disease by helping the thymis gland carry out its functions. For those of you on a high-protein diet, methionine and choline are necessary to detoxify the amines that are by-products of protein metabolism(Wheat Germ is high in choline and inositol.)

There are many easy ways to cut down on fat consumption. Drink low-fat milk, trim excess fat from meat and remove chicken skin before cooking, avoid fried foods and sauces, and reduce the amount of margarine you use on breads or vegetables. In addition, if you have a craving for salt, eat pretzels rather than potato chips or salted nuts. To reduce triglycerides(the amount of fat in the BLOOD), vigorous physical exercise is the best remedy.

CHOLESTEROL is a major concern of many people today; and as a result some 'wise' people have decided that eggs are to be avoided at all costs. Actually, this thinking is dead wrong, as eggs contain lecithin, which helps to break the cholesterol down. Eggs are the top source of protein in terms of biological value, so make sure your diet gets plenty of them. Personally, I make it a point to eat at least 3 eggs for breakfast every morning.

85% of the cholesterol in your body is produced by your body(NOT from ingested cholesterol) and high cholesterol levels are usually caused by cigarettes, Food Additives(such as BHT), pollutants(such as PCBs), coffee, stress, the Pill, and REFINED SUGAR, all of which trigger your body into producing more cholesterol. Substances that can reduce the production of cholesterol in your body include eggplant, onions, garlic, yogurt, pectin and soybeans.

Believe it or not, cholesterol(in moderate amounts) serves a number of useful purposes in the body, such as turning into vitamin D when exposed to the sun, aiding in the metabolism of carbohydrates, acting as a conductor of nerve impulses in the body, and being a prime supplier of life-essential adrenal steroid hormones, such as cortisone, and sex hormones.

\* Next month we will start taking a look at vitamins and their importance in your diet.  
Sweater: A garment a child wears when his mother feels chilly.

BOOK REVIEW ORION SHALL RISE by POUL ANDERSON IS a story about man's efforts to rebuild society following a nuclear war.

The book begins a few hundred years after the war, by which time several distinct powers have emerged on the globe. There is the freedom-loving Northwest Union (comprised of the N.W. United States and Canada), who try to rebuild an industrial society, and who use the atom as a source of power on a fuel-starved planet. Unalterably opposed to this plan are the Maurai (a New Zealand-based bunch who rule most of the Pacific) who believe that man should be limited to solar and wind power to preserve the Earth's natural resources, and who also believe that atomic power should be banned forever. The Maurai are fanatics who wage 'holy' wars against all those who oppose their ideology, and their meddling ways cause much trouble for the Northwest Union.

The third major power is the Domain, located in Europe, which is ruled from Skyholm (an ancient airborne platform once used to maintain the weather and collect solar energy, among other things) by a small number of technologically advanced (compared to most people) men who help protect their backward earthbound neighbors from attack from enemies and dangerous weather. The other two important groups are the Gaens, a widespread cult, and the Mong, who are Asians that have settled in Middle America.

The interactions between these groups is fascinating. Much of the book concerns the battles between the Northwest Union, which is collecting old nuclear warheads for their Orion Project, and the Maurai, who try to stop them. Unfortunately, on a personal level, the interactions between the characters are not as satisfying. Most of the major characters are self-righteous and display sometimes ridiculous superhuman characteristics, yet also seem so naive or idealistic that they also do some very foolish things. I was surprised that Earth could be so full of idealists following a nuclear war. Another flaw of the book is that Anderson seems to spend a bit too much time mentioning the numerous sexual encounters between the characters, although not as often as he did in The Avatar.

The first 398 pages of Orion are excellent. However the last part of the book is not too good, as some of the major characters do some incredibly stupid things which cause great grief and suffering. Look for incredibly screwy happenings in this section of the book.

Overall, my recommendation is that you buy the book, read the first 398 pages, and then put the book away, deciding that the rest of the book takes things to their logical ending.

I'd rate this one a 8.0

\* \* \* \* \*

MOVIE REVIEW KRULL. Well, my expectations of Krull being a good movie after seeing previews of it were completely off-base. Krull is terrible!

Krull is about a medieval-type planet which is being invaded by Slayers (read Storm-troopers) under the direction of the supernatural Beast. A few minutes into the film a wedding ceremony between Prince Colwyn and Princess Lyssa is interrupted by an attack by the Slayers, who capture the Princess and carry her off to the Black Fortress (the home of the Beast), where the Beast wants to make her his queen over countless females on numerous conquered planets. (I know, it doesn't make sense to me either.)

Prince Colwyn is knocked unconscious during the battle and is left for dead by the Slayers, who kill everyone else. An old man named Ynry (read Obi-Wan Kenobi) drops by the next morning and joins Corwyn on a quest to rescue Princess ~~Leia~~ Lyssa. On their journey, they meet up with a bunch of sill/stupid characters who agree to risk almost certain death by joining their party. The journey takes up most of the film, and consists mostly of them walking through forests and mountains of the Western United States. I'm sure that this helped keep production costs down, especially those of Special Effects, but it helps make a very boring movie.

When the Prince FINALLY reaches the Black Fortress, there follows a very brief battle and the silliest, most ridiculous ending that I have ever seen.

Krull is just flat-out bad. Although they spent \$20 million on the film, there are few special effects, and no interesting ones. The cast is made completely up of no-names. The battle scenes only take up a miniscule portion of the film and the Slayers have the annoying habit of making stupid sounds when they die. There is no substantive plot at all in this film. I don't know why, but whenever a science fiction or fantasy film is made, there seems to be a tendency on the part of the directors to put 'cute' or 'funny' ideas in the film, much to my annoyance. I don't know why they can't just stick to a straight plot like they do in most books. Maybe they think filmgoers are all illiterates who watch Three's Company and who therefore not know what they're missing. Overall, a 2.0

WARNING! The following story contains mature subject matter and may offend some people. If you are one of these people, skip this story and go on to the next article.

HOW TO KILL A SOUTH DAKOTA EEL (Submitted by Paula Dodge)

Little Johnny was 12 years old and, like other boys his age, rather curious. He had been hearing quite a bit about "courting" from the other boys and he wondered how it was done. So, one day, he asked his mother, who became rather frustrated. Instead of explaining, she told him to hide behind the curtains one night and watch his older sister and her boyfriend. This he did. The following morning Johnny described everything to his mother.

Sis and her boyfriend sat and talked for a while, then he turned out all the lights. Then he started hugging and kissing her. I figured Sis must be getting sick because her face started looking funny. He must have thought so too, because he put his hand inside her blouse to feel her heart, just like the doctor would do. Except he's not as smart as the doctor because he seemed to be having trouble finding her heart.

I guess he was getting sick too because pretty soon both of them started panting and getting all out of breath. His other hand must have been cold 'cause he put it up under her skirt. Anyways, by this time Sis got worse and began to moan and sigh and squirm around and slid down toward the end of the couch. This is when her fever started. I know it was a fever because Sis told him she was really hot.

Finally, I found out what was making them so sick. A big eel had gotten inside his pants somehow. It just jumped out of his pants and just stood there, about 10 inches long. Honestly! Anyway, he grabbed it in one hand to keep it from getting away.

When Sis saw it she got really scared; her eyes got big and her mouth fell open. She started calling out to God and stuff like that. She said it was the biggest one she had ever seen. I should tell her about the ones at the lake.

Anyways, Sis got really brave and tried to kill the eel by biting it's head off. All of a sudden she made a noise and let the eel go ... I guess it bit her back.

Then she grabbed it with both hands and held it tight while he took a muzzle out of his pocket and slipped it over the eel's head to keep him from biting again. Sis lay back and spread her legs so she could get a scissor-lock on it, and he helped by laying down on top of the eel. The eel put up a hell of a fight. Sis started groaning and squealing and her boyfriend got up and sure enough they had killed the eel. I knew it was dead 'cause it just hung there limp and some of its insides were hanging out. Sis and her boyfriend were a little tired from the battle but they were back to courting anyways. He started hugging and kissing her again. By golly, the eel wasn't dead. It jumped straight up and started to fight again. I guess eels are like cats - they must have nine lives or something.

This time, Sis jumped up and tried to kill the eel by sitting on it. After a 15 minute struggle, they finally killed the eel. I knew it was dead this time because I saw Sis's boyfriend peel off its skin and flush it down the toilet!!!

\* \* \* \* \*

HOW DO MENSANS KISS????....

Intelligently? Brightly? Platonically? Well-definedly? Philosophically? Smartly? Wonderingly? Symbolically? Brilliantly? With Ecstasy? Eclectically?

Kissing is the conjunction of two obicularis-oris muscles in a state of contraction.

\* \* \* \* \*

What do you get if you cross a Mensan with Tequila? A Mensan that's falling down drunk.

\* \* \* \* \*

What is a similarity between Mensans and politicians? Both are intelligent, except the politicians.

\* \* \* \* \*

NUTRITION DEFINITIONS by C. Howe Smart, I.M.

What would you recommend for better eyesight? Vitamin See.

What would you give your pregnant wife if you wanted twins? B2

When Lousiana Lou was asked by Gertrude if anything pleased him as much as Bulgarian sour milk, he answered: "Yo' Gert".

A diet for a very tall, full time golpher, to improve his initial drive: "High Pro Teein"

When a person ingests the pods of the Ceratonia siliqua tree and gains a euphoric state, it is known as a "Carob bean trip".

(Gary Coughlan)"I hope you're enjoying my zine half as much as I am enjoying yours!((Yes, I like Europa Express very much.) I just got MD today and I continue to enjoy your book reviews and movie critiques. But your use of 'Michigander' really caught my eye!

Mark Larzelere, originally from Michigan, now in Maryland, and I have had a running debate over what people from Michigan are called.((Superior)) I've seen 'Michigander' several places but he prefers 'Michiganian' or some sort. Any time I find "Michigander' anywhere I promptly write him and renew the debate, so your zine was most welcome today, ha ha. (Mark said if he's a Michigander, does that make his sisters Michigeese?)(That depends on what they look like.) Anyway, I thought I'd let you know what was going on! Well, till later... keep up the good work!"((Gary also included his letter to Larzelere and an Ann Landers column which uses the word 'Michigander'.))

((It's interesting that I got this letter because just as I was about to type 'Michigander' when typing up my book review column last month, I briefly thought about how some Michiganders object to being called 'Michiganders'. Because of this vocal minority, it seems that Michigan newspapers tend to use 'Michiganian', but I'd say that the word 'Michigander' is the word most frequently used by Michiganders to describe themselves.

So, now that that issue is settled, we can all debate more important things, like the number of touchdowns the University of Michigan football team will beat Ohio State by this November when they clash to determine who will represent the Big Two and Little Eight Conference in the Rose Bowl.))

(Mark Luedi) I presume you're a Republican, and conservative, and misguided...((1.Yes, only because the Libertarian Party is not politically viable,2.Sort of. I'd call myself a Libertarian-Conservative,3.No, I am not a Liberal Democrat))

The Note in God's Eye is easily one of the best SF novels I've read. It's very good. Lucifer's Hammer was alright, but somehow it seems Charlton Heston would be starring in a movie version of it.((So, Heston's a great actor.))...I am kind of partial to Zelazney anyways(and Clarke,Asimov,LeGuin).((Your taste in books is pretty good, although I never cared for LeGuin myself. Perhaps this means that someday you'll have the 'correct' taste in political philosophies.))

(Tom Swider) "I read with interest your 'Health and Fitness Corner' with your note on diet soda. You are right;it's loaded with chemicals, but so is regular soda, and many preserved products.((Which means you should avoid all of them too. Also, regarding diet soda, the artificial sweetener now being used has been shown to create PKU-like symptoms in lab rats, another reason to avoid it.)) Most of my life, I have been overweight, but about a year ago, I lost 35 pounds and am in much better shape(and I feel the difference!) Diet soda served as an intermediate step for me. I began to eat smarter and exercise more. It has at least 100 less calories than normal soda, which helped.((I doubt that it helped much. As I stated in my article, diet soda slows down the metabolism, so even if it does contain less calories, that fact is offset by the fact that your body is burning them off slower. I'm sure it was the more frequent exercise and the better eating habits that cause you to lose the weight.)) I later realized that there are other drinks(milk,water,juices) which are just as delicious, but are better for your body.((Knowing this, would you still recommend diet soda to anybody?)).

Keep up your health corner! This hobby(which is rather sedentary) needs to be reminded of the virtues of good health.((That's for sure;I was amazed at the poor condition most of the Dipcon players were in. Some guidelines fr testing whether or not any of you readers are in reasonably good shape would be that you can bench press your weight 10 times,run the mile in under six minutes, and be able to do at least 200 situps. I have received a lot of positive feedback on the health corner column;I'm glad that some of you are putting it to good use.))

(Joe Flores)"I like MD also. The political cartoons are entertaining and the articles on Health a plus. Your short stories seem to poke fun only at Liberal(Socialist?) policies but there is plenty to laugh at. I'd like to see a few jabbing at America's South American policy."((This month's story on Protectionism cuts across political ideologies. Also see the 'fake' letters column following this column. It pokes fun at a number of people. If you or anyone else have any good funny political articles, please send them in. If they are not too hostile to my beliefs I may print them. If I do, you'll receive sub credit for it.))

## LETTERS WE'D LIKE TO RECEIVE

(Ronald Reagan) "I can't tell you how much I appreciate receiving your Manifest Destiny newspaper which informed me of the great war raging across Europe now. I hate to admit it, but I was entirely ignorant of this fact until your MD told me all the facts. Baker and Meese never tell me what's going on. I was probably napping when the war started.

Did the Communists start this war? I see that Russia is one of the countries involved. Should I scramble our bombers? Should I push the button? Can I? Can I? Can I? Please? Please tell me what to do.

P.S. This MENSA that you mention sounds interesting, although the requirements seem awful tough. If Nancy and I combine our IQ's and file a joint membership application, can we be eligible to join? ((Only if Bonzo adds in his IQ also.)) "

(William Highfield) "Well, now that I am now in the brig awaiting trial on treason charges against the U.S. Government (As if such a thing were possible!), I may as well tell the world the truth about myself since I have nothing more to lose. I am a Communist, and have always been a Communist.

My story began several years ago when I attended a fundraising party for the Weather Underground. Angela Davis, who I had never met, came over to where I was smoking hash with my friends and asked if she could have some too. As soon as I laid eyes on her I knew it was lust at first sight. 'This is one foxy mama I want to ((censored))', I thought to myself. Angela and I hit it off real well, and we soon discovered that we both had the same love for the Communist way of life. (DEATH TO THE CAPITALISTS!!!) Unlike Angela, though, up to that point I had always been somewhat discreet about revealing my true ideology.

Angela was pleased to hear this, and told me that the Communist Party U.S.A. had need of such an individual for an important undercover operation. 'However', she said, 'you will have to make a terrible sacrifice for the plan to succeed.'

'Anything for the Party!' I cried. 'What is the sacrifice?'

'You will have to pretend to be an outspoken, rabid, right-wing Republican.'

I was thunderstruck. That such blasphemy could even be considered seemed impossible to me. Angela repeated her reasons to me over and over, and through my daze I finally began to understand.

'We need a mole', she said, 'to penetrate into the upper echelons of the U.S. military, where he will make available to us secret information that we can pass on to Mother Russia.'

She went on to give specifics. With each passing word I became more and more attracted to the plan. Soon I was ecstatic. 'For Mother Russia!!!' I cried.

For obvious reasons, I could no longer see my lovely Angela. However, being a true Communist, I was able to repress my desires of the flesh, and went towards working to my goal. Unfortunately, it was not easy, since I soon learned that to have a good chance to have a successful military career one must possess a sharp mind, something totally alien to me. After relaying my plight to Communist Party, U.S.A. headquarters (through covert channels), I received my new instructions.

'The U.S. military is in sad shape today and is desperate for raw recruits. They'll accept anybody -- even you.'

So, I had a new goal. I was to join the navy as a lowly midshipman. Then, when the time was right, I was to sabotage and sink a major U.S. warship, thus striking a blow for Communism. Unfortunately, there would be no survivors from such an attempt of sabotage, but strangely enough CCCP headquarters did not seem overly concerned that I would be sacrificing my life as well.

Now, of course, I no longer needed to keep up my right-wing fanatic facade, but I was told to keep it up as it helped tarnish the image of conservatives as a whole, since my rhetoric was usually exaggerated and hysterical. I even started a Dipzine called The Modern Patriot so that my rightist rantings would have a soapbox to speak from. Then I waited and waited for the time to come when I could fulfill my mission.

Finally, I received word that the USS Saratoga was soon to leave port, and I was to be on board! I was thrilled! I set sail confident that I was soon going to become a hero to aspiring Communists everywhere. Alas, it was not to be.

Four Fascist Navy crewmen captured me just as I was about to set off the main charges which would have sunk the Saratoga, although I did succeed in causing minor damage to the ship. It saddens me greatly that all my sacrifices were for nothing. But, if I am ever released from jail, I promise you that I will get back at all of you damn Capitalist pigs!

(Charles Manson) Received your sample of MD. Reading it was more fun than pulling the wings off of flies! This 'Diplomacy' you describe sounds fascinating, especially the part about stabbing!!! Now that is real fun! I'd like to play. I believe I have the proper qualifications. ((Tell you what. I'll sign you up in a FTF game with Bernie Oaklyn/Buddy Tretick. If he tries any funny business, you know what to do.))

(George McGovern) "Initially, I was furious when I found what appeared to be right-wing garbage sitting in my mailbox. I am referring, of course, to the sample of MD #2 that you sent me. However, having nothing better to do, I starting flipping through the pages. I stopped at the story about the Bureaucratization of Begonias and began to read.

Suddenly, everything seemed clear to me. Liberalism was a sham, a travesty. The Free Enterprise system and Individual Liberty are the real source of out strenght; Government Intervention just puts shackles on all of us and keeps this great country of ours from reaching its true potential. It's hard to believe that for so many years I was blinded to the truths you so accurately express in MD. I can't begin to thank you enough for helping me to see the light.

I plan to make up for the sins of my past, and have re-registered as a Republican. I plan on challenging Reagan for the Republican nomination in 1984, as America needs a real conservative running this country for a change.

I also like your title. 'Manifest Destiny!' I like the sound of that phrase and the way the words sound so delicious. This brings me to a plan I've been toying with. Do you think that if the U.S. nuked both of Canada's major population centers(approximately 10,000 citizens each), Canada would agree to be absorbed into the United States? This tactic helped convince Japan to surrender, so I think it's worth a try. Also, I think that we should take over Mexico so that we can properly utilize their population. I know I could use somebody to shine my shoes for me.

Gotta run now. I've got a meeting to go to. Damn! Where did I put that white hood?" ((Oh no! What have I created?))

(Mr B. Crat, Canadian Postal Service Worker)"Dear Mr. Sesler: We are very saddened to inform you that one of the magazines that you mailed to Canada last month did not arrive at its destination until 2 full days after it had been mailed.

Such gross incompetnce deeply shocks me, and I can assure you that the offending postal worker has been properly disciplined(cattle prods sure come in handy sometimes). As you know, it is the policy of the Canadian Postal Service to deliver all classes of mail to anywhere in Canada within one business day. At 37¢ a stamp, the Canadian people will accept no less. Unfortunately, our quality control seems to be faltering, as yours is the 3rd delayed letter so far this year, and I would not be surprised at all if there are one or two more such letters during the Christmas holidays.

Although we know that we can in no way hope to ever fully atone for this terrible sin, we hope that we can help lessen the loss with your choice of a check for \$25,000 or the equivalent in US dollars,\$2.57.

The quality of the Canadian Postal Service is known throughout the world. Don't let this one-time incident change your opinion of us"

((2 days? How the hell did you deliver it, by turtle? I'll take the \$2.57))

\* \* \* \* \*

One of the chief causes of war is the conviction that you can lick the other guy. If some people lived up to their ideals, they would be stooping. Do you suppose that the reason so many people don't vote is that they vote the way they think?

An economist is a person who explains later how the thing he didn't expect was inevitable. The reckless driver approached the coroner at ninety miles an hour.

All things come to him who goes down a one-way street in the wrong direction.

If you want to win friends and influence people, you have to lose arguments.

The person who takes his time often takes yours too.

Don't complain about getting old, because when you stop you are dead.

When the going seems easy, you may be going downhill.

A person who is overweight is living beyond his seams.

The Knealin's strength lies in knowing exactly what it wants--everything.

Anger gets us into trouble because it makes the mouth move faster than the brain.

COMPUTER NEWS As many of you may or may not know, there were a number of new computer systems announced at the Summer Consumer Electronics Show. Here are some highlights. ATARI: Atari is dropping the 400,800, and 1200XL computers. It is replacing them with four computers which are designed to be easily expandable by both Atari and Third Party sources. This should help keep the new Atari line from becoming obsolete for a long time. On top of that, the new computers will be fully compatible with all the Atari software already out. All of the computers, which resemble the 1200XL externally, will be out in September.

The Atari 600 has a suggested retail price of \$199, and has 16k RAM and 24K ROM, which includes the built-in BASIC language and the operating system. For another \$100, the RAM can be expanded to 64K. It has a Processor Bus Connector (to be used for peripherals), a help key, and international character set, and self-testing capability.

The Atari 800XL is essentially a 64K version of the 600XL, with the addition of a monitor jack. It will retail for \$299.

The 1400XL has everything the others have, plus four special function keys, 64K, a 300 Baud integral modem, a Votrax SCA-01 Voice chip, and an improved full-stroke keyboard. Maximum retail price will be \$499.

The 1450XLD is a 1600XL with the addition of a built-in, double-sided, double density disk drive which stores up to 254K on a 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  inch disk and runs 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  times faster than the 810 drive, which is being dropped. It will retail for \$300-\$1000.

PERIPHERALS The 1060 Expansion Chassis will plug into the Processor Bus Connector, giving you two RS232c Serial and one parallel port. It has 8 expansion slots for things like 80 column boards, mass RAM cards, processors for CP/M or IBM capability, etc. Price unknown.

The 1050 Disk Drive is the same one offered with the 1450XLD, and will cost about \$449.

The 1027 Letter-Quality Printer requires no interface, prints 20cps, uses standard typing paper, all for \$349.95. This will be packaged with the 600XL and the Atariwriter software as an under-\$600 system to compete with Coleco's ADAM system.

The 1030 Modem is a direct-connect, auto-answer, auto-dial unit with integrated software that allows you to upload or download information from disk or cassette. Available in the fourth quarter, no price has yet been announced.

Peripherals being dropped are the 810 disk drive, the 410 cassette recorder (which is being replaced with something a bit better), and the 820, 822, and 825 printers.

All in all, a very impressive lineup from Atari.

Coleco's big new is their ADAM system, which should be released in November. For about \$600 (450 dollars if you own a Colecovision), you get an 80K RAM computer (expandable to 144K) that is Colecovision-game compatible, a 256K high-speed tape mass storage device (which runs at about the same speed as the 810 Atari disk drive), a letter quality printer, 2 joysticks with keyboard pads, word-processor-software, and a Buck Rogers Planet of Zoom game. The computer has a Z80A CPU chip, with CP/M capability, a 75 key full-stroke keyboard, Applesoft-compatible BASIC (unfortunately, you'd have to change all the Peeks, Pokes, and Calls) to run any Apple software, no easy feat), and an I/O expansion bus with 4 expansion slots. The keyboard has 6 special function keys along the top row, as well as special word-processing keys such as INSERT, DELETE, MOVE, COPY, STORE, GET, CLEAR, and PRINT.

The Stringy disk drive uses a cassette about the size of an audio cassette, of metal tape. Each tape holds about 256K and is possibly double-sided. Supposedly, the whole tape can be read end-to-end in about 10 seconds. A second drive can be added for about \$125.

The letter-quality printer uses standard daisy wheels and prints at a rate of only 10 cps. It is also very noisy, and its strike is not quite even. It allows no special features such as superscripts or proportional type.

Some of the Coleco demonstrations at CES were run by computers hidden under the tables, so it will be interesting to see if Coleco can have a working system out by November. If they do, this will be one fine system.

Commodore: No real news of any new systems here, but the price of the Commodore 64 has been reduced to the point that I have seen it going for only \$149. More significantly, however, Commodore is supposedly going to reduce the price of their ROM game cartridges to about \$10. If they do so, this will revolutionize the software market, with the consumer being the main beneficiary.

IBM: The IBM Peanut computer is due out in September, and will retail for \$500-\$700. Very little is known about it, but I'm sure that it will give the Apple IIe some real headaches unless Apple is willing to reprice their computer so that it will be price competitive with the Peanut, which is supposed to be similar to the IBM Personal Computer.

Everyone Else: Texas Instruments had no new releases, although the 99/8 is due out soon. It will have 80K RAM, built-in speech and go for around \$500. TI lost about \$100 million in the second quarter alone, and their 150,00/month rate of production for their TI computers have been cut. I don't think they'll be doing so hot in the future.

Timex Sinclair released a 16K model 1500 with a push-button keyboard and a program cartridge slot. Big deal.

Mattel introduced their Aquarius II even before the obsolete Aquarius I was released. It is nothing special.

Several other computers by obscure companies were released, but there was nothing special about any of them. The next year or two is going to really see some cut-throat competition between the companies, and plenty of shakeouts, especially among some of the newer computer makers, can be expected. Atari, Coleco, IBM, and Commodore will probably end up in reasonably good shape, however. I wish that there can eventually be some sort of standardization in the microcomputer industry, but that doesn't seem likely for a while.

\* \* \* \* \* Atari users take note: the Michigan Atari Computer Enthusiasts is the largest Atari computer user group in the world, with over 1400 members. For only \$20 for a 12 month membership, you receive a monthly, professionally produced magazine full of interesting articles and programs. In addition, you are eligible to but disks or cassettes from M.A.C.E.'s libraries. Dozens of disks are availble featuring games, utilities, and education programs. A typical disk has 10-40 programs on it, which come from magazines such as Softside, Compute!, Antic, and from submissions by the members themselves. Disk prices are only \$4 each at the monthly meetings, or are \$6 for the first disk and \$5 for every additional disk if you order them by mail. Disk catalogs I and II are available for \$1 each. If anyone would like to see the types of programs available before joining, send me a blank disk and a self-addressed mailer and I will return it with some sample selections. M.A.C.E also has a bulletin board service from which you can upload or download programs. Disks or cassettes cannot be ordered if you're not a member. I am enclosing a membership application below: I will be happy to answer any questions you have about this fine organization.

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## PLAYING YOUR COUNTRY IN BLOWUP

I am currently playing Blowup in Ron Brown's SNAFU! and am having quite a bit of fun doing so. Here are some of my thoughts on playing the game.

Blowup uses a regular Diplomacy map with no alterations and only varies from the rulebook on two major points, so it is very easy to learn.

The first rulebook variance is in the building of the initial units in Winter 1900. You are allowed to build whatever types of units you'd like to start with, thus adding greatly to your flexibility. In the game in which I am playing (as Germany), Russia and Turkey pre-arranged an alliance, and to help make sure that there were no early conflicts between the two countries, Russia built four armies while Turkey built all fleets. The initial set-up of the other powers was as follows: Italy and England built all fleets, Austria built all armies, I built two fleets, and France NMR'ed, so he got the rulebook starting units. Of course, you can build whatever you decide to for these countries; I am only using my game as an example, not a hard-and-fast rule.

The second, and most significant, variation in Blowup is, of course, the mines. In every Winter season, including 1900, you can either mine a space on the board, or you can try to disarm a mine in a space you think is mined. If there is no mine there, you are never told that, and you've ended up wasting your turn. If there are two mines there, only one is removed. So, if two people decide to gang up on a third, they could both mine a spot that they feel the Third country is likely to go to.

Let's say that England and Germany decide to go after France right away. Say also that France decides to go for the traditional Iberian supply centers, and decides, to be on the safe side, that he'll disarm a mine he feels the dastardly English player may have put in Spain to foul him up. Thinking that it's now safe to move to Spain, he does so and is blown up because both Germany and England decided to mine Spain. Since traditional openings can easily be counteracted by properly placed mines, it is always good to look for unusual openings that will throw the other player's off-guard and cause them to mine spaces you have no intention of moving to (at least not initially).

Mining a space can be an offensive or defensive move. For example, a mine or two in the North Sea helps protect Germany's back while he goes after Russia. A mine in Burgundy offers great protection to ~~both~~ France and Germany, and a mine in the Black Sea similarly discourages those two countries from locking horns.

Offensively, of course, you can use your mines to help secure certain supply centers for yourself and keep them out of the hands of others. Say Russia and Germany both want Sweden and have two units each to attack it with next turn. Russia places a mine in Sweden in the Winter and in the Spring orders those two units to hold while Germany, expecting at worst a standoff, orders one unit to support the other one in and promptly gets blown up. Russia now has two units on Sweden in the Fall compared to Germany's one, so he can support himself into Sweden in the Fall (unless another mine is present).

Usually, it is wise to place your mines in your own area of the board where they will be of the most direct use to you (Don't block your expansion paths though!), but it can be fun for, say, England to mine Bulgaria in the Winter, possibly causing the fellow who eventually runs into it to think that his 'ally' didn't put his mine where he 'told' him he would. This may help disintegrate a budding alliance that may have proved a threat to you in later years.

The ability to lie to others (Dip players have been known to do this on occasion) about the location of your mines adds an extra opportunity for deception to the game. A person won't know you're lying until he runs into the mine, and even then there's no real way to know which country put the mine there.

Personally, I think that it's normally better to play Blowup offensively with the mines for the most part, using your mining phase to place a mine rather than to try to disarm a mine in a space you 'think' may be mined, because you never know if there is a mine there or not in the space you tried to disarm. Considering the number of spaces on the board, you may not be able to guess correctly where the mines are in the early game when there are few mines on the board. On the other hand, you know there's a mine where you place it (unless someone comes along and disarms it).

One other way to disarm a mine is to run into it. Since you'll be able to rebuild the lost unit in the Winter, this may be a good tactic unless you risk a substantial loss of position. If you have two units adjacent to a mined space in the Spring, one of them could

run into the mine, allowing the second unit to take the cleared(hopefully) space in the fall.

The interesting thing about mines is that, no matter how big or small a country is, he still gets to mine one space per season. This is analagous to the representation of the states in the U.S. Senate. So, even a small country can be a powerful friend if he can be convinced to coordinate his mining operations with yours. He could also be a nasty foe who could cause you all sorts of problems, so you might want to wipe out a one or two center power before it decides to turn on you. Since the identity of the mines owner always remains anonymous, the small power could always claim that it was someone else who was doing the sabotage work; so beware!

It's amazing how much play value one can add to Diplomacy with a few minor rule changes. Blowup is a real winner.

\* \* \* \* \*  
REAL Letters Column(cont. from p.12) This letter just arrived(8-11) so I'll fit it in here. (Konrad Baumeister)"Looking over your last few issues of MD, and must say that I enjoyed them. At last; someone who looks at movies the same as I do!

Let's face it: Star Wars was a keddie movie, and Empire was heads above it.((How true.)) I had hoped that the improvements would continue in Jedi, but alas, Empire was the exception, not the rule. On the whole, Walt Disney Meets the Gigantic Special Effects Budget was bloody awful. I enjoyed the flying cycle stunts through the forest(why not fly above them? Oh.) and that was pretty well it. 'Cute' creatures like the Ewoks grate on my nerves when pushed as heavily as they were on the public. Yoda was tolerable, E.T. was a blatant ripoff, but the Ewoks are truly annoying.((Amen!)) The ending was far too sacchariney for my taste; the evil Darth Vader comes to the rescue of his son in a fleeting moment of emotion, destroys the sadistic Emover(the best character in the flick), is fatally wounded and eventually dies, to join the other dead Jedi, and immediately seems to gain their friendship despite the millions of lives he has snuffed...Come on! I can wait a long time for Lucas' next movie.

On War Games, I must agree with you again. Suspense and timing is great throughout, but after a while, the cheap political messages get a little bit ridiculous. One would assume that the average American viewer could see the movie and draw the obvious conclusion for himself. However, the makers of the movie probably figured that it would be best not to count on that viewer having the brains to do so...the usual and safest assumption.

On Superman III, I'll disagree; there was not enough humor. At least, I didn't seem to think much of the movie was very funny.((I didn't either, although I think it was meant to be)) Two bits cracked me up; the bit in the bowling alley, and Superman flicking peanuts in the bar. That, especially the latter, was funny as all hell. The rest? Pryor turns in an awful performance, and even Robert Vaughn, one of my favorite actors, is no more than adequate. Stupid flick. Superman II was both funnier and had a superior plot. (Thankfully, no S-IV will appear next year, or so says Christopher Reeve).

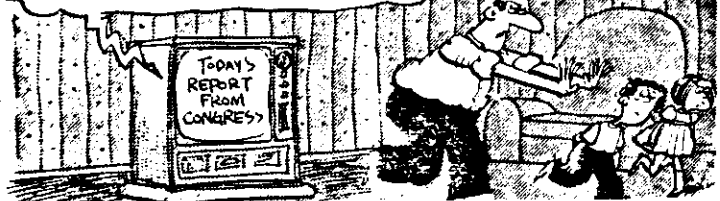
Weird, the way computers and mechanical enemies seem to be so popular in movies these days? Perhaps it's easier to rally around the weaker human characters when they're fighting mechanical enemies. Far simpler than creating better characters, I suppose. At any rate, keep up the good work. Oh; Vacation is the movie to see. Excellent.

((I appreciate you sharing your thoughts on all these movies with us. I haven't seen Vacation yet, but will try to do so. I also want to see Cujo when that comes out.

Regarding your criticism on the mentality that most movie makers seem to think the average movie viewer has(my Krull review has much the same thoughts), TV News does the same thing. My Political Science told me once that the way TV News is presented is analagous to the way a mother in a poor country feeds her child. Because the child has no teeth and babyfood is not available, the mother pre-chews the food(to soften it and to help it get pre-digested by the saliva), and then spits it into the baby's mouth. Tv Newscasters do the same thing; they present their stories in the most infantile way, with detailed explanations on the meanings of words over five letters long, and use plenty of pictures and shots of emotionally upset people to get across their point rather than just giving us the facts and letting us make up our own minds about how to interpret it.

TV newsmen complain about how they are cramped by a  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour(rather than 1 hour) newscast, but they spend two-thirds of their time rehashing old news or presenting frivolous news items. Local News is much worse at this. It's getting to the point where I can barely stand to watch TV news at all. Sorry to digress a bit.))

THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM CONTAINS MATERIAL OF AN EXPLICIT SEXUAL NATURE AND MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR VIEWING BY PERSONS UNDER 17...



NEVER MIND HIM, YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE!



...I LIED...



REMEMBER VIETNAM!

