



Murd'ring Ministers

Issue #41

November 13, 1981



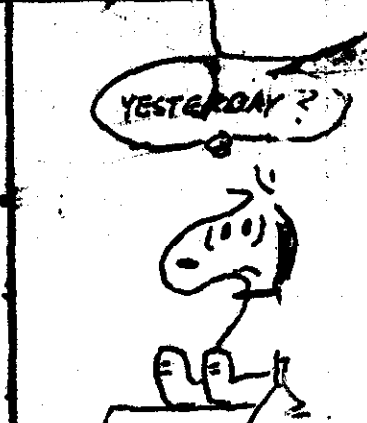
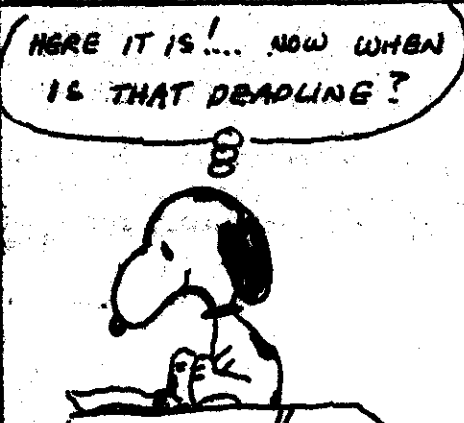
STUFF

MURD'RING MINISTERS is a gamesine dedicated to the play of postal DIPLOMACY and other multi-player postal games. **MM** features three week deadlines and is published once a month by Ron Brown, 1528 El Sereno Pl., Bakerfield, CA 93304; phone - (805) 834-8409. Subscriptions are \$5.50/12 issues. There are no current game openings.

Featured on page one this issue are a couple of cartoons by the talented Jim Williams. I hope you like them.

Yes, Halloween is over and because of the delay in getting out #40 I didn't get the chance to use my witch. So I decided to stick her in anyway. I hope you all had a happy Halloween and are looking forward to a tremendous Thanksgiving.

(Con'd next page)



MORE STUFF

✓ Quite a bit going on in the hobby since last time so let's see, where should I begin? How about with the announcement of several polls?

First, John Caruso will be conducting the 2nd Annual Whitestonia Diplomacy Players Poll. There are three categories: Best Regular Diplomacy Player, Best Variant Player, and Best Article Writer. Vote for three in each category, in order, with your top choice #1, etc. Do not vote for yourself. The votes must be in before November 22nd, 1981. Send your ballot to: John Caruso, 160-02 43rd Ave., Flushing, NY 11358.

The 1981 Freshman Class Poll is being conducted once again by Glenn Overby. Any zine that started publication in 1981 is eligible to be voted upon. Rate between 0-10 (just like the Leader Poll) for any and all freshman zines you receive. Mail your ballot to Glenn Overby, 23096 Tawas, Hazel Park, MI 48030.

Doug Beyerlein has announced the resumption of his "Beyerlein Player Poll" (BPP) which originated in 1971. Eight previous polls were conducted between 71-75. If you are interested in participating in the ninth BPP, make a list of the top 14 currently-active postal DIPLOMACY players playing in regular games. The list should be based on personal experience, games observed, reputation, ratings, etc. List the players from number one to number 14. Sign the list and send it to Doug Beyerlein, 640 College, Menlo Park, CA 94025. The deadline for BPP #9 is Feb. 15th, 1982. First rights to the results go to DIPLOMACY WORLD where (I assume) it will be published.

Most of you probably have read about the Walker-Sacks thing elsewhere by now. What it boils down to is that Sacks has been running a hobby service project under the title "Known Game Openings" whereby he does just that. In his September listing, Sacks omitted a few GM's according to DW's editor, Rod Walker. After researching the matter Walker has decided that Sacks is incapable of rendering good judgement on the subject of who should be included on the list and who should be left out. So from now on, the "KGO" will be carried by Rod Walker in DW and I believe he will also send out this list more often, separately to people who request it. From what I've heard previously about Robert Sacks, Rod probably did the right thing. Besides, as he pointed out, Sacks is still free to send out his own listing if he wants to. More power to him if he does.

A two page BORN TO DIP arrived the other day. Actually it was reBORN TO DIP. BTD you will recall was the illfated zine published by Brad "Bozo" Wilson who published a couple of issues and then suddenly folded, failing to refund any fees paid. This is an obvious little fake poking fun at "Bozo". Why do I feel that Steve Arnawoodian may be behind this??

A couple of new New York zines have appeared: EREBOR and ANDUIN. Ken Halpern, 11 Bellingham La., Great Neck, NY 11023 publishes EREBOR. Issue #2 is 10 pages long and includes along with his first games a quiz by Rod Walker, a couple of letters, rules for "The Great Neck Variant", and more. Looks pretty good. His subscription rates are \$5.00/10 issues and all game fees at \$2.00. There are openings in Reg DIP, KINGMAKER, MACHIABELLI, YOUNGSTOWN, and PANZEBITE. Write for a sample.

Larry Peery, PO Box 8416, San Diego, CA 92102 is conducting voting for election into the "International Diplomacy Hall of Fame". If you wish to participate in this interesting project, write to Larry for a ballot and more information.

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STILL MORE STUFF

Steve McLendon released the latest update to his Dragonstooth Rating System a little while back. This latest edition is current through EVERYTHING #47 (3/81). The top rated players rank like this:

Rank	Score	Number of Games	Player	Wins
1	48.41	8	Dave Crockett	8
2	31.35	4	Bill Hart	3
3	30.36	3	Ralph Morton	2
4	28.82	3	Tom Thorsen	2
5	27.48	7	Mark Berch	2
6	27.35	3	Arnold Vagts	2
7	27.07	12	Dave Ditter	4
10	25.45	6	Konrad Baumeister	2
12	25.10	24	Lee Kendter Sr.	7
14	24.99	2	Andy Lischett	2
20	21.89	46	Ron Kelly	11

Other MM readers making the list include Bob Sergeant (21.76), Don Ditter (20.41), John Michalski (16.34), John Caruso (16.32), Stephen Lee (14.74), Steve Heinowski (14.54), and Dick Martin (13.81). It will be interesting to see if any of these guys move up when the next update is released.

In MM #35-36 I announced in passing that I had heard PASSCHENDAELE, a Canadian zine by Francois Guerrier was folding. I had since received an issue of PASS (#35) wherein Francois announced he was indeed going to fold. Issue #36 of PASS showed up the other day, however, with the news that Francois was just kidding about the fold announcement and that it was merely "a hoax". There seems to be mixed reaction around the hobby about this but I, for one, am not sure what to think. I am glad that PASSCHENDAELE will still be around . . . or will it? I hope issue #36 wasn't just a hoax!

And who hasn't heard about WOODPECKER? An interesting fake zine by "Woody" Arnawoodian it is, and has several cute items in it like a letter from John Lennon. I'm pretty sure that Bob Osuch has owned up to doing this one!

Ronald J. Brown, RR#1, Brennan's Hill, Low, Quebec JOX 2G0, publishes SNAFU a Canadian zine destined to become one of the pillars of the Canadian hobby. Ron produces a most readable zine with several interesting features. Strongly recommended. I especially enjoyed in his latest issue (#15) his "Travel: One Colorado Night". A fine writer . . . (I'm jealous!) Sub rate is \$6.00/12 issues. And I'd like to congratulate Ron and his wife Ann on their announcement of the impending birth of their first child in May. Great news for you both - Congrats!

Pete Tamlyn, 17 Pelham Court, Kingston Road, STAINES, Middlesex, UK TW18 1AL, publishes the only British publication I receive, THE ACOLYTE. The British have a very interesting segment of "the Hobby" all of their own. I especially enjoy the impression of American life and philosophies they discuss in the letter column of the zine. Pete devotes approximately 1/3 of TA to DIPLOMACY and to other boardgames such as THE CRUSADES, KINGMAKER, & ORIGINS OF WWII, 1/3 to role-playing games, and 1/3 to the "magazine" section. Very interesting reading. And, oh, how the English have a way with English. Really delightful.

GIVE ME A WEAPON #'s 6, 7, & 8 arrived recently. GMAW is of course, the latest publication by Konrad Baumeister, Box 6050 Henle Village, Washington, D.C. 20057. I always looked forward to receiving ECCNOG, Konrad's former zine. I can see now that I'm going to be feeling the same way about GIVE ME A WEAPON. When Konrad feels like it he can cut loose with some very fine writing of his own. Send for a sample; you'll be glad you did (if you're not shocked by it!)

((Con'd next pg.))

EVEN STILL MORE STUFF

Tom Mainardi, 1403 Lawrence Rd., Havertown, PA 19083 and Steve "Woody" Arnawoodian, 602 Hemlock Cr., Lansdale, PA 19446 co-publish COAT OF ARMS, a new zine. COA #2 arrived the other day and I think it's looking really good. Add to Woody's craziness the likes of Steve Langley who will have a subzine included also in COA and you know that there will always be something of interest inside. The sub rate is \$6.00/12 issues. The latest COA includes cartoons, pictures, humor, DIP games, etc. Another new zine definitely worth checking out. Good luck, boys!

One of my longest hobby acquaintances is still going strong in his fine publication, recently putting out his 41st issue of WHITESTONIA. Naturally I'm speaking of John Caruso. John and Kathy emphasize within the pages of W that the hobby is supposed to be FUN and you can tell that they both do have their share of it. One of the best features of W is "Kathy's Korner". Kathy gets some really interesting letters and questions sent her way and she is never at a loss for a witty answer. You can write for a sample at 160-02 43 Ave, Flushing, NY 11358. The sub rate is \$5.00/10 issues.

Elmer Hinton, 20 Almont St., Nashua, NH 03060 has recently circulated a letter wherein he asks the question: "Do you feel that we need to promote an organization ((sic)) for the players ~~X~~ at this time?" I won't bore you with a lengthy discussion of previous hobby organizations which did not survive. But if you are interested in helping Elmer re-establish his "GAMESMASTERS PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION", which he tried to establish in 1976 initially, write to him and tell him how you can help. My own feeling is that no, we do not need such an organization. Similar attempts in the past have been dismal failures and I really don't see how things have changed to make any new association more successful. I, however, may just be cynical so if any of you are interested in helping found such a group, write to Elmer at the above address.

Bruce Linsey and Jack Masters have been feuding lately. I'm sure that any of you who care already know it. It seems that Bruce initially got upset with Jack for stating in a letter to a player (who in turn showed it to Bruce) that he felt Bruce was a win-at-all-cost player who was very concerned about his ratings. Jack responded that it was, after all, merely stating his opinion about Bruce and that he was entitled to do that. Soon thereafter, Bruce (and others?) discovered that some of Jack's "stories" that he had written were in large part taken from some Thurber stories and others. And so on and so forth and back and forth it has gone. Jack has circulated a "zine" by the name of NICE GUYS FINISH LAST which is two pages devoted to running down Bruce.

I think I can say that I voice the opinion of the majority of the hobby when I say, "C'mon guys, enough already." No one wins in a fight like this. I think that if it continues both Bruce and Jack will find hobby members backing off from them. ~~What~~ Does anyone really want to read about "The Black Hole Affair", whether Bruce is a play-to-win player, or whether Jack used such and such a page from "The Greatest Man in the World"? I personally would rather read a dumb article like "Why I Think Turkey Should Move A Con-Bul in S'O1". Both Bruce and Jack have much, much more on a positive note to offer the postal DIPLOMACY hobby. I hope they are both publishing for a long time to come (although Jack seems to be about ready to wind down BLACK FROG).

I'm sure that I have left out something out that I should have mentioned this time but it will have to wait until next time! FTF meetings are always fun to read about so go on to the next page and read Steve Langley's amusing Con report!

That's all.

"Honest, That Was An Accident."

by

Steve Langley

Clark Reynolds held another "River City Diplomacy Tournament" in Sacramento on Oct. 10th and 11th, and a good time was had by all. Clark has held three tournaments here in Sacramento, and, if we are real good, may hold a fourth.

Came Saturday morning, and I was ready to go. I managed to find enough things to do to keep me from showing up for the tournament much more than two hours early. While I was waiting, I watched a wide range of gamers and games. "The Game Room", which Clark had rented for his con, came equiped with the odd Dungeons & Dragons universe in many manifestations, along with a small handful of Diplomats. I felt right at home.

I was getting as nervous as a first marriage groom. This was my first tournament. I felt a mixture of elation and impending doom. Then, Dave Grabar strolled in. Talk about cool. I recognized him at once. This man was a pro. Later, Tim Winger and Jay Shufeldt both had the same awful effect on me. Talk about your psychological disadvantages.

Clark got final registration straightened out, took us quickly through the tournament ground rules, explained that seven 'Best Country' awards and prize money for first, second, and third places were our objectives, assigned us our boards and countries, and turned us loose. I think that the most notable thing about the way the tournament was run was that the scoring and the scoring system were not revealed until after the tournament was over.

Right away, I knew I was in trouble. I was playing Austria. Need I go on? Tim Winger was Italy, Jay Shufeldt was Germany, Dave Grabar England, Mike Stevenson Russia, and both France and Turkey were 'wild'. The biggest problem with the tournament was that not enough people showed up to play. We had thirteen players, starting with twelve. My board was two short, sigh!

Naturally, I allied with Russia against Turkey, while Italy, Germany, and England attacked France. They killed France before we killed Turkey. As a matter of fact, Turkey outlasted my Russian ally. He and I could not write orders for Turkey, and we wrote the only orders for France. The other three took France apart despite out inept defense, and the wily Turk manged to take Sev when I decided to abandon ship. I took a couple of Russian dots with me when I left. Dave Grabar warned me then, when I explained that I had never stabbed before, that it was addictive.

Russia turned on me, and quickly lost the rest of his dots to Dave and Jay. Tim joined me in resisting Dave and Jay's insistence on taking all of our dots too.

The title of this piece is a Dave Grabar quote. I can't remember when I've had quite so much fun playing. Dave and Tim are both very personable and very funny and very good DIPLOMACY players. Dave is also very quotable.

"Honest, that was an accident."

"I didn't mean to do that."

"I didn't do that on purpose, I swear I didn't."

"Oh God, I made another accident."

All appropriately voiced with great sincerity just after Dave took someone else's dot. I think my favorite went something like, "I didn't stab you." Pause. "I really didn't stab you. That wasn't a stab. I've never lied to you. That really wasn't a stab." Pause. "I didn't stab you."

Despite adversity and hardship and a missed out of a vital support, I eked out "Best Austria". I didn't win, Jay won the game in the final season by stabbing Dave, and then looked good for Best Germany. Was I mentioning very good Diplomacy players earlier?

By the time the game was over, I was enthralled by Dave Grabar, and I was scared to death of Jay Shufeldt.

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"Honest . . ." (Con'd)

Lunch break. The hamburgers from next door were only twice the size that I expected. Then, the second round. Each round there were two tables. By the second round, we were up to our max of thirteen players. The other table got the wild country, and I drew Russia to Dave's Germany and Jay's Austria. Bob Buckles drew Italy, Kirk Poore Turkey, John Lloyd France, and Mike Stevenson, my ex-Russian ally, England. I felt even more impending doom. I talked first to Jay, who was still buying a hamburger, then to Turkey, about how really scary Jay and Dave were, then ditto Italy and France. Turkey and I were allied for the start of one season, but then it fell through when I moved into the Black Sea. Honest, that was an accident.

Jay and I had lots more luck against a live Turk than I'd had against the wild Turk in the first game. Early on, Dave and Mike allied against France. Dave promised me Sweden, if I wouldn't hassle England, and England took the Channel. Dave wanted Belgium, as did Mike. I suggested that France might be conned into supporting England into Belgium as a start at a French-English alliance. Then England would convoy into Brest, (France would naturally bounce him) and Dave would get Belgium and I would get Sweden. We told Mike the whole plan, except for maybe one or two small details, and he loved it.

"The code word is 'Machiavelli'. If I say Machiavelli, that will mean he's bought it," Mike said, just before heading off to a conversation with France. Dave and I agreed to ally, and neither believed either, but he didn't bounce me out of Sweden, just then. The two of us passed Sweden back and forth three full cycles before the game was over.

We returned to the table while Mike told France about a game of Machiavelli he'd been in. Orders in, and read. I slipped right on into Sweden and put an army into Rum. Dave took Den, Hol, and Bel, while Mike took Nwy and Brest.

A couple of years later, Turkey attempted to block an Austrian threat and moved out of two dots that I was moving into. Then he failed to support his final dot, and let me take it too. Fearing that Jay might be a bit paranoid about my sudden spurt in size, I abandoned Bul and Con. Fearing that Dave might be a bit paranoid about lots of Russian armies, I built a single F STP(nc). It worked.

Jay turned his attention back to finishing off Italy, and Dave went back to jerking the English chain. For each dot England took, Dave or I would relieve him of another. Then, Dave was right, stabbing did turn out to be addictive. I took Con and Bul back from Jay, and managed to swoop down on Bud and Vic too.

Alas, they turned on me. Dave told me some very convincing lies, and if we hadn't run out of time, he would have gone for 18. As it was, he got "Best Germany", and I got "Best Russia" for the same game.

That night, Clark, Dave, Jerry White (who joined us in the second round and took "Best England"), Mike, and I went out to Pizza, COSMIC ENCOUNTERS and DUNE. Dave took two out of three. We split the pizza.

After recovering my house keys, I offered Dave a bed. He bought breakfast and we returned to the game room. Three games of straight chess with Grabar, and one variant later, Mike joined us to take Dave next door to beat him at pool. Grabar had a great weekend.

Round three. Mike (my ex-Russian, ex-English ally) was France to my Germany. Jay pulled Italy. Tim Winger, Turkey, Greg Russia, Vincent Austria, and England was wild. Mike and I allied immediately. He begged me to help him get best France. It was a virtuoso performance.

Vincent had been first out on two of three boards, so far. He kept his record intact, with everyone's help. I managed to keep him afloat for two years, to get favorable English orders, and ended up stabbing him. That was the way Vincent played DIPLOMACY.

France and I both fell afoul of English territory. Tim and Jay both wrote some diabolical orders for England. I compounded their efforts through some heavy

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"Honest . . ." (Con'd)

oversight. England gave me fits while Tim grew at an appalling rate. I finally managed to bring Jay, Mike, and Greg together. Their one season alliance fell apart before Tim's moves.

"Steve, I hear you've been doing some politicking against me," Tim accused.

"Well, of course!"

"You . . . admit it?" Tim was puzzled.

"No . . . Of course they'd say that. Who else would they blame?"

That was the first time I'd seen Jay laugh.

We really had fun that game. Tim took "Best Turkey". I finally managed to wipe out England. Mike never stabbed me, and still took "Best France". Come Fall '07, I tried to put my units into civil disorder, but except for France, no one could take a dot anywhere, so we voted to skip the final season.

Eons passed, and Clark finally announced the results. Dave took first, and Jay and a young man named Kevin drew for second. The plaques are really neat. Hope to see you all there next time.

((Thanks for the article, Steve. Three issues added to your sub for your efforts. Yep, I know all those Grabar lines by heart now; he's a lot of fun to play DIP with alright. You sure never know what to expect from 'Gruesome Grabar'! I'm glad that Clark decided to refrain from disclosing the scoring system until after the tournament. I think it makes for a much more fun tourney if the players are just playing DIP and trying to do their best instead of 'playing the system'. Thanks again, Steve. - RB))

MURD'RING MINISTERS STANDBY LIST

Regular DIPLOMACY - Larry McCloud, Keith Mercer, Ron Kelly, Jim Williams, Paul Goodrich, Steve Heinowski, W.A. Hugh, Jim Gray, Steve Langley, Bern Sampson, and Steve Hartman. Anyone want on or off?

MACHIAVELLI - Dave Grabar, George Cunningham, & Larry McCloud.

YET EVEN STILL MORE STUFF:

By the way, did anyone notice last issue's edition of BIGTIMER MAGAZINE? It was a fake, done by me. None of the players listed had anything to do with the "game" - I just thought it might be funny. I guess not too many saw the "humor" there. Oh well. My first and last fake and it wasn't even widely acclaimed!

"Had I but died an hour before this chance
I had liv'd a blessed time; for, from this instant,
There's nothing serious in mortality,
All is but toys; renown and grace is dead,
The wine of life is drawn, and the mere lees
Is left this vault to brag of.

THE GAMES!!

1981AB FALL 1903 MASSIVE ATTACKS SWEEP EUROPE! ALL OFFENSIVES STYMIED AS RUSSIANS LEARN VIENNA WALTZ!

- England (Fleming): F IRI-Mid; F ENG-s-F Iri-Mid; F NTH-Hol; F DEN-s-A Kie;
A KIE-s-Russian A Ber-Mun.
- France (Manuel): F BRE-Eng; F MID-s-F Bre-Eng; A BUR-Ruh; A BEL-s-A Bur-Ruh;
A PIC-Bur; A MAR-s-A Pic-Bur.
- Germany (Goodrich): A RUH-Kie; A MUN-s-A Ruh-Kie; F HOL-Bel.
- Italy (Kuszynski): A SER-Bul; F GRE-s-A Ser-Bul; A ALB-s-F Gre; A BUD-H;
A TRI-s-A Bud; A Ven-TYA; F TUN-Ion; F Tys-NAP.
- Russia (Ragsdale): A RUM-Ser; F SEV-Rum; F BLA-s-F Sev-Rum; A Gal-VIE;
A BOH-s-A Gal-Vie; A BER-Mun; F SWE-Den.
- Turkey (Arnawoodian): A CON-s-A Bul; F ION-Gre; F AEG-s-F Ion-Gre; A BUL-s-F Ion-
Gre.

Winter 1903 AND Spring 1904 due 12/18/81.

1981AB 1903 Supply Center Chart

Austria- Off	(0)	OUT
England- Home, Nwy, Den, KIE.....	(6)	+1
France- Home, Por, Spa, Gal.....	(6)	0
Germany- Mun, Kie , Hol.....	(2)	-1
Italy- Home, Tri, Vie , Tun, Bud, Ser, GRE.....	(8)	0
Russia- Home, Rum, Swe, Ber, VIE.....	(8)	+1
Turkey- Home, Bul.....	(4)	0

1981AB Press-

- PARIS-LONDON: Liar! Liar! Pants on fire!
- PARIS-BERLIN: Come on! Roll over and play dead!
- MOSCOW: A 19 gun salute was ordered fired from the Kremlin's walls in honor of the recently departed monarch of Austria. The Tsar has ordered the removal of all telephones from Russia, citing the example of the havoc wreaked upon Austria by a phone wielding Italian as the principal reason for removing this dangerous weapon from our borders.
- PARIS-BECK: Hi Mary!
- RUSSIA-FRANCE: Which traitor's mouth said France was next?
- MOSCOW (via Paris): We sold the fleet . . . to Switzerland!
- MOSCOW: What's the English translation of "Ta Hooey Do Kai Yi?"
- MANUEL-GOD: I please let these ~~xx~~ work!
- RUSSIA-ITALY: I second Austria's "Ta Hooey Do Kai Yi" and add, "Whoopie Ti Yi Yo!"

* * * * *

1981AY WINTER 1902

- Austria- No Adj
- England- Builds F LIL
- France- No Adj
- Germany- Builds A KIE
- Italy- NRR! A Ven-r-OTB*
- Russia- F Swe-r-OTB; Builds A WAR, A MOS; A Nwy-r-
- Turkey- Builds F SMY, F CON

Spring 1903 due 12/18/81. *Would Dick Martin, 6103 Breezewood Ct. #202, Greenbelt, MD 20770 please submit standby orders for Italy?

1981AY Press-

- LONDON-ROME: You are formally invited to participate in the fishing rights dispute between France and England. We trust that you will make an impartial decision in England's favor despite the treacherous French attack which you have suffered.
- AUSTRIA-TURKEY: "The Bible charges us to love our neighbors and our enemies; probably because they are usually the same people." - Chesterton.

1981D Press-

GERMANY-TURKEY: What's all this 'Stop the German' talk? I'm just a little guy. You want to stop someone, why not take a look at Italy. Now there is a big guy. He's not only bigger than I am, but he has dots coming.

ICELAND: The Icelandic Minister of Information released reports today regarding the state of current events in Europe. He stated that the conditions on the continent appear to be deteriorating rapidly from their already unstable state.

"The German Chief of State is determined to continue annexing territory both to the east and south. Our reporters in Berlin have received confidential reports that German forces are planning a massive offensive toward the lands of both the Sultan and the Pope within the next couple of years. The reason given for this was the German inability to continue to expand westward into France. These reports also state that since the German leader is beginning to lose his grip on reality, and is a weak minded son-of-a-bitch anyway, these plans may change at a moments notice!

"Italian roces, under the leadership(?) of the power-mad and land-hungry Pope are attacking everything and everybody in sight. We expect the idiot to launch an attack here in Iceland as soon as he can figure out how to get here from there," the Minister stated.

"The Sultan appears to have come to a recent decision that support is necessary before he can expand into lands occupied by others. (He discovered this by accidentally taking Sevastopol). Informed sources indicated that with his new-found knowledge, he is planning to mass his forces and will, probably within 3 years, succeed in capturing both Armenia and Syria!

The French President has indicated to his advisors that contrary to their unanimous opinion, he does too know shit from shinola and that the stench that surrounds his footwear is a result of incorrect tanning of the leather. (His valet has indicated otherwise). He told our reporters that his strategy regarding the current conflict is to "hold his own". He based this strategy on the fact that since he is usually without female companionship he sometimes "holds his own" 2 or 3 times a night and with that much practice he should be damn good at it! His current plan is to occupy all provinces of France and never leave.

"Being the master strategist that he is, the King of England is continuing to build fleets and get them inalnd. If he doesn't show us how within the next few years, I guess we'll have to hope for a real strong wind out of the west. But he will tell us how, won't he, huh? Won't he? Forces close to the King indicate that during recent talks between the heads of state of England and Germany, the King was frequently observed with a brown odoriferous substance coating his nose. When questioned about this, the King is said to have remarked X about his love for that exquisite German chocolate."

Word from the Czar indicates that the Russians have fallen in love with the Rumanian climate and intend to remain there for the rest of their days."

Stay tuned to "Radio Iceland" for further news as it breaks!"

GERMANY-ENGLAND: You are only borrowing Sweden, right? That is just a loan . . . isn't it? Woody? . . . Are you there?

CON-WORLD: Look, everybody says it would be a good deal to do something about the German, so somebody do something! What has really happened is that the wiley German and slippery Italian have held us all at bay and now hold seventeen centers between them. Think about it. The time to act is passing, if the German and Italian don't bump soon and hard the rest of us should take serious note.

GAL & SIL-DOH: What do you mean, lonely? You are right in the center of the action.

GERMANY-ITALY: The gnashing of teeth you hear in the north is no more than frustration and envy. Here you are, seemingly with no enemies, cruising into dots both right and left. Here am I, seemingly with no friends, marching in place.

GERMANY-FRANCE: It looks like your plan is going to work. A somewhat Pyrrhic victory, don't you think?

1981AY Press (Con'd)

FREE FRENCH PRESS: Paris- Because of the British blight's beguiling besetment of the battlements of Burgundy and their bilious, black, barbarious and befouling behavior (boldly being both buggerous and bestial), the brazen, oft berserk, Baron of Beaujolais has bestired the banal brigades. Backed by both a bannered battery and bayoneted battalions, the Baron believes he can banish this barnacle from the buttocks of the French. His Bonapartistic bias bids bitter banter as he boots the bathless British a bounding Bon Voyage. He believes that the British barkentine barges belligerently and bellicosely being bowered off the beaches of Breast are to blame for this bedlam and beseeches the battleships of Berne to betray the Britianic bastards and bare their blades to the British buttress becoming the basis for British bereavment.

LONDON-VIENNA: We are pleased that you have survived the first attack of the Russo-Turkish alliance. We pray for your continued success in the defence of your homelands.

AUSTRIA-ITALY: "What men commonly call their fate is mostly only their own foolishness." - Schopenhauer.

LONDON-ST. PETERSBURG: Our sailors have very much enjoyed their shore leave in Norway and wish to compliment the Czar upon his warm hospitality. They have requested that they do this in person. The admiralty is considering their suggestion of this goodwill offer.

AUSTRIA-RUSSIA: Be careful you don't bend over in the lorte!

LONDON-BAKERSFIELD: Sorry to hear about your hectic schedule but you must be acknowledged for having the best zine around. I've never been in a postal game with so many letters sent between the players and so much interest in the game (including numerous forgeries). It is not surprising to find this caliber of players in your zine since the best players utilize the best publishers. Thanks!

BAKERSFIELD-LONDON: Thanks, I appreciate the kind words but it's the players, not the GM that make a game a success. I must say that I am proud to be the GM for this game; the only thing better would be to be a player. From the outside it looks like a great one!

BUDAPEST-CONSTANTINOPLE: Whether your Forte is open or not, I'm going to find it difficult to trust Turkish promises.

* * * * *

1981D WINTER 1904

England- Builds F LFL Italy- Builds A VEN, F NAP

France- No Adj Russia- NRR! A Sev-r-OTB

Germany- F Swe-r-OTB; A Bur-r-RUH, Builds A BER Turkey- Builds F.SMY

1981D SPRING 1905 HAS ANGLO-GERMAN ALLIANCE BEGUN? IS FRANCE DOQMED? WILL ANYONE COMMAND THE RUSSKIES?

England (Arnawoodian): F Mid-FOR; F Iri-MID; F Lpl-IRI; F ENG-s-German A Bel; F Nwy-NTH; A Swe-NWY.

France (Kelly): F FIC-Bel; A BUR-s-F Fic-Bel; A PAR-s-A Bur; A GAS-s-A Dur; F WES-Spa(sc).

Germany (Langley): A BOH-Tya; A MUN-s-A Boh-Tya; A Ber-SIL; A Lvn-WAR; A Mos-UKR; A RUH-Dur; A DEL-s-A Ruh-Dur; F DEN-H.

Italy (Filbeck): A BUD-Rum; F Gre-DUL(sc); A SER-s-F Gre-Dul(sc); F ION-Aeg; F Nap-TYS; A VEN-Tya; A VIE-s-A Ven-Tya; A Pic-MAR; F LYO-Spa(sc).

Russia (Grabar)* NMR! A Rum-H/d/-r-Gal,OTB.

Turkey (Ethington): F Dul(ec)-RUM; A SEV-s-F Dul(ec)-Rum; F BIA-s-F Dul(sc)-Rum; F CON-Aeg; F Smy-EAS.

Fall 1905 due 12/18/81.

*Would Al Rodriguez please submit standby orders for Russia?

"MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING"

#2

a MURD'RING MINISTERS Supplement

10/22/81

1980IX FALL 1905 G4 BITES THE BIG ONE! REPLAYS SEASON, RED FACE AND ALL!*

England (Schwartz): F NTH-s-German A Bel; F DEN-H; A LPL-H; F Eng-MID.
 France (Vaughan): A BUR-Bun; A Pic-BEL; A RUH-s-A Pic-Bel; A Par-PIC;
 F Bre-ENG; F IRE-s-F Bre-Eng.
 Germany (Heinowski): A Boh-HUN; A KIT-s-A Boh-Hun; F BAL-Den; F HOL-Nth; A Bel-Hol/a/.
 Italy (Pearson): A TRI-Bud; A VIE-s-A Tri-Bud; A VEN-Tri; A GRE-H; F ION-s-A Gre;
 F EAs-SMY; F AEG-s-F EAs-Smy.
 Russia (Cunningham): A SER-Gre; A DUD-s-A Ser/OTH/; A GAL-s-A Bud; A Con-ANK;
 F ILLA-s-A Con-ANK; A SEV-Azn; A HUL-Cons; A FIN-s-A Swa;
 A SWO-s-Eng. F Den; F Ciy-NAT.
 Turkey (Cray): F SWO-Con/a/; A ANK-ANK.

Winter 1905 ~~season~~ ONLY will be due 11/6/81. Seasons are being separated to allow for the brief time before the next regular deadline, and I'm sure you would rather see 80IX stay in the zine like normal.

1980IX 1905 SUPPLY & CENTER CHART

England- Ed1, Lon, Den, Nwy, LPL.....	(5)+1
France- Home, Spa, Lon , BEL.....	(6) 0
Germany- Home, Lon , Hol.....	(4) 0
Italy- Home, Tun, Gre, TRI, Vie, SMY.....	(8)+1
Russia- Home, Run, Swa, Bud, Ser, Bul, Con, ANK.....	(11)+1
Turkey- Lon , Ed1	(0) OUT

Press stays the same as printed in MM#40.

* I listed Russia as only ordering one unit in the last game report for the above season in MM#40. George called to check on this as he was certain he had submitted orders. A thorough search revealed that he had indeed submitted orders but I had mistakenly misfiled them into the wrong file. (The above game report, then, is the corrected results for Fall 1905. The above supply center chart is correct. Please send your Winter adjustments and press (if any) by the above deadline. Spring 1906 will be due with MM#42. My sincerest apologies for my oversight to all

Sincerely,

"Thus we play the fools with the time,
and the spirits of the wise sit in the clouds and
mock us."

HENRY IV. PART II. II.11.155

1980IX WINTER 1905
England- Builds F LON
France- No Adj
Germany- No Adj

Italy- Builds F NAP
Russia- Builds A STP

* * * * *

1980KZ SUMMER 1905 Turkish F Ion-r-APU; Austrian A Bud-r-SER.
1980KZ FALL 1905 ALL DRAWS FAIL! ITALY, GERMANY, TURKEY GROW; RUSSIA BOWS OUT IN STYLE!
Austria (Goodrich): F ADR-Ven; A Tri-s-F Adr-Ven/d/-r-Tya,OTB; A Ser-Bud/a/.
England (Sampson): A LON-H; F NTH-s-A Nwy; A NWY-s-F StP(nc); F STP(nc)-s-A Nwy.
France (Sperdakos): F Dre-MID; F Eng-IRI; F Wes-TUN; F ION-Nap; F TYS-s-F Ion-Nap;
A TUS-Rom.
Germany (Stephens): F SWE-H; F DEN-s-F Swe; A BEL-H; A BOH-s-A Vie; A VIE-s-
A Bud-Tri; A Bud-TRI; A WAR-s-A Lvn; A LVN-s-A War.
Italy (Hugh): A Pie-MAR; A ROM-Ven; F NAP-H.
Russia (Swartz): A FIN-StP.
Turkey (Masters): A MOS-s-A Gal-Bud/imp/; A SEV-s-A Mos; A GAL-Bud; A Bul-SER;
A RUM-s-A Bul-Ser; F APU-s-Italian F Nap; F ALB-s-German
A Bud-Tri; F GRE-s-F Alb.

Winter 1905 AND Spring 1906 due 12/18/81. There is a proposal for a F-G-T draw. Please vote with your next orders. 'NVR' = 'Yes' vote.

1980KZ 1905 Supply Center Chart

Austria- T,T,Y ,Bud, Ser	(1)	-1
England- Home,StP,NWY.....	(5)	+1
France- Par,Dre, M,T ,Spa,Por,Tun.....	(5)	-1
Germany- Home,Den,Hol,Bel,War,Swe,VIE,TRI.....	(10)	+2
Italy- Rom,Nap,Ven,MAR.....	(4)	+1
Russia- N,T	(0)	OUT
Turkey- Home,Bul,Rum,Sev,Mos,Gre,SER.....	(9)	+1

1980KZ Press-

BS-BS: I'm so confused. Who are you? Who am I?
GERMANY-ITALY: You are not only a tough old cob; you remind me of a spider I used to know named Boris. He was sorta creepy crawly, too.
GERMANY-AUSTRIA: He who hesitates is in the box.
SWITZERLAND-ENGLAND, ITALY, & TURKEY: You best be careful. France is going to kick your asses.
SWITZERLAND-GERMANY: And you're next.
BERLIN-CONSTANTINOPLE: Thanks!
COA - Bobby Stephens, PO Box 340111, Dallas, TX 75234.

* * * * *

"The worst is not,
So long as we can say, 'This is the
worst.'"

KING LEAR IV, i, 27

"And oftentimes, to win us to our
harm,
The instruments of darkness tell us
truths,
Win us with honest trifles, to be-
tray 's
In deepest consequence."

MACBETH I, iii, 123

"Fray you now, forget and forgive."

KING LEAR IV, vii, 84

1981AF SUMMER 1904 English F Hol-r-HEL; Austrian A Ser-r-ALB*.

1981AF FALL 1904 FRENCH FORCES OVERWHELMED BY ANGLO-RUSSIAN ATTACKS AS FRENCH GOV'T
FACES CRISIS AT HOME AT THE HANDS OF THE MAD GENERAL GARBANZO!!

Austria (Hugh): A ALB-s-A Bud-Ser; A BUD-Ser; A GAL-Bud.
 England (Gray): A Yor-WAL; F LPL-s-A Yor-Wal; A LON-s-A Yor-Wal; F Hel-HOL;
F KIE-s-F Hel-Hol; F NTH-s-F Hel-Hol.
 France (Mainardi)** NMR! A Wal-H/a/; A Hol-H/d/-r-Ruh,OTB; A Mun-H/d/-r-Bur,OTB;
A BEL, F ENG, F NAT, F MID - all H.
 Italy (Williams): A Mar-GAS; A Pie-MAR; F Tys-LYO; A Tri-VIE; F Ion-ADR.
 Russia (Wells): A Boh-MUN; A BER-s-A Boh-Mun; A Fru-WAR; A BAL-s-Eng; F Kie;
F Swe-NWY; A RUM-H; A UKR-s-A Rum.
 Turkey (Haffey): F GRE-Alb; A SER-s-Russian A Rum-Bud/NSO/; A BUL-Rum; F Aeg-ION;
 Winter 1904 AND Spring 1905 due 12/18/81.

*Last time I mistakenly listed the Austrian A Ser/a/; Most of you probably saw as Bill did that Albania was open to retreat into, as it did indeed.

**Would Steve Hartman, 98-1733 B Kaahumanu St., Aiea, HI 96701 please submit standby orders for France?

1981AF 1904 Supply Center Chart

Austria- Bud, Le, Fer	(1)	-2
England- Home, Den, Hol, Kie.....	(6)	0
France- Mar, Lar, Bre, For, Spa, Man , Bel.....	(5)	-1
Germany- Ber	(0)	OUT
Italy- Home, Tun, Tri, VIE, MAR.....	(7)	+2
Russia- Home, Rum, Swe, Nwy, BER, MUN.....	(9)	+2
Turkey- Home, Bul, Gre, SER.....	(6)	+1

1981AF Press-

ROME-BUDAPEST: You wouldn't be a nasty Ned and take Trieste back now, would you? That would be as low as say . . . me trying for Vienna!

ST. PETERSBURG GAZETTE: MOUNTING VICTORIES AGAINST GERMANS ANNOUNCED!

In a rather startling move, it seems that our valiant forces' morale dramatically improved after the air-drop of Sul'Tim' punching bags over their lines, and they were able to launch a surprisingly coordinated and effective surprise marine assault on Berlin, the very capitol of the German Empire. This was accomplished despite the Silesian Army, which was supposed to aid in the assault, wandering south, claiming they had heard of a toy-shop in Italy where they could get more Sul'Tim' punching bags. Luckily, the airlift arrived before they had gotten further than Bohemia. They are expected to help in the fall continuation of our campaign against the vicious, domineering, world threatening Germans.

VENICE GAZETTE: GARBANZO REFUSES RETREAT ORDER!

General Fredo Garbanzo, who recently made headlines for his unauthorized forage into Marseilles, has further incensed the Italian High Command by advancing even further into French territory.

Garbanzo has been a constant embarrassment to Italy ever since his induction into the army, according to official sources. His rise to the rank of General has been attributed only to the mysterious deaths of Fredo's superior officers on his way up the ladder, and the obvious shortage of leadership talent in the Italian armed forces.

He has now been officially relieved of command and his followers are being called "renegades". It is rumored that several government "hit men" have been sent to stop Garbanzo's charge and help to restore French-Italian relations.

REPORT FROM THE GERMAN EXPEDITIONARY RECONNAISSANCE FORCE TO THE HONORABLE AND MIGHTY TSAR ALLENYI I (excerpts): . . . It has come to our attention that while there is little dissent and high loyalty in the ranks, your general officers seem distrustful of you and wish for the days of the Russian Tsars to return. In particular, General Soldthelastski was overheard to say, "Today Berlin, tomorrow . . . that Scandinavian SOB might lead us to power, but it will be a Russian that will lead from there!" The popular support of General Soldthelastski is high since his successful invasion of Berlin. It is advised that . . .

((81AF Press con'd next
pg.))

1981AF Iress (Con'd)

REPLY FROM TSAR ALLENYI I TO THE GERMAN EXPLORATIONARY RECONNAISSANCE FORCE:

Dear Gerk,

Shhot Ski STOF Have troops garrison pending replacement STOI Offer support unit Bohemia eliminating Germans STOI STOI German refugees with Stop signs & STOI
ROME-LONDON: How did you know I was headed for the south of France? Have you been
♦onferring with Gen. Garbanzo?

ST. PETERSBURG-GAZETTE: --- Flash! Russians chase Germans into Munich!! In a startling
move that official observers claim could threaten Franco-Russian relations severely,
the Royal Russian forces have attacked Munich. "I can't see why," the Tsar Allenyi
was quoted as saying, "I just want to hunt Germans, and what better place to hunt
Germans than Germany?" Only one reporter had any questions, see page 12 for his obituary.
SICILY: Break-a-u-face Toy Co. Near Financial Collapse!!

Despite the success of the recent games "Elimination" and "Evil Weed", the
Break-a-u-face Toy Co. is facing possible bankruptcy. The main reason behind this
unfortunate news is the recent Russian ban on "Elimination".

The Russians, formerly the biggest purchasers of the game banned its possession
or sale due to its alleged widespread misuse, causing the destruction of many Sul'Tim'
punching bags.

This move has caused a large overstock of "Elimination" games and has severely
disrupted the cash flow at Break-a-u-face. Officials there, are hoping that sales of
"Evil Weed" and the new "Hit Man" game can offset this loss of sales and that the
rest of Europe keeps purchasing "Elimination" as well. If not, Break-a-u-face will,
no doubt, join the ranks of the hundreds of other Italian companies that have folded
as a direct result of this senseless war.

ST. PETERSBURG GAZETTE: NEW GOVERNMENT REGULATION PENDING!!

In a move to "Heighten morale and safety in these war-troubled times" the Tsar
has introduced emergency regulations to help the Russian populace. All horse-drawn
and horseless carriages for the 1904 model year will be required to have emergency,
inflatable Sul'Tim' punching bags as a standard option.

ANKARA: THE ANKARA NEWS WIRE reports the official answer of Sul'Tim' to the rumors
of war in the Balkans is that it is absurd.

Sul'Tim' said at an official audience with local Armentian leaders yesterday that
Turkey has no desire to go to war with Russia over any situation in the Balkans.
A request to the Czar for support in the proposed Turkish annexation of Rumania into
the Turkish Empire in exchange for certain support other places is entirely in line
with the official Turkish doctrine of maintaining equal size with all neighboring
nations. However, the Rumanian compromise is as much in the interest of Russia in
keeping the peace in the Balkans as Turkey's.

Sul'Tim' also stated that while the refusal of the Czar to accept the "Rumanian
Compromise" would be disappointing and would probably lead to a whole re-evaluation
of the Turkish/Russian relationship because of the great size Russia would become,
it is still very doubtful it would lead to War.

* * * * *

"For I have neither wit, nor words, nor
worth,
Action, nor utterance, nor the power of
speech,
To stir men's blood: I only speak right
on."

JULIUS CAESAR III, ii, 225.

"When my tongue blabs, then let mine
eyes not see."

TWELFTH-NIGHT I, ii, 61.

THE NIXON AWARD

Well, it's that time again! Time to start thinking back on the past year in the hobby (1981) and decide who you think deserves this coveted(?) award. For those of you who do not know, the Nixon Award is an annual award given to the "Biggest Liar of the Year". Last year "Honest Al the Novice's Pal" Pearson was awarded the Nixon. Kathy Byrne came in a close second.

If you have someone in mind you would like to see receive the recognition they so truly deserve as the Liar of the Year here's what you do. Write your nomination for whoever in the form of a paragraph explaining why you feel they deserve the Nixon. The winning nomination will receive an original Jerry H. Jones "Certificate of Diplomatic Survival" suitable for framing. Nominations must be in by Jan. 31, 1982. The Nixon will be awarded in the Feb. '82 issue of MM.

Publishers feel free to publicise this opening of nominations as it is open to any who wish to send in a nomination.

* * * * *
READERS' RHETORICAL REPLIES

((from John Caruso))

Dear Ron,

Rec'd issue 38-39 of MM, and I must say it's another good issue. Congrats on winning at Origins. I know these tournaments are quite a strain. Also, congrats are in order for your zine and GMing. You listed where your zine finished, but do you know that you, the GM, finished #2?

I too saw the pictures of you in DF and then MM. You aren't what I pictured you and how Black Jack once described you over the phone. I expected to see a short, fat, old, balding, hunched over, senile looking man instead of this vibrant(?), energetic(??), happy(???) looking guy. What does Gruesome look like?

How is parenthood? Are you getting a lot of sleep? Oh, and before I forget, give Char a hug and a kiss for me and say, "Hi, this is from John."

I understand Dave Grabar, Jack Masters, Rod Walker, and some other West Coasters will be renting a tour bus for a trip to Origins next year. Are you coming too? It really would be nice to meet all of you from the other side of the world.

That's about it for this rambling. Take care and see you next year.

John

((Thank you for the kind(?) words, John! Seriously, thanks for the congratulatory remarks. At the time I printed MM #38-39 I did not know the result of the GMing poll, but of course, now I do. As to Black Jack's description of me, I'm sure that this is the way he sees me ever since I took Denmark in that FTF game. Jack has never forgiven me for that, even though he has had the pleasure of wiping me off the board a couple of times since then. You should see me now, though. I've lost 30 lbs. since that picute was taken at Origins this summer. Now that football season is over (see the WRAP-UP this issue) I probably will put a few back on, however. Gruesome Grabar looks like, well . . . I guess you might say that he looks kind of like an Italian George Hamilton, except I wish he would get rid of his Billy Jack hat that he always wears when he plays FTF DIPLOMACY. It reminds me of of one of those cavalry Indian scouts in those 'B' western movies! Parenthood is hectic! The boys sleep pretty soundly all through the night once we can manage to get them to sleep, which is usually around 9:30-10:00. So I've been getting plenty of sleep except around deadline time when I must get all the typing done between 11:00 and 1 or 2 AM. I did what you said about the hug and kiss and her reaction was "John Who?" I said, "What's wrong you got so many you need a last name to keep track?!" It is highly improbable that I will make to next year's ORIGINS although it is an interesting idea. Who knows . . . - RB))

RRR (Con'd)

((from Bruce Linsey))

Ron -

MM #38-39 just arrived. Your zine continues to be one of the best around. Congratulations on a well-deserved placing in the Leeder Polls.

Now that '79CF has ended, I don't seem to write you as often, sorry. But I do enjoy your letter column as much as ever. Especially Olsen's attacks on Gary Coughlan! Now I know why Bob never writes in Swedish Roundabout ((a game of DIP in EUROPA EXPRESS)) -- he's too busy writing letters about GM to other zines! Why, just the other day I got a rare letter from Bob in which he told me he's buying a new house to accomodate all my letters of negotiation. I responded by telling him that I had bought a thimble for his letters! The only problem is, they got lost inside it. But you think I've got trouble -- I heard Bob's new house collapsed last week from the weight of all my writings. (Either that, or Bob foolishly tried to climb the stairs and thereby raised the center of gravity too high and -- SMASH! -- down it went.) And we thought that Arizona's Meteor Crater was big!

Well, with all this I just had to write in defense of Gary. True, he could defend his own position -- but how many of your readers are fluent in Southtalk? Not many, I imagine; besides, his writing comes out illegible because he has no table and therefore writes his letters directly on the red earthen floor of his hut.

Yes, I really must stand up for my friend Gary. (After all, when you're busy groping toward every back in sight in order to insert a dagger, you're bound to lose your balance and therefore be unable to stand, right Gary?) Like I said, then, I'll stand up for him. (No wonder he calls me CRUTCH . . .) (Olsen isn't quite so subtle; he calls me CROTCH!)

Well, that's all for now. I have to run because I just got a phone call that my new 100-gallon drum of ink has arrived, so I have to go pick it up, load my pen, and start harassing Bob again.

Good luck with the zine, and don't let Bob keep stomping on Gary. After all, insects crush easily -- especially Boll Weevils!

S'long,
BRUX

((Thanks for writing, Bruce. I'm glad you are enjoying the Olsne/Coughlan "War of Words because guess what's up next? - RB))

((from Gary Coughlan))

Dear Ron,

First let me assure you that we, your subbers, understand why you delayed MM for 3 weeks. I would have been ashamed to print more of Olsne's garbage myself - snort.

So the "Winged Wonder of Wichita" still rants and raves. I think he's getting worse, Ron. Even his press (his "best" writings) has declined. He sent me a press release which said, "Gabba gabba hey gabba hey gabba gabba hey gabba gabba hey!" Definitely the sign of a decaying intellect.

And that is not the only thing of Mr. Olsen's that's decaying I'm suspecting. As you know, Ron, there was recently a face-to-face Con in St. Louis. Bob avoided it and even wrote Eric Ozog that he wouldn't come even if it were held in his hometown of Wichita! He must be hiding something! His lettersto you are so verbose, surely he can tell us what it is. I eagerly await the truth from Mr. Olsen for a change!

((Con'd next pg.))

RRR (Con'd)

Well, that's all I have to say for now -- short and sweet; that is the way my letters are. And I'm sure, for me, MM will be right on time. You and I and everybody else knows even if Bob Olson doesn't, right Ron?

Sincerely,
Gary

((Uh, whatever you say, Gary! Bob, do you feel like answering Gary's charge that the reason you did not attend the meeting in St. Louis is that you have something to hide? Thanks for writing! - RB))

((from Dave Carter))

Ron,

The "Italian in Detroit" joke was given to me at work.

I don't remember it in MM. Was it before MM#20? I have a few others just like it that are awaiting blank space.

Dave

(("The Italian in Detroit" was sent to me by Dave Grabar and appeared in MM #17. That was the thermofaxed copy that you couldn't hardly read so maybe no one could tell what it said! Hope to see some of your other 'funnies' in SLEEPLESS KNIGHTS before long. - RB))

* * * * *

"The Young Priest"

A newly ordained Priest had just finished his first sermon at the church. Things went alright for him but he was extremely nervous during his sermon and suffered greatly from the anxiety of the situation. So the young Priest met with his supervising Monsignor and asked him if there was anything he could do that would help keep him relaxed during next Sunday's sermon. The wise old Monsignor nodded his head in understanding and said, "Sure, my son. Why not substitute a pitcher of martinis for the pitcher of water at your podium before next Sunday's service? It should help you stay relaxed."

The young Priest thought this was a good idea and did as the Monsignor instructed. The Sunday service came and after the congregation had left the young Priest asked the Monsignor how he had done. The Monsignor replied, "Not bad, not bad at all. However, you should strive to remember these few things:

- 1) First of all, sip the martinis; do not gulp them!
- 2) There are 10 Commandments, not 12.
- 3) There are 12 Disciples, not 10.
- 4) We do not refer to the Cross as "The Big 'T'".
- 5) David slew Goliath; he did not "kick the shit out of him."
- 6) We do not refer to Jesus our Lord and Saviour and his disciples as "J.C. & The Boys."
- 7) There will be a Taffey-Pulling Contest at St. Peter's, not a Peter-Pulling Contest at St. Taffey's.
- 8) And finally, we refer to the mother of our Lord Jesus as "The Virgin Mary",

NOT

as "Mary-With-The-Cherry".

* * * * *

"I would give all my fame for a pot of ale, and safety."

HENRY V III, ii, 14.

WRAP-UP

Well, football season is over here. Our team had kind of a hard-luck year. We finished the season at 5-5, losing three league games. Our 3 losses came to the 3 teams who finished ahead of us in the standings. We were stomped by one of them 27-8, but the other two were lost by scores of 14-12 and 16-14. Both of these games we felt as though we out-played the opposition but didn't get the breaks going our way. The game we lost 14-12 we totally dominated the game losing when a kickoff was returned all the way for a TD and then the ensuing kickoff found us fumbling the ball to our own 9 yd. line, from which they scored. Our last game was the 16-14 loss to the undefeated league champs. They scored a safety on us early in the game and then picked up an errant lateral and ran in in from our 20 for 6 pts. before intercepting a pass and returning it to the 14 yd. line from where they punched it in. Two tough ones to lose and the direct result is we are not in the play-offs this year as we were last year. Oh well, maybe next time.

This issue marks the third anniversary of MM. The first issue of MM was published Nov. 14, 1978.

Stay tuned for next month's gala(?) Christmas issue. Until then it's "Huevos Rancheros, Amigos!"

* * * * *

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SAMPLE _____

TRADE _____

YOUR SUB EXPIRES WITH #

COMPLIMENTARY _____

PLEASE STANDBY IN

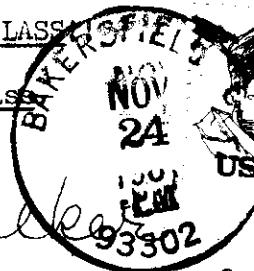
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