

LIFE OF MONTY

#38

FEBRUARY 6, 1984

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Well, it's 1984, so this must be the end of the world - no, it's really LIFE OF MONTY, as seen in finer 'zines near you, all typed up and thought out, as well as stamped, sealed, and put into the mailbox, by Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904, phone (415) 461-2692.

Another record for me? Congratulations to Scott Hansen and Frauke Petersen for sharing a two-way draw in STAB OF THE CENTURY - by default. (Look, I'm the GM, and it IS a variant, so if I say it's a draw, it's a draw - even in Winter 1900, OK? Besides, the Miller Number has been removed by my request.)

This issue brings back the return of the ever-popular NORTH AMERICAN DIPLOMACY BOARD HOBBY QUALIFYING EXAMINATION. (For those of you who worry about such things, there isn't really such a thing as the NADB - not to be confused with the NADF or the PDO or other such existing organizations.) ALL PUBLISHERS OUT THERE ARE ASKED TO REPRINT THE NADB IN THEIR 'ZINES - please leave time for exam-takers to get their answers in to me by March 1. (Well, you don't HAVE to, of course - that is, you don't have to reprint the exam. If you take the exam, you DO have to get it in by March 1, 1984.)

But now for something completely different.....

MONTY'S NEWS AND COMMENT is brought to you by the NADB - so what if it doesn't exist?

The FOURTH ANNUAL DIPLOMACY PLAYER POLL results are out - or in - or whatever results do. Anyway, as can be expected from the fact that the poll was based in WHITESTONIA, Kathy Byrne ran away with the Best Player voting, getting 32 votes (that's about 50% of the total) and 120 points (based on 5 points for a first-place vote, down to 1 for fifth-place), beating out the next three (Dan Stafford, 11/37; Eric Ozog, 10/35; Mark Berch (?), 9/30) combined. Not that Kathy can't play - she's a helluva lot better than I am (then again, who isn't?) - but a runaway #1? Not only that, but somebody out there had the nerve to actually vote for me! Probably a fourth or fifth, but still, that person couldn't think of five players better than I am? At least I made the main rankings in the Best Writer poll, finishing tied for 14th with Cathy Cunniff and Steve Hutton at 16 points. Two people gave me the #1 vote - I'm pretty sure they were Ken Peel and Gary Coughlan. Anyway, Gary had the most votes with 20, but Bob Olsen's 8 first-placers gave him the top spot with 73 points to Gary's second-place 61, beating out third-place Rod Walker with 59, followed by Kathy's 56.

All of you SLIPPERY ROCK fans will be glad to know that The Rock got the eighth (and last) seed to the NCAA Division I Water Polo Championships, where they faced #1-ranked UC-Berkeley (of course, of course) in the first round, which was also the quarter-finals. Final score: Berkeley 15, Slippery Rock 2. (No non-west coast team has ever won a game in the championship tournament.) SR types shouldn't feel TOO bad, though; Cal went on to take care of Long Beach State and USC to take home top honors (and the school's fifth such championship - but the first since 1977). When the football team stinks, water polo is worth mentioning.... but we did get a first-string All-American linebacker, probably best known for winning a game that Joe Kapp had thrown away; against Texas A&M, Cal scored a field goal late in the game for a 20-17 lead that was taken down after a penalty against A&M gave Cal the ball on the A&M 3 - immediately after which we fumbled the ball away. A&M coach Jackie Sherrill, who earns more money than anybody cares about, showed his stuff when his team tried a pitchout - and got caught in the end zone by the aforementioned linebacker. Is that why Texas A&M players are AGGIES?

Re-print the NADB in XENOGENIC?

I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES!

Yes, it's true...that LIFE OF MONTY game has finally filled up. I'll have to dig up my old LOMs to find out exactly what the house rules are for this rascal, but I know a gamestart when I see one. Thank you all for coming to your senses and ending this embarrassment. Anyway, on to the players....

AUSTRIA: John Michalski, Rt 10, Box 5260, Moore, OK 73165
ENGLAND: Jack Brawner, 6011 7th St S, St Petersburg, FL 33705
FRANCE: Paul Gardner, PO Box 283, Randle, WA 98377
GERMANY: Gregg Shores, 285 Grizzly Peak Blvd, Kensington, CA 94708
ITALY: Derwood Bowen, 1643 Graniteway Ln, Columbus, OH 43229
RUSSIA: Tom Slaughter, 1340 Northcliff Tr, Roswell, GA 30076
TURKEY: Mike Ehli, 136 E 34th Ave, Eugene, OR 97405

YOUR GUEST GAMESKASTER FOR TODAY: Dick Martin, 26 Orchard Way N, Rockville, MD 20854

Naturally, I'll print any press you may send in along with your orders (or separately, I'm not picky). Don hasn't made it particularly clear exactly how I'm to run this game, but I believe that I'll send the results in to him for publication in the next LOM.

My phone number is 301-762-1761, feel free to call in orders if you feel the need. Using that route is strictly at your own risk, though, as I'm a very tough person to reach by phone. I will not be calling you if you're NMR, so get em in by mail, and do it early and there will be no problem.

Very good geographical balbance for this game. Should be interesting....

As for the deadline for Spring 1981...good question. I'll set it for December 12, 1981. Don, if you'd like to adjust that in the next LOM so that it's a week before the issue after that (unless you plan to put out the next LOM just before Christmas) feel free. Now that you're all hopelessly confused, I'll wrap this up. Should have a Boardman Number for you before the next report comes out. Stay tuned!

RUN THAT BY ME AGAIN?

I'm sure you all remember the game start notice that was sent out not too long ago, right? Well, most of you did, anyway. However, since we didn't get 100% response, we'll have to try it again. Our cast of characters:

AUSTRIA: John Michalski, Rt 1 Box 5260, Moore, OK 73165
ENGLAND: Jack Brawner, 6011 7th St S, St Petersburg, FL 33705
FRANCE: Paul Gardner, PO Box 283, Randle, WA 98377
GERMANY?: Gregg Shores, 285 Grizzly Peak Blvd, Kensington, CA 94708
GERMAN STANDBY: Ken Peel, 8708 First Ave, #T-2, Silver Spring, MD 20910
ITALY?: Derwood Bowen, 1643 Graniteway Ln, Columbus, OH 43229
ITALIAN STANDBY: Jerry White, PO Box 3675, Salinas, CA 93912-3675
RUSSIA: Tom Slaughter, 1340 Northcliff Tr, Roswell, GA 30076
TURKEY: Mike Ehli, 136 E 34th Ave, Eugene, OR 97405

YOUR GUEST GAMESMASTER: Me, Dick Martin, 26 Orchard Way N, Rockville, MD 20854

Deadline for Spring 1981 is reset for about a week before the next LOM is due out. Since only you, Don, know that lucky date, could you please set a deadline for me in the space provided to the left?

Thank you.

DEADLINE: January 25, 1984

Obviously, I have orders on hand from everybody except Germany and Italy. You may feel free to change your orders on file until the next deadline passes. Come on, guys, let's get this show on the road.

I have also received a Boardman Number from the BNM, it is 1983hv. I thought and thought of clever names of great diplomats that have the initials H. V. as a title for the game. Believe me, the pickings are slender. Then it came to me in one of those rare flashes of insight -- my namesake diplomat. Yes, it's true, this game is now named after that giant among men, HERVE VILLAICHAIZE!! In the future, please use this name when talking to me about the game or sending in orders. No need to be formal, a simple "Herve" will do. If he's good enough for Mr Roark, he's good enough for me!

* Until next time....

And now, your friend and mine speaks out on computers - actually, it's another one of those reviews you know and love.....

JUMPMAN, by Epyx Software, for various computers (requires 48K on Atari), about \$40

JUMPMAN is from the guys more famous for **TEMPLE OF APOLLO** and **CRUSH, CRUMBLE AND CHOMP**. In **JUMPMAN**, you control the Jupiter Jumpman as he tries to defuse the bombs in the 30-story Jupiter Headquarters building by climbing ladders, jumping over bullets, and making his way over various girders. Sounds like **DONKEY KONG**, right? In a way, it is - but **JUMPMAN** is a definite improvement.

Unlike the more famous **Kong**, **JUMPMAN**'s player is allowed to jump in any of eight directions at semi-great distances, which is necessary to complete some of the levels. The object of each level is for Jumpman to disarm (by touching) all of the bombs (which are stationary, with one exception) without being hit by anything else. Usually, the things to watch out for are bullets; however, some levels have falling bombs, dragons, robots, and, in one level, two more Jumpman that copy the player's actions. There is a bonus for finishing fast; if the bonus falls to zero, the player is not eliminated (as in **DK**). Finishing a level enables the player to go to the next level (which scrolls in from the top). If all of the levels in a round (8 for beginner, 10 for intermediate, 12 for advanced) are completed, the game ends (with a scene of Jupiter Headquarters flashing its lights and fireworks going off). In each round, the player begins with 7 men, with an additional man every 10,000. The number of men is NOT too liberal, especially at the upper levels, although the designer says that "you can complete all 30 levels without losing a man".

The main feature is the variety of levels. Unlike in **DK**, where there are only four different levels which aren't that much different (mainly Mario climbing up and jumping a lot), **JUMPMAN** has 30 unique levels, some of which require more than dexterity to complete. However, if you're a klutz with a joystick, stick to **CCC** or something that doesn't require fast reflexes - those of us used to arcade video games have a slight advantage. Anyway, these are some of the levels involved:

BEGINNER (Levels 1-8): Easy Does It (a starter level to get you used to dodging bullets); Bombs Away (waaa falling bombs); Vampire (three bats follow Jumpman); Invasion (Jumpman can't jump, but there are no bullets - just flying saucers which can be shot down, but fall when they are); Builder (each bomb disarmed builds another part of the level)

INTERMEDIATE (Levels 9-18): Look Out Below (pieces of girder fall when a bomb is disarmed - but they may not fall directly above Jumpman, so move carefully), Runaway (it's hard enough when the bombs stand still - but when they move, it's murder); Dragon Slayer (shoot spears at two flying dragons), Roll Me Over (barrels roll down, up, sideways)

ADVANCED (Levels 19-30): Ladder Challenge (some bombs are reachable only by a ladder which moves through deadly wires); Figurit (disarming the bombs out of a certain sequence may make it impossible to finish without losing a man - or worse); Follow The Leader (a few seconds after the start, a second man does exactly what your man did - and a third man copies the second; touching your man with another kills your man)

In addition, each level has a Robots level (they're faster, but you can jump) and a Grand Puzzle (no bullets, but you could be trapped, or solve the puzzle for 2000 points).

There are some flaws - from cassette, it takes 10 minutes to load the main program and an extra 5-10 to load the level you want to play; changing levels requires loading the new level and wiping out the old one, so you can't go through all 30 on cassette (maybe on disk). However, you joystick jockeys should love this one - I had to tear myself away from it to type this thing up.....

which is more important - **JUMPMAN** or **PAGE 3**?

SUBMARINE WARFARE
(a neat idea for a subzine)

by
Derwood Bowen
1643 Graniteway Lane
Columbus, Ohio 43229

For the awaiting masses comes yet another installment of the subzine that says we must have more fun than dippers are meant to ever have. I am sitting in front of the ol' typewriter on what is truly a rotten day for weather, it being cold, wet and miserable. With inspiration like that, how can I fail to be anything other than inspired? I had dinner with my supervisor and the number two man in our entire region last night. The big banana promised me a promotion to a really high volume store if I can turn \$7500 sales in successive weeks. Considering that I just had a record week, and it was \$5600, I have a way to go. I don't expect to do \$7500 anytime soon, but at least it is something to shoot for.

I am thinking of dedicating an issue to the type of humour that Frank Zappa is known for. Not this one, though. I have already started writing the project which I mentioned in the last SW, so it goes in here rather than the FZ stuff, which I shall save for the New Year, when no one is looking for seriously demented stuff. So all you mud shark freaks better get psyched up for it.

The mail from the last issue has been underwhelming, with Bob Olsen being the only respondent. Evidently this is a reader, not a comment inspirer. At least I hope someone is reading this, seeing as that is its purpose. It would be sad for something to go through its life with its main purpose unfulfilled. Even if the something is as trivial as the pages of SW. But that is alright, because I am operating on the premise that no news is . . . well, nothing really. But you can't infer any negatives from nothing, can you? I am not whining for mail. If all you loyal readers do is read and enjoy this, then I shall be content. If anything inspires you blackguards to write, I only promise to read it. But maybe some comments could find their way into here, depending on how desperate I am to fill pages devoid of print and how entertaining your writing is. Now that I have thoroughly bored everyone thus far, I shall move on to topic number one, which is:

An opening for dip. Yes, the same one as listed in the last SW. So far, only Bob Olsen has signed on, so the field is pretty much wide open. That is alright with me, because I am not upset about the almost total lack of attention this has engendered thus far. I shall continue to offer this opening until it either fills or I get bored writing about it.

**** Dip opening. Ah, smell those onions, the sour cream, the chance to send in more orders and annihilate yet another scumbag. Since NMR's annoy the living daylights out of me, I have instituted a \$5 NMR fee, which will be returned upon the player being eliminated, resigning with final orders, or staying the course (no, not Honny Raygun's course). With this exorbitant NMR fee, I hopefully won't need standbys, but, being the realist I am, I will be grateful for volunteers. The particulars:

Regular dip - preference lists OK - \$5 NMR fee - 4 week deadline
No game fee - Grey press (black with unanimous consent)

WHYINTHEWORLDDOESANYONEREADTHISNONSENSEANYWAYISITJUSTTHECHALLENGE

Page 50 bites the dust. (You won't win so easy this time, Don.)

And now, another installment in the life and times of a Dominoid (an employee of that famed pizza chain, Domino's pizza.)

ACT III. The phone calls - You would think that there is absolutely nothing to calling up and ordering a pizza. So would I, except that I have had the good fortune to have to deal with some real winners on the phone. Some of my favorites follow. There are real phone calls, not something I have invented. I realize that some of these people must appear awfully stupid, but then I always felt that, based upon my actual experience, that stupidity was a requirement to be a Domino's customer in the first place.

Call #1 Ring (phone rings) I say, "Good evening. Domino's Pizza. May I help you?" Customer says, "Do you sell pizza?" I think to myself, "IT sure beats giving it away." But I don't say this to this clown, of course.

Call #2 I say the same thing I said to caller #1. He says, "I want a steak hoagie, a salad, 2 loaves of garlic bread, and a spaghetti dinner." I inform customer that we only sell pizza. Customer gets all indignant and asks me just what kind of pizza shop is it that only sells pizza. I have no real answer for that one.

Call #3 Customer gives me his order OK, and then comes more fun. "What is your address?" "I don't know the number, but it is the brown house halfway down the block." "You don't know the address? Tell you what, pull real hard on the phone cord and we will see where the telephone poles shorten up and follow them to your house." A short time later, I get a dial tone. I wonder if the yo-yo was sufficiently stoned to think that what I suggested would actually work.

Call #4 "How much is a large pepperoni pizza?" "\$7.75." "How much is that with a \$1 off coupon?" (Is he for real?)

Call #5 "I would like a pizza with kangaroo piss and wombat puke." (Some kid actually ordered this, though I suspect he didn't actually expect to get it.)

Answering the phone can be a real adventure. Next time around, more telephone calls.

//////////////////////////////////Nash the Slash//////////////////////////////////

Rikki tikki tavi's tot made a hickory dick for Dot. He shellacked and waxed it so Dot won't get caught by a splinter, did Rikki tikki tavi's tot, named Scott. The hickory dick got Dot hot, which is wot Scott wont. But Dot caught rot, so she went to a Doc. The Doc said wot? Dot said, it all started with a hickory dick, Doc. From Rikki Tikki Tavi's tot, Scott. The Doc said, "That Scott." I will have to give Dot a shot." The shot got Dot's rot. But Dot got smart, and Scott's hot dick dicked Dot.

YY

Well, now that I've gone and committed myself to spouting out a subzine, I guess I had better go and write something. How about this? Return with us now to those thrilling days of yesteryear when the Lone Frivolity rides again.

Derwood Bowen presents - "The RADIO THEATER PLAYHOUSE"
Tonight's story is entitled, "A Trip to a Haunted House,"
or "Is This Really a Good Idea?" We join our two young
protagonists in the living room of Mr. and Mrs. Pat McGroin.
Mr. and Mrs. Pat McGroin aren't here, having fone out for
the evening. Their daughter, Helga McGroin, hasn't gone out.
Neither has her boyfriend, Throckmorton Orville Manischewitz,
who is known more commonly by his initials. As per usual TOM
is trying to get into Helga/a apple tart, but Helga is not
putting up with or out with any. This would be a boring
story if matters ended here, but fortunately they don't.
With all of the above in mind, we venture forth with a fifth
in hopes of having a good time reading this really neat story.

ACT I SCENE I TAKE I (Put that back thief. Oops, sorry.)

TOM speaks (I am going to resist. No I'm not. Speak, TOM,
speak. Arf, arf, arf.) - "Well, Helga, if you'll not let
me eat a piece of your apple tart, we are going to have to
do something else to be in the radio play."

Helga speaks (arf) - "I just don't think a radio play
script is the place to feed your massive ego on a piece of
my apple tart."

TOM - Who told you it was massive? Never mind. What are
we going to do instead?

Helga - How about I be a maiden in distress and you rescue me?

TOM - No way. I have to do all the work, while all you do is
sit there and go, "Oh, my!" every once in a while.

Helga - All right. Let's go to a haunted house.

TOM - Uh, maybe the maiden in distress routine isn't so bad
after all.

Helga - Fraidy cat, fraidy cat.

TOM - Am not!

Helga - Are so!

TOM - Am not.

Helga - So, we're going then.

TOM (to himself) - Oh, brother. What have I gotten myself into?

Helga - What?

What indeed have our young couple gotten themselves into?
We'll find out after this commercial message.

Helga - What?

Is your golf game not what you would want? Buy our
new "Homing Golfballs." No matter what direction you hit
the ball, it automatically goes towards the hole. Swing
as hard as you can with your dirver without worrying about
that annoying slice or hook. The ball always travels straight
towards the hole. What about a dogleg hole? No problem.

Calculate the angle formed by the intersection of two straight lines, one described by the hole and the tee and the other described by the hole and the desired landing area for your shot. Then reprogram the golf ball's on-board computer, with the keyboard on your wristwatch (sold separately). The ball will now home in on your target area. It automatically resets on the hole, so that you do not need to reprogram it, thus allowing you to concentrate on your shot without worrying about whether your ball will go towards the hole or not. It always goes towards the hole unless you tell it not to on each shot.

The ball itself has no means of propulsion. But it does have the most sophisticated miniaturized on-board inertial guidance system in the world. All you do is whack it and it does the rest. It doesn't hurt your putting, either. Shave strokes off your score. Buy one of these amazing beauties today. It's a real bargain at \$10,000. Batteries not included. Watch with keyboard is available for an additional \$2500. And yes, it even floats so that you won't lose it in water.

And now, back to the show.

ACT II SCENE I TAKE II (But you got mad at me when I took one last time.)

TOM - What a really disgusting place. Aren't there any haunted three-room split-levels we could explore? And whose idea was this in the first place?

Helga - The sound effects man wants to use all the haunted house junk.

(Sound of 50 metal objects of varying size, shape, etc. hitting the floor)

TOM - Sounds like the world's clumsiest ghost.

(Sound of chains rattling)

Helga - C'mon sound effects man. We haven't even gone inside yet.

(Voice from offstage) - I'm picking up all my stuff. Sorry.

(Sound of a squeaky door opening)

TOM - You sure you want to go in here?

Helga - You do want to be in the radio play.

TOM - OK. Let's go in.

(Sound of creaky floorboard)

TOM - Ththththis pppplace has some ahahahahatmoosphere.

Helga - Knock it off, TOM.

(Sound of rattles)

Helga - What in the world is that?

(Voice from offstage) - Ooops. Wrong effect. You'll have to wing it.

TOM - OHMIGOD!! A ghost rattlesnake! We're in trouble.

Helga - What? Where? I can't see anything.

TOM - It's a ghost rattlesnake. Of course you can't see it. It's invisible. Ow! It just bit me. Oh, Helga. Help!

Helga - Oh, dear. What do I do?

TOM - You have to suck out the poison.

Helga - That's right. I remember reading that somewhere. OK. Where did it bite you?

(Sound of a zipper being pulled down)

TOM - Right here. See how swollen it is already? If you don't hurry, I'll die.

Helga - The sacrifices one must make.

(Sound of sucking)

TOM - Ah, oh, ooh. Good job, Helga. Look, the swelling is going down. I think you got it all.

Helga - It's all yucky white.

TOM - Of course. It's ghost poison.

Helga - Oh.

TOM - Shall we look around some, seeing as how we're here?

(Sounds of moans and groans)

Helga - What was that?

TOM - I think our sound effects man is horny.

(Voice from offstage) - Not anymore.

(Sound of chains rattling)

TOM - Sounds like our sound effects if also a little kinky.

(Voice from offstage) - That wasn't me.

TOM - You mean this dump is really haunted?

Helga - You made that ghost snake stuff up, didn't you, you weasel.

TOM - Did not.

Helga - Oh, no. TOM, if you do that again, I'm going to slap you silly.

TOM - Do what?

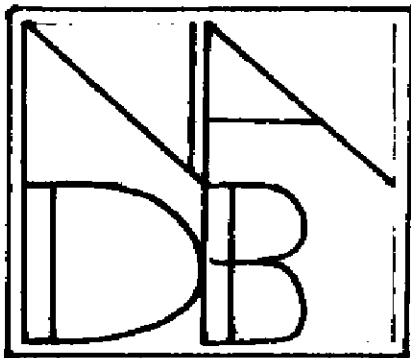
Helga - Goose me in the goobers.

TOM - Helga, I didn't goose you in the goobers.

Helga - I suppose you want me to believe that a ghost just goosed my goobers.

TOM - It wasn't me. A ghost must have goosed your goobers, I guess.

Omigoshi! A ghost gooser gooses her goobers. What further perils must Helga endure. Join us next time for the finale of this nonsense.



NORTH AMERICAN
DIPLOMACY BOARD
HOBBY QUALIFYING
EXAMINATION 1983-84

INSTRUCTIONS: The NADB Examination tests your ability to - well, it doesn't show how well you play DIPLOMACY, or how well you know the hobby, or how much trivia you know - what it DOES test are your patience, your sense of humor, and your ability to get through one of these things. (Please note that the NADB is not related to the NADP, the FEO, the ECC, the In-6, or any other Diplomacy organization, no matter how insane it is.)

Anyway, the NADB is in four parts: multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and, of course, the ESSAY QUESTIONS. (Short essays are preferred - one or two sentences at most, if that's possible.) Take out a separate sheet of paper, write your name (or equivalent), and put down as many answers as you want to - or can. (Nobody said this was going to be easy.) Keep in mind that, except for the essay questions, you get +4 for a correct answer and -1 for an incorrect one. (If you give more than one answer, it's wrong unless all of the answers you give for that question are correct.) Not answering a question gives you zero points. Essay questions are scored on a 0-10 scale based on the arbitrariness of the guy doing the scoring. The raw scores are converted into 200-800 scores based on some mystery system.

DEADLINE FOR ANSWERS IS MARCH 1, 1984. Send those answers to:

Don Dal Grande
142 Eliseo Drive
Greenbrae, CA 94904

(You LOM readers already know this....this is in case other pubbers decide to run this thing)

~~-BEGIN-HERE-BEGIN-NOW-TAKE-YOUR-TIME-HURRY-UP-DO-IT-SLOWLY-DO-IT-QUICKLY-DO-IT-NOW-~~

OK, here goes with the MULTIPLE CHOICE:

- How many roots are there to the equation $x^2 - 1$ if you include complex numbers?
A) None B) Two C) Four D) Eight E) An infinite number
- WHI's game NO TRUMPETS, NO DRUMS deals with what war?
A) World War I B) World War II C) Korea D) Vietnam
E) World War III
- What dimensions are the Avalon Hill DIPLOMACY mapboard?
A) 22 x 24 B) 24 x 24 C) 24 x 28 D) 22 x 32 E) 22 x 22
- Who - or what - was on the cover of issue 100 of THE BRUTUS BULLETIN?
A) The cover of a 1040 form B) One of his surnames
C) Prince Charles & Lady Diana D) The title in hieroglyphics
E) A blank side of paper

5. Well, we couldn't make it to Moscow for the 1980 Olympics, probably because we had reservations on Trans-Afghan Airlines. Anyway, for the second time since its introduction, the Americans did not win the gold medal in basketball. Which country did?
 - A) The Soviet Union
 - B) East Germany
 - C) West Germany
 - D) Yugoslavia
 - E) Italy
6. In order for an army to go from one supply center to another after passing through the other 32, what is the minimum number of land provinces it must move through which are not supply centers?
 - A) None
 - B) One
 - C) Two
 - D) Three
 - E) More than three
7. Fifteen full turns have been played in a game of DUNE. How many players are still capable of winning, assuming no one has control of three strongholds (and no alliance does, either)?
 - A) None
 - B) One
 - C) Two
 - D) Five
 - E) All six players can still win
8. How much would it cost to purchase all three of Avalon Hill's most expensive games, not including microcomputer games, games on the discontinued parts list, and non-AH games?
 - A) \$56
 - B) \$109
 - C) \$117
 - D) \$120
 - E) \$142
9. The phrase "Richard of York gave battle in vain" is best applied in which of these fields?
 - A) Chemistry
 - B) Physics
 - C) Computer science
 - D) Biology
 - E) English
10. How much postage was on GRAUSTARK #1?
 - A) None
 - B) 4¢
 - C) 6¢
 - D) 8¢
 - E) 20¢
11. Who - or what - is "Leroy Johnson"?
 - A) A character on "Fame"
 - B) "The Greatest Diplomacy Player In The World" (according to a Jack Masters story)
 - C) The first subscriber to LIFE OF MONTE
 - D) The pseudonym of a publisher
 - E) One of Alex Lord's uncles
12. COMPUTER DIPLOMACY is available for two computers - which two?
 - A) Apple and Atari
 - B) VIC-20 and Commodore 64
 - C) IBM PC and TRS-80
 - D) Torch and BBC
 - E) TI and HP
13. Which of these numbers is closest to the total number of 8 1/2" x 11" sheets of paper used in one copy each of the first 25 issues of EUROPA EXPRESS?
 - A) 200
 - B) 250
 - C) 300
 - D) 325
 - E) 347
14. When WAR AT SEA was first played as a tournament in an ORIGINS, the ratio of Allied to Axis wins was:
 - A) 2:1
 - B) 3:2
 - C) 1:1
 - D) 2:3
 - E) 1:2
15. How many places (sea areas and land areas) can a fleet be placed in DIPLOMACY such that (a) the fleet is not in an area where fleets aren't normally allowed (e.g. Munich) and (b) it is not possible to reach every other sea area using any number of legal moves?
 - A) None
 - B) One
 - C) Two
 - D) Three
 - E) More than three
16. Which of these is closest to the number of different combinations (legal, that is) of fleet/army/empty space combinations of the land areas in Russia?
 - A) Zero
 - B) 250
 - C) 500
 - D) 750
 - E) 1000

NADB - PAGE 3

17. THE VOICE OF DOOM recently celebrated its fourth anniversary with a massive issue. How many pages were in the second anniversary issue of THE VOICE OF DOOM?
A) There was no second anniversary issue B) 12 C) 24 C) 36 D) 48
18. Everybody knows that UCLA is a basketball school, while California (Berkeley, that is) is more of - well, not really a - well, we did win a national basketball championship before UCLA ever did. But in the last 20 years, how many times has California beaten UCLA in basketball?
A) None B) 2 C) 5 D) 10 E) 20
19. Name the last of these countries to declare war against Germany in World War II (after the Poland invasion).
A) Australia B) Canada C) Great Britain D) New Zealand
E) South Africa
20. What company originally made FORTRESS EUROPA before selling it to Avalon Hill?
A) Phildor B) Jedko C) Batteline D) GEW E) OBG

OK, enough of the multiple choice....now for some SHORT ANSWER questions.

21. You're in a game of KINGMAKER. One of your titled nobles (either titled directly on the card or an untitled noble with a title card) has an office and one bishopric/archbishopric card. What combination of noble/title (if necessary)/office/(arch)bishopric makes this noble eligible to be called on the greatest number of Raid and Revolt cards?
22. Name the last undisputed heavyweight boxing champion of the world. (What, ANOTHER sports question?....)
23. Here's a question I blew on last year's NADB....there are FOUR double-coasted land areas on the 1958 DIPLOMACY board. Name the one not on the current board.
24. Suppose you have a crossbow with a maximum range of 100 meters. (I haven't the slightest idea how good - or bad - this number is. Just use 100 meters for this question, OK?) What is the distance the crossbow bolt will go if it's launched at a 60° angle to the ground? (Assume for this question that the only thing that affects the distance is the original angle, and that, for at least one angle, the distance is 100 meters, but no angle will achieve a farther distance.)
25. Say, did you know that they play DIPLOMACY in Great Britain? If you did, let's see how much you know about it....what is Pete Tamiyn's wife's first name?
26. If you mix blue and yellow paint, you get green. What do you get when you mix blue and yellow light?
27. What was the number of the last issue of RETALIATION which had, as the title, the word "RETALIATION"?
28. Name the only game in the EUROPA series that can't be played as a game itself, but only as part of EUROPA.
29. Remember the VOICE OF DOOM question? That fourth anniversary issue was big, wasn't it? Said issue was part of one of the most irregular publishing schedules I can think of. Not that issues don't come out on a semi-regular basis; it's just that Bruce likes mid-monthlies every now and then. How many issues of THE VOICE OF DOOM had cover dates with the year 1983?

30. (What, **MOGE** sports? No, I don't own the sports version of **TRIVIAL PURSUIT** - I don't have \$70 to throw away like that.) Here's the situation: team A has the ball, fourth down and goal to go on Team B's 10-yard line. (This is an American football question, if you haven't guessed.) The quarterback takes the snap, fades back to Team B's 20, and throws a pass to another one of Team A's backs on Team B's 15. This back then spots another one of Team A's eligible receivers in the end zone (the one where Team A can score a touchdown) and throws a forward pass from the 15 into the end zone, where the receiver makes the catch inbounds. According to the 1983 National Federation of State High School Associations Football Rules, what's the result of the play?
31. One day, **KATHY'S KORNOR** grew to the point where it was printed on different-color paper than **WHITESTONIA**. Which issue number(s) of **WHITESTONIA** had the first of these two-tone issues?
32. You've heard of Murphy's law - what is Cole's law?
33. In which country did the following appear on a movie marquis: "FILMEN SOM ER SA HOLIG ATT DEN TOTALFORJUDITS I NORGE"?
34. What is the maximum number of units that can be dislodged in any Spring or Fall turn?
35. The hobby was rocked by the news that Joyce Singer won **DIPCON 83**. It probably wouldn't have been as big of a deal had it been a male **PTPer** or a female **PEMer** (after all, Kathy Byrne has had a third and a sixth in the past four years), but Joyce is a female **PTPer**. This is a far cry from **DIPCON 82's** winner, a male **PEMer** by the name of _____ . (Fill in the blank.)
36. How many supply centers which start the game neutral are within reach of more than one country by Fall 1901? (An SC is within reach of a country if one of the country's units can occupy it (legally) at the end of the Fall 1901 moves, using the standard setup. For example, Greece is within reach of Italy, Austria, and Turkey.)
37. Which king led the English forces at the battle of Agincourt in 1415?
38. Before **SPI** went under, the **CENTRAL FRONT** series had three volumes (games, that is). What were the titles? (Hint: they weren't "Volume I, II, III" or anything like that.)
39. **FINCHLEY CENTRAL** seems to be sweeping across Great Britain and is crossing the Atlantic. What British Underground Line(s) stop at Finchley Central?
40. The "100 Guinea Cup" is better known by what name?
41. Operations Overlord, Roundup, and Sledgehammer were invasion plans for the Allied invasion of Continental Europe in WWII. Which one was scheduled with the earliest invasion date?
42. In which issue of (you guessed it) **THE VOICE OF DOOM** did the subaine **ALEX'S COLUMN** first appear?
43. What is the maximum number of seasons it can take to move an army from a province touching the eastern board edge to Portugal given that the army moves in every Spring and Fall turn, each move is legal and successful, it doesn't enter the same land area more than once, and it isn't convoyed?
44. **SPI's** game **NAPOLEON'S ART OF WAR** featured two battles - which battles?

NADB - PAGE 5

45. You're running a test to determine play balance in DIPLOMACY. You have 7 players, and these players will play enough games of DIPLOMACY so that every combination of the 7 countries among the 7 players has been played once. Assuming 2 games are played per day, and the first (and second) games were on January 1, 1984, on what date will the final game be played?

Now for a breather with the TRUE/FALSE questions.

46. When Sandy Duncan received a Tony nomination for her performance in "The Boy Friend" in the early 1970s, it was for the same part that Julie Andrews had in the same show in 1955 (before she left to be in "My Fair Lady").
47. Cedric Poslethwaite is a regular writer for the British 'zine GREATEST HITS.
48. It's possible for a yellow light source moving toward the observer to appear as if it has turned green.
49. The two movies in which Henry Fonda portrayed the President of the U.S. involved the detonation of nuclear weapons in some way.
50. You want to buy DIPLOMACY directly from Avalon Hill? (i.e. you want to buy a single game - one box, one mapboard, one set of plastic pieces, etc.) It will cost you more than TOBRUK - a change from 1977, when DIPLOMACY went for \$11 and TOBRUK for \$12.
51. Glenn Overby announced the fold of JIHAD in its last issue.
52. DIPLOMACY is the only game in Avalon Hill's latest Strategy/Wargames listing that does not use dice.
53. You can't play Flying Buffalo's NUCLEAR ESCALATION unless you already have their NUCLEAR WAR.
54. Al Pearson's JUST AMONG FRIENDS never made it to issue #25 - but Al had enough trouble keeping Nancy from self-destructing....
55. Remember ROCKY II's famous 15th round knockout? Had Rocky not gotten up before the 10 count, he wouldn't have won the title.
56. The new AIR FORCE rules say that a plane ending its move in a bank suffers an immediate altitude drop, which realistically makes no sense whatsoever, since a plane in a bank for most of its turn which straightens (levels) at the end doesn't drop.
57. Florida is the state with the greatest percentage of its border as a coastline.
58. Gary Coughlan once said in EUROPA EXPRESS, "Fake a GRAUSTARK".
59. (For those of you who didn't realize that chess is a wargame of sorts, like TACTICS, and - yes, even DIPLOMACY) Every person who took the World Chess Championship from the holding champion - with the exceptions of Bobby Fischer and Anatoly Karpov - had to defeat the same person in another match one year later.
60. There were no female rulers (i.e. Queens Regent - or is that Regnet?) of England until after the Wars of the Roses.
61. The national high school record for the longest field goal is actually farther than Tom Dempsey's NFL record.
62. Although winning gold medals at Olympics is second nature for the United States, Canada has not won a Summer Olympics gold since Mexico City.

NADB - PAGE 6

63. A long time ago, there was a TV series which included something called the "World's Toughest Bouncer" competition, in which "bouncers" lept over bars, around tables, and threw bums (well, stuntmen) out of bars through doors, in which the winner was the one and only Mr. T.
64. The reason that six of the episodes of MONTY PYTHON'S FLYING CIRCUS are titled just "Monty Python" is because the BBC didn't want to have the same title for the shows without John Cleese as for the 39 episodes with him.
65. And speaking of TV, during Lucille Ball's pregnancy on "I Love Lucy", Lucy is never referred to as "pregnant".
66. If you want to settle a wager, you can't use THE WORLD ALMANAC.
67. Ruth Glaspey is the only person to claim to be both in the Diplomacy hobby and a winner of one of the contests in THE GENERAL.
68. There is more land than water on the four edges of a complete DIPLOMACY map (AH edition).
69. Avalon Hill is STILL trying to work on THE RISING SUN, their answer to the late WAR IN THE PACIFIC.
70. The first title for CRESCENDO OF DOOM was A RISING CRESCENDO.

And now for everyone's favorite - the ESSAY QUESTIONS!

71. Describe the effects on your life, wargaming, and things in general, of West Germany's stand that Victory Games' NATO is not a nice game because it depicts WWII and possible nuclear war on the tactical (and possibly strategic) level in Europe, right through that country.
72. (The traditional question, used as a year-by-year comparison base.) Align yourself against a wall such that your left arm and leg are touching the wall and you are standing such that the wall is on your left. Lift your right leg and describe what happens.
73. After Dallas, ORIGINS is scheduled for Baltimore - but it will be the West's turn for DIPCON. Where do you think DIPCON should be held in 1985, and why do you feel that this is the best choice?
74. What single issue of a 'zine which came out in 1983 do you feel would deserve a BEST ISSUE OF THE YEAR award, even though I shouldn't be giving Larry Peery any ideas? (The issue must be of a 'zine which appeared at least 6 times in 1983 - DW doesn't hack it - and fakes don't count, either.)
75. Your house/apartment/mobile home is burning! It's a choice between your DIPLOMACY set and your collection of 'zines. Make the choice!
76. The flames are coming higher! One of the 'zines ends up in torch city! Assuming that your improper storage of issues of LIFE OF MONTY probably caused the fire (and so shouldn't be your answer), which 'zine would you miss the least if it was in the flames?
77. Name five methods of pain-inflicting you wish to give to the author of this exam for questions like #76.
78. If you could exchange two subzines, which ones and why?
79. Project the effects of a CIVILIZATION hobby on DIPLOMACY.
80. I have here THE LAST question - for the records, give the month, date, and year of your birth. (No cheating!)

Now go back and look over the questions you skipped - then panic because you're running out of time.

"You will never find a more wretched hive of scum and villainy"

MOS EISLEY NEWS
SPACECRAFT WORLD

Nov 83

MOS EISLEY is put out by John Michalski, Rt 10 Box 526-Q Moore, OK 73165. Your comments are welcomed, and will probably see print. You know the rest.

NEWS: Lots in the news, but not really a hell of a lot that interests me worth a damn. Laughingstock Peery continues on his merry way, but is starting to generate opposition/ridicule in other quarters now, which shows that despite appearances, the hobby is at least partially alive; but aside from that, I'll just stand back on hobby stuff and await the reviews of the Thanksgiving ByrneCon 69.

A couple of editors have now written about "an MES", which shows me they must be saying "an em-eee-ess". Since I may be considered something of a source of authority on this matter, be informed that it is Zeus' opinion that this is in error; the proper term is "a MES", pronounced "a Mess". It adds something to the spirit in which this is written, in addition to being more correct.

Marcus Who? That was a quaint quote from someone at OU on a recent news show. It shows the proper attitude to the recent dropping out of one-time Heisman material Marcus Deupree, an 8 year old retard in a gorilla's body. The real irritant, if there is any here at his leaving, is coach Switzer's embarrassment after all the early touting of the tremendous recruiting job done, now shown up to be a big bust. Deupree is a joke, and while good-riddance-to-him is a literal truth, the embarrassment to Switzer is the real problem. And the only one. At the OU-OSU game recently, the highlight of the game came when the opposite crowd hung out a sheef sign saying "Barry, it's 1:30. Do you know where your players are?" Beautiful.

I had the opportunity to go to Wichita on very short notice last weekend via my job, and hobby manners being what they are, I felt little compunction in inviting Bob Olson to rush over and pick me up at the motel for some wargaming Sunday night. (Really, what ELSE is there to do in Wichita on a Sunday night?) The really strange thing is to go into his home and find no balloons, beer cans, wierdos, noise....just dry quiet. Like going into the bombed out shell of a house you once lived in or something: really wierd. PudgeCons have left one feeling, and it is strange to see 27th and Rock Road on a quiet and cold Nov Sunday evening. On the other hand, there was no Russnak also... Anyhow, Bob's hospitality is always there for presumptuous hobby moochers anytime, it seems. Catch you again in Dec or Jan, Bob!

Speaking of Bob-O matter of fact, here's an excerpt from a recent letter:

Sure, a tax on players is a stupid idea, but now a \$50 registration fee for permission to publish a zine, payable to me, might be something I could support.

((I suspect it would get more support than Mr Freak's ideas will. But Tallman has

SUB/TRADE/WHATEVER: XENOGOGIC

MES P2

already spelled it all out pretty well in the latest NSWG, so I'll let it go at that.)) J.M.

CATHY CUNNING (Cathy's Ramblings) (excerpt)

OK Sweet, I'll carry you for #2 of CR. You should get a kick out of John Caruso's subzine. There will be a different feel for #2. You will owe me a MOS EISLEY though. Where will I find room for THREE subzines, I don't know. Reduction city, here I come--

((Oh please, anything but that! Too many hobby zines already are shot that way. Do you want to be locked into the WHITESTONIA trap?

Caruso published something in #2? I don't recall it, but, you know how that is. The only subzine I really like is Frauke's KINDER KIRCHE KUCHEN, and maybe some of Fazzio's stuff. Or whoever that is. If I fail to pay up, remind me and I'll write one of these for you or something. Or even pay, if my wife can find work.)) J.M.

KATRINA VAN BURN, BNC, Hobby Hostess, Blame Custodian, BNC, etc., etc. (excerpt)

Stealing 5 stamps from Barno is no crime--why write to him when you can write me! I must say that I was impressed to read in every ME that I was missed at PudgeCon. It's nice to feel wanted!

The economy sucks--everyone who writes me is having money problems and the unemployment rate in the hobby is unusually high!

Yes, the hamster molester and Elsie's mate have made it to Europe. We took them to the airport. Woody and Caruso waited on line ((sic)) to check in while Gary and I found a bar! Those poor Europeans have no idea what they are getting--if we're lucky Woody will be detained there--forever! John says it was so nice to be able to answer the phone and know it won't be Woody breaking chops!

Please don't even mention ((oops! OK Kath', I won't))
...The BNCship can definitely be a strain on one's sanity--good thing I was nuts to begin with.

I also sent some real sick stuff to Betty ((Daly)). Also to John. DOGS OF WOODY has been boring for too long! They'll be sorry they ever let us write there!

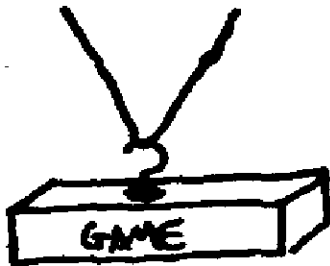
((Ah, well. In every life, a little sparkle must fall, or whatever. John D has sadly dropped for now, his plan to get a shotgun though. Too bad, I thought there was hope for him. Next to an automatic weapon, a shotgun is pretty decent for home defense/anti-riot use, etc. Then he writes he's moving to the country to live there. Gawd, what an embarrassment. I used to think highly of him.

You like to feel wanted? I guess you mean 'missed.' If you wanted to feel wanted, you could do like Caruso and get your picture put up in the postoffices. Or publish KKK#3, or even Y'ALL #6.

Thanks for writing.)) J.M.

Some closing notes. First, MES's will be fewer and skimpier, as here, because my typer is dead and I can't afford to revive it. So it is just an after-work thing at the office, and I am not always working out of the office. So much as I would like to put them out to the many requestors, I am just not in position to do so, even to my regulars so much anymore ((JOM and EE, both high-credit/transferrable zines). Don't take it as a slight to your zine guys (and gals), I'm just unable to do like I'd want.

NOTES: DIPTAX is a good idea with a bad name.
(If pubbers added \$1/player to their fees and didn't list a reason, players would probably pay it)



I couldn't find my black felt-tip, so the logo may not look as good as it usually does, but these ARE the game openings.

DIPLOMACY....Two GME available.

DEERWOOD BOARDS - run in **SUBMARINE WARFARE**. \$5 NMR fee, refunded if you don't NMR out. See this issue's **SUBMARINE WARFARE** for more details.

YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD PUBLISHER, ME - Yes, believe it or not, Gary Coughlan has talked me into opening a game

with myself as the GM. I have to warn you that my GMing talents were not 100% accurate (not even close) when my last game ended just over a year ago, but my game load has dropped, and I'm only enrolled for 12-14 units (I'm not sure which yet), the lowest total I've had, and I did find a few ways to improve, so there shouldn't be TOO much trouble. ANYWAY, there are no game nor NMR fees for this one, as I have had a number of standby requests (lack of which led to the ruin of my other games). Gary Coughlan is signed up - I only need six more. It only took 13 months to fill the Dick Martin game - let's make this one quicker, OK? (John Caruso, are you still interested?)

STANDBYS FOR DIPLOMACY - the Dick Martin game is currently running, and the other games plan to fill quickly (wishful thinking?), so standbys are needed. Like the openings, no fees are required. **NEW POLICY:** Standbys receive \$1 credit to the 'side of their choice' after finishing a position.

NUCLEAR WAR/NUCLEAR ESCALATION COMBINATION - the game that West Germany wants to outlaw (along with Victory Games' NATO). Signed up: Ehl, White - need 4 more. If you know how to play either game, let me know and I will tell you how the other one is played; there is not too much difference.

AMBUSH, VOYAGE OF THE PANDORA, DAMOCLES MISSION, IWO JIMA - since these are solitaire games, they've been filled - by me. Such are the advantages of being the publisher and GM.

~~MORE-COMPUTER-HEADLINES-MORE-COMPUTER-HEADLINES-MORE-COMPUTER-HEADLINES-MORE-COMPU~~

Well, your friendly neighborhood publisher and computer programmer has completed a computer version of **TITLE BOUT** for Atari (24K cassette in BASIC). Said program comes extremely close to the actual play of the game (blow-by-blow description included); the only "flaw" is that the person running the program has to enter the fighters' data him/herself. (Actually, it's not too bad, since the number of boxers is limited only by the number of cards in the game, and can be changed at will to reflect updates.) However, it's not available for sale, since AH would have my head on a platter; besides, they have their own version. (However, I'm not shelling out fresh dollars on something I could design myself in one week....)

~~DIP-NOOZE-DIP-SNOOZE-DIP-NOOZE-DIP-NEWS-DIP-SLOOZE-DIP-SLEAZE-DIP-BOOZE-DIP-SNEE--~~

Metro Detroit Gamers hasn't sent **DIPCON** its **ORIGINS 83** money yet, according to a report by John Caruso in **WHITESTONIA**. John intends to bring this news to such magazines as **GAMES**, **GAMEPLAY**, and **THE GENERAL** - the first two probably won't care; the third may, in order to prevent a recurrence of this, run their own Diplomacy tournaments (so such for DipCon). Which still brings up the question of whether DipCon should follow **Origins** to Baltimore even though it's the West's turn. (This ought to be a big argument - the main reason why DipCon went west in 1981 was, besides the fact that it was the west's turn, was that **Origins** was also out west.)

So far, in the job race, I've had one visit offer - by **GTE/Sylvania**, in Silicon Valley. However, the IBM interviewer from Rochester, Minnesota has recommended me for a plant visit - who knows? I may become a permanent East Coaster (well, Midwesterner?). What with Scott Hanson going to Germany next fall, I may become the new Midwest Cold Connection (the MOC)....

DIP WARZ

WATCH IT! YOU'LL SCRATCH THAT THING!
But it's invisible - how can you scratch something
you can't see?
EVER HAVE A MOSQUITO BITE BETWEEN THE SHOULDER
BLADES? Yes.
DID YOU SCRATCH IT? Yes.
DID YOU SEE IT? No.

DID YOU UNDERSTAND THAT TITLE? Sounds like something from "Fame".....

When we last left the Diplomatic Rebels, the Almighty Diplomatic Empire had sent their most feared weapon to date - LOM game starts, unabridged VOICE OF DOOM houserules, and assorted thermonuclear nukes - right at the Rebel ship Lincoln Falcon, where John Poleo notices something coming at the ship.

"What's our next destination?" says John Poleo.

"Aren't you," replies Oboe-1 Caruso, "supposed to notice the big blip or something like that on the radar?"

"I knew I forgot something...what's that blip doing heading toward us?"

"If it's heading toward us," Princess Luscious says, "it probably has something to do with that Empire and destroying us and - DESTROYING US? PANIC IN THE STREETS!"

"What streets? This is deep space."

"Oh, go shine your head, Baldo Calberchian."

"Why? We're supposed to be as good as dead, remember?"

"ILOM," queries Rod Seaparter, "analysis."

"It's a blip on the radar."

"WHAT DOES IT REPRESENT?"

"Well, from its size and velocity, taking into account blueshift created by forward motion, it appears to be a combination of LOM game starts, VOD unabridged house rules, AND-

"AND?"

"Yes, AND thermonuclear nukes for added effect."

"It's that added effect," says Princess, "that's the worst."

"What makes them do such dastardly things? That's what happens when you lose your currburr crabingra."

Did you ever notice on the Tonight Show that, although some things are usually "silenced" out (censoring certain words), a few of his jokes contain mumbles (even on reruns)? Whenever he apparently mumbles, the NBC censors have worked on a cocaine (or other drug) joke. By the way, the words mumbled in this DIP WARZ were "cocaine connection".

"Anyway," interrupts ILOM, "compact in 30 seconds."

"Don't you mean impact?"

"No - impact first, then our ship compacts to incredibly small sizes after we're blown into billions of pieces. Anyway, impact in 13....14....13...."

"Prepare to launch!" says Oboe-1, to which Poleo replies, "It'll take 30 seconds to warm up."

"10....9....8....7...." The blip got closer.

"Sacks-damned ship!" Calberchian gives it a kick. WHRRRRR BLAST WHOOOOSH "All warmed up!"

"Ready to launch-"

"4....3....2....1...."

In order to increase the dramatic effect, the next few seconds will be extended in slow motion.

0.5 seconds...."Heeeerrrrrrreeeee gggggggooooooooooooooooooooo!!!!!"

0.2 seconds....0.1....0.01....10 to the negative 4 - negative 7 - 2.6678592 times 10 to the negative 63 seconds - distance too small to be measured, and yet it still exists.

"Impact made - explosion occurred - we're all dead - wait a minute! How come I'm still talking - and we're moving? I'm supposed to be the brains around here. What gives?"

"Apparently," according to John Poleo, "the LOM game openings absorbed the VOD house rules sparked by the thermonuclear nukes."

"WHAT?"

"Who said that?"

Actually, you could hear Yawn Boring yell that all the way across the known galaxies, despite the fact that sound doesn't travel very well in space. "HOW could that miss?"

"Could you have underestimated these LOM game openings?"

"Lord Sacks Fifthavenue, what have you to say?"

"Impossible - LOM games cannot improve - what his name has not signed THE COVENANT - he must show SUPREME LOYALTY to ME and THE EMPIRE - they, ALL must. If they cannot be eliminated, they must be turned to the Left Side of THE BOURSE. Speaking of which, has anyone found it yet? Back to the rebels...." "Now, where is THE BOURSE?" asks Rod Seaparter.

"You're the guy that lost it!"

"Go shine your head!" Just then, a voice appears.

"Hey, you! You can't see voices - how can they 'appear'?"

Well, if you can scratch something you can't see,....

"How can you scratch something you can't see?"

Everybody-EVER HAVE A MOSQUITO BITE BETWEEN THE SHOULDER BLADES? Of course, on the new season of "Fame", they'd probably have a dance number instead. That show makes it look as if 95% of the students want to be dancers - even the ones that are mainly singers and actors!

"Hey, you! Back to DIP WARZ, OK?"

Anyway, that voice - RAWD! RAWD SEAPOTTA!

"No, it can't be-"

YES, IT'S ME, RAWD-NEE!

"Garra! Garra the Elvi master! Where are you?"

AM'M-

"Can't you speak English like everyone else?"

I'M

"That's better!"

I'M UP ON A HIGHER PLANE

"What airline goes this high?" asks Princess Luscious. .

"Not that kind of plane! You know - a big long flat thing."

"Like John Poleo's-"

"Not in front of the crew!"

And with that interesting, if slightly off-color (of course, Scott Hanson doesn't care - he's color blind) remark, we come to the end of another chapter in the DIP WARZ saga. Not one of my better efforts, true, but I'm in a hurry to finish this.

~~THIS-IS-A-BIG-ISSUE-YOU'RE-REALLY-GETTING-YOUR-MONEY'S-WORTH-HOW-DO-I-AFFORD-IT-??~~

Well, I have a \$1000 scholarship check, and no big expenses remaining - if I can pass my 12 units this Spring, the university is giving me a B.A. (here it's called an A.B.) in Computer Science, mainly because I'm doing a rare thing and not returning for a fifth year.

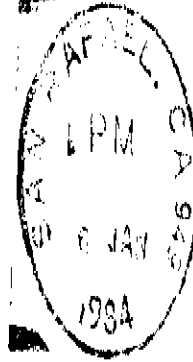
This is a 20-pager - the largest issue since my first anniversary over two years ago. Mainly because of the 6-page NADB. Last year's NADB only ran 4 pages, but this one is planned to be run in other 'zines. I don't expect to appear in DIPLOMACY WORLD, especially with the few-and-far-between Diplomacy questions and emphasis on the PBM hobby. However, places like EUROPA EXPRESS, WHITESTONIA, etc. would be nice - and you don't have to pay me for the submission. Have YOU finished the exam yet? Remember, freebies go to the top scorers, plus a bonus for the "most interesting answer".

NEXT TIME will have a nice long MOS EISLET SPACEPORT, plus maybe another FNORD (Ehli, where are you?), possibly some Pythonica or something like that, and, with some luck, more names to add to the sign-up lists for the game openings. Who knows - maybe even an opening in DIPLOMACY KILLER. (That's a variant where each player gets a unit - combined army and fleet thing - randomly placed at the beginning, and each unit has a "target" unit it must attack. An attack on the target unit (e.g. moving into its space - no supports necessary) kills it, and the killer gets as its new target the first target's target. Whoever survives wins.)

I'm running out of room - time for a MARK BERCH DEPARTMENT; It's warm - compared to most of the country, I'd say that 48 degrees above zero (that's 9 degrees for Tamlyn-types) is warm considering the sub-zero reports from the midwest and east. It's supposed to snow in Marin - the hot tubs will freeze! (Actually, there's a 2000 foot high mountain in Marin where it snows at least once a year - but ground snow off of the mountain hasn't happened in 10 years.)

PAGE 19? Is this a real LOM?

DON DEL GRANDE
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