

LIFE OF MONTY

#51

APRIL 24, 1985

a DRAWN at

Thanks to all of you pubbers
promoting THE LIFER! - keep it up

50¢

Well, after the disaster that was number 50, what with Dick Martin forgetting what the deadline was, and ENORD arriving one day too late (for those of you like John Caruso who wonder what happened to the games, Dick's game was mailed out by Dick, and the players in Mike's game got the reports from me a few days after the 'zine came out - as for Derwood Bowen, he's gone into hiding, and I've decided to have somebody else from LOM take over the game, as soon as somebody lets me know the last known position of the game), it's time for a fresh start of sorts with issue 51 of LIFE OF MONTY, brought to you by Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339, USA, phone (415) 461-2692, but phone hours are 5 PM-11 PM (Pacific Time) Monday through Thursday, 5 PM-1 AM Friday, and pretty much anytime (before 11 on Sunday) on weekends.

Despite the shock of last issue, there's always....

MONTY'S NEWS AND COMMENT is brought to you by the OFFICIAL NORTH AMERICAN DIPLOMACY HOBBY.....whichever one that happens to be!

Has anybody out there seen Derwood Bowen lately? Apparently, SUBMARINE WARFARE has disappeared without a trace, and there's no sign of its return. Some of the players want the game to go to another GM in LOM - well, there's Mike Ehli, and there's Dustin Laurence, or, if you're REALLY desperate, you can always ask me or Dick Martin, if we can squeeze this game in. OK, you PERISCOPE (84HD) players, do you want this game moved, and if so, to which GM(s)? And you GMs (Mike, Dustin, and Dick), let me know if you can handle this game as well as what you're doing now.

Archeologists are still busy in the greater Pittsburgh area looking for some evidence of the post-Envoyic period. More on this as it's dug up.....

Only 90 days or so until ORIGINS, when we can finally answer the question, "How long will it be before ADVANCED SQUAD LEADER comes out?". (Maybe it'll be a miracle, and ASL will actually come out at ORIGINS. Then again, FIREPOWER was supposed to come out in late 1984, wasn't it? True, ASL is Don Greenwood's #1 priority, while everybody else at AH is busy working on who-knows-what (they've still got the PANZER-BLITZ/LEADER remake somewhere in their machinery); however, this IS the company that actually SAID that THE RISING SUN had been released!) Don't expect to see me in the Diplomacy tournament - maybe I'll stop by and say hello to a few friends, but that's about it. If you want information about "the big O", contact ORIGINS '85, P.O. BOX 139, MIDDLETOWN, NJ 07748.

Another new magazine? GAME NEWS, published by Associates International and edited by Anne Jaffe, is another one of those magazines that has articles on various role-playing and war games (er, ADVENTURE games), along with news on gaming & game companies (some of which is quite recent - unlike other magazines, whose news is public information by the time it's printed), and - get this - a list of games scheduled to be released (according to the game companies) within the month of the issue's date. The major articles deal with (in the first issue) PARANOIA (a role-playing game where players must "stay alert, trust no one, and keep their lasers handy"), SQUAD LEADER, and the new AXIS & ALLIES. (For those of you with the original A&A, here are some of the changes: the map has been changed, so the number of provinces is less; the Allies can no longer gain an economic victory, but must capture Berlin and Tokyo; each army's "unique capabilities" have been removed; the counters are now plastic miniatures; and, there are rules to determine a sole winner.) A 12-issue, one-year subscription is \$20; the first issue sells for \$2, but inside the price for a single issue is listed at \$2.50. This isn't for you "Diplomacy-only" types (stick to DIPLOMACY WORLD for that), but those of us who want to keep up with gaming in general might find this worth the price.

DIP WARZ

WHEN we last left our-
"LEFT? Who said that? That's the other side, remember?"
Leave it to John Pole-O to come up with that one. ANYWAY,
when we last, er, uh, departed from the scene, the new
Emperor, Lord Sacks Fifthavenue, had launched a PDO Constitution &
Novice Packet at the Linoleum Falcon, which all began two issues ago,
while the Linoleum Falcon was out of fuel. Contact was just INCHES
away, assuming she holds still a little longer (SLAP SLAP) OUCH, NOT
so HARD! Anyway, the story got as far as ".....3.....2.....1....."
when it stopped. Where was I?

"About 0.999 seconds after '1', I think."

Thank you, Yawn Boring aboard the Emperor's Flagship. It looks like
the Rebels are in trouble.

"It looks like we're in trouble," Princess Luscious adds.

"Where did you get that one?" asks Rod Seaparter.

"Isn't it amazing," quips Baldo Calberchian, "that-"

"Aren't you one of the bad guys?"

"When DIP WARZ started, I was a good guy, and no script changes are
allowed! Anyway, isn't it amazing how much conversation we can fit in
0.001 of a second?"

"You had to remind him!" answers Oboe-1 Caruso.

Thank you, Baldo....hey, what's that? It's a sofa lost in the space-
time continuum (two u's?) with Arthur Dent and Ford Prefect trying to
hitch a ride! Wrong story, guys. (I have got 300 points so far in the
HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE computer game from Infocom - right after solving
SORCEROR, too.) By some STRANGE coincidence, they appear slightly
before the beginning of this story, so the hit is absorbed through the
hole in the space-time fabric at about 2.665 seconds prior to contact.
"WELL, YOU!"

Take it easy, Lord Sacks Fifthavenue.

"What's this Arthur Dent business? I suppose it'll be Paul Hogan next,
with his 'Come and say G'day - I'll put an extra shrimp on the barby
for ya' and 'If he still doesn't know where's Australia, tell him
that's where the America's Cup is'."

Not a bad idea! I'll have to remember that.

"Can I interrupt?"

"No, but maybe-" ZOT "-the NEW ship's weapons officer can!"

"I heard that! I'd like to say-"

"I said MAYBE, didn't I? Oh, go ahead."

"The PDO Constitution & Novice Packet is a dud, your emperorness!"

"WHAT?!?!? What's left in the arsenal?"

"Permission to bring out.....IT, sir!"

"Permission granted! It's time they bought the big one! Bring out....
IT!"

"What's the combination to the IT vault, your supremeness?"

"It's 22-37-65-48-19-8-96-32-45-92-11-3-35....."

While we're waiting, I'd like to say that the FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE will
be out in mid-July sometime (there will be no issue between June 1, when
number 53 should be mailed, and July 13, 6 weeks later (instead of 5),
because of ORIGINS - the big issue may be delayed to July 20.) You
have enough warning - start writing! (I'll exempt anyone who sends in
a nomination ballot AND a voting ballot for the LIFERS.)

".....27-49-22-00. Stand back!" The light was more intense than the
most polished head of - you know who. It was taken out by sixteen lesser
men with official Peril-Sensitive Sunglasses, and then IT was loaded
into position. "In the name of the almighty ME!"

"IT away, your everythingness! Direct path for the Linoleum Falcon's
projected drift."

"Say, Rod, what's our projected path?"

"Well, Princess Luscious, if I know Garra the Elvi master, we're headed
for the ONE TASK OF THE ECHOING VOICE!"

"Shouldn't there be a space between the words 'the' and 'ONE'?"

I can't find my liquid paper!

"My mistake - we're headed for that light ahead!"

"What color is it?" (That's "color", isn't it?)

"Well, it's slowly turning from green to yellow - should we try to run
it before it turns red?"

"Oboe-1, since when have you ever stopped for a red?"

PAGE 2 never stops

I'll bet you didn't know that when I was in New York, I picked up a few "rules of the road" - rule 1 is "go on green lights at your own risk, especially against crossing buses", and rule 2 is "if traffic was meant to go smoothly, God would not have given us horns".

"Say, what is that light?" asks Oboe-1.

"Probably a reflection from - no, Baldo's in here, isn't he?"

"John Pole-O, how would you like to go on a one-way interplanetary voyage without benefit of air?"

Rod Seaparter realizes something. "Wait a minute!"

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

"Get with it" Get with it? "That's not a light - it's...."

"It's?"

"It's?"

"It's?" (No, it's not time for a Monty Python triple feature....)

"WHAT IS IT?"

"If you'd ask me softly, Princess, I might tell you."

"And if you shut up, I might not KNOCK YOUR HEAD OFF!!!"

John Pole-O, amidst the excitement, notices the light. "It's-"

"Not this again! WHAT IS IT?"

"It's - it can't be!"

"Great - it can't be. ILOM, analyze!"

"Data received - numbers crunched - randomizers activated - it can only be - be -" Suddenly, ILOM had a shock-induced short circuit.

"I can see it now - LINOLEUM FALCON DESTROYED BY MYSTERY LIGHT!"

Suddenly, Seaparter, Pole-O, and Oboe-1 respond in unison. "It's an NYGB COVENANT!!"

Back on the Emperor's ship - "There's no escape this time....count us down!"

"Well, at number 10 this week is-"

"That's NOT what I had in mind! Try again!"

"5.....4.....3.....2.....1....."

"WHAT'S THAT?"

"Come and say G'Day....come and say g'day! I'd like to talk to you about the land down under-"

Thanks for the idea! Wait a minute - the NYGB COVENANT (so powerful that it's in capital letters) has gone through a gap in the Hoganizers.

"I knew you'd fall for the Paul Hogan bit!"

"Drift a little more to the left!" Too late -

BOOM!!!

"Direct hit just port of the starboard side, just for of aft."

"Would you remind repeating that?" the Princess asks.

"Dead center!" responds Oboe-1. "DAMAGE REPORT!"

"well, we're out of fuel, which doesn't surprise me as we were already out before the explosion!"

"Boy, Seaparter, we're getting you on THE 64,000 CREDIT QUESTION with expert category 'The Obvious'. Any ADDITIONAL damage?"

"Well, our outer hull has been breached in sufficient amounts to-"

"In OUR language, Pole-O?"

"There's a hole in our side. Fortunately, the automatic hole-coverer and pressurizer managed to seal it, at least for now. But who knows what will happen if even a VICIOUS HATE SHEET manages to bump into us!"

"Say, Calberchian, what's that? It looks like a planet."

"Rod, you've won 32,000 CREDITS, would you like to try for 64,000? Yes, it's a planet - ILOM, coordinates, location, names, the works!"

"Well, that's the Earl of Linseed's planet-"

"I'm not landing there!" protests Princess Luscious.

"Sez you - I'm flying this thing!" replies Baldo Calberchian.

"Say, Seaparter," says John Pole-O, "doesn't this remind you of something?"

If you're here for the next DIP WARZ, you'll be able to find out what excuse I've come up with to prevent anybody from figuring out what's going on.....

PAGE 3 isn't going on

NOW YOU TOO can gain IMMORTALITY! For only \$25, you can have a land or sea area in DIPLOMACY re-named after you! You'll receive a conference map with the old names removed and the new names put in, and maybe a cheap document of some sort "officially announcing" the change. However, these names will not be recognized by Avalon Hill, they won't be put on the main board, and you'd better hope the GM in a game where you use one of these names knows about them - otherwise, you may have to talk your way out of an NMR. Just send the \$25, plus \$5 handling and extra profit charge, to me.

OK, OK, I admit it, I'm only kidding. But who would be stupid enough to pay \$35 to "have a star named after themselves"? It wouldn't be so bad, except that the only ones that recognize these names are the company that takes the money and the person sending it (and, perhaps, his/her friends and relatives). Only the International Astronomical Union can "officially" name stars - if you REALLY want a star, you have to discover it, and I doubt that there are ANY stars that are visible with the naked eye that don't have names by now. (I doubt that any stars visible with a small telescope - "small" as opposed to, for example, Mount Palomar - don't have names, but you never know what may suddenly appear from behind a large cloud of some interstellar medium.) I'd like to see John Boardman pay \$35 for something like this! Then, maybe I'll believe it!

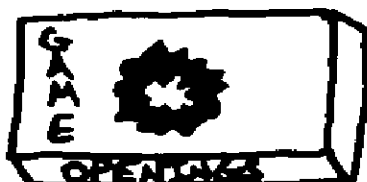
EREMNON is folding yet again. Rod Walker says that he will be reducing his hobby involvement. Whether or not this means he'll leave DIPLOMACY WORLD and his column in THE GENERAL remains to be seen. (Besides Rod's column, the only other semi-regular series in THE GENERAL that come to mind, not including things like "The Avalon Hill Philosophy" or "Infiltrator's Report", are the "SQUAD LEADER Clinic" and the "Emerald City" THIRD REICH series.) Maybe it's just a phase he's going through.

(Now watch the PDO sell names to the spaces on the new "People's Diplomacy Board" - if I can get the idea for THE LIFERS from Mike Mills' EMINENT AWARDS, he can take this one from me.)

And maybe Avalon Hill (or whatever-they're-called-this-week) is getting their production schedule in gear.....

Good night!

~~SAY-WHATEVER-HAPPENED-TO-THE-PDO-ANYWAY-THEY'VE-GROWN-QUIET-ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN-WEI~~



Well, here we go again with another list....

^{Cunning}
KINGMAKER....Wilson, Sweeney signed up. Need 1-3 ~~more~~ more. New variant cards will be used.

COLD WAR....Olsen signed up. Need 3 more.
VICTORY GAMES' version of "Origins Of World War III".

PRO WRESTLING.....join the crowd! You didn't see 20/20 claim that OUR wrestling is fake, now did you?

WORLD CUP SOCCERLEAGUE - certainly SOMEBODY out there wants in! Well, this one is waiting for the Zine Registers. (Interest is increasing!)

STANDBYS - White, Wilson, Young, Peel, Caruso, Sweeney, Ehli, and anybody else who wants on. 'Zine credit (your choice of 'zine) is 50¢ when called, 50¢ after 2 seasons, and \$1 upon finishing the game.

DIPLOMACY.....see FNORD. Mike Ehli has an opening somewhere in here. (Also check THE SPACE VIKING as to openings in there, if Dustin has any. SUBMARINE WARFARE appears to be history.)

~~ANOTHER-PLUG-ANOTHER-PLUG-ANOTHER-PLUG-ANOTHER-PLUG-ANOTHER-PLUG-ANOTHER-PLUG-1~~

Tired of Diplomacy? Want the inside dope on other games? Then EMPIRE is for you! EMPIRE is published by John Boardman, 234 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11226, and covers EMPIRES OF THE MIDDLE AGES, A MIGHTY FORTRESS, the LOST WORLDS series, and a few others now and then, as well as the occasional news segment. Unlike GRAUSTARK, EMPIRE doesn't have the "Great Big United States of America" or other heavy politics that John is known for - sometimes, it's hard to believe that the same person does both 'zines. Definitely worth reading, if you're into the non-Dip world. (And no "ass-trology" allowed!)

No PAGE 4, either

LET'S NOT ALL MOVE AT ONCE, PLEASE

HERVE FALL 05

R (Michalski): (A Rum retreat to Bud) A Bud-Rum, A Ser S A Bud-Rum, A Alb-Gre,
F Con-Ank, F Smy-Con, A Boh-Mun, A Mun-Ber, A Sil S A Mun-Ber
E (Browner?): NMR F Lpl, F Nth, A Kie, F Bel, F Swe, F Mao all hold
F (Gardner): (A Bur retreat to Ruh) A Ruh-Hol, A Bre-Par
G (Shores?): NMR A Tyr, F Stp(sc), F Fin, A Nwy, A Ber all hold
I (Bower): A Yen-Tur, A Bur-Par, A Gas S F Mao-Bre, F Mao-Bre, F Spa(sc) S F Por-Mao,
F Wme H, F Por-Mao
R (Slaughter?): NMR A War, A Mos, F Sev all hold
T (Ehll?): NMR A Rum, A Bul, F Bis all hold

Underlined moves do not succeed. The Turkish A Rum is bounced to Gal, Ukr or the box. The German A Ber is bounced to Pru or the box. The French A Bre is bounced to Pic or Box. Bounce, bounce, bounce. Really exciting turn, guys. Keep up the fine work.

SC Chart is:

A: home, ser, gre, mun, smy, rum, ank, con, ber (11)	build 3
E: home, bel, hol, den, kie, swe (7)	build 1
F: par, bre, hol (2)	even
G: ber, kie, swe, nwy, stp (2)	remove 3
I: home, tun, mar, spa, por, bre (8)	build 1
R: war, mos, sev (3)	even
T: con, ank, bul (1)	remove 2

EUGENE to COLUMBUS: You can have Paris but watch the dog poop on the step.

ROCKYILLE: Must be pretty potent dog poop.

SOONER to HUSKY: Good thing we don't write, or I would have been taken in. Gotta admit, we were just overpowered, out played, and stomped into the dirt in Miami. I wouldn't have believed it until I saw it. Just like the Bowl record we set, for longest penalty ever given a wagon ...

ROCKYILLE: And how about those Maryland Twerps? Gotta be one of the best comeback teams in college history. Almost exciting enough to make me watch football...but not quite.

Last month's movie was not Stop Sending Orders, by the way.

This month's flick is Feet Forward. I was hoping for something light, that I could just pleasantly while away an evening with. Boy, was I ever disappointed. Booooooooring. Glad I missed all the other breakdance movies last summer, because this one really sucked. Now, if you want to see good stuff, go see The Gods Must Be Crazy -- a very low-key comedy. Or The Brother From Another Planet. Worth about six "Police Academy"s apiece and that you probably won't get a chance to check out, unfortunately. One that I just caught the other day that is a "must see" is The Sure Thing. About as good a movie as you'll see for a long time, it's hilarious the whole way through, without being sleazy (so I guess that rules out any chance of Michalski dropping in on it). Rare, these days.

Oh, the seven way failed.

And a final note, a new address for Derwood Bowen (not that any of you will use it):

4400 Clarkwood Pkwy, #101, Warrenville Hts, OH 44128

Do I sound disgusted enough? Good.

DEADLINE is APRIL 18

Either this game needs more
players writing press, or PAGE 5
needs to shrink a little

1984CI, WINTER 1903/SPRING 1904....NOT MUCH "ACTION" THIS TIME

A couple of things: first, France retreated F Eng to MAO in Summer 1903, and second, Germany has a fleet in Holland, not an army.

AUSTRIA (Wagner): NMR! Plays 1 short
FRANCE (Bjornsson) builds F BRE
GERMANY (Doyle): NMR! GM removes A Fin
TURKEY (Ehli) builds A CON

SPRING 1904

AUSTRIA (Wagner): NMR - has A RUM, F GRE
ENGLAND (Martin): F NAVY S GERMAN A Fin-Stp (nsu), F Eng-PIC, F NTH S
GERMAN F Hol-Bel (nso), A Lvp-WAL
FRANCE (Bjornssen): F Bre-MID, A Bur-GAS, A Bel-BUR (S A PAR), F Mid-NAO,
F Pic-BRE
GERMANY (Doyle): NMR - has F BOT, A SIL, A RUM, A MUN, F HOL, and a
retreat from A Lvn to Pru or OTB
ITALY (Stageman): A TUN H & supports Boston College in the NCAA
tournament, A GAL S RUSSIAN A War, A TRI S A Ser,
A SER S AUSTRIAN F Grs-Bul(sc) (nso), F Ion-EAS,
F ADR-ION
RUSSIA (Lee): A Stp-LVN (S A MOS, A WAR), A Arm-SMY, A Bul H(ann)
TURKEY (Ehli): A VIE H, A Con-BUL (S F BLA, F AEG)

The SUMMER 1904 retreat and FALL 1905 moves are due by APRIL 25.
Meanwhile, here's the press:

LIVONIA PRESS (actually, ITALY) PRESENTS THIS MONTH'S HITS:
Turkey - "Hello Goodbye"; Germany - "Nowhere Man"; Russia - "Oh Darling";
France - "Help!"; England - "Mean Mr. Mustard"; Austria - "Love Me Do"
GM-ITALY: For you, how about "Revolution"? For me, "A Hard Day's Night"
ENGLAND-CUTIE PIE ITALY: OK, you've got a date. But you have to support
me somewhere first. After all, you supported everybody else. And
don't worry about Ken. He's such a dear about letting me go out with
other guys. Your place or mine? How about yours....
ENGLAND-RUSSIA: That's me: Mr. Finesse. Take, for instance, last turn.
None of my units are ordered, yet I have the French doing cartwheels in
defense. Now, for my next trick...as soon as I figure out what it is.
ENGLAND-GERMANY: So write already!
GM-GERMANY: Hear, hear.
ENGLAND-FRANCE: Aww, don't you love me any more?

That's it? That's all the press?

~~WHAT-IS-THE-WORLD-COMING-TO-NOW-THAT-"V"-HAS-BEEN-CANCELLED-DID-WE-WIN-THE-WAR-~~

NUCLEAR WAR/NUCLEAR ESCALATION - DELAYED!

I only have ONE set of orders from FIVE players. (In other words, FOUR
of you NMRed!) Therefore, the game will be delayed until the next
deadline of.....APRIL 19. Further NMRs are punishable by readings
of Vagon Poetry (cf. THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY) - even more
painful and cruel: there's this AD&D game going on around here, and.....

PRO WRESTLING.....Somebody didn't send in their moves - a certain
Hamster-oriented person, I am led to believe. It's a good thing he
drove me to Washington after MARYCON 84 - the game is delayed until
the next deadline of APRIL 19. Frank, I have your orders already,
and if Woody doesn't speak up, your guy will fight R.J. Budway's, once
he gets one in.

PAGE 6 wants a shot at the title

TRIVIAL PURSUIT, ROUND 5 - this game only LOOKS over

KATHY BYRNE - from GHQ, moves 4R (P), 5R, 3B, 5R (RHQ)

1. (EN) What film and sequel both won the best picture Oscar?
2. (AL) *What newspaper's two-reporter team exposed the Watergate coverup?

JOHN CARUSO - from OHQ, moves 5Y, 2Y (YHQ)

3. (NM) *What did Gerald Ford's WIN buttons stand for?

GREG DOYLE - from RHQ, moves 5Y, 4Y, 2Y (YHQ)

4. (HI) *What country's sailors were known colloquially as lime-juicers?

MIKE EHLI - from OHQ, moves 6Y (R), 2Y (R), 4P, 5Y (YHQ)

5. (AL) What was the scarecrow in "The Wizard Of Oz" lacking?
6. (AL) What inspired Jimmy Breslin's novel ".44"?
7. (HI) *Did the Nationalists or the Republicans win the Spanish Civil War?

DICK MARTIN - from GHQ, moves 5P, 6G (O), 6P (PHQ)

8. (SL) What's the most popular form of the card game Bridge?
9. (EN) *What was "The Ed Sullivan Show" originally called?

BOB OLSEN - from OHQ, moves 5Y, 1Y (R), 1Y/4C (P), 3Y (R), 1Y (YHQ); should Bob get this one correct, he continues 1C (R), 2C (G), 3C/3P (R), 3C/1B (R), 1C/3P (R), 3C (C; the final question is category GE)

10. (AL) Who was the sinister doctor of Sax Rohmer's novels?
11. (EN) What was the last Rogers and Hammerstein musical?
12. (AL) Who betrayed Samson to the Philistines?
13. (HI) *What city saw 42 die and \$44 million in property damage in the summer riots of 1967?
14. (AL) What book was F. Scott Fitzgerald working on when he died in Hollywood in 1940?
15. (SM) What condition do you have if you suffer from baker's leg?
16. (AL) What play explains the beginning of fairies?
17. (AL) What is the origin of the word "news"?
18. (AL) Who wrote, "A thing of beauty is a joy forever"?
19. (GE) *What country consumes the most wine per capita?

BRAD WILSON - from YHQ, moves 3O (R), 2O, 4O, 5B (BHQ)

20. (GE) How many floors are there in the Empire State Building?
21. (GE) *What two countries are joined by the Barwich-Ostende ferry?

Here are THE ANSWERS (* indicates NMR; players' incorrect answers are given in parentheses)

1. The Godfather and The Godfather Part II*
2. The Washington Post*
3. Whip Inflation Now ("?")
4. England's*
5. A brain*
6. The Son of Sam killings*
7. The Nationalists*
8. Contract bridge*
9. Toast of the Town*
10. Fu Manchu
11. The Sound of Music (Oklahoma)
12. Delilah
13. Detroit
14. The Last Tycoon
15. Knock-kneed (Epileptic)
16. Peter Pan (A Midsummer Night's Dream)
17. Plural of new (Greek word for knowledge - "gnos")
18. Keats (Whitsun)
19. Italy
20. 102*
21. England and Belgium*

THE SCORES - KB: Has YO/11 wrong - JC: none/15 - GD: BO/16 - ME: BO/11 wrong - DM: YB/9 wrong - BO: finished/10 wrong - BX: R/B wrong.

Kathy, John, Greg, and Mike are out, since they can't win. Dick and Brad are still in, but Dick must get 4 wedges (and the final question) with no more than 1 miss, and Brad must get 5 wedges (plus the final) with no more than 2 misses. All remaining questions will be asked in this round. DEADLINE for this round is APRIL 26, 1985. Can Bob Olsen hang on for the win? Can Dick or Brad get their orders in ON TIME this time? Is anybody still watching this game?

PAGE 7 can't take its eyes off of it

DIPLOMACY PURSUIT, THE START - and here are the preference lists:

KATHY BYRNE - (1) HAL (2) Z&P (3) DPL (4) G&P (5) TRI (6) D&V
JOHN CARUSO - (1) DPL (2) HAL (3) G&P (4) Z&P (5) D&V (6) TRI
MIKE EHLLI - (1) DPL (2) Z&P (3) D&V (4) TRI (5) HAL (6) G&P
STEVE ARNAWOODIAN - (1) TRI (2) Z&P (3) HAL (4) DPL (5) G&P (6) D&V
PAT JENSEN - (1) D&V (2) G&P (3) TRI (4) HAL (5) Z&P (6) DPL
BRAD WILSON - (1) Z&P (2) TRI (3) D&V (4) DPL (5) HAL (6) G&P

DPL stands for Dip Pot Luck, D&V is Dip & Variants, G&P is Games & Players, HAL is Hobby At Large, TRI is Random Trivia, and Z&P is 'Zines and Pubbers.

IF YOU DON'T LIKE YOUR PREFERENCE LIST, YOU CAN CHANGE IT AT ANY TIME! YOU CAN EVEN CHANGE IT MORE THAN ONCE DURING THE GAME, in case you blow it the first time.

In this game, I'm starting something new - instead of including the questions for players as inserts (some of which never made it), I'm including this turn's questions in this issue (i.e. RIGHT HERE) in some random order, and the players will get a list of which questions are theirs.

ROUND 1 QUESTIONS

1. (D&V) A vertical line on the conference map divides the map into 2 17-center areas. Which major powers have centers on both sides of the line?
2. (D&V) What is the minimum number of turns it would take a fleet to move from one of the neutral non-centers to the other?
3. (D&V) Which game by The Avalon Hill Game Company is classified as a variant?
4. (D&V) How many possible "coastal crawls" are possible in a single turn? (That is, how many can be ordered using sets of legal moves?)
5. (HAL) What is Julie Martin's maiden name?
6. (HAL) What is Joyce Singer's claim to Dip fame?
7. (HAL) In what city was "Stantinople-Con" held?
8. (HAL) What news greeted Gary Coughlan upon his arrival in England?
9. (HAL) Name the last Miller Number Custodian before the current one.
10. (Z&P) How many issues of EUROPA EXPRESS were predominantly white?
11. (Z&P) What 'zine was based on the premise that Diplomacy was fun?
12. (Z&P) Who publishes THE THING ON THE MAT?
13. (DPL) What issue was the last GIVE ME A WEAPON?
14. (DPL) Name the last 'zine to finish first in the North American Zine Poll before EUROPA EXPRESS.
15. (TRI) How many of Henry VIII's wives were beheaded?
16. (TRI) How many sons did Abraham Lincoln father?
17. (G&P) Who won the Diplomacy Central game in THE VOICE OF DOOM?
18. (G&P) What happens to the EUROPA EXPRESS game "Windsor" every three game-years?

YOUR QUESTION NUMBERS ARE:

DEADLINE is APRIL 26, 1985. ANSWERS will, for obvious reasons, appear in the next issue. No fair telling players the answers - or mailing the answers to them, for that matter.

~~-PURSUIT-CHASE-HUNT-I-DON'T-THINK-TRIVIAL-CHASE-OR-TRIVIAL-HUNT-WOULD-BE-GOOD-NAMES~~

More filler? What haven't I mentioned yet? Well, I don't think I've said that I've heard from Derwood Bowen and he says that SUBMARINE WARFARE should be back soon, so the planned move of his game will be put on hold while this thing is sorted out.

More white space? It's only PAGE 8

Good news! My ORIGINS XI pre-registration form arrived in the mail on March 28. Barring major mishaps, I'll be at ORIGINS this year just outside Baltimore. If you want to know my approximate schedule, I'm signing up for the FIREPOWER (Saturday 1:00) and B-17 (Sunday 10:00) tournaments, but I also plan to be at the seminars for Advanced Squad Leader, Victory Games, Adventures By Mail (I'm a BEYOND THE STELLAR EMPIRE player), and, of course, the "Hobby" Meeting on Saturday Night at 9:00. (If you missed it, it's on the second page of the listings - it's not in the main listings for that time slot.) This year's admission is \$14 for 4 days - not bad at all. Of course, there will be a Dip tournament (I won't be in it), run by Robert Sacks and John Boardman. I didn't see a variant tournament, although Avalon Hill is holding its "official MACHIAVELLI National Championship Tournament", if you consider it a variant. (It's in the NAVB Catalogue!)

.....
oh, no....

Oh, Yes!!!!

IT'S THE FIRST EVER

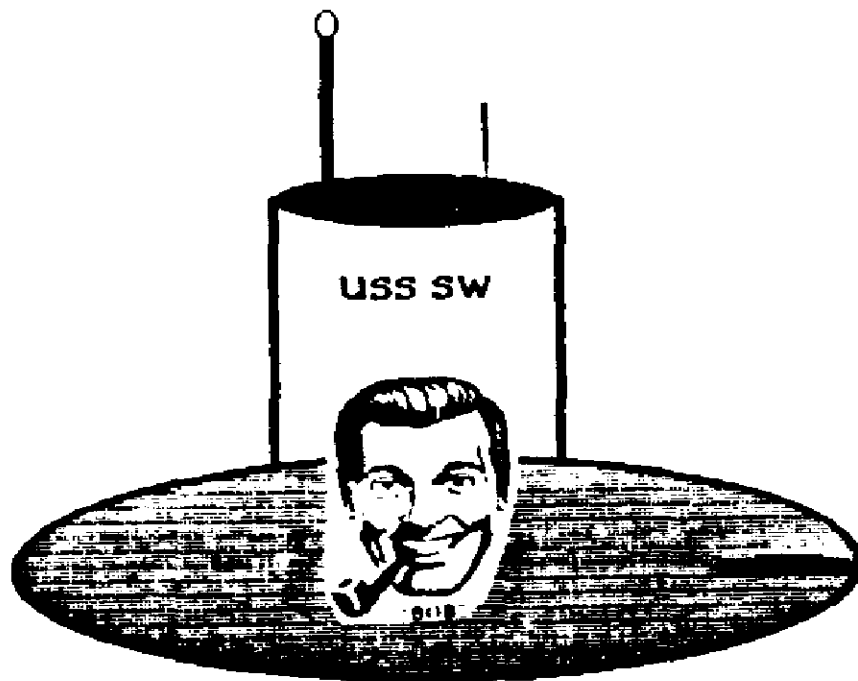
FNORD
DOUBLE
FEATURE

Last issue's FNORD arrived one day too late. (The game went out to the players anyway.) This issue's FNORD made it just in time. So, there's a DOUBLE FEATURE of EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE SUBZINE, THE ONE YOU WANT TO GIVE A "10" TO except that it pales in comparison to the missing SUBMARINE WARFARE (?!!), the one and only (think what shape we'd be in if there were two like him) FNORD. (Wait a minute - there are two like him! Mainly, him, and the guy typing all of this up! You can surrender peacefully, or you can blow us up - it's your choice.)

PLAYERS IN MIKE'S GAME PLEASE NOTE: There are TWO SEASONS of the game in this issue. Make sure you look at the LATER SEASON (it has the deadline of APRIL 18 on it) and not confuse it with the earlier one when writing your next orders!

But BEFORE getting on with FNORD, here are this issue's submissions from the moved Derwood Bowen and the on-the-road Dustin Laurence:

PAGE 9 thanks both of them



SUB-GENIUS WARFARE
(a neat idea for a parody)

by
Mike Ehli
Hamilton Box 60505
University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-6005
(503)485-9150

(issue 13)

Yes, it's still another issue of Fnord, a subzine dedicated to postal Dip, the pursuit of Slack, and the teachings of the Great Prophet J.R. "Bob" Dobbs.

GAME OPENINGS; Diplomacy, no fees. Bjornsson, Wilson, Sweeney signed up.

LEPRECON will be held St. Patrick's Day weekend at the home of Joan Extrom and Ken Corbin. I'll be there, Gary Coughlan will be there, and so will most of the Dippers in the Northwest. Contact Joan Extrom, Rt 1, Box 26, Philomath, OR 97370. Be there or be FINK!!

ABOUT MY ADDRESS

Some of you seem to be a little confused about my address, still. Let's run through it, step by step.

MIKE EHLI Pretty straightforward, although not really important as long as you get the rest of the address right.

HAMILTON BOX 60505: There are two "Area Desks" here in Dornland. One, Carson, serves Carson, Earl, and Walton Complexes; while the other, Hamilton, serves Hamilton and Bean Complexes. (Actually, there's also the University Inn, but that's the apartment house for the rich kids, so it doesn't count) Anyway, dorm mail gets sent to either of these two places. Since I live in Bean Complex, my mailbox is in Hamilton. Mail does not get sent to individual halls, so hall names and room numbers are irrelevant. Still, for some reason, the housing dept. only sent incorrect mailing addresses to students last summer, which accounts for the "Rm. 114 Caswell" version. Also, I moved out of Caswell and into Moore, in the same complex, so the Caswell address is doubly obsolete.

(continued on page 30)

FNORD-page 27

**This is PAGE 10 - page 30 is
on page 17**

Verwirrung press--continued

ROME (JCNS): Pope Bradley III gave his annual Easter address to an overflow crowd in St. Peter's Square. He roundly denounced the aggressive naval building program of the infidels in Turkey, calling it "a dire threat to Western culture and civilization."

"The Pope has been chased out of the Holy City before by the infidels" commented one Cardinal. "He doesn't intend to have it happen twice."

GERMANY to EUROPE: I love when a plan comes together!

SWEENEY to WHITE: Might as well slit your own wrists! What have you done! NMR'ing in N'01

PRIMUS ILLUMINATUS to WHITE: Incidentally, Jerry, you have become the first member of the Fnord Shit List. As a member, you will receive no benefits or penalties, but you will have to pay a \$10 NMR fee to play under me again.

LONDON to VIENNA: Well, I'm glad somebody knows what I'm doing... I wish I had a clue.

AUSTRIA to RUSSIA: I will take you up on your offer of Rumania. It seems everyone in this part of the world wants me to have it!

AUSTRIA to ITALY: Would you like to see me get it, too?

LEADER OF THE ICE CURE WORLD to LEE: If you're going to get sick, next time make it writer's cramp!

TUNIS (JCNS): General Linguine Linguine's Second Army (Southern Front) pacified this Muslim centre over the past months. The small European population cheered as thousands of Muslims were baptized in the Bay of Tunis. Bishop Martini Martini, named Bishop of Africa, used a new baptizing method known as "Perpetual Immersion", where the willing converts were thrown into the bay wearing cement shoes. Commented Bishop Martini, "they sure get to Heaven faster!"

BERLIN to LONDON: I will most surely find out who my true friends are this season.

FRANCE to GERM.: May I point out how nice a guy I am? (Would it matter?)

LONDON to MOSCOW: Hum, I believe it's your turn to NMR.

AUSTRIA to GM: Do I get my tape from you before I go to Oregon? That's in March, you know. That's two months from now--well just one month by the time this sees the light of day..Well?

PRIMUS ILLUMINATUS: Probably not. I've just been too damn busy--being a Chemistry major; being President of the Gamer's Club here at the U of O; and being a member of the Front Row Gang during basketball season--all of these take up a lot of time. Tuesdays and Thursdays don't exist for me anymore; I'm spending most of those days in the lab. One thing's for sure-- I am definitely NOT going to make Fnord a full-fledged zine for quite a while, if ever, and I'm not going to kid myself on that. As for your tape, Gary, I don't know when I'll get it done. Sorry to keep you waiting.

RUS to VIENNA: Even if I did tell my neighbors who the "universal spider" is, they wouldn't listen. They're too busy trying to remove me.

VENICE (JCNS): Field Marshal Calizzi Calizzi's Northern Front troops repulsed a surprise invasion of Venetia by Austrian Commandos. The Vienna government denied knowledge of the attack, but informed military sources say that FM Calizzi will massively retaliate should this move be repeated.

BUDWAY to P.I.: Again, there are are no sex ghods west of the great town of Toledo. You guys might be sex ghods among barnyard animals!

PRIMUS ILLUMINATUS: If I wanted to be a sex ghod among barnyard animals, I'd be going to Oregon State. ("Where the men are men and the sheep are nervous") Real sex ghods don't go to aggie colleges.

AUSTRIA to GM: My hot water pipes have frozen. Has that ever happened to you? I'm praying they don't burst but I won't know that for 2 days when it gets above freezing again.

PRIMUS ILLUMINATUS: Nope, it's never happened to me. It doesn't ever get too cold for too long here. Last year we had a pretty good snowstorm, but that was the first heavy snowfall we'd had in about 15 years. It just rains, mostly. And rains, and rains, and rains and rains and rains and rains and rains...

FNORD-page 29

FNORD continues on PAGE 17

Zine

The 1985 Runestone & GM Poll



THE NINTH ANNUAL NORTH AMERICAN ZINE POLL: You may rate any publication substantially devoted to Diplomacy of which you have seen more than two issues since April 1, 1984. Rate the series, not individual issues. Rate each zine on a scale of 0 to 10 (0 being the lowest possible rating, 10 the highest). No fractions, please. Specify subzines and rate them separately from the parent zine; subzines will be listed separately. Publishers may not rate their own zines or subzines. Sign your ballot and indicate one way in which you participate in the hobby (e.g. "I sub to zine XXX", "I play in game 1984YY", "I publish zine ZZZ", etc.). All votes will be kept confidential (but please note that Pat Conlon will see all of them). Please list the zines alphabetically to make tabulation of the results easier. I reserve the right to tabulate or ignore ballots which do not follow the format outlined above.

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL NORTH AMERICAN GAMESMASTER POLL: You may rate any GM in whose postal game or games you were a player during the year beginning April 1, 1984, and under whom you played for long enough to gain an objective assessment of his or her competence as a GM. Rate each GM on a scale of 0 to 10 (0 being the lowest possible rating, 10 the highest). No fractions, please. Gamesmasters may not rate themselves. Others may not rate GMs in whose games they were not active players during the poll period. Rate each GM by NAME, not by zine. Votes which do not use the GM's name will not be tabulated. Please list the GMs in alphabetical order by SURNAME. Distinguish between Ron Brown of California and Ron Brown of Canada if you vote for either or both.

The deadline for both polls is June 29, 1985. The deadline for ballots sent to Pat Conlon is June 22, 1985. Results will be tabulated as soon after the poll deadline as possible, and will be released as they become available to anyone wishing to phone. Please rate only North American zines, subzines, and GMs; though any readers or players living outside North America are welcome to participate. Send all ballots to Bruce Linsey, 73 Ashuelot St., Apt. 3, Dalton, MA 01226, USA or Pat Conlon, Box 17014, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70893, USA.

CHANGES AND OTHER NOTES PERTAINING TO THIS YEAR'S ANNOUNCEMENT:

Due to the turmoil surrounding the change of pollsters this year, I have attempted to keep procedural changes to a minimum. Nonetheless, we do have a few:

There is no "official" proclamation against grudge votes this year. As a voter, you may vote using any criteria that you deem fair and reasonable. Some people tend to ignore such a restriction anyway, as Randolph Smyth scornfully pointed out after last year's poll. So the restriction was unenforceable -- and in my opinion, unrealistic as well. That is, I believe that the quality of a zine (or the voters' opinions thereof, which is after all what the poll is supposed to measure) CAN be affected by the publisher's ethics or his stance regarding feuds -- the basis of most grudge votes, if you will. Vote as you see fit.

Anyone who has participated in the Diplomacy hobby since April 1, 1984 is eligible to vote.

I will be discounting the top and bottom 10% (as opposed to last year's 8%) of the votes cast for any given zine, subzine, or GM. This figure will be rounded down, so that zines (etc.) receiving fewer than ten votes will not be subject to this provision. I believe that Randolph applied this lopping-off procedure only to the zines last year; I'll be applying it to the subzines and GMs as well -- but only in determining the "averaging" scores. NOT in forming the preference matrix. Which brings me to...

The preference matrix. Randolph had initially planned to come up with a preference matrix for the zines last year, and generate two lists. This ended up not working out; this year I plan to draw up a preference matrix for zines only, and generate a score for each zine. The preference matrix scores will then be averaged with the zines' "averaging" scores to produce a single final list.

The major results -- the three "averaging scores" lists, in their entirety, plus (at least) parts of the preference matrices and "overall" scores, will be printed in LOM as soon as they are out, so you don't have to shell out \$1 if you don't want the blow-by-blow details. However, I won't be printing voters' names.

SPECIAL POLL-OUT FEATURE

1985 RUNESTONE ZINE POLL OFFICIAL BALLOT

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALPHA & OMEGA | <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELSIOR | <input type="checkbox"/> PERELANDRA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANDUIN | <input type="checkbox"/> FESTUNGS HOF | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITESSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE APPALACHIAN GENERAL | <input type="checkbox"/> FEUESSE | <input type="checkbox"/> PONTEVEDRIA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APPALLING GREED | <input type="checkbox"/> FEUILLETONIST'S FORUM | <input type="checkbox"/> THE PRINCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE ARMCHAIR DIPLOMAT | <input type="checkbox"/> FLICK OF THE WRIST | <input type="checkbox"/> PROTOZOAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BERSAGLIERI | <input type="checkbox"/> FOL SI FIE | <input type="checkbox"/> RAGING MAIN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BIG HITS OF MID-AMERICA | <input type="checkbox"/> FROBOZZ | <input type="checkbox"/> REBEL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BOAST | <input type="checkbox"/> THE GAMER'S ZINE | <input type="checkbox"/> REDWOOD CURTAIN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BROADSIDE | <input type="checkbox"/> GIVE ME A WEAPON | <input type="checkbox"/> RETALIATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUSHWACKER | <input type="checkbox"/> GRAUSTARK | <input type="checkbox"/> SLEEPLESS KNIGHTS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BUZZARD'S BREATH | <input type="checkbox"/> HAI! JIKAI! | <input type="checkbox"/> SNAFU! |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE CANADIAN DIPLOMAT | <input type="checkbox"/> HANSARD | <input type="checkbox"/> SO I LIED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CATHY'S RAMBLINGS | <input type="checkbox"/> HOOF AND MOUTH | <input type="checkbox"/> STABBACK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHEESECAKE | <input type="checkbox"/> HOUSE OF LORDS | <input type="checkbox"/> TACKY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COAT OF ARMS | <input type="checkbox"/> THE INNER LIGHT | <input type="checkbox"/> TER-RAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMAND | <input type="checkbox"/> IRKSOME! | <input type="checkbox"/> THIRTY MILES OF BAD ROAD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE CONCERT OF EUROPE | <input type="checkbox"/> ITALIANO PRIBE | <input type="checkbox"/> TORPEDO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COSTAGUANA | <input type="checkbox"/> KAISSA | <input type="checkbox"/> TOUCHE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D-DAY! | <input type="checkbox"/> LIBERTERREAN | <input type="checkbox"/> THE VOICE OF DOOM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIPLOMACY DIGEST | <input type="checkbox"/> LIFE OF MONTY | <input type="checkbox"/> WHITESTONIA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIPLOMACY WORLD | <input type="checkbox"/> LONE STAR DIPLOMAT | <input type="checkbox"/> WHO CARES? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIPLOMAG | <input type="checkbox"/> MACABRE | <input type="checkbox"/> WINSOME LOSESOME |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE DIPLOMAT | <input type="checkbox"/> MAGUS | <input type="checkbox"/> THE WORDWORKS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIPPY | <input type="checkbox"/> MIDLIFE CRISIS | <input type="checkbox"/> XENOLOGIC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE DOGS OF WAR | <input type="checkbox"/> MIKE'S MAG | <input type="checkbox"/> ZOMBIE FLESH |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DOWN THE TUBES | <input type="checkbox"/> MURD'RING MINISTERS | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EFGIART | <input type="checkbox"/> NO FIXED ADDRESS | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE ELECTRIC PENGUIN | <input type="checkbox"/> NORTH SEALTH, WEST GEORGE | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EMHAIN MACHA | <input type="checkbox"/> NOT NEW YORK | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> END JUSTIFIES THE MEANS | <input type="checkbox"/> OMNIPOTENT | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ENVOY | <input type="checkbox"/> THE ORPHANAGE | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ERENWON | <input type="checkbox"/> OUNIQPIQUE | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EUROPA EXPRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> PARANOIACS' MONTHLY | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EVERYTHING | | _____ |

(Blank spaces are for any I've neglected to list.)

Signature _____

I participate in the Diplomacy hobby by _____

PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE VOTING! Send this ballot to Bruce Linsey, 73 Ashuelot St., Apt. 3, Dalton, MA 01226 U.S.A. or Pat Conlon, Box 17014, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70893 U.S.A.
 IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE POLL RESULTS BY MAIL, enclose \$1.00 U.S. (to Bruce Linsey).
 (Results will include a complete statistical analysis, preference matrix, etc.)

1985 RUNESTONE SUBZINE POLL OFFICIAL BALLOT

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BAD DOGGIE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLETIVE DELETED | <input type="checkbox"/> MeANNderings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BEHOLDER | <input type="checkbox"/> FATHER KNOWS LESS | <input type="checkbox"/> MOS EISLEY SPACEPORT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BENZENE | <input type="checkbox"/> FEMME FATALE | <input type="checkbox"/> ONLY YESTERDAY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BETTY DALY'S SUBZINE | <input type="checkbox"/> FEUDETTE | <input type="checkbox"/> ORPHAN CITY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE BOOB REPORT | <input type="checkbox"/> FIAT BELLUM | <input type="checkbox"/> PERLMUTTER'S REVENGE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BOTTOMS UP | <input type="checkbox"/> FNORD | <input type="checkbox"/> PHYLLIS'S PYRAMID |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUT I'M HAPPY | <input type="checkbox"/> FOOT IN MOUTH | <input type="checkbox"/> SAVOLINNA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUTTER BATTLES | <input type="checkbox"/> GALIMATIAS | <input type="checkbox"/> SCREED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHOMPS & MLAMS | <input type="checkbox"/> HARE OF THE DOG | <input type="checkbox"/> SEX APPEEL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONFERENCE CALL | <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH PLAINS GONZO | <input type="checkbox"/> SHADOWPLAY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CORN OFF THE COBB | <input type="checkbox"/> HUMBOLDT | <input type="checkbox"/> THE SPACE VIKING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CUBISTS' CORNER | <input type="checkbox"/> KATHY'S KORNER | <input type="checkbox"/> STRANCE DOINGS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DAYLESFORD | <input type="checkbox"/> KNOWN GAME OPENINGS | <input type="checkbox"/> SUBMARINE WARFARE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEBI'S FILLER | <input type="checkbox"/> THE LITTLE DIPPER | <input type="checkbox"/> TEMPORARILY DELAYED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIPLOMACY BY MOONLIGHT | <input type="checkbox"/> MAGGIE'S ZINE | <input type="checkbox"/> THE TOAST OF PHILADELPHIA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> THE ECHO OF DOOM | <input type="checkbox"/> MAGNIFICENT 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> VERTIGO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E*S*A*D | <input type="checkbox"/> MALAGUEÑA | <input type="checkbox"/> VICIOUS HATE SHEET |

(Blank spaces are for any I've neglected to list.)

1985 RUNESTONE GM POLL OFFICIAL BALLOT

Vote	GM's Name	Vote	GM's Name	Vote	GM's Name
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

(Please list GMs alphabetically by surname, going down the columns.)

Signature _____

I participate in the Diplomacy hobby by _____

PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE VOTING! Send this ballot to Bruce Linsey, 73 Ashuelot St., Apt. 3, Dalton, MA 01226 U.S.A. or Pat Conlon, Box 17014, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70893 U.S.A.

QUESTION: Would you like to see non-North American publications and GMs included in the 1986 Runestone Poll? (Please check one response.)

yes
 no
 don't care

In addition to providing a second list of scores to be combined with the zines' mean scores, the preference matrix should prove to add interest to the poll results by itself, as it will be portrayed in graphic form. I have devised a formula which will translate a zine's raw score from the matrix to a number ranging from 0 to 10, so that the combining of the lists will be practical.

There may be other embellishments to the presentation of the results, depending on what I can dream up to make the final product more interesting to the readers. We'll see.

A few clarifications regarding specific publications and GMs; as mentioned in the GM poll announcement, be sure to distinguish between the two Ron Browns if you vote for either or both. Treat Whitestonia as a zine, Kathy's Korner as a subzine (to keep the status quo from years past.) The editor of Bad Doggie treats that product as a subzine even though it sometimes appears separately from the parent zine; therefore the poll will tabulate BD as a subzine. Ditto for Orphan City; treat it as a subzine.

The cutoffs for inclusion in the main lists will be the same as last year's: ten votes for zines, five for subzines and GMs. Zines which do not make the main list will not be included in the preference matrix.

A clarification to the rule that you must have seen more than two issues of a zine in order to vote for it; if you were supposed to see more than two issues of a zine but did not (i.e. because the publisher has not published regularly), then you may still vote for that zine. I can think of one or two "active" publications that fall into this category; sorry, guys, but being grossly irregular ain't gonna get you off the hook around here if the voters wish to send you a message...

The Conlon Arrangement: Voters who for any reason do not wish to send their ballots to me (Bruce Lindsey) may send them instead to Pat Conlon, whose address appears with the announcement above. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DEADLINE FOR BALLOTS GOING TO PAT IS A WEEK BEFORE MY DEADLINE. This is so that Pat will have time to transcribe the ballots and send them to me by the poll deadline. I will not know who voted how among those ballots received by Pat -- he will be copying them onto blank, unsigned ballots which will then be sent on to me. However, he will be providing me with a list of names so that I can 1) check to make sure no one voted twice, and 2) publish a list of all people who voted.

After the poll results are tabulated, I will be sending all of the ballots (or copies thereof) to Pat, who will verify the results if necessary.

For ease in voting, I suggest that voters use the official ballots which will accompany this mailing (and I'll be very grateful to those publishers who choose to print the ballots); but of course this is not required.

Any questions on the voting procedure should be directed to me.

The Runestone Poll is the oldest and most highly regarded of the Diplomacy hobby's polls. It is my intention to maintain this status by publishing the results accurately, impartially, promptly, and in a (hopefully) interesting manner. I ask each and every member of the hobby to do his or her part by getting out there and voting. May the best publications -- and GMs -- win!

****Personally, I question the policy of listing the voters' names. It's supposed to be a secret ballot, isn't it? Besides, what with all of the controversy surrounding this year's polls, printing a list of voters might be looked upon as attempting to show "who supports the poll in its present form", whereas those who don't vote - for whatever reason - may be considered part of the "move the poll" faction. (Last year, for example, I just never got around to voting.) A count of how many voted is OK - if voters wanted their names printed, that would be OK as well - but printing voters' names without asking them, especially since some may have voted before this announcement was made (and it wasn't exactly a major item in the announcement, was it?).

HOWEVER, somebody knows this once was
part of LIFE OF MONTY....

Verwirrung press--still continued

BERLIN to VIENNA: I'm glad to see you feel the same way. How about a write?
RUS to ENG: What do you mean I should try Kingmaker and leave Diplomacy to
real men?

FLORENCE(JCNS): Italian foreign minister Robertini Sackcini left here today
for a swing thru central European capitals. A planned trip to Yerevan,
capital at Armenia, was cancelled when a terrorist group called Wild Omaniian
Orcs using Deadly Yaks (WOODY) threatened to kill Sackcini.

PRIMUS ILLUMINATUS: And that's the way it is, May 23, 1902. Good night.

LET YOUR VOICES BE HEARD DONT LET YOUR VISION BE BLURRED DRAISE YOUR PIST IN THE AIR AGAIN STTHE

My address--continued

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON: Again, pretty straight forward. You'll need to include
this to make sure your letter gets routed the right way.

EUGENE, OR: Otherwise known as the most civilized spot between Portland and
San Francisco. The second largest city in the state. The largest hick
town in the country. The town with the highest density of Dip publishers in
the hobby. (With the zines LIBBERTERREAN, THE CONCERT OF EUROPE, and NOT
NEW YORK, and the subzines F'ORD and (brand new) THE CUBIST'S CORNER)
97402-6305: Those last four digits may not mean much to most people. but
they make sorting a lot easier on this end of the line, so include them.

I hope I cleared things up for you people.

ITSAHOLIDAYINCAMBODIAWHEREPEOPLEDRESSINBLACKITSAHOLIDAYINCAMBODIAWHEREYOU'LLKI

And now...it's the First Annual FNORD MUSIC AWARDS!

ALBUM OF THE YEAR: LAW AND ORDER--THE CRAZY 8'S

The Crazy 8's, a band currently operating out of Portland, are a group of
eight fun-loving guys that have built up quite a following up and down the
I-5 corridor. A lot of people think their "big break" will come very soon.
(You may have seen them on StarSearch recently) Their rock/ska/reggae/etc.-
influenced music is easily danceable and listenable, and their political
and social overtones make the music more meaningful than most of the stuff
you hear today. The way I see it, they only have two drawbacks that will
hurt them in the music business: One, they can play their instruments;
(alto sax/tenor sax/trombone/guitar/bass/kyboards/drums/percussion) and Two,
they've made no attempt to build up any phony, plastic "image".
Album available on LP or cassette; if you're interested in hearing more,
let me know.

Runners-up: Zoolook, Jean-Michel Jarre; Bob Doo-Wop, The Manhattan Transfer;
Mirror Moves, The Psychedelic Furs; The Flat Earth, Thomas Dolby;
New Sensations, Lou Reed; (Who's Afraid of) The Art of Noise--The Art of Noise

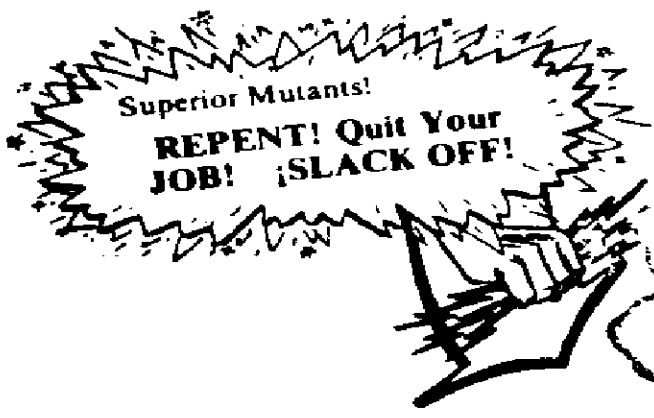
SINGLE OF THE YEAR: HYPERACTIVE--THOMAS DOLBY

Thomas Dolby once said that his best songs never did very well on the charts
here, and that when he wrote "She Blinded Me With Science", he wasn't trying
to write a good song, just one that would be popular in America. Well, I
thought it was good, but "Hyperactive" is fantastic! It's got a BEAT that
whups you upside the head and makes you DANCE. And the lyrics are certainly
an accurate description of my personality (i.e. completely whacko) And I
was thinking these things long before I ever saw the video, which is crazier
still. By the way, I found the 12" dance mix far superior to the album
version. In fact, it's become my all-time favorite.

Runners-up: "Eighties"--Killing Joke; "Turn to You", the Go-go's; "The Politics
of Dancing", Reflex; "Concealed Weapons", the J. Ceils Band; "Here Comes the
Rain Again", Eurythmics; "Big in Japan", Alphaville; "Two Tribes", Frankie
Goes to Hollywood; "The Lebanon", the Human League, "Had a Dream (Sleeping
With the Enemy)", Roger Hodgson; "Walking on a Thin Line", Huey Lewis & the
News,

FNORD-page 30

FNORD is continued from PAGE 12



The World Ends Tomorrow and



YOU MAY DIE!

(Well, no, probably not ... but whatever you do, just keep reading!)

ARE WE CONTROLLED BY SECRET FORCES?

Do you ever get the feeling that "free will" is a joke?

DO PEOPLE THINK YOU'RE STRANGE? DO YOU??

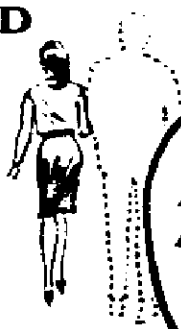
... THEN YOU MAY BE ON THE RIGHT TRACK!

ARE YOU ABNORMAL?



YES!

YOUR KIND SHALL TRIUMPH!



ARE ALIEN SPACE MONSTERS BRINGING A STARTLING NEW WORLD?



FNORB-page 31

PAGE 18 thinks it's abnormal - LOM is taking over the world



What the HELL do you think you're doing?

It should be painfully obvious by now that the world as we know it won't last too damn much longer. And what are you doing about it? Going to work or school, coming home, going around. What will happen to you in the Afterlife when shit comes down on us all once? Don't you feel responsible for trying to help this endangered planet?

No? Good. The fact is, it's too late. There isn't a god-damned thing you as an individual can do, and not even a super-nuclear death, overpopulation and so on. Things are going to Hell on a fast train and about the only thing you or anyone else besides the Rocketeers, can do about it is to just sit back and watch the show.

But remember — the End of the World may be much worse and take much longer than you thought. The mere act of sitting in your home watching everything fall apart on TV may be too much for even the stoutest brain to take. In fact, the more alert and intelligent you are, the quicker you'll likely be driven to suicide by the sheer hideousness of what you'll be seeing. **WILL YOU BE READY?**

WILL YOU STILL BE SANE ENOUGH TO LAUGH WHEN THAT WHICH MUST COME TO PASS COMES TO PASS? WILL YOU EVER GET SLACK?

Study our SubGenius "literature" closely. Keep it by your toilet and memorize it. If you aren't as dense as most people, you'll be quick to realize that, cheesy scam though it might well be, the Church of the SubGenius is actually the only organization around that can help you face the god-lawful facts without some sort of ingratiatingly sweetie-mandarin, goody-two-shoes, pollyanna, life-is-a-bowl-of-cherries bullsh*t. Not *only* that, but the Church of the SubGenius goes beyond the shadow of a doubt **THE ONLY TRUE RELIGION**. We perform miracles, answer our questions, and take demons, and have a direct etheric hotline to space god **Jehovah I** through our intra-psychic, trance-hopping Personal Saviour, **J. R. "Bob" Dobbs** — who is actually a pretty regular guy, just very rich and possessed by some greater than Man.

The SubGenius material has only recently been made public. This is your chance to get in on the ground floor of a huge, lucrative cult — **NOW**, while rates are low, so that you will not only receive the immediate benefits listed on our Application Coupon, but will also be eligible for all the \$\$\$, weird sex, drugs, and sheer *power over others* that go with high ranking membership in what will probably sweep this unkempt planet in an unstoppable wave of cynical, dangerous power plays, insanely morbid truths and panhandling, zombie-like teenage "followers."

For the sake of what little you still hold dear, we urge you to submit this application so that we may determine if you are worthy to receive the closest thing to salvation you'll ever get: a whiff of

It! (If you are rich, your money can buy you your own personal Church and congregation. Write for details.)

"Researching the Public's Fear of the Unknown Since 1953!"

The Church of the SubGenius

P.O. Box 140306, Dallas, TX 75214



APPLICATION COUPON and ORDER FORM

To the Sacred Scribe of the FisTemple Lodge of the Church of the SubGenius
P.O. Box 140306, Dallas, TX 75214, U.S.A.

Sign Up Now and SAVE \$5,000!



— \$20 for CHURCH MEMBERSHIP & ORDAINATION

Includes 1 year of subscription to Pamphlet #1 (a copy of the original "The World Ends Tomorrow" plus 110 diagrams, 10,000 charts, and 5000+ pages of other exciting data to help you in the study of SubGenius) and a Membership Card that gives you an Ordained SubGenius Minister. Includes 1 year of access to members-only articles and books. The original *Book of the Month* included.

— \$1 for THE SUBGENIUS CATALOG

Books, posters, NEEDS BARRAGE CASSETTE TAPES, BEYOND BELIEF bumper stickers, buttons, T-shirts, games, leaflets. Very detailed. A MUST for salvation from its own light.

— \$3 for SAMPLE STARK FIST OF REMOVAL Magazine

With 1000+ pages of shocking material. Prescriptions, recipes, pages, letters, instructions, interviews, daily advice. 100+ pages were omitted.

— \$1 each for SUBGENIUS PAMPHLET #1

The World Ends Tomorrow and The Mass Appeal are two 32-page power-packed publications that started the SubGenius movement. 200,000+ copies have gotten you into SubGenius. Superb introductions, propaganda and excitement for a new, exciting, random, and unorthodox revolution. One per person for only **ONE DOLLAR!**

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

All prices include postage. Outside USA — ADD \$2

Caution! Warning! Disclaimer!

Because the field of mass communication, demagogues, subversive tactics, brainwashing secrets and propaganda situations reach into the uncharted, real, and computerized realm, we will be unable to accept any responsibility for the actions, omissions, or negligence of any individuals. These must never be allowed to fall into the wrong hands. There are some things that you do not need to see, especially Big Brother. While the use of SubGenius catalogs and cards may be informative, amusing, and effective in gaining something for nothing, they are not a substitute for the real thing. We are not responsible for the actions of individuals who use the information provided to meet the Stark Fist of Removal.

SIGNED _____

PRINT YOUR NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State and Zip: _____

Make check or money order to: The SubGenius Foundation



MAIL TODAY!

No Obligation. No bailment.

The Church of the SubGenius

P.O. Box 140306

Dallas, TX 75214

U.S.A.



FORWARD-page 32

Mail PAGE 19 today - right away - no delay

**The SubGenius Foundation
heals ruined members of
a crumbling society!**



Here's What Just A Few Have To Say...

"I haven't been so frightened since 1961. You're talking the truth, praise the Lord! Truly our only hope is REPENTANCE. I know there was something wrong with the Sun and Venus and now I have proof. Bless your work."

"Suddenly it's GIRLS GIRLS! Boy, your book *Things to Buy and Do* is GREAT!"

"My dad used to hide the pamphlets from me but now he makes me read them."

"And I thought there was no such thing as a real aphrodisiac!"

"I am in prison. I know I am the son of a preacher and all my boys are quote Scriptures. But why can't they let us have church in here? The real thing, I'm like Dobbs. I know, why won't they tell the people about the Pink Boys and the Illuminati? I was there in Duran in '38. I saw what they did with those electric machines. Some men here are sick in their hearts. I can't help them, the inmates you talked about got inside me and well you know. Read Genesis 18:7, you get it. I'm sorry for what I did with those boys but when will AFFA be up? OOD "BLESS" you MEN for fighting WITH LIGHT BEAMS. I'm all with you right here."

"It was so reassuring to learn that my phobias and paranoia were so well founded. I thought I was going crazy."

"I can see how it all fits together in one interlocking web now. The neighbors call me a right wing crank, but we know about the Conspiracy, don't we? Now I have something to fight against."

"Thanks, "Bob," for straightening out my boy. I wish every father was so lucky."

"My parents caught me with your book but I'll get another one and they'll be sorry."

"I found my place in the world through DOBBS. I will obey DOBBS. DOBBS is all-one-faith-AMEN! From ten billion year old atoms to giant-furbrain Overman of White Stone Power Plant, all SLACK all DOBBS all ONE! OK! OK! Drink the mutantist with no-dee, wash off your tears, power blackouts signal UFOs in space. ALL-DOBBS-TRIUMPH in heaven hell and Subway. BRING ALL THE CHILDREN a million and six negative ion generators, pump the groves images. I SEE! I SEE! The work of forty five slave Pink Boys equals ONE SUBGENIUS equals SCARLET LOVE 666 SLACK SLACK OK!"

"The SubGenius... was the divine hand in the incomprehensible... events of this world... he/she does not cover, but laughs... removing ritual objects from among the kink and... offends of televisual society... "Bob" knows... there would have to be a "Bob," also no God for his/her prophecies... receiving... the indwelling glory inside a stinking downtown Westworth's, whilst the Conspiracy and provision all is a.k... everything is what it appears to be... and above all, don't leave the shower... The SubGenius will be found... behind the refreshment counter with "Bob"... elevating in... the one eye..."

"My minister told me you were doing the Devil's work, and for a while I was afraid to join up. But our church burned down and God doesn't care, so why not? That's what I say. Here's my \$10 and COUNT ME IN!"

"I am in high school, and I guess you'd call me a 'brain.' A lot of the lumps proletarian (kickers, jocks, freaks) give 'worms' like myself a difficult time. The fact that I'm overweight and have skin problems doesn't help, as you can imagine. But your philosophy "Pack them if they can't take a joke" is just what I've needed. I use the secret SubGenius Subliminal "Just" commands in my daily conversation, too, and I've lately noticed that many of the physical toughs who harass me are showing new respect — even though they can't seem to figure out why! I think you've helped me to instill some superstitious fear of higher intelligence into their dense crania!"

"Your book really slapped me in the face with my own faults and bad habits. You're right, people like me are creeps. But yet, only your organization has had the courage to tell me that this is OK. It's what I needed to hear. Everything is fine now."

"Since my wife died I have thought I was going crazy, or senile. Your material helps me deal with this and exploit my intermittent loss of mind. I'm 89 and I agree, let's have more SLACK! (The profanity I could do without but I understand, you have to reach the young people too.)"

"I used to be all messed up on the Lord, but now I'm messed up on O'BroogFran, and it's just a better excuse altogether."

"All of my hormones are now collected in one 17-inch LENGTH of my body."

"I only spent one night with "Bob" but I'll never forget it as long as I live. No other man has ever done what he did."

"I am "Bob's" Instrument of Death. "Bob" kills through me. My artwork is my own."

"I want to hate you so much I will smash your plastic face your fucking teeth go squirting out your brains for breakfast I will get I big sharp sick and hit you seven times till you bleed and poke your eyes out with a big crooked nail! I will stop your holy pipe to shit and kick your god damned head off like a football rolling down the gutter splicing open like a rotten pumpkin and spilling seeds all over the world! Will smear your stinking sacred name all over the street and vomit you to hell in a car crash you go burning upside down in jail your suspenders snap and your pants fall down! Eat raw gun powder sliver pink ass shithead devil! Blam. BLAM BLAM BLAM! FUCK YOU! AHAAAAAAAAH..."

"You make it seem like a joke, but it really isn't is it? I feel I can read your mind while I'm reading it, it makes more sense between the lines than most books do right on the lines that are serious. What?"

Join... the Church of the SubGenius™

Cynisacreligion and a Society for Strange People.
Details \$1.
The SubGenius Foundation
Box 140306, Dallas, TX 75214

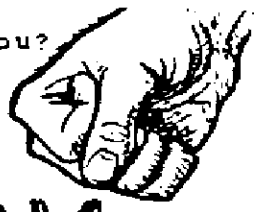
"IF YOU CAN HELP US WITH A DONATION..."



FINARD-page 33

PAGE 20 is a member-in-waiting

I'll bet you thought I wouldn't fake it because it folded, didn't you?



THE FNORD OF DOOM

#14

March 18, 1985

Circulation: Ask Don

by MIKE

An Important Announcement

The Byrne-Linsey feud is over.
You heard me.

What happened was this: I declared myself a official combatant in the Feud of the Century, transforming it into the Byrne-Linsey-EHLI feud. Now since I have an exemplary record in this hobby, as a publisher (this subzine speaks for itself), as a gm (no GMing errors to date), and performing valuable hobby services, namely Tallmanbashing and promising to take Phyllis Byrne off of Kathy's hands; and that I have made no slanderous, scandalous, malicious, obscene, libelous, or otherwise out-of-line statements to Kathy, Bruce, or any of their friends, family, or toadies.

I am not taking revenge for any attacks made on me made by said feuders, friends, family, or toadies, because there have not been any. I have not tried to drive anyone out of the hobby, and I have not tried to disrupt any hobby services that either of my rivals have been involved with.

Now since my record is so clean, and since the records of my rivals are somewhat less than clean (according to each other), I have obviously risen above the charges, counter-charges, etc., and have triumphed over both of my rivals. In other words...

I, MIKE EHLI, HAVE WON THE BYRNE LINSEY FEUD!!!!

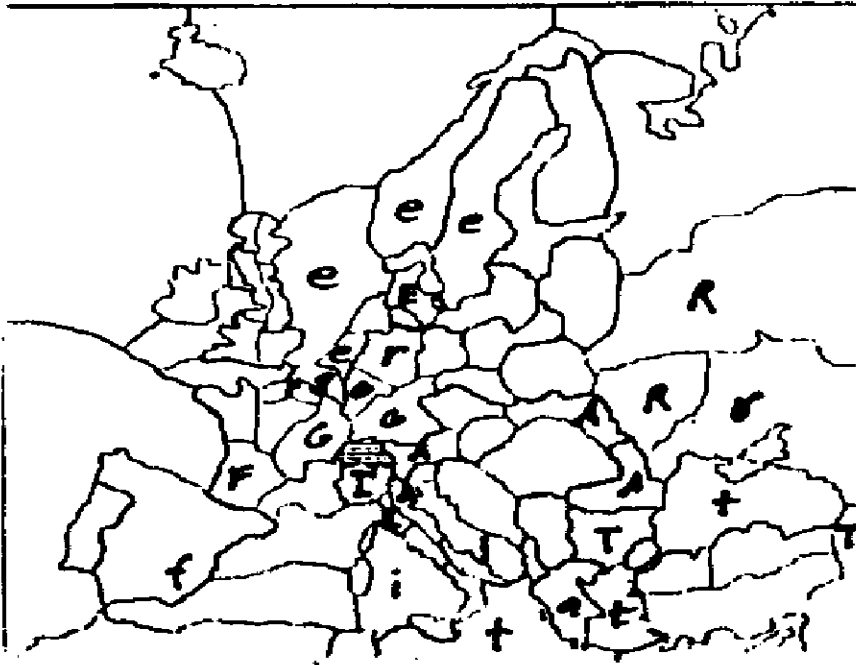
Now because this has been such a heated, wide-ranging feud, and since the winner has already been declared, there would be no point in fighting for a mere second place, so there is no reason to continue hostilities. The feud is over.

Fnord is a subjournal of postal Diplomacy, feudbashing, Illumination, Sub-Genius propaganda, Cynisacreligion, Excremeditation, pyroflatulation, the prophesies of J.R. "Bob" Dobbs, and general insanity, hammered out approximately monthly one finger at a time on an old Smith-Corona portable by Mike Ehli, Hamilton Box 60505, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-6005. Phone (503) 485-9150. Subs are free with your subscription to LON. Standbys are desperately wanted. There are openings in Diplomacy, no fees, with Wilson, Bjornsson, and ~~Bob~~Sweeney.

Diplomacy is a registered trademark for a game invented by Allan B. Calhauer, copyrighted by Avalon Hill and ruined by plastic pieces.

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Don't ask PAGE 21 what the circulation is



AUSTRIA (Coughlan): A Tri-VEN,
A TYO SA Tri-Ven, A Bud-GAL,
A RUM SA Bud-Gal,
F GRE S Turkish F Eas-Ion.

ENGLAND (Bjornsson): F Nwg-NWY,
F SWE SF Nwg-Nwy, F Nth-HOL,
A DEN S Russian F Bal-Kie,
F Ska-NTH,

FRANCE (Sweeney?) NMR!!!
A PIC, A GAS, F SPA(SC) all HOLD

GERMANY (Budway): A RUH SA Bur,
A BUR S French A Gas-Mar (nso)
A Kie-RUN, F BEL-Pic.

ITALY (Wilson): A PIE-Tyo,
A Tun-TUS, F TYS CA Tun-Tus,
F Ion-ADR.

RUSSIA (Gestiehr): F SEV H,
A UKR & A MOS SF Sev, F Bal-KIE,
F Nwy-Swe (d. r Ska, Bar, StP(nc),
otb)

TURKEY (Lee): A ARM-Sev,
F BLA SA Arm-Sev, F Eas-ION,
F AEG SF Eas-Ion,
A BUL S Austrian A Rum.

1902 SUPPLY CENTERS

AUSTRIA	Home	Ser	Gre	RUM	VEN	7	build 2
ENGLAND	Home	Nwy	Den	SWE	HOL	7	build 2
FRANCE	Home	Spa	Por	Bel		5	build 2 (was playing 3 short)
GERMANY	Bar	Kie	Mun	Bel		3	remove 1
ITALY	Rom	Nap	Tun			3	remove 1
RUSSIA	StP	Mos	War	SEV	KIE	5	even(or build 1 if F Nwy ret OTB)
TURKEY	Home	Bul				4	remove 1

Would DAN YOUNG, 5225 DAWES AVENUE, CULVER CITY, CA 90230 please stand by for France.

PRESS:

AUSTRIA to ITALY: I feel myself sinking into the depths of the Venetian lagoons I hope I'm not getting bogged down!!

ROME to VIENNA: Paranoid back-stabber and liar wanted for position. Thought you'd like to apply.

BERLIN to VIENNA AND ANKARA: Your corporation looks like it will be very profitable, send me an application for membership.

AUSTRIA to RUSSIA: I know, I know....

RUS to ENG: If the Space Viking says I'm a fine guy, you should say I'm a fine guy.

AUSTRIA to ENGLAND: Okay, okay, Norway I could understand but are there also Bjornssons in Denmark and Sweden too???:

TURK to AUSTRIAN: Lots to say but little time! I'm suffering from Leprelag still...

AUSTRIA to TURKEY: Let's have a conflag in Sofia or Salonika this month!

RUS to ENG: We're playing Diplomacy, not stomp on Russia. Do you know the difference?

ROME: Duab game!

W'02/5'03 deadline: APRIL 18.

deadwood : PAGE 22

AUSTRIA to GERMANY: It looks like the Teutonic Powers versus the Latin Powers.
TURKEY to GM: I NEED A MAP!
PRINUS ILLUMINATUS: Don't worry you'll get one.
AUSTRIA to FRANCE: Looks like you'd better get your relative, Sweeney Todd, to help you out! Remember 1792!:

NEONOMYNAKEDSK IN PASSINGS ILHOUETTES OF STRANGE ILLUMINATED MANNEN WITH SONS WOULD STAYH

LepreCon '85

I always find it hard to write con reports. There is a big difference between reading about a con and actually being there to experience it yourself. Telling about the games played is fine, but if you stay strictly with the games, you lose a lot of the human element. Also, since you'll be reading about LepreCon elsewhere, especially in Europa Express, a lot that I would be saying would be merely repetitive,

But I was there, so I guess maybe I should say something. I rode up to the Extrom/Corbin residence with Michael Lee, knowing very well that I would be getting very little sleep that weekend, and that I would have no free time to study for two final exams at the U of O the following Monday, at least until I got back. When we got there, Joan Extrom, Ken Corbin, their daughter Samantha, their three dogs, Bob O'Donnell from Sales, and Gary Coughlan were there to meet us. The slug molester was there, of course, and Bruce McIntyre arrived from Vancouver, B.C. (Bruce publishes the new zine Excelsior) Later arrivals were Jack Fleming from Seattle, Jim Bumpas and family, Paul Gardner, Evans Givan from Sacramento, and Steven Lee.

I did fairly well in the games I played, including my first game of Empire Builder (when lines started extending into Canada, Bruce corrected us on the pronunciation of the Canadian city of Regina, saying it actually did rhyme with a certain portion of female anatomy), a Dip game where I actually found myself allied with the slug as part of an RAT alliance vs. EP. As Russia, I probably played my best defensive game ever in my attempt to hold back Jim Bumpas' England, who only made major gains when I lost or 50-50 guesses. England eventually won, but it was nothing to be ashamed of.

But the crowning achievement of the con for me was my first Diplomacy win ever. It was also the fastest win ever. Here's what happened. Michael Lee's very good friend, the Prophet of the West, master of the occidental arts, conveyed to Mr. Lee two sets of "Diplomacy Fortunes". They come in sets of seven, and are supposed to be inserted into fortune cookies. After the draw for countries, each player draws a cookie, and finds out how he will do in the game, thereby making the actual play of the game superfluous. (The Prophet is, after all, infallible!) It turned out that no fortune cookies were available, so the fortunes were rolled around pretzels. The draw for countries was made, and I groaned as I saw the German block in my hand. I drew my pretzel, and slowly I looked at the scrap of paper. The inscription read "You win big!" HALLELUJAH!!! The game was never actually played, as we already knew how it would turn out. (Who am I to doubt the Prophet?)

The conversation during the con was interesting. Joan gave an order before the con of "No Bruxbashing," so the slug was deprived of his favorite topic, but there was a great deal of "feudbashing" going on among the rest of the participants. Some repartee: "I don't like what's going on in the hobby. That's my opinion, and I can prove it's my opinion!" "I'll give \$50 for proof that that's your opinion!" "I have proof right here, in a sick tape he sent to my kids!" "Well, I'm declaring all of your tapes irregular!!" Us non-feuders in the group had a lot of fun with that.

Well, anyway, the con finally wound down, and I finally got home. After a particularly awful dinner at the dorm, I immediately went to bed. I alternated between sleeping and studying all night, except for a period where I helped clean up after an elaborate prank from the girls upstairs. I wound doing pretty well on those two finals, too, I think. Gotta go study now. Bye.

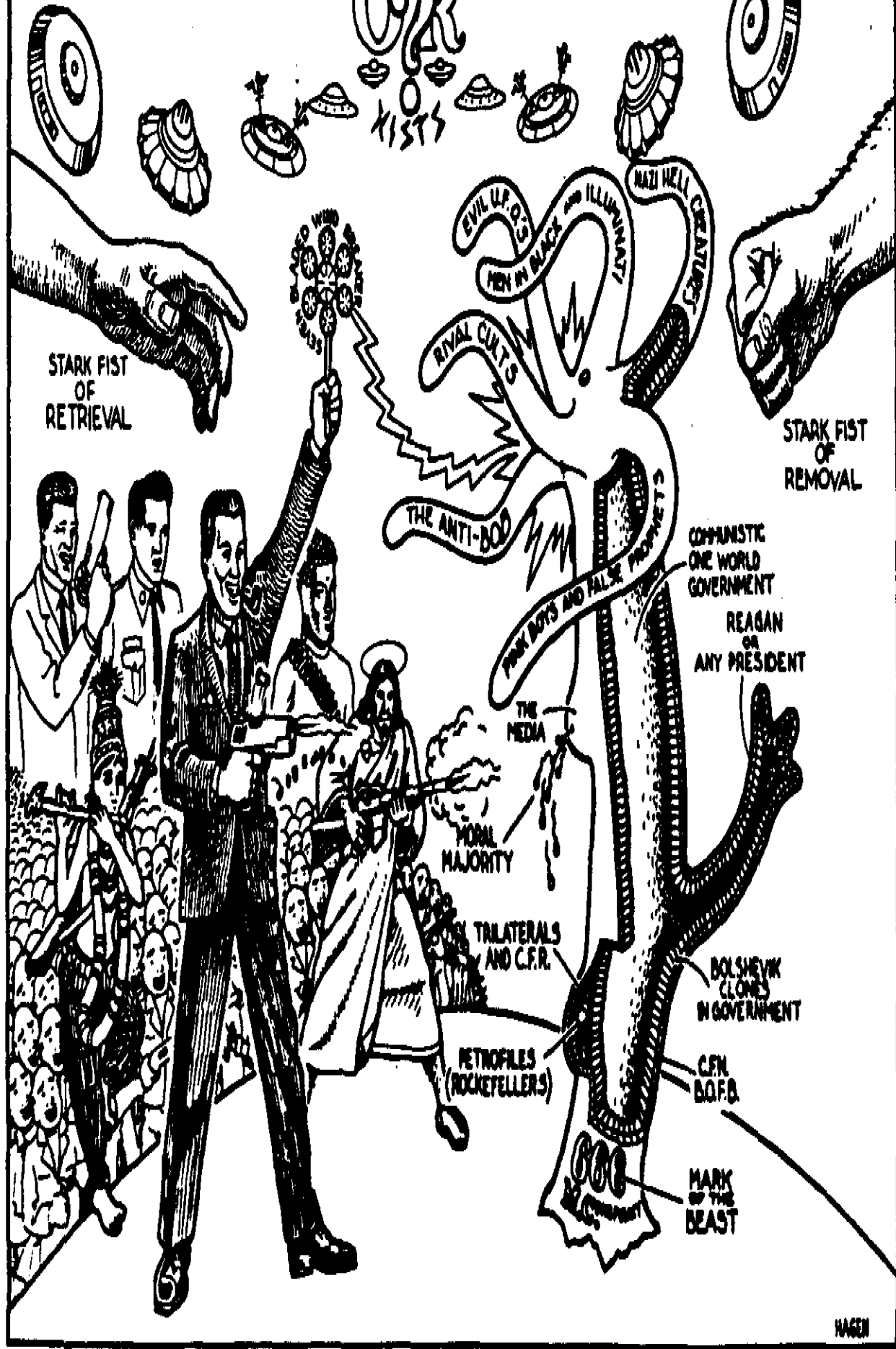
PAGE 23 wants more FNORD and less white space

SALVATION

OR DESTRUCTION

OR

KISSES



FNORD - page 37 - FNORD

© 1993 The World Center of Freedom
The World Center of Freedom, Inc.

Page 37

PAGE 24 wants more white space and less of this stuff

HAGEN



Who is this guy, anyway?

Detach \$1
The SubCensus Foundation
Box 140306 Dallas TX 75214

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SEND NO MONEY NOW! SEND
1 dollar to receive The Church of
the SubCensus with the 1000 Wives
P.O. Box 140306 Dallas TX 75214

Send \$1.00

FNORD- Page 38

YOUR SUB BALANCE IS (or THIS IS TRADED FOR)
XENOLOGIC

And now for the BIG ANNOUNCEMENT that usually comes with big "milestone" issues like LOM #50.....in the shade of Britain's Rusty Bolt awards and the late Eminent Awards of Mike Mills comes the first annual LIFER ACHIEVEMENTS AWARDS, otherwise known as the

1985 LIFERS

The Rusty Bolts mainly consist of "silly" awards, while the Eminent Awards were "typical" categories. Typical RB categories are "upstart of the year", "hobby heartthrob", and "strangest 'zine"; typical EM categories were "best 'zine", "best new 'zine", "best variant", and "best letter column". THE LIFERS won't include awards already covered by major awards - the Rod Walker Award's "best writer", the Don Miller Memorial Award for "distinguished hobby service", the DPP/Marco/Runestone polls for "best zine/subzine/GM/player" - but the demise of the Eminent Awards leaves a gap in the North American hobby that THE LIFERS intend to fill.

Here's how this thing works: with

- (1) Any person associated ~~in~~ the hobby - anyone who subscribes to a 'zine, or plays in a PBM game, or publishes a 'zine/subzine, or whatever excuse you can come up with - is eligible to make nominations. Up to 3 nominations may be made in each category per person. The 3 persons/'zines/whatever receiving the most nominations will be put on the final ballot; however, write-ins will be allowed.
- (2) Once the nominations are closed and the final ballots determined, any person associated with the hobby is eligible to vote. Only one person/'zine/whatever per category can be selected per person voting. Whoever/whatever receives the most votes is considered the winner; ties are not broken, but the tied entrants share the award.

The categories are:

- DIRTIEST FOLD** - the 'zine which folds without making arrangements for its games, or takes subbers' money and runs, or anything else that made a 'zine's folding bad.
- BOBBY GENIUS** - the hobby's smart guy, the one who knows everything.
(Perhaps the one most likely to win at TRIVIAL PURSUIT?)
- MOST BORING TOPIC** - the thing you've heard over and over again in 'zines and hobby talk that you wish people would shut up about.
- MOST IMPROVED 'ZINE** - "improved" is up to you.
- BEST 'ZINE FOR GAMES OTHER THAN DIPLOMACY** - the 'zine you'd recommend for games other than Diplomacy or its variants.
- BEST 'ZINE FOR HOBBY NEWS** - this one is self-explanatory.
- BEST LETTER COLUMN** - again, this should be clear.
- BEST GAME OTHER THAN DIPLOMACY OR VARIANTS** - your favorite game besides Dip or any of its variants.
- BIGGEST HOBBY PERSONALITY** - the person you'd most associate with the hobby at the present time.
- and, finally, the big one.....
- TRUE BOBBY MASTER** - the one person you believe to see all, know all, and especially control all in the hobby today.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS is APRIL 20, 1985. There is a nominations ballot on the inside back cover of this issue. Send your nominations (up to 5 per category) to me (surprise, surprise). **PUBLISHERS - PLEASE ADVERTISE.**
(It isn't any good if nobody hears about it!)

1985 LIFERS AWARDS NOMINATION BALLOT

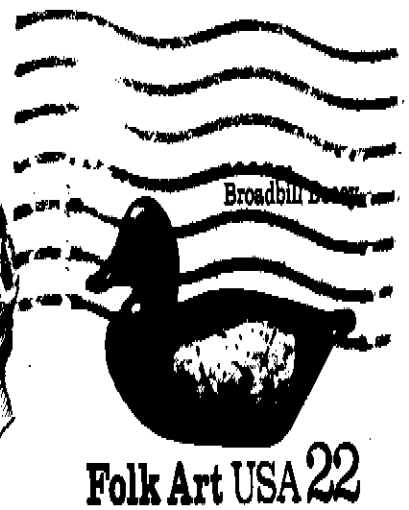
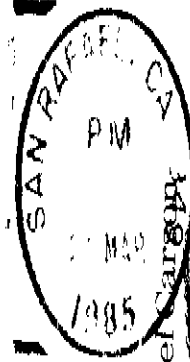
INSTRUCTIONS: You may make from zero to five nominations in each category. Place your nominees in the spaces below the category name on the ballot. (If you don't want to cut up the issue this ballot appears in, you may use any piece of paper with the categories and your nominees on it.) At the bottom, sign your name. **DEADLINE** is **APRIL 20, 1985**. Send ballot to: Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339.

DIRTIEST FOLD	HOBBY GENIUS	MOST BORING TOPIC	MOST IMPROVED 'ZINE	BEST 'ZINE FOR GAMES OTHER THAN DIP & VARIANTS
BEST 'ZINE FOR HOBBY NEWS	BEST LETTER COLUMN	BEST GAME OTHER THAN DIP & VARIANTS	BIGGEST HOBBY PERSONALITY	TRUE HOBBY MASTER

SIGN HERE: _____

(detach here ↴)

DON DEL GRANDE
142 ELISEO DRIVE
GREENBRAE, CA 94904-1339
USA



LARRY PEERY
P.O. BOX 8416
SAN DIEGO, CA 92102

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