

April 21, 1984

# NO FIXED ADDRESS<sup>1</sup>

is a magazine of postal Diplomacy, etc. (especially etc.) published by Steve Hutton

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NEW!

10 issues cost \$6.50 in Canada, \$6.00US in the US, \$7.00US elsewhere.

Please note the new address above. I move in April 28. By the time the next deadline arrives, I should have a phone, and you should be able to get my number from directory assistance. Still, I would advise you not to rely on the phone for getting orders in. For those of you who care, my apartment is near the St. George subway station, and I'm living alone.

This issue is

## X-Rated.

Yes, it's X-rated. Inside, I have the results of my soon-to-be-pornography contest, and other obscenities.

Retraction: I stated last issue that I was unlikely to win any debating tournaments for a while because my partner was A.S.A. Chodochrome. But, despite Mr. Chodochrome's best efforts, we won the Sir Sanford Fleming Foundation's debating tournament this term.

The following people are on my standby list: Acheson, Carter, Ehli, Ellis, Gautron, Hager, Rusk, Lincoln, Love, Milewski, Paulson, Touchette. Let me know if you want on or off.

Mike Ehli and Antony Chodas have subscriptions that expire this issue.

Dave Weatherhead, E.M. Carter, and Mark Prush have subscriptions that expire next issue.

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((As most of you will recall, two issues ago I announced that the Canadian government plans to redefine pornography to include material that is "cruel, violent, or degrading to women" (i.e. virtually every book or film ever created). As a last defiant gesture before the new law comes into effect, I offered 3 free issues for the best story or article that is cruel, violent, or degrading to women. I received three submissions. One was disqualified, for reasons explained elsewhere in this issue. One went well beyond the limits of what I'm willing to print in NFA. The remaining entry, which won by default, follows:))

The Expatriate Diplomat                      by Garry Van Alkemade

By way of introduction, I got hooked on this zany hobby of ours in 1977 (I think) at Gencon, held at the University of Wisconsin - Parkside, near Racine, where I was living at the time. After a somewhat slow start (my first game entry was as a standby in Graustark), I was playing in some 18 games in 12 'zines by the Fall of 1980, when I dropped out entirely because of a "personal trauma". In early '81, the company that employs me decided to transfer me to Athens, and once I got settled here, I soon and sorely missed the joys and pains of stabbing (1,2) (depending on which end of the knife you are: joy when you are the stabber, pain when you are the stabeed).

I realized that I could not effectively play in most of my favourite 'zines e.g. the aforementioned venerable Graustark, since international mail service is not compatible with three week deadlines. Great indeed was my gratitude towards Randolph Smyth (whom I had left in a lurch with three dropped games in '80) when he graciously accepted this prodigal back into the folds of Fol Si Fie, then being published at five week intervals. This, I thought I could handle, but soon found out otherwise, and when Randolph polled his subbers on going to six week deadlines, I enthusiastically cast my vote in favour, along with the majority of the other subscribers. This kind of deadline, while possibly unacceptable to some North American players, is rather better suited to the expatriate and other assorted oddballs in the hobby (i.e. persons not living in North America (1)). However, consider the vaginaries (3) of postal service in the age of instant-communication-by-satellite (2). Say a 'zine is published somewhere on the barren steppes of Central Canada (1) on the 1st of February, setting a deadline of March 15. Yours truly (1,2,3) living in the not-so-gently rocking (sometimes) (2) cradle of Western Civilization (1,2) will receive this issue about the 15th of February, and therefore must send in my orders not later than March 1st to meet the deadline, all the time keeping my fingers crossed that the mail will not screw me (3). That, then, leaves me all of two weeks in which to practice the fine arts of diplomatic negotiations-by-correspondence (1,2), with each letter mailed at either side of the Atlantic requiring that much time to get across (1). Case in point: I sent in orders last January 27, which failed to get to Medicine Hat, Alta. by the February 10 deadline. Result: three NMR's (1,2). Even worse happened some time last year, when a crucial (for me) issue of this same 'zine failed to reach me at all (1), giving rise to some speculation that it might just have been put in the Box of the Russian Embassy (1), which maintains theirs at the same post office as my office does. If this was indeed the case, then I am sure that this unexpected intelligence (1) must have driven the best KGB (1,2) cryptographers in Dzhertzinsky Square out of their collective minds (1). Actually, using the company's P.O. Box for my Diplomatic mail creates a time saving of one or two days, compared with home delivery in the Northern suburb where I live, so I use my home address only for bills and other junk mail such as letters from my kids (1) and ex-wife (3).

How then does one manage to play Diplomacy under such extremely adverse (1) conditions? HAZARDOUSLY (2) . It becomes very difficult at times to convince players that an "expat" can be a valuable and reliable ally (1) when you never really can consult or negotiate between seasons, and can only hope that your orders will meet the deadlines - Insh'Allah (1,3) . I generally ask my few allies, who may be presumed to get the 'zines about a week before I do, to write me at once with their plans and suggestions for the next season (1) . This way, I at least can get a letter back to them (with luck) before their deadline. In practice, this means that our diplomacy is limited to my ally telling me what he (3) intends to do (1,2) to the exclusion of any consultations. I, in turn have only the option of telling him (3) whether I agree or disagree (2) and hope that he (3) will change his (3) mind on the strength of my arguments (1) . Actually, this can work out at times, as evidenced by the fact that I am still alive and active (2) in 1981CQ, a game fast approaching its third calendar anniversary (1,2) . Even so, it is very difficult to develop a working (2) , trusting (1) alliance in pre-game and early game years' negotiations (1) . Mostly, the alliances I find myself in (2) were forced upon us by events (1) , rather than by mutual effort (2) .

Fortunately, there are some other ways in which the expatriate diplomat can feed his habit (1,2,3) . I now play in two European 'zines, one U.K. (2) , one Swedish (3) and may soon add a Dutch (1) publication. Apart from cutting mailing times in half, this has the added advantage of getting to know and deal with (2) a different and varied breed of hobbyists (1,2) . One does have to get used to some different abbreviations and annotations from those normally used in North America. Even more difficult to adjust to, is the standard European practice of combining Summer adjustments with the Spring orders; similarly, Winter builds, removals, etc. must be included with the Fall season (mostly called "Autumn" in these parts, probably under the influence of some lingering remnants of British cultural imperialism (1) . Needless to say, I prefer the American system of combining seasons.

Another hopeful sign for expats is the increasing number of International games being offered by North American 'zines. These are usually run on double deadlines (1,2) so that even a three-week 'zine effectively can offer such games. How about it, John Boardman - I really miss your political and economic opinions (1,2) but simply refuse (1) to subscribe to a 'zine in which I cannot play (2) ; besides, Graustark isn't all that funny (1) . International games are even better suited, I think, to the four week or monthly 'zines as I would think that 8 week deadlines for these games are just about the ideal for expatriates to be able to conduct diplomacy as they ought to (1,2) . I appeal therefore to GM's and Publishers to please remember the plight of your ever loving com/ex-patriates.

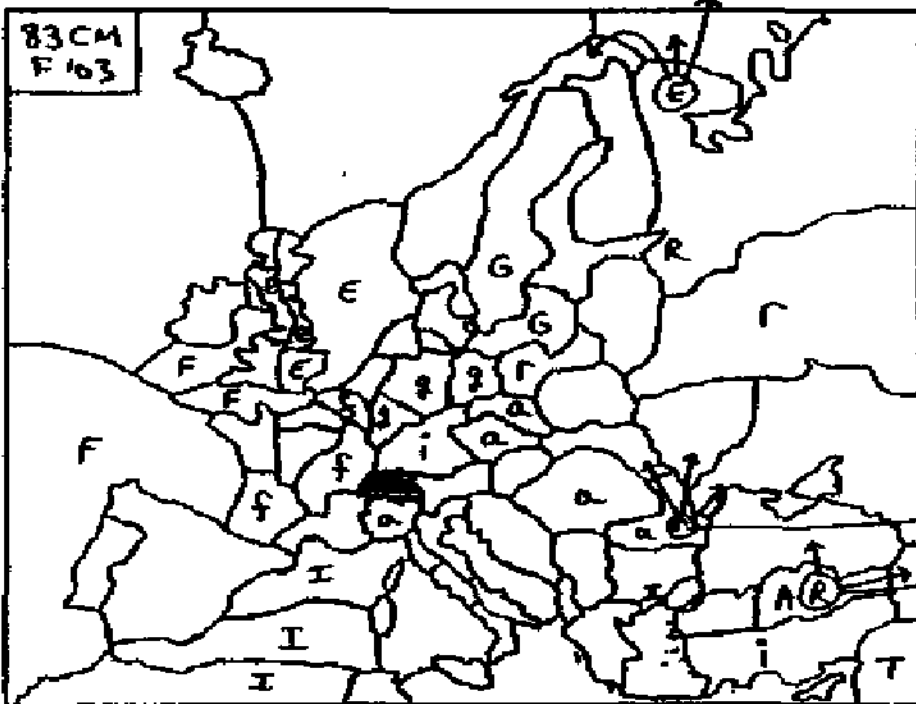
Author's Footnote: This article is being submitted to a certain Mr. Steve Sutton, of No Fixed Address ((1,2,3)) , as my entry in his contest for articles that are "cruel, violent or degrading to women". I believe my entry qualifies on all three counts as indicated by the (1,2,3)'s interspersed in the text, to wit:

- (1) - it is cruel (should need no further explanation);
- (2) - it is violent (maybe not always self-evident, but reading between the lines, one must discern the subsurface violence of the author, which is likely to break loose with his next NFA);
- (3) - it is degrading to women (mostly, in that the article ignores their existence, although the author does not).

~ H.K.

NFA #18

(6)



The standby for England is: Ken Hager  
412 Alderdale Circle  
Anaheim, CA 92807  
USA

Last issue, I gave you the wrong address for John Ellis. His correct address is: PH12, 15 Vicora Linkway  
Don Mills, Ont.  
CANADA

I offered to delay the game, but John said that wouldn't be necessary.

The deadline for Winter 1903 and Spring 1904 is May 24.

#### FALL 1903: RUSSIA STABBED!

- Austria (John Ellis): F Con-Ank, A Ser-Rum, A Bud S A Ser-Rum, A Sil-Mos, A Boh S ITALIAN A Mun, A Tyrolia-Pie.  
England (Dave Lincoln? Ken Hager?): NMR! F Liverpool H, A Yor H, F Nch H, F StP(nc) H (ret -Bar, Hwy, OTB), F Lon H.  
France (Garry Paulson): F NAT-Mid, F Iri-Liverpool, F Eng S GERMAN F Den-Nth (NSO), A Bur-Gas, A Pic-Bur, A Bel S A Pic-Bur.  
Germany (Steve Berrigan): F Den-Bal, F Swa H, A Ruh-Mun, A Ber S A Ruh-Mun, A Kis S A Ber.  
Italy (Drew Post): A Bay S AUSTRIAN F Con-Ank, F Aeg-Bul(sc), F Tun-Naf, F Tyrh-Wes, F Tus-Lyo, A Mun S ENGLISH A Yor-Bel or Hol or any other French or German Supply Centre he wishes (AMBIGUOUS, NO SUCH ORDER, SUPPORT CUT, MUCH TOO VERBOSE).  
Russia (Bob Acheson): A Rum H (ret -Gal, Ukr, Sev), F Bot-StP(sc), A Pru-War, F Ank H (ret -Sia, Arm, OTB), A Mos S F Bot-StP(sc).  
Turkey (Paul Milewski): F Sas-Syr.

#### Press

- Rome-London: I answered it on the first knock.  
Rome-London: I haven't received any return correspondence yet.  
Russia-Italy/Austria: You two don't seem to want to offer me any additional centers.  
Head Anarchist-Russia: That would seem to be a bit of an understatement!

1903 Supply Center Chart

Austria: Home, Ser, Bul, Con, Ank, Rum, Sof (7) ...build 1 (has \$5CAN remaining in his MMR/dropout deposit)  
 England: Home, Nwy, Sof (4) ...remove 1 or even, depending upon the retreat (has \$4CAN)  
 France: Home, Spa, Por, Bel (6) ...even (\$5CAN)  
 Germany: Ber, Kie, Hol, Den, Swa (5) ...even (\$5CAN)  
 Italy: Home, Tun, Gre, Mun, Bul, Smy (8) ...build 2 (\$5CAN)  
 Russia: Moe, War, Sev, StP, Kem, ANK (4) ...remove 1, even, or build 1, depending upon the retreats (\$5CAN)  
 Turkey: Sof (0) ...OUT! (receives \$2CAN)

Addresses

Dave Lincoln//25 Sun Valley Dr//Cumberland, RI 02864//USA  
 Garry Paulson//Box 6//Amisk, Alberta//T0B 0B0 CANADA  
 Steve Berrigan//36 Stokes Crescent//Kanata, Ont//K2L 2Z4 CANADA  
 Drew Post//676 Catalina Cres.//Burlington, Ont.//L7L 5B0 CANADA  
 Bob Acheson//c/o Echo Bay Nines//LUPIN, NWT//X0E 1M0 CANADA

# MEASA 17

This game is delayed due to two GM errors. First, Turkey does NOT have a fleet in the East Mediterranean, he has a fleet in Smyrna. Thanks to Ken Hager for pointing this out. Second, I gave an incorrect address for John Ellis. His correct address is PH12, 15 Vicora Linkway//Don Mills, Ont//CANADA.

The new deadline is May 24.

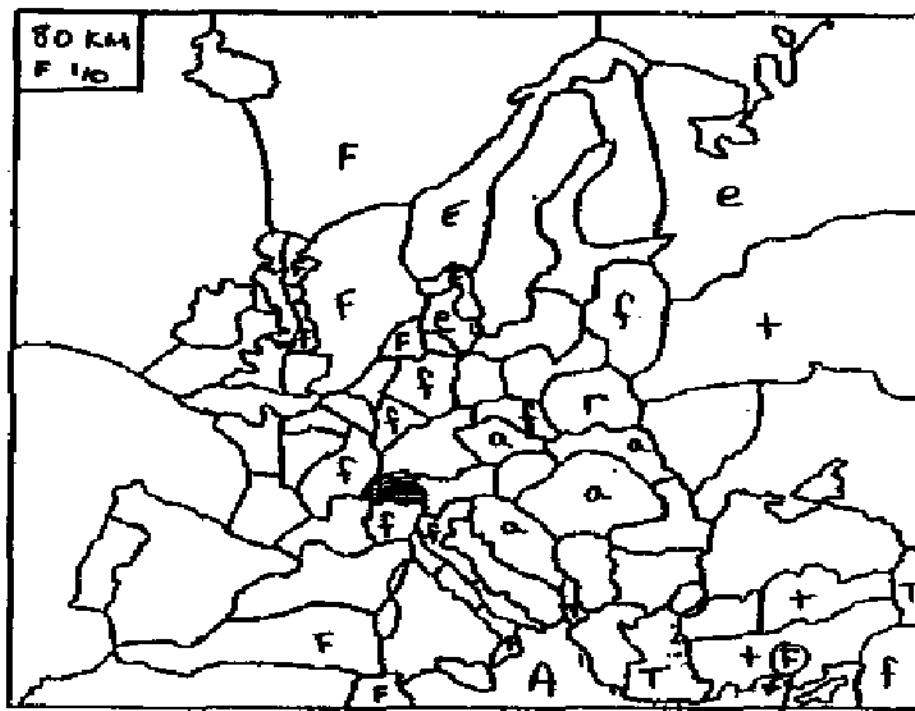
Freshman Poll Results

1. House of Lords	8.50	9. Who Cares?	6.20
2. 30 Miles of Bad Road	8.19	10. Hai Jikai	5.85
3. Politesse	8.05	11. The Diplomat	5.75
4. Cathy's Ramblings	7.90	12. Battle Stations	5.73
5. Midlife Crisis	7.36	13. Bersaglieri	5.15
6. Raging Main	7.26	14. Festungs Hof	5.00
7. The End Justifies The Means	6.85	15. DIJACH	2.71
8. Manifest Destiny	6.79		

# 80km

NFA #18

6



There was a perpetual "no" vote to any concession to France. This is no longer the case.

Last season, France built A Mar and F Bra. Although none of you pointed this out to me, I suspect you all noticed.

The deadline for Winter 1910 and Spring 1911 is May 24.

## FALL 1910: THE END IS NEAR!

Austria (Gerry Paulson): A Boh-Mun, A Gal-War, A Tri-Ven, F Ion-Iyrrh,  
A Ser-Bud.

England (Paul Milewski): A Nwy-StP, F Bar-Nwy, F Ska S A Den, A Den H.

France (Dave Carter): F Mid-Wes, F Tun-Iyrrh, F Nap-Iyrrh, A Pie S A Ven,

A Ven S TURKISH F Adr-Tri (Support Cut, No Such Order), A Syr S F Smy,

F Smy H (ret -Ess, OTE), A Livonia S A Sil-War, A Sil-War, A Ruh-Mun,

A Bel-Bur, A Kie-Den, F Cly-Nwg, F Lon-Nth, F Edi S F Lon-Nth, A Yor H,

F Nth-Hal.

Russia (Bob Acheson): A War H.

Turkey (Ken Hager): A Con-Smy, A Ank S A Con-Smy, F Aeg S A Con-Smy, F Bla-Atm,

A Nos S AUSTRIAN A Gal-War, F Adr-Apu.

## Press

France-England: Don't get too concerned about this game, Paul. Whatever else happens, you're dead.

France-Austria: I can take 4 possible sc's from England. Can you see 4 centers that you can take from me to prevent me from getting 18?

France-Russia: I hope that this will hold WAR for you?

Russia-England: Come on now, don't take losing so personally; even though it was all your fault.

1910 Supply Center Chart

Austria: Howe, Ser, Gre (5) ...even.  
 England: Nwy, Swe, Den, StP, Edf (4) ...even, as I was annihilated.  
 France: Howe, ITALY, GERMANY, Spa, Por, Tum, Bel, Nol, Lpi, Lon, Edi, Sdy (17)  
 ...even or build I, depending upon the retreat.  
 Russia: War (1) ...even.  
 Turkey: Mos, Sev, Rum, Bul, Con, Ank, Sny (7) ...build I.

Dipcon Information

Location: Dallas, Texas  
 Sites: Market Hall, Regency Hotel  
 Dates: June 21-24, 1984 ((Note: these are not the dates that were originally announced.))  
 The current schedule calls for a two round Diplomacy tournament for Sat. and Sun. Round one will start at 1:00 p.m. on Sat. with random pairings. Round two will start at 8:30 a.m. on Sun. and will be seeded based on the round one results.  
 The Dipcon Society meeting is scheduled for 9:00 p.m. on Saturday. Anyone interested in bidding on the 1985 Dipcon should contact Al Pearson, Box 898, Charles Town, WV 25414 for a copy of the bidder's packet.  
 ((The above was reprinted from Everything #59.))

Sam Lefkowitz is having an intimate party to celebrate his thirty immensely profitable years in the construction business. "You know," he laments to his friends, "over the years I have constructed dozens of enormous projects in and around this city, but am I known as Sam the Builder? No.

"And over the years I have contributed literally millions of dollars to charitable causes of one sort or another, but am I called Sam the Philanthropist? No, sir.

"But suck one little cock..."

A flasher was going through the park one day. He flashed one old lady, and she had a stroke. He flashed another old lady, and she had a stroke. He flashed a third old lady. She would have had a stroke, but she couldn't reach.

Two men were walking down the street, when they saw a dog licking its crotch. "Gee," said one man, "I wish I could do that." The other man replied, "Don't you think you should get to know him first?"

What's white and streaks across the sky? The coming of the Lord.

What do you call a woman who can suck a golf ball through a 50 foot garden hose? Darling.

Walkerbashing

As you may recall, in Erehwon #120, Rod Walker asked his readers to send him editorial cartoons, but "no brown neoFascist stuff such as we see in MANIFEST DESTINY, please". Rod thus accused Keith Sealer of using Manifest Destiny to promote Fascism. I regard this as a serious charge. Since Keith Sealer is not a promoter of Fascism, I said that Rod should immediately issue a retraction and apology to Keith. Since I had thought that Rod might claim that Keith had published neoFascist cartoons, I briefly discussed what Fascism is and is not. In Erehwon #121, Rod Walker replied thus:

*FAERY KISS AWARD: I FK is given to Steve Hutton of NO FIXED ADDRESS. On p. 16 of #17 he has put what has got to be one of the funniest spoof-editorials I've ever read. It is in the best hobby-feud style, full of gross interpretative errors, arguments from dictionary definitions, and other howlers. In this gem, I am supposed to have called Keith Sealer a Fascist, yet. What a marvelous, delicious parody of the pot-brained stuff one sees in certain Eastern 'zines.*

Judges, do we have a score? Yes: Style 10, Content 0. Pretending that my editorial was a joke is a clever idea. It tends to obscure the fact that Rod totally failed to address the critical issue. Given that his assertion (that Manifest Destiny contained neoFascist cartoons) has been called untrue, Rod did not agree that it was untrue and retract his assertion, nor did he concede its untruth and state a reason for not retracting it, nor did he provide evidence to support his assertion. Thus, Rod Walker's "reply" was totally irrelevant.

But, just for fun, let's examine Rod's reply in detail. Rod makes 5 basic assertions about my recent editorial (aside from the trivial assertion that it appeared on p. 16 of #17):

- 1) It was "full of gross interpretative errors".
- 2) It was full of "arguments from dictionary definitions".
- 3) It was full of "other howlers".
- 4) It said that Rod Walker "called Keith Sealer a Fascist".
- 5) It resembled "the pot brained stuff one sees in certain Eastern 'zines".

Assertion #2 is clearly untrue. I had only one "definition" (if one can call it that) in my editorial: 'Fascism'. I "defined" this term by quoting a promoter of Fascism and attempting to show some things that Fascism is not. I did not even introduce the concept of a dictionary, much less argue from dictionary definitions.

Assertion #4 is also untrue. Rod's original assertion was that Manifest Destiny contained neoFascist cartoons. This would make Keith Sealer a promoter of Fascism, but not necessarily a Fascist (believer in Fascism). While you would expect that most promoters of Fascism would also be Fascists, the two are not equivalent. I was very careful not to accuse Rod of calling Keith a Fascist, because Rod did not call Keith a Fascist. As anyone who reads my editorial can plainly see, Rod's assertion #4 is untrue.

The other three assertions are so vague that they would be difficult to disprove. Why are vague statements difficult to disprove? Imagine you are in charge of maintenance in the Empire State Building. In one case (specific) a person points to a window and says "that window has a crack". In another case (vague) a person points to the Empire State Building and says "something's



wrong with one of the windows". The specific assertion could be disproven in minutes; the vague assertion couldn't be disproven in a lifetime. Let's look at the actual assertions:

Assertion #1 (my editorial was "full of gross interpretative errors"). To disprove this assertion, I would have to examine every statement in my editorial with respect to every possible type of "gross interpretative error". This would take far more time and space than I usually devote to defending myself against vague, unsubstantiated allegations.

Assertion #5 (my editorial resembled "the pot-brained stuff one sees in certain Eastern 'zines"). To disprove this assertion, I would have to examine each Eastern 'zine, determine what of its "stuff" was "pot-brained", and show that none of this "pot-brained stuff" resembles my editorial.

Assertion #3 (my editorial was full of "other howlers"). Yes, I saved the best for last. To me, this assertion is doubly vague. Not only don't I know which of my statements were "howlers", I don't even know exactly what Rod considers a "howler". It seems to me that if I want to disprove assertion #3, I should find an appropriate dictionary, get a definition for "howler", and then argue from that. But, arguments from dictionary definitions, for some undisclosed (dare I say undefined?) reason are themselves members of the class "howler". Thus, any argument by me to prove that my editorial did not contain "howlers" must, itself, be howl-inducing.

So, Rod's "reply" made 5 basic assertions. Two of these are demonstrably untrue; the other three are hopelessly vague.

If Rod has a reply that is of reasonable length and in reasonable language, I'm willing to print it in NFA. If he wants to avoid looking like a fool, I would suggest that he: 1) only make allegations that are specific and true 2) answer the critical questions: Have you seen a neoFascist cartoon in Manifest Destiny? If yes, which specific cartoons in which issues? If no, will you retract your untrue statement? If not, why not?

((("Judy Winsome", a Californian of indeterminate gender, has officially nominated me for the Dave Carter Award, which is given to the most sexist member of the hobby. When it comes to hobby awards, I'm a fierce competitor, especially if my main opponent is Dave Carter. The following joke should be considered campaign literature.))

God had just spent six busy days creating heaven and earth and all that, so he decided to take a day off and look over what he'd done. As he was admiring his handiwork, along came Archangel Gabriel (Gabe to his friends). "So wadda ya think?" asked God, not having created grammar yet. "Not bad, not bad," said Gabe. "Wadda ya mean, 'not bad'?" asked God, "I am perfect, almighty, most wise, most..." "I know all that," replied Gabe, "and I would have said 'perfect' except for these two humans you just created. It seems to me that you should have given them two different types of genitals, just like the other animals." That-Then-Which-Nothing-Greater-Can-Be-Imagined paused and thought about this. A while later, he said, "You're right. I'll give the stupid one a cunt."

((Other serious candidates will be given equal space in which to place their campaign statements. Last year (the contest's first year), the Dave Carter Award was won by Scott Hanson, who published a nude stick-figure drawing of his fiancé along with the caption "What's the use of having a woman if you can't exploit her?"))

# ? PUZZLES?

1. What Adam did first on his honeymoon, and what he did shortly thereafter in the most exalted place (5,7)
 

45	78	65	33	61	77	10	69	90	6	66	18
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2. Analingus is not to be taken seriously. (6,2,5)
 

19	75	8	<sup>G</sup> 28	79	44	99	55	92	68	59	38	47
----	----	---	-----------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
3. In the place of wickedness (4)
 

84	<sup>S</sup> 24	12	117
----	-----------------	----	-----
4. At last, bust a stronghold as retaliation (3,3,3)
 

<sup>H</sup> 25	111	100	<sup>F</sup> 119	60	40	91	64
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5. Six with a child or Quaker (8)
 

120	71	87	21	48	122	103	80
-----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	----
6. State where Charles spent his honeymoon? (7)
 

<sup>I</sup> 36	<sup>N</sup> 49	<sup>D</sup> 108	<sup>I</sup> 109	<sup>A</sup> 54	<sup>N</sup> 27	<sup>A</sup> 115
-----------------	-----------------	------------------	------------------	-----------------	-----------------	------------------
7. "Greaser" leaves in confusion (8)
 

76	4	81	121	16	94	107	101
----	---	----	-----	----	----	-----	-----
8. Sure to succeed at ejaculating, you say (2,3,6)
 

53	89	<sup>A</sup> 7	70	108	<sup>C</sup> 37	<sup>O</sup> 42	<sup>M</sup> 72	<sup>I</sup> 26	<sup>N</sup> 55	<sup>G</sup> 50
----	----	----------------	----	-----	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------	-----------------
9. John tries to do it, you say, loving everyone. (11)
 

87	11	86	17	57	3	14	62	29	93	51
----	----	----	----	----	---	----	----	----	----	----
10. Endless woe to man! (5)
 

110	125	114	106	27
-----	-----	-----	-----	----
11. What a necrophile wants, a bad man says (8)
 

95	30	108	39	43	105	<sup>A</sup> 23	81
----	----	-----	----	----	-----	-----------------	----
12. Different lyric for every opening? (8)
 

58	82	5	35	13	74	66	96
----	----	---	----	----	----	----	----
13. Tart toddler follows a path (6,6)
 

66	102	98	56	20	67	<sup>B</sup> 22	32	83	116	63	80
----	-----	----	----	----	----	-----------------	----	----	-----	----	----
14. What a masochist must do often is dishonourable. (6)
 

88	85	112	118	34	97
----	----	-----	-----	----	----
15. Imitate young man who seeks pleasure (7)
 

73	113	115	1	87	52	124
----	-----	-----	---	----	----	-----
16. Expose the back of a heavenly body! (4)
 

104	2	9	49
-----	---	---	----
17. Go up a tool, you say, to the peak (6)
 

92	41	<sup>I</sup> 48	31	4	57
----	----	-----------------	----	---	----
18. Pitiful groping (8)
 

15	123	126	37	68	<sup>S</sup> 24	107	50
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" 1 2 3 4 5 6 <sup>A</sup>7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15  
 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 <sup>B</sup>23 <sup>A</sup>24 <sup>S</sup>25 <sup>H</sup>26 <sup>I</sup>27 <sup>N</sup>28 29 30 31 32  
 33 34 35 <sup>I</sup>36 <sup>C</sup>37 38 39 40 41 <sup>D</sup>42 43 44 45 46 47 48 <sup>N</sup>49 50 51 52 53  
<sup>A</sup>54 <sup>N</sup>55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70  
<sup>M</sup>71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88  
 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105  
 106 107 <sup>D</sup>108 <sup>I</sup>109 110 111 112 113 114 <sup>A</sup>115 116 117 118 119 120 121  
 122 123 124 125 126

**\*\* IMPORTANT \*\* READ THIS BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO SOLVE THE PUZZLE!**

I've been thinking of doing a Theme Puzzle for quite a while. I thought it would be a bit of a challenge, and might make things more interesting for you. But, what topic should I choose? The ideal topic would be one that most people are interested in, and will at least pretend to be knowledgeable about. Yes, the ideal theme is SEX. Who knows how many extra people will try this puzzle in hopes of erotic arousal? The quote concerns sex, and all of the clues in some way (directly or indirectly) concern sex. Some people may be offended by a puzzle with a sex theme; they shouldn't do this puzzle. To get an idea of what sort of puzzle this will be, look at the clues. You will see such words as 'necrophile' and 'analingus'. If necrophilia leaves you cold, or analingus leaves a bad taste in your mouth, you may not want to do this puzzle.

The puzzle itself is an acrostic with cryptic clues. If, now that there is a sex-themed puzzle, you want to learn how to do cryptic puzzles, just ask and I will send you a FREE booklet which will teach you how to solve cryptics. My mother would not let me use a quote with any F-words in it, so I have given you a free letter 'F' in word #4. The quote is from a letter (a rather personal letter). If you can tell me who wrote the letter, I'll give you 2 free issues. One of the correct solutions that I receive by the deadline will be randomly drawn, and the solver awarded 5 free issues.

Let me know what you think of the idea of a theme puzzle. Also, let me know if you have any ideas for future themes. (For various reasons, I think theme puzzles will be fairly rare in NFA.) Also, if you're crazy enough to want to create puzzles yourself, send them in. Since my standards for puzzles are fairly high, unless you specifically ask me not to edit a puzzle you submit, I'll feel free to edit it.

The word 'retaliation' appears in this puzzle as a tribute to Dick Martin ("The Great Satan") and Julie Martin ("Mrs. Satan"), publishers of Retaliation. They have been my most dedicated puzzle solvers for the past year.

The quote from last issue is: "It was the failures who had always won, but by the time they won they had come to be called successes. This is the final paradox, which men call evolution." Correct solutions were submitted by Jim Gardner, Mike Ehl, and Dick&Julie Martin. The winner is (draw roll please) Dick&Julie Martin. Dick guessed that the quote was from "The Life and Times of Robert Sacks" by Rod Davis. Julie guessed that it was by Jean Paul Sartre (gag me avec une cuiller!). It was actually from 'How Natural is "Natural"?' by Loren Eiseley. Thanks to Jim Gardner for pointing out that the first letter in word #6 should have been 122, not 123.

Another Play

not by Gregory Russell

((My last play parodied most of the best-known people in the Diplomacy hobby. So, for this play, I have had to call out the 'second string', who aren't as important as the people in the first play. Namely:))

ERIC Kane, publisher of Anduin. ERIC drools over Alexandra Lord and anything British. If Alex ever moves to Britain, ERIC will have to get an extra salivary gland. He owns a computer named HAL.

DICK Martin, publisher of Retaliation. In the course of his "arguments from dictionary definitions" with Gary Coughlan, Dick lost some pages in his dictionary.

DAVE Carter, publisher of Sleepless Knights. Like one other Canadian publisher, DAVE publishes gross jokes, but he doesn't have the guts to print them right side up.

LARRY Feery, publisher of Xenologic. LARRY has proposed many hobby projects, including the notorious DipTax revenue-raising scheme.

BRUCE Linsey, publisher of The Voice of Doom. BRUCE is known for his ability to attract controversy, and his incredibly large and precise houserules.

Steve KNIGHT. Mr. KNIGHT recently compiled and edited BRUCE Linsey's massive houserules.

Steve HUTTON, publisher of No Fixed Address. Mr. HUTTON is the author of this play, and constantly fights with fellow Canadian Helen Kellerite DAVE Carter.

ALEX Lord, a former student of BRUCE Linsey. ALEX is known as the hobby teen queen, because of the irresistible spell she casts on young men.

((The following people are not characters in this play:))

Gary Coughlan, the "happily heterosexual" publisher of Europa Express.

John Caruso, a casual acquaintance of Kathy Byrne. John is not important enough for even this play.

((This is a work of fiction. The characters in this play bear little resemblance to the real people with the same names. Unlike the last play, this is not a musical, but many sections of dialogue can be read to the rhythm of "Go Tell It on the Mountain". All statements made concerning Bruce Linsey's houserules are believed to be accurate. The author has attempted to make jokes obvious; any subtle humour is entirely accidental. This play is not recommended for young children or residents of Madison, Wisconsin.))

(THE SCENE IS THE KANE ESTATE IN GREAT NECK, NEW YORK. INSIDE ARE ERIC KANE, DAVE GARTRIN, AND DICK MARTIN.)

eric: Don't worry, more people will show up.  
dick: I sure hope someone else shows up. Anyone except... (DOORBELL RINGS)  
eric: No, it couldn't be.  
eric: He wouldn't dare.

(ERIC OPENS THE DOOR, TO REVEAL LARRY PERRI.)

eric: Yes he would!  
eric: Whenever three or more of you are gathered in the name of Diplomacy, I am there also.  
eric: What are you talking about?  
eric: If you want to have a hobby get-together, you have to pay DipTax. A DipTaxcom without DipTax is like a day without sunshine.

eric: You mean like cherries without the pits...  
dick: ...like brown beans without gas...  
eric: ...like tampons without Toxic Shock Syndrome.  
eric: You can come in if you want to, but we're not going to pay DipTax. (ASIDE) Maybe Eric has been taking hobby anarchist lessons from Bruce Linsey.

(SPEAKING OF BRUCE LINSEY, WHOSE THAT CONTROVERSY-WAITING-TO-HAPPEN? IS IN A CAR WITH STEVE KNIGHT AND ALEXANDRA LORD.)

eric: (ADVANCING THE PLOT) Let me get this straight: I drop Alex off at Eric Kane's and then take Steve to the T.V. station.  
eric: Right. Where is Eric's place?  
eric: Eric's a Great Necker.  
eric: Well, I wouldn't say 'Great'...

eric: Are you all set, Steve? This is the big day.  
eric: I've been studying all week. I just hope I don't let you down.  
eric: I have complete confidence in you. If anyone can do it, you can.

(BUT, AS GARY COUCHMAN MIGHT ASK, WHAT IS IT? WILL WE EVER DISCOVER THE REASON FOR THIS PROMOTION? PERHAPS, BUT FIRST WE RETURN TO MAJOR KANE.)

eric: So, what are we going to do at this con, anyway?  
eric: Some more people should be arriving pretty soon. In the meantime, I have some old SAT tests we could do.

eric: What fun.  
eric: I could tell some jokes. (HE STANDS ON HIS HEAD.)

eric: Oh, no!  
eric: What a girl who's been run over by a car? Patty.  
eric: This is terrible!

eric: I guess I saved a leg or two in a pile of leaves?  
eric: Dave, stop!

eric: I guess you'd say up dead with the Joneses.  
eric: Why did Idi Amin kill 5,000 people?

Dick: We just can't get through to the Canuck.

Dave: Apuwa? (The bottom of the ocean? Legs at the bottom of the ocean? You call a girl a leg?)

(DOORBELL RINGS. ERIC OPENS THE DOOR, TO REVEAL STEVE HUTTON.)

Dave: What's a pine and a pine alone? Dan Stafford!

Eric: Steve, you're a Canadian. Do you know how to get Dave's attention?

Dave: How do poles have great sex? Stand far apart and shout "Rock you!"

Hutton: Let's try some Canadian terms: ...back bacon...Hockey Night in Canada...  
...bosshhead...five percent alcohol by volume...

Dave: (SNAPPING OUT OF IT;) What?

Hutton: Now that that's over with, I have copies of NFA for all of you. I was so proud of having two consecutive on-time issues that I decided to hand-deliver your copies.

(DOORBELL RINGS. ERIC OPENS DOOR. THEME FROM LOVE STORY BEGINS TO PLAY. ALEXANDRA LORD ENTERS.)

Eric: Alex, let me give you a hug and a kiss.

Alex: Wait! Eric, this is a new coat, and if you get drool stains on it, you'll have to get it dry cleaned. Understand?

Eric: (MEEKLY:) Yes, Alex.

Alex: Okay, then.

(THEME FROM LOVE STORY RESUMES. ERIC HUGS AND KISSES ALEX.)

Alex: (POINTING AT SLEEVE:) Eric, what's this?

Eric: D-d-d-d-drool?

Alex: Right. (HANDING HIM HER COAT:) Clean it! (SIGH) Why do I put up with him?

Hutton: (TO ALEX:) Here, have a copy of NFA #18.

Alex: Thank you. I think.

Dave: Hey, there's another play in this issue, and we're all characters.

Larry: Why didn't you put Gary Coughlan in this play?

Hutton: He's mad that I didn't give him any funny lines in the last play. He doesn't want people to think he's a straight man.

Dick: That's not what he told Dan Stafford!

Hutton: What do you guys think of the play?

Larry: I don't like the part where I say, "A Dippycon without DipTex is like a day without sunshine".

Dick: I don't like the part where I say, "That's not what he told Dan Stafford!".

Dave: I don't like the part where I say, "I don't like the part where I say, "I don't like the part where I say, "I don't like the part where I say, "I..."

Hutton: I had a feeling you wouldn't like that part.

Dave: ...the part where I say...

Hal the Computer: The Carter Unit is caught in an infinite loop.

Alex: What does that mean?

Hal: It means that, according to a sacred Science Fiction tradition, sparks should fly and the Carter Unit should be destroyed. In 2.5 seconds, he'll start singing "A Bicycle Built For Two" off-key.

Dave: Daisy, daisy, give me your answer do...

(SPARKS FLY AND 'THE CARTER UNIT' IS DESTROYED. (WHO AM I TO BREAK A SACRED SCIENCE FICTION TRADITION?))

Eric: That certainly put a damper on things.

Larry: Yes, it is rather depressing to see a fellow publisher explode before your very eyes.

Dick: Bah! I don't know the meaning of the word 'depression'. Gary tore that page out of my dictionary.

Hutton: Why don't you turn on the T.V.? There's a good game show on.

(HENCEFORTH, THE PAGE WILL BE DIVIDED BETWEEN MANOR KANE AND THE T.V. SHOW.)

Manor Kane

T.V. Show

Eric: Cupcake?

Dick: What's his category?

Dick: Figures.

Host: Welcome to the 64 Thousand Dollar Question. Our contestant today is Steve Knight.

Host: His category is Bruce Linsey's houserules.

Host: On our last show, you won 2 thousand dollars. Would you like to keep it or try to double?

Knight: I'll double.

Host: For 4 thousand dollars, according to Bruce Linsey's houserules, what space is not a supply center?

Knight: The North Atlantic Ocean.

Host: Correct, for 4 thousand dollars.

Larry: Easy question!

Alex: I could have answered that!

Host: Would you like to keep it or try to double?

Knight: I'll double.

Host: For 8 thousand dollars, when is the only time that Bruce Linsey's deadline will be less than 4 weeks?

Knight: When Daylight Savings Time takes effect, the deadline will be one hour less than 4 weeks.

Host: Correct, for 8 thousand dollars.

You seem to find these questions easy.

Knight: I've studied a lot.

Host: I must warn you that the questions get harder as you go along. Would you like to keep the 8 thousand or try to double?

Dick: Double, Cupcake, he's just trying to scare you.

Eric: Take the money -- there are areas of Bruce's house rules that even he doesn't know.

Eric: I told you. How is anyone supposed to know that?

(WILD APPLAUSE)

Dick: Decrepitude?  
Eric: Dopiness?  
Hutton: Debauchery?  
Alex: Diarrhea?  
Larry: DipTax?

Eric: What? Why would you name a that isn't on the map?  
Alex: Maybe he mentioned the U.S..  
ALL: Of course!  
Eric: Come on, Cupcake, say it.  
Dick: Just two little letters - U.S.  
Alex: It's for 64 thousand dollars!  
Larry: Two fifty after DipTax.  
ALL: U.S.! U.S.! U.S.!

ALL: Laos?!?! What a fool!!!!

Knight: I'll double.

Host: For 16 thousand dollars, what is the minimum size for a sheet of paper containing orders for Bruce Linsey?

Knight: 3 inches by 5 inches.

Host: Correct, for 16 thousand dollars.

Host: Will you keep it or try to double?

Knight: I'll double.

Host: For 32 thousand dollars, Bruce Linsey's games will be rehoused if he suffers any of the "three D's". What are the "three D's"?

Knight: Death, Disability and...and...

Host: Five Seconds.

Knight: Dismemberment.

Host: Correct, for 32 thousand dollars. Will you keep it or try our most difficult question, for 64 thousand dollars?

Knight: I'll go for it.

Host: For 64 thousand dollars, only one country that is not on the Diplomacy map is mentioned by name in Bruce Linsey's house rules. Name that country. You have 30 seconds.

Host: Your answer, please.

Knight: I'm not sure, but I think the answer is...Laos.

Host: The answer is...(OPENS ENVELOPE)  
...Laos. You have just won 64  
Thousand Dollars!

(AND THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER. EXCEPT, OF COURSE, FOR THE CARTER UNIT.)



## abc letters xyz

(17)

((I print some or all of most letters I receive, unless they say "Not for Print".))

((Gerry Van Alkemade)) "Cruel, violent, degrading to women", uh... well, under the Canadian definitions of these terms, the enclosed entry in your contest should win hands down! I hope so, as I would appreciate a couple more (free) issues. As stated in my article, "I simply refuse to subscribe (i.e. pay) to a 'zine in which I cannot play". So how about it? Either award me the prize I so patently deserve, or get me in a game!

Say "hello" for me to your folks if/when ever you go to see them and remind them that I still owe them a dinner (at least) which they can come claim in Athens at any time of their choosing.

P.S. I almost forgot. I am submitting the article also to Diplomacy World to test its general appeal. Wonder if it will ever be published. That, of course, now is up to you and the gods!

((I very much doubt that your article will appear in Diplomacy World, since I think Diplomacy World doesn't usually reprint articles from other 'zines. Gerry is my only subscriber who my parents have met, but I haven't met. They had dinner with him last year when they were in Athens. I don't think they're planning to go to Athens again any time soon, but there's a chance I'll be going to Europe in a year or so. Given the choice between giving you a prize and having you as a player, giving you a prize seems like the less horrible solution. Yes, Gerry, rather than have you as a player I was even willing to rig the contest in your favour by disqualifying the following excellent entry.))

((Dick Martin)) Cruel story etc: Charles offered Mary a lifetime subscription to The Voice of Doom. The end. I like short stories! ((Sorry, Dick, a lifetime subscription to The Voice of Doom is so cruel that it qualifies as obscene even under current laws. So, I had to disqualify your entry.))

((Dan Wilson, from letter)) Yes, the 'zine you have all been waiting for has finally made its way to publication. The Feudist has been many months in the making, but has not been put out for public reading due to lack of computer access time. Luckily that has changed.

Many of you may be asking, just what is Feudist? Well, it is a 'zine dedicated strictly to the housing of hobby feuds. Many publishers do not want to include feuds in their 'zines for fear of catching some of the mud being slung around. My role as publisher of Feudist will be just that -- publisher. I will not edit any of the content, nor will I take sides in any matter. If two or more people feel that they must publicly castigate each other within the hobby, then let the Feudist be the medium they use. One word of warning, though -- any material used in Feudist will be the sole responsibility of the author and the author's estate! (Chuckle!)

The subscription to Feudist will be six dollars (\$6.00) ((U.S. currency)) a year. I do plan to allow trades with other publishers if they so wish. If you, as a publisher, do not wish to trade, and will include in the next two issues of your 'zine a strong mention of Feudist and what it is all about, I will credit you with two free issues of Feudist.

Yes, this 'zine is meant to be a replacement for "BB" ((Brutus Bulletin, formerly published by John Michalaki)), but I plan to make it even better! (Pretentious bastard, aren't I?) In any event, it should be interesting. My mailing address will be: Feudist//Dan R. Wilson, Publisher//215 Radiance Dr.//San Antonio, TX 78218//USA. Phone 1-800-531-5953.

I do hope to see heavy publicity of Feudist within the next two months,

and believe that it will prove to be a very interesting 'zine. Any help you can give me will be much appreciated.

((Well, Dan, your proposal certainly has received a lot of publicity recently! A lot of publishers have come out against Feudist, saying that it will increase the level of feuding in the hobby. I don't think that's necessarily true. My main fear would be that Feudist would be boring. If the Coughlan/Martin feud is any example, a feud magazine should be a real yawner. But, I'm willing to give it a try and trade with you, for a while, anyway.))

((Bob Acheson)) I read the M. Barno letter in issue 16 with interest. I believe that it was also printed in Voice of Doom. ((Yes, and it was printed or excerpted in other 'zines, as well.))

I was surprised to read of the 'pain and hatred' that Mike wrote about. Basically, I've always thought of Diplomacy as a hobby, a secondary part of my life that when taken in perspective really doesn't amount to much. I suppose if I was a publisher, I'd have a lot stronger feeling towards the hobby, but overall it's just a hobby.

I can understand feuding among players who always seem to be at odds in games. I've been involved in a couple of those, but I've always believed that these should be left on the board.

There's a real world out there with enough problems that come to mind without creating additional ones within a hobby that's supposed to be fun.

((Ron Brown, dated Mar 24)) ...Your plans for ratifying the constitution and any elections for committeemen is the best under the circumstances. Guess I can produce a reduced copy of the constitution, with a ballot attached -- actually, a double ballot. Would be nice to have the results before DipCon, even though I doubt many Canadians will be there. Still, it's a good place to make announcements.

...Otherwise, this is the last week before the big move. I've zillions of things to get done. My study is a disaster area! Haven't filed a 'zine away for months.

Work is well. Been writing articles for in-house publications which have been very well received. As you probably know, I want to get into tech writing, so taking the opportunity to build up a sample file. Bosses are very pleased with my work. Just finished a week long FORTRAN course. That was a nice break, lots of fun. Guess they have plans for me, as they wouldn't be paying for me to take such courses if they didn't.

. Looking forward to seeing you May 24. That's awfully close to Ann's delivery date, so, it might turn out to be a more exciting weekend than you planned. Had any practice with emergency deliveries?

((Oh no, delivering babies was not part of my job description as CDO Coordinator. As for seeing you May 24, I think I screwed up on the date. Since May 24 falls on a Thursday, I had assumed Fri. May 23 would be the holiday. But, it turns out that Mon. May 21 is the holiday. So the convention in Ottawa is just before the deadline I set for nominations for CDO positions. My going to Ottawa isn't quite as definite now, since most of the people I was counting on for rides aren't going. We'll see...))

((Mark Frueh)) You won't believe it but I'm getting far too many games. School, work, and Dip have me all too busy. I'm afraid that I have to request to get off your standby list. ((Done.)) If I do get into Mensa 17, I will play it out though. There is such potential to make fun of those guys. Especially since the MMR's are so numerous.

Any chance you can come to MadCon II? May 25-28. Nelson Heintzman and Robert Winslow of Buffalo, NY are looking for ~~flight~~ passengers. You'll definitely have a great time. Expecting 30-40 dippers. This will be a fun event. ...Oh yes, any plugs for MadCon are greatly appreciated!

...Still a supporter of Dallas DipCon -- the stupid East Coast will always have their cons -- time to let someone else have a chance. ('86 - North Dakota - '92 - Madison too.)

((The campaign to have DipCon in Bismark, North Dakota now has four supporters: me, Eric Kane, Mark Leudi, and you. Who will be next to jump on the bandwagon? I'm afraid I can't support your bid for DipCon '92 in Madison, though. In 1992, it will be Zimbabwe's turn for a DipCon.

There's a slight chance I'll be going to MadCon. I'm not sure if I can get the time off work. May 28 isn't a holiday in Canada. I'm certainly tempted to go!

If any of you are interested in MadCon II, you should write to Mark "Puppy" Frueh//1013 Milton St, Apt #304//Madison, WI 53715//USA.

I can't print a letter from Mark without mentioning that he is this year's winner of the Nixon Award, for conspicuous dishonesty in a game of postal Diplomacy. Congratulations, Mark. I'm sure it was well deserved!))

((Bruce Poppe, Grand Poobah of the Mensa Postal Diplomacy Special Interest Group)) Well, I'll be darned. On time! This deserves a reward. Anyhow, now that the income tax season is coming to a close for me, I figure I'd better start looking after the SIG a little better.

A couple of days ago, I ran across a few of the records of the SIG Standby Pool. Right then & there, I knew I'd have to drop you a line -- I really think you've put some efforts into keeping #17 game alive, in the face of lack of participation/interest.

Rather than look up all the back issues of NFA, I figured I'd send names and addresses of all of them I have and you can weed out any of them that have already MMR'd out of the game (or are personal non grata for whatever reason). The addressees are current as of last year. I'd suggest writing to any or all of them before taking any other actions, to make sure they'll be willing.

((I'm sending a sample of NFA to each of those persons who are grata.))

((Dick Martin)) ...NFA #17 was really good. But a real surprise would be two consecutive NFAs on time... ((Surprise!))

What are the three lies men most often tell to women?

"Darling, I love you."

"I'll still respect you in the morning."

"I promise I won't come in your mouth."

Runestone Poll

**THE EIGHTH ANNUAL NORTH AMERICAN 'ZINE POLL:** You may rate any publication substantially devoted to Diplomacy (including genzines, house 'zines of organizations, etc.) of which you have seen more than two issues since April 1, 1983. Rate the series, not individual issues; do not base votes on hobby feuds, your agreement or disagreement with the editor's opinions, etc. 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. Sign your ballot and indicate one way in which you participate in the hobby. All votes will be kept confidential. Please list the 'zines ALPHABETICALLY to make tabulation of results easier. The pollster reserves the right to tabulate or ignore ballots which do not follow the format outlined above.

**THE SEVENTH 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, 1983, and whom you played under for long enough to gain an objective assessment of his or her competence as a GM. 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. If you are voting for one of the Ron Brown twins, clearly specify which one -- Ron (California) Brown, publisher of Murdering Ministers or Ron (Canada) Brown, publisher of Snafu!

The deadline for both polls is June 29, 1984. Results will be tabulated as soon thereafter as possible, and will be released as they become available to anyone wishing to phone 1-403-526-7963. Please rate only North American 'zines and GMs, though any readers living outside North America are welcome to participate. Send all ballots to: Randolph Smyth//212 Aberdeen St. S.E.// Medicine Hat, Alta.//TIA ORI CANADA.

This year, the poll results will be reported two ways. As before, 'zines will be ranked according to the average of the votes they receive. They will also be ranked by the 'preference matrix' method, in which what counts is not a 'zine's vote, but the number of 'zines above and below it on each ballot. Among other things, this means that there may be no undisputed 'winner' of this year's poll.

In the 'average vote' ranking, the top and bottom 8% (rounded down) of each 'zine's votes will be discarded. This is designed to prevent a few 'hate' votes or 'love' votes from distorting the results. This means that, if all of you vote, I can safely piss off 5 of you. It also means that if my usual tactics of bribery and intimidation are to be effective, I must bribe/intimidate more than 5 of you into giving me high votes. Unfortunately, I found out these new rules too late to change my strategy for this year.

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Hot Rumour From Hollywood: According to an unreliable source, Stephen King's best-seller Firestarter will soon be made into a movie, with Michael Jackson in the title role. His stunt double will be Richard Pryor.

*Courtesy copy.*

*See pages 12-16*

*I hope you like it!*