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NO FIXED ADDRESS

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January 1986. A nicely ambiguous date, isn't it? The observant among you will already have noted that NFA issues haven't been coming out every 5 weeks lately. I think that next issue will come out 5 weeks from now, and that this will start a new trend of on-time issues of NFA. Long-time subbers will remember back when NFA came out on time. Some will even remember the time before that when NFA didn't ever come out on time. A few will even remember the very beginning when NFA did come out on time. Ah well... I expect that henceforth NFA issues will come out on time. This will be easier to manage since NFA has been getting smaller. (I know a 60-page issue is not the place to make this claim.) I expect that future NFA issues will all be in the 32-48 page range. You heard it here first.

I hope you will all read Fred Wiedemeyer's letter and my response. In my response, I outline my new policy for players who don't want to receive NFA and my new policy on feud letters.

This issue contains Ken Peel's favourite subzine, The Megadiplomat. Chris's 'zine will appear in every second issue of NFA from now on. There's no "12 Pages of Homosexual Crap" this issue. It will probably appear next issue or the issue after. I'm thinking of having "12PoHC" appear every second issue, in the issues when The Megadiplomat doesn't appear. That will help even out the page count and ensure that every issue contains something that offends someone.

And speaking of offensive material, THE JOKES ARE BACK! Bad taste lives on in NFA. Just when you thought it was safe to read the bottoms of pages...

Even though this issue is 60 pages long, I still have lots of things I had planned to write but never got around to. That includes the conclusion to the "Who Killed Larry Peery" mystery. From the lack of responses, I assume that you found it too difficult. So what? Guess! The only respondent so far is Fred Davis, and you'll find it difficult to do much worse than he did.

This issue has 2½ pages of heterosexual crap. Chris Carrier sent a picture of himself and his girlfriend (who is not, not, not, not old). "Mike Hunt" sent in an article on...well, you'll see...I can't even say the word without being grossed out. (I also have to watch what I say these days. Linda Carson (publisher of Buffalo Chips Tartar) threw a glass of water on me at Bruxcon because of my remarks about female genitalia.) Is more hetero crap on the way? Dating? Paternity suits? "Saving myself for marriage"? I hope so!

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Character

What should one look for in a life partner? Most modern advice books will tell you to seek out a person with personality and character. Only a shallow, foolish person would be guided by transitory physical considerations. I agree with this sage advice, and I follow it myself. These days, I am primarily attracted to a group of people whose character I greatly admire: those who, in the face of a hostile world, dare to be fantastically good looking.

They are called nasty names, yet they endure with grace. They are accused of being stupid, but most of them don't know the meaning of the word "stupidity". They sit back, quietly confident that they are superior to those who call them "vain". Those who call them "aloof", they ignore.

They have many physical handicaps: thighs that can't maintain a healthy level of fat, unnaturally hollow cheek bones, eyes that ravish with a glance. They could, if they chose, put an end to their misery. They could flush their skin care products down the toilet, quit their health clubs, have their noses surgically enlarged. It is a tribute to their fortitude, their strength, their courage, that so few of them choose this easy way out.

Yes, these are courageous men and women. They constantly brave the leering, drooling mobs that surround them. They face the traffic jams that always form when they walk down the street, and even the multi-car pile-ups that mark the beginning of shorts season. For their own safety, if for no other reason, they often travel in pairs or groups.

The world is, for them, an incredibly complex place. Take clothes, for example. Deciding what to wear is relatively simple for you and me. We pick out the one outfit that doesn't make us look like a sumo wrestler, or an anorexic, or a member of a protected species. Imagine if you looked good in everything (yes, even plaid), and if the next decade's fashion trends would be set by what you wore to the next party. How many of us could handle the responsibility?

Where do they learn how to fulfill the duties that come with good looks? Certainly not in the schools. There they are surrounded by average-looking people. In the whole school, there are perhaps one or two people like them who can understand their special problems. For role models, they must turn to the beer commercials on TV, and even these may be on the way out if the misguided anti-booze crusaders have their way.

In preparing this piece, I tried to get their side. I wanted to interview one, to just sit down and talk, eye to (hazel, grey, or aquamarine) eye. I found that, like members of other oppressed groups, they are often suspicious and reluctant to be publicly identified.

How often do you hear someone say, "I'm good looking and proud"? More often, the person will attempt to deny being extraordinarily attractive. I remember hearing one drool-inducing creature say, "I'm not too bad looking". I suppose that the Pope is not too much of an atheist.

They seem to fear rejection, that people will think less of them for their looks. This is a shame because most people, if given a chance, can come to terms with physical attractiveness in a friend, a coworker, or even a sex partner. I try hard to give the message, "you're OK", to my friends who are blighted with beauty. Sometimes I even over-compensate by giving the message, "you're far beyond OK".

The gorgeous are an oppressed minority awaiting a liberation movement. Until they find their Martin Luther King, their Ho Chi Minh, or their Thomas Jefferson, they can only lay awake nights dreaming of a better time to come. And I'll be there, laying awake nights with them. Or I'll try to be, anyway.

Chris Carter and His "Old Lady"



Heterosexual Crap

Chris
Pamela

Heterosexual Crap

by "Mike Hunt"

If you are a male rated 6 on Kinsey's scale of sexual orientation (exclusively homosexual), or a female rated 0 (exclusively heterosexual) then the subject of this article will be of little interest to you; otherwise, almost all the human inhabitants of this planet have, at least some, interest ranging in intensity from a mild curiosity to an overwhelming obsession. Yet the taboos surrounding this topic have been so powerful that even today, in our "anything goes" morality where you can enjoy the spectacle of humans being mutilated any evening in the comfort of your living room and where books about the art and practice of murdering members of our species are read without shame, we cannot locate a television show in which the object of our interest is displayed. This article, if published twenty years ago, would have had me branded as a vile pornographer of the lowest sort, while today I risk being branded a "sexist" by our newer self-proclaimed moral watchdogs. As the French say: The more things change, the more they stay the same.

I discovered the female sex organs remarkably late in my history--late when you consider the almost overpowering interest I had in such matters. I was 19 before I first touched the nerve centre of a female's sexual response and, at that, it was a few years before I got down subject. But one must understand did not exist. Pornography showed the hint of a nipple perhaps a bare bum, but no the matter. Even nudists, published, were fogged out ate for them!) The girls I shirt, skirt, shoes, ankle girdle, panties--and that was screwed in university wore: and sometimes sandals. Small before the sexual revolution: there! Further, I had been hated and feared sex, only marriage. I had to be taught, after years of straight fucking, that women liked to be touched, explored, licked, stroked, admired, and fondled in that darkest of secret places.



How sad for today's randy youths who, during the course of drinking one beer, will have half a dozen cunts thrust at them for their inspection. How can they feel the wonder, appreciation, and gratitude when a woman's flowery petals open in offering to them? Do they feel disappointment after viewing so many, shaved and spread open for their jaded and indifferent eyes?

There are observations. Cunts come in a variety of shapes, colours, textures, and smells. There are the delicate ones that expose a mere slit when unstimulated, but which open pink and smooth. There are the thick-lipped ones that glow an angry red when slick. But never have I seen those as depicted in Hustler magazine: there they are purple or blueish, their inner lips extruding as though yanked into view by fish hooks. If cunts did look like that, I'd move in with Steve--if he'd have me. The scents are subtle, like exotic cheeses, an infinite variety. In some the clit swells to the size of a small nut to be gently chewed, while others are so tiny that one can only lick the general area hoping to hit the mark by chance. Some react by unobstrusive dampness while others gush rivers: some liquid is thin and transparent, while some is thick and creamy.

When some react in orgasm the entire body heaves and convulses; in other cases you are unaware of the event until the lady gently pushes your head away and murmurs: No more! Some grip the cock tightly, some seems to caress, while others are as vast warm seas.

I never did understand the old joke: Stand them on their heads and they're all the same. Well, I thought I understood it when I was inexperienced, so perhaps that line is telling us only about the speaker's experience. Nor can I any longer buy the old adage that more wars were fought over that two square inches than over much larger properties, as I am learning that many of those who lead us to slaughter one another were more interested in their own gender's private parts than in a given female's cunt.

Curious that most will not admit to their interest in this subject. Heterosexual men will claim to be "breast men", or "bum men", or "leg men". What abject silliness-- unless fetishes are more prevalent that I had been led to believe! And how many women have the honesty to say, on seeing a lovely 18 year old stripper, "What a beautiful cunt she has!" They may think that, but they don't say it. We do not have "The Most Beautiful Cunt in America" contests, though I don't see why not. That would be as meaningful, or maybe more so, than crowning young females using "personality and talent" as the criteria. It would not surprise me to learn that the most beautiful cunt belonged to a bag lady living in New York's Lower East Side, but that's the beauty of the subject.

In short, I like cunts. Fortunate for me that I also like women: it makes things less complicated. I realize that most people also like cocks. In fact, if you added together the people who like cocks and those who like cunts, you'd come close to double the earth's population. However, I shall leave it to Steve to write the complementary article.

Creationism by Bruce Linsey (but read it anyway)

One of my pet peeves in life is the closed-minded attitudes of some people. To illustrate this with a topic near-and-dear to the hearts of NFA's readers, consider the controversy surrounding "scientific creationism" and its role in our classrooms. Now, there is nothing scientific about creationism. The term is internally inconsistent, for the scientific method is to formulate theories on the basis of observations, while creationists are more concerned with explaining away observations so as not to conflict with their pre-conceived theories. But just because creationism is in no way scientific, is it automatically inappropriate for inclusion in our schools' curricula? No. In my opinion, there is a legitimate role on the agenda for creationism.

How do I justify my remark that creationists are concerned with explaining away undesirable observations? The argument I've heard most often from those of the creationist persuasion is along these lines: "Yes, those fossils we've discovered in these Silurian rocks seem to indicate that Darwin was right -- but, like everything else, they were put there by the Supreme Being as part of a gigantic puzzle for our puny minds." My first reaction when I hear this argument is to wonder whether God, like me, will be crucified for forgery in the pages of Graustark; or whether Boardman will let him off the hook like Kathy Byrne. But joking aside, the creationists might just be right, you know. The scientific method, for all the hype, has never been proven valid.

And why stop with fossils? Who's to say that the creationists haven't hit closer to home than any of us have dared think? Maybe the world didn't begin with Adam and Eve and that damn apple. Maybe it began sixty years ago. "But what about George Washington, Abe Lincoln, and Jesus?" I hear you cry. Well... maybe their legacies were put there simply as a more recent installment in this enormous puzzle which also includes trilobite molds and petrified dinosaur eggs. "Natch," I hear you protest, "my grandparents remember farther back than sixty years." "Yeah, silly, but their childhood memories were put there..." (Try disproving that!)

So not only can creationism not be disproven, but it can legitimately be carried to an even more radical extreme. Hell, how do we know that the past was really occurring three years ago, and that the world wasn't created yesterday? Our memories of those primeval times might well just be figments of our imagination; convincing but artificial recollections. Life is so easy when you can make up theories and then brush off any contradictory evidence by claiming it's phony. People in this world will believe what they want to believe (and here I'm sorely tempted to throw in another gratuitous reference to the Great Feud, but I won't) despite what the evidence tells them.

By now, most of you probably think I was being sarcastic when I opined that there is a legitimate role in the classroom for creationism. No, I was serious. The subject is of great historical and sociological consequence worldwide, and thus should be taught -- right in our English classrooms, in the chapter on mythology.

But I didn't come here to discuss creationism. No way. My main topic is astrology. Now, some ignorant souls will tell you that there's nothing to astrology, but they don't know what they're talking about. Why, there's a world of truth to it! You still don't believe me? OK, then, I have a detailed horoscope for you Leos in the audience. See if all the below doesn't come true for you...guaranteed, or your money back! Let me go get my star chart...

LEO: Aha! I see you have a connection with the Diplomacy hobby! Your talent for victory will serve you well, as you will soon win every currently-running game begun in 1976. But it's not your day for new games. You will be eliminated in every game you start next year unless someone fails to take your final center.

Your literary taste is phenomenal. You will be reading No Fixed Address in the very near future. However, it's not a good time for your persuasive talents. Kathy's proof of the sick-letter-to-Francine may be "available to anyone", but I brazenly predict that if you ask for it, it won't be available to you. (☺)

A new romance is in your future, unless you blow it by not falling in love. But take a shower before meeting her (or him), because the fleas of all the world's passenger pigeons are about to infest your armpits.

Financial endeavors look promising. If the sky turns green tomorrow, all your investments will triple in value. But enjoy this wealth while you can; I'm sorry to break this to you, but in a few dozen years, you'll be dead.

Finally, cheer up, and you won't be as sad as you were. And stop worrying -- Steve Hutton hasn't been fooling around with your wife.

There's your horoscope, Leos, and I think you'll find it astonishingly accurate if you were one of those people who thought there was no truth to astrology. Why some science teachers maintain still that this topic shouldn't be taught in the public schools is utterly beyond me.

Next month's topic will be the new math; how we can teach our children to count while studiously avoiding having to say "thirteen"...

D-DAY!

Volume II, No. 3

D-Day! is produced by Ronald J. Brown, 70 F Chesterton, Nepean, Ontario K2E 5S9. Telephone: 613: 727-1454.

Its purpose is to report on postal Diplomacy games. Diplomacy is produced by Waddington's House of Games in Bramalea, Ontario.

D-Day! is published as a subzine of No Fixed Address.

Notes

You can tell it's that time of year again. Christopher and I built his first snow man, complete with carrot nose and onion eyes. Christopher asked me to make fingers and toes so I explained that it's very difficult to make small things with snow. I used the same excuse when he asked me to make a snow penis....And James' eyes grow huge with wonder when he sees Christmas lights and decorated trees....Christopher wants Santa to bring him a sled--and James doesn't care as long as there's lots of colour and excitement....I hope you all enjoy this season as much as it promises to be for us.

A thought to think upon: our priest (a woman, which is a sign that the 20th century slowly getting here) remarked in her sermon Sunday that 8,000 people commit suicide every year in the USA and half of them are over 65. Most suicides occur this time of year. The causes are obvious. So please bring cheer to that elderly forgotten relative as the darkness of deep winter closes in. It doesn't take much. I wish they could all see Christopher dressed as a sheep for the church Christmas pageant. It warms *my* heart at least.

The Chinese New Year tradition requires one to pay all his debts before the new year begin. Not a bad idea. Perhaps we could adopt the spirit of the tradition and pay our moral debts before December 31: forgive and forget in order to clear the house for the new. If only *Visa* would forgive us our debts, eh?

Before I forget, I owe Bill Quinn and Kathy Byrne apologies for my public comments on the 1983 AY affair. Bill was kind enough to send me copies of all correspondence on the subject, at his own expense, and reading through all of it puts a different perspective on the decision to declare this game irregular than the excerpts which were printed in various zines. While I still disagree with the *methods* used to determine irregularity, Kathy's decision was reasonable given the current practices of the BNC, as was Bill's decision to back up her decision. However, the whole case raised fundamental questions on the role of the BNC which I intend to examine in depth once 1983 AY is completed. Stay tuned.

1983 Brn16 - Variant 2

(Blowup)

AUSTRIA, ITALY DRAW BLOOD WHILE ENGLAND, GERMANY PLAY DEAD.

FALL, 1912

- AUS (Bruce Poppe): A Tyr* § & A Boh* S A Sil - Mun*; A War* S & A Ukr* S A Sov - Mos*; A Bul* S A Ank - Con*.
- ENG (Claude Gautron): NMR. F Lon*, F Swe*, F Lvp /d/ (R: Cly, NAO, Wal, OTB).
- GER (Scott Hanson, Kevin Brown): NMR. F Nwy*, F Bel /d/ (R: Hol, Nth, OTB); A Kie*, A Mun /d/ (R: Ruh, Ber, Bur, OTB); A Lvn*, A Mos /A/, A StP*.
- ITA (Dave Lincoln): F Iri* S A Edi - Lvp*; F Fic* S F Eng - Bel*; F WMed - MAO*; A Tri - Bud*; F Alb* S A Ven - Tri*; A Pie* - Tyr; F Ion* H; F Con - Bul(ec) /d/ (R: Bla, Aeg, OTB); F Smy* - Con.

SUPPLY CENTRES, 1912

AUS (10, B 2, room for 1): Trieste, Budapest, Vienna, Rumania, Serbia, Bulgaria, Ankara, Sevastopol, Warsaw, MOSCOW, CONSTANTINOPLE, MUNICH.
 ENG (2, D 1): London, Liverpool, Sweden.
 GER (6, D 1): Munich, Berlin, Kiel, Denmark, Holland, Norway, St. Petersburg, Belgium, Moscow.
 ITA (16, B 4, room for 3): Home, Greece, Tunis, Marseille, Spain, Smyrna, Paris, Constantinople, Brest, Portugal, Edinburgh, TRIESTE, BUDAPEST, LIVERPOOL, BELGIUM.

Retreats and Winter, 1912 ONLY due: BY MAIL: Mon, 13 January, 1986 (noon).
 BY TELEPHONE: Sat, 11 January, 1986 (noon).

NOTES

No notice of intent to appeal last season's adjudication was received; therefore, it stands.

Due to numerous retreats and possible player changes, seasons were split.

Scott Hanson resigned as the German player too late to be included last turn, so Kevin Brown is the player of record for Germany. Now, will Rob Peart, 1 Herman Cr., Palgrave, Ontario, LON 1P0 please submit standby orders for Germany? And will Drew Post, 75 Stewart Ave., No. 905, Oakville, Ontario, L6K 1X7 do likewise for England? Thanks. I'll send addresses, rules and the histories of the respective countries to each standby.

The draw of Austria, Germany and Italy was defeated. We have a proposed concession to Italy to consider for next time. No Vote received means "Yes." (Yes, standbys are eligible to vote if they get the position.)

PRESS

Austria - Hungary: I agree! These deadlines are killers. How are we supposed to conduct Diplomacy anyhow? It was bad enough getting orders up to Ottawa, but now there's a built-in delay in getting the stuff from Ottawa to Toronto. Yuck!

Austria - Hungary: If I knew then what I know now....

1983 Q - North 4

PARIS FALLS TO ITALIANS! BRITISH AND RUSSIAN FLEETS CROSS ORDERS.

FALL, 1912

ENG (Rob Lowes): F NAO* - MAO; F Lvp* S RUS F Edi - Cly (NSO); A Ruh* S F Kie*;
F Nth - Nwg*; F Swe* S F Nwy*; F Nwy S F Swe; A Bur* - Par; F Pic* S A Par
 - Bre*.

ITA (Dennis Duncan): A Bre S (/d/, R: Gas, OTB) A Gas - Par*; A Pie - Mar*;
A Tyr* S A Mun*; A Mun S TUR A Ber - Kie; F Nap - Ion*; F Spa(sc)* S F Por
 - MAO*; F Gly* - Edi; F MAO - Eng*.

RUS (Steve Berrigan): F Edi* S ENG F Lvp - Cly (NSO).

TUR (Jim Keeley): A Ber* - Kie; A Sil* S ITA A Mun; A Fin* S A StP* - Nwy;
A Gal* H; A Bud* H; A Gre* H; F Con* H; F Tyr - WMed*.

SUPPLY CENTRES, 1912

ENG (10 - 9, D 1): Liverpool, London, Denmark, Brest, Belgium, Sweden, Paris,
 Kiel, Holland, Norway.

ITA (10 - 11, B 1): Home, Trieste, Spain, Portugal, Tunis, Vienna, Munich,
 Marseille, PARIS.

RUS (1 - 1, even): Ediburgh.

TUR (13 - 13, B 2, as short): Home, Bulgaria, Rumania, Serbia, Greece, Sevastopol,
 Budapest, Moscow, Berlin, St. Petersburg, Warsaw.

Retreat, Winter 1912 AND Spring, 1913 due: BY MAIL: Mon, 13 January, 1986 (noon).
 BY TELEPHONE: Sat, 11 January, 1986 (noon).

Personal Notes

When I was a 34-year-old teacher, one of my 17-year-old students remarked that he could not imagine what it would be like to be over 30. I tried, rather badly, to describe the realization that one, by any definition, is an adult and is no longer able to get away with being classified as "young adult", "student", or "21-year-old kid." Being an adult means that you are at one with the stereotypes that you have projected onto adults--and being an ardent member of the '60's generation, that can be a fairly heavy load.

So now, this weekend, I turned 40. I cannot recall my father ever being older than 35 though common sense tells me he must be getting close to 70. There are the clichés, "Life begins at 40" though I tell myself this can't be happening to me. I, just a newly-wed with pre-school age children, just starting out in a career. There must be a dreadful mistake somewhere. After all, I am too young to be old.

It's not age that bothers me. Actually, I've always found the idea of being "mature" attractive. It is *time* which is the enemy. I can relish grey hairs, but I hate the inevitable count-down towards the "twilight years". Even more, I hate the idea of inevitable non-existence. *Do not go gentle into that good night! Rage, rage against the dying of the light...*

Over the past few weeks Ann and I watched a series on the Borgia family on television. It struck me that they were such curious fools. There was poor Cesare Borgia racing about creating plots and counter-plots, attacking little city-states, desperate to gain and hold power. For what? To be killed ignominiously on a dirt road--and be forgotten. He wasn't even recognized by those who killed him. What a waste, I thought. He could have had such a good and comfortable life. His family was wealthy, his father the Pope, so why did he need to seek power so badly?

What has that got to do with my turning 40? Well, you think about such things: all the choices one has made, and the choices others have made. Whether one is sipping a pleasant drink by the fire with his wife or huddled under a bridge with a bottle of wine and an alcohol-sodden habitual criminal for a companion relates to seemingly random decisions one made 20 or 30 years before. And what 20-year-old seriously considers what effect his actions will have on his life 20 years later? *It is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury...*

So, how do I feel? A bit like I did when I turned 20. Then I was just beginning too: planning a university career, writing many poems, achieving a small fame, letting my hair grow wild. As now: planning a career, writing many computer programs, achieving a small fame, letting my hair grow wild. During my 30's I tried to live and act the staid role of teacher--and probably where I failed was in limiting myself to that small world. The social pressures were terrible. Being seen having a beer in a local bar started the gossips going. But who cares what a programmer does in his off hours? They're a weird bunch anyhow. And never under-estimate the power of social pressure. It was all very real when the principal called me to his office to demand my resignation because some old biddies had been filling his ear with nonsense. It took the guts born of desperation to stand my ground and fight him. In the end he called me the most brilliant teacher he had seen--but that was five years later. And who needs that paranoia in the meantime?

In any case, I know I will never be the brilliant young novelist that sets the literary world afire, or the fire-brand orator that leads the world to common sense. But I am good at what I do, and that's some satisfaction. And there is much to come, despite the feeling that I will be 60 tomorrow morning. Actually, I feel pretty good, now that I think about it. I lost myself for a few years, but now I am found, becoming reintegrated, seeing more clearly than I have for the past 10 years. Maybe life does begin at 40.

Best of the season, now

D-DAY!

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Hobby Notes

It's been a while since I plugged other zines, so we're overdue. It's a good time, too, as the Canadian scene has some new offerings some of you may be unaware of.

Newest is Buffalo Steak Tartare, by Linda Carson and Jim Gardner, No. 1, 10 Young St. E., Waterloo, Ontario, N2J 2L3. Price: 10 for \$10. BST No. 1 contained articles on Fantasy Role-Playing games, as well as a serious book review of Heinlein's *The Cat Who Walks Through Walls*, and fun articles on food, booze, and dating. This is all put together in word-processed magazine format. Attractive and fun. Give it a try.

Praxis number 3 ought to be arriving any time. It's pubbed by Alan Stewart, 702-25 St. Mary St., Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1R2. This one is growing fast in games and subscribers. Issue two was 38 full-sized pages, though Alan expects most issues to be shorter. The zine is divided into departments like "Struggle" (game reports), "Synthesis" (discussion of game mastering problems), "Demystification" (articles on tactics), "The Party Line" (letters of general interest), etc.

Excelsior, now a year old, has established itself as one of Canada's top zines. It is by Bruce McIntyre, 6191 Winch Street, Burnaby, BC V5B 2L4. Reduced zine format. Known for puzzles and quizzes which, along with game reports, account for most of the contents (32 - 40 pages per).

About as old as Excelsior is The Canadian Diplomat by Bob Acheson, PO Box 4622 Station SE Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 2A0. The Sleepless Knights of the north, Bob has continual game openings in regular, gunboat, and anarchy diplomacy. Also includes a trivia quiz and lots on sports and politics. Bob spends most of his time in the NWT, so here's your chance to get a zine with hoarfrost.

The Canadian classics (No Fixed Address and Sleepless Knights) are still alive and well, as is the granddaddy of Canadian zines (Fol Si Fie). You know what to expect and how to get NFA. Sleepless Knights is great for game playing as it's always on time and concentrates on game reports. (Try Dave Carter, 118 Horsham, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 1Z9.) And FSF is a must for the serious gamer with its strategy articles written by a master of the game. (Randolph Smyth, No. 119, 70 Maryland St., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3G 1K7). And, yes, Quinipique, by Claude Gautron, 150, rue Masson, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0H2, is still publishing game reports in French.

There are a couple of American zines worth getting. Of course you'll want to see Europa Express by Gary Caughlan, 4614 Martha Cole Lane, Memphis, TN 38118, especially for its letter section. Gary has a large European subscription list and it's a great way to find out what the rest of the Diplomacy world is up to.

Along with EE, you should take a look at Diplomacy Digest by Mark Berch, 492 Naylor Place, Alexandria, VA 22304. Generally, each issue revolves around a theme and Mark reprints articles published on the topic, many of the articles being from British zines. It is always interesting to discover that hobby practices we take for granted were often the subject of long and, sometimes bitter, debates.

For those with an interest in variant games, I never tire of pushing Bushwacker by Fred Davis, 1427 Clairidge Rd., Baltimore, MD 21207. I've been receiving this one since 1979 and every now and then feel like a change of pace and sign up for another variant. New ones are always being developed and modified and Bushwacker is where you find out about them all.

The publisher of Costaguana, Conrad Von Metzke, 4374 Donald Ave., San Diego, CA 92117-3813, wants Canadian subscribers. This zine has been published, with a break, since April 1965! Hardly a fly-by-night publication. If you miss Snafu!'s regular reports on the children's development, you can follow Conrad's children's coming to terms with the complex world about them.

1983 HT - North 5

RUSSIA BUTCHERED. FRANCE, ITALY SWAP CENTRES.

SUMMER, 1909

ITA: F MAO R Eng.

RUS: A Nwy R Fin.

FALL, 1909

AUS (Dave Carter): A Rum* S F Bul(sc)*; A Sev* - Mos; A Ukr* S A Gal - War*;
A Boh - Sil*; A Vie - Boh*; A Tri* H.

ENG (Dan Adam): A Kie* S F Den*; F Nth - Lon*; F Bar - StP(nc)*; F Den S &
F Ska* S F Nwy - Swe*.

FRA (Pierre Touchette): F Por* S & A Mar* g F MAO - Spa(sc)*; A Gas* S A Mar;
A Bur* S A Ruh - Mun*.

GER (Dale Bakken): NMR. A Lvn.

ITA (Rob Lowes): F Eng - Bel*; F WMed - MAO*; F Bla - Con*; F Lyo* S A Pie* - Mar;
F Con - Aeg*; A Tyr* - Mun; A Mun - Bur /d/ (R: Ber, OTB).

RUS (Rob Peart): A War - Mos /d/ (R: Pru, OTB); A Fin* S A StP - Nwy*; F Bal* S
F Swe - Den /d/ (R: Bot, OTB).

SUPPLY CENTRES, 1909

AUS (8 - 9, B 1): home, Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, Rumania, Sevastopol, WARSAW.

ENG (6 - 8, B 2): home, Holland, Denmark, Kiel, SWEDEN, ST. PETERSBURG.

FRA (6 - 6, even): home, Portugal, Spain, Belgium, MUNICH.

GER (1 - 1 or 0, even or OUT, depending on ITA Retreat): Berlin(?)

ITA (8 - 8 or 9, even or B 1, depending on Retreat): home, Tunis, Smyrna,
Constantinople, Ankara, Munich, BELGIUM, BERLIN(?)

RUS (5 - 2, D 3): St. Petersburg, Moscow, Warsaw, Norway, Sweden.

Retreats and Winter, 1909 ONLY due: BY MAIL: Monday, 17 February, 1986
BY TELEPHONE: Saturday, 15 February, 1986.

NOTES

Thanks to Bob Acheson for unneeded orders. Appreciated.

A draw of Italy-Austria was defeated and is repropoed. Three of you didn't vote this time, and, as always: No Vote Received means YES. It has happened before that a draw passed that players didn't want because some neglected to vote. 'Nuff said.

Oh, I split the seasons, knowing I'm going to get complaints, because I feel there are too many variables to be encompassed by conditional orders.

PRESS

Russia - Austria: *Welcome Dave! Please be gentle.*

Pope - World: *Sorry for the lack of orders last time. Blame it on a calendar that ran away from me.*

1983 Brn16 - Variant 2

(Blowup)

SIXTH GERMAN LEADER IN TWELVE YEARS TAKES CHARGE. RUMOURS OF MINEFIELDS THROUGHOUT EUROPE. ALL LEADERS DENY RESPONSIBILITY.

AUTUMN, 1912

ENG: F Lvp R OTB.

GER: F Bel R Hol; A Mun R Ruh.

ITA: F Con R Aeg.

WINTER, 1912

AUS (Bruce Poppe): B A Vie & has: A Mos, A War, A Ukr, A Con, A Bul, A Mun, A Tyr, A Boh.

ENG (Claude Gautron): even after R. Has: F Swe, F Lon.

GER (Kevin Brown, Rob Peart): D F Nwy (by GM). Has: A StP, A Lvn, A Pru, A Ruh, A Kie, F Hol.

ITA (Dave Lincoln): B A Ven, A Rom, F Nap & has: A Lvp, A Pie, A Tri, A Bud, F Iri, F MAO, F Bel, F Pic, F Ion, F Alb, F Aeg, F Smy.

Spring, 1913 due: BY MAIL: Monday, 17 February, 1986 (noon)
BY TELEPHONE: Saturday, 15 February, 1986 (noon)

NOTES

No orders were ever received from Kevin Brown; therefore Rob Peart is the player of record for Germany. He did not remove a unit, thus it was made for him.

The concession to Italy was defeated.

Spring orders are on hand for England.

PRESS

Austria: *Ouch! Now cut that out!*

1983 Q - North 4

TURK TAKES A BREAK. ITALIANS SACK LONDON, BUT CLYDE FLEET SUNK.

AUTUMN, 1912

ITA: A Bre R Gas.

WINTER, 1912

ENG: D F Pic.

ITA: B F Nap.

TUR: NMR (2 short).

SPRING, 1913

ENG (Rob Lowes): F Nwg* S & F NAO* S F Lvp - Cly*; A Ruh* & F Kie*; F Kie S ITA
A Mun - Ber (NSO); F Swe* MS F Nwy*; A Bre - Pic*; A Bur - Bel*.

ITA (Dennis Duncan): F Nap - Tyr*; F Ion* H; F Cly - Lvp /A/; F Eng - Lon*; F MAO
- Eng*; F Spa(sc) - MAO*; A Gas* S A Par*; A Far S A Mar - Bur*; A Tyr* S
A Mun (NSO); A Mun* - Ruh.

RUS (Steve Berrigan): F Edi* - Cly.

TUR (Jim Keeley): NMR. F WMed, F Con, A Gre, A Bud, A Gal, A Sil, A Ber, A Lvn,
A Mos, A StP, A Fin.

Fall, 1913 due: BY MAIL: Monday, 17 February, 1986 (noon)
BY TELEPHONE: Saturday, 15 February, 1986 (noon)

NOTES

We have a proposal for a draw of Italy, England and Turkey. No Vote Received means YES.

Will Claude Gautron, 150, rue Masson, Winnipeg, MAN, R2H 0H2 please submit standby orders for Turkey. Thanks, Claude.

Addresses, 1983 Q

Rob Lowes, RR 9, Peterborough, ONT K9J 6Y1
 Dennis Duncan, PO Box 1733, Saskatoon, SASK S7K 3S1
 Steve Berrigan, 36 Stokes Cr., Kanata, ONT K2L 2Z4
 Jim Keeley, 12, 3111 Blakiston, NW, Calgary, ALTA T2L 1L7

PRESS

Italy: *Italian Fashions Sweep London. Such was the demand for fine Italian fashions from the House of Duncanini that an armed convoy was required to prevent piracy by despondent English businessmen.*
The use of silks from the East was an integral part of the colourful waves sweeping the continent. The Russian government in exile (Edinburgh) is invited to take in the show and demonstrate to this insular people that true fashion comes only from the Continent.

Personal Notes

Mid-January. Bitterly cold, but the days are getting noticeably longer. After the holiday season it seems there's nothing left but to wait for spring. So, we dream, planning the garden and the summer holidays. Ann bought the family a canoe for Christmas. Christopher immediately announced that we had to buy three paddles because James is too little. 'How be we buy James a little paddle?' I offered. 'Okay,' he agreed, 'but I have to teach him.'

The boys enjoyed Christmas. James was content with his first gift and didn't want to open any more. They both got sleds. It's heartbreaking to see Christopher struggle to get his up the six-foot hill out back. Half an hour later he finally makes it, has one ride, then trudges home to announce it's time for cocoa. We rented a VCR for New Years, lit the fire, and snuggled up to watch 'Escape from New York' and 'Debbie Does Dallas.' Fortunately for us, Québec, where movies are classified and not censored, is just across the river from puritanical Ontario. (Add the importation of obscene materials to the list of crimes enumerated a few issues back.)

Steve Hutton showed up New Year's Day to get beaten in video games by Christopher. (Told ya', Steve!) And, family and friends were here throughout the holidays. So, now it's quiet again. Ann is in Toronto on business for a few days, and James is staying over at the sitter's for a couple of nights, so Christopher and I are batching it. The house sure is quiet with only a three-year-old for company.

Otherwise, I asked my boss for a junior programmer to do a lot of the slogging work I'm stuck with, and he agreed I need one, but, cuts are being made throughout the civil service, department after department being decimated. Our turn is coming. Most of the people I work with are overworked and short-handed, but the politicians want to score with the folks back home, so reality doesn't enter into decisions.

One reason things are so hectic is that we are making the switch-over from being Canada's largest scientific data processing centre to managing smaller office automation systems. Mini computers, especially Digital's, are proving they can handle the requirements of scientists for number crunching, yet with a flexible, friendly operating system. Meanwhile, CDC, the huge mainframe manufacturer, is in deep trouble as it failed to make the transition to fourth generation products. And, here I am, sitting in the hot seat of our little revolution, having fun!

By the way, the last week in February, after next issue is in the mail to Steve, I'll be in Edmonton for a week attending a conference. Bob Acheson is already committed to providing me with one beer. Do I have any more offers?

See ya!



Fighting Words

((*"Fighting Words"* is the home of feud-related letters. If you don't want to read feud material, DON'T!))

Mark Berch The Robert Sacks letter in #34 says the following about me: *But Berch did block Kendter from accepting election by the DVC to become MNC. Kendter was not going to assume the post if there was any objection, so Berch objected.*

Of all Sacks' nutty charges against me, this one is one of the strangest. I denied it a year ago (DD #85) when he claimed that I did this blocking in letters to him, and I'll deny it again. I have never objected to Lee Kendter assuming any hobby post. And, in case Sacks got the name wrong, I've never objected to anyone assuming the post of MNC. I might add that I know nothing about any DVC elections. Moreover, the MNC is picked by the former MNC; it is an appointed position. The DVC, if it still exists, has nothing to do with it.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Lee Kendter, so that if he knows anything to the contrary, he will know what I'm saying.

I call upon Robert Sacks to either retract this statement, or present some evidence that it is true.

11-14-85

DEAR MARK,
IN REGARDS TO YOUR LETTER
TO STEVE HUTTON, I HAVE NO IDEA
WHAT SACKS IS TALKING ABOUT. HE
HAS BEEN A CONSTANT PAIN IN THE BUTT
EVER SINCE I BECAME MNC.

Yours,
Lee

Chris Carrier

Reply to "A Call to Contain the Feud"

By Chris Carrier, Feud Number Custodian

On 85/10/06, Ken Peel sent out a mass mailing with the above title to a large number of 'zines and hobbyists. He also sent me a note saying "Feuding, especially this one, is no a jolly spectator sport...I'm serious about this."

I find the Ken Peel proposal to end The Feud unacceptable for the following reasons:

1) RESIGN FROM ZINES THAT GIVE COVERAGE TO THE FEUD. I find this unacceptable because if I were to do this, I would not be subscribing to ANY 'zines because what attracted me to the 'zines in the first place is high Feud content or being run by a Feuder. Some people like Feud material (few, however, are willing to admit it like I am) and I DO NOT WANT to see my favourite Feud 'zines shut down.

2) FREEZE THE CUSTODIAL STATUS OF FEUDERS. You state in your mailing that "more Feuding does not Feuding end; only ending it can end it" but in your VERY NEXT PARAGRAPH you state that "the establishment of duplicative services or projects would be preferable to continued sole custodianship by a Feuder" -- but the establishment of such duplicate services is, in and of itself, a Feud action! Examples include the "UnDarkSide Poll" which was set up to oppose the Runestone Poll, or the fake DW which was done to show up the real DW. Please explain how you can stop the feud by engaging in the Feud action of setting up "counter-services".

Actually, I consider Feuds in Dipdom to be inevitable, and the history of the hobby shows few if any periods when there were not some Feuds going. Consider: the game of Diplomacy is one that glorifies lying, double-crossing, and back-stabbing. It is not in the least bit surprising that this carries over into the non-game aspects of the rest of the hobby. I agree that we should keep the lying and backstabbing from spilling over outside of the hobby into the Real World, but I frankly see no way it can be contained within the hobby.

Also, you seem to think that The Feud is about to destroy the hobby. I disagree. You mentioned the Feud between John Boardman and Rod Walker that "literally split the hobby" -- but the hobby is here now, and will outlive The Feud.

It is true that I do get my jollies from watching the participants in the Feud. I don't recall when I have had this much fun in several years. However, I do not believe that the Feud can or should go on forever. (Some people believe that that is my position. It is not.) To this end, I offer my services as ombudsman or binding arbitrator to end any Feud.

To Ken Peel -- please don't take this as a personal attack. It's just that we hear all this talk about how horrible the Feud allegedly is, and I want people to know the other side of the story -- that there are people out there who enjoy reading about The Feud. Except for me and Stephen G. Dycus, though, there seems to be no one brave enough to come out and admit it.

((There you have it: another proposal to end the feud. One of the many problems with binding arbitration is that the arbitrator will likely get dragged into the feud himself. The advantage of choosing Chris Carrier as arbitrator is that he will at least enjoy the feuding that comes with the job.))

Rod Walker ...NFA 34 was an outstanding issue. Enclosed is my renewal cheque; I'm really looking forward to #35.

The "Francine Letter": I have a long note to Gary Coughlan on that one...see the next EE (I hope). Gist of letter: the "FL" is a phoney. Neither Kathy nor John has ever told the truth about the "letter", and what's more they don't intend to. This accusation is a typical example of how low the hatemongers in the anti-Linsey camp will sink; and they do it repeatedly. Unfortunately, Bruce differs from them mostly in degree, not in kind. This whole mess can really be resolved only by referring it to an ombudsman with power to arrive at a binding settlement.

The "missing child poster" flap: Why, I wonder is Bruce (for instance) so worked up over this? It is in fact humourous in a way: it is typical of the "humour" that pervades Whitestonia and Kathy's Korner -- the kind of humour that also pervades secondary school locker rooms, suburban backyard fences, and other places where vicious and infantile minds congregate. As it is, it is the closest thing to something really funny that KK/W has published in a long time. Puerile as it is, there is certainly nothing very awful about it. Our hobby continually makes light of one of the most murderous wars in human history, so who are we to gripe about how "awful" this is. By comparison, it is nowhere near bad taste; it just ranks right down there with Helen Keller jokes.

((I agree with you more than with Bruce and Gary on this. I don't think it was funny; I think it was in very poor taste; but I don't think it was anything to get worked up about. If I thought publishing the poster would hurt the search for missing children, I would certainly join in the great condemnation of the people who prepared it (and, to a lesser extent, Kathy for publishing it). But, I don't see how the search would be hurt in the slightest. If anything, the search would be helped by spreading the picture around. I suspect that Bruce and Gary figure this is something that will hit a raw nerve in people, and they're playing it up for all it's worth and then some.))

You did a great job of puncturing Steve Langley, if an already-empty balloon can be said to have been punctured.

Bill Highfield??? My, aren't you lucky! Still t'he same drivel, I see. Why, I wonder, does the "bee sting" story make me squirm? I can readily accept that Linsey's nasty tattling letter was treated with the contempt it deserved, but why do I think the "bee sting allergy" story is not worthy of belief? One reason, anyway, could be that his chances of being stung by a bee while on a ship aren't even one micron off the dead center of zero. I could be wrong, of course; maybe navy ships really keep bees on board, but... Another thought -- it makes me skeptical when somebody tells me he is deathly allergic to bee stings when he has also told me he goes camping and hiking. How about you?

((I suspect that many navy people are stationed on land, where bees are more common than at sea. It wouldn't surprise me if the navy rejected people with serious bee-sting allergies. Even if Bill's reason for leaving the navy was untrue what difference would it make? I think it's time to leave him alone!))

That Linsey Creature

Dear Steve,

OK, OK, so this letter doesn't contain my follow-ups to the responses (or in some cases, lack thereof) to the questions I directed toward my attackers in NFA #32/33. Why not? Well, that section (which is mostly written, by the way) is exceedingly boring -- even more so than your average feud letter. I mean, page after page after page of "Kathy couldn't produce letter XXX" and "Olsen was unable to specify where I said YYY" does not exactly make for exciting reading no matter how you slice it. I may eventually send it all in for print anyway, but maybe I won't have to.

"Won't have to," he said. That brings me to the other reason I'm holding back for the moment on following up on the questions -- because at this time, I don't have to. That is, my hobby standing has improved dramatically since a year ago, when I first decided to defend myself in NFA; and pursuing the questions now would not have the same vindicating effect as did posing them in May, because by and large I'm already vindicated. Nobody in his right mind could take seriously some of the wild charges that have been leveled at me any more -- not after seeing how letter after letter that I'm supposed to have written couldn't be produced; not after seeing how one dreary vague charge after another couldn't be backed up with specifics.

I have already told you, Steve, what I am about to say publicly: that I greatly appreciate your having let NFA be used as a forum in which the feud was examined fairly. Even at the start, I knew that in such a forum I couldn't lose, since a little scrutiny was all it would take to make many of the charges against me crumble. You made, I suspect, a number of sacrifice in allowing NFA to be used in this way. You gave up money, spare time, your reputation as an uninvolved party (for whatever that may or may not have been worth to you), and probably a few subscribers for...for what? So that a friend could defend himself? Yes, and for that I owe you a lot. I no longer go to sleep at night worrying that any reasonable person thinks I write smutty hate letters to children, or that I ruin people's careers, or that the Runestone Poll won't be run fairly. But, you helped "save" a lot more than just my reputation and peace of mind, Steve. I truly believe that the "Fighting Words" section of NFA was the biggest single factor in preventing a massive smear campaign from prevailing over truth and decency in the Great Feud. The great good deed that you thus did for the hobby will go unrecognized in many quarters, but if the outcome of this feud sets any precedent in terms of future hobby ethics, you can give yourself even more of a well-earned pat on the back. So Steve, I thank you, and so should anyone else who truly cares about the hobby. And while I'm at it, I should mention that I appreciate similar efforts by Gary Coughlan and Mark Berch in their zines. Both stood up for what they knew was right rather than take the easy way out, but risk letting a screaming mob prevail.

We have reached a point now where I feel comfortable saying that

AS OF NOW, I DROP MY DEMAND THAT KATHY BYRNE RETRACT HER "SICK LETTER" CHARGE.

Why? First, because I've been utterly vindicated on the matter, almost as thoroughly as if Kathy had actually made a retraction. Kathy provably lied when she offered proof of this charge to anyone, and then couldn't produce it. Even some of Kathy's friends have candidly admitted that they don't buy her story. In fact, I doubt there's anyone left in the hobby who believes the charge, though there may still be a few closet cases, and certainly a handful of Byrne's more fanatical cohorts are making quite the public show of beating the drum for her still. Secondly, and just as important, I'm beginning now to think that pursuing this retraction is an exercise in futility: although I'm entitled to it, Kathy just isn't going to budge. That is, I believe that she is actually not capable of coming clean on the matter. (No, I'm not going to be foolish enough to elaborate.) One would, in the final analysis, be foolish to spend one's life trying to squeeze water from a rock (even if, somehow, the rock "owed" him some water). I would be foolish to spend years demanding a retraction that Kathy owes me,

but would sooner die than give me. If some people see this as the immovable object having just defeated the unstoppable force, fine -- but what a Pyrrhic victory it is for Kathy! She "wins" the battle by having proven herself more stubborn than I (no easy feat, I assure you!), but at the cost of her credibility throughout much of the hobby. Next time she tells one of her wild stories about me (and alas, I believe there will be many more such "next time"s), it will be a sufficient defense for me to reply that the source is the same person who made up the "sick letter to Francine" charge and provably lied about being able to prove it, so why believe her this time? If things are never the same henceforth for Kathy in the hobby, then it's a wound that was self-inflicted. It is no exaggeration if I say that the Francine letter charge is the stupidest mistake Kathy (or probably anyone) has ever made in this hobby.

But hey, you're the winner, Kathy Byrne. After a year and a half of unsuccessfully trying to be as stubborn as you, I'm finally withdrawing my demand that you retract the Francine letter charge. Congratulations (I guess)!

Does all of the above mean that the feud is over? No, but I think we may be heading in that direction. We have at last reached the point where I may not feel compelled to defend myself so vigorously any more. My attackers have been discredited many times over, so I don't need to worry about what people are going to believe. I will also have somewhat less to say in defense of, say, the Runestone Poll (the results of the '85 Poll speak much louder than any of the attempts to ruin it, and success of that magnitude is self-propagating, as we'll prove in '86!). But, lest people like Byrne, Langley, and Caruso read this as some sort of license to assail me with vigor anew, I should state clearly that although I don't feel I have to defend myself as I once did, I'm perfectly willing and able to do so. Your noses were more than a little bloodied in round one, gang; it'll be worse still if you push me into round two. I suggest that you don't test me.

Having said that I'm not (for the time being) going to pursue the 97 questions, I've decided that I am at least going to follow up briefly on the four that I posed to "Anyone in the Hobby".

1. Has anyone out there actually seen a copy of any of the six letters whose existence I deny? ((NFA #32/33, p. 88))... If anyone in the hobby has actually seen such a letter, please provide Steve Hutton with specifics regarding when you saw it and what it said.

A. Not one person has come forward to verify having seen any of these letters (let alone produce any of them). It should be plain to anyone by now that these letters were all figments of people's imaginations (mostly Kathy Byrne's) and that my denials were truthful: the letters never existed.

2. Does anyone out there still feel that I should agree to a truce with my attackers while libelous charges about me are still on the record? If so, please specify reasons why I should have to operate in the hobby under the cloud of these charges.

A. (This is far from the answer I initially expected to give!) As is made clear earlier in this letter, I am quickly becoming satisfied that I am no longer operating under the cloud of most of these charges; that is, I don't think they are generally believed. That state of affairs makes it much easier for me to adopt a mellow stance, and I can see the possibility of agreeing to a truce. I hasten to add that, from a moral standpoint, I would be unquestionably justified in pursuing retractions of these charges; but the practical value of doing so when I've made my points anyway is nil.

3. Does anyone out there have any evidence that I will not handle the Runestone Poll or Supernova in a competent, honest manner? If so, please provide Steve Hutton with this evidence.

A. Nobody has presented any such evidence, though people like Melinda Holley, Bob Olsen and Kathy Byrne have tried to discredit every aspect of the Poll from the ballot distribution to the scoring method. Holley, for example, tried to tell me that the modified mean and preference matrix were "ridiculous" methods of scoring (even though both methods have been used in zine polls in the past). "Count the votes and be done with it," she demanded, revealing that her knowledge of statistics is about on a par with Tallman's knowledge of journalism law or mine of Swahili; non-existent. But nobody was able to come up with any genuine evidence that the Poll (or Supernova) was not handled competently or honestly, so I'll stand on my track records in both cases.

4. Does anyone out there have proof that I have ever acted dishonestly within the hobby? If so, please provide this proof to Steve Hutton.

A. What is really revealing is that, for all the thousands of words and gallons of ink that my attackers have spilled trying to discredit me (hell, three zines have owed their existences to that end), not one person, at any time or in any forum, has ever presented proof that I have ever acted dishonestly within the hobby. Never. Steve Hutton put it succinctly (NFA #32/33, p. 53) when he asked Dick Martin, "why is it that nobody has succeeded in showing me a single undisputable lie ((Bruce has)) told?"

The answer is that I haven't told any lies to anyone in the hobby, outside the contexts of games or harmless hoaxes. For all their wild accusations and rhetoric, my adversaries haven't been able to show otherwise. That single undeniable fact says more about the feud than anything my attackers have been able to say in the past year and a half.

In NFA #32/33, I promised that "I will try to answer all questions printed here and directed toward me, or at least explain why I'm not." That applies regardless of who is asking the question, and it puts me in direct contrast to people like Olsen and Byrne, who seem to think they are exempt from questioning.

So, in NFA #34, Robert Sacks posed two questions to me: "Just a question about the Linsey cheque to Highfield. What justification was there for the stop payment, and what difference does it make who the cheque was made out to?"

My responses: I stopped payment on a check to Bill Highfield when I discovered that he did not do what he had agreed to do. That's vague, but if you want a more specific description of the circumstances, you'll have to turn to Mike Barno's letter and Steve Hutton's reply a few issues back. As far as I'm concerned, the incident did not concern the hobby, and is no business of anyone in the hobby.

I've already answered the other question, but I'll repeat myself. Terry Tallman claimed that the check was made out to Highfield's father's store (and, not knowing that I could disprove it, offered a copy to anyone who cared) because he was attempting to make the point that I was trying to damage the Highfield family's business ("jeopardizing...their credit", as he put it). Had he told the story truthfully, he couldn't reasonably have made such a claim. In a broader vein, Robert, if you look at any of the instances where I'm supposed to have interfered in someone's personal life (with the exception of the "drinking letter", where I've already admitted I was horribly wrong), you'll find that key facts had to be altered to make the point.

Now, Steve, I'd like to briefly mention two points where you and I seem to disagree. The first is your response to Langley's suggestion that I should withdraw the 97 questions I asked my attackers in NFA #32/33 and publicly apologize for having posed them in the first place. You referred to this as a "reasonable response". I've thought about that (and discussed it with you privately), and I still don't agree. It is reasonable to expect me to apologize for posing the questions only if they were somehow unfair. I do not feel at all that it was unfair of me to ask questions whose design was to pin down these people to specifics instead of vague charges; whose purpose was

to demonstrate that proof was not available for many charges that, if true, would be provable. So I don't think it at all reasonable to expect an apology from me, though if Langley can show any particular question to be unfair, I might consider apologizing for that question.

The other point of disagreement takes us all the way back to NFA #32/33, where you indicated that my case against Jim Meinel was much weaker than against some others. This is true, but for one point. That is where Meinel printed a charge that "Now I find myself and my family a victim of this malicious individual." That charge is extremely serious even in spite of its vagueness. I have never done anything to Meinel's family, and he has steadfastly refused to say what he was referring to. The reason, one presumes, is that he saw that this was the sort of thing others were accusing me of, and so probably felt his statement would just "fit in" with the reputation he figured I was saddled with. I really don't know if this was his exact motivation, but I do know that the charge was extremely serious; and that even if Meinel had done nothing else at all to me, I'd have a very strong case against him for this reason alone.

In NFA #34, I noticed an interesting pair of seemingly contradictory opinions regarding Steve Langley. You (Steve Hutton) said that "In TNFH, he ((Langley)) demonstrates an amazing inability or unwillingness to admit that he's wrong," while later in the issue Gary Coughlan opines that "Steve Langley is totally unlike Kathy Byrne, John Caruso, Ed Wrobel and Terry Tallman in their 'zines in that...he even admits that he has made mistakes in the past." Actually, the truth about Langley lies somewhere in between, I think, though you (Steve) hit a bit closer to the mark. On the one hand, Gary is right to observe that Langley has admitted to a few tiny errors in the past (which is more than can be said for most of his crowd); on the other, that's been the exception rather than the rule. Langley's usual way of dealing with his own factual inaccuracies (intentional or otherwise) is to either:

- a) totally ignore the fact that he's been caught, or
- b) claim that his initial charge was justified because "it was only a scenario", or
- c) agree that the facts were wrong but try to justify it because the other side was "nitpicking", or
- d) claim that his charge was justified by redefining the operative words to mean things other than they mean to most literate people (e.g. the word "lie"), or
- e) insist that his charge is true, but then add that he's not at liberty to provide specifics or name his sources, so that we'll just have to take the word of an unnamed person on blind faith.

These are Langley's defense mechanisms, just as Boardman's modus operandi is to question the existence of anyone who disagrees with him; just as Byrne's way is to ignore any questions and instead come out with something new and still more spectacular; just as Wrobel's technique is to avoid answering by hiding behind a facade of polysyllables. (And if anyone insists on examples of any of the above, I'll have no trouble complying...)

It's fascinating to see how each of these characters avoids the truth when it's shoved in his or her face. Perhaps it would make a valuable study for students of Steve Hutton's favorite science, psychology. Langley may have a bit more finesse than the others, but all the finesse in the world doesn't get him off the hook from having published all those wild charges.

A final note to Steve Hutton: in TNFH, you read how John Caruso accused both you and me of stirring Kathy up at a ByrneCon by telling her that Gary had called her a drunkard in print. Now you have first-hand knowledge of how Caruso blatantly lies, at least. Frustrating creep to have to deal with, isn't h.?

And, a final note to NFA's readers. Folks, what you have witnessed over the past year in "Fighting Words" wasn't pretty. It was a defense against a lynch mob whose members gave new depth to the words dishonest, unethical, insensitive. At the center of this mob is Kathy Byrne, who has an astonishing ability to blind some people to the terrible things she does. Aside from Byrne, the mob consists of John Caruso, Ed Wrobel, Dick Martin, Steve Langley, Bob Olsen, and Terry Tallman. These people ought to hide their faces in shame, except that they have no shame. A few others ought to be roundly booed for their support and encouragement of this mob, and in some cases their use of the same tactics; falling into that category are Ben Schilling, John Boardman, Melinda Holley, Jim Meinel, Tom Hurst, and a handful of others whose roles were minor enough that I'll forego naming them here.

This was a desperate mob indeed. Not only did they demonstrate an unbelieveable disregard for any semblance of ethics in dealing with me per se, but they attempted to ruthlessly pulverize anyone and anything that stood, or appeared to stand in their way. (Prime examples: Langley's vicious attack on Steve Hutton, whose only "crime" was in printing the truth; and the attempted sabotage of the Runestone Poll, whose chief "shortcoming" was that Bruce Linsey happened to be running it. Hutton and the Poll, Berch and Coughlan, Supernova and the Zine Register -- these were all obstacles to be smeared and destroyed in order to get at Bruce Linsey.) Desperate? These people were desperate enough to start up rival hobby projects and a counterpoll, and to found whole 'zines so that their letters wouldn't be subject to the scrutiny they dreaded in NFA. All this, they would do -- and DID do -- sooner than commit the Cardinal Sin of admitting that Kathy Byrne might not be perfect after all. Kathy herself was the most desperate of all, dragging her own children (and other people's children) into the center of the feud in a cheap attempt to smear me. In my opinion, THAT is "sick".

In the end, this mob did not succeed in destroying any person or any hobby project entirely, but there were some sad casualties left in their wake. (Doug Beyerlein's departure from the hobby, while obviously his own decision, would not have occurred had it not been for the mob.) But they failed in their ultimate goal because they underestimated the amount of support that decent people like Berch, Coughlan, and Ron Brown, revolted by what they saw happening, would give; because they OVERestimated the gullibility of the hobby at large.

As the feud winds down (realistically I expect it to take months), the hobby should progress into a healing stage. We should try to put the events of the past year and a half behind us, and move forward. Watch especially for some hard work in this direction on the part of Simon Billenness, who has a boundless, youthful enthusiasm for curing the ills of the North American Diplomacy hobby, and some realistic plans to match.

As we progress and heal, though, we cannot afford to forget what happened during the Great Feud. That would be too dangerous, at least so long as people like Byrne and Olsen cling to positions of responsibility in the hobby. Important though it may be to get our difficulties behind us, it is more crucial still that they not be allowed to recur.

And on that cheery note, I'll end what may be my last feud letter to NFA, and certainly my last LONG feud letter here. Thank you all for your patience. It was a difficult time.

((When Bruce Linsey considers 5 pages a "long letter" to NFA, it's obvious that things are already getting better!))

Kevin Brown

I can't resist commenting on Fighting words. I love the way Bruce Linsey indicts himself. He says on page 31 of NFA #34 that "there is a chance that I'll be reading an enormous headline saying BRUCE LINSEY PROVEN DISHONEST". This implies that the letter John Caruso was talking about in NFA #32/33 (page 33) exists since there is a chance that he could present it. If it didn't exist, there would be no chance of such a headline appearing. It's rather strange that Linsey not only indicts himself, but in this case he goes out of his way to indict himself.

I think I better clarify. I don't think that Linsey meant to imply that the letter mentioned above really does exist. I think he was merely reminding you to "duly note" that Caruso was supposed to have sent these things along to you. I suspect that Bruce just got a little careless about saying what he means.

I'm surprised that you had no comment on my letter about abusive letters. I realize that you probably don't agree with me, but I'd be interested in why you feel the way you do. I for one see no good reason to print abusive letters, regardless of an NFP label.

((I think it's important that there be a place in the hobby where people can make their attacks in a relatively fair environment. In the recent past, that place was NFA; now it's The Not For Hire. Given that such a place exists, however, there is no reason at all for other publishers to print abusive letters and feuding in their 'zines. If you have a toilet, there's no need to shit on the china.))

John Boardman Dear Mr. Hutton:

I think you are going to have to make up your mind as to what sort of 'zine No Fixed Address is going to be. Either BruX is a hobby member with whom we do something, or he is a hobby problem about whom we do something. I am willing to participate in the discussions in a 'zine which works out a way to deal with such dishonest slanders. I am not willing to constitute one side of a debate on which Linsey is the other side. He belongs in a discussion of hobby policy like NAMBLA ((North American Man/Boy Love Association, a gay pedophile organization)) belongs in a discussion of gay rights.

When you make up your mind as to which approach you plan to take let me know. The things BruX and his pals are doing to the hobby may be a matter of debate, but not with BruX.

If you continue to give BruX access to your pages, I would just as soon not receive No Fixed Address. You can't carry water on both shoulders.

((Since you aren't now, and never have been, a subscriber to NFA, I find your letter a little perplexing. The only time you receive some or all of NFA is when you are mentioned inside. Are you asking me not to send you these courtesy copies?))

Dick Martin Glad to see the white pages of NFA back again. The green pages were pretty hilarious, too. I fail to see the point to the blue pages -- so John Pack is a bozo and you're just a wonderful guy. Oh, yeah, and you saved my life -- I know how not to catch AIDS. Thanks, I guess.

I'm a bit disappointed in the pink pages, though -- so incomplete. I guess you'll be writing your responses to my responses to you in TNFH #3 to TNFH, or perhaps the next NFA? I'm interested in what you have to say, but would rather have my discussion with you on "neutral" ground. Or aren't you one for writing to places besides your own 'zine?

((Before the date on this letter, I had already sent off my first response to you to TNFH. I'll send in my next response soon. Since you and I both agree that the place for our discussion is TNFH, I hope you'll appreciate my cutting off your letter here.))

Arthur Majoor's *The Dipdom Wars* Part IV: A Long Episode

((This is, of course, a work of fiction. Some characters just happen to have the same names as real people. Life is full of coincidences!))

"Alright, Steve, what don't I know half of?" demanded Brux, uncertainly holding the pistol. "I'm Melinda Holley's toady," Steve replied.

Chris Carrier fed the last bit of data into the computer. Summarizing the fifth volume of Bruce Linsey's arguments to the International Court of Justice (Linsey vs Antarctica) had been difficult, but the new Macro Mega Dip (24th edition) rules would make a fantastic game.

As Chris excitedly pressed the RUN button on his Cray 34 supercomputer, he thought again on the statistics: "One million cards per player, six hundred thousand permutations per phase, two hundred phases per season...no two games will be alike!"

The lights flickered as the mighty Cray began to digest the problem and calculate the solutions at two billion calculations per second. Cooling motors hummed and pumped liquid helium into the banks of electronics. "If only Steve could see this," Chris gloated as he stood beside the printer. "It was sure nice of Ron Brown to volunteer the software. He seemed really interested in the Brux stuff, though..."

His thoughts were interrupted by the soft tone announcing the completion of the program. The laser printer hummed and then stopped. Puzzled, Chris looked at the single line printed on the page. Instead of the detailed breakdown of Bruce Linsey's personal habits through grammatical analysis, there was only a single number: 42.

Kathy was in a terrible rage. First, the Iranians were escorting pro-Brux mail, then Ken Peel disappeared into the reeking Hummus dens of Teheran and now this.

"The ODD board of enquiry is now in session." Henry Kissenger banged the gavel down. "I hearby call upon Kathy Byrne to bring the five witnesses to the stand."

Kathy gritted her teeth and stood up. "I'm sorry, your honour, but the five witnesses have been kidnapped and replaced by an evangelical rock band." A ripple of laughter passed through the Star Chamber. Even Henry Kissenger smiled as he said, "Very well. In order to verify the truth of the matter..." He gestured and two hooded attendants brought in a glowing brazier.

Art Majoor was sweating, too, as he finished giving his account to the Colonel. "Unlikely as it sounds sir, that is how I disposed of the Iranian terrorists."

"And this is all because of a game?"

Before an answer could be given, the Colonel leaned back in his chair, and continued, musing, "You know, there might be something to this after all. I'm getting clobbered in 1978AAA! You'll have to go to Iran to check this out" suddenly decisive "and I've got something to help out, too. The Hollywood Squad."

"The What?"

"You know, like Rambo and those guys. Go to Wainwright tomorrow, and I'll give you a demonstration.

The field was clear and cold. Ten soldiers in white camouflage uniforms stood before the Colonel and the trooper, each armed with a bewildering array of weapons.

"I want you to take this squad and lead them across the field. Pop-up targets are everywhere, so it should be a good show."

Art adjusted his ear defenders and checked his submachine gun. With a few deft hand signals to the squad, he indicated that they should spread out in an extended line and advance. He slowly moved forward from hollow to hollow, crouching low and looking carefully to the front.

A sudden springing sound revealed 15 pop-up man-sized targets even as the soldier dropped to the ground and put short bursts into the closest three.

"What the..." Art stood up and turned around. The Hollywood Squad was still standing patiently at the start line with the Colonel. The Colonel laughed. "This is the Hollywood Squad. Think of the movies. They never move silently."

"Alright, move up and fan out," Art growled. "Shoot any target to your front." As they advanced another three metres, the next wave of targets sprang up.

Before he could move, a roaring noise filled the air as machine guns, rifles, shot guns, pistols, grenades and rockets swept through the five targets. Art was completely covered with shredded cardboard, and more fell from the sky like snow.

"Are they always like this?"

"You should see them when we have a lot of targets!"

The master giggled drunkenly. The black cape was soaked in cheap cooking sherry, which reeked throughout the lab. A hidden listener would have heard the Master sigh now and then. "How did it get so out of control?"

(Who is this hobby master, and does he look good in black? Will Steve Hutton behave differently now that he's a Melinda Holley toady? How is The Five Witnesses' new single doing on the charts? How many people will start feuding with Arthur over this episode? These questions and more may be answered in upcoming episodes.)

Why don't Engineers drink Kool Aid?

They can't get a quart of water into that little package.

Why did the young female write postal codes on her thighs?

So the male would come faster.

What do you get when you cross an ant eater with a vibrator?

An armadildo.

Definition of "wet dream":

Coming unscrewed.

How can you tell your girl friend is too fat?

If she sits on your face and you can't hear the stereo.

Why do mice have such small balls?

Because so few of them can dance.

Who is the most worried man in the world?

The center on the University of Greece football team.

Why is being in the army like sex?

Because the closer you get to discharge the better you feel.

1. Sub to the new DW before 1 January 1986. Charter subbers will receive a free copy of the DW #40 (as long as they are available), including a copy of the IMDW (a \$2 value), a chance to order a copy of the Anthology and Reprint Series at special pre-publication rates, and four issues of DW during 1986.

A 4 issue sub costs \$12 in the USA, \$14 in Canada, and \$16 overseas; all by first class or surface mail. Remember this special charter subber offer is good only through 1985.

2. Order a copy of the Diplomacy World Anthology before 7 December 1985 and save \$2.00. The DW Anthology is a special reprinting of the best articles from the first 39 issues of DW as chosen by its previous editors. Each article will be reprinted in facsimile edition in a special full size, legal-page edition with a comb binding and a heavy duty cover. The price after 7 December will be \$10, so you save \$2 by ordering a copy now for \$8, postpaid at bookrate. Profits go to the DW Endowment Fund.

3. Order a complete set of the Reprint Series and save a bundle. The Reprint Series is a once in a life time offer for you to obtain a complete reprinting of all the major articles from the first 39 issues of DW: 1,600 pages (or so), 400+ articles by over 130 different authors. All yours in the original facsimile edition. The pre-publication cost is \$75.00 for orders received by 7 December. This offer is part of the publication of the Anthology and will not be repeated. All profits to the DW Endowment Fund.

4. Join the 20/20 Club! And show how far-sighted you are!! 20/20 Club members receive a DW sub for one year, and provide an \$8 donation to the DW Endowment Fund, as a sign of their commitment to making DW the best publication in the hobby.

5. Send a contribution to the DW Endowment Fund. This special fund was set up to provide DW with a fund to finance projects like the Anthology and Reprint Series, which require a considerable financial investment before any income is derived from them. It also provides an emergency back-up fund for the Subscription Fund in case of a major crisis. Proceeds from publication sales, support games, etc. go into this fund.

5. Send a contribution to the DW Operations Fund. DW's overhead is huge, mostly because of many large mailings that go out to non-subbers as part of DW's flagship responsibilities. These are paid for out of the Operations Fund which is not subsidized with endowment or sub funds. Income from the DW Raffle and Telethon will go to provide money for DW's overhead.

6. Order a copy of the Black and Blue Book. Not a DW publication, the BBB is a listing of over 1,000 hobby members, services, publications, etc. arranged in a three part listing by name, area code, and ZIP Code. An invaluable hobby telephone book and reference source. A copy is \$5, postpaid, and \$1 of that goes to the DW Endowment Fund.

6. And more! In addition to money DW also needs donations of goods or services for next Spring's DW Raffle, volunteers to work on next fall's DW Telethon, volunteers to join the DW staff in a variety of roles, and last but certainly not least, DW needs literary contributions for the magazine. Without them all this has no point! So pull out your pen, your word processor and your thinking cap and start working on an article for DW. It doesn't have to be long, or technical but it should deal with some aspect of Diplomacy; and that's a pretty wide open field.

I can't stress how important it is that you respond today since time is so short. I do not intend to print a lot of extra copies of the Anthology and Reprint Series. The money just isn't there to do it. So if you want a copy you'd best order them now. The same applies for DW. If you want to be sure of getting a copy of #40 and the charter sub package you'd best send your order now: SEND ALL ORDERS TO: DIPLOMACY WORLD, LARRY PEERY, Box 8416, SAN DIEGO, CA 92102, USA. Send checks or money orders in US funds.

by Larry Peery

(to be sung to the tune of THE MICKEY MOUSE CLUB)

Now let's all stand up and make a loud cheer for the Feud
that's made for you and me --

L-I-N-S-E-Y--

B-Y-R-N-E--!

Linsey-Byrne

Linsey-Byrne

And where do we hear about the Feud that's made for you and
me --

Right here, in

The MegaDiplomat #3

Winter 1985

The MegaDiplomat is the official organ of the Feud Number
Custodian, who tracks the Feuds between players of the game
of DIPLOMACY.

The material in MD is the responsibility of the FNC, and not
that of the publisher of NO FIXED ADDRESS, the high quality
MegaDiplomacy zine that permits this newsletter to appear.
The FNC is Chris Carrier, address 1215 P Street 12,
Sacramento, CA 95814 USA, phone # 1-916-441-0292, Compuserve
ID# 72157,3334, MCI Mail ID# CCARRIER. Best time to call is
17:30-23:00 Yukon Standard Time.

THE FEUD NUMBER CUSTODIAN (FNC) is the person responsible for
the issuing of Feud Numbers (FN's) to Feuds, informing the
Hobby of how Feuds are progressing towards resolution, and
who is Feuding with whom -- a vital service, as many people
have blundered into Feuds without knowing it. Had they
known, these people who choose not to Feud would have known
better.

Some housekeeping details. The MegaDiplomat will appear in
approximately every other NFA, assuming the zine comes out on
time. This will make this subzine come out five times per
year, once per Real World season assuming a five-season year
ending with winter, just as in Diplomacy, the game which gave
birth to MegaDiplomacy.

The deadline for the MegaDiplomat is ONE MONTH AFTER the
postmark date of the issue of NFA which carried the last MD;
under this system the deadline for MD #3 would have been
11/22, as NFA #34, which had MD #2 in it, was postmarked on
10/22. Within a week after the deadline the FNC will mail at
least two copies of MD from different boxes on different
dates so Steve Hutton can receive it in less than two weeks,
which seems to be the mailing time from MD to NFA.

Much of the MegaDiplomat is humorous satire, such as "Marycon '86" and "Illuminated Megadip." However, when I announce a project, I am serious. Last issue I announced a project for the FEUD NUMBER CUSTODIAN AWARDS. I am serious! I DO want your nominations by the deadline for MD #4, when the ballot will be printed; results to me announced in MD #5.

There will be four awards, for:

--Feuder of the Year. A nonelective award originally to honor the person involved in the most Feuds but this has changed to the person who comes in #1 in the annual "Influential Feuder Rankings" later in the zine. The 1985 Feuder of the Year is Mark Berch, who participated in 10 Feuds with an average intensity of 6.50.

--Feud Letter of the Year. As I discussed last issue, this is to honour the letter that shows the MegaDiplomacy community at its best. Past winners were the Dear Asshole and Drunken Rage letters; surely there have been letters just as MegaDippy this year.

--Feud Item of the Year. This is a new award for any other piece of MegaDip related material OTHER than a letter that deserves to be listed as high quality MegaDip. This would include such items as fake zines, and non-Dip items altered to bring them into a Dip context.

--Feud of the Year. The Feud which in any given year dominates the entire MegaDiplomacy hobby. The winner for 1984 would be, of course, 1984B (Byrne/Linsey); what about 1985? Eligibility restricted to Feuds which have 1985 dates on them.

Positive letters about Illuminated MegaDip in the last issue outnumbered negative ones 5-1. So now, let's go to!

THE MEGADIPLOMATIC POUCH

from FRED DAVIS: I thoroughly enjoyed your report as official Hobby Feud Number Custodian in NFA. I'M going to give this a plug in the next issue of my BUSHWACKER, and I promise to use 1985AC in my future dealings with Ed Wrobel. After all, if the Feuds weren't properly organized, we might be forced to go back to playing Diplomacy.

In Sec ED of the "MaryCon '86 Official Registration Form" you have matched me up with Bill Highfield as an admirer of Hendrik Verwoerd. I'm not absolutely certain, but I believe that Verwoerd was the South African leader who invented or implemented the Apartheid system in that country...I'm assuming this is meant to be humorous. However, I did want you to be sure that I am not really an admirer of the current white South African government...also enjoyed your "Illuminated MegaDip game." Please bring a complete game set to DipCon XIX next June!"

FNC: Thanks for the plug in BUSHWACKER -- I look forward to seeing it, and I have decided to sub. I'm glad that some people are planning to use the Feud Numbers -- that is what they are for.

As to Hendrik Verwoerd (1902-66), yes, he is the South African Prime Minister who was (rightly) called the "Architect of Apartheid." I did mean that as humour, and not to mean that you were really an advocate of racism or apartheid.

As to playing MaryDip at MesaCon -- oops, make that MesaDip at MaryCon -- I will bring a set if I go. The chance is about 50%. The problem is distance and getting time off of work. If I go, I look forward to seeing you -- as an aside, MaryCon sounds like the EXPO 86 commercials that have been on TV recently .. come on up, all the superpowers will be there.

MIKE BARNO: I saw your ILLUMINATED MEGADIP rules in NFA #34, and wish to commend you on a super (not to mention delightful) job..(he then requests additions to the MIKE BARNO card in the game)..if I get around to making a set of cards, we'll probably playtest the same..if we do, I'll try to keep a record and write a narrative for you and NFA..Thank for putting IM together, and for all your efforts to die some amusement out of the Feudings!

FNC (beaming): A letter like that makes a pubber feel like all the work is worth it! I hope you DO playtest and tell me the results! I will probably be making up a set myself (see next letter). If ANYONE makes a set of IM and plays, please tell me how the same went.

As to your request to have your card modified (several persons requested this in their letters) I might point out that expansion sets are planned, as in regular Illuminati, and cards can be modified then, not just for request but for play-balance reasons (ideally no Illuminatus should win less than 20% nor more than 30% of the time).

As to Feudings, yes, I do derive amusement out of it. In fact, this is the most fun I have had (except when I am in the arms of Pamela, my lady friend, who will probably read this) since 1981 when I was in college and engaged in computer wars as virulent as MegaDip. I am also of the opinion that a fairly large segment of the hobby gets off on Feudings as much as I do, but that I am the first to come out of the closet and admit it. (One of the many proofs of this statement is that more than half the zines in the top 10 in both the Runestone and UnDarkSide zine polls were pubbed by prominent MegaDipsters.)

STEVE LANGLEY: I enjoyed your insert to NFA. It was the best part of the zine by far..your Dip/MegaDip version of the game (Illuminati) looks fascinating .. quite fun and quite welcome .. Most of the people who will be at DafCon .. turning the Feud into a game would delight all of them. It might even put some of the Feud into a better perspective.

FNC: I do intend to come to DafCon and bring a set of Illuminated MegaDip. I have also enjoyed the last two DafCons that I have attended, and I will be putting up Bruce McIntyre and Nancy Hurrell when they come to the con.

I hope and like to think my work as FNC has helped bring the Feud into a better perspective. To me MegaDip is just part (to me, the best part) of the Dip hobby, and an inevitable one, considering the nature of the game Diplomacy, a game which glorifies lying, double-crossing and back-stabbing .. and which John Pack accuses of causing homosexuality! (See 12 PAGES #3 in NFA #34).

ALAN STEWART (from PRAXIS #1): (IM) .. was the funniest thing I hav read in the hobby .. I intend to nominate it for the Walker Award this year. It will be of interest to anyone who has (a) followed the Feud OR (b) played the game ILLUMINATI and it will make you roll in the aisles if you've done both.

FNC (flabbergasted): The Walker Award! Wow! I did think that IM would be humorous and funny but not in THAT league .. thanks for the nomination, and I hope everyone votes for me .. as Bruce McIntyre said when he came in 5th in the Runestone, that this "was beyond all but four of my wildest dreams ..."

JOHN CARUSO: I read what you sent in to NFA. All I can say is that I'm hurt. I'm sure you think it's "fun" to smear someone's kids and to join in with Hutton & Company's smear party. Fine! You proved your point. All you care about is fueling the Feud..You're not interested in the facts of the Feud, only about keeping it going, at any cost. And that point is evident. Feuding for the sake of Feuding, and generating more of it, and the hurt, just because you get your kicks out of it..You owe us an apology in NFA for smearing our kids, whether meant as satire or not. It was low, and very disgusting of you. I have nothing more to say to you. Tallman may enjoy this stuff -- I know Linsey does, and obviously, so do you. I do not and neither does Kathy. People try to force us into this shit, and you play right along with them. You're a real pleasure.

Yes, I received your \$20 resub check. No, I didn't deposit it. I don't really want to. I don't need your Feud mongering and troublemaking, even as a potential, in my zine.

Yes, this letter is unlabelled. Knowing you, you'll probably pass it on to one of Linsey's supporters or Linsey himself, to use it against me and say -- see, he goes after poor, neutral Chris for no reason at all. Of course, they won't mention your smears of my family in print. That's the Linsey sides' style.

FNC: Whew! Thanks for the only negative comment to arrive to date about my work as FNC. To go through your letter:

1) I'm sorry that you were offended by my material. There were a lot of things your enemies in the Feud could have been yelled about if they had chosen, such as references to Mind Rassling, or bonuses to toady to Bruce Linsey, or Mark Berch, Fred Davis, and Rod Walker having a bonus to control the Dipcon Committee, or people on both sides getting tagged with a VIOLENT alignment. But as to what I said about anyone is in line with what you and your allies have said about them in the Feud. Were you offended when the editor of BERSAGLIERI said that Phyllis had sent him a "registered letter bomb?" I thought it was rather funny myself. But I DO apologize if you were offended.

2) You claim I am not interested in the facts of the feud, and am only interested in keeping it going at any cost. This is not true -- early this summer I talked to Kathy on the phone for 156 minutes in a call which ended at 02:19 EDT. We mostly talked about the Feud, as Kathy's Korner and a printed phone bill will testify. As to keeping it going .. I am issuing my own broadside to counter Ken Peel's broadside in which I state that I would be willing to serve as an arbitrator to "end any Feud."

3) Yes, I do enjoy The Feud, and I admit it, unlike a lot of other people. You say you and Kathy don't. Come on now. Who was it that printed the picture of a missing child with "Phyllis Byrne -- last seen, Dalton, MA." Unlike Bruce Linsey, who condemns you for this action, I do NOT; however, it IS a Feud action. I personally thought it was extremely funny.

4) As to the \$20 I sent you to increase my sub balance from the present 105, I hope you will accept my explanation of my actions, and allow me to resub to your zine. If not, then please return the check. As to the disposition of your letter, since you sent it in comment to my MD #2, I have decided to print it with all the other comments. Again I apologize to you or to anyone else who found IM offensive.

THE FEUDS

Several new Feuds have started since last issue, and one Feud has ended:

1985AL Byrne, K. / McIntyre, B. 5/0 2-way WIN! parties make up.

Several Feuds have started, some related to the fake DW, some related to the use of the telephone, and 1985AS growing out of the ever popular 1984B.

1985AP Linsey, B. / Walker, R. 5/5 Dragging DW into the Feud

1985AQ Byrne, K. / Extrom, J. 8/5 Long distance cussouts / writing for fakes

1985AR Corbin, K. / Linsey, B. 5/5 Barrings from cons

1985AS Hutton, S. / Langley, S. 8/8 Supporting their leaders uber alles

1985AT Berch, M. / Schillins, B. 5/5 Telephone ethics

1985AU Hutton, S. / Schillins, B. 5/5 Points of law

1985AV Brown, R. / Schillins, B. 5/5 Ethics and law

There they are, the last Feud Numbers to be issued in 1985! the next Feud to come to my attention will be 1986A. Who will gain this coveted Feud Number?

We now have enough Feud Numbers to have **INFLUENTIAL FEUDER RANKINGS**. To make the Rankings, a player must have participated in two or more Feuds in the past year. The Rankings are based on the following criteria:

1) Participation in a Feud counts as five points plus one point for each point of peak intensity of the Feud.

In case of a tie:

2) The average peak intensity of all Feuds the Feuder has participated in.

3) The peak intensity of the worst Feud the Feuder has engaged in.

4) The current intensity of the worst Feud the Feuder has engaged in.

5) The number of opponents of the most prolific Feuder the Feuder being ranked is Feuding with! (if you are Feuding with a Big Time Feuder, some of that glory reflects on you).

6) A Feud based on a persons race, gender, religion, ancestry, disability, age, or sexual orientation is considered more virulent than a Feud without one of these elements, all other things being equal.

INFLUENTIAL FEUDER RANKINGS, 1985

	Feuds	AI	Rating
1. Berch, M.	10	6.50	115
2. Linsey, B.	7	7.28	86
3. Wrobel, E.	6	6.00	66
4. Sacks, R.	5	6.80	59
5. Walker, R.	5	6.20	56
6. Caruso, J.	5	6.00	55
7. Hutton, S.	5	5.60	53
8. Byrne, K.	4	7.00	48
9. Olsen, R.	4	6.50	46
10. Coughlan, G.	4	6.50	46
11. Schilling, B.	4	5.00	40
12. Boardman, J.	3	7.67	38
13. Lansley, S.	3	6.67	35
14. Brown, R.	3	6.33	34
15. Pack, J.	3	5.00	30
16. Henricks, R.	3	5.00	30
17. Holley, M.	2	5.00	20
18. Peery, L.	2	5.00	20

Please note that it is the FNC's job to gather and publish Feud-related statistics. It is NOT the job of the FNC to determine who started or who is guilty in any Feud, as these are irrelevant concepts in MesaDiplomacy.

Next issue I hope to compile an Influential Feuder Rankings based on ALL FN's, not just 1985's. Also in a future issue, I intend to readjust current Feud intensities that have been reported to me.

This issue began with songs, and shall end with it. This song is to be sung to the tune of "We Are The World." Have a nice winter, (winter is very pleasant here in Sacramento) and until spring.

HAPPY FEUDING!

Sincerely,

**Chris Carrier
Official Hobby FNC
MesaDiplomat and Feud Fan**

WE ARE THE FEUD

Sung to the tune of "We Are The World"

There comes a time when we heed a certain call
 When Dip World must divide together as two
 There are people Feuding
 And its time to lend a hand
 To your side
 The greatest thing of all

We can't go on pretending day by day
 That someone, somewhere will make a change
 We are all a part of the Hatfield-McCoy family
 And the truth, you know
 Feuds are all we need

CHORUS:

We are the Feud, we are the Feuders
 We are the ones who liven your mail
 So lets start subbing
 There's a choice we're making
 We're fighting our own wars
 It's true we'll make a better zine
 Just you and me

Send them a note so they know that someone cares
 And their zines will be stronger and free
 As Dip as shown us, by turning truth to lies
 So we must all lend a helping hand

REPEAT CHORUS:

When you're down and out, when there seems no hope at all
 But if you just believe there's no way we can fall
 Let us realize that a change can only come
 When we stand together and win

REPEAT CHORUS

abc letters xyz

((If you write me a letter, some or all of it will probably end up here. Since you don't want that to happen, be sure to label your letters 'not for print'.))

Some of these letters are a bit dated. Many were written before the author had recieved the latest issue of NFA.)

Ron Brown ...Re CDO: Just to make it official, I nominate Claude Gautron and Bruce McIntyre for the positions of committeemen of the CDO...

Re Hobby: The Diplomacy World fake was fun and harmed no one. In fact, it did contain some good genuine articles and hobby news which we can't get in the real DW. Anyhow, no patience with those bitching about it. As for the rescue attempt, we shall see. No. 40 was not worth the price of a subscription ((but it was also free)). I don't buy DW to read about DW. Perhaps it will get better, but who the hell is J.C. Hodgins?

Re Homosexual Crap: I know you take care to include the word fundamentalist when mentioning religion and gays, but I would like to point out, especially for those who tend to gloss over the distinction, that not all Christians are followers of Jerry Falwell and ilk. I consider myself a Christian and haul my family off to church most Sundays to partake in symbolic cannibalism. I have never heard a sermon condemning gays -- or any expression of the human sex drive -- and if I did, I'd walk out. If religion does not lead one to understanding and compassion for all humanity, then it's not Christianity as I understand it. Your essay on the bible was interesting, but to me the bible was only one step (acutally several steps, as it was written by different groups over a long time period) in man's grappling with the mysteries of life and creation. It contains many illuminating and insightful observations, but so do the works of Shakespeare -- yet I don't hear anyone suggestion we adopt Shakespeare's moral standards as the "one true way".

Re Our Crazy World: Who we gonna hate now that Trudeau, Levesque, Davis, and Loughheed are gone? Easy. Mulroneu has a cabinet filled with ~~fools~~ subjects fully deserving our derision. The trouble is, these guys are serious. First it was trying to sell us rancid tuna; next they'll be selling us capital punishment and more stringent censorship laws. Look how they reacted to prostitution. They got a report filled with sensible suggestions on controlling the problems associated with prostitution, so they elect to ignore that and pass laws making it illegal for people to engage in conversations on street corners!

((I agree that Mulroneu and company deserve our derision. My point was that they are difficult to hate. Trudeau, etc. were men of ideas, who you could love or hate. (Hate, mostly.) The pathetic little creatures who replaced them are so much smaller than life that it's difficult to work up strong emotions about them. You may hold them in contempt, you may be appalled that such cynical amoralists could come to power, but can you really hate such nonentities?))

Anonymous Dear so-called editor:

I demand that you immediately reinstate Linda Carson in her position as food editor. Her articles were tastefully and artfully contrived -- unlike the rest of your so-called 'zine.

I should hardly need to point out that before one is able to engage upon the activities you describe in your so-called blue pages, one needs nutritious and wholesome food. Likewise, your readers need wholesome food for thought!

As for the question of who is to wear the pants in NFA, frankly, who cares? If you prefer wearing tutus while Ms. Carson prefers wearing a tux as you cut and paste, that is for the two of you to work out -- and your so-called readers should not be deprived of Ms. Carson's talents because of your problems in selecting a suitable costume!

I suggest, no demand, that you immediately offer your sincere apologies to Ms. Carson, kowtowing as many times as necessary to win her agreement to return. If she should choose to write rancid tuna recipes, remember, she has the backing of the federal cabinet!

A so-called angry reader!

That Linsey Creature

I see that you have fired your cooking editor, Linda Carson. In one respect, this is too bad; I suppose it means the end of that budding tradition called HummusCon. But at least this means that the stage is now set for me to achieve my lifelong ambition. That's right -- I hereby apply for the position of NFA cooking editor. I am not without credentials. My specialty -- cow's tongue -- has received worldwide acclamation (at least among those people who attended BRUXCON '84). So without further ado, I offer the following recipe as proof of my culinary expertise.

1 cow	1 pair of tweezers (large)
1 large pot of water	1 onion, quartered
1 bay leaf	1 large roasting pan
1 baster	Garlic powder, salt, paprika (pinches)
2 sq. ft. of foil	3-4 people

Locate one cow. Using the tweezers, gently remove her tongue. Bring the pot of water to a boil. It is easiest to do this by heating it. Immerse the tongue and reboil. Then drain off the water and rinse any residual cud from the surface. Repeat the process, this time adding the quartered onion and bay leaf for additional seasoning. Now boil gently for 2 1/2 to 3 hours, depending on your texture preference. After draining for the second time, peel off the taste buds and the epidermis lining the underside. (Dogs find this delicious, by the way, so don't waste it.) Put the tongue in the roasting pan; season lightly with garlic powder, salt, and paprika; then cover with foil and bake for 20 minutes on each side at about 400 degrees. Baste with water from the boiling pot. Slice pieces about one-half inch thick, starting with the tip and working back toward the throat. Serve hot and tender; one tongue serves about 3-4 adventurous souls!

I look forward to submitting more recipes to titillate the taste buds of NFA's gourmet readers. Next month: how to prepare Campbell's Chicken Noodle Soup.

((Are there any other applicants, or do I have to let Linsey take over yet another hobby service?))

Dennis Duncan ...I know that feuds are a part of the hobby...but all the print dedicated to egos resembling rancid tuna is ridiculous. Similar to exposing a dish of plague cultures to an air-conditioning system.

Regarding "12 Pages of Homosexual Crap": well I suppose you have to get it out of your system some way...pun intended. However, I subscribed to a Diplomacy mag...not a proselytizing forum. The Dip magazine is quite good which would tempt me to resubscribe. I find the blue pages interesting but non-functional as far as I am concerned, which tempts me not to resubscribe. An interesting set of polarities. We'll see what will resolve.

((I'm curious what, exactly, there is in NFA that you like. Surely, "interesting but non-functional" could describe almost everything in NFA. Most of NFA has precious little to do with Diplomacy, and it's always been that way.))

Mark Matuschak Another NFA has arrived (#34)...and gone. I must admit that my enjoyment of NFA has gone progressively downhill lately. Can I make a couple of suggestions? OK, I will.

First, do you really have to print all that feud crap. Obviously, I'm in a minority of publishers who find all that garbage interesting. Is the idea of publishing to play games and have fun or isn't it? It seems that most people would rather attack each other ad nauseum (sorry for the Latin; lawyers, you know...). Gimme a break! Even if I assume that one side or the other (are there only two? or two hundred?) is totally, completely right and has been viciously wronged by the other, what does it prove to argue about it incessantly? Who's trying to prove what to whom? Everybody, their total virtue, and nobody, respectively.

Second, I've been disappointed by all that homosexual crap (no pun intended). Who cares? If I had a special supplement about my views on Rule 26(b)(4) of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure, would you give a damn? Now that particular rule has given me a lot of headaches recently -- it relates to how, what, and when you can get information from the opposing party's expert witnesses. Am I fascinating you? ((Actually, yes.)) I didn't think so. ((And I thought all lawyers were taught to never ask a question unless you are certain what the answer will be...)) That's my life, and what interest do you have in that aspect of it, or for that matter, what business is it of yours? Likewise, I have zero interest in your sex life, and what business is it of mine?

Apparently, it's important for you to mention it to others. Fine. I mention small bits of my personal life in TBB ((The Buzzard's Breath)), too. But aren't you making a big deal out of it? Wouldn't you think it was pointless if I gave a detailed description of how I decided (I don't remember debating it) that I was heterosexual?

Anyway, the problem with both of the above is that they sap the humour out of NFA -- what I always found to be one of its strong points. Am I a lone voice in the wilderness... Hope not!

((As for feuding, see my response to Fred Wiedemeyer's letter. As for 12PoHC, we seem to disagree. TBB has always been a 'zine that had little to do with your personal life; NFA has always been a 'zine that is very personal. They are different sorts of 'zines. If you don't like 12PoHC, don't read it; if you don't like NFA, don't subscribe. I don't agree that 12PoHC saps the humour from NFA; it has contained some of the funniest stuff to appear in NFA (the 3 accounts of the visit to the gay bar in #32/33, for example.))

Fred Wiedemeyer I think Ken Peel's letter makes a lot of sense. And I feel strongly obliged in boycotting any 'zine which sponsors an outlet for the feud. My sub expired (expires) whatever #36 and I might not renew for the following reason. There's too much time and energy wasted in this feud and that includes my 90¢ CAN per issue -- most of which I don't read -- the feud. On top of that I only play one game in NFA, hardly justifying the cost. I've talked to others, and they feel the same way. I have repeatedly asked you, Steve, to open another game and sign me up. All the effort you put into the feud could be put to better use opening more games in your 'zine. Another solution would be to send games only to those who only want the games (not the feud) at a reduced cost. And anybody who wants the whole issue can pay full price. Since I am always interested in the other letters, jokes, and articles (anything besides the feud) I'll either have to miss out on this or perhaps you'll be able to separate the feud from the rest of the 'zine and send it out separately to those who ask for and pay for it.

Hopefully, you'll have a constructive answer to this, Steve.

((So much to answer! First, I have no plans to open any new games in NFA for the time being. This has nothing to do with the feud. In the whole history of NFA, I have begun exactly one game. Every other game has been an orphan of one sort or another. I may begin a second NFA game one of these days; then again, I may not. I'm not interested in GMing many games. If you are looking for game openings in a Canadian 'zine, you should write to Dave Carter or Bob Acheson. I'm pretty sure they both have openings. If you subscribe to Buffalo Steak Tartare, you can sign up for the one game of Diplomacy that I'll be running there.

Most publishers require you to have a subscription to play in their games. Since I know that NFA isn't for everybody (it never has been and never will be), I'm willing to make an exception. Anybody who doesn't want to receive NFA doesn't need to. For \$5, the player will receive game reports and address lists only for as long as he lasts in his game or games.

If it's just the feud that you dislike: 1) Most or all of the feud material is concentrated in "Fighting Words", which you don't need to read. And the non-feud portion of NFA still costs a lot more than 90¢ to produce. 2) The feud shows signs of winding down. The armistice proposals by both sides now seem virtually identical. 3) Even if the feud continues, it is moving to The Not For Hire. I approve of this move, and I'm helping it along. If a subject is being covered in TNFH, and does not relate to previous discussions in NFA, I now edit out references to that subject from letters in NFA. There are two specific subjects in this category that have been edited out of letters this issue. 4) If, despite all of this, feud letters are still common in NFA after the beginning of the summer, I will then take steps to ensure that feuding leaves NFA. Now that TNFH exists, I see no reason for NFA to continue to be a feuding 'zine in the long run.

I realize that you and many others do not like the feuding in NFA. I allowed feuding in NFA because I felt (and still feel) that it's important for there to be a place where anyone can have his say, and where courtesy copies and the right to reply will be respected. TNFH is such a place. Let the feuding go there! I think it will naturally disappear from NFA; if not, I'll help it disappear.))

Bruce Poppe OK, now that you've proven that the Half-and-Half Club exists ((by mailing Bruce a matchbook cover from the club)), now the remaining items. (I've been learning the Linsey system of debate.) At this point, it is necessary for you to demonstrate that it is, in fact, the bar you were writing about. This leaves aside the question of whether or not it is a gay bar, which may or may not be demonstrated by the above. And I'm warning you -- none of those New York-style tricks, like saying that the proof doesn't exist any more. I don't care if the place has burned to the ground, you still ought to be able to prove that's the place.

...The copy of XTRA! ((a guide to gay Toronto)) was very much appreciated. I'll take you up on the tour, but not until the weather warms up. Since I'm not too familiar with gay life, could you comment on how Toronto might be different from major U.S. cities in that type of regard?

((Very little would be different. Gay bars are very similar all around the world.))

There is also another question in my mind: I can understand a mixed gay bar (that is, the men are interested in the other men, and the women are interested in the other women). But if there's a continuum of personality types which stretches from exclusively hetero- to exclusively homo-, where do the people in the middle of that spectrum (the so-called bisexuals) fit in when it comes to bars? Are there bars where they fit in and some where they don't? (Obviously some clubs are exclusively male or exclusively female.) Or do they restrain their interest in the opposite sex when in gay bars? How's it work in Toronto (and elsewhere, for that matter)? Or do the people who frequent gay bars just relate to one sex (in the way in which you have no interest in women)?

((Most people, at any given time, are predominantly interested in one sex, although they may also have some interest in the other sex. Most of the people you would meet in a gay bar are primarily interested in the same sex. You can try to pick up someone of the other sex in a gay bar. You might succeed, but you might also get a blunt rejection. Bear in mind that many women regard gay bars as the one place they can be sure they won't get hit upon by sleazy men.

A bisexual man would go to heterosexual places to meet women, and gay places to meet men, bearing in mind that the men in one place, and the women in the other place, would probably be unavailable. Some places have a mixed gay/straight crowd. In these places, you can at least be sure you won't get a "what kind of freak are you" look when you ask someone of either sex to dance. But, you run the substantial risk that the person you set your eye upon may be the "wrong" sexual orientation. I'm not aware of any place in the world that caters only to bisexuals.

In most small cities, the gay places cater to both men and women. In larger cities, there are usually some places that are exclusively or almost exclusively male or female.

Chris Carrier First off, I would like you to correct an impression made in your reply to my letter in NFA 35, in which you gave the impression that my girl friend was a lot older than she is. She's only 43, which is certainly young enough to get pregnant.

((Since I know that lives could be at stake here (yours and, if I should ever meet Pamela, mine), let me say as clearly as possible:
CHRIS CARRIER'S GIRL FRIEND IS NOT OLD!))

I enjoyed your reply to Pack in NFA 34. The best part of it was "should Canada ever become a tyranny like the Soviet Union, Iran, or Utah,..." which could lead us to a philosophical discussion on the nature of tyranny. (My old high school would no doubt be considered a tyranny, but I did not think so at the time...) Is Utah a tyranny? This seems like a good place to start the discussion. My initial opinion is that Utah is not a political but it is a popularly supported cultural dictatorship. (There are, after all, a multiplicity of candidates running for office in Utah elections. However the dominance of the Moron church ((should I assume that was a typo?)) makes the sort of wide-open debate that one finds in places like California or Ontario impossible, yet the majority of the Utah population likes it that way, hence the term popular dictatorship.)

Joke being told: "What's written on Dan White's tomb? What goes around comes around!" Seriously, the White case did result in a great deal of outrage in California, and in 1982 a ballot proposition called the Victims' Bill of Rights was passed which abolished the use of the "diminished capacity" defense which caused the murder charges to be reduced to involuntary manslaughter. Dan White has been used as a classic example of someone who played games with a shrink and got off soft. Please note the enclosed clippings about a criminal case which I find almost as amusing/fascinating/funny-sick as The Feud, about this wacko named Cameron Hooker who kidnapped a woman and kept her as his sex slave for ((more than)) 7 years. Note that the judge in the case praised the jury for ignoring the defense psychiatrist and in pronouncing a sentence of 104 years stated "one Dan White case is enough". As for White himself, I finally think he did the decent thing in owning up to what he did and paying for it with his life as he should have done in court back in 1979. (Yes, I do believe in capital punishment for murder, rape, malicious mischief and other high crimes...)

((The best comment I heard on the Dan White suicide came from Lenny Giteck, editor of The Advocate: *Now Dan White has committed his third murder. There is considerable irony here. White, the macho all-American boy, whined his way through life, always laying blame for his problems elsewhere -- even on the junk food he ate. Milk, supposedly the weak pansy, spoke out proudly for his beliefs and took responsibility for his actions. Milk had the courage to face death; White lacked the courage to live life.*

About the Feud...yes, I do enjoy the Feud. The difference between me and the rest of the hobby, however, is that I am willing to come out of the closet and admit it. If the people who decry The Feud on both sides were serious, the Feud would have ended a long time ago...

Arthur Majoor First bit of news is that I've moved from the base to an apartment I share with another soldier. ...I've also turned into a closet "Yuppie" since I bought a Saab car. For the starving students out there, a Saab is the Volvo's expensive cousin, designed by the same folks who build jet fighters for the Swedish Air Force.

The car is definitely made for the cold climates. Aside from careful sealing and insulation, the seats have electric heaters built into them. When you sit on the seat, a switch is closed and your buns get nicely toasted.

Jet fighter heritage is also evident with fingertip controls and huge curving windshields. All this sophistication comes at a price (\$7000 Cdn for my 1978, over \$23000 Cdn for an 85). ((\$23000 for one car!!? I can ride the bus & subway for a month for \$38.50.))

As it happens, a lot of guys like driving expensive "sports" cars, so the words "loan payment" and "debt" are quite common. I've managed to slip into Yuppiedom on the cheap so to speak.

Now to some thoughts on the last issue of NFA (#34) and the "12 Pages..." in particular.

The French philosopher Voltaire said "I disagree with what you say but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

As a soldier in the Canadian army, it is my duty to uphold the freedom of speech and other freedoms which Canadians take for granted. This is not an easy job, as I am always subject to the sort of Soviet rubbish accusing me of being personally responsible for the arms race, SDI, the cruise missile, etc..

While this is annoying, it is usually easy to counter the propaganda with truth. I once ended an argument by telling the young man to paint a bull's eye on the top of his head for the Soviets to aim at. The more I learn about this business, the scarier it becomes.

However, that is not the real problem I wish to address. The hateful tone of John Pack's letters reminded me of the racism currently in flower here in Alberta.

I'm in the unenviable position of allowing (however indirectly) such hate to exist. This presents a real moral problem for me -- as a professional soldier, why should I give my life to defend these sort of people? My duty to all Canadians is quite clear, anyway it's hard to selectively die for your country.

If this sounds theoretical, you may consider this: most "tankers" die by being burned alive in their tanks. Who would you be burned alive for: Steve Hutton or John Pack? I wish I had a chance, but taking the Queen's nickle is a hard road.

(Incidentally, I wonder if Bill Highfield ever had any thoughts along these lines. Any American servicemen out there?)

((There will always be people with idiotic, hateful ideas. You may allow them to speak, but you also keep them from acting. In the sort of country the Soviets would create, such people would have the power they crave. If they can only speak, we have nothing to worry about.))

Robert Sacks ...I found your Chris Carrier subzine to be tasteless and harmful. Why pick on Marycon? I may have reasons, but I haven't made them public yet, and I certainly wouldn't forge a registration form which would (a) indiscriminately libel people, (b) discourage people from attending, and (c) allow people to believe that they have somehow registered for a convention when they haven't. The Illuminated Megadip game serves to demonstrate that its author knows next to nothing about Illuminati or the Diplomacy hobby, or even what is happening in feuds. To justify all of this by citing "an old NFA tradition of making fun of feuds" is about as high-minded and ethical as the statement that "it was fun to be a concentration camp guard and kill all those vermin and swine".

((Does this mean I shouldn't print my forged registration form for the Robert Sacks School of Rhetorical Excess? Any reader with a spare sense of humour is asked to send it to Robert Sacks/4861 Broadway 5-V/New York, NY 10034/USA.))

...Does a person have the right to say "I don't have a 'zine" in response to an inquiry based on an unauthorized listing in a 'zine directory? I wouldn't, but then I avoid lying. It would be true to say that the unauthorized listing was a lie though, because any listing implies that the listed entry consents to be so listed ((meaning that everyone on Toronto's "10 most wanted" list consented to being there? or that the list is a lie?)) -- I guess I am going to have to rethink the address list of hobby service providers I included in KGO'ZD #2 ... I have it, I'll allow service providers to remove their names from the list.

Actually, I was not including you among Kathy's "obnoxious friends and acquaintances". I was thinking of myself and Arnawoodian for starters.

((The hobby needs a "who is Kathy Byrne's most obnoxious friend or acquaintance" poll. I'm sure I could do well in it, even if Bruce Linsey didn't run it.))

...Galileo was insisting that his entire theory, especially including his obviously false theory of tides, be taught as Church dogma. HE WAS WRONG. There was no question of academic freedom or scientific freedom. This was a question of a non-cleric attempting to force the Church to teach falsehoods as dogma, over the objection of other leading scientists. The reaction of the Church was justified. Overbearing but predictable and justified.

((How, pray tell, did Galileo, one man, try to force the Catholic Church, the most powerful institution in the world, to teach something it didn't want to? If, as you claim, Galileo tried to get his false theory of tides taught as Church dogma (and I underline the word "if" here because you are the only source I have for this, and I don't consider you very reliable) the justified reaction by the Church would be to say "no". It would not be to subject him to the Roman Inquisition.

His major run-in with the Church concerned the Copernican theory of heliocentrism (that the Earth revolves around the sun). The Bible clearly supports geocentrism. (A modern geocentrist has found over 2000 Bible verses that support geocentrism, and none that support heliocentrism.) Galileo printed a pamphlet that promoted heliocentrism and made geocentrists look foolish. The Roman Inquisition (which had earlier burned Giordano Bruno at the stake for heresy) forced Galileo to recant. THEY WERE WRONG!))

I must take issue with part of the article entitled "The Bible." Ephesians 2:15 does not say that Christians are not bound by the laws of Leviticus. If you look at that verse in context, you'll see that Paul was referring to circumcision. Start at 2:11 and read through 2:16 and it should be quite clear that this is the only thing he is talking about. The reason Christians don't have to be circumcised is because Christ wasn't (Go ahead and look, there's no verse that says he was).

Also, in Romans 7:12 Paul says "... the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good". The idea of the whole chapter here is that man didn't know what sin was until God gave them the laws. In fact much of this book is about that subject. Look at 4:15 "...for where no law is, there is no transgression." Even if you don't agree with that, think about it logically: Would God want people to go around killing and stealing and coveting people's oxen? Of course not! The laws set down in the old testament were intended for all time, not just until God hands out an unconditional pardon. Christ died so that Christians would be excused for past sins, not so that they could have a blank check to commit any act they choose, regardless of past law.

Finally, you say that Christ had nothing to say about homosexuality. That's true enough, but he also never says himself that Christians aren't bound by the old testament laws. If the word of Christ is most important, you can ignore all of what Paul says and take what Christ says about the old testament laws: Nothing.

Regardless of all that, if you're brought up in a religion that doesn't suit the life-style in which you wish to live, the best thing you can do is find a new one. I did, and I'm much happier as an agnostic than my parents are as Episcopalians.

((It's quite easy to find Bible verses that disagree with you. For example, Romans 6:14 *Sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace, Romans 7:6* *But now we are discharged from the law, dead to that which held us captive, so that we serve not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit, Romans 14:13-14* *Then let us no more pass judgement on one another, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother. I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but it is unclean for any one who thinks it unclean, 1 Corinthians 10:23* *All things are lawful.* Is that enough? As an atheist, I find it comforting that Bible verses can be marshalled to support both sides in just about any argument.

If Christians are not excused from obeying the laws of Leviticus, why are they able to eat pork and not be circumcised? Your argument that Christians don't need to be circumcised because Jesus wasn't is unconvincing. Just as the Bible doesn't describe Jesus being circumcised, I suspect that it doesn't describe him taking a crap. Are we then to assume that he wasn't circumcised and went around constipated? If Jesus never defecated, this would surely have been noted; likewise, if the leader of a Jewish cult had not been circumcised, his followers would certainly have considered this important enough to record for posterity.

Christians are still supposed to obey the 10 commandments, because "the commandments...are summed up in this sentence, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself'." (Romans 13:9) Romans 13:8 says: *Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbour has fulfilled the law.*

While we're on the subject of laws, it would be a shame to ignore one of the most appalling sections of the Bible. In Romans 13:1-2, Paul says: *Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore he who resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgement.* This, and similar statements by Martin Luther, convinced German Lutherans that it would be morally wrong to oppose Hitler.

Christianity is a mixed bag of the true and the false, the good and the evil. I agree that people should reject Christianity. But, those who (for whatever reason) wish to remain Christians can do so without being anti-gay.))

Scott Marley Ten men in five years seems like rather a lot to me. I'd think twice before starting an affair with anyone whose track record was so poor. I didn't mean to imply that I doubted the value of safe sex guidelines. I'm just skeptical of the attitude the gay press is pushing, that casual sex is safe again as long as you follow the rules. We don't know enough yet to say that, and I think encouraging that thinking is irresponsible and dangerous.

((Casual sex, in itself, has never been dangerous. AIDS isn't a condemnation of a sexual lifestyle, it's a disease spread in certain ways by a virus. You can practice mutual masturbation and many other types of sexual activity with every man in the world without running a significant risk of getting AIDS. To reduce your chances of getting AIDS, you can either reduce your number of sex partners, or change the sexual acts that you perform (or both). Since the virus that causes AIDS is so common among gay men, just reducing your number of sex partners is not a good idea for gay men. Nor is just choosing your sex partners with care. You should assume that any gay, male New Yorker you sleep with has been infected. There is a depressingly high probability that you will be right. Safe sex is the only reasonable risk-reduction method for gay men who live in a large North American city and are not celibate or in a monogamous relationship.))

You are right about the Native being the only source of information about AIDS and Swine Fever Virus. That is a very good reason for reading it.

You are also right about my meaning of "proof": I mean to say that proofs are only appropriate to mathematics. However, it is not by any means a private, personal definition: it is the way any good scientist would use the word.

I think you have a real misunderstanding of how psychologists work. First, the two "proofs" you describe are no such thing. A proof is a conclusive demonstration; neither of your examples are conclusive. There are any number of alternate theories that would explain either example. What you describe are simply observations -- the second might be called an experiment of a sort -- but hardly proofs. Scientific method depends on forming hypotheses and testing them against observations and experiments, not on proofs.

Second, psychology depends on scientific method just like any other science. (I'm really just talking about empirical sciences here, not formal sciences like mathematics.) Your statement that a good psychologist depends more on his or her talent for dealing with people than on his or her knowledge is simply untrue. All the talent in the world ain't gonna help you bring a paranoid schizophrenic back to reality.

Your definition of "art" seems excessively loose to me. Of course, people are saying all the time things like "raising a child is a real art", but that's not a very strict use of the word, and I hardly think it's the way an artist would use the word. (My personal definition of "art" is "communication enjoyed for its own sake" -- that is, any form of communication where how something is said is more important than what is said.) Anyway, "art" and "science" have nothing to do with each other, and to say of something that "it's more of an art than a science" is like saying of an animal "it's more of a mammal than a quadruped." There's no reason at all why something can't be both.

Psychology is not a science because it is subject to the winds of fashion? What science isn't? Remember bloodletting? As for your assertion that art is marked by fashion is marked by progress -- I know of no human activity that is not marked by both, and the distinction seems useless to me. ((AAAARGH!))

Again, your assertion that art alone is dependent on one's talent is silly: do you really mean to say that there is no place for talent in science? (For that matter, why are we talking about art, anyway? Psychology is not an art, except in a very loose sense of the word "art"; and even if it was, it would have nothing to do with whether or not it was also a science.)

Certainly there are irresponsible psychologists, just as there are quack doctors. But I don't think your opinions about psychology are based on a real understanding of what that science involves. If you are basing your opinions on your experiences with school psychologists (who are seldom really psychologists at all -- you don't need much training to become one) and private therapists, then you are judging a very large group of people on the basis of a small but highly visible minority.

Most psychologists work in labs or in hospitals. They do not get their knowledge through intuition, nor from their "talent for dealing with people" (though that can help); they get it by performing experiments, or administering a certain therapy, and observing the results. ("Five thousand volts didn't cure him, let's try ten thousand"?) This is how all sciences work.

Even Freud, who has had such an influence on all of us, was basically just a scientist like Newton or Einstein. ((It pains me to type such a sentence. You are a cruel man, Scott Marley!)) He didn't dream up his theories out of his own mind: he was faced with some suffering patients, tried various treatments, observed which ones worked better than others, and gradually refined his theories as his understanding grew. That's not science? Then what is?

Yes, there are crummy psychologists, and yes, there is controversy in the field, but that has always been the case with any science, and always will be as long as that science is active.

If you make it to Manhattan, I'd be delighted to see you. Meanwhile, read up on some psychology -- you'll probably find it very interesting. Freud is always a good place to start, but read books by Freud, not about him. It's bad enough that the standard English translations make him sound a little stuffy (he's much more readable in German, if you can read German), but psychology textbooks often attribute to him all sorts of things that he never, never said, and gloss over the case histories that led Freud to his conclusions. Freud himself included all the case histories, and they are fascinating reading.

((For the same "condition", different psychologists will advocate different treatments (not just slightly different treatments, but at times exactly opposite treatments). Which treatment works? Answer: all of them sometimes, none of them always. Which school of therapy works the best? The "tell me your dreams" school? The "scream at the top of your lungs" school? The "electricity is good for you" school? (I'll keep you in suspense for a while before answering that one.)

You mention bloodletting, as if it refuted my claim that psychology is dominated by fashion while medicine isn't. Bloodletting has been replaced by something better. The medicine of the present is identifiably better than the medicine of the past, so a return to the past is never going to happen. Can the same be said of psychology? No way! Yesterday, masturbating was considered proof of mental illness. Today, not masturbating is considered (by many psychologists) proof that something is wrong. But, look which way the winds are blowing. 1986's Neurosis of the Year may well be "sexual addiction" (aka "sexual compulsion"), which has been moving up the charts at a dazzling pace. Any bets that masturbation won't be out of psychological fashion in a few years?

Yes, both fashion and progress are characteristics of any art or science. But, arts are dominated by fashion, and sciences are dominated by progress. Yes, a few minor ideas from the past may resurface in medicine or physics, but for the most part yesterday's science is gone forever because today's is better. Yes, a few technical improvements have been made in painting and sculpture, but there is no sense in which realism is better or worse than cubism, surrealism, impressionism, or any other style of art. We can't go back to yesterday's science because science is dominated by progress. We can go back to yesterday's artistic style because arts are dominated by fashion.

You would have me believe that psychologists get their notions from experimental evidence. Tell me, what experiment established that women wanted penises? that masturbation was a mental illness? that homosexuality was a mental illness? that homosexuality wasn't a mental illness?

Can you imagine if doctors couldn't agree whether or not cancer was a disease? Yet, psychologists disagree constantly about what is or isn't a mental illness. Can you imagine if some doctors held that the blood was unimportant, while others held that the skin was unimportant, while others held that the heart was unimportant or even nonexistent? Yet, some psychologists think dreams are important but others don't; some think emotions are important but others don't; some think the conscious mind is important but others deny that it even exists. Can you imagine if doctors couldn't agree on the proper treatment for pneumonia? Yet, psychologists will offer everything under the sun as a cure for a given "mental illness".

And which school of psychology is the most effective? If any one school were clearly more effective than another, it would triumph over the others. I have seen no evidence that one school is more effective than another. Also, it seems that just about any therapy will work for some therapists but not for others. All of this leads me to suspect that a psychologist's training in one school or another is a placebo. That the patient would do just as well if the shrink had been trained in another school, or if he had received no formal psychological training at all. Many patients who want to change would "get better" even without a psychologist. Many would "get better" if they had anyone at all with whom they could share their problems. I think that this is enough to explain psychology's success rate, which is low enough that there is little to explain.

I don't dispute that psychologists sometimes help people. Many people at one time or another want help in dealing with life's problems. In most cases, they would be better off seeking a friend who has good judgement and a lot of life experience. But, if they are not comfortable discussing their problem with a friend, and if they can afford it, they might benefit from seeing a psychologist. (Also, most universities offer counseling services that are free and are staffed by very practical people. These services are a real bargain.) (High school guidance counselors, by contrast, are the sort of people Darwin assured us are selected against. How they survived while the reptiles perished is a great mystery.)

Science deals best with simple problems. Physics has four forces, and the physicists keep trying to get rid of three of them. Chemistry has a hundred or so elements. Biology was an absolute mess until Darwin imposed some order on it. Medicine, which must deal with complicated physical systems, has only recently been of any real use to anybody. Psychology deals with human minds, which are unique and so complex that no one can begin to understand them. Until a Darwin comes along who can explain the complex mind with a simple structure, "scientific" psychology will continue to flounder. Freud wasn't such a man. Such a man hasn't been born and, I suspect, never will be.))

Rod Walker ((The earlier part of this letter is contained in "Fighting Words".)) Actually, that wasn't "12 Pages of Homosexual Crap"...it was umpteen pages of heterosexual crap and a few pages of heterosexual crap and a few pages of homosexual common sense. I have numerous miscellaneous comments.

You seem to assume that AIDS is a disease spread primarily by gay men. That is so in the European/American West. In Africa, things are different. As I understand it, AIDS victims there are about equally male and female, which suggests that it is spread primarily through heterosexual contact. And, indeed, if my understanding is correct, hetero contact there is almost as fluid and frequent as it is in the gay community here. If this is so, then it is probably only a matter of time before we start seeing significant numbers of non-gay victims. I feel also that you're wrong to pooh-pooh the AIDS plague as compared with, say, flu. A very large proportion of flu victims recovered, whereas AIDS seems to be close to 100% fatal. Because its incubation period is quite long, we're still looking at a potential for millions of deaths. I hope I am being unduly pessimistic, but my point is that we have no real reason for optimism at this point.

((We don't know how much of the African transmission has been non-sexual. In Africa, needles are re-used for vaccinations; this may have been a major cause of the disease's spread there. Also, the general lack of proper nutrition and health care in Africa may make Africans especially vulnerable to infections like AIDS.

In North America, AIDS doesn't seem to be spreading among heterosexuals. This is probably because women are much less effective than men at transmitting the virus. Here, gay men are at high risk; straight women are at some risk, especially if they have many sex partners or live in a large North American city; straight men and lesbians are at little risk, even if they are very sexually active. Straight men who frequent prostitutes may want to take some precautions (like using a condom), but the prostitutes will likely insist that they take these precautions for their own safety anyway.

I don't mean to pooh-pooh AIDS. AIDS is a very serious disease, especially for gay men. But, the media has grossly over-sold it, and has spread panic rather than understanding. This will become especially obvious if a flu pandemic strikes that kills millions of people in a single year.))

...Stephen Jay Gould is in fact a widely-respected scientist. He is one of several who have suggested that people are born gay... He is also heterosexual -- at least he is married and has children, which is a presumptive if not ironclad indicator.

I will have to agree with Pack that concern for others is an absolutely essential prerequisite for a just global society. He is half-right there. The other essential prerequisite is that those others, including the state, must care for the individual. Self-sacrifice is a two-way street. Your comment about dictatorships is valid only in the context that they demand of the citizens what they will not give back to the citizens. But the giving of self has to start somewhere, something that was told to the world nearly two millenia ago by one person and at other times by other persons. Yet that is the hardest thing for any of us to do, and much more so for those who wield power. We are in our present mess because we have not learned to give; neither we nor the State.

((Since the state doesn't produce, and since it must take in order to sustain itself, it cannot give without taking even more. I hope our state never has the ability to give more than it gives now!))

Which brings up this whole question of "anonymous" sex with multiple partners, a hallmark of gay society. Pack would regard it, and most people would too, as self-gratification. There is that element, and of course with some people that's all there is to it. But in fact, it is more than that. It is a complete surrendering/giving of the self without any hope of return (a repeat engagement, a consideration of value, whatever). Sex in marriage or "relationship" context is uniquely fulfilling in its own way, but is usually tied into a complex quid pro quo syndrome. Only "anonymous" sex can be truly unselfish and totally giving. I wonder if most of your readers realize that it is not at all untypical for a gay contact to occur in such a way that one man gives to the other without himself experiencing the orgasmic "payoff". I believe strongly in reciprocation, but I've been on both sides of that other way, always at the insistence of my partner. In this context I adopt the values of a more ancient time; I regard "anonymous" sex as a holy (if temporary) bond between two otherwise sundered souls. It is in the mutual joy of two human beings, each unselfishly offered to the other, that Man comes close to God. That is one of the ways, anyway... The religions of the West, exalted though they are, have failed to comprehend what is known in the East: the mystic and sacred nature of mutual pleasure. The West still foolishly regards love as something which can be conferred only on one Other, and that only for a long period. Rubbish! With a few exceptions, I have loved every man I ever went to bed (or wherever) with, and in a sense I still do. John Pack will want to tell you that God is a Mormon bluenose, but that is 180° from the truth.

...It is not at all clear that Paul disapproved of homosexuality itself. But even if he did, so what? Paul is not speaking for God; he is speaking entirely for himself. This is the same guy who said that women can't talk in church, nor could they be bishops. In fact Paul also seemed to have disapproved of fun on principle. ((He must have been a protestant!)) He could preach selfless love on one hand and preach all-purpose bigotry on the other. Paul in fact sometimes clearly states that he is expressing his own opinions, but the Church has stupidly insisted on accepting everything he wrote, from the sublime to the ridiculous, as coming from a direct pipeline to God. John Pack may want to wallow in that sort of rubbish, but there are people who can exercise a little sophisticated discrimination.

You are right that Jesus has no recorded logia on the subject. That's not surprising, since gay rights were not a burning issue in 1st-century Judea and Galilee. By the same token (since John Pack is a Mormon), there is nothing on the subject in the Book of Mormon nor in the Pearl of Great Price. However, as you may know, the Mormon Church maintains a resident prophet who claims to have tea with God. ((Herbal tea, no doubt, since Mormons don't like caffeine.)) This prophet claims to have it from the Old Deity Himself that being queer is a no-no. How convenient...

Your mention of John Pack's "particularly unpleasant brand of Christianity" brings up an important point. Mormonism is "Christianity" only by courtesy; at best, it is a highly heretical version of the older religion. It has many borrowings from Gnostic nonsense and adds numerous wild notions of its founder. Joseph Smith, as you may know, notorious as a psychic treasure-hunter and crystal-gazer. Among his numerous run-ins with the law, there is an 1826 conviction in New York of the misdemeanor of "glass looking". The original story of the finding of the "Book of Mormon" involved a run-in with a magical salamander and similar fantasies, but later the "official" version of the story omitted such unelevating details and substituted an alleged "angel"

(although the supposed apparition was really the spirit of a deceased person, not an angel; these things are (in orthodox theology, anyway) quite different). The "Book of Mormon", however, is in fact largely based on an unpublished novel (we'd now call it a SF romance) by Samuel Spalding, Manuscript Found. (How Smith came by the ms. is itself an interesting story; later on the Mormon Church was found still to have in its possession a portion of that manuscript attached to the ms. text of the "Book of Mormon"...they were very upset when it was correctly identified by handwriting experts.) Furthermore, the other alleged "historical" source for Mormonism, "The Pearl of Great Price", is in part supposed to be a translation by Smith of an Egyptian document called "The Book of Abraham". Unfortunately for the Mormons, the papyrus Smith used is still in existence, and turns out to be a part of the Book of the Dead (in the Theban recension, the so-called "Book of Anni"). Smith also copied out bits and pieces of the papyrus and claimed these represented some of the writing on the so-called tablets which he supposedly translated to form the "Book of Mormon".

It has taken a long time to lay Smith's scam bare. However, even the text of the "Book of Mormon" is enough to alert the reader. Unfortunately, most Americans are really not conversant with the archeology of the New World, so they may find the "BoM"'s fictitious version convincing...or at least they don't know enough to see its falsehood. The "BoM" states that the New World was settled by three groups of people. First, a group fleeing the "confusion of languages" at teh Tower of Babel. (Since the so-called Tower is itself a folk-tale, that alone should suffice to show the phoney origins of the "BoM".) Second and Third, two groups leaving Palestine before the fall of the Kingdom of Judah, one of them sailing across the Pacific, the other the Atlantic. Within a very few generations, these settlers erected a complex civilization with populous cities. This scenario is disproved by the archeological record which shows an indigenous civilization rising in a continuous cultural sequence out of tiny villages dating from some thousands of years B.C.. Furthermore, the archeological record reveals that American civilizations which show no signs of having origins in the Middle East: different written and spoken languages, totally unrelated calendars, and so on.

The civilization described in the "BoM" is likewise improbable. We find people using elephants and horses, animals which in the New World died out millenia before the alleged events described in the "BoM" and which, in any event, are known not to have been used by any native American civilization. These people supposedly used the wheel, a device unknown to the American Indians (with one exception, that very late in the Aztec period when there is evidence that wheeled children's toys were used...but the wheeled vehicle and the potter's wheel never appeared in the New World until the Spanish conquest). They also supposedly worked in iron (and steel!), a metal which the Amerinds were known not to have used. The "BoM" prominently mentions bronze, an alloy the Amerinds are known not to have developed; ditto, brass (actually, the Aztecs may have developed bronze shortly before the Spanish Conquest...the evidence here is ambivalent). In fact, metallurgy was a very late development in America; copper-working didn't reach the Valley of Mexico, for instance, until about the 11th Century. The "BoM"'s picture of an advanced metallurgy some centuries B.C. is a crock. As is, of course, the whole book.

Mormon theology is itself strange. It combines many of the wierd features which we might associate with such con jobs as Gnosticism and Theosophy. In the Mormon view, for instance, God is a man from a previous (I assume) universe who got promoted to deity. Adam was also a god who volunteered to be demoted in order to start the human race on Earth. Any human being can get promoted to a deity if he does all the right things; then he can create his own universe and he and his wives can fuck eternally and create spirit children which in turn become the men of the worlds he creates. And so on.

An interesting aspect of the Mormon Church is its capacity for Big Brother-like doublethink. It will rewrite its own history, if necessary, to change its public image. A good example is the church's racism. John Pack will assure you (as he has been assured by his church) that there has never been any anti-black prejudice, that the Mormons have always ordained black "bishops", that even Joseph Smith himself ordained black "bishops". But that is actually far from the truth. The Mormons did not ordain black "bishops" until their so-called "prophet" got a "revelation" to that effect in 1978. Prior to that black Mormons (of which there were a few) were at best 2nd-class citizens. The literature of Mormonism is full of references to "a black skin" being the "mark of Cain", to racial intermarriage being a sin, to the impossibility of blacks being "priests", and so on. No doubt the Mormon Church is anxious to forget this unsavoury aspect of its past, but it can't do so by denying that it ever existed.

((The Jehovah's Witnesses are similar. They have several times in the past predicted that the world was about to end. Each time, they got a flood of new members just before the "end of the world" and lost a lot of members just after the world failed to end. Try to get one of them to admit this when he comes knocking at your door. I tried once and failed.))

Well, that should be sufficient. I mention all this because Mormons are great proselytizers, and generally prey on people who do not know much about that church and about its phony and unsavoury beginnings, and who are not well informed about the actual preColumbian history of this continent. Pack made some tentative moves to see whether he could try to convert me, but simply dried up when he found that I had a few facts at my disposal. People in the hobby should be careful what they believe in this area when it's a Mormon telling it to them.

On the other hand, Mormons are generally rather nice people, and their doctrines, while foolish, are not vicious. I have friends who are Mormons, and we simply don't talk religion in any organized fashion. When it comes down to it, their doctrines are only false to a greater degree than more orthodox Christians, but modern Christianity is itself based on a network of half-truths -- which, however, don't exist entirely by accident nor as a result of evil machinations in bad faith. The natural historical process is inevitably conducive more to the survival of what people want to hear than necessarily of the truth. Then again, truth is itself multi-layered, and a knowledge of the whole of objective truth is not at all compatible with free will. If we admit for the sake of argument that "divine revelation" exists, then it must necessarily be incomplete and even, on occasion, deceiving. If we admit for the sake of argument that "God" (however that may be defined) exists, then we must acknowledge that Her purposes with mankind may not be served by telling us everything there is to know; nor indeed by telling us the truth at all. Prophecy is the word of God, and God is obliged neither to be candid nor honest. Which gets us very far afield indeed, and into subjects I plan to write about elsewhere and in other media. Hence, it might be a good idea to end at this point, inasmuch as going any further would get us into rather sticky metaphysics.

((I'm afraid that your religion is even more conducive to doublethink than Mormonism. You can rationalize away any changes in theology by saying "I guess God was lying when She said that before". It is a disproofproof religion, since any part that is disproven is just another of God's lies. It seems to me that your god was lying when she claimed to exist.))

Fred Davis ...I don't think there's any evidence that George Washington was gay. I recently read the lengthy autobiography upon which the TV series was based. It seems to be a medical fact that he was sterile. This is why he never had any children, on either side of the bed. But, he seems to have been quite a ladies' man in his younger days. I would say you would have a case only if there was evidence that Alexander Hamilton was gay. If that were the case, then by deduction one might conclude that there was more to his relationship with Washington than met the eye. But, again, I've never seen any evidence to that effect.

((It's always hard to draw conclusions about the sex lives of dead people. For Hamilton, though, there's a very good case that can be made. He wrote a remarkable set of love letters to John Laurens, another young favourite of Washington's. Unfortunately, parts of the letters have been crossed out, either by Hamilton or by someone later. Other parts were simply left out of official versions of Hamilton's papers. As one editor wrote on one of Hamilton's letters, "I must not publish the whole of this." At least Hamilton's papers weren't burned, as were the papers of so many gay people.))

I have seen writings saying that James Buchanan was probably gay, based on the fact that he never married. Of course, in those days, with a "house" available practically everywhere for men of means, many men went through life without ever getting married. See Gore Vidal's Lincoln for a description of how upper class men entertained themselves in the 19th century.

J.C. Hodgins?

Ron Brown will go down in history as the first person to ask the question publicly. In a now-famous letter to NFA 36, he dared to ask, "who the hell is J.C. Hodgins?" Who is this man or woman who, where others have a name, has only enigmatic and vaguely religious initials?

This much is known for sure: J.C. Hodgins is the Eastern Canada editor for Diplomacy World. The rest is merely speculation. One hobbyist claims to have seen J.C. on a dim and foggy night. Another claims to have prayed to J.C. and been cured of leprosy. The tabloids, of course, have carried the inevitable "J.C. HODGINS IS THE FATHER OF MY BABY" stories.

The subject was even discussed at BruXCon. Linsey penned the double dactyl above. Mike Barno, on behalf of the New York Group for Boardgaming (NYGB), proposed a J.C. Hodgins award complete with a plaque from Avalon Hill. Another wit proposed that Hodgins get the Bruce McIntyre Masculine Attribute Award (for the hobby member who has increased most in prominence in the past year).

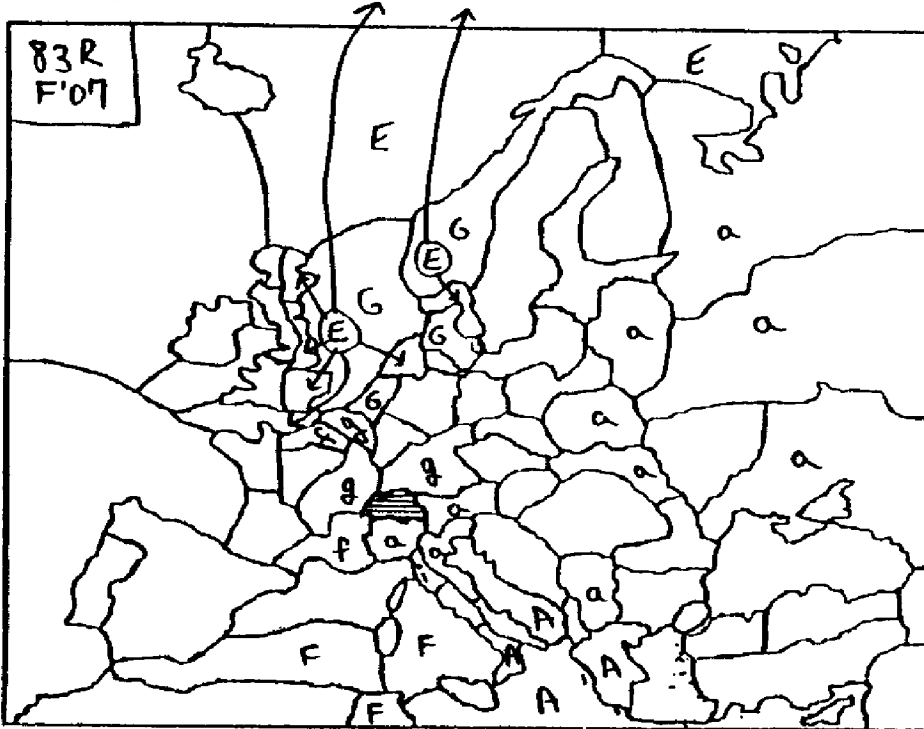
I, too, once asked who J.C. Hodgins was, but no more. Why the change? J.C. Hodgins, whose existence I didn't suspect a month ago, has just sent me a cheque for \$10. Yes, dear reader, J.C. Hodgins is now an NFA subscriber. Does anything else about him or her really matter?

Higgledy, piggedly
Steve, a Diplomacy
Mystery bothers me
So terribly.

Some ghost named Hodgins has
All-of-a-suddenly
Captured DW.
Hey, who is he?
by Bruce Linsey

7 Nations

52



Yes, it is 1907, and not 1906 as I indicated last season. Ake was apparently the only person observant enough to notice my error.

The standby for England is Pierre Touchette.

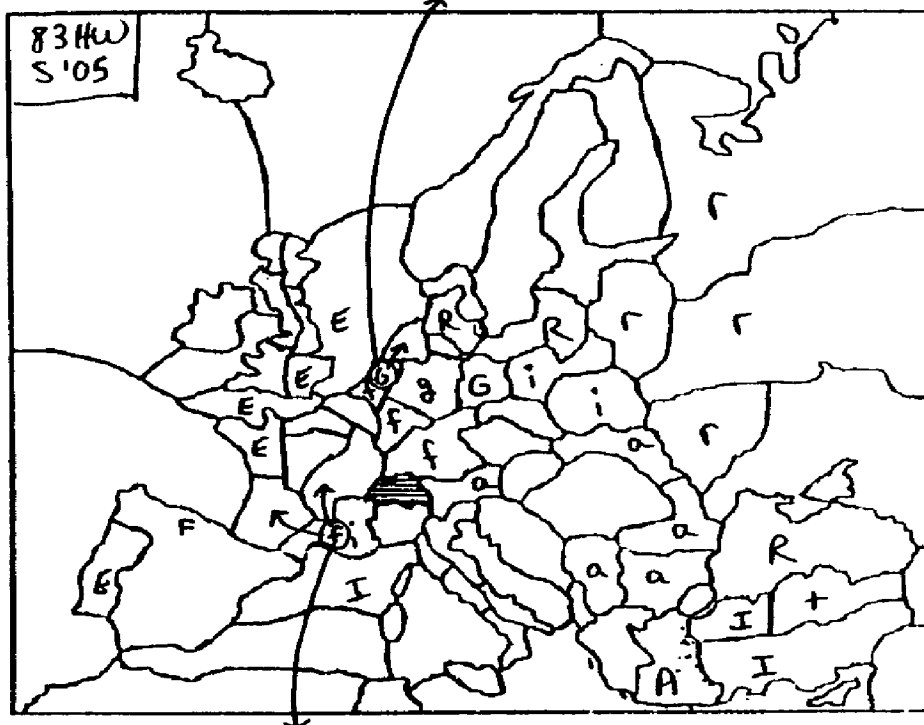
The deadline for Winter 1907 and Spring 1908 is March 7.

FALL 1907: AUSTRIA BEATS HIS HEAD AGAINST A BRICK WALL!

- Austria (Randolph Smyth): A War-Livonia, A Gal-War, A Rum-Gal, A Bul-Ser, A Arm-Sev, A Mos S A StP, A StP S GERMAN F Swe-Nwy, A Pie-Tus, A Tyo-Pie, A Ven S F Nap-Rom, F Nap-Rom, F Ion-Nap, F Adr-Ion, F Gre S F Adr-Ion.
 England (Gerry Van Alkemade? Pierre Touchette?): NMRI F Bar H, F Nwg H, F Nwy H (ret -Ska, OTB), F Nth H (ret -Hel, Eng, Lon, Yor, Edi, OTB).
 France (Claude Gautron): A Par-Pic, A Mar-Pie, F Tyrrh-Rom, F Wes-Tyrrh, F Tun S F Wes-Tyrrh.
 Germany (Ake Jonsson): F Swe-Nwy, F Ska-Nth, F Den S F Ska-Nth, F Hol S F Ska-Nth, A Ruh-Bur, A Bel S A Ruh-Bur, A Mun S A Ruh-Bur.
 Italy (John Davies): A Pie ret -Tus. A Tus-Ven.

1907 Supply Centre Chart

- Austria: Home, RUSSIA, TURKEY, Rum, Bul, Ser, Gre, Ven, Nap (16) ...build 2, as played 2 short.
 England: Home, ~~Nwy~~ (3) ...remove 1, even, or build 1, depending upon the retreats.
 France: Home, Por, Spa, Tun (6) ...build 1.
 Germany: Home, Hol, Bel, Den, Swe, Nwy (8) ...build 1.
 Italy: Rom, ~~Tyd~~ (1) ...even, as one was annihilated.



Last season, in the German orders, I typed "A Ber" instead of "F Ber".

The standby for Austria is Claude Gautron.

The standby for Germany is Mike Ehli.

The standby for Turkey is Dave Carter.

With 3 NMRs in one season, I'm beginning to wonder if there is any interest in this game. So, I'm proposing a 7-way draw. Vote with your next orders; standbys don't get a vote this time; no vote means "yes".

The deadline for Fall 1905 and the draw vote is March 7.

SPRING 1905: IS ANYONE THERE?

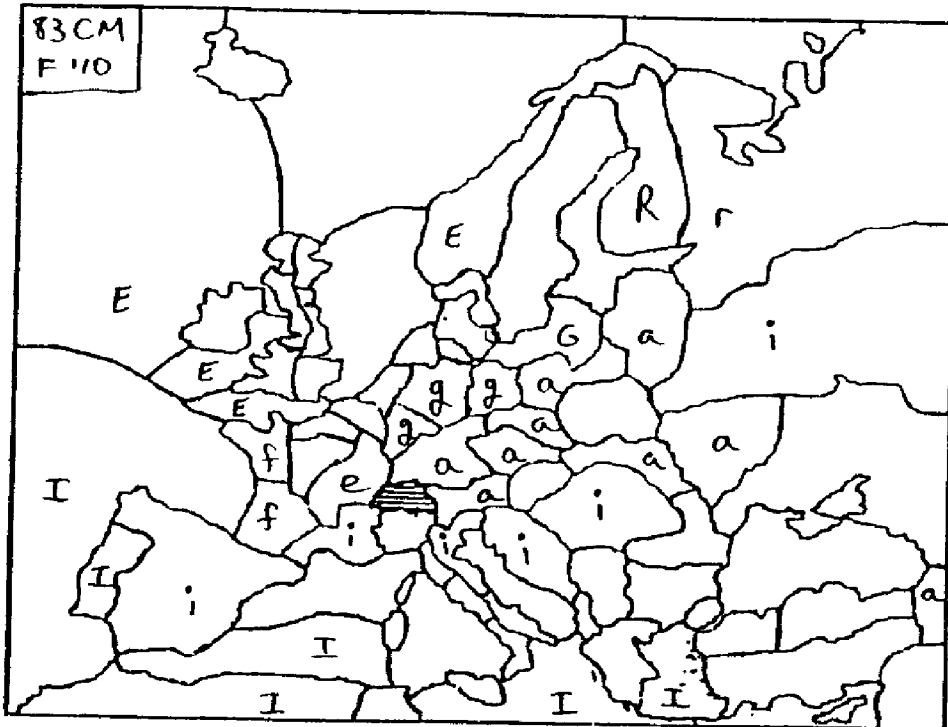
- Austria (Gerry Van Alkemade? Claude Gautron?): NMR! Plays one short. F Aeg H, A Ser H, A Bul H, A Rum H, A Gal H, A Tyro H.
- England (Walter Compton): Build F Lon. F Spa (sc)-Por, F Nth S F Lon-Eng (NO... SUCH ORDER), F Bre S F Eng-Mid (NSO), F Eng H (unordered), F Lon H (unordered).
- France (John Davies): F Bre ret -Gas. Remove A Bur. A Mun-Kie, F Gas-Spa(nc), A Mar S F Gas-Spa(nc) (ret -Bur, Gas, OTB), A Bel-Hol, A Ruh S A Bel-Hol.
- Germany (Nick Felella? Mike Ehli?): NMR! A Kie H, F Hol II (ret -Hel, OTB), F Ber H.
- Italy (Pierre Touchette): A War ret -Sil. A Pru S A Sil-War, A Sil-War, F Lyo S A Pie-Mar, A Pie-Mar, F Con S F Smy, F Smy S F Con.
- Russia (Dave Lincoln): Build A StP. F Sev-Bla, A War-Ukr, A Mos S A War-Ukr, A Livonia-War, A StP-Livonia, F Swe-Bal, F Den S F Swe-Bal.
- Turkey (Bob Acheson? Dave Carter?): NMR! GM removes F Bla in accordance with the rulebook. A Ank H.

Why is Jerry Falwell against teaching foreign languages in public schools?
If English was good enough for Jesus, it's good enough for us.

What was the Pope's first miracle?
He cured a ham.

What was the Pope's second miracle?
He heeled a dog.

What was the Pope's third miracle?
He made a lame man blind.



The concession vote failed (2 yes, 4 no).

A perpetual "no" has been cast to an Italian concession. Another perpetual "no" has been cast to anything but a 6-way draw. There was already a perpetual "no" to anything but a concession to Italy.

Taken together, these votes mean that no draw or concession is possible.

The deadline for Winter 1910 and Spring 1911 is January 17, 1986.

FALL 1910: HAVING SHOT HIMSELF IN ONE FOOT, AUSTRIA TAKES AIM AT THE OTHER!

Austria (John Ellis): A Sev-Arm, A Ukr H, A Livonia S A Pru, A Gal H, A Pru S A Livonia, A Sil S A Pru, A Tyrolia S A Mun, A Boh S A Mun, A Mun S ITALIAN A Mar-Bur (NO SUCH ORDER).

England (Dave Lincoln): F Nat-Mid, F Iri S F Nat-Mid, F Eng S F Nat-Mid, A Bur S FRENCH A Gas, F Nth-Nwy.

France (Kevin Brown): A Gas S ENGLISH A Bur, A Bre S A Gas.

Germany (Steve Berrigan): F Bal S A Ber, A Ber H, A Kie S A Ber, A Ruh S ENGLISH A Bur.

Italy (Drew Post): F Mid-Bre, F Por S F Wes-Mid, F Naf S F Wes-Mid, F Wes-Mid, F Tyrrh-Ion, F Ion-Aeg, A Spa S A Mar, A Mar S A Spa, A Tri-Bud, A Ven-Tri, A Tus-Ven, A Mos S AUSTRIAN A Livonia-StP (NO SUCH ORDER).

Russia (Bob Acheson): A StP S AUSTRIAN A Livonia-Mos (NSO), F Fin S A StP, F Bla-Con ("F BLA" EXISTS ONLY IN MR. ACHESON'S BRAIN, WHERE IT IS, NO DOUBT, LONELY.).

Press

France-Austria: If you want to give him all your centres, that's fine. There's no other way for him to win.

France-Italy: You'll have to do better than this to get a win. Either break our stalemate line or take 2/3 of your ally's centres, otherwise the game is a draw.

France-Austria: Do you really expect me to believe that you'd give him 6 out of your 9 centres? Nobody's that good an ally. I can't see trading a 6-way draw for 4th place as the winner's toady.

St. Petes-Rome: So now you owe me one.
 St. Petes-Germany: Now look what you did. Don't give him any more advice.
 St. Petes-Italy: Do you write his moves out for him??
 St. Petes-GM: Next time that you use a new address, list the postal code.
 St. Petes-GM: What happens if the Italian player of record dies?? Will the perpetual no still stand??
 Head Anarchist-St. Petes: Depends on whether or not he's the player who cast the vote.
 St. Petes-Italy: Just curious.
 Head Anarchist-St. Petes: So are the police.
 St. Petes-GM: Broadview?? I can recall spending a fair bit of time getting into trouble around there when I was much younger. Including wiping out my bike at the bottom of Pottery Road, very painful.

1910 Supply Centre Chart

Austria: Vie, Con, Ank, Ser, Sev, Mun, ~~Wdd~~, ~~Tfi~~, ~~Edd~~ (6) ...remove 3.
 England: Home, Nwy, Bel (5) ...even.
 France: Par, Bre (2) ...even.
 Germany: Kie, Ber, Hol, Den (4) ...even.
 Italy: Home, Tun, Gre, Bul, Rum, Smy, Spa, Por, Mar, War, Mos, Tri, Bud (15) ...build 3.
 Russia: StP, Swe (2) ...even.

Winter 1910 Only, As Requested by Two Players

Austria (John Ellis): Remove A Arm, A Ukr, A Gal.
 England (Dave Lincoln): No Adjustments.
 France (Kevin Brown): No Adjustments.
 Germany (Steve Berrigan): No Adjustments.
 Italy (Drew Post): Orders "no builds". Will play 3 short.
 Russia (Bob Acheson): No Adjustments.

In last season's Russian orders, I mistakenly typed "A Fin" instead of "F Fin". I have gone back and corrected this error in the game report. Thanks to Bob Acheson for pointing out this error.

The deadline for Spring 1911 is February 21.

At an old widow's funeral, one of her friends keeps crying out, "at last they're together." Another friend goes up to her and says, "you're making a fool of yourself. Mary had six husbands, and slept with half the men in town she wasn't married to. So stop this 'at last they're together' nonsense." The friend replied, "I was talking about her legs."

An eight-year-old girl ran into the house and asked her mother, "Mommy, can I get pregnant?"

"No, don't be silly."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes, of course."

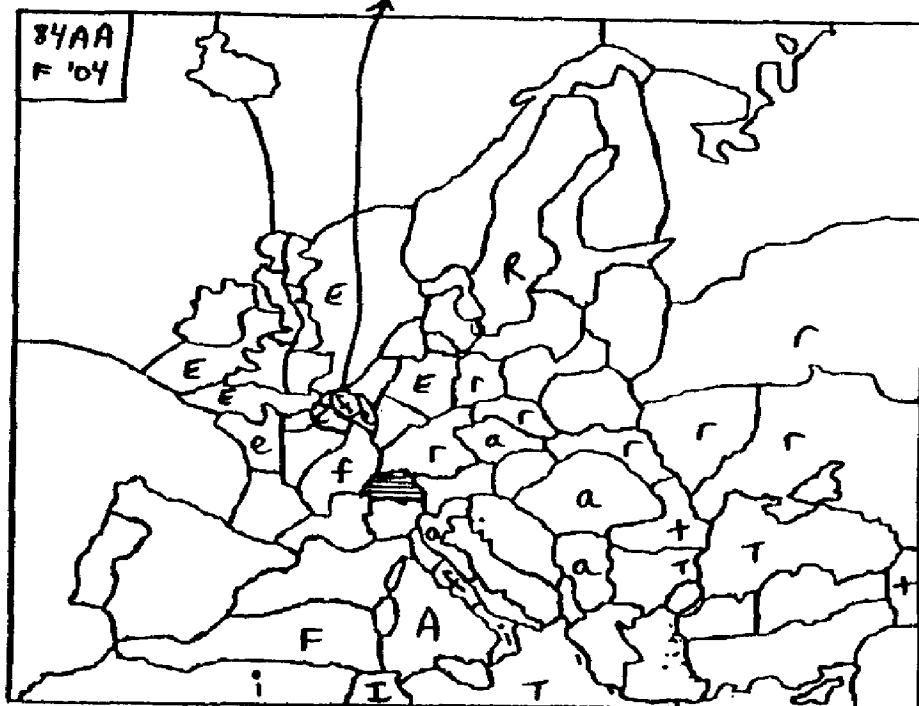
So, she ran outside and said, "OK boys, we can play that game again."

What's the difference between a mistress, a prostitute, and a wife?

A mistress says, "Are you done already?", a prostitute says, "Aren't you done yet?" and a wife says, "I think the ceiling needs painting."

Alphabet Soup

56



Germany has gone to that great supply centre in the sky. His units aren't shown on the map, but they last long enough to keep the French from retreating into Ruhr.

The deadline for Winter 1904 only is January 17, 1986.

FALL 1904: GERMANS DEPART, DEFIANT ITALIANS REMAIN!

Austria (Fred Wiedemeyer): F Ion-Tyrrh, A Ven S FRENCH A Tus-Rom, A Vie-Boh, A Tri-Bud, A Ser S A Tri-Bud.

England (H.D. Bassett): F Iri-Mid, F Eng C A Lon-Bre, A Lon-Bre, A Hol-Bel, F Nth S A Hol-Bel, F Kie S A Hol-Bel (IMPOSSIBLE).

France (John Ellis): A Bel S German A Ruh-Hol (ret -Pic, OTB), A Bur S A Bel, A Tus-Rom, F Tun H (ANNIHILATED); F Wes-Mid.

Germany (Paul Milewski): A Ruh-Bel, F Bot-Stp(ec).

Italy (Kevin Brown): A Tun defiantly retreats to NAF. A NAF defiantly...
...supports F Tyrrh-Tun, F Tyrrh-Tun, A Rom-Nap.

Russia (Melinda Holley): A Rum ret -Gal. A Ber S A Sil-Mun, A Gal-Rum, A Mos-StP, A Mun-Bur, A Sev S A Gal-Rum, A Sil-Mun, A Ukr S A Sev, F Den-Swe.

Turkey (Dave Lincoln): A Arm-Sev, F Bla S A Arm-Sev, A Rum S A Arm-Sev, F Bul(ec) S A Rum, F Aeg-Ion.

Press

Paris-World: Go, Russia, Go!!!

Germany-World: Just for the record, let me state I have the slightest hope of taking Belgium and have not been suckered into trying by England. Indeed, I expect my attempt to fail, in which case I bid you all a fond adieu.

Italy-Head Anarchist: Yes, in the long run. Look how open he is to English attack. He'll pay, just not to me.

Italy-France: You can't say I didn't warn you. ERA will make you pay.

1904 Supply Centre Chart

Austria: Home, Gre, Ven, Ser (6) ...build 1.
 England: Home, Nwy, Kie, Hol, Bel, Bre (8) ...build 2.
 France: Par, Mar, Spa, Por, Rfe, Rom (5) ...build 1 or 2 depending on the
 retreat, as one was annihilated.
 Germany: Mun, Bel (0) ...OUT!
 Italy: Nap, Tun, Rom (2) ...remove 1.
 Russia: Home, Swe, Den, Ber, Rom, Mun (8) ...even.
 Turkey: Home, Bul, Rum (5) ...even.

Winter 1904 Only

Austria (Fred Wiedemeyer): Build A Vie.
 England (H.D. Bassett): Build A Lon, F Lpl.
 France (John Ellis? Paul Milewski?): NMR! A Bel ret -OTB. NBR! Will play
 2 short.
 Italy (Kevin Brown? Pierre Touchette?): NRR! GM removes A Naf in accordance
 with the rulebook.
 Russia (Melinda Holley): No Adjustments.
 Turkey (Dave Lincoln): No Adjustments.

One player asked me a question about the rules. The answer is "Yes, your interpretation of the rules is correct."

The standby for France is Paul Milewski.

The standby for Italy is Pierre Touchette.

The deadline for Spring 1905 is February 21.

Sally was a very practical person. She told Bill right up front that she couldn't be satisfied with less than 9 inches. Bill said, "OK", and fucked her three times.

The wise men were approaching the stable in Bethlehem when one of them stepped in a pile of cow shit. "Jesus Christ," he cursed. "There," said Mary to Joseph, "don't you think that's a better name for the kid than Irving?"

A golf pro went to see a spiritualist. He asked her if there were any golf courses in Heaven. She conjured up pictures in her crystal ball and then said, "I've got some good news and some bad news. The good news is that Heaven has a wonderful 18-hole golf course that you wouldn't believe." "What's the bad news," he asked. "You tee off at 10:00 tomorrow morning."

John and Frank were comparing their sex lives. John complained, "My wife is a typical WASP; we can only have sex doggie-style." "Doggie style?" said Frank in disbelief. "Yeah," John replied, "I sit up and beg, and she rolls over and plays dead."

Our Crazy World

Canada Post Corporation has been in the news lately. It seems that some people in government have finally realized that our postal service is terrible, something that people in the Diplomacy hobby have known for years.

In the last few months, two scathing reports on the post office have come out. The most recent report concludes that the post office's 15 year, \$1.2 billion automation program was a total failure. Productivity per employee decreased in the years from 1970 to 1985.

Mechanization is supposed to increase productivity; in the post office it decreased productivity. Mechanization is supposed to improve working conditions; in the post office it made working conditions worse. The post office bought equipment that was "inefficient, unreliable, and unsafe."

This isn't to say that mechanization is a bad idea. Mechanization was necessary, and the benefits of mechanization (which we have yet to see) are still necessary. Unfortunately, good management is also necessary, and that's rare enough in the private sector, let alone in the government.

Milton Friedman has an interesting theory that he expresses in his book The Tyranny of the Status Quo. He says that the first year of a government's term of office is the only time when fundamental changes can occur (good changes or bad changes). After the first year, inertia and the desire not to offend anybody before an election paralyse the government.

Given this theory, which seems to be essentially true, what did the Mulroney government do during its first year? Well, it decided to try to avoid offending anybody for the first year, with the thought that the real changes would occur later.

What's happened? The year of indecision has cost the government most of its lead in the polls (the only thing that matters to the Mulroney school of politician, to whom a principle is as ugly and foreign as Albania). So now the government is looking around for something to do, something that will make it look as if the government is doing some governing. But, anything the government decides to do, especially anything radical, is bound to upset a few people. Doing nothing loses votes, but so does doing something.

The recent election in Québec was quite interesting. It featured the popular leader of an unpopular party against the unpopular leader of a popular party. The Parti Québécois was the discredited party of separatists who know longer believe in separatism. Their leader, Pierre Marc Johnson, had a great deal of personal popularity. The Libéral party offered a change that people wanted, but its leader Robert Bourassa was a former Premier whose administration was notorious for weakness and corruption.

The campaign managers for the two parties attempted to play to their strengths and hide their weaknesses. This is only natural, but it was taken to such extremes as to become comical. A typical P.Q. poster featured a picture of Pierre Marc Johnson with the local candidate. In big letters at the top of the poster were the words "Avec Johnson" ("with Johnson"). Almost buried at the bottom were the words "Parti Québécois". A Libéral poster, by contrast, gave no indication of who the leader was. The candidate was pictured, alone, and the word "Libéral" appeared in big letters. The P.Q. wanted you to forget who they were, and the Libéraux wanted you to forget who their leader was.

Since it's easier to forget a single person (especially a person like Robert Bourassa) than a whole party (especially a party like the Parti Québécois) the Libéraux won with a landslide. Just about the only Libéral candidate who didn't win was (you guessed it) Robert Bourassa. He's now looking for a very, very loyal Libéral with a very, very safe seat to step down and give him a chance to win a bye-election. It's more than a little embarrassing.

Our Crazy Hobby

Diplomacy World 40 has at last come out. Appropriately enough for a 'zine that falls so far below expectations, its cover graphic is a turkey. Unless you were looking forward to 16 pages of Larry Peery talking about DW, DW 40 will be a disappointment for you. On the bright side, Larry isn't charging subscribers for #40, and he only lapses into the incomprehensibility characteristic of Peerazines once (on page 18).

Along with DW 40 comes something that's very good: the "Index and Menu, Diplomacy World". This lists by author, subject, and issue, all articles that have appeared in Diplomacy World. This, by itself, would be moderately interesting, but there's more! Larry is offering a new service, which reprints any of these articles for a charge of 15¢ per page. This is tremendously useful for anyone who wants articles on a particular subject, or who wants copies of DW issues that are out of stock. Congratulations to Larry on a very good idea.

This brings up an important point about Peery. While he and his schemes often seem like Lewis Carroll creations, he does sometimes come up with really good ideas, and he's one of the few people in the hobby with the energy to carry them out.

Still on the subject of Peery (who's getting an awful lot of attention this issue), Peery should be sent your nominations for the Don Miller Award and the Rod Walker Award. The Don Miller Award is for hobby service. The Rod Walker Award is for the best piece of writing. Send nominations to Larry Peery/PO Box 8416/San Diego, CA 92102/USA.

Still on the subject of empire builders, Bruce Linsey is publishing the world's first Empire Bulder/British Rails 'zine. It's called TRAX (which, by coincidence is also the name of a gay bar in Toronto). It's for fanatical EB/BR fans only, since it is exclusively concerned with these games. It costs \$4 for 10 issues, from Bruce Linsey/73 Ashuelot St., Apt. 3/Dalton, MA 01226/USA.

Also concerned with games other than Diplomacy is Buffalo Steak Tartar. With a name that means raw meat, it could only come from that mistress of culinary monstrosities Linda Carson. Linda, and her husband Jim Gardner, put out this unique 'zine. Since I'm enclosing a copy of BST with every issue of NFA, I don't need to review it for you. (This is especially convenient since I haven't actually seen BST as I type this.) Write to Linda and Jim at Apt 1, 10 Young St. E./Waterloo, Ont./N2J 2L2 CANADA.

For those of you who would rather be reading a real Diplomacy 'zine (and if my mail is any indication, there must be a lot of you) there's always Praxis. Alan Stewart, the editor, follows Bruce McIntyre's unforgiveable precedent in putting out an issue #1 that makes most established 'zines look bad by comparison. If you haven't already seen Praxis, good! Don't ask for a sample issue from Alan Stewart/702-25 St. Mary St./Toronto, Ont./M4Y 1R2 CANADA.

The latest issue of Excelsior has a very funny article about a medical problem of Bruce McIntyre's. It seems that Bruce had unexplained swelling in his...er...organ of manhood. What is most surprising is not what Bruce did, but what he didn't do. Most of us, if faced with an oversized masculine attribute would have the presence of mind to:

- a) become pornographic movie stars,
- b) invite the neighbours over to take a look, or
- c) figure out that our condition was called "an erection".

If you don't already get Excelsior, send some money for a sample to: Bruce McIntyre/6191 Winch St./Burnaby, B.C./V5B 214 CANADA. A more complete account of Bruce's ordeal can be found in his upcoming novel Hung Like Me.

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Ooops...I left out a few:

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 Ake Jonsson/Regementsgatan 53/S-723 45 Vasteras/SWEDEN.
 Randolph Smyth/#119 - 70 Maryland St./Winnipeg, Manitoba/R3G 1K7 CANADA

It may be a long time before I print another address list, so players and standbys should keep this list handy. If you notice any errors or omissions, please let me know.

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Personal Message: