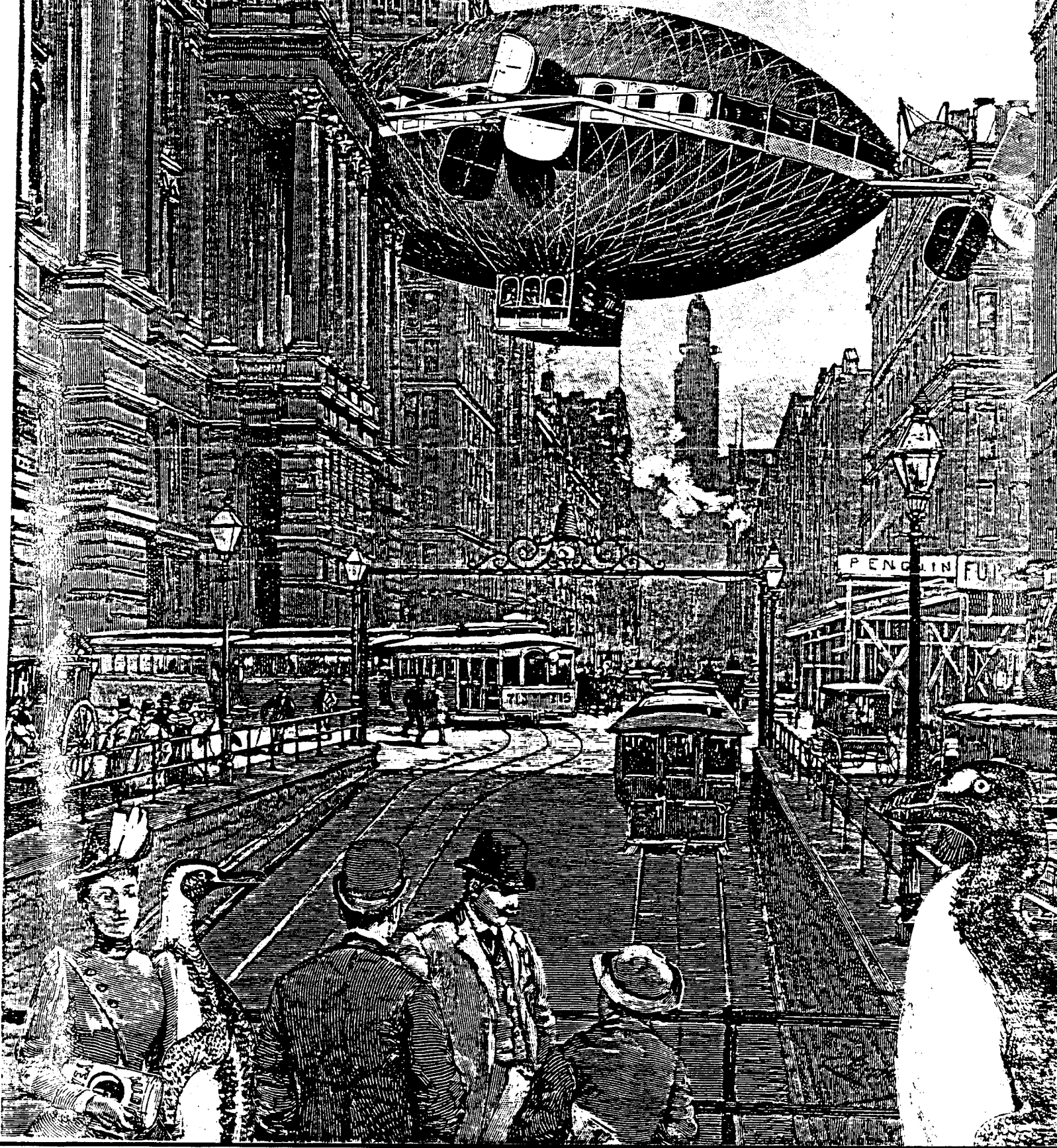


Penguin Dip



Welcome to PENGUIN DIP #18. PD is an SF fanzine, an artzine, a general gaming and role playing game fanzine, and a postal Diplomacy zine. Edited, published and copyrighted (except where noted) by Stephen H. Dorneman, 94 Eastern Ave #1, Malden, MA 02148, and available as a 10 issue (1 year) subscription for \$15.00, \$20.00 outside of the United States, it is also available for contributions of articles, artwork and for the Usual Stuff.

Perceptive Penguin Dippers may notice a few subtle changes this issue - little things such as fewer misspelled words, and page numbers in the same typeface and at the same place on each page. And the computer hackers among you might run across me on some random Bulletin Board System any day now, because between friends, family, and our own purchases there's a reasonable amount of new hardware and software attached to this Mac Plus that's typing



FROM THE FLOE: PENGUINS & PROGRAMS

With the addition of two more word-processing programs (one a long-contemplated purchase, the other a gift) I can now digest documents in any of the following formats: (takes a deep breath) MacWrite, Text Files, Write, WriteNow, Word, WordHandler, and Works. Submissions on disk gladly accepted. The program I'm actually using most of the time is T-Maker's WriteNow. Why? It's *fast*, even on my poor little 1 Meg machine. I really hate to MacWait. Other new software includes Microsoft Works (which you can blame for messed up address labels from here on out), and a number of games (of course) including New World Computing's Might & Magic (a highly addictive game in the style of Wizardry - but watch out for system bombs when using the Sound Utilities), AH's Mac Pro Football (OK, but now that the real thing is on television...), and Spectrum HoloByte's Orbiter and PT-109 (Yawn.).

The major new hardware addition is an Apple 1200-Baud modem. I've just begun to explore the Cyberspace universe, but two systems worth logging on to are Boston's Citinet at (617)439-5699 (Type "Go Joke" after signing in), and the MIT Tangent Gamer BBS, at (617)364-1576 (on-line AD&D game!).

Lifestyle additions? Penny actually did graduate (and *summa cum laude*, at that), and is currently playing Quest For A Mundane Market Analyst Position when she's not playing Might & Magic. I seem to be developing a mild case of Spinal Arthritis according to my X-rays; more details on this after a trip to a specialist later this month. I actually won (well, drew, along with **Melinda Holley**) a postal Dip game in Don Del Grande's LIFE OF MONTY (a fine zine, available for small change from Don at 142 Eliseo Drive, Greenbrae, CA 94904-1339). It's Fair Season in New England - in the last two weeks we've gone to a Renaissance Fair (King Richard's, in South Carver) and to the Topsfield Fair (a Massachusetts Grange Fair), both with Penguin Dippers **Mike Ours** and **Chris Rudy** (thanks!). Oh, and Penny went to her first Tupperware party - how much more domestic can you get!

A to Z turns **This Time For Sure**, and my apologies to all the players for the delay. And there's also a new Diplomacy game starting up - see page 17. Now how about that Diplomacy article, **Don Williams**?

Artwork this issue is by **John Kingsbury** (cover), **Scott Ruggles** (2,4,13), **Sheryl Birkhead** (4), **Christopher Cook** (5,6), **Steven Fox** (8), and **Scott Washburn** (17). Which about cleans me out.

LETTERS

SF STUFF

ERIC ANDERSON: "Lawrence Watt-Evans must have hit the nail on the head re [Rod] Walker's assertion that Heinlein is not hard SF. Maybe Walker's only read Stranger in a Strange Land. (I met a Berkeley undergrad who didn't think Led Zeppelin was a hard rock band. 'Didn't they do Stairway to Heaven?') Maybe it's not lack of knowledge of RAH, though. There are those who only classify those authors for whom physics is more important than characterization as hard SF (Niven, Clement come to mind as examples)."

SHERYL BIRKHEAD: "Sorry the response was so poor on the best SF novels - I'd guess there would be more discussion if you printed a few lists (only problem is to come up with them!). Let me see - subjective definitions - what seemed BEST to be at any one time changes. I'd have to put L. Robot on my list because of the value of humor . . . I'd probably select a Retief book [*Keith Laumer*], Earthman Go Home [*Frederic Brown*], Ellison Wonderland [*Harlan Ellison*] . . . what I'm doing is **NOT** looking at my books and memory fishing. I'm lousy on titles/authors so those I can remember must (for me) be memorable. And I just came to a screeching halt - how about a top ten minus six?"

SPACE COMMUNICATIONS

PETE GAUGHAN: "I'm very sorry for missing the point, but I don't see the importance of the USSR heading for Mars. 1) Their first craft has now shot itself way off the mark. 2) They are welcome to advance their science and their society -- should I be wishing evil upon them?? 3) Does this have anything to do with whether we should be going to Mars?"

"You see, I feel elation over the current debates on the next goal of the space program. If we start talking about it (and public affairs programming such as This Week is a start), we might actually come to a consensus on the ends we're striving for, and drop all this means-based confusion. Let's decide (my preference for a goal, here) to put people on Mars and maybe Titan. Then we figure out how."

"We have the advantage in this country of being able to argue and maybe even fail, neither of which is permitted to any great degree in the Soviet Union. If the space station just doesn't bring in the benefits we expect, we can shift gears. The USSR is going to Mars because they decided to ten years ago, and now they're locked in to that without really knowing what they expect to gain from it. Nobody was allowed to say, 'Hey, wait, this orbiting station is doing for us what we wanted the Mars shot to do -- let's rethink.'"

HARRY ANDRUSCHAK: "AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY magazine ran a series of articles last month concerning the positions of the candidates on the space program. From reading what the candidates had to say to AWST, I am voting Democrat. Dukakis is pro-space, but anti-SDI, and cautious towards the manned space program. Bush is gung-ho for SDI. Since I am convinced the best thing that could happen to the USA would be to get rid of SDI, I vote Democrat next election."

JACK JEWART: Rick Borden mentioned that the DoD does not have an impressive record of accomplishment. Two records - Once, they have never lost a war and Two, when the Air Force could not come up with a missile for Air Defense of the US, the United States Army and Bell Telephone built the operational Nike in less than 90 days. If you think that's not impressive try this. A Nike Hercules with a nuclear warhead in a surface to surface mission is the **ONLY** missile that finds the exact target and then puts in a command for an impossible 90 degree turn and dive. It then corrects itself for the amount of turn needed and will then compensate for the error to bring itself back on target."



POLITICAL MOTIONS

JACK JEWART: "Seems like Jimmy Swaggert and Gary Hart were talking and decided to go out & look for girls. Gary said OK but let's get Ted Kennedy to drive!"

RELIGIOUS TESTAMENTS

JACK JEWART: "Rod Walker was speaking about prophets - he mentions Moses, the Isaiahs, Jesus, Muhammad, Jeanne d'Arc (?), Gandhi and OTHERS. Oddly enough in the OTHERS he left out two entire continents including the one we are on - North and South America. Why does everyone forget 'Uiracocha Tachayachachic' or, if you prefer the easier spelling, 'Quetzalcoatl'? The primary reason are the books referring to him were destroyed by Jesuit priests who felt that the snake on the cover was a sign of the devil. The Greeks thought that any number greater than 10,000 was infinite. At the same period of time, the Mayan Indians were working math 15 digits to the RIGHT of the decimal (which the Greeks did not even know existed)."

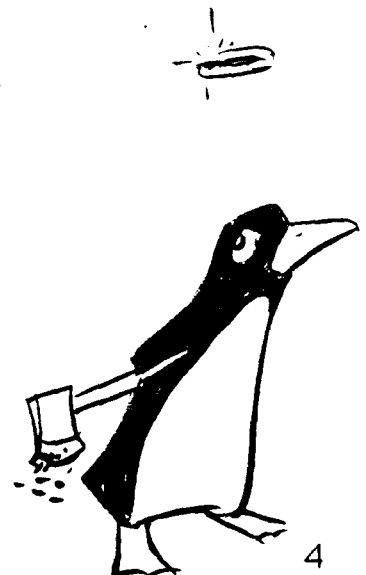
PRESS RELEASES

HARRY ANDRUSCHAK: "We had a 5.9 earthquake in LA awhile ago. Perhaps you remember it? Well, I was at the Terminal Annex in downtown Los Angeles, the main US Postal Service station in the LA area. When the quake struck, we were all told to go outside and wait. We did. Many of the workers brought along their portable radios. So we waited and waited and waited."

"We must have been quite a sight in the morning sunshine. That is the only reason I can think for the reports that began to come in over the radio . . . that hundreds of postal workers were milling around outside the Terminal Annex, fearful of going back in."

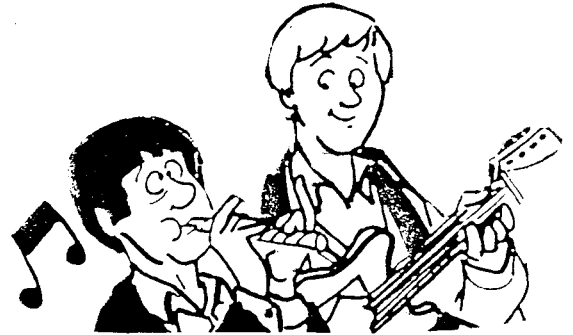
"Sigh . . . nobody was fearful. All that was going on was that the safety inspection teams were doing their thing, checking for broken pipes, wires, and other safety hazards. They found none. Terminal Annex is a stoutly built building, and came through the earthquake with a few bits of plaster dropping off, nothing more. And we went back in and finished off the days work. Routine."

WALF: Fred Davis, Kathy Luzzi, and Scott Washburn.



THEY CALLED FOR WINE AND THE STABLEBOY

Music Review by **Michael Hopcroft**



Remember those strange songs John Boardman published ("Mine eyes have seen the coming of the Giant Barded Frogs...")? Well, filking [*SF folk singing*] has become so ingrained a science fiction tradition that it is natural enough that somebody decided successfully they could make money from it. How do you make money from a bunch of unconnected people sitting in a circle singing odd songs? Simple. You sell them the songs, and tapes of the songs sung by people who can actually sing, and instruments upon which to play the songs, and guidelines for people to write their own songs...

I doubt anybody could make millions from filking, but Off Centaur Publications manages to eke out a decent living. Now I ran into filking a couple of years ago when I realized that certain people would rather sit around singing at conventions than watch videos or game. My own local club of Dr. Who fans can be divided quite simple into those who are invited to Shawn's filk-ins at home (with the horses) and those who are not. They're supposed to be open, but only the "in" group knows how to get there. And so it goes. I sing fairly well, but can't play an instrument and don't know any of the songs, so I sit around and listen when the opportunity permits.

Unfortunately I found that things like this are as addictive as other compulsive pursuits. Thus I soon found myself in the possession of a couple of Off Centaur tapes that Powell's happens to sell. (Powell's has its own filk theme song, but it's a closely guarded secret around the shop.) Now when most people who don't know about them think about filks, they think of funny words set to familiar music. That is, after all, how it all started. But it has been increasingly common to use your own music and write about anything that comes to mind. Some are funny, and some are not.

The BAYFILK 3 concert album represents some of the better practitioners of the art of filking. There are some of the legends of the field, like Leslie Fish (a Penguin favorite!), and some legendary songs as well. "Captain Jack and the Mermaid" is an example of the latter; the story of a seafarer who finds himself with the attentions of an unusual denizen of the deep and of the choice faced by his fiancée is quite impressive on tape. I've heard it done live in circles, but there isn't that much control. There are songs about legend and history (including a song about Christian X, King of Denmark during World War II!). There is a song about the movie LADYHAWKE (doomed romance is a popular subject) and a song that was introduced by, of all people, the Monkees.

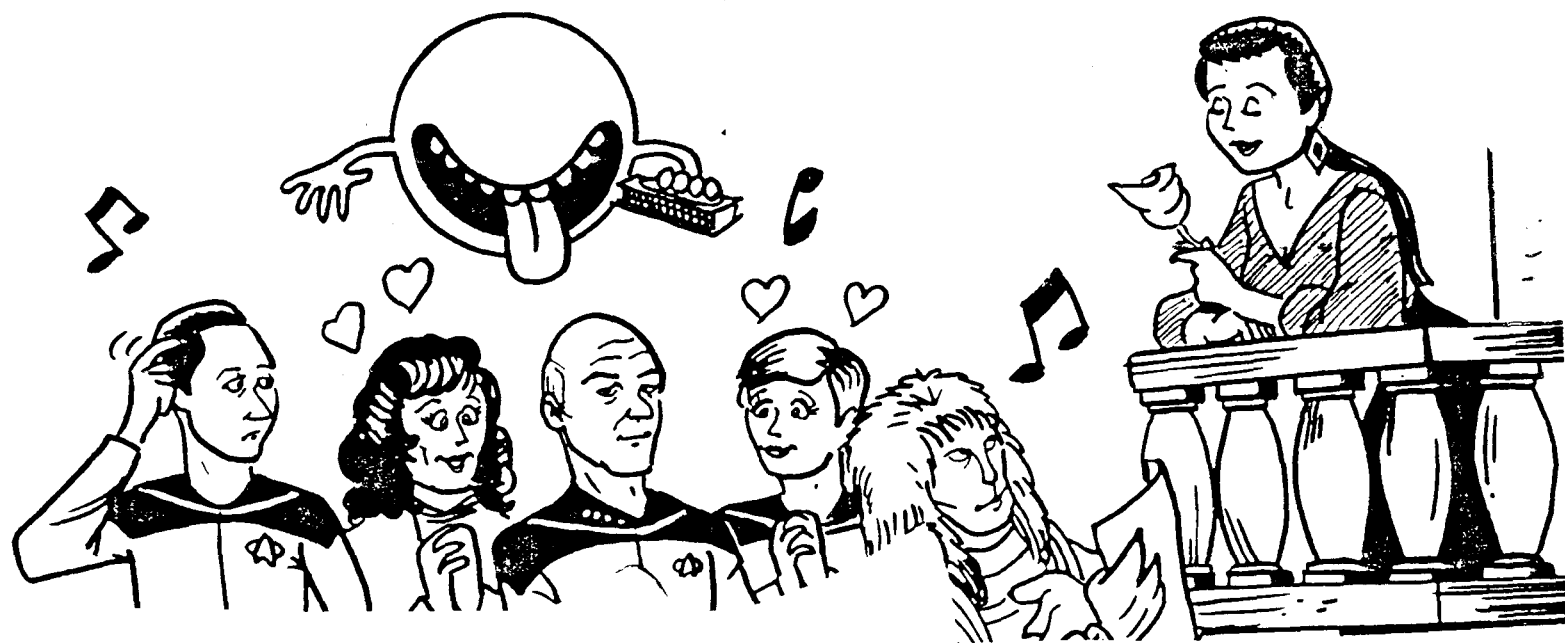
Individual artists put out albums that are even more unique. One of the local Whoies, Cecelia Eng, has an album coming out sometime this fall. In the meanwhile, there are some other individuals who have produced interesting things. Jane Robinson, for example, is a scientist. If you didn't know that, you would realize it soon after starting up her album DR. JANE'S SCIENCE NOTES, which is more about science fact and science as a process than about science fiction. It takes chutzpah in this very romantic circle to admit that the first thing you'd do if you found Nessie would be to dissect the beast! "Drivel" concerns the writing of a fraudulent research paper. ("You leap to some conclusions/ they needn't fit you data/ but you've got to have conclusions if you're going to end the paper".) "A Hymn to Things that Don't Exist" gives some plausible actions you should take if several odd things happen to you. ("Next time a sea monster clambers on board with you, feed it a fish head and call it a gull.") There are songs about geology and bio classes (how to dissect a cat in under three minutes), many about evolution and the arguments surrounding evolution ("Did God just sit there knitting DNA?").

But the best cuts on the album have little to do with science. These are a pair of absolutely savage songs about government inefficiency and business incompetence. Then there is another popular theme, the lament of an under-pampered cat. Most of it is quite funny, and you can pass it off as a non-filk album if you have to (although no way is this stuff gonna sound like Top-20, even if speeded up to the cassette equivalent of 45 rpm).

Of course, you will eventually probably want to do some filking yourself. If you take this up seriously, in no time at all you will have accumulated a large collection of lyrics sheets. That's how a filksong makes its way out to the community of filkers at large; somebody writes it and performs it a few times, then sends it along to all their filker buddies, and voila! A song is born.

But some subjects do better than others. For some reason, STAR WARS attracts only comic songs ("Darth Vader's mother wears army boots/ Darth Vader doesn't like his mother wearing army boots, and that's why Darth Vader ran away from home" to the tune of the Imperial March). On the other hand, there are a lot of whimsical and relatively serious songs about a little-known (on this side of the pond) British television series called BLAKE'S 7 which came out at about the same time. STAR TREK attracts comics, especially the famous laments ("what would Kirk really do with a brain?") and the notorious "Banned from Argo" which everybody has run into at least once. (When I asked about filks for STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION, a series of which I am perhaps inordinately fond, all they could come up with was "Banned from Argo: The Next Generation". AARGH!) But serious songs about LADYHAWKE are popular, and I assume BEAUTY AND THE BEAST will get its shot as well. Go figure.

Should you want to explore all this for yourself, one of the better places to start is with the people who make the money: Off Centaur Publications does most of their business by mail; send them at least an SASE at PO Box 424, El Cerrito, CA 94530. If you go to science fiction conventions, especially on the West Coast, there will probably be at least one circle going on into the night. Besides, who goes to a convention to sleep? Just remember to have something in mind when your turn comes, as it inevitably must. Even a topic is usually enough for a song to be found.



SYNTHETIC BRAINS IN DESIGNER GENES

Article by **Eric Anderson**

In the conclusion to Michael Hopcroft's article on androids [*in PD #12*], he expressed the idea that, while there was real doubt about ever having the ability to create artificial beings "from the DNA up," mechanical (presumably electronic) artificial intelligence was a sure bet within our lifetimes. I think he has the difficulty of these two operations reversed, and that even if we are not there yet, that we are much closer to artificial life than to artificial intelligence.

The key question is what is meant by "from the DNA up." If we are not allowed to use our current knowledge of how a given stretch of DNA codes for a given sequence of amino acids, and worse, we are not allowed to use our knowledge of how those amino acids convert to protein structure and function, the task becomes extremely difficult. On the other hand, if we are allowed to use what we know about existing living beings, we are already there. We can now create artificial creatures by patching together genetic material from several members of the same species. We have a limited ability to move genetic material from one species to another; we can get mice and bacteria to express genes of other species, and even to pass those new genes to their descendants. These experiments have not been conducted on the human germ line (at least as far as is known), but that is not due to lack of ability as much as to fear of consequences. In other words, the ability to create artificial people is essentially here.

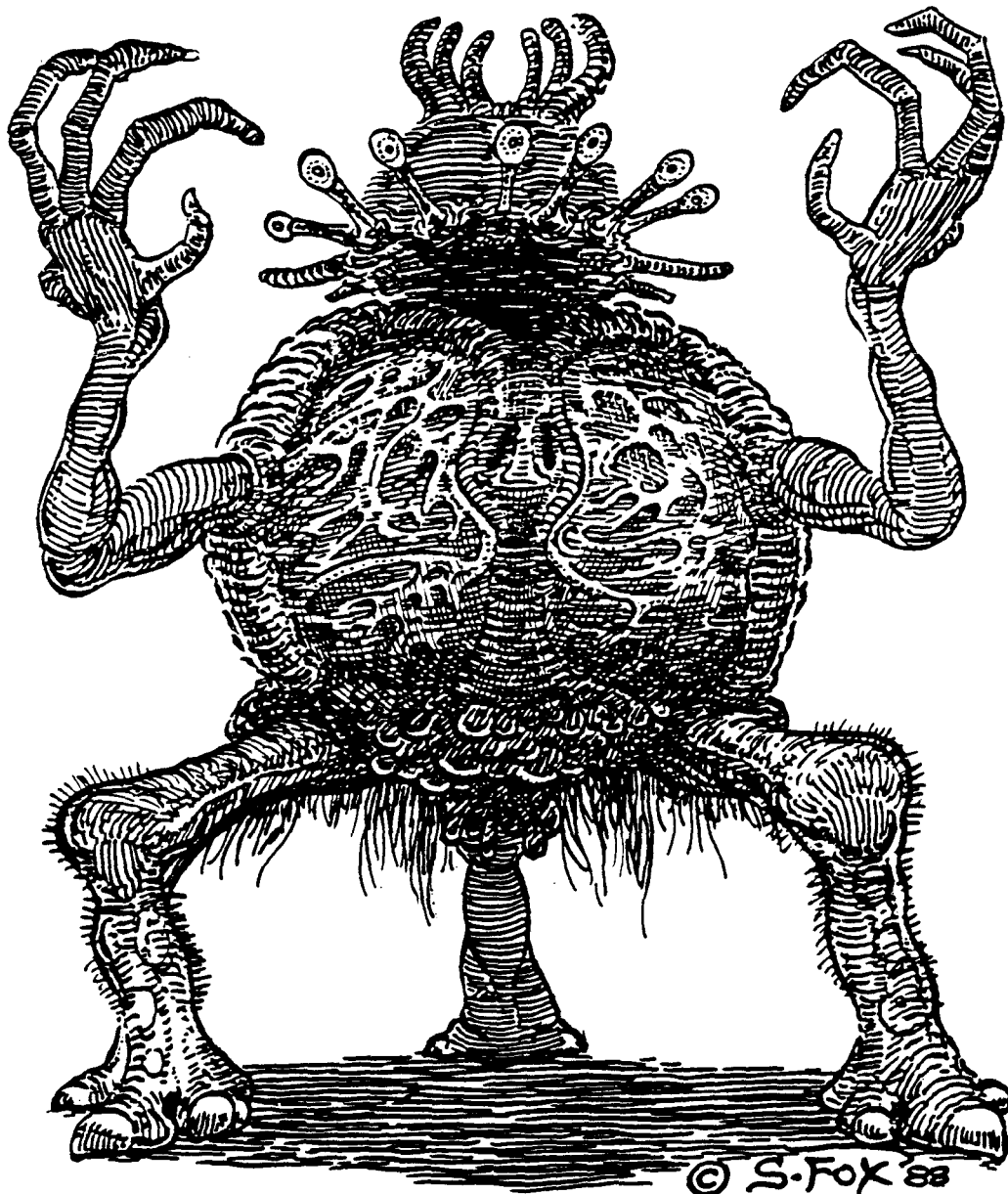
The one step we cannot get around at present is getting from the fertilized egg we have created artificially to a newborn baby. That is a technical problem of moderate complexity, but not one that is essential to the question of artificial life. You could take away other tools, too. Make us synthesize the DNA from industrial chemicals, or not allow use of a human egg to receive the genetic material. We could get around these problems, the second being much more difficult than the first, but again, that misses the point. When we create a creature by combining the genetic material of our choosing, that is an artificial creature. If we start with largely human genetic material, we will create an artificial person with real intelligence. It will be an "android" by the definition, but it would be a human being as well.

We don't have much understanding of how to design new creatures "from scratch," but given the diversity of genetic material available in the creatures of the world, there is no real limit to what we could create just by rearranging and recombining. Many of the combinations would not work, but many would. The first artificial people would be purely human, although perhaps with only the "best" of human genes. As we grow in knowledge, we'll be able to include a wider array of genetic material, eventually creating creatures so different from *H. Sap* as to be a new species.

As for the question of artificial intelligence (AI), not only are we not close, we don't even have the problem well defined yet. It is not that I think intelligence is not possible to "mere" matter; the human brain is a fine counter example. It is that I think the problem is vastly more complex than most advocates of AI do. A chess program or "expert system" is not intelligent. It is the static result of the programmer's intelligence. To be intelligent, an entity has to be able to receive sense data, integrate sensations into perceptions, integrate perceptions into concepts, and use concepts in a logical, language-like way. Manipulating words divorced from physical meaning is not intelligence.

At present, we have some programs that are static repositories of human intelligence. They call up things we ask for. They count things we ask for. They record the results of these actions. We are just beginning to enter the lowest level of "pattern recognition" or perception. A modern program may be able to take a digitized image from a video camera, perform some calculations, and print out the name of a geometric shape, but it is not clear that what we've done is equivalent even to the perceptual level of intelligence. And we haven't got a clue as to how to build that "recognition" into conceptual understanding. We don't know what the process is, we don't know what kind of computer would be required to do it, and we don't know how fast it would have to work to "live" at our speed.

We need to know a lot more just to figure out if AI is possible. Our understanding of intelligence is like our understanding of genetics before molecular biology; we see the external results and know some of the rules, but we know next to nothing about the mechanism. On the other hand, artificial life and artificial people are virtually here. The contest is not even close. We don't have to worry about how we will treat intelligent robots in the near future, but we have to figure out how to treat genetically engineered people *now*.



NIGHTFALL - THE MOVIE

Movie Review By Robert Hauser

You are all doubtless following the controversy surrounding the film *The Last Temptation of Christ*. Well, a month or two ago I read a magazine interview with William Murray, the son of Madelyn Murray O'Hare who abandoned atheism to become a Christian minister. He mentioned that a movie version of the Isaac Asimov story "Nightfall" was coming out soon, and complained that it would be the most anti-religion movie ever. It is now playing, weighing in at a lean one and a quarter hours -- versus three-plus hours for *Last Temptation*.

It stars David Birney (yippee) and Alexis Kanner. The latter, who is quite good, may be familiar to some of you. He was the hippie in the final episode of *The Prisoner*. The budget was obviously small, but the sets are quite inventive.

To begin with, expect no protests. The film is indeed anti-religion, being about a world faced with disaster where the religious choose to blind themselves rather than meet the crisis with reason. But the plot is of no consequence in a movie like this. I would like to take this opportunity (drums and trumpets please) to announce that I am giving this film my annual Last Year In Marienbad Award for incoherence.

Marienbad, for those of you unlucky enough not to have seen it, was a French film about a love triangle (at least I think that was what it was about). But the story was so slow moving and dream-like that half way through the film I stopped reading the subtitles and just relaxed and looked at the pretty pictures. Movies that don't make sense lack popular appeal (witness *Dune*), but there are those of us who love them. Though plodding at first, the story line of *Nightfall* is easy to follow -- it's the dialogue which doesn't make sense.

Many of the principles seem to be engaged in a contest to see who can sound most like a character in *SIDDHARTHA* by Herman Hesse. "The future is behind us. The past is before us", a young woman announces profoundly, trying to explain her way of life. At another point the village chief discovers that a lieutenant is having an affair with his mistress. "Why?" he asks. The lieutenant responds with a rambling and irrelevant discourse on life so funny that I won't spoil it for you by describing it here. Pseudo-profundity abounds, among the champions of reason as much as among the religious.

I enjoy camp silliness. But I fear that the critics will not, and they will bury this film the way they buried the stupefyingly inane and immensely fun *Dune*. They will sneer that the sets look like they were left over from *Rubber Monsters That Time Misplaced At The Earth's Core* starring Doug McClure, that the costumes aren't as nice as the one my mother is helping me make for the next live role playing game con I'm attending, that the dialogue could have been written by anyone -- provided he had ingested enough illegal chemicals. The ads are proclaiming that in someone's opinion "Nightfall" is the greatest SF story ever written. I haven't been able to find the book yet, so I couldn't say. If it is, it will be interesting to see what Asimov thinks of what has been done to it.



A RANDOM WALK(ER) THROUGH FANDOM

Musings by Rod Walker

Dear Stephen: I meant to write before, but you know how that goes. I was very sad to hear of your fire-loss, but happy to see you recovering from it. It's really traumatic to have that sort of thing happen. It's not so bad if you are not an acquisitive person, but fen are usually more than normally acquisitive. I have too many things here, many of which could almost certainly never be replaced, even to contemplate that sort of holocaust. It doesn't help my apprehensions any to be living in a house nearly 70 years old which still has some old wiring left (Jim has rewired much of it, luckily). Also luckily, neither of us smokes. On the other hand, we live next to a canyon with lots of brush in it.

SF STUFF: I fear I'm guilty of not sending you a list generated by my own question. I wanted to sit down and contemplate that for a while, and have not had a chance to do it. Also, partly, I'm not sure that I know enough about SF to compile a list I'd be satisfied with. A good many years ago I switched mostly to fantasy, and later on I switched specifically to books with settings which could be mapped (whether the books were actually any good wasn't any issue). However, I suppose my list would include:

1. Bradbury THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES
2. Miller A CANTICLE FOR LEIBOWITZ
3. Asimov FOUNDATION (the trilogy)
4. Asimov I, ROBOT
5. Clarke CHILDHOOD'S END
6. Clarke 2001
7. Simak CITY
8. Herbert DUNE
9. Capek WAR WITH THE NEWTS
10. Orwell 1984

I suspect I might be tempted to revise my list after seeing other suggestions, since these are off the top of my head. I think it's interesting, looking over the list now, how many of these books have apocalyptic themes. If I had to limit myself to one book per author, I'd drop 2001 and probably FOUNDATION, but I'm not sure what I'd add. I've deliberately omitted any books by Wells and Verne, since I recall limiting this to the 20th Century.

Perhaps Heinlein is hard SF; I haven't read any of his recent works, and those I have read seemed to me often to brush the skirts of Dame Fantasy or at least be concerned with bigger issues than mere technology. But now that I think about it, I think Lawrence Watt-Evans is probably right.

Speaking of Lawrence: I've got to confess that I have many of his books (they have maps or seem mappable), but haven't read them. I do that a lot: buy books that seem mappable and put them away for the time when I'll address that author or series or whatever. Be that as it may: I find authors talking about their work and their experiences in the literary marketplace inherently interesting. I've often been induced to buy/read a book by reading something about it (written by the author or someone else who's familiar with it). However, if Lawrence wants to be bashful...

I also did a Diplomacy variant which featured Pellucidar. It was more or less a fannish game, back in 1968, which featured a world-wide map, but with Great Powers (I seem to remember there were 24 of them) named after the fictional countries that Dipzines had been named after or which had been prominent in hobby press (Poderkagg and Frenciana, particularly).

Actually the underground power was Pollutidar, John Boardman's GM press country in a 1967 postal game in which I had played England with press based on Moorcock's "Dorian Hawkmoon" stories. I almost got wiped by a Russo-Turkish alliance in that one (I would have been, save for knowing that both players, who were among the hobby's best, were "win-only" types, which allowed me to work subterranean deals with both of them). Anyway, that game was hugely complex and was set up mostly for press. Pollutidar, as I recall, could open vents almost wherever he wanted them. Lawrence, if you have a copy of that game you did, I'd like to see a copy of it. In fact, so would Fred Davis (North American Variant Bank).

THE ELECTION: Yawn. I've had no enthusiasm for this quadrennial Presidential Popularity Ritual since it became clear Jess Jackson wouldn't be the Democratic nominee. I would probably prefer to see Dukakis elected but I'm not sure my preference is strong enough to vote for him. I've been doing write-in votes over the last five elections, and will probably do a write-in once again. On top of a totally dull Top Race, the California ballot will contain almost 30 statewide propositions, of which five relate to insurance rates! My calculation is that if all five pass, insurance rates in this state will drop about 120% and the insurance companies will be paying us to insure with them. Or something like that. The propositions are all parts of an ongoing battle between insurers and lawyers, which is sort of like having to choose between Attila the Hun and Chenghiz Khan. The ongoing spate of super-snide commercials all sound like recordings of sixth-grade schoolgirls gossiping, although probably the intellectual level is somewhat lower (in order to get down to the typical voter, no doubt -- these idiots may be surprised to learn that the average voter is a lot smarter than they think, and will pass all of their propositions so that they all get totally screwed -- I think giving Attila what Chenghiz wants while giving Chenghiz what Attila wants will be a lovely irony).

THE LAST TEMPTATION OF CHRIST: I'm tempted to see this, and no doubt will see it. I read the book a couple of years ago, when I was doing research for my novel A Death In Jerusalem. The value of the flick will depend on how closely it sticks to the original. One thing that must be kept in mind when dealing with Kazantzakis is that everything he writes is essentially Greek. That goes for Temptation as well, which has an ambience which is far more specifically Cretan than Judean. Even so, the book deals with the hugely important question of who Jesus really was.

Kazantzakis has chosen to deal with a theme that barely peeps through the greatly idealized Gospel narratives; namely, that Jesus was subject to uncertainty and self-doubt to some degree. To a very great degree, in Kazantzakis' view. Three traditions support this view: first, the tradition that Jesus was tempted in the desert, which in the Gospels is presented as merely a confrontation in which Jesus' rejection of the devil's offers is never in doubt (and which therefore cannot truly qualify as "temptation").

Second, the tradition that the early enthusiasm and optimism of Jesus' ministry gradually wore off and turned to darker forebodings. In the Gospels the implications of this tradition are simply ignored.

Third, the tradition that Jesus had second thoughts about crucifixion at the last minute. The representation of his prayers at Gethsemane seem ahistorical (in the sense that there was no actual witness to these), but it is no doubt based on some solid tradition about last-minute doubts.

(It seems important to observe here that in the Dune novels, Paul Atreides undergoes very similar temptations, disappointments, and doubts, leading up to a "death" in the desert and "resurrection" as "the prophet".)

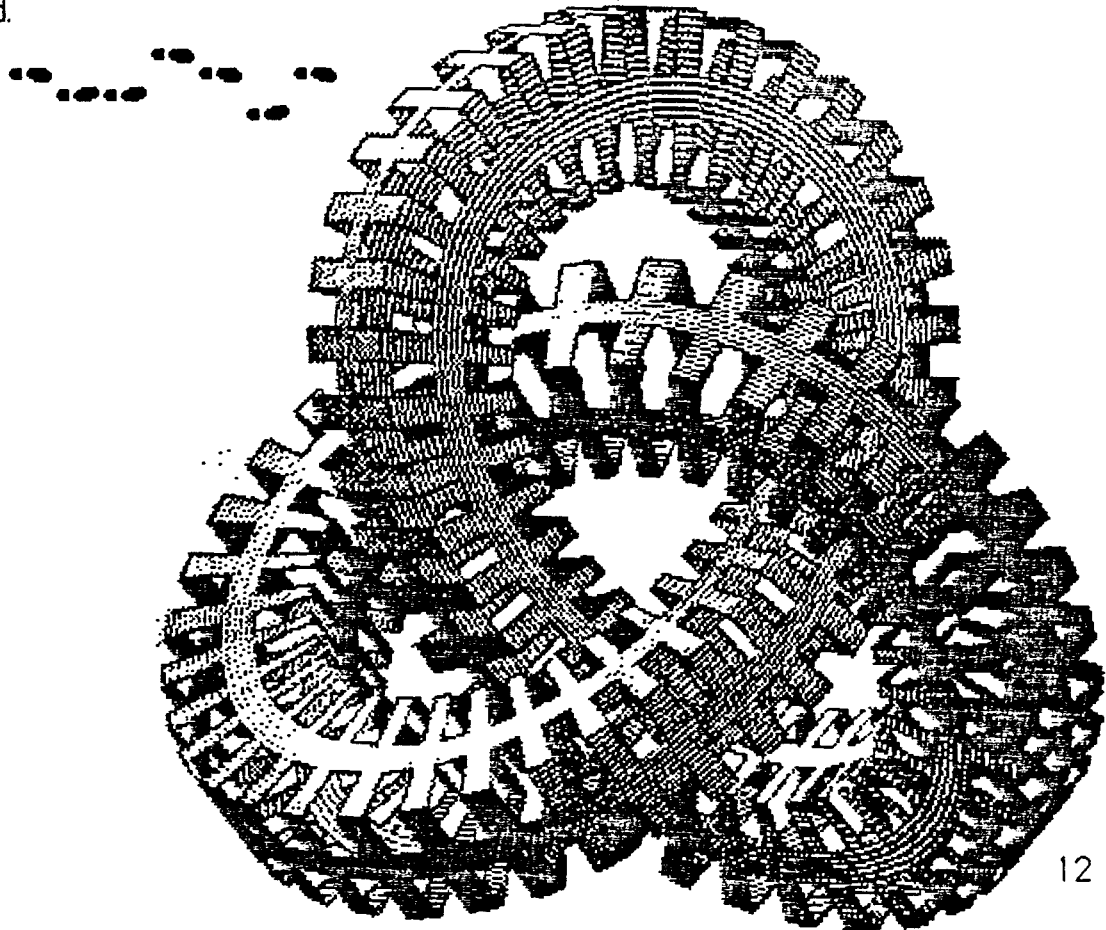
Kazantzakis then gives us a last temptation of Jesus, one which is extremely plausible but isn't even hinted at in the Gospels. On the cross, he is tempted to change his own history (which he must therefore have the power to do) and live out his life instead as a simple rabbi, to marry and have children, and to attain insignificance as merely another in the long line of Jewish teachers of morality. By living (in essence) through the temptation, he is able to overcome it.

The message which Kazantzakis gives us in his novel is an important one: it is nothing for a mere automaton to do what it's supposed to do, but a human being who overcomes himself achieves greatness. This is the same message we get in Wagner's Ring, by the way. Significantly, the mortal who does this isn't the hero Siegfried, but the ex-goddess Brunnhilde. In The Last Temptation of Christ, Jesus is no robot of God, but a real man who in the end accepts the necessity of his own sacrifice.

(With respect to Wagner, I say "significantly", although perhaps I do not see the significance as he intended. Wagner was certainly no feminist, if his treatment of women is any indication. Yet of all the characters in the Ring cycle, Brunnhilde is the strongest and most admirable. She alone has the strength of will to give up the Ring for the greater good of the universe. Siegfried gives her the Ring, but to him it is only a trinket; she gives him her horse. Brunnhilde is forever setting others in a place of greater importance than herself: her father Wotan, the pregnant Sieglinde, the spoiled-child Siegfried. That she should sacrifice herself for this or that male no doubt seemed natural to Wagner, and his music seems to suggest that he attributes her final sacrifice to her love of Siegfried. But I think not; it was to save the world, and in that she transcends her creator.)

Anyway: I don't know yet if I recommend the movie, but I strongly recommend the book. It is idiosyncratic undeniably, and in terms of historicity many parts of it stretch artistic license beyond the breaking point. However, the intellectual thrust of the book is vital, and it is one of the most important meditations on Jesus written in this century (or any century).

Best, Rod.



BLACK TIE AFFAIRS: THE GAME OF DIPLOMACY

INVITED ARE:

Eric Anderson	820 E. 21st St. #4, Oakland, CA 94606
Fred Anderson	78 Brightwood Lane, West Hartford, CT 06110
Larry Botimer	13833 NE 11th St. #3, Bellevue, WA 98005
Derwood Bowen	989 Morningview, Akron, OH 44305-1474
Stven Carlberg	316 Cedar Crest Court, Lafayette, LA 70501
Ron Cameron	7821 Bouma Circle, La Palma, CA 90623
Kathy Caruso	29-10 164th St., Flushing, NY 11358
Dave Ditter	8049 Idaho Circle North, Minneapolis, MN 55445
Pete Gaughan	3105 East Park Row #132, Arlington, TX 76010
Chisholm Gentry	470 South Main Street, Bradford, MA 01830
James Hall	4316 Ewing Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55410
Robert Hauser	7 Mead Terrace, Glen Ridge, NJ 07028
Melinda Holley	P.O. Box 2793, Huntington, WV 25727
Jim Nickel	429 E. Columbia Street, Falls Church, VA 22046
Bernie Oaklyn	13412 Brackley Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20904
Cathy Ozog	P.O. Box 5225, Munds Park, AZ 86017
Michael Quirk	3830 Chester Drive, Glenview, IL 60025
John Rigley	RD 1 Box 170, Richmondville, NY 12149
Steve Rush	6301 Lyndale Avenue South, Apt. 102, Richfield, MN 55423
Mike Sargent	P.O. Box 190286, Anchorage, AK 99519
Garret Schenck	40 3rd Place, Basement Apt., Brooklyn, NY 11231
John Schlosser	11027 Beacontree Lake Dr., Apt. 304, Reston, VA 22090
Michael J. Smith	4329 McPherson Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63108
L. Watt-Evans	5 Solitaire Court, Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Mark Weseman	124 Burleigh Drive, Ithaca, NY 14850



ROCKHOPPER'S SOCKHOP WINTER 05 1987AU

(Seasons Separated On 2+ Requests)

England (Hall): (REMOVE F NWF) Has A War, A Mos, A Lvn, F Kie, F Den, F Edi, F Iri, F Nth, F NAO

France (Quirk): (BUILD A MAR) Has A Bre, A Bel, A Hol, A Mar, F MAO, F Lon, F Tun, F Wme, F Spa(sc)

Germany (Ditter): Has A Mun, A Ber

Italy (Ozog): (BUILD F NAP) Has A Vie, A Tyl, F Tri, F TyS, F Nap

Turkey (Nickel): (BUILD F SMY) Has A Ukr, A Gre, A Rum, A Bud, A Sev, F Bla, F Aeg, F Ion, F Smy

Underlined moves do not succeed. Don't Panic!

SHOUTED OUT THE WINDOW (Press)

England-Germany: "You, and France? Really . . . That means France is lying to me . . . now, he wouldn't do that!"

France-Turkey: "I can't allow your fleets to get any farther west. Let's work together to take out Italy."

England-World: "I make no allies, I take no prisoners!"

Ankara-Italy: "Cathy, my survival made the F Build necessary."

England-France: "What's the deal, sport?"

Dateline London: "The besieged city fights on, waiting for the inevitable rescue by the Fleet."

England-Italy: "Beware the 'Fleets of Turk'!"

J.D.Hall-Michael G.: "I really appreciate the vote of confidence, too bad it won't help me win the game, I need an ally to do that."

THE MAGELLAN COTILLION SPRING 06 1987AV

Austria (Smith): A Ser-Gre, A Bul SUPPORT A Ser-Gre(Cut), F Bla SUPPORT A Bul

England (Rush): A Bur SUPPORT GER A Mar-Gas, A Pic SUPPORT F MAO-Brest(Cut), F Nth HOLD, F Kie-Den, F Lpl-NAO, F MAO-Brest, F Eng SUPPORT F MAO-Brest

France (Oaklyn→Levison): A Gas-Bur(Destroyed), A Par-Pic, F NAt-MAO, F Spa(sc) HOLD

Germany (Hauser): A Mar-Gas

Italy (E.Anderson): A Tyl-Tri, A Vie SUPPORT RUS A Gal-Bud, A Tri-Alb, A Ven-Pie, F Alb-Gre, F Ion SUPPORT F Alb-Gre

Russia (Bowen): A Sev SUPPORT A Rum, A Ber-Mun, A Mun-Tyl, A Rum SUPPORT A Gal-Bud, A Gal-Bud, A War-Sil, A Mos-War, F Nwg-Nwy, F Swe-Nwy

Turkey (Caruso): A Smy-Con, A Ank SUPPORT A Smy-Con, F Gre SUPPORT F Con-Bul(sc)(Dislodged; retreat AEG or Off), F Con-Bul(sc)

Underlined moves do not succeed. Don't Worry; Be Happy.

The proposed **F/R/T DRAW** has **Failed** to pass.

Bernie Oaklyn has resigned as **France**, and is replaced by **Derek Levison**, 26 Mt. Hope Blvd., Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706.

WHISPERED IN THE HALLS (Press)

Caruso- "Bums" Rush: "Toady to a friend of Snobs. Not me, I don't associate with Moosemen!"

Russia-England: "You don't need to talk to Italy. I can fill you up with as much nonsense as he can."

Turkey-Austria: "Why don't you just disappear? Like a good Archdope!"

Russia-France: "Rush is right. You do send interesting letters. Sometimes you come off as a bit ambitious, but always interesting. Too bad it didn't work out."

Italian Press: "I don't know who proposed F/R/T as a draw, but I figure a 3-way draw proposal should list at least 2 of the 3 biggest powers. Besides, who wants a draw when there are still 7 powers!?"

(Brackley Terrace): "Well, fellows and gals! It seems that I bit off much more than I can chew when I signed up for 14 credits of senior level technical electives for this semester and next. Although I had decided to keep up with the games, I realize there is simply not enough time to do so. Therefore, and with regret, I must resign all games and decline new games until sometime next May. I must thank those of you who would write as much as you have, and for the many telephone calls, both at my expense as well as yours. I certainly hope you all will be playing when I return to the hobby that has been mine for some 25 odd years or more. With this notice I am ordering all units in the same manner of the last set of orders received by the GM, this so that all units do not go unordered. This at least gives the replacement player a chance at survival, that is, if you all will allow that player the chance to see what has been going on. Gee, the behind the scenes play is tremendous. A lot you guys know, anyway. See you in a few months. Bernie."

THE EMPEROR'S BALL W/SPRING 06/07 1987AK

France (Sargent): (BUILD A PAR, F MAR) A Vie-Tri, A Tyl SUPPORT A Pie-Ven, A Tus SUPPORT A Pie-Ven, A Pie-Ven, A Par HOLD, F Tun-Ion, F Nap-Apu, F TyS-Nap, F Rom SUPPORT F TyS-Nap, F Mar-Lyo

Germany (Schenck): (BUILD A KIE) A Mun SUPPORT A Ber-Sil, A StP-Mos, A Boh-Gal, A Lvn SUPPORT A StP-Mos, A Ber-Sil, A Kie-Pru, F Hel-Hol, F Bot HOLD, F Fin-Swe, F Bal CONVOY A Kie-Pru

Italy (F. Anderson): (REMOVE F APU) A Ven-Tyl(Destroyed)

Russia (Holley): (A STP RETREATS Off, BUILD A MOS) A Bud-Gal(Destroyed), A Sil SUPPORT A Bud-Gal(Destroyed), A Gal-War, A Mos SUPPORT A Gal-War (Dislodged; retreat UKR, SEV, or Off), F Rum HOLD

Turkey (E. Anderson): A Tri-Bud, A Ser SUPPORT A Tri-Bud, A Alb-Tri, F Adr HOLD, F Aeg SUPPORT F Ion, F EMe SUPPORT F Ion, F Ion HOLD

Underlined moves do not succeed. Don't Sit Under The Apple Tree, With Anybody Else But Me.

The proposed **F/G/R/T DRAW** has **Failed** to pass. A **FRANCE/GERMANY/TURKEY DRAW** HAS BEEN PROPOSED, AS WELL AS A **FRANCE/GERMANY DRAW**. Please vote with your orders on both proposals. Last issue, the German order A Ber-Sil should have been underlined - thanks to Garret for pointing this out first, and thanks to the rest of you for figuring it out anyway.

OVERHEARD AT THE BALL (Press)

Italy-Turkey: "Here is your chance - Go For It!"

Italy-Germany: "Thanks for the note. No offense taken. This game is definitely chalked up to experience."

KING BASH FALL 05 1987CP

Austria (Gaughan): A Bud SUPPORT A Tri, A Bul-Rum, A Tri SUPPORT ITA F Ven(Cut), A Vie-Boh, F Aeg SUPPORT F Ion, F Ion SUPPORT ITA F Rom-TyS (No Such Order)

England (Schlosser): A Lvn SUPPORT F Nwy-StP(nc)(Cut), A Den SUPPORT F Ska-Swe, A Yor-Nwy, F Bal-Bot, F Ber SUPPORT F Bal (Attempting to Move), F Bar SUPPORT F Nwy-StP(nc), F Nwy-StP(nc), F Ska-Swe, F Nth CONVOY A Yor-Nwy

France (Rigley): A Tyl-Tri, A Ruh SUPPORT A Bur-Mun, A Mun-Boh, A Pie-Tyl, A Bur-Mun, F Tun-Ion, F TyS SUPPORT F Tun-Ion

Italy (Cameron): (A BUD RETREATS GAL) A Nap-Apu, A Gal-War, F Ven SUPPORT FRE A Tyl-Tri, F Rom-Nap

Russia (Gentry): A Arm-Sev, A Sil-War, A StP-Nwy, A Fin SUPPORT A StP-Nwy, E Swe SUPPORT A StP-Nwy(Destroyed), F Smy-EMe, F Bot-Lvn

Underlined moves do not succeed. Don't Tread On Me.

AN **AUSTRIA/ENGLAND/FRANCE/ITALY/RUSSIA DRAW** HAS BEEN PROPOSED, ALONG WITH AN **ENGLAND/FRANCE DRAW** AND ALSO A **CONCESSION TO FRANCE**. Please vote on all proposals with your orders. Russia's move F Swe-Nwy should have been underlined last issue - I'm glad you all were able to figure it out. Sloppy, Dorneman, sloppy.

AUSTRIA (VIE, SER, BUL, GRE, CON, TRI, BUD, RUM) 8 BUILD 2 (But No Room)
ENGLAND (EDI, LPL, LON, NWY, BEL, DEN, HOL, KIE, BER, SWE) 10 BUILD 1
FRANCE (BRE, PAR, MAR, POR, SPA, MUN, TUN) 7 EVEN
ITALY (ROM, NAP, VEN) 3 REMOVE 1
RUSSIA (SEV, WAR, MOS, SMY, ANK, STP) 6 EVEN

NATTERINGS OF THE COURT (Press)

Italy-GM: "Thank you for the position. The word 'buffer' immediately came to mind followed by 'garbage can'."

Paris: "The Great French Emperor S.O.B. the First is saddened at the recent deaths of the Austrian, Italian, and Russian heads of state. Here I went to all the trouble of getting a good firing squad together, and three pine boxes. But I am sure I'll have a use for them yet."

Italy-Russia: "Per your last press, does A GAL-WAR express my sentiments?"

Russia-World: "Boy, you're a quiet bunch. Makes for a boring game."

Austria-Italy: "Timing is everything, isn't it? With better timing we wouldn't be here, or at least would have gotten our act together right off."

Italy-Austria: "Sorry Pete, there will be other times and other places."

Lon-Paris: "John, all is going according to plan. Let's keep doing what we're doing."

Italy-France: "Nothing you do or don't do will make me angry."

Austria-E/F: "Look, I didn't want to step in front of your hordes. Why not give peace a chance?"

Italy-England: "I'll enjoy watching your battle."

Lon-Paris: "New job and promotion prevents me from writing, sorry."

Adèle Solrée

WINTER 02

BN88E

(Seasons Separated On 2+ Requests)

Austria (Nickel): (REMOVE F ALB) Has A Bud, A Ser

England (Holley): Has F Bar, F Nth

France (Botimer): (BUILD F BRE) Has A Por, A Bel, A Gas, F Lon, F Spa(sc), F Iri, F Bre

Germany (Weseman): (BUILD A MUN, F BER) Has A War, A Kie, A Pru, A Mun, F Swe, F Bal, F Ber

Italy (Ozog): (BUILD F NAP) Has A Tyl, A Vie, A Tri, F Ion, F Adr, F Nap

Russia (Carlberg): (F SWE RETREATS BOT, REMOVE F BLA) Has A Fin, A Rum, A Gal, F Bot, F Nwy

Turkey (Watt-Evans): (BUILD A SMY) Has A Gre, A Bul, A Smy, F Aeg, F Con

Underlined moves do not succeed. Don't Bring Me Down.

GENTEEL DISCOURSE (Press)

France-Italy: "Naw, you don't. I'm almost as boring as Cochise."

Turkey-Italy: "Fat lot of help you were last turn! Three supports and some fleet maneuvers! What are those fleets doing over here, anyway, instead of watching France?"

France-Germany: "My, my, dead bear for sure. By the way, which Fat Lady?"

Germany-France: "Melinda has a reputation? Is it something like Billy the Kid's?"

Pravda (Russia): "What does retribution have to do with a relentless campaign against someone who has never played against you before? Ah well, England dies before Russia in this game."

Germany-Russia: "Everyone needs an enemy sometime."

Germany-GM: "Loved the cover to #17." [*Scott Ruggles, are you listening?*]

GATECRASHERS (Michael Gonsalves, Kathy Caruso, Dave Ditter, Michael Hopcroft, Michael Quirk, John Richards, John Fisher, Bill Ricker, Mark Sheron, Don Williams, Greg Maynard, and Fred Anderson). A standby pays no game fees, receives sub credit for submitting unused moves and upon playing a position to completion so let me know if you want on (or off) this list.

NEW GAME OF REGULAR DIP OPENING!

A lot of you have requested another gamestart, and I will be holding a couple of positions for novices who have inquired about games, so I expect this one to fill fast. The new and improved game fee will be \$6, but don't send any money (unless you're not already a PD subscriber) until I let you know if you made it into the game. Preference lists used if submitted, and ask for a copy of my House Rules if you don't already have 'em. Good Hunting!

Deadline for All games is

NOVEMBER 12.



PRINCE ALBERT'S
PENGUIN LIGHT INFANTRY
c 1900

Stephen H. Dorneman
94 Eastern Ave #1
Malden, MA 02148



Rod Walker
1273 Crest Dr.
Encinitas, CA 92024

Sub Thru #27

THE BACK PAGE 0

According to DISCOVER magazine, the 1980s have already given us the four hottest years on record - and that's **not** counting 1988. This, at a time when the sun's total radiance has actually decreased and the amount of reflective dust in the earth's atmosphere has increased. Make no mistake about it, the Greenhouse Effect isn't something for our great-grandchildren to worry about, or some speculative scientific theory that the NATIONAL ENQUIRER has taken out of context and blown out of proportion.

The Greenhouse Effect is warming our planet here and now. Due mainly to mankind's burning of fossil fuels, carbon dioxide levels are 25% higher now than they were in 1860. Methane, chlorofluorocarbons, nitrous oxide, and low-level ozone, all more efficient absorbers of infrared than carbon dioxide, have increased even more dramatically. Even with the best of intentions, such as the recent 53-nation agreement to cut chlorofluorocarbon production by 50% over the next ten years, the problem is going to get worse before it gets better.

Miami, Atlantic City, Galveston - most of the resort cities of the East and Gulf coasts have been built on low-lying barrier islands. What happens to them when the sea level begins to rise? Already war and famine rage in the Sudan and Ethiopia where man and nature have combined to turn former farmland to lifeless desert - what happens when these changes become more widespread, into, say, India? California? The Soviet heartland?

I don't have an answer - but I know that this problem is not just an American, or a Soviet, or a Third World problem. Nature has no respect for political borders.