

Hep Me! Hep Me!: Textual Healing

Jon Carroll (from the S.F. Chronicle)

BURNED OUT, USED UP, blown away, single-minded and double-crossed, a danger to myself and others, I found a large house in a small town on the North Coast and went to ground.

I wanted to read books, walk at sunset, whisper to my sweetie, sleep and eat: those things and those things only. I wanted to get the hell away. I was not a happy camper.

I asked my malaise to identify itself, but it refused. Essentially, I hated everything—people, plants, animals, society, politicians, lumberjacks, veal cutlets, hoop earrings, cruelty, injustice, conversation, facial blemishes, bad drivers, good drivers, lawn mowers, leaf blowers, yellow teeth, pain, hate, rage.

I had not lost the will to live; living was cool. I had lost the will to cope.

So we moped, the wife and I; we did not cope. We slouched. We balanced volumes on our bellies. We let the sun follow us around the living room, chasing us from chair to chair. We read books and ate processed grain products. In the evening, we made a fire, read books and ate processed dairy products.

We saddled up the Toyota and rode out into the setting sun and the rising moon. We walked in the tall grass as the kestrels flew overhead. We remembered what salt tasted like.

We rolled over and went back to sleep.

IN MY SULLEN YOUTH, and few youths were as sullen as mine, I would slouch in my room all day and read. I was not a poster child for literacy; I was not attempting to absorb the highest ideals of our civilization or prepare myself for the bright citizenship of tomorrow.

I was pretty sure, actually, that we'd all be dead by 1975. That seemed to be a major plot point of about half the books I read.

Reading was just a way out of whatever I was feeling. Somehow my brain started fighting with my brain chemicals; somehow the excitement of goddam life of the goddam mind started my toes to tapping.

Writing a book is an act of hope and so is reading one. That's the truth. Once more I forgot to remember that the world was a barren landscape of grief. Even the books that insisted that the world was a barren landscape of grief reminded me that it isn't; that's the weirdest mystery of art.

SO STUFF HAPPENED to me in the large house in the small town on the North Coast, and I'm going to spend some time talking about it. But first, my reading list, in the order that I read them:

"Mating" by Norman Rush, "The Devil's Candy" by Julie Salamon, "Operating Instructions" by Anne Lamott (in manuscript), "Red Dragon" by Thomas Harris, "The Gold Bug Variations" by Richard Powers, "Two Girls, Fat and Thin" by Mary Gaitskill, "The Hacker Crackdown" by Bruce Sterling, "Time's Arrow" by Martin Amis and "The Steam Pig" by James McClure.

Six men and three women; seven Americans, one Brit and one South African. Three nonfiction and six fiction. Two inspirational, two gloomy, two genre, three mixed or had no opinion. Settings included New York (major location for four of the books),

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The Roar of the Greasepaint

(the letter column)

[[May I remind everybody that in this zine, the editor reserves the right to edit, even if some months (like this one) I do a poor job of it. I love letters and will squeeze in as many as I can while trying to keep twenty games under two ounces! (Two ounces? In your dreams, homeboy...)]

Andrew York

I agree with Mike Magnuson's evaluation of MREs. I remember when I was in the Air Force and on training deployment, we were given them to eat. Unfortunately, I find them completely unpalatable (the dried fruit being the exception). Thus, I subsisted on sunflower seeds, beef jerky and vienna sausages I'd packed in my personal kit.

John McLaurin

We haven't had a lot of snow here yet, which is unusual. By this time the local lakes are usually frozen over (only partial ice, lots of open water), and there is anywhere from a foot to a foot and a half of snow on the ground (it is snowing as I type this, but there was only an inch or so on the ground yesterday, and that was melting). The snowmobilers must be really pissed off by now!

Stephen Agar

I read the recent issue of *Perelandra* [103] with interest, especially the different viewpoints expressed by Russ Rusnak and Stan Johnson over greed, freedom etc. Essentially what Russ is saying is that he, like our former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, doesn't believe in "Society" as a concept, the idea that like it or not we live in inter-dependable communities with social responsibilities to each other. However, this notion that the individual is all-important is generally rejected in countries with a liberal christian tradition as being socially divisive and hostile to modern forms of democratic government. Even after 11 years of Margaret Thatcher, Britain still has a reasonably comprehensive benefits system and universal healthcare free at the point of delivery to anyone who needs it.

I would certainly hate to live in a society in which it was not recognised that the taxation system must to some extent be redistributive in order to protect the weak and poor—indeed, I would say that you can judge the moral worth of any society by the way in which it treats its weakest and poorest members. In my opinion it is the Genghis-Khan attitudes of people like Russ which have made the USA the most violent western country on earth and are a root cause of some of the extreme social problems that exist in American inner-city areas. The USA attitude towards the free availability of firearms is incomprehensible and suicidal.

I found the discussion on the difficulties Bush had in legislating to with a hostile Congress to be interesting. Of course in this country the problem could never arise as we only elect the legislature and the dominant force in the legislature in turn forms the executive. This means that when the dominant party has a large majority in Parliament it can do anything it wants without any hin-

[[letters continue on page 2]]

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drance at all—power is completely unchecked. Hence, we had to suffer a lot of extreme legislation in the 80's for which there was no popular mandate. In the end that proved to be Mrs. Thatcher's undoing when she sought to alter the rules relating to local taxation (the Poll Tax) despite a popular consensus to the contrary. Her successor John Major is now suffering from the fact that the government is still acting as though it had a three-figure majority in the House of Commons, rather than a mere 21. Of course, politics in Britain is far more party-controlled than in the USA—here if as many as 5% of a political party's MPs vote against the party it is headline news.

On balance I think I would prefer our system, if only we had an elected second chamber to provide some sort of check on the executive, which the House of Commons alone cannot. To me, your system looks bizarre indeed, as the notion of a separation of powers has been developed to such an extent that it appears that difficult decisions can never be taken. At least President Clinton will have no such excuse.

Turning to the more mundane world of postal Diplomacy, I have been trying to encourage US editors to trade with my zine *Spring Offensive*, even though it costs an arm and a leg. Could I put out a plea to any US editors who are interested in having some contact with the UK, to send me (say) three copies of their zine and a description of the sort of zine they would like to trade with and I will arrange for three UK zines that fit the bill to be sent in return. Whether or not the editors concerned want to trade thereafter will be up to them to decide between themselves, but at least it may help to encourage better links. Speaking for myself, I would be particularly eager to trade with any zine with a strong variant base, which isn't just a warehouse zine. Are there any out there?

[[I recommend Spring Offensive, as you can see in my Broom Closet feature.]]

David Hood

"Love it or leave it"? Oh, come on, Pete. You can do better than that. It's not that I'm not willing to pay taxes at all, it's just that I'd be in favor of cutting out a lot of what it's spent on. The taxes-at-point-of-a-gun thing is a tool for testing proposed spending. Is it worth pointing a gun at somebody to get the money? If not, then no tax money should go to it.

[[If I had given an answer like "You can do better than that" every time some redneck had told me to "love it or leave it," I would have been beaten black and blue pretty frequently.]]

[[I disagree. Many things deserve tax support but nothing short of self-defense is worth pointing a gun.]]

Roger Cox

[[Roger wrote to correct an error in last month's letter, but I can't find the reference he's fixing so I'll skip ahead...]]

I'd like to point out a real error—you stated in your response to Hood that I was wrong, "no one would shoot me if I tried to emigrate." I never said they would. I said I could be shot if I went to prison for not paying taxes and tried to escape. The conclusion you jumped to is pretty far-fetched. And I am not voluntarily in this country—I have no means to leave. ... To all of you who like to fall back on the old, tired, "love it or leave it" mentality, I say put your money (instead of mine) where your mouths are for a change. Buy me a chateau in Switzerland (or Sweden), get me a job in this new country (my wife needs one also), pay my moving expenses, etc, and I'll gladly leave.

Since I doubt you or anyone else would want to do this (anymore than I want to pay for environmental programs, welfare, etc.), I suggest that you refrain from such childish ultimatums.

[[Whoa! Hold on. Recall that I made that 'childish ultima-

tum' out of sarcasm, because I had been told the same thing in earnest so many times in the past!

[[I disagree that I was out of bounds. Reread your "I can be shot" ¶ again, because both interpretations are valid. I'm glad you set me straight on what you meant, though.]]

As to your editorial questions, yes, my county has a landfill...it's lovely. I've been to New York—if it had smog I didn't notice. I've known people with cancer. I suppose it could have been caused by PCBs, UV light, or pesticides. It could also have been caused by smoking, Coke or Pepsi, or orbital mind-control lasers for all I know. And if I believed everything published by the DEA *[[FDA?]]*, I'd never eat anything. And since I hate fish, I don't care if it's 100% contaminated. You stated that the "vision" you see from the letter column is "Leave me alone!" RIGHT! To require one to pay for disabled or less-fortunate people is enslavement and stealing. It is enforcing your beliefs on another, sort of like prayer being mandatory in schools, ya know?

People have the undeniable right to be bigoted, racist, sexist, uncaring, unforgiving, me-oriented, politically-incorrect, wasteful assholes—those who think otherwise should read the Constitution. Marge Schott can say "nigger," New York school board members can say they hate gays, and "bravo!" for that. Leave me, Marge, and the gay-bashers alone!

[[The right to be something is inviolate. The right to damage others because of your beliefs doesn't exist. School board members who hate gays can go home and hate gays on their own time, they will not have the chance to hurt those people on my dime. (Look out if you break your neck or lose your job, 'cause nobody in your society is going to stop to notice.)]]

[[For somebody who is in this country against his will, you sure seem to appreciate the freedom it gives you. But then, I would appreciate it too, if I could live in a world like the one you describe, where landfills are lovely and Love Canal never happened.]]

[[Have no fear, Roger, I don't take these arguments personally. We can stay friends and allies, believe it or not! (But Garret will kill me for saying so!)]]

Chris Hassler

I think the views Roger Cox expressed about taxation are naïve in the extreme. First of all, taxation is necessary. The only types of society which can exist without it are either moneyless societies or anarchies. Moneyless societies are infeasible for anything but the smallest populations; and anarchies are unstable because they favor the unprincipled. Second, you benefit from the taxes. Where would you be without police and fire protection, roads maintained by public funds, public parks and beaches, and even the heavily-subsidized postal service. As someone who does support these services with his tax dollars, I for one would want you to go to jail if you were freeloading by not paying taxes. Face it, if you want a coherent society, you must have taxation. The trick is to make the system fair, something which the current system most certainly is not. But that's another story.

[[My comments are reserved to Among the Trees this time.]]

Stan Johnson

[[I'm cutting pieces on forced sterilization of the poor and on Somalia as another Lebanon, but here's what's left:]]

I don't like taxes. However, I could live with them if there were going to help people in this country who need help, or to improve our quality of life. I resent my tax money being sent overseas. I resent the government giving out aid in such a careless method that people can rip it off, or paying for the defense of countries who are cleaning our clock economically.

I feel sorry for the people in Somalia, but I feel our involvement there is a big mistake. I resent American lives and treasure being spent playing world policeman. I don't think we should spend any money on any other country till all the problems here are taken care of.

[[Then we'll never be involved in international affairs again... at least, not until the world goes so far to pot that it drags us down with it.]]

I just heard today that the US population is expected to be 383 million by 2050 and most (80%) of the increase will be due to immigration. I feel it is time to take in the welcome mat. I have nothing against foreigners, but I feel that population increases will adversely affect the quality of life for my grandchildren. Farms, green spaces, and forests will have to be cleared for living space—I don't want to reach a population density of downtown Bombay. I especially don't think this should be inflicted on the USA since we have reduced our own birth rate. Big business likes immigrants because they can be used to make us all work cheaper. I feel we should only admit doctor/scientist types and those who would pay \$1,000,000 to enter. No other country lets people in as easily as we do; most countries I could move to won't let me get a job there.

[[This is "I got mine, screw the next guy." If this attitude had taken hold for good in, say, 1850, my people would still be scraping potatoes out of County Cork. If it takes hold today, both the immigrants we deny and our own country will be worse off. If we raise the standard of living in foreign countries enough, they won't be as eager to come here; we just have to find new ways of helping. (Past ways seem to lead either to the Japan/Germany model, overtaking and hurting us, or the Cuba/Philippines model, where we only make things worse.))]]

Is it racism to say no whites should run the government in a country with a majority black population, even if they do a better job? Maybe so, but there is no denying that the standard of living in countries like Somalia, Uganda, and Mozambique fell drastically when black governments took over from white colonial governments. In fact, can anyone name any black nation that has a better standard of living now? Even India has gone downhill since the British left. Yet we are sending Americans to Somalia to deal with problems the natives can't.

[[If you think Africa was better off under colonial rule, you don't think much of liberty and self-government. After 100 years of slave trade and 100 years of colonialism, I think we should give Africa at least 150 years to learn how to govern and clean up the mess (remember, they were given no access to modern technology or political science, so they had to make ALL of our mistakes for themselves); by my estimate they have more than 90 years left.

[[I don't think anyone would agree that NO whites should be allowed; but I think everyone agrees that allowing NO blacks is an evil practice.]]

Greg Ellis

Sorry, but I haven't recovered enough to comment on the elections. Well, a couple of comments maybe. I went through the normal depression series: anger, denial, sorrow and acceptance. My denial phase ("Maybe he won't do everything he said he will and the economy will survive!") came to an abrupt halt at a meeting I attended last week in Austin. We were hastily called to convene with the Water Development Board to brainstorm on how to work with the incoming administration. The main point of the meeting was for everyone in the state who is in the water business to create a list of projects that could be started before June '93 and would create jobs. Apparently the Clinton administration intends to spend \$20 billion on infrastructure projects in the first six months

as a jobs program. No questions about need, or importance, or value, or affordability, just give us your ideas and we'll give you the dough. Forget that we don't have the money to spend, just spend it.

One quick note on taxes: I don't mind paying my taxes and maybe the 30% I pay isn't too much (though it sure feels like it from here!). But raising anybody's taxes will hurt the economy by sucking more money, and therefore more demand, out of the economic system. If you really want to talk about the philosophy of government, don't direct your attention to such esoterics as the need for any government (and thereby the need for some form of taxation). You should all be discussing the real problem in the U.S.: the death of federalism, which has led to outlandish deficits and runaway government.

Have a great Christmas. I am encouraging all my California friends to buy cameras as gifts!

[[What a load of hogwash. Deficits are caused by gutless politicians—if Reagan had budgeted spending cuts to offset his tax cuts, we either a) wouldn't be in this mess, or b) would be in the mess but have a 98% new Congress, 'cause we would've 'discovered' they were to blame for obstructing!]]

[[Thanks for the thoughtful publicity.]]

Paul Gardner

Two comments on Cathy's column. A while ago two friends of mine, Lang and Tony, took a photo class together. Lang was having trouble remembering an axiom of photography. Tony, who was already a more experienced photographer, had an inspiration: he set the axiom to the tune of David Bowie's "Run for the shadows" (a line from a song whose name escapes me) and had "Expose for the shadows!" It works. Even I haven't forgotten it and I didn't even take the class. This won't necessarily help Cathy with her problem, but it shows the concept can work.

Now a story about getting laid off—or, in this case, fired. Until May this year, my wife, Becky, had a great job that she loved at a place called The Book Cellar. In 40 years the business had become a local institution. People came in, flopped on the sofa and enjoyed being surrounded by books and people who love books and know them. Then the managing owner died of a brain aneurism—or something else equally sudden and mysterious (we still don't know for sure) while in L.A. for a booksellers' convention. Unfortunately, her husband had always been hard for everyone to work with. Soon it came out that this was because he's a manic-depressive—his wife and daughters had enabled him to be functional (sort of) and get along with the community. His attempts to run the store intelligently and with the same passion as his wife were hampered by his apathy for books. In short order he cut advertising in all the local arts/music organs, cut inventory and fired nearly all the old staff—including Becky. Without Becky's wages we're in big trouble, but fortunately she saw it coming, had begun her job search before the firing, and had a new one in exactly a week with a raise in pay and benefits.

You may be casually interested in Becky's job. She works for NERC as an office manager. NERC is NorthEast Recycling Council, a division of the Council of State Governments. NERC holds quarterly conferences for states and industry around the Northeast. Becky's just back from one in Albany, NY, where they visited a lab at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, which has developed a process for separating plastics chemically (virtually everything with plastics: milk jugs to laminated wrappers). It's exciting—recycling around here is in a fledgling state compared to Ca., so there's much work to be done.

Rusnak is a pleasure to read. As with Brad Wilson, I disagree with much that he says, but he says his say persuasively and well.

so thinking up a response calls for digging into oneself.

K-Mart conservatives like Roger Cox, on the other hand, should be careful talking about Occam's (or anyone else's) Razor—it's likely to slice them to death. Roger, you may not have seen the greenhouse effect or ozone holes, but capable, trained people have. Do you test poisons on yourself rather than trust the FDA? Probably, but I wasn't talking about beer and cigarettes—but more powerful poisons whose effects won't be seen by you till it's too late.

It drives me nuts that even intelligent, environmentally-aware folk allow the old-growth question in terms of jobs vs. owls. That's a farce! More accurate to ask this question: how long must taxpayers subsidize the timber industry with ridiculous inexpensive timber? How inexpensive? Huge old-growth trees are now being cut for toilet paper. This small bit of remaining virgin forest we have should be used wisely and very selectively and not be squeezed out with great political pressure. Sure, I would love to see great tracts of forest saved as forest—but mainly I hate seeing the wood given away and wasted in the name of a handful of jobs! Enough!

[[I applaud Becky for both her foresight and for being part of the next wave of technology!]]

[[Again, there's a two-level argument. Those who believe that we should have no public land at all (David Hood; the "Wise-Use Movement") will never be won over. But those who agree with holding land in common and want to develop it can be convinced that preservation is good. It may require compromise, it may require trade-offs and tax spending (eek!!) but keep your spirits up, we can win!]]

Mike Magnuson

I should know the Literary Quiz but I'm suffering acute brain lock. Have you seen *Guadalcanal Diary*? I've been told that it is very good. Other great movies include *Bram Stoker's Dracula*, *My Dinner with Andre*, *Sid and Nancy*, and *Choose Me*. I also saw the play *Sleuth* on video, and it was excellent (Stacy Keach played the lead). Another good play is *Down an Alley Filled With Cats*. It is rather new and kinda obscure but the plot is so tight. While I'm rambling, a good movie to rent is *Tapeheads*—it's a parody of the music business and I'll warn you that it is a little hammy but the climactic scene is a classic. It even has then-Republican National Committee chairman Lee Atwater playing bass. That's worth a buck to me.

[[I had heard that called an "80s Spinal Tap."]]

Chuff Afflerbach

Tell me, Pete—is all this Bailey business *[[in Dagobah, the Metropolis game]]* coming out of left field, or is the movie so much a part of our culture that everyone recognizes it by now? I finally got my own video of it, because Carolina got tired of waiting up Christmas Eve so I could see it on some obscure cable channel. So now I can watch is any time the urge to get grinchy strikes. It's the perfect antidote for me!

[[No, we all get it, and it makes a fine motif for many pieces of press and whatnot. I've heard of IAWL parties, and now there's a trivia book about the movie, written by the guy who played Tommy Bailey.]]

[[My view is that It's A Wonderful Life is a fine fine movie, right up until Clarence dives into the river.]]

Now an ironic observation about your new direction in the letter column. You sure got what you wished—lots of hot talk on politics and religion! I'm not quite ready to join the toboggan ride down that slippery slope, but I'm not above rolling a snowball or two down after the rest of the pack. I would point out that one either observes a social contract or one doesn't; and in the latter

case, there are no inalienable rights to life, liberty or anything else. So these Libertarians are merely arguing for a contract more favorable to their own interests. And as for a country based on freedom, well—I thought it was based on stolen land and stolen labor. So whose freedom are we talking about?

That's about as snide as I can get a few days before Christmas. Have a happy holiday, or a pagan solstice, or whatever you so desire...

[[We still celebrate Christmas, essentially (for me) as a ritual of promising peace and love to others. If there is a God, if there is karma, if there really is reality in visualization—then that's what we're up to this time of year. If not, it can't hurt.]]

Daf Langley

Boy—your letter column is sure taking on serious tones. Taxation as dues to live in this country? I don't know if I believe that. I feel that if people would adopt a more "be kind to your fellow man" attitude we wouldn't need the social services our taxes go towards. Of course, that may be simplistic *[[Certainly not! Stan makes the same suggestion in more flowery language!]]*. There are too many people hurting in the world. Maybe that's the problem right there. Too many people. But, short of war and worldwide disease (like in King's *The Stand*), I don't see how that problem is going to be fixed.

Ah well. Steve came home from Buffalo for Thanksgiving. And our tenth anniversary. Can you believe it? We went to an arts & crafts festival for our anniversary present. It was a great show with dozens of booths, food, entertainment. We had a great time. One of the booths was for HawkQuest. In it were two guys; one had a Perkin's hawk on his fist. He raised his arm and the bird would spread its wings. Beautiful. The other gentleman had a bald eagle on his fist, hooded. The guy with the eagle was lecturing about birds of prey and about HawkQuest. Then he took the hood off the eagle—what a glorious bird! He held him up and he spread his wings. It brought tears to my eyes. We stood there with our mouths hanging open. It was the first booth we came to and it was a wonderful beginning.

[[I'm dumb but, what's HawkQuest? Thanks for writing and I hope a personnel officer, very soon, realizes what a gem you are!]]

David McCrumb

Had responses to most letters, but I broke my foot and have not felt like doing much corresponding. Hopefully next time, though January is bad at work, very busy plus lots of travel.

[[Sorry to hear—but does being an invalid at Christmastime mean you get to make everyone else do all the work?]]

Martin Johnson

Thoroughly enjoying all facets of "new" hobby. One might as well play on the computer by writing Dip letters as by playing yet another round of Arkanoid (or Links, or Ishido, or Oregon Trail). I just folded my attempt at turning on beginners to Dip because I only got two sets of moves for Spring 03 (out of four greenhorns, one quit before starting, one was a puppet of someone who had played before, one couldn't quite figure it out and kept ordering his units to do nothing, and the other got bored!). It's quite satisfactory to play with hard-core gamers.

[[What? Hard-core Perelandrans? Point them out so we can expel them!]]

I just inherited a copy of Computer Diplomacy from someone who had explored it and handed it over due to its shortcomings. I think the best part of the package is the Gamer's Guide, which has tips on play, analysis of various stalemate lines, and suggestions for playing each power. *

Among the Trees

by Pete Gaughan

Did you hear about the dyslexic devil worshipper? He sold his soul to Santa.

Sorry about that. My heart may not really be 'in' this issue. We've had a humongous Christmas—at one time we had nine family members in my parents' house, which doesn't come close to Christmas when I was a kid but is still three more than we've had in years.

Plus my sister got engaged to the boyfriend she brought to meet the family, and I bought Cathy a computer (which was both a shopping hassle and a whole afternoon worth of programming work), and my dad and I just picked up another company to represent (=meetings and sales training and new products).

And the fax machine gave out in the middle of a player's orders this weekend. Sigh.

Actually, one good thing happened that required no effort at all. Wandering through the new Barnes & Noble bookstore near our office, I discovered a new magazine, *Science Fiction Age* (issue 2 is Jan 93). Nice selection of fandom, fiction, and science, with a fantasy story by Dipdom's own Lawrence Watt-Evans.



NovaCon 1993

Yes, that's right, you too can thrill to the premier West Coast Diplomacy house party, this coming February fifth through seventh! Meet exciting people like Rick Kohman, Eric Voogd,* Martin Johnson (and friend), John Galt, and many more.

Flyers will go out within the next month about the Marco Poll (all *Pere* readers and all publishers), *Zine Register* (all publishers), and Dipcon (all *Pere* readers and interested others).



You've heard of "bad hair days," I'm sure. Well, I've had a couple of bad contact-lens days lately, so don't be surprised if you see me wearing glasses again from time to time. I much prefer the contacts, as my peripheral vision and depth perception are better; but I keep getting this blurry deposit on my right lens and it drives me nuts!



Nobody really answered me when I asked what alternative vision of society the anti-tax crowd wanted to promote (except one agreement with "Leave me alone!"). I'm serious here. I believe we're just arguing over levels of taxation—most of you will agree that some taxes are necessary and good, and (as has been said before), "We're just haggling over the price."

But if you really think there should be no taxation, please write and help me understand why. Lastish Roger Cox made a comment about the "original" Constitution saying that taxes had to have the unanimous consent of the people. Well, since then I've bought a copy of the Constitution and it doesn't say that (maybe you're thinking of some early draft, Roger?).

Also, nobody disagreed that massive tax cuts would lead to a quick rise in crime and poverty (even as high as those already are).

To be honest, I don't have much stomach for the discussion because it has tended to be so negative. Very few letters come in giving constructive, positive advice; it's much easier to say "don't do that" than "try this." But I wanted the conversation in the first place, so I won't complain about how it developed. *

*scheduled to appear

The Broom Closet

sweeping out the corners of the hobby

As I said lastish, I'll have to keep this monster from growing too large (especially as I have a couple dozen new trades coming via the *Zine Register*—yes, Garret, I was well aware of that). I'll be limiting this space to new zines, unusual features of old zines, and notable quotes, although if an issue of a zine rates an entry, I'll probably give it a full review. So if you publish, please don't be upset if your zine isn't in here every month.

Corrections to lastish: David Wang points out that I got his zine's name right but also slapped that name on Jeff McKee's *MetaDiplomat*. Sorry, guys.

Y Ddraig Goch 68 has *Enemy of the Hobby* Iain Bowen giving up his feud with Danny Collman. Iain reviews good books as well as trash, and has a young man's healthy desire for a Macintosh although his zine is condemned to dwell in a DOS machine. Do read this one and enter his quiz, which compares to my quizzes about the way *Diplomacy* compares to *Risk* (the quiz being why I include YDG here). £1 (send \$7.50/five issues via the ISE), Iain Bowen, 5 Wigginton Terrace, York, North Yorkshire YO3 7JD, United Kingdom.

I keep receiving *Maelstrom* and the new *American Diplomacy Register* at a rate of about one or the other a week, it seems. *Maelstrom* 10 continues to run the prize game and letter comments on ratings, while *American Diplomacy Register* 2 lists the rating scores of many of those attending DixieCon, extrapolated from the game results there. If you play a face-to-face game, please send a final SC chart and hometowns for each player to Buz. free, Buz Eddy, 7500 212th St. #205, Edmonds WA 98026.

Late arrival: The *American Diplomacy Register* for 12/19/92 has a very complete list of ftf Dip events in North America for 1993.

New Zine: *Making Love in a Canoe* is something Pierre Berton said you had to be able to do to be a Canadian. It's also Brent McKee's new zine, taking up the gauntlet thrown down by Robert Lesco. Issue 0 has four pages of house rules (boo, hiss—too long!) and talk about Canadian nationalism and the usual first-issue nattering. Get one. 4¢Cdn/page+postage, Brent McKee, 901 Avenue T North, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7L 3B9, Canada.

New Zine: *Standard Gauge* 1 actually arrived last month and like a total boor, I forgot to say anything about it. Rail game-heavy and promising to be influenced by *ark* and *Perelandra*, there's probably not even one of you that would like this zine. Yeah, right. (Things go 'round and 'round: Way back in '82, I patterned my zine after Eric Ozog's *Ramblings by Moonlight*, which folded. Now Eric is back, but digest-size and dot-matrix, and the *Pere* look is being imitated. Still, the zine which most looks like *Pere* these days is *Dipadeedoodah!* Hmm—if Apple can sue other computer companies for copying the 'look and feel' of their graphic user interface (GUI), can I sue other editors for using a *Perelandra*-Type User Interface (PTUI)? Well, anyway...) 50¢, Bill Wordelmann, 541 Canyon Trail, Carol Stream IL 60188-1364.

Brendan Whyte was kind enough to send me a sample of *Damn the Consequences* 41, the only zine I know of from New Zealand (but then what do I know?). He's big on big games and variants—*Samurai*, *Crusades*, *Machiavelli*, etc. Openings available in a monster game of *Mercator* and sections of *Mach*, *Dip*, and *Nonpartisan Dip*. \$1NZ+postage (send \$5 for an ISE trial sub), Brendan Whyte, 96 Waiatarua Road, Remuera, Auckland 5, New Zealand.

Lemon Curry 128 brings back *Dip Bowl*, the "varsity sport of the mind" and "America's favorite game with wooden blocks (if

[[more Broom Closet on page 6]]

[[Broom Closet continues from page 5]]

you can afford them)." Don is **still looking for Kremlin, Dip, and Trivial Pursuit players.** 65¢, Don Del Grande, 142 Eliseo Dr, Greenbrae CA 94904-1399.

New to me is *Realpolitik*, of which #81 is, he says, "slimmed down." Well, it still has room to discuss vacations and auto racing and why the world is going to hell (because Cricket is no longer given its rightful place, why else?). 60p, Guy Thomas, 8 Tithe Court, Parlant Road, Langley, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8AS.

Now that Garret has foisted off the ZR, this is the time to sign up for a **game opening** in *Upstart*. Grab 'em while they'er hot, he finally has time to bash players left and right (well, mostly right). \$1.50, Garret Schenck, 40 3rd Place, Basement Apt. Brooklyn NY 11231-3302.

Andy Bate has restarted his zine, *Froggy*, which, for a long time, was a joke in the U.K. hobby—the joke was, "It'll be out next week." So now the masthead reads *Froggy / It'll Be Out Next Week*. Andy looks as though he will be able to publish regularly now, and he is running **bargains** for North Americans who want to sub or trade. Andy is one of those editors who mixes letters, quizzes and reprints to give you a "something new on every page" feel. In #45 (the third issue since the restart) he also offers a presidential election game. \$5 (\$6.50 Cdn) sent to the ISE (that's me) gets you six issues, offer good until the end of March, Andy Bate, 4 Channel Road, Clevedon, Bristol BS21 7DR, United Kingdom.

Also offering a **special trade deal** is *Spring Offensive*—if you publish a zine with a variant interest (except warehouses), Stephen wants to trade samples. In fact, if you send him three copies, he'll be sure the other two get to UK publishers with similar interests, so you can experiment with several samples in one effort. Issue #7 has many games, a lot of chat and a "zines seen" column with none of the space restrictions mine is working under! subs are 90p, Stephen Agar, 79 Florence Road, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 6DL, United Kingdom.

The Abyssinian Prince 124 has Mark Nelson's, Keith Sherwood's, and Jim-Bob Burgess' Desert Island Disk selections. Fascinating recommendations from people who really love music. 50¢, Jim Burgess, 100 Holden Street, Providence RI 02908.

Everyone who has been worrying about what would be in the **new Dip-box pbm flyer** (or the new Dip game itself, for that matter), *Northern Flame* 39 has a run-down of the efforts of David Hood, Gary Behnen, John Caruso, and Cal White to draft a system to get people into the hobby. Anyone buying *Diplomacy* will now get a set of rules (improved in look and layout but with no tactical changes), the back cover of which is a one-page promotional description of postal Dip. The guys I just named, plus Don Del Grande, agreed to be contact addresses five regions, and thanks to each of them. This is probably the single biggest event in the hobby since the Great Feud; 1993 looks very promising! \$2Cdn (\$2.50 overseas), Cal White, 1 Turnberry Avenue, Toronto Ontario M6N 1P6, Canada.

The Laughing Roundhead 6 comes from Duncan's new home (where he wasn't sure whether the phone worked yet. that's how recently he'd moved!). *Revenge of the Killer Condoms from Hell*, a *Midcon* review, and the *War in Yorkshire* await you here. 60p, Duncan Adams, 5 Hedge End, East Hunsbury, Northampton NN3 2PQ, United Kingdom.

The "Bristol mob" used to publish various zines, chief among them being *Vienna*. Well, returning to the DTP lair is Richard Egan (and two co-editors, with *Lies*. Issue 3 has color accent printing, damn fine use of clip art and clip photos, game reviews, letters and a trivia league which is open to all. You must play something here, or trade your zine, to get this zine. 75p, Richard Egan, 23 Cleeve Road, Knowle, Bristol BS4 2JR, United Kingdom.

It's Me Again!

by Cathy Gaughan

Hi, everyone!!! Guess what I got for Christmas? Pete may have already spilled the beans earlier in the zine, since I don't know exactly where I'll show up. Anyway, I got a Macintosh IIsi. I couldn't believe it!!!! Pete kept telling me we couldn't afford it. But I guess my whining finally made him decide debt was something he could deal with more than me. Of course, since Christmas, guess who had a zine deadline and happened to usurp most of the computer time?. What can I say, I love him anyway.

We had an excellent (air guitar motion) Christmas. All of Pete's family made it to his folks house at some point over the Christmas week. His sister, Peg, brought her boyfriend for everyone to meet. And, I'll be darned if the guy didn't propose to her while they were here. So, Peg's on cloud nine!

We got to see Mike, Pete's brother, and his wife Sandy. They got here the day after Christmas. They sacked out at our place, so it was fun to get to talk with them a little without all the family pressures that sometimes occur when we're ALL together. They're both teachers in the LA area, so life is pretty rough for them sometimes. All those pay cuts to help balance the budget hit them right where it counts, but they are managing so far. And Mike's sense of humor always keeps me laughing. Let's see...

Who has no arms and legs and is in the pool?

Answer: Bob

Who has no arms and legs and is on the beach?

Answer: Sandy

Who has one leg shorter than the other?

Answer: Eileen, but in the Orient she's Irene.

And there were those two riddles in last issue:

What do you call a clairvoyant midget who's escaped from jail?

A small medium at large.

What do you call two banana peels?

A pair of slippers.

Happy New Year, Dudes and Dudettes!

[[guest column continues from page 1]]

two imaginary towns in southern Africa, San Rafael, Champaign-Urbana, Austin, Auschwitz.

All these places are now inside my head, together with sundry technicians, odd accents, great sex bad sex, death, reconciliation, messenger RNA Melanie Griffith, a brief history of the phone company and a baby named Sam.

In other words: Everything I was trying to get away from, transformed and revived and wound up again like cheerful toys, waving gaily from the sidewalk. *

VULCAN / Deviant Dip 92JFrc04

Rules now in effect:

0. Master Rule
 2. More Deviant (all rules with 3+ 'yes' votes pass; certain types of proposals banned)
 3. Veto Power (one 'no' vote kills)
 10. Secret Ballot (voting kept secret)
- No new rule passed this turn.

Clarification: "Most votes" is still in effect, so if the proposal with the most net votes has only one or two 'yes'es, it still passes.

Winter 1901: Plain Of White Bread

Austria (Dennis Young): builds a bud, f tri; also has a vie, f gre, a ser.

England (Greg Ellis): "oops, no builds," has f nts, a yor, f nwg.

France (Tim Goodwin): builds f bre, a par, f mar; also has f spa/sc, a bel, a por.

Germany (Lance Anderson): builds f ber; also has f hol, a kie, a mun.

Italy (Mark Lew): builds a ven; also has a boh, a tyo, f tun.

Russia (Jason Bergmann): builds f stp/nc, a war; also has f swe, a gal, a ukr, f rum.

Turkey (Steve Nicewarner): builds f smy; also has f aeg, a bul, a ank.

Deadline for Spring 1902 votes, builds and proposals is January 27.

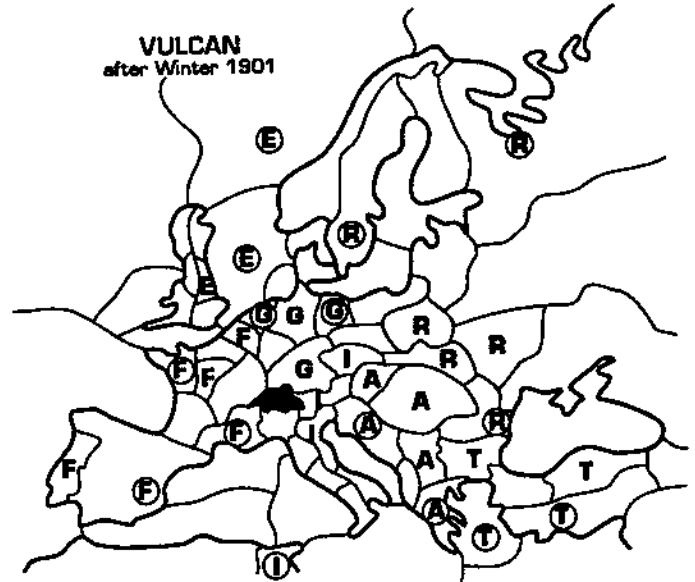
Proposal 17: **More Proposals.** Each player may propose two rule changes per turn. Pete may propose one rule change per turn.

Proposal 18: **Alpha Rotation.** Players send moves for powers on a rotating basis. Starting in Fall 1902, each player sends moves for the power which is next alphabetically (Turkey, Steve Nicewarner, orders Austrian units; Germany, Lance Anderson, orders Italian units and so on). In Spring 1903, Turkey orders the English units, Germany the Russian units, etc. This rotation continues until a rule is passed which stops the rotation, at which time each player will order his original power's units.

Builds, removals, retreats, and votes are always given by the original player (e.g., Greg Ellis always orders builds, removals, retreats and votes for England). Number of votes is determined by original power (Tim Goodwin always gets a number of votes equal to the number of French supply centers). A player wins or draws by having his original power gain the necessary supply centers or be included in a draw of concession proposal. If there are ever more than seven powers (for example, Cline 9-Man passes), or fewer than seven powers (if someone is eliminated), the new/old powers are added to/removed from the alphabetical rotation.

Proposal 19 (reproposal of #7): **Even More Deviant.** Each player must submit a new rule proposal each turn and failure to do so results in an NMR. The proposal that receives the most net votes each season is adopted for a period of five game years, at which point the rule is repropoed and is treated as any other rule proposal for that season. This rule shall take effect retroactively and shall apply to all rules passed prior to the adoption of this rule. *[[Interpretation: a reproposal does not constitute a new proposal for any purpose.]]*

Proposal 20: **Hypnotism.** Once per game year, each player is allowed to hypnotize any unit on the board. With his spring or fall orders, the player designates the unit to be hypnotized, and



VULCAN / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1901

Austria	vie, tri, bud, ser, gre.....	5
England	lvp, edi, lon.....	3
France	par, bre, mar, spa, por, bel.....	6
Germany,	mun, kie, ber, hol.....	4
Italy	rom, nap, ven, tun.....	4
Russia	stp, mos, war, sev, swe, rum.....	6
Turkey	con, ank, smy, bul.....	4

writes an order for that unit. The hypnotic suggestion must be an ordinary order—hold, move, support or convoy; hypnotism can't be used for builds, votes or any special powers created by deviant rules. In adjudicating, the GM will use the hypnotic order. The game report will show that the unit was hypnotized, but not which player did the hypnotizing. If a single unit is hypnotized by more than one player in the same turn, and the hypnotic orders conflict, the unit follows its non-hypnotic orders.

Proposal 21: **Slightly Less Deviant.** The 3-vote requirement of "More Deviant" becomes 6. *[[To the author: yes, I know I edited this substantially but this is the only effect your rule would have.]]*

Press

England to GM: Well, there is a fax lesson for you. Even if you are faxing with the computer, print a hard copy! I always catch the stupid mistakes I make on the hard copy, and since I faxed my last orders directly from the computer I didn't catch the mistake.

GM to E: May I assume you don't have CompuServe?

France to GM: My guess is #11/F, #12/T, #13/A, #14/R, #15/I, #16/E. Am I close?

GM to France: You came REAL close.

England to GM: You came close. REAL men don't NEED to write!

Turkey to World: If y'all wanted to play regular Dip, why did you sign up for this game? Repeal "Veto Power" and play Deviant as God intended.

GM to Turkey: Thank you—it's nice to have somebody acknowledge my role in all this.

England to France: I would apologize for not writing, but I'm not a wimp like Nicewarner. In fact, I would have written except everything is going so well between us I thought it better not to screw it up!

France to GM: And why the !? after my three builds?

GM to France: That's not the unusual-move marker, but rather the more traditional use of exclamation, as in surprise!

WUNDERLAND

International Snowball Fighting ASF23

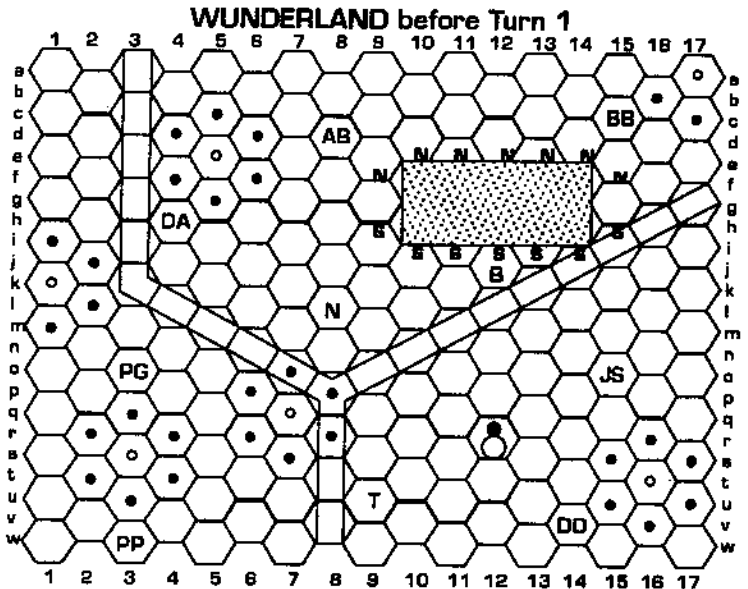
Gamestart

WARRIOR (PLAYER)	loc	up	hp	sb-di
warrior #1 (Paul Gardner)	O3	0	10	2-0
warrior #2 (John Schultz)	O15	0	10	2-0
warrior #3 (Andy Bate)	D8	0	10	2-0
warrior #4 (Duncan Adams)	H4	0	10	2-0
Baldrick/B (John McLaurin)	J12	0	10	2-0
The Bay Bomber/BB (Randy Davis)	C15	0	10	2-0
Daf's Daydream, DD (David McCrumb)	V14	0	10	2-0
Nanook, N (Chris Hassler)	L8	0	10	2-0
Phightin' Phule, PP (Tom Hurst)	W3	0	10	2-0
Tantor/T (Mike Magnuson)	U9	0	10	2-0

Be sure to send a game name if you haven't already. Chris's full name is "Nanook of the North-by-Northwest."

Deadline for Turn One is January 27.

Tantor says, "Can you say 'unkl'? I knew you could." Hey, Mike, I don't know this one—enlighten me.



ZYRA / Dip Battleship

Round Zero

- Board 1: Emperor Muad'Dib, from *Dune*
- Board 2: Elric of Melniboné, from Moorcock's Elric saga
- Board 3: Admiral Ishmael, from *Moby Dick*
- Board 4: Apassionata von Climax, from *Li'l Abner*
- Board 5: Dirk Struan Tai-Pan, from *Noble House*
- Board 6: Yossarian, from *Catch-22*

For Round One, send your shots (each player gets 24 to start) at any space on any board, and send press. *Save* the enclosed map to record hits on—I will not be printing a new map every month unless kibitzers demand it—and for the rules.

Please double-check the individual map, to confirm the position of your ships. One of you did not put enough ships on the map, and I had to place the missing ones for you. Another didn't draw them out but only used alphanumeric code, and so wound up with two ships sharing a space—again, I have fixed it, but you can certainly re-do it yourself. A couple of you did not quite understand the 'front end' request (understandable since I was squeezed for time and space in typing my notes lastish!), and either pointed all ships the same way or pointed some of them off the edge. And I mistakenly said A-K instead of A-L—in case you wanted to place a ship or two on the bottom row.

In any event, you may move any of your ships, or change the direction of any ship, before next deadline.

Note: Player 4 is a female character, so my use of 'she' will not necessarily indicate a female player.

Deadline for Round One is January 27.

The Third Fleet player also named each of his ships and each of his captains—I do not expect this of anyone else but you might find these entertaining.

- Battleship *Pequod*, Captain Ahab
- Aircraft Carrier *Albatross*, Captain Starbuck
- Cruiser *Jeroboan*, Captain Mayhew
- Cruiser *Jungfrau*, Captain Derick DeDeer
- Cruiser *Rose Bud*, Captain Stubb
- Destroyer *Samuel Enderby*, Captain Boomer
- Destroyer *Bachelor*, Captain Flask
- Submarine *Rachel*, Captain Gardiner
- Submarine *Delight*, Captain Queequeg

Dip Battleship

Postal Rules for play in Perelandra

This is the standard game of Battleship that we all know from many years ago, designed for goof-ball postal play and press! Don Williams ran this game in *Fiat Bellum!* lo these many moons ago, but Pete Gaughan has boiled them down in this edition.

Each player begins with a fleet as follows:

- 1 Battleship 5 'units' or spaces long
- 1 Aircraft Carrier 4 spaces
- 3 Cruisers 3 spaces
- 2 Destroyers 2 spaces
- 2 Submarines 1 space each

Each player begins the game with 24 'salvos' or 'shots,' one for each ship-unit. As the game progresses players will lose ships to enemy fire and consequently lose offensive capability as well. *The game ends when a player has the majority of all ship-units in the game.*

Each fleet will be placed on a 12x12 map grid; each player will receive his own grid, plus five blanks to keep track of hits and misses on others' vessels.

Every round, a player may fire all, some, or none of his salvos ('none' is not recommended!). Salvos may not be saved from one round to the next—use 'em or lose 'em. A player may fire entirely at one enemy or divide his attack among more than one. A player may fire on himself with all but his last remaining salvo.

The game report will show all salvos fired that round but not who fired them. Players should record all salvos on their blank grids, since they all count toward reducing the victory criterion whether you shot them or not.

OPTIONAL RULE—MOVEMENT. Ships may move one space, at the end of the fifth round. If movement is used, players must declare which end of each ship is the "bow," and the ship may then only move in that direction. Ships may not move off the grid, and may not move so as to share a space, but may move into spaces which have already been hit.

The game is designed to be played gunboat-style, anonymously. However, these rules expressly do not forbid contact among the players. Press will be black and any attempt to reveal one's identity in the press will be edited, but players are welcome to try to negotiate, either in the press or by sending blind letters to other *Perelandra* readers.

ZIRN / Snowball Fighting ASF20

Turn Five

WARRIOR (PLAYER)	loc	segment 1 / segment 2 / segment 3	new loc	up	hp	sb-dt
Digitous Rex/DR (Mike Magnuson)	N8	RR at S (75,01) / -P8-Q7, collect Sb / RR at S (75,31)	Q7	9	2	1-0
Hobbes/H (David Wang)	D4	collect Di / -E5-F6-G7-H8 / Di at T1* (35,52)	H8	9	8	0-0
Katspaw/K (Tom Hurst)	W11	runs inside / sit / sit	kit	6	0	0-0
Maelstrom Melli/M (Melanie Winters)	Q13	RR at DR (80,87) / collect 2 Sb / RR at DR (65,11)	Q13	5	5	1-0
Snowpaw/S (John Schultz)	S7	collect 2 Sb / collect 2 Sb / RR at DR* (90,36)	S7	6	6	0-0
Thin Ice/TI (Clark Milliken)	F10	Di at H (35,66) / collect 2 Sb / CS at S7* (50,59)	F10	4	0	0-1

Weather roll = 09 = Heavy Snow! All hit probs reduced by 10%! Thin Ice is safe from attack while running for cover.

Deadline for Turn Six is January 27.

Segment One: Thin Ice mumbles, "!*#@*?! Wet fur!" on his way to the kitchen. No I can't make it out either. Katspaw also reaches sanctuary, and Snowpaw and Hobbes crouch down under their conifers to collect weapons. Each is being attacked: Digitous Rex pings Snowpaw for one point, but Thin Ice misses Hobbes with his Dirigible. Maelstrom Melli has DR out in the wide-open but can't connect.

Segment Two: Digidude runs under the tree and Hobbes moves in on Thin Ice (snicker), everyone else collects 2 Sb.

Segment Three: Those Snowballs all start flying. Digitous and Snowpaw can't miss each other at this distance, and they don't. Melli is even able to konk Rex through those tree branches. Hobbes unleashes his Dirigible at T.I. for three points to send him inside; double bad luck for T.I. as his Conifer Storm attempt gets lost in the Heavy Snow this turn.

Hobbes to Maelstrom Melli: Gee, if you're cold and wet, why don't you go inside and dry off?

Melli to Dig Rex: Brush this snow off first, dude!

Snowpaw to Hobbes: Calvin... yeah... I seen him next door. I should have recognized his cartoon lookin' schmooze.

Hobbes to Calvin: Did you hear that? Melli is impressed with me! We tigers have natural charm and charisma!

SM to Hobbes: Is is you, or is it your fleas?

Melli to Snowpaw: Who's Trumbo? And your Spanish is LOTS better than mine. Besides the fact that I can swear in five languages, including Farsi (Persian), I'm not much of a linguist.

Melli to SnowMaster: Don't even think it!!!

SM to Melli: You didn't know that I took M.A. classes in linguistics. Trust me, I don't abuse the word the way some will!

Snowpaw to Melli: Yo he estado esperando. Es una vergüenza decir eso. ¡No! No libros. Todavía no. Yo tengo escrito una carta, corazón. ¿Como está? ¿Y el viejo? ¿Feliz cumpleaños? Yo haré un llamada telefónica mañana... ¿La nocha? ¿Tal vez?

Snowpaw to SM: Just embarrass me into getting it right... you slavedriver you.

SM to Snowpaw: You've surpassed me, dude, I had to go to the dictionaries on this one.

Melli to Thin Ice: We weren't doing nuthin' under that tree, honest! Are you trying to get me in trouble? Just 'cause a guy last seen with me is never heard from again is no reason to cast aspersions. I did nothing but give him a little elderberry wine.

SM: Typo of the Month—"give him a little wine." Communion wine, no doubt.

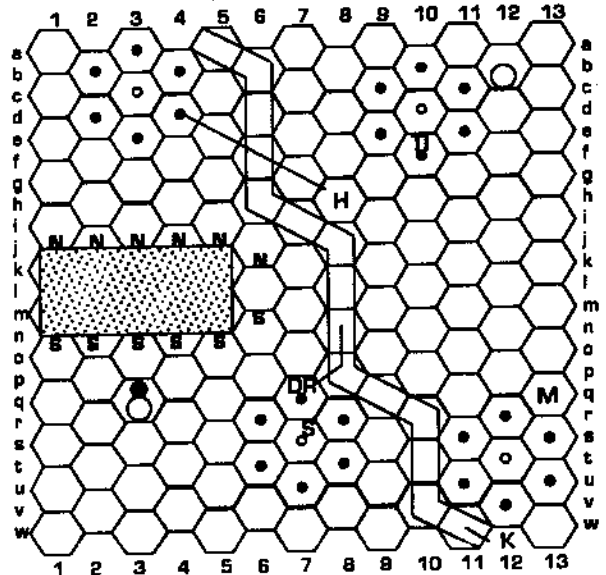
Thin Ice to DR: Will you be a spotter for me for my indirect fire down south?

Digidude: Now, where did that cute li'l kitty go...? Oh, well—Hobbes! Here, boy, I've got some nice tiger nip over here. Hobbes...

Melli to Katspaw: Hurry back, Hot Stuff!

Katspaw to DR & M: Now what you going to do without me to shoot at?

ZIRN after Turn 5



Digidude to Snowpaw: You realize, of course, that this means war. Snowpaw to Digidude: No offense, but I knew you'd pick up two and Katspaw would head to the kitchen anyway, so I had to take a couple chunks out of you.

Kitty, Kitty to Rex: OK, catbox filler, you're next!

Katspaw to SM: I vote we rename the kitchen as the cathouse, or is that another game?

SM to Katspaw: Cathouses are for professionals, and you're all a bunch of amateurs.

Thin Ice to Hobbes: With your feline vision you'd be a good spotter, but you'd tell me to throw the snow straight up.

Katspaw to Gang: Now to curl up in front of the fire for a turn!

Thin Ice to Katspaw: If the door's locked, try the window.

Digidude to SM: Soccer? You can't even body slam an opponent in soccer.

Melli to Yard: Merry Christmas to all and to all a good snowball fight!

AURORA / Railway Rivals ???CN

Gamestart

Bill Wordelmann—start at Sacramento.

Andy Bate—start at Sacramento.

Richard Weiss—start at Stockton.

Pat Conlon—start at Stockton.

Bob Theriault—start at L.A.

Chuck Mercer—start at L.A.

Please provide a name for your rail line and, if you wish, a color preference among green, black, blue, red, brown and yellow.

Deadline for Round One is January 27.

GRAMARYE / British Rails BR8901

Round Sixty-nine

<p style="text-align: center;">Railroad: Wrobel's Wrailway Owner: Paul Gardner</p> <p>69: Move 1mp into Dolgellau (pay BB), pick up three lead, move 1mp back east. Build £5M out of Birmingham/nc in a straight line northeast to own line.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Opening Bal: £ 57</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">color: purple</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income: +</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">order this time: 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenses: - 9</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">next: 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance: £ 48</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">GOs? yes</td> </tr> </table> <p>card 45: bristol/oil/£10; carlisle/textiles/£10; york/jute/£25. card 60: glasgow/steel/£17; gloucester/tourists/£13; lincoln/pottery/£12. card 85: newcastle/lead/£28; penzance/pigs/£40; dover/tourists/£6.</p> <p>Superfreight carrying three lead.</p>	Opening Bal: £ 57	color: purple	Income: +	order this time: 5	Expenses: - 9	next: 1	Balance: £ 48	GOs? yes	<p style="text-align: center;">Railroad: Puppytail Rail Owner: David McCrumb</p> <p>69: May not move.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Opening Bal: £ 89</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">color: green</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income: +</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">order this time: 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenses: -</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">next: 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance: £ 89</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">GOs? yes</td> </tr> </table> <p>card 11: barrow/lead/£20; brighton/cotton/£24; exeter/conmat/£27. card 82: glasgow/oats/£7; dover/cattle/£11; hereford/machinery/£3. card 113: ipswich/coal/£16; london/sugar/£13; newcastle/textiles/£9.</p> <p>Fast Freight carrying pigs and jute.</p>	Opening Bal: £ 89	color: green	Income: +	order this time: 1	Expenses: -	next: 5	Balance: £ 89	GOs? yes
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Expenses: -	next: 5																
Balance: £ 89	GOs? yes																
<p style="text-align: center;">Railroad: Silkworth's Sober Steamers Owner: David Hood</p> <p>69: May not move.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Opening Bal: £ 50</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">color: brown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income: +</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">order this time: 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenses: -</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">next: 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance: £ 50</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">GOs? yes</td> </tr> </table> <p>card 13: lincoln/conmat/£9; penzance/tobacco/£18; swansea/cotton/£22. card 15: holyhead/steel/£20; pembroke/cattle/£29; stranraer/conmat/£33. card 98: london/beer/£3; hereford/pottery/£8; hull/tourists/£16.</p> <p>Superfreight carrying oats, conmat and coal.</p>	Opening Bal: £ 50	color: brown	Income: +	order this time: 2	Expenses: -	next: 4	Balance: £ 50	GOs? yes	<p style="text-align: center;">Railroad: Bergmann's Boxcars Owner: Jason Bergmann</p> <p>69: May not move.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Opening Bal: £ 9</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">color: black</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income: + 4</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">order this time: 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenses: -</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">next: 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance: £ 13</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">GOs? yes</td> </tr> </table> <p>card 16: hull/jute/£35; colchester/lead/£29; stranraer/fish/£32. card 22: norwich/oil/£17; gloucester/beer/£8; holyhead/tourists/£13. card 117: london/pigs/£18; aberystwyth/tobacco/£13; dundee/coal/£6.</p> <p>Fast Freight carrying no loads.</p>	Opening Bal: £ 9	color: black	Income: + 4	order this time: 3	Expenses: -	next: 3	Balance: £ 13	GOs? yes
Opening Bal: £ 50	color: brown																
Income: +	order this time: 2																
Expenses: -	next: 4																
Balance: £ 50	GOs? yes																
Opening Bal: £ 9	color: black																
Income: + 4	order this time: 3																
Expenses: -	next: 3																
Balance: £ 13	GOs? yes																
<p style="text-align: center;">Deadline for Round 70 is January 27. Events for Round 69:</p> <p>card 129: FOG. All trains within ten mileposts of the northernmost city on the next card move at half rate. No rail building allowed in this area. Town is Dundee—no effect. card 132: GALE. No train within five mileposts of the North Sea may move. No rail building is allowed in this area. Hits PR, SSS, and BB trains.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Event for Round 70:</p> <p>card 127: FOG. All trains within ten mileposts of the northernmost city on the next card move at half rate. No rail building allowed in this area. Town is Perth—no effect. Cards remaining in deck: 17, 67. Little movement, only 3mp built—no map this time.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Railroad: Birmingham & Hereford Rail Road Owner: Eric Brosius</p> <p>69: Dumps cards. Draws cards #7, 103, 127 (2), 18.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Opening Bal: £175</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">color: red</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income: +</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">order this time: 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenses: -</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">next: 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance: £175</td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">GOs? no</td> </tr> </table> <p>card 7: holyhead/hops/£19; edinburgh/tobacco/£45; plymouth/tourists/£26. card 18: pembroke/oil/£25; penzance/sugar/£38; brighton/machinery/£10. card 103: brighton/beer/£7; stranraer/tourists/£24; Coventry/coal/£8.</p> <p>Superfreight carrying no loads.</p>	Opening Bal: £175	color: red	Income: +	order this time: 4	Expenses: -	next: 2	Balance: £175	GOs? no								
Opening Bal: £175	color: red																
Income: +	order this time: 4																
Expenses: -	next: 2																
Balance: £175	GOs? no																

It appears I copied the wrong General Orders onto the backs of your maps. If someone else got yours by mistake, I am sorry; if you didn't get your own, you need only ask for another copy.

Gamestart was announced in #67 (Feb '89)—70 rounds in 39 issues, 48 months as of January 1993/#105. (1.8 rounds/issue) I apologize for the slowdown of the past year (averaging closer to one round per issue, although the zine picked up from 5-weekly to monthly), but I think we'll continue at this pace. It's becoming rare to have two rounds all players are willing to combine.

GRAMARYE STUFF after Round Sixty-nine

Mercantile report (filled buttons indicate loads on board trains at the end of the turn):

Barley	○○○	Coal	●○○○○○	Imports	○○○	Pigs	●○○	Textiles	○○○○○
Beer	○○○○○	Con. Mat.	●○○	Jute	●○○	Pottery	○○○	Tobacco	○○○○
Cars	○○○	Cotton	○○○	Lead	●●●	Rubber	○○○	Tourists	○○○
Cattle	○○○○	Fish	○○○○	Machinery	○○○	Sheep	○○○		
Chemicals	○○○	Fruit	○○○○	Oats	●○○○	Steel	○○○○		
Clay	○○	Hops	○○○	Oil	○○○	Sugar	○○○		

GIEDI PRIME / 1992AK

Spring 1902: A Reputation Recedes You

Austria (Roger Cox): a vie-gal, f tri-alb, a bul-rum (a ser, a bud s), f gre-bul/sc.

England (Mike Magnuson): f lon-nts (f nwy s), f eng h, a yor h.

France (Pat Conlon): f bre-mid, f mid-wes, a mar-bur, a bel-bur.

Germany (Lance Anderson): f kie-bal, a ber-kie, a mun h, a den-swe, f hol-nts.

Italy (Hugh Magen): f rom-tyn, f tun-wes, a tyo-boh, a pie-tyo.

Russia (Greg Ellis): f swe-ska, a fin-swe, a war-sil, a rum-con /ukr otb/ (f bla c {f sev s}).

Turkey (Andy York): a smy-ank, f con-bla, f ank-con.

Deadline for Fall 1902 is January 27.

France to Austria: Oh, master, let your humble servant sit at your feet and learn the secrets of statesmanship.

Vienna [via another player]: Police today inspected the Foreign Ministry office after repeated calls from neighbors and worrywarts who were concerned about the well-being of the Foreign Minister. Police found a badly-decomposed body believed to be that of Franz Ferdinand, FM of Austria-Hungary. Official word is yet to be released pending examination of dental records. Detectives noted that from the accumulation of dust and cobwebs that the office had not been used for years.

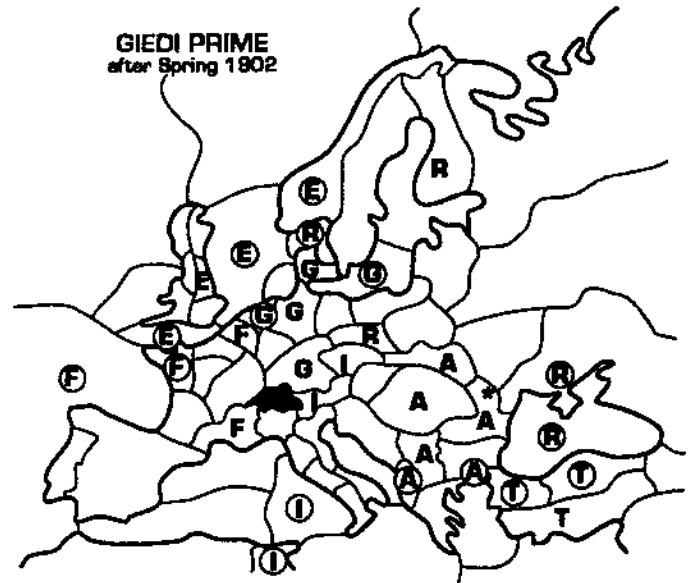
News of the grisly discovery quietly spread through the diplomatic community and several ambassadors were quoted as saying, "Well, this might explain Austria's strange silence."

Officials of the Austrian government were, to the surprise of everyone, unavailable for comment.

Russia to World: Now, everyone listen to Pat and give me the game by 1910!

Marseilles: The invasion of the Slimy Green Maggots has been repelled for now. Spread salt on the streets. Pour gasoline in the sewers. Huey the Maggot won't quit this easily.

France to Russia: Careful you don't get a bone stuck in your throat. Imagine the humiliation of dying at the dinner table, your



assassin a dead bird.

Russia to France: If things are going my way, why do I feel so uneasy? Maybe because things are about to come my way?!?!?

France to GM: What's a poor boy to do? The mad Russian attacks the turk because the turk doesn't write him. But watch as the mad Russian attacks the German because the German has written him. Then perhaps he'll attack me because I've allied against him and attack someone else because they've allied with him. Some call it diplomacy.

Doubting Thomas to Saint Pat: You're not exactly keeping Hallmark busy with your quantity of mail, but your point is valid. Why can't these guys at least acknowledge that they've gotten a note. I spent \$10 on stamps last month and only got six letters back...

GM to Mike/Thomas: Hey, I hope nobody's upset if I don't write very often—most of my correspondence time is spent either on the zine or on letters to other editors.

NATURE CORNER

Items in this column are quoted from many sources—bibliography is available on request.

Trees

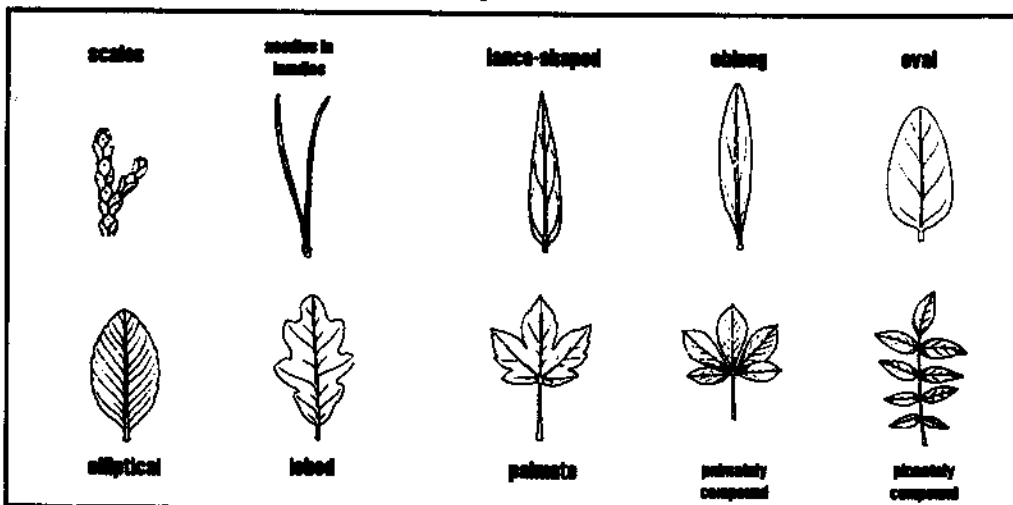
Compound leaves have multiple blades attached to a small stem; palmately compound have their blades attached at the same point, while pinnately compound are attached in rows (see diagram).



HUISACHE (*Acacia farnesiana*)
The Huisache (pronounced "we-sah'-chuh") is one of the few acacias native to temperate regions. In Europe, the Huisache is cultivated to make perfume.

It grows to 16' on a 4" trunk, a many-branched shrub or small tree with spiny twigs and a wide crown of arching branches. Leaves are gray-green and bipinnately compound—not only are leaves pinnate, but the stems they grow from are, in turn, pinnate with each other! Flower is yellow or orange, very fragrant; fruit is a cylindrical, dark-brown or black pod 2-3" long and 3/8-1/2" thick.

Habitat: Woodlands and open areas with sandy or clay soils, up to 5000'. Range: South Texas (especially the Rio Grande Valley) and southern Arizona, but cultivated trees can be found from Florida to California.



RAMA / Spectrum Titan

Errors last time—one muster was omitted due to misreporting of moves, another because I forgot about a battle outcome.

Corrections are below—the only major note is that we are now out of Gorgons.

Round Twentyeight

BLACK LEGIONS (Vince Lutterbie) die roll 2: Eye holds in Jungle J135; Hand Swamp S42—Brush B38;

Gravestone holds in Plains P115 (E34); Arrowhead Tundra 4000—Hills H23; Skull holds in Tundra 2000; Rose holds in Plains P29.

BLUE LEGIONS (John Galt) die roll 4: Trident Brush B38—Marsh M36 (E33).

GOLD LEGIONS (Marc Peters) die roll 2: Sun holds in Marsh M136; Talons Hills H18 (E27); Lamp Brush B116—Jungle J114 (E34); Bearclaw Brush B109 (E30); Fireball Plains P110 (E32).

RED LEGIONS (Art Shulman) die roll 2: Torch holds in Jungle J104; Spiral holds in Jungle J125; Double Eagle holds in Mountains 1000 and splits with Hourglass; Sword Plains P110 (E32); Jester holds in Desert D35 (E33); Scimitar Marsh M131—Plains P129; Star Plains P101—Brush B3; Salamander Hills H18 (E27); Bleeding Heart Swamp S111 (E30); Shield holds in Swamp S14.

Engagements

Engagement 27: Gold Talons attacks Red Salamander in H18.

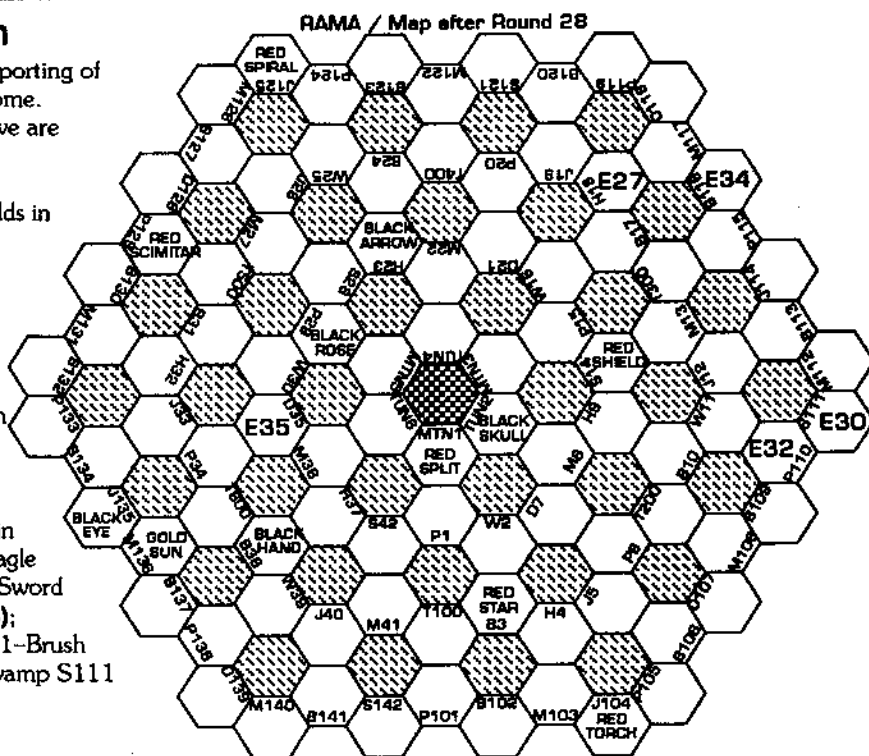
Engagement 30: Gold Bearclaw attacks Red Bleeding Heart in S111.

Engagement 32: Gold Fireball attacks Red Sword in P110.

E33: Blue Trident attacks Red Jester in D35. Defender enters through 4–5–6.

E34: Gold Lamp attacks Black Gravestone in P115. Defender enters through 9–10–11.

Point Count: Gold 649, Red 673, Black 39, Blue 36.



Additional Musters, Round 27: Gorgon, Griffon.

Musters, Round 28: Gargoyle, Unicorn—that's the Last Unicorn.

Die rolls available for Round Twentynine: Black 45, Blue 26, Gold 46, Red 56.

Markers Owned: Red holds the Green and Brown markers.

Deadline for Round Twentynine is January 27.

Because of the large number of battles, I will extend the deadline one month on the request of two players, in order to get them ALL cleaned up before another Masterboard turn takes place.

RAMA Creature Status

	after rd. 28	orig	box	dead	board
Angel	18	13	—	—	5
Archangel	6	5	—	—	1
Behemoth	18	4	—	—	8
Centaur	25	0	—	—	5
Colossus	10	2	—	—	8
Cyclops	28	0	—	—	7
Dragon	18	16	—	—	2
Gargoyle	21	6	—	—	5
Giant	18	12	—	—	4
Gorgon	25	0	—	—	16
Griffon	18	12	—	—	3
Guardian	6	4	—	—	2
Hydra	10	0	—	—	5
Lion	28	2	—	—	5
Minotaur	21	11	—	—	1
Ogre	25	1	—	—	4
Ranger	28	4	—	—	12
Serpent	10	0	—	—	8
Troll	28	6	—	—	3
Unicorn	12	0	—	—	10
Warbear	21	13	—	—	4
Warlock	6	4	—	—	2
Wyvern	18	10	—	—	5

NATURE CORNER

TUFTED TITMOUSE (*Parus bicolor*) A small (6½") hardy perching bird with short wings and a short bill. The only color is a black patch on the bridge of the nose (an area on birds known as the 'cere') and sometimes a rusty wash under each wing. Otherwise, Titmice are known by their grey back, wings and crest, and white breasts. In South Texas, a subspecies of Tufted Titmice has black from the cere all the way up the crest.

Habitat: deciduous woodlands, mesquite, parks, suburbs. Because it feeds mainly on insects, it is an active bird, hopping about after bugs on leaves, branches and bark; but it's also noisy (voice has been described as a "loud whistled *peter peter peter*"!). Nesting in tree trunk-holes, titmice will join mixed-species flocks in nonbreeding seasons, and in fact take the lead in forming such flocks, usually in the tropics.

The name 'titmouse' comes from a compound of the Icelandic *tittr*—anything small, and Anglo-Saxon *mase*—a small bird. 'Tit,' from wrentit and bushtit, is just a contraction of titmouse given to the smallest of the chickadee family.

SPOTTED SKUNK (*Spilogale putorius*) Cousin of the well-known, cat-sized 'polecat,' the Spotted Skunk is as large as a medium-sized ground squirrel: 9–12" long plus a 6" tail, weighing less than two pounds. Spotted Skunks have the same odor capability as their Striped relatives, but their black bodies are patterned with four, not just one, white stripe on each side, and these stripes run in large erratic curves. Nocturnal, nimble, and a fair climber, it will walk upright at times—this may be in play, in anger, or when about to spray, so look out.

Habitat: prefers dry, brushy or rocky uplands, but will burrow under homes, in hollow logs (or other animals' burrows), or in crevices in rockpiles. Eats a variety of crickets and other insects, small rodents, birds, carrion, eggs and even vegetation.

POSTAL MONOPOLY

Order of play is: Deals; collect Bank Windfalls; pay Bank Debts; pay Player Debts; collect Player Windfalls; Purchases, Development; then I report the next turn's movement. * = player holds Comm. Chest Get Out of Jail Free card; † = Chance card.

TUPILE Round Twentytwo

player	dice	ending position	windfalls	debts	portfolio
Melinda Holley	9/12*3	Connecticut	200, 32	6	\$619, Con, EC, Rea, PRR, ShL
Jason Bergmann	9/9	Marvin Gdns	6	24	\$64, ori, stj, ind, atl, penav, Park ^a , Boa ^a , B&O
Ed Wrobel	3/6	Jail-2			\$752, ver, StC ^a , Sta ^a , Vir ^a , ny, ill, WW
Roger Cox *	6*8/5	GO	24, 200, 200	32, 186	\$144, Med, Bal, Ten, Ken, Ven, MG, pac, nca

Player Debts: JB mortgages Oriental and St. James.

Development: EW erects Hotels on each of the Light Purples.

Movement: MH moves to Pennsylvania Avenue, then passes GO to Oriental and Connecticut. JB hits Free Parking and lands on Marvin Gardens. EW can't roll his way out of Jail on two tries. RC passes GO to (damn!) Income Tax, then Electric Company and Community Chest, which Advances him all the way to GO again.

Cash Shortages: none.

PRESS — EW: What's this? I go to Jail just for making an honest killing!

ALTHAR Round Twentytwo

player	dice	ending position	windfalls	debts	portfolio
Mark Lew †	7/6*6*	Jail-0	700		\$104, bal, Con, StC, Sta, StJ ^a , Ten ^a , NY ^a , Ken ^a , Ind ^a , Ill ^a , Park ^a , Boa ^a , 2 Utils, 4 RR's
Claire Brosius	7/5	Baltic	390	75	\$85, Pac ^a , NCA ^a , PenAv ^a
Vince Lutterbie	5/9	North Carolina		700, 390	\$149, ori, ver, vir, atl, ven, mg

Player Debts: CB sells one house on Pacific. Well, I strung David out as far as I could, but he's dead now. Mortgage fees on DH property cost ML \$41 and ML unmortgages each immediately (paying another \$410).

Purchases: ML buys Mediterranean (\$60).

Development: ML builds two houses each on the Oranges (\$600), and one house on Park Place (\$200).

Movement: ML slides forward to St. James, then accelerates to Chance (Advance two spaces to Illinois) and then Go To Jail. CB gets nailed for Luxury Tax before collecting salary at GO on her way to Baltic. VL lands on two bad ones, Indiana and North Carolina.

Cash Shortages: Looks like Vince is gone too—cash will be split \$96 to ML (with property), \$53 to CB.

PYRRUS Round Twenty

player	dice	ending position	windfalls	debts	portfolio
Kay Shapero *	3/8*7	Atlantic	100	32, 44	\$915, Bal ^a , Med ^a , StC ^a , Sta ^a , Vir ^a , Rea, PRR, B&O
Randy Davis	9/8	Tennessee	32, 44	50	\$138, ori, con, StJ, Ten ^a , NY, Atl, Ven, MG, pac, nca, penav, park, boa, ec, ww
Mark Lew	8/9	Penn RR	200	100	\$103, ver, Ken ^a , Ind ^a , Ill ^a , ShL

Development: KS erects Hotels on each of the Dark Purples; ML unmortgages Short Line.

Movement: KS wings her way to harmless little St. Charles, New York and Atlantic. RD sit in Jail, but pays his way out to Tennessee. ML passes GO to Oriental, then on to a ride on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Cash Shortages: none.

Concession to Kay Shapero: RD yes, ML no, KS no vote received; fails.

Deadline for all games is January 27.

LITERARY QUIZ

You may win free issues of Perelandra by sending in Literary Quiz answers... or by sending in Literary trivia questions. If I publish your question, you get one free issue; if at least three people respond to the quiz and none of them gets it right, you get another. (You must include the correct answer!)

Since we didn't get enough attempts at Stan's questions, he doesn't get the bonus freebies; but here are the answers:

SJ1: Name the title and author of the Pulitzer-Prize-winning novel about POWs in the Civil War.

The only person to try this one (and he got it right) was David McCrumb—Andersonville, by McKinley Kantor.

SJ2: Name the book, by the same author, which is mentioned in the film "Guadalcanal Diary."

Although Mike Magnuson recognized the movie, he didn't know the book—Long Remember.

SJ3: Name the movie based on another of this author's

books, about servicemen returning from WWII. This was "The Best Years of Our Lives."

FOR NEXT ISSUE:

DellJ9: Fill in the first names of the following Shakespeare characters, for one-half a free issue apiece:

- _____, Queen of Denmark
- _____, King of Naples
- _____, Count of Rousillon
- _____, Duke of Milan
- _____, Queen of the Goths
- _____, Duke of Illyria

DellJ32: Name the following house from a Jane Austen novel, for two free issues: "as a cottage it was defective, for the building was regular, the roof was tiled, the window shutters were not painted green, nor were the walls covered with honeysuckles."

RUFFIAN / 1990IY

Autumn 1905: English f ska-swe.

Winter 1905: Austria builds a vie; France builds f mar; Russia no removal received; GM removes a lvn.

Spring 1906: Shrink to Fit

Austria (David Polley): a mos-lvn, a ukr-mos, a war-sil (a gal s), a tyo-boh (a vie s), a tri-tyo, f ven s turkish f apu.

England (Chuck Mercer): f nwy-stp/ng, f swe-bal.

France (Michael Alterio): a pie s german a mun-tyo, a tus-ven, a par-gas, f wes-tun, f lyo-wes, f mar-tyo, f edi-yor.

Germany (Steve McKinnon): f nts-nwy, f ska-swe (f den s), a kie-ber, a boh-gal /mun otb/ (a sil s), a mun-tyo.

Italy (J.R. Baker): f tyn s french f wes-tun, f nap h (a rom s).

Russia (Art Shulman): a stp h.

Turkey (Kathy Caruso): a sev s austrian a ukr-mos, a con-bul, a alb-nap (f ion c, f apu s), f aeg s f ion.

Deadline for Fall 1906 is January 27.

Turk to Germany: To answer your question, I'm not allied with Italy or France! Or you either!

Germany to Turkey: Dot Snatcher!

Kathy to JR: How am I the dot-snatcher? I haven't done anything but be bored since we restarted this thing.

Austria to Turkey: I hope you don't listen to that German attempt at persuasion regarding "that shiny Red fruit"... Sounds to me like HE's the serpent.

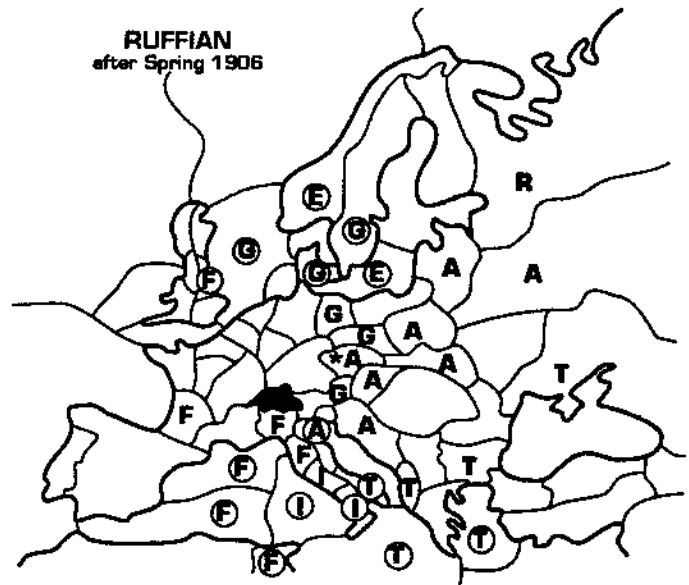
Or, (more from the world of "apple" symbolism) perhaps he's playing the evil old queen to your Snow White. Careful Kathy! Remember that that apple had been poisoned.

Con to Berlin: Look, my name's Kathy—not Eve, so skip the old apple routine. I'm more like Judas, so cross my palm with some silver, and then the Austrian can eat his last supper.

Tyrolia to Germany: Don't go putting words in our mouths about interest in TIGGER! There is no question who the villain is to Tyrolians when German expansionism rears its ugly head. Have you never seen "The Sound of Music"?

France to Turkey & GM regarding where one can go to grow when surrounded by allies: First off, I'm not really in this position in this game. I have English centers to nibble and A-H/T to fight in the Med. In fact, Kathy, looking back since we restarted, I see that I've grown from 5 to 7 centers, and I have hopes for Venice, Tunis, or London this year. You've grown only by one and seem stuck at 6. So what am I getting out of it? Considering I started this game in *Dip Downs* in a losing E/F vs. A/G/I/R, and that I am a growing power, and that this is actually the first game of postal Dip I ever played, I am getting quite a bit out of this game.

But secondly, as to the theoretical question of where to grow when surrounded by allies. Ironically, I AM in this position in *Witch of Endor*, a game in Stven Carlberg's *Hoodwink*. I play a 3-center Turkey allied with an 8-center Italy and a 9-center Russia against a 14-center France. One answer to the question is to stab an ally. I can't do this in *Endor* because doing so would mortally wound the defense against France and give France the game. For the same reason, I/R can't spare the units to dig me out of my corner—the effort to do so would let France win. So there are two other options, both of which I am using. One is to march troops through the land of your ally to a useful place on the front. I've sent a Turkish army from Sev to Ukr to Gal to Sil, where I am supporting Russian A Mun and may even have a shot at Ber! The second option is to nibble on your allies without exciting their wrath. If you take a center or two when it will not do any harm, you can grow a little. This turn I expect to take Greece from Italy and grow to 4 centers. Oh, one more thing



I've done is to disrupt allied units, so that they retreat otb and are rebuilt near the front. I destroyed a Russia A Bul in order to allow a F St.Pete build.

GM to France: While lecturing Kathy on Dip amounts to teaching your grandmother to suck eggs (I doubt she expected a dissection of stop-the-leader alliances), I and several kibitzers love to get this kind of nuts-and-bolts philosophy from the players. Thanks. I can't comment more just now, except I'll say the news that this is your first game caught me by surprise.

Turk to Austria: Are you awake? Have you got a plan (besides boring me to death)?

Austria to Germany: I POOH on your TIGGER!

Cruiser Rudi Vogts, Kaltegat: In the smoke-filled galley of this fast attack ship, several officers meet. Two of these wear the black uniforms of the Imperial Special Details Corps. Two others are of the Royal Navy.

Reichshauptamblütenführergesacht PanzerEßen: Ve're zo glat you kood kom tu zee uss, Atmiral. Now, eksakly vat iss it your propose?

Admiral Benjamin Walker-Ballustrade; Well, you see, dear fellow, we English have rather lost interest in this little war. We wonder if you could see your way to, oh, shall we say, not killing us.

Rafg PanzerEßen: Hm. Ja, zis iss possible. But, you must allow a speedy take-over of all Scandianvian territory. Zis vill allow the Reich! ah, excuse me, the Empire, an easier entry to ze norzern reaches off Russia.

Adm. Ben. Wa.-Ball. [groooan]: Dear fellow! Nothing would please us more! Awful chaps the Russians. Why, I was just...

Rafg PanzerEßen: Ja! Zo, just exit ze ports immediately. Oltes-bürgleiter Reinsfuhl!

Obl Reinsfuhl: Ja!

Rafg PanzerEßen: To Leningrad, er, St. Petersburg!

Obl Reinsfuhl: At once, mein Herr!

KK to Pops: Hell, I'll forget the silver, if they can come up with a good baseball player!

RUFFIAN / Supply Centers Held as of Winter 1906

Austria	vie	bud	tri	ser	rum	war	mos	ven	8
England	nwy	swe	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
France	par	bre	mar	spa	por	lvp	edi	.	7
Germany	mun	ber	kie	den	hol	bel	lon	.	7
Italy	rom	nap	tun	.	.	.	.	.	3
Russia	stp	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Turkey	con	ank	smy	bul	sev	gre	.	.	6

DRUUFON / Snowball Fighting ASF18

Turn Eight

WARRIOR (PLAYER)	loc	segment 1 / segment 2 / segment 3	new loc	up	hp	sb	di
Arsenic O'Reilly (Mike Stewart)	K5	RR at BL (45,43) / collect Di / Di at OH* (60,44)	K5	12	2	0	-1
The Blizzard (Lance Anderson)	I7	-G7-F8-D8-C9-A9 / collect Di / collect 2 Sb	A9	7	8	2	-2
Box o'Rocks (John Schultz)	Q7	RR at CL (95,50) / collect 2 Sb / BB at CC* (60,75) & SC* (65,51)	Q7	8	10	1	-0
Brandy Snifter (Tom Hurst)	kit	sit / -V8-U9 / collect 2 Sb	U9	10	6	2	-0
Calvin (David Wang)	K15	CS at Q7 (70,76) / -I15-G15-shed / sit	shed	9	4	0	-0
Cassius Clark (Clark Miffikan)	S7	Di at CL (55,55!) / Di at CL (55,61) / collect Di	S7	15	3	0	-1
Clarence (David McCrumb)	S11	Di at CC (45,29) / collect Di / Di at BR (20,75)	S11	14	1	1	-0
GMS (Daf Langley)	M13	collect 2 Sb / RR at CL (95,72) / RR at CL (95,100!)	M13	10	1	0	-0
Half-Baked Alaska (Rick Kohman)	L14	nmmr / nmmr / nmmr	L14	10	5	0	-0
Orel Hershiser (John Galt)	L8	Di at CL (50,54) / -M7-N6-O5-P4 / collect Di	P4	3	7	0	-1
Scih (Richard Weiss)	U7	collect 2 Sb / RR at CC (95,32) / collect Di	U7	8	3	1	-1
Terry Gross (Paul Gardner)	kit	sit / sit / -V8-T8-R8-P8-O9-N10-L10	L10	10	10	2	-0

Weather roll = 91. Scih's orders for Seg 3 lastish should have been "-P8-R8-T8-U7."

Deadline for Turn Nine is January 27.

Segment One: Terry Gross "leers at the kids outside," while Half-Baked Alaska gapes at the sky, Brandy Snifter fidgets at the door, and GMS and Scih beat snowplows into snowswords. Arsenic O'Reilly is hurling a Rattler at The Blizzard, and even though the Bliz is receding from view in a hurry (back to his Fort!), he hits. Calvin sees a couple of prime targets under the tree and launches a long-distance Conifer Storm but, as usual, his arm is too weak. Everyone else is ticked off at Clarence, who is heaving a Dirigible at, and hitting, Cassius Clark. Box o'Rocks has an easy Rattlesnake at CL; Cassius Clark nails CL with his Di just before CL's arrives; but Orel Hershiser's Dirigible is just a bit off and misses.

Segment Two: TG "dons her armor," and this Segment is mostly regrouping as nearly everyone collects munitions except—Orel crosses the path (why did the pitcher cross the path, anyway?); Calvin ducks inside the shed; and Brandy Snifter, having healed his two hp, returns to the yard. Scih is taking his turn at Cassius, with a sure-thing Rattler. Cassius throws another Di at Clarence, but this time CC is woozy from the previous attack—lucky for him Clarence is woozy too! GMS then tacks on a one-pointer!

Segment Three: Calvin "searches for his Transmogifier" in the shed while Terry Gross finally gets out of 'jail.' With BS, OH, SC and CC packing weapons there are several stationary targets for the others. AO decides Orel is in his range and sure enough, he is! Box o'Rocks, under the conifer, for some reason is able to hit Scih with half his Bolero but can't hit Cassius with the other half! Clarence tries throwing a Dirigible at Boxy but the combination of repeated blows to CL's head and the tree protecting BR makes him miss badly. Finally, GMS takes the last shot at CL, hoping to drive him indoors, but she can't hit him again.

BS to SM: Aren't we playing to 20 in this one? Your game commentary last turn leads me to believe you forgot this.

SnowMaster to BS: Well, bless me, yes I did. Somebody spank me. (Preferably Daf—back off, Rikko!) I've been very confused in GMing the last few SnowFight turns, mainly because I have so many games now. I promise to improve.

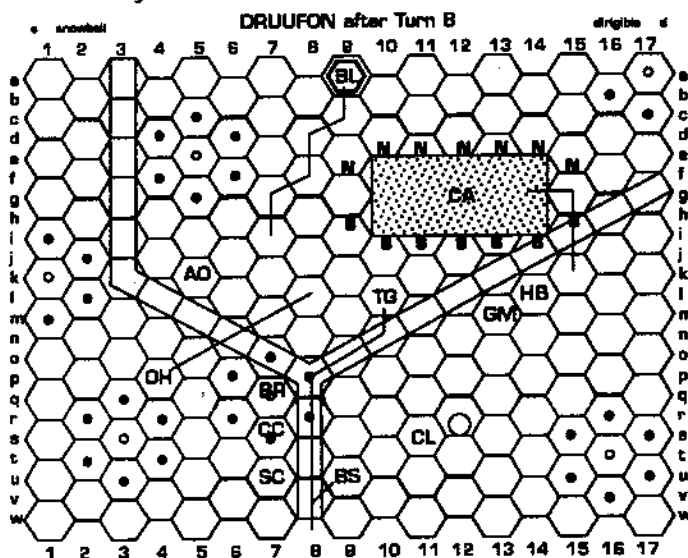
Scih to SM: Could you explain the rules about VP and HP again? How about collecting Sb on the sidewalk?

TG to Fellow Combatants: Tremendous opportunity for a Conifer Storm at Q7—hope someone scored.

Cassius Clark to BR & Scih: Not only is there a crowd under a conifer, but it's also a target.

Calvin to Clarence: Good idea! I hope you went for the Conifer Storm, too! Go get 'em! (Umm, I'll be back in a minute...)

SM to Yard: Everybody should remember—if you want something done right, you have to do it yourself.



BS to Bo'R(e): Not satisfied with artificial sweetener that you now resort to air pollution?

Calvin: With his supersonic hearing, Stupendous Man detects a cry for help! Off to the rescue he goes!

BS to Calvin: Disregard Daf's comment about hanging you up by your intestines. 1) She's not mean enough to do that to you. 2) She might get her mittens dirty. 3) Everybody knows you don't have any guts!

Box o'Rocks to Calvin: Why would I want your crummy comic books? I just paid \$100 for my very own dead Superman and I gotta get my money's worth.

TG to GMS: Shame we're not both in the house. We could sit on the couch together and, uh... chat—get to know each other.

TG to SnowMaster: Does one really ever get to know the GMS? Maybe I should just interview her. Wonder if she's had anything published lately. (Guess I'll go ask her.)

TG to GMS: So what about it? Done your memoirs yet?

Box o'Rocks to GMS&SM: Oh, sure... I grovel at the Goddess' feet and get a C+. You make a witty response and get all the kisses. Okay... so I'm just not gold material. Neither a leader nor a follower be. I'll just worship from afar and stick to mortal women. I can get by with my puppy-dog brown eyes, face to match, and if I speak in sentences of three words or less they figure me for the strong, silent type.

SM to himself: Yes! Victory!

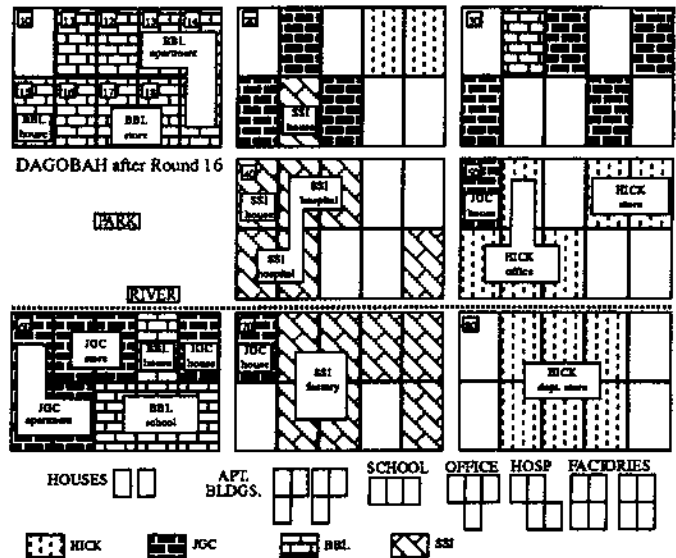
[[continues on page 16]]

DAGOBAH / Metropolis

Round Sixteen

HICK (David Hood—Hickory Indus. Const. Kingpins) buys lot 53, builds store on lots 53/54.
 JGC (John Galt—John Galt Company) buys lot 34, builds apartment on lots 60/65/66.
 BBL (Chuff Afflerbach—Bailey Building and Loan) buys lot 14, builds apartment on lots 13-14/19.
 SSI (Andrew York—Southern Slum Industries) buys lot 35 (already owned!).

HICK: store 53-54	\$ 4
office 51/55-57	22
department store 81-83/86-88	30
empty lots 23, 24. Total	\$56
JGC: house 50	\$ 2
house 64	5
house 70	1
store 61-62	9
apartment 60/65-66	18
empty lots 21, 25, 27, 32, 34, 35, 38. Total	\$35
BBL: apartment 13-14/19	\$11
store 17-18	8
house 15	3
house 63	5
school 67-69	14
empty lots 11, 12, 13, 16, 19, 31. Total	\$41



SSI: house 26	\$ 1
house 40	2
hospital 41-42/45-46	28
factory 71-72/76-77	14
empty lots 49, 73, 74, 79. Total	\$45

"\$" are current values, not final scores.

Deadline for Round Seventeen is January 27.

George Bailey to Ward Bond: "Zuzu's petals! Hey, Burt, my nose is bleeding! Isn't it wonderful?!!!"

DRUFON press continues

Calvin to GMS: Tunafish? What's with tunafish? I don't like tunafish! Tigers like tunafish! (But seriously, what's your hangup about tunafish?)
 SnowMaster to GMS: I really do believe he doesn't know.
 GMS to BS: I'll be in there soon. Be sure you leave enough hot water for my bath.
 Cassius Clark to GMS: How 'bout a high-five as you run down the path to the kitchen?
 BS to GMS: I'll get you a shovel for Christmas so you can handle what these guys are tossing at you, and I'm not talking snow here.
 Cassius Clark to GMS: How 'bout a high-tail?
 GMS to Bakelite: You'll have to do more than that to get the Bunny Tail Treatment.
 Clarence to HB: Leave me alone. I'm not trying to interfere with your tail. So stop getting everybody to gang up on me.
 Box o'Rocks to BS: Yeah, I was sweet as sugar, wasn't I? And all I got was a dance rating! Geez... them Goddesses are a lovely bunch, pretty to look at and nice to worship but fickle as all get out.
 SnowMaster to GMS: Any time you want down off the pedestal, you know you can step on me.
 GMS to Rocky: It was great to hear from you the other night. But I hope you won't give up on Goddesses. We can be a lot of fun.
 Box o'Rocks to GMS: Sure, first I can't grovel good enough and now you want to use your magic fingers on me! What kinds boy do you think I am? pant-pant-pant-slobber-slobber, oh my, that does feel good. Now, what was I talking about?
 Calvin to Scih: I think it's time to put Alternate Plan M-23 into effect!
 Scih to Calvin: Right. The same as my chance of winning.
 GMS to Scih: I looked 'misogynist' up in the dictionary and all I can say is I know you are but what am I?
 GMS to Snowy: How was that for a come back?
 SnowMaster to GMS: Good answer! We'll play! (I would have

ruined it with a dramatic pause, like "all I can say is... I know you are but what am I?")
 Calvin to Scih: I'm glad you like my press. I have fun writing it and enjoy reading everyone else's! This is certainly more fun than Dip! (Oops, blasphemy!)
 SM to C: Not in this zine. Here, it's received wisdom.
 Cassius Clark to CL: Will you hold this Di for me while I move out from under this tree?
 Clarence to GMS: Lovely, why don't you call your boys off?
 TG to Calvin: Stop looking for that stuffed rag, Hobbes, to bail you out of trouble—D.I.Y.!
 Cassius Clark to CL: Hold this one, too.
 SnowMaster to Cassius: That's your first and last opportunity to phone in press!
 Scih to Hobbes: Clever, painting the snow in yellow and black stripes. Now we can't see you and we can't tell which part you and Cassius peed in.
 Calvin to Hobbes: Okay, so I missed the tree. Now if there had only been a blizzard like you had...
 BS to GMS: Okay, I'll take your word for it.
 GMS to Calvin: Well, if we're going to have penalties we should have rewards. Extra marshmallows in your hot chocolate, extra shot of rum in your toddy, extra butter on your popcorn.
 TG to Kitchen Master: So enough about alcohol—got any cookies for me, hot chocolate, FUDGE??! (Guess I better go make some myself!)
 TG to SM: Enough printed flatulence for one month—time to get serious about 36MT and Simpson again.
 Clarence to Scih: That was un-called for! What have I done to you? Recently?
 Box o'Rocks to Clarence: Nothing personal, fella. You're the leader so you get to take all this heat.
 GMS to Ore!: Now is that any way to start your second set of hit points?

CHUCK YOU, FARLEY / Snowball Fighting ASF19

Turn Seven

WARRIOR (PLAYER)	loc	segment one / segment two / segment three	new loc	up	hp	sb-di
Friendwood Flinger/FF (Greg Ellis)	K7	Di at SB (60,15) / collect Di / Di at SL (25,65)	K7	10	6	0-0
Ice Man/IM (Andy York)	P6	run down path / slam door / sit	kit	12	0	0-0
Mr. Snow Blues/SB (Brad Wilson)	O9	RR at SL* (75,68) / -S5 / collect Di	S5	6	7	0-1
Seattle Slew/SE (Dal Langley)	kit	takes her mark / -U11, collect Sb / RR at SL (75,37)	U11	9	10	2-0
Slushee Slammer/SL (Chuck Mercer)	T10	collect Sb, -U9-T8 / RR at SB* (75,83) / collect Sb, -S7	S7	10	1	1-0
El Zorro de Plata/ZP (Rick Kohman)	Q11	nmr / nmr / nmr	Q11	6	3	0-0

Weather roll = 81. Ice Man may re-emerge on Seg. Three next time.

Deadline for Turn Eight is January 27.

Segment One: Seattle Slew "zips up her purple snowsuit and puts on a hat," preparing to leave the kitchen as Ice Man heads on in. El Zorro de Plata has dozed off from excessive holiday dining, so it's left to Friendwood Flinger, Slushee Slammer and Mr. Snow Blues to entertain the crowd. While Slammer slips under the tree with a new Snowball, Snow Blues wings him with a Rattlesnake. FF lifts his Dirigible over his head and hurls it two-handed at Bluesy, hitting him with a 'womph!'

Segment Two: As Slew runs outside onto snow-covered territory, Ice Man reaches the house and slams the kitchen door. Mr. Snow Blues shuffles across the path, trying to get out of the line of fire (a good idea since FF is packing a Di), and his movement is just enough to defeat Slammer's aim!

Segment Three: Ice Man "pouts 'cause Slew ran outside." Slew, though, is making the best of her time by pounding Slammer, who just ran directly under the conifer. Flinger is not so lucky, as his Dirigible scrapes some bark but misses The Slushee One.

FF to SM: I was serious about losing the rules. What will a new copy cost me?

SnowMaster to FF: You have only to ask and I perform...

Slew to Zorro: Hopefully, you won't be silent again this turn. I know when you're quiet something's wrong.

SM to SE: We had lunch with Zorro the Sunday after Thanksgiving, and he gave his orders verbally then; I think the lack of press was just because he'd been putting off orders until he saw me.

Flinger to Slusher: Did some of my supply-side supplied snow trickle down your neck?

Slamma to Slew: Dang! I'm out here getting dinked and donked with snowballs and you're slinking around the house in silk robes with hot rum. What a tragedy.

SnowMaster to Slamma: Wouldn't you rather get dinked or donked in the house? You can always run indoors on your own (three massage tables, no waiting).

Slew to Slammer: Sure, kid. I'll bring you a cookie. You look like a shortbread man to me. Maybe a macaroon.

IM to Slew: You're right, it is warm in here. Now, where did you leave MY hot buttered rum? I'll bet you forgot to leave some for me, drinking it all yourself.

SnowMaster to IM: You got a complaint, you lodge it with me. ("I'm the head of the house and we don't want any!" ...Bet nobody gets that reference...)

FF to Z: I voted for sooner. Shall we now show the slush-head what a slammer feels like?

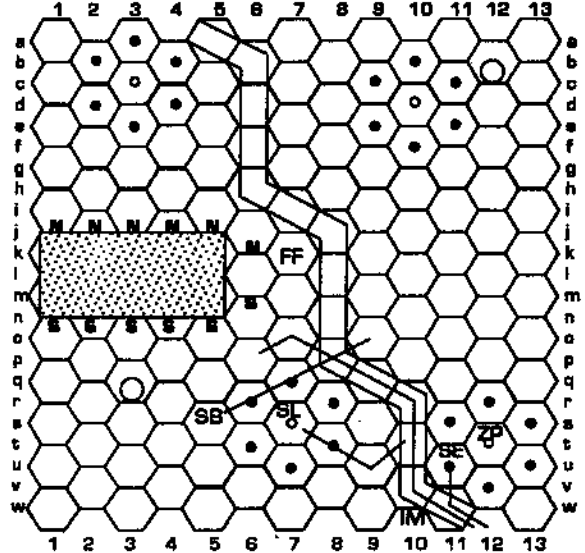
SM to FF: He can feel himself just fine without your help...

Slammer to Zip: As the intended victim of your last large toss, my cold, chapped hands applaud your failed efforts.

SM to SL: OUCH!

Slew to Ice: Even that snug Velcro suit won't protect you from my Snowballs. My camcorder is all set up in the bedroom to record

CHUCK YOU, FARLEY after Turn 7



what is under those fastenings. I plan on sending it to Funniest Home Videos.

IM to Slew: Hmmm, my butt is yours? Could be, well, interesting. Care to go behind the shed? Then you can really see how many Velcro panels I'm packing.

Slam to Ice Man: Math for Snowball Fighters—be a rookie + victory point leader + low hit points = INCOMING!

SnowMaster to Slam: "I'm glad you're around to tell us these things!"

Slew to Snowy: Thanks for the J.R. recipe. You were such a sweetie to dig it out for us. Now be a doll and lose half of Ice Man's victory points.

Highlights from J.R.'s Cooking Show: ARMADILLO EGGS: ½ pound each of cheddar cheese and ground Jimmy Dean sausage, ½ lb Monterey jack cheese, 1½ cups Bisquick, 1 package pork Shake-N-Bake(r), and 2 doz. whole jalapeno peppers.

First remove the seeds from your peppers and stuff 'em with (finely grated) Monterey jack. (Leave the seeds in one for a fun game of Russian roulette—'cause the seeds is where the real hot is!)

Preheat your oven to 425. Make some dough with the (again finely grated) cheddar, Bisquick, and sausage. Take a pinch of dough and wrap your pepper, then roll in the Shake-N-Bake(r).

Place goodies on a cookie sheet and bake(r) 20 minutes. Serve to unwitting guests and you'll be amazed at the results, but save your secret weapon for that special someone! There's a Sass-squat at every party.

Flinger to Old Gray Mare: Which of us is still out here flinging, and which of us is cooling her heels in the kitchen, babe????!!!!

SM to FF: What, did that computer come with an extra supply of question and exclamation marks?

EDDORE / Gunboat Snowball Fighting ASF22

Turn Three

WARRIOR.....	loc.....	segment 1 / segment 2 / segment 3	new loc.....	up.....	hp.....	sb-dl
Abominated Snowmonster.....	B12	.nmr / nmr / nmr.....	B12	2	5	1-0
Chiller Cowalski.....	Q3	RR at FN (70,51) / collect 2 Sb / RR at FN (80,35).....	Q3	5	4	2-0
Felis Negris.....	P6	—O7—P8—Q9—S9 / collect 2 Sb / RR at IS (95,03).....	S9	7	2	2-0
Georgie Porgie.....	D10	—C11—A11, collect Sb / Di at AS (70,08) / De at AS (75,28), dodge.....	A11	4	8	0-0
Ice Slinger.....	R12	—P12—N12, collect Sb / RR at FN (95,80) / RR at FN (95,98).....	N12	3	8	0-0
Ricky Skitless.....	F4	Di at SH (45,13) / Di at SH (45,71) / —E5—D6—E7 (must drop one 'ball).....	E7	3	8	2-0
Shagmaster.....	E3	—C3—B4—A5—B6 / —D6—F6—G7, collect Sb / RR at RS (95,15).....	G7	4	7	1-0

Weather roll = 90.

Deadline for Turn Four is January 27.

Segment One: Abominated Snowmonster suddenly falls into a deep coma, which will no doubt hurt him as soon as Georgie Porgie gets out from under that tree! Ice Slinger likewise leaves his tree and Felis Negris runs around a tree; Shagmaster tries to run around Ricky Skitless, but Ricky is having none of it and blasts him with a Di for Ricky's first points. Chiller Cowalski, behind the snowman, still manages to hit the retreating Felis with a Rattler.

Segment Two: FN and CC pack 'balls and Shaggy continues his trek away from Ricky S. This time the Skitless Di can't connect with the speedy Shag. Ice Slinger beans the black cat, and Georgie Porgie gets on the board by whupping the unconscious Snowmonster.

Segment Three: It's a wild segment as Ricky runs across the path with his arms full and everyone else is on the attack. GP, of course, scores easily off of Abominated; Shagmaster has it just as easy now that Rick S has done the courtesy of stepping right up and volunteering for a Rattlesnake. Icey tries to hit FN again but can't—instead, Felis nails the Slinger! Chiller is still after Felis and hits him again in spite of the intervening tree.

SnowMaster: I was asked about the various deductions in figuring hit prob. Using FN vs. CC Segment Two last time, here's a sample of how I GM: RR is 80%. Subtract 10 for being behind the snowman, add 15 for being at close range, add 10 for collecting two Sb, and add 10 for having been hit by a Dirigible the preceding Segment = 105%. All probabilities over 95% revert to 95%.

Ricky Skitless to Shagmaster: You, sir, are charged with wholly unfair practices. To pelt me thus, when my attention was on my packing of missiles *not entirely* created for the purpose of pegging you, after I compassionately pulled my first throw at you to leave you unscathed is a, a, a... nasty thing to do. You are warned, sir. I'll see you in court!

SH to MISTER Skitless: (stuttering) You know sir (gulp) I only hit you once (turns and runs).

CC to Felis: Okay, it's you and me now. Mano a mano. I plan on making you cry, "No mas, no mas."

Felly to Chilly: Hope you got a cannon hidden somewhere up your sleeve! I'm outta here!

SM to FN: He must be reaching out with the long arm of the law.

Slinger to SM: Quick! Shut the doors to the shed so that slinky critter doesn't escape my rattlers!

From the paraphrase laws of the Fremen: God created Eddore to train the faithful.

SM to Fremen: ...and to rebuke the editor.

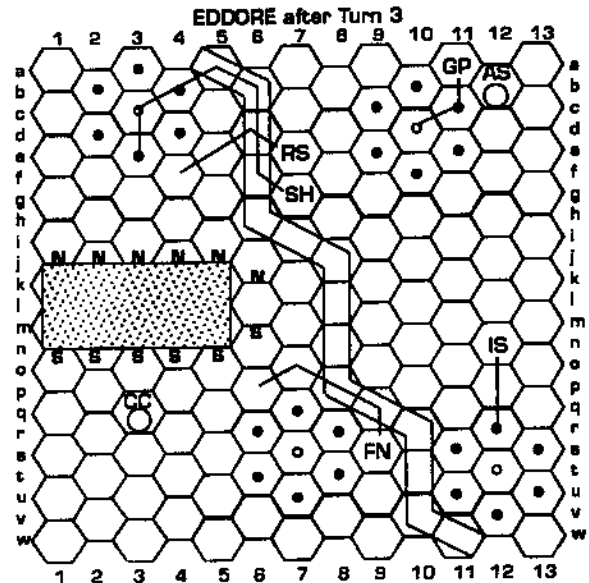
Ricky Skitless' Dog: SNAUSAGES!

SnowMaster to DogMaster: Your pup watches too much TV.

Shaggy to All: Don't get me wrong, I'm more of feminist that the next man, but... a cliché is a cliché ('throws like a dweeb'!!!?).

SM to SH: Well, there are male and female dweebs...

El Gato to Icey: Since everyone else is busy handing each other



points, why don't we get into the act?

SnowMaster to El Gato: What, you using up a life for each name?

Black Cat to SM: You're right. My name *does* seem to change each time I open my mouth, doesn't it?

Slinger to Shaggy: Whoa! Wait a minute! truce! How 'bout joining up with me to fight the evil "Happy Black"!!?

SM to IS: Shag has his own evil to oppose.

Ricky Skitless to Amateur Wits (SH & FN): Very clever, very clever indeed. Don't forget this: I'll hunt you both through the backyards of every snowball fight until the end of time for ridiculing my name. I know the secret of the rock-centered snowball, and you two will be the first to share the unpleasant consequences.

CC to RS: Why don't you just go off and play with yourself?

Slinger to Shagmeister: How about shaping one of those beauties into the shape of a cork so the yard doesn't have to hear Trick Witless over there ramble on?!!

SH to CC: Good God, man! You need all the help you can get... and I always do root for the underdog!

SnowMaster to Shagmaster: I find that the underdog is forever leaving gifts underfoot.

Shag to Snowy: Puulease! My buddy Velma is more likely to mess your yard than Scooby (or Scrappy for that matter!).

RS to SH: Well, Ricky Skitless, ok?!

Skitless to Cowalski: Don't you have enough problems without targeting me? I'm telling mom you don't like marshmallows. So try and enjoy your hot chocolate without 'em! Nyeh!

Ricky Skitless' Dog: IT'S BACON! BACON!!

(SnowMaster to himself: Well, it's a ham, anyway.)

Furball to SM: I wish you wouldn't use such language in describing Shaggy as a Schnauzer. Dogdom must be insulted! Meow!

[[concludes at bottom of page 19, at right]]

ARRAKIS / 1991HM

Spring 1906: Eat And Run, or, RI Bread

Austria (Tom Hurst): a pie-tyo?

France (Don Scheifler): f bre-eng, f nts-den (f ska s), f hol-kie (f hel s), f nwy-swe /nts nwg bar otb/, a pic-bur, a mar-pie, a bur-mun (a ruh s [a bel s]).

Germany (John Schultz): a ber-kie, a kie-ruh /annihilated/ (a mun s).

Italy (Mike Stewart): f eas-ion, f alb-gre, f ion-tun, f nap-tyu, a bud-tri, a tri-ven, a tyo s german a mun, a vie-boh.

Russia (Eric Voogd): f den-nts /bal swe otb/, a swe-nwy (a stp s), a mos-lm, a war-sil, a ukr-war, a arm-sev, f con ms f smy, a bul ms a rum.

Deadline for Fall 1906 is January 27.

Paris to Hotel Warsaw: I'd like to make reservations for 50,000 French troops. They should arrive during the Spring of 1909. Please make all necessary arrangements.

Army Marseilles to Berlin: She'll be comin' round the mountain when she comes!

France to McKinnon: Silence the GM? *This GM??*

Plucked Pullet to Pushy Pasta: Now that I've ravaged your vineyards...

Paris to Beaten Buns: So, playing Russia allows you to fully enjoy your masochism for a couple extra beatings?

Russia to Austria: Housewrecker?! I'm flattered. Or is that fatter?

Marseilles to Fleet Naples: If, at first, you don't go east... flip, flip again!

Russia to Italy: Heads west, tails east. Ironic choice of words.

Italy to France: Nobody expects a Spanish Expedition!

Russia to Germany: All you have to give. Hmmm. That's a lot. And I'm still screwing up.

Germany to Russia: Trouble is... ..you talk too much.

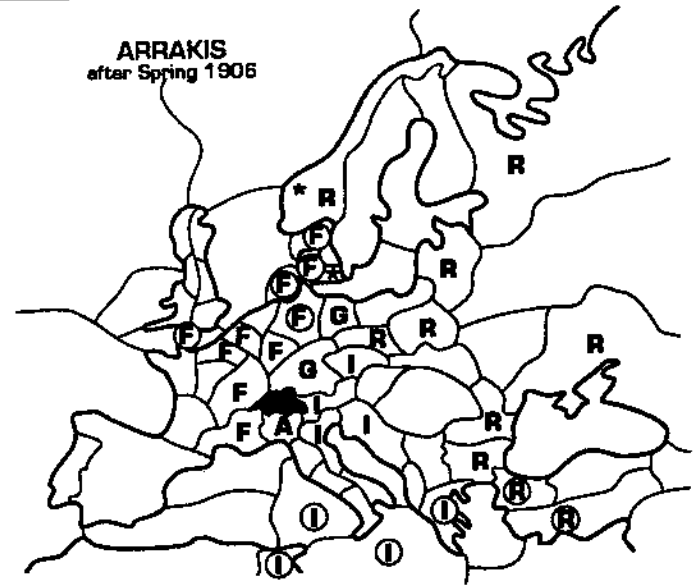
GM to Germany: I think I'll write a houserule banning mime press.

Austria to Italy: Who will get my dying attention? Hint: I don't see the Tsar in any of my home centers, do you?

Paris to Moscow: He's treating his ally just fine, thank you. It's the ex-allies and insects that he has trouble with.

Austria to Russia: Even a flea can still bite!

French Fry to Small Fry: Shoo, fly. Don't bother me.



Russia to France: I keep waiting for the letter that says, "Gee, I'm gonna need some help to win this one." (fingers tapping the table)

France to Russia: Let's trade. You take Norway, and I'll take Germany.

Germany to France: You'll get me, but it'll be like pulling teeth.

Paris to Munich and Moscow: E Pluribus Unum.

French Goalie to Italian Linesman: Call "icing" against the Russian and get this red puck back to the other end of the rink.

Italy to Russia: The nervous Italian heads west.

GM to Italy: Nery is more like it!

Russia to Italy: This is a job for Superman. Or SuperItaly. Or Stewperman. OK, I'll shut up.

ARRAKIS / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1905

Austria	gre.....	1
France	par, bre, mar, por, spa, lvp, edi, lon, bel, hol, nwy.....	11
Germany	mun, kie, ber.....	3
Italy	rom, nap, ven, tun, ser, vie, tri, bud.....	8
Russia	stp, mos, war, sev, swe, rum, bul, ank, smy, con, den.....	11

Slinger to SM: Is there a microwave oven in the house so that the cat can dry off?

RS to SM: Put on a few, hm. So SM could be SuperMass or SaggyMan or, even SlobMeister. And you know what, since college I, too, have cultivated a gut. Thing is, I love it, I finally broke the 155-lb barrier. Now it's too late to lose the weight you used to need to throw around.

SnowMaster to Ricky Skittles: My gain in 'pork bellies' is about fifteen pounds, taking me over 185. Hardly SlobMeister, but Cathy can call me SnuggleMan.

Chiller Cowalski to Ice Slinger: Chicken. Come back and join in the fun.

Slinger to Chiller: Careful—you might be the first to visit the great indoors!

SnowMaster to IS: He's going out of his way to ensure that Felis gets that honor... a loooooong way out of his way.

Slinger to Felix: your cat-like ability to pounce on a helpless opponent has turned you into the enemy. Watch out!

Furball to Icy: I'll scratch your back if you do... and your arm, and your eyes, and your leg, **REAL HARD!**

SM to Furry: How sweet. Muskrat love, I guess.

The St. Petersburg Royal Court Reporter reported that reports of Imperial Russian Marines landing in Stockholm are true. The Tsar was quoted as saying: "We felt it was necessary to relieve the Swedish people from the burden of what was quickly becoming a socialist government. As everybody knows, socialism, like democracy, is only a passing fad that the world would be much better off without." The Tsar also stated that there was no chance of socialism or democracy gaining a foothold in Russia because the peasants were perfectly happy with their present lifestyle.

Dateline Alsergrund (Vienna): A press conference was held today by one Wilhelm Grocz, an itinerant intellectual and political strategic consultant, who was retained under the regime that was deposed by the current Emperor. He promised that he would reveal all that he knew about the transfer of power. "The transfer of power was indeed bloodless, but hardly clean," he said. He promised that his book, to be released within days, will reveal all. "There are facts which the public should know about these events, and I am not just talking about dirt."

This publication plans to print excerpts from the book in a serialized feature over the next few months or years. All Mr. Grocz would say was that a woman and a magnet were involved.

VEXVELT / 1992R

Summer 1903: German f den-nts; Italian f ion-tun.

I had a proposal which was conditional on anonymity. Sorry, my house rules make all proposals and votes public. If three or four players want to change that, then I'll put it to a vote but a change would have to be unanimous.

Germany proposes AT and ART draws.

Fall 1903: Huge Tracts of Land

Austria (Michael Alterio): f alb-adr, a tyo-mun (a boh s, a ber s), a sil s a ber, a apu-ven (a tri s), a sev-mos.

England (Lance Anderson): a edi-yor, f nwg-nts (f lon s).

France (Mike Magnuson): a mar-pie, f eng-bel (a pic s), f bre-mid, a bur-ruh.

Germany (Richard Weiss): a bel-ruh /annihilated/, a ruh-kie (f hel s), f nts-hol.

Italy (Steve Nicewarner): a rom-nap (f tyn s [f tun s]), a mun u /annihilated/.

Russia (Russ Rusnak): f nwy-bar, a den h (f bal s), a mos-war.

Turkey (Steve McKinnon): a smy-apu (f ion & f aeg c), f gre s f ion, a rum twiddles thumbs [whose thumbs?].

Deadline for Winter 1903 is January 27.

Turkey: Due to depressing events in my private life, all jovial press is on hold. You, dear readers, must share my despondency.

GM to T: Without being too flippant, I'd guess girl trouble. Am I right?

Turkey signs: "Slut kiss girl won't you promise her smack? / Is she pretty on the inside is she pretty from the back? / Dead moon girl won't you rot black strap? / Is she rotten on the inside, ugly from the back?"

GM: Uh, yeah, I guess I'm right.

Italy to Germany: With a "life-of-the-game" sub, why should I want this game to end early? Besides, why would Austria give up part of an obvious solo win?

GM to Richard Weiss: Could we get a ruling on whether the condition of your subscription influencing draw votes constitutes 'cross-gaming'?

Germany to E/F/I: Last one to where the Iron Crosses grow is NOT the winner.

F to G: How can a "Lion Heart" ever think of concession?

Turkey's Babes o'the Moment: Carey Lowell, Carol Alt, Bess Armstrong.

GM to Turkey: Hey, I rented *Blade Runner* again last week (mainly because you brought it back to mind) and, sure enough, Sean Young was right there in my living room. In living brunette.

Germany to Russia: Do you REALLY believe that in the end, you and Turkey will carve Austria up? Do you believe in Faeries?

GM to Russia: Signify by clapping your hands...

Italy to Austria: My compliments on being able to screw all your neighbors including your ally.

GM to Italy: Playing no favorites, how nice!

Turkey to GM: Truth? When does a Dipster ever lie?

GM to T: Whenever he thinks he can get away with it.

West Mike to East Mike: Go south, young man, go south...

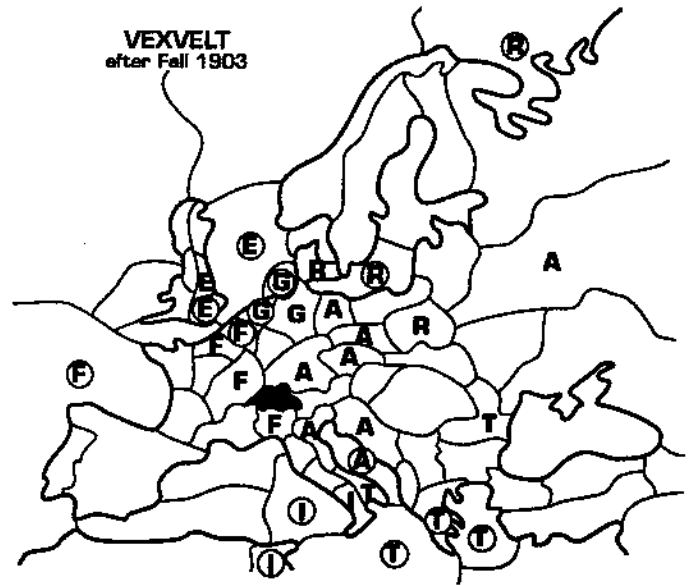
Turkey quotes NMA:

These cities are illusions of
Some triumph over Nature's laws.
We've seen the iron carcass rust
And buildings topple into dust
And as the waters rise it seems
We cling to all the rootless things;
The Christian lies, technology

Austria
England
France
Germany
Italy
Russia
Turkey

VEXVELT / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1902

	tri	bud	vie	yar	ser	ber	ven	sev		
Austria	tri	bud	vie	yar	ser	ber	ven	sev		8
England	lvp	lon	edi	nwy	.	.	.	.		4
France	par	mar	bre	spa	por	Bel	.	.		8
Germany	kie	hol	del	bel	.	.	.	.		4
Italy	rom	nap	mun	tun	.	.	.	.		4
Russia	mos	stp	rym	swe	war	dot	.	.		4
Turkey	con	ank	smy	bul	gre	.	.	.		8



While spirits scream and sing...
Oh God I love the World.

So let's take a walk
Up past the chemical works
Where the sky turns green at night.
And we'll talk about
Getting away from here:
Some different kind of life.
But even in the freshest mountain air
The jet fighters practice overhead.
And they're drilling these hills
For Uranium deposits.
They'll bury the waste
For our children to inherit.
And though this is all done
For our own benefit, I swear
We never asked for any of this.

Italy to Turkey: I've told you already—you're getting *nothing* out of Italy. Why don't you, me and Russia get together while there's time?

The Frog croaks to drown out the Turkish din:
no time to rest yet
we've got to stop his game
before madness has the final laugh
too much bloodshed
we're being used and fed
like rats in experiments
no final outcome here
only pain and fear
it's followed us all our lives
there's only one thing left to see
will it be him or me...

T to F: Did I hear a request?

GM to Turk: Did you have your hearing aid turned up?

LAMETH / 1992AJ

Fall 1901: Welcome, Neighbor!

Austria (John McLaurin): a ser & a bud s turkish a bul-rum /nso/, f alb-gre.

England (Stan Johnson): f nwg-nwy, a vor-bel (f nts c).

France (Martin Johnson): f mid-spa /no coast specified!/, a bur-mar, a spa-por.

Germany (Randy Havens): f hol-bel, a kie-den, a tyo-mun.

Italy (Dennis Young): a pie s french a spa-mar /nso/, a ven h, f ion-tun.

Russia (James Bailey): f bot-swe, a ukr-rum (f bla s), a gal-vie.

Turkey (Tim Goodwin): f con-aeg, a bul-gre, a ank-con.

Deadline for Winter 1901 is January 27.

England to Germany: What's your Army doing, yodeling?

GM to England: Actually, it's yo-yo-ing!

France to All: Don't you hate it when you stay up late at night getting all those christmas messages in the mail, and none of your friends bother to write! Randy's REAL christmas card notwithstanding.

LaPlage to John McLaurin: How bogus, dude! My buds just clued me that letters to Canada cost big dinero. I hope you're still hangin' next year so I can wire you in time with some shit you can use!

GM to LaPlage: You know, you can get thrown out of Northern California for an accent that bad... Exiled to L.A.... Makes me shiver just to think about it.

LaPlage to TopWop: Is this the "play with me 'cause the big boys like you better and I got no one to play with" defense? If you want to hang with me, you got to make an offer that doesn't key on whether other guys pit you enough to take you on! Really, dude... you don't have to slum down to me on my account.

Vienna: The French Ambassador to Austria was welcomed with open arms on the 15th of this month as he took up his new quarters on the Ringstraße. The new emperor himself came to the interim embassy to shout "Bienvenue!" for all to hear as he walked up the street to the doorstep, shaking hands with the imposing 6'3" Bullwinkle Mousse, the putative finest diplomat in all of France. This was clearly intended to be seen, and one must suppose that the Austrian leader wishes all of Europe to recognize France and Austria as being on friendly terms.

At the same time, some citizens were cynically commenting that the Emperor is desperate for any friends while two nations have armies inside the empire's borders. One of his greatest political rivals was quoted yesterday as saying, "The only reason England and Holland have not yet invaded against this idiot leader of ours is that they can't reach us yet."

Paris (UPI): The Emperor's spokesperson reported that General Citroen has mysteriously vanished during Operation Paella Crepe. Spanish palace guards report that they fired no shots during the French incursion, but witnesses say that a wounded General was taken for medical treatment following the sound of a single gunshot. A local drunk suggested that the display was a scam contrived to let Citroen defect to Cuba. A government source denied this accusation. Film at eleven...

GM to France: Aha, so that's where Citroen is leading that fleet!

[[Unfortunately, press must conclude on page 19, bottom right]]

NICRON / Merchant of Venus

Turn Four

Robocop—Andrew York, Eeeppeep

Dice are 124. Move: -Paintfall/o-B-Poison Port/o-R-Gate 3 (pilot #4)-Gate 4-Space Station.

Trade: "Sells" Auto Pilot: buys one Impossible Furniture. [[Sorry, you can only barter equipment (Rule 9.32—at ½ face value); and even though I would've interpreted these orders to mean you did barter it, you didn't have enough additional cash to make up the purchase price of an Impossible Furniture.]]
Accounting: \$40.

Voogd's Venusian Voyager—Eric Voogd, Nik

Dice are 235. Move: -R/sw-? [[Gate Lock]]-R30-? [[Jump Start]]-Y-? [[Y10]]-Y-Aerie-Y-R. Trade: none.

Accounting: \$110 - \$40 penalties = \$70.

Interstellar Master Traders—John Galt, Deil (note COA)

Dice are 223. Move: -? [[Open Port]]-Y10-Asteroid City West-? [[Y20]]-Y-Jump Start, stop and pick up Relic. John: be careful how you write your conditionals, you may not backtrack over a path you've already used that turn.

Trade: none. Accounting: \$250 - \$30 penalty = \$220.

StewBall III—Howard Hugh, Whynom

Dice are 366. Move: -Goliath/o-B/n-R/nw-B-Y-B-R-B-Y-R -Cobbleport/o-Cobbleport/s.

Trade: sells one Voll Silk (out of the cup pops a Demand for Designer Genes at 10/Qossuth), buys one Finest Dust.

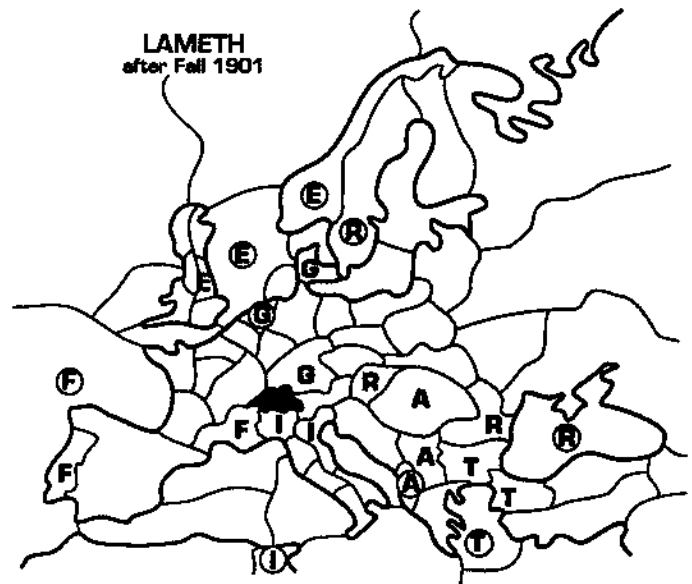
Accounting: \$67 + \$200 trade - \$10 trade = \$257.

Ishmael 2.0—Garret Schenck, Qossuth

Dice are 166. Move: -Wet Landing/o-R-B-R-B-Y-NC1-A-NC1-R-Y-R. Trade: none.

Accounting: \$207.

[[Nicon continues on page 22]]



LAMETH / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1901

Austria	vie	tri	bud	SER							3/4
England	lvp	edi	lon	NWY							3/4
France	par	bre	mar	POR							3/4
Germany	mun	kie	ber	HOL	DEN						3/5
Italy	rom	nap	ven	TUN							3/4
Russia	stp	mos	war	sev	VIE	RUM	SWE				4/7
Turkey	con	ank	smy	BUL							3/4

STILL NEUTRAL: bel, gre

Nicron continued

X—Ed Wrobel, Human

Dice are 114. Move: -R-B-R-NC4-NC4-? *[[Switch Switch]]*
and stops, picks up Relic. Trade: none.
Accounting: \$10.

Deadline for Turns Five and Six is January 27.

Order of play and dice for Turns Five/Six:

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| 1. X | 446 / 226 | 4. IMT | 345 / 235 |
| 2. Robocop | 222 / 155 | 5. StewBall | 266 / 144 |
| 3. VVV | 113 / 345 | 6. Ishmael | 224 / 225 |

X to Dice Gods: What's this? You've stuck me with Ish's old 2.1 version!

Ishmael to GM: Your map is wrong. I'm 2.0 model. Thanks.

Merchant Master to Ish: The way your name keeps changing, I figured it didn't matter *what* I put on the map. Please note that it has been corrected this month.

Robo to (F)lshy: Hmm, as I was pulling onto this nice asteroid, I felt this compelling urge to leave the Crawfish off my dinner platter. Or, was that to leave the Graw from the (F)lsh. Hmmm, I guess your message was GAR-bled. In any case, you ended up at your planet (in more ways than one)—and may you stay there hunting for whales (or is that punting in Wales?).

Merchant Master to Nicronics: I think I smelt a punster...

Ishmael to Universe: Sorry, but my press this turn will be weak. No time for anything.

Three-V Line: My life's goal is achieved. The X man has established me as the frontrunner. And since Ishmael has established X as the god of MoV, uh... uh... hey, Pete, what does it all mean? Could it be that I know what I'm doing?

Merchant Master to VVV: I doubt it. Why should you be any different?

X to Ishleader: The Cloud was so much fun, I may go back on a relic hunt. It seems I can always count on rolling ones and twos.

StewBall III: Happy Holidays VVV, IMT, Robo, Ish, X and GM; keep the New Year FUN.

VVV to X: Frontrunner?! Nice try to deflect the attention when you know full well that Dish Smell will dog (or Qossuth) you to the ends of the galaxy.

X to GM: That's right, we got X caps, X shirts, X bowties, X suits, and XXX underwear. Get 'em before the fad fades and I have to dump 'em at wholesale.

GM to X: I'm your guy if you're looking for a salesman to help dump!

Robo to Stew: Yes, I did get the Spacegram. I couldn't handle it right now; however, it was passed on to the powers that be for an MPG match-up. Thanks for the suggestion!!!

Izzmael to GM: Keep sticking it to so-called "X." The CMN (that's me) has decided that serious irregularities in "X"'s play will come to light, he will be disbarred and disenfranchised... soon.

X to Diaspora Gods: The Shenna?! Cut me a break or something, O Omnipotent Givers of Fate.

VVV to Stew: When I travel the Wartorn/AS systems, I practice safe treks. I use Trojan brand shields!

Merchant Master to VVV: As we used to say at my alma mater, the Univ. of Southern California, Trojans make better lovers!

JINX / 1990AV

Concession to R: Fl yes, AE no, R nvr.
Austria proposes AEIR draw.
Summer 1908: Russia f swe-bot.

Fall 1908: Water Slide

AUSTRIA (Ron Cameron): a tri ms f ven.
ENGLAND (Mike Gonsalves): f swe-bal (f den s), a nwy-swe (f ska s), f nwg-nwy, f nts-hel, f mid-bre (a par s), a hol-kie (a ruh s).
FRANCE (Melinda Holley): a bre holds /annihilated/.
ITALY (Richard Weiss): f mar-lyo, a pie-mar, a rom-tus, f gre-ion, f aeq-gre.
RUSSIA (Kathy Caruso): a stp-nwy, f bal-den /pru lvn oth/, f bot-swe, a sil-mun, a gal-bud, a mun-ruh (a kie s (a ber s)), a tvo-tri (a vie s), a alb-gre (f bul/sc s, a ser s), a con s f bul (a smy s).
SC chart note: Russia is +1 or +2 depending on retreat.

**Deadline for Autumn & Winter 1908/
Spring 1909 is January 27.
Your map is on the following page, page 23.**

Austria to Italy: Keep supporting Venice and she'll never get through.
GM to Austria: He withdrew the support but Kathy didn't pursue the issue!
KK to Italy: It sure looks like an inquisition to me. Send "KC's errors" to the GM??!
Austria to Russia: Sure, you'll let me survive. NOT! Let's see, I think you are stalemated. I see no more than 17 for you sweetie. Nice try tho—methinks you blew this one.
GM to Austria: It's not her fault—she's been doing chores around the house, like...
KK to Pops: I think doing KK is a chore, but imagine playing in a bunch of dip games you have little time for! I'm just not paying enough attention—you can tell burnout has really hit me.
GM to KC: Sorry it has you frazzled but I'm glad you're getting out if that's what you want to do. Lots of people hang on too long!
England to Italy: It is a little early with those congratulations. By my count, Kathy will be at 17 and I don't see her getting more unless we make a mistake.
KK to Gonzo: If you propose it, I'll vote for it.
GM to KK: Well, it's on the table now.
Rome to London: Oops, an open bottle in Burgundy! I hope you capped it.
GM to Rome: The cork is out but Russia is allowing that bottle to breathe a while.
Austria to France: You are in a gunboat game with me which is just around the corner from being revealed. It's uncanny how your style—or lack of it—never changes. On the board, my dear, only on the board; I'm told you're a class act off it.
GM to France: Nothing like sweet words at parting, eh?
Austria to GM: No NMR this time!!
GM to Austria: Yeah, but yours wasn't the *first* set of orders I received this month!

JINX / SUPPLY CENTERS held as of Winter 1908

Austria	tri	ven	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2/2	E
England	lvp	edi	lon	hol	bel	den	kie	bre	nwy	por	SWE	PAR	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	10/11	+1
France	par	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1/0	out
Italy	rom	nap	tun	mar	spa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5/5	E
Russia	stp	mos	war	swe	mun	ber	rum	ank	sev	vie	bul	ser	bud	con	smy	gre	KIE	.	16/16	+1?	

GIFFARD / Gunboat Titan

Oops: Torch split with Heart. Players were notified.

Round Fortynine

BLUE LEGIONS (rolled a 2): Moon holds in Plains P6; Bat Jungle J125—Brush B123; Cloud holds in Jungle J104; Lightning Marsh M8—Brush B10; Cracked Egg Desert D7—Hills H9; Anchor Marsh M126—Plains P124.

GREEN LEGIONS (rolled a 4): Medallion holds in Tower 400; Harp holds in Desert D21; Dagger holds in Brush B17; Scales Tundra 4000—Woods W25; Wreath holds in Jungle J26 (E35); Frog Plains P110—Brush B106; Hook holds in Brush B38; Boiling Pot holds in Brush B141; Hoop Snake holds in Plains P15; Diamond Tower 300—Plains P20; Claw holds in Jungle J12.

RED LEGIONS (rolled a 6): Double Eagle Brush B127—Brush B31 (E35); Torch Plains P1—Tundra 2000; Heart Plains P1—Tundra 6000; Star holds in Tower 200.

Engagement 35: Red Double Eagle attacks Green Wreath in Jungle J26. Defender enters through 4-5-6 by January 15, please.

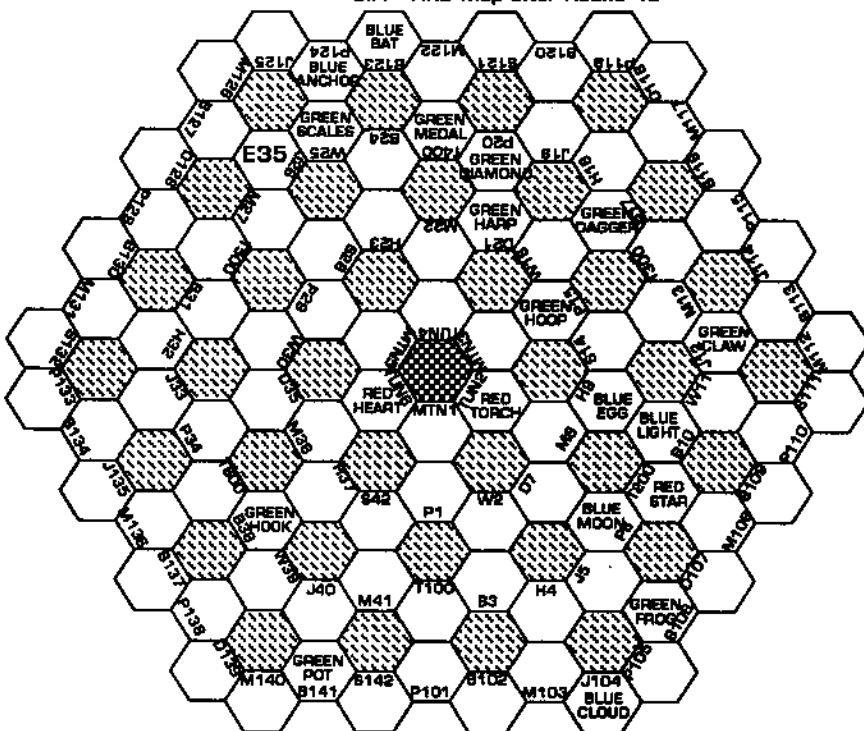
Musters, Round 49: 2 Centaurs, 2 Colossi, Gargoyle. OUT of Centaurs, only one Colossus left.

Point Count: Green 646, Blue 617, Red 485.

Markers Owned: Blue holds the Gold, Black and Brown markers.

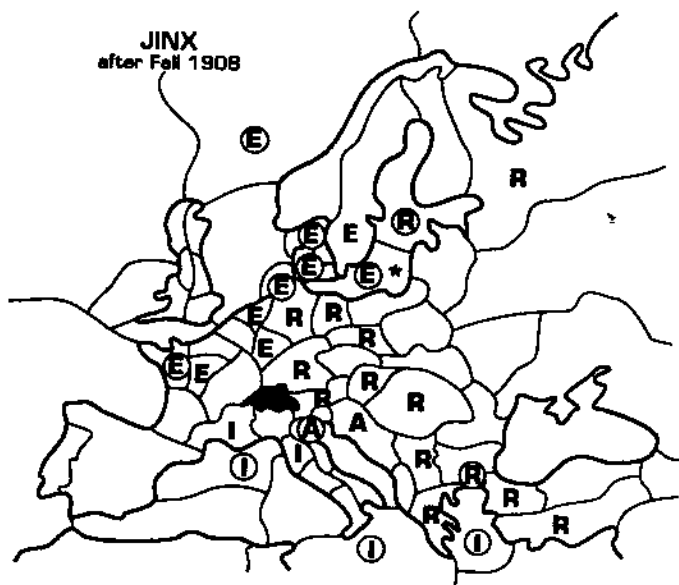
Deadline for Round Fifty is January 27.

GIFFARD Map after Round 48



GIFFARD Creature Status

	after rd. 49	orig	box	dead	board
Angel	18	12	—	—	6
Archangel	6	4	—	—	2
Behemoth	18	11	2	—	5
Centaur	25	0	20	—	5
Colossus	10	1	0	—	9
Cyclops	28	0	17	—	11
Dragon	18	13	3	—	2
Gargoyle	21	4	14	—	3
Giant	18	17	1	—	0
Gorgon	25	0	11	—	16
Griffon	18	12	6	—	0
Guardian	6	1	—	—	5
Hydra	10	4	1	—	5
Lion	28	6	17	—	5
Minotaur	21	5	12	—	4
Ogre	25	0	21	—	4
Ranger	28	0	23	—	5
Serpent	10	0	1	—	9
Troll	28	0	26	—	2
Unicorn	12	6	3	—	3
Warbear	21	12	9	—	0
Warlock	6	3	—	—	3
Wyvern	18	14	3	—	1



Seen in Berkeley: a pregnant woman with a T-shirt that said, "Just Say Roe."

Breast implants must be removed before cremation, because they give off a toxic smoke. S.F. woman comments, "Golly, you can't even die with your boobs on."

Feminist joke du jour: "You know why men can't have multiple orgasms?" "Who cares?"

Frightening headline after the riots: "L.A. Returning to Normal." You'd think they would do something to stop that...

Former San Francisco mayor Art Agnos: "Gorbachev said San Franciscans should pay a tax for the privilege of living here. I tried that and lost my job."

Finally, Quote of the Year from a mendicant on Market Street: "Any home for the changeless?"

many thanks to Herb Caen of the San Francisco Chronicle

GAME OPENINGS / ZINE BUSINESS / HOBBY STUFF

circulation of this issue, not counting free samples: 76

WUNDERLAND/Snowball Fighting: Chris Hassler, John Schultz, Tom Hurst, John McLaurin, Duncan Adams, Mike Magnuson, Randy Davis, Andy Bate and David McCrumb—see gamestart inside.

BELT 17/Regular Diplomacy (\$5 gamefee): Les Casey (pd), Victor Thomas (pd), Rich Irving (pd), Tom Johnston (pd), Randy Havens (pd), Stan Johnson. This will be the last regular Dip game to start for a month or two; can take one more (but not a Californian). After this starts I'll consider another variant: Gunboat, nine- or ten-player games, whatever; start sending requests.

AURORA/Railway Rivals (\$3 gamefee includes map): Richard Weiss, Chuck Mercer, Pat Conlon, Bob Theriault, Andy Bate and Bill Wordelmann—see gamestart inside.

ZYRA/Dip Battleship (no gamefee): Six people are signed up—see inside if you think you're in the gamestart.

Poets' Corner (Standby Calls): none this month, though the Christmas holiday played havoc with nmr calls and late orders.

The Poets are for Diplomacy: Baker, KCaruso, Cox, Davis, Hurst, SJohnson, Magnuson, McKinnon, McLaurin, Mercer, Shulman, Stewart, Voogd, York.

For Dip variants: Baker, Bate, Davis, Hurst, McCrumb, McKinnon, Stewart, York.

For others: Anderson (Titan), Cox (Monopoly), Gardner, Langley (SF), McCrumb, Millikan (MoV).

A free issue to each standby when he picks up a game and when he plays it out (subber currently in fewest games will be chosen first.).

International Subscription Exchange

I am the North American representative. If you want to sub to a U.K. or Australian zine, send US or Cdn money to me and I'll arrange it, avoiding currency exchange fees. Canadian cash accepted at 1-to-1 with U.S.; Canadian checks will get about 75¢US on the Cdn dollar. Canadians can buy postal money orders in US funds much more easily than vice versa, check out the rates.

Dipcon XXVI—September 3-6, 1993

I'm publishing a free bimonthly newsletter, *DIPCONVERSATION*, about Dipcon 1993. *Pere* subscribers will get it free; others may get on the list for all issues just by sending one SASE.

Free Issues Available

A free issue (for each name) to the first person who can tell me where these planet/game names came from (I've lost my notes on these): Marna, Nordeen, Rathillien, Quwhon, Lakkarol. If you give me the hint that leads to an answer you'll get credit.

Freshman Zine Tracking

If you are aware of a zine which published its first three issues in 1992 (or very late 1991) other than the following, please let me know right away: *36 Miles of Trouble*, *Zero Sum*, *jGOLI*, *Loco Motives*, *Foolhardy*, *Pennant Madness*, *Election Headquarters*, *Aren't...?*, *Metamorphosis* and *Rainbow Warrior*. For the purpose of the Freshman Zine Poll, 1993 start-ups will include *Call Me President*, *Making Love in a Canoe*, *Wild Gypsy Rose*, *off-the-shelf* and *Standard Gauge*.

PLAYER ROSTER

bold = new address; * = no nmr insurance (if I have your phone # and you accept collect calls, then you have nmr insurance)

Duncan Adams, **5 Hedge End, East Hunsbury, Northampton NN3 2PQ U.K.**
Chuff Afflerbach, 5632 Oakgrove Avenue, Oakland CA 94618
Michael Alterio, 338 Crescent Avenue #19, Buffalo NY 14214
Lance Anderson, 696 Fox Avenue #100, Lewisville TX 75067
James Bailey, 8337 La Riviera Drive, Sacramento CA 95826
J.R. Baker, 2709 Colonial Drive, Dickinson TX 77539
Andy Bate, 4, Channel Road, Clevedon, Bristol BS21 7DR U.K.
Jason Bergmann, * 10000 N. Lamar #2041, Austin TX 78753
Eric/Claire Brosius, 41 Hayward Street, Milford MA 01757-3554
Jim Burgess, 100 Holden St, Providence RI 02908-5731
Ron Cameron, * 14790 Amorose, Lake Elsinore CA 92530
Kathy Caruso, 636 Astor Street, Norristown PA 19401
Les Casey, 10 Wrenwood Crescent, Nepean Ontario K2G 5V3, Canada
Pat Conlon, 7180 Shoreline Drive #5110, San Diego CA 92122
Roger Cox, 57 Coastline Drive, Inman SC 29349
Randy Davis, 3019 Bertram Court, Concord CA 94520
Greg Ellis, 813 Essex, Friendswood TX 77546
John Galt, **803 Capitol Street, Vallejo CA 94590**
Paul Gardner, 5 Timber Lane, Brattleboro VT 05301-2616
Mike Gonsalves, 530 Treasure Lake, DuBois PA 15801
Tim Goodwin, 92 Pine Street, Portland ME 04102
Randy Havens, 200 Napa Place, Fullerton, CA 92633
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David Hood, 2905 - 20th Street NE, Hickory NC 28601
Howard Hugh, * 2541 Laurence Ave, Carmichael CA 95608-4602
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Rich Irving, 1505 Caceras Circle, Salinas CA 93906
Martin Johnson, 113 Carey Court, Windsor CA 95492
Stan Johnson, * 10 Pine Street, Edison NJ 08817-4742
Tom Johnston, 7509 W. 159th St #303C, Tinley Park IL 60477
Rick Kohman, 13517 Agua Dulce, Castroville CA 95012
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Mark Lew, 5390 Broadway #2, Oakland CA 94618
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Hugh Magen, %Summerfield Suites, 19901 Prairie Ave, Torrance CA 90503
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Steve McKinnon, * 71 Chestnut #14, Albany NY 12210
John McLaurin, * RR#3, Huntsville ON P0A 1K0 Canada
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Clark Millikan, 1730 Adelaide Street #9, Concord CA 94520
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David Polley, 2504 Huntwich Drive #1007, Austin TX 78741
Russ Rusnak, 1551 High Ridge Parkway, Westchester IL 60154
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"Hey Rocky, watch me pull a rabbit out of a hat!"

Again? Sure, why not? Remember, this will be your last chance to see *Zine Register* the way it was meant to be... Totally Turbo[®]!

Change is good. Along with a new three-column format, we've added scanned pictures of almost every zine in the hobby, so you can "see before you buy." This makes issue #21 more of a "catalog of zines" than a dry and dusty "dictionary of zines." You can browse through it, drool over your favorite zine(s), or use the descriptions of those you don't care for as toilet paper (hey, that's what they used to do with the Sears & Roebuck catalog, too)! Freedom of choice, as always...

Some things haven't changed, however, as we have numerous "guest reviews" contributed by "the Usual Gang of Idiots," the very latest info on gamestarts, eulogies to recently departed zines (i.e., folds), "sidebars" on many different aspects of the postal games hobby, and more listings of foreign zines than any *Zine Register*.

If you want to receive your very own copy of *Zine Register* #21, be sure to get in line by sending a mere \$2.50 (\$4.00 for overseas buyers) to:

Garret Schenck, 40 3rd Place, Basement Apt., Brooklyn, NY 11231-3302.

North American Zine Bank

Interested in receiving a whole bunch of sample zines, but too lazy to send out 20 or 30 letters or postcards? Why not send \$3.00 (\$6.00 overseas) to Pete Gaughan. He'll send you a NAZB packet containing copies of at least 20 sample zines. That's no more than 15¢ per sample—less than a postcard! You can request specific zines, certain kinds of zines (i.e., RR zines or Dip only), or exclude zines you aren't interested in. He'll do his best to give you just what you want, subject to availability.

Pete will be publishing his first *Zine Register* in May 1993. But he's as anxious to start doing the Zine Bank as I am to get rid of it, so he's taking over ZR's companion service starting now. His address: 1521 S. Novato Blvd. #46, Novato, CA 94947-4147.

Zine REGISTER

Lists and reviews every postal gaming zine in North America!

Published by:
Garret Schenck
40 3rd Place
Basement Apt.
Brooklyn, NY
11231-3302
(718) 852-6574

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The Perelandra Poll

Whoooooo Are You?

Circle the word in each group which best describes you (you are welcome to skip any line altogether):

- | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|------------|
| 1. baseball | hockey | basketball | football |
| 2. fish | cat | dog | canary |
| 3. moderate | conservative | liberal | apathetic |
| 4. jazz | classical | rock | country |
| 5. history | astrology | philosophy | art |
| 6. engineering | physics | geography | biology |
| 7. hyper | laid-back | shy | outgoing |
| 8. corn | peas | rhubarb | potatoes |
| 9. liver | steak | ground beef | veggie |
| 10. Leno | Letterman | Arsenio | Costas |
| 11. unleaded | regular | diesel | bicycle |
| 12. Beethoven | Sinatra | Beatles | Hammer |
| 13. apple | chocolate cream | lemon meringue | pumpkin |
| 14. sailing | hiking | horseback | motocross |
| 15. Macintosh | DOS | UNIX | typewriter |

Oh, No, Essay Questions!

Answer on another sheet.

If you could never watch television again, why would you miss it?

There's a country song by Mary Chapin Carpenter that says, "Sometimes you're the windshield, sometimes you're the bug." Most of the time, which are you?

What would you do with your first million-dollar lottery win?

How many people have you really admired, and how many have you really hated?

Wouldn't it be easier if every city drew their streets on a north-south grid?

A squirrel falls in the forest. Do the trees hear it?

Cleaning Up
Circle any that apply:

- | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| radical | hick | hip | libertarian |
| Old Fart | bully | Young Turk | feisty |
| laid-back | middle-aged | whiner | free spirit |
| worn out | devout | sexy | confused |

You are assured that answers will be private except for overall totals!

What's Inside

page	Deadline is January 27 for:
13	Althar / Monopoly
19	Arrakis / 1991HM Diplomacy
9	Aurora / Railway Rivals
—	Belt 17 / 1992?? Diplomacy needs just one more
17	Chuck You, Farley / Snowball Fighting ASF19
16	Dagobah / Metropolis
15	Druufon / Snowball Fighting ASF18
18	Eddore / Snowball Fighting ASF22
11	Giedi Prime / 1992AK Diplomacy
23	Giffard / Gunboat Titan
10	Gramarye / British Rails BR89-01
22	Jinx / 1990AV orphan game Diplomacy
21	Lameth / 1992AJ Diplomacy
13	Literary Quiz
21	Nicron / Merchant of Venus
13	Pyrrus / Monopoly
12	Rama / Spectrum Titan
14	Ruffian / 1990IY orphan game Diplomacy
13	Tupile / Monopoly
20	Vexvelt / 1992R Diplomacy
7	Vulcan / 1992JFrc04 Deviant Diplomacy
8	Wunderland / Snowball Fighting ASF23
9	Zirn / Snowball Fighting ASF20
8	Zyra / Dip Battleship

page	feature
1	Hep Mel / Jon Carroll
1	The Roar of the Greasepaint / letter column
5	Among the Trees / editorial
5	The Broom Closet / hobby news and notes
6	It's Me Again / Cathy's column
8	Rules for Dip Battleship
11/12	Nature Corners
24	Records / game openings , player roster
25	a big plug
25	The Perelandra Poll—fill out or not as you see fit!



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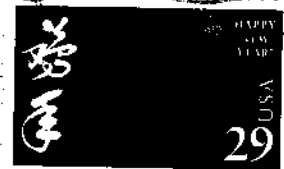
May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions.

—Joey Adams

Perelandra

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