

Perelandra

Volume 1, number 7

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A Very Merry Christmas! ...to

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There you are, all twenty of you. I hope every home represented here has a safe, happy, and meaningful holiday season; may God bless any reunions planned, and everyone be sure to set aside time on New Year's Weekend for reflection on 1982 and determination for 1983. There will be no January Perelandra, but I will be back February first with (probably) a double issue. This depends on all of you--you have twice the time to prepare something special for publication--and I won't be charging an extra number off your subscriptions, either. Subbers, note: check your mailing label for errors, and let me know if you find any, especially in phone number.

This is really a wrap-up issue, with several lists and ads. Please save it for reference; publishers, feel free to pull from it and republish items. The first list is of the zines I receive, because I'd like to get some feedback on what others I should consider (though I won't add just everything you recommend):

Coat of Arms, Diplomacy by Moonlight, Diplomacy Digest, Diplomacy World, Everything (You Wanted to Know ...), Magus, The Modern Patriot, Migraine, North Sealth West George, Snafu!, Xenogogic, and this year's Leeder Poll winner, Europa Express.



Perelandra is an amateur publication promoting the postal play of Diplomacy, a game created by Allan Calhamer and copyrighted by Avalon Hill Game Co. It is published monthly by P. J. Gaughan at the address on page one. Submissions are remunerated at the rate of fifty cents sub or game credit for each half-page published. No material in this publication is copyrighted unless explicitly stated. Erin go bragh.

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Diplomacy

1982HK Winter 1901/1902 -- Did France Wake Up In Time?

AUS (S Arnawoodian): no change. has a gal, a ser, f alb.
ENG (L McCloud): build f lvp, f lon. also has f nwy, f nth, a bel.
FRA (B Cusack): build f bre. has a bur, a spa, f mid.
GER (D Marshall): build a ber, a kie. has a mun, a den, f hol.
ITA (L Peery): build f nap, a ven. has a tyr, a tri, f tun.
RUS (T Brown): build a mos, f stp/sc. has a war, a sev, f rum.
TUR (B Highfield): build a ank. has a bul, f con, a smy.

press (I have tentative Spring orders from four players.):

ANK-ROM--Were those NMRs planned?

Woody to Hightower--Blow it out your ass!

Los Angeles to Woody--I didn't think you wanted that held over to the Spring; at any rate, did you have to word it like that?

ANK-VIE--Woody, you're going to lose.

France--I think I'm in trouble.

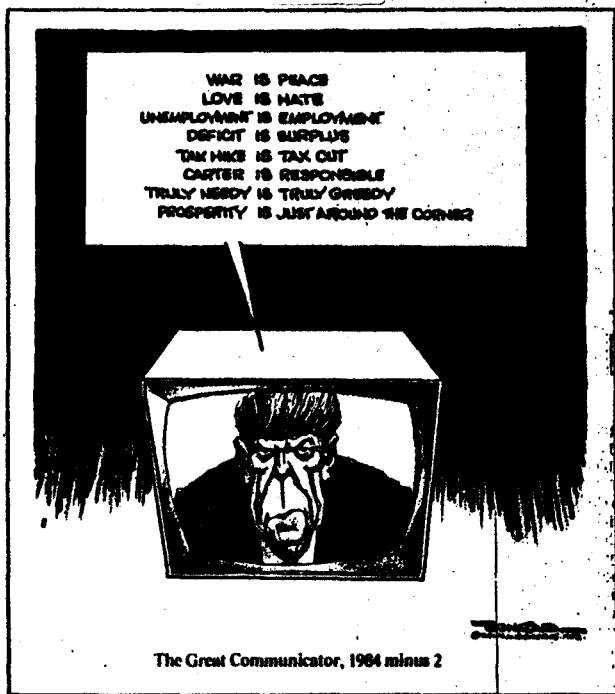
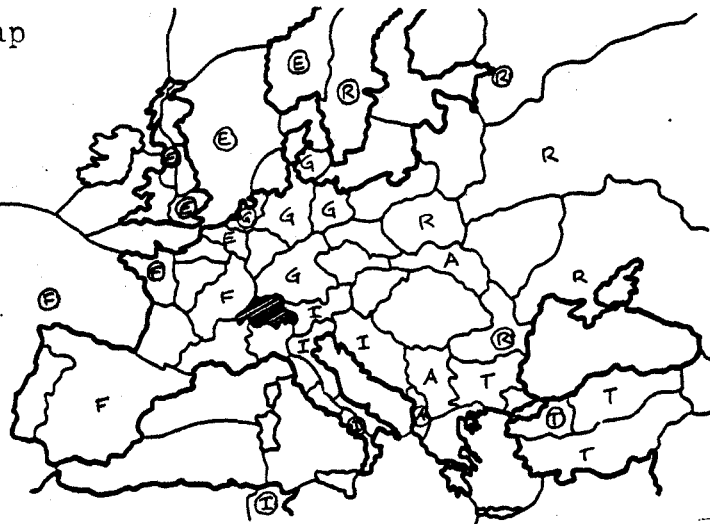
SPRING 1902 orders are due before noon, Tuesday DECEMBER 28! There will be no January Perelandra, due to vacation and USC final exams--but I will get out a game report and then reprint 2 seasons in Feb. Don't wait to send your orders in. Also, I now have everybody's phone, including mine during vacation:

Steve A.: 215-699-7659. Larry M.: 415-441-3302. Blair C.: 604-837-5507.

Dave M.: 502-726-8964. Larry P.: 619-280-2239. Tim B.: 803-233-1657.

Bill H.: 716-266-5859. and Pete G.: 213-947-2766 (748-1267 at school).

I wasn't going to give you guys a map just for Winter, but I'm a softie. Besides, I can use the extra space for a couple of cartoons I've been saving.



"My problem is that no one listens to me anymore, doctor. . . ."

Perelandra 3

WIN \$!\$

In conjunction with Perelandra's first Diplomacy match, 1982HK, and with the recent publication of Years of Upheaval, the Perelandra staff is proud to announce an essay competition on the following topic:

HK: AN INSPIRATION FOR DIPLOMACY PLAYERS should reflect the author's knowledge of Henry Kissinger: the man, his background, his writings, his philosophy, and his potential as the penultimate Diplomacy player type.

Essays will be judged in two categories: Analytical and Humorous. Analytical essays will be judged on the basis of their depth and interpretive quality; humorous works will be judged for their sense of humor, but should present some knowledge of both the man and the game.

There will be a First Prize of \$10 US in each category, and as many Honorable Mention awards as the judges deem worthy. Entries will be judged by a panel consisting of: Larry Peery, editor of Xenogogic; Rod Walker, editor of Diplomacy World; and Pete Gaughan, editor of Perelandra.

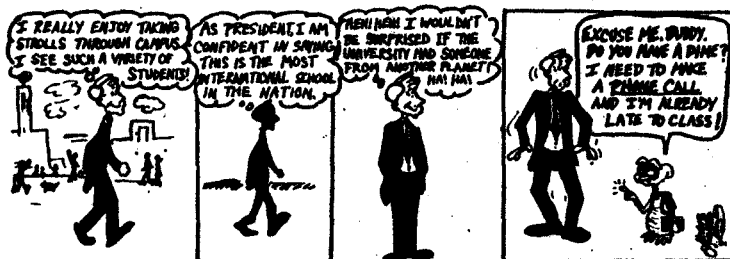
SHAMEFULLY SIMPLE RULES

- I. Essays must be original, between 300 and 4000 words. Essays must be typed, double-spaced, on 8½"x11" paper.
- II. Essays must be mailed to 1982HKEC, 2718 South Hoover #1, Los Angeles CA 90007. A \$1 entry fee is required--if paid by check, make payable to P.J.Gaughan.
- III. Also accompanying the essay should be a SASE (for return of your manuscript) and a separate sheet with the following information:
author's name, address, and daytime phone number
zine from which you learned about the Contest
your codeword or codephrase
This codeword or phrase would appear at the top of the first page of the essay--THE ENTRANT'S NAME MUST NOT APPEAR ON THE ENTRY ITSELF!
- IV. Essays must be received by 1 May 1983. Letters notifying the award winners will be mailed on or about 1 June 1983. First Place and Honorable Mention essays will be published in the summer issue of one of the above publications, and authors will be compensated for such publication.

SPECIAL REQUEST TO PUBLISHERS: Please advertise this contest. We think this could be an effective way to draw out some relatively inactive members of the postal hobby, and introduce some of our ftf comrades to postal zines. Also, the deadlines have been extended so that even busy publishers can try out their creative talents in a new way. Thank you.



This is from the Daily Trojan; the man is the president of USC, James H. Zumberge ("Zumby" to the students).



Perelandra 4

RON BROWN (Ottawa ON)

((This is the letter I couldn't fit last month--but I think you'll like some of Ron's comments.))

Sorry I can't do anything about holding you to your promise to run only two games. It's like a disease. You open one and get 10-12 people wanting to play, so you open another, etc. One gets fooled because Spring '01 adjudications are so easy (I can do that season in me sleep). I swore I'd never run more than two games too, but now look what I've got. ((11 games plus a Bourse.))

You want a bit about me for Perelandra? Okay. I'm 37, married, with a beautiful wee baby boy. I taught high school English in Quebec for nearly 10 years before deciding it was a losing cause, took an early retirement and am using those funds to finance courses in Computer Operations. Love programming--wish I had discovered it years ago. I can't believe people will actually pay me to solve logic problems (which I do in my spare moments anyway). I can solve Rubic's cube in under five minutes. Not world class level, but my fingers are a little old.

((You have spare moments?! I thought you were a teacher? And a publisher.))

In my third year of publishing. Though sometimes it gets to be a drag, basically I enjoy putting out a publication. I always wanted to work in the writing field, so, it's the next best thing.

Taxes in Ontario are much lower than in Quebec. I'm going to miss the country, though.

((I don't think I ever worked as hard in a college class as I did in the one computer class I took last spring--and it was only a two-unit elective! But I wouldn't have put in that effort if I hadn't been challenged by the work. I wanted to use P as a writing outlet too, but I haven't had the time during school to apply myself to any of my projects. I should be able to finish a story by the next issue, February.))

DON WILLIAMS (Redlands CA)

((Don is now publishing a subzine in Steve Langley's Magus, called Fiat Bellum ("let there be war"). Two issues ago he announced openings in Diplomacy and postal Battleship . . .))

One of the reasons I haven't written before now is, quite frankly, I didn't have the Battleship rules in a finished form until early this afternoon. Remember, in FB I was primarily soliciting interest--I didn't dream I would have 6 players in two weeks! (Steve Langley said it would take months!) Also, all four of the games filled together, and with school and family . . . I've been awfully busy.

I'm glad you liked FB, the response has been generally positive (if only my instructors were so impressed--I'm at Cal State San Bernardino).

((I talked to Don by phone since receiving this letter, and I'm looking forward both to playing in his zine and to conversing with his alter ego, Socrates the duck. We're even laying plans to drive up to Sacramento for Magus' ftf con over New Year's Weekend together.))

((A moment's silence here, please, for the University of Notre Dame, whom our illustrious Trojans have just defeated in the last minute, 17 to 13.))

Merelandra 5

The Foundling, by Lloyd Alexander (excerpted)

Guest of Honor

[From last issue: Dallben, the foundling, has accidentally swallowed some of the forbidden liquid.]

Dallben, meanwhile, had swallowed the drops of liquid scalding his fingers. He licked his lips at the taste, sweet and bitter at the same time. And in that instant he began to shake with fear and excitement. All that had been common and familiar in the cottage he saw as he had never seen before.

Now he understood that the leather bellows lying by the hearth commanded the four winds; the pail of water in the corner, the seas and oceans of the world. The earthen floor of the cottage held the roots of all the plants and trees. The fire showed him the secrets of its flame, and how all things come to ashes. He gazed awe-struck at the enchantresses, for such they were.

"The threads you spin, and measure, and cut off," Dallben murmured, "these are no threads, but the lives of men. I know who you truly are."

"Oh, I doubt it," Orddu cheerfully answered. "Even we aren't always sure of that. Nevertheless, one taste of that magical brew and you know as much as we do. Almost as much, at any rate."

"Too much for his own good," muttered Orgoch.

"But what shall we do?" moaned Orwen. "He was such a sweet, innocent little robin. If only he hadn't swallowed the potion! Is there no way to make him unswallow it?"

"We could try," said Orgoch.

"No," declared Orddu. "What's done is done. You know that as well as I. Alas, the dear duckling will have to leave us. There's nothing else for it. So many people, knowing so much, under the same roof? All that knowledge crammed in, crowded, bumping and jostling back and forth? We'd not have room to breathe!"

"I say he should be kept," growled Orgoch.

"I don't think he'd like your way of keeping him," Orddu answered. She turned to Dallben. "No, my poor chicken, we must say farewell. You asked us once about the world? I'm afraid you'll have to see it for yourself."

"But, Orddu," protested Orwen, "we can't let him march off just like that. Surely we have some little trinket he'd enjoy? A going-away present, so he won't forget us?"

"I could give him something to remember us by," began Orgoch.

"No doubt," said Orddu. "But that's not what Orwen had in mind. Of course, we shall offer him a gift. Better yet, he shall choose one for himself."

As Dallben watched, the enchantress unlocked an iron-bound chest and rummaged inside, flinging out all sorts of oddments until there was a large heap on the floor.

[They show him a sword which would demand the obedience of all; a golden harp which plays so beautifully that he would be remembered by the whole world; and a book, dusty and moldering in a leather binding. But the first two gifts hold great trials, so they consider the book:]

"It's a bulky thing for a young lamb to carry. Naturally, it would be rather weighty, for it holds everything that was ever known, is known, and will be known."

"It's full of wisdom, thick as oatmeal," added Orwen. "Quite scarce in the world--wisdom, not oatmeal--but that only makes it the more valuable."

"We have so many requests for other items," Orddu said. "Seven-league boots, cloaks of invisibility, and such great nonsense. For wisdom, practically none. Yet whoever owns this book shall have all that and more, if he likes. For the odd thing about wisdom is the more you use it the more it grows; and the more you share, the more you gain. You'd be amazed how few understand that. If they did, I suppose, they wouldn't need the book in the first place."

[And so he chooses the book. But the greater the treasure, the greater the cost, say the hags. Tune in in February to see how a man fares in the world with nothing

First off, about game openings. There is one more game yet to be filled, and four people have signed up: Barb Burgess, Hector Roybal, Mike Mazzer, and Blair Cusack (Blair, please send \$2). Once again, game fee and NMR deposit are \$2 for subbers, \$5 for nonsubbers. Just as I will not increase my sub rates in the foreseeable future, I don't expect to have to raise these either. Of course, I also don't expect to open another game of RegDip.

GLAD CON: We have four names for sure--myself, Jay Shufeldt, Bill Schiwautz, and one who wishes to remain temporarily anonymous--and three people considering. I must announce, though, that the date may be changed due to circumstances beyond my control. We are still scheduled for 15 Jan, but if indeed I am out of town that day we'll be moved to 22 Jan. I need to hear from you if this isn't convenient, or if you'd like to come but haven't told me yet.

CURRENT EVENTS AND NATIONAL PONTIFICATION: As I typed up the game report, the half-time news was bringing the KKK/antiKKK riot right into my living room. Yes, riot. It is probably harder for me to say than for most, living with some former Watts rioters; but the idea of Americans throwing rocks at police (in exchange for tear gas canisters thrown back), looting bike shops on national tv, or being charged; cavalry-style, by mounted police, should repulse all of us. Apparently the All Peoples' Congress (who staged the 300-strong counterrally to the Klan's 40) wasn't repulsed. Shame on them.

JUDY WINSOME DEPT.: I'm calling this section so because so many Dippers think Judy is a fictional character. I almost did, but three issues of Winsome Losesome have convinced me otherwise. Anyhow, this will be my irregular treatment of 'fakes', and last week I received the best ever: a fake Europa Express. I don't know why I wasn't more suspicious of some layout hints at first, but overall it sounded so much like Gary and just felt like EE that I was fooled until page four! Postmarked Philadelphia and with "comments" or subzines from Michalski and both Byrnes, I think Woody was the ringleader ("mid-monthly issue" indeed!!).

CLASS OF 1982: Speaking of Judy, Scott "Munchkin" Hanson of Minnesota (pubs: Irk-some) has volunteered to run what used to be Glenn Overby's Freshman Class Zine Poll to choose the most popular zine founded in 1982. Scott, thank you! I hope to do well, but getting it done is most important. To that end, here are the Freshman Zines I'm aware of: Damn The Torpedoes (Greg & Daph Fritz); Winsome Losesome (Judy); Perelandra (yours truly); The Modern Patriot (Bill Highfield); No Fixed Address (Steve Hutton); North Sealth West George (Terry Tallman); The Prince (Jim Meinel); and You Know My Name (Look Up The Number) (Keith Sherwood). Also rumored, but unseen, are Vortex, Hansard, and No Name. Any others anyone? Send your ratings (scale: 1=scum to 10=perfect) to Scott by 14 February: 939 SE 18th Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

SPEAKING OF POLLS: Master of blends at work here, folks. If you don't get Diplomacy World, you're a scumbucket. If you do, be sure to check out page 33, issue 32 for a summary of North American Dip polls. Now, I've gotten terrible response (quantity-wise) on the joke contests, so I'll try something else: send me your opinion on this statement:

The Diplomacy hobby should have an 'official' Hobby Pollster, to consolidate Leeder, Dip Player, Marco, Eminent, Freshman, and Gladys-type polls for better publicity and wider response.

There, I've summed up my position. But then, I'm in favor of a more extensive Hobby Nickname Bank, and against any OHO efforts (Official Hobby Organization).

SIGNING OFF: This is a first, a Perelandra with an odd number of pages. I didn't want to subject y'all to a page of space filler just so I could use up the back side of the address page. However, I'm thinking of using that back side for a reply form, kind of like the reader-response cards in some magazines. Anyway, I hope every one of you sits down and writes me at least one note before 1 Feb. And you only had to put up

δύναμις '82

with one paragraph of space filler!

Rod - please read page 3 carefully. I cleared it all with Larry P., but let me know if anything there is inconvenient for you. I'd like to see at least one First Prize winner in DW, since you should be where our best writers turn first (as Buch is so fond of emphasizing). If the deadlines are bad (either for publicity in DW or publishing winners) they're flexible at this stage.

Thanks for your continued good service to all us Dippers.
Say hi to the poodles.

God bless,

Pete

ROMANS 5:5

If you want to keep getting P after my next gamestart, you'll have to send me \$5. Things are getting a little tight. But who knows - the game could fill next week or next year!

the Last Word

Mucius: Herr Galilei, ich . . .

Mr. Galilei, I . . .

Galilei: Sagen Sie nichts von Schwierigkeiten! Ich habe mich von der Pest nicht abhalten lassen, meine Notierungen fortzusetzen.

And don't talk about problems! I didn't permit the plague to stop me continuing my research.

Mucius: Herr Galilei, die Pest ist nicht das schlimmste.

Mr. Galilei, the plague is not the worst (that could happen).

Galilei: Ich sage Ihnen: Wer die Wahrheit nicht weiß, der ist bloß ein Dummkopf. Aber wer sie weiß und sie eine Lüge nennt, der ist ein Verbrecher! Gehen Sie hinaus aus meinem Haus!

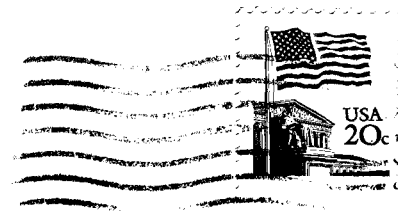
Let me tell you: A man who doesn't know the truth is just an idiot. But a man who knows the truth and calls it a lie is a crook! Get out of my house!

Mucius (tonelessly): Sie haben recht. (Er geht hinaus.)

(tonelessly) You are right. (Exit)

from Bertolt Brecht, Leben des Galilei (Life of Galilei)

PETER J. GAUGHAN
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Los Angeles, CA 90007



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TO: Rod Walker
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My next game start