

The Simarilli

Dedicated to promoting and humanizing the game of Diplomacy

Volume I number 10

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Subs are 8/\$1. But beware of a possible price increase if all the rumors of an increase in postage is true. There are no game openings here now or in the future.

While I generally try to cover the more positive aspects within the hobby, unfortunately there occasionally arises a situation which needs to be brought out. The action is that of Charles Reinsel, and his arbitrary action of throwing Conrad von Metake out of one of the Big Brother games. I will not dignify the reasons that Charles gives for his action, let it just be said that they in no way relate to the game in question. There is no excuse for an action like this on the part of a game master letting his personal bias interfere with the running of a game. Unfortunately there is little we can do to correct this situation, other than urge people not to join in any of Charles' games. Some people in the games now running have resigned in protest. I would also, except for the fact that I had already resigned from the Big Brother game I was in. Hopefully people in the hobby will just ignore Charles and urge people not to join his games, and eventually he will go back where he came from. Because that is about all we can do.

At this point I haven't decided if I will print the ballot for the Calhauer Awards. If I don't print the ballots I will print the results. The reason that I probably wouldn't print the ballots is that it will be too late for any of you to fill them out and get them back. The procedure was as follows, all game masters were given the opportunity to nominate people, sines, and press releases. Then ballots were mailed to all GMs so that they could distribute them, and everyone is eligible to vote. The results will be announced at the DIPCON.

Table of Contents: The Home Front-2, 72AO-3, 72EI-3, 72ER-4, 72ES-4, 72EV-5, 72FH-6, 73U-7, 73CW-7, 73Et-8, 73It-8, M⁸-9, The Room-10, The Professional Moderator-11

THE HOME FRONT

Well, you people are really beautiful, putting up with some of the boners I've pulled in the last couple of issues. I don't know how you put up with me, but thank you. I hope that I shall live up to your faith.

I think that maybe we've got the mail problem fixed up. I've decided to skip the middle man and now take the mail up to Indianapolis Tuesday morning. It seemed to work last time so I'll stay with it. There was a little problem with one issue put into the Bloomington mailbox 4/24 and being postmarked 5/4. As of right now I think that we'll stay with four week deadlines. There was a big response to the question of deadlines. Two people said that four weeks was fine. One person mentioned in passing that he liked two week deadlines the best. I think that most people who are in more than a couple of games don't really care since they generally get one or two a week (unless you're one of the fools like me who get 4-5/week). If you are only in one or two games, then I can understand why you might get impatient. I can remember waiting for the mail to get here to find out the results. All I can say is just learn to be patient.

Next issue I'll start on the articles on MEIV. I'm waiting until the first season for the new MEIV game so that I wouldn't possibly interfere with the game. One time someone ran an article on a Franco-German alliance at the same time in the zine I was Germany and was getting an alliance with France against England. We had England off balance because he didn't know quite what was happening, until he noticed that our moves were the same as in the article, what upset me was that I hadn't even read the article.

After a horrible spring I think that summer is finally here. I've turned on my air conditioner for the first time and left it running. It's a nice change from all the damn rain that we had for a while. The Indy 500 was delayed for two days because of the rain.

I knew that there was something else I was going to mention, one person could a little upset when I didn't print his press release. As I've said before and as in the house rules, propaganda is fine subject to the laws of slander (or is it libel) and good taste. If I decide that something isn't in good taste, that's it. I'm a pretty lenient person, so most people should have no problem. But be forewarned, if it's completely tasteless and without any redeeming quality, then it wouldn't make it.

I was going to mention how my typing and spelling had improved but I started looking over this page at the mistakes I got and those I didn't and decided that I better not start bragging. Although I do think that there is a definite improvement.

Let's see I have a little space and time left before I go see Dirty Harry. I remember that a guy once tried to tell me that it was movies like Dirty Harry that got us into Viet Nam. His reasoning was that they were so violent. The thing that got me was that the same person told me how much he liked Clockwork Orange. I haven't seen Clockwork Orange but have seen enough reviews to get the general understanding of the story. To this day I haven't been able to understand how Clockwork Orange was so good, but Dirty Harry was too violent.

THE GAMES

The Deadline for all games is July 6, 1973, 12:00 noon CST

1972AO Spring 04

Austria(Eller): A Vie S A rum-Gal, A Con S Ita A smy-Ank, F Aeg S A Con,
A rum-Gal, A Boh S Ita A ven-Tyr, A bul-Rum, A Ser S A bul-Rum
England(Pohrte): F ska-Nwy, F Swe S F ska-Nwy, A Den S Fra F Kie H, F Nth S
F ska-Nwy, A Lon H
France(Verheiden): F bre-Mao, F eng-Iri, F Kie H, F mao-Nat, A Ruh S F Kie H,
A Hol-bel, A Bur-bel, A spa-Gas
Germany(Dick): F ber-Bal
Italy(Winter): A ven-Tyr, F nap-Apu, A smy-Ank, F Eas C A Gre-Syr/nso/,
A Gre-smy/imp/, F Ion C A Gre-syr/nso/
Russia(Blandin): NMR, A War H, F StPsc H, F Nwy H/r/ Nwg, Otb/, A Mun H,
A Sev H, F Arm H
Turkey(Vagts): F Ela H

Fred Winter's new address: 5912 Sugarbuck
Biscandale, Wis
83129

The deadline for Fall 04 is July 6, 1973. I'm sorry for the delay in getting your copies of TS to you last time. What happened was that I got Eric's orders just before I sent out the issues, so I decided to hold yours a day so that I could get the moves to you. Somewhere in my room your copies got lost and when I did the moves I just mailed them seperately. Then I found your copies ata later date.

Wayne Ianham, 900 W Spring Valley Rd, Apt 197, Richardson, Texas, 75080 is asked to submit orders for Russia. I am sure that the problem is that Larry gets involved with the DIFCON at this time of the year. Hopefully he will be back with us next season, but Wayne will cover in case he doesn't.

1972EI Spring 03

Austria(Glidden): A Gal S A bud-Rum, A bud-Rum, A Ser S A bud-Rum/r/Bud, Otb/,
F Alb-tri
England(Kutta): F NwgS F nth-Nwy, F nth-Nwy, F eng-Nth
France(Haehnel): A Gas H, A Par H, A por-Spa, F mao-Eng, F Pic S F mao-Eng
Germany(Walker): A War-liv, F Swe S Eng F nth-Nwy/r/Ska, Bal, Bot, Otb/,
A Hol S A Bel, A Bel H, A Sil-war, A mun-Tyr, A Ser-sil, F kie-Den
Italy(Schleinkofer): F ion-Adr, A Tun H, A Ven-tri, F nap-Ion
Russia(Carlson): A Liv-war, A Fin S F my-Swe, A rum-Ser, F Sev-rum, F my-Swe
Turkey(Dick): F Gre-alb, F Sny-con, F Aeg C A Con-gre, A Bul S Rus A rum-Ser,
A Con-gre

The deadline for Fall 03 is July 6, 1973. Tim Kutta has a new address: 112 Susquehanna Ave, Lock Haven, Pa, 17745. Also Tim has been called up for reserve duty and will be out of touch for six weeks. He has left orders to cover while he is gone.

Press

ROME; Mar 21, 1903: Because all messgaes sent to Vienna have been ignored, it is assumed by the Italian government that Austria's leaders are not friendly to Italy, thus the army in Venice is ordered to take Trieste. It is hoped by Italy that Turkey will co-operate in the destruction of Austria.

ANKARA, April 30: The Emperor expressed his dismay at the continuing deterioration of the Russian armed forces. He expressed his deepest hope that the Russians would not lay down their arms and surrender. "If the Russians surrender, the balance of power in Northern Europe would be greatly unbalanced," the Emperor said.

"The Germans, it appears will be the victors in Northern Europe," he added, "the French have lost Burgundy and will soon be in a pickle. The English are probably allied with the Germans but are weak at this point and might well watch for a German stab. The Italians are still a question." The Emperor then got up and left for a little joy in his harem.

There was a slight mixup in the listing of the German units. The listing I had was from Fall 02 before the correction. Sorry if anyone didn't catch it.

1972ER Spring 03

Austria(Lancaster): A try-Vie, A Bud S A tyr-Vie, A Gre-ser/r/Alb, Otb/
 England(McKeon): F Nth S Fra A bur-Bel, F den-Swe, F nwg-Bar, A Nwy H/r/Fin, Otb/
 F edi-Nwg
 France(Chin): F por-Spa(sc), F Pic S A bur-Bel, A bur-Bel, A par-Bur, A boh-Sil
 Germany(Lind): A Ber S A Mun, A Mun H, A Ruh-bel, A kie-Den, F Hol-nth
 Italy(Stuart): A Tri S Rus A Gal-vie/nso/, A Ven S A Tri, F ion-Adr, F Tyr S
 F nap-Ion, F nap-Ion
 Russia(Fleming): A Stp S F swe-Nwy, F swe-Nwy, A Gal-bud, A Ukr-gal, F Sev H
 Turkey(DePrisco): A Rum-ser, A Bul S F aeg-Gre, F Bla-rum, F aeg-Gre, F con-Aeg

The deadline for Fall 03 is July 6, 1973.

Press

ITALIAN GRENEDIER: The Italian government has proclaimed its intention of freeing all provinces currently held under Austrian tyranny. The former Habsburgh provinces themselves are to be made free and independent states, while the government declares its willingness to recognize all German acquisitions as under sovereign German rule.

DEUTSCHE WEHRPFLICHT: The indiscretion of Italy is excused completely especially since his fears did not develop.

"WUT UND BLUT": Growing dissatisfaction is rumored in France. German military agents hope to reach agreements with France before it is too late.

1972ES Winter 02

Austria(Truman): R F Alb, R A Vie	Has:	A Tri, A Tyr
England(Facer): R F Nwy		A Wal, F Nth, F Nwg
France(Metcalf): B F Bre, B F Mar		F Bre, F Mar, A Spa, A Bel
		F Eng
Germany(Moriarty): B A Ber		A Ber, A Hol, A Mun, A Swe
		, F Bal, F Den, A Ber
Italy(Fultz):NMR one short		A Pie, A Ven, F Tyr
Russia(Novak): Stands Pat		F Nwy, F StPnc, A Bud,
		A Rum, A Liv, A Mos, F Bla
Turkey(Jarvis): B F Smy, B A Con		F Smy, A Con, F Ion, A Ser
		A Gre

The deadline for Spring 03 is July 6, 1973. The Italian retreats were

made by an unknown person. Tom Keller, 317 E 12th St, New Albany, Ind 47150 is asked to submit orders for Italy in case Matt doesn't rejoin us.

Press

VIENNA: With great sorrow the King today announced that the Austrian Royal Fleet and the First Bohemian army were to be disbanded due to heavy losses. After staging great battles against the Russians, the Turks, and the Italians, The Austrian forces have been pushed back by sheer numbers. The King also announced that the rest of the Austrian forces would soon also be disbanded. Nonetheless, they shall fight on to the end against the deceitful scum descending from all sides.

MOSCOW: In his annual State of the Empire address today, the Czar made the following statements: 1st-That the attempt to move the Black Sea Fleet failed on account of the Czar's running out of hot air. 2nd- That though Sweden was lost, it is part of the price of the Lock Nessies. 3rd- That next winter the Czar hopes to vacation on the sunny beaches of Trieste. 4th-Finally maybe, couldn't we hear from France just once.

1972EV Spring 03

First a note on what happened to Russia last season. The dear post office did it again. Eldon's TS was delayed and I got his orders just after I sent out the last TS. Unfortunately I forgot to notify you about the retreats. They were A Rum-Ukr, F Swe-Bot. With the exception of Tom Keller no one seemed to worry about it too much, so hopefully no one's orders were missed up. Sorry about the mistake.

Austria(coop): A Rum-sev, A Bud S A Ser-tri, A Ser-tri

England(Lowrance): F nwg-Bar, F ska-Swe, F Nth C A lon-Nwy, F mac-Nat,
A swe-Liv, A lon-Nwy

France(Lanham): F eng-Mao, A par-Bre, F Iyo C A spa-Tus, A map-Pie, A spa-Tus

Germany(Keller): F Den H, F Bal C Eng A swe-Liv, A Ber-sil, A mun-Tyr,

A Vie S A mun-Tyr, A Kie-ber

Italy(Prasse): A Tri S A Ven-tyr, A Ven-tyr, F Adr S A Tri, F ion-Tun, F nap-Tyr

Russia(Nichol): F Bot-bal, A Pru-sil, A war-Gal, A Ukr-sev

Turkey(Davies): A gre-Alb, A bul-Gre, F Aeg S A con-Bul, F Eas S F Aeg, A con-Bul

The deadline for Fall 03 is July 6, 1973.

Press

VATICAN CITY: The pope has decided that, after performing suitable penance, the king of England will be eligible to have his excommunication rescinded. The pope will under no circumstances refuse absolution to any penitent christian. The king has already returned Brest to the French. He should next return to them the mid-atlantic ocean. If the English king will abstain from building any new units this year, and allow the French to occupy London for as long as the English occupied Brest, he shall be forgiven. (FISEIN)

LONDON: Lord Bulachita is pleased to announce that English units are now in sight of both Moscow and Petrograd. After discussing the Russian need for a warm water port, it is our intention to venture to Rome to discuss a little religion with Pope Pompous.

MOSCOW: The Czar hopes that England will greet the news of the disbanded fleet at St Petersburg with good will and call off all aggression on Russia.

VIENNA: We give up (gave up?)!!

SPECIAL NOTE TO GERMANY: If you bums go to Tyrolia, you are next on my list.

1972FH Spring 02

Yea, finally, some mistake on the post office's part let some needed copies of TS get through to Gerald. So we can finally get this game moving. I'm sorry about the delay, and let us hope and even pray that there is no futher problem with the mail.

Austria(Huang): A bud-Rum, A Tri H, A Ser S A bud-Rum, F alb-Gre

England(Ray): F edi-Nwg, F Lon-nth, A Bel S Fra A bur-Ruh, F Nth-hol, F nwy-Ska

France(Riepl): A Par S A mar-Bur, A mar-Bur, A bur-Ruh, A spa-Mar, F por-Mao

Germany(Barents): F kie-Hel, A Mun-bur, A Ruh-bel/r/Kie, Otb/, A Hol S A Ruh-bel
F Den-nth

Italy(DePrisco): F nap-Ion, A Ven H, A Tun H, F ion-Aeg

Russia(Bennett): A war-Ukr, A Mos S A Sev, A Sev H, F bot-Swe

Turkey(Wood): A con-Bul, A Rum S A Arm-sev/r/ Gal, Otb, F Ela S A Arm-sev, A Arm-sev

The deadline for Fall 02 is July 6, 1973.

Press

STINKHOLE: The Woodies and Bare Ents met again to discuss the futures of Herr Iker of Hill. As a spokesman said, "It is all down hill for Him."

It was decided that something would be done very soon about this. One thing is certain, Hill will have to get rid of that transportation vehicle known as the Central Region Rag.

BLOOMINGGULTCH: The reason that Herr Iker might have to get rid of the CR² is that the Bare Ent is jealous because he doesn't have such a vehicle. But then everyone knows that Bare Ents doesn't need such things. They're so full of hot air that they float.

DEROT, MEGANER: The Woodies and the Bare Ents held another meeting on the eve of that great religious holiday, April 1st.(That shows how long these orders have been sitting in the files) They waited patiently for the Iker of the Valley to show up, but that was apparently an idle threat. Rumors speculated throughout the enclave asto why the Iker wasn't in Esing. Speculation varies from" He must have got shot by some Honkie who didn't like his sweatshirt" to "Maybe he started hanging around with Alice and his snake. At any rate, since the Iker didn't show up to defend his reputation, the gathering decided to revoke his membership in the Magical Order of Wombats and other such strict disciplinary measures. If he promises to be a good Iker and stay in the valley, a new trial will be help this summer.

BLOOMINGGULTCH:"As has been said before, I am the Iker of Hill. Wombats indeed, they'll learn of the magic of the Iker before this is over. There's one thing about starting out in the Valley, the only way to go is up." With those words the Iker of Hill started the long trek back up to his rightful position. He hadn't walked more than five yards when he fell into a deep pit.

ROME: When it was learned here that all the available Rice Krispies in Italy were shipped off to parts unkown by Cap'n Crunch, the Italian press corps went on strike. Until the strike is settled, or more Rice Krispies are put on the market, there will be no more press releases originating out of Italy.

NAPLES: The Italian second fleet hastily sailed out of port recently without proper supplies when the city's sewer system failed suddenly. Many experts believe this came as a direct result of the elections now under way for the mayorship

and other key city posts. With all the bull being spread by word of mouth and through circulars, the ancient sewer system, constructed under the reign of Mayor Omy Aikenhead, uses two inch pipes and empties into the Naples harbor. When the odor of rotten campaign pledges became too strong to stomach, the fleet set sail. One amusing aspect of the incident is that the war ministry in Rome knows nothing of the hastened departure due to the current press strike.

BLOOMINGGULTCH: That explains how come the Washington DC water never tasted too good.

1973U Winter 01

Austria (Callagher): B A Vie, B A Tri
 England (Ryder): B F Lon, B F Edi
 France (Nashnel): B A Bre, B A Par, B F Mar

Germany (Nagle): B A Kie
 Italy (Scroggie): B A Ven
 Russia (Schill): A War
 Turkey (Lindauer): B F Smy

Has:

A Vie, A TRI, A Bud, A Ser, F Gre
 F Lon, F Edi, F Nwy, A Hol, F Nth
 A Bre, A Par, F Mar, A Spa, F Por
 A Bel
 A Kie, F Den, A Mun, A Ber
 A Ven, A Tun, F Ion, A Tus
 A War, F Rum, F Bot, A Stp, A Sil
 F Smy, A Bul, A Con, F Aeg

The deadline for Spring 02 is July 6, 1973. On Italy's orders he had two builds, so the first one was used.

Press

TURKEY: The Sultan would once again like to say that Turkey does not want war and has nothing against any of it's European neighbors. The Turks have done everything in thier power to secure peace in Europe, and now it is up to Turkey's neighbors to determine what the Turkish course of action will be. Although Turkey wants peace, if attacked, we are prepared for war, and shall not hesitate to counterattack immediately. Peace!

WARSAW: The rebellion continues in Russia. The whole nation is in chaos. Vast pillars of smoke rise from the countryside, where the progress of the past two decades lie in flames. The unburies are many in the west, plague and famine once again roam this huge nation. What little hope there was earlier this year was shattered in the military reversals bred in the confusion. Only the soldiers have food, yet their officers desert by the day in growing numbers. Rumor has it that the English will support the rebels. The northern forces are at one third strenght. These reasons and more have caused the Tsar to leave St Petersburg, the war camp will be in Moscow until the expected Austrian attack hits, a camp is under construction in the Urals for a list-Ditch defense. Freedom to Mother Russia!

TALLIN: Despite the student unrest the Russian chess championship will be help as planned.

BUDAPEST: Thousnads of Bulgarian patriots poured into this captial today crying of Turkish atrocitites. Apparently angry at the communications mess caused by a few Bulgarian children with the Turkish Bell System credit cards, the Turks have retaliated by strangling everyone in Bulgaria with a telephone in their home. Rumor has it that at first the Sultan was going to order the same actions be taken in Turkey until he noticed that his phone was the only one listed in the phone book.

1973CW

The last game to start in these hallowed pages for some time. Spring 01 deadline is July 6, 1973.

Austria: Howard Foote, 2500 Windsor Mall, Apr 1E, Park Ridge, Ill, 60068
England: Darrel Glidden, RR#1, Nashville, Ind, 47448
France: Rich Stuart, 6760 Michael, Cincinnati, Oh, 45243
Germany: George Lowrance, 3722 Mary Mont, San Antonio, Tex, 78217
Italy: Michael Lott, 1023 Leeward Ave, Charleston, SC, 29412
Russia: Wallace Neslund, Box 276 Melrose Hall, Knoxville, Tenn, 37916
Turkey: Laurie Van De Graf, 37343 Glenbrook Dr, Mt Clemens, Mi, 48043

1973Et Coire 01

	Has:
Angmar(Nelson): Stands Pat	A Glad, A N Mirk, A Cara
Arnor(Haehnel): B A Arth, B A Card	A Arth, A Card, F Gret H, A ereg A Rhud
Gondor(Clamen): B F Belf, B A Anor, B A Lebi	F Belf, A Anor, A Lebi, A Haro A Ith, A Fang
Harad(Larson): NMR one short	F Bay B, A Khand, A N Har
Mordor(Lancaster): stands Pat	A Nurn, A Ephel, A Barad
Rhovanion(Schill): B A Mirk, B A Esga, B A Wild	A Mirk, A Esga, A Wild, A Rhun A Dol G, A Lorien

The deadline for Tuile 02 is July 6, 1973. You will notice that there was a fleet built this winter. I can find nothing in the rules to rule otherwise. Herb, perhaps you could drop me a note saying why you don't think they should be built.

Press

ASH NAZG FREE PRESS AND FEAR MINISTRY: OUCH!

LOTR OFFICIAL WAR PRESS CO., INC., UNLIMITED: With a hot looking war developing between the Elves and the Dark Lord, those in Harad and Angmar are screwing up bad, and Arnor and Gondor are so far unscratched. On with the war and Harad and Angmar can stick it.

1973Yt Coire 00

MORDOR: I, the evil Sauron, will burn and pillage my way into supreme power in the whole of Middle Earth. My armies are invincible and my alliances subtle. (and temporary. SNICKER) There is no power able to withstand my onslaught. You are all doomed. Generous surrender terms offered. (offered but not fulfilled)

MIRKWOOD: I have lost a gold ring. It has great Sentimental value. Anyone knowing the where abouts of this would please notify me. If I find that you withheld this information I will be forced to take forcable action.

?: After twenty years of wangling dangles and tweaking tracheas, I finally discovered my purpose in life: God put me on this earth to punish unscrupulous Diplomacy players.

MINAS TIRITH(24 Hisime 3000): King Tricidicil had a scowl on his face as he sat in the throne room. "What news, Ecthelion my steward?"

"Your Majesty, this book I've been reading is so bad it's funny! It's called Lord of the Bombs, and it takes place in an imaginary world-"

"Why can't people live in the real world? It's a disgrace."

"-called Planet Earth. The plot is about these so called "H-bombs" that can blow up whole cities and-" he paused to laugh " the countries have ridiculous names like USA, USSR, and Red China." They were both laughing now "but the silliest thing is the name of the ruler of the USA. He's called- can you believe this-

Tricky Dick."

"Tricky Dick! That's the funniest thing I've heard all day." He laughed for five minutes and then suddenly sat bolt up right, stopped, and glared with rage at the steward, who was cowering in terror.

MINAS TIRITH(25 Hisime 3000): King Tricidicil had a scowl on his face as he sat in the throne room, "What news, Denethor, my steward."

"Ecthelion, the ex-steward reports from his patrol in the Dead Marshes that Mt Doom has burst into flames and the Haradrim are on the march. And I have it from reliable sources that strange things are stirring in Mirkwood, the Witch-King of Angmar has returned there to head his armies, and the Sackville-Baggins are making trouble in the Shire again."

"This news bodes ill. I shall see what Coire brings to decide how the press war shall be conducted."

Please notice my remarks concerning the building of fleets from the other MEIV game. I think that I had told one person earlier otherwise. The deadline for Tuile 01 is July 6, 1973.

*

*

I've had a request to start an MEII game. I'm going to wait and see how well John Biehl does in getting his section of MEII filled and going. If he doesn't have any problems then I might consider starting a section, but I'll wait.

*

*

M^a

From James Massar in " ", it seems like the rebels finally got up to those dirty Carpetbaggers. It seems that Steve Bell's Carpetbagger is no longer. We are waiting to hear more definite news on this, mostly from Conrad that the game I am in has been transferred. It's too bad, I liked Carpetbagger. I'm also interested in the fate of my \$4 game deposit.

*

I interested to see how the Old and New Lions game in HA works out with having no Winter season as is normally done. Instead Spring moves will just be conditional upon Winter builds. The first couple of years this could be a little tricky, but after that I can see no reason why it shouldn't work out. This would cut done on the time involved for a game. The only time where would be a problem is when you would have several retreats plus builds for a country or a couple of countries close together. But then you could delay the turn one season. If this method was used it would mean that for TS one game year would take eight weeks. This would mean for the average game it would be 88 weeks or one year 9 months, plus any delays due to post office, vacations, ect. Any comments on this would be welcomed.

*

I'm sitting here trying to think what else I had to put in here, but I can't remember what it was. Nor can I find it. As is per normal for a publishing weekend I have zines and letters piled up on three seperate desks and file drawers. Plus about four weeks accumulation of paper backs. Since I generally read about six-ten per week, they pile up fast. So if any of you are expecting a letter from me concerning something, never expect to come about the same time as TS. It's going to take me a day just to clean out this place, then another day going through the files and making sure that I've got all my moves in that I'm supposed to have it. Then another day to recover when I find out that I missed my moves in the three or four games which I'm on top, correction was on top.

The Room

I got the idea for this from an article in " " some months ago. I liked it because it goes along with my ideas of letting you all have some idea of who this nut is behind the typewriter. Right now I am in THE ROOM, or as my wife calls it YOUR ROOM. She refuses to have anything to do with it, which is fine because the few times she has tried to do anything with it, it took me about a month to get all the dust and dirt back into place.

It started out as my study, but that idea died fast. It slowly turned into the war room. The first thing one notices is the poster of W.C.Fields on the door. Probably one of the best comics in the world, WC is my man. On the right hand wall are three Middle Earth map posters, one poster for the Questor Grand Prix of 3/28/73 which I acquired at the Mid-Ohio Can Am a couple of years ago. There is a nice soft overstuffed chair which is used for periods of deep concentration. Going on we come to first of two file cabinets which is quickly be overloaded. The top of it serves as the proper place to put everything which I drag out of the files to use and don't bother to put back for several weeks. And then I wonder why I can't find said article in the file. My desk is just a small corner desk which barely manages to hold my typewriter, plus a couple of small card files, envelopes, calenders, and stamp stock books filled with address labels, and mounds of used type correction tape. On the wall in front of the desk is one Middle Earth calender, a five dollar bill, which I managed to get from Coop, three sheets of paper with addresses for all the games I'm in so that I don't have to look up addresses everytime I want to write someone, a conference map of the regular board, a small map of the SSIII map, a map for MEIV, and the front cover of Armo #15.

Hanging a left turn we come to second file cabinet. On top of it is one of those desk organizer. You know the kind, on the box they show the picture of this nice neat desk with everything in its place. From there we (you might notice that I didn't bother to say anything else about the organizer, I'll let you figure out why) hit two combination book shelves and drawers. Pasted on the side nearest the desk is a picture of Michael Pollard, another one of my favorite stars. If you have to ask who is Michael J Pollard, forget it. On one book shelve we have my hard bound military history books, another paper backs of the same type. Theother two contain hard bound political sceince books plus some misc types. One drawer holds a pile of past war game zines and rules for SFI games, another contains three reams of paper and whats left of my stamp collection. The other two drawers contain my past issues of Playboy. On top of all this are the following: one empty half quallon of Calverts, another of Meister Brau, six empty wine bottles, one three D chess board (I get a headache every time I tyr and figure that out), and one picture of my wife in her wedding dress.

Turning another left we hit six bookshelves on the wall, put up by yours truly. Originally designed for holding paper backs on European and American history, contemporary politics, traditional political sceince, and some sociology, they now have a better purpose. They are used to hold up maps of some varients I'm in so that I don't have to get out the board everytime I get the game results. The only problemis with the thumb tacks which decide to attack my feet. Against the wall is another chair but it is put out of use because of the maps and is now used to hold any books which I don't feel like putting away. In the corner is a table with a set of Encyclopedia Americana which I use for light reading. Don't laugh, I read them so that if I every get the chance to go to New York I can go on the game shows and win a fortune.

Again like Indy we turn left, (which reminds me, was it the Polish racing time that became the first team to turn left at Indy, while in the Cannon Ball Baker and lost the race, no that wasn't them. I remember what happened to them.

They came to a toll bridge which had a sign saying, "Pay Toll 50¢." Well they spent five hours looking for the toll under the bridge to pay him his 50¢. They all remembered their stories from their childhood about the tolls that lived under the bridges. Enough ethnic slurs, of course you really can't say that it is a slur since it assumed that they could read the sign, which is a compliment.) Where were we, oh yes turning left. Once again there are bookshelves on the wall holding some hard backs, but now doing a more important job holding up two Youngstown variants. Finally we have a closet which besides holding some clothes, (I don't know how they got there) holds my record collection, golf clubs, gym bag with my handball equipment, a papersack with 32 boxes of envelopes(they were on sale). At the top are two shelves containing at last count 42 games, (I'm afraid to look up there now, I think that they grow).

In the middle of the room is a low table containing THE game board. It normally rests on top of two or three other game boards which I'm playing with. I have some sheets of plexeglass which keep everything in shape.

Just forgot, between the second file cabinet and the first bookshelve is the furnace register which generally contains the pieces to my chess set. I bought a magnetic set so I could keep track of the game I'm playing with John DePrisco, and I figured that I could stick it on the side of the metal file cabinet. Unfortunately I didn't figure that everytime I slammed the drawer hard it would fall off.

If everything were in its place things wouldn't be too bad, but they generally collect in stacks. For instance, There is a stack beside my desk which contains the following from top to bottom: one miniture ship, the H.M.S Royal George, some stencils, bond paper, issue of Impassable, Don't give up the ship-sailing miniture rules, latest S&T, issue of Moneysworth, The Foundation Trilogy by Asimov, rules and counters for PEI, Bored of the Rings, rules and counters for NOARD, a four inch high stack of war game zines, Hardtack, Fast Rules, Wargamers Guide to Afrika Korps, my commission schedule for work, rules and materials for Starlord, another couple of inches of war game zines, my hardbound copies of LORD, Savage Pellucidar by Burroughs, and a copy of Business Law by Lusk, Hewitt, Donnell, and Barnes. Now that I have the spot where all this was nice and cleaned off, I guess I could start picking up the floor where this all has ended up.

If I've bored you with the last page and a half, too bad.

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The Professional Moderator

Rick Loomis

Recently I read a Diplomacy magazine which had a short article on moderators. He was discussing "professionalism" in moderating, and he was against it. It struck me at the time that someone ought to define "professional" and "amateur" moderating before a discussion is started about which is best.

An Amateur is someone who moderates multi-player pbm games as a hobby. But he makes his living doing something other than wargaming (like working, or going to school). No matter how good he is, or how much time he spends on his moderating he has to eat, and therefore for his other job comes first. He will most likely give more personal service than the professional and almost certainly will charge less. He may get his games out on time nearly all the time, but sometimes he will have to work overtime at his job, or take his final exams at school. You don't have the right to demand that he always be on time, as he has other obligations too. If he is a good moderator, he will have more requests for games than he can handle, and he is doing you a favor by running your game for you. Treat him well.

The professional moderator is someone who makes his living (hopefully) running wargames. He can't spend a lot of time writing friendly letters to all his players, but his games should be prompt. His games will cost more (after all, he has to eat) but he can start a game whenever there are enough players to fill it, and he must put the game above everything else. In order to make enough money to get by, he will have to have many hundreds of players. Thus you can play as many games as you like, and always meet new people and new strategies. His business is SERVICE, so if you don't like something he is doing, tell him.

So, as a player, you can look for a professional moderator who will run as many games as you want, whenever you want, as fast as you want, and charge you for it. Or you can look for an amateur who will make you wait for an opening and may be slow sometimes, but he wouldn't charge you much, and will recognize your voice over the phone.

As far as I know, I am the only professional moderator of pbm games (by this definition). I run wargames full time, every day. I am expending my full energies providing service for wargames. But if you want it, you gotta pay for it. Fair enough?

Both Rick and myself would be interested in any comments you might have on the subject. Rick's address is P.O.Box 1467, Scottsdale, Ariz, 85252

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Attention Burt Labelle, I got my James Gang album out of my closet and I definitely like it. While it's not up to the Beatles, it is in the top list. A couple of other cuts that I like to listen to on headphones are 'Street Fighthen Man' by the Stones, and 'I'm a Man' on Chicago's CTA album.

*

One of the hardest parts of this thing to do is the last section where I sign off as the case may be. I normally try to leave on a down beat. Well, I can't think of too much right now, so I'll just slowly flad away into the night. See you at DIPCON.

Yours,

Chic
Chic

Larry: Haven't seen my Ken #2.
Ch

Check out Page _____
Boy are you a loser, if for no other reason than the fact that I know you _____

Chic Hilliker
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Bloomington, Ind
47401



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