

TAU CETI
PHOENIX

LAD
DOUBLE

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST SUMMER
PUBLICATION # WBH1358

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE

MIS

SPECIAL
MACHO BULL-
SHIT ISSUE:

WHY HEMMINGWAY
WAS A WIMP.

RUSSIA: WHY THE
GOVERNMENT HASN'T
SENT RAMBO IN TO
START WORLD WAR 3

245 WAYS TO KILL
MEN, WOMEN, DOGS,
CATS AND FISH.

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EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES



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EDITBAFFLE

Guess what. I finally bought a manual for the word processing program I use with the zine. Along with other things, it gave full instructions for using the spelling checker program and mail merge utility that I also discovered I had. A result of this is a different, more controlled format used in this issue.

A rearrangement of certain programable features means that I can now add super and subscripts, even though it is by an indirect method. Hopefully, after its been photocopied, it won't look like some obscure blob. This issue is photocopied on a Minolta which gives the best results. I have no idea what the next issue will be printed on, as I may no longer be in Perth, but down at Albany.

As of writing I still don't know whether or not I've obtained a position of Regional Hardware Controller at the Albany office. Such a position would be a major step for me. Not only would I be in a position which would pay twice my current pay, but the move to Albany would get me out from home. I'd have some experience at living on my own (something I lack at the moment) before I trot off to Europe. Still, best not to count my chickens before they hatch.

I didn't win GUFF. Irwin Hirsch did and I'm glad he did. I have the feeling that the trip report he'll write will be interesting to say the least, if Larrikinis anything to judge by.

Lots of letters this issue. Not surprising considering the content of the last issue. There is a fine art to editing LOCs. If you cut too much from the letter, you lose content and meaning. If you cut too little, it doesn't look edited at all. Another practice is chopping the letter into bits and putting the bits under subject headings. I was tempted to do this however I feel that this can be just as bad as misquoting or quoting out of context. the truth is I guess, that I do this just as much any other fanned. It seems an inevitable part of a loc column. The difference I hope you will notice, is that I tell you about it.

TAU CETI PHOENIX: <===INDEX===> APOCRYPHA

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Art: LAD - Covers, Alien jokes & America's Cup joke.

Doug Miles - Illos on pages A24 & TCP 31

William Rotster - Pages A4, A8, A10.

THE PERISHERS is ripped off from the West Australian

THE WIZARD OF ID is ripped off from The Daily News

DIPLOMACY:D2

GAME D2 : AUTUMN 1906 : FRENCH MILITARY DRUNK AGAIN!

FRANCE
Krnbrg

ENGLAND
Ferstat

RETREATS

A:Mun s A:Tyr

A:Boh-Vie

A:Gal-Vie

A:Tyr s A:Mun=Boh

A:Ven_Tri#

A:Nap s F:IOS-Apu

(F)IOS stand

F:TYS-Rom

F:GOL-WMS

F:Tun-IOS

A:Liv s A:Stp-Mos

A:Pru-War

A:War-Ukr

A:StP-Mos

F:SKA-NTH

F:BAR stand

F:GOB stand

F:BAS stand

F:NTH-HEL

A:Ven Tus

RUSSIA

Harvey

A:Mos stand

A:Smy-Arm

A:Con-Bul

F:Rum s A:Con

-Bul

A:Sev s A:Mos

AUSTRIA

Nicholls

A:Apu-Ven

A:Bud-Gal

A:Tri s A:Apu-Ven

A:Bul-Gre

F:Gre-Alb

A:Vie s A:Bud-Gal

A:Pie-Ven

A:Lon stand

CONTROL

F:Bre Par Mar Spa Por Bel Mun Tun Nap

Rom

E:Lon Edi Lpl Swe Den Nor Hol Kie Ber

War StP

R:Mos Sev Rum Ank Smy Con Bul

A:Tri Vie Bud Ser Gre Ven

= 10 - 11 = -1

= 11 - 10 = +1

= 7 - 5 = +2

= 6 - 6 = 0

+ PRESS +

As I sit here writing this dispatch I can hear the thunder of the opening barrage of massed French Artillery. The barrage is smashing down hundreds of kilometers along the borders of Trieste, Vienna and Budapest laying waste to the beautiful Austrian valleys. Way down in the south of Italy a similar drama is being played out even as I sit here now.

Our infantry is crouching down in their trenches all keyed up and ready to go over the top. In the distance is I can see the mighty explosions and the horizon is alive with fire leaping up into the sky. The Austrian Infantry must be being slaughtered in their thousands. Surely they won't be able to hold out for long. The whistles blow and our brave boys burst forth out of their trenches and ear deafening yells and screams and rush forward to the attack. So far the Austrians have not been returning fire as our boys advance under cover of the barrage. They roll across the valley in a huge wave and as they near the Austrian positions the barrage lifts and then comes crashing down again across the Austrian rear lines. Our men now surge across the first trenches and mow down the pitifully few stunned defenders, many of whom are already taken prisoner.

Where will it end? How will the attack go? Only time will tell?

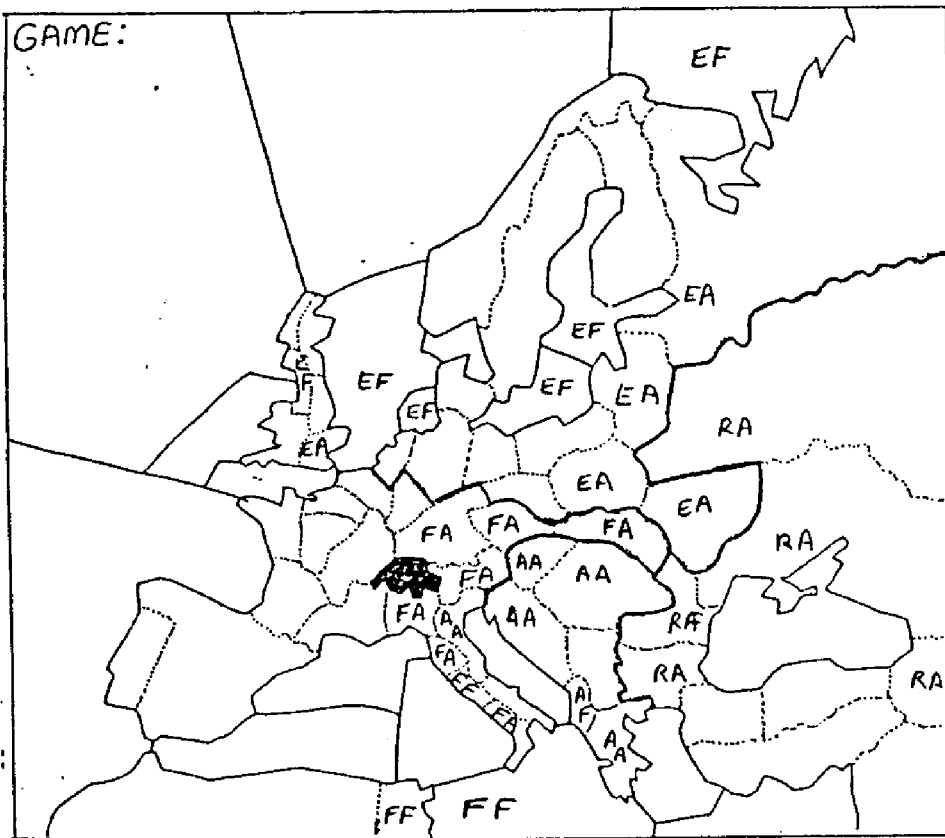
SWISS TIMES EXTRA!

LITCHENSTEIN: A great military scandal was revealed today when it was found that high level French officers had been drunk while on duty. While in such an inebriated state, they ordered French Artillery to fire on their own troops and then have other troops attack those positions! The resulting confusion caused total chaos and disorder along the French-

Austrian front. Forces in Munich failed to attack positions in Bohemia, mainly because it was already occupied by French forces. Venice was lost to the Austrians by a combination of misplaced artillery, wrong attacks and a daring breakout by the Austrian Army that had been trapped in the Apulian peninsula. Vienna resisted French attacks which were poorly coordinated.

SOPHIA: Russian forces have occupied the country of Bulgaria. Due to the

GAME:



confusion caused by the withdrawal of Austrian forces earlier, it is not known if this is to be a permanent situation. Austrian Armies were withdrawn earlier to counter a threatened French invasion of Greece. When the invasion failed to eventuate (as it is believed the order to the Admiral of the Ionian fleet to invade was sent via slowboat to china) it is expected that the Austrian Armies may return, though no comment was issued by the Russian or Austrian governments.

GAME D2 : WINTER 1906 : FRENCH MILITARY DRUNK AGAIN!

FRANCE
=====

ENGLAND
=====

AUSTRIA
=====

RUSSIA
=====

(F:WMS)
A:Nap
A:Gal
A:Boh
A:Mun
A:Tyr
A:Pie
A:Tus
F:Rom
F:Tun
F:IOS
=====

A:Lon
A:StP
A:Liv
A:Ukr
A:War
F:BAR
F:BAS
F:GOB
F:NTH
F:HEL
=====

A:Gre
A:Vie
A:Bud
A:Tri
A:Ven
F:Alb
=====

A:Mos
A:Sev
A:Arm
A:Bul
F:Rum
=====

F:Lpl

+ PRESS +

Due to last Autumns drunk orgies the French high command is being drastically reorganised. The general staff blame the typing pool for hashing up otherwise brilliant orders but a spokeswoman for the typing pool blames it all on confusion amongst the Generals.

Acting swiftly the President of France ordered the arrest of both the

entire General staff and the typing pool and had the lot shot. The only person to escape was the tea & coffee lady who (having her ear to the ground) was last seen scooting downhill to her trolley screaming as her ear (still to the ground) was being worn away on the rough cobbled road.

The french President is currently rumoured to be abroad in London seeking the secondment of several British Generals who having proved their brilliance, could be very useful to the Anglo-French cause. The General staff is also expected to be bolstered by several Austrian Generals who should be available just after the next spring.

All frenchmen will be relieved to hear that last months special correspondent at the front was not shot in the rout of the fourth army from Venice. Unfortunately however he failed to launder his underwear and is currently in hospital suffering from unmentionable diseases caused by unclean habits. Luckily this means we probably wont have any more dispatches from the front until next spring!

GAME D2 : SPRING 1907 : THE PRESS GOES ON!

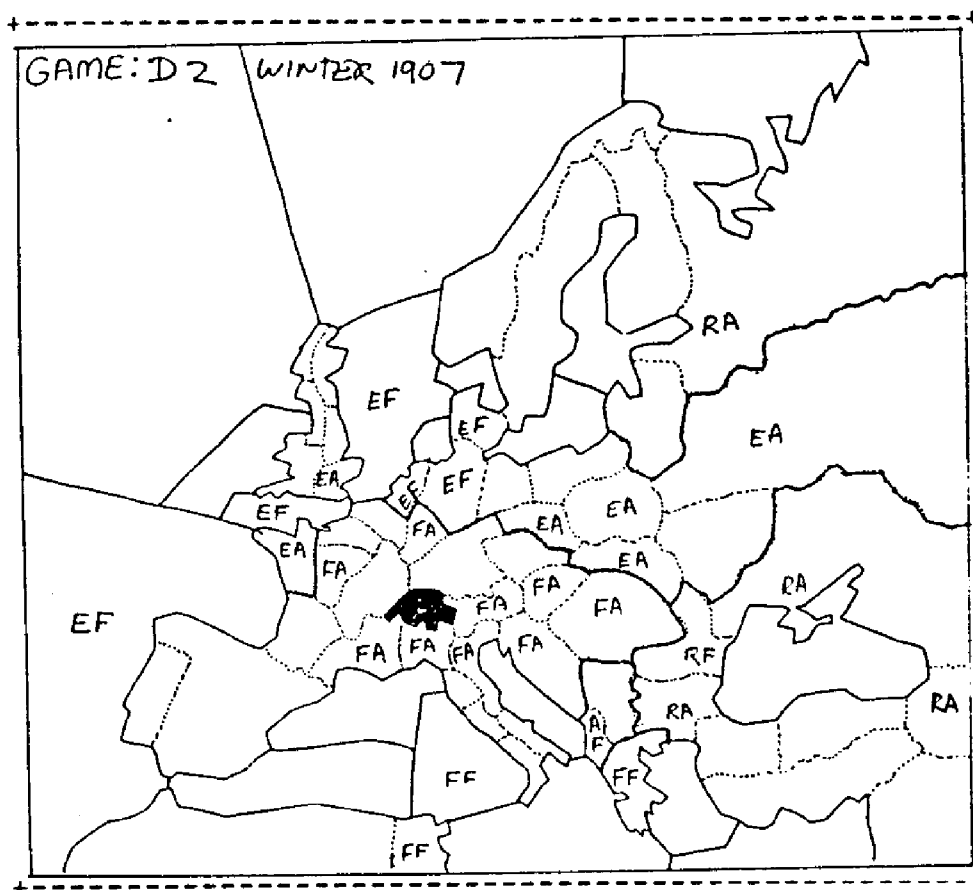
FRANCE	ENGLAND	RUSSIA	AUSTRIA
=====	=====	=====	=====
Krnbrg	Ferstat	Harvey	Nicholls
			-NMR!-
A:Tyr-Tri	A:Ukr-Sev	A:Mos_stand#	A:Vie_stand#
A:Gal s A:Boh-Vie	F:GOB-BAS	F:Rum-Sev	A:Ven-----#
A:Boh-Vie	F:Lpl-IRS	A:Arm s F:Rum-Sev	A:Tri "
A:Pie s A:Tus-Ven	F:NTH-ENC	A:Sev-Rum	A:Gre "
A:Tus-Ven	F:HEL-Hol	A:Bul s A:Sev-Rum	F:Alb "
A:Nap-Apu	F:BAR-NWG		A:Bud "
A:Mun-Ruh	A:Lon stand	RETREATS	
F:Rom-Nap	A:StP-Mos	=====	
F:Tun-IOs	A:Liv-Pru	A:Vie-OTB	
F:IOs-AES	A:War s A:Stp-Mos	A:Ven-OTB	
	F:BAS-Kie	A:Mos-Liv	

GAME D2 : AUTUMN 1907 : ALL HAIL THE SERBIAN FLEET!

FRANCE	ENGLAND	RUSSIA	AUSTRIA
=====	=====	=====	=====
Krnbrg	Ferstat	Harvey	Nicholls
			NMR!
A:Vie s A:Gal-Bud	F:IRS-MAO	A:Liv-StP	
A:Gal-Bud	F:GOB-BAS	F:Rum-Sev	
A:Tyr s A:Ven-Tri	F:ENC c A:Lon-Bre	A:Arm s A:Sev	A:Tri_Stand#
A:Ruh-Bel	F:Hol-Bel	A:Sev stand	A:Gre-----#
A:Ven-Tri	F:Kie Stand	A:Bul s F: AES-Gre	F:Alb "
A:Pie s A:Apu-Ven	F:BAS-Den		A:Bud-----
A:Apu-Ven	A:NWG-NTH	RETREATS	
F:Nap-TYS	A:Pru-Sil	=====	
F:IOs-Tun	A:War s A:Ukr-Gal	A:Tri-OTB	
F: AES-Gre	A:Ukr-Gal	A:Bud-OTB	
	A:Mos Stand	A:Gre-Liv	

CONTROL

F. Par Mar Spa Por Bel Mun Tun Nap Rom	14 - 10 = +2
Ven Tri Vie Bud Gre	
E. Lon Lpl Edi Nor Swe Bre Den Hol Kie	12 - 11 = +1
Ber War Mos	
A. Ser	1 - 1 = +0
R. Stp Sev Rum Bul Con Smy Ank	7 - 5 = +0



GAME D2 : WINTER 1907 : PRELUDE TO WAR

FRANCE
=====

ENGLAND
=====

RUSSIA
=====

AUSTRIA
=====

Krnbrg

A:Ruh
A:Pie
A:Ven
A:Tyr
A:Vie
A:Bud
A:Tri
F:Gre
F:TYS
F:Tun
=====

A:Mos
A:Gal
A:Sil
A:War
A:Bre
F:Den
F:Kie
F:Hol
F:NTH
F:ENC
F:MAO
=====

A:Stp
A:Sev
A:Arm
A:Bul
F:Rum
=====

F:Alb
=====

A:Lon

GAME D2 : SPRING 1908 : AUSTRIA LOSES THE FLEET!

FRANCE	ENGLAND	RUSSIA	AUSTRIA
=====	=====	=====	=====
Krnbrg	Ferstat	Harvey	Nicholls
			NMR!
A:Par-Bre	A:Mos_s A:Gal-Ukr	A:Sev-Mos	(F)Alb_Stand#
A:Mar-Gas	A:Lon-Bel	A:StP s A:Sev-Mos	
A:Ruh s A:Tyr-Mun	A:Gal-Ukr	A:Arm-Sev	
A:Tyr-Mun	A:Sil-Pru	A:Bul-Rum	
A:Pie-Mar	A:War s A:Mos	F:Rum-BLA	
A:Ven-Tyr	A:Bre-Par		RETREATS
A:Bud-Gal	F:Den-Swe		=====
A:Tri s F:Gre-Alb	F:Kie Stand		F:Alb-OTB
F:TYS-WMS	F:Hol s A:Lon-Bel		
F:Tun-NAf	F:NTH-Nor		
F:Gre-Alb	F:ENC c A:Lon-Bel		
A:Vie s A:Bud-Gal	F:MAO-Por		

+PRESS+

Russian High Command, still resting from their latest successes, promised an end to British Imperial Domination for all time. Renaming the Northern Army as the Army of Liberation (pronounced FREEDOM) Commander Vladamir Potlanski (hero of the seige of Moscow) promised an end to British Imperial Domination.

Prayers are presently being offered in all shrines for the miracle, and help from the French, which will lead to the end of British Imperial Domination.

Viva la French, viva la end of British Imperial Domination.

GAME D2 : AUTUMN 1908 : ENGLAND & FRANCE PUSSYFOOT ABOUT

FRANCE	ENGLAND	RUSSIA
=====	=====	=====
Krnbrg	Ferstat	Harvey
A:Vie-Gal	F:ENC-MAO	A:StP-Mos
A:Gal-Sil	F:Por s F:ENC-MAO	A:Sev s A:StP-Mos
A:Mun-Ber	A:Bre_stand#	A:Rum-Ukr
A:Tyr-Boh	A:Bel -	F:BLA s A:Sev
A:Tri-Ser	A:Kie -	A:Arm s A:Sev
A:Mar-Bur	F:Hol s F:Kie	
A:Ruh s A:Mar-Bur	F:Swe-Fin	RETREATS
A:Par-Bre	A:Mos-StP	=====
A:Gas s A:Par-Bre	F:Nor s A:Mos-StP	A:Bre-Pic
F:WMS s F:Naf-MAO	A:Pru-Liv	
F:NAf-MAO	A:Ukr-Mos	
F:Alb-IOs	A:War_s_A:Ukr-Mos	

CONTROL

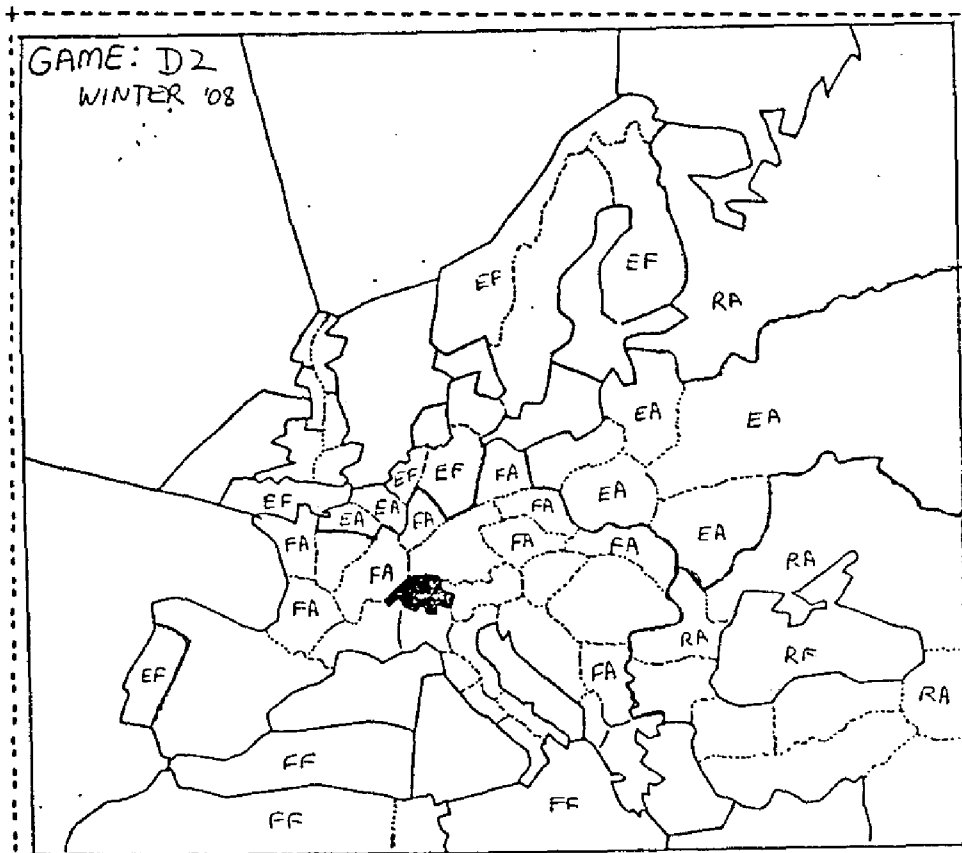
F. Par Mar Spa Bre Ber Mun Tun Nap Rom	15 - 12 = +2
Ven Tri Vie Bud Gre Ser	
E. Lon Lpl Edi Nor Swe Por Den Hol Kie	12 - 12 = +0
Bel War Mos	
R. Stp Sev Rum Bul Con Smy Ank	7 - 5 = +0

+ PRESS +

Commander Vladimir Potlanski was today replaced by his son Commander Valdimir Potlanski. Potlanski was compulsoraly retired by the Army after his failure to recapture Moscow. Promising an end to foreign domination of internal trade markets Commander Potlanski vowed to carry the fight home (though to whose home its presently unknown).

The revitalised French high command having benefited from the recent English assistance in stationing advisors in Brest have now requested

those advisors to leave as they are no longer required. A suitably sized delegation of Army & Navy personel are now moving to embrace their former allies and give them a suitable send off.



+ The French high command has benefitted to such an extent that they have been able to send their own "advisors" to assist the English in extricating themselves from the horrible mess they seem to have created in their relations with the Russian forces. The Russians have long been requesting the English to return home but haven't (until now) been able to completely convince them that the Russian forces are up to the task of defending their own homeland. However, reliable reports suggest that the english forces have been severely demora-

+lised by a recent surge in the number of demonstrators carrying placards such as "POMMY GO HOME" & "RUSSIA for RUSSIANS", "FRANCE FOR FROGS", "ENGLAND FOR RUSSIA/FRANCE" et cetera.

A disinterested observer would note that the military situation of the English force is becoming more and more precarious as the french & russian forces manouvre into position. The thin red line seems to be stretching to breaking point. Will it snap? Only time will tell (BUT I THINK SO)

GAME D2 : WINTER 1908 : FRANCE PUMPS UP

FRANCE	ENGLAND	RUSSIA
=====	=====	=====
Krnbrg	Ferstat	Harvey
A:Bre	A:Pic	
A:Gas	A:Bel	
A:Bur	F:Hol	
A:Ruh	F:Kie	
A:Ber	A:War	
A:Sil	A:Liv	
A:Boh	A:Mos	
A:Gal	A:Ukr	A:Sev
A:Ser	F:Fin	A:Arm
F:IOS	F:Nor	F:BLA
F:WMS	F:Por	A:Rum
F:NAf	F:ENC	A:StP
=====	=====	=====
A:Par		
F:Mar		

=====) DIPLOMACY GAME D2 <=====) MACHIAVELLI GAME M1 <=====

GAME D2 : SPRING 1909 : THE GREAT BRITISH LAND DISASTER!

FRANCE	ENGLAND	RUSSIA
=====	=====	=====
Krnbrg	Ferstat	Harvey

F:NAf-MAO__	F:Nor s F:Fin-StP(sc)	A:Arm s A:Sev
F:WMS s F:NAf-MAO	F:Fin-StP(sc)	F:BLA s A:Sev
F:Mar-Spa(sc)	A:Liv s A:War	A:Sev s A:StP-Mos
A:Gas s F:Mar-Spa(sc)	A:Mos s A:Ukr#	A:StP-Mos
A:Bre s A:Par-Pic	A:War s A:Ukr	A:Rum-Ukr
A:Par-Pic	A:Ukr s A:War#	
A:Bur s A:Par-Pic	F:Ber Stand(nsu)	RETREATS
A:Rub--Bel	(F)Kie Stand	=====
A:Ber-Kie	F:Hol s F:Ber	A:Mos-OTB
A:Sil-War	A:Bel s A:Pic	A:Ukr-OTB
A:Boh-Mun	A:Pic s A:Bel#	A:Pic-OTB
A:Gal s R.A:Rum-Ukr	F:ENC s F:Por-MAO	
A:Ser-Bud	F:Por-MAO	
F:IOS-Gre		

+PRESS+

The thin red line has cracked and is beginning to break up. The Russian bear is very hungry for a piece of the British lions aass. We are all assured of a very interesting year in the east. Commander Valdimir Potlanski vows to liberate mother Russia.

Meanwhile the French High Command is Jubilant at having been able to convince the English "advisors" to leave Brest. However no effort will be spared until the last English have left French soil. We expect to see large scale dessertions amoungst the extremely demoralised English troops.

MACHIAVELLI:M1

GAME M1 - SPRING 1454 : OPENING MOVES

FAMINE IN: A good year, no famine!

NAPLES	FRANCE	VENICE	PAPACY	GARRISONS
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Schmar	Mumford	Harvey	Nelissen	AUTONOMOUS
A1: A-Slo	A-Tur	A-Tre	H	
A2: H	A-Pro	H	H	
A3:			A-Spo	
F1: A-GON	A-WGL	A-LAS	A-UAS	
F2: A-WTS		A-UAS(nsu)		
G1:		F2		

===== > MACHIAVELLI GAME M1

<=====

	TURKS =====	MILAN =====	FLORENCE =====	RETREATS =====
	Jackson	Dedman	Krn'brg	-NONE-
A1:	A-Rag	A-Pla	A-Sie	
A2:		A-Ber	S-Sie	
A3:		S-A2		
F1:	A-IO5		A-Pbo	
F2:	A-WMS			

PLAGUE IN: A good year, no plague!

-----+ PRESS +-----
Due to technical difficulties, the 1st turns press is not available for print.

GAME M1 - SUMMER 1454 : NMRS PLAGUE GAME! POPE HOLIDAYS IN SUNNY FERARRA!

	NAPLES =====	FRANCE =====	VENICE =====	PAPACY =====	GARRISONS =====
	Schmar NMR!	Mumford	Harvey	Nelissen	AUTONOMOUS
A1:	H	A-Mon	A-Fri	A-Fer	
A2:	H	A-Sav	A-Bre	H	
A3:				A-Aqu	
F1:	H	A-Cor	A-Alb	S-A1	
F2:	H		A-LAG		

	TURKS =====	MILAN =====	FLORENCE =====	RETREATS =====
	Jackson	Dedman NMR!	Krn'brg	-NONE-
A1:	B-Rag	H	B-Sie	
A2:		H	A-Pis	
A3:		H		
F1:	A-BOT		B-Pbo	
F2:	A-Sar			

-----+ PRESS +-----
From the DOGES PALACE
VENICE Summer 1454

Dear Milli:

Can I suggest you guard your back. The smell of garlic sauce seems to be coming steadily nearer,

Dogi

PS Froggi (pronounced Jean-Paul Saute)

Do you really pour garlic sauce over snails. I find it softens the shells too much for a really satisfying 'snap crackle pop!'

Dear Pope,

Shouldn't your fleet be going south? Not that I'm worried of course but I do have a couple of gross 'Chinese compasses' I can let you have for free (sort of a benediction for the church).

Dogi

Italy for the Italians, Venicians, Milanese... etc etc, but not Frogs, Turks or heathens.

===== > TAU CETI PHOENIX <=> SUMMER 87

<=> TCP:PAGE 9 <=====

Message from the Caliphs Palace: DIE! you christian dogs,
Signed Sultan El Farta IV

Some interesting events have manifested themselves in the cullinary world in the last few months. For example the Milanese obviously perceived a threat (Chefs are notoriously tempemental) to their stodgy northern Italian cuisene from imported Venetian spices. It would also appear that another state that seems to base its cuisene on cheap red wine and wafers, shares the Milanese paranoia.

Meanwhile we at FOOD FRENCH continue to support (at their own request of course!) the smaller independent states quest to cullinary greatness (under the FOOD FRENCH head chef naturally).

New additions to the Menu for next season.

Roast Haunch of Montferrat (with sauce of Savoy).

Crepes a La Corsica

Signed: Jean-Paul Saute.

GAME M1 - AUTUMN 1454 : VENICE & NAPLES HEAVILY VISITED - FIRST FAMINE

	NAPLES =====	FRANCE =====	VENICE =====	PAPACY =====	GARRISONS =====
	Schmar NMR!	Mumford	Harvey	Nelissen	AUTONOMOUS
A1:	H	B	A-Cla	A-Pad	Sav Sal Mon
A2:	H	A-Sal	H	A-Urb	Gen Mod Luc
A3:				A-Cap	Man Fer Trt
F1:	H	S-TF2	A-Rag	A-Fri	
F2:	H#		A-UAS		
	TURKS =====	MILAN =====	FLORENCE =====		RETREATS =====
	Jackson	Dedman	Krn'brg		
A1:	B	A-Cre	B		NF2-OTB
A2:		A-Trt	A-Luc		
A3:		S-A2			
F1:	A-Pal		B		
F2:	A-WTS				

	CONTROL	CITY	AREA
N.	A: Nap Slo Bar Ont Mes		= 5
	C: Nap Bar Mes	= 3	
D.	A: Avi Pro Mar Swi Tur Sal Sav Mon		= 8
	C: Avi Mar Swi Tur	= 4	
V.	A: Bre Ver Vic Tre Cla Ist Dal Alb		= 8
	C: Tre Ven Dal Alb	= 4	
P.	A: Pat Rom Per Spo Cap Aqu Anc Urb Rga Bol Fer Pad		= 13
	Fri		
	C: Rom Per Anc Bol Pad	= 5	
T.	A: Tun Dur Rag Her Bos Pal Sar		= 7
	C: Tun Pal Rag Sar Dur	= 5	
M.	A: Com Mil Pav For Pia Par Cre Ber Trt		= 9
	C: Pav Mil Cre	= 3	
F.	A: Pis Ptr Flo Are Sie Pbo Luc		= 7
	C: Pis Flo Are Sie Pbo	= 5	

FAMINE IN: Cro Tre Man Tur Flo Cap

-----+ PRESS +-----

Message from the Caliphs Palace

...aaargh!! f@*.!?k You infidel Venetian unbeliever.

A Jihad is now declared unless a withdrawal, accompanied by a written apology AND the testicles of the Venetian Admiral are recieved immediately. Signed: Sultan El Farta IV

From the 'letters of an Englishman Abroad'

Dear Maria,

I hope you are well and the letter reaches you. Everyone here is so excited, there are rumours of a Papal visit all over the place. Venice is really nice but with all the tourists (everyone seems to be coming for the boat race) its getting too expensive. Anyway I've arranged to join a merchant travelling to Milan so will be leaving tomorrow. All the best and give my love to Donald, if you haven't already.

1ST BENEVOLENT FRENCH DICTATORSHIP

So the Doddering Dogi smells garlic does he? Well as the positions of the French Catering corps obviously pose no threat to the Milanese one can only suppose that the Venician troops wandering round in confusion are now beginning to panic. Another example is their foray into Turkey, which may well end up roasting them. I find the comments by the Doting Dogi particularly offensive considering my earlier comments on the rashness of the Milanese invasion of Bresca. Perhaps the Milanese were more perceptive in spotting Mad Dog(i)s.

As for the polite request for the Papacy to go away it's just too rediculous for words! The Venitian promise of Protection to the People of Ferarra from the Prowling Pope is further proof of the Dotty Dogi's lack of reliability. Signed: Jean-Paul Saute.

P.S. If I could get close enough I would show the Dogi a new use for a snail fork involving parts of his upper and lower bowel.

From the World Heath Centre dealing with Infectious Diseases Sexually Transmitted Diseases can kill. Not as fast as the plague or as spectactually as Cholerra but just as finally. Soldiers, don't carry it home to your wife leave the woman alone, and pray twice daily.

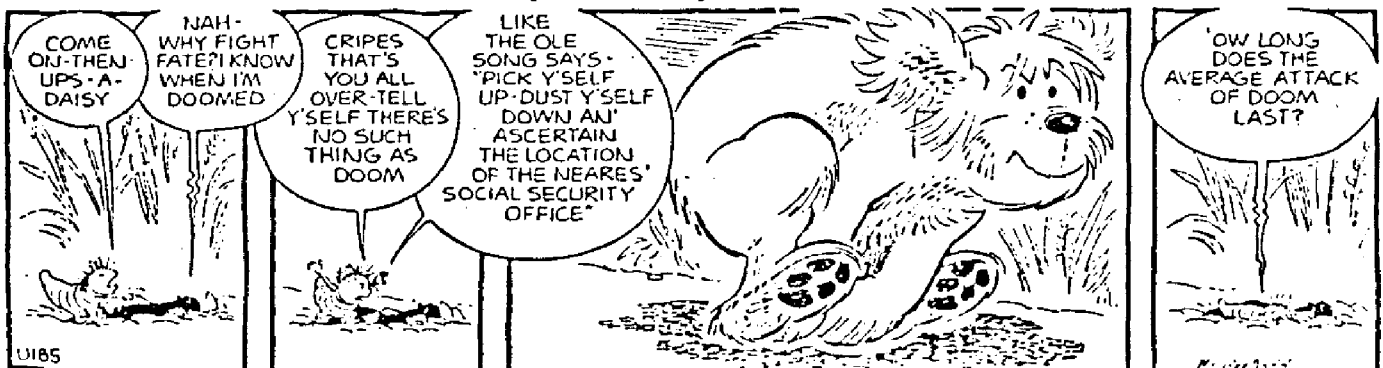
Director: WHCDWID

To: The Dog s P lace
ven ce Autumn 1454

Dear Doggi,

Sorry about the spelling mistakes but my typewriter seems to be on the blink. Hang on to those 'Chinese compasses' as I'm sure you could use them to find your way out of the lagoon. Sorry about Ferrara but all the tourist beaches near home were packed out and I needed somewhere to go to work on my tan. i like the place so much I might build luxury coaches there. I'll be moving on soon anyway. I'll probably be seeing you next year sometime so we can discuss your sainthood then.

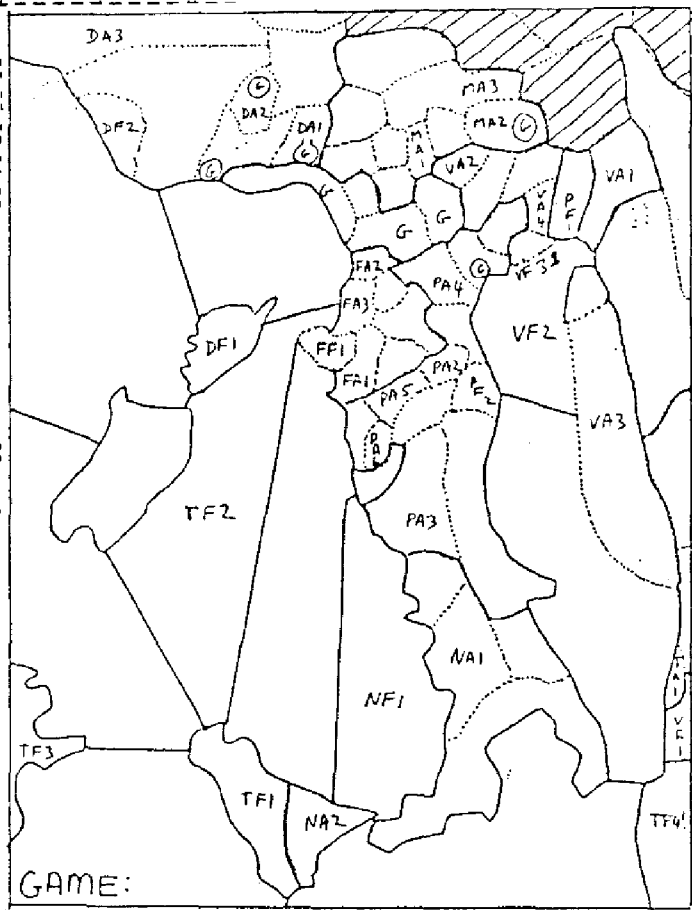
Yours Beatifically, The Pope.



GAME M1 - WINTER 1454 : THE BIG DUCAT SPENDERS MAKE THEIR MOVE!

FAMINE IN: Turin, Mantua, Capua, Florence. Treviso is relieved

NAPLES		FRANCE		VENICE		PAPACY		GARRISONS	
=====		=====		=====		=====		=====	
Schmar		Mumford		Harvey		Nelissen		AUTONOMOUS	
A1:	Slo	Mon		Cla		Pad		Sav	Sal Mon
A2:	Mes	Sal		Bre		Urb		Gen	Mod Man
A3:		Avi		Dal		Cap		Luc	Fer Trt
A4:				Tre		Bol			
A5:						Per			
A6:						Rom			
F1:	GON	Cor		Alb		Fri			
F2:		Mar		UAS		Anc			
F3:				Vens					
TURKS		MILAN		FLORENCE					
=====		=====		=====					
Jackson		Dedman		Krn'brg					
A1:	Rag	Cre		Sie					
A2:		Trt		Luc					
A3:		Mil		Pis					
F1:	Pal			Pbo					
F2:	WTS								
F3:	Tun								
F4:	Dur!								



+-----+PRESS+-----

+ Insta Loan!!! Anyone want a cheap loan?? See me at the Florence City cheeeeeeapp finance company.

From the:
'letters of an Englishman Abroad'
Dear Mum,

Milan's nice but with all this famine in Turin evryone's hoarding their food. The rumour of a French invasion isnt helping but if they do I hope that nice General D'Tergent (you know, the one we met in Paris) is with them. He always had a bottle of brandy handy. The Milanese are so uptight about that sort of thing that I'm worried my suppliers will run out and I'll have to drink the water (and you know what Mama said about that)

Best wishes for Christmass.

1ST BENEVOLENT FRENCH DICTATORSHIP
As a Democratic Republique I am sure that a Papal visit to an athiest country is neither wanted or Necessary. However, I'm sure a

=====> MACHIAVELLI GAME M1 <=> DIPLOMACY GAME D1:WRAP UP <=====

secular visit to Rome can be organised to discuss the Popes luxury coach tour routes.

Signed Jean-Paul Saute
15 Ille Rue de Remarque
Marseilles.

"The Franciscans are looking for a few good men, sign up today..."
(GM: Er, I think a few have!)

Hiya Pope,

Glad you dropped by, lets hope the weather improves. Winter is a hell of a time to try for a tan but I know all about the tourists, if I'm not careful Venice could start sinking under their weight.

With death threats in the coming year,

My Dear Sultan,

Doggi

I had no idea you were that way inclined! Rather than just sending you the Admirals testicles I've sent you the whole person, have fun!

Doggi

DIPLOMACY:D1

PLAYERS INVOLVED

OPENING MOVES:

Stephen Gunnell:AUSTRIA
David Elson:TURKEY
John Beswick:RUSSIA

Simon Nelson:ENGLAND
Steve Mizen:ITALY

Bruce Taplin:FRANCE
Barry Ellis:GERMANY

CHANGES:

Stephen Gunnell resigned and was replaced by Martin Morgan as AUSTRIA.
Steve Mizen was dropped as ITALY and replaced with Danny Connor.
Bruce Taplin resigned and was replaced by Doug Kroonenburg as FRANCE.
David Elson resigned as TURKEY and was not replaced.

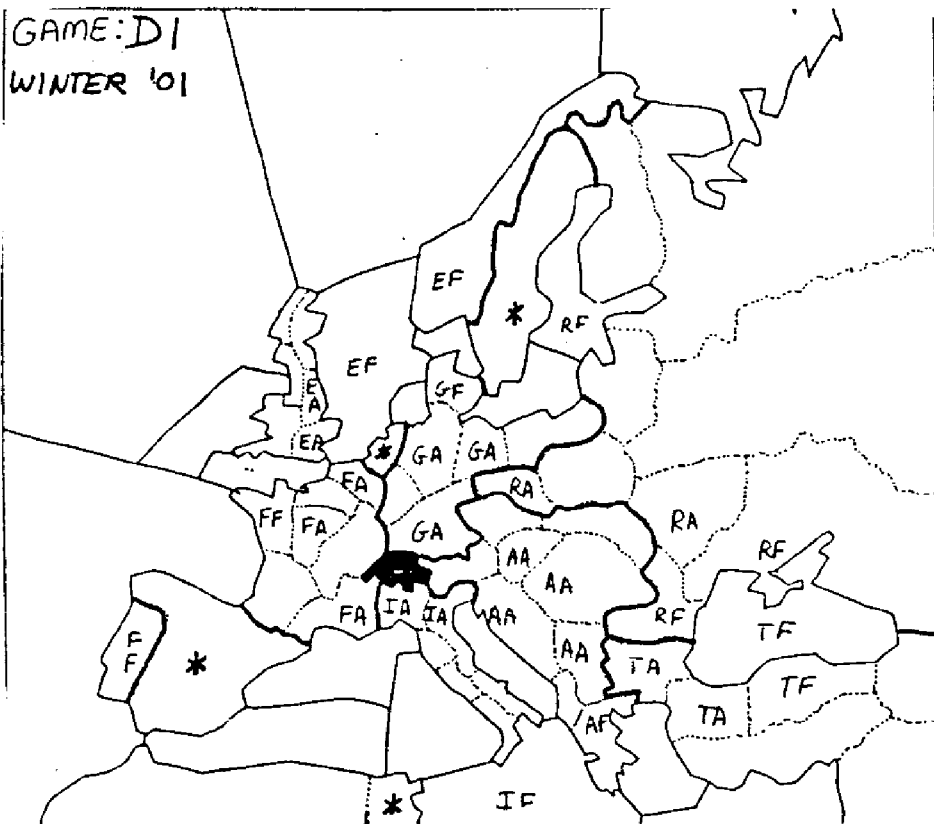
SUPPLY CENTRE CONTROL BREAKDOWN

YEAR	AUSTRIA	ENGLAND	TURKEY	FRANCE	ITALY	GERMANY	RUSSIA	NEUTRAL
1900	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	12
1901	5	4	4	5	3	4	5	4
1902	5	6	6	6	4	3	4	0
1903	5	9	7	8	3	2	0	-
1904	6	10	7	10	1	0	-	-
1905	7	11	6	9	1	-	-	-
1906	8	11	4	11	0	-	-	-
1907	8	10	5	11	-	-	-	-
1908	9	9	7	9	-	-	-	-
1909	13	10	5	6	-	-	-	-
1910	16	10	4	4	-	-	-	-
1911	22	7	3	2	-	-	-	-

In the "COMMENTS" columns accompanying the next series of maps there is a section labelled "Events". This lists changes in players for that year and also lists NMRs!(No Moves Rec'd) per season. For NMRs, the country that NMR'd is listed by the first letter of its name.

=====> TAU CETI PHOENIX <=> SUMMER 87 <=> TCP:PAGE 13 <=====

GAME: D1
WINTER '01



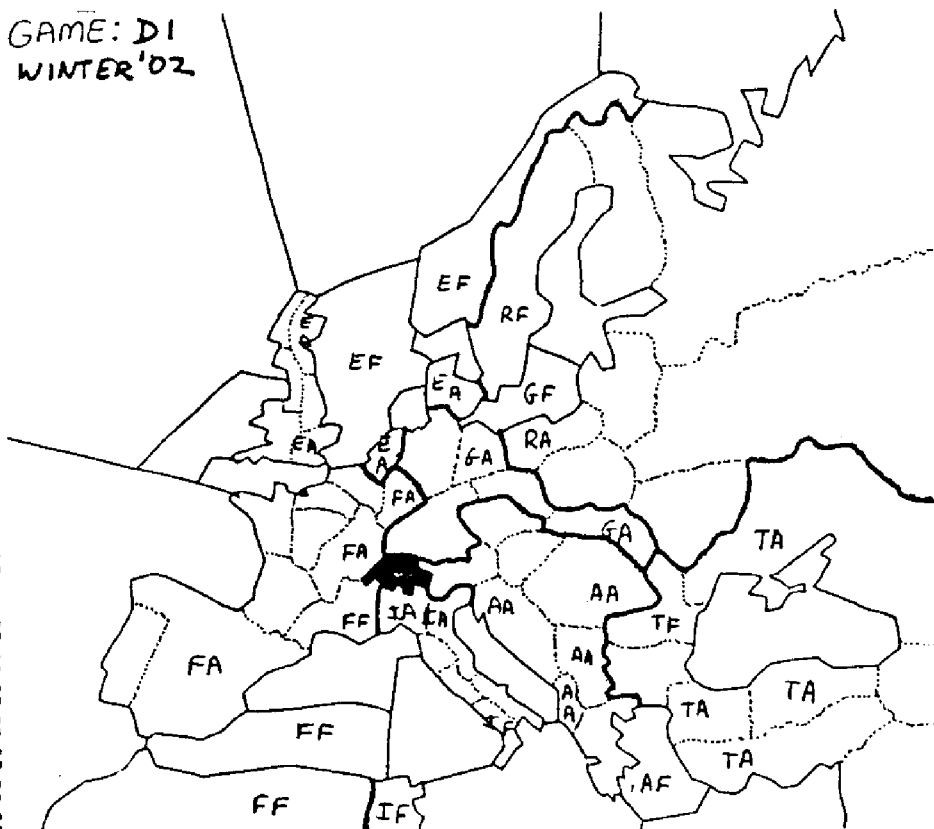
COMMENTS 1901

Rather a weak opening for the west. France failed to get Spain, Italy miswrote Autumn moves and Germany was attacked from the first move. This made Germany retaliate by preventing Russia from gaining Sweden this year. The only States not to miss gaining their traditional 1st year builds were England, Austria and Turkey.

Events

SPRING:
AUTUMN:
WINTER:

GAME: D1
WINTER '02



COMMENTS 1902

Germany is fully invaded by the triple alliance of France, England and Russia. In the meantime Turkey sneaks in the back door via Sevastopol & Rumania. An abortive stab by Italy brings war with France. To the north England makes some quiet gains at Germany's expense. Russia finally gains Sweden but not without a fight. Austria loses Galicia to a German expedition!

Events

SPRING:
AUTUMN: R, A
WINTER: R

COMMENTS 1903

West Germany is lost to France and England but Germany survives by invading Russia. An easy thing to do since England and Turkey take over the remains. Russia goes under. The Italians try a quick stab but gain nothing, while France takes the centre of Tunis and lands in Tuscany. The Austrians remain the same.

Events

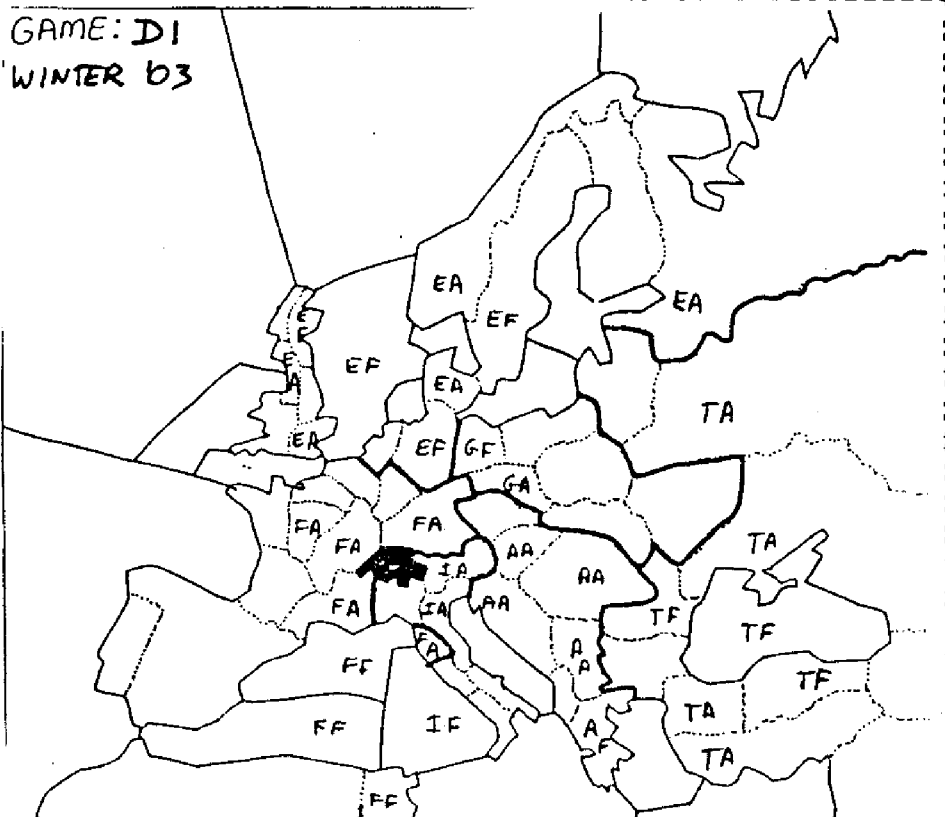
SPRING:

AUTUMN:R,I,A,T

WINTER:I

S.Gunnell resigns and M.Morgan replaces him as Austria. J.Beswick is eliminated.

GAME: D1
WINTER 03



COMMENTS 1904

Germany is eliminated by England and Turkey. Italy is reduced to a Venetian city state by France taking the rest of its home centres. Austria seizes Rumania from Turkey.

Events

SPRING:I

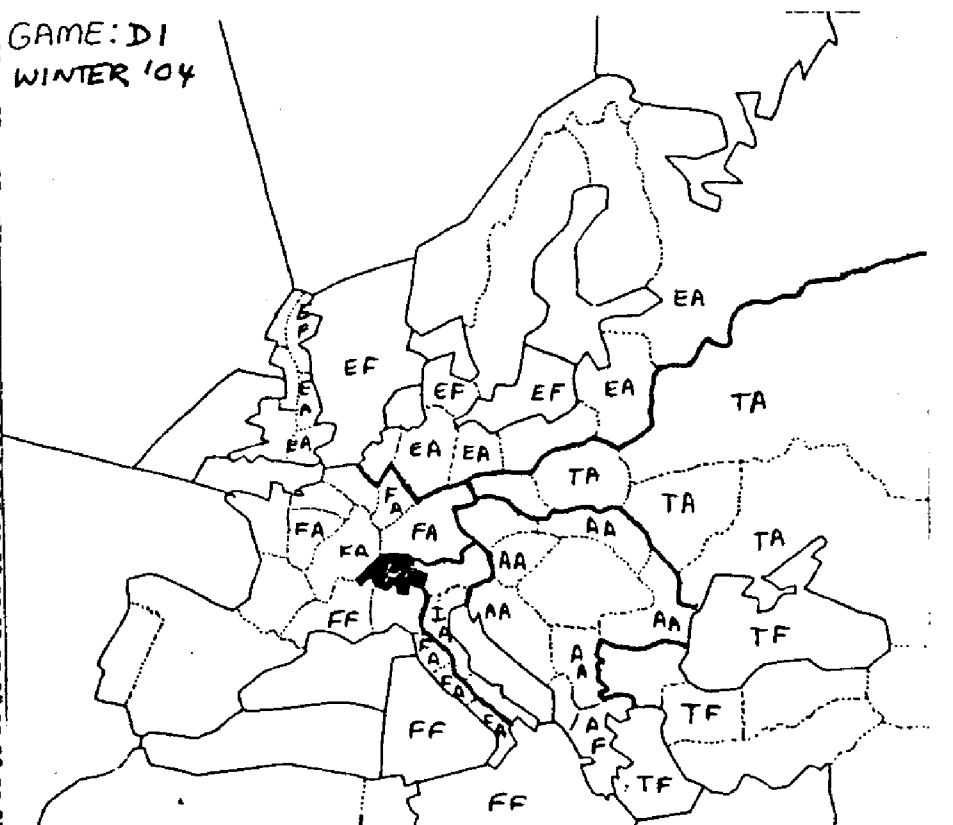
AUTUMN:

S.Mizen is dropped as Italy which goes into anarchy.

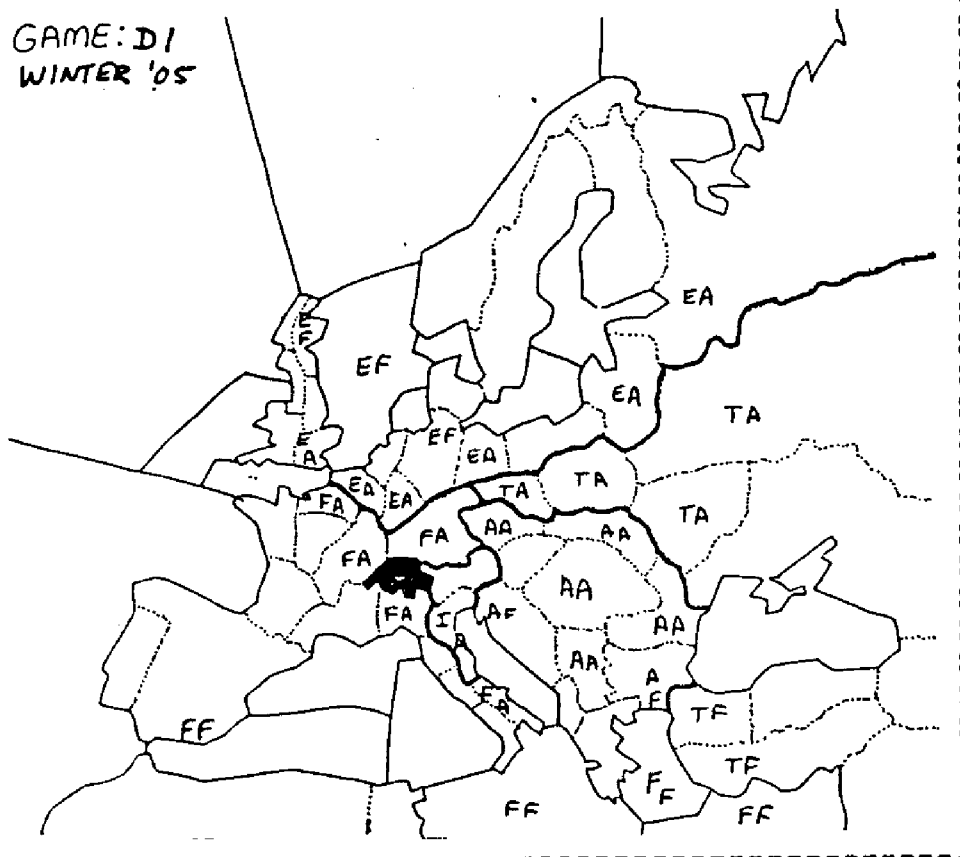
WINTER:

B.Ellis is eliminated.

GAME: D1
WINTER 104



GAME:D1
WINTER '05



COMMENTS 1905

Turkey prepares for war in Russia while in the west England takes Belgium from France as France moves fleets to the east meditteranean and Austria takes Bulgaria. All in one sentence too!

Events

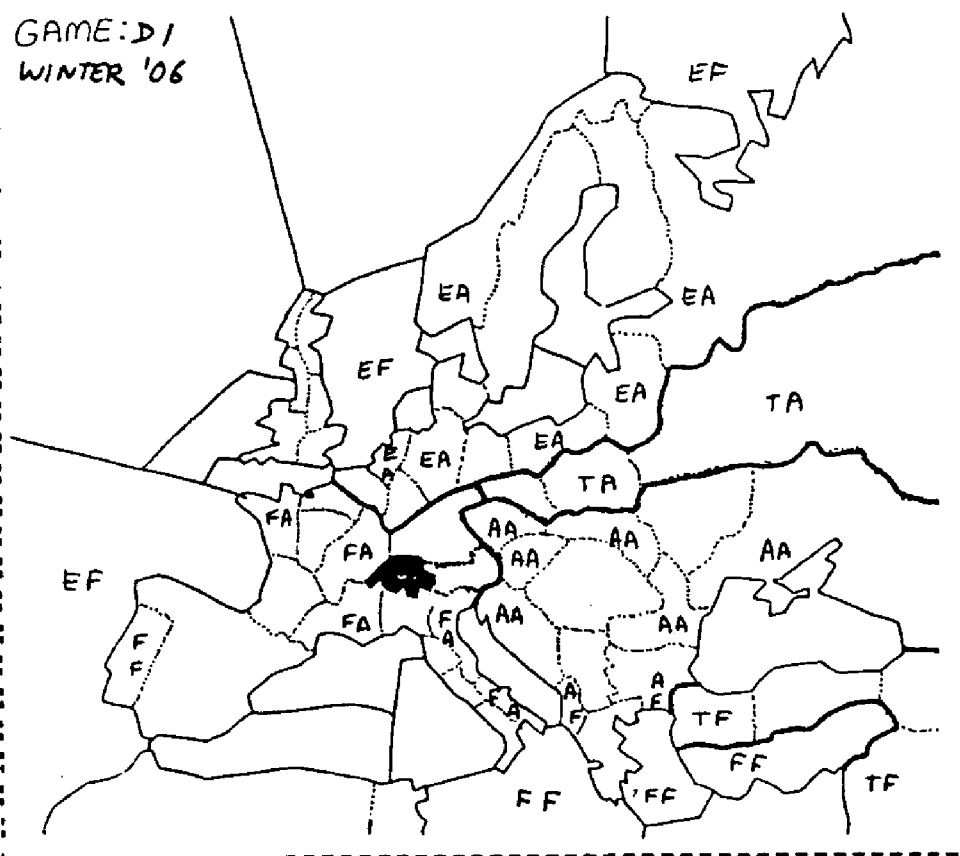
SPRING:Austria

AUTUMN:

WINTER:

D.Connor takes over as Italy.

GAME:D1
WINTER '06



COMMENTS 1906

Italy is eliminated. France is now controller of the SouthWest quarter of the board. England remains stable but Turkey is divided in two by attacks by France and Austria.

Events

SPRING:

B.Taplin resigns from France.

AUTUMN:

D.Kroonenburg takes over as France.

WINTER:

D.Connor eliminated.

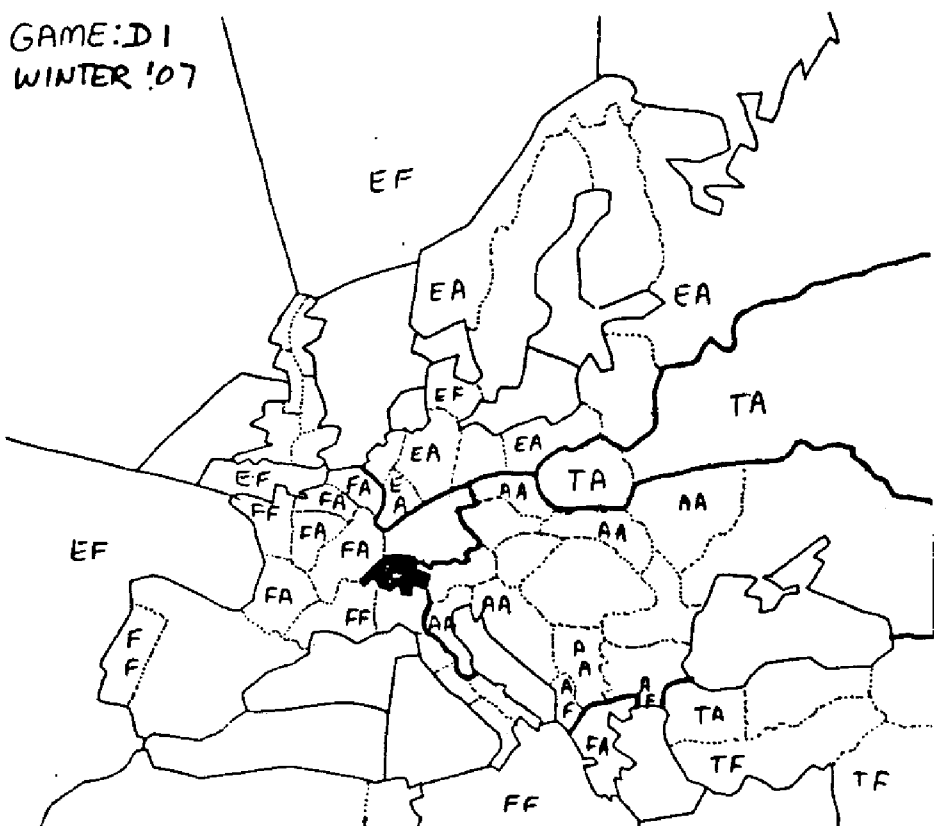
COMMENTS 1907

France takes Belgium back from England. In the east Turkey fights back and recaptures Smyrna from France. To keep even France takes Greece from Austria, but Austria takes Venice in reply.

Events

SPRING:
AUTUMN:E
WINTER:E

GAME:D1
WINTER '07



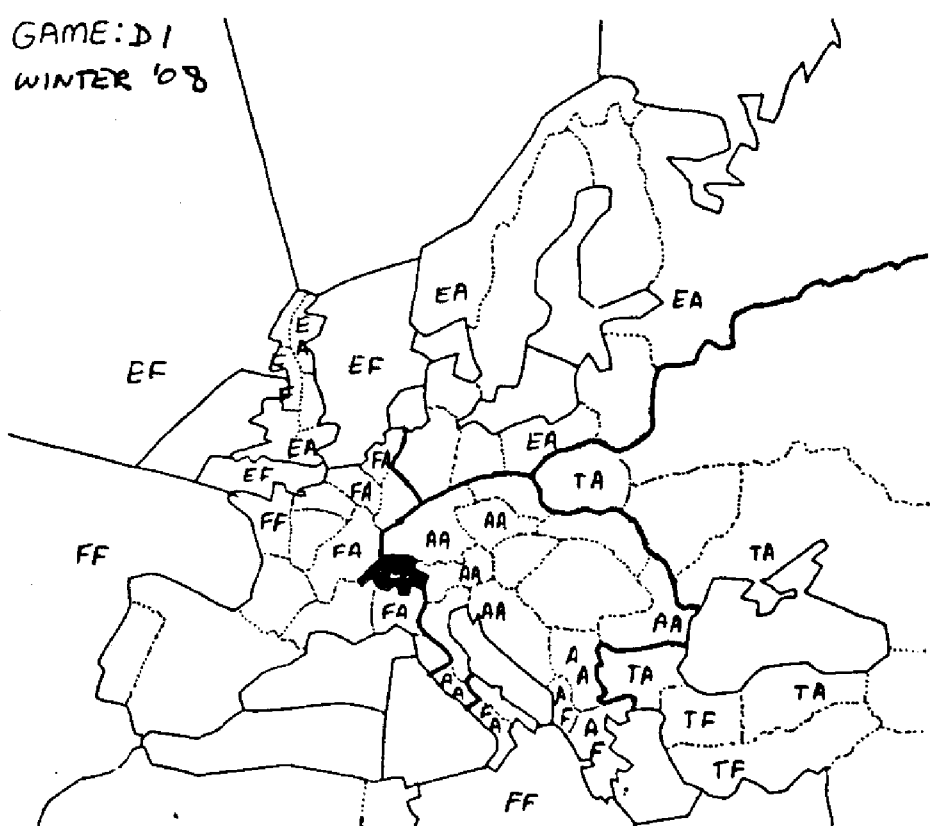
COMMENTS 1908

France loses all foot holds in the eastern mediterranean and also loses Rome to Austria. Turkey recovers both Sevastopol & Bulgaria. England loses Holland. Austria has a net increase in centres.

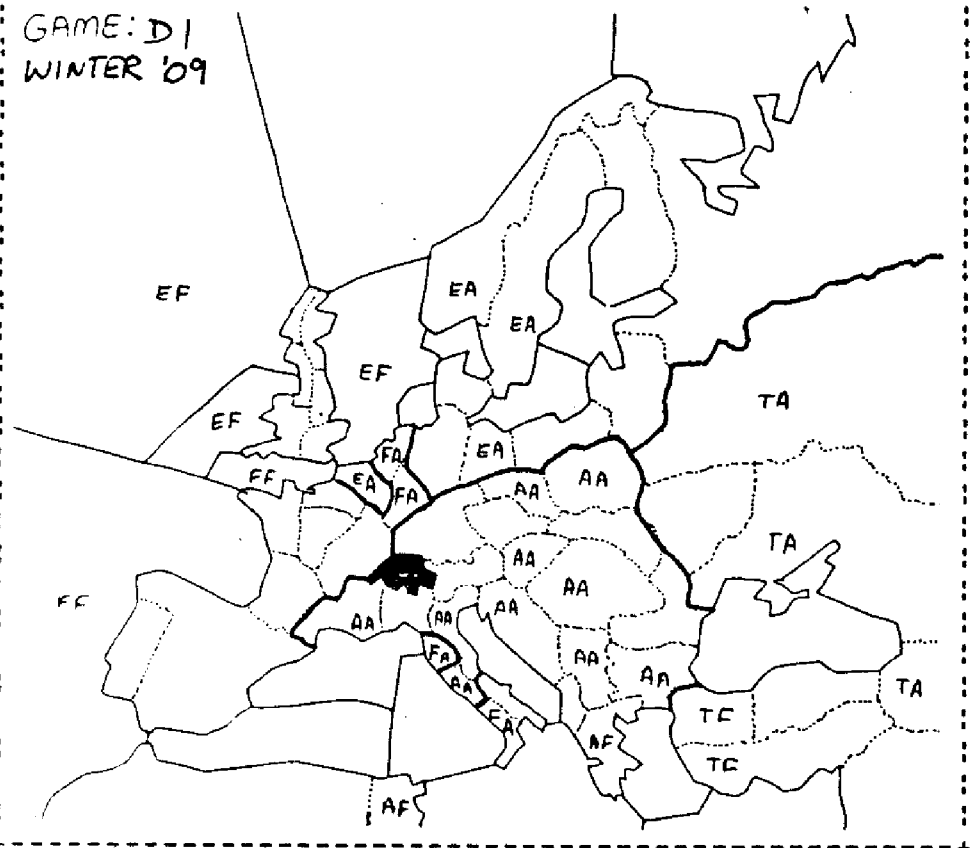
Events

SPRING:
AUTUMN:E
WINTER:

GAME:D1
WINTER '08



GAME: D1
WINTER '09



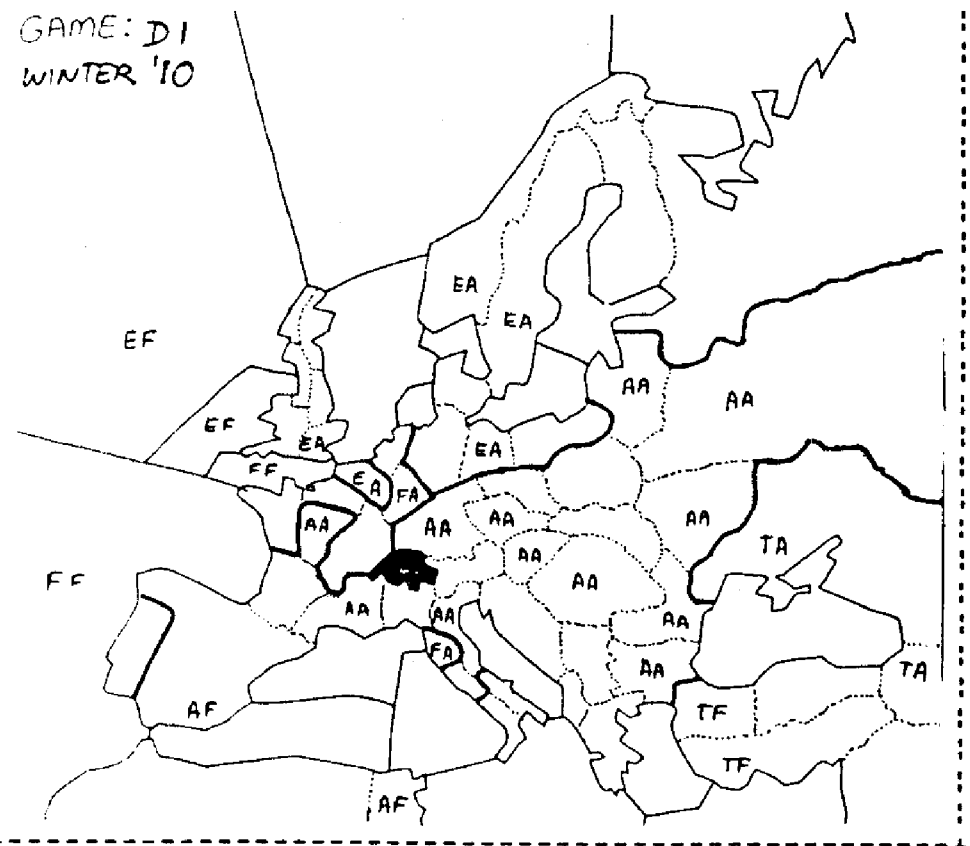
COMMENTS 1909

England makes a token counter attack. Turkey loses two of its later gains to Austria. The southwest is left open to the Austrians as France is being played irregularly.

Events

SPRING:E,T
AUTUMN:F
WINTER:E,F
D.Elson resigns and Turkey is in anarchy.

GAME: D1
WINTER '10



COMMENTS 1910

The now new Austrian superstate makes more gains this year in both the southwest and in the northeast. The French state becomes a mass of imobile units waiting to be cut down by whoever wants them.

Events

SPRING:F,E
AUTUMN:E
D.Kroonenburg dropped as France which goes into Anarchy.
WINTER:E
S.Nelson dropped from England which also is in Anarchy. Austria is the only player state left in the game.

COMMENTS 1911

The only orders this year were from Austria so it was a forgone conclusion that this state would win. Only minor and token areas remain out of austrian control. An overkill win.

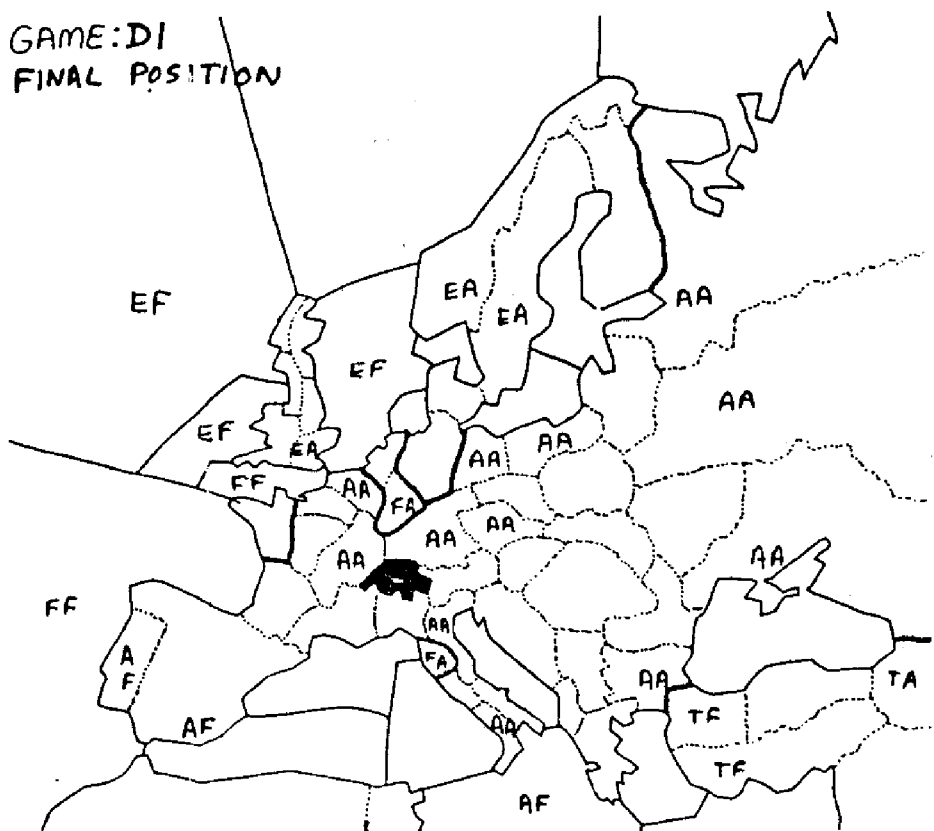
Events

SPRING:

AUTUMN:

WINTER:

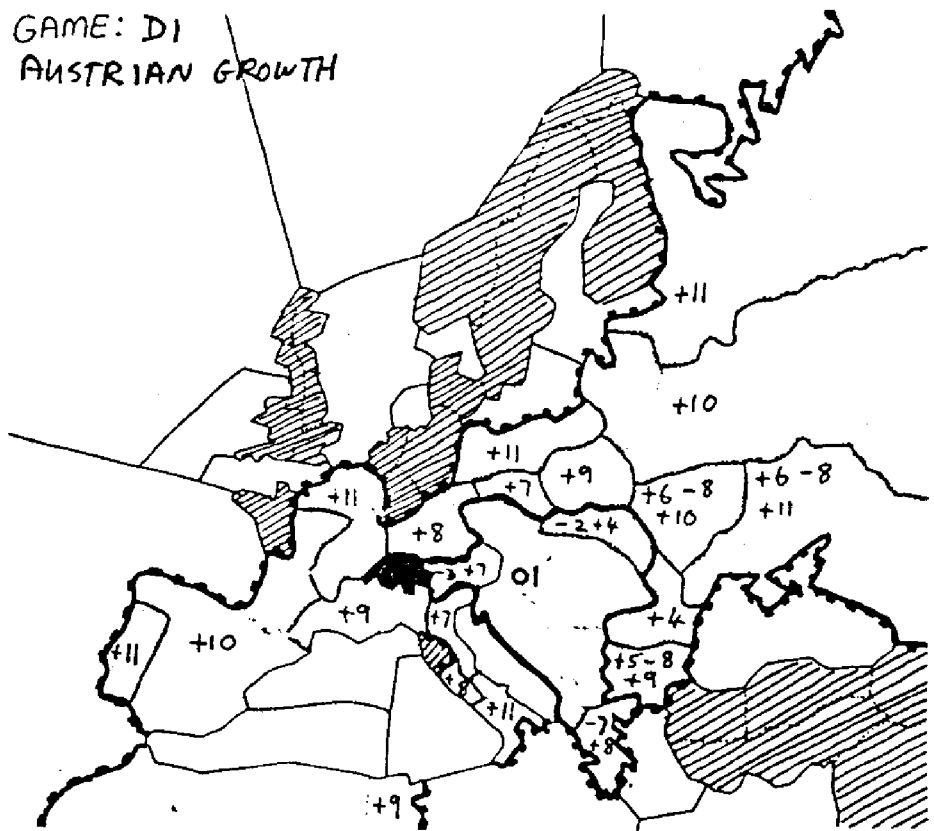
GAME: D1 FINAL POSITION



AUSTRIAN GROWTH

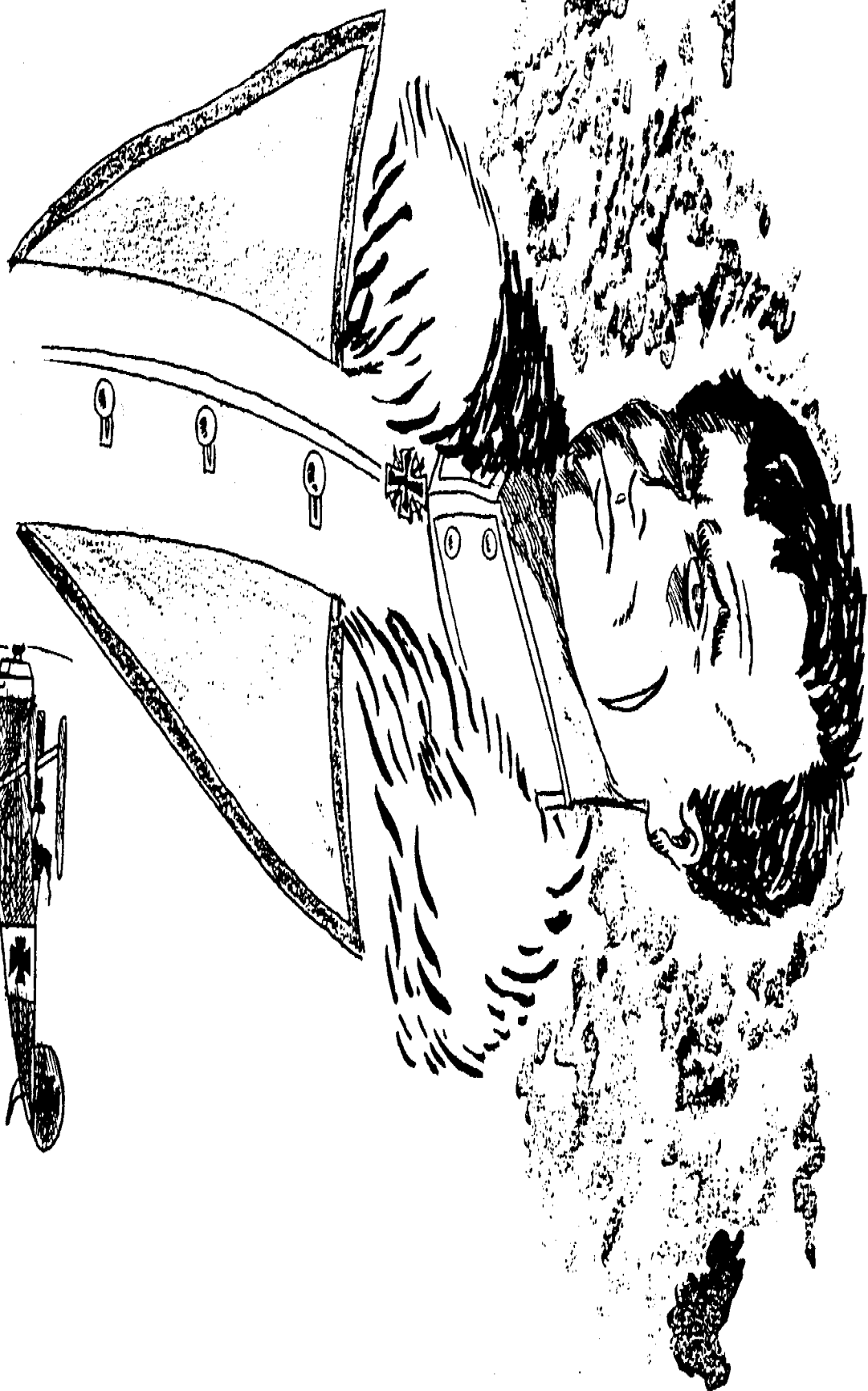
The map at right is a representation of the Austrian growth pattern for the game. The 1st solid line indicates territory controlled in 1901. The 2nd solid line (with bumps!) indicates the Austrian border at the end of the game. Shaded areas were never controlled. A plus number is year gained, negative is year lost.

GAME: D1 AUSTRIAN GROWTH



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A look at Enemy Ace.
by Kevin Patrick

Traditionally, war has always been depicted as a harmless, grand adventure in comics. Enemy soldiers would die a bloodless death, and the good guys would always come out on top. Costumed super-heroes also got in on the act. Now, with one sweeping blow, these almost god-like figures could decimate entire regiments of troops. It must have looked like so much fun to the readers of the time.

Such war comics first appeared in Britain and America, (the rest of the English-speaking world would soon follow suit) during the early years of World War two. Japanese and German soldiers were depicted as being horribly inhuman, murderous butchers, so that the readers could easily distinguish between them and the clean-cut, clear-thinking American Marine. At best, these comics were blatantly crude pieces of propaganda.

With the coming of the Korean "police action" in 1950, "Nips" and "Krauts" were exchanged in favour of "Gooks" and "Stinkin' Commies". The trends established for war comics in the previous conflict were continued into this one.

However, there were obvious exceptions, these being the classic FRONTLINE COMBAT and TWO-FISTED TALES from EC comics. War, for the first time in comics, was portrayed in all its futility, stripped of any false glory. The disturbing realism wasn't to last very long. Like many innovative ideas, it was short-lived, now with the introduction of the COMICS CODE AUTHORITY in 1955. With its stringent rules as to what could, and could not be printed, subjects like war looked even more like a game under these sanitised conditions.

In 1964, the line of newly formed WARREN comic magazines, outside the control of the CCA, launched a new title called BLAZING COMBAT. It was well received by those who saw it, but distributors were reluctant to handle the magazine, on the grounds that it contained stories of the then-beginning Vietnam War. The comic was cancelled after four issues.

For the most part, realism in war comics was a definite taboo as far as most publishers were concerned. Then sometime in the mid 1960's emerged a character that was to in some small way, change this sheltered outlook. DC's SHOWCASE comic, issues 57 and 58, saw the first appearance of one Hans Van Hammer...the Enemy Ace.

Created by long time comics author Robert Kanigher, ENEMY ACE was the commanding officer of a German Luftwaffe squadron, operating over the front lines of Europe during World War One. Flying a blood red, triple winged Fokker, and garbed in a billowing flying jacket and helmet, atop of which was the flowing tail of a Jasta leader, Von Hammer was visually impressive. Indeed, he did look like the "angel of death" that he was often referred as.

Though he was a highly decorated flier, with over fifty kills to his credit, Von Hammer was a troubled man. Trained to kill, he abhorred the senseless bloodshed of war. Idolised by millions, he was truly alone, his very presence casting a chill of fear over those around him. It was only when he went hunting in the Black Forests that he found true companionship, in the shape of a pitch black wolf.

When in the company of this beast, the reader got a glimpse into the character of Von Hammer, as he espoused his frustrations over his role in the sky. "The Hammer of Hell" realises that he can never have true friends. Apart from the wolf, his only constant companion is death, who is always awaiting him in the skies above.

All of this tends to give the impression that Von Hammer is devoid of any emotion. Being the veteran of many bloody combat sorties, one would assume that Von Hammer is accustomed to death. He is not. The sight of

seeing his raw, inexperienced pilots plunging earthwards, engulfed in flames, burns an image of pain and suffering into his mind, an image that cannot be easily erased.

On returning from a mission, Hans had to contend with the empty, despairing gazes of his junior officers. He knows what they are thinking, but he says nothing. It is for this reason that his comrades think that Von Hammer is heartless and uncaring. Evrywhere he goes, "The Hammer of Hell" is reminded of his blood drenched past. That walls of his living quarters are adorned with trophies, each one signifying a 'kill', another human life. "The Human killing machine" often found himself wondering when his own life would be epitomised by a gleaming silver trophy.

Throughout the entire series, Robert Kanigher managed to introduce some incredibly bizarre characters, used as opponents to counter Von Hammer. Chief amongst these was the Hangman, a french pilot who flew a "coal-black Spad", his horribly scarred face concealed by the hangman's hood. This vengeance obsessed pilot proved to be Von Hammer's deadliest foe. Then there was St. George, the British airman who was facinated by his legendary namesake. He wore armour on his torso and a silver knight's helmet. However, his insistance on honour and chivalry soon led to his death.

Possibly the most macarbe episode of the ENEMY ACE saga was seen in issue 144 of STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES. In a tale that was illustrated by Neal Adams (pencils) and Joe Kubert (inks), Von Hammer was confronted by a British air unit who donned themselves in skeleton costumes. Their skull like faces would leer at the german pilots, putting blind panic and fear into the hearts of the younger officers. A favourite trick of this group was to tow a large balloon, decorated with a deaths head, behind the leading plane. The raw German pilots would race off to destroy the balloon as if answering the challenge to fight. They found out too late, that it was a deadly boobytrap. the cost to Von Hammer's squadron was devastating.

Of course, Kanigher's writing could not exist by itself. Someone, after all, had to illustrate it. That someone was Joe Kubert, the comics master. In working on ENEMY ACE, Kubert produced some of his finest art. The reader was placed in the pilot's cockpit, and sent on a death-defying, roller coaster ride across skies filled with the stench of smoke, thundering gunfire and burning flesh.

Von Hammer was himself delinated in the most fitting manner. The downturned mouth, the sunken eyes and duelling scar on the left cheek all brought home the loneliness of the character that Kanigher's writing could not possibly convey.

Tri-winged Fokkers, Spads, Sopwith Camels, giant airships and sundry other fighter planes of the time were drawn with mechanical precision, while at the same time maintaining their battered, shot up appearance. While Kubert was not allowed to depict the true, physical graphicity of war, he did manage to portray conflict on this scale as being a brutal, bloody and grim affair; a world where there was no glory, no true victors, only death.

BIBLIOGRAPHY-

If you should ever get the chance, read some of the ENEMY ACE stories, as they're well worth having. Be warned though; sometime around issue 151, STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES began featuring both THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER and ENEMY ACE. In an attempt to acomodate both features (both being illustrated by Kubert), ENEMY ACE then went on to feature a series of reprints of earlier ENEMY ACE stories.

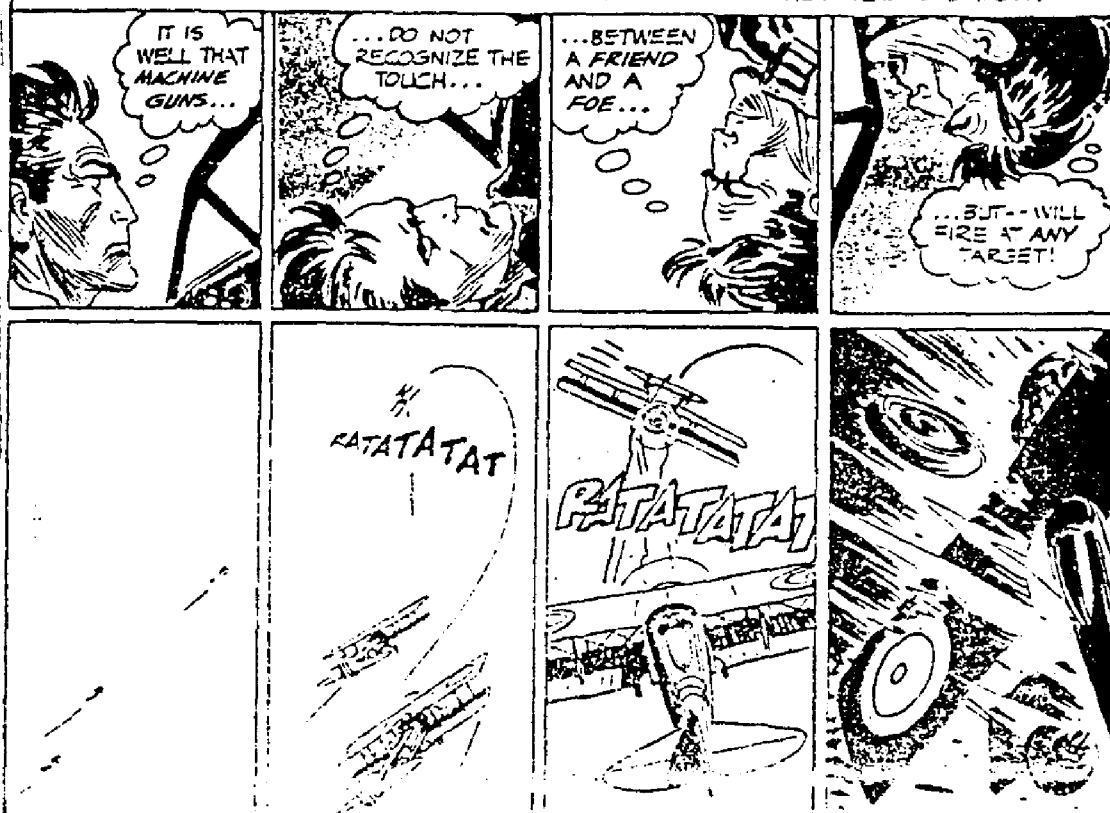
ENEMY ACE appeared in the following DC comic magazines -

SHOWCASE No.s 57, 58 and 100 (the 1978 anniversary issue)

OUR ARMY No.s 151, 153 and 155

STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES No.s 138 to 161

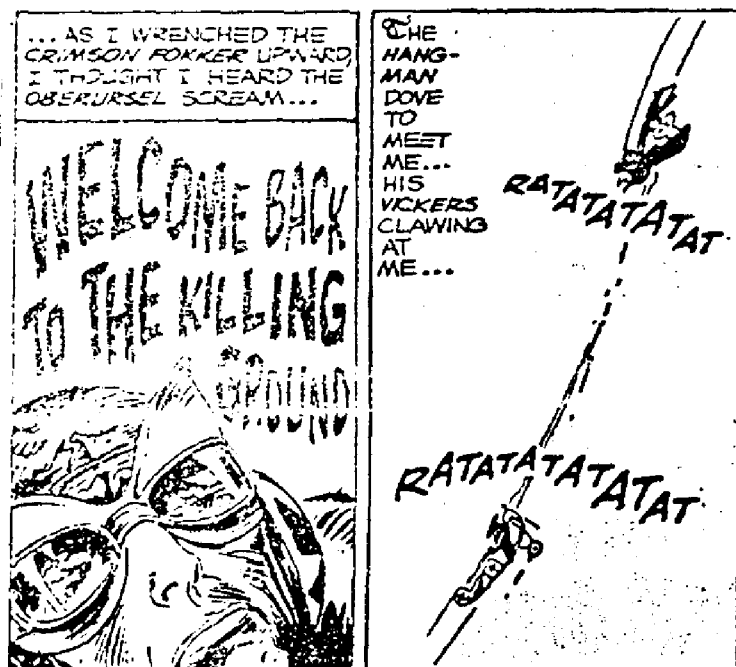
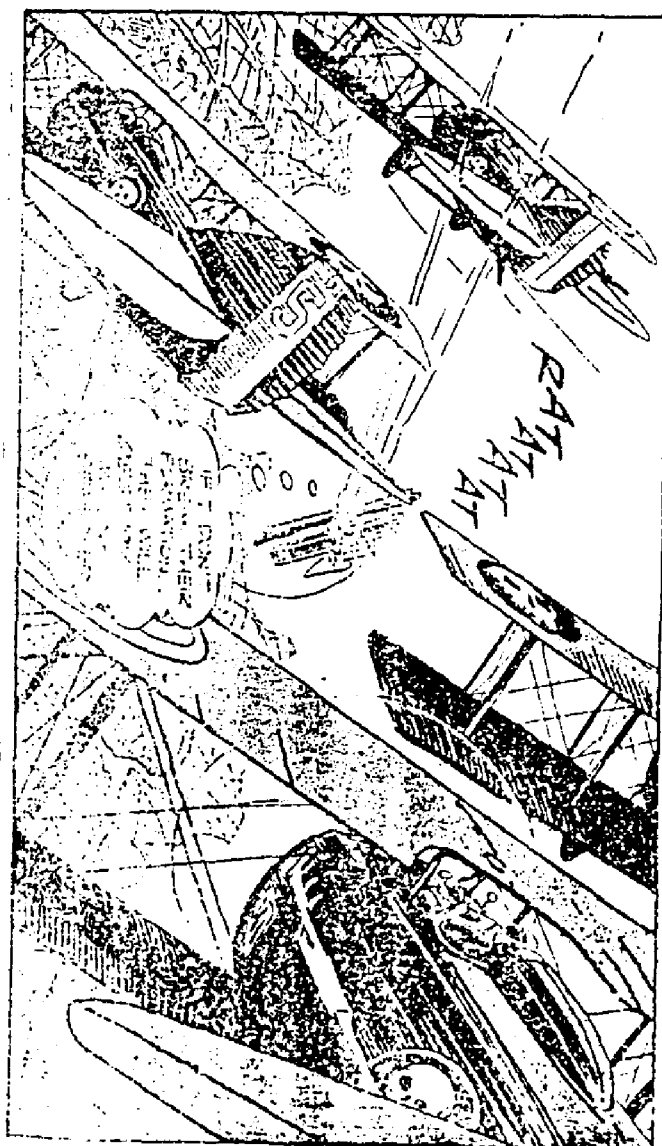
EARTH AND SKY CHANGED PLACES DIZZILY BEFORE MY EYES... AS I WRENCHED THE SPAD INTO A SHRIEKING LOOP THAT TURNED ME UPSIDE DOWN-- FACING THE PURSUING SHIPS...



LEFT:

An innovative piece of story-telling from Joe Kubert.

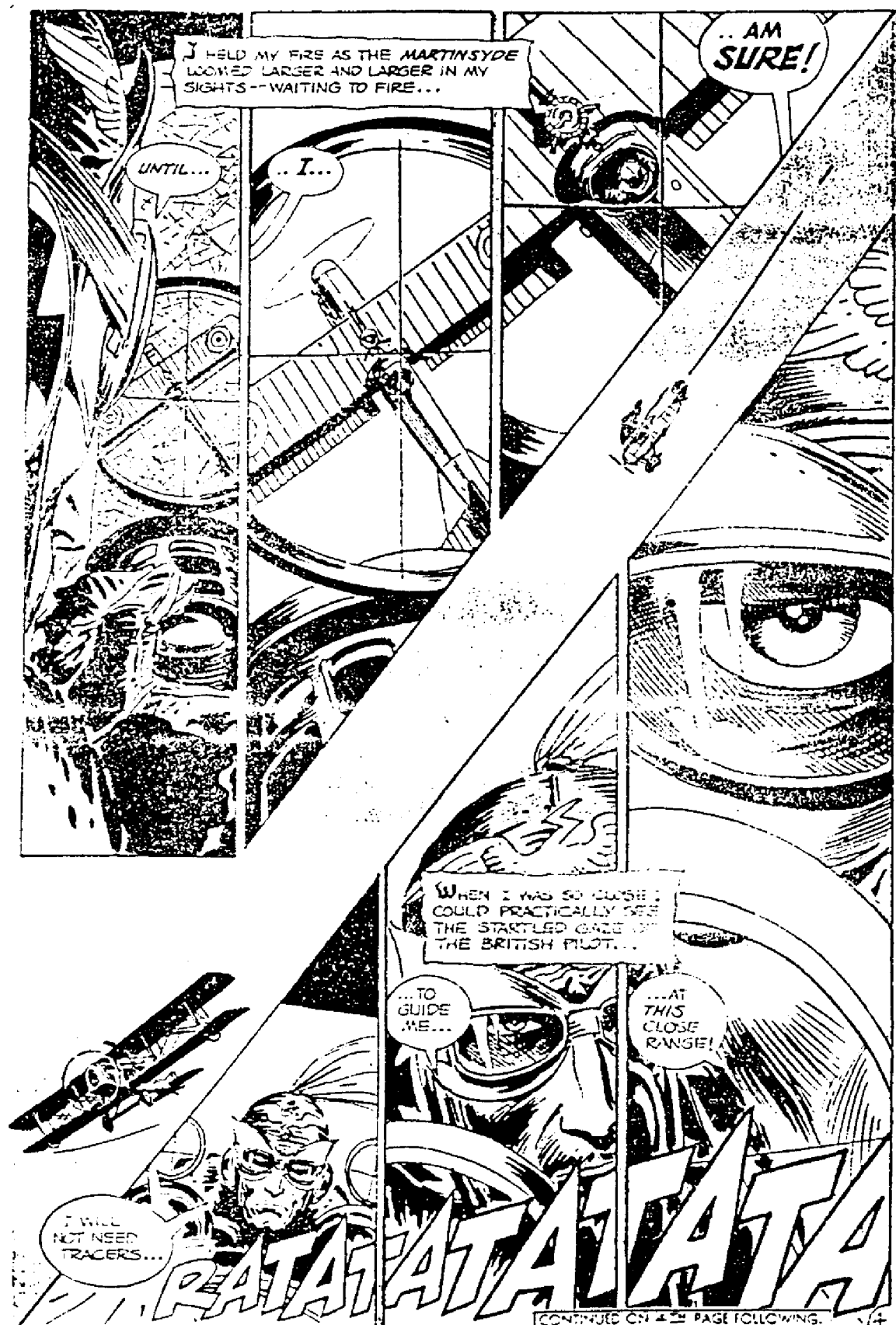
(FROM STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES No140)

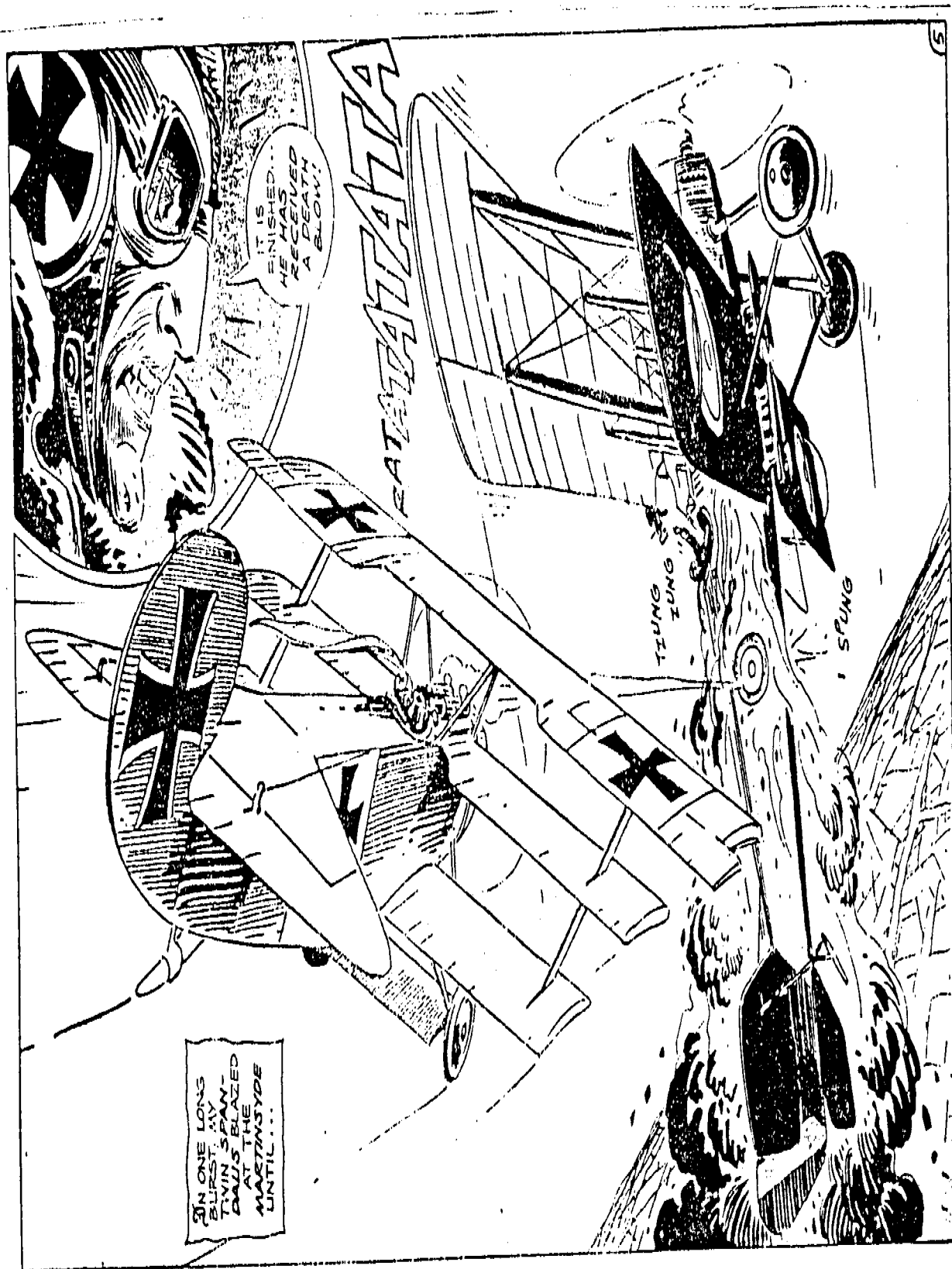


ABOVE: An ominous warning for ENEMY ACE as he goes into combat. (FROM S.S.W.S No.138)

LEFT: Von Hammer tries to intercept the 'skull squadron' (FROM S.S.W.S. No.144)

BELOW: The first page of an explosive two-page
aerial dog-fight sequence as drawn by Joe
Kubert. (FROM STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES No138)





FILMS

This column, which has not been terribly regular (as it is a year since the last) alters slightly with the idea that any film can be reviewed independently of whether or not it is a recent release. The reason is simple enough, video. No sooner do films come and go (and some never come at all) at the cinema and driveins, than they appear in the video libraries ready to be hired out. The advantage of this (assuming you possess a video, not obvious s I don't) is that you don't have to rely on an off ratings season of TV to see an old film, you can hire it out instead.

This means that you can review films a year old or more and still be relevant, as they are still around on the video market. A mixed blessing I guess, some films show much better on video than the big screen and vice versa (see later).

There seems to be a local boom in cinemas. Many changes have occurred in Perth over the last year or so. The Picadilly was renovated in a major way with the stalls being eliminated and making the lounge the cinema proper. The seats were recovered and the decorative reliefs on the walls (which appear to show a sporting event at a nudist colony) were restored. The Hoyts Centre (which was once Cinema 2 until they split it in two) was increased when they discovered extra space next door where the old ROYAL cinema used to be. The Paris (where 3D films were shown) on the other hand disappeared when the arcade was renovated and has not been seen since. The Kimberly cinema has been converted into a Chinese Movie house as has the Savoy, despite it being a porno dive. Also, the Capri cinema had their coffee shop ripped out and replaced by a second theatre. I've also heard on the radio that Hoyts are planning to open several cinemas in the suburbs. Is a new cinema renaissance on the way?

However, at the same time you also get less for your money. In the "old days", you would before seeing the main feature see about 30 minutes of shorts. Some of the shorts were more interesting than the main feature. Other times, they were the most boring excuses ever hoisted upon a suspecting public. Nowadays, you won't get this. Instead, there is about 10 minutes of adverts (including the obligatory COKE ad.) and maybe 5 minutes of previews. Not that you didn't get these before, but minus the short. Does this mean you get more sessions? No. There is, in general, a morning, matinee, afternoon and evening session, just as there was before. In both cases there are exceptions. Shorts are sometimes shown at the Picadilly and when the school holidays arrive, sessions are compressed so that the maximum number of Care Bear and Ewok films can be shown.

Now part of the films reviewed in this issue will deal with the macho bullshit concept of overwhelming film hero, the guy who gets things done because, well they're unbeatable; that championed by Arnold and Sylvester and Chuck and...

Is there a function to having this sort of film? I think there must be, apart from making money for producers and that it must be pure fantasy entertainment. The Macho Bullshit films are reviewed under a heading held by their main lead. This is because you can't just have one macho film with a macho film star, you've got to have a series. And now, as I'm sure no character in the Polanski version of the play ever said, "Lead on McDuff..."

ARNOLD has appeared in quite a number of macho bullshit type films. About the first would be *Pumping Iron* which traces display bodybuilding and Arnold in particular. This was memberable for Arnold's line about what it's like to be out on stage. Apart from *Cactus Jack*, the rest of Arnold's films - *Conan*, *Conan II*, *Terminator*, *Commando* & *Raw Deal* - all fall into this category. It is with the last two that this review deals.

COMMANDO would have to be the best of the above films so far. A close contender would be *Terminator*, however this lacks the humour of this film. The basic plot of the film is that Arnold plays a CIA spy expert called Colonel Matrix whose daughter is kidnapped by a group that wants him to assassinate a South American President. Once this is established, Arnold spends the rest of the film getting her back. This would make a fairly straight forward adventure story but for two points: The main character performs totally incredible and unbelievable stunts constantly throughout the film (such as the exit from a plane taking off or the wiping out, single handed, of a secret army base) and there is a good sense (although sometimes very wicked) of humour throughout the film. It doesn't matter that the stunts are all impossible, as Arnold carries them off in such an over-the-top way. The film works because it doesn't take it self seriously.

RAW DEAL on the other hand is a case of miscasting. The style and pacing of the action is more suited to a Chuck Norris film. In this film Arnold plays a busted FBI agent who now works as a sherrif in a small country town. An old friend from the bureau calls and makes him an offer to get his old job back, if he will infiltrate a local crime group. For most of the film Arnold does this, but in this section the plot and action leads nowhere. Finally, when his friend is shot down and his cover blown, Arnold decides to go in and wipe out the gang, something he could have down at the start. There are minor subplots that add little to the film. The problem is, that Arnold is underused in this film. It

was more suited to Chuck...

Speaking of which, CHUCK has appeared in two films recently. The first is *Delta Force*, the second *Invasion: USA*. Chuck, as you know, was the original macho bullshit hero and appeared in numerous films of this ilk. An average actor, Chuck made his name for the kung-fu style action that he mastered. Recently however he has been trying to change his image.

DELTA FORCE starts with a reasonable premise. Terrorists have hijacked a planeload of Americans and flown them to Beirut. The Delta Force is a special commando group headed by Lee Marvin put together just for such occasions. Chuck is a retired member of the group who is convinced to help rescue the hostages. All this is OK and for the first two thirds of the film the action is believable. Thereafter, everything gets out of hand and realism goes out the window. This would not normally be a problem with this sort of film, but the audience has been led to expect that the film is realistic, and then it turns out to be a cliché ridden exercise in fantasy. As a result, I can't recommend it at all. You would be better served by his earlier films. Because I was dissappointed by this film, I avoided *INVASION: USA* and so can't report on it.

RUTGER is a newcomer in this area and is best know for his roles in *Lady Hawk* and *Bladerunner*. In the last year he has also starred in two films that fall into this category. These are *Flesh & Blood* and *The Hitcher*.

FLESH & BLOOD is a classic war film. It covers the renaissance period in Northern Italy / France and chronicles the downfall of a mercenary company led by one Martin, who is played by Rutger. The company is betrayed by the lord who hires them and their Commander (played by Jack Thompson) after the capture of a city. Martin leads the angry and desperate group who seek to survive and gain revenge. In the process they become bandits and capture (and rape) the betrothed of the son of

the lord who betrayed them. The group captures a castle and after several attempts to recapture it they are defeated by the cunning of their ex-Commander. The film is full of violence, physical and sexual, death and intrigue as various characters attempt to survive in this world. There are no heroes in this film, only survivors. This would make a good double feature with *Lady Hawk*; but it should be shown second.

THE *HITCHER* is a film about obsessions and nightmares. Rutger plays the role of a serial killer travelling around America and Texas in particular. The film starts when he is picked up by a youth and then follows the relationship between the two. The hitcher constantly sets the youth up in a series of murders where it appears the youth is the culprit. The result is a nightmare for the youth. Everyone he befriends or convinces is killed before he can prove anything. This is a film where everything gets progressively worse. There is a failed rescue scene that is most disturbing and the ending isn't a happy one. Recommended for horror addicts.

ALIENS is an unusual entry in this category. It has obvious elements that almost make it a macho bullshit film, but also has redeeming elements that prevent this.

The storyline follows on from the first film in that Ripley (who with the cat Jones are the only survivors from the first film) is picked up by a salvage team and revived. She still has to face the past and the traumatic experiences that to her happened a short time ago (50 odd years have passed while she was in suspended animation). Add to this the fact that the company she works for doesn't believe her story and holds her personally responsible for the destruction of the *Nostromo*, then her situation is not a happy one.

Her break comes when a colony established on the moon where the mothership is, breaks communication. She is sent back as one of two company advisors with a group of Space Marines to investigate the colony.

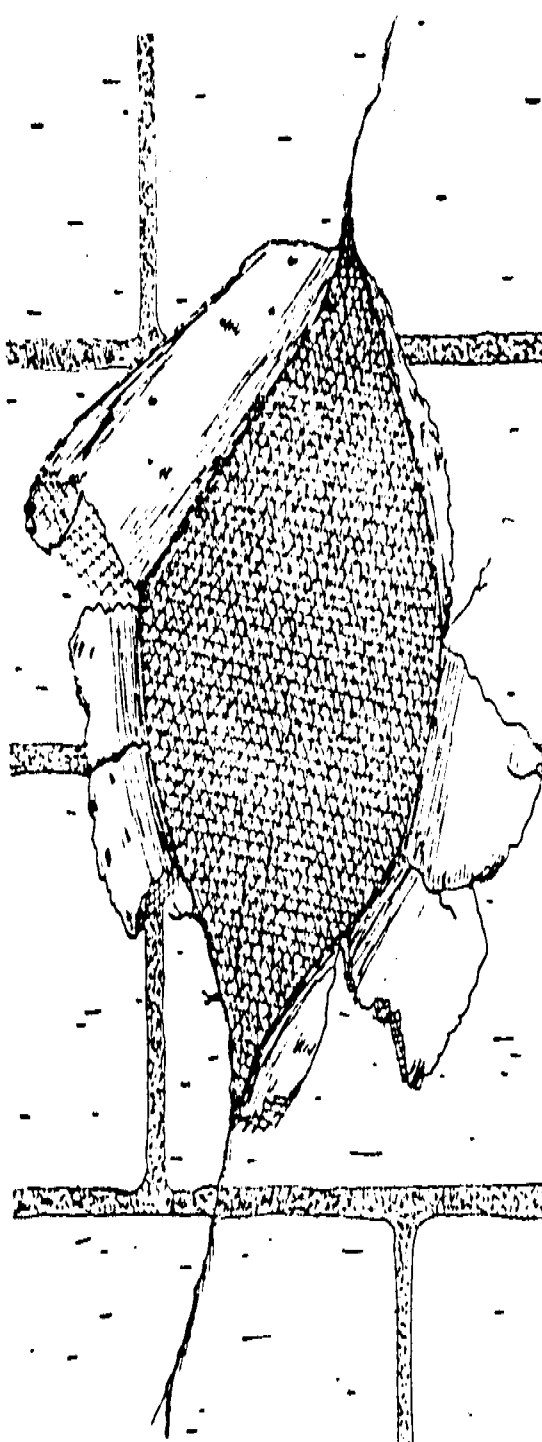
The bottom line about this film is that it is an excuse to see Aliens against proper weaponry, instead of unarmed civilians. This places the film in the macho bullshit category. However, the redeeming feature of this is that it also has a decent storyline. Ripley has the chance to face and conquer her fears and it is worth seeing for this. In many ways the plot is very close to the original. You can substitute Newt for Jones (a girl for a cat), one self-destruct sequence for another and the final battle occurs in an airlock just like the original. However, other situations are not copied from the first film. The Android in this film is not the villain. The Marines (who are all full of themselves) are almost wiped out by their own gung-ho. Only those who don't overestimate the Aliens (such as Ripley and Newt) or panic, survive.

There are some glaring flaws in the military background and procedure depicted in the film. The style presented is VIETNAM, even down to the slang. The most glaring military mistakes are:

- a) Leaving no one on board the command ship (though this is the same procedure as seen in the first film) when going planetside.
- b) Not securing the drop ship from attack.
- c) Why hadn't a full plan of the colony been supplied before the expedition was sent?

Without further knowledge of standard drop procedure and exactly what the crew were expecting (what is a "bug-hunt"?) it is difficult to argue on these points. Also, the final confrontation scene where Ripley faces the Alien Queen and says "Leave her alone you Bitch!" is almost comical despite it being serious.

Despite these flaws, I felt that ALIENS was a good film. The plotting like the original is tight and few scenes are wasted. As in the first film, all the characters are flawed, but this adds, not detract from it. A worthy sequel, however I hope there is no 3rd film.



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05

ENEMY MINE

This doesn't really fit into the macho bullshit category, however it is advantageous to review it here. This film was at the cinema for less than a month and I caught it at the Cinema with Tim Richards.

As we watched the film we were able to pick bits and pieces that had been ripped off from other films. You may have heard that the film is an SF version of *Hell in the Pacific*. This is not quite true. There are bits of this film present, but it also borrowed heavily from others such as *Temple of Doom*, *Robinson Crusoe on Mars* and so on. Can the film therefore be judged on its own merit. I think so, but the verdict is not a good one.

The plot is once again a simple one. The two protagonists come from two warring races and both are stranded on a hostile planet. At first there is an intense rivalry between the two and there is a contest of wills. Later they become friends and when the alien dies giving birth prematurely the human raises the offspring. Eventually they are rescued and the human takes the alien to a holy place where it must be initiated. Thus may or may not end the war, but this is never made clear in the film. The point is that the human can speak alien, the first to do so.

Basically, the film is antiwar and promotes the belief that if we (that is to say, different cultures) could communicate properly, then we could resolve our differences. This is admirable, however as such I feel the film to be a failure.

The film is plagued with cliché after cliché which weakens the message. I found a number of plot devices unbelievable, such as the two main characters being able to share food caught, the pirates using alien labour and so on. I would recommend this film, but only on video.

And speaking of Tim Richards, he's also written two reviews for this zine, as printed opposite...

KING KONG LIVES

Larry and I had decided to see a film on Boxing Day, and for some reason had resolved to take in the worst movie showing. Scanning the newspapers, how could we go past KING KONG LIVES? The advertising blurb read as follows: "HE'S BACK - AND HE'S NOT HAPPY (Larry thought this was obvious, who would be after plunging to a painful death from the World Trade centre?). KING KONG LIVES - AND HE IS NOT ALONE." The movie poster showed Kong besieged by soldiers, reaching out a giant hairy hand towards... another giant hairy hand? "Great," we said, "this looks potentially very silly!"

However, let me give you a serious precis of the plot(?). You see, King Kong didn't really die when he hit the New York streets. He actually (chuckle) went into a coma (hahaha) and was kept alive by a private medical institute. Ten years later, the institute decides to bring him back to life by giving him a (hee-hee-heehoho) mechanical heart transplant; only problem is, he won't survive the operation without a blood transfusion. Luckily, though, a big game hunter in Borneo (Hahaha! do you believe it?) just happens to capture a... a... (Oh no!) a giant female gorilla who becomes known as Lady Kong, and... That's it! Hahaha-hahahohohhehehahaaaa!

Sorry about that. Anyway the rest of the film is just like 'Love Story', only with giant gorillas in the lead roles. I quite enjoyed it, really (but then, I enjoy watching 'Lost in Space'!).

Tim's rating: "What the hell am I doing at this movie?"

THE FLY

The blurb for this particular flick read "THE FLY: BE AFRAID, BE VERY AFRAID." which led to several similar jokes during the pre-film advertising, e.g. "THE GUNGE (that sits mouldering away at the back of the fridge), BE AFRAID, BE VERY AFRAID."

However, I digress. the film, though entertaining overall, was a little confusing. That is, the various horror scenes had divergent effects on the audience. These

scenes fell into three categories:

- 1) Those that you laughed at
- 2) Those that you were horrified by and laughed at later; and
- 3) Those that you were horrified by and still don't want to think about even a week later!

There were several clever but particularly gruesome effects which were the reason for the THE FLY's R rating. These were not as gratuitous as you might expect, however, and usually added something to the plot.

The plotline itself is quite intriguing, especially in the first half of the film. In a nutshell, Seth Brundle, a young and somewhat eccentric scientist is perfecting a process of instantaneous matter transportation. The crowning moment of his work comes when he manages to teleport himself from one 'telepod' to another within his laboratory. Unfortunately though, a fly is also present in the first telepod. Confused, Seth's computer decides to solve the problem by genetically splicing together the two organisms into a completely new being ("Brundlefly" as the computer calls it). Unlike in the original version of THE FLY, the metamorphosis is quite gradual - immediately after teleportation, Brundle appears quite normal (but as Peter Russell-Clarke might say, "Where's the fly?"). As the film progresses, however, he begins to change...

See THE FLY if you like horror movies. Hell, see it even if you don't. It's an odd (and possibly unintentional) mixture of SF, horror and comedy and is worth seeing!

Tim's rating: "BE AMAZED, BE VERY AMAZED."

Thank you Tim, and now a review to round off this column.

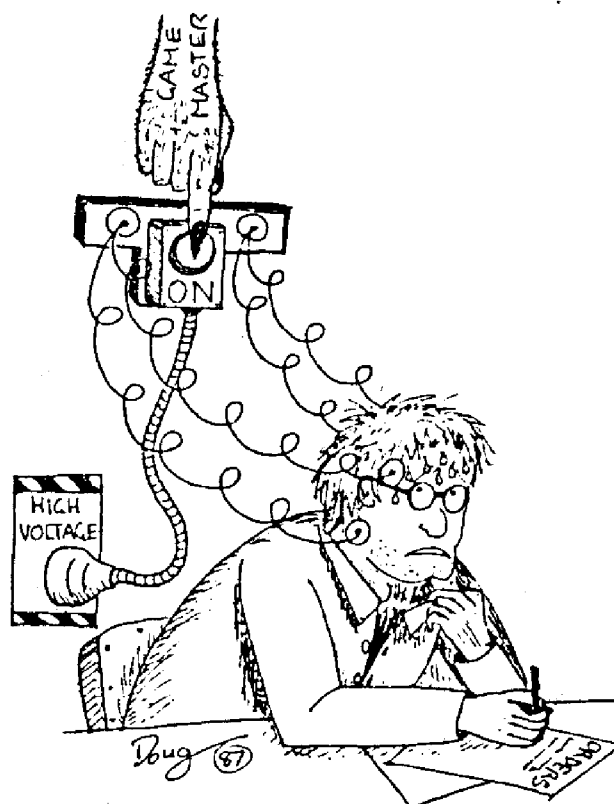
THE GOLDEN CHILD

I waited until the school holidays were over before seeing this. From what I'd heard, it was hard to know what to expect from the film. The main character is a child finder played by Eddie Murphy. He is contacted by a buddist group who want him to search for the golden child of the title. The child is a promised messiah who will lead the

world into a new era of peace and love. He has been stolen by an agent of evil who seeks to kill the child and prevent the new era from coming.

This is an unusual film in that for most of the film, the special effects are understated. These are subservient to the plot and quite effective in placing the mood of the film. This is how things should be, as films that are primarily vehicles for SFX tend not to be remembered. The one really memorable scene however is when the devil's agent contacts his master. We see the camera zoom in for a closeup while he is meditating and when it pulls back, we see that he is now on a pinicle in Hell.

The plot is simple and even straight forward and Eddie Murphie plays his role low key, which was not what I expected. The final outcome is a little predictable but doesn't detract from the film. Worth seeing at least once.



* SEE BARRY ELLIS'S LOC ON
PAGE 10, APOCRYPHA *

DUE TO MISMATCHING ILLO SPACE;
THIS IS THE ONLY SPARE PLACE TO
LOCATE THE ILLO!

BILLIARD GOLF

This is a version of this game as taught to me at the Midland Regional Office, I make no pretense that this is the only way the game can be played. The main purpose of the game is that of time waster and it is best indulged in when the participants are slightly or wholly inebriated. The more booze intaken, the longer the game. It is a game for between 3 and 7 players, the more players, the more confusion. A Two player game does not work well.

Equipment

- 1 x Pool/Billiards Table, 1/2 or 3/4 size is best.
- 1 x set of pool balls, each player uses two balls with the same colour the black ball isn't used.
- 2 x cues, at least.

Terminology

Each player uses a set of balls of the same colour, one small ball (which will be from 1 to 7) and its matching large ball (from 9 to 15). The small ball is now called the players club. The large ball is now called the players ball.

Each pocket is now called a hole. The pocket that the player is currently trying to sink their ball is known as the target hole. The final hole is the corner left pocket behind the baulk line and is known as +5 (see diagram). Each hole has a number and the first target hole is 0.

The initial shot a player makes when his ball is first placed on the table is known as teeing off.

A players approach is said to be clockwise if their current target hole lies in a clockwise direction from their previous target hole, as measured from the centre of the table. Conversely, the approach is said to be anticlockwise if their current target hole lies in a anticlockwise direction from their previous target hole, as measured from the centre of the table.

Object

The object of the game is to sink your ball in hole number +5 from a clockwise approach. You cannot win the game on a fault, you must sink the ball into that hole yourself.

Play

Each player takes turns in hitting their club with a cue so that the club will hit their ball. If the player sinks their ball into the current hole, they gain an advantage and may tee off again. Play then rotates to the next player in numeric order of the clubs and rotates to the first player after the last player has their shot. Play continues until either one player wins or there are no players left in the game.

Teeing Off

Initially each player must tee off from the "D". Later, a player must tee off if they have just sunk the ball in the target hole, or have been subject to a fault.

A Player tees off by placing the ball on the tee and hitting it with the club. Normally, the tee is the centre spot. If the centre spot is blocked, the middle spot is used. If the middle spot is also blocked, the pyramid spot is used. If the pyramid spot is also blocked, the black ball spot is

used. If this spot is also blocked, the player may not tee off that round and misses their shot.

A spot is blocked if, should the ball be placed on that spot, it would move or touch another ball.

If a player is teeing off from a foul, or at the start of the game, the club is placed by them within the "D". If a player is teeing off from sinking their ball, the club is played from its present position.

Fouls

A foul is a mistake or error in the game and is the very crux of play. A player seeks to avoid fouls while trying to foul the other players. A player fouls themselves when:

- They take a shot out of sequence,
- hit the wrong ball (ie: not their club) with the cue,
- sink their club in a hole,
- sink their ball in any hole other than the target hole,
- either club or ball leaves the table on their shot,
- or foul another player.

Another player is fouled by that player when:

- Their club or ball is hit by the players club before it hits the players ball,
- ball or club is sunk on the other players shot,
- club or ball is forced off the table by another players shot,
- or the player hits their club or ball by mistake with the cue.

If the player fouls themselves, they suffer a penalty and their club and ball are removed from the table. If another player is fouled, they gain an advantage and their club and ball is removed from the table. In either case, such a player must tee off in their next turn.

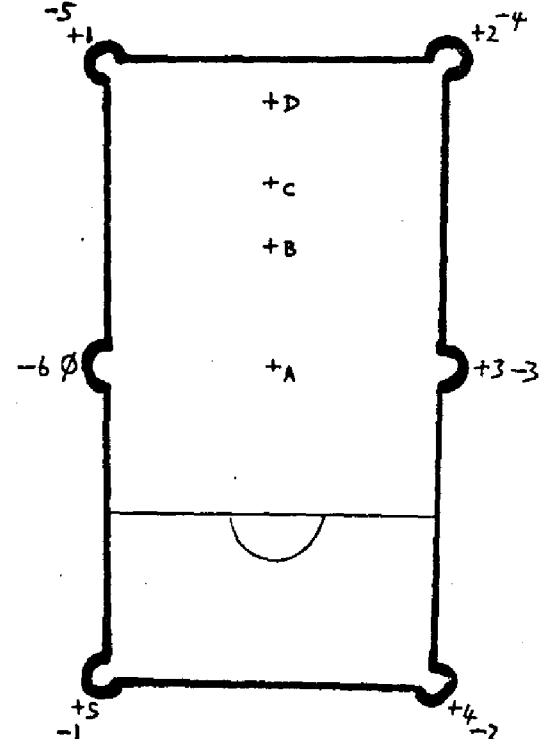
Penalties and Benefits

If a player gains an advantage, their target hole becomes the next in a clockwise direction, the next higher numbered hole. If a player gains a penalty, their target hole becomes the next in an anticlockwise direction, the next lower numbered hole. There is no hole higher than +5, there is no hole lower than -6. If a player is by a penalty forced to a lower numbered hole than -6, their target hole remains -6. If however the player suffers a penalty 3 times in a row, while at -6, they are eliminated from the game and their club and ball removed from the table.

A player may gain no more than one advantage or penalty per shot. If a player leaves the game voluntarily, either remove their club and ball or get a new player to play their position.

Time Limits

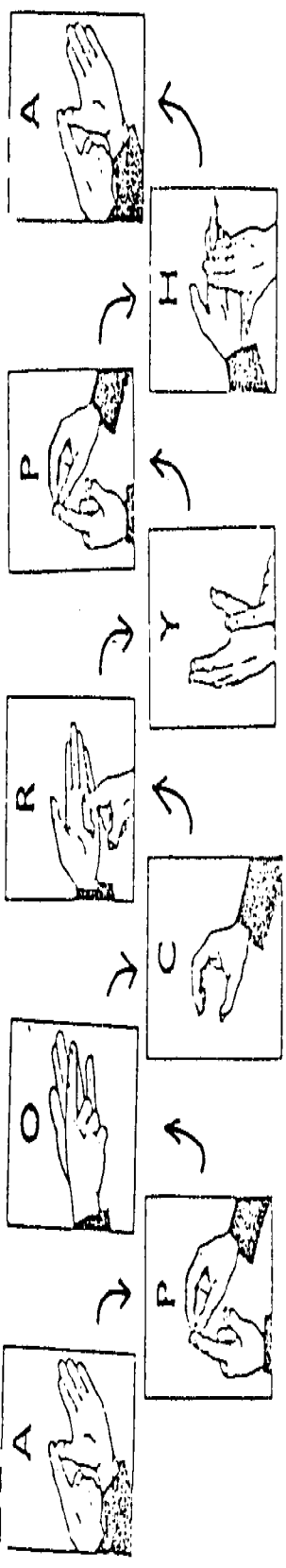
Players may set a time limit or limit based on other criteria before the start of play. When this limit is reached, play continues until the end of the round and the most advanced wins the game. If more than one player has tied for this position, they draw and everyone else loses. If no one can remember anyone's positions, have another beer and don't worry about it.



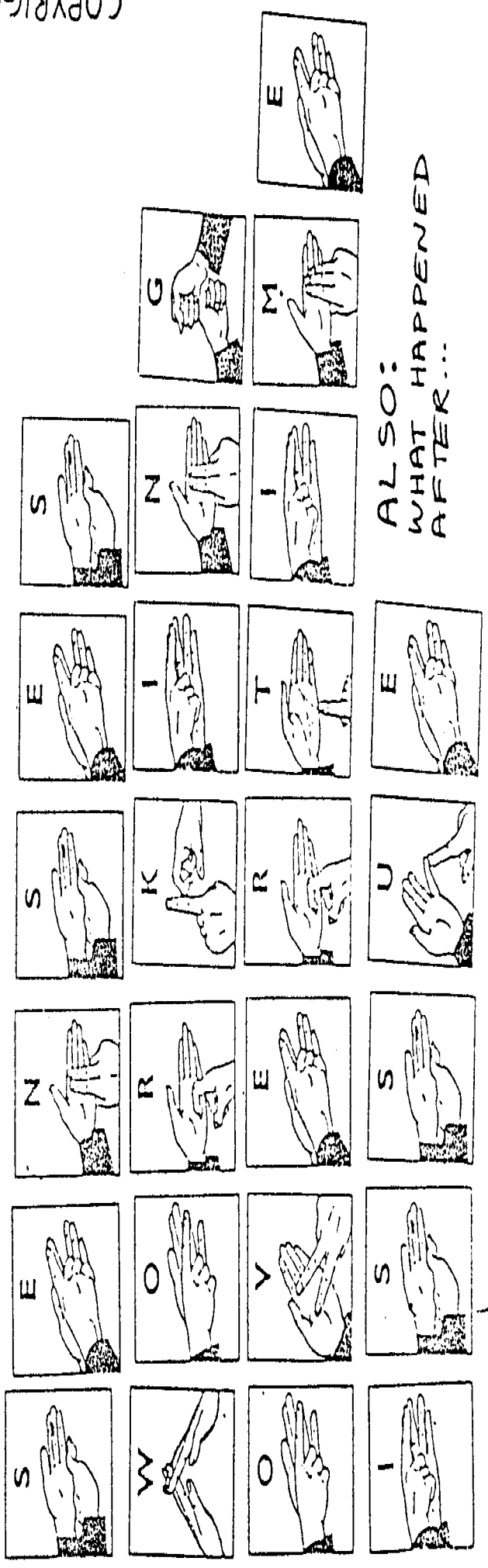
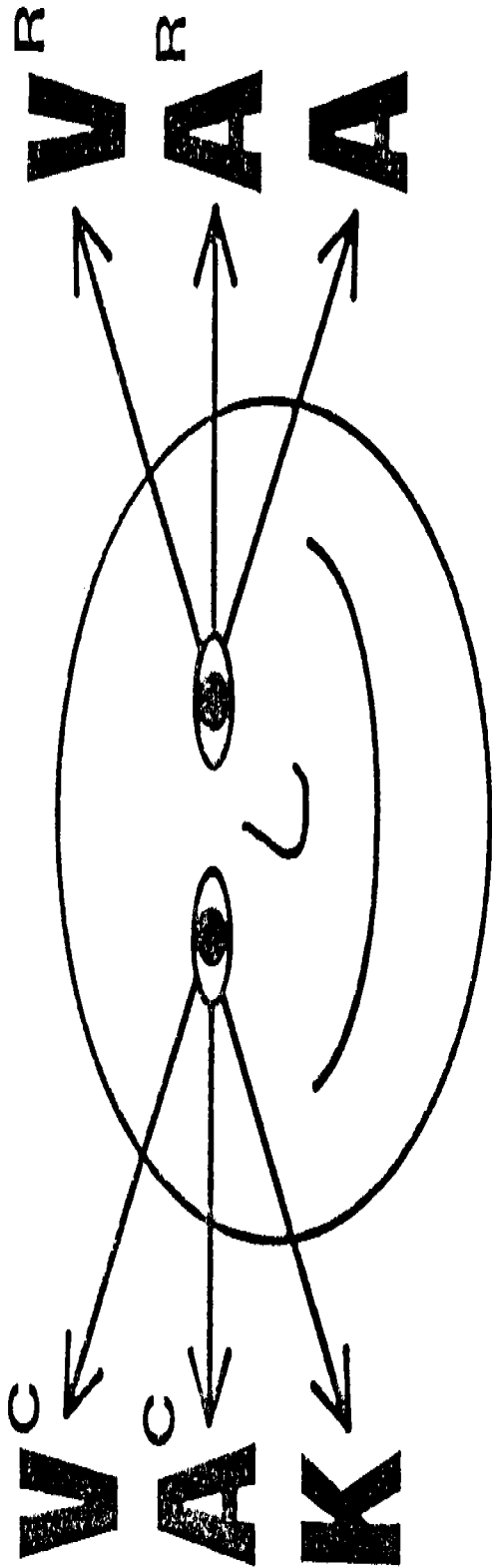
DIA. 1

A: CENTRE SPOT
B: MIDDLE SPOT
C: PYRAMID SPOT
D: BLACK SPOT

SUMMER



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EDITWAFFLE

The original cover for this issue was going to have an outline of a certain ornamental trophy, surrounded by a circle with an oblique bar through the middle and a subtitle reading "America's Cup Free Zine" as a form of pun. Well, I took too long to get this issue out, so that cover is no longer topical.

By now as you know, the Royal Perth Yacht Club has lost the thing to the San Diego consortium, after an embarrassing 4 - 0 defeat (out of seven races) in which the skipper Connor regained what he'd lost. The few days after the event had everyone in shock. Oddly enough I didn't mind it going at all. People would ask me how it was that we'd lost the thing and I'd say "Simple, they won 4 races to our none."

The cup was a mixed blessing for Australia and Perth. Sure, there was glamour while it was here and many people were expecting to make a killing on the tourist trade because of it, but it also had other effects. New building programs in Fremantle were due to it but this cost the ratepayers and taxpayers. Hotels and casinos were built, but once again this is either a rich man's sport or a mugs game. Bondy gained a blimp out of it. The metropolitan population were bombarded by news items about the cup and everything about it. Cup History highlights were shown on TV. The worst case of all was when all four channels televised the same race and three showed the same picture taken from the defender. Wow, what coverage! Frankly I'm glad its gone. Now maybe we'll get some cheap accommodation.

During the racing I rec'd a phonecall from Larry Peary in San Diego. I wasn't home when he called and asked about the racing and the cup. Now Larry, you can grab a closer look at the thing. (continued on Page 29)

FOR THOSE WHO CAME IN LATE, TAU CETI PHEONIX: APOCRYPHA is a personal amateur fanzine edited by Larry Anthony Dunning of P.O. Box 111, Midland 6056, West Australia. Free copies are sent to anyone who contributes articles, artwork, letters of comments, is mentioned directly therein, trades, is involved in SHADOW PRODUCTION games or CLICHE COMICS productions, is a library or subject to editorial whim.

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L.O.C.s

EDITORIAL NOTE: I'm trying a new format this issue in the locs section 'as as the writers name and address will appear at the start of the locs section and my comments will be grouped under subject. My footnotes are now indicated by superscript. Also note that "... " indicates and editorial break whereas "....." is where inserted by the writer.

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I ALSO HEARD FROM(IAHF):

Gail Kaufman, Annette Lotz, my cousins Andrea, Jan and Joy, S, R, J, M & H, also Damian Brennan, Larry Perry, Coralie Hines, Doug Miles, Alethea Raspa, Barbara de la Hunty & Jeff Jagoe, Tony Peacy, Warren Stewart, various other local fen/friends who are too numerous to name, various workers at the Midland Region office of DSS, Carol Woolmer, my brothers and mother too, all these and more but mostly in private or in words that are not repeated here. Thank you for your time and interest.

ADRIAN BUTCHER

Thank you for the latest issue of APOCRYPHA. I read it from start to finish with growing feelings of bemusement and irritation. Whilst saddened by your personal problems, I am offended by what you have done with this fanzine. It is not the intimate nature of the subject matter that offends me, but the fact that, whether intentionally or not, you have made it painfully obvious who you are talking about in your narrative about S. You may not mind readers finding out more than they want to know about your personal life, but what about S? I feel sorry for her.¹

I have met S on a number of occasions, and I know R and D of course. It doesn't take much insight to know who they are in your story. Your ramblings about revenge and honour do nothing to dispel the disquiet I feel about your not-very-private "revenge" on S.²

Surely you could learn from your experiences - even have your "revenge" if you must - without making a fanzine out of the whole pathetic, adolescent story. This is in no way demonstrative of "inner strength". You mentioned a letter you once wrote to S, and said it was the sort of letter that is best written and not sent. I strongly feel that, like the letter, this issue of APOCRYPHA would have been best written but not published. ☐

By the way; you're right, you do come across as an immature individual. And no matter how far you think you've come, you've still got a long way to go. ^

But then, I guess we all do.

JENNY BLACKFORD

Thanks for the fanzine. The issue was certainly much easier to read than the previous one - well done. Despite my occasional interest in Diplomacy (somehow I always end up being Turkey, but it's a good country) I find the non-gaming end more interesting. But what can I say about it? It was all so sad - though I'm glad that you're feeling stronger and better about yourself. I really hope that your self-image and confidence and friendships and loves all continue to improve. The business with S (whoever she is; I can't hazard a guess) all sounds very painful for you, but she at least liked you a lot, to do things like sitting for hours at a movie theatre, waiting for the next session of the movie because you missed minutes - not too many people would do that. She's doubtless young and confused too. From your description, it does sound as if she was using you - but that doesn't mean that she was JUST using you, if you know what I mean. ☐ It sounds very sententious...

MARK TURNER

We were most surprized and gratified to receive a copy of your mag so we thought that in return we'd send you a bit of bumf about the con we're organising...^

The con is called "Windycon '87" and will be held from April 17th to April 20th (easter Weekend) 1987. The venue is the Hotel St George, Wellington. The hotel is centrally situated and was in fact the site of the first con held in N.Z. Room rates are \$65+GST for a single and \$75+GST for a double or twin. These are at present and will probably rise.

GOH is Joe Haldeman, fan GOH is Alan Robson. That's enough to be going on with... (An ad. for the con appears elsewhere in the zine)

JOSEPH NICHOLAS

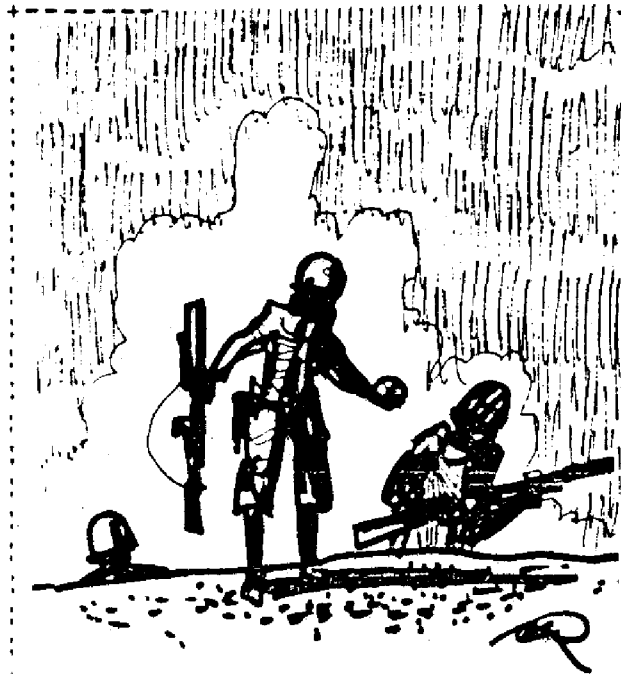
...the issue itself was far too long for its own good. The trick in writing about oneself, whether discussing one's thoughts and experiences directly or approaching them through the medium of a trip and convention report, is knowing what to leave out. Not everything that one did, or that happened to one, during a particular period of time, is of equal importance; and in writing about it one has to select and edit the raw material in order to impose upon it the necessary order and structure without which the relevant points will not be highlighted. You, on the other hand, simply wrote down everything you did in the order you did it, one item following ploddingly after another. ^ The result was an undifferentiated stew of indistinguishable and uninteresting events that has ceased to hold the reader's attention long before they've reached the halfway mark.

I'm sorry if this sounds too harsh, but I wouldn't be honest with you if I didn't say it.

CRAIG MACBRIDE

...Firstly, let me congradulate you on the first sentence on page 50, it was the first section I turned to! I'll comment on the rest of Apocrypha

in the order of your writings:



--+ If you didn't see more than one 7-11 you weren't looking too hard. I remember one near high school six-seven years ago and there are at least 70 of them in the Melbourne Telephone District. I enjoy driving anywhere I can get to in a day but if I were coming to Perth, I think I'd go by Train.

I agree that the Sheraton was too far out of the way, but I saw a number of films at the State Film Centre because the cinema is nice, there were some good films I had not previously seen and it is comparatively little effort to see a good 2 hour film, compared to a 1 hour panel. I went to the Sheraton once or twice on the way to the SFC. The Victoria was better, since many of us were staying there and the staff were far more friendly and tolerant than at the Southern Cross.

--+ ...Regarding attitudes, people etc., at cons, you seem to have had not the best time. If you wanted to replace seriousness with silliness at banquet time, there was an alternate Melbourne Science Fiction Club banquet (much cheaper too) - admittedly such things were not well advertised (like the demolition of Arthur Dents house in THHGTTG) but there were such things. I've never suffered much post con depression. At Aussiecon I got to sleep around 4:30 and got up to work at 7:30. No time to feel depressed; not enough rest to have much in the way of thought processes at all for a day or two... Larry, the only time I've ever seen you was at Aussiecon. You were a little zombie-like and not at all like any other fan I've met, although you seemed rather more alive when on a panel.

...While I don't really feel qualified to comment on S, there are a few things which would have rung loud warning bells in me: The times she failed to observe what was going on around her, and the "no one else will go out to see a film with me". My reaction to the latter would be "why not?", at least thought, if not vocalised.¹⁰

...I enjoyed reading Apocrypha - reality is often more interesting than fiction.

BRUCE GILLESPIE

...It's certainly a pleasure to see a return to good old traditional Bruce Gillespie type of fanzine, full of agonised true confessions. I read straight thru the story of your travels and attempts to come to grips with demon love (or as Damien Broderick puts it: 'Luff! Luff!').

I don't think you need worry about annoying or embarrassing anybody. It is, after all, possible to be infinitely more annoying and embarrassing, as you might see from some issues of my SF Commentary in the era 1972-75. In them you will find me not only confessing Agonised True Love on several occasions, but in at least one magazine printing a photo of the beloved on the cover, and making my feelings all too obviously known on inside the covers, despite the fact the lady was married at the time and both were known inside fandom. She was not amused - but forgave me eventually, and we still write to each other.¹¹

I have better experience of world conventions than you do. In fact, it was at my first, Torcon in 1973, that I - as you put it - lost my virginity, but that was at the end of a long and unbelievable set of circumstances. Geez, Larry, what are you going to Europe and England for?

American women are much friendlier.¹²

As for Aussiecon - anyone who travels both ways from Western Australia to Melbourne by car deserves to have as many misadventures as you had. Two hours riding in a car and I feel like a bag of wet cement; I presume that four days each way in a car will have the same effect on anybody, no matter how accustomed to travelling. Even so, you show only too well what a heartbreak old town Melbourne can be (as John Hepworth would say in *Nation Review*). Melbourne is great for the locals, but obviously some vast map of hell to somebody in circumstances like yours...

...It was a good story, well told. I don't have much good advice on how to live, since I do it so haphazardly myself. My feeling from reading the magazine is that if you keep putting all this energy into Finding the Way, you've got to get there eventually and have a lot of fun along the road. I hope you have more energy at the next convention we're both at, and we might even get to meet properly.

HARRY ANDRUSCHAK

...I was laid off from my job at JPL last december, in the wake of all the NASA cutbacks caused by the CHALLENGER disaster. After working at JPL 13 years, I was laid off.¹³

...Both of my chronic diseases are in control. My diabetes is firmly controlled by my diet and exercise program. I am still 20 pounds overweight, but my blood sugar levels read normal. So I just put on my exercise tights 4 times a week and work out in an Aerobics Gym along with dozens of girls, all of them in tights and leotards. Heaven!¹⁴

My other disease, alcoholism, is also under control, and that is mostly due to the "WE AGNOSTICS A.A." meeting that I started and supported. It has worked out so well that I am thinking of starting a second one. Sobriety without dogma and superstition.

...As for you zine itself and your story - I am not sure if I have any ability to comment on it. Having nearly killed myself with over eating and alcoholism, I am certainly in no position to criticize how other people run their lives.

I do get the impression, however, of progress. That you are trying to improve yourself, with whatever therapies you find useful. That, I would think, is the important thing. I have done something like that in AA too. As such, I found it an inspiring zine. Thanks again for sending it.

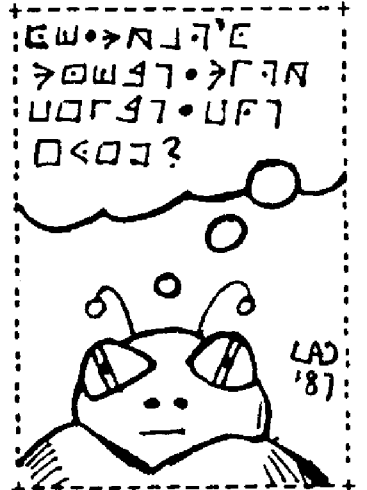
GARTH SPENCER

There seems to be a phase some people are going through, in the past year or two, making perhaps excessive personal revelations in their per-zines. I did that a year ago, feeling all the while that this was so stupid...

What really strikes me is the feeling that this phase is necessary, yet the personal confessions come across so stiff, ungainly, gauche, left-handed -- well. Maybe I'm projecting.

...The non-personal parts of your zine teach me what I was already learning from *Maple Leaf Rag*, and from my *The World According to Garth* correspondence. I am having great difficulty figuring out what people are interested in. You can bet on it that my interests run to ideas and words on current issues, in fandom and out; not to games. I can't bet on anyone else giving two foetid dingo's kidneys about the need to thrash out what the next national con will do, or what Worldcons are good for, or how to put fandom and work and romance into order.

I realise why I did a personal-revelations issue in TWATG 13, and also why I started MLR -- the same



reasons why I got into fandom at all. Looking for acceptance, I suppose. Looking for a place where, if I couldn't find the right woman (dream on), I could make my useful behaviour useful.¹⁵

Well it didn't work. By the time I produced TWATG 13, I was heading for a crisis, or a metamorphosis. Trying to provide a practically free service via the rag, as a substitute for living a whole life, wasn't working. As you will see from this TWATG (as was rec'd) I am being driven to go back and try again the kind of mundane life I ran away from. Certainly there's no indication that my services made much difference to the mindless anarchy that sometimes thwarts fan activities.

I hope this will be a better year for you.

MARC ORTLIEB

...Whew. Your descriptions, particularly of the relationship with S took me back aways. I think a lot of science fiction fans are fairly slow emotional developers, though generally rather fast intellectual developers. If I became sexually active at an earlier age than you it was simply because I met women who were more forward. Being involved in the amateur theatre was better for that sort of thing than fandom. (mind you, I still regret passing up the most wonderful offer I ever had - when a girl I'd known since highschool plonked herself down in my lap at a cast party and said "I've screwed every bloke in this room, and I'm looking for greener fields. are you green?" - as it happened, I was, and I declined the offer).¹⁶

I have a feeling that depression is far more common than many will admit. I hit my lowest - since becoming involved in fandom, at about the time of the McCaffery Swancon, with the result that I didn't get to a Perth convention until last year. I took a rather drastic way to bring myself out of my depression. I changed my image drastically, becoming the tie wearing short haired teacher I am today.

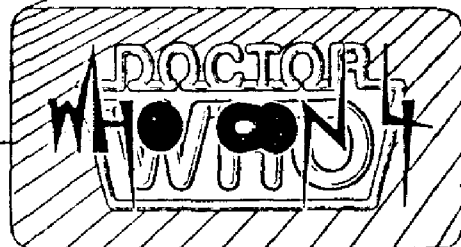
Gad! The Spencer St Hotel/Motel. I remember staying there once before moving to Melbourne. A real dump, as I recall, even worse than the Victoria, but cheap.¹⁷ (that was when I had a stronger Sydney orientation than Melbourne, and so wasn't confident about crashing with Melbourne fans) Ouch. It sounds like the events surrounding Aussiecon were not the sort you'd want to live through again. I know that the con was pretty hairy for Cath and me too, but I guess the comfort of another person is a real saver. (The only experiences I can recall that come close to yours were a few days during Deepsouthcon in Birmingham Alabama. I was short on money, at a convention where I knew no one, and was seriously missing someone - two someones in fact. Again I lucked in. I met people like Charlotte Proctor, Bob Shaw and Jim Gilpatrick).

Sigh. School tomorrow and, to be honest, I'm still not sure what sort of letter I should be writing to you.¹⁸ Hope things are showing signs of improvement though.

MICHEAL HAILSTONE

Some comments on APOCRYPHA: Your Editbaffle on criticism is interesting. What gets me is the tendency for some fen to set themselves up as a gauge of public, rather than fannish opinion, but I don't think I can add anything to what you've already said. But more specifically on your zine, well, while the printing has certainly improved, the typeface is just as small as it was and is too small for me. I haven't very good eyes so I find it a real strain struggling through such small print as yours. I would suggest changing your fanzine to a larger size, so you can accommodate the same number of words in larger typeface on the same number of pages.¹⁹

At least I found the issue very interesting. I could identify with you a lot, though I doubt that you're as much an alien as I am. While you effectively bared your soul, warts and all, one thing you didn't give



THE 4TH NATIONAL - S.C.O.T. - DOCTOR WHO
CONVENTION.

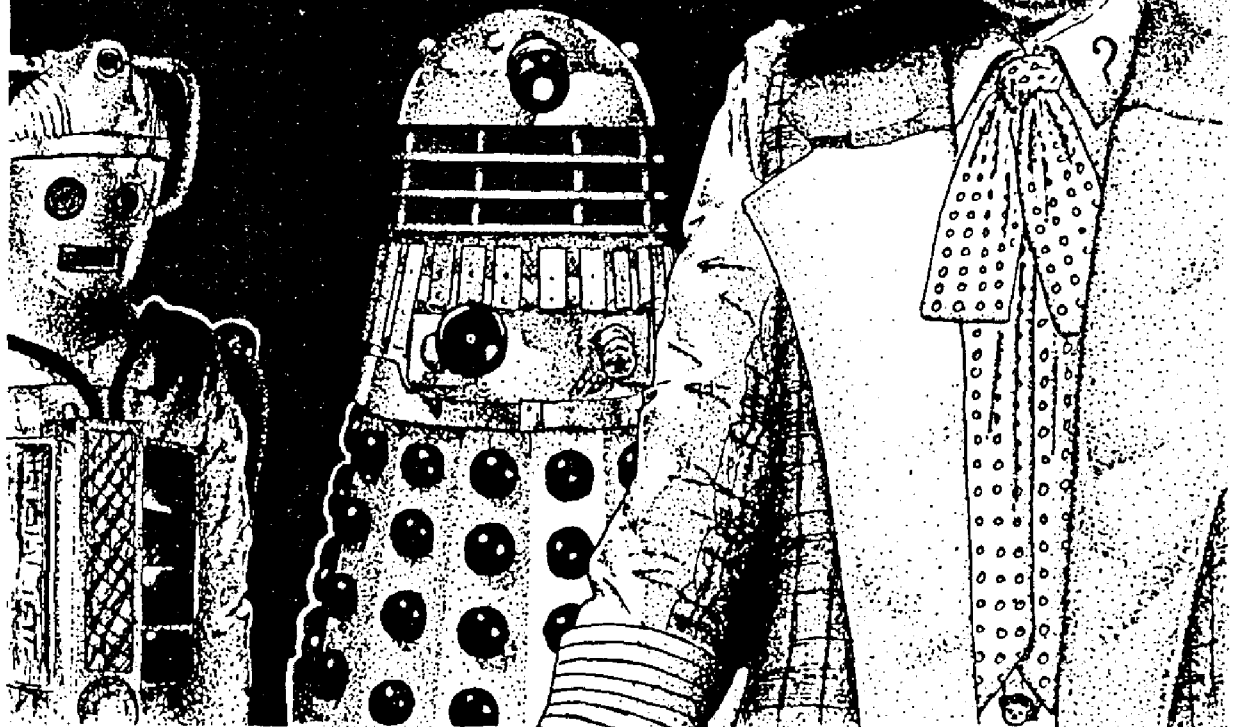
WHOCON 4, to be held in Perth W.A., is a three day celebration of 24 years of a time lord. Beginning on the 8th of January 1988 with "The Time Lords' Ball" - an evening function - the convention officially opens on the 9th and continues on the 10th. Events scheduled will be auctions, panels, a costume parade, quizzes, videos, merchandise and special guests.

"The Time Lords' Ball" is to be held at the Pagoda ballroom, Como and costs \$10.00

The two day convention itself is to be held at the University of W.A., costing \$15.00 for both days, inexpensive for a convention.

If interested in WHOCON 4, write to the convention secretary for further information and for registration forms at: 15 Fenton Way, Hillarys, W.A. 6025.

But hurry, all prices rise on July 1st 1987. And if you've never been to a convention before then make sure you go to this one.

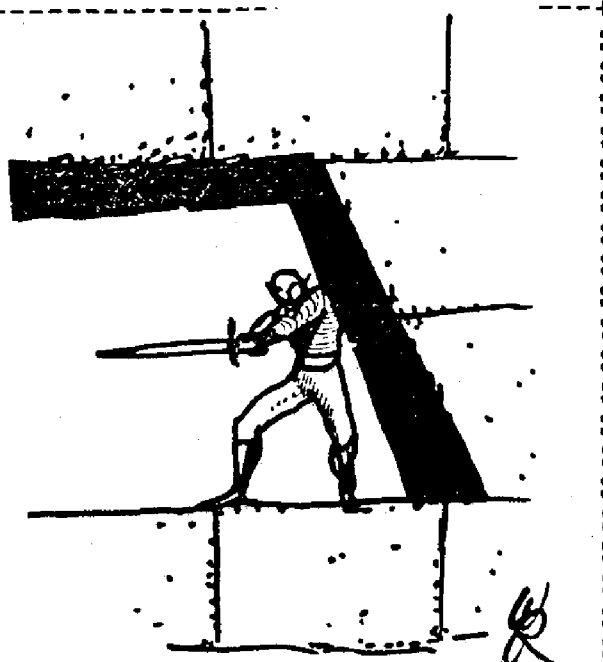


away was how old you are, so I can't fairly compare myself to you. I'd imagine though, that you like the other sangroping fen are a lot younger than I, so I'd have to talk about an earlier stage of my life. I won't though. Other than to say, that, while you're eagerly planning a couple of overseas trips, I've already done that. I can say this though. Your tale of your upsets in Melbourne made me angry -- not at you but at your friends for their thoughtless treatment of you. Good on you, checking out of the hotel without telling them, serve the bastards right. I too have had enough of being used by others like that.

Interesting thoughts on revenge too. I feel this business of forgiveness, especially the biblical command to forgive thy neighbor seventy times doesn't work when one is deeply hurt. A wrongdoer will often later apologise, but this is quite often unsatisfactory, because, if you accept the apology, you're just letting the bastard set you up for a later injury. True revenge should not be spiteful or vindictive but, as you say, serve to kill resentment, to put hurt feelings to rest. This is the ancient traditional idea of revenge, especially in the case of murder or manslaughter or putting the victims ghost to rest.²⁰

YVONNE ROUSSEAU

Since I am replying rather late to your 'Year of the Comet', I suspect that your revenge scenario (revelations in print and in paint, resulting in exorcism of hurt) may by now have been complicated by reactions from people who know S, and for whom the story begins (not ends) with your revelations about her unrequited love for R. If such people see you as the aggressor, against whom revenge is required, I doubt you have found, as you anticipated, that your resentment and grudge against S have been dispelled by your 'act of revenge'. Instead of putting the whole thing behind you as 'complete', you may well have had your hurt and vengefulness rekindled by antagonistic responses on S's behalf.²¹



Perhaps you have not; perhaps revenge really is, for you, the clean process you have outlined. But what if it is not, and 'this revenge kick' -- 'the holding inside of that hurt, the playing on my emotions it takes' -- becomes obsessive? What if you find that revenge and hatred go on breeding uncontrollably? If you are in this extremity (I hope you are not), you can use the technique devised by adepts of traditional religion - concentrating on the mental sending of wishes for the wellbeing and good fortune of the person whose image is distressing you, whenever the distress arises. Because religion has always been used to reconcile oppressed people to their situations, it has actually developed some useful tricks for coping; and this one, at least is effective without any need to believe in gods.²²

DAVID ELSON

I suppose that you would call this a LOC on your last 'zine (which I was surprised to receive). It isn't really, 'cos I don't write LOC's. I don't read "'zines", and I'm not a "fan", and only "fans" write "LOC's" (after living with one for about two years, I am beginning to get the use of the words right though).

Actually, the main reason I don't read zines is because I never get shown them. The person I live with has a fair sized collection of them,

but that's about as much as I know. If there's an important bit of news in one, I will occasionally get shown it if I happen to mention something on that subject, but the rest are stacked away where I shall never find them.

This last paragraph may seem to be irrelevant but it's not. Read on.

The main topic of this letter is your last zine, friends, fans and possibly bodies. In case you don't already know, a great number of fans in Perth are talking about your zine, saying how horrible it was, how grotty you were to mention S, R, and D (some even know who they are, I don't know and don't care, and a number of fans are busily trying to find out). This fills up their gossip time and the pages of their zines.

Three points arising from this: 1) you now know who your friends are (those few saying "poor larry" or possibly even corresponding with you on the subject), 2) you didn't really hurt anybody (annoyed, yes, - hurt, no) and 3) fans are, with a few exceptions, a mob of grotty elitist bastards who I am proud to say that I have little to do with. To do justice to those I should name them, but they are probably also the people falling into (1) above.²³

...Larry, don't try to understand other people unless you have a degree on the subject -- it gets you nowhere. Don't try to pin a reason on everything... ...I have never dumped any girl, and do not plan to start doing it now. I have been dumped often enough to know what's what. Never do unto others unless you know the consequences. Which is a point you possibly did and possibly did not think about before you wrote your last zine. After telling you not to try to understand people I am not going to try to understand you!

For example, I once heard a story of a girl who continually asked a guy to go steady with her, even after the guy started going out with someone else. On one occasion, she acted in a way which I consider offensive and unnecessary while the two other people involved were sitting together. Let's reverse the situation and put me in it, and assume that there was someone "hassling" my last girlfriend while I was sitting close to her. I would have collected said person by the left ear, deposited him/her outside, and thrashed him/her within an inch of existence. I do not ask anyone to understand my emotions in this example, nor those of the "hassler" (I myself find it hard to be attracted to someone else's girlfriend), nor guess what those of my partner may have been. Not that there's anything really wrong with attempting to woo someone, but people do react differently to certain situations.

Needless to say, there are probably a few people who want to take you by the left ear and.....²⁴

Let's get back to fans again (and let's really get stuck into them properly this time). Like I said, fans are a mob of elitist bastards (an bitches). I am currently writing yet another set of advertisements for the SCA, and this time, since we have a non-fan for seneschal, the fans have less influence than they used to, it may get past them. If it does, it will mark the end to the elitism found in the SCA as carried over from fandom. I have never met a crowd of people less inclined to let new folk into their midst as the SCA and fans. It took me nearly two years to overcome the elitism that I first found when I joined the SCA and was completely ostracised at events at first because I was not a fan (back in the days when the SCA was wholly owned and operated by WASFA). I am not surprised that WASFA and then SAFFA closed up -- they probably go so elitist that they didn't even let themselves in.²⁵

The SCA needs new members all the time. Its no good the rest of the officers saying that we need to be selective in our growth -- it won't work. It is just now just starting to grow significantly beyond fandom to be able to do this and I hope it succeeds.

Back to fans again -- the last paragraph probably illustrated why I hear a lot of bad things about the SCA in faanish circles. They don't like the idea of having lost control over it, and don't like the idea of it losing

its elitism. I also tread in my remaining time the boards of the wargaming fraternity. This is a large group, bigger than fandom and the SCA put together and (except in some clubs) is not elitist. Very few wargamers know about fandom and although there is some overlap as many fans play wargames, very few would want to. Wargamers are a happier group in general than fans, with less personal problems and political arguments, although they do tend to be boring and often celibate...

This letter is going to get my arse kicked by a lot of fans who thought I still loved them. Well I do, really, but you do need to wake up to yourselves. Stop kicking Larry's arse and try something constructive for a change. Get more people to come to swancons. Hand out less awards, so that those few who miss them feel less left out and try to achieve more. Increase the circulation of your zines. Let me have a look at them for more than two minutes (I'm a slow reader)! Send them to people who might be interested in fandom if it were friendlier and get them to make it friendlier. Send them to people you meet in bookshops. Introduce yourselves to people in bookshops. And stop patting yourselves on the back for not doing the above. Either that, or get fucked, the lot of you.

As I have now been really offensive, I feel I must apologise to a few people. Those few who bothered to ask my name at conventions. Mark (Loney) & Michelle for actually being friendly to people who have not read as much SF as they have, and actually telling people about it. Sue for being a good egg and eating her vegies occasionally. Other who know who they are. Sorry, really sorry.



BARRY ELLIS

+ Firstly, Diplomacy and other PBM games. How do you endure those quivering gelatinous mutants posing as players who persist in volunteering for postal games when they are clearly incapable of fulfilling their implicit commitment to see the game through? the game which just expired of disinterest. (and in which I played a brief early role), D1, is a worthy example. It's late 1909 and there are three reasonably matched powers, plus a bravely struggling fourth, promising an interesting end game, and what happens? The struggling fourth quits with some advance notice and immediately two more decide it's too much of an effort and slide back into the reconstitution tanks. No doubt they will re-emerge at some future date to bugged up more games. D2 seems destined for a similar fate, with losing powers chickening out while they still have units on the board, with the Eastern Bloc indecisive to the point of brain

-----+death.
Can I suggest substantial monetary deposits, pounds of flesh or some similar incentive to potential pbm gamers to consider their situation and capacity seriously before making a commitment. All the indications are that, in the present environment, it is simply impossible to get a game that will be played to anything other than victory by default, leaving a trail of bumbling incompetence in its wake. Perhaps all pbm gamers should be fitted internally with radio receivers and pain centre stimulation electrodes for the duration of their game, the transmitter (pain button, Larry!!) to be controlled by the GM.²⁶

...Secondly, 'Life, the Universe, and Larry Dunning'. Fascinating stuff!! Have you ever considered going into the business of writing soap operas? It's about time you stopped apologising about your only occasional slips in spelling and grammar and wrote your first screenplay/novel/whatever. Find a proofreader or write/buy a text checking program or something.²⁷

...On the subject of space shuttles, and the Challenger in particular, the loss of human life is to be regretted, but I find it difficult to

THE OVER THE TOP CONVENTION PAGE! NOWDAYS THERE ARE MORE CONS THAN YOU CAN POKE A STICK AT, NOT THAT YOU'D WANT TO!

NO, REALLY, THIS IS THE CASE. THIS YEAR IN PERTH
THERE HAS BEEN MICROCON IN SUPPORT OF PERTH IN

'89. THERE IS ALSO SWANCON XII.

IN THE EAST THERE IS EASTERCON AND ECCENTRICON AND ANOTHER
CON I'VE FORGOTTEN THE NAME OF. IN NEW ZEALAND THERE IS
WINDYCON AND - OH YES - THE OTHER WAS CAPCON, HOW COULD
I FORGET - IN BRITAIN THERE IS CONSPIRACY. NOW COME
TO THINK OF IT, THERE IS ALSO KILLERCON AND YOU CAN GUESS
WHAT THE SUBJECT OF THAT CON IS. ACTUALLY, I WOULD HAVE
THOUGHT THAT DEFCON WOULD HAVE BEEN A BETTER TITLE.

WHAT WITH ALL THESE CONS IT SUDDENLY BECOMES IMPOSSIBLE
TO GO TO EVERY CON YOU WANT TO. THE BEST YOU CAN DO IS GO TO THE ONES THAT
PROMISE TO BE THE MOST INTERESTING OR THE MOST FUN. I'VE GONE TO MICROCON AND
IT WAS WORTH THE \$2.

I'M ALSO GOING TO SWANCON AS I'M ON A WESTREK PANEL, BUT I'M NOT
GOING TO EXERT MYSELF WHILE THERE. AN EL-CHEAPO TIME WAS HAD BYALL?

NOW BRIGHTON AND CONSPIRACY MUST TAKE PRECEDENCE. THE TRIP TO
BRITAIN SHOULD DO ME GOOD.

IN THE LIGHT OF ALL THIS I SAY THIS TO YOU: SUPPORT MOONBID
2001 THE ONLY OFF PLANET WORDCON PLANNED - ANOTHER WORLD THAT
IS. MOONBID 2001 - PLENTY OF TIME TO GET READY FOR THE BID AT THE 1998
WORLDCON. BID FOR IT OR BE A PYTHAGOREAN REGULAR POLYGON. LOOK FOR
A ROOM PARTY NEAR YOU!

regard the recent stumble in the US space program as being entirely without benefit for our species. The loss of Challenger must be considered in the light of the increasing emphasis on the military applications of the US space program. I would have preferred that a greater degree of sanity had prevailed in arms negotiations and the resulting reduction in the pressure applied to NASA by the military might have then allowed greater attention to the safety aspects of the shuttle program. However, as long as the resources of the US space program are absorbed by pipe dreams/nightmares like Star Wars, the bodies of the hopeful and the naive will continue to burn.²⁰

...You reminiscences of school days brought a few memories back. Most of all I recall the inconsistencies of the education system, supposedly developing mature, intelligent, aware adults but all too often constricting thought within narrow, predefined categories. Then, of course, there were the frequently arbitrary rules with regard to taste in dress, hair length, reading matter. It's hardly surprising that so many students reach the tertiary level in a disoriented state (as I recall I did). I think most students finally give up resisting and bury their minds in specialisation, or break under the strain when all the pieces are bought together and it becomes obvious that the official world view jigsaw is strictly for schizophrenics.

Wonders.....what will the LAD do to top this issue? I mean, hanging a bare bum out of the train window all the way from Midland to Perth would pale into insignificance by comparison - and would result in sunburn or frostbite, depending on the season.

Remember, Larry, the terrible damage that can be done to a young mind by a religious education. In casting my thoughts back to a conversation at the last EFC SF film festival, I seem to recall the subject being raised. The cause of events recently impinging upon your well being may be very deep seated.²¹

...Don't lose your wallet on a trip to America - or anywhere else where it takes money to stay (i) alive, (ii) out of jail, if you depart visibly from the middle class norm (which you do). Chain/staple/graft it onto your person. And have some VERY reliable friends who can react speedily to that one phone call you might be allowed if you are lucky. Otherwise, America is strongly recommended for an extended visit.

I would put your strange dream in the category of wish fulfillment/wet dream. I'm afraid you have been in the adult world for some time - it tends to be less reliable than the standard sexual fantasy for most, perhaps all of us. Most of us make serious, costly errors in judgement at some stage (I count at least two in my Australian period alone). Still, life has its better moments and you may possibly be due for some. Keep making informed decisions and you can get it right. And of course, right or wrong, our science and technology are such that it is, eventually, "Time to die". Keep firing on however many cylinders you got left, son, and ignore that blue smoke coming out the back.

PETER MACKAY

It's been years since I had anything to do with fandom. I used to write bits and pieces for D&D Stocks' *ORIRIS* and take out supporting memberships but I sort of drifted away when I found the expense too much for a penniless high school student. Your zine sparked off a whole chain of memories and inspired me to take some time off from *Magic* and actually write a something...

TAU CETI PHOENIX: First off, the cover. I liked the Generic Fanzine side, but I was a bit puzzled by the Tarot cards. I detest superstition in all its forms. Why support a convention on the Moon if you also support this sort of thing? Hmmm.....²²

I dislike Diplomacy, mainly because I'm not too good at it. However, I like the concept, and *Magic* incorporates many loopholes to be exploited by

the SNEAKY TRICKS brigade. Postal Diplomacy is the ultimate form of the game, I think, mainly because it allows more room and time for players to manoeuvre.³¹

How has fandom has changed since the introduction of the PC, Larry? I've found mine to be an indispensable part of my life and an incredible extension of my Peach. I can now do things undreamt of pre-computer. Publishing a fanzine is a pretty heavy effort -- the arrival of the computer must have changed things around a lot by enabling the publisher to spend less time actually working and more time being creative.³²

APOCRYPHA: Apart from the little bits at the start, I regard this as part of one long narrative, so I won't deal with it in chapters.

You've touched a nerve here and there with your retelling of adventure. I can see we have a lot of things in common, if nothing else than that I'm shy, myopic and hard of hearing. I hate nightclubs and loud parties because I can't hear a thing and I'm too inhibited to relax anyway.

I used to do a lot of this catharsis sort of writing. Once in a blue moon I'd show some of it to somebody close and get amazing responses. One of my cherished possessions is a letter from a young lady who saw a page or two and promptly responded in kind.

Most of mine is formless and pretty hard going. You've got a knack of making this kind of thing readable. I must confess that I didn't read all of the zine immediately on receipt. My wife picked it up out of curiosity and was buried between pages 0 and 59 for the rest of the evening. When I started, I couldn't put it down either. You had a story to tell and you told it in a structured, well-thought out manner. I found most of interesting, including the bits about your work at DSS. I can appreciate that part: I spent the last five years as a base grade clerk in Brisbane, shuffling an endless pile of claims from one side of the desk to the other. I escaped however. I'm now a clerk 7 here, six months and fourteen days since leaving Brisbane's bottom...

One thing lacking about your narrative: characterization. I found it hard to differentiate between the third characters in the story: after you and S, came the amorphous others. You know who they are and what they look like and how they fit into society, but your readers don't. I think if you bring other characters in, then you should do them justice.³³

FRED C DAVIS JNR

...I did not read the entire zine, as it was just overwhelming. However, I did read the opening and the closing parts, and skimmed various parts in the middle. As you know, I worked as a Disability Claims examiner for the U.S. Social Security for over 20 years, so I'm quite familiar with epilepsy cases, and its consequences. It was always a maddening experience when we had to deny a total disability claim for an epileptic when he was unable to obtain employment. Unfortunately, our law covered only the physical and mental medical impairment rules, not the decisions of some good "christian" employers to refuse to hire epileptics. Our hiring rules still vary from State to State and in some areas, particularly in the South and the Appalachian areas, the laws are still back in the middle ages. And here too, some people treat persons who've had a seizure in public like they were lepers.

Things do seem to be improving, with more open and frank discussion of this disease, and many others, in the media and particularly on TV. For another thing, we found at SSA that 98% of the people who took their medication as prescribed did not have seizures. I worked appellate cases. In every single case where a person claimed that his seizure could not be controlled by medication, mainly Dilantin, blood tests we ordered showed that they were not taking enough medication. Tragically, nearly all of these peoples were alcoholics. As you must know, alcohol and Dilantin do not mix. In your own case, I'm sure extreme exhaustion and stress were the cause of your one seizure in recent years. Medication is making a differ-

...I attained age 55 in 1985 and retired from the Federal Civil Service at the end of August, with 33 years service (including my military svc. during the Korean War and after). I saw that Reagan was going to shaft the civil servants on their pensions, so I got out before he could do so. Anyone who didn't retire by June 3, 1986, got it in the neck from Reagan and his friends (all of whom have been living high on the hog on Multiple pensions from the state of California and elsewhere). I took over the operations of the N. American Variant Bank from Rod Walker in November 1985 and resumed the chair of the Mensa Postal Dip Special Interest Group at around the same time. So, I've been busy as the proverbial paperhanger. I will never run out of things to do...

MARK LONEY

...Congratulations on your first sexual experience. I'm glad you had the courage to do what you did. Now that you are more aware of yourself as a sexual and sensual being, I hope you continue to grow and develop. Please don't dismiss that thoughts you are now having about women you see and meet as you seem to have on your return to Perth from Adelaide - "I chose not to follow up these feeling." Of course, "losing your virginity can knock you off balance for a while," but I don't think you should dismiss it as a one-off and go back to being the way you were before.²² I see your whole relationship with S as, in a way, as sideshow to more important changes and growth that you can now initiate. Now that you've talked out a lot of your feelings and thoughts, it's time to make changes that capitalise on what you've learnt. Should you move away from home and develop more independence? Knowing your situation, (as little, in some respects, as I do) that still seems to be a fairly important question.²³

And on the subject of questions, I imagine you realise by now that your recounting of your odyssey left many of us fascinated by the unanswered questions that littered its pages. Why was Sean's back bleeding after his night out in Adelaide? What the hell was in your wallet to give anyone who found it a surprise? How do you always end up eating other people's meals in restaurants? Why don't you like to eat in front of other people? I could go on but I'm not sure you'd appreciate it. I realise the major purpose of Apocrypha for you was to talk about **S** and **R** - but for myself and others I have talked to about it, those unanswered questions retain a certain fascination. Even short explanations would be greatly appreciated.³⁷



MARTIN R WOOD

...Thank you kindly for your letter and the copy of TCP/A. I'm overwhelmed by both its literate quality and sheer quantity; 76 pages makes PULP's 28 look kinda skinny! It must take you ages to produce an issue. I've been very much into Science Fiction just about all my life, tho I'm not really a part of fandom, I guess, due to my rather isolated location. People around Albany think Sf stands for "sheep farming".

I was interested to notice that you work at DSS. I was a U.S.B. (Unemployment Sickness Benefits) continuations clerk in the Albany DSS for a few months, til the job drove me to the brink of suicide (for reasons

too complex to explain here) and I had to quit. Now I'm just a penniless cartoonist, and a lot happier.³³

KEVIN DILLON

Well, I hope the return (judgement?) mail on this last effort has been charitable enough. I won't try to comment on advisability of so much of your spacetime sort of exploding on the pages at length, as it did. It deserves a reply, despite some reluctance, to delve deeply into the "new" Larry so displayed - but 'twas a brave showing indeed.

...The publishing background was neatly enough told and I guess the epilepsy and earlier stories will help where explanations are needed. Looking at alternative health material lately - for my back injury, among other other disabling symptoms - I thought I noticed claims that epilepsy can be eased with some vitamin treatment in some cases. It would be so much simpler a world without the worst of bureaucratic medicine. Eye injuries at a very early age certainly restricted my life style growth but, in isolation in the country, little was tried and certainly not today's alternatives.³⁴

You get my sympathy (well intentioned) on the subject of S and related unneeded complications. It's too easy to give some too simple wordage on mundane interests versus broader ones as on your part, as distinct from hers but backgrounds don't seem to imply much closeness as likely. Now, what else? It surely does raise questions about what other stories there were happening around that con, at least.

...Have you noticed the increasing number of sequels to films? The odd titles in between are either "ReDo's" (*The Fly* and *Invaders from Mars*) or Hollywood "created" efforts stolen from SF where they seem to be original, all very sad. yesterday's news was of a (cancelled) break-up shuttle toy, supposedly done in the period before the crash. Either way, its sad...

ROB MCGOUGH

I got my copy of CAU TETI o.k., thanx. There was this funny thing called AHA POP CRY stuck to its bum what i pulled and et. I digested it at one sitting and found it most delectable. Seriously, i'm sure you'll get all kinds of interesting responses to it. Here are two of my own.

1/ Please refrain from the statement "I don't need drugs". This is a standard cop-out chucked in the face of us drug-users by ignorant people who percieve us as 'drug-abusers' (shows an uncritical acceptance of propaganda too!). The only people who 'need' drugs are the sick who have been prescribed medication; drug-addicts - including caffein, nicotine and alchcohol junkies; and the neurotically insecure - who will find whatever security-blankets they can. As you (or i) may habitually take rollercoaster rides or go to movies, I use drugs. I do not need drugs any more than i need any form of stimulation or pleasure. If you do not want drugs, the please say so - kindly don't resort to implicitly insulting cliches! OK? (so-there-nyeh!)³⁵

2/ Your author of the degrees/forms of love chart may claim that it is not astrological (and it doesn't even look it so why say that?) but the first thing i thought of when I saw it was that it is definitely Kabbalistic/Cabalistic/Qabalistic, whatever - the hebrew word is Qa Ba La (3 symbols). The occult meaning of the six-pointed star is huge compared to that of the Xtian 3nity. Whether it is or not is another matter. It may not have been the authors intention, it may not have been conscious, but it probably is anyway. (The occult is like that).

I voted for you in the ffug ballot by the way. Just in case fandom hasn't heard of me now: put in a referrer:

EUSTACE THUD (PILTDOWN MAN)

BIG NOSE FANSHACK

WOPPING GREAT BRITON

UQK 1234UM ER5

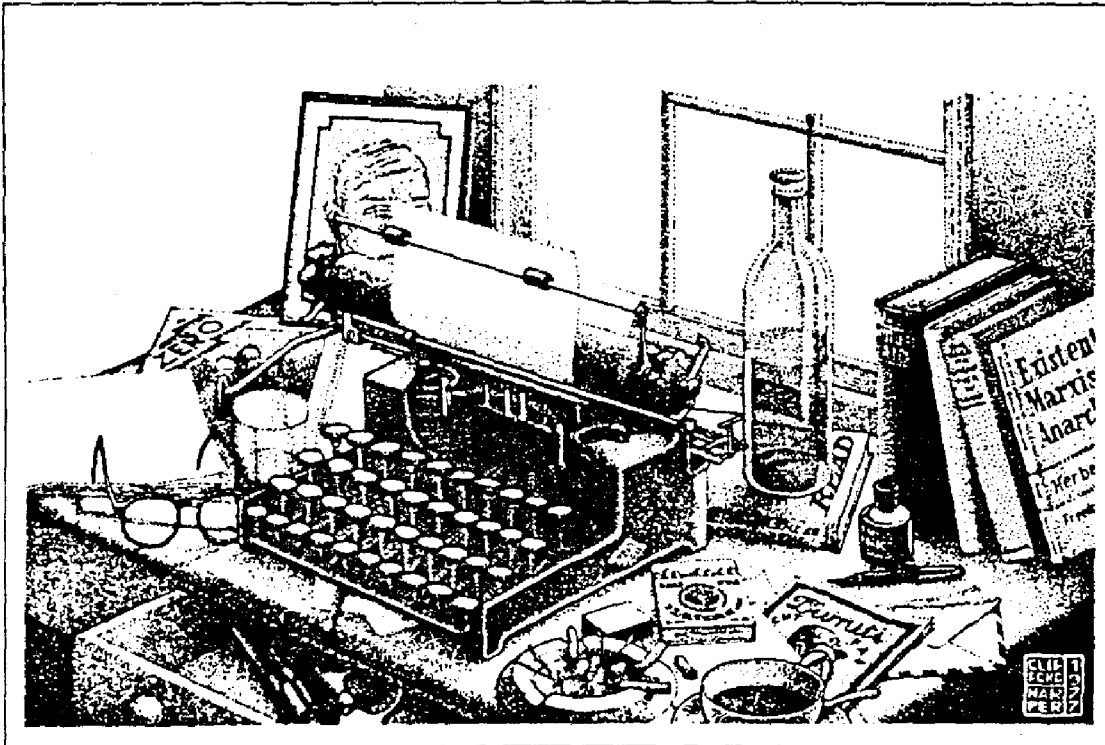
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That should keep them noisy.⁴¹

Did you know that MOONBID 2001 was formed on page 23(!) (You are familiar with the Illuminatus series aren't you?) That's a good sign. Synchronicity - some friends of mine from the states (they were at worldcon) are involved in the Bermuda triangle in '88 bid - a Worldcon on a cruiseship in the bahamas - perfect! (I wanna go!) anyway, the guy who thought of it is a Jewish Phineas Freak look-alike called Nell Rest - an exflatmate of Peter Toluzzi's - as a hoax. It is now very real. So watch it! The progress report i rec'd about a week after yours arrived. It is printed on green copy paper like yours, same format (folded A4) and same type size (but not print). Finally - your cover has the occult symbology of the tarot, theirs has the occult symbology of the Eye-in-the-Pyramid (not to mention the bermuda triangle itself) on the cover.

DIANE FOX

Space shuttle - actually, I suspected from the first there would be a witch hunt of blame-throwing later - this sort of thing seems to be a inevitable human reaction, especially if a lot of people are involved and they aren't co-operating too well (the usual thing is any government project). I was pretty certain too, that incompetence, carelessness or even corruption had been involved at some level. As it turned out, my suspicions turned out to be justified. NASA had indeed tried to save money by making the shuttle unsafe: and trading on its past stock of goodwill to let people think that shuttle was safe. I feel that there are four possible outcomes of this:

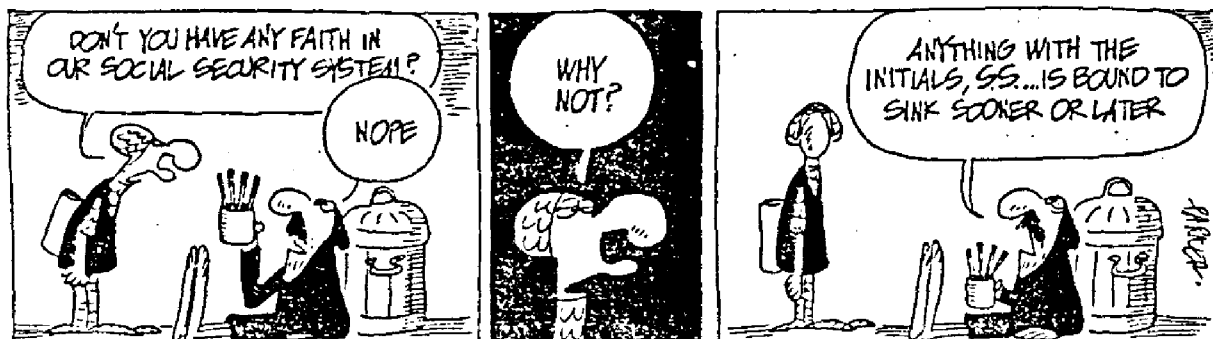
- a) The space program is shut down or at least severely cut back. Unlikely.
- b) The service is upgraded and made genuinely safer. This would cost money and is impossible under the current administration, or at least unlikely.
- c) They could come out and honestly admit that they couldn't afford a safer space programme, but that it was worth a degree of wastage of life. Highly unlikely under the late 20th century hypocrisy that prevails.
- d) The overwhelmingly likely outcome - the service is not upgraded, but a good deal of money and time is spent convincing the public (and even NASA employees themselves) that it has been. No government will ever object to spending money in order to lie to the public. yes, it isn't logical. However, it will provide status boosts for countless petty bureaucrats. This technique is known as the American way. Of course, it will only work if NASA is lucky and they don't have another accident in the next few years. I suspect there will be very few manned flights for a while, and a lot of talk about preparartions for them.⁴²

...Ye ghods you've had a depressing early life. Nasty about your so called friends at school leaving you to lie on the ground when you collapsed with epilepsy. Kids are a lot like the ideal citizens of a totalitarian state - if one of them does something unacceptable or odd, the others rush to let the world know that they don't know that person and never did - any sort of non-conventional behaviour, especially something that can't be helped, is "catching". Most kids live in a McCarthyish world.

It's a wonder you persisted with fandom - Neo-fans often get cold shouldered if they aren't able to fit in easily and you sound like a person who had, up until then, little chance to develop social skills.⁴³

To comment on your long autobiographical article as a whole - rather than piece by piece, as I'd intended doing - this wasn't easy... ...I haven't been involved in any way in a similar situation (as far as I know) so I can't give any advice.

I'm not enough involved in fandom to hazard a guess who **S** and **R** are the other initials are. This is probably a good thing, as I tend to feel that a person who is opportunistic and dishonourable in one aspect of life will also be the same in other aspects. If I knew who **S** was, and knew her personally, I would after reading your zine, feel a desire to know her



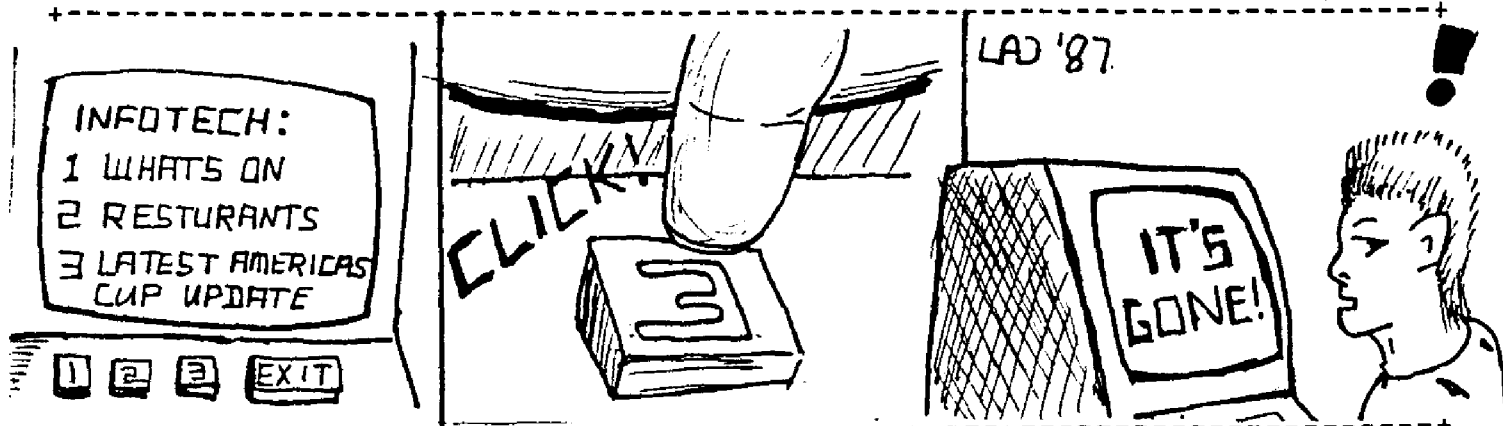
less well; and if she visited my house, I'd probably check to make sure nothing was missing afterwards. Enough said.⁴⁴

...Honour & Revenge (appropriate card here too!). [I] tend to agree with you on this matter. I feel that if I don't at least make an intention of getting even with the person who has wronged me, I will probably take my anger out on some innocent bystander: and probably the innocent bystander will be someone I love or at least like. There's also the feeling that the evildoer should not be allowed to get away with it. I also feel that letting a person know why they are being punished is important (rather like telling them why they're being arrested etc.,). I think your writing this article would be a very effective revenge, especially if many people are able to guess the identities of the people involved. See page 15. It is not to a person's advantage to gain a reputation as the sort of individual who could see nothing wrong in picking a blind man's pockets; and this, in a sense, is how you have depicted S, justly or not (I don't know the people involved so cannot say - I hope you are not overreacting) That is the problem with revenge - it may be 1) Overdone;

2) Aimed at the wrong person.⁴⁵

"Sex, Bodies and Friends" - "you've either turned to this section first..." reminds me of an amusing thought expressed in a book of feminist writer Robin Morgan's poems. One of the poems was called "Lesbian Poem". This poem had a note, "Dedicated to everyone who looked up this poem first, after reading the list of contents". My reaction was, that would probably be everyone who read the list of contents! - because just about everyone wants to have a look at anything to do with sex.⁴⁶

Spoonbending - this would be useful I think. I can see uses for weak/limited telekinesis in medicine (psychic surgery etc.,) It could also be used to escaped from handcuffs, jails and so on...



EDITORIAL REPLIES

ADRIAN BUTCHER

1 There are two issues here. The first is whether I should publish a zine that is so personal in nature. The second is whether or not I have been too obvious about those people mentioned as initials.

As editor of the fanzine (and principal creator of the contents) I have the decision on what does and doesn't go into the zine. To put it in another frame the question is: "Do I have the right to inflict my personal history/secrets/problems upon the readers"? Eventually I decided that I did have this right, because if the reader doesn't want to know, they don't have to read it. I did put warnings on the cover and again after the editorial. So far, most people offended by the personal nature of my narrative seem to be people who are more accustomed to dialogues about media or conventions et cetera. After each issue I tend to get two different responses: one says that there weren't enough gaming and/or reviews in the zine, the other says that zines should be about people and that I don't have enough of this. Since I can't please everyone, I try to please myself.

Does S mind me publishing the zine? Yes. I received a letter from S to which I replied. She said I was a "sick and perverted person" to have published such a thing. Did I have the right to include as much as I did about S? The only parts of S's personal life that I did include, are those bits that occurred with me. Where possible I give you the facts as I know them and when I make an opinion I inform the reader of this. As the narrative dealt with my personal experience within the last year and a half, there was no way she could not feature in it.

2 The fact that it may or may not be obvious who S, R & D are is immaterial. It may be obvious to anyone who knows any one of us, but not to readers who don't live in Perth or do not know me personally. In fact, it doesn't really matter. I decided to use only initials for this reason, as an act of courtesy to those involved. I expected that my "revenge" would upset a number of people. I'm not putting it across as a way of life, merely explaining my actions. It is a method of getting rid of my hurt and S hurt me deeply.

3 This might perhaps be true, but then, I did send that letter. For better or worse, my readers know more about me now than before. The other thing is, that had I not published the zine, it is doubtful that I would have rec'd the feedback I did and this is important. I accept full responsibility for publishing the zine as is. The inner strength I refer to is a knowledge of myself for who I am.

4 Agreed and this is the point of the entire issue. The difference is, now I'm making the effort and I'm looking forward to the challenge.

JENNY BLACKFORD

5 I think you might be confused about the film, I didn't want to see it, S did. It seems that the only reason she was sitting for hours with me waiting for the film, was because she couldn't see it with anyone else. I'm not sure if I do know what you mean, as it seems now that the only times I saw S was when she couldn't go out with someone else. Hardly gratifying or endearing to discover yourself to be last on the list.

MARK TURNER

6 Actually, while you're there, do you know which New Zealand lass went to the Aussiecon masquerade as "Judge Anderson"? You see, I was going as "Judge Dredd" but couldn't finish the costume. Apart from the hair, her costume was spot on.

JOSEPH NICOLAS

7 The difficulty here was deciding how much to leave in and how much to leave out. I decided to write about the trip as it happened, which meant leaving a lot of routine detail in. When writing about the other events, I

did cut a great deal of detail, even though it might not seem so.

CRAIG MACBRIDE

- 8 Well, I wasn't looking for them until Ralph pointed them out. The only one I knew of was the one in Sth Yarra, because it was on the way to Royd's flat and the car. If they opened some in Perth, they'd make a mint.
- 9 Falling foul of the flu can do that to you. On the day of the panel I was a little more refreshed, and also operating on safe and familiar territory (games). Hmm, what do other faneds look like?
- 10 A Valid point, but at the time I was too busy trying to sort out my emotions and didn't want to ask any wrong questions. I hadn't seen S for some time and I had the feeling that if I said the wrong thing, I wouldn't for a fair while to come. Also, S had the habit of just turning up on the weekends and phoning up an hour or so before whatever it was she wanted to do. If she'd let people know what she wanted to do in advance, perhaps more people would have been interested. The first time she said this to me, it took 30 seconds before I could phrase an answer. I didn't know if I'd been insulted or what. Perhaps I should have said "You're right, no one will" and hung up. I didn't.

BRUCE GILLESPIE

- 11 In respect to S and myself, sometimes we are on talking terms, even if it's just to agree we don't like Fred McMurray. Othertimes when we meet there is an uneasy silence when neither will be the first to speak. Now this does hurt, but it hurts less as time goes by.
- 12 Thinking about the American women I have met, you're right! Perhaps I'll meet some at Conspiracy (hint hint).

HARRY ANDRUSCHAK

- 13 This would seem to tie in with comments made by Diane Fox (q.v.).
- 14 Yes, Fitness clubs do have hidden benefits. I keep thinking of a play that Sean Byrne acted in last year. There was a sketch about an aerobics session that fits in just right. Sean will know what I mean.

GARTH SPENCER

- 15 When I was writing the last zine it was a real effort to make things sound as natural as they were. Even so, all through the zine it all felt stiff and ungainly to me as well. It does seem to be a stage that people either do or don't go through. I think in the end however it does have a positive effect. Other people read it and comment and whatever the comments you come to realise "I am not alone, this is not unique." Somehow it is comforting to know that you are not the only person who gets the shit kicked out of them some time or another. And you are not the only person to survive and grow from it.

MARC ORTLIEB

- 16 Hmm, they say the grass always looks greener from the other side. How do I get into acting?
- 17 Oddly enough, Julian Warner was also staying here, but we never came into contact. Nowadays, I admire the place for its honest mind bending grottness. Failing contacts, I may make it a regular staying place while in Melbourne.
- 18 Oddly enough, many years ago Steve Gunnell showed me some zines produced by yourself. I was in the same boat in that I wanted to write letters of comment but couldn't think of the right things to say. Funny how things have turned full circle since then.

MICHEAL HAILSTONE

- 19 Unfortunately for a few readers, the reduced format will stay that way. I just can't afford not to reduce the type. The answer to this is to

get better reproduction so that the reduced type comes out clearer. I may be doing a couple of one shot fanzines before I go to Europe. The format here will be different.

20 Funny you should make a biblical reference to the idea of revenge. There is a rather famous quote about "an eye for an eye". The trouble with this philosophy is that if everyone followed it, we'd all end up blind. I was talking to a friend who isn't a christian and they made a reference to a quote by Paul, something about heaping coals upon those who offend you. I decided to look up the quote, but my knowledge of the bible is poor and mostly secondhand. I did find an interesting chapter however. I refer my readers to 2ND CORINTHIANS, chapter 7.

By the way, just in case the other readers have spotted spelling mistakes in Micheals' loc, let me say that he follows Spelling Reform 1. Write to Micheal for further details.

YVONNE ROUSSEAU

21 This was the risk I took in publishing the last zine. After a long deliberation I decided to publish it anyway and waited to see which way the chips would fall. The 'act of revenge' against S was not fully complete until (at the time of writing) last week, when a promise I made about displaying a painting was fulfilled. I had good reasons for following through on this and discuss them elsewhere. But, I was hurting long before I printed the zine. Doing so makes it easier to bear and dispell.

22 I tried the technique you described and it does to some extent, work. Unfortunately this just concentrates my thoughts back onto S, which brings back any regrets and sorrows felt. I would rather try to go on to the present and future, rather than dwell in the past, which this does. Also, though it does work, it seems to be an illusion. After all, by thinking these good thoughts you do not actually do anything to help the other party, only yourself. This is what grates. I would like to do something to help S, but by printing the last zine I feel that I have given up my chance to do so.

Alternatively, it may be that such a technique is a form of creative visualisation, in which case there can well be a benefit here. The problem that I come back to is that the love I've had for S, is bitter-sweet. One solution is to hate the other person as this replaces one obsession with another. The trick is to endure.

DAVID ELSON

23 Not necessarily David. I send many of my zines out to people who can't be described as fans. The only connection is that they know me, or I know them. I send some to my wargaming associates too. Not all of these are elitist.

24 I'm not sure I do follow or understand your example David, whether you think I was chasing someone else's girlfriend (if so, I wasn't aware of this at the time and neither might the 'boyfriend') or what. At the time I didn't have all that much information to deal with and all of a sudden, this lass whom I've never seen before starts giving me all this attention. Later, I was to discover that the main reason I was getting it was because she couldn't give it to the people she wanted to. For example, when she first met me and invited me to Albany; I later discovered that she had first asked someone else to go, and then asked me because he wouldn't. All of this supports my idea that I was being used across the board by S.

As far as people wanting to take me by the ear - well most people who are inclined along these lines don't seem to know S or me that well. I did talk to an old boyfriend and rather than want to punch me out or whatever, we compared notes. Also, the attitude you give an example of, sounds very automatic and implies that women are beings who can't look after themselves, which I equate to a barefoot and in the kitchen type of attitude.

25 There has been some discussion in TIGGER recently about elitism in the SCA and claims have been made that it is 'an autocratic society run by a cabal'. I joined the SCA late last year and have yet to encounter any of this, apart from a reference to the Dream. Of course the claims were made by an ex-member who was also in WASFA and WAHWA, which would fit into your category of elitist.

In regard to your later comments about wargamers being non elitist, well I don't think this is true. Sure, on the whole they're not, but there is always a proportion that is, and it is the same with fandom and probably the SCA. I remember the West Australian Historical Wargaming Assn (WAHWA for short) where the committee would decide on the voting age for members. This was annually raised to exclude the younger members from having a say in the club. Now is that elitist or what? Oddly enough, many members of WAHWA went on to become members of WASFA.

BARRY ELLIS

26 Game D2 has just ended with a win to FRANCE. It isn't listed in this issues Diplomacy results because my cutoff date is earlier for placement in the zine. There were 3 players left and it was a fight all the way. If not for a tactical error on the part of ENGLAND (in which he lost 3 Units in one season) it would have continued for at least another two years. It was a good game when compared with D1. I won't be starting any more postal games until I return from Europe. The Machiavelli game is enough at the moment.

I've found from past experience, that the harder you push people into playing games, the quicker they drop out.

27 Between this and the last issue, I reorganised my disks and in the process discovered I had copies of SPELLSTAR, a spelling checker program. It is primitive, but ensures most of the text is error free. Also, I decided to spend \$30 and bought "An Introduction to Wordstar" (a Sybex book) which has improved my understanding of the program I use to write the zine. I do intend to start writing, soon.

28 Unfortunate, but true. Perhaps the only way to get things done is for the Soviets to develop and use their own Space Shuttle. I know that Europe and Britain both have plans to build their own versions, but nothing spurs the U.S.A. on like the U.S.S.R. doing it first. Perhaps missile envy will give way to space envy.

29 Barry was the friend we met at the BFC, as mentioned last issue. I have since had more information at hand about S's background, which I didn't have before. You may well be right.

PETER MACKAY

30 I used the symbols and meanings supported by the cards, because I felt they would best illustrate the changes I was going through. I have used the Tarot a few times, but you can use them without any superstitious or supernatural basis. Looking at such things on a psychological basis, they deal not with fortune telling but with change and transition in the persona of the user. In one way, they are a confidence trick. You deal out the cards and reflect upon what they say and how you relate to this. Each person will screen out the elements they don't consider relevant to them, concentrating on the ones that do. They become a focus for change and decision.

Also of course, I'm a visual artist and find the symbols interesting from a metaphoric viewpoint. Both Jung and Dali have written about the cards. Jung dealt with archetypes, Dali with all types and surrealism.

31 I agree, unfortunately it also allows players more ways of stuffing up, such as not getting their orders in or miswriting them. In a face-to-face game, the player is forced to write a set of orders all the time, regardless of how prepared they are. In your own game, MAGIC, you have avoided this by having the computer follow on with your orders. I resigned

from MAGIC because I no longer had the time to play it well, and I discovered that the computer was running my empire better than I was!

32 I have yet to see any fanzines produced from Desktop publishing programs such as those available on the MAC or an IBM. Most of the change and use of computers would seem to be via straight wordprocessing programs and mailing lists for mailing labels. This zine is done mostly by word processor in a way I couldn't do with the old gestetner stencil system -- namely I can edit and re-edit text with a minimum of fuss.

33 A valid point, but to do so would have required more than the space I had available. You might find some of them surfacing in one of my stories or novels, when I get to writing them.

FRED C DAVIS JNR

34 Hmm, in Australia we have an invalid pension, but this only applies to people shown to be 85% or more incapacitated. A Commonwealth Medical Officer makes the decision as to how incapacitated the claimant is. There is also Unemployment and Sickness benefit. Unemployment is paid to people who are unemployed and are supposed to be looking for work, sickness is paid to people who can't work temporarily because of an illness or disability, and lose earnings because of this. Other than that, there is no other coverage.

The effects of epilepsy vary from person to person. I would say that the psychological effects of it are much worse than the physical. The physical can be dealt with either by therapy or drugs, the psychological is much harder to deal with. I was receiving doses of Dilantin, Phenobarb and Mycalin daily but after consultation with an expert took myself off the drugs. It seemed I was cured until the reoccurrence two years ago. I haven't had another attack since then, so this would support the idea that it was brought on from pressure and stress.

As you say, the last issue was very much a coming out of the closet issue. Not so dramatic as declaring yourself gay or alcoholic perhaps, and not just exclusively about epilepsy. The best thing about the last issue is the support and understanding I've had from people, even those who disagree with me. It seems that the more you disclose about yourself the more other people will disclose about themselves. Not everyone of course, but enough to make the difference.

MARK LONEY

35 Well, I didn't actually go back to the way I was before. The difference was that now I have examples of the activity I'd only dreamed about before and so can make educated decisions about my reaction to that activity, whereas before I was making assumptions without any basis of fact or experience. Yes, I do find a number of women both attractive and sexy, but there is still a step involved in both developing this interest and expressing it in an appropriate manner; by which I mean finding the time and effort! (Also see the what happened after section.)

36 Yes, it is, but it's one I've deferred until I go to Europe and return. My personal and professional situation might be different by then. As of writing, I'm waiting to see if I've got a Regional Hardware Controllers job in the Albany regional office. If I get it, off I go to Albany and the problem is solved.

37 A small donation of \$50 or more to the Larry Travel Fund and these secrets and more can be yours, sent in a plain brown wrapper!

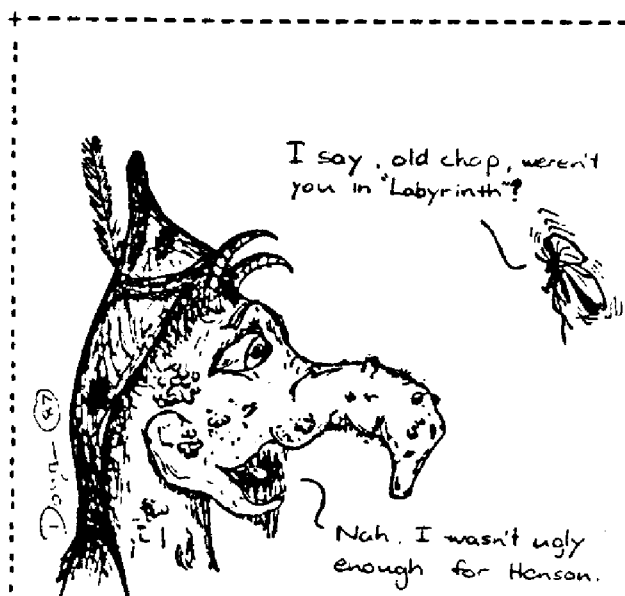
MARTIN WOOD

38 Having worked in U.S.B. continuations for about eight months, I can see how it would affect you that way. I know a number of other people who work or worked in the department and were affected in a similar way. Just looking at PULP, you can tell you enjoy doing it, keep up the good work.

KEVIN DILLON

39 There seems to be a hazy line between "regular" medicine and "alter-nate" medicine. In the long term there is only one basis to judge either - whatever works. Even if you don't know the theory behind it, it is the results that count. I've heard of people being cured of cancer by a change of diet and attitude.

ROB MCGOUGH



40 My intent was not to slam drugs or drug users as such, but I was writing from a position where in the past I had been sick and required drugs to alleviate the symptoms, so this was an assumption that would come readily. The numbers of people I know who are into drugs is reasonably high and I've also had a few friends who've died from misuse (the wrong sort of drug?). In relation to my own use of such substances, I've vetoed this because I don't think I'd be able to control the process properly, so would fall foul to misuse.

41 Alas, I didn't win the GUFF race. So far as I know, Irwin Hirsch did. I haven't seen any results yet so I don't even know how many votes I rec'd even...

DIANE FOX

42 This seems quite likely. Hopefully, both Britain and Europe (not to mention the U.S.S.R.) will develop their own orbital shuttle concepts. I'm not all that keen about the British space plane from what I've seen. The idea of sitting behind a huge tank of hydrogen isn't very reassuring.

43 Whatever else I am, I'm stubborn. Also there is also a tendency with fans to stick things out if they think they have invested too much time and effort into it. I've seen people develop minor affairs into full time occupations this way.

44 Hmm, perhaps, perhaps not. In my own case the prospect of S visiting my house now seems rather remote. It may be that S was just playing the field so to speak; if so, she is in need of much greater social skills to do so successfully. I have learnt more about S's background to discover part of a pattern, as witnessed by my own experience, previous boyfriends and later attempts. If so, the pattern doesn't work.

45 I don't think I've aimed it at the wrong person, I checked my facts first. As to whether things are overdone, perhaps, but I can hardly give an objective account of this, being at the centre of it. If so, then this would reflect how much I've been hurt.

UNASKED QUESTIONS

Wouldn't it have been better, or more polite, to have written the monologue of the last issue, and presented it to S, without publishing them further, and less embarrassing too?

Perhaps, but like Adrian Butcher's objection, had I done this, I would not know, or felt, from the response received, that I am not alone. If you think than this is obvious, then think again.

Won't you look back on this with embarrassment in times to come?

Possibly, but there was a time when embarrassment meant actual pain, not just a metaphorical one. We all do silly things I guess, S and me included. The main thing now is to put all this behind me, but in doing so learning from it too. What more can I ask?

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This is a brief rundown of the events that occurred just before and just after the publication of the last fanzine and a bit about what has happened to me up to now. I print this because I think you might be interested to find out what went on behind the scenes.

Firstly, the latest event described in the last zine occurred about a month and a half before publication. I had shut myself away since then to get the zine done. Now this issue has been delayed for other reasons as you will see later.

The print run for the last issue was aimed at 400 copies. The final copy count was 350 approximately. The actual printing took me two weeks by using the office photocopier (with many thanks to the Regional Manager Ben Agius who allowed me to do so) which also accounted for the superior quality of the print. During the final week I remembered it was S's birthday and sent her a card as I had promised. She sent back a letter and I was able to see that she wasn't ill, or in any other stressed situation. Had this been the case I would have delayed the publication of the zine.

That weekend I was invited to a party held by Mark Loney and Michelle Muijsert, who with Julian Warner published the fanzine *The Space Wastrel*. As it happened, they had just finished producing another issue of this and were handing out copies at the party. I also handed out copies of my zine, so if you were there, you were barraged by zines. Also earlier in the day I placed some copies in a few local shops. That night I crashed at Mark & Michelle's and in the morning when we visited some other fen, was able to get the first reactions to the zine. Later that day I visited some other friends and dropped off copies there as well.

Despite the above, the bulk of the zine had yet to be sent. On the monday I posted out advance copies to everyone who was mentioned as an initial in the zine, so that they would know what was coming out. I also handed out copies to the people I work with at the office. There was certainly an interest in my Adelaide trip! On wednesday I posted the first batch of zines - the Australian ones. The overseas copies weren't sent until two and four weeks later. I sent copies to my friends, to everyone I mentioned by name in the zine and those who weren't

listed. I sent copies to my brothers and gave one to my mother. In total, just under 200 were distributed in Australia and almost 100 overseas.

By the middle of the week I had received my first replies from M, S, R and D. I won't repeat or disclose their replies here as they were directed to me and not for publication. The exception is S, where I will say she wasn't pleased at all, saying that I was a sick and perverted person and she could no longer be my friend. This came as no surprise but then I hadn't considered S to be my friend at that point anyway. I wrote a letter in reply. The letter explained my position and why I had published the zine.

That friday was the Annual General Meeting of WESTREK and I took copies of the fanzine along and also a copy of my letter, just in case S was there. She was and so was J, but before I could give the letter to her in person, some one else did by an accident too silly to explain. So S read my reply while I waited to see her reaction. In the meantime it was the A.G.M. and at a whim I decided to stand for the position of Secretary. I

did and won the position!

The meeting broke up without me knowing what S's reaction was exactly, I had to rely on 2nd parties as S and I were no longer on speaking terms. The saturday following the meeting I was invited to another party, one that held roughly the same people as the one the week before. As expected, they had by then read the zine and were full of questions and suspicions. I was able to avoid most of these, but once again the feedback was helpful to me. This one time, I know that people have read my zine!

For a short while afterwards I became in a way, a bit of a celebrity in fandom by having published the zine and it was the first thing that people wanted to know about when I met them. This was not my intent, though I had guessed it would happen. I also received a great deal of information from people on their own experiences, none of which I'll pass on here as it was for my ears only, but it all helps to break down the feeling of isolation and despair that I felt prior to the zine.

I also heard from others who were able to complete my picture of S, and in a way understand her better. I finally had the missing pieces in a jigsaw of information and it confirmed the details I already had, altered others. So, I can understand her motivations more in the light of this, although I still don't agree with her actions. But then, she doesn't need my or anyone else's approval does she?

In the months that followed I met S from time to time when going to clubs or in group social activities. The situation between us has usually varied from ice cold, neither wanting to say anything to the other, to lukewarm at least where we have exchanged greetings and partings. Once, on my birthday when we met in such a group, I saw a side of S which surprised me totally, it was a side which until then I'd rarely seen. She doesn't know it (until now) but she gave me the best birthday present I'd received. Consider this cryptic? Well the explanation is reserved for S, should she speak to me on the subject (hint, hint).

The act of revenge was concluded just recently when my painting was displayed in the WEST AUSTRALIAN ART SHOW. The painting (entitled *Medusa's Breakfast*) was done at a time when I was under a great deal of stress. I put a great deal of emotion into it and it does show. The reaction I've had to the painting varies from one of shock and horror to that of amusement. One viewer described it as 'totally evil!' Now I had 5 months to decide whether or not to put the painting in the exhibition. Two things decided me: first, that I promised I would; second that I put too much emotion into the painting not to. I've been unable to paint since the last zine. I can resume that now.

Other things happened on the way. I learnt to swim (though not terribly well); I had a girlfriend and a lover (and that's all you'll hear about either); I have my learners permit and am learning to drive; I'm preparing for my European trip; I rediscovered some cousins, all this and other activities are helping me to grow, to try new things and experience the world. Now there's a likelihood that this isn't the end of the situation. One way or another S and I will come into contact, either directly or by mutual friends. So it goes. The ripples and consequences of my actions will be heard for a while yet. I await to see what they will bring.

R.I.P.

THE SPACE MERCHANTS

14.8.84 to 8.2.86

The Space Merchants, Perth's first specialist SF/Fantasy bookshop, crashed after being launched 2 years ago. It is survived by Super Nova, perth fandom and John Hall-Freeman who plans to do something else.

BOOKS

BIG SECRETS

W Poundstone : Corgi

This deals with secrets, things that somebody else just doesn't want you to know! It also deals with those rumours that seem to arise on a regular basis. This version is the English one and has been "translated" from the American.

There are six parts to this book. Part one deals with food and drink, part two with money and credit, part three with household products, part four with tests, part five with magic and Physics and part six deals with communication and media.

All of this covers a fair spread of subjects. Of particular interest to me were how to fool the Rorschach test, stage magic and the reversed messages on records. The book examines claims about the latter in great detail, being able to dismiss most of them easily. There is also a section about the masons and subliminals which is of interest. This is a good book if you want to go to a party and spread rumours or apocrypha on the subjects.

The Complete Upmanship

Potter : Grafton

This is a collection Stephen Potters' works on the subject of upmanship. There are four books in the collection: *Gamesmanship*, *Lifemanship*, *One-upmanship* and *Supermanship*. Each book details the techniques as prescribed and taught by the fictitious college of Lifemanship as run by the author.

The original book dealt with not quite fair techniques at winning the social sports, or cheating and getting away with it. The second extends this to social life, the third and fourth books give even more details. They were all written in Britain between 1947 and 1958 and form a strong satire on the social

graces of that period. The author isn't serious of course in what he says, but it's funny how I keep meeting people who put the stratagems described into effect.

I have a keen interest in British film sitcoms from this period and in fact a film was made from the books, called *School for Scoundrels* and featured Terry Thomas and Alastair Sim. In this collection you will learn: how to beat your opponent at tennis without building up a sweat (or indeed, hitting the ball), how to pretend to be wine expert without knowing anything about the stuff, how not to go to college and how to travel in style without having any. All this and less!

The Official Batman Batbook

J Eisner : Contemporary

I walked into Ralph Pay's comic shop one day and there this book was. One glance at the contents and I just had to have it. I think this book has something to do with the comics character you're almost right. In fact, it deals with the American TV show produced between 1966 and 1968.

I remember very vividly this show. It left a major impact on me at the time. The show was high camp, in that it took its subject matter to extremes and the result was a basic form of humour. No or little attempt was made of realism and the Batman's TV universe was also filled with more supervillains per square inch than more comics of the period. This I think was why it succeeded, because unlike most other live TV shows with superheroes, this one had the villains!

The book captures the flavour of TV show. It has a description of the events leading up to the creation of the series, the making of the Bat-film and a complete guide to the

episodes. There is also a full list of Robin's expletives and fight sound effects, which no self respecting batfan would be without! Placed throughout the book are numerous anecdotes and photos from the series. It even includes batgirl in her bat costume, drool...

The Star Trek Compendium

A Asherman : Pocket

Like the Batbook, this is a guide to another TV show, the one in the title. If written by the right person, such compendiums (like the Twilight Zone one) can be very interesting. To be so they must be objective rather than over the top, reporting the bad with the good. This book is objective in this manner. It is also a revised and updated version of an earlier book.

The first five chapters deal with the initial creation of the series. The next three chapters give an episode guide for each season, listing principal cast, synopsis, the odd photo and a commentary on the episode. Chapter nine deals with syndication, ten with conventions, and eleven with the animated series. Chapters twelve to fourteen handle the proposed new TV series and its development into the series of films, ending with Star Trek III but also hinting at IV.

Overall this is an excellent introduction to the series and which no trekfan should be without. Even if you're not a fan, it's still fascinating to see the development of a concept show such as StarTrek.

Rupert + A bear's life

A Bestall and G Perry : Pavillion

As you know, I'm a Rupert Bear fan. I was surprised to see a book about Rupert in the local bookshop so I bought it. This book, which is hardback and 168 pages in length, gives a history of Rupert until the present time. It comes four chapters and an appendix. The first chapter details the origin of Rupert and his creator, Mary Tourtel. The second chapter deals with the Artist that later became known as the Rupert artist - Alfred E Bestall. The third chapter tells of how the Rupert Annuals were produced and have

changed over the years, also with the spread of Rupert overseas, animations and so on. The last chapter deals with the general development of the characters and storyline in the strip and possible future directions. The appendix is a list of Rupert annuals and the stories featured in each.

Overall this is a brilliant presentation. The book is fully illustrated and there are several full length stories to show what Rupert is like. It is a mine of information for all Rupert Fans.

Son of Golden Turkey Awards

H & M Medved : Angus & Robinson

This is a sequel to an earlier book that has also been reviewed in these pages. Like the original book, it looks at the bad taste and worst efforts of the Hollywood phenomenon in a humorous manner. The format is the same as the first book. The authors present it as a series of mock-awards in bizarre categories, give a brief rundown of each of the candidates, list the winners and explain the reason why.

By use of this format the full folly of Hollywood is exposed for all to see. This was a must buy for me. I have a particular interest in bad taste and silly extremes of human behaviour. The award categories sum up some of the silliness, for instance: The Most idiotic ad lines in hollywood history; The worst performance by Ronald Reagan; The worst promotional gimmick in hollywood history; The worst beach party movie ever made; and The most laughable concept for an outer space invader.



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The Atlas of Pern
& The Atlas of The Land
K Fonstad : Corgi/Del Rey

These books are an attempt to map the imaginary lands as depicted in the original stories. They are indirect sequels to *The Atlas of Middle Earth* which dealt with J.R.R. Tolkien's Ring cycle. If you're not familiar with the original stories (where have you been!) the atlas of Pern covers the world of Pern as related by Anne McCaffrey and the atlas of *The Land* deals with the world created by Stephen Donaldson for the Thomas Covenant cycle.

The maps come in four different varieties: regional, site, travel and thematic and through a combination of each and extensive annotation each area and location of importance in the works is represented. Where possible, the author has made use of direct quotes and / or maps. Overall the effect is quite convincing. You would almost think that if you find a means of getting there, you could find your way about using these maps and diagrams.

I have a general interest in maps and geography and am especially interested in the Covenant series so it was a logical choice for me. There is also a Pern riders game available and the atlas would make a good companion for this and the series.

EDIT WAFFLE

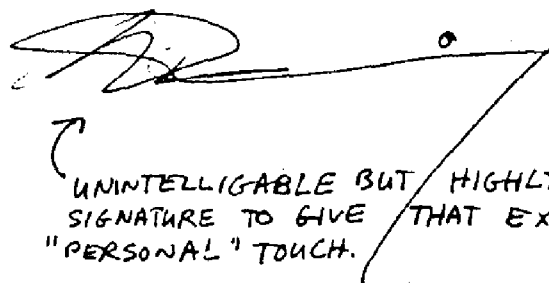
(continued from page 1)

So why call this a senses working overtime issue?

All sorts of reasons I guess, but none of which are fully explained in this zine. Since the last zine I've been able to sit back and relax a bit, to enjoy life more fully. The funny thing is that when you do this you tend to notice more.

Like the XTC song, "Senses working overtime", it all comes in to be sorted out and, analysed and stored for future reference. And like that song, I find it very very good. Part of this is reflected in the LOCs, which are the main feature of this issue.

Due to space limitations, I wasn't able to include the Mediafandom Pt 2 report or the Theory of Formal systems, but these will appear in the next issue. See you then!



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THE FUNNY SIDE OF ROBERT BLOCH

REVEALED IN THE RETURN OF LEGENDARY, LONG-LOST LEFTY FEEP

The world knows Robert Bloch as the author of Psycho, the novel that inspired Alfred Hitchcock to new heights of cinematic horror and put a damper forever on designer shower curtains.

But there is a sunnyside-up to this master of horror: a talent for humorous fantasy, the kind that tickles ribs, splits sides and causes usually sedate sourpusses to roll in the aisles.

Back in the 1940s the irrepressible Bloch proved it by writing a series of rollicking yarns about a racetrack tout named Lefty Feep. Feep was a fast-talkin', fedora-flippin', zootsuit zipper always meeting daffy doctors, incredible inventors and gorgeous "ginches" in his quest to make a fast killing. And finding himself up to his skinny neck in buffoonery and lampoonery.



LEFTY FEEP

Almost all of these stories have remained out of print through the decades . . . but now Lefty is back in **LOST IN TIME AND SPACE WITH LEFTY FEEP**, to be published in April, 1986, by Creatures at Large, a new San Francisco-Bay Area publishing house specializing in offbeat fiction and nonfiction.

LOST IN TIME AND SPACE WITH LEFTY FEEP will feature Lefty's first eight Fables of the Forties, reprinted as they ran in Fantastic Adventures, complete with period

slang and topical references. Plus one brand-new story Bloch wrote for this edition, in which Lefty turns up not aged a day since 1950!

LOST IN TIME AND SPACE WITH LEFTY FEEP features illustrations by artist Kenn Davis, who has also dreamed up a riotous cover of Lefty and his assorted associates.

Chelsea Quinn Yarbrow provides a penetrating study of Bloch the man and writer, explaining how such delightful stories could have sprung from the mind of the same man who wrote SUCH STUFF AS SCREAMS ARE MADE OF, CHAMBER OF HORRORS, OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF GRAVES, NIGHTMARES, BLOOD RUNS COLD and THE LIVING DEMONS.

John Stanley, editor-publisher of *Creatures at Large*, and author of *THE CREATURE FEATURES MOVIE GUIDE*, offers a lengthy interview with Bloch about the creation of Lefty Feep, describing Bloch's writing environment in the hills of Hollywood, his thoughts about writing fantasy comedy and what he thinks of blondes. Also provided with each story are Bloch's recollections on how the stories came to be written.

This nostalgic return to the Forties is a collector's item for Bloch fans. The book will be available in quality paperback (\$12.95) and in a special slipcase deluxe signed edition (\$40).

LOST IN TIME AND SPACE WITH LEFTY FEEP establishes for a whole new generation of readers that Robert Bloch is as much a master of mirth as he is a master of mayhem and murder.

But be forewarned:

YOU COULD LAUGH YOURSELF TO DEATH