

WHY ME ?

issue # 39

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Yep, it's me again. I keep reading of my demise in a lot of dipzines, and it makes me wonder why I'm still typing this. Some fo you also act like I'm already dead as I didn't receive one single letter this month ! Oh well, I guess I go warehouse sooner than expected. I did get an article submitted but it's a rather lengthy one. I'll try to bring you the first installment next issue. On with other things.

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The WHY ME ? determined player of the month award.....

Are you ready for this ? Phil Cooper, known to most why Me readers, has to be the most determined player yet. Last week Phil tried calling his GM in a game all night the evening before the deadline. He failed to reach him and it looked like he would NMR. Undaunted and ready to meet the challenge, Phil got up the next morning and drove two hours to the GM's house to deliver the orders in person ! This has to make Phil the unchallenged most determined player of the month ! All you players in games with Phil had better not count on him missing his moves !! Nice going Phil, I know how you feel as I HATE to NMR myself. I can only recall two NMRs in my 7 years in the hobby and over 50 games. I never went that far though !

.....
The St Valentines Day Massacre (or Freddycon) in Br oklyn.

This was the highlight of last month. Fred Hyatt had a mini-convention at his house on Feb 14th and graciously invited yours truly. We drove to NY in my son's car (it's newer than mine!) and took along a passenger, Joe Grailey. (who is from VT but was visiting his mother here in Philly). Since Joe has been known to knife me pretty good in a recent game I made sure he walked thru a metal detector before he was allowed to enter the car.

Upon arriving at Fred's house we sat around and kibitzed while all of the guests slowly filtered in. It was great fun meeting a lot of people who had only been signatures on a letter or voices on the telephone. We finally got enough people together to play 3 boards. Later a second round was also played with 3 boards. During that round we were one short on one of the boards so I agreed to write orders for Turkey on that board but I would not talk to any of the players. To my amazement I did better on that board than on the one where I DID negotiate ! All in all it was a fantastic day with no problems that I saw. I enjoyed meeting the likes of Don Ditter, Brad Wilson, Bern Sampson, Tom Mainardi, Vic Dupont, and several others whom I can't recall right at this moment. It was also good to see the people whom I had already met before such as, Phil Cooper, Kathy Byrne, John Caruso, Vic Ricci, and Karl Schuetz. A special boo, hiss to Karl for stabbing me twice in the same day ! I thought we were friends Karl !! A special thanks to Fred Hyatt for making such an enjoyable day like this possible. When are we going to do it again ?

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New Zine.....Dot Happy just arrived in my mailbox. This is a new one by Allen Wells. I don't know Allen too well but his 'zine looks like it has possibilities. It's done in digest format and subs are 50¢ an issue. Gamefees are \$5.00 with a \$5.00 refundable NMR deposit. The first issue has houserules and a couple of orphans that allen has picked up. Why not write for a sample to Allen at: 550 Memorial Dr, # 2E3, Cambridge, MA 02139. Tell him I sent you.

Blind game #1 Recap

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07		
Austria	5	6	8	9	8	9	8	Draw Spr '08	Vern Schaller
England	4	3	1	-					John Kador
France	5	5	7	8	9	9	9	Draw Spr '08	Karl Schuetz
Germany	5	7	8	10	11	11	13	Draw Spr '08	Art Schleinkofer
Italy	4	5	4	4	4	4	3		Phil Cooper
Russia	6	4	2	-					Jerry Muto
Turkey	4	4	4	3	2	1	1	M. McGranaghan (res Spr '03)	
								Dave Arnott	

'Highlights' of the game

1901 Ger moved F Kie-Bal and then Bot. This put him in a great position to attack Russia. Russia takes Swe so I doubt he suspected what the German was doing. Fra moved to Eng & Bur. He then took Bel and let Por go for the while. The Ger/Fra alliance was obvious to me, but I'm sure that most of the others had no idea. In the east things went pretty normal.

1902 Ger attacks Russia and leaves the job of taking Eng out to the french. In the east Aus attacks Tur, Tur attacks Rus, Ita moves towards Fra. The only alliance now viable in the east is Aus/Ita.

1903 France clobbers the remains of Eng, Ger is al over Rus, and Austria attacks everybody & Aus takes Ven from Ita, Rum from Russia, and already has Bul from Tur.

1904 Not much happens except Germany finishes off Russia. Italy starts to regroup his forces to fight Aus. (they had been attacking fra). Austria still attacking everybody in sight. Eng & Russia are finished.

1905 Germany now in Mos & Ukr, but Fra stabs Ger, thus breaking up the only real alliance on the board. Italy holding his own against continued Austrian attack.

1906 Austria now aware of the German as Germany starts to move his way. Germany & France battle in the west but both keep making headway towards the east.

1907 Austria makes a valiant effort to hold off Ger even takig Mun, but Ger has too great a position and Aus won't hold him back for long.

1908 The game ends when the draw passes. This surprised me as I felt that France or Germany could have won this game if they kept on going. France would have surely taken most of Italy as Italy was too busy attacking the Austrian. Germany would have eventually broken thru the Austrian lines as Austria would not have been able to hold everywhere. But, the fact that nobody KNEW what the other persons position looked like is probably why the 3 way was agreed upon.

.....

Blind 2 Wrapup

	01	02	03	04	05	06	
Austria	3	1	-	-	-	-	Walt Aucott
England	4	3	3	2	1	-	Robert Stimmel
France	4	6	6	7	9	10	Steve McLendon
Germany	5	7	6	4	4	2	Jack Brawner (dro F'04) CD
Italy	4	4	6	6	7	8	John Michalski
Russia	7	7	8	10	10	12	Jack Fleming
Turkey	4	6	5	5	3	2	Ed Tucker

Highlights of the game

1901 Most of this year was normal as Diplomacy goes except Russia managed to outfox Austria and took Vie. Russia is +3 and aus is even.

Continued on next page

1902 Austria's lack of a build puts him in bad shape. Russia takes Bud, Turkey takes Ser, and Aus is down to 1 center. In the west Eng is under seige from Fra And Rus . Germany goes after russia with some success. Russia gains Bud & Nwy but loses War & Swe. Lucky for him that he had 3 builds in '01. Turkey also a big gainer as he takes Ser & Gre. Italy is content to play for position, convoying an A to Alb.

1903 Italy finishes off Aus by taking Tri and also takes Gre off of the Turk. Russia gets lucky as Germany NMRs and manages to pick up Mun. Frace is still slugging it out with Eng but gains no new centers.

1904 France takes anoter Eng center but Ger NMRs again giving Russia a big edge. Russia has now regained his home centers of War and has also taken Ber & Con. Only the loss of Bud to Tur is any setback. The Turk has now taken Tun from Italy but is fighting for his life.

1905 Russia has his support from Nwy cut by an ITALIAN fleet in the Nwg. Italy had managed to keep moving around behind everybodys lines. I wonder who Russia thought kept cutting his support ? Germany by now has gone into CD and France picks up Mun, but the bulk of the German spoils has gone to Russia. Only the Italian fleet has prevented the Russian from taking Swe, and then Den. Turkey is rapidly going down the tubes but manages to harrass the Italian quite well with some real good moves.

1906 Nothing of super importance. France finallt finishes off England. Russia and France get into a slugging match over the German remnants.

I think that Russia, France or even possibly Italy could have won the game but it would have been a very long drawn out slugging match. The 2 way draw was probably best considering what each player knew was happening.

.....
End Game statement. Italy-Blind 2. I'm glad this game is over even if I was a 7 ((actually an 8)). Congratulations to Jack and Stve, but I'll stick to games with Diplomacy in them. I'm glad we never had to fight each other. ((but you did John !))

End game statement. GM. I really enjoyed GMing these games as it was hilarious at times watching the mistakes that were made. I wish I had the space to reprint all of the moves but that's just not possible. Anyone wanting to ask a specific question about a particular year of the game will be answered only if he sends me an SSAE. As far as me sending copies of the moves (which someone asked about), that is out of the question. It costs me 15¢ a sheet to xerox them and I have to drive quite a few miles to do so. Sorry. I really envy all of you that have access to a copier at work. I don't even have access to one in my neighborhood ! (i'm not near any of the bussiness district)

.....
New publisher & editor found for Everything. Since I wrote last ish that I was looking for a sucesor to Bob Sergeant to publish EV for me I have received letters and calls from several of you offering to do the job. Well, I'm pleased to announce that Bernard Sampson will be the new Editor & publisher of Everything. Bern approached me at Fred Hyatt's house and we discussed it at some length. I am quite satisfied that Bern will do a fine job with this publication. I'd really like to thank all of you that volunteered for the job and I'm sure that several of you would have been excellent. If the need for another change should occur in the future I'll keep all of you in mind. It makes me feel good that there are still concerned people in this hobby of ours. It bodes well for the future !

.....
BLIND GAME # 3 deadline is April 4th to Karl Schueta

1978FL, Fall 1909, Art Schleinkofer, 3108 E St., Phila., PA 19134
 Austria(Money): F Tun-Naf, F Lyo(sup)Ita A Fie-Mar, A Tyo(sup) A Vie-Boh, A Vie-Boh, A Tri(sup)A Tyo, A Rum(sup)A Gal, A Ukr(sup)A Mos, A Sev(sup)A Mos, A Mos-H
 England(Tucker): F Nwg-H, F Nth-H, F Iri(sup)Fre F Mid, A Lvn(sup) Ger A War, A Stp-Mos
 France(Schiwautz): F Spa(sc)(sup)A Mar, F Por(sup)F Mid, F Mid(sup) F Spà(sc), A Gas(sup)F Spa(sc), A Mar(sup)F Spa(sc), A Bur(sup)A Mar
 Germany(Kendter, Jr): F Den + A Hol sit and rot (H), A Mun(sup)A Boh, A Boh-H, A Sil(sup)A Boh, A Pru(sup)A War, A War(Sup)Eng A Stp-Mos
 Italy(Conner): F Tyh-Wes, F Tus-Tyh, F Ion-Tun, A Pie-Mar A Ven(sup)
 Aus A Tyo, A Rom(sup)A Ven-H

Austria--Home, Ser, Bul, Gre, Rum, Ank, Sev, Mos 10--Even
 England--Home, Nwy, Stp 5--Even
 France--Home, Bel, Por, Spà 6--Even
 Germany--Home, Hol, Den, Swe, War 7--Even
 Italy--Home, Tun, Smy, Con 6--Even
 Press--

Austria-World: What's all this talk of a five-way draw? Don't you people have the guts to settle this ting decisively. The Austrians will never consider such an easy way out. One way or another we intend to force a resolutjion of this war.

France: OK fellows, it's time for a wrap up.

Germany-World: It will be a five-way!

Deadline for the spring 1910 moves is March 28, 1981. There is a proposal for a five-way draw. Please vote on this with your orders.

A reminder to all of the players in this game: If there is no change in supply centers next year this is a five-way draw as per houserule # 18 Lee Sr

 1979 HD Fall 1909 Turkey pulls out his special knife !!
 Austria(Hyatt) A War(s)Ger A Mos-Ukr
 England(Schleinkofer) F Mar(s)F Mid-Spasc, F Por(s)F Mid-Spasc, F Mid-Spasc, F Eng(s)F NAO-Mid, F NAO-Mid, F Nth-H, A Gas (s)F Mid-Spasc, A Bur(s)F Mar, A StP(s)Ger A Liv-Mos
 Germany(Howe) A Liv-Mis, A Mos-Ukr, A Gal-Vie, F Swe-H, A Sil-Boh, A Tyr(s)A Gal-Vie, A Mun(s)A Tyr
 Italy(Byrne) F Wes-Mid, F Lyo(s)A Pie-Mar, A Pie-Mar, A Ven-Tyr
 A Tri(s)A Ven-Tyr, A Vie(s)A Ven-Tyr (A Tyr retreated- Ven)
 Russia(Conner) A Rum-Sev
 Turkey(Kador) A Sev-Arm, F Bla(s)Rus A Rum-Sev, A Bud(s)Ita A Vie, F Aeg-Ion, F Ion-Nap, F Tyrs-Rom, F Naf-Tun

DEADLINE for Winter '09 and Spring '10 is April 3rd, 1981

Supply Centers

Austria:	War	1	even
England:	Home, Nwy, Bre, Por, Bel, StP, Spa, MAR	10	build 1
Germany:	Home, Par, Den, Hol, Swe, MOS	8	build 1
Italy:	Ven, Rom , Nap , Tyr , Tri, Mar , Vie	3	remove 3
Russia:	Ser, Rum, SEV	3	can't build !
Turkey:	Home, Bul, Gre, Bud, Sev , Mos , ROM, NAP, TUN	9	build 2

Press: Turkey-Italy: Sorry about the stab, Kathy. My only chance now is to get a few quick builds and dig in for all I'm worth. I'll get part of the draw this way. I'll do my best to keep one of your units alive. If you're still in the game, I'll insist that Italy be part of the draw. Make sense ?

Italy to Turk & Russia. HELP !

1980 KL Spring 1902 That's more like it ! Lots of action !

- Austria(Quinn) F Gre-Aeg, A Ser-Gre, A Tri-Ser, A Bud(s)A Tri-Ser, A Vie-Gal
- England(Pierce) F Nwy-Swe (dis-Ska, Bar, otb), F Nth-Nwg, F Lon-Nth, A Yor-Lon
- France(Parker) F Bre-Eng, A Pic(s)A Par-Bur, A Par-Bur, A Spa-Mar, F Por-Mid
- Germany(Melot) A Ber-Pru, A Mun-Sil, F Kie-Bal, A Den-H, A Bel-H, F Hol(s)A Bel
- Italy(Landon) A Tun-H, A Pie-Ven, F Ion-Eas, F Nap-Ion
- Russia(Blau) F StPnc-Nwy, A Swe(s)F StP-Nwy, F Bot-Bal, A Mos-Sev, A Rum-Sev, F Sev-Arm

Turkey(Hart) A Bul-Rum, A Con-Bul, A Smy-Arm, F Bla(s)A Smy-Arm
DEADLINE for Fall '02 is Apr 3rd, 1981

Press: Aus-World: I just wanted to say "hello" to everybody: "Hello".
Pie-Mar: The vacation was nice, thank you. But even soldiers have a desire to hole up in the home barracks every now and then.

Napoli: In an unprecedented act of courage, Tiberius I, Italy's new 20th century caesar, made the decision to sail east into uncharted waters. When asked about his daring decision, Tiberius I replied: My milatay advisors have told me these waters have rarely, if ever, been sailed by Italians. It's about time we did something about that. Besides, I hear there are a bunch of strange people living around here somewhere. I think they are called tarks or something, that like wine and toga parties. Just the kind of people my 2nd marines like to be around."

.....
1980 AE Fall '06 Turkey and Austria hang on for another year

- Austria(Quinn) A Bud(s) A Vie, A Vie(s)A Tri, A Tri(s)A Bud
- England(Conner) A Ukr-Mos, A Sev-Arm, A Pru-War, A Liv(s) A Pru-War, A Ber-Sil, A Kie-Ber, A Hol-Kie, A Nwy-StP, F Bal-H, F Hel-H, F Nth-H, F Nwg-H
- France(Ditter) A Vie ret to Boh. A Boh-Vie, A Tyr(s)A Boh-Vie, F Adr-Tri, A Ven(s)F Adr-Tri, A Mun(s)A Tyr, A Bur(s)A Mun, F Rom-Nap, F Mid-Wes, F Tyrs-Tun, F Lyo-Tyrs, F Smy-Con
- Turkey(Turner) A War-Ukr, A Rum(s)F Bla-Sev, F Bla-Sev, A Bul(s)A Ser, A Ser(s)Aus A Tri, F Gre-Aeg, F Ion-Eas

Thanks to Keith Mercer for the standbys even though they wern't needed.
DEADLINE for Winter '06 and Sprin '07 is April 3rd, 1981

The English/French draw failed 3 no, 1 Yes ..

Supply Centers

- Austria: Bud, Tri, VIE, ~~VEN~~ 3 even
- England: Home, Nwy, Swe, Den, Hol, StP, War, Kie, Ber, Mos, ~~VEN~~ 12 remove 1
- France: Home, Por, Spa, Bel, Tun, Rom, Nap, Mun, ~~VIE~~, VEN, CON 12 build 1
- Turkey: Rum, Bul, Gre, Ser, Smy, Ank, ~~VEN~~, SEV 7 even

Press: Aus-World: "Don't tread on me...please ?"

Turkey: There is chaos in the empire of the Turkish people. Soon after those Bloodsucking Britan Birds so brutally attack uor country, the great leader of this country, Nivek Ruwet, suffered a severe stroke and was not able to give any orders to his brave troops. However, our leader is now stronger than ever and vows to get even no matter how long it takes.

England-Austria: 13 centers do not a victory make.

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Anybody out there want any BACK ISSUES of WHY ME ? . I have quite a few of them and I'll let them go for postage. All issues will be sold for 15¢ each except 28¢ for both anniversary issues. (more if you order after the postal rates go up) Payment in stamps is OK.

1979 KQ Winter '07 Fra rem F Lvp. Ger ret F Cly-Edi, builds A Ber.
 Rus rem F StP. Ita Rem A Vie. Tur bids A Con, A Ank, F Smy.
 Spring '08 France suffers more setbacks. New German takes power.
 France(Hart) A Wal-Yor, A Bur-Bel, A Mar-Bur, F Eng(s)A Bur-Bel (dis-
 -Pic, Wal, Bre, Mid, otb), F NAO-Nwg F Cly(s)F NAO-Nwg
 Germany(Wilson) F Nwy-Nwg, F Edi(s)F Nwy-Nwg, A Ber-Sil, A Mun-Tyr,
 A Kie-Mun, A Ruh(s)A Kie-Mun, A Lon-H, F Nth(s)F Bel-Eng,
 F Bel-Eng, F Hol-Bel
 Italy(Cartier) A Ven-Tri ((See C.O.A.))
 Russia(Townsend) F Sev-Rum, A Ukr & A Gal (s)F Sev-Rum, A Bud-Ser,
 A Vie-Tri, A Mos-Sev
 Turkey(Aucott) A Bul-Ser, A Rum-Sev, F Bla & A Arm(s)A Rum-Sev,
 A Con-Bul, F Smy-Aeg, A Ank-Smy, F Adr-Ion, A Tri-Ven, F Rom-
 -Tus, F Nap-Tyrs

DEADLINE for fall '08 is Apr 3rd, 1981

COA (for March only) Steve Cartier, c/o Dan Alderson, Box 429,
 Tujunga, CA 91042

DRAW PROPOSALS: Concesion to Ger, G/T draw, G/T/R/F draw. Please vote
 on these with your orders. Not voting is a YES vote.

Press: Ber to Mos: Let's work together

Ber to Con: Let's work together

Ber to Par: Let's work together-you in my mansions kitchen.

Ber to Rom: (or Tri, or where) Tough luck. Too sad: Sorry

.....
 1980 A Fall '06 Germany hangs on by a thread

Austria(Parker) A Ven(s)A Tyr, A Tyr(s)A Ven, A Boh(s)Fra A Bur-Mun,
 F Bulsc-Aeg, A Ser(s)A Rum-Bul, A Rum-Bul, A Bud-Rum

England(Schuetz) F Swe-Bal, F Den(s)F Swe-Bal, F Ska-Nth, F Nth-Nwg,
 F Hol(s)Fra A Kie

France(Schiwautz) F Pic-Eng, A Kie(s)A Mun-Ber, A Mun-Ber, A Bur-Mun,
 F Wes-Tun, F Lyo-Wes, F Tyrs(s)F Wes-Tun

Germany(Wilson) F Bal-Liv, A Sil(s)A Ber, A Ber(s)Aus A Tyr-Mun(nso)

Italy (Arnott) A Ven ret to Apu. A Apu(s)A Rom, F Tun-Tyrs(dis-Naf,
 Ion, otb), A Rom-H

Russia(Cooper) A War-H, A Mos-Sev, A Sev-Arm, A Arm-Syr

Turkey(Cartier) F Bla-Arm, A Con-Smy, F AegOCon ((see COA))

DEADLINE for Winter '06 and Spring '07 is Apr 3rd, 1981

COA: Steve Cartier, c/o Dan Alderson, Box 429, Tujunga, Ca 91042 (for
 March only)

Supply Centers

Austria: Home, Ser, Gre, Rum, Bul, VEN	8 build 1
England: Home, Nwy, Swe, DEN, HOL	7 build 2
France: Home, Spa, Por, Bel, Mun, TUN, KIE	9 build 2
Germany: Ber, Kie , Nap , Den	1 remove 2
Italy: Ven , Rom, Nap, Tyr	2 remove 1
Russia: Home	4 even
Turkey: Home	3 even

Press: Ger to Gm: Hope not. Ger to Aus: Good luck

Ger to Eng & Fra: Which one of you wants Ber

A draw of Eng/ Fra/ Aus is proposed. Not voting is a YES. Please vote.

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 1980 AN Winter 1905 only. Seperation by multiple request.

France(Masters) F Mid retreat to Por, Builds F Bre

Germany(Sergeant) A Vie retreats to Boh, Removes A Den

Italy(Ledder) Builds A Ven, F Nap

Russia(McLendon) F Swe retreats OTB

Turkey(Blank) A Rum retreats to Bul

England(Ditter) Builds F Lvp ((almost forgot you Don !))

DEADLINE for Spring 1906 is Apr 3rd, 1981

Thanks to Rick Ragsdale for submitting standbys even though they
 were not needed.

1980 CB Fall 1905 All 7 still around, barely. Who goes first ?
 Austria(Beyerlein) A Ven-H, F Adr(s)A Ven, F Alb(s)A Gre, A Gre-H,
 A Bul(s)A Gre, A Rum(s)A Bul
 England(Ronderos)((See COA)) A Hol-Kie, A Fin-StP, F Nwv(s)A Fin-StP,
 F Den(s)A Hol-Kie, F Nth-Ska, F Swe(s)F Nth-Ska
 France(Ragsdale) A Ruh(s)Eng A Hol-Kie, A Bur(s)A Mun, A Pie-Tyr,
 A Mun(s)A Pie-Tyr, F Ion-Tun, F Tyrs-Nap, F Lyo-Tyrs
 Italy(Schleinkofer) F Aeg(s)Fra F Ion-Gre(nso), F Apu(s)A Rom-Ven,
A Rom-Ven
 Russia(Wilson) F Ska-Nwv(ANN), A StP(s)F Ska-Nwv, A Liv(s)A StP(NSU)
A Smy-Ank, F Con-Ank, A Ber-Kie, A Sil-Ber, A Tyr-Vie, A Mos-H

Turkey(Hart) A Smy ret-Arm. A Arm(s)Rus A Smy-Ank
 DEADLINE for Winter '05 and Spring '06 is Apr 3rd, 1981
 COA Al Ronderos, 5323 DeSoto Dr., Apt 326, Houston, TX 77091

Supply Centers
 Austria: ~~V~~ Tri, Bud, Ser, Gre, Bul, Ven, Rum 7 build 1
 England: Home, Nwy, Hol, ~~S~~, KIE, DEN, SWE 8 build 2
 France: Home, Spa, Por, Bel, ~~K~~, MUN, NAP, TUN 9 build 2
 Germany: ~~D~~ 0 out
 Italy: Rom, ~~N~~, ~~T~~ 1 remove 2
 Russia: Mos, War, Sev, ~~S~~, ~~M~~, Ber, Ank, Con, 8 build 1 (1arn)
 STP, VIE
 Turkey: Smy 1 even

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 And...since so many have asked for addresses lately, here is the WM
 player directory. (traders and subbers not included)
 David Arnott, 1133 Sumner Ave, D-7, No Charleston, SC 29406
 Doug Beyerlein, 640 College, Menlo Park, CA 94025
 Russell Blau, 341 Hastings Hall, Cambridge, MA 02138
 Kathy Byrne, 42-34 Saull St., Flushing, NY 11355
 Phil Cooper, 19 Dahlgren Pl., Brooklyn, NY 11228
 Mike Conner, 3214 Beverly Rd., Austin, TX 78703
 Steve Cartier ((see COA under 79KQ))
 Don Ditter, 910 Hope ST. #12A, Stamford, CT 06907
 Bill Hart, 312 Dunhagen Pl., Cary, NC 27511
 Gary Howe, 2012 Sandra Dr., Midwest City, OK 73110
 Fred Hyatt, 400 State St., Brooklyn, NY 11217
 John Kador, 20 Hilltop Pd, Silver Spring, MD 20910
 Doug Landon, 28-S Tower Dr., W Lafayette, IN 47906
 John Masters, 25711 N Vista Fwys Dr., Valencia, CA 91355
 Keith Mercer, RD 6, Mercer, PA 16137
 Steve McLendon, Box 57066, Webster, TX 77598
 Vernon Parker, 1854 Waybridge Ln., Fenton, MO 63026
 Al Ronderos ((see COA under 1908 CB))
 Rick Ragsdale, 1009 Grazing Lane, Jacksonville, AR 72076
 Art Schleinkofer, 3108 E. St., Phila, PA 19134
 Bill Schiwautz, 1342 N. Crec Hgt Blvd, W Hollywood, CA 90046
 Karl Schuetz, 20 Toledo Lane, Willingboro, NJ 08046
 Bob Sergeant, 3242 Lupine Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46224
 Kevin Turner, 23440 Shadow Dr., Auburn, CA 95603
 Fred Townsend, 3830 T St NW, Washington, DC 20007
 Brad Wilson, 302 Friendship Dr., Paoli, PA 19301
 And out of order because I had filed them out of order....
 Walt Aucott, 621 Poplar St. Cayce, SC 29033
 Glenn Ledder, 47 Snowden, Schnectedy, NY 12304
 Dave Melot, 158 Clymer St Apt #1, Reading, Pa 19602
 Dave Pierce, 6000 Liberty BellCt, Burke, VA 22015
 Jon Quinn, 632 Mohawk Dr, Lowell, IN 46356
 Walter Blank, Mannheim Middle School, APO 09086

SAVE THIS...I hate typing mailing lists !!

Letters.....

From Glenn Ledder

I share a lot of opinions with the writers of your movie lists in last issues, except that they neglected my #1 all-time favorite movie: Wild Strawberries by Ingmar Bergman. Anyone who has seen it is sure to put it on the list of best dramatic films.

As for who I would most like to have dinner with, I think the question should be divided among living and historical figures. My top 5 among living figures includes Richard Nixon, Ayatollah Khomeini, Linus Pauling, Aaron Copeland, and Robert Pirsig (author of Zen and the art of motorcycle maintainance). Note that the most loathsome figures (Nixin, and Khomenei, for example) are often the most interesting. The choice among historical figures is obviously more difficult. My spur-of-the-moment top ten includes Socrates, Albert Einstien, Fyodor Dostoevski, Ludwig Van Beethoven, Aldous Huxley, Galileo, Plotinus (a Roman philosopher), Leonardo Da Vinci, Lao Tse (a Chinese Philosopher) and Jesus. No attempt is made to put these people in any particular order. They are the first ten extremely creative people I thought of.

One last thing: I amend my top five contemporary list to a top six. How could I forget Isaac Asimov ?

From Robert Stimmel

Famous people to eat with. 1) Newton, 2) Leibnitz, 3) Nicola Tesla, 4) Attila the Hun, 5) Queen Christina of Sweden, 6) Mary, Queen of Scots, 7) Lucretia Borgia, 8) Abd-er-Rahman III, caliph of Unmayed Spain, 9) Alfonso X, King of Castile, 10) Debbie Reynolds (an article said that popcorn was about the only food she liked)

From Russell Blau

I'll bet you're surprised to see a letter that doesn't contain a list of favorite films. Most of the movies I would list have already been included on other people's list anyway.

While it is sad news that you have decided to wind down Why Me ?, all of us who have subscribed over the last three years can be glad that we were able to play with one of the hobby's best gamesmasters, and look forward to continuing association with you while you finish your ongoing games and, I hope, remain as an active player. You have set a high standard for promptness and accuracy in publishing that future 'zines will be compared to.

A few months ago you published an article I wrote on the subject of standbys. My argument was that the use of standbys improves the game considerably. Since then, I have had the experience of playing in some games that have not used standbys, namely the Postal Diplomacy Tournament run by Bob Sergeant, and the results have only strengthened my opion.

The outcomes of the Tournament games are supposed to remain secret untill the whole thing has been completed, but I don't think it will be revealing too much to tell you that, in all three of the games I've played in, the results have been significantly affected by players dropping out at critical periods. And the effects have been exactly as I outlined in my article--the players who were allied with countries that went into civil disorder suffered, and their enemies benefited.

One of the reasons that we have had so many NMR's in the Postal Tournament, I suspect, is that no security deposit was required from the players. I've also noticed that while you origionally required a deposit in Why Me ? games, you dropped the deposit a while back. In my opinion, all GM's ought to require a fairly large NMR deposit from all players (say, twice the amount of the game fee), with refunds givin if the player gives the GM a season's notice before dropping out. Since we're starting to talk about substantial amounts of money, the GM ought to repay the deposit with interest at the end of the game: The interest rate ought to be whatever savings banks are ((con))

currently paying (now $5\frac{1}{2}\%$). This might be a little inconvenient to keep track of, but on the other hand it will reduce the trouble of maintaining a large standby list. Also, the forfeited deposits will help support the ever-rising costs of paper, copying and postage.

I never got any response to my original article, and I'd be very interested in knowing what you and your readers think about this subject.

((Russ, first I must thank you for all of the kind words about me, I really appreciate them.

Now, I'm afraid that I must disagree with you on several points. First, I find no significant difference in the dropout rate between when I did charge a deposit and now, when I don't. I should remind you that if a player drops out he forfeits not only his gamefee, but all of his remaining subscription money. I recently had a player drop that had paid 3 gamefees and his sub was paid up until issue # 50. You can easily figure out that this is no small sum of money.

Also, the postal tournament charged a fee of \$20. That is also not a small sum of money either.

I believe that if a player has lost interest in his position, or in the hobby altogether, he is going to drop out regardless of the cost. Almost all of the people that drop out of my games are getting out of the hobby altogether. I get a lot of 'zines and I see the same names drop out 'zine after 'zine. It doesn't seem to matter if the GM has low gamefees, high gamefees, deposits or whatever.

I think that the postal tournament is a special case. Since we are playing for prizes, I suspect that a lot of the dropouts are people who realize that they are out of the running for a prize and just don't want to continue if they can't win something. I agree that the no standby policy has hurt the tournament. I'll refrain from making any specific comments, but I know my finish is going to be greatly influenced because of the dropout situation.

Finally, as far as paying interest on deposits is concerned, this would create far too much bookkeeping for us publishers. I have more than enough to do as it is keeping records up to date. I certainly wouldn't want to increase my workload in this area.

If any other GM/publisher has any further comments to make, feel free to make them. I only ask that you limit yourself to a brief letter.

Lee))

.....
I have nothing for this space because you didn't send me anything !

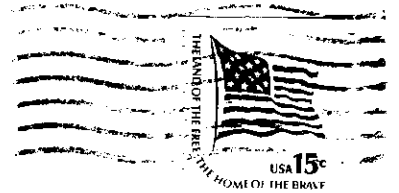
And I don't have anything in particular to say.

Just think, this is the first ever space filler in WHY ME ?

Maybe I'll have something to fill this space next issue.

Ahh, to hell with it. Let's get this issue out .

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