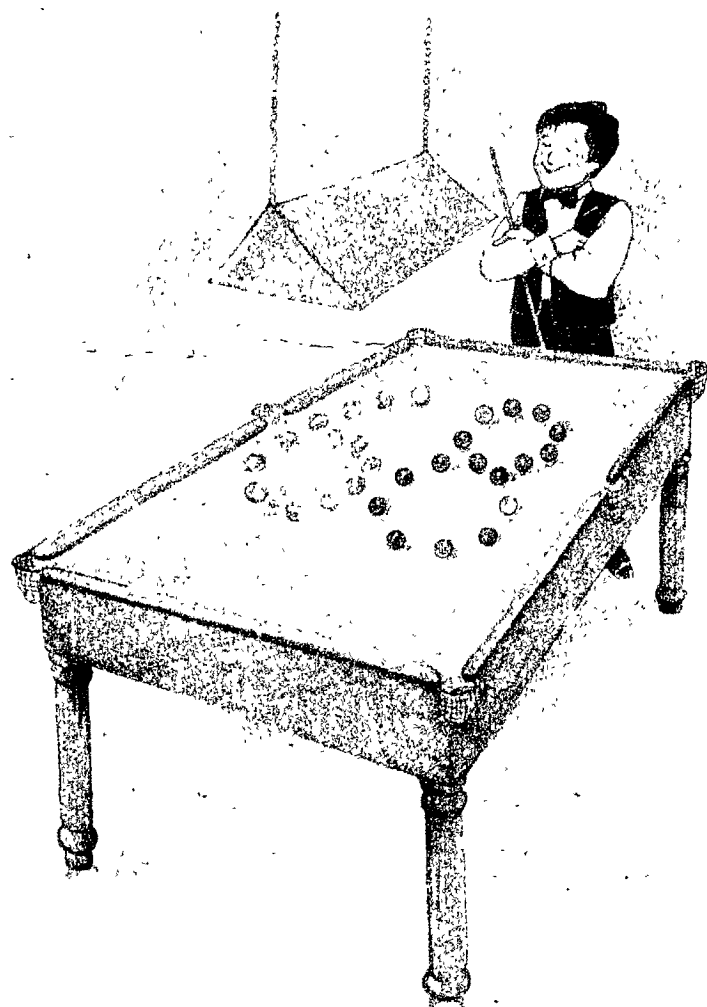


DIB DIB DIB



Welcome to the 68th issue of Dib Dib Dib - a zine dedicated to games, games players, and to the civilised game of Diplomacy. The cost is a fixed rate of 45p per issue in the UK and 28p + postage overseas. Send money, to Tom Tweedy, 29 Stanley Hill Avenue, Amersham, Bucks., HP7 9BD. Tel. 02403 4513.

 * EMAIL: I can also be reached via bulletin board on 'West London TBBS' *
 * 0895-52685 (1200/1200, 1200/75 or 300/300 baud - No parity, 8 data bits, 1 *
 * stop bit), where all orders, articles and whatever can be sent to me in *
 * the Diplomacy section reached via the SIGS Area (Special Interest Groups). *

EDITORIAL

First off to get my mistakes out of the way (well, not ALL of them, which might be too numerous to mention here). It was John Colledge who wrote the JOHN CAVANAGH letters in Dib 67. An easy mistake to make when copytyping, if the author signs himself only as 'John'. John Cavanagh rang me later wanting to know how come he was writing such interesting letters! Sorry Mr Colledge, fancy thinking Mr Cavanagh could write such interesting letters!

The other - minor - mistake was the GODS board does NOT support 1200/1200 baud as advertised in my last editorial, only 1200/75 and 300/300 (tho' I've never been able to get on at 300).

Well, nothing much has been happening in the Tweedy household of late, so I'm not going to mention it. The fact that Jan makes sure I'm continuously overworked, alternately typing up Dib, Spots, the modem games and various letters might have quite a lot to do with it - GOD knows how Kinzett manages! Not that Jan makes sure he's overworked - he does it all voluntarily!

We have more or less given up looking for a house now, as Stuart is taking his GCSE's in 1988. We said from the start that come May if we hadn't found anything, we'd look some other time. It'll be just our luck now if every house that turns up will be exactly what we want.

Anyway, just to finish off, talking of Stuart: he has now decided to run D&D on West London TBDS. I thought I'd give it a mention because I know there's a few of you still interested in playing D&D by 'mail'. So far he's DMing for three people - one of them being the SYSCP (Iain Phillipps). Each player has a single character - die rolled by the DM - with the rest of the party being made up of Non Player Characters. It should prove faster than postal D&D anyway as Stuart's on the board once, even twice, a night.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 1986/87 GLADYS AWARDS

1. Best Diplomacy Zine: Dolchstoss, NMRI, War & Peace, Mad Policy.
2. Best Games Zine: Vienna, TTYF, Zeeby, Hopscotch, Small Furry Creatures Press.
3. Best Looking Zine: Home of the Brave, Gazfinc, Diversions, Vienna, Small Furry Creatures Press.
4. Best Lettercol: Denver Glont, Dib Dib Dib, NMRI Thing on the Mat, Vienna.
5. Best Writer: Richard Sharp, Tim Collieu, Brian Creese, Pete Doubleday, Ross Christie.
6. Best Subzine: Ac-Mong, Piles, Serendipity, Heimskringla, Fellow Traveller.
7. Best for Hobby News: Mad Policy, Home of the Brave, Zeeby, Ode, Vienna, Hopscotch.
8. Best New Zine: Small Furry Creatures Press, Bloodstock, Sharp Practice.
9. Best Postal Games GM: Martin Draper, Alan Parr, Nick Kinzett, Pevans ((?)), Richard Egan.
10. Most Regretted Fold: Boojum, RGR.

((Address cont'd top over the page...))

Please vote for the above nominations in order of preference, and send your votes in to Brian Creese, 256 Canbury Park Road, Kingston, Surrey, KT2 6LG - to reach him by Saturday 18th July at the latest.

I shall be printing the results of course, but if anyone wants to see the original results in NMR! then write off to Brian at the above address.

~~~~~

SENDING OVERSEAS ORDERS IN VIA EMAIL?

This subject caught my interest when Luke Clutterbuck sent in a letter asking about linking computers between Australia and the UK. Apparently a tie up IS feasible, using what is called FIDONET. This is a network of FIDO and compatible bulletin boards all over world. You don't have to pay anything until mail is actually sent. You have so much credit with your local board (a bit like credit with a zine), which is deducted every time you send some International NETMAIL. I don't have a list of the NETWORKS and NODES yet ('nodes' are the single ordinary bulletin boards in a network) and have only recently found out about this service... so I'll let the System Operators (SYSOPS) explain for me. Starting with a notice pinned up on W.L. TBBS...

```

*****
*                >>> NOTICE FOR ALL PDSig MEMBERS <<<                *
*                =====                                                        *
*                                                                                   *
* This BB System is now fully FIDO Mail compatible. This means that you *
* will be able to send messages to users on MOST other PDSig BBS (all, *
* soon!) from here, as well as to all the other FIDO nodes worldwide.    *
* As this is currently a FREE service it is available EXCLUSIVELY only *
* to PDSig Members.                                                         *
* Callers who wish to make use of this service should leave a *
* message when when they log off, and the facility will be added.        *
*                                                                                   *
* NOTE. ALL users may receive NET-MAIL here free of charge. - Iain.      *
*****

```

((Just to be sure, I asked the West London SYSOP... who replied...))

IAIN PHILLIPPS: "Yes, this BB now interfaces to a network host system, where it can send (in one batch) messages destined for any Fido-compatible system, and receive messages likewise. I.E. If you wish to send a message to say, someone on Fido Liverpool, you can enter it HERE, and it turns up there. Similarly, the recipient of that message can send you a reply in Liverpool, and you'll get it here."

((I asked him about International mail...))

IAIN PHILLIPS: "You can get FIDOMail messages sent to you here from ANY other FIDO system worldwide. All that has to happen is for you to tell your people to address messages to you net 503, node 60 ((The West London node)). If you send them a reply (just as a normal message), then they'll get that. There's nothing else (from a user point of view) to it."

((I asked the SYSOP on the Cambridge TBBS node about prices...))

ALAN: "Hi Tom that's very easy question, first of all there are two types of users on this system, paying and non paying, it costs money to send messages anywhere in Britain and for the rest of the world. As normal users do not pay, then they do not get access, unless they request and pay for the service. Now PDSig members pay for a service, and this board is being used as a trial for those who wish to use it. All they have to do is ask and their account will be credited, free. Now if you want to send mail abroad, phone your local operator and ask how much it costs at cheap rate to phone the country of your choice.

All data sent abroad from this system, is at 2400."

((I asked him if someone in Australia could easily contact me using the PDSig boards and NETMAIL. And was it practical...))

ALAN: "Hi Tom, yes we have about 15 FIDO systems in Australia - he would have to do the same at his end.... At 2400 you can send a fair size document file to and from other systems for a unit cost... so what you do is find out the cost of a three minute call multiply that how many times you want to send data to Australia, send me the money, I open up a credit limit to that on your account and away you go."

((Simple. So there you are Luke... international high-speed email... NOW all I have to do is find the network lists.))

~~~~~

ERECTION INSTRUCTIONS

put forward by Kris, 'What Word Have I Missed' Morris

Your ? is a quality British-made product which will give many years excellent service if treated carefully and well-maintained.

DO erect your ? before first using it. It does help if the outer is weathered to make your ? more watertight.

DO use your ? on as even site as possible, clearing away sharp objects. In wet weather try to avoid low lying areas. Avoid sites under trees as sticky sap may drip down after rain.

Do treat zips gently. If they are not running smoothly it is possible that some obstruction is present. Keep the strain off zips when your ? is not in use.

Do keep your ? under firm, all-round tension during wet weather since rain will tighten the outer, and as your ? dries out the tension will help it retain it's shape.

DO brush off all dirt, grass etc. when packing your ? away. If it is packed when wet, erect within 48 hours under full tension until it is thoroughly aired. Otherwise, mildew will irreperably damage it.

DO change the rubber * when they show signs of cracking or losing their elasticity. New rubber * can be passed through the ? loops and then pulled back through themselves.

DO reproof your ? when necessary. We recommend FABSIL. Alternatively, MESOWAX can be used if very long use of the ? has made it limp.

DO store your ? in a dry, well-aired place.

DO NOT remove \$ by pulling them out by the ? walls on rubber * . Use a proper tool designed for the job.

DO NOT place any sort of heat near the sides or top of your ? .

I'll leave you to work out what the ? , * , and \$ mean !!

((Er, thanks Kris - of course MY subscribers will never take this the wrong way, and, will EASILY guess the missing words.))

~~~~~

JOTTO Turn 8

STEVE THOMAS writes that his word isn't in the 1979 edition of Chambers, but is in the 1983 edition. I say again, it doesn't bother me what dictionary you dredge your guesses from, all that counts for fairness is where I get MY 6 words from. I use the 1977 edition of Chambers.

MICHELE MORRIS · 8TH 112222

MIKE CLOSE : 8TH 200213

STEVE THOMAS : 8TH 211222

KATH COLLMAN : 8TH 200443

ROSIE ROBERTS : 8TH 343020

RICHARD SHARP : 8TH NMR!

JAKE CHEUNG 41 PORTMAN STREET, MIDDLESBROUGH, CLEVELAND. TS1 4DQ

## EN GARDE

### JUNE 1601 - THE GREAT WATER FIGHT

The great French army stood silently on the lush plain. The mighty walls of the Flemish city before them yet all eyes were on a solitary figure on a nearby hill top. Sword aloft, and just as he was about to bring it down [boom] A clap of Thunder followed by torrential rain. The General sighs as he watches the army scattered to find shelter, its going to be one of those campaigns.

The rain continue for two solid weeks turning the entire region into a quadmire. Major Pastuer (4th Frontier regt. attach) found things too wet for his liking so he stayed in his tent for the entire month. Captain Gardien (2nd Frontier Regt. attach) didn't have a Majority to protect him and he was send on guard duty, patrolling the supply tents. Whilst he was galloping around his horse slipped on the treacherous ground and he was thrown. Luckily he wasn't badly hurt and a couple of weeks in the field Hospital soon put him right.

At last the rain eased then finally stop, not that battle could commence as the field army dry itself out. The Royal Marines were given the job of scouting the enemy, since no one could walk a hundred yards without a boat there wasn't much for them to do. Captain Charles Valliant was seen (MID 2) winning 200ocr at cards.

Major Forebreath was noted for his organising skills (+1 MA, MID 4) in setting up a fishing contest. His skill with the rod however wasn't quite to the same standard and he only manage a few tiddlers which he sucker the QM to buy for 300ocr. Captain De Jawbreaker prove quite adept with rod and line or maybe his mum's oxtail stew he was using as bait had something to do with it. He later sold the lot to the company cook for 450ocr. Major Perce-beumbed was seen landing a gigantic Pike (MID 5) which won the contest (MID 3) for which he earned a pat on the back from the General. A quick trip to the kitchens and he was 800ocr richer.

Major Fallen and Captain Tastanute was ransomed back by the army, thanks to the newly formed charter ' The King's Ransom '. They both elect to fight for King and country rather than face their troubles back home. On the way they had to swap their horses for a rowing boat as that was the only possible way to reach the encampment. As they were in sight of the camp they found a rather wet messenger boy hanging for dear life to a waterlog branch. After a Long argument they decide to rescue him, a good thing too as he was carrying important documents for the General. For this act they were rewarded with 350ocr each and mention in dispatches ( 3 & 4 repectively ).

Vacancies arising from this month's drowning - Regt. Adj.s PM, 4TH. Aide to Crown Prince.

Next month: The field army will be on assault

### STATUS TABLE

| <u>CHARACTER</u>     | <u>SL</u> | <u>SP</u> | <u>REGT</u> | <u>MIST</u> | <u>MA</u> | <u>CR</u> | <u>CLUB</u> | <u>PLAYER</u> |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|---------------|
| Louis Pasteur        | 7         | F         | MAJ(QOC)    | Sally       | 1         | 841       | BG          | D.Brooks      |
| Jean Gardian         | 7         | F         | CAPT(DG)    | Ethel       | 5         | 344       | BG          | B.Moore       |
| Piers Tastanute      | 6         | F         | CAPT(QOC)   | Wanda       | 4         | 557       | HG          | S.Craddock    |
| Charles Valliant     | 5         | F         | CAPT(RM)    |             | 2         | 330       | F&P         | U.Jiretorn    |
| Grene Perce-Beumbed  | 4         | F         | MAJ(PLLD)   | Phylis      | 3         | 946       | RP          | D.Abbott      |
| L'Ancelot Fallan     | 4         | F         | MAJ(13th)   |             | 4         | 128       | RP          | C.Ozog        |
| Gaspin Forebreath    | 3         | F         | MAJ(27th)   | Ruby        | 7         | 1394      | RP          | C.Sandow      |
| Aramis De Jawbreaker | 3         | F         | CAPT(PM)    |             | 6         | 700       | RP          | S.Tweedy      |

| <u>MISTRESS TABLE</u> | <u>SL</u> | <u>FRIEND</u>       |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Kath Finate           | 11 BI     |                     |
| Sally Munella         | 10 B      | Louis Pasteur       |
| Wanda Lust            | 10 I      | Piers Tastanute     |
| May Strome            | 9 I       |                     |
| Phyllis Stein         | 8         | Grene Perce-Beumbeb |
| Ruby Conned           | 7 WI      | Gaspin Forebreath   |
| Ethel Luent           | 7 W       | Jean Gardian        |
| Linda Hand            | 5 WI      |                     |

### REGIMENTAL TABLES

| RANK   | RFG | KM | CG | DG | QOC | CPC | ALC | GDM | PLD | RM | PM  | 13  | 53 | 27 | 4 | 69 | GAS |
|--------|-----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|----|---|----|-----|
| COL    | 3   | -  | 4  | 5  | 4   | -   | 6   | 5   | 1   | 5  | 4   | 1   | 6  | 5  | - | 3  | -   |
| LT.COL | 2   | 4  | -  | -  | 2   | 4   | 1   | 4   | 5   | 4  | 5   | 6   | 5  | -  | 4 | -  | 5   |
| MAJ 1  | 3   | 5  | 3  | 5  | 3   | 6   | 6   | 3   | 3   | 4  | 6   | LAF | 3  | 1  | 5 | 6  | 3   |
| MAJ 2  | -   | -  | 4  | -  | LP  | 1   | 2   | 1   | GPB | 4  | -   | -   | -  | GF | - | 1  | 2   |
| CAPT A | 5   | 5  | 2  | 4  | 4   | 5   | 2   | 3   | 6   | 4  | 1   | 4   | 2  | 3  | 2 | 6  | 6   |
| CAPT B | 4   | 1  | 6  | 3  | 1   | 2   | 3   | 3   | 6   | 3  | 4   | 6   | 4  | 1  | - | 2  | -   |
| CAPT C | 1   | 2  | 5  | 6  | 3   | 2   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5  | ADJ | 2   | 2  | -  | - | 4  | -   |
| CAPT D | 3   | 5  | 3  | 2  | 3   | 4   | 2   | 2   | 4   | CV | -   | 6   | 6  | -  | - | 2  | -   |
| CAPT E | -   | 3  | -  | 3  | PT  | 2   | 3   | 4   | -   | -  | -   | 2   | -  | -  | - | -  | -   |
| CAPT F | -   | -  | -  | JG | -   | -   | -   | -   | -   | -  | -   | -   | -  | -  | - | -  | -   |
| SUB    |     |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |    |     |     |    |    |   |    |     |
| PRI    |     |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |    |     |     |    |    |   |    |     |

SHYLOCK: JULY L'AF 220 CV 440 GPB 440  
AUG JG 550 PT 660

### THE KING'S RANSOM

This is quasi charity that will ransom back Officers in the regular army. The cost of the ransom must be paid back to the charter within one year otherwise you will be permanently expell from the army regardless of rank and position held. Officers will not be ransom back again should they still own the charter money.

### ATTENTION ALL PLAYERS

NMR:6 GM:2

Rather ridiculous. If you don't want to continue please let me or Tom know. I've adjudicated this month's game as most of you were scheduled for Frontier duty. If I receive the same kind of response for the next adjudication then I'll expell the offending player/s and suspend the game, either to wait for new players or to fold it. It's up to you.

Humm a space. well as this Zine is rather computer orientated I'll do a MICRO TRIVIA

1. What does O.S.I. stand for ?
2. Name it's seven layers ?
3. When the ZX80 was first release, how much free RAM did it had ?
4. Before the C64, Commodore make another range of micros. what are they called ?
5. In standard ASCII, what is the back-space character ?

Answers next time

DIB DIB DIB DIPLOMACY LEAGUE TABLE

((This table was compiled by James Cowie from all Dib games up to and including Quadri. P = games played; D = dropped out; and Pts = points.))

| Pos. |                      | P | D | Pts  | Pos. |                    | P | D | Pts |
|------|----------------------|---|---|------|------|--------------------|---|---|-----|
| 1.   | Mike Close           | 2 | - | 5600 | 58.  | Simon Craddock     | 2 | - | 450 |
| 2.   | Martin Allen         | 4 | 1 | 4000 | =59. | Mark Lipton        | 1 | - | 400 |
| 3.   | Steve Gregory        | 2 | - | 3875 |      | Ulf Jiretorn       | 1 | - | 400 |
| 4.   | Victor Hall          | 2 | - | 3300 |      | Richard Hucknall   | 1 | - | 400 |
| 5.   | Frank Dunn           | 2 | - | 3100 |      | Kenny Adams        | 1 | - | 400 |
| =6.  | John Piggott         | 1 | - | 2800 |      | James Steele       | 1 | - | 400 |
|      | Martin Ives          | 1 | - | 2800 | 64.  | Mike Motely        | 1 | 1 | 400 |
|      | Chris Bartrum        | 1 | - | 2800 | =65. | Jon Rogers         | 1 | 1 | 350 |
|      | Luke Clutterbuck     | 1 | - | 2800 |      | Paul Hopkins       | 1 | 1 | 350 |
|      | Paul Finch           | 1 | - | 2800 | =67. | James Cowie        | 1 | - | 300 |
| 11.  | R.J. Lampard         | 5 | 2 | 2370 |      | Keith Loveys       | 1 | - | 300 |
| =12. | Steve Rennie         | 2 | - | 2120 | 69.  | Chris Steadman     | 2 | 1 | 300 |
|      | Ian Winstanley       | 2 | - | 2120 | =70. | Ian Jago           | 1 | 1 | 300 |
| 14.  | Alan Powis           | 2 | - | 1900 |      | Nick Lourie        | 1 | 1 | 300 |
| 15.  | Alan Sharples        | 2 | - | 1575 |      | S. Bailey          | 1 | 1 | 300 |
| =16. | Jon Moss             | 2 | - | 1375 |      | Mike Pollard       | 1 | 1 | 300 |
|      | Dave Bird            | 2 | 1 | 1375 | =74. | Iain Forsyth       | 1 | - | 200 |
| =18. | Robert Lozynskyj     | 2 | - | 1320 |      | Mike Allaway       | 1 | - | 200 |
|      | Gary Piper           | 3 | 1 | 1320 |      | John Field         | 1 | - | 200 |
| =20. | Nicholas Whyte       | 1 | - | 1300 | =77. | G. Nixey           | 1 | 1 | 200 |
|      | Alan Frost           | 1 | - | 1300 |      | Jaap Jacobs        | 1 | 1 | 200 |
|      | Richard Downes       | 1 | - | 1300 |      | T. Boogert         | 1 | 1 | 200 |
|      | Bill Haygarth        | 1 | - | 1300 | =80. | Mick Bensted       | 1 | - | 150 |
|      | Rob Chapman          | 1 | - | 1300 |      | G. MacLennan       | 1 | - | 150 |
|      | Colin Bruce          | 1 | - | 1300 |      | Piers Shepperson   | 1 | - | 150 |
|      | John Lee             | 1 | - | 1300 | =83. | M. Bell            | 1 | 1 | 150 |
|      | Martin Clifford-King | 1 | - | 1300 |      | P. Haw             | 1 | 1 | 150 |
| 28.  | Richard Wernick      | 3 | - | 1200 |      | W. Shand           | 1 | 1 | 150 |
| =29. | Pete Northcott       | 1 | - | 1075 | =86. | Alan Charlesworth  | 1 | 1 | 150 |
|      | John Wilman          | 1 | - | 1075 |      | S. Nightingale     | 1 | 1 | 150 |
|      | Sandy Peters         | 1 | - | 1075 | 88.  | Daniel Worthington | 1 | - | 100 |
|      | Pete Mearns          | 1 | - | 1075 | =89. | S. Brown           | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| 33.  | William Fisk         | 2 | - | 1050 |      | G. Freeman         | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| 34.  | Chris Sandow         | 4 | 2 | 1000 |      | Mike Deans         | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| =35. | Richard Bass         | 1 | - | 920  |      | Mike Benyon        | 1 | 1 | 100 |
|      | Mick Antrobus        | 1 | - | 920  |      | Chris Williams     | 1 | 1 | 100 |
|      | Julien Shepley       | 1 | - | 920  |      | D. Hudson          | 1 | 1 | 100 |
|      | James Mills-Hicks    | 1 | - | 920  |      | D. Wade            | 1 | 1 | 100 |
|      | John Bycroft         | 1 | - | 920  |      | Paul Morton        | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| =40. | Karl Piper           | 2 | - | 900  |      |                    |   |   |     |
|      | Ian Tillson          | 2 | - | 900  |      |                    |   |   |     |
| =42. | Ralph Baker          | 2 | - | 700  |      |                    |   |   |     |
|      | George Davies        | 2 | 2 | 700  |      |                    |   |   |     |
| =44. | Paul Donley          | 1 | - | 600  |      |                    |   |   |     |
|      | Pete Mason           | 1 | - | 600  |      |                    |   |   |     |
|      | John Cavangh         | 1 | - | 600  |      |                    |   |   |     |
| 47.  | T. Ball              | 1 | 1 | 600  |      |                    |   |   |     |
| 48.  | Dave Fish            | 1 | - | 550  |      |                    |   |   |     |
| 49.  | J. Gibbons           | 1 | 1 | 550  |      |                    |   |   |     |
| =50. | Cathy Cunning (Ozog) | 1 | - | 500  |      |                    |   |   |     |
|      | R. Lewis             | 1 | - | 500  |      |                    |   |   |     |
|      | Nick Hoyle           | 1 | - | 500  |      |                    |   |   |     |
| 53.  | David Crawford       | 2 | - | 500  |      |                    |   |   |     |
| 54.  | A. Moore             | 1 | 1 | 500  |      |                    |   |   |     |
| 55.  | D. Tottley           | 2 | 2 | 500  |      |                    |   |   |     |
| =56. | Gil von Gavel        | 1 | - | 450  |      |                    |   |   |     |
|      | J. Miles             | 1 | - | 450  |      |                    |   |   |     |

Scoring System

1st - 2800  
 2nd - 600  
 3rd - 500  
 4th - 400  
 5th - 300  
 6th - 200  
 7th - 100  
 2-way draw - 2450  
 3-way draw - 1300  
 4-way draw - 1075  
 5-way draw - 920  
 6-way draw - 800  
 7-way draw - 700

Placeings have been judged by No. of units in play once a player has reached 18 units. Perhaps you could add to the score everytime a game is finished. I think it would make the lower places play more - also I think for every drop-out a player should lose 10% of their total for all games; that might reduce drop-outs.

((Cont'd over.....))

((Thanks James - please accept this issue free. In actual fact, this list is interesting not so much for its positional content, but more for the noted number of drop-outs. These in fact almost entirely consist of players attracted to Dib when I was custodian of the CGS (Central Gamestart Service). These players have since drifted away from the hobby never to be seen again. I don't think the result can solely be attributed to Dib as most, if not all, of these players were sent to other zines via CGS gamestarts. (In those days the CGS Custodian collected the whole 7 players and sent them to the next zine on his list - not like these new-fangled Kinzettian type ideas of not charging fee and the single player posted here and there to fill up the odd game!))

As for the positions: well, I must admit that I dislike the idea of drop-outs getting higher placings than the good, solid, reliable players that might finish a game 7th. Surely that can't be right? But then, I'm not doing the stats (I couldn't, I never get the time). So, James, I wouldn't be able to keep this list up to date, but you are welcome to try, for the odd free issue of Dib.)

~~~~~  
 COMPUTER GAMES COMPUTER GAMES COMPUTER GAMES COMPUTER GAMES CO
 ~~~~~

The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy  
 by Michelle Morris

This is probably the one Infocom adventure that more people have heard about than any of the others. The game was written by Steve Meretzky in conjunction with Douglas Adams, the author of the original trilogy of four (!) Hitchhiker books. Adams wrote the text and devised most of the puzzles and Meretzky turned it all into a computer program. As a result the game has all the charm and wit of the original books/radio series/TV programmes etc. and is to the usual high standard set by the other Infocom games. O.K. So you saw the T.V. series, read the books etc. etc. why play the computer game? The answer is simple. The computer game is based on Adams original ideas but does not follow them slavishly. Familiarity with his other products may help you solve the puzzles in this game but I found that it also tended to confuse because the solution to a problem may differ from that given, for example, in the book.

The game begins with you, as Arthur Dent, lying in bed feeling rather the worse for wear after the party you attended the night before. Your first problem is to get out of bed and deal successfully with your terrible hangover. However today is not going to be your day as you may infer from the large yellow bulldozer approaching your house. Your next task is to stop it demolishing your house to make way for a by-pass. You will receive a visit from your old pal Ford Prefect and if you make it to the local tavern he will tell you the even more awful news that the Earth is about to be demolished! If you are lucky, you and he will survive this terrible catastrophe and your adventures really begin in earnest. One small tip: try to make one of your last acts on Earth an act of kindness to a dumb animal. You won't regret it!

Always supposing you won't make it to the Vogon spaceship you will encounter one of the trickiest problems ever set. That is you have to get a Babel Fish out of the dispenser and into your ear. Why I hear you cry? Babel fish are harmless to humanoids and in return for a nice warm home provide you with a neat translation service! Solving this problem requires several actions and finding them out will provide you with a frustrating half an hour or so. It hardly seems worth it when all that happens is that you are immediately captured by the Vogons and are thrown out into space after being forced to listen to some Vogon poetry. Before making your hasty departure do try to get the contents of the glass case.

It is a fact that you can live for only thirty seconds in a vacuum and it is extremely improbable that you will be rescued in that time. However your luck is changing and you are rescued by the fabulous Heart of Gold spaceship,





'ELECTRA' (1987??) GM Tom Tweedy Spring 1903

[11]

## TURKEY COMES BACK WITH A VENGEANCE AND KILLS AUSTRIAN UNIT!

AUSTRIA (Rod Chamberlin): F(Nap)-ION; F(Tri)-Alb; [[A(Ven)stands]] ((NO SUCH UNIT)); A(Bud)-Tri; A(Rum)-Bul; \*[[A(Ser) S A(Rum)-Bul]] ((DISLODGED)); A(Gal)-Rum; A(Rom) stands unordered

ENGLAND (Robert Watson): F(Lpl)-IRI; [[F(Lon)-Wal]] ((FAILS)); [[F(NTH)-Lon]] ((FAILS)); A(Nor)-Fin; F(StP-nc)-Nor

FRANCE (Stuart Tweedy): F(ENC) C A(Bre)-Wal; [[A(Bre)-Wal]] ((FAILS)); F(Pic) S F(ENC); [[A(Pie)-Tyr]] ((FAILS)); F(GOL)-WMS

GERMANY (Simon Jones): [[A(Mun)-Tyr]] ((FAILS)); A(Bel) S A(Hol); A(Hol) S A(Bel); F(Kie)-Den; A(Ber)-Kie; A(War)-Mos; A(Sil)-Pru; F(Swe)stands

ITALY (Anarchy): Has: F(TYS)

RUSSIA (Anarchy): Has: A(Ukr)

TURKEY (John Cavanagh): F(Con)-AEG; F(Sev)-BLA; A(Arm)-Sev; A(Gre) S A(Bul)-Ser; A(Bul)-Ser

RETREATS: AUSTRIAN A(Ser) dies (NRO)

ENDGAME PROPOSAL: 1st Turkey, 4= the rest. ((Yep, this is quite legal. Votes for next time please - failure to vote counts as NO))

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* DEADLINE: Sunday 24th May 12 NOON \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

'JADE' (1987??) GM Tom Tweedy Spring 1903

[12]

## GERMANY IN TROUBLE, NEEDING LOTS OF FRIENDS

ENGLAND (LocoMan): F(Swe)-BAL; F(Den)-Kie; [[F(Hol)-Bel]] ((FAILS)); A(Lon)-Wal; A(Yor)-Lpl; A(Edi) S A(Yor)-Lpl

FRANCE (Brangdon): A(Por)-Spa; A(Gas)-Bur; A(Mar) S A(Gas)-Bur; A(Par) S A(Gas)-Bur; [[A(Pic)-Bel]] ((FAILS)); F(Lpl)-IRI

GERMANY (Wiese): A(Sil)-Boh; [[A(Bel) S A(Ruh)-Hol]] ((SUPPORT CUT)); [[A(Ruh)-Hol]] ((FAILS)); \*[[A(Bur)-Par]] ((DISRUPTED))

ITALY (Andrew Newton): A(Vie) S A(Tri)-Bud; A(Tri)-Bud; A(Tyr)-Tri; F(Nap) S F(Apu)-ION; [[F(Apu)-ION]] ((FAILS)); [[F(ION)-Alb]] ((FAILS))

RUSSIA (Argon): F(Rum)-Sev; A(Ukr)-Gal; \*[[A(Bud) S A(Ukr)-Gal]] ((RETREATS)); A(War) S A(Ukr)-Gal; F(StP-sc)-GOB

TURKEY (Tiger Tiger): A(Ser) S A(Gre)-Alb; A(Gre)-Alb; A(Bul) S F(AEG)-Gre; F(AEG)-Gre; F(EMS) S F(Smy)-AEG; F(Smy)-AEG

RETREATS: GERMAN A(Bur)-Mun; RUSSIAN A(Bud)-Rum

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* DEADLINE: Sunday 10th May 12 NOON \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

'JADE' (1987??) GM Tom Tweedy

Autumn 1903

[12]

ITALY GETS IT ALL WRONG

ENGLAND (LocoMan): A(Wal) stands; A(Lpl) stonds; A(Edi)-Cly; [[F(BAL)-Swe]] ((FAILS)); \*[[F(Kie)stands]] ((DISLODGED)); F(Hol) S FRENCH A(Bur)-Bel

FRANCE (Brangdon): A(Bur)-Bel; A(Pic) S A(Bur)-Bel; A(Por)-Bur; A(Mor) S A(Par)-Bur; A(Spa)-Gas; F(IRI)-ENC

GERMANY (Wiese): [[A(Boh)-Vie]] ((FAILS)); \*[[A(Bel)-Hol]] ((DISLODGED)); A(Mun) S A(Ruh)-Kie; A(Ruh)-Kie

ITALY (Andrew Newton): \*[[A(Bud)-Ser]] ((DISLODGED)); [[A(Tri)-Ser]] ((FAILS)); [[A(Vie) S A(Bud)]] (IMPOSSIBLE); \*[[F(ION)-Alb]] ((DISLODGED)); [[F(Apu) S F(ION)]] ((IMPOSSIBLE)); [[F(Nap) S F(ION)]] ((IMPOSSIBLE))

RUSSIA (Argon): A(War)-Sil; A(Gal) S A(Rum)-Bud; A(Rum)-Bud; F(Sev)-BLA; [[F(GOB)-Swe]] ((FAILS))

TURKEY (Tiger Tiger): F(EMS)-ION; F(AEG) S F(EMS)-ION; F(Gre) S F(EMS)-ION; [[A(Ser)-Tri]] ((FAILS)); [[A(Alb) S A(Ser)-Tri]] ((SUPPORT CUT)); [[A(Bul)-Ser]] ((FAILS))

RETREATS: ENGLISH F(Kie)-Ber; GERMAN A(Bel) dies (NRO); ITALIAN A(Bud) & ----- F(ION) die (NRO - Andrew actually says "Can't see any point"!).

WINTER 1903 ADJUSTMENTS:

ENG: Lon,Edi,Nor,Swe,Den,Hol + Lpl,Ber = 8 Builds: F(Edi), A(Lon)
FRA: Par,Bre,Mor,Spa,Por,(Lpl) + Bel = 6 No Change
GER: Mun,Kie,(Ber),(Bel) = 2 GM disbands A(Boh)
ITA: Rom,Ven,Nap,Vie,Tun,Tri = 6 Builds: A(Ven), A(Rom)
RUS: StP,Mos,War,Sev,Bud,Rum = 6 Builds: A(War)
TUR: Smy,Ank,Con,Bul,Gre,Ser = 6 No Change
34

\*\*\*\*\*
\* DEADLINE: Sunday 24th May 12 NOON \*
\*\*\*\*\*

GM->ITALY: You couldn't support ION in position because the unit moved.

REGULAR DIB GAMES REGULAR DIB GAMES REGULAR DIB GAMES REGULAR DIB GAMES REGULAR DIB GAMES REGULAR DIB GAMES REGULAR DIB GAMES REGULAR DIB GAMES REGULAR DIB GAMES REGULAR DIB GAMES

'QUADII' GAMESTATEMENT

GAME: 1984DX ZINE: DIB DIB DIB GM: Tom Tweedy

Game Commenced: Issue 40 (Aug 1984) Game Ended: Issue 67 (April 1987)

Table with 13 columns (00-12) and 6 rows (AUSTRIA, ENGLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, ITALY, RUSSIA, TURKEY) showing unit counts and game status.

(\* denotes number of units short)
(Quadii Gamestatement can't over.....)

Alan Powis (France):

"This game started way back in July/August 1984 and was quite interesting. My nearest neighbours England and Germany, stuck to their arrangement to keep out of ENC and Ber respectively in 1901, and Italy agreed to a DMZ in the Western end of the Med. Russia did well to gain two centres in 1901, but I did not feel too badly as I also had two centres in 1901 and plenty of options still available to me.

1902 saw me helping England against Germany, 1903 saw me stabbing him. Russia was still doing well, Austria and Italy not too badly and Turkey was looking decidedly ill. By 1905, England and Turkey were eliminated and of the remaining five, no-one had a clear cut advantage. I tried and failed dismally to break through in the Med during 1906/7, and with Russia growing rapidly mainly at the expense of Austria, who was also being attacked by Italy, I finally saw the error of my ways, gave Tun back to Italy and headed North with my fleets, still keeping a wary eye on Italy just in case he decided to take more revenge than Tun. Russia and Germany were still working together, with Germany as a rather passive partner, but I felt confident that I would be able to hold them.

Then came 1908 and the 5-way draw that wasn't. If I remember rightly the re-proposed ending which had been accepted was invalid according to the house rules and should not have been re-proposed. Around this time, Germany, who had not been playing too badly, started doing silly things like not ordering retreats and builds. Austria crumbled under the pressure of Italian and Russian units and I started to smell the chance of a win, even though Russia had 10 centres, the same as me.

In 1910 I shot up to 14 centres. Russia had 11 and Italy 8. Austria I centre was doomed, it was just a case of who would take it. I was still not able to attack through the Med, though and I had to be careful in the North where Russia had fleets poised to pounce.

A Russian NMR and possible stab on him by Italy in 1912 gave me the chance to win, but Italy and Russia patched up their differences (if there had really been any) and I was forced to admit that I would not be able to win after all and so accepted the draw. Tom thought I could win, but the two triangles of Russian units [A(Mos) + A(War) S A(Lvn), and A(Pru) + A(Sil) S A(Ber)] meant I would not be able to breakthrough against Russia while Italy firmly kept the Med under control.

This was not a game where the action was fast moving and dramatic. Progress was slow for all concerned. Whether this was due to good play all round I do not know. I believe it was, especially where Martin and Richard D. were concerned. Richard W. played well for a long time, but I cannot understand what happened from 1908 on and James played excellently, going out in the end to a persistent attack from his Russia and Italian neighbours. Well played Martin and Richard D. thanks Tom for your extremely competent GM'ing."

Martin Clifford-King (Italy):

"The impression I have of this game was enjoyable but it has been effectively dead for so long that I have had to delve back into my file of letters and old zines to find out what really happened. Ah yes, that's right; an incompetent Turkey together with a 'hard-but fair' Austria and a Russia who insisted on making unusual moves.

Initially I was frozen out of the carve-up of Turkey, but by Autumn 1905 I had ended up with Con and Smy. Trouble was, France had A(Tun), F(Gol) and F(WMS)! Thankfully, Germany chose that moment to attack Bel and together with Russia they soon had France on the defensive so it wasn't long before Tun was back in my hands. From that point a three-way draw was the only result and although we had a little hiccup with a five-draw initially being accepted against the House Rules, the game was over. Russia and I occasionally had a barney over a few supply centres but we both intended to stop France. I can't really understand how he could win, that stalemate line looks cast-iron. Tom, will you explain?

Thanks to Richard for an interesting alliance, James for excellent early correspondence, Alan for not dragging the game out and Tom for running it."

(Cont'd over...)

LUTON AIRPORT: This game was unusual in the fact that it seemed to have a five-way draw accepted in A1908. I assumed France was going to win mostly because he wasn't making any mistakes. Towards the end of a game with circumstances similar to Quodii even the strongest stalemate line has failed because of bad management, boredom or mistrust. I wasn't let down though, the survivors played well. Well done.

'Anise' (1986??)Spring 1902

[32]

## ENGLISH HELP THE RUSSIAN - GERMANY COULD BE IN TROUBLE

|                            |                                                                                      |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AUSTRIA (Victor Hall)      | A(Vie)-Gal, A(Ser)-Bul, A(Bud)-Rum, F(Tr1)-Alb                                       |
| ENGLAND (Alan Frost)       | F(Nor) S RUSSIAN F(GOB)-Swe, F(Lon)-NTH, F(ENC) S<br>F(Lon)-NTH, A(Yor)stands        |
| FRANCE (Steve Kirk)        | A(Pic) S A(Bel), A(Bel) S A(Mar)-Bur, A(Mar)-Bur,<br>F(Por) S F(Bre)-MAO, F(Bre)-MAO |
| GERMANY (Andrew Kemp)      | NMR! Has: A(Mun), F(Den), A(Hol), F(Ber), A(Kie)                                     |
| ITALY (Andrew Smith)       | A(Ven)stands, F(Nap)-Apu, F(ION) C A(Tun)-Gre,<br>A(Tun)-Gre                         |
| RUSSIA (Nick Hoyle)        | A(Rum) S A(War)-Gal, A(War)-Gal, F(Sev) S A(Rum),<br>A(Mos)-Ukr, F(GOB)-Swe          |
| TURKEY (Mike Sykes-Gelder) | A(Gre) S A(Con)-Bul, A(Con)-Bul, A(Ank)-Arm,<br>F(BLA)-Sev                           |

Retreats: None

COA'S: Steve Kirk (until June), 281 Gillot Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B16 ORX

PRESS:

Austria - England: Put your money on Colchis for the Derby. (You won't get a more reliable tip!)

The Silent Italian still watches and waits.

Hypatia of Alexandria - Merchant of Venice: Come rescue me my love.

Italia - Francia: Words may yet pass between us.

Austria - Turkey: Hope my moves don't alarm you, but I had no option but to be careful this season and they should have done you no real harm if you've done what you said.

'Belladonna' (1987??)Autumn 1901

[15]

## RUSSIA STANDS ENGLAND OUT OF NORWAY!

|                         |                                                |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| AUSTRIA (John Colledge) | A(Vie)-Tr1, F(Alb)-Gre, A(Ser) S F(Alb)-Gre    |
| ENGLAND (Ralph Baker)   | F(NWG)-Nor, F(NTH) C A(Ed1)-Bel, A(Ed1)-Bel    |
| FRANCE (Gary Lyon)      | A(Bur)-Ruh, A(Mar)-Spa, F(MAO)-Por             |
| GERMANY (Alan Powis)    | F(Den)stands, A(Kie)-Hol, A(Mun)stands         |
| ITALY (Charles Smedley) | F(ION) C A(Apu)-Tun, A(Ven)-fyr, A(Apu)-Tun    |
| RUSSIA (Colin Pickard)  | F(GOB)-Swe, F(Sev)-Rum, A(War)-Ukr, A(StP)-Nor |
| TURKEY (Steve Kirk)     | F(Ank)-BLA, A(Bul)-Rum, A(Con)-Bul             |

Retreats: None

COA: Steve Kirk (until June), 281 Gillot Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B16 ORX

Winter 1901 Adjustments:

|                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| AUS: Tr1, Bud, Vie + Gre, Ser | = 5 Builds: A(Bud), A(Vie) |
| ENG: Lon, Lpl, Ed1 + Bel      | = 4 Builds: F(Lon)         |
| FRA: Bre, Par, Mar + Spa, Por | = 5 Builds: A(Par), A(Mar) |
| GER: Mun, Kie, Ber + Den, Hol | = 5 Builds: A(Kie), A(Ber) |
| ITA: Ven, Rom, Nap + Tun      | = 4 Builds: F(Nap)         |
| RUS: StP, Mos, War, Sev + Swe | = 5 Builds: A(Mos)         |
| TUR: Con, Ank, Smy + Bul      | = 4 Builds: F(Smy)         |
| Neutrals: Nor, Rum            | = 2                        |

(Belladonna press cont'd....)

PRESS:

Italy - Starter: The only rubbish that I can see in the water outside Venice is Austria. Or are you referring to all them letters which Germany sends me?

Austria - Those without pens: Please write, or if you really don't have a pen, smoke signals would do! ((Last one to write is a dirty, rotten egg...!))

Munich - All: Sorry about lack of communication. Letters following shortly.

Italy - Austria: Everybody tells porkies. ((Not me!!!))

The Pope - LUTON AIRPORT: It was Italy that kept Germany out of Tyrolia, my son. ((Hah! A likely story....))

Ven - Bud: How nice of you to offer me support into Trieste.

Munich - London: I am still at the same address. I haven't moved for two years.

'Taranis' (1985BG)

Autumn 1910

[25]

ITALIAN NMR HAS THROWN THE GAME WIDE OPEN

|                            |                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ENGLAND (Dave Fish)        | F(Nor)-NWG, A(Lpl)stands                                                                                                                      |
| FRANCE (Neil Parkin)       | F(Lon)-ENC, A(Gas) S GERMAN A(Bur)-Mar, F(Bre) S<br>F(Lon)-ENC, A(Pic) S F(Bre)                                                               |
| GERMANY (Luke Clutterbuck) | F(Hol)-Bel, A(Ruh) S F(Hol)-Bel, A(Bur)-Mar, F(NTH)<br>S FRENCH F(Lon)-ENC, A(Boh)-Mun, A(Pru)-Ber                                            |
| ITALY (David Abbott)       | NMR! Has: F(NwG), *F(ENC), F(IRI), F(MAO), A(Tyr),<br>A(Vie), A(Sil), *A(Rum), A(Gal), A(Arm), F(Bul-sc),<br>F(AEG), F(ION), *A(Bel), *A(Mar) |
| RUSSIA (Ulf Jiretorn)      | A(War)-Gal, A(Mos)-Sev, F(BLA) S A(Sev)-Rum,<br>A(Sev)-Rum, A(Ank) S TURKISH F(Smy)                                                           |
| TURKEY (Ken Haywood)       | F(Smy)stands, F(Con)-Bul-sc                                                                                                                   |

Retreats: ITALIAN F(ENC), A(Rum), A(Bel) & A(Mar) die

Winter 1910 Adjustments:

|                                                                                         |                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ENG: Lpl, Nor                                                                           | = 2 No Change                |
| FRA: Bre, Edi, Lon, Par                                                                 | = 4 No Change                |
| GER: Kie, Ber, Hol, Swe, Den, Mun + Bel, Mar                                            | = 8 Builds: A(Kie) (1 SHORT) |
| ITA: Ven, Nap, Rom, Tri, Tun, Ser, Vie, Bud,<br>Gre, (Mar), (Rum), Spa, Por, (Bel), Bul | = 12 No Change (1 SHORT)     |
| RUS: Ank, War, StP, Mos, Sev + Rum                                                      | = 6 Builds: A(Mos)           |
| TUR: Smy, Con                                                                           | = 2 No Change                |

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PRESS:

LUTON AIRPORT - David: Sorry Dave, there was nothing else I could do, your letter came the Monday AFTER the deadline - I had the game adjudicated early Saturday morning. Ulf got orders in and he never even RECEIVED his issue of Dib 68. You should have given me a call, we could have sorted things out then.

Germany - Italia: How about just F YOU? ((Pardon?))

England - Germany: Letter follows.

Russia - World: Apologies for unclear correspondence this season, but I haven't received the last adjudication.

European cultural mission - LUTON AIRPORT: We think your beastly anti-Italian headings are great. Keep up the good work and don't try too hard to decipher writing.

Russia - Turkey: Sorry, but another letter gave me more information about the position.

## GERMANY ATTACKS.... ENGLAND?!

ENGLAND (Piers Shepperson) F(NTH) C A(Edi)-Nor, F(BAR) S A(Edi)-Nor, \*F(Swe) S  
A(Nor)-Fin, A(Edi)-Nor, A(Nor)-Fin

FRANCE (Daniel Brooks) A(Bur) S A(Mar), A(Mar)stands, F(Spa-sc) S F(WMS),  
F(WMS)stands, F(Naf) S F(WMS), A(Ruh)-Bel

GERMANY (James Cowie) A(Mun)-Ruh, A(Den)-Swe, F(BAL) S A(Den)-Swe, A(Kie)  
S A(Mun)-Ruh, A(Ber)-Mun

RUSSIA (Kris Morris) A(Pie) S TURKISH F(GOL)-Mar, A(Boh) S GERMAN  
A(Ber)-Mun, A(Mos)-StP, A(Fin) S F(StP-nc)-Nor,  
A(Lvn) S A(Mos)-StP, F(GOB) S GERMAN A(Den)-Swe,  
F(StP-nc)-Nor, A(War)-Sil

TURKEY (Kath Collman) A(Tyr) S GERMAN A(Ber)-Mun, A(Tri) S A(Tyr),  
F(GOL)-Mar, F(Tus)-GOL, F(Tun)-WMS, F(ION)-Tun,  
A(Rom)-Apu, A(Nap)-Rom, F(Apu)-Nap, F(Con)-AEG

Retreats: ENGLISH F(Swe)-SKA

LUTON AIRPORT: Slight error last time that was easily picked up - thank you ALL who ~~rubbed it in~~ reminded me. Of course the RUSSIAN A(War)-Lvn and A(Gol)-War succeeded last time and should not have been underlined. Normal excellent service will now be resumed - QUIET Morris, Collman!

PRESS:

Russia - Germany: I hope you got the orders correct this time, and yes, I am very easily embarrassed.

Messrs. Petty, Fogg & Fiddler (Solicitors) - LUTON AIRPORT: We have been informed by our client, Madam X, that you did willfully and maliciously print some scurrilous and vilifying verses relating to our client in your notorious rag publication. Madam X instructs us to say that unless you forthwith print a full and abject apology you can stuff your Dib Dib Dib up your she will have no alternative but to instigate proceedings against you for libel against her fair name. However, she has intimated to us that she may be prepared to accept an out of court settlement on receipt of flowers, chocolates, sexy underwear, perfume etc, We await your reply at your convenience.

Messrs. Smythe, Braithwaite & Smythe - Petty, Fogg & Fiddler: Re. your letter dated 13.5.87. Whilst it is true to say some verse was printed in the excellent publication of Dib Dib Dib 68 from one of our most trustworthy journalists, there was no reference whatsoever pertaining to this mysterious and dubiously named Madam X. The person to which the verse was aimed at actually was seen to ask one unfortunate named Rupert to "come up and see her sunshine", which he may or may not have done. The verse merely chronicled the attempt. From this written historical account it would appear Madam X hasn't got a leg to stand on - though our client did express some interest in measuring her up for the sexy underwear before the chocolates had any adverse effect on whatever the underwear might or might not cover. Our client awaits your reply with interest.

Rupert - All: For a bear of very little brain (yes I know that is supposed to be Pooh, but he pinched it off me, that's my excuse) I did very well last season. Now I'm knackered. Can I have some food for thought please?

Kris - Jimmy: Please use 1st class stamps. Your letter arrived on THURSDAY!!

LUTON AIRPORT - Kris: Please keep your orders in a similar order when sending in 2nd and 3rd sets. It makes it difficult to pick out the changes. For instance, your last piece of press above mine was set in the middle of two original bits of press - I nearly missed it. Also when you change orders give me the COMPLETE 2nd/3rd set - I had A(War)-Sil in the 2nd set but didn't have it at ALL in the 2nd!

Turkish Daily Wail. Music Page: An announcement came from the palace yesterday that the court minstrel has composed a lay in honour of the Sultana (who was recently vilified in some anonymous verses of foreign origin). As this lay runs to 126 stanzas, we are unable to reproduce it in full, but the following (Cont'd over.....if you DARE!)

(Uther press cont'd.....)

in an abridged version, to be sung at next year's Eurovision Song Contest by the well known French opera singer, Mme Michèle.

LA CHANSON DE RUPERT (the true story this time),

Young Rupert did set forth for Birmingham fair,  
(All the way up the A38)

Intending to visit the Sultana's lair,  
With Kris Morris, James Cowie, Daniel Brooks, Piers Shepperson,  
And Uncle Tom Tweedy and all!

While heading for Taunton he went the wrong way,  
(Where oh where is the A38?)

He ended up swimming in Bridgewater Bay  
With Kris Morris, James Cowie, Daniel Brooks, Piers Shepperson,  
And Uncle Tom Tweedy and all!

When he got to Bristol he fell off his bike,  
(Part of the way up the A38!)  
"From Bristol to Birmingham's a bloody long hike",  
Said Kris Morris, James Cowie, Daniel Brooks, Piers Shepperson,  
And Uncle Tom Tweedy and all!

At Spaghetti Junction he stopped for a meal,  
(The twistiest part of the A38!)  
But a chorus arose: "Hey, this pasta's not real,"  
From Kris Morris, James Cowie, Daniel Brooks, Piers Shepperson,  
And Uncle Tom Tweedy and all!

Footsore and weary he finally arrived,  
(All the way up the A38)  
And joined the long queue in the Sultana's drive,  
With Kris Morris, James Cowie, Daniel Brooks, Piers Shepperson,  
And Uncle Tom Tweedy and all!

"To look on your Sunshine I've come all this way,  
(This long weary way up the A38)"  
She said, "Sorry, son, but it's raining today  
And Kris Morris, James Cowie, Daniel Brooks, Piers Shepperson,  
And Uncle Tom Tweedy and all!"

'Vortigern' (1985GA)

Spring 1909

[27]

IS AUSTRIA TO BE CRUSHED BETWEEN THE NORTH AND THE SOUTH?

AUSTRIA (John Piggott) NMR! Has: A(Ber), \*A(Bul), A(Ser), F(Gre), F(ION),  
F(Nap), A(Ven), A(Gal)]  
ENGLAND (Michele Morris) F(StP-nc)-BAR, A(Mos) S A(Den)-Lvn, A(Den)-Lvn,  
F(BAL) C A(Den)-Lvn, F(Hol) S F(Kie), F(Kie) holds,  
A(Lon)-Den, F(NTH) C A(Lon)-Den, A(Lpl)-Yor, F(Edi)-  
Cly  
FRANCE (Bob Watson) A(Bre)stands, A(Par)-Pic, A(Bur)stands, A(Pie)-Tyr,  
F(Rom)-Nap, F(Tun)-ION, F(WMS)-Spa-sc  
GERMANY (Alan Frost) F(MAO)-Spa-sc, A(Mun)-Bur  
RUSSIA (Per Von Gavel) A(Rum)-Bul  
TURKEY (Jon Moss) A(War)-Gal, A(Con) S RUSSIAN A(Rum)-Bul, A(Ank)-Arm,  
[[F(Tr) S FRENCH A(Vie)], F(Sev)-Rum, F(AEG)-Gre

Retreats: AUSTRIAN A(Bul) dies

ENDGAME PROPOSAL: =1st E/F/G/A/T ((Votes for next time please - failure to  
vote counts as NO))

(Press cont'd over.....)