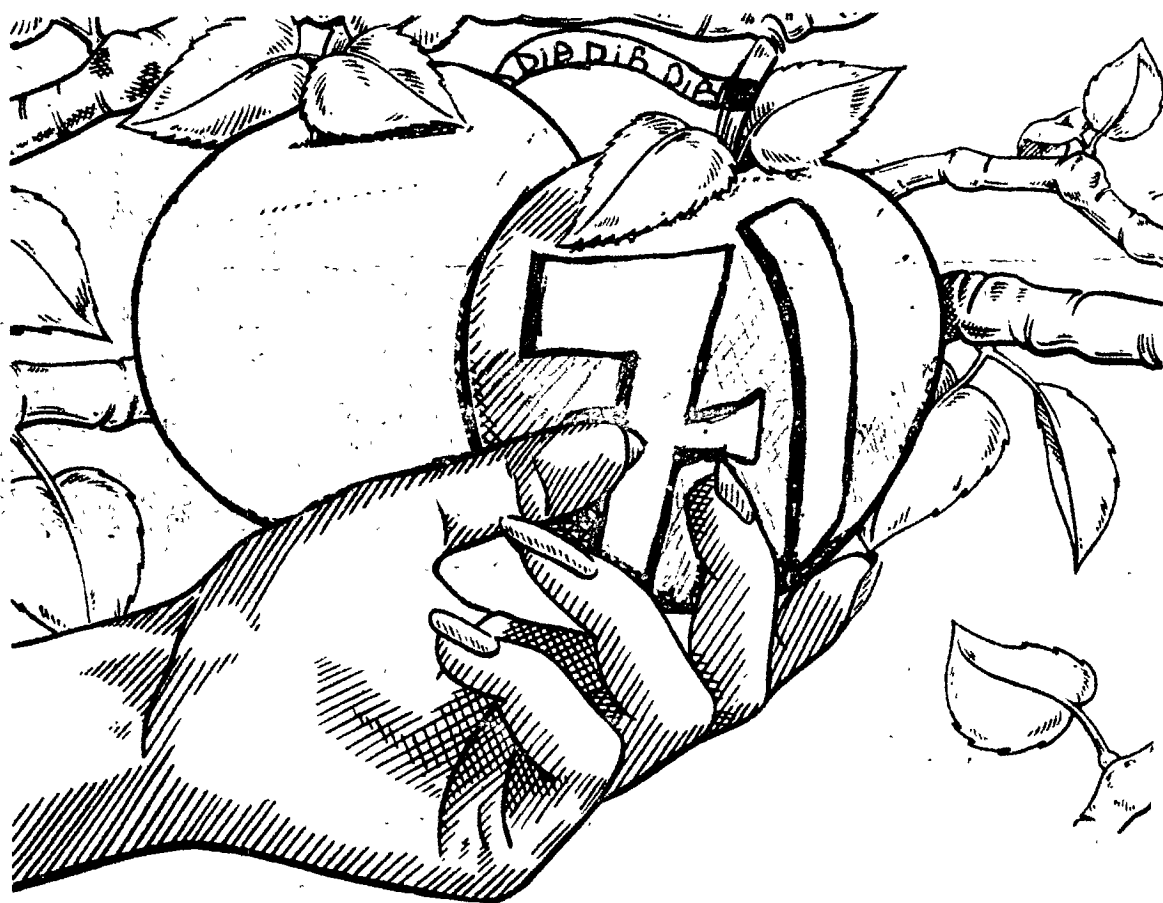


DIB DIB DIB



Pick the best

Welcome to the 71st 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 (net 503, node 60) *
 * 'West London TBBS' - now at the NEW location (as from 4th Oct) of Tel. 01 *
 * 864 2633 (1200/1200, 1200/75 or 300/300.baud - No parity, 8 data bits, 1 *
 * stop bit), where all orders and articles can be sent to me in the *
 * Diplomacy section reached via the SIGS Area (Special Interest Groups). *
 * Also, on the much more friendly (read wacky) multi-user 'GODS' board Tel. *
 * 01-994 9119 - reached via the bulletin board 'Diplomacy section' (1200/75 *
 * or 300/300). *

EDITORIAL

As this is going to be a biggish issue I won't take up any more space than I have to with my ramblings. I'll just tack together the bits and pieces as I remember them (I'm getting a bit pushed for time anyway). This is what comes of having an issue that goes together too easily. Mind you, I've enjoyed doing it this time.

One little ego boo for me was in the latest CMag. I was startled to see in the CMag 45 questionnaire that two people actually thought I was a very important person!? Amazing. How this actually came about was in question 7: "WHO DO YOU THINK ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN THE HOBBY?"

The answers being: "Nick Kinzett 17; Richard Walkerdine 15; Richard Sharp 8; 'me' 6; John Piggott 4; Richard Egan 4; 3 votes each for Martin Lewis, John Marsden, David Watts and John Dodds; and 2 votes each for TOM TWEEDY, Richard Jackson, Peter Sullivan and Derek Caws; among the also-rans with 1 mention each were Don Turnbull, Derek Wilson, Pete Birks, Brian Creese, George North, Stephen Jilks, and 'the Manorcon committee, equally'."

Now why would two people think I warranted a mention in this section? I've given up the CGS... and it can't be for publishing Dib because I've been deliberately keeping it low key for quite some time now. It must be a joke.

~~~~~

### JOTTO Turn 1-3

ROSIE ROBERTS : 1st 022421; 2nd 132122; 3rd 210122  
 STEVE THOMAS : 1st 131322; 2nd 322002; 3rd 242220  
 NICKY JOHNS : 1st 221311; 2nd 311014; 3rd 033241  
 CHARLES SMEDLEY: 1st 333213  
 KATH COLLMAN : 1st 112301; 2nd 131241; 3rd 312111

That means so far we have an enormous prize of £2.50 to be won. If anyone else is interested, just send in enough words to catch up with the rest (it's turn 4 next time) - the gamefee is 75p with 50p going towards a prize. And the rules again...

I choose six words from the Chambers dictionary, each word will be six letters long. Each month you send in one word and I then score each letter against each of my six words. For instance, if you submitted DETOUR and the six secret words were: RESORT, BASKET, GENTLE, PRIEST, MORTAR, BOTTLE the scores would be: 4, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3 respectively. Obvious aim is to find all six words.

When you think you know all six words you may take a guess at them (you must guess all six) - but you must get ALL six right! Get one wrong and you're out. Plurals are accepted. Anagrams of the secret words are accepted.

~~~~~

SOFTWARE ADVERTISEMENT: Clive Booth (ex editor of the superb Chimaera) has just sold his Atari 130 XE micro and asks me to advertise for sale his software. Some games I've never heard of but I'll make comment on games I've seen. All software is half price, original, and in excellent condition. (*Save game facility, 50-100 game playing hours, once copied Master Disks are never played on so are kept 'as new'.)

DISKS:

Mini-Office II	£10.00	Technicolor Dream	£ 7.50
Star Raiders II	£ 7.00	Ultima III (Exodus)	£ 8.00
Colossus Chess	£ 5.00	Ultima IV (Avatar)	£10.00
Crusade in Europe	£10.00	The Pawn	£10.00
Great American Cross-Country Road Race	£ 7.00	Auto-Duel	£10.00
Knock-Out	£ 1.50	Wizard's Crown	£10.00
Seven Cities of Gold	£ 7.00	Phantasie	£ 8.00
Mercenary	£ 7.50	Carrier Force	£12.50
Mercenary (Second City)	£ 4.00	Ballyhoo	£10.00
Warriors of Ras	£ 4.00		
Silent Service	£ 7.50	TAPES:	
King of the Ring	£ 6.50	Datestones of Ryn	£2.50
Atari Smash Hits 1	£ 5.00	Star Warrior	£2.50
Tigers in the Snow	£ 7.50	Theatre Europe	£5.00
Blue Max	£ 2.50	Vegas Jackpot	£1.00
Gemstone Warrior	£ 6.50	Soccer	£1.00
Spitfire 40	£ 6.50	Chimera	£1.00
Tomahawk (Flight Sim)	£ 7.50	Smart Art	£1.00
Gauntlet	£ 6.50	Hardball	£4.00
Alternate Reality	£ 8.50	Galactic Empire	£1.50
Pole Position	£ 3.00	Rescue on Fractalus	£4.00
		Ninja	£1.50

PLUS 'Carrier Force' £12.50. I wish someone would sell their IBM stuff at these prices! I've seen 'Pole Position' on the BBC B and thought it to be a very good Formula 1 simulation, but too fast for my aging reflexes. The *Ultima games, I've seen them all except Ultima I, and would highly recommend them to any D&D fans who like to search for magical weapons, monsters and solve clues. *Wizard's Crown is a superb game I'm playing on the IBM at this very moment (well, I had to put it down for five minutes to type up this) - 8 characters fighting hundreds of monsters, magical weapons and armour, ruins and dungeons to search, excellent system of sharing experience points to improve character traits. If interested write to Clive Booth, 80 Lee Lane, Langley, Heanor, Derbyshire, DE7 7HN.

MORE HINTS ON BUYING A MODEM

by Michele Morris

Yes there are a couple of things I'd like to say about your Modem article. First of all, what there is is just fine but I thought there were a couple of omissions that ought to be filled in:

1. Before people buy a modem they should check out if it requires a separate power supply. Our Amstrad has very few external connections but I know some computers have a veritable nest of spaghetti coming out of the back and even with an adaptor there are only so many things you can plug into one socket.
2. Check out if your Modem will need its own BT socket. Most Modems will plug into the new-style socket and the phone will then plug into the Modem, but some need two sockets. If you have the old style BT socket you'll also have to get the new style put in. If you want to leave the computer and modem

(Cont'd over....)

permanently set up you may also want to consider installing an extension to your "computer room". The BT kit costs less than £10 and any twit can install it. (If Kris managed it anyone can.)

3. Do not under any circumstances be tempted into buying the acoustic couple type of modem. They are very cheap, but they are also very prone to line noise and interference and are a total waste of money.
4. When choosing your comms software see if you can have the option of having it on ROM rather than on disc. (A ROM is a silicon chip that sits inside your computer or sometimes, as in our case in the RS232 interface.) If you have the software on ROM it doesn't take up as much of the computer memory as a program loaded from disc therefore you have a bigger buffer to play with. (This means you don't have to interrupt your on-line sessions to save to disc as often as you might otherwise, which helps to cut down your time on-line and reduces your phone bill.) If the software is on ROM it is always available and it is almost impossible to corrupt it. It is very easy to accidentally wipe a program off of a disc when you didn't mean to.

DIPLOMACY ZINE POLL '87

Well, it's here again, the biggest poll of the year, late but what the hell. John Piggott has announced the 1987 Zine Poll and asks you to list your votes for all the eligible zines you see. There should be a voting form enclosed with this issue of Dib, but if not, the rules are:-

1. Eligibility: Any zine that has published at least two seasons in a game of Diplomacy (or a recognisable Diplomacy variant) since August 1st 1986 - plus a few named zines chosen by John to be included. These are: Diversions, Greatest Hits, Hopscotch, Rhianna Games Review, Rostherne Games Review, Take That You Fiend, Globetrotter, The Numbers Game (?), and Mission From God.
2. Votes: Must be marked 10 (high) to 1 (low) for every eligible zine you see, and sent to John Piggott, 'Bosworth House', Central Wall Road, Canvey Island, SS8 9PJ.
3. Deadline: for all votes sent in is FRIDAY, 16TH OCTOBER 1987.

And if it's easier, subscribers writing to me with orders, letters, etc, can send their votes in to me (sealed in an envelope of course), and I'll send them on to John. If you DO wish to send your votes in this way, please make it no later than 12th October (preferably well before).

I shall be voting (as I've done every year) and would urge every Dib subscriber to do the same (giving Dib a high mark of course). I know some people don't like the idea of polls of this sort, and decry the supposed uselessness of such events - saying things like 'zines winning at the expense of others' and suchlike. I don't see it that way. The poll started early on in the history of our 'Diplomacy' hobby, and I've always seen it as one of the few events that help bind our hobby together. I hold no truck with those who say we've outgrown such things, who are willing to merely sit back and watch the hobby splinter without making any constructive contribution whatsoever. We may have a bigger hobby now, but why should that mean the Soccer Leaguers and fairy gamers always get their own way? Diplomacy lovers... vote NOW and let 'em know we're still a force to be reckoned with!

My predictions for the top 5 this year? - Dolchstoss, Mad Policy, Thing, Vienna (by sheer weight of block votes), and Zeeby. Hopefully Dib will be in with the other five, as it was last year. Though I'll be satisfied to stay in the top twenty.

JAKE CHEUNG 62 KENSINGTON ROAD, MIDDLESBROUGH, CLEVELAND, TSS 6AP

EN GARDE AUGUST 1601 - CONFUSION

First of all, will you all please note my new term address above and to send all further orders to this address.

IN THE GRAVEL PIT

Having been held to a draw last month, the General had great expectations for this month as he had finally lured the Dutch army from its fortifications and onto the field of battle.

The two Great masses of men face each other across a broad valley floor, the infantry forming neat blocks ten deep at the front while the cavalry remain at the rear ready to prance from the flanks.

Drums beat, feet marched, cannons fired and men die. Huge gaps appeared in the blocks and yet determinately they continue the slow march towards each other.

The First brigade was in the centre, opposing the Dutch pikemen. The cannons and muskets have greatly reduced the Dutch numbers whilst our own men have escape relatively intact their cannons having concentrated on our left flank where the frontier brigades were. Major Charles Valliant (RM) was seen (MID 3) routing the weaken Dutch pikemen for which he was promoted to Bvt LT COL. Major De Jawbreaker (PM) was feeling unwell as he wasn't his usual quick and alert self thus he didn't realise the breach made by the Marines until it was too late, the Dutch General have send in his Guards regiment to plug the gap.

Bvt LT COL Gaspin Forebreath (27th) was on the right flank with the Third brigade. He had an easy time for the only thing that attacked him was a butterfly.

The frontier regiments had been hit hard, after being blasted by the Dutch guns they were attacked by two regiments of musketeers who had simply stood on a rise and pour their fire amid the tightly packed ranks. The cavalry was duly dispatch to stop this threat. Bvt Major Tastanute (QOC) was seen (MID 2) taking a gold watch from the body of an enemy officier which was later value at 550cr. Major Perce-Beumbed was at the fore front as usual and he paid the price for his recklessness (RIP) as the Dutch musketeers switched their fire onto the oncoming cavalry.

The battle however could produce no winner and both sides withdrew to lick their wounds.

Next month: The beginning of a new campaign season, all socialites may return to Paris. The frontier regiments will be on defence.

IN THE GREASE PIT

WEEK 1: New comer Fickas da Shortplanks tried to impress Linda with an armful of presents but being a girl with her own means she was not amused and slam her door in his face. Another new comer (Jon Moss) have had a long and thirsty journey so he went straight to Blue Gables, sign up as a member and spend the rest of the week washing the dust from his throat. Our third new comer Gilbert De Bean Louques is seen showing a great big sabre to his privates at the CPC. L'Ancelet Fallen is in Red Phillips drinking heavily to numo the pains.

WEEK 2: Da Shortplanks is seen staggering back to his rooms with a load of boxes arter a shopping expedition. (Jon Moss) went to see the influential May Strome and was surprise to be invited in to taste her home made wine. Gilbert spend the week in the F&P getting to know the wine stock. L'Ancelet Fallen stayed in bed to recover his hangover.

WEEK 3: Da Shortplanks having seen the better part of Paris decide to see the rougher parts where he manage to get lost, luckily he found a pleasant little tavern where he had a jolly time with the serving wenches. (Jon Moss) is still at May Strome's having gotten drunk from her wines and she being a considerate girl had let him stay to recover is strength. Gilbert staggers out of the F&P bar and went straight to the Pub across the road. L'Ancelet Fallen manage to crawl out of bed and with the aid of a heavy walking stick limp to Rubv's door. She took one look at the wretched figure on her door-step screams and slams the door. After a couple of feeble knocks he limps slowly back to his rooms.

WEEK 4: Da Shortplanks spends the week waving a rapier about. (Jon Moss) also waves a rapier about to impress his fellows at the KM. Gilbert turns up at May's door clutching a bunch of flowers seeing this she empty the contents of her chamber pot all over him - for not bringing her proper presents. L'Ancelet Fallen turns up once more on Ruby's door-step but this time she won't even open the door.

STATUS TABLE

CHARACTER	SL	SE	REGT	MIST	MA	CR	CLUB	PLAYER
?	8	14	CAPT(KM)	May	3	109	BG	J.Moss
Jean Gardian	7	-	Bvt Maj(DG)	Ethel	5	1108	BG	B.Moore
Piers Tastanute	6	F	Bvt MAJ(QOC)	Wanda	4	809	HG	S.Craddock
Gilbert De Bean-Louques	5	11	CAPT(CPC)	Kath	3	498	F&P	G.Spall
Charles Valliant	5	F	Bvt LT COL(RH)	-	2	1422	F&P	U.Jiretorn
L'Ancelet Fallan	5	15	MAJ(13th)	-	5	574	RP	C.Ozog
Gaspin Forebreath	3	F	Bvt LCol(27th)	Ruby	7	1651	RP	C.Sandow
Aramis De Jawbreaker	3	F	Bvt MAJ(PM)	-	6	704	RP	S.Tweedy
Fickas da Shortplanks	2	2	CAPT(69th)	-	5	312	-	G.North

MISTRESS TABLE

SL	FRIEND
11 Bf	Kath Finate
10 B	Sally Munella
10 F	Piers Tastanute
9 F	May Strome
8 W	Wendy Boatcumsin
8	Phyllis Stein
7 Wf	Gaspin Forebreath
7 W	Ethel Luent
5 Wf	Linda Hand

REGIMENTAL TABLES

RANK	RFG	KM	CG	DG	QOC	CPC	ABC	GDM	PLD	RM	PM	13	53	27	4	89	GAS
COL	2	-	4	5	4	-	6	5	1	4	-	1	6	5	-	3	-
LT.COL	2	4	-	-	2	4	1	4	5	(CV)	5	6	5	(GF)	4	-	5
MAJ 1	3	5	3	5	3	6	6	3	3	4	6	LAF	3	GF	-	6	-
MAJ 2	-	-	4	(JG)	(PT)	1	2	1	GPB	CV	(ADJ)	-	-	-	-	-	-
CAPT A	5	5	2	4	4	5	2	3	6	2	ADJ	4	2	3	2	2	-
CAPT B	4	1	6	3	1	2	3	3	6	3	1	6	4	3	5	2	-
CAPT C	1	2	5	6	3	2	2	5	4	-	6	6	2	2	5	3	-
CAPT D	3	5	3	2	3	4	2	2	4	-	4	3	6	1	-	4	-
CAPT E	-	3	-	3	PT	2	3	4	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	FDP	-
CAPT F	-	JH	-	JG	-	GBL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

SHYLOCK: AUG PT 660

PT repaid 100 to GF

MILT APPLICATIONS

Charles Valliant - Div Adj.

Piers Tastanute - Brigade Maj

New characters:

George North - Fickas da Shortplanks SL2 allow90 Bas of v.wealthy mercant. str-fair con-good exp-good.

Graham Spall - Gilbert DE Bean Louques SL5 allow125 2nd of v.wealthy gent. str-good con-avg exp-avg.

Jon Moss - ? SL8 allow50 2nd of w-t-d Marquis. str-good con-fair exp-v. good

ADDRESSES

SIMON CRADDOCK: can I have your address please.

ULF JIRETORN : ALGGACKEN 2d, -372 00 RONNEBY. SWEDEN.

CATHY OZOG : P.O.BOX 5225, NUNDS PARK, AZ 86017, USA.

GEORGE NORTH : 24 NIGTON ROAD, ROLFORD. RM5 9HD

CHRIS SANDOW : 2 CORONATION AVE., KEYNSHAM, BRISTOL. BS18 2PT

JON MOSS : SOUTH LODGE, SINGLETON PARK, KENDAL, CUMBRIA. LA9 6PE

GRAHAM SPALL : 42 KINGSTON ROAD, IPSWICH: IP1 2AN

STUART TWEEDY : AS TOM. (SEE INSIDE FRONT COVER)

This has been an extremely rushed and noisy En Garde report. No matter how fast you run! No matter where you hide! There's always one near you!

Brain Moore : 18 Leicester Ave., Horwich, Bolton. BL6 5QY

JG Apply for Aide to General, Brigade major.