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Turn of the Screw, issue no. 4. 6th December 1975 Circulation: 49.

From: Greg Hawes, 16 Crescent Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA15 7HN.

Price: 3p per side, plus postage, rounded down to nearest 1/2p. This 3p + post.

All players, traders, and anyone else who feels like writing to me, please note my change of address as above. All orders for the next deadline should go to my Sidcup address. I will be back in college as from 15th Jan 1976, when my address will revert to:

Corpus Christi College, Oxford, OX1 4JF.

My home telephone number is 01-300 0521. I will accept telephoned orders for the next deadline, but don't blame me if you get an NMR because I was out when you rang! I advise all players to post orders as early as possible. I would also be grateful to Fetlock if he could send his contribution a few days before the deadline to enable me to get it typed up beforehand. Who is Fetlock? See inside for gory details.

This issue is about 9 days late. My most humble apologies for this. On the evening of the deadline day I went to a wild end-of-term party which I left at 4 a.m. on Saturday with a young lady from St. Hugh's College and arrived at Corpus at about 4.50. Fiona left at 5 p.m. on Sunday, which meant that the weekend reserved for producing TotS had sort of slipped away. I was even busier after the term had ended, so the zine has had to wait till I got home. My apologies to all. I hope, however, that you'll all survive:- and may I take this opportunity of wishing one and all a very merry Christmas and a Diplomatically successful New Year.

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- Page 8: A little bit on rowing, your address and a stamp.

STOP PRESS ... STOP PRESS ... STOP PRESS ... STOP PRESS ... STOP PRESS ...

There is a rumour going round that - wait for it - Youngs of Wandsworth are going to open a Youngs house in Sidcup! Wow! At present my nearest is the Bull's Head in Chislehurst, but the proposed site is just 500 yards from where I live; Sidcup may at last become a fit place to live!

COAs:

- Greg Hawes to: 16 Crescent Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA15 7HN. until Jan 15th.
- Richard Walkerdine to: 43 Chapel Grove, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 1UG.
- Jon Grose to: Kennedy, Thurlestone, Kingsbridge, S. Devon. from Dec 19th.

DEADLINES:

For NGC 144 and NGC 154: FRIDAY 9th January. Mastermind deadline, too!

For all intimate diplomacy games: Saturday 27th December if possible, but orders by return of post will be best. Okay?

Austria stabs Turkey !!!
Russia goes home.

AUSTRIA (Phil Dines): A(Gal)-Rum A(Bud) S A(Gal)-Rum A(Vie)-Gal
A(Ser)-Bul F(Gre) S A(Ser)-Bul

ENGLAND (Jon Grose): F(Nor) S F(NTH) F(NTH) S F(Lon)-ENC F(Lon)-ENC
A(Edi) stands unordered

FRANCE (Frank Dashwood): F(Par)-Spa sc A(Par)-Bur A(Pic) S A(Par)-Bur
A(Mar) S A(Par)-Bur

GERMANY (Martin Styler): A(Ruh)-Bel A(Hol) S A(Ruh)-Bel A(Mun)-Bur
F(Den)-Swe F(Kie)-Den

ITALY (Jonathan Palfrey): A(Tus)-Rom F(Nap)-TYS F(Tun)-WMS A(Pie)-Mar

RUSSIA (Chris Bishop): A(Ukr)-Mos A(War) S A(Ukr)-Mos F(GOB)-StP sc

TURKEY (Ian Macdonald): A(Rum)-Ukr A(Sev) S A(Rum)-Ukr F(Smy)-AEG
F(Con)-Bul sc F(BLA)-Rum

No retreats.

Press:

DE La Frenais: 'Joyeux Noel' to our Revered GM and the few players able to write. What's with this Paris (Govt.) business? La belle France doesn't have a (Govt.) ((Space for SSSS witticism?)) (((Not in fact. Just lay off the double brackets - that's my terrain!))). L'etat c'est moi - or Cesar Franck 031-552-4180 if you prefer. ((I take it that's your phone number, Frank - just checked, so it is; you're already in my insurance scheme.))

The cultured reader ((huh?!?)) will of course add a circonflex, an acute accent and also two dots on Noel. On second thoughts the cultured won't read this anyway.

Italy (Govt.): ~~We hope that the French President will not become Franklin-~~
-censed at our consistent refusal to enter into a mutual avoidance pact. While we may appear to be turning away the hand of Frank-ship, in truth the great love that the Italian people have for the French people would only nullify any crude governmental attempt to separate one from the other.

All over Italy, good, honest folk with love in their hearts are packing their bags, their earnest hope being to bring gladness, joy, spaghetti and bathroom operatics to their deprived neighbours. Papal endorsement is expected shortly for this mission of mercy, and we broadcast this message to demonstrate to the world the spirit in which the Italian people tackle the great task of achieving true European unity.

Luanda (Govt.) - Gaza (Govt.): Until Phase 2 neither of us will occupy T. The situation at that time will decide who moves. Probably I will support you. Merry Christmas.

Berlin (Govt.):

The Eiffel Tower is burning down, burning down, burning down,
The Eiffel Tower is burning down, bye-bye France.
See his forces crumble and fall, crumble and fall, crumble and fall,
See his forces crumble and fall, bye-bye Dashwood.
Burgundy and Gascony, we'll take them all, take them all, take them all,
Burgundy and Gascony, we'll take them all, bye-bye France.
Imperial Germany will live for evermore, evermore, evermore,
Imperial Germany will live for evermore, bye-bye Dashwood.
(To be sung to the tune of "London Bridge is burning down", in a deep Prussian voice, like what I have got.

SSSS: Yawn! Eh, what, who? Oh, yes; I've had one complaint about allowing people to use (Govt.) to guarantee the source of press releases. This time, however, several of you seemed to have used it (though I don't know who Luanda and Gaza are supposed to be); I would welcome players' opinions on this - as far as I know only Ken Jones has used it before in Comet, but I'm not sure. Do you think it should be retained or scrapped?

A sympathizer: Grin and bear it, Nyetouskiovitch.

Zhmerinka (Govt.): The new provisional government totally deplors the mismanagement of the previous government, most of whom were thrown from the Argeni Heights. An isolationist policy will be enforced whilst the remaining populace wait to see if they will be put to the sword, scimitar or scythe.

N
Brasov & Prikumsk.

Escapes whilst clutching bruised buttocks - gang banged sturked at the same time. Nasty. ((Eh ???!?!))

Sara's Sleazy Swedish Sauna: See page 1 for England's COA. Regarding my claim for a Dolchstoss record last issue,

Mick Bullock says;

"Russia has previously had three supply centres in Autumn 1901 three times in 275 games, viz: OJ BDC 29, Hannibal 'F', War Bulletin 'C'. the OJ one would also have had a 2 unit situation had Colin followed your rules and disbanded a retreating A(Sev), but he retreated it to Mos - the only space available, as in NGC 144. So I think $\frac{1}{2}$ a D.R."

... ta, Mick.

* * * * *

NGC 154 (1975 ??)(Any numbers left this year please, Richard ?) GAMESTART

"BILBO"

AUSTRIA : Alan Reason, 19 Markham Crescent, Dunstable, Beds..

ENGLAND : Mal Copeland, 131 Cleveland Road, Ealing, W13 OEN.

FRANCE : 24336936 Gnr Chris Bishop CJL, 6-27 Med Regt RA, BFPO 107.

GERMANY : Alan Bustany, -16 Kilmory Gardens, Belfast, BT5 7GB.

ITALY : Eddie Goffin, 215 Jefferson Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

RUSSIA : Bob Grove, 105 Marlborough Park Avenue, Sidcup, Kent, DA15 9DY.

TURKEY : Keith Smith, 2 Felton Gardens, Barking, Essex.

GM: Well, nice to meet you all. Messrs Reason, Copeland, Smith and Goffin receive this issue free as their introductory one. Subscriptions are required from Mal and Eddie before the deadline, though, if they want to go on receiving TotS. House rules are enclosed with this issue for those without them. Please also make sure you've all sent your £1 game fee and £1 returnable-on-elimination-or-finish deposit to Gordon Bell (Midtown, Easton, Wigton, Cumbria.) by the deadline, preferably as soon as possible. I assume the fee for this game is still the old rate, and that I get my cut all now, since the new game fees don't come in till next year. I may as well state now that I fully support the NGC Committee in the long-overdue increases in game-fees, but abhor the system by which the poor old GM is going to get part of his share withheld by the NGC-until the game finishes. As Phil Murphy so clearly pointed out, GMs cuts of the gamefees are used to buy paper in bulk and to subsidise the cost of producing a zine. What use is cash after the service has been performed? How can it be used for the benefit of subscribers when it is being eroded by inflation in the NGC bank account? I fully appreciate the need to protect players against the danger of going to pot if the GM drops out, but I think this can only result in more GM dropouts, not less.

I would be interested to know what other NGC GMs think of this. I wouldn't mind so much if Richard Sharp had managed to obtain the paper he promised me at a cheap rate about six months back, but so far no luck. How about it, Richard?

Note to the Treasurer - could you send me my credit balance now, please, Gordon, and inform me when the above are all paid up? Thanks.

It remains for me to wish the players in NGC 154 the best of luck. I hope you will all see the game through to the end. Deadline for Spring 1901 orders is on page 1: please post early. I will never accept orders postmarked deadline day or later. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to write or phone.

FETLOCK.

When I was first approached by Mr. Hawes, esteemed editor of this journal, to produce a column I must confess to no little surprise - not that TotS should require an injection of literacy but that he should be unaware of my announced intention upon the demise of the Morning Post not to take up the journalistic career again. I have subsequently made this history known to Mr. Hawes but am pleased to say that an interim agreement by which certain monies will be paid to the Vox Diaboli Home for Distressed Costermongers should ensure further supplies of this column.

My family have never forgiven the members of Whites for blackballing dear Grandpapa for his views on the Catholic Emancipation bill of '28 (he was against) and consequently I dine not infrequently at the mausoleum - as the discerning know it. In general this is no hardship, my membership of the 1652 Pondicherry Lancers Club allows me access to a decent bottle of claret at any hour of the day; however the bicentenary redecoration of the 1652 gives one no alternative but to take advantage of White's hospitality - such as it is.

Unfortunately the secretary, old four ball Fortesque, and I have never hit it off since I inadvertently felled him with a mashie at the long 18th at Kilmarnock. As far as I am concerned bygones are bygones and I am prepared to say no more about the matter, but I fear that Fortesque, whom I believe spent some weeks in hospital, is of a more revengeful nature.

Having finished lunch I retired to adjust my dress and returned to the bar some two minutes later for my first Campari and blackcurrant of the afternoon. Fourball was surrounded by the usual collection of oiks and cads one finds in Whites of a lunchtime and sensing his hour had come fixed me with his good eye and announced that at Whites it was usual to wash one's hands after visiting the toilet.

Such wit, of course, proved too much for the sneaks and bullies assembled at the bar who immediately fell about laughing. Waiting until the baying had ceased I remarked that the Royal Pondicherry Lancers learned not to piss on their fingers, and left. It is the only way to deal with these people !

I have spent a considerable amount of time in recent weeks within the confines of the House of Lords where I too have been doing my bit to defeat the iniquitous Trade Union and something or other amendment act. This is the third time this century that I have deemed it necessary to exercise my hereditary right to thwart the self-centred desires of the masses. Previous forays into government largely centre on unsuccessful attempts to use the Emergency Powers Act to crush the Labour Party and to extend capital punishment to those "instigating, organising or otherwise assisting the illegal withdrawal of labour". I am disappointed to say that the Tory peers proved as spineless as ever and the ermined representatives of what is facetiously termed the working classes blocked my proposals.

Doubtless readers will not be slow in scanning the pages of Hausard for evidence of my contribution to the debate - an exercise in which I fear they will be disappointed as I do not speak on such occasions preferring the camaraderie of the members bar to the forced civility of the chamber. In any event the peoples friend Lord Goodman summed up my views adequately, if not with any great élan, suggesting, as he did, that further extensions in the rights of the pig-headed, the riff-raff and the criminal classes, amongst whom one would include most trades unionists save perhaps Tom Jackson and Jimmy Thomas, must perforce be at the expense of those noble souls who exist merely to serve their nation and who look for their reward in heaven; amongst whom one would have no hesitation in including both the blessed Arnold and myself. I believe I am correct in thinking that Lord Goodman spoke for us all when he riposted that as the country had one foot in the grave the sooner the others followed the better - an admirable view and one upon which Mad Mick should act immediately !

LOST: In the vicinity of St. Paul's A HACK, late of Filibuster and the Isle of Lewis Gazette. Answers to the name of HAVE ANOTHER. Believed to be suffering from an overdose of ASPIRATES accompanied by the quaint linguistic failings of his FRIENDS.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES: ignorance of laws of copyright, liberal approach to the rules of social conduct and ability to fumble without act-