

Hello - I'm Julian and
this is my friend, Sandy

This is WAR BULLETIN 58, a Gamezine from Hartley Patterson of 'Finches' 7 Cambridge Rd, Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 1HW, UK. Freds Press 115. 6 October 1974. Tel 04.946.4116.

Excuse Dept

Yes, about 2½ months since the last issue. Some reasons will be found inside (a lot of new games to play) but mostly summer apathy I'm afraid. The general run down of games may also have contributed - we have our usual rash of summer move missing, and the standby position is now hopeless. If anyone would like to note in their zine that we need standbys I'd be grateful, and GAME OPENINGS might mention this as well please.

COAs

John Piggott has not after all fled the country - his Oxford address is still valid.

Mike Small: Jean Royce Hall, Shortliffe House Room 308, Queens Univ., Kingston K7M 2B9, Ontario, CANADA.

Roland Prevot: 14 ave Theophile Gautier, 75016 Paris, FRANCE.

There are undoubtedly others, but these will appear next time. I'd like to publish a mailing list next time so please check that the address I've put on this issue is correct as regards new counties, etc.

Deadline

Some cheek eh? Well, its

Friday 1st November

MOVES	G 1972BL	Autumn 1913
	H 1972EK	Autumn 1910
	I 1972AEcn	Spring 422
	J 1973BG	Spring 1909
	K 1973DBfa	Spring 1460
	L 1973DDfb	Autumn 452
	M 1973DCfc	Mede 1418

WAR BULLETIN is

5 for 35p Inland
5 for 50p Europe
3 for \$1 USA Airmail
6 for \$1 USA Seamail
(Mike: 15p each Canada Air, OK?)

Most Variant maps/rules are available from the UK Variant Bank: Dave Pink, 6 Clayton Ave, Didsbury, Manchester M20 0BN. That now includes all variants played in WB.

A list of current Game Openings in UK is available from Norman Nathan, 3 Brocke Close, Bushey, Herts for an SAE. This is Game Openings 'B' - Game Openings 'A' comes from Andrew Herd, 35 Austin Drive, Didsbury, Manchester M20 0FA and gives a list of all UK zines with prices etc as well as a list of all variants published in UK and where to get them.

We support the above services and urge other publishers to do so by keeping their readers informed about them. We also support the International Diplomacy Association, a group which attempts to keep alive some of the better aspects of the hobby (such as those above) which are no longer within the financial capabilities of one person due to the growth of the hobby. The IDA is 80p from Richard Walderdine, 'Cheriton', 15 Crouch Oak Lane, Addlestone, Surrey KT15 2AN. It's newzine (mostly letters) is now edited by Pete Swanson.

News: A lot to catch up on!

LEMMING EXPRESS (Jon Lovibond, 1 Oak Lea Avenue, Fulshaw Park, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 1QL; 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ p+postage; 40-70p Game Fee) is one of the new Dippyazines and for a change has started the right way, with articles and comment rather than lots of games. Issue 2 has news, letters, a variant proposal (Runestaff) and reviews. Openings in most things. There was a free variant with this issue, '1000AD', which resembles Feudalism II.

TOP O' THE PILE (Mick Bullock, 14 Nursery Ave, Halifax, West Yorks HX3 5SZ; 2p+postage or SAE) is Britain's first ratings zine from statistics superman Mick. It gives the current state of six rating systems - Calhamer, Brob, Odd, NGC original, NGC revised, MW - and averages them for a 'list-of-lists'. Since Mick also explains how the systems work this is well worth getting. The UK 'Top Board' is as follows:

1. Nigel Sloan.
2. Michel Feron.
- 3=. Chris Harvey, Tadek Jarski.
5. John Bullock.
6. Geoff Corker.
- 7=. Rod Blackshaw, Gareth Lodge, Jack Westlake.

These are of course UK GMed games, hence the appearance of Michel Feron - mostly due no doubt to his win and two-way draw in WB.

GAME OPENINGS 7 (see front page)(Sept '74) nows runs to 4pp. It lists all the UK Dippyazines and related publications, with costs, etc. 30 Dippyazines and 4 Genzines are included, and as an extra a list of variants available in UK with prices and addresses.

DIPLOMACY WORLD 4 (\$3.00 per year (=6), \$1.00 discount to IDA)(Walt Buchanan, RR3, Lebanon, Indiana 46052) has end game commentary on 1973BI, an Earthsea variant, advice on publishing, the BROB ratings, lots of news. No column from me as I don't get sent any news! The Calhamer Award results were as follows:

Outstanding publication: DOLCHSTOSS

Outstanding gamesmaster: Mick Bullock

Outstanding variant zine: ORION

Outstanding single PR: French Cricket Team in Trieste (R Sharp)
from WAR BULLETIN 50

Outstanding press series: James Bond (R Sharp), 1973DI (1901 AND ALL THAT)

Outstanding Regular game: 1973BI, HOOSIER ARCHIVES/DIPLOMACY WORLD.

Outstanding variant game: 1973/5V (Third Age) GRAFETI.

Outstanding player: Andy Davidson.

McCallum Award for Meritorious service: Richard Walkerdine.

Outstanding variant designed: Intimate Diplomacy.

Outstanding new zine: DIPLOMACY WORLD.

In normal circumstances I'd be thanking you for your support, such an honour making all that typing of press worthwhile. However...the WB press release entries got on the ballot form entirely by my own efforts, and the votes as I understand it were from NGC members following a proposal for a 'British block vote' in DOLCHSTOSS. I've already written my protest letter to Richard Sharp, saying that I feel encouraging voting along national or any other lines apart from for the 'best' entry is wrong. It has also spoilt Transatlantic relations in a way that will be difficult to repair with dragging Richard's name in the mud.

Well, it's a shame - I'd have liked to win the Awards but I can't regard this result as valid: and the Awards are likely to split in two next year so the chance will be permanently lost.

HANNIBAL 15 (Andrew Herd, address f.p.; 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ p+postage) has alterations in the Variant Bank. Publishers of variants should continue to write to Andrew, but inquiries should go to Dave Pink (address f.p.). This is simply to divide up the work load on what is proving a very successful venture. There are 33 variants currently available.

News (cont)

Miller Numbers. These have changed hands twice since last time! ALL GMS PLEASE NOTE THIS. Burt Labelle handed over to Dick Vedder 1st September, but Dick finds himself unexpectedly obliged to spend more time on his PhD. So the new Miller Number Custodian is

Robert Sacks, 15-F Tang Hall, 550 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA 02139. All requests for variant game numbers should be sent to him. No doubt it would aid a smooth changeover if EVERY GM printed this address.

There is a strong possibility that a British Miller Number Custodian will be sought to do the same as Richard Walkerdine does for Boardman Numbers. Anyone who thinks they can do it should contact me, since I will be giving the 'seal of approval' to whoever does it!

Quarterly Report 2 (Richard Walkerdine, 'Cheriton', 15 Crouch Oak Lane, Addlestone, Surrey KT15 2AN; 1p+postage) details the number of games in the UK. At the end of June there were 262 Dippy/variant games in progress: 146 regular, 87 variant and 29 Intimate. Game starts had actually dropped off April-June, and a levelling out of the total was predicted in about 9 months.

Europa 2. (Walter-Luc Haas, Achilles Bischoff Str.6, CH-4053 Basel, Switzerland; £1 for 5 issues; 30pp) A newszine aimed at the military hobby field. Unfortunately spirit duped and showing it but editor hopes for mimeo next time. This issue is crammed full of information on wargaming, diplomacy and related subjects, a lot of hard work has evidently gone into it and it will be well worth the sub if it can continue like this while upgrading repro and layout. Just what is needed. It will naturally concentrate on the scattered players across the Channel, but there will be a lot of UK stuff as well.

Horror Story. Some GMS may have had some junk mail from American academic game people lately. This is because your address was in the HANDBOOK OF GAMES AND SIMULATION EXERCISES by G I Gibbs. It an excellent idea - to list all games of educational value along with game orientated publications, etc. Sadly it falls far short of this, and particularly in the wargaming sections scores an over 50% error rate. I've sent in some corrections but as I feared had no reply, so future editions are likely to be just as bad. Unfortunately such academic hangers-on don't go away if you ignore them (as the SF field found), the only sensible course is to stamp them out before they start copying each others work and become a self-generating industry!

TALES FROM THE BLACK FOREST has returned after several months absence - it was surprising to find editor Geoff Corker expressing some hostility to attempts to find out if he had dropped totally or not. Meanwhile....

QUEEN VICTORIA'S FUNERAL 4 is the latest issue of the IDA/UK discussionzine, with Pete Swanson as the new editor. It maintains the high standard set by the previous editor! Membership is still rising, so if you think such things as Game Numbers, GAME OPENINGS, and an Orphan Games system are worth having send your 80p to Richard Walkerdine.

SIGMA (Michel Feron, Grand-Place 7, B-4280 Hannut, Belgium) is a new statistics zine giving a list of all current European games. Subs are 12/100p. Future issues will cover new games and finished games. An excellent publication.

HYPERION (Geoff Challinger, 23 Priestnall Rd, Heaton Mersey, Stockport SK4 3HR) will carry just one game - Diplomacy's most complex variant, Hypereconomic Dippy. The rules are (I think) 25p from Geoff, and there are always likely to be openings in the game as there are a lot of 'off board' players. Send him £1 or so, it should be good.

Postcard from Hannibal, who is on holiday with Michel Feron in Thailand.

COSTAGUANA 100 is a fake issue of Conrad's zine. Quite a good one there...John Leeder? Most likely, unless it was Conrad himself.

News (cont)

ORBIT (Dave Allison, 52 Spencer Rd, Ryde, IOW; 4p+postage) is the replacement for UMMAGUMMA, which looks promising with wargaming articles - the editors are still learning about stencils though.

RETIEF (Craig Nye, 56 Meadow Drive, Lindfield, Sussex)(2p+postage) is an NGC zine and the first UK zine to be lithoed. Messy at present but early days yet. If litho is economic why aren't we all using it?

MACHIAVELLIAN TIMES (Graham Buckell, 341 Croydon Rd, Wallington, Surrey SM6 7PD) is the zine for the second game of Parliament. See DISRAELI for more on this.

SIGNAL (John Mansfield, POBox 830, CFPO 5056, 757 Baden Baden 1, W Germany; 8/£1; biweekly) continues to provide the basic wargaming news. This stuff is from issues 61-65. Future SPI games will be 46: COMBINED ARMS, PATROL; 47: WOLFPACK, WW III; 48: SIXTH FLEET, GLOBAL WAR; 49: FREDERICK THE GREAT, DREADNOUGHT. The first named is the magazine game in each case. The early tactical games are being revised and will be republished as a single system with a single board. I've seen issue 44 which has OPERATION OLYMPIC, the solo Japan invasion game, and an article on SF: TANK (in 45) by first reports isn't too hot.

WRG have plans for about 1 boardgame per year. Currently the works are MACHIEVAL, on political double-dealing in Italy, and CTESIPHON set during the initial Arab expansion in the Middle East.

GDW should have NARVIK, CORAL SEA and TORGAU out by now.

Battleflag is back as a quarterly mag without games, but sounding good.

NATIONAL CONGRESS In DOLCHSTOSS XXIII Richard Sharp has come out in favour of a national gathering for the NGC, including a Diplomacy Championship of course. We are supporting this and endeavouring to make sure it is a proper Convention and not a 9-5 church hall affair like the Minatures meetings invariably are. We'd like something resembling an SF Con, with non-stop events over a weekend, a 24-hour bar, etc. If you feel the same way write in to Richard and say so!

Games

The new ones we have are DRANG NACH OSTEN, UNENTSHIEDEN, TRIPLANETARY (GDW), 1776 (AH), BARZLEV (CGC), RIFLE-MUSKET (Conflict), AMERICAN CIVIL WAR (S&T). Roger has CHACO and EAGLES (GDW). These are going to take a while to work through, but reviews will start appearing soon in these pages. Meanwhile I'll just say I wouldn't advise against any of them.

FTF

CITY GAMES CLUB is in operation again, meetings are at City University in London on alternate Saturdays, usually near the bar. For further details contact Andy Holt (Computer Unit, City University, St Johns St, EC1). There is usually a Diplomacy game and some wargaming.

(Wrong again Richard. I thought you had a copy of LotR??)

Fangorn: 'It was an evil day for me,' said Grima Wormtongue, 'when Theoden transfer-listed me. To think that I could still be feasting in the great House of Eorl, instead of wandering through this rotten forest in the rain. Everything you've done has gone wrong. Take the Balrog for instance - he scares hell out of the Elves in all the old tales and you can't even get him out of Moria. Over-rated, mate, that's what you are.'

'It is of course customary,' said Saruman, 'to blame the manager when the team has a bad run. I am bound to admit that my plans have not matured entirely as I had hoped. In fact it may well be that my powers are waning, which is why I am off home to Isengard to recharge my batteries.'

'And how are you going to get to Isengard?' snarled Wormtongue. 'There are Riders all over the place - the Wizard's Vale looks like an evening meeting at Haydock Park.'

Saruman smiled and raised his staff. 'Watch,' he said, 'and learn.'

Conan in Middle-earth, Part Seven:

"Are you certain?" asked the Cimmerian.

"Quite," the Doctor replied. "Mitrandir has a sword scar ^{on one cheek}, and is inclined to stoutness. No resemblance to this one." He rose and approached the stranger.

"...may your beer be laid under an enchantment of surpassing excellence for seven years!" the old man was telling the innkeeper.

"Pardon me, sir, but would your name be Gandalf?" inquired the Doctor.

"It may be - and what is that to you?"

"There must be some confusion - I used to know a wizard of that name, but you are plainly not he."

"Only one Gandalf I've heard of," remarked their host. "Only one wizard in these parts too."

"Tell me sir, if wizard you are, what do you know of - the Time Lords?"

The other gave him a very sharp look. "Perhaps we had better have a quiet talk. Butterbur, have you a private room we can use?..."

Fangorn (later): 'How was I to know the little beast would be awake?' asked Saruman crossly.

Moria: The Balrog was unhappy. He knew that Saruman had ratted on him, and abandoned him to the Elves; only that morning one of the elven smiths from Hollin had come round and put a new Yale lock on the Eastgate. The Balrog was in for a long wait. He began to sing to himself, softly, the next verse of the Song of Bedbug and Ethilfrog, but what the words of that verse were no man ever knew, for there was no one there to hear.

Amersham: That literary device is recommended to all press addicts who get fed up with trying to write poetry at 2 a.m. for people who aren't going to read it anyway. ((Not according to letters received - Ed.))

ELV: (Piggott) F Min, As ~~S/D~~, Gre, Rhu, Crk, CMi, Anu, Lor, Cel, Sil all unordered.

DWA: (Davidson) A Blu-Fld. A Ere-Val S by A Crn. A Iro-Wit. A RRi-CMi.

A NMi-Crk S by A Fra.

GON: (Prevot) DA Eas stand.

ROH: (Sherrad) A Edo S GONDOR DA Eas. A ISE S A Wiz. A Wiz S A WEm-Fan.

SAU: (Ward?) TA Ano, DAS Lam, Los, MTI, Nin, As Wol, Bro, DOL, SMi, NIT, Ash, SRH unordered. & A UEU.

SAR: (Sharp) DA Fan-Wiz. A Hol-Dun. A Mor sings.

UMB: (Doubleday/Palmer) A Ant S A Cit-Dru C by F SOU. A Hrd-Bel C by F BAY.

A Leb stand.

GAN: (Holt) unseen.

Retreats: ELV/A Crk disbanded.

For UMBAR see 1972AEcn. Nicky Palmer's address is Lehwaldsvej 3, 8g, DK-2800 Lyngby, Denmark. Will whichever Jones that is (two on my mailing list!) send moves for SAURON, while Tony Crouch sends for ELVES.

Isurium Brigantum: The warband of Artos, Duke of Britain, rode silently along the old road from Ebiracum to the Wall. The only break in their disciplined ranks was in the centre of the column where a tubby balding man with a small moustache was scribbling notes on a piece of parchment. As they emerged from a defile, Artos wheeled his charger and trotted back from the head of the troop towards the preoccupied writer.

"How's it going, Will?" he asked.

"Not at all badly, Duke," replied the Bard, sucking the end of his quill. "The way I see it, your story has always been a vehicle for the moral preoccupations of the period in which it has been told - incest with Malory, lack of self control with Tennyson. I thought I might make something on the lines of compromised idealism, the liberal forced to realise his own illiberality?"

Artos nodded as Shakespeare warmed to his theme. "I mean publicly there's the seeker after the old democratic Roman ways forced into tyranny by the exigencies of war; and privately there's defender of civilisation and tolerance outraged by his wife's liason with a Gaulish knight."

"WHAT?" roared Artos, seizing the Bard by the front of his tunic.

"Oh Christ," muttered Shakespeare miserably, "I thought you knew."

Camelot: "Sire, we have found a scheme for disposing of Haraldus," reported Merlin.

"Indeed?" said Uther dubiously.

Merlin indicated a hook-nosed gentleman with a frock-coat and top hat. "My new assistant Mr Disraeli thought of it actually."

"Statistics! Blind them with statistics! Inflation, prices and incomes policies, free trade,,social contracts!"

City of the Legions:

Enter HARALDUS and CORNWALL

Har: So my lord, you will still insist
On opposing my right to rule this scepter'd isle?

Corn: I will.

For this is my unshakeable resolve
To break the hold of these pernicious factions
Upon the body politic of the land.

Har: Then begone! I count thy threats of strife
And discord among the upholders of my cause
To be but hot air and vapours.

Ccr: And what of the Lords St Albans and Chalfont?

Har: Such sail-trimmers we can well afford to lose.

Exit CORNWALL

Har: Now is the winter of my content
The rude Hibernians are safely employed
In extraction of the stannic metal,
While rebellious London will soon be o'errun
By Germanic tourists and migrant workers.

Pons Aelius: Amleth struggled to keep pace with the Pictish Princess as she strode through the heather towards the camp, her long brown legs flashing under her blue woolen robe. Behind, at a suitable distance, their escort trotted, their whorled faces turning from left to right as they kept constant lookout.

"It's funny," said Amleth, catching her up, "I'd expected great big blokes with hairy knees and those funny skirt things:"

"Oh, you're years too early for those," she replied. "No one's trying to look like Harry Lauder yet; you won't see the Monarch of the Glen either. Sentimental garbage!" and she spat at a nearby grouse.

((So that's why they call them grouse - Ed))

"You're so positive," said Amleth wonderingly. "I've never seen women treated with such respect before."

"Well, it's our bloody Mediterranean culture, innit?" she said, wiping her nose on the back of her hand. "I reckon it's pretty Mycenaean myself, what with those

little flint daggers we tote about and all the religious trimmings. Mind you," she said, turning on him, "don't you start thinking it doesn't make sense. We women have got a bloody sight more mystery to us than you straightforward thick objects. Haven't we?"

"Er...yes, I suppose you have. I often wonder about my mother you know. People have written books about it."

The Pictish Princess looked at him. "You're not bad looking as men go," she said, "bit soft on the outside but you could toughen up. I'll take you to see my old man - Mcbeth."

Londonium: "That's the first good news we've had in months," said Vortigern. "So old Enoch has gone off to Ulster has he? Well let's hope he depresses them as much as he did us. Now - who seeks an audience with us today?"

"Eyre, there is Tedaan Smith, Count of Nova Castrum, who seeks favourable terms for rebuilding Durobrivae, recently sacked by the Angles -"

"We have heard of him, but the contract will go to the merchants of this city."

"- and two strangers with strange wares from abroad."

"Strangers eh? Show them in."

The Court Straight Man ushered in two aliens. One wore a green tunic and carried a long bow, the other was clad in a lion skin, a giant with rippling muscles, his club was borne behind him by a pretty youth.

"Your majesty," said the man in green, "we bring you a wonderful treasure from the Orient....."

FRI: (Sherrad) F Wwa-SAe. F MCh-VIn.

JUT: (Davis) A Dei-Cle S by A Elm. F Lin-Dei. F Cro-Was. A NFO-Cro.

SAX: (Morrison) A OB-Cle C by F Ger.

ANG: (Sandell) F Dur MS A Can.

BRI: (Walkerdine) A Dev-Seg. A Mer-Dev. F Crl-NWa. F Sev-Lun. A SAe stand.
A SFO-Dur.S by A And. A PAN S A And.

SCO: (-) As Sol, Uls, Fs NCh, Lan, Nir all unordered.

PIC: (Clark) F Ork-Heb. F Ork-Hig. A Alc-Str S by A Edw. A Ber-Sol. F For-Ger.
A Twe stand.

FRI: Wwa ~~Wwa~~ +VIn = 2. Builds F OB.

JUT: Dei Lin NFO Cle +Elm = 5. No change.

SAX: None! Builds F OB.

ANG: Can +Dur = 2. Builds F OB.

BRI: Crw Gle Lon Dev ~~Dev~~ PAN ~~Elm~~ FNWa +Seg = 7. Removes F Lun.

SCO: Uls Dub Cum Gal Lan = 5. No change.

PIC: Mea Fif Edw Sud Alc Lot Twe = 7. No change.

Some odd rule interpretations here. First, British were operating with one unit too many in 452, as PAN was counted twice! They occupy three centres (SAe, And, SFO) they can't use due to barbarian sacking.

According to rules Germans have at least three units for first three years. I interpret this to mean that they can still raise troops in Germany (Off-board) despite having no supply centres there. The crunch comes at the end of this year when they will be reduced unless they can find supply centres in Britain.

Moves for SCOTS from Stuart Dagger (27 Cameron Way, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen AB2 8QD), by a strange coincidence a Scot!

WB58-8

Wars of the Roses 1973DBfa Spring 1460

Worthing: I bought myself half a pint of bourbon from the off-licence and took my coupe up to the A24. Above North End I cut the engines and lights and pulled onto the verge. It was one of those quiet April evenings. Down by Shoreham, I could see the twinkle of French fires as they lit, one by one, and out to sea, towards the West I could see the blockading French ships. I pulled a slug from the bottle and tried to turn out an explanation in my head. While I'd been out, something had caused the Red forces to behave illogically - no diplomacy, no coherent plans, -nothing. They were just crawling about like mindless ants. Like ants! The phrase rang like a bell. Then it struck me. That was the way Sauron's armies had gone after the Ring had been destroyed - and it was the very same behaviour that had hit our units since the King had been taken. Was that vapid buffoon really masquerading? Could Henry really be the Dark Lord? I started up violently, spraying gravel, and punched my transmitter to get the TLC.

Warwick Castle (1): Softly Flashman tiptoed downstairs. The castle was too closely guarded for escape but there had to be a way of foiling those lunatics who wished to pass him off as King Henry! If he could only get inside the Tardis for long enough to summon help...

Warwick Castle (2): "Men shall deal unadvisedly sometimes, which after-hours give leisure to repent," muttered Gloucester.

"Never mind Duke," advised Grytpype. "The Earl may have seen through our little ruse but my next feat will confound him, never fear. Eccles - er - Igor, bring on the fake Doctors!"

Madras (1890): A buzzing above the telescreen salvaged from the 'Nautilus' attracted the attention of Colonel Sebastian Moran. Suddenly the face of Flashman appeared on the screen.

"I'm speaking from 1460DBfa," he blurted out. "Borrow a time machine from your Capellan friends and get here quickly. I'm..." At that moment a mailed hand covered Flashman's mouth and the picture vanished.

((For the full story of Moran, Nemo and Moriarty see 'The other log of Phineas Fogg' by Philip Jose Farmer, DAW pb 1973 - Ed))

RED: (Davis) A Cch-Sur. A Lew S FRENCH F Str-Wea. F Roc-Lon. A Dov-Can. A Her-Bed.

WHI: (Clark) A WMor-Lan. A Ber-Rox S by A Car. F Tyn-Hol. F Nwh-Nor2 S by Nor1.

A Che-Den. A Der-Che. A Sta-Mid S by A Lei. A Bed-Clt. A Rut-Bed S by A Cam.

A Col-Lon. F Suf-Col. A Don-Sou. K is in Cam.

NEV: (Sandell) F Pem-Abe. F Dor-Por. A Sal S A Pur-Win. F Glc-Sev. A Here S A EMar.

A E Mar S A War-Sta. A Oxf-Mid.

BEA: (Morrison) F Snt S FRENCH F ECha-Win.

SCO: (Doubleday/Crouch) F OB-NCha. A Dum-Rox S by A Swy. F Man stand.

FRE: (Prevot) F Str S A Can-Dov. F Tms-Roc. F ECha-Wea. F Nor2-Tnt.

Retreat: RED/A-Dov eliminated.

WB58-9

1973BG Spring 1909

Montenegro: Yes fans, it's me again (gloats Bedbug), and I expect you're all wondering why I get to write a column every couple of months when there's eleven of us here. Well, Fifi hasn't been too well since I ate her, and we've been here so long now that most of the team can only speak Serbo-Croat, or the Black Speech as I call it. Mek One Run did try to do a pæce once: he started in the bottom right-hand corner like they do at home, then forgot and wrote it all over the tablecloth.

I had a pretty bad time with the Cricket Police I can tell you. They said they were going to grill me, and I said if they were cannibals too what was all the fuss about? The circumstantial evidence was pretty bad; they said my breath smelt of garlic and Chanel No.5. The really vital piece of evidence was Fifi's corset, which never turned up after her accident; the Police had a man following me round for days with a shovel and a bucket, which shows they don't know much about orcs' digestive systems: I haven't had a crap since I ate that poisoned dwarf back in the Second Age. Then they got cunning: they offered me a Greek hairdresser, boiled in Retsina and covered in glace cherries; but at the first sniff I knew they'd stuffed him full of cascara so I wrapped him in tinfoil and sent him off to the St Petersburg famine relief Fund. I was feeling a bit peckish by then, so I ate the Superintendent, and since then I've had no more trouble.

nr. Henley: After hours of questioning Scames was dragged up to the attic and locked in. In the moonlight filtering through the shuttered windows he made out an emaciated figure shackled to a wall.

"Sir - are you also a victim of these evil men?" he asked.

A weak voice answered. "Sure am."

"My name is Soames Forsyte." My I ask...?"

"Von Metzke - the cricketer," gasped the other.

Soames recalled the newspaper headlines. So this was the man the police had instigated a nation-wide hunt for! But why had they also abducted him? What was the object of their questions about certain Northern foodstuffs $\frac{3}{4}$ matters no gentleman could be expected to know about?

nr. Oxford: "Now my fine fellows - who exactly are you?"

As the Delahaye neared the town Clayton had seized his opportunity when his captors were off their guard. Now he held the revolver, and the fat man in front was white with fright.

(BLOODNOK THEME)

"Bleiough - aeiooughh - Major-Denis Bloodnok, late of the Third Disgusting Fusiliers - OBE, MT, MT, MT, MT, MT, MT and MT."

"What are all those MTs for?"

"I get tuppence on each of them - aeiooughhh."

The story so far: Meanwhile in Cambridge Sir Richard Burton has met Mycroft Holmes and learnt the truth behind the mysterious affair at Jesus College ((see K.35 - Ed)). He follows the trail to a pub in the City of London, where a chance encounter with an Australian sheep fancier gives him the vital clue. More next-ish....

G: (Waldie) F Swe stand. A Ber MS A Mun.

R: (Clark) F Nth-Eng. F Bar-Nwg. F Nwy S F Ska-Nth. A Boh S A Vie-Tyr. A Bud S A Rum.

T: (Cousins) A Bul S A Ser. A Gre-Apu S by F Ion. F Smy-Eas. F Aeg S F Ion.
A Tri-Ven. F Tun & A Ser stand.

A: (Sandell) A Ven MS A Rom.

F: (Sharp) A Lpl-Yor. F Edi & F Hol & F Hel S F Lon-Nth. F Bre-Eng. A Den worries.

A Ruh S A Kie. A Bur-Mun S by A Kie. A Tyr-Boh. F Tyr-Nap. F Nap-Apu.

Retreats: R/F Nth-Bel. F/A Tyr-Pie.

WB58-10

1972EK Autumn 1910

- R: (Holborn) F Eng-Bre. F Naf-MAO. F Iri-Eng. F Nwy-Nth. A Ruh & A Kie S A Ber-Mun.
A Sil MS A War. A Mos S A War. F Bla S A Sev. A Ank S A Arm-Smy. F Nap-Rom.
A: (Sharp) F Wes S F Por-MAO. A Mar S A Spa-Gas. F Ion-Tun. A Ven-Rom.
A Boh S A Gal-Sil. A Rum S A Ukr-Sev. A Bud S A Rum. A Ser-Tri. A Con MS A Smy.
A Bul S A Con.
F: (Yare) A Par-Bur. A Bur-Mun. A Mun-Tyr. F Gas-Spa(NC).

Retreats: F/F Gas eliminated.

- R: Mos War StP Sev Swe Nwy Den Kie Bel Hol Edi Ber Lpl Ank Nap +Bre +Mun = 17.
A: Tri Vie Bud Ser Gre Bul Rom Smy Tun Ven Mar Spa Con Rum Por = 15. No change.
F: Par ~~Yre Lon~~ ~~Yre Lon~~ = 2. Removes A Par.

Oh...Russia builds A StP(NC). One owed.

In this situation with London an inevitable Russian gain use an agreed Russian win, unless Richard Sharp can suggest a way of averting defeat (we just spoke on the phone and he is willing to do this). So - unless the players hear from me to the contrary I'll expect any end-game comments next issue.

1972BL Autumn 1913

- R: F Nth-Edi S by F Nwg. F Eng & A Hol S A Bel. A Bel S A Hol. F Den-Kie.
A War-Sil S by A Ber. A Rum MS A Ukr. A Pru ~~S//A/War~~. (Davidson that was!)
A: (Yare) F Con-Ank. A Bul S A Ser-Rum. A Sil S A Mun-Ber. A Boh S A Tyr-Mun.
A Pie-Mar. F Ion-Tyr. F Wes-S F GoL-Spa(SC). F MAO-Por. A Gal-Bud.
F: (Jones) F Por S F Spa(SC). F Spa(SC) S F Mar-GoL. A Bur-Mar. F Bre MS F Pic.
F Hel-Nth S by F Lon. A Edi dies gracefully.

Retreats: F/E Edi disbanded. F/F Spa(SC) eliminated.

- R: StP Mos Sev Swe Ber Kie Ank Nwy Den Hol War +Edi +Rum +Bel = 14.
Builds F Sev, A War, A StP.
A: Bud Bul Gre Vie Ser Tri ~~Rum~~ Con Ven Rom Nap Tun Smy Mun +Spa = 14.
Builds A Bri (owed from last year)
F: Par Mar Bre ~~Spa~~ Por Lon ~~Edi~~ Lpl ~~Edi~~ = 6. Removes F Lon.

1972AEcn Spring 422

There were some errors last time, but as the notification (from Mike Sherrad) arrived after the deadline I'm going to discount them.

- ARG: (Jeffery) F Arg stand.
ATT: (Morrison) F Troi-Argo S by F Hydr. F Myrt & F Cret S F Zara. F Kyth-Lako.
F Patm-Dori. F Anap-Patm. F Saro-Kori(EC). A Kori-Kleo. F Kaly-Elis.
F Paro-Kykl S by F Andr.
BOE: (Davidson) F Pela MS F Magn. F NEub & F Eret(NC) S F Pela. F Kary S F Eret(NC)
F Tana-SEub. F GKor-Kaly S by F Lok2. A Orkh-Phks. F Ambr-Nion. A Akar-Ambr.
A A Amph-Hlpa. A Lari-Myla S by A Elim. A Tslt S A Elim. ((A Edes S MAK A Olym.
EPI: (cousins) F Keph stand. A Dodo & A Molo S A Hlpa. A Hlpa S A Tymp-Elim.
ION: (Doubleday/Crouch) F Skyr S F IkaS-SAeg. A Mile-Indo. F Eryt S F Khio-IkaS.
F Lero S F Khio-IkaS. A Ephe S A Smyr.
LAK: (Sherrad) A Thyr MS A Sell. F Lako-Sion. F Mess-Lako.S by F Gyth.
A Akha-Elis. A Arka-Azan. A Plln-Arka. A Myke MS A Siky. F Otha-Elis.
MAK: (Davis) A Pell-Edes. A Olyn-Myla.
PER: (Clark) DA Olyn-Magn C by DF Mend. DA Troy-Skyr C by F NAEg, S by DF S Aeg.
DA Mysi-Troy. DA Lemn unordered. Gs WThr, EThr, Byza, Kher, Indo, Thma, Khal, Kyme.

Retreats: PER/G Indo eliminated. ARG/F Argo eliminated. ATT/F Kaly disbanded.
ION/F Skyr eliminated.

NB: Steve Doubleday has resigned from this game. His place is taken by Tony Crouch, 35 Melbourne Ave, W Ealing, London W13.

You should get maps/rules/list of players with this issue.

BENJAMIN DISRAELI 6 bringing you news of Slobovia, an extremely boring and entirely mythical country where they talk about nothing but politics. They didn't even enter a team for the World Cup!

The unfortunate seven players (and Danish warlord Nicky Palmer) are getting the first part of this issue early: WB readers will have to wait.

What Rigged Election?

I knew the rules would cause problems....in this case the wording of 6.7 led some to believe that the splitting of votes in multiple constituencies between candidates of the same party would be followed in all Multiple Constituency situations. I had intended it to refer only to the transferable vote, not to the single vote used in the last election. What voters were being asked to do was list up to four candidates in no particular order. I assumed that where only one candidate of their party stood they just voted for that one person.

It's obvious who got caught on that one: my apologies to them.

I propose to increase the cost of assassinations fivefold, as the secret agents of the President get their teeth into the problem.

From our Lobby Correspondent

Notes from various right wing sources would indicate that the Nationalist Party is indeed attempting to form a government.

GARDINER: 'The Conservative Party gives formal notice that it is prepared to join the Nationalist/Fascist coalition in order to form a government'.

SHARP: 'I am willing to serve in a Nationalist Government'.

I have assumed that unless specifically stated otherwise conditions of service will be kept secret.

COA until October: David Gardiner to 3 Norland Rd, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3LP.

Slitz-on-da-Donaukanal: Party detectives have been working ceaselessly to disprove the baseless lies spread by the President about the series of accidents to parliamentary candidates. The full breakdown is now available.

One fell off a lighthouse. Four succeeded in breaking the world record for playing bridge in a paper dingy while going over the Cpeback falls. One tried to mail himself second class from Amersham to Beaconsfield and died of exposure on Crewe station. One went to see the Exorcist and died of boredom. One drank a pint of Whitebread tankard while flying upside down at 50,000 feet over a bed of six-inch nails; he landed safely but died in hospital. One was beaten to death with a herring. One hanged himself in the Museum of Modern Sculpture and was sold to an American for \$ 250,000 before anyone noticed. One attended a pop concert. One opened a letter from Belfast. One threw himself in front of a Bakerloc Line train and died of old age. Eleven were selected to play for the Democratic Party in a friendly match against Celtic - three of these committed suicide before the match and the rest were fouled during it. One was bitten by an orchid. One burst. One was electrocuted when trying to rewire an eel. One shot himself four times in the back of the head. Two were killed outright when their wheelchairs collided head on. One drank a gallon of petrol then swallowed an electric fire. And one is typing this ... AAAARRRRRGGGGGHHHHH!

Konigschloss: "Who are the Ganherir 8?" asked the Count. "And what's been happening in Borgkrebh? Why was I not informed?"

Inspector Cluseau of the Secret Police shook his head. "I can't find out anything about Ganherir - it's not on any of our maps. It was the beer festival in Borgkrebh last week, they had roasting pigs in the main square. The students at Borgkrebh University always riot around the town in the Beer Festival - according to police records five were arrested for being drunk and insensible in a public place."

This section is dated 26th June. The first budget from the Nationalist Party is awaited.

LATE NEWS!!!

The Nationalist Party have now decided to form a Government, without any formal allies. Their first budget is the same as their Party Platform in the Election.

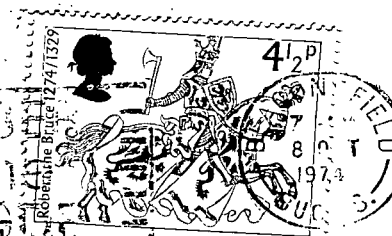
I now call upon all parties to submit their vote on the budget. This vote applies to both Assembly and Senate, and parties may abstain if they wish. As soon as all votes are in the result will be made known to all.

A second Parliament game has now started in MACHIAVELLIAN TIMES, GMed by one of our players, Graham Buckell. I am leading the Socialists. That game is 2/74, and this one is 1/74.

Rules are available from me and despite what anyone may say they are FREE, at least until I have to reprint them.

Fabulosa!
It's
WAR BULLETIN 58
from
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Bucks
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UK.

Richard Walkerdise (1)
"Cleritor"
15 Wood Oak Lane
Addlestone
Jurrey
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