

Obituaries and Such

As you will have noticed, WAR BULLETIN has not appeared since August. At first I had intended this to be a 'summer break', but it's now obvious that my interests have changed and WB has become a burden. So this sheet is to announce its demise.

Partly this is the old feedback problem. I'm a fanzine fan rather than a Dippyfan, and right now my other 'regular' fanzine gets more letters on a single issue than WB gets in a dozen. As you may have noticed I've tried various things: wargame articles, controversy, and most recently reviews, none of which have generated any correspondence worth printing.

And then I'm becoming more involved in other scenes: in 'Dungeons and Dragons', in Dippy variants, in playing FTF wargames, all of which are more fun than typing out WB. Most Dippyazines I get in trade I find uninteresting compared the SF and fantasy fanzines. I don't like the way the hobby in the UK is going, becoming centralised and introverted when I've always felt part of a diverse and world-wide fandom: the NGC is to blame for this I'm afraid, and while I don't agree with the methods of such as Will Haven I'm in sympathy with his concern for the hobby.

Enough of this.

Traders: enclosed is some cash, to be counted as a sub to your Dippyazine backdated to August. I expect to continue to sub to a few, but meanwhile this is an easy way of balancing up.

Americans: you will be receiving the same as above via the ISE. I am sending to Dave Johnson and Edi Birsan with this a list of people.

Players: As you will see 'Roses' finishes this time. A draw is proposed in 'Excalibur' and as Richard Walkerdine has resigned this seems a reasonable conclusion. 'Downfall' and '1973BG' I am willing to continue on a carbon copy basis. 'Parliament' must be dead now as only three players have indicated willingness to continue, and Graham Jeffery is definitely out, we have no standbys of course.

'Carthage' I'm not sure what to do with. I could continue it on a strictly irregular basis - perhaps if it was advertised as a fantasy game rather than a Dippy variant it would attract more interest?

I will assume that those playing in the above three games wish to continue. Other subbers get refunds - if I've got the amount wrong please protest if its too small, keep quiet if its too large!

'Carthage' will have no trades save for the 'obligatory' copies to Walkerdine, Buchanan, Bullock and some Milker Number person. Mick, Who's Where would be enough for a trade, I don't expect anything from anyone else.

'Carthage' will take no non-playing subs - if you want it you have to play, though this need only mean holding a single province.

Other scenes: My fantasy/F&SF game/history/pseudohistory fanzine NEWS FROM BREE had its 16th issue in August, including the rules for an abstract board game, book, fanzine and game reviews, and a list of books in print about Tolkien. Next issue will have quite a lot on 'Dungeons and Dragons'. NFB is free and doesn't accept money.

I shan't be completely disappearing from the Dippy scene, as DARIEN SETTLEMENT 4 due soon will continue with its mudslinging crusade for variants in Europe, this issue will have variants from Doubleday and Clark included. It is also free for the asking, an excellent way of keeping down circulation.

Anyone who remembers MIDGARD would be well advised to read NFB by the way, as plans are afoot for using the original world for a much revised game.

Downfall Solmath 1419 1973DCfc

ELV: (Crouch) FSOU, As Nen, ISE, Min unordered.
DWA: (Davidson) A Fcl-Blu. A Fld-GHa. A Bra-Shi. A Bre-Shi. A Ang-Ett.
A Crk-Gla. A CMi-Anu. A Val-NMi. A RRI MS A NRh. A Crn S A RRI.
SAU: (Jones) TA Gap-ISE. DA Dru-Ene. DA Ene-Min. DA Hdw-Hav. DA Wiz-Dun.
A EEm-Wol. A Wol-Cel. A Bro & A Dol S A Anu. A Anu MS A SMi.
A Cit S ELVES F SOU-Hav. A SGO-Hrd. A Wil-RRi. A Hel-Gap. A Ash-SRh.
A Kha-SGO. A SRh-NRh. A Sit-Leb. A UDU-Dag. A Nin stand. A Nit-Los.
A MDo-Ash. Nazgul Ash S A SRh-NRh.
SAR: (Innes) A Hol MS A Dun. A Rhu-Gla. DA Lor stand.
GAN: (Holt) unseen.

Errors: the last UMBAR army was wiped out last time, and several underlinings were missed - the observant players spotted all this!
Retreats: ELVES/A ISE, A Min disbanded. A NRh disbanded.
Saruman proposes a concession to Sauron! By my calculations every space has now been searched, so someone must have the Ring...I'd suggest the game can't end until the Ring is at least revealed.

ELV: RIV ~~LOR~~ ~~BY~~ ~~ISE~~ = 1. GM removed F SOU.
DWA: ERE Iro Ang RRI Crn NMI Crk Fld Shi Bre GHa +Blu = 12. Build A Iro, A ERE.
SAU: 3OB 4Moria 5Harad DOL Nit Sit Ano MTi Anu Bel Leb Wol Eas Lam Edo
Dru +ISE = 25. +Cit = 26! Build A UDU, A MMO, A Nur.
SAR: MOR Dun Hol Gla +LOR = 5. Builds A MOR!
UMB: ~~0~~ = 0. Out.

1973BG Autumn 1912

~~Er...yes-it-was-Spring-last-time!~~

G: (Waldie) A Kie S A Ruh-Hol. F Den-Nth. A Mun-Bur.
R: (Clark) A Gal S F Rum. A Tyr-Pie. A Pie-Mar. A Tri stand. F Yor-Lon.
F Nwy S F Bar-Nwg. F Swe S F Nwy.
T: (Cousins) F MAO-Por. F Wes-Spa(SC). F Tyr-GoL. A Ven S A Rom-Apu.
A Con-Alb C by ~~F/A/g/&~~ F Ion. A Ser S A Bul-Rum. F Gre unordered.
~~F: (anon) Fs NAO, Nwg, Eng, Hol, As Cly, Ruh, Mar, Apu unordered.~~

Retreats: F/Fs Nwg, Hol, A Apu disbanded.

G: Mun Ber Den Kie +Hol = 5. Builds ABER.
R: Mos StP War Sev Rum Nwy Vie Bud Swe Tri +Men +Lon = 12. Build F StP(sc), A War.
T: Con Ank Smy Bul Gre Tun Ser Ven Rom Nap +Spa +Por = 12. Build F Ank, F Smy.
F: Par ~~Mar~~ Bre ~~Spa~~ ~~Por~~ ~~Lon~~ Lpl ~~Ap~~ Bel Edi = 5. GM removes F Hel.

French moves from Ron Kelly (210, 225 Virginia Ave SE, Washington DC 20061).
Looks like I've blacklisted Richard Sharp!

TEMPUS CARTHAGONIS

4

Players: Duncan Morris is wintering in sunnier climes: % Anne Peebles, Dept of Zoology, Univ of Rhodesia, Box MP 167, Mt Pleasant, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

Roger Ayre (4 Canterbury Way, Jarrow, Tyne&Wear is playing, but I've lost his name, so we'll call him 'Mr X' for now.

Rules Railways must be announced a turn in advance. Thus it is not possible to disband a unit and use the excess capacity to build a rail section on the same turn. Railways that join up can merge, with appropriate share adjustments. Speaking of that, could railway owners remind me next time who owns their shares, I've mislaid that piece of paper....

Election for Emperor

The following persons have offered the named province as bond:

HS (Pla); ES (SEu); CM (Car).

CM intends to vote but is not standing for election.

Strumph: Winter 70

CM: builds F Car.

CBS: & F AVM removed.

HM: two owed, none received.

HS: no change. Disbands F MFr.

LT: builds A PTe, F TPr.

PA: builds A EDe; two owed.

SP: builds F Lac, F Ger, F Ath, one owed.

HB: builds F Spa.

ES: builds F S, A HBa.

Political

CM: appoint 'X' sub-ruler Oly.

CBS: -

HM: -

HS: appoint ES subruler Dac, Poc, Pla.

LT: appoint HM subruler '1'.

PA: purge ES commander A Per; subruler LMa.

SP: -

HB: -

ES: purge PA ruler LMa.

By rule 505, PA's purge takes precedence. LT questioned his revolt last time: you added another province Graham and should have accounted for this. Someone notes there are two 'TPa' provinces! From now on Terra Patentia is 'TPt' and Terra Paluster is 'TPl'. Province '1' is now Provincia Primus (PPr). ES announces his country as 'The Circlet of Amaranth'. I'm asked if strkh could be made anonymous: this is not the case in Slobbovia but I'll change if players wish it - opinions please.

Revolutions!

CBS has five provinces, none under subrulers. Terra Dactyl (TDA) revolts in favour of 'X'.

HM has six provinces, only one under a subruler. Witherspoonium (Wit) revolts in favour of 'X'.

SP has seven provinces, none under subrulers. Lactria (Lac) revolts in favour of 'X'. The fleet there throws a FOUR and must retreat, randomly to FLA.

Warnings

HM and SP are still liable to province revolt. SP is given first warning of military revolt, having five units.

Railway

3. Kappas Rail Co, which never started building, is replaced by the 'Great East by North-Eastern Carthaginian Rail Co (GEBNEC). CPo-Poc-Tyr. 20 shares.

Loda Balloni: (ES)

Captain Kirk stared at the viewing screen fixedly as he watched the advance of the Davidsingon fleet. Surely the Enterprisius could not escape detection in the face of the massed bank of sensors of forty ships: but there was no sign of any ship having sighted the Enterprisius.

"Down to the transporter room, Mr Spock, come with us Bones," cried the Captain. Even as he raced along the same interminable stretch of corridor dozens of times the sirens of red alert were screaming in his ears and by the time he reached the transporter room they were under attack. The captain could tell, he could see them shaking Camera 1.

"This is the Captain speaking. All report to the transporter room; we are beaming down to Athens."

"But Capt'un," came the hamming voice of Mr Scott, "you'll never do it. We're right out of Heineken and there's no hope of reloading supplies until we reach NGC 4151. And there's only my poor Scotch and the engines won't take it sir."

"There's only one thing to be done then Scotty - take the Youngs out of the photon torpedoes and Bones here can inject the crew with it."

W.1. (HB)

I think it was old Shakespeare - or some equally brainy bird - who said that just when things are going swimmingly, Fate has a nasty habit of creeping up behind you and letting one have it just below the ear with a sock full of wet sand. And by Jove, the fellow's right. It was one of those spring mornings with the entire feathered population of the Metropolis letting rip outside the bedroom window when I opened the buff envelope Jeeves had slipped in on the tray beside the e. and b.

I groaned. Jeeves, as usual, appeared from nowhere.

"Sir?"

"This missive, Jeeves, comes from my Aunt Agatha. She insists that I tootle off promptly to the tropics to assist some fellow called Barca to set himself up as head of some banana state or another."

"I had to some extent anticipated Mrs Gregson's request sir, and have taken the liberty of packing some lightweight suits of an agreeable cut."

"Dash it all, Jeeves, what does the cut matter at a time like this?"

Jeeves raised one eyebrow slowly.

"There is no time, sir, at which cut does not matter," he intoned.

But what did I care? I was feeling pretty - what's the word? - careworn. Careworn, don't you know. And distrait. Not to say peeved.

from Who's Who in Carthage (HS)

SCEPTII, Hyperbolicus. b.32, first son of Parabolicus S and Hethia Barca. Imperial Guard, Carthage 50-1; Lord of Poccus 51-; Advisor to Hamilcar 62-66; Member Imperial Heritage Soc 66-. m. 54 Angelica Dea, 1s b.57.

Bambaloni Yonius:

The recent decision of the people of Hesper Barbarium to opt for the rule of Ellipticus Sceptii and throw out old 'big brother' Hyperbolicus was approved by the Barbarium senate today. This is merely another facet of the rising popularity of Ellipticus who has also now been persuaded by the people of Labia Major to take over full control due to the incompetence of absentee landlord Polonius Artimus. However to show that this move is merely one of acquiescence with the wishes of the people the hand is now being placed in tribute to the next emperor.

Castra Poccus: (HS)

'Call in the Captain of the Guard', Hyperbolicus said, 'I wish to talk with Grévius Boddali Harm. The two of us shall have council. I have been too long away.'

When Grevious arrived Hyperbolicus said, 'Well Grevious, how goes the military situation?'

'I am afraid, sire, there has been a revolt in Hesper Barbarium and none of our forces were near enough to put it down. The people have sworn allegiance to your brother Ellipticus and we hear talk of a large army forming. The forces from Carthage have been recalled to defend against Polonius Artimus.—The knights of Camelot may decide to jump on the bandwagon, and then there are those Vermilion barbarians ... however sire, our fleet is defending the coast most vigorously — no ship will take us by surprise.'

'Perhaps too vigorously my dear Grevious — I have heard reports from Hannutica that speak of raiding and looting! No doubt, Grevious, you receive some of the spoils.'

Grevious turned as white as a sheet. 'I have done what I thought best, sire,' he finally stuttered.

'Do not look so ill,' said Hyperbolicus, 'I will forgive you. But why have you not removed the barbarian menace? Or built the railway? Or sent messages to the other Lords? Now I must put right these errors. First, I must call in the fleet, and then...'

'But sire, we cannot leave Castra Poccus undefended from the sea — some of our best men are there. We will have much more use for them in battle!'

'What battle is there with no enemies?' asked Hyperbolicus philosophically. 'And we need some of our best to build the GEBNEC railway!'

'Another railway, sire? Is that wise?'

'It is necessary my dear Grévius... You do not see far enough ahead! Also there is unrest amongst the townsfolk and farmers. I shall appoint my brother Ellipticus as Lord of Elaedes and Dacia and Duke of Poccus. Perhaps now he will support us.'

'You know he will not!' cried Grevious, who had an intense dislike for Ellipticus, 'he is a barbarian!'

'He is my brother, Grevious,' said Hyperbolicus sternly.

Stargate Frith: (HB)

'Well done you three,' said the Black Rabbit in his quiet melodious voice. 'Now for your next assignment I want you to rescue a couple of other characters from the same scenario. There'll be no statis worries but you'll need to go further back. It is necessary,' he continued, raising a paw to silence Bigwig's outburst. 'Hannibal's going to need some help, and Albert Ball was treated very badly — that ludicrous Black-Country accent!' And he snorted as he passed round the dandelions.

Castra Poccus (HS):

'To the Rulers of the divided Empire, listen to these words.

I, Hyperbolicus Sceptii, being the first in line to the throne of the late Hamilcar Barca, Emperor of Carthage, call upon you to trust in me and vote for me as Emperor. I promise to relinquish the throne to any legitimate heir who can prove his authenticity and who should come before me in line to the throne.'

Wars of the Rpses 1973DBfa Autumn 1463

RED: (Lavis) A Sur-Roc.
 WHI: (Clark) F Can-Roc. F Lon-Roc. A Col-Lon. A Bed & A Mid S A Clt-Ntn.
 A Sta-War. A Sou S A Che. A Car & A Ber S A Rox. A Don-Lin.
 F ERid-Tyn. F Nwh-Nor1. A Abe-Pem.
 NEV: (Sandell) F Dub & F IOW stand. A EMar & A War S by Cot.
 A Oxf S A Ntn. A Ber-Clt. A Ber & A Cae stand.
 SCO: (-) Fs Man, Sol, OB, A Dum unordered.
 FRE: (Prevot) F Nor1-Tyn. F Por & F Echa C A Lew-Exe. F Str-Nor2.S by F Tms.

Retreats: NEV/A Ntn ~~disban~~ eliminated.

Bedford: Jerry and I were both preoccupied as we stuffed useful bits and pieces into our TARDIS bags. "You'd better stick that M113 in as well," said Jerry moodily. He was right. We were going to need all the support we could get without Time Lord backup. We got on with our packing.

The rabbits were busy - Hazel was rigging the transmitters, Bigwig was keeping lookout and Fiver was maintaining stasis as the scenario folded about us. What a cock-up I8d made! Leaving Henry behind, thinking foreigners only needed two SCs to win, losing Sir Nigel Loring and Albert Ball. I felt especially bad about Ball, I'd liked that kid. Still, at least I'd had six years of being in the first person. How many of us PR resurrectionists can say that?

I caught Jerry looking at me. "While I was doing the keyboard on that Floyd gig, there was a bit of 'Dark Side of the Moon' that reminded me of you, H.B.," he began to sang: "Every year is getting shorter, ne

"Every year is getting shorter, never seem to find the time,
 Plans that either come to naught or half a page of scribbled lines,
 Hanging on in quiet desperation is the English way."

"You're right, Jerry," I said soberly. "I just never seem to get round to communicating adequately anymore. Still, all that will be different now."

"Yeah?" sneered Jerry. "Have you written to anyone yet?"

Hazel saved my floundering excuses. "Come on you two," he said firmly. "Fiver can't keep stasis forever."

As I looked at the lapine transmitters, I had last minute doubts. Still, the rabbits seemed confident, and what alternative did we have? I grabbed my pack, put the wired carrots in my ears and set the lettuce leaf on my head.

RED: Lew = 1. No change.
 WHI: Yor Don Der Che Lin Sca Lan Dur Bed Not New Cam Nwh Car Bwk Col Lon
 Sal Roc +Ntn +Pem +Can = 22. +Bri = 23!
 NEV: War Here Pen Glo ~~Bri~~ ~~Exe~~ Oxf Dor Win IOW Cch Cae Dub ~~Ntn~~ = 10.
 SCO: 2OB Dum Man = 4.
 FRE: 2OB Har Cal ~~Can~~ ~~Dor~~ +Exe = 5.

A win for Ken Clark, who also holds the King in Bedford.

Excalibur 1973DDfb Spring 456

Error: Lin was lost by Jutes last time, so F Was should have been removed.

JUT: (Davis) F Dei-Was.
 BRI: (Walkerdine) A Dev-Mer. A Lin S A Elm-Dev. A Cro-SGy. A SFo-Dur.
 A Nfo-Cro. F Vin-MCh.
 SCO: (Dagger) A Nwa-Crw. A Seg-Mer. F Mey-Dev. F Nir C A Man-Seg. F Heb stand.
 PIC: (Clark) F Dog-Ork. A Twe-Pif C by F For. A Cle S A Cum-Lan.
 A Cle S by F Ger. F Sir-Lun.

Retreats: none.

The Picts have offered a joint win to the Scots. Comments?