

Special slimline issue!

MAD POLICY

ISSUE
NUMBER
69!

Issue the sixty-ninth of the (so far) immortal MAD POLICY, a postal Bippyazine from Richard J. Walkerdine of 43 Chapel Grove, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey, KT15 1UG, England (Weybridge 40136). Cost per issue is 9p plus postage and there are openings in Regular Diplomacy at a 60p game fee (40p for IDA members) and in a couple of Mastermind variants at a 10p game fee. Several back issues still available for meagre sums. Piggott can't grow moustaches.

Today is Monday, June 13th, 1977.

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Only a 12-pager this time I'm afraid (though that is the length I prefer) as I'm a bit short of time this weekend - holiday preparations etc. So it's just the games, a bit of press (luckily you didn't send much this time so that's all right then) and only three or four pages of other stuff. Next issue will probably be about the same length and then we'll grow a wee bit I expect.

And speaking of holidays I'm away from June 18 to June 25 so don't bother trying to contact me between those days.

Right then, contents next...

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(The Annexe slumbers between pages 4 & 5 this time)

DEADLINES

MONDAY, JULY 4TH (Bourse, Annexe games)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6TH (all other games)

STANDBYES

Calls to RON KELLY ('Y'), BILL ORR ('AC' & 'AF'), ANTHONY DAWSON ('AD'). Ta.

COAs

DAVE PENGELLY to Poste Restante, Butterworth, Malaysia.

MARTIN FEATHER to 3 Green Close, Eastburn, Keighley, West Yorks, BD20 8UX (to 25/6)

PETE LINDSAY to Kingspark Cottage, Raderny, Nr Cupar, Fife, Scotland.

.....

There should have been the final repprt on 'W' game this time, but so far I've only got a summary from one player so I'm waiting one more issue in the hope that someone else sends something along. Some hope.

Mick Bullock says he can after all take over TFT, Boardman Numbers etc in the near future if I want him to. So I'm going to have a word with Paul Willey as soon as I can to see how he feels about it. Either way they will all be out of my hands within another week or two I expect and those of you who have been waiting for Numbers won't have to wait much longer. TFT subscribers will have their TFT subs transferred to the new editor within a few weeks unless they tell me not to (joint MP/TFT subbers will have a nominal 25-30p transferred for TFT, the rest to remain as their MP sub) - okay?

ROKKOR

by Paul Willey

Rokkor, an alien police officer in the body of Nick Morgai, is pursuing a killer of his own race. Gradon, the killer, has taken possession of the body of Colin Forbes and, shooting a farmer and Nick himself, has made his escape.

PART NINE

Nick struggled back to the surface of consciousness. There was some kind of soothing pulse in his head which he made no attempt to understand, and his left leg felt strange in a manner he could not define. He remembered Forbes shooting Jed in cold blood, and remembered the killer turning the gun on him. He had jumped just as the gun had gone off, but from that moment he had no idea what had happened. He recognised his surroundings as the interior of a Range Rover cab, and realised that Rokkor had taken control of his body. For the latter fact he was profoundly relieved: he could no more have controlled it himself than fly to the moon. An ambulance had drawn up beside the Range Rover, and Nick found himself opening the nearside door to admit the Red Cross men.

"There's a man up at the farm seriously injured," he heard himself say. "You'll need a stretcher, but you won't get the ambulance up there because the drive's a sea of mud. Get in. I'll take you up."

The ambulance men made some comments which Nick ignored, but he noticed they were following Rokkor's instructions. The Range Rover swung round in a wide circle and headed back towards the farm.

A few minutes later, Jed's inert body was lying on the back seat on a stretcher, and they were driving down the road once more. Nick waited until the farmer had been transferred to the ambulance, and heard his voice, telling the men he was injured himself. He climbed into the ambulance and laid down on the bed opposite Jed. When the vehicle was in motion, Nick felt Rokkor's control relax.

"How do you feel?" asked the alien.

Weak as a baby, Nick subvocalised. What happened?

"Any pain?"

No.

"You were shot in the leg. I've patched you up, and put your pain nerves out of action so you won't feel anything. I think you'll be all right, but I'd like the hospital to get a look at you just in case. There's nothing to worry about."

Nothing to worry about! I was shot at point blank range with a shotgun. I'll never walk again!

"Rubbish!" snorted Rokkor (or, at least making his 'voice' sound like a snort). "How do you think you got into the Range Rover? And you were conscious when you walked into the ambulance."

You're right, admitted Nick. Did he miss, or something?

"I told you I wasn't a parasite," Rokkor reminded him. "We are in a symbiotic union. You supply me with food and oxygen, and I repair you when you get shot, among other things... At present, I've replaced your damaged tissue with my own, but in time your own will grow back and you'll never know there was anything wrong."

There never would have been anything wrong if I hadn't come on this wild goose chase with you!

"Only an alien killer on your planet."

Well he's got away anyway, hasn't he?

"I got the number of his car. We'll pick him up again."

The ambulance drew up outside the casualty ward, and Jed was taken out. The men assisted Nick from the vehicle, and he passed out. Rokkor had decided that the ordeal of examination and treatment would be too much for Nick, so he applied a little pressure to the carotid arteries. He restricted the blood-flow just enough to cause Nick to lose consciousness, then started to change the body metabolism to put him into a natural sleep.

When he awoke, his leg was in plaster and a uniformed policeman was beside the hospital bed. "Can you tell us who shot you?" the bobby asked.

Nick and Rokkor had a rapid silent conversation. Rokkor had already decided how much it would be wise to tell the police.

"I'd never seen him before," Nick answered. "He was a young man with fair-

hair and blue eyes. About five foot eleven, slightly built, and wearing a sports jacket and flannels. He drove away in a green Cortina registration number ABZ 709K."

"That's very helpful, sir. Thank you very much. I'll ask the doctor to come in." So saying, the policeman closed his notebook and hurried off. He was soon replaced by a young man wearing a white coat and a puzzled frown.

"Well, Mr Morgan," he said, "you have created medical history. Your thigh-bone was badly damaged, and your femoral artery was torn, to say nothing of muscle tissue and skin damage. Yet all these things seem to have begun to heal themselves. The artery and the muscle tissue are working perfectly normally - yet such a thing is impossible without major surgery. If I hadn't seen it with my own eyes, I wouldn't have believed it. As for the bone, it's somehow been put back together, and in a month, or two's time it will have knitted into its new position and will be as good as ever it was. You apparently splinted yourself, and yet any normal person would have been paralysed with agony. Even now, you seem to be suffering no discomfort, and yet I've administered no pain killing drug. Another man would be creased up with pain. Perhaps you can explain all this?"

-- continued next issue.

//////////theguiltvundertakersighstnelonesomeorgangrindercrimesthesilversaxaphonessay

Zine Poll Revisited

As mentioned last issue I've had a further look at the results now and can give a bit more of a breakdown of the data.

The first thing I did was to have a look to see what evidence there is of any 'grudge votes' against particular zines, and to what extent these may have influenced the final result. So I took the top ten zines in the poll and split up the votes cast for them according to size, as follows:

Range of votes cast	Chim.	1901	Jig.	Dolch	Rats	MP	CH	AN	TH	PTN
0-1	-	1	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	-
1.1-2	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	1	-
2.1-3	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1
3.1-4	-	2	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	-
4.1-5	3	2	4	3	1	4	1	4	-	6
5.1-6	4	4	2	3	7	7	4	3	12	4
6.1-7	6	5	13	12	7	11	5	11	6	4
7.1-8	11	15	9	16	9	16	13	10	10	8
8.1-9	18	16	13	21	13	13	8	4	3	-
9.1-10	13	12	5	16	4	5	3	-	-	2

So what does it show? Well the distribution of votes for Chimera, Jigsaw, Rats and probably MP certainly look pretty much as one would expect - no evidence of anyone deliberately voting against a publisher there. In the case of both 1901 and Greatest Hits there does seem to be a rather long tail to the distribution, which could be due to grudge votes but from the degree of smoothness of the distribution as a whole I'd be more inclined to say that there is just a wider range of (genuine) opinion about those two zines. Ad Magazine looks normal enough, with the absence of votes in the highest sector indicating a dependable but unexceptional zine perhaps? Trojan Horse and Puppet Theatre look just a wee bit odd, though the absence of any votes in the 0-1 range makes it unlikely that these two suffered grudge votes either. Rather I'd say that perhaps TH got voted on by a couple of D&D haters, while in the case of PTN at least two readers are out and out Muppets fans while at least one definitely isn't!

Which leaves Dolchstoss. Just look at that column of figures up there. In the range from 4 to 10 the marks are exactly what one would expect for a zine that is universally recognised as one of the best. So how on earth can it pick up four

votes of 1 and two of 2 unless some people have deliberately tried to give it a poor mark in order to bring it lower in the poll? I would say there is clear evidence that Dolchstoss has suffered from (presumably) anti-Sharp 'grudge votes', although there certainly isn't any real evidence that anyone else has.

But how big a difference, if any, has this made? If those six dubious votes are removed, the final result for Dolchstoss becomes 586.9 votes from 72 voters for an average of 8.151. And that is enough to move it up to second place overall.

In summary I'm both pleased and disappointed; pleased that there is so little evidence of people playing silly buggers with the poll, but disappointed that it does seem to have happened to some extent. And I apologise to Richard Sharp for the fact that his zine is the one which has suffered. I don't see how people can be stopped from doing this sort of thing but I do wish they'd try to grow up.

oo00oo

The other thing I've done is to take up Bob Howes' idea of a publishers-only poll, by looking at the Zine Poll votes from only those people who publish a zine of their own. A total of 19 publishers voted in the poll, as follows (full zines only included this time):

<u>Positions</u>	<u>Zine</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Voters</u>	<u>Average</u>
1 (2)	1901 And All That	133.7	18	7.428
2 (4)	Dolchstoss	132.4	18	7.356
3 (6)	Mad Policy	131.8	18	7.322
4 (5)	Rats Live on no evil star	109.2	15	7.280
5 (1)	Chimaera	91.4	13	7.262
6 (7)	Greatest Hits	119.1	17	7.006
7 (3)	Jigsaw	103.4	15	6.893
8 (8)	Ad Nauseam	115.1	17	6.771
9 (9)	Trojan Horse	98.5	15	6.567
10 (12)	Eclipsor	85.2	14	6.086
11 (11)	Lemming Express	66.4	11	6.036
12 (10)	Puppet Theatre News	66.2	11	6.018
13 (14)	Ethil The Frog	75.7	13	5.823
14 (13)	Leviathan	93.0	16	5.812
15 (15)	Bruce	74.6	13	5.738
16 (16)	The Tinamou	62.3	11	5.664
17 (21)	Turn of the Screw	82.3	16	5.144
18 (22)	Gumaballs	80.2	16	5.012
19 (25)	Gallimaufrey	42.3	9	4.700
20 (18)	Fall of Eagles	18.5	4	4.625
21 (23)	Bumm	44.8	10	4.480
22 (17)	Sauce of the Nile	48.5	11	4.409
23 (19)	{ Pendulum	22.0	5	4.400
(24)	{ Vortigern	22.0	5	4.400
25 (28)	Bron Yr Aur	28.6	7	4.086
26 (27)	Nitehawk	8.0	2	4.000
27 (19)	Bellicus	43.7	11	3.973
28 (30)	Caissa	27.7	7	3.957
29 (26)	Shenandoah Services	31.2	8	3.900
30 (33)	{ AVAM	34.5	9	3.833
(29)	{ Courier	11.5	3	3.833
32 (34)	Japhidrew	58.6	17	3.47
33 (35)	The Norns	26.1	9	2.900
34 (31)	Albatross	27.5	10	2.750
35 (32)	The Polar Knight	5.0	2	2.500

Positions in brackets are of course the zines positions in the full poll as reported two issues back (again, taking full zines only). No vast changes really, which is about what I expected as I don't really see much value in this and am only doing it in response to the Howes idea. Interesting points are the slipping of Chimaera from first to fifth place and the fact that the publishers voted just over half a point less per zine on average than all voters combined.

1976ARbb ('AB' - 'multiplicity') Winter 1903 France, Germany big-in-the-middle?

ENGLAND (Keith Black): Builds F Lon for 8.

FRANCE (Paul Willey): Removes 2A Pic (leaving A Pic) for 3.

GERMANY (Duncan Morris): Builds A Mun for 6.

ITALY (John Lettice): Builds F Nap for 9.

RUSSIA (Graham Buckell): Builds 2A War for 7.

Gre still neutral.

Philatelist to whom it may concern: My apologies for not writing back -- there didn't seem much point, under the circumstances. Never fear, I shall write soon, with lots of detailed and devious strategies.

Loudon Wainwright VII of the Intergalactic Dippy Zine Corps: Episode 10: Deneb Ferry

As the ferry approached Deneb 16, Loudon decided to try out the cine-helmet, which hovered near the headrest of his seat. He selected the Terran programme. This turned out to be a 'minor Terran classic' entitled 'Wiggles sweeps the desert', a melodrama set in the period known as the Dawn of the Atomic Era. The programme was already near its end, not that Loudon had missed much: two unlikely looking characters were approaching a decrepit building, the scene was bathed in bright sunlight. The taller of the two spoke:

"Well, this Watneys pub seems a reasonable place to search for Yare. You take the left handside of the bar, Birks, while I take the right."

Obediently, his minion commenced myopic peerings at the unsavoury denizens of his side of the bar. "I've got 'im! I've got 'im!" screamed Birks. "e was tryin' to 'ide 'is face wiv a veil!"

The tall one with the prominent adams apple was clearly not impressed. "You cretin, Birks! That person is a woman. They all wear veils out here."

"Why, are they that ugly?"....

Loudon cast off the helmet with some relief. If that was a fair example of their culture, he thought, it's no wonder the Neo-Atomics nearly destroyed themselves!

Just then, the pink-tentacled hostess reappeared, and deftly fastened Loudon's seatbelt. A high-pitched whine confirmed that the ferry had reached the outer fringes of Deneb 16's atmosphere, and would shortly achieve touchdown...

-- to be continued.

Imrryr: Stay tuned to this zine for the thrilling sequel: Loudon Wainwright VII meets Professor Crinklecrud and the Runts of 61 Cygni C! (Cast of thousands, cost of millions, profit of billions - three days in the making!)

No Bourse this time 'cos it's winter. Orders required for next issue from Titan, East India, Berlin, Pratt, Thorby, Orr. Others on file.

(AB)

1976HY ('AC') -- Autumn 1904 Rapid growth in top left and bottom right.

ENGLAND (Keith Black): F Nvy - StP(NC), F Svc - Fin, A Bre S (GERMAN) A Par, F Eng S A Bre, I Spa(SC) throttles polecats and throws them at the French.

FRANCE (Dave Black): A Bur - Bel, A Gas - Mar, F MAO - Irl.

GERMANY (Jonathan Palfrey): F GoB S (ENGLISH) F Nvy - StP(NC), A Pic - Bel, A Ber - Sil S by A Mun, A Par S (ENGLISH) A Bre.

ITALY (Peter Berlin): F EMS - Smy, A Alb - Gre S by F Ion, A Vie - Bud, A Tri S (RUSSIAN) A Bud - Ser, F Adr - Apu.

RUSSIA (Ron Canham): MMR! A Sil A Gal A Bud A Mos F Fin F Sev u/o.

TURKEY (Anthony Dawson): A Ser S F Gre, F Con - Smy, A Arm - Sev, S by A Rum, A Bul S A Ser.

Retreats: Russian A Sil & F Sev both disbanded.

adjustments etc on next page...

1976IZ ('AE') -- Spring 1993 (Elder Statesmen's Spectacular)

What's this? An alliance forming? So soon?

AUSTRIA (Mick Bullock): A Ser - Tri S by A Vie, A Bul - Con, F Aeg - Ion,
F Tri - Adr S by F Alb.

ENGLAND (Richard Sharp): F NAO S F MAO, F Nth - Eng S by F MAO, F Nwy - Nth,
A Swe stands.

FRANCE (John Meadon): F Por MS A Spa, A Bre - Pic, A Bur - Pic, A Sil - Gal.

GERMANY (Bob Howes): F Den - Nth, A Bel - Pic, A Ber - Sil, A Kie - Den,
A Ruh - Bur S by A Mun.

ITALY (Roy Taylor): F WMS - MAO, F Ion - Adr, A Tyr stands, A Ven - Pie.

RUSSIA (Norman Nathan): A Smy S (AUSTRIAN) A Bul - Con, F Rum stands, A War - Pru,
F Bal - Pru, A StP - Fin, A Mos - StP.

TURKEY (Roger Collins): F Ank - Bla.

Retreats: French A Bur - Gas.

Roger Collins takes over the Turkish remains and Glyn Palmer, sadly, is blacklisted unless I hear from him in the near future. Thanks Roger.

And with all but one set of orders being phoned in this time it's not very surprising that there ain't no press....

(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AL)(AL)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)(AE)

You may not have noticed it but there was a five-minute pause there while Concorde flew over my house. Beautiful. I just don't understand New Yorkers - jealous I suppose. I could watch the thing all day long quite happily. When my firm build a plane they really make a good job of it (of course, Rolls Royce always give usousy engines to use....).

1977BX ('AF') -- Autumn 1901 Wassamarrer, don't you want any builds?...

AUSTRIA (Bob Armitage): A Tri - Vie, A Ser - Tri S by F Alb.

ENGLAND (Charles Burton): A Yor - Bre C by F Nth & F Eng.

FRANCE (Bob Howes): F MAO - Por, A Pic - Pre, A Bur - Bel.

GERMANY (Michael Allaway): A Kie - Den, A Ruh - Mun, F Hol - Bol.

ITALY (Pippa Hope-Piggott): NMR! A Tyr A Ven F Ion u/o.

RUSSIA (Paul Ward): A Gal - Vie, F Rum stands, F GoB - Swe, A StP - Fla.

TURKEY (Martin Feather): F Con - Aeg, A Ank - Con, A Bul - Gre.

Winter 1901 Adjustments

A: 4 Centres: Bud, Tri, Vie, +Ser. Builds A Vie.

E: 3 Centres: Edi, Lon, Lpl. No change.

F: 4 Centres: Bre, Mar, Par, +Por. Builds F Mar.

G: 5 Centres: Ber, Kie, Mun, +Hol, +Den. Builds F Kie, A Ber.

I: 3 Centres: Nap, Rom, Ven. No change.

R: 6 Centres: Mos, Sev, StP, War, +Rum, +Sve. Builds F StP(NC), A War.

T: 4 Centres: Ank, Con, Smy, +Gre. Builds F Smy.

Nwy, Bel, Spa, Tun, Bul still unclaimed.

Standby moves for ITALY please from BILL ORR (address on p6). Ta.

Vienna - Moscow & Rome: I don't remember sending out invitations.

Berlin - Paris: Sorry about the press last time. I did get your letter.

Turkey - Austria: Yes, you did. No, I don't, You don't have one.

Smyrne: His automaticance The Sultan wishes all his loyal robots a merry Christmas. Long may they be switched on to fight the protoplasmic hordes.

Utopia: Dylan? DYLAN?! My god man (I think) have you no morals? West Ham as well. Jesus, you really are in a bad way. We (chelsea ((whoever they are))) will show them how to play football next season, with support away, ban or no ban.

Imrryr: Sorry, there's just no argument. Dylan simply rules. He always has, he always will. And anyone who thinks otherwise should take the time to sit down and listen to him, then maybe you'll discover where his imitators got their ideas from. As for chelsea I'm surprised they have time for football with all the effort they put into rioting and maiming the opposition - go to Upton Park and discover how to behave properly (on and off the pitch).

Utopia?: Hawwind, of course - who else likes androids?

Imrryr: Now they I admit are a bit better - at least they've got Mike Moorcock to help out. Avoid the book though, it's a big disappointment.

(AF)
1977???? ('AG' - Rather Silly Diplomacy) -- Spring 1901 etc Robuts winning!...

AUSTRIA (Conrad von Metzke): A Vie - Bud, A Bud - Ser, F Tri - Alb.

ENGLAND (Stewart Buckingham): F Edn - Nrg, F Lon - Nth, A Lpl - Yor.

FRANCE (Pete Lindsay): A Par - Bur, F Bre - Pic, A Mar stands.

GERMANY (Keith Black): A Mun - MBU - Pie, F Kie - Den, A Ber - Mun.

ITALY (John Lettice): A Ven - Pie, A Rom - Ven, F Nap - Ion.

RUSSIA (Peter Berlin): F Sev - Arm, A Mos - StP, A War - Ukr, F StP(SC) - Fin.

TURKEY (Selena King): F Ank - Bla, A Con - Bul, A Smy - Arm.

JESTER (Michael Allaway): has jested!

THE DOCTOR (John Smith): Tardis lands in....MAO! (was that where he aimed for? if not blame Claire - she threw the dice...)

THE SOOTHSAYER (Keith Loveys): both wrong! Tut tut...

THE MASTERMIND (Paul Segal): 'What ends with the doxology 'per ipsum et cum ipso et in ipso', etc....'

....look out, there's llamas about....BLAM! SPLAT! KERPOW! Oh dear, I'm afraid that English F Nth, French A Bur, French F Pic, Russian A Ukr are with us no longer (heh heh)....

And as if that wasn't enough, a horrible BORG suddenly appears in...er...um.... SERBIA (the only unit with three neighbours) and gobbles up the Austrian army there - bye bye Austrian army.

And what's this? A herd of SEA MONSTORES suddenly appears in...HELIGOLAND BIGHT. Oh dear....

Well what do you think of the game so far? In a masochistic sort of way I rather enjoyed that. To avoid just a little confusion your remaining llama herds are as follows:

One new rule just adopted which I'm not going to tell you about(!).

One new rule proposed by Peter Berlin. The board is a sort of sphere, with the N/S edges joined and the E/W edges joined (allowing Syr - StP, Mos - MAO etc). I'm not too convinced about this one so it goes up for a vote from you lot - yea or nay with your next set of orders please.

Tip for next season. Order lots of builds, with five annihilations in spring '01 there's no telling what might happen next season.

Oops...one more thing. A GENTLEMAN has been selected and will remain such until winter '02.

Schicklegrubenberg-arn Rhein: Herr Schwarz extends a warm welcome to the other ten loonies of the RSD Revival Society, and thanks RJW for this opportunity for

us to display our various mental derangements in public by means of his aptly-named zine. For too long we have been derided and mocked. Many of us have been (and some are still) locked away as criminals. Now at last we have the chance to show what we are capable of. Europe will doubtless change beyond all recognition under our control, and I fear that the strain may prove too great for some of us. Who will be the first to crack? Probably RJW himself (I don't think he really appreciates what he has let himself in for...)

Moscow - Ankara: Are you really yellow?

Berlin - London: Go for France if you wish, but keep well away from Belgium, right?
(AG)

New Games & Waiting Lists

First of all the start of 'AH' game:

- AUSTRIA: Bill Orr, 52 Burnthill Cres., Glengormley, Newtownabbey, Co Antrim, N Ireland.
- ENGLAND: Paul McGivern, 37 Cleveland Gardens, Newcastle 7.
- FRANCE: Neil McDonald, Durweston House, Durweston, Blandford, Dorset, DT11 0QA.
- GERMANY: Keith Loveys, 25B South Norwood Hill, London, SE25.
- ITALY: Eddie Horsup, 4 Rotherfield Way, Caversham, Berks.
- RUSSIA: Bill Dove, 27 Davos Close, Woking, Surrey; GU22 7SL.
- TURKEY: John Herlihy, Travellers Rest, Durweston, Dorset, DT11 0QG.

And now the unpleasant business of money. After deducting the game fee (IDA discount for Paul, John and both Bills) but before paying for this issue credits are as follows: Orr 18p, McGivern 158p, McDonald -41½p, Loveys -11½p, Horsup -47p, Dove 22½p, Herlihy 497p. Work out for yourself what you need to send me.

Deadline for spring '01 orders is nominally next issue but you may have a double deadline (i.e. MP71) if anyone asks for it.

That seems to be the lot, so best of luck and may the nastiest stabber win.

'AI' (Regular): Evans, Miller, Dawson, Feather, Plater, Willey, Agar. Preference list needed from Dawson please. Starts in MP/2.

'AJ' (Regular): Crouch, Side. 5 more needed. Starts in MP/5.

Monstermind (3x5-digit numbers): Muller, Willey, McDonald, Dawson, Bidwell, Forster. Guesses on file from first three named. Will start next issue if the other three would submit guesses by then. Three or four more names would be nice.

Multimind (5x3-letter words): Muller, McDonald, Dawson, Bidwell. Guesses on file from first two. Start next issue and again a few more names welcome.

(I'll explain the scoring system yet again when the games start).

////vickersgunbusbristolfightersopwithcamelhawkerhartbristolbulldoghawkerfury/////

IDA News

If you remember we left the IDA trying to decide which of two possible Presidents to accept and what to do about the British votes. Now read on...

Having held a vote among the Council members which resulted in a 4-1 in favour of Heuer it seems that the Council have decided they will have to keep on voting until they get the right result! Latest news is that they have now reversed their earlier decision and given the Presidency to Lakofka after all. But just to make sure that their position was perfectly understandable they also voted on two other matters: one to decide whether foreigners (foreign to USA that is) should be able to join IDA, the other to decide whether the British votes should be counted. The result was that they decided foreigners were eligible to become members of IDA. Aha! you say, so the British votes are therefore eligible too? Well, not quite. You see although the Council has now agreed that the US IDA may have foreign members they also voted in favour of excluding the British votes in the recent election. In effect it means they will allow overseas members to join so long as those members act in the way the Council wishes.

More fun-packed news when I get it.

Hobby News

Another zine folds. Pete Birks has folded Greatest Hits after 37 issues. All those Poker articles, political arguments, cartoons, unintelligible letters from Adrian Baird and some of the best press in the hobby will be no more. Pete will continue the games by carbon copy but when they finish that's the end. The old school is certainly thinning its ranks these days and it's a dreadful shame. Sorry to see you go Pete, really.

The Dolchstoss Player Poll results are now out and contain few surprises. The top ten players are Prevot, Sharp, Johnson, Holborn, Palmer, Ball, Wakefield, Ovens, Godfrey, Jarski. All very good players and few would dispute their worth. It's particularly nice to see Roland in the top spot - well done all.

Diplomacy World seems to be in for a bit of a change with Walt Buchanan remaining as publisher only while the editing of the zine passes to Conrad von Metzke - should liven it up a bit. That's assuming it's true of course: I didn't react when Conrad claimed to have lung cancer, and sure enough that turned out to be an April Fool. Still, the DW news has been so widely reported I suppose it must be true, in which case good luck!

Tony Crouch gets his name added to the list of Calhamer Awards judges, but nominations for awards are a bit slow coming. Come on you other publishers, give me a hand with a bit of publicity huh?

Speaking of Crouch his new zine Rhubovia is now up to its fourth issue and seems to be getting going quite nicely. Diplomacy for £1 and Bourse for 30p and the zine costs 2p per side plus postage (currently 4 sides, soon 6 I expect). Write to Tony Crouch, 35 Melbourne Avenue, West Ealing, London, W13.

The NGC's Pimley Memorial Award results are now finalised and end in a win for Richard Sharp, with Don Turnbull second and yours truly third. Few would argue with that I suspect. Tip for next years winner - Nicky Palmer by a mile.

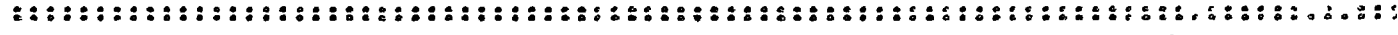


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36 (TTP)



And that's it for another four weeks. Sorry it's a bit on the short side. Future attractions will include a wander round the various bourses and a quiz that only I will be able to complete! Bye.



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