

AROUND THE BEND

UP



"Did ye call wor baby a poof?"

Issue

Twenty - Six

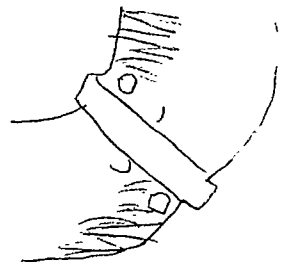
December 1993

50p + postage

HOUSECON
see back cover

THE MASTERS OF THE HOBBY
Number 7 in a series

Fr. H-- B--- and Sr. J--
H----- of Stafford pay a
social call to Fr. R--
M---- of Leeds



UP AROUND THE BEND

(Issue 26, Coldcom Press 47, Pretend Family Fanzine.)
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(phone 0785 213259, work fax 0785 228317)

Up Around The Bend (called in vulgar parlance U-Bend) is a five-weekly postal games zine which appears every five weeks (this is not a redundant statement -- I know a five-weekly zine that hasn't appeared in nine months, right Bate?) at the cost of fifty pence plus postage per issue, to your door, or a flat fifty in your hand. (I had a flat fifty in my hand once and nearly got arrested). The management is pleased to inform viewers that due to our wise "cheap-but-postage-extra" system, we are able to absorb the postal increases at cost, as opposed to some flat-rate zines which have bumped the price up by 25p or so. Overseas subscribers -- hello, Michael Quist and Kern Dingsdale -- get stuffed by this, unfortunately, thanks to the post office's decision to increase overseas rates to the point where only multinational corporations can afford them. Them's the breaks, as Steve Davis said.

Waiting Lists [* = preference list/setup received]

DIPLOMACY: Edward Ainsworth, Kim Head? 5/6 wanted. Also, a possible vacancy in 'Euwe'.

ILLUMINATED VAIN RATS [Dip vt]: Nobody expressed a preference at all about the amalgamation with Mopsy's list, so shall I take it that we can forget this?

BREAKING AWAY [GM David Oya]: Haz Bond, Dave Lomas, Kim Head, Mark Stretch, Alex Richardson. 1 wanted.

GRAND SLAM: Martin Draper, John McCoubrey, Mark Stretch, Rob Moore, Kim Head, John Miller, Richard Walkerdine, Bob Holliday*, Dave Lomas, Alex Richardson, Ian Harris*, Denis Jones*, Geoff Brown*, Steve Guest. Come along, just 2 more now.

INFANT DIP/TEENAGE DIP?: See editorial. Kevin Head? Gavin Underhay?

SEISMIC DIP: Rules forthcoming. 7 wanted. (Memo to self: remember to get rules out of Rich Jackson before he goes gadding about overseas).

BUS BOSS: I'm currently having great fun with this in Hopscotch, so how about a list here? Map preferences will be taken into consideration. 4-7 people? (BB is another jolly fun game from the Rostherne stable. Buy it and cheer David Watts up -- his trade has been abysmal of late.)

SOPWITH: Anyone for another game of this? 6 wanted.

MARSHALSEA GAOL: the debtors' prison

Goodbye to: Mike Clark, James Nelson, Iain Bowen

The following are sailing close to the wind: Campbell, Dingsdale, Underhay, Cattle, Wightman, Lomas D., Keys, Gordon, Breakwells, Bate!.

Special note to ROB MOORE: if I don't get a SIGNED cheque out of you soon I'm going to start charging interest on your overdraft! The NatWest would probably have sent the bailiffs to Otley Road by now.

Inside Deadline: TUESDAY JANUARY 25TH, 1994.

Outside Deadline: Saturday January 22nd

And yes, these are the right way round this time.

Outside GMs:

Paul Slade, 164 Park Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 7NE

Geoff Brown, 65 Scotland Hall Rd. Newton Heath, Manchester M10 6RE

David Oya, 24 Kingsway, Banbury, Oxon OX16 9NY

Your remaining credit is T

EGOLAND

editorial

Well, that's Yuletide survived for another year. I am not a great fan of Xmas, largely because everything always seems to go wrong at it. This year Lee had a chest infection and we've had the worst nights with him since his birth, and we've had to call off our Scottish excursion at New Year. Which means, at least, that you get U-Bend in time to wish you a good new year and the best of luck for 1994. Thanks to all those who sent cards etc., and the usual apologies about there being far too many of you to send you all one. If you must, you can pin this up over the mantelpiece and think of it as a card from Joy and I.

Oh yes, and the shower nearly fried me the other week. It turned out that the redundant pull-switch in the ceiling wasn't redundant, that the previous occupants had wired up the shower (30 amps or so) with a 12 amp socket and 1 amp wire, and that it was a total miracle that it had lasted this long. That will be £258, please, sir. Ching! Thank you.

There's been a reasonable response to the idea of a 'junior' game, much greater in fact than I was anticipating, which is most heartening (I was thinking mainly of stirring up a few thoughts, if the truth be known). There have been quite a few bites at the bait, but some queries have been raised as to whether Dippy is a good game for kids of this age and (presumably) attention span. I suppose the thing to do is get the interested parties first and then find a game that they can all agree on.

Persons of a nervous disposition, or a reactionary one, may wish to skip this next bit:

MY LIFE IN THE DEMI-MONDE by Haz Bond

I don't want you lot thinking, like Allan Gordon (bless his cotton socks) seems to in the letters, that the birth of Lee has made me a different person in any way to what I was before. (Well, it has; I'm more tired and more emotional about him, and so on. But you know what I mean). The same things make me tick as ever did, capische?

In actual fact, I was intending to stir my stumps and set in print my views on the events in the world of sexual minorities this year, in any case. Allan has provided the push to get Joy to look after Lee for a while as I trawl my battered, rickety old memory for just what happened. And thus I can say, without hyperbole, that if you enjoy this piece, you may thank Allan Gordon. (The chap also does excellent cartoons, I might add. Check out Spring Offensive sometime).

The 11th Bisexual Conference (Nottingham, 1993), then, took place (or 'occurred', as those of us say who habitually use polysyllables) in October. Joy, I and baby all attended, though we thought it wise to skip Friday and arrive early on Saturday, since Lee had never slept away from home before. This was probably fortunate, since the heating at the university had conked out and some delegates were having to sleep three to a bed for sheer warmth. (Or so they told the cleaners who barged in in the morning. The News of the World -- "Tell Wanker's Weekly!" -- was sceptical).

Partly due to Lee's presence, but mainly due to other reasons, I didn't get to all that many of the workshops on offer. Other reasons? Well, let's put it this way. Many of my close friends, and the vast majority of my close friends outside the hobby, show up at BiCon. All too many of these I never see anywhere else. Therefore I tend to spend all my time catching them and indulging in long, beautiful conversations, and forgetting the existence of all around me.

The various workshops, incidentally, were being run in rooms labelled with names of various famous bisexual people, which I thought was a nice touch in the main, though I found it hard to go into Richard Fairbrass without a shamefaced look. Most of them were pretty decent, though Simone de Beauvoir was a typical university lecture theatre (freezing cold, dreadful acoustics, and the speakers five miles below the back row of seats).

This last characteristic made the Countdown on Spanner workshop a little strained for latecomers. I went along mainly to see what the other attendees-attenders delegates people there thought of this celebrated legal mess (see U-Bends passim), but even I learnt some new things, such as the fact that the infamous video is now, apparently, being shown to police training courses as 'a typical example of homosexual activity.' Ello, ello, ello... Also that the judges in the Appeal Court knew a lot more about what was going on than I had thought, and only really objected to the fact that it was a load of puffs doing it, rather than physical damage (which was much less than the tabloids claimed). Then again, they were all public school men and thus knew all about caning.

I shan't say much about the subsequent SM for Practitioners workshop, since reporters were excluded; just (a) no, of course we didn't go in and immediately have kinky sex sessions with one another, and (b) it's bloody embarrassing being the worst person in the room at tying a knot. I always had the same problem in the Cubs (before I got expelled -- I'll tell you about that sometime). The Building an SM Network, though, went most encouragingly, at least the part where I was present and not looking after Lee outside (Joy having taken care of him during the previous one).

Then there was a workshop called 'A foot in both camps', which to be honest I only went to because the parallel workshops all looked dull or inappropriate. It was, I'm pleased to say, a very stimulating affair and helped me get my head together in many ways, not all of them connected to sexuality other than tangentially; for example, just why I feel lost if I haven't some form of further or higher educational establishment to call home, work at, or otherwise be able to escape to at short notice.

What else? The Saturday night disco, with a very raucous Gothic band which most people ignored and hid in the bar, and one hobby personality being led round on a lead (no, not me or Joy). Finding that we'd forgotten to bring Lee's carrycot (this was, after all, the first time since he was born we'd spent a night away from home) and having to put him to sleep in a drawer from the bedside table. The fridge, which was ferocious enough to freeze all Lee's bottles and a carton of orange juice I put in it. The creche, which we thought Lee too young to go in, but whose occupants all had a tremendous time, if the times when they paraded round the building wearing facepaint were any indication. The bisexual baby boom, including the threatened bid by our friend Ruth's unborn child to become the youngest person there (she was in fact born a fortnight later). Putting a notice on the noticeboard asking if anyone had heard the current chess results and finding another nameless hobby member had written underneath "3-way draw F/G/T 1908". And the closing ceremony, where Sister Endorphin of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence led us in a rousing chorus of 'Amazing Grace' to scenes of linked arms more usually seen at a Scottish hogmanay. What a good time I had.

In conclusion, I may urge anyone reading who has an interest in sexuality, gender or just plain partying, no matter how they define themselves, to go along next year (Edinburgh) -- apart from anything else, there is a wonderful atmosphere and everything is great fun.

The SM Pride march which tramped through London at the other end of October was less of a high, but satisfying nevertheless. We arrived in London early, paid a visit to gay's

The Word bookshop, and spent a lot of money we didn't have. Taking the tube to Marble Arch, we emerged into Hyde Park to see no sign of any march -- only two figures in black leather, one of whom proved to be Nina W, who I used to know when I lived in London -- I knew she was a snappy dresser but had no idea she would be interested in this sort of thing. We repaired to Macdonalds' for a milk shake and Nina inserted herself into a corset under the eyes of the burger brigade. Not to be outdone, I put on my neck restraint, and we went to see if there was any march to be seen. There was, and we had to hurry to catch it up.

The SM Bisexuals' banner, I am pleased to say, was the biggest one there and we tucked in behind it. Joy had refused to walk me on a lead, pointing out that to do so with a baby in her other arms was to invite Sun photographers to take advantage of her. I wound up as one of three men being led by Nina.

The march passed without incident, and the rally at Trafalgar Square looked pretty interesting, but Joy and I had to leave early on to make it back to the University of London Union for our workshop -- we had offered to run one on SM parenting and had our hands bitten off by the organisers, who were far from overburdened with such offers. The workshop, for its part, was far from overburdened with participants, but those who were there formed some interesting conclusions about childrens' sensibilities, such as their ability to bat no eyelids at the concept of grown-ups playing games -- after all, they themselves know all about that, though I hope that when they tie each other up during cowboys-and-indians that's as far as it goes....

The main afternoon event was an open debate on whether SM was an individual sexuality, or an adjunct to the standard homo/bi/hetero scale. Regular readers will know where I stand on this one. I stood up at one point and made the usual idiot of myself I make whenever I attempt to speak in public. Oh well.

We went out for a pizza after this with a couple of people, one of whom is the only other SM-bisexual librarian I know (other than the one who got bumped off by Ireland the serial killer), and with whom we discussed the failings of the Dewey system and the other standard library classifications when it comes to sexual issues. She also showed me a short story she'd written, but I guessed the twist well before the end, which annoyed her.

After the meal Joy and the baby retired for the night. I dropped them off in Wimbledon and returned to ULU for the evening party, to which I got free admittance due to my workshop facilitating. Up the stairs towards the disco, and bloody hell! Where was everyone? The room was stone empty, save for a fat bloke in a jockstrap dancing in a corner and looking a total arsehole (I admit that I am also fat, but I know my limitations, and few things if any would induce me to dance in a jockstrap).

It turned out that everyone was either at Miss Prim's Academy, a light-hearted example of the school scene that so many people seem to be into (I can never see the fun in going back to school myself) or up in the bar. I went up to the bar, where a circle of my pals were round a table playing 'truth or dare'. I joined them and had one of the most memorable experiences of my life. To protect the innocent I shan't reveal any of the events that went on at that table over the next two hours. I did, however, somehow fail to have to do any dares myself, which didn't half annoy me at the time, but with hindsight I may have escaped lightly.

Eventually the game wound down, and since it was now two in the morning, I rather started winding down as well. I can't claim that the event caused a great activist leap forward this year like it did last, but a good time was had by most, I think.

stichomythia
the letter column

Allan Gordon This lettercol is improving! All it needs - now that you've outgrown
London the silly sensationalist bit - is a curb applied to Joy's
 increasingly boring militancy, for it to be very nearly interesting!

[[Faint praise indeed.

[[As a matter of fact, Allan, the 'silly sensationalist bit' was never intended as such. That you have taken it so disappoints me, for it means that I have failed in my appointed (self-appointed, natch) task. I am fully aware that my lifestyle is relatively outre (though there are more people on my mailing list with things in common than one might think); I seek neither to convert nor to shock (nor, lordelpus, to titillate). I just happen to think there are two important points at issue; imprimus, there is an awful lot of ignorance about minority lifestyles, and by writing about mine I hope to be able to dispel some of this in a small way; secundus, too many people, including otherwise quite sensible ones, think that you can describe someone sufficiently by saying 'a West Indian', 'a lesbian', 'a paraplegic' etcetera. I don't suggest, Allan, that you necessarily do this, any more than I suggest that 'a cartoonist' is a sufficient label to fully delineate your good self; but one person doing it, as the old saw goes, is one too many. There are West Indian stamp collectors, and lesbian bellringers, and paraplegic poets, and in my case, there's a bisexual sadomasochist who edits a postal games zine.

[[There's also the fact, as I pointed out in issue 1 (the sample which presumably swayed you to subscribe in the first place), that I write best about myself, because that's what I know best. Lord knows that I don't see eye to eye with Pete Birks overmuch these days, but when he says I lack experience and am idealist, he's right (up to a point, Lord Copper). I have no fears, when I write about myself, that I stand open to correction by someone else who knows the topic better. And finally, I enjoy writing the damn stuff, which is the ultimate acid test for anything done as a hobby, innit. Ginge?

[[As for Joy, I'm sorry you find her letters boring. Like all letters, they are selected and edited on the grounds of what interests me (see Piggott, *passim*) and I have reason to believe that they also hold interest for many readers (they must certainly hold interest for other editors, at the rate the other zines print them). It would be possible to theorise over why you find them threatening, but I shall leave that as an exercise for the reader. There are always plenty of other correspondents if you really can't stick her, I suppose. A new entrant to the lettercol stakes is:]]

Kim Head I haven't been to any cons but I'm deeply into postal gaming it seems
Plymouth (sort of crept up on me) and I have two children of an age to play
 postally.

My younger son is genuinely not very interested despite quite enjoying board games -- I think he looks upon it a bit like homework, really.

The eldest is, I suppose, getting to the age where he is not considered a child any longer -- he'll be 16 soon. He is interested -- in fact he plays one or two commercial PBM games. He is always on the lookout for ways of saving money so zines make sense for him. He doesn't play in any, though, largely because I don't know what the reaction of editors is to more than one player for one sub. I know your views now, I think. What about others?

I hope you get a good response to this idea, but I'm not convinced that you will. Anyway, in the meantime perhaps you could put Kevin on your list - if he isn't too old.

[[Two players under one sub? Reactions vary. Borealis wouldn't mind, for one; Obsidian has Ian and Samantha Harris both playing; Dolchstoss probably would let you, as Richard is a great defender of the right of two brothers to play in one game (a practice frowned on in some zines, especially American ones, where it would get the game declared irregular and declined a Boardman number -- honestly, sometimes I just can't understand these people). I know for a cert that Y Ddraig Goch would turn you down. I would be quite happy, especially given the lack of financial power on the childrens' part, though I would ask you to light a fire under Kevin if necessary. In actual fact the situation has already come up here -- I let Stuart Tweedy play along with father Tom, before Tom decided I was a nasty filthy pervert and resigned from his game without notice.]]

Please tell Alan Parr that I'm worse at more games than he is, so there.

If it is going to get another year to get your next game of Diplomacy under way, I'd like to go on the list. I wouldn't want to start too soon (!) - too much on.

I was intrigued by Jay's choices of cat names. Our cat has just died and we are hoping to get twin kittens soon.

You say that you don't understand why people of intelligence use pornography and yet you say you have a 'soft spot' for Pat Califia. Bit of a contradiction in terms, don't you think? I'm supporting Feminists Against Censorship myself, but not literally, I don't think I'd be up to it these days.

[[There's a difference between drinking and alcoholism, and there's a difference between reading Pat Califia and being addicted to porn. At least, I hope there is. I grant you that I am on sticky ground here. I could use the old Lady Chatterly 'redeeming social and literary importance' escape clause, but it always seemed like a copout to me. I could point out that there's a difference between Califia and Razzle, or page 3 of the Sun, but Dworkinists would dispute that and I can't claim they have no evidence on their side (unlike the case of gay male porn -- 2000 words, please, on how that degrades women, for homework tonight). I could even advance the argument that Califia's SM writing caters for an underprivileged group and as such the power-imbalance that mars most heterosexual pornography is less of an issue. But when it comes down to it, I have to blush and say that I think I have a Good Attitude and most men have a Bad One, which sounds sententious, priggish and self-righteous (which is why I hide it behind Spurious Capital Letters). I do not claim to be perfect or free of such inconsistencies.

[[It's nice to have someone else who's heard of Pat Califia around, mind you...

[[I don't know enough about Feminists Against Censorship to make a total judgment; all I know is that their leading light Avedon Carol has a knack of pissing people off (she once punched me in the face for quoting someone else calling her 'Mrs Hansen' as an example of what I didn't like), and though I'm on speaking terms again, I can't say I am her greatest fan.]]

David Oya You do know that the disk you returned to me was blank, don't you? It
Banbury didn't have any Cactus orders on it. (There weren't even any hiding in the
 disk wallet. I shone my torch in, couldn't see a thing).

There is a lingering feeling in my mind that you may have had something to do with the London Underground RR map. I'm probably wrong, but if you have a copy, please send it

compulsory 'repatriation' for blacks, including those born in this country who have never been outside it. Eurgh.]]

Re your 'Junior Dip': a good idea no doubt and I will approach my own teenage daughters (when the time is right) and ask any of them if they fancy giving it a go. My gut reaction is that they (along with probably most other kids of Dippy folk) will say 'No'. This must in part be due to the fact that the majority of the public at large also give the hobby the thumbs down, so why should the kids be any different? I also feel that there is a 'generation gap' issue too. Cos Dad (or Mum) does it it must be naff and square and not at all cool. It does not easily fit into the music/fashion/other 'sex youth culture' which makes any attempt to sell it a bit of an uphill struggle. I do wish you luck and agree that the best idea would be to run it by flyer... gunboat? Maybe, or perhaps ask the question standard Dip or Gunboat. Maybe even another game completely, something designed to easily introduce the player into the very concept of playing games by post.

[[Such as? Railway Rivals?]]

Rob Moore
Leeds Now, I love my job (especially after 11 months out of work!) but there are two distinct disadvantages that I have found to working in a University. First is the students. Yes, I know it's only 18 months since I was one of the great unwashed too, but that makes no difference when I can't get on a computer or have to wait to get served at the bar!! The trouble is, I still look like a student, obviously I need a set of sandwich boards with something like "I am staff, worship me" written on. Well it'd help pull the birds anyway.

I guess I shouldn't joke about sexist comments like that, especially when the second disadvantage comes along. There you are, sat with the lads and a pint of Landlords, innocently looking at the peaches and suddenly some militant is sticking a 'No means No' leaflet in your face. I appreciate the problem, some blokes can manipulate friendships for sex, but I'm getting sick of being labelled a rapist. This date rape thing has been so hyped up on campus now I would feel quite insecure asking someone to go out for a drink, let alone spend the night with me! I guess it's the same with most aspects of campus politics though, only the extremists can be bothered to make themselves heard, so it all gets lopsided.

What annoyed me most was the feeling that as a group of 'lads', we were specifically targetted for special attention. Thanks but if I want to be patronised I'll go to the DHS.

Of course another reason why I wouldn't ask a fresh faced undergrad out for a drink, is that my fiancée would murder me, but, hey, that's life.

[[I'm rather disappointed at these comments, since they appear not too dissimilar to those of a complete sexist pig. Short of wearing a sandwich board saying 'Hey, I'm really right-on and know that No Means No', there's no way the leafletters can tell your demeanour from looking at you. So you have to accept that they are going to assume that you need the flyer the same as the other men. This is not the same as accusing you of date rape, or any other rape; call it preventative measurements if it'll make you feel better. Try this swift quiz; is it better for you to be leafletted needlessly, or for someone else not to be leafletted and then go on to commit an offence of that kind? There's a feminist saying, "If you're not part of the solution you're part of the problem." Your attitude looks, if you'll excuse the terminology, problematic.]]

Oh, and that reminds me, ~~stop reading the bits I've crossed out~~, they could be personal!!!

Any mention of U-Bend in the Thatcher memoirs? Your part in her downfall?

I see from U-Bend 25 that I have some defending to do. Ok, at any one time I may not see many zines (they keep folding!!) but over the last eight years I've seen quite a few and only ever seen one 'person' that I would describe as racist. Cracking jokes about blacks need not be intended as malicious, but it's racism. And the backlash against it is considerable. Just like a group of 'blokes' can be different animals individually to collectively (the sport jokes, the beer jokes, the girl jokes) and all the worst traits come out, the same happens in a single race environment. Unless the individuals are (on average) smart enough to move on from that. A statement I think can be applied with a fair degree of accuracy to the hobby.

As it happens, I too feel the BNP victory was a good thing. I abhor racism utterly, but Tower Hamlets voted as they saw fit and the rest is history. Fortunately, we still live in a system where the party with most votes gets in (detestable though it seems) and if the best on offer was the BNP, then that's sad and a rather damning reflection on politics in this country, but they deserve to get in nonetheless. I do feel a bit alarmed they got in, but I would have felt a lot more alarmed if a justly elected party was denied a council seat. Maybe the anti-racist movement will get itself a collective life now this has happened and maybe, in the face of unacceptable extremism, the community in Tower Hamlets will come through this with a strengthened inter racial unity. But even if it has no other positive effects, one or two people might think twice about 'protest' votes in future, and the big three parties may take racism at local council level a bit more seriously.

[[As regards the protest vote aspect, see me to Neil Duncan supra. As a matter of fact I am led to believe (by John Morgan, who should know) that the BNP victory was largely down to good if sharp tactics on their part; some of it targeting depressed areas and exploiting the line "They're giving all the houses to the niggers round here," and some the very dubious practice of standing nonchalantly round polling booths whistling merry tunes and trying to look threatening and innocent simultaneously. And then, of course, there was the Liberal episode which has just led to three scapegoats being kicked out of the local party for being involved with racist campaigning. Frankly I think that if leaflets like that are going round from Tower Hamlets liberals it'll take more than three expulsions to cure their ills, but that's one for the John Marsdens of this world to worry over.]]

Who said I thought gay parents have gay kids? All I wondered was whether or not the celebrated gene had gone down the line. Heaven forbid the day when they discover our sexual preferences are governed by a single, transmittable chromosome! And who said I was bright? I forget to sign cheques, me.

[[Okay, okay, I plead guilty to over-reacting here. The points in my article last issue are still valid nevertheless, including the one about the futility of trying to find a 'gay gene' which by their own definition is exclusively male.

[[As for forgetting to sign cheques, I'm starting to wonder whether you're doing it on purpose. Enclosed herewith, for the second time, is the offending item. Put your bloody cross on the south-east corner thereof and get it back pronto, fevvens sake.]]

Kids in the hobby. Although some old stalwarts don't like young'uns about, where else do we get fresh editors from? Considering the large numbers of people who play RPGs, wargames or boardgames, or the hordes who shell out small fortunes on professional PBMs, we should always have a steady influx of new members (of all ages). I do think more could be done to bring people in, but we'd start getting a bit less amateur then so whether it would be a good thing or not I don't know. Do you think parents are too embarrassed to introduce kids to PBM, or do they think it's too advanced or what? Maybe

it's just the natural youthful aversion to all that 'adults' (ha!) like.

Interesting stuff on BBC2 these days. Buddha of Suburbia gives us 70s nostalgia and heaving bodies while Wild Palms is obscure plot and fancy sf effects. I like the idea of 3D projections for VR TV. Better than wearing stupid goggles! Won't be long now though...

Andy Cox Swindon After all my slagging off of Duncan [Adams] an issue of TLR finally dropped through my door t'other day. So, apart from the fact that me and my girlfriend only got one copy between us despite being separate subscribers and that he mis-adjudicated one of the two games I'm playing in (the other being Snap and even Duncan has difficulty cocking that up), I suppose it's a sterling effort. And he beat me at pool on Saturday nite too.

What I wonder is this: if they introduce unlimited Sunday trading will the banks and building societies follow suit? (This section is now partially out of date as they have changed the Sunday trading laws but I'm leaving it in as it fills up the letter). I mean, at the moment banks close at 3.30pm and only open Sat. mornings and we do much the same (I work (?) for a building society). Then they wonder why the Q's stretch out the door on Sat AMs. Is there any money in Sunday trading? People still have only the same disposable income, even if they spread it over 7 days shopping (except of course if they get paid more for working SUNDays, but then of course they are not free to shop on Sundays.....)

John Wilman Perthshire The short story was a tour de force -- I had a similar idea myself once, but never got round to writing it up. I also liked your thoughts on the chess, though you are misguided in your support for Ray Keene, who is an even bigger crook than Campomanes, and not just laterally.

[[I take it this means you're a supporter of the Tony Miles faction. What do you mean by 'laterally?]]

Incidentally, Carol Vorderman, with her wit, intellect and conventional good looks, complete with career and baby, is presumably a role model for women, and no-one dares call her fat, though she's no Twiggy. Being large and ugly, I tend to be on the side of the fatties anyway, and I don't believe that it is just a feminist issue (but who put it on the agenda anyway?)

Short apparently has ambitions to become a Tory MP, which will give him the chance to be a spectacular loser again, be it in Britain or Greece. He won't get many votes in Bolton or Manchester, that's for sure. Adams is looking to be a better prospect for the future, once the FIDE/PCA dispute is sorted out.

[[Moynihan, Coe, Short... why do they think sporting prowess qualifies them for Parliament? And why are they all Tories? Maybe someone will answer this next issue, because I'm damned if I know. And I didn't even mention Gyles Braindeath.]]

One feminist [[Come on, name names]] argued that Fischer was never a true World Champion, since he would not put his title on the line against the then Women's title holder.

[[I seem to recall Short losing horribly to that woman with the unpronounceable name -- Dpranashvili or whatever -- but that was a blunder which presumably wouldn't be repeated in a match. Once the Polgars come to the peak of their form the men's title holder may start having to do some serious defending, but I don't think that in Fischer's era any woman could match him, though his offer of knight odds may have been excessive.]]

QUID IN ALVEOS ACCIDET

hobby news

For our first item tonight, we have John Miller live in studio for an interview:

HRB: What's the news, Mr Miller?

JRHM: If I might answer that question in my own words --

The Gladys Awards for 1993

This is to announce the annual request for nominations for the Gladyses for hobby achievement in the past year. Any hobby member may nominate a maximum of three zines (or persons) in each category. Those with the largest number of nominations in each category will go forward to the voting round, which will be publicised in February 1994. Editors may nominate and vote for their own zine if they wish.

The categories are:

1. Best Zine
2. Best Zine for Diplomacy (and Variants)
3. Best Zine for games other than Diplomacy
4. Best Zine for Hobby News
5. Best Lettercolumn
6. Best New Zine to appear in 1993
7. Best-Looking Zine
8. Most Improved Zine
9. Most Regretted Fold
10. Best GM

The deadline for nominations will be 31 January 1994.

Please send nominations to: John Miller, 259 Leek Rd, Shelton, Stoke on Trent, ST4 2BU.

HRB: Thank you and good luck, Mr Miller. I might mention that U-Bend is eligible for all these except 6 and 9. Not that I'm trying to influence you unduly.

Zine news is largely contained in the Year End Trade Review this issue (qv). There are, however, other bits: such as that Tony Robbins' sterling efforts have resulted in an up-to-date-ish set of RR stats for the first time since I've been in the hobby (1988, fact fans). U-Bend RR games now sport serial numbers, and other zines should too; facts about any which don't may be communicated to Tony at Lincoln House, Creaton Road, Hollowell, Northants NN6 8RP (0604 740572). Tony has also done a ratings list which is remarkable for the fact that no U-Bend reader is anywhere near the top (and I'm not on at all, but then I'm useless at RR). Those who do feature are Dave Tant (68th), Alan Parr (70th), John Colledge (81st=), John Marsden (94th), Rob Cullender (95th=), Mick Haytack (116th=), Richard Walkerdine (121st=), Peter Charles (150th=), and Rob Moore (153rd=). One fact that leaps out at the eye is that Keith Loveys has played 98 postal games of RR (at least, I assume the ratings are postal-only). A notable absentee from the list is multiple Manorcon champ Steve Guest.

Mark Stretch announces the Oxford Dip Championships, 1994, to be held at Wadham College on 5th February. Non-Oxford Dip Club members (which I assume to be most of you) must shell out £3 to enter, which gets you a chance to qualify for Midcon and a shot at the Oxford trophy plus other prizes besides. Mark's address is in the games section (see Tex) for those interested.

A quick plug for Stakiscon 3 (Nottingham, 28-30 Jan 94) with that Loveys bloke again: contact him at 32 Barkston Gdns, London SW5 0ER. £25/night plus £10 con fee is all it will set you back.

REVIEW OF THE HOBBY

It's the end of the year once more, and time to dust off the huge pile of trades by my side and reward virtue whilst punishing vice by the Bond Patent Method of Zine Reviewing Which Is Not The Same As Criticism, Mark Nelson Please Note (pat. pending). For subjective comment, vague predictions regarding the Zine Poll, and the odd bit of cheap abuse out of sheer habit, read on; who needs Mission From God when you subscribe to U-Bend?

Y DDRAIG GOCH (Iain Bowen) used to be my favourite zine, you know. I loved it, and him; but in those days Iain was a much more lovable fellow. Nowadays he is crustier, and photocopied, and generally suffering from respectability. (What syntax, Bond! You'd better get that straightened out). The games service is still excellent, and the writing qua writing still stylish (and ungrammatical), but no longer do I tear enveloped postmarked York open in a frenzy. I accept that this is my fault as much as it is Iain's. As for the poll, top ten were he not pollster, top five since he is.

ARFLE BARFLE GLOOP (Kris Morris): Yes, no Michele; she has left gracefully with what vestiges of sanity she has left, and the zine, nay, the hobby, is the worse for it. Kris has edited a surprisingly decent letter column since her departure, but it's still not the same as it was, and his dodgy grammar still grates occasionally. Maybe top ten this year on nostalgia, but I'll be surprised if it's that high ever again now.

DER GROSSE DAMPFMASCHINE (Paul Norris): Would normally be a very average zine, but recently has lurched up the list of my faves by the simple expedient of roping Steve Howe in as a columnist. I can honestly say that a Howe column could have saved the late unlamented GIGO. Norris and co have had some difficulties with filling lists, but in these troubled times, who hasn't? Howe being something of an acquired taste, this will do well to be top twenty, though it will deserve it if so.

ODE (John Marsden) has had a very good issue 150 which can only help it in the poll, but has also been on an upswing all year. I think that his reclamation of the OGRE's role has helped John keep his eye on the hobby more, with the result that Ode now seems much more central than it has been recently. And the games are always well run, as they have been for well over ten years. Surely top five material now, but never seems to acquit itself in the poll.

NERTZ (William Whyte) has suffered as Laughin' Bill swots up for his doctorate. Still nothing like it when it comes, but how infrequently it comes! Near the bottom, I fear.

SMODNOC (Toby Harris): I don't know whether Toby's become less abrasive and pushy, or if he's just got better at not showing it in print, but Smodnoc has been a much more mellow read this year; what's more, since Toby started writing about himself more, it's been an astonishingly interesting one. It may even win this year's poll, and I can't say it would be undeserved. As yet fatherhood doesn't seem to have deterred the chap, and long may he reign.

Everyone, but everyone, underrates HOPSCOTCH (Alan Farr), which is why it won't be top twenty and may even fail to qualify after Iain failed to list it as an 'ally' on the ballot form. Put simply, Alan is Mr Hobby Nice Guy -- accept no substitutes. The most he's ever found to say about my controversies is that you shouldn't show my letter column to your Aunt Fanny. May his reign, too, be long. Hopscotch the zine runs copious amounts of games, mostly number based, frequently Alan-invented, and has never been late in 120 issues or so. An institution in the nicest possible sense.

It is a frequent contention of pollsters that service zines (THE NUMBERS GAME, MISSION FROM GOD, you know the sort of thing) must be excluded from the zine poll because of the difficulty of comparing them with standard zines. I sometimes think I would find this task much easier than rating fairly Danny and Kath Collman's efforts with

SPRINGBOARD. The novice zine just can't be treated fairly -- its letters and articles serve the novices well, but can be tedious fare for those of us who know it all. It would, of course, be grossly unfair to exclude it on these grounds, but not much more unfair than its usual showing near the bottom when its traders vote it low.

GREEN GOBLIN (John Breakwell) is far too infrequent to qualify for the poll, despite its editor's grim reprinting of EMail dip games he runs. A zine for postal gamers, but not a postal games zine (c) Gnostic Utterances PLC, 1993)

A LITTLE ORIGINAL SIN must be the best outside bet this year for the top spot. Vick Hall has a good games service, a new and well-done little subzine from Peter Haslehurst, entertains in his own writing, and incredibly enough, has now found someone even more right-wing than Alan Frost, his long-term resident reactionary, much to the enlivenment of the letter column. I still think it looked better as A4, mind.

C'EST MAGNIFIQUE has temporarily folded into YDdG as Peter Sullivan takes exams. It is slated to reassert its independence in 1994. Meantime, whether YDdG/CMag count as one zine or two is anyone's guess.

LIES, the organ of the Bristol mob, is a very good read and looks most swish even without the red panel on the front. The news that co-editor Rich Jackson is about to go round the world for a year means sweeping changes afoot, including a switch to folded A3 format. Worth investigation, especially now they've dropped the silly rule that non-playing subscribers are to be ejected.

REALPOLITIK is dying, Egypt, dying, and a sad sight its death is. All credit to Guy Thomas for managing to always include some of his editorial nuggets (which reference is to gold rather than Chicken Mc), but it is slowing, it is thin, and it may not make issue 100 at this rate, though if I have to stonewall for a year in my Dip game to prolong its life I damn well will. Low in the poll.

ELECTRIC MONK I haven't seen for an intolerable long time, and though an issue 50 has been reviewed elsewhere, I've not seen it even though I play in it, and enquiries to Madi and Andy Key have proved fruitless. Looks very fold-shaped to me, and it's a shame. Lower in the poll.

INTO THE NIGHT has also been described as folded hobby-wide with games doing to YDdG, though James Nelson hasn't been polite enough to inform his traders (well, not me) yet. A zine that never took off has now died prematurely, and may well not even qualify for the poll; if it does, it may be my tip for the bottom.

I have been going off GREATEST HITS more and more this year. This does not, though, explain why Pete Birks has been going off me. Ever since Manorcon 1992, where I first tried to introduce myself to him and he positively snarled in my face unprovoked, I have failed to reach any rapport with the man. This saddens me, because all the sighs are that I ought to like him. There are some things that I was obviously not meant to know. Anyway, everyone else but me seems to love Pete and the zine, so it should do well again.

BLOODSTOCK, ah, BLOODSTOCK! Another one which may make the top on sheer subscriber popularity, for Mick Haytack's ugly typeface conceals a wealth, nay, a plethora of games of every stamp. Everyone except old curmudgeons like me who like a lot of chat will thrill to the thing, and it deserves it. Surely top three this year.

The fourth issue of Edmund Morgan's BORN LOSERS just sneaked through the box to squeeze under the wire in the poll qualifying stakes the other day. Brother to the editor of ASSASSIN'S HANDBOOK (qv), a more different rag would be hard to imagine -- the only thing they have in common is that both have found it hard to get games off the ground. BL more resembles NERTZ in layout and ethos, which is a complement. Go and subscribe,

everyone, this is the future of editing.

Despite babies, car crashes, restricted growth, and a defiant refusal to have anything to do with Diplomacy, TAKE THAT YOU FIEND! (John Harrington/Kevin Warne) trucks on with fearless rudeness and even sarcasm to anyone, hobby or wide-world, who gets in their periscope sight. I honestly don't think this will ever be out of the poll top ten for as long as it will be published.

Mike Allaway has proved rather less good at weathering personal disasters, and PYRRHIC VICTORY is a perennial tip for a low place. Not that it doesn't have its good points, not least of which is its persistent editorial presence.

VARIABLE TITLE vanished for over half a year, and has just re-emerged with Neil Rowlands running his games down (and abandoning the bloody Poesiemeister entirely, it seems) and Steve Guest taking it to a joint publication with POLAR PIG, a zine of which I know little save that its editor C.J.Reader formerly published a spectacularly unsuccessful subzine in MOUSE POLICE, a zine itself far from the summit of excellence. At postage only, though, it's the cheapest zine you'll get anywhere.

OBSIDIAN has finally managed to get the wider subscriber base it has always deserved, and Alex Richardson is running an awful lot of Diplomacy these days. He is doing so with skill and aplomb, and his zine is still as tidy and readable as ever. Deserves a top ten place, but won't get it.

GALLIMAUFRY is another one to overcome unlikely levels of editorial misfortune (hard disc failures, having to work in Bingley, etc. etc.) and still provide a good games service. As ever, though, it is overshadowed by its sister DOLCHSTOSS, partly I suppose because Sharp has a lot more subscribers than Doubleday.

MOPSY suffers from bad timing; not that it's ever late, just that the forthcoming issue 100 will just come after the Zine Poll deadline. As such, Bryan Betts is unlikely to achieve more than his traditional average placing.

Ah, BOREALIS. I love it. I shouldn't, but I do. Partly because Ian Harris is a nice guy, and partly because he has a higher dose than most of Born Zine Editor Syndrome -- the ability to write entertainingly about anything. Now sports a subzine, the formerly independent AC-MONG, and with a bit of luck the increase in circulation from this will boost the zine into the big time. The man deserves it. Hell, after working shifts driving a fork lift truck in a factory full of sneering anti-intellectuals, he deserves canonisation. A nice change from all us middle-class, cosy zines, eh?

The hobby seems to have utterly ignored Paul Dunning's BANDERSNATCH, which is rather a pity as it is always jolly and sometimes manages a true burst of hysterical humour. I'm not sure whether Paul would be very comfortable any nearer the hobby mainstream (if he were, he'd presumably still be editing GHOT) but the jaded palate may find something here. Almost certainly won't qualify for the Poll.

SIDEWALK has folded into THE LAUGHING ROUNDHEAD. My personal animosity towards Mike Clark leads me to think that further comment on this may be unwise and unsightly.

SPRING OFFENSIVE has gone from strength to strength. Stephen Agar's approach sometimes looks suspiciously like zine editing by numbers, but he does it all so well that you don't care. Number one selling point must be, though, that the man and the zine are both at the true heart of this hobby -- you can't turn round without bumping into him -- and thus it is my vote and my tip for the top this time.

Duncan Adams has managed to get a new LAUGHING ROUNDHEAD out, in which he spells his new subeditor Mike Clark's name incorrectly every time just for tradition's sake. In other respects little remains from the old TLR -- indeed, creeping neatness and skilful

layout have been sighted on some pages. Treat with caution, though, till he has established a new routine of regularity. Must be near the bottom in the poll, especially as many people must have voted when it hadn't been seen since April.

It appears that Neil Duncan's THE CUNNING PLAN is to be recognised as a zine proper for poll purposes, which is just and deserved. Neil is a brash young chap who has managed to mortally offend both Danny Collman and Iain Bowen (not easy to do), but whose zine bubbles over with bright new views -- quite a breath of fresh air into the hobby. Moreover, the current issue has a freebie 'game of the hobby' which is the funniest thing I've seen this year and a fine definition of fannishness for those like Collman D. who are confused by it (sample space on gameboard: "Change your name to Dashwood: -2 points (everyone's doing that this year)." TCF, or some form thereof, is also a subzine in Andrew Moss's AGE OF REASON, a zine I would not touch with a barge pole. TCF solo may well make a surprise top ten spot.

ASSASSIN'S HANDBOOK from John Morgan is another one with everything but games, and not through lack of trying. John comes across as a mild character, with an informed interest in politics and history, and there are many worse writers in the hobby. If this had started even two years earlier it'd loom large in hobby consciousness by now.

Andy Bate hasn't published FROGGY in nine months. Surprise.

When lamenting the lack of three-weekly zines last issue I stupidly forgot BREAKDOWN, Martin Draper's streamlined little effort which eschews chat for speed and does so admirably. My apologies, Martin. I do appreciate Breakdown, but if you don't like playing games very fast (in postal terms) there's not a lot of point getting it.

Bill Turner's ODARODLE is actually eligible for the Poll this year, having picked up Kendrick's YER TIZ as a subzine. High points are still Keith Lawton's postal cricket and theatrical memoirs, though. A Technological Advance is promised soon as Bill's got a new computer. Still unlikely to qualify, Poll-wise; but I like it.

BACKSTABBERS UNITED MONTHLY is a massive tome which Malcolm Cornelius sends out every five weeks to all and sundry. The price is steep but it's certainly packed (En Garde and TWO EG variants, for starters) to an even greater extent than Bloodstock. (But it doesn't run United, title despite. Mid-table in Poll as it doesn't have the subber loyalty Bloodstock does from the mainstream hobby.

Chris Tringham's revamped MEGALOMANIA is an entertaining bimonthly read and even offers postal Dippy now. Tringers has written more zine material than any five average editors, and this experience shows. Certainly these days I feel he has the edge over his nearest equivalent, Birks.

COYOTE is by no stretch of the imagination a Dippyzine, but enough Dippy people read it for it to be a possible candidate for eligibility in the poll. Steve Jilks has eschewed jokes of dubious taste for horror movies over the time I've seen it, about which I can only say that Hammer devotees should subscribe instanter.

Then there's DOLCHSTOSS, with which I've never traded, but which I couldn't do without because Richard Sharp is a fine and provocative writer, no matter how much he infuriates me. Sharp is making vague noises about folding at issue 200, in order to play more golf, which mustn't be allowed: to paraphrase P G Wodehouse, how can a man abandon a hobby such as this in order to hit a little white ball with sticks for hours on end?

That concludes my British trade list (thirty-seven! I must be mad as a coot). When the poll results are out we shall see whether my predictions are correct. If pushed to name a top five, I would predict Spring Offensive, Dolchstoss, Bloodstock, Smadnoc and Ode, more or less in that order. So that's the kiss of death for Agar.

THE SECOND ANNUAL ZINE QUOTES QUIZ
THANG IN CAPITALS WITH EXCLAMATION
MARKS!!!

From your host with the most, David Oya

The response to last year's quizthang was so overwhelming (hi, Nick) that Haz begged me to produce another. You wouldn't want me to disappoint the poor slobbering wretch now would you, good subbers? The first prize this year is a gross of young Lee's used nappies. Second prize is half a dozen of Haz's used nappies. All you have to do is identify who uttered each of the following quotes and the zine in which they appeared, all published during 1993. Apologies for the appalling lapse into self-referentiality (is that a word?), but (a) I'm self-obsessed, and (b) this year's zines have offered much leaner pickings than last year's. It's probably The Terminal Decline Of The Hobby (remember that one) or maybe I should sub to a better class of zine. Let's start with what looks like a scene from a video nasty...

1. 'Bond/Oya : (SWEAT) : Colour - Purple/Black'
2. 'the electorate is even more stupid than most people think'
3. 'I stand by my decision to seperate Wylie Coyote and Roadrunner'
4. 'When a friend is pregnant, it's 'having a baby.' When a poor person you don't know is pregnant, it's 'breeding.'
5. 'hijacking someone else's point for the purposes of making your own is Editor's Prerogative under my houserules'
6. 'You can't treat me like this you know. I'm famous. I'm a star. I make appearances on television.'
7. 'I have never intended to imp. that youths from Banbury indulge, or would want to indulge, in practices with Scottish bank managers more perverse than the odd game of RR'
8. 'Fuck' isn't a term of abuse in Norway'
9. 'I shall deal with Oya at a later date, he will keep...'
10. 'Most people are not strangers to logic. But most logicians are strange people.'

ANSWERS next issue. Mr Wibblesome has been very free in awarding prizes, and is obviously unaware that Lee uses terry nappies which once washed are used again; hence to award these as a prize would inconvenience us no end. A free issue will, I trust, prove a suitable substitute. (He does use disposables when travelling, mark you, so if you really wanted them....) As for my choice of nappies, I choose to stand behind the Fifth Amendment. There are some things the hobby is not yet ready to have revealed to it.

Despite any appearances to the contrary, this is a very serious quiz and is not to be taken lightly, especially by Nicholas Parish.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF A VARIANT

(aka a bit more of John Wilman's letter to fill space)

Regarding Illuminated Vain Fats, I would like the notion of special victory conditions to be saved if it is at all possible, though clearly some will have to be changed. They are crucial to the flavour of Illuminati (the One True Game) and should ensure that an essentially frivolous variant produces an outright winner in a fairly short time. There was never any intention that it should be well balanced.

[[Well, it looks now as if the revisions would be academic, as I can't get the list to fill and there is no apparent interest in amalgamation with Mopsy's list. Shame, shame. Thanks to those who showed interest anyway.]]

[[We now hand you over to the games section.]]

oimoi, peplegmai kairian plëgen eso
the games section

Shameful Holdover Section

EUWE

Diplomacy 93??

Not Spring 1901

Nobody asked for a double deadline (hurray!) but one plonker hasn't sent any orders (boo!) I don't stand for NMRs in Spring 1901 as they wreck games, so the miscreant had better get in touch pronto or forfeit their place to a more eager player, capische? My apologies to the six others.

ARMSTRONG

Lift Off! [GM Geoff Brown]

still not 1963

Geoff writes: "I'm sorry, but it looks like another holdover, this time with no orders received from Ian Harris.

"One of the problems with an NMR in the game is that each person's budget affects when their launches will be in relation to everyone else's, and an NMR throws everything out of line, creates a damn sight more work, and isn't really fair on the other players.

"To be honest, and this sounds awfully like an excuse, this isn't working to the extent I would like it to. When I start a game of Lift-Off I have extra charts and files stored on the computer to help me run it, and as I took over the game I don't have access to the same amount of information that I would like. Taking over a game is not something I would do again. Unfortunately this, and the number of NMRs we have had, would tend to give you the opinion that the game isn't very good for PBM. This isn't necessarily the case, and I'm sure we can complete it, it just takes a little more effort from everyone to get their orders in on time."

I couldn't agree more with all this -- Lift Off! runs perfectly well in BUM with a set of keen players. Wake up, ye sluggards.

ZIMMER

Sopwith T216UB

Not Turn 7

... because I remember Rob Cullender's orders coming along with an Xmas card. The card is stuck up on the door with the rest; the orders are, infuriatingly, nowhere to be seen. My apologies to all three, and if Rob can resubmit (or the missing ones turn up, as they're sure to once I go to press) I shall strive for an intermediate adjudication.

PEPPER

Sopwith T178UB

Turn 23

Japanese airfield shut for lunch

Pilot	Starts	Moves	Ends	A :D :P
<u>Retaliator</u>	G2-H3	RS,FS,RS	J2-K3	16:08:02
1 ACE	Mark Wightman			
<u>Atsuko</u>	S10	Sits and thinks	S10	16:08:22
5 ACE	Dave Lomas (NMR!)			

Press Retaliator-Atsuko: Wake up, let's see some action!

Clouds move NE to: (G15,G16):(K18,K19,L19):(L12,L13,L14):(O19):(O16,O17,P15,P16,P17).

LUTON

Atlantic Airlines [GM Paul Slade]

Turn 9

SANTA CLAUS 747 B65 / / New York
 Rob Cullender TriStar H50 / Chicago / I54
 DC8 D57 / Atlanta / Chicago
 DC10 F18 / Belem / N19

Account +1048 +154+186+165-50-40-28-44-20 = +1371

TBNS 707 Paris / Berlin / L60
 John Colledge 747 D67 / Tunis, Berlin / L73

Account -651 +360-24-50-20 = -385, -20% = -462

PUSSYCAT 747 J59 / / Algiers
 Haz Bond 707 J32 / Accra / D18
 Tristar L32 / Accra / F27

Account -302 +290+253-24-50-40-20 = +107

RAC TriStar Kano / Paris / K70
 Joy Hibbert

Account +110 -40-20 = +50

Planes Ordered And Paid For Next Turn DC10 for RAC at ParisLoads In Flight

Amsterdam	Caracas	PUSSYCAT/747	2	*	34	=	68
Belem	Paris	SANTA CLAUS/DC10	10	*	29	=	290
Chicago	Las Palmas	SANTA CLAUS/Tristar	9	*	28	=	252
Kano	Bogota	PUSSYCAT/Tristar	4	*	32	=	128
Paris	Toronto	RAC/Tristar	8	*	24	=	192
Berlin	New York	TBNS/707	5 of 12	*	29	=	348
Berlin	New York	TBNS/747	7 of 12	*	29	=	348

Loads Delivered This Turn

Amsterdam	Chicago	SANTA CLAUS/Tristar	6	*	31	=	186
Pt of Spain	Tunis	TBNS/747	12	*	30	=	360
Las Palmas	New York	SANTA CLAUS/747	7	*	22	=	152
Toronto	Algiers	PUSSYCAT/747	10	*	29	=	290
Algiers	Chicago	SANTA CLAUS/DC8	5	*	33	=	165
London	Accra	PUSSYCAT/Tristar	9 of 11	*	23	=	253
		PUSSYCAT/707	2 of 11	*	23	=	253

Loads Delivered Last Turn (for spectators' benefit)

Montreal	Kano	SANTA CLAUS/747	9	*	35	=	315
Bogota	London	SANTA CLAUS/747	11	*	37	=	407
Chicago	Paris	TBNS/707	4	*	29	=	116

Loads Available

OLD

From	To	Size	/	Dist	/	Value
Belem	New York	3		21		= 63
Pittsburgh	London	10		27		= 270
Accra	Pittsburgh	2		37		= 74
Frankfurt	Madrid	4		6		= 24
Casablanca	Madrid	8		4		= 32
Chicago	Washington	12		6		= 72
Milan	Berlin	2		3		= 6

Miami	New York	6	8	= 48
Chicago	London	8	29	= 232
Dakar	Bogota	2	26	= 52
Atlanta	London	3	30	= 90
Toronto	Berlin	7	29	= 203
Chicago	Algiers	2	33	= 66
Havana	Milan	6	37	= 222
Montreal	Milan	10	25	= 250
NEW				
New York	Paris	2	24	= 48
New York	Las Palmas	3	22	= 66
Paris	Toronto	5	24	= 120
London	New York	7	24	= 168
New York	Caracas	9	16	= 144
London	Port of Spain	11	29	= 319

Press

RADAR (GM) - All: Welcome to Joy who is taking over from Alan Harvey.
 Judge English - Anyone interested: Last turn this game ran by flyer.

TEX

Diplomacy 92DY

Autumn 1907

Two Turks get instant trip home from frontier: Italy bows out

AUSTRIA (Peter Dunnett, 328 Old Road, Clacton on Sea, Essex CO15 3NU)

A(Rom) S French A(Pie)-Tus, A(Nap) S French F(TYS), A(Tyr)-Vie, A(Sil)-Gal,
 A(Boh) S A(Sil)-Gal, A(Ser)-Bud, A(Tri) S A(Ser)-Bud, F(ADR) S A(Tri)*.

ENGLAND (Edward Ainsworth, 4 Park Avenue, Bedford MK40 2JY)

F(BAR)-Nwy, F(Yor)-NTH.

FRANCE (Ian Harris, 3 Abbotside Cl, Urpeth Grange, Chester 1e St, Co Durham DH2 1TQ)

A(Wal)-Lon, A(Bur)-Bel, F(ENC) S A(Bur)-Bel, A(Pie)-Tus, F(GOL) S A(Pie)-Tus,
 A(NAf)-Tun, F(TYS) S F(NAf)-Tun.

GERMANY (Mark Stretch, 2 Over Mill Drive, Selly Park, Birmingham B29 7JL)

F(Ber) H, F(Kie)-Den, F(Den)-Swe, A(Mun) S F(Ber), A(Bel) S French A(Bur)* (otm).

ITALY (Keir Hodgson, 2 Leeds Old Road, Thornbury, Bradford BD3 8HT)

F(Tun)-TYS*.

TURKEY (Mark Underhay, 65 The Chase, Holland on Sea, Essex CO15 5PZ)

A(StP) H, A(Lvn)-War, A(War)-Ukr, A(Gal)-Rum, A(Bud) S A(Bul)-Ser*, A(Bul)-Ser,
 F(Alb) S F(ION)-ADR, F(ION)-ADR, A(Gre) S A(Bul)-Ser, F(AEG)-ION,
E(Tus) S French E(TYS)-Rom* (inso).

Retreats Austrian F(ADR)-Ven; German A(Bel)-Pic; Italian F(Tun) disbands; Turkish

A(Bud), F(Tus) both kaput

Adjustments

AUSTRIA: Vie Tri Ser Ven Mun Rom Nap Ber Bud

= 7 Disbands A(Bud)

ENGLAND: Edi Nwy

= 2 n/c

FRANCE: Mar Bre For Spa Lon Lpi Par Bel Tun

= 9 Builds F(Mar), A(Par)

GERMANY: Kie Den Hol Swe Bel Ber

= 5 n/c

ITALY: Fan

= 0 and out!

TURKEY: Con Ank Smy Bul Rum Sev Mos StP War Bud Gre Ser

= 11 Builds A(Con), F(Smy)

Press

Germany - All: Term EMail address: jesu0014@black.ox.ac.uk

"We must not allow a mine-shaft gap!"

Dozy Moore sent orders for all his other games but nowt for this. Orders have been written for him and 2 million Faroese deemed to have died of flu.

Secrets: APPLIANCE is most annoyed that nobody came to steal his spycatcher. No effect.

Revealed Cards:

APPLIANCE (Andy Bell): A Minuteman missile has been sighted. APPLIANCES have been unavailable for comment regarding putative payloads.

FROGLAND (Simon Cutforth): More missile mania here, with a Titan manoeuvred onto the launch pad with just as much secret concerning what's on board.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF PECKHAM (Alan Coulthard): Peckham, however, is well ahead in the cold war, which suddenly becomes a lot hotter as a cobalt bomb is launched off via Minuteman. This nasty device will leave its target losing a small but cumulative percentage of his population each turn, unless a cleanup squad can be found! What's more, this means that the world is at WAR and propaganda cards cease to work.

THE FNORDS (Geoff Brown): Heedless of this bomb, and of APPLIANCE's failure last year, the Fnords send a space platform up into orbit, much to everyone's satisfaction, except perhaps the other players'.

FAROE ISLANDS (Rob Moore): Heaven help us, it's another Titan missile there in the depths of the North Atlantic.

INSULA VECTIS (Paul Slade): A Saturn rocket is raised point-first on the island. "Coves fireworks should be good this year" said a representative.

Deterrents: Insula Vectis: 20 megaton warhead
Faroese: cruise missile.

In Orbit: Fnords: space platform

Population Changes since 1999AD: TF+18m, FI-19m, IV-10m, AP-5m, Fr-25m, PRP-18m

Your New Card(s):

New Secrets: None

Press:

In another time, in another dimension, another dolphin sat and watched events unfold. Eventually the charismatic leader of the Fnords had to take some notice. President George Washington was a dope fiend, all dolphins came from outer space and Simon Cutforth was about to discover the meaning of infinity!

On a small island, somewhere in the Atlantic, the Ferdinand Pooh crisis was about to start.

=====

URQUHART

Sopwith T215UB

Turn 11

Pilot	Starts	Moves	Ends	A : D : P
1 <u>Ginger Rogers</u>	D7/NE	A f-L&A&R, I, A	D8/SW	02:07:38
ACE John Miller				
4 Lord Biscuit	D8/NE	A and goes to the family vault		01
Barrel Mike Clark (NMR!)				
5 <u>Vic Rattlehead</u>	N18/E	LT, LT, A	L19/NW	05:08:06
ACE Rob Moore				

Press:

Ginger-Lord B.B: I hate the aristocracy! (But they do look pretty when they're plummeting to earth in a fireball, heh, heh, heh).

Clouds moved West to: (H11-I11-I12-J12-K13):(D1):(K5-L5-L6):(B9-C10-C11):
(H7-I8-I9-J9):(M12-M13-N11-N12)

XIMENEZ

Chaos II Diplomacy 92BW rh06

Spring 1905.

- ANKARA (John Miller): A(Mos)-War.
- BELGIUM (Peter Ritchie): A(Bel)-Hol.
- BREST (John R Todd): F(MAO)-Bre.
- BULGARIA (Vick Hall): A(Bul) S Turkish A(Con)-Rum (nso).
- DENMARK (Peter Dunnett): F(Den)-Kie, F(Ber) S F(Den)-Kie*.
- KIEL (Duncan Adams): A(Mun) S F(Kie)-Ber, F(Kie)-Ber, A(Hol)-Kie.
- LIVERPOOL (John Morgan): F(Lpl)-IRI, F(Lon)-ENG, A(Yor) H.
- MARSEILLE (Guy Thomas): A(Gas) S Brestaise F(MAO)-Bre, A(Par) S Brestaise F(MAO)-Bre, F(Spa/sc)-MAO.
- NORWAY (Toby Harris): NMR! F(Pic) H u/o.
- ROME (Alex Richardson): A(Tyr)-Boh, A(Ven)-Tyr, A(Rom)-Ven.
- SERBIA (Mike Clark): NMR! A(Sev) H u/o.
- SPAIN (Edmund Morgan): F(IDN)-AEG, F(Gre)-AEG.
- SWEDEN (anarchy): F(SKA), F(Swe) H u/o.
- TURKEY (Neil Duncan): F(Smy)-AEG, F(BLA) S A(Con)-Bul, A(Con)-Bul.
- VIENNA (Allan Gordon): A(Vie)-Tyr, A(Tri) S A(Vie)-Tyr, A(Bud)-Gal, A(Ser)-Bul,
A(Rum) S A(Ser)-Bul.
- WARSAW (Peter Charles): A(Ukr)-War, A(StP)-Mos.

Retreats Danish F(Ber)-BAL

Build Centres Nothing new nominater

Press

Strauss: You'd think that one of these singletons like Serbia or Ankara would be glad of a friendly helping hand, wouldn't you? (I don't include Bulgaria 'cos I've wound him up so tight that his spring has bonged!)

VIRGIL

RR 1220CT

Turn 11

Race on for second place

Race Results

- 22) 13-25 Reading - Thame: MOO 20+7, STUPID 10-7, FERGIE 0.
- 28) 45-x6 Bletchley - Shopping: MOO 20+3, FERGIE 10+3, STUPID 0-6.
- 29) 52-53 Luton - Hitchin: STUPID 20, FERGIE 10
- 30) 35-23 Rickmansworth - Oxford: MOO 20-1, STUPID 10, IDLE +1.
- 31) 63-16 London - Slough: MOO 20, FERGIE 10.
- 32) 14-x4 Maidenhead - The North: STUPID 20+1, IDLE 10-1, FERGIE 0 after starting with the worst track and then rolling five consecutive 2s.
- 33) 46-43 Linslade - Bicester: STUPID 20+3, MOO 10-3, IDLE 0.
- 34) 21-65 Abingdon - London: MOO 20-2, IDLE 10+2.
- 35) x1-31 The South - High Wycombe: IDLE 20-5, FERGIE 10+4, STUPID +1.

Final Races (enter up to 4):

- 36) 54-26 Stevenage - Princes Risboro'
- 37) 42-36 Aylesbury - Watford
- 38) 61-41 London - Berkhamsted
- 39) 24-x3 Didcot - The North
- 40) 12-15 Reading - Windsor
- 41) 33-55 Amersham - St Albans
- 42) x2-62 The West - London

Builds None

Running Totals

IDLE (Ritchie/red):	233+37 =	270
FERGIE (Moore/purple):	188+47 =	235
STUPID (Stretch/brown):	380+72 =	452
MOO (Cattle/blue):	132+118 =	250

AUSTRIA (Allan Gordon, 3 Forest Avenue, Chingford, London E4 6AR)
A(Boh)-Vie, A(Tyr) S A(Boh)-Vie, A(Rum) stands, A(Bul) S A(Rum), A(Bud) S A(Rum),
F(AEG)-Gre, F(Alb)-ADR, F(TYS)-Nap, A(Tus)-Rom, A(Ven)-Apu

FRANCE (Peter Dunnett, 328 Old Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO15 3NU)
F(Edi) S F(NTH), F(IRI)-Lpl, F(MAO)-WMS, A(Mar)-Pie, F(GOL)-TYS, F(ION) S
F(GOL)-TYS, A(Mun)-Boh, A(Kie)-Mun, A(Sil) S A(Mun)-Boh, F(Bel)-ENG, F(NTH) S
F(Bel)-ENG, F(Den) S F(NTH), F(BAL) S F(Den).

ITALY (Toby Harris, 6 Durham Terrace, Silksworth, Sunderland SR3 1BW)
NMR! F(Tun) H u/o.

RUSSIA (Vick Hall, 100 Landor Road, Clapham, London SW9)
A(Lvn)-War, A(Gal)-Rum, A(Ukr) S A(Gal)-Rum, A(Sev) S A(Gal)-Rum, F(Con) S
A(Smy), A(Smy) S F(Con), F(SKA)-Den, F(Nwy) S F(Swe), F(Swe) S F(SKA)-Den, F(Lpl)
H u/o.

Retreats None, for a change

Adjustments

AUSTRIA: Vie Tri Bud Ser Gre Bul Ven Rom Rum Nap = 10 n/c
FRANCE: Par Mar Bre Spa Bel Por Mun Hol Lon Kie Den Ber Edi = 13 n/c
ITALY: Tun = 1 n/c
RUSSIA: StP Mos Sev War Nwy Swe Smy Ank Con Lpl = 10 n/c

Press

Vienna: Weird! This game has evolved into a red-misted vendetta and nobody gives a
stuff any more about who wins... must be gutting for Postman Pete.
Open Allez Hours: "Time to c-c-close shop, Granville"
The Gingerbread Man: The Green Stump was shaking with maniacal glee...
"I conned the asshole! I lied, and conned the asshole!" From not
so far away, Ginge looked at him pityingly and sadly shook his head. "Oh, Stumpy,
Stumpy... however did you get to be such a prat?! Look, I've got some business to
attend to, but then I'll be back, okay?" He paused, thoughtfully. "And next time I
think I might just crap all over you!"

CHES

Game III (me white): 1) e4 : e5 Game II (me black): 1) Nf3 : Nf6
2) Nf3 : Nc6 2) g3 : g6
3) Bb5 : a6 3) Bg2 : d5
4) Ba4 : f5 4) c4 : Bg7
5) d4 5) cxd5 : Nxd5
6) 0-0 : c5

Your Replies: fe x9, ed x5, nxd4 x4, b5 x2, 7) Nc3 : Nxc3
nf6 x1. 8) dxc3 : Qb6
my response: Bxc6 9) Qa4 : Nc6

RNBQK2R/PP2PPP/
5N2/3Pp3/4p3/p1B5/1ppp2pp/
r1bqkbnr. Your Replies: Rd1 x6, Qh4 x4, Nd2 x3, Rb1 x3, Positions:
Fe1 x2, Be3 x2, e4 x1.
My Response: 0-0
Position: R1BR2K1/PP2PPBP/2P2NP1/
Q7/2p5/1qn3p1/pp2ppbp/r1b2rk1.

Remember, you can all play; send up to three choices for the readers' next move ranked
in order of preference.

RAITA (Steve Guest, orange): 3a) (Hyderabad)-U16-U17-S18: 3b) (Bangalore)-K15-J15:
3c) (S18)-S19-Vijayawada; (J15)-J16. 37+6+7E= 50

MOO (Jeff Cattle, blue): 3a) H59-I59-I58-J57-K58: 3b) K58-M57: 3c) M57-R54. 38-1D = 37

IRATE (Peter Charles, green): 3a) (Varanasi)-062: 3b) (062)-Lucknow-P60: 3c) (P60)-R59-
Barreity-S57. 39+6+6 = 51

DIPSO (Duncan Adams, red): 3a) (H52)-I52-L53: 3b) (L53)-N52: 3c) (N52)-R54-Delhi.
2+6+1M = 9

ERRRR (David Oya, purple): 3a) (U9)-Q11 b) (Q11)-Q12 c) (Q12)-N12-N13-K15. 47-7R = 40

Both Oya and Guest alert me to postal rule X10 in DGW's rules, which would have the effect that DIPSO last turn loses the full 19 but ERRRR only gets 15 max. This has always struck me as a rule for sissies, soft southerners and shandy-drinkers, but since in 26 issues I haven't got round to writing my own set of postal rules, I reluctantly allow it to be enforced and dock ERKR 4 points. RAITA's orders had to be altered as he didn't notice the River Krishna between S18-R18.

Press RAITA -ERRR: You didn't think I'd fall for that trick, did you, Oya?

DUZ-CHOTIMIRSKI Beat the Black Ball

- Rob Moore: Marble 1 sec, Black Ball 76 secs
- Ian Harris: Marble 30 secs, Black Ball 1 sec
- Joy Hibbert: Marble 50 secs, Black Ball 100 secs
- Martin Draper: Marble 54 secs, Black Ball 115 secs
- Mark Stretch: Marble 57 secs, Black Ball 1 sec
- John R Todd: Marble 61 secs, Black Ball 120 secs
- Alan Coulthard: Marble 65 secs, Black Ball 95 secs
- Alan Parr: Marble 67 secs, Black Ball 120 secs
- Peter Dunnett: Marble 71 secs, Black Ball 120 secs
- Dave Lomas: NMR!
- Edmund Morgan: NMR2!

The latest clumsy sod to joggle the funnel is Ian Harris, who thereby hastens the black ball by five seconds, and 78 seconds is thus the time at which it falls. Which means you're still a bunch of cowards.

- Running totals (* = funnel nudged):
- +25: Coulthard +13½: Stretch*
 - +21: Harris* +9½: Lomas
 - +17½: Dunnett* +9: Todd
 - +16½: Parr +6: Moore
 - +15½: Hibbert -1½: Morgan
 - +14: Draper

BEECHING everyone noticed that the Inside and Outside deadlines were the wrong way round, but David Oya got in first.

BROKEN FACE Breaking Away [GM David Oya] Turn 2.

RC	Sq	Cyclist
9	28	Happy
	^^	
3	19	Skeeve
4	18	Poltergeist Pete, Gremlin Griff, Satan Sam
7	17	Rally Splash, Huffed, Puffed, Stuffed
	16	
3	15	Knackered, Vampire Val
5	14	Mutton Jeff
6	13	Leading Pack
7	12	Eileen Dover
8	11	Bashful, Euler
10	10	Gauss, Grumpy
12	9	Sleepy, Noether
14	8	Hilbert
	7	
3	6	Aahz, Gleep
5	5	Tanda

MYTH Inc (Mark Stretch)	Math Mode (Stuart Dagger)	Spooky Spokes (Bob Holliday)
Skeeve 3, 11, 14	Euler 5, 8, 9, 15	Vampire Val 3, 3, 7, 8
Aahz 3, 7, 15	Gauss 10, 14, 15	P'geist Pete 4, 7, 11
Tanda 5, 7, 15	Hilbert 3, 12, 14	Gremlin Griff 4, 6, 9
Gleep 3, 10, 10	Noether 5, 9, 12	Satan Sam 4, 5, 7

Dwarves (Mick Haytack)	Windy Tops (E Ainsworth)	Boston Brakers (A Coulthard)
Happy 1, 1, 4, 9	Huffed 7, 10, 10	Leading Pack 5, 5, 6, 12
Grumpy 10, 10, 15	Puffed 7, 8, 8	Rally Splash 4, 7, 10
Sleepy 7, 11, 12	Stuffed 5, 7, 7	Mutton Jeff 5, 6, 10
Bashful 3, 5, 8	Knackered 1, 1, 3	Eileen Dover 4, 7, 11

Agrajag: Bob NMRs. See Cactus report for mitigating circumstances. Happy looks very pleased with himself out in front. The Dwarves and Math Mode both have good turns but MYTH Inc just fails to pull off his cunning plan.

CAPABLANCA

Sopwith T207UB

Turn 3

Pilot	Starts	Moves	Ends	A :D :P
Intimidator 1 Jeff Cattle	J5/SE	L9, L9, RT f-R	L6/SW	13:12:00
'Ginger' Rogers 2 ACE John Miller	G15/W	I f-R, RS f-R&L, I	H15/W	09:08:05
Algae 3 Andy Cox	F13/SE	RT, RT, RT f-R	D11/NW	09:07:04
Sky Tripper 4 Duncan Adams	Q11/SW	RT, A, RS f-A	N9/W	12:12:00
Wizard Prang 5 Geoff Brown	P14/W	A, A, A	M11/W	16:11:00
Depraved Round- 6 head Splatterer John G McCoubrey (NMR!)	K7/NW	A, A, A	H7/NW	15:12:00

Clouds moved Northeast to: (N16-U15-D16-P15-P16): (I10-J10-J11): (G12-H11-H12): (I4-H3-G2): (N11-O12-P13-Q11): (C8-D8-D7-E7).

Press

Ginger-Algae: You don't mess about, do you?

Intimidator-Roundhead Splatterer: Giz thee!

Judge English - Intimidator: Giz thee in the kitchen, giz thee in the hall...

CACTUS RR 12230X [GM David Oya] Turn 2

BLOTTO (Duncan Adams, green) 21 +6 +4(I) +1(BR) = 32
a) (P23)-Kidlington; b) (Kidlington)-T22-T23;
c) (T23)-T24-U25-Oxford[41]-Oxford[42]

BRASENOSE (Haz Bond, brown) 26 +5(PU) -1(I) -1(BL) -1(PR) = 28
a) (Oxford[43])-V28-U29; b) (U29)-S30; c) (S30)-Abingdon; (V24)-S23

ISIS (Steve Guest, orange) 23 +6 -4(BL) +1(BR) +2(S) = 28
a) (P17)-Woodstock-P19-S21; b) (S21)-Kidlington-T22;
c) (T22)-U23-Oxford[41]; (P16)-N15

PUFF (Bob Holliday, purple) 32 +6 -5(BR) = 33
a) (Y33)-V31; b) (V31)-V29; c) (V29)-Oxford[43]; (B84)-Watlington

STUPID (Mark Stretch, blue) 29 +12 -2(I) = 39
a) (P16)-Q16-M17-L16-K17; b) (K17)-Charlbury; (Q11)-N10;
c) (N10)-Hook Norton; (P16)-P17-Q18-Q19

CIDER (Fiona Campbell, red) 38 +12 = 50
a) (Grove)-N33-R31; b) (R31)-Abingdon; (Q32)-Q31; c) (Q31)-Q27-Botley-S26

PRACTICE (Alan Parr, black) 36 +6 +1(BR) = 45
a) (Oxford[43])-Oxford[41]-T25-T24 b) (T24)-S24-S23; c) (S23)-P21; (T25)-S26

Agrajag: Duncan is back with us and I'm very impressed at the way you all managed to avoid each other between Kidlington and Oxford. Haz 'Mr Efficiency' Bond, our beloved editor, printed the internal and external deadlines the wrong way round in the last U-Bend. He needed to have my contribs by the 21st in order to get the zine done over the Christmas break, so I had to adjudicate on the 18th. Only Bob was caught out by this, which is why I haven't fined him for his NMR and the track I built for him is probably a bit more positive than it might have been under other circumstances (though written without reference to other players' builds.) I've had to slightly alter both Mark's and Haz's orders, as some of the hex references didn't make sense. Some of the printing on the map isn't exactly crystal clear, so please double-check your orders before sending them off, folks. Haz made a good point last time about Oxford's three hexes, so let me point out that each of the three hexes is treated as a separate town in both the building and racing stages. The rolls for turn 3 are: 3, 6, 6.

Duncan - Fiona: Now just listen here! I put my name on this list long before you did! I also see over twenty different zines and I play in most of them. I put it to you, that you are the one copying me. You are out to 'dog' every move I make.

Duncan - Agrajag: No! This isn't the start of a riproaring press saga. This is just the end for a bowl of petunias!

Agrajag sez: Oh no, not again. Splat!

BRASENOSE - Agrajag: Your word processor insists on converting return codes to the symbol "è" when saved as an ASCII file. Tell it to stop, it's no end of a pain to go through deleting them all.

=====
This is a space far too small to fit any games at all into, but not large enough in which to write anything of any consequence.

Instead I'll give you a joke from one of the work Xmas dinner's crackers:
"Waiter, this food is dreadful, I want the manager." -- "Sorry, sir, he's not on the menu." (The winner of this cracker was the head of the catering lecturers' staff team, who thought it most witty).

QUINCY

Time Lords Dip III? 91BS rd??

Autumn 1908

All warps now in abeyance (including the one Italy forgot)

ENGLAND (John Wilman, 2 Keillor Cottages, Kettins, Blairgowrie, Perthshire PH13 9JT)
A(Edi) H, F(NTH)-WARP-Nwy, F(Nwy)-WARP-StP/nc. A(Bel W S07)-Lpl.

FRANCE (RJ Walkerdine, 6 Honeybourne Way, Wickwar, Wotton-under-Edge, Glos GL12 8PF)
F(MAD)-Bre, A(Pic)-Bel, A(Bur) S A(Pic)-Bel. A(Edi W S08)-Lon.

GERMANY (Steve Doubleday, c/o The Old Vicarage, Bruntcliffe Rd, Morley, Leeds LS27 0JZ)
A(Rom)-Ven, A(Kie) H. A(Par W S07)-Ber*.

ITALY (Rob Moore, Flat 2, 132 Otley Road, Far Headingley, Leeds LS16 5JX)
A(Den)-WARP-Den*, A(Par)-Mar (not adjacent), A(Ven) H, A(Hol)-Bel,
A(Tri)-WARP-Tri. F(Gre W S06)-Den*, A(Ven W A07)-Mun.

RUSSIA (Peter Ritchie): No units extant

TURKEY (Edmund Morgan, 22 Meadow Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 4NF)
F(Sev)-BLA, A(Sil)-Ber*, A(Bud)-Vie, A(Con) H. A(Con W S08)-Rum,
A(Ank W S08)-Sev.

Retreats Units in Den and Ber snuff it, for the usual reasons.

Press Rob-All: I'm back! I'm back!

Judge English I'm trying to give up commenting on this game -- every time I do the situation changes 180° and I look a total pillock.

Adjustments

ENGLAND: Lon Bel Nwy Edi StP Lpl	= 4 n/c
FRANCE : Mar Por Spa Epz Edz Bre Bel Lon	= 6 Builds A(Mar), 1 short
GERMANY: StP Mos Rom Kie	= 3 1 sht, no builds possible
ITALY : Nap Tun Gre Kie Mun Swe Den Par Ven Hol Tri	= 10 Builds A(Nap), 4 short
RUSSIA : Rum Vie	= 0 and OUT -- thanks Peter
TURKEY : Ank Smy Bul War Con Ber Sev Bud Ser Rum Vie	= 11 Builds A(Ank, Smy), 4 sht

YAVILLAND

RR 1221LE

Round 7

Steve Guest's Helpful Corrections: Missed payments last time were 4 from TBNS to SACK, 7 from SACK to DEAD. However, John, the two you thought I missed were included; you paid 3 back to DEAD (net +7) and 1 to RADAR (zero sum). Running totals, therefore: TBNS -2-1 interest = -3, SACK 68, DEAD 71. As for sectioning of runs, nobody tells me I can't have same-sector runs if I want them. Right, Colledge?

Race Results

- 1) 23-64 Margate - London: DRUNK 20-4, SACK 10+2, RADAR +2.
 - 2) 56-55 Reigate - Tunbridge Wells: RADAR 15, TBNS 15-5, DEAD +5.
 - 3) 15-36 Hastings - Sheerness: RADAR 20-13, DEAD 10-11, DRUNK +15, SACK +8, TBNS +1.
- This is the second race I've seen (ASFO had the first) where a non-entrant scored most.
- 4) x6-16 X-Channel - Bexhill: RADAR 20, DEAD 10.
 - 5) 61-41 London - Shoreham: DEAD 20+6, TBNS 10-6.
 - 6) 43-24 Brighton - Ramsgate: SACK 20-3, DEAD +3.
 - 7) 35-x1 Maidstone - Seaside: SACK 20+2, TBNS 10+3, RADAR 0-5.

Races (enter up to 4, build up to 10 physical points)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 8) 44-26 Brighton - Deal | 12) 21-14 Whitstable - Eastbourne |
| 9) 31-45 Gravesend - Newhaven | 13) 13-53 Dover - Tonbridge |
| 10) 62-32 London - Sevenoaks | 14) 52-x5 3 Bridges - X-Channel |
| 11) x4-63 X-Channel - London | |

[builds overleaf]

<u>Yavilland Builds</u>	<u>Running Totals</u>
TBNS/blue (Colledge): N30-Dover; F70-I69 = -7 -1Dr	-3+28-1 = <u>24</u>
RADAR/purple (Slade): (A65)-B65-C65-E66-E67-F67-Canterbury; (Tonbridge)-D54-D56-E57 = -11 -11Dr-18S-6T (brave man!)	67+39-45 = <u>61</u>
SACK/orange (Steve Guest): (D56)-D54-Tonbridge; (K51)-L50-L47-M47-London/M46; (L47)- L46. = -11 -1Dr	68+59+6 = <u>133</u>
DEAD/black (David Oya): (London/L45)-London-M45; (E51)-Sevenoaks-E53-Tonbridge = -9 -2S	71+43-10 = <u>104</u>
DRUNK/khaki* (Duncan Adams): (J10)-J8-H7; (H17)-G18; (D70)-H72 = -11 -1S-1R-1De-1T	21+31-2 = <u>50</u>

* = builds altered slightly to make sense

=====

Game Index (don't say I never do anything helpful)

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The usual chat, letters, casual abuse, attempts to shock etc.etc.everywhere else

As advertised on the front cover, Lee has been such an angel and is so much easier to cope with than everyone led us to expect that we are declaring the weekend of January 21-23 a housecon (most games will probably happen on the Saturday, but anyone coming from miles away is welcome to turn up Friday night). Come and meet the famous Colin Wilson (no, not that one, a slightly less famous one). RSVP.

News is that Mission from God is to be passed on to Pete Sullivan and should reappear in mid-January. Pete is also going to take CMag out as an independent 3-weekly zine again. Meantime the US Zine Register, published there by Pete Gaughan, is again to be reprinted in these shores by Iain Bowen and is a snip at a quid. See what happens when you invite editors (including HRB) to review their own zines! (Pete Sullivan, 55 Brunton St, Darlington, Co Durham DL1 4EN; Iain Bowen, 5 Wigginton Tce, York YO3 7JD).

Following the Midcon Oh-My-God-The-Hobby-Is-Dying-What-Can-We-Do Debate (a traditional yearly event) Chris Tringham has been roped in to do a new Introduction to the Postal Hobby which will go to people who send in the box fliers or answer the ads that Agar keeps putting in the most unlikely journals. Further comment if and when I see a copy.

It appears from the current YDdG that ex-Springboarder Stuart Eves is running a minizine called Geneva. Further comment etc.etc.etc. Here at U-Bend Central we are still trying to coerce David Oya into starting a zine. The hobby is, if we can believe the number of gamestarts logged this year by the two-headed Boardman monster of Norton House, on its way up again, but no doubt some people will still be crying doom.