

THE BOOK OF METHUSELAH

ANCIENT WARGAMES CAMPAIGN

BONUS SUPPLEMENT

Recently Discovered Extras

Including *The Antioch Herald*



Thanks to Rob Fletcher for submitting these pages.



Important Archaeological Find at Paphlagonia

An amazing discovery was today made at Paphlagonia, in Serpia, where what were believed to be 5 Mobile Towers dating from the 9th Century BC were found still moving at a speed of 0.05 miles per hour in a little used valley. The Mobile Towers seemed to be in very good working condition, as it seems they had been lovingly looked after by later generations of the same soldiers who originally manned them, nearly 1800 years ago. Each generation had passed down the same order: "Move up to attack Bacteria". (As is now well known, the battle of Bacteria ended in 968 BC.) It was calculated that, at this rate, the Towers should be in place by the year 2308 AD. The soldiers in charge were "looking forward to being able to contribute to the Serpian War effort". Archaeologists were disappointed to find that the original coffee machine in one of the Towers was pulled out to make way for the accumulated volumes of the Captain's Log.

Stop Press:

First Battle of the new Millenium:

Serpian Forces are reported to be seizing the Town of Bacteria in a surprise attack on the Vicosandryme Kingdom. First reports suggest that the Vicosandryme forces were taken completely by surprise by a large and secret attack by overwhelming numbers. The King is said to be considering his response.

Ayatollah announces important East Methuselahn Conference

The Ayatollah today announced that he would be chairing the East Methuselahn Constitutional Separatists Conference at Babylon. All East Methuselahn potentates were invited to attend, and so far, most of them have accepted the invitation. The issue to be discussed at the intergovernmental conference, is the creation of the Eighty-Ninth East Methuselahn Alliance (ENEMA)

Notes and Queries

GOD

Appearance: Uncertain. Thought to be 6 foot 5 clothes prop with midriff bulge (max. capacity: 8 pints) Could be more demonic in latest manifestation.

Occupation: Deity. Just as likely to be responsible for fire and pestilence and whole armies being sunk in the Caspian as he is for lower interest rates and 3p off the basic rate.

Let's get this right: Is he omnipotent then? There is nothing, but nothing he can't do. Anyway, God has no problem with potency: anyone suggesting as much would be guilty of a gross phallusy.

So he's omniscient as well? Theory breaks down at this point. He has no more idea of what the Parthians are up to than the rest of us.

Creator of the Universe? Well, he's at least responsible for 27 different versions of the March of the Scarecrows - every conceivable orchestral combination and/or key catered for. Bulk discounts available.

As Vicar on Earth, does the Imperial Holiness have a direct line to what must be a very useful person to know? He might think so; I couldn't possibly comment.

Does he though? Look, he *thinks* so, but then so does the Ayatollah and the King.

Does the Parbeecian have a direct line? He put it *in* for him: there has got to be *some* use to knowing a BT engineer.

Most likely to say: 4, 5 or 6 and they rot?

Least likely to say: I'm bored with this Tutti Frutti tape, let's get another one.

Next month: His Imperial Holiness the Pope Herpes IV.

Incontinent Newspapers Ltd. A subsidiary of SeMen.

That Interview: more on the Herald's exclusive heart to heart with the Face that Launched a Thousand Pages of Tabloid Newsprint (see pages 15-94, this edition) ☺



The view from the bottom right-hand corner.

Serpia's Independent Islamic Newspaper
Distributed free to all Methuselahs Potentates

Price: 2 Tollahs
Issue no. 2

Important Archaeological Find at Circumcizia

An amazing discovery was today made at Circumcizia (05) where his Immortal Vastness Pope Herpes the IV has his summer palace. A large porcelain bowl, which had been used as a soup tureen for many years, has been conclusively identified as 9th Century BC. It had been brought to the Palace from the Island of Helenus, where it had been the object of an obscure cargo cult amongst the local Greeks. The bowl is thought now to be the fabled Imperial Commode of the first Emperor of the Dark Empire. This Commode had been the object of innumerable searches by Empire knights in the Dark Ages, and yet there it was, all the time, on the dinner table. Asked if he would now stop using the Commode as a soup tureen, the Pope commented laconically that he thought the previous use of the Commode added body to the Octail soups he had tasted, and could not think of a better use for the bowl.

Reuters

Stop Press

Protectorate forces were falling back in rout upon Impervious this week as history repeated itself, and Bacteria fell to the invading Serpians. The Ayatollah was not available for comment, as he was organising the new government of the Caliphate of Bacteria.

New Series: real quotations from military history.

No. 1: Ghengis Khan

Ghengis enquired of his comrades-in-arms: what is life's sweetest pleasure? On being told that it lay in falconry, he said: "You are mistaken. Man's greatest good fortune is to chase and defeat his enemy, seize his total possessions, leave his married women weeping and wailing, ride his gelding, and use the bodies of his women as a nightshirt"

Notes and Queries: Pope Herpes IV

Occupation: Professional Methuselah potentate with historic victories over the Belt, Macedonia, Parbeeria, and no doubt numerous other kingdoms and kingdomettes, if the Ayatollah hadn't got there first. So he won the last campaign then? There is some dispute about this. We are all rather hoping that this next campaign might settle the issue once and for all.

Appearance? Somewhat rotund, in view of the fact that his most favoured repast is a rich Beltic recipe for Parbeerian horsemeat. Last saw his knees in 937 AD.

Famous for saying: "I can't see the point in diplomacy when brute force works much better"

What accounts for his astonishing success? Compendious and convincing command of factors. This comes from being able to calculate compound interest over 10 years at 6.75% on £1,500 capital investment. Any errors are certain to be in his favour.

Personal characteristics: Brutal indifference to captive soldiers (would rather put to death potentially very useful hostages, delays putting captives to the sword only so as to be able to torture them first)

Attentive and considerate to his own troops. Putty in the hands of small children.

Most favoured army list? Any list which no-one else has heard of, and combines EHC with L, B, Sh, JLS, and supporting equerries holding onto the stirrup and counting as LMI with LTS and Sh.

Most likely to say: Ah but *Lois* Imperial Oubhoemian cataphract elephants were also armed with dart, so that gives me +7 on the hand-to-hand, and oops I've thrown up again, so that's 15 @ maximum, scoring 1,750 on you in that formation, so it must be ding.

Least likely to say: Women with breasts at 44" and D cup do not affect my investment decisions. I only look at their eyes.

Battlefield latest.

1st Battle of Goulays ends in disaster for the Parbeerians. In a defeat not unlike the Black Sea disaster of the 9th Century BC, Parbeerian ambitions were set back several months, in an ill-advised charge at well defended positions outside Goulays. Asked if "Rush" orders were not a little intemperate in such circumstances, the Parbeerian general replied: "I was going to proceed with caution and probe gently on one wing, but then I thought: 'look where those tactics got King Eric'. In any case, someone seems to have taken the relevant pages out of the Parbeerian military manual. Instead, someone seems to have left the Readers' Wives pages from some disreputable men's magazine, and signed them: "Have fun! H". I did actually, because they've all got quite enormous kno-

Could p 94



Balance of Power changed as Empire troops lose their grip on the Continent.

Defeat followed defeat this week for the Empire. The Herald notes that the Imperial presence has been removed from the Serbian Empire, and the Seleucid capital. There has, so far, been no progress in the Parboerian Dominion and the Indianus Region, but these are weedy and knock-kneed tin-pot areas of the continent anyway, and if local populations don't throw off their imperial masters soon, the Ayatollah has volunteered to do it for them.

Reuters

Letters to the Editor.

Dear Ed: Could we please hear more about ladies being night-shirts? This was a particularly interesting feature of your last edition. Do they have large breasts?

Yours, Anton of Mars.

Battlefield latest

Unable to afford compasses and maps, (Irreg A are really expensive!) a troop of Serbian Cavalry blundered into southern Indianus last month. As the main body were intelligently placed to the rear, only the vanguard were given a lesson in geography at Mahonjo-Dare. If Sophia's pony circus troop wants to make an issue of it, they should rendezvous with Akhba the Pestilential at Ereck. Bring your own toilet paper.

Real quotations from Military History No. 2: **Vespasian Suetonius** records: When a young man, reeking of perfume, came to thank the Emperor for a legionary commission he had asked for, and obtained, Vespasian turned his head away in disgust and cancelled the order, saying: "I would not have minded so much if it had been garlic."

(This is of course a far cry from Empire military discipline today: the Herald learns that one favoured Dark Empire General has been named: ORIFICE the OPEN. Draw your own conclusions!)

Notes and Queries: HEINRICH VON FARTENBLASTER

Occupation: Ruler, Parboerian Dominion; organic chemist.

Role and Function? HvF (or Hini to his friends) is outstandingly the Unknown Variable in a world where certainties are at a premium. Military strategy seems almost random at times, even to God.

Famous for discovering: Organic process for the production of large amounts of methane and marsh gas from a mixture of aduki beans and a variety of Parboerian beer.

Least appealing habit? Demonstrating the above.

Parboerian beer sounds a bit iffy. Dead right. It is brewed from a mixture of camel spit, Toilesh barley and those little black bits that hang from sheeps' bottoms. Not for the squeamish.

Is HvF famous for anything else? Ancestors include an earlier Parboerian ruler of the same name, who staged a huge Party of Goulays after the first Methuselahn wars, in which 2,500 Catsphracts lost consciousness, and the city of Goulays was almost completely razed to the ground in drunken brawls.

With such a formidable army, how can he be defeated? Winning battles against the Parboerian is relatively easy: Dig a big trench, 2 yards deep, 3 yards wide, and 400 yards long. Fill with pointed sticks, bits of old beer bottles, and one or two 'D' class pike units, and cover over with grass and bracken. Position army behind the trench and issue "Hold and give two-fingered salute" orders when catsphracts appear. After the dust is settled, select one or two choice filets of Parboerian horsemeat, roast over charcoal and serve on a bed of rice.

Is Hini an exponent of diplomacy? In the conduct of diplomatic relations with the Parboerians it is vital to have immense patience, as it is thought that letters and orders to Parboerian armies are intercepted by bandits in the region of Mita and Soton (Y5). Most communications vanish without trace.

Least likely to say: "I have decided to send in my orders early this month."

Most likely to say: "Never mind about the factors of LC against pike in formation 15-deep - just charge in."

And finally...

Next month's edition features a Notes and Queries feature on The King. We reveal for the first time that all Seleucid potentates have an infectious gene. Also, an exclusive: in this edition goes to press, the King is being romantically linked to 'bluggy' Smeagol-Turks, Seleucid socialists, and home-help. Will this mean divorce for Princess Demetria, the King's former wife? Don't miss next month's copy!



Scott Inquiry into the sale of Arms and related material to the Serpians.

Methuselah was rocked this month at the revelation that arms and arms-related material were exported to Serbia City by arms manufacturers in Western Methuselah. Government ministers said, however: "We have nothing to hide. There is nothing lethal about the sharp pointy bits and chariot wheels we have sold to the Serpians. We thus exonerate everyone of everything entirely, and see no reason for anybody, at any time, to resign for any reason, now and in the future. On this basis rests our reputation and credibility for good government."

Reuters

Who is Philip of Macedon?

The Herald understands that a new character has appeared to lead the Central Methuselah state of Macedon. A number of diplomatic initiatives seem to have their source in someone calling himself Philip V. But, who is he? Any intelligence, please, to the Foreign desk at the Herald.

Real quotations from Military History No. 3: Bagshot

"The soldier, that is the great soldier of today - is not a romantic animal dashing at forlorn hopes, animated by frantic sentiment, but a quiet, grave man, bustled in charms, exact in aims, master of the art of tactics, thinking, as the Duke of Wellington was said to do, mostly of the shoes of his soldiers, and perhaps, like Count Moltke, silent in seven languages." Anyone recognise Methuselah generals in this?

Battlefield latest

The Battle of Parati, June 969

The Ayatollah was yesterday celebrating the historic success of the 4th Serbian Corps at the Battle of Parati, a reprisal for the disgraceful attack on an innocent coach tour of southern Indianus last month at Mohenjo-Daro. Although the Army Corps was lost in the exchange, the Indianus High Command sustained crippling losses, and the Indianus war effort was set back several minutes. Akhba the Pestilential is here depicted with the skull of Sophia the First celebrating the battle, saying: "One more victory like that and we're finished"



Notes and Queries:

King Basil of Bacteria

Occupation: Potentate, Seleucid kingdom, former docket checker, Impetuous border with Parbaeria, Koen yachtsman. Descended from the fabled 9th Century King Eric - a king with so little credibility that two units of Bladhist fanatics could pin down the resources of an entire region. The Jewish Revolt of 66 is not even in the same league.

Age? Unknown, but thought like all Seleucid kings to be in the region of 105 at the last count.

Role and Function? All races need some horse to come last. The King, however, is fated even to find this difficult, and is usually the horse that is put down after falling at the first fence.

Contribution to the campaign so far? The King has spent 400 mazamas fortifying a small clearing in the forests outside Blachaman. He spent 3 weeks disguised as a tree when an Empire patrol passed within 30 miles of his position. Apart from this, Visanoryme armies have been tiptoeing around the 'E' roads of the southern part of the Seleucid kingdom.

Strengths and weaknesses? The King is a master of the art of studied caution and inactivity. He will not venture forth unless the odds favour him three to one. Bolder potentates have usually swept in, converted his territory into the Kingdomette, and swept out again to take on the Parbaerians before the King has bent down to tie his shoe laces.

How can he be beaten on the battlefield? You haven't been listening. Tests have shown that Seleucid Kings are all members of a rare genetic group. The gene induces a certain psychotic inability to take decisive military action or other risk. It took him three years to take out a mortgage.

Sorry, there was a question earlier about strengths. Yes I know, there really aren't too many, but one of the most fearsome assets the Kingdom has is its Women's Institute, led by Mrs. Sally Sidite. These provide some of the best organised Ptiloi units in the Kingdom's army.

Other crack units include the brigade of Girl Guides and an Irreg A unit of Boys-who-throw-stones.

Marital status. The King was recently linked romantically with 'Miggy' Smoggo-Forko, a Seleucidite socialite with no intellectual pretensions whatsoever. She was last month the subject of an assassination attempt by the King's ex-wife, Princess Dementia. Dementia and her paramour, Carl Willing, are thought to be organising a rebellion somewhere in the region north of Tertis.

Most likely to say: Probe. Er... No, make that Hold. On one wing anyway, perhaps the right wing should fall back to those positions I prepared earlier. Er.

Even more likely to say: Ok, I'll swap you the Calphate of Bacteria for a yacht.



The view from the bottom right hand corner

Serpia's Independant Islamic Newspaper
Distributed free to all Methuselahn Potentates

Price: 2 Tollahs
Issue no. 5

Parbeerian Horse- Meat Scare worsens

A team of seleucidite scientists from Literatii are currently meeting in secret to decide the fate of some 10m Parbeerian horses following recent increase in reported cases of EFS (Equine Flatulence Syndrome) in humans.

Parbeerian Horsemeat has become a common delicacy in most Methuselahn regions due to its substantial availability. Recently however, the price on the open market has dropped by some 2 Tollahs per tin.



Surveys of methuselahn potentates suggest that invasions of Parbeeria are now less likely to happen unless Beelzebub can provide subsidies to replace what was once a substantial form of booty.

Stop Press

Indianus has won the first Test in Kyber despite the Serpians getting the runs. (see page 74)

Phillip of Macedon has notched up his first ever win against the Serpians at Illiad. (What in Gods name were the Serpians doing in Macedon? page 72)

Goulays Militia were out in force again today against the Dark Empire. In the fog of defeat for the Parbeerians, rumours abound that Von Fartenblaster has been captured.

** a late night Serpia City Market Square Game Show

Notes and Queries: The Ayatollah

Occupation: Islamic Fundamentalist and keen back-stabber. Has an even darker side with left wing tendencies. Married with 4 camels.

Age: Claims to be in the vicinity of 40 but carbon-dating of a pair of discarded sandals suggests otherwise

Role & Function: Lets put it this way, you wouldn't want to live next door to him. Is currently fighting on all frontiers, engaging Indianus, Macedon and now the Seleucidite Kingdom as well. Once picked a fight with a shoal of cuttlefish just because they strayed to within 40 hexes off the coast of Sinope.

Strengths & weaknesses: Undoubtedly, his strength lies in the fact that because of his unpopularity, he is unable to forge an alliance with anyone, and therefore successfully avoids any double-crossing. This is also his main weakness: no friends. His other downfall is due to a liking for Russian Brandy, which has on many occasions thrown him into hallucinations, beleiving on one occasion to be a participant in Tutas-Friutus**, and being arrested for indecent behaviour.

How can he be beaten on the battlefield?: Just turn up and leave the rest to him.

Most Likely to say: Why dont you and I do a deal to invade

Least Likely to say: It must be my round.

Small Adds:

Wanted: One or more allies for business partnership. Apply Po Box 100, Serpia.



INCONTINENT CENTENARY EDITION.

It is now a long time ago since the Ayatollah and Herpes the Great met at the final Ragnarok" of the Methuselah campaigns outside Goulays and divided up the known world. This special edition of Incontinent celebrates the great wars of Methuselah and the mighty deeds of the Emperors and rulers who once populated it, and asks: Where Are They Now?

Picture section.

Archive material released under the Official Secrets act published for the first time: Exclusive War Correspondents photographs.

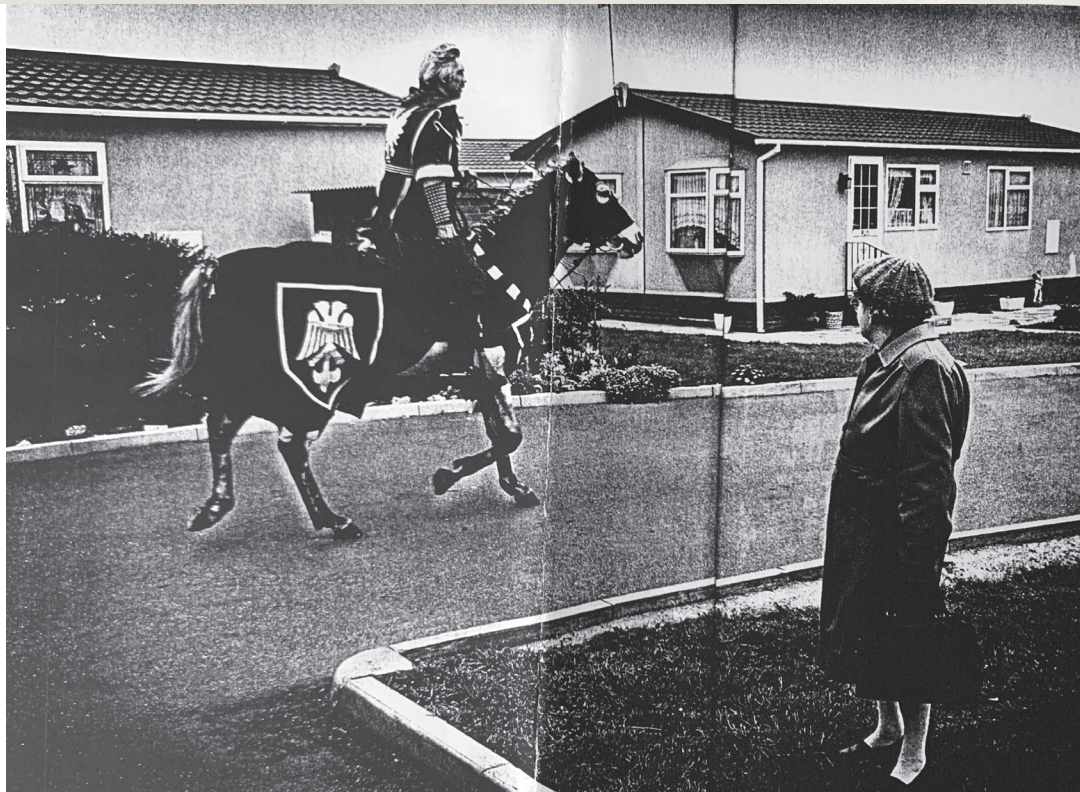
Photo 1:

Empress Sophia has hair cut in vain attempt to pass herself off as one of her generals shortly before capture by Serpian forces at Kyber.



Photo 2:

A rare collectors item. Mrs. Sally Sidite of 14, the Hovells, Pig Pen, nr. Bacteria (see Incontinent 967) watches as Akbha the Pestilential leads another cavalry charge over her hollyhocks. It was this charge which led to her famous complaint to OFBAT (watchdog authority examining military practices) which in turn led to the final surrender of Bacteria. King Eric's summer palace can be seen in the background, on the right.



Where are they now ?

Herpes, Emperor, Dark Empire and dominions,

Following his impressive series of victories, culminating in the Pantsoff Pact, which ended the wars, Herpes became bored with success. For a short while, he renounced his military career altogether. He took to drink, and obscure Ostrogothic sexual rituals; he brooded over dreams of vast armies of EHC L B Sh, he nearly painted up 1500 points worth of calaphract elephants armed with naphtha bombs and 2HCW (a little-known army from Central Asia). Finally he was brought back to the throne by popular acclaim when a maurauding force of Vandals stole the Imperial Commode. The latter was lost at sea when the Vandals were driven back, but it was subsequently washed up on the island of Helenus where it became the central feature of a new cargo cult.

¹ Norse mythology: look it up like I had to.

Poliorcates, King, Athenian League only.

Poliorcates spent virtually the entire Methuselahn campaign aloof from the fray, apart from: failing to respond to piratical attacks from Bouberra (see below), several fictitious assaults on Empire territory (copyright Ayatollah) , and one very stubborn resistance to a Macedonian incursion ineptly carried out by Athenicus. As a consequence, the League accumulated vast financial reserves and must therefore be thought of as the true winners of the Methuselahn campaigns. Their success is due to a masterly grasp of diplomacy. Refusal to apply to letters was interpreted as a sign of imminent attack; cryptic entries in incontinent small ads columns were assumed by everyone to be signals to allies, prompting an attack from other directions. After setting this superb defensive system in train, Poliorcates left the campaigns early, and, having no imperial ambitions whatsoever, embarked on a career as a Greek shipping magnate. He is now married to a Parthian princess he met on a cruise in the Black sea. The League is run in his absence by a committee of major shareholders.

The Empress Sophia: Empress (dec).

Following her execution by firing squad on the road north of Faridcol, several Sophia religious cults have sprung up in the region, membership of which is marked by visions of the Empress' ghost insisting on a Chicken buryani, fried rice and a bottle of fairly rough white wine. The cult has produced unexpectedly high profits for the Parbeerian McHorsemeat Burger Hut company (a subsidiary company of the Serbian Military Enterprises Corporation). The search for the Empress' unmarked grave continues. Meanwhile, in a referendum in the Region, further economic integration with the Serbian Empire was rejected.

Bouberra, pirate, No fixed abode.

Licking her wounds after a stinging defeat at Hatra towards the end of the Methuselah campaign, Bouberra laid low on an unnamed Aegean island for a while. Re-emerging after several months, she sacked Peila, Ciltus and Ria before anyone told her that the war was over. Athenicus, however, was in no position to complain as the action extracted him from the now infamous Olympias and Zoya pension funds scandal, in which several pike units lost their entire pension holdings, in the financial problems which attended Herpes' invasion. Bouberra now runs a small kafenion on Helenus, where remnants of the pike units are still used in the preparation of her specialty kebabs.

God, Major Ditty, Everywhere.

God's main preoccupation since the end of the Methuselahn

campaign has been financial. After failing to sell Heaven (despite a tentative consideration by the Ayatollah) God has been making full use of his creative talents by intervening on the side of the Italians in a major World War, and establishing once and for all that only divine intervention can prevent them from their usual fate of going out in the first round. It has subsequently become clear that even God cannot penetrate the devious and unreliable mentality of the Turkish High Command.

King Eric, minor customs official, Impecunious.

Eric was deprived of his crown after capture by the Ayatollah, and was reduced to plain Eric Seleucid. He was offered the post of Chief of Police at Lachrymosa, after an outbreak of the Bludhist rebellion there. In secret, he changed his name by deed poll, from 'Eric' to 'King' and 'Seleucid' to 'Eric'. After being forced to retreat by two units of 6 LMI at the aptly named battle of Tedious (II5) King Eric was demoted to his present position as docket checker at the customs post on the Seleucid-Parthian frontier where indecision is regarded as a positive virtue.

Von Fartenblaster, Heinrich; Special Operations Executive, Goulays.

The Parthian ruler was employed for a time as the Ayatollah's cataphract advisor until it became clear that he had very little idea either. Since that time he has been entrusted with safeguarding the border with the Dark Empire. Von Fartenblaster's conception of peace and security has involved the devastation of the border zone for hundreds of miles in all directions. The Barbarian now lives in great luxury in a converted Mobile Tower outside what remains of Goulays, which was trashed in a drinking orgy of quite monumental proportions in 985.

Ayatollah; Spiritual leader and military genius, Serpia and Caliphates

The Ayatollah, deprived of complete victory by the Pantsoff Pact, turned to other distractions to fend off the boredom of peace. After feeling that he had done all that there was to do as a statelegician², attempted to learn battlefield tactics. On finding no enemies to fight, he pitched Serpian against Serpian in War Games, took on Akbha the Pestilential, and wiped out several complete armies before learning the factors of unshielded medium cavalry against HI JLS B Sh. He has rarely been seen outside the Imperial palace in Serpia City for several months where he is still trying to work out

² (The Complete How To Be A Military Genius comes out in 3,650 weekly parts and is available from SEMEN publications corp, price 10,000 mazumas or nearest equivalent, payable in advance.

scouting strength.

Methuselah; continent.

The continent of Methuselah grows fat on the benefits of peace, but groans with boredom. However, fat means plunder, and boredom breeds mischief. The vain, self-important potentates in their palaces, mobile towers and customs sheds have ambitions which know no limits. How much longer will they be content with the problems of imperial household economics? Or: are war clouds gathering? Will King Eric make the biggest come-back since Gazza's knee? Can the Empress Sophia make an even bigger one? (Come-back, that is). Can Herpes Ever hope to win with an army that **doesn't** contain EHC L B Sh? Will the Ayatollah's Quadratic equations for working out scouting strength actually work? Has the Barbarian been civilised? It seems these questions may be answered, if Methuselah once again comes to life. Thank you, and Good night.

INCONTINENT AUGUST 969AD
issued 25th May 1996
issue number 007

SORRY FOR DELAY

Spartan has just survived it's biggest expansion to date in the form of 9 pallets of books arriving from Faber Music Ltd, two new catalogues to distribute, new accounts opening every day, and large hike in turnover. My only regret is that I got behind with Methuselah. Sorry chaps.

FARTENBLASTERS SHOCK RETIREMENT

In a move that took all of Methuselah by surprise, Heinrich von Fartenblaster II announced his intentions to take a well-earned retirement from ruling the Royal Dominion of Parbeeria. His appointed successor, the battle worthy Crapolotoulous St. Andrex, will be sworn in during the month, when he returns to the capital Goulays.

"I've certainly enjoyed my time as supreme ruler of all that I can see, taste and smell, but due to the international taxation situation and the fact that my sphincter is wearing out, I need the rest. So rest my weary buttocks I will, and I commend Crapolotoulous to you all.

I am now leaving the throne for the last time after 11 and a half glorious months of methaneous self-adulation. To Herpes I leave only the worst smell I can muster (the palace still hasn't recovered after his tenancy). However I offer the banana branch of hope to the rest of Methuselah for peace to all in our troubled times."

Crappy is said to be looking forward to his new opportunity to rule Parbeeria in a fair and democratically feudal way, and to kick butt in the West (I). "I will be as cheese-wire between Herpes buttocks and a splinter in his side."

Meanwhile the Mars press office stated that an elated Herpes IV welcomed the change of potentate, but stressed that the quest for world-wide domination would continue, even if he has no one else to sniff up to : "I'll miss the old bugger, farts and all, and he sure made a mean cabbage and bean stew. I'm addicted - I'm sure I'll eat my underpants if I'm not invited to his retirement party!"

A palace spokesman denied further viscous Empire rumours that Farty had been deposed of, and that Herp the twerp had been working too hard.

SPARTAN CRICKET MATCH CONFIRMED

The Spartan Hoplite Eleven will play the Oxford Occasionals on 7th July at 2.00pm at St. Edward's School Ground (Signposted DOUGLAS BADER SPORTS CENTRE) off Woodstock Road. Herpes, Ayatollah, Beelzebub are all playing - much drinking afterwards at the Woodstock Arms opposite the playing field. Do come along!

SEPTEMBERS ORDERS

Please send in orders for September 969AD by 15th June 96.

STOP PRESS

Serpian officials today demanded a urine test on the winner of the Silly Generals Competition. The Ayatollah was said to be "astonished" and "shocked" that **PENDULOUS THE WELL-ENDED** did not figure in the awards ceremony. Sources close to the Imperial circle suggest the Ayatollah is appalled at the success of what is essentially toilet humour, and sees it as an example of declining moral standards in the continent.

STOP PRESS

Akbha the Pestilential has changed his mane by deed poll to: **FLATULUS CUMULUS THE RESOUNDING ONE**

His wife: *(this one is for scholars and will not be understood by e.g.: Beelzebub)* **AROMA CLOACA MAXIMA** also asked to be involved.

PHILIP OF MACEDON ANNOUNCES

Storm clouds gather in the South.

BATTLE OF PERGAMUM, JULY 969AD.

Serpian troops repelled forces landing at Pergamum last month in what appeared to be a speculative exploratory invasion. The entire invading units were wiped out, so it was not possible to be sure who was responsible, but it is thought it may have been a diversionary feint. Serpian coastal forces were put onto a Red-Alert.

AYATOLLAH HAS TWO MESSAGES

1) It is time the rest of you put something out! Where is the Tertis Telegraph., the Jomuna Journal, The Tarnish Mirror, the Vesurians Guardian, or the Alexandrian Morning Star? **COME ON YOU LAZY SODS!**

3) Here is a serious message for troops poised on the brink of invading the Serpian territory: I know where you live! Think again!!!!!!

THE INCONTINENT - ISSUE 002

STILL PRE-MARCH 969AD

Initial deployments have now been received.

Revised army lists have been confirmed.

Individual objectives and setups have now been communicated to each potentate.

Mission statements have been issued (see below).

Initial Settlement ownership has been decided.

Please send in your Order Forms (NOW ENCLOSED in an experimental form) plus any recruitment plans, letters for other rulers, incontinent offerings etc. by **END NOVEMBER 1995** for orders to take effect during March 969AD. Late entries will not be accepted.

Beelzebub.

New Members join Methuselah 969AD

Incontinent proudly announces new players for the Athenian League and Macedon, due to take up position from April 966 - David Knowles and Geoff Kirk. David has kindly taken on the role of Invidious Poliorcates, and Geoff will announce his character and Mission statement as soon as he is settled. Heaven (or is it Hell these days) is very grateful to our new players and hope established Methuselahn players will give them an easy time of it for the first few months! David is a self employed computer-programmer originally from Manchester now living in Monmouth, and Geoff is a part-time sheep farmer and designer(!). Beelzebub expects each of them to announce themselves in due course.

Visencryme Protectorate - Mission Statement

"To restore the former Seleucidite Kingdom (henceforth to be known as the Visencryme Protectorate) to the full height of it's former glory".

Total Solar Eclipse in Indianus Region

Military manoeuvres were suspended for 24 hours in the Region this month while suspicious Indians stayed indoors to avoid the eclipse. Manoeuvres had just recommenced when miraculously some stone cows started to drink milk, and further movement was suspended for the rest of the month while everybody got over the shock. Seleucid High Command was reported to be investigating the idea of constructing a large portable balloon to carry with advancing invasion parties, to pull off something similar. Milk-drinking cows are already part of the New Byzantine Army List (Irreg E, counting as LC, shieldless and armed with biological shock value (nil)).

Ayatollah Imperial Decrees Volume 2

The Ayatollah greets his erstwhile friends and enemies and expresses his hope that we can have a good clean war. It's Nice to be back!!

I'm sorry I appear to be the only one to keep the original character and names; sounds a bit boring of me... but it just seemed very appropriate to The Arab Conquest...

There are some changes: SeMEu has been replaced by Persians Undertaking Surgical Strike at Yefrem (June 969)

OPEN MESSAGE

TO POPE HERPES OR HIS DESCENDANTS, FROM BASIL OF BACTERIA

The citizens of the Visancryme Protectorate are now standing ready at my command to relieve the grip of your forces on our poor country. You have one last chance to withdraw peacefully and restore our freedom.... two last chances, you have TWO LAST CHANCES. And we're not joking.

Incontinent Special

From His Imperial Holiness, Pope Herpes IV (*HIV for short.*)

My dearest followers, with great sadness I must inform you; although this great land of ours has been at peace for nigh on two millennium, news has arrived of trouble stirring in the east. A Curse that will setback our attempts to create a decent standard of living, a stable economy and in developing new technology throughout Methuselah. Rebel forces have begun sacking towns and cities throughout Parbeeria, the Seleucidite Kingdom, Indianus and, worse of all, Serpia.

Our great Cabinet of Governors met this weekend to draw up a plan to resolve the matter. As you know, our political opponents have pleaded us to raise taxes to finance increased public expenditure on arms and the like. I have said before, Oh yes, and I will say it again; we will only relax our public expenditure controls when it is safe and prudent so to do. Oh yes. We will not risk a repeat of the inflationary strife caused by the Serpians at the end of the Great Wars of the 9th Century B.C. We will not risk bankrupting our state through the ineffective use of state troops against guerrilla forces. This is a war we cannot win, Oh yes, for to attempt such would purely serve to slaughter lives unnecessarily; this is against our most fundamental beliefs as Christian human beings.

I have therefore instructed each of the four local governors of the aforementioned states to negotiate a truce in exchange for some territorial gains, Oh yes, and safe passage for Imperial troops to return to their homelands. I shall be sending a personal plea for common sense to prevail in these regions to all of the rebel leaders.

For it is our Imperial Mission to uphold law & order in the land, provide long term growth and prosperity for our children, and safe fishing grounds off the coast of Zog. Oh yes. That is our mission.

BASIL OF BACTERIA - A BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

Born in the slums of Bacteria amongst the ruins of the once great Seleucidite city, Basil of Bacteria knows what it feels like to be appressed by the hated Herpes' fromces. Whilst growing up he was continually in trouble with the occupying forces for rabble-raising and sedition.

Always a religious figure he rose rapidly through the ranks of the Visancryme state religion (Bludhism of course) and is now viewed with something approaching God like status amongst many of the population. This is especially so following his sacred pilgrimage to Goulays where he was able to recover many of thye holy relics associated with the revered Saint Eric, amongst them the sailcloght and blessed planks from his last fishing boat jouney and a piece of Brian Boring's spear, as used against the Parbeerians.

Court circular from Agrippa.

General Heinrich von Fartenblaster proudly announces his latest list of C-in-C's. :-

Spiros Crapalotolous - Grecian half brother to Hini F. and commander of a large army 'somewhere in Rhaetia' (!). His name was derived from his dietary after-effects, rather than his gladiatorial fighting prowess.

Androgenous the Unsure - little bekknown, slightly effeminate cousin to Spiros (the 'Dark Sheep' of the family). Also champion sprinter of Rhaetia, as ably demonstrated outside Bithnia recently. Distinguishing features are full rounded pectorals, and sword-bearing hips. To be replaced, so watch this space.

Rasputum the Bad Monk - backsliding, licentious old Abbot, smokes 60+ a day, and can kill a man at 100 paces with a sharpened cricifix. Leaves a lingering smell of Vic wherever he goes.

Zorro III - A warrior descendant from ancient Andalucian hordes, he is also known as the 'Barbarian of Seville'. Famous for his party trick impressions of Niagara Falls after numerous beers and a Chicken Vindaloo.

Odious Ubiquitous - Brigadier from Agrippa. Travels the continent passing forged cheques and stealing womens underwear from public Spas.

Bit of a village idiot really, and the only person who applied for this dangerous job. Distinguishing features are long black, curly teeth, and garlic B.O.

Captain Pugwash - Captain of the fleet at Utica. Ably assisted by his Boswain Master Bates and first mate Seaman Staines. Highly intelligent and inventive warlord. Designer of the ecologically safe sailcloth made out of Klingfilm and banana skins.

Jack the Kipper - the common alias given to this Captain, is especially known for his nocturnal murderous tendencies. Never been fully identified, but is believed to be of royal lineage. First mate is Sphinctus Verbatum, a nasty cut-throat who talks quantum physics 'out fom his arse' when he's roaring drunk.

Other C-in-C,s to be announced later.
Incidentally, Fartenblaster also boasts a Royal Harem, with the following prized Methuselan nubile at October 192 A.D. :-

Fellatia Fulfillius,
Lucretia Porsche,
Flatulantia Harmonius,
Labijs Erogeous,
Ivana the Spendthrift,
Eskimo Nell,
Tracey.

BEELZEBUB'S RHUBARB

and they're OFF!

Good high standard of *deception* so far,
certain fine *aggressive* manoeuvring,
a spoonful of *stereotyped caution*,
an equally characteristic portion of *incompetence*,
and a plop of unrivalled *inertia*. **Good show.**

- Thanks to the potentate who sent in the ALGORITHM for deciding battles with the dice - could be useful once George arrives. Next **MASSED** game here late Feb.??
- Please do not staple your order sheets together.
- Please do not write on two sheets of any paper - reverse side may get lost....
- Please only send INCONTINENT stuff on disk - print your own letters out you fairies.
- The "I claim the tax from the following settlements...." bit on the order forms includes brackets for the **HEX** designations of the settlements. **MORE THAN ONE** potentate saw fit to fill in how much **TAX REVENUE** they considered the settlements were worth - (sorry to disappoint you both by the way) - please use this space to fill in **HEX** names to save admin. time. Ta.
- Orders for April 969ad by end of December 1995 please.

Indianus Region

Mission Statement

"To bring the Indianus Region back to it's former glory".

from the flatulent one...

Heinrick von Fartenblaster extends his warm greetings to all old adversaries and new potential dictators alike, and looks forward to a good, hard, dirty and interesting campaign.

Special greetings to the 'Heavenly Cherub' ("perhaps we could meet over a glass or two of my home-brew llama elixir"?)

A Deep and meaningful public address from the Indianus Region

Hi!

SILLY GENERAL'S NAME CONTEST

Entries for next issue please..... winner gets 10 shekels (really - Beelzebub).

Must be currently used general's name - one entry per potentate.... External judging guaranteed. The judges decision is final.

IT'S
OFFICIAL !

: a genius



Members of the Serbian School of Espionage held aloft a picture of the Ayatollah as they prepare for their final examinations in the Solenoidike language. The vice-chancellor of Liberati University (now at Serbia City) today declared the Ayatollah was "a genius; a legend in our time." Several graduates from the Espionage school offered their services free to the Serbian High Command.

STOP PRESS PICTURE SECTION.

Additional archive photos are now available.

Photo 3: shows the Dark Empire Imperial General Staff on manoeuvres outside the legionary headquarters at Bigchester. The generals (Herpes and Howard the Frank) are seen here wearing their portable bivouac tarpaulins, for use only in the drizzle which is a permanent weather feature of the Belt of Occult.



Photos 4&5: (Main photo) :The Ayatollah, testing the latest Serpian Helmet, which offers additional offensive capabilities, and can be fitted with L, or LTS, or Naphtha Bomb as a variant.

(Inset) Von Fartenblaster in full dress uniform, calling for more beer at the famous Party of Goulays which lasted for three weeks and five days. Over 9 million gallons of beer were consumed , and huge numbers of troops never regained consciousness.

