# The Book of METHUSELAH

## ANCIENT WARGAMES CAMPAIGN

## In 4 volumes

- I Introduction, rules, map etc.
- II Year 1: 969BC (Played from 1987-1988)
- III Year 2: 968BC (Played from 1988-1989)
- **IV** Year 3: 967BC (Played from 1989-1990)

# VOLUME IV



# Methuselah

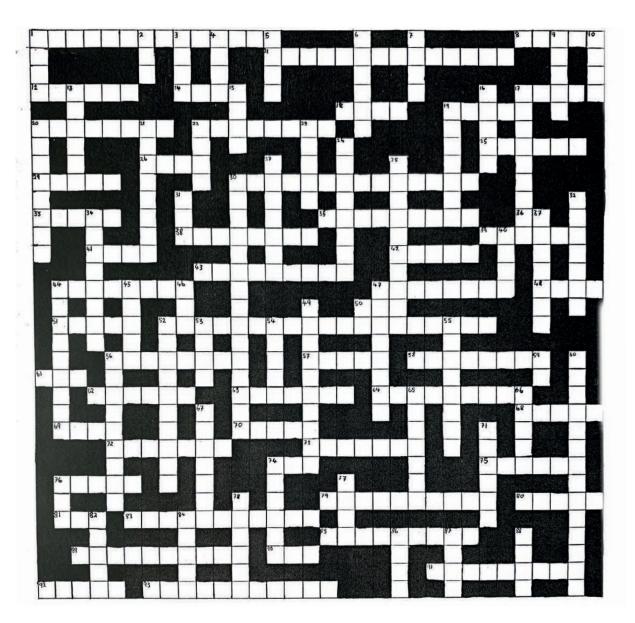
# **IN-CONTINENTS: 967 BC**

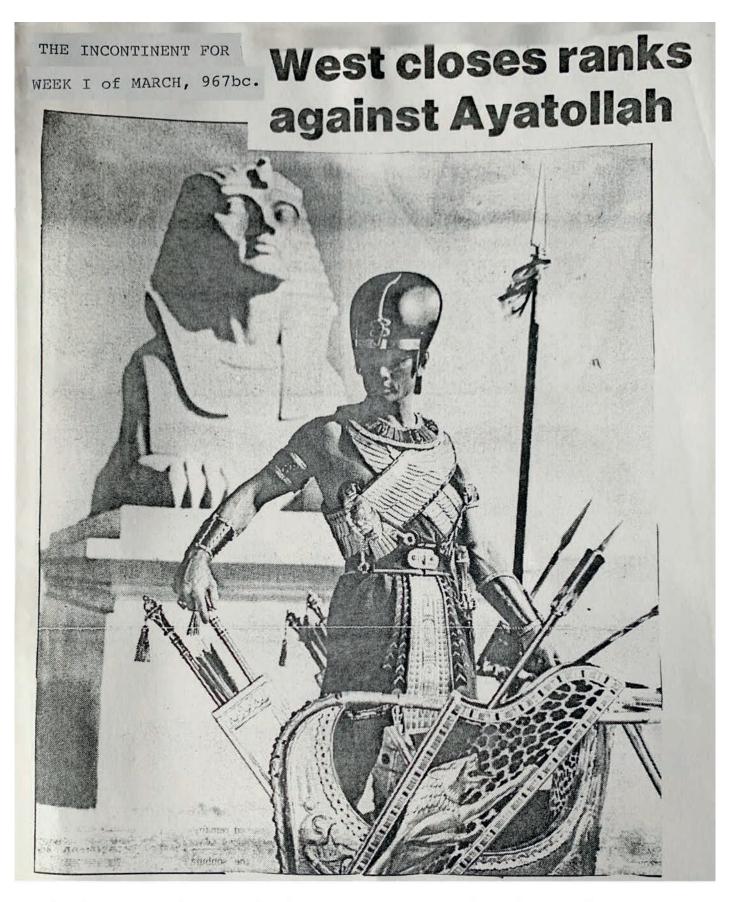
# The In-Continent

The weekly newsletter, labelled the *In-Continent* played a vital role, and generated astonishing quantities of unfettered fun and enjoyment throughout the three years of the campaign.

All players, as well as God, freely contributed to this popular publication, sometimes anonymously, disseminating news items, battle reports (many of which were bogus), cartoons, a vast campaign related crossword, joke adverts, insults, oracle predictions, a blues number, various tragic poems and much more.

Most copies have survived but some are hard to ready. They have been reproduced here as legibly as humanly possible.





Pictured here in one of his famous photo-opportunites, the Ayatollah prepares to launch one of his revered blitzkriegs. Dressed in a rather fetching traditional battle dress, the fundamentalist Islamic Potentate reflects on the hostility shown by most Methuselahn states towards the Serpian Empire and its fundamentalist culture. "It is, as always, best seen as an opportunity'" he said. The Ayatollah changes gear on his chariot from second to third as he moves off on manoeuvres. +++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEK I of MARCH, 967bc. +++++

#### LAST RIGHTS

The Athenian League is officially to be over run by nomadic nasties in the near future unless pledges of subscriptions are received by mid-March 967.

#### BOUBEARA FERRIES LTD

The fast and easy way to travel. Guaranteed overnight delivery to anywhere in Methuselah for little cost. Passports and Visas can be obtained aboard ship at additional cost. Luxury travel: Come and taste the delights aboard our floating restaurant, main course comprises of roast parrot in trill sauce, followed by a Boubeara Surprise! Don't forget your duty frees' - home brew rum at reasonable prices. You too can now sail the seas aboard one of our luxury ferries. Please send S.A.E. to BOUBEARA FERRIES LTD, for more details.

#### APPOINTMENTS SECTION

Serpian Military Enterprises Appointments Committee hereby announces that the new Provincial Governor to be appointed will be FRED KOTT following his successful application last week. The Committee judged he demonstrated the necessary initiative and aplomb, and in any case, he was the only applicant. Kott also scored high marks for his correct response to the essay question. The Tandoori Restaurant concerned is on the Cowley Road, Babylon (HH16). Kott is invited to appear to take up his duties at Serpia City by III March.

#### APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR: THE POST OF ADMIRAL IN CHARGE, AEGEAN DETACHMENT, SERPIAN IMPERIAL FLEET.

Usual requirements: cunning, ruthless, swashbuckling etc. Job specification: To help the armies without battles to reach the battles without armies. The successful applicant is expected to join the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SEA-CAPTAINS IN TRIREMES FOR THE ISLAMIC EMPIRE OF SERPIA. (N.A.S.T.I.E.S.). Usual union rates apply.

#### LATE JOB APPLICATION

Dear Sir,

In reply to your advertisement of IV December, 968 I offer myself as a uniquely qualified candidate. My application surely needs no further explanation.

Yours,

Ben Hernia.

+++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEK II of MARCH, 967bc. +++++

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#### M.A.S.A.

The Methuselahn Advertising Standards Authority (MASA) are prosecuting the Serpian Empire for the placing of last weeks advertisement for a Serpian Admiral in the Aegean. MASA find the contents of the advertisement deceitful and misleading due to the following reasons:

> i) The poor bugger who gets the job will be killed in a short time by more experienced naval forces from South Methuselahn Countries. This suicidal risk was not mentioned.

ii) Union rates in Serpia mean the pay will be so low as to lead to starvation and scurvy. This medical hazard was not mentioned. In fact anyone daft enough to apply for positions in Serpian Military forces will not last long. Such persons of low intelligence i.e. Dark Empire Nationals are strongly advised to ignore this and any other lying offers from that jumped up little Islamic tyrant the Ayatollah.

Question: What's the difference between the Serpian Imperial Court at Babylon and a Cactus?

\_\_\_\_

Answer: A Cactus has it's pricks on the outside.

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#### RELIGIOUS RELATIONS RESTORED (SEXUAL RELATIONS STILL UNDERGOING RE-FURBISHMENT)

Amid scenes of unparalleled jubilation and ecstasy not witnessed since the Ayatollah liberated the Bacterian Caliphate many months previously, Al Capon II and the Serpian potentate yesterday drew up the new working agreement to cooperate in religious enterprises. Although many parts of the document were necessarily secret, it seems likely that the treaty will cover the setting-up of a new missionary foundation to spread the message of the true way to the heretics of the Methuselahn West.

\* 1 \*

+++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEK II of MARCH, 967bc. +++++

Good Evening. This is the six O'clock news from the B.B.C. The Serpian Empire, led by its extraordinary visionary prophet, took one step nearer it's historic destiny today. Another Parbeerian invasion force was eliminated at the borders of the Caliphate of Bacteria. The Ayatollah was reported as saying:

> "I'me lost count of the number of times I've been in the right place at the right time with a lot more troops. It's almost uncanny."

The centre of attention now shifts to Serpia City where a reshuffle of the Serpian High Command is expected. Tipped for the Chief of the Imperial General Staff is Akbha the Pestilential. Salman the Satanic, who has just spent half an hour with the Ayatollah, is thought to have been offered the job of Secretary of State for War Munitions. First Lord of the Admiralty is to be Sharman the Magical.

King Eric has been replaced by Von Fartenblaster as Leader of the Opposition.

Lonely female seeks experienced sailors for fun on the high seas!

Must be young and virile and able to aid in navigation.

Pot bellied pirates need not apply.

If the excitement and thrills appeal to you

contact Senioritta Boubeara of Seville.

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#### +++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEK III of MARCH, 967bc. +++++

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	BELTIC PROBLEMS.	

Pope Herpes the Great has launched an invasion of the Belt of Occult for the second year running. Fleeing nymphs and shepherds have reported pushes on all fronts in great numbers, involving all manner of troops types: Assyrian Chariots, Visigothic Infantry, Hoplites, Romans AND Parthians. But this is not the only problem in the Belt:

> Some rulers may know that Andy Mummery who plays Boaconstrictia of the Occult has just had a major operation in hospital, and would no doubt welcome communications from other rulers of a "get well soon" nature. Liz says that Andy may be off work for six months. All cards etc via God.

#### UNPRECEDENTED FOUR PRONGED ATTACK ON UNNAMED COUNTRY

It is rare that anyone in Methuselah annoys so many other countries so much at the same time. Four armies of invasion have launched themselves against an unnamed central Methuselahn nation and its unnamed leader must be considering his position. The best advice he could take right now is to repair his fences with his opponents. These fences, however, should now be several miles further up the road than they were.

#### BLUDHIST JOIN UP

The Visancryme Protectorate's policy of recognition for the fierce devotees of Bluddhism appears to be meeting with success. Recruiting offices in the North of the Country have been jammed with applicants wanting a slice of the action against the nearest bunch of heretics.

#### DIPLOMATIC VISIT

The first state visit by the Ayatollah to the Khanate of the Golden Horde was announce this week. The Ayatollah, who leaves his Deputy Prime Hinister, Akbha the Pestilential, in command in his absence, left for the state capital of the Horde on Saturday. (Robert Fletcher has gone on holiday to Russia - God).

A spokesman for the Horde said, yesterday; "we are hoping to discuss great issues of state, that is, treachery, duplicity, and aspects of cunting as applied to military strategy. We are currently engaged in a very similar campaign against the Gothes, the Visisgoths the Vikings and Fulham F.C. Supporters Club".

\* 7 :

Your interview is arranged for next week. You will need to pass extensive apptitude tests in the following:-

1) The Art of cleaning the decks. (mops provided).

- 2) Sextonometry (please bring your own rod and tackle)
- 3) changing the sandpaper in the parrots cage.

I must admit I am rather concerned about your age. At 85 I think you are more likely to "Pass OVER in the night!"

If you are the successful applicant you will be joining the up and coming force of the time. Your benefits will include BUPA (Blisters under Pirates Arms Association). Four weeks holiday, (you will be left on a desserted Island with a mermaid for four weeks and then picked up later.) I will also take this opportunity to announce a possible liason between the Pirates and a Greek State, so as you can see, the Pirates are here to stay.

#### Boubeara of Seville.

#### AL CAPON II MAKES DISASTOUR MOVE.

It appears that dispite the recent reforms, the Vysencryme Protectorate is unable to shake off the ineptitudes of it's past. In an effort to increase popularity amongst the green voters, Al Capon was said to have experimented with a new force of environmentally friendly lead-free wargames figures, with disastrious consequences. He was last seen trying to extract the remains of his once great army from a huge bolb of melted paint and araldite.

#### EX-KING ERIC IN KIDNAP CRISIS

News has reached the offices of the incontinent that the infamous Eric is being held against his will by an extreme Islamic group operating in northern Serpia. Reports that the group is demanding large sums of money from each Methuselahn ruler NOT to release him have yet to be confirmed. +++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEK III of MARCH, 967bc. +++++

Akbha the Pestilential was reported to be "looking around for somewhere to attack while the Ayatollah is away".

FULHAM F.C. SUPPORTERS CLUB ARMY LIST 957-989bc

CinC "Irregular A" LMI with SA 2HCT @ 100 points 1 Shed Guard "Irregular B" LMI SA (Stanley Knife) @ 3 points up to 24 East End Terrace Skimishers "Irregular C" LMI armed with sections of wire fencing 30 to 100 Extra to give Skirmishers bicycle chain @ 1 point up to half

(In next week's issue, Marylebone Cricket Club Army List)

#### LEAGUE LATEST

Our League reporter is being kept busy. Athenicus was woken from hibernation in the early hours of spring by a large Athenian force whose orders we are told were to find a tree for Athenicus.

Still protesting that this wasn't an invasion merely an invitation by the people Athenicus had to fight and naturally (aided by some units of the League) destroyed the Athenian force.

Reports are just coming in of yet another League city welcoming Spartacaria with open arms etc. (Don;t blame them really!)

The National Union of Tree Supporters (N.U.T.S.)

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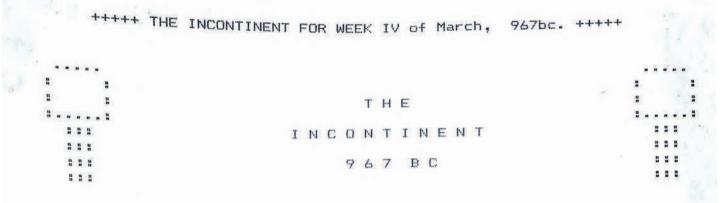
We nuts would like it known tat all this talk of hanging people from trees can be detrimental to the health of trees and should stop AT ONCE.

#### HANG ON BOUBEARA, I'M COMING

Professional and experienced ex-potentate, young 85, keen on roaming the high seas, seeks reply from last week's gorgeous pirate advertiser. Able to offer own sloop and crew of 3. "Let's pass in the night".

\_\_\_\_\_

EDRIC (The scull and cross-bones) CASPIAN (Name changed to protect the privacy of respondent).



#### MARS UNDER ATTACK

In what is considered to be one of the most brilliant tactical manoeuvres of the decade, Boaconstrictia has landed a Beltic Flotilla on the shores of the Imperial Capital, and has now laid seige. It appears that the Belt, having only one port to her hame (Helm, A4), has spent the winter ammassing a large number of ships with the sole aim of capturing the POPE, which, if she is successful, will no doubt make her the envy of all Methuselah.

#### HERPES STRIKES OUT AGAINST DIABOLICAL ISLAMIC PROPAGANDA

Pope Herpes the Great has moved quickly to refute the allegations of an assault on the Belt. Giving rare audince to our incontinent war correspondant he was reported to be enraged over what appears to be a Serpian publicity stunt, (often employed but seldem believed) to destabilise the lasting truce in the north West. To suggest such a movement when it is evident that Boaconstrictia is unfit to repond herself, can only cause unneccessary grief to Herpes' one and only ally. Herpes is said to be considering the otions open to him, the possibility of a military strike cannot be ruled out.

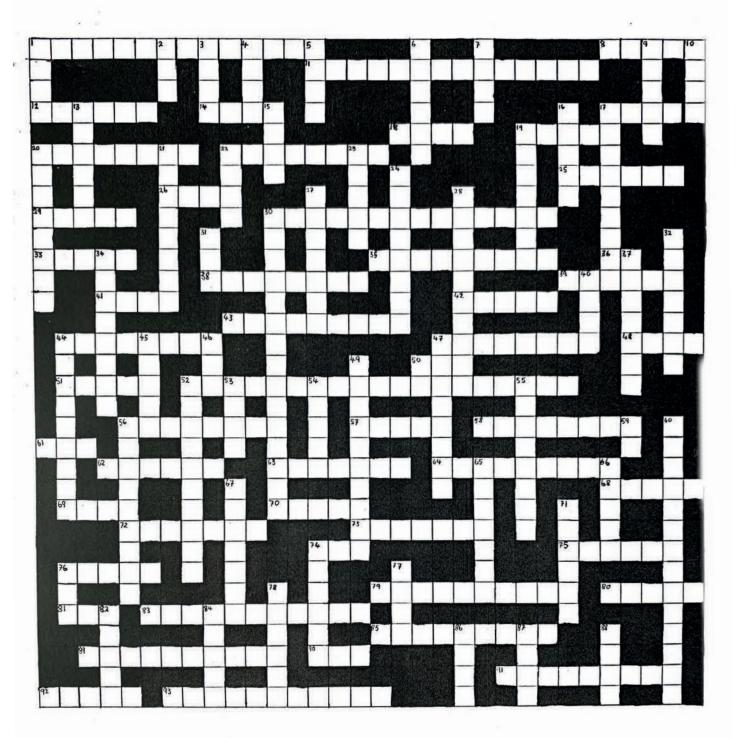
#### POSTCARD FROM IRKUTSK (ZZ13)

Dear Methuselah,

Greetings, mortals. This is your favourite East Methuselahn Potentate on manoeuvres in Siberia. I have picked up some useful hints from my Mongol hosts here in Karakoram eg: Chinese water torture, and some wonderful tricks to play on captured Parbeerians with four elephants and a piece of strong rope. I am most looking forward to playing Polo (the original kind using a real head as the ball) with Von Fartenblaster when I return.

Wish you were here, Lots of Love, The Ayatollah.

Reply to EDRIC (THE SCULL & CROSS-BONES) CASPIAN \* 1 \*



The In-Continent i-iv-'67

#### \*\*\* JUMBO CROSSWORD!! \*\*\*

Yes, here it is folks! The long awaited crossword. The author hopes it brings you plenty of fun while you attempt it, moreso than farting, fornicating or taking someone elses land away from them. All you have to do is put your mind in its most evil, foul and libelous state that you can and get stinking -err- thinking!

Not all answers are as straightforward as the clues infer, but most clues can be answered from refering to back issues of the Incontinent if you can't quite remember past events. The solution will appear in a week or two's time.

From fear of mass reprisals the author has been advised to remain anonymous. All correct answers to be left c/o the address below :-

Behind the hot water pipe, Basin number 9, Gents Wash and Brush Up, Central coaching stables, Goulays, Parbeerian Dominion

- \* First correct entrant to receive a years free supply of Serpian horsemeat.
- \* Second correct entrant to receive a dagger up the arse and three months free supply of air freshener.
- \* Third corrected entrant to receive an autographed engraving of 'Indianus Mounting Elephant units' (EHCm, JLS, 36" pricks)

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#### ACROSS

- 1 Hanky Panky with this Methuselan character could lead to a rather deadly embrace (14).
- 8 Common to both the Serpian Imperial Court and a cactus (5).
- 11 Parbeerians believed to be traditionally partial to a bit of this when they invade a foreign land (4,3,7).
- 12 From whence we get our sit-reps (6).
- 14 There are six of these to be found nowadays from amongst the rulers/main characters of Methuselah (4).
- 17 Purporting to the nether-regions, and a deadly weapon from particular country (4).
- 18 Appropriately named tributory river leading to a certain Sea (4).
- 19 The Serpians are not well known for this human quality (5).
- 20 Three of these items hang as a trophy on the walls inside the Dark Empires palace (8).
- 22 A well known type of common use archer-cum-light cavalry unit (8).
- 25 This happens all over the map in various places from time to time (6).

- 26 Undo this village in the Indianus Region to take out 92 across? (4).
- 29 Obligatory state of dressware for all Dark Empire 'Roman' type panties - OOPs! - parties. (5).
- 30 A famous dead general from the Kingdom, he liked to fondle beneath the belt? (6,8).
- 33 A tactic often used to deceive an enemy state. (5)
- 35 This 'looney/angry' type of soldier did worst in the recent auction (9).
- 36 '\_\_\_\_ drunk \_\_\_\_ a fart' (2).
- 38 This very Northern town gives its name to the occasion of the triumphant defeat of an enemy (8).
- 39 Capital of a Southern country (6).
- 41 Indianus town at the end of a road (4).
- 42 Currency of the Kingdom (5).
- 43 Charioteer who was second in the most recent chariot race for the Kingdom (3,6).
- 44 Bring one of these to Fartenblasters parties, sure to liven up things (8).
- 47 Eric has more than his fair share of these events (8).
- 48 We all become one of these to each other from time to time, especially the Serpians (4).
- 50 Natural fermentation vessel of brave Parbeerians (3).
- 51 Blue Peter dog; pirates usually have one (5).
- 52 Serpian commander of recent notoriety (7,2,7,3).
- 56 A cartoon character; female organ (8).
- 57 We all love to receive these, don't we? (5).
- 58 Force protecting a city (8).
- 61 Drunk all over Western Methuselah (3).
- 62 A sort of perrenial prophet (6).
- 63 God sometimes gets sit-reps in this condition! (7).
- 64 Who is this Southern leader who needs a length of rope? (9).
- 68 Of lions and wardrobes; most likely to be found in the Belt (5).
- 69 Edric will need one of these if he wants to have his way with the latest nomadic player (4).
- 70 You can buy shares in this 'hot and sticky' company (5).
- 72 Type of Athenian fighting unit; sort of ingredient in beer (7)
- 73 Drive to the pub in one of these in 967 b.c. (7).
- 74 Human bodily function; Fartenblaster is not quite as well known for this (3).
- 75 If these are not regular then expect plenty of insults (6).
- 76 Road, way (5).
- 79 You are in trouble if this is cut (6,4).
- 80 Regroup again (5).
- 81 Bunch of angry peasants (3).
- 83 You might get an alcohilic dividend from shares in this company (5,6).
- 85 Can be had for hire but of dubious quality (9).
- 89 Mounted fighting unit that knocks the shit out of most others (10).
- 90 This will happen to the Serpian leader, sooner than he thinks! (3).
- 91 New ruler of the Kingdomette (2,7)
- 92 Potential nickname for the new Indianus potentate (5).
- 93 An Athenian general (11).

#### DOWN

Parbeerians never take them (4). 1 2 Not an endearing term (3). 3 To flee (4). Belt of Occult national (4). 4 5 Often shown in defiant gesture to advancing force (4). 6 Gatecrash a country (6). 7 Gods tool. Little red one has lead inside! (4). 9 A fanatical, hysterical faith of the low intelligent (5). 10 This general was fated in love (4). 13 Use of force where diplomacy fails (6). 15 Happens to the private parts if you overdo it (4). 16 Financial persuasion that sometimes occurs (5). 17 He's supposed to be dead but he's still very much alive (9). 19 Natural by-product from 20 down (7). 20 A Parbeerian delicacy on cold winter days (8). 21 Serpian monarch who reminds one of the bog (4,4)22 The official title of the Dark Empire ruler (4). 23 Most famous and troublesome of ex-Athenians, recently deposed (5). 24 Town to visit if you have an upset stomack from eating in nearby Parbeerian taverns (8). 27 Imperial throne of a Western country (7). 28 A Parbeerian general who was killed in action a few months ago, who possibly had severe dysentry (4,6). 30 This greedy general used a 'penile protruberance' against his Northern neighbours (8,7). 31 A village in the Indianus Region (3). A Sea, also Gods dogs name from time to time (7). 32 Fartenblaster promised toilet seats made of this stuff in 34 last years Macedonian election campaign (8). 37 From where the latest 'madam' came from (7). City that will get a horse full of trouble one day (4). 40 Certain embarrassing condition obtained from 71 down (9). 44 Many an Indian restaurant has since been named after this 45 town (5). The number of which most parts you should have (3). 46 There is a lot of this in the Incontinent most weeks running 47 (8). A lethal physical quality of one reknown general (10). 49 52 Our continent (10). Nickname for a leader and also an abbreviation for another 53 embarrassing personal condition (4). Person of religious persuasion typical to the Belt (5). 54 Sophias lover drew his name from this Indianus village 55 perhaps (8). Serpian name for an annexed chunk of another country (9). 56 Will the Parbeerians ever learn the secret of fresh breath? 59 (2). A venerial Bludhist of recent notoriety (7,7). 60 Outcome of a successful 'frank exchange of views' between 65 your force and an enemy one (7). A fighting implement (5). 66 Eric was renown for this tactical manouvre (67). 67 Methuselan ladies of services in high demand in certain parts 71 (6). Result of imbibing in Mesopotamian beer (6). 74

- 76 What was to have been done with the 'penile protruberance'
- owned by 30 down. (3). The armies of the Belt often fight in 77 this state. It is encouraged by their leader too. (4).
- Of the Occult area (6). 78
- Two of these Indy settlements normally accompany 92 across; 82 unless you are a coward (typical of Methuselan base humour) (5).
- 84 A sweet, viscous dessert often made from figs, served typically in Parbeerian households (5).
- 86 Perhaps the oldest Methuselan character, this one once claimed Chinese ancestry (4).
- 87 Do not do this with your so-called Methuselan Allies in times of trouble! (4).
- 88 Not a lot of this type of fellow around in Methuselah as yet - thank goodness. However you might find one in a closet somewhere (perhaps in Athens if their frescos are anything to go by!) (4).

Answers on the back page....

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#### ORDERS

Due to August bank holiday weekend, orders for week II of April are not required until Saturday 3rd September - one week later than usual.

#### BOA ON THE RUN

The ruler of the Belt of Occult had a lucky escape last week, when, alone and surrounded by enemy troops, in the pouring rain, she had no option but to flee "to the woods"! Until she has reemerged, Thor the Brainless will be taking over as the interim Caretaker ruler, particularly after the savage murders of both Baldrix of Garth (Boa's ex-No.1), and Smurd The Unspeakably Viol. We welcome BEN JONES, (Oxford Wargames Club) who has kindly agreed to help Andy out while he is recovering, on the proviso that he is offered a Country of his own just as soon as God has created one (no rest for the wicked).

The embryonic idea at the moment is to devise another map to the south of Methuselah, involving many other Ancient armies/rulers. These would possibly include Early Hebrews, Assyrians, Sumerians, Jubians, Egyptians, Mycenaeans, Midianites and possibly Arab Conquest Arabs and/or Late Crusaders. This is very much for the future though.

#### LEAGUE NEWS

Reporter yesterday said there is no tree in the area willing to have Athenicus as a hanging ornament. So what can one to with a shall person but burn him? Invidious has said that any General handing Athenicus heat over to him will be paid in gold coins plus a choice of Macadoa City to rule.

Invidious is vehemently counter attacking the unpreceientel invasion of his country by the Macedonian upstart Athenicus. Recent successes have included the complete routing of a large force hoping to out-flan's the Athenians near Philipia, and the demise of another slave rabble and subsequent capture of the "now no longer a legend"; General Sparticaria. This confirmed news is sweet music to the ears of the Athenian Largue, who have suffered severe set backs throughout the Spring UNTIL NOT.

#### Islamic Message

The Ayatollah would like to apologise on behalf of himself for not really having enough time to do anything but think about Devotenta, who is not

+++++ WHE INCONTINUE FOR WEEK I of APRIL, 967bc. +++++

in Siberia, and consequently cannot this week crow about the latest Serpian successes. (I can't believe that - God). But he will make up for it next week. However, he does have time to make public (Ah, I thought so - God) the fact that the Serpian Depire is the first Country to have reached a five figure tax income. Nuts to the rest of you.

#### GOVERHACHT HEALTH WARNING

The Parbeerian general Assembly/disarray in Goulays (AA3) is acting with grave contern following recent reports of complaints from consumers of Parbeerian food produce in neighbouring Countries. Serpians on holiday near Black Sea resorts were taken ill after eating Parbeerian potted beans with meat balls, many jars of which contained chunks of glass and bronze rivets.

Hinrich Von-Partenblaster himself is very concerned at the appalling lack of knowledge of traditional Parbeerian cuisine, and has ordered a Parbeerian food promotion campaign in the Serpian Empire, so start soon...

He announced that these so-called contaminations are marely additives used for their roughage qualities so beneficial to the healthy digestive system. He also said: "These Serpian Grockles are an ignorant lot! They come over here, can't take the strong beer, smash up Zoya Sea-front restaurants (Y10), then accuse the Parbeerian hoteliers of poisoning them! Our militia will deport all Empire lager louts this Summer! They might next accuse us of putting the wrong type of Salmonella in our cheases!"

#### ANCIENTS MUSICIANS UNION ARMY LIST 550-200 3C

CinC "Reg B" LI with Baton (counting as dart) @100 pts Regular strings "Reg C" MI JLS Sh @4 pts	7	to 1	1
Mercenary strings "Irreg B" HI JLS Sh @ 5pts (only available on eve of battle)	up	to 4	1.01
Back desk Violas "Irreg D" MI B @ 1 pt	20	to 3	2
Double Bass Crossbows "Irreg C" MI CB Pa 03 pts		to	
Principle Woodwind "Reg B" HC JLS Sh @ 11 pts		to	
Other Woodwind "Irreg C" MC JLS Sh @6pts		to	
Elite Woodwind "Reg A" EHC L B Sh D @ union rates only		to .	
Ex-Saboon* Artillery "Reg D" Organ Gun @ 20 pts		to	
(*Ancient Indianus Bassoon)			
High Drass "Irreg B" HK L 3 11 pts	up	to	2
Heavy Drass "Irreg B" EHK L 0 17 pts	up	to	9
Soloist "Irreg A" in mobile tower @ 30 pts			1
Sacred music stands 0120	per	desl	l:
Herd of incendiary pigs to create interval distraction			
for Offord Times reviewer 020 pts	כוגי	to	?
"Reg A" Cymbal Player for French pastiche numbers @ Gree	uŋ	to 1	1

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#### VIOLENCE MARS ANOTHER SERPIAN FIXTURE

After the behavior of certain Serpian troops in Parbeeria last week, the Ayatollah is reportedly "furious". We has instructed the Serpian Wigh Command to consider cancelling a friendly against the Visencryme Protectorate next month, and is considering fresh measures to tackle the recurring hooligan problem, which, he says, gives Serpia such a bad name.

"There are some so-called Serpians who, guite frankly are not interested in the battles. They just go out there to make trouble. I wish to apologize to the Parbeerians for any damage done to their property and I do hope this won't mean that the summer tour we have all been looking forward to, won't be cancelled" +++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEK IV of APRIL, 967bc. +++++

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#### IMPORTANT

It has stopped raining in the Belt!

### FROM HINI FARTENBLASTER

For those Rulers who have attempted the crossword, 10 copies of the solution have been sent to heaven in sealed envelopes! This is so you can all finish your attempts if you have not yet done so, without disappointment to yourselves. Apply to God when you when you've exhausted your efforts, and he will deliver the solution!

(Hini: we have a copy of your splendid crossword pinned to a board, specially mounted on the wall of the "War Office", and are slowly working towards a conclusion! - good stuff - God).

#### THOUSANDS DESERT PROTECTORATE.

Tens of thousands of Seleucidite people, disillusioned with their government and the lack of reform in the Protectorate, have flocked to the border with their neighbours in the West: The Caliphate of Bacteria. One such refugee was reported as saying: "There's just no fun in the Protectorate. At least the Serpians have fun and attack places."

With the Ayatollah negotiating an alliance with the Parbeerians, many commentators are wondering if this is the beginning of the end for the Protectorate. Can King Al II regain the initiative?

And now back to the studio.

#### BOACONSTRICTIA'S COVER BLOWN!

At last the truth is out. Boaconstrictia is really a TRANSVESTITE ex coal miner formerly known as Alastair Black. His/her cover was blown government and the lack of reform in the Protectorate, have flocked to the border with their neighbours in the West: The Caliphate of Bacteria. One such refugee was reported as saying: "There's just no fun in the Protectorate. At least the Serpians have fun and attack places."

With the Ayatollah negotiating an alliance with the Parbeerians, many commentators are wondering if this is the beginning of the end for the Protectorate. Can King Al II regain the initiative?

And now back to the studio.

#### BOACONSTRICTIA'S COVER BLOWN!

At last the truth is out. Boaconstrictia is really a TRANSVESTITE ex coal miner formerly known as Alastair Black. His/her cover was blown earlier this week when he/she/it was spotted searching frantically for it's "False Titties".

Apparently a particularly vicious attack by Hinrich-Von-Farten-Blaster had blown them "clean owff" from under her dress.

(This sounds extremely fishy, as she never wears a dress - GOD) !!

#### FROM THE LEAGUE

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Your league correspondent has been holidaying in Phillipia(014) recently (A guest of a League Invasion Force). Unfortunately, Athenicus was also holidaying at the same resort, attacked and destroyed the Athenian force, and now both holidays have been cut short by the Macedonian Pursuit of the remnants back towards the League.

#### SERPIANS KNOWN TO BE ATTACKING THE LEAGUE

A large invasion force has landed at Olympia and is now advancing on Athens. The Athenian expeditionary force (currently on holiday) are believed to be hurrying to defend the Capitol.

P.S. Boubeara is said to have also been on holiday with the Athenian force in Phillipia. Several thousand men are said to be crawling back to Athens exhausted and "Sans" Pants!

#### +++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEK I of MAY 967bc. +++++

#### HERPES MAKES FINAL OFFER TO THOR THE BRAINDEAD

Herpes sent a message today to the caretaker of the Beltic rebellion to give up the hopeless struggle against the might of the empire. "You cannot run forever...."

#### PROTECTORATE'S POPULATION RALLYS

Last week's story claiming that the Protectorate's people are disillusioned could not have been more economical with the truth. A huge rally addressed by Al Caponii himself heard of the privations and slavery suffered by their fellow countrymen in the Caliphate, and pledged to liberate them. Huge numbers of Protectorate youth are now flocking to join up in the revitalized army, including many fanatical Northern Bluddhists.

"The boys will be home by Christmas" said an army spokesman.

#### BLOW FOR WILLAMAENA

In a large battle in Northern Indianus, Willamaena's forces were totally defeated by a numerically inferior army of superbly trained bean-eating farters. How can she loose three generals in two years? How much ransom, hyatollah, or we blast her with a bean-feast.

#### RECIPE OF THE WEEK.

#### "Mixed Methuselahn Cocktail"

I	ngredients.
6oz 4 tblspns	Ayatollah's knee caps Pope's ear wax
	Curry Powder
Pinch of	Al Capon's foot powder
1	captured Serpian's testicle
4 slices	Invidious tongue
Salt & Pepper	

#### Method.

Place ingredients in bowl. make sure that captured Serpian showered before removing testicle. Mix rapidly. Empty mixture into tin and bake for 2 hours. Dish may be served to captured Athenians. Alternatively may be rolled into balls and used as ammunition.

Look out in next week's Incontinent for recipe for Von Fartenblaster spotted Dick!

+++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEK III of May, 967bc. +++++ \*\* GOD'S RANTINGS \*\* MEITHER OF THE BELT RULERS HAVE PAID ANY SUBS. GOD CANNOT EVEN AFFORD TO PROVIDE A NEW RIBBON : ::: FOR THE PRINTER! THANK-YOU FARTY, BUT THE ONE : : : . . . YOU KNICKED FROM WORK IS THE WRONG SIZE! NICE . . . : : : TRY. STINGY BELTIC RULERS, YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED! ::: ::: PAY UP YOUR E20s OR BE DAMNED! :::.. . : : : .

#### EMPIRE BOWS TO THE BRAINDEAD.

Following last week's reports from Scyld (N2), Pope Herpes the Great has confirmed the withdrawal of his forces from the front line. "Clearly we are dealing with a cunning fellow" he added!

#### SERPIA DEVELOPS PIRATE DIFFICULTIES

Serpia is the latest Country to be beset by Boubearia of Seville and her marauding pirate band. A series of fairly thermonuclear letters have passed through God's hands but this has not prevented Boubearia from making a real nuisance of herself! The Ayatollah, in a Keynote speech at his Party Conference yesterday, has offered a fair and open fight with only one hand tied behind his back; <u>or</u> a fully paid, pensionable position within the Imperial Serpian fleet. Stifling a yawn, he added: "They are basically a distraction - rather like the S.D.P. The sooner they are alliterated, the better."

#### BACK PASSAGE UNBLOCKED

Alcaponii of the Protectorate made an official protest to the Press Council today over last week's libellous suggestion in the Incontinent that the back passage had been invaded. "We have in reality assisted our Parbeerian allies to expel the last vestiges of Islamic Capitalism (i.e. The Ayatollah's puuffs) from the area. I shall be writing to my M.P. about this."

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+++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEK 4 of MAY, 967bc. +++++

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#### HEAVENLY NEWS.

1) Apologies for the unprecedented delay in orders for May IV. Reasons include illness, lack of printer ribbon, and the recent purchase of a new machine, which, on arrival at heaven, did'nt work! Still, all is now well. The new machine is an IBM clone AT. The OPUS XT is up for sale with Hi Res monitor, 20MB hard disk, 640KRam, etc: £600 O.N.O. (Sculls, Quints etc not accepted).

2) Orders are needed for the next TWO WEEKS, (June I & II) by November 11th. This is an experiment suggested by Herp. The two week life of each set of orders would add communication and "fog of war" type problems, and improve the chances of a) rulers getting orders in on time, b) God getting SitReps out on time!

3) Another experiment, (at prototype stage still :-your thoughts please....) is for orders to be written on a form, restricting Force Movements to one of the following: Rush, Attack, Probe, Wait, Hold, Delay, Retreat, and the inclusion of an intended direction. Scouting would be assumed if Probe, Forced March assumed if Rush, etc. This would add fog of war, increase importance of each General's characteristics, and speed the processing of orders up. Recruitment, Incontinent offers, letters etc would stay the same, with the plea that large incontinent offerings be typed out, and duplicated x15 by the author.

4) The above changes (or some others.. ideas.??..) WILL have to be made to facilitate the creation of the much rumored SOUTHERN METHUSELAH. (New rulers are queuing up for this). The days of the six page orders are numbered!

AYATOLLAH IS THE Α DIRTY OLD MAN WILL HAVE, ВҮ WHO NOW, CAUGHT A HIS DOSE FROM LATEST CONQUEST RIGHT TOO SERVE HIM 1 A SIMPLE BUT EFFECTIVE CURE IS T O CUT IT OFF.

ANON

GOD

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+++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEK 4 of MAY, 967bc. +++++

#### BORING SKUTATOI DEFEND VULGAR CROSSING. (CONFIRMED BORING).

"The small but perfectly formed Visancryme army mentioned in the Incontinent of II/5/967 was last week subjected to a fierce and determined but ultimately useless attack from absolutely billions of marauding Parbeerians, somewhere in the back passage", reports Brian Boring, the Protectorate's ex-Major of Tedious and last year's scourge of the Bludhists.

"Our small and gallant band of Skutatoi infantry were drawn up at the Vulgar Bridge waiting to greet our Parbeerian allies when suddenly a mass of Irregular A camels thundered over the bridge in a extremely bad mood. They had obviously been getting high on psychedelic beans and with this threat our men prepared to defend stoutly. This was just as well because the camels threw up wildly(!); fortunately we were well armed. The modern Visancryme army is well equipped and we fired a hail of darts, dropped our caltrops, speared them with LTS and fired our Kalashnikovs into their flanks. Well, I can tell you it was a close thing because we got pushed back, then they got pushed back, and it was a real ding-dong battle. Meanwhile our support troops were being shot up and I must admit that it gave me great satisfaction to see our Bludhist mercenaries break and rout, I never did like them, you know. Anyway, we finally managed to push the camels into the river, just in time to be attacked by some cataphracts next. My boss Boris was rallying some shaken cavalry now and things still looked difficult as the battle raged on. He wouldn't really let me join in, which I thought was b bit of a swiz, because I've got a second-hand javelin now after going to the sales. It's a Spear and Jackson No.3, which is particularly well suited to this sort of battle because it's got a special rubberised grip, which helps to keep .....

[Brian Boring continues his epic 97 part saga of the battle of the Coracle Bridge next week, with an account of the crucial EHC dismounting and his attempt to repair a chip on his javelin shaft. He is not this year's Booker prize winner.]

#### THE GOVERNMENT HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT GOOLAYS.

The Government Health Department at Goolays wishes to reassure those Methuselahn inhabitants who recently felt the earth literally move beneath them. It was not due to a close encounter of the sexual kind; rather it was due to an experiment that went badly wrong at the Parbeerian Weapons Research Establishment in the Seleucidite desert at JJ4 (Epicentre). The new rocket launcher that was to have been deployed in battle has now been postponed. The Parbeerian government will pay any claims for damage to property and hearing loss in full. The soldier used as a human launcher has been pensioned off with a lifetimes free supply of castor oil and cold cream.

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+++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEKS I & II, JUNE, 967bc. +++++

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#### INCONTINENT ANOREXIA

NO items for the incontinent this week from any players!

However: please note that orders for weeks III & IV are required in heaven by Saturday 25th November, (12.00 midday).

Advantages of the two week system are making themselves known, even after one go:-

a) Less reams of paper to have to buy, and print onto.

b) More time in which to play any games.

c) Sit-Reps are more interesting, as there is TWICE as much chance that there will be some sort of action.

d) Incontinence of greater proportions (and interest).

e) More time for me to process orders correctly! (less pressure).

f) More time for rulers to respond after having received their sit-reps. (Suffolk contingent suffer particularly from postal unreliability it seems, leaving little or not chance of getting their orders in on time. This is unfair).

g) Splendid "Fog of War" problem for rulers:- (especially designed to annoy the Ayatollah).

h) Saves us ALL postage: - (Bloody postal charges!).

i) Saves God HOURS of time, which can now be used towards the coming of age of LOWER METHUSELAH.

P.S. Any more thoughts on the other new idea of ATTACK, PROBE etc???

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+++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEKS I & II, JUNE, 967bc. +++++

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### The Incontinent, Second Half of June, 967BC.

#### MACEDON SIGHTSEERS ATTACKED!

This week a group of Macedonian sightseers were attacked by a joint force of Serpian and Protectorate troops whilst admiring the area around Pergamum (W13).

It appears the Sightseers surprised a planned invasion of Macedon so if they survive they will be honoured by Athenicus on their return.

#### SERPIAN "HERO" CAUSES DIPLOMATIC RIFT

A budding alliance between the Ayatollah and Alcaponii was in tatters last night after the aptly-named Serpian General, Kerim the Unpleasant, took it upon himself to attack elements of the PEA (Protectorate Expeditionary Army). Survivors were force to seek sanctuary with the remnants of an invasion force launched by Athenicus towards the sunny Black Sea resort of Pergamum.

Al was reported to be on the 'phone to some of his meanest "violin players" in a rapid response to this unwarranted violation of human rights (etc., etc.).

#### THE AYATOLLAH RETURNS!

After a break of some weeks, the Ayatollah broke an uncharacteristic silence and hit back at his critics. During speech intended to encourage his invasion force, now deep in the heart of Parbeeria, he said: "The Barbarians are quite unspeakable". They don't shave under their armpits, they speak with their mouths full and I can't remember the last time anyone washed their hands before dinner around here.

Since April we have been knee deep in ear wax, suspiciously early hours, dandruff and those little black bits that collect under toe nails.

This place is appalling, and we are glad to have been given the job of clearing it all up." He continued: "And, while we're at it, we're to give the Macedonians a lesson in good manners too. This is the first test for the Dual Alliance between King Al and me. If it fails, the good thing is that I can blame it on him. Still, it's nice to be able to rely on SOMEbody."

#### EDRIC INVADES TERTIS (HH4).

An unconfirmed report from the Protectorate has suggested that disturbances in the Northern Region are growing after multiple sightings of a balding old King-like vagrant in a rowing boat in the Skythian River.

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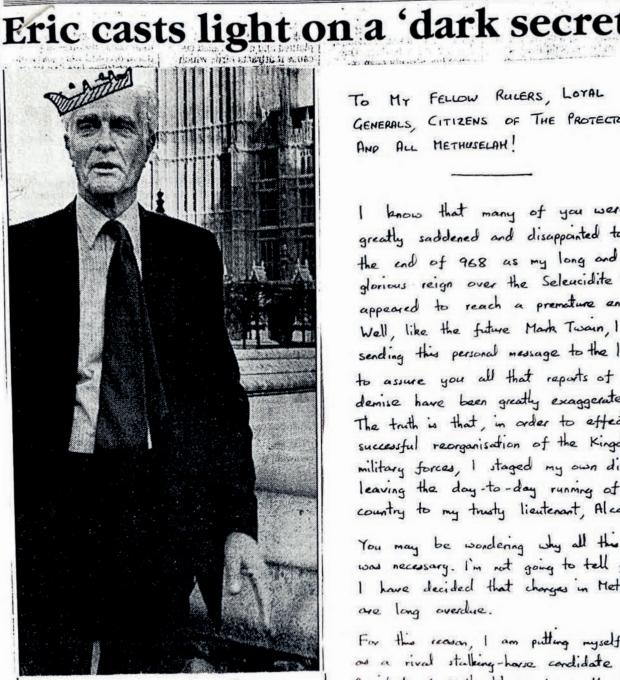
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RELAXED KING ERIC ANNOUNCES HIS CANDIDACY OUTSIDE THE PALACE

To MY FELLOW RULERS, LOYAL GENERALS, CITIZENS OF THE PROTECTORATE AND ALL METHUSELAH!

I know that many of you were greatly saddened and disappointed towards the end of 968 as my long and glorious reign over the Seleucidite Kingdom appeared to reach a premature and. Well, like the future Mark Twain, I am now sending this personal message to the Incontinent to assure you all that reports of my denise have been greatly exaggerated. The truth is that, in order to effect a successful reorganisation of the Kingdom's military forces, I staged my own disappearance leaving the day to - day running of the country to my trusty lieutenant, Alcaponii.

You may be wondering why all this deception was necessary. I'm not going to tell you, but I have decided that charges in Methusekuh are long overdue.

For this reason, I am putting myself forward as a rival stalking-horse condidate for President of Methuseloh. We have all endured for many years the pretensions of our current self-appointed leader, who, it cannot

be denied, has had a share of military skill as well as his customary luck. However I believe it is appropriate to challenge the premise that he intends to go "on and on and on ... " and my condidacy is merely a prelude to a more senior figure from the West of the continent coming forward to mount an effective challenge to the barren nationalism of our present incumbent.

Let us not forget the terrible ordeal that the Ayatollah Thatcher has inflicted upon our once happy continent. I list a selection of his atrocities below:

it on a car

- · Murder of Sophia of Indianus and the laying waste of that once-proved country
- Progressive rationalisation of the education budget and burning of all non-Islamic texts at the University of Literatii
- · Rafusal to join the EMS (European Military System)
- . Breaking of sundry binding alliances with various parties
- · Privatisation of assential public services such as charict transport and sexually - transmitted disease clinics
- · Rigid adherence to double-entry book-keeping as a form of Government

I could continue, but my point is made.

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Let me finish by calling upon the nations of the free world to unite at last against the Ayatollah Thatcher. There is still time to thwart his ambitions of world domination and compulsory Islamic wailing. I understand from my military commanders that the Sarpian has launched major assaults on the Protectorate, and that, yet again, he has demanded repressive terms for my immediate surrender. It is my pleasure to lead the way where I hope the rest of Methodelah will follow, and to respond to such demanded with an unequivocal

## BOLLOCKS!

#### THE INCONTINENT, FIRST HALF OF JULY, 967BC.

#### NEW SERPIAN SUCCESS

In a remarkable series of successes the Serpian Empire marches on this week. After a spectacular victory against the Methuselahn Pirates, two Serpian generals bloodied the nose of the Macedonian invasion (Pergamum). Fatima the Fell and Kerim the Unpleasant demolished the western threat while in the North, Herod the King invaded and captured the whole of Tertis province. At Calundae another Serpian notable, Yousef the Visually Impressive, faced an overwhelmingly large Seleucid force and seriously dented it.

Over the weekend, lights have been seen in the sky, three wise Kings from mystic lands to the east have been sighted making their way to Serpia City, and celestial choirs have heralded the dawn of a new Age.

Meanwhile, the Ayatollah is reported to have filed a complaint with the authorities for an alleged off the ball incident at Pergamum. The thrust of the complaint was that it was Al who retaliated before he did. The dispute has been referred to their lawyers.

#### PARBEERIAN TOURIST BOARD REPLY

The Parbeerian Tourist Board is reported to be dismayed at the rude rejection of traditional Parbeerian hospitality, culture, and bathroom ethics by the visiting Serpian expedition.

"If they don't find Parbeeria to their sissy urban tastes, perhaps they should return to Serpia", said one official. "Mind you, they didn't mention the intestinal fragrance beknown to Parbeerian Gourmets (and Gourmans!), or the practice of using flat, sharpened flint stone scrapers for a smoother, cleaner defecation - that is one custom we imported from the south!"

#### INCONTINENT OFFERING

A NEUTRAL OBSERVER TODAY WITNESSED THE END OF AN ERA - THE BELT WERE FINALLY SUB-DUED. HERPES NOW HAS THE BELT - WHAT DOES HE WANT WITH IT? A WELL KNOWN SERPIAN HAS SUGGESTED "HE PROBABLY WANTS TO HOLD HIS TROUSER UP".

#### JOKE OF THE WEEK

A recent study done in Goulays found that the large bit on the end of a man's penis is there to give the man great satisfaction during Sex.

A similar study conducted at Vaisatii concluded however that the tip of the organ was there to give the woman pleasure during the copulation act.

However, a long and serious debate involving many men at Serpia have just proclaimed that the bit at the end is to stop the Serpians hand slipping off!!!! +++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEKS III & IV, JULY 967bc. +++++

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#### NEXT ORDERS DEADLINE

Orders are required by January, Saturday 20th (MIDDAY), for the first two weeks in August (climax of campaigning season!).

#### AYATOLLAH ASSASSINATED

The Serpian Empire was in deep shock yesterday when the news broke that a guerrilla unit of Parbeerian commandoes had assassinated the Ayatollah. The Islamic leader was understood to be in his bath in his divisional headquarters in Literatii when the commandoes burst in and shot him at point blank range. The commandoes had been shipped from Goulays by fishing vessels, and had secretly made their way across Caliphate territory.

This is believed to be the first time such a play has been used in Methuselah, and it raises several questions about the security of leaders. The immediate need, in Serpia, is to find a replacement for the dead potentate, but such is the disarray in the Empire that weeks may pass before the Islamic armies are once again coordinated.

King Eric may yet live to fight another day!! What this space for further developments.

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+++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEKS I and II of Aug 67. ++++

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Apologizes for the bad printer ribbon on sitreps. Assume hot weather has damaged parchments and made scout's messages hard to read..... Fog of war....

#### IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Rumour has it that the people of the Dark Empire are about t undergo another change!

> Is the Real name GALIFREY? Are they time lords? Is the Pope really Dr. Who?

All these and other question will be answered soon.

DEVELOPMENTS IN SERPIA

Following last month's assassination of the Ayatollah, several new groups are contending for control of the Empire. There has also been an uprising of the Indianus Army at Bereft. (Confirmed). These factions include: Civic Forum, New Forum, Islamic Forum and the People's committee for collective Ad Cooperative Security; Peace, Bread, Land And Parbeerian Horse Burgers. Serpia City was last night in turmoil but the party grouping which has made most ground in recent days has been the Islamic DEATH TO ERIC alliance. Meanwhile, one of the largest Serpian armies ever collected is currently allowing a Parbeerian army half it's size to siege in the hope that a Serpio-Parbeerian alliance might at last emerge following the death of the Ayatollah.

REUTERS

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CAROLINGIAN REFORMATION IN THE DARK EMPIRE

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Rumours are abound that the Dark Empire has reformed its enormous and highly mobile forces along the lines of WRG list 102.....

Following the successful capture of the Belt, Herpes is said to have been tired of the lack of worthwhile opposition and has gone for a complete overhaul in training and weapon use in the Imperial Army.

It is believed that attention will focus on the use of Heavy Cavalry armed with Lance or Javelins. However it is also known that some units in the "Old Style" still exist, and may be on manoevres in Macedon.

Herpes is also reported to be extreemly annoyed at references to the Serpian Empire as "The Empire", and has vowed to show force against any ruler who makes what he says is a derogatory remark, for his is the only Empire.

LONG LIVE POPE HERPES THE GREAT

LONG LIVE THE DARK EMPIRE

ATHENICUS SUCKS.....

pp Herpes the Great PO BOX 1000 MARS METHUSELAH +++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEKS OF III-IV AUGUST, 967bc. +++++

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#### BACK PASSAGE CONFUSION

Serpian, Indianus and Parbeerian units combined last week in a confusing exchange at Bereft (I1). No one was quite sure who was on which side. As a consequence, no one was quite sure who won.

The victorious general (whoever he was) warned all nearby surviving troops: "Beware of spies; trust no one; kill fist and ask questions later. We can't run a world war on lies, suspicion, duplicity and a basic inability to trust anybody".

The general has recently changed his mane and refused to confirm reports that his food taster recently resigned.

#### JOB OFFERED

Reliable chef and food taster required for successful but highly suspicious general.

Ring:Bereft 327

#### JOB OFFERED

Bodyguard required for successful but worried general.

Ring:Bereft 327

#### WANTED

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Lie detector

Ring:Bereft 327

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+++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEKS OF III-IV AUGUST, 967bc. +++++

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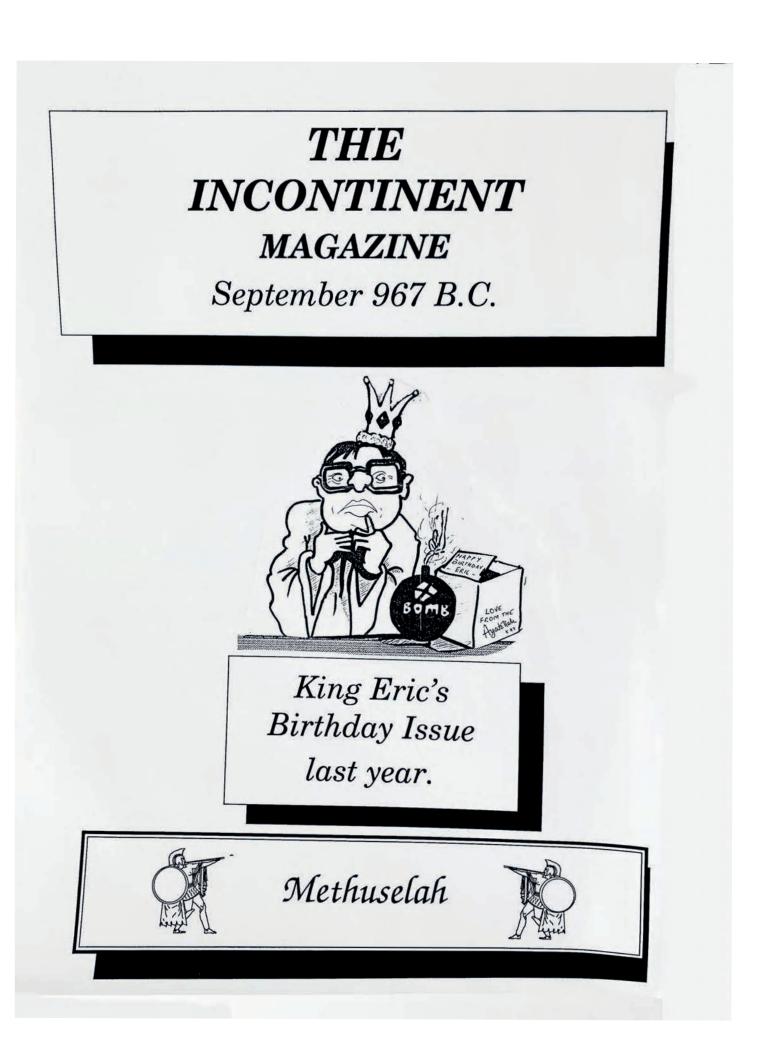
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ATHENICUS SUCKS.....

pp Herpes the Great PO BOX 1000 MARS METHUSELAH



+++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR WEEK I-II OF SEPT, 967 +++++

## DARK EMPIRE VANDALS STRIKE.

Towards the end of August, a new phenomenon hit the world: "Vandalism". A Dark Empire force was spotted demolishing the bridge at Bucephalus. A Macedon force sent to prevent it were very unlucky (I've heard that before - GOD) and had to withdraw. This horrible past - Time MUST STOP before our civilizations crumble!

#### SOUTHERN METHUSELAH IS ON.

Please send in your COUNTRY NAMES, TOWNS, CITIES, VILLAGES, ETC to Cartography Dept, Empire Castings, Mars, C/O GOD.... for next week!!!!! (Tom:- your time has come... thanks for the info you gave me months ago!).

Those interested in running a second country (eg: those on the brink of total destruction(?)), should submit any details they want putting on the map... proportions of Cities to Towns, Desert to Hills, how many ports, or just an endless series of oasises...

## A PUBLIC PROCLAMATION TO THE PEOPLE OF IMPERVIOUS

Resistance is useless. Come out with your hands up. A lifetime's supply of Parbeerian horse burgers is guaranteed to every Seleucid soldier who throws in the towel.

Signed... General officer in command, Serpian Army Group East.

## DISCONTENT IN LEAGUE'S DEMOCRATIC COUNCILS

Rumblings of discontent are reported from the league where Invidious Poliorcates appears to have abandoned proper leadership. Senior statesmen from the different states are thought to be in the process of seeking a new man to give glory to the might of the League's armed forces.

## ERIC ISSUES FINAL CHALLENGE

The long-suffering population of the Visancryme Protectorate (Still referred to as the "Kingdomette" by out dated northern equestrian rulers) last night took heart from a proclamation issued by their senile leader, King Eric, 132. The document was a lengthy statement about the economy working well under the Conservative Party and that inflation must be beaten at all costs. A small section of the text referred in hostile terms to the Ayatollah and challenged the Serpian Army's 5000 point army outside Impervious to a three-legged ludo contest to determine once and for all who ruled the Protectorate. The Ayatollah was reported to be "considering his position" and had reputedly

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requested a contingent of A.N.C. marshals to oversee such an event.

## JOB ADVERT: REPLY

Dear "Worried" - I apply for all three jobs as I have the skills:-

I cook superbly as long as you like bean cuisine;
I am also immune to all household poisons and smells.

2) I would make a good bodyguard as I am a good shot: I can fart the eyebrows off a knat at 50 paces.

3) I detect lies well; in fact I know exactly when I am being bull-shitted to by a jumped-up, pint sized amateur, well out of his depth in foreign lands, with sand up his arse.

Pay negotiable, tax free, paid in bullet beans, in advance.

Yours, Casteroil Crapalotti.

## BATTLE REPORT: YEFREM (X8).

An characteristically bold move y the Serpian command in Parbeeria nearly led to disaster this week. Finding themselves faced with a Parbeerian army group much larger than they expected, the Serpian decided, after early and unsuccessful probing, to fight a rearguard action and retire to the safety of Tololsk. The battle was fought over two days and well into the early hours of a third day. In fact, the milkman arrived just as the Serpian troops left the field (3.10am - GOD).

Although Ibrahim the Improbable sustained some losses, including the rather humiliating recapture of a sacred standard, a substantial proportion of the army regained the safety of prepared positions in Tobolsk, and the Serpian frontier was secured at the expense of some villages on the Zoyan peninsular. Serpian High Command convened a special conference in how to close down and defeat the Parbeerian armoured divisions. They are, as yet, no closer to a solution.

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## SOUTHERN METHUSELAH

Would all potential rulers please submit their list of settlements (including you God) for the above mentioned by III-10-967.

## Thankyou,

The God of the South (ie God2)

## SHOCK CANNIBALISM RUMOUR DENIED

Observers of the siege at Impervious were last night buzzing with the news that food supplies in the city seemed to have shrunk to members of the populations itself. Although all was quiet last week on the battle front, the city simmered in a haze of disquiet as the Serpian invaders tightened their grip still further.

A Palace spokesman firmly denied the rumours of desperate cannibalism within the city as he tucked into his evening meal of shoe leather and candle wax. "We've got them on the run now" he maintained "it won't be long before the Ayatollah gives up". Worries about the health of the monarch on a starvation diet also persist. Eric has not been seen outside the palace for some time.

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## +++++ THE INCONTINENT FOR LAST WEEKS OF OCT. 967bc. +++++

#### MEDIA

Cecil B. De Mille to film Ayatollah's conquest of the East.

Ayatollah to write a special five hour speech in honour of the occasion.

## FINAL END OF ERIC

Yet another Methuselahn leader disappeared from the scene last week when Impervious finally fell to the besieging Serpian army. A tired Seleucid army, much weakened for being deprived of the September harvests, threw itself upon the mercy of Akbha the Pestilential, and handed over the keys to the city. Eric was given a little cottage in the village of Hippolytus (025), an old age pension, and an exemption from the poll tax.

## NEW GOULAYS FOR ERIC

International playboy KING ERIC SELEUCID has been spotted carousing in the seedy bean - caverns of Goulays, reports our Parbeerian correspondent. Looking like a man relieved of the burdens of a hopeless cause, he has been seen with half a dozen strumpets each night for 2 weeks. Closer inspection reveals that Eric's previously balding pate now sports a glossy dark-haired mane, thanks to liberal use of Macedonian 2000. This looks like a man reborn, free from all cares and living on extended credit thanks to his host.

#### IMPERVIOUS FALLS

The final outpost of resistance to the Ayatollah in the East finally fell to the Serpians last week. The Ayatollah had prepared some effective siege - works and deprived the city of water as well as food. The Visancryme High Command surrendered rather than fight, giving the Ayatollah fresh troops to redeploy against the Serpians' enemies to the West. King Eric is preparing his final resignation speech which will be published in the next edition.

# FURTHER SERPIAN ADVANCES: PROBES IN THE BACK PASSAGE

The inexorable advance of the Serpians upon the Parbeerian capital continues. Last week, Coracle (BB2) fell to the chariots of Herod the King. Meanwhile, in the South, an amphibious landing brought Zoya (Y1O) back into the Serpian Fold. How long can von Fartenblaster resist this fresh assault on Tobolsk (Y8)?

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#### AYATOLLAH PUNISHED.

Dissent and other sins akin to "arguing with the ref" have been punished by God this week after a red card incident in the league game at Pella last month. An entire command, recruited some way from Pella has been sent off the map after being showed the yellow card some weeks previously. The force was strategically important for the Islamic tyrant, and the ruling is designed to discourage all arguing with the referee.

Be warned, those who play with fire!

## ROOF-TOP PROTEST IN IMPERVIOUS.

As Serpian troops were finding barracks in Impervious last week, the only part of the Seleucid capital holding out against Akbha the Pestilential was the Palace. On top of the Palace roof, and refusing to come down, was the Seleucid High Command: Al Capon II, Brian Boring and several King Eric impostors. Al Capon, who is still receiving a certain amount of pocket money from Herpes the Great, is reported to be "holding out for more favourable terms". However, Incontinent can reveal that King Eric HAS signed a treaty with the Ayatollah detailing the terms of cooperation between the two commands. Here it is, in full:

#### TREATY OF IMPERVIOUS

 All remaining Seleucid troops are under the command of Serpian generals.

 All remaining Seleucid territory is ceded, in perpetuity, to Serpia.

5) Seleucid Command to bear the full responsibility for having initiated the war. (War Guilt clause).

4) Have a nice day.

Observers believe this treaty opens the beginning of a new and permanent period of co-operation between Serpia and the unpredictable Seleucid

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leader.

## HERPES SENDS A WARNING TO THE SERPIAN AGGRESSOR.

Information has been passed to the Dark Empire which supports the view that the Ayatollah has been involved in organized acts of terrorism against Herpes. The Emperors reaction was to issue a warning in the strongest possible terms to the Ayatollah. Independent analyses have commented that the continent of Methuselah could be submerged into a new "cold war."

Émperor Herpes, leading the Imperial/Athenian/Parbeerian alliance, and rejoicing after the reconquest of Macedon, was reported to be in good mood and looking forward to taking the opportunity to forcibly evict the Serpian Invasion force from Macedon.

966 promises to be an interesting year for Methuselah.

## STOP PRESS

CONFIRMED REPORT 1: - AVATOLLAH SHOWN THE MACEDONIAN DOOR AT PELLA. MASSIVE SERPIAN LOSSES REPORTED. COULD THERE BE A DUNKIRK TYPE OPERATION AT CLITUS, OR HAVE THEY ALL BEEN WIPED OUT??

CONFIRMED REPORT 2: - IMPERVIOUS FALLS AT LAST. THE SIEGE IS OVER. DAMAGE TO THE ROOF AND SURROUNDING INSTALLATIONS HAVE BEEN ESTIMATED AT OVER 4 MILLION POUNDS. AL CAPON AND HIS STAFF WERE LIFTED OFF OF THE PALACE ROOF DURING THE EARLY HOURS OF THIS MORNING, MAKING V-SIGN GESTURES OF DEFIANCE IN THE FACE OF THE VICTORIOUS AKBHA THE PESTILENTIAL.

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#### PARBEERIAN ORDERS

The ruler of Parbeeria, Heinrich von Fartenblaster, was recently accused of withholding orders from God:- He thought he was asked for Hor D'oeurves, and since he had already eaten a large vat of curried beans, thought it wise to refrain from this invitation to dine.

## SMALL SHIPS SAVE SERPIAN GARRISON

The Clitus garrison of Serpian troops, suddenly faced with an Empire army twice it's size, was rescued from extinction by a hurried evacuation across the Dardanells by hundreds of small pleasure cruisers, rafts, Lilos and inflatable chariot tyres. The Serpian General, Cyrus the Cruel vowed to be back. He found it "pretty galling" to be evicted from Macedonia by Herp the Burp, who, after all had invited the Ayatollah to help him extinguish the Macedonian. The other interesting suggestion concerned the "Imperial Athenian Parbeerian Alliance". From many months the Ayatollah has been under the impression the Athenians had been allied to him. And, for that matter, still are. ("Much good it's done us" he mused to himself).

## DECEMBER NEXT ... THEN 966

Only one lot of orders please for December, and then we begin again in the Spring. Orders MUST be in to complete 967 by July 27th 1990 - and all troops safely at a major settlement for the winter period:otherwise, disbanded! Immediate winter recruitment WILL be allowed again this year, but details need only be handed in with your Spring orders, in by end of August please. Your sitreps following this may also include some random goodies:- offers of the usual hired mercenaries, an old Eastern Methuselahn Potentate (age 97, with big ears) is looking around for some farming land, and various Parbeerian horse meat burger chains are offering franchises after this year.

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