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See Appendix GT – Emergent Government Titles
See Appendix IP – Interventions Reference Sheet

“The problem with that approach, of course, is that being against what the last guy did isn’t a proactive set of policy solutions. Unlike in a campaign – in which saying, essentially, ‘I’ll do the opposite of what the last guy did’ – where running against something often works better than running for something, governing is a very different animal.”

– Chris Cillizza, CNN Editor at Large, October 13, 2017

“Mr. Renzi, speaking in the Senate, argued that while populism works well on the campaign trail, ‘it works less good when we are dealing with governing.’ ... Mr. Renzi spent the past few years vowing never to join forces with Five Star, accusing it of spreading hate, misinformation and a dangerous anti-expertise ethos.”

– Jason Horowitz, “Italy’s Government Collapses, Turning Chaos Into Crisis,” New York Times, August 20, 2019

Populism a priori: Thus, what Mr. Callizza pointed out in 2017 (*ut supra*) is not *novel*, but rather a long-standing generalization, possibly also a synthetic *a priori* proposition of political science, probably since the first polis, of which we have needed reminder in the last decade on both sides of the Atlantic. That is, a deductive principle from reflection, to which there are probably no historical incidents to refute its universal validity. Oddly, Five Star Movement is described in the article as Italy’s “anti-establishment” party but was part of the governing coalition with “the hard-right, anti-migrant League.”

✓ See also Tom Nichols, The Campaign Against Expertise excerpt, Colleges, *supra*.

“While candidates make great efforts to project positive images to the public, it appears to be campaign gaffes that attract voters’ attention. This is consistent with psychological research which suggests that negative information is weighted more heavily than positive information when impressions of others are formed: negative items appear to have a stronger ‘pull’ on overall impressions. Such a tendency is known as the negativity effect....

Negativity also characterizes political judgments. In an analysis of the 1968, 1972, and 1980 National Election Studies (NES), Lau (1982, 1985) found that reasons offered by respondents for disliking a candidate were more predictive of overall evaluations than were reasons for liking a candidate. The 1984, 1988 and 1992 NES surveys each included a trait inventory of positively-worded attributes, and respondents were asked how well each attribute described the candidate. Thus, respondents could indicate a perceived character strength by saying that the trait was descriptive of the candidate, or they could indicate a perceived weakness by saying that the trait was not descriptive of the candidate.... Perceived candidate weaknesses were found to be more predictive of overall evaluations and voting than were perceived strengths.”

– Jill Gabrielle Klein, abstract of “Negativity in Intradimensional Judgments of Presidential Candidates,” *Advances in Consumer Research* Volume 25, 1998, pp. 574-577 ¹

Condemnation Notice: Structural Government Titles do not have Conflict Checks, but they may still be disrupted by other means, though it should happen very rarely. As stated previously, a Structural Title can only be disrupted: if the position does not currently have a Capital Colony (**after** a position’s Capital Colony has been established, see Capital Colony, 2 Order, p. 532, *supra*), if the position has no remaining undisrupted Social or Estate Titles, or if the position is unable to comply with the requirements of the Structural Title for any reason, including but not limited to, having no undisrupted Social or Estate Titles to connect the colonies by Pathways, see World Powers Fall, 3 Government Titles, p. 617, *supra*.

- ✓ “Since the fall of the Republic, the authority of the Roman Senate had largely eroded under the quasi-monarchical system of government established by Augustus, known as the Principate. The Principate allowed the existence of a *de facto* dictatorial regime, while maintaining the formal framework of the Roman Republic. Most Emperors upheld the public facade of democracy, and in return the Senate implicitly acknowledged the Emperor’s status as a *de facto* monarch. Some rulers handled this arrangement with less subtlety than others.” – from Wikipedia article, “Domitian,” captured December 31, 2019.
 - “All states, all powers, that have held and hold rule over men have been and are either republics or principalities.” – opening lines to The Prince by Machiavelli (1513), translated by W.K. Marriott.
 - Julius Caesar was assassinated because the plotters feared he was making himself *Rex* (‘king’); his nephew and adopted heir, Gaius Octavius as Emperor Augustus, finished the process. The third party to the story was the Praetorian Guard (*ut infra*, p. 653).
 - “After the demise of the Second Triumvirate, Augustus restored the outward façade of the free Republic, with governmental power vested in the Roman Senate, the executive magistrates, and the legislative assemblies. In reality, however, he retained his autocratic power over the Republic. By law, Augustus held a collection of powers granted to him for life by the Senate, including supreme military command, and those of tribune and censor. It took several years for Augustus to develop the framework within which a formally republican state could be led under his sole rule. He rejected monarchical titles, and instead called himself *Princeps Civitatis* (‘First Citizen’). The resulting constitutional framework became known as the Principate, the first phase of the Roman Empire.” – from Wikipedia article, “Augustus,” captured January 3, 2020.
- ✓ Independence Day 2021 is the 245th ‘birthday’ of the United States of America and both sides of the political aisle admit that we have already drifted far from the original republic in only about half the time it took for the Roman Republic to evolve (progress, transition, or deteriorate if that is your view) into the Roman Empire. Where will the United States be in two centuries? Are we on the well-traveled path?
- **Extreme Makeover:** Changing a Structural Title is an extreme measure. Because a position may only have one Structural Title at a time, and cannot be without a Structural Title (whether or not disrupted), a position cannot remove or add a Structural Title as it would other Titles (see, A New Order and Corridors of Power, 5 Government Titles, both p. 642,

supra); rather it can only change Structural Titles by doing both at the same time with one activation of the Order Power for the purpose of Government Formation. A moderate change, which would be any change from a Unitary or Confederation Title to a Dualistic Title and *vice versa*, has a 20% chance of success. A radical move from a Unitary to a Confederation Title, and vice versa, has a 10% chance of success. The chance of success is increased by 20% if the Structural Title is currently disrupted.

- ✓ “Though her vision energized many liberals – the unlikely chant of ‘big, structural change’ rang out at her rallies – it did not find a wide enough audience among the party’s working-class and diverse base.” – Shane Goldmacher and Astead W. Henson, “Elizabeth Warren, Once a Front-Runner, Drops Out of Presidential Race,” New York Times, March 5, 2020.
- Thirty Tyrants: A disrupted Structural Title is the most awful tyrant; it continues to exert structural control, but is powerless and wobbly.² Changing Structural Titles is probably more painful and costly than taking steps to restore the current Structural Title. It will be interesting to see under what circumstances and for what reasons a position would make this change during the course of the game. But we know it has happened historically and such moves are usually monumental; commonly cited examples would include the collapse of European monarchies to be replaced by dualistic republics, and the transition from the Articles of Confederation to the Constitutional Republic in the fledgling United States (from which there has been considerable drift). What events would be required for the United States to return to a Confederation, or more likely, become a dictatorship?
 - ✓ History provides plenty of examples. The pattern for movement from ‘confederation’ or scattered vaguely allied sovereigns to central authority is usually conquest. But there are historical cycles in motion and the history of central and western Europe from the 4th Century to the 11th Century shows the process of fragmentation of authority due to raids, invasions, division, and the preeminence of defense over offense.
- Home-Wreckers: A change in Structural Title requires a rearrangement of the existing undisrupted Titles. Upon a successful change in Structural Title, the Concierge will rearrange the position’s Titles so that they are legally placed according to the new Structural Title, old Pathways may be dissolved and/or new ones formed.

This may/will require considerable rearrangement with possible losses of Cultural Traits, Fuzzy Groups, and other game items on the Public Space. Colonies will not be lost, but they can be moved out of the way to another place in the Public Space, but anything not representing population (such as Culture and Research) may simply be removed if necessary.

“Hindenburg told me he would serve another term as president, but the office must be laid in his hands as an accomplished fact, because he is not inclined or in a position to undertake a new election campaign.”

– Heinrich Brüning, German chancellor in early 1932

“A presidential cabinet led by Hitler would develop into a party dictatorship, with all its consequences for an extreme aggravation of the conflicts within the German people.”

– President Paul von Hindenburg, November 1932

“Gentlemen, I hope you will not hold me capable of appointing this Austrian corporal to be Reich Chancellor.”

– President Paul von Hindenburg, January 1933 ³

In the Hall of Mirrors: In 1871, *delegates from the parliament of Northern Germany* petitioned Wilhelm I, King of Prussia, to declare himself Emperor of Germany, which was accomplished in the Hall of Mirrors in Versailles after the French surrender to end the Franco-Prussian War. Prior to becoming the German Empire, Germany was a complex federation of states bound by agreements, nationalism and economic ties, from the end of the Napoleonic Era and the dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire.

Five centuries of nearly endless strife, invasion and plague had constantly displaced and mixed the German populations (Saxons, Bavarians, Prussians, Rhinelanders, East Prussians, Hessians, Silesians) thoroughly such that they emerged into the 19th century with a homogeneous cultural and national identity.

- ✓ “In the late 20th century, many social scientists argued that there were two types of nations, the civic nation of which France was the principal example and the ethnic nation exemplified by the German peoples.” – from Wikipedia article, “Nation,” captured November 1, 2018.

In 1933, *the Reichstag effectively voted itself out of existence by passing the Enabling Act* that allowed the government to pass laws without the Reichstag.

- ✓ “The Enabling Act of 1933 was renewed by a purely Nazi Reichstag in 1937 and 1939. In 1941 and 1943 it was renewed by decree, in 1943 without temporal limit. Although it states that it is valid only for the duration of the current Hitler government of 1933, it remained in force even after major changes of ministers. In any case, Hitler called the cabinet together only very rarely after the first months of 1933. The last cabinet meeting happened in 1937. He preferred to govern via decrees and personal orders.” – from Wikipedia article, “Enabling Act,” September 28, 2018.

On August 1, 1934, the day before President Hindenburg died, Chancellor Adolf Hitler with his cabinet, passed a decree that upon the death of President Hindenburg, the office of the President would be merged with the Chancellor into a single office, *Führer und Reichskanzler*. This, along with the Reichstag Fire Decree, issued by President Hindenburg in February 1933 at the recommendation of Chancellor Adolf Hitler, made Adolf Hitler the *legal dictator* of Germany as *Führer und Reichskanzler* with an impotent Reichstag and the government controlled by his party.⁴ The German people approved of the merger in a referendum on August 19, 1934, in which 90% of the votes were ‘yes’ votes (95% of voters voted).

- ✓ President Hindenburg does not come out of this situation smelling of roses, Hitler appears to have played him for a chump. Hindenburg is blamed at least for his part in

the rise of Adolf Hitler (though there certainly were circumstances beyond his control), and it is clear that he miscalculated, his military ‘genius’ did not translate to politics (not an unusual occurrence in history). The discussion for the last 80 years has been about figuring out how all of this happened, and where mistakes were made, for example, I remember my mother saying to me when I was young, “They put Hitler in power because they thought they could control him.”

“It has been the experience of history that large forces of ‘household troops’ are maintained at any nation’s peril, and Rome’s Praetorian Guard was no exception. Established on a moderate scale by Augustus, these cohorts had grown into an army of 50,000 which made and broke emperors at pleasure, even to the extent of auctioning off the purple to the highest bidder. The pay and privileges of the Praetorians set an example of insolence which spread until it corrupted the fighting men on the frontier.”

– Lynn Montross, War Through the Ages (3rd Ed., 1960), pp. 87-88

Household Troops: The *praetorians* were originally personal bodyguards of various Roman generals; the *praetorians* of various generals grew in size, forming an elite, last reserve unit to be committed to battle at the decisive moment. When Octavian defeated Anthony in 30 B.C., his large *praetorian* became the famous Praetorian Guard permanently housed in Rome.

In 23 A.D., *Casta Praetoria*, a permanent high walled, fortified barracks, was constructed for the Guard in the north east corner of Rome (opposite and across the river from Vatican). Possession of a major fortification just outside the central areas of Rome was a turning point in the power ascent of the Guard, making them nearly unassailable in Rome. *The Emperor ruled the Empire from Rome, the Guard ruled Rome.* To be proclaimed Emperor, one had to come to and live in Rome. It was thus that from 30 B.C. to 68 A.D., Roman emperors of the Claudio-Julian Dynasty maintained a separate personal guard unit, the *cohors Germanorum*, recruited from the German border tribes along the Rhine, and considered politically neutral. When the *cohors Germanorum* was dissolved in 68 A.D., the Praetorian Guard was the sole force in Rome.

➤ **Impertinence of Pertinax:** One hundred twenty-five years later, on **March 28, 193 A.D.**, the Emperor Pertinax was killed by the Praetorian Guard after he revoked their privileges and reduced the pay of the troops. The Praetorian Guard then determined to – literally – auction off the crown to the highest bidder. Titus Flavius Claudius Sulpicianus, the father-in-law of Emperor Pertinax, inside the walls of *Castra Praetoria* with the guard, began the bidding. A wealthy man, Didius Julianus, arrived outside the gates of *Castra Praetoria* and began bidding against his rival, both bidders shouting out bids to the soldiers on the wall. Didius Julianus won the bidding, was declared Caesar by the Praetorian Guard, for promising to pay each soldier 25,000 sesterces, and the Senate, under threat of the Guard, confirmed Didius Julianus as the new Emperor. Subsequently, Septimius Severus, in command of three legions in Pannonia (and closest to Rome), marched to Rome, defeated the Praetorian Guard forces sent to stop him, and reached Rome. The decadent Guard surrendered, the Senate proclaimed Severus as Emperor, sentenced Julianus to death: He was killed on **June 1, 193 A.D.**⁵

✓ Despite the Praetorian Guard example, the practice continued well into the Byzantine Empire. The Varangian Guard, deliberately composed only of distant foreigners, was an elite unit and the personal bodyguard of the Emperor who led the second attack on the Pecheneg wagon lager at the Battle of Beroia in 1122 A.D., using Dane axes to

hack through the defenses. In the last two centuries of the decline, the Guard was dominated by locals, lost status and faded away between 1350 and 1400 A.D.

➤ On Being Roman: A ripple effect of the payment of bribes by pretenders and newly-appointed Emperors to secure the loyalty of not only the Praetorian Guard in Rome, but also frontier legions, and various officials, wealthy families, and senators, was the devaluation of Roman currency over centuries. Bribes were not often paid from the personal fortunes of the new Emperors, nay, they were paid out of the Roman treasury in the form of coins. Over time, as sources of silver petered out at an accelerated rate due to increased production demands and territorial losses, the silver purity of Roman coins decreased substantially so that more coins could be minted with less silver, allowing large amounts of coins to be minted in short time periods to pay the bribes, lest the troops become unruly. This then decreased the wealth prestige of Rome, making external trade more difficult.

- ✓ “When introduced, the denarius contained nearly pure silver at a theoretical weight of approximately 4.5 grams, but from the time of Nero onwards the tendency was nearly always for its purity to be decreased. ... The denarius continued to decline slowly in purity, with a notable reduction instituted by *Septimius Severus*. ... This was followed by the introduction of a double denarius piece... The coin is commonly called the antoninianus by numismatists.... Although nominally valued at two denarii, the antoninianus never contained more than 1.6 times the amount of silver of the denarius. The profit of minting a coin valued at two denarii, but weighing only about one and a half times as much is obvious; the reaction to these coins by the public is unknown.”
– from Wikipedia article, “Roman currency,” April 21, 2020 (emphasis added).

The 1984 board game, *Conquest of the Empire*, was innovative for its crude attempt to introduce the effects of Roman inflation due to civil wars. Similarly, the Seven Years War forced Prussia to revalue the Thaler through the Mint Act of 1763 to bring it into line with the depreciated coins circulating in the economy and to lower inflation; this began a ripple effect of currency reform through Europe as other nations also revalued, devalued, or debased their own currencies. Although GGDM does not operate on a monetary economy, participants may imagine that such exists within position’s civilizations and apply these effects.

“That’s one of our speculations, by the way. That the prior version of history that this one overwrote was horrible. Complete geopolitical mayhem; half of New York City is underwater. The United States is headed toward civil war, or ruled by an artificial-intelligence construct, or some such other thing. Real end-of-days stuff. That the instances of ourselves who existed in that history figured out what we have: that the invention of the causality violation device was the cause. That in that prior version of history, Rebecca did not die in a car accident. That she went back to the past on a mission, as a volunteer, well aware of her sacrifice.”

– Dexter Palmer, [Version Control](#) (2016)

Alternating History: It seems silly to say, but in order for there to be an alternate history, the observer must remember another version of history and consider that version ‘real.’ Perhaps an ‘eigenstate’ of memory. Without that belief and memory, history is not alternate. As to whether history is ‘real,’ see *Five Types of Facts*, 1 Dreamtime, pp. 135-137, *supra*.

- ✓ When I saw the ending of the movie *Gladiator* (2000), I immediately said, ‘that’s not what happened!’ History records as ‘facts’ that Commodus reigned for 15 years of increasing megalomaniac insanity, he renamed Rome as *Colonia Lucia Annia Commodiana* after the fire of 191, renamed the months of the year after himself, renamed the Senate, renamed the fleet, and renamed the Roman Legions too. He was poisoned by his mistress, then strangled by his wrestling partner when the first didn’t work. He died on New Years Eve 192 A.D. As soon as he died, most of his acts were shortly undone, Rome was restored to its original name, and he was declared a public enemy by the Senate. The Year of the Five Emperors followed (193 A.D.), *ut supra*. I later watched an interview with the director of *Gladiator* who quipped, “Well, I never let a little history get in the way of a good story!” Yeah, really?

The Year of the Five Presidents: The year 193 A.D. is known as The Year of the Five Emperors in the history of the Roman Empire, 1,782 years later, the year 1975 A.D. is the Year of the Five Presidents of the United States of America. Since you may not remember 1975, allow me to recount it for you here.

On January 9, 1975, the embattled President, Richard Nixon (R-CA), resigned as President of the United States, and was succeeded by Vice President Gerald Ford (R-MI) who had earlier succeeded Vice President Spiro Agnew who resigned under charges of bribery and money laundering. President Ford nominated Nelson Rockefeller (R-NY) to the Vice Presidency, which was confirmed after lengthy and embarrassing Congressional hearings.

September 5, 1975, President Ford was assassinated by Lynnette “Squeaky” Fromme, a follower of Charles Manson, in front of the State House in Sacramento, California. Immediately afterward, Nelson Rockefeller was sworn in as President of the United States and nominated Speaker of the House, Carl Albert (D-OK), to the Vice Presidency, which – following initial political shock of a party ceding the Vice Presidency, a return to the original Constitutional roots – was quickly confirmed by a bipartisan Congressional majority, in part to show political solidarity and in part to avoid further instability and embarrassment to the United States.

Sarah Jane Moore assassinated President Rockefeller in front of the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco, California on September 22, 1975. President Rockefeller served for just 16 days. Upon taking office, newly sworn President Carl Albert took a week to consider the situation and the sense of panic gripping the country, and – despite calls for a Republican Vice President, emerged with a nomination of the nationally unknown Democratic former Governor of Georgia, Jimmy Carter (D-GA) of the “New South,” as his Vice President. Initially shocked by the nomination, the media and Congress came to see the wisdom of the choice and hastily confirmed the nomination of Jimmy Carter for Vice President.

Francisco Franco, the dictator of Spain died on November 19, 1975. President Albert attended the funeral of Franco, but mysteriously disappeared without trace during the event; his body was never found. How could that happen? While an intense investigation followed the frantic manhunt and international crisis, after 10 days missing, Congress declared that President Albert was presumed dead or unable to discharge his duties, and as such, on November 30, 1975, Vice President Jimmy Carter was sworn in as President of the United States, exactly 193 years after the initial agreement leading to the Treaty of Paris was signed, on November 30, 1782.

Three weeks later, the *Washington Post* and the *New York Times* jointly exposed the Secret Service “Praetorian Guard Plot.”

- ✓ Although critics later commented on the misappropriation of the term Praetorian Guard as the name of the plot – chafing at the false comparison between the Secret Service and the ancient guard, the essence of the plot struck a newsroom editor as being Praetorian in nature and the term became the headline.
- The POTUS Not: The Vice Presidency of the United States is the most curious position and the weakness of our system. The problem is that the current vision of the Vice Presidency amounts to little or nothing but a ‘president in waiting.’ No one during an election ever asks or considers how the Vice President will handle his duties as the President of the Senate or to what extent the VP will be involved in the day to day activities of the Senate. Perhaps forgetting their civic lessons, the electorate and media mainly considers the ‘running mate’ in terms of political coalition building during the election cycle, and as the first in succession to the Presidency in case of death or disability. Recent experience shows that the main job of the Vice President is to be quiet, to sometimes act as the mouthpiece and faithful defender of the President, to go on some foreign trips, and other times, to disappear smiling, like a certain famous cat, rather than disagree publically with the President.
 - ✓ An example is the ‘shoot down order by’ Vice President Dick Cheney during the 9/11 attacks. The Commission report, as summarized by the Washington Post,⁶ indicates that there is no documentary record of a phone call from President Bush in Florida to Vice President Cheney authorizing U.S. fighter jets to shoot down civilian aircraft after the initial attacks, however, the record is incomplete.⁷ The Vice President of the United States is not the ‘vice commander in chief’ of the armed forces,⁸ he is not in the chain of command, unless the President is disabled or unable to communicate.⁹

This was not the case on 9/11, as President Bush did have several phone calls with the Vice President in the bunker and other high ranking military and civilian officials. Further, Chaney made erroneous comments to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld located at the Pentagon, when relaying the alleged authority and order to shoot (Rumsfeld had a more accurate understanding of the situation than Cheney); in fact, the fighters from Langley AFB had not been ordered to shoot down aircraft over Washington, D.C. and no aircraft had been shot down anywhere over the U.S. Cheney’s order to shoot was finally relayed to the commander at Andrews AFB while those fighters scrambled, by a Secret Service Agent (a person not in the chain of command) who said it came from VP Cheney – who was not in the chain of command.

- See also discussion of President Eisenhower’s pre-delegation of nuclear authority, 4 Combat, EN 23, p. 1004, *infra*.

“It is the nature of ambition to make men liars and cheats, to hide the truth in their breasts, and show, like jugglers, another thing in their mouths, to cut all friendships and enmities to the measure of their own interest, and to make a good countenance without the help of good will.”

– Gaius Sallustius Crispus aka Sallust (86-35 B.C.)

Bitterness & Murder: Like Aristotle's definition of time, and select other ancient writers on various human subjects, Sallust in his bitterness, stated the point so perfectly that it has become axiomatic. Sallust, a Senator, opponent of Cicero and supporter of Julius Caesar, and not exactly a moral man himself (by our standards, but probably was by Roman standards), spoke from personal experience. Such *dictum magna* can be spun, expanded and expounded upon, but not bettered. Everyone in every time and place of human history would grasp the applicability of these sorts of statements to their own times and pass them on to the next era.

Sallust's opponent, the better known Cicero, though not involved in the plot to assassinate Julius Caesar, nevertheless, subsequently expressed joy at the political lynch mob murder on the Senate floor, and failed to be appalled or repulsed by *political murder* (the surest sign that the Republic was dying). And rather than repudiate the process that made them masters of Rome, Mark Anthony and Augustus used Caesar's murder as pretext to embrace political murder for vengeance and to eliminate their opponents by reinstating public proscription. Cicero subsequently was killed by two Roman soldiers on orders from the Second Triumvirate and specifically, Mark Anthony, while being carried on a litter from his house and his head and hands cut off and displayed in Rome. See additional discussion, Equilibrium Epiphany, 1 Kairotic Moments, p. 1421, *infra*.

- ✓ Rome is the epitome of why political murder cannot be allowed to take over a civilization (however, the world has an endless litany of examples). Those who may have the ability to solve problems in new ways gain some popularity and then are killed in the ambitious tussle for power. Many Roman and later Byzantine politicians were killed in the streets by 'mob attacks' or during rioting, one of which took the life of St. Augustine's friend inspiring him to convert to Christianity (that's the story I heard in rhetorical theory class or perhaps read) and later, early Christianity adopted the mob agitation and riot mentality, e.g., Hypatia of Alexandria was seized and killed by a Christian 'mob' in the streets when Christians sought to take over Alexandria. Thus the late Roman Empire mob political murder and violence ironically became the tool of local Christian ascension. Nations such as Germany and Russia have feasted on themselves in a frenzy of political murder; once it is fully unleashed, the process also turns on those who are not a threat to the leadership or to the state, but who simply disagree (e.g., the White Rose group and most of the victims of Stalin).
- ✓ Political murder, as we know from history, subsequently became the normal day in the Roman Empire. But it is an odd thing. The conspirators of the July 20 Plot in 1944 are celebrated (with some reluctance, e.g., von Stauffenberg, a *loyal army officer*, had served in the Poland, France, the Eastern Front, and North African campaigns and had been promoted, awarded and compensated) as heroes who tried to stop a madman, and this is the way that Caesar's assassins may have been regarded for a short while in 44 B.C. So sometimes it appears that political murder is condoned when it is generally appreciated *that no other option remained*, as in the Nazi dictatorship of Germany leading down the road to the ultimate national disaster. It also appears generally a rule of history *that would-be assassins and conspirators are more celebrated for trying when they fail than when they succeed* (e.g., John Wilkes Booth and the assassins of Julius Caesar), probably because they didn't actually kill their target – noting however, that four people – but not Hitler – were killed by the assassination bomb on July 20, 1944 and 20 more were injured. The July 20 plotters in fact, implicitly, intended to kill everyone in the room, but the meeting was moved.

While Sallust's works are mainly plays and a history of interest to scholars, Cicero is much better known because he was sanctioned by the early Church as a 'righteous pagan' (despite his failure to condemn political murder in the Senate) and his works were copied and preserved through the Middle Ages.

- ✓ In GGDM play, while individual characters are not encouraged, late Rome provides many *bad* examples that can be creatively used for Interventions by the Concierge if it fits the story and the target position. So while individual characters may not be assassinated or murdered for political purposes, it is possible for positions (unless they are angelic) to go through periods of time, perhaps represented by a chaotic Regular Turn, of political murder with all of its consequences expressed in an Intervention or two.

“In the founding days of the Imperium, great men dreamed great dreams...and achieved them. In the last days of the Imperium, petty men dreamed petty dreams...and achieved them too.”

– MegaTraveller RPG, Rebellion Sourcebook (1988)

Endnotes.

¹ Commentary & Citation: The executive summary version from Wikipedia: “The presumption that negative information has greater diagnostic accuracy is also evident in voting patterns. Voting behaviors have been shown to be more affected or motivated by negative information than positive: people tend to be more motivated to vote against a candidate because of negative information than they are to vote for a candidate because of positive information. As noted by researcher Jill Klein, ‘character weaknesses were more important than strengths in determining...the ultimate vote’” – from Wikipedia article, “Negativity Bias,” captured April 16, 2018 citing to Jill Gabrielle Klein (1998), “Negativity in Intradimensional Judgments of Presidential Candidates,” in NA – Advances in Consumer Research Volume 25.

² Commentary & Citation: A similar example, “Although Elphinstone was a man of high birth and perfect manners, his colleague and contemporary General William Nott regarded him as ‘the most incompetent soldier who ever became general’ ... By the fourth day, a few hundred native soldiers deserted and tried to return to Kabul but they were all either killed or enslaved. By now Elphinstone, who had ceased giving orders, sat silently on his horse ... The leadership of Elphinstone is seen as a notorious example of how the ineptitude and indecisiveness of a senior officer could compromise the morale and effectiveness of a whole army (though already much depleted). Elphinstone completely failed to lead his soldiers, *but fatally exerted enough authority to prevent any of his officers from exercising proper command in his place.*” – from Wikipedia article, “1842 retreat from Kabul” (aka the Massacre of Elphinstone’s Army), captured October 16, 2018 (emphasis added).

- ✓ Gen. Elphinstone was 60 years old in 1842 and had been in the British army for 38 years. Though I am closer to 60 than I want to admit, people age at different rates, and if not senile, Elphinstone might best be described as an ill dotard in a waistcoat and epaulettes. See previous discussion of 19th Century European post-Napoleonic leadership in Interdisciplinary Approach, 4 Colleges, p. 507, *supra*.

³ Citation: Unsourced quotes found on Alpha History website.

⁴ Commentary & Citation: The daily reality of dictatorship: “The Gestapo had the authority to arrest citizens on the suspicion that they *might* commit a crime, *and the definition of a crime was at their discretion.* The Gestapo Law, passed in 1936, gave police the right to act extra-legally. This led to the sweeping use of Schutzhaft – ‘protective custody,’ a euphemism for the power to imprison people without judicial proceedings.” – Wikipedia article, “Reinhard Heydrich,” citing to Chris McNab, The SS: 1923–1945 (2009), captured September 27, 2018 (emphasis added).

- ✓ Rinse & Repeat: “In September 1970, the [Somali] government introduced the National Security Law No. 54, which granted the NSS [National Security Service] the power to arrest and detain indefinitely those

who expressed critical views of the government, without ever being brought to trial. It further gave the NSS the power to arrest without a warrant anyone suspected of a crime involving ‘national security.’ Article 1 of the law prohibited ‘acts against the independence, unity or security of the State,’ and capital punishment was mandatory for anyone convicted of such acts. From the late 1970s, and onwards Barre faced a shrinking popularity and increased domestic resistance. In response, Barre’s elite unit, the Red Berets (*Duub Cas*), and the paramilitary unit called the Victory Pioneers carried out systematic terror against the Majeerteen, Hawiye, and Isaaq clans. The Red Berets systematically smashed water reservoirs to deny water to the Majeerteen and Isaaq clans and their herds. More than 2,000 members of the Majeerteen clan died of thirst, and an estimated 5,000 Isaaq were killed by the government. Members of the Victory Pioneers also raped large numbers of Majeerteen and Isaaq women, and more than 300,000 Isaaq members fled to Ethiopia. By the mid-1980s, more resistance movements supported by Ethiopia’s communist Derg administration had sprung up across the country. Barre responded by ordering punitive measures against those he perceived as locally supporting the guerillas, especially in the northern regions. The clampdown included bombing of cities, with the northwestern administrative center of Hargeisa, a Somali National Movement (SNM) stronghold, among the targeted areas in 1988. The bombardment was led by General Mohammed Said Hersi Morgan, Barre’s son-in-law, and resulted in the deaths of 50,000 people in the north.” – from Wikipedia article, “Siad Barre,” captured October 12, 2018.

⁵ Commentary: Sometimes people in the past did things that are so contrary to our current worldview as to be shocking and unbelievable. But history records they happened, and this is a function of history as an ‘empirical’ study. Will participants in GGDM dare to venture outside our current worldview? To act unapologetically in different ways consistent with the beliefs of an interstellar setting or just to experiment?

- ✓ Over a thousand years after the Praetorian Guard, the same strategy was employed during the War of the Sicilian Vespers (see Legitimacy, 3 Government Titles, pp. 607-608, *supra*): The ability to sell legitimacy – whether by force of arms or by divine sanction – for personal enrichment. And a version of the same scam is employed today: the non-refundable down payment, and the buyer receives nothing.

⁶ Citation: Dana Milbank, “Cheney Authorized Shooting Down Planes,” Washington Post, p. A-01, June 18, 2004 reporting on the 9/11 Commission’s Report issued the previous day (the article is available online for free at http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A50745-2004Jun17_2.html).

⁷ Commentary: According to the article, both men testified afterward that the phone call occurred and that the authorization was given by President Bush to Vice President Cheney; National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice testified that she overheard Cheney discussing rules of engagement on the phone with President Bush.

⁸ Commentary: Although in the case of Spiro Agnew, the Vice President might have been the “Commander and Chief of Vice,” a post that passed to President Nixon as “Fibber in Chief” after Agnew’s resignation.

⁹ Commentary & Citation: Oddly, this situation was raised in the Babylon 5 television series episode “Point of No Return,” five years *before* 9/11, to wit, Captain Sheridan addressed the trapped Nightwatch mutineers:

- ✓ “As of now 03:15 Earth Standard Time, I’m placing you under arrest for conspiracy to mutiny and failure to obey the chain of command. The order for Nightwatch to take over Babylon 5 Security came from the Political Office. The Political Office, despite its connection to the President, is a civilian agency outside the direct chain of command. Orders affecting Military Personnel, must come from within the Military hierarchy. Starting from the President, through the Joint Chiefs of Staff to your immediate superior officer. A Senator CANNOT give you a direct order. A GOVERNOR cannot give you a direct order! And neither can the Political Office. Make no mistake this is an illegal order. Now we’ve contacted Earthdome and requested confirmation of this order through proper channels, but since we seem to be having trouble with communications, this may take several days. Until then, you have two choices, you can stay where you are, or YOU CAN LEAVE... one at a time. On your way out, you’ll turn in your link, identicard, and weapons. You’ll be restricted to quarters until the revised orders come in. WHEN that happens anyone who wants to file a complaint against me, can do so. Otherwise have a pleasant stay.” *Id.*, CAPS IN ORIGINAL.