

Crisis Update 4: It's 2032-ish, and...

The French potatoes that have been planted on the planet of Mars have started to flourish and spread dangerously close to the Mars base that is being built by PISA. They have mutated, developed consciousness, and organized - their desires remain unknown.

Japanese intelligence has discovered that the PISA spacecraft gain their remarkable speed by simply burning actual money – however, the Japanese government cares only about speed and not about the means to reach it, and thus JAXA has gone bankrupt trying to build a similar spacecraft. Additionally, corruption permeates the Russian state and the money used by the oligarchs to fuel PISA has effectively rendered the entire state bankrupt as well. ROSCOSMOS is launching rockets from the lunar base that has been built successively and making much money with it that they do not want to share with the bankrupt Russian government.

In the meantime, Japanese space ninjas, trained in secret and unbothered by earthly matters, have started fighting what they perceive to be a threat by the potato people on Mars, which has escalated into full-scale war. France, concerned about the fate of their beloved potatoes, is sending rescue teams, linguists, and agricultural personnel to Mars in order to convince the potatoes to lay down their arms and accept their status as food.

With the debate on earth taking place about the treatment of minorities in space India has taken the lead in the discussions by setting up a “world missionary conference” - in the troubles of the war on Mars though the only resolutions that has been made is the spacekids nationality being set at Tuvalunese. Meanwhile, the Russians can't really take conference serious and have started handing out merchandise: condoms designed to be safe in zero gravity with wonderful slogans are the biggest hit now. “Peace, Land and Bread”

Chinese statesmen Xi Jinping and Zhang Kejian have been kidnapped, there are no traces of any kidnappers. However, a voice note by Mr. Jinping has surfaced, in which he thanks an unknown third party “for the fantastic fucking Borscht” they brought. A digital trace leads to Russian space-space. However, with yet another unknown voice in this voice note going “maple syrup, poutine, sorry, eh?”, things remain unclear...

The ESA, however, has effectively founded Europe 2.0 on Jupiter's moon Europa. The very best gin bar in the universe, mixing gin with hitherto unknown ingredients is found there, it is called ‘BE'GIN to live’. The bar is run exclusively by Tuvalunese spacechildren who have - without any outside influence - proclaimed this as their nationality, since they think the word sounds nice. No one knows where these kids came from, the ESA remains secretive about it, and no information is available. Rumor has it they just came out of Europa's soil... Meanwhile, the children are quickly developing alcohol addiction because the bar is the only building on that moon, and Canadian mounties have been dispatched to supervise the ensuing violence. Since the mounties think themselves to be the police of the entire solar system, they have effectively challenged the Japanese space ninjas to a game of four-dimensional chess.

The only ones profiting from any of this are Canada and Australia, who have formed a free trade agreement in the meantime. And have started doing BBQs together on the Australian space stations. Australia has really ditched all its problems on earth and declared the age of “The Long Space Bender” which shall lead them into the glorious future of cheap Victoria beer and all the more intense sunburns.