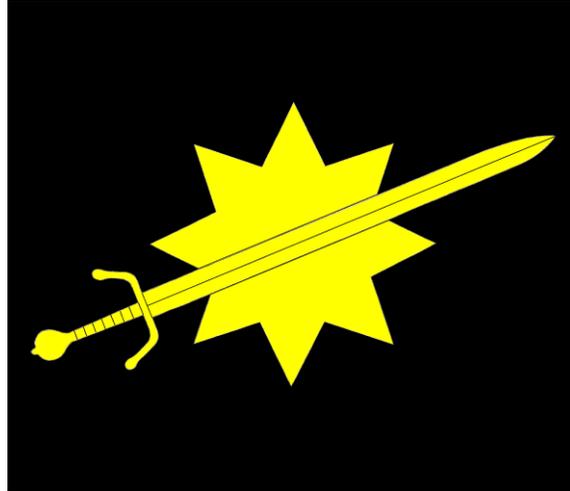


# EMBLEMS OF ADITYA



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# 1. Emblem of the Mastership of Aditya

In "A Slave is a Slave", H. Beam Piper describes how Space Vikings from the Sword-Worlds conquered the Old Federation planet of Aditya. "In the Sixth Century Pre-Empire, one of their fleets had come from Morglay to Aditya. The Adityans of that time had been near-barbarians; the descendants of the original settlers had been serfs of other barbarians who had come as mercenaries in the service of one or another of the local chieftains and had remained to loot and rule. Subjugating them had been easy; the Space Vikings had taken Aditya and made it their home."<sup>1</sup> At the beginning of the story, when the Galactic Empire arrives to annex the planet, its political system is called "the Mastership of Aditya", and "These Lords-Master are the descendants of the old Space Vikings, and the slaves of the original inhabitants."<sup>2</sup>

The emblem of the Mastership is revealed a few pages later. "There were more troops where the corridor ended in great double doors, emblazoned with a straight broadsword diagonally across an eight-pointed star. Emblematology of planets conquered by the Space Vikings always included swords and stars."<sup>3</sup> Piper even provides the colors. Prince Trevannion observes that the Lords-Master of Aditya "all wore black, trimmed with gold; he wondered if the coincidence that these were also the Imperial colors might be useful."<sup>4</sup>

My mental picture has always had the sword running from lower left to upper right; hilt below, point above. And in the fall of 2012, I finally put it on paper. (Figure 1.)

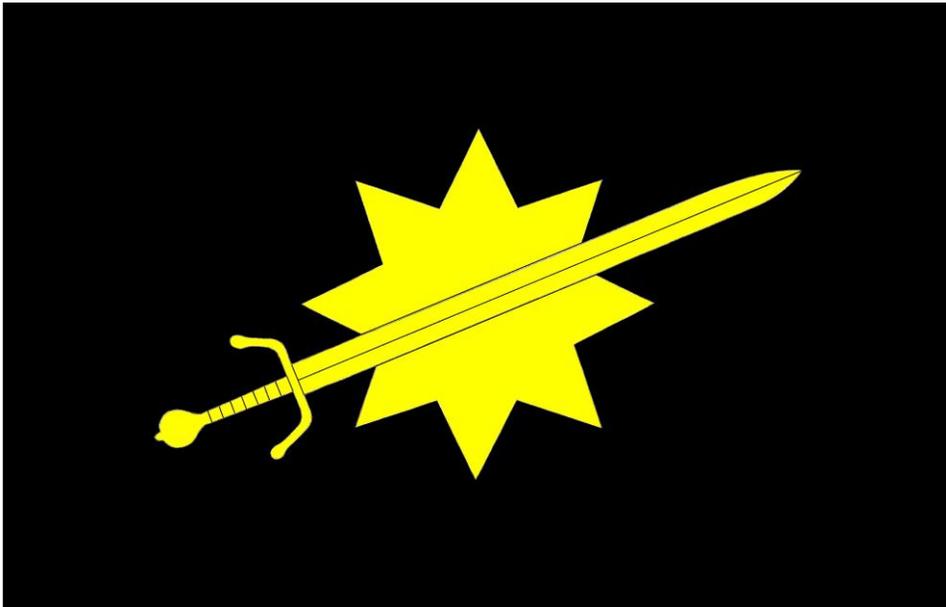


Figure 1. Postulated version of the gold sword and star, emblem of the Mastership of Aditya.<sup>5</sup>

Now for the date. "Lord-Master Olvir Nikkolon, Chairman of the Presidium" begins reciting the traditional set speech to "the Lords-Master's Convocation".<sup>6</sup> "Seven and a half centuries ago, our fathers went forth from Morglay to plant upon this planet a new banner..." But then he deviates from the text to add that "This year, other conquerors have come to Aditya, here to plant another banner, the Sun and Cogwheel of the Galactic Empire, and I blush to say it, we are as helpless against these conquerors as were the miserable barbarians and their wretched serfs whom our fathers conquered seven hundred and sixty-two years ago, whose descendants, until this black day, had been our slaves."<sup>7</sup>

Seven hundred and sixty-two years compared to what? In "The Future History", Beam places "A Slave is a Slave" in the "Mid Third Century Imperial", adding that the "Twentieth Century AE Corresponds to the First Century Imperial".<sup>8</sup> The mid Third Century Imperial would then correspond to the mid Twenty-Second Century AE, and 762 years earlier takes us to back to around the start of the Fifteenth Century AE. Thus, the golden sword and star is the banner of Aditya from roughly AE 1400 to 2162.<sup>9</sup>

## 2. The People's Commonwealth of Aditya

One condition of the annexation is that the Mastership must govern Aditya under the Galactic Constitution. This forbids slavery, so a peaceful change to a free Adityan society is begun.<sup>10</sup> Theoretically democratic, the provisional planetary Constitution of what will become "the Commonwealth of Aditya"<sup>11</sup> is largely written by the new Imperial Proconsul; Obray, Count Erskyll. Obray is from the planet Aton, so "It's one of these elaborate check-and-balance things...to begin with, it was the constitution of Aton, with an elective president substituted for a hereditary king."<sup>12</sup> Count Erskyll's beliefs are politely referred to as "liberal tendencies", but in truth are "political radicalism".<sup>13</sup> The Adityan document he drafts is therefore infused with "Atonian Radical Democrat stuff."<sup>14</sup>

'Radical democrat' appears to be socialism by another name. First, Count Erskyll decides to defraud the former Lords-Master of their compensation for the freeing of their slaves. Instead, the money will be banked on Odin, "to give Aditya some off-planet credit", and used to modernize the planet's badly-neglected industrial infrastructure.<sup>15</sup> This will secure "the Greatest Good for the Greatest Number, and to Niffenheim with any minorities who happened to be in the way."<sup>16</sup> Then, Obray gets the ex-slaves "to set up some kind of a scheme for the complete nationalization of all farms, factories, transport facilities, and other means of production and distribution."<sup>17</sup> So we can add, 'to Niffenheim with free enterprise, and even private property', because the Commonwealth will also confiscate "All the big [Masterly] estates".<sup>18</sup> The Proconsul's efforts are later referred to as "Erskyll's democratization and socialization."<sup>19</sup> But the emphasis seems to be on the latter.

Assisting Count Erskyll is a committee of some ex-chief slaves, like Khreggor Chmidd, Tchall Hozhet "and three or four others"<sup>20</sup> who put their own ideas into the Constitution. In the resulting system, "The Masterly estates would be the representative units; from each, the freedmen would elect representatives to regional elective councils, and these in turn would elect representatives to a central electoral council which would elect a Supreme People's Legislative Council. This would not only function as the legislative body, but would also elect a Manager-in-Chief, who would appoint the Chiefs of Management, who, in turn, would appoint their own subordinates."<sup>21</sup>

With all these up-and-down levels of government, the newly 'freedmen', so called, will therefore have little or no say in who actually makes their laws, or runs the planet. This displeases Count Erskyll. "I don't like it, myself...It's not democratic enough. There should be a direct vote by the people. Well...I suppose it will take a little time for them to learn [social] democracy."<sup>22</sup> Obray was apparently not radical enough, because the socialist system he helps set up quickly evolves into communism.<sup>23</sup> He says that the word Commonwealth "means something that everybody owns in common", but Chmidd adds that "somebody will have to take care of it for everybody. That...will be [Mykhyll Eschkaffar] and me and the rest of us [ex-chief-slaves] here."<sup>24</sup> As a consequence, everybody on Aditya is ostensibly equal, but some are considerably more equal than others. Such as ex-chief slaves Yakoop Zhannar, who begins "calling himself People's Provost-Marshal", and Zhorzh Khouzhik, who runs the "newly-organized People's Labor Police".<sup>25</sup> In addition, the official state name is modified to "the People's Commonwealth of Aditya",<sup>26</sup> reminiscent of the numerous 'People's Republics' of mid-Twentieth Century Terra.

Count Erskyll places his hopes in a Constituent Convention, to be held in five years, which will draw up a permanent planetary Constitution. The Convocation of the ex-Lords-Master, which will lose its power in the provisional constitution, will then be abolished.<sup>27</sup> But even that's not good enough for the ex-slaves, for as usual with communists, "constitutional and democratic means... seemed just a bit too tedious to them", and they decide to revolt.<sup>28</sup> Their revolution is actually a massacre, for out of all twelve thousand Lords-Master who have gathered in the city of Zeggensburg to vote on the provisional constitution, only "Eight hundred odd"<sup>29</sup> survive, a mere 6.66%. Combining the socialist politics with the butchery, the People's Commonwealth ends up becoming "a slave-state, of course; look who's running it, and whom it will govern."<sup>30</sup> Mass murder, and slavery in the name of freedom, have been the hallmarks of communism since the Russian Revolution in 1917.

Piper's choice of the name 'Aditya' for this planet is therefore suitably ironic. Aditi is a Hindu goddess, "the mother of the Adityas, Mitra and Varuna. Literally Aditi means "free from bonds."<sup>31</sup> After 762 years of slavery under the Space Vikings, the Adityans are freed from their bonds by the Galactic Empire, but after a short period of hopeful promise, they are put back into bonds by their new native leaders. Upon their initial emancipation, Prince Trevannion optimistically said that "A society must evolve, Obray. Let

these people earn their freedom. Then they will be worthy of it.”<sup>32</sup> By violently revolting, however, the Adityans don’t earn their freedom; and as we learn in “Ministry of Disturbance”, the totalitarian society that follows does not evolve, and lasts at least 900 years; even longer than the Mastership.<sup>33</sup>

A slave once is a slave again—and a slave forever, apparently.

### 3. Changing the Planetary Flag

After the Mastership is forcefully overthrown by the People’s Commonwealth, one would expect its emblem to be replaced, as well. Beam mentions no change to the planetary flag, but given the “contempt” and “murderous hatred” of the Adityans for their Space Viking-descended masters,<sup>34</sup> it is inconceivable that the People’s Commonwealth would retain the golden sword and star on a black field. At the very least, the Space Viking sword would have to go. Broadwords are the symbol of the Lords-Master’s power; not only appearing on their flag, but on their persons, being physically worn during official functions in the Convocation Chamber of the Citadel. Prince Trevannion notices that the Lords-Master “were armed, not with dress-daggers, but with swords; long, straight cross-hilted broadswords. They were the first actual swords he had ever seen, except in museums or on the stage.”<sup>35</sup>

One of the planetary colors should also change. Black is typical among Space Vikings, in both their emblems and clothing. A perfect example is supplied by Otto Harkaman, who in *Space Viking* wears “a short black jacket, heavily gold-braided, and black trousers in [probably black] ankle boots”.<sup>36</sup> This color scheme is matched by the Lords-Master, descendants of Space Vikings, who as we’ve seen wear “black, trimmed with gold”. But the *style* of their clothing has changed considerably over the centuries. They have traded their black jackets and trousers for “Queer garments; tightly fitted tunics at the top which became flowing robes below the waist, deeply scalloped at the edges. The sleeves were exaggeratedly wide; a knife or a pistol, and not necessarily a small one, could be concealed in every one.”<sup>37</sup>

The native Adityans, however, do not wear black; chief-slaves like Kreggor Chmidd and Tchall Hozhet are attired in “white gowns”, and the slaves who accompany them wear gowns of pale green (a herald-slave), dark green and pale blue (presumably scribe- and/or reporter-slaves).<sup>38</sup>

Thus, the Viking-black field of the Adityan flag could be replaced with red, the traditional color of socialism. The resulting banner of the People’s Commonwealth of Aditya would then be an eight-pointed gold star on a red field.<sup>39</sup> (Figure 2.) Such a design would be very much of a kind with the real-life flags of still-officially communist states like the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (a gold five-pointed star on a red field) and the People’s Republic of China (five gold five-pointed stars on red). (Figure 3.)



Figure 2. Proposed flag of the People’s Commonwealth of Aditya.

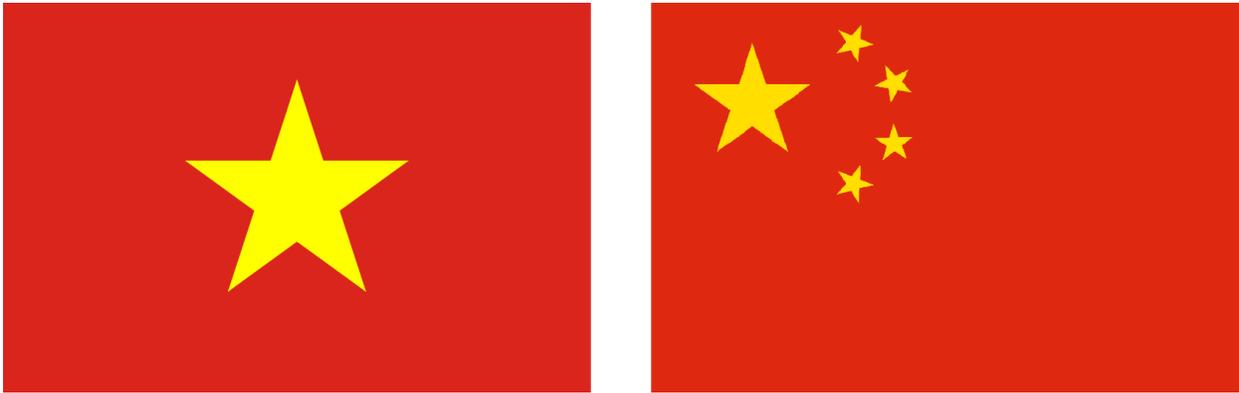


Figure 3. Flags of communist Vietnam and China.<sup>40</sup>

In “Ministry of Disturbance”, the Adityan chief of state is “First Citizen [Zhorzh] Yaggo, People’s Manager-in-Chief of and for the Planetary Commonwealth of Aditya, [who] wore a one-piece white garment like a mechanic’s coveralls with the emblem of his government and the numeral 1 on his breast.”<sup>41</sup> Unfortunately, Piper did not describe “the emblem of his government”, but applying the proposed flag design for the People’s Commonwealth, the symbol on his white coveralls could be a gold eight-pointed star embossed with a red 1.

Or perhaps better, a red star with a gold 1. This color scheme seems preferable, because a red star would show up better on the white coveralls, and red stars are another common feature of communist governments. The emblem of the old Soviet Red Army was of course a red star (bordered in gold), and the flag of the Soviet Navy had a red star (accompanied by a red hammer and sickle) on a white field, with a blue stripe along the bottom. (Figure 4.)

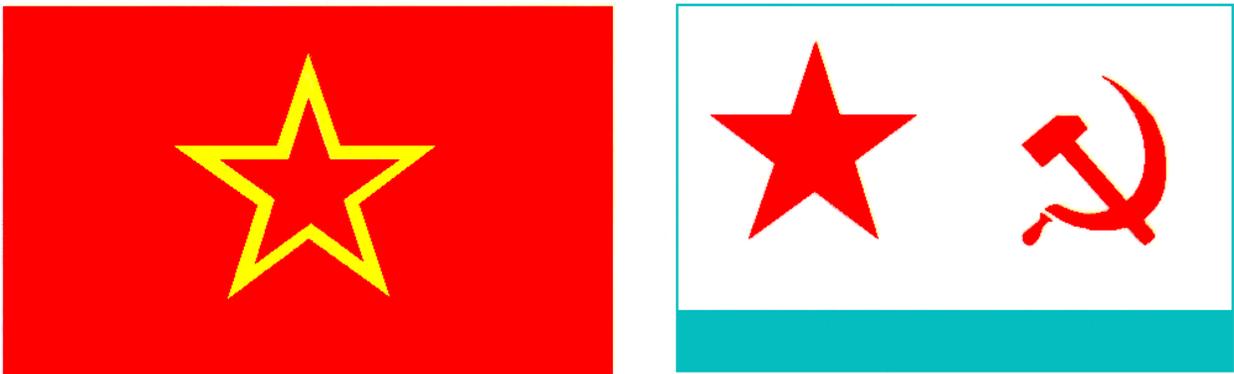


Figure 4. Red stars in the flags of the Soviet Red Army and Navy.<sup>42</sup>

## 4. Adityan-Imperial Connections

### a) Color-Coded Coveralls

Incidentally, First Citizen Yaggo’s white coveralls seem to be directly descended from the white gowns worn by the chief-slaves, such as Tchall Hozhet and Kreggor Chmidd, in “A Slave is a Slave”. Although Zhorzh’s official title is People’s Manager-in-Chief of the Commonwealth, as the leader of a communist—that is to say, slave—state, the First Citizen is essentially the ‘chief-slave’ or ‘Slave-in-Chief’ of Aditya. Since his predecessors Hozhet and Chmidd were superior to other slaves who wore gowns of green and blue, we can therefore extrapolate that workers in the various categories of the Commonwealth govern-

ment wear coveralls of various colors. For example, citizen-heralds may wear pale green coveralls, with citizen-scribes or -reporters in dark green or pale blue coveralls.

That the First Citizen of Aditya wears “a mechanic’s coveralls” essentially makes him a ‘worker’, which seems to be a deliberate allusion to the stereotypical proletariat idolized in communist myth. In the Soviet arms, the hammer represents the urban proletariat (industrial workers) and the sickle the rural peasantry (agricultural workers). This brings to mind the communist slogan, ‘Workers of the world, unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains!’ Because on Aditya, the workers of the world really do rise up; the whole planet throws off its chains (actually, the Galactic Empire does it for them) and then unites under the People’s Commonwealth.

Given the Soviet model, one might have expected the Adityan First Citizen’s coveralls to be red, rather than white. Because in Figure 5 below, the idealized Soviet worker wears red coveralls over a white shirt. Perhaps that is in fact true for the average Adityan, while their leader’s uniform simply reverses the colors, resulting in white coveralls over a red shirt.



Figure 5. Soviet parade with art extolling workers, and communist leader flags. <sup>43</sup>

Another reason why white is the ‘top’ color on Aditya is that Beam may have been modeling the Russian flag. Before the Revolution this was (and after 1991 is again) a horizontal tricolor of white-blue-red, white being the top stripe. In this regard, it is interesting that when Prince Trevannion visits Masterly estates, he finds white-gowned “Chief-slaves lording it over green and orange gowned supervisors and clerks”. <sup>44</sup> This hierarchy can therefore be represented by a horizontal tricolor of white-green-orange; a light-dark-mid combination very similar to the white-blue-red of Russia. <sup>45</sup> (Figure 6.)

If this was what Piper had in mind, then First Citizen Yaggo is a Servant of the People, First Category, attired in white coveralls with a red star embossed with a gold 1. Servants in the Second Category are

presumably 'citizen-supervisors' who wear green coveralls with a gold star and red 2. And Servants in the Third Category are 'citizen-clerks', in orange coveralls with a red star and white 3 (or, a white star and red 3).<sup>46</sup>

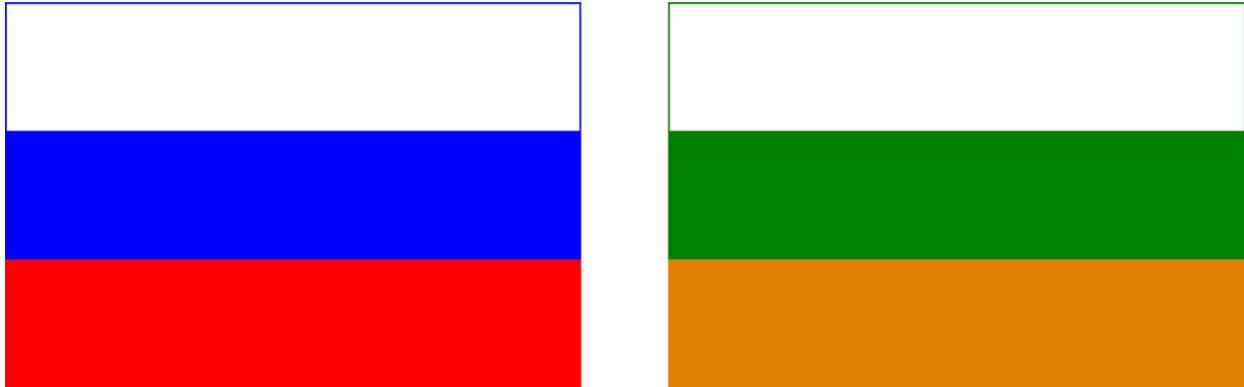


Figure 6. Russian flag compared to the top three levels of Aditya's color-coded hierarchy.

The attire of the Adityans actually reveals a subtle connection between these former slaves and their new Galactic masters, because Piper mentions that the uniforms of the Imperial Space Navy are also color-coded. "Officers of both sexes, in red and blue and yellow and green coveralls, were rising from seats, leaving their stations, gathering in groups."<sup>47</sup> In keeping with their military function, as well as the much greater dignity and power of the Empire, one would suppose that the Imperial version of 'coveralls' are more on the order of flight suits.

The connection is supported by their respective flags, which have the same colors; black and gold. But that's not all, for as I show in "The Emblem of the Galactic Empire", Piper appears to have derived the emblems of Aditya and the Empire from the same source. The Sun and Cogwheel of the First Galactic Empire, and the gold sword and star of Aditya, are both seemingly based on the Spaceship-and-Sun of Isaac Asimov's First Galactic Empire. Putting it another way, Beam simply separated the Sun from the Spaceship, gave the Sun to his own Empire, and then the oblong Spaceship (in the form of a sword) plus some of the Sun's 'rays' to Aditya.

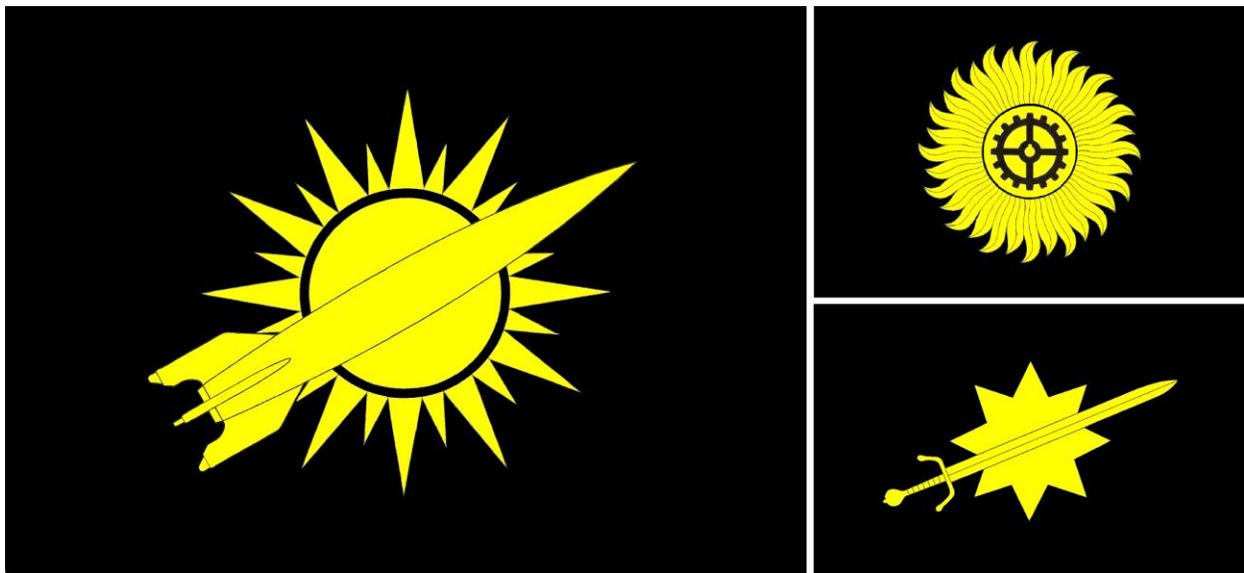


Figure 7. The Spaceship-and-Sun of Asimov's First Galactic Empire as a possible source for the emblems of Piper's First Galactic Empire and the annexed planet Aditya.

## **b) Octagons, Great Changes—and Revolutions**

Nor are these the only connections between Aditya and the Empire. The gold eight-pointed star of Aditya seems very similar to “the golden pile of the Octagon Tower” on Odin.<sup>48</sup> The same color, and the same number of sides or points in their symbols of authority. In addition, the “great and frightening changes” that are repeatedly mentioned as coming to the Empire in “Ministry of Disturbance” seem to echo the great and disturbing changes previously brought to Aditya, by that same Empire, in “A Slave is a Slave”. “I don’t like it!...Too many new things, and too much changing names. We have to call slaves freedmen; we have to call Lords-Master Lords-Employer; we have to call the Management of Servile Affairs the Management for Freedmen. Now we have to call the Mastership this new name, Commonwealth. And all these new things, for which we have no routine procedures and no directives.”<sup>49</sup>

The “too many new things” on Aditya actually lead to a communistic revolution, so the “great and frightening changes” in the Empire may have the same result. In this regard, it is notable that Emperor Paul XXII actually employs a “redstar” for briefing reports of particular interest, such as the looming civil war on Amaterasu.<sup>50</sup> Though this makes perfect sense within the story, when the great and frightening changes the Emperor initiates spread to more and more worlds, there will be more and more redstarred reports coming to his desk, as well as that of his successors. As they multiply, they could be displayed on a star map for ease of visualization and comprehension. (Perhaps “the great star map on the ceiling” of the Emperor’s study, although that might be too large a scale since it shows the whole Galaxy, not just the Empire.)<sup>51</sup> And on this map, the stars of the Galactic Empire will be seen to be slowly turning red.

Unlike the Terran Federation, whose collapse was largely peaceful (at least for the first century, until the Interstellar Wars begin), the Galactic Empire’s fall could parallel the one the Federation *would* have had, if Merlin’s prognosis of impending collapse were revealed prematurely. “[A] bomb-type reaction. Rebellions. Overthrow of authority, and then revolt and counterrevolt against planetary authority. Division along sectional or class lines on individual planets.”<sup>52</sup> The postulated Imperial map with its increasingly numerous red stars will then represent the spread of sectarian violence, civil war, secession—possibly even *class warfare* and a *general revolution*.

Is a general interstellar revolution even possible? The Terran Federation’s slow collapse is undoubtedly due, at least in part, to the slow pace of communications. “All the news [arriving on Fenris] is at least six months old, some more than a year. A spaceship can log a light-year in sixty-odd hours, but radio waves still crawl along at the same old 186,000 mps.”<sup>53</sup> By the time of “Ministry of Disturbance” almost 3,000 years later, spaceship speeds have increased dramatically, but the Galactic Empire is almost three times larger than the Federation, limiting the increase’s effect. “The [information arriving at Asgard] was all at least twenty days behind date, and not uniformly so...It had been transmitted from Planetary Proconsulate to Prefecture, and from Prefecture to Viceroyalty, and from there to Odin, all by ship. A ship on hyperdrive could log lightyears an hour, but radio waves still had to travel 186,000 mps.”<sup>54</sup>

From “at least six months”, interstellar communication times have decreased to “at least twenty days”, or about nine times faster. But a slowly-spreading revolution would presumably be easy to stamp out, before it gets out of hand. This brings us to one of the “great and frightening changes” coming to the Galactic Empire, revealed, significantly, at the end of “Ministry of Disturbance”. This is the development of *instantaneous* communications. Although still in embryo, it is foreseen that “When Princess Olva’s Empress”, or a single generation after Emperor Paul XXII, “we may not have to depend on ships for communication. We may be able...to screen Baldur or Vishnu or Aton or Thor as easily as you screened Dorflay, up in the mountains.” A ‘great’ development indeed, but an unforeseen and ‘frightening’ aspect of this “Instantaneity”<sup>55</sup> is that an interstellar-sized revolution would then become feasible.

Assuming a ‘galactic revolution’ eventually occurs—perhaps in Empress Olva’s time, perhaps another generation later—the result could again parallel the Terran Federation’s fate, if Merlin’s prediction of inevitable doom had been released. “You were in Storisende when the Travis statement came out; you saw how people acted. If this story gets out, people will be acting the same way on every planet in the Federation. Not just places like Poictesme; planets like Terra and Baldur and Marduk and Odin and Osiris. It would be the end of everything civilized, everywhere.”<sup>56</sup> But that disaster would only happen when the people on those Federation planets got the news from Poictesme, anywhere from the next six months to over a year! In a Galactic Empire with instantaneous communications, continually-spreading redstarred problems and dire news about the Empire’s future would be received everywhere, right away.

The way the people on Poictesme are acting is described by Judge Ledue as, “the whole planet’s in anarchy.”<sup>57</sup> Thus, the whole Terran Federation would *eventually* have been in anarchy if Merlin’s prediction got out—but the whole Galactic Empire could *quickly* fall into anarchy when its accumulating problems push this huge but inflexible structure to the edge of collapse. Because “when petrification is complete, the cracking and the crumbling starts, and there’s no way of stopping it.”<sup>58</sup>

Assuming that this line of reasoning is correct, then the ‘covert’ connections between Aditya and the Empire inserted by Piper into “Ministry” can be added to the overt one in “Slave” already mentioned; the parallel black and gold colors of the Mastership and Imperial flags. Taken together, these references seem to foreshadow a major role for Aditya, and Adityan communism, in the fall of the First Galactic Empire. Like all of Beam’s self-reliant men, Emperor Paul XXII therefore wins the battle but loses the war; his efforts “to move the Empire out of its complacent rut”<sup>59</sup> seem to be working, but his well-intentioned “great and frightening changes” will instead cause its fall.

The final irony? Since the “too many new things” on Aditya not only led to revolution, but the massacre of the Lords-Master, the end result of Paul XXII’s great and frightening changes may well be the massacre of the Galactic ruling class—including the last Emperor himself, and his family.

Beam may have even given an early hint of Aditya’s future role. In “A Slave is a Slave”, Prince Trevannion muses that “Aditya would make nobody on any other planet trouble. It wouldn’t have, at least for a long time, even if it had been left unannexed, but no planet inhabited by Terro-humans could be trusted to remain permanently peaceful and isolated. There is a spark of aggressive ambition in every Terro-human people, no matter how debased, which may smoulder for centuries or even millenia and then burst, fanned by some wind, into flame.”<sup>60</sup> Communism is an aggressive, supremacist system, and by the time of “Ministry of Disturbance”, the People’s Commonwealth has been smouldering on Aditya for 900 years—almost a millenium.

## 5. “The Emblem of His Government”

### a) Soviet Geography

Moreover, the danger is growing, because the Commonwealth is growing. In “Slave”, it is called the “People’s” Commonwealth, but by the time of “Ministry”, it has become a “Planetary” Commonwealth. This is probably due to “a couple of dome cities” and “mines on the fourth planet”, which were abandoned by the Adityans before “Slave”, but are reoccupied soon after the Imperial annexation. Prince Trevannion also says that “We’d better make the limits of your sovereignty the orbit of the outer planet of this system.”<sup>61</sup> Thus, over the 900 years between “Slave” and “Ministry”, the Commonwealth presumably plants colonies and bases on the other worlds within its sovereignty, making it a system-wide multi-planet state.

Although the emblem of the Planetary Commonwealth of Aditya may simply be the eight-pointed star of the People’s Commonwealth, after overthrowing the ex-Lords-Master the ex-slaves could have decided to adopt an entirely new symbol. They have replaced their former masters as rulers of the planet (and later, system); they could certainly replace the Mastership emblem with one of their own.

Removing the Lords-Master also involves the slaves removing the physical symbol of their former status; “the gorget of servility” mentioned in “A Slave is a Slave”.<sup>62</sup> “There was a metallic twinkle at each throat...they all wore large silver gorgets.” Later described as “servile badges”, the slaves mistakenly view Admiral Shatrak’s Knight’s Star of the Order of the Empire as a similar ornament.<sup>63</sup>

This brings us to a curious fact of Adityan geography, with particular relevance to emblematology; Piper’s reference to a suburb of Zeggensburg, the planetary capital. “There was a second city, a thick crescent, to the south and east. The old maps placed the Zeggensburg spaceport there, but not a trace of that remained. In its place was what was evidently an industrial district, located where the prevailing winds would carry away the dust and smoke.”<sup>64</sup> This district is later described as “the crescent-shaped industrial city, like a servile gorget around Zeggensburg’s neck.”<sup>65</sup> Its Adityan name is never given, but the area is dubbed “Servile City” by Imperial personnel.<sup>66</sup>

To my mind, a “thick crescent” to the southeast of a city actually recalls the sickle in the Soviet emblem, whose crescent-shaped blade is located to the lower right, or ‘southeast’, of the hammer’s head.

In fact, since the Adityans have “deliberately halted progress, even retrogressed” to a civilization that uses “fossil fuel”,<sup>67</sup> there may be a major surface highway connecting Zeggensburg to Servile City. This freeway—or perhaps on Aditya, one should call it a ‘slaveway’—would parallel the handle of the Soviet hammer.<sup>68</sup> And Piper does mention roads in relation to Servile City. “[T]he surprising thing was the streets, long curved ones, and shorter ones crossing at regular intervals to form blocks.”<sup>69</sup>

Zeggensburg itself is inferred to be circular. “Tall buildings, rising from wide interspaces of lawns and parks and gardens and, at the very center, widely separated from anything else, the mass of the Citadel, a huge cylindrical tower rising from a cluster of smaller cylinders, with a broad circular landing stage above, topped by the newly-raised flag of the Galactic Empire.”<sup>70</sup> If we draw a picture of Zeggensburg and Servile City, the result looks rather like a grinning cyclops, and (at least to me) the sickle always did make the Soviet emblem seem like a smiling or ‘happy’ one—the epitomy of irony (Figure 7.). But notice how the hammer and sickle symbol actually threatens itself. The inside curve of the sickle has the sharp edge; it is therefore aimed at the head of the Soviet hammer, as if about to cut it off. And on Aditya, the “servile gorget around Zeggensburg’s neck” eventually cuts off its own ‘head’, as well; the former slaves of Servile City revolt and massacre their former masters in Zeggensburg.

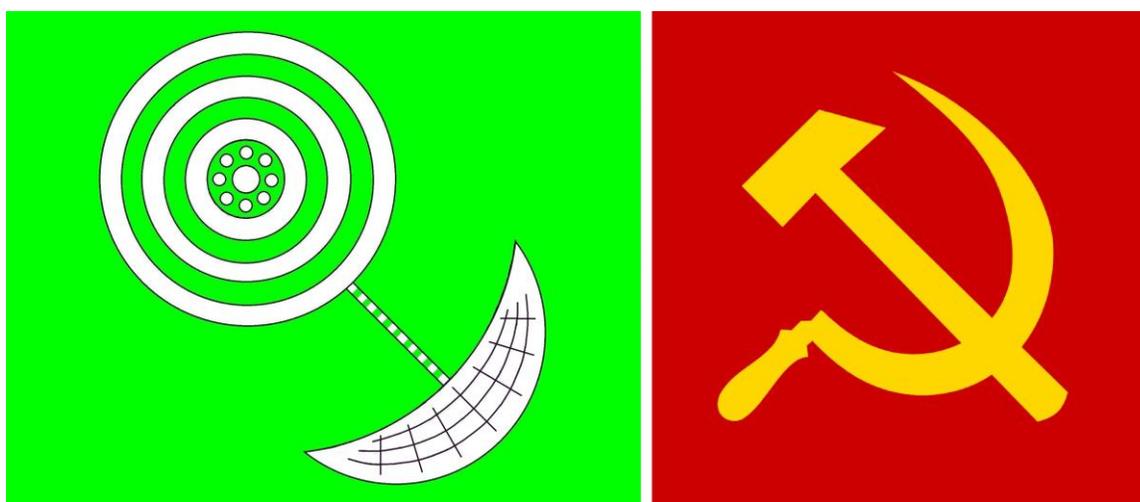


Figure 7. Sketch of Zeggensburg and Servile City (plus postulated connecting highway), compared to the hammer and sickle.<sup>71</sup>

In addition, Zeggensburg’s dismantled spaceport was almost certainly shaped like the one on Tanith, which is “like an eight pointed star” (see **Star Shaped Spaceports**, below).<sup>72</sup> Thus, the ‘star’ that should be in the Zeggensburg-Servile City complex is missing, paralleling the five pointed red star, bordered in gold, that should be in the Soviet emblem in Figure 7, above the sickle.

That Beam was visually alluding to the Soviet emblem is supported by similar cases in two other novels. In *Lone Star Planet*, the redly-glowing wrist watch of the z’Srauff ambassador is an allusion to the Rising Sun flag of the Imperial Japanese Navy;<sup>73</sup> and in *The Cosmic Computer*, the reddish-brown planet Koshchei has a factory shaped like a T (Soviet hammer), and a mountain shaped like a sickle (Sickle Mountain Naval Observatory).<sup>74</sup> All three of Piper’s flag allusions are therefore portents of great danger; two of them future sneak attacks. A ‘Pearl Harbor’ by the z’Srauff on New Texas, an almost-launched ‘Soviet’ nuclear strike by the ‘red’ planet Koshchei on Poictesme, and a secretly-planned, suddenly-executed ‘bolshevik’ revolution on Aditya.

With these examples in mind, we can now design something a little more menacing for the Adityan planetary emblem, using the hammer and sickle (or, Zeggensburg and Servile City) as a model.

### **b) A Futuristic ‘Hammer’ and ‘Sickle’**

In “Ministry of Disturbance”, Emperor Paul XXII notices something else about First Citizen Yaggo’s appearance. “He carried no dagger; if he had worn a dress weapon, it would probably have been a slide rule.”<sup>75</sup> So for the new Adityan planetary emblem, let’s start with an oblique slide rule, which will parallel

the handle of the Soviet hammer, as well as the postulated highway in the sketch. The slide rule also serves to echo the oblique sword in the old Mastership emblem, thereby replacing the Lords-Master's symbol of power with that of the Commonwealth. Reversed, of course; the old sword pointed toward the right, and the new slide rule will point toward the left, reflecting the 'slant' of each political system.

By definition, slide rules are 'rulers' ("an instrument consisting in its simple form of a ruler and a medial slide that are graduated with similar logarithmic scales"), and were usually white; this doubly connects the Commonwealth's symbol of power with the white coveralls of its 'rulers' ("one that rules; *specif*: SOVEREIGN").<sup>76</sup> On Aditya, these 'white rulers' are Servants in the First Category like Zhorzh Yaggo.

Paralleling the Soviet sickle, the Servile City crescent is best combined with the Zeggensburg circle, creating a planet seen in partial shadow. The planetary emblem would then include an actual planet. The black shadow represents the centuries of oppression under the old Lords-Master, whose flag was black. And the black crescent's resemblance to a sickle would symbolize the 'reaping', or almost-total massacre, of the Lords-Master, carried out by the People's Labor Police of the new Commonwealth.<sup>77</sup>

As stated previously, the gold eight-pointed Adityan star can serve as the gold star of communism. In a literal hammer-and-sickle parallel, this would be placed above the right horn of the crescent. However, if we move the star to align with the slide rule's top, it can also become the head of the hammer. The star is then in the correct position to light the planet, creating the crescent-shaped shadow. That would symbolize the 'dawning light' of the Commonwealth replacing the 'ending night' of the Mastership.

Finally, let's add Aditya's two moons. Beam says that "The outer moon, Aditya-Ba', was an irregular chunk of rock fifty miles in diameter, barely visible to the naked eye. The inner, Aditya-Alif, however, was an eight-hundred mile sphere; it had once been the planetary ship-station and shipyard base."<sup>78</sup> In the new emblem, Aditya-Alif can be placed to the lower left of the planet, paralleling the sickle's handle, while Aditya-Ba' goes to the upper right, taking the place vacated by the star.<sup>79</sup>

The result is a more unique emblem, as well as a more Soviet-style design, adapted to Piper's future situation. (Figure 8.) Indeed, in keeping with Beam's practice of creative combinations, the flag actually unites the colors of international socialism (communist red and gold) with national socialism (fascist red, white and black). Socialism with a capital S.



Figure 8. Proposed flag of the Planetary Commonwealth of Aditya; the slide rule, crescent and star.

The phrase "emblem of his government" seems to be another way of saying 'planetary coat-of-arms'. So the proposed slide rule, crescent and star could serve as the arms of the Planetary Commonwealth. The full arms, that is; the eight-pointed star can still be the symbol seen on Adityan leadership's coveralls, since this simpler version appears better suited to the numbering system mentioned by Piper.

### c) *Parallel Flag Histories*

In Beam's Future History, the approximately 762-year old flag of the Mastership could then be replaced by the first proposed design—the gold star on a red field—which becomes the official flag of the People's Commonwealth, adopted soon after it is established in "A Slave is a Slave". The second proposed design, in Figure 8, could be the official flag of the Planetary Commonwealth. This would be adopted some years later—at least after the fourth planet has been recolonized—but well before "Ministry of Disturbance". In this way, the history of Adityan flags would parallel the history of Russian and Soviet flags. In 1918, the centuries-old black and gold banner of the Russian Empire was replaced by a Soviet Russian flag, in turn replaced by the hammer and sickle banner of the USSR in 1923. (Figure 9.)

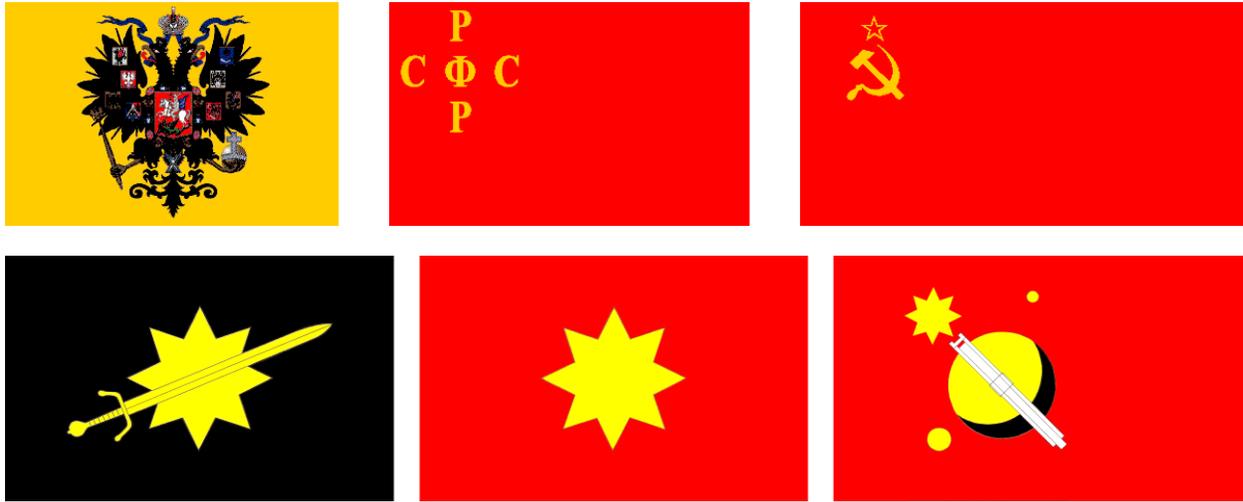


Figure 9. Russian Imperial and Soviet flags compared to Adityan Mastership and proposed Commonwealth flags. <sup>80</sup>

Notice that if the slide rule and crescent emblem were made much smaller, and moved to the upper left corner of the red field, the parallel with the flag of the old USSR would become even closer. But in the real world, national coats-of-arms are more often found on the flags of national leaders. The American arms, centered around the bald eagle, are not displayed on the Stars and Stripes, but rather the flag of the President. Similar armorial banners are flown by the leaders of Germany (black eagle on gold, bordered in red), Israel (white menorah and olive branches on blue, bordered in white), and Brazil (wreathed green and yellow star on a green field). Even former communist nations like the Russian Federation and the Czech Republic follow this practice. Thus, the flag in Figure 7 could also be used—perhaps with some embellishments like a gold fringe—to represent the First Citizen of Aditya. For this reason I did not put the emblem in a corner, but simply moved it a bit to the left, placing it closer to the hoist like the Soviet leader flags in Figure 5.

Incidentally, the placement of Aditya-*Alif* at the bottom of the emblem is similar to the low position of the black Masterly crescent, and can therefore serve as a parallel denigration of the Galactic Empire. In "A Slave is a Slave", Aditya's larger and nearer moon is "made a permanent Imperial naval base". <sup>81</sup> Thus, even though the Empire's arrival resulted in the Adityan slaves being freed (at least temporarily), their leader in "Ministry of Disturbance", First Citizen Zhorzh Yaggo, looks "hurt" at having to express allegiance to the Galactic Emperor, Paul XXII. <sup>82</sup> Probably because, like all good communists, Yaggo is an anti-monarchist, whether Masterly or Imperial. <sup>83</sup> And in the second proposed Commonwealth emblem, Aditya-*Alif* and its Imperial Navy base are not only positioned beneath Aditya and the moon she retains control of, Aditya-*Ba*', they are directly below the eight-pointed star of the Commonwealth. Thus, this surreptitious and symbolic 'ascendancy' of the Adityans over their Galactic overlords can be related to the deduced role that communism plays in the coming Imperial collapse.

Of course, in "Ministry of Disturbance" Piper did say "if he had worn a dress weapon, it would probably

have been a slide rule”, which may discount the *actual* appearance of a slide rule in the emblem of Aditya. However, given Beam’s abbreviated style of writing—there always seems to be a lot more going on than he puts into words—the fact that the slide rule is mentioned on the very same page as “the emblem of his government” renders the proposed design at least plausible. The more so because slide rules are also mentioned in “A Slave is a Slave”. One aspect of freeing the Adityan slaves is that they will now have to be paid for their labor. The task is given to “[Zhorzh] Khoushik...[who] had all his top mathematical experts, some of whom even understood the use of the slide-rule, trying to work up a scale of wages.”<sup>84</sup>

In the Mastership emblem, we saw that a sword was included because the Lords-Master actually wear broadswords. So now, let’s take a look at that emblem’s other element, which successfully made the transition into the emblems of the Commonwealth—the eight-pointed star.

## 6. The Eight-Pointed Star

### a) *An Emblem of Chivalry?*

One detail never explained by Beam is why the Adityan star has eight points. As I state in my paper “Knights of Gram and Tanith”, the “knight’s star, of unfamiliar design” that is embossed on the jacket of Captain Boake Valkanhayn may be modeled on a historical order of chivalry, such as the English Order of the Garter. It is therefore interesting that the Star of the Garter has eight points, just like the star of Aditya. (Figure 10.)



Figure 10. Eight-pointed Star of the Order of the Garter.<sup>85</sup>

A chivalric model would make a certain amount of sense, because the future historical period is what I call the ‘Neo-Medieval Age’. This is a feudal period after the fall of Terra, filled with Neobarbarians and Space Vikings; very much like the Medieval period after the fall of Rome, which was swarming with Germanic barbarians and Viking raiders.

At the beginning of “Slave”, Aditya is ruled by the Lords-Master, descended from Space Vikings. These men came from Morglay in the Sword-Worlds, one of a group of feudal planets ruled by kings and

princes. Within the imagined universe, the eight-pointed star of Aditya might then have been based on one of the planet's orders of chivalry; perhaps the very highest, presumably an 'Order of Morglay'. Although Beam mentions no chivalric orders on Aditya, that could be because the planetary Lords-Master are soon overthrown by their ex-slaves, who replace the old feudal system with a communistic Commonwealth. There are no more Lords, and any titles they may have had would certainly be abolished.

### ***b) Star-Shaped Spaceports and "A Fleet of Eight Ships"***

There are of course other possible origins for the eight-pointed star. Two of them involve spaceships and the spaceports that service them. In *Space Viking*, the capital city of Tanith, Rivington, is described in this fashion. "As they came in, it looked impressive, spreading for miles around the twin buildings that spired almost three thousand feet above it, with a great spaceport *like an eight pointed star* at one side."<sup>86</sup> Since Tanith was founded by the Terran Federation, one would presume that all Federation-era spaceports have the same basic design; the eight-pointed star being the standard. At least for newly-settled planets like Tanith, which is colonized not long before the Federation collapses.<sup>87</sup> Older worlds with larger populations, such as Odin and Marduk, may have built larger spaceports over the centuries. These could resemble twelve-, sixteen-, or twenty-four-pointed stars. But there may be an upper limit, as it would probably be more practical to build additional spaceports around the more extensive perimeters of major capital cities, such as Asgard and Malverton, than to keep increasing the number of points.

However, since the capital city of Tanith has an eight-sided spaceport, then Zeggensburg, the capital city of Aditya, another Old Federation planet, should originally have had one, too. And we note with interest that Zeggensburg's spaceport has been entirely dismantled. "There was a second city, a thick crescent, to the south and east. The old maps placed the Zeggensburg spaceport there, but not a trace of that remained."<sup>88</sup> Although its removal is certainly due to the decline of Adityan civilization, it also enabled Piper to cleverly cloud the issue, by eliminating what would have been an obvious link between the planet's spaceport and its emblem.

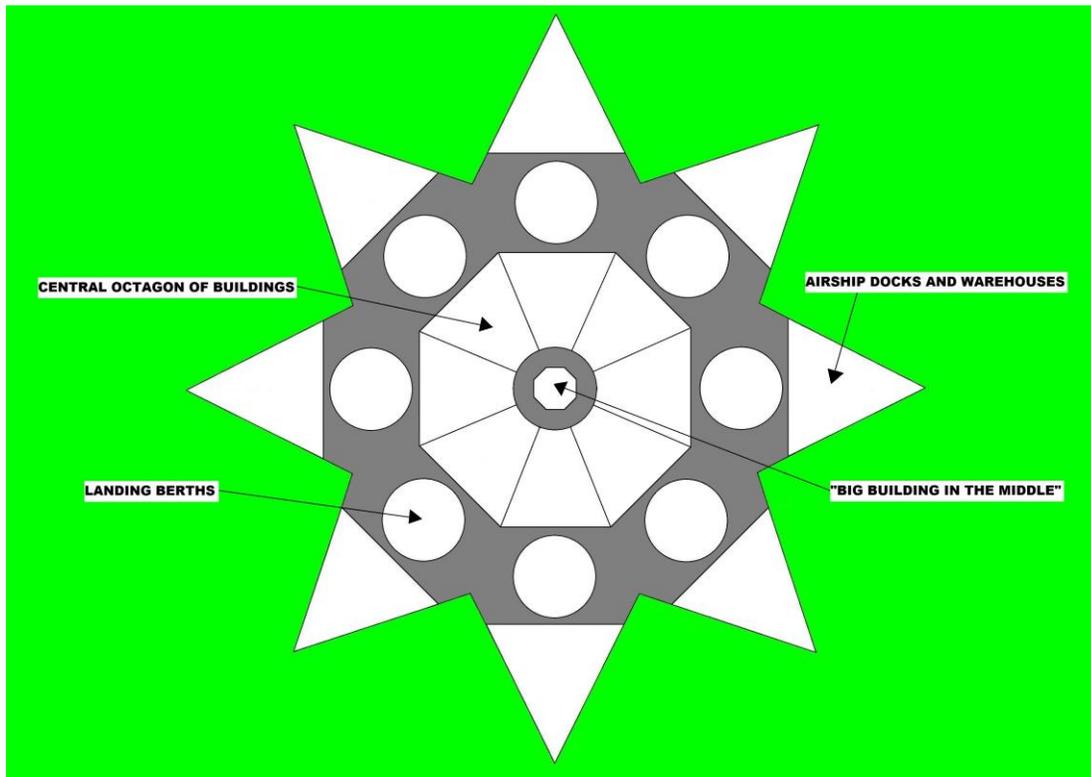


Figure 11. Schematic of Federation-era spaceport, "like an eight pointed star".<sup>89</sup>

Another relevant reference from *Space Viking* is that “The [Rivington] spaceport looked good—a central octagon mass of buildings, the landing berths, and, beyond, the triangular areas of airship docks and warehouses.”<sup>90</sup> An eight-sided spaceport should therefore be able to service eight hyperships at a time. They land in the circular berths around the central octagon, unloading passengers and cargo. The passengers may disembark into (and embark from) the octagon mass of buildings, where they collect (or turn in) their luggage; and then head for the airship docks, where they find contragravity transport to their various destinations. The cargo is presumably unloaded on the other side of the ship, being stored in the triangular areas of warehouses until it, too, is transported elsewhere by airship. (Figure 11.)

Previously, we noted the subtle connection between the eight-pointed star of Aditya and the Octagon Tower on Odin. Now we see another; that “the central octagon mass of buildings” at the center of spaceports may actually explain the origin of the Octagon Tower itself. Like the dismantled spaceport on Aditya, the very first spaceport on Odin may have been an eight-pointed star. This was presumably built way back in the early Third Century AE, when Odin was originally colonized, and may have similarly been dismantled at some later date. Most likely the deduced dismantling would be due to the great increase in Odin’s population over the centuries, and concurrent with an expansion of the city of Asgard.

Piper states that spaceports are located beyond the capital city’s limits; this is true of Tanith and Aditya, and it is also true of fully civilized worlds like Marduk. “The city was Malverton, the capital; like any city of a contragravity-using people, it lay in a rough circle of buildings towering out of green interspaces, surrounded by the smaller circles of spaceports and industrial suburbs.”<sup>91</sup>

From a land use planning perspective, one would say that ‘urban sprawl’ grows the original city limits of Asgard out past its first suburban spaceport, which then becomes obsolete; too small for its intended function, and in a bad location anyway. This would necessitate building a larger spaceport beyond the new city limits, and rezoning and redeveloping the original site.<sup>92</sup> But the historical significance of Odin’s original spaceport—probably the very first spaceport built outside the Solar System—might dictate that the site’s new use be one of great importance. And, interestingly enough, in “Ministry of Disturbance” the Octagon Tower and its surrounding buildings in Asgard serve as the Imperial Palace, the home of the Galactic Emperor.<sup>93</sup>

That the Imperial Palace on Odin may have originally been a spaceport is supported by *Space Viking*. When Boake Valkanhayn and Garvan Spasso take over the planet Tanith, they make their seat of authority “the big building in the middle of the spaceport, where they had established quarters.”<sup>94</sup> Being at the center of an octagon-shaped mass of buildings, this structure is presumably in the shape of an octagon itself, as drawn in Figure 11. And when Lucas Trask makes these two Space Vikings his junior partners, superceding them as the planetary ruler, this ‘octagon tower’ becomes his official residence. “They were relaxing in the living quarters they had fitted out at the top of the spaceport building before retiring”.<sup>95</sup>

Getting back to the origin of the eight-pointed star of Aditya, this brings us to the other side of the spaceport coin—that the original fleet from Morglay which conquered Aditya could have included eight hyperships. Though this may seem like a large group by the standards early in *Space Viking*—Lucas Trask’s initial fleet on Tanith is only three ships<sup>96</sup>—the later-novel armada that invades Gram from Haulteclere is exactly this size. “[W]hen the Duke sent me off, Omfray of Glaspyth was landing on Wardshaven. He has a *fleet of eight ships*, furnished to him by his wife’s kinsman, the King of Haulteclere. They are commanded by King Konrad’s Space Viking cousin, the Prince of Xochitl.”<sup>97</sup> Furthermore, the Imperial Galactic force that annexes Aditya in “A Slave is a Slave” is almost that size, as well. This is “a seven ship battle-line unit”, consisting of “the *Empress Eulalie* herself...two transport-cruisers, *Canopus* and *Mizar*... [and] four destroyers, *Irma*, *Irene*, *Isobel* and *Iris*...”<sup>98</sup>

In support of this connection, the annexation of Aditya by the seven Galactic ships is essentially a walkover, similar to how the original Space Viking conquest of Aditya with eight Morglayan ships “had been easy”. And the eight Haulteclerean ships that land on Wardshaven seemingly make short work of the monarch of Gram. “I know, Prince Trask; you have no reason to think kindly of King Angus—the former King Angus, or maybe even the late King Angus, I suppose he is now...”<sup>99</sup>

The eight points of the Adityan star may therefore represent the eight Space Viking ships, and their captains from Morglay, who became the first Lords-Master, quite possibly landing together at the eight-pointed Zeggensburg spaceport which still existed then. We can assume that these eight new Lords

were the founders of ruling houses; the most important families of Space Vikings on Aditya. That could explain the origin of the current Lords-Master who hold the reins of leadership, of whom there seem to be seven. These are Olvir Nikkolon (Chairman of the Presidium), Rovard Javasan (Chief of Mastership Management), Sesar Martwynn (Chief of Servile Management), Ranal Valdry (Provost Marshall), Fedrig Daffysan (Fiscal Management), Orazé Bortzall (Management of Public Works) and an unnamed Lord Chief Justiciar.<sup>100</sup>

## 7. An Independent Feudal Lordship

### a) *Aditya Not Ruled by Morglay*

Planets in the Old Federation that are taken over by Space Vikings are called “base planets”; planetary bases from which they can raid or trade with other Federation planets and Space Vikings, more easily than from the distant Sword-Worlds.<sup>101</sup> Some base-planets are ruled by princes subject to off-planet kings, such as Xochitl (Prince Viktor under King Konrad of Haulteclere) and Tanith (Prince Lucas under King Angus of Gram). Aditya, however, is ruled by an “oligarchy”; Prince Trevannion notes that “the Convocation—equals Parliament, I assume” is run by a “seven-man Presidium”.<sup>102</sup> The Presidium probably consists of the seven men mentioned in the previous paragraph.

Since Aditya is not ruled by a King or even Prince—and indeed lacks anyone with a title such as Duke, Count or Baron—its oligarchy seems to mean that the Space Viking conquest was not sanctioned by the home planet. The new Lords-Master of Aditya either did not seek, or did not accept, the sovereignty of Morglay. That would parallel independent base planets like Hoth (ruled by the Everrards), Jagannath (Nicky Gratham and family), Dagon (Fedrig Barragon and sons) and Nergal (Tobbin).<sup>103</sup> These men and families rule their planets themselves; they owe no allegiance to any off-planet monarch, and therefore have not been granted any Sword-World titles. That seems to make the independent base planets a larger version of the “uncommitted small landholders” of Gram, mentioned by Baron Rathmore, who have not accepted “somebody’s livery-and-maintenance.”<sup>104</sup>

An oligarchy also suggests that the conquering fleet had no strong central leader; the Morglayan ships that occupied Aditya were commanded by a group of more-or-less equal captains. That would parallel Captain Boake Valkanhayn of the *Space Scourge* and Captain Garvan Spasso of the *Lamia*, who jointly take over Tanith before the arrival of Lucas Trask. As Otto Harkaman remarks, “This is Captain Valkanhayn’s planet; his and Captain Spasso’s.”<sup>105</sup> Valkanhayn and Spasso are Space Vikings who enslave the native Tanithers—at least the ones within range of the city of Rivington—just as the Space Vikings from Morglay enslave the Adityans. When summoned loudly by Captain Valkanhayn, one slave girl responds with “Yes, master; I come!”<sup>106</sup> *Slaves and masters*. Thus, although they claim no official titles, Spasso and Valkanhayn are essentially the ‘Lords-Master’ of Tanith.

This deduction is supported by the case of Lucas Trask. After Trask trades his barony on Gram for a ship, he is no longer Baron Trask of Traskon, but simply “Lord Lucas Trask”, the “owner-aboard” the *Nemesis*.<sup>107</sup> When he decides to make Tanith his base, and takes in Captains Spasso and Valkanhayn as junior partners, he becomes “Lord Trask of Tanith”. Claiming title to the planet is Baron Rathmore’s suggestion. “After all, Tanith would be a[n independent] feudal lordship, and the three ships together a fleet.”<sup>108</sup> Now, if Lucas had not objected to his junior partners’ practice of enslaving the locals around Rivington, the system would have spread to the whole planet, just as on Aditya. He would then have effectively become ‘Lord-Master’ Trask of Tanith.

Let’s extend this alternate history scenario a little further. When they join up with Lucas, Garvan and Boake voluntarily take subordinate roles, admitting that “your *Nemesis* would be the big end of it.”<sup>109</sup> But if Spasso and Valkanhayn, and their ships the *Lamia* and *Space-Scourge*, were more nearly the equal of Trask and the *Nemesis*, the three men would have jointly become the ‘Lords-Master’ of the planet, with Trask in only a slightly superior role. And to cement their rule of the planet, they would soon have been joined by “the half-hundred members of the new nobility of Tanith.”<sup>110</sup> In that event, these Space Viking Lords-Master of the slave planet Tanith could have set up a Convocation of 53 members, with a ruling Presidium of three; Trask, Spasso and Valkanhayn. Lucas Trask being the Chairman of the Presidium, paralleling Olvir Nikkolon.

That this does not happen is partially due to demographics. Aditya has “a total population of about twenty million”, which made it a “politico-military necessity” of ruling that these “Space Vikings enslaved the Adityans to hold them in subjugation.”<sup>111</sup> But Aditya seems to have decivilized peacefully after the Old Federation broke up, and assuming that the conquering Morglayan fleet included eight ships, then it took a larger force to enslave the planet than it would have on Tanith. Otto Harkaman suggests that Tanith suffered more heavily in the Interstellar Wars, leaving it with far fewer people. “Harkaman thought most of the fighting had been done with subneutron bombs or Omega-ray bombs, that killed the people without damaging the real estate. Or bio-weapons; a manmade plague that had gotten out of control and all but depopulated the planet.”<sup>112</sup> Thus, Trask’s three ships, plus the 50 additional nobles from Gram, would probably have been enough to enslave the whole planet. Tanith’s smaller size may also mean that it was colonized later than Aditya, giving it a lower base population by the end of the Federation, even before whatever cause depopulated it.

But the main factor preventing a Lords-Master type system arising on Tanith seems to be Lord Trask himself, who is staunchly against slavery. Upon his assumption of planetary authority, the native Tanithers are immediately emancipated, just as the Galactic Empire quickly emancipates the Adityans. “The first order...is that these people working here are to be paid. They are not to be beaten by these pug-uglies you have guarding them. If any of them want to leave, they may do so; they will be given presents and furnished transportation home. Those who wish to stay will be issued rations, furnished with clothing and bedding and so on as they need it, and paid wages.”<sup>113</sup> He therefore remains ‘Lord’ Trask of Tanith, instead of becoming ‘Lord-Master’. This lasts until Duke Angus makes himself King of Gram; whereupon Lucas accepts the sovereignty of King Angus, and is bestowed with the title Prince Trask, Viceroy of Tanith.<sup>114</sup>

### **b) An Independent Slave State**

Also in support of the ‘not ruled by Morglay’ hypothesis, we recall that the Adityan set speech given by Olvir Nikkolon states that “Seven and a half centuries ago, our fathers went forth from Morglay to plant upon this planet a new banner...” This is modeled on the Gettysburg Address, which refers to the ‘new banner’ of American independence, *under which slavery was legal*.<sup>115</sup> Thus, the men who were the first slave-holding Lords-Master of Aditya probably left Morglay to become independent lords of their own planet, not subject to the King. Beam states that “For several centuries, there had been communication between them and their home planet.”<sup>116</sup> However, ‘communication’ does not necessarily mean that Aditya was ‘ruled by’ or even ‘subordinate to’ Morglay. For over two centuries since independence, the United States has certainly maintained ‘communications’ (ties, international relations) with its mother country, Great Britain. These have been mostly amicable, but sometimes otherwise—and they have been between two sovereign states.

Nikkolon’s speech is to the Convocation of the Lords-Master; the ruling body of the planet. Although the first definition of the word ‘convocation’ is “a large formal assembly”, such as the Parliament Prince Trevannion compares it to, the second definition of convocation is simply “calling a meeting”. It is therefore possible that the first convocations on Aditya were not formal assemblies, but what Piper elsewhere calls ‘ship’s meetings’; the captains of multiple vessels deciding what to do. When Captain Valkanhayn of the *Space-Scourge* and Captain Spasso of the *Lamia* take a long time deciding how to respond to the arrival of the *Nemesis*, Trask worries that they are plotting a coordinated attack—but this fear is laughingly brushed off by Captain Harkaman and Alvyn Karffard. “Just holding ship’s meetings... They’ll be yakking back and forth for a couple of hours, yet.”<sup>117</sup> Valkanhayn and Spasso are essentially holding a ‘convocation’.

And later on in that novel, Prince-Protector Simon Bentricks holds a ship meeting on the *Nemesis*, with all sixteen captains of the allied fleet whose objectives are finding Dunnan’s secret base and then liberating Marduk. “A ship’s captain, if he has a good exec., as all of them had, needs only sit at his command-desk and look important while the ship is going into and emerging from a jump; the rest of the time he can study ancient history or whatever his shipboard hobby is. Rather than waste three hundred and fifty hours of precious time, each captain turned his ship over to his exec. and remained aboard the *Nemesis*; even on so spacious a craft the officers’ country north of the engine-rooms was crowded like a tourist hotel in mid-season.”<sup>118</sup>

Thus, the very first ‘convocation’ held on Aditya may have involved the eight Space Viking ship

captains from Morglay gathering to decide on how to rule the planet after their easy conquest. Like Baron Trask, they may have been minor noblemen who gave up their fiefs to go offworld adventuring, and are therefore no longer barons or counts, but simply 'lords'. Their decision, like Spasso's and Valkanhayn's on Tanith, was to enslave the inhabitants and rule Aditya jointly. These eight Morglayan lords then became 'lords-master' of Aditya, and their new planet-bound existence caused their periodic ship's meetings to evolve into a Convocation.

At some point, probably after their rule was fully established and the population of these immigrant Sword-Worlders increased,<sup>119</sup> the Convocation of necessity grew into 'a formal assembly'; or Parliament, allowing all the Lords-Master to be represented. This in turn could have necessitated creating the Presidium; the leadership group of what had become a large ruling body, and their number based on that of the original ship-captains.

If this line of reasoning is correct, however, then the Convocation's Presidium should have eight members, representing the original eight captains. But we have already seen that it is a "seven-man" body. This may mean that one of the ship-captains, or most important families, was 'lost' in some way. (See **Appendix Two. "The Morglay Dynastic War"**.)

For this reason, I gave the grip of the sword in the Mastership emblem (Figure 1) seven windings, representing the postulated seven surviving captains or Masterly houses that established their joint rule over Aditya. It would also differentiate the emblem of Aditya from that of Morglay, whose sword—at least, from the indistinct internet image I found—should have around nine to eleven windings.<sup>120</sup>

Another fact supporting the 'Aditya not ruled by Morglay' thesis is that Sword-Worlders in general, and Space Vikings in particular, are a fiercely independent lot. "The Mardukans were...surprised, and inclined to be resentful, that the Space Vikings all acted and talked like officers."<sup>121</sup> Prince Trask tells them why. "There's still too much free land and free opportunity on the Sword-Worlds... Nobody does much bowing and scraping to the class above him; he's too busy trying to shove himself up into it. And the men who ship out as Space Vikings are the least class-conscious of the lot."<sup>122</sup> Every Space Viking wants to be a lord; and on Aditya, all the invading Space Vikings, and their descendants, become just that.

A final piece of evidence. Over the centuries, the Lords-Master of Aditya decline into dissolute and decadent practices, and the Sword-World technology they inherited declines dramatically as well.<sup>123</sup> In the end, their slaves rise up and almost exterminate them. Indeed, the Lords-Master would have been totally wiped out, if the Galactic Empire hadn't sheltered the survivors.<sup>124</sup> And Otto Harkaman says that the fates of the independent lords Spasso and Valkanhayn will be exactly the same, if they continue to rule an enslaved Tanith. Indeed, his words could be used to describe the situation on Aditya. "I know what'll happen to Spasso and Valkanhayn, though. *They'll start decivilizing*, themselves. They'll stay here for a while, and when they need something they can't take from the locals they'll go chicken-stealing after it, but most of the time *they'll stay here lording it over their slaves*, and finally their ships will wear out and they won't be able to fix them. Then, some time, *the locals will jump them when they aren't watching and wipe them out.*"<sup>125</sup>

Perhaps most importantly, this scenario seems to be confirmed by

## 8. Aditya's Historical Model

### a) *Russia and Byzantium*

As the reader may have guessed from the discussion of planetary emblems, H. Beam Piper's historical model for Aditya is Russia. The old Terran Federation is modeled on the old Roman Empire; this means that the First Galactic Empire is a combination—or reunification, if you will—of the Western (Holy) Roman and Eastern Roman ('Byzantine') Empires. Beam's versions of these two states are the Mardukan Empire, which parallels the Holy Roman Empire or Germany in the west; and an 'Odinic Empire', which parallels the Byzantine Empire or Greece in the east.

Russians are a Slavic people, which is where the word 'slave' originates. "Middle English *sclave*, from Anglo-French or Medieval Latin; Anglo-French *esclave*, from Medieval Latin *sclavus*, from *Sclavus* Slavic; from the frequent enslavement of Slavs in central Europe during the early Middle Ages".<sup>126</sup> Slavs became synonymous with slaves because "Their myriad chieftains lacked all sense of unity and were

therefore easily dominated by other races.”<sup>127</sup> By dropping one letter, one can then discover the hidden meaning of Piper’s title: ‘A Slav is a Slav’.

However, the original ‘Rus’ were not Slavs, but Scandinavian Vikings—or Varangians, to use their eastern name. These Varangians conquered the Slavs and founded petty states, which later evolved into ‘Russia’. Thus, having Space Vikings from Morglay conquer and enslave the Adityans is Piper’s parallel of how Vikings conquered and lorded it over the Slavs of Russia.

The Scandinavian enterprises in Russia were carried forward with a vigour that fully matched the spirit shown in the west. In the 860s the Varangians founded a triad of fortified towns among the Slav peoples of the north, Izborsk, Beloozero and, most important of the three, Novgorod (‘New Town’). These provided a base for a push through to the south and east, where two further sets of strongholds were established in the next decade, one on or near the Dneiper (Smolensk, Polotsk, Kiev) and another on the upper Volga (Rostov, Murom). Piratical expeditions mounted from Kiev were soon rattling the Byzantines, and the potential for even more damaging raids dramatically increased when Prince Oleg of Novgorod began bringing all the Varangian *gorods* under his control. The end result...was the creation of a single Russian principality embracing all the Slav tribes between the Pripet Marshes and the upper Volga.<sup>128</sup>

Both the historical Viking, and future historical Space Viking, conquests are essentially walkovers, and involve local chieftains inviting foreign warriors in for protection, who end up ruling over them. In Piper, “The Adityans of that time had been near-barbarians; the descendants of the original settlers *had been serfs of other barbarians who had come as mercenaries* in the service of one or another of the local chieftains and had remained to loot and rule. Subjugating them had been easy; the Space Vikings had taken Aditya and made it their home.”<sup>129</sup>

And in Russia,

By the middle of the eighth century A.D., the land of the East Slavs consisted of several city-states, each of which dominated its surrounding territory. Extensive trade in foodstuffs and furs had been carried on for centuries, usually through foreign overlords, but now a class of Slavic merchants had developed and had built prosperous trading centers. The most pressing problem of the merchants was the vulnerability of their profitable commerce. They needed protection against Viking marauders and Asian nomads, as well as against their own subject peoples, who often rebelled against exploitation by the wealthy merchants. In the ninth century A.D. the protection of trade was provided by a group of Vikings known as Varangians, and a new epoch in Russian history began.

Whether the Varangians were invited by the Slav merchants to “come rule and reign over us,” as related in the ancient chronicles, or whether they forcefully appropriated a profitable commercial structure is still a subject of controversy but, in either case, by about the year A.D. 862 the Varangians had assumed control.<sup>130</sup>

The disunited local chieftains on Aditya parallel the disunited city-states of early Russia, and the offworld mercenaries who remain to loot and rule Aditya parallel the ‘foreign overlords’ of these Russian city-states, particularly the Varangians who came last. Incidentally, this confirms that Aditya was not ruled by Morglay, because Russia was not ruled by Scandinavia. The Varangians who conquered the Slavic tribes of what became Russia were independent feudal lords, owing no allegiance to any Scandinavian monarch, just as the Space Vikings who conquer Aditya have no Sword-World titles, and seem to be independent lords of their own feudal planet.

One fact seemingly against the Russian historical model is that Aditya is annexed to the Galactic Empire, but Russia, far to the north of Greece, was never annexed by the Eastern Roman Empire. However, Piper deliberately included another ‘unannexed northern’ element in his First Galactic Empire. That would be Denmark, just north of Germany, which was never a physical part of the Holy Roman Empire, yet its monarchy provided the historical model for the First Galactic Emperors.

The current emperor is Paul XXII, and his son is named Rodrik.<sup>131</sup> When Paul is escorted to his study by his Thoran Guard led by General Harv Dorflay, “They were turning into the main hallway, between the rows of portraits of past emperors, Paul and Rodrik, Paul and Rodrik, alternating over and over on both walls.”<sup>132</sup> This element is based on the continuing alternations of Christians and Frederiks on the Danish throne, which in Beam’s time had been unbroken for over 400 years; from King Christian II (1513-1523) and King Frederik I (1523-1533), to King Christian X (1912-1947) and the then-current King Frederik IX (1947-1972).<sup>133</sup>

Moreover, these two ‘unannexed northern’ nations are themselves connected. The founder of Russia

was the Varangian known as Rurik *the Dane*. “Their semi-legendary leader was a Dane called Rurik, a trader-pirate-adventurer who founded a dynasty that would rule for more than seven hundred years. With the advent of Rurik it is proper to use the term *Rus*. Once again historians differ as to whether the Varangians brought the term or adopted it from an indigenous Slavic tribe but, from the time of Rurik on, the most numerous and most powerful branch of the East Slavs would be known as Rus or Russian.”<sup>134</sup>

Notice that Rurik’s ‘eastern Viking’ dynasty in Russia lasted “for more than seven hundred years”, just as the Space Vikings from Morglay rule Aditya for 762 years.

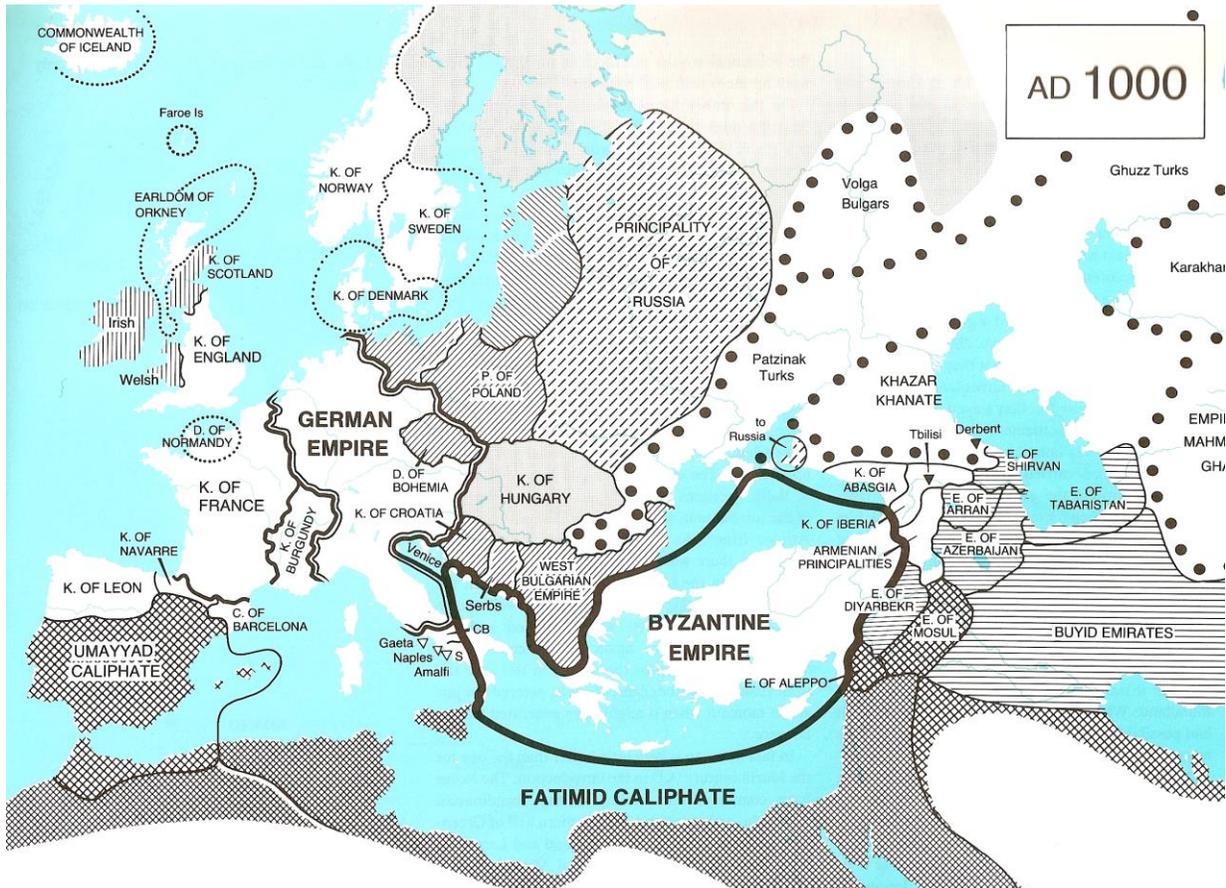


Figure 12. The Western and Eastern Roman Empires, with Denmark and Russia directly to the north of each.<sup>135</sup>

Although eastern Slavs like the Russians never became a physical part of the Eastern Roman Empire, southern Slavs like the Serbs and Bulgars did. Both converted to the Eastern Orthodox Church in the 870s, and were absorbed into the Empire a bit over a century later. Around the same time, Russia was also ‘conquered’—at least culturally—when it too embraced Orthodoxy, in 988.<sup>136</sup> Moreover, with the extinction of the Eastern Roman Empire almost 500 years later, Russia essentially took its place. Grand Duke Ivan III of Muscovy (ruled 1462-1505) married the niece of the last Byzantine Emperor, and thereafter “referred to himself as Sovereign of All Russia and in international relations, called himself czar.”<sup>137</sup> Czar, or ‘Caesar’, meaning Roman Emperor. “Two Romes have fallen; Moscow is the third Rome and there shall be no fourth” was the philosophy by which [Ivan] justified placing the traditional arms of Moscow on the Byzantine double-headed eagle to form a new Russian symbol.”<sup>138</sup>

Thus, Russia with its emperors and double-headed eagles became the self-proclaimed successor state of Rome and Constantinople. Since Russia is Piper’s model for Aditya, this leads to the interesting deduction that Aditya becomes something of a successor state to the Terran Federation and Galactic Empire.

## **b) Nine Centuries of Servitude**

The timing of Galactic/Adityan events supports the Byzantine/Russian connection. The conversion of Russia to Orthodoxy in 988 AD parallels the conquest of Aditya by the Galactic Empire in circa AE 2162. As we have seen, “Ministry of Disturbance” occurs nine centuries later, when “Paul XXII tries to move the [Galactic] Empire out of its complacent rut.” In European history, nine centuries after 988 takes us to the late Nineteenth Century, around the year 1888. By this time the Byzantine Empire was long gone, but its successor-state, the Russian Empire, had crowned an Emperor who tried to reform the system.

This was Czar Alexander II (1855-1881), who abolished serfdom.

The new czar, as conservative as his father but more practical, realized that the harsh measures of the past had to be tempered, and, more important, that serfdom was an anachronism which Russia could no longer afford. From an economic viewpoint, serf labor was expensive and inefficient. Writers decried the system for what it did to human values and human dignity. Alexander II, more and more concerned over the fifteen hundred peasant uprisings of the first sixty years of the century, freed the serfs by imperial proclamation in March 1861.<sup>139</sup>

Galactic Emperor Paul XXII therefore seems to parallel Russian Emperor Alexander II. Supported by the fact that one of Paul’s reforms will be to end ‘serfdom’, or communism, on Aditya. This is predicted by the Emperor’s close associate, Prince Travann. “And if I know Khane, and if I know the People’s Commonwealth of Aditya, it won’t be a year before Yaggo has Khane shot or stuffs him into jail, and then the Space Navy will have an excuse to visit Aditya, and Aditya’ll never be the same afterward.”<sup>140</sup>

But, you might object, that’s just one planet, Aditya. If this parallel is correct, then Paul XXII actually ends ‘serfdom’ throughout his whole realm; the Galactic Empire as a whole. But who are these serfs, and how can there be serfdom at all, when the Imperial Constitution forbids slavery, as seen in “A Slave is a Slave”? The answer is *the new serfs are the people themselves*, who have become so used to peace, prosperity and security that they have lost their initiative and individuality. Paul XXII actually compares them to robots, which do all the menial tasks, such as serving the Emperor’s meals and cleaning his rooms.

He smiled vacantly at the chair opposite him, and lit another cigarette before putting the breakfast dishes on the serving-robot’s tray, and, after a while, realized that the robot was still beside his chair, waiting for dismissal. He gave it an instruction to summon the cleaning robots and sent it away. He could as easily summoned them himself, or let the guards who would be in checking the room do it for him, but maybe it made a robot feel trusted and important to relay orders to other robots.

Then he smiled again, this time in self-derision. A robot couldn’t feel important, or anything else. A robot was nothing but steel and plastic and magnetized tape and photo-micropositronic circuits, whereas a man—His Imperial Majesty Paul XXII, for instance—was nothing but tissues and cells and colloids and electro-neuronic circuits. There was a difference; anybody knew that. The trouble was that he had never met anybody—which included physicists, biologists, psychologists, psionics, philosophers and theologians—who could define the difference in satisfactorily exact terms. He watched the robot pivot on its treads and glide away, trailing steam from its coffee pot. It might be silly to treat robots like people, but that wasn’t as bad as treating people like robots, an attitude which was becoming entirely too prevalent. *If only so many people didn’t act like robots!*<sup>141</sup>

Robots are mindless mechanical servants, owned as property, which do whatever task is required by their human masters. They are serfs, *slaves*. **142** Read the last few sentences of that quote again, substituting slave for robot. What Paul XXII is essentially saying is that a large proportion of the “trillion and a half intelligent beings” of the Empire<sup>142</sup> are acting like slaves, and that there is no satisfactorily definable difference between a mechanical slave and a human one. In such a society, the slaves usually outnumber the rulers by several orders of magnitude, so *the Galactic Empire may contain two or three trillion sapient and mechanical slaves!*<sup>143</sup>

That’s a huge problem. The Galactic Emperor’s reforms therefore include trying to ‘abolish serfdom’; to free his people from their self-imposed bondage to a system which has pampered them for hundreds of years. “[A] stable economy, a static population, a peaceful and undisturbed Empire; *eight centuries, five at least*, of historyless tranquility. Well, *that was what everybody wanted, wasn’t it?*”<sup>144</sup> This time, the Emperor is implying that ‘everybody wants to be a slave’—in this case, to peace, prosperity and security.

Why would the citizens of the all-mighty Galactic Empire feel that way? Probably for the same reason

as the slaves of Aditya. Count Erskyll asks, "Why do they stand for it? Why don't they rebel?" Commander Andrey Douvrin of the Imperial Navy answers him with, "Well, I can think of three good reasons... Three square meals a day." Lanze Degbrend adds, "And no responsibilities; no need to make decisions." Then Commodore Vann Shatrak continues the theme. "Everybody has it just enough better than the level below him that he's afraid of losing his job and being busted back to fieldhand." Degbrend concurs, and finishes with "The whole society is a slave hierarchy. Everybody curries favor with the echelon above, and keeps an eye on the echelon below to make sure he isn't being undercut. *We have something not too unlike that, ourselves.* Any organizational society is, in some ways, like a slave society."<sup>145</sup>

The Galactic Empire is therefore not too unlike the slave-owning Mastership of Aditya, and after "eight centuries... of historyless tranquility", the differences between the Empire and a slave society have narrowed considerably, if they haven't vanished altogether.

This reveals another subtle connection between Aditya and the Empire. The 762 years, or almost eight centuries, of slavery on Aditya are paralleled by Beam's "eight centuries" of what is essentially 'Galactic serfdom'. The "historyless tranquility" of the Empire parallels the period of historyless slavery on Aditya, which lasts until "history returned in the black ships of the Galactic Empire" to free them.<sup>146</sup> We can even add that the "five [centuries] at least" of Galactic tranquility parallels the Mastership's peacefully undisturbed period on Aditya. "No spaceships into this system for the past five hundred years".<sup>147</sup>

In "Slave", the Mastership of Aditya is a slowly-decivilizing society. "The whole thing has been running on momentum for at least five centuries, and if we hadn't come smashing in with a situation none of the routines covered, it would have kept on running for another five, till everything wore out and stopped."<sup>148</sup> In "Ministry", a similar situation is happening all over again, but on a much larger scale. The quote about Aditya may be applicable to the Galactic Empire, which could have lasted another five centuries if Paul XXII hadn't come smashing in with his great and frightening changes.

Thus, even though the Galactic Constitution forbids slavery, and the people of the Empire are not owned, bought or sold like robots, they are nevertheless definable as slaves. Because the second definition of a slave is "a person who has lost control of himself and is dominated by something or someone".<sup>149</sup> The dominating something in this case being the Empire itself, which keeps the Galactic populace comfortable, and therefore docile and subservient.

In another quote which seems applicable to the Galactic Empire, Count Erskyll notes that on Aditya, there is "Universal slavery!"<sup>150</sup> It is 'universal' in Piper's Universal State as well, because even the Empire's ruling classes, including the Emperor himself, must bow to its dominating influence. Count Duklass mentions how the good fortune of Durendal threatens the prosperity of other worlds. The "Planet's pretty heavily agricultural, they had a couple of very good crop years in a row, and now they have grain running out of their ears, and they want to export it and cash in." "Well?" "Can't let them do it, Your Majesty. They're not suffering any hardship; they're just not making as much money as they think they ought to. If they start dumping their surplus into interstellar trade, they'll cause all kinds of dislocations on other agricultural planets. At least, that's what our computers all say." And that, of course, was gospel. He nodded."<sup>151</sup>

They, too, are 'slaves' to this rigid and computerized system. And even the emperor wants to break free from his bondage. "If my job could be robotized, maybe I could take my wife and my son and our little dog and go fishing for a while." But of course, he couldn't."<sup>152</sup>

The docility of the robot-ish slave-like populace is changing, however. In "Ministry of Disturbance", the students at the Imperial University of Asgard march on the Palace to protest the firing of a well-liked professor.<sup>153</sup> This is a new development, according to Prince Travann. "You know, when we were in the University, the students would never have done what they did today. They didn't even do it ten years ago, when Vann Evaratt was dismissed."<sup>154</sup>

The 'slaves' of Emperor Paul XXII are starting to rebel. This trend is compounded by Prince Travann's method of forcing a revitalization of the Imperial Navy. "All these native uprisings I've been blowing up out of inter-tribal knife fights, and all these civil wars my people have been manufacturing; there'll be more of them, and I'll start yelling my head off for an adequate Space Navy, and after we get it, these local troubles will all stop, and then what'll we be expected to do? Scrap the ships?"<sup>155</sup>

Taken together, the spontaneous student protest and Travann's numerous phony native uprisings and civil wars seem to parallel the 1500 peasant uprisings that so concerned Czar Alexander II in Nineteenth Century Russia. Particularly because Piper adds that there are actual peasants in the Galactic Empire. These are located in the feudal Sword-Worlds (which includes Morglay), which Beam purposely juxtaposes with the Commonwealth of Aditya (formerly enslaved by Morglayans).

"You have peasants on Durendal?"

"Oh *dear*, yes! Such quaint, *charming* people. Of course, they're all poor, and they wear such *funny* ragged clothes, and travel about in rickety old aircars, it's a wonder they don't fall apart in the air. But they're so *wonderfully* happy and carefree. I often wish I were one of them, instead of king."

"Nonworking class, Your Imperial Majesty," Lord Koreff explained.

"On Aditya," First Citizen Yaggo declared, "there are no classes, and on Aditya everybody works. 'From each according to his ability; to each according to his need.'"

"On Aditya," an elderly Councilor four places to the right of him said loudly to his neighbor, "they don't call them classes, they call them sociological categories, and they have nineteen of them. And on Aditya, they don't call them nonworkers, they call them occupational reservists, and they have more of them than we do."<sup>156</sup>

So the people of the Galactic Empire are acting like slaves (robots), but the actual peasants are the nonworking classes, found on all planets. And Emperor Paul XXII plans to abolish their servitude, too. While discussing the matter with Prince Travann, he exclaims, "Why, that would mean absolute control—" "Of the nonworking vote, yes. And I'll guarantee, personally, that in five years the politics of Odin will have become so unbearably corrupt and abusive that the intellectuals, the technicians, the businesspeople, even the nobility, will be flocking to the polls to vote, and if only half of them turn out, they'll snow the nonworkers under. And that'll mean, eventually, an end to vote-selling, and the nonworkers'll have to find work. We'll find it for them."<sup>157</sup>

Presumably, this means the nonworkers of Odin—and by extension, the rest of the Empire—will be resettled on the "new planets" Paul intends to colonize, so that "the Empire won't die; it'll start growing again."<sup>158</sup> As Prince Travann would put it, "Another case of making problems solve each other."<sup>159</sup>

Unlike the robot-human question, the difference here is satisfactorily definable. The serfs of Russia and the slaves of Aditya had no choice in their status, while the people of the Empire do. Thus, the deduced 'Galactic serfdom' might be called a volitional rather than coerced form of slavery; or perhaps beneficent versus malevolent. And, paralleling the eight centuries of volitional servitude in the Galactic Empire, and almost eight of coerced servitude on Aditya, "The evils of a system that had virtually enslaved millions of Russians [lasted] for centuries" before being abolished.<sup>160</sup>

## 9. Aditya and the Fall of the Galactic Empire

### a) Reformist Emperors

As we've seen, the Galactic Emperor Paul XXII appears to be modeled on the Russian Emperor Alexander II. Paul is what we would call a 'reformist' leader; he wants to change the system in order to save it. And Alexander "is often referred to in histories as Czar-Liberator and Great Reformer."<sup>161</sup>

Czar Alexander II had a floppy-eared dog named Milord; his wife was Marie and his son the future Alexander III. These seem to be the models for Paul XXII's wife, the Empress Marris, their son the future Rodrik XXII and his pet "Snooks, the little red hound".<sup>162</sup> (Figure 13.)

Converting from Roman to Arabic numerals, the names of these parallel emperors can be written as Alexander 2, Paul 22. Piper apparently just doubled the 'II' from the Russian model. But the extra 2 may also represent Prince Yorn Travann, who is Paul's alter ego, or 'double', in the story. The two men have been working together closely, and covertly, for many years to get the Empire growing again. Indeed, Prince Travann's activities as Minister of Security, including landing troops at the Imperial Palace, are misinterpreted by many people as "A plot to seize the Throne" and become Emperor himself.<sup>163</sup> And the raucous Plenary Session of the Cabinet and Bench of Counselors, in which the Ministry of Defense is abolished but its personnel and functions added to Prince Travann's already powerful portfolio, is described by Admiral Geklar as "the most diabolically dangerous proposal to be made in this Hall in the



Figure 13. Emperor Alexander II, his dog, Milord, son Alexander (III) and wife Empress Marie. <sup>164</sup>

last six centuries” and by the Emperor himself as looking like “*A coup d’etat*. For that matter, wasn’t that what it was?” <sup>165</sup> Moreover, as we’ve seen it is Prince Travann, not Emperor Paul, who mentions the coming ‘liberation’ of the Adityan serfs by a second visit of the Imperial Navy.

The Galaxy therefore seems to have ‘two emperors’; one titular and largely symbolic, cheered by the students for his benevolence; <sup>166</sup> the other less open but with more real power, feared for what he might do with it. Good emperor, bad emperor. This development may foreshadow the end of the monarchy, because giving Prince Travann the Ministry of Defense will “concentrate all the armed force of the Empire in the hands of one man. Who can say what unscrupulous use might be made of such power?” <sup>167</sup>

Fortunately, the Emperor knows that Prince Travann has “been too close to the Throne for too long not to know what sort of a seat it is. He’d commit any crime up to and including genocide to keep off it.” <sup>168</sup> But as Admiral Geklar notes, “Prince Travann will not be the last Minister of Security”, <sup>169</sup> and his successors—less familiar with or less caring about the monarchy’s gilded cage aspect—may indeed put their power to unscrupulous use.

### ***b) Assassinations and the End of the Dynasty***

That Paul XXII’s efforts eventually result in the end of his own dynasty is also supported by his historical model, Alexander II. Despite the reforms he initiated, Czar Alexander was the target of several assassination attempts, and “was finally killed by a terrorist’s bomb in 1881.” <sup>170</sup> This event seems to be the model for Crown Prince Rodrik’s interpretation of “the great and frightening changes” frequently mentioned by the psi-mediums of Odin. The emperor’s son tells his father, “the only change of that kind I can think of would be...well, *something happening to you.*” <sup>171</sup>

Is Paul XXII later assassinated? That doesn’t seem to fit the story, since he is the hero of “Ministry”, and his program to rejuvenate the Empire is on track to succeed. However, it is implied that his young son Rod will continue his policies, and we recall with interest Prince Travann’s exact words. “When Princess Olva’s Empress...” Why did he put it that way, why didn’t Piper have Travann say “When Rod is Emperor”? *The deduction made here is that it is not Paul XXII, but his son, Emperor Rodrik XXII, who is assassinated.* Rodrik XXII shares the same numerical relationship with Alexander II (22 to 2) as his

father, Paul XXII. And the little red hound Snooks belongs to him, not Paul, while the royal dog Milord belonged to the assassinated Alexander II.

Also in support of this deduction, Alexander II was assassinated in 1881, but as shown above, the future historical period of “Ministry” parallels the year 1888. This seemingly points to the reign of the Czar’s successor, Alexander III (1881-1894), and thus Emperor Paul’s successor, Rodrik XXII.<sup>172</sup>

We can safely assume that the future Emperor Rodrik XXII’s son will be named Paul. And like the young Rod himself in “Ministry”, Paul may be underage when his father is assassinated. If so, his mother Empress Olva could in fact rule alone, until her son comes of age. Thus, although Beam did not make Prince Travann a psi-medium, his character’s words will then actually become prophetic.<sup>173</sup>

When Rodrik’s deduced son Paul becomes Galactic Emperor, he will be Paul XXIII. Again converting from Roman to Arabic numerals, Paul 23 will therefore have a parallel relationship with Alexander II’s son and successor, Czar Alexander III, or 3. Assuming this is correct, the historical model can now give us an indication of future Galactic events. For after his father’s murder, Alexander III became a reactionary emperor. “The few political and individual rights that were gained so slowly over the centuries slipped away as many reforms were annulled or ignored. People were subjected to arbitrary arrest, trial, and sentencing with little or no recourse to legal proceedings as the regimes of Alexander III and Nicholas II sought to perpetuate absolute monarchy. Russia, in effect, was a police state.”<sup>174</sup>

Thus, Emperor Paul XXIII may well clamp down on, and even reverse, the great and frightening changes begun by his father and grandfather. And the concentration of power into the hands of Prince Travann would then support the implication that his successors as Minister of Security are less scrupulous in their use of it. After the deduced assassination of Rodrik XXII, the Galactic Empire becomes a reactionary police state. The reforms of Paul 22 and Rodrik 22 are curtailed, and under Paul 23 the Empire is frozen back into rigidity. At least, until the “petrification is complete, [and then] the cracking and the crumbling starts, and there’s no way of stopping it.”<sup>175</sup>

In any case, after “Ministry of Disturbance”, Paul XXII’s descendants will not rule for much longer. Because after Alexander II, there were only two more Russian Emperors; Alexander III and Nicholas II. And then came the Russian Revolution. In fact, the Revolution resulted in the abdication of Nicholas, making Paul XXII’s joke about letting a robot replace him a possible allusion to the future abdication of the last Galactic Emperor.

Given Piper’s deduced ‘doubling’ of the historical model—Paul XXII and Rodrik XXII both parallel Alexander II—then by extension, Alexander III may be the model for Emperor Paul XXIII and Rodrik XXIII. Thus, the last Galactic Emperors could be Paul XXIV and Rodrik XXIV, paralleling Nicholas II.

That’s not the end, however. Because as noted above, the communist revolution on Aditya led to the massacre of the Lords-Master, so a parallel revolution in the Galactic Empire should mean that the ruling classes on Odin are massacred, including the Imperial Family. This would parallel the Bolsheviks’ mass murder of the ruling classes of the Russian Empire, especially the Romanov family on July 17, 1918.<sup>176</sup>

It is therefore possible that Galactic Emperor Paul XXIV abdicates in favor of his son, but both are murdered anyway. This would parallel how Nicholas II abdicated in favor of his brother, Grand Duke Michael (who wisely rejected the Crown), because the Czar could not bear to be parted from his son, the hypochondriac Crown Prince Alexei.<sup>177</sup>

### **c) First Citizens End Old Empires—and Create New Ones**

One might ask what all this stuff about the end of the Galactic Empire has to do with Aditya. Well, on Aditya, ending slavery quickly led to communism. In Russia, ending serfdom resulted in communism a few decades later. And in the Galactic Empire, ending the ‘serfdom’ of the people to the petrified Imperial system should therefore result in a communist system, a ‘Galactic Commonwealth’, some decades after “Ministry of Disturbance”.

This is supported not only by the Russian model, but another from the Nineteenth Century. That everyone on Aditya is called ‘citizen’ has more a flavor of the French Revolution than the Russian. Apart from the nobility, who were either killed or exiled, every Frenchman was addressed as ‘citizen’; such as Citizen Genet, Citizen Robespierre, and so on. But after the Russian Revolution, the common term of address was ‘tovarishch’, meaning ‘comrade’. ‘Citizen’ came to be a derogatory term.

In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century Russian Marxists and other leftist revolutionaries adopted *tovarishch* (abbreviated *tov.*) as a translation of the words for “Comrade” which were used as a form of address in international (especially German) Social Democracy and in the associated parts of the worker’s movement. For instance, one might be referred to as *Comrade Plekhanov* or *Comrade Chairman*, or simply as Comrade. After the Russian Revolution, translations of the term in different languages were adopted by Communists worldwide...

In the early years of Soviet power in Russia, the Bolsheviks used “Comrade” when addressing or referring to people assumed sympathetic to the revolution and to the Soviet state, such as members of the Communist party (and originally of other pro-revolution leftist formations such as the Left SR) and people from the “working masses”. The more neutral republican form of address was “Citizen”...

By the mid-1920s, the form of address “Comrade” became so commonplace in the Soviet Union that it was used indiscriminately in essentially the same way as terms like “Mister” and “Sir” are employed in English. That use persisted until the fall of the Soviet Union. Still, the original meaning partly re-surfaced in some contexts: *criminals and suspects were only addressed as “Citizens”* and not as “Comrades”, and expressly refusing to address someone as “Comrade” would generally be perceived as a hostile act or, in Stalinist times, even as an accusation of being “Anti-Soviet”.<sup>178</sup>

It is interesting that the leader of Aditya is not called ‘Comrade’ or ‘Chairman’ Zhorzh Yaggo, but ‘First Citizen’ Yaggo. This sounds like Napoleon Bonaparte rather than Vladimir Lenin. When Bonaparte seized power, he essentially became the ‘first citizen’ of France, although his official title was First Consul. This occurred at the end of 1799, and Napoleon remained First Consul until 1805. A mere fifty years before Alexander II became Czar. Piper therefore seems to have been modeling the Nineteenth Century. For communist Aditya, ‘Comrade’ would have been too obvious a title to bestow on its leader, so—ever the subtle one—Beam drew it from a parallel socialist revolution in (roughly) the same century.

## 10. The ‘Galactic Revolution’

### ***a) Instantaneous Communications Parallel the Telegraph***

The Nineteenth Century model for the late Galactic Empire explains the coming development of instantaneous communications, revealed at the end of “Ministry of Disturbance”. “If [Professor Faress] is able to propagate a wave that behaves like those micropositos, we may not have to depend on ships for communication. We may be able, some day, to screen Baldur or Vishnu or Aton or Thor as easily as you screened Dorflay, up in the mountains.”<sup>179</sup> The advent of instantaneous Galactic communications parallels the development of the commercial electric telegraph during the Nineteenth Century, which dramatically increased the speed of global communications. In Russia, the telegraph was introduced by none other than Emperor Paul XXII’s historical model, Czar Alexander II.

*“Known as the Liberator, he accomplished more for the people of Russia than any other czar. In his twenty-six year reign he brought the telegraph system to the country, by the Treaty of Peking in 1860 expanded the Russian Empire into China, created a school system, saw to it that women were also sent to school and brought about many other national and public achievements.”*<sup>180</sup>

This sounds like Piper’s self-reliant Emperor, who is certainly the greatest Galactic ruler in the last five to eight hundred years. For Paul XXII not only plans to expand the Galactic Empire (“new worlds, new problems”), he parallels Alexander’s new school system. First by restoring Professor Faress to his teaching position (and will later promote him to head a new “Imperial Office of Scientific Research”), second by exiling Chancellor Khane to Siberia—pardon, Aditya—and third, by bringing back the renowned Vann Evaratt as the new Chancellor of the Imperial University. The last step is the most important, because “If he takes charge there at the opening of the next academic year, in ten years we’ll have a thousand young men, maybe ten times that many, who won’t be afraid of new things and new ideas.”<sup>181</sup> Emperor Paul XXII therefore ignites an academic renaissance.

Now, for the communications revolution. In regards to the greater speed of the telegraph,

The rapid development of the telegraph was indeed a crucial feature in the unification of Empire. Telegraphic money orders and a public service were established by 1851 in Britain and Ireland; within ten years, cables were laid in Canada, southern Africa and India; in 1865 Europe was linked to Canada and the United States by undersea cable; by the end of the century, the telegraph allowed the Colonial Office and the India Office to communicate directly with the Empire within minutes when, previously, it had taken months.<sup>182</sup>

Once undersea telegraph cables were laid, the great empires like Britain and Russia no longer had to depend on sail or steam ships for transoceanic communications. (Figure 14.) And once Prince Travann's 'microposito wave' is developed, the Galactic Empire will similarly no longer have to rely on hyperships taking months-long voyages for interstellar communications.<sup>183</sup>

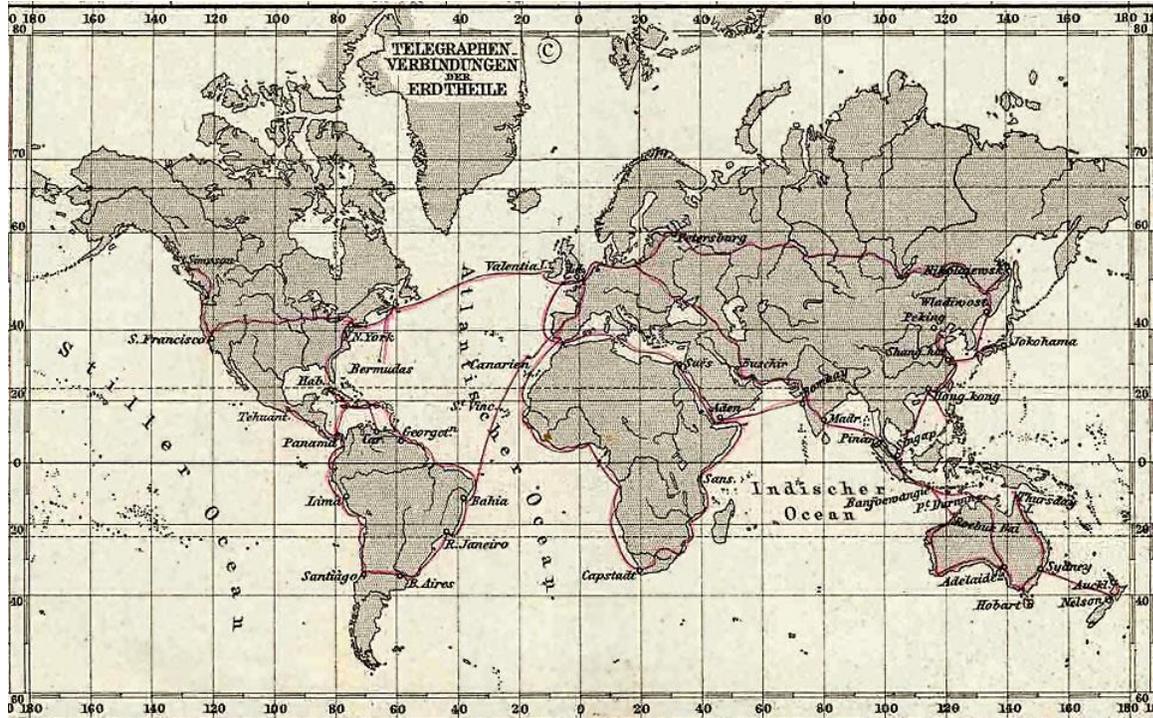


Figure 14. Intercontinental telegraph lines at the end of the Nineteenth Century.<sup>184</sup>

### b) Emblems of the 'Galactic Revolution'

As shown above, however, the development of instantaneous communications means that, for the first time ever, a general interstellar revolution is possible. And in giving the planet Aditya a First Citizen rather than a Comrade or Chairman, Piper may have had more than one purpose in mind. The fact that First Consul Bonaparte later became Emperor Napoleon I points to a very interesting conclusion: an interstellar socialist revolution in the Galactic Empire may result in *replacing the Emperor with an Adityan First Citizen*, who tries to convert the whole Empire into a Commonwealth. Emperor in all but name, this 'Galactic' First Citizen may indeed consider assuming that title, as he tries to bring the rest of the former Empire under his control.

This deduction is also supported by the historical model. In 1806, the political shockwave of First Consul Bonaparte's military campaigns caused the formal dissolution of the all but defunct Holy Roman Empire. The future Galactic First Citizen, quite possibly an Adityan, brings down the Galactic Empire, which as we've seen is partly modeled on the Holy Roman Empire (Marduk).

Assuming he does become a monarch, the Galactic First Citizen would parallel another one of Piper's characters—Zaspar Makann, whose planetary nationalist revolution makes him Chancellor of Marduk. After Makann assumes office, the Crown Prince is mysteriously murdered, the King of Marduk is brainwashed into imbecility, and other members of the Royal Family flee into exile.<sup>185</sup> And when Chancellor Makann's dreams of interstellar conquest are dashed by an alliance led by Prince Trask of Tanith, he kills himself while seated on the planetary throne. The Mardukan Prince Bentrack is disgusted. "I really didn't think he'd do just this. I thought he wanted to abolish the Throne, not sit on it."<sup>186</sup>

In "A Slave is a Slave", the Adityan slaves take over their planet; after "Ministry of Disturbance", the Galactic 'slaves', inspired and led by Adityan communism, take over the Empire.

Most likely, the deduced 'Galactic Revolution' fails to totally achieve its goal, resulting instead in the breakup of the universal state and a second interregnum. This one presumably lasts longer than the first interregnum; perhaps 1500 years, after which a Second Galactic Empire comes into being. But if a non-universal 'Galactic Commonwealth' is indeed created, it therefore only lasts for a brief period; like the empire of Napoleon—or the Soviet Union.<sup>187</sup> Napoleon changed the symbols of France (most notably in adopting the Roman eagle for his legions, and golden bees for himself); while as we've seen, the Soviet Union changed the symbols of Russia, paralleled by modifications to the Adityan flag after the rise of the People's Commonwealth.

Thus, the deduced Galactic Revolution should likewise alter the flag of the Galactic Empire. To begin with, the Empire's symbol is "the Sun and Cogwheel", gold on a black field.<sup>188</sup> (Figure 13.) It is therefore

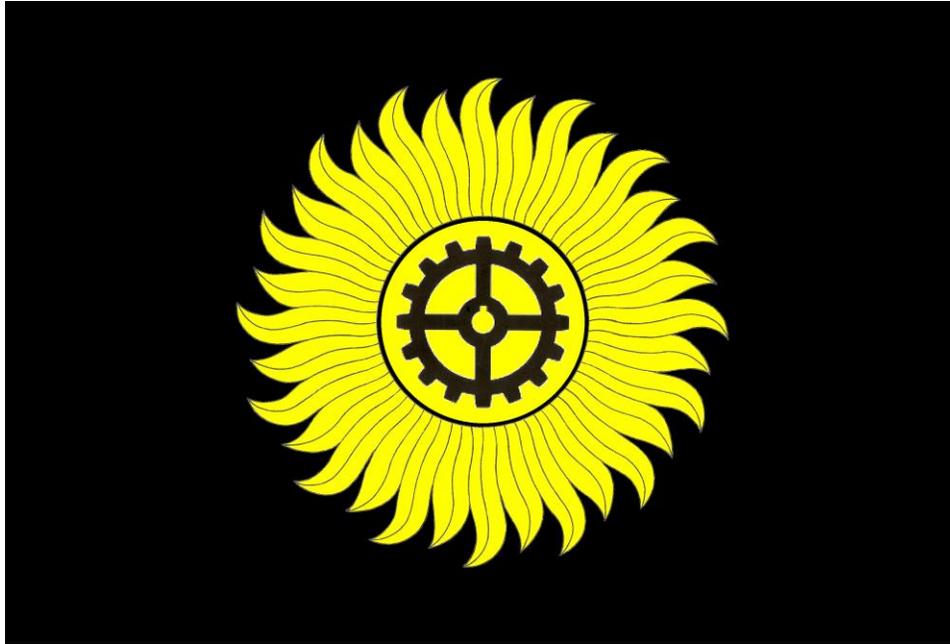


Figure 13. Postulated version of the Sun and Cogwheel, flag of Piper's First Galactic Empire.

interesting that in Beam's time, suns and/or cogwheels were found in the arms of many communist countries. These included the USSR (sun), Red China (cogwheel), and Mongolia (sun and cogwheel).



Figure 14. Suns and cogwheels in communist emblematology.<sup>189</sup>

Others were Romania (sun), Bulgaria (sun) and North Vietnam (cogwheel).<sup>190</sup> In fact, cogwheels were more common in communist arms than in arms of democratic countries. And I wouldn't put it past the genius of Piper to include allusions to a communist revolution in the emblem of the empire it overthrows! Particularly considering all the subtle connections between Aditya and the Galactic Empire—including symbolic—that he included in "Slave" and "Ministry", as discussed in earlier sections.

Assuming the Galactic Revolution changes the Imperial flag, it could simply mirror the Adityan revolutionaries' deduced change to the Mastership flag—the black field could be replaced with socialist red. This would result in a golden sun and red cogwheel on a red banner for the short-lived Galactic Commonwealth. Given the Soviet flavor of the regime, this postulated state could also be called the Galactic 'Union'. (Figure 15.)



Figure 15. Flag of the postulated Galactic Commonwealth or Union, which briefly succeeds the First Empire.

## Appendix One. “The Morglay Dynastic War”

### a) *Aditya Not Involved*

After Aditya leaves the Terran Federation, it undergoes its first historyless period; its first dark age. This ends when the fleet from Morglay arrives to conquer the planet, but later there’s a second dark age. For at some point, “Morglay had become involved in one of the interplanetary dynastic wars that had begun the decadence of the Space Vikings, and again Aditya dropped out of history.”<sup>191</sup> Due to a subtle difference in wording, this involvement is probably not the same, but may be related to, the one mentioned in *Space Viking*; “The Morglay dynastic war of a couple centuries ago, still sputtering and smoking.”<sup>192</sup>

The first quote suggests that once Morglay becomes involved in another Sword-World’s dynastic war, communication with Aditya ceases rather abruptly. But the second quote suggests that Morglay has a dynastic war of its own.

So when do these wars take place? According to Piper, *Space Viking* occurs in the “Early XVIII Century”, so the story presumably starts around AE 1704.<sup>193</sup> The dynastic war on Morglay would then begin two centuries before this, or around AE 1504. AE 1504 is approximately a century after Aditya is conquered circa 1400. Morglay therefore becomes involved in some other planet’s dynastic war later on, because Beam also says that “For several centuries, there had been communication between them and their home planet.” “Several centuries” implies more than two, so there is contact between Morglay and Aditya for about 300 years; roughly AE 1400 to 1700. For the first century, all is presumably well. But for the next 200 of these years, AE 1500-1700, Morglay is preoccupied with its own dynastic war. This is likely most intense during its first century, dying down to a low-level conflict in its second. But sometime after AE 1700, Morglay becomes involved in the dynastic squabbles of another Sword-World, which is when contact with Aditya ceases.

And AE 1700 is around the beginning of *Space Viking*. By that time, offworld intervention in internal Sword-World dynastic disputes has already begun. “The Oaskarsan-Elmersan War on Durendal, into which Flamberge and now Joyeuse had intruded.”<sup>194</sup>

Since contact with Aditya is maintained for the first two centuries of Morglay’s dynastic war, do the Lords-Master of Aditya remain aloof from the fighting on their home planet? Piper certainly seems to imply that, and such a scenario would parallel Tanith, which stays out of the fighting on Gram. By the time the Morglayan conflict begins, the erstwhile Space Vikings have ruled Aditya for a hundred years. The Lords-Master have undoubtedly become firmly and comfortably established, and may therefore have little desire to resume their ancestors’ warlike ways. Most likely they would rather take it easy on Aditya, as a settled class of rulers served by millions of bowing and scraping slaves, than start fighting with a planet where “Nobody does much bowing and scraping to the class above him; he’s too busy trying to shove himself up into it.”<sup>195</sup> Better to stand pat than risk losing their cushy life on Aditya.

### b) *Adityan Involvement?*

Although in *An Independent Feudal Lordship* we showed that the evidence strongly suggests Aditya is never ruled by Morglay, we must admit the possibility. The Tanith parallel would support this option, too, since Tanith was originally ruled by Gram. And if Lord Nikkolon’s Gettysburg Address-parallel speech means an Adityan parallel with America,<sup>196</sup> then there was indeed such a time. America was originally ruled from Britain, and the thirteen colonies which later became states had Royal Governors. Thus, during its first century under Space Viking rule, AE 1400 to 1500, Aditya may have been ruled by the King of Morglay. If so, then what happens when the Morglay dynastic war begins in 1504? A number of scenarios come to mind. The first of these is

**1. Revolution.** In this case, the Morglayans who colonize Aditya do so to get away from the injustices and inadequacies, real or perceived, of their home planet, paralleling the Pilgrim Fathers who left England for America. They are successful to a large degree, but the King of Morglay is still able to impose his authority; perhaps with a hand-picked Viceroy, rather than a more independent-minded Lucas Trask type.

The American parallel would further suggest that Aditya is heavily taxed to pay for the war on Morglay,

which eventually causes the Lords-Master to revolt against their Viceroy and King; just as the American colonists revolted against Great Britain. This would also echo Prince Trask, who resents the increasingly-authoritarian King Angus, and finally repudiates his sovereignty. The revolt on Aditya begins with civil disobedience, similar to that of America, and the growing anger on Gram. "Count Lionel and Duke Joris are both defying [King] Angus; they've refused to furnish him men, they've driven out his tax-collectors, those they haven't hanged".<sup>197</sup> Thus, the King of Morglay's representatives on Aditya—tax-collectors, garrison troops, even the Viceroy—are defied, attacked, and eventually killed or driven off the planet. The Lords-Master then rule Aditya jointly, as an egalitarian group of slaveholders.

On Morglay itself, we can assume that the King is dethroned, like Angus of Gram, and that many Morglayans die in the fighting, which ebbs and flows between rival claimants. The ongoing planetary conflict therefore prevents whoever rules Morglay from trying to regain control of Aditya, because the throne is never secure. The irony in this scenario would be that the 'revolution' of the Lords-Master on Aditya, and the death on Morglay of the King along with his retainers, would eerily foreshadow the revolt of the Adityans against—and massacre of—their own Lords-Master, six centuries or so later. A bit of Piper-style poetic justice, perhaps.

**2. Princely intervention.** A second possibility involves more direct Adityan involvement in the Morglay dynastic war. In this case, when Aditya is conquered by Space Vikings from Morglay, one of the original eight hypership captains is appointed Prince and Viceroy of Aditya under the King of Morglay, paralleling Prince Viktor of Xochitl and Prince Lucas of Tanith. The other seven Morglayan captains then become Counts and Barons on Aditya, paralleling Count Harkaman and Baron Valkanhayn on Tanith.

When the dynastic war breaks out on Morglay a century later, the current Prince of Aditya decides to get involved, similar to how Baron Rathmore and the Back-to-Gram Party try to get Prince Trask to return to Gram, and seize the planetary throne himself.<sup>198</sup> Unlike Prince Trask, the Adityan Prince may actually be related to the Morglayan Royal House, providing him with an excellent excuse to intervene, especially if the King is killed. The Prince of Aditya then takes some ships to Morglay, either to support the King, or avenge him. He may even become King himself for a while. But eventually, the Adityan Prince is killed in action, which is quite possibly what would have happened to Trask had he returned to Gram, and what almost did happen to Otto Harkaman, who backed the wrong side in the dynastic war on Durendal. "[H]e had lost his ship, and most of his men and, almost, his own life."<sup>199</sup>

Back on Aditya, the loss of their Prince and Viceroy—and perhaps finally their King—could have inspired the seven other current noble lords to seize power and rule Aditya jointly; none of them being powerful enough to take his place. To insure their collective rule, they destroy what remains of the former Prince's house and retainers; particularly any heirs, which may have been left behind for safety.

**3. Kingly intervention.** Another option is that the Prince of Aditya gets too independent, or supports one of the King's enemies, causing the monarch of Morglay to turn against him. This would also parallel Prince Trask, who acknowledges Angus as his King, and yet is the absolute ruler of Tanith. As he tells Princess Myrna, "I don't have to do what anybody tells me."<sup>200</sup> Not even what his own King tells him. The reason is distance. As Otto Harkaman says, King Angus "is on Gram. We are here on Tanith. There are three thousand light years between."<sup>201</sup> Prince Trask's policies and independence cause King Angus to mistrust him, until finally he recalls Prince Trask to Gram. When Trask ignores the command, Angus builds warships which may be used to attack him.<sup>202</sup>

In this scenario, when the dynastic war begins on Morglay, the Prince of Aditya seizes the opportunity to proclaim himself King of Aditya, similar to how Prince Trask severs ties with Gram and becomes King of Tanith. Although preoccupied with his enemies at home, the King of Morglay actually attempts to reconquer Aditya. Not only to maintain his sovereign rights, but for the manpower. Aditya's millions of slaves would potentially make for plentiful and cheap cannon-fodder. The Adityan army itself is "All slave, of course; officers and all." These could be expected to obey orders unquestioningly; however, their combat effectiveness would be questionable. The Galactic Empire later finds that "There were a few isolated companies and platoons that gave us something of a fight; most of them just threw away their weapons and bawled for quarter."<sup>203</sup>

The King of Morglay may successfully depose the Prince of Aditya and regain control of the planet, but

this probably does not last long. His dynastic rivals are a far greater threat to his throne, making his diversion of military resources to Aditya unwise. Particularly because his hopes that an Adityan slave army can help him on Morglay may well prove to be misplaced, overoptimistic and even impractical.

**4. King versus King.** An offshoot of this version is that the Prince of Aditya decides to cut ties with Morglay and make himself King, similar to how Prince Trask severs ties with Gram and makes himself King of Tanith. That would provide another reason for the King of Morglay to mount an expedition against him. And in Morglay's campaign against the upstart King, they may be aided by the other Lords-Master of Aditya. If that was the case, then either the Prince's self-elevation was not supported by the other Adityan noble houses, or, like King Angus the First of Gram, the first King of Aditya rules tyrannically, contributing to his own overthrow and demise. Since the King of Aditya would undoubtedly be supported by the members of his House, the conflict causing his death would include their own destruction, as well.

Scenarios 2, 3 and 4 could help explain why the Adityan Convocation's Presidium has only seven members. Out of eight original hypership captains and the noble houses they establish, one was lost. But in every scenario, at least one Convocation would be held among the Lords-Master, to decide on their course of action. Declare independence (1), vote for intervention on Morglay (2), resist intervention from Morglay (3), and oppose the self-elevation of one of their peers (4). And all of these scenarios would parallel some aspects of the situation between Gram and Tanith; variations on the Space Viking base-planet theme.

### **c) Dropping Out of History**

A couple of final parallels between Aditya and Tanith. As we've seen, "Morglay had become involved in one of the interplanetary dynastic wars that had begun the decadence of the" Sword-Worlds. This happens on Gram, too, when Haulteclere and Xochitl invade and overthrow King Angus, presumably to elevate their protégé, Duke Omfray, to the planetary throne.<sup>204</sup>

With the onset of the dynastic wars on Morglay, Aditya is cut off from the Sword Worlds, similar to how Prince Trask of Tanith decides to sever ties with Gram. "Be a good idea if he adopted the title King of Tanith for himself. And cut loose from the Sword Worlds; especially cut loose from Gram. Let Viktor of Xochitl have it. Or Garvan Spasso. Viktor wouldn't be the last Space Viking to take his ships back against the Sword Worlds. Sooner or later, civilization in the Old Federation would drive them all home to loot the planets that had sent them out."<sup>205</sup>

But after the break with Morglay, Aditya "dropped out of history"; "there hasn't been a ship in or out of this system for five centuries".<sup>206</sup> Tanith likewise appears to drop out of history, at least eventually. Although the policies of Prince Trask (and later, King Lucas I) encourage trade with other planets, and despite the fact that he is the mastermind behind the League of Civilized Worlds which later grows into the First Galactic Empire,<sup>207</sup> Tanith itself does not seem to be an important part of it. The planet is not mentioned in either "A Slave is a Slave" or "Ministry of Disturbance", and in the earlier story, it is said that Marduk, not Tanith, is "where the [Galactic] Empire had begun".<sup>208</sup>

Thus, after a 'brief, shining moment' of importance in Terro-Human Future History, the morning star of Tanith apparently fades; outshone by the rising brilliance of the Galactic Sun. As we have also seen, however, Aditya may have a brief shining moment of its own in the history of the Galactic Empire. Not at its beginning, but at its end; and not the white light of hope and new progress, but the lurid glow of revolution and destruction.

I would therefore conclude that Space Viking base-planets play crucial roles in the rise (Tanith) and fall (Aditya) of the First Galactic Empire.



## ENDNOTES

### 1. Emblem of the Mastership of Aditya

1. H. Beam Piper, *Empire* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1981), p. 68

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 89, 80

3. *Ibid.*, pp. 84-85

4. *Ibid.*, p. 85

5. Since the Space Vikings who conquered Aditya came from the planet Morglay, I assume the sword on Aditya's emblem is Morglay itself. In my version, the hilt guard was given that odd backsweep because it was depicted as such in the first picture of Morglay I saw on the internet. (<http://planetbizzle.blogspot.com/2008/02>) Admittedly, I also used it because this increased the emblem's resemblance to Asimov's Spaceship-and-Sun, which appears to have been Piper's inspiration for the design. (See **Section 4**; also my paper "The Emblem of the Galactic Empire".)

Morglay was the sword of Sir Bevis of Hampton, and is purported to still exist. It can be seen either in the armory or library of castle Arundel, in West Sussex, England. This Morglay has a straight hilt guard, and its blade is quite a bit longer than in the first source illustration. ([www.sussexarch.org.uk/saaf/giants.html](http://www.sussexarch.org.uk/saaf/giants.html))

For my version, I therefore combined the illustrated and real swords, adjusting the angles of the hilt guard to match the points of the star, and taking the average length of the blades.

As to why Piper gave the Adityan star eight points, see **Section 6**.

6. Piper, *Empire*, p. 75

7. *Ibid.*, p. 115 Lord Nikkolon's speech is therefore an example of Piperian irony. It is obviously modeled on the Gettysburg Address, which begins with "Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gettysburg\\_Address](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gettysburg_Address)) In contrast, the Mastership of Aditya is conceived in slavery, and dedicated to the proposition that all Adityans are created inferior—the Masters, and their Space Viking ancestors, being superior. Lincoln's speech famously ends with "that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." (*ibid.*) But Beam's version reads "that this government, of the Masters, by the Masters, and for the Masters, shall not perish from Aditya." (Piper, *Empire*, p. 116)

8. John F. Carr, *H. Beam Piper: A Biography* (Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland & Company, Inc., 2008), p. 214

9. Prince Trevannion muses that Aditya "had been colonized thirteen centuries ago, during the last burst of expansion before the System States War and the disintegration of the Terran Federation" (Piper, *Empire*, p. 67). That is, in the early Ninth Century AE. Taking the deduced AE 2162 date of "Slave", minus 1300 years equals AE 862, not long after the System States War. However, Trevannion's "thirteen centuries" is obviously an approximation, so Aditya should be originally settled somewhere around AE 832, or 1330 years before "Slave". (See **endnote 74**.)

As far as its conquest by Space Vikings goes, my 1400 figure seems to be the median view. Because John Carr's timeline in *Empire* has Aditya occupied by Morglay in AE 1359, while his timeline in *The Last Space Viking* places it in AE 1450.

In the Galactic Empire's dating system, the Mastership's rule from AE 1400 to 2162 would be roughly 500 Pre-Imperial to 262 Imperial. But here we must note that there may be a problem with Imperial dating. If its abbreviation is IE (for Imperial Era), then it would seem to conflict with Interstellar Era dating (also IE), mentioned in "The Keeper" (*ibid.*, pp. 224, 225). However, as that story takes place 30,000 years in the future, by that time the old Imperial Era dating system should be long obsolete. Indeed, Imperial dating may well be superceded by Interstellar dating, at some point after the First Empire, in which case the name changes but its initials remain the same.

### 2. The People's Commonwealth of Aditya

10. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 91-95

11. *Ibid.*, p. 106

12. *Ibid.*, p. 107

13. Ibid., pp. 95, 74

14. Ibid., p. 107

15. Ibid., p. 104

16. Ibid., pp. 104-105 This attitude is more succinctly—and vulgarly—phrased by today’s Marxist agitators as “Fuck the rich.”

Incidentally, after the massacre of the Lords-Master, Prince Trevannion recommends that the entire 5 billion crowns owed in slave-compensation be divided among the survivors. (Piper, *Empire*, p. 124) Five billion divided by 800 equals 6,250,000 crowns each; the surviving Lords-Master therefore become instant millionaires. If the massacre had not taken place, each Lord-Master would have still made out very well, as five billion divided by 12,000 equals 416,666.66 crowns.

This indicates Piper was following a Russian model, rather than American. Because while the emancipation on Aditya affects “Twenty million” slaves, the Emancipation Proclamation only affected 3 million people, and “did not compensate the owners, did not outlaw slavery, and did not grant citizenship to the ex-slaves (called freedmen).” ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emancipation\\_Proclamation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emancipation_Proclamation)) But in the Russian Empire, the Emancipation Reform of 1861 pretty much did all three, affecting even more people than on Aditya. “By this edict more than 23 million people received their liberty. Serfs gained the full rights of free citizens...[however] the serfs must pay the land-owner for their allocation of land in a series of redemption payments...75% of the total sum would be advanced by the [Imperial] government to the land-owner and then the peasants would repay the money, plus interest, to the government over forty-five years.” ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emancipation\\_reform\\_of\\_1861](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emancipation_reform_of_1861))

So in Russia, the former masters were not compensated for the loss of their serfs, but were at least compensated for the property they lost to them, since land redistribution was part of the Reform.

17. Ibid., p. 107

18. Ibid., p. 113 This reveals hidden meaning to the name Obray. Piper’s other names in the story, like “Pyairr” (Pierre), “Lanze” (Lance) and “Patrique” (Patrick), are simply futurized versions of names from our time. “Obray”, however, seems more like pig-Latin. In pig-Latin, words such as ‘nix’ become ‘ix-nay’, and scam, am-scray. If this interpretation is correct, then Obray is pig-Latin for ‘Rob’, Robert. But ‘rob’ also means ‘steal’, which is precisely what Obray does to the Lords-Master of Aditya. He robs them of their just compensation for the freeing of their slaves, and then he confiscates their estates.

This subtle touch by Bean is also seen in *The Cosmic Computer*, where the main character, Conn Maxwell, is appropriately named. He ‘cons’ the whole planet of Poictesme into believing the Merlin exists, when he knows it does not. But he himself was ‘conned’ by General Travis, who ran Project Merlin, and therefore knows that it does exist.

19. Ibid., p. 120

20. Ibid., p. 101

21. Ibid., p. 109

22. Ibid.

23. This short-lived socialist phase could parallel the short-lived Provisional Government of Russia, installed after the end of the monarchy. Led by the Social Revolutionary Alexander Kerensky, the Provisional Government foolishly decided to delay reforming Russia until the war against Germany was won. But the country had had enough of war, and Kerensky was soon replaced by the more extreme faction, the communists led by Lenin.

That socialism was a ‘weak’ form of communism that couldn’t last was even recognized by Karl Marx himself. In 1871, after being defeated in the Franco-Prussian War, French revolutionaries set up the Paris Commune. These Communards put together “a reasonably coherent socialist programme, the first ever enacted in Europe.” But the French government, which had abandoned the capital during the Prussian invasion, returned and forcefully suppressed the Commune. “The [Paris] Commune’s disastrous end confirmed Karl Marx in his low opinion of socialists: they simply weren’t hard-headed enough to run a successful revolution.” (Colin McEvedy, *The Penguin Atlas of Recent History* (New York, NY: Penguin Books, 1982), p. 30)

24. Piper, *Empire*, p. 101

25. Ibid., pp. 111-112

26. *Ibid.*, p. 121 In “Ministry of Disturbance”, it is referred to as the “Planetary Commonwealth of Aditya”. (*ibid.*, p. 152) But even though about 900 years have passed since “A Slave is a Slave”, the Commonwealth is still communist. The title of First Citizen Yaggo is “People’s Manager-in-Chief”, and the Commonwealth’s Secret Police are called “Servants of the People, Ninth Category.” (*ibid.*, pp. 152, 155)

27. *Ibid.*, p. 109

28. *Ibid.*, pp. 117-119

29. *Ibid.*, pp. 122-123

30. *Ibid.*, p. 126

31. Felix Guirand, editor, *Larousse Encyclopedia of Mythology* (London, England: Batchworth Press Limited, 1959), p. 349 Aditi is also referred to as “The august mother of the supporters of justice (Mitra and Varuna), [and] the wife of Order...[she is the] ever young, far spreading, kind shelterer, good leader, Aditi!” (*ibid.*)

32. Piper, *Empire*, p. 96

33. *Ibid.*, p. 95 According to “The Future History” written by Piper, “Ministry of Disturbance” occurs in the “Twelfth Century Imperial”. (Carr, *Piper Biography*, p. 214) This means that the Adityans are peons for about nine centuries, after being slaves for seven and a half. If Prince Jurgen Trevannion’s descendant, Prince Yorn Travann, is right, their servitude is about to end. “...and then the Space Navy will have an excuse to visit Aditya, and Aditya’ll never be the same afterward.” (Piper, *Empire*, p. 169) Combined with Travann’s late-story mention of honest elections coming to Odin, this may be a hint that the democracy Count Erskyll tried to foster nine centuries earlier will also happen on Aditya; the slaves at last truly become free.

But if I am right, Princes Trevannion and Travann are two of Piper’s self-reliant men, and their efforts have unforeseen consequences. Prince Trevannion observes that “Zealous statesmen perhaps did more mischief than anything in the Galaxy—with the possible exception of procrastinating soldiers. That could indicate the fundamental difference between statecraft and war. He’d have to play with that idea a little.” (*ibid.*, p. 72) The one playing with the idea was H. Beam Piper, because Prince Trevannion seems to represent the mistake of letting zealous statesmen do mischief, while Prince Travann represents the mischief of procrastinating soldiers.

Prince Trevannion is the political leader of the initial expedition to Aditya. He himself is not a zealous statesman, yet even after recognizing the zealousness of Count Erskyll, he does not restrain him from setting up the conditions for a communist revolution and the massacre of the Lords-Master. Thus, Trevannion’s restraint about interfering in local politics allows Adityan communism to take firm root. Nine centuries later, Trevannion’s descendant Prince Travann makes the opposite mistake. By the end of “Ministry”, Travann pretty much controls all the armed force of the Galactic Empire. He is not a procrastinating soldier, but he’s 900 years too late. The Planetary Commonwealth of Aditya now has more nonworkers than the Imperial capital, Odin. (*ibid.*, p. 154) They are currently stuck on Aditya, but it is strongly implied that the solution to the Empire’s nonworker problem is to settle them on new worlds beyond the Imperial frontiers. (*ibid.*, p. 178) Thus, Travann’s activist approach will actually cause Adityan communism to spread. First to the new planets colonized by the Empire, where the nonworking settlers from other worlds will be exposed (and many converted) to Adityan communism. And later, to the Empire itself, when these newly-civilized planets (many of which will have communist governments) officially become part of it, thereby playing a significant factor in the Empire’s collapse. (See **endnote 74**, and my forthcoming paper “The Fall of the Galactic Empire”.)

In “Slave” it would therefore have been better, from the Imperial perspective, if Prince Trevannion had restrained the zealous Count Erskyll. Since that did not happen, in “Ministry” it would have been better for the Empire if Prince Travann had restrained the procrastinating Space Navy from going back to Aditya and doing the job it should have done the first time around. Because although the original expedition “bludgeoned [Aditya] into the Empire”, Imperial policy dictated that the Adityans choose their own form of government; plus, the Space Navy did not take enough men—only “two thousand Imperial Landing-Troops” (*ibid.*, pp. 71, 73)—to do the job on their own. The native Adityan slave army has to be retrained by “Imperial officers and noncoms”, because as Admiral Vann Shatrak admits, “We have only two thousand men of our own, and that’s not enough.” (*ibid.*, p. 82)

Using Piper’s original quote from “Slave” as a guide, the best option for the Empire at the start would have been to combine a zealous military (including enough troops) with a non-zealous statesman (someone like Trevannion as Proconsul, rather than Erskyll). That seems to have been what Admiral Shatrak was suggesting for Aditya. “You know what I’d do, Prince Trevannion?...I’d just heave this Mastership thing out and set up a nice tight military dictatorship. We have the planet under martial rule, now; let’s just keep it that way for about five years, till we can train a new government.” (*ibid.*, pp. 78-79) In other words, a non-procrastinated military solution, followed by a procrastinated political solution.

### 3. Changing the Planetary Flag

34. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 112, 117

35. *Ibid.*, p. 85

36. H. Beam Piper, *Space Viking*, (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1963), p. 7 The *Enterprise* is repainted with Andray Dunnan's crest; a light blue crescent on black, but Piper is less explicit about the emblem-colors of other Space Viking ships. However, one can easily infer that black is one of the colors in the emblem of the *Black Star*, commanded by Manfred Ravallo. And for Viking vessels displaying celestial bodies, their emblems would look best on a black field, representing outer space; the 'ocean' these hyperships sail in. These include the *Space-Scourge* (mailed fist grabbing a comet by the head; presumably silver on black), the *Starhopper* (green monster leaping between two stars; probably green and gold on black), the *Yo-Yo* (female hand dangling a planet on a string), the *Bolide* (presumably a grey or brown meteor), and the *Blue Comet* (same colors as Dunnan).

37. Piper, *Empire*, p. 85 The change in clothing style is probably due to the Lords-Masters' evolution from freebooting soldiers of fortune to a settled class of rulers.

38. *Ibid.*, pp. 74-75

39. This coincidentally relates the proposed design to the deduced 'scarlet and gold' banner of Asimov's First Galactic Empire, even as the broadsword and star are related to the Spaceship-and-Sun. See my paper "The Emblem of the Galactic Empire".

40. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vietnam\\_flag](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vietnam_flag), and [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag\\_of\\_the\\_People's\\_Republic\\_of\\_China](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flag_of_the_People's_Republic_of_China)

41. Piper, *Empire*, p. 152

42. Dr. Whitney Smith, *Flags Through the Ages and Across the World* (New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1975), p. 282 The scanned flags were digitally recolored by me.

### 4. Adityan-Imperial Connections

43. *Ibid.*, p. 178

44. Piper, *Empire*, p. 122

45. Indeed, using the classic spectrum of ROYGBIV (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet), Beam's two changes involved simply moving the color one over. Red became orange (RO), and blue became green (GB). The unchanged element of white is of course the pure light from which the spectrum is derived.

46. The Commonwealth organizes its population into nineteen sociological categories. (*ibid.*, p. 154) Some of these—presumably only those related to government and social services—call their members "Servants of the People". A typical communist oxymoron, as these 'servants' are actually rulers, even oppressors. Prince-Counselor Geklar says that "On Aditya, all the brigands belong to the Secret Police, only on Aditya they don't call them Secret Police, they call them Servants of the People, Ninth Category." (*ibid.*, p. 155)

47. Piper, *Empire*, p. 63

48. *Ibid.*, p. 158

49. *Ibid.*, pp. 102, 142

50. *Ibid.*, p. 140

51. *ibid.*, pp. 135, 136

52. H. Beam Piper, *The Cosmic Computer* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1963), p. 227
53. H. Beam Piper, *Four-Day Planet/Lone Star Planet* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1961), p. 7
54. Piper, *Empire*, p. 137
55. *Ibid.*, pp. 164, 178, 179
56. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 235
57. *Ibid.*, p. 230
58. Piper, *Empire*, p. 176
59. John F. Carr, timeline in *Empire*, and Introduction to *Empire*, p. 9
60. Piper, *Empire*, p. 110

## 5. “The Emblem of His Government”

61. *Ibid.*, p. 88
62. *Ibid.*, p. 122
63. *Ibid.*, pp. 75, 78
64. *Ibid.*, p. 67
65. *Ibid.*, p. 84
66. *Ibid.*, p. 122
67. *Ibid.*, p. 84

68. In typical fashion, Piper blurs the issue. Telescopic views from the *Mizar*, fifty miles above the planet, actually show “Nothing that looked like roads. There had been no sapient race on this planet, and in the thirteen centuries since it had been colonized the Terro-Human population had never completely lost the use of contragravity vehicles.” (*ibid.*, p. 66) However, the qualifier ‘completely’ suggests that the Adityans have in fact ‘mostly’ lost contragravity, undoubtedly due to their society’s dependence on slavery, the catalyst for their technological decline. Assuming that most of Aditya’s transportation isn’t in the air, then it must be on the ground or in the water; via highways, railways or waterways.

Any contragravity vehicles still in service are probably reserved for the Lords-Master, or the chief-slaves who do their bidding. Calling the postulated highway between Zeggensburg and Servile City a ‘slaveway’ would then be quite accurate, being constructed and entirely used by slaves.

69. Piper, *Empire*, p. 67
70. *Ibid.*, pp. 66-67 A circular city is supported by *Space Viking*. “The city was Malverton, the capital; like any city of a contragravity-using people, it lay in a rough circle of buildings towering out of green interspaces, surrounded by the smaller circles of spaceports and industrial suburbs.” (Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 155)

71. The hammer and sickle flag is from <http://sites.google.com/worldperspanimalfarm/symbols>

The fact that Aditya has only two continents (Piper, *Empire*, p. 97) may also reflect the hammer and sickle. The name of the main one is not given, but the smaller one is called “Austragonia”. (*ibid.*) The prefix Austra- suggests either Austria (Oesterreich, Eastern Realm), or Australia (Southern Land), while the suffix -gonia seems to come from Patagonia, the southernmost region of South America. So the implied directions are ‘east’ (Austria) and ‘south’ (Australia, Patagonia). On standard world maps, Australia is in the southeast corner, while Patagonia is in the southwest corner. Thus, Austragonia may essentially mean ‘Southeastern Land’ or ‘Southwestern Land’, placing the continent in the ‘servile gorget’ position relative to the main, unnamed, one.

Piper’s apparent obscurity on the exact location of Austragonia was probably deliberate, and also related to the

Soviet flag. Because although the sickle is usually 'southeast' of the hammer's head, that is only on the front, or obverse, side. Flags have two sides, so if we turn it around, the back or reverse side displays the sickle to the lower *left*, or *southwest*, of the hammer's head. Thus, if the Austra- does in fact derive from Australia rather than Austria, then 'Southwestern Land' is the correct formulation; Austra- (south) -gonia (southwest).

Adityan geography may therefore represent both sides of the Soviet flag. Zeggensburg and Servile City being the 'obverse' hammer and sickle, while the main continent and Austragonia are the 'reverse'. (For the record, however, I picture Austragonia being a 'Southeastern Land', echoing the Zeggensburg-Servile City relationship.) Piper was a master at using words to give impressions or suggestions to his readers—but also for misdirection. As Mike Knerr observed, "Like an old Indian scout [Beam] was forever covering his back trail." (Carr, *Piper Biography*, p. 97)

72. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 56

73. Piper, *Four-Day/Lone Star*, p. 338 The statement is that "Mr. Gglafr Ddespttann Vuvuvu's watch face, normally white, was now glowing a bright ruby-red." Watch faces are usually circular, 'glowing' implies that it is emitting red rays, and white and red are of course the colors of Japan. The Imperial Japanese Navy's flag is the Rising Sun; a red disk emitting red rays, on a white field. (See my paper "A Study of *Lone Star Planet*" for more.)

The glowing watch is a warning for the z'Srauff on New Texas to take cover, as a sneak attack by their space fleet is imminent, and Piper compares this to the Imperial Japanese Navy's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor (*ibid.*, p. 224). Similarly, the hammer-and-sickle geography of Aditya implies a serious and sudden future threat to the Galactic Empire, because way back in AE 31, the Soviet Union launched a 'nuclear Pearl Harbor' on the United States. Like the Japanese at Pearl Harbor thirty years earlier, "it should have succeeded", but the dastardly Soviet strike is thwarted by Operation Triple Cross. (Piper, *Empire*, p. 56)

74. The 'Soviet geography' in *The Cosmic Computer* runs as follows. Koshchei is "The fourth planet of Alpha Gartner", and therefore 'Mars' to Poictesme's 'Earth'. (Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 130) Like Mars, Koshchei is a Red Planet; its extensive iron deposits combined with atmospheric oxygen to create an almost "uniform red-brown surface". (*ibid.*, pp. 130, 131, 138) Beam uses the same color-scheme for the "red-brown uniforms" of the People's Communist—pardon, Commonwealth—Army on Aditya (Piper, *Empire*, p. 117). The red-brown surface of Koshchei therefore parallels the blood-red banner of the USSR. Next, when Conn Maxwell and the *Harriet Barne*'s crew arrive at Port Carpenter on Koshchei, the main industrial plant they visit is a power-unit cartridge factory. Though a perfectly good reason for doing so is provided ("there's always a market for power-unit cartridges"; Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 160-161), it is interesting that the power-unit cartridge factory "was built in the shape of a T." (*ibid.*, p. 151) The Soviet hammer is also t-shaped. The power-unit cartridge factory—and all the other manufacturing facilities on Koshchei—therefore represents the urban proletariat, or industrial workers.

And third, the main goal of the expedition is to find the spaceships, both interplanetary and interstellar, that connected the Trisystem during the System States War. Where do they find them? Why, at a surface feature known as "Sickle Mountain". "He didn't need Luther's voice to identify Sickle Mountain; a long curve, with a spur at right angles to one end, the name must have suggested itself to whoever saw it first." (*ibid.*, p. 182) Red banner, hammer, sickle; the only element Koshchei's missing is a 'red star', a role which may be filled by the spaceships themselves, shining with reflected light. "At the same time, it became evident that the plain inside the curve of the sickle was powdered with tiny sparkles, like tinsel-dust on a red-brown velvet. "Great Ghu; are those all ships?" "That's right." " (ibid.) The light from these ships should be at least slightly red, due to planetary dust settling on their tops. This is supported by what happened to some of the abandoned materials and equipment used to build them. "And stacks of material—sheet steel, deckplate, girders—and contragravity lifters and construction machines, all left on jobs that were never finished, *the bright rustless metal dulled by forty years of rain and windblown red dust.*" (*ibid.*, pp. 139-140, emphases added)

Thus, Koshchei is essentially a 'Red Soviet' planet. That makes perfect sense, because Koshchei itself comes from Russia. "In Russian literature, Koshchei...is an evil person of ugly senile appearance, menacing principally young women." (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Koshchei>) As a Red Soviet planet, it is not surprising that the new inhabitants of Koshchei later threaten to annihilate those of Poictesme; a parallel of the Cold War. "This is not a threat; this is a solemn, even a prayerful, warning. We do not want to use genocidal weapons of mass destruction against the world of our birth. But whether we do or not rests solely with you... We have the weapons... Here the Federation Navy built their super-missiles, the missiles which destroyed Ashmodai, and Belphegor, and Baphomet, and hundreds of these weapons are here. We have them, ready for launching. Once they are launched, with the robo-pilots set for targets on Poictesme, you will have a hundred and sixty hours, at the most, to live." (Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 232)

As noted by John Carr, Piper modeled the postwar salvage economy of Poictesme on the Cargo Cults among the South Pacific islanders after WWII. (John F. Carr, Introduction to *Federation*, p. xxi) Project Merlin therefore seems to be the 'Manhattan Project' of the System States War. Because of Merlin, "The whole Alliance caved in all at once" (Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 225), paralleling the Japanese surrender in 1945. Since *The Cosmic Computer* takes

place forty years after the Alliance capitulates, Koshchei's nuclear ultimatum to Poictesme occurs in a 1985-parallel time. Although Piper couldn't have known it—and it doesn't play out that way in his Future History—the Cold War would indeed still be in full swing that year.

Assuming I'm right, then why did Piper include communist symbolism in *The Cosmic Computer*? Probably because of the historical period. Although partly modeled on WWII, the System States War is mainly modeled on the US Civil War, which ran from 1861 to 1865. Adding an initial '1', Beam's dates for the SSW, AE 842-854, become 1842-1854—the mid-Nineteenth Century. And that's precisely when communism was invented. *The Communist Manifesto* was published in 1848; *Das Kapital* in 1867.

Moreover, since Piper gave Soviet geography to both planets, that of Koshchei may have also been a subtle foreshadowing of Adityan communism. In the Terro-Human Future History, communism makes its 'first appearance' on Koshchei, but the nuclear threat to Poictesme quickly recedes, and the 'Red Soviet' planet never threatens the whole Terran Federation. About thirteen hundred years later, communism reappears on Aditya, where the Revolution is initially successful, but is contained on that planet; it does not threaten the whole Galactic Empire. A thousand years or so after that, Adityan communism has grown to fill its entire system, and will unwittingly be spread to other planets by the Empire itself. Thereby sowing the seeds of its own destruction. (See **endnote 33**.)

And finally, since *The Communist Manifesto* was published three years before the Confederacy seceded from the Union, Aditya is probably colonized only a few years before the System States Alliance secedes from the Terran Federation. The secession of the Alliance occurs in AE 839, meaning that Aditya most likely enters the Federation in the 830s, possibly AE 832. (See **endnote 9**.)

75. Piper, *Empire*, p. 152

76. *Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary* (Springfield, MA: G & C Merriam Company, 1976), pp. 1012, 1092

77. Piper, *Empire*, p. 119

78. *Ibid.*, p. 107

79. For artistic reasons, the moons were rendered much larger, and much closer to Aditya, than should be the case. This also serves to keep Aditya-Ba 'lower' than the star of the Commonwealth, which, like the red star in the Soviet emblem, is in the highest position.

80. Smith, *Flags*, pp. 176-177

81. Piper, *Empire*, p. 108

82. *Ibid.*, p. 152

83. Or Sword-World monarchies, for that matter. First Citizen Yaggo "was regarding the Durendalians [led by King Ranulf and Lord Koreff] with a distaste that was all too evidently reciprocated." (*ibid.*)

84. Piper, *Empire*, p. 106 Piper's reference to slide rules suggests that the Adityan ruling elite governs by endless calculation. This may have deeper significance than on its face. Given that Aditya's emblem is derived from the Spaceship-and-Sun of Asimov's First Galactic Empire (Figure 7.), its 'slide rulers' could be a subtle reference to the Second Foundation. In the classic series, the Second Foundation will become the ruling elite of the Second Galactic Empire, and will administer the Galaxy by the mathematics of psychohistory. They will be 'slide rulers', in effect. However, since Asimov's stories occur much farther in the future, slide rules have been replaced by the 'Analytical Rule'. "The Analytical Rule might be considered a distant relation—as a skyscraper is to a shack—of that kindergarten toy, the logarithmic Slide Rule." (Isaac Asimov, *Second Foundation*, (New York, NY: Avon Books, 1964), p. 99)

If Piper was comparing Aditya with the Second Foundation and their coldly calculating method of governing, then he may have been suggesting that Asimov's Second Galactic Empire would turn out to be a communistic state like the People's Commonwealth. Other critics of Asimov have also made that allegation. Professor Charles Elkins of Florida International University called psychohistory "the vulgar, mechanized, debased version of Marxism promulgated in the Thirties", while Donald A. Wollheim referred to it as "the science that Marxism never became." (James Gunn, *Isaac Asimov: The Foundations of Science Fiction* (New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1982), pp. 28, 40)

By extension, one then wonders if Piper's Second Galactic Empire was to be a similarly communistic state. The development of instantaneous communications (see section **The 'Galactic Revolution'**) should make that possible. But though the Adityan communists may bring down the First Empire, they would actually represent the 'barbarians'

who destroy the Universal State, leading to the next Interregnum. They should have nothing to do with the rise of the Second Galactic Empire, which presumably occurs many centuries later.

It must be admitted, however, that Piper's First Galactic Empire already seems rather communistic. Its leaders don't need slide rules; computers tell them the current state of the Empire, and even the Emperor defers to their predictions. (Piper, *Empire*, p. 139) Rule by calculations, very similar to the Second Foundation. Indeed, Merlin and the Gilgameshers may have a hand in this, running things behind the scenes. (See my paper, "*The Cosmic Computer—Piper's Foundation?*")

And to be fair to Asimov, he denied that there was any link between psychohistory and communism. He called Donald Wollheim's comment "reading his bent into me", and stated that psychohistory was really based on John W. Campbell's ideas about symbolic logic. "Symbolic logic, if further developed, Campbell told the young Asimov in their first discussion, would so clear up the mysteries of the human mind that human actions would be predictable." (ibid., p. 41)

## 6. The Eight-Pointed Star

85. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Order\\_of\\_the\\_Garter](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Order_of_the_Garter)

86. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 55-56, emphasis added

87. Ibid., p. 56 The reference reads, "Whoever had built [Rivington and its spaceport], in the sunset splendor of the old Terran Federation, must have done so confident that it would become the capital of a populous and prospering world. Then the sun of the Federation had gone down."

88. Piper, *Empire*, p. 67

89. In the diagram, I assumed that the ground areas between the central octagon of buildings, and the triangular warehouses, are paved. That is the reason they are colored grey. I would further assume they are vitrified stone, paralleling Litchfield on Poictesme. "There was a big vitrifier on the Mall...chuffing and clanking and pouring lavalike molten rock for a new pavement." (Piper, *The Cosmic Computer*, p. 60) I have also postulated a central court around the octagonal traffic control tower at the center. This is circular, like the landing pits. As a paved area, it is likewise grey, although such a court could certainly contain some landscaped sections, with trees, shrubs and flowers.

Admittedly, Piper would probably not fully approve of my interpretation, since the central octagon mass of buildings displays the shape of a cross! But it's an *iron* cross, which might be more acceptable.

90. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 56

91. Ibid., p. 155

92. That is, unless Odin has a Historical Preservation Society, that wishes to keep the planet's original spaceport intact. If so, then instead of being dismantled and redeveloped, the old spaceport site could be turned into a museum complex, chronicling Odin's early history. One or two hyperships of particular significance—such as the ship which brought the original colonists, if it still exists—could be permanently displayed in the landing berths, allowing tours to be given.

93. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 145, 156, 158

94. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 58

95. Ibid., p. 102 One would presume that when Trask becomes King Lucas I, he moves his royal residence from the spaceport to one of the cylindrical towers in the middle of Rivington.

96. Ibid., p. 71

97. Ibid., p. 204, emphasis added

98. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 66, 73

99. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 204

100. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 75, 92, 93, 94, 99, 100, 103, 104, 110

## 7. An Independent Feudal Lordship

101. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 35, 65-66

102. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 65, 77, 85

103. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 61, 67, 189, 205

104. *Ibid.*, p. 70 This lack of Adityan titled nobility suggests that the eight-pointed star was probably not derived from a Morglayan order of chivalry.

105. *Ibid.*, pp. 49, 51

106. *Ibid.*, p. 60

107. *Ibid.*, p. 50 However, internal evidence suggests that *Space Viking* begins in AE 1654, or possibly 1674. See my paper "Knights of Gram and Tanith", endnote 1.

108. *Ibid.*, p. 71

109. *Ibid.*, p. 61 This occurs during another ship meeting or 'convocation', in which Trask and Harkaman "had Valkanhayn and Spasso aboard the *Nemesis* for dinner; it didn't take much guiding to keep the conversation on the subject on Tanith and its resources, advantages and possibilities." (*ibid.*, p. 66)

110. *Ibid.*, p. 207

111. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 79, 80

112. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 56-57

113. *Ibid.*, p. 69

114. *Ibid.*, p. 105 And had he chosen, Lucas could have remained Lord Trask even then, because King Angus sends what is essentially a hefty bribe to induce Lucas to submit. "Is his Majesty making it worth while to accept his sovereignty?...That is, beside vellum scrolls?" Valkanhayn was still grinning. "Wait till we start sending cargo down. And wait till you see what's crammed into the other ship." (*ibid.*)

115. Beam therefore seems to have been subtly connecting the Gettysburg Address with the Emancipation Proclamation. Both were given by President Lincoln in the same year; the Emancipation Proclamation of January 1863 actually preceded the Gettysburg Address in November.

Likewise, Aditya's 'Emancipation Proclamation' is given by Count Erskyll ("*There shall be no chattel-slavery or serfdom anywhere in the Empire; no sapient being, of any race whatsoever, shall be the property of any being but himself.*" (Piper, *Empire*, p. 89)), sometime before Lord Nikkolon gives Aditya's 'Gettysburg Address'. This is also in the same year, since the emancipation is only "about a hundred and fifty days" before the Midyear Feasts, by which time all the Adityan slaves have to be freed. (*ibid.*, p. 92) A hundred and fifty days is five months, which means that the Imperial warships arrive less than a month after the Adityan New Year. Thus, Count Erskyll gives his 'Emancipation' speech in their January, while Nikkolon gives the 'Gettysburg' speech in their late June or early July.

The Midyear Feasts of Aditya therefore parallel the Battle of Gettysburg, which occurred right in the middle of 1863, from July 1<sup>st</sup> through the 3<sup>rd</sup>; as well as the Fourth of July. Both the battle and the holiday are referred to in the Gettysburg Address, making this another example of how Piper could include a perfectly logical element in a story—Aditya like all planets would naturally have its own holidays—which nevertheless contains hidden meaning.

Can we narrow the dates down even further? Prince Trevannion notes that "Aditya...had a three hundred and fifty-eight day year" (*ibid.*); this is divided into "ten months of thirty-five days each", with the Mid-Year Feasts being "an eight-day intercalary period" between the fifth and sixth month. (*ibid.*, p. 106). But if we assume a Terran-standard arrangement, the 358 day Adityan year works out to 12 months of 29 days, with 10 days for the Midyear Feasts, falling between their sixth and seventh months, paralleling June and July. Converting this to Terra's 365-day calendar, the Midyear Feasts would then actually last from June 25 through July 4. The last few days of this range precisely parallels the Battle of Gettysburg and the Fourth of July. And a hundred and fifty days before June 25 would place Count Erskyll's emancipation of the Adityan slaves on January 25. The same month as Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

116. Piper, *Empire*, p. 68 After contact ceases between Morglay and Aditya, Beam says that the Adityan system is completely isolated, until ships of the Galactic Empire arrive in “Ministry of Disturbance”. “No spaceships into this system for the past five hundred years...Until this morning, when history returned in the black ships of the Galactic Empire.” Later phrased as, “there hasn’t been a ship in or out of this system for five centuries”. (ibid., pp. 65, 68, 86)

In *Space Viking’s Throne*, John Carr and Mike Robertson are at variance with these statements. They have Tylor Ragnarsans visit Aditya a couple of centuries after Morglay—as they put it—“deserted” Aditya. (John F. Carr and Mike Robertson, *Space Viking’s Throne* (Boalsburg, PA: Pequod Press, 2012), pp. 110, 111) I believe that was a poor choice of word, because nobody deserted anything, communications between the two planets simply ended. Whether or not some Morglayans left Aditya for the war back home, the ones who conquered the planet are still there; or rather their descendants are, ruling as Lords-Master over the enslaved natives.

Even granting Ragnarsans Piper-violating visit, this is still about three centuries before the Mastership is completely decadent, so the invaders should have faced at least some resistance (even if barely effectual) by the Lords-Master over the theft of one of their “abandoned” and decaying ships. (ibid.) Indeed, such a lopsided battle could have been used as a good plot-point to punctuate the decline of the Adityan slave army.

117. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 53-54

118. Ibid., p. 223

119. After Trask takes over Tanith, the first shipment from Gram includes “two hundred engineers and highly skilled technicians.” (ibid., p. 107) A later ship from Gram brings “close to a thousand men and women; the leakage of brains and ability from the Sword-Worlds was turning turning into a flood.” (ibid., p. 110)

One would assume that something similar happens on Aditya after the Morglayans take it over. During the centuries of communication between the two worlds, hundreds if not thousands of Morglayans migrate there. However, after 762 years of rule, the Lords-Master on Aditya only number “a trifle over ten thousand.” (Piper, *Empire*, p. 79) Even though the number is later revised up to “twelve thousand” (ibid., p. 123), this seems far too few for natural increase.

Perhaps after the initial burst of conquest, colonization and establishment of the slave economy, the Masterly class became static and petrified; its membership pretty much staying constant over the next seven centuries. Assuming so, then this would constitute another subtle connection between Aditya and the Empire. In “Ministry of Disturbance”, the Galactic Empire has “a stable economy, a static population... eight centuries, five at least, of historyless tranquility.” (ibid., pp. 137-138) Aditya has similarly been ‘historyless’ for at least five centuries, having not only a stable and tranquil slave economy, but actually being ‘lost’ to history. “Until this morning, *when history returned* in the black ships of the Galactic Empire.” (ibid., p. 68, emphasis added)

A static Masterly population would mean that there is no intermarriage between the Lords-Master and their slaves; any children would be considered bastards, and relegated to the slave class, save perhaps for a few exceptions. This would parallel America, where children of slavemasters and their property were considered slaves, save for the few which could ‘pass’ as white.

An overt connection between the Adityan and Imperial societies is made by Lanze Degbrend. “The whole society is a slave hierarchy. Everybody curries favor with the echelon above, and keeps his eye on the echelon below to make sure he isn’t being undercut. We have something not too unlike that, ourselves. Any organizational society is, in some ways, like a slave society.” (ibid., pp. 79-80)

120. [www.sussexarch.org.uk/saaf/giants.html](http://www.sussexarch.org.uk/saaf/giants.html)

121. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 148

122. Ibid.

123. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 69, 70, 80, 81, 84, 88, 103

124. Ibid., p. 119

125. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 64, emphases added

## 8. Aditya’s Historical Model

126. [www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/slave](http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/slave)

127. Colin McEvedy, *The Penguin Atlas of Ancient History* (Baltimore, MD: Penguin Books, 1967), p. 22

128. Colin McEvedy, *The New Penguin Atlas of Medieval History* (New York, NY: Penguin Books, 1992), p. 46
129. Piper, *Empire*, p. 68, emphasis added
130. Gene Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe* (New York, NY: Crown Publishers, Inc., 1982), pp. 482-483
131. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 132, 141
132. *Ibid.*, p. 134
133. Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe*, pp. 430-431 In 1972, the line was broken with the accession of Queen Margrethe II. But her first son, the crown prince born in 1968, is named Frederik, not Christian; a selection seemingly designed to correct the offset numbers of Christians and Frederiks. Queen Margrethe II will be succeeded by King Frederik X, whose son (born 2005) will be King Christian XI, whose future son will someday be King Frederik XI. See my paper "First Galactic Emperors" for more.
134. *Ibid.*, p. 483
135. McEvedy, *New Atlas of Medieval History*, p. 51
136. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian\\_Orthodox\\_Church](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_Orthodox_Church)
137. Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe*, p. 485
138. Smith, *Flags*, p. 175
139. Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe*, p. 498 This gives new meaning to Olvir Nikkolon's reference to the native Adityans as "wretched serfs" in his speech to the Convocation. Moreover, Piper was connecting the Nineteenth Century end of serfdom in Russia with the parallel end of slavery in America. See **endnote 7**.
140. Piper, *Empire*, p. 169
141. *Ibid.*, pp. 131-132, emphasis added In "A Slave is a Slave", the connection between slaves and robots is made by the Lords-Master. When informed by the Emperor's representatives that their slaves would have to be freed, one of the Lords-Master exclaims, "That's all right for you people, you have robots [to do the work of slaves]..." (*ibid.*, p. 90)
- 142.** According to Isaac Asimov, "No one used the word "robot," however, until 1920...In that year, a Czech playwright, Karel Čapek, wrote the play *R.U.R.*, about an Englishman, Rossum, who manufactured artificial human beings in quantity. These were intended to do the arduous labor of the world so that real human beings could live lives of leisure and comfort. Čapek called these artificial human beings "robots," which is a Czech word for "forced workers," or "slaves." (Isaac Asimov, *Gold* (New York, NY: HarperPrism, 1996), pp. 217-218)
142. *Ibid.*, p. 136
143. On Aditya, Count Erskyll states the ratio as "Twenty million people, held in slavery by ten thousand!" (*ibid.*, p. 79) In the Galactic Empire as a whole, this ratio would be 1.5 trillion people, ruled over by 750,000.
144. Piper, *Empire*, p. 138, emphases added
145. *Ibid.*, pp. 79-80
146. *Ibid.*, p. 68
147. *Ibid.*, p. 65
148. *Ibid.*, p. 80
149. *Webster's Dictionary*, p. 1091

150. Piper, *Empire*, p. 78

151. Ibid., pp. 138-139

152. Ibid., p. 144 This may be a foreshadowing of the abdication of a later emperor. See section **Aditya and the Fall of the Galactic Empire**.

153. Ibid., p. 157

154. Ibid., p. 178

155. Ibid., p. 175

156. Ibid., p. 154

157. Ibid., p. 178

158. Ibid., p. 176 These new planets, founded a century or two before the end of the First Galactic Empire, will therefore parallel the Sword-Worlds, founded a couple of centuries before the end of the Terran Federation. But they also parallel the Slavs, northern barbarians civilized by the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire. Slavic tribes from the north conquered the European provinces of the Byzantine Empire; the new planets of the Galactic Empire presumably play a similar role in its demise. In Toynbean terms, the new planets will be “the External Proletariat” (Adityan communism being the Internal Proletariat) which appear during the disintegration phase of the Universal State (First Galactic Empire). ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A\\_Study\\_of\\_History](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A_Study_of_History))

159. Ibid., p. 177

160. Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe*, p. 498

## 9. Aditya and the Fall of the Galactic Empire

161. Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe*, p. 499

162. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 141, 170 But although Milord was his *historical* model, little red Snooks also appears to have a real-life model; Piper’s own “lovely little dachshund puppy”, Verkan Vall. (Carr, *Piper Biography*, p. 124)

163. Ibid., p. 147

164. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander\\_II\\_of\\_Russia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_II_of_Russia)

165. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 172, 174

166. Ibid., p. 169

167. Ibid., p. 172

168. Ibid., p. 170

169. Ibid., p. 172

170. Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe*, p. 500

171. Piper, *Empire*, p. 142, emphasis added

172. Both Alexanders also married a ‘Mary’. Czar Alexander II’s consort was Marie von Hesse und am Rhein, while Alexander III’s consort was Maria Feodorovna. This ‘combination’ of Alexanders and Marie/Marias may support the combination of Paul and Rodrik XXII as parallels of Alexander II. In a perfect parallel, that should mean Crown Prince Rodrik’s wife will be another Marris, rather than Princess Olva. Piper’s model for Olva may therefore be ‘Olga’, a fairly common name in the Russian Imperial family. The third child of Czar Nicholas I was Olga, who became Queen of Wurttemberg; the fifth child of Alexander III was Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna; and the eldest daughter of

Nicholas II was Grand Duchess Olga Nikolaevna. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander\\_II\\_of\\_Russia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_II_of_Russia), [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander\\_III\\_of\\_Russia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_III_of_Russia), [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicholas\\_I\\_of\\_Russia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicholas_I_of_Russia), and [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicholas\\_II\\_of\\_Russia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicholas_II_of_Russia))

Incidentally, Piper's use of 'Paul' as a name for alternating Galactic Emperors my likewise owe a nod to Russia's czars. In the role of Christian saints, Peter and Paul go together. And when Peter the Great founded St. Petersburg at the mouth of the Neva River, he also had the Fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul built on Hare Island, to guard the seaward approaches of his new capital. (Robert K. Massie, *Peter the Great: His Life and World* (New York, NY: Ballantine Books, 1980), p. 356)

There were three Peters as Czar of Russia (particularly Peter I, the Great), but only one Paul. And Czar Paul I's rule occurred just before the three Alexanders and two Nicholases who ruled over the Russian Empire's last century. Thus, Piper's system of Pauls and Rodriks as Galactic Emperors is not just modeled on the Danish monarchy (with its alternating Fredericks and Christians), it also seems to parallel the late Russian Empire, whose monarchs were all Alexanders and Nicholases.

If Emperor Paul XXII really wanted to move the Galactic Empire out of its complacent rut, he might have started by naming his son something other than Rodrik. Indeed, it is said that by naming her firstborn 'Charles' in 1948, Queen Elizabeth II was trying to break her own monarchy out of a similar rut. For the last several centuries, British kings have been almost exclusively named George and Edward. Prince Charles followed his mother's example, in naming his firstborn William. But then Prince William reverted to type, naming his own firstborn George.

173. Another possibility—although not supported by the historical model—is that both Rodrick XXII *and* his son Paul are assassinated. Thus, Empress Olva would rule *completely* alone. A double murder at the top of the Imperial hierarchy would be a most serious crime against the State, and could allow a later Minister of Security, more ambitious and ruthless than Prince Travann, to use it as a pretext for his own *coup d'etat*. He could force the widowed Empress to abdicate, or marry her himself. But perhaps the best option would be to marry his son to one of the Empress's daughters. Thus, Olva could rule alone, but the Security Minister would be emperor in all but name, and his son would someday become emperor. The fact that Prince Travann has a mistress (Piper, *Empire*, p. 135), though not unusual among the so-called nobility, may be an indication that his successors will use sex to further their ambitions. And marrying his son into the throne would have a precedent in Prince Simon Bentricks, who marries his son Stephen to Princess Myrna, legitimate Queen of Marduk. (Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 235)

174. Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe*, p. 500

175. Piper, *Empire*, p. 176

176. Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe*, p. 504 According to David Pritchard, "Thousands of nobles died during the October Revolution...the Civil War and the Stalinist Purges..." (The Alexander Palace Time Machine Discussion Forum; [forum.alexanderpalace.org](http://forum.alexanderpalace.org)) These 'thousands' would then parallel the "two thousand" Lords-Master and their 8,000 wives and children, killed during the 'Adityan Revolution' (Piper, *Empire*, p. 122); as well as the (presumably, due to its much larger scale) tens of thousands of Imperial nobles and their families killed during the deduced 'Galactic Revolution'. (See that section.)

177. Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe*, p. 504

178. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comrade>, emphasis added

## 10. The 'Galactic Revolution'

179. Piper, *Empire*, p. 178

180. Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe*, p. 499

181. Piper, *Empire*, p. 175 Although Emperor Paul XXII seems to be mainly modeled on Czar Alexander II, he may be partly modeled on Czar Alexander I, who "instituted educational reforms, financed the building of universities and schools, and decreed that education would be open to all classes rather than just to upper-class children." (Gurney, *Kingdoms of Europe*, p. 496)

182. Dr. Christopher Bayly, editor, *Atlas of the British Empire* (New York, NY: The Hamlyn Publishing Group Ltd., 1989), p. 75, emphasis added

183. Beam's use of the word 'wave' is very interesting. His micropositons travel more than 16 times faster than light-

speed (Piper, *Empire*, p. 163), and the only other things in his universe that travel faster than light are hyperships, ships that travel through hyperspace. Thus, the end result of Professor Faress' research may well be called a 'hyperspace wave', or in short, a 'hyperwave'. This connects Piper's First Galactic Empire with Isaac Asimov's First Galactic Empire, in which interstellar broadcasts are called "hyper-video" (Isaac Asimov, *Foundation* (New York, NY: Avon Books, 1951), p. 7). In addition, enemy warships can be remotely deactivated using the "ultrawave relay"; this appears to be another name for 'hyperwave', since its speed is "instantaneous", like Piper's micropositos (*ibid.*, pp. 110, 112). And finally, ultrawave (or hyperwave) sets are used aboard Asimov's spaceships for two-way interstellar communications. This confirms the ultrawave as a hyperwave, because it's described as a "groping thread of communication that *reached through hyperspace* to connect two points that laggard light would take five hundred years to bind together." (Isaac Asimov, *Foundation and Empire* (New York, NY: Avon Books, 1952), p. 65, emphasis added). For more parallels between the First Galactic Empires of Piper and Asimov, see my paper, "The Emblem of the Galactic Empire".

184. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telegraphy>

185. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 195-196, 210-211, 213, 214

186. *Ibid.*, p. 237

187. Napoleon's empire lasted ten years (1805-1815), while the Soviet Union lasted almost seventy (1922-1991). The deduced Soviet-like Galactic Commonwealth ruled by French-like First Citizens may therefore split the difference, existing for roughly 40 years. But this brings us to a very interesting connection; another possible example of the Asimov influence on Piper. Because if the dissolution of Beam's First Galactic Empire is followed by a short-lived Galactic Commonwealth ruled by a First Citizen, this would parallel the Mule, First Citizen of the short-lived Union of Worlds which arose after the fall of *Asimov's* First Galactic Empire. The Mule's wars of conquest lasted five years; the next five were of peaceful consolidation. Thus, his empire lasted about ten years, like Napoleon's. (Isaac Asimov, *Second Foundation* (New York, NY: Avon Books, 1953), pp. 11, 77) Indeed, one then wonders if the evil genius of Napoleon, whose military record was well-nigh perfect, was part of Asimov's model for the Mule, who never loses a war.

Also, the Mule with his amazing mental powers was absolute ruler of the Union of Worlds, and the communistic Commonwealth would of course be a dictatorship. In fact, since Aditya's model is Russia, and the Russian Empire was replaced by the Soviet Union, then the name of the postulated state could very well be the 'Galactic Union', or Commonwealth of Worlds, paralleling Asimov's Union of Worlds.

If this line of reasoning is correct, then the parallels may include personal names. The Mule was a nickname given by himself; Asimov's First Citizen was really named 'Magnifico Giganticus'. It is therefore interesting that the only First Citizen named by Piper is Zhorzh 'Yaggo'. Magnifico is the main villain of the *Foundation* novels, and Yaggo is almost certainly modeled on Iago, the main villain in Shakespeare's play *Othello*. And in that play, a 'magnifico' is "a prominent citizen and landowner in Venice." (<http://www.enotes.com/othello/36674>) The most notable magnifico in the play is Brabantio, the father of Desdemona, the lady whom Iago plots against. By becoming First Citizen of the Union of Worlds, Magnifico Giganticus can then be called 'the most prominent citizen and landowner in the Galaxy'.

Thus, Beam may have been inspired by Asimov's 'Magnifico' in creating his own Shakespearean First Citizen. He is known to have been a fan of the Bard; John McGuire, Jr., whose father collaborated with Piper on several stories, said that 'They were very much into the Elizabethans, especially William Shakespeare. Beam loved how Shakespeare wrote both for the highborn and the pit. They looked for plots in his plays and sometimes their stories would be titled with Shakespearean quotes.' (Carr, *Piper Biography*, pg. 88) His sibling Terry McGuire added that 'Beam wanted to be Shakespeare. He would have us kids memorize Shakespeare's lines and speak out the various parts. We acted out *Hamlet*, and *King Lear*--Beam's favorite.' Piper also had them perform *Romeo and Juliet*. (*ibid.*, pg. 93) One then wonders if *Othello* was another one of the plays they read from.

It is interesting that *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *Romeo and Juliet*—and *Othello*—are all tragedies. Asimov appears to have named his Shakespearean character Magnifico because he derails the Seldon Plan, a 'tragedy' for the whole Galaxy that is only averted by sustained and concerted effort by the Second Foundation. But Piper's deduced Galactic First Citizen, or 'Yaggo', apparently destroys the First Galactic Empire. A tragedy that is not averted, for as we've seen, the probable result is the end of the universal state and a second interregnum of barbarism. Thus, Beam was being more true to the historical—or in this case, literary—model.

188. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 85, 86

189. The USSR arms are from [www.marefa.com](http://www.marefa.com); the PRC and Mongolian arms from [www.commons.wikipedia.org](http://www.commons.wikipedia.org).

190. Smith, *Flags*, pp. 218, 222, 225, 260, 277, 282, 297

## Appendix One. “The Morglay Dynastic War”

191. Piper, *Empire*, p. 68

192. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 192

193. Carr, *Piper Biography*, p. 213 “The Future History” appears to be incorrect on this point; the true date of *Space Viking* should be around AE 1654. See my paper “Knights of Gram and Tanith”, endnote 1.

194. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 192 Assuming I’m right about the timing, the question then becomes, is the interplanetary conflict that Morglay gets involved in the one on Gram? This would give new meaning to the reference to the dynastic war on Morglay in *Space Viking*, as well as a hint of future events. In that case, one could then phrase the dynastic conflict on Gram as ‘the Ward-Glaspyth War on Gram, into which Haulteclere and now Morglay had intruded.’ If the Piper-Pournelle-Carr novel *Return of Space Viking* is ever published, I would therefore expect to see Morglayan involvement in the war on Gram, probably as a response and counterweight to the Haulteclerean invasion.

This interpretation contradicts John Carr’s timeline in *The Last Space Viking*, which states that in “1602 Aditya is abandoned during a dynastic war on Morglay”. As stated in **endnote 116**, Aditya is not ‘abandoned’ by Morglay, communication simply ceases. And the date of cutoff should be a century later; around AE 1704, or roughly the time of *Space Viking*. My version of Carr’s entry would therefore be ‘1704 Morglay becomes involved in the interplanetary dynastic war on Gram; communication with Aditya ceases’.

195. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 148

196. Actually, it’s Russia, which was never ruled from Scandinavia; see **Aditya’s Historical Model**.

197. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 188

198. *Ibid.*, pp. 129, 193

199. *Ibid.*, p. 7

200. *Ibid.*, p. 177

201. *Ibid.*, p. 68

202. *Ibid.*, p. 188

203. Piper, *Empire*, p. 82

204. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 204

205. *Ibid.*, pp. 242-243

206. Piper, *Empire*, pp. 68, 86

207. Carr, *Piper Biography*, p. 213

208. Piper, *Empire*, p. 87

