The Plot Thickens

Rodriquez, after his defeat at the polls and subsequent loss of control over the affairs of Alqueria tried to break the coalition party of Manuela and Loco Paco. After attempting to ingratiate himself with Paco, which led to failure and the annihilation of a regiment of Saharan Dung Beetles, Rodriquez decided to start a sleaze campaign against the Prime Minister Manuela.

Rodriquez's politics are ultra right-wing as is his outlook on life, although he only applies his standards to others and never himself. He therefore thought that starting rumours about Manuela's private life and in particular her prowess with the opposite sex would force her to resign. Unfortunately for Rodriquez he couldn't even begin to imagine the antics Manuela got up to with her retinue of men friends. His rumours fell far short of the actual truth. Manuela, feeling that his accusations lessened her kudos with the opposite sex took him to one side to 'mark his card'. After a torrid and worryingly detailed account of her latest sexual liaison Rodriquez decided that her truth was certainly stranger than his fiction.

These two failures to break the new Alquerian leadership convinced Rodriquez that he should remove the 'velvet gloves' and take more direct action. He mooted the problem with his evil associates in the back room of the La Golondrina Verde. The taberna is exclusively used by the Hillpeople and therefore 'friendly territory'. The 'Achilles Heel' of Alqueria was sought. The one thing that the entire population relied on and would therefore be dissatisfied if deprived of it. A dissatisfied population would ultimately blame the government. Rodriquez would then restore whatever it was and be the saviour of the Village Republic.

After several nights without sleep Rodriquez found his answer. Remitroot, he would somehow stop the supply of Remitroot. The fact that this solution was so obvious gives some clue as to the man's intellect. Without Remitroot and the range of products derived from it Alqueria could not function.

Remitroot Whisky and wine kept half the population in a state of permanent intoxication. Loco Paco relies on 'Remitroot a la Plancha' to feed himself and his pet Saharan Dung Beetle Benjy. In this form Remitroot is an hallucinogenic, this of course explains a great deal. Antonio Poyato not only drinks, eats and wears Remitroot products he lags his water pipes with it as well. Manuela relies on Remitroot's properties as an aphrodisiac to keep her men friends in tiptop condition, while an occasional libation of the liqueur loosens her up ready for a night of concerted action.

Will Rodriquez succeed in his dastardly plan?
How will the not so gentle folk of Alqueria survive without Remitroot?
We shall see?