

# GRAUSTARK

#118

1965F, 1965Q, 1966B, 1966Q, 1966R, 1966AA

11 Feb. '67

1965Q

"Spring 1912"

## ENGLISH COILS TIGHTEN AROUND GERMANY

ENGLAND (Koning): A Pru-War; A Mos  
S A Pru-War; A Edi-Norway; F  
North Sea C A Edi-Norway; F Swe-  
Bal; F Den-Kie; A Ber S F Den-  
Kie; A Lon-Lie; F Eng C A Lon-  
Bre; F Mid-Por.

FRANCE (Whelan): A Mar S F Spa;  
F Spa S A Mar.

GERMANY (J. Smythe): A Gas-Mar;  
A Bur S A Gas-Mar; A Ruh-Mun;  
A Hol S A Kie; A Kie S A Ruh-  
Mun.

ITALY (Berman): F Tun holds.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (K. Patee): A Pie-  
Ven; F Apu-Adr; A Boh & A Tyr S  
A Mun; A Mun S TURKISH A Sil;  
A Bud holds.

TURKEY (Kuch): A Sev-Rum; A Bul S  
A Sev-Rum; F Con-Ela; A Smy-Gre;  
F Aeg C A Smy-Gre; F Nap-Apu;  
F Lon S F Nap-Apu; F Tyr-Tus;  
A Sil-Gal.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1912" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY 1967.

CONSTANTINOPLE: After thorough consideration of the strange act of the Dual Monarchy in establishing an army in Budapest instead of Vienna, we have been forced to the conclusion that Austria harbors evil intent against us. We therefore are fortifying our colonies of Greece and Rumania.

CONSTANTINOPLE (to the Emir of Tunis): As long as you do nothing remotely hostile to the Sublime Porte, we shall permit you to remain safely in your citadel.

1966B

"Fall-Winter 1907"

## ENGLAND RETREATS BEFORE TRIPARTITE ATTACK

ENGLAND (Davidson): F Spa(s.c.) S  
ITALIAN A Mar; F Mid & F Por S  
F Spa(s.c.); F Tus-Rom; F Iri-  
North Atlantic; F Eng-Bal; A  
Bel-Hol; F North Sea S A Bel-  
Hol; A Bur-Mun; A Mos not or-  
dered.

FRANCE (Dygart): A Pic-Bur; A Par  
S A Pic-Bur.

GERMANY (Sanders): F Swe-Norway;  
A St. P S F Swe-Norway; A Ber-  
Mun; A Gas-Eur; A Kie-Hol; A  
War S TURKISH A Sev-Mos.

ITALY (Ward): F Lyo-Spa; A Mar S F  
Lyo-Spa; A Pie S A Mar; A Tyr-  
Ven.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Naus, vice Cline):  
No moves received. A Vie holds;  
A Tri dislodged and annihilated.

TURKEY (Pournelle): A Sev-Mos; A  
Ser-Tri; F Adr S A Ser-Tri; A  
Con-Bul; A Bud S A Ser-Tri; A  
Rum S A Bud; F Alb-Ion; F Aeg  
S F Alb-Ion.

Underlined moves are not possible. England retreats A Bur-Ruh. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Edi, Hol, Liv, Lon,  
Por, Rom, Swe, Spa. (9)

FRANCE: Bre, Par. (2)

GERMANY: Ber, Den, Kie, Mun, Nor,  
St. P, War. (7)

ITALY: Mar, Nap, Tun, Ven. (4)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Vie. (1)

TURKEY: Ank, Bud, Bul, Con, Gre,  
Mos, Rum, Ser, Sev, Smy, Tri. (11)

(continued on p. 2)

## RUSSIAN FLEET ENDANGERS FRENCH COAST

FRANCE (Latimer): F Tyr-Rom; F North Africa-Tun; F Mid-Wes; A Mar-Pie;  
A Tyr-Vie; A Gal S A Tyr-Vie; A Bre holds; A Liv-Yor; A Bur holds.

RUSSIA (Aita): F Norwegian Sea-North Atlantic; F Norway-North Sea;  
 F Eng-Mid; F Bel holds; F Lon-Yor; A Wal S F Lon-Yor; A Ruh S A  
 Mun; A Mun S A Boh; A War-Gal; A Boh S A War-Gal; A Mos-Ukr;  
 A St.P-Mos.

TURKEY (Berman): A Ank-Rum; F Bla C A Ank-Rum; A Sev S A Ank-Rum;  
 A Con-Bul; A Ser-Tri; A Vie S A Ser-Tri; F Alb S A Ser-Tri;  
A Ven-Rom; F Nap-Tyr; F Ion S F Nap-Tyr; F Smy-Aeg; A Adr-Ven.

Underlined moves are not possible. The French retreats are A Gal-Sil; F Tyr-Tus or -Lyo. The direction of the French fleet retreat is to be submitted with the "Fall 1913" moves; the "Fall 1913" moves of the other players may be made dependent upon the direction of the French retreat. The deadline for these moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY 1967.

PARIS: We would hope to see Russian offensives launched this season against Turkey. Otherwise, we fear the Tsar is in the same category as the Sultan. We want to make one thing known. Turkey shall not win this conflict no matter what the cost to France. We are awaiting word from St. Petersburg - is there to be none? In any case, Turkey shall pay the price for a back-stab.

1966B (continued from p. 1)

According to the rules of Diplomacy, Turkey may establish three new units and Germany may build one. England must remove one.

Conditional builds were received from Turkey, and the only possible build for Germany is an army in Munich. Therefore, to expedite the play of the game, the Gamesmaster will assume that the English army dislodged from Moscow is of little concern to the English player, since he did not bother to submit a move for it. The "Winter 1907" moves are therefore:

ENGLAND: Removes the army which was dislodged from Moscow.

GERMANY: Builds A Mun.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Removes the army dislodged from Trieste.

TURKEY: Builds A Con, A Smy, F Ank.

The deadline for "Spring 1908" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY 1967. Since Harold Naus did not submit a "Fall 1907" move for Austria-Hungary, the stand-by player, Gene Prosnitz, is asked to submit a "Spring 1908" move for that country.

LONDON: England declares a war of total annihilation against Germany; she will be willing to conclude peace treaties and alliances with France or Italy or Turkey.

NAPLES: Tribune Roberto Reali today announced from his temporary capital the formation of a grand alliance against the Saxons. "We have been joined by the Goths, the Parthians, the Egyptians, and the Britons in our war with perfidious Albion." He then announced that the First Fleet had been ordered to Hispania and that the Gallic legions would march in support of that conquest. The Eastern Roman Empire continues to be a source of worry as indications continue that it may try to forestall the loss of territory to the Parthians by invading the western border provinces of Venetia and Cisalpine Gaul. Such an attempt would crush the Magyars between the Parthian wheel and the Roman road.

## TURKS ENTER ROME; POPE DISAPPEARS!

ENGLAND (Latimer): F Hel S GERMAN A Kie-Hol; F North Atlantic-Mid;  
F North Sea-Bel; A Ycr-Lon.

FRANCE (Berman): F Mid-North Atlantic; A Wal-Liv; F Ir S F Wal-Liv;  
A Lon-Yor; F Eng-North Sea; F Bel S F Eng-North Sea; A Mun-Kie;  
A Bur-Mun; A Hol S A Mun-Kie.

GERMANY (Lebling): F Den-Kie; A Kie-Hol.

ITALY (M. Thomson): No moves received. F Tun & F Adr hold; A Ber &  
A Rom dislodged and annihilated.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Uhr): A Ven-Rom; A Tri-Ven; A Vie-Tyr.

RUSSIA (Levinson): A Pru-Ber; F Bal S A Pru-Ber; A Sil-Mun; A Gal-Boh.

TURKEY (Wagner): A Nap-Rom; A Apu S A Nap-Rom; F Ion S A Apu; F Aeg &  
F Eas S F Ion; A Ser-Tri; F Alb S A Ser-Tri; A Rum-Bud.

Underlined moves are not possible. The following retreats take place:

ENGLAND: F North Sea-Edi, -Norwegian Sea, -Norway, or -Ska.  
(The direction of this retreat should be submitted with the "Winter 1907" moves; other players may make their builds or removals dependent upon the direction of this retreat.)

FRANCE: A Hol-Ruh.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: A Tri-Vie.

The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Nor, St.P. (3)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Ven, Vie. (2)

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Kie, Liv, Lon,  
Mar, Mun, Par, Por, Spa. (10)

RUSSIA: Ber, Mos, Sev, Swe, War. (5)

GERMANY: Den, Hol. (2)

TURKEY: Ank, Bud, Bul, Con, Gre,  
Nap, Rom, Rum, Ser, Smy, Tri. (11)

ITALY: Tun, (1).

Turkey may build three new units, and France and Russia may each build one. England, Italy, and Austria-Hungary must each remove one unit. A conditional removal for Italy should be submitted by the stand-by player, Jim Sanders.

SQUIJI ISLANDS (31 January 1907): Prince Otto's search for peace and quiet may lead him away from the Squiji Islands, after having stayed there only two months. He has been known to remark upon the short distance between the Squiji Islands and Madagascar, and upon the unsavory habits of Russian Cossack/Mongols. His aversion to guns is well known. "Der Maddergazgers und der Cozgols und der guns do not be what is worrying myself. Dere iss ein more impordand broblem I am ge-stuck with," noted the Terror of Munich, pulling a cactus thorn from his posterior. "Id iss dose \$%#&?#@# zons uff mein cuzzin." It is a local folk legend that Johann and Friedrich are always looking for new playmates.

VATICAN CITY (14 February 1907): Cardinal Musial today denied that Pope Sylvester IV is planning to abandon the Vatican as Turkish troops advance on Rome. As the Cardinal stood at the main gate talking to newsmen, a number of expressmen were observed carrying loaded steamer trunks out of the papal residence. In a related development, Colonel Elizabeth Borden of the Pope's Own Regiment of Amazon Axewomen announced that the services of a Mrs. Nation had been obtained as a Trainer to the elite corps of guards.

## SEVASTOPOL THREATENS WAR AGAINST BROOKLYN!

After the "1906" moves the following new units were established:  
 ENGLAND (Dygart): Builds F Lon, F Edi. GERMANY (Latimer): Builds A Ber.  
 The deadline for "Spring 1907" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY  
 1967.

BERLIN: We would think that when a proposal of marriage is made from Lucrezia to the Kaiser an emotion called love would be present. As this is denied from Salona it would seem that the Empress is devoid of such an emotion. Well, this speaks for her.

BROOKLYN: "The Empress Lucrezia may not have an emotion called love," an anonymous editor declared, "but she's sure in there trying!"

MISKATONIC COLLEGE, NORTH ARKHAM, MASS.: James Latimer III, recently returned from a sojourn in the so-called Balkanian Empire, delivered an address before the gathered student body on the foibles of modern diplomacy. He wondered now anything meaningful could possibly be accomplished between the statesmen of Europe when the European press is fanning emotions with what he labeled "gray" journalism. Citing the example of GRAUSTARK, a Brooklyn-based bi-weekly with access to all the countries of Europe, he told of wild rumors, vicious slanders, and wicked lies. He states that he had even been a victim of this loathsome mud-slinging. A recent issue claimed that he had been present at one of Empress Lucrezia's, well - "parties" she on occasion holds. Latimer views all this as what happens when a nation is facing a losing military situation. "Apparently the Balkanians are enjoying themselves before they are crushed under the Anglo-German axis."

VIENNA (Reuters): The mad Ritornello was here.

ELSEWHERE (Reuters): Strange! We've just received a letter from Kaiser Wormtongue, requesting that we fill him in.

SEVASTOPOL: Carl Turnoff, First Minister of Truth, Propaganda, and Censorship, today indicated his agreement with the recent statements of Kaiser Wormwood about the political content of GRAUSTARK being "science fiction". He did, however, correct the Kaiser about one thing: "The editor and his political views are indubitably not in a south polar orbit; to say such a thing implies that there is the remote possibility of a return back down to earth."

Turnoff also announced that the correspondent for the Miskatonic Observer was arrested today for the insufferable lies he continues to write about the true state of affairs in the Grand Empire of Sevastopol. The correspondent, who bears a striking resemblance to Baron Münchhausen, as the first stage of his "thought reorientation and rehabilitation" was personally shown the dungeon in the Fairwood Palace, in order to prove conclusively that Bébé Bélie was actually given the same treatment. After being "corrected" about this matter, the correspondent was unavailable to visitors for several days.

WITH THE BLACK SEA FLEET: Admiral Bayleov is really in a quandry now: First the Turks developed a top-secret device that transforms fleets into armies, and now they've created another one which can reverse the process. Air dirigibles from the fleet, which is now cruising the Black Sea, have been sailing over the Turkish mainland to try to discover what's going on. These dirigibles, known as "Boo-too-you-too's" have not been able to discover anything at all except a character in a Beef-eater hat who just waves at them and grins foolishly.

ODESSA: The full story of the recent attempt of the Empress Lucrezia to cross the Sevastopolitan border is now available! Using her alias of "Countess Hagnelda Pilsudski", Lucrezia had almost gotten across the border, when one of the guards, one Lt. Igor Brannanenko, thought to ask to see her passport. Momentarily frustrated, Lucrezia

recovered quickly and smiled, "You may see my 'passport' this evening, lady boy!" She then nodded knowingly toward a local hotel. Just then, a contingent of female pickets approached the guards and angrily accosted them. "How dare you let this no-good, two bit #&\*!" into the country," exclaimed the matronly leader, appropriately wearing a spanking new pair of pink tennis shoes. Under this barrage of protest, the guards relented and turned Lucrezia away from the border, not, however, before she duly noted the signs carried by the pickets: "Preserve the Union Shop" and "Scabs Go Home! Local #311, Sevastopolitan Harlots' Union".

LOCAL #311, ODESSA: Application for membership was today received from a certain member of the Balkanian Royal Family. President of the Local Gotta Givinsky refused to divulge the name of the applicant, but did not that "we're proud to have her - won't the other locals be jealous?"

SEVASTOPOL: Carl Turnoff, First Minister of Truth, Propaganda, and Gendorship, today revealed to the press that the Miskatonic Observer correspondent recently imprisoned is actually Baron Münchhausen, that old nemesis of the Tsar's. Münchhausen, who has never forgiven the Mad Satirical Monk for destroying his war effort against the Youngstown Powers, is apparently out for revenge, for he has escaped from prison. In the escape, however, he forgot his latest dispatch which he was about to smuggle out of prison. It told a most ludicrous story about there actually being some 300 Mad Satirical Monks running around. This, of course, is totally incredible. It is a malicious story designed to deprive the Tsar of the total glory of his vast number of accomplishments. Turnoff also revealed that Foreign Minister J. J. Dygertevsky has threatened to break diplomatic relations with any country which allows its papers to print this slanderous concoction. War Minister and Chief of Staff, Marshall le Turnier, also has vowed to personally "suppress" Brooklyn College if that journal of political science fiction, GRAUSTARK, dares to print the lie.

VIENNA (3 December 1906): The triumphal return of Her Imperial Majesty, the Empress Lucrezia, to the ancient and traditional capital of the Austrian Empire has heralded a sweeping series of changes in the Government. Karl Nepomuk von Matternich, the Foreign Minister, has been appointed Imperial Chancellor (Reichs-Kanzler), replacing Count Ritorno Vincitore, personal aide to His Highness, Prince Cesare Bordscha. The newly appointed Foreign Minister is Baron Adolf Heinrich von Nassau-Krumlau, of Upper Austria, whose accession to this job disappoints the hopes of Vice-Minister Vesto la Giubba of Venice. Her Majesty, although keeping the federal structure of the Empire, has ordered that the name "Austrian Empire" and that German was to be the only official language of the Empire (thus replacing the German-Hungarian-Groat-Italian syndrome of official languages). "You will note," said Her Majesty in a short press interview, "that We have always spelled Our name in the German fashion, 'Bordscha', and not the Italian 'Borgia' or the Spanish 'Borja'. We and Our family have long recognized the superiority of Teutonic culture, and now that We are fighting for Our survival against the renegade Kaiser Wormtongue, We feel it only right and proper that Our empire should adopt a single viable culture, rather than the hodge-podge which We have hitherto tolerated in Our realm."

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Owing to the great profusion of press releases which came in this week, the publication of several of these releases must be postponed until the next issue.

## BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU

Regular readers of GRAUSTARK will clap their foreheads and groan when they hear that Charles Reinsel is up to his old tricks again. Reinsel, who calls himself by the appropriately tyrannical title "Big Brother", has now launched an attack on James Latimer. Latimer has asked for space in GRAUSTARK in which to reply. The editor is glad to do this, but with the caveat that he scrupulously respects Reinsel's request of some months ago not to send him GRAUSTARK. However, Latimer's remarks are more a warning to other Diplomacy fans than a reply to Reinsel. Latimer's statement follows.

Apparently, Charles Reinsel is intent on making himself as unpleasant as possible. For some time he has been making comments about other gamesmasters and their zines in Big Brother and when I tired of it and wrote to him about what he had to say in #23 I received a very interesting reply. In #23 he had called Con Miller a "lazy Gamesmaster". I told him that when he did 1/8 of the work that Don Miller does he could talk about "lazy Gamesmasters".

Shortly thereafter, I received two envelopes from him, one containing a letter and another containing two copies of #23. In his letter he opened with the statement that "This will be the last time you will hear from me! You have already proved (sic) to me, that your word is no good but that is not the reason!". He goes on to say that, "Apparently you condone people who take money under false pretenses!" He says that Don is taking money for games without running them. Next, he says that my subscription to Big Brother is terminated. Thus he sends me two extra copies of #23 which I can give to two of my "Baltimore Friends!"

He goes on to say that he has resigned from Don Miller's games but Don won't admit it, and that Don owes him 50¢ from the Games Bureau. He "transfers" this to me and with the two copies of Big Brother that he has sent, says we're "even-steven!"

Then, he wants me to tell Don to cancel his subscription to "Gamesletter, Gamesburo (sic) & Gameszine (sic)," and to have the unused portion sent to him. But he says that Don won't do it just like he won't "publish his promised zines or make refunds!".

He ends all this with the postscript that any future letters from me will be thrown into the wastebasket "unopened and unread! Understand?", and a "HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!"

I sent back his two extra copies and offered to talk this thing over. He hasn't responded so I guess he made good his threat. Somehow, a wastebasket seems a perfect place for Big Brother.

I think that this sort of conduct should be brought to light so that others won't find themselves in the same situation with Mr. Reinsel as I did.

I, for one, would be interested in knowing how I've proven my word to be "worthless". I guess Mr. Reinsel takes a back stab personally because some time ago I did that to him in Orthanc and he's not written to me since, ignored my letters, and has been addressing Big Brother to me as "James XX Latimer".

This sort of conduct is about as juvenile and as petty as you could possibly get. I rather resent having my word being called "worthless" and his senseless accusations at Don Miller are just that -

(continued on p. 9)



7  
THE ADVENTURES OF SECRET AGENT O-O-HATE

Chapter XXII

"There she iss - my espionage robot!" Dr. A. Ohno Umlaut pointed proudly at the contents of the coffin-shaped box.

Secret Agent O-O-Hate, who in civilian life is Clark Gunsel, mild-mannered comic book collector of Bugle, Pennsylvania, looked at the robot with dismay. He saw a square-jawed, hatchet-faced woman clad in a long-sleeved dress which reached to her ankles.

"Look! I will activate it," the scientist said. He took out a microphone and rasped into it, "War!" With a grinding noise the robot sat up. In a harsh, nasal tone it responded, "You called, Master?"

"There she iss in action!" Dr. Umlaut crowed. "The world's first espionage robot, who by her great beauty their secrets from our enemies coax will!"

O-O-Hate and Dr. Umlaut assisted the robot from her box. The inventor gave O-O-Hate the microphone. "To deactivate her," he said, "you speak into the microphone the word - if you pardon the expression - 'Peace'. She has no referents for that word in her memory banks, and so it will throw all her gears into neutral. She can be reactivated with the word 'War'."

As they left the National Archives, where the robot had been stored, Dr. Umlaut continued to expound on the virtues of his creation. "A mechanical Mata Hari she will be, O-O-Hate. Can you imagine her, among the pacifistic beatniks and new-lefters of Berkeley or the East Village?"

O-O-Hate tried, but had no notable success.

"And she can their confidences win, also," Dr. Umlaut went on. "When they her to smoke marijuana invite, she can do so. The LSD she can take, and the effects simulate."

"Excellent, Dr. Umlaut," O-O-Hate said. "But there is one more activity in which she may have to engage to fit into the debauched circles of the International Pacifist Conspiracy."

"Ho-ho!" Dr. Umlaut laughed. "Ja, my young friend, I have of that also thought! She is fully equipped in every respect to enter into the orgies of these pacifists."

O-O-Hate looked sidewise at her face, and shuddered. "In every respect?" he repeated skeptically.

(Continued in the next issue.)

1965F

"Winter 1910"

The Gamesmaster regrets an error in GRAUSTARK 117 whereby the French build was not reported. The correct builds are:  
ENGLAND (Sanders): Builds F Lon, ITALY (Koning): Removes A Apu.  
FRANCE (Brannan): Builds F Bre. TURKEY (Wells): Builds A Con.

All players were informed of this correction a week ago, and a new deadline of 18 February was set for "Spring 1911" moves. These moves will be mailed out to the players by carbon copy, and reported in GRAUSTARK 119 a week later. "Fall 1911" moves will be due on 4 March, and "Winter 1911" moves a week later on 11 March. Thus 1965F will be brought back into the same fortnightly schedule as the other five GRAUSTARK games.

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GRAUSTARK - 10 issues for \$1 from John Boardman, 592 16th St., Brooklyn, New York 11218. Back issues are also available; please inquire.

## THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

DAVID LEBLING, 3 Rollins Court, Rockville, Md. 20852: I think you should give WWI-B as a lost cause: The Central Powers have considerably more than the 18 centers necessary for victory in a regular game, and since they work in the closest possible coordination, it is only a matter of time. (The equivalent of 18 centers mind you: about 59% in this case, there being only 27 units on the board at the moment. One more center and the CPs have got it.)

((Be that as it may, there is a new player for the Entente Powers in WWI-B. He is James Goldman, 430 E. 29th St., Paterson, N. J. 07514.))

As for strategy in WWI-A, basically mine has been: Knock out Germany with the British Fleet, French Armies combination (done), form a convoy chain in the North, with CPs byproduct of elimination of all CP fleets from the north - a very powerful advantage in movement time once that is accomplished (done), the sealing off of the Mediterranean area and consequent bottling up of the inevitable Turkish fleets (done), elimination of Russian units or better, occupation of Russian supply centers before FL7 (here I had to substitute the use of Russian units as defensive pieces after being unable to unfreeze the situation in Germany enough to permit English or French occupation.) (The quick collapse of Russia and the Austrian army moved north killed that plan.) Finally, the attack coming from one, two, or three of the North Russia, Tyrol-Bohemia-Silesia, or Tunis-Ionian areas should finish off the CP's.

In any event, this has been a very interesting game so far, especially since we both have used similar strategies (such as the fleet business Thompson mentioned earlier). ((See GRAUSTARK #116.)) I hope I won't even need the American units in '18.

JAMES GOLDMAN, 430 E. 29th St., Paterson, N. J. 07514: Not having the 'zinos to look back on, I don't know if Dave McDaniel ever made any public revelation of his computer strategy ((in 1963A; see GRAUSTARK # 117)). But he did, during the course of the game, make one to me.

His plan was thundering in its naivete. It was, simply, to predict the means by which each country would make the most rapid, direct gain of supply centers. This was back in the early days, of course.

In a very few years, Derek Nelson was able to overrun ((as Italy)) Austria's ((McDaniel's)) surprisingly feeble, computer-directed "defense". I suppose someday someone with nothing much better to do will devise a program that can take fairly accurate cognizance of human personalities, but I doubt it will be much of an improvement over the best players we have now. Diplomacy just isn't chess, where one fights a single opponent, where a computer can take a single poor move by its opponent and beat him to death with it.

In Diplomacy, as most of us know all too well, the advantage given one by an opponent's mistake may contain the seeds of one's ultimate disaster. I can't imagine the computer that could predict that any more accurately than, for instance, Smythe or Nelson.

...I hereby challenge Jim Sanders, et al., to put up or shut up on that game at my house we didn't finish. Either play it or publish the final position, Jim, and I'll give a free subscription to Euralia to whomever first can guess my next moves, including yourself. (I might add, in all fairness to the Columbia Kid, that: A. he has never refused to play or publish the game; B. 20 people will probably guess the moves)

This is

O At  
P Great  
E Intervals  
R This  
A Appears  
T To  
I Inflamm  
O Optic  
N Nerves

# 319



and C. I recently won a free subscription to Euralia myself, so it will cost me nothing.)

DAN ALDERSON, 6720 Day Street, Tujunga, Calif. 91042: Dave McDaniel's computer program need not have been a bad one (although I don't know what it was like, or what kind of computer he used - I'll have to ask him). It is clear and obvious that, even with absolutely optimum strategic play, no single Great Power can survive in Diplomacy without allies, or at least mutual neutrality pacts. And a computer program can't negotiate alliances. Thus, McDaniel's failure in 1963A does not necessarily cast reflections on computer-assisted Diplomacy. However, Diplomacy presents a situation so simple (in certain respects) and so well adapted to human heuristic/algorithmic computational abilities that I doubt that a computer can be of significant help even in figuring out tactics. On the other hand, computers can be very useful indeed in gamesmastering the more complicated variants. I have designed a FORTRAN IV program to gamesmaster SuperDiplomacy (but it'll take considerable time, once I have free time again, to implement and debug it), and I have invented a new game called SuperSuperDiplomacy that involves a degree of "realistic" military maneuvering and detailed tactics, and which absolutely requires the use of a computer program for gamesmastering. Jerry Pournelle plans to use both Super- and SuperSuper-Diplomacy in his classes at Pepperdine College when I get the gamesmastering programs done, as he has already used Diplomacy and his own variant, Morglay.

((Do you mean to say that, after all the discussion we had a couple of years ago proving that Diplomacy is not a harmful war game, someone is using it to train kahns?))

#### BIG BOTHER IS WATCHING YOU

(continued from p. 6)

senseless. But most of all they are totally unfounded. Anyone acquainted with the Games Bureau knows that the 50¢ in question is a rebate and not in the form of cash. And as for his contention that Don Miller is taking money for games and then not running them - that's not worthy of comment.

I conclude from this that there is something seriously wrong with his mental condition. Anybody who writes a two-page letter with every sentence ending in an exclamation point, and with most of the words underlined, sometimes twice, is not quite normal.

I would urge all Diplomacy players not to have any dealings with this character or to subscribe to his magazine since he is not likely to carry through with your subscription. It seems quite desirable that we should find a way to rid Diplomacy of this type of individual - but then he may do it himself. His circle of friends seems to be growing ever narrower.

It's rather interesting to note that this letter comes from Reinsel while I was engaged in writing to John Boardman expressing my thought on John's calling Reinsel "war-crazed". It's rather hard to hold the position I did in the light of what Mr. Reinsel has just done.

(Boardman here. Latimer's last paragraph refers to an exchange of letters between him and me. I characterized Reinsel as "war-crazed"; Latimer thought I was being unfair to him. I'll modify my view to this extent - it may not be by war, but Reinsel is certainly crazed by something.)

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Much to the Gamesmaster's surprise, all four players in 1965F have sent in, by the original move deadline, revised moves taking account of the changes described on p. 7. Therefore, within the next day, the Gamesmaster will publish another issue of GRAUSTARK with the "Spring 1911" moves of 1965F. This issue will also contain press releases in other games, which were crowded out of this issue.

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The Gamesmaster regrets that his satirical remarks about Rod Walker's promotion in GRAUSTARK #116 have been misunderstood by several readers. My original statement was intended to satirize the numerous generals and admirals who have been, since retirement, stumping the country urging various crackpot political theories, generally based on a suppositious "international Communist conspiracy". I am fully aware that Capt. Walker's opinions are far removed from the sort of bigotry and reaction preached by the retired general officers whose activities have been so prominent in recent years. I have already apologized privately to him for this misunderstanding, and now repeat it publicly.

\*

Postal Diplomacy games 19650 and 1966X, formerly appearing in Bernie Kling's Lusitania, are now appearing in Anders Swanson's Miskatonic University. In a recent issue of Wild 'n' Woolly Charles Brannan has begun new games which he claims are the Lusitania games, though with changes in the personnel. My own name has been listed in both of these games, through an error on Mr. Brannan's part. I have at no time communicated with Brannan on this point, or asked to be included in any new games.

\*

The Entente Powers in World War One postal Diplomacy game WWI-B are now being played by James Goldman, 430 E. 29th St., Paterson, N. J. 07514.

GRAUSTARK #118

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