

GRAUSTARK

#156

1967U, 1967V, 1968G, 1968J

30 March 1968

1968G

"Spring 1902"

DUAL MONARCHY BLUMIS RUSSO-TURKISH ATTACK

ENGLAND (Walker): F Norway-Norwegian Sea; F Lon-North Sea; A Wal-Yor; F Eng-Bre.FRANCE (Peery): A Par-Bur; A Bur-Pic; A Spa-Mar; F Por-Mid; F Bre S F Por-Mid.GERMANY (Hueston): F Den holds; A Kie-Ruh; A Hol S A Kie-Ruh; A Mun-Bur; A Ber-Mun.

ITALY (Childers): F Tun-Ion; F Nap-Apu; A Ven holds; A Rom-Nap.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Musicant): F Alb-Gre; A Ser S F Alb-Gre; A Bud holds; A Tri S A Bud.RUSSIA (Prosnitz): F Swe-Norway; A St.P-Norway; A Gal-Bud; A Rum S A Gal-Bud; A War-Gal; F Sev S A Rum.TURKEY (Lebling): F Con-Aeg; F Smy-Eas; A Ank-Con; A Bul-Ser; A Gre S A Bul-Ser.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1902" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 13 APRIL 1968. Press releases begin on page 3, and go on and on.

1967V

"Winter 1907"

ENGLAND (Lebling): Builds F Edi.

GERMANY (M. Thomson): Retreats A Swe-Fin.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (H. Anderson): Builds A Vie.

TURKEY (S. Heap): No moves received. The army dislodged from St.P is annihilated.

The deadline for "Spring 1908" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 13 APRIL 1968.

Terry Kuch, the stand-by player, is asked to send in stand-by "Spring 1908" moves for Turkey. However, since he has just missed a stand-by move in 1968J, Hal Naus, the second stand-by, is also asked to send in moves.

GRAUSTARK, the oldest postal Diplomacy fanzine, is published every other Saturday by John Boardman, 592 16th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11218, USA. Subscriptions are 10 issues for \$1.00 in the USA, and 10 issues for \$1.70 or 15/- overseas. Write for air mail rates.

1968J

"Spring 1902"

RUSSIAN REVOLUTION COMES 3 YEARS EARLY!

Steve Gordon has formally resigned as Turkey; beginning with this move, Turkey is played by Jerry White, 4004 S. E. Pine St., Portland, Ore. 97214

ENGLAND (H. Anderson): F Lon-Eng; A Norway-St.P; F Bar-Norway; F North Sea S F Bar-Norway.

FRANCE (Maloney): F Bre-Mid; A Pic-Bur; F Spa(s.c.)-Lyo; A Mar holds.GERMANY (Chalker): A Bel-Bur; F Hol-Bel; A Kie-Mun; A Ber S A Kie-Mun; A Den S ENGLISH A Norway-Swe.ITALY (M. Thomson): F Tyr-Wes; F Nap-Tyr; A Pie-Mar; A Tun holds.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Latimer): A Gal-Ukr; A Vie-Bud; A Bud-Ser; A Ser-Gre; F Gae-Aeg.

RUSSIA (Griffin): No moves received. A Pru, F Swe, & F Sev hold. A Mun dislodged and annihilated.

TURKEY (White). F Bla-Rum; A Bul S A Con; A Con S A Bul.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1902" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 13 APRIL 1968.

Tom Griffin has now missed two consecutive moves, and is out of the game. Terry Kuch also failed to send in stand-by moves for Russia. Therefore, the play of Russia will be handed over to the first player to send in a set of "Fall 1902" moves for that country. No entry fee will be charged, since the present state of Russia scarcely justifies it. However, anyone who is not presently a GRAUSTARK player or subscriber should send in a \$1.00 subscription fee with his moves.

Press releases appear on page 10.

TURKS ATTACK; VENICE IS UP THE CANAL WITHOUT A PADDLE

GERMANY (M. Miller): A Kie-Den; F North Sea S A Kie-Den; F Bal-Swe; A St.P holds; A Mun-Sil; A Ber S A Mun-Sil; A Liv-Pru; A Pie S ITALIAN A Ven.

ITALY (Clark): F Bar S GERMAN A St.P; A Norway S GERMAN F Bal-Swe; A Mar holds; A Rom-Apu; F Nap S A Rom-Apu; F Tyr S F Nap; F Tur-Ion; F Wes holds; A Ven S A Rom-Apu.

RUSSIA (G. Heap): A Mos-War; A Pru-Ber; A Sil-Mun; F Den-Swe; A Fin S F Den-Swe.

TURKEY (Beshara): A Boh S RUSSIAN A Sil-Mun; A Gal-War; A Alb-Ven; F Adr C A Alb-Ven; A Tri S A Alb-Ven; F Apu S A Alb-Ven; A Tyr-Pie; F Ion-Nap; F Gre-Ion; F Aeg S F Gre-Ion; A Bul-Rum.

Underlined moves are not possible. The following retreats take place: GERMANY: A Mun-Kie; ITALY: A Ven-Tus; RUSSIA: F Den-Hel. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Par, St.P. (8)

RUSSIA: Mos, Mun, Swe, War. (4)

ITALY: Bre, Liv, Lon, Mar, Nap, Nor, Por, Rom, Spa, Tun. (10)

TURKEY: Ank, Bud, Bul, Con, Gre, Rum, Sev, Smy, Tri, Ven, Vie. (12)

Italy cannot build another unit because no home supply centers are free. "Winter 1908" builds and removals are: RUSSIA: Removes A Fin; TURKEY: Builds A Smy.

The deadline for "Spring 1909" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 13 APRIL 1968.

TURKEY: An invocation: Friends, Romans, Deutsche, Praise Allah. Am listening, am waiting. Speak!

MAIDIVE ISLANDS: A load of empty calvados bottles today crashed through the roof of the Maldive Islands Playboy Club, severely injuring the visiting Maharajah of Hydunderabad. The culprit was found to be the French exile Noah of Arc, who ever since the defeat of France has been wandering around the world in a strange aircraft of his own design and construction. This ship, whose passengers are French refugees seeking to found a New France in some place less hostile than Europe, was last seen wobbling off over the Indian Ocean in the general direction of Mauritius. Noah of Arc, whose real name is believed to be Pierre Dansleteje, apparently intends to speed up his airship by hitching 50,000 docos to it. Owing to the heavy odor of calvados on his breath, no one has been able to get close enough to him to inform him of several drawbacks to this plan.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF BEAUQUILLON - XXII

The period of 26 years from the French Revolution to the end of the Napoleonic Wars were the most profitable that the tiny Grand Duchy had ever enjoyed. This was, of course, in terms of gross income; expenditures, as usual, exceeded even this vast amount of money.

In 1804, at a ball celebrating the approaching French conquest of England, the Grand Ballroom of the palace of Fortunato XVIII was the scene of a most remarkable competition between Princess Pauline Borghese, sister of Napoleon I, and Princess Libertina, sister of the Grand Duke. Contemporary accounts are most reticent about the character of this competition, but the curious can be enlightened by the mural which David painted on one wall of the ballroom while it was in progress. (In 1949 the art expert Dr. A. Ohne Umlaut detected six places in the mural where the painter had ceased work briefly, presumably to play some minor role in the festivities.) The result of the duel was disputed. Princess Libertina claimed to have won by a score of 207-206; however, Princess Pauline claimed that Count Oblowoff should have counted for three rather than one, which would make herself the winner. The dispute caused a brief rupture of diplomatic relations between Beauquillon and France, but before this could lead to war a reconciliation was affected by Count Benvenuto d'Avino, who invited Napoleon to a two-week state visit. This visit completely mollified the Emperor's wrath, though several of the ladies of the Grand Ducal court complained about his short stature.

1968G - PRESS RELEASES

PEERISAILLES: Meeting in its first general conclave since the Fall elections the Periclaque today heard its annual New Year's Message on the State of Frenciana read by Her Majesty's Prime Peerisite, Keith Polan; the annual Message on the State of Frenciana's Affairs read by Her Majesty's Perisite of Foreign Affairs, Conrad von Metzke; and a special message (of very short duration) by Her Majesty's Perisite of Personal Affairs, Gail Irene Schow. Following these messages the Periclaque proceeded to go into special executive session to elect the Peerimouth, following Her Majesty's request that the Periclaque elect the nation's highest office-holder rather than for Her to appoint him as is Her legal right. While many candidates were suggested for this high office serious consideration was given to only three candidates: Wade Hampton Johnston, Eric Blake, and Bangs Leslie Tapscott. Following hours of delicate negotiations, intermingled with private conference sessions within the Peerisailles Palace's many upstairs chambers, a final session was held when it was believed a majority decision had been reached. The final poll showed:

Wade Hampton Johnston	31 votes
Eric Blake	9 votes
Bangs Leslie Tapscott	6 votes

Also one unknown Charles Alexander received 1 vote. One vote cast for Nelson Rockefeller was ruled invalid since he wasn't a recognized candidate.

Following the election Her Majesty met with Johnston, the Great Peerisite Jack Greene, von Metzke, Schow, Polan, and Her Majesty's Defense Perisite, John Beshara. The sextet settled down to a merry evening of observing Miss Schow's interpretation of von Metzke's newest over-sextet for bassoon, oboe, and four Jew's Harps.

Meanwhile in legislative activity the Council of Greater Perisites approved a declaration of war on England which had already been declared by Her Majesty and the Lesser Council; approved a mutual defense pact with Syria, the People's Republic of South Yemen, and Kuwait; and voted to recognize the new Bolivian Government of Elizabeth I. (see below).

The Lesser Council was still deadlocked in debate over a resolution introduced by Gene Prosnitz to declare war on Germany.

MALE, MALDIVE ISLANDS: Her Majesty's Great Peerisite and Ambassador to the Islands arrived here this afternoon aboard the Frencian battleship Force de Frappe. His Excellency, Mohammed Didi CLI, current Sultan and Calif, greeted the Ambassador at the dockyards. Preceded by a 101-camel escort the pair departed for the Male Playboy Club, where Greene would take up residence during his stay. That evening was reserved for entertainment while serious discussions would begin at noon the next day.

ST. PEERIGRAD: The International Court of Justice, meeting here, today voted 15-2 in favor of a decision condemning England for its practice of Peericide in Norway. In the majority report His Honor Dr. Bung Karno-sichi stated: "The overwhelming evidence is that England is guilty of Peericide; not only Peericide but the worst and most barbaric form of it, Peerimania; the brainwashing of innocent children with the dogma of Peeri infallibility.

Baron Edwin Montchauve, commander of the English fleet, and Marshal Bootliker, commander of the Hessians, are both directly involved in the charges. Montchauve was so gross as to interrupt the annual Grieg Celebration at Stavanger with the noise of his guns as he attacked the Norwegian fortress of Lipscomberian. Testimony of Frenciana's ambassador to Norway, Comte Tiffany-Schiller, noted: "Il est bruit." Bootliker was reported to have actually stolen the famous Sebelius Cello from the famous composer's summer retreat at Lindensee. Comments had it that he planned to play on it while Peeris burned, should Germany occupy the city. The Court demanded that England evacuate Norway immediately and that should it fail to do so the Court would authorize the League of Nations to take needed measures to throw the English out.

PEERIS: Speaking to the nation, Her Majesty's Perisite of Propaganda (Peritalk) Rodney Walker today called on the Germans to lay down their arms and cease fighting the Frencian nation. "An attack such as you planned is doomed to futility. The famous Peeri-defense can not be broken. Only England will benefit. You seal your own fate if you attack us."

STRASBOURG-ON-AVON: In the first direction communication between Frenciana and Germany Her Majesty's Perisite of Public Works (Periditch), Douglas Beyerlein, via the Hüblerbird Satellite today called on all Germans to refuse to obey their government in its order to attack Frenciana. Said the Perisite: "An attack by Germans on us is an attack by Cain on Abel, by Sodom on Gomorrah, by McCarthy on Kennedy. It cannot be. Should it come we will both die. But you first."

LA BASTILLE: Deep in the Bastille the Lord Executioner, Frank Musbach, was cleaning his M-16, sharpening his bayonet, and reading his "Quotations of Pere Peeri" in preparation for when Her Majesty would call on him for his special skills.

PEERIS: After weeks of intense trading the Peeris Gold Market opened again this morning. Which way the Market would go was unknown but the selling of Gold in order to purchase Peerimarks and Roubles was amazing. In last issued quotations the prices offered and taken were:

	Asked	Sold		Asked	Sold
Peerimarks	201	201	Lire	89	89
Pounds	143	140	Roubles	214	211
Marks	139	130	Krudniks	3	0

Director of the Market Baron-Comte Schwartzenger-Rothchild announced that private reports indicated the only truly sound currency was the Maldive Island piaster.

L'ECOLE MILITAIRE: Professor Henri de Tassigny today announced that the famous Frencian military academy had finished plans for the total mobilization of Frenciana to resist all attackers.

BREST: Observers here reported that the English dreadnought Invincible carrying the Duchess of Westmoreland had passed here on its way to Pollutidar. Said the port commander: "Only our belief in the sacred nature of war and our practice of morality even in conflict kept us from blowing it out of the water. Also the fact that our powder was wet, our pea-shooters were rusty, and nobody was on the graveyard shift."

ST. PEERIGRAD: Said the von Metzke to the Angel on High:

"BEWARE OF VICIOUS GOPHERS.....NAMED WALKER....."

Care to try again, Rod?

HELLOTIDAR (Allen and Rossi Press Agency, via Poopie-Bird): Looking slightly ragged but in good shape nevertheless the Compte du Peri today transmitted from here the following special report:

"Indeed I was captured by the dreaded Pollutidarhans, and even brought before His Inferial Majesty Honj the Horny, but I managed to escape by waving a sacred medallion blessed by Charles Turner and having on it the image of the beloved Lucretia Borgia. Such a reaction! Honj went down on the floor foaming at the mouth, even his mustache drooped. His belt slipped three notches and his false uppers clacqued something retched. Very undignified."

But as he related all was not peaceful in Pollutidar:

"However, I talked with some of Honj-Johni's courtiers and they told me there was growing opposition to Honj and his autocratic and despotic methods of enforcing his minority and unpopular views on his public. Why even in the matter of mini-skirts Honj is behind the times. He say's women's skirts should be above the knee; everybody else says they should be above the naval. And his choosing of music is terrible. He keeps playing those same things over and over. Especially that: "Nearer my Peeri to Thee" and "Perilot". Its unbelievable what that man will do."

Also it definitely looks like war between Hellotidar and Pollutidar. However, unlikely as it is that Hellotidar will win they do have certain advantages, especially in their audio-weapons department. Including the recorded speeches of William Fulbright, the press releases of Charles DeGaulle, recordings of John Beshara reading Nasser's Victory statement, and one of Mao Tse-tung reading Gibbon's Decline and Fall..... "With all the noise we can come up with Pollutidar had better quit," said Hellotidar's Minister of Noise, Boom-boom le'Bomb.

SARI, POLLUTIDAR: His Inferial Majesty Honj the Horny, Emperoar of Pollutidar, today admitted that the Frencian spy Compte du Peri had escaped from the Trodons to which he had been fed upon his discovery. "It seems," he told reporters, "that the Compte had secreted a small metal disk in his clothes. The poison fang of the Trodon was partly

deflected by this disk. As a result, the Compte regained consciousness before the next Trodon egg could hatch.

"However, the Trodon venom did affect the Compte. This can be seen from his spelling, grammar, and syntax, which clearly show him to be under the influence of some narcotic."

In his other remarks to the press, the Emperor dismissed the rumors of a revolt in "Hellotidar". "Of course our slaves are revolting," he said. Directing the attention of reporters at a group of Horib slaves who were scrubbing a nearby courtyard, he said, "Look at them! Did you ever see such revolting slaves in your life?"

BEIRUT (1 March 1901, Reuters via Peeris): Marshal the Count François de Peurigerx, Count of Peeriguax and Foix, and commander-in-chief of the French Middle Eastern Command arrived here this morning in an AMX-77, to take charge of the Middle Eastern War. Accompanied by members of his staff (including three bunnies on loan from the Israeli Hilton) the Count checked into the Beirut Onassis Waterhole before leaving for Command Central.

PEERIPOLIS (4 March 1902): Acting in reaction to a Turkish Government order banning the Ottoman People's Party, the National People's Youth Groups and Armenian Citizenry Party, the Free Turkish Liberation Front was formed here under the general direction of Dr. Memal Attaturk, former professor emeritus of Peerology at the University of Free Biafra. Dr. Attaturk is expected to receive the swift recognition of many governments in his bid for Diplomatic recognition.

This is

O At
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PEERIS (6 March 1902): Meeting in special session the Peericleague today voted to recognize the Free Turkish Liberation Front and offered a secret alliance to any state that would join in aiding it to regain control of the nation. The Claque dispatched Baron Gadsden (PERISTEP) to observe conditions there.

PEERIJAVO (6 March 1902): The Peerocracy of Peerijavo today recognized the Free Turkish Liberation Front and His Imperiousness the Peeri announced Peerijaven "volunteers" would be sent to aid the new regime. Said Peeri: "This is not just another press war. This is a war between MIT and Harvard, between civilization and barbarism. ((Sic.)) Between those who support a co-ed Radcliffe and those who oppose it. Between those who worship the sliderule and those who worship Peeri."

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ST. PEERIGRAD (7 March 1902): Premier Levi Bskibble today announced that Periland was recognizing the Free Turkish Liberation Front and would also dispatch aid to the liberators.

MALE: (6.5 March 1902): Mohammed Didi today stuck his head out of his room at the Playboy Club and when asked if the Maldiva Islands would recognize the new Turkish Liberation Government replied: "Of course, they're arabs aren't they? We must stick together. Pardon me I'm keeping a bunny waiting, and a greene one at that."

TIKI-CACA (7 March 1902): Astounding observers here Her Imperial Majesty Elizabeth I, Queen of Bolivia, Ruler of the Andes, Chief Coffee Bean of the South, today recognized the new Turkish Government and announced that Her nation stood behind the liberation front every step of the way, especially if that way lay through England.

PEERIPOLIS (8 March 1902): Speaking to a meeting of the Turkish National Parliament Dr. Attaturk today pronounced himself pleased with world response to his call for a new Turkish government. "Obviously the world supports our cause, which is only right because it is a just one. The insults of the Lebbling Regime cannot be tolerated. Never has such a puny force challenged one of our magnificence and lived. He shall be stomped into dust (mainly through the finers of John Boardman). His slide-rule shall be broken, his computer defused, his swift-legs shall run backwards."

SARI, POLLUTIDAR: Skrtch the Lousy One, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Food Procurement, said that Pollutidar would not recognize the Attaturk government of Turkey. "From this angle, on the Inner Crust, we couldn't recognize anyone very well," he told a meeting of the Ancient Free and Accepted Cavemen. "Of course, in case of war the Empire of Pollutidar will gladly take part. The issue of civilization and barbarism, however, does not interest us. 'Civilization' as it is understood on the Outer Crust is a most un-Pollutidarean concept; and since all cave men, according to St. John of Barsoom, are naturally beardless, we have no interest in barbarism either."

Skrtch went on to say that the Emperoar had at one time been interested in supporting the Attaturk group, "but that was when he was under the impression that it was called 'the Turkish Free Libation Front'."

In a related development, Fleet Admiral Bobo Rygmus expressed interest in new developments in Outer Crust weaponry. "They seem to have a new weapon called the 'finer' which has unknown capabilities," he said. "I am interested in finding out just what a 'finer' is supposed to be."

TABSUS (12 March 1902, Peeri Press): Riding at the head of his brave band of men from Iran, Frenciana, Israel and Peerijavo, Lawrence of Frenciana today arrived in this major Turkish city to effect its liberation and proclaim the coming of a saviour of Turkey, one Periturk, who would liberate all of Turkey from the Lebling mob. Lawrence, known to be a violent and fierce fighter, has vowed to continue until all Turkey is liberated.

ST. PEERIGRAD (20 March 1902): In an interview with Margaret Burns, chief assistant for Diplomatic Affairs to William Lawrence, we learned today that Lawrence is determined to destroy his enemies. If not from victories in the Diplomacy world then by reducing them to brainwashed children of Peerithink.

LONDON (13 February 1902): The Duchess of Westmoreland has arrived in Pollutidar! Reports, received by a wildly enthusiastic and cheering crowd here at the capital, indicate that Her Highness has been royally welcomed by His Inferial Majesty, Emperoar Honj, and Her Highness, as the personal representative of the much-feared and eternally glorious King-Emperor Huon, is not negotiating with the Emperoar regarding His anticipated expedition to the Outer Crust. Her Highness also expressed her pleasure at having arrived just at feeding time for the Trodons at the Inferial Zoo, saying that she especially enjoyed seeing the last course, Comptote du Peri, although describing this feeding item as "rather mouthy".

SVALBARD (3 March 1902): This tiny Arctic outpost, last home of the so-called "Free Government of Norway" today reported seeing the British dreadnought Invincible heading south. It was accompanied by numerous smaller vessels of unknown design. Near the main island, the Invincible joined other ships of the British First Fleet, heading north from Norway. The flotilla included the dreadnoughts Terrible, Bloody, Goremaster, Skull, and Black Death. Too late, the unfortunate inhabitants realized that the accompanying ships were units of the dread Koarsar fleet of Pollutidar. Among them was the grand battleship of the Emperoar Himself, the Repugnant. Meeting, and joining with the Pollutidarian flagship was another heavily armored vessel out of London, the Claw, reputed to be the personal ship of the King-Emperor Huon Himself. But the doomed people of Svalbard had little time to cogitate on what this might portend. The Koarsars had landed at Longyearbyen! As night descended upon the last piece of independent Norwegian territory, so did the Koarsars and their British allies.

LONDON: Scandal of the Week: Larry Peery is an agent for The Seven.

LONDON: Scandal of the Season: GRAUSTARK is edited under the supervision of J. Edgar Hoover.

POLLUTIDAR: Scandal of the Year (if years existed here): Jrk the Scrofulous One, Quarter-Master General of the Inferial Armed Forces, has just been arrested for submitting a bill for the purchase of 7,000 pairs of glasses for the First Coripi Foot.

KOARSAR, POLLUTIDAR: Emperoar Honj today expressed his satisfaction with the progress of the joint Polluto-British campaign against Svalbard. "Our forces fed very well," he told the Representative Diet, "and we are anticipating further successes on the Outer Crust against the Europeans who have been disturbing our sleep with their noisy wars. It is to be hoped that our gallant British allies have taken into their consideration the fact that, when aroused, the stalwart fighting forces of Pollutidar sometimes have difficulty distinguishing friend from foe, and in the heat of battle might become understandably confused. It is for this reason that the Second Horib Cavalry devoured half a company of Gurkhas - a most regrettable action, because highly seasoned food disagrees with the delicate Horib stomach.

"We also hope that the British agree to the ultimate occupation of Svalbard by a Koarsar garrison. During his visit to the island, Fleet Admiral Bobo Rygmus ascertained that, in their voyage from the Outer Crust three centuries ago, the Koarsars stopped briefly at Svalbard. As first discoverers of the island, they retain title to

it. Svalbard thus becomes the first possession of the Empire of Pollutidar on the Outer Crust. There will be others!"

ROME: The press has come up with some real winners in the past, but the latest bit of insanity naming "Lyndonezza" as Italy's national anthem has got to go down in the Journalism Hall of Flame. The afore mentioned rumor is totally insane. Somebody really goofed. We will simply wait to refute this completely erroneous charge, for reasons too numerous to mention, until the publication ((sic)) of the Oz Free Press #3. As to Huberto H. Humpthelhostess, who wrote the "song", he recently disappeared along with all copies of his "musical creation".

ROME: Inferial is a most apt title for the Emperear, Hunch, the ho-daddy, of Pollutidar. This little bandit would never have come to power in Pollutidar without outside help (most likely from Lucretia of Westmoreland). In retaliation THE SEVEN have issued orders that all penicillin carrying Italian ships bound for England return to Italy. Further large quantities of chlorotriphenylphosphinepalladium(II)-u-dichlorotriphenylphosphinepalladium(II) are being produced by the famous chemical company ACNE, the renowned makers of Brand X. The compound, discovered by Dr. Childricci, has the peculiar property of liberating great quantities of heat when brought into physical contact with nitroglycerine. The heat thus produced causes the compound to polymerize into a plastic that is infinitely harder than diamonds and has a tensile strength comparable to that of a single iron crystal. This compound has been found to be very useful in plugging "things".

The lords comprising THE SEVEN cannot keep from expressing their amusement over the aspirations of the self-named "eighth dark lord" (Hunch). Hunch compares in power with the dark lords as a flea compares with an elephant. Incidentally, an elephant can have fleas but a flea cannot have elephants.

AMOZ, POLLUTIDAR: Skrtch the Lousy One, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Food Procurement, ridiculed recent Italian pronouncements in a speech before a meeting of the Knights of Pythecus. "How can our Emperoar be a 'dark lord'," he quipped, "when it is never dark in glorious Pollutidar? Wait until we send our victorious cavalry, mounted on mammoths and mastodons, against these impudent Outer Crusters. The fleas who infest the Outer Crust will then indeed have elephants - more than they want!"

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Conrad von Metzke returns to postal Diplomacy fandom with a revival of his 'zine Costaguana. It is 10 issues for \$1.00 from him at 5327 Hilltop Drive, San Diego, Calif. 92114. As of 2 weeks ago, entries in his games were still open for \$3 - \$2 to new players.

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This publication is not edited under the supervision of Bangs Leslie Tapscott.

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Various type lice crept into "The Ministry of Miscellany" in the last issue. Devra Langsam's name was mis-spelled, as was that of her fanzine Spockanalia. And in the story about the Mata Hari musical "title role" was used where "lead role" belonged.

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* Several copies of this issue of GRAUSTARK are being mailed out to members of the NSF Games Bureau, with an invitation that they subscribe. Subscriptions are 10 issues for \$1.00. Numerous back issues are available, in which you can study the progress of Diplomacy games, read discussions about rules interpretations, or follow the adventures of Secret Agent O-O-Hate. Back issues are 10¢ each, or 15 for \$1.00. They are available continuously from #101, and sporadically before then, all the way back to #44.

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The International Federation of Wargaming will hold the second session of its 2nd Annual Convention at the Horticultural Hall, 330 Broad Street, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin on 24 August 1968. Proceedings begin at 9:30 AM, and a tournament with prizes will be held. The convention is free to members of the IFW, and \$1.00 to visitors. For further details write to E. Gary Gygax, 330 Center St., Lake Geneva, Wisc. 53147.

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All the Hue with L. B. J.?

THE ADVENTURES OF SECRET AGENT O-O-HATE

Chapter XLIX

Secret Agent O-O-Hate, who is really Clark Gansel, mild-mannered comic book collector of Bugle, Pennsylvania, ran with his boy assistant Burner through the streets of ancient Rome, where they had been stranded by a malfunction of Dr. Pourguerre's matter transmitter. Behind them the cries of "Ignis! Ignis!" mingled with the wail of Nero and his lyre, and the fumes from the napalm fire which they had set.

"How do we get back to the 20th century, O-O-Hate?" Burner asked.

"By using the Time Pills in my utility belt," the dedicated defender of the American Way of War replied. "First, we go down to the lowest level of the prison cells under the Circus Maximus, and then --"

When the two agents had hidden themselves far beneath the raging flames above, O-O-Hate carefully measured out the Time Pills for Burner and himself. "Just swallow these," he said.

They swallowed the pills, washing them down with vintage Whistle from O-O-Hate's fabled soda cellar, kept in a flask in his utility belt. Then everything went black.

The next sound that the two fighters against the sinister forces of World Peace heard was a stentorian voice: "And here, ladies and gentlemen, are buried many early Christian martyrs, victims of the tyrant Nero -- yeeeeeek!" The party of tourists dissolved in shrieks, mainly because when O-O-Hate and Burner arose, their clothes, having rotted away in 19 centuries, remained behind.

Next to the burial chamber was a small chapel. O-O-Hate and Burner procured clothes by the simple expedient of mugging a priest and an altar boy, and within hours were on a plane back to Washington.

"Golly gee, O-O-Hate," Burner said. "I wonder what our next mission will be in the never-ending fight against the International Pacifist Conspiracy."

Before O-O-Hate could answer, his wrist-radio (obtained by sending 3 escargot shells and 25¢ to Diet Smith Industries) sounded, and they heard the voice of Mac, the mysterious chief of their hyper-secret agency.

"O-O-Hate, Burner, get back to Washington at once!" he ordered. "This time the forces of World Peace are striking directly at the President!"

"Holy Regicide!" Burner cried. "What are they doing now?"

"Somehow -- we don't know how -- his Will to Win is being sapped," Mac replied. "His last escalation is three weeks overdue, and we think he's stagnant!"

"This is a job for Secret Agent O-O-Hate!" Gansel replied.

((How have the forces of World Peace managed to affect the President himself? Follow the adventures of O-O-Hate and Burner in the next issue of GRAUSTARK.))

THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

LAWRENCE PEERY, 4567 Virginia Ave., San Diego, Calif. 92115: Irregardless of Mr. Boardman's supposedly "correct" interpretation of such subjects as Vietnam, Matrihari ((sic)) the causes of World War I, the intricacies of Bridge, of writing science fiction, etc. a fact remains which cannot be denied. His efforts to not only subvert but pervert opposition viewpoints amounts ((sic)) to a de facto approval of those things he condemns.

Except for a biological accident John Boardman might have been cast as a Pontius Pilate, and Charles Turner as a Ho Chi Minh. Peery? Well, he might have been a Jack Greene, and would that ever be bad.

((Apparently, from the reference to "the intricacies of Bridge", Peery shares a view common in west-coast Diplomacy fandom, that Gene Prosnitz is a Boardman pseudonym. Gene's the bridge expert; address your remarks to him. I know only enough about bridge to be able to maneuver the bidding so that I'm dummy and thus don't have to worry about how to play the hand. For example, if my partner bids "One Club" I come back heavy in clubs whether I have them or not. This has the added advantage that after a while people stop asking me to play bridge with them.

((As for Mata Hari, alias Margaretha Geertruida Zelle (1876-1917), you will find

the facts of her case in Kurt Singer's Spies Who Changed History (Ace). In the same book is an account of the activities of her daughter, Baida MacLeod, who engaged in espionage in Java during and after World War II. To some part this almost unknown woman deserves the reputation which history has fastened on her mother.)

ROD WALKER, 1611 Lowry Dr., Rantoul, Ill. 61866: To answer your points with reference to my points on the Mao business. 1. It is easy to understand why Mao would eschew ethics. His government shows no particular concern with ethics of any sort. ((This has always been a blind spot with governments, and China cannot be picked out as the only, or even as an uncommonly flagrant, offender.)) 2. Your quibble (and it is only that) ((Would you believe an honest desire for information on a historical period of which I know little?)) regarding the use of the term "Duke" shows a lack of appreciation of Chinese history. There was at that time, and thenceforward, a hierarchy of Chinese feudal titles almost exactly corresponding to the titles Emperor, King, Prince, Duke, and Baron (or Lord); as these titles were normally understood in feudal Europe. 3. German and English journalists have consistently reported that the works of K'ung Fu-tze have been proscribed by the so-called "Cultural Revolution". 4. The work quoted was, I believe, the Spring and Summer Annals, which Confucius, I believe, authored. Please note that the correct Latinization begins with K'ung (pronounced kung) not Kung (pronounced gung).

((Transliteration from the Chinese is largely a matter of taste. The Wade-Giles system is most familiar but it is cumbersome and misleading, particularly with its apostrophes. Better, according to L. Sprague de Camp in The Ancient Engineers, is the Yale-Gardner system. By this system, the philosopher under discussion was Kung Fu-dz, and the two autocrats who banned his works were Tsin Shi Hwang-di and Mau Dze-dung.))

A couple of other comments. It is doubtful that the educated inhabitants of Roman Africa spoke Latin. Certainly not in the time of Augustine. Even as early as the time of Nero (if not by the time of Julius Caesar), Latin had ceased to be a spoken tongue, even in Rome, where the spoken language was probably Umbrian (the real ancestor of Italian). Latin was a written language only. The inhabitants of Roman Africa may have spoken a Latin-based dialect, although many of them spoke Greek and Punic. The whole issue of race in this area is, however, irrelevant, since considerations which apply to the Maghreb hardly apply elsewhere in Africa.

Who told you Cleopatra's mother was a Nubian princess? Her mother was Queen Berenike, sister and wife to Ptolemy XIII. Otherwise she would not have been legitimate heir to the throne and it would have been unnecessary for Ptolemy XIII to marry her (and Ptolemy XIV in his turn). Her daughter by Marcus Antonius did marry a North African dynast. Big deal.

((I was in error on this point. The wife of Ptolemaios XIII was indeed his kinswoman Berenike, but this does not necessarily mean, royal family arrangements being what they are, that Berenike was the mother of Kleopatra VII. The Encyclopedia Britannica says, on what authority I know not, that Kleopatra was of Greek and Makedonian stock "with a very small admixture of Iranian blood". Perhaps the best verdict is that of the late Will Cuppy: "The Ptolemies had once been pure Macedonian Greek. By now they were Grade B, if that."

((By the time of Ptolemaios XIII - who is numbered "XI" or "XIII" in other sources - legitimacy was a matter of little concern in Egypt. Ptolemaios XIII himself was the illegitimate son of Ptolemaios IX. The murder of a cousin in 80 BC extinguished the legitimate line so he took the throne. I have been unable to find who was/were the mother/s of the four children of Ptolemaios XIII, or even if their identity is known to history. As to why Kleopatra VII married her brothers successively - maybe it was just an old Egyptian custom. Other rulers of the Ptolemaic line had done so, to say nothing of the more ancient dynasties.))

The question of race was of no importance in the ancient world, as you may know. The ruling class of Egypt were descendants of Nilotic Negroes, although even by the time of the Old Kingdom quite thoroughly mixed with the earlier inhabitants (whom we would now call Semites, although that is a linguistic classification rather than one of physical type). Of course, as you know, the question of "race" is largely a straw man. Skin shade is no indicator; "race" is determined by skull and jaw measurements, and a variety of other things known collectively as anthropometry. Even so, determinants of "race" are based on statistical averages only. The fact that all humans can interbreed

is proof that physical differences are of no consequence.

((Well, Lygert, the ball's in your court now.))

1968J - PRESS RELEASES

PARIS: The government of France wishes to assure the German government of its peaceful intentions.

BERLIN (22 May 1902): See! The Czar has yet to be found! The barbarians falter! Allies rally to our cause! The Sitzkrieg shall burn the Czar's seat yet!

*

Allan B. Calhmer, the inventor of Diplomacy, reports that his new address is Avenida Mirabel #8, Santiago, Dominican Republic. He'll be there for another couple of months. He also writes that Diplomacy sales were up 30% in 1967 for a new record.

Margaret Gemignani writes that her Ft. Lauderdale address will continue to be valid until 8 April. After that she'll return to Rochester.

The following postal Diplomacy 'zines have not been seen here in over three months, and are to be presumed defunct:

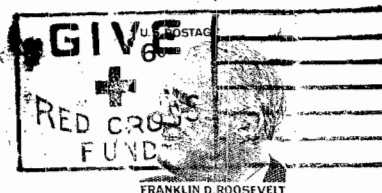
International Enquirer (Ollila)
Kalmar (Brannan)

Cerebral Nebula (Baker)
Marsovia (Ward)

The situation concerning Miskatonic University (Swenson) and Armageddonia (Turner) is, as usual, confused. The most recent thing received here along those lines are pp 13-16 of one of them; it's not clear which. Clarification would be appreciated.

GRAUSTARK #156

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Does the letter "S" appear in the upper right corner of the address label? Then this is a sample copy of GRAUSTARK, inviting you to subscribe. See page 7 for further information.

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