

GRAUSTARK

#173

8 January 1969

I'M GLAD I'M NOT A SOLDIER

I'm glad I'm not a soldier.
I hate to stand parade, and inspections are a drag.
I'm glad I'm not a soldier.
I hate army cooking, standing guard and early rising.
I'm glad I'm not a soldier.
Who wants to kill or be killed?
Marching
Fighting
Dying
Wow!
A fellow could get hurt that way,
Or an old man, or somebody's mother,
Or some little smiling child.
It is understood that death dealing weapons do not discriminate.

I'm glad I'm not a soldier, sailor, airman or marine.
Too bad people aren't satisfied
Getting killed by accidents or homicidal maniacs,
Bying by disease or "natural causes",
Or just committing suicide.
If they were, all we would need would be
HELP.
Lots of help.
Help for ourselves and our fellow man.
Maybe the help we got and gave wouldn't discriminate either.

Aren't you glad you're not a...
Say, maybe you are.
Why?
Think about it sometime when you're not too busy.
You won't be happy if you do,
No matter how you stand.
Something is wrong with us.
Me? I'm just glad I'm not a soldier.

- E. Gary Gyax

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

The Mata Hari myth once again collided with New York City's theater critics - and came off second best. For over half a century, "Mata Hari" has been a synonym for a sinister beautiful spy queen. The historical Mata Hari (Margaretha Geertruida Zelle MacLeod, 1876-1917) was a party girl whom a German general put on his personal pay-roll as a spy, though the services he received from her were of quite another sort. After she went through several generals this way, she actually took to believing that she was a spy. When she bragged about it, during World War I, the French unfortunately took her seriously. For the details of her career, see Kurt Singer's Spies Who Changed History.

David Merrick originally produced the musical Mata Hari, but it folded in Washington in December 1967 at an alleged loss of \$850,000. Nothing daunted, the musical was resuscitated with a new title, Ballad for a Firing Squad, and it re-opened last month with high hopes. Needless to say, the musical swallowed the Mata Hari legend wholesale, and even hoked up a love affair between the spy and the French officer who tracked her down.

It closed after 7 performances. Gar nicht hilft.

Disarmament around the Christmas tree made considerable strides last year. According to "Doctor Lao's" column in the Los Angeles Free Press of 20 December 1968, "The toy manufacturers of America report that people are buying fewer war toys and manufacturers are offering fewer this Xmas. Lionel Weintraub, president of the group, blamed the Vietnam war. The trend began appearing two years ago, but it is stronger than ever this year, he said...Sales of toy machine guns that have been big sellers for 15 or 20 years have declined 70 to 80 percent."

It is further reported that the GI Joe doll and its equipment, which was the biggest thing in the toy industry in 1966, has dropped to almost no sales at all. Said one dealer, "Civilian-type toys this year outsell military models six to one. Vietnamese-type military items, and the green beret model war toys - completely dead." Some war toy makers have tried to salvage this sort of toy by relabeling it, wherever possible, for the Old West rather than the New Far East.

Two Brooklyn firms are among those which have experienced a slump in war toy sales. According to the New York State Department of Labor, "many customers have responded to the public reaction against such toys and have canceled their orders." (New York Free Press, 26 November 1968).

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However, a group of authors welcomed in the holiday season with a petition urging the "vigorous prosecution of the Vietnam war to an honorable conclusion". These 220 members of the Authors' Guild of America signed this petition, which was organized by William F. Buckley and Frank Meyer of National Review. Among the signatories were Paul Anderson, Max Ascoli (whose bi-weekly Reporter folded because readers objected to his pro-war stand), Allen Drury, Morris L. Ernst (famous for his book absolving the Dominican dictator Trujillo of complicity in the murder of Dr. Jesus Galindez), Corey Ford, Robert A. Heinlein, Stefan T. Possony (co-author of the white-supremacist book The Geography of Intellect), and George S. Schuyler.

*

Interested in Diplomacy: Patrick Casey, 1061 Anderson Place, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060; David R. Lindsay, 2245 Fairmont Parkway, Erie, Pennsylvania 16510; David W. May, 7370 Cabrillo Ave., La Jolla, Calif. 92037; Victor Pei, 104 Riveredge Road, N. J. 07621; Larry St. Cyr Jr., 30 Frederick St., North Adams, Mass. 01247; Robert L. Strayer, 104 Van-

denburg Dr., Biloxi, Miss. 39531; Michael S. Goldstein, Apt. 301, 7335
Keystone Lane, Forestville, Maryland 20028.

* * *

Why do we have to subsidize junk mail? Well, after he retired this month, Senator Frank Carlson (Rep., Kans.) will go straight from the Senate Post Office Committee to a "consultant's" position with the Direct Mail Advertisers of the United States. (New York Times, 23 November 1968) And we have to pay higher postal rates because prominent political figures mis-use their franking privileges. The Post Office Department has an office to hunt down these highly placed deadbeats, but it is almost impossible to get them to pay up. Hubert Humphrey had to cough up \$800, but he's a piker; the Post Office is still trying to get \$40,000 from Senator Percy (Rep., Ill.) and \$25,000 from Senator Griffin (Rep., Mich.) And how about the notorious grafter, Adam Clayton Powell (Dem., N. Y.)? Oh, they got him too - for \$24. (Black may be beautiful, but it doesn't pay very well.) (New Haven Journal-Courier, 28 November 1968).

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But if junk mail is bothering you, go to the post office and ask for P. O. Form 123. On this form fill out your name and address, and the name and address of the offensive firm. Then send this form to the Post Office, telling them that you find the junk mail offensive. You do not have to give any reason for objecting to this mail.

Under a law passed in the last session of Congress, the Post Office is then required by law to send a prohibitory order directing the sender to stop sending you any more mail of any kind.
(Rat, 9 August 1968.)

* * *

Her Royal Majesty Elizabeth II, whom unreconstructed Jacobites prefer to call "Betty Rattenburg", again finds her throne in danger from a usurper. On 22 December, 1968 about 100 members of the Young Communist League marched on Buckingham Palace, demanding that she turn it over to house some of the 6,000 homeless people in London. The Communists were led by Miss Bernadette Connolly, 21, whom they had elected as "people's queen".

* * *

But if the Augustan Society's cause is wavering in England, there is new hope for it in Spain. It now seems fairly certain that, upon the death of the Fascist dictator Francisco Franco, the monarchy will be re-established. The only remaining question is, who gets the throne.

The favorite is Don Juan, son of the last king, Alfonso XIII. But he has an older brother, Don Jaime, who resigned his claim since he's a chronic invalid. But Don Juan is a prince in the British tradition, and Don Jaime thinks he is too liberal. If Don Jaime unabdicates, there could be problems.

Another possibility is Don Juan's son, Don Juan Carlos. He is younger and Franco considers him more malleable and less likely to undo the repressive work of the Franco regime.

But, in the eyes of a substantial number of Spanish royalists, this branch of the family has a clouded title. They descend through the female line, from Queen Isabella II. And, since no one has any idea who the fathers of her children were, the Isabella line is not well regarded in monarchist circles.

The rival line is the Carlist, after Don Carlos, who would have succeeded as Carlos V had his elder brother not changed the law to secure Isabella's succession. They insisted on a succession in the male line, which later proved an embarrassment, since the Carlist male line died out in 1941.

This, according to the strict legitimists, closes out the whole

Bourbon-Spain line, which was founded in 1701 when Louis XIV hoisted his grandson on the Spanish throne at the cost of a 12-year war. (Isabella's consort came from another branch of the Spanish Bourbons, but he was really descended from Don Arturo de Godoy, the lover of the queen officially attached to Carlos III.) So, with the French Bourbons and the Spanish Bourbons out of the running, the next senior line of the House of Capet are the Princes of Bourbon-Parma. So the Carlists, whose political principles are a conservatism so severe as to make George Wallace sound like Mark Rudd, have put their hopes on the 38-year-old Prince Carlos Hugo of Bourbon-Parma, a French citizen with an Italian title, a Dutch wife, an English education, and an inherited claim to the fierce loyalty of many thousand red-bereted fanatical Carlist reactionaries.

But Franco already has his pet pretender and isn't standing for this late entry. So, on 20 December, he expelled Carlos Hugo from Spain. Apparently the prince had been inserting his own opinions into the seething discontent in Spain, and "had received at least one official warning that, if he kept on talking as if he were already King, he would be expelled." (New York Times, 21 December 1968.) True to his word, Franco sent his royal critic back into France...which already has a pretender of its own. (Henri d'Orleans, Comte de Paris, is the pretender to the French throne. Charles de Gaulle, President de la Republique, is the pretender to a somewhat higher dignity.)

This publication is not edited under the supervision of Bangs Leslie Tapscott, Renfrew Pemberton, or Shubel Morgan.

Faced with the above-mentioned problem of getting Congressmen to pay postage on their mail, the Post Office Department took a decisive step on 27 December 1968 - it abandoned policing mis-uses of the franking privilege, and left it up to each member of Congress to determine whether he was using it properly. Remember this when the postal rate goes up to 10¢ an ounce, or when a "corporation" is given charge of the whole mess.

This brings up the prospect that, if a reorganization of the Post Office causes its employees to lose their civil service rights, they will strike. In the event of a strike by the U. S. P. O. D., GRAUSTARK will suspend all deadlines on the day of the strike. All deadline dates will be re-set for the third Saturday after the end of the strike.

"Athenian statesmen were in a dilemma: to feed their people they had to hold their empire, to hold their empire they had to fight Sparta, and they could not fight Sparta decisively without endangering the economic basis of both states. This dilemma was their doom. Incapable of a revolutionary strategy, they fell back on a sterile imperialism which made enemies everywhere and friends worth winning nowhere." - Archibald Robertson, How to Read History.

Conrad Friesner von Metzke, Good Man, Tallest Diplomacy Player in the Known World, and non-member of the Henry Ford Man Club, has a new address: 3716 Columbia Street, San Diego, Calif. 92103.

Dan Evans, 3405 Westchester, Bakersfield, Calif. 93309, has mailed out announcements for the National Diplomacy Championship Tournament. Interested persons should contact him at this address.

Until 23 January 1969, George Schelz's address will be 9 Buffington Place, Bronxville, N. Y. 10708. (Phone: 914-PE 8-4318.)

1968G - PRESS RELEASES

LONDON (3 December 1907): It was not easy for Col. Moran, Earl of Northumbria and Prime Minister of Britain, to report to King-Emperor Huon that another fleet had been scuttled...this one in Lisbon. "What??!" shrieked His Majesty, "You have the unmitigated gall to stand there with your bald face hanging out and tell Us that yet another of Our fleets has gone down in the drink? Didn't you arrange an alliance with the Turks to prevent this??" The throne globe rocked and frothed with Huon's rage. "Let Us tell you this, Moran. We appointed you Our chief minister because you assured Us you would not fail. Are We to interpret this pusillanimous loss of another fleet as success?!? Consider yourself lucky, you worm, that We are in a generous mood today. Guards! Take this wretch away and crucify him!!" As the trembling Prime Minister was being hauled away by his heels, His Majesty said, "When you're finished being crucified, Our lord Earl, please report to Us for further instructions. We shall not require your removal from #10 as of yet."

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

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LONDON (4 December 1907): Sebastian Moran, Earl of Northumbria and Prime Minister of Britain, entertained two important visitors this evening: Da'ud ibn-Mustapha al-Hashishi, the new Turkish ambassador, and Skrtch the Lousy One, the Pollutidarian Minister for Foreign Affairs and Food Production. "Forgive me," he said, "for not greeting you in the traditional western way, but - uh, I have done an injury to, uh, my hands." Indeed, His Grace's hands were heavily bandaged. Oddly, so were his feet. Speculation at court, when not revolving around a polo accident, discusses a more sinister and unfortunate "accident", Who knows...?

PARIS: Parisian Revolt Students revolt against present Government. The conservatives led by Prudence G. Two Shoes demanded "put the senful English out. Don Juan No Col Moran No England No Anne Maria Yes Russia Yes Remember Germany."

A counterpeck was set up by the Strip Teasers and Ladies of the Evening Union whose motto is Sex Yes.

When the protesters are against sex is don't known since All taken a fifth Pretesters a fifth of milk Yeaster a fifth of LDS "Ladies" a fifth increase in rates.

POLLUTIDAR: The best-kept secret on the Inner Crust of the Earth has leaked out! His Inferial Majesty Honj the Horny, Emperoar of Pollutidar, Cid of the Kearsars, Great Herd Bull of the Ganaks, Shadiest of the Land of Eternal Shadow, and Defender of the Faith (any faith-reasonable rates), is contemplating marriage!

The secret leaked out at a meeting of the Representative Diet's Committee on Preparedness for War and Dinner. The Committee was taking up a routine matter of war profiteering - a bill for 350,000 skags, presented by General Oose the Slippery One allegedly for spectacles for the Coripi Mining Corps. Since Coripis are eyeless, a quick conviction was expected.

A discussion of whether General Oose was to be boiled by the Azarians or trampled to death by Ganaks was interrupted by the Himean delegate Skum. "Is it true that the Emperoar plans to commute Oose's sentence so that he can be served as the main dish at the Inferial wedding feast?"

There was immediate pandemonium at the hearing. In the midst of the confusion, General Oose dashed for the door, only to be devoured outside by a sithic. Within two sleeps the rumor was all over Pollutidar.

The Emperoar has not yet revealed the identity of his bride, but

the following speculations on her identity have been made:

1. The "Happies" of Yeast Village have decided to give up their anti-war activities and join whole-heartedly in the war effort against the nations of the Outer Crust. As part of this settlement, they are to receive an amnesty, and the Emperoar is to marry the "Happy" leader, the cave-girl Pil the Promiscuous One.

2. As part of a Pollutidarean alliance of common interest with the Empire of Granbretan, the Emperoar will marry the Countess Flana Mikosevaar, cousin and heiress of King-Emperor Huon.

3. Pollutidar has signed an alliance with France, which will be sealed by a marriage between Emperoar Honj and Prudence G. Two Shoes.

4. Pollutidar's war effort against France has produced an alliance with various French rebels led by Peg the Cacographous One, whom Honj will marry under the alliance's terms.

5. Now that Col. Moran is unfitted for marriage, his former fiancée Anna Maria Alberque will marry Emperoar Honj.

6. A curious dispatch from France indicates the Emperoar has been converted by the LDS (Latter-Day Saints, or Mormons), and that he therefore will marry all the afore-mentioned women.

The Inferial Court has not yet confirmed or denied any of these rumors, and six reporters endeavoring to ascertain the facts in the matter have been fed to the trodons in the Inferial Zoo.

DIRECTORY OF UNFAMILIAR QUOTATIONS - VI

The Gamesmaster is sensitive to accusations that he is trampling on the civil liberties of war-mongers. Accordingly, this column gives representation to their views.

"President Lyndon B. Johnson halted the bombing up north shortly before the Nov. 5 elections. So how about the commander-in-chief simply ending the bombing halt right now, with instructions to the B-52's and other planes and the battleship New Jersey to open up again, more vigorously than ever, on Red North Vietnam? Could there be a more promising way to speed the Paris talks?" - New York Daily News editorial, 18 December 1968

"I would not value or transmit the fame
Of him, whose brightest worth in swiftness lies;
Nor would I chant his poor unwarlike name
Who wins no chaplet but the wrestler's prize...

Vain all the dastard honours he may boast,
If his soul chirst not for the martial field;
Meet not the fury of the rushing host,
Nor bear o'er hills of slain th' untrembling shield.

This - this is virtue: this the noblest meed
That can adorn our youth with fadeless rays;
While all the perils of th' adventurous deed,
The new-strung vigour of the state repays...

Be yours to reach such eminence of fame;
To gain such heights of virtue nobly dare,
My youths! and, mid the fervour of acclaim,
Press, press to glory; nor remit the war!"

THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

JOHN McCALLUM, "A" Quarters, S. E. S., Ralston, Alberta: I must say that I don't understand the highly emotional stance of both sides in the great gun debate now going on in the States. I take it that the NRA is backed by gun manufacturers and so has an obvious economic interest in opposing gun control laws.

(Naturally. For details see No Right to Bear Arms by Carl Bakar (Paperback Library, \$1.25).)

...Most countries of the world, including Canada, do have gun registration laws. They also have privately owned guns, although in less profusion than in the U. S. Juanita Coulson in a recent Yandro became quite emotional, although she is usually sensible, about the plight of a farmer with a wounded steer in a boy being unable to shoot him if gun control became established. This is nonsense. There are gun control laws in Australia and Sweden but a stock raiser or the one or a farmer in the other who requires a fire-arm for his work certainly has one. But, on the other side, your own position is equally emotional and senseless, it seems to me. You seem to feel that the mere presence of guns inclines to murder. But look at Switzerland where able bodied men of military, and reserve military, age are required to have an army rifle in their homes. Is the murder rate any higher in Switzerland than in other countries?

((The low murder rate in Switzerland, it would seem to me, is due to the fact that that country has not engaged in a war for over 150 years. If a nation's leaders proclaim loudly that killing large numbers of people is good and desirable, then naturally ordinary men will apply this principle to their own lives. Three of our four assassinated Presidents were murdered during or just after a war, and the only Prime Minister ever to be assassinated in English history was killed at the height of the Napoleonic War.))

Both sides, it seems to me, very much overstate their case. Of course, if I lived in the States, I would be in favor of gun control laws. But let us not get exaggerated ideas of what they will do. They will not prevent people with a legitimate need to possess firearms from having them - hunters, marksmen, collectors, and so on, would still have weapons. Nor will they prevent organized crime from having weapons, registered or unregistered. It will make more difficult the acquisition of fire-arms by the casual criminal element, the drifter population. A good thing, but not a panacea which will make all political assassination for ever impossible, or anything like that.

WILLIAM LEE LINDEN, 83-33 Austin St., Kew Gardens, N. Y. 11416: ... Since the Yi King has had its say, what about the Tarot? I dealt a reading on my fate in 1968CH. The chief influence over the past of the affair is the Wheel of Fortune; over the present, Justice, portending triumph of the deserving side (Me, of course); over the future, the Star, portending "hope and bright prospects". The chief influence over the commencement is Temperance; over the Apogee, Strength; over the later game, the Tower, portending disaster (which seems to conflict with the Star); over the end, the Hanged Man. "Wisdom, circumspection, discernment, trials, sacrifice." The past influences are the Knight of Swords. (According to one system, a dark, inimical young man, according to the others bravery or war); the 7 of Coins ("Innocence, ingenuity, purgations.") and the 5 of Staves ("Imitation, as, for example, sham fight.") Present influences are represented by the Knight of Cups ("Arrival, approach of a messenger, and offers," which makes sense), the 5 of Swords ("Degradation and dishonor") and the 2 of Staves ("Chagrin, sadness, mortification"). The cards of the future are: the King of Swords (either a

dark inimical man, or power, authority, command - could it mean a dark inimical Gamesmaster?), the 6 of Cups ("new knowledge"), the Ace of Coins ("prosperity"), and 6 of Coins ("presents, gifts, gratification"), the Page of Staves ("A dark young man, faithful, a lover, an envoy, a postman.") and the Knight of Staves (Either a dark young man, friendly, or departure, absence, flight.) Anyone who can make sense out of this melange (The Star and the Tower) will be made an honorary citizen of Siunik.

((Now that we've consulted the Yi King and the Tarot, let's go the rest of the way - with astrology. If all players in 1968CH will send their date and time of birth to GRAUSTARK, I'll publish them and any astrologers among the readership can try their hand at this tom-focery. To begin with, your friendly Gamesmaster was born at 1620 GMT on 8 September 1932. This, if I understand this superstition correctly, means that I am Virgo with Scorpio rising. Astrology is already without an explanation since, as I understand it, hard-headed materialists like myself are supposed to be either Taurus or Capricorn. As far as I am concerned, a sufficient refutation of astrology is contained in the fact that Walter Breen is a Virgo.))

...Your wishes for a peaceful new year are appreciated, but it seems unlikely that Schizoids for a Destroyed Society will allow anything of the sort.

((Curious - the U. S. has half a million men under arms in a foreign country, and you find the greatest danger to peace in a handful of leftist ideologues on a dozen or so U. S. campuses!))

Your cover message (on GRAUSTARK #171) shows a certain want of originality. From the swine fixation, I would say you New Lunatics were all a bunch of Marranos struggling with your feelings of guilt at eating pork.

((Actually, the pig is an intelligent, adaptable, and sympathetic animal, and I regret seeing it so used by the Left as a symbol of the Establishment. But other critics of the New Left have anticipated your own views. I have seen conservative propaganda which claims that Jews have an innate hatred for pigs, whereas Nordic man may be distinguished by an appetite for pork. And the conservative magazine New Patriot devoted a 10-page article to proving that most of the leaders of the anti-war movement in this country are Jews.))

And citing Dr. Strangelove as evidence for the "pathology" of "supporters" of war (There is a difference between supporting war and being prepared for it. What should we do, bury our heads in the sand and hope that The Bomb will Go Away?) is about as reasonable as judging Socrates from the caricature in The Clouds. Or judging Jews from Henry Ford's book. Oh, good grief! O tempora, O Moses!

((The remarks attributed to Kahn in GRAUSTARKs #170 and #171 were actually spoken by him. And, oddly enough, the caricature of Socrates in The Clouds has been used in assessing the life and influence of Socrates. See Archibald Robertson's How to Read History, pp. 35-36, where the author makes out what seems to me to be a good case for such an analysis.))

Ruritania is the setting of The Prisoner of Zenda by Anthony Hope (Hawkins) - and also of its sequel Rupert of Hentzau. Freedonia you identified two pages later ((in GRAUSTARK #171)). (I have only seen the latter portion of Duck Soup, but I would say Harry Manogg has been anticipated in his plans for a Diplomacy musical.) The Central American Republic of Costaguana is the setting of Nostromo by Joseph Conrad. Erodingnag is, of course, the setting of Book II of Gulliver's Travels. Trantor is the central world of the Galaxy and the Empire in Isaac Asimov's Foundation, Foundation and Empire, and Second Foundation.

Wild 'n' Woolly is a country? I thought cowboys were wild 'n' woolly.

(Wildenwooly is a planet which is mentioned in several of Philip Jose Farmer's "Father Carmody" stories.)

Erehwon is not a fictional country, but nowhere spelled backwards. The imaginary country somewhere in the Pacific in Samuel Butler's novel of the same name is Erehwon.

Thulcandra ("the silent planet") is not an imaginary country either. In C. S. Lewis' Ransom trilogy (Out of the Silent Planet, Perelandra, and That Hideous Strength) it is a name applied to Earth in the "Old Solar" tongue.

Xanadu, as I recall, is another name for the Chinese city of Cambalus, or Khan-Baligh, seat of the Mongol dynasty. It is best known from Coleridge's poem, interrupted by the infamous person from Porlock.

...Was it wholly by accident that you fixed a diplomacy deadline for, of all days in the year, Innocents' Day? Hahahahehedohoha-chucklesnickercacklesmirk.

HEENE PROSNETE, 200 Clinton St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201: You are wrong in your assumptions regarding my letter ((printed in GRAUSTARK #172)). We can assume that those who care about morality will oppose the war in Viet Nam. However, for those who don't, the purpose of the letter was to point out that, in addition to being an immoral war, the war is impractical, and even the most cold blooded warlike hysterical anti communist should be against it on tactical grounds.

Your comments point out one difference between my approach and yours. I try to get as many people as possible on my side, and you try to phrase your arguments so that as few people as possible will support your position.

Incidentally, do you believe that the United States should never defend other nations who might be invaded by foreign powers?

((The United States is not physically or mentally equipped to police the world, even if it were morally entitled to do so. From 1949 through 1959, the US made a number of unwise commitments to defend over 40 nations against attack. Since that period, in which the dominating influence was the mindless anti-Communism attributed to Dulles but actually antedating him, these commitments have been re-evaluated more realistically. For example, the United States has publicly pledged itself, in the South East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) to come to the aid of Pakistan. In 1965 there was a war between Pakistan and India. The US then decided that it was not in the national interest to honor the SEATO treaty, and did not come to Pakistan's aid. A wider application of this principle would undo much of the damage done in the Acheson Dulles era of American foreign policy.

((Other cases of this sort should also be judged on their merits. In particular, I feel that the United States should also stay out of any similar situations between Israel and the Arab tribes, Malaysia and the Philippines, the USSR and Czechoslovakia, etc., etc. And, of course, the labyrinthine situation in Vietnam.))

EM BIRSAN, 48-20 39th St., Long Island City, N. Y. 11104: As a paid sub in 1968CH, can I write in press releases? ((The right to send in press releases is by no means limited to players, or to players and stand-bys, in a game. I enjoy reading and printing them, especially if several writers of press releases start having back and forth at each other. And I make every effort to print press releases as soon after they are received as possible.))

DELL LINDEN: My press release ((as England in 1968CH - sec p. 10)) is not in Hungarian. I am interested in knowing if any one will identify its language. (I gloat fiendishly at the prospects of Diplomacy players the world over going mad wondering what it is.)

1968CH - PRESS RELEASES

KRAKOW, GALICIA, AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN EMPIRE: The local citizens watched in awe as hordes of mounted soldiers, their armor flashing in the sun, rode back and forth in battle outside the city walls. No one could be sure which side would be victorious. "Cuirassier and cuirassier," one small girl remarked.

ZPOD, HERNIA: As war came ever closer, Duke Nosebeard left for the safety of Athens "to protect the royal personage" as he put it. His infant son, Nosebeard VIII, was left in charge.

ATHENS: Preposterous Information Specialty Service, threatened by the advance of three hostile forces upon Greece, removed their quarters today to Zpod, Hernia.

ZPOD: Markgraf Nosebeard VIII, the future and acting Duke, was persuaded to grant a news conference.

Q: "Do you think Germany will keep Russia out of Sweden?"

A: "Waaaah!"

Q: "What will be the effect of France's attempting Munich in preference to defending Marseilles?"

A: "WaaaAAH!"

Further penetrating questions were answered in the same fashion. Journalist Spiros Preposterous pronounced the infant a "new Delphic Oracle". He was thereupon granted the Hernian Order of the Rugged Cross, Fifth Class, with two fig-leaf clusters.

WASHINGTON: President Pigasus J. Pig denied today that he was unsympathetic to the plight of the poor. "I was born in a slum myself," he told a press conference, "and, during the early part of my life, I ate very low on the hog."

The new President also anticipated no difficulty in race relations, since he is both black and white. The press conference broke up in disorder when Pig denied that he had worked as a scab during last year's garbage collectors' strike in New York City.

LONDON (22 Velul 1901): Adelo Reg Zulik asutlinom su bakun e Alenunom kligi Deute. "Deut podistukom!" asagom. E mens valik ayufoms. Alenunom i kligi Helnane.

GERMANY to FRANCE: "You broke the treaty. My moves depend on yours."

GRAUSTARK #173

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U. S. A.

F I R S T C L A S S M A I L

REPEAL THE SECOND AMENDMENT!

The life you save may be your own!