

GRAUSTARK

#175

1967U, 1968G, 1968J, 1968CH, 1968CI, 1968CL

25 January 1969

1968G

"Fall 1908"

RUSSIANS ROLL BACK TURKS IN BALKANS

Following "Spring 1908" moves, Russia retreated A St.P-Mos.

ENGLAND (Walker): F Edi & F Lon S TURKISH F Eng-North Sea; F St.P(n.c.) S TURKISH F Norwegian Sea-Norway; F Bar S F St.P(n.c.); A Gas-Par.

FRANCE (Gemignani): A Bur-Par; A Pic-Bre.

RUSSIA (Prosnitz): F Bla-Bul; A Rum S F Bla-Bul; A Ser-Bud; A Gal S A Ser-Bud; A Mos-Sev; F North Sea-Norwegian Sea; F Norway S F North Sea-Norwegian Sea; A Swe S F Norway; F Den-Ska; A Yor-Liv; A Bel & A Mun hold; A Ruh S A Bel.

TURKEY (Lebling): F Norwegian Sea-Norway; F Eng-North Sea; F Mid-Eng; F Tyr-Ion; F Mar holds; A Tyr-Vie; A Tri-Ser; A Bul-Rum; A Smy-Ank; F Aeg-Gre; F Con-Bla; A Arm-Ank; A Bud S A Bul-Rum.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Anglo-Turkish attack on Norway fails because the Russian fleet there is supported. The Russian move "F Norway S F North Sea-Norwegian Sea" succeeds because Norway is attacked from the region into which the fleet is giving support. Thus, Russia's "F North Sea-Norwegian Sea" succeeds. Turkey retreats F Norwegian Sea-North Atlantic or F Norwegian Sea-Cly. (The direction of this retreat should be submitted with the "Winter 1908" builds and removals, which may be made conditional upon it.) Turkey also retreats A Bud-Tri, A Bul-Con. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Lon, Por, St.P. (4)

FRANCE: Bre, Par. (2)

RUSSIA: Bel, Ber, Bud, Den, Hol, Kie, Liv, Mos, Mun, Nor, Rum, Sev, Swe, War, (14)

681 (continued on p. 4)

1968J

"Fall 1908"

ENGLISH VICTORY SEEN AS CERTAIN NEXT YEAR

ENGLAND (H. Anderson): A Yor & A Mun hold; A Norway-St.P; F Bal-Pru; F Liv S F Bal-Pru; A Ber S F Bal-Pru; F Den-Bal; A Kie & A Bur S A Mun; A Gas-Mar; F Eng-Mid; F North Sea-Eng; F Lyo-Tyr; F Wes S F Lyo-Tyr; F North Africa-Tun.

ITALY (Gemignani): A Tyr-Pie; A Boh holds; F Tyr-Tun; A Ser-Alb.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Latimer): A Ukr-Mos; A War S A Ukr-Mos; A Sil-Ber; A Gal-Rum; A Vie S A Tri; A Tri S A Vie; F Gre holds.

TURKEY (White): F Ion-Nap; F Con-Aeg; A Smy-Con; A Mos-St.P.

Underlined moves are not possible. Turkey retreats A Mos-Sev, and Italy must retreat F Tyr-Tus, F Tyr-Rom, or F Tyr-Ion. The direction of this retreat must be submitted with the "Winter 1908" moves, which may be made conditional on it. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Ber, Bre, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Liv, Lon, Mar, Mun, Nor, Par, St.P, Spa, Swe. (16)

ITALY: Por, Rom, Ser, Tun, Ven. (5)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Gre, Mos, Rum, Tri, Vie, War. (8)

TURKEY: Ank, Con, Nap, Sev, Smy. (5)

Each of the four Powers may make one build. The deadline for these "Winter 1908" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1969.

ROME: Somebody is going to rubbed out that's Big Jim Boss of A-H by me Big Guani

1968CI - LATE PRESS RELEASE

NO SOURCE GIVEN: Perfidy, thy name is everybody in this game but me.

GRAUSTARK is 10 issues for \$1 from John Boardman, 592 16th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

GERMANS DEFEAT FRENCH, INVADE FRENCH HEARTLAND

ENGLAND (Linden): F Norway-Ska; F Edi-Norwegian Sea; F Lon-North Sea; A Yor-Edi;
F Hol-Bel.

FRANCE (Berman): F Por-Spa(s.c.); F Bre-Mid; A Gas-Mar; A Bur-Bel.

GERMANY (D. Johnston): F Swe-Den; A Kie-Hol; A Mun-Bur; A Ruh S A Mun-Bur.

ITALY (White): F Rom-Tyr; A Pie holds; F Tun-Wes; A Nap-Apu.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Kuch): A Rum-Ukr; A Gal S A Rum-Ukr; A Vie S A Gal; A Bud-Ser;
 F Gre not ordered, holds.

RUSSIA (C. Johnson): A Ukr-Mos; A War S A Ukr-Mos; F Bot-Bal.

TURKEY (McLeod): F Bla-Rum; A Bul S F Bla-Rum; A Sev S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Rum-Ukr;
 F Smy-Eas; F Con-Aeg.

Underlined moves are not possible. The French army in Burgundy is dislodged and must retreat to Paris, Gascony, or Picardy. Don Berman should phone this retreat immediately to the Gamesmaster, who will inform the other players by phone or postcard. The deadline for "Fall 1902" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1969.

GERMANY to ENGLAND: No, you take Belgium and I'll take Holland.

ZPOD: Panic struck this city today, when word came that the British 27th Fleet was sailing from Malta to bombard the Grand Duchy of Hernia. Bearded prophets set up shop in the streets, foretelling the end of civilization, and calling for a return to goat-worship. After most of the population had retreated to their cellars to await the attack, someone remembered that Zpod is 250 miles from the nearest navigable water.

SOMEWHERE ALL AT SEA: "27th Fleet calling Whitehall; how do you spell that?"

ZPOD: Preposterous! Information Specialty Service predicts a major sea battle to erupt over Greece. Nosebeard VII, who has just been placed in charge of the Imperial Fleet in Athens by the Emperor, is rumored to be at his wits' end deciding what to do to save Greece for the Eastern Reich. At last word he was contemplating changing the name of Albania to 'Greece' and moving his forces there.

CZELF (7 Jan. 1902, Reuters): The invasion by the forces of the Ninefold Kingdom has effectively smashed any Hernian resistance. In a lightning campaign last week, the 47th and 56th Dragoons swept north towards Zpcd, while the 26th Marine Division landed in the west and began an advance on Gwrgwrgwn. While there is still some last-ditch guerilla action in Zpcd, all remaining fighting is concentrated in the northern districts. The present whereabouts of either the elder or younger Nosebeard is uncertain; it is believed that they have fled to (Yech!) Pod-erkagg. "With it's ((sic)) nerve center occupied," announced High Command, "the force of the Sinister Monolithic International Warmongers' Conspiracy is broken, and it should be an easy matter to mop up its remnants elsewhere, notably in Germany, Italy, and North America."

LONDON (12 Jan. 1902, Reuters): Privateer raids based in San Diego have led to a declaration of war upon the United States of America, which is plainly controlled by some plot of the SMICW.

SAN DIEGO (8 Feb. 1902, Reuters): The British Pacific Fleet was able to form a beachhead with little difficulty, under Japanese colours. It seems that Japan had simultaneously declared war, and sent its Fleet eastward under British colours, so that the Peerist Navy was busy destroying them. Soon, however, it was hit by a strange barrage of peas. In retaliation, the heights of Peeryhaus were demolished with a Masher Potato. (It has been found that Long Island Potatoes are too smooth and light for such use; we have been forced to use the inferior Idaho potato.) Resistance ended after the smashing of the bastions at the University, where General

(continued on p. 4)

1917

"Spring 1918"

WANDERING RUSSIANS ENTER RUHR VALLEY

GERMANY (M. Miller): A Mar-Bur; A Tyr-Mun; A Kie S A Tyr-Mun; A Sil S A Tyr-Mun; F Bal-Den; A Ber & A Sil S A Sil; A St.P-Mos; F Bot-Bal.

ITALY (Clark)*: F North Atlantic-Mid; A Liv-War; A Pie-Tyr; A Ven S A Pie-Tyr; A Rom-Tus; F Ion-Alb; F Adr S F Ion-Alb; F Nap-Ion; F Apu & F Tun S F Nap-Ion.

RUSSIA (G. Heap): A Mun-Bur; A War S TURKISH A Gal-Sil; A Mos S A War; A Sev S A Mos.

TURKEY (Beshara): A Gal-Sil; A Ukr S RUSSIAN A War; A Boh-Tyr; A Tri S A Boh-Tyr. A Vie & A Ser S A Tri; F Alb holds; F Gre S F Alb; F Smy-Eas; F Aeg S F Smy-Eas.

Underlined moves are not possible. Russia retreats A Mun-Ruh. The deadline for "Fall 1918" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1969.

ROME (answer to "Nosy Reporter"): The truth cannot be suppressed. Clark was a regular member of the Washington Science-Fiction Association two or three years ago, when Banks Mebane was President. He then reverted to an Associate Member, which membership has since lapsed, and he is no longer a member of any sort. Mike Miller has never been a member of the Washington Science-Fiction Association. However, Don Miller is an extremely active member and editor of the official organ. He also seems to have introduced postal Diplomacy to the Washington, D. C., area.

The Nosy Reporter appears to be typically confused and misinformed.

1968CL

"Winter 1901"

RUSSIANS VOW TO RETAKE SEVASTOPOL

| | |
|--|---|
| FRANCE (Ward): Builds A Par, F Mar. | AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (McLeod): Builds A Bud. |
| GERMANY (H. Anderson): Builds F Kie, A Mun, F Ber. | RUSSIA (Manogg): Builds A Mos. |
| ITALY (Comber): Builds A Ven, F Nap. | TURKEY (Beshara): Builds A Con, F Smy. |

The deadline for "Spring 1902" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1969.

SULTANABAD (formerly Sevastopol), NORTH TURKEY: A three-way duel to the death highlighted this otherwise unopposed and uneventful occupation by Turkey. Slashed to death in front of the Baboon House in this city's world-renowned zoo were three high officials of the Seraglio. The Chief Eunuch, in charge of the Harem, the Sultan's personal Chef, and General Beg Erly, chief of officer recruitment for the Turkish Armed Forces all perished from wounds inflicted upon each other. Being somewhat injured to slashings, the Chief Eunuch was the last to die, and it is from his departing words that we gain our only insight into this bizarre happening. "Orders, from the Sultan himself," the C. E. gasped. "The baboons to go to the HAREM! That fool cook, he says they are for banquet. The General, he has already signed up a dozen of them for officer training by time I get here. General has sword, Chef has cleaver, me, I have the long finger nails so we fight."

CAMP SUNOVAVICH (somewhere in the Ukraine): Special correspondent for occupied Russia S. L. Anderly reports: Today at the Free Ukrainian Cavalry Kommando started as usual with the hoisting of the Ukrainian and Tsarist colors and the singing of the composite anthem, 'God Save Our Noble F. U. C. K.' Prisoners captured were 27 Turks, 1298 Austrians, and 1 Baboon. Considerable information of value was obtained by the interrogation of the Baboon who requested asylum from F. U. C. K. "It's either the Harem or the Bar-B-Q pit for me if I return," the Baboon claimed. He was granted asylum and immediately given the post of educational officer for the Austrian prisoners.

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EFFECTIVE 1 FEBRUARY, DAVID LEBLING'S ADDRESS WILL BE: 156 Harvard Street, Brookline, Massachusetts.

TURKEY: Ank, Con, Gre, Mar; Nap, Rom, Ser, Smy, Spa, Tri, Tun, Ven, Vie. (13)
(Bulgarian, belonging to Russia, was omitted from this list. Russia has 15 supply centers.)

England must remove one unit, and Russia may build two. The deadline for these "Winter 1908" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1969. However, if these moves come in early (and there is little doubt about what the Russian builds can be) they will be mailed out to all players and a new deadline will be set, for "Spring 1909" moves.

LONDON (23 June 1908): Local rumor has it that Prime Minister Moran did not find it necessary to inform the King-Emperor Huon of the unprecedented Russian invasion of the Midlands. In fact, it was a black-hooded representative of His Majesty who informed the late P. M.

LINCOLN (25 June 1908): Russian troops, entering the last of Huon's strongholds in the Midlands, were greeted by a strange sight: the skin of an unidentified person was flapping forlornly in the breeze over the main gate of the city.

LONDON (1 July 1908): The following telegram was received today by the Admiralty: INVASION SUCCESSFUL STOP MURMANSK SAINT PETERSBURG ARKHANGELSK NOVGOROD OURS STOP AM BURNING SAME STOP AM ALSO LOOTING SAME STOP AM ALSO RAVISHING SAME STOP UNFORTUNATELY OUR LOYAL MARINES REVOLT AT HAVING TO RAPE UGLY RUSSIAN GIRLS SO AM NOT RAPING SAME STOP NO SIGN OF TSAR STOP YEVGENIY IS REPORTED FLEEING SOUTHWARD WITH DIVERGENT TREASURY AND HORDE OF MISTRESSES STOP BEG LEAVE TO REPORT THAT WITHOUT FURTHER ASSISTANCE I CANNOT ADVANCE FURTHER AND THEREFORE MUST STOP SIGNED ADMIRAL ROBERT TEACH.

LONDON (4 July 1908): The new Prime Minister, Dr. Fu Manchu, today held his first press conference since his appointment on 24 June last. Dr. Fu stated, unequivocally, "We shall fight them on the beaches, we shall fight them in the hills..." In answer to the quizzical looks of the reporters, the new P. M. added, "... well, I just said we'd fight them, not that we expect to win."

FOR SAFETY'S SAKE * DESTARTION UNKNOWN: Sdd today to some "friends" of the following Empeor King Huon XVIII and Empeor Honj, the conversation concerning the lawsuit pressed by Tsar Yevgeny concerning a sonal concerning the up & coming marriage of Empeor Honj

It read: Honj Has alll as ugly as Yevgeniy. Where's mine? Honj Huon should married the Queen of the Bearded Women of Oog. The Tsar claims he is uglier than Honj and is sueing for his title "Ugliest Man on Campus".

POLLUTIDAR (AFP): Empeor Honj announced he is defferently killed the next creep who empled

- A. He is marring the Queen of Bearded Women.
- B. Ugler then Yevgeny.
- C. Going steady with Louis-Louise.
- D. Having an affair with Empeor Huon.

He also announced he will married hes long-time Mistress Miss "Bang Bang Le Rue".

POLLUTIDAR: At a meeting of the Representative Diet, Empeor Honj of Pollutidar denied that releases in his name from the Outer Crust nation of France were authentic. About his intended bride, he would only say that she is "of a human race, after a fashion, and absolutely out of this world". He also announced that his former mistress, Miss Bang-Bang Le Rue, had been sold to the Compie chieftain Glup.

Herbert Marcuseless was taken prisoner.

Meanwhile, it is reported that the Canadian Army is in effective control of the Great Lakes region, and is in close investiture of Fortress Rantoul.

RANTOUL (9 Feb. 1902, Reuters): General Harley Davidson noted the lack of progress in the siege of Rantoul, but was confident nonetheless. "We are equipped with the most dreadful weapon known to man - the PPP Pacifier."

196001

"Winter 1901"

DUAL MONARCHY VOWS REVENGE AGAINST ITALY

ENGLAND (Grayson): Builds F Lon, F Edi, AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Birsan): Builds A Bud, A Vie.
 FRANCE (Clark): Builds F Bre, A Par.
 GERMANY (Reiter): Builds A Ber. RUSSIA (Bytwerk): Builds A Sev, A St.P.
 ITALY (Prosnitz): Builds F Nap. TURKEY (Ver Floeg): Builds F Smy.

The deadline for "Spring 1902" moves is SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1969.

VIENNA: ATTENTION ALL PLAYERS! Due to the savage underhanded, uncalled-for, Imperialistic (with shades of capitalists' business ethics) STAB by the unmentionable Gene Prosnitz, who shall remain NAMELESS if not honorless, the Austrian High Command has come to this conclusion:

1. A lesson must be taught to those that consistently stab their fellow citizens.
2. To accomplish this the following directive is being sent to all of Europe: SIRS, the Austrian government is willing to hand over without violence a set amount of supply centers per game year to any power that will continue the fight against the low Italians. The exchange of property is to be so arranged that Italy gets nothing! and the player who accepts shall get all!!!! ITALY MUST SUFFER!!! WRITE immediately so that our moves may co-ordinate the future death of ITALY!

TRIESTE: A two-hundred-foot long poster was put up in the people's plaza today; it read: DIE ITALY, DIE, DIE, DIE.

BUDAPEST: A three-hundred-foot long poster was placed on the bank of Danube facing West; it read "ITALY! DIE!"

SARAJEVO: A FOUR-thousand-foot sign was erected over all of uptown Sarajevo. In large Gothic print it read "GO TO HELL ITALY!"

ATHENS: A huge sign was hung down the sides of the Acropolis. In beautiful lettering it read "FROCK YOU, ITALY!"

LESBOS: "I've seen some pretty queer things in my time, but NEVER have I seen such a disgusting act of human behavior as was carried out by the Italian Army this fall," reported the Queen of the Island.

SOMEWHERE IN SICILY: In a secret meeting of the Brotherhood a monumental decision was made: a feather dipped in blood was to be sent to the President and Primeier ((sic)) of Italy. "We take this action because of the stupid move by our fellow citizens in Rome for attacking their last ally: Austria. It's moves like that that are giving New Italy a bad name for unity," a high member reported.

SWITZERLAND (via Vorarlberg): A gathering of the Square Root Club was called for by its present leader: Basil Leinon. The club has a vast leadership in many world concerns and meets occasionally to discuss current problems. This meeting was called in a certain tone of impending disaster, what the matter is no one but Basil knows, but there are strong best that it is the present lack of affairs in Eastern Europe.

The club has sent out special invitations to its V. I. P.'s which is one sure sign of the urgency of the meeting. From Georgia comes Joey Stolin the President of Vice. He is travelling in his own private train which is known for its mysterious ways of disappearing with certain individuals and then returning - materialising - in the middle of nowhere with only Joey on it. From London comes Levey Davidovich Bronstone, who, as is his custom, trotted all the way. Because of this habit of his he has been nicknamed Trotter by Stolin and Trotnikk by Leinon. A fight almost developed over his proper nickname when a compromise was reached by Miss Demboys: "Let's not Hegel over this boys. He's so cute with his sore blistered feet and all Ooo! I move to call him Trotsi!" At this point it is said that Miss Demboys is supposedly to have really put some great moves on and the proposal was past over the whispers of a few propositions. 'Trotsi' will sit on

This is

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

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the right side of Leinon and be the Secretary of Defense; with Stalin and Leinon he makes up the top officers of the club.

Other members coming to the meeting were Mike Bakunen and Charlie Marks both from Christmas Past Island. Mr. Marks and Mr. Bakunen are not reported to get along to well as Mr. Bakunen is always beating on his dead horse which he calls his 'security blanket' and this manages to splatter Mr. Marks with blood everytime he speaks.

With such a representation from Christmas Island Past their competitors from Ohm Bells Atol felt it their duty to send 'Shea' Whereva and Oscar Dovechek. As you may have guessed Whereva got his first name from pulling many spectator pleasing stunts.

It is also reported that Mr. Whereva and Mr. Dovechek although they have never met, have a particular dislike for each other over some revisions of one kind or another.

With a very distinguished gathering of club members this meeting promises to be a one of the all time greats in the history of the Square Root Club.

VIENNA: Why square root club? Well...most of them are radicals and a few shall even be imaginary.

HYDUNDRABAD, INDIA: In recent weeks the Maharajah has exhibited deep concern over the rebellion of the Peristaltic Movement and its leader, Pandit the Bandit. Sometimes he has been so deeply involved that he has remained in his harem for days at a time. So it was a source of great relief to his Chief Eunuch, Hassan Haddahorn, when he heard his ruler laugh uproariously.

After knocking his head on the floor the prescribed nine times, the eunuch humbly asked the Maharajah what was the cause of his healthful amusement. "It's these press releases from Austria," he replied. "Peg the Cacographous One ought to look to her laurels. A challenger to her title has arisen."

CONSTANTINOPLE (16 Dec. 1901, SPP): Our beloved Sultan Yuk is reported to be ecstatic with joy at the news of his errant concubines' arrival in London. As new shipments are constantly arriving, the Sultan regretfully requisitioned another 45% of the military budget to create a flotilla of discreet luxury cruisers suitable for the Sultan and his harem. When told that Turkey had enemies that would no doubt appreciate seeing her military appropriations cut to a mere 3% of the former \$175 allotment, the Sultan playfully pinched one of his companions and ambled off, clearly unconcerned.

CONSTANTINOPLE (18 Dec. 1901, SPP): Explaining that he was primarily a "lover, not a fighter", our beloved Sultan Yuk today entrusted the building of his pleasure flotilla to the most famous of Turkish shipbuilders, Abdul Fa-Cul Blo.

SMYRNA (3 Jan. 1902, SPP): Sources close to the problem today explained the three factors that have been impeding the construction of the Sultan's floating pleasure domes: (1) The large quantities of the strange grass that Sultan Yuk has made available to the general populace from the private stores he has gathered at his Summer Estate in Indo-China; (2) The habit of the Turkish Shipbuilders to accept all instructions in the most literal sense imaginable; (3) Sultan Yuk's frequent use of his favorite saying - "Put THAT in your pipe and smoke it!" These apparently unrelated factors are allegedly responsible for the dazed expressions which seem endemic to the workers in the Smyrna shipyards.

CONSTANTINOPLE (20 Jan. 1902, SPP): Our beloved Sultan Yuk today embarked on a short shakedown cruise of his oft-delayed pleasure flotilla, accompanied by 3,067 concubines of his harem. Since he was the only man aboard, observers wondered aloud at the number of women included. "Nonsense," responded our Sultan, "this is only for six months, why SHOULD I take the usual 8,000?" It wasn't until the Sultan had happily departed for O Phuc that it was realized he had once again neglected to leave orders for his armed forces. His last relevant comment was delivered three days ago; "War! What war? Don't be absurd. The way THIS country is run, who would want to fight a war?"

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

Chapter LXV

As he took his seat for the opening session of the convention of the Tarpeia Society, O-O-Hate looked around for evidence of the plotting going on at this meeting of spies of all nations. By the bar a piebald Albanian monarchist slipped a set of nuclear submarine plans to a hunchbacked dwarf in the pay of the Iroquois National Liberation Front, while behind the drapes Sir Harley Davidson of Canadian Intelligence was diligently searching an opium-crazed North Korean girl for a set of Portuguese mobilization orders he had seen her inveigle away from a drunken Camerounian. But this routine activity went scarcely noticed by O-O-Hate, dedicated defender of the American Way of War, who in his other identity is Clark Gungel, mild-mannered comic book collector of Bugle, Pennsylvania.

Where were the two Chinese delegations? And what was the truth behind the rumor of union organization among spies? Was their thrilling, challenging, free-lance profession to degenerate into a group of time-serving union members, concerned only with the Old Spies' Fund and kill-and-a-half for overkill?

With half an ear, O-O-Hate listened to the welcoming address, delivered by the Crown Prince of Siunik, Hagop the Haggard. Midway through the speech, the Prince was cut down in a hail of machine-gun bullets, and the podium was assumed by General Vulgarian, plenipotentiary of the newly founded Timocracy of Siunik. The general concluded the address and turned the microphone back to the Tarpeia Society's venerable President, the Swiss agent Hugo Fürst. As he left, he was stabbed by a wild-eyed young student who proclaimed the People's Republic of Siunik.

Bored at this Siunikite custom, O-O-Hate idly opened the elaborate souvenir program, clad in genuine human skin imported at great expense from Vietnam. But he was startled into full awareness as a small folded pamphlet fell out of the program. On it he was shocked to read, in six languages, "Spies of the World Unite! You Have Nothing to Lose but Your Firing Squads!"

Subversive unionists who would destroy the ancient and dishonorable profession of espionage were at work! O-O-Hate gripped the pamphlet tightly and left the hall, heedless of a street battle in which the People's Republic of Siunik was overthrown by the Siunikite Nationalist Iron Front.

((At last O-O-Hate is on the trail of the Sinister Forces of World Peace! Continue his adventures in the next issue of GRAUSTARK!))

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF BEAUQUILLON - XXXVI

Shortly after the Soviet Union put Sputnik I into orbit in 1957, Count Niccolò d'Avino presented Grand Duke Cosima XV with a plan for Beauquillon's future in the Space Age. The Grand Duke was at first skeptical of this idea. "How can Beauquillon, the smallest country in Europe, compete with the USSR and the USA in space?" he asked his chief adviser.

"But we are also one of the richest countries in Europe," d'Avino replied. "The gold Beauquillonese ducat is now valued at \$11.34, and is the stablest currency in the world. Even our poker chips are preferred to French francs. And last year our gross national income was more than 35 million ducats."

"Yes, but only the gross income is so gross. Our expenditures were more than 80 million ducats, not counting paternity suits, which aren't reckoned into the budget until nine months after the end of the year."

"But we will have a casino in orbit, above the 12-mile limit! The Jet Set will pay handsomely!"

The Count finally persuaded his sovereign to accept the idea, and a Beauquillon space project was established at Cape Carnival, a small park south of the Grand Ducal Bourse, which had previously been used after dark for amatory purposes. (A brief youth and student riot against the space project was hastily suppressed by adding LSD to the water supply of the College Grand-Ducale de Beauquillon.)

The space center was placed under the direction of Dr. Verne von Braunau, the distinguished refugee from Nazi Germany who had been with the Manhattan Project until J. Edgar Hoover found that von Braunau was wanted in Germany not for political reasons but for embezzlement, bastardy, and mail fraud.

In 1968 the long years of research -- aided by foreign scientists who had worked out roulette table debts at Cape Carnival -- paid off. Using a secret power source which contained a dog, a cat, and a violin, Dr. von Braunau put a cow into a trans-lunar orbit. On its return the spacecraft landed in the Grand Duke's conservatory, in the middle of the Hallöwe'en Orgy, and knocked all the tableware off the banquet table. The cow is now mounted in the Beaucouillon Museum, by a Guernsey bull.

So, in the 15th century of its existence as an independent nation, more than 2,000 years after the founding of the Grand Ducal line by Ptolemy Caesarion, the Grand Duchy of Beaucouillon looks forward to an even brighter future in space. The estimated launching date for the orbital casino is 15 December 1969, just in time for the holiday trade and a grand opening on New Year's Day 1970.

(Conclusion)

THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

JOHN BESHARA, Apt. 1021, 155 West 68th St., New York, N. Y. 10023: Rod Walker just informed me of the following: "The longest postal game on record was 1965Q, which appeared in GRAUSTARK and ended in a draw in 1922. The longest game which ended in a victory was 1966I, in Big Brother, which ended in 1919. I also seem to remember hearing from John Boardman that an in-person game of his acquaintance lasted until 1934 or some such improbable date."

So far as mail games are concerned, it appears that if the above info is correct, 1967U will break the existing record.

((I did not see the 34-"year"-old game, but heard about it from Allan Calhamer several years ago.))

WILLIAM LEE LINDEN, 83-33 Austin St., Kew Gardens, N. Y. 11415: The cretinous hoodlums who call themselves "Students for a Democratic Society" (they remind me of nothing so much as the Holy Roman Empire -- they are only nominally students, they are not democratic, and they want to destroy society) are the biggest threat to my peaceful new year, which I assumed was meant. ((For a new conscription registrant, that's a rather hasty statement.)) Of course, if you confine peace to the narrow meaning of the absence of a state of war between sovereign nations, I will agree that there are other, more serious threats to it. Such as Mao Tse-tung. ((Whom is he bombing?))

If SDS have not killed anyone -- yet -- it is due to pure luck. It isn't their fault that no one was around when they set their bombs off at the University, or that no one was hurt by their attempt to burn down Loeb Student Center. (Sure, they deny it. Since their whole movement is one big lie, I don't believe them especially since arson, and bombs were in their interest and since they were trying to shut down the university, and not in the interest of the same people who were keeping it going.)

..."The only government in Vietnam which is able to maintain itself without the aid of a foreign army spells it 'Vietnam'? Oh no, they don't. A glance at the Statesman's Yearbook tells us that a) said government is called "Viet-Nam Dan-Chu Cong-Hoa"; b) Said government took power under the auspices of the Japanese army.

((Prove b). As for a), the Ethiopian government prescribes that the correct spelling in the Latin alphabet for their country is "Ethiopia", despite the fact that what the natives call it could be more properly rendered as "Ifteyopia". I presume that the Vietnamese government has the same right. See also Brenton Ver Ploeg's letter from the scene, in whatever issue of GRAUSTARK I can find space for it.))

You and Prosnitz seem to think Those Men in Washington refused to stop the Soviets in Czechoslovakia to further their own ends. How could Those Men have stopped the Soviets, other than declaring (GASP! SHUDDER!) war?

G R A U S T A R K

extends its condolences to

WILLIAM LEE LINDEN and DEREK NELSON

on the twenty-fourth anniversary of the assassination of

B E N I T O M U S S O L I N I .

"The blood of martyrs is the seed of the faith."

Gene says: "...we were able to find a few puppets to invite us into Viet Nam." We were invited in by Ngo Dinh Diem, and we didn't "find" him, the French did. Why should we be blamed for their sins as well as our own?

((You're right. We didn't find him; we lost him.))

The name of Verwoerd's murderer is spelled Stifianōs, Tsafendas, and five or six other ways, with "Stifianos" appearing in the earlier despatches and "Tsafendas" prevailing in the latter. He was described as a poor white from Angola. If your assertions are correct, why would a mulatto immigrate from Angola to South Africa? ((For a job.)) To me it sounds like going from Florida to the Sahara Desert to cool off.

((Dimitrios Tsafendakis was the son of a Greek father and an African mother. He cut his name down to Tsafendas - compare "Anagnostopolous-Agnew". For further information see the New York Times, passim, for the weeks after the assassination in September 1966.))

Whether murder may be justified is foreign to my main contention. What I object to is your calling a spade a magnet. Justified or not, murder is what it remains. "The difference is between taking one's murder straight, and spicing it with Hypocritey." - John Boardman. Why should anyone consider your views when you refuse to listen to your own sermons.

War is Bad, but "Revolution" is Good. How can this be when revolution is civil war?

It is tempting to carry the Peloponesian parallel further. After the defeat of Athens, the states which had joined the "liberating" Spartans to safeguard "Hellenic freedom" found themselves under committees of oligarchs hand-picked by the "liberators". These oligarchs then began reigns of terror such as that of the infamous "Thirty Tyrants". The efforts of throwing off the Spartan yoke exhausted Greek civilization, which became easy pray ((sic)) for its half-barbarian neighbors of Macedon.

((The Greeks, clearly, were so exhausted that they could barely conquer the Persian Empire. Sparta was not to be preferred to Athens, but an "imperial democracy" on the Athenian-American model is so hung up in its own internal contradictions that it can in the end preserve neither its empire nor its democracy.))

Cosimo XV hasn't been doing his homework. He asserts that Chinese would not have access to his UN branch. There are some people there who look Chinese, sound Chinese, claim to be Chinese, and are accepted by all as Chinese. On the other hand, Swiss would be excluded as well as Germans, but I imagine that with their geographical position they would not find it as much of a hardship.

((In another part of Manhattan, around the offices of a newspaper called Szabad Magyar-sag, you will find people who look Hungarian, sound Hungarian, claim to be Hungarian, and are accepted by all - in the immediate vicinity - as Hungarian.

But somehow I don't think they'd qualify as diplomatic representatives of the real Hungary. And before you get all syrupy about the Gallant Hungarian Freedom Fighters, I suggest you find out just what the Szabad Magyarok gang stands for.

((Cosino XV may not have erred, but O-O-Hate's colleague Sonovavitch pulled a blooper. In GRAUSTARK #172 he said that Khrushchev was fired after he made peace between India and Pakistan. Actually, the Indo-Pakistani war took place in 1965, a year after Khrushchev was ousted.))

In case anyone asks, my source for the Ninefold Kingdom is Frederick Rolfe's ("Baron Corvo") Hadrian the Seventh, in which Pope Hadrian, at the invitation of a congress of the Powers, engages in a massive redrawing of the map of the sort of which I am so fond.

((In a letter I asked Bill about the alleged nations of "Cossackia" and "Ural-Idel"; two of the regions into which the United States plans to partition the Soviet Union. This partition plan was approved by a joint congressional resolution in 1959, and has been re-enacted annually ever since. Bill's response follows.))

In The Coat of Arms #68 (so-called October 1968) there is an article "Flags of the Russian States". The author (unfortunately, without giving sources) says: "The European Cossacks banded together briefly as a confederation under the name of Cossackia..." This is the only reference I have found to Cossackia, and I suspect it may be another name for the South-Eastern Union. Also, it's ((sic)) flag (blue, red, yellow) sounds suspiciously like that of the Don Republic (blue, yellow, red). The same article states: "A Turko-Tartar republic centered on Kazan and bearing the name Idel-Ural existed briefly during 1918".

Your use of "Peace stamps" strikes me as odd when I consider that in 1915 there was a similar use of "War stamps". Tempora Mutantur, indeed!

WHO ARE THEY?

Here is a list of ten names of well-known people. The catch is that they are not well-known under these their own names, but by other names which they have for one or another reason taken. The person correctly identifying the most names from this list by NOON, SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY 1969 will get a free entry into the next new GRAUSTARK game.

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|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Margaret Corbin | 6. Claudia Taylor Johnson |
| 2. Amandine Dudevant | 7. Edward Judson |
| 3. Mary Ann Evans | 8. Cornelius McGillicuddy |
| 4. Willy Frahm | 9. Sholem Rabinowitz |
| 5. David Green | 10. Willard H. Wright |

Hint: None of these people are or were in show business.

GRAUSTARK #175

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

"But, Ivan, if we don't fight them in Vietnam eventually we'll have to fight them in Semipalatinsk!"