

GRAUSTARK

#197 1967U, 1968CH, 1968CI, 1968CL, 1969BI, 1969BW 22 November 1969

ON THE EDGE OF VICTORY

After the massive outpouring of support for peace in the two Moratorium demonstrations, those of us who took this position more than four years ago are heartened as only those can be who have seen a cause through from its beginnings. I have a button which reads "March on Washington - End the War in Vietnam - April 17, 1965". At that time the peace movement was an unregarded effort by a handful of leftists then regarded as mere cranks.

The tragic escalation of the American invasion of Vietnam has since forced on the American people the necessity of adopting this position, despite the obloquy heaped upon it in the press. We do not have to go back very far to remember when Arthur Schlesinger Jr. was defending Johnson's Vietnam policy at teach-ins, when "liberal" newspapers portrayed peace marchers as a ragged pack of barefooted dope addicts, and when Pacifists automatically assumed that a man in uniform was their enemy.

Sometime in late 1967, or early 1968 the desire to get our forces out of Vietnam became the majority opinion of the American people. This realization developed in a number of ways. Attendance at anti-war parades outnumbered attendance at pro-war parades by figures like 10-1 or 15-1. New York City and Cleveland, by refusing to allow anti-war referenda on the ballot, effectively conceded the majority to the opposition. And, for the first time in American history, an active anti-war movement developed within the army itself. Few people in government realized that their conscript soldiers were coming from the same generation of youth that has so forcefully and effectively built the peace movement to its present strength.

Your Gamesmaster can appreciate the satisfaction of his Abolitionist ancestors, who began with illegal pamphlets and the Underground Railroad, and ended by wiping slavery from the face of the land. For, after the October and November ~~Moratorium~~ it has become evident that President Nixon can continue his war only through such a massive suppression of individual liberty as will make his own rule as untenable as Thieu's.

Long-time GRAUSTARK readers will remember an early concern with the peace issue in these pages. Though another of my publications had already attacked the American invasion of Vietnam a few months earlier, discussion opened in GRAUSTARK #71 on 7 November 1965 with a letter from John Smythe, then a political science instructor at Youngstown University. Smythe, who popularized Diplomacy among several of his students including John Koning, wrote a long letter attacking the peace marches. "The misbegotten sons who participated in the marches...aimed at avoiding or destroying the draft," he wrote, "should be enrolled immediately in a punishment battalion, and...shipped to Viet Nam." There was more of the same, covering almost ~~100~~ pages of elite type. His main argument were the same tired old geopolitical considerations which say "spheres of influence" when they mean butchered women, burned children, and bombed hospitals.

(continued on p. 7)

1968CL

"Spring 1909"

ITALIANS OCCUPY PARIS; FRENCH FLEE TO ENGLAND

FRANCE (Ward): A Lon-Yor; F Eng-North Sea; F Wal-Eng.GERMANY (Barber): F North Sea-Edi.

ITALY (Comber): A Bel & A Kie hold; A Gas-Par; A Spa-Gas; F Mid-North Atlantic; F Wes-Mid; F Por S F Wes-Mid; A Bur S A Gas-Par.

RUSSIA (Schleicher): F Hol-North Sea; F Den S F Hol-North Sea; F Norway-Norwegian Sea; A St.P-Norway; A Fin-Swe ((sic; no such unit exists)); A Swe not ordered, holds.TURKEY (Beshara): A Con-Bul; A Anl-Arm; A Sev-Ukr; F Ion-Tyr; F Tun S F Ion-Tyr; F Gre-Ion; F Smy-~~Reg~~; A Ber S ITALIAN A Kie; A Mun, A Sil, & A Livonia hold; A Boh S A Mun; A Tri-Tyr; F Bre-Eng; F Yor-Edi.

Underlined moves are not possible. Germany must retreat F North Sea-Hel or -Ska. The direction of this retreat should be sent in with the "Fall 1909" moves, which may be made conditional upon them. The deadline for "Fall 1909" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER 1969.

Peter Comber's new address is 980 E. 45th St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11203.

EDINBURGH (JAB): Russia acts like it wants Turkey to take Warsaw and Moscow. Italy is just asking to be stabbed in the back by Turkey. France should move with the help of Germany to wipe out the Yellow menace in England.

LONDRES: Forward elements of the 25th Division entered Malmsey at 1500 hours today. The Shire government of York, which had moved to Malmsey, promptly capitulated. Division Sergeant-Major Woolredge immediately opened the old Palace as an NCO club.

A fleet of Ford Trimotors evacuated the Cabinet to London as Paris is expected to fall soon. Some members of the Cabinet expressed fear that London without the 25th Division would be unsafe, but quickly agreed that it would still be safer than with the Division.

1969BI

"Spring 1903"

MOSCOW AND ITS GOVERNMENT FALL

Following "Fall 1902" moves Russia retreated A St.P-Fin. All players in those regions were informed by postcard. This game now has the designation "1969BI".

ENGLAND (G. Heap): A St.P S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Ukr-Mos; F Bar S A St.P; F Den-Swe; F North Sea-Ska; A Liv-Cly; F Lon-Eng.FRANCE (Gletty): F North Atlantic-Norwegian Sea; F Bre-Eng; A Pic-Bel; A Bur S ITALIAN A Tyr-Mun.GERMANY (D. Johnston): F Bel-Eng; A Hol-Bel; A Ruh S A Hol-Bel; A Kie S A Mun; A Mun S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Vie-Tyr.ITALY (Berman): A Tyr-Mun; A Syr-Smy; F Eas S A Syr-Smy; F Ion-Tun.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Beshara): A Vie-Boh; A Bud-Gal; A Tri-Bud; A Ser-Rum; A Bul S A Ser-Rum; F Con-Ank; A Ukr-Mos.

RUSSIA (Birsan): A Rum S AUSTR0-HUNGARIAN A Bul; F Sev S A Rum;
A Mos-St.P; A Fin-Norway; F Swe S A Fin-Norway.

TURKEY (White): A Arm-Sev; F Bla S A Arm-Sev.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Russian F Sev is annihilated, and Russia retreats A Rum-Ukr. Russia must also retreat either A Mos-Liv or A Mos-War. With these moves Edi Birsan resigns as Russia, so this retreat and subsequent Russian moves are taken over by the first stand-by, Robert Ward. (See GRAUSTARK #196 for his address.) The direction of this retreat should be sent in with the "Fall 1903" moves, which may be made conditional upon it. The deadline for "Fall 1903" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER 1969.

1967U

"Fall 1925"

~~ITALIANS~~ DISLODGE TURKS FROM GREECE

GERMANY (M. Miller): A Sev-Arm; A Mos-Sev; A Ukr S A Mos-Sev; A Pru-War; F Norwegian Sea-North Atlantic; F North Sea-Norwegian Sea; F Hel-North Sea; F Kie-Hel; A Gal S ITALIAN A Bud-Rum; A St.P, F Swe, A Norway, A Mun, & A Livonia not ordered, hold.

ITALY (Clark): A Rum-Bul; A Bud-Rum; A Ser-Gre; A Alb S A Ser-Gre;
A Tri-Ser; A Tyr-Tri; A Rom holds; F Ion-Aeg; F Apu-Ion; F Adr
& F Tun S F Apu-Ion; F Tyr-Lyo; F Mid-Eng.

RUSSIA (G. Heap): A Arm-Syr.

TURKEY (Beshara): A Bul-Ser; F Bla-Rum; F Eas-Ion; F Gre S F Eas-Ion;
F Aeg S F Gre.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Turkish fleet in Greece is annihilated. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Mar, Mos, Mun, Nor, Par, St.P, Sev, Swe, War. (15)

ITALY: Bre, Bud, Gre, Liv, Lon, Nap, Por, Rom, Rum, Ser, Spa, Tri, Tun, Ven, Vie. (15)

TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Smy. (4)

Italy may build two new units, and Germany may build one. The last Russian army is removed since Russia has no remaining supply centers. These builds should be sent in immediately to the Gamesmaster, who will inform all remaining players. The deadline for "Spring 1926" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER 1969.

1968CH

"Winter 1909"

FRANCE (Berman): Builds A Par. RUSSIA (Schelz): No removal received. Gamesmaster removes A Ukr.
 AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Kush): Removes A Gal, A Boh. TURKEY (Lindsay): Builds A Con, A Smy.

The deadline for "Spring 1910" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER 1969. Hal Naus, the first stand-by, should send in "Spring 1910" moves for Russia, in case George Schelz misses it.

*

To his address, as published in GRAUSTARK #196, Brenton Ver Ploeg adds the ZIP code "80424". A more permanent address in the same town will follow in due course. 1968CI players please note.

1969BW

"Spring 1901"

ITALIAN ARMY SUBMERGED IN NAPLES

"1969BW" is the designation of this new game, whose Gamesmaster is John Beshara. Readers should note that this game is in no sense a "variation", since it is being played under the rules published in GRAUSTARK #170.

ENGLAND (Lasky): A Liv-Edi; F Edi-Norwegian Sea; F Lon-North Sea.

FRANCE (R. Miller): F Bre-Mid; A Mar-Spa; A Par-Bur.

GERMANY (Shuldiner): A Mun-Ruh; F Kie-Den; A Ber-Kie.

ITALY (Gorman): A Ven holds; F Nap-Ion; A Rom-Nap.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Kimmel): A Vie-Gal; A Bud-Ser; F Tri-Alb.

RUSSIA (Wile): F St.P-Bot; F Sev-Bla; A Mos-Ukr; A War-Gal.

TURKEY (Becker): A Con-Ful; A Smy-Con; F Ank-Bla.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1901" moves is 6 PM, MONDAY 1 DECEMBER 1969. The first stand-by is Howard Latin, Apt. 2A, 404 E. 83rd St., New York, N. Y. 10028; 249-1141.

1968CI

"Spring 1909"

TURKS MASSACRED IN ALPINE BATTLES

ENGLAND (Grayson): F Lon & A Par hold.

FRANCE (Clark): A Gas-Mar.

ITALY (Presnitz): F Wes-Mid; A Ven S TURKISH A Tyr; A Rom-Tus.

RUSSIA (Bytwerk): F North Atlantic-Mid; F Eng-Iri; F North Sea-Eng; F Yor-North Sea; A Wal-Lon; A Fel-Pic; A Bur S FRENCH A Gas-Mar; A Den-Kie; A Mun-Tyr; A Boh & A Vie S A Man-Tyr; A Gal S A Vie; A Ukr-Rum; F Sev S A Ukr-Rum; A Mos S F Sev.

TURKEY (Ver Ploeg): A Rum-Gal; A Bud S A Rum-Gal; A Ser-Tri; F Adr S A Ser-Tri; A Tyr S A Ser-Tri; A Bul-Rum; A Arm-Sev; F Bla S A Arm-Sev; F Ion-Tyr; F Smy-Aeg; F Bre & F Spa(n.c.) S ITALIAN F Wes-Mid; A Mar-Bur.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Turkish A Tyr is annihilated, and Turkey retreats A Mar-Pie. Russia must retreat A Gal-Sil or A Gal-War. The direction for this retreat should be sent in with "Fall 1909" moves, and other players may make their moves conditional upon it. Or, if the player of Russia sends it in quickly, the Gamesmaster will inform the others. The deadline for "Fall 1909" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER 1969.

LONDON: The ancient legends say that King Arthur will return, with his sword Excalibur in hand, in England's darkest hour. He's not here yet. Does this mean things are going to get worse?

MARSEILLES to the WORLD: Hey, guys, this game was supposed to get me free GRAUSTARK after 1967U finished!

THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

ROD WALKER, 5058 Hawley Blvd., San Diego, Calif. 92116: I never cease to marvel at the statements you print. I mention a list of nations strongly opposed to world government. You make the wholly irrelevant (and inaccurate) statement that none of them has recently invaded any of its neighbors. What that has to do with support of, or opposition to, world government I cannot imagine. Can you? ((Easily. You promote world government as the only way to prevent war, and then name national governments you believe to be opposed to this. It's all there in GRAUSTARK #193, p. 6.)) The countries named (Ghana not so much, lately) are positively paranoid on the subject of national sovereignty. As to the accuracy of your statement, your desire to make a sweeping denial has run away with you. In recent times (i. e., since World War II), China has invaded Tibet, India, Burma, South Korea, and possibly the USSR. Egypt has invaded Israel, the Imamate of Yemen, and the Sudan. Cuba has launched unofficial ~~invasions~~ incursions on a small scale in Venezuela and possibly elsewhere. South Africa illegally occupies Southwest Africa. Indonesia has invaded Malaysia and threatened to invade the (former) territory of Dutch New Guinea, now West Irian. Formosa, of course, would like to invade China. And, if you count the Allied effort in Vietnam as an "invasion", then you will have to admit that Formosa has "invaded" Vietnam. Anyway, if you are going to make statements of the sort mentioned above, please follow the injunction of Sam Clemens: "First get your facts straight, then you can distort them as you please."

((Another good debating injunction is to refute statements your opponent hasn't made - it's easier than refuting the ones he has made. I limited my remarks to the last 10 years, because if peace cannot come unless every last "historic" injustice is rectified, it will never come. To stop this sort of endless recrimination, we'll have to accept every last de facto boundary as unchangeable, from the ancient Pyrenean frontier to the latest cease fire lines in Sina'i or the Himalayas.

((The regions which China is accused of invading in the last decade are only dubiously non-Chinese. Tibetans have participated in Chinese national elections under both the Kuomintang and Communist governments - in fact, no region considered by Peking to be Chinese is considered by Taipei to be non-Chinese. South Africa rules Namibia - "Southwest Africa" - under the terms of a treaty a half-century old, though the people of Namibia are beginning to have something to say about it. And Egypt didn't "invade" Yemen - it was "invited" in by the government of the country, or a body claiming to be the government, under terms precisely identical to those under which Saigon "invited" in the Americans whose presence in Vietnam you support.))

By the way, anent your statement that you wish to bring the "institution" of war "to an end", I might mention that I would like to do so, also. Simply, I regard your method (which does not appear to be very concrete) as even remotely likely to succeed. ((There probably ought to be a negative somewhere in that last sentence.)) The method I espouse will succeed (if adopted), without fail.

Quinton's theories on war are simplistic, crude, and infantile. ((Is that the way captains talk about colonels in the New Action Army?)) Being a war hero of any sort does not ipso facto make one an expert, especially on war. His writings give credence to J. A. Schumpeter's theory of aggressive war as a social atavism but they are hardly convincing to anyone who has studied the question in an

academic sense.

It is one thing to be against war. Big deal - the world trembles, no doubt. How can you effectively oppose an institution of which you have (apparently) so little understanding? Can you explain the causes of war in general? Can you explain the causes of any particular war - the Spanish-American War, or World War I, for instance? I should certainly be delighted to see a demonstrable and satisfactory explanation. You may, of course, quote any number of crackpot theoreticians, such as Treitschke, Spengler, Brooks Adams, Marx, Niebuhr, and bunches of others. However, I suggest that attacking a social institution which you do not understand is like taking on a tank with a safety pin.

((The people cited in the "Directory of Unfamiliar Quotations" are cited not as experts but as specimens of the pro-war mentality. They include kings, generals and admirals, statesmen, philosophers, historians, and ordinary soldiers, - the people who plan wars and the people who fight them. They may not be "experts", but they seem to know what motivates them to fight, and what they expect to do.))

RANDY BYTWERK, 717 Collindale N. W., Grand Rapids, Mich. 49504: By the way, Bytwerk is an excellent Dutch name ((to go with the other Dutch names in postal Diplomacy)). Unfortunately, I am a half-breed type of Dutchman, since my mother had the misfortune to be born of Scandinavian parents.

I fully agree with Brenton Ver Ploeg's sentiments. Playing in GRAUSTARK is an enjoyable experience, especially when one is winning. Can game fees be paid in advance? Can I pay now, in other words, to guarantee a position in the next game you start?

((I am not at present accepting entries for new games. When I do so, it will be announced in GRAUSTARK.))

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

ROBERT J. WARD, US 56837902, 629th Med. Co., Ft. Ord, Calif. 93941: I was interested in Bill Linden's comments about the "Pan Vietnam" elections ((in GRAUSTARK #195)). Communism has never objected to free elections that they could win. (E. g., some provinces of India.) No one has ever accused the Sinister etc. Conspiracy of stupidity, and as Ho would have been the obvious easy winner it would have been incredibly dumb to rig the election and give the "foreign devils" an excuse to intervene. I know of no serious source that claims Ho would have lost the election if held.

415

I do not believe that democracy is the right system for all, or even most, people but there is something ludicrous about those who defend democracy, as in Vietnam, by refusing to let it be tried.

I think that internationally supervised elections will be a key part of any peace settlement and Thieu is stalling to give his government time (by rural pacification etc.) to have a chance to win.

GARY GYGAX, 330 Center St., Lake Geneva, Wisc. 53147: My error, John, one for which I apologize, was allowing your assertions to irk me. It takes maturity to follow the advice found at 2 Timothy ii: 23-25. Perhaps I've learned to control my temper enough to follow it in the future... Jesus backed or favored none of the various factions or sects. Rather, he was a Jew and lived perfectly under the Mosaic law. ((The Mosaic Law is rather up tight about people who claim to be gods. And at least one of his disciples was a Zealot, or a "Fighter of the National Liberation Forces" in modern jargon.))

DAVID LINDSAY, 2245 Fairmont Parkway, Erie, Penn. 16510: Now, John, I must protest! Lonely Mountain, contrary to the statement in

GRAUSTARK #195, p. 12, is published by Sid Cochran and Charles Wells and is available from Terry Kuch. I'm sure you just made an honest mistake. Walker on the brain?

((No, I confused Lonely Mountain with the N3F Games Bureau, of which it is a member and which Walker heads.))

I liked your comment on page 12 ((of #195)) about the New York City mayoralty race. Is this true? I always thought Lindsay was a God among liberals. But lots of people still think Harding was a bad president.

((Lindsay was unconvincing as the apostle of liberal sweetness and light, a year after his cops were cracking skulls at Columbia University in the best traditions of Lawnorder.))

Finally, six pages of W. L. Linden was a bit much - like 5 pages too much. Let's hear more on this Suffolk thing. Never know when ~~these~~ things can come in handy in my English History course.

((It's just that the younger sister of Henry VIII, Princess Mary, was married to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk - not of Norfolk as I incorrectly noted in an earlier Graustark. From this marriage sprang the abortive claims of Lady Jane Grey.))

ON THE EDGE OF VICTORY (continued from p. 1)

The discussion was continued in later issues. Anders Swenson supported Smythe's views, while Jack Chalcker opposed them. Two Canadians, Derek Nelson and James MacKenzie, vowed to fight to the last American; MacKenzie added support for the white-supremacist regime in Rhodesia. From then on the topic was never absent from the pages of GRAUSTARK, despite my abortive attempt to transfer political commentary to the pages of another of my publications. In the spring of 1966, Charles Reinsel made a noisy break with GRAUSTARK by objecting to anti-war slogans on the mailing wrappers. This inspired "Clark Gungel", hero of the "Secret Agent O-O-Hate" series.

Many former Hawks have now come over, as the continuing damage done by the war to both ~~Vietnam~~ and America. And now the need for peace has become glaringly evident. Following on the heels of the November moratorium have come several atrocity reports. Yesterday's New York Times, for example, carried the following stories:

1. On 16 March 1968 American soldiers butchered 567 women, children, and old men at the village of Songmy in Quangnai province. This massacre, originally denied, is receiving increasing confirmation as soldiers who were present come forward with their stories and photographs. The American commander has been arrested, though after what happened to the "Green Beret Eight" no one imagines that anything will happen to him. (His lawyer said he was only doing his duty, which of course is perfectly true.)

2. Early this year at Balangan, Americans towed boats loaded with 1200 Vietnamese noncombatants out to sea, where they were sunk by American warships in an atrocity reminiscent of the mass noyages of the French Reign of Terror.

3. During 1968, 18,393 suspected Vietcong village officials were assassinated under Project Phoenix.

Contrary to the assertions of U. S. officials, an American withdrawal from Vietnam will not bring about a bloodbath, but will end one. The men who were so vocal in defense of American policy in Vietnam a few months ago are now silent - dare we call them "a silent minority"? The war becomes impossible to justify now save on Nazi principles and doctrines, though the American Nazi Party and the remnants of the George Wallace movement are still vocal in its support. Though the end of the war comes too late for 45,000 Americans and uncounted thousands of Vietnamese, it is coming soon.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Simulation games like Diplomacy are fun, but a simulation game for sex seems rather ridiculous. One of them, Score, was reviewed in GRAUSTARK #192. Another is now on the market. Advertised in the 17 November 1969 issue of Screw, it is called Rated Sex. ("The Game That Goes All The Way.") The ad gives very little concrete information - just a price (\$7.90) and an address (P. O. Box 2651, New York, N. Y. 10001).

*

Leonard Lakofka sends along the 3rd issue of Berzerkeley Bark, his new postal Diplomacy bulletin. It is a successor to the lamented Limbourg Gazette and Bi-Monthly, and carries on four of the games that were begun there. Lakofka owns ditto masters in several different colors, and wants everyone to know it. BB sells for \$1.50 per subscription; Lakofka's address is 704 Alice St., Oakland, Calif. 94607.

*

Four years ago tomorrow, Arlo Guthrie was arrested for littering in Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

*

"The Adventures of Secret Agent O-O-Hate", which has been running for over three years in GRAUSTARK, will no longer appear. The Gamesmaster is running out of inspiration for this serial, which was a combination parody of James Bond and Batman. Besides, the activities of the United States government under the administration of Lyndon Milhouse Nixjohn have defied all attempts at satire by going beyond it. "O-O-Hate" was supposed to be working for an agency dedicated to getting another big war started. But real life has eclipsed him. Who would have accepted as credible satire a declaration by O-O-Hate that "we had to destroy the village in order to save it", or the release of a carefully designed plan for 40 steps of escalation to nuclear holocaust (Herman Kahn), or a research report proving that peace would be an economic disaster (Iron Mountain Report), or President Johnson's belief that he received personal guidance from god at 4 every morning, or Konrad Lorenz's attempts to justify war by appealing to the territorial instincts of songbirds?

There is no place for O-O-Hate in a world which contains Spiro T. Agnew.

*

"All men are created equal. They are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights; among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." - Declaration of Independence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam), with thanks to As You Were, 1 November 1969

*

King, one of the Labrador retrievers being trained to track Viet Cong, is sitting in a Ft. Gordon doghouse awaiting discharge for apparently refusing to participate in the program. News about King has been hard to come by. Col. Henry Gibson, commandant at the Ft. Gordon military police school, told one newsman, "We don't want to represent this dog as a conscientious objector. You might say that tracking VC is not his bag." - The Militant, also with thanks to As You Were

*

Arthur Lasky's telephone number is listed incorrectly in GRAUSTARK #196. It is actually 212-591-1191. Sorry.

*

BOOK REVIEWS

THE TRAITOR GAME by Dougal McLeish - Houghton Mifflin, \$4.95.

In my review of Pete Hamill's A Killing for Christ (Science-Fiction Review #31) I speculated that few political assassinations would be as unlikely as that of a Pope. A more unlikely candidate is presented in this book. After all, over the centuries Popes have aroused bitter antagonisms that have not yet died down, but who ever gets excited about a Prime Minister of Canada? Like its physical climate, Canada's political climate is sub-Arctic. A couple of years ago, while reading Vladimir Dedijer's excellent study of the Sarajevo tyrannicide (The Road to Sarajevo, reviewed in GRAUSTARK #144 and LEFTOVERS #2) I came across reference to a political assassination in 1868 of one D'Arcy McGee. There have been none since.

The Traitor Game takes place in a very near future - so much so that recognizable characters from the Canadian political scene appear in it. The Leader of the Opposition is a savage caricature of John Diefenbaker, while the Governor General is a French Canadian like a recent real-life counterpart. And the Premier of British Columbia, though not identified as a member of the Social Credit Party, from context plainly belongs to that collection of anti-Semites, funny-money economists, "lawnorder" advocates, and plain nuts who have ruled Canada's California since 1952.

The book begins with the assassination - which is apparently intended to take place in 1969 or 1975, since we are informed that September 8 falls on a Monday. The assassin is taken alive, and turns out to be a hare-brained young French Canadian nationalist. However, the plot turns out to be as devious as those hypothesized by people who feel that the self-appointed "leftist" Lee Harvey Oswald was the tool of right-wingers. In fact, the whole plot structure of the book owes much to the speculations that have been propagated concerning the assassination of President Kennedy.

The hero, a man of mixed Anglo-French ancestry, traces the threads of the plot to the Premier of Canada and his principal henchman, a Minuteman-type triggerman named Misselhorn. The Premier, a wealthy politician-businessman who comes on like a right-wing Rockefeller, has an elaborate plan to drive Quebec into secession, break up Canada, and carve himself a private kingdom out of the ruins. In addition, Misselhorn has his own plans for said kingdom.

In many novels of this sort the situation is saved by one man at the head of the country, who loses neither his life nor his cool, and who uses his powers to take charge and lead the country back to sanity. Here it is the Governor General, the titular Chief of State, whom the hero rescues from an isolated Ontario villa where the plotters hold him captive. The Governor General returns just in time to dissolve a Parliament decimated by a Fawkes-type attack, thus foiling the scheme of thirty hold-out Quebec Nationalists to take over the body and peacefully vote the country's partition. McLeish also feels that, despite centrifugal tendencies that have appeared in Canada in recent years, the sense of nationhood is strong enough among both English-speakers and French-speakers to hold the country together in a crisis.

The Traitor Game is compellingly written. The reader becomes actively interested in the story's development, though numerous science-fiction novels of the type Ted White characterizes as "paranoid" have accustomed us to the pervasive plot that no one can be made to believe in. The loose ends are neatly tied up - though it is hard to believe that the Mafia would hire out to do other peoples'

assassinations, when they have so many of their own to handle. And the American reader, while recognizing similarities with our race problem in the plight of the Québécois, gets an interesting perspective on the too little known country which adjoins ours.

THE CHICAGO CONSPIRACY VS. THE WASHINGTON KANGAROOS - Grove Press, \$1.00.

The simulation of a real-life situation by a game is quite familiar to Diplomacy players. Often such a simulation has a satirical intention, as in the games Avarice and Score which have been previously reviewed here. The supporters of the defendants in the present "Chicago Eight" conspiracy trial have done it here, using nothing less than the "National Sport" as a vehicle for their parody. This 24-page book is in the format and style of the program for a baseball game. (In fact, it is sub-titled "Official Program".)

The eight defendants, ranging from a 54-year-old veteran Pacifist to a Black Panther leader, are accused of conspiring to turn the 1968 Democratic National Convention into a riotous farce. The defendants represent a broad spectrum of the American Left. As a columnist in the book says: "...For the first time in history, the all-stars have been selected not by the writers, not by the coaches or the players or the fans, but by the opposing team."

The defendants are matched with eight "Washington Kangaroos" in the following line-ups:

Dave Dellinger, quarterback	Dick Nixon, president
Rennie Davis, quarterback	Spiro Agnew, vice-president
John Froines, lonesome end	J. Edgar Hoover, chief scout
Bobby Seale, quarterback	Dick Daley, grounds keeper
Abbie Hoffman, quarterback	Jack Mitchell, general manager
Tom Hayden, quarterback	Strom Thurmond, director of player personnel
Lee Weiner, left field	Dick Kleindienst, tight end
Jerry Rubin, quarterback	Martha Raye, campfollower

Rosters give ages, heights, weights, number of years as a pro, and such statistics as Potbelian's Attorneyship Index for the lawyers. (That's the annual income from all sources times the number of years since admission to the bar, divided by 1000 times his numerical ranking in his graduating law class.) The umpire is, of course, Judge Julius Hoffman. The program lists songs and cheers for the two teams, past records (including the Kangaroos' recent 3-2 defeat in Boston), brief accounts of the playing careers of both teams' members, ads for souvenirs ("Official Conspiracy Autographed Time Bomb", "Stuffed Cloth Kangaroo with Plush Piglet"), and other advertisements. ("The Republic of New Africa fly TWA. Is there any reason why YOU shouldn't?" and "Pepsi-Cola Hits the Spot...in the new No-Return Bottle" with a picture of a girl tossing a Molotov cocktail made in one.)

Worth the price of admission by itself is the ad on the back cover:

"Daybreak at Se Bang Hieng. You're out on a recon patrol in Cong country. Then it happens - a mortar opens up in the distance. And another. And yet another. Shells falling everywhere - blossoming into electric flames - shimmering scarlets - throbbing magentas - flashing yellows - pulsating pinks - and even an occasional splash of cerise. You don't move. You're hypnotized - grooving on the light show - caught up in Charlie's ever-changing, churning kaleidoscope. 'Far out!' you murmur to no one in particular. Suddenly your down-head Lieutenant blows the trip and orders the squad to

(continued on p. 12)

THE GRAUSTARK INTERVIEW

This is the first in a series of interviews with men and women who have played distinguished roles in the world of international intrigue. This interview is with the retired spy Pussy Hari, great-granddaughter of the world-renowned Mata Hari.

GRAUSTARK: Did you take up espionage because of family pressure, Miss Hari?

PUSSY: Just call me Pussy. I don't think you could call it "pressure". With all my relatives engaged in spying, there was never any thought of going into any other line of work. I guess I had no more choice in my career than that darling boy in Wales does.

GRAUSTARK: Who were some of your relatives in espionage?

PUSSY: Well, of course everyone's heard of great-grandma, and I've even seen great-aunt Banda's career written up. But my grandmother was Fanny Hari, whose father was the Crown Prince of Germany. Then there was my mother Vera Hari, who was active during World War II. So was my uncle Peter Hari, who had access to certain high Nazi officials who couldn't get along with mama. My sister Connie Hari is now working in Vietnam, and next month my daughter Axilla Hari starts her first independent assignment for the Joint Committee for Cuban Refugees in Miami and German Refugees in Buenos Aires.

GRAUSTARK: Do you work for either side?

PUSSY: Yes, but we're not double agents if that's what you mean. Once a Hari hires out, she stays until the contract expires unless the other side violates it. We have no moral objections to double- or triple-agenting, but it just causes too much confusion in the book-keeping department. For example, mama started World War II working for the Germans, probably out of family tradition. But in 1944, when they started paying her in counterfeit Danzig gulden, she reported in to Allen Dulles in Switzerland.

GRAUSTARK: Have the members of your family found espionage to be a safe profession?

PUSSY: Well, there are risks in everything. For example, mama hired out to the Israelis in 1947 and was crushed to death by King Farouk. But Uncle Peter is still alive and well in his villa on the Greek island of Gemini. It's such a pleasure to watch him opening fat letters with Egyptian, Spanish, or Argentinian stamps and watching the money roll out.

GRAUSTARK: Are you retired now?

PUSSY: Yes, though I get back into action for special commission jobs.

GRAUSTARK: What was your most recent job?

PUSSY: It was in the United States, just after the 1968 Presidential elections.

GRAUSTARK: After? I would have thought that the best opportunities for espionage were before the elections.

PUSSY: No. After the elections, when it was announced that Nixon had won, there was still the problem of determining which one of the three was actually Nixon. No one could tell them apart until I was called in to make the determination.

GRAUSTARK: That must have been a difficult assignment. How did you manage it?

PUSSY: Well, I still have to keep a few trade secrets.

GRAUSTARK: Do you have any new assignments under way?

PUSSY: Yes. I fly to New York City tomorrow. There's just been a mayoral election there among three candidates, and Lindsay won. Now I have to go there and determine which one of them is really

BOOK REVIEWS (continued from p. 10)

take the ridge. But the guys aren't swallowing that old shuck. They sit down and vote on whether or not to comply with the order. Six votes for. Six against. The squad is deadlocked. Every vote is in - except yours. All eyes turn toward you, waiting for you to make your move - to cast the tie-breaker. You pause, silhouetted against the fantastic Asian dawn, a line of grim determination locked on your lips. Then you swing into action: "I vote we go back to the camp!" The crisis is over. A command decision was issued under fire. You met the challenge calmly, not wrought-up with that frenzied bravado that drives men to charge lead-spitting machine-guns or smother live grenades, but with a kind of quiet, unassuming courage, a courage that sees beyond the hollow glitter and tinsel of a posthumous silver star with oak-leaf clusters - a rare kind of courage known only by those who are really - together -

"Later, back at the base, blowing some Saigon Red you scored for a nickel a joint in the marketplace - two tokes and you're spaced - sinking back into your bunk, you stare up at your Che poster, and you muse, 'So this is the new action army - Outtasite!'

"A MAN'S LIFE IS HIS OWN!"

"Fall by your local recruiting station and rap with us about today's groovy new

"ACTION ARMY!"

*

GRAUSTARK, the oldest postal Diplomacy bulletin, is published on alternate Saturdays by John Boardman (address below). Subscriptions are 10 issues for \$1, and back issues are 10¢ each or 15 for \$1. Diplomacy is a board-game simulation of World War I, invented by Allan B. Calhamer and copyright 1961 by Games Research, Inc. Diplomacy maps are available from GRAUSTARK at 5¢ each, and rule-books at \$1 each. The postal Diplomacy rules are available in GRAUSTARK #190. This publication is not edited under the supervision of Bangs Leslie Tapscott.

GRAUSTARK #197

John Boardman
234 E. 19th St.
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226
U. S. A.



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Larry Peery
1537 Virginia Ave.
San Diego, Calif.
92103

MAKE SENSE, NOT WAR!