

# GRAUSTARK

#208 1968CH, 1969BW, 1970D, 1970E, 1970J, 1970M, 1970W 25 April 1970

1970M "Fall 1901"

FOREIGN TROOPS OVERRUN AUSTRIA

ENGLAND (Bray): F Norwegian Sea-Norway; A Edi-Lon; F North Sea  
C A Edi-Lon.

FRANCE (Strayer): A Spa-Par; A Gas-Spa; F Eng-Lon.

GERMANY (Barents): A Kie-Hol; A Ruh-Bel; F Den holds.

ITALY (Kroebick): F Ion-Tun; A Ven-Tri; A Tyr S A Ven-Tri.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (H. Anderson): F Alb-Gre; A Bud-Rum; A Ser S A Bud-Rum.

RUSSIA (Leinhos): F Rum S TURKISH A Con-Bul; F Rot-Swe; A St.P-Fin; A Gal-Vie.

TURKEY (Cairns): A Con-Bul; F Ank-Con; A Smy holds.

Underlined moves are not possible. Russia must retreat F Rum-Sev or F Rum-Bla. Leinhos should send in the direction of this retreat with his winter moves. Other players may make their "Winter 1901" builds conditional upon the direction of this retreat. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Liv, Lon, Nar. (4)

FRANCE: Bre, Mar, Par, Per, Spa. (5)

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun. (6)

ITALY: Nap, Rom, Tri, Tun, Ven. (5)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Gre, Rum, Ser. (4)

RUSSIA: Mos, St.P, Sev, Swe, Vie, War. (6)

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

(continued on p. 4)

1968CH "Fall 1913"

ANGLO-FRENCH BORDER SKIRMISHES!

ENGLAND (Lindon): F Hel-Hol; F North Sea & A Kie S F Hel-Hol; F Iri-Eng; F North Atlantic-Iri; F Norwegian Sea-North Atlantic; A Gal-Bud; A Rum S A Gal-Bud; A Ukr-Gal; A Sev; A Bul, & F Bal holds; A Mos-War; A Norway-Swe.

FRANCE (Berman): F Mid holds; F Wes S F Mid; F Ion-Aeg; F Gre & F Eas S F Ion-Aeg; F Alb S F Gre; A Arm-Ank; A Ser-Bud; A Vie & A Tri S A Ser-Bud; A Tyr-Mun; A Gas-Bur; A Hol-Ruh; A Bel E A Hol-Ruh.

TURKEY (Lindsay): A Smy-Ank; F Bla S A Smy-Ank; F Aeg-Smy.

Underlined moves are not possible. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Ber, Bul, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Liv, Lon, Mos Nor, Rum, St.P, Sev, Swe, War. (15)

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Bud, Gre, Mar, Mar, Nap, Par, Per, Rom, Ser, Spa, Tri, Tun, Ven, Vie. (16)

TURKEY: Ank, Con, Smy. (3)

England may build a new unit and France may build two. These builds should be given to the Gamesmaster at once. They will be communicated to the other players, and the game will proceed by carbon copy as previously agreed. Press releases begin on p. 8.

DR. GEORGE GRAYSON to the other players in 1970D, 1970J, and 1970W:

"To those who were my allies until this move, and others who might be interested: I have not been home to receive the mail you have been sending, which is why you

(continued on p. 4)

1970W

"Spring 1901"

## ANGLO-FRENCH CLASH IN CHANNEL

This is the prizewinners' game, previously referred to in these pages as "G-I".

ENGLAND (Kimmel): F Lon-Eng; F Edi-North Sea; A Liv-Yor.

FRANCE (Vest): A Mar-Spa; A Par-Bur; F Bre-Eng.

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

ITALY (Ward): A Ven-Tri; F Nap-Ion; A Rom-Ven.

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

RUSSIA (Salcedo): F St.P(s.c.)-Fin; A War-Gal; A Mos-Ukr; F Sev-Bla.

TURKEY (Grayson): F Ank-Bla; A Smy-Arm; A Con-Bul.

Underlined moves are not possible. Press releases appear on p. 9. For Bob Ward's new address see GRAUSTARK #207. The deadline for "Fall 1901" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 9 MAY 1970.

1970J

"Spring 1902"

## TURKS STALL RUSSIAN ATTACK

Beginning this move, England is played by Dick Miller, 350 Central Park West, New York, N. Y. 10025; 212-222-9739. Players have already been informed.

ENGLAND (R. Miller): F Eng-Mid; F North Sea-Eng; A Yor holds.

FRANCE (Schelz): F Bre-Mid; A Par-Bre; F Mar-Spa(s.c.); A For & A Bel hold.

GERMANY (Berman): F Kie-Hel; F Den S F Kie-Hel; F Ber-Kie; A Hol S  
FRENCH A Bel; A Mun holds.

ITALY (Comber): F Tun-Tyr; A Tyr S A Ven; A Ven S A Tyr.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Kirkpatrick): F Alb-Gre; A Ser S F Alb-Gre; A Tri holds; A Vie S A Tri.

RUSSIA (Grayson): F St.P(n.c.)-Norway; F Swe S F St.P(n.c.)-Norway;  
A Ukr-Rum; A Sev S A Ukr-Rum; F Rum-Pul(e.c.); A Mos-Ukr.

TURKEY (Aita): F Smy-Aeg; A Con-Arm; F Fla C A Con-Arm; A Bul holds.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1902" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 9 MAY 1970.

BUDAPEST (LHP): Today King Bruce made a rare public appearance. "I am happy to report that our fleet has finally left Albania and set anchor in Greece," he said. "Due to their overlong stay, however, they picked up more than enough flowers. Therefore the surplus pansies are being sent to Vienna, where, I am told, they will be put to good use."

VIENNA (LHP): There has been much excitement over the recent raising of a new army in this area. This reporter was lucky enough to be invited to a press conference held by the new army's leader.

"Yes, we are very proud of our Third Army Harem. It was raised for the express use of His Majesty, King Bruce," explained the general.

"But there is no harem attached to the Third Army," pointed out an alert reporter.

"No, no, you don't understand. The entire army is a harem."

"But it's against the law in this country to have women in the armed forces."

"So?"

ANKARA: The Sultan today asked President Pigasus J. Pig if his pig minister Munchell wanted to sell his wife. The Sultan needs someone to browbeat his eunuchs.

PARIS: Chalk another one up! Uggghhhh.

PARIS: Fight pollution and burn this letter. I guess burying it would be best.

1970D

"Fall 1902"

### TURKISH FORCES ADVANCE ON ALL FRONTS

ENGLAND (Wells): F Eng-Mid; F Lon-Eng; A Swe holds; F Norwegian Sea-Bar.

FRANCE (Salcedo): A Mar-Fur; A Par S A Mar-Bur; F Bre-Pic; F Wes-Lyo.

GERMANY (Prosnitz): A Bur S ITALIAN A Pie-Mar; A Bel-Pic; F Hol-Bel; A Mun-Sil; A Den-Liv; F Bal C A Den-Liv.

ITALY (White): A Pie-Mar; A Ven-Tri; F Nap-Tyr; F Tun S F Nap-Tyr.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Lindsay): A Rum & F Tri hold; A Bud S A Rum.

RUSSIA (Wittman): No moves received. F Bot, A War. & A Gal hold; F Sev dislodged and annihilated.

TURKEY (Grayson): A Arm-Sev; F Bla S A Arm-Sev; A Gre-Ser; A Bul S A Gre-Ser; F Aeg-Ion.

Underlined moves are not possible. Germany must retreat A Bur-Gas, A Bur-Ruh, or A Bur-Mun. Prosnitz should phone this retreat at once to the Gamesmaster, who will inform the other players. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Liv, Lon, Nor, Swe. (5)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Rum, Tri, Ven. (4)

FRANCE: Bre, Par, Spa. (3)

RUSSIA: Mos, St.P, War. (3)

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun. (6)

TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Ser, Sev, Smy. (7)

ITALY: Mar, Nap, Rom, Tun, Ven. (5)

Turkey may build 2 new units, and England, Italy, and Austria-Hungary may each build one. France must remove one unit. The deadline for "Winter 1902" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 9 MAY 1970.

VIENNA: Nice work up north, boys.

ROME: The Pope welcomes the French fleet to the Western Mediterranean. Hopefully Portugal will remain vacant until Italian occupancy.

MARSEILLES (8 Oct. 1902, AFP): Despite the fact that France is at war with Italy, Empress Brigitte has expressed sorrow for starving Italians in the Piedmont area, where the "Greasy Grenadiers" (i. e., Italian army) have taken all food. Therefore, Brigitte has ordered that all French toilets be stamped with "Flush twice. It's a long way to Italy."

"Spring 1902"

## INVADERS OVERRUN DUAL MONARCHY

ENGLAND (Gletty): F Lon-Wal; A Yor-Lon; F Ska-Swe; F Norway S F Ska-Swe.

FRANCE (Moseley): No moves received. A Pic, A Pie, & F Eng hold.

GERMANY (Tang): A Ber-Sil; A Mun-Bur; A Bel S A Mun-Bur; F Kie-Den; F Hol S A Bel.

ITALY (Pecker): F Nap-Tyr; F Tun- ; A Ven-Tri; A Vie S A Ven-Tri; A Rom-Ven.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Poplawski): No moves received. A Ser & F Gre hold; A Tri & A Bud dislodged and annihilated.

RUSSIA (Burley): F St.F(n.c.)-Norway; F Swe S F St.F(n.c.)-Norway; A Gal-Bud; A War-Gal; A Rum S A Gal-Bud; F Sev S A Rum.

TURKEY (Amling): A Bul & F Fla S AUSTRIO-HUNGARIAN A Ser-Rum; A Ank-Arm; F Smy-Aeg.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1902" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 9 MAY 1970.

Marty Kirkpatrick, the first stand-by, is called on for "Fall 1902" moves for France. James Barber, who was the first to submit the stand-by moves asked for 1970D in the last issue, is asked to submit stand-by Austro-Hungarian moves. Barber's address is 111 E. Goldenlake Lane, Circle Pines, Minn. 55014.

NIKSONOBITCHOGRAD, GALICIA (9 May 1902): Babs Yaga, itinerant witch and user of non-biodegradable detergents, said today that she knew nothing about the short, mysterious article that appeared in the underground press recently, welcoming the Liberating armies of the Czar to the newly freed lands of Hungary and Rumania.

(Earlier press releases appear on p. 5.)

## GRAYSON STATEMENT (continued from p. 1)

didn't get any answers and why my moves may not match exactly what you wanted me to do. When I get home, which is after the deadline, I will do what I can to repair any damage that has been done. Your ally, George Grayson."

## 1970M (continued from p. 1)

Germany may build 3 new units. France, Italy, and Russia may each build two new units, and England, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey may each build one. The deadline for these "Winter 1901" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 9 MAY 1970.

KIEL: The great German people are very upset with England. The Kaiser in no way has signed a treaty with the Queen(ie). A German-French Pact has been signed, as one with Russia.

ROME to CONSTANTINOPLE: In all due respect for the postal strike - I have changed my moves - you better believe it was nice of me - I'll send you my intent (chuckle;) in the mail.

ROME: Silence is not golden. Lack of response from the Austrian government will bring about the rape of that nation - and its women.



## THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Players are reminded that seven postal Diplomacy games are currently running in GRAUSTARK. Therefore, to avoid confusion, you should submit your moves complete with the following information.

1. Your name.
2. The date.
3. The number of the game.
4. The country which you are playing.
5. All your units, whether ordered to move, to support, to convoy, or just to hold their positions.
6. The season of the move.

\*

On Saturday 4 April the war lovers had their day. In Washington they held a march billed as the "Silent Majority's" answer to the November Memorandum. Alas! for the Libbys, Walkers, and Lindens of this country - their numbers amounted only to some 35,000. (This estimate appeared in the New York Daily News, a notoriously pro-war newspaper not inclined to diminish the numbers of its fellow Hawks.) This was only about one tenth of the crowd which turned out last November to take the other side. This contrast should destroy for all time the myth that the American invasion of Vietnam commands the support of a majority of the American people.

The pro-war parade also gave us a chance to see what sort of person takes that side. The chief speakers were Governor Lester "Ax-Handle" Maddox of George and the "Reverend" Carl McIntyre, a Presbyterian preacher expelled by his own denomination 34 years ago. Among the marchers were about 30 members of the late George Lincoln Rockwell's Nazi organization. Slogans included "Segregation forever!" and "Marxism is Jewish". (New York Daily News & New York Times, 5 April 1970).

\*

On 17 February, a Green Beret officer told army authorities that his pregnant wife and two small daughters had been murdered by a gang of hippies. After seven weeks of vain search, the army has finally realized that if three murders have been committed in a house where a professional killer lives, you ought to begin by questioning the killer. Accordingly, they have given up looking for non-existent hippies and have taken the Green Beret into custody. (New York Times, 7 April 1970.)

\*

Nor is a sense of ethics altogether extinguished in the army. According to Philip Shabecoff (New York Times, 5 April 1970) there is considerable difference of opinion and discussion among American soldiers in Vietnam as to whether prisoners of war and civilians ought to be killed. Not all soldiers, it seems, collect ears for pinning on an "earboard" at regimental headquarters. (New York Times, 7 April 1970). By comparison, there is a very humane infantry captain who "would not shoot prisoners but...regarded them as 'so many pieces of baggage'."

\*

One reader felt that the press release in GRAUSTARK #206, implying that the Supreme Court was a rubber stamp for the administration, was a bit unfair. But on 6 April 1970 the Supreme Court decided that a man can be arrested for not stopping an anti-war speech on the orders of a policeman. The case grew out of the arrest of Karl H. Meyer in Chicago in 1967. The decision permits a thorough crack-down on the rights of anti-war protesters - and will probably lead to the deaths of several policemen who attempt to put it into effect. (New York Times, 7 April 1970.) It also puts an end to the elaborate pretense that the Supreme Court is anything but a subordinate agency of the President and the Pentagon.

\*

The most fascinating news story of the month is reprinted in its entirety from the New York Times of 15 April 1970:

"IA SPEZIA, Italy (UPI) - A banana-ripening machine exploded in a warehouse here and destroyed \$16,000 worth of bananas."

\*

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## BOOK REVIEWS

THE PROTRACTED GAME: A WEI-CH'I INTERPRETATION OF MAOIST REVOLUTIONARY STRATEGY by Scott A. Boorman (Oxford University Press, 1969; \$7.50)

Recent years have seen a growing enthusiasm in this country for the Chinese game Wei-ch'i, better known in the West by its Japanese name Go. In this study, Mr. Boorman propounds the thesis that study of Wei-ch'i strategy (I follow him in using the less familiar Chinese name) can illuminate Mao's principles of guerilla warfare.

In Wei-ch'i the players place "stones" on a nineteen by nineteen board with the objectives of, first, claiming territory by surrounding it, and secondarily, surrounding and capturing the enemy's stones. Mr. Boorman begins by noting that Mao himself employs the Wei-ch'i - guerilla war analogy in "Problems of Strategy in Guerilla War against Japan" and "On Protracted War". Boorman pursues the analogy both on the level of literal military encirclement and "inside encirclement" by psychological warfare, just as a group of stones must be surrounded both from outside and inside to be captured. In his analysis of the Sino-Japanese War and the civil war between the Communists and the Kuomintang, he shows that Communist strategy followed the usual Wei-ch'i pattern of disconnection, encirclement, and annihilation. He also notes that the Reds, having completed encirclement, merely waited for the trapped enemy to give up, as Wei-ch'i players may not bother to formally complete the capture of stones regarded as doomed, or "dead". He frequently illustrates his analyses with positions from actual Wei-ch'i games.

Another Wei-ch'i principle which Boorman sees in Maoist strategy is the concentration of early play along the corners and edges, where it is easiest to form territory with the least number of stones. The Reds concentrated on the sociological edges of both the country (the hinterland) and the people (the peasantry), while their opponents attempted to control the urban and industrial "center". (Boorman is, understandably, surprised at the use of this strategy by the Japanese, in view of their national involvement with Go. He speculates that either they may have been influenced by the Germans, or that "Perhaps they viewed China as a corner of the larger board of East Asia and the Pacific".\*) It may be noted that this is in marked contrast to Russian Communist theory, with its reliance upon the "central" proletariat, and Boorman speculates that this may be at the bottom of Soviet-Chinese alienation.

Our author believes that Mao's opponents failed against this strategy because they were dominated by the Chess-type thinking of western strategy. (Again, note Russian involvement with Chess.) In Chess, victory is always a matter of direct force, and control of the center of the board is the key to it. Thus, westerners facing Maoist guerilla warfare are like the person "who does not know that there is more than one kind of ch'i", ridiculed in Chinese writings. ("Ch'i" can mean both Wei-ch'i and Hsiang-ch'i, or Chess.)

Boorman detects an inconsistent area in Maoist strategy, which he thinks could be exploited to combat it: insistence on complete victory once encirclement is achieved, which reduces the third (annihilation) phase to direct, frontal attack. This leads him to conclude that the French strategy which led to Dienbienphu was sound (but failed because of poor logistics): the placing of a "stone" to invite Communist encirclement, which would bring about concentration of the encircling forces themselves, exposing them to superior materiel - artillery, armor, and aircraft.

Boorman also sees the Wei-ch'i strategy at work in Chinese foreign policy, on the global scale. "Encirclement from the inside" appears in Peking's attempts at play of diplomatic "stones" within western defensive lines, as in Pakistan and Indonesia.

The Protracted Game recalls Cho Yo's Japanese Chess, which is a labored treatise attempting to show that Shogi is a realistic representation of warfare. But

\* - This latter view is supported by a Go board marketed in Japan during World War II, which had as its playing area the entire theater of war in East Asia and the Pacific Ocean. Japan, of course, is represented by the white pieces. - JB

The Yo's book is unreadable, while Boorman expounds his thesis in a lucid and interesting manner.

- William Lee Linden

**SERIOUS GAMES** by Clark G. Abt (Viking, 1970; \$5.95)

This study of simulation games is written by the founder of Abt Associates, a firm devoted to applying computer simulation and war-gaming techniques to domestic, non-military problems. Most of the book is concerned with the use of games as educational tools, as displayed by such games as "The Hunting Game" (which is intended to show how primitive man was forced to turn from solitary hunting to hunting in organized bands), and "Manchester" (which reproduces the England of the Industrial Revolution, Satanic mills and all). (In one game of "Manchester" described, a pupil taking the role of a mill worker was told that it would be illegal to form a union. "The student's reaction was a frustrated "It's not fair!" - and when prompted by a question as to what to do to ensure work for the "family", he replied with a jesting threat to the physical safety of the mill owner. This set of interactions has obvious historical parallels, although some careful work would probably be needed to bring out effectively the significance for the students.")

Other sections deal with the use of games by government, such as "Corridor", which deals with the transportation problems of the northeast U. S., and "Politica", which reproduces the crises of an imaginary Latin American country; and by business. Here he notes that a player tends to be influenced more by his game role than by his experience in real life. In one game of "Corridor":

"Federal actors initially ignored local issues in formulating their plans (even though some of the federal roles were actually played by local officials)... Local actors, on the other hand, tended to attack local problems and support local improvements rather than to bargain with other actors for joint regional improvements. (Again, despite the fact that some of them were federal officials.)"

Abt foresees an increasingly important future for simulation games. Their educational advantages are obvious: doing something makes it stick more effectively than merely being told about it. The author sees an increasing use of games as one reply to the country's teacher shortage, and to the difficulties of teaching "disadvantaged" students. He also suggests that the use of simulations would produce better citizens: they would aid, for instance, in helping policemen and community residents understand each other's positions. Finally, he suggests that it would even help to approach personal decisions (such as where to take the family vacation) by considering how one would design them as games.

- William Lee Linden

1968CH - PRESS RELEASES

CARRICK FERGUS (10 Sept. 1913, Eben Press): The Sinister International Bill Linden, ringleader of the International Pelagian Conspiracy and Anti-Defamation League, denounced OUR PEOPLE'S Underground for the Augustinian propaganda being spread by the Anti-Gnostic Vigilance Committee. "The truth is," he said, "that the neo-Pelagian movement is the deadliest threat to THEM. In espousing an Augustinian position, OPU is obviously under THEIR influence, since they revel in crypto-Augustinian polemics. We demand that the A-GVC be investigated as a vantage point for THEIR infiltration through THEIR puppet, United Rabble Rousing Press. It seems that not even Bellevue can affect those swine.

\* Prior to World War II, American football was taught in the German staff college. It was felt that this would give German officers a better understanding of American military tactics based as they are on this game. - JB



ROME (5 Oct. 1913, EP): The sanity hearing on Jeremiah Sant was adjourned today by the disruption of the Superior Court of the Department of the Tiber. Mr. Sant shot the judges, the jury, the attorneys, the reporters, and 87 spectators. The Ranting Radical Rutabaga claims that "This denial of Sant's right to a speedy trial constitutes obvious REPRESSIONNNNNNNN."

"But," an EP correspondent asked, "didn't you attack the KKK for lynching juries in southern America?"

"You have obviously failed to comprehend the fundamental principle of True Democracy. If WE do it, it's Good. If anyone else does it, it's Bad."

HOGWASHINGTON (URRP): President Pigasus J. Pig announced that, in the current controversy between the Augustinians and the Pelagians, he would take the side of the Augustinians. "We understand," he told a staff banquet of National Reaction magazine, "that St. Augustine came from Hippo. Since a Hippo is the biggest Pig in the world - or was, prior to my inhoguration - the Pig Administration backs the Augustinians."

At the banquet, President Pig was given an award by editor William F. Baconly as "the best President Amerika has had since Herbert C. Hooper."

CONSTANTINOPLE: Shit.

SEVASTOPOL: Fascists.

ANKARA: Bill, is it too late to ally?

#### 1970W - PRESS RELEASES

PARIS (21 Apr. 1901): One if by land, two if by sea.

ST. PETERSBURG (7 May 1901): Today it was announced that Czar Olaf the Hairy One will be married to Yolanda Malenko, who has been made famous after capturing the Russian championship for Sumo wrestlers in the 260-lbs (or over) class. Yolanda won the title after pinning Natasha Batanob on April 18. Natasha's funeral was on the 21st.

ST. PETERSBURG (9 May 1901): Czar Olaf and Yolanda were married today in a lavish ceremony which ended with a reception at Boris's Bar and Grill. Yolanda arrived in her traditional Sumo wrestling outfit, and after Olaf kissed her on the cheek they went over to cut the cake. Unfortunately the girl inside the cake forgot to jump out, and Yolanda unwittingly ate her left leg.

KONIGSBERG: The Admiral of the Atlantic greets the Admiral of the Pacific.

ROME: Premier Mario Antonilski appealed for peace in the new century. "The Twentieth Century offers the chance to show that man is a creature of reason and not of emotion, of kindness, not viciousness, of compassion, not ruthlessness. It will be a tragedy that mankind will not survive if the major powers allow themselves to become embroiled with each other in a conflict." To aid in preventing this disaster the Premier proposed a Congress of Nations, and the establishment of protectorates over more backward nations to elevate them to civilized status. The Premier also announced that in anticipated approval of his proposal the Italian government would establish a protectorate in Tunis.

"WELL, THAT TAKES CARE OF THE MORATORIUM COMMITTEE. NOW I WONDER HOW MUCH THE MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE WILL COST?"

## The Man He Killed

"Had he and I but met  
By some old ancient inn,  
We should have sat us down to  
wet  
Right many a nipperkin!

"But ranged as infantry  
And staring face to face,  
I shot at him as he at me,  
And killed him in his place.

"I shot him dead because -  
Because he was my foe,  
Just so: my foe of course he was;  
That's clear enough; although

"He thought he'd 'list, perhaps,  
Off-hand like - just as I -  
Was out of work - had sold his traps -  
No other reason why.

"Yes; quaint and curious war is!  
You shoot a fellow down  
You'd treat if met where any bar is,  
Or help to half-a-crown."

- Thomas Hardy

## Newscast for a Disconnected Microphone

At ten past seven this morning the bacteriological laboratories reported a mutation in the strain of BX-3.

It multiplied so fast it filled the giant plant from wall to wall.

The Governor called out the state militia, evacuated five counties,

declared a day of prayer, mounted cannon on the statehouse steps.

The President has called for calm, appointed a commission. The police are rounding up all Reds. The Pentagon reports the situation well in hand.

The National Chamber of Commerce announces a new slogan: Every day is Dollar Day.

Our listening post on Mars reports anonymous deaths in lonely corners. Time's weaving abacus, and every bead a skull, sums up the computation. Millions smothered in a casual death, locked in a deep freeze, mangled in the trick electric ironer between overdue installments.

These are voyeurs of the almost real the almost just as good, impaled on two-dimensionals phalluses in flaming technicolor.

And now, the weather. Storms from the Aurora to the Southern Cross.

Ice is forming on the sea. Smudge pots in the orange groves tonight.

Folks, check your oil. Stock up on Miltown, Benzedrine and cyanide, just in case.

Tickets now on sale for the Second Coming.

And don't forget to send for your free atomic pisspot. Hurry, hurry, stocks are running low. This is absolutely the last time we can make this offer.

Time is running out. Running out. Running out.

For Sale. A world marked down for clearance.

Everything must go. We lost our lease.

- Lawrence Lipton

## THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

JOHN BESHARA, Apt. 1021, 155 W. 68th St., New York, N. Y. 10023:  
I would like to clarify what may be a conflict in the rules:

Example 1:

ENGLAND: A Liv-Wal; F North Sea-Eng; F Lon S F North Sea-Eng.  
FRANCE: A Bre-Wal; F Eng C A Bre-Wal.

The French fleet in the Channel is of course dislodged, but does A Liv succeed to Wales or is that stood off by A Bre-Wal?

((Under these conditions I would say that the English move "A Liv-Wal" is "opposed by a single unit equally well ... supported". Neither move would succeed, and the adjudication is indicated in the usual fashion, by the underlining of impossible moves. Of course the French fleet in the Channel would have to retreat.))

Example 2:

ENGLAND: A Liv-Wal; F Wal-Eng; F Lon S F Wal-Eng.  
FRANCE: A Bre-Wal; F Eng C A Bre-Wal.

If in Example 1 the army in Liverpool does succeed into Wales, then in Example 2 it also must succeed.

((Again I would adjudicate as indicated by the underlining.))

Example 3:

ENGLAND: A Yor-Lon; F Wal S A Yor-Lon; F North Sea-Eng; F Iri S F North Sea-Eng.

FRANCE: A Bre-Wal; F Eng C A Bre-Wal.

Does not A Yor-Lon succeed? Since the convoy was dislodged is it not presumed the support from Wales was not cut?

((A Yor-Lon succeeds because it was unopposed, but the French A Bre-Wal does cut the support by the English F Wal.))

If it is presumed a dislodged convoy cannot cut support then it must also be presumed that a dislodged convoy would have no effect in stopping A Liverpool from succeeding to Wales in Examples 1 and 2.

DEREK NELSON, 227 Sherburn St., Winnipeg 10, Manitoba: Incidentally, in the same that you deplore Pinksville ((GRAUSTARK #202)) you idealize the biggest butcher in English history, a man who left a hundred Pinksville's ((sic)) strewn in the ashes of the ravished lands his armies slaughtered, raped and plundered their way through - Oliver Cromwell.

((Cromwell's name does not, in fact, appear in GRAUSTARK #202, but I'm not for a moment going to imagine that this will stop Nelson.))

The Irish had no love for English kings, but it is Cromwell's name they still use as a curse - not Charles or any other monarch. Cromwell was the first Communazi ((?)) a man who destroyed the royalist forces against him, and then destroyed the parliamentary forces he was supposedly fighting for. Lastly he set up the bigoted, murderous, anti-life Puritan dictatorship. Your liking him figures.

((Also, as a matter of setting the record straight, under the Commonwealth there was more political and religious liberty, and fewer witchcraft prosecutions, than under any other British regime of that century. I see some people have still not forgiven Cromwell that.))

BUDDY TRETICK, 3702 Wendy Lane, Silver Spring, Md. 20906: The rulebook specifies that a player is declared the winner as soon as that player gains the majority of the units on the board. And yet, many of the Gamesmasters of postal Diplomacy deviate from this criterion - or do they?

According to Webster - a criterion is "a standard on which a judgment or decision may be based"; a standard being defined as "something established by authority, custom, or general consent as a model or example".

The designer of the game, or even the Gamesmaster of record, may clearly be an authority. And, a turnover in membership becomes reflected as a change in general consent. The only thing left is the "example on which a decision may be based" - example - may be based.

Clearly, the rulebook criterion is not even a minimum requirement - only an example. And, doesn't the rulebook state the ultimate objective as gaining control of Europe - what; all of Europe - ownership of 34 supply centers - why of course! Whatever is specified as a victory criterion is fair, since it is the same for all (seven) players. The rulebook even specifies time as a victory criterion.

A very general example, I will admit! And, as such, it has my support. Nevertheless, let us examine this broad criterion in view of our rating systems. We shall see that all victory criteria specified must be compatible - similar in requirements based on the fact that there are more than 7 players involved, and those players must be rated with respect to something resembling a norm.

However, I do not support a rigid standard (there are many variables in the game). Listed below are those victory criteria which are deemed by this writer as being fair to all players in the game, and fair to each and every player involved in our ratings.

1. A majority of the units on the board at any given time.
2. Ownership of 18 supply centers.
3. At least 18 units on the board at any given time.
4. Either ownership of 18 supply centers or a majority of units on the board at any given time, whichever occurs first.

Since the latter criterion is flexible enough to cope with the variable circumstances presented by the play of the game, the "either-or" position is recommended as a victory criterion for the play of all variations of regular Diplomacy.

((However, the first of the above-listed criteria has one great advantage - it's the one that actually appears in the rulebook!))

GRAUSTARK #208

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