

GRAUSTARK

#298

6 October 1973

1973BQ

"Fall 1903"

EVERYBODY JUMPS ENGLAND

Following "Spring 1903" moves
Russia retreated A Mos-Liv.

ENGLAND (Arensmeyer): F St.P(n.c.) S
A Nwy; A Nwy S F Swe; F Swe holds;
F Edi holds; A Liv-Wal.

FRANCE (Weill): A Pic-Lon; F Eng C A
Pic-Lon; A Mar-Bur; F Mid-Nat; F
Spa(s.c.)-Wes.

GERMANY (Burge): F Bal-Swe; F Den S
F Bal-Swe; F Nth-Nwy; A Hol S A
Bel; A Bel S A Hol; A Mun holds.

ITALY (Sidor): F Nap-Ion; A Ven
holds; A Tun holds.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (McCuistion): A Ser-
Rum; F Gre-Alb; A War-Liv; A Mos S
RUSSIAN A Liv-St.P; A Gal-War; A
Tri-Ven; A Tyr S A Tri-Ven.

RUSSIA (Greenlee): A Liv-St.P.

TURKEY (De Prisco): F Ion-Tyr; F
Eas-Ion; F Con-Aeg; A Bul-Gre;
A Sev holds.

Underlined moves are not possible. England retreats F St.P(n.c.) -Bar and F Swe-Ska, -Fin, or -Bot, and Italy retreats A Ven-Pie, -Tus, -Apu, or -Rom. (Any of these dislodged units may be removed instead.) The disposition of these units should be sent in to the Gamesmaster at once, since the number and location of "Winter 1903" builds will depend on them. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Liv, Nwy. (3)

FRANCE: Bre, Lon, Mar, Par, Por, Spa. (6)

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun, Swe. (7)

ITALY: Nap, Rom, Tun. (3)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Mos, Rum, Ser, Tri, Ven, Vie, War. (8)

RUSSIA: St.P. (1)

(continued on p. 2)

1973BS

"Fall 1903"

BLUE DANUBE NOW RED TO THE SEA

ENGLAND (Spencer): No moves received.
F Nwy, F Nth, A Bel, F Iri, & F
Eng hold.

FRANCE (Ianham): A Pic-Bel; A Gas-Bur;
A Par S A Gas-Bur; F Bre-Eng;
F Mid-Iri.

GERMANY (G. Tesser): F Den-Swe; A Sil-
War; A Ruh-Bur; A Mun S A Ruh-Bur;
A Hol-Hel [sic].

ITALY (Murray): F Smy-Con; F Aeg S F
Smy-Con; F Ion, A Tun, & A Tyr hold.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Lariton): A Bul-Rum;
A Gal S A Bul-Rum; A Bud & A Ser S
A Bul-Rum; A Con-Bul; F Gre S A
Con-Bul.

RUSSIA (Trtek): A Mos-War; A Rum-Gal;
A Ukr S A Rum-Gal; F Sev & F Swe
hold.

TURKEY (McGowin): No moves received.
A Ank & F Con hold.

Underlined moves are not possible. Austria-Hungary must retreat A Gal-Bon or -Vie. The direction of this retreat should come in with the "Winter 1903" moves, which may be made conditional on it. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy. (5)
FRANCE: Bre, Mar, Par, Por, Spa. (5)
GERMANY: Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun. (5)
ITALY: Con, Nap, Rom, Smy, Tun, Ven. (6)
AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Gre, Rum, Ser, Tri, Vie. (7)
RUSSIA: Mos, St.P, Sev, Swe, War. (5)
TURKEY: Ank. (1)

Italy and Austria-Hungary may each build one unit, and Turkey must remove one, aside from any builds that may be necessitated by removals of dislodged units. The deadline for "Winter 1903" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER 1973. Martin Ritter should
(continued on p. 2)

1972A

GERMANS TURN TURKISH FLANK

"Spring 1914"

Following "Fall 1913" moves Turkey retreated F Wes-Tun and built F Smy.

ENGLAND (Lipson): No moves received. F Mid & F Iri hold.

FRANCE (Reif): F Por S F Spa(s.c.); F Spa(s.c.) S TURKISH F Naf-Wes.

GERMANY (Ansoff, vice Huddleston): F Wes-Spa(s.c.); A Mar & A Gas S F Wes-Spa(s.c.); F NAT-S ENGLISH F Mid; F Eng, A Pie, & A Bur hold; A Tyr S A Pic; A Boh S A Vie; A Vie S A Gal-Bud; A Gal-Bud; A Ukr-Rum; A War-Gal; A Sil S A War-Gal; F Bel-Pic.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Honig): A Mos-Sev.

RUSSIA (De Prisco): A Rum S TURKISH A Bud; A Sev S A Rum; A Arm S A Sev.

TURKEY (Murry): F Naf-Wes; F Tun S F Naf-Wes; F Lyo-Tyr; F Ven, A Tri, & A Bud hold; A Tus S F Ven; F Adr S A Tri; A Ser S A Bud; F Bla S RUSSIAN A Rum; F Smy-Aeg.

Underlined moves are not possible. France retreats F Spa(s.c.)-Lyo. The deadline for "Fall 1914" moves is NOON SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER 1973.

1973BQ (continued from p. 1)

TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Sev, Smy. (6) In "Winter 1903", Turkey, Germany, France, and Austria-Hungary may each build one unit, and England must remove two. (This is in addition to any builds that may be necessitated by removals of dislodged units.) The deadline for "Winter 1903" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER 1973. Andy Weill's new address is Euclid Hall, 1777 Euclid Ave., Berkeley, Calif. 94709. (Phone: 415-845-9097)

1973BS (continued from p. 1)

send in stand-by moves for Turkey, and J. O. Pickard should send in stand-by moves for England. (See p. 9 for addresses.) The deadline for "Spring 1904" moves will be NOON, SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1973. After 1 November, Dick Trtek's address will be Apt. 502, 5326 S. Cornell, Chicago, Ill. 60615. (Until then, it's Yerkes Observatory, Williams Bay, Wis. 53191.)

BLORGY (1 Oct. 1903): The Commander of the German occupation forces in Holland has been replaced after a suicide attempt.

73.3a

GERMANS PUT SQUEEZE ON FRENCH

"Fall 1939"

BRITAIN: Germany (10) attacks France (5) at 2:1. Boeing - 68, no change.

GERMANY: Germany (18) attacks France (5) at 3:1. US Shoc - 52 (D). France removes 5.

FRANCE: Bri U, Ita U.

BRITAIN: Ita U.

GERMANY: Bri U.

USA Fra Bri Rus Ger

Als				
Aus				C
Bal				C
Bri	U, 5	14		U, 10
Cze		3		
Fra		U, 5		
Ger		U, 19		18
Ita	U, 5	U, 5		
Pol	4	U, 11	6	
Rhi				C
Rum				C
Rus				39
USA	30			

The score is now Britain 15, Germany 14, France 8, Russia 4, USA 0. The deadline for "Spring 1940" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER 1973. For Dick Trtek's new address, see the report of 1973BS.

HISTORY OF THE FOUR AND A HALF KINGDOMS

The most interesting public issue in the nations of the Balkan Massif these days is neither the dollar crisis, Watergate, the petroleum shortage, or the sex scandal in Pundschruck involving the Commissar of Epidemics, a Vestal Virgin from Roma Temporarily, a gym instructor at a girls' school, three Danish tourists, and a prize racing stallion stolen from the Grand Duke of Wogastisburg-Schlampenbüttel. The news item discussed from the arenas of Roma Temporarily to the cathedrals of the Patrimony is the law suit instituted by an American games manufacturer against a competing firm in the Kingdom of Skandalutz.

This suit, which charges plagiarism and infringement of copyright, has been filed by Parker Brothers against Stimulations Publications Inc., a games design and manufacturing firm located in Anakhit, the Skandalous capital. This firm is headed by Jim Hulihan, who personally designed the game in question, "Scruce".

The game board of Scruce is a floor plan of the ground floor of the Skandalous Royal Palace, including such locations as the Entry Hall, the Balling Room, the Game Room, the Trophy Room, the Guards' Quarters, and the Emperor Tiberius Memorial Library. The players, who may number from 3 to 8, are asked to assume that the Princess Labia, daughter to the Queen, has been seduced despite certain ritual requirements that she remain a virgin until her 16th birthday. Three cards, stating who seduced her, where, and how, are secretly placed in an envelope. The other cards are dealt out to the players, who by asking questions of one another try to guess which cards are concealed.

Each player takes the persona of a citizen of one of the Four And A Half Kingdoms, or of an outside nationality. They have appropriately colored pieces which are moved about the board as players make suggestions as to the culprit's identity, and the mode and place of the seduction. The pieces are:

White: Cardinal Belsky-Sepulkhrov [Pravoslavnic Patrimony of Polykarp]

Red: Ambassador Krasniprospektov [USSR]

Orange: The Drag Lady [China]

Yellow: Oberfeldmarschall Gelbrück [Grand Duchy of Wogastisburg-Schlampenbüttel]

Green: Gloria Shtuppem, Women's Lib leader and CIA agent [USA]

Royal Purple: Prince Purpureonatus [Temporary Roman Empire]

Mauve: Ambisextria, Duchess of Lavender [Skandalutz]

Black: Commissar Kara-Bunkel [Pundschruck People's Republic]

So far this game has only been marketed in the Balkan Massif, but the fad has swept all Four And A Half Kingdoms. (The game is banned in the Patrimony and in Pundschruck, however, enforcement is so lax in Pundschruck that not only is the game openly sold there, but Pundschruckis are smuggling it into the Patrimony in large numbers.) All over can be heard such cries as:

"I suggest that Gelbrück did it in the missionary position in the Wine Cellar."

"I suggest that Purpureonatus did it LXIX in the Butler's Pantry."

"Who with - the butler?"

"I accuse Kara-Bunkel of doing it a tergo on the Back Porch."

It is Parker Brothers' contention that this game infringes on their 1949 copyright of Clue. "There'll be no compromise this time," said an anonymous spokesman for the American firm. "Once was enough, when some French firm stole our game 'Touring' and brought it out as 'Mille Bournes'."

The suit has been filed in Anakhit, where the Presiding Judge says that in her opinion it will come up for trial early in 1979.

73.6x

BRITISH RETAIN RHINELAND INFLUENCE

"Spring 1939"

	USA	Fra	Bri	Rus	Ger
USA (Carleton): USA 8.	Als				
FRANCE (Drakert): Bal 3, Cze 3, Ita 3, Pol 3!	Aus			C	C
BRITAIN (Trtek): Rhi 16.	Bal	10	9		
RUSSIA (Hendry): Rhi 10, Rus 4!	Bri	2			5
GERMANY (Kolly): Bri 5, Cze 10, Fra 5, Ger 3, Rhi 5.	Cze	5	10	2	10
The deadline for "Fall 1939" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER 1973. See the directory on p. 9 for John Hendry's new address, and the report of 1973BS for Dick Trtek's.	Fra				5
	Ger				3
	Ita	5	10	3	
	Pol		10		
	Rhi			27	21
	Rum				C
	Rus				4
	USA	16			

1973BB

"Winter 1904-Spring 1905"

FRANCE AND RUSSIA CLASH!

Following "Fall 1904" moves England retreated F Nrg-Edi and Germany removed the dislodged A Ruh, thus qualifying for a build. Russia built F St.P(n.c.) and A War, and Germany built A Bor. France removed A Pic and Austria-Hungary removed A Tri.

ENGLAND (Eisen): A Cly holds; F Bel S FRENCH F Nth-Hol; F Edi S FRENCH F Eng-Nth.

FRANCE (Strauss): F Mid-Nat; F Eng-Nth; F Nth-Hol; A Boh-Mun; A Tyr S A Boh-Mun; A Bur-Ruh.

GERMANY (Parella): A Hol-Ruh; A Kie-Mun; A Ber-Pru; F Don-Swe.

ITALY (Heuer): A Ven-Rom; F Tyr-Rom; A Nap-Apu; F Tun-Ion.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Neiger): A Alb-Ser; A Vie-Gal.

RUSSIA (Honig): F Nrg-Nat; F Nwy-Swe; F St.P(n.c.)-Nwy; F Swe-Bal; A Mun-Ber; F Con-Aeg; A War-Liv; A Gal-Sil; A Rum-Gal; A Bud S A Rum-Gal.

TURKEY (Paulson): F Aeg-Gre; A Ser S F Aeg-Gre; A Apu-Nap; F Ion S A Apu-Nap; F Adr S F Ion.

Underlined moves are not possible. The German A Hol and the Russian A Mun are dislodged. The deadline for "Fall 1905" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER 1973. Russia retreats A Mun-Ber; the German A Hol is annihilated.

1973BC

"Winter 1903"

ENGLAND (Stehle): Builds F Edi. ITALY (Paul): Retreats F Ion-Nap.
GERMANY (Spencer): No removal received. Gamesmaster removes Bud. AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Lipton): Builds A Bud.
RUSSIA (Drakert): Removes A Mos.

The deadline for "Spring 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER 1973! The stand-by, Bill Scanlan, should send in "Spring 1904" moves for Germany. (See the Directory on p. 9 for his address.)

*

No press releases in this issue? You'll find plenty in #297, the all press release issue. Active players in GRAUSTARK games will be getting it by 3rd-class mail, along with #296, which contains book and game reviews.

*

Harry Manogg has announced his new address: Apt. 8, 458 Huntington Ave., Boston, Mass. 02115. This corrects the Directory in this issue.

1971BG

BONJOUR FRANÇAISE

"Fall 1910"

ENGLAND (Lipson): F Nth-Nwy; F Spa(s.c.)-Por; F Mid S F Spa(s.c.)-Por;
F Wes-Lyo; F Nlf-Wes; A Gas-Spa; F Eng holds.

FRANCE (Latin): F Por-Spa(s.c.).

GERMANY (Schleicher): F Den, A Mun, A Ruh, & A War hold; A Bur S A War;
A Tri-Ven; A Tyr S A Tri-Ven; A Boh S RUSSIAN A Vie.

ITALY (Burley): A Pie-Tyr; A Bud-Tri; A Ven S A Bud-Tri; A Sev-Rum; F
 Tun-Wes; F Tyr S F Tun-Wes.

RUSSIA (A. Phillips): A Mos-Sev; A Ukr S A Mos-Sev; A Rum-Ser; A Gal-Bud;
 A Vie S A Gal-Bud; F Swe-Nwy.

TURKEY (Nierenberg): A Ser, A Bul, & F Bla S ITALIAN A Sev-Rum; A Arg-
Sev; F Lyo S FRENCH F Por-Spa(s.c.); F Ion-Alb.

Underlined moves are not possible. France's F Por, England's F Wes, and Germany's A Tri are annihilated. Russia retreats A Rum-Gal. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Bre, Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy, Por, Spa. (8)

GERMANY: Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mar, Mun, Par. (7)

ITALY: Nap, Rom, Rum, Tri, Tun, Ven. (6)

RUSSIA: Bud, Mos, St.P, Sev, Swe, Vie, War. (7)

TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Ser, Smy. (6)

England may build 2 new units and Russia may build 1. These adjustments must be submitted within 24 hours. The deadline for "Spring 1911" moves is 6 PM, TUESDAY 13 NOVEMBER 1973.

New address: Chris Schleicher, 814 E. Old Willow Rd., Wheeling, Ill/60090. Phone (312) 541-9783. THIS SUPERSEDES THE ADDRESS GIVEN IN THE LIST THAT BEGINS ON P. 9.

TWO NEW ORIGINS GAMES - AND ONE NEW POWER!

Two new games of Origins of World War II were opened 2 weeks ago, and the players then informed. The first is of the Historical version, and the second is the Aggressive British-US Policy. See the directory on p. 9 for the players' addresses. Players are:

I. Historical

USA: Evan Jones
 FRANCE: John Hendry
 BRITAIN: Dick Trtek
 RUSSIA: Robin R. A. Smith
 GERMANY: Ronald B. Kelly

II. Aggressive British-US

USA: John Arensmeier
 FRANCE: Alex Katzoff
 BRITAIN: William Drakert
 RUSSIA: Raymond E. Heuer
 GERMANY: Gilbert Neiger

The deadlines for "Spring 1935" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER 1973. As soon as Edi Birsan assigns Arena numbers to these games, all players should use them.

Evan Jones has most painstakingly made up a set of Italian PFs, and given them to me. I would like to thank him publicly for his efforts, and to ask readers whether they would like to suggest scenarios for this game which could make use of Italian goals and PFs. This would necessarily include modifications of other powers' national objectives to take account of Italian diplomatic activity in the period 1935-1940.

...AND 'ROUND AND 'ROUND IT GOES - XIV

by Robert Bryan Lipton

All good things come to an end. So, fortunately, do all bad things. Whether you think my series of reviews of Wheel-of-If stories has been good or bad, it is over. Except for new books of the type that come out in the future, I will write no more of these.

This being the case, I am determined to go out with a bang. Most Wheel-of-If stories are singles. This time the book will be a series. And a novel in this series won the Hugo award in 1958.

The author is Fritz Leiber. The series is his "Change War" stories that he has been writing, on and off, for over 20 years. Without a nearly complete set of s-f magazines of the fifties and sixties, it is nearly impossible to find all of them.

A partial listing is:

The Big Time, available from Ace.

The Mind Spider, a short story collection of the series issued by Ace in 1961 (D-491)

"Four Ghosts in Hamlet", a novella, available in Fritz's collection You're All Alone (Ace 95146, 95 ¢)

A couple of Change War short stories in Fritz's A Pail of Air (Ballantine U2216, 50¢), issued in 1964.

"A Deskfull of Girls", Fantasy & Science-Fiction, April 1958

"When the Change Winds Blow", Fantasy & Science-Fiction, Aug. 1964

"No Great Magic", Galaxy, Dec. 1963

I can't take the space to review all the stories in the series. Only The Big Time, the Hugo winner, will be reviewed.

*

Macbeth is one of the most popular of Shakespeare's plays, and the characters of the three witches have raised the hackles of many an audience. Yet there is a mistake made in most staging. The witches are all portrayed as old hags.

In actuality, they are not simple witches. They are the Three Fates, representing that which was, that which is, and that which will be. Thus they are best represented as a young maiden, a middle-aged matron, and an old crone.

The Big Time opens with:

"When shall we three meet again
In thunder, lightning, or in rain?"
"When the hurlyburly's done,
When the battle's lost and won."

And that is the story of The Big Time: the winning and the losing of the biggest war that mankind has ever seen. Greta Forzane is a nurse and party-girl in a recuperation hospital in the Big Time. What is the Big Time? When the time-travelers fight, they fight in the Big Time.

There are two sides in the war, the Spiders and the Snakes. They fight and cause changes in the world, changes that make the Change Winds blow.

"Have you ever worried about your memory, because it doesn't seem to be bringing you exactly the same picture of the past from one day to the next? Have you ever been afraid that your personality was changing because of forces beyond your knowledge or control?...Have you ever been scared of Ghosts - not the story-book kind, but the billions of beings who were once so real and strong, it's hard to believe they'll just sleep harmlessly forever?...Have you ever thought that the universe might also be a crazy, mixed-up dream? If you have, you've had hints of the Change War."

Greta's station is shared with five other people. In the story, they are entertaining a number of recuperating agents - a Nazi commandant, a Roman patrician, an English poet, a Cretan warrior-priestess, a Lunan octopus from a billion years in our past, and a Venerian centaur from a billion years into our future - when one agent, dissatisfied with his reborn life spent in destroying Earth's history as a small segment of a galaxy-wide war, decides to revolt.

The story is told in the first person by Greta, in conversational tones that send chills up your spine. This is an excellent book for reading on a stormy night. The story is fantastic, the thought behind it is superb, and suspense is maintained throughout the story.

An interesting point is the small quotation that is at the head of each chapter. They range from Shakespeare to Hodgson to The Tale of Aucassin and Nicolette.

It is an excellent book.

*

I've reviewed fourteen books. Many of you who started reading these reviews in the middle of the series, and those of you who have read all of them, may wonder at my personal preferences. (Even if you don't, I'm going to tell you.) The three best books that I've reviewed are De Camp's Lost Darkness Fall, Dick's Man in the High Castle, and Leiber's The Big Time. (The best is probably Leiber's book, but I like to reread De Camp's more.) The worst three were probably Laumer's Worlds of the Imperium, Farmer's The Gates of Time, and Poul Anderson's Guardians of Time. Choosing the worst of these is a little ridiculous - only a nut should buy any of these, though the Anderson book is good if you're asleep.

Apologies to those who disliked my reviews. Thanks to those who liked them. Sorry, Mr. Melton, but I will not review the Jakes book. The other one you recommended (Farmer's Gates of Time) was awful, and Jakes, though a competent writer, has managed to pick a bad topic, according to your resume.

A TOUR OF THE BALKAN MASSIF - II

by Albert A. Nofi

[The first two reports by Al of his tour through the Four And A Half Kingdoms this summer appeared in GRAUSTARK #295. The series will conclude in #299.]

16 May: "Now I can dig Wogastisburg-Schlampenbüttel. It isn't really much, in fact it looks like downtown Bay Ridge. But lots of fun things happen. I was particularly lucky to be here for a government crisis. Seems the ruling Radical-Liberal-Monarchist-Cyclist-Reactionary-Conservative Leftist-Neanderthaler-Prohibition-Communal Living Party-Republican Communist coalition tried to get new water coolers for the Landnacht lobby. Well the opposition coalition, a group of Centrist-Monarchist-Brewers'-Communist-Animal Rights-Socialist-Republican Conservative-Reactionary Liberals, managed to get enough votes to block the move and the government fell, not without a few casualties. In fact, I almost got my arm eaten when a member of the Animal Rights Party set his dobermans on me thinking I was a Communal Liver. Luckily a little old lady got in the way. Anyway, I really enjoyed seeing democracy in action. It's a lot like home. That was on Monday last. Sunday I managed to get myself enrolled as a member of the Knights of the Trapezoidal Table,

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

565

with the rank of Knightling Junior Class. (I only had forty bucks to spare, which normally entitles you to 'Knightling Lowest Class', but the Grand Master had been losing steadily at the crap tables that week. For another \$10.00 he was willing to make me 'Senior Class', but I was running short.) About two days ago I tried to get to the coast to do some swimming, but Fridolin Pass was blocked by an unusual migration of Saber Toothed Neigers so I decided to drop in on the tomb of Odo Flatfoot and the other Grand Dukes of Wogastisburg-Schlämpenbüttel but they wanted too much money. Tomorrow I head for the Pravoslavnician Patrimony of Polykarp. I can take the train to the frontier, but from there I have to walk, the reigning Supreme Pompous believes that 'what was good enough for Polykarp is good enough for me' so you either walk or get an ass. Peace."

29 May. "Oh Man, thank God I managed to get out of the Patrimony. Roma Temporaria is a hell of a lot more comfortable. I very nearly didn't survive my visit to Polykarpolis. Everything went well until I got to the city. I mean the Patrimonial border patrol waved me through with a minimum of red tape (well, they did sprinkle me with holy water to see if I'd disappear in a burst of fire and brimstone but that wasn't anything) and I even managed to get a donkey ride into town. It all started when I registered at the St. Upuraz Youth Hostel. Seems an agent of the Patrimonial Inquisition happened to be there, noted my name and connected it with that thing I wrote on the Sacred War of the Holy Grand Alliance which you published somewhere a while ago. Well then it hit the fan. The article's been branded subversive, heretical, and seven times anathema. (Martin Luther, Stalin, and Pope John XXIII only got eight anathemas so I really must have hurt them.) Anyway, in less time than it takes to write it I found myself in a 'guest room' at the Inquisitorial Palace with the Grand Inquisitor looking at me with fire in his eyes and a book of matches in his hands. Well let me tell you, good old Uncle Sam came through. The American ambassador happened to be visiting the Inquisitorial Palace on a tour conducted by some CIA agents who were trying to introduce new police interrogation techniques to the Patrimony. 'Soon's I spotted him I started singing 'God Bless America' and shouting 'Watergate? What's Watergate?' and 'Trust the President'. Well, he really came to my aid and got my sentence reduced to ten days at hard prayer. (To show my appreciation I contributed \$10.00 to the 'Committee to Repeal the Constitution'.) So yesterday, after finishing my sentence, the Grand Inquisitor had me deposited on the border of Roma Temporaria. The Roman border guards bandaged my knees and gave me a chariot ride to the Roma Temporaria Hilton. And here I am. More another time."

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

GRAUSTARK, the oldest bulletin of postal Diplomacy, is published every third Saturday by John Boardman, 234 E. 19th St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226. Subscriptions are 8 issues for \$1. Back issues are 15¢ each or 10 issues for \$1. (The 10th Anniversary Issue, #289, and the Book & Game Review Issue, #296, are 25¢ each.) These rates will rise when the new postal rates go into effect early next year.

Diplomacy was invented by Allan B. Calhaver and is copyright by Games Research Inc.; Origins of World War II was invented by Jim Dunningan and is copyright by Avalon-Hill. (See the mailing list on p. 9 for the addresses of these firms.) At present there are no game openings in GRAUSTARK for either game.

Non-playing subscribers should be receiving GRAUSTARKs #295-298 in one bundle by 3rd-class mail. Please contact the publisher if recent issues are not getting through to you.

ALPHABETICAL DIRECTORY OF GRAUSTARK READERS

Following each player's name is the "Boardman Number" of his postal Diplomacy game or games, with the initial of his country if he is still an active player, and "S" if he is a stand-by. If a player's subscription runs past the end of a game, the number of additional copies he will receive is indicated following a "+" sign. Paid subscribers not presently active in a game have after their names the number of the issue with which the subscription expires. "T" indicates a trade copy, and "C" a complimentary copy.

This directory is accurate to 30 September 1973.

- A. B. Ackerman (T), Cheshire Home, 890 Main Rd., Moseley, Natal, SOUTH AFRICA
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- Corrections are solicited, and will be printed, if prompt, in the next issue.

GRAUSTARK #298

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"MORIARTY: The united anti-socialist neo-democratic pro-fascist communist party are fighting to overthrow the unilateral democratic united partisan bellicose pacifist cobelligerent tory labour liberal party.

"SEAGOON: Whose side are you on?

"MORIARTY: There are no sides - we are all in this together."

- The Goon Show, 26 October
1954

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