

GRAUSTARK

#299

27 October 1973

1972A "Fall 1914"

GERMANS SWEEP UP LOOSE DOTS

ENGLAND (Lipson): F Mid S GERMAN F Spa(s.c.)-Por; F Iri S F Mid.

FRANCE (Reif): F Lvo-Spa(s.c.); F Por-Mid.

GERMANY (Ansoff, vice Huddleston): F Spa(s.c.) S ENGLISH F Mid-Por; A Gas & A Mar S F Spa(s.c.); A Tyr S A Pic; A Boh S A Vic; A War-Gal; A Sil S A War-Gal; A Gal-Rum; A Ukr S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Mos-Sev; F Eng-Mid; F Nat-Liv; A Bur & A Pic hold; A Vic S A Tyr; F Pic-Bre.

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 (Murray): F Wcs-Mid; F Tun-Naf; F Tyr; F Ven; A Tri; & A Bud hold; F Aeg-Ion; F Adr S A Tri; A Tas S F Ven; A Ser S A Bud; F Bla S RUSSIAN A Rum.

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

ENGLAND: Lon. (1)

FRANCE: Por. (1)

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Bre, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Liv, Mar, Mun, Nwy, Par, St. P, Spa, Swe, Vic, War. (17)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Mos. (1)

RUSSIA: Con, Rum, Sev. (3)

TURKEY: Ank, Bud, Bul, Gre, Nap, Rom, Ser, Smy, Tri, Tun, Ven. (11)

Germany may build two units, and England and France must each remove one. The deadline for these "Winter 1914" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1973.

TAGUS RIVER VALLEY, PORTUGAL (Mighty Order of Harebrained, Arrogant, and Irresponsible Reporters): It was officially reported today that the purpose of the French occupation of Portugal was to gather
(continued on p. 3)

1971BG "Winter 1910"

SECRETS OF THE WARLORDS

ENGLAND (Lipson): Builds F Lon, A Liv.
RUSSIA (A. Phillips): Builds A Mos.
The deadline for "Spring 1911" moves is 6 PM, TUESDAY 13 NOVEMBER 1973.

1973BS "Winter 1903"

Following "Fall 1903" moves, Austria-Hungary retreated A Gal-Boh.

ITALY (Murray): Builds F Nap.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Lariton): Builds A Vic.

TURKEY (McGowin): Removes F Bla.

The deadline for "Spring 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1973.

I have not heard from Bob Spencer, playing England, for about 6 weeks, and so the first stand-by, Martin Ritter, is asked to submit "Spring 1904" moves for him. Gerald McGowin, obviously, was heard from, so the second stand-by will not be called on at this time.*

1973BQ "Winter 1903"

Following "Fall 1903" moves England retreated F St.P(n.c.)-Bar, F Swe-Ska. Italy removed the dislodged A Ven.

ENGLAND (Arensmeyer): Removes F Ska, A Nwy.

FRANCE (Weill): Builds F Mar.

GERMANY (Burge): Builds A Ber.

ITALY (Sidor): Builds F Rom.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (McCuistion): Builds A Tri.

TURKEY (De Prisco): Builds F Smy.

The deadline for "Spring 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1973.

The next "orgy" at Simulations Publications will take place on Thanksgiving weekend. (See GRAUSTARK #296, p. 30 for details.) Phone 212-673-4103 for reservations.

* - In #298, the Turkish "F Bla" in 1973BS was incorrectly called "F Con".

73.??h

BRITISH CHALLENGE SOVIETS IN BALTIC

	USA	Fra	Bri	Rus	Ger
USA (E. Jones): Pol 2.					
FRANCE (Hendry): Cze 2, Pol 2.					7
BRITAIN (Trtek): Bal 3, Cze 5.			3	5	
RUSSIA (R. Smith): Bal 5, Rum 1.					
GERMANY (Kelly): Aus 7, Ger 5.		2	5		
The deadline for "Fall 1935" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1973.					5
Edi Birsan is no longer assigning <u>Arena</u> numbers to postal Origins games, and Fred Winter has declined the job. This game will continue to be designated as "73.??h" until someone takes over the <u>Arena</u> numbers and assigns one.	2	2			
				1	

"Spring 1935"

73.3a

KING IS HIGH UNLESS AMERICANS PLAY JOKER

	USA	Fra	Bri	Rus	Ger
USA (Trtek): Bri 11, Fra 10, Ita 6, Pol 9, Rus 6.					C
FRANCE (Lipton): Bri 1, Ger 7, Pol 1, USA 5.					C
BRITAIN (Mike Ritter): Cze 2, Fra 2, Ger 6, USA 22.	11	U,6			U,12
RUSSIA (Spencer): No moves received. Rus 16.			5		
GERMANY (Neiger): Bri 2, Fra 12, Ita 12, Rus 12, USA 12.	10		U,7		12
The deadline for "Fall 1940" moves, ending the game, is NOON, SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1973. The maximum possible score for each player, as the game now stands, is Britain 22, Germany 21, France 20, USA 16, Russia 4.	6	7	U,25		12
	9	U,5	U,5		12
		5	U,11	6	
					C
					C
	6			55	12
		5	22		12

"Spring 1940"

73.6x

REICH SUFFERS TWO SETBACKS

	USA	Fra	Bri	Rus	Ger
CZECHOSLOVAKIA: France (10) attacks USA (5) at 2:1. IBM - 609, no change.				C	C
ITALY: France (10) attacks USA (5) at 2:1. ITT - 617, no change.		10	9		
RHINELAND: Britain (27) attacks Germany (5) at 5:1. United Airlines - 274 (D). Germany removes 5.	2				U,5
CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Germany (10) attacks France (10) at 1:1. IBM - 609 (A). Germany removes 10.	5	10	2		U,5
GERMANY: Bri U, Fra U.					3
The score is now France 24, Britain 19, Russia 6, USA 0. (See GRAUSTARK #291, p. 2, for the National Objectives Chart in this game.) The deadline for "Spring 1940" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1973.	5	10	3		
		10		27	21
					C
					C
					4
	16				

"Fall 1939"

There's been a slight change in plans for the 300th issue of GRAUSTARK. It will be printed sometime between now and the next regularly scheduled publication date of 17 November, and will carry no postal games. (It will, however, have 2 complete across-the-board games of Diplomacy and 5 of Origins of World War II.) The 301st issue, on 17 November, will have the next moves of all these games. Active players will get #300 by 3rd-class mail; others will get 299-301 in one 3rd-class bundle.

1973BC

"Spring 1904"

PENNSYLVANIA PACT POWERS PULVERIZE PRAVOSLAVNYKH

Bob Spencer missed his second move in a row, so Bill Scanlan replaces him as Germany.

ENGLAND (Stehle): F Edi-Nth; F St.P(n.c.)-Nwy; F Ska-Swe; A Liv-Wal; F Lon S A Liv-Wal.

FRANCE (Model): F Wal-Lon; F Eng-Nth; A Bur-Ruh; A Bel S A Bur-Ruh; A Mar-Bur; A Pic S A Mar-Bur.

GERMANY (Scanlan): F Hol-Kie; A Den S F Hol-Kie; A Ruh holds; A Mun S A Ruh.

ITALY (Paul): F Tyr-Ion; F Nap-Tyr; A Tyr-Mun; A Ven-Tri.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Lipton): A Bud-Gal; A Ukr-Mos; A War S A Ukr-Mos; A Vic S A Tri; A Tri S A Vic; F Adr S TURKISH A Alb-Apu.

RUSSIA (Drakert): A Ber S ITALIAN A Tri-Mun[sic]; F Bal-Swe; A Liv-St.P!

TURKEY (Carroll): A Alb-Tus[sic]; F Ion C A Alb-Tus; F Gre holds; F Aeg S F Ion; F Con-Smy; A Sev S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Ukr-Mos.

Underlined moves are not possible. The only possible retreats for the dislodged units are France's F Wal-Iri and Germany's A Ruh-Hol. The deadline for "Fall 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1973.

73.??b

"Spring 1935"

GERMANY RECEIVES BRITISH ULTIMATUM

	USA	Fra	Bri	Rus	Ger
USA (Arensmeyer): Rhi 2.	Als				
FRANCE (Katzoff): Pol 4.	Aus				5
BRITAIN (Drakert): Ger 9.	Bal			5	
RUSSIA (Heuer): Bal 5, Ger 1.	Bri				
GERMANY (Neiger): Aus 5, Rhi 7.	Czo				
The deadline for "Fall 1935" moves is	Fra				
NOON, SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1973.	Ger		9	1	
This game will receive an <u>Arena</u> number	Ita				
as soon as one is assigned; see the report	Pol	4			
on 73.??h on p. 2. Press releases will ap-	Rhi	2			7
pear in #300 as long as my patience holds	Rum				
out.	Rus				
	USA				

1972A (continued from p. 1)

cork for an expected record grape harvest this fall. "After all," responded Merde de Mer, French Minister of Wine Production and Cotton Weaving, "what is the French wine without the cork?" When confronted with the fact that French grape producing areas had been occupied by foreign powers for over 10 years, de Mer replied, "Well, the Madeira here ain't bad." He then muttered something about "vive le Portugal" and excused himself. MOHAIR spokesmen interpreted this last remark as meaning that occupation of Portugal will last longer than originally expected, perhaps indefinitely.

STAND-BYS

With this issue, 1973BB and 1973BC no longer have stand-bys. J. O. Pickard (see #298 for his address), 2nd stand-by for 1973BS, is hereby drafted as stand-by for both these games. Volunteers are needed; their names will be placed as received on a single stand-by list which will be drawn on for all four of the new games, after we run out of paid stand-bys. No fee will be asked of these volunteers, but they should keep their subscriptions up to stay on the list.

COMPLETE DEADLOCK!

About a week ago, Peter Parella resigned as Germany. He was replaced by Howard Sidor, 47-15 211th St., Bayside, N. Y. 11361. Sidor's home telephone number is now 224-6303; he can also be reached during the day from 10 to 6 at 671-5666.

ENGLAND (Eisen): A Cly-Liv; F Bel-Nth; F Edi S F Bel-Nth.

FRANCE (Strauss): F Mid-Nat; F Nth-Nwy; F Hol-Kie; A Mun S GERMAN A Kie; A Bur S A Mun; A Tyr S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Vie.

GERMANY (Sidor): A Kie-Hol; A Pru-War; F Den S RUSSIAN F Nwy-Nth.

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

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Neiger): A Alb-Tri; A Vie S A Alb-Tri.

RUSSIA (Honig): A Bud-Vie; A Gal S A Bud-Vie; A Liv-War; A Sil-Mun; A Ber S A Sil-Mun; F Bal-Kie; F Nrg-Nat; F Nwy-Nth; F Aeg S TURKISH F Ion; F St.P(n.e.)-Bar.

TURKEY (Paulson): F Adr-Tri; A Ser S F Adr-Tri; F Gre-Alb; F Ion holds; A Apu-Ven.

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

ENGLAND: Bel, Edi, Liv. (3)	AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Vie. (1)
FRANCE: Bre, Hol, Lon, Mar, Mun, Par, Por, Spa. (8)	RUSSIA: Ber, Con, Mos, Mun, Nwy, Run, St.P, Sev, Swe, War. (10)
GERMANY: Den, Kie. (2)	TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Gre, Smy, Ser, Tri. (6)
ITALY: Nap, Rom, Tun, Ven. (4)	

France may build two units, and Turkey may build one. Germany and Austria-Hungary must each remove one. These orders should be phoned in at once to the Gamesmaster, who will inform all players. The deadline for "Spring 1906" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1973.

BUDAPEST UNDERGROUND (October 29, 1906): "General Michael Medov here, head of the Russian occupation force in Hungary. It's time for all good Russian soldiers to go on a Saber-Toothed Neiger hunt." Yes, it's true folks: Russian forces, bored with the almost non-existent Hapsburg resistance, have taken to hunting Saber-Toothed Neiger to break the boredom.

"Down this alley boys. Hit the dirt!!!!!" Three Saber-Teeth turned the corner down another alley.

"Charge!!!!!" The Russians charge down the alley and corner the Neigers against a dead end.

"OK guys, got 'em!" But just when the Russians are about to fire the Saber-Teeth zip off their striped fur and they are...RAYRILLAS!!! The Russians disperse. All are killed, except Medov, who is captured.

These are standard Rayrilla tactics.

VIENNA: "Well, Hilb, your idea worked." It was the Austrian Emproar Nilbert. Stealing all those Rayrillas from the Western Bulgarian Zoo and suiting them up as Saber-Tooth Neigers is forcing the Russians to garrison Budapest with two-hundred and ninety five armies!"

"Yes, Nilb, Rayrilla tactics have always worked wonders. Remember back in 1897 when the Russians invaded Alaska, marched down, and occupied Los Angeles? Things looked bad then. But Rayrilla tactics annihilated all city garrisons and the rangers in the Yukon cut off all their supplies. This was despite the fact that they outnumbered us 9,999,999,999, 999,999,999½ to one."

*

Douglas Reif sent a clipping about a burglary at the offices of the British war-gaming publication Games and Puzzles. The burglars allegedly got away with several thousand pounds of Monopoly money!

FOR WANT OF A NAIL...

book review by Albert A. Nofi

[After I asked Al Nofi for a book review for GRAUSTARK #296, he handed me two reviews of Robert Sobel's For Want of a Nail. One, written as if in the world described in this book, was printed in #296. The other, a more serious treatment of the book, appears here.]

This book is subtitled If Burgoyne had Won at Saratoga. Needless to say it is a sort of 'wheel of if' account of American, and world, history, had certain events in 1777 gone somewhat differently. Now very few works can pull this off, though many people have tried. Sobel's book is occasionally very successful and generally comes off well as it tells the history of the American continent from the end of the Seven Years War to the present, with extensive footnotes and bibliography, all lovingly fabricated.

The basic premise is that Burgoyne's army successfully joins with Clinton's at Albany in 1777. The result is that the American Rebellion is ended within a year. After hanging but nine of the rebels, the British establish the 'Confederation of North America', which vaguely resembles a Dominion in our time-stream. This comes off quite well and is very convincing. Indeed a proposal to do such was actually made during the Revolution, although too late to satisfy the Rebels.

Now many of the defeated Rebels don't like the set-up. Led by Nathaniel Greene, thousands of ex-Rebels migrate to Texas in an American "Great Trek". They rename the province "Jefferson" in honor of the martyred leader. O. K. so far, a bit much perhaps, but it's a great chapter.

Because the American Rebellion fails the French Revolution fizzles. But a major Anglo-French war breaks out in the 1790s 'cause Marie Antoinette, regent for Louis XVII on the accidental death of Louis XVI in 1793, brings France into an alliance with her Habsburg relations in Austria. The resulting war soon involves Spain, which loses all its colonies to local rebellions. In Europe, Britain and Prussia triumph, with Germany united under Prussian leadership. In America the Jeffersonians, led by Andrew Jackson, rip off Mexico and establish the 'United States of Mexico'. Things go on from there as the two American countries grow and develop. Neither is as stable as the real time stream U. S. A., but both are somewhat more stable than the real time stream Mexico. In the end, in 1971, the CNA and USM are two of the great powers, along with Britain and Germany, and the world is in an uneasy peace, following the defeat of a British-French-Japanese alliance by the USM-German coalition. The CNA, which remained aloof from the 1938-1948 war, now begins to have serious problems with 'Mexico', but war is being prevented by a balance of terror. Everyone of the major powers has the atomic bomb except Mexico, and Mexico is the most belligerent country around but is keeping quiet 'til it gets the bomb too.

All of this comes all rather well. The material is fairly convincing but suffers from occasional flaws. Thus, except for Edison, no real time stream person plays any role in the book after Winfield Scott, who is elected governor-general of the 'CNA' in 1843. Now many of the people who in real time became prominent would probably have become prominent in this slightly altered time stream - particularly in foreign parts, where the ripples of influence of the events in America would be less seriously felt. (A good example of this would be to note that if Jesus had not lived, Marcus Aurelius would still have been Roman Emperor. But perhaps Constantine might not have made it. The influence of Jesus was too slight in Marcus' time to influence history, but consider-

ably stronger 150 years later.) This reviewer also felt that Sobel made a minor, but important error in assuming that Italian unification does not come about until the 1880s, in the backwash of anarchy which sweeps Europe following the long postponed outbreak of the French Revolution. It seems more likely that this would have occurred around the time of German unification, in the 1790s or so, since France and Austria were the principal obstacles to the rise of a unified Italy until the 1860s. Fortunately, this does not mar the essential unity of the book.

There are, however, a number of minor errors of fact which do grate on the educated eye. For example, the French generals who put down the Paris mobs following the disturbances of 1789 are Dumouriez and Ney. Now really? In XVIII Century France? Dumouriez would have been stretching things a bit but still O. K., but Ney would have been about 22 at the time the mob is quashed. And he wouldn't even have been a corporal by '92 without the Revolution. (He enlisted in 1788.) Similarly, we hear of an Emperor 'Pedro V' of Brazil in the 1890s. This is just impossible. Pedro I of Brazil reigned, in our time stream, 1822-1831 and died in 1834, and Pedro II reigned 1831-1889 and died in 1891. "Pedro III" would have been fine, but in no way could the American Revolution have influenced the longevity, fertility, or monomania of the House of Braganza.

Fortunately, for the non-historian the errors are minor. A fun sort of book, even for the historian.

ANALYSIS OF POSTAL DIPLOMACY GAME 1972E

by Bill Abbott

[This is the winner's account of 1972E, which he won as England in "1913" in GRAUSTARK #294. For the roster and supply center chart see GRAUSTARK #296, p. 18.]

1972E was regrettably a game in which missed moves and player resignations had a far greater effect in the ultimate determination than did excellence in tactics or strategy. Indeed, the resignation of the first Turkish player changed a certain draw into an English victory, when the Turkish replacement stabbed his Austrian ally.

This game began in predictable form with England and Germany allied against France, and Russia taking on Austria and Turkey, although Austria and Turkey were more neutral to each other than allied. Italy was generally neutral, although there were eventual battles with both Austria and France. From this initial order of battle, however, the game deteriorated into a mass of confusion. The French player (McCormick) dropped out very early because of an English stab, and this was to set the tone of the game from that point on. The new French player, eager for survival, made overtures to both England and Italy. France then went with Italy, was quickly stabbed, and allied with England, an alliance that was to last to the end of the game. At this point, England, disenchanted with ally Germany's predilection for missing every other move, stabbed his former ally. Already having expanded in the North against a weakened Russia, England attacked from the North and France from the West, quickly overrunning Germany, and thereby moving into a direct confrontation with Austria and Turkey.

England and France were also expanding in the Mediterranean area at this time, and Italy was crushed between the fleets of the Western Alliance and the armies and fleets of the East, although there was enough time for an Italian player change in the interim.

At this point, a stalemate developed between France and England on one side and Austria and Turkey on the other. This was broken when the original Turkish player resigned and his replacement stabbed Austria.

This opened the way for an English and French advance, and consequently a first and second place finish!

Of the seven players who began the game, five were replaced at one point or another. It was this attrition rate which facilitated the early English advances and provided the final breakthrough which permitted an Anglo-French victory. Perhaps this game is illustrative of the need for a speedier system of player replacement, for in this game, the German player missed between six and eight moves, although of course they weren't consecutive. However, the void of repeated missed moves often permits unfair advantages to accrue, and perhaps a neutral player filling in missed moves or the automatic replacement of a player who misses a total of three moves, cumulatively throughout the game, would provide a more satisfactory game.

A TOUR OF THE BALKAN MASSIF - III

by Albert A. Nofi

[On p. 5 of this issue we have seen Al Nofi the historian. Here we see Al Nofi the world traveler, making the last of three reports on his tour through the Four And A Half Kingdoms. The first two reports appeared in GRAU-STARKs #295 and #298.]

15 June: "Well, tomorrow I head for Skandalutz, but I'm going to miss Roma Temporaria. Seems that word got 'round about what happened in Polykarpolis and it turned out the Romans liked the article. They practically made me a present of the country. (In fact, some officers even tried to make me Emperor, but that's another story.) For one thing I didn't pay for anything. The army sent a chariot around every day to take me on guided tours of all the best sights in town. At the arena they offered to let me toss in the first Christian, an honor which I declined. (She was a fat old broad and I didn't think I could manage it.) Then the Skandalous ambassadress throw an orgy in my honor. To top it off, the Emperor made me 'Dux Britannicus' and Legio LXIX, the 'Sacred Thebans', enrolled me as an honorary centurion (though at my request they waived their traditional initiation rites, particularly after I explained about the Skandalous ambassadress). Incidentally I've become a Syncretic Polythoist. May the Mother look after you. Peace." # 566

22 June: "Hi. Skandalutz is everything I expected it to be and more. The ambassadress in Roma Temporaria made all sorts of arrangements to smooth my entry into the country. I like the way the Skandals conduct diplomacy. I had no trouble at the border (when I get back I'll tell you about the interesting way they process you at the border by the way). The Skandalous women are warm and friendly, particularly the more nubile ones. But they all seem to be nubile here. (But there's nothing to those rumors about me and Princess Labia.) I'm particularly pleased with the welcome the Queen, Tanna Hanna CCXLVII, gave me. And the army commandress-in-chief gave me a wonderful party on 21 June on the battlefield of Bakouse. In fact, we celebrated the 460th anniversary of the battle and the Summer Solstice with traditional Skandalous rites. Anyway, I don't plan on being back for a while, though I expect to be home around the ~~Winter Solstice~~ Christmas holidays. Tanny sends her love. Peace, sometime again."

- Sir Al Nofi, Dux Britannicus, Centurionis Leg. LXIX, KjoTT, Royal Historian of Skandalutz

STANDARD DIPLOMACY OPENINGS - II

by Eric Vorheiden

[The first part of this article, with suggested openings for England, France, and Germany, appeared in GRAUSTARK #284.]

Italy

1. F Nap-Ion, A Rom-Ven, A Ven-Tri.
2. F Nap-Ion, A Rom-Ven, A Ven-Tyr.

Either opening can be used to launch an anti-Austrian offensive. Such offensives are currently somewhat out of vogue; however, it is admittedly difficult to find an alternative which offers the same chances for early, significant growth.

The important thing for the Italian player to remember is that he must prevent the formation of a Russo-Turkish alliance after the fall of Austria. Otherwise, he merely inherits the unfortunate position of his late, unlamented enemy as he watches the Russo-Turkish steamroller bear down on his newly won centers.

Movement to Trieste is a gamble. If successful (usually the result of a well-executed stab), it should guarantee Austria's eventual demise and, even more important, that Italy gets the first (and hopefully biggest) bite of the Austrian pie. On the other hand, if unsuccessful, Italy's attack may be fatally delayed, perhaps not enough to save Austria, but almost certainly enough to insure that Russia and Turkey - not Italy - will get the lion's share of the spoils. Movement to Tyrolia is surer of success, and, by putting two Italian units on Trieste, it should assure Italy of picking up at least that center sooner or later and hopefully sooner.

In any case, Italy can get at least one sure build in 1901 by sending his fleet to Tunis.

Austria

1. F Tri-Alb, A Bud-Ser, A Vie-Tri.
2. F Tri-Alb, A Bud-Ser, A Vie-Gal.

F Tri-Alb, A Bud-Ser has become so standard for Austria as to be almost automatic. The reason is that it almost guarantees occupation of Serbia and Greece - giving Austria two most welcome builds - with A Ser S F Alb-Gre.

This leaves A Vie to bear the burden of offense and defense. If Austria is unsure of Italy and/or wishes to avoid offending any neighbors, A Vie should go to Trieste. This defends against a direct Italian stab at Trieste, but in general this is no way to handle Italy. Austria can almost invariably expect to fight either Russia or Turkey. Italy on top of either of those two is usually just too much of a combination for Austria to resist for any length of time. Thus Austria's first priority must always be to control Italy diplomatically rather than militarily. This usually involves a non-aggression pact plus seeing to it that Italy is committed someplace else, such as against France. What the move to Trieste does do is to hopefully discourage an Italian attack by making it less profitable, at least in the short run. If Austria is sure of Italy but is worried about Russia, A Vie can go to Galicia. This is also a common first step in an anti-Russian offensive since from Galicia, Austria can hit Warsaw, Rumania, or even Ukraina to cut support or to improve Austria's offensive position. If Austria has both Italy and Russia to worry about, well there's always the new game...

Russia

1. F St.P(s.c.)-Bot, F Sev-Bla, A War-Gal, A Mos-Ukr.
2. F St.P(s.c.)-Bot, F Sev-Bla, A War-Cal, A Mos-St.P.

Russia's traditional first year gains are Sweden and Rumania. The northern fleet usually goes to Sweden, although if the Germans seem hos-

tile. F Bot may sometimes be profitably deployed in the Baltic in the fall, often giving Germany no end of trouble.

In the south, immediate loss of the Black Sea to the Turks throws Russia on the defensive and typically costs her any chances she may have had in Rumania and often eventually Sevastopol on top of that. Consequently, Russia usually plays it safe and sends F Sev-Bla in the spring. Assuming, as is typical, that this move bounces a similar Turkish move of F Ank-Bla, F Sev has the fall options of being used to take or support in Rumania in addition to a repeat of the spring maneuver.

Movement to Galicia is probably Russia's strongest move with A War, although the Austrians often (but not always) voice certain objections. If not anti-Austrian in thrust, A Gal can profitably go to Rumania, often with the support of F Sev and frequently with that of A Ukr (sent from Moscow in the spring). Otherwise, if part of an anti-Austrian offensive, Russia typically has a guessing game over Vienna and Budapest in the fall.

An army in Ukraina can be useful in any of several ways. It can go to Rumania, with (or without) support from F Sev, thereby freeing A Gal (or War if A War-Gal bounced in the spring) for use against Austria. It can provide the second support for a move from Galicia to Rumania or the only support, freeing F Sev for a move to the Black Sea. Finally, a cautious Russian player may wish to send A Ukr-Sev, covering Sevastopol from potential Turkish attack from Armenia and thereby allowing him to order F Sev-Bla again in the fall without fear of the Turks allowing it to succeed (rare) in order to sneak into Sevastopol from the back door of Armenia.

Sending A Mos-St.P on the other hand is definitely anti-English since it threatens Norway and forces the English to support an attack on Norway if it is to succeed. Knowing that he will be unable to prevent an English move to Norway, a clever Russia player may order A St.P-Fin, freeing St. Petersburg for a build (usually under the circumstances a north coast fleet) and hopefully providing a third unit (with F Swe) for the coming attack on Norway and general anti-English offensive.

Turkey

1. F Ank-Bla, A Con-Bul, A Smy-Con.
2. F Ank-Bla, A Con-Bul, A Smy-Arm.

Turkey, even more than Russia, cannot afford to lose the Black Sea since it borders on no less than two Turkish home centers plus Bulgaria, her only sure first year build. Thus a Turkish move to the Black Sea, albeit usually an unsuccessful one, is generally to be anticipated.

Once occupied by an army from Constantinople, Bulgaria is usually quite safe for the first year at least, even from combined Austro-Russian attack. From Bulgaria, a Turkish army has fall movement possibilities to Serbia and Greece (although these are usually blocked by the almost invariable Austrian A-Ser S F Alb-Gre) and Rumania. If he is so inclined, a Turkish player often has good chances to block or toss the Russians out of Rumania from Bulgaria if he has ordered the anti-Russian A Smy-Arm in the spring.

From Armenia, a Turkish army threatens Sevastopol and cuts any potential support from a fleet lodged there for a move to Rumania. Without Austrian help (and it should be noted that such help is relatively infrequent since it usually risks being bounced out of Greece), a Russian player must either support the fleet to Rumania and send an army to Sevastopol, or send an army from Galicia to Rumania with support from Ukraina (requiring a very friendly Austrian) and leave the fleet to guard Sevastopol if he wishes to both take Rumania and hold Sevastopol.

Sending A Smy-Con is more neutral on Turkey's part and should avoid antagonizing a Russian player properly informed of Turkey's intention to arrange a bounce in the Black Sea. The usual eventual intention here is

to set up some sort of an army train from Constantinople, through Bulgaria and to other Balkan centers with Italian and/or Russian help.

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 \$1.00. When the new postal rates become effective in January this will rise to 12 issues for \$2.00. Back issues are 15¢ each or 10 for \$1.00. (The 10th Anniversary Issue, #289, and the Book Review Issue, #296, are each 50¢.) If 3rd-class mail rates also rise, this rate can be expected to do so.

Overseas, GRAUSTARK is presently 5 issues for \$1.00 or 12 for £1.00; back issues overseas are 10 for \$1.00 or 24 for £1.00. British and Canadian subscribers should remit in US currency or in their national currency or in a postal money order payable in US dollars. A sample issue may be obtained for 2 International Reply Coupons.

Available back issues at present are: 131, 137, 139, 167, 171, 199, 200, 206, 239, 248-250, 252, 253, 257-259, 271, 273-283, 285-287, 289, 291-298.

Diplomacy was invented by Allan B. Calhmer and is published by Games Research Inc., 500 Harrison Ave., Boston, Mass 02118. GRAUSTARK also carried postal games of Origins of World War II, invented by James Dunnigan and published by Avalon-Hill, 4517 Harford Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21214. Formerly published here was FREEDONIA, a bulletin of postal Origins, now merged into GRAUSTARK. A complete file of FREEDONIA as an Origins 'zine, 29 issues, is available for \$1.50. This contains about 30 complete games of Origins, played postally or over the board.

Regrettably, no game openings for either Diplomacy or Origins are now available in GRAUSTARK. This publication is not edited under the supervision of Bangs Leslie Tapscott.

*

In case anyone was wondering, I'm going to vote for Mario Biaggi for Mayor of New York. A man with his record, including a singular reticence to be frank with grand juries, is certain to be removed from office before long. Then Paul O'Dwyer will be Mayor, a prospect which I hail with enthusiasm.

*

TK Graphics, P. O. Box 1951, Baltimore, Md. 21203 is bringing out a book that should interest all war and history buffs. It is Victorious German Arms by Gary Gyax and Terry Stafford, and it speculates how World War II would have developed had German strategy and tactics in 1941-42 been different. This book was serialized as a collection of articles in the IFW magazine, and is \$2.50. Other items of interest in TK Graphics' fall list are Ruth Noel's The Languages of Middle Earth (\$5.50 in cloth, \$3.50 in paper), a philological study of Tolkien's epic, and J. B. Post's long-awaited An Atlas of Fantasy (\$20.00 in cloth, \$12.00 in paper), a collection of maps from fantasy novels that includes Middle Earth, Oz, Narnia, Burroughs' Mars, Prydain, and Iankhmar.

*

Resolved Waldron (1610-1690), I owe you an apology. This ancestor of mine, an Anglo-Dutch Puritan, was Sheriff of New Amsterdam in Stuyvesant's time, and was a most notable persecutor of the Quakers. I've always felt ashamed of this old reprobate. However, I recently recalled that the three most notable Quakers in American public life in this century have been Mitchell Palmer, Herbert Hoover, and Richard Nixon. Somehow Resolved Waldron's feelings on the matter don't seem so reprehensible any more.

*

In the "New Blood" list in GRAUSTARK #295, I was forced to list one inquirer as "William S. Illegible" because, as nearly as I could make out, he was. Shortly afterwards arrived 4th issue of Bob Lipton's new 'zine Mixumaxu Gazette, with the words "Any help in locating Mr. William Rakowski would be appreciated." It seems that Rakowski sent Lipton a game fee, but that after opening the envelop Bob discovered that he "had obliterated the address beyond Rakowski's name and 7210 something." So that seems to be the man!

*

From time to time GRAUSTARK is reviewed in other 'zines, and it has come to my attention that these reviews are in the habit of calling my opinions "liberal". Might I request that reviewers find some other label? The American invasion of Vietnam, and the other calamities that have followed in its wake, were entirely the creation of liberal politicians - chiefly of Rusk, McNamara, the Bundy brothers, and the Rostow brothers, all the appointees of a liberal president. The entire liberal leadership of Congress, and most of their followers, promoted the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution. Liberals are people like Lyndon Baines Johnson...not me.

As you may have noticed, Liberals are very scarce these days, and may be an Endangered Species. From time to time they are still reported from the prairies of Minnesota and the Dakotas, but almost everywhere else they are extinct. Some of them went down when their Brinkman Ship was sunk off Vietnam, and others choked to death in their own wastes.

*

Many years ago, the German satirist Kurt Tucholsky wrote: "Caustic social critics are very popular in countries not their own, unless they happen to be Communists." Tucholsky's exception may now be erased. Such magazines as National Review or Human Events, which have been severely critical of American dissenters, have taken under their patronage dissenters within the Soviet Union - dissenters who, generally, are in favor of most of the Soviet system of society and have only criticized aspects of its application. For example, National Review's staff poet W. H. von Dreele praised in these words the beatings administered by AFL-CIO goons to peace marchers (with the _____ of the present Secretary of Labor, Peter Brennan):

"Oh, what fun it is to watch

The wierdos get it in the crotch."

Yet this same magazine urges that President Nixon hold off on winding down the Cold War until the Soviet equivalents of von Dreele's "wierdos" get everything they want.

They are particularly incensed about a young Soviet astrophysicist of Jewish ancestry, who for his views has been sent to a labor camp in the Arctic despite a delicate constitution which is suffering under the rigors of the climate. Yet there has been utter silence about the tragic case of Robert Martin, who was arrested at the White House on 14 August while protesting the continued American bombing of Cambodia. (New York Post, 25 August 1973) Martin was hauled off to a jail, where he was raped continually for five hours by the other inmates.

This is the brutal reality behind the alleged "freedom of dissent" in America. This is the real meaning of President Nixon's Indo-China policy. It is, granted, effective; people who are willing to risk a Kent-State-type martyrdom are not willing to risk what happened to Martin. But let's hear no more self-righteous breast-beating about what happens to dissenters in the Soviet Union.

In fact, if the four victims of Kent State had been Soviet citizens protesting against Soviet policy, they would probably still be alive today. Though it defines "dissent" more broadly, the USSR is considerably more lenient than the USA in dealing with the dissenters.

THE UNKNOWN CITIZEN

by W. H. "Katzini" Auden*

(To JB/234/E/19 This Marble Monument is Erected By The State)

He was found by the Bureau of Statistics to be
 One against whom only Charles Reinsel had a complaint,
 And all the reports on his conduct agree
 That, in the modern sense of the word, he was a radical,
 For in everything he did he served the Wargame Community.
 Except for Origins of World War II till the day he retired,
 He worked at Diplomacy and at that he aspired,
 And satisfied his fellow editors,
 Yet he wasn't a scab or odd in his views,
 For the Liberal Party reports he paid his dues,
 (Our wiretaps on the Liberal Party show it was solvent)
 And our Social Psychology workers found
 He was popular at SPI, and liked Dr. Pepper.
 The Press he wrote convinced us he should put out a paper every day,
 And that his adverse reactions to advertisements were normal in every way.
 Policies taken out in his name prove that he was fully insured,
 Against everything from leaky galoshes to roving bands of chickens.
 Both Producers Research and High-Grade living declare
 He was fully sensible to the advantages of the installment plan
 Which enabled him to cancel Lipton's Round and Round It Goes any time he
 wanted,
 And had everything necessary to the Modern Man,
 A Gestetner, an Underwood, a car, and a frigidaire.
 Our researchers into public opinion are content,
 That he wanted Nixon impeached in '71, and Ervin in '73.
 He was married and added (?) two (?) children to the over-population,
 Which our Eugenist says is "close enough" for a parent of his generation.
 And our teachers report he was scared to go near the school.
 Was he happy? Was he free? The question is absurd.
 Had anything been wrong, we certainly should have cancelled!

* - This poem was discovered in a letter from Alex. Katzoff.

GRAUSTARK #299

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

"The nation's highest
 military court was to hear a
 fresh appeal today from Lt.
 William Calley Jr., who claims
 there was no malice in his
 mind during the My Lai mas-
 sacre." - New York Post,
 4 October 1973