

GRAUSTARK

#308

6 April 1974

THE MYSTERY OF THE GREEN CIRCLE

or

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE WONDERING WHY I'VE CALLED YOU ALL HERE

This is, as you may well have realized, not one of the regularly scheduled publication dates for GRAUSTARK. Except for the 533 AD moves in the Fall of Rome game (pp. 10-11) there are no game moves here at all. However, a few circumstances have necessitated a slight change in the GRAUSTARK schedule this spring.

First, there will be no GRAUSTARK published next weekend. This is because I am treasurer of Lunacon, a science-fiction convention which will take place in New York that weekend. I expect to be too busy to do any publishing. All 13 April deadlines set in GRAUSTARK #307 will stand. But those moves will be published in GRAUSTARK #309 on Saturday 20 April. The next moves afterwards will be for the deadline of Saturday 11 May, and GRAUSTARK #310 will be published on that date. This will have the additional advantage of postponing the next publication date so it does not coincide with Disclave, a science-fiction convention which will take place in Washington on 25 May.

Second, scheduling in the Fall of Rome tourney will be somewhat different. The 533 AD moves are published in this issue. The 534 AD moves are due on Saturday 20 April, and will be published on that date in #309. The 535 AD moves are due on Saturday 4 May, and will be published in #310 on 11 May. Thus, Fall of Rome deadline dates remain at 2 weeks after the publication of the previous moves.

Third, a "New Blood" list appears on p. 2. This is published periodically, to enable Gamesmasters with game openings to get in touch with potential new players who have written in expressing an interest in postal war-gaming. This list is accurate to 1 April 1974.

Fourth, a complete mailing list for GRAUSTARK will appear on pp. 7-10 of GRAUSTARK #309. The list will be accurate to 15 April 1974. Any reader whose address needs updating, or who wants his telephone number published, should contact me before that date.

Fifth, I am deleting a number of trades, effective with this issue. If a green circle appears about the letter "T" on the mailing label of your copy, it means that I am suspending trade of our 'zines. I hasten to assure other publishers that this suspension has little to do with the quality or regularity of their 'zines; in fact, among suspended trades will be publications that I have recommended to GRAUSTARK readers. It is just that I find trade 'zines coming in faster than I can read them, and that I haven't got around to arranging the piles of 'zines for a couple of years. If a 'zine does not regularly get opened and read as soon as it arrives, I see no reason to trade for it. This is not a reflection on its publisher, but simply an expression of the fact that I cannot handle all the Diplomacy publications that come my way. "Green-circled" traders who are playing in a GRAUSTARK game will continue to get GRAUSTARK as long as the game lasts.

NEW BLOOD - VIII

This list of people who have inquired about GRAUSTARK updates the previous list, published in #303. It is arranged by ZIP code, so that players can more easily get in touch with one another locally.

Ralph J. Blauvelt, #4, 161 Jason St., Pittsfield, Mass. 01201
 Steve Bradford, 4 Webber Ave., Bedford, Mass. 01730
 Lee J. Winter, 27 Gould Road, Bedford, Mass. 01730
 David A. Alexander, 82 Milled Road, Newton Centre, Mass. 02159
 Barry Goldenberg, 37 Pratt Dr., West Newton, Mass. 02165
 Raymond Estabrook, Cornish, Maine 04020
 Bruce Chamberlain, 248 Ridgewood Road, East Hartford, Conn. 06128
 Les Robbins, Apt. 18W, 2100 Linwood Ave., Fort Lee, N. J. 07024
 F. Sarmiguel, 1114 Roberts Ave., Mays Landing, N. J. 08330
 Alan Libert, 15 Charles St., New York, N. Y. 10014
 Monte Jaffe, 256 Waverly Road, Scarsdale, N. Y. 10583; 914-632-2624
 Bruce Kleinman, 3016 Brighton 7th St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11235
 Andrew R. Gefen, 2 Forest Lane, Lawrence, N. Y. 11559
 Richard E. Marshall, 208 Clyde Ave., Syracuse, N. Y. 13207
 John T. Ambrose, 206 Eastern Heights Dr., Ithaca, N. Y. 14850
 Norman Patrick, 901 E. Orange St., Lancaster, Penn. 17602
 Beason Margulies, 1400 Hillside Road, Wynnewood, Penn. 19096
 Don B. Stewart, 500 Church Lane, Winnsboro, S. C. 29180
 Dennis Freeze, 3007 Oxfordshire Lane, Dallas, Texas 75234
 Greg Hamburg, Apt. 207, 7098 W. Cedar Ave., Lakewood, Colo. 80226
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 John Jackson, #205, 1428 Kelton, Los Angeles, Calif. 90024
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 Peter J. Kahn, #8, 136 Frederick St., San Francisco, Calif. 94117
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 Alexander J. Korbee, 117 Southill Dr., Don Mills, Ontario M3C 2H9
 Ray Givens, R. R. 3, Harley, Ontario NOE 1E0
 ATS Ryrie, 1/30 New Beach Road, Darling Point, New South Wales 2027,
 Australia

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

In #306, I rather prematurely characterized GRAUSTARK as "The only postal war-gaming publication that supports the President of the United States of America (as far as I know)". Since then, two Gamesmasters have shown where they stand by reprinting the fantastically successful "In Praise of America" by Toronto commentator Gordon Sinclair. They are Ray Bowers (Midwestern Courier #23) and John Boyer (Impassable #33). I am happy to join them in affirming that America "will come out of this thing with their flag high...entitled to thumb their noses at the lands that are gloating over their present troubles". And, it should be noted, at the fanatical little men who are trying to depose President Nixon.

We have been getting a lot of hair-splitting about imaginary distinctions among Richard M. Nixon "the man", the President as an official, the Presidency as an institution, the Government which the President heads, and the nation which the President governs. In actuality these are distinctions without a difference. Richard M. Nixon is President of the United States; there is no other. The President is Chief Executive of the United States; there is no other. Who attacks one of these, as a person, an office, an institution, or a country, attacks all of them. Who defends one, defends all.

I am convinced that the roof will soon fall in on the President's opponents. When it does, I am going to be standing out by the curb, waving my flag and singing "Hail to the Chief!" as the parade goes by.

HISTORY OF THE FOUR AND A HALF KINGDOMS

The Four And A Half Kingdoms each maintain a consulate in New York City. Owing to financial exigencies, these five consuls have for many years shared office space in a run-down building in lower Manhattan, even at times when some of these nations have been at war with each other. This building was once owned by the prestigious New York Alcoholic Club, but when that moved uptown during the second Hylan administration, the diplomatic services of the nations of the Balkan Massif moved in. The rent is shared by a complicated arrangement, depending on which of the Four And A Half Kingdoms happens that month to have a surplus of such relatively hard currencies as the Indonesian rupiah, the Laotian kip, or the Panzig gulden. (Of this last, Marcus Penilus of the Temporary Roman Empire says, "At least you know nobody is going to counterfeit it!") As a further economy measure, the upper floor is sublet to the Rosemary Gunning Institute of Facial Classification, the attic to the Black United Militants, and the basement to the First Church of Satan, Scientist.

On 1 April 1974 the five consuls had an unusual meeting in their shared office. Present were:

Livia Lovelinen, Kingdom of Skandalutz
 Marcus Penilus, Temporary Roman Empire
 Pius Palaeoanthrovich, Pravoslavnican Patrimony of Polykarp
 Herrmann Hosenloch, Grand Duchy of Wogastisburg-Schlämpenbüttel
 Ildika Louhi Jadwiga Ivanovna Vatatukhis, Pundschdruk People's Republic

Our account of this conference was taken from the notes of a Jesus Freak who was wiretapping the Satan Scientists, and accidentally picked up the consuls' conversation instead. Participants are indicated by their initials.

IV: "Decadent feudal-bourgeois remnants! Did you seeink April issue of scatological Amerikan pumpublication National Lamb Poon?"

HP: "Ja. Sherry Fleniken vos goodt as always. Didt you see vot happened in dis month's 'Bonnie und Trots'? I vos wondering von Bonnie would finally pass through puberty."

IV: "No, not dot pornockraphy! Is meanink wicious unjustified satire on glorious Pipple's Pepumple of Pundschdruk!"

MP: "How is it possible to satirize Pundschdruk? Besides, what you call 'Pundschdruk' is in veritate a province of the Roman Empire."

PP: "How long are you pagans going to keep up the pretense that the Roman Empire is still in existence and will resume its ancient boundaries any year now?"

MP: "If the Israelis can do it, we..."

IV: "Stick to point! In Lamb Poon is satire of entire Balking Massif. What dey call 'Purathenia' is mostly Pundschdruk, wit' t'ings from Wogastisburg. Is not even mentionink dot Pundschdruk is Pipple's Pepumple, bot otterwise is attagk on glorious ruthaland!"

LL: "On Skandalutz too?"

PP: "Article is attempt to get a tourist trade. Of all the states of the Balkan Massif, your licentious pagan kingdom has the biggest promotion for the tourist trade."

LL: "For a Christian, you have a good eye for detail, handsome."

PP: "I am not a Christian. In Polykarp we worship the Holy Quaternity, as revealed in the Newer Testament, the true fulfillment of the prophecies of the Christians..."

MP: "Save it for Union Square next Saturday. By the way, Pius, how many converts have you picked up since you were assigned here last month?"

PP: "Uncounted numbers, O pagan infidel."

MP: "Does that include that fat little meretrix who was around here

Looking for you last Kalends?"

PH: "Was dot who she was? She charged me und Marcus \$25 each, but took Livia for only \$15."

LL: "Daughters of Bilitis gives discounts to members."

PP: "Keep your hands out of my habit, you Skandalous wench!"

HE: "What's the matter, Pius - do you use your own hand for your habits?"

HH: "Ja, diss satire iss definitely aimed at der Balkan Massif. I move ve make a diplomatic protest."

PP: "And possibly an expeditionary force against these shameless detractors of our great nations."

LL: "I agree, Pius. Shall we withdraw to a private caucus on the subject?"

HH: "Maybe we can go shares mit der Israelis. Dere iss another article in here dot satirizes dem also. It's called der adventures of Gulliver in Grabclutchland."

IV: "An excellent opportunity to establish fraternal relations vit' o'ter states."

MP: "Is that why Herrmann is trying to establish fraternal relations with your left knee?"

HH: "Pay no attention to Hellofagablus, honig."

MP: "Don't insult the memory of our glorious Caesars!"

HH: "The last time this happened was when we sued Peter Ustinov for defanation of der Grand Duchy for his movie Romanoff und Juliet. His 'Concordia' was satire on Wogastisburg-Schlampenbüttel. And ve won, too, mit damages of two million crowns!"

MP: "Yes, but you sued him in your own courts, and haven't been able to get a judgment."

LL: "Besides, two million Wogastisburg crowns is about a dollar thirty-nine, US currency, C'mon, Pius, how about that caucus?"

HH: "The way the dollar is going dese days, ve may haff a goldmine in dot chutchment yedt."

IV: "Is agreed, da? All nations of Balking Massif deglare war on National Lamb Poon? And get alliance wit' Israel?"

LL: "Leave that to me. Princess Hure's United Corps of Specialist will enter training quarters in the Aden Bar in Haifa. And I can account here in New York for a whole chapter of the Juvenile Delinquents League."

PP: "Dicis in veritate?"

IV: "You said it, Marcus. I saw her account for der myself, the faschist pigs."

PP: "Ambassador Lovelinen, what you propose exceeds the instructions of my government!"

LL: "That isn't all that will get exceeded, unless you -"

[Here their voices trailed off, ending in a loudly slammed door.]

IV: "You is skinny liddle schrimp, Herrmann, but iss bedder dan not'ing."

MP: "Non potest nanere."

IV: "The hell it ain't, feudal-imperialist paskudvank."

MP: "You'll rip my toga..."

[At this point the transcription suddenly ceased. The wire-tapper is believed to have mailed the tape to the United Rabble Rousing Press, sent in his resignation to the Jesus Freaks, and hi-jacked an Olympia Airways liner to Skandalutz. Extradition proceedings against him are now under way from the United States, Greece, and Kuwait, which claims exclusive rights to Olympia hi-jacks. The Four And A Half Kingdoms' consulates cut off all contacts with the outside world (except for three liquor stores and a sex boutique) for the 72 hours following the cessation of the above transcription.]

P O E T R Y S E C T I O N

In recent weeks several people have sent in verse contributions to GRAUSTARK. I have thrown in a couple of my own translations, and am publishing the results herewith.

THE MAULBRONN FUGUE

by Joseph Viktor von Scheffel (translated by John Boardman)

In the Winter Dining Hall
Of Maulbronn Monastery
A song there went the table 'round
That wasn't quite 'Hail Mary'.
The roast goose had been fat and
 crisp,
The Filfing wine goes 'round,
The damp devotions now begin
With contrapuntal sound:
 'A. F. N. E. F. D.
 Cups full as they can be.

In waddled Abbot Entenfuss
A frown upon his brow.
'Why are you sitting up so late
'While fiddlers make a row?
'You're all disturbing Doctor
 Faust
'Cut in the Garden Tower.
'This racket will upset his plans
'For gold by magic power.
 'A. F. N. E. F. D.
 'Behave more properly.'

Then up spoke Brother Godefrit
Who ran the scullery;
He just had brought up all his
 men
To share the jollity.
He cried, 'Lord Abbot, what you say
'We all in honor held,
'But if you have no other plaint,
'Please do not come and scold.
 'A. F. N. E. F. D.
 'Faust joins our revelry.'

Faust sat all backwards by the wall
And drank with deep delight,
But now he hoisted up his glass,
Which sparkled in the light,
And said, 'In all my magic books
'I've studied night and day,
'But now I know I was a fool
'To look for gold that way.
 'A. F. N. E. F. D.
 'Here's where true gold must
 be!'

All Hermes Trismegistos' art
Does nothing half so fine.
The Sun is the true alchemist,
Distilling Filfing wine.
When through your veins and arteries
You feel Filfinger roll,
Then you have gold, you have true
 gold,
And needn't sell your soul.
 'A. F. N. E. F. D.
 'Joins fact and theory.'

The Abbot laughed, 'With lore like
'I'm forced into your camp.
'"All Full, None Empty, Fetch
 Drink" is
'A fugue that's good and damp.
'What Doctor Faust has said of gold
'I now will make official.
'We know the entire melody
'By singing each initial.
 'A. F. N. E. F. D.
 'To wine all glory be.'

ALLEGED POEM #2

by Evan Jones

Why doth thy face sae showe of
 cheare,
 Russia, Russia?
Why doth thy face sae showe of
 cheare;
Why sae gleeful go ye-o?
Oh, I hae stabb'd England drear,
 Ally, Ally.
Oh, I hae stabb'd England drear,
And taken ye Northe Sea-o.

But England hath armie St. Pete,
 Russia, Russia.
But England hath armie St. Pete.
And things look bad for ye-o.
But I shall force him to retreat,
 Ally, Ally.
But I shalle force him to retreat;
To Finland he will flee-o.

And Tyrkie doth attack thy reare,
 Russia, Russia!
 And Tyrkie doth attack thy reare;
 To Sevastopol does he-o.
 But that is juste an idyl feare,
 Ally, Ally.
 But that is juste an idyl feare;
 With him I will agree-o.

Thy armies, they be beaten nowe,
 Russia, Russia.
 Thy armies, they be beaten nowe.
 How can this outrage be-o?
 Oh, woe is me, I've lost Moscowe,
 Ally, Ally.
 Oh, woe is me, I've lost Moscowe;
 Mine foes are yelling, "WEO!" *

Thy force hae been completelie
 crush'd,
 Russia, Russia!
 Thy force hae been completelie
 crush'd
 Defeat do you forsee-o?

Out of mine countrie I muste rush,
 Ally, Ally.
 Out of mine countrie I muste rush
 And fly with haste to Rio.

And wilt thou end the glorious reign
 Russia, Russia.
 And wilt thou end thy glorious reign
 In A. D. nineteen-three-o?
 But all my centers hae been ta'en,
 Ally, Ally.
 But all my centers hae been ta'en
 And do defense gang ye-o.

Well, what about thy ally true,
 Russia, Russia?
 Well, what about thy ally true?
 Canst I have Rumanii-o?
 Mine parting worde will be, "fucke
 you",
 former Ally.
 Mine parting worde will be, "fucke
 you",
 Sic bad consul gang ye to me-o.

THE JOHN BALL SOCIETY **

by Hael of the Broken Mask

Oh, we're meeting out in Sherwood after Angelus tonight,
 Just bring your flail and pitchfork, it's the first tree on the right.
 No cost for your admission, and membership is free -
 The peasants are revolting, so come join the Jockerie!

We're the John Ball Society, the John Ball Society,
 Fighting for the right to smite the aristocracy;
 The John Ball Society, don't call us dirty reds,
 We only want their womenfolk, and property, and heads!

I remember how the Count of Close enjoyed his feudal right,
 A test drive in me lovin' wife upon our wedding night.
 Now I'm not sure who's father to Jack, my oldest son,
 Why should the Count be the only one to have that sort of fun?

So join the John Ball Society, we're base-born, low, and treacherous.
 But some day when we're on top, then we'll just be lecherous.

Now the Duke, who's fond of venery, declares that stags be chased,
 All up and down me barley fields and sets me crops to waste.
 I'm really not a bloody man - his head won't have to roll,
 I'll change me fields to turnpikes and charge the Duke a toll!

The John Ball Society - our status can't be worse;
 You can snatch the ladies fair, and I'll just snatch their purse.

* - And I'm not getting double mine money backe either!

** - This song is reprinted from "Songs of ye Current Middle Ages" in
Ye Dragon-Runners' Chronicle #3, with the permission of editor Ann Cass,
 c/o The Book Nook, 1538 E. 55th St., Chicago, Ill. 60615.

GRAUSTARK is 12 issues for \$2 from John Boardman, 234 East 19th St.,
 Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226. Back issues are 10 for \$1.

GUANO *

by Joseph Viktor von Scheffel (translated by John Boardman)

Far out in the Pacific
I know a peaceful isle.
About its rocky shoreline
The crystal wavelets smile.
No sail is in its harbor
No footprint on the strand,
But tidy birds by thousands
Defend that lonesome land.

Each birdie does his duty
In pious contemplation,
Digestion dedicated
To flow like an oration.
The birds are all philosophers;
Their basic axiom reads:
"Just keep your body open,
"And all the rest succeeds."

The task their fathers had begun.
The children work at still.
Refined by tropic sunshine
It piles up like a hill.
They see a rosy future,
They say, with deep emotion,
"As we go down in history,
"We'll fill up all the ocean."

And good men will appreciate
Their efforts far away.
In distant Lower Schwabenland
The turnip farmers say:
"God bless you, worthy birdies
"Of distant guano shores.
"Despite Profec sor Hegel,
"The best manure is yours!"

I'VE GOT A LITTLE LIST

by Robert Bryan Lipton

(with abject apology to W. S. Gilbert - but they deserve it!)

As someday New York City should be leveled to the ground,
I've got a little list - I've got a little list
Of wargaming enthusiasts who'd better not be found,
And who never would be missed - who never would be missed.
There's the idiot with frizzled hair and badly mismatched socks,
The player who is fat and looks just like the chicken pox.
There's the wire-haired midget who is an expert on all fish -
The jackass who feels that to steal a pipe is his great wish -
The loud mouthed genius who on Italian factors does insist,
They'd none of them be missed - they'd none of them be missed.

There's the self-proclaimed leader and the others of his type -
The Associationist - I've got 'em on my list.
And the publisher who at other-type games just loves to snipe
The stalwart Leninist - They'd none of them be missed.
The moron who denounces with a quickly fading tone
All centuries plus this and every country plus his own,
And the gentleman from Texas who knows well that 1 is Y
And who doesn't know what X is but thinks that it might be pi.
Then that singular example of antiscatologist.
I don't think she'll be missed. I'm sure she'll not be missed.

There's that sic transit type nuisance who just now is rather rife,
The s-f columnist. I've got him on the list.
All long press writers, poets bad, and clowns of Chinese life -
They'd none of 'em be missed - they'd none of 'em be missed.
And folks who fill up GRAUSTARK with press of a rotten kind--
Such as - What d'ye call him - Thing-em-Bob, and likewise - never mind,
And 'St-'st-'st and What's-his-name and also You-Know-Who-
The task of filling up the blanks I'd rather leave to you.
But it really doesn't matter whom you put upon the list,
For they'll none of 'em be missed - they'll none of them be missed!

* - This poem, together with two others entitled "Jonah (From The Old Assyrian)" and "The Ichthyosaurus", was written by Scheffel for the 10th anniversary of the fraternity Teutonia, and published in 1867.

REVOLUTIONARY EQUIVOQUE

The approaching bicentennial of the American Revolution is not, it now appears, going to be made the occasion for a great national celebration as in 1876. This is probably just as well, since the United States of America has a rather unfortunate lot of national heroes. On the one hand, it is good that a nation have heroes; they serve to focus and to inspire patriotic loyalties. On the other hand, it is not productive of social stability that many of these heroes led a violent revolution against an existing and legitimate government, and won against apparently insuperable odds. This can only inspire contemporary malcontents to try it again.

It is neither desirable nor practical to reverse the American Revolution at this late date. But an unexpected by-product of the approaching bicentennial has been a great interest by historians in the Loyalists, or Tories. One of several historians' conferences on these neglected and maligned people was recently held at the City University of New York. For an account of the Loyalists, who have been slandered by American and neglected by British and Canadian historians, see Al Nofi's article on the revolution in Strategy & Tactics #34. Look for more about them. Men and women who upheld their government, even though they had reservations about some of its policies, are worthy of our favorable consideration in these troubled times.

Nearly two centuries ago, a Philadelphia newspaper printed the following verses to oblige both factions among its readers. The lines can be read either straight across the page, or first the left verse and then the right.

Hark! hark! the trumpet sounds,	The din of war's alarms,
O'er seas and solid grounds,	Doth call us all to arms;
Who for King George doth stand,	Their honors soon shall shine;
Their ruin is at hand,	Who with the Congress join.
The acts of Parliament,	In them I much delight,
I hate their cursed intent,	Who for the Congress fight,
The Tories of the day,	They are my daily toast,
They soon will sneak away,	Who Independence boast;
Who non-resistance hold,	They have my hand and heart.
May they for slaves be sold,	Who act a Whiggish part;
On Mansfield, North, and Bute,	May daily blessings pour,
Confusion and dispute,	On Congress evermore;
To North and British lord,	May honors still be done,
I wish a block or cord,	To General Washington.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Philbert C. Fry, 9538 Quail Village Lane, Austin, Texas 78758, is starting a new postal Diplomacy bulletin, The Southern Diplomat. Game entries are available at a fee of \$5.00, and he plans several games.

One of the funniest new magazines on the Diplomacy scene is The Duchy of Strackenz, published by David Johnston, 5451 Rockwood Road, Columbus, Ohio 43229. This 'zine takes its name from the north German mini-state in which George MacDonald Fraser's novel Royal Flash takes place. (See reviews in GRAUSTARKS #246 & #296.) There are no games in it now, but some may begin later.

Alternate Reality deserves a ringing recommendation. It is a new Dippy 'zine published by Ron Melton, c/o Rhodes' Books, 694 Broadway, El Centro, Calif. 92243. Subscriptions are 10 issues for \$2. Games of Diplomacy and Origins of World War II are being organized. Alternate Reality also includes game reviews and fiction.

Slobinpolit Zhurnal is now being published by Charles C. Sharp, #3, 506 W. College Ave., State College, Penn. 16801. Subscriptions are \$1.50

a year, and game fees are \$1.00 each. The 'zine is very funny, and contains such players as Eusebius ban Hangyvezenyl, Dmitri N. Vurklemyer, Raoul Raskolnikov, Ivan the Tolerable, and that noble regiment, "The Czar's Caterers".

Liberterrean is a pleasant if trivial little Dippy 'zine published twice a month by Jim Bumpas, 948 Loraine Ave., Los Altos, Calif. 94022. Subscriptions are \$6 a year, and game deposits an additional \$1. The 'zine is also devoted to the propagation of philosophical anarchism, as exemplified presumably by the works of the "philosopher" identified in the above limerick of mine own composition.

There was an old beldame named Ayn
Who thought it would really be fine
If all the elite
Were packers of meat,
And the rest of humanity, swine.

Cimmeria is published by Steve Nozik, SUNY Buffalo, Clement Hall, Box L100, Buffalo, N. Y. 14214. Subscriptions are 10 for \$2; games are an additional \$2 each. Send a country preference list.

Anschluss (Joseph O. Antosiak, 422 East Ave., LaGrange, Ill. 60525) is organizing postal games of Diplomacy, Origins, 1812 (area), Air Empire, Strategy I, Solomons Campaign, Bull Run, Fight in the Skies, and Starlord. All are \$3 except Dippy, which is \$4. [Oops - Soldiers and Sniper, too!]

Obsession is published by Larry Rubinow, P. O. Box 24872, Los Angeles, Calif. 90024. It's monthly, and subs are \$2 per year. with believe it or not 50¢ game fees.

Herbert "Illegible" Barents (157 State St., Zeeland, Mich. 49464) has just started the first 'zine devoted entirely to orphan games - games abandoned by Gamesmasters who quit publication. It is, of course, called Little Orfan Annie. Since some of the abandoned players have got fed up and left, he needs standbys. No fee.

This is
O At
P Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
T To
I Inflame
O Optic
N Nerves
578

*

There are, regrettably, two Diplomacy 'zines that I cannot recommend except to psychology students looking for case studies in abnormal psych. Rod Walker is a well-known headache in the field of postal Diplomacy. However, in his Erehwon #73 he seems to have gone completely over the brink. In that issue he calls for the assassination of President Nixon.

Yes, he really does. Furthermore, when I protested, he seemed to be unaware why anyone would object to this action. Drop him a line (3343 \ First Ave., San Diego, Calif. 92103; 15¢) and ask for a copy; he'll probably send you one unless the Secret Service has given him a good talking to. He has set up an "Assassination Sweepstakes" to guess the date when "some lucky devil will get to blow Tricky Dick's brains out", when "a contemporary John Wilkes Booth will do his patriotic duty".

Let us recall that there has already been one attempt on the President's life, by a psychiatric patient goaded into the act by the tirades of hatred directed against President Nixon in the name of 'Watergate'. This man picketed the White House for several days before taking more direct action, trying to hijack a plane and crash it into the White House.

Rod Walker is just trying to destroy one President. But a pack of unreconstructed Confederates in Asheville, N. C. is apparently trying to persuade us that the wrong side won the Civil War and maybe also World War II. The Fighter's Home is out to show that the "North" (not the United States of America, mind you, but simply the "North") was in the wrong when it "proposed to ruin the economy of the South and to take the freedom of deciding their own fate from them". They have proclaimed Traitor Lee as the greatest general in history. (I wonder whom they consider as second greatest - Tomoyuki Yamashita, maybe?) I have already treated this point at length in GRAUSTARK #300, pp. 46-47. But when all the rebel rhetoric is pushed out of the way, we should recall that the rebel aim in 1861 was

(continued on p. 12)

SOL IN ROMA NUMQUAM PERIT

Phase	I. <u>Dority</u>	II. <u>Fong</u>	III. <u>Hulland</u>	IV. <u>Lehtonen</u>
Af-ter 4D:	Gr12B GaA*; Gr 5B HsC*; Gr6B IyA*; Gr9B IyA (Gc); Gr20B ItA*; Pc1BP BrB; Br6N BrB*; Ps7B SyC; Sc1B AfB; Sc3B DaA*; Sc5BP ThB; Sc1B ThB(As)	Gr12B GaA*; Gr 5B HsC*; Gr15B IyB; Gr20B ItA*; Pc1BP BrB; Br6N BrB*; Sc4B AfC*; Sc3B DaA*; Sc5BP ThB	Gr12B GaA*; Gr 5B HsC*; Gr6B IyA*; Gr9B IyA (Gc); Gr20B ItA*; Pc1BP BrB; Br6N BrB*; Ps6B AsB*; Sc4B AfC*; Sc3B DaA*; Sc5BP ThB; Sc1B ThB(As)	3RL ItA; Gr12B GaA*; Gr15B GrB* (Iy); Gr5B HsC*; Gr20B ItB*; Pc1BP BrB; Br6N BrB*; Sc4B AfC*; Sc3B DaA*; Sc5BP ThB
4E:	<u>4M ThB-TaA</u> ; 3L SyC, 4M SyC, 2L ThB & 10M ThB hold	<u>1L AsA-GcA</u> ; 3L GcA-AgB; 1L AgA- AgB; <u>1L ThA-IyA</u> [no such unit exists]; 2L IyB & 10M ThB hold; 1L TaA & 2M IyB not ordered, hold	1L AgB-AgA-CyA- AsA; 1L CyA-AsA; 2L ThB-AsA; 1L GcB-GcA; 2L ThB & 10M ThB hold. Ps5N raised in AsC	1L AgB-GcA-GcB-IyA; 10M ThB holds
4F:	ThB: 2L & 10M vs. Sc5BP & 1B, 2:1. (6)-; SyC: 3L & 4M vs. Ps7B 1:1. (1), $\frac{1}{2}$ De. -Ps4B.	ThB: 10M vs. Sc 5BP, 2:1. (6)-.	ThB: 2L & 10M vs. Sc5BP & 1B, 2:1. (6)-.	ThB: 10M vs. Sc 5BP, 2:1. (6)-.
4G:	None.	None.	None.	None.
4H:	Ag, As, Cy, Gc, Sy($\frac{1}{2}$), Th($\frac{1}{2}$). Ps:Ar, Ms, Ps.	Ag, As, Cy, Gc, Iy ($\frac{1}{2}$), Sy, Ta, Th($\frac{1}{2}$) Ps:Ar, Ms, Ps.	Ag, Cy, Gc, Th($\frac{1}{2}$) Ps:Ar, Ms, Ps, Sy.	Ag, As, Cy, Gc, Iy, Sy, Th($\frac{1}{2}$) Ps:Ar, Ms, Ps.
4J:	-Pc1BP BrB, -Sc 1B AfB, -Sc1B & Sc2BP ThB.	-Pc1BP BrB, -Gr8B IyB, -Sc3BP ThB.	-Pc1BP BrB, -Sc1B & Sc2BP ThB.	-Pc1BP BrB, -Sc3BP ThB.
4K:	85+34-10=109 Ps:49+27-6=70	94+42-28=108 Ps:67+27=94	49+18-26=41 Ps:103+35-12=126	73+44-14-15-33=55 Ps:67+27=94
4L:	Location not specified. (5-4L, 6-3L, 5B, 9-4B)	3L ThB, 1L SyC. (7-12B)	4L ThB. (6- 1L, 6B)	2L ThB, 2L SyC. (6-4L, 7-12B) 3RL ItA turn loyal; Gr1N raised in ItB.
4M:	None.	None.	None.	Gr15B GrB
5A:	None.	None.	None.	None.
5B:	None.	None.	Ps6B AsB-AsA.	None.
5C:	None.	IyB: Gr7B vs. 2L & 2M, 1:1. (1), $\frac{1}{2}$ De. -1M.	AsA: Ps6B vs. 4L, 1:1. (2), $\frac{1}{2}$ Ex. -4L, 2B.	None.
5D:	(6,5) None.	None.	None.	None.

Underlined moves are not possible under the rules of Fall of Rome. The deadline for 534 AD orders is NOON, SATURDAY 20 APRIL 1974. See page 1 for further information about this change in schedule.

Whenever hostile forces are cleared from a province, any militia called into existence to meet them are automatically removed from the board. This happened to the Br6N in 7 of these games.

THE SUN NEVER SETS ON THE ROMAN EMPIRE

Phase	V. Paulson	VI. Scensny	VII. Scher	VIII. Ver Ploeg
Af-ter 4D:	Gr12B GaA*; Gr 5B HsC*; Gr15B IyB; Gr20B ItA*; Pc1BP BrB; Br6N BrB*; Sc2N AfA; Sc3B DaA*; Sc5BP ThB; Sc1B ThB	Gr12B GaA*; Gr 5B HsC*; Gr15B IyB; Gr10B ItA*; Pc2BP PcA; Ps2B SyC; Sc2N AfA; Sc3B DaA*; Sc5BP ThB; Gr1N ItA.	Gr12B GaA*; Gr 5B HsC*; Gr15B IyB; Gr20B ItA*; Pc1BP BrB; Br6N BrB*; Sc2N AfA; Sc3B DaA*; Sc5BP ThB; Sc1B AsA; Psl2B SyC	Gr12B GaA*; Gr 5B HsC*; Gr15B IyB; Gr20B ItA*; Pc1BP BrB; Br6N BrB*; Psl2B SyC; Sc4B AfC*; Sc3B DaA*; Sc5BP ThB; Sc1B ThB
4E:	1L SyC-AsA; 3L AfA, 3L IyA, 1L AsA, 3L SyB, 1L ThA, 10M SyB, 9M ThA, 2M IyA & 1M IyC hold.	1L AfB-AgB; 4L ItA, 3L ItB, 1L AsA, 10M SyC, 10M ThB, 2M IyA & 1M IyC hold.	1L AfB-AfA; 1L AfB-AgB; 1L ThA- ThB-AsC-AsB; 3L AfA, 1L IyC, 3L SyC, 1L AsB, 5M AsA, 10M ThB & 10M SyC hold.	3L IyA-IyC; 3L AgB, 2L AsA, 1L GcA, 3L SyC, 10M SyC & 10M ThB hold.
4F:	AfA: 3L vs. Sc2N 1:l. (1), $\frac{1}{2}$ De. -Sc1N, SyB: 3L & 10M vs. Psl2B, 1:l. (1), $\frac{1}{2}$ De -Ps6B.	ThB: 10M vs. Sc 5BP, 2:l. (6)-. SyC: 10M vs. Ps 9B, 1:l (1), $\frac{1}{2}$ De. -Ps5B.	AfA: 4L vs. Sc2N 2:l. (1), $\frac{1}{2}$ De. -Sc1N, hB: 10M vs. Sc5BP, 2:l. (6)- AsA: 5M vs Sc1B 5:l. (1), De -Sc1B. SyC: 2L & 10M vs. Psl2B 1:l (1), $\frac{1}{2}$ De. -Ps6B.	SyC: 3L & 10M vs. Psl2B 1:l (1), $\frac{1}{2}$ De. -Ps6B. ThB: 10M vs. Sc1B & Sc5BP 1:l (6)-.
4G:	None.	None.	None.	None.
4H:	Ag, As, Cy, Gc, Iy($\frac{1}{2}$), Sy($\frac{1}{2}$), Th($\frac{1}{2}$) Ps:Ar, Ms, Ps.	Ag, As, Cy, Gc, Iy($\frac{1}{2}$), Sy($\frac{1}{2}$), Th($\frac{1}{2}$) Ps:Ar, Ms, Ps.	Ag, As, Cy, Gc, Sy($\frac{1}{2}$), Th($\frac{1}{2}$) Ps:Ar, Ms, Ps.	Ag, As, Cy, Gc, Iy($\frac{1}{2}$), Sy($\frac{1}{2}$), Th($\frac{1}{2}$) Ps:Ar, Ms, Ps.
4J:	-Gr8B IyB, -Pc1 BP BrB, -Sc1B & Sc2BP ThB.	-Gr5B ItA, -Gr8B IyB, -Sc3BP ThB.	-Sc3BP ThB, -Pc1BP BrB.	-Gr8B IyB, -Pc1BP BrB, -Sc1B & Sc2 BP ThB.
4K:	63+37-24-8=69 Ps:19+27-12=34	71+37-27-9=72 Ps:21+27-8=40	58+34-22=70 Ps:19+27-12=34	65+37-24-7=71 Ps:19+27-12=34
4L:	None. (9-6B)	3L ThB (7-3B, 9-5B)	None. (5-1L, 9-6B)	None. (9-6B)
4M:	Gr7B IyB.	Pc2BP PcA, Gr7B IyB.	None.	Gr7B IyB.
5A:	None.	None.	None.	None.
5B:	None.	None.	None.	None.
5C:	None.	ItA: Gr5B & 1N vs. 4L 1:l. (3) Ex. -4L, Gr4B	None.	None.
5D:	None.	None.	None.	None.

It should be noted in Game VII that, though the Germans control Illyria, the nine "excess" strength points cannot leave until the last Roman units in that province are overcome. To this end the Gr15B attempted to move IyB-IyC, but came up with a "2". In Game IV, the first 33-credit donative to rebellious legions has taken place in ItA, rendering those legions loyal and an appropriate target for the Gr20B in ItB.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY (continued from p. 9)

the destruction of the United States of America as a means to preserve slavery. This was their cause. Who supports them, even at a distance in time of over a century, endorses that cause. They are the enemies of our country.

The latest issue of Strategy & Tactics, #43, contains a game about the Slaveholders' Rebellion, played at the strategic level. This game has been very popular with the SPI playtesters. Also in S&T #43 is an article on the rebellion, by Albert A. Nofi, which goes far towards dispelling the mythology that latter-day confederates have created about their forefathers' traitorous deeds. He dissects the overblown reputation of Lee as a general, and points out that the best military commander among the rebel leaders was Nathan Bedford Forrest. This was the man who during the war slaughtered prisoners at Fort Pillow, and afterwards founded the Ku Klux Klan. This was one of the better rebel generals. You can imagine what the worse ones were like.

*

The "New Blood" list on p. 2 left out the following names:
Steven Garner, Box 83, Route 3, Coventry, Conn. 06238
Richard Reid, Apt. 6K, 410 W. 24th St., New York, N. Y. 10011
Timothy Waddell, Allen Junction, W. V. 25810

*

A 'zine left out of the listings on pp. 8-9 was Command Post, published by John Mirassou, Route #2, Box 623AC, Morgan Hill, Calif. 95037. It is dittoed, and runs 3 games of standard and one of Youngstown variant Diplomacy. Subscriptions are 6 for \$1, and the game fee is \$1.

*

GRAUSTARK, the oldest postal Diplomacy bulletin, is published every third Saturday (with exceptions as stated on p. 1). Subscription rates are 12 issues for \$2 in the US and Canada, and 8 issues for \$2 or £1 elsewhere. (See #306, p. 6 for information on overseas rates, back issue orders, and FREEDONIA, a gamezine for the play of Origins of World War II.)

GRAUSTARK #308

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Important announcement for all
players and traders on p. 1!