

GRAUSTARK

#377

4 March 1978

1977HT

"Spring 1904"

TIME TO CARVE THE TURKEY

ENGLAND (Crockett): F Bel-Nth; F Nth-Ska; F Nro S F Bel-Nth; F Bar-Nwy.

FRANCE (Kodman): F Eng S ENGLISH F Bel-Nth; A Bur holds; A Pic S A Bur; A Mar-Pie; F Wes-Tyr.

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

ITALY (Bobker): A Apu-Syr; F Ion & F Eas C A Apu-Syr; A Pie-Tus.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Salcedo): A Gal S RUSSIAN A War-Ukr; A Alb-Ser; A Ser-Bul; A Rum S A Ser-Bul; F Gre-Aeg; A Vie-Bud.

RUSSIA (Frost): F Nwy-Bar; F Swe-Nwy; A St.P-Fin; F Sev holds; A Mos S F Sev; A War-Ukr.

TURKEY (Daly): A Bul-Rum; A Ukr-Sev; F Bla S A Ukr-Sev; F Aeg-Smy.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Turkish A Ukr is annihilated, and Turkey must retreat A Bul-Con or -Gre, or remove the unit. The deadline for "Fall 1904" moves, which may be made conditional on the direction of this retreat, is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978.

Jack Frost's new address, effective immediately, is 647 Fenton, Romeoville, Ill. 60441. Messages may be left at 315-886-3085. This is a temporary address, and a more permanent one may be expected later. For John Daly's new phone see the report of 1977KF on this page.

(continued in next column)

1976RV

"Winter 1911"

TSAR PLAYS IT CLOSE TO HIS KAFTAN

Following "Fall 1911" moves, the French retreats were A Mun-Bur, F Pie-Mar.

FRANCE (Verheiden): Builds F Bre.

RUSSIA (G. Gallagher): Builds F

St.P(s.c.), reserves one build.

The deadline for "Spring 1912" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978. The proposal for a draw was defeated.

1977KF

"Winter 1902"

"ONE IF BY LAND..."

Following "Fall 1902" moves, Russia retreated A Sev-Ukr.

FRANCE (Daly): Builds A Mar.

GERMANY (Chafetz): Builds A Mun, A Kiel.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Drakert): Builds A Vie.

TURKEY (P. Gallagher): Builds A Smy.

The deadline for "Spring 1903" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978.

John Daly's phone number is 914-342-4017. For Lawrence Chafetz's new address and phone number see the report of 1977CH.

1977HT (continued from previous column)

BEPLIN (Instant Insanity Press): Chancellor Karl von Kreis explained the spring army maneuvers today to a confused press corps. Von Kreis said the march of the army Kiel to Holland was at the request of the former Dutch nationals who needed help harvesting the early tulip crop. The support of the brave pansy-pickers in Ruhr was needed for this task, and

(continued on p. 9)

1976W

"Fall 1912"

ITALIANS PUT IT ALL TOGETHER

Following "Spring 1912" moves Italy retreated A Bur-Gas; the dislodged Austro-Hungarian A Con had no retreat submitted for it, and it was annihilated. The Italian move printed as "F Rcm-Ven" was actually "A Rcm-Ven".

ENGLAND (Drakert): F Mid-Naf; F Iri-Mid; F Eng-Bre; F Nth-Eng; A Par S F Eng-Bre.

GERMANY (Hodin): F Bel-Pic; F Hol-Hel; A Bur-Mar; A Kie-Ber; A Mun S A Kie-Ber; A Sil S A Mun.

ITALY (Bragdon): F Pic-Bre; A Gas-Mar; F Spa(s.c.)-Mid; A Tyr-Pie; A Boh-Gal; A Ven-Tri; F Adr S A Ven-Tri; A Tri-Bud; A Vie S A Tri-Bud; A Rum-Sev; A Arm-Ank; F Con-Bul(s.c.); F Smy-Con.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Laves): A Alb-Ser; A Gre S A Alb-Ser; A Bud-Rum.

RUSSIA (Wienczek): A Ber-Pru; A Mos-Sev; A Nwy-Swe; A War S GERMAN A Sil.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Austro-Hungarian A Bud is dislodged and annihilated. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:
ENGLAND: Bre, Edi, Liv, Lon, Par. (5) ITALY: Ank, Bud, Bul, Con, Mar, Nap, Por,
GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun. (6) Rcm, Rum, Sev, Smy, Spa, Tri, Tun, Ven,
AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Gre, Ser. (2) Vie. (16)

RUSSIA: Nwy, Mos, St.P, Swe, War. (5)

Italy may build 3 new units, and Russia may build one. These "Winter 1912" moves should be sent by IMMEDIATE RETURN MAIL to the Gamesmaster, who will inform the other players. They should arrive by MONDAY 13 MARCH 1978. The deadline for "Spring 1913" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978.

1977B

"Spring 1907"

TURKS SHOW APPRECIATION FOR ITALIAN HELP

FRANCE (Ripper): F Spa(s.c.)-Mar; F Wes S TURKISH F Ion-Tun; F Mid-Spa(s.c.); F Bre-Mid; A Edi holds; A Pic-Par; F Nth S GERMAN F Swe-Nwy; A Ven-Rom; A Pic-Tyr.

GERMANY (R. Gallagher): A War-Ukr; A Mos S A War-Ukr; A Sil-Gal; A Mun-Boh; A Bur-Ruh; A Kie-Mun; F Hol-Bel; F Swe-Nwy; A Den & F St.P(s.c.) hold.

ITALY (Salcedo): A Vie-Tyr; F Rcm S TURKISH F Ion-Tyr; F Tun S TURKISH F Ion-Tyr; F Apu-Ven.

RUSSIA (Verheiden): F Nwy holds.

TURKEY (Laves): F Ion-Tyr; F Adr-Ion; A Bud-Vie; A Tri S A Bud-Vie; A Rum-Gal; A Con-Bul; F Smy-Aeg; F Ank-Bla; A Sev not ordered, holds.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Italian A Vie and the Russian F Nwy are dislodged and removed. The deadline for "Fall 1907" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978. A press release appears on page 9.

THE NEW GAME

No Boardman Number has yet come from Cal White for the new game announced in #376. But Richard Katz writes that his telephone numbers are 305-665-3358 and 305-666-8954. Call between 9:00 and 11:30 PM. Galen Workman even sent in an Austro-Hungarian press release, which will have to be deferred to the next issue. He claims it is in reply to announcements sent out in the name of a "Pope Shuman" of Italy.

1977AV

"Fall 1901"

TRAFFIC JAMS THROUGHOUT EUROPE

ENGLAND (Michal): F Lon-Eng; F Nth-Nwy; A Yor-Lon.FRANCE (La Pointe): A Mar-Spa; A Bur-Bel; F Eng S A Bur-Bel.GERMANY (Lariton): A Kie-Den; F Hol-Bel; A Mun-Bur.

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

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Curley): A Vie-Gal; F Alb-Gre; A Ser S F Alb-Gre.RUSSIA (Hedbavny): F Bot-Swe; A War-Gal; A Ukr-Rum; F Sev S A Ukr-Rum.TURKEY (Remmele): A Bul-Gre; A Con-Bul; F Ank-Con.

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

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

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

FRANCE: Bre, Mar, Par, Spa. (4)

RUSSIA: Mos, Rum, St.P, Sev, Swe, War.

GERMANY: Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun. (5)

(6)

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

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

Italy, Russia, and Germany may each build two new units, and each other power may build one. The deadline for these "Winter 1901" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978.

RCME: Balkan Question Resolved in Favor of Turco-Russian Alliance - Austrian Appeal for Help under Consideration by King.

*

Incidentally, in case there was any doubt in the matter, this game is "1977AV".

1976IX

"Fall 1909"

STEAMROLLER STALLS

FRANCE (Dodge): F Liv-Cly; F Eng-Lon; F Wal S F Eng-Lon; F Bel-Nth; A Hol & F Spa(s.c.) hold; A Mun-Ber; F Kie S A Mun-Ber; A Ruh-Mun; F Bre-Mid.ITALY (Ameling): A Ser-Bul; A Bud-Ser; F Aeg-Con; A Ven-Pie; F Tus-Lyo; F Tyr S F Tus-Lyo; F Wes-Mid; A Boh-Mun; A Tyr S A Boh-Mun.

RUSSIA (Brawner): No moves received. A Fin, F Nwy, F Cly, F Nat, A Sil, A Sev, A Rum A Arm & F Nth hold; F Lon & A Ber dislodged and annihilated.

TURKEY (Verheiden): A Bul-Gre; F Con-Aeg; F Smy S F Con-Aeg; F Ank-Arm.

Underlined moves are not possible. Italy must retreat F Aeg-Eas or -Ion or remove the unit. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

FRANCE: Bel, Ber, Bre, Hol, Kie, Liv, Lon, Mar, Par, Por, Spa. (11)

ITALY: Bud, Bul, Mun, Nap, Rom, Ser, Tri, Tun, Ven, Vie. (10)

RUSSIA: Den, Edi, Mos, Nwy, Rum, St.P, Sev, Swe, War. (9)

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

France and Italy each have one build; Italy has two if the dislodged F Aeg is removed.

These "Winter 1908" moves should be sent in by IMMEDIATE RETURN MAIL so that they arrive by MONDAY 13 MARCH 1978. The deadline for "Spring 1910" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978. A new stand-by is asked to send in "Spring 1910" moves for Russia: Hugh J. Burns Jr., 228 Kingston Road, Upper Darby, Penn. 19082; 215-352-7587. His moves will be used if none are received from Jack Brawner. There is a Press release on Page 9.

1976EG

4

"Spring 1909"

FRENCH LEAVE

Following "Fall 1908" moves, Russia retreated A War-Liv and built A Mos, while Austria-Hungary removed F Tri & F Aeg.

FRANCE (Hansen): No moves received. A Yor, A Bur, A Par, F Lyo, F Eng, F Mid & F Nat hold.

GERMANY (Malay): A St.P-Mos; ~~F Swe-Nwy~~; F Den-Nth; F Kie-Hol; A Mun holds; A Ber-Pru.

ITALY (La Pointe): A Ven-Tri; F Adr S A Ven-Tri; A Rom-Ven; F Apu-Ion; F Wes-Tyr.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Verheider): A Sil S A War; A War S GERMAN A St.P-Mos; A Tyr-Tri; A Vie-Bud; A Bul-Ser; F Gre-Bul(s.c.).

RUSSIA (Chafetz): A Mos-St.P; A Liv S A Mos-St.P; A Sev-Ukr; A Bud-Ser; A Smy-Arm; A Con-Bul; A Rum S A Con-Bul.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Austro-Hungarian A Bul is annihilated. A Press release appears on page 9. The deadline for "Fall 1909" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978. Hugh J. Burns Jr., whose address appears on Page 3, is asked to send in stand-by "Fall 1909" moves for France. For Lawrence's Chafetz's new address and phone number see the report of 1977CH.

1976IB

"Fall 1908"

FRENCH HIT BACK

For reasons presently obscure to the Gamesmaster, on the last move the Italian "A Ven-Pie, A Tyr S A Ven-Pie" were incorrectly underlined as failing. Following "Spring 1908" moves France retreated F Nwy-Bar.

ENGLAND (Brawner): No moves received; A Liv & F Lon hold.

FRANCE (P. Gallagher): F Bar-St.P(n.c.); A Fin S F Bar-St.P(n.c.); F Nrg-Nwy; A Swe S F Nrg-Nwy; A Mun-Ber; A Kie S A Mun-Ber; A Bur-Mar; F Lyo holds; A Mar-Gas; F Spa(s.c.) S F Lyo; F Eng-Mid; F Nat S F Eng-Mid.

ITALY (Thornsen): F Eas S RUSSIAN A Arm-Smy; F Aeg S RUSSIAN A Bul-Con; A Rum-Gal; A Boh-Mun; A Tyr S A Boh-Mun; F Tus-Lyo; F Wes-Tyr; F Naf-Wes; A Pie-Mar.

RUSSIA (Walters): F Edi-Nrg; F Yor-Nth; F Nwy S F Yor-Nth; A St.P S F Nwy; A Ber S ITALIAN A Boh-Mun; A Sil S ITALIAN A Boh-Mun; A Bul-Con; A Arm-Smy.

TURKEY (Malay): A Smy-Arm; A Con-Ank; F Sev S A Smy-Arm.

Underlined moves are not possible. Russia must retreat A St.P-Liv or -Mos; F Nwy-Ska or -Bar; and A Ber-Pru, or remove any of these units. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Liv, Lon. (2)

ITALY: Bud, Gre, Mun, Nap, Rom, Ser, Tri, Tun, Ven, Vie. (10)

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Den, Ber, Hol, Kie, Mar, Nwy, Par, Per, St.P, Spa, Swe.

RUSSIA: Bul, Edi, Rum, Con, War, Mos. (6)

(13)

TURKEY: Ank, Sev, Smy. (3)

Italy and France each have one build, and Russia has two removals. (If all three dislodged Russian units were removed, Russia instead has a build.) The deadline for these "Winter 1908" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978. Italy and France may make their builds dependent upon the Russian retreats and/or removals.

1977CH

"Spring 1906"

INERTITALIA

ENGLAND (Chafetz): A Den-Kie; F Bal S A Den-Kie; F Nth-Hel; F Edi-Nth; A Bel-Hol; F Eng-Bel; A Wal holds.

FRANCE (Verheiden): F Mid-Nat; F Bre-Mid; A Par-Bre; F Mar holds.

GERMANY (Schwartz): F Kie S F Hol; A Pic-Bel; F Hol S A Pic-Bel; A Mun-Ber.

ITALY (Brawner): No moves received. F Nap, A Tus, A Tyr, A Tri, F Adr, F Alb, F Bla & F Aeg hold.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Osmanson): A Gal-Vie ((sic; no such unit exists)); F Tri holds ((sic; no such unit exists)); A Ser holds; A Bud-Vie; A Vie not ordered, holds.

RUSSIA (Salcedo): A Mcs-St.P; A Gal-Vie; A Rum-Bul; A Sev-Rum; A Ukr-Gal; F Fin not ordered, holds.

TURKEY (Hoernig): F Ank-Con.

Underlined moves are not possible. The German F Kie is annihilated, and England must retreat A Bel-Bur or -Ruh or remove the unit. The deadline for "Fall 1906" moves, which may be made conditional on the direction of this retreat, is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978. Press releases appear on page 9. Lawrence Chafetz's new address is APT. 2-M, 178-10 Wexford Terrace, Jamaica, N. Y. 11432; telephone 212-658-0089. Stand-by "Fall 1906" moves should be sent in for Italy by John Malay, Chatham Arts, 12 Commerce St., Chatham, N. J. 07928; 201-635-1991.

1977CV

"Fall 1905"

SHREDDED KRAUT

ENGLAND (Remmel): F Nth-Hol; F Eng-Bel; F Iri-Mid; F Bre holds.

GERMANY (Verheiden): A Bur-Mun; A Kie & A Ruh S A Bur-Mun; F Hel S A Kie; F Den S A Kie.

ITALY (L. Eurdle): No moves received. F Mid, A Spa, A Par, A Pie, F Aeg & F Ion hold.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Sherwood): A Boh S RUSSIAN A Mun; A Tri-Ven; A Tyr S A Tri-Ven; A Gre-Bul; A Bul-Con; F Smy S A Bul-Con.

RUSSIA (Fabry): A Swe-Den; F Bar-Nrg; A Sev-Arm; F Bal S A Swe; A Mun holds; A Ber S A Mun; A St.P-Nwy; F Bla S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Bul-Con.

TURKEY (Compton): F Con-Smy; A Ank S F Con-Smy.

Underlined moves are not possible. Germany retreats F Den-Ska or -Nth and Austria-Hungary retreats F Smy-Syr or -Eas. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Bre, Edi, Hol, Liv, Lon. (6) AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Con, Gre, Ser, Tri, Ven, Vie. (8)

GERMANY: Kie. (1) ITALY: Mar, Nap, Par, Por, Rom, Spa, Tun. (7) RUSSIA: Ber, Den, Mcs, Mun, Nwy, Rum, St.P, Sev, Swe, War. (10)

TURKEY: Ank, Smy. (2)

Austria-Hungary has 3 builds if the F Smy was removed, and 2 otherwise. Russia and England each have two builds, Italy has one, and Germany has 4 removals. The deadline for these "Winter 1905" moves, which may be made conditional on the directions of the retreats, is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978. Robert La Pointe, 122 Maple St. Ext., Somersworth, N. H. 03878 should send in a stand-by build for Italy. There are Press releases on page 10.

1977HE

"Winter 1904-Spring 1905"

Following "Fall 1904" moves Italy built F Nap, Russia built F St.P(n.c.), and Turkey removed A Arm.

ENGLAND (Bolton): F Nth-Ska; F Bre-Mid; A Edi holds.

FRANCE (Joria): No moves received. F Lyo, A Mar & A Par hold; A Bel & F Wes annihilated.

GERMANY (La Pointe): A Bur-Bel; A Ruh & F Hol S A Bur-Bel; F Hel-Den; A Mun-Bur.

ITALY (Lariton): F Tyr-Wes; F Tun S F Tyr-Wes; F Tus-Lyo; F Nap-Tyr; F Aeg-Smy; A Bul & A Bud hold; A Ser S A Bul; A Tri-Tyr; A Pie-Mar.

RUSSIA (Ripper): F Sev-Arm; A Con-Ank; F Bla S A Con-Ank; A Rum & A War hold; A Ukr S A Rum; F St.P(n.c.)-Nwy; F Nrg-Edi; F Eng-Lon.

TURKEY (Glenny): F Ank-Arm; A Smy-Con.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Turkish F Ank is annihilated. The deadline for "Fall 1905" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978. Stand-by moves for France should be sent in by Ron Kelly, #120, 225 Virginia Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20064.

1977IH

"Fall 1903"

Following "Spring 1903" moves France retreated F Mid-Bre.

ENGLAND (Hansen): No moves received. F Iri, F Eng, A Pic & FNth hold; F Nwy annihilated.

FRANCE (G. Gallagher): F Mid-Bre ((sic; no such unit exists)); F Bre not ordered, annihilated.

GERMANY (Hoernig): F Swe-Nwy; A Fin S F Swe-Nwy; F Den-Nth; A Par-Pic; A Bur-Bel; F Hol S A Bur-Bel; A Sil holds.

ITALY (Smith): F Ien & A Tri hold; F Atr S A Tri; A Por-Bre; F Mid C A Por-Bre; A Gas S A Por-Bre; F Spa(s.c.) S F Mid.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Christiansar): No moves received. A Bud, A Ser, A Gre & F Aeg hold; A Gal annihilated.

RUSSIA (Thompson): A War-Gal; A Ukr S A War-Gal; F Rum S TURKISH F Bul(s.c.); A Liv-St.P; F Bot holds.

TURKEY (Beardsley): A Con & F Bla S F Bul(s.c.); F Bul(s.c.) S RUSSIAN F Rum ((see Rule 3b)); A Smy holds.

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

ENGLAND: Edi, Liv, Lon. (3)

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

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun, Nwy, Par, Swe. (9)

RUSSIA: Mos, Rum, St.P, Sev, War. (5)

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

ITALY: Bre, Mar, Nap, Por, Rom, Spa, Tri, Tun, Ven. (9)

Germany and Italy may each build two new units, and England must remove one. Hugh Burns, whose address is on page 3, should send in a stand-by removal for England. The deadline for these "Winter 1903" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978. Press releases appear on page 10.

1977KE

"Winter 1902"

Following "Fall 1902" moves Germany removed the dislodged F Swe.

ENGLAND (Trangrud): Builds F Liv, A Lon, A Edi.

FRANCE (Hansen): No build received. Ron Kelly (address above) sent in a build of A Par and, since Hansen has missed two moves in a row, now takes over as France.

GERMANY (Gray): Builds A Mun, A Ber, A Kie. Until 14 April, Michael Gray's address will be #2405 Chesnut Park Apts., 10 Chesnut St., Springfield, Mass. 01103

ITALY (Lundgren): No removal received. Gamesmaster removes A Tun. Stand-by "Spring 1903" moves should be sent by John Malay (address on p. 5).

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Bobker): Builds A Tri, A Vie.

TURKEY (Hunt): Builds A Ank, F Smy.

The deadline for "Spring 1903" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 25 MARCH 1978.

GRAUSTARK postal-Diplomacy games are \$12 each; subscriptions for non-players are 8 issues for \$2. GRAUSTARK is published every third Saturday.

IMPERIAL DIARY - XIII_I

(This feature usually appears in GRAUSTARK's sister publication EMPIRE. However, its message could well be considered by GRAUSTARK readers as well.)

(19 February 1978): Today's New York Times happens to contain numerous articles and features about America's imperial role in the world today. Many of these items deal with the presently suspended war against Vietnam, which the American Empire has temporarily laid aside to deal with more urgent matters elsewhere.

An editorial observes that it is ten years since the "Tet Offensive" in which Vietnamese forces attempted to drive the American army from the country. This attack ended in a terrible defeat for the Vietnamese; some people have claimed otherwise, but the United States government called it an American victory and this is therefore true. The Times called it "the psychologically decisive battle of Vietnam" and says that it "destroyed the consensus for containing Communism almost anywhere our leaders thought necessary, at virtually any price" and also "the willingness to let the Presidency manage containment with minimal interference by the public and Congress".

The Times, which gave whole-hearted editorial support to the war when it was declared in August 1964, is being unnecessarily pessimistic. If there is any change in these quoted attitudes, it has not been evident. Presidential and Congressional statements over Angola in 1976, or Italy in the future, carry the same content as those attitudes which the Times says were "destroyed". And it really does not matter what "the public and Congress" may say or think about American military policy. They have in practice nothing to do with governing the United States of America. America is not one of those decadent western European countries where every one thinks that he or she can sit in judgment on the deeds of national Leaders. We are Americans, and therefore we give complete, loyal, uncritical, unquestioning support to His Excellency the President, Commander-in-Chief, and Supreme War Leader of the United States of America.

But the Times is not really trying to carp at the alleged change in American aims. The editorial regrets the alleged destruction of this consensus, and urges the protection of American interests abroad. "The consensus that collapsed" ((sic)) "at Tet was a useful...political tool... With no comparably clear purpose in its place, something has also been lost." The message is clear. Soon a total consensus for a President's war policy will again be needed. And the Times will once more be in the forefront of that consensus.

This is

Eight days later the Times drove the matter home by giving prominence to a Charles Mohr article on a Chapel Hill conference on the Tet decennial. General Westmoreland "blamed the news media...for the ultimate defeat, saying that reporting of the Tet battles had misled the American people and even a number of officials in Washington." This argument, which has also been seen recently in TV Guide, is a warning given to the press. During the next war they are under orders to give complete support to the American war effort, and to represent it as always completely in the right and totally victorious. Or else.

O At
P Great
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O Optic
N Nerves

The lesson learned in Vietnam by the US armed forces is obvious. Next time, don't diddle around, but go after the enemy overseas and his sympathizers at home with everything you've got: nukes on the battlefield and preventive detention under the 1954 Internal Security Act on the home front. Congress must also be kept in line, since

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General Westmoreland said that "the withdrawal by Congress of funds to continue the American involvement was 'recognized by Moscow and Hanoi as our instrument of surrender'." This is also a bit extreme, since the continued existence of Congress depends on its continued willingness to provide the armed forces with funds. And congressional fund cutoffs were no hindrance to such actions as the Battle of the Mayaguez. Not many people know it, but the US Army has a "food and forage" authorization extending back to the earliest days of the country, which entitle it to federal money whether Congress votes it or not.

The entertainment section of today's Times takes up several films about the American war against Vietnam: Jane Fonda's Coming Home, Heroes, Hearts and Minds, Rolling Thunder, and The Boys in Company C. Many of these films take the view, which is opposed to official US policy and therefore treasonous, that the American war effort was less than totally right. Times critic Vincent Canby faithfully finds fault with them all, as well as with a 1972 French effort also starring Fonda, and called Letter to Jane. ("Letter to Jane really is an impossible film: Its dialectics are devious, and it is rude and cruel." "Heroes has about as much to say about Vietnam...as it has to say about spoiled potato salad - which is nothing." As for Rolling Thunder, "Vietnam is a convenience, like an unhappy childhood for an alcoholic." The Boys in Company C "looks amazingly like the war as dramatized in any number of World War II movies" and is full of "pervasive if not entirely believable pessimism". Coming Home, since it stars a prominent Pacifist, gets the full treatment from both Canby and Kirk Honeycutt.

Clearly the Times is prepared to give the same whole-hearted support to the next war as it did to the last one, and the rest of the US media will dutifully follow along. But where will it be? GRAUSTARK's War Pool tended to favor Panama, and the Times Book Review agrees. In it, Michael Mandelbaum reviews three books on the Panama Canal and the current treaty. Walter LaFeber's sees the Panama Canal as the American version of the colonial empires which Great Britain and France built in the 18th and 19th centuries. This analogy is good as far as it goes - however, it should never be forgotten that the British and French Empires have died away, while the entire direction of American policy since 1945 clearly indicates that the American Empire is destined for universal and perpetual domination over the entire earth.

The other two books argue against the treaty, as if it were really going to make any difference. Despite the Rio Treaty of 1947, the US has repeatedly moved troops into Latin American nations since then. No matter what gets signed or defeated in the Senate, the US will continue to do so. Mandelbaum observes that much depends on "how the nation's power and purposes have been affected by the Vietnam War."

If the treaty passes, nothing important will change. But perhaps President James Earl Carter has set it up to fail? This could also work to the advantage of the American Empire. If the treaty is rejected - and current votes show more than a third of the Senate against it - there will be a firestorm of resentment in Panama where foolish hopes of controlling the canal have been raised. Panamanians will riot, and with luck several Americans will be killed. This will create a storm of resentment in America - Congress will bellow, the President will go on TV looking stern and determined, the media will be as militant as they were when the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution was passed, and several tens of thousands of American troops will go in to protect US interests. Not only will war benefit the economy, but in line with the decennial retrospect on Vietnam it will enable the government to crack down on domestic Pacifists with the full support of the media and therefore of public opinion.

1977HT (continued from p. 1)

more help would have been given from the army of Munich had the troops' hangovers gone away in time. Meanwhile the idle fleet in Holland was called into the North Sea to assist the telephone company laying the ocean phone cables needed to support the English Prime Minister's bizarre fetishes. The fleet in Denmark officially was supporting the effort in the North Sea, but unconfirmed reports suggested that the entire navy was lounging in Copenhagen's bars and bordellos.

There were no questions following the Chancellor's prepared statement.

ANAKHIT, SKANDALUTZ (URRP): Seymour Skynne, producer-director of Skynne Flicks, today completed hiring an undisclosed but enormous number of male extras for his new film, Close Encounters of the Sixty-Ninth Kind, and will begin shooting the film tomorrow. Many of the extras proved to be employees of the Deutsche-Ozeanische Fernsprengesellschaft. Afterwards, the German Consul, Franz Wirdsiegen, complained that these men were supposed to be laying cable in the North Sea. "Possibly," Skynne replied, "they'd rather lay something else."

The film will star former Mouseketeer Annette Fellazio.

1976DX - PRESS RELEASE

PARIS: France is also persuaded of the righteousness of the Russian cause. France would contribute a couple of centers to add to the three or four from Italy and the couple from Turkey.

1976EG - PRESS RELEASE

VIENNA: Death to the Russian tyrant! We welcome assistance from the new players in the game, which seems to include just about everyone, save our unmentionable neighbor to the east.

1977B - PRESS RELEASE

BERLIN (April 1, 1907): Baron Wolfgang von Luftkopf, Chancellor of Germany, stepped out on his balcony last night after dinner and belched forth the following announcement: "Today, our glorious and powerful 3rd, 4th and 7th Armies began the invasion of Austria, which is presently controlled by the combined forces of Shiek Ben-al Aves and King Vito the Norepicker. Liberation of the Transvestites of Transylvania must be accomplished even if it takes 100 years. In the past two years we have taken some actions which may have seemed strange, such as the invasion of Burgundy. These actions have been part of a plan which evolved after an attempt by Turkey to break up our trusted alliance with the great French nation. The purpose was to lull the Turks into a state of false security in order that we might bring about the quick fall of these 'bad guys' and allow less bloodshed among the units involved. Much of this is the result of the involvement of my sister Freda Grossebrust in a series of clandestine meetings with a certain Italian, who shall remain nameless. All of these meetings are still considered TOP SECRET and details must be withheld. Deutschland Uber alles. Viva France!"

1977CH - PRESS RELEASES

TRABIZON: In what is presumed to be his last proclamation, the Pasha of Turkey, the Sultan himself, stated that he wished he never studied yoga, and, particularly towards the Csar of all the Russias, pphrrrt. It is also rumored that he is studying to become a Christian.

ST. PETERSBURG: The silence emanating from London is deafening. Okay Larry, if that's the way you want it.

1977CV - PRESS RELEASES

KIEL: We hope and trust that Italy will join England and Germany in their war against the unholy Austro-Russian alliance.

ANKARA: AUSTRIAN BUMS THROWN OUT OF TURKISH MOSQUES!

1977IH - PRESS RELEASES

OBITER DICTUM, ZETETIA: Today, humanity was horrified by the first use of bacteriological warfare in the history of the world. The perpetrator of this heinous crime against civilized men was the black hearted German Empire. The dreadful disease seems to have been released in the area of Rue de Bordello in a south eastern section of Paris, and quickly spread throughout the city and its suburbs. When General von Rottencrotch was pressed for the rationale behind the need for such horrendous measures in the pursuit of materialistic gain, he only uttered, "Acht zhit, I vas caught mit mien pants down."

KIEL: In an announcement that rocked the world, Kaiser Edsel stated that the German occupation forces are making ready for the proposed invasion of the British Isles. A crack division was seen and heard parading through the streets of Kiel today singing their anthem:

"Ve are der men of Der Englander Korps,
Men prepared for war, always killing more,
Tommy und Ausie lieing on the floor,
Killed by an MG 34."

TRONDHEIM: The German Navy has freed the Norwegians of the oppressive tyranny of the British Imperialists. Admiral Obermuf's smaller but more technically advanced fleet caught their counterpart unaware and found the British Fleet Admiral J. Walker-Everhard, cowering aboard his flagship, the Tigger, in Gerald Fjörd. The astounding success of this campaign was attributed to Professor Henshit's powerful broadcasts of Dennis Day's ballads which effectively blocked the British communications and neutered their movement.

GRAUSTARK #377

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

I WONDER IF I COULD
MOVE TO A PLACE WITH
MILDER WINTERS -

- LIKE DARKOVER