

GRAUSTARK

#471 1980CD,LR; 1981AV,CL,IQ,IV; 1982P,R,CV,HI,IM,IN; 1983L 26 March 1983

1980LR

"Fall 1917"

LITTLE ADO ABOUT NOTHING

ENGLAND (Larzelere): A St.P; A Nwy, A Mun, A Livonia, A Fin, A Ber & F Bal hold; A Kie & A Ruh S A Mun; F Mid-Gas; A Gas-Mar; A Bur S A Gas-Mar; F Bre S F Mid-Gas; A Pic-Par; F NAT-Mid; F Por & F Eng S F NAT-Mid.

FRANCE (Hardiman): A Pie S A Mar; F Spa(n.c.) holds; A Mar S F Spa (n.c.); F Lyo S F Spa(n.c.); F Tyr & F Naf S TURKISH F Wes; F Con S TURKISH A Ank.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Aicken): A Mos & A Tyr hold; A War-Sil; A Boh & A Gal S A War-Sil; A Ukr S A Mos.

RUSSIA (Chisholm): A Smy S TURKISH A Ank-OTB.

TURKEY (Cameron): F Wes S FRENCH F Spa(n.c.); A Ank S RUSSIAN A Smy.

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

ENGLAND: Bel, Ber, Bre, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Liv, Lon, Mun, Nwy, Par, Por, St.P, Swe, War. (16)

FRANCE: Bul, Con, Gre, Mar, Rom, Spa, Tun, Ven. (8)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Rum, Ser, Sev, Tri, Vie. (6)

RUSSIA: Smy. (1)

TURKEY: Ank, Nap. (2)

Austria-Hungary may build one unit and England must remove one; France would also have a build but no home supply center is available. One of these players has already sent in his "Winter 1917" order, and the other should do so by IMMEDIATE RETURN MAIL so that it arrives by MONDAY 4 APRIL 1983. The "Winter 1917" orders will then be sent to all players. The deadline for "Spring 1918" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983.

(continued on p. 3)

1981AV

"Fall 1913"

DIPLOMATIC DEADLOCK CONTINUES TOO

FRANCE (Quirk): F Nrg-Bar; F NAT-Nrg; F Nth & F Tyr hold; A Hol S A Ruh; A Ruh S A Bur-Mun; A Bur-Mun; A Pie-Tyr; F Lyo, F Wes & F Tun S F Tyr.

GERMANY (Ezzio): A Ber S AUSTRON-HUNGARIAN A Mun.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Kaplan): A St.P holds; A Gal-War; A War-Pru; A Sev-Ukr; F Ion-Tyr; A Mun S GERMAN A Ber; A Boh S A Mun; A Ser-Bud; F Adr-Ion; A Ven & A Tyr S TURKISH F Tus-Pie.

RUSSIA (Tallman): A Liv-St.P; A Nwy S A Liv-St.P; F Den-Bal; A Kie S FRENCH A Bur-Mun.

TURKEY (Murray): F Tus-Pie; F Rom & F Nap S AUSTRON-HUNGARIAN F Ion-Tyr; F Gre & F Aeg S AUSTRON-HUNGARIAN F Adr-Ion; A Arm holds; A Mos S AUSTRON-HUNGARIAN A St.P.

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

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

GERMANY: Ber. (1)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Mun, Rum, St.P, Ser, Sev, Tri, Ven, Vie, War. (11)

RUSSIA: Den, Kie, Nwy, Swe. (4)

TURKEY: Ank, Con, Gre, Mos, Nap, Rcm, Smy. (7)

No builds or removals are necessary. The deadline for "Spring 1914" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983.

Following "Fall 1913" moves France retreats A Pie-Mar; France has a build if this unit is removed. The vote for a draw failed of unanimity, and is again submitted to the players.

(continued on p. 3)

FRENCH FLEETS MOVE FORWARD

Following "1902" moves, France built A Par, England built F Lon, Austria-Hungary built A Bud, and Russia built A War. All players were informed of these "Winter 1902" moves by postcard.

ENGLAND (Kadish): F Lon-Nth; F Hel-Kie; F Hol S F Hel-Kie; A Nwy holds; F Nrg S A Nwy.

FRANCE (J. Schwartz): A Bel-Ruh; A Mun S A Bel-Ruh; A Pie holds; F Lyo-Tyr; F Wes S F Lyo-Tyr; F Naf-Tun; A Par-Bur.

GERMANY (Hurwitz): A Ruh-hol; A Kie S A Ruh-Hol; F Den S A Kie.

ITALY (Wiencek): A Tus-Pie; A Ven S A Tus-Pie; F Ion-Tun; F Tyr-Wes.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Drakert): F Gre & A Bud hold; A Ser S F Gre; A Tri-Tyr; A Vie-Boh.

RUSSIA (La Rocco): F Swe-Nwy; A St.P-Fin; A Mos-Liv; A War-Sil; A Ukr-Mos; A Rum S F Bul(e.c.); F Bul(e.c.) S A Rum.

TURKEY (Rynkiewicz): A Con S RUSSIAN F Bul(e.c.); F Aeg S A Con; F Eas S F Aeg.

Underlined moves are not possible. The German A Ruh is annihilated, France retreats A Pie-Mar, and Italy retreats F Tyr-Rom or -Nap. The deadline for "Fall 1903" moves, which may be made conditional on the directions of these retreats, is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983.

RUSSIA to ENGLAND: So you scored a few runs, so what? It's just the top of the first, the afternoon is still young, and there's a long way to go. The beer is just getting cold and the hot dogs are only beginning to boil.

BROOKLYN (URRP): Boil hot dogs? No wenda da game is so dull. Aroun' heah, ya gotta grill ya franks!

RUSSIAN EASTERN ALLIED PRESS (REAP): Item: The Empress Dotty was warmly received by the Czar earlier this week in his palace in Moscow. The crowd in attendance was reported to be around 75,000 people. The Czar is quoted as having said, "She is as lovely as the Bavarian countryside."

ITEM (REAP): Sources have confirmed that throughout the English countryside and in parts of Norway, thousands upon thousands of people, those offsprings of premature ejaculations, are being ruthlessly slaughtered.

"It has been definitely established that these 'ejaculees' are given to frenzied fits of flaming idiocy and suffer spontaneous snap judgments," stated Sir Pullyer Twott, spokesman of the English government.

This idea to cleanse the populace was first hatched over tea yesterday afternoon, presented before committee in the evening, passed through Parliament late last night, and was already in full scale operation by early morning.

ISTANBUL: Not since Biblical Times have so many Frogs been seen in the Meditteranean Sea.

RUHR to MUNICH: You outfoxed me tactically. Congrats, John.

BERLIN (DAMN): Kaiser Mark announced today that "If the Anglo-French desire to attack the great Austrian and Russian nations, they'll have to do it over my dead body!" The Ministry of Foreign

(continued on p. 12)

1980CD: Well, it wasn't as urgent as I thought. The last-minute corrections on p. 2 of the last issue were taken into account in these "Fall 1918" moves and their adjudication.

1980LR (continued from p. 1)

TURKEY to AUSTRIA: Great God in heaven, John, what in the name of Pete are you doing?! If you take one of England's centers, you'll delay a stalemate for three more years. I hope you're not up to anything...

SMYRNA: Anyone notice that I was gone?

No, I didn't think so.

Well, if you want me to do something besides sit around, let me know.

LONDON to TRIESTE: Build a fleet, and you can have St.P too.

VIENNA: To my fellow FRAT members, I submit that the English player is employing an old ploy to break a stalemate. He's hoping I'll get greedy and go after the easy pickings. It might just work providing he "gives" me two more centers. Barring that I see no way for this to end in any other way than a stalemate. Even with the center gains I've made no real advantage has been gained. Assuming that neither the French nor Italian player NMR the Med is secure. I'll not move Tyr/Boh so that the northern front is secure. I won't N.R, John's collect calls on Saturday morning will see to that.

1981AV (continued from p. 1)

RUSSIAN ROYAL HOUSEHOLD IN EXILE to AUSTRIA: Let's examine our respective diplomatic styles - at least as seen from my perspective. I tend to work with my allies for more than two turns in a row; you don't. I tend to make a long term plan and stick to it as long as I can; you don't. I don't let a "joy of dots" overcome me every season; you do. So I guess we just weren't meant to slog along arm in arm fighting evil doers and righting wrongs.

RUSSIA to TURKEY: He's working as hard on Quirk as he is on you. You're buying it, is the only difference.

VIENNA to SWEDEN: A draw is yours for the asking. Please ask.

1982HI

"Winter 1903"

Following "Fall 1903" moves Germany retreats A St.P-Fin, A Bre-Gas. GERMANY (Quirk): Removes F Hel, A Fin. RUSSIA (Goode): Builds A War, ITALY (Sanches): Builds A Rom. F Sev.

The deadline for "Spring 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983.

VIENNA: The Emperor continues to express "surprise over Italy's cool reception of the tiny force of peace keeping volunteers in Venice." He thinks the naval clashes in the Ionian Sea were an accident. "Italian leaders would never do such a thing on purpose," he says. Officials here point out that "in modern diplomacy it is quite a common thing for one country to guarantee another country's border and to send contingents, perhaps containing a few military advisers, to various parts of the other country in order to secure the guarantees."

ANAKHIT, SKANDALUTZ (URRP): "You're telling me?" the Nicaraguan Ambassador to Skandalutz remarked when he read the latest despatch from Vienna. Asked for details by the Third Deputy Ministress for Foreign Affairs, he went on. "There was this American named Walker, about fifty years ago."

"Don't carry on about it so," remarked a Wogastisburger diplomat who happened to overhear him. "Something like that could never happen again."

LIVERPOOL to LONDON: Bonjours, mes amis! Je crois que je serai disparu dans un an, n'est-ce pas? C'est dommage, mais c'est la vie pour les idiots comme moi...eh bien, qui s'excuse s'accuse. Bon chance!

ROMA GAZETTE: The smell of gunpowder and the sounds of gunfire still haunt our fair continent. In the south, Austria's operation FUTILE (Flee Unless The Italian Looks Easy) has been stopped cold. Meanwhile, Italy

is preparing operation GRATTO (Get Rid of Austria's Terribly Treacherous Overlord). Simultaneously, Russia is preparing to hit Austria in the rear in operation SUCKER (Stab Underbelly Countries and Kingdoms of European Russia).

ROME to VIENNA: You must be afraid to tackle my Rome city militia. You have declined to attack them the last two turns. I think I'll promote them to full army status.

1982CV

"Winter 1904"

Following "Fall 1904" moves Russia retreats A Con-Smy. To answer a question by one of the players, the Russian player actually submitted a retreat to that effect.

FRANCE (Kaplan): Builds F Bre, F Mar, A Par.

GERMANY (Tallman): Removes F Hel. RUSSIA (Rauterberg): Builds A Sev.

The deadline for "Spring 1905" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983. Since the present English player missed the "Fall 1904" moves, stand-by moves for England should be sent in by Eric Verheiden, #2, 200 S. Azusa Ave., Azusa, Calif. 91702; 213-334-3149.

MOSCOW to the World: Since the Turk has wondered aloud what I am like in real life, it is only fair to tell you that I am a Satan Worshipper, I wear drag to FTF dip games, and I put ketchup on my cottage cheese. I think Gerald Ford is a brilliant mar.

See? I'm not so bad!

ISTANBUL: Vol. II of the "personal correspondence" of two erstwhile allies.

I know you guys are dying to hear the latest installment of this gripping tale! Too bad I going on anyway. In his latest communique Rauterberg accuses the victim of his latest backplay, humble ole me, of (1) publishing "personal correspondence" and (2) inaccurate quote. The first accusation doesn't merit a response, there is nothing "personal" in nature concerning the stabber when addressed to the stabee. (John we might need a ruling on this.) The second claim on my honor might have a shred of validity, so I'll amend my quote to the following: "Yes, I agree that the T/R alliance would almost certainly have swept the board. Actually, that was a factor in my decision to stab. It was too easy - I figured that playing for the solo win, in this particular set of circumstances, might be a much greater challenge."

Personally, I can't see a RCH's difference between his words or mine but just to answer Paul's concern about clarifying this manner I thought I'd leave it up to you. Perhaps a vote might be in order, if it's not too much trouble for our gamesmaster.

PARIS to German (wherever he still is): Sorry, but needed the build(s). Expected to see you turn on me anyway.

PARIS to SMYRNA: Never got directions for A Tyrolia.

GERMANY to All: Free! Free at last! No more fear of dropping my soap and not daring to pick it up! No more listening to the frog tell me he wouldn't dream of screwing me again! No more home centers! I'm free! I'm free!

GERMANY to FRANCE: Here I come, sailing with my Fleet, get the funniest looks from everyone we meet. Hey! Hey! We're the Germans and people say we scurry around...

ROME to VIENNA: It's only a game - I know a lot of wargamers who lie, connive, threat, boast, argue, cry, etc. when playing a game. Yet they are gentlemen in "real life". Where would you rather be stabbed: In a diplomacy game or by your teacher, boss, wife, etc?

BALKEN VILLAGE PRESS: It would be appreciated if the troops of the Rauten & Aiking dynasties wouldn't rape & pillage as they trample through our territory.

PARIS to KIEL: NMR's can hurt.

PARIS to CONSTANTINOPLE: Sorry. My postcard must not have made it. in. And I've just returned from Europe.

ROMA GAZZETTE: The Pontiff made another speech exhorting his subjects around the globe to continue the holy war against the infidels that spawn from the desert. He announced plans to visit the province of Apulia to see the site where the last of the invaders were pushed into the sea. In other news today, the government announced that Italy joined the growing list of nations that has stopped sending steel and other military hardware to the Sevastopol shipyards.

1981IQ

"Spring 1909"

LEPANTO SECUNDO

ENGLAND (D. Schwartz): F Edi holds.

FRANCE (Martin): F Lon-Nth; F Nrg S F Lon-Nth; A Bel-Ruh; A Hol S A Bel-Ruh; A Bur S ITALIAN A Mun; F Tyr S ITALIAN F Tun-Ion.

GERMANY (Chafetz): F Nwy-Swe; F Ska S F Nwy-Swe.

ITALY (Stone): A Mun S FRENCH A Hol-Kie; F Tun-Ion; A Apu S F Nap; F Nap S A Apu.

RUSSIA (Aicken): A Sil-Mun; A Kie S A Sil-Mun; A War-Pru; F St.P(n.c.)-Nwy; F Liv-Cly; A Rum-Sev; A Ukr S A Rum; F Den not ordered, holds.

TURKEY (Hakey): A Tyr-Pie; A Boh-Tyr; A Bud-Vie; A Gre-Alb; A Sev-Arm; A Con-Bul; F Aeg S A Con-Bul; F Bla-Rum; F Ion-Nap; F Ven-Apu; F Adr S F Ven-Apu.

Underlined moves are not possible. Italy retreats A Apu-Rom and Turkey retreats F Ion-Gre. The deadline for "Fall 1909" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983.

CONSTANTINOPLE to ROME: Where did those boats come from?! It seems that, having decided that soldiering is not all it was advertised to be, the Italian people have gone back to their fishing fleets to go sailing. Far being it from Sultan Kassim the Callous to deny the Italian people the right to fish for supplies in the seas...

1981AF - LAST PRESS RELEASES

BUDAPEST: The Austrian government announced that the fortifications for the Kane-Corbin Line across southern Europe are now complete. The governments of France and England are invited to test this line to their own satisfaction before acceding to a draw. In an award ceremony commemorating the event, the chief of the Corp of Engineers pointed out that while some minor repair work still needs to be done in Galicia and Gulf of Lyon, the mammoth structure was essentially completed in one year.

AUSTRIA to ENGLAND & FRANCE: I know you guys aren't going to like to see this game end in a 4 way draw. If it really upsets you we will generously support whichever of you wants to stab the other. In such case we would cheerfully pledge to settle for a 3-way draw rather than go on to eliminate whichever country elects to join our side.

1981AV - PRESS RELEASE

VIENNA to STOCKHOLM: Don't hand the game to Quirky. You deserve to be part of the draw.

1982R

"Fall 1907"

TURKS STAB HABSBURGS!

FRANCE (Chafetz): A Bur S GERMAN A Mun; A Pie-Ven; A Tus S A Pie-Ven; F Lyo S A Tus; F Wes S F Tyr; F Naf-Tun; F Tun-Ion; F Tyr S F Tun-Ion.

GERMANY (Belliveau): F Swe-Bot; F Liv-Bal; A St.P-Mos; A Ber-Pru; A War S A Ber-Pru; A Mun-Boh; A Sil S A Mun-Boh.

ITALY (Drakert): A Rom S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Ven; F Nap S A Rom; F Ion S F Nap.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Bragdon): F Apu S A Ven; A Ven S ITALIAN A Rom; A Tyr-Mun; A Vie-Boh; A Boh-Sil; A Gal S A Boh-Sil; A Pru-War; A Mos-Liv; A Sev-Mos.

TURKEY (Ripper): F Bla-Sev; A Rum S F Bla-Sev; F Aeg-Gre.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Austro-Hungarian A Pru is annihilated, and the A Sev must retreat to Ukr or Arm. Germany retreats A Sil-Ber and Italy retreats F Ion-Adr, -Alb, -Aeg, or -Eas. Any dislodged unit may be annihilated instead of retreated. These orders may be sent in with the "Winter 1907" moves, which may be made conditional upon the directions of retreats or removals. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Liv, Lon, Mar, Par, Por, Spa, Tun. (9)
GERMANY: Ber, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Mun, Nwy, St.P, Swe, War. (10)

ITALY: Bul, Nap, Rom. (3)
AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Mos, Ser, Tri, Ven, Vie. (6)
TURKEY: Ank, Con, Gre, Rum, Sev, Smy. (6)

Turkey may build three new units, and Germany would have two builds but home supply centers are not available for them. France may build one unit, and Austria-Hungary must remove two. The deadline for these "Winter 1907" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983. The draw fails of the necessary unanimity, and is again submitted to the players.

TURKEY: I see a red Moscow and I want it painted black. No red units anymore, I want them to turn black (maybe a couple yellow).

TUNIS: The Arab League heartily supports the turning of green and red to yellow.

1980CD

"Fall 1918"

EIGHT CENTERS CHANGE HANDS.

ENGLAND (Hurwitz): A Lon, F Eng, F Iri, F NAT, F Pic, A Par, A Bel & A Ruh hold; A Bre & F Kie hld.

FRANCE (Rauterberg): A Nwy-Swe; A St.P-Nwy; A Mun-Kie; A Ber S A Mun-Kie; F Gas-Bre; F Mid S F Gas-Bre; A Bur-Ruh; A Mar-Gas; A Pie-Mar; F Por & F Spa(s.c.) S F Mid.

ITALY (Ripper): F Bla-Con; A Tyr-Mun; A Boh-Mun; F Wes S FRENCH F Mid; A War, A Mos, A Ukr & A Sev hold.

Underlined moves are not possible. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers: (URGENT! See page 2!)

ENGLAND: Bel, Den, Edi, Hol, Liv, Lon, Par. (7)

FRANCE: Ber, Bre, Bud, Gre, Kie, Mar, Mun, Nwy, Por, St.P, Spa, Swe, Tri, Tun, Ven. (15)

ITALY: Ank, Bul, Con, Mos, Nap, Rom, Rum, Ser, Sev, Smy, Vie, War. (12)

Italy may build three units, and England must remove one. The deadline for these moves, which must be sent in by IMMEDIATE RETURN MAIL, is MONDAY 4 APRIL 1983. The deadline for "Spring 1919" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983. A press release appears elsewhere in this issue.

1981AF - GAME REVIEWS

KEN CORBIN (Austria-Hungary): 1981AF was a strange game. It boiled down to an evenly matched English-French alliance against the Austrian-Italian alliance quite early in the game. The game should have ended in a draw long before I became involved, but a series of NMR's by both Austria and Italy allow the English & French to advance. Austria's final NMR in Fall 1911 completely shattered the defensive line in the west. England took Moscow and the dislodged Austrian unit was disbanded leaving Sevastopol undefended, and suddenly I was playing Austria.

All was not yet lost, some quick behind the lines manouoviring in Spring 1911 left Italy poised to take Sevastopol and set us up to convoy Italy's army from Tunis to Turkey to contain the English army headed that way. Had things gone according to plan a stalemate line would have been in place after Fall 1912. Alas, it was not to be, Italy inexplicably turned on me, picking up 3 centers, not content with one insane move, he promptly NMR'ed the following Winter, loosing all three builds, then resigned bringing Eric Kane in as the new Itallian player.

Going into 1913 things were indeed desperate, I had disbanded an army to keep a fleet to use against Italy, with Italy now in friendly hands my fleet was useless, Italy was 3 short, and my defenses in central Europe were in shambles. Several sleepless nights, some imaginative moves, and more than a little bit of luck saw us with an impenetrable defensive line at the end of 1913.

My commendations to everyone involved. Tom, I'll never forgive you for conceding the draw before my incredibly witty press release came out in Spring 1914. Paul's press was consistantly hilarious, Eric made a loyal & cooperative ally.

Just out of curiosity, John, what is the smallest force that has successfully held a stalemate line. I don't believe it is possible to hold the south east corner with less than our 15 units, but England can theoretically hold the acursed Atlantic line with only three fleets.

AL PEARSON (Germany): A strange, yet completely predictable, game once it got rolling. I figure my big mistake was trying not take sides against England or France while I moved East. I was using the "infamous Michalski" German opening, the fleet to the Baltic and misordering A Berlin; it seemed to work in 1980LL, but it sure didn't work here. I convoyed to Denmark in the Fall, and noticed E/F were bearing down on me.

I had told both E & F I had no desire for Belgium; obviously both decided if I wouldn't help either of them, they should help each other against me. Russia & Turkey were fadeing fast, while the E/F & A/I alliances were doing fine.

Russia went out in 1904, but he used his last units to harrass me. I really can't blame Larry Chafetz for this attitude. I hit him early and probably ruined his prospects for a good game.

After 1903 it was support A/I against E/F as long as Glen Taylor would tolerate my units in centers he could own. He decided to own them in 1907. I was out.

From late 1901 it was obvious a strong E/F alliance was active; then one season later an A/I alliance came into view. All that was left was to play it out.

TOM RIPPER (England): I really was hoping for a two-way draw with France. Maybe I shouldn't complain. I did share in a four-way draw and I learned another stalemate line.

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

1982P

8

"Winter 1906"

Following "Fall 1906" moves, Germany retreated A War-Liv.

ENGLAND (Kelly): Builds F Lon.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Kadish): Builds F

FRANCE (Stone): Builds A Par.

Tri, A Vie.

GERMANY (Comer): Removes A Mun.

RUSSIA (Zilberman): Builds A Mos,
F St.P(s.c.).

The deadline for "Spring 1907" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983.

KIEL: The Tourist Board of the "Let's Keep the Rest of Germany German please" Committee answered French-Austrian apprehensions of what to expect in Munich. "There is no beer in Munich, and whatever has been said about Oktoberfest, a national spelling bee competition, is the work of hyperventilated imaginations."

1980CD - PRESS RELEASE

LONDON to World: Anyone for some bets on the outcome? 3 will get you 2 for Italy winning, even odds on France winning, and 1 will get you 4 it's a two way draw. Mr. Boardman to hold the \$.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

GRAUSTARK, the first bulletin for the postal play of Avalon-Hill's board game Diplomacy, is published every third Saturday by John Boardman, 234 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11226. The 20th Anniversary Issue is coming up in May, and readers are asked to send in articles, book reviews, works of fiction, and other compositions that might be suitable.

Diplomacy was designed about a quarter century ago by Allan B. Calhamer, and is now on its third publisher. GRAUSTARK #1, opening a postal Diplomacy game, first appeared in May 1963.

Postal games of Diplomacy are open in GRAUSTARK at a game fee of \$15. (A postal rate increase may be coming up early next year, but I'll try to keep the game fee at \$15 as long as I can.) With your game fee, send in a list of the countries you'd like to play, in your order of preference. The rules for postal Diplomacy were last published in GRAUSTARK #437; if you don't have a copy of this issue, send for it.

The GRAUSTARK game entry fee includes a subscription to the game as long as it lasts. Subscriptions for non-players are 9 issues for \$5.00. Back issues as available are 10 for \$1.50. Except for #437, virtually no back issues are available from before January 1982.

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Also published here is EMPIRE, a bulletin for other postal war games. Postal games are available for SPI's two-player games Frigate, Dreadnought, Chariot, Spartan, Legion, Yeoman, and Viking. Reader-designed scenarios are available for these games, as well as the scenarios included with the games. Write for details if you're interested.

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Lately EMPIRE has been serving another purpose besides running postal war games. As I mentioned in GRAUSTARK #467, our daughter and son-in-law gave us a VIC-20 home computer for Christmas. We have been having a lot of fun with it, after a false start when the cassette tape player had to be replaced. Perdita has been having fun with the graphics, and both of us have learned that the people who write articles in Compute! magazine know far, far more about computers than they do about writing.

I now have three Scott Adams adventure games, which are available for VIC-20 on ROM cartridges. (Other systems have them on disks or tapes.) Only 5 of the Scott Adams games, which are generally recognized as the best in the field, are available for the VIC-20. I have three of them, and have solved two. Seven more are available but not on VIC-20 yet.

As for the game I described in #467 as "MIT Adventure", Paul Szauter, a member of the MIT faculty, tells me that it is commercially available as "Classic Adventure" or "Colossal Cavern". It was originally designed on a 400K Fortran at MIT, so scaling it down for the home computer was a bit of a problem. However, it is available on Atari.

My VIC-20 and Al Nofi's TRS-80 both have versions of the Sargon-II chess program, and I've published in EMPIRE a couple of my attempts against it. On its lower levels the Sargon-II is easy to beat even for a duffer like myself.

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If you receive a letter signed "Mark Berch", three questions arise. The first is "Who really wrote it?" The second is "Can anything in it be trusted?" The first question is germane because Berch has been involved in the fanzine forgers which have plagued the hobby in the past couple of years. This means that, if you receive a letter signed by a name you never heard of before, is this really a neo-fan wanting information on postal war-gaming? Or is it some forger who will chortle with glee and in print when you respond to this letter as if a real person wrote it? The "Dwayne Shreve" and "Robert Ames" hoaxes are good examples of this. Berch once said that if he knew the perpetrator of the "Ames" hoax he wouldn't reveal who. Pressured, he eventually did reveal that "Shreve" was the author of the "Ames" hoax. Since Dwayne Shreve doesn't exist either, that leaves me with the same opinion of Berch's veracity that I always had.

At any rate, the "Berch" letter took issue with my opposition, in GRAUSTARK #468, to fanzine forgery. He demands that I send him what he calls "courtesy copies" of my exposures of his hoaxes - as if courtesy had anything to do with Berch. He goes into the scholarship of forgery and says that Tretick was not the first, as I had asserted. This is probably true, though I wasn't getting Eric Just's fanzine at the time that long-vanished publisher allegedly forged a Rod Walker fanzine. And, of course, Walker has also been forging fanzines, according to "Berch". Tell me what you honor and I'll tell you what you are.

And, worst, Tretick has not quit. He may not have been evident in places where I see him, but according to "Berch" he's still plaguing the hobby. Well, we know what to do about that. When a forger is so scabrous that even Mark Berch and Rod Walker oppose him, you know that this has to be a really noisome case.

Oh - the third question inspired by a letter signed "Mark Berch" is "Why should I pay any attention to it?" I don't have an answer for that one, but I do have a wastebasket.

*

In 1980CD, in this issue, I have just set a deadline for "Spring 1919" moves. This is the first time I have done such a thing since publishing GRAUSTARK #176 on 8 February 1969, when 1967U went to that year. This game, the longest ever played in GRAUSTARK, eventually was a draw in "Fall 1928" between Michael Miller's Germany and Frank Clark's Italy. The only other GRAUSTARK game to go past "1918" was 1965Q, also a draw.

*

Within the past three weeks, President Reagan has made two major speeches of interest to the gaming industry. Before the National Evangelical Association he praised arcade-type games as developing the fast coordination and reflexes that are necessary in the armed forces, particularly with electronic weapons. And last Wednesday night he urged the development of such weapons, including weapons to be used from space. (The next day, the stock market went through the roof to set a new record.) How about getting President Reagan to speak at Origins '84?

1981CL

"Fall 1911"

ALLIANCE ACQUIRES JUNIOR PARTNER

ENGLAND (Gratto) F Wal-Lon F Nth-Bel.

FRANCE (Brawner) A Kie-Den A Ber-Mun A Hol-Ruh F Lon-Nth F Bel-Nth.ITALY (Hardiman): F Naf, F Mid, F Tyr, A Par & A Vie hold A Mun-Ber
A Ven-Tyr A Sil S A Mun Ber A Ruh-Kie A Bur & F Pic S ENGLISH
F Nth-Bel F Nrg S TURKISH F Bar Nwy F Bre-Eng.RUSSIA (Kaplan): A St.P-Nwy F Ska-Den.TURKEY (Goode) F Bar-Nwy A Mos-St.P: A Liv S A Mos-St.P A War-Pru;
A Ukr-War A Bud, A Bul & F Wes hold.

Underlined moves are not possible. Russia retreats A St.P-Fin, and the French A Ber and F Bel are dislodged and annihilated. The situation around the North Sea is an illustration of Rule IX.7: "...if two units are ordered to the same space, and one of them is dislodged by a unit coming from that space, the other unit may move." This is why the French F Lon could enter the North Sea despite the French order F Bel-Lon. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers

ENGLAND: Bel, Edi, Liv, Lon. (4) RUSSIA: Den, Swe. (2)
FRANCE: Hol, Kie. (2) TURKEY: Ank, Bud, Bul, Con, Mos,
ITALY: Ber, Bre, Gre, Mar, Mun, Nap, Nwy, Rum, St.P, Ser, Sev, Smy,
Par, Por, Rom, Spa, Tri, Tun, Ven, War. (12)
Vie. (14)

Turkey may build three new units, England may build two, and Italy may build one. (Actually, Turkey has four fewer units than supply centers, but of course only three home centers are available.) France must remove one unit. The deadline for these "Winter 1911" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983.

1981IV

"Fall 1908"

GERMANS ADVANCE TO VICHY

FRANCE (Foster): F Por-Spa(s.c.); A Mar S F Por-Spa(s.c.); A Gas S A Mar F Bre-Mid.GERMANY (Cotcamp): F Pic-Bre; A Par S F Pic-Bre; A Bur-Gas; A Bel-Pic;
F Wal-Eng A Ruh-Bel A Mun-Ruh A Ber-Mun.ITALY (Brawner): F Lyo & F Wes S F Spa(s.c.); F Spa(s.c.) S A Pie-Mar;
F Naf S RUSSIAN F Mid; A Tri-Vie; A Bud S A Ser-Rum; A Ser-Rum;
A Bul S F Con; F Con & F Ion hold; A Pie-Mar.RUSSIA (Mulhollen): A Smy, A Rum, A Mos & A Edi hold; A Ank S A Smy;
A Sev S A Rum; F Mid-Por; F Nat-Mid F Nrg-Nat.

Underlined moves are not possible. The French F Bre is dislodged and annihilated. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

FRANCE: Mar, Por. (2) ITALY: Bud, Bul, Con, Gre, Nap, Rom,
GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Bre, Den, Hol, Ser, Spa, Tri, Tun, Ven, Vie. (12)
Kie, Liv, Lon, Mun, Par. (10) RUSSIA: Ank, Edi, Mos, Nwy, St.P,
Rum, Sev, Smy, Swe, War. (10)

Germany may build two new units, and Italy and Russia may each build one. France must remove one unit. The deadline for these "Winter 1908" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983.

Ron Foster, whose name was inadvertently omitted from the report of the last moves, has a new address effective yesterday: 138 Koch Blvd., Staten Island, N. Y. 10312. His telephone number, for weekend use only, is 212-356-1144. The Italian move A Ser-Rum was omitted from the "Spring

1908" report, but its existence was inferred by players from a support order.

MARSEILLES (French Free Press): The French Govt. has issued French-German dictionaries to its soldiers. However, they still vow to fight to the last man. Viva la France!!

MUNICH: Chancellor Kottkamp spoke to a crowd estimated at 150,000 plus in front of the Reichstag this week. It marked the beginning of a month long celebration in memory of the triple alliance.

BURGANDY: Is Marseilles Burning?

1982IM

"Winter 1902"

BEATLES AND ARMENIANS INSULTED

FROM FRANCE WITH LOVE: I dedicate my next song entitled, Decisions, Decisions to Germany and Italy. It can be sung to the tune of And I Love Her which was written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney.

I have a large problem
This much is true.
Who do I fight against?
Is it him or you?
I can't decide...

On the one hand I say
Dick stabbed me first;
But then I change my mind,
Randy's was worst.
We were allies...

I can't decide,
You can see why,
I'm gonna get screwed
one way or the other...

I built a fleet in Brest.
What else could I do?
If I lose MAO,
I shall be through
You can see that...

I wish a settlement,
For this I pine.
If you will go your ways,
I will go mine.
Please consider...

TSAR to SULTAN: Dear Mohammed: Well, if you really must have Armenia & the Crimea, be my guest! I'm well rid of them. The natives, I warn you, are a beastly unruly lot - never would learn to speak proper Russian. Hope you have better luck with them than I did (or do I?) Yours truly, Nick.

TURKEY to RUSSIA: Due to some technical difficulties units now on Russian territory do not really exist and should be ignored as mirages.

TURKEY to ENGLAND: We have some news for you, write and find out what it is.

TURKEY to RUSSIA: We are sincerely sorry that our moves concern you. We continue our efforts to make peace with Russia, but we are turned away at every corner. Write in for details.

TURKEY to FRANCE: Interesting rumors about France have been circulating in Constantinople for several weeks now. We're sure you read Turkish newspapers so we won't waste time with these rumors here. Are they true?

FRANCE (Ferguson): Builds F Bre.

GERMANY (Ellis): No orders received.

Gamesmaster removes F Hel & F Den.

ITALY (Belliveau): Builds F Nap.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Pearson): Builds A Vie.

RUSSIA (Bragdon): Builds A Mos.

TURKEY (Roybal): Builds A Smy ((sic; Smyrna is already occupied)).

The deadline for "Spring 1903" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983. Stand-by moves for Germany should be sent in by Ken Corbin, 3220 Live Oak Dr., Corvallis, Ore. 97330; 503-753-0412.

1983L

"STEAMROLLER" OUT OF STEAM?

"Fall 1901"

ENGLAND (Ticossi): F Nth-Hol; F Nrg-Nwy; A Yor holds.

FRANCE (London): A Pic-Bel; A Spa-Por; F Mid-Spa(s.c.).

GERMANY (McClimans): F Den-Swe; A Kie-Hol; A Ruh S A Kie-Hol.

ITALY (Palter): A Ven-Tri; A Apu-Tun; F Ion C A Apu-Tun.AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Cameron): F Alb-Gre; A Ser S F Alb-Gre; A Vie-Tri.

RUSSIA (Whisnant): No moves received. F Bot, A Sil, A Ukr & F Sev, hold.

TURKEY (Peart): A Bul-Run; A Con-Bul; F Ank-Bla.

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,

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Mar, Par, Por,

Tri, Vie. (5)

Spa. (6)

RUSSIA: Mos, St.P, Sev, War. (4)

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

TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Rum, Smy. (5)

ITALY: Nap; Rom, Tun, Ven. (4)

France may build 3 new units, Turkey, Austria-Hungary, and Germany may each build 2, and Italy and England may each build 1. The deadline for these "Winter 1901" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 16 APRIL 1983.

ENGLAND to GM: Thanks for the promotion, but I'm really only a Technical Sargent.

ENGLAND to the World: The King has written everyone and all replies will be answered quickly.

BERLIN: To those who are my allies and others who have tried to correspond this turn. I'm sorry for not responding. I was out of town for my father's funeral.

1982IN (continued from p. 2)

Policy Analysis said the Kaiser was probably right.

In another speech, the Kaiser said that the end of the Second Reich would lead to grave problems for the entire world, including the French and English.

"A weak 'democratic' government in their own image might be established, but I predict that 20 years later the frustrated German people would respond with a violence almost unimaginable.

NOTE: There is obvious error in the 1982IM report on p. 11. The stand-by for Germany should be: Phill Cooper, 1432 S. Roosevelt, Tempe, Ariz. 85281; 602-967-2845.

GRAUSTARK #471

John Boardman

234 East 19th Street

Brooklyn, New York 11226

Great Big United States

of America

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

___ - If this space is checked, you are needed as a stand-by. See the report of game _____ on page _____.