

up in a little ball and simply let us walk all over him.

I THOUGHT that Tom and I were working towards a two-way, 17-17 draw. I always knew that the advantage was all his, however. My share of the 17 centers had to come at the expense of a third party, while Italy's share was simply "ceded" to him, behind friendly lines. I counted on "honorable intentions" and let it go at that. It was my mistake, and I paid for it.

In retrospect, I should have insisted that I be allowed to keep the centers which I held in Austria. That would have forced Italy to send units to the north to gain his share of the draw. My holding southern centers as "hostages to his good behavior" would have been the wise course of action.

Obviously, there is only one way for a player to win in Tom's view - the acquisition of 18 centers by a single power. Draws are something which are forced upon one, rather than a vindication of a long period of cooperation and coordination.

I congratulate Tom on his win. Next time, I won't make things as easy for him.

This is

O At
R Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
T To
I Inflamm
O Optic
N Nerves

1188

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY (continued from p. 10)

is suggesting a possible expansion in both the number and role of U. S. military advisers to help the Salvadoran government cope with the Communist-led insurgency.

"President Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz are dreaming if they think the American people will let this country get drawn into another Vietnam quagmire by a shaky government that has done practically nothing to establish itself as worthy of support.

"Its record of human rights abuses is long and bloody; 18 peasants were slaughtered by uniformed troops a week ago in the latest apparent atrocity by government forces. Thousands more civilians have been murdered, and major land reforms have not been carried out as promised.

"Clearly, trying to impose a U. S. military solution in El Salvador will not work. Instead of pouring more money and men into the rathole, President Reagan should be pulling out all the stops for a diplomatic solution, drawing upon such intermediaries as Mexico and Venezuela to get the process started."

Since reading these fine, ringing sentiments I have been going through issues of the Daily News of about 20 years ago, looking for the editorial in which the U. S. government received similar advice about Vietnam. As soon as I come up with it, I'll let you know.

*

"Far from 'losing' a guerrilla war in Nicaragua in the 1920's, by every contemporary account the tiny contingent of U. S. Marines performed outstandingly. Far from being 'withdrawn ignobly', they left only after they had organized and trained a native national guard, and installed Anastasio Somoza at its head. Somoza lured the peasant leader Augusto Sandino into a trap and murdered him, and the civil war quickly came to an end, accompanied by the usual atrocities.

"U. S. policy during this period can hardly be described as ethical but was certainly successful. The Somozas ran Nicaragua more or less like a racket. In return for a free hand to brutalize their people, they comported themselves like lackeys to successive U. S.

(continued on p. 18)

ON CRUISE WITH THE DUAL MONARCHY

by Turner Cassity

"A squadron of Austrian ships were to attend the opening of the Kiel Canal, including the Naval Band and its conductor. It was the only long sea voyage Lehar ever made. Sailing from Pola, they called at Marseilles, Gibraltar, Morocco..." - Bernard Grun, Gold and Silver: The Life and Times of Franz Lehar

Shore leave, and down the gangplank - twenty-one -
Descends the new bandmaster. In the sun

Gold lyres are on his collar; on the prow,
Attenuated, they are scrolls. Allow

Or disallow, idea, Ausgleich, realm,
The multinational, conjoin in him.

He speaks Hungarian, Italian, Czech.
None of them, nor his German, quite will speak

His Europe past the perils of the Maghreb,
But how is Casbah more a threat than Zagreb?

And, in any case, the spruce white ship
Commands a language louder than the lip.

Above the narrow streets, to blow and dry,
The dyers hang their variegated sky.

Its airs, between the vendors and the gates,
Move scents of coffee over scents of dates.

In morning confidence, the West inhales.
The non-West hustles out the seven veils.

An oversell, as he will find exotic
Whatever fails to be dreivierteltaktig;

Who, when the Shore Patrol sorts user from the used,
Will not distinguish. "Gern hab' ich die Frau'n geküsst."

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY (continued from p. 17)

Presidents. We may now be reaping the fruits of this policy, but no one can say that for half a century it didn't work." - Charles Macchling Jr., letter, New York Times, 5 May 1983

*

While I'm acknowledging the people who've helped to get out this 20th Anniversary issue, I want to thank those who regularly show up every third Saturday, and with the assistance of sizable amounts of beer help assemble GRAUSTARK and the amateur press mailings of APA-Q. These include Al Nofi, Mark Blackman, Bob Lipton, Dennis Casey, Dave Schwartz, and Larry Carmody. Anyone who is conveniently located and would like to help should drop by here, at about 2 in the afternoon of a GRAUSTARK deadline date.

If transportation can be found,* I expect to be one of the referees of the Diplomacy and Empires of the Middle Ages tournaments at Eastcon, four weeks from this weekend at Glassboro State College in New Jersey. See you there.

I HAD A DUCK-BILLED PLATYPUS

by Patrick Barrington

(These verses circulated anonymously for some time in the British foreign office, as a satire on what was expected of a diplomat. They finally surfaced in Punch on 23 August 1933)

I had a duck-billed platypus when I was up at Trinity,
With whom I soon discovered a remarkable affinity.
He used to live in lodgings with myself and Arthur Purvis,
And we all went up together for the Diplomatic Service.
I had a certain confidence, I own, in his ability;
He mastered all the subjects with remarkable facility;
And Purvis, though more dubious, agreed that he was clever,
But no one else imagined he had any chance whatever.

I failed to pass the interview. The Board with wry grimaces
Objected to my boots and took exception to my braces;
And Purvis too was failed by an intolerant examiner,
Who said he had his doubts as to his sock-suspenders' stamina.
Our summary rejection, though we took it with urbanity,
Was naturally wounding in some measure to our vanity.
The bitterness of failure was considerably mollified,
However, by the ease with which our platypus had qualified.

The wisdom of the choice, it soon appeared, was undeniable,
There never was a diplomat more thoroughly reliable.
The creature never acted with undue precipitation O,
But gaverto every question his mature consideration O.
He never made rash statements that his enemies might hold him to,
He never stated anything, for no one ever told him to;
And soon he was appointed, so correct was his behavior,
Our Minister (without portfolio) in Trans Moravia.

My friend was moved and honoured from the Andes to Esthonia;
He soon achieved a pact between Peru and Patagonia;
He never vexed the Russians not offended the Rumanians;
He pacified the Letts and he appeased the Lithuanians.
No Minister has ever worked more cautiously or slowly O;
In fact they had decided to award him a portfolie,
When, on the anniversary of Greek Emancipation,
Alas! He laid an egg in the Bulgarian Legation.

This unexpected action caused unheard-of inconvenience,
A breach at once occurred between the Turks and the Armenians;
The Greeks poured ultimata, quite unhinged by the mishap, at him;
The Poles began to threaten and the Finns began to flap at him;
The Swedes withdrew entirely from the Anglo-Saxon dailies
The right of photographing the Aurora Borealis;
And, all attempts to come to a rapprochement proving barren,
The Japanese in self-defence annexed the Isle of Arran.

My platypus, once thought to be more cautious and more tentative
Than any other living diplomatic representative,
Was now a sort of warning to all diplematic students -
The perfect incarnation of the perils of imprudence.
Beset and persecuted by the forces of reaction O,
He reaped the consequences of his ill-considered action O;
And, branded in the Honours List as Platypus, Dame Vera,
Retired, a lonely figure, to lay eggs at Bordighera.

"TWENTY" QUESTIONS

GRAUSTARK's 15th Anniversary Issue had a quiz based on the number fifteen, and comprising fifteen questions. Similarly, in this 20th Anniversary issue is a quiz based on the number twenty. Readers are invited to send in their answers so that they arrive by NOON, SATURDAY 9 JULY 1983. First prize will be two free entries in GRAUSTARK Diplomacy games. Second prize will be one free entry. Third prize will be a free 9-issue subscription, or a \$5 credit towards a game entry fee.

1. Ideal eyesight is called "20-20" vision. What do these figures mean?
2. Most cultures have number systems based on ten. However, in a major world language there are vestiges of a number system based on 20. What is the language, and how does '20' show itself as a basis of its number system?
3. What was the 20th state to be admitted to the United States of America?
4. What was the "52-20" plan?
5. What will be the last day of the 20th century?
6. What was the most unusual feature of the presidential election of 1820?
7. The 1920 presidential election saw Harding and Coolidge win a landslide victory over Cox (who then vanished from the public consciousness) and Roosevelt (who emphatically did not). However, that election's most noteworthy feature had nothing to do with its outcome. What was it? (HINT: It has to do with Pittsburgh.)
8. The current one-ounce first class postage rate in the US is 20¢. On what date did this rate become effective?
9. When did the US first issue a 20¢ postage stamp, and whose picture was on it?
10. What (if anything) did the Compromise of 1820 accomplish?
11. What was so unusual about Pope John XX?
12. The present century is considered the 20th, from the presumed date of the birth of Jesus. Who established this presumed date, and on what evidence?
13. March 20 is a holiday in Iran. What event is then celebrated?
14. What connection does January 20 have with arrows?
15. What famous event did not happen on May 20, 1775, despite representations to the contrary by the state of North Carolina?
16. James A. Garfield was the 20th President of the United States; who was the country's 20th Vice President?
17. What connection do Leon Bourgeois, Knut Hamsun, Charles Guillaume, Walther Nernst, and Schack Krogh have with one another and with the number 20?
18. Who wrote The Myth of the Twentieth Century, and what did the author mean by the "myth"?
19. In what work, by what author, occurs the line "Come and kiss me, sweet and twenty"?
20. What is the frequency of an electromagnetic wave of wavelength 20 meters, and what kind of signal is most likely to be transmitted at that frequency?

Have at it, gang, and let's see your entries. In the event of a tie, the first entry to arrive wins. Correct answers will be published in either the 9 July or 30 July issue of GRAUSTARK, as space permits.

THEY ACTUALLY WENT AND DID IT

Right up until the end, I felt that the Roman Catholic bishops of this country would never actually issue the declaration against nuclear weapons which came out from them on 3 May of this year. This declaration had been under discussion for about a year, and went through several drafts as various minor points in the wording were worked out.

To someone who looks at the Roman Catholic Church from the outside, it was at first difficult to figure out this discussion. True, the Church does have a doctrine on the topic of the "Just war". But centuries of experience have taught us what a Just War is. In the judgment of a Roman Catholic cleric, a Just War is a war that is conducted by the country of which he personally is a citizen.

In past centuries this was never in doubt. For example, in 1758 the Catholic monarchies of Austria and France were engaged in a bitter war against Protestant England and Protestant Prussia. At the high mass on Christmas Day of that year, Pope Clement XIII solemnly blessed a sword and its accoutrements, which were sent to the Austrian Marshal Daun, the principal military commander of the alliance. This is scarcely the action of a Pacifist church.

In the United States, the Roman Catholic Church was primarily a church of immigrants. This made its members sensitive to thoughtless 'nativist' accusations that they weren't really American. As recently as World War I, rumors circulated that Catholic churches were built on high ground to provide a military advantage, and that for every boy born within a Catholic parish a rifle was buried under the church. America's Catholics reacted with a fierce patriotism that became built into their religious beliefs. The best way to understand this is to read the short story "In Accents of Death!" by the Irish-American Catholic author James T. Farrell.

This attitude continued to dominate American Catholicism. Since World War II, Catholic clerics and laymen have been vigorous in maintaining a strong American military posture, and in opposing Communism. America's only Catholic President, John F. Kennedy, campaigned on the theme of America's military unpreparedness as shown by a 'missile gap'. According to his brother Robert's memoir of the crisis, President Kennedy was prepared during the Cuban crisis of 1962 to go all the way to a world-wide nuclear war if necessary.

These attitudes continue to be widespread among the Roman Catholic laity. If, during the war with Vietnam, you saw a picture of half a dozen men engaged in the popular and patriotic task of beating a Pacifist into a bloody pulp, you could be certain that at least five of these brave and dedicated men were Catholics.

For these reasons, the reports last year of a bishops' statement against the use, even in retaliation, of nuclear weapons came as a surprise. I felt at the time, and continued right up to the event to feel, that this declaration was a talking point, to be traded off for some concession on the part of the U. S. government. For example, if the final draft of the statement were to be toned down to something uncritical of American military policy, the U. S. government would in return vote a sizable subsidy for Catholic parochial schools, or maybe bring some pressure on Great Britain over the Irish problem.

As announced last fall, the draft claimed that it would be wrong to be the first nation to use nuclear weapons, and wrong to target them on population centers even if they were used first against the United States. These notions are in flat opposition to U. S. nuclear stra-

tegy. A long criticism of their proposed stand was sent to the bishops by William Clark, a Roman Catholic who is for all practical purposes Prime Minister of the United States of America. Archbishop Bernardin, who has since been made a Cardinal, replied to this communication by telling reporters, "We are not easily intimidated." (New York Post, 18 November 1982)

Lower levels of the Catholic clergy have apparently already made their decision, and are suffering the consequences. That same week, two Connecticut nuns were strip-searched right down to the body cavities after being arrested in an anti-war demonstration. (New York Post, 17 November 1982) On Good Friday of this year, 61 Catholic Pacifists including the notorious priest Daniel Berrigan, were arrested in New York City after a cross-town march.

The laity responded. On 18 January 1983, Cardinal Cooke dubbed several new Knights of Malta in St. Patrick's Cathedral; one of the new Knights was General Alexander Haig, Clark's predecessor as Prime Minister and one of the formulators of President Reagan's foreign and military policy. (Presumably we now have to call him "Sir Alexander".) At a reception afterwards, Sir Peter Grace, the shipping magnate, got up to introduce the Papal Nuncio to Washington. But Sir Peter turned this introduction into a long, scathing attack on the nuclear freeze proposal. (New York Daily News, 19 January 1983) The Nuncio presumably carried this message back to Pope John Paul II, who supports a nuclear freeze but has not yet said anything specific about the American bishops' statement.

In April it looked as if a stand-off could be avoided. A drafting committee came up with gentler language. Instead of opposing the deterrent use of nuclear weapons, they called "deterrence 'acceptable' on the condition that it is used as the first step toward disarmament" - precisely the argument used by President Reagan to get the M-X appropriation through Congress this month. They changed from demanding a "halt" to nuclear weapons development and production, to a mere "curb". (New York Times, 6 April 1983) U. S. government spokesmen indicated that this revised language would be acceptable. It looked as if the deal I'd predicted were about to materialize.

Then, in May, the bishops switched signals again. "Curb" came out of the draft, and "halt" went back in. (New York Times, 3 May) A token opposition by John O'Connor, Auxiliary Bishop to the Military Vicar, was overridden; based on a long career as a Navy chaplain, he spoke up for nuclear deterrence.

The pastoral letter against nuclear weapons was formally adopted on 3 May, by a vote of 238 to 9. It now becomes "the official basis for U. S. church teaching on nuclear subjects". (New York Post, 4 May)

It cannot be denied that the United States of America plans first use of nuclear weapons. No American President has ever repudiated such use. The M-X missile, as well as several other U. S. weapons systems, makes no sense as a weapon unless it is planned as a first strike. Nor can arms negotiations be pleaded as a reason for making new weapons to be negotiated away. From the beginning of his administration, President Reagan has shown little enthusiasm for negotiations. Remember, he fired Walter Whitman Rostow for being too 'soft', and Rostow had been one of the most dedicated proponents of the war with Vietnam. Rostow was replaced by Kenneth Adelman, who has called arms reduction talks a "sham", and indicated that they ought to be engaged in only for public relations purposes. (They have, for example, served their purpose in getting the M-X appropriations through Congress.) It should not ever

BOOK REVIEWS

THE JAPANESE EQUIVALENT FOR "STAB, STAB, STAB!"

by David E. Schwartz

Most people who play Diplomacy are aware of that ancient & honourable institution, the Stab (sometimes called, for reasons that passeth understanding, the 'stab'), also known as the surprise attack.

The surprise attack is as old as history. Numerous instances are found of surprise attacks in works as ancient as the Bible and the wall texts at Karnak & Luxor. Nevertheless, the surprise attack that probably will stand as the paradigm of such occurrences was probably the attack on the U. S. Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor by Imperial Japan.

This attack has been raked over hundreds of times, including the recent exhaustive study by Gordon W. Prange, At Dawn We Slept. Many of the studies have simply been the authors' way of exercising their hobby-horses; that Roosevelt deliberately let the attack occur, even though he knew of it, that the officers on the spot were grossly negligent, that there were Sinister Manipulators, &c. The end result of it all is that the truth has gotten horribly muddled.

To really understand Pearl Harbor we must try to visualize the world of 1941. Although World War II had been going on for two years, the United States was still not in it, and by and large tried to shut its eyes to the conflict. There was trouble with the Japanese in East Asia, but few imagined it would lead to war - at least, not for a while anyway. In short, we still basked in that happy complacency he had luxuriated in with regard to world affairs - with rare exceptions - since the United States began. Into this mindset Pearl Harbor came as an incredible shock. Never before had the United States been dealt such a stunning blow. Numerous questions, then and now, have been asked as to how and why this came about. Not all of them admit of easy answers.

Americans are fond of conspiracy theories. They go back to the very beginnings of the Republic, when the Federalists accused Jefferson of leading a dangerous cabal of radicals, and the Jeffersonians accused the Federalists of being aristocrats conspiring to create a monarchy. Strangely enough, few if any of the conspiracy theories bruited about in our history ever turned out to be true. The Lincoln assassination is one that was a real conspiracy. The "Red Scare" of 1919-20 is one that was probably a chimera. So it should come as no surprise that when the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was over, people started to look for conspiracies and scapegoats. No country likes to be caught with its pants down, and it is so much more comforting to think that it was a few villains/idiots/saboteurs who did us in than that we were caught with our pants down.

The most immediate suspects for attack were General Short and Admiral Kimmel. Both men, it was said, had neglected the defences of Pearl Harbor shamefully. Perhaps they could have done more, even given the limited resources they had. But remember - in 1941 the United States believed itself to be at peace. No one expected a surprise attack, and certainly not at Pearl Harbor (even though a fleet exercise in the early 1930's showed it possible). Besides, why should Kimmel & Short be so excoriated? In the Philippines, where an attack might logically be expected, and with six hours' warning, General MacArthur was as badly trounced. Yet MacArthur

was not even censured, let alone removed from active duty, as were Kimmel and Short.

Which leads us to the conspiracy theory, the gist of which is that Kimmel and Short were scapegoats for official negligence and/or incompetence in Washington. The Roosevelt-haters seized upon F. D. R. as the obvious choice, and held that Roosevelt knew of the impending attack on Pearl Harbor and deliberately withheld the news.

Well, let us cross-examine. How would Roosevelt have known? We had broken the Japanese code and could read all their messages. The critics here cite with particularity the 14-part message the Japanese government had transmitted the night before, of which they claim F. D. R. had knowledge. For the fourteenth (and most important) part of that message was not transmitted until early in the morning (Washington time), and did not get to Roosevelt in time, primarily because, prior to being given to him, procedure required its being vetted by General George C. Marshall, who was out taking his morning ride on horseback. Navy Intelligence did send a telegram to Pearl urging caution - "exactly what significance this may have had we do not know" - but it was sent, as was the custom of the day, via Western Union, and it reached Pearl about two hours after the battle began.

It may be objected that we should have been more on our toes; after all, Joseph C. Grew, our then ambassador in Tokyo, had reminded Roosevelt some weeks earlier that "In modern history... Japan has never preceded the initiation of hostilities by a declaration of war." But even if a surprise attack was expected, Pearl was not, to American minds, the logical choice. It was expected by most strategists that the Japanese would stick to their basic prewar strategy - Plan Rainbow Five - which envisioned all-out war in the Western Pacific, and not a strike at Pearl. Of course, everyone reckoned without Isoroku Yamamoto, whose fondness for unorthodox moves changed everything.

Then there is the question of why Roosevelt would have withheld the news. The standard reply is that he did it to get us into World War II without having to have his policy in that regard subject to public debate, and so to scotch the "America Firsters". But, even if we assume this to be so - that F. D. R. wanted to cause an incident to get us into the war - we should remember that the war in question did not yet include Japan, nor did anyone really think Hitler would be so stupid as to declare war on the United States. If Roosevelt wanted us to get in the war, then it was the one in Europe, not a struggle with Japan.

Further, the assumption that F. D. R. deliberately ignored the coming attack on Pearl Harbor is ridiculous. He may have been a brilliant and unscrupulous politician, but he was not mad, and it is highly doubtful he would risk our Pacific Fleet just to get his way. F. D. R. loved the Navy - according to Samuel Eliot Morison, he often called it "my navy", and we may doubt he would look upon the loss of our battle line with equanimity.

And yet - and yet, although Roosevelt cannot rationally be held directly and proximately responsible for Pearl Harbor, I think he must account to history for his part in the worsening of American-Japanese relations in the pre-war period.

One of the facts of the pre-World War II United States that few people - even historians who should know better - today realize is that isolation in America was only a European policy. Senators like Borah and Johnson, rabidly isolationist in regard to Europe, had no

qualms whatsoever about American intervention in the Far East.* It is perhaps noteworthy that the only U. S. forces stationed permanently in foreign waters in 1941 were five river gunboats in China (a sixth, the Panay, had been sunk in 1938 by the Japanese - in error, they claimed). United States policy was then in a Sinophilic phase, for such diverse reasons as our seeing ourselves as China's friend, the Christianity of Chiang Kai-shek, and the genuine horror of many Americans at Japanese atrocities such as the rape of Nanking.

American then had a patronising view of Orientals, including the Japanese, who most Americans thought of as little yellow men who could make clever (albeit shoddy) counterfeits of Western civilisation but who would certainly fold up against real opposition and who were not treated with the kid gloves European states were. Exceptions to this view did exist (especially in the Navy, which always treated their opposite number in Japan with professional respect), but the racial prejudice of most Americans was very real. And Roosevelt - or his subordinates - had a share of it. We never took actions as rough as those against Japan with regard to Italy or Germany - and Japan's actions were against China, not the United States itself. Also, if John Toland may be believed, there was a fair amount of misunderstanding in regard to American policy - an ambiguity Washington did little to clarify, and in point of fact may not have realised.

Still and all, even if F. D. R.'s actions and those of the United States government were partly to blame for a worsened atmosphere, this does not in any way exonerate the action of Japan. The attack on Pearl Harbor was in violation of the laws of war (such as they were, and are), and no negligence, however small, on our part will ever change that. And, after looking through all the evidence, one thing emerges - the uncertainty of it all, and how everything ran in Japan's favor. As Winston Churchill once said, "the terrible ifs accumulate."

BY SEA AND BY LAND

by David E. Schwartz

Gasson, Lionel
THE ANCIENT MARINERS
Macmillan, 1959, 286 pp. (hard)

Deiss, Joseph Jay
CAPTAINS OF FORTUNE
Crowell, New York, 1967, 304 pp.
(hard)

Here are two excellent books on rather obscure subjects. Although neither is very recent (both may be out of print, for aught I know), they are both well written and fascinating accounts of obscure history - one, of the ancient maritime history of the Mediterranean, and the other of some of the lesser-known condottieri of the Italian Renaissance.

Lionel Casson's book on "(t)he seafarers and sea fighters of the Mediterranean in ancient times" is an attempt to tell the story of what the ancients accomplished on the sea, from the Egyptians down to the Byzantines. The chapters break down roughly into those on trade and those on warfare, with brief excursions into maritime exploration, Greek colonisation and marine archaeology (a chapter now somewhat dated). Interspersed throughout the book are fascinating technical details of ship construction and operation (did you know the

* - Several years after World War II, the American cartoonist Herbert Block coined the word "Asialationist" to describe this attitude, which was then prevalent among conservative Republicans. - JB

Egyptians used a torsion skein instead of a keel, or that Archimedes may have invented the Roman corvus?). Casson makes the ancient world come alive by such details as these: he quotes the bemoanings of an ancient trader of Ur in about -2000: "That this could happen between gentlemen as we both are!"

Casson's economic analysis of ancient trade is well researched and sound. He points out the great contribution religious needs made as a stimulus for trade, such as the need of the Egyptian priests of Amon for cedar for the god's sun barque. Casson's retelling of the hilarious voyage of the priest Wenamon to get cedar from Lebanon - a sort of -XIII century picaresque romance - is one of the highlights of the book.

His tales of military exploits are equally well done, and admirable for their brevity and conciseness. In his four pages on the battle of Salamis, he manages to explain Themistocles' strategy and its working out better than many other authors have done at greater length.

In fact, the book is just full of information, pleasantly packaged to as to attract both the scholar and someone just out for a good read. After reading this book, you will be able to tell the difference between a thranite and a zygite (not to mention a thalamite). Get around to reading it if you can.

While Casson writes about an age so sunk in the past and a topic so obscure to most persons that little controversy attaches to his subject, Joseph Jay Deiss, author of our other book, writes about a much more modern period, the Italian Renaissance, and a much more controversial subject: the mercenary captains known as the condottieri.

In this book, whose subjects range the centuries from 1200-1500 C. E., will be found the villainous Ezzelino da Romano, whose enemies showed equal cruelty; the tragic Count of Carmagnola, betrayed by all he trusted; the brilliant and cruel Castruccio Castracani; the poet-warrior Sigismondo Pandolfo Malatesta; Giovanni de Medici, the audacious statesman and soldier whom Machiavelli admired; and Sir John Hawkwood, an Englishman who was perhaps the epitome of the mercenary captain.

Deiss presents this roster of fascinating rogues in chronological order, preceded by a long essay on Renaissance Italy's history and mores, which were remarkably similar to those of today - looser, in fact, in certain respects. (Can you imagine Cesare Borgia being investigated by a Senate sub-committee?)

Each of the six condottieri in this book is given an individual miniature biography, detailing his career in great detail, usually drawn from contemporary accounts or definitive biographies (in Castracani's case, the two are the same work - Machiavelli's biography). Not all were mercenaries pure and simple. In the case of at least one, Malatesta, we get a great deal of information on his personal life, especially his attachment for a twelve-year-old girl, Isotta da Rimini. (His attachment, however, did not go so far as marriage until eleven years of unwedded bliss had passed.)

If the book has a fault, it is that Deiss is too cut and dried in his expostulation of events. He has an essay on the background to this era, but hardly lets the background appear in the biographies; the two are too separate. One could have wished that he had interspersed a good deal of the background material amongst the various profiles. Still and all, the book is another good read, though not as worthy of the serious student as is the other.

RING AROUND THE EUXINE

Following "Fall 1905" moves, Turkey retreated F Ank-Bla, Russia retreated F Nwy-Bar, and Germany retreated F Edi-Cly. Then France built F Mar and F Bre, and Russia built F St.P(n.c.) and A War. Turkey removed F Gre. All players were informed.

ENGLAND (Verheiden): F Nwy S FRENCH F Nrg-Bar; A Edi holds; F Wal-Lon.

FRANCE (Kaplan): F Nth-Hol; F Eng-Nth; F Nrg S F Eng-Nth; F Bre-Eng; A Ber-Pru; A Mun-Sil; A Kie-Ber; A Run-Mun; F Mid-Wes; F Mar-Pie; F Liverpool not ordered, holds.

ITALY (Sanches): A Ven S FRENCH F Mar-Pie; A Alb-Gre; F Ion-Adr.

RUSSIA (Rauterberg): F Bar-Nrg; F Den-Nth; F St.P(n.c.)-Nwy; A Swe S F St.P(n.c.)-Nwy; A War-Sil; A Smy-Arm; A Tyr-Ven; A Bud-Ser; A Ser-Bul; A Vie-Tri; A Gal-Boh; F Bul(e.c.)-Rum; A Rum-Ukr; A Ank-Con.

TURKEY (Aicken): F Arm-Ank; F Bla & F Con S F Arm-Ank.

Underlined moves are not possible. England retreats F Nwy-Ska and Russia retreats A Arm-Smy. The Russian "A Rum" was incorrectly identified in the last issue as "F Rum"; this is corrected above. The deadline for "Fall 1906" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 18 JUNE 1983.

PARIS to VENICE: I hope you protected Venice.

PAUL to CHUCK: Hey you! The guy holed up in Munich! We know you're in there, and we've got you surrounded. Come out with your hands up!

SOLITARY RUSSIAN to the STOP-RUSSIAN ALLIANCE: Your stalemate line's got a few holes in it. Most of them are in the hands of the defenders.

MOSCOW to ROME: Your A Alb had better run wee wee wee all the way home, and it had better hurry. If you don't understand me, ask Verheiden.

CONSTANTINOPLE: To our erstwhile ally - We are truly sorry that we have not lived up to your expectations and our reputation. We can only reply that we wish you had not so fully lived up to yours.

ROME to MOSCOW: It's the thought that counts.

ROME to NEW YORK: Isn't there a postal rule that states that overconfident Russian players who stab their allies cannot make their moves during May of odd-numbered years?

BROOKLYN to ROME (United Rabble Rousing Press): I'm not sure, but you may find such a rule in the Stanley E. Johnson III Private And Confidential rules for Postal Diplomacy So I Always Win.

ROME to LONDON: It's time to send Lenin in.

ROMA PRESS: Question: What covers a Russian ship that has been bombed to a hulk. Answer: Tartar sauce.

1982IM - PRESS RELEASES

TURKEY to GERMANY: Keep out!! Puppets not welcome!

MOSCOW to BERLIN: It's about time you joined us! We were wondering how long you were going to continue doing most of the work for your southern neighbors while they sat on their hands! Welcome aboard as an honored partner.

MOSCOW to VIENNA & ROME: Please do not interpret the above as a hint that you should change your policy on treatment of allies. Stay the course - keep on antagonizing your best commanders! This will help them see that their true interests lie with - and are respected by - their friends up north.

THEY ACTUALLY WENT AND DID IT (continued from p. 22)

be forgotten that President Reagan concedes no legitimacy to the Soviet Union. Indeed, he has called it "an evil empire". A Christian does not compromise or negotiate with absolute evil.

For decades, Roman Catholic laymen and laywomen in this country have been told that by their priests. Next to sex and alcohol, and sometimes even surpassing the second of these, anti-Communism has been the theme of most Catholic sermons in this country.

After preaching this way for so long, the Catholic clergy has suddenly changed signals. But have they all? Are they all gone, those priests we came to know during the pontificates of the eleventh and twelfth-Piuses - those silver-haired, iron-jawed, steel-spined Irishmen who blasted the Soviet Union, Sunday after Sunday, as an instrument of Satan, and blessed the young men of their parishes as they went off to Korea or the Dominican Republic or Vietnam? Was Cardinal Spellman the last Catholic cleric in America who believed that American soldiers are "the G. I.'s of Christ"?

Some critics think so. The articulate conservative columnist R. Emmett Tyrrell Jr. calls the present hierarchy 'ecclesiastical politicians who once believed their robes and collars would grant them power and authority. Yet in modern America their power is draining off to the shrinks, the schoolmams and the disciples of Mammon...With the rise of the nuclear freeze, doubtless many of the good bishops thought that they could gain both intellectual respectability and political power in one sally. They are probably in error. The Catholic Church in America has been an immigrant church whose members looked to the bishops for religious and worldly counsel. The immigrants are now mostly dead. Their heirs are no longer so easily led.' (New York Post, 22 November 1982)

It appears that most of the Catholic voices speaking out against nuclear weapons are the voices of the clergy. Catholic laymen who write newspaper columns are virtually unanimously opposed to the bishops' statement. (Local examples include William F. Buckley, Beth Fallon, Robert Novak, Michael Novak, and Joseph Reel.) The New York Times devoted a lead editorial to attacking the bishops' statement, and thus drew what must be the only letter of support that Richard M. Nixon has written to the Times since he entered public life.

The last time the Roman Catholic clergy was so deeply divided from the laity, the Protestant Reformation resulted. Something comparable may be in the works this time. For example, the Pentagon is going to have to consider carefully what it will do about Catholics in the armed forces, now that their bishops are urging them to defy orders to launch nuclear weapons. ("We can't put General Randazzo in charge of that missile base, Mr. Secretary! He's a Catholic, and you know what they think about nuclear weapons!")

Once parochial schools start introducing the bishops' statement into their classes, and Pacifist priests start basing sermons on it, reaction will begin. I anticipate the formation of an "American National Catholic Church", led by members of the minority among the bishops, and taking with it the apparent majority of America's Catholic laity, who demand to be told from the pulpit that they can support their country's military policy and still be good Catholics. Unless the Pope gives an unequivocal endorsement to the American bishops' statement, these Catholics will not openly break with Rome. (It is not yet certain which way Pope John Paul II will jump on this issue; his visit to Poland this year may perhaps bring his thinking about the Soviet Union

into line with President Reagan's.) There are already a large number of Catholic Traditionalists in this country who are disappointed about changes that have taken place in the quarter-century since the death of Pope Pius XII - the vernacular in the mass, easier annulments of marriages, reception of divorced Catholics back into the Church, 'social issues' being preached from the pulpits, priests in demonstrations against war or racism, nuns dressing in 'civvies', and so forth. They would welcome a Catholic Church in which saluting the flag is virtually the eighth sacrament.

The American National Catholic Church could create its own bishops if none are drawn away from the present organization. To accusation of 'schism' they could reply that they haven't left the true teachings of the Church, that it is the majority of American bishops who have departed from the correct path. They would profess great respect for the Pope as a man whose nation suffers at the hands of the same enemy against whom the nuclear missiles are directed, unless he expressly repudiates them - then, he will be called, as some Protestants have already called him, an agent of Red Poland. And the bishops of the American National Catholic Church would be welcome guests at the White House, which will become unfamiliar terrain for those who stick with the recent statement against nuclear weapons.

Although the American bishops' statement against 'nukes' has upset a lot of Catholic laypeople tremendously, a worse shock is in store. Apparently the Roman Catholic Church is preparing to canonize a soldier who was executed for refusing to fire on the enemy! This man was a 19-year-old Viennese slum kid named Otto Schimek, who was serving with the Wehrmacht in Poland in 1944 at the time of his court-martial and execution. His tomb, in the Polish village of Machowej, is the center for pilgrimages by Polish youth. (America, March 1983)

Consider what it would mean if this slacker were elevated by the Roman Catholic Church to a place beside all the dozens of warrior-saints! Imagine that you are a U. S. Army captain, leading your men in prayer half an hour before making a dawn attack. Hung up for inspiration, you resort to Sir Jacob Astley's classic line: "O Lord, if I forget Thee this day, do not Thou forget me." Then, near you, you hear a Catholic soldier praying: "St. Otto Schimek, give me strength for what I have to do." Just the thing to inspire confidence, eh?

Things may be getting as serious in Protestantism, though owing to its heterogeneous structure they are less obvious. The Protestant churches in East Germany are leading a drive against military conscription, and one of their leaders has gone so far as to say that the mere possession of nuclear weapons is contrary to the will of God. Billy Graham, who is to mix metaphors the Protestant Pope of America, has come out in favor of a reduction of nuclear weapons. (New York Times, 12 March 1983) President Reagan's ringing speech before the National Association of Evangelicals found them so divided on the subject that they could not pass a resolution on a nuclear freeze. Two days after this speech, the finest summary in existence of the President's views on war and morality, the Evangelical leader Dr. Ronald J. Sider said that "It is intolerable to suggest that good citizens in favor of a freeze are duped by the KGB or by Satan."

This last point has so far been muted by the President and his Administration. So far, their criticism of the nuclear freeze movement has largely called its advocates sincere and misguided. However, the exigencies of a nationwide political campaign may change all this. An audience will be left unimpressed by such claims, but will cheer wildly the suggestion that Pacifism is treason. As the audacity of the Pacifists escalates, so will the accusations made against them.

...AND STILL GOING STRONG! (continued from p. 4)

20th Anniversary. And I would also like to thank the people who have made this record possible for the 'zine in which postal Diplomacy was founded: my wife Perdita for putting up with all this, Allan B. Calhaver for designing the game which has given us so much pleasure, and the hundreds of people who have played in and subscribed to GRAUSTARK over these two decades.

DOES THE C. I. A. READ GRAUSTARK?

Not as an official agency, I'm sure. However, on the well-known principle of the busman's holiday, Diplomacy and similar games of negotiation and backstabbing are probably well-liked by members of the Central Intelligence Agency and other espionage services. (This may be true in other countries, too. One former gamesmaster and publisher was once doing unspecified things in Canada's intelligence service.)

It is well-known that the greater Washington area is one of the principal concentrations of postal Diplomacy players. It is also well known that several of the postal Diplomacy players in that region play or publish under false identities, or sign other people's names to their publications.

A few years ago, I received a letter that purported to be from a "Robert Ames" of Chicago, and alleged to give details about the early career of one of the best-known forgers in the hobby, Buddy Tretick. This letter proved to be a forgery, for which Mark Berch took responsibility by refusing to identify the author - if, indeed, it was not he in the first place. (An equally non-existent "Dwayne Shreve" was blamed for it.)

This spring, the name of Robert Ames surfaced again. He was a C. I. A. agent of major stature, who seems to have been the head of all U. S. intelligence activities in the Middle East. He and most of his principal operatives were killed when terrorists bombed the U. S. Embassy in Beirut.

This is obviously nothing to play games with. I rather doubt that anyone outside the C. I. A. would have known enough about Robert Ames to make his name seem funny in a forgery. I am therefore reversing my policy on forgers. I still refuse to countenance the forgery of postal Diplomacy 'zines, or to trade with publishers who engage in it. However, I will not bar forgers from subscribing to GRAUSTARK, or from playing in it. But if C. I. A. members want to use GRAUSTARK to play private jokes on one another, I feel it would be unwise to try to stand in their way. It's a league in which I can't compete.

1982P - LATE DESPATCHES

Steve Comer, playing Germany, has made a late change of moves which considerably changes the "Spring 1908" adjudications which appear on page 8. His new move is "A Ruh S ENGLISH A Den-Hol". The English moves "A Den-Hol; F Nth C A Den-Hol" now succeed. All other moves remain as they appear on page 8, and of course the English army is not annihilated. The French "A Bur S GERMAN A Ruh" is also valid.

Steve also announces that, with the end of the academic year, his address reverts to 2892 County Line Drive, Big Flats, N. Y. 14814; 607-562-8793.

...LEST A WORSE THING HAPPEN TO THEM

It begins to appear that the armed forces of the Great Big United States of America will soon be in action in Central America. Already, Major General Barry M. Goldwater has called for their use. This call was soon echoed by Lieutenant General Wallace H. Nutting, head of the U. S. Southern Command, based in Panama. ("The American people should give the President the open-ended commitment he needs to show the guerillas they can't win - even if that means combat troops." -- New York Daily News, 27 May 1983)

It is only a question of time before President Reagan accepts and acts on this advice from his military commanders. It does, after all, follow his natural inclinations. In the decade before he became President, he urged that America send troops into 8 or 10 different countries.

Naturally, some "Nervous Nellies" will try to draw an analogy with Vietnam. Let them. This month there surfaced a chilling account of what happens to people who are so foolish as to resist the might of the Great Big United States of America.

It came from a rather unpromising source - the cross-examination of a police informer within the gang that staged the bungled robbery of a Brink's truck at Nanuet shopping mall in 1981. The informer, Tyrone Rison, had been the gang's "weapons expert" since he had served a hitch of combat duty in Vietnam. Under cross-examination by attorney Susan Tipograph, Rison described an incident that took place during the war. Rison and other U. S. soldiers had captured a Vietnamese woman and began to rape her. However, women in Vietnam had taken to wearing a device full of razor blades in their vaginas, and the first man was badly wounded by this gadget. His comrades-in-arms shot him to put him out of his agony, and Rison and the others proceeded to skin the woman alive. The dead soldier's name presumably is inscribed, with some 55,000 others, on the new memorial dedicated with such proude patriotic speeches last November.

Rison asserted that this had indeed happened, and that he had taken part in it. An interesting technical question is raised here. The ability to skin a large dead animal is not widespread in the American population, and it may be wondered how the soldiers went about this task. However, this method of dealing with a prisoner is an old one in the Middle East. When the pro-Soviet government of Afghanistan began sending Soviet technical advisers into remote villages, some of them received this treatment - a matter which may have been the reason for the subsequent Soviet invasion.

Still, the message should be understood by everyone, particularly since neither Rison nor anyone else was ever disciplined for this action. No matter how bad you think the U. S. government is treating you or your country - don't resist. Otherwise, incomparably worse things will be done to you. Your private morality is of no concern to the President, government, and armed forces of the Great Big United States of America, but your utter obedience and subservience is. East coast liberals should learn this. College students should learn it. Peasants in Central America, and commissars in Moscow, and priests in Rome, should learn it.

(New York Post, 11 May 1983)

KOMMT DER GROSSGENERALSTAB

ENGLAND (Baker): A Edi-Nwy; F Nrg C A Edi-Nwy; F Nth S A Edi-Nwy.
 FRANCE (Jordan): A Pic-Bel; A Spa-Por; F Mid-Spa(s.c.).
 GERMANY (Ripper): F Den-Swe; A Ruh-Hol; A Sil-War.
 ITALY (Ezzio): A Apu-Tun; A Pie-Tus; F Ion C A Apu-Tun.
 AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Rusnak): A Vie holds; F Alb-Gre; A Ser S F Alb-Gre.
 RUSSIA (Chafetz): F Rum-Sev; A Ukr-Rum; F Bot-Swe; A St.P-Fin.
 TURKEY (Greene): A Bul & A Smy hold; F Con S A Bul.

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, Rum, St.P, Sev. (4)
 GERMANY: Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun, TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Smy. (4)
 War. (6)

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

France and Germany may each build three new units. Austria-Hungary may build two, and England, Turkey, and Italy may build one each. The deadline for these "Winter 1901" builds is NOON, SATURDAY 18 JUNE 1983.

PARIS: The son of King Umberto of Italy, Victor Emmanuel, has been consulting with the Prime Minister about the recent revolution in Italy. A government spokesman said the French government is prepared to crush the revolution and reinstate the monarchy.

It is also reported that the former monarch was beheaded in the streets of Rome instead of being safe in Malta.

ST. PETERSBURG: The Tsar has recalled his fleet to escort the Royal Family into exile.

ROME: Congratulations on 20 years of publishing. This is truly a great event. I want you to know that your hard work is appreciated in this corner. Bravo!

BROOKLYN (URRP): Much obliged to you, and to the other well-wishers who have sent in their congratulations.

GERMANY GETS IT UNDER THE FIFTH RIB

ENGLAND (Ticossi): A Nwy-St.P; F Ska-Nwy; F Eng & F Nth S FRENCH
 A Pic-Bel.
 FRANCE (London): A Mar-Pie; A Spa-Tus; F Lyo C A Spa-Tus; A Bur-Mun;
 A Pic-Bel; A Par-Bur.
 GERMANY (McClimans): A Kie-Ber; F Den-Bal; A Bel holds; A Hol S A
 Bel; F Swe-Nwy.
 ITALY (Palter): No moves received. A Tri, A Tun, F Ion & F Eas hold.
 AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Cameron): A Ser & F Gre S A Bul; A Bul S RUSSIAN F
Rum; A Bud-Gal; A Vie S A Bud-Gal.
 RUSSIA (Whisnant): F Bal-Ber; A Pru-War; A Ukr-Sev; F Rum S A Ukr-Sev.
 TURKEY (Peart): A Con-Bul; F Bla S A Ccn-Bul; A Arm-Smy; A Gal-Bud;
F Aeg S ITALIAN F Ion-Gre.

Underlined moves are not possible. Germany retreats A Bel-Ruh,

(continued on p. 34)

1982IN

"Spring 1904"

ALL'S RIOT ON THE EASTERN FRONT

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

FRANCE (J. Schwartz): A Mar-Pie; A Ruh & A Eur S A Mun; A Mun S A Ruh;
F Bre-Mid.

GERMANY (Hurwitz): A Ber-Kie; F Den-Nth.

ITALY (Wienczek): A Ven-Pie; F Apu-Nap; F Rom S F Apu-Nap.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Drakert): A Tri-Ser; F Gre-Bul(s.c.); A Rum-Ukr; A
Ser-Rum; A Boh & A Tyr S GERMAN A Sil-Mun((sic)).

RUSSIA (La Rocco): F Bul(e.c.)-Bla; A Sev-Arm; A Sil-Gal; A Pru-War;
A St.P-Mos; A Fin-St,P.

TURKEY (Rynkiewicz): F Ion-Gre; F Aeg S F Ion-Gre; A Con-Bul.

Underlined moves are not possible. Austria-Hungary retreats F Gre-Alb and Germany retreats F Den-Ska, Swe, orb-Bal. The direction of this retreat should be sentnin by IMMEDIATE RETURN MAIL to the Gamesmaster, so that it arrives by MONDAY 6 JUNE 1983. The Gamesmaster will pass it on to the other players. The deadline for "Fall 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 18 JUNE 1983. Marc Hurwitz's new address is P. O. Box 191, Owings Mills, Md. 21117.

ROME: The Italian customs service has agreed to assist the French border patrol, in enforcing the government ban on vacations outside the homeland.

RUSSIA to ENGLAND: Keep it up, your playing a fine game.

RUSSIA to FRANCE: - - - - -

RUSSIA to ITALY: Ditto.

RUSSIA to GERMANY: Good bye Old Paint.

RUSSIA to TURKEY: What can I say?

RUSSIA to AUSTRIA: If it's thrills you're after, give up Diplomacy for the sheer challenge of mugging old ladies.

RUSSIA to her people: Did anyone get the name of this circus?

CONSTANTINOPLE: Sultan declares his loyalty to Kaiser Marc and his brave fight against his own people.

CONSTANTINOPLE: "Hey guys" I thought that the name of this game was "POSTAL Diplomacy"?

CONSTANTINOPLE: Bill - sorry!! One of my sailors got a nasty "ouzo" bottle letter!!

BERN (DAMN): Kaiser Mark commented, upon hearing of the activities of our glorious armed forces, "WHO CARES, ANYWAY."

1982IM

"Winter 1903"

In the last issue, the Austro-Hungarian moves "A Gre-Bul, A Ser S A Gre-Bul" were accidentally not printed. However, since Bulgaria passed from Turkish to Austro-Hungarian control in that game year, some players realized what had gone on. France retreated F Wes-Naf and Austria-Hungary retreated A Tyr-Tri.

ENGLAND (Corbin): Builds F Liv. RUSSIA (Bragdon): Builds A Mos.

FRANCE (Ferguson): Removes F Bre. TURKEY (Roybal): Builds A Smy.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Pearson): Builds A Bud.

Venice remains an Italian supply center. Austria could not make a second build because no home supply center was available. The deadline for "Spring 1904" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 18 JUNE 1983. Press releases are printed on pages 7 and 27.

1983L (continued from p. 32)

and Turkey retreats A Gal-Boh, -Sil, or -Ukr. The direction of this retreat should be sent in with the "Winter 1902" orders, which may be made conditional upon it. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy, St.P. (5)	ITALY: Nap, Rom, Tri, Tun, Ven. (5)
FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Mar, Mun, Par, Por, Spa. (7)	AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Gre, Ser, Vie. (5)
GERMANY: Ber, Hol, Kie, Swe, Den. (5)	RUSSIA: Mos, Rum, Sev, War. (4)
	TURKEY: Ank, Con, Smy. (3)

England, France, and Italy may each build one unit, and Turkey must remove two. Germany has a build if the dislodged A Bel is removed. The deadline for these "Winter 1902" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 18 JUNE 1983. Stand-by "Winter 1902" moves for Italy should be sent in by Paul Rauterberg, 4922 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, Wisc. 53208; 414-778-0750.

ENGLAND to GM: Did you get the magazine I sent? If so, how did you like it?

GM to ENGLAND: I found it interesting to the limits of my capability to understand it, and have passed it on to a historian friend who is better able to appreciate it.

WHEN DO YOU EXPIRE?

The subscriptions of the following players expire with the indicated issue of GRAUSTARK:

474 - Steven Brooks	475 - Gerry Thompson
Phill Cooper	480 - Greg Troutman
Mark Murray	483 - Ralph L. Morton
Bob Olsen	Eric Verheiden
Larry Reagan	484 - John M. Weswig
Carl Skutsch	488 - Richard Kovalcik
Steve Speidel	491 - Mark E. Johnson

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nis Casey, and Robert Sacks. The gift was two cans of beer, a liquid indispensable to the proper printing and collation of GRAUSTARK. The two cans, incidentally, are each of five liters capacity; for those of you still stuck in the mediaeval system of weights and measures, that's a little over 2½ gallons (US). One was Dinkelacker and the other, Mönchshof.

Also published here is EMPIRE, a bulletin for the postal play of war games other than Diplomacy. It is currently carrying, or offering to readers, postal games of SPI's A Mighty Fortress, Empires of the Middle Ages, Chariot, Spartan, Legion, Viking, Yeoman, Frigate, and Dreadnought. Write for details.

For science-fiction and fantasy fans there is DAGON, which has recently reviewed The Dark Crystal and will, in its next issue, take on Return of the Jedi. DAGON also runs an interminable serial entitled "Streak Gordon", in which the dauntless Earth hero Streak Gordon takes on the Evil Empire of Emperor Wang of Planet Porno, and his sinister, black-clad, perpetually snoring minion Major Li, the Antibiotic Man. (Other characters include the amoral smuggler - er, smuggler - Juan Alon, captain of the Instant Turkey, and his huge, shaggy sidekick Snortcoke.) Then, every three months, I publish ANAKREON, a journal of filksinging (which is not mis-spelled, but just re-defined). If you are interested in any of these, let me know.