

GRAUSTARK

#502

1982HI, IM, IN; 1983AJ, AS, AX, HF, IE; 1984B, V, AY, HB, IC, ID

29 December 1984

VOTES CALLED IN EIGHT GAMES

Eight of the fourteen postal Diplomacy games currently in progress in GRAUSTARK have reached the point where votes have either been requested by players, or seem to the gamesmaster to be appropriate. The players in the following games are therefore asked to send in their votes on the following propositions. If more than one proposition is listed for a game, players should vote on all of them. Your votes in a game need not be compatible with one another, i. e., if proposals are up for a concession to Italy and for a draw, players may vote in favor of both proposals. An abstention is equivalent to a negative vote. No proposition will succeed unless the vote for it is unanimous.

The games and proposals are:

1982HI: Concede to Austria-Hungary.
Concede to Russia.
Draw.

1982IM: Concede to France.

1982IN: Concede to England.
Concede to Russia.
Draw.

1983AJ: Draw. 1983AX: Draw.

1983AS: Concede to Germany.

1983HF: Concede to Austria-Hungary.
Concede to England.
Draw.

1984B: Concede to Germany.

All votes are due by the deadline for GRAUSTARK #503: NOON, FRIDAY 25 January 1985. Any stand-bys who are called on in any of these games may also vote, and if they become players their votes will be used. For further information on game-ending votes, see the article "When You Say That, Draw!" on page 2 of GRAUSTARK #501.

BOARDMAN NUMBERS ASSIGNED

Bill Quinn, the Boardman Number Custodian, has assigned Boardman Numbers to the two new games opened in GRAUSTARK #500 on 3 November. The Boardman Numbers are:

New Game I - 1984IC

New Game II - 1984ID

Players in these games should use these Boardman Numbers in correspondence with one another and with the gamesmaster.

TWENTY-TWO CENTS' WORTH OF WHAT?

It has finally been made official. As of Sunday 17 February 1985, the one-ounce rate for first class mail will be 22¢, and domestic postcards will cost 14¢. It has not yet been announced what first-class letters more than one ounce will cost, or what third-class rates will be.

This means that GRAUSTARK #503, on Saturday 26 January 1985, will be the last that will be mailed out at the present 20¢ rate. Against my better judgment, I am going to try to hold the line on game fees. They will continue to be \$18, which includes a subscription for the duration of the game. Subscriptions for non-players will remain 9 issues for \$6. However, as of 17 February, the back issue rate will go up to 10 issues for \$2. All back issues from #467 are available, together with a few earlier ones such as #437, which contains the postal rules for Diplomacy. However, as of 31 January 1985, all back issues from 1983 will be thrown out, so if you'd like back issues from that year, write at once.

The United States Postal "Service" has amply signaled its intent to raise rates by a substantial drop in service. Players have reported that GRAUSTARK #501 took between 6 and 11 days to reach them. GRAUSTARK apparently went to a four-week deadline only just in time, and maybe even that is too optimistic.

Furthermore, games of SPI's A Mighty Fortress and Empires of the Middle Ages are available in EMPIRE for \$25. Write for details.

IGNOBEL PRIZES AWARDED

One of the most momentous events in the history of The Four And A Half Kingdoms took place on Midsummer's Eve of 1838, when Alfons Ignobel was born in a shed behind a tannery in the Polykarpian village of Svatodim. (By order of the Patriarch, the village was evacuated and dynamited in 1924.) Accounts differ as to his parentage. It is generally believed that he was conceived when a soldier fleeing from the Battle of Weissenfeder raped a peasant woman. In the Grand Duchy of Wogastisburg-Schlampenbützel it is claimed that the Grand Duchy won the battle (fought on 19, 20, 21, and 29 August 1837), and that Ignobel's parents were a Pundschrunki sapper and a Wogastisburg dairymaid. But in Pundschrunki the battle is reckoned a Pundschrunki victory, and Ignobel is said to owe his origin to a lance corporal in the Grand Ducal Horse Marines, who raped a scullery maid in the castle of Count Kurt the Curt.

Until his mysterious death in 1937*, Ignobel made an enormous fortune through his activities as a spy, currency manipulator, and armaments manufacturer. When his will was probated in Zürich under the direction of the international banker Rumpelskinflint, the original "Gnome of Zürich" and President of the Bank der Sieben Zwergen, it was revealed that he had funded five annual prizes. These prizes are awarded by a self-perpetuating seven-member board, of which only two members' names have been made public: Alfons's son by Mata Hari, Aloys Ignobel, now 78, and Rumpelskinflint's grandson Rumpelsoftware.

It has become traditional for the year's Ignobel Prizes to be announced at a ceremony in the Hotel de Wogastisburg et Metropole, a day or two before Christmas. The ceremony is a regular stop on the jet set's December transit through The Four And A Half Kingdoms, just after the Winter Solstice Festival in Skandalutz, and just before the Circus Bowl game in the Temporary Roman Empire.

For many recent years, the award ceremonies have been relatively tranquil. However, the 1983 awards almost seemed to be a replay of those of the turbulent 1960s, as protests were made by the exiled American Yippie leader Julius Orange, by the Feminist leader Valerie Solipsis, by the environmental activists of the Clambrained Alliance, and by the Stalwart National Iron Fist (SNIF), the former ruling party of the Kingdom of Pundschrunki before the establishment of the People's Republic in 1947. SNIF has been led for several years by a citizen of the Temporary Roman Empire, P. Vigurus Macho.

Since most of the probable demonstrators would earlier attend the Winter Solstice Festival, arrangements were made to keep them from leaving the Kingdom of Skandalutz. These arrangements were made in late November during a completely secret 14-hour conference between Peter Pfauschwanz, Commander of the Grand Ducal Secret Police, and Mme. Condé-Wasch, formerly Skandalous Ambassadors to France and now Ministress of Royal Security. Their plans were nearly completely successful. Julius Orange, who is still wanted in Chicago on charges that during the 1968 demonstrations he raped a police dog, was delayed by a Skandalous reporter who got him to explain the difference between a Yippie and a Yuppie, until the last train had left for Wogastisburger-Neustadt. Valerie Solipsis was persuaded, by the Captain of the Queen's Own Body Guard, to reconsider some of her ideas about men in the social scheme of things. And the Clambrained Alliance was decoyed to a remote province of Skandalutz by the rumor that a laundry was installing a nuclear-powered clothes-dryer. When they arrived, they found that the rumor was true - but that the "nuclear-powered clothes-dryer" was in actuality an ordinary clothesline. The members of the Clambrained Alliance promptly

* - The body of Alfons Ignobel was discovered in his Pundschrunki villa on 19 December 1937 by his 17-year-old mistress Svetlana Schwartz. There was a pillow over his face, a deep stab wound in his chest, two bullets in his brain, a silk stocking knotted around his neck, potassium cyanide in his stomach, and lye burns in his mouth. A nearly empty hypodermic with traces of strychnine was found under his bed. According to the findings of the coroner, Dr. Yngvi Lauss, the 99-year-old financier had died of natural causes. Forty-seven people later separately claimed the "credit" of having murdered him. None of these claims could be verified.

broke up into two factions, one of which claimed that the clothesline was solar power and therefore Good, against foes who pointed out that solar power is really nuclear power and therefore Evil. This dispute, and the remoteness of their location, prevented them from getting to the Ignobel Prize Awards.

However, P. Vigunus Macho and his uniformed guardsmen escaped the vigilance of the Skandalous and Grand Ducal security forces, and managed to get into the Salon du Grand-Duc of the Hotel de Wogastisburg et Metropole, a slightly decayed Gilded Age hostelry which is itself one of the major tourist attractions of The Four And A Half Kingdoms. They probably managed it because officials and guests alike were still agog over the identity of the new King of Skandalutz. It is well-known that the King of Skandalutz is chosen by lot, every year, from among all males who attend the Winter Solstice Festival. The high point of the Festival is the Sacred Feast, at which the outgoing King is sacrificed to the Mother Goddess, prepared according to the cuisine of his native country, and served at an enormous banquet.

The 1984 King was Reo Stutz, formerly Minister of Detourism in the Cord-Austin government of Grenada. Like all other members of that government, he qualified for it by being named after obsolete automobiles. When the American invasion overthrew that government, Stutz fled to the Balkan Massif, and was chosen King by the 1983 Sacred Lottery. He was served at the Sacred Feast as a traditional West Indian pilaff. The new King is an American, Percy Bruce Reagan, the son of Ronald Reagan by his little-known first marriage with the aging silent screen star Gloria Snockers. Miss Snockers, whose tenth marriage to the rising screen star was called "dradle-robbing" by contemporary gossip columnists, left him the morning afterwards, procured an annulment of the marriage, and nine months later gave birth to their son at the Dorothy L. Sayers Home for Unwed Mothers Who Want It Clearly Understood That They Are Really Respectable Women Who Just Made a Little Mistake. She died in 1983, at the age of 95, at the Convent of St. Sappho and All Virgins, in Wogastisburg-Schlampenbüttel.

The selection of Percy Bruce Reagan was greeted with enthusiasm by the Titanian Guard, an elite detachment of the Skandalous Army whose job it is to prevent the King from escaping. It seems that the new King is already very well acquainted with many of the men of the Titanian Guard, and it is not believed that he is likely to try to escape. "You know what these change-of-life babies are like," the American writer Florence King remarked cryptically to a reporter.

As is traditional, the first Ignobel Prize announcement was the War Prize. This went to an American, for the first time since Richard M. Nixon won it in 1969. The surprise winner was Richard Perle, Assistant Secretary of Defense.

"I realize," said Aloys Ignobel in making the award, "that the terms of my father's will require that the award be made for a war that is actually in progress. That Mr. Perle receives this award is due to the efforts of two men, the New York Daily News columnist Lars-Erik Nelson and Mr. Perle's superior, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger. Mr. Nelson nominated Mr. Perle in his column of December 7th - an auspicious date - with the words 'He has courageously, manfully and sometimes single-handedly fought every single arms control agreement negotiated with the Soviet Union over the past 12 years. If there was an inverse of the Nobel Peace Prize, Richard Perle would be a hands-down winner.' Well, of course, there is an inverse to the baubles handed out by those idealistic fools in Stockholm, and we are it. As I speak, Mr. Perle is part of a team consisting of Secretary of State Shultz, Arms Control Director Adelman, and General Nitze, who have gone to Geneva to demonstrate to the Russians their President's contempt for any sort of arms limitation!" There were loud cheers from spectators, including the uniformed SNIF forces.

Herr Ignobel went on to explain why, although the United States of America is not presently engaged in overseas military operations, an American received the War Prize. "A few days later, Secretary of War Weinberger objected to speculations in the Washington Post about the function of a new, top-secret military satellite. He called these speculations 'giving aid and comfort to the enemy.' This is, of course, the Constitutional definition of treason. The term 'enemy' has a well-defined meaning in international law. Its use by a member of the President's Cabinet indicates that the United States of America regards itself as being in a state of war. Therefore, the award of the War Prize to Mr. Perle is altogether appropriate." Mr. Perle's prize was accept-

ed. for him by Kenneth Adelman, who had won the Provocation Prize in 1983 for his statement that disarmament talks are "a sham", designed to defuse domestic concern about war rather than actually to reduce weapons.

This year's Provocation Prize went also to an American, the mullah Louis Farrakhan, who "proved to be the most effective agent provocateur on the world scene." Early this year, Herr Ignobel explained, there had seemed a danger that large numbers of non-blacks would join Jesse Jackson's campaign for the presidency, since Jackson was the first major-party presidential aspirant ever to come out against nuclear weapons. "By his remarks," Herr Ignobel went on, "Mullah Farrakhan scared away almost every non-black who had seemed attracted to Jackson's plans for foreign policy and social policy. Thanks to him, the Jackson campaign, which had begun as a serious threat to the American Way of War, dwindled into a laughingstock. And, as a climax, Mullah Farrakhan became almost the only person who endorsed President Reagan's statement that politics and religion cannot be separated from each other." Mullah Farrakhan's award was accepted for him by Rev. F. Pailey Smith, the Southern Baptist minister who, a few years ago, decreed that "the prayers of Jews are not heard by God". "My petty doctrinal differences with Mullah Farrakhan," Smith told the crowd, "should not detract from the fact that we are in accord on the things that really matter."

The Espionage Prize went to Arne Treholt, the Norwegian officer who turned over many NATO military secrets to the Soviet Union. "This award," said Herr Ignobel, "should disabuse the world of the stereotype that Scandinavians are a pack of Pacifists who are interested in nothing but the welfare state and sex in that order of importance. Like his Swedish colleague Stig Wennerström, who won the Espionage Prize in 1970, Herr Treholt shows that Scandinavians are not all bemused by the Pacifistic fantasies behind those other prizes." (These words, usually spoken with a sneer, are how members of the Ignobel Prize Committee and their staffs customarily refer to the Nobel Prizes.) The award was accepted for Treholt, who like most of its recipients was unable to be there in person. His stand-in was John Gardner, the British author who has undertaken the ambitious task of carrying forward the James Bond novels of the late Ian Fleming, and thus making heroes out of spies for yet another generation of readers.

The Genocide Prize was awarded to the Islamic Jihad, the group responsible for several truck-bombings against the American Army of Occupation in the Middle East, and related activities all over the world. The award was accepted for the Islamic Jihad by General Ariel Sharon, who warmly expressed his appreciation for the Islamic Jihad's work. "Without their activities," he told the crowd, "we Israelis would have a great deal of difficulty getting continued unquestioning American support for everything the Israeli Army does."

"The award of the Military Science Prize," Herr Ignobel went on, "is unprecedented in the history of the Ignobel Prizes. For the first time, a second award of the same prize will be given to the same man - the eminent Hungarian-American war scientist Edward Teller. Over three decades ago he received this prize for the invention of the hydrogen bomb. Today, he again receives it for the work he has done in promoting the radical new American weapons system variously described as 'Star Wars' and 'The Astro-dome'. These systems, which will be designed to shoot down every missile aimed at the United States, will be extremely effective in fulfilling the first requirement of a new weapons system - a profitable subsidy to the country's industry. Once in place, this weapons system will either work, or it will not. If it works, the United States of America will then be able to do anything to anybody, anywhere in the world, and fear no nuclear retaliation, thus destroying the hopes of the Sinister Forces of World Peace, and creating numerous additional wars all around the world. If, on the other hand, the system fails, it will greatly stimulate the electronics industry to new achievements in weapons, and produce a new generation of missiles in both the United States and the Soviet Union. There is even a possibility of a profitable variation on the 'Star Wars' missile defense system. Instead of preventing Soviet missiles from penetrating American air space, it will prevent trucks full of dynamite from penetrating American embassies and barracks."

The award was accepted for Dr. Teller by his old associate Dr. Luis Alvarez, who cryptically remarked that "if the dinosaurs had had a 'Star Wars' missile defense,

they'd still be alive today."

This concluded the awards, though when the international tourists headed for the refreshments tables they found that they had already been stripped by inhabitants of the Balkan Massif, who have an ineluctable instinct for free-loading. P. Vigurus Macho and the uniformed SNIF contingent expressed their disappointment in the awards ceremony. "We came prepared to protest," Macho told the press, "and then it turned out we agreed with everything!"

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Today's issue of GRAUSTARK coincides, for the first time in several years, with the publication of EMPIRE, which carries postal games other than Diplomacy. Since GRAUSTARK is now on a four-week schedule, while EMPIRE remains on a three-week schedule, these coincidences will occur every three months or so.

Recently in EMPIRE I abandoned the attempt to run Avalon-Hill's Civilization by mail, and am instead starting two tried-and-true games, SPI's A Mighty Fortress and Empires of the Middle Ages. Further information on both these games appears in today's EMPIRE, #205. The game fee is \$25 for each game. EMPIRE #205 also carries information on where to buy these games, now that SPI is out of business.

Also, postal Diplomacy games continue to be available in GRAUSTARK for a game fee of \$18, as explained on page 1. Subscriptions for non-players to either publication are 9 issues for \$6, and back issues will be 10 for \$2 as of 17 February 1985. Back issues of EMPIRE are available from #168, together with a few earlier ones such as #120, which carry game rules. However, all 1983 back issues will be thrown out at the end of January, just as with GRAUSTARK. (See page 1.)

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GRAUSTARK, the first bulletin for the postal play of Avalon-Hill's Diplomacy, is published every fourth Saturday by John Boardman, 234 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11226. The next issue, #503, will be collated here on the afternoon of Saturday 26 January 1985. See page 1 for information on game fees and back issues.

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Back issues of Strategy & Tactics, Moves, and other war-gaming 'zines are available through The Game Trader, which is \$3 for 4 issues from John Farewell, 61 Midland Ave., Stamford, Conn. 06906. The Game Trader is a good place through which to buy or sell war-games. It also runs articles on how to store your game collection. Its fourth issue has just been published; the back issues are available for 50¢ each plus a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

*

A person signing his name appropriately "Sewer Mouth" has just sent a circular around postal Diplomacy fandom, and from context it seems that it is Bruce Linsey. (However, Kathy Byrnes notes that Linsey has lately been sending out his mail with Mark Berch's return address! While the distinction between Berch and Linsey is not a substantive one, it certainly indicates that Linsey by now knows the low esteem in which he is held by war-gaming fandom.) Incredibly, Linsey objects to being described, by a person he does not identify, as an "unethical, immoral, lying, unscrupulous, dirty, low-down, scum of an alleged 'human being'". (I am not sure to whom we owe this precisely accurate and unexceptionable description of Bruce Linsey, but it certainly indicates a masterful observer of the human condition and excellent judge of character.)

For details on Linsey, see the sources I've cited in GRAUSTARKs #498 and #500. Meanwhile, Bruce Linsey is not an opposition with whom Diplomacy fandom debates, but a problem about which Diplomacy fandom does something. Kathy Burne suggests the following petition:

"It has come to my attention that Randolph Smyth may be willing to turn the Runestone Poll over to someone else if he feels that there is indeed going to be a heavy boycott due to the fact that Bruce Linsey is running the Poll. If you are like myself and you will not be voting in the Poll, because of Bruce's involvement then I ask you to sign the following. You can mail it back to me and I will forward it to Randolph or you can mail it directly to

Randolph:

I will not vote in the Poll if Bruce Linsey runs it."

Sign this last statement, and mail it to one of these addresses:

Randolph Smyth, 212 Aberdeen St., SE, Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 0R1
Kathy Byrne, 160-02 43rd Ave., Flushing, N. Y. 11358

It is rather amusing to note that Linsey throughout refers to Gary Coughlan as one of his most devoted friends and supporters. Since Coughlan is both a forger and a racist, this says a lot about the whole Linsey business, doesn't it?

*

Sometime this weekend, besides getting out GRAUSTARK #502 and EMPIRE #205, I hope to be able to get over to Kathy's and John's place for another Byrnecon. Her "Byrnecon" weekends provide good gaming and good company, and I regret that other pressures kept me away from the one held Thanksgiving weekend.

*

I have the impression that the last few issues of GRAUSTARK and my other publications have been produced under conditions of extreme haste and very little time. A brief look back on these issues confirms that impression. In one of the book reviews in GRAUSTARK #500, I wrote "autobiography" where "biography" should have been used. Transpositions of letters while typing fast are another problem. And I've just discovered that on the previous page I misprinted Kathy Byrne's name twice in two different ways!

*

About every two years I re-read the greatest war novel ever written: Jaroslav Hašek's Osudy dobrého vojáka Švejka za světové války (1923), translated as The Good Soldier Švejk and His Fortunes in the Great War by Sir Cecil Cuthbert Parrott. (Thomas Y. Crowell, N. Y., 1974) I am nearly finished with my latest re-reading of this classic. It deals with the same war as does Diplomacy, and is a chronicle of the adventures of a good-natured Czech named Josef Švejk ("Schweik" in some translations) as he is conscripted into World War I and shuttled around through camps and stockades and battle fronts. Though he professes the most complete loyalty to the ramshackle empire which is always the biggest problem for the Diplomacy player, he manages to infuriate officers of all ranks, the higher the better. His character is a sort of combination of Sancho Panza and Beetle Bailey, and he is clearly the literary ancestor of the conscript soldier of 20th-century literature: the Sad Sack, Gomer Pyle, Gunner Asch, Judy Benjamin, and Max Klinger.

Hašek's other adventures have also reached the English-speaking world through Sir Cecil's translations; a few years after this book appeared, the same publisher brought out a collection of Hašek's other short pieces under the title The Red Commisar. Hašek had deserted from two armies during World War I, and in 1918 much to his surprise found himself administering a little town in the upper Volga valley on behalf of the Petrograd Soviet. He eventually returned to Czechoslovakia aboard the same ship that carried the future Marshal Tito back from Russian captivity, and died in the first days of 1923 with his great work unfinished. A friend of his named Vaněk tried to complete it, and in fact wrote more of the Švejk saga than Hašek himself did, but Sir Cecil claims that the continuation is of inferior quality, and has decided not to translate it.

(In 1930 a far inferior translation, omitting about a third of the material, was done by Paul Selver. Unfortunately, this one seems much more common than Sir Cecil's.)

Curiously, Hašek's reputation among his fellow-Czechs seems to be at a low ebb now. The Brooklyn College Library has a massive volume with a title something like The Czech Contribution to Civilization. Obscure writers, artists, and scholars are written up, but Hašek's name does not appear in the index. Literary sources in Czechoslovakia itself treat him somewhat more kindly.

1984V

"Fall 1905"

WIN A FEW; LOSE A FEW

ENGLAND (Tallman): F Iri-Mid; F Eng-Bre; F Nwy-St.P(n.c.); F Nrg-Nwy.FRANCE (Drakert): A Bre holds; F Gas S A Bre; A Mar-Bur; F Mid-Eng.GERMANY (Gaughan): A Pic & A Par S ENGLISH F Eng-Bre; A Mun-Bur; A Pru-War; A Sil S A Pru-War; F Bot S ENGLISH F Nwy-St.P(n.c.).ITALY (Sims): F Adr-Ven; A Rom S F Adr-Ven; A Tri-Tyr.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Manna): A Gal-Bud; A Gre-Ser; F Alb-Adr; A Ven-Tri; A Tyr & A Vie S A Ven-Tri; A Sey not ordered; holds.

RUSSIA (Kutta): A Mos-St.P; F Liv S A Mos-St.P; A War holds; F Nth-Hol.TURKEY (Galicia): F Ion-Tun; F Aeg-Bul(s.c.); F Bul(e.c.)-Bla; A Arm-Sey.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Italian A Tri and the French A Bre are dislodged and annihilated. Russia must retreat A War-Gal or Ukr; the direction of this retreat should be sent in with the "Winter 1905" orders, which may be made conditional upon it. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Bre, Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy. ITALY: Nap, Rom, Ven. (3)

(6)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Gre, Rum, Ser, Sev,

Tri, Vie. (7)

FRANCE: Mar, Por, Spa. (3)

GERMANY: Ber, Den, Kie, Mun, Par, Sve, RUSSIA: Hol, Mos, St.P. (3)

War. (7)

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

England may build two new units, and Italy, Germany, and Turkey may each build one. Russia must remove one unit. The deadline for these "Winter 1905" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. Peter Gaughan writes that he has a new address: #171-A, 3121 E. Park Row, Arlington, Texas 76010. His telephone number remains 817-633-3208. He may be at this new address through May. Terry Tallman sent a Christmas card appropriate to the weather at this season in Seattle. It shows Santa Claus, carrying an umbrella, and driving a sleigh drawn by eight antlered slugs. The card reads: "Up on the rooftops, Drip, Drip, Drip..."

TURKEY to ENGLAND and GERMANY: Glad to see professionals like you in action.

TURKEY to ITALY: It is as if England and Germany are bribing you. If not, then they should.

GERMANY to FRANCE: Oh, a wise guy, eh?

GERMANY to ENGLAND: Speaking of house pets - there's a strange, smelly animal in our backyard.

LONDON to BERLIN: Yessss, masssterrr. All is ready but the monster still needs a brain!

LONDON to SERBIA: With the Kraut, we three would seem capable of minor marvels.

-1982IM

"Fall 1913"

SOMEDAY, REAL SOON NOW...

CONSTANTINOPLE: The Sultan has sent inquiries as to where the Kaiser will retreat to next.

KAISER to TSAR: How dare you tell the Sultan that you found me underneath a common rock! Really! I hide underneath nothing less precious than silver deposits!!!

GERMANY to FRANCE: We should have waited until we had eliminated that loud-mouthed Sultan before stabbin the Englishman. The Sultan certainly does not deserve a survival! this game, much less a piece of a draw...

GERMANY to the World: Hindsight is always 20/20, right?

GERMANY to ENGLAND: You have been ominously silent lately, both in press and diplomacy. I can understand you not writing, but no press? It should prove interesting

to see if I can survive as long as you can...

ENGLAND to FRANCE: I must say, the way you treat your puppets is a disgrace to the honorable profession of Toadmaster.

SILENT FRENCH EMPEROR to the World: Hello again. I must say that all of you are putting up a very good struggle. You may even succeed due to some bad maneuvers on my part and some good maneuvers on yours. Things are tough up at Cornell. I don't have too much time for Diplomacy. The reason I haven't had any press releases lately is that I have been phoning in all of my orders at the last minute. In fact, the only reason that I am writing in these orders is that I am leaving for Phoenix, Arizona tomorrow and it is too late to call Brooklyn. I ought to get back December 31. You will then be able to reach me at home, in Great Neck, until January 22, at which time I go back to Cornell.

FRANCE to United Rabble Rousing Press: Thanks for putting up with me Doc.

EMPEROR to KAISER: Hopefully your fleet has survived. If not, you can still stay in Spain for the remainder of the war. Good luck Randy.

EMPEROR RAYGUN to the SULTAN: You're doing pretty well for yourself. I can assure you that Trieste is as far as you will go. With that fleet coming in from Brest and a winter build in Marseilles I will have closed off the south. Why don't you look for greener pastures up north. If all goes according to plan, I will need but two norther centers to gain victory. Surly you can see the inevitability of the result. Grab some of Mother Russia and come in second.

JOHN to BCP & KEN: Whatever the outcome, it's been fun.

*

Owing to a last-minute change of move by Germany, correction fluid had to be applied to some of the orders printed in GRAUSTARK #501. And it seems that for that issue I had been using a brand of correction fluid that had become too weak. Therefore, the underlining persisted even though both the new German "Spring 1913" moves succeeded. And of course no German retreat to Vienna was necessary; that German army ended up in Trieste.

ENGLAND (Corbin): A Kie S RUSSIAN F Bal-Den; F Hel-Hol; F Adr S TURKISH A Ser-Tri.

FRANCE (Ferguson): F Nth-Nwy; F Nrg, F Ska & A Swe S F Nth-Nwy; F Eng-Nth; F Mid-Wes; A Bur & A Tyr S A Mun; A Pic-Bel; A Mun S ENGLISH A Kie-Ber; F Ion-Adr; F Nap-Apu; A Ven S GERMAN A Tri; F Tyr-Ion.

GERMANY (Ellis): A Tri-Vie; F Bot-St.P(s.c.).

RUSSIA (Bragdon): A Cal-Vie; A Bud S A Cal-Vie; A Sil-Boh; A War-Sil; A Ber S A War-Sil; F Bal-Den; A Nwy holds; A St.P S A Nwy.

TURKEY (Chafetz): F Rum holds; A Ser-Tri; F Alb S A Ser-Tri; F Aeg-Gre; F Eas-Aeg; F Apu-Ven.

Underlined moves are not possible. The German A Tri is dislodged and annihilated, and Russia retreats A Nwy-Fin. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Hol, Kie. (2)

RUSSIA: Ber, Bud, Den, Mos, St.P, Ser, Sev,

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Edi, Liv, Lon, Mar, * Vie, War. (9)

Mun, Nap, Nwy, Par, Por, Rom, Spa,

TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Rum, Smy, Tri.

Swe, Tun, Ven. (16)

(7)

France may build two new units, and Russia and Turkey may each build one. (Russia has a second build if the dislodged A Nwy is removed.) England must remove one unit, and the last German unit is also removed. The deadline for these "Winter 1913" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. For a temporary change of address by the French player, see the French press releases. Votes are called in this game, not only for a concession to France but also for a draw. See page 1 for details on this vote.

MUMM'S* THE WORD

From time to time, a player will phone in moves and then ask me whether or not I have yet heard from some specific other player in that game. A few times in the past I have acceded to this request, but I realize that it is contrary to the spirit of postal Diplomacy, and so I will not do so in the future.

This question becomes particularly complicated if a player has missed a move, and the other players wish to know who is playing that position. If the prior player has formally resigned, or has missed the two consecutive moves required for replacement by Postal Rule 5, then the stand-by takes over, and other players will be so informed. However, if there is still some doubt as to who will be sending in the operative moves for that position, other players will not be told whether either has sent in moves. They may, however, send in alternate sets of moves for a turn, depending on whose moves appear in GRAUSTARK on that turn.

1983AJ

"Fall 1911"

DEADLOCK BROKEN, SORT OF

ENGLAND (J. Baker): A War S GERMAN A Ukr; A Pic-Par; F Eng-Pic; F Bel S F Eng-Pic; F Lon-Eng; F Iri S F Lon-Eng; F NAT-Mid.

FRANCE (Jordan): A Par-Pic; F Gre-Pic.

GERMANY (Ripper): A Bur S ENGLISH A Pic-Par; A Kie S A Mun; A Ber S A Sil; A Mos S A Ukr; A Mun S A Bur; A Sil & A Ukr hold.

ITALY (Ezzio): F Con holds; A Ven holds; F Gas-Mid; F Wes & F Naf S F Gas-Mid; F Mid-Eng; F Ion-Gre; A Mar-Bur; A Pie S A Ven.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Rusnak): F Bul(s.c.)-Con; F Bla S F Bul(s.c.); A Sev holds; A Tri-Ser; A Tyr-Tri; A Vie-Tri; A Rum S A Sev; A Boh S A Gal; A Gal S A Boh.

Underlined moves are not possible. Italy must retreat F Con-Aeg, -Ank, or -Smy. The direction of this retreat should be sent in by IMMEDIATE RETURN MAIL, so that it arrived by FRIDAY 11 JANUARY 1985. All players will be informed. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy, St.P, War. (7) ITALY: Gre, Mar, Nap, Por, Rom, Smy, Spa, Tun, Ven. (9)

FRANCE: Bre, Par. (2)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Ank, Bud, Bul, Con, Rum, Ser, Sev, Tri, Vie. (9)

GERMANY: Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mos, Mun, Swe. (7)

The deadline for "Spring 1912" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. A vote for a draw has again been proposed; see page 1 for details on this vote.

FRANCE to ENGLAND and GERMANY: The only way we are going to end this game is for me to become part of your stalemate line and force Austria's hand. After Russ' stalling tactics I think it only right to force a five-way draw on him.

1983IE

"Winter 1906"

Following "Fall 1906" moves, England retreated F Nwy-Nth.

FRANCE (Rauterberg): Removes F Bre.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Jordan): Removes F Bul(e.c.).

GERMANY (Hurwitz): Builds A Kie, A Ber.

RUSSIA (Chafetz): Builds A War.

The deadline for "Spring 1907" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. Stand-by moves for Turkey should be sent in by John C. Quarto, P. O. Box 359, Boston University Station, Boston, Mass. 02215; 617-353-6089. Press releases appear on page 11.

* - "Wie lieb und luftig perlt die Flase

Der Witwe Klicko in dem Glase." - Wilhelm Busch, Die fromme Helene

THE REIGN OF SENILIO THE GREAT - XXVII

The principal event of 1384 in the Temporary Roman Empire was the attempted revolt of Senator Vallunius against the reign of the 101-year-old Emperor Senilio the Great. Vallunius is believed to have belonged to an illegitimate cadet branch of the former imperial family, which after producing Emperors of progressively weaker characters had died out in 1381. But the 1384 problems scarcely bothered the even tenor of life in this tiny Balkan Massif nation, which claims to be the only true remnant of the Roman Empire of antiquity. As Senilio the Great told the populus: "Vallunius is evil because he did not repudiate the freedman Jaxonius. And Jaxonius is evil because he did not repudiate the sinister dervish Farra-Kong." The Emperor did not go on to explain whom Farra-Kong should have repudiated.

The complete loyalty of all the town criers and annunciatores ensured that the insurrection would fail. Many jongleurs also assisted the Emperor by devising jokes against Vallunius and his accomplice, Giralдина of Trent. At the end of the revolt, Vallunius foreswore further political activity, fled to the Grand Duchy of Wogastisburg-Schlämpebüttel, and joined the Monastery of St. Hubert the Humble. Giralдина went for a slighride across the ice of the Mare Altum with Theodorus Cameloticus, one of the revolt's least enthusiastic supporters, and was never heard from again.

To celebrate this triumph, Senilio the Great decreed that he should again be crowned Roman Emperor. The augurs, led by the very pious Senator Helminthus, settled upon the XIII day before the Kalends of February. However, this selection caused a great deal of unrest in the Empire. It developed that that same date had been chosen for the annual Circus Bowl game, the greatest annual sporting event in the Temporary Roman Empire. Huge crowds would certainly flock to the Circus Minimus, leaving no one to watch the Emperor's re-coronation.

The problem was placed in the hands of the Prime Minister, but there seemed to be no agreement on who was Prime Minister. It had been the habit of Senilio the Great to forget that he had appointed a Prime Minister, and to appoint another one. None of the Prime Ministers wished to take on such a serious problem. Prefectius was at delicate negotiations with the Kingdom of Pundschruck on the neutral territory of Skandalutz, concerning Caspar Magus's magic spells that would allegedly surround the Empire with a wall of brass that would make it impregnable. Caspar Magus himself was so deeply involved in these researches that he refused to emerge from his five-sided tower to make a decision. Copius was trying to get the Emperor's budget through the Senate, although he is said to have remarked that this budget couldn't get through the Senate with castor oil. Preppius, the Emperor's heir, suggested that the re-coronation be held between halves of the Circus Bowl, but the Empress Nancia Poppaea Evita objected that "terrorists" (sicarii) might find some way to turn the lions loose on the Emperor. So great was the devotion of the populus to the Circus Bowl that eventually the re-coronation was postponed to the following day.

The final score of the Circus Bowl was Lions 49, Christians 1. (One Christian had smuggled in an emetic, and none of the lions would touch him.) Satisfied at this glorious victory, the populus packed the Temple of Jupiter the next day for the re-coronation, and heard a jubilant Emperor solemnly promise to conquer Pundschruck, re-enslave the troublesome freedmen, put a tax on alms to discourage beggary, end the smuggling of abortifacients from Skandalutz, restore sacrifices to Jupiter in the public schools (though of what he did not say), suppress Christian subversives ruthlessly, keep the Legions in a state of readiness for combat, build a wall of brass encircling the Empire, reconquer all the breakaway provinces, and reduce the power of government over individuals. Huge tax cuts were also promised, and government would instead be financed by a curious invention brought from distant Cathay by a wandering mountebank, which when fed with paper and ink turned out billets which, the Emperor proclaimed, were just as good as gold and silver.

1983HF - PRESS RELEASE

LONDON: The Dutchess of York as Heiress Apparent has declared that a Pax Britannica is at hand.

1983IE - PRESS RELEASES

BERLIN (D.A.M.N.): A spokesman for the Ministry of Offensiveness announced far in advance today that the new forces recruited during the recapture of Munich would be used to form armies. "The shipyards are all shut down, and we invite any and all countries to send observers to Germany to check this out. We don't want anyone confused about this. We are building armies, armies, armies. We have never expanded out fleet and never, never, never, never will."

We were unable to obtain the reaction of Admiral Rauterberg today. Said Dr. Poulard, "perhaps later, after the thorazine has had more of an effect..."

PARIS (D.A.M.N.): CORRECTION!! The Deutschland Agency for Military News wants to preserve its reputation for accuracy. A report went out which stated there are no jet aircraft in 1960. This was incorrect, and was due to a typographical error. There will be aircraft, jet aircraft, in 1960. However, there are none in 1906. Clearly, the numbers "0" and "6" were transposed.

DAMN regrets any inconvenience this error may have caused, damn it.

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

1290

1983AS - PRESS RELEASES

GERMANY to ENGLAND: I am sorry I had to take your homeland. But if you are serious about battling Kaplan we can still work together.

GERMANY to New Players: When I stabbed Italy and Austria I counted on their foolish play for my win. Now that I am up against better players, maybe a three-way draw is in order.

1983IE - LATE PRESS RELEASE

AUSTRIA to ITALY: Now that everybody except Russia and a two-center Turkey are against you, maybe you should be the one wondering whether you took on too much to chew.

1984AY - PRESS RELEASES

PARIS: Scientists at the ASN (Agence de la Securite de Nationale) announced that they have tapped into the latest conference on Austrian/German/Russian grand strategy. It goes like this:

"tic toc tic toc tic toc tic toc tic toc..."

OWINGS MILLS to World: I really can't complain. If I had the opportunity I'd be going exactly what you're doing - conquering the world - and enjoying it. I sincerely hope you enjoy the endgame. Everyone deserves some satisfaction. I will either move so as to speed your victory, or else stall as long as possible, whichever you prefer. Announce your preference in next turn's press.

BERLIN to PARIS: You damn me with faint praise..

ENGLAND to RUSSIA: Your name fits.

ENGLAND to GERMANY: Time to bend over.

1984HB - PRESS RELEASES

GERMANY to ENGLAND: Why me?

GERMANY to World: I think that lovely straight-line above deserves some witty, snappy comeback from Dick, eh? What do you think?

MOSCOW (D.A.M.N.): (report filed from the German Embassy): Things here the capital of Russia are very confused. The reign of Czar Artur the Inattentive may be at an end. Rumor has it that German Intelligence smuggled in the infamous revolutionary Feodor Lodonkoff from his Swiss exile to help increase the revolutionary ferment.

German Ambassador Vat-Ust said during an interview today that there is no telling what the Russian (soon to be Soviet?) armies and fleets will do in the upcoming season.

"Continued civil disorder is quite possible." However, he continued, "We will continue to attempt to negotiate with the legitimate government, as soon as we can figure out what that is?"

BERLIN (D.A.M.N.): The Kaiser today was asked if he would offer the Czar refuge should he lose his crown. "Vell," said der Kaiser, "ve offered (der Kaiserina, dot ist) der voraldy ov der vorld refuge in der Reich years achgo. Indeeden, ve zent bea-uuu-tiful infitation cardens out, wiff golden ink und vine parchment. Der vari-ous families all responded (der cards vas RSVP) excepten poor Artur."

"Artur, Artur, Artur..." sighed der Kaiser. "He always vas a bit skatterbrained. As a youth in der Absolute Monarch Akademie ve ver very closen. He always forgot to do his assignments, or to turnen dem in - even den ve vould say ov him - 'it's good dot his head ist attacheden to his shoulders else he vould lose it!' Und now," he sighed again, "it's alooken like he may vell losen his head, eh?"

BERLIN (DAMN): The Imperial General Staff announced today that the complete destruction of the French forces in Burgundy was due to the success of the new "stoss-truppen" tactics. "The static war of the 1st two years is over. A new dynamic is in place!" said General Berkhalter.

OWINGS MILLS to World: Picture, if you will, these scenes:

Paris - a few stragglers crawl back to the city, remnants of the once proud French army. The Germans are at the very gates! Nothing is left to oppose them! Resolutely, the President remains in Paris, but the bulk of the leadership has fled to Brest.

Inside churches, masses of people pray in terror, pray for the Lord to turn aside the looters, rapists, and vandals of the German forces.

Rome - President Budwayini is ushered into the Pope's presence. "Yes, your Holiness?" he asks. The Pontiff sighs.

"Presidente, the good Catholics of France have been praying very hard lately, due to the threat of German occupation of Paris."

"Your Holiness, the Germans are our allies; the French, enemies."

"I know," dolefully replied the Pontiff. "Nonetheless, I have received orders from you-know-Who to intervene. Contact your counterpart, Kaiser Mark, and beg him not to take the city.

"But your Holiness!"

"Do it, my son."

"Yes, your Holiness."

Somewhere in Burgundy - The German General puts down his field glasses.

"Paris! The center of civilization!"

His aide says "Think of the art! the fountains! the food!"

His driver says "Think of the womer! The gold! The Women! The Wine! The War Women!"

"However," interrupts the General, "we have our orders. Prepare a thrust for Marseilles to support our Italian allies in taking the city."

"But General! We may never have this opportunity again," says the aide.

"DON'T YOU THINK I KNOW THAT!" cries the General. "But we must support our allies." His mouth writhes as if he just bit into a hot pepper. "Why must we be hampered by the weakness of the damn Italians! It isn't fair! Arrrgh!"

"Cheer up, General," consoles the driver. "The rules say the English have to have them in the next war. That's the way it workd!"

ITALY to ENGLAND: Any intrusion on to the European continent will only be met by swift and coordinated retaliation.

ROME (IPA): Il Duce announced today that war has been officially declared against the French and English imperialist pigs.

1984IC - PRESS RELEASE

PARIS: Safety first if possible if not pray.

1984B - PRESS RELEASE

AUSTRIA to ITALY and RUSSIA:

THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

((Comments on letters by the publisher are printed in double parentheses - like this.))

DANIEL S. PALTER: I can appreciate John's position on timeliness. I ask that you appreciate mine, which led to my resignation. I travel frequently on business. I have my mail checked based on known deadlines while I'm out of town. I also no longer enter 2 week deadline games. The Graustark issue I have here is dated 12-1-84. I am certain that it was indeed mailed on that date. However, then the Post Office took over. My copy has 3 postmarks, two reading 15 December (see attached) and one only partially legible. I had not received the issue before leaving on business on 12-5-84. I returned home on 12-16-84 to find I had missed a previously unknown 12-1-4-84 deadline. I was in plenty of time for the 12-28-84 move deadline or even the old 12-21-84 deadline.

(1) The removal effectively destroys a well fought but good position.

(2) It is likely that this could happen again. I am powerless to prevent this, and John will have done nothing wrong. However, I cannot effectively compete.

ALAN STEWART: I came into the Graustark ship after #495, in which you indicated your disagreement with the thesis that the United States was entering into a "post-liberal" phase and stated that the U. S. was entering into an era that could be characterized as "post-political". After having read your article "Life in Post-Political America" in Graustark #500, I would like to express a mild disagreement with the idea that the United States is entering into a "post-political" phase, while remaining aware that I may be misconstruing your idea as I have not seen the original article you wrote on the topic...

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, there were those who thought that the U. S. had seen "the end of ideology" and that the politics of the nation would no longer be dominated by liberal-conservative conflict. Daniel Bell is, I believe, the name most closely associated with this point of view, although the idea was expressed in a number of forms and I do not mean to imply that there was unanimity as to the nature of the change taking place. What was thought to have died then was conservatism. The new politics was then thought to be non-political in that there was agreement about the nature of the changes that had to be effected (the end of poverty, the guaranteeing of civil rights, etc.) and that political debate would take place primarily about the means in which desired changes could be effected.

Then came the backlash, and, in the intervening years, the rebirth and then triumph of conservatism. The current consensus can look dispiriting, I am sure, to those who abhor it, but then the consensus of that earlier period also looked dispiriting to those who disagreed with it - there was a time, not too long ago, when "modern Republicanism" seemed to be threatening to dominate the Republican Party to such a degree that conservatism would no longer have a respectable political home.

In the same way, I would suggest, the current consensus will prove to be a transitory thing. That is, I believe the mechanics of political consensus-building to be cyclical. The end of the conservative consensus can be seen, in germination, even today. With the Democratic Party expected to make significant gains in the off-year elections of 1986, and with the large number of young, creative national politicians currently holding office as Democrats, we can expect that within a relatively short time, we will be looking back and saying, "How did the era of conservative dominance end so fast?" The corollary of this is that the thesis of the "post-political" age is incorrect.

Nor is the Reagan "affirmation", I would suggest, at all unique. The Nixon re-election campaign was, to an even greater degree, marked by the attempt to identify President Nixon with Americanism and to suggest that his opposition was, if not anti-American, at least "un-American". From the other side of the spectrum, I believe that the 1964 Johnson campaign was successful in tagging its opposition as "un-American", referring of course to a different set of "American" ideals which Goldwater was portrayed as lacking - tolerance, compassion, and civility. So these things are by no means new, and their reappearance gives no cause for despair.

One further note - the dominance of Liberalism seemed most enthralling (1960-64, say) just before it ended.

((There is, however, a difference between liberals' stereotypes of conservatives and conservatives' stereotypes of liberals. When going to extremes, liberals tend to refer to conservatives as heartless, tight-fisted bigots. But conservatives are now tending to call liberals disloyal to their country, as anyone can verify who watched last summer's convention of what we must now call America's Party. This is a much stronger accusation, and one which arouses deeper emotions. The average American is likely to worry about losing his job, getting his government benefits reduced, or having his children required to pray in school - but none of these things are as bad as an accusation of disloyalty. After all, during the late 1940s and 1950s we had ample experience in what accusations of disloyalty can do to people. It is through this identification of conservatism and America's Party with loyalty to the Great Big United States of America that Our President has, so to speak, broken the "pendulum" of which Stewart speaks. This is what I meant by a "post-political" era.))

R. J. BUDWAY: Can an Army Spa move North Africa? ((Not without a convoy. The two land areas are not adjacent.)) How much for me to get into another game in GRAU-STARK? ((\$18. I do not give quantity discounts for people enrolled in more than one game. Some gamesmasters do, but if one game then ends, the other is in effect a near-freebie.))

1984ID - PRESS RELEASES

ITALY to FRANCE: I thought that you weren't Roman Catholic.

ITALY to World: The life-threatening shortage of Dalmatians has been relieved. Thousands of dalmatians have been taken. Italian armies maintain a mystical belief that the black dots, sliced out of the skins bring them luck especially when foraging in foreign lands.

ITALY to KIEV: Sorry about your dispossession. You wouldn't have liked my first letter anyway.

PARIS: "Let's get the boys into the Trenches by Christmas".

GERMANY: O otney-baum, O otney-baum,
We flee in fear from otney-baums,
Bringers of death (and not of mirth),
They could destroy the planet Earth,
O otney-baum, O otney-baum,
Protect us, Lord, from otney-baums.

- traditional German Christmas Carol (origins unknown)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY to RUSSIA: Thank you for your phony letter from Texas. Now we all understand your method of Diplomacy. I hope you are enjoying yourself.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY to ITALY: I'll be getting back to you real soon, you scum.

AUSTRIA to TURKEY and ITALY: Have at it boys its all yours (each other)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY to FRANCE: What ever happened to those daring moves of yours.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY to ENGLAND: Have a Happy New Year and a Bloody ole time in Europe - If you make it. Maybe visit Russia - no one is there.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY to GERMANY: Is Russia too cold for you.

WOGASTISBURGER-NEUSTADT (URRP): This morning, people living on the shores of the Mare Altum found peculiar fruits bobbing in the waters of this largest body of water in The Four And A Half Kingdoms. The famous biologist Stefan J. Foold examined the unwholesome-looking, irregular grey blobs, and then announced that otneys had floated in from another "time-line".

With uncharacteristic haste, the Grand Duchy of Wogastisburg-Schlampenbutt 1 mobilized in response to this threat. Grand Duke Deutbold himself led the Elite Mountain Corps of the Horse Marines to the shores of the Mare Altum, where they opened fire on the otneys. Fortunately, their marksmanship did not allow them to hit any, as Dr. Foold later explained that this would have released a noxious vapor. He identified the source of the otneys as a time-warp in the Mediterranean Sea, through which they floated from Italy. The German Kaiser was believed in some way to be responsible for their appearance in "our" world.

1982IM - LAST-MINUTE DESPATCH

Just before the deadline, Randy Ellis sent in a change of move as Germany in 1982IM. Instead of "F Bot-St.P(s.c.)" he orders "F Bot S. FRENCH A Swe". This means that the Russian "A St.P S A Nwy" now succeeds. However, the dislodgement of the Russian A Nwy is not affected. There is no change in the "Fall 1913" supply center ownerships.

1984IC

"Fall 1901"

"HOME BEFORE THE KNIVES FALL"

ENGLAND (Loiacono): A Yor-Nwy; F Nth C A Yor-Nwy; F Lon-Eng.

FRANCE (Chafetz): F Bre-Eng; A Gas-Spa; A Spa-Por.

GERMANY (Manna): A Kie-Den; F Hol-Bel; A Bur-Par.

ITALY (Clarke): A Tyr-Vie; A Ven-Tyr; F Ion-Tun.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (J. Schwartz): A Ser-Alb; F Alb-Adr; A Tri holds.

RUSSIA (Schembari): F Bot-Swe; A Ukr-Rum; F Sev S A Ukr-Rum; A Gal-Vie.

TURKEY (London): A Con-Bul; F Ank-Con; A Bul-Ser.

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

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

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Tri, Vie. (3)

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

RUSSIA: Mos, Rum, St.P, Sev, Swe, War. (6)

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Den, Kie, Par, Mun.

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

(6)

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

Germany may build three new units, Russia and Turkey may each build two, and Italy, France, and England may each build one. The deadline for these "Winter 1901" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. A press release appears on page 12.

Paul Schembari's address will be, until 12 January, 1661 72nd St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11204; 718-837-5377. From 20 December through 14 January, Ted London will be at 31 Saddle Club Rd., Lexington, Mass. 02173; 617-862-6088.

FRESH BLOOD

The following people have written in about postal Diplomacy. Gamesmasters with game openings should get in touch with them:

P. Howard Dawson, 938 Hampton Road, Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich. 48236;
313-885-4974

Joe Holman, 95-742 Kahikinai Place, Mililani, Hawaii 96789; 808-623-1516

Jim McCarthy, 44 Belmont Ave., Ottawa, Ontario K1S 0V1

Ken Peel, #T-2, 8708 First Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20910

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Not one entry came in for the contest quiz which Dave Schwartz contributed to GRAUSTARK #500. In general, contest entries for free game openings seem to draw very little interest, and so I am discontinuing them in GRAUSTARK.

*

Diplomacy was designed by Allan B. Calhamer, and is published by Avalon-Hill Inc. of Baltimore. But, if you prefer the folding board and the wooden pieces of the original game to the segmented board and plastic pieces of A-H, some game stores stock the British edition from Waddington's, which retains these traditional features.

1982HI

"Spring 1915"

CAME THE STAB!

The Austro-Hungarian unit listed as "A Par" in the last issue but one is actually "F Por". Unfortunately, this was not straightened out when the player phoned in his moves yesterday.

ENGLAND (Chafetz): F Urg & F Lon hold.

GERMANY (Quirk): F Den holds.

ITALY (D. Schwartz): F Tun holds.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Gratto): F Cly-Edi; F Eng-Lon; F Nth S F Eng-Lon; A Gas-Bre; A Mar-Bur; A Spa-NAf; F Wes C A Spa-NAf; A Rom S A Nap; A Nap S A Rom; A Tyr, A Vie & A Bud hold; F Adr S RUSSIAN F Ion; F Tri-Alb; A Par-Pic(sic; no such unit exists)); F Por not ordered, holds.

RUSSIA (Goode): A Sev-Arm; A War-Ukr; A Pru-Ber; A Ber-Kie; A Kie-Hol; A Hol-Bel; F Ska-Nth; F Hel S F Ska-Nth; F St.P(n.c.)-Par; A Nwy, A Swe, A Fin, A Mun & F Ion hold.

Underlined moves are not possible. Austria-Hungary retreats F Nth-Yor. The deadline for "Fall 1915" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. See page 1 for proposals for votes, which should be sent in with the "Fall 1915" orders.

1983AX

"Spring 1910"

NORTHERN MAILS DELAYED AGAIN

ENGLAND (Peart): No moves received. F Lon & F Liv hold.

FRANCE (Bragdon): F Nth-Edi; F Cly-Edi; A Mun-Kie; A Den S A Mun-Kie; A Bur-Mun; A Ruh S A Bur-Mun; A Par-Bur; F Spa(s.c.) S F Mid; A Gas, F Lon & F Mid hold.

ITALY (Murray): F NAT-Liv; A Swe, A Vie, A Ser, F Smy & F Wes hold; A Tri & A Gre S A Ser; F Aeg S F Smy; F Tun-Tyr.

RUSSIA (Drakert): A Nwy, A Ber & A Bud hold; A Fin S F Nwy; A Sil S A Ber; A Gal S A Bud; A Rum & F Con S A Bul; A Ank & A Bul S F Con; A War-Pru.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1910" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. Stand-by moves for England should be sent in by Terry Tallman, 820 W. Armour St., Seattle, Wash. 98119; 206-285-4374.

A draw vote is due from all players in this game, including the stand-by. The details may be found on page 1.

1982IN

"Fall 1914"

NEW GOVERNMENT, OLD PROBLEM

ENGLAND (McCarthy): A St.P & A Kie hold; A Fin S A St.P; A Hol S A Kie; F Bot-Bal; F Bal-Den; A Den-NAf; F Nth, F Eng & F Mid C A Den-NAf; F Iri S F Mid; F Gas-Spa(n.c.) ((sic; no such unit exists)); A Mar S F Gas-Spa(s.c.); A Bur-Mun.

FRANCE (J. Schwartz): F Spa(s.c.) S F Por; F Por & F Wes S F Spa(s.c.).

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Drakert): A Tyr-Mun; A Ruh S A Tyr-Mun; A Pie-Mar; A Nap holds; A Ven-Rom; F Adr-Ion.

RUSSIA (La Rocco): A Livonia, A Gal & A Bud hold; A War & A Mos S A Liv; A Ber S A Pru; A Pru S A Ber; A Sil & A Boh S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Tyr-Mun; F Gre-Aeg;

A Bul-Gre.

Underlined moves are not possible. The English F Spa was annihilated on the last turn; see Rule XIV.3. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Bre, Den, Edi, Kie, Liv,
Lon, Mar, Nwy, Par, St.P, Swe, Hol.

(13)

FRANCE: Por, Spa, Tun. (3)

Russia may build one new unit. This build should come in by NOON, FRIDAY 11 JANUARY 1985, and all players will be informed. The deadline for "Spring 1915" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. "Spring 1915" moves should include votes on the draw and other proposals described on page 1. Jim McCarthy is now playing England.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Mun, Nap, Rom, Tri, Ven,
Vie. (6)

RUSSIA: Ank, Ber, Bud, Bul, Con, Gre, Mos,
Rum, Ser, Sev, Smy, War. (12)

1983AS

"Fall 1909"

WHERE'D EVERYONE GO?

ENGLAND (Downs): No moves received. F Spa(s.c.) & F Mid hold; A Yor dislodged and annihilated.

GERMANY (Jordan): A Ukr-War; A Mos S A Ukr-War; A Sil-Mun; A Boh-Mun; A Vie-Gal; A Ven-Tyr; A Hol-Bel; F Nrg-Nat; A Liv-Yor; F Edi S A Liv-Yor; F Lon-Wal; F Eng-Wal; A Mar S ENGLISH F Mid-Spa(s.c.).

ITALY (Kaplan): No moves received. A Pic, F Wes, A Rom, F Adr, F Aeg & F Eas hold.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Rauterberg): A War-Mos; A Rum-Sev; A Bul-Rum; A Gre holds; F Alb-Tri; A Tyr-Boh; A Gal-Vie; A Bud S A Gal-Vie.

TURKEY (Hardiman): F Bla-Sev; F Con S A Smy; A Smy S F Con.

Underlined moves are not possible. The German A Vie is dislodged and annihilated, and Austria-Hungary must retreat A War-Liv or -Pru. The direction of this retreat should be sent in with the "Winter 1909" orders, which may be made conditional upon it. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Por, Spa. (2)

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie,
Liv, Lon, Mar, Mos, Mun, Nwy, St.P,
Swe, Ven, War. (16)

ITALY: Bre, Nap, Par, Rom, Tun. (5)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Gre, Rum, Ser,
Sevm Tri, Vie, (8)

TURKEY: Ank, Con, Smy. (3)

Germany may build three new units (there would be four except that only three home supply centers are available) and Italy must remove one unit. Austria-Hungary also has a build if the dislodged A War is removed. The deadline for these "Winter 1909" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. The deadline for "Spring 1910" moves will be NOON, FRIDAY 22 FEBRUARY 1985. Stand-by moves should be sent in by:

ENGLAND: Michael Quirk, 3830 Chester Dr., Glenview, Ill. 60025; 312-498-1377

ITALY: Larry Sims, 13143 Avenue M, Chicago, Ill. 60633; 312-646-2143

A vote has been called on a concession to Germany; see page 1 for details. All players, including the stand-bys, should send in their votes on this proposal by the deadline for the "Winter 1909" moves. Press releases appear on page 11.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

My apologies to Kathy Byrne and John Caruso, but once again I can't make it to this weekend's Byrnecon. The publication of GRAUSTARK and EMPIRE on the same day has proven to be too big a job, particularly on a date when an unusually large number of people have missed their moves. I have tried to contact all those for whom I have phone numbers, but at this time of year people are particularly hard to get hold of. No - I'm not going to five-week deadlines yet, but the change from three- to four-week deadlines seems, if anything, to have made the move-missing problem worse.

GERMAN DRIVE BLOCKED?

Following "Spring 1906" moves, Germany retreated F Mid-Nat. The Russian A Sil is not annihilated, but has the retreat "A Sil-Gal". All players were informed of these developments.

ENGLAND (J. Schwartz): F Bar-Nwy; F Fin S GERMAN A Nwy-St.P.

GERMANY (Goldman): A Gas holds; A Bur S A Gas; F Eng-Iri; F Nat-Iri; A Yor-Wal; A Ber-Mun; A Kie S A Ber-Mun; A Sil-War; A Pru S A Sil-War; A Nwy-St.P; A St.P-Liv; F Bal & F Bot S A St.P-Liv.

ITALY (Schembari): F Spa(s.c.) S AUSTRIO-HUNGARIAN A Pie-Mar((sic)); F Mid-Gas; A Por holds.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Clarke): A Tyr-Mun; A Boh S A Tyr-Mun; A Bud-Vie; A Ven-Pie; A Mar S ITALIAN A Por-Spa; F Tun-NAF; F Wes S ITALIAN F Spa(s.c.)-Mid; F Lyo S A Mar.

RUSSIA (Downs): No moves received. A Mos, A Gal, A Ukr, F Bla & F Bul(e.c.) hold; A War & F Livonia dislodged and annihilated.

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

ENGLAND: Liv, Nwy, Swe. (3)

ITALY: Por, Spa, Tun. (3)

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Bre, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Lon, Mun, Par, St.P, War. (12)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Gre, Mar, Nap, Rom, Trieste, Tri, Ven, Vie. (9)

RUSSIA: Ank, Bul, Con, Mos, Rum, Sev, Smy. (7)

England, Austria-Hungary, and Russia may each build one new unit; Russia would have a second build but only one home supply center is open. Germany must remove one unit. The deadline for these "Winter 1906" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. A stand-by build for Russia should be sent in by John Jordan, P. O. Box 9516, Moscow, Idaho 83843. With their "Winter 1906" orders players should vote on a concession to Germany; see page 1 for details. The stand-by should also send in a vote. Paul Schembari has a temporary change of address over the holidays; see page 15. There is a sort of press release, whose complete text appears on page 12.

TRUCE NEGOTIATIONS OPEN

The unit listed as an Austro-Hungarian "F Nap" in the last issue is actually "F Alb". Alan Stewart is now playing Austria-Hungary.

ENGLAND (Chafetz): A Yor-Pic; F Nth & F Eng C A Yor-Pic; F Bre S A Yor-Pic; F Mid-Spa(s.c.); F Wes S F Mid-Spa(s.c.); A Pic-Bur; A Ruh S A Mun; A Mun S A Pic-Bur; F Kie-Ber; A Ber-Sil; F Bal-Pru; A Liv S F Bal-Pru; A Mos-War((sic; no such unit exists)); F St.P(s.c.) not ordered, holds.

FRANCE (Lipton): A Par holds.

ITALY (Galicia): A Gas holds; F Tyr-Ion.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Stewart): A Arm-Sev; A Syr-Arm; F Alb-Ion; A Ser-Rum; A Rum-Ukr; A Pru-War; A Rom-Ven; A Nap-Rom; A Tyr-Boh; A Sil S A Pru-War; F Ion not ordered, holds.

TURKEY (Schembari): F Bul(s.c.) & A Smy hold; F Con S F Bul(s.c.); A Ank S A Smy.

Underlined moves are not possible. The High Combatant Powers now control the fol-

loving supply centers:

ENGLAND: Bel, Ber, Bre, Den, Edi, Hol,
Kie, Liv, Lon, Mun, Nwy, Por, St.P,
Spa, Swe. (15)

FRANCE: Par. (1)

ITALY: Mar, Tun. (2)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Mos, Nap, Rom, Rum,
Ser, Sev, Tri, Ven, Vie, War. (11)

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

England may build one new unit; Turkey would also have a build, but no home supply centers are available. This build should be phoned in at once, and should arrive by FRIDAY 11 JANUARY 1985. All players will be informed. The deadline for "Spring 1909" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. With this turn's orders should be sent in votes for the three proposals given on page 1. Press releases appear on page 10. For Paul Schembari's temporary change of address see page 15.

1984AY

"Spring 1904"

...OR SOMETHING OR OTHER

ENGLAND (Levine): F Lon-Eng; F Eng-Mid; A Den-Kie.

FRANCE (Hurwitz): A Bre-Gas; A Par & A Mar S A Bur; A Bur holds; F Wes-Tun.

GERMANY (Taylor): A Kie-Mun; A Ruh-Mun; A Mun-Boh; A Bel-Yor; F Nth C A Bel-Yor.

ITALY (Kaplan): No moves received. A Rom, F Tyr & F Adr hold.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Downs): No moves received. A Tus, A Ven, A Tyr, F Tri, A Alb, A Bul & F Gre hold.

RUSSIA (Quarto): F Edi-Cly; F Nwy-Nrg; F St.P(s.c.)-Bar; A Swe-Nwy; F Bal-Swe; A Mos & A Sev hold; F Ank-Con; F Bla & A Smy S F Ank-Con.

TURKEY (Swift): F Aeg-Con.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1904" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. Stand-by moves should be sent in for Italy by Nunzio Paul Schembari, whose permanent address is 210 Chinook Dr., Syracuse, N. Y. 13210, but who may be found at present at the address on p. 15. Stand-by moves for Austria-Hungary should be sent in by Eric Verheiden, #2, 200 S. Azusa Ave., Azusa, Calif. 91702; 818-334-3149. Press releases are on p. 11.

1984HB

"Fall 1902"

NEW FACES IN CHANCELLERIES

ENGLAND (Martin): A Yor-Den; F Nth C A Yor-Den; F Swe S A Yor-Den; F Hel S A Yor-Den.

FRANCE (Sims): A Mar holds; F Spa(s.c.) S A Mar; F Mid holds.

GERMANY (Hurwitz): F Den-Swe; F Bal S F Den-Swe; A Ruh-Bel; A Hol S A Ruh-Bel; A Bur S ITALIAN A Pie-Mar.

ITALY (Budway): A Pie-Mar; F Wes-Spa(s.c.); A Tus holds.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Manna): A Ser-Bul; F Gre S A Ser-Bul; A Bud-Rum; A Gal-War; A Vie-Gal.

RUSSIA (London): F Sev holds; A Ukr S F Sev; F Bot S GERMAN F Bal-Swe.

TURKEY (Quirk): A Bul-Sev; F Bla C A Bul-Sev; A Arm S A Bul-Sev; F Con-Aeg.

Underlined moves are not possible. Turkey retreats A Bul-Con, and France retreats A Mar-Gas. England must retreat F Swe-Ska, -Fin, or -Nwy. The direction of this re-

treat 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: Den, Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy, Swe. (6) AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Gre, Rum, Ser, Tri, Vie, War. (8)
 FRANCE: Bre, Par, Por, Spa. (4) RUSSIA: Mos, St.P, Sev. (3)
 GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Hol, Kie, Mun. (5) TURKEY: Ank, Con, Smy. (3)
 ITALY: Mar, Nap, Rom, Tun, Ven. (5)

Austria-Hungary may build three new units, and England and Italy may each build. France may build a new unit, and Turkey must remove one unit. (England and France would each have an additional build if the dislodged unit is removed.) The deadline for these "Winter 1902" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. Larry Sims, whose address was sent to all players, is now playing France; for Dan Palter's statement of resignation see page 13. Ted London, whose temporary change of address is on page 15, is now playing Russia. Press releases being on p. 11.

1984ID

"Fall 1901"

"WIEN, WIEN, NUR DU ALLEIN..."

ENGLAND (Larcese): F Lon-Eng; A Yor-Nwy; F Nth C A Yor-Nwy.

FRANCE (Gratto): A Bur-Bel; A Mar-Spa; F Bre-Mid.

GERMANY (Cameron): F Den-Swe; A Sil-Mun; A Ruh-Hol.

ITALY (Stewart): A Tri-Ser; A Ven-Apu; F Ion-Tun.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Brooks): F Alb-Tri; A Ser-Rum; A Gal S A Ser-Rum.

RUSSIA (Taylor): F Bct-Swe; A Mos-War; A Ukr-Rum; F Sev S A Ukr-Rum.

TURKEY (Hall): F Ank-Bla; A Con-Bul; A Bul-Gre.

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

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

Turkey, Germany, Italy, and France may each build two new units, and England may build one. The deadline for these "Winter 1901" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 1985. Press releases appear on p. 13.

GRAUSTARK #502

John Boardman
 234 East 19th Street
 Brooklyn, New York 11226
 Great Big United States of America

() - You are needed as a stand-by in _____.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

() - You are now playing in _____.

() - There is a vote up in at least one of your games.