

GRAUSTARK

#505

1982IM, IN; 1983AJ, AS, HF, IE; 1984B, V, AY, HB, IC, ID; 1985L

23 March 1985

1984B

"Fall 1907"

...AND THE RICH GET RICHER

ENGLAND (J. Schwartz): F Nrg-NAT; F Bot-Pal; F Iri S GERMAN F NAT-Mid.

GERMANY (Goldman): F NAT-Mid; F Eng S F NAT-Mid; F Den-Swe; A Gas-Bur; A Bre holds; A War-Mos; A St.P & A Liv S A War-Mos; A Pru-War; A Mun-Sil; A Ber S A Bur-Mun; A Bur-Mun.

ITALY (Schembari): F Spa(s.c.)-Mid; A Por-Spa; F Mid-Por.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Clarke): A Boh S RUSSIAN A Gal-Sil; A Vie-Tyr; A Tri-Bud; A Tyr-Pie; A Pie-Mar; A Mar-Spa; F Lyo & F Wes S A Mar-Spa; F Naf-Mid.

RUSSIA (Downs): A Gal-Sil; A Mos holds; A Ukr & A Sev S A Mos; F Bla & F Bul(e.c.) hold.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Italian F Mid & F Spa(s.c.) are annihilated. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Liv, Nwy. (2)

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Bre, Den, ~~Edi~~, Hol, Kie, Lon, Mun, Par, St.P, Swe, War. (13)

ITALY: Por, Tun. (2)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Gre, Mar, Nap, Rom, Ser, Spa, Tri, Ven, Vie. (10)

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

Germany and Austria-Hungary may each build one new unit, and England must remove one. Russia and Italy would each have one build but no home supply centers are available for them. The deadline for these "Winter 1907" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985.

AUSTRIA to the remnants of ITALY: If I can not depend on you I will convert your centers into more cooperative units.

AUSTRIA to GERMANY: "Karelia" has

(continued on p. 8)

1984IC

"Fall 1902"

"THE ENEMY OF MY ENEMY IS MY ENEMY"

ENGLAND (Lciacono): F Nth-Hol; F NAT-Mid; A Nwy-Sve; F Eng S GERMAN F Pic-Bre.

FRANCE (Chafetz): A Mar-Bur; A Gas-Bre; A Spa-Gas; F Mid-Tri.

GERMANY (Manna): F Pic-Bre; A Par S F Pic-Bre; A Mun S A Bur; A Kie-Ber; A Sil-Pru; A Bur not ordered, holds.

ITALY (Clarke): A Tyr-Tri; A Ven S A Tyr-Tri; F Apu-Adr; F Ion-Alb.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (J. Schwartz): A Tri-Apu; F Adr C A Tri-Apu; A Alb-Gre.

RUSSIA (Schembari): F Sev & F Swe hold; A Rum S A Bud; A Gal-Vie; A Bud S A Gal-Vie; A War-Gal.

TURKEY (London): A Gre S A Ser; A Ser S AUSTRIO-HUNGARIAN A Tri; F Eas-Ion; F Aeg S F Eas-Ion; A Con-Bul.

Underlined moves are not possible. Italy must retreat F Ion-Eas, -Nap, -Tyr or -Tun. The direction of this retreat should be sent in with the "Winter 1902" orders, which may be made conditional upon them. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Hol, Liv, Lon, Nwy. (5)

FRANCE: Mar, Por, Spa. (3)

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Bre, Den, Kie, Mun, Par. (7)

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

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Tri. (1)

RUSSIA: Bud, Mos, Rum, St.P, Sev, Swe, Vie, War. (3)

TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Ser, Smy. (6)

Russia may build two new units, and Germany, Turkey, and England may each build one. Italy also has a build if the dislodged F Ion is removed. France must remove one unit,

(continued on p. 8)

GAME FEES WILL SOON INCREASE

Recent increases in the prices of postage and paper, my principal expenses, have regrettably made necessary an increase in the GARUSTARK game fee. As of 1 June 1985, the GRAUSTARK game fee will rise to \$20. As before, this includes subscription to GRAUSTARK at no extra cost as long as the game lasts. It is necessary to stress this point because some gamesmasters charge separately for game fee and for subscription. Non-players' subscriptions will remain for the time being at 9 issues for \$6. Back issues, as available, are 10 for \$2. A sample copy will be sent for a self-addressed, 39¢-stamped envelope.

However, I am opening a contest for readers to enter in hopes of getting a free game entry:

CHANGING THE LIGHTBULB

In the 500th issue I put a quiz contest, written by Dave Schwartz, with free game entries as prizes. No one at all sent in an answer, which has led me to cease running quiz contests. However, maybe readers will take more kindly to this "Lightbulb Contest". Every entrant must send in an answer for each of the following three questions:

1. How many Diplomacy players does it take to change a lightbulb?
2. How many Trivial Pursuit players does it take to change a lightbulb?
3. How many Dungeons & Dragons players does it take to change a lightbulb?

Readers are limited to one entry apiece, and each entry must attempt to answer all three questions. The person who sends in the best set of three answers will be awarded a free game entry in GRAUSTARK. Second and third prizes will be half-price (\$10) game entries. All entries must come in by 1 June 1985.

1985L

"Winter 1900"

ANNOUNCED AND POSTPONED

Several of the players in the newly announced postal Diplomacy game have asked that the "Spring 1901" deadline be extended to the next issue. (See page 12 of GRAUSTARK #504 for details.) Bill Quinn has assigned to this new game the Boardman Number 1985L, which should be used by players in their correspondence with one another and with the gamesmaster. The deadline for "Spring 1901" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985.

Jon Bennet's address was misprinted in the last issue, as I deciphered his handwriting incorrectly. The town in which he lives is "Waban, Mass." And his phone number is 617-527-2377.

1983HF

"Winter 1909"

Following "Fall 1909" moves England retreated A Mos-Liv, F Tun-Wes.
 ENGLAND (Chafetz): Builds A Edi. TURKEY (Schembari): Builds F Con.
 AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Stewart): Builds A Tri.

The deadline for "Spring 1910" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985. The vote for a concession to England fails of the necessary unanimity, and is again submitted to the players. A press releases appears on page 4.

1983IE

"Winter 1907"

Following "Fall" moves Russia retreated A War-Gal and Austria-Hungary retreated A Bud-Gal, causing both units to be removed.

ENGLAND (Verheiden): Builds F Liv. RUSSIA (Chafetz): Builds A Mos.
 ITALY (Bragdon): Builds F Nap. TURKEY (Bobker): Builds A Ank.
 AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Jordan): Removes A Tyr, A Tri.

The deadline for "Spring 1908" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985.

For press releases see pages 8 and 9.

1933AS

"Fall 1910"

SOUTHERN ALLIES BATTER GERMANS AGAIN

ENGLAND (Downs): F Mid-Bre; F Spa(s.c.)-Wes.GERMANY (Jordan): A Mos-St.P; A Pru S A War; A War S A Sil-Gal; A Tyr-Vie; A Boh S A Tyr-Vie; A Sil-Gal; A Mun S A Boh; A Ruh-Bur; A Mar-Spa; A Bel-Pic; A Lon-Nwy; F Nth C A Lon-Nwy; F Iri-Mid; F NAT S F Iri-Mid; F Eng S A Bel-Pic.ITALY (Kaplan): F Ion-Tyr; A Ven-Tyr; A Pic-Bre; F Adr-Ven; F Wes-Lyo.AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Rauterberg): A Liv-War; A Sev-Mos; A Ukr S A Sev-Mos; A Gal-Boh; A Pie S ITALIAN A Ven-Tyr; A Bud holds ((sic; no such unit exists)); F Tri S ITALIAN F Adr-Ven; A Vie & A Bul not ordered, hold.

TURKEY (Hardiman): A Arm-Sev; F Bla S A Arm-Sev; F Aeg-Ion.

Underlined moves are not possible. The German A Tyr is annihilated, and Italy retreats A Pic-Par. England retreats F Mid-Gas, -Por, or -NAf; the direction of this retreat should be sent in with the "Winter 1910" moves, which may be made conditional upon it. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Por. (1)

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

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Den, Edi, Hol, Kie, Liv, Lon, Mar, Mun, Nwy, St.P, Spa, Sve, War. (15)

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

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

Germany, Italy, and Turkey may each build one unit; Italy has a second build if the dislodged A Pic is removed. England must remove one unit. The deadline for these "Winter 1910" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985.

ROME to BERLIN: You're in big trouble now. Paul has control of more units than you do, as we are all loyal toadies.

1934HB

"Fall 1903"

AUSTRO-HUNGARIANS ENTER MOSCOW

Following "Spring 1903" moves, Italy retreated F Wes-Tun and Germany retreated A Bur-Mun. All players were informed.

ENGLAND (Martin): F Eng-Nth; F Hel & F Ska S F Den; F Nwy-Swe; A Den S F Nwy-Swe.

FRANCE (Sims): F Wes-Mid; A Bur-Mar; A Gas & F Spa(s.c.) S A Bur-Mar.

GERMANY (Hurwitz): F Swe-Nwy; A Hol S F Kie; F Kie S F Bal-Den; F Bal-Den; A Bel-Ruh; A Mjn-Ruh.ITALY (Budway): A Mar holds; A Pie S A Mar; F Tyr-Wes; F Tun S F Tyr-Wes; F Tus-Lyo.AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Manra): A Ukr-Mos; A War S A Ukr-Mos; A Gal-Ukr; F Alb-Ion; A Ser-Bul; A Rum S A Ser-Bul; A Bud S A Rum; F Gre S A Alb-Ion.

RUSSIA (London): F Sev-Arm; A Mos-St.P; F Bot S A Mos-St.P.

TURKEY (Quirk): F Ble-Rum; A Bul-Gre; F Aeg S A Bul-Gre.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Italian A Mar is annihilated, and Austria-Hungary retreats F Gre-Alb. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Den, Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy. (5)

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

FRANCE: Bre, Mar, Par, Por, Spa. (5)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Mos, Rum, Ser, Tri, Vie, War. (8)

GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Hol, Kie, Mun, Swe. (6)

RUSSIA: St.P, Sev. (2)

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

France and Turkey may each build one unit; Austria-Hungary also has a build if the dislodged F Gre is removed. Russia must remove one unit. These "Winter 1903" orders should be sent in by IMMEDIATE RETURN MAIL so that they arrive by FRIDAY 5 APRIL 1985. All players will be informed. The deadline for "Spring 1904" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985. Earlier press releases will be found on p. 9.

BERLIN to PARIS: As you can see, Larry, I am a man of my word. I am assuming that you agreed to a non-aggression pact, although I haven't gotten your reply yet as I write these orders.

I will need every safe border I can get in order to stall Austria's final victory. Unfortunately, Martin cannot appreciate that. I cannot understand, Larry, why he is Mamma's puppet. Can you?

BERLIN to ROMA: Look on the bright side. (I'm assuming A Mar was annihilated. If it wasn't, then you have no worries.) A destroyed A Mar means a build in Ven, which will save your hide. You might be able to persuade Larry to prop you up, unless Martin took Brest.

BERLIN to RUSSIAN CAPITAL (wherever that may be under the circumstances): These orders are my plan "A", assuming that you neither support me in the Baltic nor cover St. Pete. (ie NMR or else F GoB-Liv to forestall A War-Liv). Rest assured that everything I can spare from the tenacious bulldog will go south.

SAARBRUCKEN (DAMN): Recent military exercises in the Ruhr area have been successfully concluded. When asked of possible French interference, Oberst Hogen of 2nd Army replied, "French interference? What interference?"

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF RUSSIA: In our attempt to convert the world's population to our socialistic philosophies we have expanded with complete disregard to our former allies.

ROME to BERLIN: Your ideas on conquering British possessions in the Pacific are fantastic, lets execute them immediately.

BUDWAY to SIMS: Jab, jab, uppercut, jab, left cross, jab, jab, jab, ding, ding, ding...Round Three is over.

1983AJ

"Spring 1913"

"NEVER TRY TO OUT-STUBBORN AN ANARCHIST" - R. A. SCHWEINLEIN

The Austro-Hungarian A Tri was not annihilated in "Fall 1912" but retreated to Albania. Germany built A Ber. All players were informed.

ENGLAND (J. Baker): A War-Mos; A Pic-Bur; F Eng-Pic; F Bel S F Eng-Pic; F Nth-Eng; F Iri S F Nth-Eng; F Nat-Mid.

FRANCE (Jordan): F Bre & A Par hold.

GERMANY (Ripper): A Mun-Tyr; A Boh-Vie; A Gal-Bud; A Ukr-Rum; A Sev S A Ukr-Rum; A Kie-Mun; A Per-Sil; A Sil-Gal.

ITALY (Ezzio): F Mid holds; F Naf, F Gas & F Wes S F Mid; F Gre-Alb; F Ion S F Gre-Alb; A Mar-Bur; A Ven S A Tri; A Tri S GERMAN A Gal-Bud.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Rusnak): A Vie-Tri; A Alb-Gre; A Sny-Arm; F Ank-Con; F Aeg-Ion; A Bul S A Alb-Gre; A Ser S A Vie-Tri; A Bud S A Vie-Tri.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Italian F Gre is annihilated. The deadline for "Fall 1913" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985. A press release appears on page 9.

1983HF - PRESS RELEASE

MOSCOW to LONDON: We will be submitting a bill for the cleanup of those disgusting old plates crusted with bangers and mash. We have also decided that we like autocracy after all.

1932IM

SHOWDOWN

Following "Spring 1914" moves, Russia retreated F Den-Bal. All players were informed.

ENGLAND (Corbin): No moves received. F Hol & A Kie dislodged and annihilated.

FRANCE (Ferguson): A Pic-Hol; F Eng & F Nth C A Pic-Hol; A Bel S A Pic-Hol; F Bar-Nwy; F Nwy-Swe; F Ska S F Nwy-Swe; A Den-Kie; A Ruh S A Den-Kie; A Bur-Mun; F Apu S A Ven; A Pie S A Ven; F Nap S F Apu; F Tun-Ion; F Tyr S F Tun-Ion; A Ven S TURKISH A Tri.

RUSSIA (Bragdon): F Bal & A Swe S ENGLISH A Kie-Den; A Ber & A Mun S ENGLISH F Hol-Kie; A St.P-Nwy; A Liv-St.P; A Boh S A Mun; A Vie S A Tyr; A Tyr S TURKISH F Adr-Ven.

TURKEY (Chafetz): F Bul-Bla((sic; no such unit exists)); F Eas-Ion; F Gre S F Eas-Ion; F Ion-Apu; F Adr-Ven; A Tri S F Adr-Ven; F Rum not ordered, holds.

Underlined moves are not possible. Russia must retreat A Swe-Den or -Fin, and France must retreat A Ven-Tus or -Rom. The directions of these retreats should be sent in with the "Winter 1914" orders, which may be made conditional upon them. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Der, Edi, Hol, Kie,	RUSSIA: Ber, Bud, Mos, Mun, St.P, Ser, Sev,
Liv, Lon, Mar, Nap, Nwy, Par, Por,	Vie, War. (9)
Rom, Spa, Swe, Tun. (17)	TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Rum, Smy, Tri,
	Ven. (8)

France may build one new unit, and Turkey may build two. Russia has a build, and France has a second build, in case that nation's dislodged unit is removed.* The deadline for these "Winter 1914" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985. The gamesmaster did his best to contact the English player by phone, but the line was busy.

RUSSIAN SOCIAL DEMOCRATS to FRENCH YUPPIES: Re your views on current issues, you left out the most important ones. What is your opinion of a "conservative" administration that is freer-spending than the liberals could ever hope to be, doubling the national debt in four years, extending welfare to inefficient corporations while cutting it to the needy? (Your boy, Stockman, said the 1981 tax cuts for the wealthy were "sheer greed".) Do you like the idea of living in a "kept" society, which the Raygunites are changing into one of the world's biggest foreign debtors? What do we do when no one will keep us any longer? (Your problems, John - more & more of these chickens will come home to roost during your generation.)

WOGASTISBURGER-NEUSTADT (URRP): Grand Duke Gurgustus VII today sent to the Landnacht a balanced budget. Prime Minister Drucker explained to the representatives that a balance had been achieved for this budget by omitting military expenditures from the calculation of the deficit. "These expenditures, Herren," he said, "are necessary for the preservation of the independence of the Grand Duchy of Wogastisburg-Schlampenbüttel are it is therefore unfair to treat them as part of a deficit. Besides, if we need more money we can always print it."

This assertion caused howls of protest to come from the Liberal Christian Humanist Centrists, the Conservative Monetarist Free Silver Party, and the Progressive Reactionary Loyalist Sound Money Party. The Prime Minister rode out these protests, and then assured the delegates that there would be no difficulty in printing enough money to pay for the armed forces, as the Minister of Technology had assured him that the printing press was in perfect working order. At this statement, the delegates of the Neo-Mozartist Radical Harmony Party and String Quartet took out the musical instruments with which they had been accustomed to disrupt debate, and played string compositions while the rest of the Landnacht listened attentively.

* - If Russia retreats "A Swe-Den" then Denmark belongs to Russia, France has no build, and Russia has one, aside from a possible French build owing to the removal of the dislodged A Ven.

1984V

"Fall 1906"

CENTRAL POWERS SPREAD OUT

No retreat was received for the dislodged English F Bre, so it was removed. The French and German players were informed.

ENGLAND (Tallman): No moves received. F Por, F Eng, F Wal, F Nth & F Nwy hold.

FRANCE (Drakert): A Spa & F Bre hold; F Gas S A Spa.

GERMANY (Gaughan): A Bur-Gas; A Pru-Liv; A War S AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN A Ukr-Mos; F Bot-St.P(s.c.); A Ruh-Hol; A Bel S A Ruh-Hol; A Kie not ordered, holds.

ITALY (Sims): A Ven-Pie; F Nap-Tyr; F Apu-Ion.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Manna): A War-Mos; A Gal-Rum; A Tri-Bud; A Rum-Bul; A Ser S A Rum-Bul; A Vie-Gal; F Alb S ITALIAN F Apu-Ion.

RUSSIA (Kutta): F Liv-St.P(s.c.); A Mos-Sev; F Hel-Den.

TURKEY (Verheiden): F Tun-Ion; F Bla-Rum; A Sev S F Bla-Rum; F Bul(s.c.) holds.

Underlined moves are not possible. Russia retreats A Mos-St.P, and Turkey retreats F Bul(s.c.)-Gre, -Aeg, or -Con. The direction of this retreat should be sent in with the "Winter 1906" orders, which may be made conditional upon it. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Liv, Lon, Nwy, Por. (5) AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Bul, Gre, Mos, Rum, Ser, Tri, Vie. (8)
FRANCE: Bre, Mar, Spa. (3)
GERMANY: Bel, Ber, Hol, Kie, Mun, Par, Swe, War. (8) RUSSIA: Den, St.P. (2)
ITALY: Nap, Rom, Ven. (3) TURKEY: Ank, Con, Sev, Smy, Tun. (5)

Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey may each build one unit; Turkey has a second build if the dislodged F Bul(s.c.) is removed. Russia must remove one unit. The deadline for these "Winter 1906" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985.

GERMANY: "I get by with a (VERY) little help from my friends."

1984AY

"Fall 1905"

SNOW WARNING: WHITE STUFF WILL COVER THE GROUND

No retreat was received for the dislodged Italian A Rom, and it was removed.

ENGLAND (Levine): F Por-Spa(s.c.); F Eng-Bre.

FRANCE (Hurwitz): A Bur-Bel; A Par-Bre; A Gas-Spa; A Pie-Tyr; F Tun-Ion.

GERMANY (Taylor): No moves received. A Boh, A Kie & A Ruh hold; A Edi dislodged and annihilated.

ITALY (Kaplan): F Tus-Rom.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Downs): F Ion-Nap; A Rom S F Ion-Nap; A Ven holds; A Tri-Ser; A Ser-Gre; A Vie-Bud; F Adr-Ion.

RUSSIA (Quarto): A Sil-Ber; A Pru S A Sil-Ber; F Iri-Liv; F Nth-Edi; F Nrg S F Nth-Edi; F Ska-Nth; A Den-Kie; A Con-Bul; A Rum S A Con-Bul; F Aeg-Gre; F Bla holds.

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

ENGLAND: Lon, Por. (2)
 FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Mar, Par, Spa, Tun.
 (6)
 GERMANY: Hol, Kie, Mun. (3)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Gre, Nap, Rom, Ser,
 Tri, Ven, Vie. (8)
 RUSSIA: Ank, Ber, Bul, Con, Den, Edi, Liv,
 Mos, Nvy, Rum, St.P, Sev, Smy, Swe, War.
 (15)

Russia may build four new units, and France and Austria-Hungary may each build one. The deadline for these "Winter 1905" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985.

MOSCOW to PARIS: boom.

RUSSIA to World: The recent appointment of Comrade Gorbachev to head out glorious Soviet has given new impetus to socialist forces everywhere! We call on peace-loving peoples of the West to break the chains which bind them to their war-mongering bourgeois overlords and accept with open arms the security given by Soviet hegemony in Europe!

((Earlier press appears on page 9.)) See page 8 for a new German player.

1984ID

"Fall 1902"

BALKIN' IN THE BALKANS

After "Spring 1902" moves Italy retreated A Tri-Bud. All players were informed.

ENGLAND (Larose): A Nvy-St.P; F Lon-Eng; F Nth S Eng((sic)).

FRANCE (Gratto): A Spa-Por; A Bur-Mun; A Bel-Wal; G Eng C A Bel-Wal; F Mid-Tri.

GERMANY (Cameron): A Hol-Ruh; A Mun-Ruh; A Kie-Den; F Bal S F Swe; F Swe S F Bal.

ITALY (Stewart): A Bud-Tri; A Ven S A Bud-Tri; A Apu-Alb; F Ion C A Apu-Alb; F Tun holds.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Brooks): A Vie-Bud; A Ser S A Vie-Bud; F Tri holds.

RUSSIA (Rauterberg): F Bot-St.P(s.c.); A War-Gal; A Ukr-Rum; F Sev S A Ukr-Rum.

TURKEY (Hall): F Con-Aeg; F Smy-Aeg; A Gre holds; A Bul-Rum; F Ma S A Bul-Rum.

Underlined moves are not possible. Austria-Hungary retreats F Tri-Adr. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Liv, Lon, Nvy. (4) AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: Bud, Ser, Vie. (3)

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Mar, Par, Por, Spa. (6) RUSSIA: Mos, St.P, Sev, War. (4)

GERMANY: Ber, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun, Swe. (6) TURKEY: Ank, Bul, Con, Gre, Smy. (5)

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

England, France, and Germany may each build one new unit; Austria-Hungary also has a build if the dislodged F Tri is removed. The deadline for these "Winter 1902" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985. Paul Rauterberg is now playing Russia. Charles Hall's new address is 525C Bindevald Road, Torrance, Calif. 90505. Daniel Larose's telephone number is 413-786-5911. Press releases appear on page 10.

On phoning Michael Taylor this morning, I found that the reason he didn't get the last moves in was because I didn't inform players of his change of address a few years ago, and have been sending his copies to the wrong place. I am therefore giving him a free entry in a new postal Diplomacy game. He should get in touch with me and let me know which countries he'd prefer to play.

Alan Stewart asked me to cancel his press releases on p. 10; unfortunately, they had already been printed when ~~the news came in~~.

VENICE to the World: As of this date, Canadian posties will be legally free to strike on March 15. If this comes to pass, accept Italian apologies for delaying the history of Europe. Perhaps the delay will allow passions to cool and peace will prevail.

PARIS: Early to stab, an awful surprise to the tricks of the GWRMAN. We all are now wise and that is why we confine poets to garrets here.

BERLIN to MOSCOW: Donnez moi votre fromage, s'il vous plait.

1983IE - PRESS RELEASES

ROME to LONDON: The admiral of our former Mid-Atlantic Fleet reports a regrettable error of navigation. It seems that someone handed him a map upside down, and he misread "IRI" and "ITI". So naturally he thought he was going south into Italian waters. The poor fellow has been at sea for years (since 1902!)", he's out of pasta, and he only wants to come home. Perhaps you could kindly give him a nudge in the right direction (?) (We realize that you would normally offer him the courtesies of refuelling & hospitality in Liverpool, but please don't bother; the admiral for some reason abhors English food - mention of fish and chips drives him up the wall. Pardon, no offense intended.)

OWINGS MILLS to World: It looks like Germany will survive into 1908 - a new record for Kaiser Mark.

1984B (continued from p. 1)

two L's in it.

AUSTRIA to RUSSIA: I didn't see any need to tell you about finishing Italy. I hope you don't mind.

AUSTRIA to ENGLAND: Keep up the good work.

1984IC (continued from p. 1)

and Austria-Hungary must remove two. The deadline for these "Winter 1902" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985.

ROME to World: Fiddle-de-doo.

1982IN

"Winter 1915-Spring 1916"

SEMI-FINALS NEARLY OVER

In "Winter 1915" Russia built A War & F Sev, and France removed F Por. All players were informed.

ENGLAND (McCarthy): A St.P holds; A Fin S A St.P; F Wes-Tun; A Naf S F Wes-Tun; F Mid-Wes; F Kie-Den; A Hol-Kie; F Bal & A Ruh S A Hol-Kie; F Bel-Hol; A Spa-Mar; A Bur-Mar; F Bre-Mid.

FRANCE (J. Schwartz): F Lyo-Mar; F Tun holds.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Drakert): A Rom-Ven; A Pie-Tus; A Mar-Pie; F Tyr-Ion; A Nap-Apu.

RUSSIA (La Rocco): A Gre-Nap; F Ion C A Gre-Nap; F Con-Aeg; F Sev-Bla; A Mos S A Liv; A Liv S A Mos; A War-Gal; A Pru S A Ber; A Mun-Kie; A Ber S A Mun-Kie; A Sil-Mun; A Tri-Ven; A Tyr S A Tri-Ven.

Underlined moves are not possible. The French F Tun is dislodged and annihilated. The deadline for "Fall 1916" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 19 APRIL 1985.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Michael Taylor has resigned as Germany in 1984AY, and is succeeded by Jon Ben-net, 45 Orchard Ave., Waban, Mass. 02168; 617-527-2377. The stand-by originally called on for this position did not respond, so this new volunteer is being given a chance at it.

PRESS RELEASES

Several press releases were crowded out of the last GRAUSTARK, and since I'll have to print both a GRAUSTARK and an EMPIRE on 23 March, I may as well get these press releases printed and at the same time get an early start on GRAUSTARK #505.

1983IE

JORDAN to BRAGDON: The point was that you took on too much to chew. Not for what reason. My statement that you took on too much is still accurate. Whether you wanted to win the game (which 5/7 of the players think) or you wanted to keep the world safe for the rest of the players was not the point of my last press release.

1983AJ

ROMA: Cantalone Multomangare has been complaining in private that the war hawks are trying to wrest control of the committee of twelve. The recent appointment of Benito Mussolone to admiralty of the Eastern Fleets may be an attempt to appease the hawks. Few people are more eager than Benito for the showdown with Austria. After the news from Turkey, Benito confided to this reporter, "Ia builta da firste fleet witha mya owna hands, and thosa Austrian dogs theya destroyed everya boat. He sa gona pay witha blood." According to Cantalone, the war hawks on the committee do not understand the concept of limited war. "In their opinions," moaned Cantalone, "limited war is about as feasible as a limited orgasm."

1983IE

ST. PETERSBURG: The Tsar calls upon the Polish & Ukrainian people to rise up and destroy the Hurs.

1984V

GERMANY to GM: About the order to 'destroy F Hol'...it's the thought that counts.
GERMANY to RUSSIA: Eeny, Meeny, Miny, Moe.

1984AY

ENGLAND to AUSTRO-HUNGARY and GERMANY: You must be happy sharing the cell block with the boring bear.

1984HB

BERLIN to VIENNA: While I'm busy converting Viking heretics, perhaps you could persuade King Richard the Lion-hearted to send all English forces 'round Spain to assist the Crusade.

BERLIN to PARIS: As you can see, I've kept my word. Likewise, if you've knocked me out of Burgundy, I take no offense.

MOSCOW (DAMN): Ambassador Vat-Ist of the German Embassy filed the following report:

"Premier Lodonkoff, Sultan Quirk, and Voivode Slobenick (the 'big three') have issued an invitation to the German government to join the anti-Austrian coalition. Responding for the Kaiser, I have affirmed Germany's position that the source of all of Europe's problems is the Serbian question, and that until Emperor Vincent restores to the Serbs their homeland, no peace can be found.

However, the Kaiser has instructed me to announce that he regrets not being able to join in the war of Serbian liberation. Due to the pernicious influence of Austrian bankers, newspeople, and intellectuals in Britain, the British people are waging an unjust war against the German

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1303

people. Therefore, by fighting the British, one can clearly see that Germany is preventing Austrian expansion."

BERLIN (DAMN): Intelligence released the following intercepted diplomatic message from England to Turkey:

"The British people fervently support Serbian rights, and clearly recognize that the Serbian question is the one source of all of Europe's troubles.

As long as Germany continues to aid Austria in the enslavement of the Serbian people, we shall fight Germany. As soon as Germany ceases its unjust attacks on the pro-Serbian English people, we shall send all our forces into the Mediterranean to assist you in liberating the Serbian people. But first, the Germano-Austrian puppet regime must be toppled."

ROME (IPA): The Italian government has announced that Naval Maneuver's off the coast of the Balearic Islands will continue through the spring in indirect support of the Spanish Liberation Movement against illegal French occupation...

GENOA (IPA): The coast road across the French frontier to Marseilles continues to remain impassible do to miles of emergency medical and food stuffs transported by cart and lorry to the earthquake torn province. The Italian Army continues to aid the homeless...

1984ID

BERLIN: GERMAN GOVERNMENT SUED OVER TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT!! A major American toy company has announced that it will be suing the Kaiser's government over an infringement of the trademark of the company's toy, Mr. Potato-head. The German government had recently announced its intention to produce a toy called "Mr. Otney-head" the sale of which would help ease German balance of trade problems & simultaneously get rid of the large stock of otneys inherited by Germany from a now-defunct Italian administration. However, the toy company spokesman said that Mr. Otney-head would never go on sale because, "it is an obvious trademark infringement which would cause our company to lose millions of dollars in addition to causing the deaths of thousands of unsuspecting children worldwide."

A spokesman for the Kaiser downplayed the lawsuit saying th t the estimated loss of millions of dollars and thousands of lives was "unimportant in view of Germany's growing trade deficit."

ROME: Consolation prizewinners announced!

Trustworthiness: FRANCE

Stubbornness: AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

Congeniality: TURKEY

Taciturnity: RUSSIA

PARIS: This game should be called Postal solitaire.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

GRAUSTARK, the first publication for the postal play of Diplomacy, is published every fourth Saturday by John Boardman, 234 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11226. Another new game is now being organized in GRAUSTARK at a game fee of \$18. This game fee includes a subscription as long as the game lasts. With your \$18, send in a list of the countries that you'd like to play in your order of preference. The rules for postal Diplomacy were published in GRAUSTARK #437; send for a copy with your game entry if you don't already have one.

Subscriptions for non-players are 9 issues for \$6. Back issues from the beginning of 1984 are available at 10 for \$2.

Diplomacy, a negotiation simulation of World War I, was designed by Allan B. Calhmer and is published by Avalon-Hill Inc. of Baltimore.

*

I have finally got, from the U. S. Postal "Service", a fairly complete listing of the new postal rates which went into effect on 17 February. You have to go to your post office and ask for Notice 59 (for domestic rates) or Publication 51 (for international rates). Both are dated February 1985.

*

If you attend many gaming conventions, you are probably familiar with Dungeons & Dragons (D&D), or with similar Fantasy Role Playing (FRP) games. Maybe you even play them, although over the years I've noticed that players of Diplomacy and other board war games have a rather superior attitude towards FRP games. Once you've guided the Wehrmacht to certain defeat on the Russian front, can you really get excited about a Mauve Dragon sitting on a heap of platinum coins, breathing fire at you and your combat team of a spavined hobbit, a gay elf, and a wizard whose talents are exhausted by turning a caterpillar into a butterfly?

But FRP gaming is in some trouble these days. No, it doesn't have to do with the sale of TSR, the publisher of D&D, to some conglomerate or other; everything is getting sold to conglomerates these days, and any month now I expect to see Getty Brothers buy up the Democratic Party for 47¢ on the dollar. The current attack against D&D is coming from fanatical Christians of the sort that buttonhole you while you are tucking into a Big Mac and start asking you questions about the state of your soul. John Sapienza gave a well-attended talk about this campaign at last August's Atlanticon.

In EMPIRE #208 I go into this matter in more detail, including a description of the latest Christian tract against FRP gaming - a pocket-size comic book by a notorious California tractarian named Jack T. Chick. When I first recounted Sapienza's talk in EMPIRE last year, a few Christians wrote me denying that their sect was making any such attack on FRP gaming. I've sent them copies of Chick's tract Dark Dungeons, which claims that D&D is a recruitment device through which potential witches are being taught to cast real spells - diabolic ones, of course. He urges the burning of all D&D books and figurines, and for good measure the books of J. R. R. Tolkien and C. S. Lewis (!) as well.

If you'd like a copy of this comic-book tract, send me 35¢. In fact, anyone who is willing to admit to being a Christian can get it from me free.

*

Seven places were missed by six players in the game deadlines of 22 February. eight days later, a postcard arrived that was postmarked 19 February in a suburb of Washington. That is, it had been mailed three days before the deadline, and took 11 days to get here.

Last November, GRAUSTARK went to a four-week deadline to allow players to deal with USP"S" bungles like this. But it's not going to work if players keep acting as if three or four days were enough time for a letter to get to New York City from anywhere in the east. All the time in the world won't be enough if you don't use it properly, and with a realistic approach to the way in which the USP"S" actually operates.

The same is true for moves that have to come in by "Immediate Return Mail".

*

Someone, presumably a reader of GRAUSTARK or one of my other publication, has seen to it that my name is on the mailing lists of a number of Christian evangelists. I would like to thank this person, whoever he or she is. These evangelists provide us with more humor unintentionally than "comedians" like Steve Martin or Joan Rivers do intentionally. These are grim times, and we need all the laughs we can get.

*

I am no Anarchist, but there are some points of Anarchism that are worth considering. In our hobby, there is no centralized focus of power that dictates to all postal Diplomacy gamesmasters and players as to what policies they must follow. (Attempts in the past, to establish such a power center, have fortunately failed.)

However, to keep our hobby moving in this desirable fashion, we have to make its ethical health our own concern. People who take game fees and deliver no services for them, or slander others to outsiders, or are otherwise making nuisances of themselves, must be dealt with informally, by ourselves, for our own self-protection. This is why the Bernie Oaklyn/Duddy Tretick rip-off was exposed by hobbyists. This is why Scott Mensinger, Daniel Gorham, and other dishonest gamesmasters were driven out of the hobby. And this self-policing is why Bruce Linsey is now being frozen out, or suspended from postal Diplomacy activity by others, until he apologizes for the unconscionable letters he has been writing about Kathy Pyrne, and in particular for one letter which he wrote to Kathy's teen-age daughter. If we don't look out after ourselves, who will?

1983AX - GAME REVIEWS

BOB BRAGDON (France): From France's point of view, '83AX had a rather interesting feature. Both Germany and England sounded public warnings, early and loud, that I was conspiring with Russia. This obsession distracted them from their real danger (and much of the reason for their downfall) - a Franco-Italian alliance.

Anglo-German hostility in fact pushed me into the Italian camp. I first tried a German alliance and got publicly charged with being pro-Russian. I then tried cooperating with England - and got stabbed. Usually, G and E make short work of France in such situations, but England made a strategic blunder (dispersing the fleets to fight me and Russia at the same time) and I had enough armies to hold back Germany.

The Franco-German stalemate became a German rout with the arrival of Italian forces. I had kept friendly/neutral relations with Mark Murray from the start and he had maneuvered an army into Tyrolia. Why not, I suggested, take Munich with my support? The deed was done, the Franco-Italian alliance rolled on, and Russia then joined us. Germany's days were numbered.

England was a much harder nut to crack since I had mistakenly avoided fleet builds. My closest call was in 1904-05 when England got fleets into the English Channel and the Mid-Atlantic. Italy again came to the rescue, sending a fleet around to the North Atlantic (!!) and loaning me Venice for a build. I also got Holland, building F Bre and F Mar in the nick of time.

Italy was so forthcoming only because it was in his interest. I helped him save Venice and Tunis from Austria and Turkey. With his western and northern flanks secure, he could concentrate most of his forces in the east, splitting the rich Balkan area with Russia.

I doubt that any of us - Italy, Russia, and France - could have won the game by stabbing an ally at some point. The stabber would have been outnumbered 2 to 1. Anyhow, a smooth alliance has its own rewards. Many thanks to Mark and Bill for bearing this out.

BILL DRAKERT (Russia): It was a rather stodgy, professional type game. There were some very experienced players in the game who apparently weren't feeling too aggressive. When they got together there really wasn't much to be done. Toward the end there were various plots for a stab but three way situations are pretty stable and no-one took a chance. My apologies to Mark Follmer - I really was trying to cooperate with him but in a critical situation he was vulnerable and I felt the situation made it "him or me". My attack on Austria was pretty well set from the beginning as a policy. Perhaps we can work together in another game. Bob Bragdon and Mark Murray were very easy to negotiate with and the game went very smoothly after we allied. Since we stayed pretty equal throughout and avoided vulnerable positions it was very smooth, nobody made waves.

GRAUSTARK #505

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

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