

GRAUSTARK

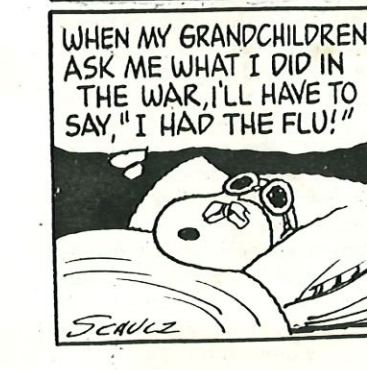
#526

10 October 1986

I DO hope that Russia (or the Arabs) will not decide to bomb New York in retaliation for the United States harboring the JDL.
W. BROWNE
Oakland, N.J.



ONE can't help wondering how the authors of "Common Sense," the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution would judge the outcome of their noble experiment, viewing our current counterparts offering up urine specimens as proof of worth to wear their mantle.
RICHARD R. MAYER
Schuylerville, N.Y.



The Communists and other left-wing parties insist that conscription is essential to preserve the democratic nature of the armed forces. But some conservative leaders have proposed a move toward an all-volunteer, professional force.

Whoops on Whoopi
Apologies to Whoopi Goldberg. Yesterday we had her married to the wrong David. Her new husband is cinematographer David Claessen.

DRASTIC REDUCTIONS OF VIKING PRICES

One Nation, Under Sedation

Kathy Nehemias

As part of the national war on drugs, this column will serve as a source of information for citizens. To effectively combat drugs, it is imperative that America's people fully understand the types of drugs available to them, and the harmful physical, mental, and emotional effects these drugs can have.

Marijuana: Inhaled through pipes or "joints," marijuana may cause cancer or contribute to respiratory illnesses. It is also speculated that marijuana decreases fertility in males. Those under the influence of this drug may experience very mild hallucinations or altered perceptions of reality. They may also become hungry or sleepy.

Cocaine: A very expensive drug which is generally inhaled through the nose, cocaine is a

stimulant which leads to increased energy and self-confidence. However it can also cause irritation of the nasal passages with overuse and have a bad effect on the heart.

Crack: A form of cocaine which is smoked, crack is believed to be extremely addictive and can be quite dangerous because of its powerful stimulant effect.

Heroin: Usually injected, heroin is a powerful and very addictive depressant which can quickly destroy its users. It also carries the additional danger of contracting hepatitis, AIDS, or other diseases from unclean needles.

Alcohol: A depressant, alcohol impairs the user's ability to function properly. At the very least, overuse of this drug leads to nausea, headaches, and vomiting; prolonged overuse can lead to cirrhosis and other serious health problems.

Nicotine: Although some users smoke nicotine for its alleged "calming" effect, nicotine

is a stimulant. It produces an increased heart rate and decreased appetite. Smoking can lead to cancer, heart disease, emphysema and other maladies. Smoking is also highly addictive and produces unpleasant withdrawal symptoms.

Caffeine: Found in coffee, tea, cola and some other products, (and sometimes taken in pill form), caffeine stimulates the body and brain, and can cause nervousness in its users. It is also speculated that caffeine leads to cancer and other diseases.

Sugar: Sugar stimulates its users and leads to increased energy. It can cause tooth decay and obesity with overuse, which in turn can overtax the heart and lead to cardiac arrest.

Jogging: An addictive drug which can inflict stress on weak hearts and cause muscle strain. Improper use may lead to heart attacks.

Shopping: A very addictive drug which causes alternate periods of depression, anxiety, and euphoria. Habitual shoppers

sometimes turn to crime to support this addiction.

Muscle: This drug is available in various forms which can have stimulating, depressing, or other emotional effects. Carries with it few physical dangers except possible hearing loss due to misuse.

Sex: Interacts with the user's psyche to produce any number of emotional effects, ranging from euphoria to depression. Physical risks include fatigue, pregnancy, and various diseases. Like nicotine, it can be used to reduce anxiety, but often increases it instead.

Ideology: Dependence on this drug can cause a dangerous complacency in its users, often leading to violent and antisocial behavior.

Fantasy: Use of this drug produces hallucinations and overuse can lead to a loss of control and erratic behavior. Some users cannot distinguish when they are or are not under the influence of this drug.

Television: This drug causes users to experience severe

distortions in their perception of reality and leaves them in a passive, dazed state. Destroys brain cells by the millions.

Readers are urged to exercise extreme caution when using any of these drugs. Some of them represent a real threat to the health of the nation. We leave it to you to decide which ones.

"Woodstock Magic," written by Fran Lantz, created by Eileen Goudge (Avon/Flare, \$2.50 paperback; ages 11-17). Aging hippies might well feel like calling for a cane and a gout stool after taking a gander at this paperback original: a novel about a modern teenager's time travel back to the Sixties, that period of ancient history in which universal love, peace and bell-bottomed hip-huggers reigned supreme.

Would-be flowerchild Lou Greenspan uses her best friend's specially programmed computer to transport her back in time to the mud, music and hallucinogen-induced madness of Woodstock Nation. Then, after fending off a fascist crew of skinny-dippers and helping a baby named Jelly Bean be born in the back of a groovy, hot-pink schoolbus, Lou decides to go to see what her suburban Connecticut hometown looked like some 20 years back. And — *outsight!* — she scopes her mother delivering a fiery rap at an anti-war rally! Being as her mom is currently a BMW-driving corporate lawyer, this is really *far out*.

And so on, in that vein. This is not at all a well-written story — but it is, well, a *trip*, the second in a new series entitled "Swept Away" ("swept away by time . . . swept away by love . . ." — You dig?).



"No comment from me, boys, but Senators Gramm and Rudman should be crawling out of the luggage compartment any minute."

THE GRAUSTARK ROSTER

Below are listed alphabetically all people who presently receive GRAUSTARK, the oldest bulletin for the postal play of Diplomacy. Following each person's name is the reason why he or she gets GRAUSTARK. A person who is actively an original player in a game is indicated by the Boardman Number of the game followed by the name of the country, e. g., "1985HL-F" refers to the player of France in 1985HL. A person who has been eliminated, dropped, or resigned from a game is indicated just by the game's Boardman Number. A paying subscriber is indicated by the number of the issue with which the subscription expires. "C" indicates a complimentary subscription, and "T" indicates that we trade 'zines. These data are accurate to 7 October 1986; a section of addenda and corrigenda will very likely appear at the end of this roster to cover additions and changes while this issue was under preparation.

- Bob Addisor (1985CT-F), P. O. Box 7393, Silver Spring, Md. 20907; 302-291-2513
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 Robert J. Baker Jr. (529), 4511-A Lexington Pl. NE, Lacey, Wash. 98506; 206-459-4745
 Warren K. Ball (1986AV-I), 107 W. Cuthbert Rd., Oaklyn, N. J. 08107-1016; (home) 609-858-8910; (work) 609-461-3400.
 Robin Scott Barbehenn (1986AZ-G), 1626 Angus Court, Crofton, Md. 21114
 Herb Barents (1986AM-F), 17187 Windemere, Detroit, Mich. 48221
 Jacques Belanger (533), 985½ Mainguy, Ste.-Foy, Quebec, P. Q. G1V 3S5
 Jon Bennett (1985L), Tabor Academy, Knaulton 14, Marion, Mass. 02738; 617-748-9707
 John J. Beshara (C), Apt. 1021, 155 W. 68th St., New York, N. Y. 10023; 212-724-4352
 Simon Billenness (T), Apt. 6-F, 630 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, N. Y. 10301
 Scott Bizer (C), Fantasy Games Unltd., P. O. Box 132, Roslyn, N. Y. 11576; 516-GR 9-4185
 Alan Blaine (1986AZ-I), 15090 El Capitan Way, Delhi, Calif. 95315; 209-632-4075
 Derwood Bowen (1985HF), 2140 E. State St., Salem, Ohio 44460
 Bob Bragdon (1985CA-E, 1986AF-T #12), 6030 N. 16th St., Arlington, Va. 22205; 703-533-7494
 John A. Brennick Jr. (1986AF-A), 47 Breakwater Dr., Chelsea, Mass. 02150; 617-889-0602
 Anthony J. Brooks (1984ID-A), 1539 Amber Court, Radcliff, Ky. 40160; 502-351-0864
 Allan B. Calhamer, 501 N. Stone, La Grange Park, Ill. 60525
 Scott Cameron (1984ID-G, 1985L-R), 4 Meadow Lane, Hicksville, N. Y. 11801; 516-938-7057
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 Robert P. Cook (1986AZ-F), Box 113, 81-83 Bay State Rd., Boston, Mass. 02215; 617-375-6673
 Steven R. Currie (1986CW-A), RD #1, Box 1529, Maryland, N. Y. 12116; 607-432-1628
 P. Howard Dawson (1985L), 938 Hampton Rd., Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich. 48236; 313-885-4974
 Don Del Grande (531), 142 Eliseo Dr., Greenbrae, Calif. 94904-1339
 Dan Dolan (1986AM-R), RR #2, Box 443, Highland Lakes, N. J. 07422; 201-764-8381
 William Drakert (1984V, 1985HL-T, 1986AV-F), 159 Chelsea Rd., White Plains, N. Y. 10603; 914-592-5009
 Jim Dunnigan (C), 398 W. 19th St., New York, N. Y. 10011
 Stanley Ellis (1985HF), 1801, S. M, Fort Smith, Ark. 72901
 Keith Fortner (1986AM-A), 4227 Sudbury Rd., Charlotte, N. C. 28205; (home) 704-536-1887; (office) 704-545-9771
 Larry Foster (1985CA-A), Apt. 1455, 1600 Nesbitt Lane, Nashville, Tenn. 37115
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 Pete Gaughan (1984V-G), Apt. 165, 3121 Park Row E., Arlington, Texas 76010-3744;
 817-633-3208
 Jim Goldman (1985CT), 45 Hamilton Ave., Elmwood Park, N. J. 07407; 201-796-1557
 Charles Gratto (1984ID), 1120 Garfield Ave., Ames, Iowa 50010; 515-292-8511
 Charles Hall (1984ID), #1, 216 Palos Verdes Blvd., Redondo Beach, Calif. 90277
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 Bill Hardiman (1985L), 5700 Hayloft Circle, Raleigh, N. C. 27606; 919-852-2357
 Pat Harkin (1986CW-E), 722 S. Sunset Dr., Alva, Okla 73717; 405-327-5707
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 Jeffrey L. Hoffman (526), 3 Canoe Brook Dr., Princeton Junction, N. J. 08550
 Richard A. Hurley (1986AV-T), 341 Wolf Creek Rd., Grass Valley, Calif. 95945; 914-273-
 6349
 Marc R. Hurwitz (1986AF-G, 1986AM-E #5), P. O. Box 191, Owings Mills, Md. 21117;
 301-363-6303
 Carlton T. Johnson (1985HF), 22 Mill St., Lock Haven, Penn. 17745; (home) 717-748-7884;
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 John N. Kandara (1986CW-G), 624 Bellview St., Winston-Salem N. C. 27103; 919-765-3734
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 Timothy J. Kutta (1984V), 80 Crown Point Rd., Hubert, N. C. 28539; 919-326-3223
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 Simon A. Lack (1985HF), Apt. 9-G, 320 South St., Morristown, N. J. 07960
 Michael Lally (1984V), 84 Livermore Rd., Belmont, Mass. 02178
 Peter J. La Rocco (1986AF-E #2), P. O. Box 6795, Jersey City, N. J. 07307; 201-653-3860
 Daniel Larose (1984ID), 17 Gramacy Park, Agawam, Mass. 01001; 413-786-5911
 Robert Bryan Lipton (C), 337 E. Ashland St., Brockton, Mass. 02402
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 718-284-3622
 Vincent J. Manna (1985HL), #1, 2217 West St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11223; 718-336-1156
 Dick Martin (1985CA-T), 26 Orchard Way North, Rockville, Md. 20854; 301-762-4267
 Peter R. Martin (1986AM-I), P. O. Box 1017, Forsyth, Mont. 59237; 406-356-2611
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 Jack McHugh (1986AZ-R), 280 Sanford Rd., Upper Darby, Penn. 19082; 215-352-3408
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 Ralph L. Morton (537), R. R. #2, Greely, Ontario KOA 1Z0
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 Daniel Scott Palter (1985HL-I #13), c/o Bucci Imports, 999 Central Ave., Woodmere,
 N. Y. 11598; 516-295-5855 or 212-947-4828
 Mikel D. Petty (1985CA-F), 4800 Hindman Dr., Orlando, Fla. 32806; 305-275-5096
 Thomas J. Plachta (1986CW-I #8), 2260 West Dr., Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858; 517-772-3084
 B. M. Powell (1986AZ-A), C Company, Box 39, 4th Support Battalion (Main), APO New York,
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 Andrew T. Pribe (1986CW-F), #26, 8861 Villa La Jolla Dr., La Jolla, Calif. 92037;
 619-457-3316
 John C. Quarto (1985CT-T), Department of Astronomy, Indiana University, Bloomington,
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 Michael Quirk (1985HF-G), 3830 Chester, Glenview, Ill. 60025; 312-498-1377

John Reebel (1986AZ-T), 1234 Chase Ave., Lakewood, Ohio 44107; 216-221-5250
 John Rigley (1986AV-E), RD 1, Box 170, Richmondville, N. Y. 12149; 518-294-7769
 Jerry Rosen (1985HF-T, 1986AF-I), c/o Hoffinger & Friedland, 33rd floor, 110 E. 59th St., New York, N. Y. 10022-1392; (home) 212-570-2371; (office) 212-421-4000
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 Mike Sargent (1986CW-R), P. O. Box 190286, Anchorage, Alaska 99519; 907-349-7331
 Nunzio Paul Schembari (1985L-G, 1986AF-F), Department of Mathematics, 200 Carnegie, Syracuse University, Syracuse, N. Y. 13244-1150; (home) 315-421-7841; (office) 315-423-3125
 Garret Schenck (1986CW-T), 42 Pelham Hill Rd., Shutesbury, Mass. 01072; 413-259-1597
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 Scott R. Skellie (1986AM-T), #2706, 16302 El Camino Real, Houston, Texas 77062; 713-280-8842
 Greg Stafford (C), Chaosium Inc., P. O. Box 6302, Albany, Calif. 94706-0302
 Alan Stewart (1984ID), 702-25 St. Mary St., Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1R2; 416-961-8095
 Tony Strickland (1985CA), 212 Ivy St., Palatka, Fla. 32077; 904-325-9476
 Barry Swift (533), P. O. Box 3040, Jersey City, N. J. 07303
 Terry Tallman (1984V), #308, 7239 Sand Point Way, Seattle, Wash. 98115; 206-526-0719
 Scott Tendering (1985CT), 437 N. Everett Dr., Palatine, Ill. 60067;
 Gerry Thompson (529), 13400 Bromwich St., Arleta, Calif. 91331
 Mark E. Thompson (1986AZ-E), #111, 2731 Hillsboro N., New Hope, Minn. 55427; 612-593-0871
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 Arthur Ticossi (1986AM-G #10), 1713 E. Cedar Ave., Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
 Dick Trtek (C), Apt. 1, 2728 S. E. Main, Portland, Ore. 97214; 503-233-0703
 Eric Verheiden (546), #2, 200 S. Azusa Ave., Azusa, Calif. 91702; 818-334-3149
 Dennis A. Walker (1985CA, 1985CT), 112 Foxwood Circle, Bonaire, Ga. 31005
 Rod Walker (T), 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas, Calif. 92024
 John M. Weswig (547), 2115 N. W. Elder St., Corvallis, Ore. 97330
 Edward J. Wrobel (1985CA-R), 3932 N. Forestdale Ave., Dale City, Va. 22193

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA

Ian Campbell's phone number is 609-275-1288 and his 9-digit ZIP code is 08540-5622.

PLEASE STAND BY

The following people are on the GRAUSTARK stand-by list; see Postal Rule 5 in GRAUSTARK #525. Each "*" indicates a game in which that person is presently playing as a stand-by.

Ben Austin	John Jordan *	Thomas J. Plachta *
Warren K. Ball *	Robert Bryan Lipton	Michael Quirk *
Robin Scott Barbehenn	Tarlach MacNiallais *	David E. Schwartz
Alan Blaine	Vincent J. Manna *	Larry Sims **
Lawrence Chafetz *	Dick Martin **	Scott R. Skellie *
Marc Hurwitz *	Jim McCarthy *	Alan Stewart *
Anthony J. Brooks *	Jack McHugh **	Eric Verheiden **

If you would like your name added to, or removed from this list, please let me know.

*

Minnesota produced Andrew Volstead, Charles Lindbergh, Harold Stassen, Hubert Humphrey, Bob Dylan, Eugene McCarthy, and Walter Mondale. What is the state bird of Minnesota?
 (Answer next issue)

PRESS RELEASES

1984ID

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY to little turkey: You have bit the hand that made you a power - mad dog - come to your senses!! If you were smart, your ally would have vacationed in Germany in 1905, but you're n t smart. If you were smart, you would never have visited A-H in 1908.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY to GERMANY: Yes, I have heard from you. The rumbling of your tanks in Bohemia next to my capital.

GERMANY to FRANCE: Surrender must be unconditional. Give me your supply centers; give me your national treasury; give me your children. All must be given to Germany if you surrender is to be accepted.

1985CA

TURKEY: Hard to beat orders like my last set - cut my dear allies' support for all my moves...

ENGLAND to GERMANY: I agree entirely with the Sultan - by all means, go north, young man. Leave the south to us southerners (well, Bohemians, perhaps!)

1986AF

ROME to MOSCOW: Maybe we would be more friendly to you if you answered some of our letters.

BERLIN: The French Ambassador slipped the latest dose of the drug into the Kaiser's schnapps. He waited for the Kaiser to fall into the usual hypnotic trance.

Kaiser Mark suddenly turned blue, and trembled. He screamed in pain, then collapsed to the floor. His servants rushed in, to see the Kaiser in convulsions. "POISONED!" cried the Kaiser. "The Gallic pig has poisoned me!" He then spoke no more.

TOP SECRET: FOR GERMAN SECRET SERVICE ONLY.

FROM: Karl, head of the British Empire Desk, GSS

TO: GERMAN GENERAL STAFF

The following is a summary of intelligence gathered in the British Isles. For the past two years they & and French have been drugging the Kaiser, may he rest in peace. The British supplied the drug which the French ambassador administered. The British deliberately substituted poison for the last dose, leading to the Kaiser's death, and declaration of war against France. This co-incided with a) construction of British warships on the west coast of England, and b) sabotage of French shipyards in Brest, leaving the newly raised French 3rd Fleet as a land-force only.

So, the British have manipulated us to ally with them against France, at the very time we are locked in war with Russia. The new Kaiser, Wilhelm, has been appraised of these facts, and I leave it to him to decide what our policy shall be.

BERLIN: General Gavelwitz stayed after Kaiser Wilhelm dismissed the rest of the General Staff. "Your Majesty," he began. "None of that now, Herman, old friend. We are alone." Kaiser Wilhelm, supreme warlord, moved away from the map table and lowered his vast bulk into an armchair. At his gesture, Gavelwitz did the same.

"Wilhelm, I still don't see how you can stand to co-operate with the British after they murdered your brother."

Wilhelm sighed. "As Kaiser, I must think of Germany first, regardless of my personal feelings. Our forces ate out of position to attack England, and their navy is 4 times the size of ours. France is exposed & vulnerable. Mark's problem was that he let his feelings rule his policy. Besides, the French are just as guilty as the British."

"But Willy - to let them go unpunished..."

The Kaiser chuckled evilly. "Relax, Herman. I'm not that cold-blooded. I've

assigned, personally, Canaris to take care of that. We won't harm the agents of our ally who were involved with this." The Kaiser paused, pulled out his pipe, and lit it. General Gavelwitz waited expectantly. "But," Wilhelm softly continued, "we are seeing to it that their children become hopelessly addicted to opium."

SULTAN to RUSSIAN FLEET: We wish you a long and pleasant sear voyage - Don't bother to come ashore, though.

MOSCOW (HELP ("Hate Encourages Losing People")): Kaiser & King like Tsar are doomed. Hey guys how about a damned triple?

Jim to ETA: Is the Frenchman necessary?

OTTAWA to World: Ever see a quicker belly flop?

TSAR to QUEEN, KAISER, EMPEROR, SULTAN: Russians will never surrender to overwhelming odds, we can't count past one.

Mother Russia to invaders: Grind us into the ground and you'll choke on our dust.

1986AM

LONDON to World: It looks like a three way alliance with Austria surrounded by a league of steel. Austria seems a strong nut to crack, though. Meanwhile, all is in confusion in the West. What will the Germans build?

RUSSIA to AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: It's hard to hear with a bag over your head and a noose around your neck. Sleep tight and don't let the bed bugs bite.

1986AZ

VIENNA: Claiming that there could be only one reason why so few letters are received, the Kaiser had the Royal Postmaster executed. The new Postmaster has been ordered to ensure that lots of mail is delivered to the palace, or he will suffer the same fate.

VIENNA: Calling their king a puppet of the Czár, the Rumanian people overthrew their government and welcomed Austrian soldiers into Bucharest. A crowd a people assembled at the former residence of the king broke into cheers when it was announced that the hated Russians had been driven from their soil and that all Rumanians would be united within the Hungarian portion of the Empire.

VIENNA: Representatives of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the Ottoman Empire announced the conclusion of the Second Treaty of Sistova. This landmark ends nearly 400 years of hostility between the two powers. With this treaty, the two Empires recognized each others sovereign rights in the Balkans and agreed to converse on matters of mutual interest.

VATICAN CITY (PP ("Papal Press")): Yesterday Pope Leo XIII received word that Re Vittorio-Emmanuele III had sent an army to the Italian-French borders, a possible attack.

Two hours later the King and the Pope met to discuss the matter.

"You cannot attack our friends, the French! They are Catholics, like you and I!" exclaimed Leo.

"That doesn't really matter. We have better friends in the Anglican Church up North than we do from the French sãum," replied Vittorio, coolly.

"Then attack Trieste from Venice. The Dual Monarchy would soon be under Savoy control," pleaded Leo.

"No. I have more to gain this way," said Vittorio, calmly.

"Do away with the Ottoman Empire. The Moslem Turks can't give you any help right now. Destroy them!" schreeched Leo.

"No," stated the King, becoming irritated.

"Fine, then! Attack fellow Catholics with Protestant help! Then if you really want to get me mad, you can play Dungeons and Dragons all day long!", yelled, screamed

This is

O At
P Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
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N Nerves

1396

wailed the Pope.

"Guards, get this weirdo out of here," ordered You Know Who.

GERMAN WAR NEWS AGENCY: The German Vermacht, in an act of unprecedented kindness, has decided to defend the helpless Swedes from the vicious Russian hordes.

GERMANY to ENGLAND: It seems as though the Russian won't be eating Swedish meatballs for dinner this season.

MUNICH to PARIS: The armies of the Fatherland felt a great need to save the Belgians from foreign aggression.

MUNICH to BARON: Even though I didn't write much, we have a common interest. Help is coming.

GERMANY to RUSSIA: Them's the breaks Jack.

CONSTANTINOPLE: The Sublime Porte is pleased to report to the Sultan that the centuries old Balkan question has been settled with the Austrian Kaiser. The Second Treaty of Sistova, signed by both, divides the Balkans between the two great empires, other nations interfere at their own risk.

ST. PETERSBURG: His Majestic Ruler, the Tsar, has sent his personal translator to Rome and Berlin to see if faulty translation is what is holding up a reply from the King of Italy and the Kaiser to letters from the Tsar.

ROME (Via St. Petersburg): The Patriarch has conferred with His Holiness the Pope & both have agreed that all good Christians should help remove the infidel Turks from Europe.

1986AM - LATE PRESS RELEASES

ENGLAND to GERMANY: Please send me a S. A. S. E. so that I can be assured that you get my mailings.

LONDON to ISTANBUL, MOSCOW and ROME: From your press it seems that Russia is the senior partner in a three-way alliance. This explains why Austria complained things were "quiet". I wonder what your post-Austria planes are. Consider: Russia and Turkey can stab Italy; Russia and Italy can stab Turkey. Italy and Turkey could stab Russia but their fleets would be useless. Italy - take note of Turkey's fleet build-up. Both Italy and Turkey - take note that Germany due to an NMR is weakened - Russia has no strong northern neighbors. Russia wins more games than any other country.

LONDON to Boardman: What's the frequency, Kenneth? What's the frequency, Kenneth? What's the frequency, Kenneth? What's the frequency, Kenneth? What's the frequency, Kenneth? What's the frequency, Kenneth? What's the frequency, Kenneth?

Boardman to LONDON: Oh, about eight times per paragraph.

LONDON to Dan Rather: What is the frequency, anyway, Dan?

1984IO - PRESS RELEASES

WARSAW: Armies Munich, Tyrolia, Venice, Poedmont, Burgundy, Marseilles, and all other forces support any and all Turkish moves to Switzerland.

WARSAW to ISTANBUL: To hear is to obey, oh Bey. I will help you check your balance in Switzerland. I have no balance as I am unbalanced - oops, there I fall but this is spring, spring into action, lights camera... is th's hearing in camera or is there a hearing - maybe (if this is spring are you a May Fey?) not a hearing but a red herring I knew there was something fishy - Vichy France - no, that's the wrong war I see or I saw - I can't see-saw I'm unbalanced but I can Warsaw.

WARSAW to ISTANBUL: Now that's inane babble!

WARSAW to BERLIN: What's the frequency, Kenneth?

WARSAW to ITALY: Hey, if you let me win in 1985IO I'll be nice to you in 1986AF.

BROOKLYN (URRP): Cross-game alliances are like prostitution - it's unethical and not a good idea, but a lot of people engage in it, and there's not much that can be done about it anyhow.

THE REIGN OF SENILIO THE GREAT - XXXI

By the sixth year of the reign of Senilio the Great, who ascended the throne at the age of 97 after the extinction of the old dynasty, relations with the Kingdom of Pundschruck had reached a critical point. Following a succession of feeble, elderly monarchs, the vigorous young King Mikhail IX had ascended the Pundschrucki throne, and the danger of war over the border district of El Slammador became much more serious.

Matters were brought to a head when each nation discovered and arrested a dangerous spy from the other. After Senilio the Great and King Mikhail had each claimed that his nation had taken prisoner a dangerous secret agent who would under no circumstances be exchanged for the wholly innocent traveler from his own country, a quiet exchange of the two men was arranged during the Winter Solstice Festival in the neighboring Matriarchy of Skandalutz.

At this same festival, the Queen of Skandalutz suggested that war between the Temporary Roman Empire and the Kingdom of Pundschruck might be averted if the two monarchs could meet on neutral ground. Skandalutz itself was unacceptable, as both monarchs objected to the orgiastic ceremonies of the Matriarchy. For various political or ideological reasons, no other nation of Europe wished to be host to this meeting, until the Queen appealed to an Icelandic tourist, the Viking chieftain Askold the Breekless. This formidable warrior had been a special guest of the Queen at the Winter Solstice Festival, and was staying over at her particular request, since that year's Year-King was a midget Irish monk.

After arrangements were complete, the Emperor of the Temporary Roman Empire and the King of Pundschruck journeyed to Iceland. To get them into a relaxed mood for their serious work, Askold personally guided them on a tour of the scenic wonders of his land. However, so deep and bitter were the disagreements between Senilio the Great and King Mikhail that the tour merely exacerbated harsh feelings between them.

At the Vatnajökull, Askold informed the monarchs that it was the greatest glacier in Europe.

"Thus slowly moves the Roman Empire," said Senilio the Great, "inexorably crushing all that are opposed to it."

As they observed an eruption of the volcano Jötunfrat, King Mikhail commented, "Thus does the Kingdom of Pundschruck pour fire and molten rock upon those who dare to encroach upon it."

Finally, Askold took them to the ruins of Bergthorshvoll. "Here, O Sovereigns," he said, "took place nearly four centuries ago a great tragedy. There was a dispute between Njal the Wise and his sons, and the sons of Sigfus. After Njal's sons murdered the husband of the niece of the chieftain Flosi, Njal made a costly yet peaceful settlement with the enemies of his house. Most good men found this fitting, that the most bitter conflicts should be settled by reasonable men sitting down together. Yet was the settlement broken by hotheads and liars. Njal and all his folk were burned alive here, and his son-in-law set out to hunt down and kill all the slayers. All could have been settled in peace, and yet many men died when this was not done."

"Why have you brought us here?" King Mikhail cried.

"Aye," said Senilio the Great, swearing a mighty oath by all the gods of Rome. "What possible interest to us is this?"

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

GRAUSTARK is the oldest bulletin for the postal play of Diplomacy, a game of the diplomatic and military maneuverings of World War I, designed by Allan B. Calhmer and published by Avalon-Hill. It is published every fourth Saturday by John Boardman, 234 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226-5302. Games are available at an entry fee of \$20. With your entry fee send in a list of the countries you'd like to play, in

(continued on p. 11)

TEST OF CONSCIENCE

written by Richard Hurley and reprinted with his permission

Issued by the Società Machiavelli of Nevada County
March 17, 1985

"Sicut in Coelo, et in Terra"

Answer all questions honestly, or to the best of your ability:

1. When, as a child, you read J. M. Barrie's Peter Pan, did you find yourself empathizing with
 - A. Peter/Wendy?
 - B. Captain Hook?
 - C. The Crocodile?

2. In Dickens' Old Curiosity Shop, did the death of Little Nell fill you with
 - A. grief, tempered by a pious hope of her eternal reward in the hereafter?
 - B. sadness, tempered by the realization that she really was something of a simp?
 - C. uncontrolled mirth?

3. In the first segment of the Star Wars trilogy, did you feel that the planet Alderaan had it coming?

4. When President Reagan declared that the "contras" were the "moral equivalent of the Founding Fathers," did his pronouncement bring about
 - A. a crushing sense of shame and disgust?
 - B. a cold and clammy feeling that we are being led by a half-bright actor who believes anything in the script that's handed him?
 - C. an excitement, an exhilaration even, at the opportunities presented by this morally cretinous society?

(The answers and ratings will be published in the next issue of GRAUSTARK.)

PRESS RELEASES (continued from p. 8)

1985CA - LATE PRESS RELEASE

ROME: White smoke spotted over Vatican City as new Il Papa elected on 2435th ballot. Polish cardinal T. Plachta assumes office as Tomaso XIX, after predecessor renounces vows for cute nun from Sicily. "The Popester" as friends now call new pontiff, announces dismay at French destruction of fleet of Jesuits in Portugal: "These were men of peace, headed to foreign missions, not troops," he claims. He seeks peace on earth, good will toward men, etc. Tomaso expresses appreciation for class of former Pope/Kaiser for moving/resigning with notice. As newcomer, he notes unfortunate predilection of those with "assholian tendencies" to NMR, screwing up for replacements. Promises prayers/novenas/rosaries will be said for departing Strickland and Walker for consideration. END.

1986AF - LATE PRESS RELEASES

BERLIN to ROME (most confidential): Your Majesty, our new Kaiser extends his warmest wishes for your personal well-being. He promises a reign of sanity and realism, and hopes the irrational bombast and foolish, grandiose threats of his predecessor will not poison Italo-German relations. In all confidentiality, King Jerry (and I am

sure that a man as discreet as yourself will allow this to go no further than your own ears), the late Kaiser Mark was often under the influence of mind-altering drugs.

BERLIN to LONDON: Well, Peter, either you've marched into Kiel & Denmark and now have 8 or more centers, or you've proceeded to tighten the noose around France.

OWINGS MILLS to NEW YORK (ie Rosen): Please distinguish between Marc Hurwitz (me), a real, 25 year old human being with a wry sense of humor, and "Kaiser Mark", a fictional character invented by me. "Kaiser Mark" is offensive, meglomaniacal, and takes the fate of Europe (i. e., a cardboard-mounted map of Europe with plastic stars & anchors on it) very seriously. Marc Hurwitz, real human being, is not demented, although Kaiser Mark certainly is. Marc Hurwitz regrets that Jerry Rosen, genuine human being, has been in, even the slightest way irked by anything Marc Hurwitz has written. However, Kaiser Mark's objective in being so offensive was to enrage "King Jerry". I think "King Jerry" is a fictional character invented by Marc Hurwitz & Jerry Rosen.

1986CW - EARLY PRESS RELEASES

VIENNA to MOSCOW: So, you won't write me letters, eh? Big mistake, on your part, as you shall soon see.

VIENNA to ST. PETERSBURG: Yes, I know the Tsar lives in St. Pete. But what good is that when the English are going to burn the city anyway?

VIENNA to CONSTANTINOPLE: Beat me if you want just please don't throw me in the Briar Patch!

VIENNA to ROME: Der Rote Kriegsspieler has returned from Rome telling of what great people the Romans are! The cooking wasn't bad either!

AUSTRIA to Frogs: That's funny, England doesn't look like a fly to me!

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY (continued from p. 9)

your order of preference. The game fee includes a subscription for the duration.

Subscriptions for non-players are 10 issues for \$7. (Note change of price.)

Back issues are available from #500 at 10 for \$2.

*

Also published here is EMPIRE, a bulletin for the postal play of other war games. Two games of SPI's Empires of the Middle Ages have just ended in EMPIRE, both of them won by the Byzantine Empire. A game of A Mighty Fortress, also an SPI production, is nearing its end. At least one game of Victory Games's Pax Britannica will soon be opened in EMPIRE, as soon as I've published the revised postal rules for the popular new game. Two postal Pax Britannica games are already running in THE VALOR OF IGNORANCE, which will be merged with EMPIRE within the next six weeks.

EMPIRE subscriptions for non-players are 10 issues for \$7. Back issues are available from the beginning of 1985 at 10 issues for \$2; THE VALOR OF IGNORANCE is available at this price too.

As of 3 January 1987, all back issues of GRAUSTARK, EMPIRE, and THE VALOR OF IGNORANCE from before 1986 will be thrown out. Please place your back issue orders promptly.

*

Bob Baker of Dickinson, Texas, has just sent me a certificate proclaiming that I have won 2nd place as "Best Other Gamesmaster" in the 1986 "TADPOLE" ("Texans Annual Diplomacy Players Official Local Evaluation".) By "Other" the poll means, apparently, "outside of Texas". Words cannot express my appreciation for this award, or for being outside of Texas. Where Texas stands with respect to New York has been graphically demonstrated within recent days, culminating in the Halfastrodome on Wednesday the 16th. (They don't even know how to pronounce the name of their own city; we have a "Houston Street" here in New York City, and it is pronounced "house-ton".)

Texas and California have had their chances, and the World Series is about to be settled out by teams from cities that were great when independence was only a gleam in Tom Paine's eye. Eat your hearts out, horny toads and beach bums!

LATE DEVELOPMENTS IN POSTAL DIPLOMACY GAMES

1985CT'

Following "Spring 1905" moves the following retreats were made:
 ENGLAND: F Kie-Pal. FRANCE: A Bur-Par. TURKEY: F Ion-Nap.
 The deadline for "Fall 1905" moves remains NOON, FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER 1986.

1985HL

Following "Fall 1904" moves, Turkey retreated A Ser-Gre, making Greece a Turkish rather than an Austro-Hungarian supply center. Turkey therefore has a build, and Austria-Hungary has only one build. The deadline for "Winter 1904" orders remains NOON, FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER 1986.

1986AZ

Following "Fall 1901" moves Russia retreats A Sev-Mos. Therefore Russia does not have a "Winter 1901" build. The deadline for "Winter 1901" orders remains NOON, FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER 1986.

1984V

Following "Fall 1914" moves Italy retreated A Rom-Nap. In "Winter 1914", Germany builds A Kie and Austria-Hungary builds A Tri & A Vie. The deadline for "Spring 1915" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER 1986. Players are reminded that a vote on a proposed draw is due.

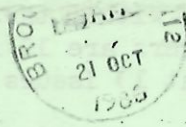
FRESH BLOOD

The following people have written in asking for information about postal Diplomacy. Honest gamesmasters with game openings should send information to them.

John Ricotta, 1093 E. 74th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44103
 Nhan Vu, 626 Heather Ave., Placentia, Calif. 92670

GRAUSTARK #526

John Boardman
 234 East 19th Street
 Brooklyn, New York 11226-5302
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Are you playing in:

1984V 1985HL
 1985CT 1986AZ
 ?

THEN SEE IMPORTANT INFORMATION
 ON THIS PAGE (above).

