

GRAUSTARK

The first 'zine for the postal play of Diplomacy, a game of negotiation and conflict designed by Allan B. Calhamer and published by Hasbro

#785 2002D, "Fall 1915"; 2004C, "Winter 1909"; 2006A, "Spring 1904" 1 November 2008

Special Notice - Resumption of Publication

For several months, owing to various circumstances including my wife's illness, I have not been publishing Graustark. I am now able to resume publication, and hope to get these postal Diplomacy games back on their accustomed four-week schedule.

Pages 2, 3, and 4 of this issue have already been printed, and pages 3 and 4 include adjudications of the above-mentioned moves. As indicated on those pages, a date was set for the next moves. Copies of those pages were then mailed out to those active players. All of them have sent in their next moves, which are:

2002D - "Winter 1915"
2004C - "Spring 1909"
2006A - "Fall 1904"

Those moves will be adjudicated and published in Graustark #786, which will be printed and mailed out in a few days.

A new postal Diplomacy game is still being organized in Graustark, and three entries have already come in. For information on entries see page 2.

Obviously, many of the announcements on pages 2, 3 and 4 are outdated. And anyone who has moved since the publication of Graustark #784 will need to update his or her address, which appears in "The Graustark Directory" beginning on page 5. Please get this new address to me as quickly as you can.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Owing to time pressure over the holidays, players were informed that the deadline for moves in this issue was postponed to 11 January. The moves on pp. 3-4 of this issue were mailed to the active players on 9 February.

*

Today's Terrorism Alert Color Code is Republican Red, commemorating the attempts by the media to sell newspapers and advertising by pretending that this year's presidential election is close and dubious, despite the fact that registrations and polls indicate that it will be a major Democratic victory, with working Democratic majorities in both houses of Congress.

*

Graustark is the Very First bulletin for the postal play of Diplomacy. It is published every fourth Saturday by John Boardman, 234 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11226-5302. Diplomacy is a board game of negotiation and conflict for the period of World War I. It was designed by Allan B. Calhmer and is now published by Hasbro. Another new postal Diplomacy game is now being organized in Graustark, at a game fee of \$35. (For Canadian and Mexican addresses the game fee is \$50, and for other foreign addresses it is \$100, or 75 euros in cash.) This game fee includes a subscription to Graustark for as long as the game lasts, whether or not you are eliminated. With your game fee send in a list of the countries you'd like to play, in your order of preference, and I'll try to put you as close to the top of that list as I can. If you do not already have the postal rules for Diplomacy, which were last published in Graustark #749, let me know when you send in your game fee, and I'll send you a copy.

This is

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

Graustark subscriptions for non-players are 10 issues for \$15 for U. S. addresses, and \$40 or 30 euros for others. Back issues as available are 10 issues for \$5 for U. S. addresses. To foreign addresses, back issues have the same price as for foreign subscriptions. Players who phone in their moves should call me at 718-693-1579. An answering machine is attached to this phone.

2144

I want to again remind players that the U. S. "Service" is not capable of reliably getting mail here in less than a week. Please take this into account in sending in your moves. If, a few times, your moves have arrived here by mail in less than a week, do not assume that this will always be the case.

Graustark readers who are interested in postal games which don't run here, are invited to write to the publishers of 'zines with which I trade, and ask what game openings they have. For their addresses, see all the readers indicated by "(T)" for "trade" in the Graustark Directory on p. 6 of this issue. Several of these publishers run a wide variety of postal games.

*

A very useful, if somewhat unconventional, book about the Pacific campaign of World War II is *Victory at Sea* by James F. Dunnigan and Albert A. Nofi (1995, Morrow). One of its chapters is headed "What Was Where: A Pacific War Gazetteer", and lists alphabetically numerous ports and islands, with their strategic values and the resources available. One of these entries is:

"SKULL ISLAND: Off the southeast coast of New Guinea, of little strategic value and only occasionally visited. The island lacked even the most rudimentary anchorage, was incapable of supporting airfields, was possessed of a hostile population, and was plagued by numerous dangerous and unpleasant animals."

Film buffs will immediately recognize "Skull Island" as the setting of *King Kong* (1933). Its inclusion here is a product of the authors' sense of humor, and Al Nofi has informed me that I am the only person who recognized its source. However, on the basis of the information given to us in the film, I would locate Skull Island southwest of Sumatra, since we are told it is at 90° East and 2° from the Equator. This is supported by

(continued on p. 4)

2002D

"Fall 1915"

WESTERN POWERS OVERRUN BALKANS

ENGLAND (Wiedemeyer): A Mos S GERMAN A War-Ukr; A St.P S A Mos; F Bar, F Nwy, F Nrg,
& F Lon hold.

FRANCE (Lischett): F Ion-Aeg; F Alb S F Gre; A Ser-Bul; F Gre S A Ser-Bul; F Tyr-Ion;
F Tun S F Tyr-Ion; A Tri S A Tyr; A Tyr S A Tri; A Rom-Nap; A Mar & A Par hold.

GERMANY (Quirk): A Pru-War; A Mun holds; A Gal-Rum; A War-Ukr; A Vie S A Bud; F Bal-Swe;
F Bot-Swe; A Bud S A Gal-Rum.

ITALY (Verheiden): F Aeg S RUSSIAN A Bul.

RUSSIA (Jordan): F Eas S ITALIAN F Aeg; A Rum-Ser; A Bul S A Rum-Ser; A Sev-Mos; A Ukr S
A Sev-Mos.

Underlined moves are not possible. Russia retreats A Bul-Con. The High Combatant Powers now control the following supply centers:

ENGLAND: Edi, Liv, Lon, Mos, Nwy, St.P. (6)

FRANCE: Bel, Bre, Bul, Gre, Mar, Nap, Par, Por, Rom, Spa, Tri, Tun, Ven. (13)

GERMANY: Ber, Bud, Den, Hol, Kie, Mun, Rum, Swe, Vie, War. (10)

RUSSIA: Ank, Con, Ser, Sev, Smy. (5)

Germany may build two new units, and France may build one. (France would have two builds if another home supply center were available.) The last Italian unit is removed, and Italy is out of the game. The deadline for "Winter 1915" builds is NOON, FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008.

2006A

"Spring 1904"

FRANCE MULTIPLY INVADED

ENGLAND (Wiedemeyer): A Bre & F Mid S GERMAN A Spa-Gas; F Nwy-Bar; F Nrg S F Nwy-Bar;
F Edi-Nth; F Eng S F Edi-Nth.

FRANCE (Alme): F Por S A Gas-Spa; A Par-Bur; A Gas-Spa.

GERMANY (Jordan): F Swe-Ska; A Spa-Gas; A Ruh-Bur; A Mun S A Ruh-Bur; F Kie-Den;
A Ber-Pru; A Sil S A Ber-Pru.

ITALY (Burgess): A Pie-Mar; A Gre holds; F Tun-Wes; F Lyo S A Pie-Mar; F Nap-Tyr.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Williams): A Tri-Tyr; A Ser & F Aeg S A Bul; A Bud-Vie; A Bul S A Ser.

RUSSIA (Biehl): F Ska-Nwy; F Bar S F Ska-Nwy; F St.P(n.c.) S F Ska-Nwy; A Smy S F Con;
A Rum-Bul; F Con S A Rum-Bul; A War-Gal; A Mos-War.

Underlined moves are not possible. The French A Gas and Russian F Bar are dislodged and annihilated. The deadline for "Fall 1904" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008.

WHEN DO YOU EXPIRE?

The subscriptions of the following readers expire with the indicated issue of Graustark. This information is valid to the date of 26 January 2008. See p. 2 for information about extending your subscription or joining a new game.

787 - Eric Verheiden
790 - Mike Fisher

797 - W. Andrew York
799 - Brenton Verploeg

Following "Fall 1909" moves, Germany removes the dislodged A Mun. "Winter 1909" orders are:

FRANCE (Wiedemeyer): Removes A Gas.
GERMANY (Mathias): Builds A Kie.

ITALY (Mooney): Removes A Boh.
TURKEY (Bruce): Builds A Con and A Ank.

Turkey defers one build. The deadline for "Spring 1910" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2008.

PLEASE STAND BY

I am willing to take over games that have been abandoned by their gamesmasters. So if you are a postal gamesmaster who is no longer able to publish, please get in touch with me and with the Orphan Games Director, Michael Lowrey. (See p. 7 for his address.) If the game is to continue in Graustark, I would need the addresses of all active

I am willing to take over games that have been abandoned by their gamesmasters. So if you are a postal gamesmaster who is no longer able to publish, please get in touch with me and with the Orphan Games Director, Michael Lowrey. (See p. 7 for his address.) If the game is to continue in Graustark, I would need the addresses of all active players, the current position, and a list of who owns which supply centers. If subscription money can be passed along to me, fine. Otherwise I will ask players to join a new game in Graustark, or to subscribe to Graustark if they do not already do so. Players who resign or drop out can be replaced by Graustark stand-by players.

It is best if this is done quickly, should it be necessary. If a game is abandoned for too long, some players may lose interest, and may not continue to play when it resumes under another gamesmaster.

Stand-by players are always needed for postal Diplomacy games in Graustark. If you volunteer as a stand-by, you may be called upon whenever a current player misses a move. If you send in moves for that country for the next turn, and the present player does not, you will take over play of that position. No game fee will be asked, though you should keep your subscription current, or enroll in a new Graustark game. No stand-by will be called upon in a game in which he or she has already played.

Stand-by volunteers who are willing to take on additional games of postal Diplomacy are listed below. A stand-by player who is already playing in a Graustark game is indicated by "*". If you wish your name added to or removed from this list, please let me know.

Hank Alme*	Harley Jordan*	Eric Verheiden	Bill Young
John R. Biehl	Michael Quirk*	Fred Wiedemeyer*	

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY (continued from p. 2)

Alberto Manguel and Gianni Guadalupi in *The Dictionary of Imaginary Places* (2000), who locate it "south-west of Sumatra, in the Indian Ocean". Moreover, the ship's captain can communicate with the Skull Islanders, since they speak a language similar to that of the Nias Islanders; Nias Island is just off Sumatra's west coast.

However, in *Son of Kong* (1933), the sequel to *King Kong*, we learn that an earthquake or tsunami sunk Skull Island in the sea. This is plausible, since it was located not far from the epicenters of the great earthquake of 26 December 2004 and its after-shock of 28 March 2005. Still, it is possible that the island of *Son of Kong* is not the same as the island of *King Kong*, though it was populated by the same aggressive fauna.

*

In the "Stupor Tuesday" election of 5 February I voted for Barack Obama, although it was obvious from poll reports that Killery Clinton was going to carry New York in the Democratic primary election. I feel that this is probably due to public support for a local candidate, rather than for her enthusiasm for the American conquest of Iraq and Bush the Son's consequent enthusiasm for suppressing our civil liberties. It should

(continued on p. 6)

THE GRAUSTARK DIRECTORY

Players in a current postal Diplomacy games are indicated by its Boardman Number, with the initial of the country being played, and with "S" indicating a substitute player. (E. g., "2006A-R" or "2002D-FS".) Paying subscribers will be indicated by the number of the issue with which the subscription expires. Other designations are:

C: complimentary copy for a gamer

N: entrant in the next Graustark postal Diplomacy game

R: complimentary copy for a non-gamer interested in the mystery novel reviews

T: trade copy

U: uncomplimentary copy

This directory is accurate to the date of 19 January 2008. Please let me know of any corrections or additions that need to be made, particularly if you want your nine-digit ZIP code, phone number, fax number, or e-mail address added to your listing. This is particularly important for electronic addresses, which seem to change more frequently than do postal addresses.

If you are already a Graustark subscriber when you decide to send in a game fee, then when the game begins, the number of issues you had coming when you joined will be added to your subscription once the game ends. After your name in the Directory will appear some such notation as "2004C-T+6".

Stephen Agar (T), 4 Cedar Gardens, Brighton BN1 6YD, ENGLAND; 01273-562430;

<stephen@stephenagar.com>

Hank Alme (2004C, 2006A-FS), Apartment Q, 12010 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, MD 21044; 410-740-2627; <almehj@alumni.rice.edu>

Thom Anderson (R), #5-D, 10 Park Terrace East, New York, NY 10034

Ruth Berman (R), 2809 Drew Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55416-4209

John R. Biehl (2004C-R, 2006A-R), #8, 11530 84th Avenue, Delta, BC V4C 2M1, CANADA; 604-816-0460; <jrb@dccnet.com>.

Mark Blackman (C), Apt. 4A, 1745 E. 18th St., Brooklyn, NY 11229

Paul Bolduc (U), 203 Devon Court, Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32547-3110; 850-863-9081; <prbolduc@aol.com>; <bolduc@eglin.af.com>

Anne Braude (R), 5313 W. Acapulco Lane, Glendale, AZ 85306-3416

Colin Bruce (2004C-T+6), 30 Almoners' Avenue, Cambridge CB1 8PA, ENGLAND

Jim Burgess (2006A-I, T), 664 Smith St., Providence, RI 02908-4327; 401-351-0287;

<burgess@world.std.com>; web page <<http://devel.diplom.org/DipPouch/Postal/Zines/TAP/index.html>>

Allan B. Calhmer (C), 501 N. Stone, La Grange Park, IL 60525-5523

Paul Cardwell Jr. (C), 1127 Cedar, Bonham, TX 75418-2913; 903-583-9296

David Charlton (C), 150 The Parade, Island Bay, Wellington 6002, NEW ZEALAND

Columbia Games Inc. (C), P. O. Box 3457, Blaine, WA 98231

Jim Dunnigan (C), 328 W. 19th St., New York, NY 10011

Paul Evans (T), 180 Aylsham Dr., Ickenham, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB10 8UF, ENGLAND

Mark Fassio (U), 276 Yates Lane, Pendleton, KY 40055-7751

Sue Feder (R), Historical Mystery Appreciation Society, 3 Goucher Woods Court, Towson, MD 21286; fax 410-847-9303; <monkshould@home.com>; <<http://members.home.net./monkshould>>

Mike Fisher (790), #2, 43 W. Manheim St., Philadelphia, PA 19144-2942

Timothy R. Haffey Sr. (U), 810 53rd Ave., Oakland, CA 94601; 510-536-3513;

<trhaffey@yahoo.com>

Chris Hassler (T), 2000 S. Armour Court, La Habra, CA 90631; 562-690-7827; fax 562-690-7827; <chassler@adelphia.com>

Sharon Heap (C), 2876 NY Route 26 South, Vestal, NY 13856

Raymond & Faith Heuer (R), 2nd floor, 9 Beacon Terrace, Keansburg, NJ 07734-1914

Tom Howell (T), 365 Storm King Road, Port Angeles, WA 98363; 360-928-9698;

<off-the-shelf@olympus.net>

Harley Jordan (2002D-RS, 2006A-G), 109 Sunnyside Dr., Rochester, NY 14623; 585-475-9832

Susan Keaveny (R), 1030 Tyrus Court, North Merrick, NY 11566-1035

(continued on p. 7)

never be forgotten that in 2002 she voted for the "USA PATRIOT Act", which places severe limitations on our civil liberties despite the provisions of that annoying ol' Constitution. Moreover, in 2005 she and the notoriously pro-war Senator Lieberman (Ind.-CT) introduced into the Senate a bill to recruit 80,000 more troops for the war against Iraq and Afghanistan. Since her bid to gain the Democratic presidential nomination was defeated, many of her supporters have indicated that they will vote for "Jailbird John" McCain in the general election. Obviously, his support of Killery Clinton's position on the American invasion of Iraq won his support by these Clintonites. They are even calling their effort "PUMA" for "Party Unity My Ass".

Those civil liberties, which you may find in Amendments 1-10, 14, and 15 of the Constitution, have always been a problem to our rulers. A mere seven years after the Bill of Rights was enacted, the Sedition Act attempted to curtail them severely. It was the belief of the Federalist Party, which then controlled the presidency and Congress, that America was under an imminent threat of terrorism due to the French Revolution, and that freedom of speech, the press, and organization would facilitate this terrorism. The principal intent of the Sedition Act was to put Thomas Jefferson in jail before he could lead an American version of the French Revolution, and the act's backers were distressed that this obviously desirable end could not be accomplished. (However, they did manage to jail some pro-Jefferson editors.) The reaction of the American people to this policy came in the elections of 1800, which permanently expelled the Federalist Party from control and put Jefferson in the White House.

The present violations of civil liberties in the arrest and imprisonment of so-called "terrorists" are remarkably similar to those that took place under the Sedition Act. Allegations of a "terrorist" threat are still being used to excuse the suppression of our civil liberties, and anyone who defends our traditional freedoms is accused of aiding "terrorism".

This also happened after the end of World War I, when there was widespread but groundless fear that the Russian Revolution was about to be duplicated here. Instead, Americans responded by founding and supporting the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), which has ever since been in the forefront of defending civil liberty. The American public is still clearly not impressed by such allegations, since the public has responded to attempts to enforce the "USA PATRIOT Act" by increasing the membership and income of the ACLU to record levels. As one political commentator has put it, "Civil liberties are why we have this country."

*

In the last issue I mentioned that my family came to America illegally in 1638. Anyone who believes that "illegal immigration" is a new problem which America has never before faced might be mystified by this.

However, it is quite an old problem, if problem it is. Samuel Boardman's 1638 immigration took place because of a situation that was quite common in Europe in those days. The prime minister, the archbishop, and the king had decided that anyone who didn't go to the king's church would be thrown in jail. A large number of people took exception to such laws, and decided instead to immigrate to America. But the government decided that too many hard-working taxpayers were hiding in the forests of North America. So a law was enacted to forbid this.

It didn't work. Illegal immigrants kept settling in America. Indeed, this law was so deeply resented that eventually its opponents started removing heads - first the prime minister's, then the archbishop's, and then the king's. (You will find the details in Dame Cicely Veronica Wedgewood's books *The King's Peace* and *The King's War*.) And the moral of the story is, that religious persecution can be very dangerous to the persecutors.

More recent illegal immigrants were able to come here without violence. The historian Dennis Casey once told me how his grandfather had become an American citizen. He came over from Ireland, landed in Boston, and went straight to the local Democratic Party headquarters. They provided him with the assistance of a registered voter, who took him to the local board of elections and solemnly swore that Mr. Casey had been born

THE GRAUSTARK DIRECTORY (continued from p. 5)

Paul D. Kenny (T), 9 Cobblestone Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003-1420
 Paul Koch (2004C), 24920 Fairmount Dr., Dearborn, MI 48124; 313-274-6579
 Timothy Lane (R), P. O. Box 37281, Louisville, KY 40233-7281
 Robert Lesco (T), 49 Parkside Drive, Brampton, Ontario L6Y 2H1, CANADA; 905-452-6304;
 <rlesco@yahoo.com>
 Andy Lischett (2002D-FS, T), 2402 Ridgeland Ave., Berwyn, IL 60402; 708-788-1507
 Rick Loomis (C), Flying Buffalo Inc., P. O. Box 1467, Scottsdale, AZ 85252
 Michael Lowrey (C), 6903 Kentucky Derby Drive, Charlotte, NC 28215-6507; 704-569-4269;
 <mLowrey@infionline.net>
 Joseph T. Major (C), 1409 Christy Ave., Louisville, KY 40204-2040
 Harry Manogg (C), 63 Parker Hill Road, Landmark...Apt. 401, Boston, MA 02120; 617-277-
 3037
 Brad Martin (C), 180 Peninsula Road, Maylands 6051, Western Australia, AUSTRALIA;
 <Westfront@hotmail.com>
 Dan Mathias (2004C-G), 509 Bayview Drive, Lusby, MD 20657; 410-326-2568;
 <dcmathias@comcast.net>
 David Milliams (C), Paideia School, 1509 Ponce de Leon Ave., Atlanta, GA 30307-1666;
 404-377-0032 fax; <milliams.david@paideiaschool.org>; <www.paideiaschool.org>;
 <www.krause.com/static/comics.htm>
 Maggie Montgomery (R), Apt. 819, 325 W. 45th St., New York, NY 10036
 Brendan Mooney (2004C-I), 423 Lenox Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090; 908-654-0527;
 <bkmoney@comcast.net>
 Albert A. Nofi (C), 3506 Duval Street, Austin, TX 78705; <anofi@aol.com>
 Carsten Obst (T), Pechsteinstr. 13, D-24539 Neumünster, GERMANY
 Keith Wm. Oschman (U), Riverside Christian School, Lost Creek, KY 41348
 Michael P. Quirk (2002D-GS, 2006A, N), 904 Beckett Crossing Drive, Mundelein, IL 60060;
 847-837-0489
 Berend E. Renken (N), Apt. 303, 10545 Greenwood Drive, Seattle, WA 98133-8781
 Roberta Rogow (R), 1755-A Manor Drive, Irvington, NJ 07111
 Karl Schmit (2006A), 1509 O'Keefe Road, De Pere, WI 54115; 920-338-8402;
 <diplomacy@new.rr.com>
 Bruce Schneier (C), Counterpane Systems, 101 E. Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55419
 Gary Tesser (R), #5-A, 2455 Haring St., Brooklyn, NY 11235
 Eric Verheiden (2002D, 787), 1805 Vista del Oro, Fullerton, CA 92831-1331;
 <everheid@adelphia.net>
 Brenton Verploeg (799), 1980 Tigertail Rd., Coconut Grove, FL 33133
 Conrad von Metzke (C), 4374 Donald Ave., San Diego, CA 92117-3813; 858-270-8313;
 <metske@san.rr.com>
 Stephen T. Whitmore (C), 350 Old Paper Mill Road, Newark, DE 19711; 302-368-1127
 Fred Wiedemeyer (2002D-ES, 2004C-F, 2006A-E), Box 92010, Meadowbrook RPO, Edmonton,
 Alberta T6T 1N1, CANADA; 780-465-6432; cell 780-497-8283; <wiedem@planet.eon.net>
 Don Williams (2006A-A), 27505 Artine Dr., Saugus, CA 91350-2193; 661-575-7252 (cell);
 661-297-3947 (home); 909-350-6723 (business); 909-350-7676 (fax); <dwilliams
 @fontana.org>; <www.fontana.org>
 W. Andrew York (797), P. O. Box 201117, Austin, TX 78720-1117; <wandrew@compuserve.com>
 Bill Young (N), 2304 James Buchanan Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022; 717-361-5768

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY (continued from p. 6)

in Boston, and that he had known him all his life. And thus it was accomplished.
 More generally, it is obvious that a nation which has trouble with illegal
 immigration must be doing something right. Or would you rather live in a country to
 which nobody wanted to immigrate?

*

I am finding media coverage of the current election campaign quite amusing. For
 several months it has been obvious that this election will be a Democratic landslide,
 probably the most decisive since at least 1996. And yet the media want to sell more
 advertising, and more publications. Therefore, they are making it appear that the

election is very close. I have the suspicion that they may even be juggling the poll figures to give this effect. (Something similar was done to the presidential election polls in 1936 and 1948.)

However, Bush the Son and his policies are very unpopular, and he and his advisers are unconvincing when they claim that the economy is not in a recession. It is, in fact, in a depression, the worst since the Hoover Depression. People are losing their jobs, people are losing their homes, and major banks and airlines are going belly-up. Under such economic conditions, Republicans do not win elections. In fact, many incumbent Republican members of Congress have decided not to run for re-election.

As for the economy, major investment bankers have put to Congress the proposition "If you don't give us \$700,000,000,000 with no strings attached, terrible things will happen." Such a demand is commonly called "extortion". Next year a Democratic Attorney General, appointed by a Democratic President and confirmed by a Democratic Senate, may look into this matter unless so many Democrats are also involved in this "bail-out" that it may be politically impossible to proceed with such a legal case.

What many people fail to realize is, that this country has several Republican Parties. McCain is bitterly opposed in the other Republican Parties. Since they cannot get on the ballot by that name, they use such names as "Conservative Party", "Constitution Party", "Reform Party", "Independence Party", "Libertarian Party", and even (in Minnesota) "Christian Freedom Party". Conceivably these other Republican Parties might draw so many votes away from Jailbird John that he will lose the election without them.

For my own part, Obama will carry New York by such a big majority that I may vote for a third party candidate. Obama wants to withdraw all U. S. troops from Iraq, but apparently so he can only send them into Afghanistan. I may vote for Cynthia McKinney, the Green Party candidate. She may shoot off her mouth a lot, but she seems disinclined to shoot off guns. And a big vote for an anti-war candidate may help get them on major-party tickets in future elections.

And then we must consider what happens after Obama wins. Since he is half African by ancestry, white supremacist groups have already threatened his life. A "skinhead" plot to assassinate him and over 100 other African-Americans has recently been revealed by police. A survey of such plots by the diligent researchers of the Southern Poverty Law Center was recently published by them. Curiously, some white supremacists hope that Obama will be elected, as they believe that such a dramatic development would stimulate an armed racist uprising against him. So we may see the third attempt to reverse the results of a presidential election by force. (The first was of course the Slaveholders' Rebellion, and the second was an abortive attempt in the 1930s, by elements of the American Legion, to persuade a popular Marine general to lead a coup d'etat against President Roosevelt.)

GRAUSTARK #785

John Boardman
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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