

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

#787 2002D, "Spring 1916"; 2004C, "Fall 1910"; 2006A, "Winter 1904" 13 December 2008

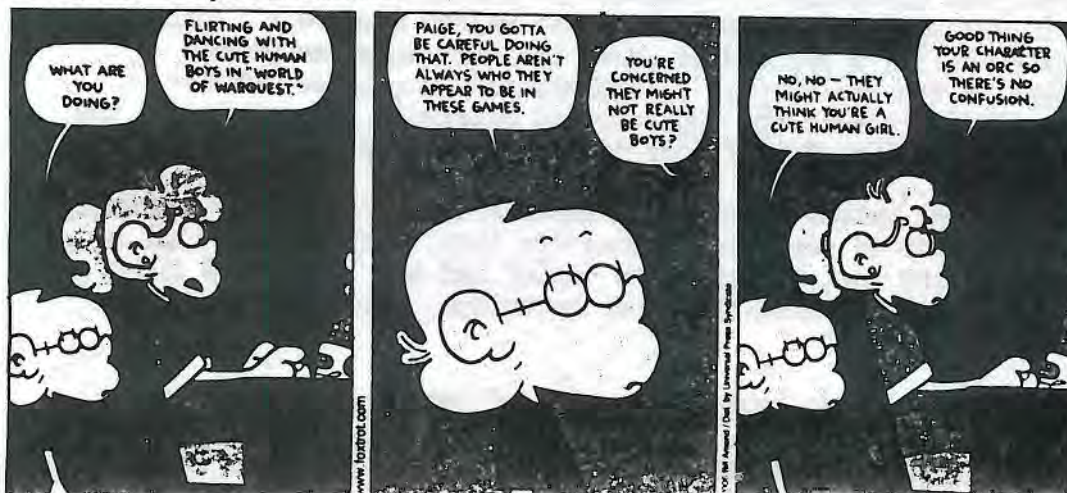
BABY BLUES/ by Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



THERE is a venerable Wall Street joke featuring an investor who, having accumulated a large position in an illiquid stock, decides it is time to get out. "Yes, sir," replies the broker when he is told to sell. "To whom?"



FOXTROT/ by Bill Amend



To the Editor:

John Tierney asserts that "surveys last year showed that Democratic professors outnumber Republican professors by at least seven to one, more than twice the ratio of three decades earlier."

Perhaps he should stop to consider whether the Republican Party of today is different from the Republican Party of "three decades earlier."

ELLEN TREMPER
 Bronx, Oct. 15, 2005

The writer is chairwoman of the English department, Brooklyn College.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

I recommend that postal Diplomacy players mail in their moves rather than phoning them in. But if you do phone them in, for the time being don't leave a message on my answering machine. I have discovered that it is currently out of order, and will not record. If I don't answer the phone, phone back later. I will inform players when I can get the answering machine repaired.

*

Today's Terrorism Alert Color Code is Invisible, representing all the U. S. government warnings of imminent terrorist attacks, which in fact have not happened. What is not Invisible is the money appropriated for "Homeland Security" to deal with these non-existent attacks.

*

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 Inflamm
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.

2148

I want to again remind players that the U. S. Postal "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.

*

Mark Blackman has informed me that Jules Archer is the author of *The Plot to Seize the White House*. This book describes the career of Marine commandant General Smedley Butler, who in his retirement was approached by elements of the American Legion who wanted him to lead a *coup d'etat* against President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. This coup was planned on the model of Mussolini's seizure of power in Italy some ten years earlier. General Butler went to the chairman of a congressional committee, which investigated the plot. The publicity sent the Legionnaires scurrying for cover, and the man who had broached the plot to General Butler soon died, possibly by suicide.

*

Readers may have noticed that recent issues of Graustark have printed out somewhat faintly. After considering a number of possible reasons for this, I discovered that my copier's toner cartridge was running low, but that the copier had not lit up the light that should warn of this. So I just replaced the toner cartridge, which as you can see has settled the matter.

*

Recent issues of Graustark have also included reviews of detective novels with

2002D

"Spring 1916"

WESTERN ALLIES PUSH RUSSIANS BACK

The orders published in Graustark #786, and given as "Winter 1916", were actually "Winter 1915".

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-Eas; F Alb holds; A Tri-Ser; A Bul S A Tri-Ser; F Gre S A Bul; F Tyr holds; F Tun-Ion; A Tyr-Tri; A Nap holds; A Mar-Pie; A Par holds; F Bre-Mid.

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

RUSSIA (Jordan): F Eas holds; A Ser-Bul; A Con S A Ser-Bul; A Sev-Arm; A Ukr-Sev.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Russian A Ser is dislodged and annihilated. The support given by the French A Bul to the French attack A Tri-Ser was not cut, because the A Bul was attacked from the province into which it was giving support. The vote on a draw fails of the required unanimity, and is again submitted to the players. The deadline for "Fall 1917" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 9 JANUARY 2009.

2006A

"Winter 1904"

Following "Fall 1904" moves Russia retreats A Rum-Sev.

GERMANY (Jordan): Removes F Ska. AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Williams): Builds A Vie.

ITALY (Burgess): Builds A Ven & F Nap. RUSSIA (Biehl): Builds A Mos.

The deadline for "Spring 1905" moves is NOON, FRIDAY 9 JANUARY 2009.

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 12 December 2008. See p. 2 for information about extending your subscription or joining a new game.

790 - Mike Fisher

797 - Eric Verheiden

799 - Brenton Verploeg

797 - W. Andrew York

799 - Mike Barno

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY (continued from p. 2)

historical settings, some of them dealing with actual historic crimes. In recent months I have been too busy to read these books, but I hope to resume these reviews after the beginning of the new year.

*

Last Sunday was the 67th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, and the tenth such anniversary which also fell on a Sunday. Prior to this attack, American public opinion had favored staying out of World War II, mainly in the belief that intervention into World War I had not been to our national advantage. Indeed, that attack by a member of the Axis powers was the only thing that could have brought America into World War II. This created a widespread belief, still sometimes heard, among Americans who were so strongly anti-Communist that they hoped the Axis would win World War II, although they seldom dared to say so explicitly. Since these people were mostly political opponents of President Roosevelt, they invented elaborate conspiracy theories whereby Roosevelt and Churchill had secretly plotted to get Pearl Harbor bombed. The most preposterous of these notions was a claim that Pearl Harbor had been bombed by British planes bearing Japanese markings!

After the end of the war, Republicans won control of Congress, and held an investigation into the Pearl Harbor attack, with the intent of publicizing such notions.

(continued on p. 4)

FRANCE CEDES EVERYTHING

In the report of the "Spring 1910" moves in the last issue, some of the Turkish moves which were impossible were mistakenly not underlines. All players were informed. The "Spring 1910" moves printed below have been corrected.

FRANCE (Wiedemeyer): A Wal-Yor; F Bre-Eng; F Liv-Cly.

GERMANY (Mathias): F Lon-Wal; A Yor-Liv; A War S A Sil; A Pru-Ber; A Liv S A War;
A St.P S RUSSIAN A Mos; F Spa(s.c.)-Lyo; A Par-Bre; A Bur-Mar; F Eng S F Lon-Wal;
F Nth S F Eng; A Sil S A Kie-Mun; A Kie-Mun.

ITALY (Mooney): A Mun-Boh; A Pie-Ven; A Tyr S A Pie-Ven; A Mar holds; F Mid-Por; F Wes not ordered, holds; F Lyo-Tyr; F Naf-Tun [sic; no such unit exists]; .

RUSSIA (Biehl): A Mos holds.

TURKEY (Bruce): A Bud-Vie; A Gal S A Bud-Vie; A Sev-Mos; A Ukr S A Sev-Mos; F Gre-Ion;
A Con-Bul; A Ank-Sev; F Bla C A Ank-Sev; F Tri-Ven.

Underlined moves are not possible.

"Fall 1910"

FRANCE (Wiedemeyer): A Yor & F Cly hold; F Bre-Pic.

GERMANY (Mathias): F Wal-Lon; F Nth-Edi; A Liv S F Nth-Edi; A St.P-Mos; A War S
A St.P-Mos; A Ber S A Mun; F Lyo-Spa(s.c.); A Par-Bre; A Bur-Mar; F Eng S
A Par-Bre; A Sil & A Liv S A War; A Mun S A Sil.

ITALY (Mooney): A Boh-Vie; A Tyr-Tri; A Ven S A Tyr-Tri; A Mar-Spa; F Por S A Mar-Spa;
F Wes-Tun; F Tyr-Nap.

RUSSIA (Biehl): A Mos holds.

TURKEY (Bruce): A Vie S F Tri; A Gal S A Vie; A Sev & A Ukr S RUSSIAN A Mos; F Ion-Tyr;
A Bul-Ser; A Ank-Rum; F Bla C A Ank-Rum; F Tri holds.

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

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

ITALY: Nap, Por, Rom, Spa, Tri, Tun, Ven. (7)

RUSSIA: Mos. (1)

TURKEY: Ank, Bud, Bul, Con, Gre, Rum, Ser, Sev, Smy, Vie. (10)

Germany and Turkey may each build one unit, and all French units are removed. The deadline for these "Winter 1910" orders is NOON, FRIDAY 9 JANUARY 2009. A draw has been proposed for this game, and players should send in their votes on the proposal by this deadline. To succeed this vote must be unanimous, and an abstention counts as a negative vote. When this game ends, the subscriptions of Hank Alme, Colin Bruce, Paul Koch, Dan Mathias, and Brendan Mooney will expire.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY (continued from p. 3)

However, the facts remained the facts, and that investigating committee came up with a report which made no unbelievable accusations.

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor originated entirely in Japan, and was supposed to make possible the seizure of the resources of the Philippines and the East Indies in

(continued on p. 5)

THOSE POSTAL RATES, AT LAST!

Thanks to Don Del Grande, I was finally able to get a complete listing of the new postal rates, domestic and international, which went into effect on 12 May 2008. They are contained in Notice 123, 32 pages long, which local postal clerks seem most unwilling to part with, but which are apparently more available in California. Crucial to the new rates is the term "large envelope", which means any flat envelope longer than 11½ inches and higher than 6 1/8 inches. Also, any envelope which weighs more than 3½ ounces is a "large envelope" without regard to its shape. In the listings below (but not in Notice 123) "Group 1" includes Europe (including Russia), China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and New Zealand. "Group 2" is the rest of the world.

For "small envelopes" these are the rates in cents:

weight up to	domestic	Canada	Mexico	Group 1	Group 2
1 ounce	42	72	72	94	94
2 ounces	59	96	127	174	169
3 ounces	76	120	182	254	244
3½ ounces	93	144	237	334	319

These are the rates for large envelopes:

1 ounce	83	98	98	120	120
2 ounces	100	122	153	200	195
3 ounces	117	146	208	280	270
4 ounces	134	170	263	360	345
5 ounces	151	194	318	440	420
6 ounces	168	218	373	520	495
7 ounces	185	242	428	600	570
8 ounces	202	262	483	680	645
9 ounces	219	361	633	845	805
10 ounces	236	361	633	845	805
11 ounces	253	361	633	845	805
12 ounces	270	361	633	845	805
13 ounces	287	456	783	1010	965

Anything weighing over 13 ounces cannot just be dumped into a mailbox, but must be taken to a post office and its weight and rate determined by a clerk. This is allegedly due to "heightened security". Presumably if India had had such a regulation, the attack on Mumbai would have been impossible.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY (continued from p. 4)

order to supply the Japanese attempt to conquer China. The Japanese government knew that the U. S. Pacific fleet would never allow this, and therefore attempted to sink all its battleships and destroy its principal naval base. Despite the war propaganda fed to Americans at the time, Japan and its allies never planned to conquer and occupy the United States. Its government felt that, without an effective Pacific fleet, the U. S. would just have to abandon any plans to resist a Japanese conquest of the Far East.

Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, commander of the Imperial Japanese Navy and planner of the Pearl Harbor attack, opposed this attack because he knew it would not have this effect on the U. S. government and people. He had studied at Harvard and Yale, spoke excellent English, and had been a naval attaché at the Japanese embassy in Washington. (He was rumored to be the best poker player on Embassy Row.) After he returned from the Pearl Harbor raid, he turned back the congratulations of his colleagues with the words, "We have awakened a sleeping giant, and filled him with a terrible resolve."

This is exactly what happened, despite the bombing of all eight American battle-

(continued on p. 7)

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 12 December 2008. Addresses which have changed or been corrected from those listed in #786 are underlined. If any later changes of address come in before this issue is completely printed, they will be listed in "The Ministry of Miscellany". 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), 7017 Jeweled Hand Circle, Columbia, MD 21044;
410-531-55131 <almehj@alumni.rice.edu>

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

Mike Barno (799), 634 Dawson Hill Road, Spencer, NY 14883-9712

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
 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
 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; <millians.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), 940 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, 797), 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; <wandrew88@gma:.com>
 Bill Young (N), 2304 James Buchanan Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022; 717-361-5768

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY (continued from p. 5)

ships at Pearl Harbor. (Three of them were totally destroyed as a result, but the others were eventually salvaged, and fought in the war.) Moreover, the battleship turned out not to be the principal capital ship in the war, despite the anticipations of both Japanese and American admirals. (Military commanders are frequently accused of preparing to fight the previous war. This is not just a military failing. Often, we Pacifists seem to prepare to resist the previous war.) No American aircraft carriers were at Pearl Harbor when it was attacked, and it was aircraft carriers, not battleships, that were decisive in the naval battles of World War II. In all of World War II, there was only one duel of battleships, when the *Washington* with air support sank the *Kirishima* off Guadalcanal on 15 November 1942. But the decisive battle in the Pacific was Midway, on 4-6 June 1942, when four Japanese fleet carriers were sunk with the loss of only one American carrier.

And Midway was a very near thing; Japan had a larger fleet there, and the battle could easily have gone against the U. S. Navy. But at the time it was fought, Japan had two aircraft carriers under construction, and the U. S. had nine. Yamamoto knew that no other nation on either side could match America's logistic ability, which was eventually decisive in the war.

*

There is not a column on "Dungeons & Christians" in this issue, discussing current attempts by some Christians to suppress the play of Dungeons & Dragons (D&D) and other role-playing games. (They seem to believe that such games are diabolical in origin and purpose, a topic I have discussed in several issues of Graustark.) This is largely because I have recently received no information on this topic from the Committee for the Advancement of Role-Playing Games (CAR-PGa) or the Game Manufacturers Association (GAMA). If more such information comes in, from these or other sources, I will pass it onto the readers.

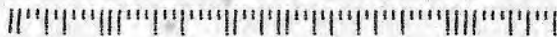
*

The last two 'zines I sent to Harry Manogg, in an assisted living center in Boston, have come back in the mail as "Not Known - Unable to Forward". I would appreciate hearing about Harry from anyone in a position to know.

*

I have just bought the 2009 *World Almanac*, and was pleased to discover that for the first time it contains the results of the previous year's World Series and elections. The election results are nearly complete, with only one state and ten congressional seats not decided when the almanac went to press. (The one state is Missouri, since determined to have been carried by McCain. Also, the numbers say that Obama carried Nevada, but the map gives it to McCain.)

However, the information on postal rates is incomplete. What you find on p. 5 of this Graustark is more complete.



21044504 0088

GRAUSTARK #787

John Boardman
234 East 19th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11226-5302



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Hank Alme
7017 Jeweled Hand Circle
Columbia, MD
21044

- () - Sample copy.
- (✓) - You may be interested in an item on p. 4.