

*Andrew Russell*

AND THE HIPPOS WERE BOILED IN THEIR TANKS

6 Dec 1907 Quito founded by final misguided conquistador riding through Andes on boiling hippo like Hannibal before the Great Salting of Carthage. 6 Dec 1914 all of Mexico City jubilation feast of boiled hippo burritos & beans, boiled hippo and rice as benzedrine addicts Zapata & Villa swim celebratory liberation laps in tanks for boiling hippos. Your welcome to Halifax, 6 Dec 3 years later as munitions ship loading for fight to down der Kaiser and his hippos and their tanks incinerates & effluviates and Halifax is gone and so are many of its people, too. Largest pre-atomic explosion felt as far as St. Louis as hippos boiled away. 6 Dec 1940 Marshal Zhukov & Stalin boys launch first successful Red Hippo Army counter-hippo offensive against Nazi hippo warriors wading through Mockba thieving magpie hippo mud & Russian winters got Napoleon & why not Hitler, too? Angry Adolf retribution boiling hippofest in subterranean brine pond beneath his Berchtesgaden (German for hippo tank) lair as hippos snorted upending another Congo canoe. Did you know (not fearing hippos) hippos are most dangerous African animal—kill people in boats worse than tigers or flesh-munching monkeys or tusk-wielding elephants or lions or army ants? Hippos kill more even if boiled in boiling hippo hippo boiling zoo cannibal hippo pots. You can't burn a leather-lunged hippo, nor incineration like 6 Dec Halifax hippos, nor asphyxiation like Obregon hippos but only way is boiling hippos boiling hippos boiling hippos boiling hippos. In St. Boiling Louis hippos 6 Dec 1967 boiling I was born hippos there boiling Vietnam hippos NYC boiling anti-war hippos arrests hippos 6 Dec hippos 1974 or tanks 1975 hippos I got hippos to watch Monday Boiling Night Hippoball.

Bengals not nearly so boiling fearsome as hippos vs. my  
boiling beloved hippo Raiders. Black and boiling tank silver—  
my favorite hippos even on a boiling 6 Dec school hippo night.  
Tanks, you tanks of boiling hippos. If hippos have friends,  
I am your friends, hippos.