

DIPLOMAG - MENSA DIPLOMACY SIG NEWS

NUMBER 25

September 16, 1978

This is the bimonthly newsletter of the American Mensa Postal Diplomacy SIG. Dues are \$2.00 per year. Non-Mensans may receive this newsletter for \$2 per year, but may not join the SIG. Send all funds to the Chairman. Diplomacy is a registered trademark for a game Copyright by the Avalon Hill Game Co., Baltimore, Md. 21214.

Chairman & Publisher: Fred C. Davis, Jr., 1427 Clairidge Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21207
Senior Committeeman: Don Horton, 16 Jordan Ct., Sacramento, Calif. 95826
Junior Committeeman: Bill Young, P.O. Box 907, Clearfield, Pa. 16830

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ELECTION COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Having tallied all nominations received by me up to and including August 24, 1978, the results are as follows:

For Chairman: Fred C. Davis, Jr. (No other nominees)

For Senior Committeeman: Donald Horton (No other nominees)

Therefore, I, Craig A. Reges, declare Fred C. Davis and Donald Horton elected by acclamation, to their respective offices.

(Our new terms of office begin November 1, 1978, and run to November 1, 1980).

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NOTE: All dues received here from new members after August 31st are being applied to their 1979 SIG Memberships.

SWISS DIPLOMACY GAME FILLED AND READY TO START

Believe it or not, we now have eight players and one stand-by for this game. The last response only just arrived, so we had to "tear out the front page" to bring you this. The Austrian position was assigned by request; the French because it was a natural. All other slots were assigned by lot.

AUSTRIA: Konrad Baumeister, 11416 Parkview La., Hales Corners, Wis. 53130
ENGLAND: Frank Kenesson, 3323 Executive Ave., Falls Church, Va. 22042
FRANCE: Alain Meloche, 323 Labrosse Blvd., Gatineau, Quebec, CANADA J8P 4P7
GERMANY: Bill Young, P.O. Box 907, Clearfield, Pa. 16830
ITALY: Tony Earl, 1020 High St., #B1, Bellingham, Wash. 98225 → (Turned out to be a Yinger
RUSSIA: Harry Turtledove, 13715 Cordary, #274, Hawthorne, Calif. 90250
SWITZERLAND: Paul Funkenbusch, 110 W. South Ave., Houghton, Mich. 49931
TURKEY: Edward C. Bapple, 5421 N. East River Rd., Chicago, Ill. 60656
#1 STANDBY: Jerry W. Montgomery, P.O. Box 2000, Rt. 3, Hagerstown, Md. 21740

Everyone is from a different State, fortunately, which portends a good postal game. We would like to have a couple more stand-bys. You may have a slot for \$2.00.

The DEADLINE for SPRING 1901 will be in two months, on Tuesday, November 14, 1978. Telephone deadline is Monday, November 13th, at 9:00 p.m., Eastern Time. Phone calls will be accepted for orders under the same rules as in BUSHWACKER. Accepted only between 7 and 10 p.m. weekdays and 12 Noon to 10 p.m. weekends, but I would much prefer you to submit your orders by mail. Anyone phoning between Midnight and 10 a.m. will be automatically expelled from the game, without refund of game fee.

(more)

You are being given this long deadline for several reasons: To give novices a chance to study this variant; To have the first move coincide with the next issue of DIPLOMAG; In case of a postal strike; and because I'm too busy to start the game until then. Deadlines will normally be the 14th of each month. After the first month, alternate moves will be run by Xerox copy, going only to the players and stand-bys.

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THE MENSA DIPLOMACY PRESS: I. NEW DIPLOMACY ZINE: EGGNOG, to be produced by Konrad Baumeister, 11416 Parkview La., Hales Corners, Wisconsin 53130. The first issue will be coming out October 1, 1978. Subscriptions will be 10 issues for \$3.50. Game fees will vary, depending on whether the games are Regular Diplomacy, variants, or other PBM games. However, anybody who signs up now, before the end of October, will be able to play for free. Konrad has openings for two Regular games and one section of the Youngstown Variant (ten-player version). Send preference lists, or you get what's left over. Suggestions for other games will be considered. Articles are actively solicited, too. (These games, of course, are open to everyone).

I'm glad to see EGGNOG rising as BUSHWACKER is fading away. I hope that EGGNOG will become the new variant specialist zine for North America. Konrad plans to reprint the rules and maps for variant games from time to time.

II. GAME OPENING: ROY SMITH, 64 Addicks Rd., Westwood, N.J. 07675, announces an opening in an all-Mensa game of Regular Diplomacy in his zine, BREW & REEFER. Send at least \$2.00 for a sub to the zine, and a \$2.00 refundable deposit to play in the game. If you don't drop out, your deposit will be refunded at game's end or upon elimination.

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MENSA GAME #8 (1978AZ) is underway in CLAW & FANG. The famous (or infamous) Mensa #5, 1975HG, has finally gotten rolling again, and has reached Fall 1911. Austria has just been eliminated, leaving just four Powers. FRANCE (Arnold Vagts) is leading, with 12 Centers, followed by ITALY (Sid Jolly), with 9.

The United States Diplomacy variant game (1976-Egv) has ended in Fall 1931, with a victory for Bob Johnson's Northwest Republic. Bob (a non-M) finished with 16 Centers. Jerry Montgomery's Dixie finished second with 9, and Walter Compton's Texas had 5. New England still had 8 Centers, but fell into Civil Disorder in F '31. Congratulations, Bob. Now, I have here a membership application for Mensa...

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WORLD VARIANT ORGANIZATION NEWS

I am pleased to announce that the Custodians of the several variant banks throughout the world have agreed to coordinate their efforts, exchange copies of the most popular and most playable variants, and reclassify the variants from the chronological Miller Numbers to a more logical system. The task force will be headed by Rod Walker, 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas, Calif. 92024; and Der Garvey, 22 McDonagh Rd., Ballyphehand, Cork City, IRISH REPUBLIC.

This group is not in competition with any other variant group. For the present, membership is limited to people who want to work actively in some aspect of the variant field. If you'd be interested in doing something in the hobby, such as playtesting a variant, looking at new variant rules/maps to offer constructive criticism, writing articles on variants, etc., please contact Der Garvey directly, as he is first among equals in heading this organization. Der has access to a computer, on which the variant records have already been stored for retrieval in several different formats. Der was our houseguest for two days in August. I can vouch for his intelligence and willingness to work. He has passed the preliminary Mensa test.

DIPLOMACY SIG BIOGRAPHIES (Second Edition - 1978) - Part II

KEY: 2. Address. 3. Date of Birth. 4. Marital Status. 5. Occupation or School. 6. Year joined Mensa. 7. Active in Local Group? 8. Isolated M? 9. Any Mensa office held. 9a. Participated in any Mensa FTF Diplomacy games? 10a. Year began playing Diplomacy. 10b. Began playing Postal Diplomacy. 11. Number of Postal Dip games you're currently in. 12. How did you learn about Diplomacy? 13. Other favorite games. 14. Other major interests. 15. Remarks.

LINCOLN BEAUMONT. 2. 9755 Mockingbird Dr., #101, Omaha, Nebr. 68127. 3. May 15, 1938. 4. Single. 5. Air Force officer (Major). 6. 1978. 7. Yes. 8. No. 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1961. 10b. None yet. 11. None yet. 12. Roommate. 13. Bridge, Monopoly, Scrabble, sports simulations. 14. Gold, history, reading, baroque music, sci fi, Fem's.

PATRICK CROMIE. 2. 550 N. River Rd., Coventry, CT 06238. 3. May 21, 1961. 4. Available. 5. Coventry High School Senior. 6. 1978. 7. Yes. 8. What's an Isolated M? (Ask Harper Fowley). (No. 9a. No. 10a. 1978. 10b. Soon! 11. (See 10b). 12. From Mensa. 13. Backgammon, Chess, cards. 14. Politics, books (mysteries & non-fiction), Washington, D.C., Humor (aren't you repeating yourself there? - FCD). 15. You can travel the world, but there's no place like home.

FRED DAVIS, JR. 2. 1427 Clairidge Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21207. 3. June 1, 1930. 4. Married. 5. Legal Assistant, Social Security Administration. 6. 1964. 7. Yes. 8. No, but I read Isolated M. 9. I was Membership Chairman of Md. Mensa for 9 years, & Loc Sec for two. 9a. Yes, we've had Mensa Dippy parties here. 10a. 1968. 10b. 1968. 11. Two. 12. From a fellow Md. Mensan. 13. Monopoly, Scrabble, all sorts of games with my son, Kevin. 14. Politics, Astronomy, Science Fiction, Mass transit, Travel, ZPG, ecology. 15. You get the greatest pen pals playing Dippy.

DENNIS R. KLEIN. 2. 477 W. South St., #1, Galesburg, Ill. 61401. 3. Dec. 18, 1956. 4. Single. 5. Knox College (will get BBA in June 1979). 6. 1975. 7. No. 8. Yes. 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1973. 10b. 1973. 11. Eleven. 12. Through old GRI flyer in Dip game. 13. 3-M, Avalon Hill type games, Solitaire. 14. Radio broadcasting, graduating, writing, classical music, sleeping late.

GARY L. SMITH. 2. 4762-B North High St., Columbus, Ohio 43214. 3. Feb. 23, 1942. 4. Single. 5. Broadcast Technician & Graduate student. 6. 1973. 7. Yes. 8. Yes. 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1974. 10b. 1975. 11. None now. 12. Article in Playboy magazine. 13. Anything. 14. EVERYTHING.

ROY H. SMITH. 2. 64 Addicks Rd., Westwood, N.J. 07675. 3. April 8th. 4. Single. 5. Student - Cooper Union. Major - Chemical Engineering. 6. 1976. 7. No. 8. No. 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1974. 10b. 1976. 11. Five. 12. A friend taught me how. 13. Chess, D & D, assorted wargames, pinball. 14. Ecology & conservation, computers. 15. I think Dippy SIG should insure all-M games.

ROBERT L. STIMMEL. 2. Brooks Hotel, Apt. 12, 1541 Sawtelle Blvd., Los Angeles, Cal. 90025. 3. January 5, 1926. 4. Single. 5. Unemployed. 6. 1962 (lapsed twice, but not recently) 7. No. 8. No. 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1975. 10b. 1975. 11. Six Regular, six variants. Will GM my 15-player Colonia-type variant if we get enough players. 12. From Mensa BULLETIN. 13. I'd enjoy Rail Baron. Mail game, anyone? 14. Historical Genealogy, Astronomy. 15. Am writing articles on the Ancestors of the King and Queen of Spain for "The Augustan."

ROLAND STRATEN. 2. 36 Erwin Park Rd., Montclair, N.J. 07042. 3. March 6, 1941. 4. Married. 5. Engineer. 6. 1975(?) 7. No. 8. No. 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1974. 10b. 1976. 11. Three. 12. On a summer vacation. 13. Numerous games.

ARNOLD E. VAGTS, JR. 2. 3713 S. Parton St., Santa Ana, Calif. 92707. 3. Mar. 21, 1941. 4. Single. 5. Psychologist. 6. 1966. 7. Yes. 9. No. 9a. Yes. 10a. 1968. 10b. 1969. 11. Two. 12. (not answered). 13. Shogi, Go, Acquire. 14. Handball, Photography.

BILL YOUNG. 2. (Mail): P.O. Box 907, Clearfield, Pa. 16830. (Home): 618 Indian Rd. (same). 3. July 12, 1923. 4. Married. 5. Title abstractor. 6. About 1968. 7. Yes. 8. No. 9. Executive committee member, Central Pa. Group. 9a. Yes (at AG's and Davises). 10a. 1974. 10b. 1974/75. 11. Seven. 12. Through Mensa BULLETIN. 13. Golf, Bridge. 14. Beagling.

FRANK KENESSON. 2. 3323 Executive Ave., Falls Church, Va. 22042. 3. Sept. 11, 1942. 4. Married. 5. Writer/ Part-time history teacher in a private secondary school. 6. 1978. 7. Not yet. 8. No. 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1968(?). 10b. About to begin. 11. None. 12. (?) 13. Postal Chess. 14. World domination.

That's all the forms I've received. Anyone else may send in their Biography if they wish, and I'll print them after I've collected a couple more.

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NEW MEMBERS

Edward C. Bapple, 5421 N. East River Rd., Chicago, Ill. 60656. (312) 693-8285.
Lincoln Beaumont, 9755 Mockingbird Dr., #101, Omaha, Nebr. 68127. (402) 339-5886.
Patrick F. Cromie, 550 N. River Rd., Coventry, Ct. 06238. (203) 742-9472.
Marvin J. Hauber, Box B-41110, Tamal, Calif. 94964.
James W. Heubach, 103 Katherine Dr., Vicksburg, Miss. 39180.
Walter Hodgdon, 252 N. Main St., Warsaw, N.Y. 14569. (716) 786-2429.
Frank Kenneson, 3323 Executive Ave., Falls Church, Va. 22042. (703) 573-8314.
Dennis R. Klein, 477 W. South Rd., Apt. 1, Galesburg, Ill. 61401. (309) 343-8992.
Harry Turtledove, 13715 Cordary, #274, Hawthorne, Calif. 90250. (213) 675-2179.

We now have 40 members, plus six additional readers. Several of our new members were obtained via the Special Interest printout that was part of the 1978 Membership Renewal form. Others joined as a result of the terrific new SIG Directory which appeared in the July/August issue of the Mensa BULLETIN.

Barring a mail strike, you should be receiving this issue of DIPLOMAG about September 19th, and the next issue should be printed around November 15th. Should there be a lengthy strike, all publication dates will be delayed.

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DIPLOMAG - MENSA DIPSIG NEWS
c/o Fred C. Davis, Jr.
1427 Clairidge Rd.
Baltimore, Md. 21207
U.S.A.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

As the first step in getting the variant sub-hobby squared away, two new branches of the North American Variant Bank have been formed. One, North American V.B.-West, is in the temporary custody of Rod Walker (address shown elsewhere). The other, NAVB-East, will be run by me, Fred Davis. We also hope to establish a NAVB-Canada. For the time being, all orders for copies of variant maps/rules should be sent directly to Rod (Except for my own Davis variants, such as Swiss Dip, Abstraction, Atlantica, 1885, Small World, etc., which may be obtained directly from me, @50¢, or 3 for \$1.00). I will let you know when I receive my copies of the North American Variant Bank. All variants will be sold on a non-profit basis. A catalog will be published eventually.

The first "production" of the revitalized NAVB is now ready. This is a complete set of rules and maps for all of the several Youngstown Variants, in one package, together with a history of this most popular variant. This includes a new "ultimate" version, Youngstown XII, which finally completes the world by adding the Americas, and adding the United States as the 12th Power. This is available directly from Rod Walker for \$2.50.