

DIPLOMAG

NUMBER 33

January 20, 1980

This is the bimonthly newsletter of the American Mensa Postal Diplomacy Special Interest Group, bringing hobby and SIG news to Mensans interested in playing the game, Diplomacy, and its variants by mail. Dues are \$2.00 per year. Non-members may also subscribe for \$2.00 per year, but may not join the SIG. Send all funds to the Chairman.

DUES are now due for 1980. Please make all checks out to "Fred C. Davis, Jr.", as we do not have a separate checking account for the SIG.

Diplomacy is a registered trademark for a game Copyright by the Avalon Hill Game Co., 4517 Harford Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21214. The game is available directly from the publisher for \$15.00, postpaid, if you are unable to locate it in your community.

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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THE ANNUAL TREASURY REPORT

This may be the last time we'll be furnishing an annual report in January. We've received word from the National Mensa SIG Coordinator that all SIGs which charge dues are going to be required to furnish semi-annual financial reports to American Mensa, with the first report due about April 1980. This may cause us to change our bookkeeping dates to agree with National requirements, although I have no intention of changing the dues payment period to anything other than on a calendar year basis. We will see how complex the April report turns out to be. We may then furnish a report to the membership here along with our October report, or we may even wait until April 1981 to publish our next report in DIPLOMAG. You'll be advised here as to what is decided, as well as information on scheduled airline departures for Brazil.

Funds in Treasury, as of Dec. 31, 1978:		\$24.19
Dues Rec'd, Jan. thru Nov., 1979:		84.50
(incl. \$14.00 rec'd in 12/78)		\$108.69
	<u>Expenses</u>	
Cost of postage, 6 issues,	\$49.08	
Jan.-Nov. 1979		
Mimeograph stencils, 4 quires	34.00	
Electronic stencil cut	4.50	
Taxes on above 2 items	1.93	
Mimeograph paper, 2 reams	10.00	
Special mailing to AG	.66	
	\$100.17	
		<u>-100.17</u>
Funds in Treasury, Dec. 31, 1979:		\$ 8.52

(more)

DIPLOMAG, January 20, 1980

Note 1: As of 1/1/80, we had already received \$22.00 in payments for 1980 dues, so we really had \$30.52 in the Treasury as of that date.

Note 2: The purchase of two reams of mimeo paper in one calendar year is unusual, but we bought one in January and one in October in 1979.

As a separate transaction, a total of \$10.00 was received for the Harper Fowley Defense Fund between 12/1/78 and 2/8/79, and dispatched to the Fund on 3/15/79. These funds were not co-mingled with SIG funds.

We see no need for any dues increase in the foreseeable future.

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MENSA GAMES REPORTS

A proposal for an Italian win has failed in Mensa #7, 1977CY, as of Fall 1913. H.D. Bassett's ITALY has just gained Edi to climb to 14 Centers. AUSTRIA (Linc Beaumont) will climb from 10 to 12. FRANCE (Funkenbusch) retains 5 of the remaining 8 Centers, to perhaps retain the power to decide who will win.

Mensa #8, 1978AZ, Shows Bassett's FRANCE leading the pack with 12. TURKEY (Rollie Straten) has climbed from 7 to 9 in Winter 1908. Everyone else is going down.

Mensa #9, 1978W, features slam-bang battles between the French and Turks; and between the English & Germans against Russia. England, France and Turkey have 7, 9, and 7 units on the board, respectively, as of Spring 1907.

The newest Mensa game, Mensa #10, has finally filled in CLAW & FANG, and is just getting underway. Most of the players are new SIG members.

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ON TEACHING AND WRITING ENGLISH (A reprint)

"...The good news is that Richard Mitchell has written a book, Less Than Words Can Say (Little, Brown), ... Professor Mitchell has an inside track. As a faculty member of a teacher's college, he sees the best and the worst not only of the language, but of the core of our educational system. He says that, to a deplorable extent, today's educators are failing even to attempt to teach what they should be teaching and are trying to teach what no one asked them to teach and what, furthermore, probably cannot be taught:

"Our educators have said that they would teach love and brotherhood... social consciousness and environmental awareness, creativity, ethnic pride, sensitivity to interpersonal intercultural relationships, and the skills of self-expression, provided, of course, that such skills didn't involve irrelevant details like spelling and the agreement of subjects and verbs.

"Very few Americans will recall asking the educators to pursue such goals.... We did ask the schools to teach everybody to read, write and cipher... If you'd like to be a teacher, but you don't want to work too hard, by all means set up as a teacher of brotherhood rather than as a teacher of reading and writing and arithmetic. Such a career has the further advantage that no one knows ... whether you have actually taught anyone anything, whereas teachers of reading and writing are always being embarrassed when their students are shown not to have learned those things."

"We are in trouble. When writers don't know the rules, their writing usually turns to mush. When writing turns to mush, thought, which feeds on writing, suffers from malnutrition and is incapable of clear development or expression. When that happens, the perils of this complex world become overwhelming." - Thomas H. Middleton in Saturday Review, Nov. 24, 1979

NORTH AMERICAN DIPLOMACY FEDERATION BEING ESTABLISHED

Under the Leadership of Rod Walker, one of the real Old Timers of the hobby, a group of hobby coordinators are planning to form a new umbrella organization to keep things together in North America. Other organizations failed because people were first forced to become politicians and get elected to office; then, the winners were expected to buckle down and do some work. The requirements for winning an election were not always the same as that needed for hard, boring, slogging service work. The NADF will be composed of people who are already doing the hobby's service work in such posts as Boardman Number & Miller No. Custodians, DIPLOMACY WORLD Editor, Variant Bank Custodians, Novice Project and Orphan Game Rescue Coordinators, Ombudsmen, IDA and CDO Presidents, Variant Commission Chairman, and the like. (Not an all-inclusive list).

It is proposed that these top-echelon leaders form a Steering Committee to pull the hobby together. Below them, a second echelon will consist of all Publishers and GM's, plus the back-up or deputy coordinators for the major posts. There will also be a third echelon for other players who are interested, but who cannot devote the time to take on a service job. The NADF will probably elect a President, Vice-President and Treasurer, either from among themselves or from other hobby activists who do not hold a service post. Terms of office will, hopefully, be for longer than one year, so the people holding elective office won't always have to be campaigning for re-election. All other members of the Steering Committee will hold their posts by whatever method has usually been followed in the past to pass such offices on. Usually, this has meant the appointment of his successor by the previous holder of the office.

This proposal has already met with such enthusiasm among hobby leaders that the NADF Charter is expected to be put up for ratification in March, published in DIPLOMACY WORLD in the Spring, and in full operation by the time a General Meeting is held at DipCon in Ann Arbor, Mich. sometime this summer. If you'd like to receive a copy of the proposed Charter and other information, as published in NUMENOR #19 and #20, send at least \$1.00 to: Rod Walker, 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas, Calif. 92024.

(I will not hold a seat on the NADF Steering Comm. as Chairman of the Mensa Diplomacy SIG, since it is the feeling that the SIG should stay out of hobby politics. However, I may be holding a seat wearing my hat as Custodian of the North American Variant Bank-East, in which case I'll be able to keep you informed of any important news.)

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NEW MEMBERS (We grow by leaps and bounds!)

Ralph F. Baty, 8948 Caminito Fresco, LaJolla, Calif. 92037. () 455-7106
Chip Charnley, USNF Keflavik, Box 7, FPO New York 09571. (Iceland)
Vincent Chiachio, 21 Gov. Winthrop Rd., Somerville, Mass. 02145
Gilliam MacGregor, 3003 Main St., Brewster, Mass. 02631.
Michael A. Morris, 1657 Munroe Falls Ave, #17, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221
John P. Muller, 666 W. Weatherford, Ft. Worth, Tex. 76102

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Stanley Dunn, 704 Dodge St., W. Lafayette, Ind. 47906
Cornelius Van den Handel, III, 1500 Royal Crest, #123, Austin, Texas 78741

THERE WILL BE A NEW MEMBERSHIP LIST PREPARED as soon as the 1980 dues are received, so we know who is remaining in the SIG. May I suggest that you mail in your 1980 dues, if you have not already done so, no later than February 19, 1980. That happens to be the deadline for the next move in the Swiss Dip game running herein. I'll use that as the cut-off date. Anyone whose dues are not received by that date will not have his name shown on the next edition of the SIG Membership List. It will be a very long list this time, so I must get it done fairly early. Please, those of you for whom I have no phone numbers, send me your number if you wish to have it published.

NEW VARIANT BANK CATALOG AVAILABLE

A Complete listing of all games available for sale from the North American Variant Bank-West (the main NAVB), is available from Custodian Rod Walker for \$1.10. This lists the games in both alphabetical order and according to Catalog Nos., which have grouped the variants into orderly categories. Some of the categories are Ancient Europe, Medieval Europe, Global games, Expansions of the Regular Board, Space games, and Tolkien variants. Ask for a copy of ARDA #2 when you write. Oh, yes, the address is 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas, Calif. 92024.

Der Garvey has apparently dropped out of the Diplomacy hobby, abandoning his massive work of listing 550 known Dip variants alphabetically, by Variant No., and by author and country of origin. This material was apparently scrubbed from Garvey's computer before he left his job with the firm whose computer he had been using for this program. While I have a print-out of his draft of this work, I do not feel that I can maintain it satisfactorily (add new designs, that is) for the next year or so. Accordingly, in my position as International V.B. Custodian Coordinator, which is part of the job of the NAVB - East, I am taking a poll of the world's V.B. Custodians, to see whether we should abandon the Variant Nos., and use the Walker-NAVB Catalog Nos. to list the variants in a properly classified manner. This has nothing to do with the issuance of Miller Nos. for individual postal game sections. The Miller No. Custodian can use whatever system he chooses to designate postal variant games sections. However, for the purpose of cataloging and selling variants, they must be organized into categories, according to their scenarios and types of rules.

* * * * *

IF YOU'RE STUCK IN AN ORPHAN GAME which has been forgotten by your GM, contact Dick Martin, 26 Orchard Way N., Rockville, Md. 20854, Dick, publisher of RETALIATION, promises to place any and all orphan games on which the "stats" are passed on to him, at no charge to the hobby. You might want to encourage Dick to keep up the good work by subbing to his zine. I don't have the sub rates handy, but send him two or three dollars and see what happens.

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ONE DEFINITION OF A MENSA MIND would be the ability to see the next steps beyond the obvious when a new event or discovery occurs. (This ability, sometimes called creativity, is believed by experts to be the gift of about 3% of the human race. Mensa, unfortunately, takes in only the top 2%, but its efforts to establish gifted children's programs is also of great value to the 97th percentile people.) I would like to reprint one example of an extraordinarily acute mind in action:

In 1610, Galileo announced the discovery of Jupiter's four largest moons. In April of that same year, the German mathematician Johannes Kepler cut through all the verbiage to the heart of the matter:

"Prophesying the continued quest of the human spirit...Kepler wrote the following words to his friend Galileo: 'There will certainly be no lack of human pioneers when we have mastered the art of flight... Let us create vessels and sails adjusted to the heavenly ether, and there will be plenty of people unafraid of the empty wastes. In the meanwhile, we shall prepare, for the brave sky-travelers, maps of the celestial bodies -- I shall do it for the Moon, you, Galileo, for Jupiter.'"

- Reprinted from ASTRONOMY magazine, December 1979.

Copies of this should be sent to every Congressman. It might reawaken our somnolent space program.

SWISS DIPLOMACY II (Mensa Variant #2)

FALL 1905

ITALIANS STAB BOTH SWISS AND AUSTRIANS. FRENCH FADE, GERMANS GIVE UP GHOST, RUSSIANS SLEEP, ENGLISH PICK UP THE PIECES. NO ROOM FOR AUSTRIAN BUILD.

- AUSTRIA (Baumeister): A Serbia-Rumania. A Budapest and A Bulgaria (S) A Serbia-Rumania. (5) A Vienna-Galicia. F Aegean Sea (S) A Bulgaria.
- ENGLAND (Kenesson): F English Channel-London. A Picardy-Belgium. F Holland (S) A Picardy-Belgium. A Paris (H). A Berlin (H). F Baltic-Denmark. A Edinburgh-Norway. F Norwegian Sea (C) A Edinburgh-Norway (Fast Ferry). F Sweden (S) A Edinburgh-Norway.
- FRANCE (Greenberg): NMR. F South Atlantic (H).
- GERMANY (Young): A Burgundy (H). F North Sea (H). (2)
- ITALY (Montgomery): A Croatia-Zara. A Tyrol-Zurich. F Tyrr. Sea-Ionian Sea. (5) A Sahara-Tunis. F Sardinia-Tyrr. Sea /d/, (Annihilated).
- RUSSIA (Turtledove): NMR. A's Galicia and Silesia (H). F'S Gulf of Bothnia and Sevastopol (H). A Rumania (H) /d/, (R) Ukraine (only space open). (5)
- SWITZ. (Funkenbusch): A Castile-Portugal. A Marseilles-Andalucia. F Morocco-And. (8) A Swabia-Geneva. F Western Med.-Sardinia. F Gulf of Lions (S) F Western Med.-Sardinia. F Ligurian Sea-Tyrr. Sea. A Algeria-Tunis.
- TURKEY (Bapple): A Armenia-Const. F Black Sea (C) A Armenia-Const. (Fast Ferry). (4) F Smyrna (S) A Armenia-Const.

NO PRESS. On with the show.

SUPPLY CENTER CHART, WINTER 1905: GAINS, LOSSES

- AUSTRIA: Budapest, Vienna, Greece, Serbia, BULGARIA, (6, Build 1) (No room to build) RUMANIA, ~~ZARA~~
- ENGLAND: 3 Home, Belgium, Brest, Denmark, Kiel, (12, Build 3) (Room for 2) Norway, Sweden, BERLIN, HOLLAND, PARIS
- FRANCE: ~~PARIS~~ (0, Remove 1) (OUT)
- Germany: ~~BERLIN, AUSTRIA~~ (0, Remove 2) (OUT)
- ITALY: 3 Home, Munich, ZARA, ZURICH, ~~SARDINIA~~ (6, Build 2) (1 annihilated)
- RUSSIA: 4 Home, ~~RUMANIA~~ (4, Remove 1)
- SWITZ.: Geneva, Morocco, Andalucia, Castile, Mar- (8, No change) seille, Portugal, Tunis, SARDINIA, ~~ZARICA~~
- TURKEY: 3 Home, ~~BULGARIA~~ (3, No change) (1 annihilated)

Since neither Austria nor Switzerland can build, and some other Powers have submitted tentative adjustments, we're going to go ahead and print the Winter moves, as far as they go. Players may make their moves contingent upon which unit is removed by Russia. In the event no Russian removal orders are received, the GM will remove A Silesia.

Vern Schaller, 207 Garfield Ave., Cherry Hill, N.J. 08034, is requested to submit back-up orders for Russia for Spring 1906. If Harry Turtledove misses again, Vern's orders will be used.

WINTER 1905

		CURRENT STRENGTH
AUSTRIA	No room to build	6 (+1) Will be 1 unit short
ENGLAND	Build A Edinburgh, A Liverpool	12 (+3) Will be 1 unit short
FRANCE	Remove F South Atlantic	0 (-1) OUT
GERMANY	Remove A Burgundy, F North Sea	0 (-2) OUT
ITALY	Build A Venice, F Rome	6 (+1) (1 annihilated)
RUSSIA	Remove ??	4 (-1)
SWITZERLAND	No change	8 (n.c.)
TURKEY	No change	3 (-1) (1 annihilated)

DIPLOMAG, January 20, 1980

SWISS DIPLOMACY II (cont.)

DEADLINE for SPRING 1906 orders will be TUESDAY, February 19, 1980. Note there will be no mail delivery on Monday, Feb. 18th (Washington's Birthday), which is why the deadline is being extended. Deadline for phone orders will be Monday, Feb. 18th, at 9:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

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Since we seem to have a lot of space left over, we're going to reprint the piece we've just written for the January BUSHWACKER, our other zine:

SPECIAL NOTICE. A game called "Ayatollahs and Commissars" (or World War III) may be launched by Moscow Publications, Inc. before the next deadline. The following Special House Rules will apply should said production get under way:

1. All orders to be submitted in lead-lined envelopes.
2. An extra week will be allowed on deadlines for players on active duty stationed in Iran or Afghanistan or adjacent waters.
3. Players stationed on nuclear submarines will nominate their own substitutes by placing their names and addresses in bottles and firing them to the surface via the torpedo tubes.
4. Orders in Farsi, Russian or Arabic will be accepted only from those sovereign embassies currently entertaining "students."
5. The mere presence of a Soviet armored unit below regimental strength in one's zone of control will not be seen as justification for an extension of a deadline.
6. The nuking of the State of Maryland will be deemed sufficient by the GM to warrant a postponement of the next deadline.
7. In the event the planet is knocked out of orbit, the games will be continued in the next sphere of existence, whatever that may be.

And I guess I should add that from now on all bribes to the GM should be in either gold or Swiss francs.

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

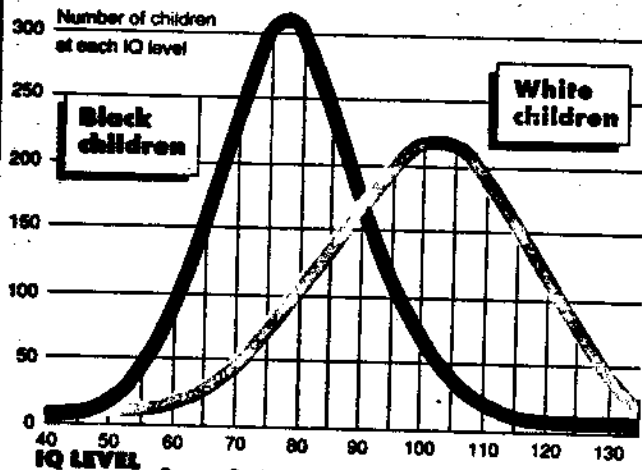
JENSEN'S REBUTTAL

Arthur Jensen has grown accustomed to life in the vortex of an academic cyclone. Blacks, he has long argued, are less intelligent than whites, and that is why they perform poorly on IQ tests (chart). Even more startling, the psychologist suggests that the phenomenon may result from genetic inferiority. When the prestigious Harvard Educational Review published the University of California, Berkeley, professor's heresy eleven years ago, his ideas touched off impassioned scholarly rebuttals—and brought him death threats in the mail. Since then, many of his critics have fastened on flaws in tests to explain why blacks get lower IQ scores. Now Jensen has rigorously responded to those

- The difference in test scores stems from the average black's lower ability to reason conceptually. Blacks have a harder time grasping how objects are related. For example, they cannot solve puzzles, analogies or ratio problems as easily as whites. Blacks do compete equally or favorably with whites on tests of memory and dexterity, such as number recall and counting groups of dots.
- There is a developmental lag between black and white children. The average black 10-year-old performs at the mental level of the average white 8-year-old. But unlike the tortoise and the hare, blacks never catch up with whites.
- Criticism of "cultural bias" in tests is

THE TESTING GAP

Comparing a random sample of 1,800 black schoolchildren with a national survey of white youngsters in 1960, researchers concluded that whites outperform blacks on IQ tests.



James D. Wilson—NEWSWEEK
Jensen and a study cited in his book: Bound to renew the debate over genes and intelligence

with considerable risk," Jensen explains. But Jensen argues that IQ testing is inherently fair. He believes that most public antipathy toward testing falls into two camps—both of them in error. Political critics, he says, resent testing for being discriminatory by definition and regard tests as inventions to shore up the Establishment or oppress the downtrodden. Romantics, on the other hand, oppose tests for ignoring positive qualities such as high creativity and good character. "Criticism of mental tests amounts to armchair analysis," Jensen says. "I'd be delighted to see a cogent argument against them."

Educators who have read advance copies of Jensen's book respect his scholarship but believe it is skewed. They insist that Jensen pays too little attention to a child's home and school environment in evaluating lower black test scores. "His analysis fails to address sources of external bias adequately," says Princeton University psychologist Leon Kamin. When encountering tests, black children are much more likely than whites to be handicapped by poor diet and bad living conditions—or to come from households where mental alacrity is not expected and encouraged from infancy. In addition, blacks usually find test conditions more unfamiliar than do middle-class whites.

HEREDITY: Lurking behind the book, say test specialists, is Jensen's genetic determinism. Although Jensen scrupulously avoids discussing heredity to explain superior white performance, he sticks with his original hypothesis. "Jensen appears to be laying the groundwork for a larger project," says Educational Testing Service vice president Samuel Messick. "The bigger controversy is likely to erupt when he moves to the next step of trying to prove a genetic basis for the difference in test scores."

Jensen makes no attempt to answer his critics on genetic issues but contends that testing pays social dividends. Those who resent tests because whites score better on them, says Jensen, ignore how they "can help to reinforce the democratic ideal." IQ tests work to discover talent in children from disadvantaged backgrounds, where parents and even teachers frequently fail to recognize superior intellect. Unlike admissions officers or employers, he says, tests are colorblind—and less capricious.

Yet on any count, the implications of Jensen's book are grim. His work suggests that attempts to raise the educational success rate of all black youngsters to parity with whites are ultimately doomed to fall short. If black test results derive overwhelmingly from inherited traits, Jensen's message is bleak indeed: blacks should resign themselves to a role of intellectual inferiority. Jensen's ideas are so radical that they are bound to renew the debate over race and genes. An uglier prospect is that they may lend themselves to those who would chip away at the fundamental principle of equal opportunity.

GIL SEWALL with ELLIOTT D. LEE

charges, publishing an encyclopedic review of testing—a book that promises to stir still another stormy debate over racial intelligence and the value of tests.

Jensen's new survey* gives IQ testing an essentially clean bill of health at a time when testing faces unprecedented public hostility. It also buttresses his old genetic arguments. While the report steers clear of trying to prove heredity-based intelligence, it concludes that IQ tests are valid measurements of natural ability. Jensen rejects test bias to account for the average 15-point IQ gap between blacks and whites of all backgrounds. Says the 56-year-old psychologist: "There is a true difference in the general intelligence between blacks and whites, and at this time it is impossible to devise a reasonable test of mental abilities which does not show that difference."

Among his controversial conclusions:

*"Bias in Mental Testing." 786 pages. The Free Press. \$29.95.

unjustified. Blacks do better on items that refer to white culture, such as "The Iliad," than they do on "culture-free" items, such as the number of days in a week.

Jensen admits that IQ testing can be unsuitable or imperfect in some circumstances. IQ tests, he concedes, "are probably overused by schools, especially at the elementary level." He fears that intelligence tests may discourage some schools from making an effort to serve all of their youngsters equally well. He urges educators to use more tests in specific academic subjects to chart a student's mental ability and promise. Jensen is also shocked by the lax management and sloppy grading of IQ tests by teachers. He notes, for example, that some teachers start tests late or let students grade each other's exams. This can produce disastrous inequities on transcripts. "In some schools, unfortunately, teacher attitudes to standardized tests are so negative that test administration can be entrusted to them only

DIPLOMAG - SWISS DIPLOMACY II GAME REPORT

NUMBER 32.1

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Phone: (301) 747-7248. Calls accepted 7 to 10 p.m. weekdays, and Noon to 10 p.m. weekends, Eastern Time.

SPRING 1905

ITALIANS REVERSE ENDS AND MARCH INTO AUSTRIA. GERMANY APPARENTLY SUICIDES IN FAVOR OF ENGLAND. TURKISH MERRY-GO-ROUND HALTED. SWISS DIPLOMATS SUCCEED SMOOTHLY.

AUSTRIA (Baumeister): F Aegean Sea-Const. A Greece-Bulgaria. A Serbia (S) A Greece-Serbia. A Budapest-Rumania. A Vienna-Galicia.
(5)
ENGLAND (Kenesson): A Brest-Paris. A London-Picardy (Fast Ferry). F English Channel
(9) (C) A London-Picardy. F Belgium-Holland. F Denmark-Baltic Sea. F Sweden (S) F Denmark-Baltic Sea. F Clyde-Norwegian Sea. A Kiel-Berlin. A Edinburgh (H).
FRANCE (Greenberg): F Mid-Atlantic-South Atlantic.
(2)
GERMANY (Young): (2) F Holland-North Sea. A Ruhr-Burgundy.
ITALY (Montgomery): A Algeria-Tunis (dislodged), (R) Sahara (per orders). F Gulf of
(5) Lions-Sardinia. F Ligurian Sea-Tyrr. Sea. A Venice-Croatia. A Munich-Tyrol.
RUSSIA (Turtledove): A Ukraine-Galicia. A Silesia (S) A Ukraine-Galicia. A Rumania(S)
(5) A Ukraine-Galicia. F Sevastopol (S) A Rumania. F Gulf of Bothnia (H).
SWITZ. (Funkenbusch): A Tunis-Algeria. F Morocco (S) A Tunis-Algeria. F Andalucia-Gulf of Lions. F Western Med. (S) F Andalucia-Gulf of Lions. F Lombardy-Ligurian Sea. A Savoy-Marseille. A Zurich-Swabia. A Gascony-Castile.
TURKEY (Bapple): A Smyrna-Armenia. F Sinope-Black Sea. F Const.-Smyrna.
(4) F Bulgaria-Const. (dislodged), Annihilated.

NO PRESS. I HAVE RECEIVED A REQUEST from a player in my Small World game in BUSHWACKER for a combination of the Winter and Spring seasons unless at least two players request seasonal separation. I have advised that I would prefer to leave this up to a vote of the players. With your Fall 1905 orders, please include a vote on whether you would prefer to have Winter and Spring combined. I will always have a separation of seasons whenever there are complex retreats to be straightened out, or there are a large number of builds/removals. I will also have separate seasons whenever at least one player so requests.

I, personally, feel that a separate Winter season is an integral part of the game, since the Rulebook has no provision for "surprise" units suddenly appearing on the board and moving in Spring seasons. I would actually prefer a combination of the Fall and Winter seasons, if there was a need to speed up the games. You may also vote on this matter.

DEADLINE for FALL 1905 orders is THURSDAY, January 17, 1980. Phone deadline will be 9:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 16th, Eastern Time. Don't forget to include your votes on possible combinations of Winter/Spring or Fall/Winter with your orders. You may all submit tentative Winter adjustments, if you wish, and if everybody does so, we might be able to combine Fall and Winter, assuming no complicated retreats are in order.

Speaking of Retreats, I'm planning to delete the symbol "/r/" for dislodged from my House Rules, and substitute "/d/" instead. This is why I wrote out "dislodged" above.

HAPPY NEW YEAR.