



VOL. II, No. 1

DIPLOMAG

October 1, 1980

This is the bimonthly newsletter of the American Mensa Postal Diplomacy SIG, bringing hobby and SIG news to Mensans interested in playing the game, Diplomacy, and its many variants, by mail. Dues are \$2.00 per year. Send all funds to the Chairman. All dues received from this point on from new members will be applied to 1981 memberships.

Chairman & Publisher: Fred C. Davis, Jr., 1427 Clairidge Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21207

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CHAIRMAN HOSTS SIG FTF GAME

We finally held our long-delayed SIG FTF game on Saturday, September 20th. We had invited all SIG members in Maryland, D.C., Pennsylvania and Virginia, plus a couple of other area players. As always happens when we host a Diplomacy party, several things came up at the last minute to keep several people from attending. Konrad Baumeister, who had just moved to Georgetown University in D.C., had to cancel due to the press of schoolwork, and another (non-M) friend suddenly found he had to go to a wedding. Frank Kenesson had just left for California, which was too bad, as it was Frank who had initially suggested the idea of holding the game. Others had expressed their regrets earlier.

Anyway, by drafting spouses we were able to play a full seven-player board. My wife, Inge, displayed great skill in keeping the beer flowing and the Sangria punchbowl filled at the same time her German armies visited all parts of Europe. The Austrian made a fatal move of F Trieste-Adriatic on the first move, and then permitted his wife, who was playing Italy, to move into Trieste (on a rules misinterpretation) in Fall 1901. He was unable to make a single build. Austria went straight downhill to oblivion after that. Turkey stabbed Russia (me) on the first turn, and then switched over to become my ally thereafter, as we slowly took over Austrian territory. England and France persuaded Germany not to attack them. France was then free to send several fleets to the Mediterranean to force back the Italians, while England stabbed me, taking Sweden and St. Pete. Germany then pulled a surprise attack to take Vienna and Warsaw. Austria made a last stand in Greece, which reverted to the Sultan. At the end of 1903, Germany was leading, with 8 Centers. France was second, with 7, including Tunis.

Because there had been almost an hour's delay in starting the game, we were only able to play through 1904. On the last round, England stabbed Germany, taking Denmark and Holland. I persuaded Italy to support me into Budapest, which was also German, so Germany dropped from 8 to 5 Centers, while England went up from 6 to 8. Certain things were done only because it was the last move. Based on the final positions, it was evident that Italy would have been eliminated next, as Turkey had occupied both Apulia and Ionian, and the French were in the Tyrrhenian and Gulf of Lyons, with only 4 surviving Italian units to defend the country. Russia would have temporarily grown at

German expense in the Reich's collapse, but then the Anglo-French steamroller would have met the Russo-Turk forces in the middle of Europe. Most of the people at the table were willing to concede that the combined Anglo-French forces of 15 units would have been the probable winners, but the Turks held a minority opinion that it was a 6-way draw. Since this game is not going into any record book, either opinion could be correct.

The game was followed by a critique on what had happened, conducted first around the table, and later at a nearby steak house where 5 of us repaired for dinner. We had such a good time that we decided we must do it again in a few months. The Davises cannot host another game until next year, but if anyone else in Mid-Atlantica wishes to host a game before then, please let us know. Here is the Supply Center Chart:

	1901	1902	1903	1904	
AUSTRIA (Larry Bowen)	3	2	0		
ENGLAND (Dave Putnam)	5	6	6	8	(2-way draw conceded to England & France by all survivors except Turkey)
FRANCE (Steve Ralston)	5	5	7	7	
GERMANY (Inge Davis)	5	7	8	5	
ITALY (Kathy Bowen)	5	5	5	4	
RUSSIA (Fred Davis)	6	5	3	4	
TURKEY (Charles Byrne)	5	4	5	6	

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MENSA GAMES REPORT

Both new All-41 games are now underway in new publications. Mensa #11 has just gotten Boardman No. 1980II, as it rolls into Winter 1901 in Ed Bapple's Game Report. Both Rick Young's Germany and Bruce Poppe's Russia picked up 3 builds in 1901. England and France were hurt by NMR's. England has a new ruler in the person of Vincent Chiachio. John Allensworth, where are you?

MENSA #12 now sports Boardman No. 1980 IC. Ronald Brown is presenting it in dittoed form in a minizine to be called SNAFU. The Spring 1901 deadline was September 12th. France missed her first orders. Ron is going to publish a brief article on each province on the board, one each month, so non-players may want to sub for this informative piece. The first article is on that godforsaken spot, Armenia. I don't know how much Ron would charge for a sub, so you'll have to ask him.

There are 4 players and one stand-by signed up for Mensa #13. The first three people who sign up will get to fill this board. The game will be run by Chip Charnley, now publishing from beautiful downtown Keflavik. Incidentally, both the Mensa #11 and #12 games can use more stand-by players. Either write directly to Ed or Ron, or I'll be glad to forward your enlistments.

Did I forget to mention that FRANCE (H.D. Bassett) won MENSA #8, 1978AZ? France had 12 Centers as of Fall 1909, and won by concession that Winter. Rollie Straten's TURKEY finished second, with 7 Centers.

MENSA #7, 1977CY, the longest Mensa game on record, ended in a 3-way draw in Fall 1916 between a 17 Center AUSTRIA (Linc Beaumont), a 13-Center ITALY (Bassett) and a 4-Center FRANCE (Paul Funkenbusch). Paul must have been a good diplomat to get himself included.

MENSA #9, 1978W, has reached Spring 1911 with a call for a 3-way draw between ENGLAND (Len Johnson), FRANCE (Bassett) and GERMANY (Schmidt). England and France have 9 Centers each; Germany 5. Russia and Turkey NMR'd in the Spring move.

MENSA #10, 1980AC, finds AUSTRIA already eliminated in Fall 1903. Charles Byrne's
(more)

Italy leads the pack with 8 Centers (+2 this year). He's followed by Connie Van Der Handel's GERMANY with 7 (+2) and Ron Brown's TURKEY, also with 7 (+2). This will be the last M game left in GLAW & FANG if the Mensa #9 concession passes.

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NEW MEMBERS

The Diplomacy SIG was restored to the SIG List in the September issue of the BULLETIN. This is already starting to bring in new inquiries. We were also listed in the Canadian national publication, MC2, which brought in a flock of inquiries and two new members. We are now just one person short of our SIG ceiling of 70. Our new members are:

- Michael Granatstein, 53 Marlborough Ave., Toronto, Ont., CANADA M5R 1X5
- Steve Hutton, #307, West 5, Box 460, Waterloo, Ont. CANADA N2J 4B6
- Jonathan Weintraub, 1085 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10028

There have been many changes of address; too many to report here. In some cases, I only noticed the C/A in a GM's report on his players. I'd appreciate it if members would send their new addresses to me, too. Of course, if you're just using a school address for a game, and want to continue receiving DIPLOMAG at home, there's no need to notify me. I appreciate having as few C/A's as possible, as I try to type up 4 sets of mailing labels at a time. We will print up a new complete Membership List for all members around February. One C/A which needs printing here is that for Konrad Baumeister, publisher of EGGNOG and POLITICIAN, which is:

P.O. Box 2231, New South Hall, Rm. 122, Georgetown U., Washington, D.C. 20057

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MORE SIG MEMBER AUTOBIOGRAPHIES RECEIVED

KEY: 2. Address. 3. Date of Birth. 4. Marital Status. 5. Occupation (or School). 6. Year joined Mensa. 7. Active in Local Group? 8. Are you an Isolated M? 9. Any Mensa office held? 9a. Have you participated in any Mensa FTF Diplomacy games? 10a. Year began playing Diplomacy. 10b. Year began playing Postal Diplomacy. 11. No. of postal games you're in. 12. How did you learn about Diplomacy? 13. Other games you like to play. 14. Other major interests. 15. Remarks. (Some of these forms are several months old, so some of the data may be out of date by now).

ED BAPPLE: 2. 4531 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60630. 3. June 24, 1938. 4. Married. 5. Contract Programmer/Analyst. 6. 1974. 7. No. 8. No. 9. No. 9a. None. 10a. 1978. 10b. 1978. 11. Two. 12. Avalon Hill's ads. 13. Chess, Postal Chess, A-wargames, Bridge. 14. Music, wine, women and almost everything and anything to a lesser degree, and not in that order.

THOMAS FAIRCLOTH. 2. 801 Small Dr., Lake Worth, Fla. 33461. 3. Mar. 30, 1939. 4. Single. 5. Electronic Engineer. 6. 1980. 7. No. 8. Not yet. 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1980. 10b. 1980. 11. None, when written. 12. Read Mensa literature. 13. Electronic Mastermind, Crosswords. 14. Travel, Photography.

JOEL L. GANNOTTI. 2. 1460 Brett Ct., Pinole, Cal. 94565. 3. Mar. 12, 1941. 4. Married. 5. Company Executive. 6. 1964. 7. No. 8. No. 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1971. 10b. None. 11. None. 12. Night Club in Philadelphia. 13. Chess, other war games. 14. Guitar, Electronics, Sports, Bridge, Auto restauration.

SCOTT M. HANSON. 2. 701 - 15th Ave. SE, Minneapolis, Minn. 55414. 3. Feb. 9, 1962. 4. Single. 5. Started college in the Fall. 6. 1980. 7. No. 8. Yes. 9. No. 9a. No. (more)

MEMBERS' AUTOBIOGRAPHIES (Cont.)

10a. 1980. 10b. Mensa game is my first one. 11. One. 12. SIG List and friends. 13. Chess, Computer combat, Poker, Blackjack. 14. Drama, International Relations, Rock Music, Religious Insanity, Girls, Politics (not in that order). 15. When in doubt, attack Portugal.

STEVE HUTTON. 2. Rm. 307, West 5, Box 460, Waterloo, Ont., CANADA N2J 4B6. 3. Jan. 8, 1963. 4. Single. 5. Student (Engineering) at University of Waterloo. 6. 1980. 7. No. 8. No. 9. No. 9a. No. 9a. No. 10a. About 1975. 10b. 1979. 11. Six. 12. My sister's former boyfriend recommended it. 13. Chess, most wargames. 14. SF (particularly Asimov & Heinlein), Politics (Libertarian), psychology, somewhat obscure movies. 15. I'll be moving every 4 months. Downwith Big Brother!

CHARLES W. LETCHER. 2. 3325 Sepulveda Blvd., Apt. #3, Los Angeles, Calif. 90034. 3. Aug. 11, 1956. 4. Married. 5. U.C.L.A. - M.B.A. 6. 1978. 7. No. 8. No. 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1980. 10b. Just joined SIG. 11. None. 12. I bought the game. 13. Chess, Acquire, Risk, tennis, basketball. 14. Playing and watching all sports, Political science.

DARRYL PHILLIPS. 2. 623 Weeks Ave., Superior, Wis. 54880. 3. Dec. 14, 1964. 4. ~~Married~~ ^{SINGLE}. 5. High school student, planning on majoring in Architecture. 6. 1980. 7. No. 8. Yes. 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1980. 10b. Haven't begun yet. 11. One now. 12. Through the sample copy of DIPLOMAG. 13. Risk, Conflict, Black Box. 14. Reading, designing buildings, practicing Spanish.

DAN R. WILSON. 2. B-2-3-11, Wynne Unit, Huntsville, Texas 77340. 3. Nov. 18, 1946. 4. Divorced. 5. Junior College. 6. 1977. 7. No. 8. Yes! 9. No. 9a. No. 10a. 1980. 10b. 1980. 11. Two. 12. From Fred Davis. 13. D & D, Chess, Bridge. 14. Football, softball, leather working, Mensa Friends SIG (I'm the Coordinator), bowling. 15. I think the Diplomacy SIG should hold its own Diplomacy Convention, but making it open to all in the hobby!?

If you'd like to submit your autobiography, please do so.

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I WAITED TILL THE LAST MOMENT for a report on the Election Results, but it hasn't arrived. As of November 1st, Bill Young will be our Senior Committeeman. The Junior Committeeman will be either Ed Bapple or Stanley Dunn. I'll notify some of you of the results in the next BUSHWACKER. A complete report will be in the December DIPLOMAG.

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DIPLOMAG, Mensa Postal Diplomacy SIG
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