



# DIPLOMAG

VOL. II, No. 3

February 1, 1981

This is the 39th issue of 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.

Chairman & Publisher: Fred C. Davis, Jr., 1427 Clairidge Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21207  
Senior Commissioner: Bill Young, P.O. Box 907, Clearfield, Pa. 16830  
Junior Commissioner: Edward C. Bapple, 4531 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60630

\* \* \* \* \*

## ANNUAL TREASURY REPORT

We now have to make semi-annual financial reports to American Mensa, in April and October. However, they have permitted us to continue to use the calendar year for our calculations, and to make our reports based on our finances at the end of June and December. Therefore, we can continue to give you the Annual Report every January. Since we did not have to buy any mimeograph stencils this year, we are doing quite well financially. I am probably taking a financial loss in giving SIG members Variant game positions in BUSHWACKER at \$2.00 less than I charge everyone else, but that has nothing to do with the SIG itself.

Funds in Treasury, as of Dec. 31, 1979:		\$30.52
Dues rec'd, Jan. thru Dec., 1980:		<u>131.00</u>
	<u>Expenses</u>	\$161.52
Cost of postage, 6 issues, 1980	\$66.48	
Mimeograph paper, 2 reams	10.50	
Special mailing costs	<u>2.10</u>	
	\$79.08	<u>-79.08</u>
Funds in Treasury, Dec. 31, 1980:		\$82.44

Although domestic postage rates will probably go to 20¢ an oz. about March 1, 1981, our present dues structure should be enough to adequately cover this increase for at least the rest of this year.

\* \* \* \* \*

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

A new Membership List is enclosed with the DIPLOMAGS going to SIG members. This shows we have 51 members. Anyone who has joined or renewed his membership after this List was printed will not be listed, of course, until the next time I get

around to amending it. Please look it over, as there have been several changes of address. If I don't have your new phone number, please send it to me with your next communication, if you'd like to have it shown. The membership cap has been lifted until we get back to 70 members.

Here is a geographical breakdown: We have 10 members in California, 7 in Md./D.C., 3 each in Michigan, New York & APO's, 2 each in Minn, Ohio, Pa., Texas, Va. and Wis., 7 misc. in the U.S., 5 in Canada, and one other overseas member. Except for our having only one member each in Illinois and Mass, this breakdown pretty much reflects the national breakdown of Postal Dip players.

Our newest members are: Garvin Boyle (Canada), Michael Casucci (Va.), Errol Platt (Canada), Richard Purdy (Mass.) and Peter Simpson (Calif.) In addition, Ray Smith has rejoined (now N.Y.). See Membership List for complete addresses.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### HOBBY NEWS

OUR OWN GLENN OVERBY will prepare the 1981 Postal Diplomacy Census, which will be a list of all North American Postal players, plus those people with APO or FPO addresses participating in American games. All publishers have been requested to send copies of their mailing lists to Glenn. He hopes to have this Census ready for sale by the time of MICHICON on June 12th. When price and publication date are ready to be announced, I'll mention them here.

THE ZINE DIRECTORY is now available in a Second Edition, called Fall 1980, from Michael Mills, 1585 Quaker Rd., Macedon, N.Y. 14502. This contains a listing of all known Diplomacy zines around the world, plus lists of Hobby Clubs, Services and Custodians. Only 50¢, and well worth it for all players.

SIG MEMBER ROBERT STIMMEL is running a variant of Postal Rail Baron as a Guest GM in a zine called MIKE'S MAG. This version includes a stock market for Railroad shares, and is restricted to a specific number of turns, to keep it within a reasonable time frame. I believe the game fee is \$3.00. For more information, you may contact Robert at his new address: 2500 Q St., Sacramento, Calif. 95816. The publisher of MIKE'S MAG is Michael T. Scott, 1726 Cypress Cir., LaVerne, Calif. 91750. I understand he runs sections of Kingmaker and other variant games. Send 30¢ in stamps for a sample copy.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### STATUS OF THE ALL-MENSA GAMES

One member expressed disappointment that we did not run a Mensa Game status report in the last DIPLOMAG. I had been running such reports on an average of only every other issue. I'd appreciate knowing if other SIG members would also like to see this report as a feature in every issue. When most of the games were in CLAW & FANG this seemed unnecessary, but now they're scattered among 5 different publications.

MENSA #9, 1978W, has reached Spring 1912 in C & F. ENGLAND (Johnson) has gone up to 11 Centers and FRANCE (Bassett) to 10. Gary Schmidt had to resign, so a 3-Center GERMANY has gone into Civil Disorder. A vote has been requested on a 2-way draw between England & France. Russia & Turkey both survive with 5 Centers each, but are no longer SIG members.

MENSA #10, 1980AC, finds Van der Handel's GERMANY and Ron Brown's TURKEY tied for the lead with 9 Centers each, as they both get two builds in Winter 1904. ITALY (Charlie Byrne) has dropped one to 7, while ENGLAND (Walter Hodgdon) has gone up 1 Center to 7. RUSSIA has been eliminated. Arnold Vagts has taken over FRANCE from an ex-member who's disappeared, but the Republic has dropped to 2 Centers (-2).

MENSA #11, for which I don't see a Boardman No. (Isn't it 1980II, Ed?), has reached Winter 1902 with Rick Young's GERMANY in the lead with 7 Centers (+1). RUSSIA (Poppe) also has 7, but didn't get a build this year. Looks like FRANCE (Allensworth) is about to go down the tubes. Ed is happy to report he now has 3 stand-bys.

MENSA #12, 1980 IC, is running in Ron Brown's SNAFU, which is now a genuine zine, *Crick* with its second game (NORTH-1) about to start. As of Fall 1902, GERMANY (Rick Young) and ENGLAND (Byrne) are the leaders, with 7 and 6 Centers, respectively. FRANCE (Gaughan) has been eliminated, and Charles Letcher has had to replace Joe Marshall as RUSSIA, due to Joe's mail problems. All four of the remaining players have 5 SC's (Spain still neutral).

Five people were signed up for NORTH-1 as of January 10th. This game is open to all Canadian and Northeastern M's, but is not an official SIG game. This month's geography and history lesson is on Poland (Warsaw, Galacia and a small part of Silesia. A small part of what we call Prussia was also Polish, Ron.) A sub to SNAFU is \$2.50/year (11 issues), or you can get a stand-by slot for just a flat \$3.50 fee. I highly recommend you get one or the other. Address: R.R. 2, Maniwaki, P.Q., CANADA J9E 3A9.

MENSA #13 is filled, and has presumably gotten under way under the aegis of Chip Charnley, U.S. Navfac Keflavik, Box 7, FPO New York 09571.

We have 4 people signed up for MENSA #14, which will be run by Glenn Overby, II, in his zine, JIHAD. Please send your desire to sign up to me, and I'll send the list to Glenn when the game is filled. We need three more players, plus at least one stand-by. A stand-by slot is an easy way for novice players to get their feet wet.

Anyone interested in playing the variant game, "1885"? This is a 9-man game, which adds Spain and Sweden/Norway to the ranks of the Great Powers, in the year 1885. We have a list of 5 people who expressed interest in this game earlier, of whom three were M's. We didn't push it, as Small World II-R filled first, and I will run no more than three games at once in BUSHWACKER. However, Glenn Overby has offered to GM the next Mensa Variant game in JIHAD, so I'm thinking of trying to get "1885" filled first. To make up for the loss of Neutral SC's, new SC's are added in Ireland, Iceland, Morocco, Egypt and Persia. Write me if you're interested.

\* \* \* \* \*

MOST OF YOU WILL BE RECEIVING A COPY OF BUSHWACKER with your DIPLOMAG. Additional hobby news will be found therein, as well as reports on three different Variant games, Dual Space, Gusher (a fun game) and Small World II-R (a global variant). If you're interested, you can sign up for a stand-by slot for just \$1.50, which will get you a copy of the maps/rules for the game in question. We especially need stand-bys for the Dual Space variant, which features overlapping sea spaces and fast convoys, thus making Fleets very powerful. One reason this issue of DIPLOMAG is so short is that so much of the news is in BUSHWACKER instead of here. In fact, I have only one more news item for you. Since I've reached the bottom of the page, we'll finally have an excuse to start Page 4.

FACE-TO-FACE GAME NEWS

Two out-of-state SIG members have informed me that they intend to attend the Diplomacy game which will be held under SIG sponsorship at the Maryland Mensa Inner Harbor RG on Saturday, February 21st. Steve Ralston, 222 St. Paul St., Baltimore, Md. 21202, will be the GM. Write or phone Steve for details if you want to play and haven't heard from him. His phone no. is (301) 837-9365.

I regret that I won't be there, but we'll be in Florida that week, as our local schools are closed. If any of you are still in town on Sunday, try giving me a ring, as I expect to be getting home about 11 a.m. that day. The RG is being held at the Baltimore Hilton Hotel, 101 W. Fayette St., in Downtown Baltimore. Paid parking is available in the hotel.

\* \* \* \* \*

We hope you appreciate this printing job. DIPLOMAG will not always come to you looking so nice. We made an experiment to see whether Ellie's Owl would photocopy.

\* \* \* \* \*

All of the opinions expressed in DIPLOMAG are those of the Editor and contributors, and not those of Mensa.

MENSA is an international society in which the sole requirement for membership is a score at or above the 98th percentile on any standard IQ test. Mensa is a nonprofit organization whose only purpose is to serve as a means of communication and assembly for its members. Qualification for membership may be determined by tests administered by Mensa or by submission of properly certified prior evidence. All inquiries concerning membership (in the United States) should be addressed to: American Mensa Selection Agency, Suite 1-R, 1701 West Third St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223.

# # # # #

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