



DIPLOMAG

VOL III, No.11
Nov-Dec, 1984

This is the bimonthly newsletter of the Postal Diplomacy SIG of American Mensa, bringing hobby and SIG news to Mensans interested in postal Diplomacy. The SIG arranges postal Diplomacy games for its members; for SIG game openings, make inquiries to the Chairman. Membership dues are \$3.00 per year. Diplomacy is a copyrighted board game produced in the USA by Avalon Hill Game Co., Baltimore, MD. Any opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of American Mensa, Limited.

Chairman: Bruce Poppe, 1204 Heartwood Court, Arnold, MD 21012
Sr Committeeman: Chip Charnley, 4065 Concordia Way, VA Beach, VA 23456
Jr Committeeman: Fred C. Davis, Jr, 1427 Clairidge Rd, Baltimore, MD 21207

SIG Election

Chip Charnley was unchallenged for his seat of Senior Committeeman and so retains his position. The other two offices will be up for grabs a year from now.

Plug for the Runestone Poll

Seems like every year, there are a number of polls to rate zines and Gamesmasters to give the good ones a pat on the back and to give some feedback to the whole hobby about who's doing what, and how well, and anything else folks like that can dream up. One of the best known, most respected, fairly comprehensive polls is the Runestone Poll. Only now it seems like some folks in the postal hobby are up in arms about it. This writer thinks the poll should go on, and also trusts Bruce Linsey to run it, so go ahead and vote in it if you have a favorite zine or GM or just want to shoot off your mouth or typewriter or pen as the case may be. Look through the pages of the zines for the details or write to Linsey at 73 Ashuelot St., Apt. 3, Dalton, Massachusetts 01226.

SIG GAME NEWS

Mensa # 14 (1981 AQ) GM: Steve Hutton zine: No Fixed Address
Claude Gautron is running England now, but is on the skids and has just removed 3 units (down to about 5). Dave Lincoln is on the move, picking up 2 centers to get to 12, Acheson has taken over from Paula Dodge but only has a 3 center Italy, and Ralph Baty has kept Russia and built 2 to get to 9. Ken Hager is Turkey, at 7, a gain of 1.

"When I was younger, I could remember anything, whether it happened or not."
.....Mark Twain

Mensa # 20 has 6 players signed up as of this moment, and Bob Addison has agreed to run it. (You may know him from his position as Germany in Mensa #19.) Since the Mensa membership renewal forms are going out now (with SIG listings) it is reasonable to expect this game to fill in the not too distant future.

MENSA DIPLOMACY SIG BIOGRAPHY

New and used members can send this form to the chairman:
 Bruce Poppe, 1204 Heartwood Court, Arnold, MD 21012 (USA)
 Please indicate if it (wholly or partially) is not intended for
 publication in Diplomag.

Biographical data:

1. Name: *Kevin Brown*
2. Telephone: *1-912-923-5477*
3. Address: *100 Patten Drive, Warner Robins, Ga. 31093*
4. Date of Birth: *11-21-66*
5. Marital Status: *very single*
6. Occupation (or school if a student): *student - Mercer University*
7. Year joined Mensa: *1982*
8. Are you active in your local group? *not really*
9. Are you an Isolated M? *no*
10. Year you began playing Diplomacy: *1977*
11. Year you began playing Postal Diplomacy: *1982*
12. How many games are you currently in? *2 reg 1 variant*
13. How did you learn about Diplomacy? *friend*
14. Other games you like to play: *chess*
15. Other major interests:

Remarks, comments, and all that stuff:

→ *Warner Robins has only one "b" in it!!*

Would you be interested in attending a meeting of the Postal Diplomacy SIG in connection with a Mensa Annual Gathering or Regional Gathering or in connection with a Diplomacy tournament?

Yes___ No___ Maybe Other_____

Are you planning to attend an upcoming Annual Gathering?

'84 (Washington, DC) no

'85 (Milwaukee, WI) maybe

'86 (location=?) maybe

Others? (such as Canadian AG's, Regional Gatherings, &c.)

none

More space for comments

↳ *This comment is definitely to be printed, The rest is up to you.*

FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR POSTAL DIPLOMACY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP
(for period 9/30/83 through 10/31/84)

Starting value of Treasury (9/30/84)	\$112.00
Income	
Dues collected	82.61
Fees collected for sample copies	7.60
Expenses	
Printing	65.73
Postage	56.06
Cost of Supernovas to new novice members	17.00
Other (misc.) expenses	4.17
Value of Treasury at end of period (10/31/84)	<u>\$58.75</u>

Comments and discussion on above financial information on our SIG:

The first thing that needs discussion as far as I'm concerned is the drop in the Treasury from \$112 to \$59. There are several reasons for this. One of those reasons is that the SIG pays \$1 for Supernova, the postal Diplomacy novice package, to get new members off on the right foot. Secondly, when I took over the SIG, it operated only on a calendar year basis for dues. So when pro-rated dues payments came in, I decided to come up with Supernovas for those new members also, even though they often were paying only \$2 for 8 months worth of membership. (When renewals become due in early 1985, we'll see if my decision was any good from a financial standpoint.)

The other obvious question is, should the dues be returned to their former level of \$4 per year? My gut reaction is no, that instead, we should wait to see if Supernova helps our retention of novices in the SIG, while keeping expenses under control as well as possible.

To keep expenses down, I anticipate two items. First, I will only issue a 6-page issue occasionally, say for end-game statements. And secondly, I will hold the grace period for cutting off lapsed memberships to one issue after the lapse. These two items should come close to balancing the SIG's finances, since the two major expenses are printing and postage of the newsletter.

Answer to question on page 4:

Only one, but he gets college credit for it.

FRED C. DAVIS, JR.
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BALTIMORE, MD 21207

FIRST CLASS MAIL



If undeliverable, return to:
Bruce Poppe
1204 Heartwood Court
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SIG GAME NEWS (CONT.)

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Mensa #17 (1983 V) GM: Steve Hutton zine: No Fixed Address

Italian Stalemate Finally Broken!

There seem to be two powers in this game at this point. Ron Brown's Germany and Paul Milewski's Turkey both have over 10 units; Ron is heading west toward England and France, while Paul is working in the southeast corner of the board, adjacent to Italy (Carter), Austria-Hungary (Ehli), and Russia (Lincoln). The others are Kevin Brown (England) and John Ellis (France).

I don't know what the thinking is that is going on between Germany and Turkey. Perhaps this game will be another one of those "race-to-the-finish" type games that are seen every now and then. It's kind of hard to stab someone whose nearest unit is three moves away from you.

Mensa #18 (1983 AV) GM: Scott Hanson zine: Big Hits of Mid-America

Stalemate?

Another casualty: Ellis's Austria goes out fighting, while Reges's Germany holds on at 1. Ron Brown's Russia and Kevin Brown's France each have 12, but there may be a stalemate line established that cannot be broken. Russia is proposing draws that include either Michael Keller's Italy (4) or Mark Keller's Turkey (5) in the hopes of wrapping this thing up with a 3-way draw, either R-F-T or R-F-I.

Mensa #19 (1984 CJ) GM: Konrad Baumeister zine: Give Me a Weapon

After 2 game years, it's hard to comment on who's got this game in their grasp. Russia (Givins) is down to 1, hurting from an earlier NMR, all the rest have posted gains. On top at the moment are Addison (Germany) and Lincoln (France) each with 7. England (Piper) has lost London to Germany (honest mistake, hunh? Sure...) and is at 4. Austria (Baty) has recovered Budapest from Italy (Brandt) to leave them at 5 and 4, respectively. Turkey (Bassett) has expanded into the area around the Black Sea and weighs in at 6 units.

Q: How many Texas football players does it take to change a light bulb?