

DIPLOMAG

Vol III, No. 14
May-June, 1985

Redd July 1985

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

NOMINATIONS NEEDED FOR SIG OFFICES

My term as head of this SIG will be over this fall. As things have been rather hectic in my personal life lately, I believe it would be best if someone with a little more time available took over. Fred Davis's term as Junior Committeeman will also be ending up. So I am taking this opportunity to appoint myself as the elections committee. The SIG bylaws specifically allow a member to nominate himself for office, so I'd like to hear from people out there who would like to take over either of these positions. The next issue of Diplomag will let you know who's running for these offices and will contain a ballot, with the results of that election to be published in the following issue.

MENSA DIPLOMACY #20

SPRING 1902

AUSTRIA (Cruickshank): A Vna-Tyo, A Tri H, A Bud S A Tri H,
A Ser-Bul, F Gre S A Ser-Bul

ENGLAND (Cook): A Edi-Yor, F Nth-Eng, F Nrg-Nth

FRANCE (SCHOCH): A Mar-Bur, F Par S A Mar-Bur, A Spa-Mar,
A Pic S A Mar-Bur, F Por-Matl

GERMANY (Autovino): A Bel-Bur, A Mun S A Bel-Bur, A Kie-Ruh,
F Ber-Bal, A Den-Kie, F Hol-Bel

ITALY (Schacter): F Nap-Ion, F Tun-Wmed, A Tyo-Pie,
A Ven S A Tyo-Pie

RUSSIA (Larsen): F Stp(NC)-Nwy, F Swe S F Stp-Nwy, A War-Gal,
A Boh-Vna, A Rum-Bud, F Ela S Turkish A Bul H

TURKEY (Morgan): A Bul H, F Smy-Aeg, A con-Smy, F Ank-Con

Don't miss:

"HEADING NORTH, or my trip to the Canadian AG in Ottawa"
which starts on page 4.

SIG GAME NEWS

Mensa #14 (1981 AQ) GM: Steve Hutton zine: No Fixed Address

End Game Statement--Ken Hager--drew

This wasn't a Diplomacy game, it was a hobby project a la Larry Feery. A grand total of 23 people participated including 5 GM's!

The key to victory was neither brilliant strategy nor dazzling tactics, but simply perseverance. Ralph and I were the only players to survive the death of Manifest Destiny and we managed to break the game wide open in the period of confusion following the restart.

Thanks to you, Steve, for providing 1981AQ with its final resting place. And, congratulations to Ralph, my ally of about seven years. There were some dark days there when it appeared that E/F/I would overwhelm us, but then we executed our secret strategy which consisted of some serious praying for NMRs. The Dippy gods smiled on us at the right times, and the rest is history. It was fun working with you, Ralph.

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

No news here. Steve is vacationing in Europe at this point in time, with Bruce McIntyre (out in British Columbia) filling in. Unfortunately, he hasn't filled me in on what's been happening. Guess we'll have to get caught up in a couple of months.

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

Ron Brown's Russia is starting to look good for investors; he has some effective relations with both Turkey (Mark Keller) and France (Kevin Brown). Ron picked up 2 and is now at 14. Russia and Turkey bot gained at the expense of Italy (Michael Keller) who looks like he will follow Reges's Germany in departing from the gameboard. Expect the next battle to be between Russia and France (11 units) right down the northern middle of the board from Norway to Switz.

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

I must confess that this has me confused. There's been so much back and forth that I can't entirely say who has done what to whom. But I can tell you who's looking good and who's looking "not-so-good".

Ralph Baty's Austria is back up to 5 (from 4 at last report). Steve Piper's England is in big trouble, with his fleet in the Norwegian Sea dislodged--(one, count 'em, one unit). Dave Lincoln's France got Marseilles back and is back up to eight units again. Addison's Germany is the strongest contender at the moment, with 11 (+3 from last report). Brandt's Italy is down to 4 and may be a candidate for a hostile take-over bid. H.D. Bassett's Turkey is still at 7, but seems to be preparing for the next growth spurt. Expect the next confrontation to be between France and Turkey.

- Name: Ronald James Brown 2. tel: 613: 727-1454
- 3. Address: 70 F Chesterton Dr
Nepean, Ontario
K2E 5S9
- 4. Date of Birth: 06/12/45 5. M status : married
- 6. Occupation; Computer consultant
- 7. Yr joined M: 1979
- 8. Are you active in local group: Supportive, but little time to attend meetings
- 9. Are you an Isolated M? Not any longer.
- 10. Yr began Dip: 1979
- 11. Yr began postal Dip: 79
- 12. How many current games?: 6
- 13. How learn about Dip? Through list of SIGs
- 14. Other games liked? Scrabble. Various family games. Dip-type games, like Machiavelli
- 15. Other major interests: Reading, esp sci fi & history. Puzzle solving. Thinking.

Remarks, comments, etc.: Hi, Bruce!

Meetings, etc: Would attend if not too far. Maybe in 5-10 years I will be free to attend more remote meetings again.

Name: John O'Connor Telephone: 215-867-6606

Address: 1905 Fairland Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18018

Date of Birth: 1/16/24 Marital Status: Divorced

Occupation: Computer research Yr joined Mensa: 1962

Active in local group? Yes An Isolated M ? No

Yr began Dip: 1984 (briefly in '64) Yr began Postal Dip: 1984

How many current games?: None yet

Other games you like to play?: Trivial Pursuit, Boggle, etc.

Other major interests: Music, writing, humor, etc.

Interested in attending SIG meetings in connection with other Mensa Gatherings?: Yes

MD 21207

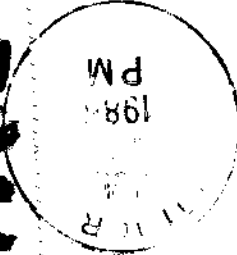
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If undeliverable, return to

DIPLOMAG

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HEADING NORTH, or my trip to the Canadian AG in Ottawa

Somewhere back along a few months ago, I decided to pass up the American AG in favor of a much smaller gathering a week later. I guess it was a combination of distance from home and seeing some old friends in Ottawa and the favorable currency exchange rates too.

Now mind you, I didn't start out with the idea of doing this by myself. I tried (believe me, I tried) to interest my wife and her 14-year old daughter (Paula) in the trip. But in the end, there I was, setting out all by myself. Because of that, I decided to shape the trip to suit my own wishes and desires.

I arranged to take 5 days of vacation from work, starting, curiously enough, on a Tuesday. (This was to allow driving back from Ottawa on Sunday night and Monday morning, with a camping stop along the way. I spent most of Tuesday getting things collected, things like camping gear (tent, stove, etc.), CB radio mounted in the car, food, supplies. Wednesday morning I set out, heading north into Pennsylvania. And into endless construction zones. And into cold air. I think I spent more time passing through highway construction than on clear road.

About the time 3 PM or so came around, I decided I'd start thinking about camping. So I detoured to Buttermilk Falls State Park in New York (near Ithaca) and started setting up camp at about 4:30. This was after I managed to find the campground--the park has two entrances and no roads that connect the two ends, making for some strange and tense and confused moments. But it was worth it, as the campground was very pretty. I set up the tent under some oak trees. It would have been hard not to set up the tent under some oak trees.

I heated up some dinner and things were proceeding normally when a large van pulled up at a nearby campsite and an even larger number of people came out of it, and started setting up a large number of identical tents.

Who were they, and what did they want? Watch this space next month.