

EVERYTHING #32

1 June 1977

This is Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Diplomacy\*, the official journal of the Boardman Number Custodian. The Boardman Number Co-Custodians are Doug and Marie Beyerlein, 240 Hawthorne, Apt. F, Palo Alto, California, 94301, U.S.A. Our phone number is (415) 329-8034. The editor of Everything is Doug Beyerlein. The publisher is John Weswig, 2115 N.W. Elder St., Corvallis, Oregon, 97330, U.S.A. The associate custodian for the United Kingdom is Richard Walkerdine, 43 Chapel Grove, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey, KT15 1UG, U.K. The associate custodian for Canada is Doug Ronson, 864 Ingersoll Ct., Mississauga, Ontario, L5J 2S1, Canada. The associate custodian for continental Europe is Roland Prevot, 16 rue Descombes, 75017 Paris, France. The director of information retrieval is Walter Buchanan, R.R. #3, Box 324, Lebanon, Indiana, 46052, U.S.A. The Diplomacy game record compiler is Russell Fox, 5160 Donna Ave., Tarzana, California, 91356, U.S.A.

There are many important things in this issue. I strongly suggest that you read all of it thoroughly even if you normally throw it away after getting this far. On to the news.

Effective 16 July 1977 Marie and I will have a change of address. Our new address will be 640 College, Menlo Park, California 94025. I do not know our new telephone number yet, but it will be reported in next issue. All traders please note the new address and when it will become effective. Also, Roland Prevot has a new address and it is given above.

There is a very important announcement starting on page 2. Please read it thoroughly. It will affect all of you.

Richard Walkerdine, the associate custodian for the U.K., will resign from his post on 1 October 1977. Walkerdine, who could probably do my job far better than I can, is forced to resign because of a lack of time. In the past his Diplomacy activities were overwhelming and so he is now cutting back to concentrate on publishing his excellent zine, Mad Policy. We will miss Richard, but replacing him will be Mick Bullock, an equally outstanding individual in being able to handle a vast range of Diplomacy activities without giving any hint of being a mere mortal. Welcome, Mick.

There will be no information on finished game reports or game starts in this issue. These will be delayed until next issue or perhaps published later in the summer as a special issue, depending on available time. I was not able to prepare this information for this issue because of a great deal of overtime work I have been putting in for the past two months. Free time on the weekends (when available) has been used for century riding (we did 200 miles in 14½ hours) and time trials. I hope that more free time will become available in the summer, but as we are moving there is no guarantee that will be true.

I recently received Peery's Introduction to Strategy and Tactics of Postal Diplomacy and the Novice Seminar Program. The volume of work he has put together is impressive; the quality is not. I will try to review his work in detail in a coming issue. But unless you are a collector or a complete novice with some extra money I would not buy the complete works at this time.

\*But Had Better Sense Than to Ask

32/3

AN ANNOUNCEMENT     by Doug Beyerlein

On 31 December 1977 I will resign as Boardman Number Custodian. Prior to that date I will appoint a successor and work out the details of the transfer. I will continue to perform all of my duties prior to the transfer and will attempt to make sure that the transfer goes smoothly and efficiently. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Why am I resigning now? I had originally decided to announce my resignation in March 1976. However, just prior to that time GRI announced the sale of Diplomacy to Avalon Hill. With that sale and the uncertainty over whether or not Avalon Hill would continue GRI's financial support of the Boardman Numbers I felt that it was my duty to continue as BNC until this matter could be resolved. The following events started a number of controversies related to my decision to charge a dollar for a Boardman Number assignment. I believe that all of this has finally been settled and that the situation is now stable enough to permit an orderly search for a successor and a smooth transfer of duties.

What made me decide to resign? There are basically three reasons that when combined made the decision the natural thing for me to do. I have held this job for over two and a half years. That means that day after day (except on Sundays and holidays) I get some Boardman Number work in the mail. The work never ends. I can go on a vacation to get away from the job, but that only means that the work piles up until I return. And the workload of the BNC is very deceiving. On any single day it can be handled in an hour or two. But the constant grind of knowing day after day that after work and dinner each evening comes the hobby and the "labor of love" of the BNC work can only be endured so long. I am rather surprised that I have endured it this long. But anyway, this is the most compelling of the three reasons behind my decision to resign.

Second in importance is my growing disenchantment with the postal Diplomacy hobby. I have been in this hobby since 1966, and one of the major reasons for entering the hobby at that time was my dislike of the immaturity I found in Avalon Hill gaming circles. (I started with AH war games in 1964.) People running around calling themselves the Fuhrer never excited me. I found the adult and interesting discussions in postal Diplomacy zines far more appealing than listening to some fool trying to recruit me into his Fourth Reich. Postal Diplomacy in the late '60s was dominated by the personalities of John McCallum and John Koning and they did much to promote Diplomacy as an adult pastime. But in the past few years when stability and maturity of the hobby under IDA's leadership seemed assured things have gone in the opposite direction. IDA has become power-oriented, not service-oriented. Some of the best things it did back in the early '70s when it was trying to show the hobby there was a need for a democratic hobby-wide organization it has difficulty doing today. It is almost as if the common cause that bound the diverse leadership together back then no longer exists today. That combined with the knowledge that many of the most capable people in the hobby will not volunteer their time and services to help promote stability of the hobby leads me to believe that perhaps I have out grown this hobby and it is time to move on.

With what little free time I have had in the past few years I have spent it exploring alternative hobbies. I have found bicycling to be a welcomed change of pace from Diplomacy. The outdoor exercise is enjoyable; the exploring of country backroads is interesting; the ability to go out and do it for an hour or a day is appealing; and the people are much more real than a letter or a zine. In addition to bicycling I have become interested in photography. This is something else that I can do when I want and how I want. And there is also the knowledge that my free time for Diplomacy is shrinking because of job commitments. Within the past year I have been named project manager on three projects all of which have and will place special demands on my time. (This is being written while flying to Ithaca, New York to attend a one-day meeting at Cornell University.) As I move up into management at Hydrocomp these demands will surely increase.

The above doesn't mean that I have totally given up on postal Diplomacy. I still enjoy playing in postal Diplomacy games and writing articles. But the demands of the Boardman Number work has even diminished these related activities to a minimum. I won't discuss at this time my plans after the first of the year and how they relate to my continued participation in the hobby. That discussion comes at the end of this announcement.

Now that I have gone into some detail on the reasons behind my resignation lets talk about the procedure I have set up to select a new BNC. Because I view the job of the BNC as being the most important job in the hobby I plan on conducting a thorough search for my successor. Everyone who applies for the job will be considered. But to get the word out to the public I am counting on you, the editors and publishers, to spread the news of the search for a new BNC through your zines. So feel free to quote or summarize any part of this announcement.

I have designed a questionnaire for applicants to help supply some information for the selection of a new BNC. This questionnaire has been reviewed by interested BNC staff members and Conrad von Metzke, the previous BNC. Based on their comments and suggestions the questionnaire is now available for distribution to all interested applicants. The questionnaire is not included in this issue of Everything because of its length and limited interest. However, a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to me, Doug Beyerlein. Applicants outside of the United States should send a self-addressed envelope (minus postage) and I will add the necessary postage. The deadline for return of the questionnaires is 1 September 1977. But if you are interested in the job I strongly suggest applying as soon as possible. There is one more thing I should mention about the questionnaire. It asks a great number of questions, some of which are personal. You have the option of not answering any question which you feel is not pertinent to your potential selection. But the more complete information you can supply, the easier it will be to judge your qualifications. All information on the questionnaire will be kept strictly confidential by the reviewers.

Review of the applicants will be conducted by myself, interested BNC staff members, and Conrad von Metzke (BNC '72-'74). After I receive

questionnaires returned by the applicants I will photocopy them and send them out to the reviewers. They will then review the qualifications of the applicants and return their comments to me. Once again all of this will be kept strictly confidential. Follow up discussions will be held with applicants when possible. I hope to be at the DipCon at Lake Geneva this summer (although with recently buying a house this may not be possible). If Marie and I do go I would like to personally talk with all interested applicants at that time if they plan on being there.

The selection of the new BNC will be made between 1 September and 1 October 1977. I will make the final decision, although I will rely heavily upon comments submitted by the reviewers. The individual whom I select as my replacement will be contacted prior to 1 October as to my decision. Other applicants will be notified by mail that they were not selected. The first public announcement of my decision will be made in Everything #34 (1 October 1977). No list of people who applied for the position will be made public. This list and the questionnaires will be retained by me and destroyed after the transfer of the job has been completed.

The transfer of the custodianship will occur between 1 October and the end of the year. The new custodian will edit Everything #35 (1 December 1977) under my supervision. The transfer of game records (currently contained in six notebooks) and funds will occur sometime around the first of the year. The new Boardman Number Custodian will assume full control and responsibility on 1 January 1978.

And what will I do after that date? Rest. I plan on taking things easy for a while and limiting my involvement in Diplomacy to just playing in two to four postal games and gamesmastering a couple of orphan games in my one-page zine, EFGIART. After a period of rest and relaxation I will reevaluate my goals and plans in the postal Diplomacy hobby.

So there it all stands. I hope that I have explained everything in sufficient detail. But if you have any questions or comments please write. And most importantly, if you want to perform a valuable service for the hobby and feel that you have the personal resources capable of handling the job please volunteer. Thanks.

Below is the current status of publishers I know of in the hobby, as updated from Everything #31.

Current traders: John Boardman, Hal Naus, Len Lakofka, Chris Schleicher, Andy Phillips, Walt Buchanan, Herb Barents, Burt Labelle (last issue), John Boyer, John VanDeGraaf, Fred Davis, Richard Walkerdine, Jim Benes, John Leeder, Mick Bullock, Don Horton, Dan Gallagher (last issue), Jim Bumpas, Richard Sharp, Roland Prevot, Robert Correll (last issue), Tony Kniaz, Douglas Reif, Raymond Heuer, David Truman, Bruce Schlickbernd (last issue), Michael Homeier, Robert Sacks, Tony Watson, Ed Kollmer, Richard Kovalcik, Dave Head, Randolph Smyth, Laurence Gillespie, Walter Luc Haas, Russell Fox, Peter Birks, Bob Hartwig, Roger Oliver, Ben Grossman, David Holmes, Brad Hessel, Fred Brenner (last issue), William Clumm, John Gross (last issue), Michael Muchnik, Gil Neiger, Adam Gruen, George Phillies, Peter Shamray, Dennis Agosta, Robert Sergeant, Larry Dunning, Blair Cusack, Alan Rowland, Peter Dale, Larry Fong, Cliff Mann, Richard Ware (last issue), David Schwartz, Ferkin Doyle, Elmer Hinton, Will McCullam, Conrad von Metzke, Greg Costikyan, Don Greenwood, Bob Beardsley, Donald Wileman, Steve McLendon, Steve Heinowski, Dick Trtek, Thomas McNally, John Piggott, Fred Winter, John Mirassou, Daniel Palter, and Michel Liesnard. McNally and Palter are fairly new to publishing and it is nice to see them join our ranks. Piggott, Winter, Mirassou, and Liesnard have all done this sometime in the past, but have made the unfortunate mistake of publishing a zine again. But it is good to see them back.

Questionable traders (no issue since February): Rick Loomis, Dave Kadlecek, Ake Jonsson, Drew McGee, and Ray Evans. If nothing comes from you by the end of July (September for Jonsson and Evans as they are overseas) then I will be forced to assume that you are no longer publishing and your trade will be cancelled.

Refuse to trade: Charles Reinsel, Robert Lipton, and Ernie Demanelis.

Apparently no longer publishing: Bill Bandon.

RECORDS:

(These results are through EVERYTHING #31. They do not include local and/or irregular games.).

Most Supply Centers Owned:

- 1901-8, Len Lakofka, Russia, 1971BE
- 1902-10, Peggy Bowers, 1970AG
  - William Atteberry, 1972G
  - Michel Grayn, 1972AF
  - John Hendry, 1972AP
- 1903-13, Michel Gryan, 1972AF
- 1904-16, Brenton Ver Ploeg, 1969CG
  - Michel Grayn, 1972AF
  - Michael Rocamora, 1972AP
  - Michel Grayn, 1972CY
- 1905-21, Michel Grayn, 1972CY

ELIMINATIONS:

- earliest 1 country -1902:1966O, AI; 1967T; 1971AQ; 1972W, AW,GB; 1973EA, FH, IU; 1974Y, BH, BO, CB, EC, HP; 1975AP, ET
- earliest 2 countries-1903:1967T; 1968P; 1972EG, FG; 1974DE, EC; 1975JM
- 3 countries-1904:1965H; 1968AE; 1972DV
- 4 countries-1905:1968AE; 1972AW; 1973DQ
- 5 countries-1907:1972AW; 1972DV(game end).

SURVIVAL

- longest 7 countries:1911-1972Y
- 6 :1915-1972A, 1972GG
- 5 :1919-1966L(game end)
- 4 :1926-1967U
- 3 :1927-1967U, 1969CF

SUPPLY CENTERS

- fewest owned by a winner at any time:2, 1972FM
- most owned by a country eliminated:14, 1969CF, 1973AI
- fewest owned in 1905 by a winner:4-1966Z, 1969B
  - 1906 :5-1967AV, 1968W, 1969B
  - 1907 :6-1968K, CC; 1969B; 1973CE
  - 1908 :6-1968CC
  - 1909 :5-1968CC
  - 1910 :6-1968CC

Most Countries eliminated in one year:3-1970A; 1972AW, CP, DT, EY; 1973 CT, CW, EG; 1974Y, AW

Most Players in a game:23:1970BJ(24 but George Inzer played a position twice)

Most GMs for a game:6-1969CJ

Most Supply centers at a games end:28, Tick Brooks, 1970AD

Most Supply Centers lost in one year:7-1969B; 1972DX, BJ; 1974BF

Most Supply Centers Gained in one year:9-1972BJ

Longest survival less than five s.c.s continuously:18 years, 1967U

Longest Constant Period:13 years:1966L(cd), 1968A

WINS AND DRAWS

longest game to a win:1929-1969CF

shortest game to a win:1904-1972O, 1974HI

longest game to a draw-1926-1967A  
shortest game to a draw:1904-1972EU; 1973EH; 1974C, CB

first drawed game-1965L

first 2-way draw:1965L

3-way :1965U

4-way :1968A

5-way :1966AL

6-way :1973CL

7-way :none in EVERYTHING to date(although 1975GD did end as a 7-way draw recently).

GMS

There have been 110 Gamemasters in postal Diplomacy who have gamemastered a game from start to finish. The top twenty in finished games are:

- 1. John Boardman--34
- 2. Hal Naus--28
- 3. Len Lakofka--26
- 3. Don Miller--26\*
- 5. Don Turnbull--19
- 6. Conrad von Metzke--17
- 7. Mick Bullock--16
- 8. Richard Sharp--15
- 9. Charles Reinsel--14\*
- 10. Herb Barents--13
- 10. Don Horton--13
- 10. Larry Peery--13
- 13. Greg Warden--11\*
- 14. Rod Walker--10\*
- 15. John Boyer--9
- 15. John Coombe--9
- 15. Chirs Schleicher--9
- 15. Rihcard J. Walkerdine--9
- 19. Burt Labelle--8
- 19. John Leeder--8

A few notes: last time there were 102 GMS, now there are 110, an increase of 8 over four months. Of these gms, we can break these new ones by country:

- United States: 3
- United Kingdom:3
- Canada:1
- Sweden:1

A further breakdown by country for all these GMS is presented below:

UNITED STATES	:72, or 65%
CANADA	: 7, or 6%
UNITED KINGDOM	:26 or 24%
OTHERS	: 5, or 5%

(1 each in Belgium, Italy, France, and Sweden and Australia)

The increase in GMS (102 to 110) is a an 8% increase over 6 months or so. If this same rate should continue through EVERYTHING #32, there will be 114.4 GMS or so.

(By the way, I'm not going to do this for publishers, as I really don't have the time to do a country by country breakdown, although I will do a % scal for increases.)

ZINES

There have been 114 zines which have carried a game from start to finish. The top twenty in numbers completed are:

- 1. Graustark--35
- 2. ADAG--28
- 3. Diplophobia--26
- 4. \*Liaisons Dangereuses--22
- 5. Claw and Fang--16
- 5. Dolchstoss--16
- 7. Courier--15
- 8. Big Brohter--14\*
- 8. 1901 and all that...--14
- 10. Boast--13
- 11. En Passent--11\*
- 12. Pellucidar--10
- 12. Xenogogic--10\*
- 14. Atlantis--9
- 14. Erehwon--9\*
- 14. Mad Policy--9
- 17. Brobdingnag--8\*
- 17. Costaguana--8
- 17. Fifth Column--8
- 17. Impassable--8
- 17. Pendulum--8

By the way, the increase over #29 was apx. 8%

PLAYERS

There have been 1286 postal Diplomacy players who have played in a game from start to finish(or their elimination). By letter, using the last name of every player, the standings are:

- |           |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|
| 1. B--129 | 14. J--38            |
| 2. S--124 | 15. N--36            |
| 3. M--106 | 16. A--35            |
| 4. H--98  | 17. F--33            |
| 5. C--89  | 18. E--26            |
| 6. L--86  | 19. O--18            |
| 7. W--74  | 20. V--17            |
| 8. P--72  | 21. Y--6             |
| 9. R--68  | 22. Z-- <del>5</del> |
| 10. G--65 | 23. I--3             |
| 11. K--55 | 24. U--3             |
| 12. D--51 | 25. Q--1             |
| 13. T--48 | 26. X--0             |

The increase of 97 players was an 8% increase(agreees with the GM increase, too). THEREFORE I FORECAST\* an 8% increase in our hobby this year.