

THE **JOURNAL** OF
AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY

Zines	John Cain on his experience with Overseas Zines, plus some recommendations
The Hobby	George Smirnow on The 1989 Smirvey (Australian Poll) and it's after-effects.
Games	Jonathan Heaney and Anthony Douglas, the editors of that great Subzine <u>Envy</u> talk about the games in <u>The Envoy</u> .
Update	WDC, DAA, MAS, TPW, SADO, ADC.
Polls	The 1989 Australian Diplomacy Poll - The Smirvey.
EndGameStart	Diamonds, S.L.T., Lawry, Ortega, Apache, The Kurrajongs, Simpson, Grendel's Mother, Marsh, ACD, 87B.
Articles	Bruce Freud on compliance obtaining technigues for the aggressive young Diplomat.

ISSUE
#89-6

PRODUCTION

Editor: Michael Gibson
PO Box 1053
Carlton VIC 3053.
(03)3475957

Blah: The Journal is an amateur magazine designed to serve and promote the Hobby that surrounds the game of Diplomacy in Australia.

Issue: #89/6 (September 1989)

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Your Credit:

Larry, you seem to be sending me/not sending me DW in spasmodic intervals. No # 50, 51, 52, 54
NO CBI Network. Well? Are we still trading?

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Contributors: G.Smirnow, J.Cain, J.Heaney, A.Douglas, B.Freud, J.Niechwiadowicz, N.Smark.

Letters: C.Brown, J.Cain(x2), M.Nelson, A.Douglas, L.Olive(x2)

The George Smirnow Freebie: This issue's free copy goes to Paul Yovich. This probably means two things. George likes you, and George is about to stab you in one of your games with him.

Production: The Journal is due out at the beginning of March, June, September, and December each year until the end of life on earth (which may not be that far away). It will always be late. Trust me.

Next Issue: The deadline for all submissions for the next issue is **November 27th**.

Editors Take Note: The Journal should also be considered as a source material for your own production. The quarterly national ratings, news, tournament information, poll results etc... can be reprinted at will. The Journal's readership is quite modest, so there are many of your own readers who are unaware of the excellent articles within this zine. (Authors retain copyright for their own work.)

BLAH BLAH BLAH

In which we hear of promises, mayonnaise, surfing, ratings, ravings, slang terms, a tired editor and the birth of a zine.
by **Various People**

+Editorial+Letters+Slander+Mayonnaise+

Welcome to the refurbished Journal. This is typed and arranged on an Apple Macintosh SE which I don't fully understand, but it's fun to use. It belongs to my place of employment, so let's hope I keep my job.

This issue's style also sets the tone for The Journal, that of commentary, rather than immediate news. The Journal will endeavour to neutrally look at the happenings and writings in the Australian Diplomacy hobby.

I am hoping to set up this zine with a philosophy that will carry past my stint as editor and support the Australian hobby through the next few years at least. Thus the aims of The Journal are to:

+provide a record of the Diplomacy hobby in Australia,

+promote quality writing about Diplomacy,

+support the events and organisations that support the hobby.

Blah, blah, blah you've heard it all before. Hopefully my intentions will become readily apparent just by looking at this, and subsequent issues. Quite probably I may be too busy and this whole issue will never appear. You never know...exciting, isn't it?

This issue is of course jam packed with articles on the various aspects of the Diplomacy hobby, by people who are probably experts in that particular field. John Cain on overseas zines, Jonathan Heaney and The Black Douglas

on some of the more interesting games in The Envoy, a blast from George Smirnow, Prof. Bruce Freud on strategy, the latest gamestarts and endgames in Australia, and Jan Niechwiadowicz from the UK on the British hobby.

In addition to those tidbits we have the results from the 1989 Smirvey Diplomacy Poll. [The first Australian Diplomacy Ratings for both completed games and those still in progress - has yet to be done.]

Craig Brown (NSW) 6/4/89

Here is my opinion on how the Aust. titles should be determined. It seems to me that most analogies between sport and Diplomacy fall short of what is required. While games such as football and chess and tennis all have ratings systems that work for that particular game, all suffer from the fact that they are not played by more than two sides.

Surfing is the answer. Surfing heats often have more than two competitors at once. Also the organisation of the competitions could be used for Dip Tournaments. In surfing tournaments are rated A, AA or AAA. If we (you guys) wanted to use this system for Diplomacy it would have the advantages of every competition contributing to an overall score and by not making it necessary to attend all competitions to win.

Say there were five tournaments: WA, SA, Vic, ACT, NSW.

WA & SA could be A-rated
NSW & Vic could be AA-rated
CanCon could be AAA-rated.
OR

The triple A rating could be swapped between CanCon, Sydney and Melbourne. This would allow a different crowd to be in the limelight every year.

The International surfing circuit has recently increased the overall ratings of Hawaiian events while decreasing the overall ratings of East Coast Australia, thus shifting the emphasis from medium-small wave riders to the Big-wave riders and Hawaiian locals. In a few years the weighting will be shifted again for a new emphasis on style and a new set of champions.

The "Central Coast Diplomacy Tournament" would of course be AAAAA rated. What do you think?

((Well I like the idea in theory, but in practise I feel that there will be an almighty row when we come to assigning those ratings to tournaments. Perhaps we are better with the near-anarchy we have now.

When are we going to see a Tournament on the Central Coast?))

John Cain (Vic) 20/6/89

Thanks for the latest issue of The Journal (#5), it was nice to see it again after a bit of a break.

It contained some good material (the back page was great) which would have been even better if it wasn't several months out of date. (Steven Bagshaw's letter was a real blast from the past.) For this reason I must support your announcement, in the footnote to the covering note, that The Journal will be going monthly. As you say, in 3 months (even more so in six!) whole issues and events have come and gone.

The Journal has been unable to become a hobby forum because it is too slow.

I hope that with the reduction in turn-around, you may be able to also manage a reduction in size (to say 12 pages) and especially in price. If The Journal was \$1.00, I think you'd find more people would be willing to fork out. A reliable monthly Journal would also be a good venue for material such as DAA Forum. Material such as "Harry Kolotas' Hypothetical" also has a much greater impact soon after the events they cover.

((Sorry, I have misled you all about the proposed turnaround for The Journal. I wish to emullate the professional monthly journals, such as The Bulletin in style but retain the quarterly frequency. My personal life could not stand producing a zine more than four times a year.))

Mark Nelson (UK) 26/6/89

You hit the nail right on the head when you said that in order to attract people to the hobby we need to make the hobby friendly. Actually it goes further than that, it's the friendships which keep many people in the hobby. It's pretty silly playing games by post but you find some really great people and have a great time at conventions! One of the reasons the American Hobby is so small is because it creates a very negative impression to newcomers.

((Yeah))

I would like to ask George, what he wants a ratings system to do. The object is surely to find the best player; Smirsystems

seem to want to use ratings systems as a way to encourage new players. The aims are not the same. I don't believe that rating systems ever encourage newer players; the result is that they discourage newer players. A rating system gives the best players; a list of active players is easily achieved.

((Yeah))

The C³I Network system is an unwanted, unneeded, unasked for and unclear organisation that is irrelevant to the hobby. The International Hobby doesn't need it, the national hobbies aren't interested.

((See your latest copy of The Journal's UK equivalent, AAA, and Jan's reply in this issue. I still believe there is a role for this network. I refute all your claims.))

All editors are naturally lazy; why write Australia or Australians when Ozz or Ozzian will do? Interestingly enough a number of Australians have commented saying that Ozz is OK. Still if you want I'll not use those words but can you please suggest some alternatives.

((Since when have editors been lazy? My main objection is that "Ozzie" seems to be a fabrication of your festering little mind. The normal slang is "Aussie". How about if I start calling you "Enggie" or a "Ukkian". "Ozzie" sounds ugly. That word (and Aussie itself) describe and perpetuate a typological Australian that plagues our national identity. It is a generalisation that assumes us as slob jobs and beer swilling outback rednecks. I am none of these.))

According to my records, the first Australian zine appeared in 1972 (maybe 1971). Any plans for celebrating 20 years of Postal Diplomacy in Australia?

((We have been trying to find a copy of any zine of the man we believe was the first Australian editor, Tas Ryrie. Again we seem to be dependant upon overseas record keepers for most of our information.))

Larry [Peery] collects shirts/flags. I collect zines/photographs. Does anyone want to exchange some Australian hobby snaps for some UK ones? One idea I have is to produce a Dipdom photograph zine; 40+ pages of photographs. It would be great to see pics of all your marvellous Australian people who I've read about. Just how many horns does Andy England have??

((I took some at CanCon 89, and I'll forward them on to you as soon as I remember. Andrew has one long horn.))

The Journal seems to be turning into a discussion zine, much less emphasis on pure stats. A chance happening or a move of policy? Whatever the case Journal makes a nice read, I wish we had an equivalent UK zine.

((Thanks. You do... it's called The Abode of the Abnormal Abbot))

John Cain (Vic) 13/7/89

Your 'new concept' is the way for this to go - the main reason being that it is what you want to do. As every month passes the difference (extreme difference) of what the publisher/editor wants to do and they can do becomes increa-

singly apparent to me. As each issue of Victoriana approaches (confession coming up here) I think, "Should I fold this bloody thing this issue?" Then I think, "nah, I can manage this issue, I'll worry about it next issue." If it wasn't for the support of the Mafia (eg the hackwork help) I think I would have cracked up already.

There is a 'tradition' in the North American hobby. After each Runestone poll, the winning zine always seems to fold or collapse. I don't think I'm quite at that stage (nor am I that sure that I will win - on the contrary...) but it seems like a lot of work for little return right now.

So, anyway, I'll do your article. Rather than being too clinical, I'll do something called: "The International Hobby - How I Got Sucked In." I'll try and recount how I got involved in the O/S hobby, how this involvement developed, and how my views of the whole scene changed as things went along. Sound OK? If you don't have it from me in a few weeks, remind me HARD.

((Unfortunately John, some people are going to get the impression that you are a bit of an egotist of the rank of The Great Satan himself, as the article itself also reads sometimes as praise of Victoriana. Still a slap on the back is called for, mate. The article is great, and is in this issue.))

Anthony (The Black)
Douglas (NSW) 23/7/89

Yes, the staff of The Envy will be pleased to write an article for your Journal. We will probably

start it next weekend when we do The Envy #6. Incidentally, Jon really liked your answers to the quiz but I'm sorry to say they were all wrong. Never mind, keep up the good work. How come you didn't tell us about the mistakes in Jon's bubble map? George.A.S. was indignant about the mistake in GAScony and Bill Brown also noticed the Barents was missing.

How come you weren't at Dip Expo? Too scared!? I've now learnt who the most loyal ally is - Andrew England! He played Austria with me as Turkey and we ended up on 17 centres altogether without stabbing. Obviously he's far more trustworthy than you!!

((Andrew? Trustworthy? You must have been on drugs fella!))

Lachlan Olive (NSW)
19/7/89

Allow me to introduce myself. I am a 16-year-old student who has become addicted to Diplomacy. I currently subscribe to the British zine Dolchtross and I am interested in Australian zines. Would you be able to give me the addresses of the major Australian zines?

A group of my friends are also thinking of starting up a new zine and we would like to know what regulations and procedures are necessary. I know that zines can be registered in England but what about in Australia?

((So I wrote a 3-4 page letter to welcome him to the hobby, and lathering on the platitudes and advice. One month later, Bingo!))

Lachlan Olive (NSW)
27/8/89

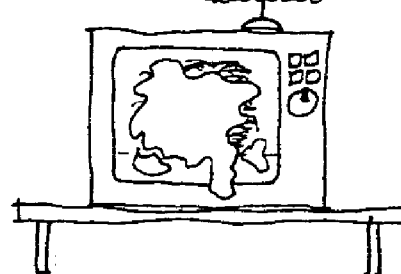
Firstly, find a cheque for \$8.00 to cover a year's subscription to "The Journal". The Journal's group seem like a crowd to get in with!

Secondly, the new zine my friends and I were planning is definitely on. We have about 20 people interested in it but this small number is quickly growing. Before we rush into anything though, I would appreciate any advice you have to offer us. The most interesting aspect for me is the Boardman Numbering system. If our zine is to be good, I think we should get into the Boardman system. Other such information would be invaluable to us and I would greatly appreciate your advice.

P.S. My next letter should (hopefully) include a copy of our new zine.

((Welcome again Lachlan. I've given John Cain your address, and he'll be writing to you as well. Keep lot's of spare copies of your first issue on hand for the people who will be asking for them. See "Update for a quick review of that first issue, it's out, it's great. Edited by Joshua Cole.))

Fun With Mayonnaise Pt I



Cover Derryn Hinch With It When He's On Telly.

ZINES

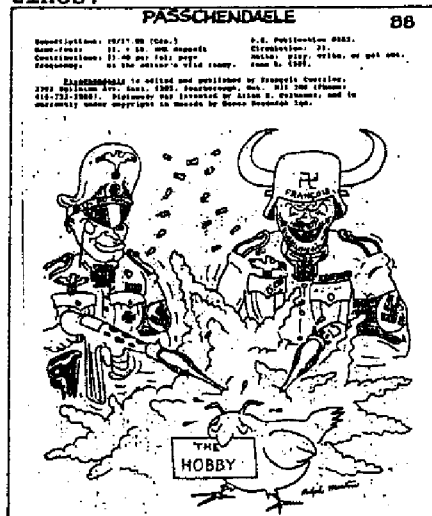
+Publishers+Publications+Australian+Overseas+

Hmmm. So Gibson wants me to do an article on the international hobby for his new look Journal. "Not just a boring listing of zines, John, an essay style article." I guess the idea is to interest readers in the international hobby, and let them know what's available out there. The easiest way to do that is to tell you about how I got into the international hobby myself. Two years ago I'd hardly heard of it; now I trade with twenty international zines and my zine Victoriana, has an international circulation of thirty.

It all began soon after I started publishing Victoriana, back about October 1987. Andrew England and Mike Gibson were "organizing the hobby"; handing out hobby offices and custodianships. To buy me off (I was noisy and opinionated even back then) they made me Miller Number Custodian (Australia). Andrew informed me that I should start trading with the North American MNC, Fred Hyatt. His zine, The Home Office, did not impress me at all. It was a warehouse (games only) zine; sure it did this well, but it was bloody boring.

Undeterred, I filched a couple more addresses from Andrew. Excitement City Unlimited (now folded) from Simon Billeness in the US was a big eye-opener; very neatly produced and the games were run independent of the zine, The main contents of which were a few articles by Simon and the letters column - where topics as diverse as vegetarianism and Doctor Who were discussed. Diplomacy only rated the occasional

mention. I also began trading with The Yorkshire Gallant, a British zine, published by Mark Nelson. TYG formed a strong contrast with ECU; rather messy, games run in the zine, and lots of interesting articles on the hobby and the game itself. Both ECU and TYG also included reviews of other British and American zines.



also picked up a few trades, including Bushwacker (from Fred Davis, then custodian of the North American Variant Bank) and Variants and Uncles, a British zine specializing in variants (from James Nelson).

Soon after I returned to Australia, Andrew England staged his "fold" of Beowulf (in reality it worked out as a big cutback). With Beowulf off the international scene, Victoriana became the main target of publishers interested in developing contacts with Australia; particularly after a review in the US Zine Register. Over the past year I have received on average about one request to trade a month. Nearly all of these I have accepted - being eager to develop international contacts - although I have turned down a couple of late.

One of the first of these was from Francois Cuerrier, publisher of Passchendaele, a zine I highly recommend. Pass was published every few weeks (it is now on a monthly schedule) and while it does a very good job of running several games of Diplomacy, it's main emphasis is on "serious" discussion. The zine features articles, with it's heart being the discussions and comments in the letter column. Francois sets some topics for discussion, some arise of their own accord. Francois also has a practise of expelling "dead wood"; subscribers who neither play in a game nor contribute to the letter column.

Apart from Passchendaele, I also picked up a couple of other trades from Canada, and several from the US. I have also picked up

two new trades from the UK in the past year. The more recent of these is C'est Magnifique, from Peter Sullivan. Peter is an old hand making a come-back to publishing, and so far CMag looks quite interesting, although I've only seen two issues, which isn't really enough to form a firm judgement on. The other



new zine from the UK is Yer Tiz, from Neil Kendrick. Yer Tiz is quite a good zine, with some interesting discussions and articles in it, although it has been a little erratic of late.

My interest in the international hobby continues to grow, matched by a commensurate decline in my interest in the Australian hobby. I have to admit that my main attraction to the postal hobby is now the chat and discussion, as I am finding the games rather dull.

So if you are interested in getting in to the international hobby, I'd recommend checking out some of the following zines: United Kingdom The Yorkshire Gallant

Mark Nelson
112 Huntley Av,
Spondon, Derby,
DE2 7DU
UK
Prisoners of War
Wallace Nicoll
228 Kinnell Av,
Cardonald, Glasgow,
G52 3RU
UK

C'est Magnifique
Peter Sullivan
36 Bushey Hall Rd,
Bushey, Watford, Herts,
WD2 2ED
UK

North America
Forget the US, Canadian
zines are heaps better.

Passchendaele
Francois Cuerrier
2303 Eglinton Av #305,
Scarborough, Ont,
M1K 2N6
CANADA

Northern Flame
Cal White
1 turnberry Av,
Toronto, Ont,
M6N 1P6
CANADA

Excelsior
Bruce McIntyre
6636 Dow Av #203,
Burnaby, B.C.,
V5H 3C9
CANADA

International Subscriber Exchange

Andrew England
PO Box 14
Civic Square ACT 2608
The ISE can forward your sub to an international zine, thus saving you the bank charges and hassles. All you do is send a cheque for (say) \$10 to Andrew and tell him which zine you are interested in, he'll do the rest. I'd suggest specifying an airmail sub, as surface mail to Australia takes up to 3 months.

GAMES

+Players+Gamemasters+Postal+Face-to-Face+

This article has no logical, sensible order, because we're not logical nor sensible. In fact there's no rhyme nor reason, but that's because we're not poets or musicians.

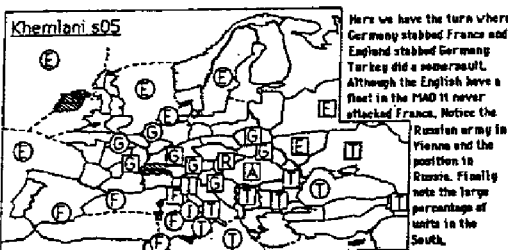
Garibaldi

This game has 3 White Knights and a Germany who is stuck with his pants down (no belt) and no fleets. This game is not one of the most exciting games in the Envoy but it at least has a lot of flavour due to several (ahem, cough, splutter), well, OK millions of GM errors. If you don't remember seeing this game, it's probably because it sometimes goes under the name of Embarrassing or Gary Baldy. The former reflects the true character of the GM's ability.

For the past 20 months Turkey has been ganged up on until Germany grew and now he's the target.

Rapunzel

This is a damn boring game. Do not get involved with it!



Khemlani

I like this game because it's good to see Turkey effectively break out of the corner. There have been some interesting reactions to Ken's stabs - Russia did a complete suicide to the Triple alliance, Italy happily bounced around on two units and Germany reallied with him and reallied with him

and reallied with him. The other leader in this game is Rowan Munro but his position is weakened by a German fleet lurking in Norway. (see Figure 1)

Askia

Despite getting off to a great start Italy and Russia have NMRed themselves out of the game. Well, not Italy who is in a good enough position for any White Knight. Turkey however started the game off with a misorder and hasn't really changed for the better, failing to effectively capitalise on these NMRs, preferring to hold and support. Danny Klepac took over Germany, has been successfully eating up Russia and is a clear leader.

Rabuka

This game is finished but I'd like to say that Harry Kolotas won and this means he should be ~~treated~~ targeted for destruction.

Utopia

This game was set up the best players from

A look at the strategy in the games of "The Envoy". Who's winning, who's losing, and how they're all doing it.
by **JADe - A. Douglas**
and **J. Heaney**

and Portugal but was then crushed and the 10 turn war between Germany and Russia with neither making much headway until Russia finally collapsed in one fell swoop.

There was also the German stab on France which I immensely enjoyed, not because it was clever, devastating or surprising - it was none of these but it means that all four players are going to drive his and his "ally's" nose into the dirt.

JADe Awards

Most Radical Opening: Dennis Reich of 'Hayden II' FEdiNth, ALpl-Yor, FLon sta. As a result of these moves England had a huge advantage over France mainly because he was underestimated by France.

Least Inspired Moves: Terry Bradley of 'Khemlani' S07 AVie s (Aus)ABud. This is the 3rd time he has made this order and it is now 7 seasons since he has tried to move (1NMR and 3x sup GerATri).

Best 6-Player Variant: 'Shangri-La'. Russia only made S01 orders.

3 Course Dessert Award: Steve Gould of 'Bismark'. For 5 turns he has been half surrounded by countries in civil disorder and with what seems like no diplomacy has grown from 5 to 9 units.

Most Dramatic Entry: Jim Sayers of 'Joh' A03. Upon entering the game Jim stabbed Germany and gained two centres catapulting England into the lead (if you count Sweden).

Luckiest Attack: Tony Fahd in 'Ortega' who went into the Ionian despite being outnumbered 3-2 and butchered the Spanish navy.

The Envoy to sort of be The Envoy's answer to Fire-drake. It has certainly lived up to expectations. I think it is the great quality (and quantity) of the press which sets it apart from most games but also the amazing survival of England on one unit for 5 years under hostile conditions, the clever Italian attack which secured Spain

ARTICLES

+Opinion+History+Advice+Humour+

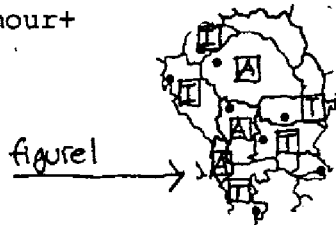
In last week's appointment, we discussed how to obtain compliance and/or nudity from other players through the use of ingratiation (or "sucking up"). Unfortunately, this strategy cannot be used in every circumstance you may have to act in an alternative manner in order to obtain compliance and make friends. We shall discuss four.

Reciprocation is always a good one. Did you ever give this person a lift home when they were staggering totally pissed down the freeway? Does this person still have your lawnmower that you lent him two years ago? Did you support him into his 18th centre in another game? You could even take the honourable approach and cite favours you have made for him earlier in the game you are actually playing.

Always be on the lookout for cheap "you-owe-me-one"s. Warn him/her of a stab, support them into a province, help them with a province abbreviation, bribe the GM on their behalf - whatever. So long as the thought "I owe him one" is implanted in their mind, the triviality of the initial favour in comparison to the one you want done for you will often be ignored.

The Foot In The Door or "one centre - two centre" is a multiple request compliance-obtaining technique. It works like this. You are Turkey. You have ARum, ABul and AGre, Austria has AAlb, ABud and ASer, and Italy has AVie and ATri. (see Figure 1)

What you really want, being the greedy, self cen-



tred natural diplomat that you are, is to take both Budapest and Serbia this turn. However, (using the Foot In The Door technique) you are not silly enough to ask the Italian to cut Alb and support you into Budapest. Instead you ask the Italian to cut the Albanian support only. The Italian, being a reasonable fellow will agree to this thinking "what the heck, it's only one supply centre". The smart Turk player then follows up with "Since you're cutting Albania for me, could you also support my Rum-Bud move?"

Often, the step up from the first request is just a small step, which he had already granted. The chances are far greater for both requests to be granted if one is asked for at a time. It is all in the way the opposing player perceives himself as giving in to you. In small steps, he will not think of it as much. In one big step, feelings of being used will creep in and the requests may both be rejected straight out, thus losing Ser and the opportunity for Budapest, Keep your options open - go one at a time.

Another multiple request compliance-obtaining technique is the Door In The Face. It works similar to the last one, but the other way around.

Imagine you are France. You have ABur, ARuh and AHol. Germany has AKie and AMun. Russia has ABer, ASil, ABoh and FBal. (see Figure 2). The Russian can obviously gain both Kie and

Part Two in our series of lectures on Diplo- psychology. Compliance-obtaining and door-to-door-salesmen by Bruce Freud

Mun, leaving you shut out of the German centres. So you set your aim to take Kiel this turn. Rather than being meek, you should ask the Russian point blank to support you into Kiel and Munich. Naturally the Russian will refuse. Your acceptable aim was to take Kiel - you now moderate to this position and ask for support into Kiel only. The Russian may well comply with this request. He or she may feel guilty for rejecting you the first time - the perceived moderation allows the player to be free of this guilt, while still feeling that they are in command. "It's only one centre after all, and I get the other" thinks the Russian.



The Low-Ball technique basically involves promising one thing in exchange for another and then withdrawing it. Offering to support another player somewhere if they will support you is great. It's even better if it suits you to withdraw your support, thus putting them in a dangerous situation. Afterwards you claim; "I forgot." "I lied." "International diplomatic pressure forestalled any practical application of my desire to assist you." "Them's the breaks, kid." This is also known as a stab.

There are many other methods of obtaining compliance, which I hope to cover as I complete my PhD thesis in Diplopsychology. Any outstanding research discoveries will be read here first.

THE HOBBY

+Politics+Publicity+Services+Clubs+

The "1989 Smirvey" How
it kicked-off, how it
got it's name, how to
avoid stepping in it,
and why George won't be
doing it again
by **George Smirnow**

Soon after the 1989 Diplomacy Poll came out, courtesy George Smirnow, I wrote to him voicing my misgivings about the content and name of the Poll. My understanding was that it was the "Australian Diplomacy Poll" - a generic title that would stand apart from personalities and institutions that this hobby might create. That no matter who conducted the Poll, it would retain it's own character and content.

The '1989 Smirvey' on the other hand broke with the (admittedly two year old) tradition that had been set by last year's Poll run by Steven Bagshaw and before him, Andrew England. Suddenly this Australia wide Poll became linked with a particular hobby figure, and in a sense, the Poll had become a personal statement rather than a hobby-wide one.

On the other hand, George did for the hobby, something no one else seemed prepared to do at the time - organise and process the 1989 Hobby Poll. So why shouldn't he call it 'Smir'something? The 'Smir'-something routine is one of the longest running and best loved jokes in the Australian hobby. There was even a zine, produced in SA, called Smirfan. George is our most energetic and enthusiastic players and hobbyists. Some would say that he almost deserves the Poll to be named after him. After all, the UK awards aren't called anything stuffy (The Gladys Awards), and it's categories seem to change a little each year.

So George wrote back, in his usual ebullient fashion to explain and apologise. After my request,

George grudgingly gave permission to publish. It should also be read as a plea for others in the hobby, those who enjoy the fruits of people like George's efforts, to take on and achieve something for the rest of us to enjoy.

Take it away George...

"Dear Mike,

Thanks for your votes and comments. I'm glad I didn't stop to think about the implications and assertions behind and underneath the style and the name of the Poll.

One day John asked me to take it on; I refused point blank (several times). Twenty minutes later, sick of arguing I just said impatiently & impulsively: 'OK! Stuff it! I'll do it! Alright!???' Next day it was done, finished. The day after it was in the mail.

All I was looking for was 'BANG' value. (Look-at-me, fill-me-in, send-me) BANG! DONE. Except for perhaps a handful of possible late votes, I reckon I've got all the responses I'm going to get. It is my guess that by 20/6/89 (last week) the Poll was over. I don't think that the results will change now. However I will wait for 31/7 being the DEADLINE and the results will be on the streets within a week of that.

CONCEPTION > DISTRIBUTION
(few days)

CONCEPTION > BASIC RESULTS
(two/three weeks)

CONCEPTION > COMPLETION
(two months)

BANG! DONE.

I won't be chasing votes, unlike the last Poll I did. I won't muck around with any of it. I would have liked to have made 26/6 the deadline but I doubt I could get away with it. So I added another month. The last month is almost all padding. I NEVER want to do it again. I only did it because I was given to understand that you refused, Bill refused, John refused and every other possibility was dead. BANG! DONE.

So I accede to all the charges of thoughtlessness and carelessness. I concede instantly that every facet can be improved. (Even the speed can be improved.) I apologise for calling it a 'Smir' thing. I'm sorry it contains the holes in the various categories, and around them. I regret the wording of the questions. I submit completely to all your suggestions. I relinquish all pretense to any validity and I succumb to any proposal that anyone can rerun it anytime.

I YEARN FOR SOMEONE, ANYONE, EVERYONE, TO PULL THEIR FINGERS OUT AND DO SOMETHING, ANYTHING, AND EVERYTHING.

Smirbanged? Smirfucked!!

G.Smironow"

The results of the 1989 Smirvey are in this issue. They're fun, they're wild, they're interesting. Check the page 14 for all the results.

Indications seem to be that Bill Brown will be running the 1990 Australian Diplomacy Poll.

ENDGAMESTART

Eight new Gamestarts and three Endgames dominated by George Smirnow, Rob Wessels and Victoriana. Next issue - AWHC and MAS Gamestarts!

+Openings+Starts+Ends+Records+

GAMESTARTS:

'Diamonds' (1989TB)
Red Aces January 1989
 GM - Craig Brown
 A Mike Bullock
 E David Harrison
 F Tony Manuao
 G Guy Tate
 I Jim Katrikilis
 R Campbell Page
 T Darryl Davis

'S.L.T.' (1989TC)
Red Aces March 1989
 GM Craig Brown
 A Jim Katrikilis(Jnr)
 E Jim Katrikilis(Snr)
 F Chris Manuao
 G Anthony Hutt
 I Chris Burke
 R Brett Scovell
 T Guy Tate

'Lawry' (1989TD)
Victoriana April 1989
 GM Robert Wessels
 A Jeff Perkins
 E Chris Burke
 F Greg Long
 G Matthew Stevens
 I Craig Brown
 R Danny Klepac
 T Tony Taia

'Ortega' (1989TE)
The Envoy April 1989
 GM Neil Ashworth
 A Rowan Munro
 E Adrian Fegan
 F Neil Smark
 G Peter McDonald
 I Jonathan Heaney
 R Jim Sayers
 T Alan Howard

'Apache' (1989TF)
Gunship April 1989
 GM George Smirnow
 A Michael Floyd
 E Greg Bristow
 F J. Swain
 G Greg Long
 I Alan Howard

R Gavin Begbie
 T Robert Wessels

'The Kurrajongs' (1989TH)
Tragedy and Hope July 1989
 GM Greg Long
 A Marianne Perkins
 E David Waldron
 F Alex Smirnow
 G Richard Biddle
 I Greg Jackson
 R Alan Howard
 T Robert Wessels

'Simpson' (1989TI)
Victoriana August 1989
 GM Robert Wessels
 A Pete Chalmers
 E Robert Stephenson
 F Mark Pollinger
 G Paul Yovich
 I Cathy Airey
 R Danny Klepac
 T Neil Kitchen

'Grendel's Mother' (89TJ)
Beowulf August 1989
 GM Andrew England
 A Gavin Begbie
 E Martin Sparkes
 F Carl Chang
 G Robert Wessels
 I Thorin Munro
 R Bob Howard
 T Cathy Airey

ENDGAMES

'Marsh' (1988TD)
Victoriana Feb88 - Apr89
 GM John Cain
 A George Smirnow
 E Mark Robertson
 F Rob Wessels (04)
 G Thorin Munro
 I Frank Haluszczak
 R Ian Kaspura
 T Scott Wade
 T Robert Slot

	A	E	F	G	I	R	T
01	4	4	5	5	4	6	4
02	6	5	6	4	4	6	3
03	6	5	4	5	5	7	2
04	7	5	4	4	5	7	2
05	11	7	3	4	4	4	1

06 15 9 4 2 1 2 1
 07 18 9 5 1 0 1 0
 Outright Victory
 George Smirnow-Austria 18

'ACD' (1987TK)
Beowulf Aug87 - Jul89
 GM Andrew England
 A Michael Gibson
 E Bob Howard
 F Darryl Davis
 G James Vickers
 I Bill Brown
 R John Dods
 T Martin Kenseley

	A	E	F	G	I	R	T
01	5	5	5	4	5	6	4
02	6	6	5	4	4	7	2
03	5	6	5	4	6	7	1
04	5	5	6	4	6	8	0
05	6	5	6	4	6	7	-
06	7	6	6	3	6	6	-
07	5	6	4	2	10	7	-
08	5	7	4	1	10	7	-
09	6	8	3	1	10	6	-
10	2	8	2	1	16	5	-
11	1	9	0	2	17	5	-
12	0	8	-	3	18	5	-

Outright Victory
 Bill Brown - Italy 18

'87B' (1987TE)
The Go-Between (+private)
 February 87 - August 89

GM James Vickers
 A Steven Bagshaw
 E George Smirnow
 F Bob Howard
 G Chris Bolger
 I Warner Airey
 R Ben Aveling
 T Greg Cobcroft

	A	E	F	G	I	R	T
01	4	5	5	5	4	4	4
02	6	7	6	3	4	3	3
03	7	10	6	0	4	4	3
04	8	9	6	-	4	5	2
05	8	10	6	-	2	5	3
06	9	10	6	-	2	4	3
07	9	12	3	-	2	4	4
08	9	14	1	-	3	2	5
09	9	18	0	-	2	0	5

Outright Victory
 George Smirnow-England 18

SERVICES

+Services+Zines+Clubs+Events+

Diplomacy Magazines

Affairs of State

Luke Clutterbuck
16/353A Old South Head Rd
Bondi Beach NSW 2026

Beowulf

Andrew England
PO Box 14
Civic Square ACT 2608

Diplomatic Immunity

Per Se
Jeff Perkins
6 Garnet Dr
Salisbury East SA 5109

Gunship

Alan Howard
51 Hogarth St
Elizabeth Sth SA 5112

Hyboria

Warner Airey
PO Box 59
Lake Bolac Vic 3351

Mars Archaeological Society

Joshua Cole **NEW**
10 Noble St
Bullaburra NSW 2784

The Envoy

Mat Gibson
c/o Sheraton Hotel
Yulara NT 0872

The Politics of War

Craig Brown
15 Sunshine Dr
Point Clare NSW 2250

Tragedy and Hope

Greg Long
PO Box 7
Corryong Vic 3707

Victoriana

John Cain
76 Banool Rd
Balwyn Vic 3103

Tournaments

South Australian

Diplomacy Open
October 7th - 8th 1989
Neil Smark
5 The Strand
Col. Light Gardens SA 5041

Town of Origin

City vs Country
October 1st 1989
Craig Brown
15 Sunshine Dr
Point Clare NSW 2250

Australian Diplomacy Championship

Australia Day Long Weekend
January 1990
Andrew England
PO Box 14
Civic Square ACT 2608

Hobby Services

Diplomacy Association of Australia

Ben Groenen
64 Dorothy St
Brahma Lodge SA 5109

Australian Diplomacy Poll

Bill Brown
121 Albion St
Box Hill Vic 3128

Australian Postal Ratings

Michael Gibson
PO Box 1053
Carlton Vic 3053

Australian Tournament Ratings

Andrew England
PO Box 14
Civic Square ACT 2608

Australian Variant Bank

John Cain
76 Banool Rd
Balwyn Vic 3103

Game Records

Michael Gibson
PO Box 1053
Carlton Vic 3053

Variant Game Records

Andrew England
PO Box 14
Civic Square ACT 2608

Radio Luxembourg Productions

(Artwork, Graphics, etc.)
Mark Lycette
303 Cobden St
Ballarat Vic 3350

Hobby Ombudsman

Luke Clutterbuck
16/353A Old South Head Rd
Bondi Beach NSW 2026

Zine Library

?
?
?

Orphan Games Rehouser

?
?
?

UPDATE

+News+Reviews+The Hobby At A Glance+

+
The World Dip Con (WDC) has been held once every two years since 1988, and is due to be held in Australia in 1992. For 1990 however, it will be in North Carolina USA, to be run alongside DixieCon IV by David Hood in June next year.

A group of Australians are planning to be there to compete in and study the event. For more information, contact John Cain, 76 Banool Road, Balwyn VIC 3103.

+
The South Australian Diplomacy Open (SADO) is Australia's longest running Diplomacy tournament ("the biggest con of them all"). This year it will be held on October 7th and 8th. For more information, contact Neil Smark 5 The Strand, Colonel Light Gardens SA 5041. Billets and Beer will be available.

+
The Big One. The Australian Diplomacy Championship to be held in Canberra, Australia Day Long Weekend, January 1990. This years organiser will be Andrew England overseeing three days of the toughest of competitive Diplomacy.

+
Seen in the "Opponents Wanted" section of Break-out #35 p48. Richard Biddle doing his bit.

+
For "an obscure neighbourhood Diplomacy club", the Victorian Diplomacy Club has done remarkably well in recent months. As a result of the 'Games 89' promotion, and more informal publicity, the VDC has now outgrown members houses and now meets in the Camberwell Uniting Church Hall on the first Saturday in each month. Contact George Smirnow, 15 Aubrey St, Vermont Vic 3133

+
The "Gamers Guide to Diplomacy" is a useful and valuable booklet, written by Rod Walker from the USA. It's an introduction to the game, with advice on styles of play, honour, cheating, ratings, and the postal game. - including a nation by nation analysis of the major powers. Almost unobtainable, this tome is apparently available mail order through Military Simulations in Victoria. But be warned. Even they are out of stock.

+
An Australian version of that Guide, Affairs of State produced by Luke Clutterbuck is available. Send him \$10 to receive a publication no less worthy and certainly a better read. Luke is at 16/353A Old South Head Rd, Bondi Beach NSW 2026.

+
The Diplomacy Association of Australia is still the major topic of conversation in Australian dip zines (after sex and politics). Debate on the proposed DAA constitution, tournament locations, ethics and the DAA goals rages across the nation.

Latest news has Andrew England quitting as Interim

WorldDipCon, SA Dip Open, Aust Dip Champs, Richard Biddle, Guides To Diplomacy, The DAA, and the Mars Archaeological Society (a zine).

Coordinator of the DAA, due to a perceived lack of support from other members of the group involved in the formation of the hobby.

Catch up with the latest in Beowulf, Victoriana or Tragedy and Hope

+
Don Del Grande of USA has announced the International Diplomacy Tournament Ratings World Tournament Champion of 1988, after collecting the results from tournaments around the world. The winner is Phil Day of the UK.

The IDTR results are tabulated on the basis that the larger the tournament, the more points you get for winning. Thus the 300 person UK Cons provide most of the winners. Odd system. Nevertheless Australians were well represented, Neil Smark came in 11th, Andrew England 15th, Neil Ashworth 22nd, and Harry Koltas 24th

+
Craig Brown, the editor of The Politics of War is coordinating the publication of a Diplomacy book, and is searching for contributions. It should be a little like the guides mentioned above, but the production is going to be a little more professional. For details contact Craig at 15 Sunshine Drive, Point Clare NSW 2250.

+
Joshua Cole is the editor of Australia's newest Dipzine - Mars Archaeological Society (M.A.S.) He is running three games at present and a letters column. Great value at \$1/issue. 10 Noble St., Bullaburra NSW 2784.

contact: Chris Merchant, 16 Gordon Road, Blackforest, SA 5035, phone (08) 371 0183
Players wanted for Play By Mail Diplomacy games. Am especially seeking novice players and will supply rules and map if necessary. Contact: Richard Biddle, 4/27 Tor Road, Dee Why, NSW 2099
Future gamer seeks opponents for Face to Face SL, 7th Fleet, Squad Leader, and board general. Would also like to play 2 player games, but
k Chee, 4 A...

SMIRVEY 1989

POINTS AVERAGE NOTES

Magazine	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
VICTROLAMA	263.0	6.5	24	8	10	6	8	6	8	7	9	8	9	10	8	8	10	8	8	10	8	9	10	8	9	8
EMORY	139.0	7.3	19	5	3	8	9	8	7	7	8	7	9	9	8	7	8	10	8	2	9	7				
HYDRA	94.0	7.2	13	5	9	5	9	8	7	8	8	4	7	8	8	8										
TRAGEDY AND HOPE	162.5	7.1	23	9	4	7	7	8	1	7	7	6	5	8	8	7	9	7	9	7	9	9	8	6	8	
JOURNAL OF AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY	226.5	7.0	18	8	9	7	4	4	6	8	8	9	5	10	8	10	3	10	6	7						
POLITICS OF WAR	67.8	6.7	18	3	9	7	7	6	6	7	8	7														
REUNION	143.5	6.2	23	8	4	2	9	8	6	3	2	6	1	8	7	5	7	7	10	7	5	7	6	10	7	9
DAWN THE CONSEQUENCES	12.0	6.0	2	6	6																					
SUNSHIP	95.0	5.5	17	5	5	4	9	5	4	6	6	7	7	6	8	2	6	4	6	3						
DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY PER SE	95.0	5.0	19	1	9	8	5	5	2	2	5	3	4	6	8	7	4	7	6	5	5					
ONE TO ONE AGAIN	61.8	4.7	23	5	9	5	4	4	5	4	8	8	1	1	1	6										

PTS NOTES

Player	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
BROWN	51	14	2	4	5	5	1	2	5	4	5	4	1	3	5										
SHIRROM	44	12	5	4	5	3	2	4	3	5	5	5	1	2											
WICKERS	49	13	2	3	4	1	4	5	3	1	3	5	4	4	1										
LONG	35	18	8	2	2	5	2	4	5	4	2	4													
ASHMORTH	24	6	5	3	8	3	4	4																	
ENGLAND	28	6	5	3	2	3	4	3																	
MUNRO	15	5	1	3	5	1	5																		
GIBSON	18	5	1	1	3	2	3																		
MIKE	10	4	2	2	2	4																			
JAMES	9	3	4	3	2																				
MESSLS	8	2	4	4																					
PERKINS	6	2	3	3																					
BASSHAM	6	2	3	3																					
OLDFIELD	6	2	1	5																					
STEVENS	6	2	1	5																					
DODD	5	2	4	1																					
CHOI	5	1	5																						
DAVIS	5	1	5																						
PHOON	8	1	5																						
MOO	5	1	5																						
WOOD	5	1	5																						
BROWN	4	2	2																						
CRAIG	4	2	3	1																					
HARRY	4	2	3	1																					
SEBON	4	1	4																						
JOHN	4	1	4																						
FOSTER	4	1	4																						
GOLD	4	1	4																						
LEWIS	4	1	4																						
SPINAT	4	1	4																						
AMERINHOI	3	1	3																						
CORCROFT	3	1	3																						
WARD	3	1	3																						
SEDMICK	3	1	3																						
SPENDER	3	1	3																						
FEGAN	2	1	2																						
GIBSON	2	1	2																						
WALJESZCZAK	2	1	2																						
KATRICKILS	2	1	2																						
PELLOR	2	1	2																						
POFFAT	2	1	2																						
WELT	2	1	2																						
ASHMORTH	1	1	1																						
CHERRIN	1	1	1																						
MARRISON	1	1	1																						
BLANCHERMAN	1	1	1																						
MARTIN	1	1	1																						
BASSIE	1	1	1																						
KELLIE	1	1	1																						
BREZLANE	1	1	1																						
PERKINS	1	1	1																						
PULLINGER	1	1	1																						
MARK	1	1	1																						

BEST TOURNAMENT PLAYER

Player	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
ENGLAND	39	9	5	5	4	3	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
MESSLS	27	9	1	3	1	3	5	3	4	2	5														
CLUTTERBUCK	23	6	4	3	5	5	4	2																	
VICKERS	20	6	2	3	4	3	4	4																	
SHARK	17	6	3	2	1	4	4	3																	
WINDER	13	5	2	4	1	1	5																		
ASHMORTH	13	3	5	5	3																				
CAIN	10	3	4	2	4																				
GOULD	9	4	2	2	1	4																			
MUNRO	9	3	3	1	5																				
LAME	11	CLIVE	8	2	5	3																			
SHIRROM	7	2	4	3																					
CHOI	5	1	5																						
KOLOTAS	4	4	1	4																					
TOLHURST	4	1	4																						
JOHNSON	3	1	3																						
ATREY	2	1	2																						
HEANEY	2	1	2																						
KLUDSTERTAN	2	1	2																						
BROWN	1	1	1																						

PTS NOTES

Player	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
GIBSON	60	14	4	5	5	4	5	5	3	3	4	5	4	4	5	4	4	5	4	4	5	4	4	5

THE BEST EVER
URGENT, DISCREET, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, SINGLE PAGE
AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY FUN POLL

MOST ENJOYABLE PLAYER		PTS VOTES		BEST ARTICLE		POINTS VOTES		
1	GEORGE SWINSON	33	16	1	SWINSONS CALENDAR	47	13	5 5 3 5 2 4 3 3 5 5 2 1 4
2	ANDREW ENGLAND	29	7	2	ACHIEVING A BALANCE OF POWERS	41	11	3 4 4 5 4 5 5 1 4 1 5
3	BUS HOWARD	27	10	2	MEGA-DIP FACTIONS	31	9	4 5 5 1 1 4 5 3 3
4	MARGARET PERKINS	20	5	5	EGGROLL	24	7	4 2 5 3 5 3 2
5	MIKE GIBSON	14	4	3	THE 1968 DIPLOMACY SURVEY	18	5	3 5 4 2 4
6	NEIL ASHWORTH	13	5	2	CANCOR BETTING	17	6	3 4 3 3 3 1
7	MURRY KOLOTAS	13	4	3	THE ASCENT OF DIPLO-MAN	15	5	3 2 2 5 3
8	ALAN HOWARD	11	3	2	YOUR BRAIN - A USER'S GUIDE	13	4	1 5 3 4
9	JEFF PERKINS	11	3	3	AUSTRIA - STORY OF AN ABUSED CHILD	12	4	2 4 3 3
10	STILL	10	5	1	AIDS - A MILITARY WEAPON	9	3	4 2 5
11	BLADUSTERNAN	9	2	3	ORSHOME GILES	8	2	4 4
12	GIBSON	9	2	4	THE PROBLEM WITH CASH PRIZES	8	2	4 4
13	JANE CAIN	7	2	5	THE WIP	7	3	2 1 4
14	MATHEN GIBSON	7	2	3	REUBEN FOR REUBEN	6	2	5 1
15	JONATHAN HEANEY	7	2	3	NUCLEAR POWER AND GREENHOUSE EFFECT	5	2	2 3
16	GIBSON	7	2	4	OR SWALLOW	5	1	5
17	NEIL SWINSON	7	2	4	IN SEARCH OF SWINSON	5	1	5
18	FRANK ASHWORTH	6	2	3	THE BARRON	5	1	5
19	BOBAN PLURED	6	2	2	REUBEN AWARDS	4	1	4
20	CAROL AMEY	5	2	1	THE PACIFIST AND THE MILITARIST	3	2	2 1
21	FRANK SWINSON	5	2	2	CANCOR CUP	3	1	3
22	STEVEN GIBSON	5	1	5	OFFICIAL MIDNIGHT BEAR-DIP RECIFE	3	1	3
23	JAMES CHOI	5	1	5	THE A-Z OF DIPLOMACY	3	1	3
24	BARBYL DAVES	5	1	5	ZINE REVIEW	3	1	3
25	LEANN DAY	5	1	5	BIBBY OUP'S	2	1	2
26	TOR DRAKE-BROCKMAN	5	1	5	DIPLOMACY - SOME NOTES FOR BEGINNERS	2	1	2
27	MURIN PLURED	5	1	5	FOR THE GOOD OF THE MURBY	2	1	2
28	MATHEN STEVENS	5	1	5	A DIPLOMATICAL REVIEW	1	1	1
29	GUY TARE	5	1	5	BAGGY	1	1	1
30	JAMES VINDERS	5	1	5	CATHY'S LETTERS	1	1	1
31	CRAIG SWINSON	4	3	1	REAL NEWS	1	1	1
32	STEVE GOULD	4	2	3	THE GREAT GUN DEBATE	1	1	1
33	BOB VESSELS	4	2	1				
34	FERRY BRADLEY	4	1	4				
35	SEBON	4	1	4				
BEST OVERALL CONTRIBUTOR		PTS VOTES		BEST SERIES		POINTS VOTES		
1	JOHN CAIN	73	18	1	GEORGE'S ADVENTURES IN DIPLOMACY LAND	40	10	4 5 5 1 5 4 3 5 3 5
2	GEORGE SWINSON	66	19	3	THE BISHARK PAPERS	39	9	5 2 5 5 5 3 4 5
3	ANDREW ENGLAND	57	17	4	DNA FORUM	35	10	4 1 5 5 4 2 4 3 3 4
4	GIBSON	41	13	4	A DIP IN THE LAKE	24	8	2 4 2 3 3 4 3
5	MIKE GIBSON	24	7	4	UNCA BEN'S LOG CABIN	24	8	3 4 3 3 5 1 3 2
6	NEIL KOLOTAS	19	8	2	GAME FISHING	19	8	2 2 4 3 1 2 2 3
7	MURRY PERKINS	14	4	3	THE FUNSHIP / FUNSHIP / HUNSHIP	17	5	5 3 2 4 5
8	JEFF PERKINS	13	5	1	THINKING LONG AND HARD	14	4	4 1 5 4 3
9	MATHEN GIBSON	10	5	2	DOCTOR GOLDILOX	14	4	2 5 3 4
10	NEIL ASHWORTH	7	5	1	ASPECTS OF DIPLOMACY	10	4	4 2 1 3
11	BOB HOWARD	6	3	3	BENZINE	8	3	1 3 4
12	MATHEN ASHWORTH	5	3	1	THE ENNY	6	2	5 1
13	BILL BROWN	5	3	1	BATTLETON	5	1	5 1
14	MATHEN PERKINS	4	1	4	FLAYER PROFILES (2250 PACT)	4	2	3 1
15	RICHMEL HOPTON	2	1	2	MURDOR	4	1	4
16	CRAIG BROWN	1	1	1				
17	ALAN HOWARD	1	1	1				

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMACY OPEN

WHEN: 7th & 8th OCTOBER

WHERE: MITCHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

COST: \$12 for three games or
\$5 for each game

PRIZES: 1st, 2nd & 3rd, best player,
best countries & place certificates

Competitive and social games

Three games over two days

Winery tour on Monday

For details contact NEIL SMARK ph (08) 2769608

