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MASTERCON

The second Mastercon took place over the weekend of 24-26 February at Cirencester, and also played host to the third European Diplomacy Championships. The latter event attracted a good number of European Diplomacy players, and they made up about half of the participants in that event. We do not have the results yet, but will publicise them when we do.

WORLD DIP CON

Xavier Blanchot informs us that World Dip Con in Paris will be at the beginning of December. Full details are expected shortly.

INTERGAME

SFCP can confirm the four games for InterGame UK this year. They are:

- Ausgebremst (ASS)
- Escape from Atlantis (Waddington's)
- Was sticht? (Moskito)
- Winchester (Rostherne)

SFCP are arranging supplies of all four games. In the meantime, applications for the tournament are welcomed from teams of 4 people. InterGame UK takes place on Sunday 28th May 1995 at the Old Ship Hotel, Brighton, as part of Furrycon. Details from SFCP, 42 Wyndale Rd, London E18 1DX.

ASS is also donating games for the games library and as prizes for this year's Furrycon.

Furrycon will also feature a qualifying event for the National Diplomacy Championship.

TRINGCON

Alan Parr is holding another of his popular one-day games events in Tring, this time on Saturday 30 September. Lunch will be provided, as well as tea and coffee and over one hundred games, for a cost of around £8. To secure your place, send a £2 deposit to Alan Parr, 6 Longfield Gardens, Tring, Herts, HP23 4DN.

MISSION FROM GOD

There is a rumour that Iain Bowen is going to produce an issue of MiG before Kim Head takes over. This is not true, and Kim is now officially the editor.

NATIONAL DIPLOMACY CHAMPIONSHIP

There will be a qualifying event hosted by Richard Williams in Fareham (Hampshire) on Sunday 19 March. Contact the organizer, Neil Duncan, 25 Sarum Hill, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1SS.

THE ZINE POLL

The results of the 23rd annual British Diplomacy Zine Poll were announced at the North Yorkshire Hobbymeet on Sunday 12 February, and feature the first ever tie for first place:

=1	1	Spring Offensive	90.707%
=1	9	Take That You Fiend	90.707%
3	4	Dolchstoss	82.692%
4	11	Greatest Hits	79.757%
5	7	The Cunning Plan	78.503%
6	22	Back to the Dark Ages	77.418%
7	2	Smodnoc	74.882%
8	3	Cut&Thrust	74.062%
9	17	Hopscotch	68.575%
10	15	Lies, Damned Lies and Diplomacy	67.268%
11	-	On the Game	67.100%
12	-	SNOT	62.108%
13	12	Ode	62.314%
14	14	Bloodstock	61.418%
15	16	Obsidian	60.655%
16	5	A Little Original Sin	57.600%
17	23	Backstabbers United Monthly	56.094%
18	24	Borealis	54.678%
19	*	Small Furry Creatures Press	52.708%
20	-	Nothing to Declare	52.271%
21	21	Pigbutton	49.440%
22	13	C'est Magnifique	47.089%
23	6	Y Ddraig Goch	45.541%
24	*	Megalomania	43.265%
25	20	ArfleBarfleGloop	42.862%
26	29	Springboard	40.730%
27	8	Up Around the Bend	31.456%
28	19	Realpolitik	29.844%
29	*	Quartz	29.104%
30	18	Mopsy	26.546%
31	30	PyrrhicVictory	20.717%
32	27	AssassinsHandbook	20.446%
33	34	The Laughing Roundhead	16.347%

A further 50 zines received fewer than the 12 votes needed to qualify. Last year's positions are shown in the second column, with an asterisk indicating that the zine did not get sufficient votes to be included last year.

Full analysis of the results can be obtained from the organizer, Ryk Downes, at Sharic, 63 Hirst Wood Road, Saltaire, Shipley, West Yorkshire BD18 4BU for £1 plus an A5 SAE.

Rick is planning to announce this year's poll at Manorcon and collect votes up to and including Midcon, where he will announce the results.

BAYCON

Baycon has established a reputation as a friendly convention where games players can meet in a relaxed environment.

Baycon has a large games library which you are welcome to use, and stages the National UK Individual Board games Championship.

The 9th Baycon is at the Exeter Court Hotel, Kennford, Devon (5 miles south of Exeter on the A38) over the weekend of 20-23 April. Prices are £22 per person per night in a shared room, or £35 in a single room. Registrations or more information from Glen Bird, 115 Greenpark Road, Plymstock, Plymouth PL9 9LL.

FURRYCON

Furrycon takes place over the late May Bank Holiday weekend from 6 pm Friday 26 May to 5 pm Monday 29 May, at the Old Ship hotel on the seafront in Brighton. Con fee is £15 for gamers (£12 before 31 March) for the weekend (or £5 per day); Non-gamers £1. Accommodation costs £29.75 per person per night (in a twin or double room). Single rooms cost £41.50 per night. The cost of accommodation includes a full English breakfast and children up to the age of 16 years can stay in their parents room free of charge - though their breakfast will be charged.

The major event will be InterGame UK. There will be other events plus a large library of games to borrow and play and lots of people to play with. The organizers expect to have a number of games designers/inventors along. Info from Paul Evans, 42 Wynndale Road, South Woodford, London E18 1DX (email to Compuserve 100031,2035).

MANORCON 13

Will take place at Lake Hall, Birmingham University from Friday 21 to Monday 24 July.

Features the Team and Individual Diplomacy Championships, plus United, Railway Rivals, Rostherne Games, Hartland games, Acquire, 1830, Outposts, bridge, croquet and Intimate Diplomacy tournaments.

More details from Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, Darlington, County Durham DL1 4EN (email: info@manorcon.demon.co.uk)

MidCon

Friday November 12 - Sunday November 14 at Birmingham's Royal Angus Thistle Hotel, a modern city centre hotel with an adjoining NCP car park. Features the National Diplomacy Championship finals and a variety of other events together with the opportunity to play games in a pleasant and relaxed environment.

Room rates are £27 per person per night (sharing) or £34 (single). Registration is £8 until 31 August, after which it will rise to £10. Cheques payable to 'Midcon'.

More details from Brian Williams, 30 Rydding Lane, Millfields Estate, West Bromwich, B71 2HA.

For details of the National Diplomacy Championship qualifying events, write to Stephen Agar at 79 Florence Road, Brighton BN1 6DL.

HOBBYMEETS

BRISTOL: The Knowle (Back Bar), Leighton Road, off Priory Road, off Wells Road. 1st Friday of the month. Paul Norris (0272 427061) Richard Egan (0272 774460)

The EXETER hobbymeet is assumed to have ceased, as Rob Mulholland is no longer living there. Anyone know for sure?

FAREHAM: Richard Williams (0329 236125) organizes a get-together at his house, on the 2nd Sunday of even-numbered months from 10 am.

HERTFORDSHIRE: Semi-regular meetings on Monday and Friday evenings in St Albans (Steve Kingsbury 0727 844475) and Sawbridgeworth (Mike Taylor 0279 724687).

LONDON (1): The Royal George, Eversholt Street, near Euston station, 3rd Wednesday of the month. Contact Vic Hall (071 326 0125) or Mike Allaway (081 863 6413) for details.

LONDON (2): The Small Furry Swiggers meet at the Royal Oak in Regency Street, Westminster every Wednesday from 6.30. Costs £2.

The NOTTINGHAM & DERBY Board Games Club meets every Thursday from 7-10.30 pm. Contact Mick Haytack on 0332 511898.

The NORTH YORKSHIRE hobbymeet is no more.

OXFORD: Every Wednesday during term-time at 7.30 in the nuclear physics building off Keble Road. All welcome. Details from Mark Stretch Flat 23, Stevens Close, Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 6JW (term) or 2, Over Mill Drive, Selly Park, Birmingham B29 7JL.

RIPLEY, near Woking: Usually 2nd Tuesday of the month, but can vary depending on availability of regulars. Starts with a curry and moves to a pub. Contact Dane Maslen (0483 721856) in advance to check on dates.

The SHREWSBURY Games Club meets every Sunday from 2.00 pm to 10.00 pm at The Lodge, Monkmoor, Shrewsbury. More information from Mark Kennett (0743 361417).

HOBBY SERVICES

Springboard is run by Danny Collman, 14 Westover Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham, B20 1JG mainly to deal with people who respond to the Diplomacy box flyers. Players are limited to one gamestart.

The Finishing Touch is produced by Richard Sharp, Norton House, Whieldon Street, Amersham, Bucks, HP7 0HU. The results of all Diplomacy games played in the UK: an invaluable source of reference for statisticians, or to find out something about your opponents.

The Novice Package provides a large amount of useful information for those who are new, and not so new, to the hobby. Includes a 56 page booklet with articles on playing Diplomacy and other games by post, a glossary of hobby jargon and pen pictures of hobby personalities, plus a number of sample zines and addresses for hobby services and zine editors. £2 from John Dodds, 55 Leigham Vale, Streatham, London, SW16 2JQ.

Zine Bank: Send a large (A4) SAE stamped for 200g to John Dodds, (address above) and he will send you about half a dozen different zines.

Mission from God lists all the zines in the hobby, with information about prices, sizes, frequency, etc., together one or more brief reviews to give a flavour of what the zine offers. £1 from Peter Sullivan, address opposite.

Hobby Advertising Campaign and Quick Gamestart Service: organized by Stephen Agar (79 Florence Road, Brighton BN1 6DL). The Hobby Advertising Campaign places adverts in various magazines, and the Quick Gamestart Service aims to match players and suitable waiting lists.

The Variant Bank is run by Mark Nelson, 1st Floor Flat, 3 Kelso Road, Leeds LS2 9PR (his email address is amt5man@amsta.leeds.ac.uk). It holds copies of all the well-known Diplomacy variants and more besides. The full catalogue is available for £1.