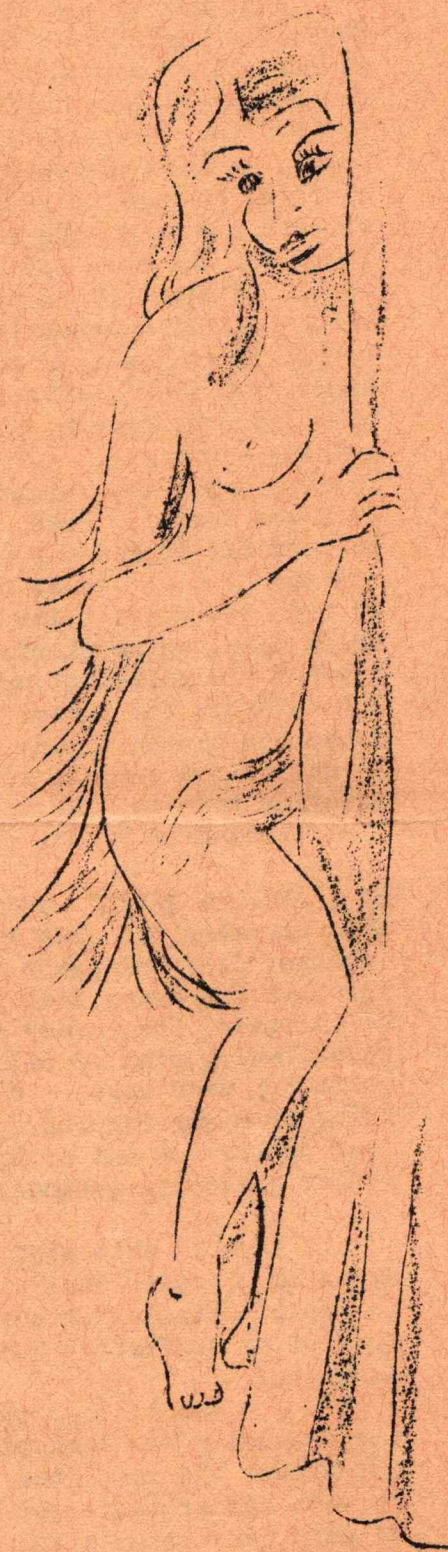
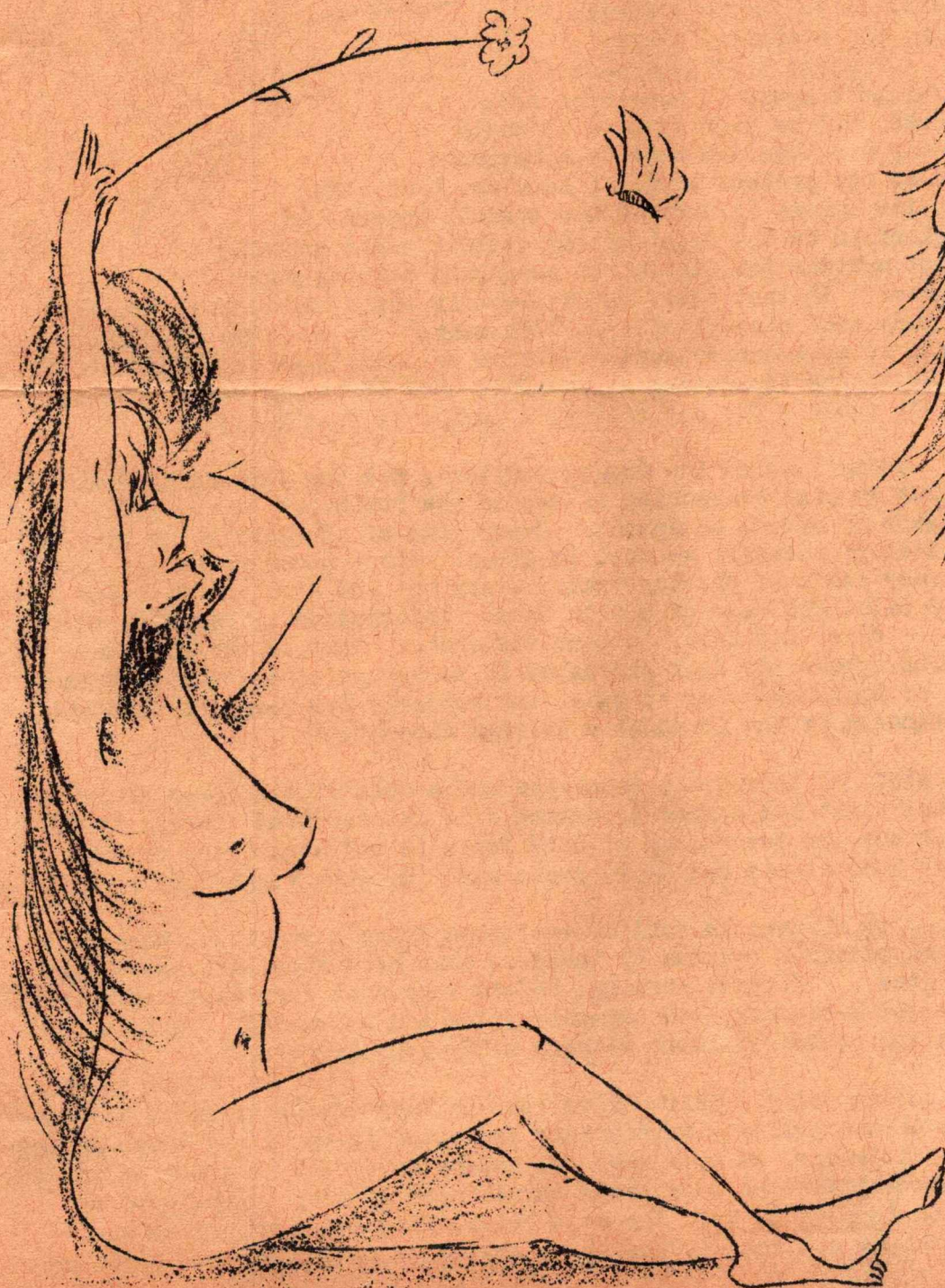


GEMZINE

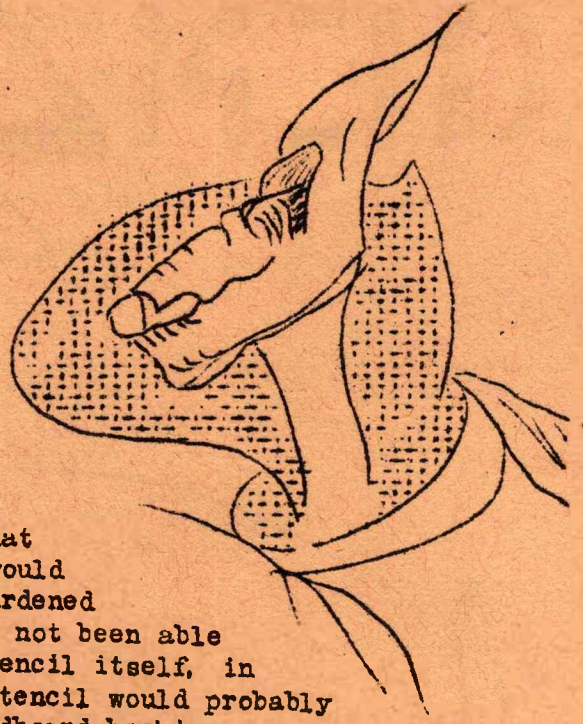
4/35



N'APA Mlg.16
G.M. Carr
5319 Ballard
Seattle 7, Wn.

BAITOX

Just had my old typer overhauled and new feedrolls installed. Did you know that the wax or oil or something in stencils causes the rubber rollers inside the typewriters to swell? The first thing you know, the paper starts to feed unevenly, then you find ridges starting to rise on your platen where the rollers are affecting the rubber. I've found out the hard way -- new rollers every couple of years or so at about \$25 per overhaul. I asked whether it would be possible to put in composition rollers, or something impervious to whatever it is in the stencils that does the damage, but evidently there is nothing practical. (Or maybe they just didn't know of any. The fellow I spoke to mentioned that cork was formerly used, but he didn't think it would be possible to get any now, besides cork soon hardened and was just as bad as the present kind. I have not been able to find out whether the damage is done by the stencil itself, in which case, using pliofilm on the front of the stencil would probably protect the rolls, or whether the oil in the cardboard backing paper also affects the rubber. In that case, there probably isn't anything to do, because one couldn't very well wrap pliofilm on both sides. It would be impossible to get at the stencil to make corrections. (Believe me, that's an important consideration with me. My typing is getting so bad I'll soon be buying corflu by the pint instead of by the ounce! Oh, not really, I guess, it just seems like it...)



Re. SLAVERY & TAXES: Today I found the County Auditor's new Tax Form on my desk. This one requires that we list everything we own in the business: every tool, machine, desk and piece of office equipment. Every item of merchandise we have for sale and every item of material we hold in stock. Every pound of solder must be accounted for, every ounce of brazing flux. Every nut and bolt and nail and screw, every pint of paint and ream of office Bond. Information is demanded that we do not even have -- never did have, in some instances. What is the 100% New Value of a War Surplus typewriter desk purchased 15 years ago at secondhand from a junk dealer now out of business? How to guess the probably new value of obsolete rubber gasketing purchased by the pound at a salvage close-out?

I look at this piece of incredible insolence and a cold fist of fear clutches my solar plexus: What right has anyone to demand this information? Surely it is no one's business but our own the number of hand tools in our workbench, or the cost of my typewriter when it was new -- 40 years ago! By what right? By right of Conquest!

The history of slavery is full of instances where a peaceful, unsuspecting community has been suddenly overrun by invaders that herd them into vessels or march them off in chains... Without warning, before they even knew what had happened, farmers and artisans and merchants find themselves treated as chattel. Slaves, to be sold like animals and worked to death without a "By your leave"...

That is what has happened in our nation today. While we've been so busy trying to solve all the problems of the rest of the world, a Bureaucracy has moved in on us and taken possession. Because, as a citizenry, we have been too apathetic or too indolent to resist, the chains of this exorbitant and outrageous invasion of privacy in the form of "Tax Returns" have been imposed on us. The most frightening thing of all is the complacency with which the citizens accept these chains -- as though this enslavement were "progress"!

Because it is a 'business' that is being compelled to yield up every private and confidential facet of its existence, the citizens smugly ignore the creeping tax encroachment. But there is very little difference between the drills on a workbench and the mixmaster in a kitchen... I wonder how soon it will be before every householder has to list the number of kitchen appliances; the number of sheets on her beds, the number of dishes in her cupboards? How soon the tools in the garage and the books in the bookshelves? You think I'm kidding? Well, think again... Better yet, take a LOOK at the taxes you are paying!!!

Re "WHO WAS THAT CHROMOSOME I SAW YOU WITH LAST NIGHT? THAT WAS NO CHROMOSOME, THAT WAS MY OWN SELF, TWICE REMOVED..." In the February issue of SHOW "The Magazine Of The Arts", I came to a full-page picture of my mother. It stopped me cold. My mother has been dead for nearly 20 years -- why should her picture be published here? Then I looked more closely and saw that it was not my mother, but someone who resembled her so closely that they could have been twins. I looked to see who it was. "Alexandra Tolstoy" daughter of the Russian writer Leo Tolstoy.

It is seldom that people stop to realize that the gift of life is a person-to-person business that cannot be handed down by proxy, nor bridged over a gap in time. Every single one of us has received our grab-bag mixture of genes and chromosomes via physical contact with the giver: Child from mother, female from male, the direct chain of life goes back without a break anywhere throughout the entire course of history. Before the pyramids, before Babylon, when Abraham left Ur of the Chaldees; when Caesar crossed the Rubicon, or Hannibal chivvied his shivering elephants across the Alps; when Crusaders marched and tradesmen formed Guilds; when Pasteur discovered bacteria and Lister learned of germs, some ancestor of ours was a living contemporary. While soldiers fought and peasants plowed, our lives were being transmitted down to us all unknowingly. Each of us, in our turn, may transmit a random mixture of these genes and chromosomes to our posterity -- some more, some less, depending on the number of children we have. But in all this broad sweep of history, there is no way of knowing which of the physical characteristics we now think are peculiarly our own, came down to use from how far back a progenitor. Come right down to it, ALL of us must inescapably trace our chain-of-descent right back to that first primal ancestor -- whether we believe him to have been Adam, sleepily awakening in a silent Garden on the last day of Creation, or to that first colloid slime-cell that wrenched itself in two in an ecstasy of procreation -- thus to form our two-sex system of reproduction on this planet. All of which brings me back to my original wondering -- Who, among these many unknown and forever unknowable ancestors was it that gave my mother and the Countess Tolstoy features as identical as a pair of Toni-twins?

Re "RETRIBUTION" Dave Beck's former residence here in Seattle has been standing idle for months, and now it is being readied for rental. (Dave Beck's present residence, as you recall, is the penitentiary). The low-sprawled brick dwelling is unkempt; its swimming pool littered with empty beer cans, the lawn scraggly and spotted with dog-droppings. In the cold drizzle of winter, the sunken patio with the brick barbecue fireplace looked forlorn. Even the huge canvas canopy over the patio area (and which probably cost as much as a small house) looked cold and wet. Among the litter behind the guest house was found part of a leather shoulder holster like worn in the movies by gangsters... Trappings of Big-Time Hoodlumism, now discarded and weatherbeaten. It is a sad thing to realize that Retribution never punishes the same person that earned it... By the time it got around to catching up with Dave Beck for his sins, it didn't strike the rough, touch, labor Czar that ruled his Teamster empire with sluggings, blackmail, destruction of property, and (it is whispered) with murder... No, the Dave Beck that is serving his time in the Pen is an old man, a widower... The punishment that former Dave Beck deserved (and should have suffered) may seem out of place for this old man. With his wife dead, his children grown and on their own, maybe prison isn't so much a punishment as a refuge. At least, there he'll have someone to look after his meals and see that he has a place to sleep. If he gets sick, there'll be the prison hospital. And he won't lack for company, that for sure...

Right at the moment (two minutes after reading this pitiful mailing) my conscience is beating its breast and sobbing great, old, crocodile tears! I feel so guilty for letting our nice little apa down the way I've done these last couple of mailings. Especially when Frank Wilimczyk shakes such a stern finger at (now-ex-member) Busby and says,

"Apparently you feel it's not incumbent upon people like yourself to set an example or lead the way, but I'd say you're already doing so" and Fred Patten follows up with an ego-boosting pat on the back in "Why Give Up The Ship", thusly.

"If N'APA is a proving ground, we need a mark at which to aim. This is provided by the superior talents of such established fanzine fans as F.M. Busby. Bruce Felz. Owen Hannifen. G.M.Carr. These individuals are more than just good N'APANS. They are, like it or not, guiding lights. Their material is always among the best in each mailing, and would be welcome in any apa."

Then, to top it off, Tom Armistead hauls up the storm warnings with a few pertinent (though perhaps inaccurate) comments,

"Actually, as of this moment, there is no concrete need for N'APA except as a training ground for new publishers, or something of that sort. Since it is on such a sandy position, a wave of new members who exhibit all the neolish characteristics so evident in young fans (like me) and a drop in the number of more experienced fans.. who have experience in publishing, would kill the apa."

True. Alas, too true. We are in a sandy position indeed, if we regard ourselves as no more than a fannish kindergarten with a few patient old has-beens serving as tutors to the neos. And the position seems even more sandy when we see how many of the more experienced fans have expressed their intention of leaving...



Perhaps it might be good for our morale to take a look at all the fans who have been members of N'APA at one time or another. N'APA has survived the loss of some Very Big Names and I dare say it can survive the loss of more -- (The I shudder to think what the membership roster will look like if we have indicated an inclination to drop... do...)

Just for the heck of it, I've listed all the members of N'APA up to and including Mailing #15, with space left to add new names as new members come in. (For completists among us, I'll enclose two copies in N'APA so you won't have to mark up the Mailing.) Let's not be ashamed of N'APA as though it's something only neos belong to! Our apa is what we make it -- and if we choose to, we can make it as exclusive and "in-group" as the most 'inner-circle' of the 'inner-circles'... aren't we the only apa asking TWO dues? In fact, we might start by working on our NSF Officialdom... Art & Nancy Rapp; Roy & Chrystal Tackett; Howard DeVore.. Where are you? Lee Riddle -- Are you there?

And perhaps it might not be a bad idea to ask a few of our ex-members to come back to the fold. (Though it would play hob with the Numbering system. Would they still hold their original position, or take another one?)

N'APA MEMBERSHIP TO THE FIFTEENTH MAILING
 (*Membership Current as of 15th Mailing)

Number In Order Of Appearance	Member	Mailing Joined	Mailing Dropped
1.	*Stan Woolston	Charter Member July '59	
2.	Guy Terwilleger	"	#8 Mar. '61
3.	Belle C. Dietz (Incl. Frank)	"	#15 Dec. '62
4.	George Nims Raybin	"	#8 Mar. '61
5.	Bjo Wells	" (Merged with Trimble	#5 June '60)
6.	John Trimble	"	#9 June '61
7.	*J. Arthur Hayes	"	
8.	*Gertrude M. (GM) Carr	"	
9.	Walter A. Coslet	"	#13 June '62
10.	Eva Firestone	"	#7 Dec. '60
11.	Wally Weber	"	#8 Mar. '61
12.	Alan J. Lewis (New York)	"	#13 June '62
13.	Ron Elik	"	#7 Dec. '60
14.	*Bruce Pelz	"	
15.	Steve Tolliver	"	#5 June '60
16.	Ernie Wheatley	"	#5 June '60
17.	*Ray C. Higgs	#2 Sept. '59	
18.	Mike Deckinger	"	#9 June '61
19.	*Ed Meskys	"	
20.	Alma Hill	"	#10 Sept. '61
21.	Daniel Blackburn	"	#6 Sept. '60
22.	Gustav Alfonseca	"	#5 June '60
23.	Ralph Holland	" (Died)	#12 Mar. '62
24.	*K. Martin Carlson	"	
25.	Clayton Hamlin	"	#8 Mar. '61
26.	Robert N. Lambeck	#3 Dec. '59	#7 Dec. '60
27.	*Seth A. Johnson	"	
28.	Leslie Gerber	"	#9 June '61
29.	Marion Zimmer Bradley	"	#7 Dec. '60
30.	*Bob Lichtman	#4 March '60	
31.	Norman Metcalf	"	#10 Sept. '61
32.	Andy Main	"	#9 June '61
33.	Larry E. Anderson	"	#13 June '62
34.	Bruce Henstell	"	#9 June '61
35.	*F. M. Busby	#5 June '60	
36.	James V. Taurasi	"	#11 Dec. '61
37.	D. Bruce Berry	"	#7 Dec. '60
38.	Frank R. Prieto, Jr.	"	#13 June '62
39.	*Jack Harness	"	
40.	Wayne Cheek	"	#9 June '61
41.	Ron Haydock	"	#13 June '62
42.	Earl Noe	"	#9 June '61
43.	*Albert J. Lewis (Calif.)	"	
44.	Joseph Casey, Jr.	"	#9 June '61
45.	Donald W. Anderson	#6 Sept. '60	#14 Sept. '62
46.	Bob Jennings	#7 Dec. '60	#13 June '62
47.	*Phil Harrell	"	
48.	Jeff Wanshel	"	#11 Dec. '61
49.	*Owen Hannifen	"	

Page 2 - N'APA Membership to the 15th Mailing)

No.	Member	Mailing Joined	Mailing
(0.	NFTF Sec., Janie Lamb	#8 Mar. '61 - voted free Alg. for work	
50.	*Mike McInerney	"	
51.	Bruce Robbins	"	#13 June '62
52.	*Gordon Eklund	#9 June '61	
53.	*Ted Johnstone	"	
54.	*Don Fitch	"	
55.	*Fred Patten	"	
56.	*Ed Baker	#10 Sept. '61	
57.	*Don Franson	"	
58.	Dave Locke	"	#13 June '62
59.	*Larry McCombs	"	
60.	*Bill Bowers	#11 Dec. '61	
61.	*Lenny Kaye	"	
62.	*Larry Williams	#12 Mar. '62	
63.	*Tom Armistead	#13 June '62	
64.	*Judi Beatty (Sephton)	"	
65.	*Dave Hulan	"	
66.	*Frank Wilimczyk	"	
67.	*Michael LaRoche	#14 Sept. '62	
68.	*Dave Vanderwerf	"	
69.	*Harvey Forman	#15 Dec. '62	
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EPISTLES EGO BOO

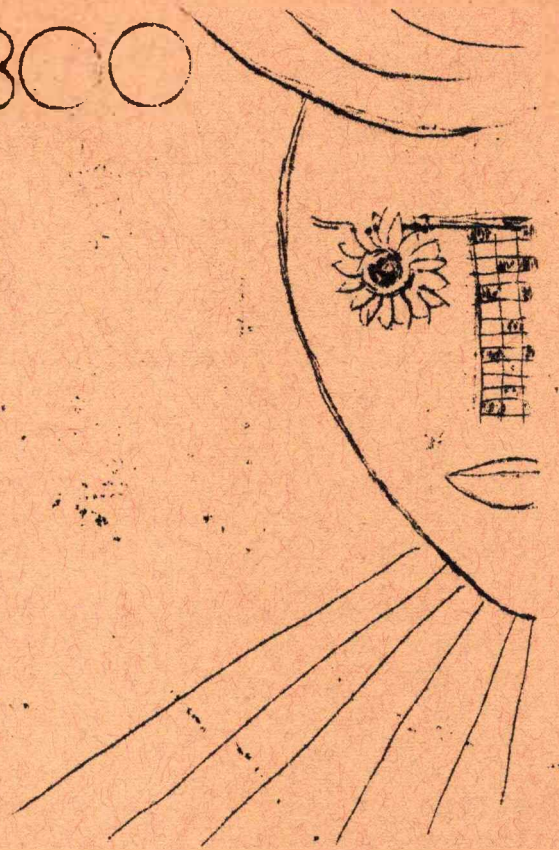
339 Stiles Street
Vaux Hall, N.J.
November 16, 1962

Dear Gem,

...Gem, I have known Communists in this life of mine. It was a Communist who led the furriers strike back in 1931 at Holland furs. It was the commies who got their heads beaten to a pulp putting furniture back in the houses at evictions and resisting all the armed might of the law. You're right insofar as the first thing they do is organize. They organized furriers union when the whole trade was ridden with nice patriotic American gangsters. One of them got murdered by these same gangsters. I saw his widow carry on the work he dropped and his two daughters do what they could too for the workingclass. So I'm not talking through my hat when I say I know something about the way they operate and how they get followers. Believe me, they would far rather have one leader type in steel mill or coal mine than a dozen intellectual types at the striped pants pink tea set. And for very practical reasons. In event of revolution or some action against the government or something, it is their policy to call general strikes. And in this eventuality, the ability to shut down basic industries and bring the whole machine to a standstill is essential.

But as long as the workers in these fields are taking home upwards of a hundred bucks per week and getting fringe benefits to boot, why there is no more chance for an agitator recruiting them than of his flying by flapping his ears. But put these men out of work, and have long lines of other men outside the plants looking for work, and you have an entirely different situation. That's when they begin to listen to Communist and Fascist agitators and look for a change. And that's why I maintain that if you keep people working and making a living, there's no chance for the commies to take over.

Lenin once mentioned in one of his books, a textbook on revolution, that students and intellectuals were useful, but that the best use for these was to seek and influence men of the factories or the proletariat. And that those to be relied upon were the rank and file of the Army and Navy subverted by the Commies, the laborers in the factories and tenant farmers or muzhiks. These are the people upon whom your commie concentrates in organizing and leading.



(Seth Johnson, p.2)

Do you want to know just what the main ingredient in their school for executives was? STRIKE STRATEGY. Every strike is a dress rehearsal for the revolution, according to him. Just how do you think the CIO got started? Through the Communist dominated Trade Union Unity League which agitated for industrial unions as far back as 1922 or thereabouts. And therein lies their power. The ability to gain control of unions and use them for their own ends. The intellectuals you talk of are merely useful helps towards penetrating and taking control of these labor organizations. This can only be done when there is widespread dissatisfaction in the union and industry. Given a first class depression or war draining all the nation's resources and manpower to the point of acute shortages of the necessities of life, and you'll see the Commies infiltrate every union, Farmers Cooperative and tenant farmers league and even the armed forces whose rank and file are recruited from the same people they seek to control and dominate.

And how do they plan to take over? Through a small strike which draws attention and sympathy of local labor who are thus induced to go on sympathy strike. These sympathy strikes excite a statewide general strike which, in turn, winds up with a national general strike and which leads directly into the revolution. Picture this if you will. Factories and Department stores and super markets closed down by the strike. Railroads and Trucks and freight movements of all kinds brought to a standstill. The armed forces sent to control the thing, subverted to point of mutiny. Result would be chaos in which it would be quite simple for the Commies to take over control. Gem, the only way to stop them is to prevent the depression and privation which inevitably brings them to power.

So there you have their blueprint for taking over. It has worked in the past and will work in the future. The only way to prevent it is to lead the world's peoples to the same prosperity and high standard of living enjoyed by the American public today. I firmly believe this can be done if we stop looking for a commie under every bed and start actively working for an economy where every person gains a job with decent livelihood as one of their rights.

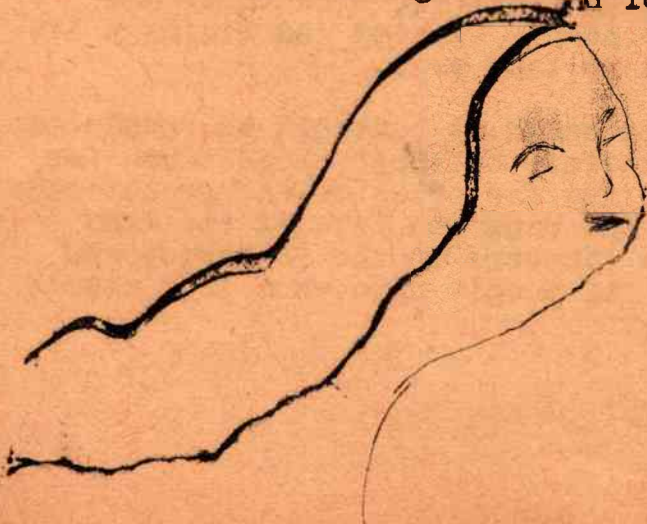
But don't ask me how to bring this blessed state about... That is something they will have to spend as much money and brains and research on developing as they did on the Manhattan Project. But it can and will be done if our Politicians will ever take their ostrich-like heads out of holes in the ground and look at things realistically.

Well, Gem, that's it for this round. May the cosmic peace abide with thee and may thou know God.

Fanatically yours,

/s/ SETH A. JOHNSON

(GMC: NO ARGUMENT FROM ME ON THIS LETTER, SETH. I COULDN'T HAVE SAID IT BETTER IF I TRIED.)



Larry McCombs, Apt. 407
238 No. Pine Avenue
Chicago 44, Ill.
30 December 1962

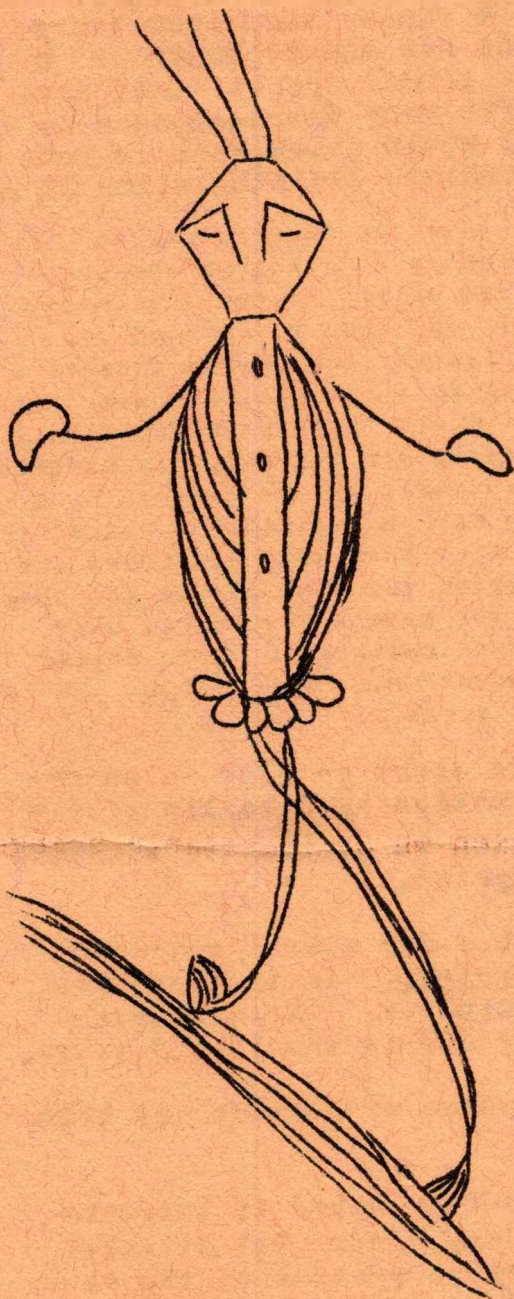
Dear Gem,

This is an attempt to kill several birds with one stone, so to speak: first, to wish you and yours a most prosperous and successful year in everything that matters to you; second, to thank you for your Christmas greetings; third, to hope that you'll continue to send me your publications, even though I'm no longer in N'APA; and finally, to make a few comments on your comments on the 14th Mailing, which Bob was kind enough to send me before dropping me from the rolls.

I hope the glades of Gafia don't trap you for long, but I feel a sympathetic twinge towards your plight. This schoolteaching is taking up so much of my time, I scarcely get time to read the incoming fanzines, much less make comments upon them. I've got an issue of MEG about half stencilled, and hope to get it out next week. After that, it'll probably be summer before I have time to get back to fanac again. Sigh. But I do love the teaching, which is why it's able to pull me away from fanning.

Your comments to Dave on the subject of parochial schools are very well taken. There is one other factor, of course, which I'm sure you're aware of. It is simply this - in most areas, the tax which supports schools is a property tax. On the other hand, those persons who are most likely to send their children to private schools, are also those persons most likely to be paying the largest property taxes. Hence if parents who send their children elsewhere are excused from paying for public schools, the tax rate on the poorer people would have to be raised even more, driving more people to send their children to private schools, etc.

(GMC: IN THE MANY RATIONALIZATIONS PRESENTED AS ARGUMENTS AGAINST PRIVATE SCHOOLS, LARRY, I HAVE SEEN SOME WEIRD AND WONDERFUL "STRAW MEN" ERECTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF BEING KNOCKED DOWN IN AN APPARENTLY SENSIBLE ARGUMENT. BUT I MUST SAY THAT THIS IS PROBABLY THE MOST FANCIFUL OF THEM ALL... YOU MUST HAVE REACHED 'WAY, WAY OUT FOR THIS ONE! I HAVE NEVER BEFORE HEARD ANY SUGGESTION THAT PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS SHOULD BE RELIEVED OF THEIR PROPERTY TAXES! THAT WOULD PRACTICALLY AMOUNT TO SUBSIDIZING PARENTHOOD.)



(McCombs - p.2)

Of course, this doesn't hold true for parents who send their children to schools for religious reasons -- they may or may not be richer than average -- but there's really no just way to excuse them from taxes without also excusing the rich man who sends his son or daughter to an exclusive prep school. An entirely private school system would have its advantages, too, of course, but it would have many disadvantages as well. The absence of red-tape and central control would allow much improvement in some schools, but it would cause complete disintegration in many.

(GMC: WHETHER PRIVATE SCHOOLS ARE BETTER OR WORSE THAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS SEEMS TO BE BESIDE THE POINT, LARRY. THERE IS A PRINCIPLE INVOLVED HERE -- A PRINCIPLE IMPORTANT ENOUGH FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO DECLARE WAR ON THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI IN ORDER TO ENFORCE IT. THE PRINCIPLE INVOLVED IS THAT EVERY CHILD IS ENTITLED TO AN EDUCATION FROM PUBLIC FUNDS. THAT IS HIS PREROGATIVE AS A CITIZEN, AND HIS RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION OR THE FINANCIAL STATUS OF HIS PARENTS SHOULD HAVE NO MORE TO DO WITH IT THAN THE COLOR OF HIS SKIN. IF ONE CHILD IS ENTITLED TO AN EDUCATION FROM PUBLIC FUNDS, SO IS ANOTHER, AND -- WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT -- THE SAME BASIC INSTRUCTION SHOULD BE AVAILABLE TO ALL! IF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FEELS SO STRONGLY THAT NEGRO CHILDREN ARE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST WHEN THEY DO NOT RECEIVE THE SAME DEGREE AND QUALITY OF INSTRUCTION AS WHITE CHILDREN FROM THE COMMON TAX FUNDS, WHAT SHOULD THERE BE TO SAY WHEN MILLIONS OF OTHER CHILDREN DO NOT RECEIVE ANY INSTRUCTION FROM THE TAX FUNDS? COLUMNIST DALE FRANCIS (OUR SUNDAY VISITOR, JAN. 6, '63) STATES THE CASE VERY CLEARLY:

"I wish that all who are not Catholics might come to an understanding of the service given to our nation by Catholic education and recognize along with the claims in justice of Catholic parents who would save their school system.

"I was reminded of the problem the other day when I read an article from the magazine School Management. In it there was reported the story of increased expenditures. Expenditures today are \$394.70 per pupil, a rise of \$77 in the last 3 years.

"The danger to our schools and the problem of justice are both to be found in this article.

"First of all, the rising cost of education makes it increasingly difficult to support schools of any kind. But it makes it almost impossible to support two school systems at the same time. And the truth is, Catholics are supporting two school systems. When you consider the average cost of nearly \$395 a pupil and you remember Catholics are educating something like five million students, then you realize that there are children in Catholic schools whose education should be calculated at a rate of almost two billion dollars a year.

"Sometimes Catholics, eager that those who are not Catholics understand the contribution made by the Church, speak of this as a two billion dollar saving for the rest of the population. This is missing the real point. It is really a two billion dollar burden carried by people who are already fulfilling their obligation towards education." (UNDERLINING MINE).

THE OBJECTION IS OFTEN MADE THAT CATHOLICS SHOULD SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS IF THEY WANT EDUCATION FROM THE TAX FUNDS. BUT WHY SHOULD THEY? TO WHOM DO THE CHILDREN BELONG -- TO THEIR PARENTS,

(McCombs p.3)

OR TO THE STATE? IS THE STATE TO DICTATE WHAT A CHILD SHALL BE TAUGHT, SO THAT ONLY THOSE CHILDREN WHO SUBMIT TO THE STATE'S AUTHORITY SHALL PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC FUNDS? IF PARENTS WISH THEIR CHILDREN TO HAVE AN EXTRA SOMETHING IN THEIR EDUCATION WHICH CANNOT BE OBTAINED IN THE STATE'S EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM -- WHETHER THAT "EXTRA SOMETHING" BE THE SPECIALIZED SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT OF THE VERY RICH, OR THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE OF A RELIGIOUS EDUCATION -- MUST THE PARENTS PAY EXTRA FOR THAT SAME PORTION OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION THAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE PROVIDED FREELY FROM PUBLIC FUNDS FOR ALL CHILDREN? TO ASK FOR JUSTICE UNDER THE LAW IS NOT ASKING THAT TAX MONEY SHALL PAY FOR "TEACHING RELIGION". IT IS MERELY ASKING THAT THE TAX MONEY BE USED TO TEACH CHILDREN -- NOT PROPAGANDA! LET THE TAX MONEY GO WHERE THE CHILD GOES WITH NO FEDERAL OR STATE STRINGS ATTACHED: IF 20% OF THE CHILDREN GO TO PRIVATE SCHOOLS, AND 80% OF THE CHILDREN GO TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS, LET 20% OF THE MONEY GO WITH THE 20% OF THE CHILDREN AND 80% OF THE MONEY GO WITH THE 80%. IT IS AS SIMPLE AS THAT. SO LONG AS THE PRIVATE SCHOOLS OBSERVE THE SCHOLASTIC STANDARDS SET UP BY THE STATE ON THOSE BASIC SUBJECTS WHICH THE STATE DECREES ALL CHILDREN SHALL BE TAUGHT, WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE WHAT ELSE THE PARENTS WANT THEIR CHILDREN TO LEARN? THINK IT OVER...)

Well, I for one try not to interrupt letterwriters in the middle of their say. In both GAUL and MEG I've tried to save comments until the end of the letter, except for brief humorous interjections which would lose their point if put out of sequence, and I try to hold those to a bare irresistible minimum. But I think that your use of typefaces eliminated the two major objections to interruptions--they let the reader follow the letter first if he wished to, and they kept clear who was talking when. For that reason, I was never annoyed or upset by your interjections.

In regard to your comments to Fitch, allow me to paraphrase Will Rogers: "I never met a man I couldn't agree with on something!"

I don't think that many of the "bomb-panicky advocates of No More Testing" ever claimed that the rash of malformed babies in Europe were due to testing. At least none of the more-responsible ones did. For one thing, it wasn't very clear until quite recently that there was a rash of malformed babies.

(GMC: OH, THEY KNEW IT ALL RIGHT. I REMEMBER THE DISCUSSIONS IN FAPA AT THE TIME THE "PEACE MARCHERS" WERE MAKING THEIR SUPPOSEDLY "SPONTANEOUS" MARCHES ALL OVER THE WORLD. ONE OF THE REASONS MENTIONED BY A BRITISH FAN WAS THE HORRIFYING EXHIBIT OF INFANT MALFORMATIONS SEEN IN A LONDON MUSEUM. AT THAT TIME RANDOM RADIATION IN "FALLOUT" WAS BELIEVED TO BE RESPONSIBLE, AND THE BRITISH FANS WHO HAD SEEN THE EXHIBIT, WERE ALMOST HYSTERICAL AGAINST FURTHER TESTING BECAUSE OF IT. NOT ONLY WERE THE BRITISH FANS GIVEN THIS KNOWLEDGE AS PART OF THE ANTI-BOMB BUILDUP, IT WAS APPARENTLY PART OF THE ANTI-BOMB PROPAGANDA IN ALL THESE DEMONSTRATIONS. BUT, AS I MENTIONED, NOW THAT THALIDOMIDE IS FOUND TO BE THE CAUSE OF IT, THERE HAS BEEN NO RETRACTION BY THE "ANTI-BOMB" CONTINGENT. INSTEAD, THEY SEEM TO HAVE SWEEPED THEIR ACCUSATIONS UNDER THE RUG, SO TO SPEAK, AND IGNORE THAT THEY EVER MADE THEM... NOW THEY HAVE SWITCHED THEIR PROPAGANDA TO A NEW SET OF ARGUMENTS INSTEAD.)



(McCombs - p.4)

As I see it, the argument of the anti-test people goes something like this: we know by experiment on test animals that exposure to radiation causes two types of injury. First, injury to the actual functioning of the test animal, causing it to become sick or die; second, damage to the sexual organs, causing damage to the next generation. The first type of damage has been studied extensively, and a considerable amount of knowledge has been accumulated on the damage done to the body by radiation. It is known that a certain amount of exposure will cause death, a lesser amount will cause sickness, a still lesser amount will cause anemia, etc. At first it was thought that there was a "threshold" effect -- a level below which no damage was done. Until a few years ago this was a subject for great debate, with Linus Pauling being the leading experimental advocate of the "no-threshold" position. It is now generally accepted that there is no threshold -- every little bit of radiation causes a little damage. Small amounts of radiation may accumulate to significant damage. To give some idea of the changing beliefs about thresholds, consider the history of public radiation regulations. When it became apparent that early radiologists and young women who painted luminous watch dials were dying at a very early age, an International Commission on Radiological Protection was formed in 1925. A limit was suggested of 0.2 roentgen per working day for doctors and X-ray technicians. By 1936, as more evidence was accumulated, the U.S. reduced its limit to 0.1 r per day, which was the limit in effect during the atom-bomb project. In 1950 it was cut to 0.3 r per week, or about 15 r per year (compared to 70 r per year for the original 1925 limit). In 1957, the National Committee on Radiation Protection gave a formula: the accumulated dose in roentgens at any age must not exceed 5 times the number of years past 18. In other words, a working limit of about 5 r per year, though more might be accumulated in one year if little or no radiation had been encountered before. You see the trend -- a continued lowering of the "safe" limit as more knowledge is gained.

It is now generally agreed by scientists working on the problem that there is no minimum amount of radiation which will not cause damage -- each radioactive particle passing through the body will cause some tiny amount of damage. Therefore, any radiation limits are arbitrary -- they are not dividing lines between damage and no damage, but guesses at what amount of damage is negligible.

We know much less about genetic damage. We haven't the data on human offspring of irradiated parents. The current generation in Hiroshima and Nagasaki are being studied with great care. The few workers in radioactive plants are being studied with equal care. But the data is too sparse as yet to draw any conclusions. However, extensive work with animals indicates that there is no lower safe limit for genetic damage either. Any radioactive pulse passing through the gonads may strike an egg or sperm and may rearrange its genetic pattern.

(J.C.: THIS IS NO NEW DEVELOPMENT, LARRY -- AS I AM SURE YOU MUST KNOW. IT IS GENERALLY AGREED THAT THIS IS ONE OF THE MECHANISMS OF MUTATION: THE MEANS WHEREBY HOMO SAPIENS EVOLVED FROM ITS EARLIER FORMS. MUTATION IS NOT NECESSARILY BAD -- EVEN WHEN STEPPED UP BY HUMAN MIDDLING. I DOUBT VERY MUCH THAT ANY HUMAN NOWADAYS REGRETS THE GENES HE HAD TO LOSE IN ORDER TO CHANGE FROM A HAIRY, BIG-JAWED, FOUR-FOOTED SCRAMBLER AMONG THE ANCIENT CAVES... THOUGH I DARE SAY IF ANY OF THOSE ANCIENT FORE-RUNNERS OF HUMANITY COULD HAVE FORESEEN THE CHANGES THAT WOULD COME ABOUT IN THEIR DESCENDANTS, THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN JUST AS HORRIFIED ABOUT IT AS PRESENT-DAY PARENTS ARE AT THE PROSPECT OF WHAT MUTATION MIGHT DO TO THEIR POSTERITY.)

(McCombs - p.5)

Has testing raised the level of radiation in our atmosphere? There is no doubt that it has. Has this rise been significant? That is hard to tell. To give you some idea, let me list a few of the government bodies who are responsible for determining radiation limits: U.S. Public Health Service; the Atomic Energy Commission; the Federal Radiation Council (an advisory body including the Secretaries of Health, Education and Welfare, of Defense, of Labor, of Commerce, and the Chairman of the AEC); the Radiological Health Division of PHS; the Food and Drug Administration; the International Commission on Radiological Protection, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation; the Committee on the Biological Effects of Atomic Radiation of the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council; the National Advisory Committee on Radiation (to the Surgeon General); and the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy (Congress). Obviously, you can find a statement somewhere in all the multitudinous reports of all these groups to support just about any position you'd care to take!

But you can try to take some of the announced radiation guides and apply them to fallout. For instance, in October 1961, the Food & Drug Administration and the Public Health Service issued a set of radioactive levels such as these:

Radiation Protection Guides			
(Numbers refer to micromicrocuries per day, averaged for 1 year)			
Isotope	Range I	Range II	Range III
Iodine 131 (half-life 8 days)	0 - 10	10 - 100	100 - 1000
Strontium 90 (h-1 27 years)	0 - 20	20 - 200	200 - 2000
Strontium 89	0 - 200	200 - 2000	2000 - 20,000

Range I - Periodic confirmatory surveillance as necessary
Range II - Quantitative surveillance and Routine control
Range III - Evaluation and application of additional control measures as necessary

In other words, for Iodine 131, you may receive as much as 36,500 micromicrocuries of radiation during any given year before these agencies begin to take steps to control the radiation. However, they begin to check you very closely if you get more than 3,650 uuc in a year.

During the past year, levels of Iodine 131 in the atmosphere, due to US and Soviet Tests, went so high that several midwestern states took steps to let milk sit around for a few days to let the short-lived Iodine 131 decay before the milk went on the market. The highest point for one day was 2,050 uuc on July 25 in Utah. For a great many U.S. citizens, the dosage received during 1962 will have exceeded these "safe levels".

But some people will feel that these "protection guides" are unrealistic or inaccurate. That is not too important. I don't wish to argue on the basis of any particular set of numbers, which will doubtless be changed tomorrow. What is important is that all scientists are agreed that current levels of radiation due to fallout are damaging to human beings. Pauling and Teller differ in their estimates of the number of babies being deformed and the number of leukemia cases produced, but they both agree that there are a few thousand at least.

The argument of the ban-the-bomb people is this: we have no moral right to conduct these tests, even if we are only causing the death or deformity of 100 people. No more right than we would have to march those 100 people out to ground-zero and set off the bomb overhead.

(McCombs - p. 8)

There are two arguments to be opposed to this point of view: 1) we have a moral right to kill anybody we please anytime we feel like it, if we can get away with it (i.e., might makes right), or 2) the benefits of testing outweigh a few hundred or thousand possible deaths.

I'm fairly sure that you do not accept the first argument. Let us examine the second one. This is the same argument that one could use to justify the car manufacturer who knows that his autos will cause a certain number of deaths, but feels that the advantages to the country of good transportation outweigh the disadvantage of deaths and injury. But there are two important differences; one, it is clear that good transportation is a benefit and that autos contribute directly, while it is not at all clear that testing is benefiting us (I'll come back to that in a minute); second, I may choose not to own a car, not to ride in one, and not even to walk near a street where I might be hit, while I cannot choose not to expose myself to fallout -- I am being put into a certain amount of danger without my consent.

The question is not over the amount of danger, but over the right of the government to endanger my life without my consent or due process of law.

As for the benefits of testing, I don't want to get into a big argument there, but let me suggest a few points for your consideration. The U.S. has now adopted the doctrine of "Counterforce", replacing the old concept of "massive retaliation". The heart of the counterforce doctrine is this: we divide our striking force into two parts, the first aimed only at war bases and plants, the second aimed at cities. In case of provocation to war, we will not strike at Russian cities unless our own cities are hit first. This sounds like a very humane approach to avoiding all-out nuclear destruction. But let's look at it a bit closer.

Part of the Counterforce strategy is that we reserve the right to strike Russian bases if we have reason to think they are going to hit us soon. We also use the threat of this attack in response to non-nuclear crises such as Berlin or Cuba. In other words, a first strike by the U.S. is now an announced part of our policy if we feel that Russia is about to hit us or if we are provoked elsewhere.

Counterforce is basically a first-strike policy. Russia doesn't have enough missiles to wipe out our military establishment thoroughly. Therefore, in order to cause maximum destruction of our country, her missiles must be at least partly aimed at our cities. Therefore, we must hit her missiles and planes before they leave the ground. Because of misses and shoot-downs, we must have several of our own missiles and planes to hit each one of theirs. Currently we have a 4 to 1 lead over Russia in numbers of missiles, and our planners say we must keep that lead in order to make counterforce work (a few missiles to wipe out each Russian missile, plus a few more to hold for a strike at their cities if they hit ours.)

Obviously Russia cannot allow herself to remain at a 4 to 1 disadvantage. It would be suicide. Whether or not she wants to conquer the world, just for her own safety she must try to at least catch up with us. Likewise we feel we must maintain a four-to-one advantage. Therefore both sides must commit every bit of effort they can to building missiles at a frantic pace.

(McCombs - p. 7)

Meanwhile, Russia's only hope lies in hiding her bases. If we don't know where they all are, our first strike cannot wipe them all out, they will have a deterrent, and thus we will not strike first. So Russia's current policy must depend on keeping the location of her bases secret. This is why she will not agree to inspection of her country until she is reasonably sure that disarmament has begun. This is why we flew the U-2s over Russia, and have now set up our Samos "Spy-in-the-Sky" project, and why we insist on inspection before disarmament.

Furthermore, counterforce requires a centralized control. If we are to respond to small attacks (say, Russia taking over Berlin, or missiles in Cuba) with threats of nuclear attack, it must be clear that the decision to attack or not rests in the hands of a few sane men. If Russia thought that Britain and Germany and France could each get itchy trigger fingers and start the attack, then Russia would obviously be much more apt to hit first because she was more likely to be hit. That is why we are working so hard to keep NATO under one centralized control and prevent European countries from developing independent nuclear forces.

But what I started out to say about Counterforce is this; it commits us to a perpetual arms race and perpetual testing as we try to get better weapons, with no end to the race but a war -- because we must keep a 4-to-1 advantage, while Russia cannot let us do so. The only thing to do is make a radical break, somehow ending testing and arms development and holding the whole situation static for a while until some scheme of disarmament can be worked out which is suitable to both sides. That is what most peace groups are trying for now. And it is my hope that the Cuban crisis has brought us closer to such a decision.

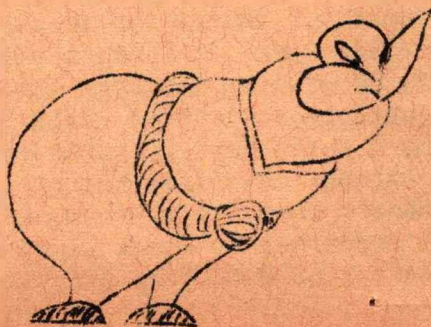
Why did Krushchev bring missiles into Cuba when he must have known that Kennedy would not let them remain? Kennedy made it very clear before the crisis that he would respond to weapons in Cuba by either invasion or blockade. Krushchev is much too clever to have thought that Kennedy could possibly afford to back down. Why then? Perhaps because the result of the whole crisis was to make us feel that we had been very close to war, and that we'd better renegotiate some things which were unnegotiable before the crisis.

Well, I didn't mean to get off a sermon. I just wanted to show you that the anti-bomb stand is by no means based upon the "wave of deformed babies" being born in Europe.

Guess I'd better bring this to a close and stop fighting with you. Hope you realize that it's all in good natured conversation, not preaching. As usual, your few pages offer more hooks for comment than the rest of the mailing combined. Your zine for content, together with Patten and Baker and Fitch for beauty, are the only things which almost kept me in N'APA, but I just haven't the time. However, I hope I can keep getting GEMZINE even as an outsider. Meantime,

Have a perfect 1963,

/s/ Larry





AS I SEE IT

#15 Mailing Comments

FENRIS #3 - Dave Hulan. I've never given you the egoboo you deserve for the fine stuff you've been turning out. Unfortunately, Dave, one of the less desirable Old Norse Myths is the Scandinavian idea that praise has a deleterious effect on a developing character. (Evidently assuming that if a guy is good, he already knows it and all he needs is a clout on the ear to keep him from getting a swelled head over it.) But this is not only a myth -- it is an outright fallacy. Everybody needs praise when doing well. I, alas, having been so thoroughly conditioned to this Old Scandinavian Tradition, tend to forget that I know better than believe it. So, I forget to praise. Sorry. I really do enjoy your occasional flights of fiction, and your fanac is getting better all the time.

SIX PAGES IN SEARCH OF A TITLE - Harness. When sourer grapes are produced, no doubt Jack Harness will find a place for 'em.. When N'APA did not lie down and die obediently at the end of Jack's OEship (as he evidently thought it would), but even managed to struggle on in spite of Jack's expectations to the contrary, it looks as though Jack is going to make sure it dies if he has to kill it off himself by Proclamation.

NIEKAS #3 - Ed Meskys. Enjoyed your introduction into Gilbert & Sullivan addiction. There is a group in Seattle that puts on two plays at a time every year or so, two performances each on following weekends. One play on Friday of the first weekend and on Saturday of the next, etc. So that those who can take only Friday off or Saturday, may still see both performances a week apart. Or, if they are impatient, can see both performances on one weekend. G&S, for me, is like Shakespeare in that

it must be seen to be understood. Some of the G&S plays make no sense at all no matter how many times one reads them, because the characters simply do not project until they are seen in action. However, when you mention that the lesser enjoyment you derived from "Yeoman of the Guard" might be due to a poorer performance by the fatigued actors, I doubt that would be the entire reason. For I felt the same way about it and in my case the performance was excellent. I suspect the difference is that "Yeoman of the Guard" is as close to being a tragedy as it was possible for G&S to come. Kidding the characters by semantic tricks like changing the title from "Torturer" to "Tormenter", could not disguise completely the horror of the historical facts the play was spoofing. There was an underlying bitterness in the play that the lightedheartedness could not completely cover up.

BUFFERING SOLUTIONS w/MAIN EVENTS. - Judi Sephton. Thanks for sending along the two issues of the CCNY Newspaper. I enjoyed reading them, in fact, I was so pleased with them I almost wrote in for a sub. (However, my growing lethargy toward all things fannish fortunately came to my rescue. I just procrastinated until I lost the urge..) I suppose (although it is not official) that I could be considered as belonging in the Catholic corner along with you and the others. But this brings up a lot of questions as I read your comment about your father's reaction to your marriage. You say, "My mother witnessed the marriage which was performed by Judge Landy in Yonkers, NY. This was unknown to my father." ??? I didn't know Catholics did things this way...

FOOT-RAV - Fred Patten. I hope you are successful in persuading Dian Girard to join the pub. and pub. is nice - if sporadic - little 'zine, she has enough to learn about something that a membership in NAPA would be good for her. If for no other reason that it is the easy way to pick up those little errors that even one's best friend won't tell.. (as they used to say in the Halifax ads. anybody remember 'em?)

DUBS #100 (huh??? are you kidding???) - Ed Baker. An interesting side-light on the use of Latin as the common language at the Ecumenical Council, was the discovery that different countries are developing different local accents. Since Latin, being a completely "dead" language except for ritual use, is usually read rather than spoken, the exact sounds and intonations are largely a matter of guesswork. But the French prelates spoke their Latin with such a French accent that it was almost unintelligible to the rest of the Council attendees, according to Arch-Bishop Connelley from Seattle (who sent in weekly reports to our local Diocesan paper.) But even at that, it was a remarkable thing in itself that men could come from every nation in the world and speak to each other in a mutual language -- even if it did take a bit of doing to understand it!

BEYOND REALITY #1 - Harvey Forman. I haven't seen a mag like this since the days of Norman Mansborough... Two things saved this one, however, from the contumely that Mansborough suffered -- namely, the comments on Stranger In a Strange Land (which show that Harvey dares to express his own opinion even if it does not coincide with majority thinking) and "Definition anthology" which indicated that Harvey notices what he reads and is able to comment on it.

..I fan for fun..

(Seth Johnson)

WALK HALL FANATIC - Seth Johnson. I wish I were as optimistic over the Peace Corps as you, Seth. The idea may be good -- in fact, it has been proven good over the past century of volunteer missionaries who have gone to foreign lands, living with the natives, carrying civilization along with the Gospel. But substituting young, untrained, untried, amateurs motivated by a vague, wishy-washy idealism instead of the dedicated, hand-picked, skilled doctors and educators -- most of whom spent years in training for the job - seems to me to be a definite step backward. There are other and more direct ways in which backward countries can be helped to help themselves. For instance, I saw a TV documentary about the impact Sears Roebuck had on one South American country's economy. By establishing modern merchandising methods and department stores using native-produced merchandise (and subsidizing some of the native manufacturers), Sears-Roebuck almost single-handedly created an affluent "middle class" where no middle-class had existed before... Only the very rich and the very poor. This was an example of the good private capital can do when intelligently applied and not interfered with by bureaucratic meddling... Unfortunately, Governments, especially those with left-wing, Harvard-educated bureaucrats) cannot tolerate anything so simple in the way of "foreign aid".

GARDILOO - Frank Wilimczyk. Yup, you lost me "way back there.." I couldn't care less how they edit films in the USSR. "Operation Abolition" did a good job of candid camera reporting and the more minor quibbles that are raised against it, the more evident it becomes that the films were reporting actual scenes. If more people would look at it, instead of letting themselves be scared off by the bugaboo of purported "poor editing", I suspect they would feel, as I do, that this sort of thing should not have happened AT ALL -- regardless of the sequence in which it took place! Re your mention of the Benny Goodman tour of Russia, have you noticed the extent to which Ed Sullivan is pushing Russian "cultural exchange" on his TV program? If he can't get Russians, he gets US performers who have performed in Russia... I'm expecting any day now to see him come up with a Cuban "cultural exchange".

R-CHS #9 - Bruce Pelz. Interesting covers this time. The most fascinating thing about this apactivity roster is its Louella-Parsons aspect. The vital statistics of fandom are contained between the lines as we read who's dual membership is split, whose name is changed to what, who died (or dropped out) and who has been added.

THE BARCOON (postdated) - Lucy Higgs. I like the idea Lucy proposes that the various RR groups publish a quarterly fanzine showing what they did during the past quarter. The Round Robins frequently come up with material which is really good and deserves a wider audience than just the few who participated. Art Hayes used to publish huge chunks of the stuff, just to get it in print, even though he could not begin to do it justice. It is too bad that Officialdom cannot stop bickering among themselves long enough to give this idea some serious consideration. Actually, I shouldn't think it would be too difficult to get started if there were a few (or maybe I should say 'quite a few') ampubbers among the Round Robineers.. For instance, there could be an APA of Robins -- the RRAPA? -- wherein each group of 5 or so Robin-writers published its own material on a quarterly deadline, then sent it to its own OE. Trouble is, this still would not get the material out into general circulation. It would merely mean that all the RRs were, in effect, a part of each other... But the idea does have merit. Don Franson, how about it? Seth Johnson, are there any RRs worth while at the present time?

Singlesheets, noted. Egoboo Poll, ignored. I was hoping it wouldn't get started here. In my opinion, egoboo polls tend to make fans self-conscious in their fanaticism, and spontaneity is lost. When fans begin to get concerned with their social status as pubbers, it has a deleterious effect on their creativeness. Instead of just faning for the fun of it, and let the chips fall where they may, they get self-conscious about their 'public image' and can't keep from casting furtive side-glances at the impression they are making. Then, too, the element of snobbery creeps in -- and if you don't think fans can be snobbish, just watch how some of them fawn on the BNFs and snub the LNFs... Even when they're scarcely more than LNFs themselves...

Well, guess that's all for now. EASTER GREETINGS, everybody!

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by G. M. CARR
5319 Ballard NW
Seattle 7, Wash.

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