

PATTEL

Paul Deorr box 1444 Vallejo, California 94590

Hello Everybody,

My deadline snuck up on me. I haven't been doing much fanstuff in the past few months. Or much of anything else but on my boat. I was making a big push to get it finished, and I hope it will be done in the near future. I'm lucky I started it some years ago. Just for one instance, the price of boat lumber rose 400% just in the first few months of this year. When finished, she will be about 25 feet, turtle decked, three compartmented, positive floatation, barndoor rudder, freestanding but demountable mast, no standing rigging, Thai junk rig, twin keel, and a lot of other goodies...a cross between Jester and Buttercup and my ideas. She was custom designed by one of the west coast marine architects on this kind of work, designed for long ocean voyages with the minimum of effort and maximum of comfort consistent with safety and ability. She looks like a real winner.

Which reminds me, I have a lot of stuff, from guns and swords to books and extra sextants to trade off. I'll swop a 24' house trailer for a big truck. I'll even swop my new boat for a farm, and guarantee it, and then I can build another. I'm hunting an abandoned farm or really isolated place in the country (woods, mountainside, whatever) cheap and I'll pay a finder's fee to anyone who gives me info leading to a buy. Or, I'd give a piece of the land if someone wanted that instead.

I'm sitting here typing this (late) surrounded by my usual neatly kept room. A small space in the center is kept almost clear so I can get in, after I've forced the door open, and reach the bed. Alone even, it's a hell of a job. In great piles are books, magazines (I have several hundred ufo, sf, monster, psychic, ancient civilization, whatever books and magazines, including some hundreds of Search and Fate to swop off...send for my want list), guns, anchors, swords (swop anyone? I also want a good swordblade made if you know a good swordsmith), bows, fishing tackle, scuba gear, fencing equipment and karate clothes...at least that's what I see on the tops of the piles at a quick glance. I've swopped everything else to get this out and protect my FAPASHIP. Maybe I'm getting older or something but the quality of amateur zines seems to be improving vastly...a lot of it anyway.

I got my drop of gas the other day...after waiting a half hour and paying over 60¢....sixty cents, that is...per gallon...limit of 10 gallon. I'm still designing nuclear subs, missiles, underwater habitats, and Fuck Rodgers spaceships for the glorious government and, not wanting to live in the same town with the damn place, and liking the open country, I have to fill my tank two or three times a week just to get to work, not to mention the Mensa orgies I like to go to in the Bay area, and don't get to often enough

But as to the oil shortage....the oil companies and their bribed puppets, our noble, upstanding, honorable, intelligent, selfsacrificing, devoted political leaders, the . wisemen of the land, of course are not responsible for the energy situation, nor for our military-economical situation, of which more later, but sometimes, even I, with such a high opinion of our gurus, sometimes wonder. The oil companies DID want a pipeline in Alaska, drilling off the Santa Barbara, and doubled gas prices. And we do seem to have all these now.

Another thing I sometimes wonder about....the day the Arabs SAID they would cut our oil, in spite of tankers at sea and storage tanks fuller than at anytime for years...that very day, we HAD a fullgrown oil shortage, with statements to the press and gas stations (company stations?) closing early. Very strange. We just finished fighting a war with, may I mention, no shortages of anything, but now, with no war (????) we have shortages.

I can suggest some solutions....vigilantes with ropes....a deal with the Russians, if they give instant renewal to Washington, D C, we can do the same to Moscow, and then we all can live more happily for ever after, or at least less expensively.

I see the postal service, the most efficient outfit in the world, has finally obtained a much-deserved 25% price hike. I understand the zip code system was inaugurated because the quality of postal employees made it necessary (they can't read cursive, only numbers) so the mail could, at least, be moved to the correct state. How it gets to houses I don't know, though I've heard stories that the householders must visit, after the undaunted carrier has made his appointed rounds, exchanging mail. It seems names are a bit difficult. They're written, you know. I get my mail at a box, so I don't get in on these visits. Oh well, nobody has all the luck.

Some of the rumors flying around here, all from highly reliable sources, even if not high white horse sources, seem to be writing a future science-fiction horror movie. Some of the inadequacies of our military equipment seems to make a war a dangerous place. In Korea, we used to sit around, after the day's work of killing gooks was finished, and try to decide whose side Washington was on. We never really decided (we weren't so quick to pin names on people then) but we were all sure it wasn't our side. We would watch the planes flying down a narrow, preordered channel (which the enemy knew of also, and consequently were zeroed in on) and trying to hit targets that were shielded from that particular attack direction. Vietnam is evidently the same sort of thing. The targets and strike areas that could have ended the war in days were verboten, by order or god our leaders (and who gave them their orders?), and so many suckers bit the dust. Well, if you're dumb enough to allow yourself to get in that fix, I suppose you deserve it (and I don't exclude me). I could continue the true and fearful chronicle of the decline and fall of the great republic (y' ever read history...it shows that no great nation ever fell from enemy action unless it had first rotted out internally), but better things await.

I hope to publish a 'zine, well over a hundred, page magazine of amateur sword and sorcery type stories and pictures, at least part in full color. If I don't lose too much money on the deal, it will not be a single-shot. I would appreciate stories and pictures and, in the far future, I might even be able to pay something for them, but not yet. Also, I don't know when the zine will be published, tho it will...repeat WILL...be published eventually. I want stories (sexy accepted, natch) that have a happy-go-lucky, carefree, devil-may-care, swashbuckling air (perhaps like some of Leiber's Fafhrd and Grey Mouser stories). The hero need not necessarily win, nor be a super-muscled Conan, tho I've no objections to that. I want a happy, optimistic, non-psychological, read-it-for-fun, the hell-with-the-rules-and-ignore-the-laws-and-lawmakers type thing...a funthing, not an exercise in grammar or conformity. Okay? Research articles ore fine too.

I have a question, I've asked this in fencing groups and magazines, in Tournaments Illuminated and at Society tourneys, but never a good answer. I even wrote Heinlein (regarding Tunnel In The Sky, etc). He said it depended on the man and dropped the material side of the question. Here it is.....other things, like skill, strength, etc being equal, what weapon would give a man the best chance of survival in a dangerous world, with possible animals and men anything found on an earth-like planet...no dinosaurs, etc, just approximately what we now have, to keep it simpler. Any weapon considered...close up from knives, swords, clubs, wrist or finger knives, spiked wristlets, etc to longer distance weapons like spears, bolos, boomerangs, slings, bows, knob-kerries, atlatls, rocks, etc. You might meet swordsmen, fencers, legionaries, savages, skilled warriors, lions, vicious mice, poison-spitting snakes, apes with a toothache or you dream it up. Of course, you have a handicap or two....you're out on your own....no store handy, no repairmen, no replacements but what you make yourself (and even black powder is not really makable by anyone except a good chemist, which you're not. You are just an average Joe, or Jill, with no special skills not expected of one in your position, which may be an ancient warrior or an ex-bank clerk or a dance-hall hostess, or an abandoned princess, but NOT a super scientist, industrial wizzard, great magician, extraordinarily lucky individual, nor may you have the call on a private god or unusual animal,...I should say a dog or cat would be about the limit, and they have both been trained for war but they are not extra-super weapons either.

I mentioned that I have hundreds of books and magazines on ufo, monsters, psychic, etc to trade off or sell? I'm disposing of my collection and do not want to trade for other magazines or books, except possible some books or magazines on the Mother Earth News, Lifestyle, Organics Gardening, Prevention line or books on herbs or agriculture or National Dispensatory, ..oops U S Dispensatory, National Formulary type things. I could also use a good, recent copy of the Hospital Corpsman's Handbook and similar. Also good-condition medical and surgical instrumens.

I see the anti-gun bunch are up again. Personally, I think the only people who want to remove the gun from the people are.....

1. a few honestly mistaken
2. fools and tools
3. psychos and some with mental problems, perhaps caused by things that happened to relatives, like Kennedy (tho he has cars and deep water like Chappaquiddic). By the way, you've heard the latest about JFK, RFK and Marilyn Monroe?
4. criminals or those who profit from some criminal relationship and see that unarmed victims are easier and safer to rob or murder
5. traitors or would-be homegrown dictators who see that an unarmed citizen is easier and safer to tyrannize, murder, kill, throw into concentration camps, etc

The Founding Fathers thought, and wrote, that weapons were necessary for the defense of the nation and the individual, to protect themselves from tyranny, whether from London or the home rulers. That "militia" mentioned in the Constitution (which, by the way is just an agreement by the people to permit a government to have, on loan, certain powers so as to protect the people from criminals, foreign or domestic, and can be revoked at any time) was then and is now, both legally and logically, anyone who had the ability and the guts to defend himself, with or without the "aid" of overpaid, evidently usually stupid or retirement-oriented "generals" and Public Servants, most of whom seem to have their positions because of who they know, what dirt they know on someone in power, or because they can't earn a living outside or because they can't do anything else, not to say they are doing an acceptable job now.

But the antigun people seem not too bright anyway. They have made laws against blackpowder. From what I've seen it takes about a minute to load a muzzleloader, it may or may not fire, and if it does it makes such a smokecloud you can't see for a minute or so. Not really what I'd choose for a firefight.

Then there are collectors like the Boy Scout leader, Ken Bellew, who was shot in the head and permanently paralyzed by police & FBI people (?) in dirty sweatshirts and three day beards who broke into his home after dark (that famous midnight knock). They knocked with a heavy steel battering ram. He, caught naked from the tub, she naked from bed. They kept her in the apartment for some time then threw her outside, still undressed. She didn't say what happened to her in the interval. They searched the house stealing taking money, taper, muzzle-loader guns, black powder, typewriter, dummy grenades, etc. They later said they got a tip from a criminal or someone they were leaning on. The authorities later reviewed the case and said the "officers" were acting legally. Watch out, you may be next. In fact, according to the papers, it has happened again, several times. They broke into an apartment, nabbing a teenage baby sitter and a baby in one and an old, retired couple in bed in another case. Those are the only recent cases I've read about. The papers seem to be cooperating to keep any more reports out of the public eye. You can't say we aren't up to date. Now we have an AMERICAN GESTAPO.

A political bigwig recently said the postage may soon go up to 35¢ for a first class letter. I believe there is a food shortage too. At least I do believe that bread will go up to \$1.00 a loaf. I don't eat it, or buy it that is. I make my own, and it's a lot better than that wallpaper paste. A while back onions were "scarce". They went from 10¢ a pound to 70¢. Nobody bought any and the price dropped back to where it was in the beginning. Somehow, they weren't scarce anymore.

I see the Burroughs Bibliophile, etc are appearing with some frequency. I sent \$7 to Vernell a year or three ago but heard no more until recently. Two issues of BB and more of the Gridley Wave, etc have found their way to my box in the last few months. It seems it might even be worth re-subbing. I wonder what's the hop?

Tolkien is dead. I'm sorry about that. Perhaps if the grubbers in Jolly Old had released LOTR to pb editions sooner, his fame might have come earlier in life and he would have written much more. Hooray for ACE. Ever notice when Ace was 40¢ & 50¢, Ballantine was 95¢? Do they pay their authors more? I doubt it. I don't think Ace was wrong in taking the opportunity to publish LOTR. Whatever their reasons, they did the world a favor. Ennor is a wonderful place to spend a time. It has a certain atmosphere that is enchanting, particularly after atomic age earth. I hope the Silmarillon and Akallabar, etc will come out very soon now but I don't know if that English publishing bunch controls them. They seem to have the European (and now American?) cartel idea....produce very few and charge like hell. Probably a hangover from the days of only-the-bluebloods-could-read-and-keep-the-serfs-digging-in-the-manure-pile.

Some of my family were bluebloods but, with a little help, they became human beings, or something. They owned a big chunk of land, about 4 blocks, around Big Ben in London but got onto the wrong side of some war or something. After losing, the family legends tell how the last of them took refuge on a farm he owned. The Dragoons, hunting him, poked bayonets or swords into some haystacks. He was hiding in one, facing north. A blade came much too close to his south end so, as they left one side of the field, he left the other, to a ship he owned and fled to New Amsterdam. When the British reached there (following him?) Pete Stuyvesant, the gov, surrendered. So our hero made another mistake and continued fighting. When the British finally caught him, they hung him. He had great judgement.

From there on the stories get even hairier. Like the bride, alone in a forest frontier cabin while hubby was at the mill getting the grain ground. The wolves came around before she got the the shutters closed. She put lit candles in front of the parchment window "glasses" and the wolves began to tunnel under the floor. She put kettles of water on the fire and when a wolf nose poked thru the dirt floor she would empty a dipper of boiling water on it. That bunch of wolves would do for a Dial or Lifebuoy adv. They didn't smell for a while. That reminds me of the time our oriental brothers came to visit on the Yalu. Something else was put on their noses. No one stayed around to see if they smelled. Those Korean girls had the nicest outfit...a skirt and a short, open-in-front vest.

Our family has kept moving west, probably destroying the land as we moved. I, the scion of a glorious family tree, have gone about as far west as I can go without fins. I do have fins but they're the rubber kind... and this Pacific is COLD, don't let anyone tell you it isn't.

Bocou years ago I went to Tibet and points farther east, west, north, south, etc...and generally lower...where I learned some about magiv, various religions, etc...including several ways to deflea yourself. However, we in this nation could now use some of these secrets, like how to stay warm without fires. It works too, depending.....

There are many ways to keep warm, including working, but lets not get ridiculous. You've all heard of the little old man, wearing only a jock strap, sitting on a mountaintop in a blizzard, radiating so much heat from his body that snow fifty feet away melts? Quite true...up to a point. A religious sect practices this, or tries to practice it. It takes a certain skill. You don't just pist it up in ten minutes.

Many things are fakes or very careful procedures, like climbing a ladder of edge-up sharp swords, splashing in very hot water, picking up redhot iron bars, etc, but much of it is true. Some is internal physical control, like driving needles into your body without bleeding. Even our own scientists are researching this now and have had some successes. They can also, by mental control, make one hand hot while the other is cold. But all this is simple compared to some of the things done. Again tho, these practioners are the Ph D types in their fields and have devoted a lifetime to their studies. Still.....

You've all read by now of the new proofs for Atlantis?...the undersea wall around the Biminis....the Geophysical Year proofs that the Mid Atlantic Ridge, 500 to 1000 miles wide, pole to pole was above water not much over 10 or 11 thousand years ago...the more recent findings in the Empire of Dilmun....the constructions on a plain some thousands of feet deep off Peru....the cut stones, etc brought up from the Grand Banks by the fishermen...the Piri Reis maps showing the coastline and mountains of Antarctica that we just platter a few years ago...the Nasce things, etc. Maybe I'm right? I've said that we are a cyclic race, rising to great "heights" of civilization, then blasting ourselves back into a hunting, fishing, food gathering, throw-her-over-your-shoulder-and-carry-her-to-your-cave sort of life...hey, that sounds like what I try to do over the weekends. On this, write to Dorothy Starr about the Mesatchers. Now if I can just find her address, she doesn't put it on her newsletters..2625 Lincoln Ave San Diego, Cal 92104.

Who knows anything about Talbott Mundy? I've researched in the library but I can't get much info on Him. What did he believe? Did he ever write anything on his religion/philosophy. Some of the things in his books show he had a lot of knowledge but he never went farther.

Does anyone have any good books on rabbits, small stock, hamsters, etc? milk goats, cows, etc to tfade off? By the way, those magazines of mine... I'd rather trade in bunches instead of sorting and listing

Can anyone give me the address of Erazzetta, the artist who illos Tarzan and Conan?

I've been bit by the bad-hair-tune bug. I'm even using a straight razor. People ask me if I'm shaving or skinning myself. Those things are SHARP.

At the time of the Roman Empire, North Africa was the grainery of the empire, producing most of the food and a thousand or two big animals for the daily abbatoirs the romans called games. Italy had been pretty well worn out and most of the rest of Europe was still a thick, damp forest filled with trees, huns, wolves and other such antiroman types. Thanx to bad farming and wars and psychos like the one who plowed Carthage lands to salt, take a look at north africa now. A species of tree once grew there that was bigger than a couple of our sequoias. Not a specimen exists today.

It has been discovered that Ulysseus' Land of the Lotus Eaters was Tunisia, not exactly a land of milk and honey now. Indus was a great nation in India...and Dilmun in Arabia...about 5000 years ago...until they found more efficient ways of cultivating their soil. The land is dead now. The Gobi (gobi means desert) was also a milk and honey land of great nations until they overbred and overfarmed their lands. They farmed the high steeper places...a drought year killed the groundcover...a rainy break came and washed the soil away...the rocks came down...the valley fertile soil was 50 feet deep...still is, but is buried under 40 feet of stones and so useless. Of course most of the people had died or migrated by then,,, and probably deserved what happened to them because of the way they treated their land. A dryer, barer, more desolate place would be hard to find now.

Ecology is a strange thing. A land can go along for ages without change, then something happens and the delicate balance is tipped. The land begins to die. Its like a snowball rolling down a hill. It grows. The Sahara expands by thousands of acres every year even today. We just barely saved our own dust bowl...at least, hopefully, we did, for the moment anyway. I wonder what the high prices for grain will do to it now.

The death process usually goes something like this, without intelligent, loving husbandry.....Some stupid grubber (there are smart ones) walks by and thinks he could sell the timber or farm the land if the trees weren't there. So the trees are cut (ever see the land after the lumberbarons finish with it? clear cut..not ever a seedling left.. great traktor tracks usually strait up and down the mountain...the creek bottles choked with trash and slash... all fish and wildlike killed or driven away, their habitat destroyed) and burnt or sold, and the land is farmed (mined because its all take and no return), probably with corn. When it is too worn out to grow corn any more, cattle are run on it, usually overloaded and overgrazed, til the cattle grasses are gone. Then sha p, to eat whatever the cow wouldn't, right down to the roots. When only weeds and brush are left, the goats are brought in, always more than the land can carry...its grab and run... until only rocks and a few bits of sandy soil is left. The wind and rain have been eroding anything loose In Brazil, when the soil is plowed for a year or two, it turns into cement.

The Greek islands were once heavily wooded and fertile. Solomon, famed as so wise, built his fleet of the cedars of Lebanon, thus ruining that land. Not so smart or didn't give a damn?

The Lord made us in his image? After looking at us and the mess we have made, sometimes I wonder about him and heaven, wherever, whatever and ifever.. While I'm on the subject of religion, there can be a great racket. A little cooperation can rule the world. King says to obey or he will kill you. Priest says to obey or, after king kills you, he will torture you in hell forever. They have you coming and going. The Bible doesn't seem to be too clear on several things, like heaven for one. It also doesn't seem to say we have sould, nor that we are going to heaven. Hell is an old english term for underground. They put their potatoes in hell for the winter storage. I've seen several offers of quite a few thousand dollars to anyone who could refute these statements and no one has collected yet, so far as I know. Communism is a religion too, which maybe is why its has picked up so much recently. All new religions do pretty well for a while...til the suckers see where the profits go. See Webster..religion...faith in unproved, probably unprovable and quite likely untrue dogma. Of course communism is a bit different. It doesn't have gods unless Stalin and Lenin have reached that elevation. They do have at least one qualification. They're both dead. I don't know if I'd like to live in a land like that, where there is so much propaganda, control and restrictions on personal movement, state-controlled pay and working conditions, police smashing your door in at night, the wheels living it up and the rest just existing, the poor quality of food, clothes, tools, etc, etc.....

I wonder if the recent postal price rises aren't a sneaky way of reducing personal communication, non-officially-approved publications, etc.

We are told that our agriculture is great, one farmer producing the food for 40 or 50. Yet, adding all the people who must work to keep that farmer producing that food...factory workers, teamsters, moners, penpushers, politicians, middlemen, ditchdiggers, etc, I wonder of one farmer supports as many people now as he did in the 1800s. Certainly the food costs a lot more, both in money and in resources.

hi Elmer...Whats in those Youths Companions? Anything on building hand-operated/farm things? I'm on a back-to-nature kick so maybe I could use them. Could I borrow, rent, buy, swop for those I'd use?

Peggy...You missed Pioneer and Unknown. Tsk Tsk.

Walter...Lets all use 1¢ or ½¢ stamps on our mail and drive the cancelling machine out of its cage. Its easy to bake bread..put whole grain into water to soak a couple days, thus softening it and increasing vitamin content by 1000s %...drain, add salt, honey, yeast...put all thru meatgrinder twice... put on pan to rise...put in oven to bake...total working time of 5 or 10 minutes per loaf...add raisons and more honey to make cake...or any fresh or dry fruit or pour into pan layered with fruit for upside down bread..no mix, no mess. Use wheat in place of rice too. It tastes better. Speaking of recycled manure...cows are fed feeds of recycled manure, toasted newspapers, cultured oil and city garbage. Also meat is now grown in testubes, ala chicken little's heart.