

DISINFORMATION 6

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Last time around, I realized that I didn't have even 2 pages worth of mailing comments to make on FAPA, so I didn't bother doing a comment-zine. This time, I've got notes for a whole bunch of stuff, and I expect that this will be 4 pages or more. I have no idea ~~xxx~~ whether the difference is you or me. When you're hot, you're hot, and I've been doing a lot of writing in the past few days.

Fortunately for my budget, now that I have to make 68 or more copies of a sizeable zine, I have access to reasonably priced repro. Joe Braman, a local fan who is joining apae at an awesome rate, has purchased a ditto & is offering at-cost repro to those he knows. Thank you, Joe. Since correcting ditto masters requires effort & manual dexterity & like that, there may be a number of typos in this zine, and I apologize to ~~xx~~ my fellow Learned Elders for that.

MAILING COMMENTS

BERNADETTE BOSKY. Welcome. Excellent cover, though I still prefer the buttons which say CAMPUS CRUSDDE FOR CTHULHU-- IT FOUND ME. ## Your zine list is most interesting. The people I know don't read anywhere near as many. In fact several think that some of the zines on your list--SOLDIER OF FORTUNE and the gunzines--shouldn't exist. (Me, I'm a First Amendment fan.) Let's see: From your list, I read NATIONAL LAMPOON, HIGH TIMES, F & SF, SFR, LOCUS, NY TIMES BOOK REVIEW, PLAYBOY, ((I thought HIGH SOCIETY had very little interest in drugs & very much interest in nekkid celebrities, or am I thinking of something else?)), FOUNDATION, and I picked up the TRI-QUARTERLY with Budrys in it. Zines I read that you didn't mention are a whole lot of sf fanzines; INQUIRY, LIBERTARIAN REVIEW, NEW LIBERTARIAN, and other zines of that persuasion; NEXT; what I can understand of CREATIVE COMPUTING; and pro football zines in season. ## I don't like guns. Please note that I have carefully phrased that as a statement about my feelings, rather than as an alleged truth about the world. I don't like the present availability of the damned things, but the prospect of a world where only the cops & crooks had guns does not appeal. I've heard it said that if all the people who want the State to keep its hands off guns and all the people who want the State to keep its hands off dope joined to form a Guns & Dope Party, we'd have a majority. Join me? ## By all means, let us discuss the counterculture. I am very much still a Sixties Person. ## On the other hand, I'll pass on structuralism. My mind snaps shut whenever I try to ingest that stuff. I'm not entirely sure why, although the influence of Marx & Sartre (among others) may be a factor. ## Sturgeon, Delany, Ballard, Aldiss, & Dick are among my favorites, too. (VALIS is fascinating. Have you read it yet?) ## And then my eyes beheld a ~~x~~ vision of nameless and eldritch horror. It cornered me and demanded that I defend my thesis. There are some academic critics I respect: Susan Wood was one; Doug Barbour is another. There are also a whole lot of pompous widbags like Darko ~~the~~ ~~BATBATZLAH~~ Suvin. I fear that the nature of the field is such that attracts the Suvins, but that may be just an application of Sturgeon's Law. ## Very good point about the search for "respectable" roots for someone like Bradbury. ## Eschatology: Gods, is there a lot of this end of the world stuff going around! No sooner do I think it's a "Right-Wing" phenomenon

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then JANUS devotes a whole issue to how wonderful it is that writers are imagining futures where all that nasty sexist capitalist big civilization has been overthrown, and we can all live ~~xxx~~ out in the woods. Not me. I like ~~x~~ civilization; it was invented by smart people to protect us from the nastier aspects of the Real World, and I'm in favor of that. (And yes, I do think that what passes for civilization in America today is sexist, and we ought to do things about that. But that's another story.) ## Congratulations on trying both Academe and the alleged Real World and deciding you prefer the former. It's always a good idea to know your options. ## I like a lot of Ballard's short stories, such as the nonfunctional word patterns in LOVE AND NAPALM/THE ATROCITY EXHIBITION, but I've never read a novel of his that satisfied me (though CRYSTAL WORDD may be the prettiest disaster ever). I guess it's partly my distaste for post-holocaust books, but I suspect it's him too. CRASH struck me as an interesting idea, but doing it at novel length made it seem like pornography of a sort that does not (to say the least) turn me on. LOW-FLYING AIRCRAFT is a short-story collection. I don't know if it's been published in the US, but a lot of Sf dealers probably have the Panther pb. His latest is a novel called THE UNLIMITED DREAM COMPANY, which is every bit as strange as you would expect of him. ## Did Richard S. Shaver play with his mashed potatoes? ## Thanks for letting us get to know so many facets of you.

GREG HILLS. ct Vera Lonergan: I think the main reason experienced faneds don't talk much about mimeo problems, ~~xxx~~ etc. is that it's such a boring topic. XR Reproduction is the main drawback to two of my favorite activities.

BILL EVANS; ct me: When I said that some people function better after a drink or two, I was not referring to motor skills and such. I meant that a drink relaxes them and lowers their inhibitions, and thus helps in social interactions. I am not one of these people.

DAVE LANGFORD, Welcome. I really enjoyed your first zine. I particularly got a giggle out of the Lovecraft "quote." Of course, you realize that another of our newer members is a Lovecraft admirer who knows how to handle a gun....

RUSSELL CHAUVENET. ct Drivel: How do you know you wouldn't get along with Jesus? Some of these interfaith relationships work out. ## ct Hansen: The British also have the term "loo" as a very mild vulgarism for the WC/bathroom/etc.

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NORM METCALF. ct Tackett: There are ~~xxxxx~~ who actually believe that those whose sole contact with sf is gawking at movie and tv screens are actually fans, and should be treated as such. (I feel myself starting to talk like a FAPA member, or perhaps my ~~xxxx~~ stereotype thereof.) ## ct Tepper: In EXPANED UNIVERSE, Heinlein speaks, in his own voice and at some length, about his views of government, the military, Communism, etc. Not a word of it surprises me. ## ct Glycer: In the 4 years I've been in fandom, I haven't seen a newszine I'd call "intellectually dishonest." But DNQ acquired a (not undeserved) reputation for printing unsubstantiated gossip, and lost credibility as a result. ## ct me: Oh, Chinese junk! I thought Chinese junk was opium. ## Your use of Real Names rather than well-known pen names (William White, John B. Harris) is interesting, though I get a bit annoyed at having to remember whom I know them as, May I ask why you do it/?

MARC ORTLIEB. ct me: Sorry about that. I get bored with subtlety every now & then. At least I didn't include any "dunny" references.

BRIAN EARL BROWN. ct Pavlat: FAPA is an aristocracy. I support both the Blackball and Early Admission procedures, tho I have no plans to vote to blackball anyone. ## ct Hansen: I believe that all 6 FAPA mailings I have received were Book Rate. Certainly the last few have been. (See OE's report.) FAPA cannot be mailed Third Class because it weighs over a pound. It might have been mailed Fourth Class, in which case the price differential for an additional pound \times ranges from about 5¢ to about 50¢ depending on how far from the mailer you live. Of course, when something weighs 2-3 ounces or less, the odds against its raising the weight to another pound are rather high. ## ct me: You mean you've found my name easy to mispronounce, Mr. Barown. # Priest's argument struck me as absurd. SFWA is an American organization, for dealing with American publishers. Priest found something unspeakably vile about this. # I like apa slang, as you have no doubt noticed. There are at most a dozen abbreviations (ct; HHOK; S,AS; RAE, BNC; I can't think of any others at the moment) Surely one needn't be a slant to learn that much new vocabulary. Any form of communication develops its ~~own~~ own argot, and apas are no exception. To me, the apazine is a different form of communication from the genzine. A genzine should \times be complete in itself, even though it contains references to the past in the form of locs. But the purpose of an apazine, it seems to me, is primarily communication with the rest of the apa, most of whom may be presumed to have seen the previous issue. Thus the apazine is a part of a continuing communications process, and should not be judged in a vacuum. As such, I find the "ct X" notations useful in the same way footnotes are useful to the scholar, as simple formalized references to what is being discussed, to make it easy to look back \times at the previous issue if one wishes to do so. If you "dislike apazines that can't be read with understanding by nonfans," I suggest that you remove all traces of fannish slang. For instance, in the immediately preceding paragraph, you use the term "faned," which I imagine would be every bit as mysterious to the nonfan as "ct." I am aware of the problems of writing so as to be intelligible to fan and nonfan alike, as that is \times what I have tried to do all along with DR. But, as I say, I assume the audience for an apazine is composed of the members of the apa, \times and so I write accordingly. ## ct Johnson: I agree on the resemblance of HHGG to Sheckely's work, but prefer the ones Sheckley actually did write, particularly MINDSWAP and DIMENSION OF MIRACLES. I've also noticed, as have others, a similarity to the Magnum opus of Kilgore Trout. ## ct Tackett: I think Belmont/Tower, under Hank Stine, is going to bring back DREADFUL SANCTUARY. They're reprinting several Russell books. ## ct Ortlieb: I believe the Selectric III ~~has~~ has vertical & horizontal $\frac{1}{2}$ spacing. I'll let you know next time if I remember.* ## ct Fantasy Commentator: I'm pretty much willing to take Harry Warner's word for it that Laney was one of those damnable puritans (Mencken's definition: One who is haunted by a fear that someone somewhere is happy) who wished to drag fandom kicking & screaming into what he perceives as the Real World, lest some of them enjoy their seclusion too much, and worse, that he wanted to drive people out just because they were gay, but it might be interesting to see evidence of this vileness. ## ct Lerner: I believe that Ace reprints THE EINSTEIN INTERSECTION, BABEL-17, etc. every few years. They are favorites of mine, too--especially BABEL-17. ## I was amazed by how respectable Lennon was in death. I think it would have embarrassed him a bit. But as Sam Konkin said when Elvis died, "Of course he's mourned more than a president--

*Later note! Yes, it does.

(more to BRIAN EARL BROWN) he did much less harm." ## ct Speer: Perhaps whether he wishes to learn the secret hand grip of fandom depends on who wishes to demonstrate it. ## I am sure that the Pentagon would not refrain from attempting to build some jkind of weapon (& spending a few billions of tax money on R & D) just because it happens to be scientifically impossible.

DON FITCH. Glad to see a new zine from you. You've dropped out of a couple of other apae we used to share and I was beginning to wonder. ## ct me: The law in many states includes bestiality in the official definition of the crime of "Sodomy." ## ct Johnson: I suspect that many of ~~xxxx~~ those who are given access to booze & other drugs when young will run through the experience & then burn out & quit. I poured the booze down my throat at an alarming rate from ages 19-23. Since then, I've hardly touched the stuff. Mind you, I don't think that increased drug abuse is precisely an unrelieved Bad Thing. ## Heroin is a reaction to the increased crowding & politicization of our times, and if our laws did not make it a crime & cause junkies to commit other crimes to support the artificially high price of illegal dope, it would be an alleviation of the problem as well. Here as in so many things, we have the workings of a natural process that the State should get out of the way of. ## ct Ortlieb: I too get an annual haircut, tho not quite a crewcut. Every June, shortly after Disclave. ## ct Gllicksohn: I haven't had many vicarious experiences, but I've heard a lot about them. ## ct Goldberg: You mean I have a friend who moves with unobtrusively impressive physical grace? Far out! ## I see you made about the same observation about young people drinking as I did. ## ct Speer: Dorothy Parker named her parakeet Onan, because he spilled his seed upon the k ground. ## ct Lillian: Can't resist remarking that SFAPA is an interesting typo. Splitting the difference, as it were. ### What bothers me about the media fans is not that they are comfortable in crowds, if indeed they are, but that it used to be, in order to join fandom, one had to read, and preferably write as well. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ This meant that even though specific fans could be fuggheads or assholes or whatever, fandom as a whole was an elite group distinguished by higher average intelligence. As the media fen invade us, that may no longer be true. In other words, There Go The Property Values.

SETH GOLDBERG. I plan to read TIMESCAPE, too, as I read Benford's dirayzine in the latest SFR, and found him a most interesting person. I also hope to read IN THE OCEAN OF NIGHT, which sits on my shelves, sometime sooner than Real Soon Now. ## David Bratman's loc: I've heard that some martial arts (such as judo & aikido) really are strictly defensive, in the sense that one learns only responses to attacks and not first moves. ## Nitpcik time: (Paula Lieberman's loc) The subjunctive is a "mood," not a "case." ## ct Warner: I know the official stuff about when a decade ends, but the 70s were such a slum of a decade that I was glad to seize any excuse to declare them over. # Herb Caen's coulmn is one of my fond memories of living in San Francisco.

HARRY WARNER, JR. ct ARF: There's a difference between the basis of humor and the subject of humor. I make more jokes about sex than I do about drugs, and I don't consider that a misfortune. ## ct Disinfo: When I started seeing apazines (1977) "ct" seemed fairly established as a standrad abbreviation. ## ct Hawai'i: well, earlier in this zine I copped to reading pro football zines, which may be even lower in some people's eyes. ## ct Ptah: I think Richard Bergeron moved out of the Dakota shortly before Lennon

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(more to HARRY WARNER, JR.) was shot. ~~It's~~ ~~supposedly~~ ~~##~~ ~~et~~ ~~Wyro:~~
I suspect that the primitive artists were skilled enough to depict
the different bodily proportions caused by pregnancy and obesity. ##
I really enjoyed your fan history, both the quotes, and your account
of what happened. The excerpts you published certainly stand up to
the test of time.

JACK L. CHALKER. It seems to me that "fascist" tends to be used as a
general ~~is~~ term roughly synonymous with "totalitari-
an." (Wilhelm Reich used to speak of the "redf fascists" who were in
charge of Russia.) "Nazi" on the other hand tends to ~~is~~ imply the spe-
cific ~~xxx~~ evils of the Hitler regime, such as anti-semitism and death
camps. But maybe it is time for a change, as many people seem to
use "fascist" to mean ~~xxx~~ nothing more precise than "person whose
political views I dislike." In DR a while back, I suggested the
voucher system as an alternative to the disaster of ~~xxxx~~ today's
~~xxxx~~ public schools, and some twit called me a fascist for saying
that. ## As I recall, it was Jeb Magruder, rather than John Dean, who
learned ethics from Rev. Coffin, but applied them in a different
manner. ## I'm not sure what the argument about your writing is, as
"On Suicide" was before my time. This & other references to it make
it sound very interesting, and if you've got a spare copy, I'd love
to see it. ## et me: Well, yes, I'm appearing on more programing too.
I think it started with some woman who had the ridiculous idea that
it would be OK to let me and a bunch of my cronies run a sex panel at
Disclave. And I must confess I revel in these public exposures. ##
et Conacs: Chicon seems to have told large numbers of attending mem-
bers that we were supporting members, and is now sending out corr-
ections. ## Random Notes: You make Somtow's writing sound quite
tempting. I haven't read anything of his yet, but I suspect I'll try
next chance I get.

BOYD RAEBURN: I don't think a whole lot of New Yorkers take their
pizza out in their street to eat it. But outdoor eating
would be precisely a gritty reality IN NY with all the crap that
blows around. ## The trouble with the Monkees, at least at the begin-
ning, was that they didn't play their own material. "Their" records
were made for them by studio musicians.

GRAHAM STONE. Your assumption that someone writing about male homo-
sexuality would probably be male is incorrect. Much
of the K/S fiction (STAR TREK fanfic about love and/or sex between
Kirk & Spock) is written by women.

JOED SICLARI. Welcome. I find it a bit difficult to think of Rat's
Mouth as a fannish wasteland, since two of my closest
friends live there, but I can remember when there were only 3 ~~xxxx~~
fans in the whole town, and Edie, Tony, & Craig wore t shirts pro-
claiming that fact. ## Edie: Hi. Haven't seen you in a while. It's
said that of the great multitude who want to be writers 10% (or maybe
1%) want to write, and the others want to have written. (I'm in the
minority. Robert Anton Wilson says that writing is his third favorite
thing, after sex and Chinese food. I've had times when writing felt
better than Chinese food.)

GREG HILLS. How putrid to see your zine right after one that includes
"The Hills Are Alive." ## Interesting suggestion about
Shadow-FAPA. I like it. ## I suspect that I sent you the first
DISINFO, but not the others. The first was a genzine, which I ran
through several apae & sent to a bunch of other friends, but the

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(more to GREG HILLS) others were commentzines, and as I just got thru explaining to Brian, I don't expect those to be intelligible outside the spa, so I rarely send them to outsiders. ## Back from the Dead: Why is your zine neighing at me? ## Our PO is doing its best to destroy printed fanac & particularly overseas faanac, too. But fear not, as long as I can afford to send any zines overseas, the New Zealand branch of The Nut Cult will be included.

MARTIN MORSE WOOSTER. Welcome. Does your "conservatism" in foreign affairs mean supporting our bloated "defense" budget and meddling foreign policy? (Actually, your description sounds rather like REASON magazine, which is by no means my favorite people.) ## I believe you & I met a couple of days after you wrote all this (Hexacon). ## Is everybody in this spa writing stuff for Marshall Tymn? Why hasn't he asked me? (Maybe he heard I use naughty words or something.) ## Interesting theory you have about fandom. I am probably not the sort of expert you are trying to consult, as I entered fanzine fandom the year before it collapsed. (Purely coincidental, I assure you!) As to your 2 groups, I suspect that the Michelians are at best a fringe today. The ERA people supported Detroit in '82; it is generally believed that their net effect was to swing votes to Chicago. The Deglerians, as you call them, are close to my view. As Brian Burley says, things like fandom, ~~pan~~ paganism, libertarianism, feminism, the Human Potential Movement, much of the continuing interest in Eastern religions, and gay rights and other sexual-alternative movements are, at their best, the visible part of a movement that promises to transform America--an antipolitical, humanistic, relativistic movement in which individuals and small groups find new ways to live, new ways to relate to one another, new approaches to all the social factors in my life. I believe Brian is correct, and this movement is the nation to which I owe my allegiance.

GUY H. LILLIAN. Aha, we meet again! Welcome. Does Sally Ann Syrjala know that you are taking Finnish names in vain? ## "Comparing Harlan's ambitions for DV with Joyce's for Ulysses--don't laugh; I was convincing": Well, anyway, I'll bet you convinced Harlan. ## Do I hear an implicit cheap shot at STAND ON ZANZIBAR in your remarks on PAST MASTER? Smile when you say that, pardner! ## I like some of Lafferty's stuff. I mentioned earlier my admiration for PK Dick, but "the perplexities of human character" is the last reason I'd give. The nature of reality/ies, yes. Cordwainer Smith, indeed. There was a writer. And Disch, when he can forget how much he hates science fiction. (His essay on "The Labor Day Group" in a recent F & SF was an abomination--low-grade conspiracy theory, all to promote the view that anyone who takes the sf community & its definitions seriously is, ipso facto, no artist.) I will damn ON WINGS OF SONG with the faint praise that it was indeed worthier of the Hugo than the book that won it.

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Got a bit of room left. Lest anyone think I am unworthy to be in this august company, I'll mention that I am going to be 2 Fan Guests of Honor this year--at Empiricon (New York City, July 3-5) and Imagicon (Memphis, September 25-7) Hope I see some of you.

Hail Eris,

