

6
2962 Santa Ana St.
South Gate, Calif.
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Dear Joe & Robbie,

Two G²'s in ten days is not too many. But it does make me step around right smartly, and get off some silver coinage to its hard-hearted editors. With "-" or Warhoon, or even Void, I know that if I miss writing for one or two issues, I'll still be carried, for old time sake.. But you are as hard harted as a bookkeeper (or E. Busby) and would cut me off if I failed to respond.. So four pounds of other fanzines have to wate their turn while I write you... Or, is this your reason?

Let see-- #5.. I have a check mark after Davidson's remark about bendng your fanzine to "Outlanders". Actually, I think you send it to only two Outlanders (if I might count the Moffatt's as one). The Outlander Society hasn't been active for many years, but we still feel very strongly about it. ---Rog was an Out-Law, for a while, but only toward the end of the organizations active life.-- Tell Avram that he can only be an "outlander." But, were we still holding meetings, ~~he would be the type of person we would like to have as guest.~~

I'd always thought of my force-field idea as one you could throw things out of, but not into.. My thinking went something like this. The "force" would be broadcast from the portable projector, --or maybe using the body of the man as a projector... Anyway I visualized the "force" going outward in wave lines, like drawing of a radar beam.. Being very tight at their source, and wide at their far range. I also imagined that these lines of force exerted pressure along their whole length -- not at just a set distance (like the force-walls in stories.) But the amount of resistant pressure would double and re-double very rappedly as an object approached the center of the field. (the little wiggely lines getting all squeezed tighter and tighter together.) The energy absorbed from the object approaching the field, would have to be used to increase the force directed toward it (to conform, to Newtons 3rd?) Thus if you fired a bullet into the field, it would go splat against a invisable wall, but just slow down suddenly before it reached its mark.. --- As a stf fan I can think up this concept -- but lacking any science training I can't see how it would or world not work.

I like the knock-out gun idea myself. That we don't have something like this is probably largely do to lack of imagination on the part of gun manufactors.. Zoo's and Park Rangers are using darts and air-rifles now, to knock out anamils.. I can't see why they couldn't be used by riot police as well. Think of the advantage of being able to gun down the leaders of mobs (who often stay out of arms reach of the law)

and carry him off to the coöler to recover. It might be overdone, but the effect shouldn't be worse than the over-use of back-jacks. A stun-gun would be ofcourse better, as you wouldn't leave dart holes.

Your point Joe, that a gun-toting society might be more polite, reminds me of one of my letters to Merwin, inwhich I talked of the possable advantages of people being allowed to carry swords and hold duels. My thought was that people would be more polite if they had to face the possability of eating their words or sharp steel. Also I suggested that practice with a sword would be good exercise, and bring a family more closely together. (A family the fights together, stays together.) -- I've had to explain that I had my tounge in cheek at the time, several times sense. Just because I collect edged weapons, some people think I want to use them.

That is a mighty fine cover on #6. Not that they haven't all been good, but this one has a bit of the old fealing I get when I look at ASF covers from the early 40's. -- I notice the chap on the cover of #5 appearing as a spaceport clerk, on page VIIII of #6. --- But what is the story that goes with it.. I thought there was going to be a thrid picture to show what happened when the door opened. It looked like the kind of adventure that I use to like to read.

I agree with your editorial in #6, Joe. That is if I read you right, and you were not objection to discussing "student 'riots' and the HUAC, capitalism," etc. etc., but to thos individuals who talked of nothing else and took little or no interest in science-fiction. These things are as much a part of the fans world as sports cars or folk music. But I'm pretty sure I know what you mean. Your against fake-fans like Art Costello, but not Great Discussions by Busby and Leman types.. (I'd been tempted to say Rich Bergeron, but not sure were you would draw the line there.) -- No doubt the most penetrating line was "neuroses provide a considerable emotional drive to their writing and publishing activity --"

Oh, will you ever get mail on this.. From old foggys that agree with you (like me), and to neur-fans who will demand to know what right you have to your opinions. You and Shaw have stired up a over-ripe nest. Sort of makes you the Perry Coldwater of fandom, doesn't it? --- Allright, ALL RIGHT; I'll go.. Don't throw it.....!