

THE SPAC WASTREL

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CAFE DU RANQUET

Tonight's Menu:

Soup:

- Cream of Gremlin

Entree:

- Deep Fried Dragon Balls

Fish:

- Babel Fish Au Natural

Main:

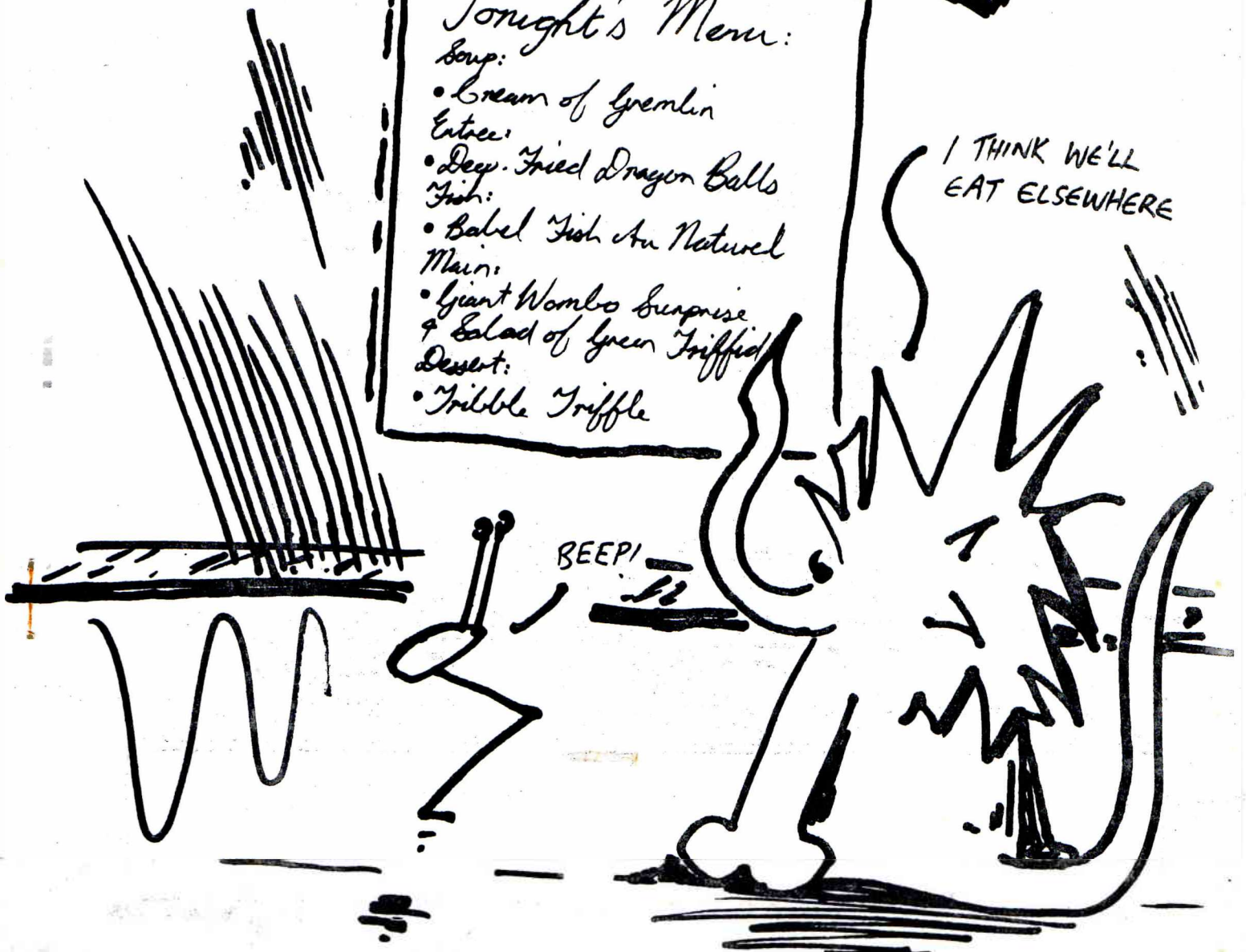
- Giant Wombo Surprise
& Salad of Green Triffid

Dessert:

- Tribble Truffle

I THINK WE'LL
EAT ELSEWHERE

BEEP!



Volume 2 Number 1: December 1985

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AUSTRALIA

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Deadlines for contributions are last day of previous month.

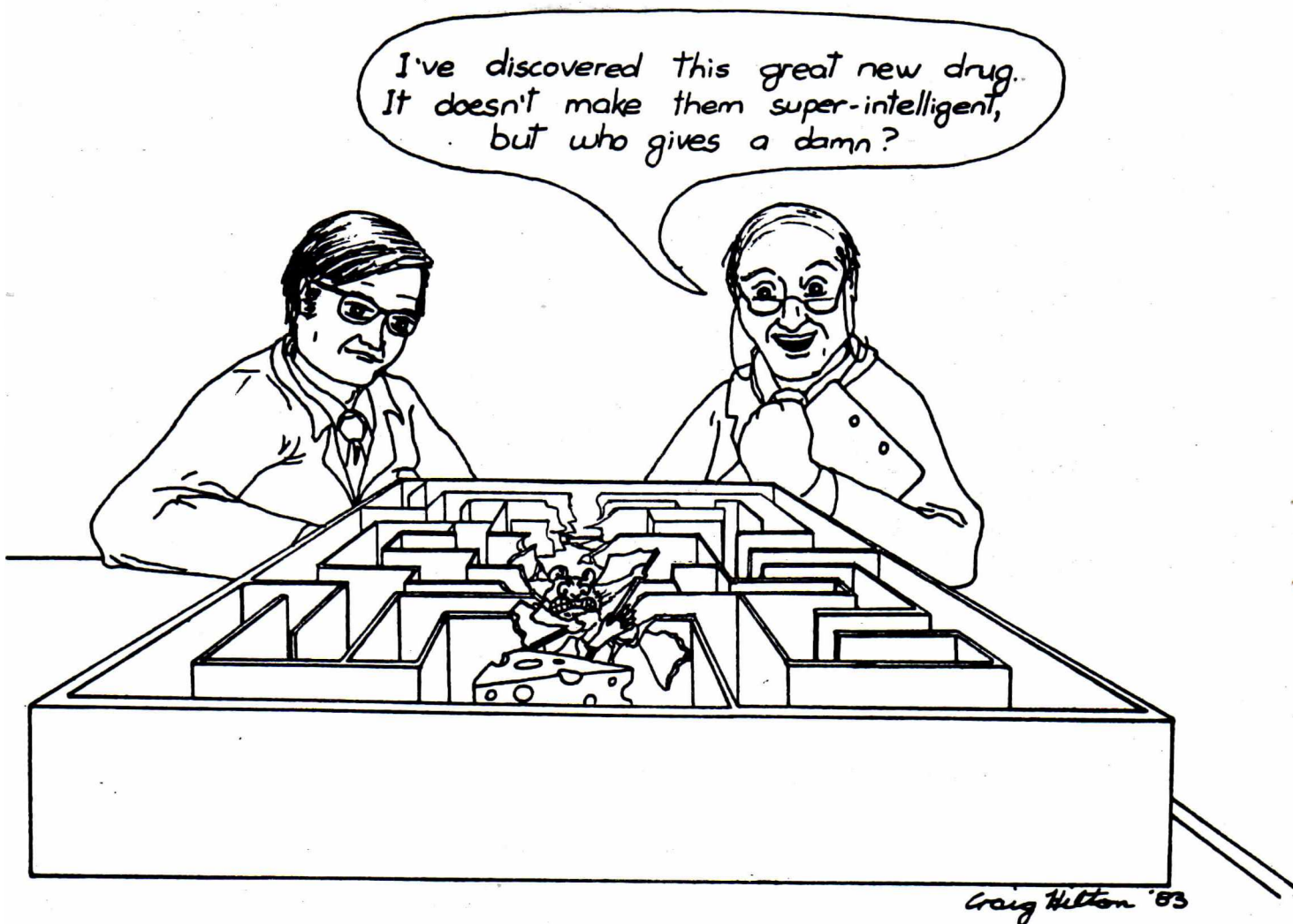
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Thanks to Craig Hilton for illos on pages two, eight, eleven and sixteen.
Craig Hilton: 72/375 Stirling Highway, Claremont WA 6010, Australia

All contributors addresses have been corrected to their current abodes.



A LITTLE RAY OF SUNSHINE HAS COME INTO THE WORLD... BUT WAIT! IS IT AN ALIEN DEATH-RAY? Being a discourse by Mr Warner
(Sometime in 1981 in a squalid bedsit in Geraldton)

Ghod he's a depressing bastard isn't he? Loney I mean, really, he complains that I don't get TSW pubbed on time and that I'm a lazy sod whilst he swans around on a working holiday earning scads of money. Meanwhile I'm up to my ears in stencils, duff copies, corflu, bald typewriter ribbons, kilos of housedust, birdseed and there's mould creeping across the uncleaned-for-ages carpet. All too readily my eyes wander over to the pile of unread novels on the bookshelves - but no... no sacrifice is too great for The Space Wastrel and my chum Mr Loney. Hopefully thish will be distributed before the advent of the new rules for "category B registration of postal articles." How Australia Post are going to react to a zine with an Offworld executive editor will be interesting. At the worst, Mr Mescahale-Spla has offered to buy Australia Post, though he prefers to make his money through more ethical ventures.

Tho thish is a catching-up-with-locs effort, all further ishi should revert to a familiar (?) TSW format. You might even expect to see the end of "Brighton and Further." Malcolm Fraser might abdicate from the throne too... ("Have you got a Playboy in there Malcy?" ... "No Tamie, just venting my frustrations. I'm just coming now." SFX of grunting from throne room...)

Notes: Ad Astra's article on Australian SF is worth a read. Now is the time to search out of the way newsagents for relatively new but cheap copies of novels. Recent prices for paperbacks are ludicrous. If you were thinking of buying an old record for your collection, get it before your retailer prices all his stock up to \$9.99.

SwanKon6 was supergroovygeargodd&etc. Why did everybody go to bed before I did? Why was there no lock on the REMCorp HQ door? Will Mike Schaper ever be the same again or is he stuck in a rut? Do D&Ders ever smile? Hitpix for deviant Muzikfen: "Sie Stille, Wisse Ich Bin" by Popol Vuh, "The Modern Dance" & "The Art of Walking" by Pere Ubu, "The Voice of America" by Cabaret Voltaire, "Honi Soit" by John Cale, "My Life In The Bush of Ghosts" by David Byrne and Brian Eno, "Trust" by Elvis Costello, "Grotesque" by The Fall, "Beat Your Breasts" by The Ovarian Sisters, "X-Dreams" by Annette Peacock, "Greener Postures" by Snakefinger, Half-Mute" by Tuxedomoon and anything by James White/Black/Chance and the Contortions/Blacks.

Fanzines Received Recently: ... ABORTS

UNTITLED EDITORIAL 05Sep82 (*In the selfsame squalid bedsit*)

For all purposes the pubbing of thish of TSW is a historic event. Some of the original material is by normal (tho not necessarily fannish) standards abysmally out of date. However by rigelfourlian standards thish is fresh as a daisy (or Don Groperfan Griffiths).

If you imagined a rigelfourlian person as being like a tralfamadorian 'caterpillar' being, but existing at random points along that continuity, then you would have a hopelessly inadequate conception of the rigelfourlian timescale. And if you imagined yourself as Montana Wildhack then you are really stuffed.

Thish appears only as a service to TSW fen worldwide and as something for disgruntled BNFs to gruntle about.

ABORTS

MORE UNSUCCESSFUL EDITORIALS...

SHAKEN BUT NOT STIRRED INTO ACTION - a cocktail for the armchair anarchist
Produced for RemPubes by Mr Warner (*Sometime, someplace in 1983?*)

In the spirit of the all-pervading hypocrisy typified by my inactivity over the past couple of years - the title of this cocktail is misleading. Due to mephitic stagnation of the WA amateur literati I have at last been sufficiently disgusted to attempt hektogenesis. To illustrate my rancour at the Wildflower State's exfloreescence, witness...

THE WASFFAN Nos. 29 & 30. Edited by Kevin McCaw 20 Dodd St Hamilton Hill WA 6163. Purportedly a source of information and forum for WA Science Fiction Association members.

In his misguidedly enthusiastic efforts to revive the old Wasffan - which at best has been a schizophrenic beast - Mr McCaw has miscegenated a zombie. Inasmuch as the Wasffan has been a harbinger of future events it still exists, but encased in loathsomely puerile artwork and editorials. It would be more practical for this publication to return to its more economical and less trying incarnation as a single page newssheet minus editorializations. With all respect to Mr Lockwood (one of the zine's previous editors), perhaps efforts at humour are best left to more personal publications. (Ex-)Wasfa members to appear to have a most diverse and quite often immiscible selection of tastes - very hard to satisfy. Contrary to Mr McCaw's - and some other persons' - belief, I am not and never have been a Wasfa member. Previously I have received the Wasffan as a friend of Wasfa members but I feel disinclined to allow it into my home in its present irksome form.

DINGO VOMIT No. 2 Expelled by Ian Nicholls and thrust upon guests at the 1982 annual Bad Taste Party for friends of Bobo G'den. Mr Nicholls in expunging his retrogressive talents in fanzine form has attempted to sculpt a gem using a sledgehammer and has achieved a useless mess. Not worthy of the disgust it seeks to elicit.

THE HARD ONES by Gary Barber and THE RAVIN' by Steven Dedman
Both of these zines are boring inasmuch as they try to exist in spite of a near total lack of material worth publishing.

WA fanzines over the past year have all but disappeared. Seth Lockwood has been too busy with study to produce one of his multi-nefarious zines. My companion Mr Loney is similarly pre-occupied and has to date offered no successor to his Norseman Revue. Damian Brennan, the onetime impressario of the ridiculous has become sercon and devotes much of his time to the SCA. Mr Mapson's sporadic publication of dadaistic zines is, I believe, to a fairly select audience and not necessarily aimed at fen. There have been and possibly still are other Wazines at large but they have not warranted my attention as yet. I personally cannot hope to redress the current situation but in producing something myself I hope to avoid the pitfalls of ill-addressed empty criticism. ABORTS

FILLER - Whatever happened to WA fan feuds? Remember Fith? Why is everybody so bloody friendly these days? You can't even start a good argument. Nicholls can only get an indignant Harumph! from Sally nowadays.

EPILOGUE: THE UNSUCCESSFUL EDITORIALS: MR WARNER AT THE DAWN OF 1986

In retrospect I permit myself a small embarrassed chuckle at the ambitious pomposity at my previous attempts at eventually publishing this of TSW. However those old editorial comments do bring back memories for me and very briefly document some of my then current thoughts.

"A LITTLE RAY..." was born during my days as WA's youngest radio announcer in a country town full of self-importance and impotence. It was there that I learnt to be fiercely independent and started amassing my increasingly bizarre (by most people's standards) record collection. It was there that I first fell in love and experimented with many things, practices and moods of which now little thankfully remains.

The second untitled editorial was started in my glorious four month stretch of unemployment. It was the first real holiday I'd had in three years and after being sacked from 6GE I was given what to me was a princely sum as a termination payment. I continued my wastrel's regime of buying two lp records every week and general partying and silliness until the money started to run out. Fortune however smiled and the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs saw fit to employ me as a mover of bits of paper from A to B and back again. These days I get to shuffle and shuttle more important bits of paper and I even get to write on some of them but I remain yet a lowly public servant.

"SHAKEN BUT..." was written in good faith, if a little verbosely, and much of what I wrote still stands. My final words of course were painfully ironic and I can only publish now with a sense of masochistic honesty.

Despite my lack of written output during 1984/85, I was most definitely there through a lot of what is now WA fannish history and legend. Most of it now exists in my mind as a long random association list of people, places and events. Some of them are: Ross C. White, THE infamous bad taste party, squirty poohs, heralding for the SCA, Michelle from New Zealand, increasing sobriety at conventions, Jo Masters at Ratcon, Trish Crowther at Aussiecon Two, reluctant fatherhood, the punk underworld, disgusting cocktails, waking up in odd places, loss of memory, Slippery Jim and the Ratettes, re-discovering D&D, fine wine and foul, the eloquence of jazz, the joy of sheer noise, disquieting poetry, recurrent spots, scruffy protobeards, ever-shifting addresses, less than secret affairs, putrid porno, Bevan & Bheer, spraypainting great white telephones, trips to Tasmania and very hazy recollections of conventions.

Though many people would find it hard to believe, I do have a loose set of personal ethics and just one hard and fast rule. I NEVER promise anyone anything (spot the paradox). There are many projects I have in mind, some of which may be published in The Space Wastrel but... no promises. As yet I've seen no really good remembrances of Aussiecon Two. Few people have the ability to produce Conreports which are informative, constructively critical and not too over-personalised. Hmm... and if I have to chew my way through another overrated BNF's catalogue of name dropping I shall scream. Modesty please! If you're prepared to wait long enough you may get to criticise my own conreport sometime.

Apart from no promises I also make no apologies for this. Due to its long recess and economical constraints this is a ragbag of old and new but as the big boss Horatio Mescahale-Spla! would say - it's mine. (oh... and that other bloke's)

PREDICTIONS FOR 1986: TSW to be published. Me to marry (dunno who to), Mr Loney & Ms Muysert to divorce (to maintain equilibrium), Mr Mapson's existence to be disproved, the Mage Saga to end (hooray!?), Halley's Comet to record a hit single, Azaria to be found alive in the care of an Elvis Presley clone, World Peace (a forlorn hope but always worth a try).

Ciao!

ALTERNATIVE 3; JACK THE RIPPER - THE FINAL SOLUTION; HARMONIC 695; HOLY BLOOD & THE HOLY GRAIL; THE COSMIC CONSPIRACY; PROPHECIES OF NOSTRADAMUS; & OTHERS

If I have a weakness where the printed word is concerned, apart from my time consuming pre-occupation with newspapers, it is with a well constructed and convincing conspiracy theory. There is, I will readily admit, something very satisfying about a book that draws together myriad and disparate sources of information to explain that which has been concealed, normally by devious intent, from the swarming masses of humanity. Conspiracy theory books are generally earnest and sincere. The author (or authors) will assure you that what they have discovered is incredible and would be beyond belief were it not for the conclusive, and generally very comprehensive, evidence that they have painstakingly amassed in their search for truth. Numerous defences of the authors sanity and/or intentions are spread throughout the text. The majority of conspiracies are discovered by accident; normally our intrepid and entirely trustworthy author begins by investigating something as simple as the disappearance of Patagonian wood lice, only to be led further and further along a trail that ends with the uncovering of a plot to end life on earth. As the only power the authors claim is the persuasive power to get their thesis published, a good conspiracy theory book generally ends with a plea for action, or a warning, to its readers. Good conspiracy theory books are rare though. Sturgeon's Law is a conservative estimate of the crud level in conspiracy publishing. Despite the high crud level, there are many books that can be recommended to the connoisseur of conspiracy.

The first book I would like to recommend is, unfortunately, no longer available to me (there's no need to get suspicious, there's a perfectly natural explanation). It was lent to me back in the halcyon days of high school and unfortunately I no longer remember the title. I do remember the important details though. The book was published privately in the US and was either written, or had a foreword, by a US Senator. It detailed the operations of a small group of financiers, who had been controlling world affairs for the past couple of centuries from a modest office building in Paris. Apart from arranging the Russian Revolution and controlling every major, and most minor, administrations in the world today, these men (I recall no mention of women financiers being involved) had brought about the introduction of income tax in the western world. This, as the book carefully explained, was an example of the fiendish duplicity of the Parisian gnomes. Graduated income tax appears to be the perfect method for relieving the rich of their fortunes. But, of course, the very rich have always avoided income tax; in the US the Rockefellers formed a family trust the day before the income tax bill was proclaimed and to this day have never paid income tax to the US Government. And yes, the book did assert that the Rockefellers had a share in the modest Parisian office building mentioned above. As the world was already under the control of this nefarious group, hence the private printing, what was necessary, as the final chapter outlined - or maybe it was the foreword, was the mobilization of an outraged citizenry who, made aware of their status as chattels, would rise up and truly make the US the land of the free. There was no mention of what would happen to Australia.

Australia's fate was only a minor detail though. The book had the necessary format down almost perfectly. It traced the development of the Parisian gnomes through complex and little known byways of history, while making sure that they were always related to the better known history that schools teach. Many obscure members of the European nobility are seen to fulfill roles far greater than establishment history gives them. A similar fate befalls many well-known American capitalists. Impressively documented allegations, completely unverifiable by your average Western Australian reader, are made about clandestine meetings between important personages, the conversations that took place, private correspondence and so on. The real proof, however, is in the pictures that occupy twenty or so pages in the centre of the book. Here grainy snapshots of unrecognizable men in hats

ALTERNATIVE 3; JACK THE RIPPER - THE FINAL SOLUTION; HARMONIC 695; HOLY BLOOD & THE HOLY GRAIL; THE COSMIC CONSPIRACY; PROPHECIES OF NOSTRADAMUS; & OTHERS

and overcoats provide proof that those meetings did occur. Long dead counts and capitalists stare from their posed photographs, thus demonstrating beyond doubt their existence and activities as specified elsewhere in the text. Finally, it explained the world. This is, of course, the major function of a conspiracy theory; to enable a re-interpretation of the accepted myths of society. Some conspiracy theories tackle the large issues, like how the world is controlled from a Parisian office building, while others concentrate on smaller concerns.

One such book is *Jack The Ripper - The Final Solution*. As the title suggests, it proffers the explanation for the Whitechapel murders of 1888. Jack the Ripper was Sir William Gull, physician to Queen Victoria, and two accomplices. The murders were to cover up the clandestine marriage of Albert, Prince of Wales, to a catholic commoner and the subsequent birth of their daughter. Sir William was a Mason and it was the Masonic organisation that aided and abetted his crimes. A wealth of detail follows from the initial approach to the author by the man, Joseph Sickert, who holds the clues to the Ripper murders. Stephen Knight, the author, follows a classic path in his search for the truth. Sickert gives him some tantalising information. Knight researches and verifies Sickert's claims, and in the process turns up more data. Sickert independantly confirms this new data and so the process continues. The original assertions form the basis for an everspreading cobweb of information and hypotheses that result in the discovery of the concealed truth. Sherlock Holmes would be proud of the modus operandi.

Perhaps the best example of conspiracy publishing was *Alternative 3*. Originally a documentary on British television and then published in a less ephemeral book format, *Alternative 3* detailed the secret co-operation between the US and USSR since the mid-fifties when scientists realised that the Earth was to be destroyed by runaway pollution. Bases were established on the moon as way stations to a new life on Mars for a select few. The space race had been a fake, man had been on the moon several years before Neil Armstrong got there. Along the way were revealed the causes of phenomena such as spontaneous combustion, animal mutilation, missing persons and ufos. It lacked, in book form, those all-important photos - unusual considering its source in television - but in all other respects it was a satisfying outline of the coming end of the world. Perhaps its major flaw was the admission in the final chapter that it was all a fake, fiction rather than hard fought for fact. That did reduce the apocalyptic effect somewhat.

My favourite in recent years is *The Holy Blood & The Holy Grail*. Jesus Christ may have died on the cross but Mary got away safely with the children to France. There they married into the local nobility and by roughly 400AD, the descendants of the King of the Jews were the Kings of France. Overthrown around 800AD, by the Roman Catholic Church amongst others, they have been plotting ever since to regain their throne. Though what they have seen as their throne has changed over the centuries. Initially they (the lineal descendants of Jesus Christ) wanted France back - but that became a tough nut. So they settled for Palestine and became Crusaders instead. After that fell through they returned to France just in time to be foiled by the French Revolution. They still exist today as a group, Prieure de Sion, the same group that can be traced back nearly a thousand years. Their aim now is to establish a lineal descendant of Jesus Christ as King over France and as much of the rest of Europe as possible. Personally, I wish them good luck and suggest they tie their campaign in with the rapidly approaching change of millenia. The only unanswered question I have is whether the Prieure de Sion operate out of the same modest office block in Paris as the Rockefeller's and their mates?

aaargh!

DEADLoCs

~~~~ a zombie lettercol arisen from the past

Seth Lockwood: 19 Coleby Street, Balcatta WA 6021, Australia - 22Aug80

I'll start at the beginning and go to the end (now where have I heard that before?). The cover, such as it is, isn't much to write home about. I am, if you will credit it, a fairly modest sort of person and that "Another Wonderful WAZine!!" made me cringe. I'm just glad I didn't write it. I don't know why you perverted the spelling of Swancon, but I like it (that isn't meant to imply I'm into perversion... though you never know). Enough of the front page, except to note that I'm glad you kept to your schedule.

And so to page 19? Okay, okay, so I asked for the pages to be numbered. I suppose it's better than nothing. But so is a dessicated pangolin lizard - if you're into that sort of thing. Nothing much to remark on here except the announcement of REMCon 80 and the bid for REMCon Four. Even by the second page the joke is wearing thin.

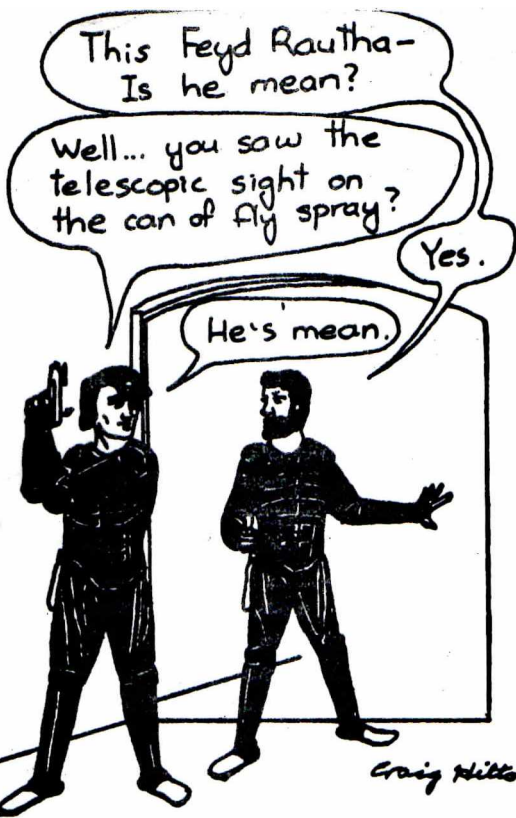
But to the next page and I stop nitpicking to say that here is a well-written and interesting editorial. Same applies to the last issues editorial. While I may not agree with some of the points, it was worth reading. But all good things must come to an end and we come to "The Elf And The Suns Of A Gun (Part III)." I must say that I was disappointed. The "Brighton and Further" fragment was much more interesting, humourous, cohesive and all in all better. This issue's piece was short, had no plot and lacked the atmosphere of mad originality that was so much a part of Brighton and et cetera. It wasn't worth reading, is the best summation. Which is a pity, because Brighton and Further was a highlight of the last issue (in fact it almost was the last issue). Please return to its standard.

Ah-ha! The first of the illustrations. While maybe lacking somewhat artistically, they were nevertheless funny and a much needed part of the zine. And maybe they weren't lacking so much artistically - I can see the resemblance. I think.

Next page. The Mr Warner editorial. Well, a lack of capital letters (in the main) does not turn me on. It was nice to find out what sort of direction The Space Wastrel might be taking, and to find out what went wrong with the continuation of "Brighton and Further." The Mr Warner meanderings then lead directly into Reviewing the Reviews. I must say that I'm not sure that this sort of thing is a particularly good idea (in fact it sounds somewhat incestuous). Anyway, where will it all end? Reviewing the Reviews will be next. And so forth. In fact, I have these replies to make to your reviews right now: Yes, you are infamous and becoming more so. I went to a fair length to make the point that it wasn't so much that I didn't understand the zine, but it was something else that I could not at that point work out. I think I know now. I wanted to know, or rather I didn't comprehend, what you were trying to do with The Space Wastrel? I'm still not sure. As for Mr Spla annoying me, he has been far less obtrusive in issue three. I'm glad I only wrote "gets on my nerves," instead of what I really meant - that he shits me. But that's so crude anyway. Your "read Ankh!" sounds decidedly insincere. I wasn't when I said I thought The Space Wastrel worth getting.

I had better hurry these comments along or this loc will be three pages in length. On my first review, I wasn't questioning whether The Space Wastrel could be or could not be a fanzine, I was asking whether it was intended as such. Piffle for instance is certifiably not so, according to its charming editors. And your comments about naming Ankh Ankh are rubbish - where would the Daily News be if it actually had to contain news?





The review of the Gryffin review: "Otherwise your review is okay," has nasty intonations that I don't like. Then the Forerunner review, and yes, why don't people ever put in real criticisms? This applies to all reviewers (including myself). Everybody seems afraid of really hurting someone. Which is a fair worry. I would not like to lose friends through my reviews. Which brings us right back to the start. Well those comments were a waste of time. Is TSW just as nutritious?

I'll pass over the rest of the zine in a few words. The many Mage Saga bits and pieces all had some interest in them, but again, I prefer a longer story with at least some semblance of a plot. Lots of fragments are all very well, but the eyes become tired after a while trying to piece them together, very probably they don't even go together.

I guess that seeing as how I detest him so much, Mr Mescahale-Spla is one of your more effective characters. Medulla Nexus 9 was the best thing in the issue, and maybe the best in all three issues. The other two poems had little appeal; a line here, a line there, otherwise no.

Well that's really the end of TSW 3 I suppose. I'm quite surprised that Richard Faulder thinks TSW a very fannish piece of publishing. I still am seeking to find out what "fannish" truly is, but TSW is not my idea of it at all. Anyway, one must conclude. TSW is getting better and better. I think I've probably been a bit too critical in this letter, but I've already done one epic today, as far as locs go, and there is a limit to how much flattery one can dredge up. Criticism is far easier. I hope mine has not been destructive, but rather of some help. A combination of TSW 2 and TSW 3 would have been a really good zine; I think nearly at what I think you're aiming for, Maybe one day I'll try my hand at a contribution for TSW, but I don't think I've got what it takes. Keep them coming.

*Mr Warner here. Cringe though you may, this is yet another wonderful WAZINE. Regular readers (cue: Laxettes joke) of TSW and Forbidden Worlds may notice a marked similarity between "fictions" appearing in both zines. This can be explained - but I won't. Thish's illos are a great improvement - mucho thanks to Mr Hilton - even if he is only just grasping the finer concepts of Rail Baron. Speaking of which, I hope to see you in mortal combat at the Swankon XI Rail Baron Tournament - or else! Toot-Toot! Facts: Mr Mescahale-Spla! (don't forget the exclamation mark) is a really nice person and we did really like Ankh despite your doubts on both.*

*Yes please - lots of slashing and vicious reviews. How can one expect to be a REAL BNF without raising a few hackles? After all - it's just water off a Tin Duck's back. Unsubtle hint. Future TSWs may include more Mage Saga and may include more poetry (thank-you molesworth 1). Mr Loney and I are open to suggestions (even rude ones) and are definitely open to more of your flattery. I'm glad you know what we're aiming for, Ghod knows if I do - Mr Loney tends to pull in the direction of neat'n'tidy serconism and I pull off (titter) towards silliness and CHAOS! I think my ideal fanzine would be the hektoequivalent of a balloon on a stick - something silly to hop pompous fen on the head with (note grammatically incorrect sentence ending). Mr Loney probably imagines himself on the cover of a hard science mag, wearing heavy, black-framed glasses and a western string tie, with his impressive shock of white hair and sideburns blowing in the breeze...*

Harry J.N. Andruschak: PO Box 606, La Canada-Flintridge CA 91011, USA - 30Oct80

Received THE SPACE WASTREL # 3, and muchly enjoyed it.

Of course, the main interest to me was Mr Loney's comments on ANALOG and DESTINIES magazine. They are very much to the point.

In truth, I let all my prozine subscriptions lapse several years ago. Every now and then I see a copy on a newstand, and if it doesn't have a serial I might buy it. But I am usually disappointed.

In the case of ANALOG, this is because of the fact that not only is the Science Fiction bad....but the Science "Fact" leaves a lot to be desired. Not that the average reader of ANALOG would know or care, judging by all the bullshit that John Campbell got away with.

But for those like me who are really into the frontiers of Science, the mistakes in ANALOG are painful. I could give you several instances, or you could take my word for it. One problem is that the writers go through journals, read something called "possible explanation," and regard it as proven truth. In other words, jumping to conclusions.

A fine example of this was the finding by HEAO ONE, the first High Energy Astronomical Observatory, of x-ray radiation in the background from all parts of the sky. Many theories were put forward, one of which was an intergalactic hot plasma. As far as ANALOG was concerned, this became the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. Never mind that HEAO TWO showed the radiation to be composed of many individual quasars, and that the plasma did not exist.

This brings us around to THE MAGAZINE OF FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION which is a cut above ANALOG. However, I no longer sub to this magazine either. The science articles by Isaac Asimov are good, but too many of the stories are cutesy-pie. Especially the fantasy. The SF tends to be pointless.

I bought GALILEO so as to read Larry Niven's THE RINGWORLD ENGINEERS. The story was dull, and the rest of the fiction all undistinguished. I will not subscribe to it, nor to the new GALAXY the same pubbing firm is putting out. As for AMAZING, I quit reading it many years ago. What kind of stories can you get at 1¢ a word?

The whole of the magazine field here in the USA is sick. A lot of the problem is distribution. To send a magazine out, you sell it to a distributor at a 40% discount. And only about one third of the copies will be sold, the rest are pulped at the end, or, although it is illegal, covers removed and sold without the money going to the publisher. This last habit is very common in paperbacks, and is a drag on getting financial stability in the SF market.

All this leaves little cash to devote to such things as high word payments. Pro authors can now get more from book publication than magazine sales, and that is where most of them have gone. So the magazines get the second and third string writers, not to mention the horror of the slush pile.

Well, I don't know what the final solution will be. Are things better down under? Hope so. There is always this problem of the new writer trying to break into the field. Where to go? Magazines?

All in all, it is a dismal present and a bleak future for the SF magazines. I doubt if I will ever bother to sub any magazine again.

*Mr Loney here. I too found The Ringworld Engineers disappointing. I even wrote a mini-review of it for The Norseman Revue # 2 - the fanzine that failed to take its place in Finnish history because of the still cursed WASFA duplicator. In 1982 I thought as follows:*

*The Ringworld Engineers was a big disappointment to me, as an attempt at a 'tour de force' to Ringworld it is a rather sad failure. Sad, because it could have been much better, Niven has demonstrated on many occasions that he has the talent to accomplish much more in works such as this.*

*In 1985 I see The Ringworld Engineers as the first in an ever-growing series of disappointing novels from major writers. Included in this list are novels such as Heechee Rendezvous, The Practice Effect, The Magic Labyrinth, 2010 and Foundation's Edge. Their contrivances seemed too blatant to me - I find no sense of wonder in being crassly manipulated.*



*Published as received:*

Kim Huett: PO Box 649, Woden ACT 2606, Australia - 6Jan81

Dear LOney and Walker,

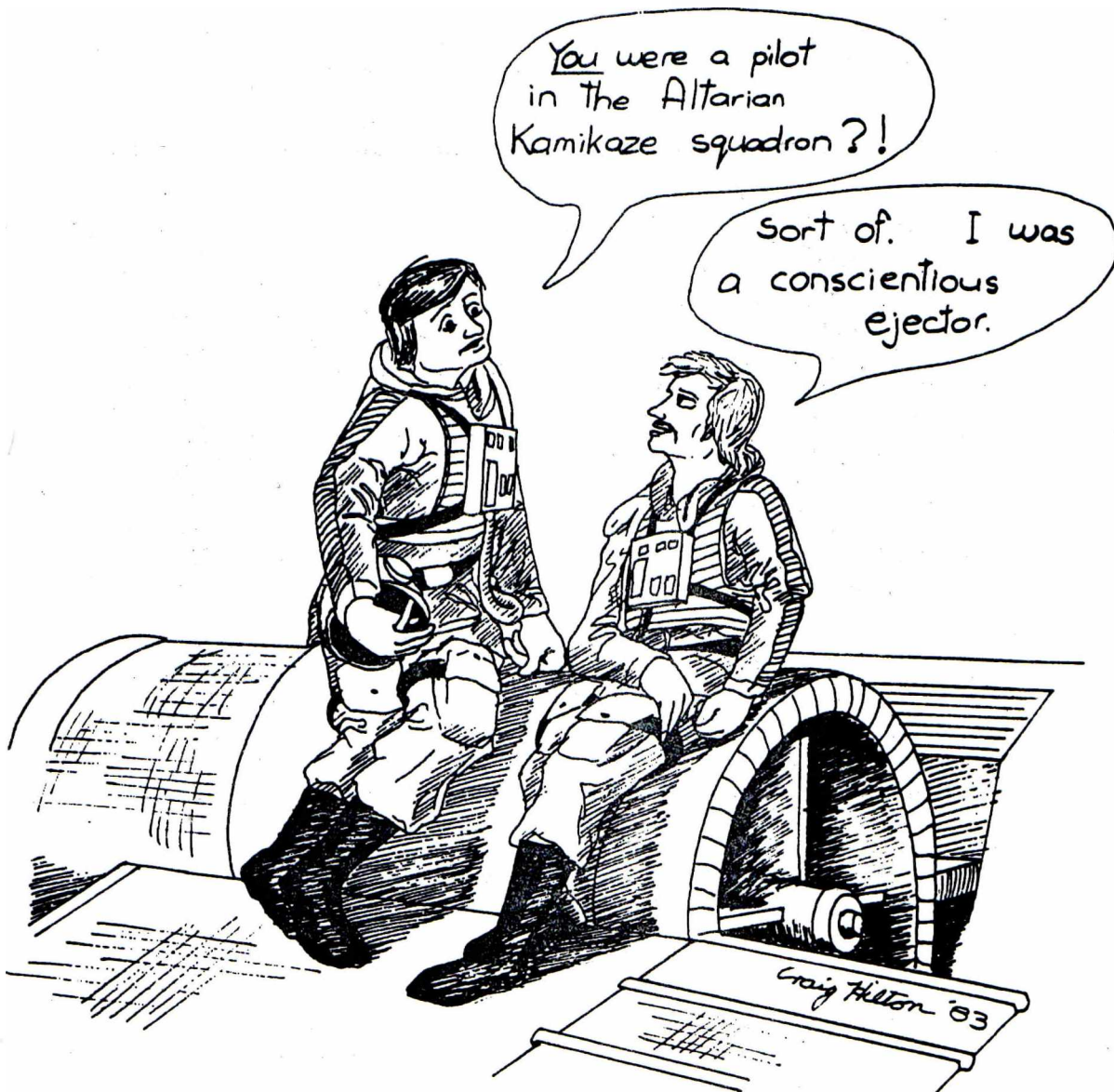
Don't blame me for that bit Nev Angove failed to mention your first names when he reviewed your zine so untile such time as I find out what they are that will have to do .

This comes to you for two reasons, the first being that I want to see as many zines as I can as I am in the unfortunate position of being unemployed which tends to leave me with a lot of spare time and what better way to fill it. The other is that when Nev reviewed your zine he he kept mentioning dozmos and I would very much like to see what he means by it.

I hope that, that offends nobody but if anything did blame it on Neville and send your bombs to him but don't tell him who told you as I suspect that I'm already in his bad books (I told him that I had told Brian Thurogood that Nev deserved The Harlan Ellison Award For Slow Publishing.

Anyway looking over this letter I think I'LL quit ~~will~~ while I'm still ahead and wait with bated breath to see if I get a copy of your zine with instructions on what to do to keep receiving it ~~or~~ or a letterbomb.

*Well Kim, five years on you can start to breathe normally again. We hope it hasn't inconvenienced your lifestyle.*





Keith Fenske: 3612 - 107 Street N.W., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6J 1B1 - 09Jan81

Dear, uh, Mr Warner:

I received The Space Wastrel 3 today. Lord only knows when you mailed it.

You're even less comprehensible than I was, and to prove that, enclosed are some back issues of Dreamscapes.

Urp!

*Mr Loney here. I still have those copies of Dreamscapes and they still rank amongst the best fanzines I have received in the last eight years of my fanish life. Who could forget innocent and gentle K. Kenny Enthistle? The mysterious but ultimately mortal Giggle-Master of Head? And for the more criminally minded there was always "How I Went to University and Learned to Fix Elections." But Dreamscapes had finished in September 1980 with #19 and I've had to content myself with the occasional letter. My only real complaint is that ludicrous Canadian postal code which requires six upper/lower case changes for six characters. Even the British aren't that bad!*

Ross C. White: 43 Foley Road, Hemmant QLD 4714, Australia - Jan81

Sirs, Your publication has taken a place next to my Achievement Certificate and my Certificate of Secondary Education in a recent bid to economise in the Tull/White "These two sharing a flat, is it possible?!" experiment. Almost as good as Sorbent said a relieved Steve Tull.

Thank you for your efforts to recycle our jarrah forrests.

*For the record, the Tull/White accomodation experiment wasn't successful. The Warner/White experiment in the latter half of 1982 ended on much more amiable terms.*

Jean H. Weber: PO Box 42, Lyneham ACT 2602, Australia - 27 Mar81

Yes, I did learn Julian Warner's first name = he wrote it on my copy of TSW3 at Swancon. Which reminds me, I suppose as long as I'm writing, I should LoC TSW4. Ah, er, um, yes. Did you electrostencil some of those pages entire? They are all grey and smudgy and hard (in some cases impossible) to read. Your correspondence with the Ford Motor Company was hilarious - where do you get the gall? (I want some too). I read it out at teatime at work much to the amusement of the assembled few. As for the rest of the zine, good golly what's it coming to? Most of it actually sorts out into sentences of reasonable comprehensibility - though not necessarily saying anything. For all your waffle on where's TSW going, you never did say. (Didn't think I'd notice, did you?) The editorials did give me a bit of insight into what you and your co-editor do in between (or whilst) publishing this zine. Please suggest to Julian that he indulge in a paragraph every ten lines or so, it makes reading much easier.

Please learn how to spell recommended. Write it on the blackboard 100 times, r-e-c-o-m-m-e-n-d-e-d. One c, 2m's. End of obligatory spelling lesson.

Since I don't recall seeing another TSW I assume your optimistic prediction of December didn't eventuate (turns to 2nd letter to learn that, yes, it's been delayed). No copy of Forbidden Worlds has graced my letterbox, though another friend of the editor urged me to send one of my stories to them. I did, it was returned as 'too present day' and I was asked for another story which I haven't got around to sending them yet. (Oops, just realised I was thinking of Futuristic Tales, sorry). Yes, I did get Forbidden Worlds. It makes TSW look good, er, better, er....

THE STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE

*Mr Loney here. I presented the following talk to a seminar in Perth about midway through 1985. As a member of the Astronautical Society of Western Australia since 1975 and a committee member for 1983/84 and 1984/85, I had read a large amount of material about current and proposed space exploration and activity. This included a great deal of literature on the Strategic Defense Initiative that Ronald Reagan announced in March, 1983. I was asked to give an introductory talk on what SDI actually was and my opinion of it. I wouldn't have considered publishing this in TSW but I see that Eric Lindsay in Gegenschein is attracting the occasional letter on the subject, so....*

Good afternoon. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the Astronautical Society of which I am member and representative here today. The Society was founded in 1975 and its constitution defines its areas of interest as being in the peaceful exploration and utilisation of space. As a result of this the Society makes no claim to outstanding expertise on current or proposed military utilisation of space. I make no such claim to outstanding expertise either, but I do think that what I have learnt from information that comes into the Society is enough for me to give you a helping hand up to a vantage point from which you can get a better look at the Strategic Defense Initiative.

The majority of my talk this afternoon will deal with the current state of the ongoing definition phase of the SDI, more popularly known as Star Wars. But before I start exploring that rapidly expanding world of acronyms being paid for by the US taxpayer, I want to briefly examine the history of the SDI. I think it is important to do this because the myth that the popular press seems to be propagating, that Ronald Reagan had a dream one night and got up and told the world about it next morning, is incorrect and more than a little simplistic. The SDI is the endorsement by the current US President of a set of policies that a small and determined group, made up of an unlikely collection of political conservatives, research scientists and engineers and even the occasional science fiction writer, have been developing and promulgating since at least 1969. The point here is that the strategic concepts behind SDI did not come into being with Ronald Reagan and most certainly will not disappear with him after the next US Presidential election. But to return to 1969 and the first of a few strands of development that I want to follow through to the 26th of March, 1983.

1969 saw Neil Armstrong become the first man on the moon, easily one of the USA's finest hours. But while Richard Nixon was only too happy to be around the returning conquering heroes of space, he was not at all keen on continuing NASA's level of funding. Nixon saw to the cancellation of the final three Apollo moon flights, cut the development of the Space Transportation System until there was only one component, the Shuttle, left and severely curtailed the unmanned probe program that was to explore the rest of our solar system. Nixon could do this because there was no organised space lobby. NASA had been created by a President and the withdrawal of Presidential support made NASA easy meat in the Capitol Hill budget battles. Which is not to say that there was no popular support for NASA's activities, just that at that time it wasn't organised. And Nixon's budget cuts followed by the indifference of Carter provided the impetus for the growth of a large array of space interest groups in the US all dedicated to reviving the flagging US interest in space.

At the risk here of failing to deal adequately with the diversity of the US space advocacy groups, I am going to look at their development in three stages. In the first stage these groups directly lobbied the US Congress for increases in NASA funding and encouraged their members to write letters expressing support for space exploration. This didn't work. The second stage was to exhort the commercial rewards of space development. Here there were proposals for projects such as the Solar Power Satellite, near earth orbit industrialisation and so on. But around 1977/78 a paper was published that

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showed only two companies in the US had a cash flow large enough to be able to fund these sorts of projects. They were both oil companies and I think it is fair to say that although oil companies are generally going through a period of diversification, none of them seem that interested in going into space. This paper led to the third stage, that of acceptance of a militarily led return to space, in two ways. First, it was generally thought that no self-respecting business would invest the enormous amounts of capital that would be required into projects that could not be defended from hostile action. And secondly it was realised that a US Government Department, the Department of Defense, had access to the sums of money required for a return to space. So attitudes changed. Where there was once 'idealistic' support for an expanded US civil space program, there is now 'pragmatic acceptance' for an expanded US military space program.

From the American public we now go to the shadow game being played by the military of the US and the USSR. I would like to stress here that I am going to be talking about responses by both sides to their perceptions of what activity by the other side meant. Many of those perceptions were and are arguable, but because of the responses they engendered many of them have also become self-fulfilling prophecies. We will start with the developmental stages of the Space Transportation System in the US. The STS was initially seen as providing more than a re-usable shuttle to the US. It was to be a complete system and included what was known as the space tug, which was to have operated between the near earth orbit attainable by the shuttle and the much more distant geostationary orbit where a large number of satellites are positioned. Despite the fact that this was being developed by NASA, the US civilian space program, the Russians saw the STS as giving the Americans a unique capability to wage war in space. They saw it being able to function as an anti-satellite weapon, a manned re-usable spacecraft that could be used to confiscate Soviet satellites. In response to this, the Russians developed an anti-satellite system of their own in the early seventies. Their system involved launching an explosive satellite into an orbit where it would intersect with the target satellite. When the two satellites were close enough, the killer satellite would be detonated and fast moving shrapnel would disable the target satellite. American concern at the development of this capability by the Russians was great. In the late seventies the Americans began developing an anti-satellite system of their own, one that is now continued under the auspices of the SDI. It soon became obvious to the Americans that they could not compete in a satellite war with the Russians. This is because of the differing roles and requirements satellites have for each country. The US launches a relatively small number of big and complex satellites. US military command is almost totally dependant on satellites for communications, navigation, warning of Soviet missile launch, electronic intelligence and military and industrial reconnaissance. The loss of one satellite, or several carefully chosen satellites, could be crippling. By comparison, the USSR launches a large number of small, short life-time satellites. Individual satellites are less crucial than in the American system and it would be easier for the Soviets to replace satellites as they are used to launching satellites more frequently. So the American military came to the conclusion that even with equally effective anti-satellite weaponry they would be at a disadvantage in any shooting war in space. So to regain advantage in what is militarily seen as the 'high ground' of space, the American military could see no option but to go a step beyond anti-satellite weaponry.

To return once again to 1969. Robert McNamara was the man who had overseen the formulation of the official policy of MAD or Mutual Assured Destruction. Through a balance of terror, peace would reign. There were, however, people unhappy with this idea and I'm not talking about the people who have since formed or joined the various peace movements around the world. A significant group of people in the US saw the MAD policy as an abrogation of the US Government's constitutional duty to provide for the common defence.



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In 1969, Jerry Pournelle and Stefan Possony developed what they called MAS, Mutual Assured Survival. This is the direct ancestor of the SDI. Pournelle has always argued for what he calls the High Frontier. He has been an engineer for NASA, a consultant for the US DoD, a political organizer for the Republican Party, a member of many space advocacy groups and a writer. Pournelle's chance came in 1981 when he was appointed to a private study group called 'High Frontier.' This was organized by Lieutenant General Daniel Graham, formerly Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, and one of two technical advisers to what is known as Reagan's kitchen cabinet. Despite serious reservations by some members of the administration about the findings of the High Frontier group, Ronald Reagan had no such doubts. On the 26th of March, 1983, he made his now famous Star Wars speech. Shortly afterward he officially commended Jerry Pournelle for his role in changing US military doctrine.

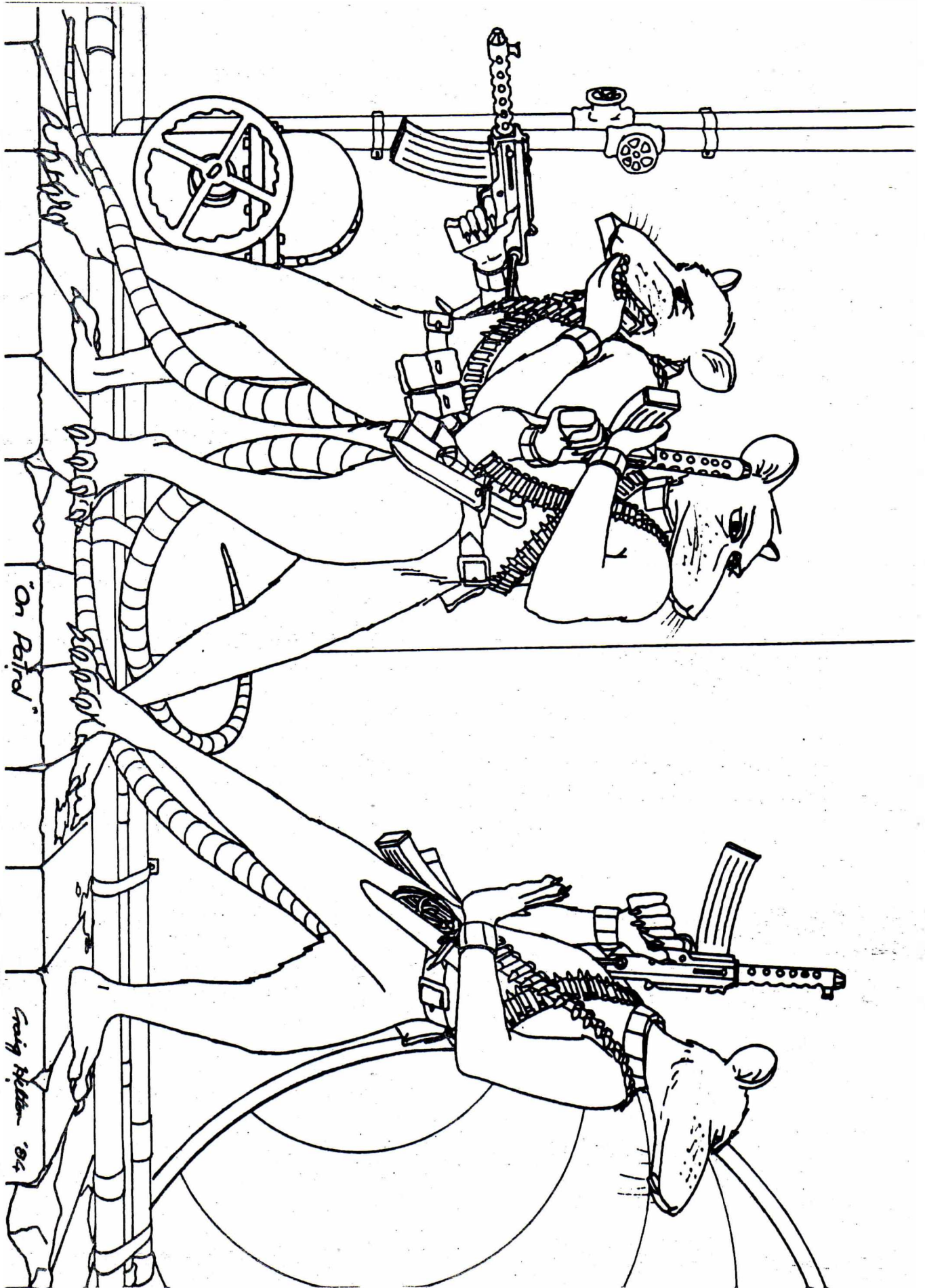
So what is the SDI? How would a defense against ICBMs work? As a question this is a little bit harder than it would appear at first. This is because there have been no decisions made about what to deploy in an ICBM defense. What has been decided is to explore the options, and at the moment there are more appearing every month. But any ICBM defense must have some basic elements and I will go through these.

The first element is one of surveillance. The system must have some way of looking at the Soviet launching areas and deciding whether an attack is being launched or not. The US already has this capacity in its Big Bird or KH series of satellites. The second element is one of tracking. If individual ICBMs are to be targeted, then individual ICBMs must be tracked accurately enough for this to occur. The US does not have this capability. The third element is battle management or kill assessment as it is becoming known. The system must be able to decide on an attack sequence and be able to allocate specific targets to specific weapons. The US does not have this capacity at the moment. The fourth element is that of the weapons themselves. The US does not have any of these at the moment either. And last, but certainly not the least, the system must be able to withstand a concerted attack. The US cannot build such a system at the present.

Now we have the elements of the system, let us look at the parameters it must operate within. Assuming a massive Soviet strike against the US, an ICBM defense would have to deal with upwards of 3000 ICBMs (on current figures) in an absolute maximum of fifteen minutes. These ICBMs would go through three stages: first the boost stage while the rocket motors are firing and lifting the ICBM out of the atmosphere, second the mid-course period during which the multiply independent re-entry vehicles, ten or more per ICBM, would separate along with decoys and radar chaff from their delivery bus, and the third and terminal stage during which the nuclear warheads re-enter the atmosphere on different trajectories for different targets. Each stage is about five minutes long at maximum. The boost stage is the best time to attack for several reasons. Firstly an ICBM during boost stage is easy to track, an enormous amount of heat is pouring out of its rear end. Secondly, during boost stage you only have to deal with single ICBMs, rather than the multiplicity of targets they break up into once in space. And as a general principle it is obviously better to blow up ICBMs as soon as possible. You would want as little seepage through the system, to keep as few warheads as possible getting through to, and quite possibly past, your terminal defence system.

So an ICBM defense system can be imagined. Whether it can be built, at what cost and efficiency, is now being examined by the Strategic Defense Initiative Organisation, or SDIO. We are now going to have a more detailed look at the options the SDIO is currently examining for the ICBM defense system elements described above.

The first two elements mentioned above, surveillance and tracking, can be combined in the one sensor array or series of arrays. There are no outstanding problems in the building of such a sensor, except for the fact it hasn't been done before - and all that that entails. The major technical advances required here are in the real time processing of the data collected



"On Parade!"

Craig Miller '84



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by the system. An onboard computer capable of dealing with a data flow on the order of a gigabit/sec (that is, one billion bits per second) and a computing power of ten gigaflops (that is, ten billion floating point operations per second) is required simply to survey and track a Soviet ICBM attack. Current onboard computers for satellites have about one hundredth of the capacity required. This is without taking into consideration the computing requirements of the third element of battle management or kill assessment.

The fourth element, that of weaponry, is the area where the ideas boys are really going to town. There are two main classes of weapons being considered; DEW or directed energy weapons, and KEW or kinetic energy weapons. These are further divided into two more groups; exoatmospheric or outside the atmosphere, and endoatmospheric or within the atmosphere.

Kinetic energy weapons will operate in a fairly conventional manner, projectiles fired at targets that will be destroyed by collision or close proximity explosions. SDIO is evaluating a large number of systems both space based and ground based. Most of these systems can be considered fairly conventional - extremely high acceleration rockets launched from a variety of different platforms. Two that deserve special attention are;

1: The Hyper-Velocity Gun (or electro-rail gun) - The HVG is basically a linear accelerator that uses alternating electric charge along a track to accelerate a charged particle to massive velocities. Some work on HVGs has been done in Australia. The advantage of an HVG is the extremely short flight time of the projectile and the certainty of disintegration of anything it hits.

2: The Braduskill - The Braduskill is a US Army concept and is envisaged as a spacecraft that would fly along with incoming ballistic missiles and fire small kill vehicles at them. The braduskill is still at the earliest of conceptual stages.

Direct Energy Weapons can be broken up into two groups, lasers and particle beam weapons. The SDIO is investigating space based and ground based versions of both. Several sorts of lasers are under consideration: chemical lasers, free electron lasers, excimer lasers and x-ray lasers. Launching lasers from submarines and powering x-ray lasers with small nuclear explosions are being considered. This will give you some idea of the power requirements. Particle beams are beams of atomic particles, electrons or protons, that have been accelerated to near lightspeed. Their destructive power is enormous.

The problems with DEWs are power, size and system life-time. Even assuming an adequate power supply, a large DEW could not manouever fast enough to shoot down large numbers of ICBMs. With lasers it is proposed to use more manoueverable mirrors to deflect the laser beam onto target. This poses problems of its own; to prevent the mirror from being vapourised by the laser it would need to be optically perfect. A microscopic flaw in the mirror surface would be enough for it to absorb enough energy from the laser beam to be in danger of warping or destruction. Mirror figure control is required to a fraction of a wavelength. To give you an idea of relativities, the Mount Palomar 200 inch reflector telescope mirror - which cost millions, took years to make and doesn't need to survive high intensity blasts from a laser - would be a small cousin to what is being proposed in the way of mirrors in orbit. Nuclear powered x-ray lasers aside, the power requirements for DEWs are simply huge. Fuel consumption rates would be in the order of tonnes per second, quite a consideration for an orbiting DEW.

Having outlined a few of the technical aspects and the problems of building an ICBM defense above, I think it is only fair to point out that none of those problems are necessarily insurmountable. The SDIO is evaluating a large number of options in the hope of finding some that are practical. Given enough money and the US military/industrial complex, I see no real technical obstacles to the construction of such a system. Leaving entirely to one side the financial question of cost, I consider the real problems with an ICBM defense to be as follows.



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It would only be a defense against ICBMs. It would not be a defense against cruise missiles or bombers and may not necessarily even be very effective against submarine launched ballistic missiles. Russia has both sea launched and air launched cruise missiles available and it could comparatively cheaply and easily increase its resources of these. Cruise missiles, right now, make any ICBM defense system the modern equivalent of the Maginot line.

It would be cheap and easy to destroy the space-based weaponry of any such system. All that it would be necessary to do (as Arthur Clarke has pointed out) is launch a few pounds of nails into the retrograde orbit of the weapons platforms. As they would need to be in orbits about 20000km up, they would have an orbital velocity of about 20000km per hour. A diffuse cloud of nails travelling at the same speed but in the opposite direction would lead to an impressive display - particularly where highly volatile fuels are involved.

It seems to me that cheap protective counter-measures would be available to your Russian ICBM designer. Something as simple as mirroring the outer surfaces of the ICBM and the MIRVs could drastically reduce the effect of a laser. Similarly it would be relatively cheap to overload any system with false targets and decoys. The Soviets could launch missiles whose only job is to draw fire, launch decoys and distribute a lot of radar chaff.

Not to mention electronic countermeasures or ECM. The simplest ECM for the Russians would be to detonate a large nuclear warhead, several if necessary, in near earth orbit so that the electro-magnetic pulse or EMP would scramble the delicate electronics of the space-borne components of the American system. Remember the sensor and tracking arrays that were mentioned above. Not to mention command or control computers for space-borne weaponry.

Other issues that I will deal with in passing are, for example, the very short response time before an attack (or defense) by the ICBM defense must be made. Because ICBMs will need to be shot down as soon as possible, and preferably in the boost stage, the President of the US would only have seconds to make the decision. Assuming, of course, that the President stays in the command chain - the time factor could be so critical that the system ends up on automatic. As well, there can be no full-scale test for an ICBM defense. Mr Gorbachev is not going to obligingly fire off 3000 ICBMs without warheads so that America can test its defenses. And the current estimates of 90% efficiency - or 10% 'leakage' of warheads to rain down upon America is not that encouraging. 10% of the Russian nuclear armada would still turn the US into the land of the radio-active.

The Strategic Defense Initiative sounds promising. It comes wrapped with fancy rhetoric that speaks of a fundamental change for the better to our nuclear age. But I do not believe that it can or will change the security of our world for the better. I hope that the US avoids the trap it faces and does not build an ICBM defense that could betray it the same way the Maginot Line betrayed the French.

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STOP PRESS! UNOFFICIAL DUFF UPDATE

Mr Loney here. Along with numerous other WA fen I was present at the traditional Sally Beasley/Dave Lockett Christmas evening fan-gather. Sally told me that she had decided to withdraw from the DUFF race. Her reasons are both financial and work related. Having just moved into a new house, Sally doesn't feel that she can afford the extra expense that even a DUFF-subsidised trip to the US would entail. And she would only be able to get a few weeks off her work in August/September 1986 - which she feels is insufficient. Sally has written to Thyme announcing this but has yet to contact Jack Herman, the Australian administrator.

DUFF: The Down Under Fan Fund was created in 1972 to encourage closer ties between fans in Australasia and North America. With host countries alternating each year, there have been thirteen exchanges of fan representatives since, supported entirely by voluntary contributions from fans all over the world. DUFF delegates visit a major SF convention in the host country and visit with fans they might otherwise never meet in person. DUFFers are treated as special guests and are always well looked after.

**DONATIONS:** DUFF exists solely on the donations and contributions of fans and always welcomes material for auction as well as donations of money. There will be auctions of DUFF material at future cons. Contributions can be brought to the con or sent to the local administrator. Anyone may contribute, even if ineligible to vote, and donations in excess of the voting donation are gratefull accepted. Cheques should be made out to Robbie & Marty Cantor in North America or to Jack Herman in Australasia.

**VOTING:** Any fan active in fandom before January, 1985, may vote. Ballots must be signed and be accompanied by a donation of, at least, \$2. Each person is allowed only one vote. If you think your name may not be known by the administrator, please include the name of a fan or fan group who can vouch for you. We will not count unverifiable votes.

ALL VOTES MUST REACH AN ADMINISTRATOR BY NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 28, 1986

DUFF uses the "Australian" Preferential system of balloting to gaurantee an automatic run-off and a majority win. You rank the candidates in order of preference (1,2,3,...). If there is no absolute majority for one candidate after the first count of votes, first place votes for the lowest-ranking candidate are dropped and the second place votes on those ballots are assigned to the candidates named. This goes on until one candidate has a majority. It is therefore important to vote for second, third etc places, especially if you choose to write-in a candidate. (You are not required to fill in more than your name, address and first choice.)

**CANDIDATES:** Each candidate has posted a \$10 bond, provided written nominations and has promised (barring acts of God) to travel to the 1986 World SF Convention, ConFederation, in Atlanta, Georgia over the Labor Day weekend in 1986. In the case of multiple candidacies, DUFF pays for ONE set of fares, accomodation and expenses. Platforms are reproduced on the reverse side and the ballot is below.

**ADMINISTRATORS:**

Marty & Robbie Cantor: 11565 Archwood, North Hollywood CA 91606, USA  
Jack R. Herman: Box 272 Wentworth Building, University of Sydney NSW 2006, Australia

I vote for (list 1, 2, 3 etc)

Sally Beasley

Terry Frost

Mark Loney/Michelle Muysert

Morley/Pride/Stathopoulos

Hold Over Funds

No Preference

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Address (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
If you think you may be unknown by the administrator, please give the name of a fan or fan group to whom you are known: \_\_\_\_\_

Sally Beasley: I had been involved with fandom since 1971, on the fringes of Britfandom, but only discovered F\*A\*N\*D\*O&M when I emigrated to Australia in 1977. Since then I have been involved in the programming and running of several local conventions and organised baby-sitting for Aussiecon II. I am in several apas - ANZAPA, A Woman's Apa and CRAPA/PI. I have not published my own fanzine (despite good intentions for 6 years plus!) but promise to publish a trip report if elected and then, who knows? I support Worldcons ANYWHERE other than Perth.

Nominators: Alyson Abramowitz, Valma Brown, Eric Lindsay, Marc Ortlieb, Amy Thompson and others.

Terry Frost: Vote the Frost Team. Writing a DUFF platform while selling memberships to Capcon 87 (The Australian Natcon) ((free plug)) at Aussiecon II ain't easy. Don't let the list of nominators fool you - they were selected very carefully for their sterling qualities in order to give the Frost bid a touch of class it otherwise lacks. Wit, intelligence, cordiality, beard (one), housetraining, cartooning skill, funny accent, the ability to stay awake for long periods of time and silliness I already have. Also, Karen Vaughan, my fiancée, will, if I win, be accompanying me on a DUFF trip cum honeymoon.

Nominators: Mike Glycer, Leanne Frahm, Ken Ozanne, Paul Stevens, Art Widner.

Mark Loney/Michelle Muysert: (Michelle) I am a New Zealander and have been involved in fandom in Wellington, Auckland, Melbourne and Perth, where I live currently. I'm small, furry and very friendly, I love room parties and I'd love to go to ConFederation. (Mark) I am a large, furry West Australian making up the second half of the Muysert/Loney trans-Australasian DUFF bid. My first con was SwanCon II in 1977 and my first fanzine was The Space Wastrel (with Mr Warner) in 1979. Michelle and I have been a joint fanact since 1983 and we'd really like to meet you all at ConFederation.

Nominators: Justin Ackroyd, Alexis Gilliland, Irwin Hirsh, Peter Toluzzi, Roger Weddal and others.

Lewis Morley, Marilyn Pride, Nick Stathopoulos: (Lewis speaks on Nick and Marilyn's behalf): Having been into rubber for some time, I was delighted to find that fandom held a niche in which I could flourish and fester. Together with Nick and Marilyn, I discovered a group of caring and interesting people who encouraged us to always push ourselves further. My personal interests have included regular entries in Masquerades which let me enjoy absurd behaviour in complete anonymity. Most importantly, I feel that Nick, Marilyn and I represent a VISUAL face to fandom: while our written contributions have been fairly sparse, in creating a tangible aroma (for want of a better word) in the field of fan Art, we feel "strong" enough to give fans overseas a good idea of what Australian fans are about. And being VISUAL we promise a trip report with SLIDES!!!

Nominators: Forrest J. Ackerman, Sally Beasley, Terry Dowling, Van Ikin, Joyce Scrivener and others.

Reproduction of this ballot is encouraged; please copy text verbatim, correcting typos.

This ballot typed up by MARK LONEY for THE SPACE WASTREL. December 1985.