



gambit 26

-----STELLAR c/w GAFIA #22 and DIMENSIONS-----

is published by Ted E. White, who still resides at 2712 N. Charles St., Baltimore 18, Maryland. Thish, like all issues, is free for your comment, or trade. GAMBIT is no longer mailed with Magnus' RUMBLE, since that zine has sort of suspended itself...or something.

AS I TYPE THIS, the last issue, #25, is in the mails. I feel sort of guilty about mailing it out in a wrapper the way I did, but what the hell; I'd forgotten to say anything about TERRY FOR TAFF or WASHINGTON IN '60, and I had to put that vital stuff somewhere. Besides, I couldn't afford envelopes. John and I had an argument (of a very mild sort) over whether zines of 20 pages or so should be mailed flat, or folded. I held out for folded, because I've seen the way the PO mangles flat stuff, particularly if you have a small mail box. So I printed up a bunch of mailing wrappers which will no doubt be used on future zines as well. These short zines will also be mailed out mostly without envelopes in an effort to save money. Talk about saving money! Here I am printing thish on the back of a bunch of WASHINGTON IN '60 flyers, that's how desperate I am...

I've developed a sort of standardized program for GAMBIT. Every fifth issue (#30 will be the next) will be "large size", that is like a regular 20-page fanzine. In all likelihood, most letters will be held off from printing until then, though occasionally I get a hot piece of news, like

RON ELLIK TELLS ME: "Print, if you will: SHANGRI-LA is coming out again. Djinn Faine (same address as Bjo) (2548 W. 12th St., LA 6, California) is editrix, and Charles Burbee is co-editor. It will be called SHANGRI-L'AFFAIRES, and numbered 39. Copies available on written request, etc. Publishing date for #39: 5 Nov 58--the day after tomorrow. I don't actually expect them to get it out for a week or so after that, but I do honestly believe this issue will be out before the end of November, and that Djinn is honestly going to continue publication on a reasonably frequent schedule."

This is great news, and I only hope that the new zine will live up to those old Burbee-SHANGRI-L'AFFAIRES which featured greats like 4e, Hoy Ping Pong, and FTLaney...not to mention a chap named Paul Spencer, whose "World of Null-V" I swiped from an early issue for STELLAR #12...

RON PARKER IS NO LONGER in this area, having been transferred elsewhere (where I don't know yet, but I'll forward his letters when I do find out), but he has left his indelible mark upon us. He has left his indelible mark in the form of one complete volume of The Secret Mythos. Physically, this first volume--of a projected thirteen--is a large, 9x12 volume, almost two inches thick. It is composed of typescripts--single-spaced on one side of a sheet only--totalling 384 pages. Ron handed the book to me with a characteristically nonchalant smile on his face. "It's just a little thing I've been working on," he murmured. I opened it, thumbed through it, read a section or two, and stared at Ron dumfounded. "Mighod, Ron," I said, "this is fantastic. It really is! Why, Ron, this is marvelous--it's even better than the time Stu Hoffman typed out in manuscript form two Tucker books and had them bound. I mean--did you write all this, Ron?"

"That's right, Ted," said Ron. "That's right, I wrote it. All 384 pages of it, Ted." "Gad, that's fabulous!" I said. "But, Ron...it's all in typescript. I mean..." "That's right, Ted. It's all in typescript." "Then there's no carbon, or--?" "Yes, Ted. There's no carbon. Just one copy, Ted."

"Well, gee... Ron, how can people read it if there's only one copy?" "Well, Ted, that's why it's called The Secret Mythos." "Can I read it, Ron?" "Well, I guess so, Ted. Some of it's pretty personal, but I guess you can read it. In fact, I'll even let you quote sections. At the rate I'm writing this book, you'll never get caught up to me." "You're still writing The Secret Mythos, Ron?" "Yes, Ted. Don't laugh; I still have twelve volumes to go..."

Ron Parker is prolific.

POST OFFICE VS. FANDOM, ROUND THREE: As an addition to the Handy Guide published in #20, I offer the following: Foreign printed matter rates have gone up. Rates which were 2¢ for the first two ounces and 1-1/2¢ for each additional two ounces have changed to 4¢ for the first two ounces and 2¢ for each additional two ounces. This makes an important difference in mailing a fanzine overseas. Where rates were cheaper than US rates, they are now more expensive. Caveat faneds.

JOHN MAGNUS IS WRITING HIS MEMOIRS. His explanation was, "why not? Laney did, and was more active the five or six years following than he was before!" "Do you plan to resign fandom as Laney did, after your memoirs are published?" I asked. "No, actually I have a secret Plan For Conquest. You see, after a year or so I'll announce that I'm sold out of the book. Then I'll start "discovering" them at higher prices for people. Why, in all likelihood, I'll be around for another twenty years, just selling bootleg copies of my memoirs..."

When queried as I typed this, John Magnus disclaimed all knowledge of the above conversation...

"AWRIGHT, D'YOU WANNA RUMBLE?!" growled Ted White as he clutched Ron Parker by the shirt. Ron looked back at Ted. There was something decidedly menacing about Ted as he stood there glaring in his black leather motorcycle jacket, Ron's army hat pulled low over his eyes, and a cigarette dangling out of the corner of his mouth (especially menacing, since Ted does not smoke!).

"Y'wanna rumble?" repeated Ted as he viciously drew Ron's face to within an inch of his. "Yeah!" Ron replied, trying to look beligerant.

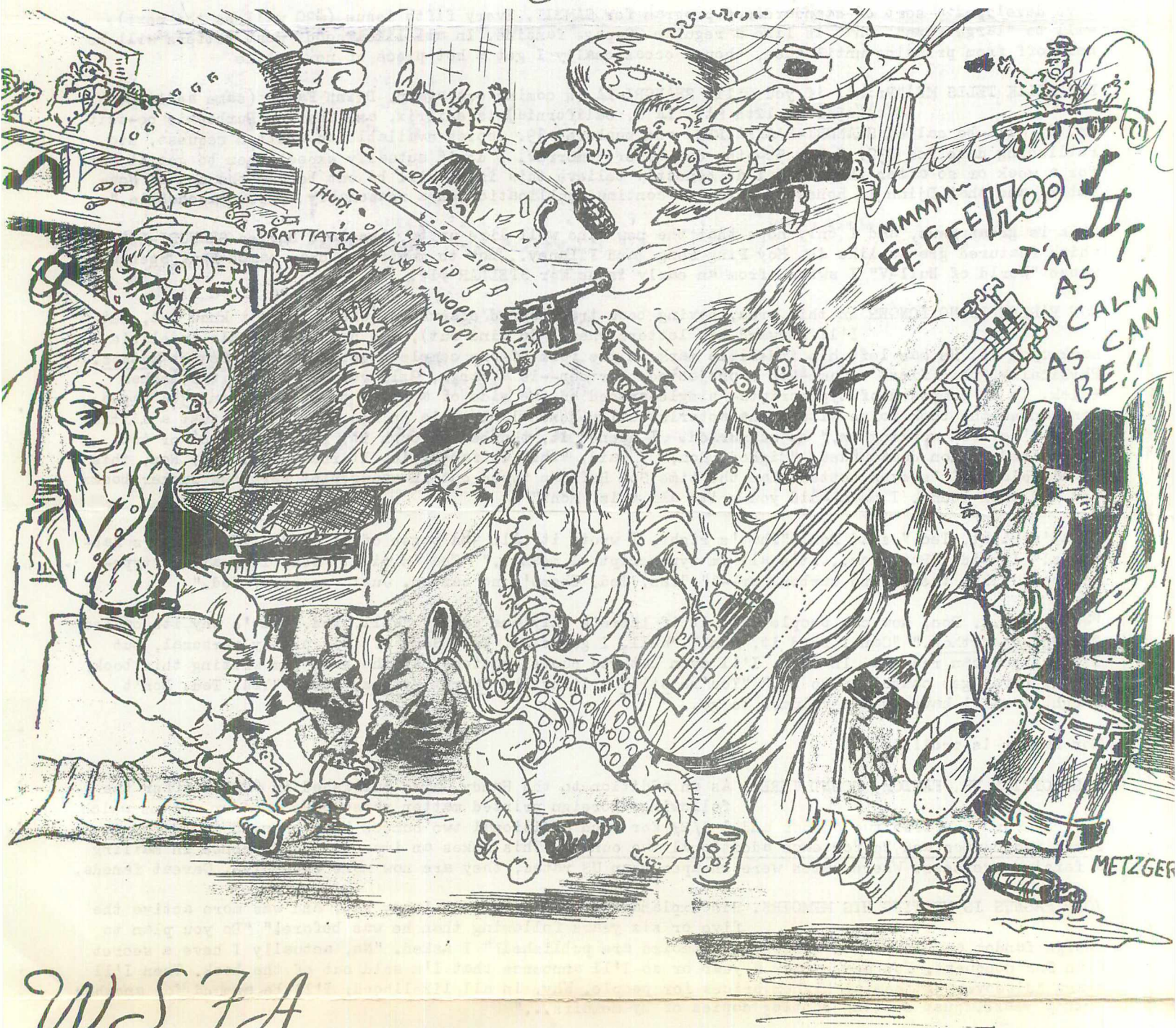
"Uh," said Ted weakly as he took his hand away from Ron's shirt, "John has extra copies of Rumble in the next room..." --Sylvia

AN IDLE QUERY: How do all you folks out in fanzine-landt dig this micro-elite? I mean, does it bug you, or can you assimilate it into your optical organs? Hah?

-QWERTYUIOPress-

WASHINGTON

IN 1960



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