MAIN COMPUTER

Newsletter of the International Space:1999 Alliance Volume 2 Number 5

CLIFTON JONES Since Con '78

Continued from MAIN COMPUTER 2/4

Back in England, I had just a few weeks before I had to go north to Scotland to work on a local series (soap opera) called *Garnock Way*. The producer asked me to spend the weekend with him and his family on his island in Loch Lomond. You may have heard the Scottish song "On yon bonny banks of yon bonny brae" etc. That Loch Lomond.

The island was about five acres, mostly oak trees that had been there since these ancient islands first emerged from whatever freak climactic change of nature formed them. The house had originally belonged to monks. My producer is a back to nature freak, though you would not have thought that the man you saw in his office in pinstriped suit and tie would or could change to a bearded, scruffy open-air-loving nut, keen on self-sufficiency.

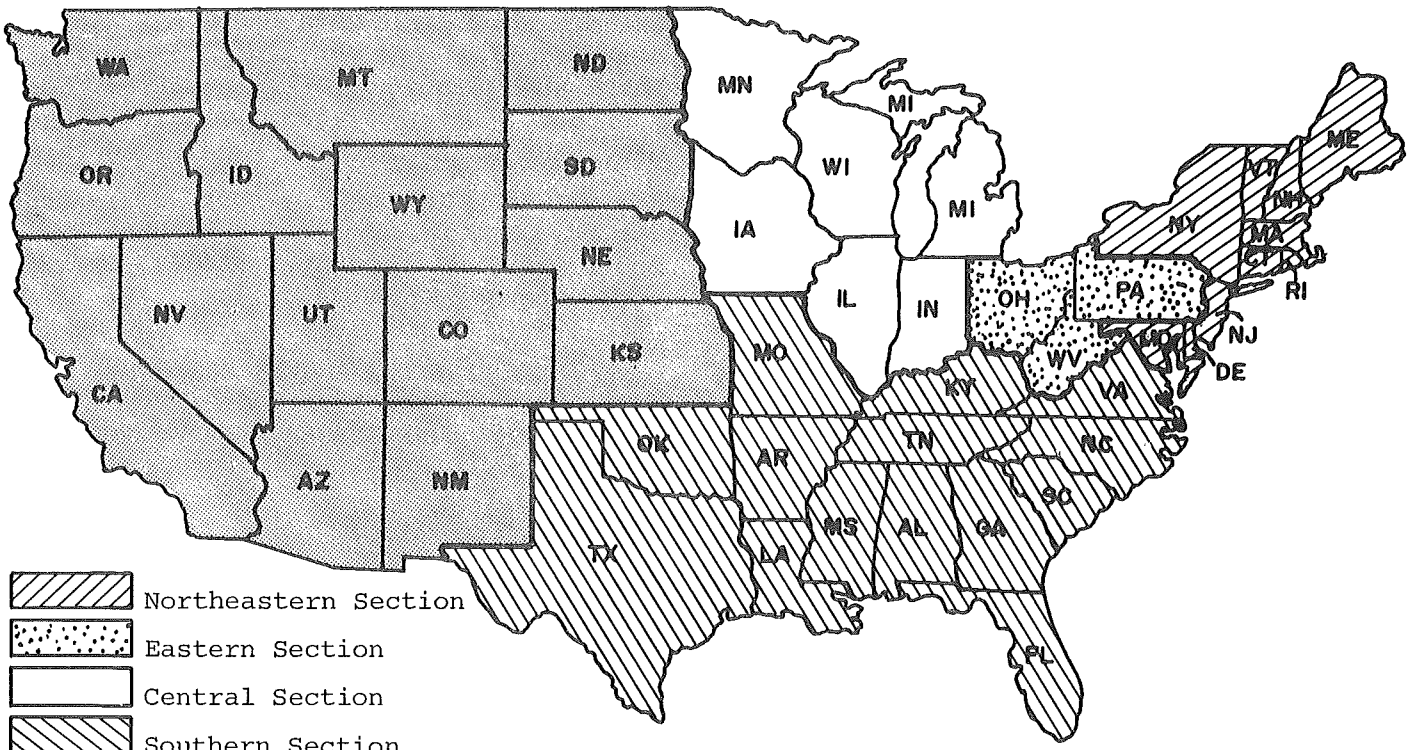
Everything that was needed on the island had to be brought by boat. Well, almost everything. The goats had already been brought over to provide the milk. The trees that died were fuel for heat and cooking; the whiskey was for keeping warm because the wood was not always enough, especially when the winds blew down the mountains and swirled down between the islands on the Loch. Those days, when the Loch was too rough for the boat to be put out, one could only sit by a window and watch that freezing body of water rage almost up to the front door. My bed had been build for a midget, I thought. So cold and half bent, I tried to sleep all weekend, often too drunk to realize how cramped I was until I tried standing up the morning after. Like everyone else, I kept my clothes on most of the weekend as it was easier to keep warm that way. Mrs. Producer and the junior producers seemed to revel in this deprivation. Mrs. Producer, a charming lady and superb cook, could not do enough for me. So too the boys, one of whom took me up the hill at the back of the house to show me where the water for the well came from. We also went to see that the sheep were alright wherever they had wandered on the other side of the island, and check on driftwood which, when dried, could also be used as fuel. That night I felt terribly guilty about accepting a bath which had taken nearly an hour to run (fill) and just as long to be heated, especially as I now knew how valuable water was. Oh, but it felt good. Then later the producer and I went across to the mainland to pick up some oil for the generator that was being left. There in the bar of the local hotel were just the two of us, the gay barman (who should be in the theatre he was so funny), and another local that my producer knew. I got warm, relaxed, and helped him to demolish the better part of a bottle of malt whiskey. He then phoned his wife to apologise for us being late for dinner. We said our good-nights and made our way out into the night and round to the other bar where the locals gathered (shepherd, farmers, a chauffeur to the Laird [Lord, Landowner], farmworkers, etc.) and bought a bottle of whiskey. The hotel bar was not allowed to sell alcohol to be taken off the premises. We played the fruit machines and chatted to the locals and shared a drink with some that my producer knew. I got teased by a few who had seen *SPACE:1999* even in that tiny village.

Using our flashlight, we made our way across the road and down to the water's edge into the boat and back to the island. And yes, a wonderful meal.

The next day, joined by a guest from the mainland (a retired Royal Air Force officer), we set off in the boat for a picnic. Imagine several tiny islands almost surrounded by huge mountains, a gentle rain, cold icy black water and five souls putt-putting their way in a small boat, the sky another Atlanta without the lightning and thunder (nowhere else has thunder like Atlanta...it sounds as if it would break the earth), the Loch as still as glass at night and, as I looked out across the water, I missed Los Angeles, which I had visited after Atlanta and where I had spent four days with an actor who I had directed in the theatre many years ago in London and who now lived with his family in L.A. I missed the sun, the friends I had met who had left *(cont. on pg. 2)*

Section News

Several Section Reps requested that we list the states covered in each section. It's very important that you write to the correct Rep for quickest response. See MC2/3 for Section Rep names and addresses.



NOTE:
Southern Section includes Washington DC
Western Section includes Hawaii, Alaska, Australia & Japan
Canadian Section covers all of Canada
European Section is handled by Alliance Headquarters

EASTERN SECTION: Tod recently mailed localized member listings to all in his section. He requests that you retain these lists for next year; supplementary lists will be added as needed.....Tod presented a talk and slide show on science fiction to a local group.

A GOOD IDEA Write to your Section Rep today and let him/her know what you've done lately to promote *SPACE:1999* awareness.

SF Awards

If you haven't sent in your ballots for the Alliance SF Awards yet, please do so as soon as possible. The deadline is June 1. Winners will be announced at Con '80.

Fan Club Stamp

A national drive is underway to encourage the Post Office to issue a commemorative fan club stamp. Considering the huge amount of business that clubs generate for the Post Office, this is an excellent idea. Not only will it give us all a sense of pride, but a special stamp could do wonders for the image of fan clubbing. To help with the drive, write to: CITIZENS STAMP ADVISORY COMMITTEE, c/o U.S. Postal Service, Washington D.C. 20260. When you write you may of course mention that you belong to a fan club(s), but please do not mention that this drive is being sponsored by any particular group.

Want Ads

WANTED: *Galactica, U.F.O. & 6 Million Dollar Man* cassettes. Also FOR SALE: *Galactica 1980* & *Battle of the Planets* cassettes, $1.75 each including postage/handling. Send for list to Mike Cook/4821 Hiram NW/Warren, OH 44483.

WANTED: Con-bound fans to join group from Chicago. Going Greyhound, leaving Chicago Thursday July 24, leaving Columbus Monday July 28. Round trip fare $64.15. Contact Sue Cole/2710 Rohlwing Rd/Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 for full details.

COMING SOON

IRON-ON TRANSFERS
John & Helena or Tony & Maya

Info available in May
Send SASE to Alliance Headquarters
for full details.

Fan Clubs & Publications

ALPHA NEWS SERVICE. Number 9 now ready for mailing. 2nd Annual "Year 3" issue. 2 original stories + free 16-pg novelette. $1.00 ($1.50 o/s) or available through 3 issue subscription for $3.00 ($4.50 o/s). NEW! ANS-NEWSBRAKE. Want just the news? Send 5¢ + SASE and receive the only *SPACE: 1999*/SF news sheet. (Not available outside US & Canada, free with Alpha News Service 9). ANS/160 W Foster St/Melrose, MA 02176

NEW 1999 NOVEL

DOUBLE EPISODES...Two full-length *1999* adventures (*E.T.A. to Alpha: Unknown* & *Return of the Taybor*) written by Bonnie Yoman. 100 pages of text alone! PLUS full and original artwork by Jeffrey Smith. 50 orders must be received to warrant publication costs. ORDER NOW to insure Con '80 distribution. Send $5.00 in check or money order to Bonnie Yoman/174 E Madison/Petersburg, MI 49270.

FAN FUND Help raise $$ to allow a deserving fan to attend Con '80. All benefit from the Fund: lots of great sale items & ad space available in their publication. SASE to Mary Bloemker/5 Lamson St/E Boston, MA 02128

BRITISH NICK TATE CLUB. Nick's coming to Con '80, but you can get to know him all year long with BNTC. 2 IRC's for club details to Eileen Skidmore/69 Francis Rd/ Acocks Green/Birmingham B27 6LT/England.

PRENTIS HANCOCK FANCLUB's 2nd newsletter's hot off the press! Lots of photos. $5/yr memb. ($6 o/s); $1 for sample copy..... ALPHA HUMOR BOOK now being compiled. Send your best jokes, cartoons, riddles, puns, etc. SASE for details to Mare Fitzgerald.

NEW CHICAGO TRIBUNE, for *Buck Rogers* fans. See the exciting conclusion to Mbot Swamen's story in May issue. NCT/613 Garrard St/Covington, KY 41011

DEADLINE FOR ADS IN MC2/6 IS
MAY 10, 1980
(JUST 2 MORE ISSUES THIS VOLUME!)

Notes 'n Stuff

PRESS RELEASE AVAILABLE A news release about Con '80 is available from Alliance Headquarters (SASE please). Members are asked to supply their local newspapers with this write-up.

SPEEDY DELIVERY MC6 & MC7 will be mailed First Class to insure quickest delivery of the final Con '80 details.

MC NEEDS TO KNOW Is *SPACE:1999* being shown in your area right now? If it is, write to MC Editor with the following information: station, city, time, and whether it is shown regularly or as a fill-in.

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STAR NOTE Watch for *The Changling* at your local theaters; it stars BARRY MORSE and JOHN "Baltar" COLICOS.

***

The following was sent in by Steve Griffis:

QUESTION: Why does it take two Cylons to drive a battle craft?
ANSWER: (This is so bad.) It takes one to steer and one to hum.

***

THE BEST NEWS OF ALL Word's just in that NICK TATE, ZIENIA MERTON & CLIFTON "DAD" JONES will attend Con '80, work schedules permitting. TONY ANHOLT has received his invitation via Alliance courier and he is "interested" in attending. Con '80 is lookin' good! See CON UPDATE 2 for all the latest details.

CONVENTION '80 UPDATE 2

SPACE:1999 CONVENTION '80 * JULY 25-27, 1980

HERE's THE VERY LATEST ON THE CON '80 SPECIAL GUEST LIST:

WE HAVE RECEIVED WRITTEN ACCEPTANCES OF OUR INVITATIONS (WORK PERMITTING) FROM THE FOLLOWING: PRENTIS HANCOCK, BARRY GRAY, NICK TATE, ZIENIA MERTON, GERRY ANDERSON, & CLIFTON JONES.

VERBAL ACCEPTANCES (WORK PERMITTING) HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM: MARTIN LANDAU & GIL "BUCK ROGERS" GERARD.

TONY ANHOLT'S INVITATION HAS BEEN HAND DELIVERED AND HE "IS INTERESTED" IN COMING.

CON TICKET INFO When sending in your order for Con '80 tickets, please list the name and address for each ticket recipient. It'll make registration go lots easier.

CHARITY AUCTION To shorten the auction time, to make bidding easier for everyone (with less "auctioneer pressure"), and to still have a sizable amount of items in the auction, we'll be using a new system this year. All but a selected group of items will be auctioned by "ballot bidding". Members will be given bid sheets on which to write their bids and deposit them in containers Friday, Saturday or early Sunday. Each day, high bid on each item will be displayed and additional bids will be accepted in the same manner. Final high bidders will be announced on Sunday before the traditional auction.

This method should leave everyone with a lot more time for other con activities, but still enable us to raise money for the Children's Hospital and add some nice things to our collections.

Sunday afternoon's main auction will feature the rarest, biggest-demand items, and we expect some fierce bidding. The 12 first season scripts on the block this year are: ANOTHER TIME, ANOTHER PLACE; FORCE OF LIFE; FULL CIRCLE; END OF ETERNITY; GUARDIAN OF PIRI; TROUBLED SPIRIT; COLLISION COURSE; DEATH'S OTHER DOMINION; SPACE BRAIN; RING AROUND THE MOON; INFERNAL MACHINE; MISSING LINK. These could well be the very last copies of these scripts in existence.

LOONEY RUNS Our Pittsburgh Looney Run resulted in front page coverage in the major morning paper there. Let's do it again in Columbus! All you need is a costume (any kind will do) and lots of spirit. For more information about the runs contact Tod Ellsworth/3691 Sheridan Rd/Portsmouth, OH 45662. Come on, Alphans, show your stuff!

CON-VOYS It looks as though Ann Hester and Chuck Raue are bringing half of the South with them this year! Members are joining that Con-voy from as far away as Florida. Don't wait another minute---contact your Section Reps so they can help you plan NOW, no matter what area of the country you live in. Con-voying is a great way to meet new people, it's safer than traveling alone, and you'll save $$$ too.

CON ROOMING SERVICE Some of you may not be familiar with the rooming service. If you are going to stay at the Neil House and would like someone to share room costs with, send your name, address, sex, type of room (double, triple, quad) you want to share, and which nights you will stay to ROOMING SERVICE/1136 Neill Ave/Columbus, OH 43201. You will then be matched to others with the same specifications (we'll meet your requirements as closely as possible---we can't guarantee the room type in all cases). Write in early (enclose a SASE please) to avoid disappointment.

Those who have definite roommates or who will take a single room should send in a Room Reservation Card (send SASE to HQ for a card) to the hotel as soon as possible.

GO-PHER SQUAD We still need Go-phers! If you're willing to give even a couple of hours of your time, write to Ann Hester/107 Lemuel Ct/Warner Robins, GA 31093. You will enjoy the con much more if you really get involved in the running of it.
NOTE: We do not need anymore volunteers for star escorts.

ATTENTION MONTY PYTHON, FAWLTY TOWERS & THE GOODIES FANS: If you'd like to have a get-together during Con '80, write Amy Kisil/1377 W 80th St/Apt 9/Cleveland, OH 44102.

ATTENTION AMATEUR FILM MAKERS, ARTISTS, ACTORS & COSTUME DESIGNERS: Show off your very best efforts at Con '80. Help make this costume call, art show and amateur film contest even bigger and better than last year's highly acclaimed events. See Con Update 1 for 'who to contact'.

CON-SERVATION TIPS Everyone wants to save money, so here are a few ideas to con-sider as you plan your weekend.

*Keep a small notebook with you during the con to keep track of what you've spent and what funds you've got left.
*Use Travelers Checks. Why worry about losing cash?
*Instead of having all your meals at restaurants, get together with friends and plan a picnic lunch or dinner (buy cold cuts, etc. from a local shop).
*Always check your change when you've made a purchase. Things can get hectic and mistakes are easily made.
*Pack light and carry your own luggage. No use tipping if you don't have to.
*Do some art for the art show/auction. Fan art often sells for a higher price than a lot of pro stuff.
*Have extras in your collection? Bring them along---you might be able to trade with others.
*Contact your Section Rep and join a Con-voy. Whether you have a ride to share or need one, you'll save a lot by splitting up gasoline expenses.
*Share a room. By sharing a double you'll save $13.00/night; a triple saves you $17.67/night; a quad will save each person $20.00/night over the cost of a single room! (If you need roommates, contact the Con Rooming Service.)
*If you're flying in, check night rates. They could cost less than peak hour flights.

Anyone have other tips to share? Send them along to MC Editor.

RULES & REGULATIONS OF CONVENTION '80

1. Badges must be worn at all times in convention rooms. Lost badges will not be replaced. (You will receive your badge at the registration desk.)
2. Smoking and alcoholic beverages are prohibited in all con rooms.
3. Recording or photographing any film or videotape item is prohibited.
4. Photographs in the art room are prohibited.
5. The INTERNATIONAL SPACE:1999 ALLIANCE bears no responsibility for items lost, stolen, or damaged during the con, or for physical injuries sustained during the con.
6. Anyone behaving in a manner considered detrimental to the con will be asked to leave the con areas and will not be permitted to return.
7. Special guest room areas are strictly off limits to all but authorized personnel.
8. Any violation of the above rules and regulations may constitute grounds for expulsion from the con without refund.
9. No memberships are refundable after June 1, 1980.
10. All programs and events are subject to change and/or cancellation.

The INTERNATIONAL SPACE:1999 ALLIANCE reserves the right to require proof of age or ID at registration for junior memberships.

BE SURE AND USE THE CORRECT ADDRESS WHEN WRITING...ALLIANCE HEADQUARTERS IS:
86 FIRST STREET * NEW LONDON, OHIO 44851

"Alien Attack" Attacked

So far, ALIEN ATTACK *is the only one of the two [*1999 *movies] to make it to my section of Canada [Ottawa, Ontario].* ALIEN ATTACK *contains most of the* Breakaway *episode (most) and all of the* War Games *episode, plus some newly filmed footage concerning International Lunar Finance Commission officials at the beginning and end of* Breakaway. *There's an interesting narration sequence at the beginning of the film as well, but the narrator places the events during the year 2100! That's right, folks, somebody at ITC decided to change the date. Really discouraging is that footage of Cmdr. Koenig meeting Cmdr. Gorski, Helena's decision to take Sparkman off life support, and the final news broadcast received by Alpha have been snipped. Other parts of* Breakaway *have been trimmed slightly as well. I've seen the* Breakaway *episode on the CBC network with the meeting between Gorski and Koenig snipped, and on American stations with the incident at Waste Disposal Area One between Koenig, Bergman and Collins snipped, and I really prefer either of these versions to the* ALIEN ATTACK *version.*

In my opinion, the version of Breakaway *appearing in* ALIEN ATTACK, *supposedly now the only version available with ITC removing the episode from the TV package, is an inferior presentation for posterity. The new footage looks downright cheap and the actors don't make it look or sound any better. These drawbacks, I think most would agree, outweigh any advantages the movie has; and the fact that the episode cuts will make the* SPACE:1999 *syndication package harder to sell or renew, with now only 44 episodes, is really the last straw. However, if ITC reversed its decision to take the episodes out of syndication and allowed the* Breakaway *and* War Games *episodes outside the TV movie package, this would be an acceptable situation.* Gary Smith, Ottawa, Ontario

Views & Comments

STAR TREK THE MOTION PICTURE

It seemed to have lost that little spark that made it work. ST *seems to belong to the realm of TV.* Ruben Avila, San Leandro, CA

I was disappointed in Star Trek, *not because it wasn't produced well, or the acting was poor, or the SpFX were not good enough. On the contrary, Gene Roddenberry is a superior producer of SF. The acting was the best I've seen in a long time on the screen, and the SpFX were Academy Award material.* Star Trek *just didn't have what it takes to produce the kinds of emotions and feelings that can tie a person to a film forever. My head was lost to the machines, where, instead it should have been lost to the people.* Frances Emerson, Geneva, NY

Thanks to many years of fan devotion, Trek *has at last returned. The movie is superb! It not only offers the excellent acting of the original cast, but it also offers an intellectual plot, story and theme for the SF fan who is tired of space fantasies and SpFX wars! The film does, however, include SpFX matched only by* Star Wars *and* CE3K. *The new characters Illia and Decker are somewhat disappointing once you discover that they are as expendable as security guards. But they too add excellently to the return voyage of the excellently refurbished Starship Enterprise. Here's hoping that* 1999 *fandom has as much luck! All it takes is interest...and many, many years of dedicated devotion!* Eric A. Stillwell, Eugene, OR

GALACTICA:1980

*I wasn't too happy about [*Galactica:1980*]. The story was OK, but too many questions remained unanswered. I will miss especially Richard Hatch as Captain Apollo.* Linda Doris Reallis, New York, NY

Galactica:1980 *should have stayed in the dead film file. It was an insult to my intelligence.* Amy Kisil, Cleveland, OH

Although I am rejoicing for the return of Galactica, *I am also mourning the passing of scientific accuracy. In the last episode of* Galactica *in '79, the Galactica receives*

video transmission of an event in 1969 (the moon landing). In Galactica:1980, *it took approximately 20 years to reach Earth. That means that the fleet was some 20 light years away from Earth. In that case, the signal was received in 1989, and the Galactica arrived off Earth approximately around 2009 (assuming .99999999C [C being lightspeed], it took some 20 years to go about 20 light years). Also, if the vipers, and/or the Galactica can travel back in time, why don't they just go back and neutralize the Cylon threat just as it happens?* Mark Marmor, New York, NY

Galactica:1980 *had a good premise. Carried out as it should have been, it might have made a good story beginning for its upcoming season. As it was, the story line was old hat. At their worst, the old shows were much, much better.* Frances Emerson, Geneva, NY

First Annual Fan Awards

IS:1999A joins the other associated clubs in announcing the nominees for the First Annual Fan Award. This award is designed to give recognition to singular achievements in promoting *SPACE:1999*. To cast your vote (or to make other nominations) write SPACE:1999 FAN AWARDS/c/o MMA/5 Lamson St/E Boston, MA 02128. Present nominees are: Matt Butts (Ed ALPHA CHRONICLES-FZ), Phyl Proctor & Eileen Skidmore (Pr BNTC-FC), Chuck Raue (Ed COMMLOCK-FZ, CCM 78-79-80), Mona Delitsky (Ed COSMOCONNECTION-FZ, CCM 78), Deborah Walsh (Au, Ed & Ar CATCH THE FINAL SUNRISE-FZ, MOONBEAM-FZ & FELGERCARB-FZ), Steve Eramo (Ed ALPHA NEWSLETTER-FZ, Au & Ar, co-Ed TIMETRAP-FN), Diana Winslow (Ed & Au NIGHTMARE-FN), Kathy Lynn Higley (Ed LUNAR BULLETIN BOARD-FZ, Ar & Poet), Mary Hartery (Organizer MMA-FC, Ed AVITAR-FZ), Mary Bloemker (Pr MMA-FC, Au & Ar, Pr PSYCHON 100 SOCIETY-FC), Chris Landry (Pr SPRINGFIELD SPACE:1999 CLUB-FC), Mare Fitzgerald (79 Pr 1999 ALLIANCE, CCM 79-80, Pr PRENTIS HANCOCK FANCLUB), John & Kathy Von Kamp (80 Pr 1999 ALLIANCE), Darlene Palenik (co-Au TIMETRAP-FN), Patricia Brimer (co-Au TIMETRAP-FN), Sharon Anne Hutchinson (co-Au TIMETRAP-FN), Rosie Badgett (co-Au SPACE:1999 TRILOGY-FN), Paul Bens (co-Au SPACE:1999 TRILOGY-FN), Carol Abbs (Founder BR NICK TATE CLUB-FC), Mark Gonzaga (Au & Ed PSYCHON INFORMATION PACKAGE).

KEY: Ed (Editor), Pr (President), Au (Author), Ar (Artist), FZ (Fanzine), FC (Fan Club), CCM (Con Committee Member), FN (Fan Novel)

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Personal replies require a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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