

GODZILLA

Jan Letter! #55 MARCH-APRIL 1977

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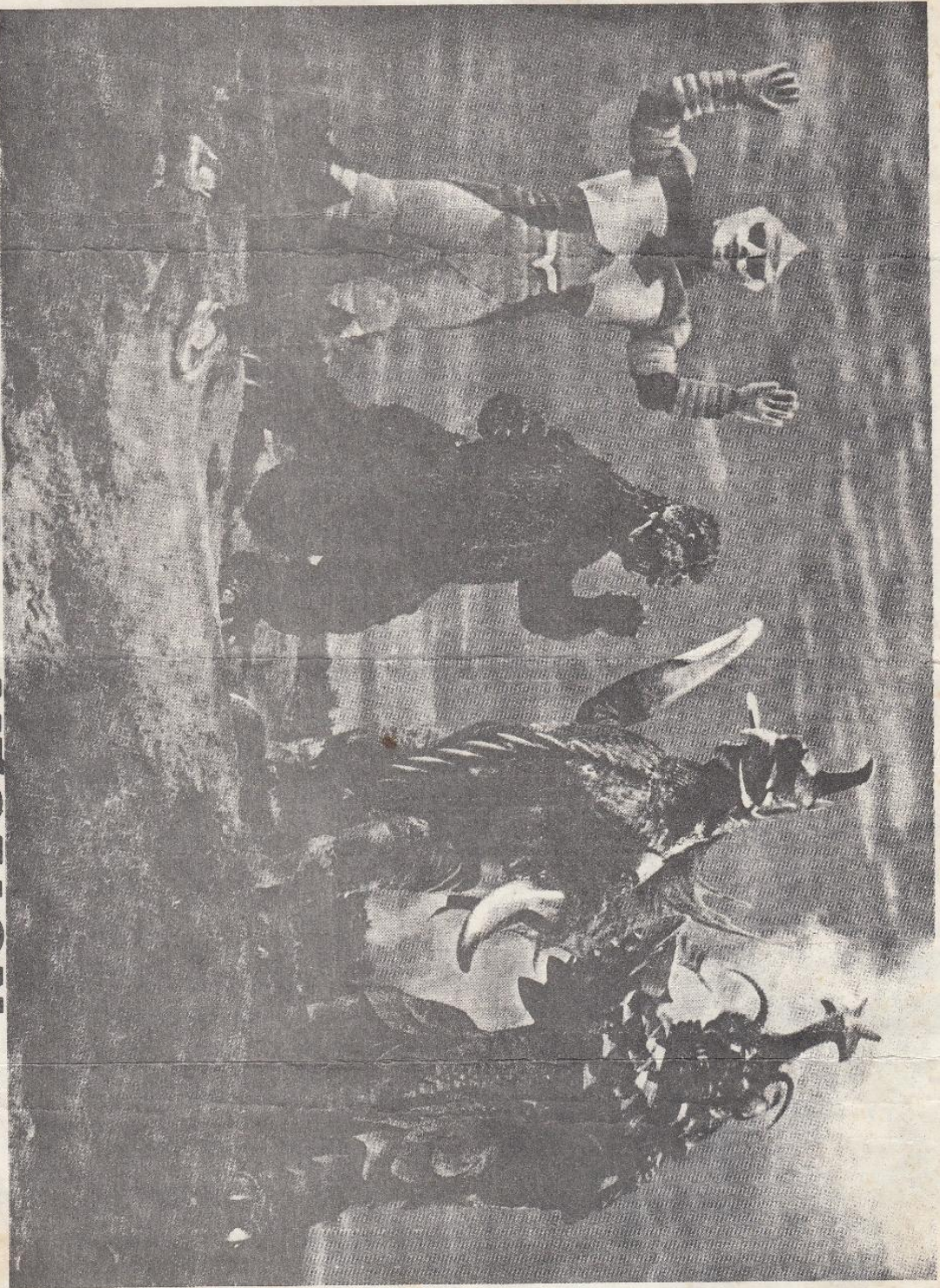
Characters are copyrighted by Toho and any other Japanese film companies. Richard Campbell, publisher and president; STAFF: Wayne Smith, Dave Milner, DSSKS, Mark Rainey, Bill Gudmundson, and Mrs. Emma Peel. This issue is dedicated to Mark Rainey, Bill Gudmundson, and Mike Paul, for setting me straight on on many number of things. Thanks alot, heroes!

GODZILLATORIAL!

I am typing this up in late March, but I suppose it really should be an April issue, since that's when most of you will receive it. But that's neither here nor there: To be frank, I feel that, as a publisher, and a president, of The Godzilla Fan Club, I have failed. Because, as many astute readers have pointed out, there have been many mistakes made in TGFL. I feel that as president of TGFL, I have let you down. I am ashamed. But fear not! Thanks to Mark, Bill, & many others, we now have a list of corrections! As Bill said: "If you like Godzilla as much as you say you do, you should print every single correction so people don't get the wrong information about these things." Truer words were never spoken, Bill, and since I really do like the big G and all Jap. monsters, here we go with a list of corrections. (And I am sorry that there are so many). Corrections for issue one: Forrest J. Ackerman is not the founder of FM, James Warren is; In the original "Godzilla", the big G did not have "big floppy ears", nor did he have too big of a mouth; he isn't 500 feet tall - in his first film, the big G was 394', approx. And in all his other films, he is 164'. The monster "Gigantis" is the real Godzilla; he is the same Godzilla in every film right up to 1977; the Americans just gave him a different name; so Gigantis is just another name for Godzilla, and he is NOT, repeat, not, a female. There has never been a female Godzilla in any film. There is no real monster named Anulis - his correct name is Angilas, not Anulis, Anguras, or Anzilla, but just plain Angilas; Baragon is brown, not black: The Brown Gargantua is Sanda - the Green one is named Gailah. I tried to explain this in #3, but got the names reversed; The correct spelling for the newest Toho monster is "Chitanosaurus"; most of "The Powers Of Godzilla" in #1 is wrong, thanks to a con man, Steve Luscalzo. The big G weighs 20,000 tons; his eye color usually always changes, though his pupils are always black; has no X-Ray eye power; Does not get his breath-power from the sun; does not get energy from others; Can understand all languages, but can only speak in monster talk; Minya is not 150' - in "Son" he was 58'; in "Destroy" he was 114'; and in "Revenge" he has the ability to change sizes by will alone; The Giant Octopus is called Dai-Dako, which simply means 'Giant Octopus' in Japan; and that clears up the mistakes for issue one, I hope! In #2: The big G is dark grey, he is not green; In issue #3: The artwork in #3 was not done by Charles Howarth, it was done by Big Bob Johnson, and I apologize; The twin Aliens are not 2" - they are 6; Kira is really spelled "Keyra", known in Japan as "Jiras"; Mothra is 15,000 tons, not pounds; Also: Gigan and Ghidrah are NOT related. No errors in #4 - most fans enjoyed it the most. For other corrections, please see "Godzillatorial" in issue 3. All of which, of course, is leading up to a big announcement: This is the very last issue of TGFL. Besides all the errors that I made, there is a better reason why this is our last ish: Simply not enough response. Yes - due to lack of response, we've decided to cancel TGFL. To all those that I owe money: Don'y worry - you'll all get it - along with my thanks for your support! I feel TGFL was, over all, a success, besides our spelling and other mistakes. I think our contributions out weighed our errors. And it was fun - and isn't that what it's all really about. Be Godzilla-seeing you--some day!



R.C.
R.C.



GODZILLA vs MEGALON

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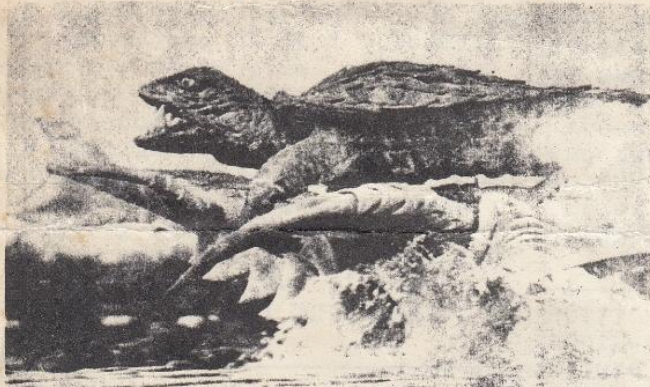
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his first one; THE RETURN OF THE GIANT MAJIN was second; and his last one was MAJIN STRIKES AGAIN. One of Toho's lesser known monsters—fact is, I can't even find a pic of the big mug!

Below: A still from GAMMERA VERSUS ZIGRA (1971), just two of the many Jap. monsters that we never did get around to discussing. Oh, well — maybe next time, some day...!



RIGHT: A
DRAWING
OF CHITAN-
OSAURUS,
BY BILL
GUDMUNDSON.



ITEM! Last time around, we laid a hint on you about a new title in the works, namely, He's green and mean and leaves an imprint on the scene. All those who thought it might be ANGARA, THE GIANT CELERY STALK WHO WALKED LIKE A MAN get an "A" for imagination... and free psychiatric counseling. No, we were hinting about none other than GODZILLA, the mammoth movie monster whom we think is going to be every bit as big (Ouch!) in comics. In about two months, you'll be able to judge for yourself, as that's when it will be on sale. In the meantime—after some editorial huddling with ARTFUL ARCHIE GOODWIN—writer DOUG MOENCH and artist HERB TRIMPE are pouring their talent, soul, and enthusiasm into the frantic first issue. The series is going to be all original material, not adaptations of any

of the movies (though, naturally, we're going to be drawing on the Big G's background from the films), with both brand-new continuing characters as well as some old familiar faces from the mighty Marvel Universe (and just who they might be we're going to hold off telling just to save a few surprises for you). With the new ideas and directions we have for GODZILLA, this just might possibly be the fun book of 1977... but don't believe any rumors you hear that the first thing we did was to have art director JOHNNY ROMITA design a costume for the gargantuan one!



Minya's Mother!

In issue 3, Godzilla Fan Colleen Hartfield asked us about Minya's mom, in short, who was Mrs. Godzilla? And, after extensive research, by ye editor and the TGFL staff, we have come up with the answer. See, Col. Mrs. G was, natch, a breed of dinosaur. She became Godzilla's mate during prehistoric times. She laid several eggs on Solgel Island. Then, King Ghidrah came to the earth for the first time, and killed Mrs. Godzilla. Ghidrah destroyed all but one of her eggs. Old 3 heads then caused a volcano to erupt around the big G himself, entombing him in lava, where he is put into suspended animation, until 1954. The only surviving egg was also put into suspended animation. Ghidrah then put a lot of other monsters in boiling lava, preserving them, until he finally went into outer space again. The rest is history: the egg was hatched in 1967, when Minya was born! This also explains why Godzilla was willing to fight Ghidrah in 1965. Though this was told to me by M. Rainey and B. Gudmundson, it is a theory of Mr. Stan Timmons, from his publication The Godzilla Antagonists: A Summing Up. Sounds good to me, friend, so that ends that. Hope we've answered your very good, intelligent, thought-provoking question, Colleen.

JFFJ

With the demise of TGFL, where, you ask, can we fans find new info on Godzilla and all the Jap. Monsters? Where indeed - JFFJ. It's the Japanese Fantasy Film Journal. This is the fanzine for Jap. monster fans. Possibly best zine around - much, much better than TGFL was. JFFJ is an offset publication, right now is on #12. It's published by Greg Shoemaker, and costs \$1.00 per copy. And it's worth twice that much. Each issue is around 48 pages - sometimes more! And all for a buck! How Greg does it is beyond me. Any way, Greg needs orders for #12, so let's all help him out, okay? (Top).

If we all order a copy of JFFJ #12, it will really help Greg out - and it will speed up the publication of #12. So take my advise - send \$1.00 to Mr. Greg Shoemaker, at 3235 Collingwood Blvd., Toledo, Ohio, 43610 and ask for a copy of JFFJ #12, whenever it's finished and ready for mailing. And tell him the Godzilla Fan Letter sent ya, okay, heroes? Believe me - you will be more than satisfied!

NEW NEWS!

...the new monster in THE REVENGE OF MECHAGODZILLA, named Chitanosaurus, can create whirlwinds with his tail, comes from the sea, weighs 3,000 tons, 60 meters tall, and is Godzilla's foe....!

...the giant insects in Rodan were called MEGANURON. ...the giant bird in GODZILLA'S REVENGE and GODZILLA VERSUS THE SEA MONSTER is named GOVY....!

NBC-TV ran GODZILLA VERSUS MEGALON on March 15, 1977, and cut it to hell....down to 60 minutes....with Mr. John Belushi in a Godzilla suit....then, on March 19 on NBC's Saturday Night Live show, Belushi wore the big G suit again, as he was interviewed, played for laughs, of course...rather disgusting, isn't it? Over in Japan, in 1974, they ran a Godzilla TV special, in celebrating his 20th anniversary, and showed cuts from all his past films, and previews from GODZILLA VS. MECHAGODZILLA....! Marvel's GODZILLA comic has already debuted, and is a knockout...GODZILLA VS. GIGAN still not released in USA, would advise writing Toho, demanding it's release, see their address in #3, who knows? It might even work...GAMMERA VS. ZIGRA, a 1971 film, still hasn't been in the USA yet...shesh. GODZILLA VS. BIONIC MONSTER is to see general release this summer...watch for it! LOGAN'S RUN to get a TV series, maybe, in 1978...THE FANTASTIC JOURNEY on NBC is great sci-fi action...ditto the more-funnier but just as good FUTURE COP on ABC...and finally, news from Bill Gudmundson tells us that the big G has made his 17th film in Japan...to use Bill's exact quote: "It is suppose to be a serious film, in the grand old style of the old ones. It is a remake of the original GODZILLA! I kid you not. It was released in Japan in 1977...to get away from the kiddie image...I sure hope so..."...terrific. Just another film that probably won't be seen in USA until 2001...and Howard the Duck ducks on. FINI.

LOOSE ENDS!

Looking back on issues one thru four, we find we never did complete our Godzilla Encyclopedia listing, in issue One. Sorry - can't help that now. And the Godzilla comic strip goes unfinished, too. Those are the breaks, kids -- but, hey, if TGFL ever does start publishing again...you'll be the first ones to know, okay? (If I can buy a good, cheap, copier one of these days....!) GODZILLA LIVES!

ONE LOOSE END: TIGHTENED!

...Found out about Majin. He's a legendary stone age monster that comes to life to use it's power against unjust rulers. 49' height; 50 tons; has made 3 films; MAJIN, THE MONSTER OF TERROR has

(OVER)