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JAPANESE GIANTS FAN LETTER

JGFL- The Japanese Giants Fan Letter is published monthly by Brad Boyle at PO Box 8168, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108 and by Dave Milner, at 34-16 86th Street in Jackon Heights, New York, 11372. This issue is issue three, volume one. SUBSCRIPTIONS: one issue: 10% + a 13% stamp or 25%; four issues 40% + 4 13% stamps or \$1.00; one year \$1.00 + 12 13% stamps or \$3.00.

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the third issue of JGFL. I hope all of you who went back to school in September are doing well. Most of you liked JGFL 2 better than JGFL 1 because it was more organized, which it was. You all seemed to like my article on Chitanosaurus; I hope you like this issue's article on Angilas as well.

The New York Daily News recently printed an article about Godzilla entitled "Making it in the Movie - how a lizard became a matinee idol". It is surprisingly well written, and it's very informative. I have just my copy of this article, but photostats are available from me at \$.25 each. Believe me, this is reading you wouldn't want to miss.

JGFL 4, as you know, will feature an article on Gigan! JGFL 5 will feature an article on either Rodan or Mothra, depending upon which monster gets more mail. For December's JGFL 5, the feature monster will be none other than the granddaddy monster of them all, Godzilla!

REVIEW OF GIANT JAPANESE MONSTERS

I'm working with Dan and the gang on GJM 2 now, but I thought I'd take time out to tell you about the first issue. Bob Colwell's cover artwork isn't so great, but I'll discuss the artwork later. Upon turning the cover page, a credit and contents page is to be seen,

As you know, JG 4 came out over the summer. I got a few letters about it; you all seemed to like it very much, especially Bill Gudmundson's monster footprints. I hope Bill can get some other monsters! footprints in the future.

In JGFL 2, Brad asked you guys for some articles. In case you can't' get any ideas - here are a few. A "Godzilla vs. the Cosmic Monster" critique similar to mine on "Megalor", a review of the suits at Toho or Daiei, the mentality of the later (or earlier) Godzilla films vs. the Gammera films. Use your imagination! As you may have noticed, I don't do artwork. Why? Because I can't. I've written to a few fans who say if you can't do artwork or write very well, you can't really make it in the Japanese monster world. To quote Col. Potter (Harry Morgan) from M*A*S*H* "Horsehockey"! I'm not the greatest writer, as you can tell, but I just write. You can, too. There's not one reason why everyone can't contribute at least one article every so often. If you're article isn't used, send it to a different 'zine. Believe me, there is someone out there who will print your writing.

-- DAVE MILNER

with a pic of Baragon and a drawing of him. First is the editorial which takes up a lot of space, but doesn't really say much. "Oh Godzilla" is next, by Dave Hyshrall. It's a side long, and sort of like a commentary on the genre of Godzilla. Next page is photos of MechaG, Gigan, and one from Destroy All Monsters."

Next is a full-page illo, by Dave Myshrall of tiny monsters running from a giant person. It could have been done better, but the effect is still pretty hilarious. Next is a Gammera article taken straight from JG. A film news column is next. which is pretty informative. Next are reviews of the "Destroy All Monsters" 8mm film by Ken films & issue one of the Godzilla comic. These are a page long each, but since they're double spaced they seem to be ½ page each. Next is an un-original short story, by Dan. It is titled "Gojira". He's rewritten the original film, a little. Next is "Monsters in the Media" (guess from where) - this is a nice addition, featuring 3 newspaper ads. Next is a quiz page, with many mis-spellings. The next page features addresses of places having to do very little with the average fan's interests, except Brad's and Dan's interests. Next is an ad for Klaatu, and then a preview of GJM #2.

There are 20 pages in total, for #1.25. The artwork isn't too good; neither is the writing. ALL photos are cut-out from other zines. which is inexscuable. Well, I'm making an exception this time. So then, why should I buy it? Well, because it will probably will become a collectors' item someday, and because Dan needs buyers. GJM isn't that bad, but much help is needed and help is on the way! GJM 2 will feature: A film history of Angilas by Brad Boyle; blueprints of him by; Bill Gudmundson, and artwork on him. An article on the changes of the Godzilla suit over the years by Barry Kaufman, an original short story about the death of Godzilla by yours truly (I'm so nasty), a news column by myself, reviews of Kens' Ghidrah and Thing films by Dan, and more surprises. I hope you will all buy GJM, so it will improve. -- DAVE MILNER

Dan Murray's address is PO Box 63, Gardiner, Me., 04345. Copies availible from Brad Boyle too.

NEW NEWS

"Godzilla on Monster Island" is presently in release in the southeastern part of the country. Reportedly, it is doing very well. The film will be shown in New York City in either December or next July, depending upon when Cinema Shares can get the publicity campaign ready.

"Godzilla vs. Amphibion" and "Godzilla vs. the Alien Invasion" are the titles of two new records soon to be released by A. A. Wonderland records, Inc. They show the Big G "as a sort of latter-day Nickey Mouse", but you can be sure I'll buy them. I don't have a specific release date, or price.

The Mattel dolls should be out by Febuary, according to the article mentioned in the editorial.

Marvel's "Godzilla, King of the Monsters" comic is doing immensly wellit's Marvel's best selling book next to "Star Wars"! The current issue is 7, which promises to be a good one. If any of you aren't buying the comic because you've heard that it's childish, buy it! It's ment to be fun and exciting, like Star Wars, so why not enjoy it as much?

--dave milner

MORE NEWS!

According to Barry Kaufman, Toho had a small fire, probably ruining a costume or two. It will not, however, delay filming of "Rebirth of Godzilla".

And the book Dave mentioned last iss is out according to Dan Murray-more next issue on this.

ANGILAS

Welcome to JGFL 3's feature monster - Angilas! I hope you all enjoy this article as much as you liked my Chitanosaurus article. Angilas has been in four films to date: "Gigantis, the Fire Monster", "Destroy All Monsters", "Godzilla vs. the Cosmic Monster", and "Godzilla on Monster Island". In "Melia Spotlight" issue 5, an article was printed on the films Godzilla has made. It states that Embassy copyrighted the name of Godzilla, and since Warner Brother didn't want to pay Embassy for the use of the name, they simply changed Godzilla's name to Gigantis. (After all, Gigantis' publicity campain was run on a very small budget- Duo color one sheets, etc.)

In "Gigantis, the Fire Monster", Godzilla and Angilas are spotted fighting on an icy island off the coast of Japan by two pilots. They report there findings to local officials, who refuse to believe them. The two monsters soon appear in Tokyo where they continue their battle, which ends in Angilas' death. Godzilla is then trapped in an iceberg by the army.

"Destroy All Monsters" was Angilas' next film, after an absence of over ten years. In it, aliens from outer space called Kilaaks gain control over Angilas and the other monsters and force them to destroy cities around the world. Scientists break the Kilaakian control over the monsters (sound familiar?) and instruct them to destroy the Kilaaks. They, in turn, get Ghidrah to fight our monsters, but they easily defeat him. As you know, a "fire-monster" attacks Tokyo, but it is shot down by the SY-3, revealing that it was only a Kilaakian space ship. Godzilla then destroys the Kilaak base.

"Godzilla vs. the Cosmin Monster" was next. In it, Angilas bravely fights the awesome MechaGodzilla. Although he is defeated by the robotic monstrosity, he summons Godzilla and reveals that MechaG, disguised in a Godzilla suit, is a robot by ripping off a piece of skin which reveals the

titanium monster.

"Godzilla on Monster Island" is Angilas' latest film here in the U.S., though it was released in Japan five years ago. I haven't seen this film yet, but I know, as you probably do, that Angilas and Godzilla appear in Tokyo to fight Gigan and Ghidrah. Although I don't see how, Godzilla and Angilas defeat the two monsters, sending them back into space.

Now to Angilas' physical makeup. His head is rectangular, like a dog's. The mouth is slightly curved; it displays many small teeth and two very large fangs. Angilas' tongue is like Chitanosaurus' - long and thin. On the top of Angilas' nose is a large horn-like structure. Two large eyes are located at the rear of Angilas' head. There are several curved horns at the top rear of his head.

Angilas' neck, which is about six meters long, is very thick. It is ringed with indentations, caused by turning and bending the neck. Angilas' neck leads to his shoulders, from which extend his forearms. They are 10 meters long, and are tipped by feet which display four toes (actually, these

are the arms and hands of the guy inside the suit).

The back is covered by many spike-like structures, very sharply tipped. It is 22 meters long, and 12 meters wide. Under his back lies Angilas' abdomen, used for the digestion of food. Angilas' hind legs are located in back of his abdomen. They are 15 meters long, and are tipped by feet which display four toes. When studied closely, it is obvious that Angilas' hind legs are human, since they are always bent. This was especially noticeable in "Godzilla vs. the Cosmic Monster" when Angilas, beaten and bleeding, was scurrying away from MechaGodzilla. Angilas' skin is a tanish brown color. Angilas' spikes (on his back) are a lighter shade. Tannish in color.



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