

jgfl 5



JGFL- The Japanese Giant's Fan Letter is published monthly by Brad Boyle, PO Box 8168, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84108 and Dave Milner at 34-16 86th Street in Jackson Heights, New York, 11372. Subscriptions: 4 issue, \$1.00, postage paid; 12 issues (one full year) \$3.00, postage paid.

Hello! Welcome to JGFL #5. This is Brad, not Dave. I have several important matters to clear up. First, I'd like to confirm a rumor; JG #4 was my last issue of Japanese Giants. For those of you who had JG #5 reserved, you'll be hearing from me if you haven't already about refunding your money. The reasons for my decision are numerous. The main one, however, is that in a month I'll be living alone and money will be a chronic problem. And yes, it does take money to publish a fanzine. And time. After I get settled, maybe I'll take up publishing a full-sized fanzine again. But don't lose all hope. I will continue publishing JGFL.

Japanese Giants will not die, however. Mark Rainey, Bill Gudmundson, and Ed Godziszewski are planning to take over. Write one of them for more info.

Anybody got a better name for JGFL? If somebody sends in one I like, and decide to use, I'll give them \$2.50 credit off my list (free postage.)

It seems that there are a lot of new Japanese monster fanzines springing up out there. If you publish one, send me a copy and I'll review it in JGFL. Also let me know if you are interested in trading ads or/and flyers.

And I'd just like to thank all the friends out there I've made through JG. I think JG was very successful after all. Ask yourself: have you made any new friends through JG? And I think JG turned a lot of people on to Japanese monster fandom.

Well, it was fun, guys, and I hope it will continue to be so.

Oh, one more thing. If you find other stuff in with JGFL (like mini-zines, etc.) its because I'm trying to clear out my closet to get ready to move.

Until next month,

Brad Boyle

Last issue, JGFL had a listing of Ken films for sale. Well, we have found a more inexpensive place to buy sound films. Super 8mm, 200 feet, sound films, B & W, are \$13. Super 8mm, 200 feet, color, sound films are \$20. All films listed last issue are available. FREE postage, too! Order from: Discount Films Co., P.O. Box 74, Sea Bright, N.J., 07760.

Mattel's SHOGUN dolls are doing very well. They are currently the 4th best selling toy in the nation and they are selling out all over the country.

The GODZILLA book is published by Crestwood.

The GODZILLA record album is out! The cover is the same as Marvel's GODZILLA #1.

BIG SCOOP! Toho's address!

Toho Movie Company
1-14 Yuraka-Cho
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo,
Telephone (03) 591-1211

Many thanks to Dan Murray for this!

GODZILLA VS. MEGALON, GODZILLA VS. COSMIC MONSTER, & GODZILLA ON MONSTER ISLAND, as you know, have been released to TV. The station's contracts will permit them to start showing them the first of 1978.

Some more released dates: The Mysterians, May 1959; King Kong vs. Godzilla, July 1963; King Kong Escapes, August 1968.

A BIG rumor? According to Joe Degiorgio, publisher of GIANTDOM, there's a rumor floating around that Toho is trying to negotiate with Daiei about the making of a GODZILLA vs. GAMERA film. Anybody know about this?

Sorry that theres no feature monster this issue. As of yet, I haven't gotten the article from Dave, and I wanted to get this issue out on time. Next issue I promise!



KAPPA-

PART TWO

BY MARK RAINEY

REVENGE OF THE SEA MONSTER

Anderson thought for a moment.
"No, I don't think so."

"Well, Mr. Nakato and I are going to sail down to Kuro first thing in the morning. We'll have a team of divers to search for any signs of wreckage. We thought you might like to join us, since you are fond of diving. And you might be able to help out."

"Of course, I'd like to. I mean, if you think I should..."

"By all means," said Nakato. "We leave tomorrow at 7:30 in the morning. Pier A. I hope to see you then."

"Yes, I'll be there. See you in the morning."

At that moment, the phone buzzed. Iwanaga picked it up. "Yes? Iwanaga speaking...oh? They are?... Okay." He put down the receiver and turned to Nakato and Anderson. "The rescue ship is calling in. Let's go to communications."

The three exited the chief's office and turned down the long hall leading to the radio operator's switchboard. The three men anxiously burst through the door, to hear the message from the rescue ship coming in at that very moment. The speaker crackled for a moment, then a metallic voice introduced the ship, to be followed by a series of morse code bleeps.

"This is the Togami Maru Rescue. We are in sight of Kuro island. There are pieces of wreckage strewn over the water. This must be the spot where the ship went down."

Nakato picked up the microphone connected to the switchboard. "Attention Rescue. This is Nakato speaking. We are monitoring you from communications office here at

Tokyo Police. What is your exact location? Over."

There was a momentary pause. "Latitude North, 35 degrees, 22 minutes, Longitude East, 142 degrees, 17 minutes. Two miles west of Kuro Island. Over."

Nakato studied the chart of the Pacific that was on the wall over the top of the radio console. He drew a mark on the chart with a pencil at the coordinates called out by the rescue ship. "Roger, Rescue. I've got you marked on the chart. Over."

Suddenly, another voice came over the speaker. "Calling Tokyo Communications. This is Pacific Office. We have you on our band. We will maintain contact with you. Attention Togami Maru: check your sonar bands. You should be able to locate the ship at the bottom. You are still over the continental shelf. Begin at level twenty-five point three, at one-fifty-two feet. Over."

"Roger, Pacific. Search has begun with sonar. We have picked up the ship, also a moving object about 85 meter in length. Looks something like a whale, but it's much too large. It's moving steadily at a rate of two point four knots. Over."

"Rescue, this is Tokyo," interrupted Iwanaga, taking the microphone from Nakato. "Can you relay a visual signal? Over."

The voice replied. "Affirmative. All right, relay channel has been switched. You should be receiving video. Over."

On the small television screen in the center of the console, a white outline appeared against the dark background, like white ink on black paper. The object

The object moved with a flowing motion, with a swaying, tail like projection at its end.

Anderson and Iwanaga scrutinized the object intently. "Humm," murmured Anderson. "The shape is very odd. It's big all right." He studied the small numerals running along the vertical and horizontal edges of the screen, which showed the object's size, related to the other objects in the picture.

Nakato stared, transfixed, at the screen. "Giant squid, maybe?" he suggested.

"No, I don't think so...Hold it!" exclaimed Anderson. The image on the screen was slowly rising from the bottom of the picture. "It's going to surface!"

Out at sea, on board the Togami Maru, the crew of the ship scurried to the rails along the sides to watch a huge, churning water-spout spewing from the water. It slowly subsided, and as it did, a bright light exploded over the sea. The Togami Maru blew up in a flash of smoke and flame, flinging pieces of burning wreckage into the sky. In seconds, there was no trace of the ship except a few pieces of smoldering debris and a boiling ocean.

Early the next morning, a large yacht appeared on the horizon, in the distance from Kuro Island. As it rapidly approached the island, a large group of natives gathered on the beach.

"There it is, Jim," said Chief Iwanaga to Anderson, pointing to a good sized island off the starboard bow of the yacht. "Kuro Island. That means we would be right over the site of the first sinking."

"Yes." He pointed to some small, almost unnoticeable shreds of and metal floating beneath the boat. "There are some small bits of debris scattered around here." He motioned at the pieces of wreckage and said, "Let's send the men down

now."

Nakato nodded. "All right."

A few minutes later, Anderson and four other men had donned wet-suits and oxygen tanks. Anderson adjusted his mask and cleared the face-plate. Iwanaga helped him with his fins. "Ready, Jim?" he asked.

"Yes."

"All right. If you get into trouble, you've got flares. We'll see them and pick you up. Good luck," said Iwanaga, watching the men preparing to descend.

"Thanks, Chief," replied Anderson, and he motioned for the rest of the men to get in line. "Let's go."

One by one, the men jumped into the water, and waited on the surface until the last man was in the water. Then, all together, they dropped down below the surface and slowly descended. Kicking regularly and easily, they made slow progress, without tiring themselves out. Anderson glanced at the depth gauge on his wrist. It registered forty-five feet. The bottom was over one hundred and fifty feet down. Every few minutes, the men would pause, allowing the air pressure to equalize, thus preventing the chance of getting the bends. After fifteen minutes, Anderson could see a layer of sand about twenty feet below. The divers slowly sank, finally touching bottom. Each man has a powerful light on the front of the belts from the oxygen tanks, and at this depth, they were needed. Even with the light, the men could only see a few feet in front of them.

Suddenly, there was a movement off to Anderson's left. A large grey Bull Shark, about nine feet long, lunged toward Anderson. He diverted it by planting his fist in its snout. The shark turned away, and circled for another attempt. By this time, Anderson had pulled out his long knife out of his belt.

MODEL REVIEW



Aurora's "glow in the dark monsters" series #466 is the 12-year old model of the "King of the Monsters" himself, Godzilla. A top-quality model in all area except design, this was the first (and the best) of the three Japanese Monster models.

Godzilla has looked different in every one of his films. This model is actually based on the 1964 Godzilla that appeared in *King Kong vs. Godzilla* in which the titan appeared rather "lizard-like." His head, tail and famous dorsal-spine still have retained most of the features of the classic original. This was Godzilla's third variation (*Gigantis the Fire Monster* being the second). The legs are a bit heavy and the arms are rather small, but the main problem is his waist -- somewhat slender on top and rotund at the stomach -- giving the beast a profound beer-belly look (no doubt

from dining on too many Japanese extras). Actually, that sardonic remark has its point. The cover box illustration is absurd. Godzilla is many times over-proportioned in contrast to the buildings below him -- that in itself is not unusual as far as monster drawings are concerned, but what is extremely inaccurate is the fact that he is shown with blood on his hands (human blood, I presume). The problem? I have never seen a Godzilla film where the "Big G" eats people as a food staple (besides, they're too small). The colors also look terrible (the glow-in-the-dark parts are painted yellow to clash with the green body).

Getting back to the model itself, the small buildings are nicely placed in the position of being demolished. "Zilla" stands nine inches high. The little "Godzilla" sign is a bit corny (who the hell

wouldn't know that's Godzilla? but it is a bit nice as well.

As for the "Glow in the Dark" optional features (feet, hand, head, spinal-fins, and tail) are okay in the measure I suppose (why should his feet glow?) but in daylight the plain white pieces look pale in contrast with the finished painted product.

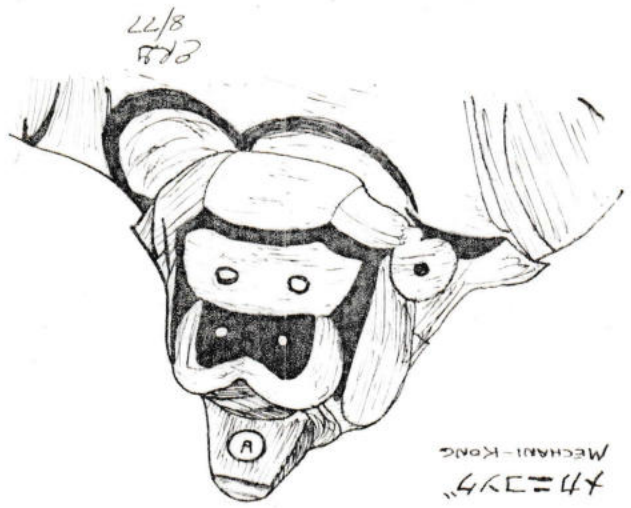
In summary, the model has some faults, but in terms of the sturdiness and quality of the pieces, and the fact that you glue it together rather than snap it together, it is a fine model -- and certainly superior to the "Rodan" and "Ghidrah" models. Well, what are you waiting for? Go out and buy it already!

The brief "text" that appears with the directions are of interest:

"Many years ago Japan was terrorized by a hideous monster called Godzilla. It destroyed villages and murdered countless numbers of people. No one knew where it came from but they surmised that Godzilla was a creature of prehistoric origin. As suddenly as it had come, the monster returned to the sea and disappeared, leaving a wake of death and destruction behind it.

Time passed and Godzilla became only a half remembered legend. In laboratories around the world seismographs recorded a disturbance in the polar regions. Japanese scientists took a submarine to the area of the disturbance. Radio contact on the mainland reported that the scientists found high radioactivity. A tremendous explosion was recorded on the seismographs. The submarine was never heard from again. Helicopters were sent to the site of the upheaval. They discovered the monster, Godzilla, which had burst from its icy tomb and was making its way to the coast of Japan. (Reference is made here to King Kong vs. Godzilla -- P.H.B.)

Military operations were set up on the beach in an attempt to turn the monster back



or destroy it. They were not prepared for the sight of so ghastly a creature, nor were they prepared to fend it off. Bullets and projectiles had no effect on Godzilla. With a mighty roar Godzilla breathed out a flame like a gigantic blow torch which completely destroyed the military operation. The monster made its way inland destroying everything in its path. One sweep of its tremendous tail completely demolished tall buildings. The earth shook with the weight of its steps. Anything in Godzilla's way was seared by its highly radio-active. People fled in terror. There was no human way to stop Godzilla (a great line-- P.H.B.) An enormous rumbling sound was heard. The earth began to shake with violent tremors. Cracks appeared on the surface. The tremendous weight of Godzilla caused the earth to shift and then to open. Godzilla disappeared into a great crevasse. As the earthquake continued, the ground shifted again and the crevasse closed, burying Godzilla under tons of earth and rocks. But was Godzilla destroyed or only thrown into suspended animation until another earthquake could set him free? (Godzilla never disappeared quite in this fashion; though he did "pop" out of the earth in Godzilla vs. the Thing -- P.H.B.)

WANTED: Stills or pictures of Mandagilas-Gigas-Zigra-Gigan-Megalon or Chitanosaurus. Will pay reasonable prices for a person on a \$2.00 a week allowance. Eric Johnson, 193 Seaward Ave, Bardonia, Pa., 16701

Wanted by collector: Radio pre-mains, Toy soldiers, & Boy scout items. Paul Stadinger, 239 North 9th Street, Allentown, Pa., 18102

For Sale: Very limited supply of 35mm film clips - Mysterians, Godzilla, Atragon, God. vs. Thing, Megalon, Ghidrah, Destroy all Monsters, Frankenstein C. the World. Set of 8 \$1.00 + 13¢ postage. Also looking for any posters, stills, 16mm films, books, vinyl dolls, etc. of Japanese monsters. Will buy or consider trade from large collection. Ed Godziszewski, 5847 North Markham, Chicago, Illinois, 60646

