

SPARTACUS

FOR GAY MEN

WORLD REPORTS

Australia, France,
Indonesia, Japan,
Philippines, S. Korea

GAY TRAVEL

USA, Tunisia,
Hungary, Argentina,
Athens, United Kingdom

HEALTH - Poppers and AIDS

BOOKS

CALENDAR OF GAY EVENTS

CLASSIFIED

number 6





SPARTACUS

*An International Magazine
for and about Gay Men*

Number 6, January 1983

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WORLD REPORTS

INTERNATIONAL

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL recently went on record as opposing forced medical treatment to alter sexual orientation. When its International Council met in Rimini, Italy, in early September 1982, the organization re-affirmed its opposition to torture or capital punishment for homosexual (and all other) acts and stated its willingness to take up the cases of persons imprisoned for advocating homosexual rights. It then extended its mandate to include opposition to medical treatment given by force in order to change sexual orientation.

Arguments on sexual rights questions, and about whether AI's concern should be extended to individuals imprisoned purely for being homosexual, have been going on within the organization for several years, revolving around the question of whether AI should come down firmly against governments having the right to make laws prohibiting private sexual activity. National AI groups in Holland, France, Norway and Luxembourg want to extend the mandate in this way but a global change in AI policy can only come when local resolutions are approved by representatives of all 40 AI national sections. This possibility seems to be receding, following comments from African, Latin American, and Asian sections that such a change might cause problems in Third World countries where religious tradition dictates that homosexuality still be regarded officially as a perversion.

THE GAY GAMES committee has moved to a new address. Following our note in the last issue of Spartacus Magazine, they tell us their new location is Gay

Games, c/o Pride Center, 890 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94117, USA.

The first Gay Games were a great success and ended on a financially healthy note. Planning for the future is now well under way, and the committee is seeking individuals willing to represent major geographical or population areas.

ANGOLA

"I RECENTLY visited Angola on a short business trip and thought my comments would be of interest", writes a correspondent.

"It is unlikely that anyone could obtain a visa to visit Angola unless going on business. All bars, restaurants, etc., are closed and only two hotels are open, mainly because food is in very short supply. Without local contacts who have access to hard currency or the black market, food cannot be purchased.

"Even if you could obtain a visa, Angola is not a country to be visited for pleasure; if you have to go, remember it is a Communist state and extreme care MUST be taken. The people are very friendly and it is safe to go out at any

*Unique circus event will help AIDS fight — see page 17.

In the next issue...

- Spain for the Older Gay.
- USA — Russian River, California.
- Gays and Child Custody.

time, but the midnight curfew is still in operation. The people are very poor and small gifts such as cigarettes, food or cheap clothing are much appreciated. Possible places of contact might be the beach and open-air cinemas, but I did not have time to investigate properly. All other places of contact listed in the Spartacus Guide should be deleted as they were closed down some time ago".

AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY The Eastern Suburbs are becoming increasingly unsafe for gays as high summer reaches Australia, and more people are out and about late at night. The number of muggings and serious attacks in the Green Park - Rushcutters Bay - Oxford Street area has risen to six a week, and is increasing in spite of mounted police patrols. Some of the incidents prove that the vicious punks responsible are planning their attacks carefully and, although homophobia is frequently a motive, it appears as though gays are also seen to be prime robbery targets.

The situation is not helped by the fact that those attacked often decide not to complain to the police - which is hardly surprising, given the disappointing official response to those incidents which have been reported. But statistics are important to police procedure, and while the authorities can continue complacently to deny that any major problem exists, because there are few complaints, they will not intensify their patrols or vigorously pursue the muggers.

AUSTRIA

KLAGENFURT We have heard that the BEL-AMI bar at Osterwittegasse 6 has closed. Spartacus Club Members should therefore delete this entry from their Members' Directory.

BRUNEI

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN One of our peripatetic correspondents has con-

tacted us from the damp green jungles of this humidly tropical sultanate on the north-west coast of the island of Borneo. Writing from the chief town - with its remarkable houses on stilts standing in the River Brunei - he was brief and to the point: "Gay life in Brunei is hard to find. It is not a tourist country and the Muslim government does not permit bars or night life (but liquor is available, nevertheless, in hotel bars). Residents here can find Filipino workers who have little to do with the low wages they receive, but I wouldn't recommend a stop-over here en route to Manila!"

We hear that as a prelude to preparing a new legal code, when the country gets its independence from Britain at the end of the year, the Sultan is seeking advice from religious leaders in Saudi Arabia about the introduction of Islamic law. Such laws prohibit alcohol, make stoning to death the penalty for adultery, and make provisions for cutting off the hands of convicted thieves. Somehow we do not think Brunei will be featuring in the 1983 Edition of the Spartacus Guide!

FRANCE

HOMOSEXUALITY is now legal in France for those 15 years of age, and older. This follows the repeal, last 27th July, of Article 331/Section 2 of the French Penal Code. Unfortunately, the liberalised law is surrounded by restrictions, and does not apply under certain conditions. Teachers, relatives, and others in authority over, or responsible for, young people under 18 years of age still may not have sexual contacts with them; other parts of the Penal Code still forbid the 'leading astray of youth' or the 'seduction of minors' - both badly defined ideas in French law. The police, prosecuting attorneys, courts, and certainly the media, seem to be less forgiving nowadays with anyone found having sex with boys under 15 years old. So travellers visiting France must be extremely careful as far as sexual relations with young people are concerned.

Public authorities seem to be a little

more indulgent toward gay lifestyles since the socialist government reminded police and courts that they may no longer discriminate between gay and heterosexual behaviour. Paedophiles are still punished heavily by the law, however, and are also condemned by public opinion, but they are organizing themselves under the umbrella of the French gay movement, which welcomes them. For the moment the French press is not censored, and gay radio in Paris (FREQUENCE GAIE on 90 mHz FM) broadcasts day and night.

Article 330 of the Penal Code is still applicable, however, and punishes homo- and heterosexuals if the police catch them making love in public places and, theoretically, in the backrooms of nightclubs, cinemas or saunas. But the police rarely intervene, unless the behaviour is outrageous. The French homosexual movement (often coordinated by CUARH: 'Comité d'Urgence Anti-Repression Homosexuelle') is working for the abolition of the 'public inde-

cent acts' and 'outrages on decency' laws, especially with respect to gay establishments. The GRED ('Groupe de Recherche pour une Enfance Differente') brings together militant paedophiles and issues the revue *Le Petit Gredin*.

FRENCH POLYNESIA

TAHITI "Life is expensive here", writes our man in the Islands, "and in the Society Islands it is worse. The gay who dresses like a man is called the 'Mahu', and the one dressed like a woman is the 'Raerae'. The HOTEL STUART, by the Post Office, is now closed. The most famous gay bar is the PIANO BAR (rue des Ecoles. Tel: 2 88 24), but the waterfront disco-bar LA CAVE DU ROYAL (Boulevard Pomare. Tel: 2 01 29) is frequented by a young crowd (18-24 years old), especially youths who are looking for gays. Although this bar is not gay, the current Manager is, and can give good information about the local gay scene."

CANADA

EDMONTON Even bulls do it! Local farmers, annoyed at constantly having to repair trampled gates and fences, asked scientists at the University of Alberta to find out why some bulls break out of their fields to go "hop on another bull" in the next pasture. Not only is this an expensive pleasure but also a dangerous one, as "the 'tops' fight for the opportunity to get at the willing 'bottom', and the bottoms host one ton-heavy bull after another, endangering their own well being".

Although escape routes have been devised for the 'passive' bull, the scientists have found this has not solved the problem since these 'gay' bulls apparently "want to be jumped" and

refuse to escape! Having naturally rejected the possibility that 'tops' and 'bottoms' are *both* gay, and should be left alone to have their fun, the researchers decided the bulls must be kept apart, even if the only way to do this is to "go in there with a horse and drag the crittur out with a rope". "It can happen in the best of herds," the puzzled scientists concluded. (Source: *Body Politic*)



GUATEMALA

EVER SINCE 'born again Christian' Rios Montt seized power in a March 1982 coup, Guatemalan gays have been wondering what effect this militant dictator would have on their lifestyles. The expected purge may already have begun: at a July meeting in Esquintla, army officials lectured the local authorities and business community about the need for a "moral and spiritual uplifting for Guatemala", and condemned hustlers — particularly transvestite ones — as "homosexual deviants".

This, in a country where Bernal Diaz, chronicling his journeys with Cortes, reported seeing statues which showed men in the act of sodomy. Indeed, it was the Vera Paz Mayans of Guatemala, in particular, who considered sodomy an act of the Gods and had the practice of giving boys to their sons. (Source: Vincenzo Remos, *New York Native*)

HUNGARY

"BLUE LIGHT" is a monthly 'criminal chronicle' on Hungarian television, in which the police interview convicted criminals, and also ask viewers to help them with unsolved crimes. The programme recently featured a gang of youths, arrested for beating and robbing Budapest gays. The youths argued that "homosexuality is against society and the family and must be punished. Since the authorities did not act, we decided to handle the 'gay problem' ourselves". Asked to explain his homophobia, the gang-leader claimed: "when I was only 11 a man wanted to persuade me to make love with him but I sent him to hell and since then I have hated homosexuals because they corrupt 'innocent' youngsters".

The programme explained that the gang used traditional entrapment methods: the most attractive boy contacted a likely victim by smiling at men apparently cruising the area around public toilets in the centre of Budapest. If a conversation resulted, the boy suggested

going with the man to a deserted place. There the unsuspecting gay was attacked by waiting gang members, and was beaten, usually slashed, and often raped. The gang denied the rape was homosexual intercourse, but could not explain why!. When they were compared to nazis, one youth responded: "I envy the nazi officers... if I had lived at that time I would have tortured the homos and the jews with pleasure". It took the police two months to arrest the gang, and the court sentenced all, even the youngest, to 6-8 years imprisonment. Some anti-gay violence still continues in Budapest, however, and visitors should note that the age of consent was changed last year from 18 to 20 years of age.

WE ASKED the Bör-Nemibetegondozó Intézet Hospital, in Budapest, about their VD treatment programme. A spokesman told us that homosexual patients "are treated kindly if they are not aggressive". "We have no overseas visitors", he said, and went on to complain that "homosexual males are very incommunicative; it is very difficult to find their contacts". If the address of a contact is made known to the Hospital authorities "we send letters to them to present themselves. If they don't appear after more letters, we ask the police to bring them to us!".

INDIA

BARODA The eunuch colony in Baranpura is in trouble. Their guru, Kanta Kunwar, has been arrested with three of his followers and charged with the kidnapping, castration and sex-conversion of a 16-year old boy called Mohammad Hanif. After being held by the eunuchs for three months, the boy escaped and complained to the police. They rushed to the colony and seized as evidence the *katari*, or long sword-shaped knife, which had allegedly been used in the emasculation. Hanif, long haired, girlish-looking, and minimally dressed in shirt and sari, was an object of great interest at the police station, where he was immediately

offered lodgings, and where a large crowd gathered.

Rumours abound that the group has operated in similar fashion on at least four other young boys. Police Commissioner Sibal, who has taken a personal interest in the situation and who has interrogated Hanif, intimated that "tremendous pressure was being brought by politicians and others to hush up the case. Nevertheless, the police would do their best to bring all the guilty persons to book".

INDONESIA

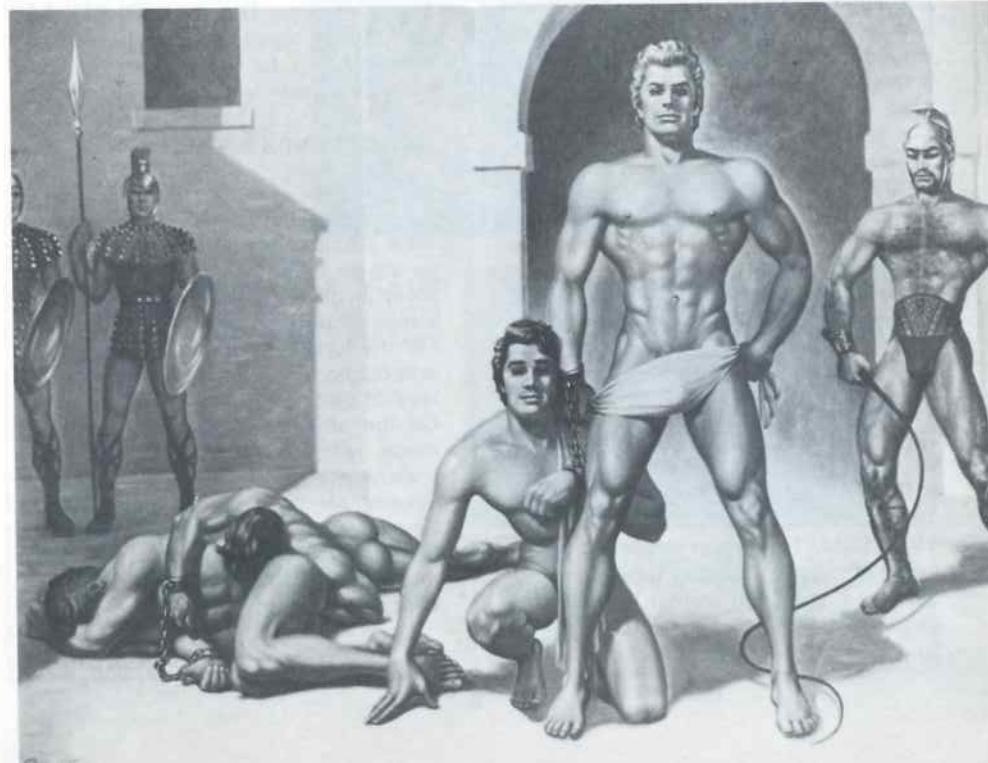
SOLO, JAWA TENGAH (East Java) We extend a warm welcome to LAMBDA INDONESIA, one of the newest national groups to fight for a change of attitude towards homosexuality. The organisation serves as a communications and contact point between emergent Indonesian gays and the international gay movements. The first two issues of their newsletter,

entitled *G: Gaya Hidup Ceria*, have appeared (with an English-language summary in each) and include, amongst other features, a list of members interested in corresponding with gay friends everywhere. One interesting point mentioned in *G: Gaya Hidup Ceria* is that *The Joy of Gay Sex* is currently being translated into Indonesian, even though there seem to be no plans to make the earlier heterosexual volume, *The Joy of Sex*, available in that language. Write: Lambda Indonesia, Kotakpos 122, Solo, Jawa Tengah, Indonesia.

IRAN

THE IRANIAN Parliament has redefined 'sin' and has voted to establish penalties for kissing for pleasure — 100 lashes; drinking alcohol; and homosexual behaviour. The number of lashes to be given for the latter has not yet been made public, but charges can be brought only if at least four males witness the sinful act.

"Slave Market" by George Quaintance (1952) — see page 28.



(Does this mean that a gay *ménage-à-trois* is safe in Tehran so long as one is not seen by even one admiring onlooker?)

RITUAL MURDERS committed by Khomeini and his régime, as punishment for various sexual "crimes", may already have been responsible for the deaths of 500 people. Late last year Norwegian tv-news reported two particular stonings to death in the much-bloodied name of Islam: one was a punishment for "infidelity", where a man had had sex with one girl while married to another; the other was for homosexuality where a man had paid a younger person to have sex with him.

IRAQ

BAGHDAD In a recent letter, one of our correspondents tells us "I have been working in Iraq for about 18 months and I'd like to comment on your Iraq report in the 1982 Spartacus Guide. Please add that the gardens along the Tigris — the Abu Nawas Park located directly behind the Ishtar Sheraton and Palestine Meridian hotel complex — are infested with big, ugly rats. I have personally had quite a few encounters with those bastards, even whilst I was having a good time! The park should be avoided as the rats are even in the trees!"

"By the way, the Iraqis go wild for blonde and light-skinned Europeans. Contacts are fairly easy but one must be extremely careful as there are lots of security police, who seem to be just about everywhere."

JAPAN

TOKYO Following our article 'The Japanese' in Spartacus Magazine No. 4, we have heard from the TOKYO GAY SUPPORT GROUP (Address: C.P.O. 1901, Tokyo 100-91, Japan. Tel: (03) 493-1636). The group includes a wide range of people, including foreigners and Japanese, men and women, young and old, and arranges social events and regular monthly meetings (which are con-

ducted in English). Because gays in Japan often have to socialise in bars, one goal of the group is to offer an alternative place for gays to meet and exchange information. If you plan to visit Japan, be sure to let them know well in advance and they may be able to offer you guidance.

NETHERLANDS

SINCE LATE September 1982, Dutch soldiers have been allowed to wear ear-rings. They are now awaiting a decision on what other jewellery they will be permitted to wear with uniform. In Holland, however, ear-rings are worn by a large number of young people and are not an indication of gayness! Homosexuals are welcomed in the Dutch military service, and being gay is no reason for deferment.

AMSTERDAM We hear that LES DIA-BLES restaurant (on the first floor at 4 Kerkstraat) is to close on 24th February, and that the SPIJKER BAR will re-occupy the vacant space, change the decor and add an extra "casual" bar with balcony in time for Easter. The main SPIJKER BAR will remain open during the upstairs alterations — let's hope we get some hunky workman in there!

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

ARUBA: One of our readers, who visited Aruba earlier this year, has this to tell us: "the Aruban gay community is comparatively small and gays there always meet at private parties, maintaining the strongest possible degree of 'discretion'. For the foreign visitor, it is likely that an introduction by a native will be the only way of getting to know the local scene. On the other hand, contacts are easily made with crews from visiting ships (nearly all South American, so some Spanish can be useful!) in the harbour of Sint Nicolaas: the best places being the harbour area itself and the bars in the main street of Sint Nicolaas. Likewise, contacts are easy in the harbour of the

...continued on page 10

I LOVE ASS



This intriguing sign, seen by ass-idious Spartacus Gay Guide Editor-in-Chief John Stamford near Stuttgart, translates into: "Ass — Entrance/Exit".



Being an ass lover (one might even say a g-ass-tronomel!), he followed the directions, and found a huge sign on the side of a factory, floodlit at night.



...which roughly translates as: "OLDHILL PLAYING-CARD FACTORY LIMITED"!

capital, Oranjestad, and again a knowledge of spoken Spanish is a distinct advantage." A visit to the roller-skating rink in Oranjestad, we are told, can provide some extremely interesting viewing, but our correspondent advises strongly against attempting to make contacts there. The roller-skaters can be found a couple of hundred meters behind the petrol service station on the left-hand side of the coast road out of Oranjestad leading to the tourist hotel area.

In Oranjestad every large hotel has its own casino, which are well worth visiting. There are no problems about membership: "just dress a bit decently and it will be alright". A further possibility of making occasional contacts is the square around the ABN Bank on Nassaustraat, after sunset and also near the Manchebo Beach Hotel.

By one of those curious coincidences that occur in this job from time to time, almost simultaneously we learnt details of what must be just about the only place in Oranjestad where the gay visitor can probably have a reasonable chance of an encounter: YVES' SNACKS (B f g M) at Noord 29 (Tel: 272 08) serves snacks and drinks and stays open at night. "Somewhat out of the way, and it is not a 'snazzy' tourist bar by any means", writes our correspondent, "being mainly a place for Arubans".

NEW ZEALAND

WELLINGTON The Dorian Society will be celebrating its 21st birthday during Easter 1983. Believed to be the oldest continuing gay club in the Southern Hemisphere, the Society is hoping to hear from former members who have memorabilia, or can throw light on some aspect of early Society history. If you can help, or wish to join the celebrations, write to The Dorian Society, P.O. Box 3755, Wellington, New Zealand.

PAKISTAN

THE LATEST country to succumb to Islamic hysteria is Pakistan. A presidential committee there recently decided that

'social evils' must be abolished. Thus, in a country with a 76% illiteracy rate, instead of concentrating their energies on feeding their poor and educating their children, the government may decide to institute the death penalty for adultery, fornication, prostitution and rape, ban ballroom dancing, burn obscene books, restrict pop music, set up innumerable agencies to safeguard public morals, and initiate 'storm action' against shops selling video cassettes.

President Zia's current attempts to "revive the moral values of society" have led him to "advise" the country's high courts that they should sentence homosexuals to be ritually stoned to death, and that theft can be punished by amputation of the hand. According to a report in a British newspaper, a young pregnant unmarried girl has been sentenced to receive a public flogging of 100 lashes when she has given birth, and will then be imprisoned for two years.

Of course, much of this reforming zeal may evaporate rapidly when someone points out the presidential committee also suggested that all civil servants be made to declare they will not accept favours.

PHILIPPINES

MANILA Reports and paper-clippings about a major man/boy sex crack-down in the Philippines began reaching us in early November. The Philippine Government, under pressure from various so-called born-again 'Christian' groups in Europe and the USA (to whom sex in any form seems to be anathema, and especially when it occurs between third-world youths and visiting tourists) initiated a nation-wide action to "arrest and deport all alien sex perverts". The situation seems to be wide-spread and extremely serious. Immigration and police officials are hunting for "homosexual tourist perverts" in Manila, Pagsanjan, Baguio, Angeles, Olongapo, Burakay, Aklan, Puerto Galera and Mindoro.

Almost immediately three Swiss tourists were arrested and, according to

the Manila newspapers, they were subsequently deported (see Box for more on this story); two were found in a Manila hotel with 14-year old boys, and reports say the third was seen "talking" to young Filipino boys in a major Manila shopping centre.

Apparently six boys were arrested and passed to the Ministry of Social Service and Development for "rehabilitation". A Philippine resident informs us that this means the youngsters are incarcerated in a prison-like Youth Reception Centre in

Manila — said to be short of food and medical supplies — where they are beaten and even branded by sadistic guards, raped by older inmates and released some weeks later with shaven heads.

One presumes that the fundamentalist 'Christian' groups that pressed for this purge are happy to see their principles so forcibly inculcated in the young: love, affection and sex are works of the Devil, whilst starvation, privation and brutality are God-given.

ARRESTED, PHILIPPINE STYLE

WE HAVE RECEIVED first-hand reports from tourists arrested in the Philippines. In one case, two tourists met a couple of youths in Robinson's Shopping Plaza in Metro Manila. The group were apparently followed back to the Victoria Mansion Hotel (in Ermita) by two other youths, who then made a call to the Immigration Police (whether because of jealousy they had not been selected, or because they hoped for a pay-off, is not known). Four Immigration Officers then arrived at the hotel and arrested the men. They forced the youths to sign confessions about sexual activities, that had not taken place, by threatening them with 50-day jail terms — conditions are known to be so horrific for youngsters in Manila jails that they will willingly sign practically anything to prevent incarceration.

The tourists, meanwhile, were made to sign affidavits admitting their involvement in sexual acts with the youths, and were told they would have to leave the Philippines within 32 hours. Later two of the Immigration Officers approached the tourists again, after they had been released from custody, and explained that "we are still friends" and "of course you do not have to leave; we can arrange everything".

On payment of US \$400 (only

American currency seems to be accepted for bribes in the Philippines) the deportation order was torn-up and the tourists claim they were guaranteed police protection. They therefore continued their holiday, and found they were permitted to entertain unlimited numbers of boys, undisturbed, in their hotel, it being generally known they were under "the protection" of the Immigration authorities. As part of the deal they were assured there would be no publicity about their case in the papers. This promise was not kept, however, as our clippings-file proves.

Since receiving this report, we have seen huge headlines appearing regularly in the Manila papers about "Alien Sex Perverts Hunted", and "Perverts Ordered Deported". On November 25th, under more screaming headlines, the papers named (and published pictures of) three British, an American and an Australian tourist arrested at Pagsanjan Falls Lodge, who were said to have "lured" 14 boys to their hotel rooms.

It is sad to see this sort of persecution taking place in such an idyllic place. Until there is a change of attitude on the part of the authorities in the Philippines, we can only warn gay tourists to act with *extreme* caution, or to stay away from the country altogether.

SOUTH KOREA

South Korea has a rapidly growing and increasingly important tourist industry — which will undoubtedly reach mega-proportions in the next few years during the build-up to the 1988 Olympic Games. It does seem, therefore, that a rapid increase can be expected in the numbers of Europeans, Australians, Americans, and other visitors from the Far East.

One of the most important features of life generally in Seoul, the capital city, to have changed recently has been the lifting of the curfew. One of our correspondents, however, still describes the whole country as being "a strict dictatorship." Another writer, who has spent some time in the country, tells us that "the gay scene in Seoul and South Korea has changed considerably since your last Gay Guide. The biggest change is the addition of many new bars and much more 'trade'. All bars have several young men who 'work' there, but also many who don't. Just ask; there is no need to be shy; they are not. Attitudes about sex generally are still very open except in large, expensive hotels such as Hyatt, Chosun, and Lotte. People have been asked to leave for soliciting. This, I think, is due to the 'clean-up' preparations for the 1988 Olympic Games and things may get worse. Outside Cruising is still very good for a Westerner."

On the subject of visitors to hotel rooms, all correspondents agree that this is an almost impossible object to achieve. The general consensus seems to be that if someone could get into your room, they would first have to show identification and be registered: a very discouraging fact of life. There is also a severe language problem: in the 1983 Guide listings for Seoul, we will indicate those bars where at least some English or other European language is spoken, but all our correspondents complain that very, very few Koreans have even a rudimentary knowledge of English: a somewhat surprising fact, considering that English is almost universally understood in the Far East and that South Korea has been subjected to heavy linguistic and cultural inf-

luences over the past 30-odd years from United States and, to a lesser extent, from Australia.

This situation was admirably summed up by one writer who wrote, "In my first four days, I met not a soul outside a hotel who could speak more than five words of English. In even the largest hotel, only the desk boys/reception clerks can speak any English at all. The Koreans are extremely handsome, yes, but where's the chit-chat to get them into bed?" Another correspondent considered that most of the Koreans who can speak some English are probably, or have recently been, "in the Services. I am told there are quite a few Koreans near the military bases who speak some English, but as a tourist you will not be allowed within miles of them!"

SRI LANKA

A LONG-TIME resident of Sri Lanka tells us that a Sinhala-language movie about homosexuality, entitled *Malata No-Ena Bambaru* (which roughly translates into "Bees That Do Not Come to the Flower"), is awaiting release. The film is described as depicting the problems faced by homosexuals in modern society, and the lead is played by character-actor Joe Abeywickreme (the Sinhalese "Dustin Hoffman", or "Peter O'Toole").

SWAZILAND

NHLANGANO Yes, indeed. From Darkest Africa come reports of a kindly welcome awaiting the weary and thirsty gay traveller who finds his way to Nhlangano — meeting Place of Kings (not to mention queens!). In the July issue of *Link/Skakel*, the excellent and informative magazine published by the Gay Association of South Africa, is an amusing account of a long weekend which members of GASA enjoyed in this unexpected locality. Watch for further details in the 1983 *Spartacus Guide!*

If you are a photographer, and can send us good quality black and white pictures for use in SPARTACUS MAGAZINE, we will be particularly glad to hear from you.

U. S. A.

FREMONT, CA. A sad sign of the times... the eight families living in Gay Street, Fremont, claim they and their children have been suffering ridicule because of the address. So they have persuaded the city council to rename their road Brookvale Court.

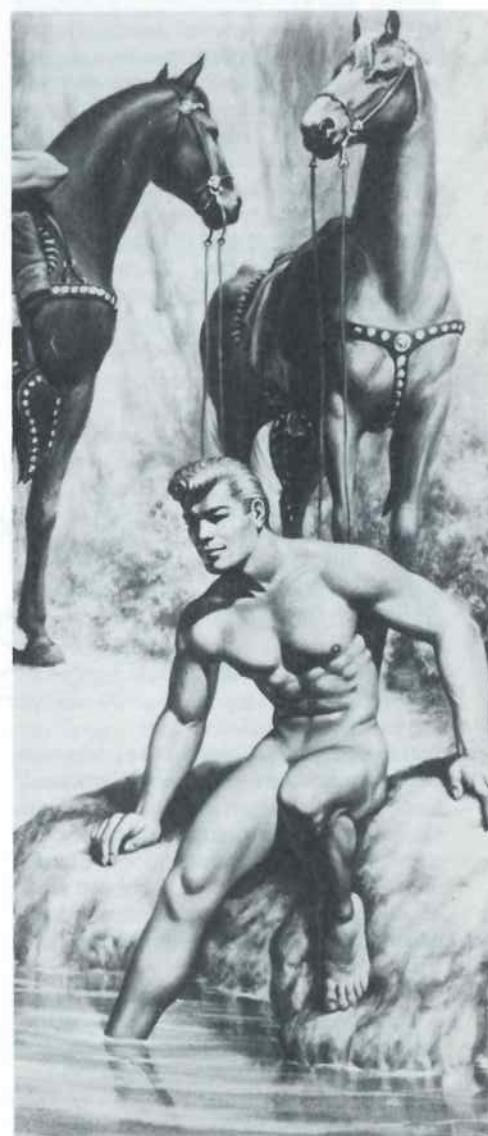
MIAMI, FL. A 'whole new ballgame' has just opened in the favorite sport of Americans of filing suit against each other. When Susan Liatrop of Miami discovered her pick-up had given her not only a night of pleasure but also a bad case of the genital herpes, there was no holding the girl. She called her lawyer, told him of her woes, and then filed suit against her bedmate for over \$100,000. Whether this case will set a precedent will depend on the outcome, but the motto is clear: it's best to check out your bed-mate before the fun starts, rather than spend time and trouble filing suits afterwards.

NEW YORK CITY, NY. Nazi-type violence is still alive and well, and living in New York in the form of some of the city's scruffy and undisciplined police. On 29th September 1982, some twenty uniformed cops staged an 11.00pm 'blitzkreig' against BLUE'S, a predominantly Black gay bar at 264 West 43 Street. Blood was spattered over the floor and walls as the attackers used billy clubs and blackjacks; twelve patrons, including a handicapped man and several women, subsequently required emergency hospital treatment. After beating and stealing from those present, the police apparently emptied the cash register and then proceeded to smash up the bar, bottles and sound equipment, causing an estimated \$30,000 worth of damage. Complaints were lodged and investigations have been started in the Police Department, the Mayor's Office, the District Attorney's Office, at the Human Rights Commission and the New York Civil Liberties Union. At a subsequent 15th October demonstration in Times

Square, many hundreds of gays protested the viciousness of the attack.

In one of those ironic twists that only seem to happen in New York, a few blocks away, in the Waldorf-Astoria

Detail from "Apache Lake" by George Quaintance (1954) — see page 28.



hotel's Grand Ballroom, former US Vice President Walter Mondale was host to 900 guests at a dinner which raised \$125,000 for the Human Rights Cam-

paign Fund, to be used to support gay candidates. It turned out to be one of the most successful American gay fund-raisers to date!

US POLICE WAGE WAR AGAINST "BARES"

MALIBU, CA. In the summer of 1981, the Malibu sheriff's department decided to 'clean up' a local nudist beach. During their campaign they arrested 541 people, more than half of them women. With the trials over, the score stands at: 12 persons convicted, 14 acquitted, 34 had their cases dismissed because they did not go to trial on time, 2 were dismissed for insufficient evidence, and 3 more because the courts lost the papers; juries disagreed in another 2 cases. The remaining people either ignored the summons, and now have outstanding warrants for their arrests, or paid fines by mail.

The whole lunatic exercise cost the taxpayers approximately \$400,000. According to defence attorney Stephen Yagman, 15 extra judges and two district attorneys had to be hired to handle the cases.

The crazy affair continues: the law prohibiting nude sunbathing is still on the books, and sun worshippers are still being arrested. Emboldened perhaps by minimal protests against their scandalous waste of taxpayers' money, the sheriff's department now often prevents those arrested from dressing. They are handcuffed and dragged, still naked, across the beach.

We cannot help wondering how long it will take for the naturists, the feminists, the civil libertarians and the great mass of taxpayers to effectively reassert themselves and demand an end to this ridiculous waste of time and money.



SALT LAKE CITY, UT. "Lo and Behold, Sodom and Gemorrah unfolded before my very eyes." You think you know who said that? Well, guess again! This memorable phrase was *actually* uttered some weeks ago by Sheriff's Deputy David Bishop, of the Salt Lake City juvenile tactical squad, when confronted by, as he put it "an accumulation of naked middle-aged men".

One has to make allowances for him, of course; Utah is the Mormon stronghold of America where, one presumes, nakedness is equated with hell and damnation. The excitement started when Deputies saw (*horrors!*) a nude motor-cyclist. With sirens screaming

they rushed in pursuit of this 'agent of the devil', finally catching up at a beach north of Saltair Resort, on the Great Salt Lake. There they found a "virtual Sodom and Gomorrah" of sun-worshippers.

When interviewed, police officers acknowledged that the situation was more a public nuisance than a criminal problem, but were quick to add (afraid, perhaps, that someone might be tempted to ask when they were going to start solving real crimes and stop wasting time and public money patrolling distant naturist beaches) that "a greater potential exists for violence" (wonder what *that* means? — *Ed.*) Indicating the appalling depths of depravity to which these Utah criminals go, an obviously shaken Sheriff's Lt. Joe Gee explained that "These guys get naked first and then drive around in their cars looking at each other!"

A SPARTACUS HEALTH WARNING

Poppers and AIDS

WHAT HAS HAPPENED since our warning note appeared in the 1982 *Spartacus Guide*? Unfortunately the sale of poppers has increased substantially: reputable discos are now selling them and reputable newspapers — like London's *Gay News* — carry advertisements for them. Poppers are money makers because price mark ups are huge. Bottles of amyl nitrite in England, for instance, cost about 75p wholesale and retail at £4.00. While selling death continues to be so profitable, a lot of vested interests will try to make sure that information about the health hazards is suppressed or ignored.

The truth is, however, beginning to make itself known. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington an organization chiefly concerned with the product's labelling, and its availability and use by adolescents — sent us a 413-page dossier. One recommendation reads as follows:

"Because the use of aliphatic nitrites is very popular, consideration should be given to making the manufacture and sale of butyl nitrite illegal. In addition, controls on the sale of amyl nitrite should be tightened." (Page 57 of the US Government report dated 27 July 1981 from Office of Progress Management to the Commission. Petition Ref. HP81-2).

The US Department of Health and Human Services Food & Drug Administration, Rockville, Maryland, sent us a 'talk paper' (Ref. T79-56 dated 11 December 1979). One extract states:

"Inhaling butyl nitrite may have a more serious effect, including... increased risk of serious developing tumors and increased risks of serious heart disease.... It is highly toxic if ingested.... In view of the abuse problem, however, FDA'S Bureau of Drugs is now re-evaluating that position to determine whether any action could be taken... and what regulatory

action would be appropriate.... FDA is aware of two deaths from butyl nitrite."

The Bay Area (USA) Physicians for Human Rights sent us a pamphlet dated 1 March 1982 which points out:

"Drug use becomes particularly dangerous with the use of toys, dildos, and fist-fucking; the sensation of pain may be significantly diminished if chemicals (including poppers) are used so that injury may occur."

The Newsletter of the National Coalition of Gay STD services (USA) Vol. 3 and No. 4, Feb. 1982, p.9 says:

"Dr William stated that in the USA, about 150 cases per year of Kaposi's sarcoma were coming to notice. Poppers alone, or with a virus, cause AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)."

The National Venereology Council of Australia wrote:

"...there is considerable world-wide interest in the relationship between Kaposi's sarcoma, male homosexuality, virus infections and drug usage."

Here at Spartacus we have discovered that, at the latest count, AIDS is suspected of having caused the death of more than 300 people in the USA and in several European capitals. It took almost two years for doctors to become convinced they were dealing with a new disease — one that can be sexually transmitted, and is possibly caused by a blood-carried virus — and then the Center for Disease Control, in Atlanta, USA, formed a task force of 30 top specialists, under Dr. James Curran, to undertake research into the problem. As an indication of the gravity of the situation, Dr. Curran has pointed out that this is the first documented community-acquired immunosuppression in history.

AIDS is unique — and deadly — in that it causes the victim's entire immune system to break down, so that he can

become infected by a whole range of extraordinary ailments. Everything, in fact, from a rare form of parasitic pneumonia, known as *Pneumocystis carinii*, to a particularly aggressive type of cancer called Kaposi's sarcoma — recognised by the puffy red-to-purplish lesions which appear on the body — which hitherto has been mainly restricted to residents of Uganda and surrounding areas. This 'switching off' of the immune system appears to be both permanent and irreversible in AIDS sufferers.

AIDS seems to be a completely new contagious disease, having no precedents in recorded medical history. It was first recognised in California and New York City, where young and apparently healthy men started dying as a result of their immune systems breaking down. To begin with, there seemed to be no single factor common to all the victims, but an "average-patient" profile was gradually developed. Those most at risk appear to be college-educated, white, male homosexuals, aged mid-20s to mid-40s, who regularly use a wide range of drugs — including amyl and butyl nitrite inhalants — and who follow a particularly promiscuous lifestyle, sometimes involving frequent multiple sexual encounters with different partners. This latter might suggest, perhaps, some common link through male prostitution. However, heterosexual patients and women are being affected increasingly, and Haitian immigrants in five different US cities have been dying from the same symptoms. To add to the problems, there are now reports that AIDS has spread to children: by the end of December, the Center for Disease control reported 22 possible cases (and some deaths) in children under five years of age in New York, New Jersey and California. The children appear to be offspring of high-risk parents; two were Haitian and the parents of two others were involved in intravenous drug abuse.

In spite of this critical turn of events, President Reagan attempted to veto a bill containing \$500,000 in funds earmarked for the Center for Disease Control's

research into the AIDS problem. The US House and Senate — who are obviously far more worried about the health of their constituents than is the President — voted to override this veto so that the funds could be added to the almost \$1.9 million the Center had already committed. Subsequent congressional bills were introduced demanding that the US immediately allocate another \$15 million in government money to this research, and \$2.6 million of this was recently granted to the CDC.

The fatality rate for AIDS is frightening; almost 80% of those who were diagnosed as having the disease in 1980 have since died. Added to this is the fact that the rate of new cases is high — there are now four each day in the USA — and seems to be increasing rapidly. Reports from participants at a San Francisco medical symposium on AIDS, held in late October, show that the number of victims is doubling every six months and there is no end of the spiral in sight. The latest count for the USA shows nearly 740 cases reported so far, and the National Gay Task Force has set up a toll-free telephone 'Crisisline' on (800) 221-7044 to provide counseling and up-to-date information.

This problem of AIDS is not restricted to the USA; there are already 20 known cases in Europe, spread between France, Denmark, Spain, Britain and The Netherlands. The Communicable Diseases Surveillance Centre, in London, has launched a nation-wide investigation to monitor any increase in the number of British sufferers from Kaposi's sarcoma or related symptoms. Plotting the incidence of the disease in Britain is made difficult because cancer statistics are maintained by the Office for Population Census and Surveys, and records of infectious diseases are kept at the Centre of Surveillance and Control, and nobody has so far collated the available information from both sources. In Bournemouth one of our Spartacus staff members had intended to do business recently with a hotelier, but couldn't: he was dead. Of Kaposi's sarcoma. In Amsterdam the illness has

also struck and another gay recently died here of the same disease.

Most of the reports we have received from overseas refer to the current situation as "a problem with an unknown horizon", and as "merely the tip of the iceberg", and have indicated the probability of wrong diagnosis in the past. Thus, the problem is probably worse than it seems. While the cause of AIDS is not yet known, Dr. Safai of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, in New York, cites the passive role in anal inter-

course, and other practices which may involve contact with fecal matter, as a chief risk factor for transmission of the suspected agent. Many health experts have also concluded that there is already overwhelming evidence to indicate that poppers, marijuana and other consciousness-altering drugs can depress the body's immune system. What is clear is that too many people who use poppers are dying. Poppers can be deadly — if you use them stop NOW. If you don't use them — keep it that way, and LIVE!

HAVE A NIGHT AT THE CIRCUS AND HELP FINANCE THE FIGHT AGAINST AIDS...

One way of keeping up-to-date on advances in the fight against AIDS is to obtain the *GMHC NEWSLETTER*, a substantial and informed publication, 25,000 copies of which have been issued by Gay Men's Health Crisis, Box 274, 132 West 24th Street, New York, NY 10011, USA. This is available free to US residents, but the publishers request a monetary contribution to help them continue their good works, and to cover production costs. Please be generous, therefore, when asking for a copy: when writing from outside the USA, remember the high postage costs involved in getting this 34-page publication to you.

The all-volunteer GMHC was founded in January 1982 to educate the public about AIDS and related health issues, and to raise funds for research. In the past six months they have distributed 250,000 copies of their Health Recommendation Brochure, and their Crisis Hotline at (212) 685-4952 now handles up to 100 calls a day. To speed AIDS research, they also recently awarded

\$50,000 in grants to New York hospitals.

This campaign is costing a tremendous amount of money, and to help raise another \$150,000, GMHC has purchased all 17,597 tickets for the Saturday night, April 30, performance of the Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus, at Madison Square Garden, in New York City.

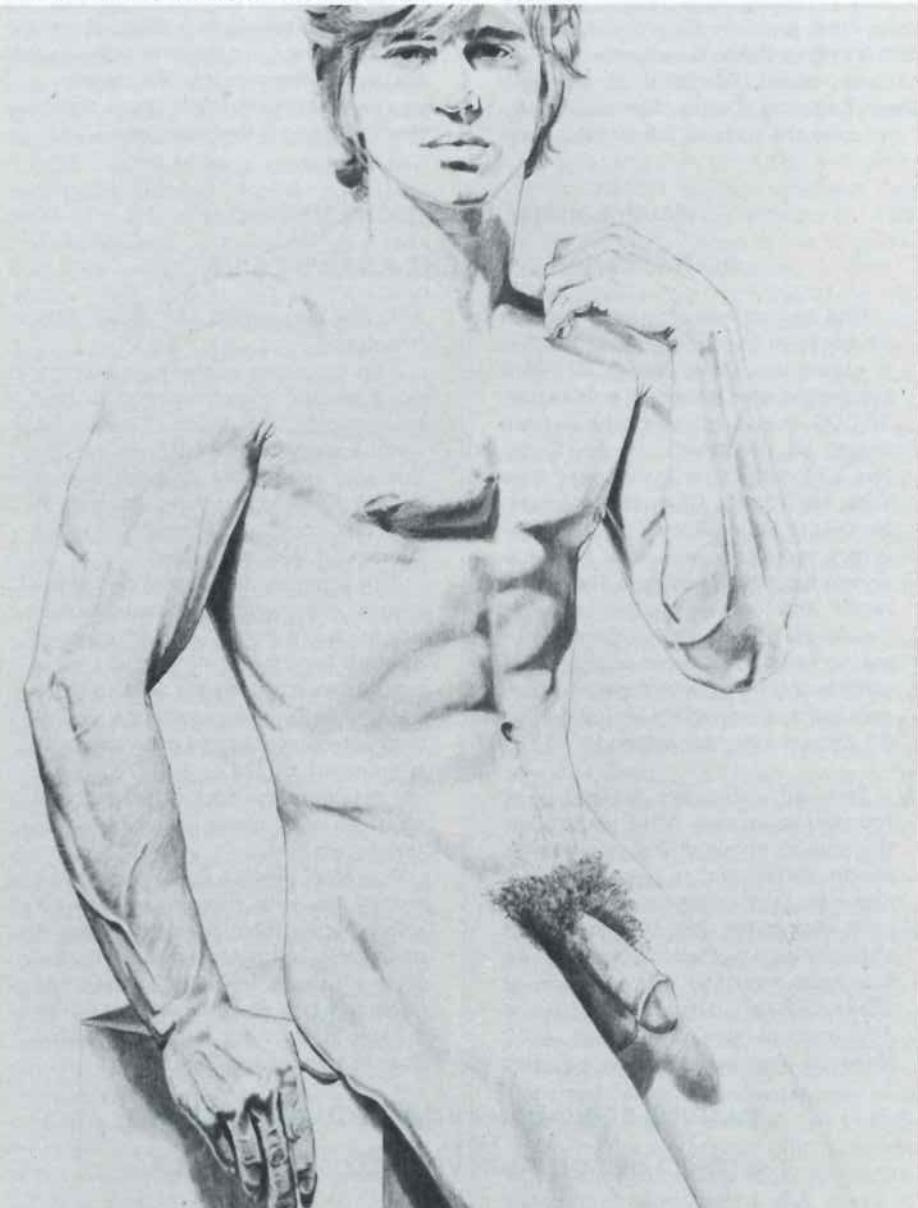
This promises to become one of the biggest gay events of all time; to participate buy a ticket — for yourself, or as a gift for a friend — for this special performance. Prices are \$25, \$15 or \$10. VISA and Mastercharge credit-cards are accepted and orders may be telephoned to (212) 807-7517 (for US residents the cost of tickets, and all other contributions to GMHC are tax-deductible).

Gay Men's Health Crisis needs your money and your support, so they are also offering three special categories of tickets, and holders will be invited to pre-Circus festivities. You can become a Lion (Benefactor) for \$500, a Tiger (Patron) for \$250 or a Teddy Bear (Sponsor) for \$100.

IMAGINE BEING IN MADISON SQUARE GARDEN WITH 17,596 OF YOUR VERY CLOSEST FRIENDS!

Artist and teacher Eric Bellmann, who is on the faculty of the Rochester Institute of Technology, New York, has prepared a series of these male studies, in pencil on off-white paper. The originals are size 20 in x 26 in,

and collectors may contact Mr. Bellmann at 75 Cobbs Hill Drive, Rochester, NY 14610, USA. He is presently seeking a gallery in the USA, or overseas, that will represent his work.



TRAVEL

AMERICAN ROUNDUP: WASHINGTON, DC

by Peter Glencross

WHAT A CONTRAST to New York! It's like being on a different continent. The New York Subway is undoubtedly the dirtiest in the world and Washington's one of the cleanest — carpeted floors, for example. Even the tramps that sleep rough at night look cleaner and better dressed. The streets are much cleaner and one feels safe to walk (troll) at night. It's probably best to avoid July and August as the weather tends to be very hot and humid.

The legal age of consent in Washington is 16, yet one has to be 18 before one can drink beer, and 21 before a drop of spirits can pass one's lips. The bars have a fairly good licence; they can open at 10 but they must close at 02 (03 on Saturday and Sunday). Male and female prostitution is technically illegal, but numerous escorts and masseurs advertise in the local gay newspapers.

The Washington GAY SWITCHBOARD 19-24, Tel: (202) 387-4348, is pleased to help visitors in any way it can. Housed in the Gay Community Center, it offers bridge meetings, general discussions and political meetings, so if you fancy a game of bridge or want to talk American politics, phone up and invite yourself round. As they expect to move to larger premises shortly, their address is not listed here. Phone to find out their location.

The ST. CHARLES HOTEL**** whilst not especially gay certainly welcomes gays and is highly regarded by the gay community. Very inexpensive despite the very large air-conditioned bedrooms, all with bathroom and wc en suite, and colour TV and telephone. The hotel was built in 1940 and has recently been refurbished throughout with art deco prints,

World War Two posters and pictures of personalities of the period. Another hotel is the CATHEDRAL HOUSE (not inspected but good reports). It has a choice of modest, inexpensive, and more luxurious higher priced rooms; breakfast is included in the price as is Washington's morning paper, the Washington Post. There are gay bars throughout the city but most are to be found in the NW sector, near Dupont Circle, in the area of the two above mentioned hotels.

Here are some of the bars worth checking out: FRATERNITY HOUSE (2122 P Street N.W.)*** a really swinging disco on two floors. If you like dancing or watching others dance, this is the place for you. The young and beautiful are to be found here, yet the older gay will not feel out of place. FRIENDS (21st and P Street N.W.)*** friendly piano-bar with restaurant; well-heeled clientele; dancing area; sing-a-song at the piano. MR. P'S (2147 P Street N.W.)*** a more down-to-earth bar with backroom on the first floor. Patronised by many goodlooking blacks. As with backrooms everywhere — watch your wallet; better still don't bring it or a watch with you. I certainly got a lot of attention in the dark of this room but whether it was to establish the location of my valuables rather than my essentials I don't know. A good time can be had here. At weekends there is a small Oriental contingent and several of the young black guys prefer older white guys and not for money. RASCALS (1520 Connecticut Avenue N.W.)*** friendly piano-bar with restaurant; well-heeled clientele; dancing area; on three floors.

THE EAGLE (908 7th Street N.W.)*** is a fascinating place. It opens early in the

day (11.00) and, like Eagle bars all over the world, has a special welcome for leather and levi people, MSC and motor-bike types. Others will not feel at all out of place here, and indeed at lunchtime men in three-piece suits will be seen at the bar. Women also come here too, but as the evening progresses they might find other bars more to their taste. When the place gets busy another bar opens up. At the back is a third bar, but this one has a dress-code — levis or leather. Upstairs is a restaurant with a big and inexpensive menu and this stays open late. This establishment is so successful that it is expanding into the premises next door. On the top floor is a levi shop which sells gay magazines, sex toys and has one of the best ranges of levis in the district. Try THE EAGLE early in the day — for lunch perhaps — if levis aren't your scene; later in the day if they are. For the benefit of motorcyclists and voyeurs, a TV camera is beamed onto the motorcycle park at the front of the building. It's fun to see who's admiring your bike!

Washington has GROW (Gay Restaurants Owners of Washington); many of the gay establishments belong to it and the organization works for improving standards, working together, and sorting out problems of mutual

interest. Such organizations are quite common throughout the USA but fairly rare elsewhere. It certainly seems like a good idea to work together rather than to pull apart. Well done GROW.

What could well be the world's largest gay bookshop, LAMBDA RISING (2012 S Street N.W., Washington DC 20009)*** has an absolutely enormous range of books on gay (including lesbian) subjects, and many magazines and newspapers too. It has just issued a comprehensive catalog of the titles it offers.

Washington has at least two free weekly gay publications: *Out****, a pocket-size entertainment guide with reviews of restaurants, books, people, stage and film, what's on and where; and *The Washington Blade****, a superb newspaper with high standards of reporting on local and national news of gay interest. The advertisements make good reading too and there is a gay directory. Whilst these papers are free if you pick them up in one of the gay bars, it is unlikely that they will be posted abroad free of charge. If you send a couple of dollars to LAMBDA RISING to cover postage and handling, I am sure they will send you a copy of each. *Bob Damron* and *Gayyellow Pages* guides cover Washington very thoroughly; both are obtainable direct from Spartacus.

NEW ORLEANS

FOR THOSE who know the LANES in Brighton, England, or love some of the old world French and Spanish villages, the French Quarter of New Orleans is all this, and more, rolled into one. Yes it has touristic shops selling brass bric-a-brac, T-shirts and other souvenirs, but somehow it's done with style and taste: Blackpool, England, please note!

The pubs can stay open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and many do. It is illegal to take a glass or can from one bar to another, but not a plastic cup containing liquor. Indeed pub tours are usually done with plastic 'glass' in hand. Every

bar provides liberal quantities of plastic cups at the exits for this purpose and it is perfectly in order to walk into a bar with your liquor in hand from a rival bar down the road. There are so many bars, almost all of a very high standard that it is not possible to do a review of them all. All I can do is list what turned out to be my favourites. All bars have 'happy hours' at varying times.

BOURBON PUB (801 Bourbon Street)*** — noted for its friendly service and most interesting and amusing video films (non-sexual, just good). There is a disco upstairs — THE PARADE***

SPARTACUS INTERNATIONAL GAY GUIDE 1983

EDITOR:
JOHN D. STAMFORD

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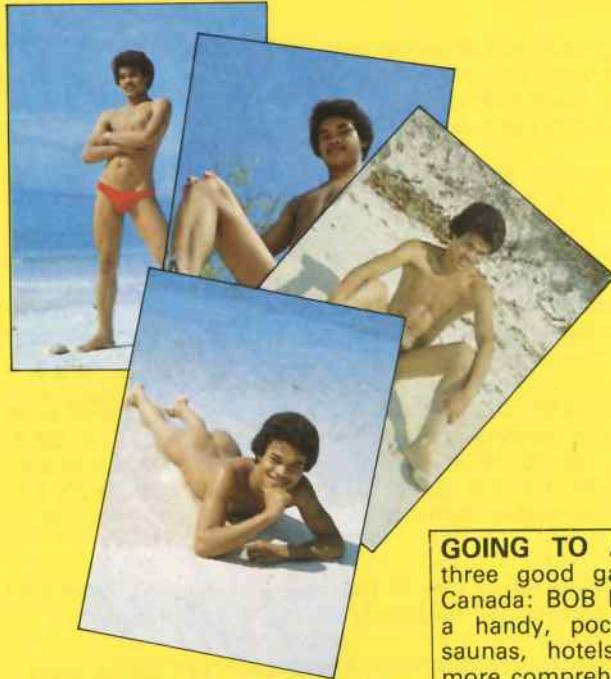
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25 sheets of each of these four designs. *Price in the currencies of each country, including packing and postage (airmail outside of Europe):* AUS\$ 11, ÖSch 200, BFr 420, CAN\$ 14, DKr 80, IRE 6.50, FMk 50, FFr 50, Drch 600, Lit 12,000, Yen 3100, Hfl 25, NZ\$ 14, NKr 60, Esc 650, Rand 12, Ptas 1000, SKr 50, SFr 20, £ 5.50, US\$ 12, DM 25. For all countries whose currency is not listed above the cost is US\$ 15.

GOING TO AMERICA? There are now three good gay guides to the USA and Canada: BOB DAMRON'S ADDRESS BOOK, a handy, pocket-size guide to gay bars, saunas, hotels, etc.; GAYELLOW PAGES, more comprehensive, larger guide to everything gay, including organizations; and the newest guide, PLACES OF INTEREST, a very accurate map-guide with handy town diagrams pin-pointing gay locations. We also offer a *California Packet* which includes GAY VISITORS' GUIDES to LOS ANGELES and SAN FRANCISCO and the STREET MAP of SAN FRANCISCO. *Price of each guide in the currencies of each country, including packing and postage (airmail outside of Europe):* AUS\$ 12, ÖSch 200, BFr 550, CAN\$ 15, DKr 95, IRE 7.50, FMk 55, FFr 75, Drch 725, Lit 16,000, Yen 3200, Hfl 30, NZ\$ 16, NKr 75, Esc 1000, Rand 14, Ptas 1200, SKr 80, SFr 25, £ 6, US\$ 11, DM 30. For all countries whose currency is not listed above the cost is US\$ 13. Above prices also for the *California Packet*.

Since each of the three general North American guides looks at the gay scene from a different point of view, you may acquire all three (not including the *California Packet*) for: AUS\$ 33, ÖSch 540, BFr 1500, CAN\$ 41, DKr 260, IRE 20, FMk 150, FFr 200, Drch 2000, Lit 45,000, Yen 9000, Hfl 85, NZ\$ 44, NKr 200, Esc 2700, Rand 38, Ptas 3300, SKr 210, SFr 60, £ 17, US\$ 30, DM 85. For all countries whose currency is not listed above the cost is US\$ 36.

CALENDARS – 1984

Spartacus will be selecting a small number of high quality gay engagement calendars and wall calendars. These will be obtained in time for despatching in November 1983 so that you have them before Christmas. They make ideal Christmas presents. Check inside back page to receive further details.

Please use order form on last pages.

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- Leaflet: *Venereal Disease Prevention for Everyone* (Check language: English/French/Spanish)
- Details of Coltsfoot and Spartacus Books
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* Enclose 2 International Reply Coupons (Mandats), obtainable at any post office, or cash equivalent, to cover mail costs.

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- 1983 Spartacus Gay Guide
- 1984 Spartacus Gay Guide – will appear Dec 1983/Jan 1984
- The latest Spartacus Magazine (single copy)
- Subscription for the next five issues of Spartacus Magazine
- Subscription for the next ten issues of Spartacus Magazine
- London Gay City Map
- Man to Man Gay Benelux Guide
- Bob Damron's Address Book (USA Guide)
- Gayyellow Pages (USA Guide)
- Places of Interest (USA Guide)
- All three USA Guides
- California Packet
- The Boy From Beirut (Robin Maugham)
- Homosexuality In Renaissance England (Alan Bray)
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POST BROCHURE MAG

LAFITTES (901 Bourbon Street)*** – very friendly bar staff and customers. Upstairs is another bar, the CORRAL BAR*** more for cowboy and western types. It has a pool table and an outside balcony where one can watch the goings-on in Bourbon Street.

Other favourites include REFUGE (corner of 1041 Royal and Ursuline Streets)***, LE BISTRO (Bourbon and St. Ann Street)***, LUCILLE'S (Royal and St. Philips Streets)*** and LOADING ZONE (Orleans and Bourbon Streets)***. All the bars recommended are air-conditioned, have a really first class selection of drinks, are very clean, with friendly helpful staff and the decor is always tasteful. WHERE TO EAT: My favourite was THE QUARTER SCENE (900 rue Dumaine)**** which describes itself as a small intimate restaurant dedicated to your second most enjoyable pleasure. Not licensed, so bring your own drink. The food was always perfect on my several visits and the prices reasonable. The ST. LOUIS CREPE SHOPPE (817 St. Louis Street)*** has just been listed in the Mobil Travel Guide, and deservedly so. Snacks, ice creams, alcoholic and non-alcoholic cocktails are available everywhere and the standards are very high.

WHERE TO STAY: You get what you pay for in this city. I found the 150-year old BOURGOYNE GUEST HOUSE *** (write to them for a brochure at 839 Bourbon Street, New Orleans, LA 70116, USA) at US\$ 35 per night most acceptable. July and August are very hot – perhaps too hot to attract many tourists, so they are glad to let rooms on a short-term basis. I guess they prefer longer lets at other times of the year. My suite consisted of a bed-sitting room, private bathroom with w.c., kitchen with refrigerator and gas stove, and a large cupboard and closet. No telephone, TV or radio. It is set back in a courtyard from Bourbon Street.

If you think the URSULINE GUEST HOUSE (708 Ursuline Street, New Orleans, LA 70116, USA)**** is where Roman Catholic Nuns might stay, think again. At \$50 per person per night in this eighteenth century modernised house

you get an exceptionally well-furnished room with w.c., bath, TV, telephone (free local calls), in-house movies *** and a jacuzzi. For those who like that sort of thing there is the renovated slave quarters. Their brochure has a map of the French Quarter showing about 50 gay places. Free breakfasts during the week, free Bloody Marys and Screwdrivers on Sundays, nudity is encouraged and the place is exclusively gay.

The LAFITTE GUEST HOUSE (1003 Bourbon Street, New Orleans, LA 70116, USA)**** \$53-\$77 per night, single, plus tax, but inclusive of breakfast, local telephone calls, and car parking. It has to be seen to be believed. The furniture in the bedrooms and elsewhere are museum pieces, yet the place is a home not a house. All major credit cards are accepted, and their brochure will tempt you.

FINDING YOUR WAY and keeping up to date: THE REFUGE will give you a free leaflet which contains a map, and a monthly free gay newspaper *Impact*, available early in the month at all gay bars, contains masses of information.

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HUNGARY

OVER THE CENTURIES, homosexuality has been called a lot of names, most of them *very* unkind. It has even been classed as a 'disease' and a 'mental illness'. From one of our Hungarian correspondents, we now learn that gayness is officially regarded in Hungary as a "biological phenomenon"!

Under Hungarian law, there is no punishment for homosexuality, but it is not permitted to 'corrupt' youths under the age of 18 and it is equally forbidden to have sex in public places (parks, baths, toilets, etc.) "This is the theory," says György, "but the practice is different".

He tells us of many Turkish baths in the city which are frequented almost exclusively by gay people, but laments the fact that there are no night-clubs or discos for gays. "However," he adds, perhaps a shade wistfully, "one can find and meet Hungarian gays everywhere, e.g. in the lobbies and saunas of modern hotels, and in the cafés frequented by tourists". Porno magazines are, of course, prohibited. "No Hungarian magazine would accept an advertisement," says György, "if I wanted to find a lover by correspondence. But at the same time you can watch the best Italian, French and American films, even those showing nude bodies of men and women!" He adds a rather *Brave New World* touch at the end of his letter: "In Hungary there is no unemployment, everybody has a workplace even if no work is done at such places!" He concludes by saying, "We would have a hard task to convince the people (about the validity of gay lifestyles — Ed.) but without an organization, without a magazine of our own, this struggle is impossible and has no sense."

Another writer reinforces this sad tale, commenting that: "children have no rights or sexual freedom. They cannot even choose their own friends because parents always have a veto if the child's friends are not 'sympathetic' for them.

Adults cannot approach other people's children and paedophiles are regarded with great suspicion. Children are often scared with horror stories about pederasts! In schools, there is no 'danger' for the children, because male teachers no longer exist in Hungary. Female emancipation has been *too* successful in this field and a boy does not meet any male strangers in his boyhood. The only male persons he knows are his father and perhaps some relatives.

"This unfortunate situation favours the strengthening of anti-gay attitudes of the youth and the whole of society. However, the number of sex crimes against children is quite high in Hungary. The children suffer also and it is quite common that during and after their adolescence, the parents are accused of being poor parents and causing an unhappy childhood.

"Many gays in Hungary try to make themselves and others believe they are heterosexual, even when making love with another guy! They develop complexes about this, not because they are pretending to be heterosexual, but because they do not have that inner freedom which comes from making a choice. They object to being considered homosexual because they themselves do not understand their own feelings and needs. This neurotic behaviour is reinforced by the Judeo-Christian culture in which we live. It is curious how some people protest vigorously against homosexuality — until the act is done!

"One has also to remember that middle class families do not approve of homosexuality. A gay boy in such a family suddenly finds that his admired 'hero' is really someone with whom he is in love. He then tries sex with girls to hide his real sexual feelings from society, and himself. However, in today's Hungary, it is not worth trying with 'modern' girls: they are very much emancipated and if a guy cannot work himself up quickly (almost on demand), they dump him for someone who can get a hard-on in the first few minutes. Then they try to destroy the first guy's sexual image!"

ARGENTINA

AFTER 6 YEARS of military dictatorship it seems that, judging from recent correspondence, the winds of change are blowing fairly strongly in Argentina. "Absolute censorship and hard repression on every aspect of human behaviour seem now to be weaker, or gradually tending to loosen their grip. Of course, it will take a long time to recover completely from the effects of the past years."

There is still no openly gay scene, however. We hear from another source that "the situation is so uncertain that I am not sure if we will see a relaxation in police attitudes towards gays. During the World Cup, which was played at various cities in Argentina in 1978, practically everything was allowed(!). Nothing of that liberalisation is left: police harassment is daily practice, and ID's can be asked for at any time. Please warn visitors to carry their passports at ALL times! Tourists and businessmen are well taken care of, but Europeans can be mistaken for Argentinians so BE CAREFUL. I do not, however, expect a period of intensified anti-gay police activity.

"An 'open' gay scene, such as bars, dancing-halls, etc., has virtually disappeared. The only places left are mixed bars, where utmost discretion is required; some cinemas, which are very dangerous because of the risk of police; and railway and underground stations, equally risky. All the places on Lavalle Street are crowded with youths from the interior who are so hard up they could be a danger or, on the other hand, cheap and easy pick-ups. Use your eyes, intuition and common sense.

"Outside cruising is of course at its best, being far safer than staying in a risky and well-known place. In this respect Avenida Santa Fe, Calle Florida and Avenida Corrientes every night, but especially Saturday, will never be surpassed."

From all accounts it seems a good idea to have a friend in Argentina before

deciding to take a vacation there, as most gays have steady boyfriends. "This is an evident characteristic among gays in the last two or three years. They meet at private houses where the risk is practically non-existent. In this way a foreign visitor can, with just one contact here, meet all the people he may want, without risking any outside cruising.

"The homosexual liberation front of Argentina disappeared at the very beginning of the military 'process' that has led the country into chaos. I have been told that its former leader is now living in Brazil. Perhaps, if it is true that a civilian democratic government will be reinstated in 1984, the question could turn up of reorganizing some kind of movement or league or something, which is absolutely necessary.

"After the Falklands war, Americans and Europeans, especially British, are not so welcome for the time being. The subject of the war is best avoided, whenever possible. If you get into a discussion about the war or politics the best thing to do is to agree with the other person, whatever your own personal opinions.

"The general attitude to homosexuality tends to gradually improve, especially in bigger cities. Of course, there are some minor groups who still frown upon it, but most people, irrespective of the social sphere they may belong to, are now accepting homosexuality for what it actually is: another aspect of human behaviour, as natural as any other.

"In this respect, I should stress the fact that this a country where we have to do something to change not only the so-called 'straight' attitude, but in most cases the prejudices of gays themselves who still fall back on the lack of education about homosexuality, do not want to admit their homosexual tendencies, etc., etc., and so become their own worst enemies".

The 1983 Spartacus Gay Guide contains a new list of bars, clubs, restaurants and other establishments for gays in Buenos Aires, and those which no longer exist have been removed from our listing.

ATHENS

By Leslie Marple

HAVE YOU EVER wondered what happened to the men who sold 'feely postcards' to our grandfathers, on holiday in 'gay Paree' (when gay was a nice little adjective and not a pejorative)?

I can report that their descendants are alive and well, doing business around Syntagma Square — and have increased their offerings! These purveyors of sleazy bars with dubious liquor, dreary nightclubs with 'girls' old when Victoria was Queen, and 'gay' bars with exhausted 'boys' left over from the Peloponnesian War, circulate from morning until after midnight. They make it difficult to make other and more pleasant contacts, and are a new and less-than-pleasant feature of Athens.

Add to this that practically every building on the Acropolis is smothered with scaffolding (even the hill itself, in one place); the Museum of Popular Art, with Hadrian's Library, is closed for repairs; the superb Byzantine Monastery at Daphne is closed for renovation; and the Plaka resembles a battleground, with most of the streets torn up for renewal of various utilities! The plan is to make many of the streets in the area 'walking streets' but, as one shopkeeper observed, "There's more traffic than before; this is Greece!" There is also no traffic allowed three times a day.

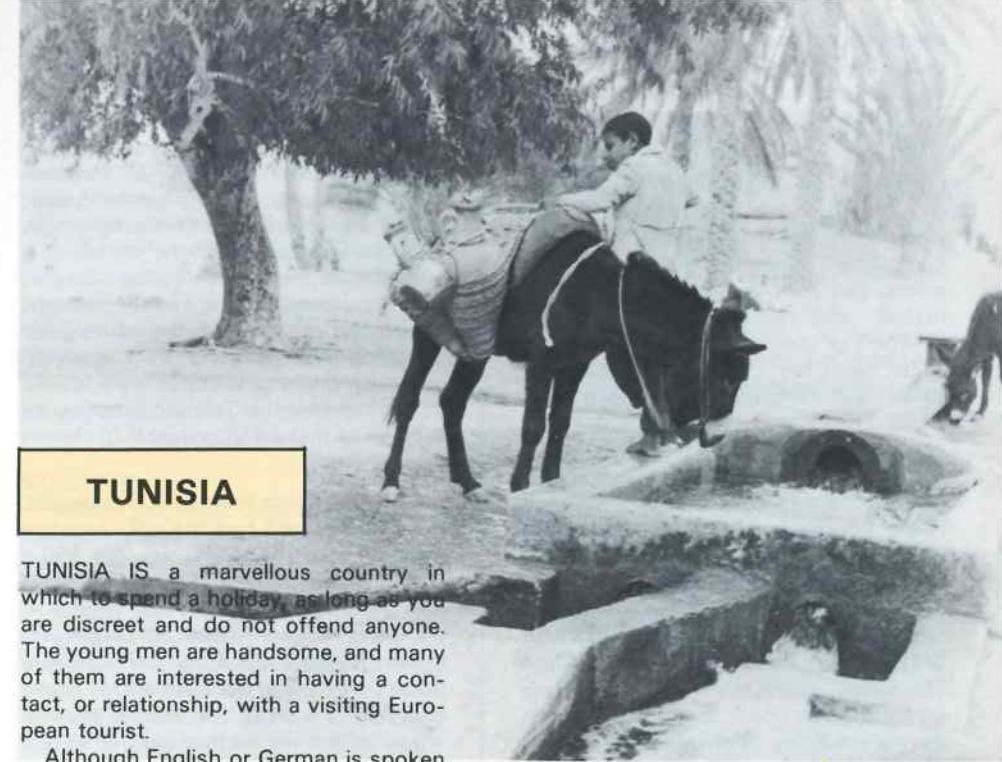
The new Koloniki area does not have the same ambiance as the old Plaka area, but very few gay bars now remain in the Plaka, although Vagelis has defied the trend, redecorated his bar all in white, and renamed it LA ROCHELLE** (11 Tholou Street, 20-02: B G r MA). The JACARE BAR** (13 Tholou Street, 14-19 drinks to classical music; 21-02 D G r MA) is also still open, but VAGELIS-SPIROS (9 Tholou Street), YANNIS (18 Tholou Street), and KARABIA (33 Tri-podon Street) are now all closed. Inflation is such that prices for meals and hotels are now at French or English levels,

although drinks are still reasonably cheap (e.g. Drachmas 180 for a vodka and tonic; Drachmas 60 for a large beer) and taxi fares are a great bargain. The old charm, though sadly eroded, remains.

Apart from the touted Greek and Roman remains, don't miss the charming Byzantine churches (e.g. Kapnikarea, Agion Elefertheriou, next door to the monstrous cathedral, or Sotiras Likaderiu, in the Plaka area, and most splendid of all, the Kesserini monastery — 11th century — on its hill, 5 km away; a bus goes almost to the door). But the present Archbishop/Patriarch of the Athens area has decreed that no women in trousers or men in shorts can be admitted to his churches. I was reminded of the time I went to Mount Athos to see those remarkable monasteries, where the female is not allowed (save for cats and chickens) and, staying at one monastery, had done some laundry and hung it out to dry on a convenient balcony. I received an agitated visit from the Abbott requesting me to remove my undershorts from view as the sight of them was inflaming the passions of his monks! As the youngest one I had seen was well over the age of 80, I thought perhaps there was something to the monastic life!

Inflation has hit the price of the business boys, as they are asking around Drachmas 2000 (about £17.50), with the soldiers from the elite Republican Guards asking, and getting, Drachmas 3000.

Much has been written about the ancient Greeks and, at Spartacus, we have just discovered a pocket book entitled *Eros in Greece: A Second Enquiry*. Written by an American who lived there, it is an interesting and amusing book that will bring pleasure to those who know Greece, and to those planning a visit. Please order direct from the author, Tom Horner, owner of the FAUBOURG MARIGNY Bookstore, 600 Frenchmen Street, New Orleans LA 70116, USA. The price is US\$6 including postage and packing.



TUNISIA

TUNISIA IS a marvellous country in which to spend a holiday, as long as you are discreet and do not offend anyone. The young men are handsome, and many of them are interested in having a contact, or relationship, with a visiting European tourist.

Although English or German is spoken by a few Tunisians in the major tourist centres, it is best to have some knowledge of the French language if you are visiting this country. The better your command of French, the more interesting experiences you will have. It also helps to know something of the culture, history and religion of the country, since sex is not, as it often is in Europe, a 'business'. A little knowledge and understanding can transform every relationship.

There is a big difference between the people in the north, and those in southern Tunisia. In the north, especially in the capital, Tunis, the young men do not advertise their bisexuality and it is quite possible they have not had any homosexual experiences in the first 19 or so years of their life — so you must be very discreet. Remember that not all of them are bisexual, and that never are 100% of them available! Forget the European 'business' attitude and, instead, have some respect for the people. Bad experiences and violent reactions are

The oasis town of Kebili.

almost always caused by the arrogance of the tourist.

Even in the southern part of the country, where sexual relations are amazingly easy, there are no places that are 'gay' in the European sense of the word. Just keep your eyes open for inviting looks — there are so many of them! You must make the payment situation quite clear beforehand. It is much better to offer food rather than money — go and have something to eat together — and if you do pay never give more than 5 Dinars.

In general Arab peoples are inclined to be 'macho' as far as sex is concerned. A lot of the older youths (those over 18-19 years old) tend to be interested only in taking the active part in anal intercourse and, after only a minute, the act is over. The younger ones desire tenderness, but

there are always exceptions in both cases.

TUNIS

The young men are friendly and intelligent, but you must be discreet and not aim at immediate sex. A 40-year old gay Arab told me that following a gay lifestyle created many problems, and he complained about the activities of the police. But I never had any difficulties myself, and never had to show my passport or identification.

For night life and cruising, the main cafés and restaurants are open until 2230. Then there is a pause 2230-2330, and after that the scene is very active until 02 in the morning; some of the little cafés remain open, especially in Avenue Habib Bourghiba. The CAFE DE PARIS and DRUGSTORE are both good, and always thronged with people; for evenings and late nights I would especially recommend the bar of the TUNIS CLUB (B D M r), opposite the CAFE DE PARIS. The people on the streets after 2330 are quite different from those you see out in the early evening. There are many more R and RT types, more YC (mostly hustlers), youths with no homes of their own to go to, and some older unkempt people. A lot of times you may be asked to *faire l'amour* but mostly by distasteful people, so be careful. There is a strong police presence, and you shouldn't hesitate to ask the police for help if you are in trouble. Usually they are friendly, as long as you are polite and friendly towards them. In Tunisia, as in all Arab countries, the only women you will see out at night are tourists or prostitutes.

DOUZ

Do visit this beautiful oasis; it is a good example of a small desert town, and has very friendly people. The youths at least like to talk to you. I was invited there by a group of 15 young men and was the centre of their interests until I left to continue my trip.

GABES

The TRANSATLANTIQUE hotel, mentioned in the Spartacus Holiday Portfolio,

seems to be closed, but there is the convenient 3rd-class HOTEL ATLANTIC (H NG) with friendly receptionists.

Those cafés that remain open till midnight or later are usually for younger people and are often VERY AYOR. Remember that Arabs can be very hot-tempered; while I was talking to some young men in one of these cafés, a fight started at a nearby table. I left the café after midnight with my young friends, and they bought a melon for us to eat together as a sign of friendship. At about 02 we went to sleep; I and one of the boys were invited by another boy. If a Tunisian likes you he is quick to make that obvious!

GAFSA

Although a nice town with nice people, this was where I had the only negative experience of my whole trip. My friend and I were invited by a 19 year old man to spent the night with him, and we did — my friend with his 17 year old cousin. But in the morning I found that my expensive pocket-lighter had been stolen. My friend told the 19 year old, in Arabic, that he would inform his mother and father and all the neighbours unless the lighter was returned immediately. The youth then gave it back to me because being hospitable is extremely important, socially, in Arab countries. When hospitality is violated, it is very serious and everybody quickly gets to know about it.

The young man's behaviour was strange, even after he had given me back my lighter and I soon understood why. Some hours after leaving the town I found I had lost SFr 200. We went straight to the police and made a complaint, and the friendly police inspector at the Tunis *Brigade Criminelle* noted everything down and promised to do his best to find the criminal. This was the only bad experience we had in the whole trip.

HAMMAMET

A beautiful town, with many friendly young men. Usually one can make oneself understood in English or German, since the young dealers in the 'souks' know the important words in many languages.

KEBILI

A small but remarkable town with more than 800,000 date palms! The exceptionally friendly residents are mainly Nefzaoua Nomads. In these oasis towns one must meet a friend before sunset because, later, there is nobody around. The town is 122 km from Gabès, and 28 km from Douz; public transport is non-existent between Kebili and Tozeur (crossing the Schott el Djerid) so either one must hitch-hike in the very early morning, or take a taxi, costing 20-25 Dinars. If you need information or assistance, ask a boy or young man; they are always glad to be of help.

MONASTIR

One of the most beautiful beaches I have ever seen.

NABEUL

A very attractive town, with friendly inhabitants, but there seem to be as many tourists as in Hammamet. At the beach, 1 km from the town, there are a few fisherman and dealers but mostly there are tourists.

SFAX

Very few tourists. The place has a delightful atmosphere, particularly near Avenue Habib Bourghiba. Many friendly, inviting looks.

SIDI BOU SAID

An exceptional village; the view from one of the hillside cafés is unparalleled.

SOUSSE

An marvellous town with an extremely pleasant atmosphere, totally different from the north of the country, or Tunis. Contacts are rapid and easy but be discreet; a glance is enough!

The hotels EL MESTRI, DE GABES, DE PARIS and DE TUNIS are inexpensive, convenient, and very sympathetic about letting you take friends in. It is quite easy — and very important — to build up a friendly relationship with the staff so that they will let you take friends to your room. Usually there is no problem; if there is, one can get around it. Either one

can pay 1-2 Dinars extra, or one can take another room (almost as cheap!) for one's friend. Note that Tunisians get identity cards when they are about 16 years old and are about to enter high-school. They usually carry these ID cards with them at all times, since they are asked to show them everywhere, and especially when going into hotels.

We stayed at the Hotel EL MESTRI,

The "Dance of the Goglets", at Kairouan. The long-necked goglets are made of porous earthenware and keep water cool by evaporation.



where the staff (including the son of the proprietor) were extremely friendly, and allowed me to take my young friend, who did not have his ID card, to my room. I met him and his brother the first evening I went out. Two or three minutes after leaving the hotel, I saw them in front of the CAFE LE BONHEUR (F M R YC). A glance and a smile and they came up to me. They knew of quiet and secluded places around the town and both were outstanding at *faire l'amour!* I passed the whole night and the next day with them and a very close friendship developed. Although one has to be very careful not to give out one's home address, they were one of the few that I gave it to. A week after I came home I found a letter from them in my mailbox, and I know that when I go back to Sousse I will be made very welcome.

When you walk through the streets you may get groups of three or four boys showing an interest in you; be friendly to them and they will be friendly in return. Cruising is possible for the whole of the afternoon, evening and night in the Avenue Habib Bourghiba, but the fishing port area is only interesting in the afternoon. The Hammam (bath) in rue Ibn al-Khaldoun is exceptionally good, furtive but with a pleasant atmosphere. Ask for a massage.

The excellent LE GOURMET restaurant is up to European standards and, by the way, Tunisian wine tastes particularly good. AL-MAALOUF restaurant (F M R YC) near Café LE BONHEUR can also be recommended. The ATLANTIC PUB (not Atlantic Disco, as in our Gay Guide) is a very nice place but the best place is LE TOPKAPI. THE NIGHTCLUB (B D M r RT YC) is built over the sea, about 30m from the beach.

TOZEUR

Another beautiful little oasis town with many young men. Take a walk around and visit the extensive gardens.

KAIROUAN

A beautiful town, full of culture and historic places, and with many friendly youths. The typically Arabic HOTEL

MARHALA is convenient and very cheap. The best time to cruise is in the afternoon and evening, on Avenue Habib Bourghiba (18-20), and in the cafés along Avenue de la République (20-22). After 22 nobody is around.

Do remember to be discreet if you visit Tunisia; overt demands for a sexual relationship will be offensive to the people. Homosexuality in the country is not the same as in Europe because there is a different outlook on life.

QUAINTANCE...

DISCERNING READERS will recognise some illustrations in this issue as coming straight out of 1950's muscle magazines such as *Demi-Gods*, *Grecian Guild Pictorial* and *Physique Pictorial*.

They are all works by George Quaintance (1915-1957). Born on a farm in the Blue Mountain range of Virginia, Quaintance trained as an artist, briefly set up a studio in New York City and then moved to Los Angeles. It was there, in the late 1940s, he began producing homoerotic artwork for physique magazines, work that he continued after moving to Phoenix. He used live models and emphasised in his paintings the appealing virility of a perfectly developed male body.

Twenty-five years after his death, Quaintance's fame is being reborn. The National Gay Art Archives — formed to research, catalogue, collect and exhibit gay art of the past and present — has reproduced as colourful notecards a dozen of the most famous Quaintance paintings. They are available at many gay card shops or direct (at \$20 postpaid for the set of 12 cards) from the National Gay Art Archives, 724 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, CA 94117, USA.

Incidentally, if you have photos, slides, or original paintings and drawings by gay artists, you may be able to help the Archives in their researches, so do consider contacting them.

UNITED KINGDOM

THE BRITISH Government has decided not to abolish its ban on homosexual diplomats and civil servants being offered posts abroad. The reason given is that relationships between consenting male adults are still against the criminal law in a number of countries — particularly the USSR and other Soviet bloc states — to which Diplomatic personnel might be posted.

IN SPITE OF Rev. Ian Paisley's 'Save Ulster from Sodomy' campaign, and in spite of widespread opposition, claimed to be from "all sections of the community", from the Protestant and Catholic churches, the political parties, and from 23 of the 26 councils in the province, the British Parliament voted to bring the Northern Ireland law on homosexuality into line with that of the rest of the United Kingdom. Thus, on December 9, "acts in private between consenting adults, aged 21 and over" became legal in Antrim, Belfast, Coleraine — and everywhere else north of the border!

The Parliament was forced to act in response to a European Court ruling, in Strasbourg in October 1981, that the old Northern Ireland law was in breach of Article Eight of the European Convention on Human Rights, which deals with the right to respect for private life.

The change in the law is already having wide repercussions. In the Republic of Ireland, to the south, where there is still a total ban on sex between men, the National Gay Federation is preparing to start on another journey to Strasbourg. Meanwhile, the British government, under pressure from the London-based Campaign for Homosexual Equality, may be forced to think about legalising homosexuality in the Isle of Man and in the Channel Islands where, at present, it is still against the law. Unfortunately Manx residents have no right of appeal to

the European Court because the Manx Parliament declined to renew the option in 1976. This extraordinary denial of a freedom, available to other UK citizens, could be changed by intervention from the British Parliament who, alone, can legislate to grant all citizens in their jurisdiction the permanent right of appeal to Strasbourg. Meanwhile the search continues for a suitable Channel Islands 'victim', willing to protest to the European Court about the current state of anti-gay legislation there.

In the rest of Britain, too, gay rights supporters see the European Court's ruling as encouragement to seek further reforms. One immediate aim is to change the age of consent to 16, the current age for heterosexual consent.

A NEWLY FORMED gay organization which we believe is unique in Europe, called BROTHERS AND SISTERS CLUB, is run for and by deaf gay men and women. They are very anxious to establish contact, on an international basis, with other interested gay groups and individuals. If you are hearing-impaired, or are interested in helping, please contact the Secretary, Brothers and Sisters Club, c/o St. Anne's, Poundfield Road, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 2BG, England. Meetings are held in London on the first Friday of each month at 8.00p.m., in the Upstairs Bar at the Westminster Arms, 9 Storey's Gate, London SW1. Nearest Underground stations are Westminster or St. James's.

LONDON BEAT

HARASSMENT OF GAYS seems to have taken a new turn in the British capital recently. An unprecedented 2.00 a.m. police raid on a private birthday party attended by 37 men in the West London suburb of Acton may test the current interpretation of the British 1967 Sexual Offences Act (which legalised private homosexual acts between two consenting males over 21). The police insisted that a member of the public complained that under-21 males were involved in sex offences at the party, so twelve burly

'bobbies' were despatched to the scene and subsequently dragged all 37 party-goers to Acton police station. Although no charges were made at the time, all the men were released on bail and told to return to the police station at a later date. *Capital Gay* reporters, quoting an eyewitness to the raid, said that it "was like something out of a Hitler movie. All they needed was the searchlights, and it was a Gestapo raid".

London's gay community has expressed outrage at the heavy-handed police action, and they fear the delay in deciding whether to press charges may be due to the police considering whether they can use the case to test the definition of 'privacy'. Under the 1967 Act the

word was defined in very narrow terms, but the law has usually been applied only to public and semipublic places. Now there seems to be a possibility that attempts may be made to apply it to private homes.

We have learned of the demise of one of the capital's former gay landmarks. THE FESTIVAL CLUB in Brydges Place closed its doors for good at 8.00p.m. on Friday, 2nd July 1982. R. I. P. We hate to say "We told you so", but... they obviously could not manage without the services of Peter Glencross, whom they fired, and who was instantly engaged by Spartacus as Sales Manager. Their loss was our gain.

USEFUL SERVICES

GAYS WHO LIVE in London, or who may be spending some time there, will be interested to learn of the following non-gay — but potentially useful — companies and the services they offer.

BRITISH MONOMARKS A mail-receiving, holding and forwarding service. Inexpensive, and ideal for those who are on the move or do not want husbands, wives, boyfriends, landlords, etc. to know what the postman delivers. There is also a key-tag service; you attach a tag with British Monomarks' address to your key, umbrella, or luggage, and the finder forwards the item to them. They pay a reward to the sender and your goods are restored to you. Cheaper than replacing a set of keys, and safer than broadcasting your own name and home address. British Monomarks is long-established (1929) and is used by many gay individuals, groups and organisations.

British Monomarks, BM/MONO London WC1N 3XX. Tel: (01) 404-5014. Nearest Underground station: Holborn.

BUPA A private health organization. Two services are offered which will be of particular interest to gays. There is a VD clinic (not cheap, but much more pleasant than queuing up at a National Health

Service VD clinic), and one can also obtain a thorough health check. Although one should try to have an annual check-up, so that any trends can be established quickly and treated in time, a 'once off' health check can also be very useful.

BUPA Medical Centre, 210 Pentonville Road, London N1 9TA. Tel: (01) 837-1837. Nearest Underground station: Kings Cross.

OBTAINEABLE'S Tickets for theatres, cinemas, football matches etc., when everybody else has sold out. Their service is very expensive — but if you are desperate to see something special, it might be worthwhile giving them a try. *Obtainable's Agency, Panton House, 25 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4EN. Tel: (01) 839-5363. Nearest Underground station: Piccadilly Circus.*

PROBLEM LIMITED They solve your problems: they will find you somebody to type your letters, walk your poodle, repair and iron your shirts, mend your burst pipe, sort out a broken lock, take a message for you, do your washing up and cleaning, prepare a party for you, do your catering, or deliver a birthday present. Nothing seems to be beyond them. *Problem Limited, 44 Luper Street, London SW1V 3BR. Tel: (01) 828-8181. Nearest Underground station: Pimlico.*

BOOKS

A Sweet & Sour Romance by Giovanni Vitacolonna. London: Gay Men's Press, 1982.

The Spartan by Don Harrison. Available from Spartacus.

Let's say it right off: Giovanni Vitacolonna can write and on occasion be very funny. Unfortunately, this time, he hasn't been able to write a good book.

A Sweet & Sour Romance is about an Italian American named Salvatore who wanders about the Midwest, drifts to San Francisco, then over to Italy and Paris and back, commenting in his diary on everything that stirs his interest — mostly politics, his friends and food. He is a second-generation communist (workers unite and all that, although there is little evidence that he ever did any work in his life, and he certainly never, outside of sex, united with anyone, workerwise or otherwise). His enthusiasms are food, verbally tearing apart his friends, promiscuous sex, drugs and the pop 'culture' of the 70s (singer Roberta Flack is mentioned *ad nauseum*), and bitching about American politicians.

Worse than Salvatore's cultural shallowness is his obsessive narcissism. He is not so much the anti-hero, as a big, tiresome cry-baby who is unable to generate anything interesting in his life. Lots of lovers, temporary and semi-permanent, drift through the novel; all are evaluated in terms of what they fail to bring to Salvatore. The reader soon stops caring whether Salvatore is telling us about Stephen or Bruno or Dan or Duilio: seen through the same selfish eyes they all come out pretty much alike. When the world and his lovers get him down, Salvatore retreats into long purple passages about the preparation of Italian food; eating *eggplant parmigniana* is as close to heaven as Salvatore ever gets, or deserves to get.

It's a shame, because Vitacolonna has an enviable command of the strung-together gay-bitchy epigrammatic style. Here he is at the time of the Iranian crisis:

This could be the start of a holy war — Moslems taking hostages from a born-again president. I wonder what Rosalynn puts in her grits.

What did Marina Oswald put in Lee Harvey's food? It's something to think about now that another Kennedy wants to be president. What did he eat before Chappaquiddick?

Italy's president is an old man that doesn't look like he eats much of anything. On the other hand, Mr. Carter doesn't seem to get much brain food.

The Ayatollah eats faggots I'm told — burning ones. Hasn't he read the Koran? Or is he just a sublimated maneater in religious drag like so many of his Xian counterparts?

A little of this goes a long ways, like sharp spice; a hundred and a half pages is far too much. If Vitacolonna has it in him to create characters we can like or hate or at least take an interest in, if he can show them interacting and evolving somehow, then he might some day write a very good gay novel.

The Spartan is decidedly not well written. The prose is at best utilitarian, and at worst lumpy and awkward and full of dialogue for his main characters that they never would have really spoken. But, unlike Vitacolonna, author Don Harrison has a good story to tell about interesting people, and a scene to describe infinitely more vital than Vitacolonna's quarrelling-lover/gay bar/drug scene of San Francisco; lackluster style is less annoying in the long run than being smothered in clever little touches.

Harrison's hero Pantarkes is a Spartan athlete at the time when Phillip of Macedon was expanding his kingdom

down into Greece. At the tender age of 16 Pantarkes has to flee Sparta for, first, pulling on the balls of the son of Sparta's powerful Ephor during a friendly wrestle, and then killing him in the resulting wrestling competition. He goes to Thebes, where he continues his training and joins the militia, fights at Chaeronea against the Macedonian army with the Sacred Band (and is the only survivor), then works his way up the competitive ladder toward the all-important games held every four years at Olympia. In the process, he finds time to slay the Ephor (who had killed Pantarkes' parents) and return to Sparta for a while to help lead an insurrection against "The Persian", an evil dictator who holds the city in virtual slavery.

Harrison continues the contemporary

AVAILABLE FROM
SPARTACUS
THE SPARTAN
by Don Harrison

Prices (includes airmail postage outside Europe): £5, HFI 25, DM 20, FFr 50, BFr 350, SFr 15, LIT 10,000, AUS\$ 10, CAN\$ 10, NZ\$ 10, US\$ 10.

gay dream of pre-Christian civilisation being completely open to homosexuality (a concept which needs a bit of qualification in light of Kenneth Dover's scholarly research). Pantarkes has three lovers, a Theban aristocrat, a Spartan former Olympic champion and, at the Olympic games, his Elean trainer. Along the way he views with amusement some of the other homosexual types: an effeminate sculptor and the kept boy of Athenian orator Demosthenes.

But first and foremost in Pantarkes' life is sport. We see him training (and an oily, dusty, exhausting chore it is) and at the games in Sparta, Thebes, Delphi and, of course, Olympia. He is a fine, muscular youth, perhaps, like most athletes and financial tycoons, a bit under-sexed, but keenly interested in the life of the mind as well. He is the Hellenic ideal young man, one who, in later life, would become a poet or a philosopher or a politically-minded citizen. His homosexuality is just a completely non-remarkable fact of his life.

So non-remarkable, in fact, that there is virtually no sex in the novel at all. And that is refreshing, after all the three-way and four-way letting-it-all-hang-outs of gay literature. Readers who liked *The Front Runner* and who find the pre-Christian roots of our civilisation an intriguing point of reverie will certainly enjoy *The Spartan*. We stock it and recommend it.

GUIDEBOOKS

Advocate Gay Visitors' Guide to Los Angeles.

This pocket-book is essential for anybody visiting the 'City of the Angels'. Published by the *Advocate*, which knows L.A. backwards, the area covered includes Hollywood, Silver Lake, and the San Fernando Valley. Besides giving the history and geography of the area, the guide discusses hotels, restaurants, gay life, gay entertainment, and outlines some trips down the coast and to Palm Springs. Available from Spartacus only

as part of the Los Angeles Spartacus Holiday Help Portfolio, or as part of the California Packet.

Advocate Gay Visitors' Guide to San Francisco and the Russian River — 2nd ed.

Similar to the previous edition, this updated and accurate guide gives general information on San Francisco and the Russian River area, together with details of hotels, shopping, restaurants, bars and saunas. Available from Spartacus

only as part of the San Francisco Spartacus Holiday Help Portfolio, or as part of the California Packet.

Bob Damron's Address Book — 1983 ed.

As always, a very useful pocket book. Amongst the masses of information it contains, on gay spots throughout the USA, it also has useful notes about drinking hours, and ages at which young people can drink. If you thought Great Britain was backward in this respect, look at what Bob Damron says: Maryland — 18 year olds may drink beer and wine, but must be 21 for hard liquor; Maine — legal age was 18 but now up to 20; Michigan — legal drinking age pushed up from 18 to 21. But let's not get depressed; the advertisements make America look like a great place for a holiday! Available from Spartacus.

Gay Areas Private Telephone Directory, — Winter 1982/83 ed.

Just published. Available from Spar-

tacus only as part of the San Francisco Spartacus Holiday Help Portfolio, or as part of the California Packet, or direct from the publisher: P. O. Box 14752, San Francisco, CA 94114, USA. Free but include US\$ 1 for postage.

Gayellow Pages: New York and New Jersey — 17th ed.

Gayellow Pages: New England, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Both these works contain masses of information on gay bars, gay dentists, gay garages — if it is gay, it is listed! *The New York and New Jersey Gayellow Pages* is available from Spartacus only as part of the New York Spartacus Holiday Help Portfolio. Both guides are available at US\$ 5.50 each, post free from *Gayellow Pages*, Renaissance House, P.O. Box 292, Village Station, New York, NY 10014, USA.

The National edition is available from Spartacus.

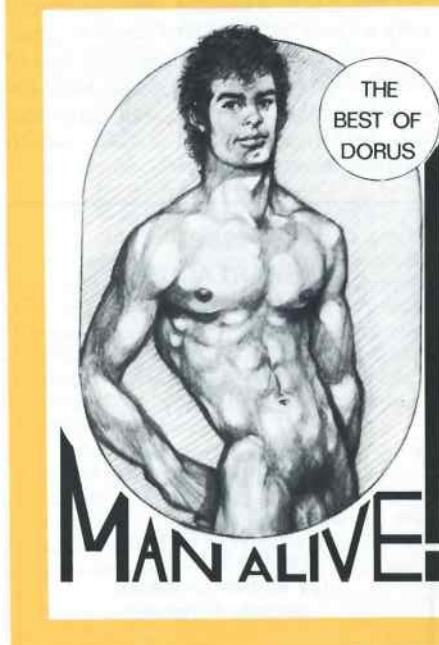
MAN ALIVE

The best of DORUS

This magnificent collection of 46 Dorus drawings reprinted in sepia for your lasting enjoyment. Prices for MAN ALIVE (including packing and airmail postage outside of Europe):

AUS\$ 9, ÖSch 140, BFr 400, CAN\$ 10, DKr 70, IRE 6, FMk 40, FFr 60, Drch 600, LIT 12,000, Yen 2600, HFI 20, NZ\$ 12, NKr 60, Esc 700, Rand 11, Ptas 900, SKr 60, SFr 20, £ 5, US\$ 9, DM 20. For all countries whose currency is not listed above the cost is US\$ 10.

FROM SPARTACUS



The pocket-sized Amsterdam guide of 3-4 years ago grew first to a Holland guide, and now covers Belgium and Luxembourg as well. It is still pocket-sized, but bigger than ever, listing hotels, bars, saunas, baths, film clubs, private addresses, shows, lesbian bars, leather bars and leather shops. In English, Dutch, German and French, with a pullout map of Amsterdam and sheet maps of some other towns.

The guide is easy to read, includes much useful non-gay information, and, above all, it is accurate. Although bigger, better and more comprehensive than last year's splendid production, it is still the same price. Available from *Spartacus* (or comes free as part of the Amsterdam *Spartacus Holiday Help Portfolio*).

Places of Interest in USA & Canada.

The Introduction is in English, Spanish, French and German. Perhaps the most important feature concerns what is left out of this guide; although the list of cities is not exhaustive, I cannot think of a place not listed where I would wish to go. In each city, only the most important places are listed — so this is very much a quality, rather than a quantity, guide. The maps for each town are very useful, and publisher Marianne Ferrari is to be congratulated on producing easy to follow maps for gay locations. Available from *Spartacus*.

Silver Star 1982 Gay San Francisco Map-Guide.

A most useful map of San Francisco, showing gay and straight places of interest, and awarding some of the better places a star or two. What a quaint idea! San Francisco's Armistead Maupin (author of *Tales of the City*) calls this map-guide "a witty, one-of-a-kind guide that accurately documents the extraordinary scope of life — gay and otherwise — in contemporary San Francisco."

With more than 400 places to go and things to do, this colourful, concise, hip-pocket sized book contains virtually everything that the gay tourist needs to

know for a spectacular stay in the 'City by the Bay'. It combines the best features of a gay address book, a map, and tourist guidebook. It includes a public transport and street map, and shows the correct location on the block of all the gay spots, making it easy to plot one's course from place to place. If your stay is short and time is precious, visit the more popular spots indicated by the star rating system. Bars, baths, restaurants, hotels, clothing stores, gift shops are differentiated by colour code, and the bars are classified by type.

When you need a respite from the night life, the "Fun Things to Do" section includes an informative, succinct and sometimes hilarious commentary about the sights of San Francisco. The Gay scene is reviewed: from Adult Theatres through Lesbiana, to Nude Beaches (yes, there is a nude beach in the City and several just outside). The "Visitor Information" section tells of "Local laws and customs", as well as what to wear, what weather to expect, and what to do after airport arrival. Large scale maps of the Gay Core Area and of the Castro round out the guide. Available from *Spartacus* only as part of the *San Francisco Spartacus Holiday Help Portfolio*, or as part of the *California Packet*, or direct from the publisher: P.O. Box 667, San Francisco, CA 94101, USA (at US\$5 which includes airmail postage).

1983
SPARTACUS
GAY GUIDE
WILL BE READY
AT THE END OF
FEBRUARY

Copies ordered directly
from Spartacus,
in advance,
will be mailed
on the first day
(by airmail to places
outside Europe).

WE GET LETTERS

Besides the many thousands of letters containing information that reach us every year — and the notes of thanks from those who read the Guide and have most enjoyable holidays as a result — we also receive letters of accusation, blame, complaint, denigration... and so on. We share with you below two of the gems that have come in to us during the past few weeks.

From Mr. B.J. Smith, Clerk and Chief Executive Officer (and Solicitor), of Fylde Borough Council, Town Hall, Lytham St. Annes, we received the following communication:

Dear Sir,

St. Annes Nature Reserve

At the last meeting of my Council's Lytham St. Annes Nature Reserve Management Sub-Committee, reference was made to the publication "Sparticus" (sic) of which you are the editor.

In the publication reference is made to the Lytham St. Annes Nature Reserve and advises homosexuals that it is a meeting place for such people.

My Sub-Committee have asked me to point out that the area of land to which you refer to (sic) is a designated nature reserve and is not a place where homosexuals can frequent. I have to-day requested the Police to instigate a special effort in the forthcoming summer season on the Nature Reserve to ensure that such persons do not use the same for their homosexual purposes.

I must demand that the reference to the nature reserve is removed from your publication and no doubt you would in place thereof wish to warn your readers of the special efforts to be made in the future to eliminate the problem referred to above.

Yours faithfully,

Somewhat mystified, we replied to Mr. B.J. Smith's letter. Since he spells the name of our Guide incorrectly (and also mis-spells the name of our Editor-in-Chief, in the address), we wonder if he has actually seen a copy of the publication about which he complains. We pointed out that Lytham St. Annes is neither listed nor mentioned in the 1982 Guide. Nor can we find any relevant listing in the last few annual editions! We have asked Mr. Smith to clarify this for us, and have also politely enquired whether we may photograph him at said "designated nature reserve", possibly in the act of chasing off homosexual men. Further, we have asked him to assure us that no discrimination is taking place, and that heterosexuals will be chased off by the police in similar manner. We await his reply with interest.

From Mr. S in West Sussex we received the following message, scrawled large on the outside of his envelope (which the postal authorities had to bear the cost of delivering, since Mr. S neglected to affix a stamp) returning our brochure:

MAY THE BIGGEST CURSE OF OF (sic)
GOD COME TO YOUR FILTHY
BLACKMAILING U.S.S.R. INSPIRED CO.
LEARN TO READ THE BIBLE OF CHRIST.
SENDER A RE CONVERTED MEMBER OF
CHRIST HOLY FAMILY.

We were intrigued to note that not only does The Lord "move" in mysterious ways, but his re-converted member appears to do the same. From the returned envelope we see that we originally mailed our brochure to London W.3.; somebody there crossed out that address in green ink and kindly redirected our missive to a new address in London W.5. When it reached there, it was again re-directed, this time to West Sussex! Not that all this Christian kindness has done any good because we gather that the recipient will not be ordering any of the fine products we offer!

CALENDAR OF GAY EVENTS

1983: INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LESBIAN & GAY ACTION: Contact I.G.A., Action Secretariat, Rozenstraat 8, 1016 NX Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

KEY WEST, Florida: Feb 20-27: Washington's Birthday Party at guest house on Key West. Contact HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York for details.

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA: March 1983: MELBOURNE GAY DAY (further details awaited).

WEST INDIAN CRUISE: Mar 1: week's cruise in POLYNESIA. Details from Forex Travel, 76 Arlington Street, Boston Park Plaza, Boston, MA.

PARIS: Mar 5: swimming pool party and lottery. Tickets from Café Moustache, 138 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, Paris 10

AMSTERDAM: Mar 12: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

BOUDI NATIONAL PARK, AUSTRALIA: Mar 12. Swimming and beach walking on the north coast. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

COSTA RICA HOUSE PARTY: Mar 19-27 at Hotel La Mariposa, Quepos. Details from HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York. Tel: (212) 691 7429.

AMSTERDAM: Apr 2: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

PARIS: Apr 9: swimming pool party and lottery. Tickets from Café Moustache, 138 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, Paris 10

TOKYO & KYOTO, JAPAN: Apr 9-24. Eight day visit to Tokyo and Kyoto organized by HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York. Tel: (212) 691 7429.

GRENADINES: Apr 12: week's cruise in YANKEE CLIPPER. Details from FOREX TRAVEL, 76 Arlington Street, Boston Park Plaza, Boston, MA.

KU-RING-GAI CHASE, AUSTRALIA: Apr 16. North Turramurra to Bobbin Head. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

MORTON NATIONAL PARK, AUSTRALIA: Apr 23-25. Three-day walking trip through Morton National Park, experienced walkers only. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

PARIS: May 7: swimming pool party and lottery. Tickets from Café Moustache, 138 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, Paris 10

ROYAL NATIONAL PARK, AUSTRALIA: May 14-15. Uloola track-Port Hacking river. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

AMSTERDAM: May 21: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS CRUISE: May 21: another Roy Dean cruise: details from Roy Dean, P.O. Box 69540, Los Angeles, CA 90069, USA.

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA: June 1983: STONEWALL WEEK (further details awaited).

WASHINGTON, D.C.: 1983 I. G. A. CONGRESS Jun 11-18. For details: I.G.A., Action Secretariat, Rozenstraat 8, 1016 NX Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

WOLGAN VALLEY, AUSTRALIA: Jun 11-13. Walk along the historic Wolgan River, Glen Davis and Little Capertree Creek. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

AMSTERDAM: Jun 18: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

1983 INTERNATIONAL GAY PRIDE WEEK: Jun 25: as part of the INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LESBIAN & GAY ACTION: marches across USA & Europe.

GRAND CANYON, Colorado: Jul 2-9: Grand Canyon Expedition. Early reservations advised. Details: HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York.

LIMA & CUZCO, PERU: Jul 2-11: visit Lima, Cuzco and ruins of Machu Picchu. Details from HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York. Tel: (212) 691 7429.

BLUE MOUNTAINS, AUSTRALIA: Jul 9-10. Walking trip in the heart of the Blue Mountains. Experienced walkers only. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

AMSTERDAM: Jul 9: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

AMSTERDAM: Jul 30: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

AUSTRALIA: August 1983: NATIONAL CONFERENCE (further details awaited).

MILAN, ITALY: Late August/early September: 5th International Gay Camp. Details from BABILONIA, Postbus 11224, I-20110 Milano, Italy. Tel: 02-836-0002.

WILD WEST WEEK: Aug 4-12: tour USA's Wild West beginning in Reno, Nevada. Details from HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York. Tel: (212) 691 7429.

KATOOMBA, AUSTRALIA: Aug 7-8. Walking trip to Mount Solitary and return. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

AMSTERDAM: Aug 20: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

GRAND CANYON, Colorado: Sep 3-10: Grand Canyon Expedition. Early reservations advised. Details: HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York.

COX RIVER FLATS, AUSTRALIA: Sep 3-4. Glorious walking trip along the river flats. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

PARIS: Sep 10: swimming pool party and lottery. Tickets from Café Moustache, 138 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, Paris 10

AMSTERDAM: Sep 17: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

BUDAWANGS, AUSTRALIA: Sep 17-18. Spectacular walk in sandstone and heath country, for experienced walkers. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

ATLANTIC CRUISE: Sep 19-28: 1700-mile cruise from Halifax, Nova Scotia to Antigua in the Caribbean. HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York.

SPARTACUS CLUB

SPARTACUS CLUB, AMSTERDAM: Members of THE SPARTACUS CLUB will be interested in the following Holiday Introductions in various parts of the world who have recently joined the team. Details of the Holiday Introductions scheme are given in the latest edition of the Spartacus Gay Guide. AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE SPARTACUS CLUB ONLY:

Ref. No.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| BUENOS AIRES, Argentina | B.1750 |
| KESÄLAHTI, Finland (Summers) | K.0022 |
| BUDAPEST, Hungary | H.1158 |
| KARACHI, Pakistan | G.0942 |
| JAFFNA, Sri Lanka | K.0656 |
| PORT VILA, Vanuatu | M.0645 |
| LOS ANGELES, CA, USA | B.0984 |
| STUDIO CITY, CA, USA | B.1784 |
| BONN, W. Germany | U.0034 |

CLASSIFIED

The Editors reserve the right to refuse or amend an advertisement without giving a reason. No refunds can be made on advertisements which have to be altered or amended. No advertisements which are obscene will be accepted. Advertisements are accepted on the understanding that that they are submitted by persons over the legal age of consent in their countries of residence.

PRICES:

Per word: US\$0.50, DM 1, Swfr 1, Hfl 1, £0.25 or equivalent in other currencies.

For a SPARTACUS box number, an additional: US\$5, DM 10, Swfr 10, Hfl 10, £2.25 or equivalent in other currencies.

For a small photo (4 cm wide x 5 cm high) add: US\$25, DM 50, Swfr 50, Hfl 50, £11 or equivalent in other currencies.

SERIES DISCOUNT. 5 for the price of 4. Change of text not permitted.

SPARTACUS CLUB MEMBERS - 10% discount. Please quote your club membership number.

If you take out a subscription to 5 issues of SPARTACUS magazine, you may have one small ad for half the usual price.

REPLYING TO A BOX NUMBER:

1. Place your reply in a small envelope and seal it.

2. Mark clearly on the outside the box number to which you are replying.

3. Place this small envelope together with 2 International Postal Reply Coupons in a large envelope which should be addressed to SPARTACUS, P. O. Box 3496, NL-1001 AG Amsterdam, THE NETHERLANDS.

4. More than one reply can be enclosed in the large envelope *provided* each reply is accompanied by 2 International Postal Reply Coupons.

5. We will not forward replies which are not accompanied by International Postal Reply Coupons.

6. Please note that we cannot take any responsibility for the return of photographs, etc. sent through our Box Reply Service.

GAY SERVICES

ENGLAND Young, muscular, Oriental masseur. Shang. Phone London 01 229 5183.

YOUNG, good looking French masseur. London. Tel 01 229 1015

PERSONALS

FRENCHMAN 33 years old seeks Asians as pen-pals, friends, holiday companions etc. Photo appreciated. Box 60002.

GLOSSY PHOTOS of delightful young models available. Pictures sent all over the world. For details, samples and prices contact A. Camus, Via Bettino da Trezzo 12, I-20125 Milano, Italy.

50 JAHRE junger sportl. gay sucht für gem. skuurlaub Feb/Mar 1983 in Austria kultiviert. gutgebauten Partner Möchte dich bald kennenlernen in Germany NRW. Box 60003.

SPECIALISED male sex material wanted. New or second-hand photos, text (English), or drawings of WS/etc scenes to Ian Dunn, 52 Broughton Street, Edinburgh, Scotland.

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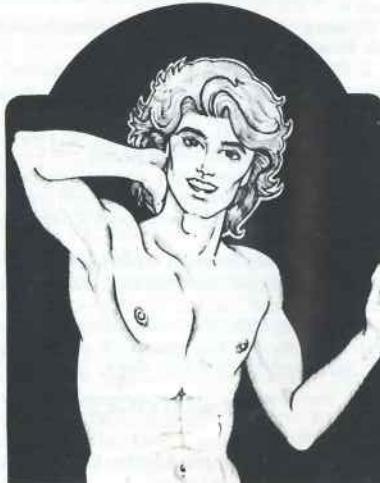
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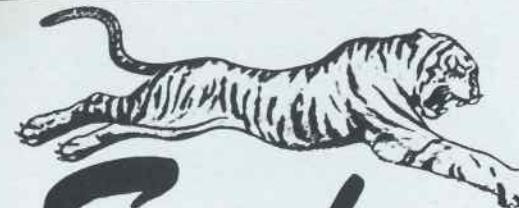
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SPARTACUS

International Gay Travel

Number 8

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ISSN 0167-479X

WORLD REPORTS

AUSTRALIA

CANBERRA Sexual conduct is legal between two adult consenting men in private, according to the new Australian Defence Forces Discipline Bill. The special definition of "in private" that is written into the Bill, however, makes all homosexual activity illegal for Australian military personnel, except when they are off-duty, off military property, out of uniform, and out of sight — and in a State, of course, where homosexual acts are legal. Source: *Campaign and Gay Community News*.

BELIZE

BELIZE CITY This small Central American state has recently been visited by one of our roving correspondents. He did not have much to report but did tell us of a charming little game which the local citizenry play on innocent visitors there: a tourist is offered marijuana and is then "arrested" by someone claiming to be a plain-clothes cop. A "fine" of about US\$ 100 usually settles the "charge": the people involved in this profitable side-line are *not* police agents, of course, but many visitors seem to fall for the ploy!

TELL THE OWNERS AND STAFF of the establishments you visit that you read about their place in *Spartacus Magazine*. This helps you — because it encourages them to keep us informed of changes, or additional services they offer. And it helps us — because we can then update and revise our *Guide* information, ready for your next trip.

It also encourages establishments to keep to their already high standards, since they realise you may well

BRAZIL

A GAY Tourist Service (SAG) now caters to gays traveling in Brazil who are seeking hotel accommodations, interpreters and guides. Arriving tourists can telephone Antônio Massaro at São Paulo 228-1773, or can write to SAG, C.P. 3125, 01000 São Paulo-S.P., Brazil. (Source: *Paz Y Liberacion*).

RIO DE JANEIRO: "Your *Spartacus Guide* is a good introduction to the gay scene there", writes a correspondent just back from a holiday in this cosmopolitan city.

He continues: "THE CLUB (Travessa Cristiano Lacorte 54) has been rated as the best bar in Rio by several American magazines, and I agree with their assessment. The bar is difficult to find, however, since the street where it is located is too small to appear on most maps, so visitors should know that it is near the RIO OTHON PALACE HOTEL (Avenue Atlântica 3264). This deluxe hotel is a landmark in the Copacabana area; it has about 600 rooms and although it is not gay many gays stay there. Other luxury hotels patronised by gays include HOTEL GLORIA (across from the Flamengo Park

be visiting them because of the recommendations we receive, and publish, from our many friends and correspondents who travel regularly.

Most important of all, please spare a moment, when you get home, to write and tell us about your holiday experiences. Do our *Guide* listings need revision? Are any of the establishments mentioned in the *Spartacus Magazine* articles closed — or are they bigger, better, and offering more value for money?

area), and RIO PALACE (Avenue Atlantica 4240, near the gay areas).

"SOTAO (Av. N.S. de Copacabana) is perhaps an over-rated bar: some locals do not recommend it and the cover charge is Cruzeiros 2000 (approx. US \$7.25 at the official rate of exchange) which entitles you to two drinks. The best time to get there is around midnight.

"I agree with your *Guide* recommendations for the following bars: FARO (Av. Atlantica 3806) — a great location; MAXIM'S (Av. Atlantica at Rua Fernando Mendez) — recommended by the locals; ELITE (Rua Frei Caneca 4) — where a wild pre-carnival party was underway when I visited with several local friends.

The cruisy area on IPANEMA BEACH (in front of the Sol Ipanema Hotel) is beautiful and the men are a joy to watch. Both ARPOADOR BEACH and PONTA DO ARPOADOR (right next to Ipanema Beach) should be added to your Beach listings: the really cruisy spot is the rocks at PONTA DO ARPOADOR".

SALVADOR The *Grupo Gay da Bahia*, probably the first openly gay group in Brazil, recently achieved legal status after a court battle. A judge in Bahia, a state in the Brazilian northeast, ordered the notary public in Salvador (one of the two largest cities in the state) to officially register the GGB as a civil society, thus giving it the protection of law.

The group's publication *Boletim Do Grupo Gay da Bahia* has been the principal voice of Gay Liberation in Brazil for the past 18 months. Subscriptions are US \$6 per year from *Boletim do GGB*, Caixa Postal 2552, 40.000 Salvador, Bahia, Brazil.

CYPRUS

LARNACA Although there is no obviously gay scene in Larnaca, we hear that visitors can have a lot of enjoyment if they know where to find it. The town is famous for its seafront, where a line of palms separates the beach from Athens Avenue. It is here that the townspeople, the tourists, students and soldiers meet and, in the high season (April-November),

this avenue is packed with people all day long.

The COSMOS DISCO is probably the best place for action, and it is often full from 23.00-03.00. The soldiers there are very available, and never ask for money. Some of the younger crowd, however, may ask for payment, so be prepared to give them a small amount of money, or a small present. The SPILIA DISCO, near the Telegraph Building, is only busy late at night, but visitors should try the MEDITERRANEAN ISADORA nightclub on the seafront at Discobolou (on the way to the airport), and the BLACK SHIP PUB, which always seems to be full of friendly young men in the evenings, who are happy to make contact.

In a disco or a pub you must always pay for drinks and cigarettes if you meet a young friend, since they usually have very little money. The soldiers, however, are more interested in fun and making love, and the question of payment rarely arises. After the disco, at 03.00-04.00, one can go for a light meal and a drink to the PALM TREE RESTAURANT on the seafront, an excellent and very informal place which is open 24 hours.

Where do you take your friend? Usually it is impossible to use your hotel, unless you rent an apartment in one of the hotel complexes and have your own key. So the best alternative is the beach, about 1km long and 200 metres wide, which is a love nest for both straights and gays. Nobody seems to care who your friend is, nor what you are doing.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

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EGYPT

OUR ARTICLE *Revisiting Egypt* (Issue 5, page 21) prompted a visitor to write and tell us that trying to bring friends back to a hotel is usually a hopeless task in Egypt. Most hotels seem to have Floor Captains whose job includes making sure that only the guest gets into his room, and that staff or other local visitors are kept out. In the cheapest hotels it is possible, of course, that an application of *baksheesh* would solve any problem.

The Tourist Police, who can be found in all main tourist areas, are also on the look out for tourists and local people together — especially for tourists with local youngsters — but this may be more to protect the visitor from harassment and unscrupulous operators. Another correspondent warns, however, that if you do have a disagreement with a local person, the police will probably not offer any sympathy to you. A tourist is a foreigner and therefore responsible for "corrupting Egyptian youth with colonial/imperialist sexual morality". In general the police are the last people one wants to get involved with if one has a sexual disagreement with a local person, since it might end up with the tourist's deportation.

Although the currency blackmarket still offers a better rate for US \$ (official rate is £E82 for US\$100 against a street rate of £E100-115; note that cash gets a higher rate than cheques) it is essential to have enough official receipts to show to Customs on the way out of the country in case they ask. If you have made a lot of purchases, yet do not seem to have changed enough money officially to have paid for them, the Customs can confiscate your purchases.

It is often difficult to get your currency form stamped, however, and most travel agents will rush their incoming customers through the airport Currency Form Control — where incoming visitors should have their currency declaration form signed and stamped — as quickly as possible, which could be to the disadvantage of the tourists concerned. One



should also make a point of declaring any expensive personal items brought into Egypt (camera, watch, jewelry, etc.) since these, too, can be confiscated when you leave the country, unless accounted for. It is worthwhile insisting on the correct procedures when you arrive in the country to ensure a smooth exit when you leave.

Pickpockets are a problem all over Egypt. Nowhere is absolutely safe, and even in the better hotels there can be thievery from rooms. Be especially careful that your enjoyment does not make you forget that fingers could be working through your pockets even while words of love are being murmured in your ear! The best advice is to watch everything, to carry as little as possible that is removable, and to take travellers cheques rather than currency. When you go out at night, hide your cheques in your luggage, and take only three or four US \$20 travellers cheques with you. There seems to be no problem with changing them when you need the cash (on the blackmarket), and a passport is rarely necessary to do this.

GUAM & AMERICAN SAMOA

FELONY SODOMY laws of these two US territories in the western and southern Pacific were repealed, respectively, on 1 January 1978 and 1 January 1980.

What is not commonly known, however, is that subsequent sexual law reform in Guam (effective 31 August

1979) lowered the age of consent from 18 to 16 and dropped references to "deviate sexual intercourse". Criminal sanctions remain for "loitering to solicit sexual contact" in or near a public place under circumstances that "cause offence to other persons".

In American Samoa the revised criminal code, which established 15 as the age of consent, retains criminal sanctions for sodomy and deviate sexual assault, but only under nonconsensual circumstances.

George Painter, a gay activist in Columbus, Ohio, says that there are now 27 jurisdictions in the USA that have decriminalised sodomy. Sodomy laws remain in 24 states, and in the US affiliates of Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and the Panama Canal Zone. Source: *The Advocate*.

IRAN

NEWS OF EXECUTIONS of homosexuals continues to reach us from this troubled country. *Iran Liberation* reports that a member of the Guards Corps, back from the Iran-Iraq war front, said that soldiers were being executed by the "Politico-ideological Bureau" for committing homosexual offences. Although one soldier was publicly hanged from the top of a crane, homosexuality is apparently still common amongst the troops.

Photo by David Lust Photography.



TEL-AVIV A correspondent has notified us of a spate of changes in the gay scene of this city. He warns that new gay bars and clubs are springing up "like mushrooms, but they are also closing very quickly".

This may have something to do with the fast deteriorating social climate in the country, which has grown steadily worse since the bloodthirsty invasion of Lebanon, and which the International Gay Association has commented unfavourably upon, saying that "an atmosphere of persecution" now exists for all gays in Israel.

Not only has there been an extensive anti-gay purge in the armed forces in recent months, but this discrimination has now become common on city streets. Apparently acting on orders from the Mayor of Tel Aviv, the police have been rounding up, harassing, and interrogating gays found in Independence Park (a favourite gay meeting place in the city). Israeli law permits anyone arrested to be held for 48 hours without a warrant, and so far over 100 men have been picked up for "loitering" in the park, and forced to answer insulting and humiliating questions about their friends, work and sexual activities. At least 30 of those arrested have been publicly marched through the streets of the city to police headquarters. All have been fingerprinted, and their personal information has been added to computerised police files.

Complaints have been lodged by the country's leading gay organisation, the Society for the Protection of Personal Rights, who have interviewed Tel Aviv's Police Commissioner Turgeman and have discovered he is compiling a list of all homosexuals as part of his "general campaign against light criminality". The SPPR is now planning an appeal to Israel's Supreme Court, in order to stop the harassment and to have the list and personal information destroyed. Until they are successful, we would strongly suggest that gays stay away from Israel, and spend their holidays in more enjoyable venues.

ISRAEL



Photo by David Lust Photography.

MALTA

A WARNING is sounded by a correspondent familiar with this island, who says: "there has recently been an increase in parent-instigated prosecutions with respect to minors who have claimed that they were over 18. This is partly because everybody in Malta knows his neighbour's business and therefore parents have to be seen to be actively protecting their offspring. It is also partly due to intense religious influence within the extended family, which is so deeply ingrained that sexual transgressions are almost inevitably mentioned in Confession."

To ensure your safety, therefore, do make absolutely sure that your friend on Malta is 18 years or older.

MEXICO

ACAPULCO A visitor back from Mexico confirms that police harassment there is on the increase (see our last issue, page 4) and cites a particularly nasty example of this in Acapulco. The police have started torturing youths they suspect of "loitering" in order to meet gays. The

boys are arrested and then held down while their wrists and arms are burned with cigarettes to form a "sign of the cross". Our visitor reports being introduced to a 13 year old who apparently had been horribly mutilated by the police in this way.

Combating police brutality is a difficult task everywhere, but Mexico desperately needs tourist dollars, so a fear of losing visitors may cause their government to act. If you witness or hear of any such brutalities, on your return home please write immediately to the nearest Mexican Embassy, or Consulate, and express outrage and revulsion at such activities. If you can add proof in the form of colour photographs so much the better. Copies of your letters can also be sent to your government representatives, your national newspapers, the Red Cross and local churches.

MORELIA A correspondent estimates that this college and university city, the capital of the state of Michoacan, contains 175,000 students out of a total population of some 350,000, and confirms that there is an active gay community.

The TURCO GENERAL baths (at the Mintzicuri Hotel, Vasco de Quiroga 227) is said to be completely gay. Best time is in the morning, when there is much action in the steam rooms.

HOTEL FLORIDA has one gay bar, open evenings only, with table service but no dancing, where many local gays meet.

Most outdoor cruising takes place in The Square after 22.00, although by day one should check the cafes under the portales.

MOROCCO

IN SPITE OF some anti-tourist feelings amongst Moroccans, it is still possible to have an enjoyable holiday in the country, especially if you tour in a camper-van. We have received the following report from a visitor who was there in March:

AGADIR Plenty of willing men in the town centre, along the beach, in the dunes and the woods. In the sports park you can use the toilets and the showers and, if you take a shower, there is a lot offered to you, which you can follow up by taking your new friends to your car.

EL JADIDA Many offerings on the beach, and in the streets and boulevards.

ESSAOUIRA If you stop on one of the roads leading into town and say "Hello" to men passing on their bicycles, many will stop and gladly accept your help for as little as DH 3.

MEKNES If you spend the night in the parking place where the taxis stand the drivers will come and offer themselves, as will local military men.

MOULAY IDRIS Stop on the road near the ruins of the Roman town, and wait to be invited into the bushes.

TIFNIT Near the beach, some 40km south of Agadir, there is an army camp of about 300 men, many of whom are looking for contacts. Nearby is a village full of men, where they invite you in for tea and then make love. If they know you are on the beach, they will come down and meet you.

MOZAMBIQUE

POSITIVE COMMENTS we make about this country in our 1983 *Spartacus Guide* need to be revised now that an obligatory public flogging of from 3 to 30 lashes will be given, in addition to other penalties set by the courts, for such crimes as black marketing, foreign currency trafficking and child molesting. New laws to combat "growing criminal aggressiveness" were introduced in early April, and courts can also order floggings for petty theft, rape, drug dealing and the incitement of minors.

NETHERLANDS

AMSTERDAM Blote Boys & Bengels (44-B Spuistraat. Tel: 24 70 93) is the name of a cosy new "House with Boys" just opened by Freddy Valks in the Central Station area.

He extends a warm welcome with a free first drink for everyone, whether they stay to play or not. Freddy offers a completely new *Open Sex* concept to his visitors. They can choose to pay a per-day fee entitling them to as many free drinks as they want during open hours (from 16.00 until 02.00 in the morning), plus as many sex contacts as they like with any or all of the five or six youths always on duty. The contacts can take place in the comfortable open lounge, or in an intimate side gallery where Freddy's own unique House video movies are shown on a wide screen. The price for all this is 200 guilders (Spartacus Club Members 175 guilders).

Customers who want to pay an additional 100 guilders fee for the total privacy of their own room, can play on a water bed, or they can choose a room with a conventional double-bed and large bath too.

There is a well-stocked bar and, naturally, standard arrangements are available for those who simply want to spend an hour alone with the handsome youth of their choice. Cost is 125 guilders (Spartacus Club Members 100 guilders).

Incidentally, Freddy confirms that

every youth has to undergo regular rigorous health checks as a condition of employment in his House.

"A STEP MORE masculine and a another step towards hard-music and action", is how one opening-day reveller described STEPS (6 Koggestraat)****. This disco-/bar complex on three floors provides something different and extremely stylish for the macho men — the leather/western/denim crowd — but naturally everybody is welcome.

After a drink at the downstairs bar, you can dance away on the floor above, where there is also another bar. Then you can cool it all off (or get it on!) in the backrooms on the top floor. The third floor also has a balcony from which you can look down to the crowd swinging away on the dance floor below. Added to this there are slides, videoshows, movies and occasional stage performances, and a team of really wonderful staff.

Membership is necessary (15 guilders for three months) or you can use a day card (5 guilders). STEPS certainly adds a fresh breath to the all-too-established disco scene in gay Amsterdam!

NORWAY

OSLO Twelve organisations from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden sent representatives to the fourth conference of the Nordic Council for Homosexuals (NRH), and a secretariat — subsequently set up in Oslo — is to prepare a challenge to the anti-homosexual laws that still remain in force in Finland and Iceland. All five Scandinavian countries belong to the Nordiska Radet, an inter-governmental body which attempts to make the laws of member countries as uniform as possible, and it is to this body that the NRH will be presenting its appeal later this year.

ONE CASE of AIDS has now been reported in Norway, and the March 1983 issue of *Lovetann* (P.O. Box 3392, Sagene, Oslo 4) includes a warning to Norwegian gays about this medical problem.

PHILIPPINES

THE HYSTERIA and anti-gay feeling that hit the Philippines at the end of last year may begin to die down now that exiled French ex-journalist and professional troublemaker Georges Veran has apparently fled from the country. Using Pagsanjan as his base, Veran formed a quasi-charitable organisation called Vigil Bureau Against Child Prostitution, Council for the Protection of Children and, for the past five years, has attacked anything that is, in his view, "an inter-generational relationship".

Disliked intensely by the Pagsanjan townspeople because of his meddling, and threatened by visitors who did not appreciate his hypocritical interest in their affairs — especially since it was well-known that he rarely had fewer than three young males living with him — he expeditiously fled in March, apparently leaving a trail of unpaid debts.

Georges Veran, a convicted collaborator with the nazis during World War II, has a reputed tendency to report the sexual behaviour of tourists he dislikes to their embassies. He was the person behind the "exposure" to Immigration Police, last November, of several visitors to Pagsanjan. This not only infuriated the townspeople, but also embarrassed the Philippine government. Veran apparently realised he had overstayed his welcome by several years and left in a hurry. Although he presumably realises that his health might suffer terminally were he to return to the Philippines, he may well crop up in another part of the world, as meddlers so often do. So if you hear of him, let us know so we can warn our readers of his whereabouts!

MANILA The following hotels have been recommended to us for good, safe, accomodation:

The HOTEL MABUHAY (1430 A. Mabini Street, Ermita, Manila. Tel: 59-20-71) is only a ten-minute walk from Rizal Park, and has five floors of well-furnished rooms each containing either a double bed, or two single beds,

and a bathroom ensuite. There is an excellent restaurant, room service until midnight, a secure safe-deposit box, and the charge is approximately US \$30 per night. The reception staff — especially Vic and Clem — are extremely friendly and, although visitors of the opposite sex are not allowed in the rooms, same-sex visitors are. "I have stayed there four times", our correspondent writes, "and have never encountered any problems in taking male friends to my room".

THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL (2021A Mabini Corner, Leona Street, Malate, Manila. Tel: 50-60-11) is another US \$30 per night establishment, with good rooms, friendly service and no problems about entertaining visitors.

KING ARTHUR MOTEL (Ugong Street, Rosario Pasig, Metro Manila) has superior accommodation with good food and for a 4-hour stay with drinks the charge is less than the equivalent of US \$10"

OUTSIDE METRO-MANILA area, the **ARAMIS LODGE** (Sumulong Highway, Antipolo, Rizal. Tel: 697-3661) provides well-furnished and carpeted rooms for short stays (up to 4 hours) at about \$4-\$5 and charges \$1 per hour thereafter. The towels and bed linen are clean, and good food is available at reasonable prices.

VENUS PARKVIEW RESORT HOTEL (19-A Kisad Road, Baguio City. Tel: 55-97) raises no objection to late-night visitors, and also allows rooms to be rented for short periods. The food is good and the per-night price is about \$20. Incidentally, cruising in Burnham Park in Baguio City is now AYOR: several people have been knifed in and around the park. Beware, also, of travelling alone in taxis at night: they may 'divert' to pick up some thugs and then you will have problems.

North of Manila, the **BAYVIEW HOTEL** (Zigzag Road, Capital Site, San Fernando, La Union. Tel: 20-25) also offers rooms by the hour, or charges \$9 for an all-night stay. Friends can be met in the disco, and there is a swimming pool. Rooms are sparse but clean.

SOUTH AFRICA

"HOMOSEXUALITY: Is it showing or growing?" was how the South African women's journal *Fair Lady* headlined a report in February, by one Lin Sampson. Once you have waded through her initial short breathless sentences about behaviour and clothes ("The atmosphere is High Screech"... "One man carries a whip"... "There is BLACK LEATHER"... "Herpes is the hang word"... "there are moments when I could be with a group of Reborn Christians"), and disregarded her errors of fact ("The Spartacus Gay Guide... edition I have is in French"), you find she presents some cogent facts to her readers.

She points out that under South African law it is perfectly legal to be a homosexual, but completely illegal for males to do anything about it since sodomy, mutual masturbation and oral-genital contacts between males — but not females — are criminally punishable, as is incitement to any of these so-called unnatural offences. She reports the experiences of some of the people she met and talked to at a 2000-strong Gay Jamboree held near Johannesburg, and sympathetically mentions a few of the prejudices, myths and lack of understanding that the average gay meets constantly.

She mentions the work of the Gay Association of South Africa (GASA, P.O. Box 3330, Johannesburg 2000) and confirms that "the need is for education. Somehow," she says, "in 1983, the idiotic prejudices and lack of understanding and subtle innuendos become less and less tolerable". Her finale is a model of good sense: "I think once we have a better understanding of the whole subject of sexuality we will find...that homosexuality is only another suburb in the same city". Thank you, Lin Sampson.

TAHITI

TOURISTS have been misbehaving themselves on this idyllic island, we hear. A number of visitors were recently expelled

continued on page 12

POLICE CEASE WAR AGAINST "BARES"!

OUR LAST two issues have included reports on how police waste scandalous amounts of time, and taxpayers' money, chasing nude sunbathers.

Now for some good news! At the end of last summer the Greek Ministry of Public Order suggested to local authorities that they should stop persecuting sun-worshippers. This year, in an attempt to win favour with some of the estimated half-million naturists that annually spend their holidays (and their money) in neighbouring Yugoslavia, the Greek government has introduced legislation to allow the establishment of nude beaches in secluded areas.

Not everyone is happy about this, and

Ierotheos, Bishop of Hydra, Spetsai and Aegina, has described as "a holy disaster" the idea of allowing foreign nude humans (all made in God's image, we would remind him — *Ed.*) to lie on Greek beaches. "Tell me", he foamed, "how will families, women, children and old people be protected from these hordes of barbarians?"

Frankly, we think that the local populace will be a lot more sensible than he is, and that all the people he is claiming to protect will be right there, on the beaches with the visitors, enjoying the God-given freedom that narrow-minded clerics like Ierotheos have for so long denied them.



for trafficking in drugs with local people, and will be refused entry in future to France and any French Territories. Tourists have also been caught trying to seduce young local boys, and have been convicted and expelled from Tahiti.

MOOREA ISLAND Nude bathing is allowed on the Club Med. Village beach, and in the daytime the beach just beyond the Ravelo & Marguerite Boutique has many gay possibilities. The TIKI nightclub is well-patronized by French GI's and by gays, and at the weekend try the bar at the Captain Cook Hotel; ask for "Guy".

U. S. A.

RAPE AND VIOLENCE are synonymous with prison life in America. We have long felt that a country that pretends deep concern about the civil rights record of other nations might do well to examine the rights of many of its own citizens — especially those imprisoned, who face sexual harassment and brutality on an unparalleled scale.

Perhaps, however, the winds of change are now beginning to blow. The *Washington Post* reported that on 24 February the American Civil Liberties Union filed a \$425,000 damage suit in connection with inmate rapes at the Prince George's County Detention Center, near the nation's capital in Maryland. The suit was filed on behalf of Gerald Mohler — who says he was sexually assaulted by four other inmates in 1980 whilst awaiting trial — and names officials and jail workers who are alleged to have acted with "negligence and/or deliberate indifference" to Mohler's personal safety.

This suit is the first of several that are to be filed on behalf of male sexual assault victims at the Center, following a series of articles in the *Post* late last year which exposed the disgusting conditions at the facility. When questioned by a special grand jury, empaneled to investigate the litany of horrific sexual attacks that were described by both inmates and

guards, the director of the Center, Arnett Gaston, refused to admit that such attacks had taken place an average of twelve times a week, saying that "he did not count" rapes or sexual assaults where the victim did not subsequently press criminal charges!

His attitude in recent weeks seems to have changed considerably, however, and he is now quoted as being "shocked" to learn that such assaults took place frequently at the jail. One wonders if his change in outlook has anything to do with the fact that the newly elected and obviously disgusted county executive may throw incompetent Arnett Gaston out of his job as part of a major and long-overdue shake up of the administration at this facility.

We will be watching this story with interest: if the ACLU suit is successful,

Photo by Manfred Rudat.



we feel sure that many more will follow from across the country. Above all we will be interested to know the future of Arnett Gaston, for we feel sure that as soon as directors, wardens and guards know that condoning sexual attacks and prison brutality may lose them their jobs, much of the problem will disappear overnight. (Source: *Washington Post* and *Gay Community News*).

ANOTHER PRISON horror in the US concerns AIDS. Nearly three dozen cases of this disease have been recorded in New York State's prison system alone, throwing inmates and guards into a panic. Inmates at the State Prison at Auburn recently refused to eat any food prepared in the facility, fearing contamination after a prisoner died there of AIDS — the 18th inmate to have died of this cause in the State's prison system. Both medical and epidemiological authorities have expressed fears about the nation's jail and prison populations with regard to acquiring AIDS, and have expressed deep concern that the incidence of the disease in New York State's jails and prisons has increased fivefold since last October.

Medical officials have instituted intensive screening programmes for the prison population and have confirmed that almost all of the stricken inmates are intravenous drug addicts who used contaminated needles before they were imprisoned. Source: *American Medical News*.

AN IMPORTANT gay organization trying to help those less fortunate than most of us is the LAMBDA RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE BLIND. This is run by both blind and sighted gay men and women. They have an impressive list of achievements to their credit, including a 'Talking Books' service offering confidential access to gay and lesbian books and periodicals which have been recorded onto cassettes.

A vital aspect of this work, from the gay traveller's viewpoint, is that they have completely recorded the 12th Edition of *Gayellow Pages*: — some mara-

thon undertaking! The Center also publishes a quarterly journal, *LRC Quarterly*, which includes a pen-pal column, national and international news, places to go, etc. Interested gays should contact: Stephen Hunt, LAMBDA RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE BLIND, 3225 N. Sheffield, Chicago IL 60657, USA. Tel: (312) 274-0510 any day 18.00-20.00 (Central Standard Time) for advice or information about the Center.

Planning a trip to the USA?

IF YOU ARE planning to visit the USA, note that *Spartacus Magazine* has recently published three major articles about America's gay scene:

Issue 5 — NEW YORK CITY

Issue 6 — WASHINGTON DC and NEW ORLEANS

Issue 7 — RUSSIAN RIVER

For information on how to order your copies, please see the descriptive brochure which is bound into the center of this issue.

THE GREAT OUTDOORS North America has some of the finest scenery and weather in the world. The Russian River Resort and San Francisco enjoy a most pleasant climate for those who love the outdoors. Hitch-hiking is fairly common — although illegal on freeways and some toll-roads. Activities by organised groups in the USA include competitive running, weekend skiing trips, river rafting, camping, social events, backpacking, picnics, cycling, cruising, wagon train trips, ice-skating, roller skating, horseback riding, canoeing, bird-watching, mountaineering, ballooning, and motorcycling.

For information contact the International Gay Outdoor Club Network, 1618 Castro Street, San Francisco CA 94114, USA. Enclose an IRC or two to pay for postage.

INDIANA Citing the boy's "rebellious and homosexual tendencies" as his justification, Steven Jackson — self-styled leader of an eight-member religious cult

— beat to death the three year old son of two of his followers. Both Jackson and the parents of the baby boy ended up in court, where all have been convicted on a number of charges.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA *Bed-By-The-Bay*, recognised as "the world's first gay bed-and-breakfast agency", will this year include in its listings a selection of private gay homes in Marin County. Marin is 20 minutes by car or bus north of San Francisco so guests can easily commute. For information write to *Bed-By-The-Bay*, 1155 Bosworth Street, San Francisco CA 94131.

SONOMA COUNTY, CA Back in 1978, Senator John Briggs was the author of California's Proposition 6, which asked voters to ban gay teachers from jobs in schools. During a bitter campaign leading up to the referendum, Briggs reviled a teacher called Larry Berner, suggesting that he could be a child molester. Once the Proposition was defeated, Berner filed a multi-million dollar suit against Briggs for libel and invasion of privacy. Rather than let the case come to trial; Briggs finally decided to settle out of court; although he admitted no guilt, he had a judgement entered against him, and made a \$10,000 payment to jubilant Larry Berner. Which goes to prove, in Berner's words, "that people need no longer stand by meekly when attacked or vilified".

SUNNYVALE, CA Do not participate in any sexual-orientation experiments using magnetocephalograms (MEG), pleads The Lesbian & Gay Associated Engineers and Scientists (LGAES). The MEG is the latest technique for monitoring brain activity without any electrode implants in the brain and, like electrocephalograms (EEG), can determine the sexual interests of an individual prior to using aversion treatments. Anti-gay psychiatrists can use the method to monitor the success of their "treatments", as well as to expose homosexuals who have so far evaded detection. If you are aware of any

high-tech anti-gay research, please write to LGAES, PO Box 70133, Sunnyvale CA 94086.

ZIMBABWE

VISITORS TO this country should be super-careful not to take any risks. One of our visiting correspondents warns that "the black government is neither stable nor consistent, especially with Europeans (Whites). I couldn't even find out if homosexuality is legal, because the country's laws are not made generally available to the masses. We were also afraid to ask; even the gay policeman we met didn't know!"

Another visiting correspondent confirms that homosexuality is very illegal, however, and also that the import, export and possession of material classed as pornographic is banned. In Zimbabwe, the word "pornographic" includes all gay material of any kind, not only published magazines such as *Playgirl*, but also private male nude pictures. It is a serious offence to possess pornography and, judging by press-clippings we have seen, this includes nude pictures of one's own body! It is also an offence to write "an obscene letter" to any other individual. Since government snopers open both incoming and outgoing mail, anyone who corresponds with those remaining in this rapidly degenerating country, should be most discreet.

"Because of the racial tensions, inter-racial sexual activity is *very dangerous*," our correspondent warns. "Although you can readily find Africans who will have sex, they will almost always resort to blackmail or robbery in the end. I don't want to sound racist, but this is true; too many visitors have found out the painful way. Disease is also rampant among the Africans, and their personal hygiene is almost non-existent. European males are generally bisexual with foreigners as long as you don't come on too 'limp-wristed'. I discovered that in Zimbabwe — and South Africa — an American can get just about any White guy he wants, married or single, if it is done with tact."

TRAVEL



INDONESIA THE PARADISE ISLANDS

By Dede Oetomo, Lambda Indonesia

INDONESIANS do not generally understand the English language, much less other foreign languages. A small number of educated elderly people, however, understand Dutch because of their Dutch-medium education. Indonesia was colonised by the Dutch for more than 300 years and used to be known as Netherlands East Indies before independence in 1945.

The island of Bali is an exception: many more people there speak and understand English due to the fact that it is the most popular tourist destination in the country. The Indonesian language, fortunately, has a relatively easy grammar, so that the serious traveller could, if he wanted to, learn the basics within a few days. As one goes deeper into the countryside, one finds fewer and fewer people who can speak or understand English.

It is a required subject in secondary education (i.e. between the ages of 12 and 18), but the quality of English teach-

ing — except for a few excellent schools in urban centres — leaves a lot to be desired. Nevertheless a few long-time foreign residents of Indonesia have told me that when Indonesians do speak English, they speak it the best in the world (excepting, of course, people in English-speaking countries).

Air transportation is available to even the remotest region in the country, but it is very expensive. On some routes there are only one or two flights each week. Sea transportation (the alternative way for going from island to island) is not to be recommended, although it is an excellent way to meet people of all types and to make friends with them.

Java has air-conditioned trains and night buses that are slightly more expensive than non air-conditioned ones — but far more comfortable. If one joins a guided tour, one can expect to be taken around in air-conditioned vehicles. In major urban centres one can rent a car and, in the tourist town of Yogyakarta in



Photo by Tony Patrioli.

Central Java, and on Bali, one can rent bicycles and motorcycles inexpensively.

For travelling short distances, there are minibuses and inter-city buses. They are not too comfortable, but riding in them is a good way to meet people. Within cities and towns the ubiquitous pedi-cab is always fun to use, since it allows one a slower and better view of things. Cities also have crowded buses, and *bemos*, which are small trucks converted to carry passengers.

There are basically two seasons in Indonesia: the dry season and the rainy season. North of the Equator the dry season is from December to June; south of it the rainy season is during those months, and vice versa. In general the climate gets drier as one goes further east. Travelling during the rainy season can be a drag, although tropical thunderstorms can be quite an experience.

Indonesians are very friendly people, and especially so to foreigners. They are always amenable to strangers accosting them on the street, and a tourist can approach someone without fear of being rebuffed (except for the language barrier of course). Indonesians smile and laugh a lot, and sometimes give the impression of being as happy as children, however old they are: we like to be playful all the time!

Offering a cigarette as a way to start a conversation is rather too abrupt, however: instead, one should wait a while and talk before making such offers. One way to start a friendship is to take a new acquaintance to a coffee-stall for a cup of coffee or tea, and a snack, or perhaps even a meal.

When in same-sex company, most Indonesians — except for the very religious — talk about sex constantly. There is also much public display of intimate same-sex affection. Men fondle each other as a matter of course, and women cling to one another, especially when they are being coy. A lot of sexual horseplay occurs among young men, and sometimes even among adults too. So the foreign tourist need not feel embarrassed about bringing up the subject of

sex, except in front of people of the bourgeois middle class, who tend to be prudish. But even these people, after some hints at sex here and there, will let their hair down gradually.

In Indonesian cultures, those who love members of the same sex are accepted in society, and in certain areas of the country social institutions have been developed around such people. Traditionally we lack most inhibitions with regard to our sexuality.

Nudity among the native peoples is considered part of the daily life, since much of the population bathe in the rivers. This is not so for foreign tourists, however: the only semi-nude beach is Kuta Beach in Bali, although from time to time police arrive to harass and prosecute the naturists — and domestic tourists, mostly schoolkids, use them as wonderful objects for their picture-taking binges. Nudity in public is thus best avoided.

Second and third-class hotels usually do not worry about guests taking in a visitor. If the visitor stays for the night, sometimes the management will charge extra. It is important though that the visitor looks clean and well-behaved. Indonesians are very class and status conscious, so if a well-clad foreign tourist takes back a dirty scantily clad young man with no shoes, of course there are bound to be suspicions aroused. Most hotel managements are ignorant of, or do not care about, homosexuals as long as they behave themselves when they are in the hotel.

Things may be slightly different with first-class hotels. People who are not properly dressed are regularly turned away from even entering the hotel grounds. Sometimes the slightest lower class accent will give away the class identity of one's visitor, and the hotel management may not allow him in — not because of the possibility of sex involvement, but because of class impropriety!

Hotel staff members often offer guests the company of a woman. Interestingly, when one asks for the company of a male, they are usually flustered and

go away quickly. There are now a few second-class hotels run by gays, where young men like to wait around. These may be rent but sometimes are not. A large percentage of male staff in first-class hotels are gay, and most of them are seducible (use discretion, though).

Let us now make a quick survey of some major tourist spots in the country, moving from west to east:

SUMATRA (Sumatera)

Nias Island, in North Sumatra province,

Photo by Mr. Starr Productions.



is known for its megalithic culture and beautiful people. Up until the last century, noblemen from Aceh in the north would buy Nias slaves to be kept as homosexual lovers. Nias is also special in that it escaped Indianisation, so that the Polynesian substratum is very visible. It was Christianised by German missionaries, some of whom were eaten as delicacies by the local inhabitants (who were obviously of superior intelligence — Ed.). Cannibalism does not exist there any more.

North Sumatra is also famous for Lake Toba, which sits in the crater of an extinct volcano and is one of the largest lakes in the world. In the middle of the lake is the island of Samosir (3 times larger than Hong Kong), home of the proud and artistically gifted Batak people.

West Sumatra is the home of the Minangkabau people (M'nangs), who compete in beauty with the Nias Islanders. M'nangs are matrilineal, devoutly Muslim, and eat very spicy food.

JAVA (Jawa)

Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia, is just another big city, containing the major museums and art centres. The outlying area is pretty but unless one has time to spare, tourists can be well advised to skip it altogether.

In Central Java, the tourist should definitely visit Borobudur and Prambanan to see remnants of 8th and 9th-century royal Java. The Solo and Yogyakarta palaces can also be visited, although they do not compare well with other splendid courts in Southeast Asia. Indonesia's oldest Hindu monuments can be found on the Dieng Plateau, a beautiful and mysterious area where hot steam issues from rock fissures.

Continuing towards Bali, one passes through East Java. Ponorogo is the home of a group of men known as *waroks* who practice martial arts and asceticism. Since they are forbidden to have sexual contact with women, they keep youths called *gembiks*, but the sexual side of this relationship goes completely unre-

marked in the community. Elsewhere in this province one should see the Panataran temple complex. If you are in the area you can also visit the grave of Sukarno, Indonesia's first president, who was considered to be a great and virile leader (besides seven wives, he was reputed to have relationships with numerous other women, and even the palace guards). The Island of Madura — a 30-minute ferry ride from Surabaya — is famous for bull races.

SULAWESI (Celebes)

On this island Tana Toraja should be visited in order to see the near-orgiastic death rituals, and the burial sites carved into the sides of high cliffs.

BALI

This is, of course, the place to visit when you come to Indonesia. The landscape is gorgeous, the life of the people serene and exotic, and every day there is a festival of some kind. Unfortunately you will have to fight your way amongst thousands of fellow tourists, unless you are the more adventurous type and go inland.

East of Bali lies the island of Lombok, reached by ferry or air from Bali. The western part of the island is heavily Balinised, but the eastern part is Muslim. Further east again is the island of Komodo, home of the living cousin of the dinosaurs known as the komodo lizard (or komodo dragon).

BESIDES THE Holiday Introduction service for Spartacus Club Members, the national gay organisation *Lambda Indonesia* (Kotak Pos 122, Solo, Indonesia) will publish your advertisement free of charge. Donations are more than appreciated, but please send them only in Indonesian or US currency. Send your advertisement as far as possible in advance of your arrival so that people from various localities can write to you. By the time you arrive for your holiday you will have friends waiting to greet you. Incidentally, *Lambda Indonesia* have now formed their first branch organisation, to be located in Surabaya.

MAURITIUS

By a Correspondent



I WAS BORN in Mauritius, but left a few years ago, and now return only for holidays. As you say in the *Gay Guide*, it is a cosmopolitan place and the 'sights' are beautiful. The island is very attractive and can be a paradise for any visitor. Gay tourists have been found staring deeply from one handsome face to another, not only on beaches but even at bus stops. In the capital, Port Louis, you will make friends with people of European, African, Chinese and mixed descent. All of them are sweet and friendly, and invitations can happen on the spot. However, invitations may not lead to gay action. Visiting tourists sometimes start with the local facilities: the best in Port Louis are said to be Victoria Square (facing Victoria Station, which is to the right of the toilet), in the Jardins de la Compagnie, at the Market, in Royal Street, and in Farquhar Street.

I am not so sure gay life is very well known, although people are open-minded. A gay person (known as *un pilon*) is more a laughing matter, and perhaps thought of and believed to be extremely effeminate. This may be because the few obvious ones 'dare everyone', swinging their hips as they go along (as no European can, the créole body being very flexible) and often with their hands on their hips. They are the *coquettes* and are known locally as 'Mam'zelle'.

A pick up can be quite difficult, as everyone lives *en famille*; the few unexpected contacts that do happen usually take place in the woods, amongst trees bordering the beaches, or at the foot of the hills, where hetero couples also have a little 'plunge' in the day-time or early evening. If you do make a gay contact, ask if and where there is a 'dancing party' where one or two other gays might be found. It is possible that gays

could be invited to go camping on a beach for the weekend since camping is a fairly common activity in summer (December-January), or at the end of winter (July-August).

There are now many beautiful bungalow-type hotels on the island, almost as good as the best in the world. They are part of the Mauritius Hotel Group (MHG) chain, along beaches all round the island and it is possible to have your stay staggered between two or three of them. These include the TROU-AUX-BICHES HOTEL, near the Club Méditerranée at Trou-aux-Biches, in the northwest of the island. (Incidentally, a correspondent who has just stayed in this hotel confirms that the setting is beautiful, the bungalows private and the staff very kind — but he warns that the hotel security forbids the staff from joining you in your room, so you must be most careful). North, past Pointe-aux-Cannoniers to Grand Baie is the MERVILLE HOTEL; and to the northeast, at Grand Gaube, is PAUL ET VIRGINIE. Other good ones are the ST. GERAN

HOTEL at Belle Mare, on the eastern side of the island; LA PIROGUE, a fairly new hotel at Flic-en-Flac (near Wolmar) on the western side, where one can see the rock of Le Morne; and LE MORNE BRABANT, at Le Morne. Between these two is TAMARIN HOTEL, in Tamarin Bay. Over to the southeast, towards the airport at Plaisance, is LE CHALAND in a delightful setting facing Blue Bay. Some aircrews have been known to entertain in their rooms here and at night beneath starry skies and palm trees, once the bars have closed. What you can be sure of on Mauritius is that there will be minimal rain, the right temperature, night bathing and long sessions in the warm, clear, blue transparent sea!

As this is my home country I do not use the hotels, but if the waiters are gay, or can offer gay sex, they will have their own quarters at the hotel as they only go home once a week. Of course, things can happen in the thick bushes around the hotel grounds, on the beach, or inside the bungalows themselves. There should be no worries.

With the addition of foreign visitors, the Akti Kountouriotou cafes and restaurants are always interesting. The TAPATEA SNACK BAR (11-23: B F ng YC), upstairs in an interesting old house, gives one an overview of the whole area and provides good, simple food and a lively, mostly young, crowd to aid the digestion. 'Ayios Nikólaos, although attractive, is more a

Haraklion: the Venetian Hall. The area around this, the Venetian Fountain, and El Greco Park, are the best cruising areas. Photo by Leslie Marple.



20

CRETE: A BRIEF NOTE

By Leslie Marple

CRETE HAS marvellous scenery, many remains of the past (Turkish, Venetian, Minoan and Greek), excellent seafood, splendid sunshine, and good beaches for sun-bathing, but the island tends to be a rather quiet place unless you are with a group. All bars normally visited by tourists are now 40%-50% female; only in the villages and non-tourist areas does the old male segregation remain, the patrons normally being middle-aged to old.

CANIA (Chania) has great charm, with interesting remains of the Venetian and Turkish past, and a large Greek naval force at nearby Souda. Physically, the navy men are more handsome than the military and, being more assured of their masculinity, are more willing to play; the waterfront is enhanced by their presence.



Cania: From this cafe to the end is good cruising; tourists and the Greek navy from nearby Souda. Photo by Leslie Marple.

family-oriented village, thronged with package tours.

HARAKLION (Iráklion), a larger town, has a wider range of attractions. The bars on Lion Square (Platia Elafthérias) remain open until well into the small hours of the morning; they do not in the Platia Venizelou, which is therefore more crowded in the earlier hours. This, with the adjoining Platia Kelérgon and the El Greco Park, is discreetly active (the park particularly so) after dark. The area of Lion Square, and Tris Kamáres, now that the army has discovered girls (mainly foreign and safely on 'the pill'), is dull. For outside cruising in the summer, try a walk along Amnissos Beach (take the No. 1/1

bus from Lion Square). This will produce results, so long as you take the initiative.

To see traditional Cretan dancing — but not in a tourist trap — go to KASTRO, a restaurant on Doukos Bofór (2130-02: F b D MA NG) where the locals, many of them most attractive, have great fun performing their dances. An added attraction is that outside, after about 01, some of the local talent meets, so discrete action is possible. The best seafood restaurant is STRATOS, in the Alikarnossos suburb (21-23: F b NG); don't be put off by the very ordinary appearance of such places. In the main street of Alikarnossos there is also a bar, PUB CHRIS (09-01: B f ng YC), which can be quite interesting. The suburb can be reached by a No. 1 bus from Lion Square, but a taxi only costs Drachmas 90 (the equivalent of £0.75).

Since the arrival of 'the pill' and 'women's lib' the availability of men has diminished greatly, largely because foreign girls, often alone, are travelling with the main intention of having sexual experiences. The Cretan male feels liberated in his new freedom and, even when encountered and experienced, does not wish to be considered homosexual and is likely to ignore you later if with friends.

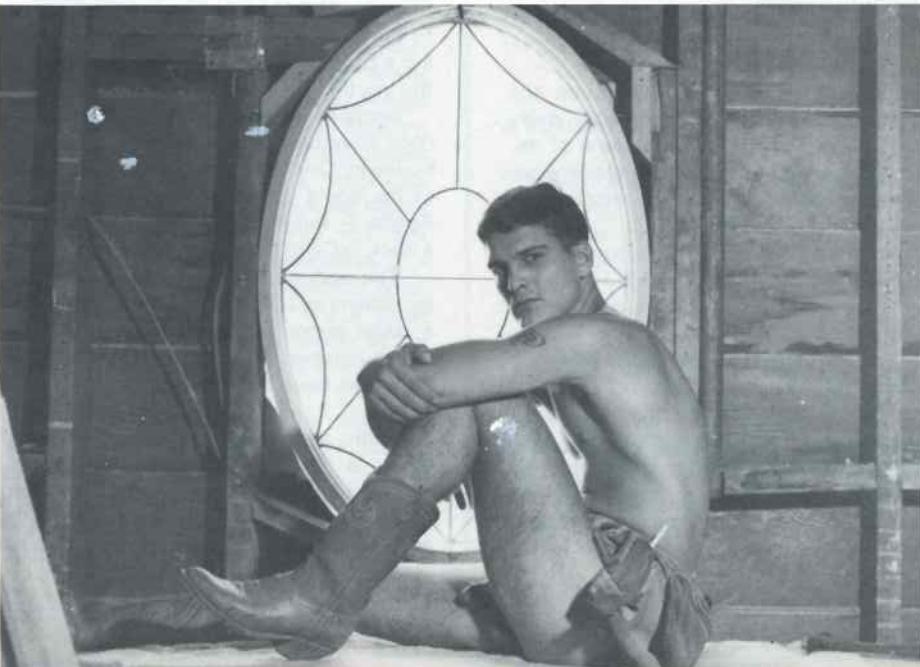


Photo: Mitch Baron, by Greystone.

EGYPT

ANTINOUPOLIS: THE CITY OF ANTINOUS

By Thomas Hopkinson



Antinous. Photo courtesy of the Trustees of the British Museum.

THE CITY OF ANTINOUPOLIS, on the east bank of the Nile some 500 miles south of Alexandria, stood as one of ancient history's most spectacular monuments to human devotion, erotic love and parental emotion.

Founded by the grieving Roman Emperor Hadrian (A.D. 117-138), the city was built on or near the spot where his young companion Antinous was drowned during a journey up the Nile.

Hadrian was a childless ruler, but he always wanted a son and the close companionship not found in his rocky marriage to his wife Sabina. The Emperor's intent was to found a city in Roman Egypt that was both socially and constitutionally Greek. Hadrian, of course,

did not regard his young companion as an ordinary mortal, and he clearly intended Antinoupolis to reflect the divine presence of the youth. The true character of his bond and the intensity of his feelings for the boy from Bithynia could be found in the city itself.

Initially constructed by Hadrian, the city was embellished by his successors on a very grand scale. Within a few years its residents were prosperous and thriving, and enjoying a variety of special legal rights and exemptions. Antinoupolis was said to be awesome at first sight, with a monumentally spectacular city gate. Its citizens took pride in the city's appearance, with its wide streets, temples, a theatre and a variety of secular buildings, including a public bath.

The streets were adorned with graceful statuary of bronze and marble, and if these statues had survived they would express much of the devotion Hadrian felt for the boy. Many statue fragments have been discovered and are assumed to have once portrayed Antinous, including a base with an inscribed dedication to the youth.

Sections of only two statues of Antinous have been specifically documented, however. One was the magnificent torso of the boy's youthful body, portrayed as Apollo — but this piece was last seen on a dock in Cairo about a century ago.

The second known piece, excavated by Italians in 1960, is just the shoulder of a once impressive statue made of fine Greek marble. From its colossal size, it may well have been the city's major cult statue.

Sadly, all that remains of Antinoupolis today is the fragmented evidence of a splendid ancient city, a memorial to what must have been one of the most loving and human relationships in history.

INDIA: TWO VIEWS

India has always held a particular fascination for travellers so, in response to pleas from our readers, we have started to gather information about this vast and incredible country. In Part I of our survey we offer reports from both a resident and a visitor.

A Resident's View

INDIAN SOCIETY today is in many ways similar to that of conservative, Catholic southern Italy. There is no gay culture at all, since homosexuality is illegal and is considered by most to be a form of perversion. 85% of the country's population are Hindu by religion, and consider sodomy to be an Islamic vice of non-Indian origin. Muslims are circumcised; Hindus are not. Sexual relations are seldom discussed, and perverse vices even less so — although newspapers quite often carry stories of rape, and child-molestation.

The gay visitor to this country, therefore, must be extremely discreet. Touching people has no sexual overtones in India, and it is wrong to assume that two Indians are gay because they are seen holding hands in public; they are merely friends in a male-dominated society. Presumably the usual percentage of the population is gay, but discreetly so.

The educated gay Indian is often married and bisexual, and has far fewer sexual contacts than in the West. There are no gay bars or discos in the country, but contacts are possible in the mixed bars, and in coffee-shops, pool-side discos, and the health clubs of big hotels located in major cities. One sits and watches, to begin with, then strikes up a conversation. Later, the visitor's hotel room can be used safely. For a small sum, hotel staff may be available in the big hotels, but there may be a little less hygiene involved here.

Prohibition was abolished a couple of years ago in most of India's 14 states, but certain days of the week in most states are still 'dry' days, and liquor stores are closed. Always buy your own bottle to save money, and drink in your

hotel room; in the bigger hotels and bars, a small glass of whisky often costs as much as half the price of a store-bought bottle!

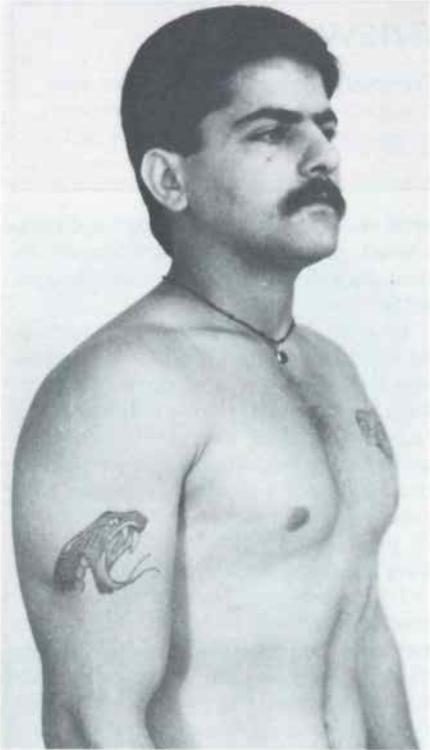
In general, sexual partners available in India are limited to gay diplomats, airline crews, hotel staff, and upper class Indians, all of whom frequent large hotels. Visitors will find that these contacts speak fluent English, are in their thirties, often married, and often generous to a guest — who they are, unfortunately, in no position to invite home because of living in a family situation.

Of course many visitors will be overwhelmed by the beautiful young men they see on the streets. If contact can be made, and a place can be found to take your new friend, then you will find that many times no payment is expected. The average price paid by another Indian gay to a hustler would be about Rs 10; unfortunately some tourists spoil the hustlers by paying ten times that amount, which creates problems for local gays and also for the next tourist that comes along.

A Visitor's View

MY INTRODUCTION to India was not a happy one. I was made to strip naked at the border, presumably on the suspicion that I was a drug addict or, worse still, a trader in pornography. Perhaps I fitted the typical drug-smuggler profile, with longer than average hair and a studied casualness bordering on the scruffy. Customs officials are more or less demented in almost every country in the world, however, and once I passed their ordeal I soon found that India contained some of the most beautiful men I have ever seen. And there are so many of them!

Unfortunately the culture is not sup-



portive of homosexual relations. Not only is gay sex illegal, but the Hindu religion has very strict prohibitions against it. Which does not mean that homosexuality doesn't exist — it most assuredly does — but it is not easy to find, and there are no specifically gay places in India.

There was a gleam of hope recently, when a gay liberation front was formed in New Delhi. But before gay Indians could raise their consciousness, or make any kind of impact on the populace at large, the whole thing collapsed. So one must be discreet: the Indian police can be sinister and violent with offenders — perhaps not with tourists, but with the native population they can be very cruel. So, if you care about the welfare of any contacts you make do take into account the dangers they may face.

NEW DELHI — the citadel of the British Raj, and the historic capital of India for 800 years — is wonderful proof that

myth can be reality. Those old Sabu films and Errol Flynn North-west Frontier epics come true here! People go nonchalantly about their business while bears dance and snake charmers woo cobras, though many of these poor reptiles look too tired and lethargic to be in the least bit dangerous. I did, one day, come across a real snake charmer in a back alley. He had a small snake but the crowd of Indians around him were horror struck. It was obviously a much more feared variety and the audience were almost blue-faced from a communally-held breath.

Every moment in the streets of Delhi — or anywhere else in India, for that matter — is an adventure. The city is absolutely seething with people. Sacred white cows wander at liberty, totally ignored by pedestrians, and taking full advantage of a revered position to frighten tourists to death and to add yet one more hazard to the many that face local motorists.

I did not know where to start looking for gay friends in Delhi, but luckily I was approached by a very acceptable young man while I was visiting the magnificent red sandstone Red Fort, with its carved marbled inner chambers.

This charmer, Khan by name, was probably about 19 years old. He rode up on a gloriously antique bicycle and struck up a conversation. He was about the 15th person to do so that morning (everyone is so friendly, not to mention inquisitive, in India). After assuring me that he was a "good clean Christian boy", he said quite bluntly: "if you want, I will go back to your hotel with you!"

At first I assumed he was 'trade' and when I asked "how much?" he appeared to be deeply offended. For a moment I thought he would ride away with his pride injured and my opportunity lost, but I managed to apologise before that happened, and we returned to my hotel.

He was an Anglo-Indian, a lucky individual who combined all of the best qualities. He had the dusky light gold skin of his mother, topped by dark crinkly hair; his father had contributed handsome features. His character was 100% Indian



with a touching charm that made our first afternoon together so memorable. Though this may also have had something to do with his ongoing and accommodating attitude to sex. Considering he had been brought up in a sexually repressive society he was remarkably uninhibited.

We spent a happy but sweaty afternoon reclining on the enormous bed — and in the bath when it got too hot. He gave a whole new meaning to the Indian Rope Trick! He raised things as if by magic, and I was happy to ascend to heaven!

The Park Luxury Hotel is, alas, no more, but it was a treat while it lasted. Presumably left over from the days of the Raj, it was decaying and neglected but still retained an unmistakeable aura of past grandeur. Perhaps it was because they were desperate for customers but they turned a blind eye to my taking Khan in. In all other Indian hotels getting a friend into your room is almost impossible.

From Delhi it is possible to reach many tourist destinations. My new-found friend swore undying love to me and insisted that we visit the Taj Mahal together on a clear, moonlit night. In the dark we looked at the fabled building, our hands touching surreptitiously as the fireflies blinked on and off like faulty torches. Khan's spontaneous affection really touched my heart: he would grab my hand with a sudden squeeze that expressed a real joy in being alive.

He showed me Fatehpursikri, an an-

cient deserted city which is perfectly preserved, but was abandoned because the water dried up. Today it stands like an architectural *Marie Celeste*, with roads and houses empty and silent. At the Corbett National Park, a wildlife sanctuary in the Kumaon foothills northeast of Delhi, we rode out on an elephant to seek tigers. There are few of them and any shooting nowadays is done only with a camera, but it is a thrill to catch one of the striped cats unawares at dawn.

Visitors should remember that everything worth doing in India seems to happen at dawn. It is more comfortable to get energetic activities completed before the heat becomes unbearable.

Further afield (if you feel like exploring the country as well as the people) there is the stupendous scenery of the Himalayan foothills, the desolation of the plains, and the soothing cool of the old-fashioned hill stations, where you can meet expatriate Englishmen who still use words like *tiffin* and *Ye Gods!*.

One intriguing place to visit is Varanasi (formerly Benares). Here you take out a rowing boat on the sacred River Ganges and watch pilgrims ritually immersing themselves, washing their clothes or cremating their dead relatives on funeral *ghats*. Temples are piled up haphazardly, yogis contort themselves impossibly and there are constant funeral processions. Kahn made me realise that the city is not a morbid place, although much of its business is concerned with death. Brilliant





flowers, of red and yellow, were scattered everywhere.

A ride on an Indian train has always been considered one of the great travel experiences of all time. When you have tried it you will see why. Depending on which class you choose, you can have a wonderfully comfortable journey or a hellish and unending endurance test. Passengers ride not only inside the train, but clinging to the sides and sitting on the roof too.

India is an enormous country: the weather does tend to get you down, the mosquitos can bring tempers to boiling point and the bureaucracy can send the impatient and unwary straight up the wall. Some sights and conditions take a strong constitution to endure, but comparisons are odious, and between India and Europe they are impossible. Certainly my impressions were coloured by knowing Khan, and however many holiday affairs I may have in the future, this was the one that touched me deepest.

India makes you feel you are not merely another 'tourist'. You never get the feeling everything has been arranged by contemptuous locals, who are out to give the visitor only what they think he wants. The country does something to people who love other people (lots of other people!) and you never loose the feeling that you have to go back. Go there and open your eyes to a whole new world.

EVERYBODY in Australia is reading the 1983 *Spartacus Gay Guide*! Our friend 'Roo (who we first met in the June 1982 issue of this journal, where he was seen checking out the information in last year's *Guide*) welcomed John D. Stamford during his recent visit to Sydney, and complimented him on the latest edition. 'Roo's friend, Emu, added her congratulations.

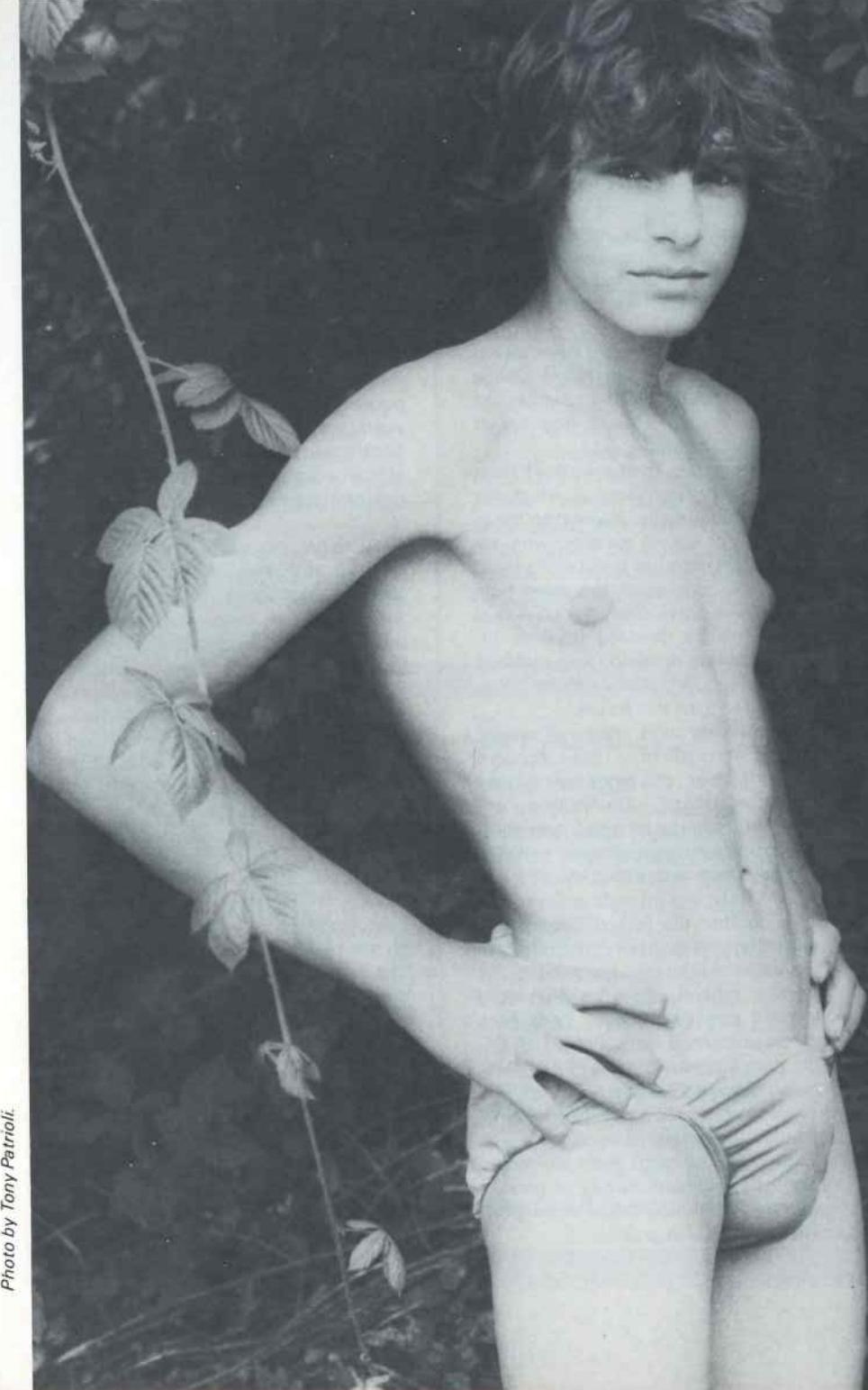


Photo by Tony Patrioli.

UNITED KINGDOM

By Our Correspondents

THE HOUSE OF LORDS has ruled that inmates of British prisons are to be given the right to start criminal proceedings against prison staff, or other inmates. Until now a prisoner complaining of a criminal offence committed against him, by staff or inmates, was restricted to bringing a private civil action — and then only after the complaint had been investigated by the police and Home Office Prison Department (rather similar to using a jury of murderers to find one of their colleagues guilty! — *Ed.*)

Interestingly, this faint breath of freedom for the British prisoner — which we feel may be of particular interest to those incarcerated for sexual reasons, who are sometimes subjected to mental or physical brutality — comes at the same time that we receive news from the USA that rape and violence directed towards inmates there is also receiving long overdue attention from American courts (see story on page 12 of this issue).

This breakthrough for prisoners' rights is the result of a case brought against a former governor of Albany Prison, Isle of Wight, who faced a contempt of court charge by a prisoner, complaining that correspondence with a court had been interfered with. The House of Lords agreed with a Divisional Court ruling that the Prison Department had absolutely no authority to confiscate correspondence addressed to a court.

A letter recently sent to all prison governors stressed that "prisoners cannot be prevented from making an approach direct to court". The interpretation being placed on this is that prisoners who wish to start prosecutions in criminal cases must be allowed to write to anyone they choose — the court, their solicitor, a Member of Parliament, family or friends. Source: T.A. Sandrock, Crime correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph*.

A FORMER London policeman, aged 22,

has confirmed what has long been suspected: that known homosexuality is a bar to serving in the Metropolitan Police, in spite of Scotland Yard's transparently false claims to the contrary. In a letter published in *Police Review* the ex-cop protests that he was forced to resign when his sexual interests became known to his superiors, even though he had committed no offence against police regulations.

He questions the efficacy of current police recruiting campaigns (now continuing nation wide) to attract minorities, when homosexuals are banned.

Officers with whom the former constable served for two and a half years, and who knew of and accepted his homosexuality, described him as a "quiet efficient policeman whose lifestyle did not interfere with his work".

GLASGOW We seem to have our lines crossed with regard to the Trans-Clyde Network and some of the entries in our 1983 *Guide*. A visitor to the city points out that *Argyll Street* (for SYLVESTER'S PUB), *Jordanhill* (for WHITEINCH TURKISH BATHS) and *Pollokshaws East* (for FINDLAYS) are all British Railways suburban stations, and are not on the "Underground" system — which consists of a small loop of 15 stations serving only the inner city area.

GUERNSEY This English Channel island may soon reform its 19th-century laws against homosexuality, thus bringing more pressure on neighbouring Jersey to do the same (see our last issue, p.28). The change is expected not only because the British Home Office is thought to be applying quiet pressure — following last year's ruling by the European Court of Human Rights — but also because of revenue lost to the island through a number of trade unions expressing their strong disapproval of the archaic laws by banning the island as a site for their annual conventions.

MAIDENHEAD Fresh Fields, a company located in this Berkshire town, has caused some confusion by its acquisition

of a fleet of some 30 river boats which it plans to rent out to holidaymakers. Unfortunately the boats have names like *Gay Cavalier*, *Gay Monarch* and *Gay Lady*, and some gays mistakenly think that the cruisers are meant exclusively for them. Other gays, however, claim that the company is being deliberately insulting so, in the hope of calming some very troubled waters, the company plans to change the names of the vessels to something less controversial.

LONDON BEAT

SNIFFING SOLVENTS is sometimes touted to the young and the ignorant as a way of enhancing sexual stimulation. Unfortunately these poisonous chemicals, often used in paints and cleaning fluids, reduce consciousness and can produce death. The Southwark coroner recently issued a warning against the misuse of these fluids, after the death of a 23-year old man, who masturbated while sniffing

a plaster-removing solvent containing trichloro-ethane.

STAY AWAY from THE SALISBURY (90 St. Martins Lane, London W.C.2.), a pub where up until now gay patrons have been accepted, though not encouraged. A warning comes that several unprovoked and vicious attacks have been made recently on gays there; an eyewitness to an attack that took place on May 2nd tells us that the aggressively straight Irish bar staff seem to take a delight in provoking and then beating gay clients.

WE ENJOY the Postbag column in *Capital Gay*, from which we learn that gays commuting on London Transport's *Piccadilly Line* always travel in the second coach of the train, in order to be identified. On the *District Line* gay travellers should apparently board the last coach, bearing a neatly folded copy of *Capital Gay*, as a prelude to being invited into the train's back cab by a friendly Guard!

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FROM SPARTACUS

INTERNATIONAL ESCORTS

"ABSOLUTE CONFIDENTIALITY and a truly relaxed and satisfied client. That is what we concentrate on with our international male escort service", Johann van der Veere told *Spartacus Magazine*.

For ten years international escorts of CANNY AND CONSENT CROWD (P.O. Box 13172, 2501 ED The Hague. Tel: 070-63 44 47) have been travelling all



over Western Europe, to the USA, and to wherever in the world they are needed. "Of course", Johann continued, "we offer a guarantee. Although we must ask for full payment of the contact fee and all travel costs to be sent to us before our escort leaves The Netherlands (we can accept Eurocard and Master Charge credit card payments), if the young man cannot reach his destination for any reason, then all the money is immediately refunded."

How does a client choose an escort? Johann recommends a visit to his office (Snelliusstraat 1, 2517 RG The Hague. Tel: 070-63 73 77), so the customer's

requirements can be ascertained, and he can be introduced to those escorts most likely to please him. Alternatively, a customer can visit the friendly YELLOWBIRD HOUSE (53a Zaagmolendrift, Rotterdam. Tel: 010-65 33 65) and meet the 6 - 10 escorts who are on duty there, from midday onwards. Or if the client prefers to stay in his hotel, he will be sent a selection of photo-choice sheets which contain photographs and "vital statistics" about each escort's appearance, skills and preferences.

"When a selection is made, our escort goes direct to the client's hotel. Prices for this service vary, but within major Dutch cities we charge about 250 guilders for a contact of up to 3 hours, or 400 guilders for a night (from 10.00 at night until 10.00 the next morning). Of course, all travel costs are extra."

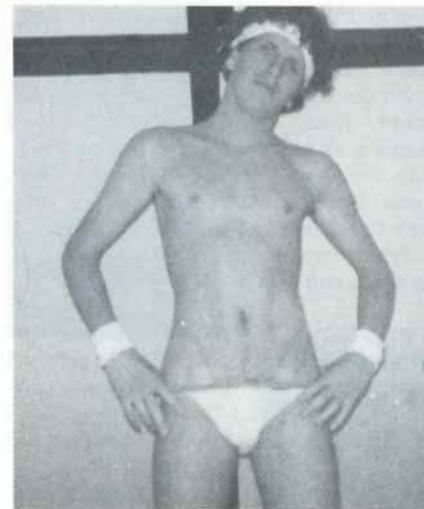
"For satisfying sex on our own premises, the best contact place is really our YELLOWBIRD HOUSE (open every day except Sunday), where we can welcome you with a free drink at our bar, and also offer hot snacks or *tosties*. On cold wet winter days I give all our visitors a bowl of our own home-made soup to cheer them up! Our Manager lives on the premises and can guide our visitors to the ideal escort — and the photo-choice sheets are available too, so a customer can choose a classic blond, or one born in Indonesia, Brazil, The Philippines, etc."

"We insist on a very relaxed atmosphere; no hurry, no pressure. Enjoy a free drink, or two; watch the video movies. We are in business to help make the contact, not to have a race! There are three rooms available and for a contact in one of them the price is 125 guilders for 1 1/2 hours."

"Sometimes," Johann explained, "a visitor wants to stay near us but not in a hotel. So we have a YELLOWBIRD APARTMENT, a comfortable self-contained place to stay for a few days or a week. Bookings must be made 6 weeks

in advance (through Intervision, Postbox 449, 2501 CK The Hague. Tel: 070-63 44 47 or 070-60 15 50). The only rule is that the first contact must be with one of our escorts. After that the guest has a choice of using our services, or of finding other friends in the city. By the way, we also have a new bar, called LA BAMBA (26 Zaagmolendrift, Rotterdam. Tel: 010-65 24 50) which is open every day from early morning until after midnight."

Johann is very strict on health requirements. "Every new escort must first have a hospital examination, followed by a regular monthly health check, especially for Hepatitis B. The results are kept on



each escort's health card. When one of our young men goes on an international trip we must send a copy of this health report and also the passport details straight to the client. He has the right to know that the person we are sending is in perfect health and is not under age."

The photographs show a few of the international escorts that are currently available.



BOOKS



Sex: True Homosexual Experiences from STH, Volume 3
Edited by Boyd McDonald
 (Paperback, illustrated, 191 pages).
 Gay Sunshine Press (P.O. Box 40397, San Francisco CA 94140, USA), \$13.00.

IF YOU ARE seeking raunchy reading for a hot day on the beach (or, even better, hot reading for a raunchy day on the beach!) you will be pleasantly titillated by *Sex*. This sequel to the earlier best-sellers *Meat* and *Flesh*, contains more of the true-life male-male sex "case-histories" that have previously appeared in Boyd McDonald's intriguing magazine, *Straight to Hell*.

The other two books had introductions by well-known American gay liberationists (Charley Shively, and Mitzel of Boston) putting them in a political context. It is a pity that this third collection has no such essay: one would like to read a few barbed comments about the "born-again" brigade, and their current attempts to load Americans with sex-guilt about any and every sexual encounter that is not strictly hetero, within marriage, in the missionary position, and for procreation!

A major reason for the proven appeal of these STH collections is that almost every gay can relate to at least some of the tales. The authors come from diverse

educational and social backgrounds — everyone from truck-drivers to professors has some provocative sexual male-male tale in his closet. The statement: "Truth is stranger than fiction" needs no better proof than the pages of this book.

More of the classic 1950's nude photos from the AMG Studio appear as illustrations, but it is to the story headlines that the reader's eye is drawn. Can you resist such crotch-stirrers as: Airman's Ass Sweat Has Macho Taste; South Dakota Sailor Fucks Boston Boy in Mouth; Rude Italian Sits Bareass on Reader's Face; Youth Lets Priests Play With His Cock, Shit-hole; Medics Find Some Sailor Cock Too Cheesey; or, Finds Russians Have Big Fat Cocks?

What more can one say — except get the book, and enjoy!



Physique: A Pictorial History of the Athletic Model Guild
Edited by Winston Leyland
 (Paperback, illustrated, 92 pages).
 Gay Sunshine Press (address above), \$20.

PHOTOS FROM the Athletic Model Guild have been available since the late 1940s, when Bob Mizer formed his fledgling company to models and photographers together. Today, this stylish outfit has

the distinction of being the oldest male model photographic studio in the USA.

Flipping through this nostalgic collection of 120 photographs, one is struck by the quality of some of the early work — and also by the far greater freedom that the photographer of males now enjoys. The original "oily-boys" wore posing pouches, or coyly turned their backs; in later years all is revealed, with spread legs, explicit erections, and even kissing. In colour too!

A very brief introductory note by Timothy Lewis outlines the history of the company. The Guild has always sought the husky muscular man, and this quality oversized book displays their many charms perfectly.



Fag Rag: Twelfth Anniversary Issue
 (Paperback, illustrated, 128 pages).
 Fag Rag (P.O. Box 331, Kenmore Station, Boston MA 02215, USA), \$9.95.

THOSE WHO PREFER a more varied diet will find this over-sized paperback is both substantial and readable.

For the *Straight to Hell* fans there is a 20-page supplement of STH material not found in *Sex* (see above). In addition, there is a mixture — some good, some not so good — of fiction, autobiography, poetry, photographs and amateur graphics.

For openers, Fred Markham's "Fred's Piece" gives a vivid description of his life as a young street boy in Seattle in the early 1950s. There is a lot of good solid story here, about his efforts to become an entrepreneur in the call-boy business.

Gay liberationist Charley Shively dis-

cusses power in sex in his "Whips, Welts, Chains and Bruises as Acts of Revolution", and Mitzel's one-act play "The Neo-Magnolia Experience" succinctly satirises psychotherapy. Shively's other contribution, "Fred Vaughan: Calamus Lover" is a well-researched historical sketch about Walt Whitman's relationship, as teacher, mentor and lover, to a young man. Following this is Richard Nodarse's lengthy memoir "Keta Kent", about a young female impersonator in Miami Beach.

Three items ("Prison Communications", "When Slaves Love: Prison Sex Roles", and "Interview With Dan") confirm the brutality and horror of the US prison system — a system seemingly designed to foster brutality, forced homosexuality and a return to criminality. Amongst other contributions, two stand out. "Fun at Camp", by Tom, recalls the sexual awakening of a 13-year old at the hands of his camp counselor and lover, and "Fetishism v. Fascism", by Roger Moody, cries out against attempts to manipulate the mind, and calls for a freedom derived from spontaneous mutual satisfaction of desire.

Finally, a Boston Gay Review supplement offers serious discussion about some serious, yet readable, books.

All in all, this is an interesting read, ideal for dipping into when you have a spare moment.

Bob Damron's Address Book — 1984 edition.

YES! Next year's *Bob Damron's* directory has just been published! It is the 20th annual edition, which must be something of a world record in gay-guide publishing. Packed with listings, it runs to 444 pages, but is still pocket-sized. New diagrammatic maps of New York and Chicago identify gay places.

Since the directory is arranged in alphabetical order by States, it would be most useful to have a city index included, for those who are not too knowledgeable about American geography. Available from Spartacus: see colour pages in this issue for prices.



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Casella Postale 11224, I-20110 Milano, Italy.



GAY SCANDINAVIA 1983 GUIDE



NEVER AT A LOSS for something new to publish, COQ is now offering a *Gay Scandinavia 1983 Guide*. The text is in German, Danish and English, and on a recent visit to Denmark I took the opportunity to evaluate some of the information that is given. I am happy to report that it appears to be almost 100% accurate. Of course, every guide ever produced has always suffered from places closing down or changing their name after the book was printed; this cannot be helped.

Using the *Gay Scandinavia Guide* in Denmark it quickly becomes apparent that this is not a guide compiled from information copied from an old *Spartacus* edition. COQ has done diligent and extensive research, admittedly mainly postal, to ensure that the places listed existed at the time of editing the guide.

This is a very handy book in more ways than one. Not only does it fit easily into the pocket, but spacious layout, with an average of less than 9 listing per page, makes it easy to read and convenient to use. Of the 122 pages, only 58 are devoted to a total of 507 listings. Compared with the *Spartacus Guide*, this gives much less value for money: COQ offers 72 1/2 listings per US \$ of the selling price compared with 555 for *Spartacus*. However, the main value of the COQ guide is that it gives a helpful commentary on many of the places listed.

As well as the 507 listings, there is an extremely erotic short story entitled

"Lars — Happy 16", about a middle-aged businessman who goes to a sports centre to swim and finds himself being seduced by an extremely randy 16-year-old blond, blue-eyed dream-boy. There are also interesting, well-written introductions to the countries and in some case to the sections, such as hotels, saunas, etc.

If you are going only to Scandinavia this year for your holiday, you will find the COQ publication very useful. If you are going to other countries, too, naturally you will also need the 1983 *Spartacus Guide*.

The *Gay Scandinavia Guide* is available direct from *Spartacus* at: AUS\$ 8, ÖSch 90, BFr 180, CAN\$ 10, DKr 35, IRE 3, FMk 25, FFr 30, Drch 400, Lit 6,300, Yen 1800, HFI 12, NZ\$ 8, NKr 35, Esc 350, Rand 8, Ptas 500, Skr 30, SFr 15, £ 3, US\$ 7, DM 12, Middle East & N. Africa US\$ 10, Asia and S. America US\$ 12.

Sydney Gay Guide 1983

THIS 80-page Guide lists, under some 30 headings, the establishments and businesses in the Sydney/Newcastle/Canberra area — everything from Accomodation to Travel Agents — that cater for gays, or welcome gay customers.

Interestingly enough, as the Guide points out, consensual acts of male homosexuality in the Australian state of New South Wales can be punished by 14 years in jail, whereas non-consenting acts only attract a penalty of 7 years! The Guide's opening pages highlight one's "Rights on Arrest", giving four Don't's and six Do's for those who have the misfortune to find themselves on the wrong side of the law.

Although the *Sydney Gay Guide* is available free from most gay venues in Sydney, those who wish to receive a copy before going to Australia may send US \$2 (or an equivalent sum), to cover postage costs, to Gay Counselling Service, GPO Box 5074, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia.

CALENDAR OF GAY EVENTS

AMSTERDAM: Jul 30: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

AUSTRALIA: August 1983: NATIONAL CONFERENCE (further details awaited).

WILD WEST WEEK: Aug 4-12: tour USA's Wild West beginning in Reno, Nevada. Details from HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York. Tel: (212) 691 7429.

KATOOMBA, AUSTRALIA: Aug 7-8, Walking trip to Mount Solitary and return. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

MILAN, ITALY: Aug 20-Sept 5: 5th International Gay Camp at Porto S. Elpidio (in the Marche district of Central Italy). Details from BIBILONIA, Postbus 11224, I-20110 Milano, Italy. Tel: 02-836-0002.

AMSTERDAM: Aug 20: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

GRAND CANYON, Colorado: Sep 3-10: Grand Canyon Expedition. Early reservations advised. Details: HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York.

COX RIVER FLATS, AUSTRALIA: Sep 3-4: Glorious walking trip along the river flats. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

PARIS: Sep 10: swimming pool party and lottery. Tickets from Café Moustache, 138 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, Paris 10

AMSTERDAM: Sep 17: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

BUDAWANGS, AUSTRALIA: Sep 17-18: Spectacular walk in sandstone and heath country, for experienced walkers. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

ATLANTIC CRUISE: Sep 19-28: 1700-mile cruise from Halifax, Nova Scotia to Antigua in the Caribbean. HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York.

KANGAROO VALLEY, AUSTRALIA: Oct 1-3: Easy walking and camping in the green meadows of Kangaroo Valley. Koornkoo Hikers, Sydney (Tel: 331-6291 for details).

PARIS: Oct 8: swimming pool party and lottery. Tickets from Café Moustache, 138 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, Paris 10

AMSTERDAM: Oct 15: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

AMSTERDAM: Nov 12: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

RUSSIAN TOUR: Nov 18-27: tour the USSR (Leningrad, Moscow, Kiev). Organised by HANNS EBENSTEN TRAVEL, INC., New York. Tel: (212) 691 7429.

AMSTERDAM: Dec 10: LL Club Party at 't PAKHUIS for Leather and Jeans boys.

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana: Apr-Nov, 1984: WORLD TRADE FAIR. Many gay events planned: watch gay press for details.

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5. We will not forward replies which are not accompanied by International Postal Reply Coupons.

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GAY SERVICES

I HAVE WHAT YOU WANT

NUDE Asians, Latinos, Blacks, Indians, Blondes, Long-hairs, Teens, Duals. Send US\$10.00 for lists of models and five sample colour prints or slides (specify your choice). Add \$2.00 for airmail postage. Mr. Starr Productions, 1324 1/2 North Alexandria Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90027, USA.

LARRY KNIGHT the serious London photographer of young male nudes. For lists send two International Reply Coupons to him. Write Box 80006.

PERSONALS

ACCOMODATION WANTED. Italian man, 30, seeks inexpensive holiday accomodation in young man's house (max. age 35) in London area, for August 1983 period. Write Box 80003.

LEATHER INTROS AND REGULAR CONTACT SHEETS

For further information
send SAE to:

BOX 7A

60 BICESTER ROAD
AYLESBURY
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
ENGLAND



YOUNG ITALIAN Architect with studio 40km from Milan seeks friends in Europe and USA, under same conditions, for exchange of hospitality and professional experience, and co-operation for one or two weeks. Interests are politics, ski, skating, sauna, classical music, romantic love, cheerful life and young friends. Write in French, Italian, English. Photograph welcomed. Box 80005.

AMERICAN, 34, white, handsome, 150 lbs, seeks lover over legal age, but under 20. Details sent to you, and photos returned. Write P.O. Box 10051, Phoenix AZ 85064, USA.

I WOULD LIKE to contact a real friend to correspond or to meet. I am a nice Italian boy of 22 years old and love hairy men with beard or moustache. I will answer all letters with a photo. Write Box 80004.

PORTUGUESE man wishes to contact others. Photo welcome. Write Apartado 5224, P-1706 Lisboa, Portugal.

TWO ITALIAN GUYS (25 and 23 years of age) seek legal work in Milan/Rome/France/Germany/UK. One (graduate) speaks fluent English/French/ elementary German; the other knows French. Write to Giuseppe Pantaleo, FP Alfieri, 10100 Torino, Italy.

BLONDE YOUNG English Biker seeks international friends 18-22 for exchange of visits and hospitality. Photo appreciated. Write Box No. 480, 52A Beulah Road, London E.17., England

ERIC WILLEMS (33 years), G.P.O. Box 96, B-9000 Ghent 1, Belgium, is looking for penpals all over the world. Please send picture, answer assured. Thanks.

PEN PALS WANTED especially from United States, Europe, Middle East and Far East. Also I would be prepared to show tourists around the city of Bombay. Write Box 80007

ROME, Capital of Italy, is a wonderful gay place. If you need accomodation, tours, escorts, or just to meet an Italian gay, write to Box 80008.

BOX 50003. Would the reader whose classified advertisement appeared under this Box No. in our November 1982 issue please contact Spartacus so that we may ascertain the correct address to which his mail should be forwarded.

NOW YOU TOO can discover America! Follow the leader: Go New York. It will make your heart beat faster! Contact Ron Williamson, 1580 Metropolitan Avenue (Apartment 5D), Bronx NY 10462, USA. Phone (212) 863-1985.

ENGLAND and Tenerife male couple 38/55 would like friends. Write Box 80009.

ATTIC APARTMENT in centre of Rome available from late August until mid-December. Must be cat-loving male gay(s). Dates slightly flexible. Rent reasonable. Write Box 80010.

TWO ENGLISHMEN in their 30's wish to meet young boyish looking teenager, over his country's age of consent. Will visit your country and invite you to visit England as our guest. Photo appreciated. Write Box 80011.

ATTRACTIVE MAN invites a boy about 18 to free holidays in Yugoslavia for 14 days (July or August). Beautiful days at the seaside, drives by car through the country etc. You don't need money! Send your photo! Write: Passport S.046414, 61000 Ljubljana, Poste Restante, Yugoslavia.

AMERICAN ARTIST 26, brown, wishes to meet aesthetically-minded young men aged 16-30 from any part of the world. My interests include art, music, cinema, dance, 1984 Olympics. If we share the same interests please write to me, in English, and send a photo. Write Box 80012.

JOHN S. BARRINGTON'S *Superb Youth*, two volumes, published 1970, in numbered limited edition. A pair of books for artists, students and book collectors. A very few copies available, also Vol 2 separately. Prices for 2-vol set (includes airmail postage outside Europe): £25, HFI 100, DM 90, FFr 250, BFr 2000, SFr 75, LIT 60,000, AUS\$ 50, CAN\$ 50, US\$ 50. For Vol. 2 on its own: £12, HFI 50, DM 45, FFr 125, BFr 1000, SFr 38, LIT 30,000, AUS\$ 25, CAN\$ 25, US\$ 25. Send order with payment to Box 70002.

QUEBEC Canada. Six young men (ages 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 39) have opened their houses to offer a warm welcome to friendly travellers who wish to share good meals, outings and walks, dancing and discussions. All are non-smokers and abstainers from all kinds of drugs. Write for details to Pierre Michel, P.O. Box 8891, Ste-Foy, Quebec City, Canada G1V 4N7 (Tel: 418 658-1420).

AMERICAN visiting Berlin and southern Germany mid-August to mid-September seeks new German friends. Write to Box 80013.

BUSINESS MAN 44 years old, travelling all over Europe, Asia and Australasia seeks local friends everywhere. Age under 30 preferred. Write to Box 80014.

GAYS WORLDWIDE
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magazine covering the gay scene in the South Pacific. Subscription Rates: Surface NZ\$17.00; Air Mail NZ\$22.00 - Write to P.O. Box 3175 Auckland, New Zealand.

WHEN IN SCOTLAND be sure to buy **GAY SCOTLAND** (60p) for up-to-date news and scene guide. Sample copy £1.50 post-paid from Ian Dunn, Editor, Top Flat, 52 Broughton Street, Edinburgh EH1 3SA, Scotland.

PAZ Y LIBERACION newsletter of gay liberation events in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Arab lands. US\$3 yearly (for 12 issues) in English, Spanish or Portuguese. Write P.O. Box 600063, Houston, TX 77260, USA.

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on, look through it and discover a new point of view. For subscription information write to: Ventana Gay, Apartado Aéreo 43.593, Bogota D.E.1., Colombia (South America).

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