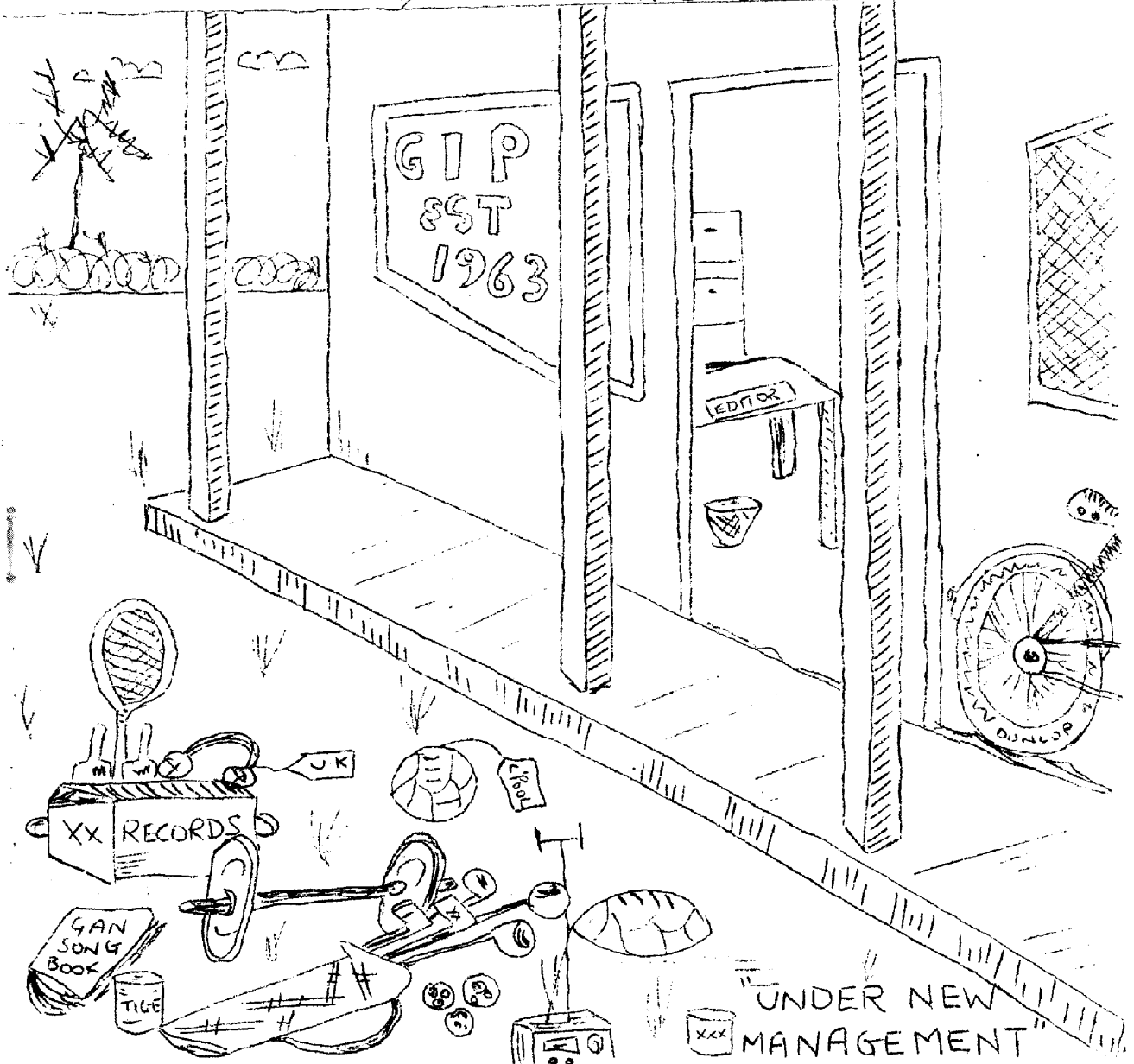


# GAN ISLAND POST

EDITION 256  
EDITORS; SCOOP  
AND BAINES

WEEK ENDING  
2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 1968



CO-EDITORIAL

Having been elevated from the position of u/t reporter (unpaid) to that of Co-Editor (unpaid) this gives me the chance of writing a few words.

To some the initials G.I.P. stand for Good In Parts, to others Garbage In Print, but to me they mean GAN Island Post. The emphasis as I see it should be on Gan, and the paper should be a reflection of life on Gan. The Island itself changes very little; a few more Charlie and Tiger cans holding up the sea walls, an unused, finished swimming pagar, (as distinct from an unused, unfinished swimming pagar, which was here when I arrived). The reflection should therefore be of the people on Gan.

G.I.P. has been criticised in the past as having only limited interest to a few people. This may be true, but the fault lies with the great majority of people who do not have sufficient interest to do anything about it. The remedy of course is to have contributions from a wider selection of people. It has always been the policy of G.I.P. to print almost everything that is submitted. This is still true. Articles, poems, short stories anything in fact. This is not a professional journal and the standard is not very high so, come on then all you budding Alistair Macleans, Ian Flemings, John Betjemans, you have to start somewhere. This could be the start of something big.

SCOOP

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HAVE YOU HEARD

1. The Cossor men are here and working in Plantation Road?
2. The Irish Rover left very quietly and was almost off-loaded for being sober?
3. There is a Waffle machine in SHQ?
4. The Admiral may have a new crew member?
5. The next NAAFI sale has a good line in gas masks and bedside commodes?
6. Tornados Rossini has had his batteries recharged at Singers, but he's not giving much away about how it was done?
7. Bram the Ram has had his hair styled?
8. For further demonstrations of how to put three darts in a row in the treble-twenty please ring ext 219?
9. They're Backing Britain at home?

THIS WEEK'S THOUGHT OF Mo.

"Women & wine, game and deceit, make the wealth small and the wants great".

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RAF GAN  
28th Feb 68

The Editor  
GIP

Dear Sir,

I have discovered the following article in my local newspaper from a remote northerly part of England. For the sake of those who remember the characters concerned, you may wish to reproduce it in the G.I.P. There is some doubt as to whether the Ref really came from the Cookhouse, but to change this would spoil the headline.

COOKHOUSE 'REF' GETS CORPORAL IN A STEW

"It was 80 in the shade when the fire section met the signal section in an RAF Unit League soccer match, three months ago on the island of Gan, in the Indian Ocean. But things got even warmer when Cpl. David Air, a fireman, tripped an opponent. Referee Cpl "Bunny" Burrows, a cook in the same unit, gave him his marching orders. Before he left the field right half Air took off his jersey and threw it at the ref.

But today Cpl. Air was boiling when he heard the penalty for that trip-banned for a year by the RAF football association. The ban is one of the longest ever imposed by the RAF FA.

Cpl. Air, 28, who lives in married quarters at Catterick with his wife and baby daughter, said: "I'm amazed that this can happen over an unimportant little match when professional footballers only get suspended for a few weeks."

He added: "I tripped another player and Burrows ordered me off. I pulled my jersey off and threw it at him before leaving the field. "The temperature was around 80 at the time and that didn't help my temper.

"I expected to get suspended for a month or two but a year is shattering, especially as I have never been sent off before in nine years of RAF football." An RAF spokesman at Catterick said: "It is possible that we will have to appeal to have Cpl Air's suspension reduced".

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MUSIC CIRCLE NOTICE

The Music Circle will meet on Tuesday 5th March at 2015 hours in the Church Club. A welcome awaits any music enthusiast.

The programme will be:-

- Bolero by Ravel
- The Planets by Holst

SATELLITES AND THE WEATHER

April 1960 saw the beginning of a new era in meteorology with the launching of TIROS weather satellite. From an altitude of 450 miles pictures of the various weather systems were observed and radiocd back to earth. Within a short space of time many thousands of square miles were photographed and recorded, and for the first time confirmation was received that clouds really do spiral into a depression or 'low' looking for all the world like a huge catharine wheel, or a spiral nebula - but TIROS 1 had its limitations. It was a command read - out satellite, which meant that only a few places especially equipped could receive these valuable pictures. Weather recognises no international boundaries, and exchange of weather data on an international scale really does work, so an automatic PICTURE TRANSMISSION system, or APT for short was developed. Various Tiros spacecraft equipped with different types of cameras were launched, leading to the first APT TIROS VIII on 21st December 1963, followed by NIMBUS I in August 1964.

Orbiting at a height of 700 to 800 Miles these satellites were able to photograph a strip round the world some 900 miles wide, south pole to the equator, to the north pole in just under one hour. The APT system is of a camera/radio transmitter combination sending during daylight slow-scan television pictures, at night infra - red information and any receiving station with a suitable antenna, receiver, and fax - recorder can intercept the photographs. The original satellites have now been superseded by improved models, i.e. Nimbus 2 ESSA 2, 3, 4, 5, the latest and best being ESSA 6, launched November 1967. The camera system on this spacecraft has a 90 degree field of view, this means that there is an overlap on each successive picture, and also on each orbit or 'strip'. So within 4 hours or so a mosaic of the weather systems covering some 16 to 17 million square miles can be built up. Knowing the exact time of a particular photograph, its geographical position can be easily determined by reference to a "standard" orbit, and lines of lattitude and longitude are drawn on the pictures using an optical method. Most coastlines show up very well on satellite pictures and this of course makes the geographical 'fix' very straightforward, and usually the computed position is within + or - 0.3 degree. Over the oceans where weather information is sparse, satellite pictures are invaluable, and for this reason Gan was selected as an ideal APT receiving station - hence the small green hut with the corkscrew aerial on the roof. On most days cloud pictures are received covering places as far apart as the Himalayas to Australia, Hong Kong and Vietnam to Niarobi, Cyprus to Singapore. Aircrow leaving Gan are able to 'see' the weather expected on various routes before taking - off, and its use in a possible S.A.R. operation are obvious - and now VC 10 captains are able to announce to their passengers that 'a clear flight to our destination is expected' with confidence.

R.P. JOHNSON

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The householder was very pleased with the way that the MPBW painter had improved his house. "You did a wonderful job", he said to the painter, "and I'm giving you a little extra for yourself. Here's £1. Take the missus to a show". The next evening the doorbell rang and when the householder answered it, there was the painter stood in the doorway, dressed in his finest. "Yes, what is it?" the man asked. "Did you forget something?" "No", answered the painter, "I just came to take the missus to a show".

THE GAN SONG BOOK

Because of the resounding success of last week's printing of the first page of The Gan Song Book, (well at least 3 people liked it - not including me!) we are therefore reproducing the second page.

If you are one of those people who, as we wrote last week, "cannot remember the words", and you would like your favourite tune including in the Song Book (providing that it is not "I am a Rock"! ) then write to G.I.P. and we'll see what we can do for you. In order to help us do this, if those people who do happen to know the words (clean ones of course) of some suitable tunes would write them down and send them to us, then we would be only too pleased to print them.

This week's song is probably the most popular one on the Island judging by the number of times it was requested at Christmas and the number of times played on Radio Gan since. The place referred to in the song isn't Gan, but an "establishment" in Cork City where the sailors went when they came ashore.

HOLY GROUND

Fare thee well my lovely Diana,  
A thousand times adieu,  
For we're going away from the Holy Ground,  
And the girls we all love true,  
We will sail the South Sea over,  
And we'll return for sure,  
To see again the girls we love,  
And the Holy Ground once more, (fine girl you are!)

You're the girl I do adore,  
And still I live in hopes to see,  
The Holy Ground once more.

And now the storm is raging,  
And we are far from shore,  
And the good old ship is tossing about,  
And the rigging is all tore,  
And the secret of my mind, my love,  
You're the girl I do adore,  
And still I live in hopes to see,  
The Holy Ground once more, (fine girl you are!)

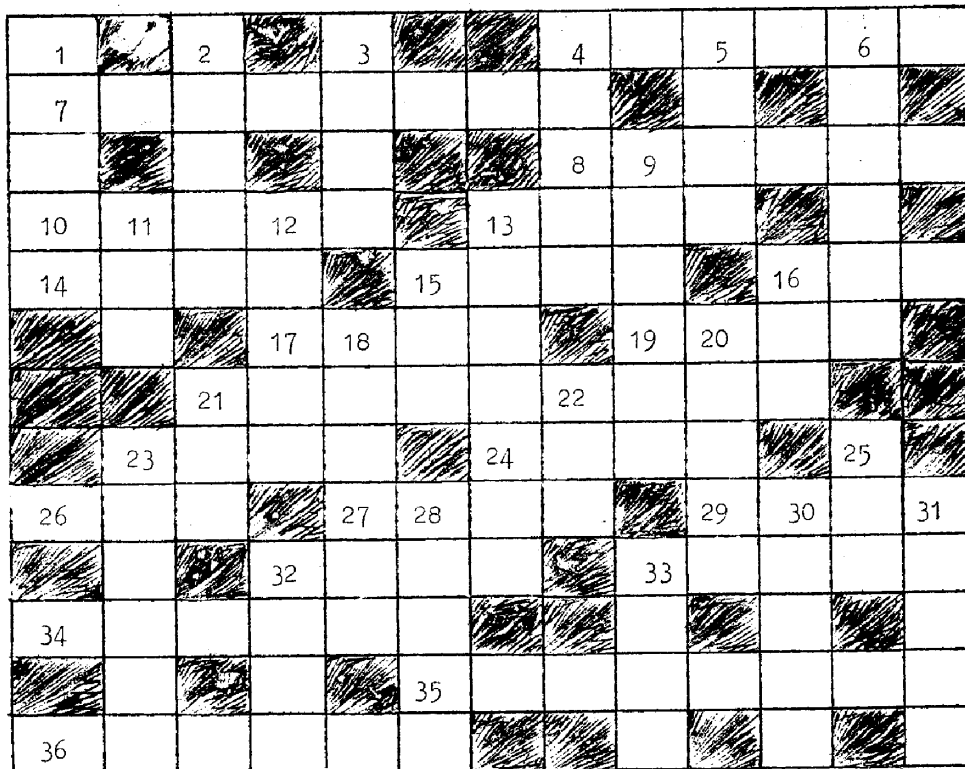
And now the storm is over,  
And we are safe and well.  
We will go into a public house  
And we'll sit and drink our fill,  
We will drink strong ale and porter,  
And make the rafters, roar,  
And when our money is all spent  
We will go to sea once more,

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First Fruit Bat : That was now two-engine jet that went by. Don't you wish you could fly that fast?

Second Fruit Bat: Listen, if I had two tails and they were both on fire, you wouldn't even see me!

CROSSWORD



Clues-Across

4. Though friendly, a boy didn't speak the truth (6).
7. They float around having a chilling effect (8).
8. The boy with the barrow (6).
10. Certainly not ignorant (5).
13. The wine that's left (4).
14. One of those tricky games (4).
15. Message of importance, presumably (4).
16. This fish comes back to shelter (3).
17. Place the cards on the table (4).
19. As worn by Wong?(4).
21. One I grasp for a change (9).
23. A growing source of cash (4).
24. Letter and district (4).
26. A long way to take some paraffin back (3).
27. Does she embrace a pupil?(4).
29. He upsets lime in the milk (4).
32. Malay dagger (4).
33. A dock-side bird?(5).
34. Put in order (6).
35. Billy has an assortment of neck-ties (8).
36. You can rely on it for a game (6).

Clues - Down

1. A king, but a girl at heart (5).
2. Came across a name in gold, perhaps (5).
3. And now?(4).
4. Where to have a one-man meeting?(5).
5. What a ship may have due to silt? (4).
6. Team or time, perhaps (6).
9. Reg is in a state (6).
11. Came out on top (3).
12. Does his name mean less than Borodin's?(5).
13. A kind of bear is a star (7).
15. Find fault with a horse?(3).
16. Lamb's mother (3).
18. Complete (6).
20. It leaves one no choice (5).
21. A man like Malcolm Sargent (3).
22. Just a step (3)
23. Where good paper comes from? (6).
25. Drink is a trap (3).
28. An added clause (5).
30. A craze started by man (5).
31. The first woman in the bar (5).
32. The excitement in soccer?(4).
33. Have one's fling (4).

PADRE'S PAGE

(Enjoy your first bash David)

This week Lent has started and Ash Wednesday has been and gone and also the traditional day of feasting Shrove Tuesday. The origin of Pancake Day is of course that this was the last day that Christians could really eat and feast themselves and have a good time in the physical sense. This is the reason also why there are so many fairs and village celebrations on this day. Ash Wednesday brings an apparent cloud and the serious business of fasting begins. There unfortunately many traps in this particular form of religious expression.

The Jews fasted long before Christ came along but were often accused of doing it for the wrong motives. They seemed to do it sometimes so that other men would realise how religious they were. In some cases they even went to the extent of making their faces whiter and more drawn than they were naturally. This was merely an outward and physical expression. Hosea saw that there was a trap in this kind of stereotyped religion were people could get wrapped up in what was to be done rather than in its meaning. He said 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice says the Lord', or if you like God requires your heart and not some easy outward expression which can be acted. In the book of the Prophet Joel we have the sentence, ' Rend your heart and not your garments, and turn unto your God; for he is gracious and merciful slow to anger and of great kindness'. The Jews certainly had progressed from the fixed laws of Moses which must be obeyed no matter what the individual himself really felt.

Christ went even a stage further and showed that we should parade our personal devotions before other people. We should go to a most private place in order to commune with our God. It certainly is not necessary to tell everybody about our lack of food because we are spending our time reading the word of God and praying with Him. The marked difference between Christianity and most other religions is that it is not bothered with the external appearances of men as much as the internal relationship with God. One of the basic difficulties about this is that it is all too easy to try and judge a man by what is seen. This does not allow for the particular traits of the man concerned. Each man's spiritual life is his own particular relationship with God and it is a relationship that takes a lot of hard work but it is not paraded before other men. It may become apparent to other men because of the man's life but it may not.

In the letter of James in the New Testament we find a slightly different emphasis which so confounded Luther that he had to lay the whole of the book and one side and say that it was inconsistent with the teaching of the New Testament and therefore was worthless. James says that if a man has faith it will make a difference to his actions. This would seem to contradict what has been written above but notice that it has not been said anywhere by Christ that it does not matter what a man does although what is in his heart is more important. If any man has a spiritual life then it is bound to influence his personality and his actions. This does not make him any better than anyone else just merely better than he was although he himself will not realise this.

I hope you will appreciate that every man's life in this phere is bound to be different and therefore it is most difficult to try and lay down laws about any man's spiritual behaviour. Except to say that in the whole of the message of Christ it is obvious we are going to gain in ourselves if we have a spiritual life of our own. The problem is it is our own responsibility.

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This week end services as normal with the addition of

HOLY COMMUNION immediately after the Evening Service.

All services this Sunday will be taken by the Rev'd A. Gibson.

Next week Sunday March 10th services as normal but taken by the Rev'd A Heron.

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A Roman Catholic Padre (Father Terpstra) will be on the station from Friday March 1st to Tuesday March 5th and can be contacted on Ext 273 or 210.

SPORT

"SOCCER"

Inter Section Results 1200 hrs Friday 1st March

SHQ	2	SAS Flight	2
MCS/CAT	1	Equip/Fire	4
GEF	2	Commcen	4

LEAGUE TABLE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Against	Pts.
Equip/Fire	7	6	1	0	39	11	13
Commcen	7	5	2	0	25	10	12
MCS/CAT	7	5	1	1	23	11	11
SHQ	7	3	1	3	24	11	7
SAS Flight	6	2	1	3	12	22	5
Signals	6	1	0	5	16	28	2
GEF	7	1	0	6	10	36	2
Hitt.	5	0	0	5	2	22	0

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TENNIS TOURNAMENT FINALS

After a 24 hour postponement owing to rain the Singles and Doubles Finals of the Station Tennis Tournament were held on Thursday of this week.

The contestants of both finals were well matched and a Wimbledon atmosphere developed very quickly after the outset. In the singles Cpl Steele eventually overtook Jnr Tech Fary to win two straight sets 9-7, 6-4. Both players are to be congratulated on their high standard of play and sportsmanship.

The doubles turned into a three set Marathon with Wg Cdr Mullineaux and Flt Lt Dodd beating Flt Lt Kingston and Flt Sgt Gaze 6-3, 11-13, 6-0. The steady play of the winners eventually broke down the skill of Flt Lt Gaze and the enthusiasm of his partner who played well despite his relative inexperience.

This tournament has been most enjoyable and successful and it is hoped to repeat it in the near future. Thanks go to those who volunteered to act as umpires and linesmen - well done!

C.S. HANCOCK.



# UNCLE BUNNY'S AGONY COLUMN

## UNCLE BUNNY'S COLUMN

Q. I am a shy young man with a great need to assert my masculinity. How should I go about this?

Dreamer,  
Cambridge.

A. I would suggest you chew tobacco and spit a good deal.

-----  
Q. I'm in love with my boss and I don't know what to do?

Distracted  
Budleigh Salterton

A. Until you inform me of your own sex and that of your boss I don't know what you should do or whether you should do anything.

-----  
Q. I am playboy of independent means. Can you tell me my position as regards Income Tax allowance?

Fancy Free  
London.

A. So far as I am aware you do not qualify for an allowance whatever position you adopt.

-----  
Q. After several years of turning out regularly with the local Rugby team I find my enthusiasm for the rough-and-tumble is waning.

Former Enthusiast,  
Glamorgan.

A. Try turning out with the local soccer team-for a change young lady.

-----  
Q. I just can't say 'No' - I'm made that way. Can you help?

Troubled Hitchin.

A. I don't think so, but you certainly will get made that way.

-----  
Q. After five months on Gan I can't stop brooding about women - in fact I think of little else.

Deprived,  
BFPO 180

A. No harm in that, as long a little Else is worth thinking about.

SPORT

WATER SKI CLUB

Can you ski?

If not, why not have a try at this exciting sport?

The Water Ski Club is back in full operation with a brand new engine. Novices are given every chance with an expert instructor to show them all the basic techniques. Our rates are most reasonable, a trip of up to 15 minutes, if you can stand the strain, will cost a novice 2/6d. When you can stay up for a circuit the charge increases to the normal non-members' and visitors' rate of 5/- for 15 minutes. Full members pay £1 per month and 2/6d for 15 minutes.

Care to try?

We operate every afternoon, launching at 1400 hours from the Sailing Club and then operating from the raft by the MCS jetty.

We extend a welcome to all who may be interested.

Officer i/c Water Ski Club.

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MORE OF UNCLE BUNNY

Dear Uncle Bunny,

I am still one of the key men at MPBW and this time I have just returned from a duty trip in Singapore where I indulged. Last time I returned from a trip away from the island I was made to go to Hittadu as soon as I left the aeroplane to fix the electric supply. This time I was made to fix the water supply within minutes of arriving at Transit. Do you think that I am irreplaceable to Gan?

T. Rossini, MPBW

Uncle Bunny says: It seems to me that you arrange these so-called breakdowns so that you will further your career by being the bright lad who is needed to fix everything. My advice to you is the next time you leave the island - stay off.

Dear Uncle Bunny,

I am a young, devilishly handsome, intellegent bird-watching gentleman in a rather high position, coming to the end of my tour on Gan. During the past year I have been forced to mix with some rather dubious characters from Empeebee Doubleu and the Ballconatic Society, and these have threatened to see me off the island when I leave to take up my next post at Sclatar. What worries me is that my good lady wife will be meeting me at Gan and I wonder what she will make of my so called 'friends'. Should I tell her to come by another route or should I make plans so that she does not get off the aeroplane.

Worried S.S.Q.

Uncle Bunny says; The best thing you can do for this problem is to see the SMO.

FILM MAN

"CALTEX UNDER FIRE"

Yes, poor old Caltex, they're certainly taking a beating just recently, and the very name itself seems to be synonymous of a doomed evening at the Astra. But why? Admittedly, even the most short sighted among us can see that these films were intended originally as a deliberate plug for Caltex products. The big question is; - Is the plugging of the product sufficient to dominate the film, or are the raucous comments uttered when a Caltex film is shown just a sign of childish annoyance?

Personally, I enjoy these films and try to ignore the inevitable Caltex adverts strewn throughout. They are to my mind well made documentaries, giving us a view of other ways of life and parts of the world of which we otherwise would remain completely ignorant.

When a "Look at Life" film is shown it is never met by a deluge of adverse comments, so why should Caltex? Let's face it, business is business and they are hardly likely to advertise 'Shell' or 'Esso', are they?

So how about giving them a chance? Don't look for the plugs but sit back and enjoy the documentary side of the films.

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"THE LONG DUEL"

From the five films on release at the Astra next week I have selected 'The Long Duel' as being the most promising for a good night's entertainment.

Starring Yul Brynner, Virginia North and Trevor Howard it is set in the wild mountains of Northern India, and has plenty of potential.

A true story, it tells of the age old clash of personalities of two entirely different kinds of man. This leads to an almost comical feud between Sultan (Yul Brynner), leader of the Bhanta Tribe, and Freddie Young (Trevor Howard), a police officer, given the luckless task of catching the elusive Sultan.

This action, packed film in technicolour should, as I say, give a good, enjoyable evenings entertainment for all.

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ASTRA CINEMA PROGRAMME WEEK COMMENCING 3RD MARCH 1968

<u>SUNDAY AT 1830 &amp; 2045 HRS</u>	<u>"THE QUILLER MEMORANDUM"</u>	George Segal Senta Berger RAFCC. Techni/Scope Spy Adv.
<u>MONDAY &amp; TUESDAY AT 1930 HRS</u> Pathe News; Shorts	<u>"DONT MAKE WAVES"</u>	Tony Curtis Claudia Cardinale RAFCC T./Scope Satiro Comedy
<u>WEDNESDAY AT 1830 &amp; 2045 HRS</u> Look at Life	<u>"AROUND THE WORLD UNDER THE SEA"</u>	Lloyd Bridges Shirley Eaton RAFCC. T'colour Submarine Adv.
<u>THURSDAY &amp; FRIDAY AT 1930 HRS</u> Pathe News. Short	<u>"THE LONG DUEL"</u>	Yul Brynner Trevor Howard RAFCC Techni/Scope
<u>SATURDAY AT 1830 &amp; 2045 HRS</u>	<u>"THE LOST WORLD"</u>	Michael Rennie Jill St John Renter. T/Scope Science Fiction

ALL 3/6d SEATS BOOKABLE IN ADVANCE.

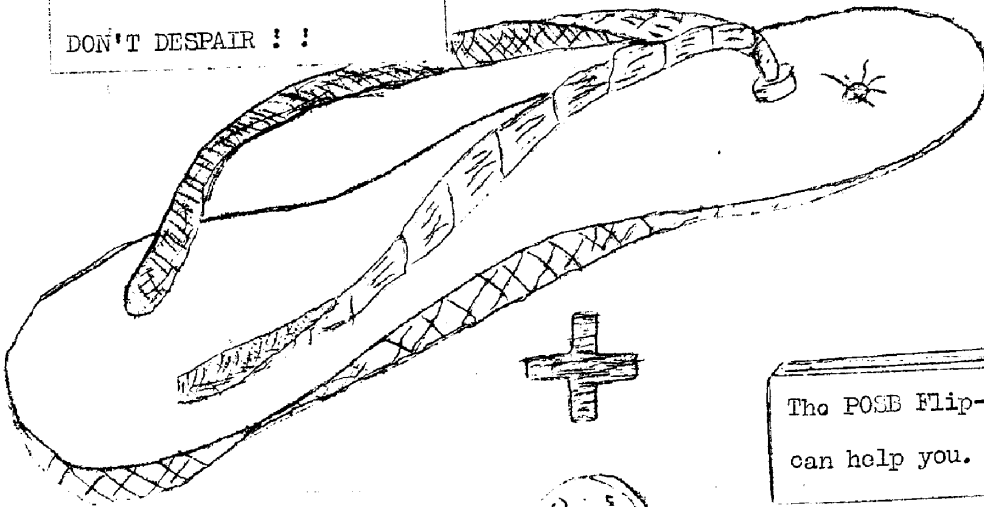
# POSB CORNER

## THIS WEEK'S TIP

## THE POSB FLIP) - FLOP WASHER

This enables your Flip-Flops to last even LONGER.

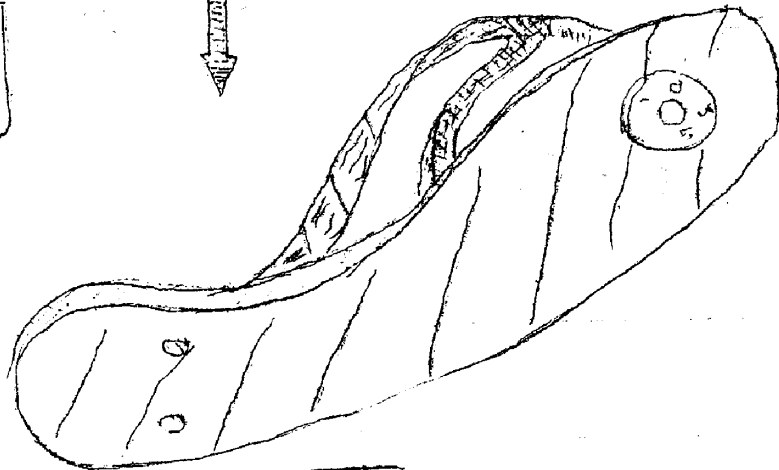
When this happens to you  
DON'T DESPAIR !!



The POSB Flip-Flop Washer  
can help you.



Be the envy of all  
your friends.



Good for the rest of your tour.

NEXT WEEK

POSB CORNER brings you "50 ways to save a 1d"