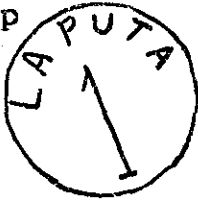


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There are those who maintain rating systems,
those who ignore rating systems,
and those who prostitute themselves to rating systems.
This publication is dedicated to the last group.

LAPUTA is an occasional publication for the Postal Diplomacy Rating Commission, a voluntary association of curators of Postal Diplomacy rating systems. It is automatically sent to members of the Commission. Interested parties may subscribe @ 15¢ per issue. A copy will also be deposited with the Postal Diplomacy Archives in Lebanon IN. This issue is Pandemonium Publication #552, edited and published by Rod Walker, 4069 Jackdaw St., San Diego CA 92103.

1. This is going to be a short issue, just to get the ball rolling.
2. Due to labor strife within Braniff Airlines, Jeff Key has been working 10-16 hours a day, and has been unable to communicate or, obviously, put out slab. He finally called me the other night. Since no member of the commission has objected to Jeff or to me, and since Jeff does in fact wish to step down, he suggested that I get things started, taking over as Chairman and putting the show on the road.
3. Consider it done. Now, Jeff has a packet of materials which he has from the other members and which he is going to mail to me. He wanted a copy of Len Lakofka's original ROGUE'S from DW #2, which I promised to xerox. I was delayed in doing that, but got it done today, so here you are, Jeff.
4. Neither Jeff nor I has a copy of Jeff Power's circular letter-- apparently on ratings. Does anyone have a copy they can let me have or borrow?
5. When Jeff's packet of materials arrives, I will sort it out and begin publication of it. What I hope to do is devote each issue of LAPUTA to a different and separate question or issue. That way, whenever I have time and enough material, I will put one out. I will be doing this during my lunch hour, using the machine at work. (Yes, Virginia, I also at last have my own machine, too.)
6. Owing to Len Lakofka's offer to take over the Chairmanship from Jeff, which arrived here just after Jeff and I had completed the transfer, I have written Len separately. If Len wants to share the work and expense of this job, I see no reason why the commission cannot have Co-Chairmen. If that's all right with Len, and with everybody else, we'll work out details of how to split things up. There's plenty to keep us both busy, I'm sure.
7. Yes, I know Mike Childers also published a LAPUTA, a gamezine. However, this is the perfect name for this 'zine, and Childers' is defunct. As you know, in Gulliver's Travels, Laputa is the floating island (in the air, that is) of mad mathematicians and others. And besides...note the dedication at the top...in Spanish la puta is--THAT'S RIGHT!
8. Send comments and business to me, and we will get things perking along as soon as the packet of stuff arrives from Jeff.

To: Lakofka, Buchanan, Key, Beyerlein,
Power, von Metzke. Best,
also Verheiden (potential member?)
Did I miss anybody?

Rod