1982 EUROCON VII

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE

SEVENTH EUROPEAN SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION (EUROCON 82)

TO BE HELD AT <u>LA CHAUX-DE-FONDS</u>, SWITZERLAND 10th-15th AUGUST 1982.

The 7th European SF convention will be held in the charming small town of La Chaux-de-Fonds, between Lake Neuchatel and the French border in Western Switzerland. Convention chairman Pascal Ducommun and his committee extend a warm invitation to British fans.

Among those who have been invited, let's mention:

ARKADY & BORIS STRUGATSKY (USSR), writers; IAN WATSON, DORIS LESSING (UK), writers; DARKO SUVIN (Yugoslavia/Canada), critic; STANISLAW LEM (Poland), writer; PIERRE VERSINS (Switzerland), writer/critic; PIERRE CHRISTIN (France), artist, "Valerian"

The convention hotel will be 1'Ancien Stand and the room-rate will be 25 Swiss Francs per person per night. The convention proceedings (including the art-show featuring lesser-known SF artists especially from Switzerland and East Germany) will be in two nearby halls either side of a restaurant.

- Q) What are European Conventions like?
- A) The proceedings of Eurocon are similar to our Eastercons although, naturally, because of the size of the convention, the programme is larger and more diverse.
- Q) What about the Language Barrier?
- A) All the major and a fair proportion of other programme items, are either translated or in English. Having just returned from a holiday in Switzerland I can speak from experience and say the language barrier did not appear. Which was just as well as I only speak English!
- Q) Can I afford Switzerland?
- A) Switzerland has a reputation for being expensive and to some extent it is justified. Items like clothing are expensive but food is cheaper than in this country.

SWITZERLAND

- Q) How do I get there?
- A) As we want as many people as possible to go to Eurocon Vll we are organising a 'group travel arrangement'. Apart from keeping the cost down, it should be great fun travelling there and back! If you are interested tick the box on the Eurocon 84 form and we will send you details.

MEMBERSHIP

Attending Membership is 30 Swiss Francs until 31st December 1981; thereafter 50 Swiss Francs. Supporting Membership (receiving publications of the convention) is 15 Swiss Francs. Send correspondence to: Eurocon V11 1982, Congres Europeen de Science Fiction, La Chaux-de-Fonds CCP 23-20234, Switzerland.

As there are quite a few ways of sending money to Switzerland, each of which has its own quirks, I'll summarise the four most common methods;

- 1) Bank Draft Order a Bank Draft from your local bank in the required amount of Swiss Francs. Ask them to make it payable to Eurocon V11 1982. The draft will be cashed in La Chaux-de-Fonds.
- 2) Swiss Currency Buy the required amount of Swiss Francs from a bank.
- 3) Sterling Cheques Make cheques payable to Eurocon V11 1982, convert membership cost from Swiss Francs to Sterling and add £1 for Swiss currency conversion. Check your bank for charges.
- 4) Sterling Currency Convert membership cost from Swiss Francs to Sterling and add £1 for Swiss currency conversion.
- NB) Exchange Rates are shown in all major banks and also in the majority of newspapers. Cash, we suggest, should be sent by regestered post.

POST SCRIPT - JOHN BRUNNER

"This sounds like a pretty fair layout for a successful con, with two halls either side of a restaurant and that sort of a GoH list! Also the room-rates at the hotel are cheaper than most of what we've been getting in Britain recently, even if the registration fee may look a bit steep... but remember it has to cover things like translating all the publicity. I'm looking forward to going. Hope to see lots of you there!"

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EUROCON Could Come To

Britain In 84

If there's one date in SF which everybody knows, apart from 2001, then it must be 1984. That's the year we'd like the European SF Convention to come to Britain, in combination with the regular Eastercon.

Q) What is Eurocon?

A) Every two years since 1972 cons have been held with the special aim of bringing together fans and pros from as many different countries as possible, under the aegis of a committee with representatives of about 15 nationalities. The venues have been as far apart as Poland, Belgium and Italy, and most have been in conjunction with a national con. To win the 1984 Eurocon we must bid in Switzerland in 1982 and that means we must start campaigning now, which is why we need your support right away!

Q) What do we plan to do?

A) Organise a memorable convention which will be a traditional Eastercon plus a convention that can be enjoyed by people from all over Europe.

Q) How will the Con be different from usual?

A) We hope to run parallel programming with some items in other languages. We're planning to ask each foreign delegation to bring a film or films not seen (or rarely) in Britain. We expect to have one <a href="white-shape-

Q) Where and When?

A) Easter 1984 at the Metropole, Brighton, which is anxious to have us back and will quote the same discount on their standard fees as on previous occasions. This is because (a) it is convenient for people coming from abroad, (b) the town offers plenty of alternative accommodation for impoverished foreign visitors with currency problems, and (c) we know the hotel can handle our numbers.

Q) Who are we?

A) At the end of 1981, we are.....Arnold AKIEN, Sunderland...Simon BERESFORD, London. ..Gerald BISHOP, Cambridge....Helen & Sandy BROWN, Blantyre...Vernon BROWN, Birmingham... .John & Marjorie BRUNNER, Somerset.....Phil DAWSON, Edinburgh....Alan & Rochelle DOREY, Harrow...Paul DORMER, London..Martin EASTER-BROOK, Northolt...John FAIREY, Kent....Colin FINE, Cambridge...Joy HIBBERT & John ROWLEY, Stoke-on-Trent. . Martin & Katie HOARE, Reading ... Anthony JOHNSTON, Bromley.... Naveed KHAN, Bolton & Cardiff.....Dave & Hazel LANGFORD, Reading...Chris LEWIS, High Wycombe..... Hugh MASCETTI, Swansea...Graham MIDDLETON, Bracknell...David MONTGOMERY, Reading...Pauline & Chris MORGAN, Birmingham.....Paul OLDROYD, Leeds...Geoff RIPPINGTON, Kent....Roger ROB-INSON, Essex...Ken & Joyce SLATER, Wisbech... ... Martin TUDOR, Birmingham... Ian WILLIAMS, Sunderland....

As you can see, at present, there are over 30 people actively involved in the 1984 Eurocon Bid. To give details of who everyone is and what activity they have responsibility for would take more room than is available. (Pre-Eurocon 82 a further flyer will be issued with more information. LOTS MORE!) However, the names, addresses and duties of those people involved in the paperwork side of the bid are listed below for your edification...

Ex-Officio - John Brunner

Probably everyone knows that John has been around, both as writer and fan, for a very lo-o-ong time... and has won the Hugo, the British SF Award, the Prix Apollo, the Cometa d'Argento, and so on. Among the other hats he wears, he is at present joint president (with Alim Keshokov of the USSR) of the Eurocon committee, and very much hopes that Eurocon will come to Britain before his term expires in 1984. His main problem is to make sure that we have people to take on all the jobs that are going to have to be tackled, and is eager for offers of help to be sent to him at: The Square House, Palmer Street, South Petherton, Somerset TA13 5DB......

BSFA Liaison - Alan Dorey

"The venerable Chairman of the British S.F. Association; editor of Gross Encounters, past winner of the NOVA award, works in the admin section of an insurance company and is secrectly plotting to take over the world... starting with Europe" (Yorcon 2 P.R.) Alan is dealing with all invitations and correspondence to and from the European Science Fiction Groups and Delegations. Alan Dorey, 64 Hartford Ave, Kenton, Harrow HA3 8SY....

Treasurer - John Fairey

John is one of those people that like to try the difficult jobs first. Having organised and been the Chairman of Unicon 1 (the first successful campus convention) he has now taken on the responsibility for all financial matters. John Fairey: Clydack House, Queens Road, Lydd, Romney Marsh, England TN29 9DG

Registrations - Pauline and Chris Morgan

Pauline and Chris are the mainstays of the Birmingham Science Fiction Group. Chris is the present editor of the group's magazine. These two willing volunteers have taken on the responsibility of all registrations including pre-supporting. Their address is: 39 Hollybrow, Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 4LK

Publications - Geoff Rippington

Geoff has been attending conventions since 1975 and is editor of Arena SF magazine and co-editor of the BSFA "British S.F. Writers" series of booklets. Geoff is responsible for all publications and publicity material published by Eurocon 84 U.K! Any questions or offers of help should be sent to: 6 Rutland Gardens, Birchington, Kent, England CT7 9SN

Q) How can people scattered all over the place run a con?

A) By deputing various sections of it to willing local groups and/or people living near one another. We have one bunch of nearneighbours who have offered to "sponsor" us with computer help for registrations; we have someone willing to organise the import of foreign films and booking of others available in Britain; as for the fan room, Gannet fandom (bless'em) have taken it on in toto. All such groups will report regularly to a core committee, and representatives will meet as frequently as required.....We're wide open, of course, to further offers of help. You?

Q) Are we sure of getting the Eurocon here in 1984?

A) No, we're not, and shan't be until a vote is taken at the Swiss meeting in 1982. But if we have a sizeable delegation at La Chaux -de-Fonds, we stand a very fair chance of winning. Otherwise... well!

Q) What can people do if they like the idea?

- a) a) Sign up for Eurocon V11 82 even if you can't actually go.
 - b) Take out Pre-Supporting membership in EUROCON 84 UK! (see forms enclosed)

