

exhibitions

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• SUZANNE HILBERRY GALLERY

Sculptures by Alexander Calder, two hanging mobiles and five standing works, dating from 1948 to 1972, fill the gallery through January, 555 S. Woodward, Birmingham.

• CADE GALLERY

Body of paintings by Suzanne Konyha of Windsor in which she pursues the relationships between landscape and figure. Closes Feb. 8. Regular hours are noon to 7 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday, 8025 Agnes, Detroit.

• **DETROIT ARTISTS MARKET**
"Impulse: New Images in Fabric" continues through Feb. 3. Curated by Gerhard Knodel, head of the Cranbrook Academy of Art fiber department, it focuses on works that extend the tradition of fabric showing developments in imagery. Knodel is also curating a second show at the Elements Gallery in New York City through Feb. 11, "Cranbrook Connection: New Images in Fabric." A catalogue documenting both shows is available at the market. The Artists Market, 1452 Randolph, is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

• PONTIAC ART CENTER

"Line and Grid" is a show of collages by John Gerard and ceramics and sculpture by Ray Katz. Both have had a number of one-man shows and are respected throughout the state. Photographs by Carlos Diaz in the Cranbrook Gallery. Continues through January. Regular hours are 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 47 Williams, Pontiac.

• PARK WEST GALLERIES

Exhibition of contemporary American realism continues through January. Included are works by Arnold Altman, Harold Altman and Robert Kipness as well as Erle, considered the master of art deco, Yacov Agam and Laslo Dos. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, until 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, until 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. 29469 Northwestern (between 12 and 13 Mile), Southfield.

• DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

"Design in America: The Cranbrook Vision 1925-1950" is a major exhibition of the wealth of architecture and design in our midst. The influence of Cranbrook Academy of Art on 20th century life is traced and documented with 240 masterworks from public and private collections. Continues through Feb. 19. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. Free public tours at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 1 p.m. Sunday, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. Woodward, Birmingham.

Spy writer leads double life

"The Centenary Exchange," Jon Winters, Avon, \$3.50, paperback.

By Pearl Ahnen
special writer

Take a dapper British secret service agent with a sense of humor, a director of Russia's KGB dirty tricks department, drop a lovely German woman of easy virtue into the plot, add a dash of an aging Russian colonel who loves roses, and you've got "The Centenary Exchange," a page-turning spy thriller by Jon Winters.

The author, Gilbert B. Cross, who writes these spy thrillers (the first was "The Drakov Memoranda") under the pen name Jon Winters, is a professor at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti.

He uses the pen name Winters for his spy novels because he wants to have two separate writing careers, writing non-fiction under his own name and for fun under the Winters name.

"Not that I don't get fun out of both, and not that both aren't difficult," said Cross, who lives in Ann Arbor.

But why Jon Winters, instead of Jon Summers or Falls? Actually Winters was part of the original title of his first thriller, "His Share of Winters," but when the publisher changed it to "The Drakov Memoranda" and since the word Winters appeared on every page of the manuscript, Cross immediately decided to use Winters for his pen name instead of "writing out" about 400 Winters in the manuscript.

IN THIS second novel about Neville Conyers of the British Secret Service, Winters once again pits him against Anton Drakov, director of one of the KGB departments in Russia's spy network.

In "The Centenary Exchange" Conyers and Drakov, the most feared man in Russia, use a vast arena for their espionage maneuvers spanning the Atlantic, settling in Nassau, then flying to Russia, England, and finally tracking into Germany concentrating on the ominous East Berlin Wall for the chilling climax.

The novel moves swiftly and the pace accelerates when Conyers meets his old cohort, Colonel Novetsky, the Soviet official whose daughter he assassinated in "The Drakov Memoranda."

Yes, that's right, Conyers killed the Colonel's daughter, but somehow they become fast friends.

Interpersed between the intrigue and the compelling excitement is the hero's sense of humor. It crops up in the most unusual situations, giving the reader a chuckle and a laugh, relaxing him for just a bit and then whammo, another body falls.

Although the characters in his novel are imaginary, Cross does admit to the influence that his friends have on the kinds of characters he creates.

He says it's easier that way because you only have to remember what the "real" person is like. Cross not only uses real people, he doesn't neglect the local (southeast Michigan) area.

There are several references to Ann Arbor, Detroit, and even Eastern Michigan University—in the guise of a special code word, Harrold, which in reality is Pray-Harold Hall at Eastern Michigan University where the English department is housed.

THE AUTHOR mixes first-person narrative (for his hero, Conyers) and changes to third-person for the other characters.

There is suspense and humor throughout the novel. Even when Conyers is transferred to D16, Special Projects, for an assignment in which his survival isn't that important, he still retains his sense of humor. Laughing all the way to the East Berlin Wall, you might say.

In the climax, the title "The Centenary Exchange" is put to the test in a thrilling way. According to the dictionary, centenary is the shape assumed by a perfectly flexible cord in equilibrium under given forces. It is exemplified in a chain or heavy cord hanging freely between two points of support. How Conyers smuggles the cord into East Berlin, and what its purpose is, will keep the reader turning pages.

Another edge-of-the-seat, nail-biting sequence is when the hero is backed into a corner and must use the centenary exchange to make his escape. Does he succeed? Does Drakov get him? What happens to the lovely German woman of easy virtue who on one occasion saves Conyers' life? Is Colonel Novetsky really Conyers' friend?



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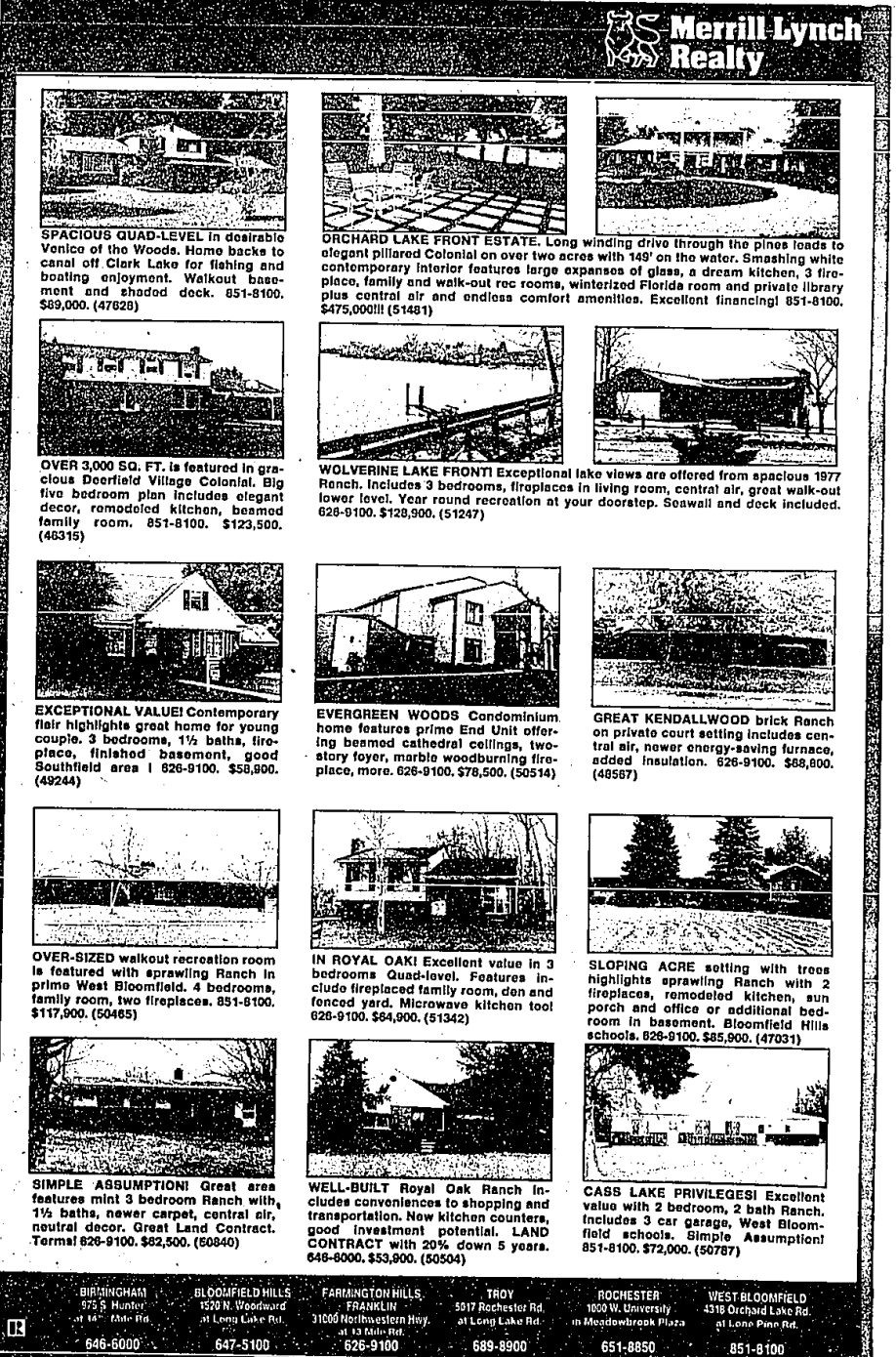
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