

Wednesday, April 02, 2008

ANNOTATED LIST OF SOME DVD'S OBTAINED TO ILLUSTRATE A VARIETY OF DIVERSE SPECIFIC AREAS OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & SOCIETY [STS] ISSUES

SUCH DVD'S CAN VERY DRAMATICALLY & VIVIDLY SHOW SOME SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF STS ISSUES, ALTHOUGH OBVIOUSLY, THEY ARE MOVIES & ARE MADE FOR PROFIT. SO THE FACTUAL ACCURACY MANY NOT BE CORRECT IN MANY ASPECTS. HOWEVER, FACTUAL ACCURACY CAN BE DETERMINED IN MANY OTHER WAYS. THE "GENERAL IDEA" IS WHAT COUNTS FOR THE OVERALL BETTER APPRECIATION OF THE TOPIC. LATER INVESTIGATIONS CAN BE DONE TO FURTHER INVESTIGATE THE FINER & MORE DETAILED ASPECTS AS REQUIRED.

MANY FAMOUS DIRECTORS & OTHER PEOPLE BECAME INVOLVED IN THESE TOPICS & PRODUCED THESE MOVIES TO RECORD THE ERA & THE MANY COMPLEX ISSUES INVOLVED. HUMANITY HAD FINALLY PROGRESSED TO BE ABLE TO DESTROY ITSELF. HOWEVER, SPACE EXPLORATION BEGAN & COULD BE A WAY OF SAVING A FEW HUMANS, AMONG MANY OTHER POSSIBLE BENEFITS.

MANY OLDER CLASSICS ARE NOW BEING **RERELEASED IN DVD FORM** WITH VERY INFORMATIVE FEATURES ADDED TO ASSIST IN APPRECIATING THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON HOW THEY WERE MADE & THE PEOPLE INVOLVED. THE POSSIBILITY OF OTHER LIFE FORMS IN THE UNIVERSE WAS NOW ABLE TO BE INVESTIGATED.

MANY OF THESE RELEASES HAVE EXTENSIVE "**FEATURES**" THAT PROVIDE A GREAT DEAL OF SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

IN AN **ACADEMIC SITUATION**, ANY OF SUCH MOVIES COULD BE THE TOPIC OF A FINAL COURSE PAPER TO "TIE TOGETHER" A LOT OF WHAT HAD BEEN LEARNED ABOUT **STS**. CERTAINLY THERE ARE MANY STANDARD & EASILY RECOGNIZABLE **STS PATTERNS** THAT CAN BE IDENTIFIED IN SUCH MOVIES.

INDIVIDUALS MAY ALSO WANT TO CONSIDER DOING SUCH A SCHOLARLY PAPER & SHARING IT WITH THE REST OF US.

SUCH ACADEMIC & INDIVIDUAL PAPERS COULD BE REDONE FOR ORAL PRESENTATIONS & EVEN EXPANDED FOR YOUR OWN DVD MOVIE OF WHAT YOU HAVE FOUND IN YOUR STS INVESTIGATION WITH A PARTICULAR MOVIE OR EVEN GROUPS OF THEM WITH SOME COMMON BOND.

PERHAPS THRU SUCH ENDEAVOURS, WE CAN REACH AN EVEN BETTER UNDERSTANDING & BE ABLE TO BETTER MANAGE **STS**.

NOTE THAT MANY OF THESE DVD'S CAN BE FOUND ON WWW.AMAZON.COM & WWW.DVDSWAP.COM ***CK SP VERY INEXPENSIVELY.

SOME CAN BE FOUND FOR ONLY \$1 AT WALMART!

SOMETIMES VCR VHS TAPES ARE AVAILABLE AT GREATLY REDUCED COST. SO IF YOU STILL HAVE A VCR TAPE PLAYER, THESE MAY BE SUFFICIENT.

TOM CLANCY

FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW ABOUT HIM, HE IS AN INCREDIBLY SUCCESSFUL NOVEL AUTHOR WHO PRESENTS **STS** ISSUES IN VERY CURRENT, DRAMATIC & UNDERSTANDABLE WAYS.

AS A CHEMIST, I WAS AMAZED HOW DETAILED & ACCURATE HE IS. HE HAS MUCH ANONYMOUS [FOR OBVIOUS REASONS] EXPERT HELP & HE PROFUSELY ACKNOWLEDGES THEM & THANKS THEM.

NATURALLY, SOME DETAILS MUST BE LEFT OUT FOR SECURITY CONCERNS – YOU DO NOT WANT “THE BAD PEOPLE” TO FIND OUT HOW TO DO THESE THINGS!

THE HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER – RUSSIAN SUB OF LATEST DESIGN DEFECTS

PATRIOT GAMES – IRISH & OTHER TERROISTS

CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER – DRUG TRADE & SOME OF ITS PREDICTABLE CONSEQUENCES KNOWING HUMANITY

SUM OF ALL FEARS – AN ATOMIC BOMB GOES OFF IN BALTIMORE, MD

BIOCHEMISTRY

JURRASIC PARK [VHS] – STEPHEN SPIELBERG – IF WE CAN MAKE DINOSAURES AGAIN, SHOULD WE? NATURE WILL FIND A WAY – BUT MONEY TALKS – THOSE WHO HAVE IT CAN DO SOME VERY DRAMATIC, IF NOT WELL THOUGHT OUT THINGS – SOME SCIENTISTS MAY GO ALONG FOR MANY REASONS

THE LOST WORLD – STEPHEN SPIELBERG – SEQUEL TO JURRASIC PARK

MUSIC

POLKAS

ITS HAPPINESS – A POLKA DOCUMENTARY – 2006 - SEVERAL YOUNG PEOPLE ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE TO INVESTIGATE POLKAS TODAY & SHOW A FAIRLY GOOD BALANCE ON THE TOPIC, AT LEAST FROM THEIR PERSPECTIVES – THE FEATURES SECTION IS ESPECIALLY USEFUL, SINCE IT GIVES THEIR INDIVIDUAL IMPRESSIONS ON POLKAS TODAY

POLKA PASSION – SHOWS PERFORMANCES OF DIFFERENT STYLES OF 3 VERY POPULAR POLKA BANDS + ADDITIONAL RELATED INFORMATION

BY WWW.NETNEBRASKA.ORG – 2004 - HAS A VERY GOOD QUILTING PRESENTATION ALSO ON IT, WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST HISTORICALLY & HOW SOME INFORMATION & ARTISTIC TALENT, ESPECIALLY OF WOMEN IN THE 1800'S & EARLY 1900'S, WAS PRESERVED – RECYCLING – REUSE – PRACTICAL, ETC.

POLKA HEAVEN IN 2007 – SHOWS A VARIETY OF POLKA BANDS AT A AN ILLINOIS POLKA FESTIVAL - INDICATES THE SUSTAINED INDIVIDUAL LOCAL INTEREST IN POLKAS - FROM WWW.ASHCAMVIDEO.COM

POLKA TIME – 2005 - SHOWS A 30 + YEAR GIBBON POLKA FEST IN MINNESOTA POLKA FESTIVAL - INDICATES THE SUSTAINED INDIVIDUAL LOCAL INTEREST IN POLKAS - FROM LISA BLACKSTONE

IN HEAVEN THERE IS NO BEER – VCR VHS TAPE – 1984 – SHOWS HOW THE WELL KNOWN DICK PILLAR & HIS POLKA BAND STARTED ONE OF THE

FIRST, IF NOT THE FIRST, POLKA FESTIVALS THAT ARE NOW SO COMMON TODAY – GIVES PERSPECTIVE OF THE 1980'S & POLKAS - PRODUCED BY THE FAMOUS LES BLANK

DOM POLSKI: DANCE HALL DAYS OF DETROIT'S POLONIA – 2003 BY LAURIE A. GOMULKA PALAZZOLO – DAUGHTER OF TED [NOT LENNY] GOMULKA THE FAMOUS POLKA BANDMASTER – SHOWS VIVIDLY & IN GREAT DETAIL HOW POLKA MUSIC & THE POLISH HOMES [DOM POLSKI – LIKE CIVIC CENTERS TODAY] PROVIDED SO MUCH FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS IN THE EARLY 1900'S & UP TO THE 1940'S – 1950'S – SHE INVESTED CONSIDERABLE FUNDS FROM HER OWN RESOURCES TO PRODUCE THIS DVD, ALONG WITH 2 CD'S OF THE MUSIC & A FANTASTICALLY RESEARCHED & DETAILED BOOK [CERTAINLY OF PH.D. THESIS QUALITY!] – IN MEMORY OF HER FATHER & THIS INCREDIBLE ERA

– PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MUSICIANS FEATURED ARE **HIGHLY TRAINED** & ALSO PLAYED EVEN CLASSICAL & OTHER GENRES OF MUSIC OF THE ERA – YOU WILL BE SURPRISED AT HOW HIGH THE QUALITY OF THEIR PLAYING IS – **NOT** YOUR LOCAL PICKUP GROUP TO DO A WEEKEND POLKA GIG!

- FROM WWW.HORNMAN-DETROIT.COM

OUR POLISH STORY – FAMILY, FAITH AND FORTITUDE:; DETROIT'S POLISH HERITAGE – 2007 SIMILAR TO THE ABOVE DVD – WWW.OURSTORYOF.COM

INNOVATION ISSUES

TUCKER – THE MAN AND HIS DREAM – BY FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA - SHOWS THE CLASSIC CONFLICT OF “A DREAM” VERSUS DISRUPTING “THE STATUS QUO” – HOW AT LEAST SOME SEGMENTS OF SOCIETY PREVENT SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY FROM PROGRESSING

THERE IS ALSO A HISTORY CHANNEL DVD ON TUCKER -

WAR & STS

CERTAINLY **STS** GREATLY INFLUENCED HOW WAR WAS CONDUCTED – “KILL MORE PEOPLE BETTER! [?]” – WERE LIVES SAVED? A VERY COMPLEX AND PITHY TOPIC TO BE INVESTIGATED – CERTAINLY MORALS, ETHICS & VALUES WERE CHANGED DRASTICALLY - BUT ON A POSITIVE SIDE, MANY “SPINOFFS” DID HELP HUMANITY IN MANY OTHER WAYS

THE BLUE MAX – 1966 – FANTASTIC REAL FLYING SCENES NOT COMPUTER ENHANCED – EXPLORES HOW THE NEW WEAPON AIRPLANES CAN BE USED TO TAKE WAR TO THE NEXT LEVEL – BUT VERY HUMAN ASPECTS ARE ALSO IMPORTANT – THE BOOK IS ALSO EXCELLENT

FLYBOYS – 2006 – IN CONTRAST TO THE BLUE MAX, THERE IS MUCH COMPUTER ENHANCEMENT TO HELP SELL THE MOVIE – IN THE FEATURES SECTION THOSE INVOLVED IN MAKING THE MOVIE EXPLORE WHAT WAS INVOLVED WITH COMPUTER ENHANCEMENT, IN ADDITION TO MANY TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE ERA & THE PLANES INVOLVED.

PIECE OF CAKE – 1994 - WW II ERA, BUT MAINLY JUST BEFORE THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN AIR WARFARE ERA – SPITFIRES & HURRICAINES – PBS SERIES – SHOWS HUMANITY FACTORS & HOW NAÏVE SOME WERE AT THAT TIME AS TO WHAT MODERN WARFARE WOULD REALLY MEAN & BE LIKE – THE BOOK IS ALSO EXCELLENT

DANGER UXB – 1978 – PBS SERIES – EARLY WW II ERA ABOUT HOW TO TRY TO DEFUSE EVER MORE SOPHISTICATED UNEXPLODED BOMBS [**UXB**] IN BRITAIN USING VERY PRIMITIVE METHODS – DRAMATICALLY SHOWS MANY OF THE HUMAN ASPECTS OF THIS NEW ERA OF WAR & INCREASINGLY COMPLEX WEAPONRY, ESPECIALLY HOW IT AFFECTS NONCOMBATANTS – THE GENERAL PUBLIC – THE FEATURES SECTION BRINGS TOPIC UP TO DATE IN TODAY'S ERA OF TERRORISM & MORE SOPHISTICATED WAYS TO MANAGE UXB'S.

THE FOUR FEATHERS – 2002 – REMAKE OF PAST MOVIES – DRAMATICALLY SHOWS THE UNPERCEIVED, AT THAT TIME, WEAKNESSES OF THE BRITISH SYSTEM OF THE MILITARY, COLONIALISM, MORALS / ETHICS / VALUES, EDUCATION, RELIGION, ETC. – A PRELUDE TO WHAT THE BRITISH WOULD FACE IN THE BOER WAR – ANOTHER TOPIC I HAVE EXPLORED IN GREAT DETAIL – A PIVOTAL ERA IN MANY WAYS – VIVIDLY SHOWS HOW THE THEN CURRENT & PREVIOUS WAR TACTICS CAN BE CHANGED BY VERY ELEMENTARY CRUDE STRATEGIES, IN ACTUAL PRACTICAL BATTLE CONDITIONS – SHOWS SOME OF WHAT COULD BE ANTICIPATED IN THE FUTURE WARS LIKE VIET NAM & IRAQ.

VICTORY AT SEA – 2006 – HISTORY OF WW II SEA WARFARE – VERY WELL RECEIVED & POPULAR – WELL DONE – NICE COMPLEMENT TO MY RESEARCH ON WW I NAVIES– 4 DVD SET – ONLY \$1 EACH AT WALMART!

DR. STRANGELOVE OR: HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE THE BOMB – 1963 - STANLEY KUBRICK – NEW RELEASE 40TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION - BLACK & WHITE – HUMANITY GETS OUT OF

CONTROL & AN ATOMIC BOMB IS USED – BUT A DOOMSDAY MACHINE IS AVAILABLE TO DESTROY ALL OF MANKIND IF AN ATOMIC BOMB IS DETONATED.

SPACE EXPLORATION

THE NEW ERA OF EXPLORATION AFTER WE HAVE EXPLORED EARTH – IS THERE OTHER LIFE OUT THERE?

A SPACE ODYSSEY 2001 – 1968 – STANLEY KUBRICK – SPECIAL NEW RELEASE 2 DISKS - ERA BEFORE COMPUTER ENHANCEMENT, BUT GRAPHICS ARE FANTASTIC – HAL 9000 COMPUTER PREDATES MUCH OF WHAT WE ACTUALLY HAVE TODAY – ARTHUR CLARKE THE FAMOUS SCI / FI AUTHOR WAS DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION – THE NEW RELEASE CONTAINS A SECOND DISK ON SOME EXCELLENT FEATURES ABOUT HOW THE MOVIE WAS PRODUCED.

2010 THE YEAR WE MAKE CONTACT – 1984 – SEQUEL TO A SPACE ODYSSEY 2001 – WHERE WE FIND OUT THAT THE HAL 9000 COMPUTER IN 2001 WAS GIVEN THE WRONG INFORMATION THAT CONTRIBUTED TO BAD DECISIONS – AGAIN, FEATURES ARE FANTASTIC ABOUT HOW THE MOVIE WAS MADE - ARTHUR CLARKE WAS AGAIN VERY INVOLVED – HE EVEN USED A **KAYPRO COMPUTER TO MODEM** HIS INFORMATION FOR THE MOVIE – SUCH A COMPUTER & DOT MATRIX PRINTER ARE ACTUALLY SHOWN IN THE FEATURE SECTION!

OTHER

MANY OTHER MOVIES ON DVD CAN BE USED TO HELP EXPLORE THE MANY FACETS OF **STS** ISSUES AS THEY DRASTICALLY AFFECT HUMANITY. SOME I HAVE PICKED SO FAR ARE AS FOLLOWS.

A FEW GOOD MEN – BY ROB REINER – SHOWS MILITARY PERSPECTIVE VERSUS OTHER HUMAN ISSUES – “SAVING LIVES” CANNOT BE JUST AN EXCUSE FOR UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR – FANTASTIC PERFORMANCES BY ALL – VERY DRAMATIC & HARD HITTING.

ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES – OLDER STORIES IN BLACK & WHITE NOW ON DVD'S – BUT CAN SHOW THE CLASSIC CONCEPT [WHICH MAY NOT BE REALISTIC, ESPECIALLY TODAY] OF THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD IN ACTION - \$1 / DVD AT WALMARTS!

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE – TV SERIES OF THE 1960'S THAT FORSAW IN MANY WAYS HOW **STS** COULD BE USED FOR A VARIETY OF PURPOSES. MANY OF THE IDEAS ARE STILL CURRENT TODAY. SOME OF HOW THESE IDEAS ARE

IMPLEMENTED ARE RESTRICTED TO WHAT WAS KNOWN AT THAT TIME.
CURRENTLY, THE FOURTH SEASON IS NOW BEING OFFERED AS OF MAY 2008.
AN INCREDIBLY POPULAR SHOW AT THE TIME & STILL TODAY WITH THESE
RERELEASES. SHOWS MUCH OF THE HUMAN ELEMENT BEHIND THE **STS**
EFFECTS.

THE UNTOUCHABLES – 1960'S TV SERIES – FIRST SEASON – BLACK AND
WHITE - WHICH WAS VERY POPULAR – DRAMTICALLY SHOWS HOW CRIMINALS
INFLITRATE THE OPENINGS THE LAW ALLOWS TO MAKE INCREDIBLE SUMS OF
MONEY & DO VIOLENCE TO INNOCENT PEOPLE TO FURTHER THEIR AMBITIONS
– IN THIS CASE, 1930'S ERA OF PROHIBITION – ALCOHOL WAS ILLEGAL - ELLIOT
NESS [PLAYED BY ROBERT STACK] GOES AFTER THEM TO TRY TO PUT THEM
OUT OF BUSINESS WITH HIS VERY SELECT GROUP OF “UNTOUCHABLES” -
THEY ARE INCORRUPTIBLE – SHOWS MUCH HUMANISTIC ASPECTS OF THIS
VERY VIOLENT ERA – VERY SIMILAR TO TODAY WITH DRUGS INSTEAD OF
ALCOHOL – SCI / TECH [**STS**] MAKES IT VERY EASY TO PRODUCE SUCH
PRODUCTS & A BIG MARKET DEVELOPS BECAUSE OF LAWS MAKING THESE
PRODUCTS ILLEGAL – THE CRIMINAL ELEMENT TAKES OVER TO PROVIDE THIS
NEED THAT SOCIETY DEMANDS & THAT SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SO EASILY
ALLOWS TO BE MADE BY ALMOST ANYONE.