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Tasso Borbe, ed. *Semiotics Unfolding: Proceedings of the Second Congress of the International Association for Semiotic Studies*. New York: Mouton, 1983. 1,846 pp. \$191.00.

Semiotic fellow travelers with expansive expense accounts might want to buy this collection for the handsome covers alone. Unfortunately, there isn't all that much else to recommend the purchase at the outrageous price. The contents appear to consist of nearly every paper presented at the 1979 Vienna Congress, charmingly retained in their original, variegated, type-written (and not always proofread) form, divided in a 4:2:1 ratio among English, French, and German. It may be that the uneven quality and highly diffuse foci of these approximately 200 papers accurately represent the state of the semiotic enterprise, at least in 1979, but the publisher is charging a very high admission price for that intelligence. In other words, *caveat emptor*.

Hal Foster, ed. *The Anti-Aesthetic: Essays on Post-Modern Culture*. Port Townsend, WA: The Bay Press, 1983. 159 pp. \$8.95.

"In cultural politics today, a basic opposition exists between a postmodernism which seeks to deconstruct modernism and resist the status quo and a postmodernism which repudiates the former to celebrate the latter: a postmodernism of resistance and a postmodernism of reaction. These essays deal mostly with the former—its desire to change the object and its social context" (from the Preface by Hal Foster). Published by a small and little-known press, this book contains a valuable and diverse set of essays, engaging the issues raised by the "crisis of postmodernism" in the context of visual media—architecture, sculpture, painting, photography, and film—as well as the more familiar literary terrain of critical inquiry and debate. The contributors are impressive and varied—Baudrillard, Habermas, Jameson, Krauss, and Said among them—and their essays provocative.

Armand Mattelart and Seth Siegelau, eds. *Communication and Class Struggle, Vol. Two: Liberation, Socialism*. New York: International General (POB 350, NY 10013), 1983. 438 pp. \$18.95.

This is the second volume in a general anthology of marxist writings on communications and culture. The first volume, *Capitalism, Imperialism*, includes sixty-four texts on the formation and functioning of capitalist communications institutions and ideology. The present volume contains sixty-four texts, written over the past 150 years, focusing on the development of popular and working-class communication and culture, its theory and practice under different political, social, and historical conditions, and its contemporary expression. Included are a number of texts dealing with the role of visual media and media institutions in political and cultural struggles and in the development of working-class communications practice. Topics covered include the worker-photographer movement in Weimar Germany, Third World cinema theory and practice, posters produced in Paris during May 1968, the Guerrilla Muralist Brigades in Chile during the Allende years, and the use of posters and television after the Portuguese revolution of 1975. Many of these documents are newly translated, and many are printed for the first time. The volume concludes with a valuable 650-entry bibliography.