FUDDING AROUND

w/ frank traeger in old man howard's warehouse i was sidearming long neck wine & beer bottles at iron beams when frank whipped out his father's 38 snub & yelled i'm doc holliday he blew out 3 windows then sent the last 3 slugs into the skylight never thinking the glass wd come down & there wasn't enough time to duck out of the way he just stood there in the middle of that blizzard yelling shit when it was over sd he cd feel stuff sticking thru his coat i turned him around what does it look like he asked sequins & blood

-- Todd Moore
Belvidere IL

WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN

the cop fingered us and swung a U-turn flashing his red

we were holding not too heavy just several bags of H

and gambling rather than swallow we stuff them in the ragged door panel

while i contrived a story knowing they'll separate us to see if our stories jibe

i came up with "'member that 48 Ford we saw back there For Sale? Look it, while i was on lunch break you came down and picked me up being that you live just up the alley from me see about picking this car up, your dad is thinking of buying ...."

and after, when the cops let us go

- 30 -
DJ says "Man you pulled that one out of your ass!" happy that it worked
always do
when the chips are down
i'm never nervous
think fast and quick
it's only after
the shit's over
my knees get a little shakey

WHILE MOPPING

i get this image of
Orlovsky driving the VW bus
back in the 60s
all around the country
Ginsberg in back
writing in his journals
the stuff that came out in
The Fall Of America

and wonder about drivers
and driving
and this poetess i know in Cleveland
who doesn't drive

then think: with everything
we've been led to know
about Orlovsky
would you let him drive?
and Gregory Corso sitting shotgun?

it's a long way
from Neal Cassidy

in fact none of the beats
were very good drivers
Kerouac never drove
Ginsberg always flies
and Burroughs i hear drives about
ten miles per hour
and pulls over for oncoming traffic
JC Holmes probably does drive, maybe

so it's no wonder they all
were so enamoured of
Neal's driving

-- Mark Weber

Cleveland Heights OH