

## GOOD MEN #2

What is important  
is filling out those First-Time-Conformance charts  
in sequence with manufacturing orders written  
by men who have never run a machine,  
what is important  
is rising above our common sense  
and hands-on knowledge  
regarding the most efficient, most effective ways  
to sequence cuts that will carve bomber parts  
out of metal blocks,  
what is important  
is to become part of the overall program  
of paperwork  
that will deliver to the Air Force  
those perfectly filled-out and rubber-stamped  
First-Time-Conformance charts  
that will insure  
that we are doing our jobs correctly.

## MORE THAN ENOUGH

"You're gonna miss me, Fred!!" Curly shouts  
back at me as he rolls  
his toolbox and cabinet  
away from the machine next to me down toward  
machine #620 50 feet away,  
but since  
for the last 6 months I have heard nothing but every detail  
of Curly's private life and his reading to me  
of Ann Landers' columns and comic strips and  
his imitations of Saturday Night Live and  
In Living Color and The Simpsons and Pee  
Wee Herman and his repeating to me  
of the remarks of radio talk-show hosts and callers  
he listens to on his headphone radio  
as well as his descriptions  
of his shits in the bathroom and of how far his cum spurted  
when he jacked off the other night,  
I doubt it.

## AN E FOR EFFORT

Safety has had another brainstorm.  
It has had the wooden platform in front of my machine  
thickly painted so that I won't slip  
on an oily wooden surface  
like I never have in 2 years  
of working the machine.  
And they had it painted on Tuesday

rather than on the weekend  
so that I can now spend Wednesday  
working on sheets of cardboard  
my supervisor has laid down  
on the wet paint,  
cardboard sheets like the one  
that last night slipped out from under the feet  
of another machine's operator  
causing him to fall backwards and break his collarbone,  
cardboard sheets that  
will stick to the wet paint and rip it back off  
of the wooden platform  
tomorrow or the next day  
when we try to remove them.

Otherwise,  
it's a great idea.

#### HONKERS

The workers  
make the most of the echo chamber  
acoustics of the tin  
50-foot-high building  
to showcase  
their sneezes —  
one does a kind of  
screaming birdcall,  
another a broncho-busting  
rodeo star "YaaaHOOO!"  
as he rears his head back  
then throws it down  
to jump back with the explosion.

But the forklift driver  
has them all beat,  
driving around  
sounding his horn  
with his right hand  
just as he buries his nose  
into the handkerchief  
in his left.

#### BUBBLING OVER

He couldn't stop  
slipping those big pistol-like parts through his belt  
and walking around pulling them out  
pretending to fire them at machinists,  
or walking around with long aircraft spar parts  
in his hands, opening and closing their opposed ends