

## The Mouse in the Senate:

Dachary Ucando Dupsalot was a man of golden voice and mysterious Eastern European heritage who had been representing Massachusetts in the Senate for nearly half a century. His longevity was a curiosity, however, because well documented scandals and escapades were numerous. But there he was, still standing, a tribute to constituency ignorance, opponent incompetence and some well-timed vote fraud antics.

During a behind closed door meeting in one of those secretive hideaways in the Capitol, XI Dong Wu, the Chinese Charg'e de "Affairs", pressed the Senator to provide his insights on the Mousean situation. "Those fools in the House!!! It was obvious from the beginning that deliberation, negotiation and indulgence was the answer." Dong Wu as perplexed, "How do you negotiate with mice?"

Dupsalot, somewhat offended by the bluntness of Dong Wu's question, replied, "You have to go to the heart of the matter. The Save-A-Planet movement is not really important. Yes, they released the mutant greased mice. Yes, they got some publicity for cleverness, ----- "At first, I thought the House members with all their security apparatus would contain the debacle. Then the White House! ----- But today the issue is a full blown Mousean conspiracy."

Being a long winded environmentalist and champion for minority rights, Dupsalot continued with gusto, "The Mouseans are the minority. They are the victims of human oppression. They have been driven from their ancestral and indigenous homes by climate change and strange diseases. They have been forced into an uncertain and unfriendly mammalian and human world. We must study, analyze, rectify, pacify, stupefy and more. We must defend them on the beaches. We must defend them in the fields. We must defend them in the towns. The Mouseans must never have to surrender to the whims and vagaries of unkind life forces. ----"

To an exasperated Dong Wu, this sounded like the start of a long winded stump speech so he interrupted once again. "How do you negotiate with mice?" --- "Cheese and a comfy grass nest"?

The discussions suddenly ended when both men received simultaneous and urgent international telephone calls.

Historical Note: Senator Dupsalot recognized the voting bloc potential of the Mouseans. Unfortunately, the Mouseans despised him and knew him for the political fool he was. A Mexican standoff shouting match between the parties led to considerable damage to many Senate offices. The follow-on cleaning and fumigation was historic. This is known as the “Day of the Mousean Infamy.”

By Bob Warren