



While this could be a picture of a contingent of Canadian soldiers heading off to battle in the Vimy or the Somme, it was actually taken last November in Kingston. Re-enactors fear that Bill C-80, a federal government bill to amend Canada's gun control laws, could end re-enactment events. The new bill would make it illegal for these "weekend warriors" to use weapons like the Lewis machine gun on the left or the Vickers gun on the right in front of the soldiers.

## Re-enactors fear hobby becomes illegal with Bill approval

By SCOTT KLINE

A member of a group which reenacts battles of the First World War says Canada's new gun control laws could make the hobby illegal.

Members of the group use the tactics—and weapons—used by Canada's soldiers during the Great War but under law now being considered by the Federal Government the hobbyists could find it illegal to use the weapons.

"A lot of the members are collectors who did not have a use for their weapons," re-enactor Al Fraser, a Georgetown resident, said. "Most gun collectors had nowhere to go to shoot the weapons and then found this outlet."

Using blank rounds, the hobbyists spend weekends throughout the summer and fall in mock battle scenarios—often using refurbished weapons

from the First World War.

"Now the collectors have a use for their weapons and a good use," Fraser said. "How many people have actually seen someone dressed in a World War One or World War Two uniform."

But under Bill C-80 many of the weapons used by the "weekend warriors"—who number in the thousands in southern Ontario—would be prohibited.

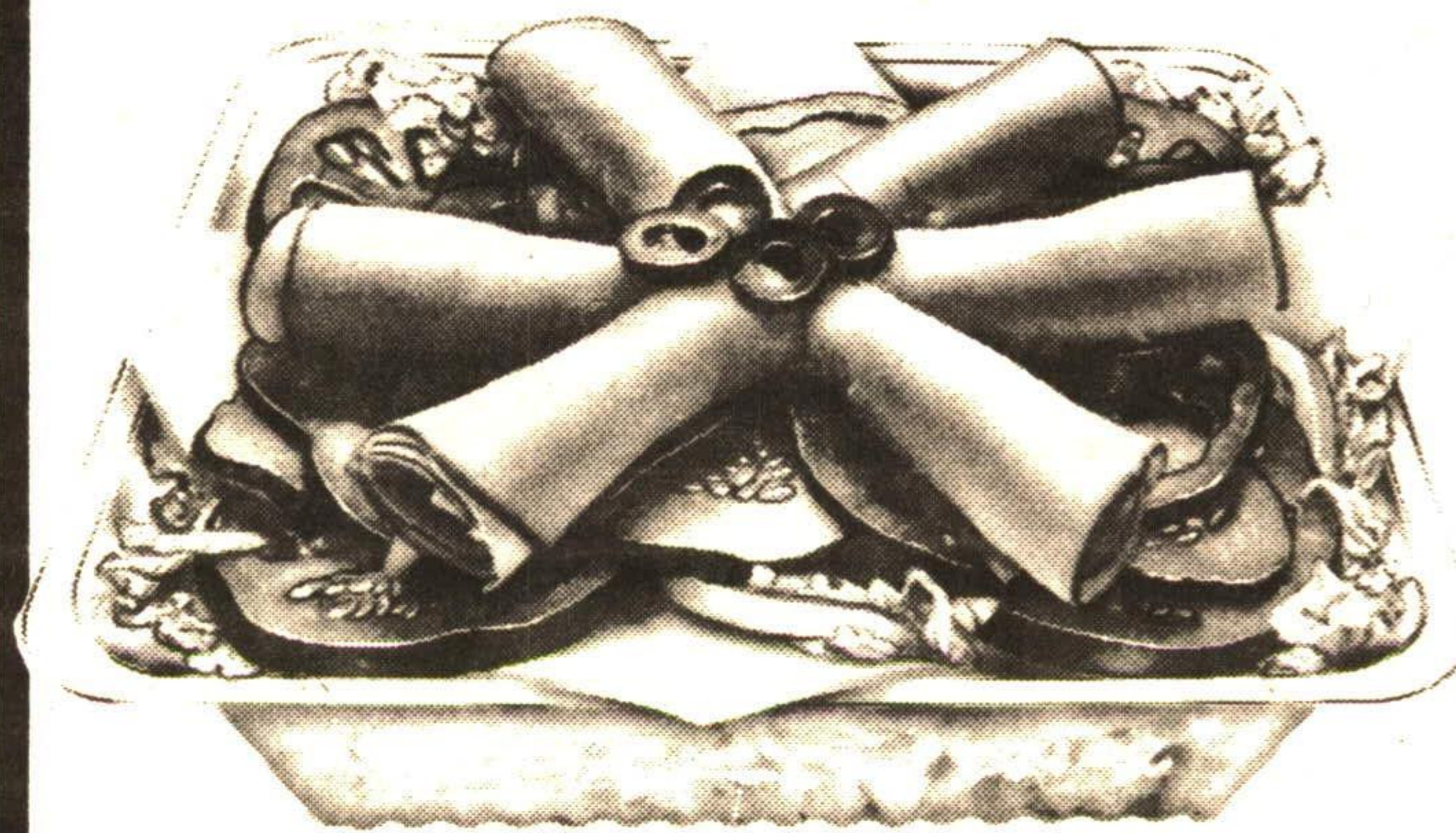
Under the legislation fully automatic weapons (weapons that fire several bullets with one squeeze of the trigger) converted to fire as semi-automatic will be prohibited.

As well, handguns whose magazine contain more than 10 rounds and semi-automatic rifles whose magazine holds more than five rounds will be prohibited.

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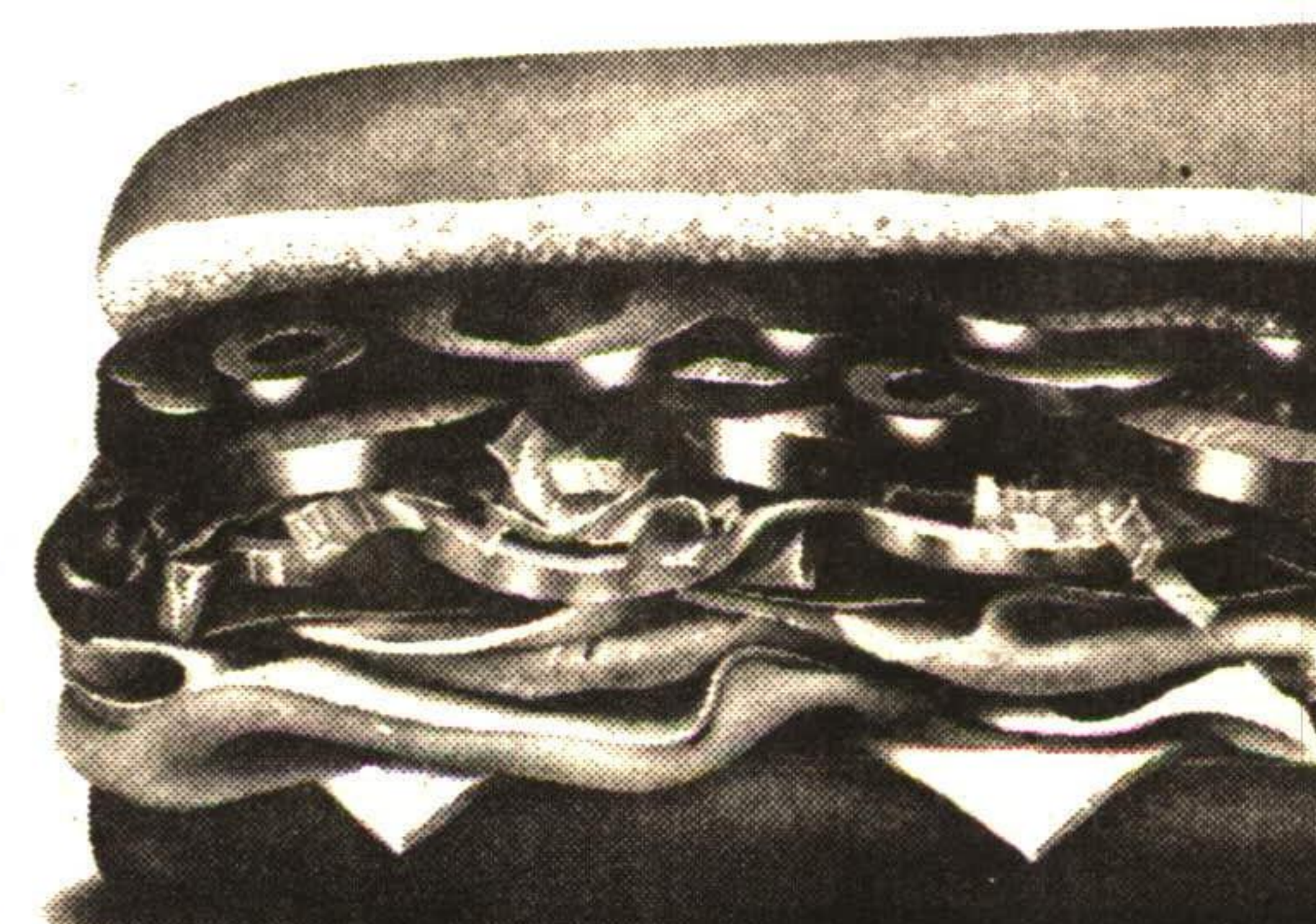
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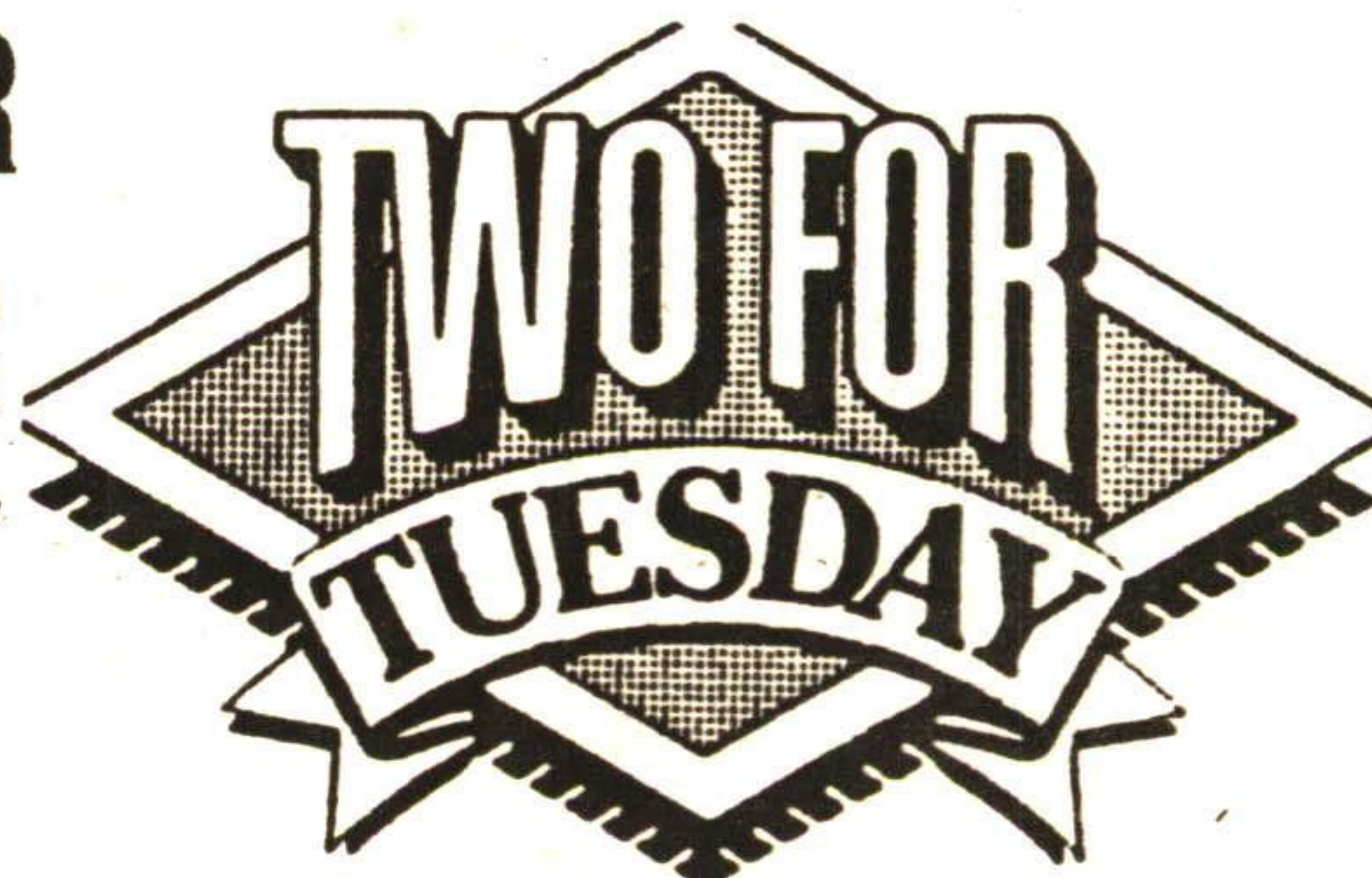
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