

caveat emptor

A New Age Journal

No. 18 Summer 1989 \$3.00



**Curtis & Mary Fuller
Interviewed**

**Timothy Green Beckley
Interviewed**

**The Latest Findings
on MJ-12**

**A New UFO Perspective:
Gaia and Beyond (Part II)**

**The Hunt for
the Loch Ness Monster**

**UFO Convention
Roundup & More!**

THE WORD IS OUT!

Dear Friend,

Some 15 years ago, I was the editor of **Caveat Emptor**, a controversial, trailblazing UFO and New Age magazine. Like other publications of the period, it finally published its final issue and disappeared from the scene.

Then, in July, 1988, I had a crazy idea. I decided the time was at last right to bring back **Caveat Emptor**.

With the decision to revive the magazine came a lot of uncertainty. **Caveat Emptor** occupied a distinct and special place in the minds and hearts of our readers. I remember how some of them (perhaps you, if you were one of our original subscribers) would tell me how the magazine would transport them away from the hum-drum daily routine and into a marvelous world of excitement and wonder.

I didn't know if I could re-create that kind of feeling on the part of my readers. I didn't know if I could feel it myself anymore.

A few months later and the hard work of putting out that first issue was over. I had to await the reaction from my readers.

It wasn't long in coming. I was truly amazed that anyone remembered us at all. The avalanche of letters from my new, loyal readers just knocked me out!

Here are just a few of them:

"I was particularly impressed with the *quality* of the writing. I would like to see your magazine succeed. There is a need for a... magazine that does not accept every story that comes down the pike.

M.D.

Federal Way, WA

"Welcome back into the UFO world. I believe I have copies of all previous **Caveat Emptors** in my files. You were sorely missed."

G.F.

Lincolnton, NC

"You have a great magazine! Please keep it going."

J.M.

Oak Park, MI

"Welcome back! Delighted to see **CE** once again. It's needed more than ever!"

J.R.

London, England

"Thank God there are people like you putting sanity into UFO magazines."

L.V.

Ivyland, PA

These letters speak for themselves. The only things I'd like to add are that many of our original writers have returned with new perspectives, and with bold, new findings about the strange and unknown. The UFO field is indeed changing, and **Caveat Emptor** is the magazine that will help pave the way for that change.

Are you ready to go where no one has gone before? Then subscribe to **Caveat Emptor** right now. Order a single copy—and receive our latest all-new issue by return mail—or subscribe now at a special introductory rate.

And thanks for reading my letter.

Peace,

Gene Steinberg, Editor

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Edison, NJ 08820

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Summer, 1989

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"We are kept ignorant not by the things we don't know, but by the things we know that ain't so."

—Author Unknown

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Editorial:

My Fact Is Better Than Your Fact

by Gene Steinberg

There's something about having a few "facts" too many that can get a little out of hand.

Back in the 1960's, everybody's favorite UFO mystic, the late Ray Palmer, began to brag about having a "fact."

This "fact" was, he claimed, the key to determining whether a UFO sighting or a paranormal encounter was true or false, almost instantaneously, without subjecting the claim to a rigorous scientific analysis.

Naturally Ray's readers quickly pounced on him for some answers, just the "facts," sir, please.

No, Ray said, he cannot divulge the "fact", because were he to do so, the "fact" wouldn't be a "fact" anymore. Everybody would know it, and would use it to fake their own UFO or psychic claims. Its value would be lost.

Ray did divulge a few generic hints about his "fact," though. It wasn't a single "fact," but several "facts," in fact. It consisted of information based on his life's experience as a student of the strange and unknown. It was "traditional," he says, which might possibly mean something that had been a part of the human experience since the dawn of history.

That seemed fairly logical. Humankind has confronted strange phenomena since ages past, and some of the more enlightened researchers among us have used the example of history with which to evaluate present unknown experiences, leading them to question some of our long-held assumptions.

Anyway, after being bombarded with pleas and sometimes downright hostile demands that he come clean about his "fact," Ray began to do just that, a little bit at a time, at least.

We learned that Ray had had a few psychic encounters of his own to tell about, such as the time he was seriously injured in his basement in the late 1940's, along about the time that he and Curtis Fuller was gearing up to unleash *Fate* magazine upon an unsuspecting world. In our interview with Mr. and Mrs. Fuller in this issue, they mention the mishap in passing. Ray wasn't a healthy person anyway. A childhood accident had left him a hunchback, and per-

haps his deformity helped him look inward and rely on his own imagination a bit more than most people.

Ray became a science fiction writer, quite a decent one actually, and he gained fame as the controversial editor of the first and most famous science fiction magazine, *Amazing Stories*, because of the Shaver Mystery. Now Shaver's story is a whole other matter entirely, and I'm not about to go into *that* right now.

Ray claimed that the basement accident was no accident at all, but a deliberate act on the part of a force or forces unknown, implying that something akin to Shaver's deros threw him up in the air, and let him fall down smack on the basement floor. While the medics were working on him, Ray dreamt that the doctor who treated him during his childhood accident—now long dead—operated on him from beyond the grave, saving his life.

Though he would now walk slowly and in pain, Ray managed to survive. When I met him back in 1965, he seemed healthy enough, though his steps were slow and halting. Whether a psychic attack or an unfortunate accident wasn't especially relevant at that point.

Through the years, Ray gave us *Ray Palmer's Forum* and *Ray Palmer's Newsletter*, both of which, he claimed, would slowly acquaint us with the truth about the "fact."

Finally, Ray wrote *The Secret World*, said to be his memoirs about the sum total of his thinking after a lifetime of investigation into the strange and unknown. By this time, many of his readers had deserted him, it seems. Perhaps he took just a little too long to disclose his secret. Whatever the cause, the book didn't sell very well.

Ray died in 1977. His "fact" died with him.

I was reminded about him recently when reading Budd Hopkins abduction compendium, *Intruders*.

No, Hopkins doesn't subscribe to some of the mystical phenomena that were part and parcel of Ray Palmer's "hidden world." Rather, Hopkins seems to maintain quite a physical handle on the UFO enigma, apparently favoring the again-in-vogue extraterrestrial answer.

But he too has a "fact."

Or is that a series of "facts?"

Actually, the latter seems more accurate. Hopkins "facts" consist of some subtle details that are replicated in many abduction encounters. By matching the presence of these details in such a contact experience, he is able to sift fact

from fiction, or at least determine whether the claim is worthy of further investigation.

If he were to disclose these "facts," their value would be useless, they would become part of the abduction mythos, and would appear in many hoax reports as well.

The other major difference between Hopkins "facts" and Ray Palmer's "fact" is their derivation. Hopkins apparently developed his "facts" over a number of years of intense investigation of abduction claimants. Ray's "fact" came largely, it seems, from personal experience.

I guess all researchers have some "facts" at their disposal, though they are loath to ascribe mystic trappings to such information.

In thinking about all this, I wondered whether there weren't some things in my background that led me to dismiss some UFO and psychic claims out of hand, but made me more willing to at least give some other claims a second look.

I can't claim a lifetime of mystic encounters like Ray Palmer and others. I'm not even certain I've ever seen a real, honest-to-goodness UFO, though I'm certainly more than ready after all these years to witness such a thing.

My past remembrances were triggered by reading Whitley Strieber's abduction memoir, *Communion*. He mentioned one "fact" that seems to recur in abduction reports, that of an odd and pungent odor sometimes sensed at the time these encounters are alleged to take place. The odor is of burning wood, which can certainly occur in perfectly natural circumstances.

I thought back to the time when I was maybe nine or ten years old, and living in a four-family walk-up in Brooklyn, New York.

I awoke one morning with a sharp odor in my nostrils, that of burning wood. I quickly looked around the house for the source of the smell. I remember asking my mother about it, but she dismissed it quickly. Nothing in the apartment was amiss.

The odor remained with me for the entire day, even when venturing outside, far away from home. The next day, the odor was gone. I dismissed it too at the time, as some kind of a cold, and thought nothing more about it.

If that odor had been accompanied by odd dreams of strange creatures or strange craft, then perhaps I would begin to wonder whether the whole affair might be worth some more careful study. But there were no weird dreams that I can recall.

Now perhaps one of our abduction researchers might want to put me on the couch and have me undergo a hypnotic regression. But I would warn them that, in addition to my studies of Fortean mysteries, I have also been an avid reader of science fiction literature, and an avid science fiction movie-goer. My mind is filled with all of the archetypes, to be sure, and I am quite certain that I can easily manufacture quite a credible abduction scenario without any outside help.

So I would be less than useless for such research.

But then I thought of members of my family. Has anyone

in my experience ever had an up-close and personal confrontation with the unknown?

Surely not my parents (both of whom are now dead). My only brother is deeply involved in the financial world. Back when I was nearing my teenaged years, he had a passing interest in flying saucers, but later seemed convinced there was nothing at all to it.

My first wife, Geneva, was more sensitive to such things. One morning in the early 1970's, while we were asleep in our living room back in Coatesville, Pennsylvania, she awakened me with a start. She had been deeply involved in religion and philosophy, and had begun an intensive study of neo-pagan religions throughout history.

She said she saw a "water elemental" moving about our apartment. A quick glance didn't disclose any unnatural creatures in our home, and I quickly went back to sleep.

A few years earlier, we both saw a strange light in the sky, perhaps a UFO, which quickly disappeared. It didn't display enough of the uncanny characteristics typical of such phenomena to lead us to suspect anything odd about it.

We also went to some places that were said to attract such phenomena, hoping to get a close encounter with the object of our studies.

In 1969, there was a visit to Brown Mountain, in North Carolina, in quest of strange "lights" seen skipping in the valley beneath the mountain ranges. A few lights did appear for us, and after a flurry of excitement, it soon became clear they were nothing more than the landing lights at a nearby airport. (*Caveat Emptor* #1, Fall, 1971)

The next year, we took a couple of treks down an old country road in search of the "Summerville Light" in South Carolina. There was a legend attached to the apparition too; that the light was the spirit of a long-dead railroad worker who was struck by a train in the darkness while returning home to his wife. The place was a magnet for young lovers in their automobiles, because of its remote location. Even after finding a suitably secluded and uninhabited locale, we never observed more than the image of a passing automobile headlight, which might, under the right circumstances, seem more like something from the "other side."

Then there was that encounter with the "Ringing Rocks." On the heels of an article from Curt Sutherly about an allegedly anomalous region in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, we put together a small expedition in search of the unknown. There were reports of odd feelings of disorientation when in proximity to the rocks, animals were said to cower in fear. We even wondered if we might be entering one of John Keel's infamous "window areas" of UFO and paranormal activity. (Issue #5, Fall, 1972)

Alas, our trip was uneventful, for the most part. Oh, the rocks did ring, but little else of any import occurred. Our dog was along to test the waters. She wasn't frightened, and enjoyed the outing immensely. We never felt any disorienting sensations, there were no UFOs or frightening creatures to break the monotony. (Issue #7, Spring, 1973)

In 1973, I spent an awful lot of time investigating a major UFO flap that had enveloped a large part of southeast Pennsylvania. I recall nighttime telephone calls from excited or frightened witnesses, telling me where I might, after all these years, find a real UFO.

I went to many of those places. I saw a lot of stars, planets, airplanes and other natural occurrences. The object of my quest was nowhere in sight.

In 1974, I helped sponsor a convention of the National UFO Conference in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. UFO fever was high, the readership of *Caveat Emptor* had reached record proportions with the purchase of another magazine—which also eventually put us out of business, but I dealt with *that* in our comeback issue, number 16, and I don't feel like going into it again here.

Many of the writers you are familiar with in these pages were present, including my loyal friends Floyd Murray and Curt Sutherly.

Floyd quietly told Geneva that he and some companions had seen a UFO on the evening of the convention, but he didn't seem too enthusiastic about letting anyone else in on his good fortune.

It seems that one can only maintain one's journalistic integrity and objectivity by not getting too personally involved with the subject one reports about. Perhaps it is felt that revealing a UFO experience might taint one's standing in the field—or perhaps there is even the feeling it might taint one's perceptions.

That might be why many noted UFO investigators seldom reveal meaningful sightings of their own. For all the years that he chased after spaceships and Air Force conspiracies, Major Donald Keyhoe never really saw a UFO to call his own, nor did many of the other "names" in the field that you have heard about. Perhaps that's what kept them going in the face of adversity, the hope that they too would have the honor of seeing one of the damn things for themselves. I wonder if that factor keeps me in the field too.

Of course other members of my immediate family have had strange experiences. My wife of 12 years, the singer Brittany Lane, was brought up in Brooklyn, New York, where she lived most of her life until we met in 1976. Then she was simply Barbara Kaplan.

When she learned of my fascination with the UFO subject, she volunteered that she had a UFO encounter one fourth of July, a strange silently moving multi-colored craft in the sky. She hadn't read much about the subject, but she didn't live that far from JFK Airport. Lots of planes flew over her parent's apartment. The thing she saw that day was different.

Then there was the time she awoke in her bedroom, to see a strange entity standing before her bed. She was at her parent's home, still a teenager.

The person had a long beard, and a halo above his head. She thought for a moment she saw "God."

In 1985, Barbara's mother died suddenly and sadly, days after being diagnosed as suffering from terminal cancer. It was all so unexpected. With the diagnosis came

the opportunity to have the poor woman participate in an experimental program to help prolong the life of people who suffered from inoperable cancer.

Three days before she was due to be transferred to a New Jersey hospital to undergo the experimental treatment, Gwen Kaplan died, virtually in Barbara's arms, of a heart attack.

I was sitting in my sister-in-law's bedroom at the time. Barbara was talking briefly with her mother. It was Mrs. Kaplan's birthday. She was very weak, and none of us had any real hope for her. Suddenly, she seemed to gasp for breath and was clearly having some kind of seizure.

I telephoned the local emergency police phone, and an ambulance and medics sped to the scene.

The medics arrived with all of their equipment minutes later, and rushed into the bedroom to administer treatment. While all this was going on, Barbara was waiting, alone, in the basement. Her sister, her brother-in-law and her young nephew had just returned home at that moment after a brief outing.

I talked to the medics to see if I can be of help. Mrs. Kaplan suffered cardiac arrest in the ambulance and was pronounced dead at the hospital.

Her sister had joined her in the basement. Barbara suddenly felt a suffocating sensation. She didn't know her mother had just died, and only later did she feel that perhaps her mother was somehow saying goodbye to her.

It's certainly not an unusual experience. Most people have at one time or another felt some sort of contact with a dead or dying relative. The question of emotional attachment certainly does enter into the picture, but perhaps there is another, external cause behind it all. That's what makes the psychic world so utterly fascinating.

And then there is the case of Jim Moseley. Now Jim is everyone's image of the hardened, cynical investigator with supreme composure and a sharp sense of humor in the face of the unknown.

Jim frequently tells his friends that he has never really faced the unknown, however. Oh he's had a few minor psychic experiences at one time or another in his life. Like the time he was playing with a deck of cards in his living room. He was trying to guess the cards before he looked at them. Suddenly the realization dawned on him that he didn't have to guess, he "knew" what the cards were. Then, miraculously, he identified the cards, one after another, as he turned them over.

Just as quickly, the feeling left him, and it has never come back.

But what if Jim had his own fateful close encounter of the third kind (CE3), in which he met up with some kind of alien being somewhere in the Florida Everglades, perhaps? He tells friends, rather too graphically I think, that he'd probably wet his pants out of fear before he'd know what to do.

What would I do, I wonder? I'd be frightened, that's for sure, but perhaps I could regain my composure long enough to go on. I hope so.

—Gene Steinberg

Readers' Forum

GROUND RULES: Please keep your letters short and to the point. We will not edit your letters except for spelling and serious grammatical errors. Deletions will be indicated by ellipses. We ask that you be considerate of the libel laws and the use of appropriate language. Otherwise, we put no restrictions on content. We will try to acknowledge all letters by mail, but unlike the days when we were young and foolish, your editor can no longer engage in a lengthy and protracted correspondence with anyone. If we have a response, you'll see it here.

THEM'S FIGHTIN' WORDS

Dear Gene:

... There are a number of inaccuracies in Floyd Murray's piece about MJ-12 and in your review of *The Roswell Incident*. Both seem to have been done without reference to the six papers that Bill Moore and I have published about Roswell, especially Bill's 1985 updated MUFON paper. Also seemingly not consulted were my total of 6 papers on MJ-12. Some specifics:

1. There are *three* primary MJ-12 documents: A. The November 18, 1952 "Briefing for President-Elect Eisenhower." The roll of film included only eight pages. B. Page 8 was Attachment A, a memo from President Truman to Secretary of Defense James Forrestal, dated September 24, 1947. C. What was found in the National Archives was a July 14, 1954 memo to General Nathan Twining, USAF Chief of Staff and an MJ-12 member, from Robert Cutler, Special Assistant to President Eisenhower, for National Security. B is signed by Truman. C has no signature and no /s/ next to Robert Cutler, and I believe was prepared quickly by James Lay, Executive Secretary of the National Security Council from 1950-1961.

2. Moore, Shandera, and I have *NOT* said George Bush is the head of the MJ-12 group.

3. Judging by the ferocity of the attacks on MJ-12 by Phil Klass and C.D. Allan, both of whom seem to feel it is more important to attack than to do research, the debate has not slackened. The Fund for UFO Research has managed to raise \$16,000 for a research project by me to dig into the MJ-12 matter in considerable depth. I have already revisited the Truman and Eisenhower Libraries, the National Archives and the Library of Congress Manuscript Division and been in touch with government officials of

the time period in question, 1947-1954. To date, I have found nothing to cast doubt on the documents and a host of small details to support their validity. One need not depend on armchair theorism and how many angels fit on the head of a pin arguments. Unfortunately, the critics can't be bothered to spend time at Archives. At least they are consistent. Klass has talked to none of the Roswell witnesses. Moore and I have talked to more than 90.

4. For the record... Haut was instructed to put out the press release by base commander Blanchard, who headed the 509th Composite Wing for which Jesse Marcel was the base security officer and which was the *only* Atomic Bomber group in the entire world in 1947, with all hand-picked officers and men and having very high security as well. Since we had 10 witnesses who handled the material recovered and five who independently described the strange symbols, we can be reasonably certain that what was found was not of this planet. The notion that it was part of a secret project makes no sense in that we still have not been able to make material that is so strong and so lightweight, and the very high security level of the people involved (because of the nuclear weapons) would strongly suggest that they would have been told, not about a new secret project, but to leave it alone. It is clear with regard to the coverup that a plan was quickly in place to discredit the crashed saucer story as instigated from high levels in Washington and with full cooperation of General Ramey, head of the 8th Air Force of which the 509th was a part.

5. Bill Moore and I did 99% of the research on the book and on the subsequent papers. Berlitz did write the book, since his name was magic with publishers at the time. Unfortunately, he included all kinds of material that did not

belong in the book because it could not be verified, and left out much which would have strengthened it. I provided three of the four initial leads (Jesse Marcel's story, Lydia Sleppey's story, and the Barney Barnett story as told to me by Vern and Jean Maltais). Bill had the Hughie Green story. We worked together.

6. I doubt that the MJ-12 story had anything at all to do with the release of *The Roswell Incident* in paperback and am frankly disgusted that it was put out without correcting or updating, and still including misquotes of me and not including the large acknowledgement I was supposed to receive. I am certain the stimulus was the great success of *Communism and Intruders*. Remember that *The Interrupted Journey* was also reissued.

7. For those who want the latest update on Roswell and on the Frank Scully story, I would suggest purchase of Bill Moore's 50-page paper *Crashed Saucers: Evidence in Search of Proof* (1985) and my very up-to-date 66-page MJ-12 Collection. The latter includes a clean copy of the briefing, the Truman-Forrestal item and the Cutler-Twining memo, several supporting documents and details of the battle between myself and Klass, as well as an MJ-12 update and my article about Donald Menzel with my very surprising findings about him. Each document is only \$7.00 U.S. with the pair available for \$12.00 including postage. Please send checks U.S. dollars to UROFI, P.O. Box 3584, Station B, Fredericton, N.B. Canada E3B 5J8. Remember that first class postage to Canada from the USA is 30¢ not 25¢. Letters without enough postage will be sent back.

Stanton T. Friedman
Fredericton, N.B., Canada

Stan, methinks you are becoming a bit too thin-skinned about the whole MJ-12/Roswell affair. Also, I question your state-

ment about "a number of inaccuracies."

Floyd was not doing a research piece on MJ-12; he was relating it to past instances involving "secret informants" who claimed to know the truth about UFOs.

Following his recent conversation with you, Floyd has brought the whole MJ-12 matter up to date in an article that appears elsewhere in this issue.

I simply reviewed the reprint of The Roswell Incident. It wasn't meant to be an analysis of the Roswell evidence.

With that in mind, I'll proceed to your numbered items:

1. No argument here.
2. Floyd never said that you, Moore or Shandera claimed that President Bush is the current head of MJ-12. He wrote, "is said" and I assume you are aware that such a statement has been made by others. You and your associates are not the only repositories of MJ-12 material.
3. I wish you the best of luck with your research project. But please don't get so bogged down on MJ-12 that you lose sight of the larger picture, that of the truth about the Roswell crash itself.
4. We don't have the material from the alleged crashed disc at hand, only decade's-old memories of its nature. I still think it's too early to write off the secret weapon theory, though I only suggested it in passing anyway.
5. You are repeating much of what I said in my review.
6. Ditto.
7. Yes, I have read most of the papers written by you and Bill Moore. Consider this a free plug. Both books are highly recommended to anyone seriously interested in learning more about all this.

To place the Roswell matter in perspective: I think Bill Moore, in his 1985 Roswell booklet, has really put the nail in the coffin as to Frank Scully's Aztec crash report in Behind the Flying Saucers. But it's clear that Scully's shady informants, Silas Newton and Leo GeBauer, spread the story far and wide throughout the southwest in the 1940's and 1950's.

Rather than assuming that Aztec is a totally separate matter, one wonders if news about the alleged crash at Roswell didn't reach the eyes and ears of Newton. It is not unlikely that he seized upon the story and twisted it to his own purposes. He might have picked a new location and added some spicy details.

Let's also not dismiss the possibility that such rumors somehow clouded memories of Roswell through the years. When Jim Moseley was chasing down crashed

disc sagas in the early 1950's, he found Scully's influence all over the place.

It's probably too late to ask if any of your 90-odd witnesses might have met up with Newton, GeBauer or one of their henchman or just read Scully's book. Surely that kind of cross-pollination will make it just that much harder to get to the bottom of the incident at Roswell.—GS

• • •

MORE DOCUMENT DECLARATIONS

Dear Mr. Steinberg,

Regarding your statement, "But as of now there is simply no smoking gun!" (Caveat Emptor #17, page four), I disagree with this statement.

It seems the second "Well Kept Secret" besides the crash at Aztec is the fact that Moore and Sandera aren't the only ones privy to "MJ-12" documents. The MJ-12 documents were released under the FOIA [Freedom of Information Act]. This release and many others are the smoke from the gun.

As to the current head of MJ-12 being Mr. Bush (Caveat Emptor #17, page 18), I doubt it. I think the secret government is secret even from him. Consider the movie *The Brotherhood of the Bell*. The group was tight-knit and secret as well as unimpeachable. The secret military government (along with the Black Budget) isn't about to expose themselves to each President. The President will be convinced for the need of defense but doesn't have to know the overall plan....

LeRoy Pea
PEA Research
Miltipias, CA

MJ-12 is so controversial because these documents were not released through the Freedom of Information Act! The main briefing documents (see the previous letter and my reply) were sent anonymously on 35mm film to people who were known to believe in the crashed disc story.

Let us also remember that President Bush was once head of the CIA. If he didn't know what was going on there, he should have known.

Right now, I am sitting on the fence about the whole thing. I consider all crashed disc reports, whether referring to Aztec, Roswell, or any other locale, to be pure speculation and as yet unproven.

Every few years, something comes along to stir the fires once again. There is also the possibility that these crashed

UFO legends are just so much disinformation to lead us off the track. That prospect should be explored also.—GS

• • •

CRASHED SAUCER FLICKS

Hi Gene,

...The film you refer to in your editorial [in issue #16] is called *Wavelength* (1983). It was written by the guy who wrote *The China Syndrome* and likewise tries to slip in a message. I saw through it once, God knows how. The film I'd figure you mention is 1980's *Hanger 18*. Darren McGavin looked like he was having a ball, Robert Vaughn was a corrupt politician (again) and Gary Collins was hilarious in a dramatic(?) role. The funniest UFO movie of all had to be 1977's *Starship Invasions* with Chris Lee as a bad alien in a bad wardrobe and Robert Vaughn as a UFO investigator. *The Man From MUFON*? It was later retitled for TV, but I don't think that helped.

The other magazine you refer to in your editorial that gained a resuscitation after a premature death has to be *The Match*. I got an issue in the mail a few years ago and absolutely fell in love with each page. The editor isn't too kind to the paranormal but perhaps people like us can educate him.

As to the magazine's review of *UFO Universe*, I'm afraid the best newsstand magazine from the past had to be put out by *Saga* magazine. All the articles were by the best people in the field and seemed to be level-headed and pretty substantiated.

I've talked to Jim Moseley on the phone a few times and consider him a decent guy. He's obviously put a lot of time, money and effort into UFOs but I've always been angry that, despite a wealth of knowledge, he's never gotten off his lazy can and written a book....

John Barlow
Norfolk, VA

You are quite correct about my reference to *Wavelength*. I finally ran across a blurb on it in a Cable TV magazine and realized it was the film I had written about. I'd be hard-pressed to hazard a guess as to whether the picture was worse than *Hanger 18*, but the latter was really awful.

No, I have never heard of *The Match*. The magazine that helped spur me on to resurrect *Caveat Emptor* was an underground audio journal, *The Audio Critic*.

Unless you're a die-hard audiophile, you wouldn't know anything about it, but it's one of the most intelligent and informative publications around in that field. Any reader who wants to spend more than a few bucks on the right equipment should read that magazine first! Their address is: Box 978, Quakertown, PA 18951.

I agree that Tim Beckley is going to have to work real hard to maintain the standard set by Saga UFO Report years ago. He's working under a very limited budget, also. But he really wants to keep UFO Universe on a high journalistic level and I hope he succeeds.—GS

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A KINDER, GENTLER MAGAZINE?

Dear Geneva,

I am impressed and inspired by your writings. All I can say is thank you for your deep compassion and understanding nature. I am very impressed when I find people in the UFO field with some semblance of dignity toward the homeless, the infirm and the poor. Thank God there are people like you putting sanity into UFO magazines.

Dr. Leo Sprinkle has confirmed through his studies that those who've interfaced with aliens do become more compassionate beyond just their family and friends. It is interesting to note that one of the messages given to [Bob] Renaud was "end the arms race and not the human race" as well as to strengthen the U. N. Now he behaves as if a right-wing ideology is more important than the messages the aliens gave to him.

Keep up the excellent work.

Lynn Volpe
Ivlyland, PA

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MORE SOCIAL ISSUES

Gentlebeings:

First, a check for a year of *CE* is enclosed. I have a feeling this is going to get too good to miss.

I thank Geneva Hagen for her response to my previous letter [in issue #17], but nowhere did I indulge in "name-calling," unless the suggestion of being a Democrat is so considered. That aside, whatever the lady's past or present politics, her article [in issue #16] radiated liberalism.

The government has never success-

fully countered a social ill, and never will, because it can't. How much better off would we be if the dollars that Washington has spent in this pursuit were instead delivered to the Salvation Army, the Red Cross, and so on? How many diseases would no longer exist if one percent of the federal budget was distributed to fight cancer, heart disease, MD and MS, etcetera?

In short, the private sector deals effectively with the problems that federal social programs pretend to address. The constitution *provides* for the common defense, because the military is by nature federal. However, it *promotes* the general welfare, it does not call for government financing of it. Homelessness, hunger, poverty, crime, drugs, et al are very real national shames. The fallacy is the notion that Washington bureaucracies can end them.

On the other hand, Ms. Hagen's latest article, "Gaia and Beyond" [in issue #17] makes fascinating reading. We humans, with our heedless environmental destruction, have become an infection on the living Earth, and we're risking Terra's bodily defenses on a planetary scale. If we don't start living with nature instead of defying and defiling it at every opportunity, we *will* lose. When it comes to kicking out trouble-makers, nature wears a very big boot.

Bob Renaud
Washington, MA

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AIR FORCE PARROTS?

Dear Gene Steinberg:

Thanks for favoring me with a copy of your revived *Caveat Emptor*. Nicely printed, etc. but from the editorial point of view it seems you have learned nothing new since you stopped publishing 15 years ago! Curt Sutherly's exposition of the Three Laws of Reality should have been on the front of No. 16 instead of the back, and had a choice of articles to back it up. Instead, you're beating a dead horse with the same old, moth-eaten Air Force propaganda line of 40 years ago. You should be getting a subsidy from the Air Force, like Hynek was!

You did offer a limp review of the TV documentary *UFO Coverup* but (deliberately?) left out the most important item in it: That the AF has made a deal with the Greys from Zeta Reticuli. They get control of thousands of acres of Dreamline in

southern Nevada, in exchange for technical information. Obviously, Air Force brass decided years ago that if you can't beat 'em, join 'em.

Meanwhile, thousands of Earthians are being kidnapped, given brutal physical examinations, and then tossed back into the paddock along with their fellow metaphysical ignoramuses and academic flatheads. And, as Whitley Strieber told his radio interviewer here last November, lawyers, bankers, doctors, generals, etc., dare not go public with their traumatic experiences because of the "show me" skepticism of even researchers like yourself.

What the contactee and abductee want to know is where their kidnappers come from and why they are here? But all they get from the Church, the State, from Science and even from metaphysical organizations is skepticism and ridicule. All they can do at present is get together in little groups, as described by Strieber in *Communion*, and console each other and share their experiences—the very kind of "inconceivable happening" Sutherly speaks of, but totally ignored by you. Sad.

Riley Hansard Crabb, MsD, DD
Orewa, Hibiscus Coast, New Zealand

We all know that the Air Force has for 40 years said there's nothing at all to the UFO mystery. My viewpoint, as expressed in my editorials and elsewhere, is that there is something mysterious about many UFO sightings, but that all of the answers put forth so far remain unproven. How are we repeating the Air Force line? I'm curious.

Curt Sutherly's "Three Laws of Reality" was printed as an after-thought. It was written in 1976, but surely represents his present mode of thought, as he made quite clear in his article in issue #17.

It is the general consensus that the syndicated UFO program, *UFO Cover-up Live?* was pretty much a failure. Even those who participated in the show were largely disenchanted with the presentation. The allegations of "Falcon" and "Condor" about making deals with aliens are just that—allegations. There is no proof. If you believe they're true, fine. I don't. If you can prove I'm wrong, I'd be delighted.

I feel nothing but compassion for all those abductees. Whether the experience results from alien intervention or some personal trauma that we don't understand is beside the point. They have suffered and are in need of kindness and understanding. I certainly would be the last to ridicule them.—GS

PLAUDITS AND MORE

Dear Gene:

Nice second issue of *CE*. The recent death of Keyhoe brought back memories of our trip to Washington in 1965 when we all got the boot from Richard Hall. And our journey the next day to Luray, Virginia to meet a more tolerant Keyhoe. As you wrote in your Editorial, he was indeed a big influence to many of us who "grew up" in 1960's UFOlogy....

Rick R. Hilberg
Berea, OH

Rick, I know we're all getting old and senile, but somehow I remember our visit with Keyhoe taking place before the Hall fiasco. It is worth noting that Keyhoe at the time seemed more of an advisor than the actual leader of NICAP, a role that Hall had evidently assumed. This certainly wasn't the picture that was conveyed by the group, where you got the feeling that Major Keyhoe was at the hub of all of the action.

Speaking of Keyhoe, I finally had the chance to update my 14-year-old interview with him—and it will appear in a forthcoming issue of Tim Beckley's newsstand magazine, UFO Universe. Watch your local newsstand.—GS

Dear Gene,

Congratulations on the successful restart of *Caveat Emptor*! I don't really have any enlightening comments on all the incisive articles in the two new issues yet. A couple of weeks ago I went to New Jersey on a business trip, and it seemed like every highway sign pointed to Metuchen, while I wanted to find Piscataway.

To Life Immortal!

Peter Sutherland
Scotia, NY

Perhaps someone was trying to tell you something.—GS

Dear Gene Steinberg:

Just a short note to let you know that your 'zine is a breath of fresh air in an otherwise dull, and stupid mass-media world. Keep up the refreshing 'zine. Don't pay any attention to people like John Keel. They're jealous.

One minor correction, re Floyd Murray's article in No. 17: Compton, California is in the Los Angeles basin, not in northern California.

William L. Howard
Carson, CA

Maybe they just wanted to escape all that smog.—GS

Dear Gene,

Thanks for #16 *Caveat Emptor*. Enjoyed the Moseley interview, the long editorial, Geneva's Ego Corner. Do hope things will work out right this time.

... Good to know most UFOs continue to make as little sense (without quite being nonsense) as they did in the early 1950's, when I first thought I knew something of what was going on, only to realize I knew nothing at all. Like Alice, I still need a few impossible things before breakfast—if not to believe in, then at least to read....

Richard Freeman
Yellow Springs, OH

MOSELEY AGAIN?

Dear Gene,

Even after our two-day meeting, I am still uncertain about Jim Moseley. Who is this Key West Rebel? Moseley the humorist, Moseley the critic, maybe, but to be sure—he is a skeptic—a skeptic with an open mind but still a pure "show me" skeptic.

An interesting observation is that his skeptical wit cuts both ways. No matter who you are or what theory you support, you are just as likely to find yourself at odds with this ego smashing Key West Rebel. Much to the delight of the Gulf Breeze critic, for several months Jim Moseley dug his "smear pen" into the side of Gulf Breeze. What a pleasure to have him now advise patience over pre-judgment.

Mr. Ed of Gulf Breeze
Gulf Breeze, FL

Ed, I've known Jim for nearly 30 years now—and he's still a mystery to me.—GS

A BREEZE OF ANOTHER KIND

Dear Mr. Steinberg:

"What do you have to say, Dr. Smith?"
Plenty!

I am glad to see in print the admission that the first camera used by Ed Walters has a manual focusing adjustment, while according to Dr. Maccabee the second camera, a Polaroid Sun 600, has a fixed focal length.

Apparently Mr. Ed-of-Gulf-Breeze has problems in interpreting what he was told about my presentation in Cleveland, or otherwise I did not explain myself clearly. To repeat the argument—which is rather lethal—a variable focus camera has "depth of field," i.e., only those objects within a range of distances around the setting of the camera will be in focus. For instance, if the camera is set at eight feet, objects at a great distance (essentially at infinity) will be fuzzy; and vice-versa. If the camera is set at infinity, near objects will be out of focus. If both remote and nearby objects are in focus, as happens in many of the Gulf Breeze photos, the probability of double exposure almost becomes a certainty.

Photos 22 and 23 [in the set] are particularly revealing, as they show several items in the foreground, including Mr. Walters and his dog, a water hose, etc., all in clear focus. The object—which, using the numbers provided by Dr. Maccabee, is at least 230 feet away—has sharply defined edges, a clear indication that it corresponds to a nearby object photographed in a separate lake.

These particular photos are also suspect on different grounds: light coming from a distant point is subject to atmospheric scattering, which in fact will diffuse the edges and decrease the definition of remote objects. This is not the case here, where the alleged UFO appears with pristine definition. Hence, we have two independent arguments supporting the double exposure hypothesis.

And thank you, Mr. Walters, for the information shoring up my contentions.

Dr. Willy Smith
UNICAT Project
Longwood, FL

Since Mr. Ed's real name is now in the public domain (see our Newswatch section), I have not omitted it from your letter.

I'll leave it up to Ed or Dr. Maccabee to respond to the specifics when they see this letter in print. My only comment is this: Do know for certain that the Polaroid 108 camera can take double exposures? That's not always easy or even possible with some models. I'd like to know.—GS

The Caveat Emptor Interview #1:

Curtis and Mary Fuller

by Gene Steinberg

And he said, "Why it would change the thinking of the world. And I said, "Well it won't. No one will believe it."

Curtis Fuller and Ray Palmer started Fate magazine 41 years ago. Through the years, many competitors have come and gone. Some of those departed titles are familiar to many of you, such as Beyond Reality, ESP, Exploring the Unknown, Occult, Psychic Observer and Psychic World. But in its unassuming way, Fate has remained. By retaining much of its original format, the magazine has remained predictable and dependable, which is perhaps a major reason for its success.

Palmer sold his interest in Fate several years after its founding, and went on to establish his own publishing company. Fuller's wife Mary joined him in the venture soon after he started. Originally, she had intended to remain a couple of weeks to help out at the office.

"And that was 40 years ago," she recalled.

Despite working together closely for so many years, the Fullers have a unique relationship which becomes immediately apparent in the following interview.

But now they are retiring. Fate has been sold to Llewellyn Publications, a Minnesota-based publisher of occult books. An era has ended.

GENE STEINBERG: A lot of these magazines tend to be almost one person operations, or close to it.

MARY FULLER: Well.

CURT FULLER: They have to be. CSICOP [Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal] claims that everybody in this field is in it to get rich, and believe me, they're not. Nobody's getting rich from it.

GENE STEINBERG: What were you doing, Mr. Fuller, before the idea for Fate magazine was hatched?

CURT FULLER: I'm a graduate of the School of Journalism at the University of Wisconsin. My background prior to that had been newspapers and magazine work. At the time we started Fate magazine, I was editor of Flying magazine for Ziff-Davis, and Ray Palmer was fiction editor.

GENE STEINBERG: So you basically became acquainted with Palmer by working for the same company.

CURT FULLER: Yes, uh huh.

GENE STEINBERG: When did you and Ray Palmer first come up with the idea of putting out Fate magazine? Under what circumstances?

CURT FULLER: That would have been about 1946 or '47. Well, we understood very well that the plans were to take the company to New York. We were in Chicago. Neither of us wanted to go to New York, and we were looking for alternatives. And the idea for the magazine, at least as it started, was primarily Ray's. I created the title, and that's about it, except that our concepts were different somewhat. Ray had been a fiction writer and I had been an editor of a fact magazine, and therefore there were differences of opinion as to what made an article.

MARY FULLER: Not to say trouble.

CURT FULLER: Well, not serious trouble, Mary.

MARY FULLER: Well, that's right, we ended up friends, always, but there were some very serious differences.

CURT FULLER: Oh yes.

MARY FULLER: And we did have a science fiction magazine at that time, also.

CURT FULLER: Which Ray was editing.

MARY FULLER: Other Worlds.

CURT FULLER: Several science fiction magazines at the company, Mary, all of which went to Ray. The magazines included Universe Science Fiction.

GENE STEINBERG: Did you both meet at college, by the way?

MARY FULLER: Yes, I roomed with his sister when we were freshmen. He never got away.

GENE STEINBERG: So you had your sights on him then?

MARY FULLER: Uh, huh.

GENE STEINBERG: So you thought about the idea of Fate magazine, you had the title, Ray had some of the concepts of the format. When did you make the break to quit Ziff-Davis and get into your own business?

CURT FULLER: Actually, Ray made it first. Mary was being treated for tuberculosis at the time, and we had a young daughter. We had to be very cautious about what we were doing in terms of our monetary situation. Ray left first, because he wanted to try his wings on the science fiction magazines. We alternated, for the first few issues of Fate at any rate. I had nothing to do with the science fiction magazines at any time. Ray did those.

Then, Ray had a very serious accident, this was when we were just getting underway.

MARY FULLER: He was already crippled, you know.

GENE STEINBERG: Yes, I know.

CURT FULLER: And he fell and was partially paralyzed for a while, so that then I took over the magazine and ran it. And as a matter of fact, from an editorial point of view, he never got it away from me then. And I made it into what I considered a fact magazine.

GENE STEINBERG: You felt then that perhaps Ray was emphasizing aspects that were more sensational or with more of a tendency to be fictional?

MARY FULLER: He had a tendency not to do the research that went into the articles. It was more off the top of his head, with imagination, which I don't think you can do Fate-type material with.

CURT FULLER: Well, it's like the Shaver stuff, you know. That was Ray's meat. It was not mine.

GENE STEINBERG: Did you know Shaver?

CURT FULLER: Oh yes.

GENE STEINBERG: Did you have any personal feelings about what he said were his experiences?

MARY FULLER: Oh sure. We thought he was an extremely charming man, the same as you did. And never believed a word of it.

CURT FULLER: He may have believed it, you know.

MARY FULLER: His wife was very nice too. And then I had no idea what she believed, but he always seemed completely sincere.

GENE STEINBERG: Had you ever, during the course of that period, encountered anyone else who had a similar set of experiences?

CURT FULLER: No.

GENE STEINBERG: So you felt he was unique in that sense. Also at the time that Fate was started, that was shortly after Kenneth Arnold had his UFO sighting.

CURT FULLER: Kenneth Arnold wrote his story in the first issue of Fate magazine.

MARY FULLER: Spring/Summer, 1948.

GENE STEINBERG: Did you have any feeling about the book he wrote with Palmer, The Coming of the Saucers, where he detailed the Maury Island affair?

CURT FULLER: That was a very strange situation, and I didn't have anything to do with it, either. But I think that Maury Island thing still represents partially a mystery, but maybe Ken was hoaxed. Ken was a heck of a good pilot, and he was a very sound thinker. He was a good observer, and if Ken said he saw something, I believe he saw it.

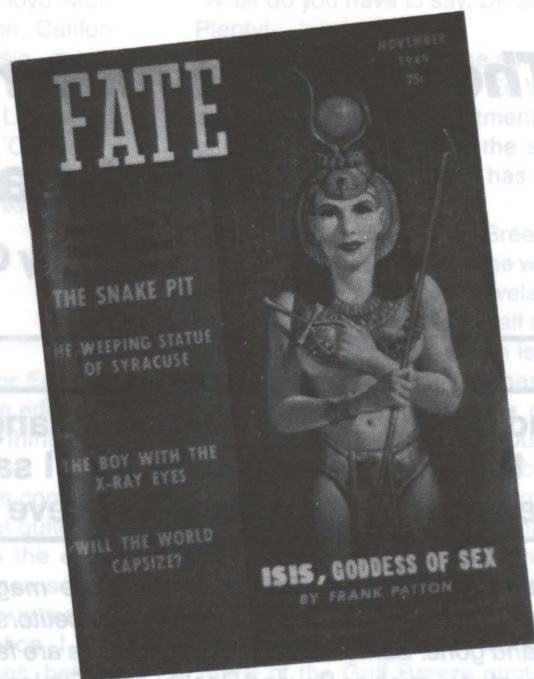
MARY FULLER: Oh, I do too.

CURT FULLER: But the Maury Island thing, it is possible he may have been hoaxed. And I've never made a personal investigation of that.

GENE STEINBERG: You say hoaxed, in what way?

CURT FULLER: That [Fred Lee] Crisman [one of the key figures in the case] was obviously very strange and we all thought he was paranoid.

GENE STEINBERG: Did you approach the subject in Fate



magazine as someone who believed that there could be such things as UFOs and occult phenomena, or was it strictly at that point a business venture, to get into your own business? What were your feelings then?

CURT FULLER: I would say that by the time we started Fate, we didn't have to believe everything we published in the beginning, because we were short of material. But it had to be something that was capable of belief. You know, you come into a situation where your judgment is involved.

MARY FULLER: We believed that everybody is not a liar, and we did believe sincerely that Kenneth Arnold was not a liar, and we believed that the people who testified to some of the things that happened centuries ago weren't liars either. They were reputable people. And why one can go ahead and say, "Well, obviously it didn't happen and they were misled." I don't believe that for a minute.

CURT FULLER: There's something about the nature of human animals that, the more distance they put between themselves and an unusual event, the less likely it seems to them to have happened. There's hardly any good psychic event or UFO sighting or so on that somebody doesn't want to come along and try to prove that it never happened, some years later. And the more years, the more they try to disprove it.

MARY FULLER: One of the most fascinating things that we were ever involved in personally was the Ted Serios psychic photography. And we ourselves saw it demonstrated time after time after time, and so did Jule Eisenbud, the psychiatrist out at the University of Colorado.

CURT FULLER: Who wrote the book.

MARY FULLER: We became absolutely convinced that it was true. We would supply the camera, we would supply the film, and this gizmo that he used was a piece of rolled

up black paper that came off the film. You knew it was new to him, he'd just gotten ahold of it. He didn't have time to doctor it, and we demonstrated it to a number of friends.

And he was in a laboratory out here, where they found that they could cut a lens that would do what he did, but the physicist told Curt that he absolutely believed that Ted did what he did.

But I was talking to a very dear friend of mine about it in the beginning and he said, "Why it would change the thinking of the world." And I said, "Well, it won't. No one will believe it." And only those people that see it for themselves believe it. And that's what's been true.

GENE STEINBERG: *That's true possibly with just about any paranormal encounter, isn't it?*

CURT FULLER: In a sense yes, the people have strange attitudes toward it. The University of Chicago has conducted two surveys of this area, public opinion surveys. And they find that more than 60% of the people interviewed believe they have had psychic experiences. And more than 40% believe they have had contact with a deceased loved one. And yet when it comes to it, people really can't come to believe it, you see. It's something that is there, and they believed that it happened, and yet maybe it is because of the milieu we live in that discounts all things that are not materialistic.

MARY FULLER: Curt and I for a while did a number of radio interviews where we would go to the studio and also some television work, in order to publicize the magazine. And almost always, the interviewer would end up at the end of the program telling us about an experience that he had had in our field. It was almost always true.

GENE STEINBERG: *And isn't it strange then that we have millions of people who have these experiences, but a magazine like Fate is lucky to have 100, 150,000 circulation? Why is it, by the way, that a lot of magazines have arisen in this field on UFOs, on the paranormal, on both, but only Fate magazine has lasted? Why?*

MARY FULLER: Well, we don't know. I'll tell you what. My feeling is that we have told the truth, and we have gone out of our way to publish all the critical letters, those letters calling us liars, or saying it couldn't have happened this way, or we got the date wrong. We published all of those always, and asked for an explanation from the author if one was needed. And if we made a mistake in publishing an article and it turned out to be wrong, we always ran an apology or even a full scheduled article saying that we had made this mistake and it appeared not to be true.

And through the years you can see that when we have found something that we published was—you know—just in the literature, and wasn't as true as the author had said, then we'd publish letters now said to be true. And we have tried to do an honest job for the people.

CURT FULLER: I think that's exactly true. Do you know Marcello Trucci? He or one of his students at the University of Michigan, made an analysis of all the exposes that Fate has run on psychic matters. And over a period of a

certain number of years, they counted 81 cases in which we had exposed fraud or errors and stuff like that. And he was pointing out in this material that he wrote that that's far more than CSICOP had ever exposed.

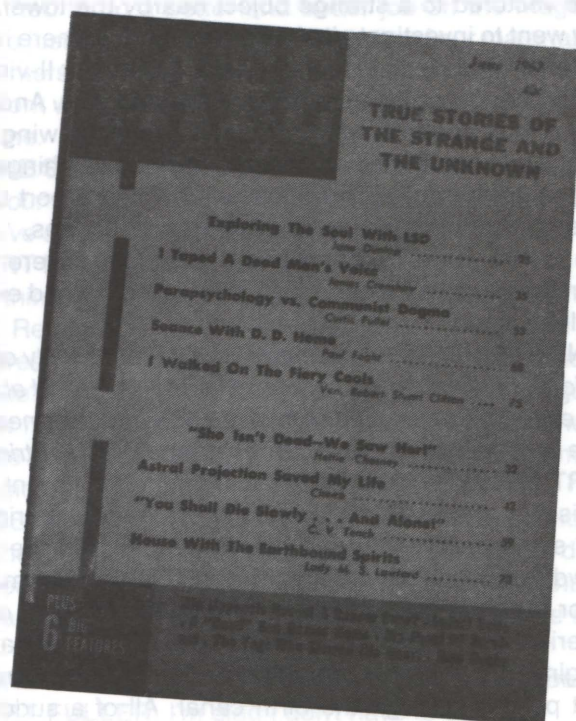
MARY FULLER: And you know some things in this magazine for the people who are editing it are not always the things that the readers get to enjoy. And one of the things that we got such a tremendous kick out of was that "Star Baby" attack on CSICOP. And they had made the mistake of firing off their board a number of people that had been really very sincere, and much involved in it. And then when they came out and said that the Frenchman who worked in astrology was wrong and then they did their own work in it, and got the same answers that the man had gotten in France, and covered it up. That's when those people who found out were willing to write that article, "Star Baby."

And you know that was from that old nursery rhyme, "Toby Baby," where you keep hitting it with a stick and that was what they had done. Everywhere they hit it, they stuck. And we had a tremendous lot of fun with that in our office.

CURT FULLER: And that's used as one of the examples. There have been several sociology journals that have picked that up and pointed out the way in which scientists have handled this type of material.

MARY FULLER: Yeah, it's in the literature and everything.

GENE STEINBERG: *On to UFOs, there's been a couple of factions of belief in the UFO field. One of course is the traditional one, possibly typified by the late Major Keyhoe, that UFOs are manifestations of an extraterrestrial intelligence. Then we have John Keel and Jacques Vallee and others who talk about interdimensional entities of some sort, and something that's less than pure hardware, that there's a lot of trickery involved in this field. And certainly your editor Jerry Clark has told of experiences like that. What are your*



feelings about all this?

CURT FULLER: You want me to answer, Mary?

MARY FULLER: Well, Curt, of course. You're the one who was traveling around with the *Flying* magazine people and going to the airports in those days, and interviewing the pilots.

CURT FULLER: Well, first of all, there are two aspects to it. What are UFOs? And I have to say that after all these years I still don't know. I am certain in my mind that UFOs exist. I think it's highly likely that what we call UFOs are more than one thing. But what they are, I don't know.

Years and years ago I wrote an article in *Fate* magazine, in which I proposed, oh, about a dozen different things that they could be. For instance, one idea came from [Dr. J. Allen] Hynek, that what we are seeing really isn't there. It is a projection from somewhere else, and that's why they're able to perform the way they do. You know our own laser technology would allow us to do something like that ourselves, in which you have these three dimensional—what do you call them?—holograms. He thought there was a good likelihood that what we were looking at were holograms from somewhere else.

MARY FULLER: Well, I know. But talk about the pilots that you interviewed.

CURT FULLER: Well, first of all, for example, I went over to Wright field years ago. I posed the question to them deliberately, and UFOs were very much in the news then, and they just stonewalled me and said, "Well, the only thing we know about them was what Charles Fort wrote." Okay. That's nonsense.

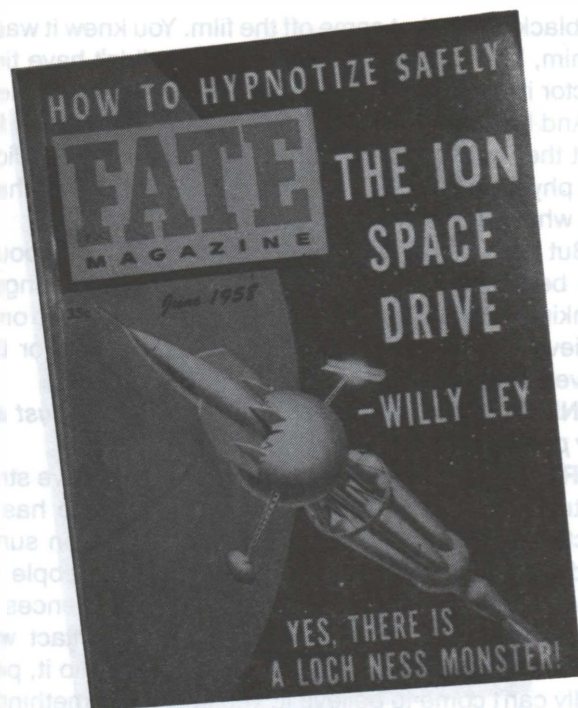
Now then, I got to talking with pilots and this was before the airlines clamped down on the pilots who had all kinds of experiences. In one case, a pilot was flying out of a field near Omaha. He and his co-pilot were flying and they were vectored to a strange object nearby the tower, and they went to investigate it. And all of a sudden here is this airplane, which looked to them like a World War II-vintage airplane, and was flying in the opposite direction. And they turned their heads to watch it, and it was flying wingtip to wingtip to them. Those are the strange kinds of things that happen to a lot of airline pilots, who would report these experiences and there were, of course, truly flaps.

In recent years, it's been a very quiet time. There have been times when it's been very active, and I would expect it will be again.

GENE STEINBERG: *In talking about the possibility of projections, how would that account for the so-called abduction experiences, like the Hills in the 60's and the ones that have been reported by Budd Hopkins and Whitley Strieber?*

CURT FULLER: All right, that's an entirely different matter, isn't it, than UFOs? This could be a life experience. And some people who are not very popular in the UFO crowd feel this is maybe a reliving of the birth trauma.

For example, some of the experiences, or many of the experiences that they describe are those that, with a little imagination, you could imagine an infant going through as it passes through the birth canal. All of a sudden it



emerges into this brightly lit room surrounded by people dressed in strange robes and stuff like that. And poke at it and examine it, and look at its umbilical cord. And this is anathema to many UFO people, believe me, but I think it deserves serious consideration.

GENE STEINBERG: *I think of the birth of my son, because that's about three years ago. It was a natural childbirth situation. You wonder what this little boy thought entering the world for the first time, and there's someone cutting the cord—and the doctor had me cut the cord—and they're cleaning him up, and wiping him down.*

CURT FULLER: When I was in college, we were taught in psychology, an infant would have no recollection of going through the birth process. There's a great deal of controversy about that, but there's a great many investigators and scientists and advanced psychologists, who believe absolutely that there is a birth trauma, and it's possible for infants to remember these things. Of course, the memory would be terribly distorted.

MARY FULLER: We have had fascinating articles from readers who wrote in, relating stories about children eleven years of age or so, telling the story of a fair that they went to, and in describing in great detail things that happened, and their mother would look at them and say that's absolutely right, "but I was only seven months pregnant with you when that happened." So we just don't know.

GENE STEINBERG: *I'll tell you one instance of my own, which I might as well mention. And that is that before my son was born, we had a dog, named "Sashi," a Lhasa Apso. And for various reasons we gave the dog away. Now I don't recall that we ever mentioned that dog's name after my son was born, but when he became able to talk, he knew that dog's name.*

MARY FULLER: It's the same kind of thing. I think the

thing that Curt and I have felt throughout the publication of *Fate* magazine is that we do not understand the world that we live in, and that any of these things may be true, and that they're all certainly fascinating and need to be investigated.

We were publishing about the continental drift long before it was accepted that continents had broken apart, drifted away, and that a lot of the things that we started out with in 1948 and the early 50's have been scientifically accepted since the days when they weren't. And Curt used to think that we'd run out of material, but you know for every mystery that's solved, there are two more that enter in, so it never happens.

GENE STEINBERG: *What do you look forward to now, a life of peace and retirement?*

MARY FULLER: I'm a German housewife at heart. I'm looking forward to cooking. I love to garden, which I've done all through the years, and I want to go back to taking some piano lessons. I would like to go back to college and study comparative religions, which has always fascinated me, and I have all sorts of things I'm looking forward to doing, instead of just sitting around.

GENE STEINBERG: *What about you, Mr. Fuller?*

CURT FULLER: Well, it's a trauma to me just to find a little leisure. I'm still trying to find it. Anyway, one of my fantasies is I would like to spend more time fishing. I'd like to spend more time playing golf. I'm afraid that, as far as I'm concerned, these activities may be a little too much for me. I think I waited too long to retire.

GENE STEINBERG: *I don't want to ask your respective ages.*

MARY FULLER: We don't mind.

GENE STEINBERG: *All right.*

MARY FULLER: I'm 74. Is that right, Curt?

CURT FULLER: Yeah, and I'm 76.

GENE STEINBERG: *Well, that's young nowadays.*

CURT FULLER: That's not young.

MARY FULLER: It's too late to die young.

GENE STEINBERG: *That is young nowadays.*

MARY FULLER: Not really.

CURT FULLER: Not really, though. My problem is compounded by the fact that, taking my grandson to Alaska in June [1988], I came down with shingles and I was very active during a portion of this trip, and the virus invaded some of the trunk nerves of my left leg, so that I am partially paralyzed down there.

MARY FULLER: He's gonna get over it.

CURT FULLER: And I'm having a hard time navigating.

GENE STEINBERG: *Is that why you're not at the office as often?*

MARY FULLER: Well, we really are just in the process of retiring. We no longer own it, and we're just trying to help the new people take over.

GENE STEINBERG: *Do you feel reasonably confident that they'll try to run it in the tradition that you folks established?*

MARY FULLER: Of course not. [Laughter] No one ever feels that they're replaceable, do they?

GENE STEINBERG: *Of course not.*

MARY FULLER: I hope they do very well. I am sure that their concept of the magazine is different from ours. I hope it is not too different.

GENE STEINBERG: *I talked to the new editor and certainly in their expansion plans he said they hope not to alienate any of the current readership.*

MARY FULLER: Well, that's a good start.

CURT FULLER: The problem is that they're book publishers, and they have to understand, they have to learn all of the mechanical things about putting out magazines, such as how to handle circulation, things like that, which are alien to them. And they'll have to learn that.

GENE STEINBERG: *And isn't it also true that a magazine is more of a transitory thing. A book is a permanent record or work, and you write the book and it's finished and you go to the next book. But a magazine is an ongoing process. There's this article and there's this other article. It's more of a movement, and more of a fluid entity, if that makes sense.*

CURT FULLER: I would say that, as far as I am concerned, my life with *Fate* has been like that too. It has been an extremely enjoyable chapter in my life, the entire process, and especially writing my column ["I See By The Papers"]. I've enjoyed that thoroughly.

MARY FULLER: It's been a fascinating subject too. Anything that is as controversial and as changing as the subjects in *Fate* magazine are bound to be fascinating. I think that you know, after 40 years, we're tired.

GENE STEINBERG: *Do you feel though that both of you can put down the typewriters and not write anymore?*

MARY FULLER: No, I'm sure Curt can't. Back in the old days I used to do some of the archaeology stuff. I would go up to the Northwestern University Library, and do a lot of the research on the articles. I gave up writing, and when we tried to do a better and better job on the magazine, there just wasn't time to write. But a lot of our material, a lot of writers have just been great and have been a pleasure to work with, and it's been an extremely educational thing for me.

GENE STEINBERG: *Do you feel, Mr. Fuller, there's a book in your life on trying to bring all this stuff together that you've seen and experienced for the past 41 years?*

CURT FULLER: I wonder if there is.

I think that if you look back over the Society for Psychical Research over the past hundred years and what impression have they made? What impression has *Fate* made? We published 75 million copies of *Fate* magazine. How many people have we influenced? Why is it that science absolutely negates this entire thing and they make a religion out of it? In essence, it's a matter of faith.

CSICOP started out. That would have been wonderful, if they had actually done research. But they did no research, and they're opposed to everything in the field as a matter of faith, which is the antithesis of the scientific method.

GENE STEINBERG: *I think that's a good ending point.*

CURT FULLER: I'm glad I don't have to edit this.

The Caveat Emptor Interview #2:

Timothy Green Beckley

by Gene Steinberg

There's not one case, there's not a dozen cases — we're probably talking about 100 or more cases of crashed UFOs now.

The nickname "Mr. UFO" is something Timothy Green Beckley has had to live down. When I think of "Mr. UFO" my mind conjures images of a carnival barker in a circus, wearing a "Star Trek" uniform, surrounded perhaps by some cute little ET's and some miniature UFOs flying aloft. This just happens to describe illustrator Max Fyfield's infamous caricature that has adorned many of Beckley's books and articles through the years (though it won't appear here).

I first met Beckley in the early 1960's, when he was just another teenager who was running a flying saucer club. Like the rest of us, he had his own magazine, which he sent on to other teens around the country.

In time most of Beckley's peers went on to school or to work and their childish interests in strange craft in the skies gave way to thoughts of a career, marriage, children and paying bills. A few of us, of course, held on to the pursuit of UFOs, largely as a hobby of course, with perhaps a tolerant understanding from our friends and family.

Not Timothy Green Beckley.

As he grew older and his writing skills improved, he made his magazine larger and more professional. When I made my first brief departure from UFO research and left Jim Moseley's Saucer News, where I had been managing editor, to become a radio broadcaster, Beckley took my place.

When Jim Moseley sold Saucer News to his friend Gray Barker, Beckley went out on his own, starting Inner Light Publications, a specialty publishing firm that through the years has produced books and magazines on everything from Indian magic to the legends of crashed UFOs.

Perhaps because he made it his life's work, Beckley is often thought of as being in UFO and occult research strictly for the buck.

While he readily admits that he won't object to a decent profit from his publishing efforts,, when you learn about some of his childhood experiences, his line of work seems quite natural and ordinary.



GENE STEINBERG: *Tim, a lot of people feel that you're merely in this field for the buck and that you don't have a serious interest in UFOs and related subjects. What's your response to that?*

TIMOTHY GREEN BECKLEY: *May I be frank and say that's a bunch of crap? Because I think I'm one of the few people who has lasted in this field.*

I had my first sighting in 1957, when I was ten years old, in New Brunswick, New Jersey. And I started in this in about 1964, putting out a little newsletter that, when it started, only had a circulation of about 50 and had ten pages, mimeographed on both sides of the sheet. And by the time, and I use this in quotes, "sold out" to Jim Moseley's Saucer News and combined my circulation with his, I had a circulation of about 1,200 copies that were being mailed all over the world.

And in those days there were no fast, quick-copy places like there are now all over the place. You had to print these things and fold them and collate and staple them yourself, and it was quite a job. And in those days the subscription was like \$2.00 for six issues.

I can see where some people would be jealous over my

apparent success in the field, because I'm the first to admit that I do make a living from this. I am a book publisher, I put out legitimate literature on the subject. I have continued to do so for 25 years or more and have been somewhat successful at it. I've never made a million dollars off this, but I've kept it going, even in very lean years, Gene, when there was no Budd Hopkins or Whitley Strieber or anyone else running around. I was travelling around the country, appearing on radio and television, promoting the subject.

Now, I think I'm in a position like most other book publishers. I don't necessarily believe everything that I print, but I don't see where that's necessary either. Doubleday, for example, might publish a book on the Nazis. It doesn't mean they believe in the Nazis, or they may publish a book in the philosophy of Karl Marx. It doesn't mean that they're communists either. It just simply means that we have a freedom in this country to print literature. And, although I'm sure that some people don't believe this, I've never been responsible for creating a hoax, although I'm sure that there have been some people who've created the hoax and then I unwittingly promoted it. That I would grant you, but that's probably a good percentage of the UFO field anyway.

STEINBERG: *So what is your real belief? What do you actually believe about UFOs and related subjects?*

BECKLEY: Well, I would say that, as far as UFOs go, I've had four sightings myself. The early one in 1957. I also had a sighting in Warminster, England, where Arthur Shuttlewood and I actually signalled to an object that was in the sky, and it seemed to signal back to us by doing some pretty strange maneuvers, such as double loops and somersaults and so forth. And that was quite interesting. And another time in Arizona, I had a sighting of a large, cigar-shaped object that passed across the night sky, and that was fairly impressive.

So I have seen these things with my own eyes. I do know that they are real, but what do we mean exactly when we say real?

My belief would be that you've got to break UFOs up into at least two distinct types of phenomena here, if not more. First of all we have the objects that are seen in the sky that have apparently the ability to knock out car motors and airplane engines and do incredible things in the blink of an eye. This may be some sort of extraterrestrial phenomena. It's impossible to tell, since we don't have one in our hands that we know of, to talk to the crew members, at least not you and I.

Another part of the subject we must certainly break it up into what would be considered a spiritual nature. These are the experiences where people claim to have face-to-face encounters and I don't really see too much distinction between the contactee movement, which was big in the early 1950's, and the abductees now. The space beings may be a little bit different and they may not be quite as tall, but basically that's a spiritual, if you want to call it that, or a visionary phenomena, or something that may

not even directly relate to the objects that are seen in the sky, although we tend to lump them in the same category.

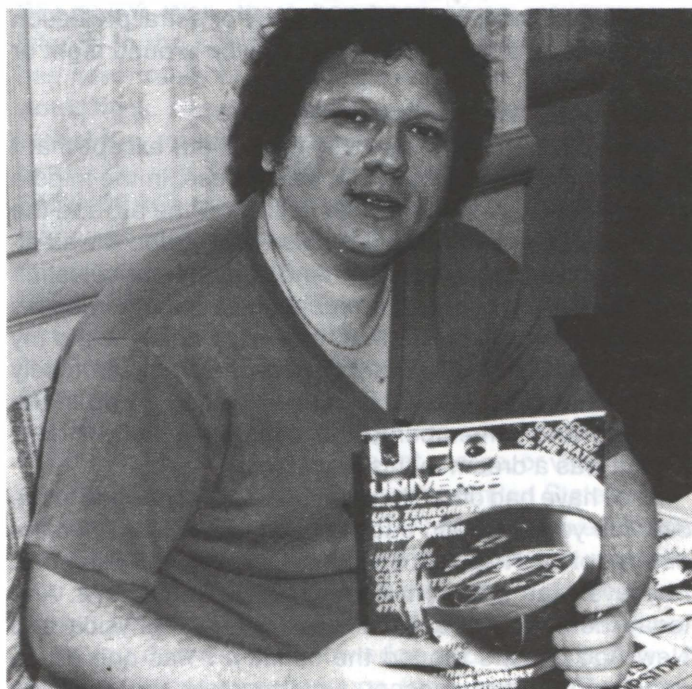
STEINBERG: *Let's be more specific about that. Are you saying that the abduction phenomena is kind of a dream experience, that they're seeing things on an internal basis rather than experiencing a contact with an external force?*

BECKLEY: I would say that in the majority of cases that I have studied, that the people that have these experiences are seeming to have an internal type of experience. Now whether there is some motivating factor or some force beyond that, yes I would have to say that there *is* a force. But this force has shown itself time and time again throughout the course of history and it's a matter of how you interpret that force, whether it's a vision of the Virgin Mary or of Jesus or some angelic being or space person, is up to the individual who is having the spiritual revelation.

STEINBERG: *What about those who feel that the entire UFO phenomenon, even the objects that are said to be physical, are generated by the same source?*

BECKLEY: Well, I think not, because after all we do have these craft. They appear to land, they leave indentations in the ground and they burn farmer's fields. They may even take off stray calves or what have you, and now and then they do interfere with the radio and television reception and conk out the engines of cars and seem to be able to do almost anything. Now this same force may also have the power to create mirages and images and hallucinations and visions, and perhaps that's what we're dealing with.

Maybe the force behind these UFOs, I think, is probably something that could trigger some internal mechanism in man's mind. But whether the being that appears in your room or the ship that you're teleported into is a real, solid, physical craft or not, I would have my suspicions that it



probably isn't.

STEINBERG: *Ray Palmer said something like that years ago, in speaking of the Shaver Mystery, where he felt that when Richard Shaver said he went down into the caverns, instead his mind may have travelled either on an internal or external trip, but he, himself, was seated exactly where he was when he thought he left.*

BECKLEY: Well, I think throughout history you certainly have people who travel to other places. In the *Book of Enoch*, I believe the main character went into the inner Earth, and the inner Earth is part and parcel of the UFO phenomena too, although we don't hear really all that much about it today. I don't think it's really that important where you travel, but the travelling is going on to some extent and I think it's probably both ways. Maybe some of these things do happen on a physical level, but a lot of them I suspect really don't, but there probably is some outside mechanism or force that's creating these experiences.

STEINBERG: *Let's probe some of your internal forces here. What motivates a person who assumedly had grown up in a normal family life to, instead of becoming a doctor, lawyer or fireman, become a full-time UFO investigator and publisher?*

BECKLEY: Well, I sure didn't grow up in that normal of a household, Gene. The house I lived in was haunted. We had all kinds of poltergeist phenomena going on when I guess I was maybe six or seven years old. Lights going on and off, and I remember one time a dish kind of skimming over the surface of the table and then floating to the floor without breaking. There were apparitions that were seen in the house by other members of the family. My mother kind of fooled around with the ouija board. A couple of my nephews saw some strange things there, as well as some of their guests. I saw doors close when there was no wind and nobody there to close them.

I also had some sort of out-of-body or astral projection experience at a fairly young age, maybe around eight or nine years old.

STEINBERG: *What happened then?*

BECKLEY: Well, nothing really happened, except that I woke up, if that's the word you want to use, in the middle of the night and I found myself floating in the air, and the room was a very strange turquoise-type color. It was almost like being in a fish tank. And I could hear celestial-type music, just like you've probably read about in books on astral projection. And then when I came back into my body, I found myself sweating and perspiring profusely and I eventually, I guess, fell asleep and woke up in the morning and remembered the experience. And I don't think it was a dream to this day.

And I have had other things similar to that happen to me over the years. In fact, back in the early 1970's, I was the director of the New York School of Occult Arts & Sciences. I believe I ran that from about 1968 to about 1972. And today there are probably 500 so-called metaphysical and New Age centers around the country. I was one of the originators of that concept. Unfortunately, there weren't



that many people interested in these types of things back then.

STEINBERG: *So your childhood probably impelled you to seek out this field?*

BECKLEY: Yes, I firmly believe that that first UFO sighting stimulated something in my brain, because, yes, why would I get into this full time? Certainly it has been a lot of work over the years. I've had fun with it. I do enjoy the subject. I've done a lot of other things in my time, from real estate to movie making, but I always come back to this even in the lean years.

STEINBERG: *So there's a drive there that's not totally just becoming a millionaire, because that doesn't seem very likely.*

BECKLEY: I do like the thought of making money, not only on this but in other projects that I'm involved in. I like to live in a comfortable style and I see nothing wrong with that. I work my buns off sometimes as much as twelve to fifteen hours a day *[sounds familiar to me—GS]*.

STEINBERG: *But this is something you truly believe in?*

BECKLEY: I would say that that's the primary motive behind this. It certainly was more so maybe in the early years.

STEINBERG: *Do you feel jaded that after all these years no one has come up with any real solutions to the UFO phenomena?*

BECKLEY: Well, I don't know if I feel jaded, but I think sometimes I am a little bit bored when people tell me their abduction stories or they tell me their dreams or they tell me this or that or the other thing. And they wonder why I don't have a particular keen interest in it or why I'm not excited about their story. They don't realize that I hear 15 new stories every week.

STEINBERG: *So what stories do interest you these days?*

BECKLEY: Well, I would say that the one that has always

interested me the most, and probably a lot of other people too is the rumors over the years of the crashed UFOs at Roswell and other locations.

STEINBERG: *And that's what made you write a book about the subject?*

BECKLEY: Well, that's one of the reasons, I guess. Actually, my new book, *MJ-12 and the Riddle of Hangar 18*, which has just been released, is an offshoot of a project that I did back in 1982, which was one of our early booklets. This was expanded into the 220-page, four-color covered book that I've put out now.

And I remember that in my mail order business—and I've got about 145,000 names on the mailing list—that the Hangar 18 book, for a UFO book, sold very well. In fact, Gene, this may interest you. I really haven't published a UFO book in about seven years. This is the first one that you could say is a strict UFO book. There have been books on channeling and books on crystals that we've gotten into. And there is a great deal of interest in American Indian shamanism and so forth. But the UFO thing has been dead, even among the 40,000-odd readers of my *UFO Review*, which I've kept going now for over 30 issues.

When it comes to ordering books and merchandise—which keeps us going—the UFO stuff has never really been a hot mover. But this material, which I've been collecting out of my own interest for many, many years, I felt the time was right now, what with the MJ-12 document furor and some of the publicity the Roswell incident has gotten, to put all the material together that I collected into one volume.

STEINBERG: *What do you feel you can offer to this very involved subject?*

BECKLEY: Well, I think you've hit the key word right there, it's very involved. Well, I think we could look at the crashed saucer syndrome and the dead little men syndrome pretty much like we look at the entire UFO phenomena. We can see it as something that may have really occurred, and there is certainly a great deal of evidence that "something" did come down in Roswell, something pretty peculiar. Or we can look at it as a legend or as part of the American folklore now, because there's not one case, there's not a dozen cases—we're probably talking about 100 or more cases of crashed UFOs now—including one that supposedly took place in New York's Central Park, which is related in the book.

It was an incident that was described to me by a mutual friend of Jim Moseley and myself—and I'm sure you probably know her too—Barbara Hudson. And she had some very incredible stories to tell, and one of them involved this object that she claimed she actually saw, come crashing down into Central Park. And the military came in and confiscated the object. It happened while she was driving home on Broadway in upper Manhattan. She said the military cordoned off the area around 113th Street, where this took place, even searched the area as if they were looking for something and told people, you know, not to mention the incident. But apparently there was never anything

about it in the paper.

STEINBERG: *So you're saying that a UFO could crash anywhere in this country, even in the largest city in the nation, and, for the most part, the military could keep it quiet?*

BECKLEY: Well, to be honest with you, UFOs hardly make it into the papers in New York. I remember a couple of years ago there was a sighting made by 80 people from the Gulf & Western building of a UFO over Central Park. I think the most it ever made in the newspapers was about an inch or so, and they said it was a kite, and nobody did any kind of follow-up or anything on it.

It's extremely rare that any UFO story is carried in a newspaper here in New York. And I don't think it's a matter of censorship that much. It's a matter of what sells papers and what's the hot story of the day. If a UFO sighting takes place on August 15th, when it's 90 degrees and there's nothing else in the news, it's gonna make some space. If it happens during Gorbachev's trip to the United States or during the election or some big murder trial or some big corruption down at city hall, it just isn't going to make any news, because when you get past page five of the New York papers, except for *The New York Times*, it's all gossip and sports and movies and entertainment and stock exchanges.

STEINBERG: *And UFOs don't cut it?*

BECKLEY: It's like putting *UFO Universe*, which is the newsstand magazine that I edit, on the newsstands. Where does the dealer put it? It doesn't fit in any known category. It's kind of in a classification by itself. And for the most part, UFOs stories are relegated to the weekly tabloids.

STEINBERG: *Do you see, though, somewhat of a resurgence of interest in the subject in the last six months or year?*

BECKLEY: Well, there has been some resurgence of interest in the subject, but you know, Gene, the subject has never really been as huge as people on the outside would think. They think that if you're involved in UFOs that you sell a million copies of these books and become fabulously rich, and it just ain't so. It's just not happening.

STEINBERG: *Obviously, we have to say that every UFO magazine that has reached the newsstands, except the present one, is now out of business.*

BECKLEY: I remember some figures I was given on *Saga UFO Report*, which was the largest selling and probably most respected UFO magazine that's ever been put out. At the peak of their sales performance, they were putting 125,000 copies out and selling 40%, which is only about 50,000 copies. That certainly is not a large, or very impressive figure in a country as big as the United States.

There are magazines on the Civil War that have 200,000 circulation. But when it's UFOs, the audience is not there. And to somebody who is involved in the field, they just cannot understand that, because there is just this overwhelming demand for knowledge and for verification. If somebody's had an experience, they want it verified, they

want to know that other people have had these things happen to them and they just cannot believe that the entire world is not consumed by this topic.

And, you know, it's strange to think about it, because UFOs certainly have gone on now for over 40 years, and it's the only subject that has lasted that long in the media. And the media does pump away at it. I mean, you talk about censorship and all, but it's the one subject that has gotten almost continuous publicity, on and off, over 40 years, even if it comes in waves. The media is more interested in the subject than the public is, I believe.

The public is too busy trying to figure out how to pay their taxes.

STEINBERG: *Let's talk some more about the crashed disc saga. We have found out in other instances that the government doesn't keep its secrets very well. Richard Nixon couldn't keep Watergate a secret for very long. A lot of the things that have happened in government—and certainly the Iran-Contra trial that's currently taking place [in early April]—indicate the government has an awful time keeping secrets. How could they keep the secret of a space ship landing in the southwest for 40 years?*

BECKLEY: I don't think they have done a very good job of keeping it a secret, because this has been on radio and TV lately, and if you can believe "Falcon" and "Condor" and these other guys that are coming forward, there isn't much of a secret here. It's just that UFOs keep themselves a secret.

In fact, I think the best thing the government ever did, from their point of view at least, was give up Project Blue Book, because when Project Blue Book was still in existence, there was somebody to fight. There was an enemy out there, and at least twice a year, the government would release its figures as far as the number of sightings, as far as insufficient information and explainable cases and unexplainable cases. And since the government tends to screw up almost anything it touches, it would screw that up too. Even if they had nothing to hide, their figures never tallied up to the right amount.

We could talk about Project Blue Book and Grudge and Sign and all the things they screwed up on over the years, but somehow UFOs manage to keep themselves a secret, because there's so many different aspects and so many twists and turns, it's like going down a maze. And you just get to a brick wall after a while, and most people just throw up their hands and give up.

I often wonder, you know, when you take all these little UFO magazines that used to exist and the different clubs, at one time there were about 200 or 300 different clubs around the country. Over the years, there must have been millions and millions of members since the early 1950's, and subscriptions to all these little 'zines. What the hell happened to these people? Did they get abducted by UFOs, or did they just wander into obscurity?

Well, the truth of the matter is they lose interest right away.

STEINBERG: *And also the other factor is, a lot of times, it's*

the same people. A person doesn't subscribe to just one magazine, (s)he subscribes to ten. I think you'll find in your mailing lists, and certainly the mailing lists that I've encountered through the years with Caveat Emptor and Saucer News, the same people read all these magazines.

BECKLEY: I think that's true for a period of time. I don't think you'll find that many people that subscribed five years ago on your mailing list any more. There may be a few hard core people—a couple of hundred—but they do come and go like Swamp Gas.

STEINBERG: *Let's get more into the tale about the crashed discs. If all of the stuff is really true—and we have all these sources running around the country telling us about this crashed disc—if it was true, don't you think someone in the government would say, "Hey, wait a minute! They're not supposed to tell those things!" Someone would clamp down and start restricting information?*

BECKLEY: It's kind of like the Men in Black, Gene. The Men in Black never visit you and I. They don't silence somebody with a big mouth. They always go after the cowards of the world. And I think if the government started going after people who maybe told tales that are classified, there would be a huge hue and cry from a lot of these people. It would do them worse to try to cover it up.

STEINBERG: *So they let the subject die on the vine by benign neglect?*

BECKLEY: I would think they know that UFOs are relegated to a hearty laugh in the news, so they don't have to do anything to cover it up. It kind of perpetuates itself.

STEINBERG: *I have this scenario of the Roswell crash. If it really took place, envision in your own mind the final scene of Raiders of the Lost Arc, the Steven Spielberg film, where they take the Arc of the Covenant that Harrison Ford as Indiana Jones has recovered from the Nazis in the late 1930s, and they stick it in the bottom basement of the Pentagon, 14 stories below sea level. They close the door on it and walk away, and the night watchman turns off the light, and that's the end of it.*

And maybe somewhere on the 14th level below Hangar 18, the crashed ship is sitting there, neglected, and the dead space people are lying there in liquid nitrogen and some night watchman closes the door and he turns off the light and all the people who were there at the beginning are now dead or retired, and the people who took over don't know anything about it, aren't interested in it. And the biggest story of the ages will die of benign neglect.

BECKLEY: But of course we've got to figure out why would the government want to cover this up? I mean, why are they trying to keep the most important information of all time from the public? And that's a doozy of a question, when you consider we supposedly live in the freest country in the world. Maybe you can imagine this happening in the Soviet Union or in Cuba or in China, but why would it happen here?

And I think that there probably is some kind of a grand conspiracy among the nations of the world to play down the importance of UFOs, because they know that if this

information were to come out that it would change civilization and our culture and our way of thinking as far as religion and politics is concerned almost overnight. And I think that the powers-that-be, while they may haggle among themselves over the merits of socialism or communism or capitalism, they'd rather see the world pretty much divided up the way it is now, rather than to have to compete with some alien force, especially an alien force that is, if we can believe any of these stories, all powerful and has the power to manipulate our minds and our culture and our aircraft.

You know there've been stories where we shot missiles at them and the missiles have either exploded in mid-air or changed course. First of all, how could you explain all this to the general public when it encompasses so many aspects? And also how could they collect a paycheck every week for the military when they'd have to admit that there's no defense against UFOs?

STEINBERG: *So this would disrupt society if there was such a revelation.*

BECKLEY: That's the biggest key to this right there.

STEINBERG: *After all these years that you have been studying the subject, I think it's clear to most of our readers now that you could have become rich and wealthy from something else, but not from studying UFOs, that this is something that you have been interested in since you were a child. After looking at this with your overview, do you feel it's anything that anybody is ever going to solve?*

BECKLEY: It'll be solved if this force or power behind the UFOs wants it to be solved. Only when they decide that we should know what's going on will we know what's going on. I mean, certainly if they wanted to let themselves be known to every person on the face of the Earth, they could do that. But they play a cat and mouse game with us. They kind of dangle the carrot out there and they pull it back and they dangle it some more and they yank it back even further. They certainly have the ability to interfere with our radio and television, they've broadcast messages in different parts of the world over the years. Even the astronauts while in space have picked up strange messages and voices and music and so forth on their radio bands.

STEINBERG: *You've heard there's a story out now that on the last shuttle flight something happened that was UFO-related?*

BECKLEY: I haven't heard the tape and don't even have too many details, but I understand that the tape has an astronaut talking about some kind of craft pulling up outside the space shuttle, and it's being analyzed now. The astronaut in question denies that he made the statement.

I spent some time in NASA's office in Washington many years ago, and I went through all their transcripts. And there were some *amazing* things in there. The Apollo 12, for example, was followed during its first day on the way to the Moon by something which the astronauts said was tumbling along right behind them. And when they broadcast the message of this back to Houston, the object took off. And Houston said something to the effect that it

must be the wind in their sails, whatever that's supposed to mean.

And there must have been dozens of cases where strange things were following the space capsules. In fact, we probably have 10 or 15 color transparencies that NASA supplied us with of things in the sky which they admitted were unidentified. Now they were not impressive to the extent that they were that close up where you could see windows or aliens waiting, but there was something up there with the astronauts, regardless of what Jim Oberg and all these other skeptics say.

Astronauts have had UFO sightings, and one believer in UFOs is Gordon Cooper, who was a former astronaut and moon walker. Not only does he believe in UFOs, but he stated publicly on television that he believes there's a good possibility that one or more crashes of UFOs did take place.

STEINBERG: *This is something that you bring out in your book also.*

BECKLEY: Right. And I talk about an incident that took place at Edwards Air Force Base back in the mid-1950's, when Cooper was stationed there.

And one day at about noon, several men under his direct command came rushing in and they had taken 16mm film footage of an object that had landed on the dry lake bed there. He developed the film and viewed it over and over and over again, and sure enough, it was a circular craft that, he said, was probably big enough to seat two or three people. There were no openings, no windows on it. It rested on the ground for half a minute or so and then rose straight up in the air at a pretty fast clip.

He had the film sent on to Washington to be analyzed and that was the last he ever heard of it. He never saw the film again and nobody else has seen the footage since then either. So if Gordon Cooper says something like that, that he saw this footage, where the hell was the footage? If he says it, I tend to believe that it probably exists somewhere.

STEINBERG: *Do you think it's going to reach a head in the near future or do you think it's going to keep going on as it has?*

BECKLEY: Whatever it is that the UFOs have in mind, whether it's genetic programming, whether it's abducting humans, whether it's distorting our reality, whether it's creating our reality, my own personal belief is that one of the reasons that these beings look so remarkably human is because they probably *are* human. Somewhere along the line, thousands of years ago, they came down here and seeded the planet Earth with us. And we think of them as God. We even go to the Bible, as has been done before by many good writers, and pick out all the references to UFOs and strange things that took place. The miracles are just another definition for UFOs. And it's all the same ball of wax, and these beings have been coming here for a long time and creating belief systems on this planet for a long, long time and we're just following along like sheep. Just like Charles Ford said, we're somebody else's property.

STEINBERG: *You feel you'd rather be your own property.*

BECKLEY: I think so.

Documents in Search of Proof: The MJ-12 Controversy Continues

by Floyd Murray

“How did somebody get paper the right age, where did they get the right language on the Cutler-Twining memo?”

The MJ-12 mystery continues to haunt UFOlogy. The authenticity of the documents mailed anonymously to television producer Jaime Shandera have been branded a hoax by some UFO researchers. But Shandera and long-time UFOlogists William Moore and Stanton Friedman continue in their investigations to prove or disprove the documents' validity.

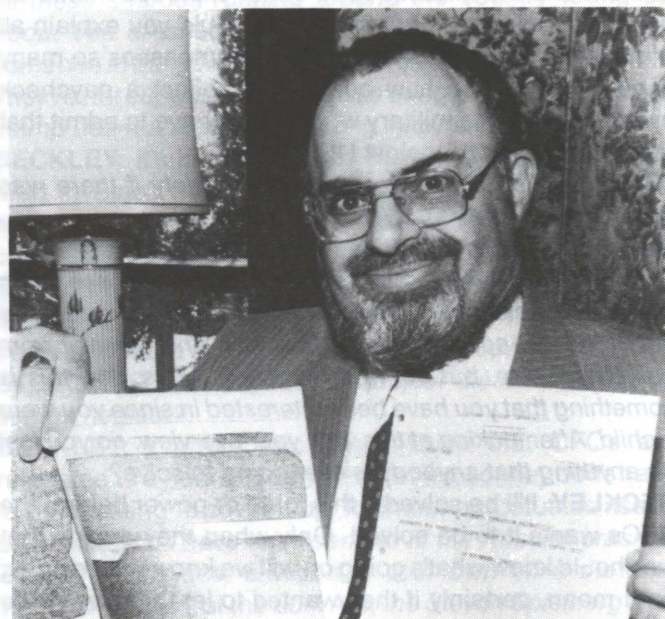
The papers, which appear to be a highly secret briefing document for then-President-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower, claim that after the crash of a UFO near Roswell, New Mexico in July of 1947, a top secret government agency named “Majestic 12” was formed. The researchers have also released a one-page memo from Presidential aide Robert Cutler to General Nathan Twining, who is listed in the documents as one of the members of MJ-12.

The memo, dated July 14, 1954, reads “The President has decided that the MJ-12 SSP briefing should take place during the already scheduled White House meeting of July 16, rather than following it as previously intended. More precise arrangements will be explained to you upon arrival. Please alter your plans accordingly. Your concurrence in the above change of arrangements is assumed.”

Cutler did not sign the document. His name and title are typed at the end.

If true, the Cutler-Twining memo, found in the National Archives, provides independent verification of the existence of an MJ-12 group. In a recent interview with *Caveat Emptor*, veteran UFO researcher Leonard Stringfield says that he had talked to two military people, one still on active duty, the other retired, who told him that there was indeed an MJ-12 commission of some sort. Neither would or could say if the group was involved in investigations of crashed UFOs or even what the group's function was. Stringfield has received no confirmation that MJ-12 stands for “Majestic 12” or something else.

Stringfield has spent more than a decade checking into crash/retrieval reports. He has talked with dozens of mili-



Researcher Stanton Friedman spearheads the drive to find out the truth about MJ-12.

tary and civilian informants, and has issued a series of “Status Reports” about the results of his research (available from: 4412 Grove Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45227).

In a recent phone interview, Stanton Friedman told this writer about some of the current directions his ongoing investigation is taking. He has amassed considerable biographical material about all of the supposed MJ-12 members, along with numerous examples of correspondence and other written materials by them during that period.

Friedman recently received a \$16,000 grant from the Fund for UFO Research to continue his work into the MJ-12 mystery. “They asked me last year if I thought there was work to be done, so I gave them a full proposal for \$16,000 worth of my time and effort and they raised the money and gave me a go-ahead,” he said. “I’m sure it’s the largest non-government UFO research grant ever made. At least now I’ll be able to devote as much effort as I’d like for several months. We’ve been reaching out, trying to establish connections, trying to prove that these documents are fraudulent. We’re trying to prove that they’re a fraud. That’s the only way you can get at this kind of thing. Nor-

mally, it's much easier to prove it's a fraud. None of the arguments made by the noisy negativists stand up."

Friedman said that UFO skeptic Philip Klass "has come up with the brilliant notion that since the few items he has from Cutler and James Lay are all in elite type, then the Cutler-Twining memo must obviously be a fraud, since it's in pica type. He has cut out the date and closing line of these elite memos and offered a hundred dollars for up to ten genuine Cutler-Lay memos that I could find that was in type like that on the Cutler-Twining memo.

"I immediately went to my files and the next day sent him a paste-up of more than 20 different pica examples, including two different dates when there was pica and elite type on the same day and another when the date was elite and the text was pica."

The result? In March, Friedman received a check in the amount of \$1,000 from Klass for "research services." Klass refused to admit that he lost the wager.

Friedman avers that small details like this are important. "That's why it was so nice to find that small sentence in the Cutler-Twining memo about 'your concurrence in the above is assumed.' That's not what I would say to a four-star general, but that's what Cutler said to him, because we have some more stuff from an entirely different source. That's one of the reasons why I'm anxious to get to the Twining files in the Library of Congress. There was supporting documentation there in terms of style and format."

Friedman said that he had contacted the man who was in charge of classification review at the National Archives to find out who had access to the box that the Cutler-Twining memo was found in. "It couldn't have been planted by outsiders, as it was a classified box in a classified vault. But it was an interesting bit of timing. The last of the MJ-12 members to die was [Dr. Jerome] Hunsaker, who was also the first one of them to be born. Anyway, he died on September 12, 1984, with an obit in *The New York Times* on September 12.

"Around September 22, a major had access to that box. They haven't told me the name and I haven't pushed, but I think I will be. The election was held in November, and the roll of film with the documents on it was received [by Shandera] in early December. Certainly, anyone who was waiting and checking on the original group would have known that Hunsaker was the last remaining one, because the last previous one, Gordon Gray, had died more than two years before."

"It's a little hard to believe it's just coincidence. I think the people who wanted to release information certainly would have wanted to make sure that all the original ones were gone. For two years there, Hunsaker was the only one alive. I found that sequence rather intriguing, and that the first access to that box was by somebody two weeks after his death. We're building a big building out of little bricks here."

In regard to the mysterious memo, Friedman wonders, "How did somebody get paper the right age, where did they get the right language on the Cutler-Twining memo? There is a watermark on the paper which you can only see

if you hold it up to the window or something. Xerox doesn't pick it up. It gives the name for the company, Fox Paper, and Bill Moore contacted them and they checked their files, and it was only made between 1953 and the early '70's and it was not the kind of stuff you find in stores. How did somebody know that?

"The interesting thing is, if it's going to be a fake, you'd think that somebody would have signed Cutler's signature on the Cutler-Twining memo, when there is no signature on it. If you were going to make it a fake, it should be clear that MJ-12 refers to UFOs. Now, if you look at the first two pages of the Presidential briefing document, there's not a hint at all of what it's about. Do you realize how much work went into this? You've got machine-imprinted numbers, you've got old typewriters."

Friedman indicated that part of his research will involve "targeting the Stuart Symington papers. He just died recently and his papers are finally accessible at the Truman Library. I will probably be the first researcher to see them. He was Secretary of the Air Force in 1957, around that time frame. I also managed to get the Library of Congress Manuscript Division to review and declassify a whole bunch of boxes of General Nathan Twining's papers. Previously on them, we had found some very interesting materials there and I'm looking forward to looking at them.

"Also, I have located and talked to by phone relatives of nine of the original MJ-12er's and so am hoping to visit a number of them. Also there are some old timers still around from the government in that time frame, late 1940's, and I'm hoping I can get to see them. I've made contact with them and talked to them briefly. I've got a whole bunch of places to go. You just never know what you're going to run into. It's going to be a fascinating chase with people and documents."

Friedman says he is "very much intrigued" by the knowledge on the part of whomever prepared the briefing documents. "How did an outsider have that knowledge?" he asked. "Forexample, who in the UFO or anti-UFO community knew of [Dr. Donald] Menzel's [an early UFO critic named in the documents] close connections with intelligence work, the fact that he went back with Vannevar Bush to 1934, that he had a top-secret ultra clearance, all this kind of stuff?

"I've read eight different articles about Menzel. Not one mentions his post-war involvement with the intelligence community. How did anybody know that Menzel would pass muster? How did anybody know that the only date that Truman, Forrestal and Bush got together in the last eight months of 1947 was on September 24? I had to ask about that and was told about it at the Truman Library. Bush and Forrestal got together all the time. I found that out when I went to Forrestal's files. It seems quite remarkable information."

"If it's a hoax, I'd sure like to know it," Stanton Friedman says. "I'd like to be the first to proclaim it. I can find no evidence of a hoax."

—Floyd Murray

The Ego Corner:

Gaia and Beyond (Conclusion)

by Geneva Hagen

**If we don't get our act together fast
and stop despoiling Mother Earth,
She just might wash her hair of us!**

In the first part of this article, I discussed the following topics: the transition from religions centered on the Earth Mother deity to those of the Sky Father; the re-emerging recognition that our planet functions as a single living organism ("the Gaia Hypothesis"); the idea of the Earth and moon as a "double planet"; the possibility that human beings function as Earth's nervous system (or gonads!); viruses as a means by which different species may be coordinated and DNA safeguarded; mushroom spores as interstellar messengers; UFOs as Earth Spirits; population density as a trigger for planetary consciousness; and William Irwin Thompson's view of Star Wars as an interim step toward "a scientific economy permanently organized for research and development."

In case you don't have part one, which appeared in our Spring 1989 issue, please send \$3.00 (plus \$1.00 postage) to: Back Issue Department, Caveat Emptor, P.O. Box 4533, Metuchen, NJ 08840.

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On the whole, Thompson failed to convince me, but he did offer some food for thought. It is now believed that the dinosaurs died out when a meteorite 10 kilometers in diameter smashed into the Earth, creating a natural "nuclear winter." As this impact was equivalent to all the nuclear weapons in all our arsenals going off at the same time, it seems likely that Earth herself might be able to pull through a nuclear war—but very unlikely that the human race could do the same!

Now, imagine you are the Earth, suffering this major setback, with all your primary life forms wiped out. Might you not vow that, *next* time around, your dominant species would be led to develop the ability to protect you from another such disaster? Anyone who has ever tried to get a machine repaired by someone who is supposedly a trained professional, or get some relatively simple task accomplished by a committee of people who individually seem reasonably competent, may understand why our

technological civilization, and our space accomplishments in particular, seem little short of miraculous to me!

However, if we are being helped along by a Planetary Directive, so that our collective capabilities toward space weaponry exceed the sum of our individual ones, it becomes more plausible. The heedless lunacy of our arms race could represent our planet's attempt to be prepared to repel any other large celestial bodies that come our way! And *that* capacity can only be for the good. Astronomer Fred Hoyle estimates that major collisions take place here every 10,000 years on average.

I do agree with Thompson that "the habitual structure of consciousness with its simple dualistic game of good and evil must be lifted up to a new level in which we must begin to take responsibility for the whole range of unconscious relatedness that extends from us."

THE ANTHROPIC PRINCIPLE

The following information is based on a "Horizon" TV program I watched in January of this year.

Seems there is a quasar far, far away whose light-waves were split in half by a galaxy before they reached us, and then almost, but not quite, reconverged on the other side. So, if light from this source is passed through a beam-splitter, probability would dictate that one should get about 50% photons from each of the two light pathways around the galaxy. Beam-splitters and mirrors were arranged so that light from each path would fall on a separate photographic plate. Then one path was further split so that it would cancel itself out before reaching its plate, leaving only the second photographic plate to register any light. But, as a single photon should not be able to interfere with itself, photons passed in sequence through a beam-splitter were expected to show up about 50/50 on *both* the plates.

Not so, however; the individual photons behaved just as if they were part of a beam that was subject to interference, and only one plate registered any light—suggesting that only light from *one* of the two paths was reaching us. Yet the *original beam* had shown equal light from both.

I hope you have followed me so far. Unless you are familiar with holography, the above may be hard to visualize. Don't feel bad; I had to watch the program five times to extract that bit of information from it!

Somehow this humble experiment metamorphosed into

The Anthropic Principle, to wit: "Life must come into existence in the Universe, and once it does, it will continue to exist until the end of time; life will spread throughout all space; it will gain control of all matter and all forces, and it will acquire all knowledge." Dr. David Deutsch and Prof. Paul Davies then elaborated: Our culture is to spread through the entire Universe by self-reproducing machines, "like ourselves, only better"—giving a new twist to Otter Zell's *Cosmobios Galacticus*!

I wondered if I might have blinked at the wrong moment, but on repeated viewings, I convinced myself that this was the progression. Admittedly, this flying leap is known as the *Final* Anthropic Principle, and not everyone agrees with it. In fact, the man who coined the term, Dr. Brandon Carter of Paris Observatory, declared, "I'm rather uneasy about all this emphasis on Man as the key to the Universe. If I had known that my term would be interpreted in this way, I would have called it something else!"

What Dr. Carter originally formulated is now known as the *Weak* Anthropic Principle, and simply states that "the Universe is remarkably in sympathy with Man's existence." (Astronomers don't have enough social consciousness to avoid the use of sexist language, I'm sorry to say.) Apparently almost all scientists will agree with this statement. If the laws of Nature or the events following the hypothetical Big Bang were changed even a little, there would be no chance for life as we know it to exist; this is true also for the temperature of the Sun, Earth's distance from the Sun, its atmospheric oxygen contact, etc., etc.

From this, then, the Principle expands one step further: "The Universe had to give birth to Life." Life is implicit in the design of the Universe. So far, so good. It's just the Gaia hypothesis applied on a larger scale. Not only the Earth, but the whole known Universe is a living organism. Some of us have long held that fact to be self-evident.

Now we start to get a little far afield, with the third development: "Man helped create the Universe by his observation and understanding." A rather arrogant way to phrase the matter, neglecting to mention that so did Woman, and dogs and cats and crocodiles and, most likely, daisies. But the principle is still sound; it's the old idea that the observer influences reality. Actually, from the beam-splitter experiments, this seems to me to be the *only* one of the four conclusions which logically follows (after ruling out the possibility that the beam-splitter was biased to one side, or that the photon has been misdefined and really *can* interfere with itself). And the observer effect has been well demonstrated in other experiments.

The scientists mentioned above would have us believe that this experiment implies that the observer can also influence reality backward in time—thus, inducing the particular photons to take the particular path around that galaxy retroactively, before our Earth was even born!

But doesn't it seem more likely that the path of the photons was altered *after* they came under our observation? A photon is pretty small potatoes compared with table-rapping or some of the other well-known psycho-

kinetic effects.

In particle physics, an electron is said to exist only as a probability cloud until it is localized by our observation, but the resultant "particle" must still appear somewhere in that probability cloud. Likewise, in holography the image may change depending on which direction you view it from—but what you see is still determined by what is on the film in the first place.

The Seth books claim that we "create our own reality," and that our choices in the present can influence the past as well as the future. Precognitive dreams have demonstrated to my satisfaction that time is not what it seems, so I do not assume that a co-created reality with a two-way time flow is impossible. I simply don't see how it follows logically from those beam-splitter experiments—much less those self-reproducing computer intelligences that are to bless the entire Universe with the culture that has already almost demolished one small planet! (John Lilly paints a quite sinister picture of this last scenario in a recent book suggesting that human thought is being influenced by a "Solid State Intelligence" intent on reproducing itself by our hands and then phasing us out of the picture!)

But all reservations aside, I concur with Professor Davies' summary statement: "The fact that the Universe is self-aware is actually written into the laws of Nature. We are here as part of the action and not just for the ride!"

STONEHENGE

When the great rocks of Stonehenge were found to line up with astronomical events such as the sunrise at Solstices and Equinoxes, some folks thought the mystery had been solved: Stonehenge was just a big calendar! But there may be more to the story than that. For example, it was recently found that the stones emit high-frequency vibrations just at the moment of sunrise.

In a study apparently unrelated to Stonehenge, it has *also* been found that rocks may act as a recording device. (Well, Richard Shaver tried to tell us!) Dr. Don Robinson, a materials chemist in London, England, believes this could explain the phenomenon of ghosts, and has detailed his theory in a new book, *The Secret Language of Stone*. He says sound waves interact with the magnetic centers present in some stones, to produce a recording. Sound is the *medium* of recording, but the content may be visual. Especially apt to be recorded are events that happen over and over, or ones accompanied by a strong emotional discharge.

The recording is then played back when the sound sequence is repeated. Thus, footsteps on a staircase could trigger an image of the building's former resident who used to walk those same stairs. Robinson believes the playback may take the form of an electrical discharge perceived directly through the brain, rather than through the senses. It begins to sound suspiciously as though the Earth itself may have a memory!

The builders of Stonehenge must have felt those particular stones were pretty special. Stones of that type are not

found in the local area, so they must have been brought in from afar, with considerable difficulty. (Shaver claimed the ancients could liquify stone and recast it. "Ooparts," an article in *Omni* some years ago, says some cultures *did* use oxalic acid, found in the leaves of certain plants, for this purpose. However, I don't know whether the rocks of Stonehenge might fall into this category.)

Certainly, the same rituals performed year after year at times when the stones were already emitting a vibrational carrying wave would have had a good chance of being recorded. The Ancestors may have been a very immediate presence to the Druids!

What other functions could these stones have performed? Well, it has long been noted that ancient sacred sites and temples tend to be located along the ley lines (lines of force of the Earth's electromagnetic field). UFO sightings also tend to follow these ley lines! Later, Christian cathedrals were often built at these same sites. In the time of Hellenistic Greece, temples had a rounded cylindrical stone called an "omphalos" as their most sacred feature. These may have been much more common in ages past; the Old Testament Jehovah hated obelisks, so many were probably destroyed during conquests by the Hebrew tribes.

It is likely these stones were originally used for long-distance communication. However, their main purpose may go deeper than that. I suspect they were a device for interaction and alignment between human beings and the Earth. The ritual activities may have enabled us to know our appropriate place in the scheme of things, and helped the Earth to be responsive to our needs. They may have been important for keeping both the Earth *and* ourselves in proper attunement with spiritual forces. If that is the case, we could expect to see some drift when those ritual observances are neglected—or, even worse, when sacred sites like Stonehenge become scenes of yearly riots every Summer Solstice!

STATE OF THE PLANET

Now we come to the tough part. Let's start by turning to James Lovelock himself, as quoted in *Whole Earth Review* #61. He says we can expect:

"An imminent major climate change, one that will be twice and could be six times as great as the change from the last ice age until now. The temperature and the sea level will climb, decade by decade, until eventually the world will become torrid, ice free, and all but unrecognizable.... There are likely to be surprises in the way of extremes, like storms of great ferocity, and unexpected atmospheric events like the ozone hole over Antarctica.

"Nature is non-linear and unpredictable, and never more so than in a period of transition. So sit back and enjoy the show—it is all but unstoppable now....

In these circumstances Gaia is ... likely to shudder and move over to a new stable state fit for a different and more amenable biota. It could be much hotter or much colder, but whatever it is, no longer the comfortable world we know."

Adam Trombley in a recent article in *Wildfire* magazine didn't paint a much rosier picture:

"We're seeing things that are pretty scary: an increased wandering of the magnetic poles; the Earth slowing down in its rotation...."

Trombley says we already have a 7% depletion in stratospheric ozone, which was previously not expected to happen until the year 2050.

"Estimates are that at between 15–16% depletion the phytoplankton in the oceans will die. These are the source of at least 33% of the world's oxygen. The Brazilian rainforest accounts for between 30–38% of oxygen production, and it is also being stripped away...."

Trombley also warns that the Ozone (O₃) is being depleted primarily because the oxygen (O₂) from which it is made is also being depleted. He traces the new immune deficiency diseases in various species to increased exposure to UV rays. (Interestingly, this idea was also put forth by Whitley Strieber in *Communion*.)

Now, before you panic, let me mention that an article in *Time* magazine (October 31, 1988) tells us that the Greenhouse Effect may have been cancelled! A new weather pattern called "La Nina" may not only bring cooler temperatures, but may actually slow the increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide by stimulating massive plant growth in areas of heavy rainfall. This CO₂ reduction might amount to 40% of the total produced annually by worldwide fossil fuel burning, and of course extra oxygen would also be produced.

Do you see the hand of Gaia at work here?

Adam Trombley also described some events in the Earth's electromagnetic field. In 1974, an atmospheric scientist named Dr. Matsushita discovered that both the Earth's magnetic field and the ionosphere were disturbed for ten days to two weeks after an underground nuclear test. In 1977, the U.S. government forbade Dr. Matsushita to make any such measurements for two weeks after a test, and declared his information classified.

Similar electromagnetic disturbances in the Extremely Low Frequency (ELF!) part of the spectrum are also produced by earthquakes; and I have already discussed their possible association with UFO phenomena. They can knock out electrical gadgets and produce flu-like symptoms in people. Animals begin to exhibit strange behavior. Some people actually die of heart failure.

ELF is Earth's way of discharging its electricity. The inner core of our planet functions as a generator, and transfers energy to the outer core as electricity. Between the outer core and the Earth's crust is the mantle, which is a semi-conductor. That means the outer core cannot conduct its charge directly as electricity; instead, it builds up a tremendous charge until it begins to vibrate extremely low frequency signatures on a harmonic with similar signatures in the mantle. *Then* the mantle resonates and dissipates these energies through the crust into space as lightning. But when underground nuclear tests are set off,

the primary resonance of the Earth's mantle is disturbed, reducing the Earth's ability to dissipate energy. Thus, energy builds up as heat at the core/mantle interface and causes an acceleration in volcanic and seismic activity on a global scale.

Trombley says Mt. Rainier in Washington State is dramatically hotter now than it used to be. Sunbear, the Indian medicine man, warns us to watch for its eruption soon; the prophecies say that "first the Little Sister will speak (Mt. St. Helene), and then the Grandfather (Mt. Rainier.)"

ELF aren't the only Earth vibrations we are subject to, however. There is also a 60-cycle/second frequency which corresponds with the one used in our house current. Proximity to an electrical current affects the health of some people adversely; there is even a suspicion that cancer may be associated with homes next to power transformers. Ill health may also be produced by sustained contact with fluorescent lights and cathode ray tubes, such as found behind TV and computer screens. We have lost much of our natural contact with Earth's rhythms. *The Zapping of America*, is a book that explores some of the unexpected effects this lifestyle may be having on our health and sanity.

A MYTHOLOGY FOR THE NEW AGE

The late Joseph Campbell, who devoted his life to the study of the world's mythologies, felt that the old myths are no longer helpful to us. They were created for the people of an earlier time, in a very different world, and often tend to encourage adaptation to a very limited worldview, as a member of a culture that no longer exists. Campbell felt that we need a new mythology for our own time—one that will be planetary in scope, and will allow for different cultures and a rapidly changing environment. The difficulty is that each society in the past has identified its members by contrast with *outsiders*.

Campbell wasn't very hopeful that anything appropriate could be developed during this difficult transition period. However, it seems to me that the Gaia hypothesis might have a fighting chance. Even though not all of us believe in actual UFO intelligences, most of us harbor or at least are willing to entertain the possibility that they might exist. Thus, on the conceptual level, the new image becomes Gaia silhouetted against the dark skies of endless space. The image of the Earth-seen-from-Space confronts us at every turn these days. Hardly any TV viewing hour goes by without at least one commercial featuring either the Gaia image or the theme of contact with alien intelligences. The author of *The Sapiens Conspiracy*, feels this is a global plot to prepare us for Contact. Personally, I feel it is a global plot to use archetypal themes to sell more consumer products. But these themes are being seized upon precisely because they are the most powerful ones of our age.

WHAT'S TO BE DONE?

Adam Trombley feels that:

"The education that's given in universities now is totally inadequate...people aren't educated emotionally, spiritually. It's literally as if feeling had stopped in human culture.... People are numbed, in shock. The human body... is disassociated from its feelings; it doesn't feel the rainforest being cut down, the underground nuclear explosions... Yet I'm convinced we *do feel* it. We may get sick and not know why... but we feel it. The Earth has been profoundly destabilized by the withdrawal of feeling...."

My own experience is that this withdrawal of feeling is an involuntary response to the massive pain that permeates our globe, caused by nuclear testing, pollution, deforestation, animal torture in our factory farms and laboratories, and widespread war and hunger among our own kind. It seems pointless to try to open ourselves psychically in the midst of this mayhem; we might be seriously damaged if we were to succeed. The only sensible course is to work toward correcting those conditions that are causing our feelings to shut down in the first place. Stephen Gaskin expresses this idea in *This Season's People*:

"If you get into high levels of consciousness... you can feel everybody in the world...."

"That's where the catch is.... There is only one way you can go to that level and be able to stand it. That is to know in your heart of hearts that you're doing everything you possibly can to help out."

Although we must continue to look to Nature for guidance, we must also bear in mind that the Nature we see today is pale and sickly compared to what our planet would be like with humanity's conscious cooperation. Some eco-activists feel the human race should just move out of the way, but that is not likely to happen in the near future. Oh, sure—maybe a great Earth Cleansing will wash us out of our Mother's hair, maybe the Second Coming of the Space Brothers will rescue a chosen few, or maybe some global awakening will meld all our minds into one—but then again, maybe it won't! While we wait for the Transformation, it wouldn't hurt to pitch in and do the best we can. Certainly, it would be *simpler* just to push the "Reset" button and start over, but there is a very real danger that we may be stuck with what we've got! So long as we do intend to live here, we might just as well start taking better care of it.

It will take a prolonged and active effort to turn things around. However, "if we do not change directions, we are likely to end up where we are headed!"

I'll let Adam Trombley sum it up for me:

"I think we're moving into a time where it's not good enough for somebody *else* to be awake, but where *each* one of us has to be awake. There's just too much to be done."

—Geneva Hagen

Read this issue's *Culture Corner* department for a more detailed description of Trombley's work.

Deepscan: A Review of the Shine/Lowrance Loch Ness Survey

by Curt Sutherly

“Until you’ve been there, it is incomprehensible to anyone from the States just how little is known about that body of water.”

During two days in October, 1987, the depths of Loch Ness, in northern Scotland, were swept one end to the other by an enormous field of sonar. The intent? Study fish distribution and map the lake bottom. And, if possible, find evidence supporting the existence of the lake’s fabled monster.

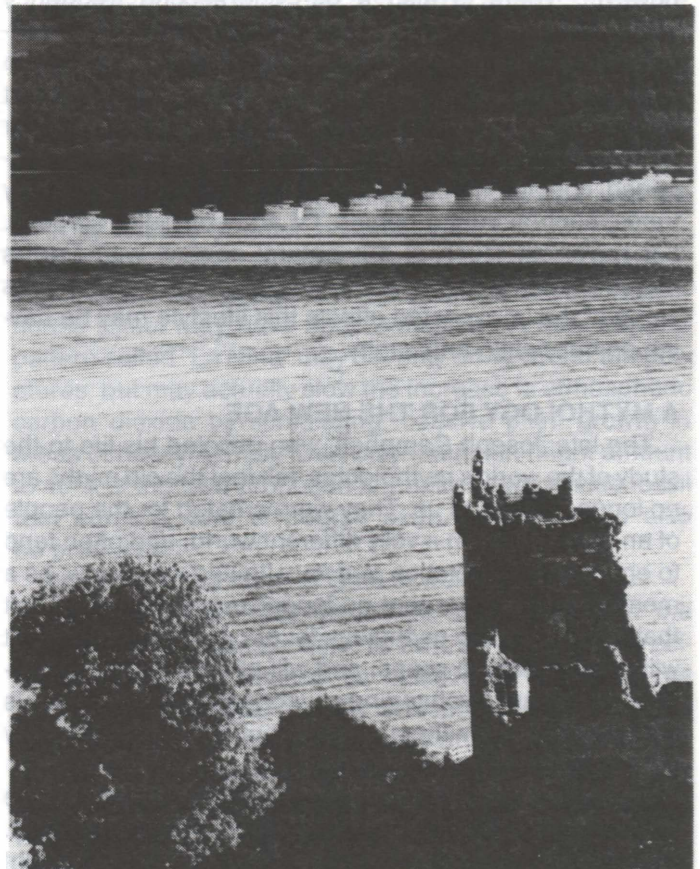
The operation was called “Deepscan,” and was the brainchild of Adrian Shine, a longtime Loch Ness researcher and an expert on fishery habitat. Lowrance Electronics, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, provided the technical expertise and hardware—specifically the Lowrance X-16 Computer Graph Recorder, one of the best of today’s sportfishing sonar units.

Because of the nature of the study, a good deal of hype surrounded Operation Deepscan. Newspapers and television provided voluminous coverage, much of it slightly tongue-in-cheek. Specators crowded the nearby town of Drumnadrochit and along the loch shores. The atmosphere was circus-like, but not the intent; more than 20 boats and their crews and technicians were involved in probing the extremely deep, cold loch.

ARCTIC CHAR

Deepscan was, in fact, the next step in Adrian Shine’s continuing study of Loch Ness. The researcher is credited with being first to probe the loch with sportfishing sonar¹—an effort that yielded findings of such interest that he was prompted to approach Lowrance about a more extensive survey.

According to Steve Schneider, Lowrance’s affable PR man, “It was only after Shine began using sonar, back in the mid-’70s, that anyone was aware of really large schools of fish in Loch Ness.” Elaborating, he noted that some of the fish were eventually caught and identified as Arctic char (*salvelinus alpinus*)—a variety of small-scaled trout common to cold northern waters. The discovery was a huge surprise to the locals.

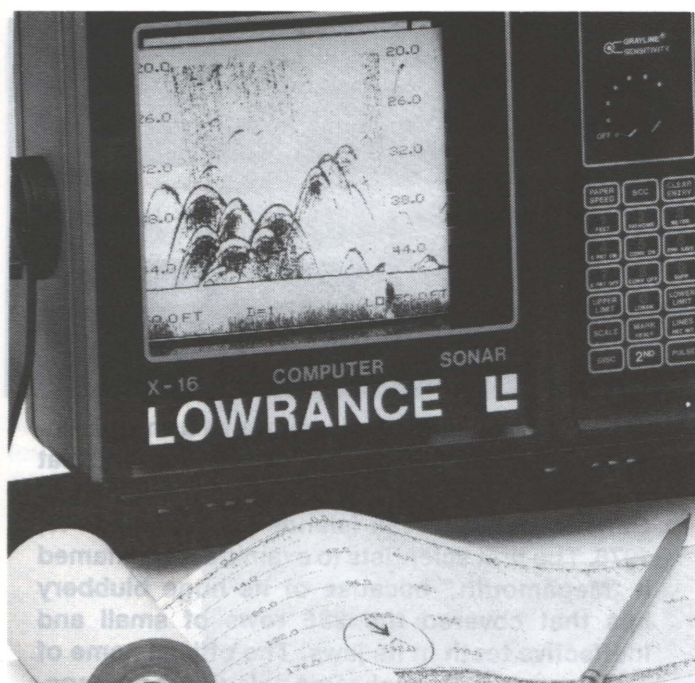


The cruisers, lined up abreast, would sweep the entire 23-mile length of the lake.

“Until you’ve been there, it is incomprehensible to anyone from the States just how little is known about that body of water,” observed Schneider. “Those people have lived along that shore for hundreds of years, and have no idea of what’s in there.”

Demonstrating his point, Schneider noted that local anglers traditionally take to the water with flyrods in 14-foot wooden rowboats. Their quarry is the Atlantic salmon, which, along with char and brown trout, appear to make up the bulk of the loch’s fishery. “If the fish aren’t within six feet of the surface,” he said, “they don’t catch them.”

Another reason so little is known about Loch Ness, Schneider remarked, is because the British scientific



The arrow in the photo above indicates a large unidentified target at 606 feet (185 meters), near Urquhart Castle on Loch Ness.

community avoids the lake. Any research there would imply an active investigation of the monster—which, after all, doesn't exist. Fortunately, not all scientists, or talented lay researchers, are susceptible to such dogma.

OBJECTIVES

In conceiving Operation Deepscan, Shine and those who support his work had more in mind than just another "Nessie" hunt. Outlined were four purely scientific objectives.

- 1) Gain information about an unidentified species of fish on the lake bottom, in more than 700 feet of water. (This is deeper by far than the Arctic char, which hold at about 200 feet by day and ascend to within 30 feet of the surface by night.)
- 2) Graph, for the first time, the loch's deepest waters.
- 3) Compile charts for a "map" showing fish distribution in the loch, and obtain data on unusual thermal patterns for later study.
- 4) Locate and mark objects of interest on the lake bottom for later examination with underwater television equipment.

All this, of course, was wrapped around a search for Nessie—or rather, for evidence of a breeding, reproducing colony of creatures, since sightings of a huge animal in the loch date back to 545 A.D.

To accomplish the objectives of Deepscan, Shine and his backers equipped more than 20 power cruisers and several high-speed chase boats with Lowrance X-16 sonar systems. The cruisers, lined up abreast, would sweep the entire 23-mile length of the lake. Two sweeps would be made, one on each day of the operation—October 9–10, 1987.

Deepscan got underway as planned, with more than 300 press and media representatives on hand from 22 nations. Headquarters was in Drumnadrochit, site of the Loch Ness Exhibition Centre (founded in 1980). Excitement escalated quickly as reports filtered in of sonar contact.

UNDERWATER TARGETS

Three times that first day contact was made with large, moving objects; one was at 192 feet, another at 176 feet. The third target was much deeper—606 feet (185 meters), charted for about two minutes. Curiously, the deep contact was made by a chase boat and not one of the power cruisers.

Though equipped with identical X-16 sonar units, the chase boats were expected to do no more than verify contact made by the slow moving line of cruisers. But in this instance the only detection was by the chase crew; by the time other boats moved in, the target had vanished.

Schneider reported that all three contacts were in the vicinity of Urquhart Castle, overlooking Urquhart Bay. Here, beyond the bay, the loch drops to its maximum depth of 975 feet (averaging 700 feet overall). Here too, more sightings have been made than at any other point along the loch.

But a question arises: How did the deep contact, the object at 606 feet, manage to avoid the main sonar net only to be detected by a chase boat? Actually, said Schneider, there are four plausible explanations.

The first explanation requires a bit of explaining in itself.

Sonar waves are cone-shaped pulses of sound—narrow at the point of broadcast but widening as they move away. During Deepscan, the downward focused beams of each cruiser came close or overlapped in deep water to form what was essentially a single field. However, nearer the surface there were gaps great enough to admit the proverbial tractor-trailer—or in this case a large aquatic animal, which then descended to 600 feet.

Another explanation—one favored by Schneider—is that the target was resting motionless on the bottom, perhaps along a dropoff or in a rocky crevice, and simply did not register on sonar. (Even allowing for technological improvement, sonar is still an imprecise tool.) The target then ascended, only to be spotted by the chase boat.

A third explanation is that the target slipped around either end of the line of cruisers, since the line did not entirely cover the full mile width of the loch.

Finally, there is a real possibility that the target was not in the main loch body when the line of cruisers moved by.

According to Schneider, Urquhart Bay was never swept by sonar, since the water there is generally less than 100 feet deep. In view of this, he admitted it is possible something large moved out of the bay after the cruisers passed by.

PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Despite the first day's success, no additional contacts

were made on the second and final day. Still, Operation Deepscan could hardly be considered a failure. It had met most of its purely scientific objectives (information on the unidentified species of fish is still forthcoming), and provided "hard" evidence—the paper graph tracings—that something quite large exists in the loch.

Unfortunately, images on a sonar graph mean little to skeptical and impatient members of the press and media. As Shine himself observed before a crowd of reporters: "You want me to hand you the Loch Ness Monster." And since he obviously could not do this, most members of the media viewed Deepscan as just another failed monster hunt.

But the sonar tracings were, and are, significant. Moreover, the confirmation of a huge, healthy fishery within the loch tends to shed an entirely new light on reports of large aquatic animals.

Consider: Those who disbelieve in the animal have long argued that the loch's food base is much too small. Big beasts have big appetites, after all, and there was no reason to suspect vast schools of fish deep in the loch. True, the Scots and British knew about the salmon and brown trout, but based on low catch rates they no doubt figured the numbers were comparatively few.

U.S. and Canadian anglers could have explained it to them: Never judge a lake by its surface. Thus the great surprise when Shine, using downrigger² gear, caught the first Arctic char. And an even bigger surprise when Deepscan verified vast numbers of these and other fish.

SO WHAT IS IT?

We are left with speculation about the kind of animal apparently prowling the depths of Loch Ness. The most likely answer is found in the town of Drumnadrochit, where a life-size replica of a plesiosaur—an aquatic dinosaur—has been erected for tourist consumption.

Of course, the plesiosaur³ is thought to have died out some 60 million years ago (though there are vast gaps in our fossil records of such creatures). Then again, other forms of primitive marine life keep turning up (such as the "megamouth"—a species of plankton-eating shark, quite old and hitherto unknown—accidentally caught by the Navy some years ago in waters near Hawaii). In view of this, who is to say whether the plesiosaur really is extinct?

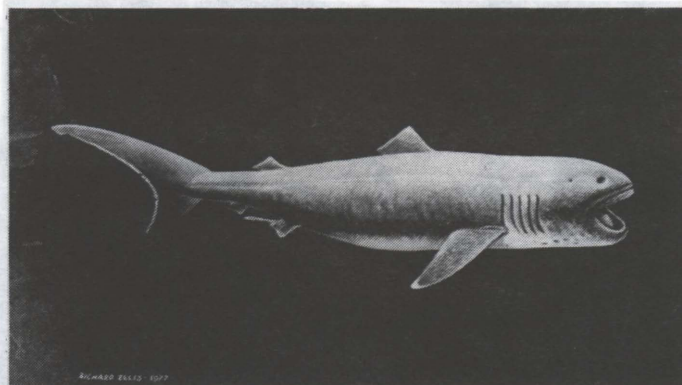
Meanwhile, the exploration of Loch Ness will continue in an effort to prove, or disprove, the existence of Nessie. Let's only hope that a fresh kill isn't required to finally convince a skeptical, frightened, scientific community.

—Curt Sutherly

NOTES:

¹Though Shine was first with sportfishing sonar, others were ahead of him with high-frequency, side-scan sonar. This type of instrument is often towed behind a vessel, and used in such applications as mapping the ocean bottom during off-shore oil exploration.

Side-scan sonar was used in Urquhart Bay in 1972, and again in 1975, by a research team from MIT and the Academy of



Weird aquatic animals continue to turn up. Pictured here is a 15-foot, 1653-pound shark that was hauled up by a Navy ship off the Island of Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands on November 15, 1976. The first scientists to examine it nicknamed it "Megamouth," because of its huge blubbery lips that covered the 236 rows of small and ineffective teeth in its jaws. The official name of the creature is *Megachasma pelagios*, a new species of shark. (UPI Photo)

Applied Sciences. It was mounted on a stationary platform on the bay bottom and aimed out into the loch.

During both expeditions, moving objects described as 10 to 50 times larger than commonly detected fish (probably salmon) entered the sonar beam. Underwater photos were obtained—including the famous closeup of what appears to be a flipper (later computer enhanced for clarity).

An account published in *Technology Review*, March/April, 1976, by Robert H. Rines, Charles W. Wyckoff, Harold E. Edgerton, and Martin Klein, reported that at about 1:00 a.m. on March 8, 1972—the night the flipper photo was taken: "...salmon were seen jumping away from something in the loch, and this flight was also seen on sonar. At the same time a large object came back into the beam, and a bit later a second object of similar size ... During this period, photographs were obtained of what was in the beam."

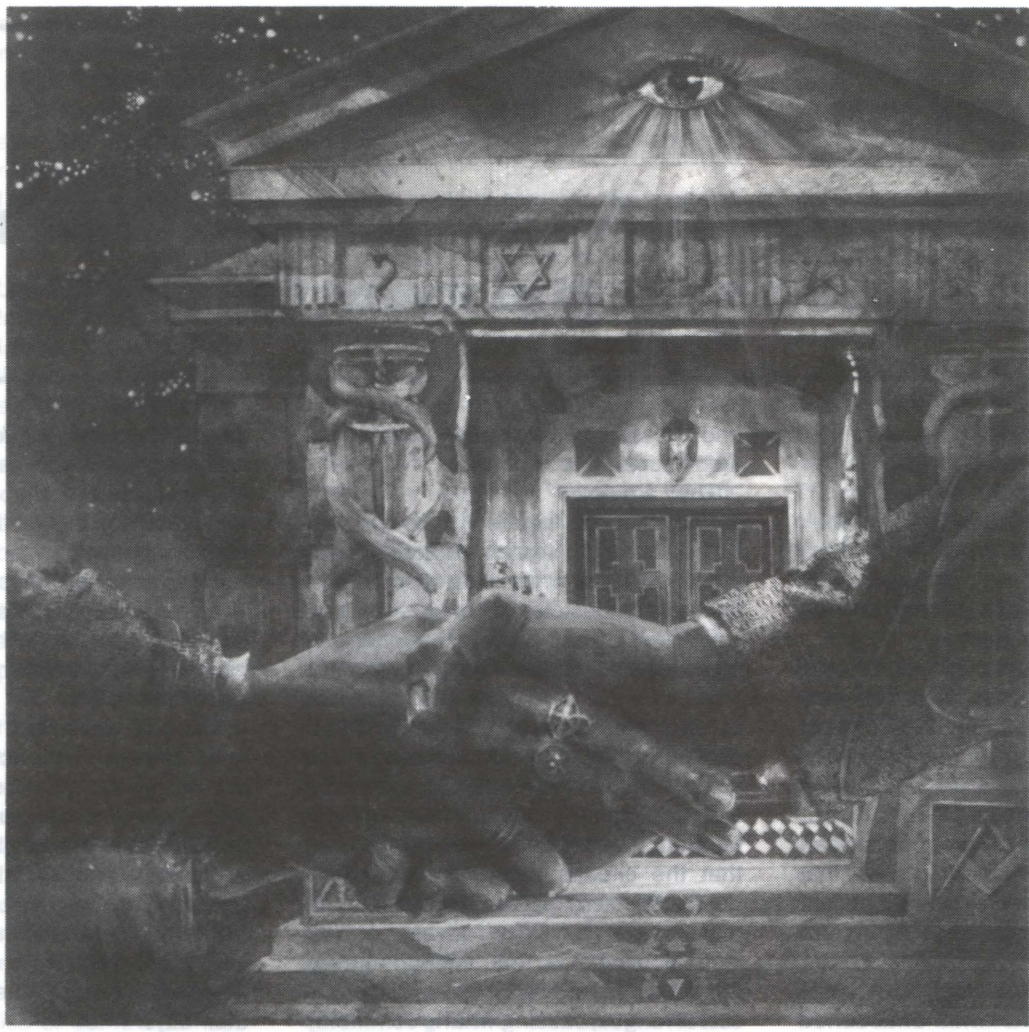
More than a decade after this account was published, the scientific community continues to ignore the work done by these men.

²Downrigger gear enables an angler to deep-troll a lure or live bait at exact depths. Experienced deep-water anglers use downriggers in conjunction with sonar, and can fish as deep as the line on their reels allow.

³A two-ton corpse resembling a plesiosaur was reportedly hauled aboard a Japanese trawler off Christchurch, New Zealand, in 1977. The dead beast, netted at a depth of 9,000 feet, had a long neck and strong foreflippers. Reports of the time said it smelled strongly of rot, and was tossed overboard after a few photos and measurements were taken.

• • •

A 40-minute color video on Operation Deepscan, entitled *To See Is To Believe*, is available from Lowrance Electronics at a cost of \$16.95. To order, send check or money order to: Lowrance Video Marketing, Box 690993, Tulsa, OK 74169-0993. Or put it on Visa or MasterCard by calling: 1-800-331-4105, Ext. 700.



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Culture Corner:

Abduction redux revisited, the 12th planet, a video tape and more delights

UFO ABDUCTIONS — A DANGEROUS GAME

By Philip J. Klass

Prometheus Books, Buffalo, New York,
1988, \$18.95.

If Philip Klass didn't exist, someone would have to invent him.

Like Donald Menzel before him, Klass is the UFO field's arch critic. Not only doesn't he believe there is an iota of strangeness to UFO sightings, but he has made it his mission in life to convince others that there's nothing to it.

For his fourth book, Klass has tackled UFOlogy's most controversial issue, that of the purported abductions of innocent citizens by alien beings for medical tests or outright sex with "their" own kind.

Klass's viewpoint is implicit in every word, which seeths with unabashed skepticism and concern for the unwary victims he says have been led down dangerous paths by abduction investigators.

Of course, Klass frequently chides UFO believers for ignoring evidence that doesn't conform to their beliefs. But like the ardent UFO buff, Klass himself isn't averse to ignoring a few uncomfortable details that don't fit in with his preconceived notions. Critics of his first three books made it perfectly clear that some of Klass's explanations for UFO reports omitted key data that pointed in a totally different direction.

Just as bad as the will to believe is the will not to believe.

An example: Klass cites such researchers as Budd Hopkins and Dr. David Jacobs as the prime villains in the growing abduction scenario.

There are lengthy quotes from Hopkins most recent work, *Intruders*, the focal point of which was a series of alleged UFO abductions involving Debbie Jordan (identified by Hopkins as "Kathie Davis").

Unfortunately, a lot of readers will not bother to check Klass's sources, as I did,

and will assume his extensive quotations are accurate and in context.

They are not!

According to *Intruders*, Hopkins first heard about Ms. Jordan's experiences in a letter she wrote him after reading portions of his best-selling book of several years ago, *Missing Time*. In that letter, she referred to a circular indentation on her lawn, where a UFO supposedly landed. At Hopkins urging, a soil sample of that section of the lawn was compared to a sample from the surrounding unaffected area in an analysis conducted by an independent laboratory. The results showed that the circular area had apparently been subjected to a tremendous amount of heat.

Klass *assumes* that the indentation arose spontaneously as a result of some sort of fungus, causing what is commonly referred to as a "fairy ring." He claims that the existence of the fungus went undiscovered because the sample was sent to the *wrong* kind of laboratory for analysis. Maybe that is true, but surely there is at least a *slight* difference between soil damage caused by heat and soil damage caused by a fungus!

Klass *assumes* that the indentations appeared there without an accompanying sighting of any strange craft and that Ms. Jordan decided to enliven her humdrum life and—with the ammunition provided by Hopkins first book—fabricate a possible UFO abduction.

A reading of *Intruders*, however, shows that the circular indentation did indeed appear in the wake of a UFO landing. Ms. Jordan's letter is very specific about that! Klass very specifically ignores this and goes on making assumptions.

Klass *assumes* that the classic UFO abduction case involving Barney and Betty Hill served as the prototype for later encounters. The wide publicity generated about the case through John G. Fuller's *Look* magazine article in 1966, his best-

seller, *The Interrupted Journey*, and a television movie some years later, *The UFO Incident*, planted the archetype of the abduction scenario in the public's collective unconscious.

Klass *assumes* that people with a vivid imagination, perhaps a case of low self-esteem and a few other psychological hang-ups would dream about similar bizarre encounters.

Klass *assumes* that the careless hypnotic sessions conducted by eager abduction investigators, such as Hopkins and Jacobs, would successfully create an entire sub-culture of contactees.

Klass *assumes* that the "abductionists" (his term) are causing untold psychological damage to innocent bystanders who have been swept up in an incredible fantasy that will haunt them for the rest of their days.

Klass *assumes* that a series of hypnotic experiments conducted under the direction of Dr. Alvin Lawson in 1977 successfully demolished the possibility of a UFO abduction representing a real, external event.

In those tests, a series of pre-selected subjects were given the suggestion under hypnosis that they had been taken aboard a flying saucer and given a physical. The participants happily complied, providing details that contained many of the basic elements of the typical abduction encounter.

That's fine, as far as it goes.

Klass *assumes* that Hopkins and Jacobs consciously or subconsciously gave their own subjects the same sort of suggestion, resulting in the same sort of results.

Klass *assumes* the regressions provided calm, deliberate recitations of alleged UFO experiences.

Once again his assumptions are wrong!

In many of the early sessions, Hopkins employed outside experts supposedly trained in hypnotic regression. Then he took over the process himself. A read-

ing of the extracts doesn't indicate any leading suggestions, conscious or otherwise. Now it may be true that someone wouldn't seek out Hopkins or any other abductionist unless that person presumed that something UFO-related would be revealed by the sessions. That, of course, *would* indicate a preconditioning of some sort.

But unlike Dr. Lawson's experimental subjects, who calmly fabricated similar alien physicals, Hopkins found many of his subjects emotionally traumatized by their experiences. Their recollections through hypnotic regression were halting and painful. These folks frequently became tearful and quite nearly hysterical, and were often unable to relate what must have been the most frightening aspects of their encounters.

These emotional reactions are the prime differences between the externally implanted fantasies provided by Dr. Lawson and experiences that had a real, profound effect upon the unwary victims.

It is fair to say, however, that Klass does bring to light several telling arguments that should generate a note of caution into the ongoing abduction investigation.

Hypnosis is not akin to providing photographic recall of a past experience. Regression is subject to the same errors and misperceptions a person might provide while not in a trance state. While authentic memories of some traumatic forgotten incident in one's life might be brought forth, there indeed might be a mixture of fact and fancy involved.

The hypnotic subject is in a highly suggestible state, and the questions asked by the hypnotist must be carefully phrased so as not to color the answer in any way.

There is also the clear danger of damage to one's psyche when placing oneself in the hands of someone who isn't trained in analysis.

But the process of hypnosis itself is simple, almost mechanical. It can be learned by just about anyone who reads a few books, or who observes such sessions.

On the other hand, dealing with a person who may have been abducted by alien creatures and taken aboard a flying saucer is not just a parlor game. If there is any possibility at all that the experience is real, the presence of a highly skilled practitioner is absolutely essential to insure that there is no lasting harm, and that the eager investigator doesn't do anything that might, however slightly, taint the perceptions of the subject.

I have no doubt that Budd Hopkins is a

deliberate, highly intuitive investigator who has studied the process of hypnosis carefully and is schooled well enough in the basics of analysis to know when he is in over his head and should seek outside help.

I would be more comfortable, however, if laymen left the practice of hypnosis in such circumstances to trained professionals. There are enough of them around to provide the kind of careful, scientific controls that are necessary in such research.

I am also unhappy at the direction the abduction controversy is taking.

Believers like Hopkins presume that aliens are somehow involving themselves in some sort of genetic experiment with unwary Earthlings on a multi-generational scale. The moral basis for such behavior is questionable, though it would be presumptuous on our part to ascribe Earth-like behavior to an alien intellect, if such a thing exists.

Skeptics like Klass *assume* there is nothing to UFOs, and surely nothing real about alleged abductions. So he spends his time blaming Hopkins, Jacobs and the contactees themselves for making the whole thing up.

Let us look, instead, at some other possibilities. Maybe those who report abductions by aliens are interpreting some bizarre encounter on the basis of cultural conditioning. We have all read the factual and fanciful accounts of the possibility of an eventual encounter with people from another world, and we tend to look at odd events in that light.

Maybe there is another cause.

In ages past, our folklore spoke of beings who were supernatural, such as fairies and elves, who behaved very much like the space people are said to do in the present abduction archetype, shorn of the science fiction trappings, of course.

Perhaps all these legends have the same basis.

A lot of enlightened European UFO investigators have begun to look at the mystery with the perspective of history. Americans are still steeped in the here and now, and this is wrong.

If mankind since the dawn of history has imagined meetings with supernatural beings, we should find out why. We should also look at the message these beings have provided us.

Perhaps the medium by which this message is transmitted is irrelevant.

Perhaps the message itself is every-

thing.

—Gene Steinberg

THE 12TH PLANET

By Zecaria Sitchin

Avon Books, New York, \$4.50.

THE STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

By Zecaria Sitchin

Avon Books, New York, \$4.50.

The Sitchin books are by far the best I have seen of the Ancient Astronauts genre, but even they leave much to be desired in the way of documentation. Though he writes intelligently and includes a bibliography, Sitchin doesn't footnote his work at all. This lack will make checking up on his scholarship a very laborious task indeed.

The 12th Planet is a rather hair-raising account of what ancient mythology *really* says about our origins. The 12th Planet was a wanderer, captured by our solar system before intelligent life had evolved on either. Being large enough to generate its own heat, it does not need close proximity to the sun. Its orbit is a long ellipse, not in the same plane as the other planets, and it passes near the Earth once in every 26,000 years. During one such close encounter, it seeded life on this planet; thus, the lifeforms of the two worlds have similar DNA.

As time passed, colonies were established on Earth to mine heavy metals, such as gold. Sitchin says the Biblical word *Nefilim*, usually translated as "giants," literally means "those who were cast down." Eventually, the laborers began to complain of their lot, so it was decided to create a class of "underpeople" to do the work for them.

Sitchin claims the word usually translated "to worship" literally means "to work for"! This idea is supported by the narrator of the *Testament* TV series on Biblical history, who says the "days" of the Genesis creation story correspond with the generations of deities in Mesopotamian mythology—and on the seventh day the gods rested because they had just created human beings to do their work!

Geneticists began to cross their own DNA with that of some of the local wildlife, producing some spectacular failures—perhaps reminiscent of the pathetic result of a recent attempt to insert human DNA into a pig! But eventually, an apelike creature produced an acceptable hybrid. The critter was supposed to be docile and

sterile... but something went wrong! The Nefilim figured their mistake would be eradicated during a natural disaster (the Flood), but a renegade [*Lucifer?*—GS] in their midst spilled the beans and enabled the new upstart species to save itself.

Sitchin illustrates his works with photographs and drawings of ancient artifacts (some very convincing) various other artwork, and glyphs said to represent rocketships.

The Stairway to Heaven is mostly about the Great Pyramids. Sitchin believes they have been misdated; the Egyptian pharaohs may have later used them as tombs, but they and the sphinx were originally meant to serve as directional landing guides for space pilots! The omphalos (oracle) stones in ancient temples were actually components in a communication network, with Jerusalem the center of the grid.

This book was generally less interesting than the first, and the tiny type doesn't help matters any! I have yet to finish the third in the series, *The Wars of Gods and Men*. I am hoping that it will answer a very important question not touched on at all in the first two books: Where are those Nefilim now? Are they still plotting a takeover, hoping to turn us back into the underclass of workers? (The Nazi regime, with its many ties to "the occult," suggests this as a real possibility.) Or, Goddess forbid, have they been in control here all along? If they have withdrawn temporarily—when are they coming back?

What if some of those ancient deities, whom modern Pagans take to be mythological archetypes and promise their eternal symbolic service, should show up in the flesh ready to collect their due?! It's enough to make you want to stick with Mother Earth, Father Sun and Sister Moon!

No kidding, folks, if you find the Ancient Astronaut theory at all plausible, this is a matter of real concern. Everything we know about these ancient beings suggests that they were *not nice people*.

—Geneva Hagen

• • •

SEEDS OF CHANGE

VHS videotape, approximately 2 hours.
\$25.00 from: Sunfire Productions,
Box 624, Glenwood Springs, Colorado

Listening to Adam Trombley is the intellectual equivalent of watching a Fourth of July fireworks display. He goes off in so

many different directions that it's hard to summarize his comments.

Trombley's father died as a result of a mishap in a biological warfare experiment, so much of his upbringing was done by a Catholic priest—who also happened to be psychic. Trombley attributes his present attitudes to this priest, to his Cree Indian grandmother, and to the late Buckminster Fuller. Trombley began his work as a physicist at the tender age of 13.

Trombley's talk focuses on the need to reunite science and spirituality, and reaffirm our relationship to the Earth. "All of us are cells in the body of a Being that is continuing to gestate." He stresses over and over again the urgent need to reverse the current environmental destruction, which he says is even worse than the media would have us believe. ("The Texas Chainsaw Massacre's got nothing on what's going on on this planet!") And he claims to have invented a new non-polluting energy source of almost infinite capacity, based on principles discovered in the early electromagnetic experiments of Michael Faraday and Nicola Tesla!

The physical apparatus of Faraday's machine consisted of a copper disc and cylindrical magnet rotated together. Trombley gives no specifics about his own device, but does say it is very simple, and jokingly calls it a "prayer wheel."

Well! Whitley Strieber's *Communion* speaks of a flying saucer mythology based on counterrotating magnets! Often contactees, including Strieber himself in his youth, build machines based on this technology. (I can remember designing a "perpetual motion machine" in my own teens, based on magnets within a rotating cylinder!) Nicola Tesla said he got his ideas "from Space." Trombley says his own design "popped into his head" while he was driving to work.

Physics took a wrong turn around 1830, claims Trombley. He says his new technology, the acyclic generator, will render all conventional power sources obsolete. Needless to say, it profoundly threatens the military-industrial power elite! Trombley notes that Nicola Tesla "coincidentally" died the day before he was planning to make a presentation urging President Franklin D. Roosevelt to halt the Manhattan Project. Tesla had said we could have access to all the energy we needed *without* creating plutonium, which he called "the element of death."

At first Trombley not only failed to be

able to get a U.S. patent for his new device, but he was placed under orders to shut up or go to jail! However, unknown to him at the time, one of his earlier papers fell into the hands of a scientist in India, who pursued the research on his own. This Indian scientist was able to get an international patent, and even some funding from the government of India. Faced with evidence that other countries were already developing acyclic generator technology, the U.S. government eased up on Trombley.

At this stage, he says, scientists in West Germany are also conducting tests, and the device has been demonstrated on national TV in several countries, including Australia and New Zealand. However, so far the U.S. media have steadfastly refused to take any notice of it. The general attitude seems to be, "If this were real, I'd have already heard about it."

Trombley says his preliminary machine is above 250% efficiency. That is, it outputs 2½ times *more* energy than goes in—something considered impossible under the old physics. The electrical output is 11 horsepower DC current, which would avoid the health problems produced by continued close exposure to AC resonances. Trombley also expects to have on-line production ability in three to five years. He says:

"We are on the brink of being able to enter into a totally different epoch. All we have to do is say we're sorry and move on."

If you're at all curious about new technologies, environmental concerns, or the Nature of Reality—you owe it to yourself to check out what this man is saying. It's too soon for us to know whether Trombley is correct in his statements, but if he is, the world could be near a turning point. If you can't afford a the tape, you can contact Adam Trombley directly % Project Earth, P.O. Box 1031, Evergreen, Colorado 80439; (303) 674-0271.

—Geneva Hagen

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**PHENOMENON:
FORTY YEARS OF FLYING SAUCERS**
Edited by John Spencer & Hilary Evans
Avon Books, New York, 1989, \$4.50.

The recently published paperback, *Phenomenon: Forty Years of Flying Saucers*, is a timely and much needed document. Edited by John Spencer and Hilary Evans, the 400-page book attempts to

cover the entire field of UFO research. By and large it succeeds.

The editors have divided the subject into six major sections: starting with reporting, contact, investigating and explaining and on to speculation on the meaning of UFOs, ending with an essay by each editor in the final section of the book.

Contributors to this work include such luminaries as John A. Keel, Kevin McClure, John Prytz, Jenny Randles, and John Rimmer, and naturally a wide-range of viewpoints is represented.

The first three sections follow a format of introduction, a few cases studies and a discussion of the type of phenomenon. The last three sections range more freely in the realm of speculation.

One of the most interesting aspects of this book—despite the world-wide representation of authors—is that it is written from a British point of view. This has had two noticeable effects: First, the classic British reserve serves the subject well. In a field known only too well for the lunatic fringe aspects, the editors' restraint and impartial approach is refreshing and in fact allows the reader to consider the various stories without a feeling that (s)he has picked up a super-market tabloid by mistake. Second: Many of the experiences are global, European—especially British (not surprisingly), and the open-mindedness the editors display would be welcomed by American UFO researchers I am sure. By this I do not mean only the skeptics but those true believers as well.

To quote one instance, "While researchers here have been examining ancient legends and folklore, psychological and sociological ramifications, the Americans have stood firmly by the side of ET. Testimony which does not fit is either ignored or dismissed." (Page 114)

Having done a broad review of the field of UFOlogy, the editors turn to the larger ramifications of the subject. First dealing with the problem of reliable information, "Few UFO reports, even today, contain enough substantive information for a valid analysis." (Page 186) From the UFO accounts I have read, the editors are correct—while some one story or another may engender great passion on the part of the witnesses, objective, quantifiable evidence is in very short supply.

This problem is made all the more difficult by the reputation UFOlogy has acquired. Like it or not, UFOs and those who associate with them are quarantined at the far fringes of society, to the point where, "In some instances local police and reporters have deliberately labelled a case a hoax at the request of the witness to protect him from the hoards of amateur investigators and enthusiasts who inevitably descend upon the scene." (Page 191) While this is quite understandable as it affects the witnesses' peace of mind, the implication of a vast amount of data unrecorded and uncorrelated is daunting indeed.


In the last two sections of the book, the editors (and authors) present some very interesting ideas concerning the continuation of UFO research and the impact

of extraterrestrials on our world. Specifically, the editors propose the development of a set of concise guidelines for interviewing UFO witnesses and evaluating the results. This would encourage the further development of a central database (there are some well done databases already around) to help correlate a global effort. In fact, the development of a methodology for dealing with UFO reports would go a long way toward vitiating the public perception of UFOlogy as a playground for the harmlessly mad.

In the last two essays, Evans and Spencer make their own statements: Evans advances the case for the healthy skeptic—capable of persuasion by means of solid evidence, and unswayed by impassioned rhetoric. Spencer makes the point for more rigorous scientific study of the phenomena, averring that until we do so, seriously, true contact events may lie buried in mounds of unreliable anecdotes.

For my part, I found this overview fascinating, both as an introduction to an arcane subject, and as a discussion of a epochal event which, if it has not already occurred, soon will. Given our knowledge of probability and what we know about the physical universe about us, the concept of a true first contact can no longer be left in the realm of fiction and hallucination. We owe it to ourselves to undertake an honest examination of the data we have so far, and to develop criteria for evaluating future contact events...when—not if—they occur.

—Craig Della Penna



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Newswatch:

Some UFO sightings, convention roundup and Gulf Breeze redux

WHO SAYS NOBODY SEES UFOs ANYMORE?

Not us. And, anyway, we're sure most of our readers have read about strange lights in the sky time and time again. Perhaps some of you have seen a few. Another light in the sky at this point won't contribute much to our knowledge of the subject, unless we can get some definitive answers as to just what is making those lights shine.

Caveat Emptor has devoted its news columns to more detailed and complex close encounters, or at least those involving highly delineated objects making incredible maneuvers that show little if any indication of conventionality.

But during the past year, residents of New York's Nassau and Suffolk counties have had more to worry about than high taxes and crime in the streets. According to John Ford of the Long Island UFO Network, Inc., the strange discs have been visiting his suburban locale in heavy numbers. Last September, three "very large objects" were reported by witnesses in the Rockaways. Over in Queens, one of the boroughs of New York City, an oval UFO came down, hovered, then shot off at a high rate of speed.

But Ford is more concerned, it seems, with some of the less benign aspects of the UFO enigma, that of abductions and animal mutilations.

Since February, 1988, mutilations have been reported in Manorhaven, Patchogue, Manorville, Southampton and Brookhaven. In addition, both adults and children are said to have been abducted. In one case, going back to 1978, a motorist was traveling along the Montauk Highway, when his vehicle was surrounded by a white light. Some unknown creatures, about 4½ feet tall, gray-skinned with large heads and "enormous dark eyes," came forth and dragged their hapless victim out of his car. The man found him-

self seated in a chair, somehow rendered immobile.

In a departure from the usual abduction scenario that just involves some sort of physical examination, the victim in this case also remembers somehow being forced to march through an area of Arctic-like cold, where he felt a numbing chill, then taken through the searing heat of a desert.

Other states are also reporting new levels of UFO activity.

A major UFO flap was described by Stan Gordon, of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained. In 1988, more than 350 cases, involving 600 witnesses, were reported to Gordon's organization. Many of the sightings also involved reports of strange creatures. The majority of them apparently were centered in the western part of the state.

So it seems as if the somnolent UFOs are awakening again at last. (*South Shore Record*, Hewlett, New York, January 26, 1989; *Tribune-Review*, Greensburg, Pennsylvania, January 15, 1989. Credit: UFO Newsclipping Service.)

• • •

UFO CONVENTION ROUNDUP

"We're gonna keep on doing it until we get it right."

Thus spoke Lucius Farish, long-time UFO researcher, co-editor of the *UFO Newsclipping Service*, and co-sponsor of the now-annual Ozark UFO Conference.

An estimated 225 enthusiasts journeyed all the way to Eureka Springs, Arkansas to attend the three-day affair. Even the mysterious Mr. Ed of Gulf Breeze, Florida appeared incognito.

Although not officially confirmed, it was said that Gulf Breeze skeptic Dr. Willy Smith tried at the last minute to get himself on the lecture program without success.

On hand to talk about Gulf Breeze was Robert E. Reid, a retired Air Force Colonel, and Dr. James W. Deardorff, who went on to relate the case to the controversial Billy Meier contacts. Deardorff, an Oregon State University Professor Emeritus, said there were a number of similarities between the two cases, and that both should be regarded as genuine.

Radio newsman Robert Oechsler was present to discuss the Gulf Breeze videotape of purported UFOs, and also about the strange tape said to involve astronauts aboard the space shuttle Discovery, who allegedly saw a spaceship while orbiting the Earth. The authenticity of the tape has been denied by the astronauts involved and NASA officials.

Other speakers on the program included Bill Clendenon, Vicki Cooper, co-editor of *UFO* magazine, Rosemary Decker, Danny Gordon, Bill Hamilton, Linda Howe, Antonio Huneus, Norman Oliver (from England), Robert Swiatek and Jim Williamson.

Also lecturing at the Conference was legendary 1950's UFO contactee Daniel W. Fry, author of *The White Sands Incident*.

Farish was asked how a prominent flying saucer contactee blended with the more conservatively-inclined researchers who were present.

"I didn't see any conflict of any kind," Farish told *Caveat Emptor*.

"It seemed to work out fine. I always thought that his contact was one of the more rational and logical of the bunch. Compared to some of the stories we've heard since then, such as the abduction cases and vanishing pregnancies, Fry's story is positively mundane. It's just a very simple story. The UFO lands, they invite him aboard, the ship takes off and they bring him back. I didn't see anything at all illogical in the narrative that he brought into his books."

• • •

The staid Mutual UFO Network will be competing with the slot machines in Las Vegas this summer when it holds its 1989 International UFO Symposium.

The theme this year is "The UFO Cover-Up: A Government Conspiracy." Featured speakers include: Dr. Jacques Vallee, William L. Moore, Dr. Donald A. Johnson, Dr. John F. Brandenburg, Stanton Friedman, Timothy Good, Linda Howe and Jennie Zeidman (order of speakers comes from MUFON release). MUFON promises that "five of these speakers [not named] will relate intriguing new information involved in the U.S. Government's conspiracy to hide the real evidence behind the UFO phenomena."

Controversial MUFON Nevada State Director John Lear will serve as host chairman (though rumor has it he won't be allowed to speak at the gathering).

The highly-touted affair will be held at the Aladdin Hotel and Casino from June 30th through July 2nd, 1989. Registration is \$10.00 at the door for each of the four sessions. Advance registration is \$35.00 and is available along with further information from: John Lear, 1414 Hollywood Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89110.

• • •

The longest running UFO convention is, of course, the National UFO Conference, which travels to Phoenix, Arizona this year. Co-sponsors are Timothy Green Beckley and Jim Speiser (of PARAnet).

Keynote speaker will be veteran UFO and occult writer Brad Steiger. Other speakers, at press time, were said to include UFO contactee Frank Stranges, convention chairman James W. Moseley, Beckley, *Caveat Emptor* writer Curt Sutherly [this is his official invitation], with other speakers to be named as the con-

vention plans progress. *Caveat Emptor* editor Gene Steinberg is slated to moderate a panel discussion on the controversial MJ-12 documents.

The National UFO Conference is scheduled for September 15th through 17th at the Quality Inn West, 2420 West Thomas Road, Phoenix. Admission for all sessions is \$25.00. Advance registration and further information can be obtained by writing to: Tim Beckley, Inner Light Publications, Box 753, New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

• • •

THE LAST WORD ON GULF BREEZE?

Well, probably not. Cases as controversial as this one are never wrapped up in tidy, little packages and filed away somewhere. Emotions among proponents and skeptics are too high, and unless someone confesses to some wrongdoing—quite a doubtful prospect of course—we doubt that the polemics will recede very soon.

The latest salvos in the case were fired by arch Gulf Breeze debunker Dr. Willy Smith and Richard Hall, writing in the December, 1988 edition of the *MUFON Journal* (108 Oldtown Road, Seguin, TX 78155-4099 USA—Earth!). Both felt there was more than a reasonable doubt in the case, citing Mr. Ed, the prime witness, as a probable hoaxer. The large number of photos Ed has produced of the UFOs he has seen were said to be fakes designed to embellish the story.

But, as Jim Moseley pointed out in these pages in our Spring, 1989 issue, Ed has not gone out of his way to glorify himself as a result of the many UFO sightings he as reported. Ed is described by Moseley as a successful businessman with little prior knowledge of the UFO

field. Moseley wrote that Ed has passed both a complex series of psychological profiles and various lie detector tests and appears in every way to be a perfectly normal fellow with absolutely no motive for fakery. Like many UFO abductees—and Ed himself has had several possible abduction encounters—he has no exotic philosophy to peddle.

In the April, 1988 issue of *MUFON Journal*, there's a lengthy response to Smith and Hall's article from Dr. Bruce Maccabee. Copies of the response were privately circulated to a number of researchers in the months prior to publication of the article, but it is far too long and involved to more than summarize here.

Basically, Maccabee feels that any photo can be faked, but there was little if any internal evidence that Ed's photos are obviously fraudulent. Maccabee includes a detailed analysis, pointing out that many of the questionable elements to these photos alluded to by Smith and Hall are not so questionable after all.

Maccabee again emphasizes that Ed had no known motive for fakery, and hasn't as yet profited from the experience. Furthermore, no models or eyewitness testimony or any other conclusive damning evidence has yet been provided by Dr. Smith or anyone else.

In the meantime, Ed, now revealed to be Edward Daniel Walters, has signed a hefty book contract with William Morrow, Inc. (publishers of *Communion*), and will have the opportunity to tell *his* side of the story. But few expect him to become rich and famous from all this. As occult publisher Timothy Green Beckley says in an interview beginning on page 14 of this issue, those who anticipate vast wealth from writing and publishing UFO material are living in a dream world.

And so it goes...

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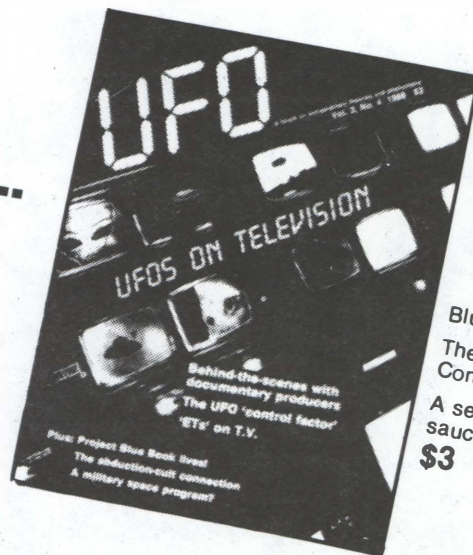
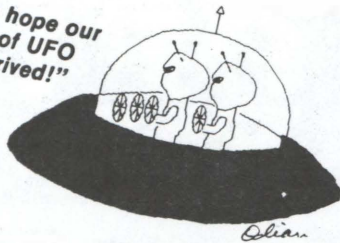
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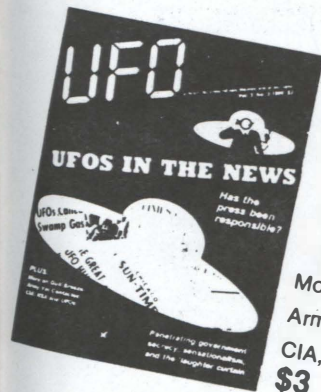
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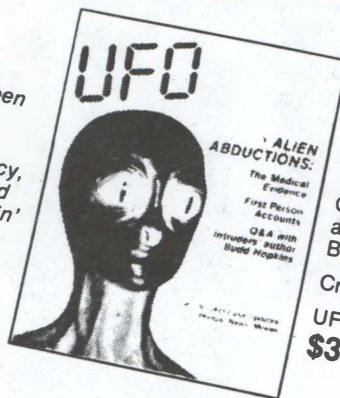
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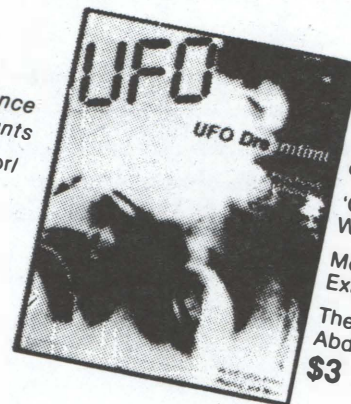
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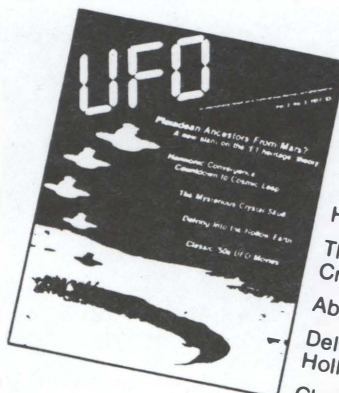
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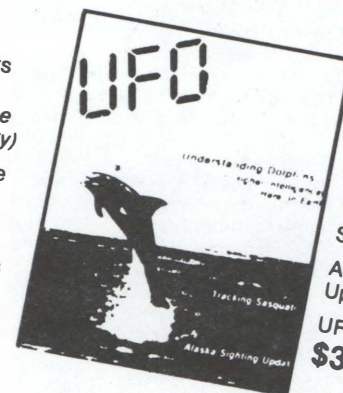
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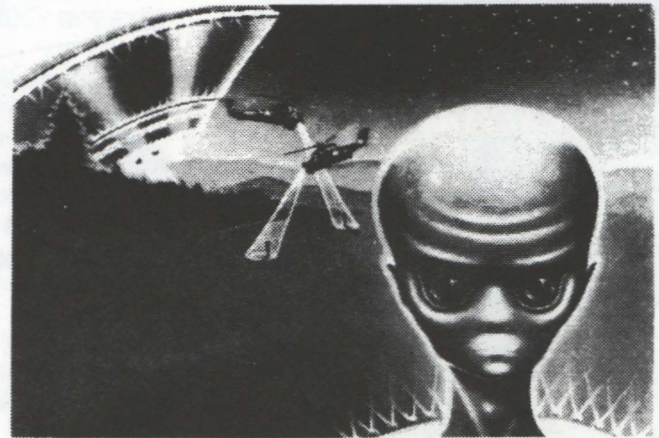
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