

caveat emptor

A New Age Journal

No. 22 Summer 1990 \$4.00

**At Long Last: The Fund
for UFO Research's
MJ-12 Report**

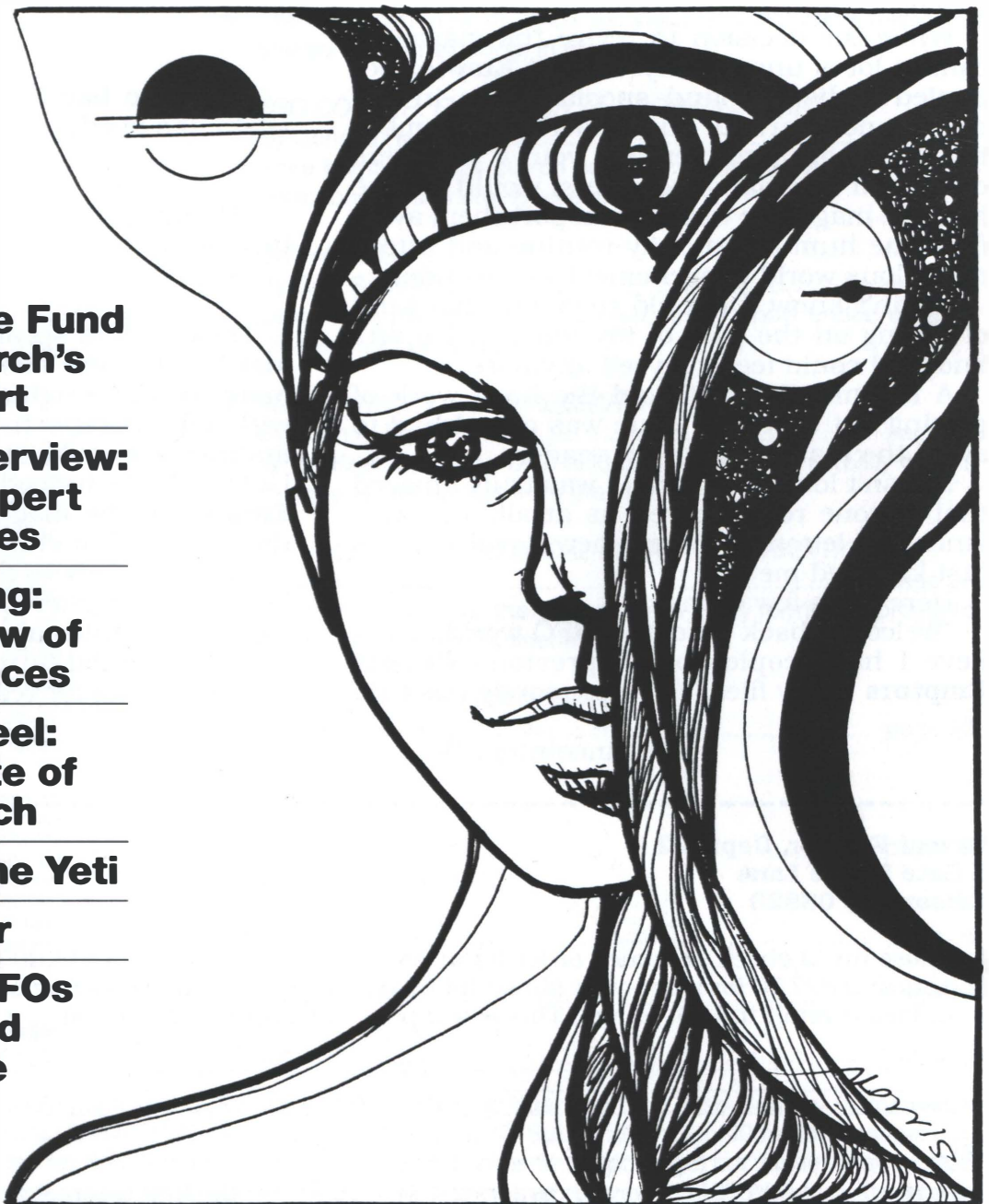
**1st American Interview:
British UFO Expert
Jenny Randles**

**The Gathering:
A Personal View of
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**From John Keel:
The Sorry State of
UFO Research**

**The Legend of the Yeti
UFO Humor**

**More Soviet UFOs
Reviews and
Much 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 last 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**.

While 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.

I 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 a few of them:

"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

"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

"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. I would just like to take this opportunity to add 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—or subscribe now at a special introductory rate.

And thanks for reading my letter.

Peace,

Gene Steinberg

Caveat Emptor, Dept. 22
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Summer 1990

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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:

Time to Come Clean

by Gene Steinberg

If anything is clear about it all, it's this: The MJ-12 documents are a fake. That appears to be undeniable at this point.

Well, it's late Spring as I write this Editorial, and we still haven't seen a final report from researcher Stanton Friedman on the MJ-12 affair. For those of you who may have tuned in late, Stan was given \$16,000 by the Fund for UFO Research to get to the bottom of the matter.

I'm not about to get involved in the argument over whether he was really the right person to objectively study the whole convoluted affair, being a believer in the reality of UFOs and having promoted information about the documents in the first place. Those concerns were voiced by others. I have never had reason to question Friedman's honesty, and I certainly am not going to change my view about that now.

In our Spring, 1990 issue, Associate Editor Curt Sutherly wrote what I think is perhaps the best single compendium on MJ-12. If you don't have a copy, send \$4.00 (plus \$1.00 postage), and we'll speed a copy off to you. To summarize, Curt's article covered the gamut of MJ-12 speculation and found evidence in favor of the authenticity of the alleged documents to be seriously lacking.

Of course, I was frankly more than a little concerned that the prominent role arch skeptic Philip Klass played in the article might upset a few readers who think of him as the "Devil Incarnate."

I have never agreed very much with Klass' extremist arguments against the UFO question. As I stated in my review of his last book, a commentary of the abduction scenario, I think he is quite guilty of ignoring facts that don't conform to his opinions, something many ufologists are equally guilty of, I might add. But he is quite a nice fellow when you get to know him, with an engaging sense of humor. I wish that I could publish some of the truly funny letters he

has written to me of late. You readers might get a sharply different slant on his character.

Anyway, I am pleased that Curt's article was accepted in the spirit in which it was written, that of a serious, seasoned journalist trying to glean the real facts about the matter.

I had hoped that the article would bring forth some comments from the principals in the MJ-12 matter, the always voluble Mr. Friedman, not to mention William Moore and Jaime Shandera. But silence has reigned from those quarters. Well, not total silence. A recent issue of Moore's quarterly newsletter came with the "dreaded X" affixed to the mailing label. A hint that I'm to be dropped from the mailing list, perhaps?

And of course, this aspect of my comments may be outdated before long, if a letter from them should arrive here.

If anything is clear about it all, it's this: The MJ-12 documents are a fake. That appears to be undeniable at this point. Some might argue that no credible evidence has been produced as to the person or persons responsible for the hoax, that there is no smoking gun as it were (though Philip Klass will surely disagree).

I do believe that one is innocent until proven guilty, but as far as the MJ-12 papers are concerned, you cannot consider them genuine unless proven otherwise. They stand apart from other evidence about UFOs gathered during the 1950s. They contain implications about the true nature of the UFO mystery that are simply not supported by any other documentation (except, perhaps, the Cutler/Twining memo, which is itself quite suspect).

MJ-12 has provided some very sharp comments from the elements of the UFO community dedicated to searching out secret government documents about the phenomenon. Several issues of *Just Cause* (P.O. Box 218, Coventry, Connecticut 06238), the leading journal of this segment of UFO research, have spelled out reasons why it's all a "Majestic Deception."

At a recent meeting of John Keel's New York Fortean Society, lawyer Peter Gersten, who was involved in lawsuits to recover government UFO documents, didn't mince words. He said he was sure the MJ-12 papers were a crude hoax, and he placed blame for MJ-12 four-square in the lap of William Moore.

Since Moore has been one of the main promoters of the MJ-12 affair, on the surface he would seem a likely suspect.

But what has Moore gained from MJ-12? He has not become a best-selling author and lecturer. He isn't big on the talk show circuit. He hasn't made the cover of *People*. He hasn't been seen tooling around in a Mercedes-Benz or BMW.

But he does admit to being involved in government efforts at UFO disinformation. It's the single largest black mark on his name. He says he really didn't spread disinformation, just played informer to learn something about government UFO activities—which doesn't seem to have produced any tangible result that he has told us about. I don't doubt what he says, not having any convenient government "deep throats" around to provide any information one way or the other. But it doesn't make him look good, because he deceived a lot of people for a selfish purpose. That's his cross to bear.

So maybe he didn't actually cross the "T's" and dot the "I's" but surely his involvement with the government gave someone a few convenient ideas.

The one remaining question mark is the matter of the late Donald H. Menzel, the Harvard astrophysicist and arch UFO debunker. The MJ-12 documents list him as a member of the alleged committee. Research from Stanton Friedman shows deep government involvement by Menzel during World War II. Despite Menzel's avowed UFO skepticism, that made him seem a likely candidate to be a part of such an organization, if it existed. The question: How would anyone outside of government circles know of Menzel's intelligence connection? Well, Friedman found out, so perhaps others did as well. It could be said that if MJ-12 represented a direct government effort at UFO disinformation. They knew about Menzel, and incorporated that knowledge in the document, knowing the evidence would turn up once a dedicated UFO investigator checked it out.

Or maybe it was all a joke? Maybe the "paste-up" artist(s) who pieced together MJ-12 made a failed attempt at humor, a sarcastic comment that would render the papers absurd—only the joke backfired.

GOOD FOR THE SOUL

Except for a few die-hards, it doesn't seem that anyone really believes there's any credence to the MJ-12 matter. So now that we've wasted a couple of years arguing about nonsense, it's time for the perpetrator or perpetrators to confess. It's good for the soul. If it's some folks in the government, then they've wasted taxpayers money on foolishness. It's the same mentality that allows the government to spend \$700 on a hammer and develop extensive documents on how to use it. Perhaps they were a bit too eager to try out those hammers on their own heads.

But since the government never does anything

wrong, let's hope the guilty parties are in civilian society. Then at least we have a chance at such an admission. I recall many years ago when a novelist created a fake autobiography of the late recluse billionaire Howard Hughes. The hoax was finally exposed, but the writer became famous as a result.

Most of the Watergate perpetrators from the 1970s wrote best-selling books, or became noted lecturers—and in one case—G. Gordon Liddy—an actor with a penchant for portraying believable villains.

In this climate, surely the "creators" of MJ-12 could write a few articles about how they did it. If the story is good enough—maybe they played a few other pranks that would interest us—a book could follow. Then there are the movie rights, the thrill of imagining who might portray you on the silver screen. Think about it!

So if you folks are reading this, tell us how you get the idea and how you did it. Millions of dollars in publicity might be there for the taking.

Since such a confession is highly unlikely, I can only suggest that it is high time we bury the MJ-12 matter once and for all and get on with the serious business of trying to find out just what really happened in the incident that brought it about: the so-called Roswell UFO crash.

AN INFLATABLE SOLUTION?

Another truly outspoken fellow is none other than John Keel, who makes an appearance in this issue to discuss one of his favorite topics, what he considers to be the tragic state of the UFO field. During the original incarnation of CAVEAT EMPTOR in the 1970s, Keel was a frequent writer in our pages, with fascinating commentaries and letters. He has been gone for far too long and we're glad to have him back.

Keel never believed anything strange crashed at Roswell in 1947, unless you consider the Fugo balloons—sent aloft by Japan during World War II as carriers of destruction—to be strange. His article deals with that in more detail, but only as a point of argument about how truly conventional things might be the jumping off point for truly bizarre speculation.

As most of you know, I have suggested—half-seriously I might add—that the Roswell crash might have actually involved a failed test of some new kind of aircraft. The whole scenario of an alien crash might have been a form of government misdirection, to get UFO buffs looking in the wrong direction. The possibility that it was a weather balloon would take care of the rest of us. Those who might have been involved with testing of the aircraft were loyal Americans who would have been easily silenced on the grounds of national security. What the aircraft might have been would no longer be relevant in today's technology except, perhaps, as an historical footnote.

In our *Readers' Forum* department, Dr. Bruce Mac-

cabee, a physicist and noted UFO investigator, takes us to task for suggesting that Kenneth Arnold's famed encounter in 1947 might have been generated by secret weapon's tests. He thus joins Stanton Friedman in expressing public doubt over such a possibility.

My response to Bruce is included after his letter. I would only say here that the absence of conclusive evidence that UFOs are spaceships should give one cause to look at some more conventional theories once again. It doesn't mean that if *some* UFOs are found to be something less than alien vehicles that the whole enigma folds up like a house of cards. We just have to separate the wheat from the chaff.

ALIEN LOGIC REVISITED

I am not about to say that something unconventional didn't crash at Roswell either. But one would think that a civilization that is supposedly centuries beyond us in development would be better able to keep its spacecraft in the air. Seems an awfully convenient accident doesn't it? It also strains logic that a rescue craft of some kind didn't arrive right away to deal with the problem and minimize possible contamination with our civilization. With all the UFOs reported about, especially in those days, this matter could have been dealt with quickly and unobtrusively. By the time anyone showed up to visit the scene of the accident, all traces would be gone. The strange light in the sky would be written off as a meteorite.

Strange how the technology evinced by UFOs seldom seems to be more than slightly ahead of our own. Sometimes one gets the distinct impression that the phenomenon is mirroring the near-future of our development—perhaps to point the way.

And as some of the UFO researchers more oriented towards a psychological solution to the presence of strange things in our skies and on the ground might think, perhaps it's all an expression of our own hopes and dreams.

Almost the same argument is frequently posed to explain channellings: The communication supposedly received by the channel from an extraterrestrial source never provides information that the recipient did not already know. The messages seldom consist of more than bland homilies about being good to one another, not fighting wars, not polluting our environment—that sort of stuff. Nothing wrong with that of course. Most sane people would agree with the concepts, but they certainly do not demonstrate any sort of knowledge that could only originate from an extraterrestrial source.

That doesn't mean that some kind of message wasn't being received, but it does suggest an internal rather than external cause for such things.

We might learn a whole lot more about the whys and wherefores of UFOs if we first looked to inner space instead of outer space.

GRAB BAG...

• In the comeback issue of CAVEAT EMPTOR, I explored the oddball beliefs among high-end audio enthusiasts ("The Extremists of High-End Audio," issue #16). In the article I wrote about a fellow who manufactures an extensive line of audio components that—by dint of their affordability and high quality—make a very telling statement against some of these extremist ideas. That fellow, Bob Carver (of Carver Corporation) read a copy of the magazine, and called me out of the blue a few months later to express thanks. Since then we've had regular long-distance telephone conversations (he's in Lynnwood, Washington) on a variety of subjects.

Bob was trained as a physicist but instead devoted his life to his hobby, that of designing audio equipment. He is a real example of the American dream come true, that someone with a better idea can make it commercially and critically successful despite the odds. Nowadays most businesses are run by professional managers who are concerned with the bottom line and immediate gains to the exclusion of all other considerations. I'm glad there are a few folks around like Bob Carver to show how industry really should be run.

• Speaking of audio, with all of my other pursuits taking up my spare time, I have added another job: I have joined the staff of *The Audio Critic* magazine. That affords me the chance to approach my interest in audio from the inside. It's hard work, but it's fun. If the search for better musical reproduction in the home appeals to you, write to *The Audio Critic* for subscription information. The address is: P.O. Box 978, Quakertown, PA 18951.

• **E-Mail Department:** Some of you have asked if we intend to get a fax number now that we are computerized. Well now! Perhaps that's going a wee bit too far. If anyone has a communication for me that is truly so urgent, they can use the telephone, thank you. I have an answering machine on hand to receive messages in my absence.

But I have made one concession to the growing trend towards electronic mail. If you're computer friendly, and subscribe to General Electric's "GEnie" service or the Apple Macintosh-oriented "America Online," you be able to get in touch with me. My "handle" for GEnie is "G.Steinberg." On America Online, I'm known as "GeneS3," I guess because there are two others out there with the same initials, lucky devils. Note that I have resisted the temptation to resort to any more "original" monikers, though I'm open to suggestions.

• A final note: We've raised our price for subscriptions this issue because of increased costs, but we're striving to give you a bigger and better magazine for the additional few bucks. Stay tuned!

—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 grammatical errors. Deletions will be indicated by ellipsis. 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.

RECKLESS?

Dear Mr. Steinberg:

I would like to respond to the false and reckless charges about me made by Bill Moore in a letter of his that appeared in your [Winter, 1989-90] issue.

On March 1, 1989, I circulated an open letter (later published in the *MUFON Journal*) that addressed issues associated with the MJ-12 controversy. Among the points that I made were the following:

1) Information that I had developed suggested that Bill Moore had worked in some capacity for one of the U.S. intelligence agencies. As we all know, Moore has since confessed that he was (is?) an unpaid government informant who spied on several individuals for the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI).

2) Richard Doty, Moore's chief AFOSI contact, had a hand in forging the so-called Ellsworth AFB document that related an alleged encounter between aliens and U.S. nuclear missile security personnel. This too was later confirmed publicly by Moore.

3) Information developed by researchers Brad Sparks and Benton Jamison suggested that Doty had also forged the "Craig Weitzel" letter that was sent to APRO, which recounted yet another alleged alien encounter. Once again, Moore has since confirmed that this was the case.

4) Information I possessed indicated that Doty was the individual who appeared (in shadow with voice altered) as "Falcon" in the October, 1988 TV show *UFO Cover-up?—Live*. Moore continues to deny this, but I will soon go public with the information in my possession.

My exposé obviously touched a raw nerve. Shortly after I sent out the open letter, I received several highly irate phone messages on my answering machine from Bill Moore. On the evening

of March 15th, 1989, there was a knock on my door at my apartment in Albuquerque. At the time I was hurrying, half-dressed, preparing to go out for the evening. Not wanting to be interrupted, I did not answer the door or even look out the peephole. Minutes later, to my utter surprise, I received yet another phone message from Moore, who indicated that it was he who had knocked earlier. In a caustic tone, Moore said he knew that I was home because he had seen me move past my open balcony door as he left the parking lot in front of my building. He also said that if I wouldn't talk to him, I would soon be talking to his attorney.

I am willing to testify, under oath, in a court of law, that all of the above statements are true.

On March 18th [1989], I wrote to Moore stating that I considered his numerous phone calls to me to be harassing and his unannounced visit to me to be threatening. I also indicated that I would communicate with him only in writing because I WANTED TO HAVE A COMPLETE RECORD OF HIS RESPONSE TO MY OPEN LETTER. I concluded my letter by indicating that, given the hostile and intimidating tone of his phone message to me, I would seek a restraining order against him if he attempted to call or confront me in a similar manner in the future. A copy of this letter was sent to my attorney.

Now let's look at Mr. Moore's version of these events: In his letter to CAVEAT EMPTOR, Moore stated that after he had learned of my open letter on MJ-12, he "tried on numerous occasions over the period of about a week to contact [Hastings] by phone but he steadfastly refused to return my calls." What Moore doesn't say, of course, is that both the tone and content of his calls were exceedingly unfriendly, to say the least. More to the point, my position, then and now, is that given Moore's demon-

strable track record of conflicting statements about his knowledge of and involvement in the MJ-12 affair and related matters, I "steadfastly" believe that anything he has to say about these issues should be IN WRITING. At the very least, this will make him more easily accountable when he strays from the facts.

In his letter to you, Moore refers to his attempted visit to my apartment and says that he "observed [Hastings] on his balcony watching me as I went out to my car." This is an absolute lie! While I may have passed in front of my balcony door long enough for Moore to observe me as he left, I was never ON my balcony and I was most certainly NOT watching him. As I have indicated, it was only after the fact that I even knew that he had attempted to visit me.

But Moore concludes his references to me in the CAVEAT EMPTOR letter with an ever bigger lie: He claims that he returned home to find a letter from my attorney threatening action against him. I HEREBY PUBLICLY CHALLENGE BILL MOORE TO PRODUCE THAT LETTER. This should be interesting, since it doesn't exist. In reality, the letter Moore received was from me, not my attorney, and is the one I alluded to earlier. A copy of same is enclosed and you may, if you wish, publish it in its entirety.

In conclusion, I believe that Moore's recent letter to CAVEAT EMPTOR demonstrates, once again, that he is perfectly willing to distort facts—and engage in outright lies—when it suits his purposes. Indeed, his now-exposed, shameful performance of the past several years clearly indicates what he is capable of.

Robert Hastings
Albuquerque, NM

Well now, this controversy is getting aw-

fully personal, isn't it? I won't categorize anyone as a liar in this instance. I am publishing the letter so that Hastings' side of the story is given a fair hearing.

The letter he refers to, which he claims to have sent to Bill Moore, is as he describes it, but space does not allow us to include it here. Besides, it's all getting a bit boring. My editorial deals with the MJ-12 matter at large—a lot of time and money wasted, in my opinion.—GS

• • •

A FALSE LEAD...

Dear Gene:

Jim Moseley claims that his admitted hoaxes the years were not false leads, "but simply ways to keep up public interest (in flying saucers) during lean times" (Spring, 1990 *Reader's Forum*). Apparently, he does not understand the logical distinction between *what* he did (action) and *why* he did it (motivation). Faking a letter, for example, is creating a false lead. The letter is *not* authentic and does *lead* researchers in wrong directions and to wrong conclusions. As for his motivation: Why is keeping-up public interest important? And what does such "public relations" have to do with explaining flying saucers?

"Researchers" have other questions to answer. To wit: How much of the saucer saga consists of Moseley-like phony evidence? And why do many "researchers" get so upset about government machinations, while embracing people like Moseley who confuse issues from within their own ranks?

When all is said and done, however, I can see why Moseley does not take Ufologists seriously. He can hardly expect from others what he does not expect from himself.

Peter Kor
Mayfield Heights, OH

• • •

"DEAR MR. EMPTOR"

Dear Mr. Emptor:

I am writing to express my dismay at the occurrence in your Editorial of the statement regarding the Kenneth Arnold sighting that "It doesn't matter that history has shown that there may have indeed been a conventional explanation for Arnold's sighting...." I have thoroughly researched that sight-

ing. In my opinion, what history has shown is that numerous explanations have been proposed, *all of which fail to explain significant details of the sighting*. My detailed analysis is presented in two papers, *True UFOs, Fantasy or Reality* and *Still in Default*, both available from the Fund for UFO Research (Box 277, Mt. Rainier, MD 20712).... The Default paper is published in the 1986 MUFON Symposium proceedings.

I have studied the explanations that were offered by Dr. Donald Menzel and others and have found numerous details of the sighting which contradict the explanations. Anyone who is seriously interested in the UFO subject should carefully study Arnold's sighting and the reactions to it. Certainly Arnold was not a "me too" witness caught up in the excitement of the moment. (No sighting story was published before his.) It is important to note that *no one suggested that it was a hoax*. The skeptics all proposed various types of *misidentifications* by Arnold. That is, he didn't recognize a flight of small military planes (Hynek), mountain top mirages (Menzel and others), "billowing blasts of snow" from the mountain tops (Menzel), orographic clouds (Menzel), water drops on the windshield of his plane, and other similar explanations. (The official Air Force explanation in the Blue Book file is "mirage.") Arnold provided technical details which contradict all of these explanations.

Incidentally, Curt Sutherly, in his MJ-12 article, also mentioned the Arnold sighting in a context which seems to suggest that Arnold might have seen a flight of "flying wing" aircraft (although Sutherly did not point out that Arnold reported seeing *nine* of the strange craft). Unless he can supply evidence to the contrary, I think it is reasonable to conclude that only a couple of such craft could have been flying at any one time (because very few were built) and they would have been flown only over test areas.

Arnold's sighting remains unexplained.

I would like to congratulate Ms. Hagen for her article on food. I ate it up! I now wonder which will get us first: disease (AIDS and others), famine (insufficient food if the environment changes), pestilence (consider Lyme disease, etc.), war (what's to keep Europe from reverting to its pre-WWI

norm of a war every 20 years or so now that the Great Bear has become a pussy cat?), pollution (everyone does it), overpopulation (which is a sort of pollution), religious fervor (I'm right and you are wrong and the world isn't big enough for both of us) or UFOs. (Do I hear the distant hoofbeats of more than Four Horsemen?)

Come to think of it, if the UFOs don't act quickly there may not be many of us left to "get." On the other hand, maybe that's why they aren't (or don't seem to be) acting quickly.

Finally, I would like to point out that Bill Cooper, who was a source for some of the information that Victoria Lacas incorporated into her article (*The Vain Search for Alien Logic*) is a thoroughly discredited individual. None of his information about alien bases, Dulce, etc. has checked out (and many independent investigators and groups have checked). See Bill Moore's recent issues of *Focus* magazine.

Bruce Maccabee
Sabillasville, MD

Notice, Bruce, I said "may have" in my editorial. A conventional explanation is by no means proven in the Arnold encounter. Your two papers discuss the "solutions" offered by Hynek when he worked for the Air Force, and Menzel. Neither of them would or could have said that the things Arnold saw were secret weapons of some kind.

And that's the possibility that I was suggesting, further hinted at by Curt Sutherly. We don't really know what Arnold saw, and he is no longer around to respond to our little suggestions. It is safe to say that assuming that it had to be a spaceship, if Hynek and Menzel's explanations don't hold water, is unwarranted.

"Unexplained," yes, "proven," no.

As to Victoria: She was poking fun at the silly claims made about UFO abductions. If Bill Cooper has made some of those silly claims, as he seems to have done, then our search for "alien logic" won't take us to him by any means.—GS

• • •

GLAMOUR PHOTOS?

Dear Mr. Steinberg:

Just received the Spring 1990 issue. Congratulations! It's the best one yet. Since resuming publication, you're gaining strength and momentum [but

not money—GS], and it shows.

I am motivated to write you today chiefly by the wonderfully irreverent piece by Ms. Victoria Lacas: *The Vain Search for Alien Logic*. Where has this gal been? I don't claim to have read every single article in every publication since the Kenneth Arnold sighting, but I cannot recall seeing her in print before. I know I'd have remembered, especially if her photo was published as it was in C.E. Excuse me, but didn't you know that beauty and brains and especially a fine sense of the absurd are not normally found packaged thusly?

Kindly refrain from future publication of glamour photos of your contributors, as I almost skipped over the article on account of the above-listed misconceptions....

I was surprised that Ms. Lacas made no reference to the most recently published opus from Jacques Vallee, *Dimensions*. I recently had the distinct pleasure of reading this distillation of his previous works, and found his arguments to be most compelling, to say nothing of the interesting series of heretofore unheard-of (by me, at least) abductions and visitations.

Thanks again for your fine magazine. Always remain: "Vox Clamantis in Deserto."

Douglas J. Nelson
Stillwater, MN

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PONY EXPRESS?

Dear Gene:

A few comments on the magazine are in order at this stage in its new incarnation. First your editorial comments are a refreshing start to a memorable magazine. Second, I am glad to see you are covering the whole spectrum of "New Age" material, in a balanced, level-headed approach. Third, I am very glad that the advertising section of the magazine is so small and the rest of the magazine is so large (as opposed to some others, *UFO Universe*, etc.).

Last, but not least, I am very concerned because I have not yet received my Winter, 1989 issue of *CAVEAT EMPTOR* [as of February, 1990]....I hope we can solve this matter in a timely and proper fashion.

Tim Jones
Mt. Laurel, NJ

I appreciate your kind comments, and I'm very concerned about growing problems with late delivery of issues. Our local post office has transferred bulk mailing to a regional center. This exercise in "efficiency" has managed to double the time it takes for the magazine to reach you readers. So while it should take about two weeks for the magazine to arrive, sometimes it doesn't work out that way.

My suggestion: Complain to your local post office. They'll contact our post office and find out just where the foul-up lies. Armed with enough complaints, we might be able to take some action. In the meantime, we'll try to speed up our production schedule so issues are mailed somewhat earlier. Any readers who can't wait for their copies to arrive can request first class shipment. It will cost an additional \$4.00 per year.—GS

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A SLICK REMEMBRANCE

Dear Gene:

In issue #21 [Curt Sutherly reviewed] *Tom Slick and the Search for the Yeti* by Loren Coleman. Thank you very much for this. However, it would be helpful to indicate where the publisher is located so we don't have to search all over! I want to pick up some copies of this, so could you send an address of publisher or source? Thanks.

I have a friend who did work for Mr. Slick. He told me years ago of a story where Slick sent some of his people into the Alaskan North Slope to investigate Abominable Snowman reports. They were armed with heavy-duty Weatherby Magnum rifles.

Months later, a canoe was spotted on the Skagway. It contained two bodies of two of Slick's people, badly mauled or chewed. In the canoe was a package addressed to Slick. He sent the package to my friend to analyze its content. My friend reported back and Slick hopped a plane to fly to meet my friend. It crashed 20 minutes later.

So I am anxious to read what Coleman has to say. Send info!

Hans W. Nintzel
Richardson, TX

Most any book you see reviewed in these pages can be purchased at your local bookseller, even on special order. Book stores generally have a master catalog of available titles. Where a book is not re-

leased by a mainstream publisher, we try to include the mailing address in our reviews. If you have difficulty getting Coleman's volume locally, write to: Faber and Faber, 50 Cross Street, Winchester, MA 01890 as to where it might be purchased, or whether they can handle your order directly.—GS

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3D & 4D

Dear Mr. Editor:

Looking at the letter from Mr. Franklin [Fall, 1989] about how to fake a Gulf Breeze photo, he is in error when the 3-D camera is used. A 3-D photo of a flat projected image will provide a 3-D photograph of a flat image. It will look flat, and fake. A 3-D photo of a real, 3-D object will show depth. I understand Mr. Walter's 3-D sealed camera photos passed this test.

On the subject of the book *Parallel Universes* by Dr. Fred Wolf, reviewed in your magazine [also Fall, 1989]: if true, this concept would explain why rarely are two UFOs the same in photos. Ninety-five percent or more do not match well. The same applies for sea monsters, such as the reported one by Gary Mangiacopra of Connecticut and for Bigfoot, since the only thing in common with those photos and reports are that the thing has two legs, two arms and one head. Perhaps these UFOs and other creatures simply come from various of the multiple and infinite parallel universes, with one batch coming from each, at different times. What are we? Vacation land for cosmic travelers?

Lee Banlôc
Los Angeles, CA

Not a cosmic purgatory, of course. I can see the billboards, "Earth, a celestial amusement park." Sort of has a nice ring to it, doesn't it?—GS

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NICE BALANCED TONE

Dear Gene,

...We enjoy your magazine. It has a nice balanced tone and covers the major issues. We like the coverage of Gulf Breeze and the book reviews and latest happenings. We like the editorials, Geneva Hagen, but our favorite is the

"interview." You seem to get a lot out of people, which makes it interesting. We'd like to see interviews of John Keel and Whitley Strieber, if you could get them.

Whitley Strieber came to LA in September to publicize his new book, *Majestic*. The first evening went well, but the next morning he was hit by a piece in the now-defunct *Herald-Examiner* quoting a Stuart Goldman. Goldman stated that he had infiltrated Strieber's cult and found him to be as dangerous as Jim Jones. Strieber was upset as he made his way through the talk shows. Finally on the Michael Jackson [radio] show on KABC; a confrontation took place between Strieber, Goldman, and columnist Mitch Fink. Strieber expected an apology, but what he got was a long argument, charge and counter-charge about who could prove what in court. The funniest charge was that the only difference between Strieber and Jones is Strieber's disarming stutter. Have you heard anything more about this? Strieber and Ed Conroy [a newspaperman who supports Strieber] were scheduled to be on the same show, but [Conroy] didn't show up.

There is a new wave of UFO interest centering on Las Vegas and a radio show called the "Billy Goodman Happening." The stars of the movement are: Bill Cooper, Bob Lazar, someone calling himself "Yellow Fruit," and others. It centers on our government working with aliens for sinister purposes. [Please spare us!—GS]

The interview with Peter Kor included a speculation that Jim Moseley might be the perfect government mole. We have some correspondence with him. Have you ever considered that an anagram for MOSELEY is MOLE YES?...

S & S Toth
Hawthorne, CA

Now that's something we can sink our teeth into! Seriously, folks, we interviewed John Keel many years ago, and he hasn't had cause to update his views since then. If something changes, we'll let you know. In the meantime, the latest issue of Strange Magazine (#5) had an interview with Keel that we recommend to anybody wanting a precis of his views. Keel's present thinking about the state of Ufology is revealed in his article elsewhere in this issue.

As to Strieber: He reads this magazine, so let's consider this his public invitation. He's been interviewed so many times in re-

cent years that he's probably tired of the process, but if he can stand another interview—perhaps to focus on areas not covered by others—I'm ready.—GS

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MUST TAKE ISSUE

Dear Editor:

Mark Opsasnick is a nice guy and he has assisted me in many ways, but in terms of theory and ideas, I must take issue with his article in the Spring, 1990 issue, "Bigfoot: the East Coast View." When I first heard of his article, I was told it was to be a discussion of East Coast Bigfooters, similar in nature to that of Mike Dennett's controversial piece [*Controversial, Erik? You're the only person who will admit to not really liking it.—GS*] on West Coast Bigfooters. Alas, this was not to be—for the article by Opsasnick doesn't name any names but goes into, instead, what I, a self-described nationally-oriented Bigfooter, would call a false issue, an issue that really doesn't exist. This is basically, "Are there Bigfoot creatures in the Eastern areas?," and my basic response is: Who cares? For the real question that Opsasnick, and many others, is dodging, is the question of "WHAT is Bigfoot?" not "Where is Bigfoot?"

Mark O, as we call him, seems to feel that various west coast Bigfooters, many of whom have contributed but little to the findings overall, are denying that Bigfoot can be found in the East. In fact, this is false, for the best-known of all Bigfooters, east or west, is John Green, and in many of his books he notes that there are actually *more* Bigfoot sighting reports coming from Florida, an east coast state, than all of the Pacific NW. People like Stan Gordon, and more recently, Don Keating, have been listing and adding to the east coast reports for years. Old timers like Don Worley and Dennis Pilichis, Ron Schaffner and Art Kapa, have been working away, in the field, where they ought to be, for many a moon. It is no secret to any serious investigator, east or west, that eastern Bigfoot sightings have been happening year after year after year, and go back to the 1890s. Loren Coleman, Jerry Clark, and many others broke the original ground. Mark O mentions few, if any, of these people.

What does bother me even more

than the raising of this false issue is the underlying lack of fruitful analysis of what is going on. As newcomers like Mark enter this field, they tend to set great store by totting up *numbers*: gee—35 Bigfoot sightings previously unreported in Maryland, wow—22.5 more sightings that were not reported before from Pennsylvania. Gazooks! My response is: *so what?* It doesn't make any difference whether 30, or 300 or 3000 sightings happened (and this applies to UFOs as well) and it really doesn't matter if they were in Rhode Island (which has had a few) or Alaska. They happened, and they continue to happen. The real question is, "What does this mean?" Why is Bigfoot, or Bigfoot creatures, amongst us? Why? Not when, but why?

Mark's response is to ignore this question and to continue to tot up numbers. He also offers a very untenable suggestion that the real place for the investigator of this phenomenon is the library (like Charles Fort) and not out in the boonies, watching for Bigfoot. I reject this totally. I reject his urging others to join him in the dusty stacks. This is almost a total waste of time. I do not say that no library research should be done, for this might lead to lost bones in some museum, but I do say that if the answer to the continuing phenomenon is to be found, it will be done by someone who is himself *kidnapped*, like Ken Smith Jr. in 1968 (whose interview tape I played at the June [1989] alternative Symposium in Pullman), or even by a man from Roseburg, Oregon who claims to have been told by "Bigfoot People" what they are, and why they are here. One day, one kidnappee or interviewee will be given, or be able to get, some physical evidence that will verify their story. This, O armchair theorists, cannot be accomplished in a library.

Erik Beckjord
Malibu, CA

"Doesn't name any names,?" Come on now, Erik, must be you read a different article than I did. On the first page alone, Mark mentioned Bob Titmus, Ivan Marx, René Dahinden, John Green, Rant Mullen, and others. In fact, names are mentioned throughout the article.

As to your suggestion about someone offering to be kidnapped, willingly, by such creatures, if they exist, who do you think should volunteer. You perhaps?—GS

The Caveat Emptor Interview

Jenny Randles

by Gene Steinberg

We don't like this thought of being the only intelligent species in the universe and science is failing to find it by conventional means, so we're turning to unconventional means to search for it.

We Americans have a particularly provincial view of the UFO phenomenon. Because the first major focus of events was the result of a sighting here (Kenneth Arnold, in 1947), we have tended to regard the USA as the center of UFO activity and also the center of major research on the subject.

It may therefore come as a surprise to CAVEAT EMPTOR readers to learn that many of our neighbors in Europe have a totally different idea of what the subject is all about. While most Americans are steeped in thoughts of hardware and physical aliens—with a few notable exceptions of course—other researchers around the world have looked at the UFO enigma as a sort of modern folklore, with the attendant consequences of such ideas.

*Former school teacher Jenny Randles is considered a major player in the European UFO investigation scene. She is the author of over half a dozen books on UFOs and psychic phenomena. Her most recent work is *Alien Abductions—The Mystery Solved* (Inner Light Publications, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 1989), which I reviewed in the Winter, 1989–90 issue of CAVEAT EMPTOR. Randles is also the editor of the Northern UFO News which is available at 37 Heathbank Road, Cheadle Heath, Stockport, Cheshire, England SK3 0UP.*

The interview you are about to read took place in September, 1989, at the annual National UFO Conference, which was held in Phoenix, Arizona. Randles had journeyed all the way from her home in England to be a featured lecturer and also to receive the Conference's "Ufologist of the Year" award.

GENE STEINBERG: Jenny, how did you first get interested in UFOs?

JENNY RANDLES: I've always been a sort of science-



based person. I read a lot about astronomy and geology and geography and that kind of thing, and those were the subjects that interested me at school. I wanted to be an astrophysicist, which was a big deal then, particularly in the sort of little back streets where I came from in Manchester, which is a sort of a fairly run-down area. Nobody even went to the university from there, let alone became something as grand as an astrophysicist, but I just had that sort of driving ambition, and through a various combination of circumstances—not because I couldn't have done it, but because I changed my mind at the last minute—I tend to do things like that on impulse for various reasons which I never quite work out—I ended up going in an entire different direction and going into teaching.

I joined the British UFO Research Association when I was about 16, with money that I had saved up by having a newspaper route. I also subscribed to *Flying Saucer Review*. Now I was lucky in that because there weren't many responsible books published in Britain

about that time, so the fact that I actually got access to serious material through BUFORA and through *Flying Saucer Review*, which was then the epitome of a good UFO magazine, probably insured that I stayed in the field.

Had it been the sort of stuff that I could have gotten from any other source, and maybe ten years later would have done, I probably would have let the whole thing disappear. But I still only treated it as a background interest. I was never doing anything other than reading and thinking, "yeah something is going on, but I don't really know what it is. It's all really taboo anyway and I don't really want to associate myself with this while I'm trying to get on."

And I had a few arguments with lecturers and stuff like that at college, with people who knew about my interest and they sort of ridiculed it. It was only when I was actually teaching at a school in a little village where there'd been a whole spate of strange sightings in and around the local wood—some lights had been seen and then some fish turned up dead in a pond in the middle of the wood, and it was all linked together and blamed on these UFOs by the media.

I thought it was a sort of interesting thing to do, because the whole thing was ultimately explained quite simply as a combination of various natural phenomena and poisoning of the fish by chemicals.

I sort of raised the subject at school by giving a talk after class to various pupils, and I was amazed by the way in which they all flocked to me afterwards, privately, with stories that they wanted to talk about, because things had happened to them and they tried to tell their friends, their families and so on and they got nowhere, and—although it was obvious to me that most of these things were probably not genuine UFOs—nevertheless these were children who had had experiences and were suffering by virtue of that fact, and through the sort of typical naiveté of a child, all they want to do was tell it like it happened, and they couldn't understand why people weren't responding favorably to that.

So we worked on it as a kind of a class project—some of the ones who wanted to talk publicly, most of them didn't. We evaluated them and I used it as a teaching aid to do things about astronomy and meteorology and aircraft movements and so on. So I sort of became, then, a UFO investigator, and I got hooked, really, I suppose, in the sense of going out and doing Ufology rather than just reading about it, and also, from a sort of altruistic point of view, recognized that it wasn't just children who had experiences and needed to have a sympathetic ear, somebody to listen to them. It was adults too, and so I sort of gradually got more and more involved in investigations from that perspective.

When BUFORA realized that I was keen and also that I could type—which was a considerable asset at

that time (there weren't many women involved in Ufology, particularly back then in the mid '70s; there are more now, but they were very few and far between then)—and so they sort of saw in me the ideal secretary, "yes please join the council, we want you to do this, we want you to do that," which was fine for about six months, when I suddenly realized that I don't just want to spend my time typing up the reports of everybody else. I want to do things.

And luckily I was in a sort of rebellious mood and was able to do that. So I just sort of gradually infiltrated my way into this sort of "old boys' club," which is what BUFORA was at that time.

"Old boys' club" is a British phrase which basically means an organization which has handed down through tradition a sort of way in which it is run and ruled, and unless you actually fit into that pattern, you don't become a member of the little clique, and if you don't have the right qualifications you have no chance, and it's a difficult thing to break the mold of.

And it sort of progressed from there. I also got interested around about that time in coordination, because one of the first things I realized in terms of Ufology was that it was basically a battleground. You got all these little groups which were being formed around the nucleus of individual people. All of them had their own ideals and wanted to be big fish in little ponds, because Ufology gave them that opportunity. It meant that they could become a local celebrity, and there was a large element of that and that's the sort of different groups that tended to battle against one another.

STEINBERG: *That's like American Ufology...*

RANDLES: Yes, it's true all over the world, I'm sure.

And so, I just thought that it was a good idea—I mean it wasn't an original idea—it's been tried before, it's been tried since. For some reason, this one worked. But I thought we should try to get some unification, and I think the reason why it worked when we sort of forged this network—which was unashamedly based on MUFON, which had just formed then in America, or rather my totally idealistic impression of what MUFON was like, never having been to America, never having really seen anything of MUFON, but thinking that the idea of MUFON was that it was some sort of network or alliance.

We created NUFON, the Northern UFO Network, and basically just said to all these local groups, "Look, come on, let's get together. We don't want to take over. You continue to remain totally independent, run yourselves the way you want to run yourselves. But what we'll do is a communal magazine, start a communal data base so you can put your files in our central archives. And we'll set up central meetings all around the region so that we can do things together."

And it sort of must have caught the spirit of the times, because it succeeded, and I think probably by not being dogmatic or administrative or bureaucratic,

and that's the trouble with most UFO groups. I mean, what they do is spend all their time running themselves and forget what they're running themselves for. And so we never did that. We never had a structure, there was never a chairman or a secretary or a treasurer or a committee or anything like that. It was basically just a load of groups who got together to do their own thing, but together.

And that's precisely what NUFON is today. I mean it still exists 15 years later as a collection of about a dozen groups. And we integrate fairly closely now with the British UFO Research Association. There were times at least initially there was this feeling that we had set up a rival group. That kind of thing always happens in ufology, and the fear of new initiatives and stuff like that. But we overcame it ultimately. There was a sort of brief hiatus during the mid to late '70s, when I saw the frightful mess that BUFORA's investigations were. They were disgraceful. I mean the case reports weren't worth the paper they were written on. It was tiny scraps of handwritten notes, such as "Joe says he sees the UFO over such and such..." end of story. They were useless.

And I wasn't afraid to say so and said, look, these investigations have got to be improved, and at that time that wasn't what people wanted to hear, so we sort of went our own way and we created a team of super investigators—sort of—along the same principles of MUFON and run as a kind of tandem to the network, and we called it the "UFO Investigators Network."

And, again, it had no structure, no organization, it was just basically individuals who wanted to better their skills at investigation and it was a basic premise that a case report wasn't a case report unless it was 50 pages long—even if it were a light in the sky—but at least it instilled the basics of investigation into people.

STEINBERG: *In the course of this time, you have covered some "major" cases in your country. Could you tell us about the first one that may have gotten you really heavily involved in research?*

RANDLES: I think the most important case in the early years, the one that really changed my perception on it, is relatively little known but significant and that was an incident that happened at a place called Nelson in Lancashire, which involved two factory workers who were involved in the night shift. And it was 3:00 in the morning and they'd just dropped off some canteen workers and were traveling back to work through dark, deserted streets, literally sitting beneath the brooding Pendle Hill, which has ancient traditions going back centuries associated with Witchcraft. And it's a very folklore-oriented area. And it's a lovely, scenic, hilly area and I know it well, because I was born and raised there.

And they observed coming out of a cloud above the hill this light which then materialized into a sort of cigar shape, with a radiating mass of multiple colors

coming out of the center—all kinds of colors, every different shade and hue. And it drifted toward them at very low height, about 20 or 30 foot above the car. And as it approached, the car engine and lights began to fade and then cut out.

And they were left sort of stranded beneath this thing, the classic car-stopping incident. They jumped out of the car and were directly underneath this, and felt a sensation or force from it. They felt the pressure pushing down on them from above. Their hair started to tingle, stand on end. There was clearly some kind of electrostatic force, although these were very uneducated men, and they were desperately trying to explain things which they couldn't understand and they couldn't express in the sort of gritty, local terminology that they were using.

And that was very impressive to me, the fact that I could see them struggling for the words to express it, which they couldn't do. Yet I knew what they were trying to say. And one of the men freaked out completely. The other guy who regained a bit of composure got back into the car desperately trying to start the engine. It just would not turn over.

Ultimately, after a period of two or three minutes, the thing started to drift away and the car engine and lights came back on their own. It was absolutely a classic close encounter. It was a situation where having been directly involved in the research, I was totally satisfied that these were genuine witnesses. It was as bona fide a case as you could hope to want to meet. And it had all the hallmarks. It demonstrated to me beyond any shadow of a doubt that there was a physical component to the UFO mystery. It wasn't all psychological, as I had been gradually coming around towards feeling.

You know, you start with high hopes, you try to be objective, but you think that the more you look into this the more you wonder is this all wishful thinking? Is it all psychology, sociology and so on all mixed together? But then you come across a case like this and you realize that there is something physically real there, something beyond the ken of current science. And it sort of gives you a sudden injection of why you're interested in the whole UFO business in the first place.

STEINBERG: *Later on there was this book that you were involved with, Sky Crash, which tells a very interesting tale. Could you possibly bring us up to date about that particular case?*

RANDLES: One of the things people usually ask about my books is why I write about so many different things, and I get a lot of criticism from British researchers that I never stick to the same line. I sort of wander all over the place, and that's actually true. It's true for a good reason. It's deliberate.

I think that the UFO phenomenon is a multi-faceted one, and there are many different strands to it, and it would be very easy to sort of pick an aspect of it which

you think is your pet theory, and follow that trend vigorously and not deviate from a straight line. And what you end up doing there is finding the answers that you are looking for. But that doesn't mean that they're the right answers, because you've already predetermined where you're going.

So I prefer to look at different aspects of the whole thing. And the reason why, when the Rendlesham Forest case came about, it was so significant, was that it was effectively a modern day crashed saucer story. That's how it came into the UFO mythology, and I was directly involved from very early on, in the sense that a story was given to me by a radar officer at a military radar base in Norfolk, about 50 miles from this particular site.

It was approximately three weeks after the actual incident supposedly happened, in December, 1980, and of course all I had was this story from the radar officer, who said that they had tracked an object coming in over the coast, disappearing off their screens, down over the forest. And they made the usual procedural responses to that, and reported it officially and so on, and had taken the line that they presumed it was an air crash.

However, the thing took on strange proportions when, a couple of days later, U.S. Air Force intelligence officers came to the base, which in itself was unusual, and not only asked to see, but also took away the radar tapes of that particular night and several of the surrounding nights. And in order to justify that, because this is an unusual act, they told a story that the thing that they had tracked was this UFO which had come down into the forest, and the base had been alerted, and they had gone out there and seen the officers that had a close encounter and that there had been some kind of alien contact involving the senior base commander and so on...a totally fantastic Stephen Spielberg scenario.

Now, taken at face value, all that was a rumor, and it would have gone no further than that had it not been for the fact that, totally independently and through other sources, a near-identical version came to an amateur UFO investigator in the area around the forest. And she was told this by a security sergeant on the base. He said that, "you're a friend of mine and I think you should hear this tale," and basically came out with the same thing.

Now, she and a colleague decided to pursue these things locally. Eventually, after a lot of hard work, they got together a lot of anecdotal stories of people who had seen strange things over the forest at that particular time, of people who'd worked on the base and things that happened to them, and one or two stories from airmen on the base who said certain strange things occurred around then and they saw the activity, a crippled person who said they actually were involved in the experience, although their in-

volvement was fairly dubious and so on.

My job principally was to act as a kind of record keeper, because, although they were very enthusiastic, these two girls, they had no experience in terms of investigation, they were not actual investigators with a recognized group. And for the sake of posterity and Ufology, I just sort of acted like a kind of intermediary and recorded what information I could about it, because I was aware that obviously *something* lay these stories and that the chances were, the longer this thing drifted away past the time of the event, the worse the rumors would get.

STEINBERG: *To sum it up, was there really a crash there, because I have heard so many different versions of that case? Did something really crash, in your opinion, in that location?*

RANDLES: It took us an awful long time—and of course ultimately, documentation was obtained through the Freedom of Information Act in America, which was denied to us constantly by the British government, because of the Official Secrets Act. And that demonstrated the sort of sanitized version of the event, of which all these crash rumors were exaggerations.

And the sanitized version, effectively, was that there was a series of incidents which occurred over three nights, which began with the base security personnel responding to this call from the air base about the crashed aircraft. They went out into the woods and encountered a small, triangular shaped object about the size of a small car, which was maneuvering about the woods. They tried to capture it. At one point, one of them tried to actually climb on top of it, because it was down at ground level. And a considerable physiological reaction was induced into them. They also suffered a near nervous breakdown. One guard apparently stayed out in the forest for a couple of days and couldn't be dragged back again.

Ultimately there was an investigation of the site, where physical traces were found, radiation levels, indentations, a great big hole in the tree canopy where something had clearly come down from the sky and so on. So there was physical evidence, and the documentation shows that that physical evidence existed. We also have a tape recording of the analysis of the site made by senior officers a couple of days later, recording the photographs that were taken and various other things which had never emerged, so there is still evidence to come out, which has never been made available.

So, yes, in terms of demonstration of an actual event, in terms of official military involvement in a UFO case, our faith in it was ultimately vindicated that there was something going on.

The big question is: Why the first two versions of the story were fed out to us—and I think deliberately fed out to us, because there's no other justification for why two UFO investigators should be approached

very quickly by these two sources who had no need to talk, even to be told themselves, or to have talked about it. Why were we given this wildly exaggerated version of a crashed spaceship and a communication between the base commander and aliens?

I think the reason was because the thing had happened, they knew it had happened and they knew they couldn't contain it, because it was too big, too many people were involved. And it was a deliberate overkill policy—rather like I suspect is behind much of the MJ-12 stuff—and that it was deliberate disinformation by exaggerating and making a story unbelievable.

STEINBERG: *You know one of our writers in CAVEAT EMPTOR, actually a person I interviewed in the Fall and Winter issues, Peter Kor, had once written an article about a pro-saucer conspiracy, where he says certain elements in the government were encouraging the spread of certain slants of the UFO enigma, just either to color the situation or simply to misled people. Do you feel, then, this was done in the Rendlesham case, the initial stories that came out, and also—let's go into MJ-12 for example—that it's being done there too?*

RANDLES: The reason why I've always been convinced that the MJ-12 documentation is deliberate disinformation is because I was offered similar documents myself at the time when I was writing about the UFO conspiracy. And, in retrospect, it was so obviously conveniently timed, that Tim Good got his version of the MJ-12 documents at the time when he was writing his book about the cover-up, and that Bill Moore, Stanton Friedman, Jamie Shandera, had it at a time when the UFO subject was entering an entirely new phase. And was predictable because of things that were coming up at that point, the fortieth anniversary, Strieber's book and so on.

But it was nicely timed to produce a red herring to the subject with wildly exaggerated stories, which would effectively and quite subtly destroy the credibility of the field in the eyes of people who might have otherwise taken the subject more seriously at that particular time.

And, therefore, I do believe that certain forces, for whatever reason, chose to do that. It could have also have a kind of sociological experimental basis too. And it's very good to test rumor-mongering from a potential combat situation by using the UFO community. We're perfect scapegoats for that kind of thing.

STEINBERG: *Do you feel it might have happened in the cases of rumors of crashed UFOs in the late 1940s in America?*

RANDLES: Yes, I think that the whole question of disinformation—and the way in which the UFO phenomenon is utilized in a sociological way—is something which does bear with much more consideration.

STEINBERG: *Let's explore that a bit further. Are you suggesting maybe that a great percentage of these very mysterious cases are efforts at disinformation, and, if so, is*

there a genuine phenomenon behind UFOs? How do you separate the two?

RANDLES: Oh yes. I'm not going to the extreme of suggesting that specific cases are invented. I don't necessarily think that that has happened. I'm primarily referring to documentation, and I'm also primarily referring to instances where disinformation is used to deflect attention, not of Ufologists, but of all the sources who base their opinions on the UFO subject on the credibility of Ufologists. And I think that there are certain instances where Ufologists have been deliberately made to make fools of themselves in order to stop scientists and people in positions of influence from probing the UFO subject too deeply.

STEINBERG: *For what purpose? Are you saying various elements in various governments do know what's going on—or that they don't know what's going on and are just using this for some other purpose?*

RANDLES: My belief is that the cover-up, such as it is, is very largely a cover-up of ignorance rather than a cover-up of guilty knowledge. I also feel that the authorities must be as informed about the subject as we are, which means, therefore, that they understand the complexities of the subject, the fact that we're dealing with many different things interrelated, and that there is the potential within the subject of bizarre forms of electromagnetic energy, radiation and so on, which can do nasty things to our engines and people and so on.

Consequently, it has very interesting offensive possibilities and that must intrigue the military authorities. Therefore, the mind-set of the military would be: "We don't know what's going on, we need to monitor this situation, and, more importantly, what we need to do is to keep this under military control, so let's have the research going on at a military level and let's insure that the private scientific domain doesn't start taking UFOs too seriously, because, otherwise, this thing might come out publicly, and we'll lose the initiative and advantage that we've got over the other side."

It wouldn't surprise me that that kind of mentality is the main factor behind the cover-up.

STEINBERG: *You suggested there were a number of different causes behind the UFO phenomenon that are inter-related. What causes are you speaking of—and then we're going to go into the comparisons between American and European Ufology—but let's talk about aspect first. What different factors are involved?*

RANDLES: I'm personally convinced that we're dealing with, that we have isolated at least three different types of what I call "UAP," unidentified atmospheric phenomena, which are not fully accepted or understood by science, but which are natural phenomena with interesting properties, on the borderline of current scientific acceptability. I believe that there is something akin to what you might call "super ball lightning." My view is that ball lightning has a lot

more to do with the UFO subject than meets the eye, and that the reason why it does is because scientists who have now accepted the existence of ball lightning have defined the parameters of what ball lightning is, and the basis of cases that come to them, not understanding that a lot of witnesses report ball lightning events as UFOs, and that the stranger events are the ones that tend to get reported as UFOs.

Consequently, the scientists determining the parameters of ball lightning reject those and have artificially limited the parameters of ball lightning. I have reached this conclusion after working with a number of leading experts in atmospheric physics who are interested in ball lightning, and I have seen the way that they mentally calculate what is and what isn't acceptable, and how they evaluate certain UFO cases. So, I'm quite convinced that there are certain phenomena which are just extreme examples of ball lightning.

STEINBERG: *Is this ball lightning phenomenon able to cause cars to stop?*

RANDLES: I don't know about that, but, generally speaking, I'm talking now about instances where UFOs are reported in the presence of power lines, where they follow electrical conductivity points, and all of these different types of UAP may, to an extent, blend into one another, may even, ultimately, prove to be less than three different types, and ultimately may end up to be more than three different types. I suspect that it's likely to be more than three.

For instance, I personally accept as proven the fact that some UFOs are "earth lights," what Paul Devereux calls "earth lights," what Michael Persinger calls "electric column transients," or whatever, but that there is something like that happening, and I think that that's a very interesting aspect of the whole UFO subject, because of Persinger's work showing the interrelationship between these things and human consciousness, and the way in which it can affect and distort and produce a kind of altered state of consciousness in witnesses who get too close.

STEINBERG: *Does that generate abduction phenomena?*

RANDLES: It might, yes it might. Certainly that as a plausible tentative hypothesis is well worth exploration, and until we demonstrate that that option has to be ruled out, it's unwise to go on to any more extreme hypothesis, because you don't need them.

STEINBERG: *Why then the concentration, in this country—and you're giving us a very European viewpoint here—why the concentration in America on hardware and spaceships and ET?*

RANDLES: It's a mental set, it's a way in which one culture evaluates the phenomenon. And that always happens, it may well be happening equally as well in Europe. I mean we evaluate the subject in our own particular way, and our own particular way is effectively to call these things natural phenomena with

exotic properties, which may be capable of inducing altered states of consciousness.

Now, we have to realize that that is equally presumptive as the way of interpreting the phenomenon as the Americans adopt. Ultimately, whoever is right, if either side is right—there could be a third possibility of course—will only be demonstrated by the evidence. The evidence *has* to be allowed to rule in the UFO phenomenon. Unfortunately, it usually isn't, and what is allowed to rule is the most dominant personality within the UFO field, and Ufologists tend to behave in a lot of respects like sheep that follow one key figure, and wherever that key figure goes, the rest of Ufology follows.

I think we've got to overcome that, because Ufology should really be an area of, an exploration of ideas based upon hard data, and people should be prepared to be more broad-minded and think more deeply around the subject, rather than limit themselves to fairly constrained viewpoints. But there are good reasons for that, and the popularity of the extraterrestrial hypothesis goes much deeper. It's very much a sociological thing and a cultural thing.

In Paul Devereux's book about earth lights—which was published in Britain in October—he makes a very interesting statement, which I think is absolutely right. He says that, after spending several pages discussing the extraterrestrial theory, that the extraterrestrial solution to UFOs is the cry of a lonely species, and I think that phrase is pretty apt. That is really the heart of it all. We desperately desire to have something out there which is more intelligent than us, which can help us, which we can strive towards communication with. We don't like this thought of being the only intelligent species in the universe and science is failing to find it by conventional means, so we're turning to unconventional means to search for it. I'm sure that that's part of it. There's arguments that it's a kind of substitute religion. I'm not sure that it's actually that appropriate, because Ufology is its own brand or religion in many respects, so it's not actually a substitute.

STEINBERG: *If this earth light phenomenon is a correct answer for some sightings, if it does generate an altered state of consciousness, it would almost be like a psychedelic drug. It can cause one's mind to wander into totally unexplored areas, possibly into areas where such things seem quite real.*

RANDLES: Yes, and also, of course, it's not simply relevant to UFOs, and I had to prove that to myself. That's why the next book that I wrote coming out in Britain, is a book called *Mind Monsters*, and what I've done in that is, I've explored other areas of visual experiences, things like monsters of the Earth, the land, the sea, and so on, to see if it is possible to evaluate the data for those in the same way as we can evaluate the data for abductions, for instance, and to see whether or not, therefore, it is feasible that some kind

of electrical UAP with the induction of an altered state of consciousness, fits—and it does fit remarkably well.

STEINBERG: *What about the phenomenon that we had in the 1970s in this country—more than maybe in Europe—of so-called “men in black” contacting people who had UFO experiences, seeming to have intimate knowledge of what was going on, people then undergoing all sorts of psychic phenomena and other things? Do you feel that maybe this “earth light” phenomena was causing a lot of people to hallucinate all this?*

RANDLES: I don't know. That seems to be a very peculiarly American thing, doesn't it? Maybe that's just the way that phenomenon was visualized or exaggerated over here. The men in black cases, such as they are in Britain—and there are plenty of them—all reduce down to visits to the witness by officialdom. There is no doubt at all that, in some cases, witnesses are visited by official investigators from some kind of source. It may be from the RAF [Royal Air Force], it may be from the Ministry of Defense, it may be from some scientific institute, it may be from MI-5 or whatever...but that that happens, and that they're very choosy and selective in terms of the cases that they go to.

That's very interesting, because if you actually do a sort of check-list of cases where these instances occur, you see that what happens is the run-of-the-mill cases are all rejected, and they only go when there is something unique and different, a feature of the case, it may be a very small feature.

There is one particular case where this couple saw something as they were coming over the moors, and it's basically a typical UFO experience in every respect, except that there was one thing different about it. And when this visit from the MIBs occurred, that was what was focused on. All the questions were asked about that one thing, and that was the fact that the door of this thing—or what they evaluated as a door—opened and closed in a very peculiar way. It sort of grew from a dot into a T-shape, as if it was sort of literally growing out of the light. And all the questions were asked around that. It was as if, you know, the rest of the story wasn't important. They understood all that. But that was a new thing, and because it was a new thing, that case had been chosen to be followed up, and I think that that's what's going on.

I think that there's a danger within exotic cases like that for those visitations to be confabulated. I think confabulation happens in a number of different ways. It happens possibly because of altered states of consciousness that are induced by the thing being witnessed, so therefore they confabulate it. It think it happens more because of the confabulation of the investigators who interpret the things in a different way. They see this visit not as a visit by ordinary men from an ordinary department, but as aliens; therefore, in the telling and the retelling, it takes on

stranger forms.

STEINBERG: *Does that also mean we seem to have a relationship with this phenomenon? We expect it to do something and it does it and then that becomes a part of what the next group of people perceive, because they've read about it or heard about it?*

RANDLES: It's a dynamic thing, and it may go deeper than that, and I'm very interested in the research that Rupert Sheldrake has been doing, which has caused a bit of an uproar in the biological community and other fields of science over the past five or six years. I think it has definite potential.

Basically, what he's saying is that patterns are reinforced and they're reinforced in a sort of semi-objective way by creating a kind of template of experiences, habitual behavior patterns and so on. So that, in a very simplistic way, the more people believe in a certain aspect of the UFO phenomenon, the more real that aspect of the UFO phenomenon becomes, in a quasi-real sense. So, therefore, the UFO phenomenon is seen to be a kind of chameleon which does have sort of semi-real properties which depend upon the amount to which it is believed.

The abduction phenomenon in America is now seen to be not simply the product of social and psychological factors, but also a quasi-real thing which has been generated by view of the fact that it's become the accepted trend and it is now the modern-day pattern, for the phenomenon to manifest in that way. And it did change, and it will change in the future too, but it will change slowly and it will take forceful events to effect the kind of cultural consciousness to make this happen.

Let's look at animal behavior, and the way in which, for instance, sheep are taught to cross a cattle grade in a certain way, so that they can go across the iron bars and not fall through the cracks. And suddenly, as if by some magic process, the sheep all over the world start to do the same thing—it obviously isn't passed on by heredity, it's passed on by some other mechanism and a kind of level of consciousness, presumably. And I think that there are grounds for suspicion that the same sort of process is happening in Ufology, and it's a wonderfully graphic demonstration of how belief systems on a grand scale do manipulate, mold and shape themselves over time.

STEINBERG: *Sounds like a lot of American UFO investigators may not be too happy with what you have to say.*

RANDLES: I'm sure they won't, but I mean that's also true of British UFO researchers, because I never pretend that what I have to say is popular, and I never say anything because I try to please other people. I'm involved in Ufology for very selfish motives. I want to know what's going on. I'm interested in finding out the truth, and I can only be honest to myself and if this is what the evidence seems to suggest, unfortunately that's the way it has to be.

The Ego Corner: Evolution and "Original Sin"

by Geneva Hagen

**"Life is change...How it
differs from the rocks!"**

—John Wyndham

(pirated by Jefferson Airplane)

Most readers will remember hearing about the "Monkey Trial" of the 1920s, when evolutionary theory met Christian fundamentalism in the courts. The fight goes on to this very day—the fundamentalists continue to insist that God created those dinosaur fossils deep in the rocks at the same moment He blinked the Earth itself into existence, some 6,000-odd years ago. Educators are still struggling for the right to present evolutionary theory in their textbooks, and in some cases, schools have been obliged to offer "Creation Science" as a respectable alternate theory. Creationists are not in the least dissuaded by the fact that we can see evolution at work all around us—most dramatically when creatures like moths and cockroaches change their protective coloration to match their newly-polluted environments! A few liberals will allow that perhaps other critters do evolve, but not us—we were Created!

If we can stop snickering long enough to look at the evidence, we might notice that they do have a point. The fossils of that transition period between humanoid and homo sapiens are so few that they could



all fit into a casket with room to spare. And most of these finds represent only a body fragment, such as a jawbone, from which the scientist might try to reconstruct what the whole creature might have looked like. We're talking here about *lots* of room for error.

Speaking of error, a recent survey showed many Canadians (and, no doubt, Americans as well—see CAVEAT EMPTOR #16, Winter, 1988–89) think human beings coexisted with dinosaurs during the same time span. The public also isn't too clear on how long it takes the Earth to go around the Sun, or even whether it *does* go around the Sun, and not vice versa! Obviously, scientific education in our society leaves a bit to be desired—an unfortunate circumstance in view of the ecological and ethical crises facing us.

We still aren't 100% sure what wiped the dinosaurs out so suddenly, but most scientists think the evidence points to a meteor impact. Not only the dinosaurs, but *all* large animals on both land and sea were exterminated at that time.

Some scientists also think we may have underestimated the dinosaurs. You probably remember the bit about that giant body with a tiny brain the size of a walnut, so inadequate that the poor creature needed a secondary "brain" in its tail! But not all dinosaurs fit that description. Some of the smaller ones might even have cared for their young and moved about in families and social groups, much like birds today (which actually evolved from the smaller dinosaurs). They might even have been warm-blooded. (However, in those years the Earth was much warmer than it is today, so even a "cold-blooded" animal back then would have had more energy at its disposal than a similar one today.)

One scientist has even created a model of what an intelligent dinosaur might have looked like, in an alternate universe in which the reptiles continued on as the dominant species. When I saw this model on a TV newscast, I felt a sense of shock—the "dinosaur" statue bore an uncanny resemblance to the BEM we see on the cover of *Communion*! It made a strong enough impression on my psyche that I dreamed about dinosaurs all that night.

Most people still have only a hazy understanding of Darwin's theory. The pseudoscience known as Social

Darwinism has invoked "Survival of the Fittest" as a new moral imperative, to justify all manner of social neglect and irresponsibility. But by "the fittest," Darwin didn't have in mind any transcendental superior qualities. He simply meant that, all things being equal, creatures that have a larger number of surviving offspring will, in a given ecological niche, tend to crowd out other creatures that have fewer surviving offspring—barring unfortunate accidents such as meteor impacts! By these criteria, the rat and the cockroach are far more "fit" than *Homo sapiens*—but I, for one, don't plan to step aside and make room for them!

Over a century ago, the Russian biologist Kropotkin observed that cooperation actually plays as powerful a role as competition among the various species in the natural world. Today, a few scientists are beginning to come around to Kropotkin's way of thinking. Kropotkin is rarely given credit for these ideas, however—it might have something to do with the fact that he is better known for his theories on anarchism. (Anarchism in this sense refers to a society modeled on the natural world, and based on voluntary association by free individuals, without large-scale, coercive institutions.)

Computer programs testing game theory have verified that neither Nice Guys nor Bastards are viable social strategies, statistically speaking. The winning program is the "Grudger," one which is friendly unless attacked, but is quick to take revenge—and equally quick to forgive.

Though individual members are killed, whole species are rarely threatened seriously by predators (other than human beings). Instead, the predator and prey maintain a delicate balance with one another. The prey actually needs the predator's services to cull back weaker members, and to keep its population from exceeding the food supply. The introduction of the rabbit to Australia, where it had no natural predators, is an example of what can happen when this balance is disrupted. To this day, rabbits are a serious ecological threat in Australia. Being slow to learn from the rabbit experience, Australians went on to introduce still other foreign animals, with no better results. Most comical are the huge frogs, imported to control an insect pest (they didn't), which now can sometimes be found floating by the dozen in Australian swimming pools!

Human societies do not generally triumph over one another on the basis of reproductive success. Obviously, a society that fails to reproduce itself is doomed, but so is the one whose birthrate is too high. Human societies tend to gain dominance by war and conquest. Unlike the relatively amicable predator/prey relationship, members of the same or similar species do compete with one another. Some think the Neanderthals could have been wiped out by their fellow

human beings, the Cro-Magnons. (But others feel they just interbred, and I have seen people on the street who would make convincing Neanderthals if you gave them a club and loincloth!)

Biologist Stephen Gould has come up with a new twist on evolution theory. In Darwin's model, you start out with a few basic models, and these simple creatures then become more diverse and complex, as they adapt to different living environments. But recent evidence suggests that the process may work almost exactly the other way round! Lifeforms earlier in our planet's history were almost infinitely diverse and strange; but as time passed, most of these were "weeded out," and we are left with the few basic models we see around us today.

Evidence for this idea is to be found in fossil beds in the mountain range between Alberta and British Columbia. A lucky mudslide preserved tiny creatures in great detail, which might otherwise have left no fossil record. And there are tons of "experimental forms" among them, including one so weird that it has been given scientific nomenclature derived from the word "hallucinogen"! Gould feels that most of these little creatures were wiped out in some ancient natural disaster, and the few survivors evolved into the lifeforms we see around us now. Gould makes the point that ultimately, the deciding factor in who survives and who perishes may be nothing more than pure dumb luck.

Quite so; however, I can envisage a slightly different interpretation of the evidence. If life were originally seeded on this planet by DNA spores from the stars, wouldn't it make sense that these spores would be encoded for maximum diversity of lifeforms, to maximize chances that they would find an environment suitable for further evolution? On a relatively hospitable planet, as Earth apparently became, quite a few of these variations might actualize themselves, until catastrophe interferes.

Also consider that this remarkably hospitable evolutionary environment was, to a great extent, *created* by these early lifeforms, which totally changed the composition of the atmosphere and soil, and also, of course, the climate. Sounds a lot like the "Terraforming" by genetically programmed micro-organisms that was portrayed by computer graphics in one of the *Star Trek* movies.

Much of our genetic material seems to serve no useful function. However, biologists know that certain chemicals can "unmask" developmental potentials in organisms that otherwise would never manifest—causing, for example, embryonic gills to be carried forward from the fetal stage to the adult form. How many other such potential forms are inherent in our DNA? Timothy Leary noted that, through use of psychedelics, people can relive earlier stages of evolution, much as the fetus reenacts them during its develop-

ment in the womb. But Leary takes the idea a step further, and speculates that our *future* development is likewise encoded, awaiting only the right condition to trigger its manifestation. He believes the weightless conditions of space may provide those conditions.

Richard Shaver likewise believed that *Homo sapiens* is a cyclical phenomenon on this planet, and that a space travel stage is part of our genetic programming and racial memories.

Gregory Bateson felt that evolution—and also human thought—works through a “stochastic” process; that is, a series of *random* occurrences somehow arrange themselves in a purposeful pattern. (You might think of the “connect the dots” games you played as a child.)

Of course, researchers of the Ancient Astronaut school of thought are convinced life—or, at the very least, human civilization—originated on Earth through extraterrestrial intervention. Legends of many tribes, including the Dogon of Africa, and the Cherokee Indians, support this idea. Zecharia Sitchin, author of *The 12th Planet* series, is probably the best of the writers on this topic; he claims that ancient Sumerian legends specifically describe the creation of a hybrid slave-class (that’s us) from the genetic material of the Star People and a terrestrial apelike creature. Author Neil Freer (*Breaking the Godspell*) goes on to speculate that this dual heritage may account for some of our more peculiar psychological quirks.

There’s also an out-of-print book, *The End Was The Beginning*, written by a Tibetan Buddhist monk from Germany(!). Although accepting the existence of extraterrestrials in our history, the author postulates that our collective neuroses and guilt complex (“Original Sin”) came about through the unsavory practice of cannibalism—specifically, of brains! He claims this forced an unnatural acceleration of our mental evolution, occasionally resulting in psychic abilities, but also often resulting in insanity.

Pretty bizarre, eh? And would be more so, were it not for the fact great mounds of baboon skulls have been found in certain areas. In fact one sure way to throw a chimpanzee into total panic is to show it a disembodied head! Monkey brains are still considered a delicacy in parts of China, and the founder of *Prevention* magazine cited evidence that women who eat brains (presumably calf or pork) during pregnancy gave birth to children with higher I.Q.’s. The skull or the head plays a prominent role in many religious traditions, including Druidism and Christianity (Christ was crucified at Golgotha, which translates as “the place of the skull”).

Ever consider the literal meanings of those words, “Original Sin”? “Sin” comes from a root meaning “to miss the mark.” And what is originality, but a wanton deviation from the tried and true? Evolution is speeded up by genetic mutations, which are mistakes

in DNA coding—so, in a very real sense, our origins are based in error!

Back to cannibalism: There is a lot of disagreement over this point. Some scholars insist that cannibalism was *never* part of any culture, and that primitive peoples just make up those stories to ridicule the anthropologists—gullible fools who would believe almost anything! At the opposite point of view, Sigmund Freud felt our “guilt complex” is rooted in racial memory of rebellious stone-age sons who killed and ate their father.

Taking issue with this masculine interpretation, Evelyn Reed, author of *Woman’s Evolution*, makes a good case for the idea that many tribal taboos, particularly those involving segregation of the sexes during meals and following childbirth (customs which are almost universal among tribal peoples), actually stem from a deep-seated fear on the part of the female that the male might eat her young!

This practice is not at all uncommon among other species, given the opportunity. Reed makes the point that even among primitives of our own time, distinctions tend to be drawn between kin and non-kin, rather than human and nonhuman; a stranger, in particular, was likely to be regarded as fair game for the hunt. Lest we sneer at this savagery, we should remember that White settlers have often hunted and killed aboriginal peoples for sport in places as far removed as Guatemala, South Africa and Australia. I suspect that if it also happened here in North America, the evidence has been destroyed!

Reed goes on to tie in these customs with warfare. I highly recommend this book. If she is correct, and our ancestors really felt such an elaborate system of safeguards and taboos were necessary, we are certainly asking a lot to expect people in modern times to muddle through without them. I don’t know about cannibalism, but the evidence is all too clear that many males in our society (I will not call them Men) can’t be trusted not to sexually and physically abuse women and children.

And last we come to my favorite of the lot: Elaine Morgan and her Aquatic Ape theory. This theory was actually thought up by an obscure professor whose name I can’t remember, but Morgan is the one who brought it to public awareness in her book, *The Descent of Woman*. Basically, she postulates that human beings developed most of our present physical characteristics (which happened *before* the development of our large brain-cases) during a period when drought conditions caused us to return to the sea and lead an otter-like existence for a few million years. Sounds totally off-the-wall, you say? I can only reply, read the book. I have never spoken to anyone who had read it and was not convinced by her arguments.

To summarize Morgan’s main points: A tree-dwell-

ing animal forced by loss of habitat to become a ground-dweller on the savannah could never evade large predators. However, it would be relatively safe in the ocean, and food there would also be plentiful, in the form of small fish and shellfish. The large, dangerous fish such as sharks hardly ever venture into the shallows. This made perfect sense to my husband and me during a trip to Jamaica a few years ago, where we felt totally at home immersed in bathtub—warm water up to our necks, safe from the predators (street hustlers) on the beach!

Naturally, during this time we were standing on tip-toe to keep our heads above water. Thus, the origin of upright posture—and the explanation for why certain of our physical structures, such as our back and belly muscles, and the arches of our feet, have such difficulty in holding their own against gravity. I wonder if racial memories of our more comfortable sea-dwelling period might not be the basis for the Little Mermaid myth (she is given legs to live on land, so she can marry her Prince, but every step is agony).

Fur was lost to improve swimming speed; the remaining fine hairs on our body grow in the pattern of water flow over a swimmer. We developed a compensating layer of body fat to keep us warm and help us stay afloat. As most of our body was immersed in water, we couldn't depend much on smell to identify one another at a distance; as tree-dwellers, we had been more visually oriented, anyhow. But we developed certain characteristics to aid in sexual identification under the new water conditions: women have hair on their heads, but no beards; men have beards, but are often bald!

Unlike any other primates (except the proboscis monkey—also a swimmer!), we developed a prominent nose to direct our nostrils out of the water flow. As we could no longer see one another's gestures underwater, we developed the habit of *vocalization* (also practiced by the dolphin and by the elephant, another former water-dweller). Our eyes started to cry salt tears, to help counterbalance the intake of sea water.

Parenting a water-baby would be a totally different experience from any we now know. Babies are born with the ability to swim, whereas it often takes almost two years for them to learn to walk. Even today, among tribal peoples who live by the sea, babies commonly learn to swim before they can walk. A baby that could navigate by itself in an aquatic environment would not be subject to the endless frustration that the infant raised on land must experience. It might mature without that underlying feeling of helplessness, rage and the urge to manipulate others to *do something* for us, which so many of us today carry into adulthood. With less crying and no messes to clean up, the mother would likely have a more positive experience, as well.

Another finding supports Morgan's sea evolution theory; this one has come to light since she wrote the book, and is not mentioned in it. Certain elements necessary for development of the brain are found in sufficient quantities only in sea water. Of course, we have long known that lack of iodine can produce cretinism, but apparently there are other vital sea minerals as well. It is interesting that the creature nearest ourselves in level of intelligence, the dolphin, is also a water dweller. Pigs and elephants, which are also highly intelligent, are also semi-aquatic, given the opportunity. This finding, it seems to me, might shed some light on that gruesome custom of brain-eating, mentioned above! I would assume that, as human culture developed, the trade of sea salt to inland areas made the practice unnecessary.

Another finding that has come to light corroborating the Aquatic Ape theory is the G-spot sexual response trigger in the human female. Morgan noted that the shift to an upright posture rendered the human sexual apparatus incompatible, so far as the female's satisfaction is concerned. She postulated that, in the all-fours stage, female orgasm was easily achieved by thrusting stimulation of an area on the front wall of the vagina—exactly where the G-spot is said to be located!

When this automatic sexual gratification was no longer forthcoming, of course, male/female relationships must have reached an all-time low, before the evolution of the clitoris as a substitute orgasmic trigger. During this dismal period, "Survival of the Fittest," in the purely reproductive sense, was in full force. And who is fittest to reproduce under circumstances of sexual incompatibility? Obviously-aggressive males and submissive females! There— isn't it a relief to be relieved of the guilt for our collective neuroses? It's unfortunate that, with our species' capacity for abstract thinking, these sexual proclivities have been generalized to the job market and other areas of life where they are quite irrelevant.

UFO contactees, channelers, and various other New Age types now are giving notice of some new evolutionary leap that our species is about to make. These almost unanimous predictions might carry a little more weight if they weren't all too coincidentally, coming right at the end of the millennium. Still, consider—we might indeed already carry the genetic program for our next evolutionary step. Some representatives of *Homo novis* might be among us even today. However, I suspect that the really important Transformation, if it happens at all, will be not so much an alteration in human beings at the individual level, but rather, in human *culture*, so that we may finally be able to manifest more of the vast potential that has been latent in the individual all along.

—Geneva Hagen

The Gathering

by Curt Sutherly

**"Sir" I said, looking directly at Moseley. "Agent Orange, reporting as ordered."
The conversation at the table fell off noticeably.**

The Arizona sun was hot, the temperature over 100 degrees. I luxuriated in the absence of humidity.

A mile away the Superstition Mountains rose at the end of a long, hardpacked dirt road. They stood tall and angular—unlike the ancient, worn Appalachians of my native Pennsylvania.

I focused my camera, shifted position and shot several frames. Then I turned and hiked back to where I had parked the rental car.

I was in Arizona on vacation. I was also there to attend a gathering of UFO people—the 26th annual National UFO & New Age Conference. The con was co-sponsored by ufologist/publisher Timothy Green Beckley, and Jim Speiser, founder and former director of ParaNet—a UFO computer information service.

My plan had been to arrive in Phoenix, the conference site, two days early. I would tour the old Apache Trail (U.S. 88) one day and run south to Nogales, Mexico the next.

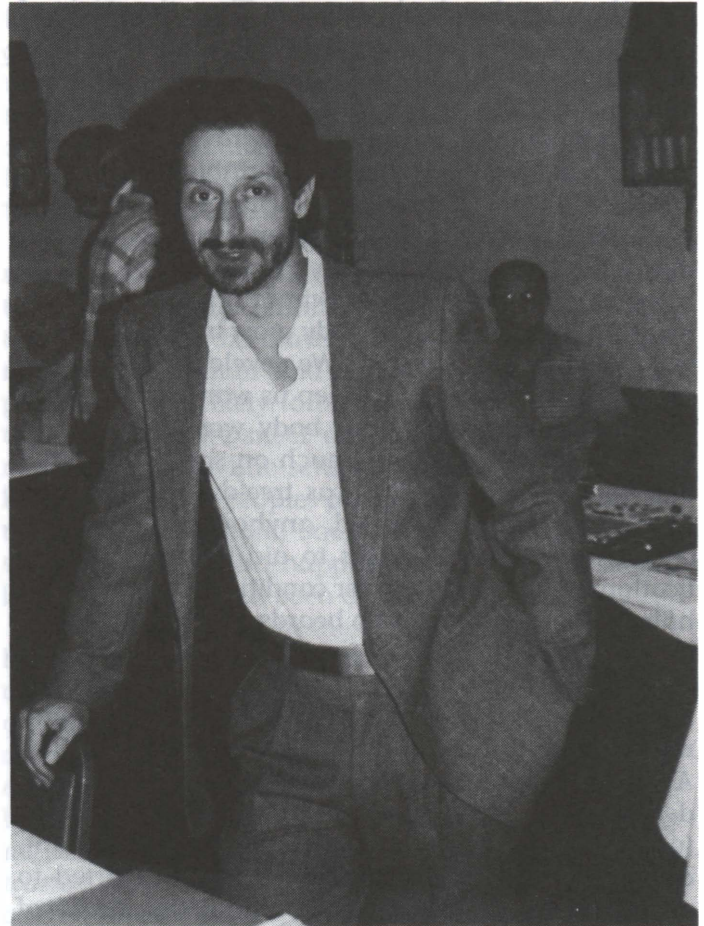
But an airline cancellation put me in Phoenix much later than expected. I was forced to postpone my visit to Mexico. I did spend a full day following the Apache Trail—stopping frequently to hike in the desert, and grabbing a burger and beer in tiny Tortilla Flat (population six).

By day's end I was back in Phoenix. And the next day the conference began.

My recollection of the conference, held last September, is hardly intended as a report or a critique. Rather, it is a personal account of the people, the mood, and some of my experiences.

MOSELEY HOLDS COURT

Thursday night, September 14: I was enjoying din-



ner alone in the restaurant of the Quality Inn West, the site of the conference. Occasionally, as I dined, a young woman working in the adjacent lounge would walk through the dining room on the way to the kitchen. Each time she opened the heavy lounge door, a roar of conversation could be heard. Finishing my meal, I asked the girl—her name was Linda—if the noise in the lounge was caused by persons registered for the conference. She said it was, and added that her lounge was "usually not this noisy."

Walking around to the main entrance, I was able to look in and study the crowd without being seen myself. There seated at a table was the Supreme Commander himself, James W. Moseley.

Jim is one of the most recognized persons in ufology

today. He should be. He was in search of aliens (not all of them extraterrestrial) before some of us were born. He is also editor of the irreverent *Saucer Smear*, probably the funniest “flying saucer” periodical in existence. It is available free—provided you are on Jim’s mailing list and post him an occasional letter.

Surrounding Moseley were several people—some familiar, some not. Tim Beckley was on his feet, balancing a drink and moving restlessly around the room. Though we had never met, I recognized him from published photos. Also moving about was Chilean Ufologist Antonio Huneeus, another person I had never met.

Seated opposite Jim was a face not immediately recognizable, though familiar. It turned out to be Ed Biebel, formerly of Cleveland and now living in Nogales, Arizona. Ed is a longtime Ufologist and a professional photographer. Also seated with Moseley was Jim Speiser, though I had no idea who he was until we were introduced.

Watching Moseley from across the lounge, I recalled my first contact with the man in more than a decade.

A year ago I wrote to Jim at the urging of contributing editor Floyd Murray, who once wrote satire for *CAVEAT EMPTOR* until the pseudonym, Richard E. Wiplash. (Now he writes for a Pennsylvania newspaper as “Bill Keel.”) In my letter to Jim, I asked to be added to his mailing list. Moseley quickly responded—dubbing me “Agent Orange” in his reply. It was a joke based on the paranoia that has always clouded the UFO field. Everyone suspects everyone else of being a government spy. I work for the government, though of course not as a spy. But Jim couldn’t resist the inference.

I turned it around on him when I walked into the lounge.

“Sir,” I said, looking directly at Moseley. “Agent Orange, reporting as ordered.”

The conversation at the table fell off noticeably. Moseley sat there, his mouth hanging open. He stared at me. Then he looked around at everyone else. “Who is this guy?” he finally asked. No one replied. “Does anyone know who he is?”

No one did. I had changed in 12 years [*Not quite as much as you think.—Editor*]. Finally, I told them. But Jim didn’t understand the Agent Orange reference. I reminded him about his note. He didn’t remember.

A moment later I was seated with the group sparing verbally with Moseley and Biebel. Watching Beckley, I sensed his preoccupation—his need to make the conference a success. Speiser, on the other hand, impressed me with his relaxed, quiet attitude—though he missed little of what went on around him. At one point I looked up as author Brad Steiger entered the lounge. I rose and introduced myself. Someone else—Moseley, I think—muttered “Broad

Stagger” (recalling a “Wiplash” article satirizing the man).

Brad and I corresponded during the 1970s, but we had never previously met. He remembered my name and accepted a handshake. He has a strong grip, an easy smile, and radiates tremendous good will.

The conversation continued into the wee hours. Finally, Linda threw us out of the lounge.

DARK MEMORIES

Despite the late night, I was up early the following morning. I exercised and showered, and was off to the restaurant for breakfast. There I was hailed from a side table where Ed Biebel was seated with several others.

The breakfast conversation focused on part on UFO matters, though none of it seriously. In fact, the previous night the conversation waxed serious only once, and that when Steiger, Biebel and I touched on some nasty moments in the field—events that included mysterious telephone calls, warnings, and bizarre bumps in the night.

Such occurrences are, of course, an intrinsic part of the UFO experience. They generate fear and paranoia, which only serve to intensify any confrontation with the paranormal.

Investigators probing the UFO mystery often find their waking “reality” altered in subtle fashion. Strange events slowly increase in frequency. Life becomes a realm of intrigue and “alien” presence, a kind of absurd spy drama with the investigator cast in the role of dupe.

Drawn into this realm, the investigator is soon dealing with phantom strangers in elusive automobiles and silent, unmarked helicopters. Threatening phone calls, false leads, and weird nocturnal sounds and lights generally complete the picture.

To protect against this nastiness, one employs a small human virtue: humor. You simply cease taking any of it too seriously. Otherwise you risk emotional or physical collapse.

I have known individuals who became so involved, so caught up in trying to find a solution. They excluded all that was important in their lives. Friends, family—anything that could serve as a buffer against the phenomenon’s overwhelming sensory storm—was thrust aside. Fortunately, most gain a sense of perspective before it is too late. They no longer play the game. But others lose control.

This kind of stress is similar to another found outside the UFO community. The affliction is combat fatigue, and some soldiers never fully recover.

MEET THE PRESS

Later that morning, a press conference was held to preview scheduled talks. Unfortunately, most speakers saw fit to roll through vast portions of their planned presentation. Instead of whetting the media appetite,

they killed it. The one camera crew present (from the now-defunct *USA Today* program), packed up long before the procession of speakers was complete. Eventually, the only people on hand represented the UFO/New Age fields.

Gene Steinberg made his first weekend appearance during the press gathering. I have known Gene for many years. He was pivotal to my development as a writer. A professional radio newsman during the 1970s, he (and Geneva Hagen) launched *CAVEAT EMPTOR*, and gave me—a novice—a voice in his magazine.

Because Gene was vacationing with his wife, Barbara, and their son, Grayson, in nearby Scottsdale, he found himself traveling to and fro, dividing his time between family and conference. Subsequently he missed a few of the more unusual events—none of which were on any scheduled agenda.

CONTACT WITH A CONTACTEE

For reasons not at all hard to understand, a substantial amount of shop talk (read: gossip) took place in the lounge of the Quality Inn. I entered the place Friday night to discover longtime Ufologist Rick Hilberg, of Cleveland, and his wife, Carol, seated at a table. They were accompanied by another woman, who identified herself only as "Suzanne."

Suzanne was a "contactee." At least that was how she described herself. During a period of several hours, she related a long series of unusual—or extranormal—occurrences going back to her childhood. I won't go into detail. Suffice it to say that, after lengthy discussion, I was convinced Suzanne was telling the truth as she knew it. I was also convinced she was not a typical contactee. She was not merely passing along messages from "space brothers" or whatever poses as such.

Rather, her experiences were much broader, much more involved. These included out-of-body phenomena, psychic phenomena, contact with non-corporeal (energy) entities, and brief, actual, clinical death. Again the details are her's—not mine—to reveal at a time of her own choosing.

That Suzanne embodies (or hosts) a tremendous power, I have no doubt. During the course of our conversation, she watched me carefully. Several times she unnerved me with direct, piercing comments about my life, my past.

At one point she said, "You hold your pain close to you. You won't let it go." In that simple observation, promoted by nothing else in our dialogue, she touched all the agony, self-recrimination and doubt I have embraced as a result of a disastrous episode some years ago. A few minutes later she disclosed her birthday—identical to my own—July 12.

But this was nothing compared to what happened next.

We were talking quietly, surrounded by sounds of

the lounge—laughter, loud debate, pool balls clacking and falling. Without warning, Suzanne shifted to a kind of chant, or mantra, and penetrated the din, pulsing into my awareness.

I am not an easy subject for hypnosis. Others have tried. And I have had limited success with self-help tapes. But within seconds I was slipping. I was locked to the cycle of her words—which she later described as a "now" affirmation. Abruptly, she broke the contact. I felt dazed as I asked what that was all about. Suzanne laughed, offered a vague reply, and turned the conversation elsewhere.

Then she did it again—a sledgehammer aimed at the psyche.

NO ROOM IN THE INN

To say such an experience is unnerving is to greatly understate the issue. Still, I found myself enjoying Suzanne's company. When the lounge closed for the night, she decided to remain overnight rather than drive home. (She said she had not registered in advance for the conference, but attended spontaneously in order to try and meet other contactees or psychic channelers.)

Unfortunately, the inn was already filled; no rooms were available. A LaQuinta Inn was located directly across the highway. I suggested she try there, and escorted her to that establishment. There, as she was registered, an odd bit of synchronicity surfaced.

Several times during the evening Suzanne used the expression "*I grok*"—a phrase coined by the late science fiction writer Robert Heinlein in his cult novel, *Stranger In A Strange Land*. I recall telling her that I had not heard that expression in many years.

But while standing in the lobby of the LaQuinta, watching the desk clerk complete Suzanne's registration, I noticed a tired, worn paperback lying open on the lobby desk. The clerk was reading a copy of Heinlein's book.

PLEA FOR HELP

Having returned to my own room after seeing Suzanne to her's, I fell into a deep, immediate sleep. In fact I slept somewhat longer than I had planned.

At breakfast, Saturday morning, I found myself seated with a young man I shall call John. He had traveled from the Midwest to the conference hoping to find help with contactee-type problems of his own. Again, I will not go into detail. I will say, though, that John was greatly troubled. He appeared exhausted—as though he had not slept soundly in a week.

As I listened to his story, we were joined briefly by Gene Steinberg, and a short time later by Suzanne. As I introduced her to John, I hoped she might be able to help ease his state of mind. She listened as he again told his tale and then she quietly directed the conversation elsewhere.

Later, I asked Suzanne why she failed to respond to John's story. She replied that any sharing of his experience would cause him to remain focused on his own unhappiness, thereby magnifying the problem. The only way to truly help, she said, was to direct his attention to something more positive and pleasant. This sounded plausible, so I let the subject drop. But it continued to nag at me.

Not until I was on the plane, en route to Pennsylvania on the following day, did I finally recognize why Suzanne's response bothered me.

I have been taught that if you can offer someone kindness, do it. If you can offer help, even if only in the most elementary way, then do so. To ignore, or fail to respond to, another's pain is to emulate the savage.

Suzanne did not ignore John's pleas for help. But her effort to redirect his focus certainly left him believing that she did. I thought about this on the plane, and I concluded that her way of helping was no help at all—only another way to avoid getting involved.

UNEXPECTED GUEST

I was with Suzanne Saturday afternoon, having met up with her following a rather long presentation. Outside the lecture hall, we came upon Brad Steiger. I introduced the two only to discover that she and Brad were already acquainted.

Suzanne explained that she had been traveling one night when something "guided" her to a particular home in Scottsdale. When she rang the doorbell, Brad answered. Her verbal reaction at the time, she said, was something like: "I don't know who lives here or why I'm here, but I guess I'm supposed to be here." Brad, who was entertaining guests, invited Suzanne to join them.

Brad later admitted that the encounter pretty much happened the way Suzanne described it. When I told him about the disturbing power she demonstrated the previous night, he frowned thoughtfully and nodded. "Yes," he said, "there is a strange energy surrounding her."

Still later in the afternoon I was again in the lounge, involved in a conversation with Jim Vincent and Keith Michaels, editors of *Oddyssey* (an intentional misspelling), the official newsletter of ParaNet Alpha. Both men are young, and as we spanned a generation of UFO research, we were joined by Rick Hilberg.

I was acutely aware, during that talk—as I think was Rick—of how much time has passed since he and I were last active in Ufology. I had discussed this with Gene Steinberg, who put it into words: "When we first got involved," Gene said, "we learned about the UFO mystery from people like Moseley, (the late) Gray Barker, and (author/investigator) John Keel [*I said Keel? I don't remember that!*—Editor]; they were older, they had the experience. Now we're among the old-timers. Maybe it's our turn to be the teachers."

Maybe. But then maybe not.

My own view of the younger men and women at the conference—the newcomers to the field such as Vincent and Michaels—is that they are bright and capable. If there is any lack on their part, it is a tendency to disregard most views in Ufology except those focusing on "hardware" (the extraterrestrial hypothesis). This is an old dogma, present for more than 40 years, and only a few have ever fully escaped its influence. Unfortunately, research efforts to prove the ET hypothesis still appear to be leading nowhere—MJ-12 documents and the Roswell, New Mexico "crashed disc" incident of 1947 notwithstanding.

There is, and has always been, reason to believe that the UFO phenomenon is representative of something much more complex than spacecraft and visiting extraterrestrials. This leads into areas of religion, philosophy, and metaphysics—the combination of which can leave a disturbing impression on the human psyche.

Frankly, I must admit that the ET hypothesis is a more attractive (or at least more easily understood) alternative. Furthermore, I am not saying that the ET concept is wrong—only that it represents, for me at least, too limited a view based on far too little information.

IMPRESSIONS

During the Saturday night banquet, I sat at a table with the Hilbergs, Ed Biebel and his friend, Mary, from Tucson, and several others. The conversation ranged from *Star Trek* to Native American viewpoints on our troubled planetary environment.

I was repeatedly surprised at the depth of concern evident whenever we touched on environmental issues. But I should not have been: the UFO community has always been a fairly sensitive, issue-oriented group—far more so, I believe, than has ever been acknowledged by the popular media, or by the community itself.

This view was upheld by the message contained in Sherry Steiger's softly delivered address—a message of hope, love, global awareness and environmental concern.

Following the banquet, I walked outside and sat on the sidewalk in front of the lobby. I felt tremendously relaxed, and at peace.

It was about 1:00 a.m., Sunday. Moseley and Beckley gathered a group together at pool-side. The reason, at least ostensibly, was to review the conference in order to try and improve the organization of further events. At this point I realized something was missing—and had been missing all along: the bickering and intense arguing associated with most UFO gatherings.

It was a welcome, refreshing absence.

—Curt Sutherly

The Sorry State of UFO Research

by John A. Keel

Even collectors of matchbook covers, Teddy bears and Wizard of Oz books are better organized, better led and more rationally motivated than Ufologists.

Way, way back in that prehistoric year 1965, an obscure college professor named H. Taylor Buckner read a paper to the equally obscure American Sociological Association in Chicago. Titled "The Flying Saucerians: An Open Door Cult" it was poorly conceived, badly researched and based primarily on Prof. Buckner's random visits to a group of elderly people who occasionally invited a UFO speaker into their midst. It was hardly typical of the UFO clubs that flourished later and were comprised largely of enthusiastic teenagers and misinformed young adults in their twenties. Nevertheless, Buckner attained considerable celebrity in academic circles and his paper was widely quoted for many years afterwards in some of the most boring journals and books ever published. He became recognized as the leading authority on Ufology, admittedly a questionable honor, and was gleefully embraced by Marcello Truzzi and the other founders of the odiferous skeptics movement of the 1970s.

What Buckner really demonstrated was how easy it was to fill the vacuum that existed then, and still exists. Being the leader of Ufology is a rotten job to be sure, and most of the time nobody does it at all. It is somewhat like playing a game of "It" in a leper colony. There have been many pretenders to the throne such as George Adamski, Ray Palmer, Donald Keyhoe, Coral Lorenzen and J. Allen Hynek. But in all these forty years of controversy, sham and confusion no single person has emerged as the unquestioned towering Fuehrer of what Jerry Clark calls "the UFO community." Ufology has always been ruled by the politics of unreason with misguided egos serving as a substitute for intellect and misinterpretation standing in for methodology. Obviously anyone who even wants to be

recognized as the Great and Fearless Leader of this unruly, untutored mob of misfits must have a screw loose. This is amply demonstrated by those who actually assume they are the undisputed leader.

Except for Buckner, Truzzi and a scattering of their cronies, the academic community generally ignored the UFO "community" until recent years when Dr. Hynek seduced a few engineers and college teachers into the fold. They immediately began holding symposia, usually in exotic locales, and issuing guarded yet somehow grandiose statements to a UFO-jaded press. Hynek kept promising that there was "paydirt" in Ufology, but he passed away before he could tap the mother lode. The academicians have found a momentum of their own, however, and the meetings and symposia continue. Yet not a single one of them has recognized the real "paydirt" under their very feet.

Since I am an extraordinarily generous fellow, I am now going to reveal how some greedy, ambitious psychiatrist or psychologist can attain almost immediate fame and glory with just a minimum of effort and a maximum of bullshit.

Forty years of nonsense has proven that Ufology is a dead end, a trail to oblivion for all who have pursued it. Yet no one (aside from myself) has ever even attempted a study of the real problem—a problem that can be taken into the laboratory, examined and analyzed with today's technology. True, some of the psychologists on Dr. Condon's ill-fated UFO project made a feeble beginning attempt at it, but their findings were never published.

What is desperately needed, and has been needed for these forty-plus years, is a thorough psychological study of the UFO advocates themselves! They have always been a problem to themselves and to Ufology, yet no-one has ever prepared a psychological profile of who they are and how they got that way. The witnesses, on the other hand, have been overly-examined and much maligned. They are the innocent victims of a situation that has been created by the hobbyists and their incredibly inept organizations. A careful, critical study of the advocates would be an incomparable contribution to the subject and bring academic stardom to whoever conducts it.

Before anyone can productively assault the vast

mythology that has been generated by these advocates, one must understand their emotional structure, their intellectual shortcomings, and their curious inability to cope with facts. This is why two of my books dealt extensively with the pathological aspects of Ufology. I know of other professional writers who simply abandoned UFO projects altogether when they realized the real problem was with the advocates and not with the phenomenon itself, just as religious fanaticism is the real problem with organized religion. Indeed, there is a close similarity between the two obsessions. Both create an artificial sense of importance—a sense of mission. If you want to learn all about Ufology you should read any good study of religious fanaticism. Any psychiatrist or psychologist who intends to delve into Ufology should begin there and acquaint himself with the religious studies first—even though the shock of recognition might discourage him from pursuing a UFO study further.

(More casual, less intellectual types might start by reading Eric Hoffer's 1951 best-seller *The True Believer*. It can be found in most Public Libraries.)

In the 1950s and 60s, the UFO field was much larger than it is today. At one time there were many trained professionals involved—ranging from newspapermen and investigative reporters to true scientists who were well-known in their respective fields. And there were literally hundreds of thousands of ordinary people who did their best to investigate sightings and incidents in their locales. But by the mid-70s they had all dropped out and only a residue of die-hard fanatics persevered, as Eric Hoffer had foreseen. In the 1980s, Ufology had diminished to fewer than 2,000 people, with less than 100 of these taking a really active part. Most were conspiracy oriented and the hobby of Ufology had no well-defined perimeters, no methodology and absolutely no leadership of any kind. It had become a total vacuum with no intellectual content, no purpose or goals and no essential links with reality itself. Even collectors of matchbook covers, Teddy bears and Wizard of Oz books are better organized, better led and more rationally motivated than Ufologists.

In the past few years, the shabby underpinnings of Ufology have collapsed altogether. A revoltingly amateurish TV special, now known as "the strawberry ice cream show," made Ufology a national laughing stock and turned the self-styled leaders into unredeemable buffoons. This was quickly followed by an incredible confession of hoaxing and betrayal by a self-styled "researcher" which shattered what was left of the credibility of the entire movement. This same hoaxer also revived the absurd Roswell Fugo balloon incident* and engineered the patently bogus and amateurish MJ-12 memo. Then, astonishingly, he openly peddled copies of his confession for \$10 a copy! Such seemingly psychotic behavior is, unfortunately, rather common among UFO hobbyists, many of whom are pathological liars (thus

their intense preoccupation with lying among witnesses and their paranoid fears), and a psychological study of their emotional problems would be a logical first step to understanding the whole UFO field.

Oldtimers will recall that in the 1960s there was actually a nationwide movement against Mental Health programs and many of the Ufologists of that period were actively anti-Mental Health. But resistance might be less today and some of the psychologists already accepted by the Ufological "community" might be able to begin studies of the remaining participants. Certainly no other hobby group is so tolerant of such aberrant behavior. If, for example, a leading stamp collector should somehow fake a stamp or related document he would quickly be drummed out of the stamp collecting community. Over the years, many Ufologists have engaged in all forms of fakery (remember Gray Barker, Jim Moseley, Todd Zechel, etc.?). Always without serious retribution. The late Dr. Hynek was also guilty of massive errors of judgement, to put it kindly. What kind of "community" do we have here? Is it a community of victims or a community of badly intentioned, malicious, vindictive egocentrics? We need a psychological study to find out. Such a study should take precedence over all other activities.

In a sense, American Ufology must clear the decks and begin anew. It keeps lapsing back to 1948 while European Ufology has been forging ahead since 1970 and has been addressing the many problems that exist far beyond the mere collecting of clippings. Ufology is not—and never will be—a science. It has developed instead into a pedantic theology complete with rituals and pilgrimages. The unholy 100 recite their dogma mindlessly, totally unaware of the fact that they have been hopelessly brainwashed by their scriptures—the newspaper clippings they collect and exchange as part of their ritual. Currently they have revived the Bridey Murphy fad of the 1950s and, like the Spiritualist movements before them, they are wallowing in the mischievous games of the subconscious mind. The better-educated, better-read, more logical European Ufologists are chuckling at the American antics with much shaking of their heads.

In 1989, American Ufology went down the toilet and it will probably take many years for it to recover.

Since the amateurs and hobbyists are totally hopeless and the hobbyist publications are filled with nothing but rants and theological meanderings, hope can only come from the slowly growing population of academic types who are gravitating to the subject. Unfortunately, a number of them have already fallen under the spell of the old familiar "I'm gonna save the world" syndrome which has haunted the hobbyists for 40 years. They have tossed objectivity aside and even allowed themselves to be caught up in the childish feuds and personality conflicts of the UFO amateurs—often with devastating results. We have

seen it all before—with the collapse of the Condon committee at Colorado University in 1968, etc.

What is the cure? Or, to put it more aptly, is the patient worth curing at all? Can we save a field that believes blindly in such clear-cut hoaxes as Gulf Breeze, the Philadelphia Experiment, Roswell and MJ-12? Can we salvage anything of American Ufology?

In recent years, one man has appeared on the Fringe Science scene who meets all the qualifications to be the UFO Pied Piper of the 1990s. He has already become a legend in many different academic circles. Softspoken, understated, a man of both girth and mirth, he has proven himself able to get along with the skeptics and advocates alike. An avid reader, he is familiar with all the UFO literature. But, unlike the UFO high honchos of the past, he is also well-read in science, all aspects of 20th century culture, occultism, psychiatry and psychology (he's a Jungian). He has been twice elected to the presidency of the National Psychotronics Association and is responsible for many of the positive changes that have taken place in that illustrious organization. As the founder and director of a major museum devoted to the use of electricity in medicine he has traveled the world collecting rare books and artifacts. He is an active member in many professional organizations, has helped launch several and has served on the boards and controlling committees of others.

His name is Dennis Stillings and he runs the Archaeus Project out of St. Paul, Minnesota. There he holds well-attended monthly meetings that would stun old Prof. Buckner. His speakers have been some of the finest minds in the country, enlisted from science and philosophy but he has also thrown in an occasional ringer from lah-lah-land such as Moseley, Clark and Budd Hopkins.

In 1989, he formally tossed his befeathered bonnet into the kook ring when he published a book with the unwieldy title: *Cyberbiological Studies of the Imaginal Component of the UFO Contact Experience*. It is a collection of articles by an almost-distinguished group of academic thinkers ranging from the senseless to the sensible. In a way, Stillings has thrown down the gauntlet with this publication, telling us that it is possible to produce a book of well-thought-out objective analyses on the subject of UFOs. Something none of the hobbyist publications have ever tried to deal with. Furthermore, it is obvious that the academic writers will soon flock to Stillings when they realize that he is well-funded and capable of publishing their papers in a respectable, refined manner. It is a monumental breakthrough.

We can expect that many of Vallee's "Invisible College" of UFO-oriented academics will soon be swarming around St. Paul. There will be two Ufologies in America. The cranks and crackpots will continue in their dark little world of conspiracies, abductions and

blood-sucking monsters, of course, while the better-trained, nearly-sane members of academia will join the Archaeus Project. Already members of the UFO hardcore are saying nasty things about Stillings—and that means that he has arrived. As usual, they confuse objectivity with negativity. They don't want to hear what Stillings has to say to them, such as: "The tragedy of most leading proponents of the ETH is that, if the landing [on the White House lawn] were to occur, the first person to make that contact (who would assuredly not be a Ufologist) would know more that is real and certain about UFOs and their occupants in five minutes than is contained in all the Ufological writings put together. The ETH Ufologist might then get a brief nod of recognition (maybe, but I doubt it), government and official science would take over, Ufology would be redefined, and traditional Ufology and Ufologists relegated to one lower corner of the dustbin of history..."

When a psychological study of UFO advocates and hobbyists is finally launched, you can be certain that Dennis Stillings will be a major contributor. As his faction grows, the hardcore ETH obsessive-compulsive UFO advocates population will continue to diminish. Their publications will grow wilder and more frantic, filled with even more embarrassing chain-of-consciousness diatribes, until finally they will fade away like poor Richard Shaver who started it all.

Copies of *Cyberbiological Studies* can be obtained for ten bucks from: Archaeus Project, 2042 University Ave., St. Paul, MN 55114. —John A. Keel

*In the 1960s, I made a great effort to get the Pentagon to release more information about Fugo balloons. I published several newspaper features and magazine articles about the balloons at the time and the mail response was most gratifying. Hundreds of people wrote to tell me how they had seen the balloons or found the debris from them. The debris was always described exactly as the debris at Roswell has been described in so many UFO publications. Obviously there were hundreds of Roswells all over the west and—in most cases—the witnesses knew exactly what they were seeing. Although the official effort to keep news of the Fugos out of the press was largely successful, school children in many areas were warned not to go near the balloons if they found any. Apparently they caused damage that we still don't know about. People continued to find Fugo debris in isolated forests and mountains for 20 years after the war! Although the yards and yards of brown rice paper eventually deteriorated, the pseudo-plastic "ages" or gondolas designed to carry the payload of bombs were almost indestructible. I once even had a sample of the stuff that someone sent me.

The facts are that hundreds of these paper balloons crashed all over the United States and were seen by a great many people. Only in Roswell, New Mexico was the debris interpreted as parts of a space ship. (Did they think flying saucers were gift-wrapped in brown paper and festooned with tinsel?) A few amateurs have kept the myth alive for years. Right now there are several new books being prepared to exploit the naiveté of the hardcore believers.

The Yeti According to Local Himalayan Tradition

by William Travis

In answer to further questioning, the Swat provided the following explanations—many of them logical, a few fanciful.

In the latter half of 1948 I was working along the northwest frontier of the Indian sub-continent seeking to evaluate the reactions of various hill-states and their rulers should war break out—as it eventually did—between Pakistan and India concerning the political future of Kashmir.

One of the lesser principalities I visited was the independent territory of Swat, whose ruler had been educated at Oxford and to whom I had an introduction. His title, by the way, was not “King” or “Prince,” but simply “The Swat of Swat”! The day following my arrival, the Swat took me on a tour of his palace, though “palace” is too grand a term for the long, stone-and-timber building which, together with the Lamasery adjoining it, looked down on the tiny, fertile valley that comprised his whole domain.

Now both Lamasery and place stood at the head of a gorge several thousand feet above the valley-floor, with their rear walls facing an area of desolate scree leading up into the Himalayan fastnesses and with the permanent snow-line a mere hundred yards up hill.

After we had walked through the various ground floor rooms and apartments, my host led me upstairs where, at one point, we came out onto a small gallery overlooking a large bare hall below and which ran along the northern side of the building. When I remarked that this seemed an odd location for an audience chamber—for that is what the hall seemed to be—seeing that the village and path up from it lay to the front of the palace, the Swat chuckled and said:

“Indeed it would be, if it were for the villagers...but, you see, it is here that I meet with the *Yeti*!”

Now even in 1948, the reputed existence of such a creature in these regions was common knowledge and, indeed, within several years an international

expedition, led by a mountaineer of Everest fame, was to be mounted with the express purpose of capturing a “Yeti.” (Note that this expedition, like all similar ones since, achieved nothing more than collecting a mass of conflicting and dubious evidence of a very unscientific nature.)

So I was not altogether surprised at my host’s statement, thinking it to be a joke. Seeing my skeptical expression, he then added:

“No, really—that is the purpose of this room and it is also *my* purpose, as ruler of this territory, for my hereditary duty is to act as the contact, in this region, between the Yeti and humankind. Let’s go back to my apartments and I’ll explain.”

The tale that followed was quite astounding but, in the light of what has (or has *not*) transpired since then concerning the Yeti, not altogether unbelievable.

For beginners, the Swat informed me, the translation of the Tibetan word “Yeti” as “Abominable Snowman” was wholly incorrect and far too sensationalist, and that the term really meant: “*A Neuter Being which manifested itself in the high and remote places,*” and which was not in the “*Natural Order of Things.*”

To my mind, this definition by implication seemed far more “sensationalist” than the English rendering—but I let it pass.

To understand the Yeti, the Swat continued, one had to know something concerning Tibetan-Buddhist beliefs. Tibetans—as well as most of the inhabitants of the Himalayan area—believed that our world, our Earth, was guided on a spiritual level by supernatural beings whom we would term “Gods,” but who they termed “*Cho-tâns*” or “Guardians.” Now these Guardians, being spiritual Entities, could not readily comprehend many aspects of our *material* world and, in order to keep themselves properly informed, used intermediates in the form of “materialized couriers” who could enter our physical plane and collect information on these *Cho-tâns* behalf.

The “Yeti” were such couriers....

In answer to further questioning, the Swat provided the following explanations—many of them logical, a few fanciful.

The Yeti announced its presence by a loud roaring from up the mountainous slopes. On hearing this, the

Lamasery tolled its bell and the villagers in the valley below ceased whatever they were doing and went into their houses and his own servants took refuge in the Lamasery along with the Abbott and his monks. Before barring their door, however, the monks would first open the huge wooden double gate that led into the courtyard backing both palace and monastery, and removed the wooden latch-beam which held shut the high portal between the audience chamber and this rear courtyard. Everyone shut away except for himself, the Swat would then settle himself in his gallery along with some rugs and shawls, a brazier for warmth, some cold food and a portable radio. And there he would wait. For how long? Sometimes for a few hours and sometimes for several days. Once a whole week—but the Yeti always came.

And what did it look like? Well, that depended upon its mood. Sometimes the courtyard door would be pushed gently open and a small, two-foot-high, yellow-furred creature that looked like a cross between a small bear and a thickset ape would amble in. Other times the door would open with a crash and in would stride a Being maybe six or eight feet in height, with piebald hair and great yellow or red eyes. It all depended upon its mood, for it must be remembered that the Yeti was only a *materialized form* and not subject to our Earthly physical laws.

And how did it converse? Not really by language but by "thought forms," mainly questions, that seemed to appear in the Swat's mind and which he answered out loud, as they came to him. No, the Yeti never spoke but showed emotion by means of roars, grunts and snarls—particularly when it heard something it judged unpleasant. The "Courier" seemed mainly concerned with news of man's behavior, and became especially agitated when the Swat spoke of wars, racial conflicts, religious persecutions and such. It seemed to the Swat—and to the Abbott as well—that the Entities who had sent the Yeti could not understand, and were at a loss to correct, man's inhumanity to man.

My host then went on to explain that "his" was not the only Yeti, but that many similar peripheral outposts of humanity received similar visitants—and he named several territories along the Himalayan range. And other places as well? Of course! Anywhere in the world where Humanity touched the high and lonely places—for that was a condition necessary for their materialization—they could be expected to appear. For example, in the Ural Mountains of Central Russia and some of the "high places" in China. Then there were the Atlas Mountains, Northern Norway, the Andes in South America, and along the whole chain of the Rockies, leading up through the State of Washington into Canada. At any of these places they might appear—and *would* appear—if there were complications concerning human relations and cases of "Earth abuse" on the part of humans, of that he was

sure. And there was another thing, in proof of what he said.

When he was at Oxford, he studied paleo-anthropology, in the course of which he discovered many references to the apparent world-wide phenomenon: primitive man's so-called "*Bear cult*," evidence of which was to be found in Norway, in Germany, in France, Russia and Spain. Also in China and in the Atlas Mountains. This "bear cult" often being claimed as man's first attempts at religion—and so it was, in a way. Western anthropologists had stated that the origins of this mystique lay in the fact that man sometimes shared caves with the ferocious Giant Cave Bear "*ursus terribilis*" and that these shrines were attempts to placate this adversary through magic—but what nonsense was this?

As to whether the Yeti could be shot, killed or captured, why of course not! How could one kill a non-material substance? And by the same token the Yeti could not physically attack humans. What about the reported cases of them killing Yaks? These were fanciful stories put about by superstitious peasants—the only animal that could and did kill Yaks, and then only occasionally, was the Snow Leopard when it found a stray. Just think for a moment—if the Yeti were a flesh-and-blood creature with physical appetites and necessities—what food could it exist on, up there in the lifeless, snow-covered, Himalayas? Answer that!

If the Yeti were not a wholly physical creature and could not be killed, how was it that some Tibetan lamaseries were reported to possess "Yeti-skin" caps and shawls which were worn by their Abbots? This, again, was a misunderstanding on the part of us Westerners. Because a Bishop carried a shepherd's crook and the Pope wore Peter's ring, did it mean that the one spent his time on the mountains guarding sheep and the other hauling nets on some lake? Obviously not—the crook and ring being merely *symbolic* objects linking these men to their *spiritual* obligations. So it was with these "Yeti Capes"—which were usually made of goat or yak hide. They merely indicated that the Lamasery in question was within a known Yeti's territory and served to remind Abbott, monks and worshippers of the unseen, spiritual world that governed men's lives. And once again the Swat reminded me that neither I, my children or my children's children would live to see a Yeti in captivity, or mounted as an exhibit in a museum, or hung as a trophy on a huntsman's wall—nor even captured on photographic plate or movie film.

And in this, at least, the Swat of Swat was right—for 42 years have passed since then, and we Westerners have yet to obtain the hard physical evidence we would like concerning the physical existence of Yeti, Bigfoot, Sasquatch or whatever other name this elusive creature goes by.

—William Travis

Does Humor Belong in Ufology?

by Mike Lackey

As the reader, you must be wondering by now just how much humor there is in Ufology.

People are funny.

It seems no matter what terrible events befall us, we're almost always able to pull the most outrageous elements and reshape them into jokes, puns or one-liners.

Witness the flock of "sick" jokes which circulate through your office the day after any natural disaster, mass murder or celebrity death. In fact, the more hideous the tragedy the wilder the humor that springs forth from it. Why do we call them sick jokes anyway? Is it because the subject matter touches a raw nerve? Or is it easier to call the orator of the joke "sick" because he brought into focus something we'd rather not think about?

Is Ufology any different in this respect? Does it deserve to be?

Right off the bat, when you say "flying saucer" (and most especially the media) it's expected that some clever tongue-in-cheek anecdote will follow. The usual dubious aspersions are cast upon the witness, implicating him as either drunk stupid or both. Is this some form of defense mechanism for our society, keeping the potentially volatile topic of UFOs in the domain of "Farmer's Daughter" material?

Could be.

In his work, *Jokes and Their Relation to the Unconscious*, Sigmund Freud divides jokes into two basic categories, the "verbal" and the "conceptual."

According to Freud, the "conceptual" joke attempts to serve a particular aim and elicit a certain reaction, much like a racist joke. Whereas the "verbal" joke exists in and of its own accord and serves no particular aim. A great example of this form is the "knock knock" joke.

Could UFO humor be tendentious? That is, could its purpose be to gloss over the more horrifying aspects of the phenomenon and, through humor, raise our

awareness of it?

Anyone interested in further connections between UFOs and Freudian symbolism should check out *UFOS: A Scientific Debate* (Norton, 1972), edited by Carl Sagan. Some examples include wonderful passages that suggests that cigar-shaped UFOs resemble the penis and that the saucer-shaped craft resemble breasts (all this and more on pages 242-4).

As the reader, you must be wondering by now just how much humor there is in Ufology. Well, I'd hesitate to say LOTS, but it is there if you look for it. Quite a few researchers and contactees have fun observations to share. You can even glean some from the behavior of the "ETs" themselves.

Think back to the September 27, 1989 close encounter in Voronezh, Russia, in which "knobby headed" aliens allegedly landed their egg-shaped craft in a park in broad daylight. They were accompanied by a robot, carried a wand-like device which, amazingly, dematerialized a person from the gathering crowd! Pretty wild stuff when you first look at it.

American Media, and most notably the Fox network's *A Current Affair*, had a field day with the story. One program actually went as far as to have an actor portraying Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev making UFO jokes!

Meanwhile, Tass correspondent Vladimir Lebedev seemed rather insulted that foreign news agencies treated the story in such a light-hearted manner. The Soviets devoted lots of serious-minded coverage to this event, and what did we get? Maury Povich in a fright wig!

Now don't get me wrong. I like Maury Povich. However, while people like Whitley Strieber and Budd Hopkins are devoting themselves to raising our awareness, most people still think of UFOs as along the lines of *The Lost Saucer*.

Some humorous events transpire in Whitley Strieber's recent best-seller, *Transformation*. On page 73, an alien visitor tells him that he can no longer eat chocolate, and if he continues to do so he'll die. Later in the book the creatures reprimand him for sneaking in some ice cream.

You've got to admit that's a little off the wall. Personally, I think Strieber's stuff is very sincere and cer-

tainly very personal. However, I can't help imagining the aliens having a good chuckle when they thought that one up.

An individual sub-section of UFO humor would be "UFO Bathroom Humor." Any and all anal probe or semen-gathering material would fall into this category.

This next cute story would come under this heading. On page 200 of Budd Hopkin's *Intruders* (Ballantine, 1987) an abductee named Ed tells of an offbeat experience he had as his captors attempted to derive a semen specimen from him. Several years earlier, Ed had a vasectomy performed—he was sterile! The aliens got quite upset and literally kicked him out of their UFO! Fortunately, Ed is one abductee who shouldn't worry about the aliens coming back for him.

In Hopkins previous work, the groundbreaking *Missing Time* (Ballantine, 1981) is a report of an abductee named Virginia who attended a party aboard a UFO! Apparently, the aliens just completed a long-term study, and were in a celebratory mood. In fact, she even reported that the creatures were playing music! Unfortunately, she couldn't remember if there were snacks.

Recently, in the remarkably bad *UFO Cover-Up—Live!* program, which was syndicated in major TV markets in late 1988, one of the alleged secret informants claimed that ETs enjoyed strawberry ice cream. Other noteworthy aspects of the show were few and far between. A special category called "Unintentional UFO Humor" was invented just for this program.

New York researcher Victoria Lacas made a number of wacky observations in her article in issue #21 of *CAVEAT EMPTOR*.

To my knowledge, Victoria is the only researcher to offer advice to persons abducted in groups. "Bring a magazine," she says, "so you'll have something to read in the UFO examiner's waiting room!"

Most readers are familiar with the case of Betty and Barney Hill, a couple abducted from their car on a dark night in 1961. On this

particular evening, the Hills were travelling with the family dog.

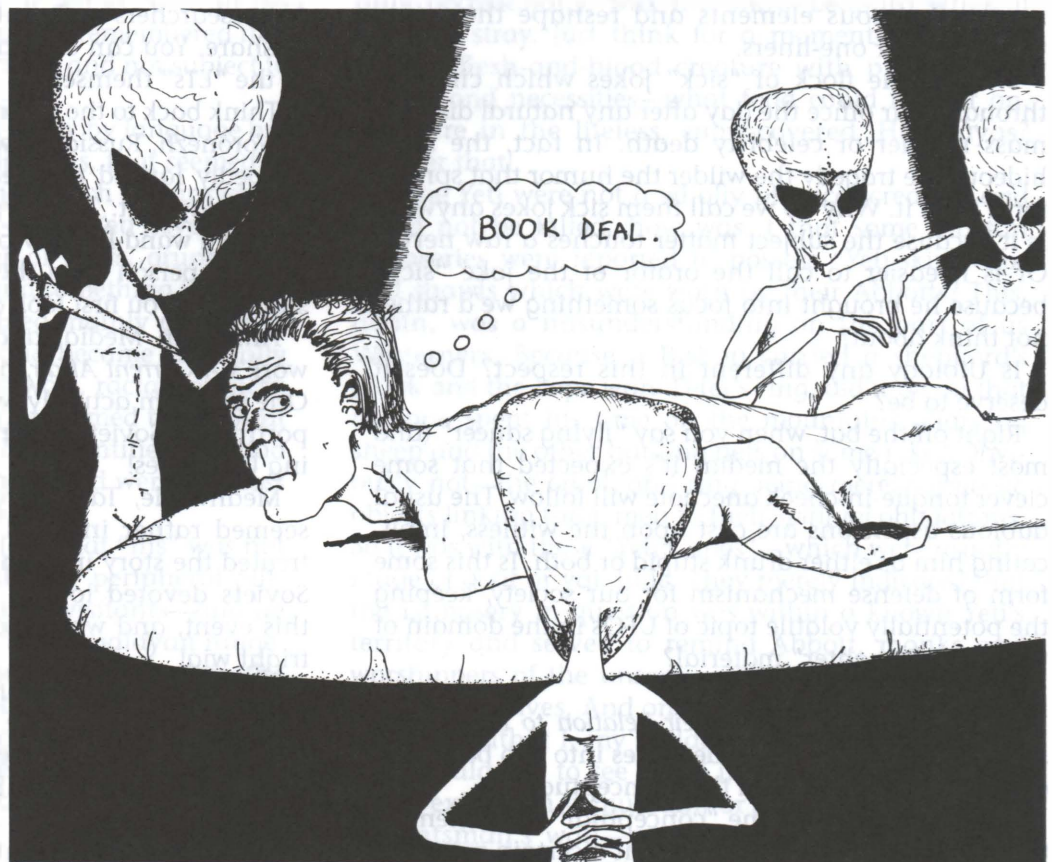
While researching a film project in 1988, New York filmmaker Roy Frumkes had an opportunity to speak with Betty Hill. She told Frumkes that she felt the aliens must have been confused by how loud Earth children bark!

So as we can plainly see, UFO humor does exist and indeed flourishes to a certain degree. How else explain the success of the most odd-ball UFO journal of all, Jim Moseley's *Saucer Smear*?

Remember Dickie Goodman's 1960's single, *Flying Saucer*, or Ray Walston as *My Favorite Martian*? Or is the more contemporary Alien lifeform one who cracks jokes and does pratfalls on a major network each week more to your taste?

In any event, it's reassuring to know that even such a sombre and mysterious topic as UFOs has a lighter, more hip side to it. Perhaps if we can learn to laugh at our fears, we may just realize that they may not be that frightening after all.

—Mike Lackey



IN OUR NEXT ISSUE:
JAMES W. MOSELEY PROFILES CONTACTEE HOWARD MENDER
ADVICE TO THE UFO LORN?
STANTON FRIEDMAN'S MJ-12 REPORT REVIEWED
DON'T MISS IT!



MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OFFERS SHOCKING PROOF... ALL NEW! **FLYING SAUCERS COME FROM INSIDE THE EARTH!**

- **ALIENS HAVE ESTABLISHED UNDERGROUND UFO BASES AROUND THE PLANET.**
- **ENTRANCE WAYS CAN BE FOUND IN MAJOR CITIES (INCLUDING NEW YORK, CHICAGO, LOS ANGELES)**
- **SERPENT-LIKE ETs ARE USING HIGH POWERED, MIND-ALTERING "BEAM RAYS" TO TAKE CONTROL OF HUMANS**
- **SOME GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE TAKEN THE SIDE OF ALIENS.**

Though this story belongs on the six o'clock news, none of the major networks or cable channels have been allowed to print the truth about the most important findings of our time...findings that will have a tremendous impact on the lives of EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US.

Millions of individuals worldwide have reported not only observing strange objects in the sky, but more and more we hear of bizarre first-hand experiences involving close encounters with alien beings right out of the pages of a science fiction novel. Those who have had such an experience and have been brave enough to "come forward," often possess remarkable photographic evidence, or have agreed to take lie detector tests, which they have passed with flying colors.

For over 45 years, an attempt has been made to keep the public in ignorance about the UFO phenomena. A virtual "Wall of Silence" has been erected that is thicker and harder to penetrate than the one that stood between East and West Germany for decades.

Though the most popular belief is that UFOs originate from another planet—probably from outside the solar system—the TRUTH is absolutely more sinister and SHOCKING than any one in the scientific or academic community could ever believe. Even veteran UFO researchers seem paralyzed at the statements made by a retired military intelligence officer known only as "Commander X."

ANCIENT TUNNEL SYSTEM

According to Commander X, "There is an ancient tunnel system beneath the Earth that literally circles the globe. This system has existed beneath our very feet for thousands of years and very few of us know about it. And those that do have often found their lives turned into a living hell when they dared to tell others of its existence."

In the pages of the disturbing new book, **UNDERGROUND ALIEN BASES**, the highly placed source further reveals that these elaborate tunnels radiate "outward from the Arctic and Antarctic in every direction and cover every continent on the planet. They were constructed by a civilization that existed before the 'great flood.' This civilization came even before that of Atlantis, though the Atlanteans later improved on this existing system, adding to it, as well as establishing underground space ports for visitors arriving from other planets who came here in those 'early days' to establish friendly 'relations' with our planet's peoples."

Some time in the distant past—after the col-

lapse of Atlantis—these caverns were at first abandoned and then taken over by unfriendly space aliens who collaborated with a race of our own underground beings known as the "Dero" to shed the planet of all its vital resources. Humans were taken as "slaves" to work in the underground tunnels from which few were ever able to escape.

ENTRANCEWAYS

From information supplied by Commander X and other government sources, we are told that "cities actually exist beneath the Earth's outer crust, and they can be reached by entering and exiting through concealed openings in various locations. Most 'shaftways' to these inner Earth cities can be found in remote areas, while others are in more populated areas. There are even openings in New York City, Toronto, Los Angeles, Chicago and other major cities. These "underground communities can be reached through abandoned basements and elevator shafts that only a few very know about for obvious 'security' reasons."

GENETICS LABORATORY

Though some flying saucers are definitely interplanetary, most do not arrive here straight from outer space. Instead, a number of alien groups have "set up shop" directly under our feet, going about their "duties" without fear of detection from Earthly dwellers. Some of these underground bases—said to number about 75 in the United States alone!—are currently occupied by benevolent ETs, while other underground alien bases are now in the hands of UFO-nauts who have their own plans and motives for humans.

One underground base located in New Mexico actually serves as a "genetics lab" where weird experiments are being conducted, cross-breeding Earth women with the alien species to create a "super race" who at some future date will be in a position to infiltrate our society undetected. Other very weird creatures are also said to exist. One eyewitness speaks of "Level Six" of this underground alien base: "I have seen multi-legged 'humans' that look half-human/half octopus. Also, reptilian-humans, and furry creatures that have heads like humans and cry like a baby. There are fish, seals, birds and mice that can barely be considered those species. There are several cages of winged humanoids, grotesque three-and-a-half-foot-tall bat-like creatures, Gargoyle-like beings and Draco-Reptoids." It is, contends Commander X, a "frightful scenario!"

ONE WOMAN'S HORRIFYING STORY

In **UNDERGROUND ALIEN BASES**, you will read the exact, first person commentary of some of the few who have vanished underground only to emerge later a completely "changed" individual.

For example, C.T. of Oklahoma tells a most dramatic story of her trip to this strange underground world: "There were small alien-type craft....Some were being worked on underneath and it was then that I saw my first grey-type alien. They seemed to be doing the menial jobs and never once did they look up as we passed. There were cameras posted everywhere. Then we arrived at another elevator and went down to Level Five. It was then that I felt a sense of extreme fear and barked. My guide (to the Inner Earth) explained that, as long as I was with him that I would not be harmed....I then turned and saw a being with his back turned doing something at a counter. I heard the clinking of metal against metal. I had only heard this when I was preparing surgical instruments for my doctor in surgery. Then my guide asked me to go and sit down on the table in the middle of the room. I told him that I wouldn't do it, and he said it would be so much easier if I would comply. He was not smiling and I was scared. I did not want to be left in this room with the grey aliens!"

Today, C.T. has the "scars" to prove that she took part as an unwilling specimen at an underground alien base. Others have now come forward to add their voice to those making such astonishing claims.

SHOCKING REVELATIONS YOU WILL FIND HARD TO BELIEVE

- The location of many of these underground alien bases. From several "vantage points" UFOs can actually be observed "coming and going" from inside the Earth. Find out where!
- Stories told by trained scientists and observers which indicate that humankind is not the only species to reside on Earth.
- Photo of "alien being" taken by one North Carolina man who insists he ventured down to this unseen kingdom and survived to tell his friends of his experience.
- How to best determine the positive and negative aspects of UFO beings and what their purpose is on Earth.
- Find out the "overall plan" of the various ETs and when they will make "themselves known" to the world.

BE WARNED! BE PREPARED!

Inner Light Publications
Box 753, New Brunswick, NJ 08903
Please send me _____ copies of **UNDERGROUND ALIEN BASES** by Commander X, for which I enclose \$15 per copy plus \$1 for postage & handling (add \$2.50 for faster First Class service).

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

Note: NJ residents add 6% sales tax. Canadian/foreign customers add \$3 with payment in U.S. funds drawn on U.S. bank or international money order. Allow up to 6 weeks for delivery. Satisfaction guarantee.

Culture Corner:

Mr. Ed on the bookshelves, Whitley Strieber on film and more stuff

THE GULF BREEZE SIGHTINGS The Most Astounding Multiple Sightings of UFOs in U.S. History

By Ed and Frances Walters
William Morrow and Company, Inc., New
York, NY, 1990. 348 pages. \$21.95.

Perhaps no sightings in recent years have generated more discussion—and more controversy—than the ongoing UFO reports from Gulf Breeze, Florida.

And the focal point of the sightings, Edward Walters, a Gulf Breeze builder, has received most of the attention and borne the brunt of the criticism. Here, in one convenient package, is Ed's own diary of the bizarre series of events that, for him, began on November 11, 1987 and continued as an uninterrupted series of sightings through May of the following year. All those photos that Ed took are here too, along with a detailed analysis from physicist Dr. Bruce Maccabee.

Readers who might have expected the publisher to spice up Ed's story to appeal to a mass audience will be quite disappointed. The diaries of Ed and his wife Frances appear here with little indication of heavy editing. But it is the evident sincerity and simplicity of these accounts that makes them so compelling.

As Ed told me in my recent interview with him (see CAVEAT EMPTOR, Spring, 1990), he has yet to come to terms with several incidents of "missing time" uncovered during his lifetime. Those incidents, if fully reported, might have made quite a sensational book in themselves, but they are touched on only briefly here. Perhaps Ed will tell us more about them in a future book, if he chooses to write one.

Skeptics of the Gulf Breeze sightings have concentrated on Ed as if he were the only person there to report UFO encounters. As Ed himself and others have said in these pages, lots of Gulf

Breeze residents have continued to have sightings even after Ed's own experiences abated. Labeling Ed's sighting reports and photos a hoax won't account for the other cases.

Though fitting the modern definition of a "contactee," Ed doesn't follow the pattern in any other respect. He didn't engage in any apparent conversation with this abductors that he's told us about. There is no exotic philosophy to peddle, no admonition from the "Space Brothers" to end the threat of war and stop damage to the environment. The book tells what happened, it doesn't tell us why.

As this issue goes to press, Ed was the featured speaker before the 1990 National UFO Conference, in Miami. One hard-nosed researcher who attended the convention told me he listened to Ed's simple recitation of his experiences and came away convinced that he was telling the truth.

If you've read all about Gulf Breeze in various UFO magazines, there may not be much that is new here, except perhaps in detail. If you haven't paid attention to the happenings in Gulf Breeze, here is the ideal place to begin. Something very strange has apparently happened there to an awful lot of people, and it's time we find out more about it.

Perhaps Frances Walters sums it up best in her initial reaction to her husband's first sighting: "It wasn't that I thought he was lying, but things like this just didn't happen. Not in Gulf Breeze. Not to my family. But although I didn't want to believe it, I couldn't deny it. The evidence was right there. I could see it. I could smell it."

—Gene Steinberg

• • •

COMMUNION

Starring Christopher Walken, Lindsay

Crouse and Frances Sternhagen.
Director: Philippe Mora. MCEG/Virgin
1989. 103 minutes. Rated R. \$89.95.

During the 1960s, in the famous comedy spy spoof, *Get Smart*, star Don Adams had a series of stock phrases that were sure to get a laugh. The most memorable, "Would you believe?" which he would repeat several times, followed by increasingly outrageous statements.

O.K., then, "would you believe" Whitley Strieber as a neurotic New Yorker?

As a result of his best selling book, *Communion*, Strieber must surely have inundated with tempting Hollywood movie offers. Two of his fictional works became motion pictures, *Wolfen* and *The Hunger*. But this time Strieber wrote a book that he said was "fact," so the ground rules had changed.

Word has it that the Hollywood deal-makers wanted full "creative control," which would have meant, perhaps, that the story might have been enlivened with just a bit of sex appeal. Maybe Strieber would have to have an affair with one of his alien captors. The right stars with the right kind of sex appeal would be selected to play the lead roles. One can groan loudly at the prospect of just what the movie-makers would do to this hot property to make it more palatable to its target teenaged audience.

So despite the heavy bucks that must have been promised him, Strieber opted to do it his way—and therein lie the strengths and weaknesses of the film version of *Communion*. We can assume that the movie that appears on the screen was done precisely to his specifications. If the screen "Whitley" emerges as somewhat different than the soft-spoken Texan that he appears to be, then perhaps that is simply a bit of "artistic license" on the part of star Christopher Walken.

We can also assume that, by producing the film himself, Strieber did not have recourse to the millions of bucks in special effects that would surely have graced a true Hollywood version of the same project. The effects—if one can call them that—are rather cheesy. The little “blue” creatures appear to be nothing more than midgets or children wearing crudely designed apparel. The alien that adorns the cover of his book appears in the film as a short, thin being wearing a grotesque plastic mask. George Lucas, where are you now?

But this is not a story of spaceships and creatures. It is the story of Whitley Strieber, going through the painful process of trying to understand a series of bizarre encounters that overshadow any of his fictional creations.

Lacking the spit and gloss of a multi-million dollar Hollywood spectacular—and perhaps heavy promotional dollars—*Communion* vanished from sight after a short theatrical run. The home video medium better serves this film. Not having a major publicity campaign behind it, it is doubtful the smaller video rental outlets have copies—if your local store does, I suggest you rent a copy or purchase a “pre-viewed” (read used) tape if you can. One would hope that a “sell-through” version, priced a lot less than the present \$89.95, will be made available one of these days.

Forget the special effects and look at *Communion* as a deeply moving psychological drama, with a fast-paced script and good acting. I have met Strieber only once, and so I cannot tell you just how accurately Walken captures his true persona. But this film appears to show just how the world's most famous abductee dealt with a set of mysterious circumstances that can only be described as “out of this world.”

—Gene Steinberg

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MEMORIES AND VISIONS OF PARADISE:

Exploring the Universal Myth of a Lost Golden City

By Richard Heinberg

Jeremy Tarcher, Inc., 9110 Sunset
Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90069,
1989, \$18.95.

Back in 1979, Richard Heinberg was hired as a research assistant to Immanuel Velikovsky, the controversial

scientist who wrote *Worlds in Collision*. Velikovsky found evidence that many of our ancient myths and legends are based on racial memories of global catastrophes caused by the close approach or collision with other heavenly bodies.

But Dr. Velikovsky, who was then 84, died a scant five days after Heinberg arrived on the scene. Heinberg stayed on after his death to help edit two of Velikovsky's unpublished manuscripts.

Velikovsky had focused most attention on tales of cataclysm, but Heinberg, as he became more familiar with the source material, began to take more interest in Paradise mythology. *Memories and Visions of Paradise* summarizes his research on that subject, and ends with a look at the emerging new mythology for our modern times, that of humanity in partnership with Nature.

Heinberg takes a look at the tales of lost continents, and he also recounts some fascinating legends from aboriginal tribal cultures, including the Native Americans. Try these two on for size:

“The prophecies of the Mesquakie tribe said there would come a time when many animals would become extinct and when people would sit and look into a box, seeing things happening far away and hearing the voices of people not present....

“The Hopi say that their prophets long ago told of the coming of wheeled boxes rolling over ‘black snakes’ stretched across the land. They also spoke of special ‘cobwebs’ by means of which people would be able to communicate over great distances. Hopi prophets say that within the next few decades humankind will either destroy itself or enter into a new spiritual age....”

Hopi legends also tell of an ice age resulting from a polar shift. (Unlike our own western civilization, many tribal cultures knew all along that the world was round.)

Heinberg gives examples of paradise mythology from many different cultures, often even with a tree and serpent, followed by a fall from grace. He notes that these stories are to be found among hunters and gatherers as well as more technological cultures. He also gives examples of Flood legends from all over. The Hawaiian tales even feature a man named Nu'u who built a boat that finally came to rest on a

mountain peak! He traces the rise of patriarchy in the ancient cultures of Crete and Anatolia (now Turkey). He looks at psychological explanations, from the theories of Freud and Jung, to the near-death experience, which is often followed by some kind of personal transformation.

At the end of it all, Heinberg concludes that the Paradise legends are probably based on some truth: there was probably once a time when far more agreeable conditions did prevail on our planet. He speculates that the human race as a whole may be setting itself up for some sort of collective near-death experience to precipitate our next developmental stage—one in which we will again experience harmony with Nature, the Great Spirit, and one another.

The material in this book was drawn from a wide range of cultures and viewpoints, and Heinberg presents it in a balanced and well-organized manner. My only criticism is that he fails to mention the major role that psychedelics played in catalyzing the emerging new consciousness.

Memories and Visions of Paradise is highly readable, well-footnoted, and beautifully illustrated. I would highly recommend it for anyone with an interest in mythology, spirituality, or lost civilizations.

—Geneva Hagen

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MODERN MYSTERIES OF THE WORLD (Strange Events of the 20th Century)

By Janet and Colin Board.

Grafton Books, U.K., distributed by
Harper & Collins Books of Canada Ltd.,
100 Lesmill Road, Don Mills, Ontario
M3B 2T5, Canada, 1989, 432 pages,
\$34.95 (Canada).

In a well-run universe, paranormal events just are not supposed to happen. Maybe this is one reason why scientists are so uncomfortable talking about them—they give the impression that underneath the ordinary forces of nature, there is nothing but chaos. This point of view neglects to take into consideration the idea that perhaps odd happenings are part of a larger order that is organized and coherent.

Weird things do happen every day

CAVEAT EMPTOR

in some part of the world, and the authors of this new book have set themselves a formidable task in giving an overview of the entire world picture, covering such topics as: poltergeists, lake monsters, UFOs, falls from the sky, spontaneous human combustion, religious phenomena, unidentified submarine objects, humanoids and other non-human creatures, extinct animals that may have survived and ghosts and hauntings. The authors are a British husband and wife team who live in Wales and have written a number of well-received books on topics ranging from ancient religious sites to folklore to alien animals.

Wisely in this book, they have chosen to alternate various types of phenomena. Thus, the chapter on ghosts is not side-by-side with poltergeists. This makes for a well-balanced approach for the reader, as you can turn attention to a different topic, yet gain some inkling of overlaps or similarities (as with some Bigfoot cases where the beast shows a tendency to de-materialize just as do UFOs).

Fully one fourth of the book is taken up by a quite remarkable gazetteer of strange events. Sometimes North Americans adopt quite a limited outlook, preferring to believe not much unusual goes on in other parts of the world. Just opening it at random, you will find that: near Bocaranga in the Central African Republic on November 22, 1952 eight men watched UFOs for half an hour, or in the Leeward Islands in 1929, there was a case of human spontaneous combustion, where a girl's clothes and bedclothes burst into flames. There are a number of excellent black and white and color photographs that include the famous Patterson Bigfoot movie, the controversial 1977 Shiels photo of the Loch Ness Monster and the "Dover Demon" witnesses revisiting the spot where they had an encounter with a most peculiar creature.

While briefly covering the many "classic" cases (such as the Coyne helicopter encounter of 1973), the authors devote quite a bit of space to very recent and little known UFO sightings. There was one over Kazakhstan (USSR) on April 22, 1987 by the five crew members of a British Airways jumbo jet flying from London to Bangkok. The object displayed several white and green lights that were vaguely phosphorescent and then vanished at high

speed.

One of the more unusual chapters concerns unidentified flying objects that hide out beneath the surface of lakes, rivers and oceans. The late biologist Ivan T. Sanderson once speculated in his book *Invisible Residents* that there may be a hidden underwater civilization that we know nothing about. In this section, the authors revive the notion and even have a photo of something that emerged from the newly completed Casitas reservoir near Ventura, California in 1964.

Personally, I am always fascinated by accounts of the weird that are hard to categorize. And there are plenty of them detailed in this book. For example, in May 1987, two mountaineers in Scotland saw a phantom cottage beside Lock Mullardoch near Cannich, in the Highlands. The men suspected nothing was amiss, until they momentarily lost sight of the building while going up a hillock. To their astonishment, it vanished when they reached the spot where they had observed it from a distance. Later they were to learn that there had once been a lodge in the area, but it was now under water, as the area had been flooded and dammed in the 1950s.

In the biological department, we have a 40 foot long snake that was reported by hikers in Pennsylvania in 1919 and has been observed off and on since then. It is theorized that it may make its home in warm coal-mine shafts during the winter. Another mine shaft in England houses a phantom in a black helmet and dark overalls. It frightened 19-year-old miner Garry Pine into a hysterical state when it walked through a solid wall in October 1987.

Some reports of non-human entities seem to be connected with landed UFOs, but other instances are not certain. What is one to make of the report of 8-year-old Tonnie Barefoot? On October 12, 1976, in Dunn, North Carolina, he was playing in a field of dried cornstalks when he happened upon a small man about the size of a Coke bottle. The "man" wore black boots and blue trousers. He took off through the cornstalks, leaving footprints 2½ inches long and 1 inch wide.

A chapter on religious phenomena would not be complete without reference to the 1917 Fatima vision of the Virgin Mary and the incorruptibility of the bodies of Christian religious figures

who have been exhumed after they died.

Of course no book can cover completely the wealth of bizarre events that occur on this planet, but this book covers an awful lot of ground and should impress the most determined skeptic. An enlightening trip through a real-life "Twilight Zone."

—W. Ritchie Benedict

RARE BACK ISSUES?

WINTER 1988/89: Back at the old stand after 14 years! Featured articles include: A sizzling interview with controversial UFO writer James W. Moseley, and appraisal of the state of the art of UFO research, an update on UFOs and the New Age, and much, much more!

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Videotape shot on a tuna ship is eyewitness evidence of dolphin slaughter in 1988. Despite federal laws, killing dolphins is again business as usual.

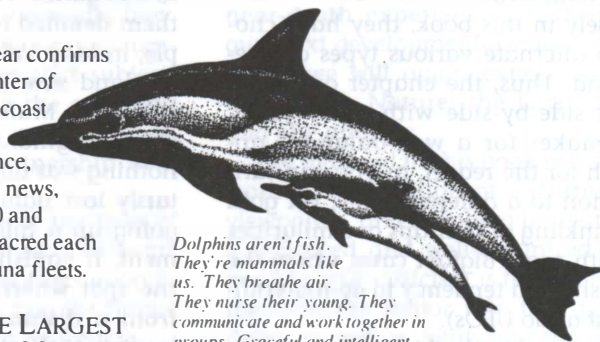
IT'S THE LARGEST KILL OF MARINE MAMMALS IN THE WORLD TODAY.

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First, stop buying all canned tuna. The dolphins die in the hunt for yellowfin, the most common canned tuna on the shelves. Boycotting all kinds will send the big companies a message they can't ignore.

Second, mail the coupon to Earth Island. We'll forward the top half to Capitol Hill. And your contribution will



Dolphins aren't fish. They're mammals like us. They breathe air. They nurse their young. They communicate and work together in groups. Graceful and intelligent creatures, dolphins have been known to come to the aid of drowning humans.

let us work hard for tougher laws, better research and greater protection for the world's dolphins – especially species in immediate danger of extinction.

Speed is of the essence. Every day you delay, a thousand more wild dolphins may be trapped and drowned in the nets.

To stop this crime against the dolphins ...and against our own humanity...please act immediately.



These are the most common kinds of canned tuna you'll see on grocery shelves. You may also see "house brands" and higher-priced bonito and albacore. Keep it simple. Boycott them all.

Hon. Gerry E. Studds
Chairman, Subcommittee on Fisheries,
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We can't allow the massacre of the dolphins to go on. Renew and enforce the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act and bring the kill down to absolute zero. Future generations won't forgive inaction.

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I've joined the tuna boycott as of today. Here's my contribution to your fight to rescue the 75,000 to 150,000 dolphins now killed each year. [] \$10 [] \$15 [] \$25 [] \$50 [] \$150 [] more. Keep me posted.



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Newswatch:

STOP PRESS!, some stealthy updates, a few new sightings and more

STOP PRESS! FRIEDMAN RELEASES MJ-12 REPORT AT LAST

Hot on the heels of our Editorial-labeling the MJ-12 documents a probable hoax, here comes nuclear physicist/Ufologist Stanton Friedman with his long-awaited final report on the whole controversial affair for the Fund for UFO Research.

The report turned up without advance warning one sunny afternoon in May, just as this issue was being printed. We decided to update the *Newswatch* department just to give you readers a brief idea of what it's all about.

A more detailed review of the large format booklet will probably be ready for the Fall 1990 issue of *CAVEAT EMP- TOR*. This summary is not intended as a detailed review, though some commentary will be expressed.

The basic theme of Friedman's report is that the MJ-12 papers are—like the accused criminal—innocent until proven guilty. Lacking any “smoking gun”—despite the protestations from Philip Klass and others—Friedman, in his cover letter, remarks, “As you will note, I have been forced reluctantly to the conclusion that the three primary documents are genuine and therefore of great significance and probably the most important U.S. government documents ever leaked to the U.S. public.”

The conclusion differs little from the views expressed by Friedman before beginning his study.

The *Final Report on Operation Majestic 12* is not so much a scientific report as a diary, recounting Friedman's investigations through the years, beginning with the Roswell “crashed disc” story, and culminating in his long study of the controversial documents that turned up without warning, several years ago, on 35mm film.

Friedman avoids speculation as to

who might have sent the documents, if they are indeed real, preferring instead to deal with the implications of these papers towards UFO research at large.

The booklet includes little if any new material. There is a lengthy dissertation on how difficult it really is to uncover hidden government UFO documents and a lot of speculation based on Friedman's long-standing belief that UFOs are space ships, and the Roswell affair represents a genuine crashed disc episode. Copies are available for \$12 from: P.O. Box 958, Houlton, ME 04730.

• • •

MORE SOVIET UFOS

Stories of pin-headed Ufonauts in Russia provided loud guffaws for most of the American press in 1989. Now comes detailed reports of an airborne UFO encounter that read very much like a 1950s book from the late Major Donald Keyhoe.

We quote liberally from a press release that came from the Fund for UFO Research, Inc., which accompanied Stanton Friedman's MJ-12 booklet.

The sighting apparently occurred on the evening of March 21, 1990. First to be cited in the release is General of Aviation Igor Maltsev, chief of the main staff of Air Defense Forces. The source is said to be a publication called *Rabochaya Tribuna*, in the issue dated April 19, 1990:

“I am not a specialist on UFOs and therefore I can only correlate the data and express my own supposition. According to the evidence of these eyewitnesses, the UFO is a disk with a diameter from 100 to 200 meters. Two pulsating lights were position on its sides. When the object flew in a horizontal plane, the line of the lights was parallel to the horizon. During vertical

movement it rotated and was perpendicular to the ground. Moreover, the object rotated around its axis and performed an ‘S-turn’ flight both in the horizontal and vertical planes. Next, the UFO hovered above the ground and then flew with a speed exceeding that of the modern jet fighter by two or three times. All of the observers noticed that the flight speed was directly related to the flashing of the side lights: the more often they flashed, the higher the speed.

“The objects flew at altitudes ranging from 1,000 to 7,000 meters. The movement of the UFOs was not accompanied by sound of any kind and was distinguished by its startling maneuverability. It seemed that the UFO were completely devoid of inertia. In other words, they had somehow ‘come to terms’ with gravity. At the present time, terrestrial machines could hardly have any such capabilities. The object was observed as a ‘pip’ from a radar target on the screens of aircraft radar sights and on the screens of several electronic surveillance sub-units. One station did not establish an observation.”

In the words of the author of the release, “*Rabochaya Tribuna* pointed out that General Maltsev's testimony was important for claims that UFOs are piloted craft and contradicted suggestions that UFOs are atmospheric phenomena.” Following were lengthy extracts from from the eyewitnesses themselves.

In all, “more than 100 visual observations” of the strange objects were reported to Soviet officials.

• • •

UFOS— THE RETURN TO GULF BREEZE

The tiny bedroom town of Gulf Breeze, Florida remains an apparent magnet

for UFO activities.

Several sightings were reported in the April 19, 1990 edition of the *Gulf Breeze Sentinel*.

A bright red object was observed on the night of April 11. Witnesses included Linda and Lyle Culberson, and the ever-present Ed and Frances Walters. After several minutes, the UFO disappeared.

Friday, April 13 was a lucky night for a dozen eyewitnesses, who observed a red glowing object at Bay Ridge Park. Videos and 35mm photos were taken. The one photo that made it to the newspaper displayed streaks of light with no definable outlines.

More UFOs were reported at around the same hour on April 14 and April 17. The same glowing red ball was observed on each occasion. The Mutual UFO Network set up a local hotline to deal with the ongoing sightings.

...

THROWING IN THE TOWEL

Not everyone is reporting an increase in UFO-related activity.

Americo Candusso, who heads up Medina, Ohio's Flying Saucer Investigating Committee, has decided to throw in the towel after 29 years.

Candusso, 68, a retired school teacher, is also a field investigator for the Mutual UFO Network.

According to the Akron, Ohio *Beacon Journal*, Candusso's monthly meetings used to be attended by hundreds. Now only about 30 people, mostly old-timers, show up. Sighting reports have also been lacking in the area. The last major report dates back to April, 1966, involving Portage County sheriff's deputies Dale Spaur and W.L. Neff. In the "classic encounter," a dome-shaped object as big as a house was chased across two states.

Candusso and his wife are planning to retire to Fountain Hills, Arizona.

...

STEALTH UPDATE

Federal funding has been approved for all or part of 13 B-2A "stealth" bombers, according to a report in *Air Force Times*.

Six of the high technology bombers are already under construction by the contractor, Northrop Corporation. Two B-2s are authorized for Fiscal Year 1990, at a cost of \$1.6 billion. And funding for preliminary work on five additional bombers has been approved.

However, according to the *Times*, funding on the next two B-2As will be withheld pending airworthiness flight certification of the existing prototype, and until an assessment of the bomber's operational capabilities is made.

Furthermore, Secretary of Defense Richard B. Cheney is required to provide Congress with cost, capability and schedule figures, as well as an unclassified report on the B-2's full performance and mission capabilities.

The B-2 "flying wing" is designed to elude most existing radar systems, thanks to special radar-absorbing composite materials used in the construction. However, the Air Force admits that at least one tracking system exists that can follow the B-2 movements. Normally, with most radar, the B-2 leaves an extremely small "signature"—thus its stealth capability.

As of late last year, the prototype

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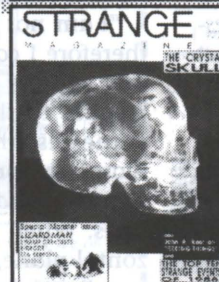
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bomber had undergone about half the required testing necessary for airworthiness certification, logging 31.6 hours in the air. During the seventh test, on November 18, 1989, each of the B-2's GE F118 engines was shut down and successfully restarted in the air.

While airworthiness testing continues on the B-2A, the Department of Defense has confirmed that at least two F-117A "Stealth" fighters pave the way for inbound C-130 Hercules troop transports bound for Panama, December 19, as part of Operation Just Cause.

A DOD spokesman would disclose only that the F-117s were sent in to frighten Panamanian defense troops. There was no official confirmation that the top secret "stealth" fighters were used to destroy military targets.

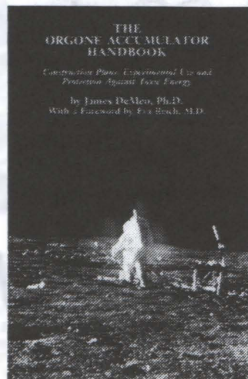
However, a report in the January 87 edition of *Air Force Times*, by David Fulghum, noted that C-130 pilots (who at the time did not know they were preceded by F-117s) reported two large explosions "about two miles and a minute's flying time ahead of their aircraft."

Fulghum said U.S. flyers were warned that Panamanian forces knew in advance of the attack. Unconfirmed reports indicate the F-117s were sent in to shake up ground defense forces and destroy anti-aircraft batteries.

The C-130 transports, carrying Army Rangers, followed the attacking fighters single-file. A Pentagon spokesman re-

ported that 11 of the Big, slow-moving transports were damaged in the attack.

—Curt Sutherly



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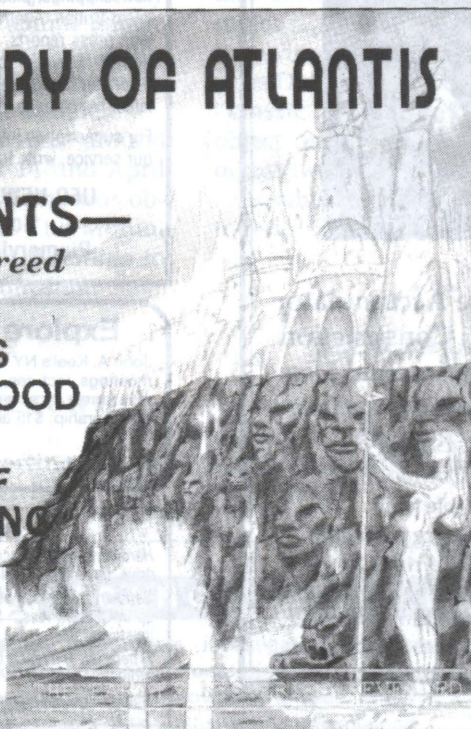
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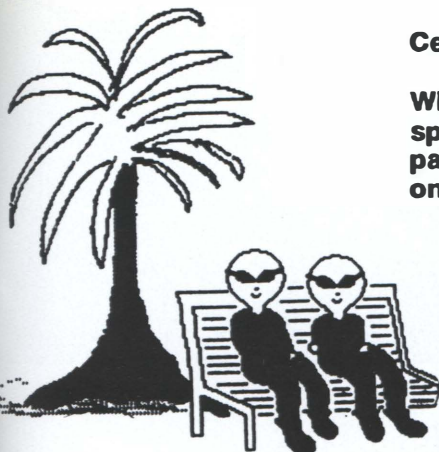
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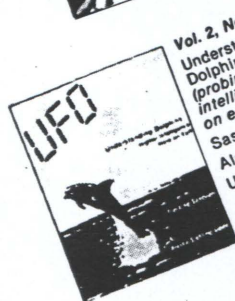


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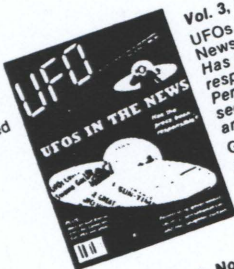
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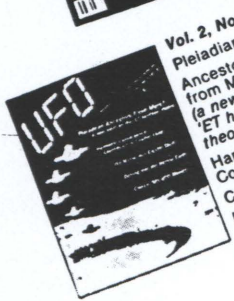
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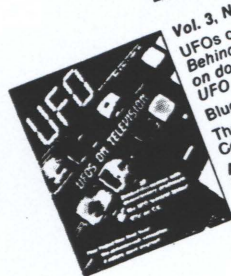
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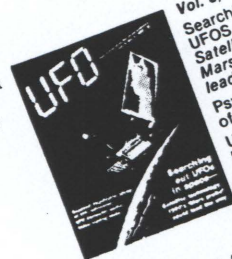
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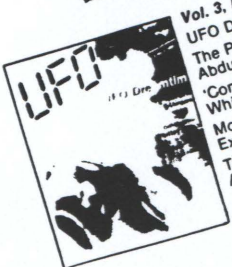
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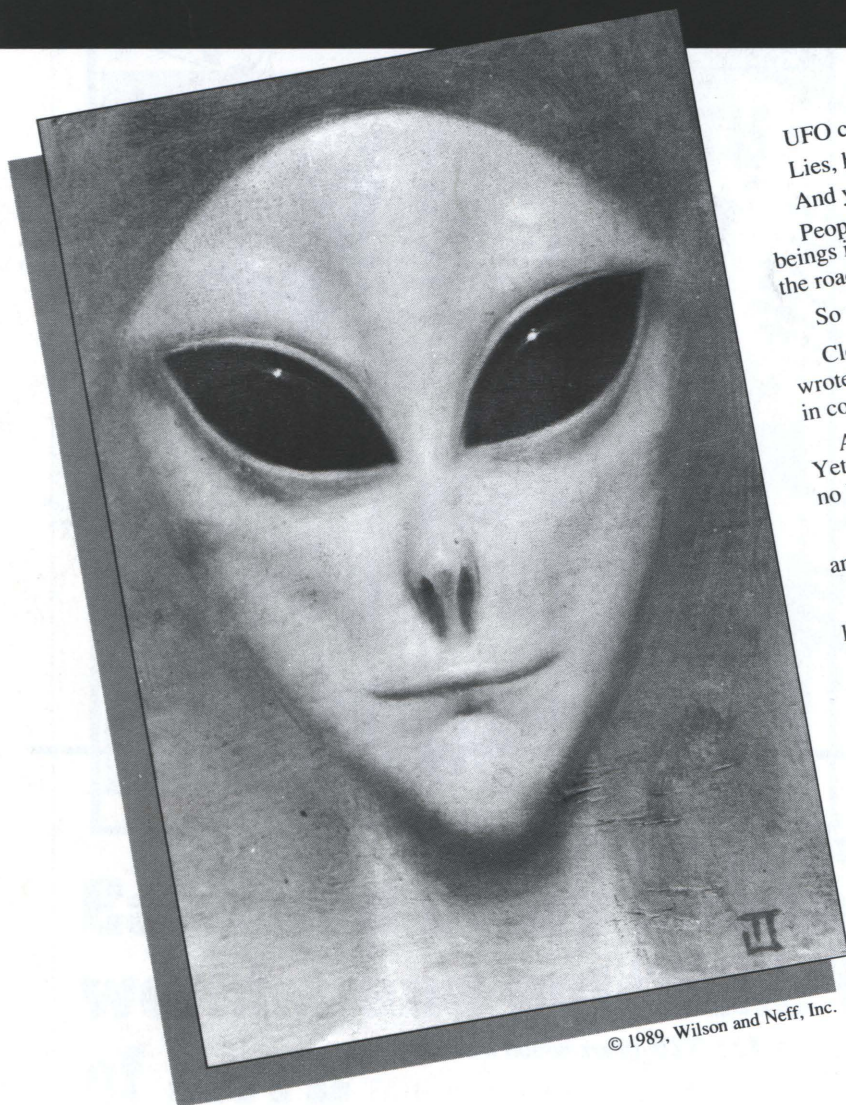
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